

Growth Dashboard

November 2020

Overview of Horowhenua District

Horowhenua has benefited from Wellington commuters spending more time working from home and spending more locally. Spending in the September quarter was 6.3% up from the same quarter in 2019. For the year to September 2020 spending growth was in positive territory compared with a decline of 2.7% at the national level.

Our economy is faring better than many parts of the country, confirmed by the slower growth of Jobseeker Support recipients. The number of recipients in our district increased by 14% over the year to September 2020 compared with 27% nationwide. In the month of September 2020, there were 1,935 Jobseeker Support recipients and a further 29 COVID-19 Income Relief Payment recipients in the district. A year earlier there were 1,644 Job Seeker Support recipients.

The housing market is red hot with the average house value for the 12 months to September increasing to \$432,851, up 17% compared to the previous 12 months. More than 250 houses were sold in the September quarter which is the highest level since 2016.

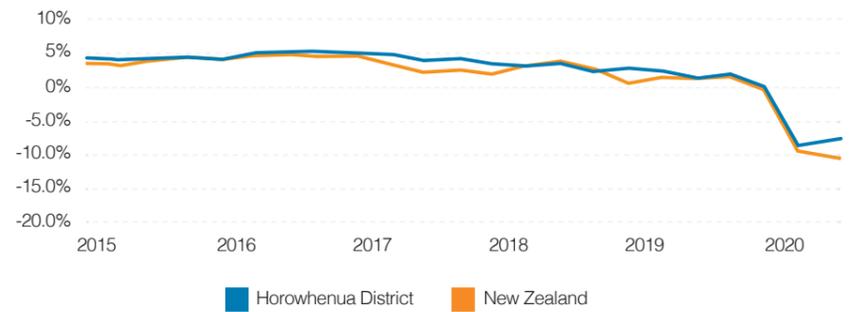
Although the number of residential building consents issued in Horowhenua dropped below 50 in the September quarter (compared to a quarterly average of about 70 over the past three years) it is expected the number to rise again due to rocketing house values. Non-residential building consents are running at a level nearly double the 10-year average.

Agriculture and food processing sectors are a key source of strength in the district. The district's dairy farmers are expected to reap \$120m this coming season, down slightly from \$127m last season.

There are clear signs Horowhenua's economy is bouncing back after the lockdown induced slump in the June 2020 quarter. Growth in consumer spending provides further evidence of economic recovery. Domestic travel, new cars and home improvements have lifted confidence that the economy will emerge from COVID-19 less battered than other parts of the country.

Traffic Volume Growth

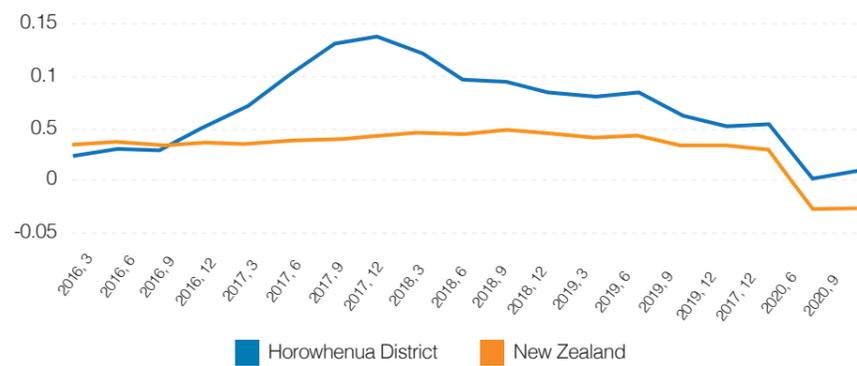
Annual Average % change (Horowhenua District)



Traffic flows in Horowhenua District decreased by -8.2% over the year to September 2020. This compares with a decrease of -10.5% in New Zealand.

Consumer Spending (\$m)

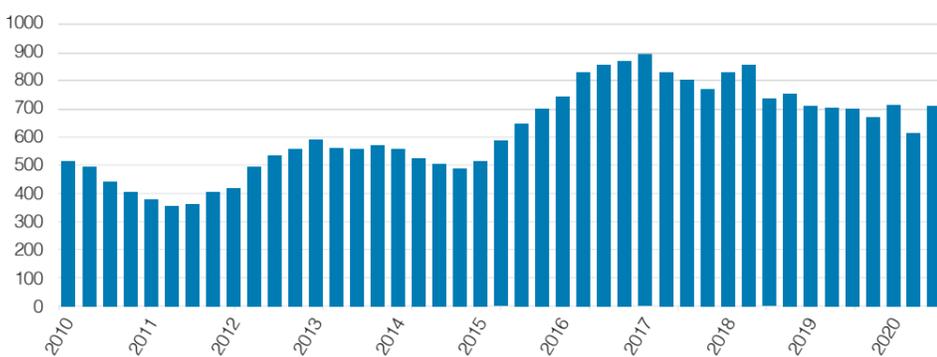
Annual Average % change (Horowhenua District)



Electronic card consumer spending in Horowhenua District, as measured by Marketview, increased by 0.9% over the year to September 2020 compared to the previous year. This compares with an decrease of -2.7% in New Zealand

House Sales

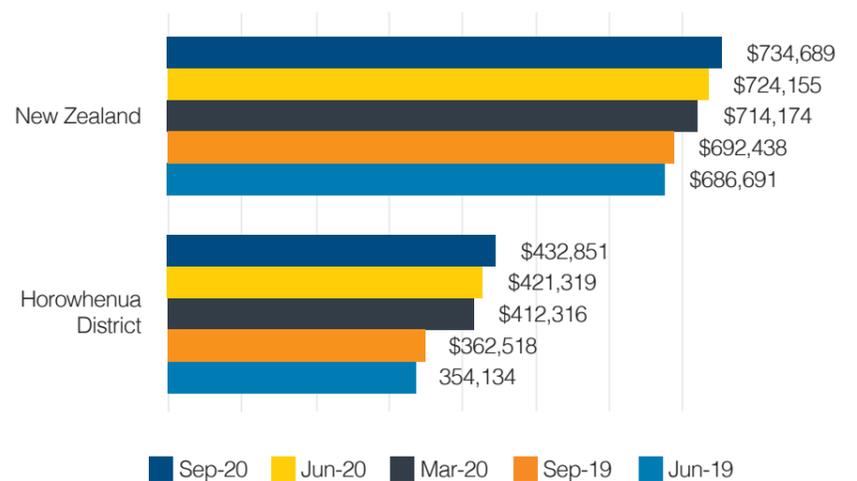
Annual level, Horowhenua District



House sales in Horowhenua District in the year to September 2020 increased by 1.3% compared with the previous year. Horowhenua outperformed relative to New Zealand, where sales increased by 1.1%. A total of 712 houses were sold in Horowhenua District in the 12 months ended September 2020. This compares with the ten year average of 640.

Average Current House Value

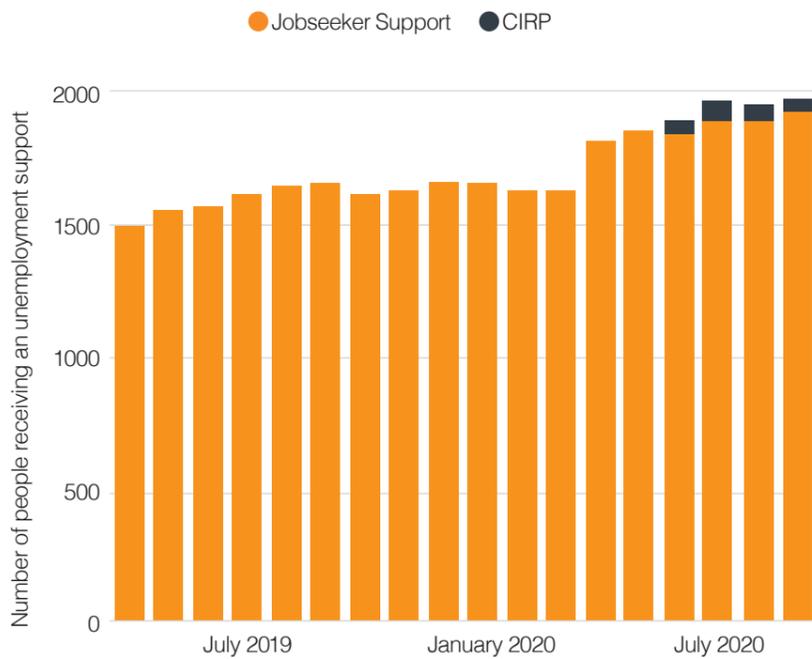
Average for 12 months to September 2020



The average current house value in Horowhenua District was up 17.4% in September 2020 compared with a year earlier. Horowhenua outperformed relative to New Zealand, where prices increased by 8.0%.



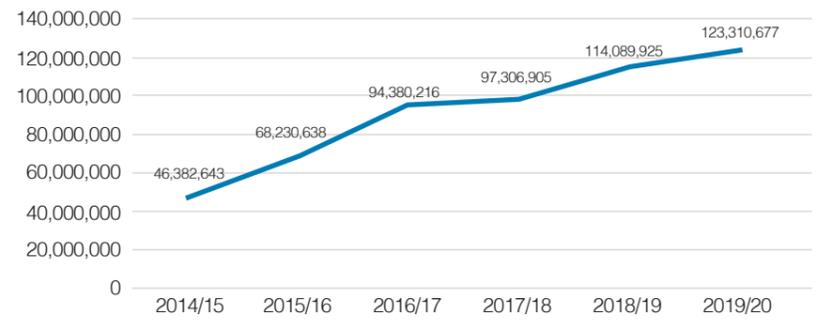
Jobseeker Support and COVID-19 Income Relief Payment (CIRP) recipients



The monthly count of Jobseeker Support recipients, combined with the number of COVID-19 Income Relief Payment (CIRP) recipients.

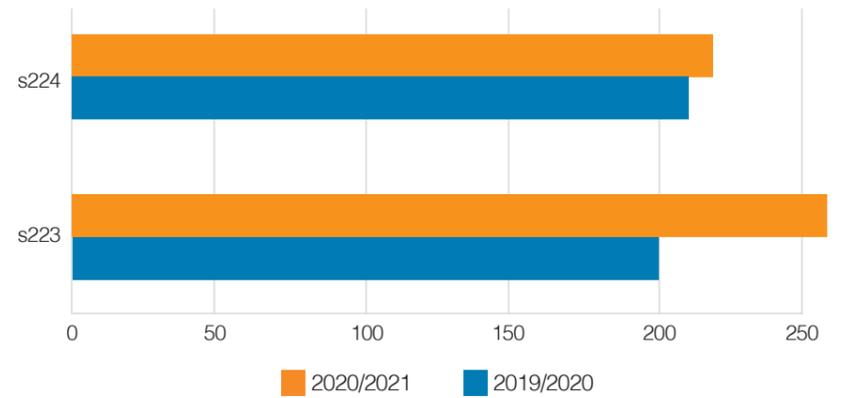
Building Consent Issued (\$)

Horowhenua District
Financial year to June 2020



New lots created (s224) vs New lots approved (s223)

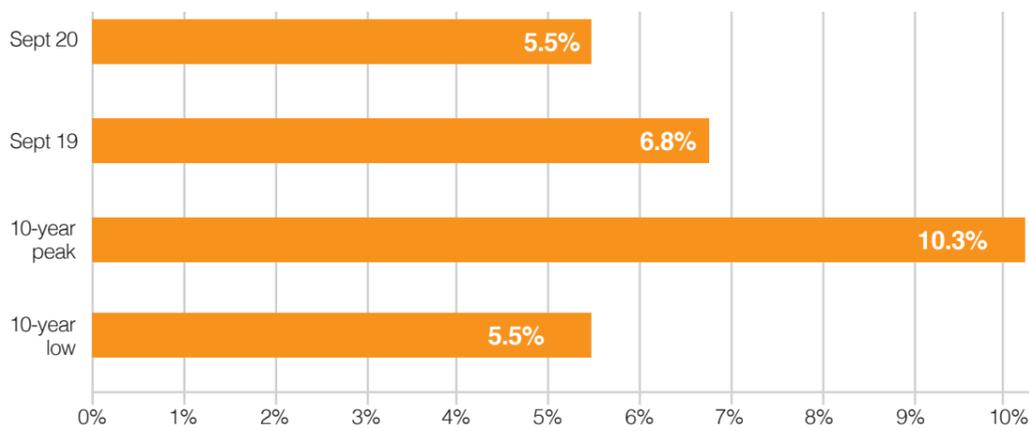
Horowhenua District



Between 1 July and 31 October 2020, s224 certificates were issued creating 219 new lots, compared to 183 new lots for the full 2019/20 financial year.

Unemployment rate

Annual Average, Horowhenua District



The annual average unemployment rate in Horowhenua District was 5.5% in September 2020, down from 6.8% a year earlier. Over the last ten years the unemployment rate reached a peak of 10.3% in December 2012.

Permanent Migration to District

Horowhenua District

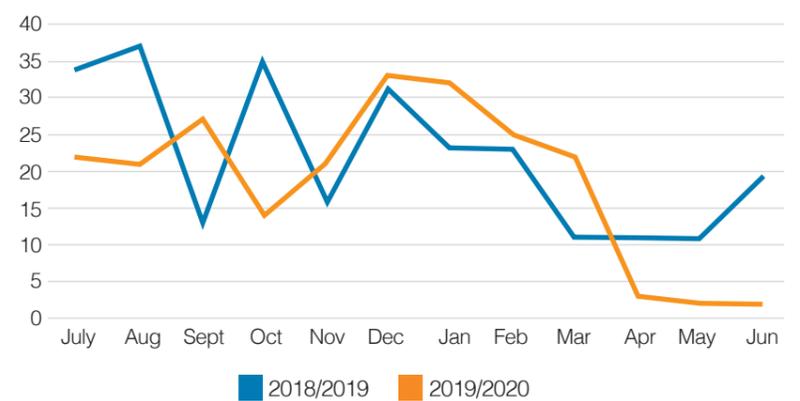


Chart	Data Source	Timeframe
Average Current House Value	Infometrics - http://www.infometrics.co.nz/	Sep 19 - Sep 20
Unemployment rate	Infometrics - http://www.infometrics.co.nz/	Sep 19 - Sep 20
Consumer Spending	Infometrics - http://www.infometrics.co.nz/	Sep 19 - Sep 20
Traffic Volume Growth	Infometrics - http://www.infometrics.co.nz/	Sep 19 - Sep 20
House Sales	Infometrics - https://www.infometrics.co.nz/	Sep 19 - Sep 20
Building Consents Issued (\$)	HDC Reporting	1 July - 30 June 2020
New lots created (s224) vs New lots approved (s223)	HDC Reporting	1 July 2019 - 30 June 2020 1 July 2020 - 31 October 2020
Population - Permanent migration to District	Sense Partners - Socio-economic Projections - July 2017	1 July 2019 - 30 June 2020
Jobseeker Support & CIRP	Ministry of Social Development	Year end September 2020

