

Annual Population Report 2017

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Overview

The population of Palmerston North is estimated to have increased by 1000 people in the last 12 months (an increase of 1.2%), reaching 87,300 as at 30 June 2017 (the New Zealand population increase was 2.1%).

The Manawatū region population is estimated to be 117,600 people as at 30 June 2017, increasing by 1,400 people (1.2% increase) in the past 12 months.

Manawatū District's population is estimated to have increased by 400 people (1.3% increase) in the year to June 2017.

The Manawatū-Whanganui region population is estimated to have reached 240,300 people, increasing by 3,400 people in the year to June 2017, an increase of 1.0%. This was the strongest increase in the 21-year series for which population estimates have been available (1996 – 2017).

Annual Population Estimates

Annual provisional population estimates were released by Statistics New Zealand on 24 October which show stronger growth in the City's population over the last 12 months. The City's population is estimated to be 87,300 people as at 30 June 2017, an increase of 1000 people over the last 12 months (1.2% increase). The estimates are provisional and may be revised when annual school roll data is published in November. Final population estimates will be published on 17 November.

Estimated Population by Age Group			
Year at 30 June	2016	2017	Annual change
Palmerston North city			
0-14 Years	16,600	16,800	1.2%
15-39 Years	33,200	33,600	1.2%
40-64 Years	24,600	24,700	0.4%
65 Years and over	11,900	12,200	2.5%
Total	86,300	87,300	1.2%
New Zealand			
0-14 Years	921,600	933,500	1.3%
15-39 Years	1,583,400	1,634,900	3.3%
40-64 Years	1,489,800	1,502,200	0.8%
65 Years and over	698,400	723,000	3.5%
Total	4,693,200	4,793,700	2.1%

Source: Statistics New Zealand

The median age of the City population is estimated to have remained at 33.6 years in June 2017, while the median age for the New Zealand population is estimated to have fallen from 37.1 years in 2016 to 37.0 years in 2017. New Zealand's median age peaked at 37.6 years in 2013 but has been steadily falling since then. The significant decline in the number of people migrating overseas and the increase in the number of people arriving from overseas are contributing to the decline in the median age.

Manawatū-Whanganui Region

The Manawatū-Whanganui region population is estimated to have increased by 3,400 people between June 2016 and June 2017, an annual increase of 1.4%. This was the highest rate of increase in the region in the 21-year population estimates series and was the second consecutive year that the rate of population growth for the region has been higher than the rate of increase in Palmerston North.

Natural population growth in the Manawatū-Whanganui region (the difference between births and deaths) was 830 people while migration contributed growth of an additional 2,600 people. Regions which experienced a weaker rate of population growth than the Manawatū-Whanganui region in the year to June 2017 were Southland, Taranaki and West Coast.

Estimated Population as at 30 June			2016 to 2017 change	
	2016	2017	Number	% change
Horowhenua district	31,900	32,500	600	1.8%
Ruapehu district	12,500	12,700	200	1.6%
Whanganui district	43,800	44,500	700	1.6%
Rangitīkei district	14,800	15,000	200	1.5%
Tararua district	17,550	17,800	250	1.4%
Manawatū district	29,900	30,300	400	1.4%
Palmerston North city	86,300	87,300	1,000	1.2%
<i>Manawatū region</i>	<i>116,200</i>	<i>117,600</i>	<i>1,400</i>	<i>1.2%</i>
<i>Horizons North-West</i>	<i>71,100</i>	<i>72,200</i>	<i>1,100</i>	<i>1.5%</i>
<i>Horizons South-East</i>	<i>165,650</i>	<i>167,900</i>	<i>2,250</i>	<i>1.3%</i>
Total Manawatū-Whanganui Region	236,900	240,300	3,400	1.4%
New Zealand	4,693,200	4,793,700	100,500	2.1%

Source: Statistics New Zealand

All local authorities in the region continue to experience an increase in population. Horowhenua District continues to experience the fastest rate of population growth in the Manawatū-Whanganui region, with annual growth of 1.8% a year between 2016 and 2017. Ruapehu and Whanganui Districts both increased by 1.6%.

The total New Zealand population is estimated to have reached 4,793,700 as at 30 June 2017, an increase of 100,500 people (2.1% increase from 2016). The rate of population growth in the year to June 2016 was also 2.1%.

Comparison with other Cities

Auckland is estimated to have accounted for 43% of total population growth over the last year, while Canterbury accounted for 12%. Tauranga, Hamilton, Auckland and Wellington were the only major cities with stronger growth rates than the average for New Zealand.

Palmerston North has a 1.8% share of the national population and is the 9th largest territorial authority – the largest territorial authorities ranked by size are Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington, Hamilton, Tauranga, Dunedin, Lower Hutt and Whangarei.

Estimated Population as at 30 June	2016 to 2017 change			
	2016	2017	Number	% change
Tauranga city	128,200	131,500	3,300	2.9%
Hamilton city	161,200	165,400	4,200	2.8%
Auckland	1,614,300	1,657,200	42,900	2.6%
Wellington city	207,900	212,700	4,800	2.3%
Whangarei district	87,700	89,700	2,000	2.0%
Christchurch city	375,000	381,500	6,500	2.0%
Rotorua district	70,500	71,700	1,200	1.7%
Hastings district	78,600	79,900	1,300	1.6%
Napier city	61,100	62,000	900	1.5%
Lower Hutt city	103,400	104,700	1,300	1.3%
Palmerston North city	86,300	87,300	1,000	1.1%
New Plymouth district	79,800	80,700	900	1.1%
Dunedin city	127,000	128,800	1,800	1.0%
New Zealand	4,693,000	4,793,700	100,700	2.1%

Source: Statistics New Zealand

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