

Manufacturing

Although employment in Hamilton is led by health care and other high-value services, we remain a well-established location for goods-producing industries. Manufacturing activities comprise approximately 10% of the workforce in both Hamilton and the Waikato region.

Hamilton's manufacturing relationship with the wider Waikato area reflects traditional urban-rural functions, with specialised manufacturing services agglomerating in the city and supporting key industries across the region. Metal fabrication is a great example, with Hamilton-based companies servicing clients that manufacture dairy and meat products across the country.

Food and beverage manufacturing continues to grow into a significant sub-sector in Hamilton and includes our largest private employer, Prolife Foods, and celebrated brewers and distillers Good George.

FAST FACTS

- Strong core
 - In 2021 manufacturing contributed \$1.11 billion to Hamilton's gross domestic product, up from \$860 million 10 years prior. While the long-term trend has been positive, the sector has fallen below its peak of \$1.13 billion seen in 2019. However, manufacturing remains a core source of our employment, exports, growth and innovation.
- Cheers from Middle-earth
 - Hamilton's own Good George Brewing has been supplying the nearby Hobbiton Movie Set with specialty brews for nearly a decade, recently passing the 1 million litre mark at the famous tour stop The Green Dragon Inn.

Business and employment



Lifestyle and demographics

The median age of Hamiltonians

is **32** making Hamilton the youngest city in New Zealand.

Enrolment at the **University of Waikato** was up nearly **10%** in 2021 with Maori and Pacific students making up **35.2%** of the student body, the highest proportion of all New Zealand universities.

Monthly **median house price** data from REINZ consistently places the Waikato in a favourable position for home buyers when compared to Tauranga, Wellington and Auckland.



Hamilton is increasingly diverse with more than **160** ethnicities speaking more than 80 languages.



Hamilton was voted New Zealand's **Most Beautiful Large City** at the 2021 Keep New Zealand Beautiful Awards.

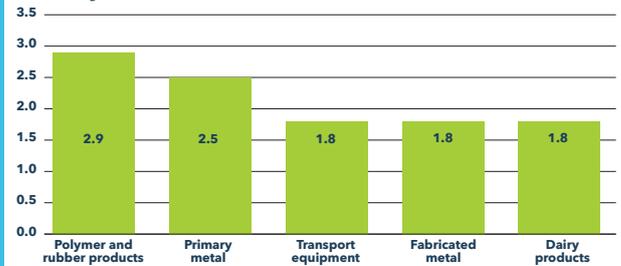


Hamilton
City Council
Te kaunihera o Kirikiriroa

Sector insight

Infometrics data shows metal product manufacturing is two and a half times more concentrated in Hamilton than at the national level, due in no small part to the presence of INEX Metals, a leading aluminium extrusion business located in Te Rapa. A location quotient of 1.8 for the manufacture of milk, cheese and ice cream underscores our rich history as the epicentre of dairy production.

Industry Location Quotient - Hamilton vs. New Zealand



Manufacturing in the Waikato



Category: Manufacturing - food and beverage

Employing more than 1,500 people at their Hamilton headquarters, Prolife Foods manufactures brands such as Mother Earth and Donovans Chocolate with global turnover exceeding \$300 million. They export and supply 18 countries with 12 manufacturing lines spread across three world class operation hubs in New Zealand, Australia and Singapore.



Dairy for life

Category: Manufacturing - food and beverage

Fonterra Co-operative Group Limited is a New Zealand multi-national, publicly-traded, dairy co-operative, owned by around 10,000 New Zealand farmers. The company is responsible for approximately 30% of the world's dairy exports and, with revenue exceeding NZ\$17.2 billion, is New Zealand's largest company. Fonterra has multiple locations and operations in Hamilton employing more than 1,000 staff.



Category: Manufacturing - food and beverage

Good George, Somerset Brewing Company Ltd, gathered momentum in 2011 when a site in Frankton was established. A few years on the brewery has expanded outdoors with 14 new tanks and a 81,500L brewing capacity.



Category: Manufacturing - metals and metal products

Stainless Design (SDL) has a large factory in Hamilton that employs more than 130 staff working in laser cutting, engineering and sheet metal fabrication. SDL exports products to Europe, USA and Australia.



Category: Manufacturing - plastics

Tekplas are plastic engineering specialists with the only facility in New Zealand offering plastic moulding inside an ISO Class 7 clean room environment. They have two purpose-built factories in Hamilton and employ more than 50 staff.



Category: Manufacturing - metals and metal products

INEX Metals Ltd (IML) is a leading distributor of aluminium extrusion, sheet, plate, and coil within the New Zealand. INEX has one of their three manufacturing plants located in Te Rapa.



Category: Manufacturing - metals and metal products

Wight Aluminium is one of New Zealand's largest aluminium fabricators with the acquisition of Origin Windows in 2017. Wight Aluminium has a newly constructed manufacturing plant in Hamilton employing 40 staff.



Category: Manufacturing - metals and metal products

Tira, formally known as NDA, are specialist in manufacturing and servicing of industrial storage and process vessels, creating world-leading stainless steel and specialty alloy solutions for dairy and food, beverage, water, chemical, pharmaceutical, transport and energy. Tira has a large manufacturing steel fabrication plant located in Hamilton with approximately 525 employees.