

Overview of Mackenzie District

Mackenzie's economy contracted by 1.1% June 2022, lagging national growth of 0.9%, according to Infometrics provisional GDP estimates. Mackenzie's GDP in the June 2022 quarter was down 3.4% from than June 2021, as rising costs, scarce labour and weak tourism make growth more difficult.

Employment of Mackenzie residents has risen 1.5% over the year to June 2022, led by agriculture and followed by professional services and manufacturing. The number of Jobseeker Support recipients in Mackenzie has eased 8.6% over the past year, but remains more than double pre-pandemic levels.

Tourism activity has eased in the past year, as the domestic tourism surge waned ahead of the international border reopening. Tourist spending in Mackenzie fell 9.6% over the 12 months to June 2022, and guest nights in commercial accommodation fell 23.5%. Globally, tourism is recovering more rapidly than expected, which should translate to more positive tourism indicators for Mackenzie, particularly in the coming summer season. Tourist spending is a key driver of overall consumer spending in Mackenzie, with softer tourism contributing to a 3.7% fall in consumer spending. Nationally, consumer spending was flat over the past year, as high inflation and interest rates discourage household spending.

Construction activity in Mackenzie remains relatively muted, with new dwelling consents rising 3.2% over the past year, and non-residential consents falling 45.3%. Mackenzie's house values grew 13.8% between the June 2021 and 2022 quarters, reaching an average of \$752,093 in the June 2022 quarter. Sales volumes fell 16.4% in the year to June 2022, taking volumes back to 2020 levels.

Higher global dairy prices are estimated to have boosted the dairy payout in Mackenzie for 2021/22 season by \$10m, although a large part of this will go towards higher input costs.

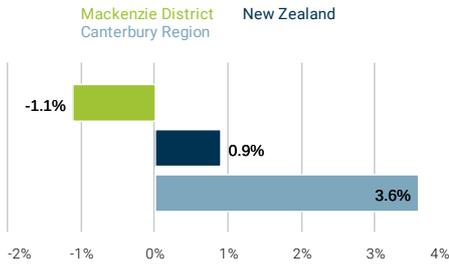
Indicator	Mackenzie District	New Zealand	Canterbury Region
Annual Average % change			
Gross domestic product (provisional)	-1.1 % ▼	0.9 % ▲	3.6 % ▲
Traffic flow	-10.7 % ▼	-10.4 % ▼	-1.5 % ▼
Consumer spending	-3.7 % ▼	0.0 % ▶	2.8 % ▲
Employment (place of residence)	1.5 % ▲	3.2 % ▲	3.4 % ▲
Jobseeker Support recipients	-8.6 % ▼	-9.7 % ▼	-11.6 % ▼
Tourism expenditure	-9.6 % ▼	-6.6 % ▼	-2.7 % ▼
Guest nights	-23.5 % ▼	-19.0 % ▼	-15.9 % ▼
Health enrolments	0.5 % ▲	0.5 % ▲	2.2 % ▲
Residential consents	3.2 % ▲	14.4 % ▲	32.9 % ▲
Non-residential consents	-45.3 % ▼	15.8 % ▲	41.1 % ▲
House values *	13.8 % ▲	9.6 % ▲	23.9 % ▲
House sales	-16.4 % ▼	-26.0 % ▼	-21.5 % ▼
Car registrations	12.1 % ▲	5.0 % ▲	17.7 % ▲
Commercial vehicle registrations	11.4 % ▲	6.9 % ▲	11.5 % ▲
Level			
Unemployment rate	1.5 %	3.3 %	3.4 %

* Annual percentage change (latest quarter compared to a year earlier)

Gross domestic product

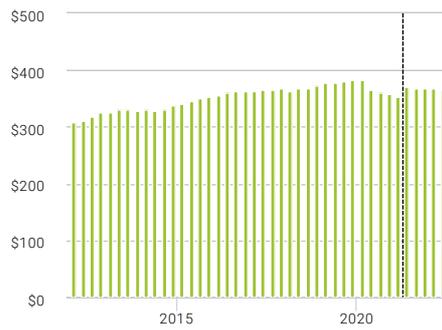
Gross domestic product growth (provisional)

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



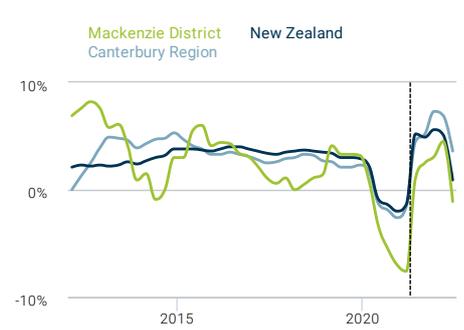
Gross domestic product (\$m)

Annual level, Mackenzie District



Gross domestic product growth

Annual average % change



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- GDP in Mackenzie District was provisionally down 1.1% for the year to June 2022, compared to a year earlier. The decline was greater than in New Zealand (0.9% growth) and Canterbury Region (3.6% growth).
- Provisional GDP was \$366 million in Mackenzie District for the year to June 2022 (2021 prices).
- Annual GDP growth in Mackenzie District peaked at 6.1% in the year to June 2013.

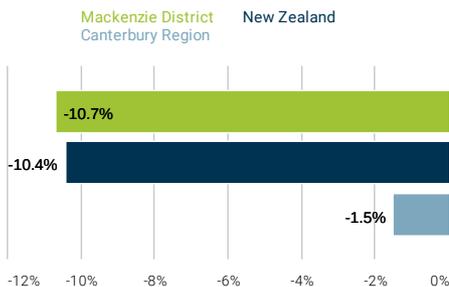
National overview

Economic activity bounced back in the second quarter of 2022, but this bounce was harder and more expensive to come by, as the economic operates with sustained limitations. Underlying economic activity has picked up since the earlier peak in Omicron cases, as New Zealand moved to Orange and spending activity rebounded. However, Infometrics provisional estimates point to a 0.7%pa decline in economic activity in the June 2022 quarter, in part due to comparing current levels of activity to the red-hot June 2021 quarter, which makes current activity look overly negative. Annual growth is expected to have risen 0.9%pa over the last 12 months. The economy is currently walking a tightrope between weak confidence, high inflation, higher interest rates, a tight labour market, and ongoing supply chain disruptions on one side, and the border reopening and a rebound from Red and the Omicron peak on the other.

Traffic flow

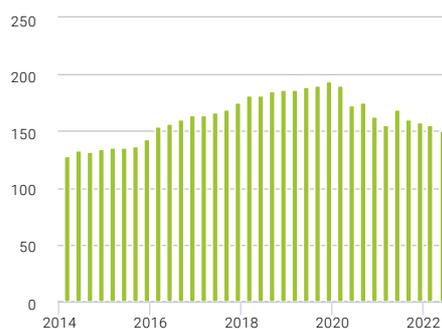
Annual change in traffic flows

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



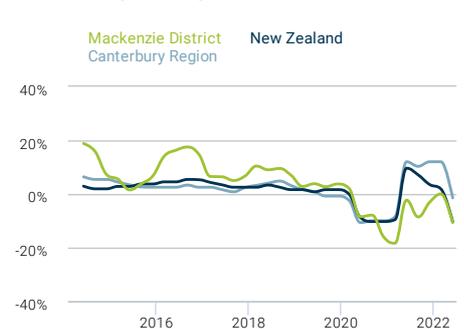
Traffic

Annual level, Mackenzie District



Traffic volume growth

Annual average % change



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- Traffic flows in Mackenzie District decreased by 10.7% over the year to June 2022, compared to a year earlier. This compares with decreases of 1.5% in Canterbury Region and 10.4% in New Zealand.

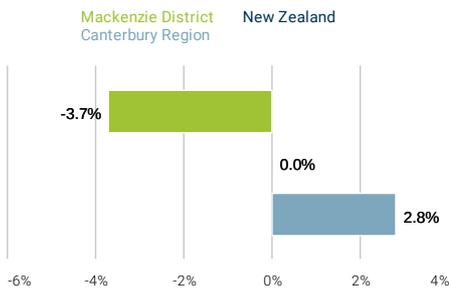
National overview

Traffic activity remains subdued compared to a year ago, with traffic volumes sitting 7.1%pa lower in the June 2022 quarter. Annual volumes are down over 10% from the prior annual period, with half a year of Delta restrictions followed by half a year of Omicron disruptions taking a toll. Traffic levels on average over the June 2022 quarter were down around 3.9% from pre-pandemic levels. Disruptions to travel caused by higher levels of sickness will have contributed to the decline. The major driver of lower traffic activity is likely the considerable rise in fuel prices, alongside generally high inflation, which limited household budgets to travel around as much.

Consumer spending

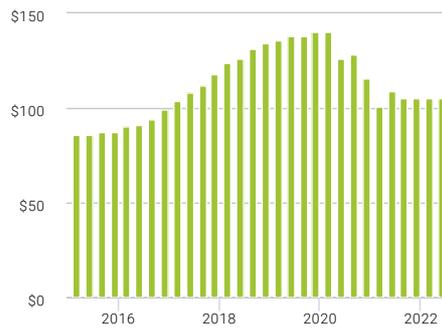
Growth in consumer spending

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



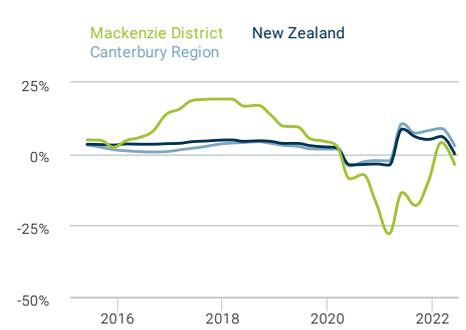
Consumer spending (\$m)

Annual level, Mackenzie District



Consumer spending

Annual average % change



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- Electronic card consumer spending in Mackenzie District as measured by Marketview, decreased by 3.7% over the year to June 2022, compared to a year earlier. This compares with an increase of 2.8% in Canterbury Region and no change in New Zealand.

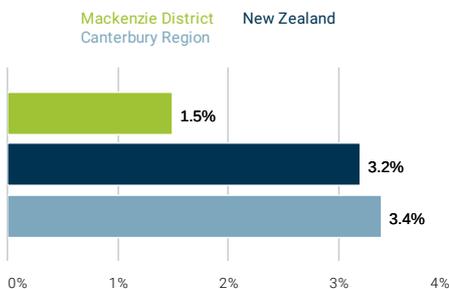
National overview

Consumer spending levels rose further in the June 2022 quarter, although high inflation is artificially boosting the strength of reported growth. Marketview data shows a 4.5%pa rise in quarterly card spending across New Zealand, an acceleration in growth from last quarter. Annual spending over the 12 months to June 2022 was unchanged, as the strong June 2021 quarter moved into the comparator period, and Delta restrictions and Omicron disruptions over the past 12 months weighed on spending. Around 40% of recent growth in spending is due to inflation, and underlying spending trends for larger and non-essential items has started to decline as consumer confidence remains low.

Employment (place of residence)

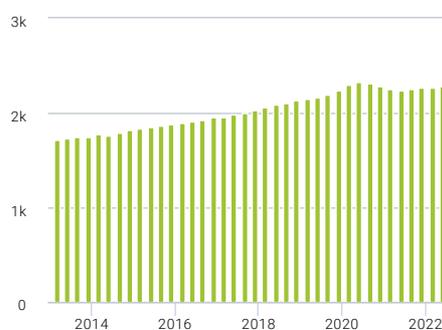
Employment (place of residence) growth

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



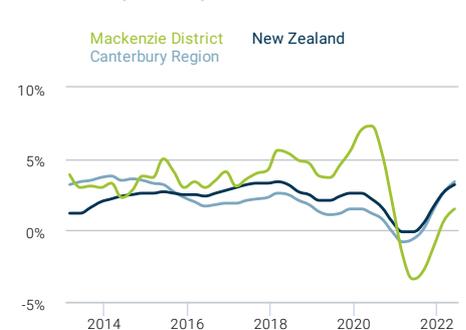
Employment (place of residence)

Annual level, Mackenzie District



Employment (place of residence) growth

Annual average % change



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- Employment for residents living in Mackenzie District was up 1.5% for the year to June 2022, compared to a year earlier. Growth was lower than in New Zealand (3.2%) and Canterbury Region (3.4%).
- An average of 2,278 people living in Mackenzie District were employed in the year to June 2022.
- Annual employment growth for Mackenzie District residents peaked at 7.3% in the year to June 2020.

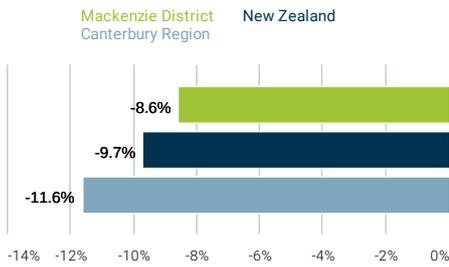
National overview

Employment levels remain high, with filled jobs numbers rising 2.9%pa in the June 2022 quarter. This growth in jobs took annual growth to 3.2%pa, but highlighted that underlying employment gains in recent months have been more subdued as the tight labour market bites. Professional services and construction employment remain key drivers of growth, but both are also showing signs of more moderate additions. Employment for young people aged 25-29 fell further, as the brain drain hits, putting further pressure on the jobs market. With job ads still high, pressure is building on a wage war ongoing to attract and retain talent. Recent pay increases have risen to record growth levels.

Jobseeker Support recipients

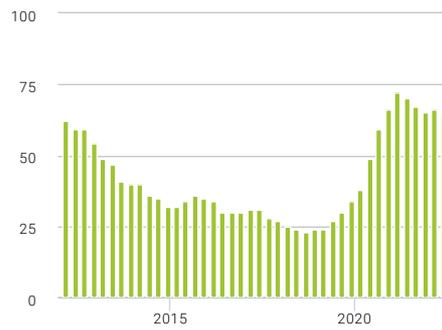
Annual change in Jobseeker Support recipients

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



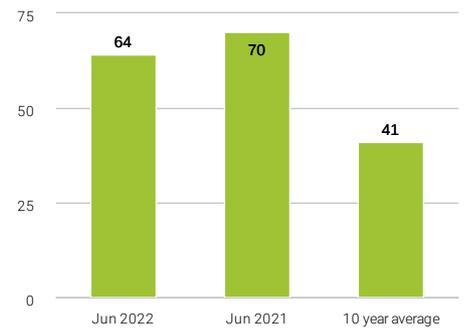
Jobseeker Support recipients

Annual average, Mackenzie District



Jobseeker Support recipients

Annual average, Mackenzie District



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- Jobseeker Support recipients in Mackenzie District in the year to June 2022 decreased by 8.6% compared to a year earlier. The decline was not as low as in Canterbury Region (11.6%) and New Zealand (9.7%).
- An average of 64 people were receiving a Jobseeker Support benefit in Mackenzie District in the 12 months ended June 2022. This compares with an average of 41 since the start of the series in 2013.

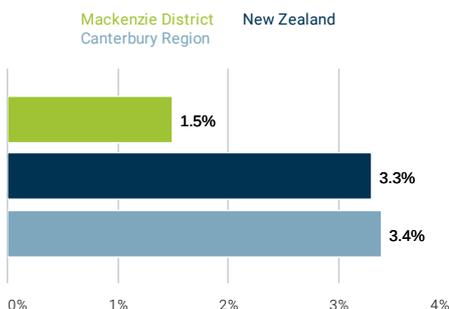
National overview

Jobseeker Support recipient numbers continue to decline, with the average number of recipients over the last 12 months sitting 9.7% below a year earlier. Figures show around 171,000 people were Jobseeker Support recipients at the end of June 2022, around 34,000 more than pre-pandemic levels. Work Ready recipients number around 100,000, with the remainder sitting in the Health Conditions and Disability sub-group. Both sub-groups remain above pre-pandemic levels. Although the trend in declining Jobseeker Support recipients has continued in recent months, these declines have slowed, despite a tight labour market.

Unemployment rate

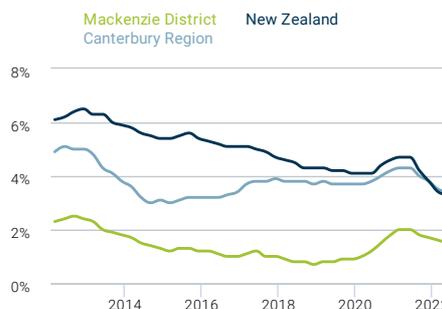
Unemployment rate

Annual average rate to June 2022



Unemployment rate

Annual average rate



Unemployment rate

Annual average, Mackenzie District



Highlights for Mackenzie District

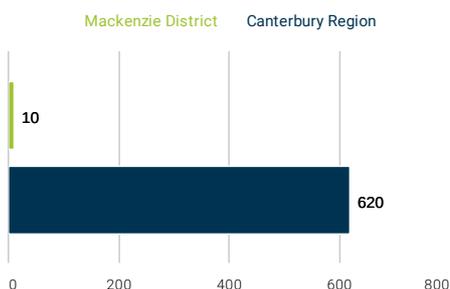
- The annual average unemployment rate in Mackenzie District was 1.5% in the year to June 2022, down from 2% in the previous 12 months.
- In the year to June 2022, the annual average unemployment rate in Mackenzie District was lower than in New Zealand (3.3%) and Canterbury Region (3.4%).
- Over the last ten years the annual average unemployment rate in Mackenzie District reached a peak of 2.3% in March 2013.

National overview

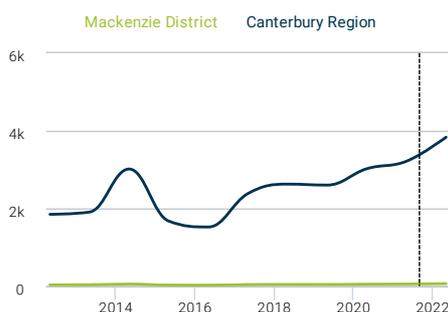
The unemployment rate edged up slightly in the June quarter to 3.3%, with the small increase largely driven by higher levels of sickness when survey respondents were asked about their work status. The unemployment rate is still very low by historical standards, with high demand for workers relatively unaffected by the combined pressures of inflation and rising interest rates, and net migration yet to produce inflows strong enough to sufficiently grow the labour supply. Wage rates have been increasing in response to the tight labour market.

Dairy payout

Total dairy payout (provisional)
Change (\$m) between 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 seasons



Total dairy payout
\$m each season, Mackenzie District



Total dairy payout
\$m each season, Mackenzie District



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- Mackenzie District total dairy payout for the 2020/2021 season is estimated to have been approximately \$49 million.
- Mackenzie District's dairy payout for the 2021/2022 season is expected to be approximately \$59 million, \$10 million higher 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 \$14,684 million in the 2020/2021 season, and is expected to be \$2,835 million higher in the 2021/2022 season.
- The total dairy payout for Canterbury Region is estimated to have been approximately \$3,214 million in the 2020/2021 season, and is expected to be \$620 million higher in the 2021/2022 season.

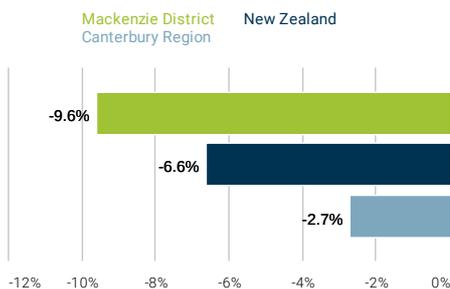
National overview

Our milk price estimates for the season recently ended remain unchanged, with the Fonterra farmgate milk price mid-point of \$9.30/kgms. Milk production ended the 2021/22 season down 4.2%, taking production back to levels seen at the end of the 2017/18 season. The moderation in commodity prices in recent times is expected to weigh on the 2022/23 season payout, with our estimates suggesting the current \$9.50/kgms mid-point estimate might need to be trimmed by 30c back to \$9.20. Farm expenses remain nearly 10% higher than a year earlier, and along with staffing challenges, primary sector output has been more limited than expected.

Tourism expenditure

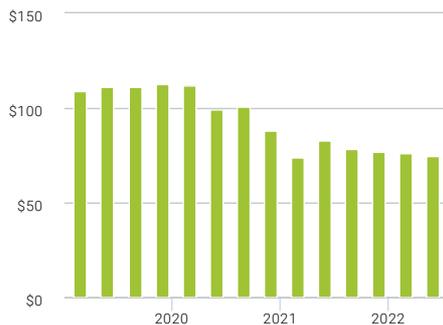
Tourism expenditure

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



Tourism expenditure

Annual total, Mackenzie District (\$m)



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- Total tourism expenditure in Mackenzie District decreased by 9.6% in the year to June 2022, compared to a year earlier. This compares with decreases of 2.7% in Canterbury Region and 6.6% in New Zealand.
- Total tourism expenditure was approximately \$75 million in Mackenzie District during the year to June 2022, which was down from \$83 million a year ago.

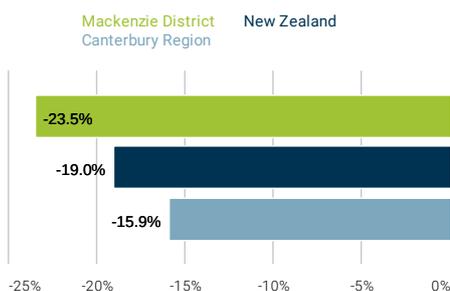
National overview

Tourism spending levels are down 6.6%pa over the 12 months to June 2022, with a range of factors making it difficult to assess the position of the broader tourism sector. The June 2022 year includes the half year of Delta restrictions and then half year of Omicron disruption, and compares to the boost in spending after the original Level 4 lockdown and strong performance at the start of 2021. All of these factors combined make tourism activity look weak. However, the June 2022 quarter itself seems to have been relatively upbeat, with more international tourism starting to filter in. Current tourism spending data doesn't capture pre-paid or non-card spending by overseas travellers, which will make analysing future trends difficult.

Guest nights

Guest nights

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



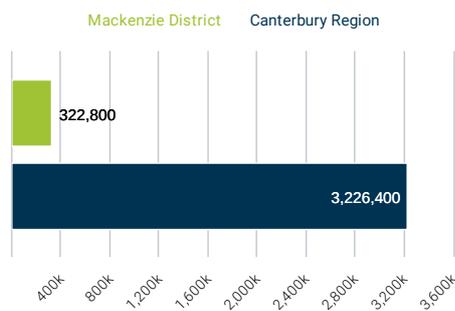
Guest nights

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Guest nights

Annual total guest nights in June 2022 quarter



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- Total guest nights in Mackenzie District decreased by 23.5% in the year to June 2022, compared to a year earlier. This compares with decreases of 15.9% in Canterbury Region and 19.0% in New Zealand.
- Visitors stayed a total of 322,800 nights in Mackenzie District during the year to June 2022, which was down from 422,100 a year ago.

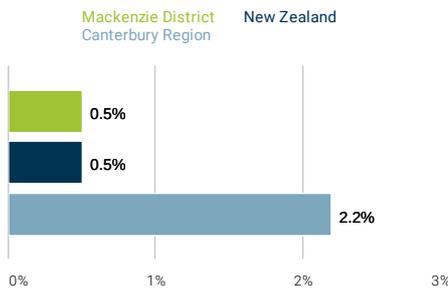
National overview

Guest nights have fallen 19%pa after the domestic tourism surge ran out of steam in 2021. Domestic visitor guest nights in the June 2022 quarter were 8.7% lower than in June 2021. International guest nights show early signs of recovery, sitting 15.1% higher than the June 2021 quarter, which included the fleeting trans-Tasman bubble. International guest nights in the June 2022 quarter were around one-third of June 2019 levels. Guest nights are expected to rise heading into summer as international tourism recovers, although it remains to be seen how quickly the accommodation sector can scale up given the short supply of labour.

Health enrolments

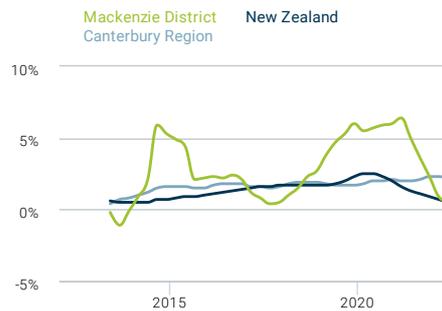
Annual change in health enrolments

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



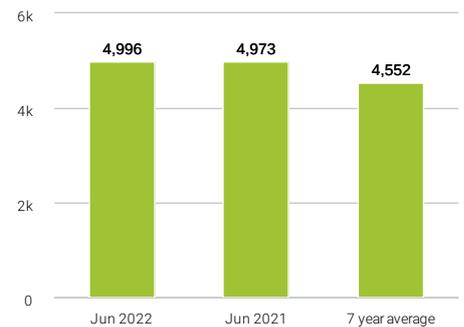
Health enrolments

Annual average % change



Health enrolments

Annual average, Mackenzie District



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- The number of people enrolled with a primary health organisation in Mackenzie District in the year to June 2022 increased by 0.5% compared to a year earlier. Growth was the same as in New Zealand (0.5%) and was lower than in Canterbury Region (2.2%).
- An average of 4,996 people were enrolled with primary healthcare providers in Mackenzie District in the 12 months ended June 2022. This compares with an average of 4,431 since the start of the series in 2014.

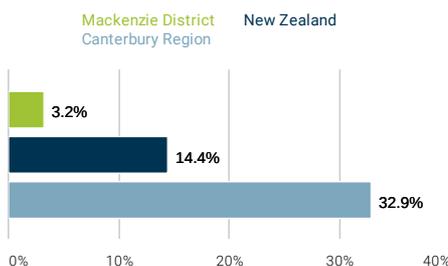
National overview

Population growth has slowed even further, with around a third of local areas showing an annual fall in underlying indicators of population growth. Health enrolments rose just 0.3%pa in June 2022, with stable natural increase (births minus deaths) only just keeping population levels increasing. The net migration outflow from New Zealand has worsened in recent months, with 11,500 more people over the 12 months to June 2022 provisionally estimated to have left New Zealand than entered. Current figures suggest losses are from both major urban centres and provincial areas alike, underscoring challenges for local workforces to find and attract talent.

Residential consents

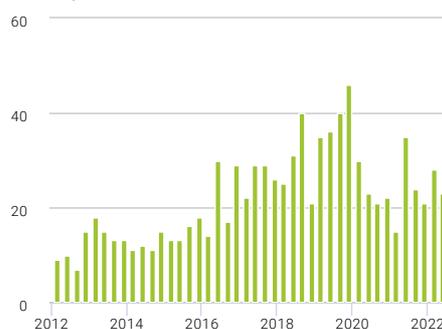
Growth in number of new dwelling consents

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



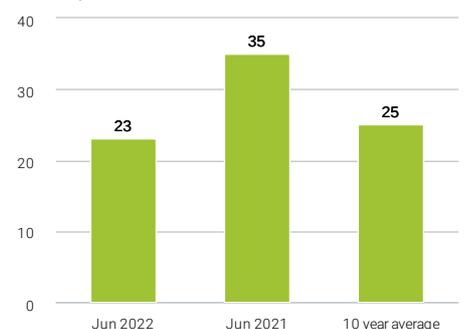
Residential consents

Quarterly number, Mackenzie District



Number of new dwelling consents

Quarterly number, Mackenzie District



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- A total of 23 new residential building consents were issued in Mackenzie District in the June 2022 quarter, compared with 35 in the same quarter last year.
- On an annual basis the number of consents in Mackenzie District increased by 3.2% compared with the same 12-month period a year before. This compares with increases of 32.9% in Canterbury Region and 14.4% in New Zealand over the same period.

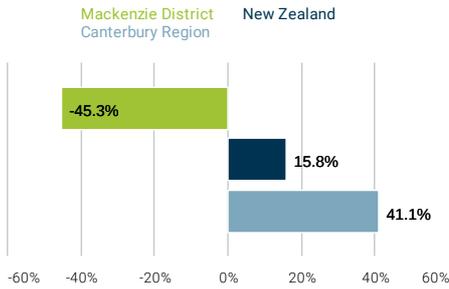
National overview

A near-record number of residential consents were issued over the last 12 months, with the annual running total of 50,736 edging down 0.4% from the March 2022 peak. Despite this, residential consents remain up 14%pa over the June 2022 year. The growth in consents have been in medium-density townhouse consents, which rose 49% over the same period. In contrast, annual consents for standalone houses fell 2.5% with high building costs and still high land prices making density more attractive.

Non-residential consents

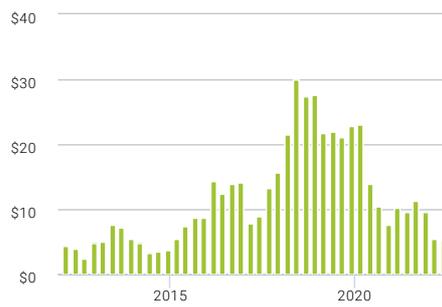
Growth in value of consents

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



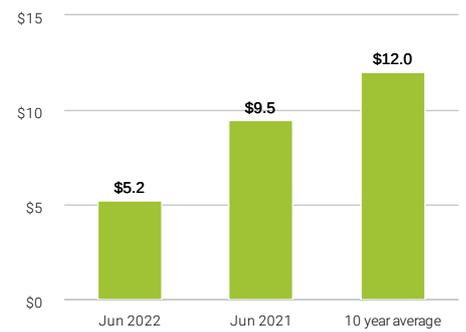
Non-residential consents, Mackenzie District

\$m, annual running total, Mackenzie District



Non-residential consents

Annual value (\$m), Mackenzie District



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- Non-residential building consents to the value of \$5.2 million were issued in Mackenzie District during the year to June 2022.
- The value of consents in Mackenzie District decreased by 45.3% over the year to June 2022, compared to a year earlier. In comparison, the value of consents increased by 41.1% in Canterbury Region and 15.8% in New Zealand over the same period.
- Over the last 10 years, consents in Mackenzie District reached a peak of \$30.0 million in the year to June 2018.

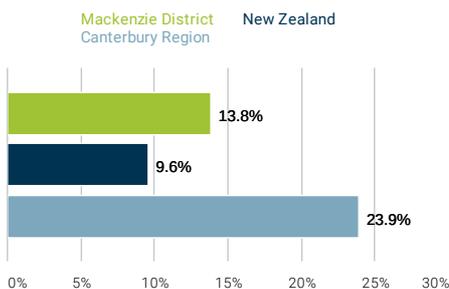
National overview

Non-residential consents in the 12 months to June totalled \$9.0b, a lift of 16% compared to the year to June 2021. Strong growth in consents for hospitals and warehouses, up 55%pa and 54%pa respectively, drove the increase. Cost increases are also hitting the non-residential construction, with intense competition and price increases for materials and labour. Unsurprisingly, consents for hotels and hostels declined over the last year, falling 44%pa for both. Values increased across all other building types.

House values

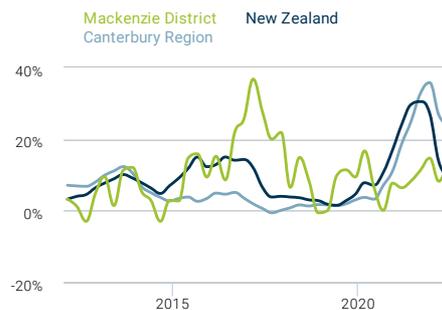
Annual change in house value

Annual % change in house value June 2021 - June 2022



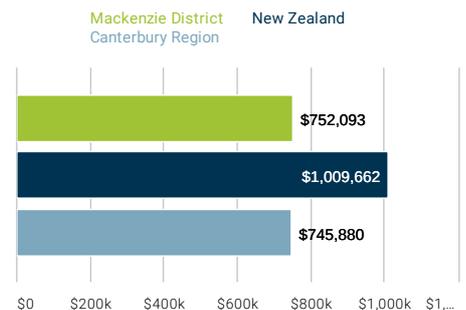
House value growth

Annual % change



Average current house value

Average house value in June 2022 quarter



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- The average current house value in Mackenzie District was up 13.8% in June 2022, compared to a year earlier. Growth was higher than in New Zealand (9.6%) and was lower than in Canterbury Region (23.9%).
- The average current house value was \$752,093 in Mackenzie District in June 2022. This compares with \$1,009,662 in New Zealand and \$745,880 in Canterbury Region.

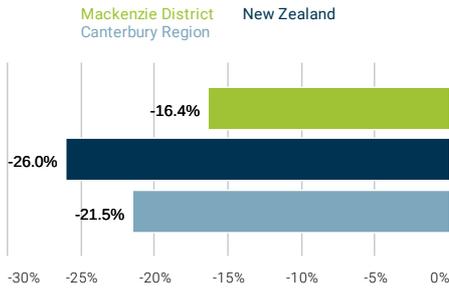
National overview

Annual house price growth dipped below 10%pa (to 9.6%pa) for the first time in nearly two years in June 2022, a substantial slowdown from above 30%pa growth recorded in late 2021. A combination of rising interest rates, high inflation, and lower affordability after the strong price gains in the last two years means that buyers' ability to pay has been limited, making sales harder to progress. A fear of overpaying is also weighing on sales, meaning that the average time to sell a property is up 45%pa in June as sellers are forced to accept lower prices to clear a sale.

House sales

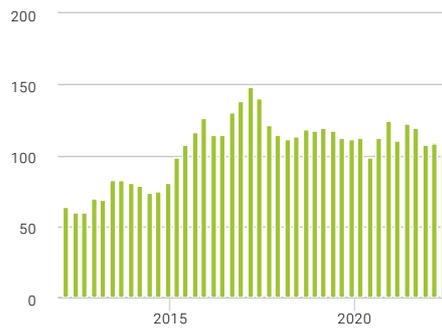
Annual change in house sales

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



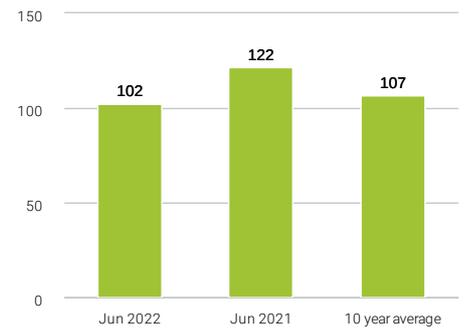
House sales

Annual number, Mackenzie District



House sales

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- House sales in Mackenzie District decreased by 16.4% in the year to June 2022, compared to year earlier. This compares with decreases of 21.5% in Canterbury Region and 26.0% in New Zealand.
- A total of 102 houses were sold in Mackenzie District in the 12 months ended June 2022. This compares with the ten year average of 107.

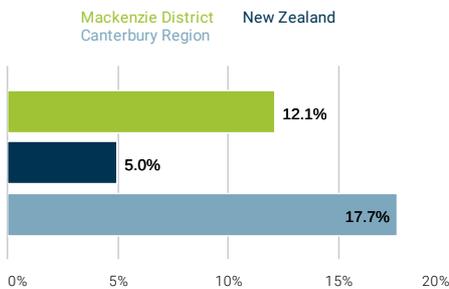
National overview

House sales have declined considerably across every region in New Zealand, with national house sales down 26%pa over the year to June 2022, compared to the same period of the previous year. House sales in the three months to June fell at the fastest rate since October 2010, excluding the lockdown months in mid-2020, with sales in the quarter down 29%pa. The low level of sales activity indicates buyers are worried about overpaying for properties, and with expectations of ongoing increases to mortgage rates, lending to buyers is more limited as mortgage serviceability is tested.

Car registrations

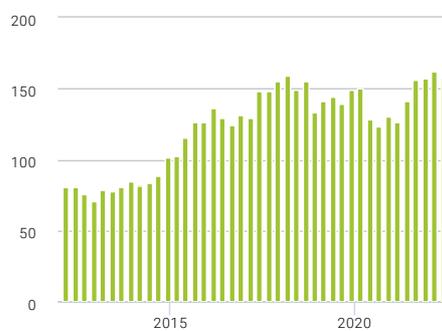
Car registrations

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



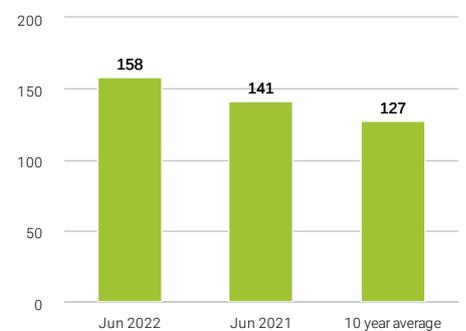
Car registrations

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Car registrations

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- The number of cars registered in Mackenzie District increased by 12.1% in the year to June 2022, compared to a year earlier. Growth was higher than in New Zealand (5.0%) and was lower than in Canterbury Region (17.7%).
- A total of 158 cars were registered in Mackenzie District in the year to June 2022. This compares with the ten year annual average of 127.

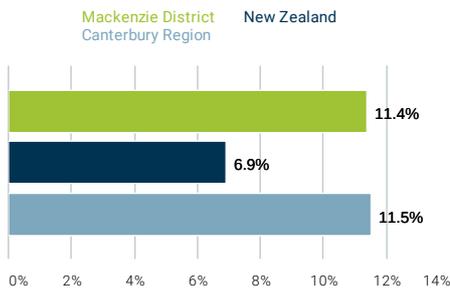
National overview

Total car registrations fell in the June 2022 quarter, with underlying registrations down 31% from the March 2022 quarter. The major driver of the decline was falling demand for used cars, which fell 36%pa in June, with the Clean Car Discount Scheme lifting the implicit cost of used cars, and many used car buyers moving the timing of their purchase forward to avoid the additional costs of the scheme. Record-low consumer confidence also drove down registrations of new cars to a lesser degree, with 1.4% fewer new cars registered in the June 2022 quarter, compared to the same period last year.

Commercial vehicle registrations

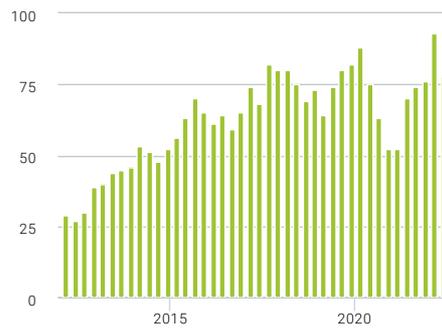
Commercial vehicle registrations

Annual average % change June 2021 - June 2022



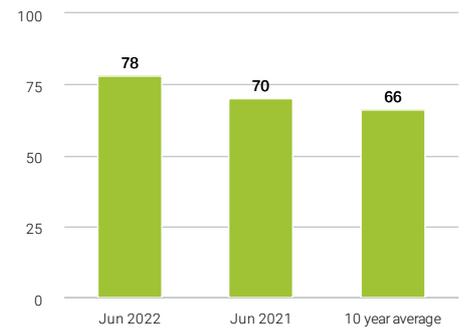
Commercial vehicle registrations

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Commercial vehicle registrations

Annual number, Mackenzie District



Highlights for Mackenzie District

- The number of commercial vehicles registered in Mackenzie District increased by 11.4% in the year to June 2022, compared to a year earlier. Growth was higher than in New Zealand (6.9%) and was lower than in Canterbury Region (11.5%).
- A total of 78 commercial vehicles were registered in Mackenzie District in the year to June 2022. This is higher than the ten year annual average of 66.

National overview

Registrations of light commercial vehicles fell 60%pa in the June quarter, with the introduction of the Clean Car Discount Scheme and the associated changes to purchasing behaviour in March to avoid the incoming fees, driving most of the fall in registrations. However, a weaker housing market is slowing demand for residential construction, which may also be limiting registrations of light commercials, as they are often used in the residential construction sector. Heavy commercial registrations grew 8.7% in the year to June, with high commodity prices driving demand for wholesale and trade vehicles, and the busy non-residential and infrastructure construction sector driving demand for heavy construction vehicles.

Technical notes

Building Consents

Building consents data is sourced from Statistics New Zealand. 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.

Consumer Spending

The consumer spending data is sourced from Marketview. It measures total electronic card spending using spending through the Paymark network and adding to it an estimate of non-Paymark network spending using the pattern of BNZ card holder spending at non-Paymark retailers. For further breakdown of the data by storetype and other variables contact Marketview.

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 Statistics New Zealand for the past three months, with previous quarters being backcasted using the percentage change in the quarterly Business Data Collection dataset published by Statistics New Zealand.

Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product is estimated by Infometrics. A top-down approach breaks national industrial production (sourced from production based GDP measures published by Statistics New Zealand) to TA level by applying TA shares to the national total. Each TA's share of industry output is based on labour market data from LEED. GDP growth in recent quarters is based on a model which uses the various partial economic indicators presented in this report as inputs. Estimates of GDP for these most recent quarters are provisional until Infometrics updates its annual GDP series in the Regional Economic Profile at the beginning of each year. Gross domestic product is measured in 2021 dollar terms.

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. Changes to how the Ministry of Health recorded this data led to Infometrics revising our approach to health enrolment figures for the March 2019 Quarterly Economic Monitor onwards. Our new approach completely revises our timeseries of health enrolments, so care should be taken when comparing the March 2019 report with previously downloaded reports.

Previously, the data provided was only for those people whose addresses are able to be accurately recorded by the Ministry of Health. We have now switched to breaking down TA-level health enrolments based on trends in stated health enrolments by area, to ensure that the total number of enrolees published in the Monitor align with the national-level figures published by the Ministry of Health. A new system for classifying and recording health enrolment addresses from March 2019 onwards by the Ministry means significantly higher numbers of unallocated enrolees, resulting in the need to review our model.

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 sourced from CoreLogic. The levels quoted in the report are average values for the quarter.

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)

Tourism Expenditure

New Tourism Electronic Card Transactions (TECTs) are an interim replacement for the Monthly Regional Tourism Estimates (MRTes). We have removed our previous timeseries of MRTes and published the three annual snapshots provided in the TECTs. The TECTs reflect the expenditure for all electronic card transactions (ECTs) in New Zealand related to tourism. Marketview use a base of spending on the Paymark network (approximately 70 per cent of total ECT spend) to scale up to total ECT spend.

Traffic Flow

Traffic flow growth rates are calculated from the number of vehicles passing approximately 110 sites monitored by New Zealand Transport Agency. Each of the sites has been mapped to a territorial authority.

Unemployment Rate

Regional level unemployment rates are sourced from Statistics New Zealand'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.

Weekly Rents

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).