



# Commercial Accommodation Monitor:

## January 2019

Whanganui

[newzealand.govt.nz](https://newzealand.govt.nz)

### **Reproduction of material**

Material in this report may be reproduced and published, provided that it does not purport to be published under government authority and that acknowledgement is made of this source.

### **Citation**

Stats NZ (2019). *Commercial Accommodation Monitor: January 2019– Whanganui*. Wellington: Stats NZ.

### **Published in March 2019 by**

Stats NZ  
Tatauranga Aotearoa  
Wellington, New Zealand

---

## Preface

Commercial Accommodation Monitor: January 2019 – Whanganui presents comprehensive and impartial information on short-term commercial accommodation for the Whanganui 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 authority:

- Whanganui 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](http://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.

### Stats NZ Information Centre

For help finding and using statistical information available on our website, contact the Information Centre:

Email:	<a href="mailto:info@stats.govt.nz">info@stats.govt.nz</a>
Phone toll-free:	0508 525 525
Phone international:	+64 4 931 4600
Fax:	+64 4 931 4610
Post:	P O Box 2922, Wellington 6140, New Zealand
Website:	<a href="http://www.stats.govt.nz">www.stats.govt.nz</a>

### Contact for the Commercial Accommodation Monitor

Zara Darbyshire  
Wellington 04 931 4600  
Email: [info@stats.govt.nz](mailto:info@stats.govt.nz)

# Contents

<b>List of tables and figures .....</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>1    Highlights .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Monthly highlights .....	1
Year ended highlights .....	2
<b>2    Accommodation variables .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3    Origin of guests .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4    National results .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>5    Regional comparison .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>6    Accommodation Survey technical notes.....</b>	<b>12</b>

# List of tables and figures

## Tables by chapter

### 2 Accommodation variables

2.1 Whanganui accommodation variables by accommodation type.....	5
--	---

### 3 Origin of guests

3.1 Whanganui and New Zealand monthly guest nights by origin of guest.....	7
--	---

### 4 National results

4.1 Whanganui and New Zealand guest nights by accommodation type.....	8
---	---

### 5 Regional comparison

5.1 Regional tourism organisation areas' monthly guest nights by origin of guest.....	10
---	----

5.2 Regional tourism organisation areas' monthly occupancy rates by accommodation type .....	11
--	----

## Figures by chapter

### 1 Highlights

1.1 Whanganui RTO area monthly guest nights.....	1
--	---

1.2 Whanganui RTO area monthly guest nights, change from same month of previous year.....	2
---	---

1.3 Whanganui RTO area annual guest nights.....	3
---	---

1.4 Whanganui RTO area annual guest nights, change from previous year.....	3
--	---

### 3 Origin of guests

3.1 Whanganui RTO area monthly guest nights, by origin of guest.....	6
--	---

# 1 Highlights

## Monthly highlights

In January 2019 compared with January 2018:

- Guest nights rose 2.6 percent to 23,292
- International guest nights fell 16.4 percent to 4,442
- Domestic guest nights rose 8.4 percent to 18,850
- The average length of stay fell from 1.92 nights to 1.87 nights
- The overall occupancy rate rose from 38.7 percent to 43.5 percent
- Accommodation capacity, excluding holiday parks, rose 0.2 percent.

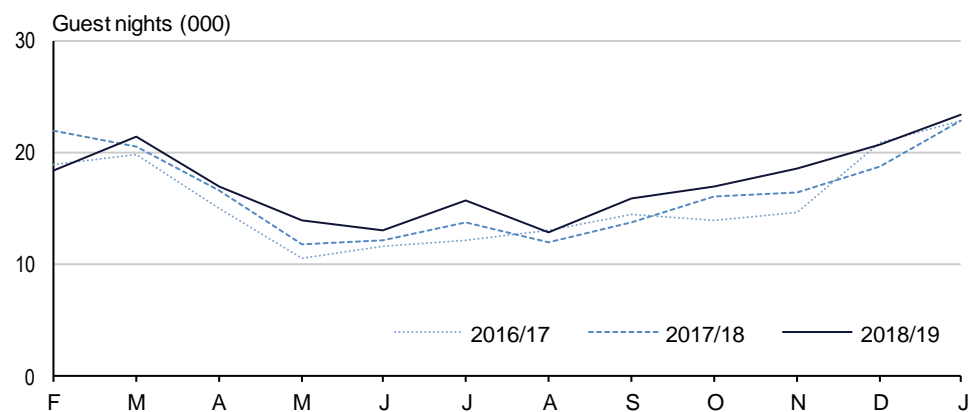
## Response rates for January 2019

The response rate for the Whanganui RTO area was 86 percent for January 2019.

The proportion of the origin-of-guest estimate from unadjusted data was 74 percent.

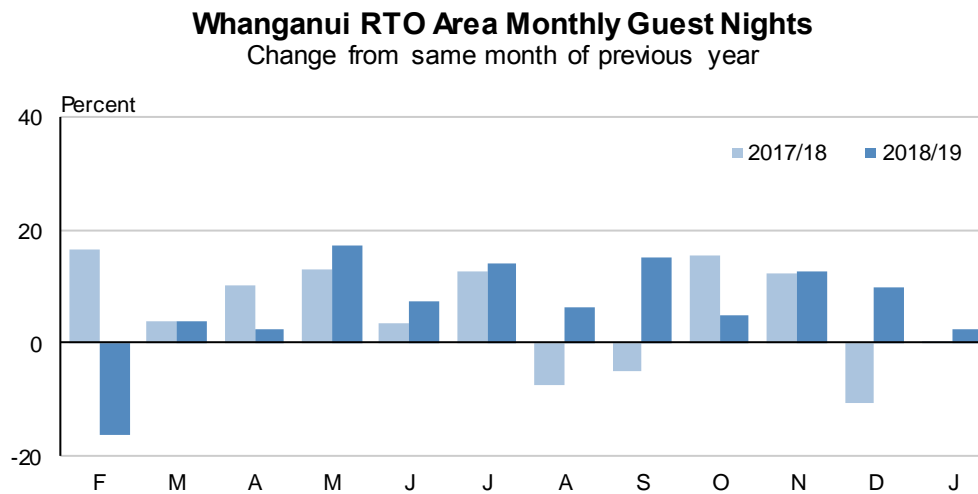
Figure 1.1

### Whanganui RTO Area Monthly Guest Nights



Source: Stats NZ

Figure 1.2



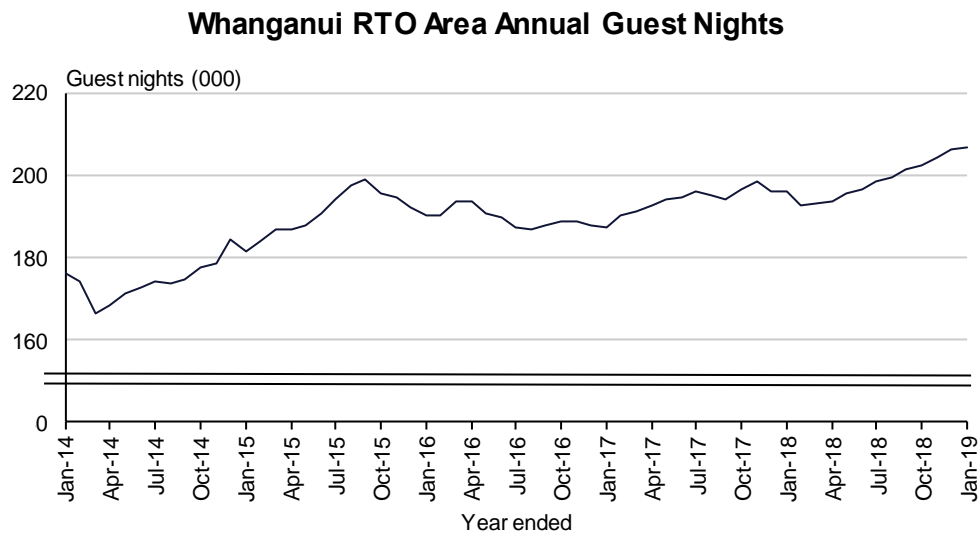
Source: Stats NZ

## Year ended highlights

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

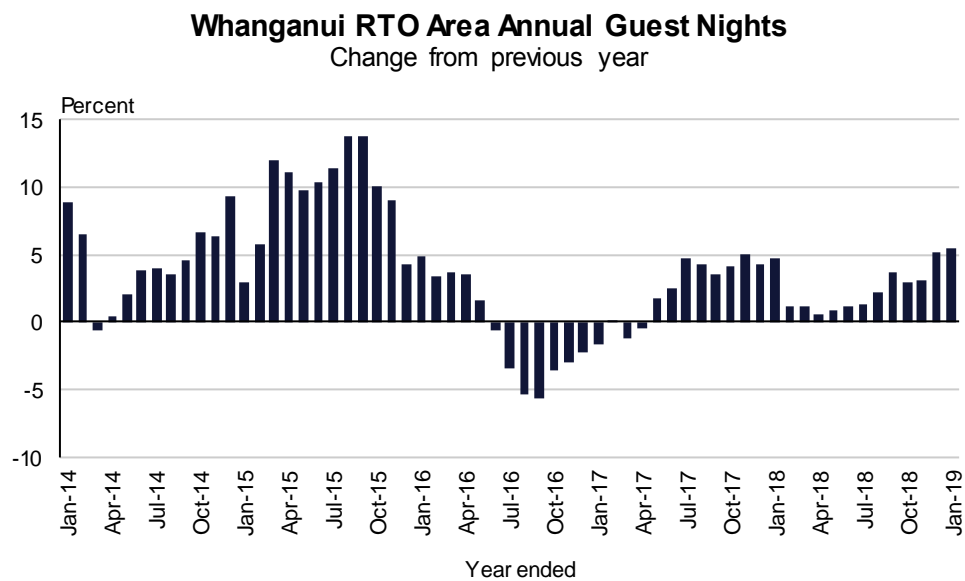
- Guest nights rose 5.5 percent to 206,743
- International guest nights fell 5.3 percent to 42,707
- Domestic guest nights rose 8.7 percent to 164,036
- The average length of stay rose from 1.77 nights to 1.86 nights
- The overall occupancy rate rose from 32.7 percent to 35.1 percent
- Accommodation capacity, excluding holiday parks, fell 0.8 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 2.6 percent in total guest nights for the Whanganui RTO area.

For the year ended January 2019, compared with the previous January year, total guest nights for the Whanganui RTO area increased 5.5 percent.

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

Table 2.1

**Whanganui Accommodation Variables***By accommodation type  
Monthly and year ended<sup>(1)(2)</sup>*

Accommodation type	Monthly			Annual		
	January		Percentage change	Year ended		Percentage change
	2018	2019		January 2018	January 2019	
Guest nights						
Total guest nights	22,711	23,292	2.6	196,042	206,743	5.5
International	5,313	4,442	-16.4	45,097	42,707	-5.3
Domestic	17,397	18,850	8.4	150,945	164,036	8.7
Hotels	C	C	C	C	C	C
Motels/apartments	9,639	10,144	5.2	100,877	111,203	10.2
Backpackers	3,205	3,256	1.6	25,042	C	C
Holiday parks	C	C	C	C	C	C
Occupancy rates <sup>(3)</sup> (%)						
Hotels	C	C	C	C	C	C
Motels/apartments	54.7	53.9	-1.5	52.7	54.5	3.4
Backpackers	47.8	65.1	36.1	C	51.3	C
Holiday parks	C	C	C	C	C	C
Total	38.7	43.5	12.3	32.7	35.1	7.3
Total excluding holiday parks <sup>(4)</sup>	C	C	C	C	C	C
Average length of stay <sup>(5)</sup>						
Hotels	C	C	C	C	C	C
Motels/apartments	1.68	1.66	-1.3	1.62	1.71	6.0
Backpackers	1.89	1.90	0.3	2.05	C	C
Holiday parks	C	C	C	C	C	C
Total	1.92	1.87	-2.4	1.77	1.86	4.9
Guest arrivals						
Hotels	C	C	C	C	C	C
Motels/apartments	5,726	6,104	6.6	62,338	64,847	4.0
Backpackers	1,692	1,714	1.3	12,238	14,737	20.4
Holiday parks	C	C	C	C	C	C
Total	11,843	12,445	5.1	110,454	111,075	0.6
Establishments						
Hotels	3	3	0.0	3	3	0.0
Motels/apartments	17	17	0.0	17	17	0.0
Backpackers	5	5	0.0	5	5	0.0
Holiday parks	4	4	0.0	4	4	0.0
Total	29	29	0.0	29	29	0.0
Capacity <sup>(6)</sup>						
Hotels	3,441	3,472	0.9	41,053	40,852	-0.5
Motels/apartments	9,672	9,672	0.0	113,668	113,880	0.2
Backpackers	3,689	3,689	0.0	41,135	39,610	-3.7
Holiday parks	11,408	11,408	0.0	133,596	134,196	0.4
Total	28,210	28,241	0.1	329,452	328,538	-0.3

(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:**

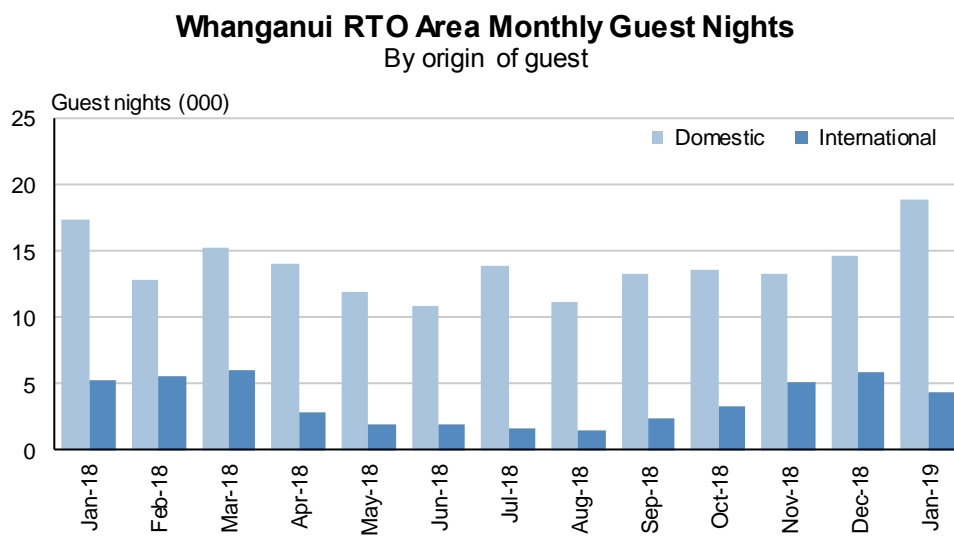
C confidential

### 3 Origin of guests

In January 2019, international guests accounted for 19.1 percent of all guest nights in the Whanganui RTO area. When compared with January 2018, the number of international guest nights spent in the area in January 2019 was down 16.4 percent to 4,442. Domestic guest nights increased 8.4 percent, to 18,850, for the same period.

The proportion of the origin-of-guest estimate from actual data was 74 percent for January 2019.

Figure 3.1



Source: Stats NZ

Table 3.1

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

		Whanganui RTO <sup>(1)</sup> area			New Zealand		
		Origin of guest		Total	Origin of guest		Total
		Domestic	International		Domestic	International	
<b>Month</b>							
2018	Jan	17,397	5,313	22,711	2,851,307	2,117,813	4,969,120
	Feb	12,883	5,510	18,393	1,938,307	2,092,637	4,030,944
	Mar	15,314	6,001	21,315	2,180,388	1,996,067	4,176,455
	Apr	14,007	2,895	16,902	1,860,719	1,569,372	3,430,091
	May	11,966	1,882	13,848	1,493,682	1,047,474	2,541,156
	Jun	10,947	1,970	12,917	1,443,331	824,407	2,267,738
	Jul	13,966	1,660	15,627	1,688,075	989,310	2,677,385
	Aug	11,171	1,567	12,738	1,571,502	952,679	2,524,181
	Sep	13,339	2,441	15,780	1,701,704	1,046,180	2,747,884
	Oct	13,621	3,263	16,884	1,954,146	1,314,205	3,268,352
	Nov	13,308	5,155	18,463	1,804,941	1,730,166	3,535,107
	Dec	14,662	5,921	20,583	2,289,702	1,908,866	4,198,568
2019	Jan	18,850	4,442	23,292	2,879,204	2,088,517	4,967,720
Percent change from the current month of the previous year							
		8.4	-16.4	2.6	1.0	-1.4	0.0
<b>Year ended</b>							
January 2018		150,945	45,097	196,042	22,231,557	17,302,538	39,534,095
January 2019		164,036	42,707	206,743	22,805,700	17,559,881	40,365,581
Percent change from previous year							
		8.7	-5.3	5.5	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

### Whanganui 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
<b>January month</b>					
<b>Whanganui RTO area</b>					
Hotels	C	C	C	C	C
Motels	9,990	9,639	10,144	-3.5	5.2
Backpackers	2,603	3,205	3,256	23.1	1.6
Holiday parks	C	C	C	C	C
Total	22,710	22,711	23,292	0.0	2.6
<b>New Zealand</b>					
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
<b>Year ended January</b>					
<b>Whanganui RTO area</b>					
Hotels	C	C	C	C	C
Motels	98,329	100,877	111,203	2.6	10.2
Backpackers	22,004	25,042	C	13.8	C
Holiday parks	C	C	C	C	C
Total	187,170	196,042	206,743	4.7	5.5
<b>New Zealand</b>					
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,851,307</b>	<b>2,879,204</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2,117,813</b>	<b>2,088,517</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>4,969,120</b>	<b>4,967,720</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Table 5.2

**Regional Tourism Organisation Areas' Monthly Occupancy Rates<sup>(1)</sup>***By accommodation type*

RTO area	January 2019 occupancy rate					
	Accommodation type					Total excluding holiday parks <sup>(2)</sup>
	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
<b>Total</b>	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 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>