

CITY PROFILE SNAPSHOT - 9 YEAR PLAN 2025-34

Department: City Development and Enterprise Dunedin

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1 The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of the city profile snapshot supporting information that has been developed for the 9 year plan 2025-2034 (the Plan).
- 2 The city profile snapshot has been developed by City Development and Enterprise Dunedin.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

- a) **Approves**, for the purposes of developing the 9 year plan 2025-34 and consulting with the community, the city profile in Attachment A.

BACKGROUND

- 3 The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) requires all local authorities to develop a 9 year plan ('the Plan').
- 4 Schedule 10 of the LGA specifies the minimum information and content in the Plan; this includes significant forecasting assumptions.
- 5 A report similar to this one was noted by Council at the meeting on 25 September 2023. At the time it was in preparation for the 10 year plan 2024-34 that has been superseded by the 9 year plan 2025-34.

DISCUSSION

City Profile

- 6 The Dunedin 2024 city profile (Attachment A) provides a snapshot of the social, cultural, economic and environmental demographics of the city. The profile outlines the makeup and trends of the population and provides projections for what Dunedin could look like over the next 30 years. The profile also provides information such as residents' perception on various topics, Dunedin's major religions, unemployment rate, and climate change emissions and impacts. The snapshot also includes macro-economic information such as inflation, growth and interest rates track, contained in the released Budget Economic Fiscal Update (BEFU).
- 7 The purpose of the city profile is to provide a picture of Dunedin's current state, trends and future projections. This information is intended to help inform planning and decisions relating

to the Plan. The attached city profile provides draft content for approval. The draft content will be formatted appropriately as consistent with other 9 year plan publications.

OPTIONS

Option One – Supporting documentation is approved. Recommended Option

- 8 Council approves the supporting documentation for development of, and inclusion in, the draft 9 year plan.

Advantages

- The documentation will be used to further inform the development of the 9 year plan.

Disadvantages

- There are no identified disadvantages.

Option Two – Supporting documentation is not approved.

- 9 Council does not approve the supporting documentation and requires further work be undertaken to amend as necessary.

Advantages

- There are no identified advantages.

Disadvantages

- Further work would be required to amend the supporting documentation, which would put further pressure on meeting time frames for the development of the 9 year plan.

NEXT STEPS

- 10 If approved, the supporting documentation will be included in, and used to support the development of, the draft 9 year plan.

Signatories

Author:	Cameron Wood - Team Leader Strategy, Monitoring and Research David Lea - Economic Development Advisor
Authoriser:	Dr Anna Johnson - City Development Manager Fraser Liggett - Economic Development Programme Manager David Ward - General Manager, 3 Waters and Transition

Attachments

	Title	Page
A	Draft City Snapshot - Profile of Dunedin to City to support 9 year plan	

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Fit with purpose of Local Government

This decision enables democratic local decision making and action by, and on behalf of communities, and promotes the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of the Dunedin communities, taking a sustainable development approach.

Fit with strategic framework

	Contributes	Detracts	Not applicable
Social Wellbeing Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic Development Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environment Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts and Culture Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Waters Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Future Development Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Integrated Transport Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks and Recreation Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other strategic projects/policies/plans	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The 9 year plan contributes to all of the objectives and priorities of the strategic framework as it describes the Council's activities, the community outcomes, and provides a long term focus for decision making and coordination of the Council's resources, as well as a basis for community accountability.

Māori Impact Statement

The adoption of the Māori Strategic Framework signals Council's commitment to mana whenua and to its obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi. Mana whenua and Māori will be involved in pre-engagement and have an opportunity to engage with the 9 year plan consultation process through a series of planned hui.

Sustainability

As part of the 9 year plan, several pieces of work are underway to give effect to Council's commitment to sustainability, including work on the city portrait and Sustainable Development Goals, work to give effect to the Zero Carbon Policy, and the adoption of the Māori Strategic Framework.

Zero Carbon

The city portrait reflects current information on city emissions.

LTP/Annual Plan / Financial Strategy /Infrastructure Strategy

This report provides an update on the development of the 9 year plan. The 9 year plan project includes specific workstreams that will review Council's financial and infrastructure strategies to ensure they are appropriate for the future.

Financial considerations

Financial considerations (including financial sustainability) will be key considerations in the development of the 9 year plan.

Significance

The 9 year plan will include community engagement and public consultation. Pre-engagement initiatives are being planned.

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Engagement – external

The 9 year plan presents an opportunity for Council to engage fully with the community across a range of issues.

Engagement - internal

Staff from across council are involved in the development of the 9 year plan.

Risks: Legal / Health and Safety etc.

There are legal, reputational, financial and strategic risk if the 9 year plan is not well executed, or the public do not trust that the Council is showing good governance, prudent strategic and operational leadership.

Conflict of Interest

There are no known conflicts of interest.

Community Boards

Community Boards will be engaged and consulted with as part of the 9 year plan.

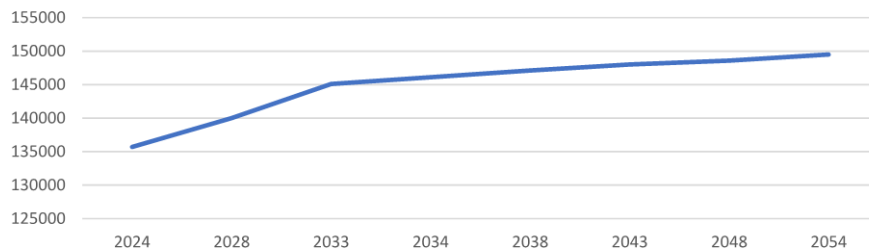
Draft City Snapshot

Profile of Dunedin City to support 9YP

Population

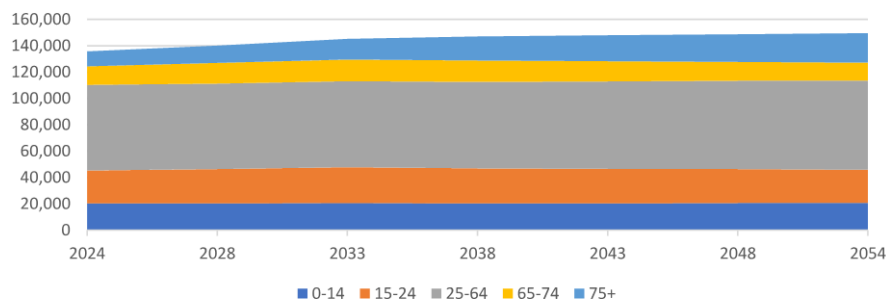
- Dunedin's population is estimated as 136,000 in 2024 and is projected to grow to 149,500 in 2054.

Dunedin's total population over time



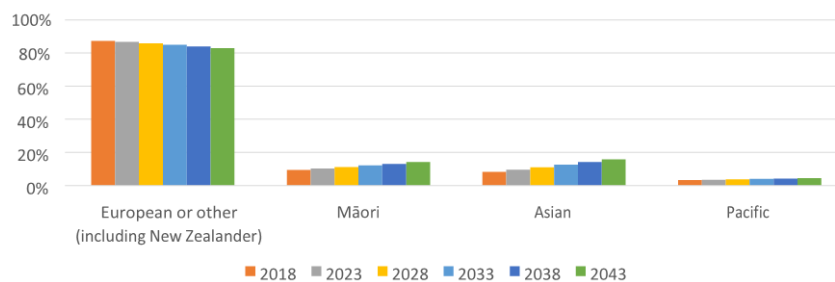
- In 2024, 33% of Dunedin's population is aged 24 and under, compared to 31% of NZ's population. A 42% increase in Dunedin's 65 years and over population is projected by 2054. A 4% increase in the 25 – 64 age group is projected by 2054.

Dunedin's age groups over time



- Dunedin's population is becoming more diverse, and by 2043 the proportions of Dunedin's population that identify as Māori, Asian or Pacific people are projected to increase by 4%, 6% and 1% respectively.

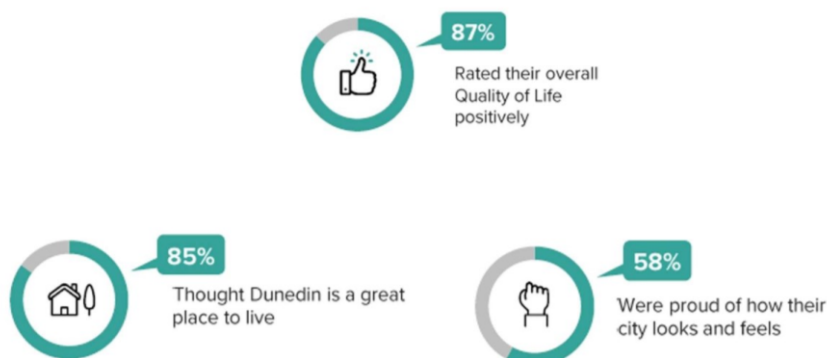
Dunedin's ethnicity make up over time



Source for the three graphs: (StatsNZ)

Social

- Dunedin residents' top five reasons for increased quality of life: Financial wellbeing, work related, relationships, lifestyle, and health and wellbeing.
- Dunedin's youth are far more likely to experience mental health issues and feeling isolated.
- Dunedin's aging population are far more likely to experience stress.



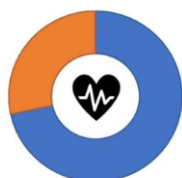
(Source: Quality of Life Survey 2022)

- The number of Dunedin residents with no qualification has declined from 16.4% in 2013 to 13.4% in 2023. While the percentage for Māori residents has declined from 20% in 2013 to 13.4% in 2023, the overall number of Māori residents without qualification remains similar (1,590).
- The number of Dunedin residents with NCEA level 3 or higher education achievers has increased by 6.3% from 2013 to 2023, with 27.3% of Dunedin residents in full-time study in 2023, more than the NZ average of 20.9%.



(Source: StatsNZ 2023 Census)

- Dunedin residents rate their general health highly, but Māori residents are less likely to rate their general health as highly as the average residents. There is also a significant drop in health rating for Māori residents (from 72% in 2020 to 63% in 2022).



72% of Dunedin residents rate their general health highly

(Source: Quality of Life 2022)



63% of Māori rate their general health highly

(Source: Quality of Life 2022)

- Dunedin residents are concerned about racism and discrimination in the city, particularly Māori residents.



66% of Dunedin residents consider racism or discrimination is a problem in the city

(Source: Quality of Life 2022)



77% of Māori consider racism or discrimination is a problem in the city

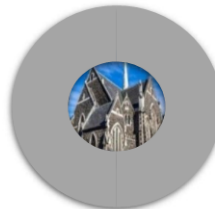
(Source: Quality of Life 2022)

Culture

- Dunedin residents have reported a high level of satisfaction and visitation of key public arts and culture sites in the city (Resident opinion Survey 2023-2024).
- Dunedin has been designated New Zealand's first UNESCO City of Literature.



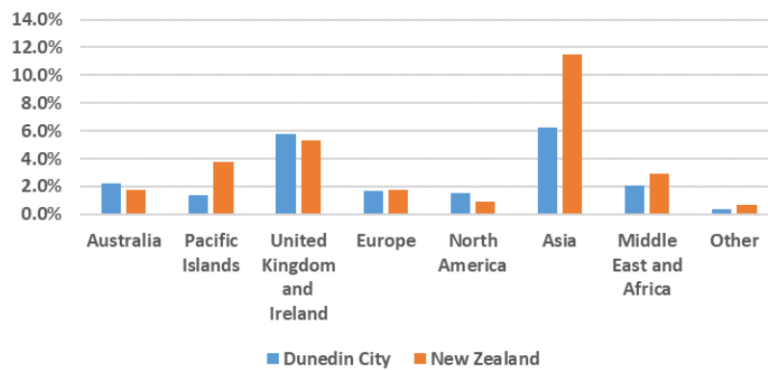
Dunedin has 3 Marae, and many other locations of significance to Mana Whenua



Dunedin has 909 protected historic buildings

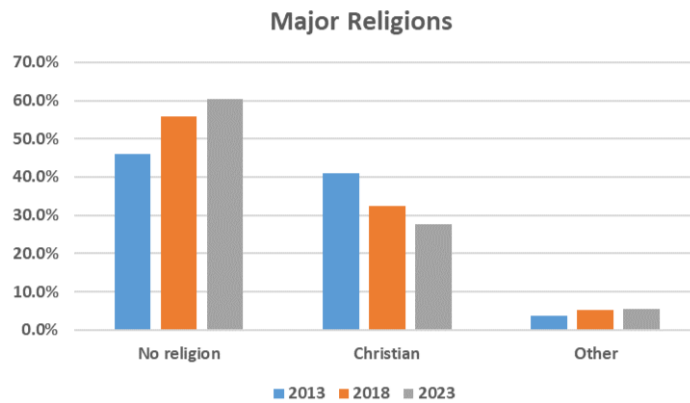
- Dunedin's population consists of 2.2% Australian, 5.8% Britain and 1.5% North American born residents compared to NZ's overall population consisting of 1.7%, 5.3% and 0.9% respectively.
- Dunedin has resettled 920 former refugees since 2016 with a majority coming from Syria, Afghanistan, and Palestine.

Overseas born Dunedin residents country of origin breakdown

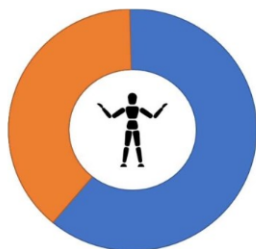


(Source: StatsNZ 2023 Census)

- Just over 60% of Dunedin residents now no longer identify with an organised religion (45.9% in 2013 vs 56% in 2018).
- Christianity remains Dunedin's largest religious identity (27.6% in 2018), however Dunedin is also home to followers of Buddhism (1.2%), Hinduism (1%), Islam (1.2%), Judaism (0.1%) and traditional Māori beliefs (0.3%).

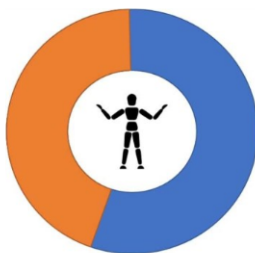


- Just over half of Dunedin residents feel accepted and value in their identity.
- Two third of Dunedin residents can participate, perform, or attend activities or groups that align with their culture.



66% of Dunedin residents can participate, perform or attend activities or groups that align with their culture

(Source: Quality of Life 2022)

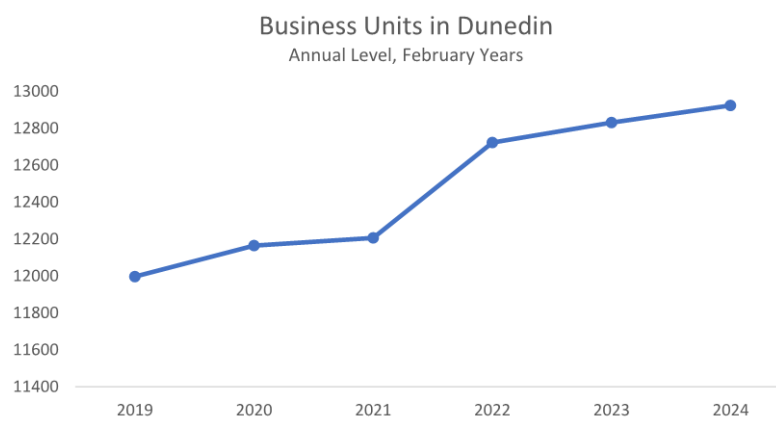


59% of Dunedin residents feel accepted and valued in their identity

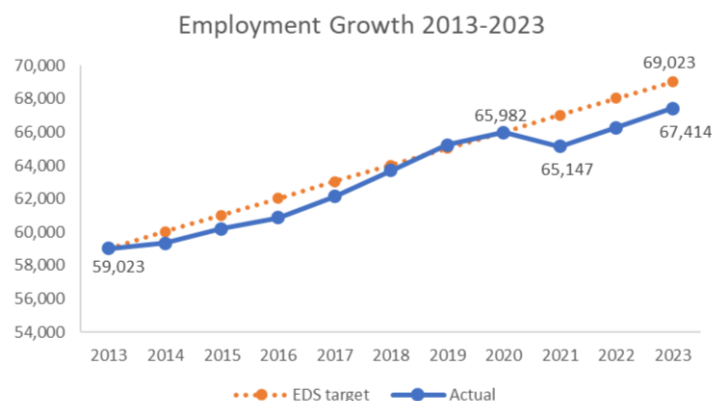
(Source: Quality of Life 2022)

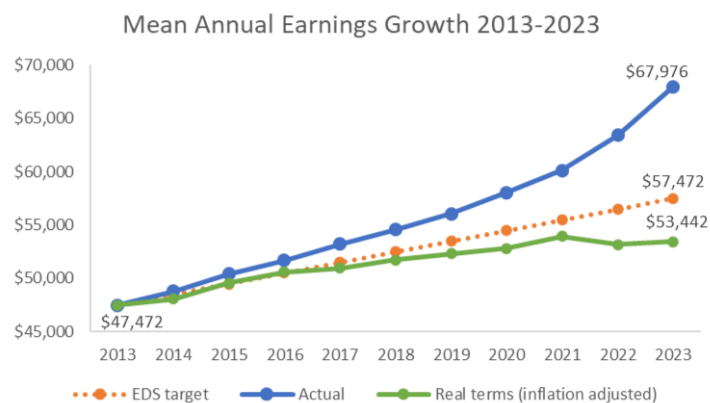
Economy

- Dunedin's provisional Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was approximately \$7.7Bn in the year to September 2024. Provisional GDP growth was -0.3% for the year ending September 2024 compared with 0.3% regionally and 0.0% nationally.
- Over the last 10-years (2014-23) GDP has grown on average 2.5% compared to an average of 0.9% for the preceding period 2004-2013.
- High value knowledge-based services comprise 29.0% of Dunedin's economy compared with 27.0% in the national economy.
- As of February 2024, there were 12,942 registered businesses in Dunedin. An increase of 0.9% or 93 businesses over February 2023.



- Unemployment was 4.6% as of September 2024. Compared to the national average of 4.4%. Employment growth was zero percent (0%) over the year from September 2023. This compared to 1.2% growth nationally over the same period, and 1.7% in the Otago region. In the 10-year period between 2014-23 Dunedin employment has increased by 8,082. Employment over the 10 Year Plan period is shown below.



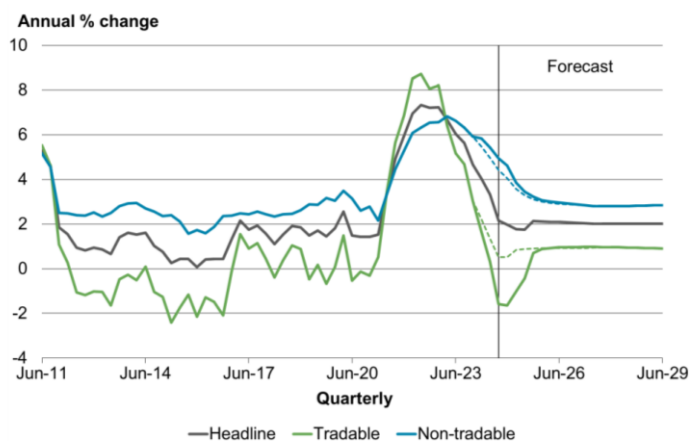


- Macro-economic pressures will continue to influence the Dunedin economy.

National Context

- The Half Year Economic and Fiscal Update (HYEFU) notes that inflation is currently at 2.1%, with the forecast that inflation will remain within the Reserve Bank range of 1-3% through 2025 to 2029.

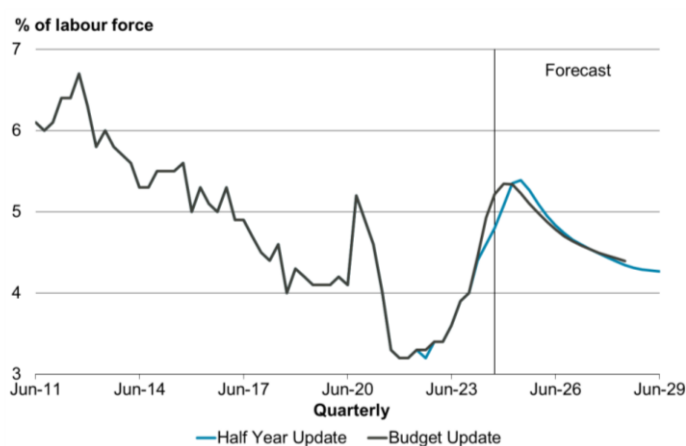
Table 4. Consumer Price Index (CPI) Inflation



- Please note:
 - Tradeable inflation: includes exports such as agriculture and fisheries
 - Non-Tradeable inflation: includes construction, real estate, public and government services

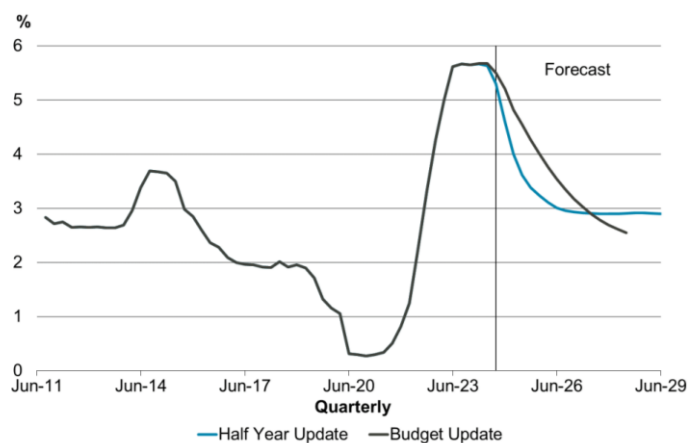
- Slower forecast economic growth is expected to reduce labour demand over the next two years with an expectation for unemployment to rise to 5.4% in the June 2025 quarter before reducing to 4.6% by March 2027.

Table 5. Unemployment Rate



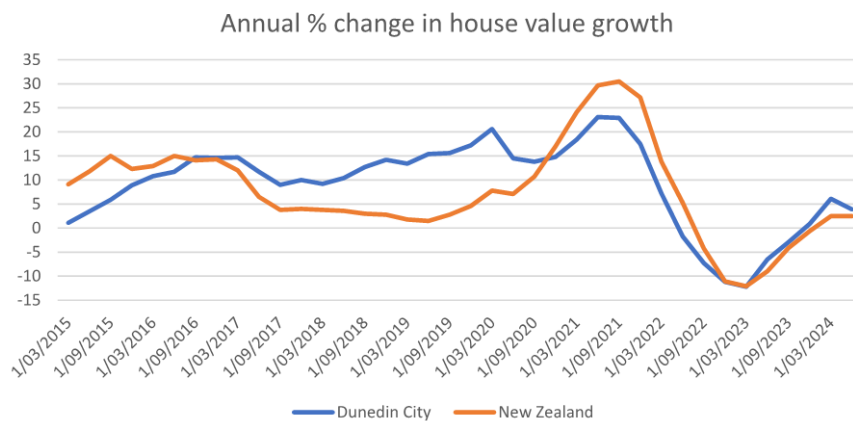
- The Half Yearly Economic Fiscal Updates (HYEFU) notes that interest rates have now peaked and will ease over the next 12-24 months, dropping below 3% by late 2026/early 2027.

Table 6. 90-day interest rates



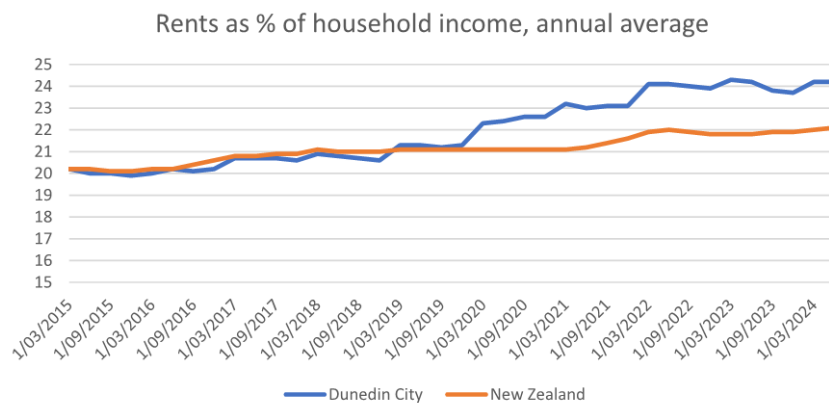
Housing

- After a period of significant increases, Dunedin's house values had been in decline (comparing year on year) between June 2022 to September 2023. However, this is now changing with median house values in June 2024 (compared to June 2023) up 3.9% in Dunedin. This was higher than the New Zealand average of 2.5% for the same period.
- While housing affordability has been a growing issue, the average house value in Dunedin during the June 2024 quarter was \$642,631 compared to \$923,899 in New Zealand.



(Source: Infometrics – Quarterly Economic Monitor)

- Dunedin's rent as a percentage of household income has been rising steadily over the last four years. As at June 2024 (compared to June 2023), people renting spend on average 24.2% of their household income on rent. This was higher than the New Zealand average of 22.1% for the same period.
- The average residential rents (per week), year to June 2024 for Dunedin was \$498 compared to the average for New Zealand of \$568.



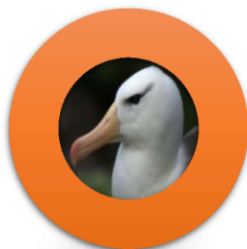
(Source: Infometrics – Quarterly Economic Monitor)

- There is an estimated need of 460 new homes per year to accommodate the city's estimated growth over 2024-34.
- Over the past five years, there has been an annual average of 483 new homes consented and 387 new homes constructed in Dunedin.

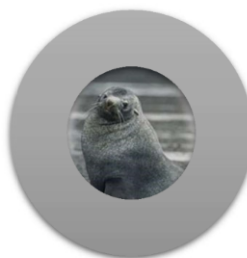


Environment

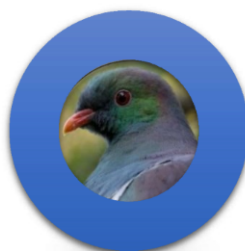
- 11% of Dunedin city's land (~36,000 hectares) is protected for its conservation value.
- Dunedin has 30 native plants and species that are not found anywhere else in the world.
- Dunedin has 4,000 hectares of open spaces.



Dunedin has the world's only mainland albatross colony



Dunedin is home to some of New Zealand's major penguin and seal colonies

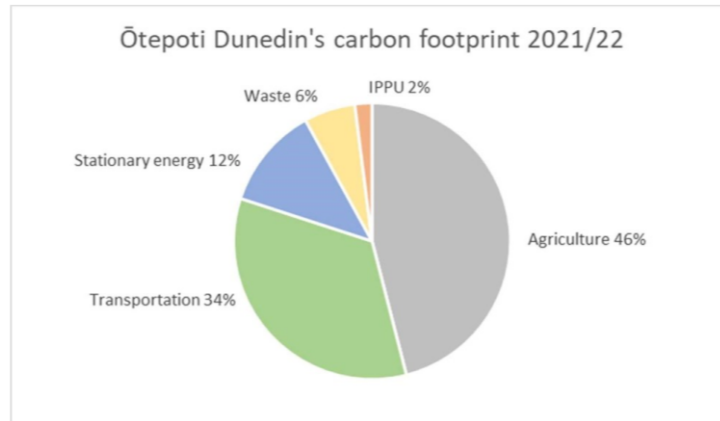


In 2021, Dunedin was the city with the greatest number of kererū observed per capita (26.5 per 1000)

- The entire Dunedin City area is Wāhi Tupuna (ancestral landscape) as it was used and valued by Manawhenua. Wāhi Tupuna sites include settlements, battle sites, burial places, mahika kai areas and resources, trails and significant landscape features such as peaks.

Dunedin's emissions snapshot

- In 2021/22 Dunedin emitted approximately 1.5 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e)¹, and approximately 0.5 million tCO₂e was sequestered by forests and vegetation.
- With the offset by sequestration, Dunedin's net emissions for 2021/2022 were just over 1 million tCO₂e.
- Emissions from agriculture and transport are the two largest contributors to Dunedin's carbon footprint.



Source: AECOM Dunedin City Community Carbon Footprint 2022

Dunedin's Zero Carbon targets

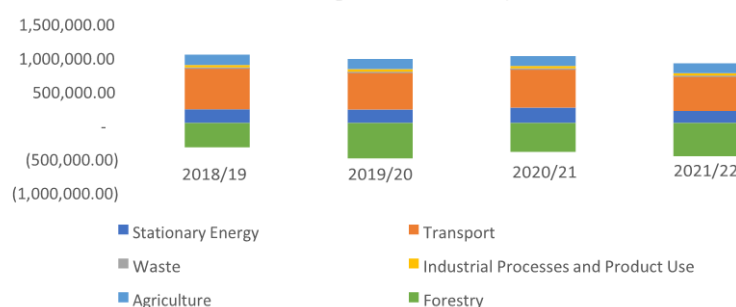
- The DCC has set two overarching targets for Dunedin's emissions.
 - Net zero carbon by 2030 (excluding biogenic methane):
 Net zero carbon means that any greenhouse gases (GHG) emitted into the atmosphere in Dunedin (excluding biogenic methane) are balanced out by the amount of GHG sequestered from the atmosphere.
 - Reduce biogenic methane emissions:
 Dunedin's biogenic methane reduction targets are the same as the central government targets:
 - 10% reduction from 2017 levels by 2030.
 - 24-47% reduction from 2017 levels by 2050.

¹ Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) is a standard unit to measure quantities of greenhouse gases (GHG). There are many types of GHG, the most well-known type being carbon dioxide (CO₂), which other types of GHG are compared against for their quantities to be expressed in a standardised way – tCO₂e.

Change in Dunedin's GHG emissions (excluding biogenic methane)

- Dunedin's 'baseline year' for its net zero target – the year against which progress is measured - is 2018/19. Between 2018/19 and 2021/22, Dunedin's gross emissions (excluding biogenic methane) decreased by 13%, from 1,011,469 tCO₂e to 883,830 tCO₂e. Transport emissions decreased by 16% over the period, accounting for 75% of this reduction in gross emissions. Drops in on-road, marine, air and rail transport emissions contributed to this reduction. Other key changes included a 12% reduction in emissions from stationary energy due to a reduction in coal consumption and the national electricity grid being more renewable.
- Sequestration increased by 36%, resulting in an overall 40% reduction in the city's net emissions (excluding biogenic methane).

Change in Dunedin city's GHG emissions (tCO₂e, excl. biogenic methane)

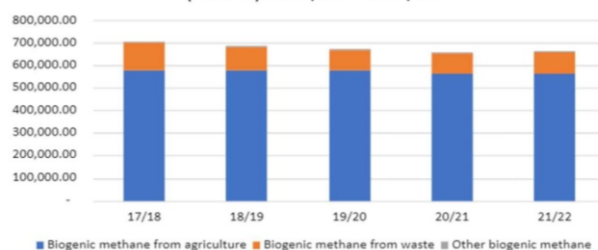


Source: AECOM Dunedin City Community Carbon Footprint 2022.

Change in Dunedin's biogenic methane emissions

- Biogenic methane in Dunedin originates primarily from livestock and waste breaking down in landfills. Dunedin's 'baseline year' for its biogenic methane target is 2017. Between 2017/18 and 2021/22, Dunedin's biogenic methane emissions decreased by 7.6%, from 704,931 tCO₂e to 658,669 tCO₂e.
- Improved landfill gas management and reduction in emissions from closed landfills accounted for 65% of this reduction, with changes in livestock numbers accounting for 36%.

Change in Dunedin's biogenic methane emissions (tCO₂e) 2017/18 – 2021/22



Source: AECOM Dunedin City Community Carbon Footprint 2022.

Climate Change

- A variety of changes in temperature, rainfall and sea level rise will impact the city and natural environment in different ways that need to be prepared for.



By 2090, low lying areas of Dunedin will experience at least 0.5 metres of sea level rise

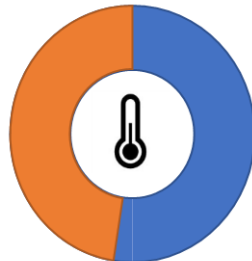
(Sources: Otago Climate Change predictions)



By 2090, Dunedin will see a 5% to 13% increase in yearly rainfall

(Sources: Otago Climate Change predictions)

- South Dunedin is a vibrant and diverse community that over 10,000 people call home. It is flat and conveniently located, and home to many businesses, schools and critical infrastructure residents and the wider city relies on. South Dunedin was built on land reclaimed from a coastal wetland. This means that groundwater is already close to the surface and makes it hard for water to drain away when it rains.
- South Dunedin has nearly 2700 homes that lie less than 50cm above the mean spring high tide mark – more than anywhere else in New Zealand – and over 70% are less than half that elevation.
- More than half of Dunedin residents worry about climate change.



56% of Dunedin residents worry about climate change

(Source: Quality of Life 2022)