

## MONITORING RESEARCH QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS

### Auckland's State of the Region 2010

As Aucklanders we're the guardians of a unique environment! From the internationally recognised native forests of the Waitakere and the Hunua ranges to the Gulf islands, the volcanoes, streams and lakes; Auckland is a special place.

The State of the Auckland Region report 2010 has now been released and contains in depth information about the state of the environment. For more information visit the website: <a href="https://www.arc.govt.nz/stateoftheregion">www.arc.govt.nz/stateoftheregion</a>.

### Industry sector reports: recent additions

The Auckland Regional Council is developing a series of reports on industry sectors. These reports use a variety of data sources to detail the relative importance of industry sectors in the region, including expenditure, employment and contribution to regional GDP.

Recently released reports include manufacturing, marine and food and beverage sectors. All reports can be downloaded from <u>www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz</u>.

### Better housing leads to greater sustainability

Auckland is home to over a third of New Zealand's population and many people live in homes that have poor indoor environments that are cold, damp, mouldy and poorly ventilated; use high polluting and inefficient heating appliances; and are poorly insulated.

The Auckland Sustainable Homes report assesses the current condition and quality of the region's housing in relation to insulation and home heating; identifies existing programmes and future interventions that could be applied to improve sustainability in Auckland homes, and includes a preliminary evaluation of the costs and benefits of improving energy efficient and clean heating in homes.

As part of its Auckland Sustainability Framework (ASF), the ARC is investigating the role that a sustainable homes programme could play in addressing the challenges of climate change, unsustainable natural resource use, population growth, social disadvantage and degraded air quality.

Quality, sustainable housing will play an important role in ensuring a sustainable future by reducing the region's ecological footprint, building community resilience and contributing towards the long-term goal of carbon neutrality. However, there is a lot of work to be done to improve the current state of Auckland houses.

Copies of this report are available at <u>www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz</u> or please contact Surekha Sridhar (<u>surekha.sridhar@arc.govt.nz</u>) in the Air Quality Policy team.

Header image: "Henderson Park" Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland City Libraries (N.Z.) NZ Map 4497-22.

## MARCH 2010 - VOL. 3 ISSUE 1







### ARC releases a history of Auckland's development

The latest report to be released by the ARC's Social and Economic Research and Monitoring team outlines the development of Auckland's urban form from early colonial settlement to the modern Auckland metropolis.

The challenge for the authors of *A Brief History of Auckland's Urban Form*, was to encapsulate the growth of a large city like Auckland in 26 pages, and to do so they identified the major drivers behind the growth in suburbs - including infrastructure provision, state housing and in later decades, major planning decisions.



One Tree Hill and Epsom, from Mount Eden, Auckland (date unknown) John Kinder

The report includes a series of growth maps of the urban area. A comparison of the maps through time shows the development of the region's built-up areas, as well as the development of the rail and motorway systems. These maps replicate, and continue, a series of maps first included in a 1967 article by G. T. Bloomfield on *The Growth of Auckland* 1840-1966'<sup>1</sup>. Craig Fredrickson of the Social and Economic Research and Monitoring team has continued this series, by using these previous maps and aerial photographs.

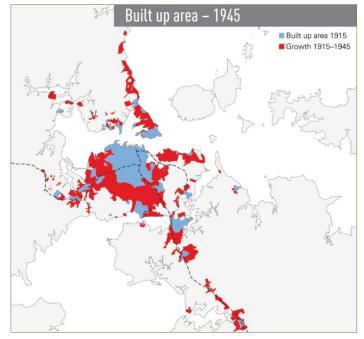
Cities are dynamic places that are constantly evolving and Auckland is no exception. Since the city's beginnings in the 1840s as a cluster of modest dwellings and businesses around the trading ports at Commercial Bay (now the base of Queen Street) and at Onehunga, the built (urban) area in the Auckland region has expanded to over 45,000 hectares, now stretching from Orewa in the



Kingsland (1924) James Richardson

north to Papakura in the south, and to the foothills of the Waitakere Ranges in the west.

Auckland's urban expansion has been driven by strong population and economic growth. Originally enticed by the availability of land, accessible and safe harbours, rich fertile soils and temperate climate, people have been steadily migrating to the region for over 170 years, transforming the landscape and creating a large metropolitan area. Auckland is now a nationally significant centre of commerce, trade, employment, education, and culture.



### Example of a growth map

Historically, Auckland's urban form has been characterised by growth in suburbs and low density development, accompanied by a dependency on private motor vehicles to get around. As the supply of available land within the Metropolitan Urban Limit (or urban area) diminishes, and the social and environmental costs of dependency on private vehicles become more apparent, there has been some growth in the proportion of new housing developments that are medium and high density, and a rejuvenation of the central city as a place to live.

There are several excellent local histories of the Auckland region and its neighbourhoods available, and the Social and Economic Research and Monitoring team are grateful for the previous work undertaken in assisting them to create this brief history. The report includes a lengthy reference list for further reading.

For more information contact Shaun Gamble in the Social and Economic Research and Monitoring Team (shaun.gamble@arc.govt.nz).

1. Bloomfield, G.T., (1967) 'The Growth of Auckland 1840-1966', in J.S. Whitelaw (editor) Auckland in Ferment. New Zealand Geographical Society. Wellington, New Zealand.

# THIS QUARTER...

# Environmental Monitoring and Research

## Increasing impervious surfaces

As the city develops, so the amount of hard surface in the city also increases. Hard surfaces, also known as impervious surfaces, include roads, car parks, roofs, compacted soil or compacted gravel. They can affect the way rainwater flows off land and where it flows which can have direct effects on terrestrial ecosystems.

There are also less obvious, but equally serious, impacts upon freshwater and marine habitats. A wide range of heavy metals, hydrocarbons and other organic pollutants, often in association with sediments, derived from a wide variety of urban and industrial activities, can collect on impervious surfaces and are washed into stormwater system, and subsequently creeks and the harbour by rainfall.

Aerial photography and satellite imagery were used to estimate the extent of impervious surfaces within both the existing urban area and the urban expansion areas defined in the Auckland Regional Growth Strategy (ARGS). Information from 2000 and 2008 was used to assess changes over time.

In both the 2000 and 2008 surveys, Auckland city had the highest extent of impervious surfaces but there was little change between the two dates. Similarly, there was little or no change in North Shore city and Waitakere city. In contrast, Manukau city and Papakura district both showed large increases of 10 per cent between 2000 and 2008. The overall extent of impervious surfaces in the mapped area has increased from 39 to 42 per cent between 2000 and 2008.

For more information on impervious surfaces – see the State of the Auckland Region 2010 report which can be found at <u>www.arc.govt.nz/stateoftheregion.</u>

# Social and Economic Monitoring and Research

## Jobs Futures in Auckland 2006 to 2016

Published by the Auckland Regional Council in December 2009, this guide forecasts regional trends in occupations by industry sectors, and forecasts that there will be 92,794 additional jobs within Auckland by 2016 in the following areas:

- Business services: 26,580 additional jobs, over half of which are for professionals, technicians and associate professionals.
- Retail sector: 16,443 additional jobs, 26 per cent of which are projected for managers.
- Manufacturing sector: projected to remain the second largest employer in the region with 102,352 job opportunities to 2016.
- Wholesale trade sector: projected to have the fourth highest number of job opportunities to 2016 (about 8,500).

This report is a follow-on from the Auckland Regional Economic Futures project and will be of use to students, careers advisors, vocational counsellors, employees and anyone assessing career options or seeking background information on the future skills needs of Auckland

The full jobs futures report can be downloaded from www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz.

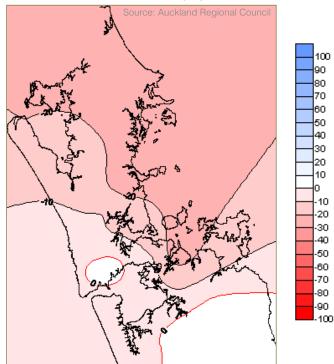




# **Regional indicators**

	Jan-Mar 09	Apr-Jun 09	Jul-Sep 09	Oct-Dec 09
Net migration (Infometrics)	3,379	1,484	3,319	2,767
Net natural increase (births minus deaths) (StatsNZ)	4,065	3,703	3,833	3,757
Unemployment (StatsNZ)	6.5%	6.6%	6.5%	8.0%
Labour force participation rate (DoL)	68.9%	67.9&	67.0%	68.5%
GDP Auckland region (\$ million)	\$12,129.4	\$12,257.3	\$12,495.8	\$12,412.1
(Infometrics)	-4.6%	2.1%	1.9%	-0.7%
Car Registrations	13,716	12,470	15,052	16,669
(StatsNZ)	-40%	-9%	21%	11 %
Petrol price	\$1.579	\$1.6500	\$1.676	\$1.661
(Average 91 and 96 octane) (StatsNZ)	-1%	4%	2%	-1%
Average dwelling sale price in Auckland region	\$426,167	\$440,000	\$448,300	\$465,000
(REINZ)	-1%	3%	2%	4%
New residential dwellings consented to (StatsNZ)	721	953	929	985
	-6%	2.1%	-3%	6%

## Auckland region rainfall Deviation from normal (%) Oct to Dec 09



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Percent change from previous quarter

Auckland **Regional** Council TE RAUHĪTANGA TAIAO