

Member's Update

10th May 2024



AI Forum
New Zealand
Te Kāhui Atamai Iahiko o Aotearoa

Who are we?

Harnessing the power of AI to enable a prosperous, inclusive and equitable future Aotearoa

The AI Forum brings together Aotearoa's artificial intelligence community.

We are passionate about advancing the AI ecosystem through connections, advocacy, growing talent and collaboration.

We promote the economic opportunities raised by AI, supporting great applications and adopters.

We work to ensure that society can adapt to the rapid and far-reaching changes that AI technology will bring.



LEADERSHIP



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AI Forum NZ
Executive Director



MEGAN TAPSELL
ANZ
Chair of the AI Forum



LOUISE TAYLOR
Russell McVeagh
Deputy Chair of the AI Forum

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Te Ipu o te Mahara AI Institute -
University of Waikato



REUBEN HALPER
Google



CHRIS MATTMANN
University of Southern California



TIM BRADLEY
AWS



NATALIE ROUSE
Mantel Group



SARAH SUN
Callaghan Innovation

The AI Forum in numbers

Founded in 2017, we have built a reputation across industry and government as a trusted partner.

We have a regular cadence of media releases featuring our members and their work. We produce influential reports and submissions on valued topics, amplified by regional and national events supporting the growth and collaboration of the AI ecosystem.

11

Government submissions

on key topics relevant to our AI Community

20+

Member events

in 2024

AI Hackathon Festival across NZ and Fiji

90+
%

Approval rating

for AI Summit for 3rd year running
5th Annual Summit SOLD OUT
>25% Active participation by attendees

6th Annual Summit confirmed
11 September 2024, Auckland

23+

Key Reports and White Papers

3 more in 2023:

Large Language Models
Explainable AI
AI Governance Website

5

Key Working Groups

Delivered vital context for future govt policy and practical help for organisations adopting AI

Confirmed AI Strategy partner in Digital Strategy for Aotearoa

8

Upskilling Events

Masterclasses and Workshops
Upskilling decision makers and AI adopters

3

Websites

aiforum.org.nz
aihackathon.nz
aigovernance.nz

2024 Highlights

- Kahui Māori (Advisory Panel)
- LLM / Gen AI – Prototype ‘living’ white paper
- Explainable AI (XAI) paper
- AI Governance website providing best in class frameworks and toolkits for NZ
- AI Masterclasses and Workshops upskilling decision makers and adopters
- AI in Creative Industries – a global discussion, March 2024
- AI for Environment Hackathon Festival across NZ and Fiji
- 20+ Member Events
- 6th Annual AI Summit
- AI Blueprint for Aotearoa underway
- Telling our member’s stories at events and in the media

Membership: May 2024

Membership continues to grow:

We have more than 180 members - the largest the Forum has ever been.

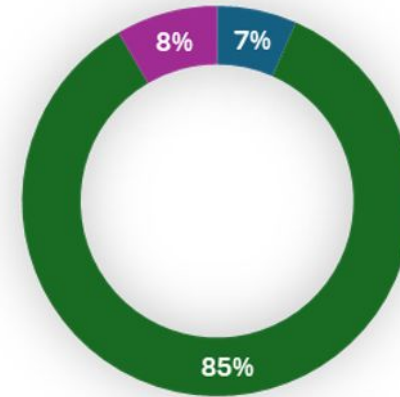
Our members are made up of 8% government, 7% academia and 80% business.

Our members employ more than 110,000 New Zealanders.

Geographically our membership is currently just under 50% Auckland based, with the balance spread out across Aotearoa.

We use events, Working Groups, storytelling and content production to broaden our reach across new industries and regions and provide value to existing members.

Member Type



■ Academic ■ Business ■ Government

110,000+

New Zealand
Employees

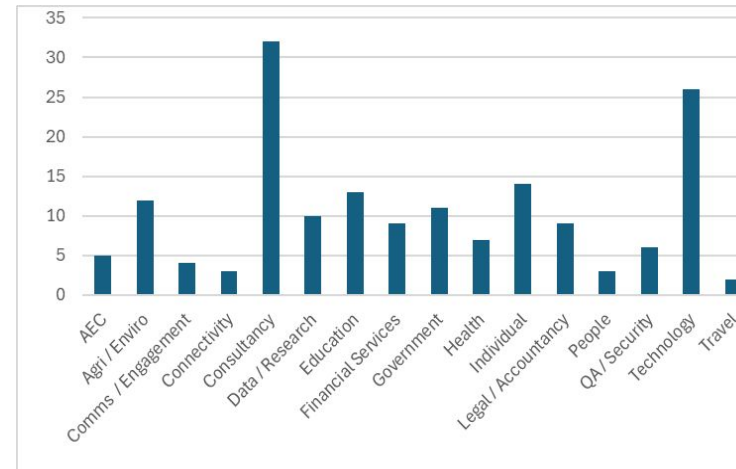
185+
Members

Member Geographical Distribution



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Members by Industry



Key Events Timetable 2024

Aotearoa AI Summit

10-11 September
Auckland

AI Hackathon Festival

8-11 August
Nationwide

Techweek

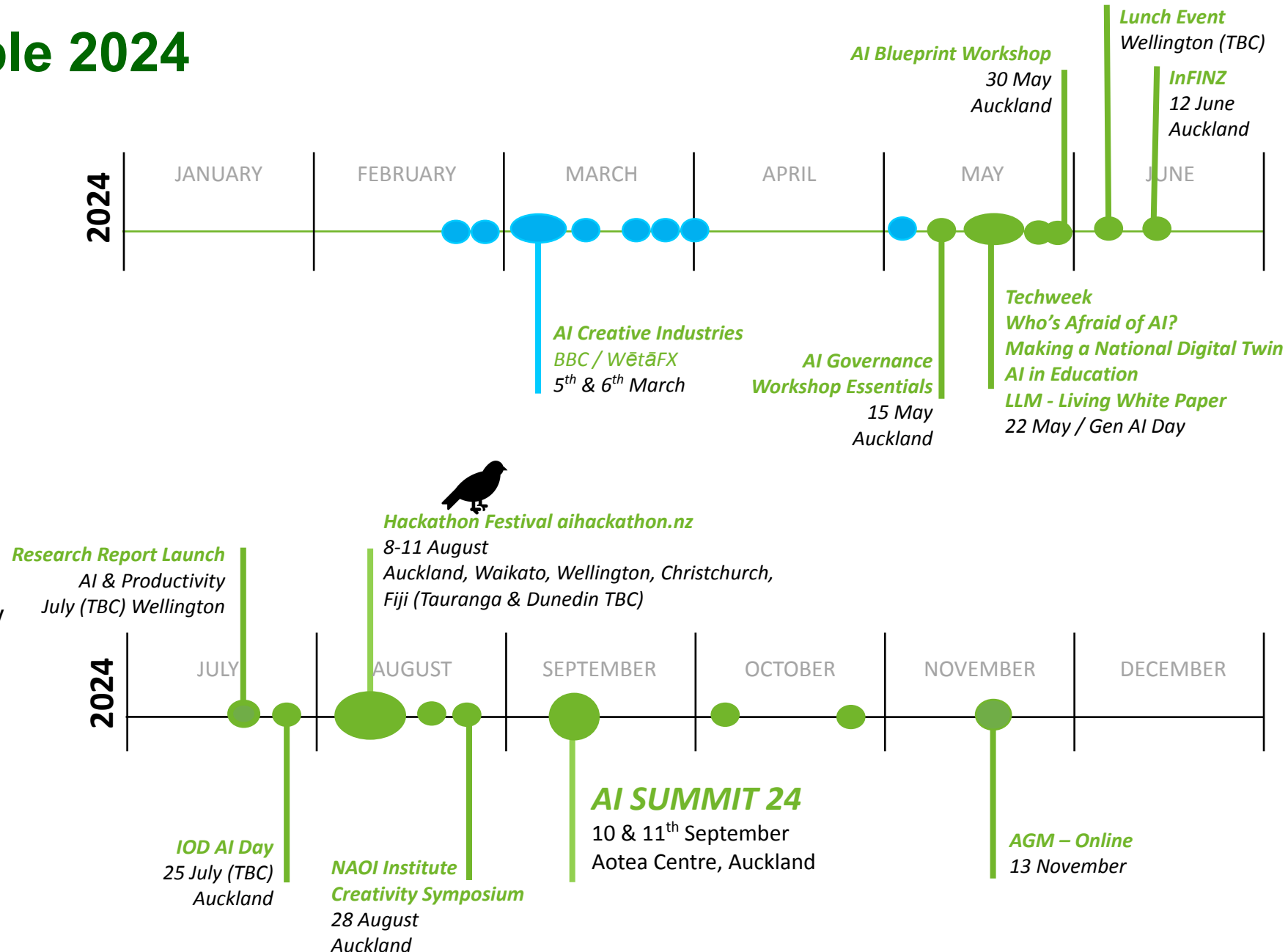
20-26 May

Gen AI Day:

- Who's afraid of AI?
- Making a National Digital Twin a reality
- AI in Education: Lessons from early adopters
- LLM Living White Paper Launch

AI in Creative Industries

5-6 March
Wellington





AI Governance

Chair: Gabriela Mazorra de Cos, Xero
Deputy Chair: Craig Pattison, Capability Collective

- **Delivering Masterclasses**, upskilling senior decision makers and inspiring leadership since 2023, including partnership with **University of Waikato** and **Callaghan Innovation**.
- **1 November 2023:** We launched a free-to-all website (aigovernance.nz), powered by Callaghan Innovation, providing best practice toolkits and frameworks curated for Aotearoa New Zealand. This includes local use cases, blogs and experts.
- **15 May 2024:** Launched Workshop Essentials, levelling the playing field for organisations who cannot afford external advisers.
- This Working Group continues to provide updates and relevant informative content and training materials, both via the website and partnerships with organisations, for example, the Institute of Directors.

LLMs / Gen AI

Chair: Matt Ensor, FranklyAI

- This Working Group unites subject matter experts from across Aotearoa to provide a comprehensive overview of the benefits, challenges and governance considerations associated with LLMs here.
- **12 December 2023:** The 'living' white paper prototype was launched
- **22 May 2024:** The full working model developed by SupaHuman AI using Google technology was launched.
- With 20 chapters covering different sectors across the motu, this group has provided the content and overseen the creation of a 'living' white paper. Utilising trusted sources the report will never be out of date and can be generated according to each user's needs.

AI Blueprint for Aotearoa

Chair: Tom Maasland, MinterEllisonRuddWatts
Deputy Chair: Prof Albert Bifet, Waikato

- Formerly the Strategy Working Group, the intention is to help inform the government's work in this area.
- **September 2023:** AI Strategy Reboot workshop hosted 70 leaders from across industry, government and academia to rethink what an AI Strategy for Aotearoa may look like. The outcomes were provided to the incoming Minister Collins.
- **May 2024:** Uniting voices from 6 key industries to outline a 5 year view with a series of achievable actions in year one - includes collaborations with IoT Alliance, EdTechNZ, AgriTechNZ and WeCreate.
- **22 May 2024:** Research launched to measure AI's impact on productivity in Aotearoa on a quarterly basis intended to reveal actual levels of adoption and impact. Partnering with **Victoria University of Wellington** and **Callaghan Innovation**

Working Groups 2024

Kāhui Māori Atamai lahiko

Chair: Megan Tapsell, ANZ

- **Formed in November 2022**, this group provides a voice for Māori within the AI community and a pivotal point of knowledge and reference for all of our work

AI for the Environment

Chair: Prof Albert Bifet, Waikato
Deputy Chair: David Knox, Lynker Analytics

- This Working Group runs our **annual AI for the Environment Hackathon** which is hosted across Aotearoa and the South Pacific.
- The festival creates a safe space for people and organisations to experience and experiment with AI and is aligned to environment and sustainability goals.
- The Working Group also considers submissions and produces other related member events.

Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC)

Chair: Maria Mingallon, MottMac

- This new Working Group is being established to provide thought leadership, research and to lead activities on the use of AI within AEC sectors in Aotearoa
- This is an important sector where a 1 or 2% shift in infrastructure results can have a material impact on GDP, and interest in AI is increasing.
- This group will work in **collaboration with the IoT Alliance**.

AI'S IMPACT ON PRODUCTIVITY IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND



PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SURVEY BY 21 JUNE.



**TAKE
SURVEY**



Visit our website: www.aiforum.org.nz



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