# **MANAWATŪ QUARTERLY** ECONOMIC DASHBOARD // DECEMBER QUARTER 2023

THE ANNUAL

INFLATION RATE IS

SITTING AT 4.7% FOR

MANAWATŪ REGION.

Your hot off the press dashboard highlighting key trends for the December 2023 Quarter and year to date, ahead of the upcoming Manawatū Quarterly Economic Snapshot.

### ANNUAL **INFLATION RATE**

'Annual inflation fell to 4.7% in the December quarter as the economy contracted due to higher interest rates and reduced spending'

Stacey Andrews, Palmerston North City Council Economist. Source: Quarterly Economic

Monitor (QEM), Infometrics.

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Employment was 58,462, up by 1,084 in region from a year ago. For the year ending December 2023.

Source: Quarterly Economic Monitor (QEM), Infometrics.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

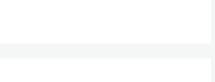
**Unemployment continues** to reflect tight labour conditions over the last four quarters.

Source: Quarterly Economic Monitor (QEM), Infometrics.

### **GDP**

The regional economy feels the effects of wider economic pressures with annual GDP declining compared to a slight growth nationally.

WAS \$7,926 MILLION WHICH IS DOWN 0.3% FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR. FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2023.



THE AVERAGE NEW ZEALAND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS **3.7%** 



**INSIGHTS VISIT** 

INSIGHTS

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MANAWATŪ'S GDP

NEW ZEALAND GDP WAS UP 0.7% FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

Source: Quarterly Economic Monitor (QEM), Infometrics.



EMPLOYMENT FOR **RESIDENTS LIVING** IN MANAWATŪ WAS UP 1.9% TO THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2023. COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

**GROWTH WAS** LOWER THAN NEW ZEALAND'S **INCREASE OF 3.1%** 

### **ELECTRONIC CARD CONSUMER** SPENDING

Retail spending has slowed in line with national trends due to increased interest rates and the higher cost of living, with annual growth falling below rates of household inflation.



ELECTRONIC CARD CONSUMER SPENDING IN MANAWATŪ **INCREASED BY 2.9%** IN THE YEAR TO DECEMBER 2023.



Source: Marketview for more details refer to <u>Quarterly Economic Retail</u> Report.

### **CONSENTS**

**Residential Consents fell** across the country, However, the value of new and altered residential consents increased in our region.

### **RESIDENTIAL CONSENTS**



#### NON RESIDENTIAL CONSENTS



-24.8% **DECREASE IN NZ** IN THE YEAR TO DECEMBER 2023.

**DECREASE IN NZ** 

IN THE YEAR TO

DECEMBER 2023.

-1%

Source: Stats NZ

### TOURISM

Regional tourism spending continues to strenghten, supporting the local toursim sector and wider regional economy. With a total of 514,400 quests staying in accommodation in the region to the year ending December 2023.

#### **TOTAL GUEST NIGHTS**



TOTAL GUEST NIGHTS STAYED IN MANAWATŪ WAS UP 6.3% TO THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2023.

#### **VISITOR ELECTONIC CARD SPENDING**



ELECTRONIC CARD **VISITOR SPEND INCREASED BY 5%** IN TOTAL IN MANAWATŪ **REGION TO THE YEAR** ENDING DECEMBER 2023.

TOTAL GUEST NIGHTS STAYED NATIONALLY WAS **UP 26.6%** TO THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2023.

ELECTRONIC CARD VISITOR INCREASED BY 9% IN TOTAL FOR THE MANAWATŪ - WHANGANUI **REGION TO THE** YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2023.

Source: Accommodation data programme Source: Marketview

### HOUSING

Regional house sales fell, while national house sales remained the same as the previous year for the year ending December 2023.

#### **HOUSE SALES**



HOUSE SALES IN THE REGION WERE **DOWN** -1.8% IN THE YEAR TO DECEMBER 2023 COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD IN 2022.

#### AVERAGE HOUSE PRICES



AVERAGE HOUSE PRICES IN PALMERSTON NORTH WERE **\$644,228** IN DECEMBER 2023, **DOWN -2.3%** FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR. NATIONALLY, HOUSE SALES HAD **NO CHANGE** COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD IN 2022.

AVERAGE HOUSE PRICES IN MANAWATŪ DISTRICT WERE **\$609,662** IN DECEMBER 2023 **DOWN -3.6%** FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

Source: Corelogic Source: Real Estate Institue of New Zealand

### HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Home ownership and rental pricing remains more affordable in our region in comparison to other regions in the country.

### **HOME OWNERSHIP**

5.2 RATIO OF AVERAGE HOUSE PRICE TO AVERAGE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN MANAWATŪ IS 5.2 FOR THE DECEMBER 2023 QUARTER.

#### **RENTAL AFFORDABILITY**

19.9% MANAWATŪ'S ANNUAL RENT

ANNUAL RENT AVERAGED **19.9%** OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR THE DECEMBER 2023 QUARTER. 7.0 RATIO OF AVERAGE HOUSE PRICE TO AVERAGE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN NEW ZEALAND IS 7.0 FOR THE DECEMBER 2023 QUARTER.

21.5% NATIONALLY ANNUAL RENT AVERAGED 21.5% OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR THE DECEMBER 2023 QUARTER.

Source: Quarterly Economic Monitor (QEM), Infometrics,

> Manawatū comprises the two councils of Palmerston North City and Manawatū District

FOR MORE DATA AND INSIGHTS VISIT CEDA.NZ/DATA-INSIGHTS







