

Health Science

Key facts:

- Canterbury District Health Board owns and operates five major hospitals and almost 30 smaller rural hospitals
- Health sector contributes 8% to region's GDP
- Te Papa Hauora is a brand-new Health Precinct located next to Christchurch Hospital – attracting research talent and funding in areas like biomedical and clinical research, health science education, health innovation, and health-related information technology
- Manawa co-locates health education and research activities for the Canterbury District Health Board, the University of Canterbury and the Ara Institute of Canterbury
- Christchurch hospital has the busiest Emergency Department in Australasia, treating more than 83,000 patients a year
- The University of Canterbury's school of Health Sciences is rated within the top 125 in the world.

With access to world-class health services and outstanding medical facilities, it's no surprise Canterbury is home to one of the largest and most successful health science communities in New Zealand.

Primarily managed by the Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB), the region owns and operates five major hospital facilities in Christchurch and Ashburton, and almost 30 smaller rural hospitals and community bases around North and South Canterbury. This community services more than 550,000 people and contributes around 8% to the region's GDP.

In recent years, Christchurch has grown to become one of the country's leading hubs for health tech, health education, and medical research and innovation – driven largely by the brand-new Te Papa Hauora Health Precinct. Located in the heart of the city, the precinct brings together researchers, students and clinicians to encourage a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship and promote health science-related research and development.

Fact sheet



Compared to other health precincts around the world, Te Papa Hauora embraces a broader agenda, with participation from both commercial and community interests who each play a part in supporting the local community.

Te Papa Hauora attracts both domestic and international research talent and funding – specifically in areas like biomedical and clinical research, health science education, health innovation, and health-related information technology.

Manawa – a flagship entity for the Health Precinct – co-locates health education and research activities for the Canterbury District Health Board, the University of Canterbury and the Ara Institute of Canterbury. The University of Otago has also invested \$150 million into a new research facility within the precinct.

Adjacent to Te Papa Hauora is Christchurch Hospital – the largest tertiary, teaching and research hospital in the South Island. The hospital provides a full range of emergency, acute, elective and outpatient services.

Given the region's recent history – the Canterbury Earthquake sequence of 2011, the 2016 Kaikoura Earthquake, and the March 15 2019 mosque attack – the Hospital's Emergency Department (ED) is uniquely placed to manage trauma incidents and mass injuries. In fact, the hospital has the busiest Emergency Department in Australasia, treating more than 83,000 patients a year.

The University of Canterbury is also critical to the local Health Science community. The university's school of Health Sciences is rated within the top 125 in the world, while the university itself is ranked first in New Zealand for research into public health.

For more information, contact:

Gillian Officer, Director of Business Development

T: +64 3 266 1400 **E:** gofficer@tepae.co.nz

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