







# Sustainability and Environment in an Ageing New Zealand

Keeping Pace with Two National Science Challenges

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Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities

Ka ora kainga rua:
Built environments
that build
communities

#### **Ageing Well**

To push back disability thresholds so that all New Zealanders reach their full potential through the life course, particularly in the latter years of life.











Empowering housing decisions as we age

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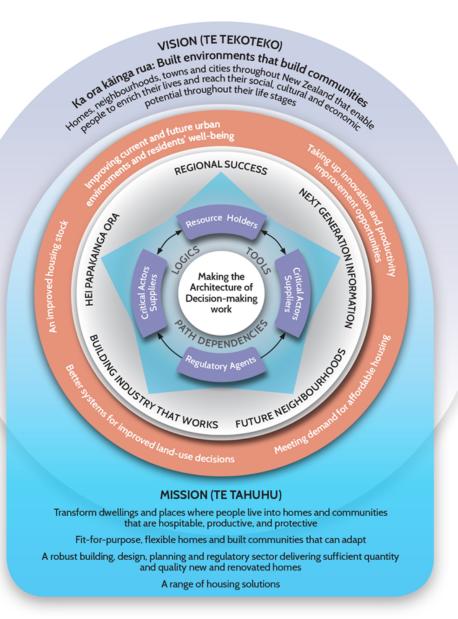






















## **Our Cities:**

- Two defining characteristics:
  - Environmentally unsustainable
  - Demographically dysfunctional
- Ill-adapted to meeting challenges presented by New Zealand's big trends:
  - Structural ageing
  - NZ's tenure revolution
  - Unaffordable built environments

















### **Cities Environmental Threat**

- Degradation and depletion of:
  - Soils
  - Fragile ecological systems wetlands, coastlands, riparian verges
  - Water
  - Air quality
- Carbon hungry
- Thirst for expansion rather than retrofit
  - Shifting urbanism unlike shifting cultivation is not about renewal – we avert the eye from dilapidation and decline









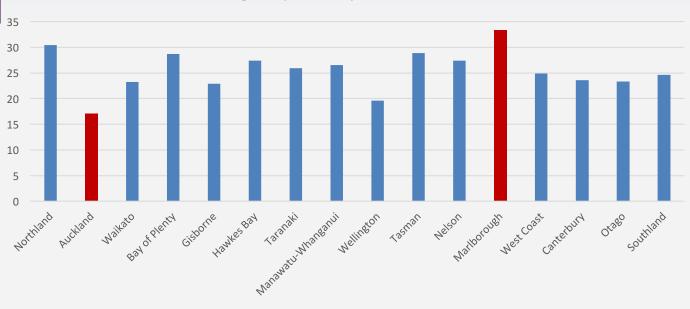




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#### **Old and Young in Our Regions**

Old Age Dependency Ratio 2013 Census





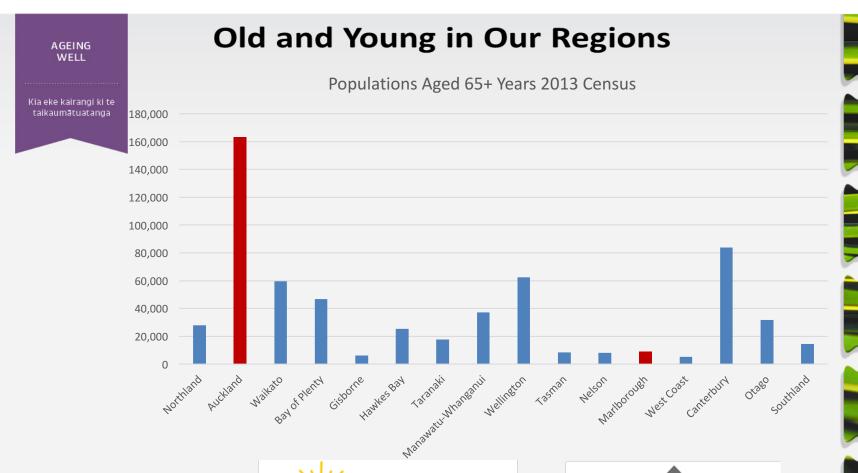
























## **Demographically Dysfunctional**

- 'Car is King' Towns and Cities:
  - Excludes Older people by 2051 if current rates of licensing prevail over 300,000 older people will be unlicensed Children and young people
  - Has:
    - Undermined public transport networks
    - Attenuated connectivity, increased travel times and costly infrastructure
    - Imposed burdens of transport cost on the most vulnerable households
    - Exposed old and young street users to risk
  - The driving addiction and our environments:
    - Over provision of parking and garaging allocation requirements in district plans
    - Under provision and maintenance of footpaths
    - Big carbon
    - Storm water management problems





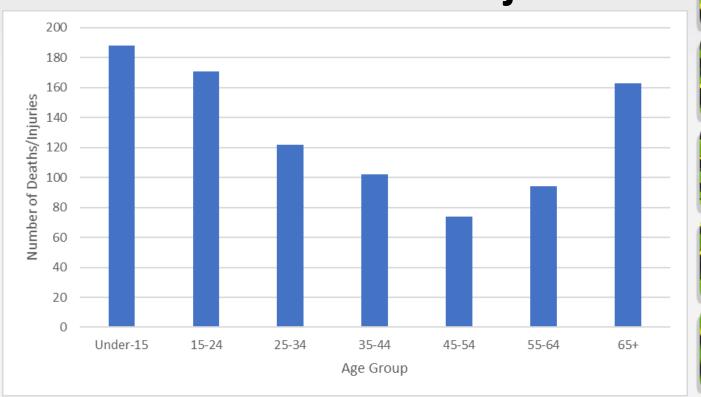






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## **Pedestrian Deaths and Injuries**











# **Demographically Dysfunctional**

- Cities contain most of our housing stock
  - Stocks are marked by:
    - Little diversity
    - · Increasing size and misalignment with household size and needs
    - Under-maintenance
    - · Lack of functionality
  - New builds and renovations:
    - Built under a partial and inadequate code with accessibility and functionality
    - Struggle to meet code
    - · Often sited in environmentally fragile and risky spaces
    - Systemic problems (leaky building) leads to insecurity and dependence
    - Over-production for wealthier or higher income households



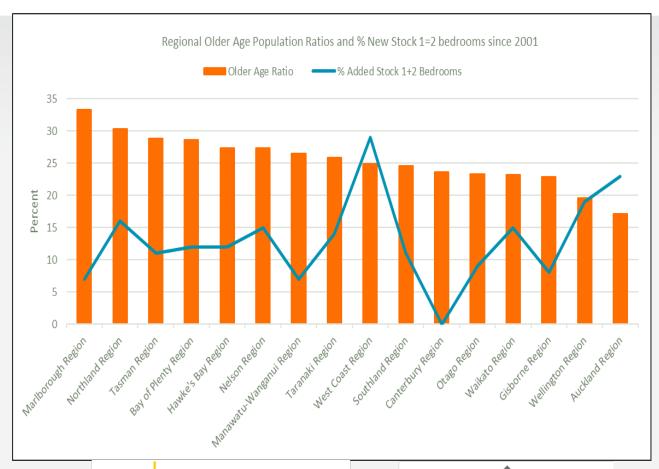




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> Dr Michael Rehm, University of Auckland and K Saville-Smith, CRESA

















### **Unaffordable Built Environments**

- Cities have become the:
  - Sites of unaffordable housing
  - Drivers of house price rises associated with:
    - Rate stress
    - De-coupling of condition and amenity from price
    - · Industry and household addiction to windfall gain
- Reflected in changes in tenure, concentrations of ownership, and land-hoarding
- Rising house prices feed intergenerational conflict –
   Older People are on the Pig's Back Thesis











## **Over-production for Wealthy**

- Retirement villages
  - Auckland 44% of NZ's RV development pipeline
  - Around 7,000 units in the development pipeline
  - Probable over-supply short/medium terms
    - Forecast demand for last year 351 units
    - Industry supply year ending Nov 2016 545 units
  - Boom tailing off 21% drop Summerset new and resales
  - Entering residential care to sustain sale and purchases
- Declining production of entry level dwellings:
  - New build value profile:
    - 1960s more than 35% of new-build in lower quartile.
    - 2003 8% new builds lowest quartile with >40% in upper quartiles
  - Declining investment in affordable rental stock
- Neglect of ADUs and Partition Dwellings















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300.000

250,000

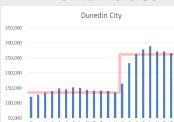
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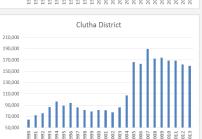
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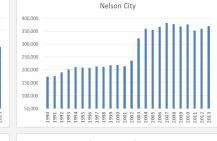
House Prices – Auckland and Other Markets

Rural Areas

**Small Cities** 





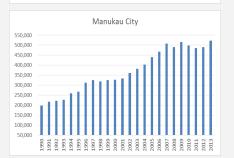








**Large Cities** 





Professor Larry Murphy and Dr Michael Rehm, University of Auckland







Home Ownership by Birth Cohort, Total NZ 100 87.3 90 82.8 80 70 66.3 percentage 51.7 60 59.9 Cohort Born 1962-66 55.9 50 Cohort Born 1942-46 (Youngest 'Boomers) (oldest 'Boomers') Cohort Born 1982-42.8 30 36.5 20 10 Leave parental Main family formation home years 0 65-69 70-74 75-79 5+ Years 20-24 35-39 40-44 5-19 45-49 80-84 0-4 25-29 50-54 55-59 30-34 Cohort Born: 2007-13 -2001-06 -1997-01 -1992-96 -1987-91 -1982-86 -1977-81 **1**972-76 **1**967-71 **1**962-66 **1**957-61 **1**952-56 **1**947-51 **1**942-46 1937-41 1932-36 1927-31 1922-26 1917-21 1912-16







BUILDING BETTER HOMES, TOWNS AND CITIES

Ko Ngā wā Kainga hei whakamāhorahora





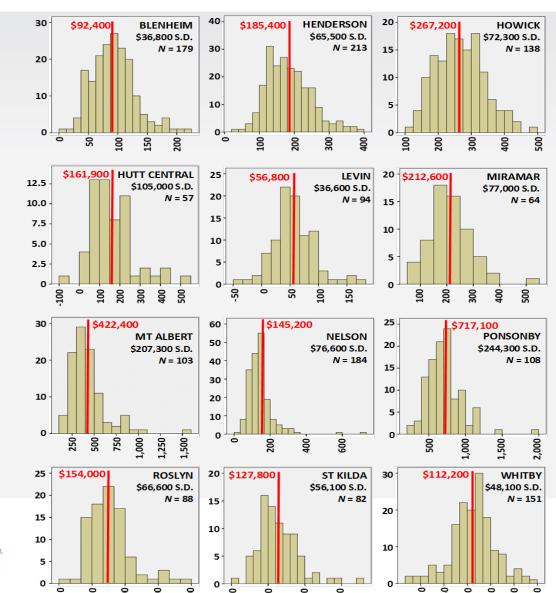
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Pig's back?
Capital Gain in Repeat
House Sales

Professor Larry Murphy and Dr Michael Rehm, University of Auckland









#### Some MfE Heads Up

- House price, Affordable Housing, Housing Affordability
  - Planning does not drive up land prices the main drivers are
    - High house prices
    - Credit flushes
    - Residual land value tools when supporting bullish development assessments
    - Rationing land release and land-banking
    - Exclusionary and restrictive covenants
    - Fear, anxiety and greed
  - But windfall gains are associated with planning changes including around SHAs
  - LifeMark and Green builds do not drive house prices but green and universal design is used to rationalize new-build house price premiums
- Compact and connected towns and cities are key
  - But pressure on fragile, risky sites net benefit (cost) analysis needed
  - ADUs and partition can be a win-win
    - Planning rules are irrational and antithetical to an effects-based paradigm
    - Require, like papakāinga, a rethink recognizing intensification value
    - National policy statement







