



# Christchurch City Fact Pack 2004



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Monitoring and Research Team  
**Research and Policy Development Unit**  
**Christchurch City Council**  
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Christchurch  
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## Introduction

Christchurch City Fact Pack 2004 aims to provide answers to commonly asked questions about Christchurch City. It covers a wide range of topics and includes information relating to the City's history, its population, natural and physical environment, and aspects of its economy.

Information used in this publication has been obtained from Statistics New Zealand, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health Information Service and a number of Christchurch City Council sources.

### How to View this Report

Christchurch City Fact Pack 2004 is available on the Christchurch City Council web site at <http://www.ccc.govt.nz/publications/factpack/>

For further information about Christchurch City see:

- *Christchurch City Social Trends Report 2003*

<http://www.ccc.govt.nz/reports/2003/socialtrendsreport/>

- *Christchurch City Environmental Trends Report 2003*

<http://www.ccc.govt.nz/reports/2003/environmentaltrendsreport/>

- *Christchurch City Trends*

<http://www.ccc.govt.nz/CityTrends/>

- *Profile of Christchurch City Residents, 2001*

<http://www.ccc.govt.nz/publications/CityProfile/2001/>

- *2001 Census Information, Christchurch*

<http://www.ccc.govt.nz/Census/>

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### Contacts

For more information please contact Sonya Gedson or Fleur Thorpe:

Christchurch City Council

Phone: (03) 941-8851

PO Box 237,

Email: [sonya.gedson@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:sonya.gedson@ccc.govt.nz)

Christchurch,

Phone: (03) 941-8012

NEW ZEALAND.

Email: [fleur.thorpe@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:fleur.thorpe@ccc.govt.nz)

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## General Information

- Christchurch City is located on the east coast of New Zealand's South Island (Map 1). Neighbouring territorial authorities are the Waimakariri, Selwyn and Banks Peninsula districts (Map 2).
- At March 2001, 8.5 per cent of New Zealand's Usually Resident Population lived in Christchurch. Christchurch has the second largest population of all New Zealand territorial authorities after Auckland and is the largest urban centre in the South Island.
- Christchurch City has a land area of 45,240 hectares.
- Christchurch City was named after Oxford University's Christchurch College, which was attended by John Robert Godley, who is regarded as the founder of Canterbury.
- The Maori name for Christchurch is Otautahi. The name is derived from a Ngai Tahu chief, Tautahi, who built a settlement on the banks of the Otakaro (Avon River) in the Avon Loop area.
- Christchurch City is known as the Garden City due to its expansive parks and public gardens.
- Christchurch's sister cities are: Adelaide, South Australia; Christchurch, England; Kurashiki, Japan; Seattle, USA; Province of Gansu, Republic of China; and Songpa-Gu, South Korea.
- Canterbury Anniversary Day is 16 December. It was on this day in 1850 that the first two Canterbury Association ships arrived in Port Cooper, Lyttleton.
- Christchurch became New Zealand's first city by Royal Charter in 1856.



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## Historical Information

- Maori oral tradition states that Maori first inhabited the Christchurch area around 1,000 years ago. The iwi (tribe) Ngai Tahu claim traditional rights over the vast majority of the South Island (Te Waipounamu). This iwi has their origins in three main migration streams; the Waitaha, the Ngati Mamoe and the Ngai Tahu peoples. From the arrival of the Waitaha people, the present area of Christchurch became an important mahinga kai or food gathering area.
- A significant Maori settlement, Puari, once stood in the area now occupied by the Canterbury Provincial Council Buildings and Law Courts. An urupa or burial site for Puari was in the Cambridge Terrace/ Hereford Street area where the former public library is located.
- The first European settlers on the Canterbury Plains arrived in 1840 but, by 1841, had abandoned the settlement near what is now Hagley Park. William and John Deans established a farm at Riccarton in 1843. Farm buildings and two dwellings remain today.
- The City of Christchurch, conceived in the late 1840s in England, was planned as a model Anglican (church) settlement. It was established as a colony in 1850. These English links are still visible in the design of older buildings and gardens.
- The first four Canterbury Association ships, the Charlotte Jane, Randolph, Sir George Seymour and Cressy, arrived in December 1850. A memorial to these ships and settlers is situated in the south-west quadrant of Cathedral Square.
- The original municipal district was bounded by the Four Avenues; Bealey Avenue, Moorhouse Avenue, Fitzgerald Avenue and Rolleston Avenue. It was laid out in a north/south, east/west grid pattern. The City has subsequently grown over time.
- On 1 November 1989 the City was amalgamated with Waimari District, Riccarton Borough, Heathcote County and parts of the Paparua and Eyre Counties to form the existing territorial local authority.
- Local government elections occur every three years. At the next election (October 9th 2004), Christchurch City will be divided into six wards for administration purposes and will contain approximately 52,000 people. The six wards will also form six community boards, with two councillors and five community board members elected from each ward.

## The City's People

### Population Change

- An estimated 338,800 people lived in Christchurch City as at June 2003. An additional 78,000 people lived in the surrounding territorial authorities (Map 2, Table 1).
- Between 1996 and 2001, the City's population increased by 2.3 per cent (a rate of 0.5 per cent per annum).
- Migration of people from overseas to Christchurch has become a major factor in the City's population growth over the past decade. In the year to March 2003, Christchurch City had a net external migration gain of 3,328 people.
- Between 1996 and 2001, Christchurch experienced a net migration gain of 6,612 people who moved to Christchurch from other parts of New Zealand.
- The City's population is expected to reach 359,400 people by the year 2021. However, growth during this period will occur at a progressively slower rate (Figure 1).

### Age Structure

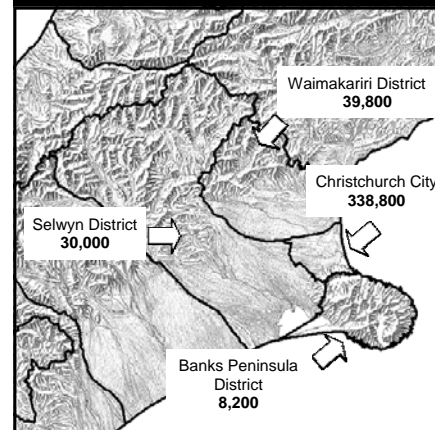
- Christchurch City has an ageing population. This trend is reflected in the City's growing median age which increased from 28 in 1976 to 35 years in 2001. It is forecast to increase to 41 years in 2021 (Figures 2, 3 and 4).

### Ethnicity

- Christchurch's population is predominantly European. Proportionately, the City has fewer Maori and Pacific Islanders than New Zealand as a whole (Table 3, Figure 5).

### Education

**Map 2. Population Estimates of Christchurch City and Surrounding**



- In 2001, 64.9 per cent of Christchurch residents aged 15 years and over had a secondary school, vocational or university qualification, compared with 62.2 per cent nationally (Table 4, Figure 6).

### **Households**

- In March 2001, there were 123,291 occupied dwellings in Christchurch City. This number is projected to increase to 146,800 in 2021 (Table 5).
- The average number of people per household in 2001 was 2.5. This is expected to decrease to 2.4 people per household in 2021 (Figure 7).
- In 2001, the most common household type comprised one family (64.4 per cent) (Table 6, Figure 8). The dominant family type was the two-parent family, comprising 39.9 per cent of all families (Table 7, Figure 9).

### **Family Income**

- In 2001 the median annual income for Christchurch families was just under \$45,000. Nearly a third (28.1 per cent) of families received \$30,000 or less and 37.4 per cent of families received \$50,000 or more (Table 8, Figure 10).



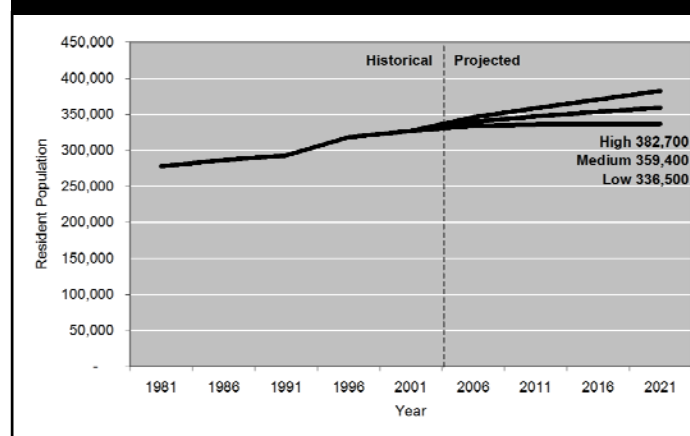
## Population Change

**Table 1. Population Change for Selected Local Authorities, 1996 - 2001**

Local Authority	2001	Change 1996-2001	% Change 1996-2001
Auckland	367,734	21,966	6.4
<b>Christchurch</b>	<b>316,227</b>	<b>7,200</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Manukau	283,200	28,923	11.4
North Shore	184,821	12,657	7.4
Waitakere	168,750	13,185	8.5
Wellington	163,824	6,105	3.9
Hamilton	114,921	6,495	6.0
Dunedin	114,342	-3,801	-3.2
Lower Hutt	95,478	-393	-0.4
Palmerston North	72,033	-1,062	-1.5
Napier	53,661	198	0.4
Invercargill	49,830	-3,378	-6.3
Porirua	47,370	744	1.6
Nelson	41,568	1,329	3.3
Upper Hutt	36,369	-345	-0.9

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census of Population and Dwellings, 1996 and 2001.

**Fig 1. Historical and Projected Population, 1981– 2021**



Note: Historical figures are estimates. Pre 1996 figures are for the March year and exclude undercount. Post 1996 figures are for the June year and include undercount.  
Source: Statistics New Zealand, Population Estimates and Subnational Population Projections (Adjusted 2001 Base).

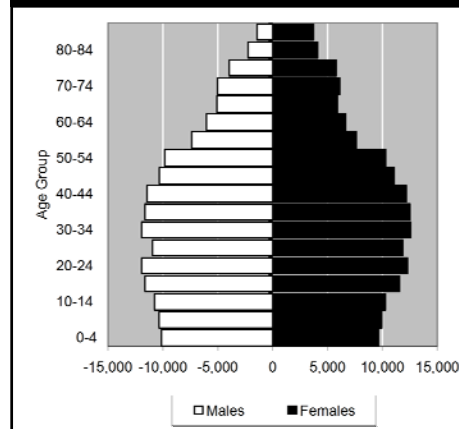
## Age Structure

**Table 2. Age Structure, 2001**

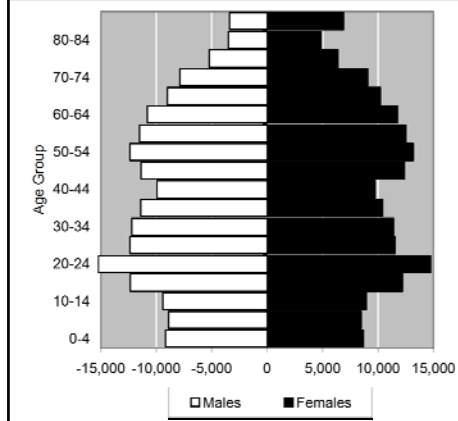
Age group	Under 15	15-24	25-39	40-64	Over 65	Total
Number	61,128	47,421	71,493	92,847	43,329	<b>316,224</b>
Per cent	19.3	15.0	22.6	29.4	13.7	<b>100</b>

Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

**Fig 2. Age and Gender, 2001**

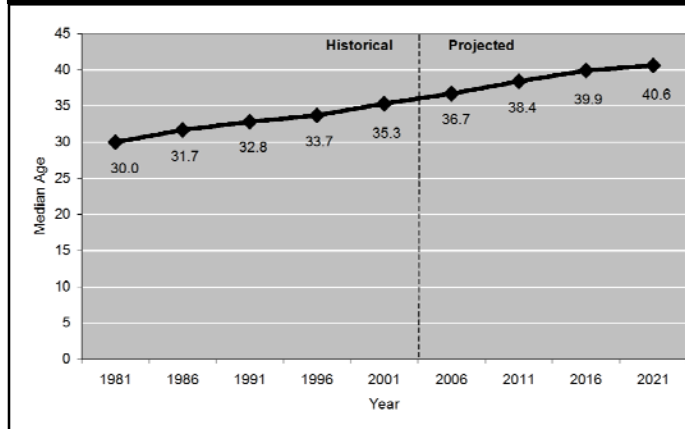


**Fig 3. Projected Age and Gender, 2021**



Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings and Population Projection (Adjusted 2001 Base).

**Fig 4. Historical and Projected Median Age, 1981– 2021**



Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings, and Population Projections (Adjusted 2001 Base).

## Ethnicity

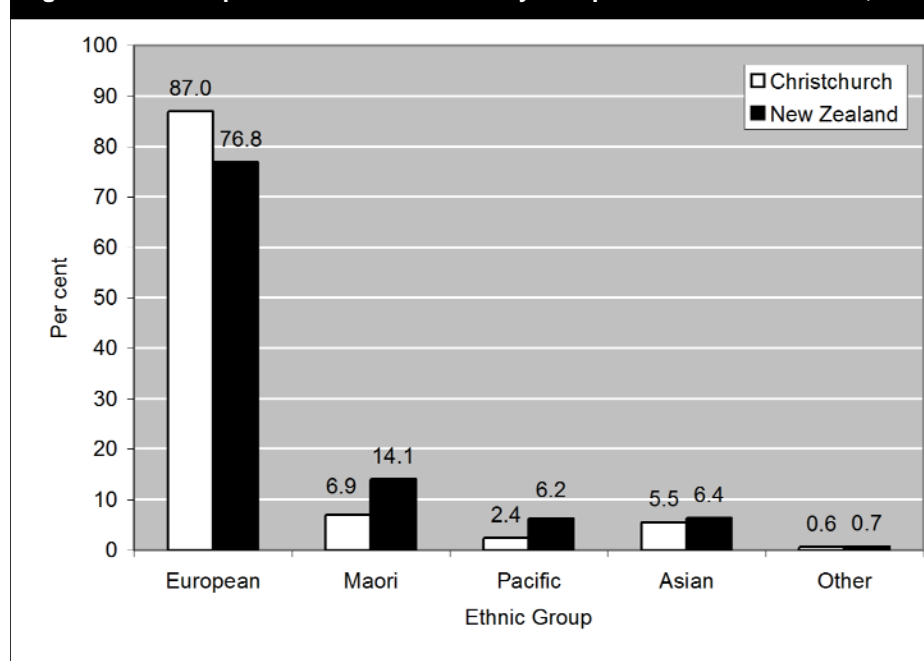
**Table 3. Ethnic Composition (Total Responses\*), 2001**

Ethnic Group	Number	Per cent
European	275,085	87.0
NZ Maori	21,960	6.9
Pacific Island	7,617	2.4
Asian	17,535	5.5
Other	2,046	0.6
Not Elsewhere Included	8,883	2.8
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>316,227</b>	

\* Total responses includes all the people who stated each ethnic group, whether as their only ethnic group or one of several ethnic groups. Where a person reported more than one ethnic group, they have been counted in each applicable group.

Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

**Fig 5. Ethnic Composition: Christchurch City Compared with New Zealand, 2001**

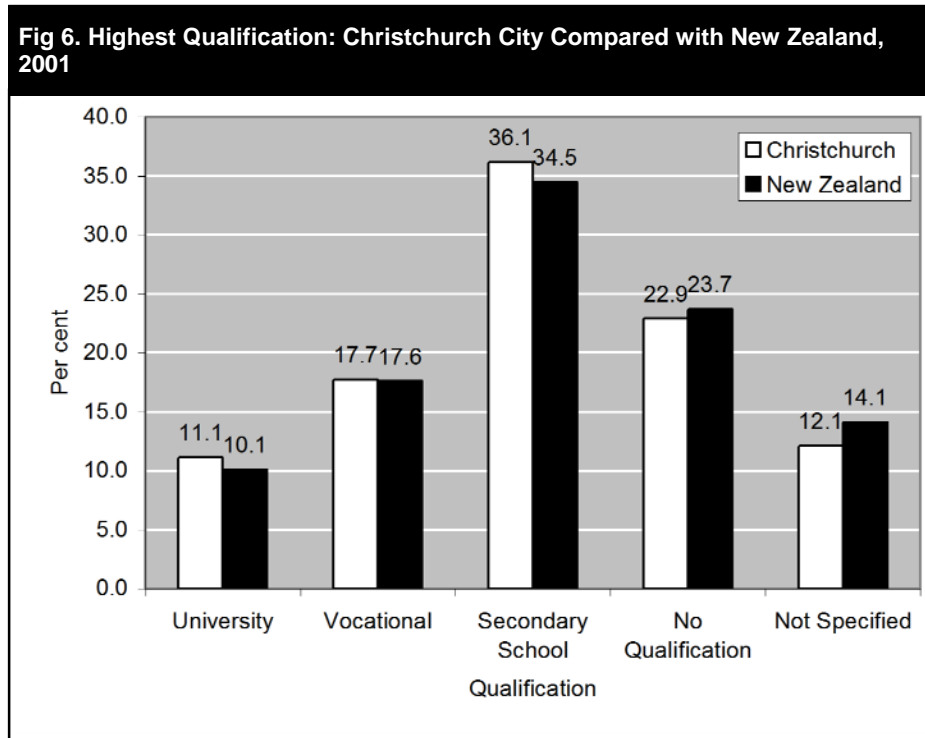


Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

## Education

Qualification	Number	Per cent
University	28,371	11.1
Vocational	45,216	17.7
Secondary School	92,199	36.1
None	58,467	22.9
Not Specified	30,831	12.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>255,093</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.



Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

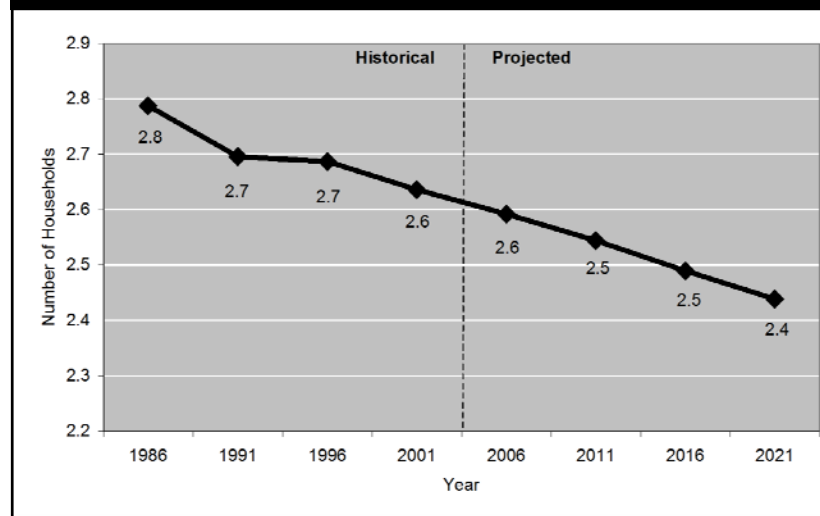
## Household Structure

**Table 5. Historical and Projected Households, 1986– 2021**

Year	Households	Numeric Change (Five Yearly)	Average Annual Change
<b>Historical</b>			
1986	101,244		
1991	107,223	5,979	1.2
1996	116,166	8,943	1.7
<b>1996 Adjusted</b>	<b>117,800</b>		
<b>Projected (Medium)</b>			
2001	125,200	7,400	1.3
2006	130,800	5,600	0.9
2011	136,200	5,400	0.8
2016	141,600	5,400	0.8
2021	146,800	5,200	0.7

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Population Projections 1996 (Adjusted 1996 Base).

**Fig 7. Historical and Projected Average Number of People Per Household, 1986-2021**

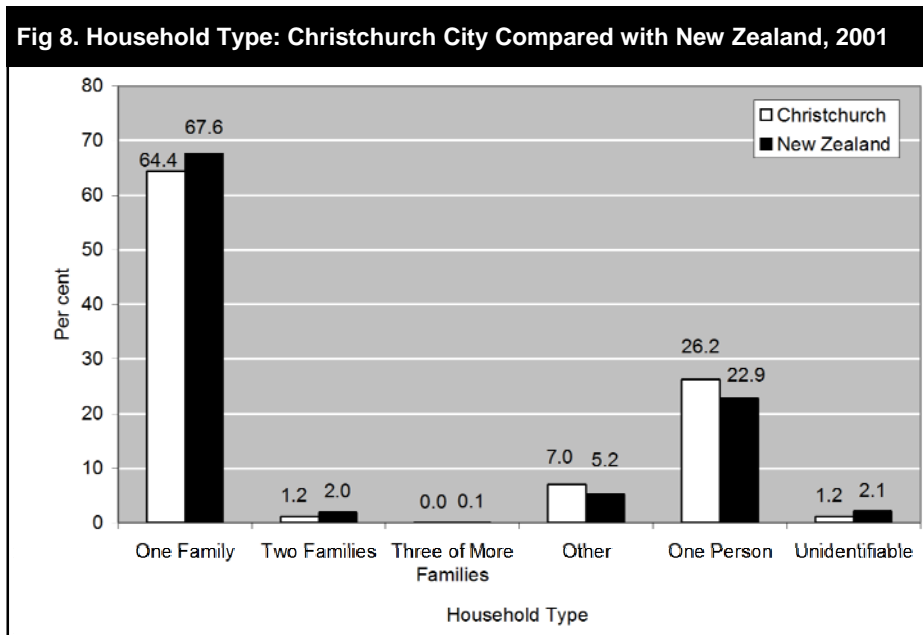


\* Adjusted for the estimated undercount at the 1996 census and the estimated number of New Zealand residents temporarily overseas.

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Population Projections (Adjusted 1996 Base).

Household Type	Number	Per cent
One Family	78,414	64.4
Two Families	1,437	1.2
Three or More Families	39	0.03
Non-Family Household	8,547	7.0
One-Person Household	31,932	26.2
Not Available	1,461	1.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,833</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.



Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

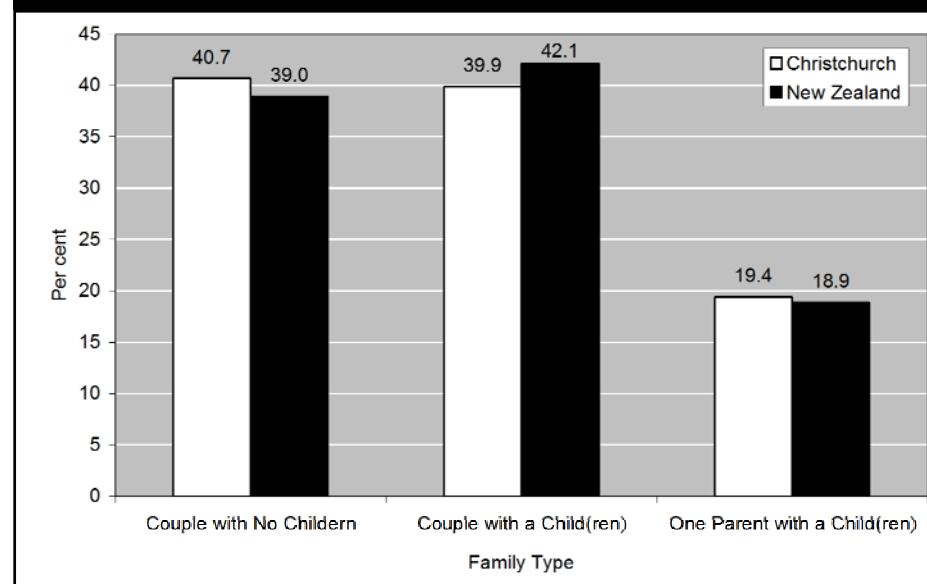
## Family Type

**Table 7. Family Type, 2001**

Family Type	Number	Per cent
One-Parent Family	15,813	19.4
Two-Parent Family	32,478	39.9
Couple Only	33,11	40.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>81,408</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

**Fig 9. Family Type: Christchurch City Compared with New Zealand, 2001**

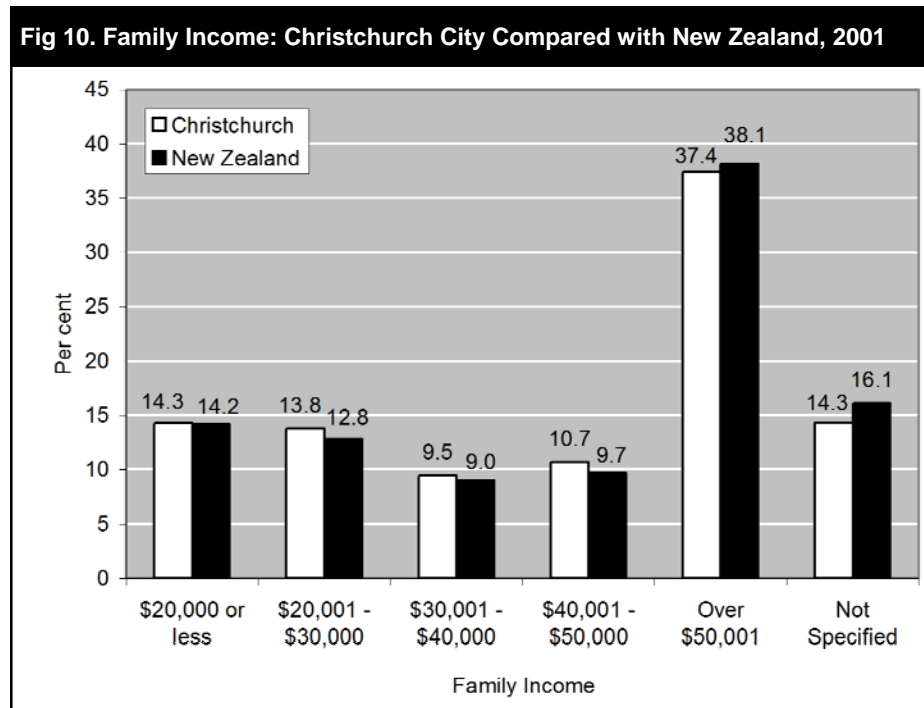


Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

## Family Income

Family Income	Number	Per cent
\$20,000 or less	11,637	14.3
\$20,001- \$30,000	11,208	13.8
\$30,001- \$40,000	7,713	9.5
\$40,001- \$50,000	8,730	10.7
Over \$50,000	30,450	37.4
Not Specified	11,679	14.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>81,408</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.



Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.



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## The City's Natural and Physical Environment

### Climate

- Christchurch's temperature ranges between a mean annual maximum of 16.8 degrees and a mean annual minimum of 6.5 degrees Celsius (measured at the airport) (Table 9).

### Land Use

- The City's topography comprises two distinct geological areas - the Port Hills and the Canterbury Plains. Most of the City is located on the Plains.
- A total of 62.6 per cent of Christchurch City is dominated by non-urban land use (Table 10).
- Putaringamotu or Riccarton Bush is the only stand of remnant floodplain forest in the Christchurch area.

### Built Environment

- The Christchurch City Annual Plan lists 598 historic buildings, places and objects in the City.
- The oldest existing European building in the City is Deans Cottage, which is located at Riccarton Bush and was built in 1843.
- Christchurch Cathedral is located at the heart of the City and forms the basis of Cathedral Square. It was designed by architect Sir George Gilbert Scott and the first foundation stone was laid on 16 December 1864. Consecrated in 1881, the cathedral was not completed until 11 November 1904. Its spire is 62m high.
- The Lyttelton road tunnel was opened on 27 February 1964, and has since improved access to the port. At the time of construction it was New Zealand's longest road tunnel.
- At 77.58 metres, the Price Waterhouse Centre is Christchurch's tallest building.

### **Housing**

- New units and apartments comprised about 60 per cent of all residential construction between 1992 and 2003. In the June 2000 year, consents for dwellings exceeded units for the first time; a trend which has continued throughout the 2001, 2002 and 2003 years (Fig 11).
- Average dwelling density across the City in 1996 was 10 dwellings per hectare, this figure has increased slightly to 10.1 dwellings per hectare in 2001. These densities are low by world standards.
- In 2001, there were 123,291 dwellings in Christchurch, of which 122,754 (99.6 per cent) were private and 537 (0.4 per cent) were non-private dwellings. The most common dwelling type was the separate house.

### **Facilities**

- In 2004, the City's parks resource comprised 748 parks including 57 regional parks, 98 sports parks, 469 local parks, 67 riverbank and wetland parks and 12 cemeteries. This covers an area of 6,091 hectares. The largest, Hagley Park, is 161 hectares in area.
- According to the Ministry of Health, there were 35 health agency facilities in the City in 2004, the majority of which were private hospitals (Table 11).
- In July 2003, Christchurch had a total of 153 schools providing education and training for 58,967 pupils (Table 12).
- The major tertiary institutions in and near Christchurch are: the University of Canterbury, Christchurch Polytechnic, Lincoln University and the Christchurch College of Education. A total of 28,707 students were enrolled for formal study at these institutions at July 2003.
- Christchurch's library network includes one central, twelve community and one mobile library.
- There are eight Council-owned swimming pools and four Council-owned stadiums in the City.

### **Major attractions**

- Christchurch residents are active users of a wide range of attractions and facilities in the City (Table 13).

**Infrastructure**

- Groundwater aquifers are the sole source of drinking water in the city. The water is of very high quality and no treatment is needed before use. Approximately 50 million cubic metres of water is used annually, with residential use accounting for 55 per cent of the total.
- The City's sewerage system processes approximately 150,000 cubic metres of effluent per day.
- From 30 June 2002 to 1 July 2003, Christchurch City produced 220,557 tonnes of solid waste (excluding green composted waste). This equates to 652 kilograms per person per year.
- As at August 2003, the total length of roads in Christchurch was 1587.5 kilometres, the total length of footpaths were 2,269.5 kilometres and the total length of cycleways was 73.1 kilometres.
- Population density for Christchurch's urban area increased from 20.3 to 20.9 people per hectare between 1996 and 2001. Areas close to the Central City or around some of the suburban commercial centres, such as Riccarton, tend to have higher densities.

## Climate

<b>Table 9. Summary of Christchurch's Main Climatic Features</b>			
		Botanic Gardens	Airport
<b>Temperature (°C)</b>			
Mean Daily Maximum	January	22.5	22.2
	July	11.3	
Mean Daily Minimum	January	12.2	
	July	1.9	0.7
Mean Annual Maximum		16.5	16.8
Mean Annual Minimum		6.9	6.5
<b>Sunshine</b>			
Average Sunshine Hours (per annum)		2100	
<b>Rainfall</b>			
Average Rain Days 1mm or more		85	82
Average Annual Rainfall		648	620
<b>Relative Humidity</b>			
Average Relative Humidity (9am)	January	72.9	72.5
	July	87.3	87.5
<b>Frost</b>			
Average Days of Screen Frost (minimum air temperature less than 0 °C)		35	47
<b>Winds</b>			
Average Number of Days with Gusts Reaching 63 km/h or more (Gale force)		3	55
Average Number of Days with Gusts Reaching 96 km/h or more (Storm force)			2

Source: National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research.

## Land Use

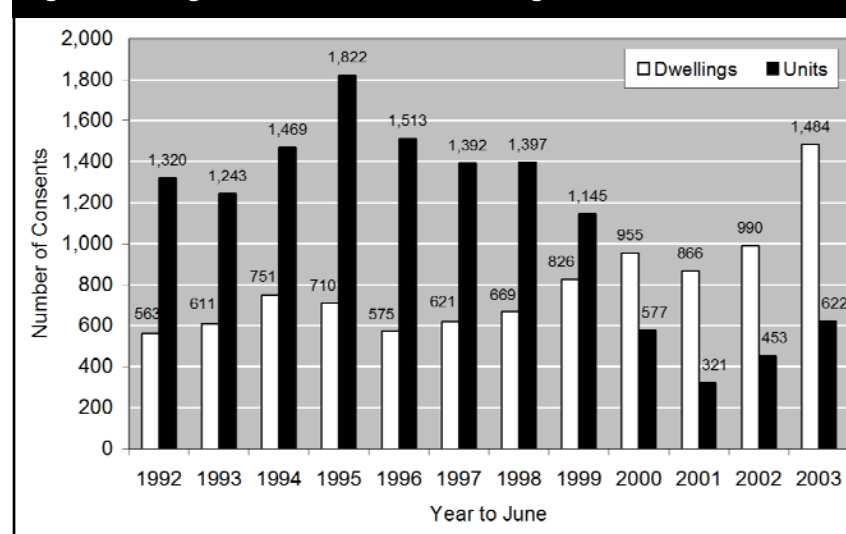
**Table 10. Zoned Land Use by Area, 2002**

Land Use	Area (ha)	Per cent
<b>Urban Use</b>		
Residential	12,171	27
Industrial and Commercial Use	2,221	4.9
Conservation and Open Space	1,828	4
Other Urban Land Uses	707	1.5
<b>Subtotal Urban Land Uses</b>	<b>16,929</b>	<b>37.4</b>
<b>Non Urban</b>		
Rural	19,495	43.1
Open Space and Conservation	6,147	5.7
Other Non-Urban Land Uses	2,669	13.8
<b>Subtotal Non-Urban Land Uses</b>	<b>28,311</b>	<b>62.6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,240</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Christchurch City Council.

## Housing

**Fig 11. Building Consents Issued for Dwellings and Units, 1992 - 2003**



Source: Christchurch City Council.

## Facilities

**Table 11. Health Agency Facilities, 2004**

Type	Number
Public Hospitals	10
Private Hospitals	23
Psychiatric Hospitals	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>

Source: Clinical Services Directorate, Ministry of Health, 2004.

**Table 12. Number of Schools and Students, 2003**

Type of School	Schools	Students
Full Primary (Year 1 - 8)	60	16,446
Contributing (Year 1 - 6)	43	12,632
Intermediate (Years 7 - 8)	11	4,714
Secondary (Year 7 - 15)	4	2,227
Secondary (Year 9 - 15)	18	18,527
Composite (Year 1 - 15)	8	4,001
Special Schools	9	420
<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>58,967</b>

Source: Ministry of Education, 2003.

**Table 13. Percentage of Residents Who Visited or Used Selected Facilities and Events, 2003**

Facility / Event	2002	2003
A Christchurch City Council Public Library	70	74
A Christchurch City Council Swimming Pool	52	56
A Christchurch City Council Stadium	62	69
Any Council Offices including Service Centres <sup>^</sup>	24	46
Canterbury Museum*	45	50
Town Hall*	45	59
Christchurch Convention Centre*	24	30
Westpac Trust Sport & Entertainment Centre	34	22
Botanic Gardens*	-	78
Christchurch Arts Centre*	-	64
Coca Cola Christmas in the Park	14	23
City Centre (Non-work related trips) <sup>+</sup>	94	94

<sup>^</sup> In 2002, respondents were asked if they had visited the Council's Tuam Street Office. In 2003, respondents were asked if they had visited any Council Offices including Service Centres.

\* In 2002, respondents were asked if they had visited these facilities. In 2003, respondents were asked how often they visited or made use of these facilities. The 2003 responses were therefore combined for comparison with responses in 2002.

<sup>+</sup> In 2002, all persons who worked (paid or unpaid) in the city centre were asked if they visit the city centre for purposes other than work. In 2003, all respondents were asked this question.

Source: Christchurch City Council Annual Survey of Residents, 2003.

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## The City's Economy

- In June 2003, 4.4 per cent of Canterbury's labour force was unemployed compared with 4.7 per cent nationally.
- In 2003, 26,118 businesses in Christchurch City employed 176,350 people. The Property and Business Services sector comprised the greatest number of businesses and the manufacturing sector employed the most people (Table 14).
- In September 2003, the average hourly earnings for employees in Christchurch City was \$19.76 for males and \$17.65 for females (Table 15a). These figures were lower than the national averages of \$21.03 for males and \$17.98 for females. In June 2003, people in the Canterbury region had an average weekly income of \$523 per week. This was lower than the national average of \$539 per week (Table 15b).
- The average house sale price in Christchurch in the first half of 2003 was \$172,032. This was lower than both the Auckland and Wellington urban areas (Table 16).
- In Christchurch City, the total weekly household expenditure for the year ending June 2001 was estimated at \$776.60 compared with \$837.78 for New Zealand. Housing was the greatest single expense (Fig 12).
- In December 2003, there were 384,925 registered vehicles in Christchurch City, or an average of 1.14 vehicles per person.
- The number of retail shops in the Central City is less than that in the main suburban centres. In 2003, there were 565 shops in the Central City and a total of 640 in the 12 largest suburban centres.
- Central City floor space totalled 1,616,505 square metres in December 2003.
- With a gross floor space of 122,977 square metres, Papanui/Northlands located in the north-west of the City was the largest suburban shopping centre in Christchurch in December 2003 (Table 17).
- In March 2003, a total of 96,777 (32.1 per cent) international passengers and 340,267 domestic passengers (77.9 per cent) arrived or departed through Christchurch International Airport.

## Business and Employment

**Table 14. Businesses and Employment, 2003**

Type of Business (ANZIC)*	Number of Businesses	Total Number Employed
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	203	520
Mining	22	230
Manufacturing	2,234	29,290
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	10	470
Construction	2,678	11,130
Wholesale Trade	2,144	11,790
Retail Trade	3,606	23,490
Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants	869	10,870
Transport and Storage	1,016	7,420
Communication Services	291	5,050
Finance and Insurance	1,030	4,490
Property and Business Services	7,889	22,920
Government Administration and Defence	108	4,100
Education	553	12,660
Health and Community Services	1,480	20,360
Cultural and Recreation Services	741	5,140
Personal and Other Services	1,244	6,450
<b>Total All Industries</b>	<b>26,118</b>	<b>176,350</b>

\*ANZIC = Australia, New Zealand Industrial Classification.

Note: Coverage is of all Economically Significant Enterprises (ESEs), generally defined as enterprises with greater than \$30,000 annual GST expenses or sales, or enterprises in a GST exempt industry.

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Business Frame, 2003.



## Earnings and Expenditure

**Table 15a. Average Hourly Earnings (\$), September 2003**

Location	Male	Female
Wellington	27.92	22.28
Auckland	23.76	19.72
New Zealand	21.03	17.98
Dunedin	19.78	18.44
<b>Christchurch</b>	<b>19.76</b>	<b>17.65</b>

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Christchurch Quarterly Review, September 2003.

**Table 15b. Average Weekly Earnings (\$), September 2003**

Location	Weekly total (\$)
Wellington	607
Auckland	588
New Zealand	539
<b>Canterbury</b>	<b>523</b>

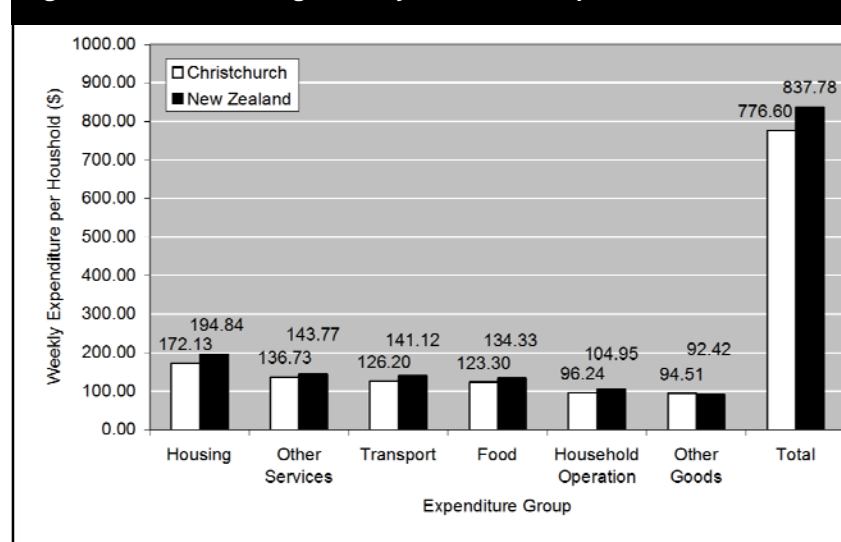
Source: Statistics New Zealand, Christchurch Quarterly Review, September 2003.

**Table 16. Average House Sale Price (\$), Half Year Ended June 2003**

Urban Area	Average Sale Price
Auckland	344,218
Wellington	268,252
<b>Christchurch</b>	<b>172,032</b>

Source: Quotable Value New Zealand, 2001.

**Fig 12. Estimated Average Weekly Household Expenditure, June 2001**



Source: Statistics New Zealand, Christchurch Quarterly Review, June 2001.

## Shopping Districts

<b>Table 17. Ten Largest Suburban Shopping District Centres, December 2003</b>	
Shopping District Centre	Total Floorspace* (m <sup>2</sup> )
Papanui / Northlands	122,977
Riccarton	98,000
Sydenham	50,201
Church Corner	43,900
New Brighton	40,369
Hornby	38,387
Linwood	38,680
Shirley	28,686
Merivale	27,782
Bishopdale	20,773

\*Excludes residential floorspace.

Source: Christchurch City Council, Commercial Floorspace Survey, December 2003.