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**Embargoed until 10:45am – 20 November 2006**

## Births and Deaths

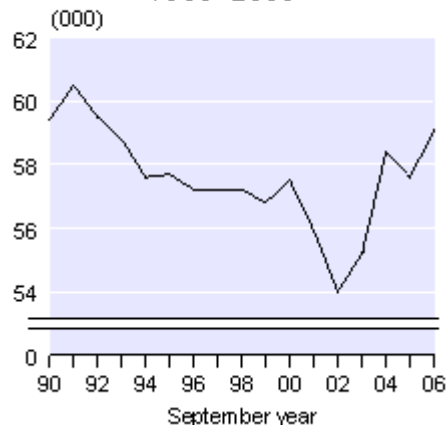
### September 2006 quarter

### Highlights

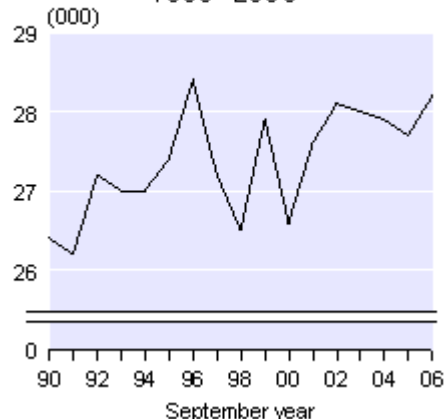
In the September 2006 year:

- There were **59,120 live births** registered in New Zealand.
- New Zealand women averaged **2.05 births** per woman.
- Women aged **30–34 years** had the highest fertility rate – 123 births per 1,000 women aged 30–34 years.
- The median age of women giving birth was **30 years**.
- The median age of women giving birth to their first child was **28 years**.
- The infant mortality rate was **4.8 deaths** per 1,000 live births.
- There were **28,180 deaths** registered.
- Births exceeded deaths by **30,930**.

**Live Births**  
1990–2006



**Deaths**  
1990–2006



Brian Pink  
Government Statistician

**20 November 2006**  
Cat 32.900 Set 06/07 – 076

There is a companion Media Release published – [Births and Deaths: September 2006 quarter](#).

# Commentary

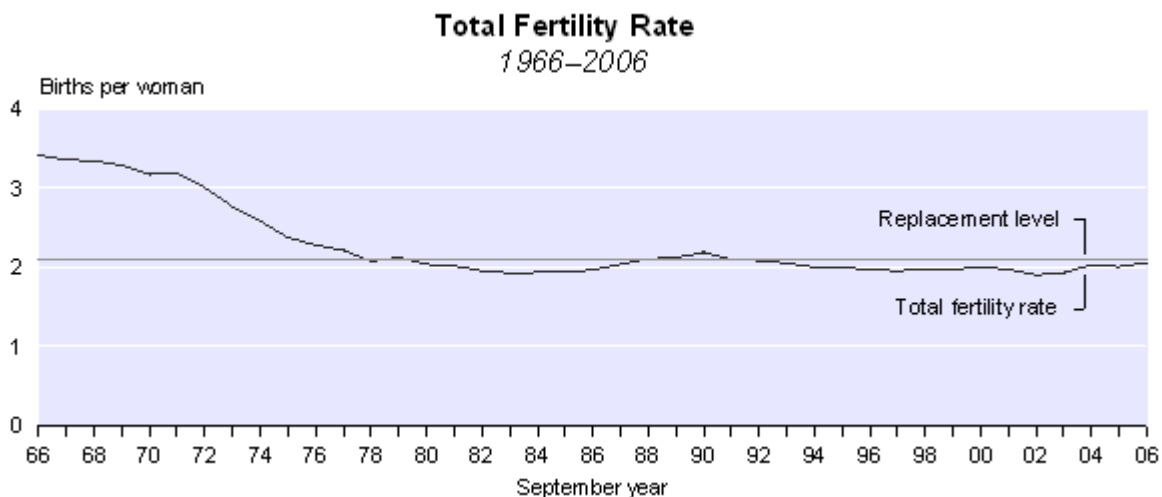
## Live births

There were 59,120 live births registered in New Zealand in the September 2006 year. This is above the annual average of 56,880 experienced during the last decade and the highest since 1992. During the September 2006 year, the births of 30,180 boys and 28,940 girls were registered to mothers resident in New Zealand. There are normally more boys born than girls, with an average of 105 boys born for every 100 girls during the last decade.

Live births registered in the September 2006 quarter totalled 14,970, an increase of 860 compared with the September 2005 quarter.

## Annual fertility rates

The latest annual fertility rates indicate that New Zealand women average 2.05 births per woman. New Zealand's total fertility rate has been relatively stable over the last two decades, averaging 2.02 births per woman. The level required by a population to replace itself in the long term without migration is 2.1 births per woman. Apart from a short period around 1990, fertility in New Zealand has been slightly below the 'replacement level' since 1980.

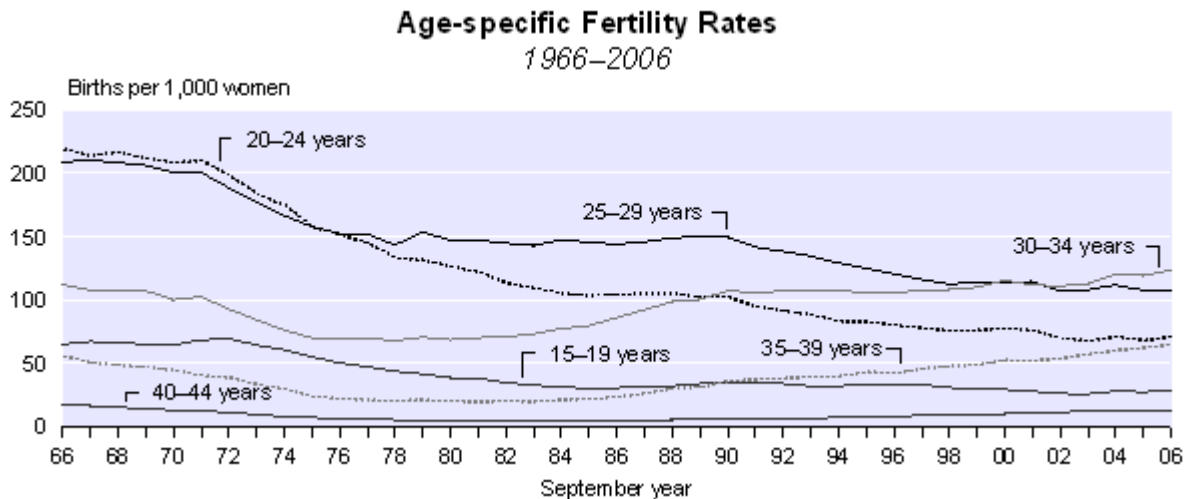


Sub-replacement fertility is a common demographic phenomenon among developed countries, including France (1.9 births per woman), Australia, Denmark, England and Wales, Norway, Sweden (all 1.8) and the Netherlands (1.7). Some countries, notably Japan, Italy and Spain, have recorded very low fertility levels in recent years (fewer than 1.3 births per woman). The United States' total fertility rate has been similar to New Zealand's in the last few years.

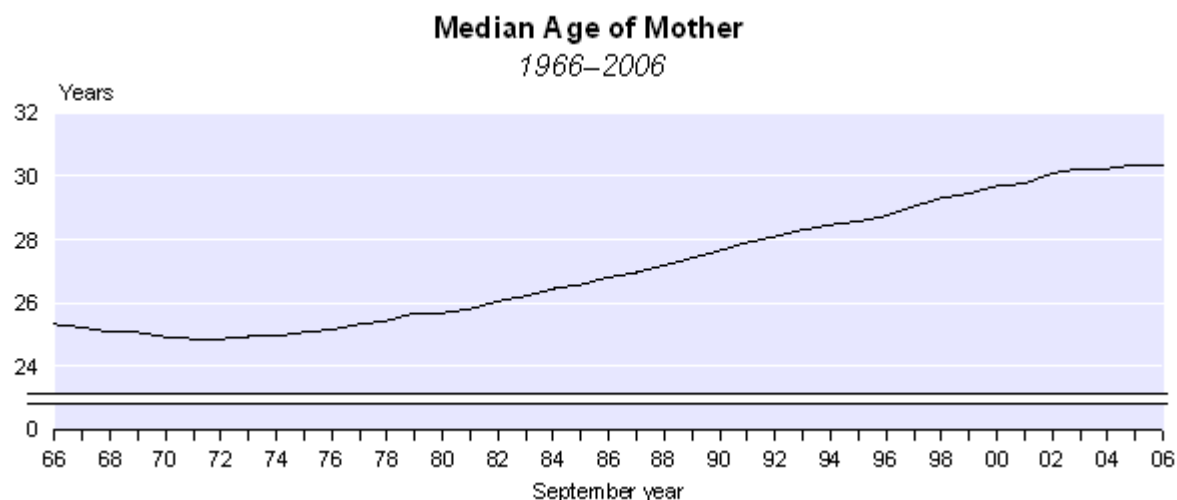
In New Zealand, the transition to sub-replacement fertility occurred later than in other developed countries. The transition occurred in Denmark and Sweden in the late 1960s; in Germany, the United States and Canada in the early 1970s; and in other developed countries, including Australia, in the mid-1970s.

## Trend towards later childbearing

Although the total fertility rate has been relatively stable over the last two decades, there has been a significant shift in age-specific fertility rates. In the September 2006 year, women aged 30–34 years had the highest fertility rate (123 births per 1,000 women aged 30–34 years), followed by those aged 25–29 years (107 per 1,000). Conversely, in 1996, women aged 25–29 years had a higher fertility rate (120 per 1,000) than women aged 30–34 years (106 per 1,000). In 1976, the total fertility rate was 2.3 births per woman. At that time, women aged 20–24 years and 25–29 years had a fertility rate of 152 births per 1,000 women in each age group, which is significantly higher than any other age group.



Between the 1996 and 2006 September years, fertility rates for women aged under 30 years dropped. The largest decrease occurred among women aged 15–19 years (down 15 percent), followed by those aged 20–24 years (12 percent) and 25–29 years (11 percent). In contrast, fertility rates for women aged 30 years and over have increased over the last decade (up 17 percent and 52 percent for women aged 30–34 years and 35–39 years, respectively).



On average, New Zealand women now have children about five years later than their counterparts in the mid 1970s. The median age (half are younger and half older than this age) of New Zealand women giving birth is now 30.3 years, compared with 28.7 years in 1996 and 25.1 years in 1976. The median age of women giving birth to their first child (based on children in the current relationship only) was 28 years in the year ended September 2006.

## **Births by ethnicity**

During the September 2006 year, the majority of babies were registered to the European ethnic group (41,460). There were 17,120 babies registered with Māori ethnicity, 8,910 with a Pacific ethnicity and 6,100 with an Asian ethnicity. About one-quarter of babies registered in the September 2006 year belonged to two or more ethnic groups.

The total fertility rate for Māori women in the September 2006 year was 2.68 births per woman, which is well above the rate for the total population (2.05 births per woman). In the September 2006 year, there were 13,530 births registered to Māori women. Māori women giving birth tend to be younger; their median age was 25.9 years in the September 2006 year.

## **Regional births**

The Auckland region (21,380) had the highest number of births in the September 2006 year, accounting for 36 percent of all live births registered in New Zealand. This was followed by Canterbury (6,810), Wellington (6,430) and Waikato (5,580). Together, these four regions accounted for about two-thirds of all live births registered in the September 2006 year. This is consistent with their share of New Zealand's population.

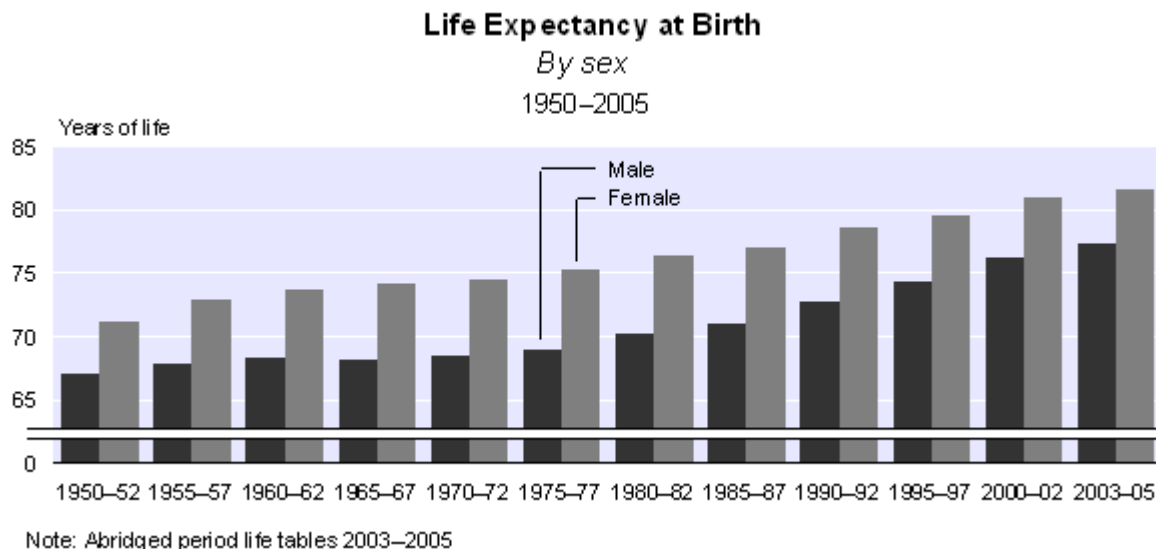
## **Deaths and longevity**

Deaths registered during the September 2006 year totalled 28,180, compared with 27,730 in the September 2005 year. There were 8,150 deaths in the September 2006 quarter, an increase of 880 compared with the September 2005 quarter.

The median age at death in the September 2006 year was 76.3 years for males and 82.3 years for females. Just over three-quarters of the deceased were aged 65 years or over, while only 5.2 percent were aged under 40 years. There were 13,890 male deaths and 14,290 female deaths.

The crude death rate (deaths per 1,000 mean estimated resident population) was 6.8 in the September 2006 year, down from 7.6 in 1996. Because the crude death rate is influenced by the age structure of the population, it does not provide a true measure of the trends in mortality. Life tables are used to give a more accurate description of the mortality experience.

According to the New Zealand abridged period life table for 2003–2005, a newborn girl can be expected to live, on average, 81.7 years, and a newborn boy 77.5 years. These levels represent longevity gains since 1995–1997 of 2.0 years for females and 3.1 years for males. These gains were due largely to the reduction in mortality rates at late-working and retirement ages (50–89 years). Since 1975–1977, life expectancy at birth has increased by 6.3 years for females and 8.5 years for males.



Abridged period life tables are produced annually for the total population only. Complete life tables are produced, for the Māori, non-Māori and total populations every five years. The latest complete period life tables available cover the period 2000–2002. Māori life expectancy is significantly lower than life expectancy for the total population. Life expectancy at birth for females of Māori ethnicity in 2000–2002 was 73.2 years, while for Māori males it was 69.0 years. The difference of about 7.6 years between Māori and the total population is slightly less than the estimated difference of 8.1 years in 1995–1997.

Life tables for other ethnicities, such as the broad Pacific and Asian ethnic groups, have not been produced because of the small number of death registrations and the uncertainty associated with ethnic identification and measurement.

Period life tables are based on mortality over a short time period (e.g. 2003–2005). The recently released cohort mortality series tracks birth cohorts (people born in each year) over their entire lifetime, by following the deaths of each cohort at each age of life. The cohort life tables indicate that life expectancy at birth increased between the 1876 and 1931 birth cohorts, from 50.4 years to 69.5 years for males, and from 54.0 years to 75.2 years for females. Cohort life expectancy at birth is higher than implied by the period life tables, because of the progressive decline in mortality with successive birth cohorts. Because a significant proportion of each cohort needs to have died before their life table can be completed, life expectancy is only available for cohorts born up to 1931. However, a range of other measures (such as death rates by age and proportion surviving by age) are available for cohorts born from 1876 to 2004.

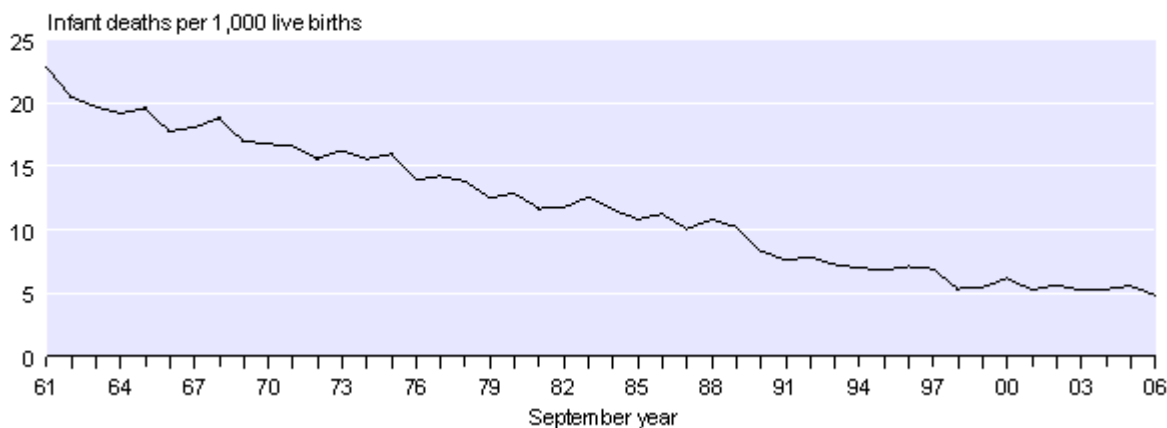
For more information about New Zealand's cohort life tables, the full report, entitled *A History of Survival in New Zealand: Cohort life tables 1876–2004*, is available through the Statistics New Zealand website. This report also includes an analysis of the impact of war deaths on male cohort mortality. Additional tables of estimated births, deaths and net migration by year of occurrence are also available for 1876–2004.

## Infant and foetal death

During the September 2006 year, the number of infant deaths (under one year of age) registered in New Zealand totalled 280. The infant mortality rate (infant deaths per 1,000 live births) has dropped over the last 30 years. In the September 2006 year, the infant mortality rate was 4.8 per 1,000, down from 7.1 in the September 1996 year and 13.9 in 1976. The Māori infant mortality rate was 6.8 per 1,000 in the September 2006 year.

### Infant Mortality Rate

1961–2006



In New Zealand, infant deaths include the deaths of all live born children who die before the age of one year. Any child who breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached, is considered live born. Infant deaths include deaths of very small (under 400g) and very premature (less than 20 weeks gestation) live born babies who have a very low chance of survival. This may not be the case in all countries.

Neonatal deaths (under four weeks of age) made up 55 percent of infant deaths in the September 2006 year. The neonatal mortality rate (neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births) was 2.7 in 2006, down from 3.4 in the September 1996 year. The post-neonatal mortality rate (infant deaths over 28 days of age per 1,000 live births) has also dropped over the last decade from 3.7 to 2.2.

Currently in New Zealand, a stillbirth is defined as a child who is born dead and weighs 400g or more or is born dead after the twentieth week of gestation. The definition of a stillbirth has changed over time. Before September 1995, a stillbirth was defined as a child born dead after 28 weeks of gestation. Internationally, the definition of a stillbirth varies, so care needs to be taken when comparing stillbirths across countries. Foetal loss before 20 weeks of gestation (known as a miscarriage or spontaneous abortion) is not a notifiable event in New Zealand. Therefore, Statistics New Zealand does not have information on the number of miscarriages.

There were 6.0 stillbirths for every 1,000 births (live and stillbirths combined) in the September 2006 year, compared with 6.6 in 1996. During the September 2006 year, 40 percent of stillbirths had a gestation period of more than 28 weeks.

The definition of perinatal deaths can also vary. Statistics New Zealand defines perinatal deaths as stillbirths plus deaths of infants under 7 days of age, and the perinatal mortality rate as perinatal deaths per 1,000 births (live and stillbirths). Based on this definition the perinatal mortality rate was 8.1 per 1,000 births, compared with 9.1 in the September 1996 year. The Perinatal and Maternal Mortality Review Committee (PMMRC) defined perinatal deaths as stillbirths plus neonatal deaths. This definition delivers a perinatal mortality rate of 8.6 per 1,000 births. The PMMRC was established in June 2005 to review and report to the Minister of Health on New Zealand's perinatal and maternal deaths, with a view to reducing the numbers of preventable deaths in these groups.

In summary, there are a wide range of indices for measuring infant and foetal mortality. Because the definition of these measures can vary between countries and over time, care should be taken when comparing rates. Regardless of the rate used, infant and foetal mortality rates have decreased over the past decade. However, stillbirths have not decreased to the same degree as infant mortality.

Reference: Perinatal and Maternal Mortality Review Committee (October 2006). "Terms of Reference" [Online]. Available: [www.newhealth.govt.nz/pmmrc/tor.htm](http://www.newhealth.govt.nz/pmmrc/tor.htm) [19 October 2006].

## **Regional deaths**

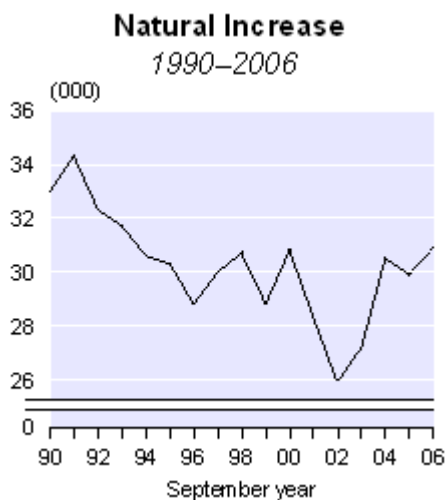
There were 7,150 deaths of residents in the Auckland region during the September 2006 year. Although the Auckland region is home to approximately one-third of New Zealand's population, it only accounted for one-quarter of New Zealand's deaths. This is due to the region's relatively young population age structure. Only 10 percent of the Auckland region's population is aged 65 years and over, compared with 12 percent for the national population.

Based on the 2000–2002 abridged life tables for regions, life expectancy at birth ranged from 72.6 to 77.5 years for males and 78.9 to 82.2 years for females. The reasons for subnational differences in longevity and mortality are difficult to identify precisely and are probably due to a combination of interrelated factors, including the proportion of the population who are Māori, the proportion of the population who smoke (or have smoked), the proximity to health and hospital services, the degree of urbanisation and socio-economic factors. More information about regional mortality can be found in Statistics New Zealand's report [\*New Zealand Life Tables \(2000–2002\)\*](#).

## **Natural increase of population**

Natural increase of population represents the excess of births over deaths. Births outnumbered deaths by 30,930 in the September 2006 year. This is the highest natural increase recorded since the September 1993 year, when births exceeded deaths by 31,730. However, the 2004-base national population projections show that natural increase is likely to decline over the next 50 years. This will be due predominantly to an increase in deaths as the large number of people born in the 1950s–1970s reach the older ages. Deaths are projected to outnumber births from 2042.

During the September 2006 year, New Zealand's population increased by 43,500 (1.1 percent). Natural increase contributed roughly 70 percent of this population growth, and net migration the remaining 30 percent. These proportions have varied in recent years because of significant shifts in the migration balance.



All regions in New Zealand had more births than deaths in the September 2006 year. Auckland's natural increase (14,240) made up 46 percent of the national natural increase. Auckland's large share of New Zealand's natural increase is due to the small number of deaths relative to the number of births and the size of its population.

## Final figures

The vital statistics and infant mortality rates for the September 2006 year quoted above, and contained in the appended tables, are final. Fertility rates and crude death rates for the September 2006 quarter and year are provisional. Final demographic indices will be released in February 2007.

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## Technical notes

### Births

Birth data for the March, June, September and December quarters of 1998 are based on the number of notifications received by the Department of Internal Affairs. All other birth data are based on live births registered in New Zealand to mothers resident in New Zealand by date of registration. Birth data exclude late registrations under section 16 of the Births, Deaths, and Marriages Registration Act 1995. Section 16 births are those that were not registered in the ordinary way at the time the birth occurred. Such registrations can occur as late as retirement age.

### Deaths

Death data are based on deaths registered in New Zealand of New Zealand residents by date of registration.

### Replacement level fertility

Replacement level fertility is the average number of children a woman needs to have to produce one daughter who survives to childbearing age. Replacement level fertility is also described as the total fertility rate required for the population to replace itself in the long term, without migration.

The internationally accepted replacement level is 2.1 births per woman. Replacement level fertility allows for child mortality (children who die before reaching reproductive age) and the birth of more boys than girls. On average, throughout the world 105 boys are born for every 100 girls. The actual replacement level will vary slightly from country to country, depending on child mortality rates. In countries with high child mortality, the total fertility rate will need to be higher than 2.1 births per woman to achieve replacement level.

### Total fertility rate

The total fertility rate is the average number of live births that a woman would have during her life if she experienced the age-specific fertility rates of a given period (usually a year). It excludes the effect of mortality.

### Children of this relationship

The birth registration forms ask whether there are any other children of this relationship. However, it is possible that children from previous relationships are included. Unfortunately, this question does not produce an accurate measure of all live births to a woman (needed for accurate measures of birth parity). For privacy reasons it is deemed unacceptable to ask women about children outside their current relationship.

### Life tables

A life table is a standard demographic device that provides a detailed description of the mortality experience prevailing in a population during a given period. It comprises an array of measures, including probabilities of death, probabilities of survival and life expectancies at various ages. The 2000–2002 period life tables relating to New Zealand Māori, non-Māori and total populations were released by Statistics New Zealand on 30 March 2004. These are available on the Statistics New Zealand website ([www.stats.govt.nz](http://www.stats.govt.nz)). More details on life table methodology and results are included in *New Zealand Life Tables (2000–2002)*.

The 1995–1997 period life tables for the total New Zealand, Māori and non-Māori populations published in July 1998 have been revised. For all populations, the revision incorporates updated population estimates (at 30 June 1996) and a revised method of estimating death rates at the oldest ages. For the Māori life table, smooth adjustment factors have also been applied to Māori deaths, by age, to allow for under-reporting of Māori deaths (relative to the Māori population). For the non-Māori life table, corresponding adjustments have been applied to non-Māori deaths, by age. These adjustment factors lower Māori life expectancy at birth by about 0.7 years and raise non-Māori life expectancy at birth by about 0.1 years. Revised figures for 1995–1997 are included in the publication entitled *New Zealand Life Tables (2000–2002)*.

## Resident population concept

Unless otherwise stated, this release refers to vital events (births and deaths) registered in New Zealand by date of registration. It excludes births to women who normally reside overseas, and deaths of people who normally reside overseas. Demographic rates are calculated using the mean estimated resident population.

## Rounding

Birth and death figures contained in the tables attached to this release are unrounded. All other figures have been rounded. This may result in a total differing slightly from the sum of its components. Derived figures (for example percentage annual increase) have been calculated using unrounded data.

## More information

For more information, follow the [link](#) from the Technical notes of this release on the Statistics New Zealand website.

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## Timing

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### Next release ...

*Births and Deaths: December 2006 quarter* will be released on 16 February 2007.

## Tables

The following tables can be downloaded from the Statistics New Zealand website in Excel 97 format. If you do not have access to Excel 97 or higher, you may use the [Excel file viewer](#) to view, print and export the contents of the file.

### List of tables

- 1 Births, deaths and selected rates, 1991–2006
- 2 Live births by regional council area, 1993–2006
- 3 Deaths by regional council area, 1993–2006
- 4 Age-specific fertility rates, 1995–2006

**Births and Deaths: September 2006 quarter**

Table 1

**Births, Deaths and Selected Rates  
1991–2006**

INFOS Series	Live Births <sup>(1)</sup>	Crude Birth Rate <sup>(2)</sup>	Total Fertility Rate <sup>(3)</sup>	Deaths	Crude Death Rate <sup>(2)</sup>	Infant Mortality Rate <sup>(4)</sup>	Natural Increase <sup>(5)</sup>
	VTBQ.SKTLZ VTBA.SKTLZ	DFMQ.SKHL DFMA.SKGL	DFMQ.SGHK DFMA.SGGK	VTDQ.S1T3 VTDA.S1T3	DMMQ.SPHL DMMA.SPGL	DMMQ.SRHL DMMA.SRGL	VTBQ.SJT VTBA.SJT
<b>Quarter Ended</b>							
September 1991	15,525	17.74	2.17	7,483	8.55	9.15	8,042
September 1992	14,612	16.53	2.04	7,681	8.69	7.60	6,931
September 1993	14,969	16.74	2.09	7,760	8.68	7.75	7,209
September 1994	14,554	16.06	2.02	8,022	8.85	8.18	6,532
September 1995	14,331	15.57	1.98	8,058	8.76	7.12	6,273
September 1996	14,615	15.64	2.00	8,441	9.03	8.48	6,174
September 1997	14,620	15.45	2.00	7,980	8.43	7.52	6,640
September 1998	14,631	15.33	2.01	7,527	7.89	5.47	7,104
September 1999	14,564	15.18	2.02	8,262	8.61	5.63	6,302
September 2000	14,017	14.52	1.97	7,186	7.44	6.63	6,831
September 2001	13,656	14.05	1.94	7,914	8.14	5.64	5,742
September 2002	13,695	13.88	1.92	7,962	8.07	5.26	5,733
September 2003	13,967	13.91	1.94	8,186	8.15	5.23	5,781
September 2004	14,477	14.24	2.01	7,978	7.85	6.15	6,499
September 2005	14,106	13.75	1.96	7,267	7.08	6.52	6,839
September 2006	14,971	14.44 P	2.08 P	8,151	7.86 P	6.48 P	6,820
<b>Year Ended</b>							
September 1991	60,464	..	..	26,183	..	7.59	34,281
September 1992	59,514	16.89	2.08	27,185	7.71	7.81	32,329
September 1993	58,774	16.50	2.05	27,040	7.59	7.23	31,734
September 1994	57,572	15.95	2.00	27,012	7.48	6.98	30,560
September 1995	57,744	15.77	1.99	27,415	7.49	6.77	30,329
September 1996	57,209	15.38	1.96	28,448	7.65	7.08	28,761
September 1997	57,191	15.16	1.95	27,226	7.22	6.87	29,965
September 1998	57,203	15.02	1.96	26,531	6.97	5.31	30,672
September 1999	56,769	14.81	1.96	27,937	7.29	5.43	28,832
September 2000	57,486	14.91	2.00	26,649	6.91	6.14	30,837
September 2001	55,860	14.40	1.97	27,596	7.12	5.23	28,264
September 2002	54,012	13.76	1.90	28,110	7.16	5.61	25,902
September 2003	55,214	13.83	1.92	27,988	7.01	5.18	27,226
September 2004	58,380	14.41	2.02	27,926	6.89	5.28	30,454
September 2005	57,615	14.08	2.00	27,726	6.78	5.57	29,889
September 2006	59,115	14.31 P	2.05 P	28,182	6.82 P	4.82 P	30,933

(1) Excludes late registrations under section 16 of the Births, Deaths, and Marriages Registration Act 1995. (Births which were not registered in the ordinary way at the time the birth occurred. Such registrations can occur as late as retirement age.)

(2) Live births or deaths per 1,000 mean estimated resident population.

(3) The average number of live births that a woman would have during her life if she experienced the age-specific fertility rates of a given period (usually a year). It excludes the effect of mortality.

(4) Deaths of children under one year of age per 1,000 live births.

(5) Excess of live births over deaths.

**Note:**

(a) Death data are based on deaths registered in New Zealand of New Zealand residents by date of registration.

(b) Birth data for the March, June, September and December 1998 quarters are based on the number of notifications received by the Department of Internal Affairs. All other birth data are based on live births registered in New Zealand to mothers resident in New Zealand by date of registration.

(c) For analytical purposes, registration-based data for 1998 is available on INFOS.

**Symbols:**

P provisional

.. figures not available

**Births and Deaths: September 2006 quarter**

Table 2

**Live Births by Regional Council Area  
1993–2006**

Regional council area	September Year													
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Northland Region	2,438	2,316	2,380	2,281	2,217	2,216	2,135	2,162	2,002	1,941	1,963	2,112	2,074	2,193
Auckland Region	18,248	17,945	18,437	18,836	18,803	18,705	18,958	19,837	19,451	19,130	19,825	21,022	20,629	21,385
Waikato Region	5,981	5,904	5,847	5,670	5,797	5,615	5,667	5,615	5,409	5,327	5,302	5,621	5,690	5,581
Bay of Plenty Region	3,788	3,706	3,650	3,743	3,909	3,823	3,740	3,834	3,605	3,519	3,570	3,858	3,756	3,810
Gisborne Region	942	939	937	869	811	785	786	781	786	728	717	757	757	737
Hawke's Bay Region	2,463	2,426	2,365	2,405	2,355	2,175	2,136	2,200	2,128	2,104	1,992	2,172	2,159	2,160
Taranaki Region	1,735	1,710	1,633	1,565	1,515	1,496	1,487	1,486	1,340	1,348	1,315	1,369	1,405	1,417
Manawatu-Wanganui Region	3,847	3,684	3,751	3,556	3,534	3,342	3,151	3,362	3,107	2,913	2,924	2,915	3,045	3,178
Wellington Region	6,889	6,708	6,596	6,378	6,336	6,483	6,436	6,595	6,472	5,995	6,327	6,397	6,217	6,433
Tasman Region	490	521	510	475	470	496	499	516	514	502	520	582	521	546
Nelson Region	540	559	506	569	504	521	512	542	575	503	531	572	528	508
Marlborough Region	541	477	527	506	524	451	455	485	453	414	446	477	461	493
West Coast Region	511	493	473	489	444	410	408	378	389	335	332	379	351	392
Canterbury Region	6,231	6,241	6,328	6,165	6,340	5,950	6,169	6,172	6,240	5,995	6,080	6,632	6,522	6,812
Otago Region	2,487	2,457	2,371	2,304	2,301	2,143	2,116	2,167	2,078	2,030	2,041	2,161	2,221	2,139
Southland Region	1,621	1,468	1,415	1,382	1,315	1,312	1,227	1,256	1,225	1,166	1,257	1,249	1,244	1,202
Region Not Specified/ Area Outside Region	22	18	18	16	16	230	286	98	86	62	72	105	35	129
<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>58,774</b>	<b>57,572</b>	<b>57,744</b>	<b>57,209</b>	<b>57,191</b>	<b>56,153</b>	<b>56,168</b>	<b>57,486</b>	<b>55,860</b>	<b>54,012</b>	<b>55,214</b>	<b>58,380</b>	<b>57,615</b>	<b>59,115</b>

**Note:**

- (a) Birth data are based on live births registered in New Zealand to mothers resident in New Zealand by date of registration.
- (b) Registered births for 1998 are lower than expected because of a small change to the rate at which births were registered during 1998.

Table 3

**Deaths by Regional Council Area  
1993–2006**

Regional council area	September Year													
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Northland Region	1,050	1,116	1,109	1,156	1,118	1,101	1,184	1,124	1,205	1,249	1,261	1,199	1,213	1,149
Auckland Region	7,082	7,033	7,140	7,322	7,246	6,887	7,136	6,844	6,989	7,147	7,176	7,141	7,016	7,150
Waikato Region	2,297	2,426	2,359	2,516	2,444	2,462	2,641	2,496	2,578	2,557	2,524	2,580	2,548	2,767
Bay of Plenty Region	1,729	1,695	1,783	1,943	1,852	1,767	1,971	1,865	2,020	1,963	2,014	2,014	1,980	2,137
Gisborne Region	411	396	421	441	399	370	415	400	382	384	413	376	360	416
Hawke's Bay Region	1,226	1,273	1,231	1,216	1,285	1,190	1,270	1,189	1,213	1,260	1,339	1,202	1,295	1,273
Taranaki Region	915	935	883	901	787	763	861	876	914	870	924	910	940	851
Manawatu-Wanganui Region	1,930	1,949	1,924	2,034	1,829	1,830	1,981	1,859	1,990	1,962	1,849	1,928	1,946	1,931
Wellington Region	2,941	2,822	2,954	3,004	2,940	2,869	2,899	2,811	2,842	2,936	2,922	2,903	2,820	2,819
Tasman Region	285	244	323	301	286	268	260	298	302	287	294	295	327	335
Nelson Region	330	319	370	353	338	348	332	337	350	382	374	376	353	362
Marlborough Region	321	270	347	329	335	303	330	342	334	384	342	359	391	358
West Coast Region	310	288	283	313	300	310	296	222	281	268	278	264	230	253
Canterbury Region	3,881	3,895	3,925	4,109	3,716	3,753	3,825	3,654	3,838	3,976	3,834	4,037	3,966	4,005
Otago Region	1,517	1,538	1,511	1,607	1,583	1,488	1,586	1,493	1,482	1,615	1,574	1,471	1,453	1,490
Southland Region	805	807	842	883	757	748	794	767	807	812	798	796	759	752
Region Not Specified/ Area Outside Region	10	6	10	20	11	74	156	72	69	58	72	75	129	134
<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>27,040</b>	<b>27,012</b>	<b>27,415</b>	<b>28,448</b>	<b>27,226</b>	<b>26,531</b>	<b>27,937</b>	<b>26,649</b>	<b>27,596</b>	<b>28,110</b>	<b>27,988</b>	<b>27,926</b>	<b>27,726</b>	<b>28,182</b>

**Note:** Deaths are based on deaths registered in New Zealand of New Zealand residents by date of registration.

Table 4

**Age-specific Fertility Rates<sup>(1)</sup>**  
1995–2006

September year	Age of Mother (years)								Median Age of Mother (years)
	Under 15 <sup>(2)</sup>	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45+ <sup>(3)</sup>	
1995	0.3	32.9	83.6	124.7	105.5	44.0	7.0	0.4	28.6
1996	0.2	33.6	81.3	120.2	105.5	43.2	7.7	0.4	28.7
1997	0.3	32.7	78.9	115.7	106.8	46.6	8.7	0.4	29.0
1998	0.3	30.0	76.5	112.2	107.8	48.4	8.7	0.4	29.3
1999	0.3	28.9	76.9	113.4	109.7	49.4	9.1	0.4	29.4
2000	0.2	28.9	78.4	114.1	115.0	53.4	10.0	0.4	29.7
2001	0.2	27.4	76.7	113.8	111.4	52.8	10.5	0.5	29.8
2002	0.2	25.7	70.5	106.7	110.6	54.6	11.0	0.5	30.1
2003	0.2	25.5	68.6	107.5	112.4	58.0	11.8	0.6	30.2
2004	0.2	27.7	71.7	111.3	119.6	61.0	12.2	0.6	30.2
2005	0.3	27.0	68.8	107.3	118.9	63.1	12.5	0.6	30.4
2006 P	0.2	28.6	71.5	106.8	123.1	65.5	12.5	0.7	30.3

(1) Per 1,000 mean estimated female population in each age group.

(2) Per 1,000 mean estimated female population aged 10–14 years.

(3) Per 1,000 mean estimated female population aged 45–49 years.

**Note:** Rates for 1998 are lower than expected because of a small change to the rate at which births were registered during 1998.

**Symbols:**

P provisional