Region Rankings 2013

BERL Regional Rankings Series

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Background

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1 Introduction

The BERL Regional Rankings Series, and the accompanying reports, provide a comparative measure of the economic performance of New Zealand's 20 cities, 66 local authorities, and 14 regions. The overall rankings of each city, district and region provides information that:

- Local authorities and regions can use to monitor their performance relative to their peers, and identify areas of interest.
- Businesses can use to identify areas of growth and decline.
- The Government can use to inform national economic policies, and identify where activity is occurring.

Economic growth is important for all New Zealanders. Economic growth provides us with the opportunity to increase our standard of living through improvements in income, education, health, and the environment. Higher living standards also positively impact on our social and cultural well-being.

The regional rankings series illustrates at a high-level how cities, local authorities, and regions compare relative to each other. To target regional economic development activity and put in place effective interventions, however, a more detailed level of analysis is required. This type of analysis would consider absolute values and the quantum of change across economic indicators, rather than comparative differences.

1.1 Key performance indicators

The economic indicators that are examined include population, employment, Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and business units. Together, these economic indicators are termed key performance indicators. They are calculated in the short and medium-term, which are one and five year snapshots respectively.

The Relative Openness Index is used to measure the trade integration of the 14 regional economies. This measure focuses on the export and import of goods and services from and to a region, and whether a regional economy is balanced or leaning towards more export-focused sectors.

1.2 BERL Regional Database

The economic indicators used in the regional rankings series are taken from the BERL Regional Database. This database contains economic indicators at a local authority level broken down by industry sector.[1] The database is built from publicly available data from Statistics New Zealand including the NZ Business Demography statistics, the Household Labour Force Survey, the National Accounts, and the sub-national Population Estimates. The data is for the March 2013 year.

The BERL Regional Database is used by BERL to support businesses, councils and economic development organisations throughout New Zealand. The focus of much of this regional economic development work is in identifying change in economic activity, and measuring the performance of regions.

[1] Indicators include population, employment, GDP, Businesses – number and size. These can be used to identify further measures including GDP per capita, labour productivity, and location quotients. Data can be broken down into industry groupings at the ANZSIC 2006 4-digit level (506 industries).

1.2.1 Database revisions

In 2012, revisions were made to the BERL Regional Database to remove the distortion to GDP from the ownership of owner-occupied dwellings. This resulted in less variation in GDP year-on-year, particularly for small districts where a slight shift in employment in property services (the broader grouping within which ownership of owner-occupied dwellings sits) often resulted in significant changes in GDP. In 2013, we have again reviewed and removed the distortion to GDP from the ownership of owner-occupied dwellings.

1.3 Caveats

The BERL Regional Rankings Series and the accompanying reports are a desk-based exercise. Where possible, BERL has verified the underlying data and where appropriate, overridden the data based on our general knowledge and understanding of an area or region. However, BERL has not verified all changes in economic activity in an area or region nor have we identified why the changes have occurred.

1.4 Format of the report

This report is one of four reports in a series entitled, *The BERL Regional Rankings Series*. This report is organised into four chapters, with an explanation of the terms used and how the indicators are used to rank each city, district and region in the appendix. The next three chapters discuss the rankings of the local authorities, the top 10 local authorities in 2013, and the macro-economic environment that these rankings have occurred within, with commentary on national and international influences.

2 Regions

Regional, city and district councils are all local authorities. Local authorities were formed in 1989 when a review was undertaken by the Local Government Commission on the roles, responsibilities, powers and accountabilities of local government. At this time, approximately 700 councils and special purpose bodies were amalgamated to create local authorities. There is huge variation in the size, scale and activity of local authorities, which can an impact on their role and responsibilities, and economic performance.

A territorial authority is a city or district council. There are 67 territorial authorities in New Zealand, including 12 cities, 53 districts, Auckland Council, and Chatham Islands territory. Each territorial authority is tasked with encouraging the four well-beings of their community – economic, social, cultural and environmental.

2.1 The 2013 rankings

In 2013, the top 10 regions were evenly spread between the North and the South Island, with the Auckland Council remaining in the top spot for the second year in a row. The Canterbury Region moved up six rankings to place second in 2013, while the Taranaki Region shifted down one place to sit in the top three rankings.

The Northland Region was the only new entrant into the top 10 regional rankings in 2013. This region moved up three places, from 13^{th} to 10^{th}, due to population, employment and GDP growth between 2012 and 2013. Southland in contrast moved eight places to fall from a third place ranking in 2012. This decline in rankings was due to population and employment decline in the Southland Region, and a decrease in the number of businesses.

The West Coast, Otago, Wellington and the Gisborne region saw small changes year-on-year in terms of rankings, with changing fortunes in terms of resident population and employment. The Nelson/Tasman/Marlborough region had strong GDP growth, and employment grew by just over one percent per annum. The resident population of this region also grew by 0.4 percent, which is lower than the medium term average of the region of 0.7 percent per annum.

Table 2.1 Region rankings, 2013

BERL Region Rankings	Rank 2013	Rank 2012	
Auckland	1	1	→
Canterbury Regional Council	2	8	↑6
Taranaki Regional Council	3	2	↓1
Nelson/Tasman/Marlborough	4	9	↑5
West Coast Regional Council	5	6	↑1
Otago Regional Council	6	5	↓1
Gisborne Regional Council	7	10	↑3
Waikato Regional Council	8	4	↓4
Wellington Regional Council	9	7	↓2
Northland Regional Council	10	13	↑3
Southland Regional Council	11	3	↓8
Bay of Plenty Regional Council	12	11	↓1
Hawke's Bay Regional Council	13	12	↓1
Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council	14	14	→

source: BERL Regional Database 2013

2.1.1 Influences on the 2013 rankings

Major factors influencing the 2013 regional rankings results have been:

- Large increases in the amount of GDP generated by the primary industry.
- Employment growth or decline in the manufacturing industry.

Local authorities whose economies are predominantly based on the primary sector and the further processing of meat and dairy products have experienced mixed fortunes this year. For example, Matamata-Piako District and Gisborne District moved up the rankings 14 and 12 points respectively due to an increase in GDP from the food product manufacturing sector. In contrast, Waitaki District dropped 11 points, Hauraki District dropped 24 points, and Gore District dropped 25 points in their rankings due to a decrease in GDP and employment in the meat processing sector.

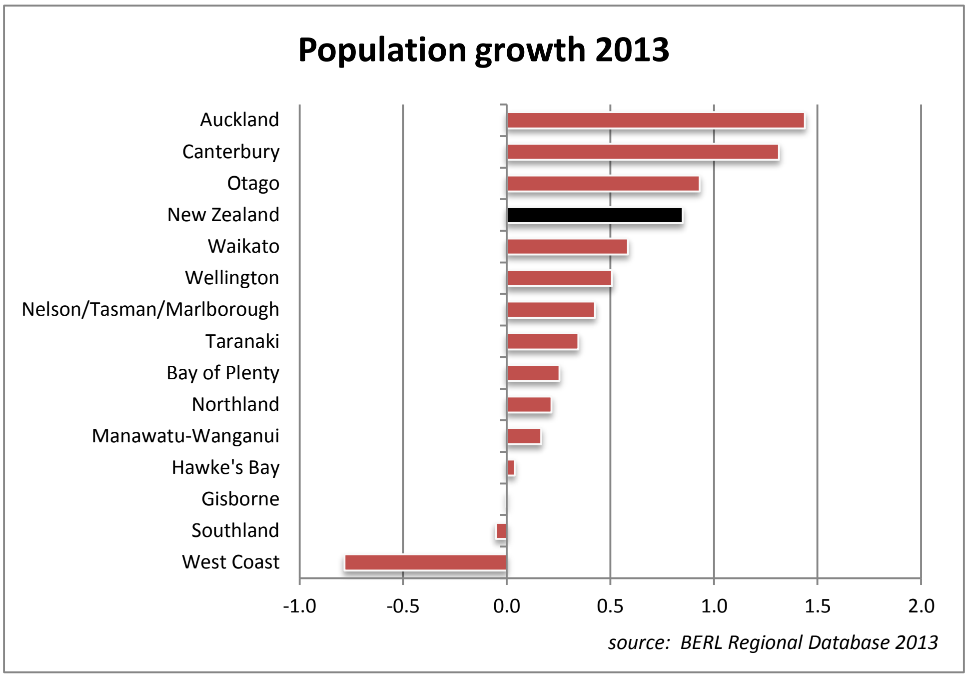
An increase in output from the dairy sector favourable influenced the rankings of Palmerston North City and Westland District. However, the Waikato District dropped 34 points due to decrease in employment in the cheese and other dairy product manufacturing sector.

Large increases in the amount of GDP generated by the primary industry were due to improved commodity prices and production levels in the year to March 2013. However, the warm, dry conditions experienced at the beginning of 2013 have impacted substantially on the primary and manufacturing industries.

The Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) in their situation and outlook for the primary industries 2013 noted that, in the short term, farmers would carefully manage their livestock to ensure they maintained condition leading into calving and lambing, and work through pasture recovery issues.

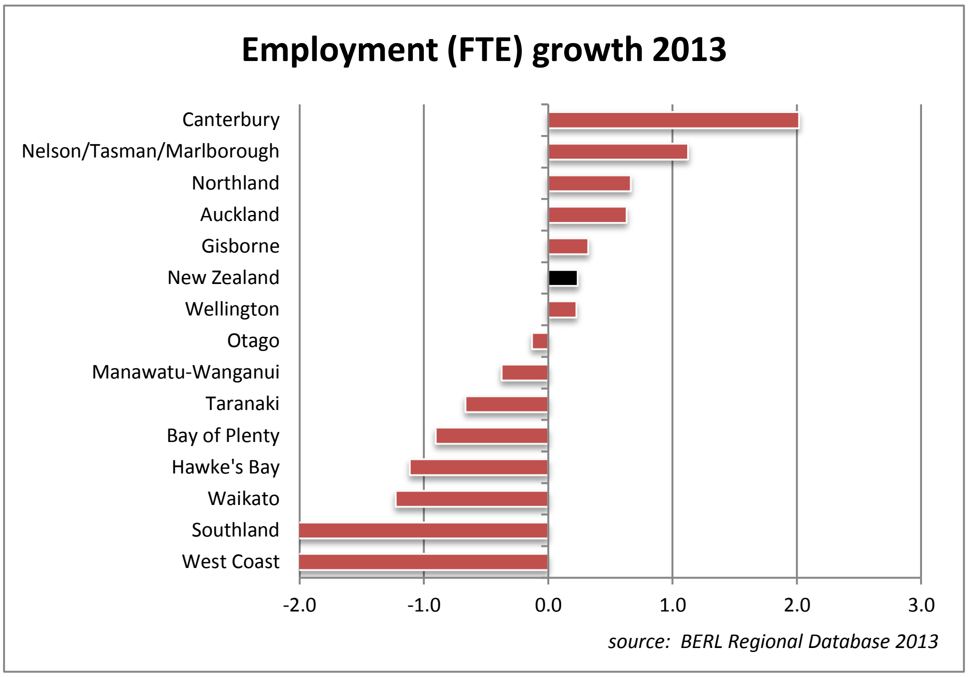
However, poor stock condition has impacted on the number and weight of livestock for slaughter throughout 2013, which in turn has impacted on export (manufacturing) sales volumes, and sheep and beef farmers' incomes. These changes are expected to show through in *The BERL Regional Rankings Series 2014.*

Figure 2.1 Resident population growth, by area, 2013



The Auckland, Canterbury and Otago regions had population growth higher than the New Zealand average in 2013. Year-on-year the New Zealand population grew by 0.8 percent, while that of the Auckland Region grew by 1.4 percent and Canterbury by 1.3 percent. The Otago Region experienced population growth of 0.9 percent. Over the last five years, the population of the Otago Region has grown at the same pace as total New Zealand, on average, 0.6 percent per annum.

Figure 2.2 Employment growth, by area, 2013



Employment in the latest year was highest in the Canterbury Region, at 2.0 percent. The New Zealand average, in contrast, was just 0.2 percent year-on-year. Employment growth in the Northland and Gisborne Regions was predominantly driven by the primary sector, at 0.7 percent and 0.3 percent respectively. The Nelson/Tasman/Marlborough Region also had employment growth higher than the national average, at 1.1 percent per annum.

GDP in New Zealand grew by 2.9 percent in 2013, while GDP per capita grew by 2.1 percent. Both of these figures are well above the medium-term average.

Figure 2.3 GDP growth, by area, 2013

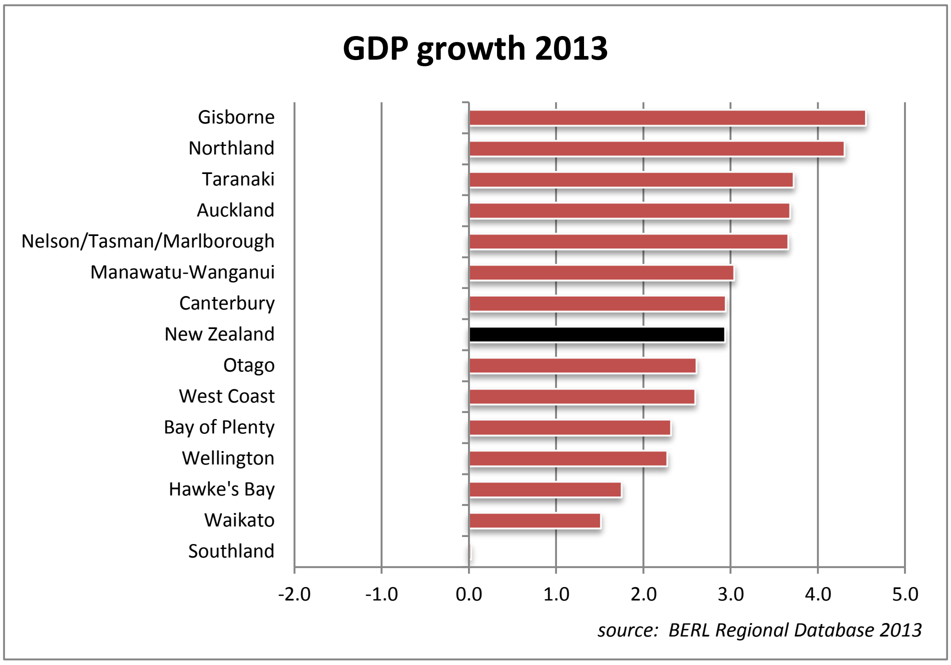
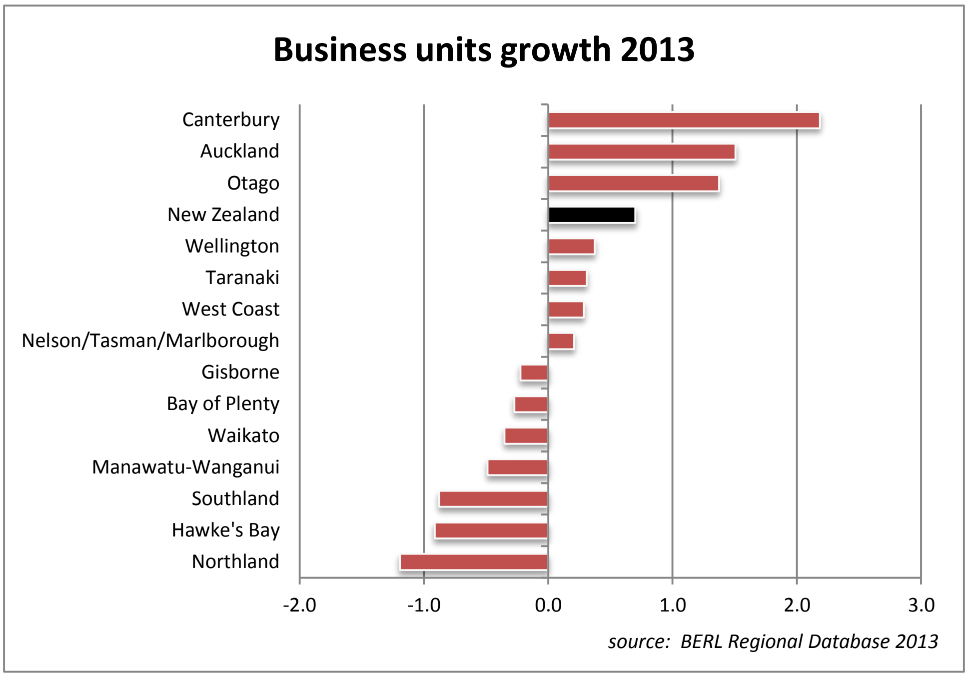


Figure 2.4 Business unit growth, by area, 2013



The number of businesses operating in a region declined across seven regions, and grew in the other seven. The Canterbury, Auckland and Otago regions were again higher than the national average, with growth experienced in Wellington, Taranaki, the West Coast and Nelson/Tasman/Marlborough, just at a lower level. Business unit growth in New Zealand in 2013 was at 0.7 percent.

Over the last five years, the resident populations of the Manawatu-Wanganui and Gisborne regions have declined. During the same period, the total population has grown by an average of 0.6 percent per annum. The Waikato Region experienced the largest growth in resident population over the last five years. The resident population of the Waikato Region grew by an average of 1.6 percent per annum. The second fastest growing area during this period was the Taranaki Region, where the resident population grew by an average of 0.9 percent per annum. Areas such as Wellington and Auckland, in contrast, grew by 0.6 percent and 0.7 percent per annum respectively.

Figure 2.5 Resident population growth, per annum, by area, 2008-2013

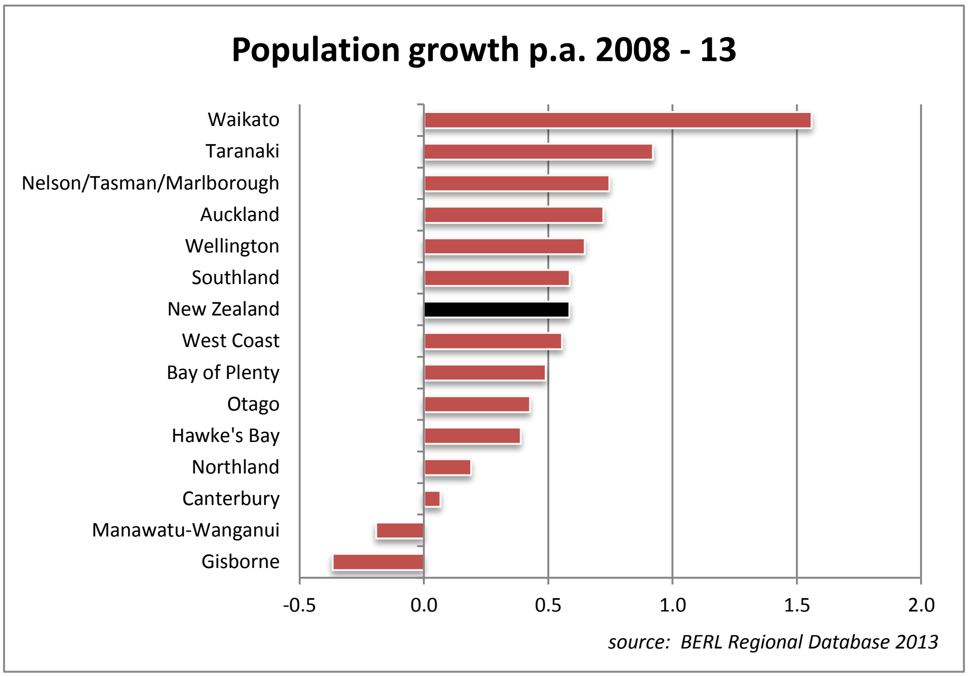
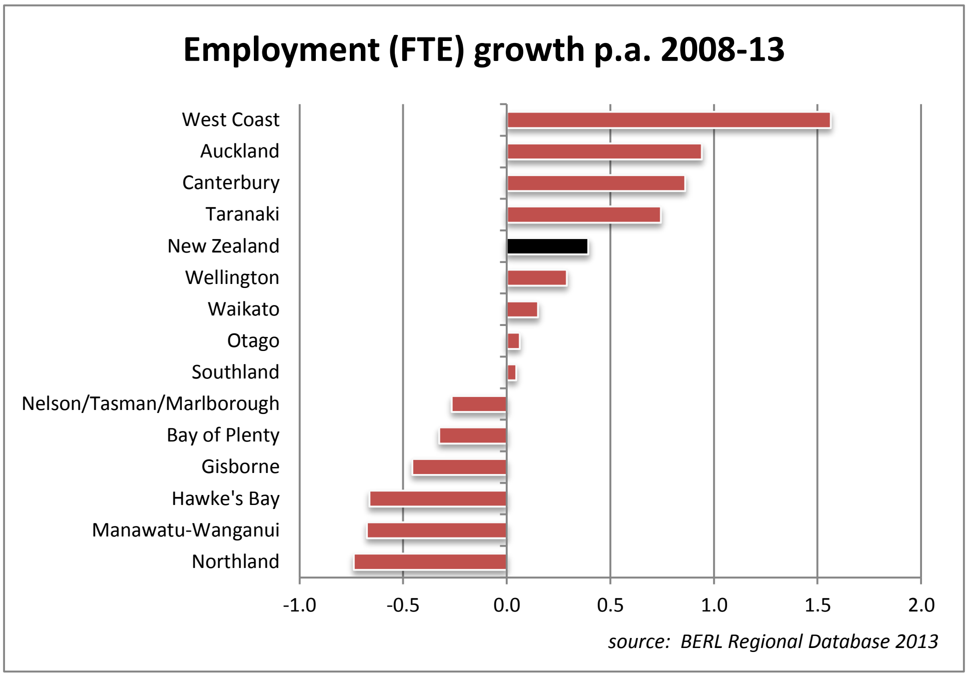


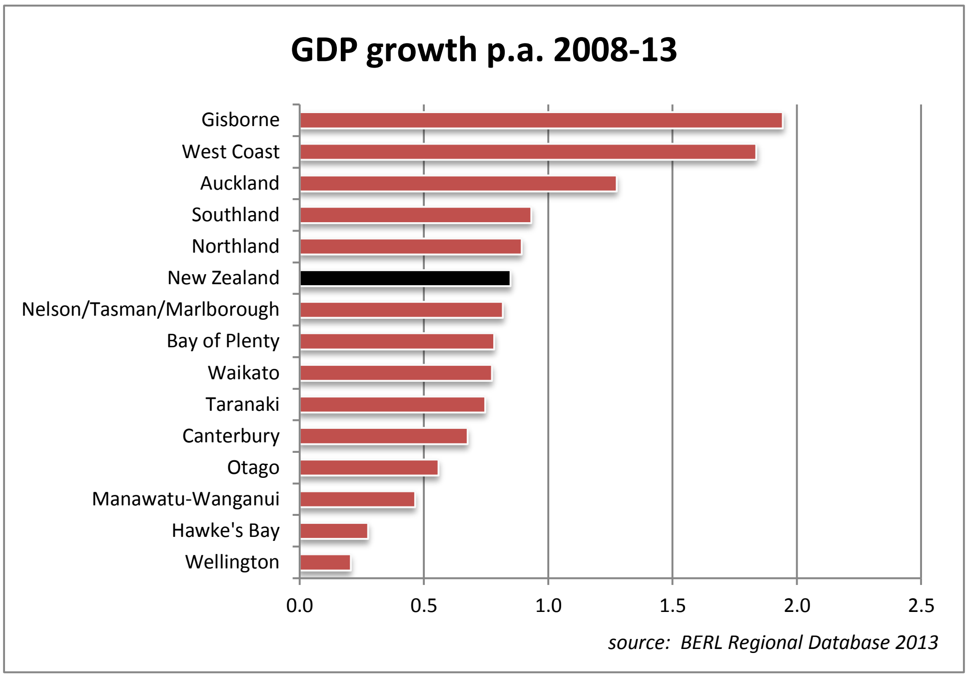
Figure 2.6 Employment growth, per annum, by area, 2008-2013



While in the latest year the West Coast Region has experienced a decline in resident population and employment, over the last five years this Region has experienced strong growth. Between 2008 and 2013, employment in the West Coast Region grew on average by 1.6 percent per annum. During this period, GDP also grew by an average of 1.8 percent per annum while GDP per capita grew by an average of 1.3 percent per annum. This performance has assisted the West Coast Region to maintain a top five stop in the rankings in 2013.

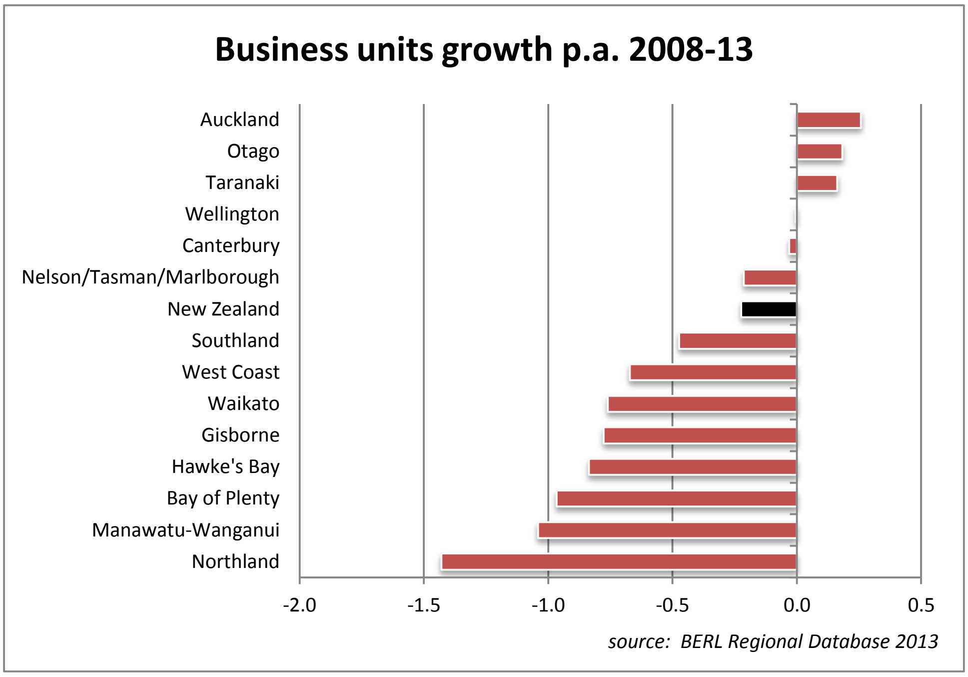
Between 2008 and 2013, GDP in New Zealand grew on average by 0.8 percent per annum, while GDP per capita was just 0.3 percent per annum. The Waikato, Bay of Plenty regions and Nelson/Tasman/Marlborough regions also experienced similar GDP growth, while GDP in Southland grew by an average of 0.9 percent per annum during this period.

Figure 2.7 GDP growth, per annum, by area, 2008-2013



Business unit growth over the last five years is not a figure of growth, but one of reduction.

Figure 2.8 Business unit growth, per annum, by area, 2008-2013



The size of businesses in New Zealand has grown on average by 0.6 percent per annum, while business units have declined by an average of 0.2 percent per annum. In the Auckland, Otago and Taranaki regions, business units grew by 0.3 percent per annum or less during this five year period. Most regions experienced a decline in business units during this period, and business size.

While the rankings report compares the relative performance of sub-national geographic areas, it is useful to assess their performance within the context of the national and global economy. This discussion continues in Section 4 Economic context.

3 The top 5 regions, 2013

3.1 Auckland

For the second year in a row Auckland City was the top ranking region. Out of the 14 regions, Auckland had the fastest growing resident population and the second fastest growth in businesses. The region was also in the top five in terms of employment growth and the generation of GDP.

1st		Auckland
2013	Resident population growth	1st
	Employment (FTE) growth	4th
	Real Value Added growth (GDP)	4th
	Business units growth	2nd
	Relative openness index	9th
2008-2013	Resident population growth	4th
	Employment (FTE) growth	2nd
	Real Value Added growth (GDP)	3rd
	Business units growth	1st
	Previous rank (2013)	*1st*

Between 2012 and 2013, the resident population grew by 1.4 percent while employment grew by 0.6 percent. During this period GDP grew by 3.7 percent and the number of businesses increased by 1.5 percent.

In 2013, approximately 623,370 FTEs were employed in 163,580 businesses in Auckland. Just over 25 percent of these businesses are part of the business services sector, while 22 percent are part of the social services sector.

Auckland City generated approximately $34.6 billion in GDP in 2013. The largest contributor to GDP in the Region is business services, generating $17.8 billion in GDP in 2013. This contribution illustrates the large number of corporate offices located in the City and the number of people employed in professional and business services, finance, and telecommunications.

Over the medium-term, Auckland has performed well across all of the key indicators as shown by the top five places in each. In the five years to 2013, the resident population has grown on average by 0.7 percent while employment has grown by approximately 0.9 percent. GDP has grown on average by 1.3 percent per annum, which is higher than the New Zealand average of 0.8 percent per annum.

Auckland City was second behind New Plymouth, while in the local authority rankings Auckland was 14th, six places further ahead than its 2013 ranking.

3.2 Canterbury

The Canterbury Region has moved up the rankings this year from eighth in 2012, to second in 2013. The region includes top performing districts such as Selwyn, Waimakariri, Ashburton, Hurunui and Waimate. These districts are in the top 10 local authorities in 2013 due to a combination of resident population, employment and/or GDP growth.

2nd		Canterbury
2013	Resident population growth	2nd
	Employment (FTE) growth	1st
	Real Value Added growth (GDP)	7th
	Business units growth	1st
	Relative openness index	8th
2008-2013	Resident population growth	12th
	Employment (FTE) growth	3rd
	Real Value Added growth (GDP)	10th
	Business units growth	5th
	Previous rank (2013)	*8th*

Approximately 257,870 FTEs were employed in the Canterbury Region in 2013. With the largest area of employment being the social services sector with approximately 56,000 FTEs, followed by the retail trade and services sector with 44,200 FTEs, and the business services sector with 42,000 FTEs. Year-on-year the Canterbury Region experienced the highest employment growth of the

The approximately 64,470 businesses within the Canterbury Region generated $24.3 billion in GDP in 2013. Of this amount, $5.7 billion was generated by the business services sector, $4.6 billion was generated by the manufacturing sector, and $3.4 billion was generated by the wholesale trade and distribution sector.

3.3 Taranaki

3rd		Taranaki
2013	Resident population growth	7th
	Employment (FTE) growth	9th
	Real Value Added growth (GDP)	3rd
	Business units growth	5th
	Relative openness index	1st
2008-2013	Resident population growth	2nd
	Employment (FTE) growth	4th
	Real Value Added growth (GDP)	9th
	Business units growth	3rd
	Previous rank (2013)	*2nd*

In 2013, the Taranaki Region shifted one ranking, from second to third. Growth was experienced across all of the indicators, but at a lower rate than other areas.

An estimated 109,750 people live in the Taranaki Region, and the resident population grew by 0.3 percent between 2012 and 2013. Year-on-year, this is lower than the medium-term performance of the Region, where the resident population grew by an average of 0.9 percent per annum. Over the last five years, the New Plymouth and Stratford Districts have experienced population growth, while the resident population of the South Taranaki District has remained stable.

In 2013, approximately 51, 110 FTEs were employed in the Taranaki Region. The largest area of employment is the social services industry, with approximately 9,680 FTEs or 19 percent of all employment in the Region. This industry is a large area of employment because it includes sectors such as hospitals and medical care, and the education sectors. This industry generated an estimated $664 million in GDP in 2013.

The Taranaki Region generated an estimated $5.9 billion in GDP in 2013. The largest contributor to regional GDP is the primary industry, particularly the oil and gas sector. In 2013, the primary industry generated an estimated $1.8 billion in GDP and the oil and gas sector contributed to approximately 58 percent of this. In total, 8,550 FTEs were employed in the primary sector in 2013.

Following the social services industry, the second and third largest areas of employment are the primary and manufacturing industries. In particular, food product manufacturing and agriculture are the largest sectors or areas of employment within these industries. Approximately nine percent all people employed in the Taranaki Region were employed in food product manufacturing in 2013.

Employment year-on-year declined by 0.7 percent. However, in the medium term employment in this region grew by an average of 0.7 percent per annum. Over the short and medium-term, business units have grown in this region, albeit at a low rate.

3.4 Nelson, Tasman, Marlborough

Between 2012 and 2013, this Region has moved up five places on the rankings. This has been due to resident population, employment, and GDP growth.

Approximately 137,000 residents lived in this area in 2013, and year-on-year the resident population grew by 0.4 percent. Over the medium-term, this population growth was slightly higher, averaging 0.6 percent per annum.

In the latest year, employment grew by 1.1 percent and an estimated 62.240 FTEs are employed in this area. The largest areas of employment are the social services and retail trade and services industries. Together, these industries employed 40 percent of the FTEs in this area in 2013.

4th	Nelson/Tasman/Marlborough	
2013	Resident population growth	6th
	Employment (FTE) growth	2nd
	Real Value Added growth (GDP)	5th
	Business units growth	7th
	Relative openness index	4th
2008-2013	Resident population growth	3rd
	Employment (FTE) growth	9th
	Real Value Added growth (GDP)	6th
	Business units growth	6th
	Previous rank (2013)	9th

The social services industry includes education, hospital and medical services, as well as the defence forces.

In turn, the retail trade and services industry includes food and beverages services, and the provision of accommodation. This area is holiday destination for domestic and international visitors, and Nelson and Blenheim are service centres for the surround rural areas.

This strong employment growth placed Nelson/Tasman/Marlborough as the number two region in terms of employment growth in the 2013 year. However, over the medium-term employment in this region has declined by an average of 0.3 percent per annum. During this same period, the number of businesses and the size of businesses have also declined.

This area generated an estimated $5.7 billion in GDP in 2013, with the largest contributions coming from the primary and manufacturing industries. Food and wood product manufacturing, the production of wine, and the agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors all contributed to this growth year-on-year.

Over the medium-term, GDP in this region has grown on average by 0.8 percent per annum. This is the same as the New Zealand average.

3.5 West Coast

Between 2012 and 2013, the resident population of the West Coast Region declined along with employment. However, GDP and the number of businesses operating in this region grew and this allowed the Region to move up one place in the regional rankings.

5th		West Coast
2013	Resident population growth	14th
	Employment (FTE) growth	14th
	Real Value Added growth (GDP)	9th
	Business units growth	6th
	Relative openness index	5th
2008-2013	Resident population growth	7th
	Employment (FTE) growth	1st
	Real Value Added growth (GDP)	2nd
	Business units growth	8th
	Previous rank (2013)	*6th*

An estimated 32,150 people were resident on the West Coast in 2013. The Grey District remains the most populated area while the Westland District is the smallest.

There were approximately 15,190 FTEs employed in the West Coast Region in 2013, and the primary industry and retail trade and services are the largest areas of employment. Approximately nine percent of all FTEs are employed in the agriculture sector while 10 percent are employed in the food and beverage services and accommodation sector.

Employment in mining and related services has declined, but an estimated 1,480 FTEs worked in this sector in 2013. This sector contributed $106 million to the $595 million of GDP generated in the West Coast regional economy in 2013; this is approximately 18 percent of the total GDP of this area.

Over the medium-term, GDP has grown by an average of 1.8 percent per annum. This strong growth has placed the West Coast at the number two ranking for GDP growth during this period.

In the short-term employment has declined in this Region. However, over the last five years employment has grown by an average of 1.6 percent per annum. This is the highest employment growth of the regions examined and higher than the New Zealand average, which was 0.4 percent per annum.

4 Economic context

4.1 National

Longer term growth in the agricultural sector will depend on the dairy sector, which accounts for more than a quarter of our total exports. The expectation is that export earnings from dairy will rise from NZ$12.9 billion this year, to NZ$17.7 billion by 2017.

A growing demand for New Zealand dairy products from Chinese consumers is pushing milksolid prices to historically high levels. However, this growth may fall sharply with a change in consumer preferences and/or demand, and a fall in commodity prices. New Zealand commodity prices and the export sector more generally, are already affected by the high New Zealand dollar, which is currently sitting at around US$ 0.82. In addition, the trade weighted index is sitting at around 76 percent. .

The real effect of the drought in the first half of 2013 will be reflected in the 2014 earnings from agriculture, and in turn our regional rankings. The drought led to a faster slaughter schedule as farmers shed their stock, this means a drop in stock numbers will be felt throughout 2014-15. This is an issue given our high external debt, parts of the rural sector being highly indebted, and households continuing to have a high debt-to-income ratio.

High external debt and current account deficit also makes the New Zealand economy very vulnerable to any changes in international financial markets. Since the Global Financial Crisis (GFC), private sector saving has increased and investment has declined. This has been partly offset by a reduction in public sector saving and some increased government spending. Overall, the Government remains committed to returning to surplus by 2014/15. This should reduce its overall domestic and offshore borrowing requirements.

Looking ahead, the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) argues that the main risk to financial stability in New Zealand is growing imbalances in the housing market. Building construction in the Auckland Region has been low for a number of years due to land use restrictions, while the housing stock in Canterbury has been depleted through the 2010 and 2011 earthquakes. These factors have led to a constrained supply. Low mortgage rates, an easing in bank lending standards, and more recently an increase in net inward migration, have in turn all increased the demand for housing.

To restrain the demand for housing, the RBNZ has responded by requiring banks to hold more capital against high loan-to-value ratio (LVR) housing loans, and restricting the proportion of new high LVR housing loans.

LVR may limit the number of first home buyers and investors, as these people usually require home loans of more than 80 percent of the property’s value, but it is too early to determine the influence of this intervention on behaviour. Further, this intervention will only restrain growth in housing credit in the short to medium-term. There still needs to be an intervention that addresses supply issues.

Table 4.1 Key Performance Indicators, New Zealand

Key Performance Indicators	2013	*5-yr ave*	*10-yr ave*
	%pa		
Resident population growth	0.8	*0.6*	*0.9*
GDP growth	2.7	*0.4*	*2.1*
GDP per capita growth	1.8	*0.8*	*1.2*
Employment Growth (FTEs)	0.2	*0.3*	*1.5*
Labour productivity growth	2.7	*0.5*	*0.7*
Business units growth	0.7	*-0.2*	*1.8*
Business size growth	-0.5	*0.6*	*-0.3*

source: BERL Regional Database 2013

Employment growth for the year ending March 2013 was 0.2 percent which is similar to the five year average of 0.3 percent but well below the long term average of 1.5 percent. Unemployment is currently sitting around 6.2 percent (September 2013 quarter). In March 2013, where this data relates to, the unemployment rate was higher at 6.5 percent.

GDP growth was 2.7 percent for the year ending March 2013. This is higher than the medium and long-term average. **Error! Reference source not found.** illustrates on a map GDP growth nationally in the year ending March 2013, while **Error! Reference source not found.** illustrates those areas that had GDP growth higher and lower than the medium-term average. This growth was driven by an increase in output from the primary and associated manufacturing sectors.

Population growth was 0.8 percent for the year ending March 2013. Population growth has averaged 0.6 percent per annum over the last five years and 0.9 percent over the last 10. In 2012 and 2013, outward migration was higher than inward migration. The majority of outward migration was to Australia. However, latest data indicates that this tide is turning and that net inward migration is growing as more New Zealanders return from Australia, and greater numbers of people choose to live in New Zealand.

4.2 International

As a small island nation that relies heavily on trade, New Zealand is vulnerable to the situation and prospects of its trading partners, and the broader global economy. The world economy underperformed across almost all regions in 2013 due to the lingering effects of the GFC, and the challenges many countries continue to face in regards to monetary and fiscal policy action.

The United Nations *World Economic Situation and Prospects 2014* argues that the global economy is expected to grow 3.0 percent in 2014, and 3.3 percent in 2015. This compares with an estimated growth of 2.1 percent throughout 2013. This forecast is based on the Euro area emerging from recession, the economies of the United States and the United Kingdom strengthening, and ongoing growth in developing economies such as India and China.

The risks to this forecast include the US Federal Reserve exiting from their quantitative easing programmes, and the potential impact this may have globally on long-term interest rates, and the flow of capital in and out of equity markets. In the Euro area, risks remain about the fragility of the banking system and the real economy.

Unemployment remains at historically high levels, and the subsequent political unrest this may cause in some countries remains a concern.

Unemployment in Greece and Spain, for example, is approximately 27 percent and youth unemployment is twice this rate. There is also ongoing uncertainty as to how much of this unemployment is structural as opposed to cyclical unemployment.

International trade has been sluggish in 2012 and 2013, and the ratio between the growth of world trade and the growth of global outputs has been low. However, this pattern varies between developed and developing economies. The demand for imports is low in developed economies, for example, as they are experiencing a downturn in consumer spending and confidence.

Appendix A What are the economic indicators?

Table 4.2 Definition of economic indicators

Economic indicator	Definition
Resident population	The resident population is the number of people living within a designated area. These areas are based on the boundaries of Statistics New Zealand Census Area Units.
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measures the total value contributed to the economy by the activities of all businesses and organisations within a defined area. In theory, it is equal to the value of the output of businesses (i.e. sales and turnover) less the purchases of goods and services from other businesses. In practise, GDP is akin to the sum of wages, salaries, profits and operating surplus arising from all economic activity within a defined area.
Business unit	A business unit is a single unit operating in one, or predominantly one, kind of economic activity from a single physical location.
Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)	Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) employment measures the number of people in employment for 30 hours or more per week. Two people who are employed part-time are measured as one full-time person.
Relative Openness Index	The BERL Relative Openness Index reflects the composition of economic activity in a city, district or region. It measures the proportion of GDP that is accounted for in an area by sectors that are open to competition from abroad, compared to that proportion nationally. Sectors in the index include all of the primary industry and manufacturing sectors, accommodation, transport, communications, and business services. A higher rank on this measure indicates an area where the economy is more orientated towards internationally competitive activities, relative to other areas with a domestic market focus.

Each indicator reflects the economic performance of a geographic area. In particular, they reflect the attractiveness of a place to live (population), its ability to sustain its population (GDP, business units and employment), and the size of non-population based activity (Relative Openness Index).

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