Infometrics

QUARTERLY ECONOMIC MONITOR

Mackenzie District

Contents

Overview of Mackenzie District

Spotlight

	Mackenzie	New Zealand
GDP	+2.8% ▲	+1.7% ▲
Consumer spending	+1.7% ▲	+0.6% ▲
Employment	+0.4% ▲	-0.3% ▼
Unemployment	1.9% ▼	5.4% ▲
House values	$848,107 ▼	$862,523 ▼

Mackenzie's economy continues to grow strongly, with Infometrics provisionally estimating that the district's economy grew 2.8% in the year to June 2026. Tourism activity has driven Mackenzie's growth, unlike the wider South Canterbury sub-region which has been driven by dairy farming. Mackenzie has still benefited from better commodity prices, with lamb prices up 30%pa and beef up 27%pa on average over the June 2026 year, on higher slaughter volumes.

Tourism activity in Mackenzie continues to grow, with guest nights at commercial accommodation rising 7.9% in the year to June 2026, which doesn't include stays at peer-to-peer accommodation such as Airbnb. International visitors have driven Mackenzie's growth, with 14% growth in international guest nights compared to 2.1% growth in domestic guest nights. Strong visitor arrivals into South Island airports have likely boosted Mackenzie. International visitor arrivals to Christchurch and Queenstown airports rose 22% and 29% respectively in the year to June 2026.

Business confidence appears strong in Mackenzie, with a 3.0% increase in the number of businesses, and a 27% increase in commercial vehicle registrations in the year to June 2026. Employment growth lagged well behind business and GDP growth, suggesting that the district's tight labour market is something of a constraint to growth. Mackenzie's ultra-low unemployment rate eased further, to just 1.9% on average for the year to June 2026, representing a very tight labour market. Employment of Mackenzie residents rose by a modest 0.4% in the year to June 2026, lagging wider Canterbury growth of 1.0%.

Mackenzie households and businesses are showing signs of economic confidence, with car and commercial vehicle registrations growing faster than the national average in the year to June 2026.

Mackenzie's housing market flattened off in the June 2026 quarter, with house values easing 0.6%pa. However, Mackenzie's average house values remain very high relative to other districts at 8.2 times average household incomes, making the district the third least affordable in the country. Residential consents grew 32% in Mackenzie over the year to June 2026, with consents concentrated in Twizel and Tekapo. Non-residential consents remain down on recent highs, though were boosted by a $10m hotel refurbishment consented this quarter.

Economic indicators

Overview

Table 1. Overview of economic indicators

Indicator	Mackenzie District	Canterbury Region	New Zealand
Gross domestic product (provisional)	+2.8% ▲	+2.6% ▲	+1.7% ▲
Business counts	+3.0% ▲	+2.6% ▲	+1.2% ▲
Consumer spending	+1.7% ▲	+1.8% ▲	+0.6% ▲
Traffic flow	+3.9% ▲	+0.7% ▲	+0.8% ▲
Tourism expenditure	-4.4% ▼	-2.3% ▼	+4.6% ▲
Guest nights	+7.9% ▲	+4.8% ▲	+3.6% ▲
Non-residential consents	-54.3% ▼	-17.3% ▼	-2.8% ▼
Electric vehicle registrations	+250.0% ▲	+70.9% ▲	+67.9% ▲
Car registrations	+13.7% ▲	+10.7% ▲	+7.1% ▲
Commercial vehicle registrations	+26.5% ▲	+13.0% ▲	+7.1% ▲
Greenhouse gas emissions (provisional)	-2.8% ▼	-2.1% ▼	-2.9% ▼

Data up to the March 2026 quarter.

All measures are annual average percentage changes.

Gross domestic product

Figure 1. Gross domestic product growth (provisional)

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

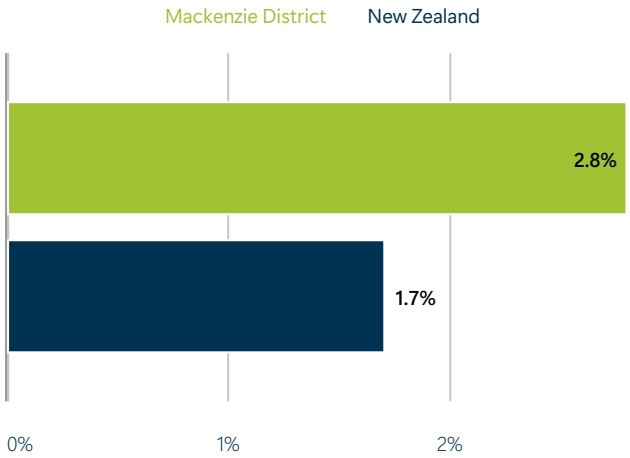
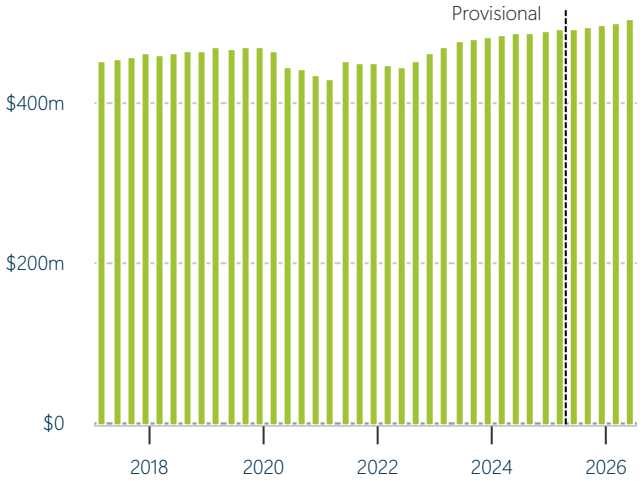


Figure 2. Gross domestic product

Annual level, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- GDP in Mackenzie District was provisionally up 2.8% for the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. Growth was higher than in New Zealand (1.7%).
- Provisional GDP was $507 million in Mackenzie District for the year to June 2026 (2025 prices).
- Annual GDP growth in Mackenzie District peaked at 7.6% in the year to June 2023.

National overview

Despite the clear economic headwinds from conflict in the Middle East, economic activity might not have been as badly hit as first feared. Provisional estimates from Infometrics suggest that economic activity expanded 1.7%pa on average over the 12 months to June 2026, based on early indicators of activity for the most recent quarter. The more upbeat result is due to a combination of the weaker economy last year, and growth being easier to achieve off that lower base, and less of an intense hit to the economy from the Iran War, with spending activity, confidence, and other indicators showing less weakness, and for a shorter period of time, than expected. Despite the better immediate read of the economy, and the fact that key economic drivers including strong primary sector activity remain, there is still caution about the pace of recovery over the rest of 2026 amid continued global uncertainty.

Business counts

Figure 3. Growth in number of business units

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

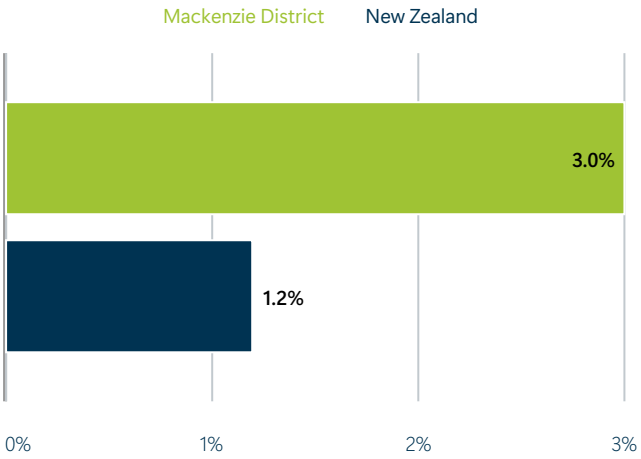
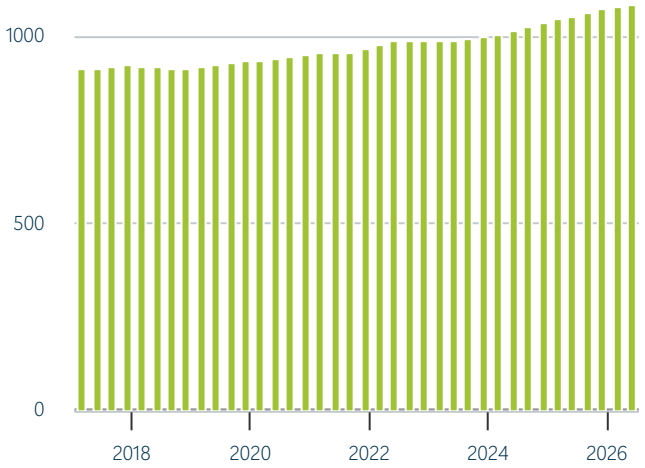


Figure 4. Business units

Annual level, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- The number of business units in Mackenzie District was up 3% for the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. Growth was higher than in New Zealand (1.2%).
- The number of business units in Mackenzie District reached an annual average of 1,087 in the year to June 2026, up from 1,055 in the previous 12 months.
- Annual growth in the number of business units in Mackenzie District peaked at 4.2% in the year to March 2025.

National overview

Business units rose 1.2% in the year to June 2026, having grown at around this rate for the past two years. Business unit growth is notably outpacing employment, which declined 0.3%. Some people struggling with the labour market may be looking to self-employment or starting their own businesses, but it's not clear if these are economically successful amid the current subdued economy.

Consumer spending

Figure 5. Growth in consumer spending

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

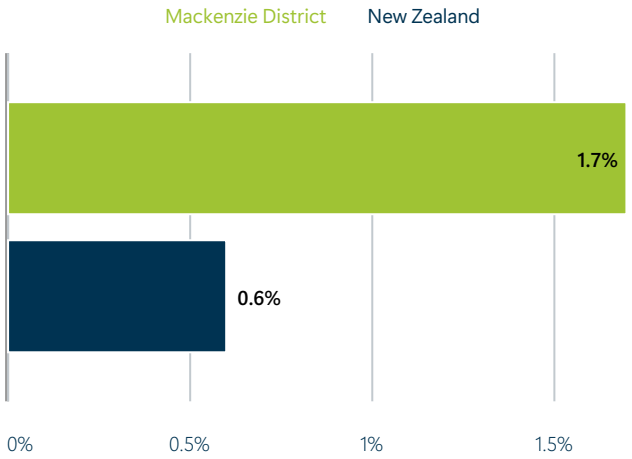
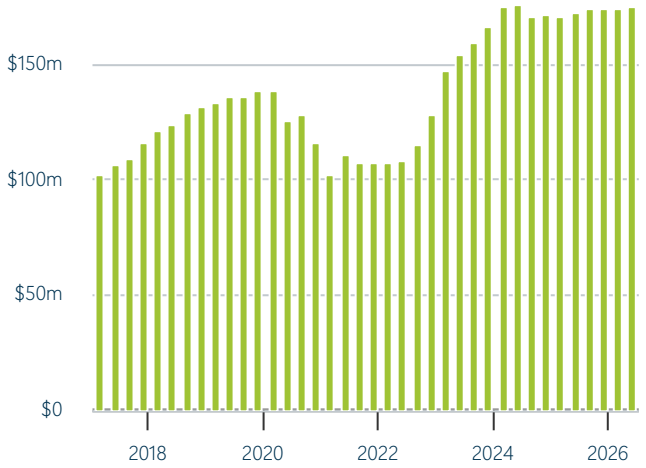


Figure 6. Consumer spending

Annual level, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- Electronic card consumer spending in Mackenzie District as measured by Marketview, increased by 1.7% over the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. This compares with an increase of 0.6% in New Zealand.

National overview

Marketview card spending data shows a 2.6%pa lift in retail spending in the June 2026 quarter, off a lower base last year. That growth saw annual average spending activity up 0.6%pa, the first period of annual growth in around two years. However, after adjusting for retail price inflation, Infometrics estimates that spending volumes fell 1.5%pa over the last year, with higher prices including for fuel reducing the real level of spending activity. Although real spending growth is still negative, it continues to improve from an even more negative position last year. Spending on apparel and hospitality appears broadly weaker, with more sustained spending on consumables like groceries.

Traffic flow

Figure 7. Annual change in traffic flows

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

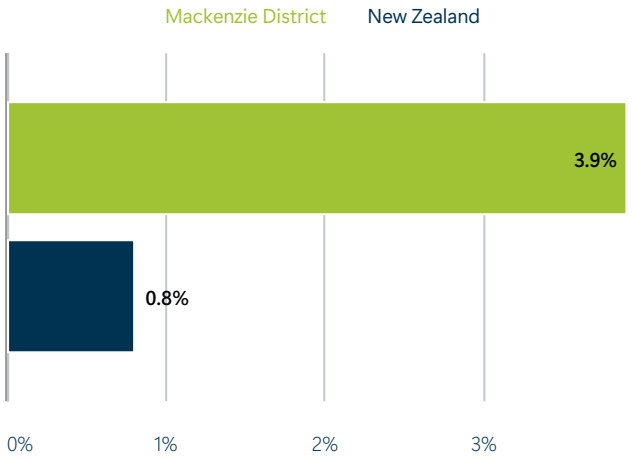


Figure 8. Traffic

Annual level, Mackenzie District

Highlights

- Traffic flows in Mackenzie District increased by 3.9% over the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. This compares with an increase of 0.8% in New Zealand.

National overview

Traffic flows edged up 0.8%pa in the year to June 2026, but fell 1.6%pa in the June 2026 quarter. Traffic flows reflect growth of both population and economic activity, and both have been subdued lately with weak population growth and a tentative economic recovery.

Tourism expenditure

Figure 9. Tourism expenditure

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

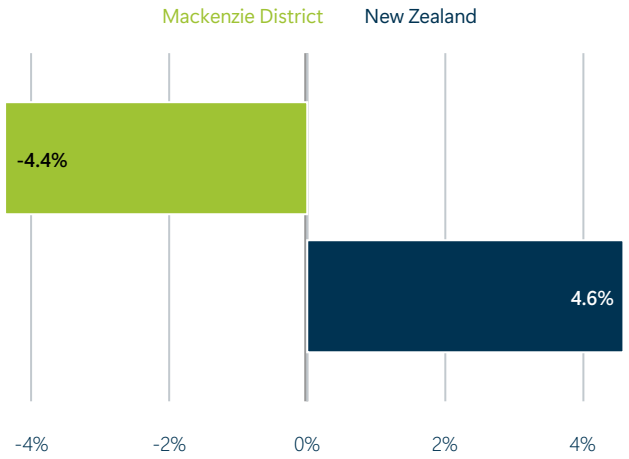
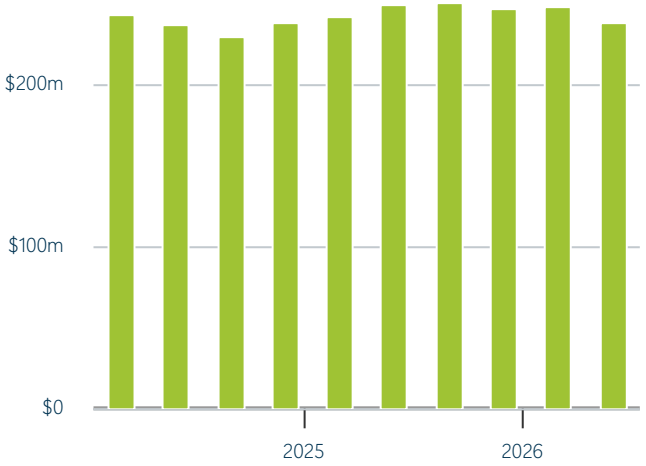


Figure 10. Tourism expenditure

Annual total, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- Total tourism expenditure in Mackenzie District decreased by 4.4% in the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. This compares with an increase of 4.6% in New Zealand.
- Total tourism expenditure was approximately $238.3 million in Mackenzie District during the year to June 2026, which was down from $249.3 million a year ago.

National overview

Tourism expenditure is as published by MBIE in its monthly regional tourism estimates (MRTE) series. The series is a reasonable indicator of tourism expenditure at a high level, but as there are a number of inconsistencies at the detailed level, we recommend users apply caution when using this data. We continue to engage with MBIE about this data series.

Tourism expenditure rose 4.6% nationally over the year to June 2026, driven by a 14% increase in international visitor spending. Domestic visitor spending fell 0.2%, reflecting tight household budgets.

Guest nights

Figure 11. Guest nights

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

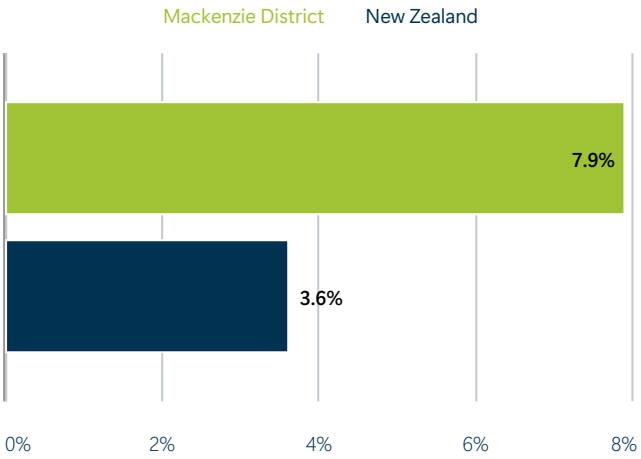
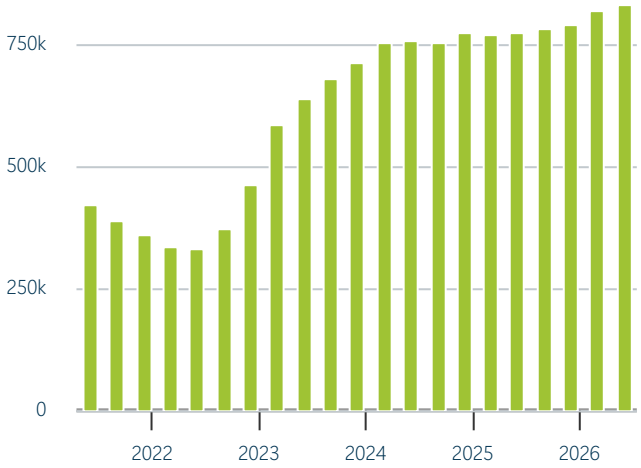


Figure 12. Guest nights

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- Total guest nights in Mackenzie District increased by 7.9% in the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. This compares with an increase of 3.6% in New Zealand.
- Visitors stayed a total of 832,100 nights in Mackenzie District during the year to June 2026, which was up from 771,200 a year ago.

National overview

Guest nights continue to improve steadily, with a 3.6% increase in the year to June 2026. International visitors continue to lead tourism activity, with international guest nights rising 9.1% in the year to June 2026 and 11%pa in the June 2026 quarter. Domestic tourist activity remains soft, reflecting the cost-of-living pressures faced by households, with domestic guest nights rising just 0.6% over the year to June 2026.

International visitor arrivals to New Zealand rose 8.5% in the year to May 2026, underpinning growth in international visitor guest nights.

Non-residential consents

Figure 13. Growth in value of consents

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

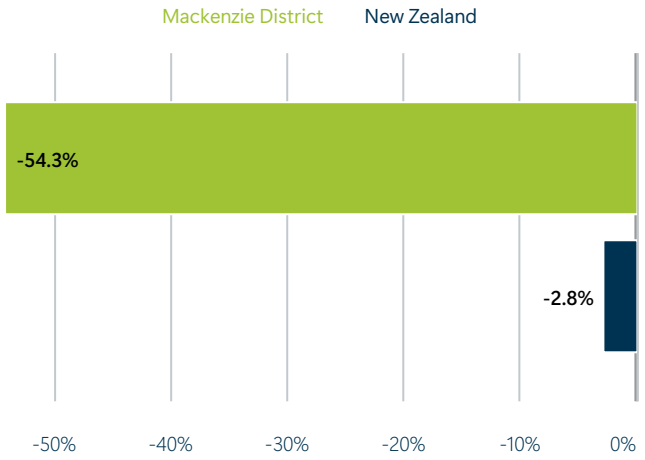
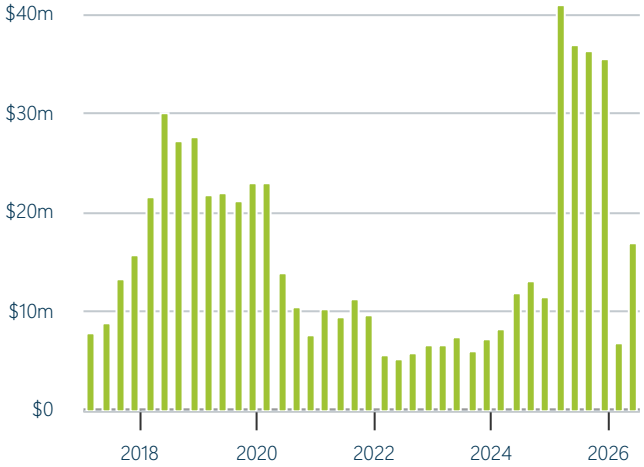


Figure 14. Non-residential consents, Mackenzie District

Annual running total, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- Non-residential building consents to the value of $16.9 million were issued in Mackenzie District during the year to June 2026. This compares with the ten year annual average of $16.3 million.
- The value of consents in Mackenzie District decreased by 54.3% over the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. In comparison, the value of consents decreased by 2.8% in New Zealand over the same period.

National overview

The value of non-residential consents issued across New Zealand over the June 2026 year totalled just under $8.8b, down 2.8%pa from a year earlier, and the lowest annual total since the start of 2022. Public sector consents continue to grow, up 3.5%pa, but this growth is more than offset by the 5.3%pa decline in private sector consent values issued over the last year. Non-residential consent values for factories and warehouses have fallen over the last year as manufacturing demand has remained restrained, and hospital consents are down too following some large projects. Further investment in prisons, student accommodation, and hotels have provided growth in some areas.

Dairy payout

Figure 15. Total dairy payout

May years

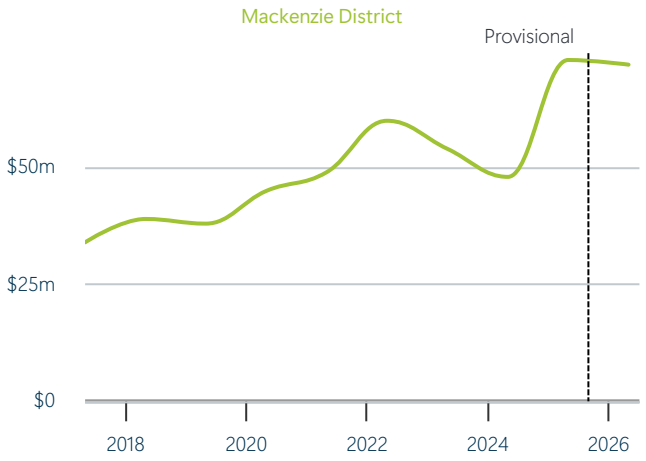
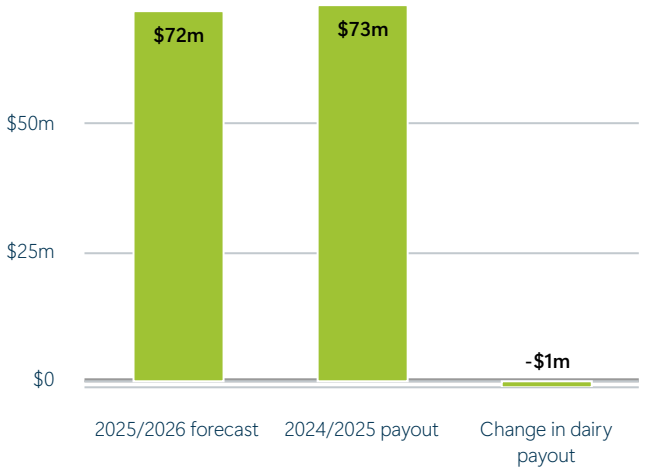


Figure 16. Total dairy payout

May years



Highlights

- Mackenzie District total dairy payout for the 2024/2025 season is estimated to have been approximately $73 million.
- Mackenzie District's dairy payout for the 2025/2026 season is expected to be approximately $72 million, $1 million lower than last season, assuming that production levels from last season are maintained.
- The total dairy payout for New Zealand is estimated to have been approximately $19,678 million in the 2024/2025 season, and is expected to be $19 million lower in the 2025/2026 season.

National overview

Expectations for dairy sector returns have eased slightly in recent months, and we now expect a pay-out of $18.8b nationally in the 2026/27 season. Continued uncertainty means Fonterra has retained a wide range for the milk price, of $8 - $10.50/kgMS. But the forecast price has dropped back from $9.75 in late May to $9.25 in mid-July, as global dairy prices eased back from highs as demand has softened, and dairy supplies are rising globally. The current season pay-out would be down from $19.7b in both 2024/25 and 2025/26, but still higher than any other year. Milk solids volumes remain elevated, up 4.4%pa over the 12 months to June 2026, with South Island volumes growing stronger than North Island volumes.

Electric vehicle registrations

Figure 17. Growth in number of EV registrations

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

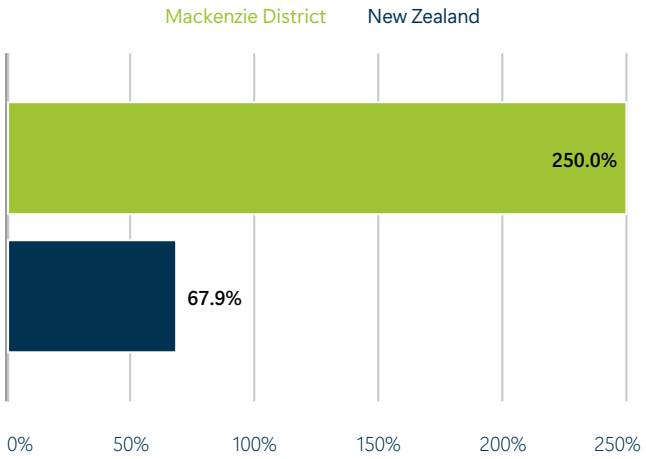
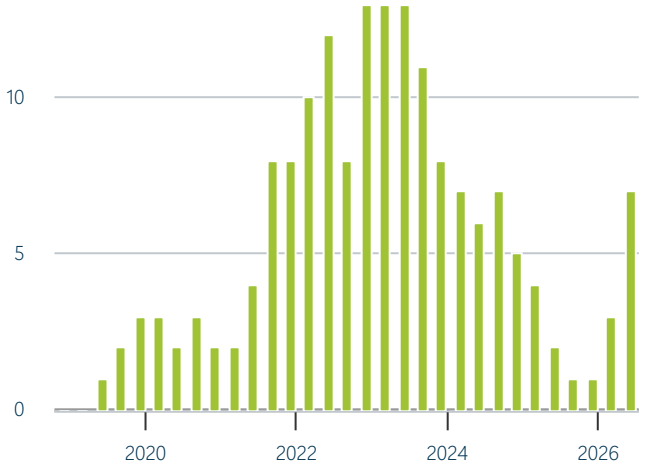


Figure 18. EV registrations

Annual level, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- The number of EV registrations in Mackenzie District increased by 250% in the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. Growth was higher than in New Zealand (67.9%).
- The number of EV registrations in Mackenzie District reached an annual total of 7 in the year to June 2026, up from 2 in the year to June 2025 and 6 in the year to June 2024.

National overview

Electric vehicle registrations rose 68% in the year to June 2026, with registrations in the first six months of the year up 140%pa. High fuel prices resulting from the Iran War have driven a surge in purchases of EV vehicles, aided by competitive pressure with new models from China.

Car registrations

Figure 19. Car registrations

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

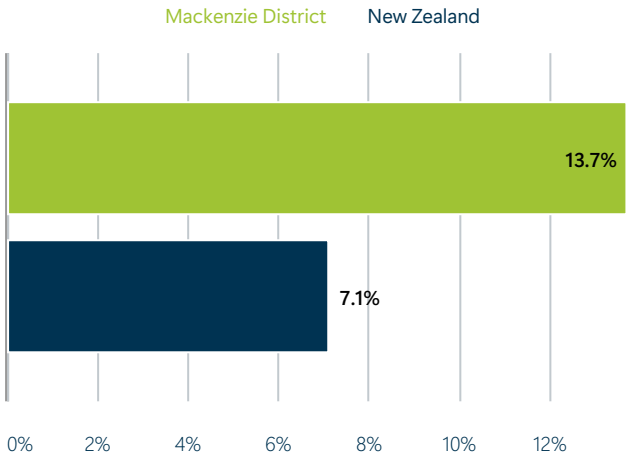
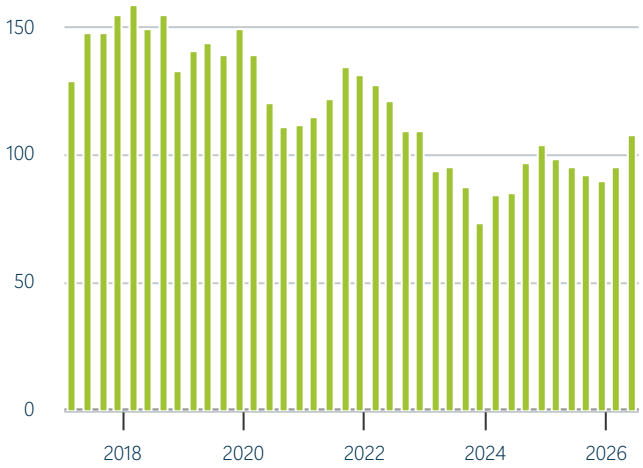


Figure 20. Car registrations

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- The number of cars registered in Mackenzie District increased by 13.7% in the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. Growth was higher than in New Zealand (7.1%).
- A total of 108 cars were registered in Mackenzie District in the year to June 2026. This compares with the ten year annual average of 119.

National overview

Car registration growth remained strong in the June quarter, dominated by more EV and hybrid registrations and a pullback in petrol and diesel vehicles as fuel costs convinced households to buy efficient vehicles. Car registrations totalled just under 47,000 in the June 2026 quarter, up 12%pa from a year ago, and lifting annual registrations to above 190,000 for the first time in over two years – up 7.1%pa on average over the June 2026 year. Fuel prices changed considerably over the June quarter, from starting at around $2.61/L for 91 petrol at the start of April, reaching a peak of $3.50/L in early April, before falling back to $3.05/L at the end of June to sit 19% higher than pre-conflict.

Commercial vehicle registrations

Figure 21. Commercial vehicle registrations

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

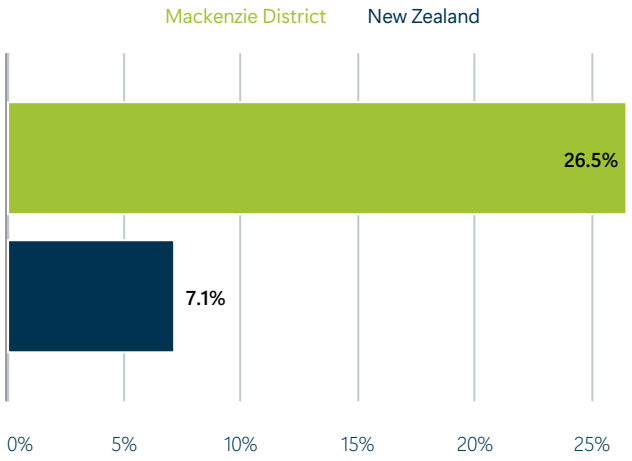
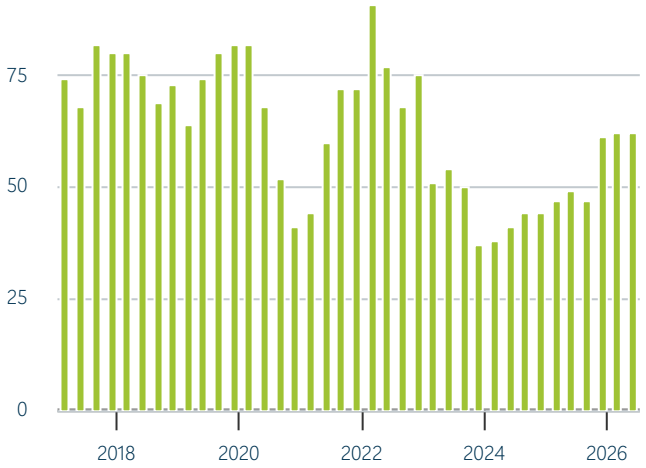


Figure 22. Commercial vehicle registrations

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- The number of commercial vehicles registered in Mackenzie District increased by 26.5% in the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. Growth was higher than in New Zealand (7.1%).
- A total of 62 commercial vehicles were registered in Mackenzie District in the year to June 2026. This is lower than the ten year annual average of 63.

National overview

Annual commercial vehicle registrations rose 7.1%pa on average over the 12 months to June 2026, although annual registrations over the period were slightly lower than the year to March. There has been continued demand, albeit at a small absolute size overall, for EV and hybrid commercial vehicles, but these gains have been more than offset by a larger decline in diesel registrations as overall investment pulls back slightly. Commercial vehicle registrations growth has been strongest in Southland, Manawatū-Whanganui, and Tasman, but weaker on the West Coast and in Waikato.

Greenhouse gas emissions

Figure 23. Greenhouse gas emission growth (provisional)

Annual average % change March 2025 - March 2026

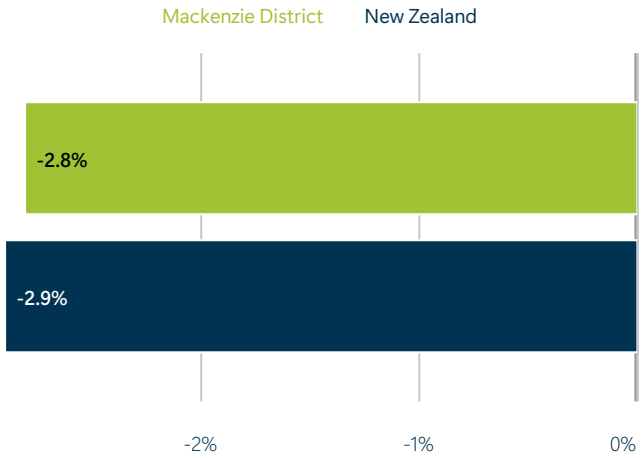
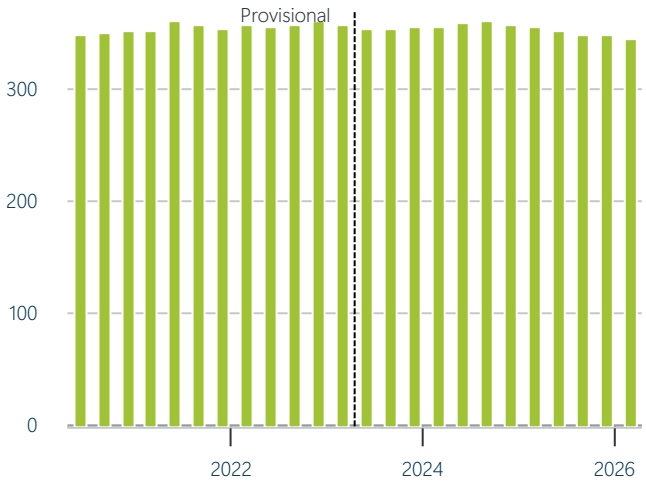


Figure 24. Greenhouse gas emissions

Annual level kilotonnes CO_2-e, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- Greenhouse gas emissions in Mackenzie District were provisionally down 2.8% for the year to March 2026, compared to a year earlier. The decline was not as low as in New Zealand (2.9%).
- Provisional greenhouse gas emissions were 346 kilotonnes CO_2-e in Mackenzie District for the year to March 2026.
- The sharpest decline in greenhouse gas emissions in Mackenzie District occured in the year to September 2025, with a fall of 3.3%.
- *Please note that greenhouse gas emissions is not yet available for the year to June 2026. Data for the year to March 2026 is displayed instead.*

National overview

Greenhouse gas emissions, in terms of carbon dioxide equivalents, eased 2.9% nationally in the year to March 2026. The decrease was primarily driven by lower emissions from electricity, gas water and waste services, and further reductions in mining and manufacturing emissions. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the March 2026 quarter marked New Zealand's lowest quarterly emission since the series began in 2010.

Our greenhouse gas emissions estimates are based on Stats NZ's estimates of national and regional emissions, and our own modelling with GDP and employment.

Labour market indicators

Overview

Table 2. Overview of labour market indicators

Indicator	Mackenzie District	Canterbury Region	New Zealand
Employment (place of residence)	+0.4% ▲	+1.0% ▲	-0.3% ▼
Jobseeker Support recipients	-6.2% ▼	+0.4% ▲	+3.7% ▲
Unemployment rate ^	1.9% ▼	4.1% ▼	5.4% ▲
NEET rate ^	6.2% ▼	10.0% ▼	13.8% ▲

All measures are annual average percentage changes unless:

^ Levels

Employment (place of residence)

Figure 25. Employment (place of residence) growth

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

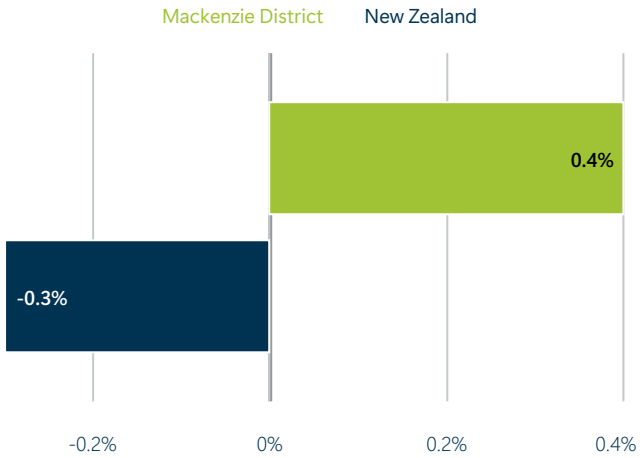
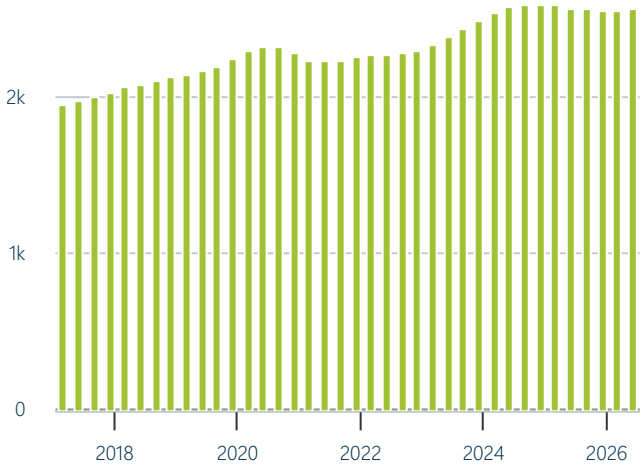


Figure 26. Employment (place of residence)

Annual level, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- Employment for residents living in Mackenzie District was up 0.4% for the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. Growth was higher than in New Zealand (-0.3%).
- An average of 2,571 people living in Mackenzie District were employed in the year to June 2026.
- Annual employment growth for Mackenzie District residents peaked at 8.8% in the year to March 2024.

National overview

Filled jobs rose 0.4% in the June 2026 quarter compared to a year earlier, helping the annual average jobs decline improve to a -0.3%pa result. Job activity is mixed, with stronger results across the South Island than the North Island, and industry differences are stark. Professional service roles continue to steadily decline, while manufacturing and construction roles remain lower, but are now strengthening slightly off those lows. Public administration, health, and education jobs have been the driver of improved jobs activity recently. Job ads had been improving earlier in 2026 before dropping back following the Iran War, but are now rising again as confidence improves, yet remain 26% lower than pre-pandemic levels.

Jobseeker Support recipients

Figure 27. Annual change in Jobseeker Support recipients

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

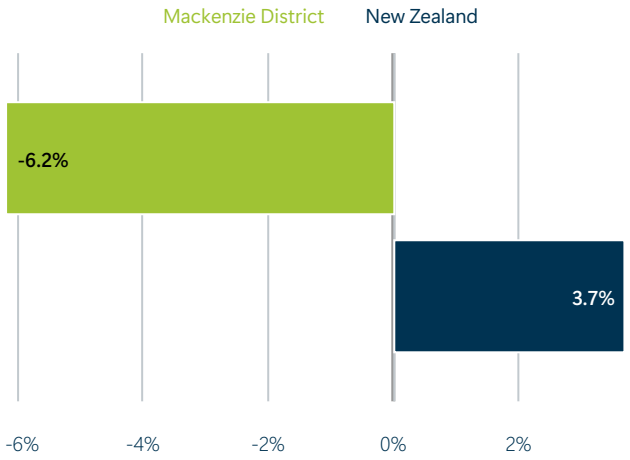
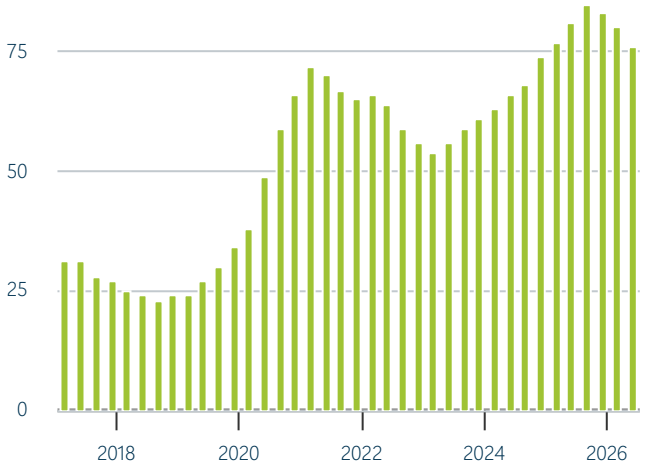


Figure 28. Jobseeker Support recipients

Annual average, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- Jobseeker Support recipients in Mackenzie District in the year to June 2026 decreased by 6.2% compared to a year earlier. The decline was greater than in New Zealand (3.7% growth).
- An average of 76 people were receiving a Jobseeker Support benefit in Mackenzie District in the 12 months ending June 2026. This compares with the ten year annual average of 54.

National overview

The number of Jobseeker Support recipients totalled just under 219,000 on average over the 12 months to June 2026, up 3.7%pa over the period. Growth in the number of Jobseekers continues to slow, with the quarterly total in the June quarter up just 1.2% from a year ago. The number of Jobseekers needing support for more than a year rose 6.3%pa in the June quarter, while those needing support for less than a year dropped back 6.4%pa. The continued increase in Jobseekers continues to be driven by increasing number of Jobseekers with health conditions or disabilities, with 3,000 more Health Condition or Disability recipients in June 2026 compared to a year earlier. Over the same period, the number of Work Ready jobseekers has dropped by around 500 recipients.

Unemployment rate

Figure 29. Unemployment rate

Annual average rate to June 2026

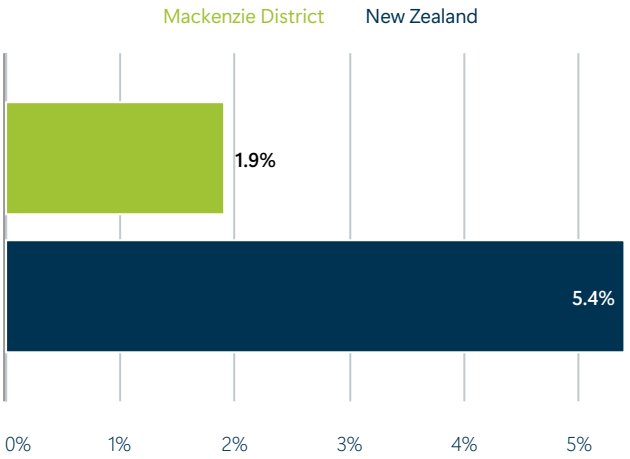
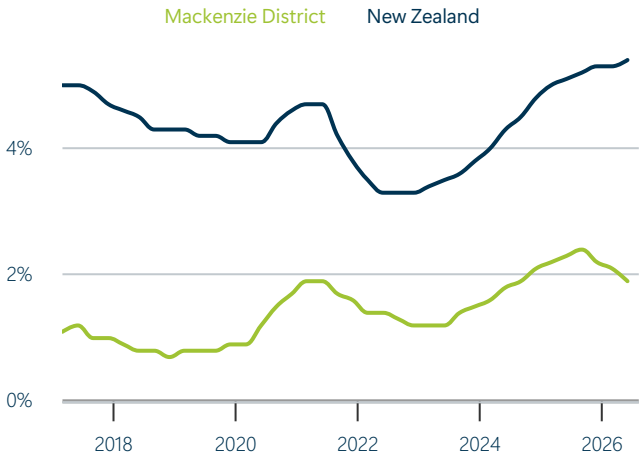


Figure 30. Unemployment rate

Annual average rate



Highlights

- The annual average unemployment rate in Mackenzie District was 1.9% in the year to June 2026, down from 2.3% in the previous 12 months.
- In the year to June 2026, the annual average unemployment rate in Mackenzie District was lower than in New Zealand (5.4%).
- Over the last ten years the annual average unemployment rate in Mackenzie District reached a peak of 2.4% in September 2025.

National overview

The unemployment rate increased to 5.6% (seasonally adjusted) in the June 2026 quarter, an unexpectedly large increase compared to expectations, and as a result the annual average unemployment rate has increased further to 5.4% of the labour force. However, employment rose too, and far from people losing their jobs, the increase in unemployment was driven by jobs growth being outpaced by more people in the labour force and looking for work. The underutilisation rate rose to a ten-year high of 13.8% as more people were wanting more hours than they were being offered, as household costs bite. Regional unemployment differences continue to be stark, with the South Island unemployment rate being noticeably lower than the North Island unemployment rate.

NEET rate

Figure 31. NEET rate

% of people aged 15-24 not in employment, education or training, annual average rate to June 2026

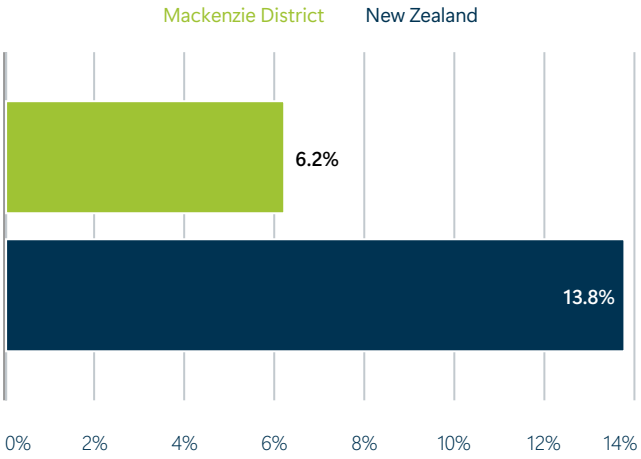
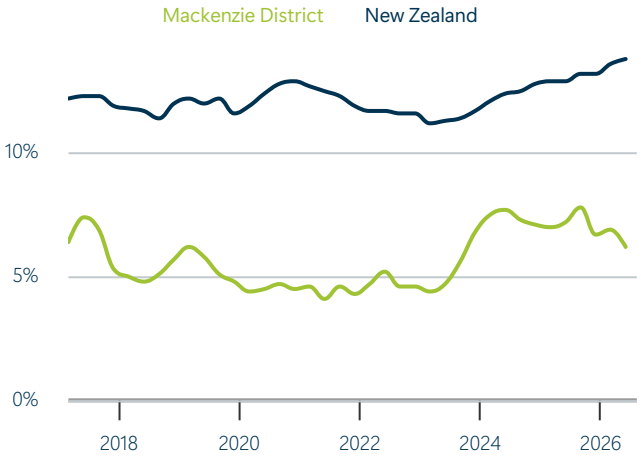


Figure 32. NEET rate

% of people aged 15-24 not in employment, education or training, annual average rate



Highlights

- The annual average NEET rate in Mackenzie District was 6.2% in the year to June 2026, down from 7.2% in the previous 12 months.
- In the year to June 2026, the annual average NEET rate in Mackenzie District was lower than in New Zealand (13.8%).
- Over the last ten years the annual average NEET rate in Mackenzie District reached a peak of 7.8% in September 2025.

National overview

Young people continue to bear the brunt of a weak labour market, with constrained youth employment driving up the number of people aged 15-24 not in employment, education or training (NEET). The NEET rate rose to 13.4% on average over the year to June 2026, the highest since the series began in 2006.

Employment of 15-24-year-olds fell 1.1%pa in the June 2026 quarter, despite overall employment lifting 0.4%pa. Young people aren't taking the challenge of a weak labour market standing still, with a 2.0%pa increase in youth in education.

Housing indicators

Overview

Table 3. Overview of housing indicators

Indicator	Mackenzie District	Canterbury Region	New Zealand
Residential consents	+31.6% ▲	+33.1% ▲	+19.4% ▲
House sales	+5.2% ▲	+6.6% ▲	+2.2% ▲
Real estate listings	-15.2% ▼	+2.3% ▲	+4.1% ▲
House values *	-0.6% ▼	+3.5% ▲	-0.3% ▼
Housing affordability ^	8.2 ▼	5.5 ▼	5.8 ▼
First Home Loan purchases	-33.3% ▼	+25.6% ▲	+31.2% ▲
Residential rents	+8.5% ▲	+2.0% ▲	-0.7% ▼
Rental affordability ^	18.8% ▲	20.0% ▼	19.7% ▼
Public housing stock	+0.0% ▶	+0.3% ▲	+2.3% ▲

All measures are annual average percentage changes unless:

* Annual percentage changes

^ Levels

Residential consents

Figure 33. Growth in number of new dwelling consents

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

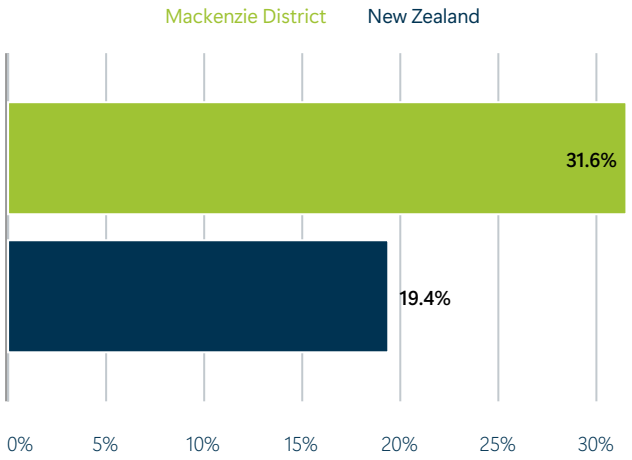
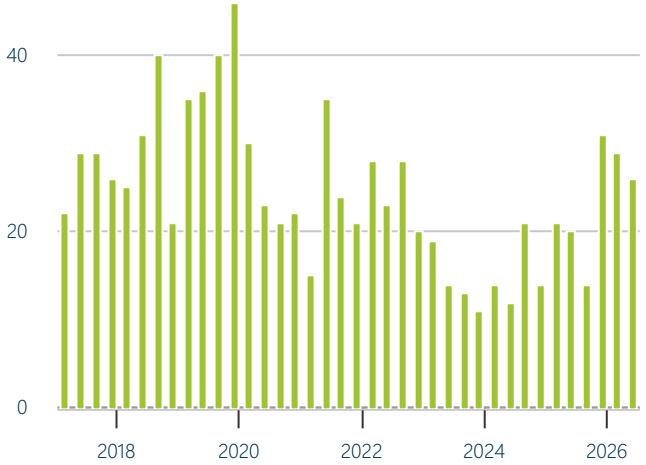


Figure 34. Residential consents

Quarterly number, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- A total of 26 new residential building consents were issued in Mackenzie District in the June 2026 quarter, compared with 20 in the same quarter last year.
- On an annual basis the number of consents in Mackenzie District increased by 31.6% compared with the same 12-month period a year before. This compares with an increase of 19.4% in New Zealand over the same period.

National overview

Residential consent numbers continue to build, with a 19%pa lift to over 40,000 consents over the 12 months to June 2026, the first time at or above this level since the September 2023 year. Although all building types are higher than a year ago, medium-density townhouse consents have driven this lift in residential intentions, with a 23%pa lift. Standalone houses are also up, rising 18%pa over the last year, followed by a 15%pa lift in apartment consents and a 12% rise in retirement units consented. Construction intentions have surged higher than fundamentals like house prices suggest they would, with a slower pace of construction likely ahead.

House sales

Figure 35. Annual change in house sales

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

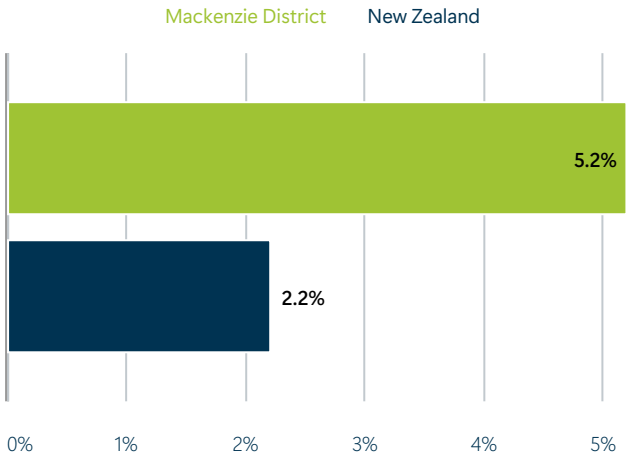
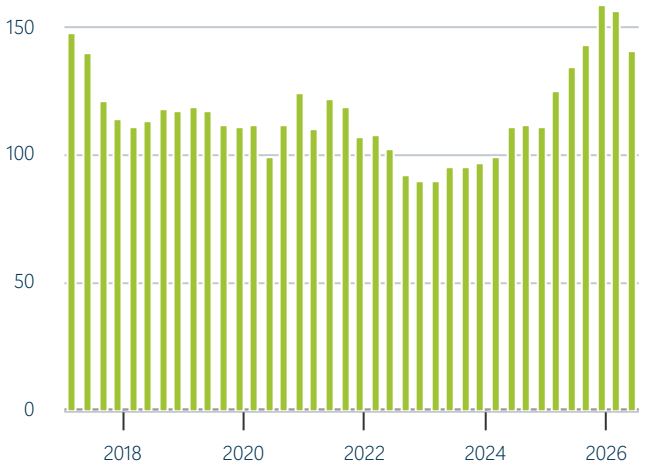


Figure 36. House sales

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- House sales in Mackenzie District increased by 5.2% in the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. This compares with an increase of 2.2% in New Zealand.
- A total of 141 houses were sold in Mackenzie District in the 12 months ending June 2026. This compares with the ten year annual average of 117.

National overview

House sales rose 2.2%pa on average over the 12 months to June 2026, a slowdown in sales growth as property activity has levelled off and recently dropped lower. House sales in the June 2026 quarter totalled 19,256, down 5.8% from the same time a year ago. Sales activity has fallen back recently as uncertainty from the Iran War has combined with a higher unemployment rate, continued higher levels of housing stock available for sale, and interest rate increases. Buyer demand for housing is still restrained, due to all these factors, compared to high supply of housing, which has pushed house prices lower and meant competition for house sales is intense and slower to action.

Real estate listings

Figure 37. Real estate listings

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

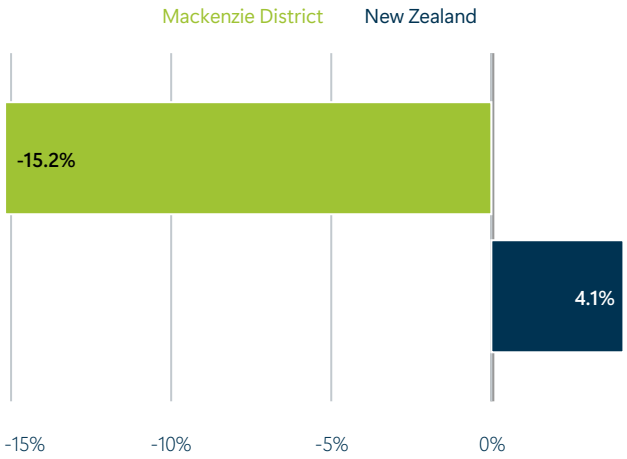
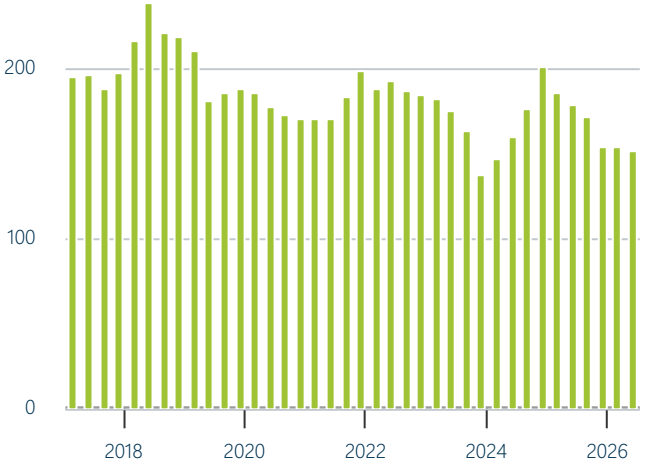


Figure 38. Real estate listings

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- The number of new real estate listings in Mackenzie District decreased by 15.2% in the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. The decline was greater than in New Zealand (4.1% growth).
- There were an average of 151 new real estate listings in Mackenzie District in the 12 months ending June 2026. This compares with the ten year annual average of 182 new real estate listings.

National overview

The number of new real estate listings rose 4.1% in the year to June 2026, with a total of 115,300 new listings, the highest since 2019. House sales totalled 79,800 over the same period. With new listings substantially outnumbering houses being sold, house price growth is supressed. Households remain under pressure from a weak labour market, which coupled with low migration has led to weak housing market activity.

House values

Figure 39. Annual change in house value

Annual % change in house value June 2025 - June 2026

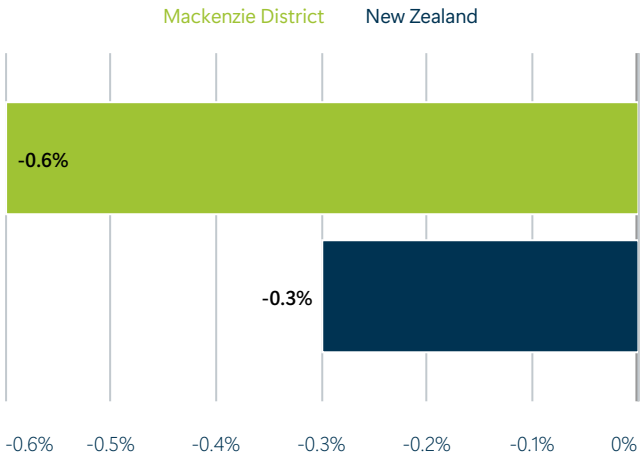
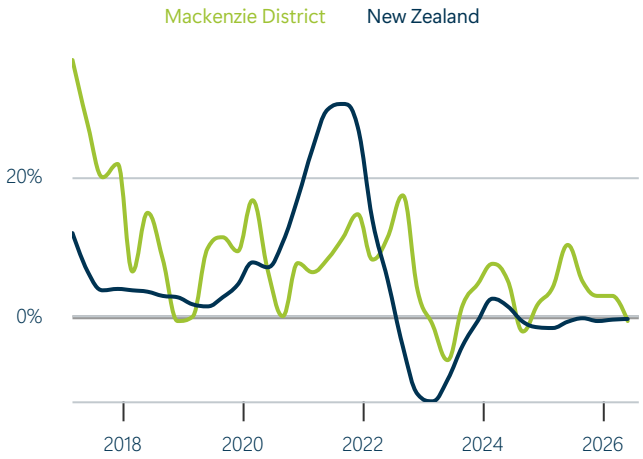


Figure 40. House value growth

Annual % change



Highlights

- The average current house value in Mackenzie District was down 0.6% in June 2026, compared to a year earlier. The decline was greater than in New Zealand (0.3%).
- The average current house value was $848,107 in Mackenzie District in June 2026. This compares with $862,523 in New Zealand.

National overview

The average house value in New Zealand fell 0.3%pa in the June 2026 quarter, to sit at just under $863,000. House prices have now continued to decline for two years continuously, and are expected to broadly track sideways or slightly lower over the rest of 2026. House sales growth has eased back, and the volume of properties available for sale remain high, meaning continued competition for sales and buyers being willing to wait and negotiate prices lower given the amount of choice they have. Higher interest rates, as inflation concerns persist, will sustain the softness in house prices, although stronger population growth in the future will likely add some support under house values, but not until 2027.

Housing affordability

Figure 41. Housing affordability

Ratio of house prices to household incomes, year to June 2026

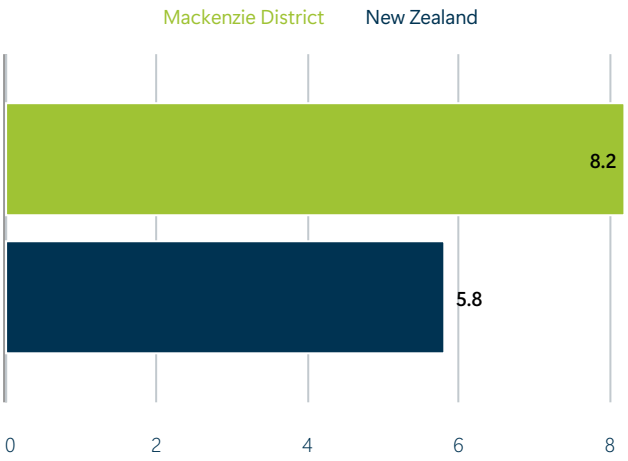
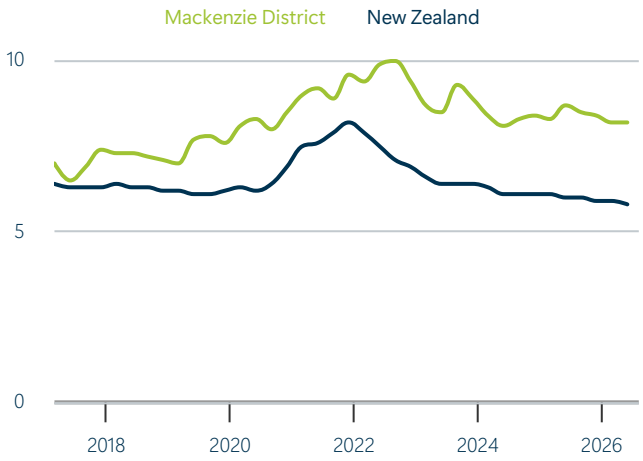


Figure 42. Housing affordability

Ratio of house prices to household incomes, annual average



Highlights

- Housing in Mackenzie District (8.2) was less affordable than in New Zealand (5.8) in June 2026, based on the ratio between mean house values and mean household incomes.
- Housing affordability in Mackenzie District improved on average between June 2025 and June 2026. Housing affordability has improved in New Zealand over the same period.
- During the last ten years, housing in Mackenzie District was most affordable in June 2017, when the index reached a low of 6.5.

National overview

Housing affordability has improved slightly, with the average house value easing from 6.0 times household incomes in the year to June 2025, to 5.8 times in the year to June 2026. This marks the most affordable housing since 2016. This improvement in affordability was driven by a 3.7% increase in household incomes, and a 0.3%pa fall in house values.

First Home Loan purchases

Figure 43. Annual change in First Home Loan purchases

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026, First Home Loan purchases

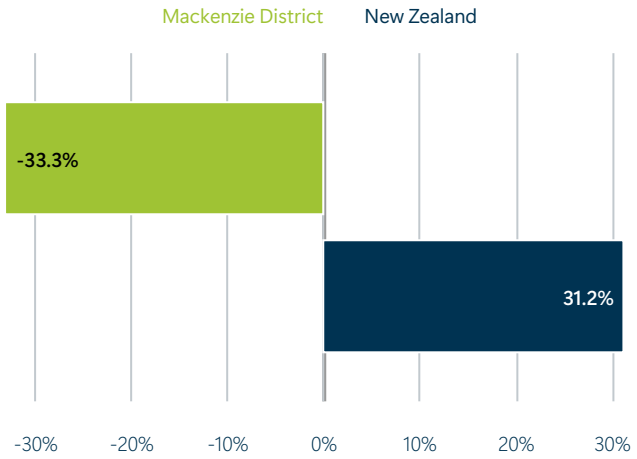
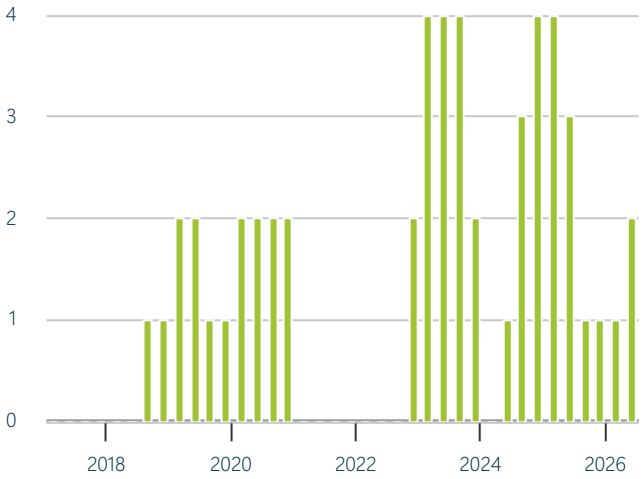


Figure 44. First Home Loan purchases

Annual number First Home Loan purchases, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- Purchases using the Kainga Ora First Home Loan scheme in Mackenzie District decreased by 33.3% in the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. This compares with an increase of 31.2% in New Zealand.
- A total of 2 properties were purchased using the Kainga Ora First Home Loan scheme in Mackenzie District in the 12 months ending June 2026. This compares with the ten year annual average of 1.

National overview

First Home Loans accounted for 5.1% of all house sales in the year to June 2026. Purchases using First Home Loans rose 31% in the year to June 2026, to an annual total of 4,049, the highest level on record.

First Home Loans counts the number of purchases made using Kainga Ora's First Home Loan scheme. First Home Loans have stricter eligibility criteria than First Home Grants, so represent a smaller, and different, portion of first home buyer activity.

Residential rents

Figure 45. Annual change in residential rents

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

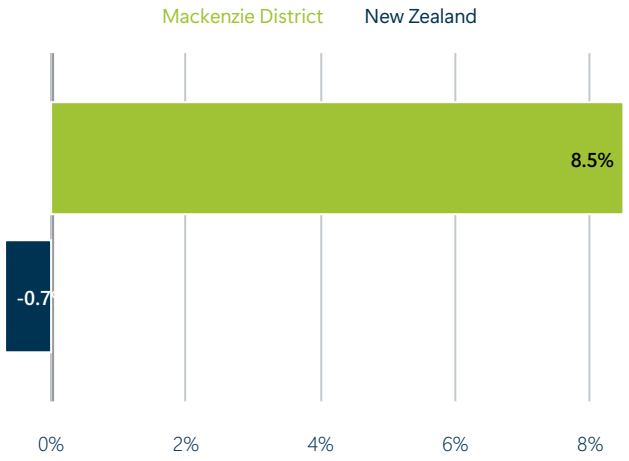
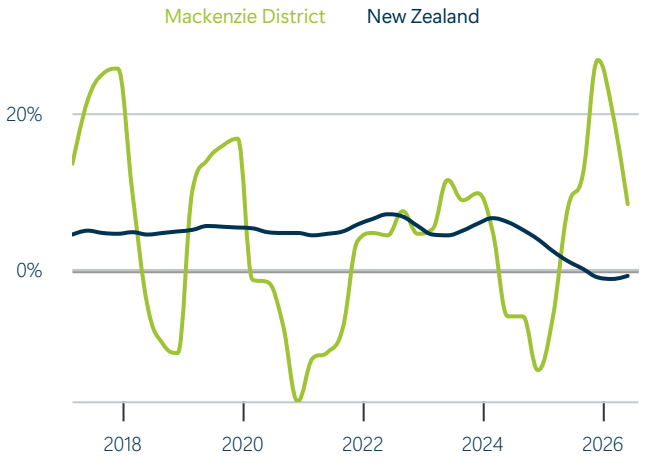


Figure 46. Residential rents growth

Annual average % change



Highlights

- The average residential rent in Mackenzie District was up 8.5% in the year to June 2026, compared to a year earlier. Growth was higher than in New Zealand (-0.7%).
- The average residential rent in Mackenzie District was $372 in the year to June 2026. This compares to $565 in New Zealand.
- Annual growth of residential rents in Mackenzie District peaked at 27.0% in the year to December 2025.

National overview

Residential rents declined over the past year, declining 0.7% in the year to June 2026, before recovering 0.7%pa in the June 2026 quarter.

Rental affordability

Figure 47. Rental affordability

Rents as % of household income, year to June 2026

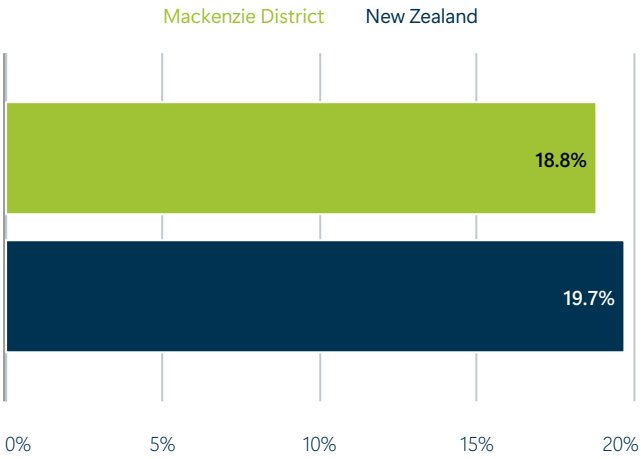
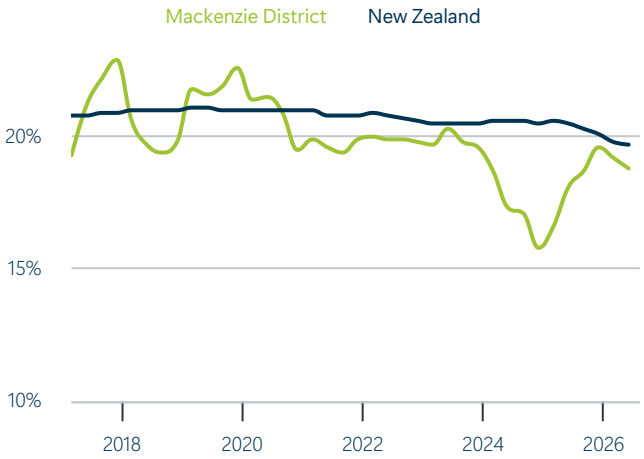


Figure 48. Rental affordability

Rents as % of household income, annual average



Highlights

- Renting in Mackenzie District (18.8%) was more affordable than in New Zealand (19.7%) in the year to June 2026, based on the ratio of mean rents to mean household incomes.
- Rental affordability in Mackenzie District deteriorated on average between June 2025 and June 2026. Rental affordability has improved in New Zealand over the same period.
- During the last ten years, renting in Mackenzie District was most affordable in December 2024, when the index reached a low of 15.8%.

National overview

Rising incomes and falling rents have both contributed to improved rental affordability. Residential rents fell 0.7% in the year to June 2026, and household incomes are estimated to have grown 3.7%. Rents have eased as share of income, from 20.5% over the year to June 2025 to 19.7% over the year to June 2026.

Public housing stock

Figure 49. Public housing stock

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

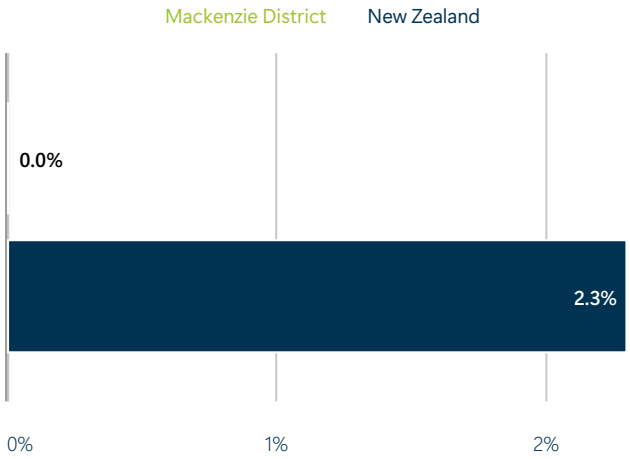
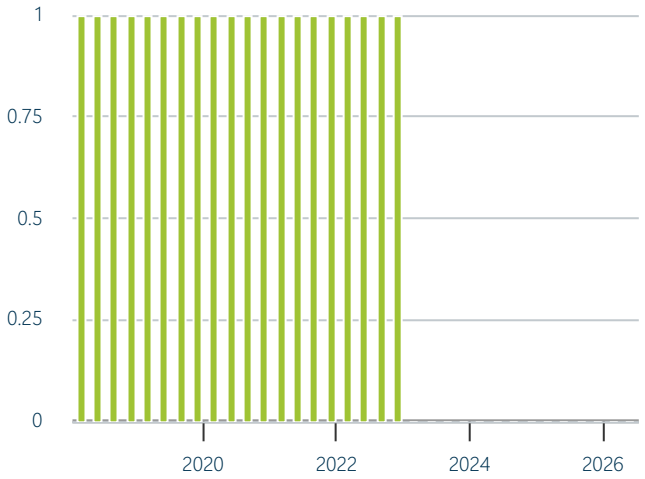


Figure 50. Public housing stock

Annual average, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- The number of public houses in Mackenzie District in the year to June 2026 was unchanged compared to a year earlier. Growth was positive in New Zealand (2.3%).
- There were an average of 0 public houses in Mackenzie District in the 12 months ending June 2026. This compares with the nine year annual average of 1.

National overview

Public housing stock grew 2.3% in the year to June 2026, with a net 1,900 public houses added in the past year, down from a 4,600 increase in the year to June 2026. There were 87,900 public houses on average in the year to June 2026.

Public housing includes properties that are owned or leased by Kāinga Ora and other registered Community Housing Providers (CHPs) that can be tenanted by people who are eligible for public housing. The totals presented include both occupied and vacant houses. Public housing was previously referred to as social housing.

Social indicators

Overview

Table 4. Overview of social indicators

Indicator	Mackenzie District	Canterbury Region	New Zealand
School attendance ^ 🕒	57.9% ▲	60.5% ▲	58.7% ▲
Gaming machine profits 🕒	+6.4% ▲	+5.4% ▲	+1.2% ▲
Crime rate ^	116 ▼	177 ▼	214 ▼
Health enrolments	-1.0% ▼	+1.0% ▲	+0.9% ▲
Other benefit recipients	+0.0% ▶	+3.7% ▲	+3.2% ▲

🕒 Data up to the March 2026 quarter.

All measures are annual average percentage changes unless:

^ Levels

School attendance

Figure 51. School attendance

% of school students attending greater than 90% of classes, annual average to March 2026

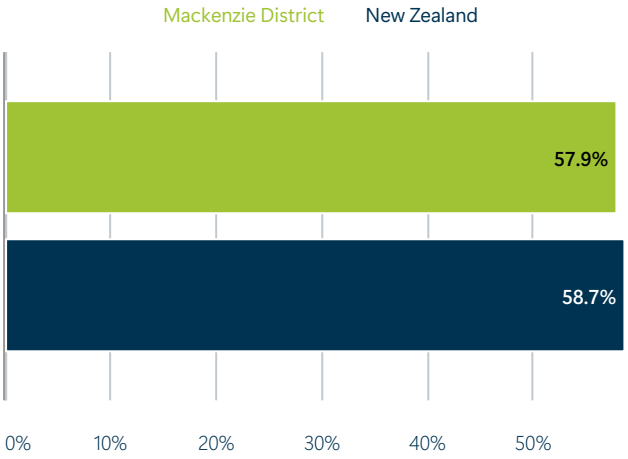
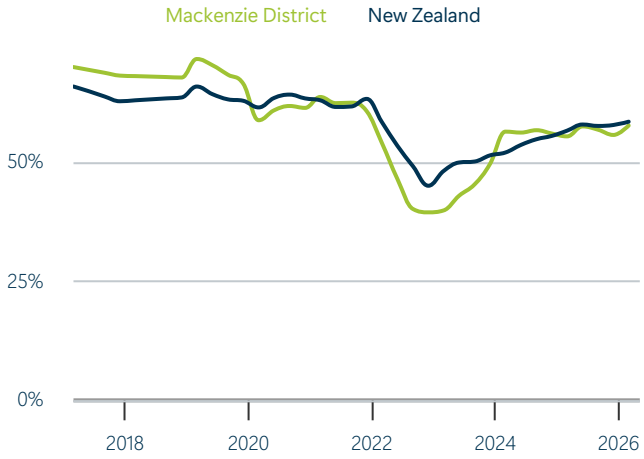


Figure 52. School attendance

% of school students attending greater than 90% of classes, annual average



Highlights

- The annual average school attendance rate in Mackenzie District was 57.9% in the year to March 2026, up from 55.6% in the previous 12 months.
- In the year to March 2026, the annual average school attendance rate in Mackenzie District was lower than in New Zealand (58.7%).
- Over the last ten years the annual average school attendance rate in Mackenzie District reached a peak of 71.9% in March 2019.
- *Please note that school attendance is not yet available for the year to June 2026. Data for the year to March 2026 is displayed instead.*

National overview

School attendance has continued to improve, albeit at a marginal rate, and still well below previous highs. In the year to March 2026, 58.7% of school students attended greater than 90% of their classes, up from 56.8% in the year to March 2025, but below a peak of 66.1% in 2019.

Gaming machine profits

Figure 53. Gaming machine profits

Annual level, Mackenzie District

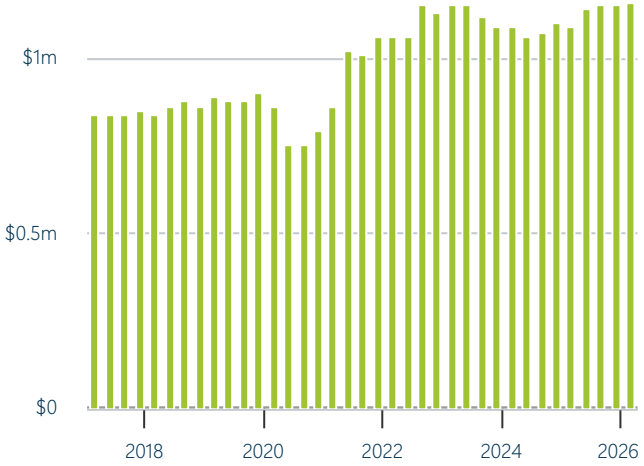
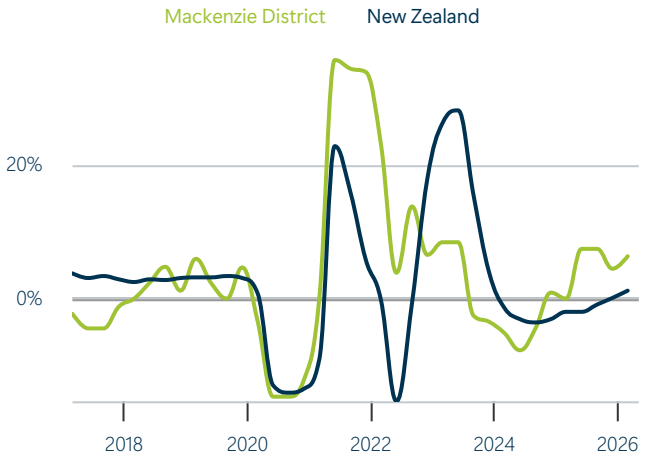


Figure 54. Gaming machine profits

Annual average % change



Highlights

- Gaming machine profits in Mackenzie District increased by 6.4% over the year to March 2026, compared to a year earlier. This compares with an increase of 1.2% in New Zealand.
- Gaming machine profits in Mackenzie District totalled $1.16 million in the year to March 2026.
- Annual gaming machine profit growth in Mackenzie District peaked at 36.0% in the year to June 2021.
- *Please note that gaming machine profits is not yet available for the year to June 2026. Data for the year to March 2026 is displayed instead.*

National overview

Gaming machine profits increased 1.2% in the year to March 2026, the strongest increase since 2023. By comparison, Marketview card spending fell 0.3% over the same period, showing that pokie machine activity is recovering earlier than broader consumer spending.

Gaming machine profits measure the profits from pokie machines in pubs – which effectively measures the amount of money taken out of communities, before considering what is returned in the form of community grants. Gambling reflects a combination of structural socioeconomic factors and current economic conditions.

Crime rate

Figure 55. Crime rate

Criminal proceedings per 10,000 residents, annual average to June 2026

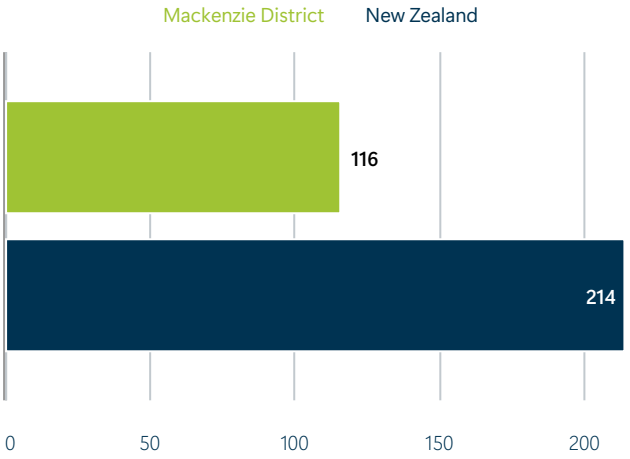
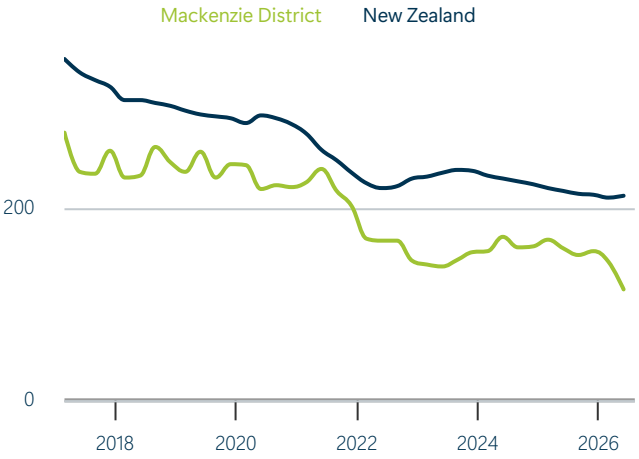


Figure 56. Crime rate

Criminal proceedings per 10,000 residents, annual average



Highlights

- The crime rate in Mackenzie District was 116 (per 10,000 residents) in the year to June 2026, down from 159 in the previous 12 months.
- In the year to June 2026, the crime rate in Mackenzie District was lower than in New Zealand (214).
- Over the last ten years the annual average crime rate in Mackenzie District reached a peak of 280 in March 2017.

National overview

New Zealand's crime rate has flattened off, after a nearly three-year period of decline. There were 214 criminal proceedings per 10,000 people in the year to June 2026.

Over the past year, theft offences have increased 14%, offsetting large declines in drug offences (-13%), offences against justice procedures and orders (including breaches of bail) (-7.5%).

Health enrolments

Figure 57. Annual change in health enrolments

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

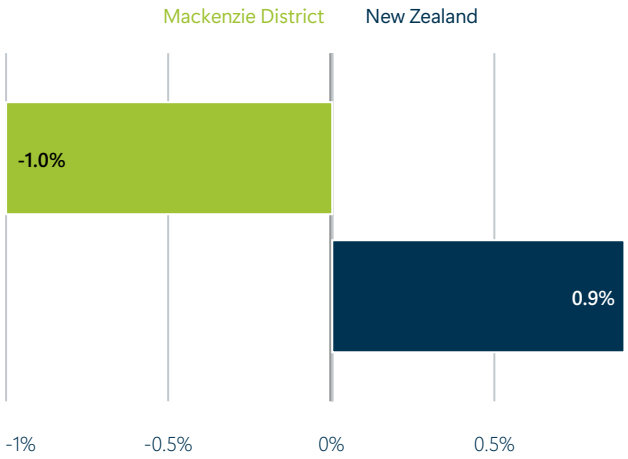
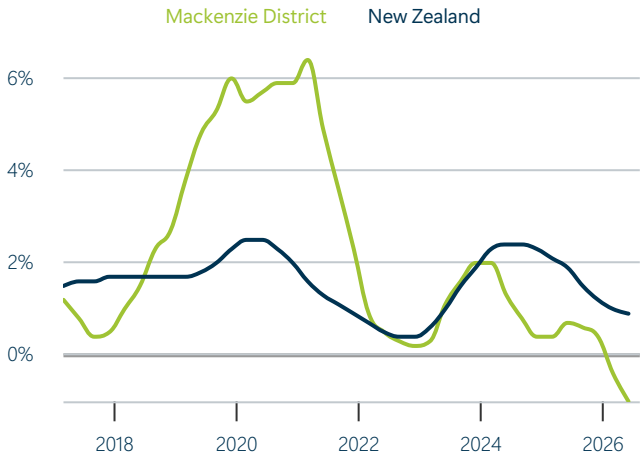


Figure 58. Health enrolments

Annual average % change



Highlights

- The number of people enrolled with a primary health organisation in Mackenzie District in the year to June 2026 decreased by 1% compared to a year earlier. The decline was greater than in New Zealand (0.9% growth).
- An average of 5,098 people were enroled with primary healthcare providers in Mackenzie District in the 12 months ending June 2026. This compares with the ten year annual average of 4,810.

National overview

Health enrolment growth continues to slow, with growth of 0.9%pa in the year to June 2026, down from 1.9%pa in the year to June 2025. Health enrolments serve as a timely indicator for regional population growth.

Stats NZ's national population estimates show growth of 0.7%pa in the year to March 2026. Quarterly growth did pick up slightly from 0.7%pa in the December 2025 quarter to 0.8%pa in the March 2026 quarter, as net migration lifted to 24,200 from 16,500. With a weak labour market, we don't expect net migration, or population growth, to accelerate in the coming year.

Other benefit recipients

Figure 59. Annual change in other benefit recipients

Annual average % change June 2025 - June 2026

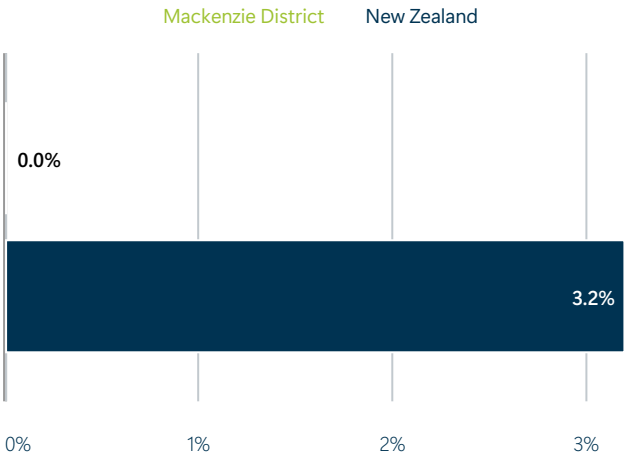
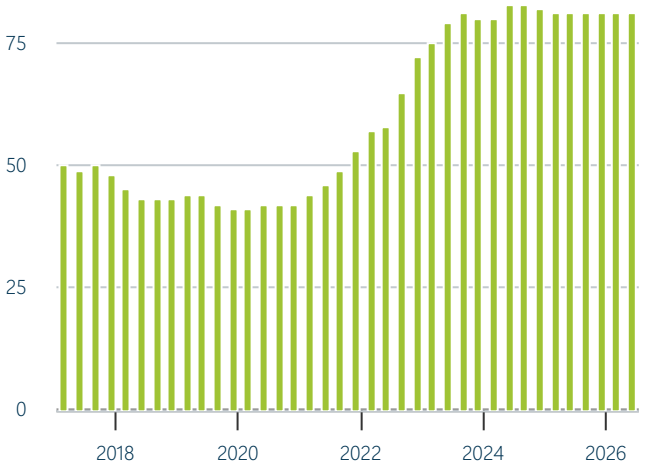


Figure 60. Other benefit recipients

Annual average, Mackenzie District



Highlights

- Other benefits recipients (including Sole Parent Support and Supported Living Payment) in Mackenzie District in the year to June 2026 were unchanged compared to a year earlier. Growth was positive in New Zealand (3.2%).
- An average of 81 people were receiving an other benefit (including Sole Parent Support and Supported Living Payment) in Mackenzie District in the 12 months ending June 2026. This compares with the ten year annual average of 61.

National overview

Other benefit recipients (including Sole Parent Support and Supported Living Payment) rose 3.2% in the year to June 2026, having increased at a fairly steady rate for the past five years.

Most of the recent increase in other benefits has been driven by supported living payment recipients, which make up the majority of other benefits, rising 3.3%. There has also been a notable increase, though with much smaller numbers, of emergency benefits (up 8.6%) and student hardship benefits (up 17%).

Technical notes

Building consents

Building consents data is sourced from Stats NZ. The number of residential consents issued for new dwellings is the measure for residential consents. For non-residential consents, the measure is the value of both new buildings and alterations.

Business counts

This data is from Business Count Indicators (BCI) from Statistics New Zealand. It is a series is based on a monthly count of geographic units as at the end of each month, mostly sourced from administrative data. Geographic units represent a business location engaged in one, or predominantly one, kind of economic activity at a single physical site or base (eg a factory, a farm, a shop, an office, etc).

The business counts data is different from the annually published Business Demography Statistics.

This series is limited to economically significant enterprises. It can be an individual, private-sector and public-sector enterprises that are engaged in the production of goods and services in New Zealand. These enterprises are maintained on the Statistics NZ Business Register, which generally includes all employing units and those enterprises with GST turnover greater than $30,000 per year.

Calculating changes

We use several different calculations to calculate change in the indicators used in the Quarterly Economic Monitor.

- Annual average percentage change: Annual average percentage change compares average values over the past year with those in the prior year. For example, the change from the year ending March last year to the year ending March this year.
- Annual percentage change: Annual percentage change compares the value this quarter to the value in the same quarter last year. For example, the change from March quarter last year to March quarter this year.
- Levels: In the case of levels, such as unemployment rate, we do not calculate the change in level – we simply show the latest level value.

Consumer spending

The consumer spending data is sourced from Marketview. It measures total electronic card spending at 'bricks + mortar' retailers using a combination of spending through the Paymark network and modelled estimates at non-Paymark retailers. For further breakdown of the data by storetype and other variables contact Marketview.

Crime

The crude crime rate is calculated as the number of crimes committed and recorded (offender proceedings) in an area per 10,000 residents. Crime counts are sourced from the New Zealand Police. Population data is sourced from Stats NZ and Infometrics own population projections (for the most recent quarters).

The data available at a detailed level only included reported crime and does not provide a dimension of how safe people feel. However, higher crime is an obvious proxy for unreported crime (more reported crime would seem to imply a higher overall crime burden), and more crime would logically see people feel less safe.

Dairy

Dairy data has been sourced from the *New Zealand Dairy Statistics*, a publication jointly produced by DairyNZ and LIC, as well as calculations made by Infometrics. The data accords to dairy seasons, which run from June to May. Total dairy payouts in each territorial authority have been calculated by Infometrics by utilising milk solids production in conjunction with Fonterra's farmgate milk price (excluding dividends) from the dairy season in question. For the current season, Infometrics calculates a payout forecast using our own expectation of the farmgate milk price and the assumption that milk solids production continues running at the same level as the last 12 months.

Emergency housing

Emergency housing measures the number of households living in emergency housing at the end of each quarter. This is recorded based on data from the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) on the number of emergency housing special needs grants (EH SNG) issued for individuals and families staying in short-term accommodation such as motels if they are temporarily unable to access a contracted transitional housing place or private rental.

Please note that some publications, such as the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development's Public housing regional factsheets, report the number of emergency housing grants issued. This number is generally much higher than the number of households living in emergency housing, as the grants have to be renewed every few weeks. For example, a household living in emergency housing continously through a quarter would receive several grants during that time. We present the number of households as this better reflects the ongoing use of emergency housing.

Employment (place of residence)

Employment data is based off a range of Stats NZ employment datasets, and represents the number of filled jobs, based on the area of residential address for the employee (rather than workplace address). This place of residence location means that the employment series reflects trends in employment of an area's residents, which may be different to trends in employment at businesses in an area, particularly when there are strong commuting flows. The most recent quarter is based off the average of Monthly Employment Indicator (MEI) filled jobs from Stats NZ for the past three months, with previous quarters being backcasted using the percentage change in the quarterly Business Data Collection dataset published by Stats NZ.

First Home Loan purchases

First Home Loan purchases are measured using data from Kainga Ora on the number of properties bought (settled) using a Kainga Ora First Home Loan. First Home Loans are low-deposit (as low as 5%) home loans underwritten by Kainga Ora and issued through trading banks. First Home Loans were previously known as Welcome Home Loans. First Home Loans have additional eligibility criteria including a maximum income, and carry a 0.5% insurance premium to cover risks associated with such a low deposit. The uptake of First Home Loans varies by area, but changes in the number of purchases using the scheme serve as a useful indicator of changes in first home buyer activity.

First Home Loan purchases were introduced in the September 2024 Quarterly Economic Monitor to replace First Home Grants, which were closed to new applications in May 2024.

Gaming machine profits

Gambling activity is estimated using gaming machine profits (GMP) data published by the Department of Internal Affairs. This GMP data is based on Class 4 gambling which represents electronic gaming machines, commonly known as 'pokies', located in venues such as pubs and clubs. This excludes all sports betting and casino-based gaming. GMP represents money spent by gamblers which is not returned to gamblers in the form of winnings. A minimum of 40% of GMP are required by law to go back to the community in the form of grants.

Data for South Taranaki District, Stratford District, Kaikoura District, Hurunui District and Central Hawke's Bay District is not available separately from DIA. From December 2024, Hastings District contains data from one venue in Central Hawke's Bay District.

Greenhouse gas emissions

Greenhouse gas emission estimates are modelled using Stats NZ emissions estimates for industries and regions, coupled with Infometrics estimates of GDP and employment.

Stats NZ's emissions estimates are produced using the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts (SEEA) framework, designed to align greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data to economic indicators such as GDP. These are production-based emissions of greenhouse gas emissions for ANZSIC industries and households. Emissions are expressed in carbon dioxide equivalents (CO_2-e), which are the emissions of greenhouse gases weighted by their 100-year global warming potential.

Using a production-based approach means that emissions associated with consumption are not accounted for. For example, the emissions associated with burning coal for home heating will accrue to the area in which the coal is burnt. However, the emissions associated with burning coal to generate electricity accrue to the area with the power station, not the area which uses the resulting electricity to heat their homes.

Gross domestic product

GDP for each territorial authority (TA) is estimated by Infometrics. A top-down approach breaks national production-based GDP for each industry (published by Stats NZ) down to TA level by applying TA shares to the national total. Each TA's share of industry output is based on the share of employment measured in the Infometrics Regional Industry Employment Model (RIOM). The model draws on Monthly Employment Indicators for wage earners and Annual LEED for self-employment.

Infometrics GDP estimates are broadly benchmarked on regional GDP published by Stats NZ which ensures we capture differences in regional industry productivity and changes in productivity over time.

Over the COVID period we incorporate Infometrics' estimates of the proportions of industries in each territorial authority which were able to operate under each COVID-19 alert level to capture the economic impacts of the pandemic.

Guest nights

The number of guest nights is sourced from the Accommodation Data Programme, which is funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and managed by Fresh Info. A guest night is equivalent to one guest spending one night at an establishment. For example, a motel with 15 guests spending two nights would report that they had provided 30 guest nights

Health enrolments

Health enrolments are sourced from the Ministry of Health. They record the number of people in each area who are enrolled with a Primary Health Organisation (PHO). Enrolment is voluntary, but most New Zealanders enrol at a general practice for health reasons and for the benefits of enrolment, such as cheaper doctors' visits and reduced costs of prescription medicines. Health enrolments are attributed to territorial authorities based on the residential address of patients, regardless of where their general practice is located.

The Ministry of Health changed how health enrolments were coded to areas in 2023, which caused a break in the series between the June 2023 and September 2023 quarter. We have undertaken modelling to combine the series over this period.

House sales

The number of house sales is sourced from REINZ. The indicator measures the number of house sales at the point when the sale becomes unconditional. The unconditional date is the date when all the terms of an agreement have been satisfied and the sale and purchase can proceed to settlement.

House values

House values (dollar value) are based on Cotality's Hedonic Home Value Index, the previous Cotality SPAR Index, and the Cotality/CoreLogic/QV/Valuations New Zealand long-term quality adjusted House Price Index. This index assesses the market value of all housing stock (not just properties sold) based on analysis of recent house sales and the characteristics on properties in the area. The level presented is the quarterly average house value of all properties in the area for the quarter in question.

Household income

In 2024 we revised our methodology for estimating household incomes to incorporate new data sources. Previously we relied heavily on Stats NZ's LEED-Annual for historical income estimates, however, we have since uncovered a number of issues with how regional incomes are distributed to territorial authorities within some regions.

Previously, we eschewed Census data, due to its tendency to under-report incomes, due to challenge of accurately recollecting incomes when filling out a Census form. Stats NZ have started producing the Administrative Population Census (APC) which draws upon tax data to more completely record incomes, partially overcoming the problem of Census data. In light of the issues with LEED-Annual at a territorial authority level, we now use APC data to indicate each territorial authority's share of regional income. The APC still underestimates incomes, but is a reliable indicator of relative incomes.

These changes have resulted in historical revisions of our household income and housing affordability estimates for many areas, however, we expect future revisions to be minimal. We always recommend that you download a complete time series if looking to compare changes over time.

Housing affordability

Housing affordability is measured by comparing average current house values from CoreLogic with Infometrics' estimate of annual average household income. Household incomes are a better measure for housing affordability than individual incomes as it reflects the true ability of a household to afford housing. We present a ratio of average house values to average household incomes. A higher ratio, therefore, suggests that average houses cost a greater multiple of typical incomes, which indicates lower housing affordability.

Housing register applicants

The housing register counts applicants who are not currently in public housing , who have been assessed as eligible for public housing and who are ready to be matched to a suitable property. This is often referred to as the public housing waiting list. Public housing was previously referred to as social housing.

Data is sourced from the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) and are shown as the average number of applicants. One applicant could represent a single person, couple or family looking for housing. Applicants could be living in emergency housing, unaffordable private rentals, or other insecure arrangements such as couch-surfing or rough-sleeping.

Jobseeker Support recipients

In July 2013 the New Zealand's welfare system changed to better recognise and support people's work potential. As part of this the Jobseekers Support benefit was introduced. This benefit is for people who can usually look or prepare for work but also includes people who can only work part-time or can't work at the moment, for example, because they have a health condition, injury or disability.

Data presented for the September 2013 quarter onwards is provided by the Ministry of Social Development (MSD). Data prior to September 2013 are Infometrics estimates based on re-grouping pre-July 2013 benefit categories to be consistent with the post-July 2013 benefit categories. The pre-July 2013 benefit categories used to estimate the number of Jobseekers Support recipients are: Unemployment Benefit and Unemployment Benefit Hardship; Unemployment Benefit Training and Unemployment Benefit Hardship Training; Sickness Benefit and Sickness Benefit Hardship; Domestic Purposes Benefit - Sole Parent (if youngest child is 14 or over); Women Alone and Widow's Benefit (without children or with children 14 or over)

NEET

NEET rates measure the proportion of young people aged 15-24 that are not in education, employment or training.

Infometrics estimates NEET rates by territorial authority. The following datasets are used in to estimate territorial authority NEET rates: Stats NZ's Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS), Census data, Jobseeker Support recipients by age, and transient secondary school student numbers.

Territorial authority estimates are benchmarked on annual average regional NEET rates from the HLFS, which at this level of disaggregation can be volatile from year to year. Large year-to-year changes are likely to be partially caused by sampling errors in the HLFS, rather than actual fundamental shifts in NEET rates. As the HLFS is the official measure of youth NEET in NZ, we benchmark our data to align with published NEET rates.

Other benefits

Other benefits include Sole Parent Support, Supported Living and other residual main benefits (excluding Jobseeker Support). Data is sourced from the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) and are shown as the average number of beneficiaries in each benefit category across each quarter for the current year. Further details of the benefit categories can be found on MSD's website.

Public housing stock

Public housing includes properties that are owned or leased by Kāinga Ora and other registered Community Housing Providers (CHPs) that can be tenanted by people who are eligible for public housing. The totals presented include both occupied and vacant houses. Public housing was previously referred to as social housing. This data is sourced from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development.

Real estate listings

Real estate listings measure the number of new listings for residential dwellings on realestate.co.nz. It is based on the number of listings added each quarter or year.

Rental affordability

Rental affordability is measured by comparing average annualised rents from CoreLogic with Infometrics' estimate of annual average household income. Household incomes are a better measure for housing affordability than individual incomes as it reflects the true ability of a household to afford housing. We present a ratio of an annual ratio of average rent to average household incomes. A higher ratio, therefore, suggests that average rents cost a greater multiple of typical incomes, which indicates lower rental affordability.

Residential rents

Residential rents ($ per week) are sourced from monthly data provided by MBIE and averaged across each quarter or year using weighted geometric means. Rental data pertains to averages from data collected when bonds are lodged and does not control for specifications of the home (eg. size, number of bedrooms, age of home, etc).

School attendance

School attendance is presented as the percentage of school students who attend greater than 90% of their classes. This includes students at primary, intermediate and secondary schools. Some individual students have legitimate absences which bring their attendance to below 90%, but are still counted in this measure as the aim is to reflect overall trends in school attendance. This should not be taken as a proxy for truancy however.

The Ministry of Education provides attendance data on a school term basis. We have apportioned Terms 1, 2, 3 and 4 to the March, June, September and December quarters respectively.

Tourism expenditure

Tourism Expenditure is based on MBIE's monthly regional tourism estimates (MRTEs). The MRTEs are based on electronic card transaction data, calibrated to be consistent with national tourism expenditure data shown in Stats NZ's Tourism Satellite Account. This calibration takes into consideration the International Visitor Survey, so that differences in propensities to use cards versus cash for visitors from various countries of origin are accounted for.

Traffic flow

Traffic flow growth rates are calculated from the number of vehicles passing approximately 110 sites monitored by New Zealand Transport Agency. Each territorial authority has been mapped to one or more sites. Traffic flow is presented as an index, with a base of 100 in September 2012 for each area.

From October 2022 until September 2024, there was a substantial level of non-reporting of traffic sites, forcing Infometrics to interpolate a high proportion of traffic activity based on adjacent reporting sites, or reporting sites that usually had a similar trend to a non-reporting site. Data over this period should be treated with caution.

Unemployment rate

Regional level unemployment rates are sourced from Stats NZ's Household Labour Force Survey. Trends in the number of Jobseekers are used to break down regional unemployment rates to TA levels. The TA level unemployment rates are benchmarked on census following the release of each census. To reduce volatility the unemployment rate is presented as an average for the last four quarters.

Vehicle sales

Car and commercial vehicle sales data are sourced from New Zealand Transport Authority. Sales are based on new registrations which include the first time registration of new vehicles and used vehicles imported from overseas. Electric vehicle registrations are based on new sales of battery electric cars (excluding hybrid, plug-in hybrid or fuel cell cars).