

Home consents fall in April driven by Easter

Embargoed until 10:45am – 30 May 2017

Building consents for new homes fell in April, partly due to the timing of Easter, Stats NZ said today.

The seasonally adjusted number of new homes consented fell 7.6 percent in April 2017 compared with March, mainly because of Easter, which occurred in April this year. This fall followed a 1.2 percent fall in March, and a 15 percent rise in February.

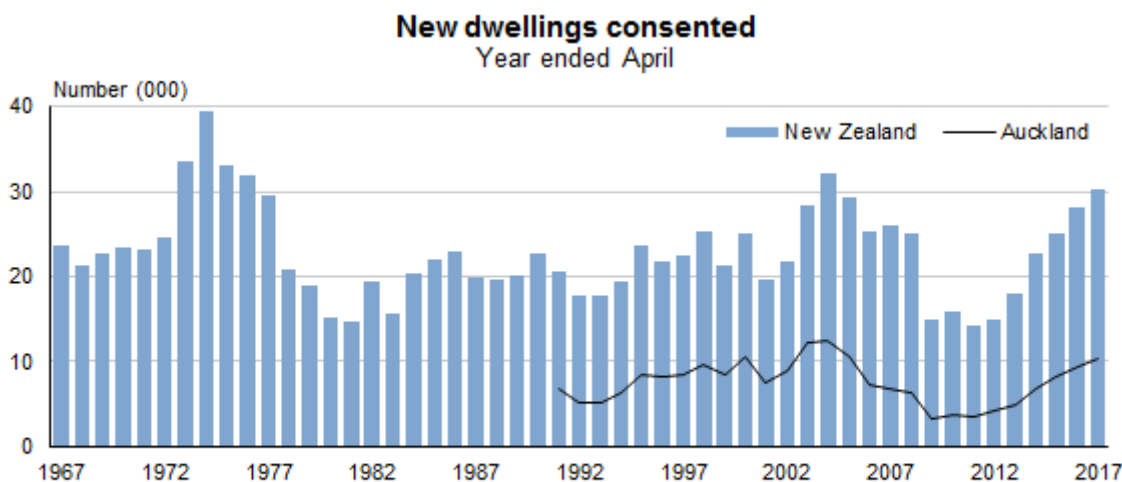
“Councils don’t usually issue building consents on public holidays, so the timing of Easter drove a fall in April’s building consents,” business indicators senior manager Neil Kelly said.

A total of 2,106 new homes were consented in April 2017, compared with 2,361 in April 2016.

“On an annual basis, home consents have reached a 12-year high this year, with more than 30,000 new homes being consented per year,” Mr Kelly said.

In the year ended April 2017, 30,371 new homes were consented – up 8.3 percent from the previous 12 months, and the most for an April year since 2004.

The annual total includes 10,226 new homes in Auckland – up 9.3 percent from the previous year, and the most for an April year since 2005.



Note: The Auckland region series begins in 1991.
Source: Stats NZ

Ends

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Authorised by Liz MacPherson, Government Statistician, 30 May 2017