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# NEW ZEALAND

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# New Zealand and Urban Governance

- The New Zealand population (5.1 mn.) has become increasingly **urban**, like the rest of the world.
- The size of New Zealand cities has **grown** in both population count and land area. In fact, most New Zealanders live in the urban areas.
- In 2018, 51.2% of the population lived in the major urban areas of Auckland, Christchurch (Canterbury), Wellington, Hamilton (Waikato), Tauranga (Bay of Plenty), Dunedin (Otago) and Lower Hutt (Greater Wellington).
- New Zealand's capital city is Wellington, and its most populous city is Auckland – one of the two main metropolitan areas along with Christchurch.



Source: NZ Government

# Some recent developments

- In July 2020, New Zealand published a [National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020](#), helping local authorities to enable greater supply and ensure that planning is responsive to changes in demand.
- Christchurch is focusing in sustainability by looking for ways to reduce energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, solid waste generation and water use.
- New Plymouth (Taranaki) is trying to make a sustainable transition from oil and gas and find new opportunities for local businesses. The city is looking for cities to collaborate with/learn from.
- Since 2018, Nelson City Council and the local Maori community Whakatu cooperated with the central region of Lemvig in Denmark on coastal climate adaptation issues.
- Wellington and Auckland have a wide range of green city initiatives.

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