# Our people

## Society

### Population

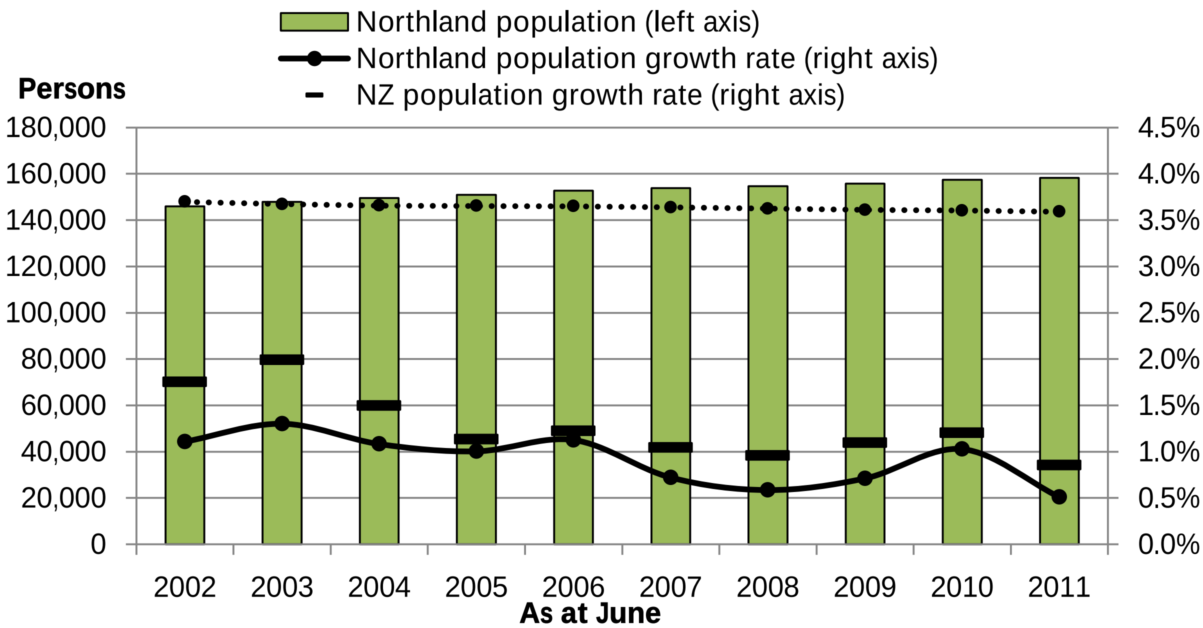
#### How fast has our population grown?

Northland is home to just over 158,000 people, 3.6 percent of New Zealand's population (Table 1 and Figure 1).[1] During 2007-2011, Northland's population increased by 3.6% or 5600 people, equivalent to an annual growth rate of 0.7%. This is lower than the annual growth rate of 1.1% for Northland during the previous five years 2002-2006, when the population grew by 8300 persons. It is also lower than the rate at which the national population has grown. However, the national population growth rate is dominated by Auckland, where one-third of New Zealand's population lives and which, at 1.6% per annum, grew faster than any other region during 2007-2011. If Auckland is excluded, the annual population increase in the rest of New Zealand is only 0.8% during 2007-2011, similar to that of Northland.

Over the past 10 years, six regions have consistently had a lower population growth rate than Northland: Gisborne, Hawkes Bay, Taranaki, Manawatu-Wanganui, the West Coast and Southland.

[1] Due to the Christchurch earthquake in February 2011, the 2011 Census was postponed until 2013. Consequently, the 2011 population estimates by Statistics New Zealand used in this publication are based on the results of the 2006 Census and other appropriate data.

**Figure 1: Northland population, 2002-2011**




Source: Statistics New Zealand

## Where do people live?

Northland's population is split evenly between urban and rural areas (Table 1 and Figure 2). This is very different from the New Zealand population as a whole: 86% of the national population lives in urban areas and only 14% in rural environments.

In comparison with other regions, Northland is the most rural, with the highest proportion of its population living outside urban areas. Northland's population is also becoming more rural, with higher growth rates in rural areas as compared to urban areas, over the last 10 years.

One-third of Northland's population lives in the Whāngārei urban area, with a further 18% living in the Whāngārei rural area. In total, just over 50% of the Northland population lives in the Whāngārei district. In contrast, a far greater proportion of the populations in both the Far North and Kaipara districts live in rural areas.

In the Far North district, which accounts for 37% of Northland's population, 60% of people live in rural areas. The proportion is even greater in Kaipara, where just over 75% of the Kaipara district population is rural.

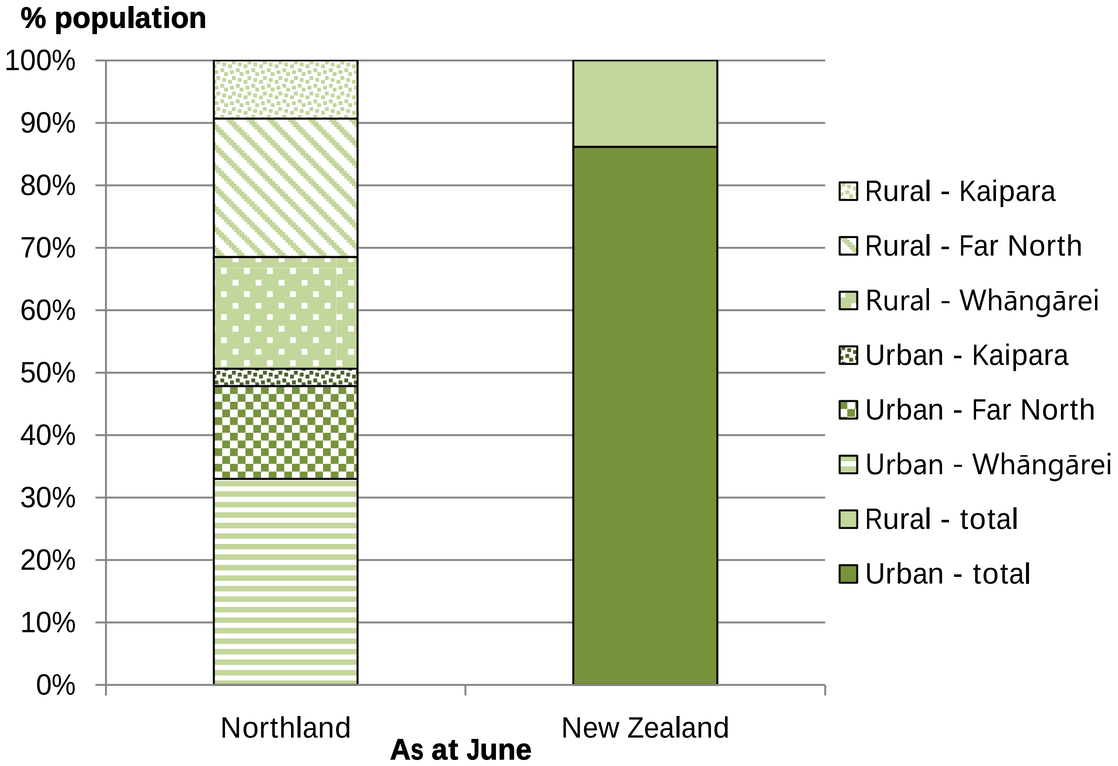
### Table 1: Selected population and household indicators for Northland

| Indicator | Region | As at June 2011 Number | As at June 2011 % region total | Annual growth rate 5 years 2007-11 | Annual growth rate 5 years 2002-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total population** | Northland | 158,200 | 100% | 0.7% | 1.1% |
| | New Zealand | 4,405,200 | 100% | 1.0% | 1.5% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 8th | n.a. | 8th | 8th |
| **Population by place of residence** | | | | | |
| **Urban** | Northland | 80,120 | 51% | 0.5% | 1.0% |
| | New Zealand | 3,795,460 | 86% | 1.0% | 1.6% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 10th | 14th | 8th | 8th |
| **Rural** | Northland | 78,080 | 49% | 0.9% | 1.3% |
| | New Zealand | 609,740 | 14% | 1.0% | 1.1% |
| | Position among 14 regions[3] | 3rd | 1st | 8th | 5th |
| **Population by ethnicity[2]** | | | | | |
| **Māori** | Northland | 50,500 | 32% | 1.0% | 0.4% |
| | New Zealand | 671,100 | 15% | 1.5% | 1.3% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 5th | 2nd | 11th | 13th |
| **European** | Northland | 98,000 | 62% | 0.2% | 1.2% |
| | New Zealand | 2,838,000 | 64% | 0.2% | 0.6% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 10th | 12th | 6th | 2nd |
| **Other[3]** | Northland | 9,600 | 6% | 4.0% | 5.3% |
| | New Zealand | 896,100 | 20% | 3.8% | 5.8% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 9th | 10th | 9th | 9th |
| **Population by broad age group** | | | | | |
| **0-14 years** | Northland | 34,500 | 22% | -0.5% | -0.6% |
| | New Zealand | 894,500 | 20% | 0.1% | 0.3% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 8th | 3rd | 11th | 7th |
| **15-39 years** | Northland | 42,900 | 27% | 0.1% | 0.0% |
| | New Zealand | 1,499,000 | 34% | 0.5% | 1.1% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 9th | 14th | 12th | 7th |
| **40-64 years** | Northland | 54,600 | 35% | 1.1% | 2.5% |
| | New Zealand | 1,424,700 | 32% | 1.5% | 2.7% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 8th | 3rd | 8th | 6th |
| **Over 65 years** | Northland | 26,200 | 17% | 3.5% | 3.0% |
| | New Zealand | 587,100 | 13% | 2.8% | 2.1% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 8th | 2nd | 2nd | 1st |
| **Households by type** | | | | | |
| **Total households** | Northland | 62,400 | 100% | 1.4% | 1.4% |
| | New Zealand | 1,671,600 | 100% | 1.5% | 1.6% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 9th | n.a. | 5th | 6th |
| **Families** | Northland | 44,600 | 71% | 1.0% | 1.6% |
| | New Zealand | 1,190,400 | 71% | 1.2% | 1.8% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 8th | 5th | 6th | 6th |
| **One person** | Northland | 16,200 | 26% | 2.7% | 1.3% |
| | New Zealand | 405,900 | 24% | 2.3% | 0.0% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 8th | 9th | 1st | 6th |
| **Families by type[4]** | | | | | |
| **Couples without children** | Northland | 21,200 | 46% | 2.5% | 2.6% |
| | New Zealand | 528,700 | 43% | 2.5% | 2.5% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 8th | 6th | 3rd | 4th |
| **Couples with child(ren)** | Northland | 15,400 | 33% | -0.9% | 1.2% |
| | New Zealand | 480,100 | 39% | 0.0% | 1.9% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 8th | 14th | 8th | 6th |
| **Single parent with child(ren)** | Northland | 9,600 | 21% | 0.6% | 1.2% |
| | New Zealand | 230,800 | 19% | 1.0% | 1.1% |
| | Position among 14 regions[1] | 7th | 3rd | 7th | 2nd |

1. The 14 regions are Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne, Hawkes Bay, Taranaki, Manawatu-Wanganui, Wellington, Tasman/Nelson/Marlborough, West Coast, Canterbury, Otago and Southland.
2. Northland Regional Council estimate based on Statistics New Zealand population estimates and projections.
3. Includes Pacific Islanders, Asian, Middle Eastern, South American and Africans.
4. The total number of families is greater than the number of family households because some households contain more than one family.

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Population Estimates and Projections, Census for 2001 and 2006.

**Figure 2: Composition of Northland and New Zealand population by rural and urban areas, 2011**



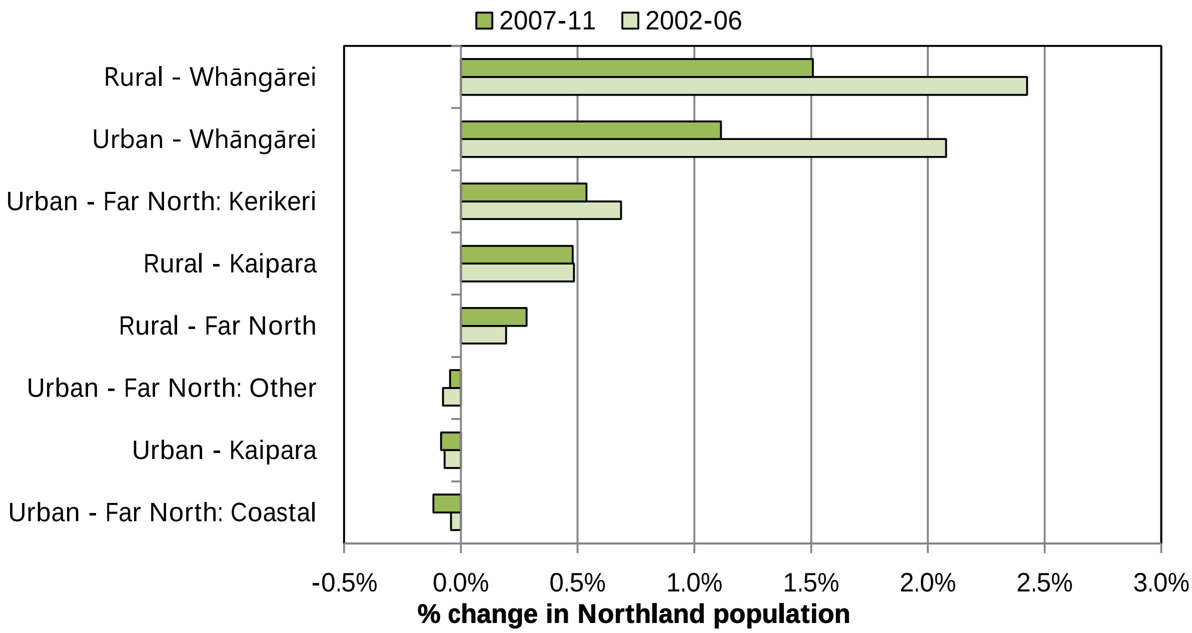

Source: Statistics New Zealand

During 2007-2011, the 3.6% increase in Northland's population has mainly taken place in the Whāngārei urban and rural areas, which together accounted for about 70% of the growth (Figure 3). These two areas also experienced the largest population increases during 2002-2006.

Outside Whāngārei, the Kerikeri urban area is the next most significant area of population growth. Kerikeri's population has increased by 14% or 820 people since 2006. This followed a 20% increase during 2002-2006.

The populations in rural areas of Kaipara and the Far North have also grown over the past ten years. In contrast, the number of people living in the urban areas of Kaipara and the Far North outside Kerikeri has remained relatively static or has decreased slightly.

**Figure 3: Contribution of rural and urban areas to Northland's population growth, 2002-2011**




1. Measured by the area's contribution to the percentage point change in Northland's population during the five-year period. For example, in the five years 2007-2011, the Whāngārei rural area contributed a 1.5% increase in Northland's population, which in total increased by 3.6%.
2. Areas ordered according to 2007-2011 growth rates.
3. Urban-Far North: Coastal area includes settlements at Taipā-Maunganui, Paihia and Russell.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

# Northland's ethnicity and religions

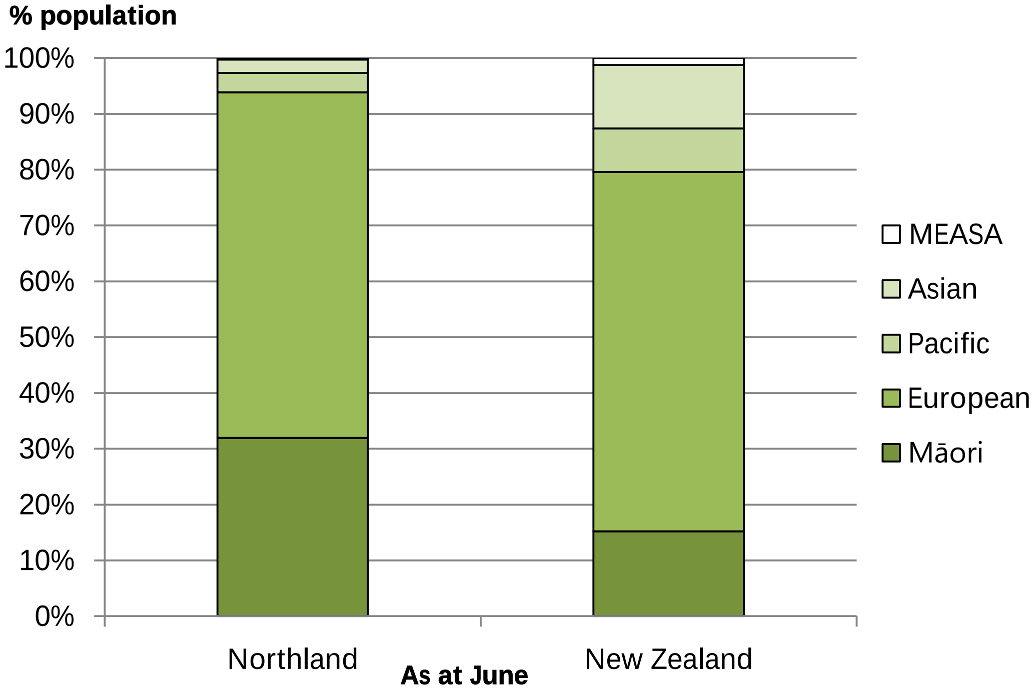
## What is the ethnic profile of Northland?

Northland has a relatively high proportion of people of Māori ethnicity (Table 1 and Figure 4). Almost one-third of the population is Māori compared to just 15% at the national level. Only Gisborne, with 48%, has a higher proportion of Māori. Just over 50,000 Māori live in Northland, representing 7.5% of the total Māori population.

The proportion of the Northland population identified as of European ethnicity (62%) is slightly lower than at the national level with only Auckland and Gisborne having a smaller proportion.

Fewer than 10,000 people of other ethnic groups live in Northland. They represent just 6% of the region's population compared to 20% nationally.

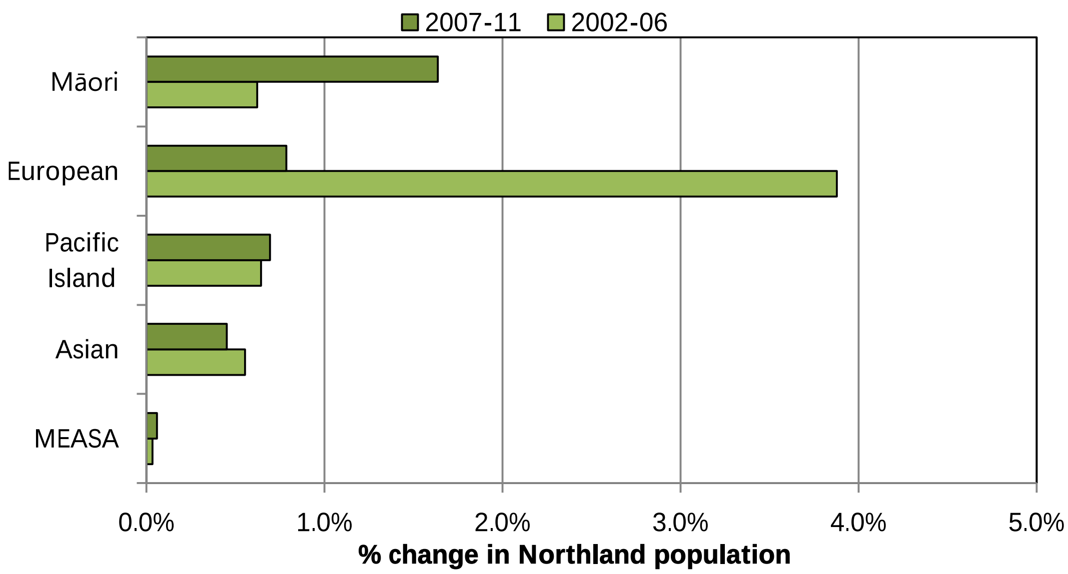
**Figure 4: Composition of Northland and NZ population by ethnicity, 2011**




1. MEASA: Middle Eastern, African and South American.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

**Figure 5: Contribution of ethnicity to Northland's population growth, 2002-2011**




1. Measured by the ethnic group's contribution to the percentage point change in Northland's population during the five-year period. For example, in the five years 2007-2011, the Māori population contributed a 1.6% increase in Northland's population, which in total increased by 3.6%.
2. Groups ordered according to 2007-2011 growth rates.
3. MEASA: Middle Eastern, African and South American.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

During 2007-2011, people of Māori ethnicity contributed most to the 3.6% increase in Northland's population (Figure 5). Northland's Māori population is estimated to have increased by 2500 persons or 5.2% over these five years, accounting for almost half the population increase.

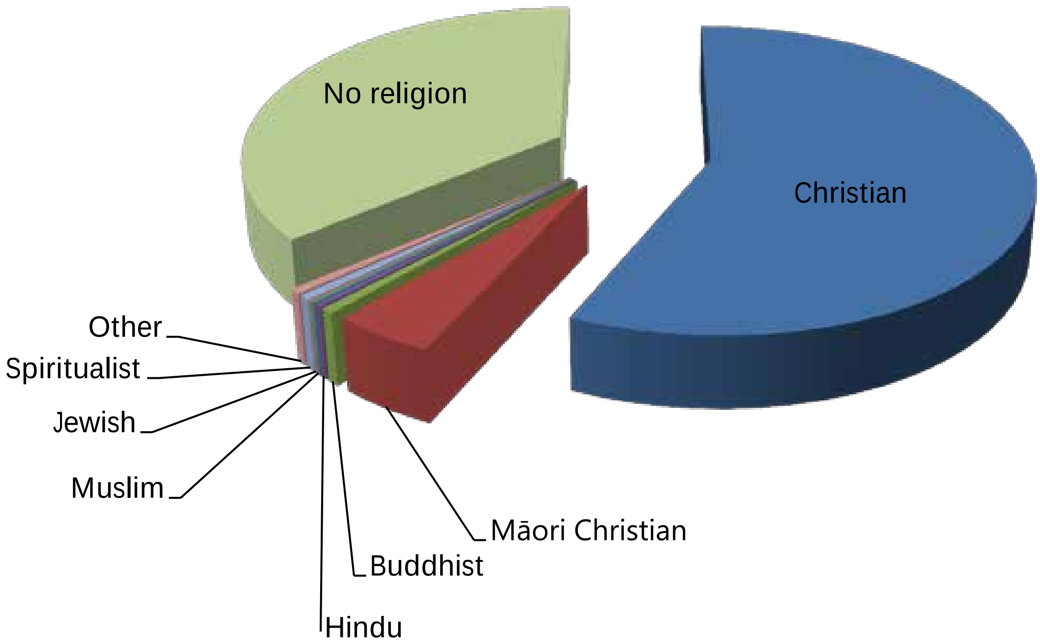
This is a complete reversal of the situation in the proceeding five years. During 2002-2006, the 5.7% increase in Northland's population was predominately driven by a rise in people of European ethnicity. The European population rose by 5600 persons (6%) in 2002-2006 while the Māori population increased by just 900 (2%).

One explanation for the difference in ethnic growth rates between the two periods could be economic-induced migration patterns. When the Northland and national economies were growing during 2002-2006, Europeans were attracted to Northland for lifestyle reasons while Māori perhaps headed south for employment. The opposite may have occurred during 2007-2011. The economic slow-down may have led to Europeans leaving the region to find jobs and Māori, unable to secure employment elsewhere, returning to their ancestral homes and communities.

## What are the most common religions in Northland?

The main religion in Northland is Christianity with approximately 56% of respondents in the 2006 census considering themselves Christian. This is followed by no religion (36%), Māori Christian (4.5%), Buddhism (0.59%), Spiritualism (0.57%), Other (0.56%), Hinduism (0.42%), Islam (0.16%), and Judaism (0.11%) (Figure 6).

**Figure 6: Composition of Northland by religion**



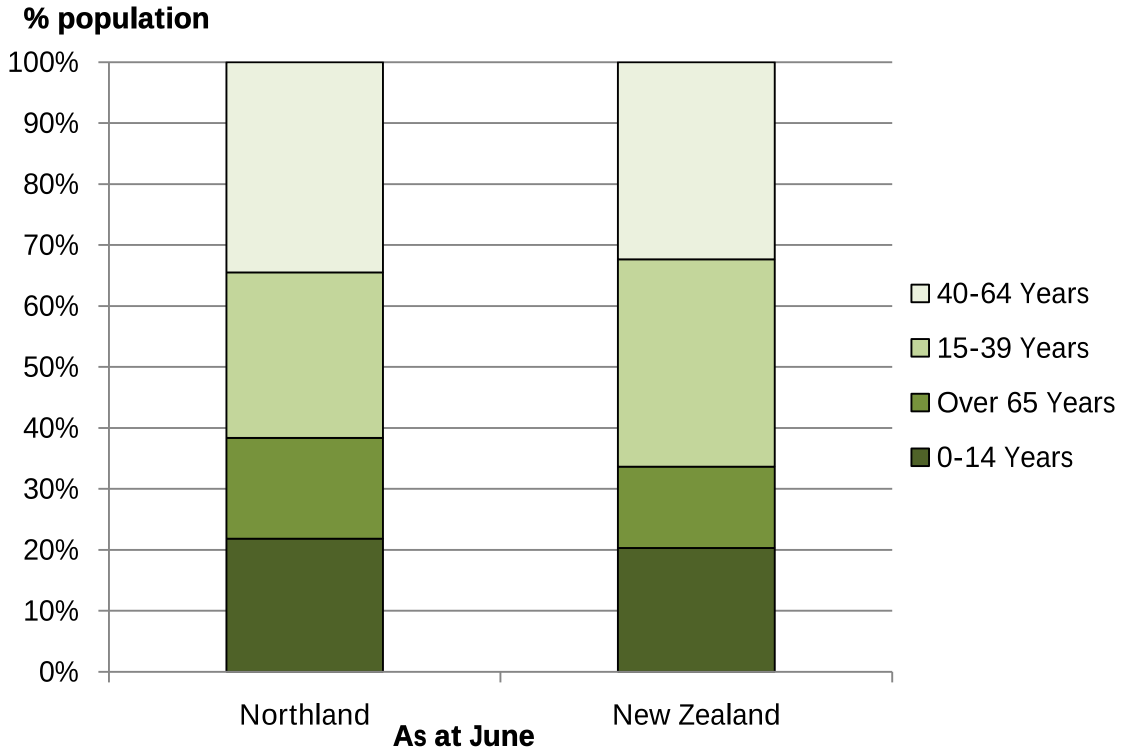
# Population age

## What is the age structure of Northland?

Another important feature of the demographic structure of Northland is the relatively high proportion of people outside the working age, that is, children under 15 and adults over 65 (Table 1 and Figure 7). Almost 40% of Northland's population fits into one of these two categories, making it the region with the highest proportion of non-working age persons (and conversely the region with the lowest proportion of working age persons).

Within the working age population, Northland has the lowest proportion of people aged 15-39 years. This reflects the fact that many young people move out of the region once they have finished secondary school, for tertiary education and training. Another factor is the relatively low level of wages and salaries paid in Northland which is not an attraction for people starting their working career, particularly those who have accumulated student debt.

**Figure 7: Composition of Northland and New Zealand population by broad age groups, 2011**




Source: Statistics New Zealand

Only older age groups are contributing positively to population growth in Northland (Figure 8). During 2007-2011, the strongest growth was in the population aged over 65, which grew by 19% or 4100 persons. This was up from a 16% increase (3000 persons) in the previous five years.

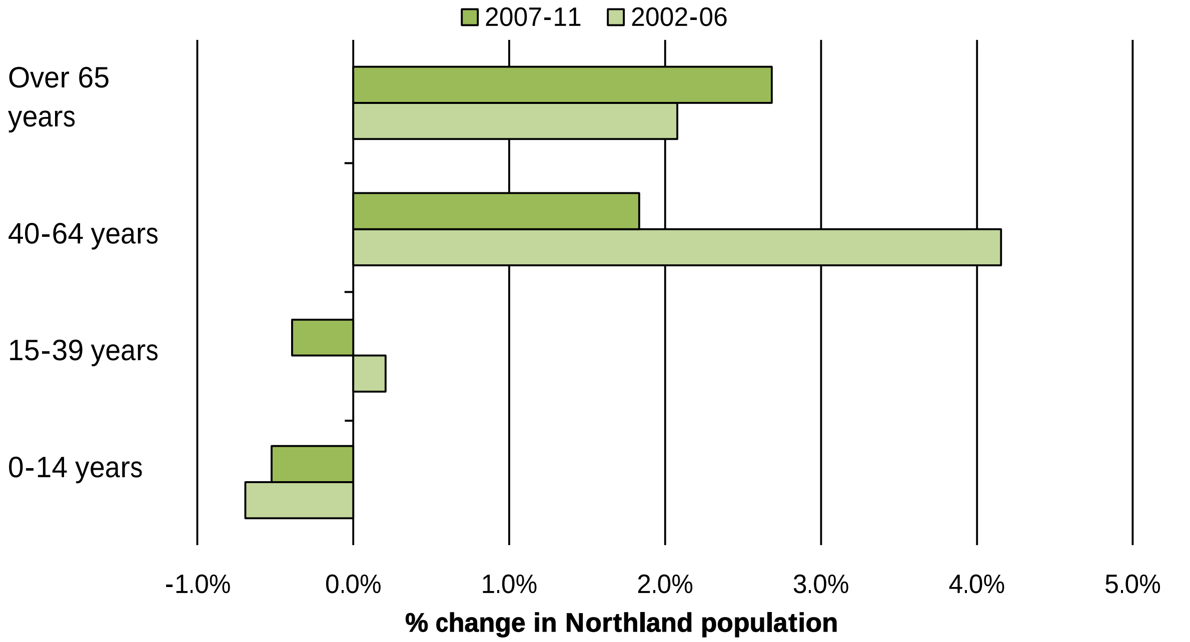
While people aged over 65 is also the fastest growing age group nationally, only the Tasman/Nelson/Marlborough region is estimated to have experienced a marginally faster growth rate in this population age group than Northland during 2007-2011.

At the other end of the age spectrum, Northland's population of children (aged 0-14) has decreased during 2007-2011 by some 2% or 800 children.

This continues the trend seen in 2002-2006 however this decrease is not unique to Northland. While nationally the number of children has grown by 0.7% over the period 2007-2011, the number of children is estimated to have decreased in nine of the 14 regions. As a consequence of these changes, the median age of the Northland population has increased from 38 in 2006 to 40 in 2011. It was 34 in 1996.

The aging of Northland's population will continue. By 2031 it is projected that 27% of Northland's population will be aged over 65 and the median age will be 45.

**Figure 8: Contribution of broad age groups to Northland's population growth, 2002-2011**




1. Measured by the age group's contribution to the percentage point change in Northland's population during the five-year period. For example, in the five years 2007-2011, the number of persons aged over 65 contributed a 2.7% increase in Northland's population, which in total increased by 3.6%.
2. Age groups ordered according to 2007-2011 growth rates.
Source: Statistics New Zealand

# Northland's households and families

## What is the structure of households and families?

There are estimated to be 62,400 households in Northland (Table 1). Just over 70% of households are occupied by families, the same proportion as at the national level. A further 26% are single person households, which is slightly higher than the national average of 24%. However, all regions with the exception of Auckland and Waikato have a proportion of single households greater than the national average, with five regions having a greater proportion than Northland.

Among the 14 regions, Northland has experienced the highest growth rate in single person households during 2007-2011. The remaining 3% of Northland households are made up of non-family multi-person households. Northland has the lowest proportion of these types of households reflecting the low proportion of population in the 15-39 age group, which are more likely to live together in flatting arrangements.

The most common family type in Northland, and New Zealand as a whole, is a couple without children. This type makes up 46% of Northland families, and has been the fastest growing family type over the past 10 years.

Couples with a child (or children) make up a further one-third of Northland families. This is lower than the national average of 39%, and is the lowest among the 14 regions. Moreover, the number of couples with child(ren) in Northland is estimated to have decreased by 4% during 2006-2011. This decrease is both a recent phenomenon and a national trend.

In 2002-2006, all regions with the exception of Southland experienced an increase in the number of couples with child(ren). By contrast, all regions, with the exception of Auckland, experienced a decrease during 2006-2011.

On the other hand, Northland has a relatively high proportion of single parent families, accounting for 21% of families in Northland. Only Gisborne and Hawkes Bay have a higher proportion. It is estimated that the rate of increase in this family type has slowed down, from 1.2% per annum during 2002-2006 to 0.6% per annum during 2007-2011.

# Governance

Northland has a land area of 12,548km² (1.25 million hectares) and 12,000km² of coastal waters. It extends northwards of a line from the Ōruawharo arm of the Kaipara Harbour and a point just south of the Mangawhai Harbour and the east coast.

Northland has one regional council and three district councils, these being Far North, Kaipara and Whāngārei. All four bodies were constituted on 1 November 1989, by Order in Council following the Local Government Commission's *Final Reorganisation Scheme for the Northland Region*. They carry out various functions, some of which are derived from the Resource Management Act.

The area administered by the Northland Regional Council covers the entire land area of the region and its associated coastal waters. These waters include 14 major harbours and extend 19.2 kilometres (12 nautical miles) offshore to the limits of the territorial sea. The Far North, Kaipara and Whāngārei district councils administer land areas of 684,100; 303,400 and 271,900 hectares respectively. Figure 9 shows the administrative boundaries of the region and its key features.

Figure 9: Administrative boundaries of Northland and key features

# Economy

©: Northport

## Northland's economic base

### What is our economy like?

The Northland economy, when measured in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), was valued at just under $4.8 billion in 2011, equivalent to 2.3% of New Zealand's GDP (Table 2 and Figure 10)[2].

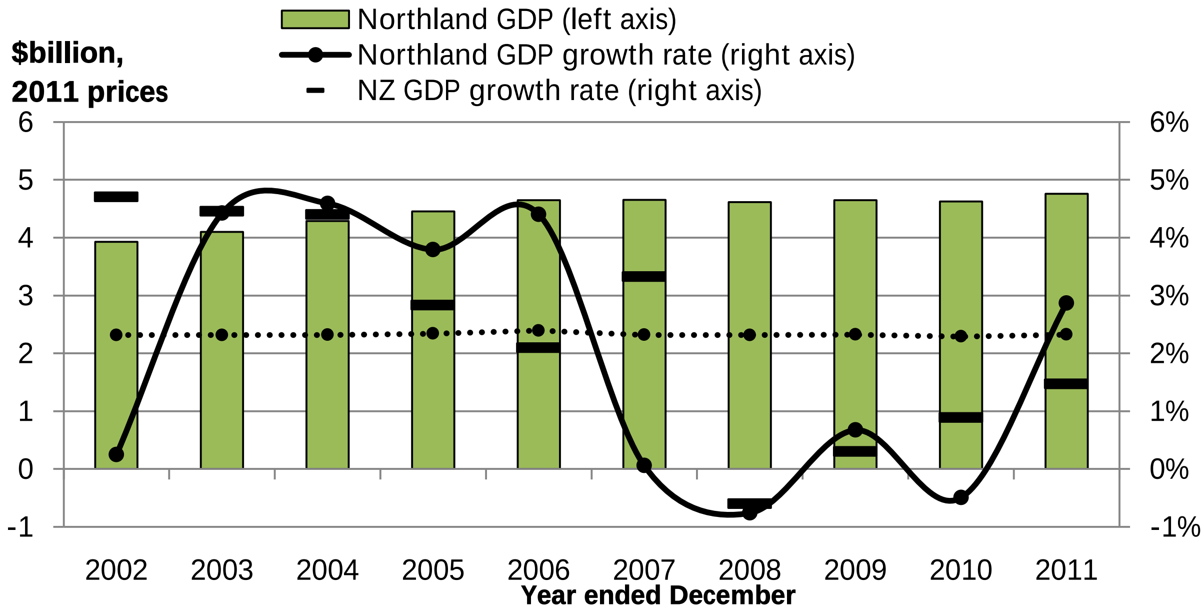
The 2007 flood event and the recession brought on by the global financial crisis saw Northland's GDP growth rate fall from 4.4% in 2006 to -0.8% in 2008. It took Northland longer to move out of negative growth during 2010 compared to the national economy. One reason for this was the 2009/10 summer drought experienced in Northland, which affected agricultural productivity.

Over the five years 2007-2011, the Northland economy grew at an annual rate of just 0.5%. This is significantly lower than the annual growth rate of 3.5% achieved during 2002-2006. It is also lower than the growth rate for New Zealand as a whole, and was the twelfth fastest annual rate among the 16 regions for the period 2007-2011. Only Manawatu/Wanganui, Canterbury, Gisborne and Hawke's Bay grew slower than Northland during the last five years.

In comparison to the two other regions of similar economic size and location, the Northland economy grew faster than Southland during the 10 years 2002-2011 but slower than the combined Tasman/Nelson/Marlborough region.

[2] GDP is the standard indicator of economic growth. It measures the total market value of goods and services produced, after deducting the cost of goods and services purchased as inputs in the production process (intermediate consumption). It indicates the "value added" of production and the income available to reward the factors of production involved.

**Figure 10: Northland GDP, 2002-11**




Source: Infometrics Regional Database

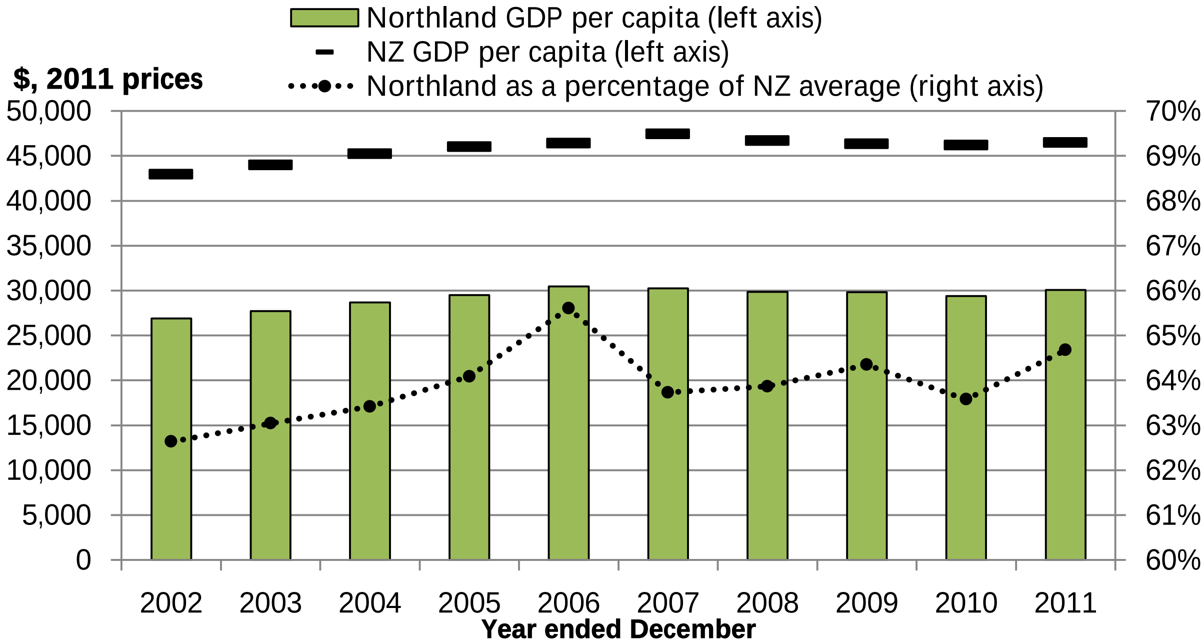
In 2011, Northland's GDP per capita was about $30,000, equivalent to 65% of the national average GDP per capita (Table 2 and Figure 11). Northland has the second to lowest GDP per capita among the 16 regions, about 8% higher than the average for Tasman. After growing by 2.3% per annum during 2002-2006, Northland's GDP per capita has since fallen slightly.

However, the national GDP per capita average has followed a similar pattern of growth. Consequently, the gap between it and Northland has remained relatively constant and is closer than 10 years ago.

Moreover, three regions experienced a faster rate of negative growth in GDP per capita than Northland during 2007-2011; Hawke's Bay, Otago and Canterbury.

At current population levels, it would take a one-off $2.5 billion (55%) increase in Northland's GDP in order for the region's GDP per capita to equal the New Zealand average.

Figure 11: Northland GDP per capita, 2002-11




Source: Infometrics Regional Database

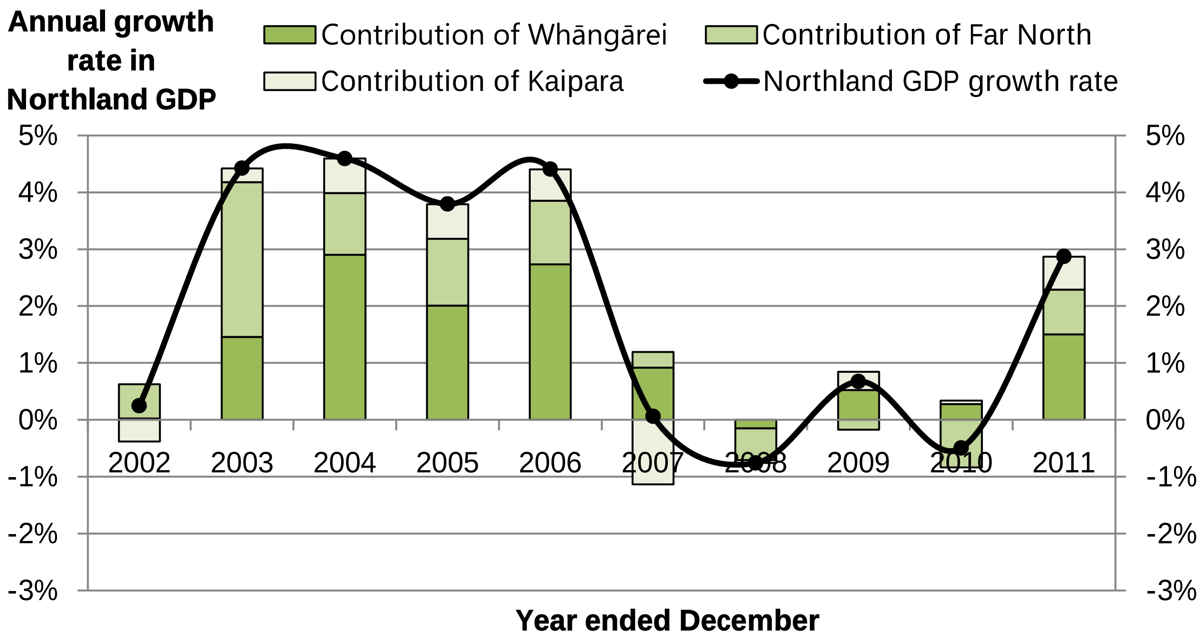
Almost 60% of Northland's GDP is produced in the Whāngārei district (Table 3). The Far North and Kaipara districts are much smaller, accounting for 32% and 10% of Northland's GDP respectively. There is also a large variation in GDP per capita between the three districts. Whāngārei's GDP per capita is $34,500 (15% above the Northland average) while it is $25,000 in Kaipara and $25,600 in the Far North (17% and 15% below the Northland average respectively).

Economic activity in Whāngārei district was the main contributor to economic growth in Northland during 2007-2011 (Table 3 and Figure 12).

While all three territories experienced much lower growth rates in 2007-2011, economic activity in Whāngārei still grew by 1.1% per annum over the five years, whereas it shrank in both the Far North and Kaipara.

This contrasts markedly with the 2002-2006 period in which all three territories grew at a very similar pace of between 3.2 to 4.1% each year. The recession is therefore likely to have had a larger impact on communities located in the north and west of the region than those in the centre.

Figure 12: Contribution of districts to Northland economic growth, 2002-2011




Source: Infometrics Regional Database

**Table 2: Selected economic indicators for Northland**

| Economic Indicator | Region | Year ended December 2011[1] | Annual growth rate[2] 5 years 2007-11 | 5 years 2002-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| GDP ($ million, current) | Northland | $4,757 | 0.5% | 3.5% |
| | New Zealand | $204,823 | 1.1% | 3.7% |
| | Position among 16 regions[3] | 10th | 12th | 8th |
| GDP per capita ($, current) | Northland | $30,072 | -0.2% | 2.3% |
| | New Zealand | $46,496 | 0.0% | 2.1% |
| | Position among 16 regions[3] | 15th | 13th | 7th |
| Employment (persons)[4] | Northland | 63,131 | -0.3% | 2.9% |
| | New Zealand | 2,154,478 | 0.5% | 2.9% |
| | Position among 16 regions[3] | 9th | 14th | 6th |
| Unemployment rate (%)[4] | Northland | 8.5 | 10.3% | -8.7% |
| | New Zealand | 6.5 | 11.3% | -6.8% |
| | Position among 12 regions[5] | 12th | 7th | 5th |
| GDP per person employed ($, current) | Northland | $75,357 | 0.8% | 0.6% |
| | New Zealand | $95,069 | 0.6% | 0.8% |
| | Position among 16 regions[3] | 13th | 8th | 8th |
| Business units (number) | Northland | 20,224 | -0.2% | 3.1% |
| | New Zealand | 508,300 | 0.6% | 3.9% |
| | Position among 16 regions[3] | 8th | 15th | 10th |
| Median weekly household income $[6] | Northland | $1,044 | -1.2% | 5.8% |
| | New Zealand | $1,289 | -0.1% | 2.3% |
| | Position among 12 regions[5] | 12th | 10th | 1st |
| Low-income households (% households)[7] | Northland | 37% | 2.2% | -4.9% |
| | New Zealand | 27% | -0.7% | -1.2% |
| | Position among 12 regions[5] | 12th | 11th | 1st |
| Low-income depth (50:60 ratio %)[8] | Northland | 78% | -1.1% | 2.9% |
| | New Zealand | 76% | -0.5% | 2.0% |
| | Position among 12 regions[5] | 10th | 4th | 11th |
| Home affordability index[9] | Northland | 19.9 | -7.8% | 20.5% |
| | New Zealand | 22.3 | -6.3% | 12.8% |
| | Position among 12 regions[10] | 6th | 5th | 10th |
| Consumer confidence index[11] | Northland | 96 | -4.0% | 1.1% |
| | New Zealand | 101 | -3.0% | 0.0% |
| | Position among 11 regions[12] | 8th | 8th | 1st |

1. Except Population (June), Business units (February), Tress index (March), and Median weekly household income, low income households and poverty depth (June).
2. Growth for money related indicators is calculated on a real (inflation adjusted) basis.

3. The 16 regions are Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne, Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, Manawatu-Wanganui, Wellington, Tasman, Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast, Canterbury, Otago and Southland.

4. Annual average of the four quarters ended December.

5. The 12 regions are Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne/Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, Manawatu-Wanganui, Wellington, Tasman/Nelson/Marlborough/West Coast, Canterbury, Otago and Southland.

6. Includes wages and salaries, self-employment, investment income, government transfers, and other transfers, before tax. Growth measured for the four year period 2002-06 because the definition of income changed in 2002. Median income for households with at least one person aged 15-64.

7. Measured by the proportion of all households with household income below a constant value threshold equivalent to 60% of the 2002 national median household income adjusted each year with the Consumers Price Index (CPI). A negative change indicates an improvement, i.e. a reduction in low income households.

8. The 50:60 ratio % is the number of households with income below 50% of the national median household income as a proportion of the number of households with income below 60% of the national median. The lower the proportion the less depth there is, and a negative change indicates an improvement.

9. The lower the index the more affordable the housing. Northland was sixth lowest in December 2011. Similarly, the larger the decrease the better. Northland had the fifth largest decrease in the index during 2007-11.

10. The 12 regions are Northland, Auckland, Waikato/BOP, Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, Manawatu-Wanganui, Wellington, Nelson/Marlborough, Canterbury/Westland, Otago, Central Otago Lakes and Southland.

11. Summarises responses to questions about households' own financial position, their expectations for the NZ economy as a whole and their current willingness to spend. A value over 100 indicates positive confidence.

12. The 11 regions are Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne/Hawke's Bay, Taranaki/ Manawatu-Wanganui, Wellington, Tasman/Nelson/Marlborough/West Coast, Canterbury, Otago and Southland.

***Sources:***

GDP, Employment and Tress index: Infometrics Regional Database; Population, Unemployment rate, Business units and Median weekly household income: Statistics New Zealand; Economic activity index: National Bank; Home affordability index: Massey University; and Consumer confidence index: Westpac McDermott Miller.

**Table 3: Contribution of districts and industries to economic growth in Northland, 2002-2011**

| | GDP ($million, current) 2011 | TA/industry as % of Northland's GDP in | Northland industry as % of NZ industry | Annual growth rate 5 years 2007-11 | Annual growth rate 5 years 2002-06 | % point contribution to Northland's GDP 5 years 2007-11 | % point contribution to Northland's GDP 5 years 2002-06 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Contribution by TA** | | | | | | | |
| Far North | 1,500 | 31.5% | 0.7% | -0.3% | 4.1% | -0.5% | 7.0% |
| Whāngārei | 2,779 | 58.4% | 1.4% | 1.1% | 3.2% | 3.1% | 9.8% |
| Kaipara | 478 | 10.1% | 0.2% | -0.4% | 3.2% | -0.2% | 1.8% |
| Northland | 4,757 | 100.0% | 2.3% | 0.5% | 3.5% | 2.3% | 18.6% |
| | | | | | | | |
| **Contribution by industry** | | | | | | | |
| Agriculture | 408 | 8.6% | 5.5% | -3.5% | 1.2% | -1.7% | 0.7% |
| Horticulture | 28 | 0.6% | 3.8% | -4.9% | -8.0% | -0.2% | -0.5% |
| Forestry and logging | 153 | 3.2% | 7.3% | 8.5% | -1.6% | 1.1% | -0.2% |
| Mining | 18 | 0.4% | 1.1% | -6.3% | -7.0% | -0.2% | -0.3% |
| Fishing and aquaculture | 5 | 0.1% | 3.5% | -22.7% | 5.1% | -0.3% | 0.1% |
| Services to primary industries and hunting | 26 | 0.6% | 2.2% | -11.1% | -0.6% | -0.5% | 0.0% |
| Primary industries | 638 | 13.4% | 4.8% | -2.3% | -0.2% | -1.7% | -0.2% |
| Food, beverage and tobacco manufacturing | 135 | 2.8% | 1.5% | -8.7% | 12.5% | -1.7% | 2.4% |
| Wood and paper product manufacturing | 61 | 1.3% | 1.9% | -3.6% | 11.3% | -0.3% | 0.8% |
| Petroleum and coal product manufacturing | 465 | 9.8% | 19.6% | 6.3% | -3.3% | 2.6% | -1.6% |
| Chemical, polymer and rubber products | 7 | 0.2% | 0.4% | -7.8% | -7.9% | -0.1% | -0.1% |
| Non-metallic mineral products manufactur | 30 | 0.6% | 3.0% | -1.9% | 9.8% | -0.1% | 0.3% |
| Engineering | 56 | 1.2% | 0.9% | -3.1% | 4.3% | -0.2% | 0.3% |
| Other manufacturing | 13 | 0.3% | 0.6% | -3.8% | 1.1% | -0.1% | 0.0% |
| Electricity, gas and water services | 114 | 2.4% | 2.5% | -2.7% | 10.7% | -0.4% | 1.3% |
| Construction | 182 | 3.8% | 2.1% | -5.0% | 10.6% | -1.2% | 2.4% |
| Goods-producing industries | 1,065 | 22.4% | 2.7% | -1.0% | 4.7% | -1.2% | 5.8% |
| Wholesale trade | 110 | 2.3% | 1.0% | 3.7% | -7.3% | 0.4% | -1.1% |
| Retail trade | 289 | 6.1% | 2.8% | 0.8% | 5.4% | 0.3% | 1.6% |
| Accommodation and food services | 75 | 1.6% | 2.4% | -2.4% | 4.5% | -0.2% | 0.4% |
| Transport, postal and warehousing | 233 | 4.9% | 2.2% | 4.0% | 3.1% | 0.9% | 0.7% |
| Information media and telcommunications | 137 | 2.9% | 1.1% | -1.1% | 12.8% | -0.2% | 1.7% |
| Finance and insurance | 126 | 2.7% | 1.3% | 2.7% | 7.5% | 0.3% | 0.9% |
| Property operators and real estate services | 193 | 4.1% | 2.2% | -1.9% | 9.0% | -0.4% | 1.9% |
| Professional, scientific and technical servic | 162 | 3.4% | 1.3% | 1.0% | 2.4% | 0.2% | 0.4% |
| Administration and support services | 86 | 1.8% | 2.5% | 0.9% | 10.8% | 0.1% | 0.8% |
| Central government admin and defence | 186 | 3.9% | 2.5% | 2.5% | 11.4% | 0.5% | 1.8% |
| Local government administration | 41 | 0.9% | 4.0% | 2.7% | 9.4% | 0.1% | 0.3% |
| Education and training | 175 | 3.7% | 2.6% | 1.6% | -0.8% | 0.3% | -0.2% |
| Healthcare and social assistance | 289 | 6.1% | 2.7% | 2.9% | 2.8% | 0.8% | 0.8% |
| Arts and recreational services | 26 | 0.5% | 1.1% | 0.8% | 4.3% | 0.0% | 0.1% |
| Other services | 118 | 2.5% | 1.8% | 0.1% | 4.6% | 0.0% | 0.6% |
| Service industries | 2,246 | 47.2% | 1.9% | 1.3% | 4.6% | 3.0% | 10.8% |
| Ownership of owner-occupied dwellings[2] | 397 | 8.4% | 2.8% | 0.6% | 3.4% | 0.3% | 1.5% |
| Unallocated | 412 | 8.7% | 2.1% | 5.0% | 1.7% | 1.9% | 0.6% |
| Total | 4,757 | 100.0% | 2.3% | 0.5% | 3.5% | 2.3% | 18.6% |

1. Measured by the percentage point change in Northland's total GDP between the two years. For example, in the five years 2007-11, growth in the forestry and logging industry contributed to a 1.1% increase in Northland's GDP, which in total increased by 2.3%.

2. Represents the service that dwellings provide to their owner-occupiers.

***Source:*** Infometrics Regional Database

# Northland's major industries

## What industries have contributed to economic growth?

The structure of the Northland economy is different to that of the national economy (Table 3). Primary industries – agriculture, horticulture, fishing, forestry and logging, and mining – account for 13% of Northland's GDP compared to only 6.5% nationally. Alternatively, service industries account for just 47% of Northland's GDP but contribute 58% nationally.

At the broad sector level, growth in the Northland economy during 2007-2011 was mainly due to the expansion of activity in the service industries. Economic activity in both the primary industries and goods-producing industries sectors declined. The service industries sector was also responsible for most of the growth during 2002-2006, although the goods-producing sector also performed strongly. However, these broad groupings hide important industry developments within each sector.

Within the primary industries sector, the contribution of agriculture, horticulture, fishing and mining to GDP fell during 2007-2011. By comparison, economic activity in forestry and logging grew by almost 8.5% per annum, contributing to a 1.1 percentage point rise in Northland's GDP.

Between the season ended May 2007 and May 2010, the volume of milksolids produced in Northland fell by nearly 10% from 77,400 to 70,100 tonnes (Figure 13). While production rebounded in 2011, it remains below levels achieved in the early 2000s. Northland supplied just 5% of New Zealand milksolids production in 2011 compared to 7% in 2002. Similarly, the number of beef cattle in Northland, which had been rising during the 2000s, has fallen by 20% from a high of 500,000 animals in 2008 to 400,000 in June 2011. Extreme weather conditions, such as floods and droughts, have contributed to this decrease in agricultural production.

Output from the forestry sector has however been steadily rising. In 2011, over 2.5 million cubic metres of exotic timber was harvested in Northland. This is equivalent to almost 11% of the national harvest and around double the annual quantity harvested in 2006.

The two goods-producing industries that have contributed most to growth over the past ten years are the wood processing and petroleum products industries (Table 3). In line with the increase in the quantity of wood harvested, there has been an increase in the quantity of wood processed. For example, the quantity of sawn timber produced in the Northland wood supply region has risen from an annual average of 228,000m$^3$ in 2002-2006 to 327,000m$^3$ in 2007-2011 (Figure 14).

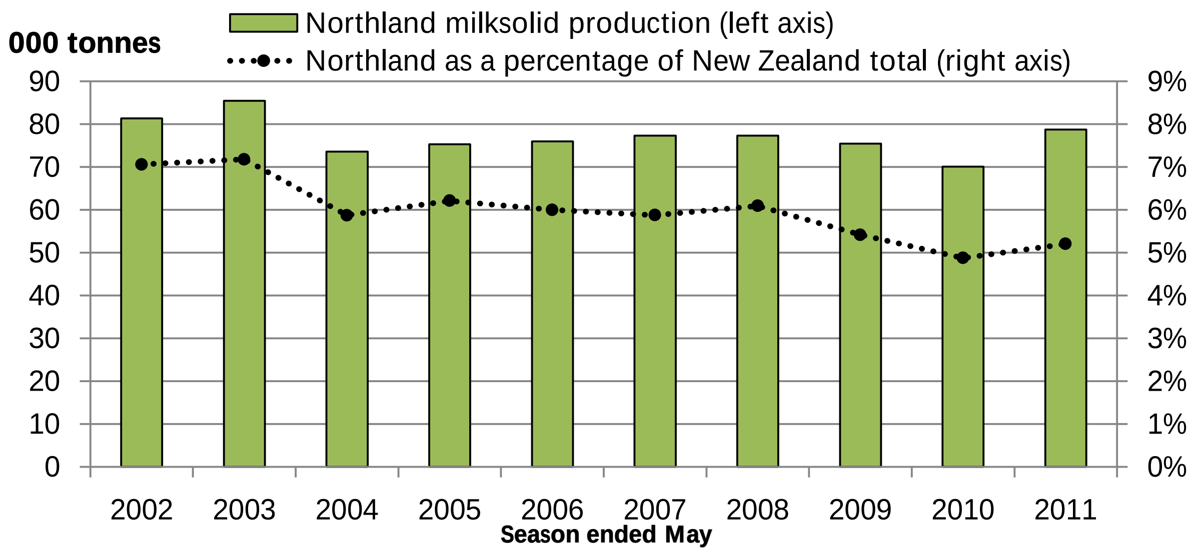
The refinery at Marsden Point makes a valuable contribution to the Northland economy. It is directly responsible for almost 10% of Northland's GDP, without including the wider economic impacts from the industries servicing the refinery and the spending of wages and salaries earned at the refinery.

One of the main goods-producing industries that has shrunk over the past five years is construction, due to a large drop in building activity. The total floor area of new dwelling consents in Northland was just over 100,000m$^2$ in 2011, down from over 250,000m$^2$ consented on an annual basis in the mid-2000s.

A major change among the service industries has been the contribution of property services to growth. After contributing a 1.9 percentage point increase in GDP during 2002-2006 due to a large increase in the number and value of real estate sales, property services contracted in 2007-2011. The number of dwelling sales in Northland has fallen from a peak of almost 3500 per year in 2004-2005 to just 1333 in 2011, the lowest level in a decade (Figure 15).

The recession has also resulted in a 6% fall in the number of guest nights in Northland from its peak in 2007. However, annual averages for the two five-year periods are almost identical at 1.66 million guest nights and the drop in visitors to Northland mirrors other regions in New Zealand.

**Figure 13: Indicators for selected primary industries in Northland, 2002-2011**



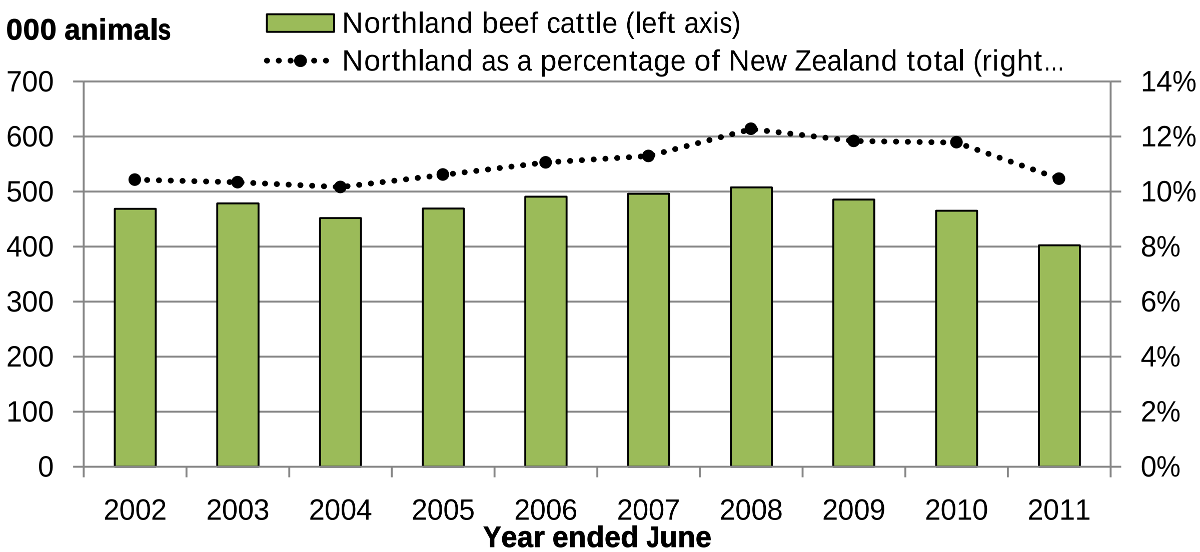
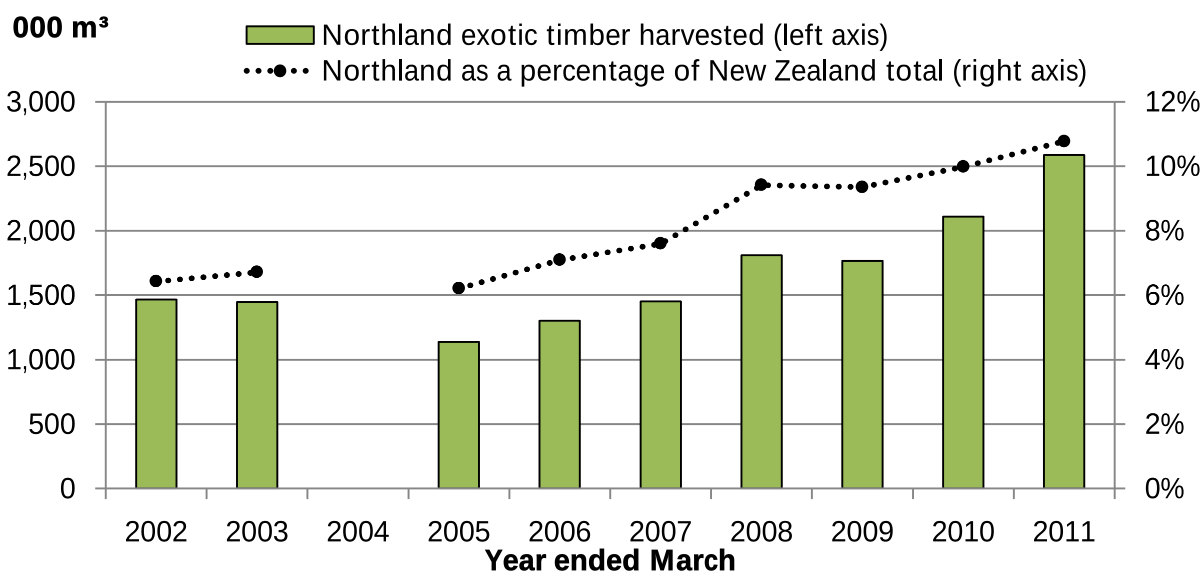



Figure 13: Indicators for selected primary industries in Northland, 2002-2011 (continued)




1. For timber harvested, 2002 and 2003 are year ended December. Statistics New Zealand then changed the year to match the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry's exotic forest description series.

Sources: Dairy NZ/LIC, Dairy Statistics; Statistics New Zealand, Agriculture Statistics; Statistics New Zealand, Forestry Statistics.

Figure 14: Indicators for selected goods-producing industries in Northland, 2002-2011

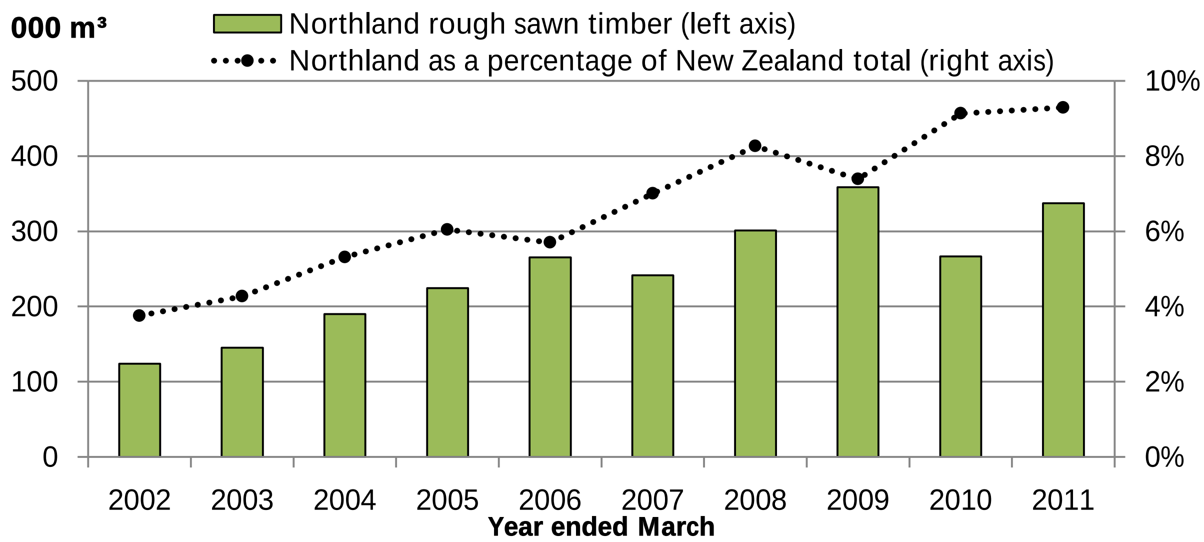
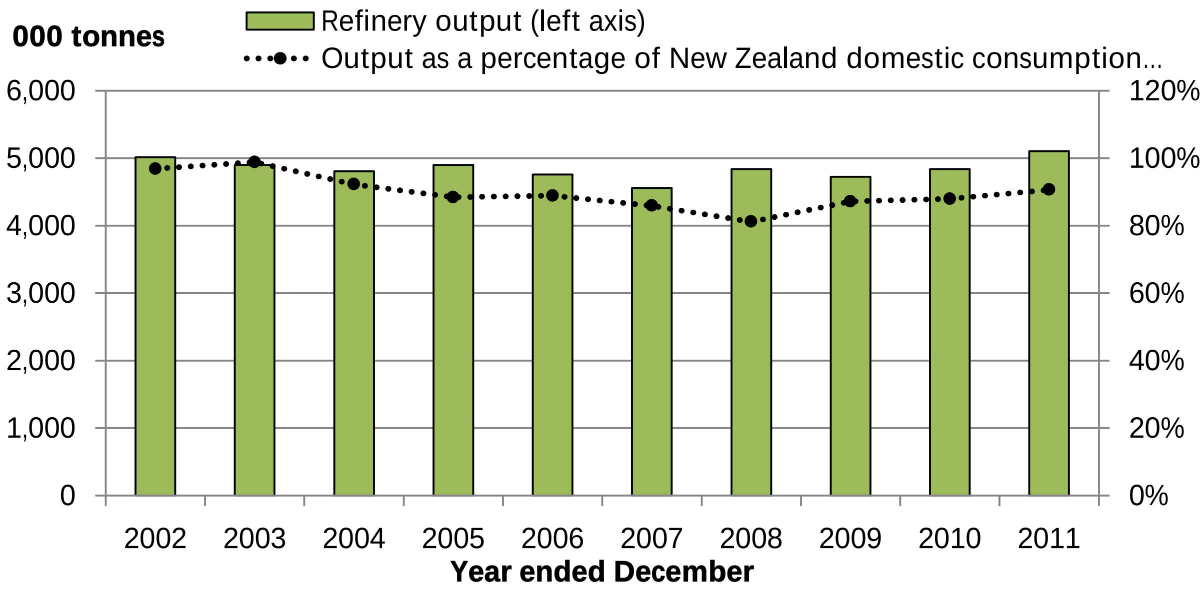
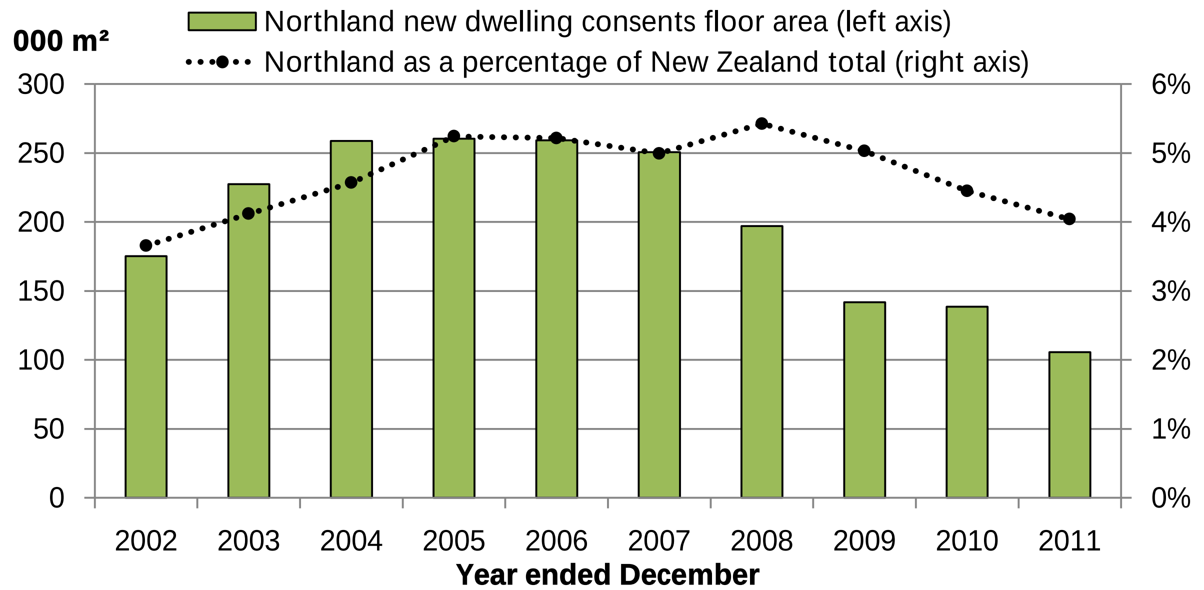


**Figure 14: Indicators for selected goods-producing industries in Northland, 2002-2011 (continued)**



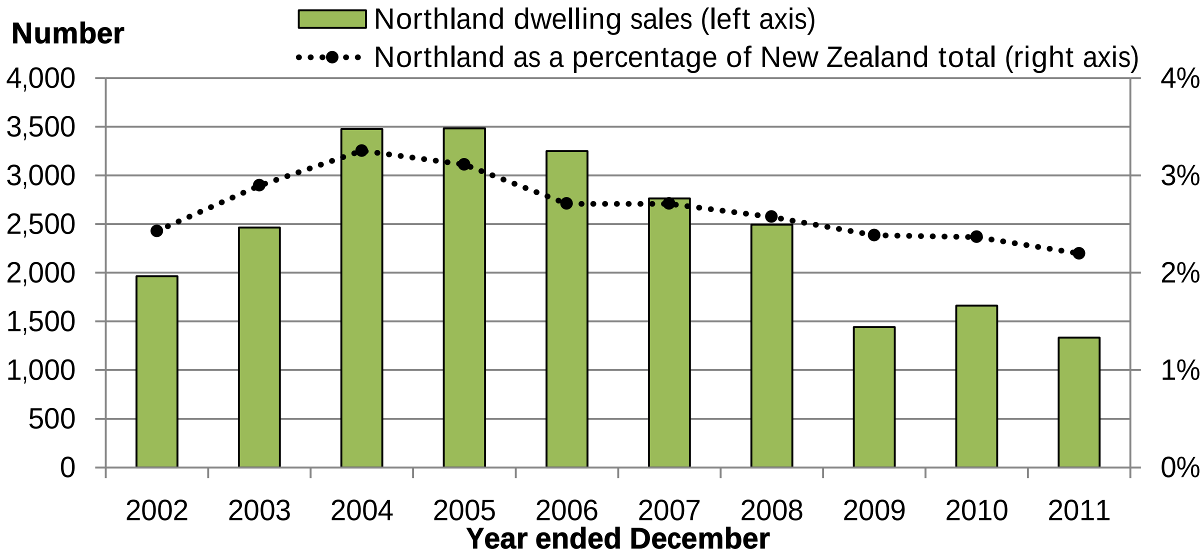



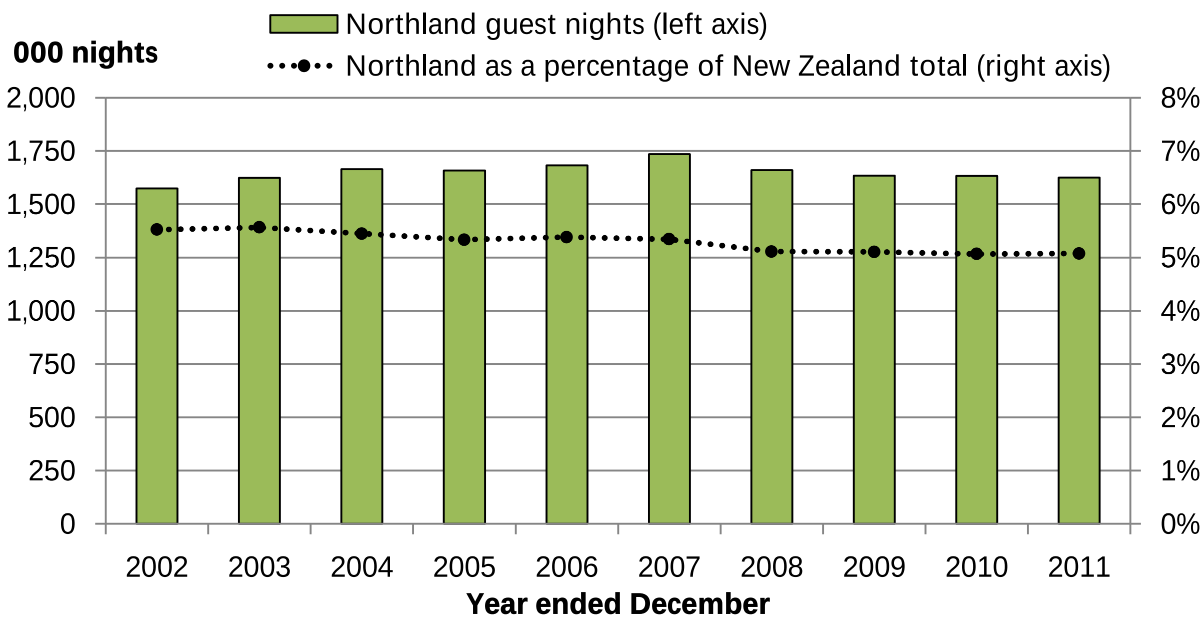

1. For rough sawn timber, Northland includes Rodney district.

2. Refinery output as a percentage of New Zealand oil and gas consumption measured on a gross petajoules basis.

Sources: Ministry of Primary Industries; Ministry of Economic Development; Statistics New Zealand.

**Figure 15: Indicators for selected service industries in Northland, 2002-2011**




Sources: Statistics New Zealand, Accommodation Survey; Real Estate Institute of New Zealand, Market Facts Graphs.

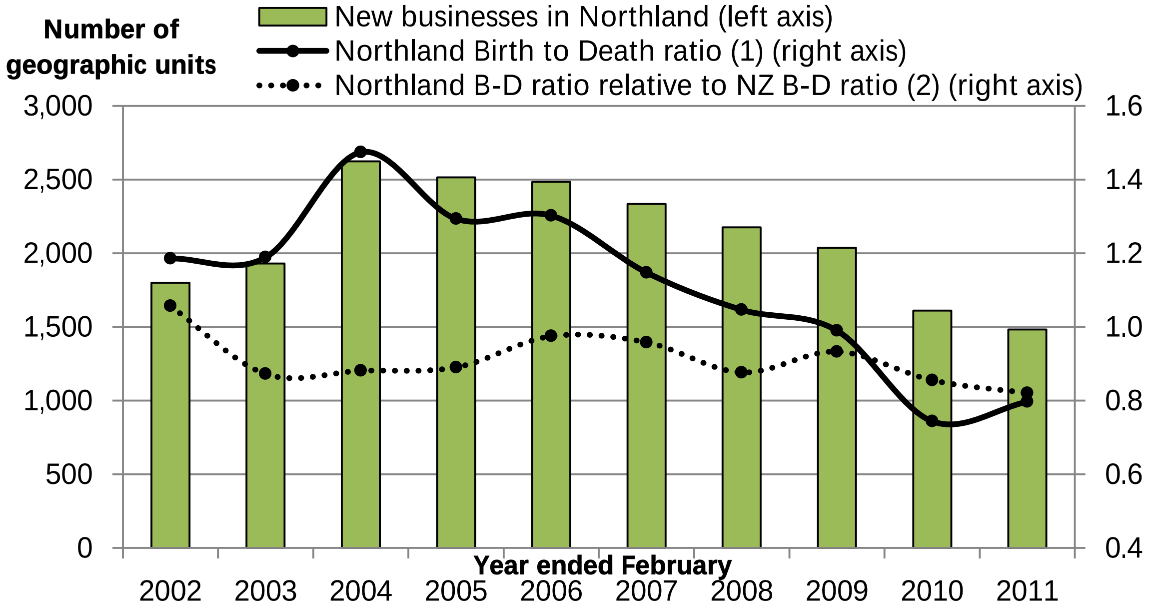
## What has happened to the number of businesses?

In February 2011, there were just over 20,200 geographic units located in Northland. (Note: a geographic unit is defined as a separate operating unit engaged in New Zealand in one (or predominately one) kind of economic activity from a single physical location or base. This is the preferred measure for counting the number of businesses in a particular area. The coverage of business demography statistics is limited to economically significant enterprises that are engaged in the production of goods and services in New Zealand. In particular it does not include self-employed operators with annual expenses or sales of less than $30,000 per annum.) This is 200 less than in 2006, a reduction of 1%. By comparison, the number of businesses in New Zealand grew by 3.1% over the five years. Only the Manawatu-Wanganui region had a larger percentage reduction in the number of businesses than Northland. The decrease represents a turnaround from 2002-2006 when the number of businesses in Northland rose by 17% as the economy expanded.

There has also been a steady fall in the number of business start-ups (Figure 16). During the mid-2000s, some 2500 new businesses were started each year in Northland. In 2011, only 60% of that number of businesses began operation.

In 2010 and 2011 the business birth to death ratio fell below one for the first time in 10 years, indicating that the number of businesses that ceased operation was greater than the number of new businesses that started. This indicator of entrepreneurial activity peaked in 2004 and has been steadily tracking down since. In general, the ratio of business births to deaths in Northland is less than in New Zealand as a whole. This suggests Northland has a relatively lower level of entrepreneurial activity than New Zealand in general.

**Figure 16: Business growth in Northland, 2002-2011**




Source: Statistics New Zealand, Business Demographics Statistics

1. A ratio of greater than one means that the number of new businesses (births) is larger than the number that closed (deaths).
2. A ratio of less than one means that the ratio of births to deaths in Northland is lower than the national ratio.

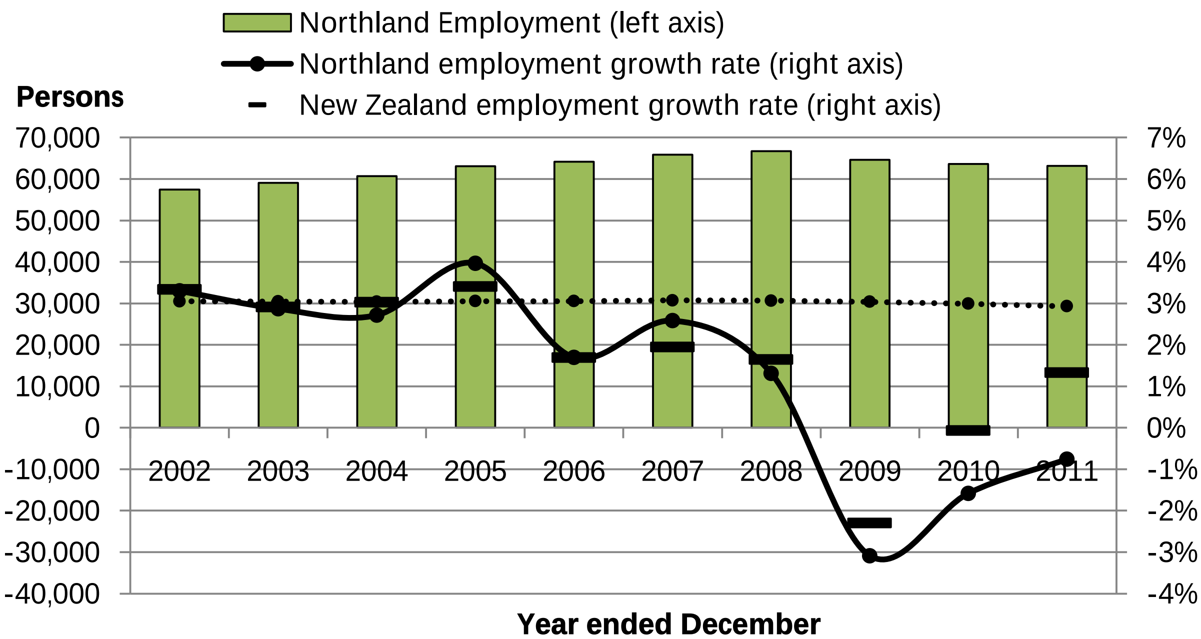
# Employment in Northland

## What has happened to employment?

The number of people employed in Northland, both self-employed and employees, has fallen over the five years 2007-2011. Just over 1000 fewer persons were employed in 2011 as compared to 2006, with annual growth rates varying between 2% and -3% (Table 2 and Figure 17). This contrasts markedly with the preceding five years. During 2002-2006 there was a steady rise in employment of almost 3% per annum, with a total of 8,500 additional persons working.

Employment growth in Northland during 2007-2011 has also been much slower than in the national economy as a whole. This is shown by the fall in Northland's share of national employment from 3% in 2002 to 2.9% in 2011. In particular, the drop in employment in 2009 was larger and the recovery in 2010 and 2011 was much slower in Northland. Of the 16 regions, only Gisborne and Manawatu/Wanganui experienced slower employment growth than Northland during 2007-2011. The greatest reduction in employment since 2008, both in absolute and percentage terms has occurred in the construction and primary production (agriculture, forestry and fishing) industries.

**Figure 17: Employment in Northland, 2002-2011**




Source: Infometrics Regional Database

A consequence of negative employment growth has been a rise in the unemployment rate (Table 2 and Figure 18), which has more than doubled from its historical low of 4.3% in 2007 to around 9% in 2009 and 2010, before falling to 8.5% in 2011.

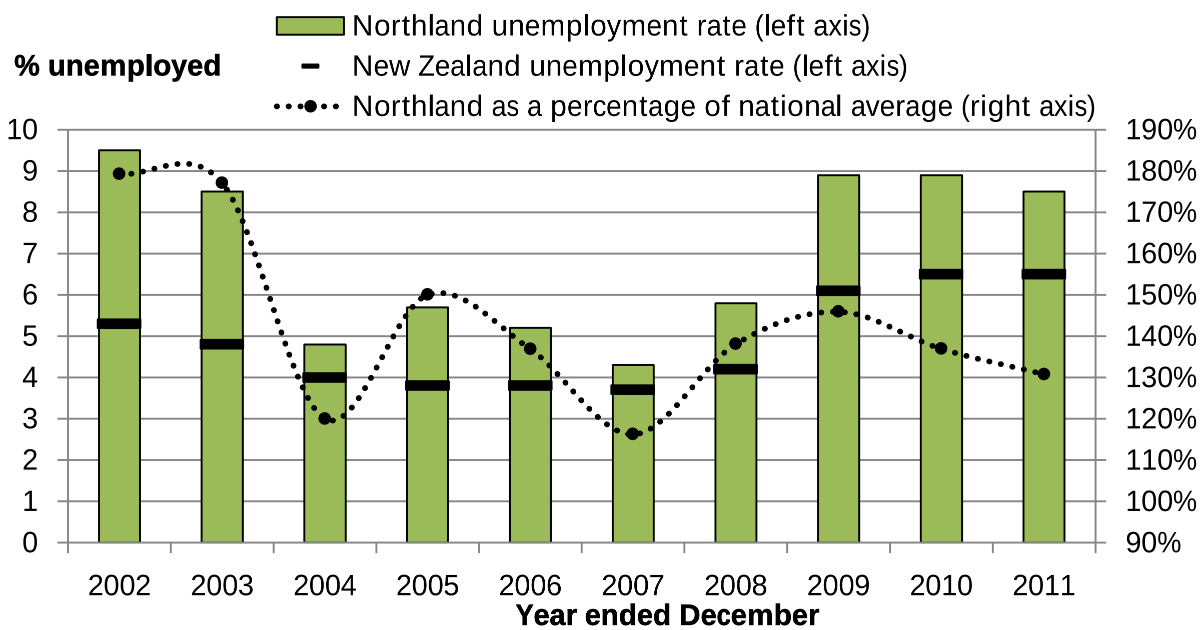
Northland's unemployment rate has returned to levels that existed in the early 2000s and is the highest among the 12 regions for which unemployment rates are calculated. The unemployment rate in Northland has always been above the national level. However, the gap between the Northland and national unemployment rate is less than during the early 1990s, with the gap in 2011 the third lowest over the past 10 years.

This suggests that unemployment is more widely spread throughout New Zealand than in the early 2000s, and is not just a Northland problem.

The large number of people unemployed in Northland, especially those aged 18-24 years whose number on the unemployment benefit has risen by more than 300%, is of great concern. Slow employment growth is also seen by a fall in the labour force participation rate from 66% in 2006 to 63% in 2011. This indicates that a larger proportion of the working age population in Northland is choosing not to participate in the labour force because of fewer job opportunities.

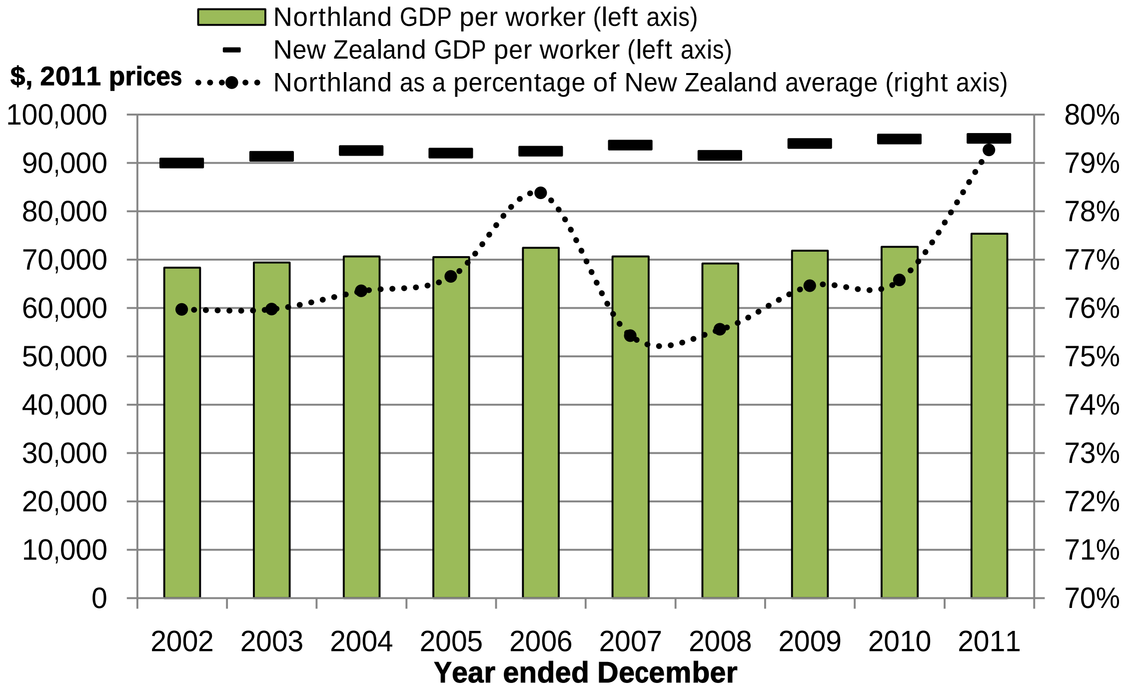
A simple measure of labour productivity is to divide GDP by the number of persons employed. Northland's GDP per person employed was just over $75,000 in 2011, around 80% of the national average and placing Northland at thirteenth among the 16 regions (Table 2 and Figure 19). The significantly higher level of GDP per person employed as compared to GDP per capita in Northland is a consequence of two factors: the relatively high proportion of the population outside the working-age (15-64 years); and the relatively low participation rate of the working-age population. With employment growing at a slower rate than GDP over 2007-2011, this productivity measure has increased by 0.8% per annum over the period. This was higher than the rate of increase for New Zealand as a whole and was the eighth fastest increase among the 16 regions.

**Figure 18: Unemployment rate in Northland, 2002-2011**




Source: Statistics New Zealand, Household Labour Force Survey

**Figure 19: Northland GDP per worker, 2002-2011**



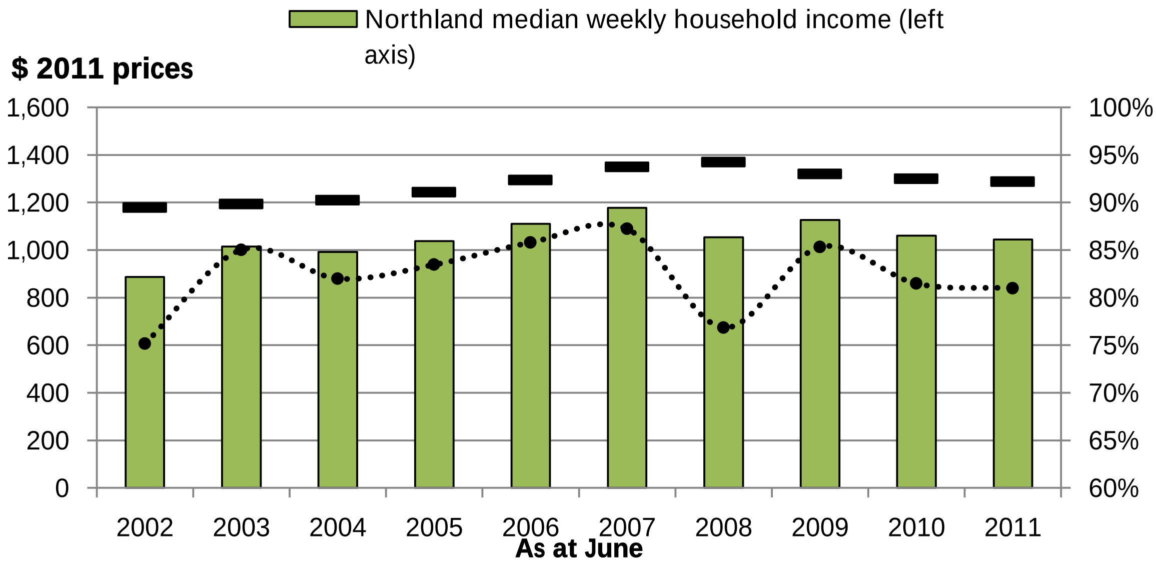

Source: Infometrics Regional Database

# Households in Northland

## How have households faired?

The median weekly income for households in Northland was $1,044 in June 2011 (Table 2 and Figure 20). This is equivalent to 81% of the national median household weekly income and is the lowest among the 12 regions for which data is available.

**Figure 20: Real household income in Northland, 2002-2011**




1. Median household income adjusted for inflation using the Consumers Price Index (CPI).
2. Household income includes wages and salaries, self-employment, investment income, government transfers and other transfers, before tax. Source: Statistics New Zealand, New Zealand Income Survey

Over the period 2007-2011, the median weekly household income in Northland fell by 11% from its high of $1,177 in 2007 when measured in real terms (adjusted by the CPI). Only two regions, Waikato and Gisborne/Hawkes Bay, had larger decreases. This indicates that Northland households have considerably less purchasing power in 2011 compared to 2007, having around the same level as they had in 2005.

This contrasts markedly with developments during 2002-2006. In this period, the median household income in Northland increased by almost 6% per annum, the highest rate of increase among the 12 regions and considerably faster than the 2.3% per annum rise in the national median. Consequently, the Northland median household income rose from 75% to 87% of the national median.

One reason for this rapid rise was the strong employment growth in the region which saw a switch in income from government transfers, such as unemployment benefits, to wages and salaries. Similarly, the decrease in median household income during 2007-2011 reflects the growing number of households that are dependent on benefits or outside the paid workforce altogether, as well as lower investment returns. The progressive introduction of the central government's *Working for Families* package from 2004-2007 may also have contributed to the rise in median income levels.

During 2007-2011, the proportion of low-income households in Northland rose from 30% to 37% of all households, an annual increase of 2.2% (Table 2 and Figure 21). Households are considered to be low-income if their income is below a constant value threshold equivalent to 60% of the 2002 national median household income adjusted each year with the Consumers Price Index (CPI) (Perry: 2011.) In the short to medium term using a constant value threshold is considered the best measure as it reveals whether the incomes of low-income households are rising or falling in real terms.

Northland has the highest proportion of low-income households according to this measure, being 1.37 times higher than the national proportion in 2011. Other regions with a high proportion of low-income households are Gisborne/Hawkes Bay and Manawatu/Wanganui, at 1.28 and 1.23 times the national proportion respectively.

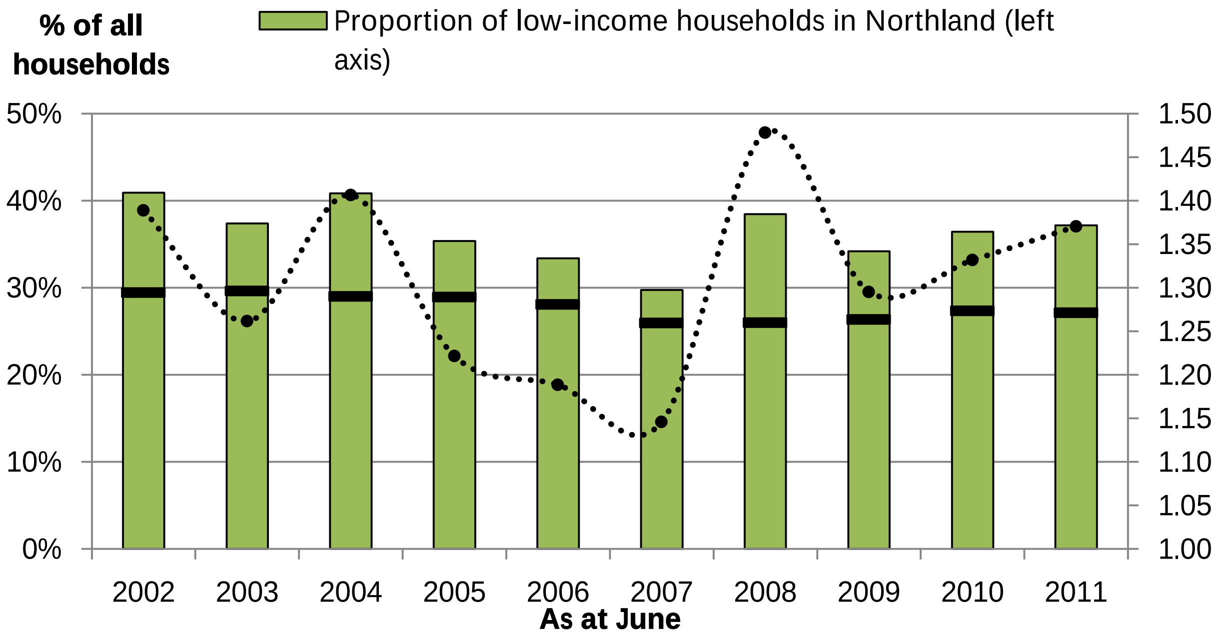
The recent rise in low-income households reverses the downward trend observed during 2002-2006. During this former five-year period, Northland experienced the greatest reduction in the proportion of low-income households among the 12 regions for which data is available, with the proportion of low-income households in Northland falling from 1.4 times to just 1.15 times the national proportion.

Although Northland has a greater proportion of low-income households than other regions, they are not necessarily poorer than elsewhere (Table 2 and Figure 22). The 50:60 ratio percentage measures the number of households with income below 50% of the national median household income as a proportion of the number of households with income below 60% of the national median. The higher the ratio, the deeper is the incidence of low-income households. According to this measure, around 70-80% of households in Northland whose incomes are below 60% of the national median household income have income less than 50% of the median. This is very similar to the New Zealand average. In fact the 50:60 ratio falls within the 70-80% range for all 12 regions.

During 2002-2007, the Northland home affordability index increased by 20% per annum, the largest rise in any region except Taranaki (the twelfth region, Central Otago Lakes was not separately identified in this period).

While household incomes were improving in Northland, house prices were increasing at a much faster rate so the gap between Northland and the national index closed rapidly. The index has subsequently decreased during 2007-2011, driven by falling house prices and interest rates. However, the index suggests that it is still more expensive for Northlanders to purchase a home in the region than it was in the early 2000s.

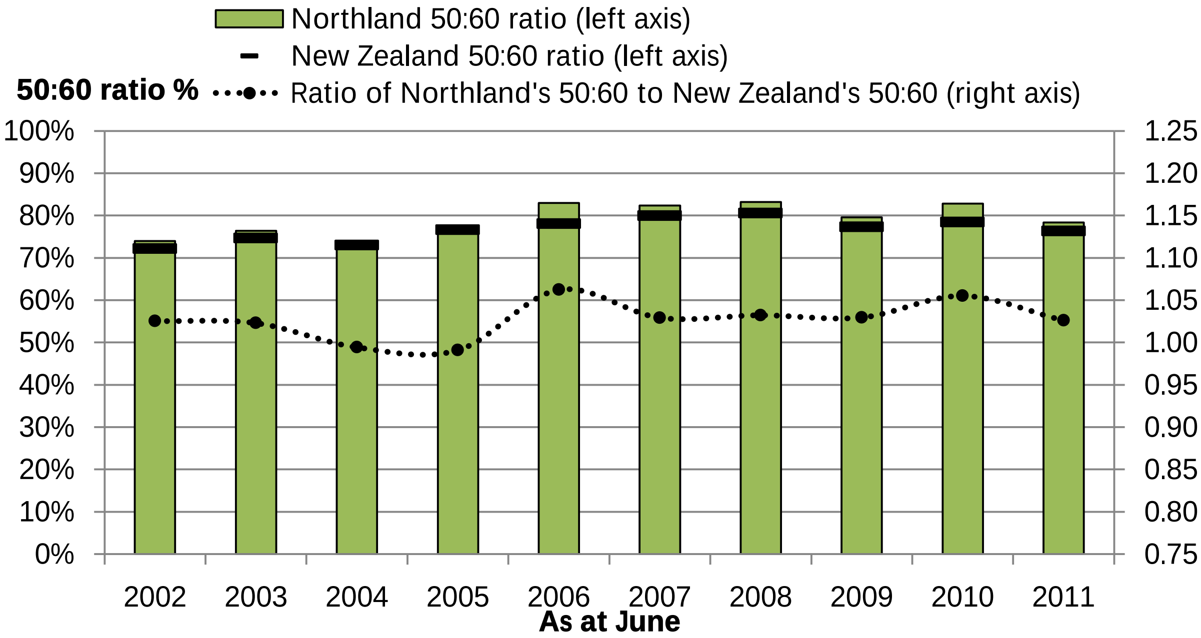
**Figure 21: Low-income households in Northland, 2002-2011**




1. Measured by the proportion of all households with household income below a constant value threshold equivalent to 60% of the 2002 national median household income adjusted each year with the Consumers Price Index (CPI).
2. A household's situation is considered to have improved if its income rises in real terms, irrespective of whether its rising income makes it any closer or further away from the middle household. In the short to medium term the CV measure is considered the more fundamental measure of poverty as it reveals whether the incomes of low-income households are rising or falling in real terms.

Source: Statistics New Zealand, New Zealand Income Survey

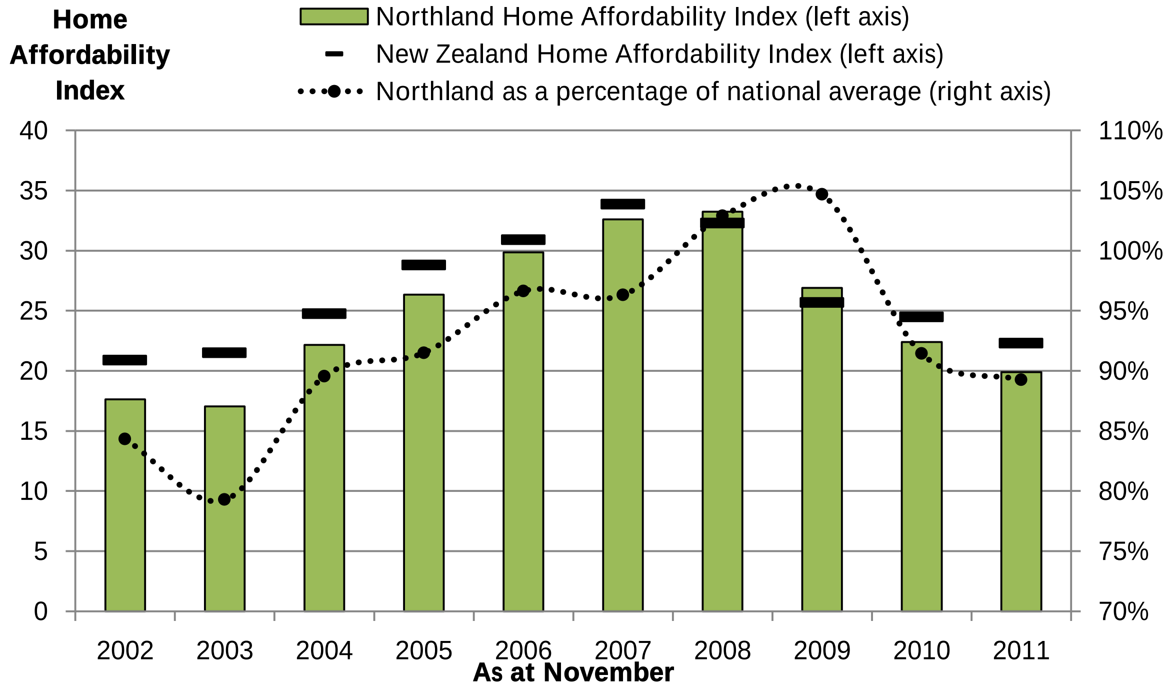
Figure 22: Low-income depth in Northland, 2002-2011




1. The 50:60 ratio percentage is the number of households with income below 50% of the national median household income as a proportion of the number of households with income below 60% of the national median. The lower the proportion the less depth there is, and a negative change indicates an improvement.
Source: Statistics New Zealand, New Zealand Income Survey

The home affordability index uses the median weekly household income data, together with interest rates and house prices, to calculate the expense of purchasing a house in comparison to income availability. According to this index, Northland was the sixth most affordable region in which to purchase a home at the end of 2011, behind Southland, Otago, Taranaki, Manawatu/Wanganui and Hawkes Bay/Gisborne (Table 2 and Figure 23).

Figure 23: Home affordability index in Northland, 2002-2011




1. Home affordability is assessed by comparing the average weekly earnings with the median dwelling price and the mortgage interest rate. The earnings figure represents the money available to the family, or household unit, and the median dwelling price combined with the mortgage interest rates provide an indicator of the expense involved. The lower the index the more affordable is the housing.

Source: Massey University, Home Affordability Report

# References

For a detailed discussion of various low-income indicators and an overview of poverty in New Zealand see Perry, B., 2011. *Household incomes in New Zealand: Trends in indicators of inequality and hardship 1982 to 2010*. www.msd.govt.nz

# Tangata whenua

## Tangata whenua and the environment

***Ko te whakapapa tēnei***
***Mo ngā taonga tuku iho a Io Matua Kore***
***Ka moe a Papatūānuku ia Ranginui***
***Ka puta Ko Tanemahuta, ko Tangaroa***
***Ko Tāwhirimatea, ko Tūmatauenga,***
***Ko Haumie-tiketike Me Rongomatane***
***Ko ēnei ngā taonga tuku iho o rātou ma***
***Ko mātou ngā kaitiaki mo ēnei taonga.***

***Genealogy recites for us our divine***
***Inheritance,***
***Through the union of Earth Mother and Sky***
***Father***
***Who gave birth to our resources***
***And entrusted their care into our hands,***
***The land and the sea***
***The forests and the birds,***
***The animals and plants,***
***All these treasures, bestowed upon us as***
***nurturers...***
***To sustain the people.***

This statement highlights the cultural perspective of tangata whenua on the importance of the natural resources of Northland and links Māori to Papatūānuku and Ranginui through genealogy. For Māori, this link shows that they are part of a complete living system. The close attachment of tangata whenua to their ancestral lands and resources stems from the belief in their common origins and from occupation of the land and use, and establishes tribal identity and continuity.

Tangata whenua have a holistic approach to the management of the environment and its resources. Sections 6, 7 and 8 of the Resource Management Act underpin their values, perspectives and traditions in this regard. Due to this, the council aims to provide opportunities for their involvement in council processes and the management of natural and physical resources.

The council provides funding to support tangata whenua to undertake monitoring projects and to also develop environmental planning documents, to assist it in its role of providing for the relationship of Māori with the environment.

## Tangata whenua in Northland

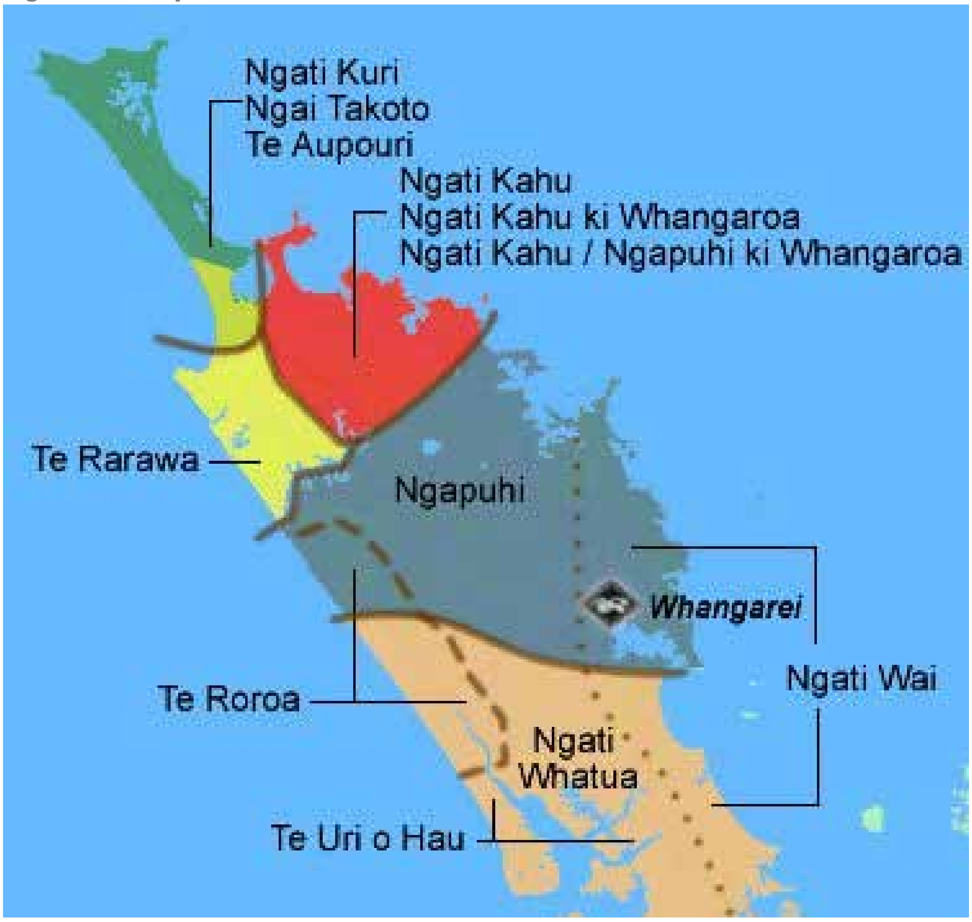
Northland – commonly referred to as Te Tai Tokerau – has nine iwi whose tribal boundary falls either partially or entirely within Te Tai Tokerau; Te Aupōuri, Ngāti Kuri, Ngāti Kahu, Te Rarawa, Ngāi Takoto, Ngāti Kahu/Ngāpuhi ki Whaingaroa, Ngāpuhi, Ngātiwai and Ngati Whātua (Figure 24).

Two treaty settlements have been legislated for – Te Uri o Hau Claims Settlement Act 2002 and the Te Roroa Claims Settlement Act 2008. These take in an area from Ōmāpere in the north to Poutō in the south, across to Mangawhai.

As of July 2012, four Deeds of Settlement had been agreed to between iwi and the Crown with two having been through the ratification process with their respective iwi constituents. One of these Deeds of Settlement has reached its second reading as a Bill before parliament.

The three remaining (one ratified, two working through ratification) are Deeds of Settlement which have been agreed to with Far North iwi of the Te Hiku settlement (consisting of five iwi).

**Figure 24: Map of Tai Tokerau Iwi**




(Source: Te Puni Kokiri, Te Kahui Mangai)

## What do we want for tangata whenua involvement in the management of natural and physical resources?

The operative Regional Policy Statement for Northland details council and community objectives for each natural and physical resource in our region. These sections also include those issues that relate to tangata whenua in regards to the particular resource.

The tangata whenua section of the policy statement differs from other chapters in that it is not a resource area, albeit people are part of the environment. Rather, this section looks at the relationship of Māori with the natural environment and how opportunities are provided for them to be involved in the management of natural and physical resources of the region. It therefore does not have 'anticipated environmental results' as a measure.

The Regional Policy Statement objective for tangata whenua says:

- Involvement of tangata whenua in the management of the natural and physical resources of the region.

# What is being done?

## Iwi management plans

**Launch of the Te Uri o Hau Environmental Plan 2012**

Iwi Management Plan is a common term used to describe resource management plans prepared by iwi, iwi authorities, rūnanga, or hapū (Refer www.qualityplanning.org.nz).

For the purposes of the Resource Management Act, councils are required to: *"...take into account any relevant planning document recognised by an iwi authority"*. Section 2 of the Act describes an iwi authority as: *"...the authority which represents an iwi and which is recognised by that iwi as having authority to do so."*

Such plans provide an overview about the particular group, who they are, a brief historical account and clearly outline their rohe (area of interest). They also provide an outline of cultural values and interests of tangata whenua in relation to natural and physical resources. This then informs council and others about the impact a proposed activity might have on a resource.

Iwi planning documents are a means to better understand what is important to iwi and/or hapū and are a good conduit for involving tangata whenua in the management of the region's resources. However, these documents should not take the place of consultation; rather they should inform the process. The council maintains a register and copies of relevant iwi planning documents that have been presented to council. It also has funding available to assist tangata whenua in preparing the environmental component of their respective plans.

**Table 4: List of iwi websites and planning documents held by the Northland Regional Council**

| Iwi authority | Website | Document |
|---|---|---|
| Te Aupōuri | www.teaupouri.iwi.nz | |
| Ngāti Kuri | www.ngatikuri.iwi.nz | |
| Ngāti Kahu | www.ngatikahu.iwi.nz | |
| Te Rarawa | www.terarawa.co.nz | |
| Ngāi Takoto | www.ngaitakotoiwi.co.nz | |
| Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa | http://trow.maori.nz/ | Iwi Resource Management Plan 2011 |
| Ngāpuhi | www.ngapuhi.iwi.nz | Ngāti Rehia Environmental Management Plan, 2007<br>Ngāti Kuta Ki Te Rawhiti Hapū Management Plan, second edition<br>Ngā Tikanga mo te Taiao o Ngāti Hine, 2008<br>Kororareka Marae Environmental Hapū Management Plan, 2009<br>Draft Ngati Korokoro, Ngati Whaarare me Te Pouka: Hapū Environmental Management Plan, 2006 |
| Ngāti Wai | www.ngatiwai.iwi.nz | Te Iwi o Ngātiwai Iwi Environmental Policy Document, Ngātiwai Trust Board, 2007<br>Ngātiwai Aquaculture Plan, June 2005<br>Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board Environmental Plan, 2007<br>Draft Te Whānau o Rangiwhakahu Iwi Management Plan (withdrawn by Ngātiwai Trust Board) |
| Ngati Whātua | www.ngatiwhatua.iwi.nz | Te Uri o Hau Kaitianga o Te Taiao 2012<br>Draft Ngā Ture mo Te Taiao o Te Roroa: Te Roroa Iwi Environmental Policy Document, 2008 |

## Monitoring

The council has an annual fund which aims to provide Māori with the opportunity to undertake monitoring projects within Northland. This contestable fund has an annual allocation of $15,000. In the past council has funded projects such as macroinvertebrate and water quality, kokako monitoring and shellfish surveys.
During 2011/12 the council helped with funding and staff time to assist a group in the Far North to undertake water and shellfish testing for heavy metals and *Ecoli*. Both of these issues where of significance to this group. The testing was complimentary to testing undertaken with the group some five years earlier.

The council also continues to support the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group with staff resource and funding. This group is led by Te Uri o Hau, a hapū of Ngāti Whātua.

## Information provision

The council actively participates in the regional Iwi / Local Government Chief Executive Forum where local and regional issues of significance are discussed. For example, regional council projects such as the Long term Plan and the Regional Policy Statement, Broadband and the National Secondary Schools Kapa Haka Festival were all projects that gained traction through this regional group.

Council retains its policy of circulating all resource consent applications to interested marae, hapū and iwi on its database. This is over and above the requirement to circulate all notified applications to the two groups with treaty settlement legislation.

Purongo Putaiao is the council panui which is circulated to those Māori groups on the council's database. The panui outlines activities of interest to Māori as well as advising them of any current council projects such as the Regional Policy Statement review or representation review processes. The panui encourages participation in council projects and provides the relevant information to do so.

The council will also hold workshops where and when requested for groups to either update them on council process and policy, changes to relevant legislation or any other matter relating to council business that a group maybe interested in.

## Other involvement

The council encourages tangata whenua involvement in the management of Northland's natural and physical resources by:

- Formalised Memorandum of Understanding with Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust and council.
- Appropriate recognition of treaty settlement legislation and active participation where and when required in pre-settlement negotiations
- Providing for Māori representation on two of council's committees.
- Undertaking specific Māori consultation processes relating to resource management plans and/or by-laws.

# Current state of iwi planning documents

The development of iwi planning documents has been sporadic and as such, this has not been an effective means of involving tangata whenua in the management of natural and physical resources.

There is also a differing perception as to what a plan should contain and this, along with their sporadic development, has made it difficult for council to advance a consistent approach to planning processes that takes into account tangata whenua concerns and issues.

However, the regional council has extensively used the documents it does hold throughout the early stages of developing the new Draft Regional Policy Statement. It also has a system whereby, if an application for consent is in an area where there is a relevant planning document, a flag is raised on the actual record requiring staff to take the relevant plan into account when processing the application.

# Monitoring

Monitoring projects have to align with council's overall work programme. At times the fund and criteria can be too limiting as to the scope of projects funded and the capacity of groups to meet council's stringent criteria.

Council has in the past been keen to work collaboratively with groups to ensure they are able to access the funding. However, council could also look at the scope and criteria for funding so that more projects are funded.

The Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Committee continues to be supported by council. In addition to this, through the memorandum between council and Te Uri o Hau, the groups are actively working together at a governance level to look at and consider more synergies across those with planning responsibilities for the harbour.

## Information provision

The Chief Executive Officer continues to attend the regional council/iwi CEO's forum. It is through this forum that the regional policy statement team was able to engage the Iwi Technicians Forum to assist in the pre-planning stages of this regionally significant document.

It also saw this council commit funding to the hosting committee of the National Secondary Schools' Kapa Haka Competition with the view of working more collaboratively with the organising committee should they wish to, to express an interest in the hosting rights for the National adults' competition, Te Matatini.

## Sharing of information

The council's panui, Purongo Putaiao, the circulation of all resource consent applications to groups and access to technical staff for information and/or workshops continues to be appreciated by tangata whenua and recognised as being a core foundation of a relationship.

## Other involvement

During 2012, the Memorandum of Understanding between Te Uri o Hau and council was updated and reaffirmed at a ceremony held in Whāngārei. This builds on the commitment to work together to find better synergies across the planning functions of the councils with statutory obligations which impact on the management of the harbour.

Over a number of years, council has taken an active role in the formation of possible redress mechanisms as resolutions for treaty settlements for the iwi in the Far North. This has culminated in the establishment of a Statutory Board for Te Oneroa a Tohe (90 Mile Beach) which will be implemented once treaty settlement legislation is enacted and criteria for the board met.

## What has worked well?

- The circulation of resource consent applications by the council is seen as an ideal way of providing information on activities in the rohe of tangata whenua and is strongly supported.
- Having iwi liaison staff available as the first point of contact, to act as mediators and to provide assistance to tangata whenua is considered a good service.
- Advice, funding and support from the regional council and some of the district councils to assist iwi and hapū to develop management plans, along with the ability for councils to co-fund projects. Training for regional council staff on basic tikanga (protocol) and Treaty of Waitangi in order to provide them with the knowledge to better understand issues of concern for Māori.

## What has not worked well?

- While the policy of circulating all resource consent applications to iwi is appreciated and supported, this still remains a reactive process for both Māori and council. Iwi also consider this to be information sharing, not consultation.
- Rules and processes of councils in regard to notification of consent applications remain inconsistent across the region.
- Inconsistency across councils and differing expectations (tangata whenua/ council) as to how to determine if tangata whenua are an affected party.

## References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