



Commercial Accommodation Monitor:

January 2019

Waikato

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Preface

Commercial Accommodation Monitor: January 2019 – Waikato presents comprehensive and impartial information on short-term commercial accommodation for the Waikato Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) area, from the Accommodation Survey. This survey is run by Stats NZ on behalf of the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment.

The data relates to the areas covered by the following local authorities:

- Hamilton City
- Matamata-Piako District
- Otorohanga District
- South Waikato District
- Waikato District (excluding the area transferred in from Franklin District on 1 November 2010)
- Waipa District
- Waitomo District

Comparisons of monthly data with the same month of the previous year need to be treated with caution, as data for one period may be influenced by events for which there is no equivalent in the previous period (eg Chinese New Year, Easter).

More data and commentary is available on the stats NZ website (www.stats.govt.nz).

The February 2019 monitor will be released on 15 April 2019.

Liz MacPherson
Government Statistician

Standards and further information

Percentage changes

Percentage movements are, in a number of cases, calculated using data of greater precision than that published. This could result in slight variations.

Rounding procedures

On occasion, figures are rounded to the nearest thousand or some other convenient unit. This may result in a total disagreeing slightly with the total of the individual items as shown in tables. Where figures are rounded the unit is in general expressed in words below the table headings, but where space does not allow this the unit may be shown as (000) for thousands, etc.

Source

All data is compiled by Stats NZ, except where otherwise stated. Both administrative and survey data has been used in this report.

Liability

While all care and diligence has been used in processing, analysing and extracting data and information in this report, Stats NZ gives no warranty it is error free and will not be liable for any loss or damage suffered as a result of the use, directly or indirectly, of information in this report.

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1 Highlights

Monthly highlights

In January 2019 compared with January 2018:

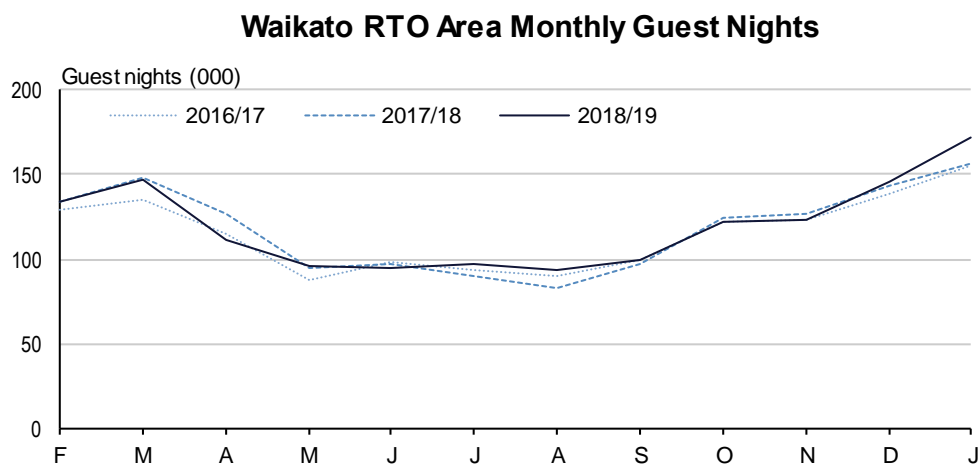
- Guest nights rose 10.0 percent to 171,855
- International guest nights fell 2.4 percent to 45,656
- Domestic guest nights rose 15.4 percent to 126,199
- The average length of stay rose from 1.97 nights to 2.14 nights
- The overall occupancy rate rose from 52.1 percent to 54.7 percent
- The occupancy rate, excluding holiday parks, was 62.9 percent in January 2019
- Accommodation capacity, excluding holiday parks, fell 0.2 percent.

Response rates for January 2019

The response rate for the Waikato RTO area was 84 percent for January 2019.

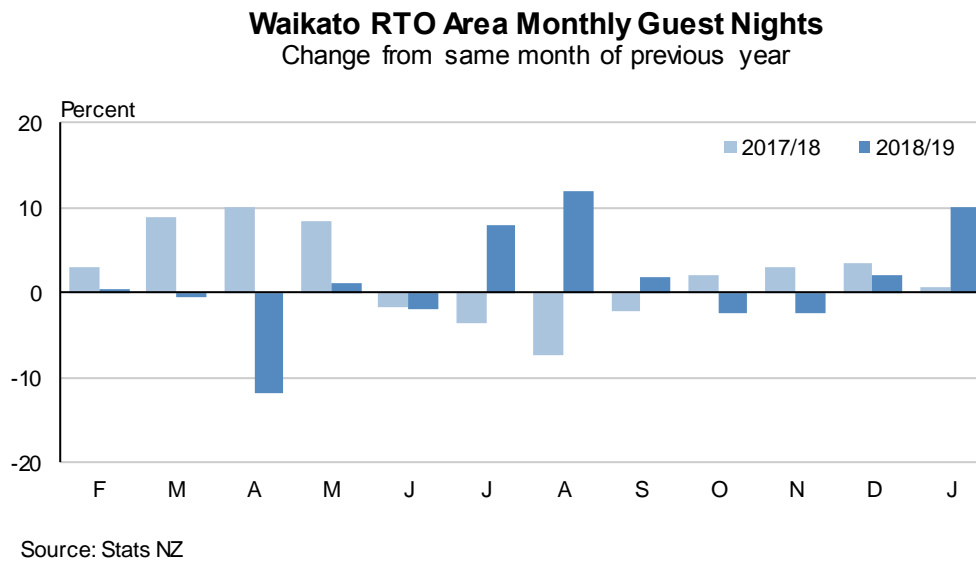
The proportion of the origin-of-guest estimate from unadjusted data was 69 percent.

Figure 1.1



Source: Stats NZ

Figure 1.2

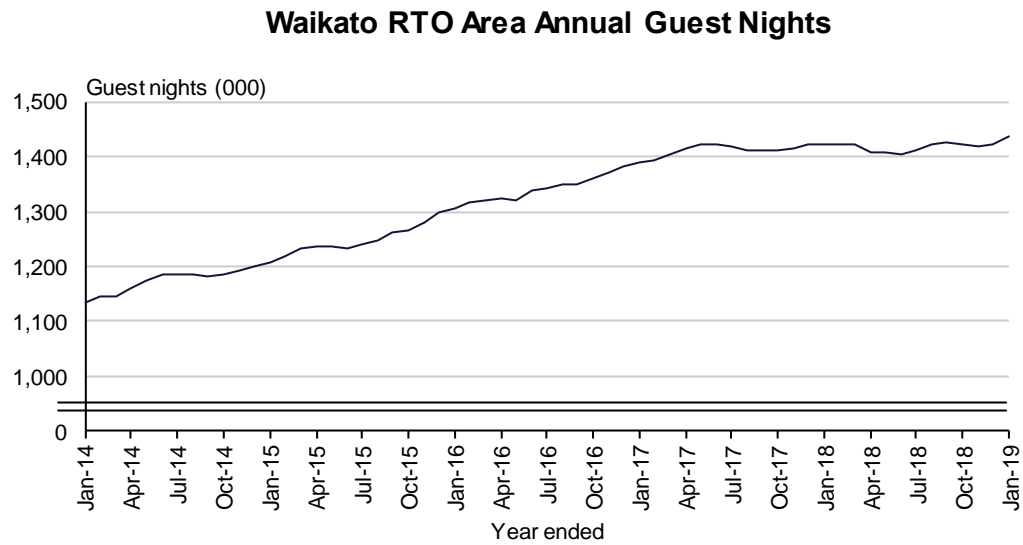


Year ended highlights

For the year ended January 2019 compared with the previous year:

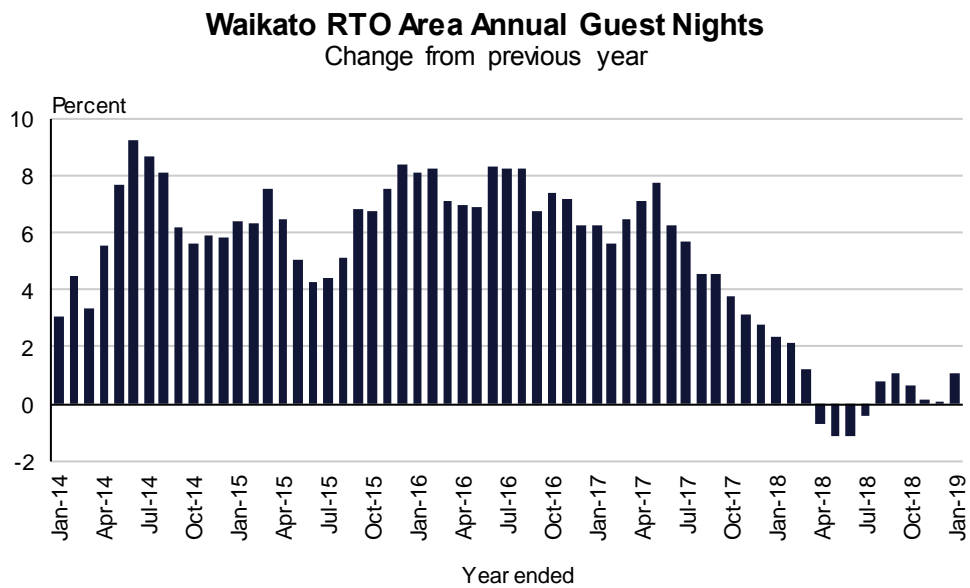
- Guest nights rose 1.1 percent to 1,436,539
- International guest nights fell 1.1 percent to 374,346
- Domestic guest nights rose 1.8 percent to 1,062,193
- The average length of stay rose from 1.83 nights to 1.89 nights
- The overall occupancy rate fell from 43.8 percent to 43.3 percent
- The occupancy rate, excluding holiday parks, was 57.6 percent for the year ended January 2019
- Accommodation capacity, excluding holiday parks, rose 2.2 percent.

Figure 1.3



Source: Stats NZ

Figure 1.4



Source: Stats NZ

2 Accommodation variables

In January 2019, compared with January 2018, there was an increase of 10.0 percent in total guest nights for the Waikato RTO area. Motels had the largest increase, followed by holiday parks.

For the year ended January 2019, compared with the previous January year, total guest nights for the Waikato RTO area increased 1.1 percent. Holiday parks had the largest increase, followed by backpackers. Hotels had the only decrease.

See table 2.1 for comparisons of data across the main accommodation variables.

Table 2.1

Waikato Accommodation Variables*By accommodation type
Monthly and year ended⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾*

Accommodation type	Monthly			Annual		
	January		Percentage change	Year ended		Percentage change
	2018	2019		January 2018	January 2019	
Guest nights						
Total guest nights	156,188	171,855	10.0	1,421,287	1,436,539	1.1
International	46,787	45,656	-2.4	378,332	374,346	-1.1
Domestic	109,401	126,199	15.4	1,042,955	1,062,193	1.8
Hotels	27,449	29,869	8.8	352,073	338,476	-3.9
Motels/apartments	58,990	67,209	13.9	666,373	672,280	0.9
Backpackers	15,488	16,823	8.6	120,715	129,421	7.2
Holiday parks	54,261	57,954	6.8	282,127	296,362	5.0
Occupancy rates ⁽³⁾ (%)						
Hotels	55.0	56.6	2.9	65.7	61.6	-6.2
Motels/apartments	63.4	66.2	4.4	66.1	64.8	-2.0
Backpackers	53.2	63.5	19.3	37.2	39.0	5.0
Holiday parks	41.7	41.1	-1.4	19.6	19.5	-0.4
Total	52.1	54.7	4.9	43.8	43.3	-1.0
Total excluding holiday parks ⁽⁴⁾	58.5	62.9	7.4	58.8	57.6	-2.0
Average length of stay ⁽⁵⁾						
Hotels	1.83	2.02	10.1	1.86	1.84	-1.4
Motels/apartments	1.72	1.95	13.4	1.77	1.89	6.8
Backpackers	1.69	1.76	3.9	1.80	1.74	-3.6
Holiday parks	2.60	2.70	3.6	1.94	2.00	3.5
Total	1.97	2.14	8.6	1.83	1.89	3.2
Guest arrivals						
Hotels	14,989	14,808	-1.2	189,193	184,444	-2.5
Motels/apartments	34,235	34,402	0.5	375,858	355,123	-5.5
Backpackers	9,159	9,579	4.6	66,896	74,437	11.3
Holiday parks	20,834	21,485	3.1	145,762	147,971	1.5
Total	79,218	80,275	1.3	777,710	761,975	-2.0
Establishments						
Hotels	20	21	5.0	20	21	5.0
Motels/apartments	85	86	1.2	85	86	1.2
Backpackers	14	14	0.0	14	14	0.0
Holiday parks	23	22	-4.3	23	22	-4.3
Total	142	143	0.7	142	143	0.7
Capacity ⁽⁶⁾						
Hotels	27,714	28,427	2.6	319,808	330,050	3.2
Motels/apartments	48,267	49,724	3.0	566,357	581,718	2.7
Backpackers	25,389	22,971	-9.5	293,667	294,571	0.3
Holiday parks	62,496	61,504	-1.6	733,479	723,245	-1.4
Total	163,866	162,626	-0.8	1,913,311	1,929,584	0.9

(1) Reclassifications, new businesses, ceased businesses, and temporary closures may affect figures.

(2) Irregular events, such as airshows and Easter, may affect percentage changes and other figures.

(3) Occupancy rates are calculated as the ratio of used stay-unit nights to available stay-unit nights.

(4) Holiday parks often have high capacity and can mislead when included in total occupancy rates.

(5) Average length of stay is calculated as the ratio of guest nights to guest arrivals.

(6) Capacity is calculated as the number of available stay-units multiplied by the number of days in the month.

Symbol:

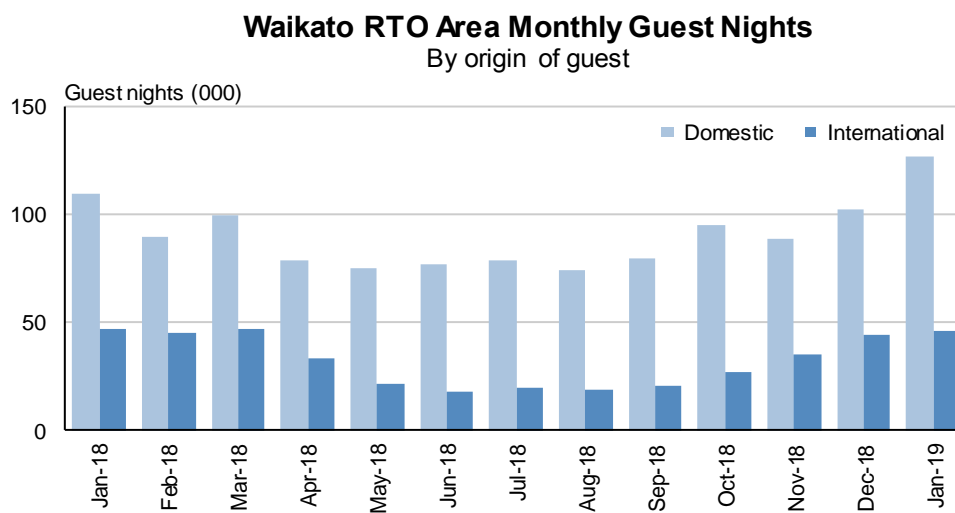
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3 Origin of guests

In January 2019, international guests accounted for 26.6 percent of all guest nights in the Waikato RTO area. When compared with January 2018, the number of international guest nights spent in the area in January 2019 was down 2.4 percent to 45,656. Domestic guest nights increased 15.4 percent, to 126,199, for the same period.

The proportion of the origin-of-guest estimate from actual data was 69 percent for January 2019.

Figure 3.1



Source: Stats NZ

Table 3.1

Waikato and New Zealand Monthly Guest Nights*By origin of guest*

		Waikato RTO ⁽¹⁾ area			New Zealand		
		Origin of guest		Total	Origin of guest		Total
		Domestic	International		Domestic	International	
Month							
2018	Jan	109,401	46,787	156,188	2,851,307	2,117,813	4,969,120
	Feb	89,352	44,912	134,265	1,938,307	2,092,637	4,030,944
	Mar	99,683	47,209	146,892	2,180,388	1,996,067	4,176,455
	Apr	78,515	32,957	111,472	1,860,719	1,569,372	3,430,091
	May	74,566	21,430	95,996	1,493,682	1,047,474	2,541,156
	Jun	76,905	18,000	94,905	1,443,331	824,407	2,267,738
	Jul	78,302	19,322	97,624	1,688,075	989,310	2,677,385
	Aug	74,244	19,103	93,347	1,571,502	952,679	2,524,181
	Sep	79,151	20,040	99,191	1,701,704	1,046,180	2,747,884
	Oct	94,898	26,772	121,670	1,954,146	1,314,205	3,268,352
	Nov	88,309	35,173	123,482	1,804,941	1,730,166	3,535,107
	Dec	102,067	43,774	145,841	2,289,702	1,908,866	4,198,568
2019	Jan	126,199	45,656	171,855	2,879,204	2,088,517	4,967,720
Percent change from the current month of the previous year							
		15.4	-2.4	10.0	1.0	-1.4	0.0
Year ended							
January 2018		1,042,955	378,332	1,421,287	22,231,557	17,302,538	39,534,095
January 2019		1,062,193	374,346	1,436,539	22,805,700	17,559,881	40,365,581
Percent change from previous year							
		1.8	-1.1	1.1	2.6	1.5	2.1

(1) Regional tourism organisation

4 National results

In January 2019, a total of 4,968,000 guest nights were spent in short-term commercial accommodation in New Zealand, relatively unchanged (0.0 percent) from 4,969,000 nights in January 2018. The North Island recorded an increase (up 22,000 or 0.8 percent) while the South Island recorded a decrease (down 24,000 or 1.1 percent).

The accommodation types recorded mixed results in guest nights in January 2019, compared with January 2018. Backpackers had the largest decrease in guest nights (down 25,000 or 4.2 percent), followed by hotels (relatively unchanged down 2,000 or 0.1 percent). Holiday parks had the largest increase in guest nights (up 14,000 or 0.8 percent), followed by motels (up 11,000 or 0.9 percent).

For the year ended January 2019, there were 40,366,000 guest nights, an increase of 831,000 (2.1 percent) from the previous January year.

Refer to Table 4.1 for comparisons of data.

Table 4.1

Waikato and New Zealand Guest Nights

*By accommodation type
Monthly and year ended*

Accommodation type	Total guest nights			Percentage change	
	2017	2018	2019	2017 to 2018	2018 to 2019
January month					
Waikato RTO area					
Hotels	22,973	27,449	29,869	19.5	8.8
Motels	65,205	58,990	67,209	-9.5	13.9
Backpackers	16,142	15,488	16,823	-4.1	8.6
Holiday parks	50,951	54,261	57,954	6.5	6.8
Total	155,272	156,188	171,855	0.6	10.0
New Zealand					
Hotels	1,310,167	1,388,775	1,386,816	6.0	-0.1
Motels	1,368,206	1,321,337	1,332,732	-3.4	0.9
Backpackers	593,516	579,891	555,372	-2.3	-4.2
Holiday parks	1,627,566	1,679,117	1,692,800	3.2	0.8
Total	4,899,455	4,969,120	4,967,720	1.4	0.0
Year ended January					
Waikato RTO area					
Hotels	326,531	352,073	338,476	7.8	-3.9
Motels	654,776	666,373	672,280	1.8	0.9
Backpackers	125,074	120,715	129,421	-3.5	7.2
Holiday parks	282,105	282,127	296,362	0.0	5.0
Total	1,388,485	1,421,287	1,436,539	2.4	1.1
New Zealand					
Hotels	13,583,699	14,011,409	14,455,060	3.1	3.2
Motels	12,157,155	12,312,320	12,494,615	1.3	1.5
Backpackers	5,162,619	5,196,435	5,036,791	0.7	-3.1
Holiday parks	7,652,988	8,013,932	8,379,116	4.7	4.6
Total	38,556,462	39,534,095	40,365,581	2.5	2.1

5 Regional comparison

In January 2019, Rotorua recorded the largest decrease in guest nights (down 20,000 or 7.3 percent) from January 2018. This was followed by West Coast (down 13,000 or 7.0 percent), Dunedin (down 8,000 or 8.1 percent), Central Otago (down 8,000 or 10.6 percent), and Wanaka (down 7,000 or 4.8 percent).

Auckland recorded the largest increase (up 21,000 or 3.0 percent), followed by Coromandel (up 17,000 or 9.1 percent), Waikato (up 16,000 or 10.0 percent), Mackenzie (up 8,000 or 7.9 percent), and Queenstown (up 4,000 or 1.0 percent).

Table 5.1

Regional Tourism Organisation Areas' Monthly Guest Nights*By origin of guest*

RTO area	January guest nights								
	Domestic			International			Total		
	2018	2019	Percent age change	2018	2019	Percent age change	2018	2019	Percent age change
Northland	267,363	269,735	0.9	101,824	96,035	-5.7	369,187	365,770	-0.9
Auckland	355,679	356,626	0.3	352,664	373,060	5.8	708,344	729,686	3.0
Coromandel	145,100	166,121	14.5	44,167	40,349	-8.6	189,267	206,470	9.1
Waikato	109,401	126,199	15.4	46,787	45,656	-2.4	156,188	171,855	10.0
Bay of Plenty	140,258	132,045	-5.9	33,619	35,361	5.2	173,877	167,406	-3.7
Rotorua	141,896	139,839	-1.4	138,883	120,569	-13.2	280,780	260,408	-7.3
Taupo	91,002	91,420	0.5	61,721	56,300	-8.8	152,723	147,720	-3.3
Whakatane-									
Kawerau	55,549	53,718	-3.3	10,648	6,768	-36.4	66,196	60,485	-8.6
Gisborne	60,628	64,368	6.2	8,863	8,628	-2.7	69,491	72,995	5.0
Taranaki	75,701	77,548	2.4	16,800	15,851	-5.6	92,501	93,399	1.0
Hawke's Bay	125,345	129,854	3.6	44,936	40,007	-11.0	170,281	169,860	-0.2
Ruapehu	25,738	22,928	-10.9	24,956	26,237	5.1	50,694	49,165	-3.0
Manawatu	37,194	40,568	9.1	8,445	7,313	-13.4	45,639	47,881	4.9
Whanganui	17,397	18,850	8.4	5,313	4,442	-16.4	22,711	23,292	2.6
Wairarapa	26,958	29,696	10.2	7,320	6,035	-17.6	34,278	35,731	4.2
Kapiti-Horowhenua	32,788	34,351	4.8	5,783	6,396	10.6	38,571	40,748	5.6
Wellington	144,837	149,214	3.0	95,996	91,702	-4.5	240,834	240,917	0.0
Marlborough	54,262	56,816	4.7	47,036	45,998	-2.2	101,298	102,814	1.5
Nelson-Tasman	190,065	186,586	-1.8	88,022	86,344	-1.9	278,087	272,930	-1.9
Canterbury	218,176	218,468	0.1	216,075	218,984	1.3	434,250	437,452	0.7
Hurunui	34,678	34,338	-1.0	15,493	17,498	12.9	50,171	51,836	3.3
Mackenzie	31,582	34,645	9.7	69,148	74,064	7.1	100,730	108,709	7.9
Timaru	28,508	26,236	-8.0	12,478	12,112	-2.9	40,985	38,348	-6.4
West Coast	70,164	57,220	-18.4	119,188	118,964	-0.2	189,352	176,184	-7.0
Wanaka	69,987	63,605	-9.1	67,581	67,347	-0.3	137,568	130,951	-4.8
Queenstown	96,673	105,235	8.9	279,006	274,303	-1.7	375,679	379,538	1.0
Waitaki	39,182	36,496	-6.9	24,285	26,399	8.7	63,468	62,894	-0.9
Central Otago	58,683	53,568	-8.7	14,546	11,878	-18.3	73,229	65,446	-10.6
Dunedin	47,656	46,344	-2.8	49,687	43,142	-13.2	97,343	89,487	-8.1
Clutha	5,862	7,131	21.7	4,857	5,291	8.9	10,718	12,422	15.9
Fiordland	25,256	26,674	5.6	75,792	78,182	3.2	101,048	104,856	3.8
Southland	27,738	22,761	-17.9	25,894	27,301	5.4	53,632	50,062	-6.7
Total	2,851,307	2,879,204	1.0	2,117,813	2,088,517	-1.4	4,969,120	4,967,720	0.0

Table 5.2

Regional Tourism Organisation Areas' Monthly Occupancy Rates⁽¹⁾*By accommodation type*

RTO area	January 2019 occupancy rate					
	Accommodation type					Total excluding holiday parks ⁽²⁾
	Hotels	Motels	Backpackers	Holiday parks	Total	
	Percent					
Northland	68.0	73.7	58.0	44.9	53.6	67.3
Auckland	77.4	63.3	63.9	40.7	67.7	71.5
Coromandel	60.4	71.6	37.0	48.1	50.4	55.9
Waikato	56.6	66.2	63.5	41.1	54.7	62.9
Bay of Plenty	63.2	74.1	50.6	47.8	55.3	62.6
Rotorua	81.9	76.9	39.1	49.8	60.8	63.8
Taupo	72.8	75.0	60.7	35.0	57.9	69.2
Whakatane-Kawerau	C	72.8	C	C	42.4	C
Gisborne	C	77.0	C	32.1	42.1	65.6
Taranaki	46.7	56.5	38.1	55.9	52.1	49.5
Hawke's Bay	76.1	81.0	57.4	51.0	64.4	73.1
Ruapehu	56.8	36.5	24.9	52.2	37.9	35.1
Manawatu	35.1	49.9	C	C	38.9	C
Whanganui	C	53.9	65.1	C	43.5	C
Wairarapa	C	62.5	C	26.5	38.3	53.9
Kapiti-Horowhenua	C	59.1	C	30.7	33.9	38.4
Wellington	70.2	66.5	C	C	62.9	C
Marlborough	74.9	77.1	51.9	45.1	58.4	67.1
Nelson-Tasman	67.9	72.9	68.6	53.8	61.4	70.3
Canterbury	73.3	68.0	51.1	35.7	55.0	64.4
Hurunui	C	65.9	C	35.5	45.6	54.0
Mackenzie	C	74.9	C	67.5	75.2	79.1
Timaru	C	63.9	C	32.4	42.4	56.4
West Coast	59.2	67.1	50.9	45.8	55.0	58.7
Wanaka	71.9	89.3	72.7	59.4	67.5	76.6
Queenstown	84.4	77.7	74.0	56.0	76.4	79.6
Waitaki	47.4	66.1	47.0	11.3	20.0	54.7
Central Otago	C	83.0	C	28.8	38.1	66.6
Dunedin	57.9	64.6	43.1	51.8	56.1	57.2
Clutha	C	54.5	C	28.9	39.7	50.4
Fiordland	C	78.0	C	61.8	68.9	72.9
Southland	52.0	51.5	44.2	28.5	42.8	49.4
Total	71.6	68.3	54.9	41.4	56.7	65.5

(1) Occupancy rates are calculated as the ratio of stay unit nights to monthly capacity.

(2) Occupancy rates excluding holiday parks are included because the capacity of holiday parks can distort the total occupancy rates.

Symbols:

C confidential

... not applicable

6 Local authority area results

Table 6.1 shows results for the individual local authority areas in the Waikato RTO area.

Table 6.1

Local Authority and Waikato Accommodation Results⁽¹⁾

Accommodation type	January 2019 results				
	Establish-ments	Capacity	Guest Nights	Average stay length	Occupancy rate
	Number			Days	Percent
Waikato District					
Hotels	4	1,953	915	1.13	32.10
Motels	8	3,193	2,962	1.58	41.38
Backpackers	3	4,092	C	C	C
Holiday parks	4	16,523	C	C	C
Total	19	25,761	28,605	3.30	51.31
Hamilton City					
Hotels	8	21,297	24,030	2.26	60.09
Motels	40	29,729	41,421	2.18	69.37
Backpackers	3	4,960	C	C	C
Holiday parks	1	2,201	C	C	C
Total	52	58,187	71,360	2.13	64.03
Waipa District					
Hotels	3	961	C	C	C
Motels	13	6,851	10,375	1.97	67.00
Backpackers	4	7,285	C	C	C
Holiday parks	4	17,856	C	C	C
Total	24	32,953	26,746	2.48	43.34
Otorohanga and Waitomo Districts					
Hotels	3	1,705	C	C	C
Motels	11	4,433	5,047	1.54	55.21
Backpackers	3	5,332	C	C	C
Holiday parks	9	17,267	14,827	1.82	40.23
Total	26	28,737	27,747	1.61	51.54

Table 6.1(continued)

Local Authority and Waikato Accommodation Results

Accommodation type	January 2019 results				
	Establish- ments	Capacity	Guest Nights	Average stay length	Occupancy rate
	Number			Days	Percent
Matamata-Piako and South Waikato Districts					
Hotels	3	2,511	C	C	C
Motels	14	5,518	7,404	1.49	71.23
Backpackers	1	1,302	C	C	C
Holiday parks	4	7,657	C	C	C
Total	22	16,988	17,397	1.72	54.86
Waikato Regional Tourism Organisation area					
Hotels	21	28,427	29,869	2.02	56.57
Motels	86	49,724	67,209	1.95	66.19
Backpackers	14	22,971	16,823	1.76	63.51
Holiday parks	22	61,504	57,954	2.70	41.14
Total	143	162,626	171,855	2.14	54.66

(1) The Accommodation Survey is designed at the regional (RTO by accommodation type) level to meet data quality standards. Care should therefore be taken with data at the local authority level.

Symbol:

C confidential

... not applicable

7 Accommodation Survey technical notes

Data source

We collect data from accommodation providers or their representatives each month, mostly via a postal survey.

Coverage

The Accommodation Survey covers most short-term commercial accommodation in New Zealand.

The target population for this survey is all accommodation providers with the following characteristics:

- operating on a commercial basis
- providing mainly short-term (less than one month) accommodation
- economically significant (generally meaning being GST-registered and having a turnover of at least \$30,000 per year)
- included in class 4400 (accommodation) or class 4520 (pubs, taverns, and bars) in ANZSIC06 (Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 2006)
- classified to 'hotels', 'motels', 'backpacker accommodation', or 'holiday parks'.

Excluded:

- hosted accommodation (such as 'bed & breakfast' establishments)
- marine vessels (such as cruise ships)
- private dwellings
- tramping huts (non-commercial)
- event-specific accommodation (such as temporary campervan parks)
- businesses that cease operation or no longer provide short-term commercial accommodation
- businesses that temporarily shut down (eg for renovations) – we remove them from the survey until they re-open.

Accommodation type classification

The predominant capacity provided by a business determines the accommodation type. For instance, if the business provides both motel and camping ground accommodation, but the majority of its stay units are motel rooms, then we classify it as a motel. We use the New Zealand Accommodation Classification, broadly defined below:

- hotels (including resorts)
- motels (including motor inns and serviced apartments)
- backpacker accommodation (including short-stay hostels)
- holiday parks (including caravan parks and camping grounds).

Confidentiality

'C' symbols are used in the tables where information has been suppressed. We do not release data from individual businesses.

Changes to survey content

Establishments may change the way they operate over time. If they do, they may be reclassified from one accommodation type to another. For example, if a holiday park adds sufficient motel units that it is operating more as a motel than a holiday park, it will be subject to reclassification to the 'motels' accommodation type. This type of change will tend to reduce surveyed guest nights and other figures for holiday parks (because there would be one fewer holiday park) while boosting guest nights and other figures for motels (because there would be one more motel).

Guest night and other movements, where the latest month is compared with the same month of the previous year, are affected for 12 months from the time that any reclassification is done. After 12 months, the reclassified establishment will appear in the same accommodation type in both comparison months.

Reclassifications of establishments are not the only changes that affect survey content and figures for the Accommodation Survey:

- When establishments temporarily cease operations, we take them out of the survey until they re-open. These changes affect figures for the number of establishments and available capacity.
- Businesses that start up, shut down, or move into or out of the short-term commercial accommodation industry also affect survey figures.

Survey errors

This survey aims for 100 percent coverage of the accommodation businesses in New Zealand (a full census). However, in practice, the overall response rate is usually between 76 and 80 percent. We estimate values for the remaining units based on the characteristics of similar establishments in the same or similar regions. This introduces unknown errors into the estimates, and users of the data should bear this in mind. The size of these unknown errors is difficult to quantify.

Other errors include respondent error, and errors in coverage, classification, and processing. Our editing processes identify and remove many errors, but some will likely remain. We cannot quantify the effect of the remaining errors.

Comparability

Accommodation Survey statistics are not always on the same basis as statistics from other sources. For example, 'average length of stay' in the Accommodation Survey is for all guests (domestic plus international), but in the [International Visitor Arrivals to New Zealand](#) reports, it is only for international guests.

More information

For further information on the Accommodation Survey, refer to webpage <https://www.stats.govt.nz/topics/accommodation>