



Media release

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## **Selwyn's economy continues to expand**

Selwyn's economy continued to perform strongly in 2015, according to the latest quarterly report by economic analysts Infometrics.

The report to the end of 2015 shows the district's GDP grew by 4.4% in 2015, well ahead of national GDP growth of 2.4% and regional Canterbury growth of 1.9%.

Infometrics attributes Selwyn's prosperity to commercial, light industrial and logistical infrastructure development, construction activity and business growth. Unemployment levels in Selwyn remain low at 2.4%. The national average was 5.8%.

Economic activity indicators continue to be strong with retail trade in the district growing by 12%, well ahead of the national average of 2.6%. Car registrations increased by 12% and commercial vehicle registrations grew by 18%.

While residential consent numbers decreased slightly in 2015 in Selwyn and Canterbury, in both areas the value of non-residential consents increased noticeably – with a 25% increase for Selwyn and 27% increase for Canterbury. The report notes that the shortage of residential housing following the Canterbury earthquake has now largely been rectified.

In the year to June 2015, Statistics New Zealand estimated that Selwyn's population grew by 6.5%.

The district's tourism industry enjoyed a busy year, with guest nights stayed in the district up from 83,550 in 2014 to 96,286 in 2015 – a 15% increase. Nationally guest nights increased by 4.7% last year with increased visitor arrivals from China and Australia boosting the tourism industry.

A copy of the Infometrics report is available online at <https://ecoprofile.infometrics.co.nz/Selwyn+District/QuarterlyEconomicMonitor>

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