

Who is Jacinda Ardern?

Sourced from Wikipedia

Jacinda Kate Laurell Ardern was born on 26 July 1980. She is a New Zealand politician who has served as the 40th Prime Minister of New Zealand and Leader of the Labour Party since 2017.

Ardern is New Zealand's third female prime minister after Jenny Shipley and Helen Clark. At 37, Ardern is also the youngest individual to become New Zealand's head of government since Edward Stafford, who became premier in 1856. She is the youngest ever Female prime minister of New Zealand.



Born in Hamilton, Ardern grew up in Morrinsville, where she attended a public state school. After graduating from the University of Waikato in 2001, Ardern began her career working as a researcher in the office of Prime Minister Helen Clark.

Ardern is engaged to her partner Clarke Gayford. The couple first met in 2012 when they were introduced by mutual friends.

On 19 January 2018, Ardern announced that she was expecting her first child in June, making her New Zealand's first prime minister to be pregnant in office. Ardern was admitted to Auckland City Hospital on 21 June 2018, and gave birth to a girl at 4:45 pm that day becoming only the second elected head of government to give birth while in office.

Ardern revealed her daughter's given names as Neve Te Aroha. Neve is an anglicised form of the Irish name Niamh, meaning 'bright'; Aroha is Māori for 'love', and Te Aroha is a mountain in the Kaimai Range, near Ardern's home town of Morrinsville.

Jacinda has spent the lock down in Wellington with her daughter Neve, and her partner Clarke. As she is an essential worker, she has needed to be at work every day. Often working very late into the night, and starting very early.