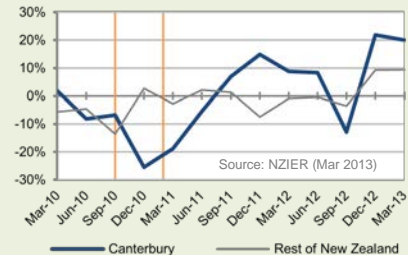


Output and trading activity

OUTPUT

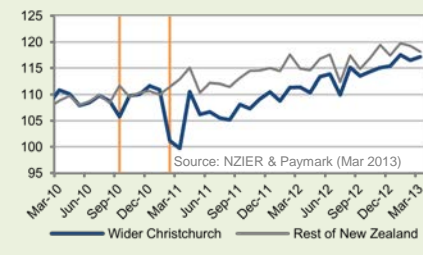
Domestic trading activity – net percentage of firms reporting that trading activity went up in the last three months



Canterbury firms continue to report higher levels of growth in trading activity than firms in the rest of the country. In addition, the ANZ Business Micro Scope reported that small businesses in Canterbury and Wellington were the most optimistic of all small businesses across New Zealand for the first quarter of 2013.

CONSUMER SPENDING

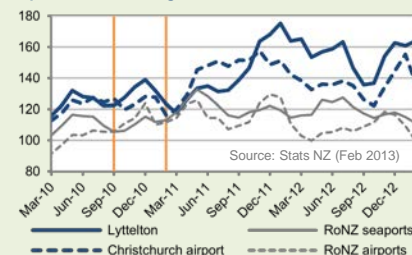
Electronic card transactions on the Paymark network – seasonally adjusted and indexed where average 2007 = 100



The volume of Paymark transactions in Canterbury increased 5.8% in the year to March 2013, compared with national growth of 3.8%. In addition, Canterbury consumers are significantly more optimistic than consumers in the rest of the country, according to the latest Westpac McDermott Miller survey in March.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Trade index – three-month rolling averages of free on board values for merchandise trade of imports and exports where average 2007 = 100

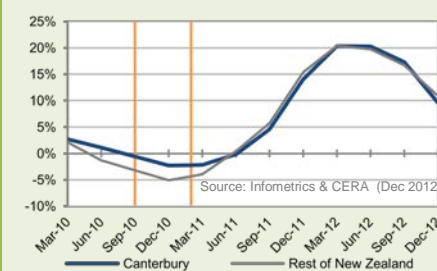


Trade volumes through the port continue to rise. The Lyttelton Port Company has recently announced two new shipping services to the region, which will increase shipments of break-bulk cargo, such as steel. Break-bulk cargo is cargo that must be loaded individually rather than in bulk such as in containers.

Key sectors

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture, forestry and fishing production – annual average percentage change

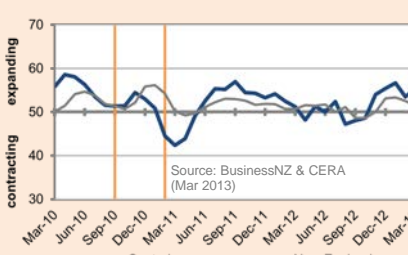


Agriculture, forestry and fishing production grew in Canterbury during 2012 in line with national averages. However, drought has presented challenges to production in recent months.

Key sectors

MANUFACTURING

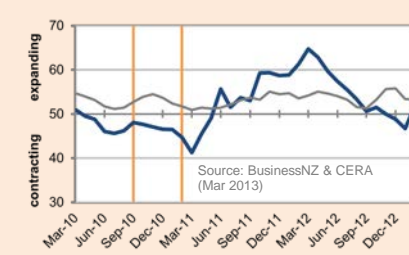
Performance of Manufacturing Index – three-month rolling averages



The post-earthquake environment is presenting opportunities as well as challenges as the Canterbury manufacturing industry continues to expand despite the high New Zealand dollar.

SERVICES

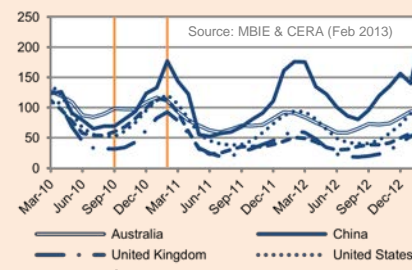
Performance of Service Index – seasonally adjusted three-month rolling averages



The services industry in Canterbury is growing again at rates that match national averages. The Government has recently made a commitment to invest \$600 million in the Canterbury hospitals redevelopment project, which will have a positive impact on the health services sector.

TOURISM

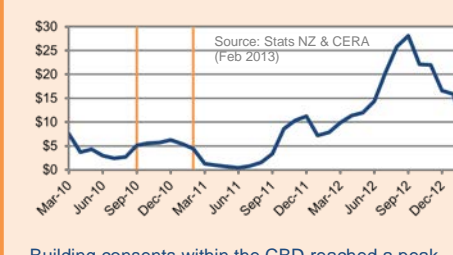
Spending of international visitors to Christchurch – indexed where 2008 average = 100 and three-month rolling averages



The profile of international visitors to the region is changing. Spending by Chinese visitors is growing while the Australian market remains relatively flat.

CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL

Building consents within the CBD area – \$million, measured monthly

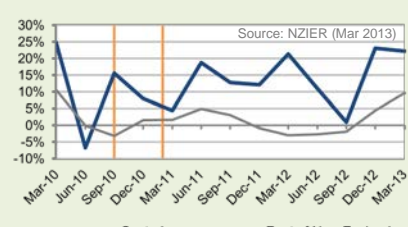


Building consents within the CBD reached a peak over the final quarter of 2012. They are expected to continue growing overall as the rebuild zone shrinks and more businesses move into the area. On average, \$16.8 million worth of building consents have been issued each month over the last year, compared with an average of \$4.2 million in the 12 months before February 2011.

Rebuilding and confidence

INVESTMENT

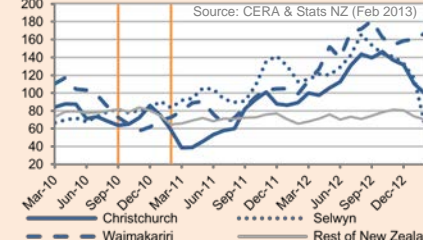
Building investment intentions – net percentage of firms expecting that new investment approvals will be greater over the next 12 months compared with the last



A very high proportion of Canterbury firms continue to show strong investment intentions in the latest NZIER survey of business opinion. A net 22% of Canterbury firms expect to increase their investment in buildings over the next year and a net 37% expect to increase their investment in plant and machinery.

CONSTRUCTION

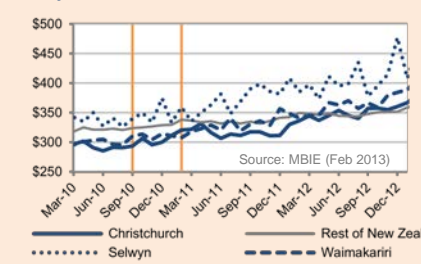
CERA's Index of Building Consents – three-month rolling averages of residential and non-residential building consents for new buildings and alterations, indexed where average 2007 = 100



The number of building consents issued in greater Christchurch in February 2013 grew by 6% from February 2012, compared with a growth of 3% in the rest of New Zealand. Of the approximately 1,600 commercial buildings approved to be demolished or partially demolished, about 1,400 have been completed.

HOUSING

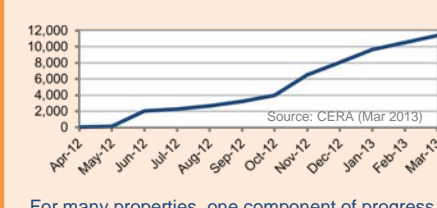
Weekly rents – mean



Rents have increased by 13% in Christchurch, 20% in Selwyn and 19% in Waimakariri over the 12 months to February 2013. The national growth rate was 4% over the same period. Housing New Zealand has received a settlement of \$320 million, the largest single insurance pay-out in New Zealand history.

INSURANCE

Number of geotechnical investigations uploaded to the Canterbury Geotechnical Database – cumulative number of core penetration test and borehole dataset uploads

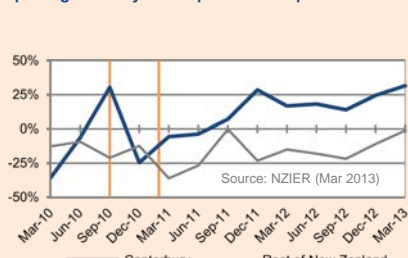


For many properties, one component of progress in settling insurance claims is the geotechnical investigation. Geotechnical investigations provide information on soil condition, which will be used in rebuilding or repairing buildings and infrastructure. Data from 11,400 investigations have been uploaded to the Canterbury Geotechnical Database. EQC has uploaded 70% of its drilling programme results so far.

Rebuilding and confidence

SPENDING AND PRICES

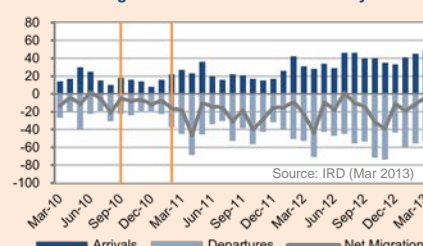
Building prices – net percentage of building firms reporting that they raised prices in the past three months



Resource constraints and significant levels of activity in the region are putting pressure on prices. A net 31% of Canterbury builders raised their prices in the last three months, compared with a net -1% in the rest of New Zealand according to the latest NZIER Quarterly Survey of Business Opinion.

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Business migration into and from Canterbury

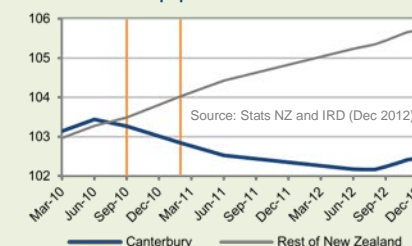


The number of businesses that migrated into Canterbury during the year to March 2013 was 39% greater than in the year to March 2012. In total, nearly 900 businesses have migrated into Canterbury since September 2010 although 1,400 have left.

Labour market

POPULATION

CERA estimates of population – indexed where 2007 = 100



After dropping slightly following the earthquakes, population levels in Canterbury are now rising again through a combination of internal migration from other parts of New Zealand, international migration and natural population growth. In February 2013, 950 permanent and long-term migrants moved to Canterbury from overseas compared with 500 who left.

EMPLOYMENT

Skilled vacancies index of jobs advertised online –



Online advertisements for skilled labour in Canterbury have increased 102% in the two years to February 2013. Nationally the growth rate was 10% over the same period.