



Office for Seniors Te Tari Kaumātua

Administered by the Ministry of Social Development

An ageing population

Sarah Clark
Director

“Ageing is not lost youth but a new stage
of opportunity and strength”

Betty Friedan (1921-2006)

Populations are getting older



Percentage aged
60 years or older:

■ 30% or more

■ 10 to <30%

■ <10%

2015



World Health
Organization

“New Zealand will be a positive place in which to age when older people can say that they live in a society that values them, acknowledges their contributions and encourages their participation.”

Positive Ageing Strategy – 2001



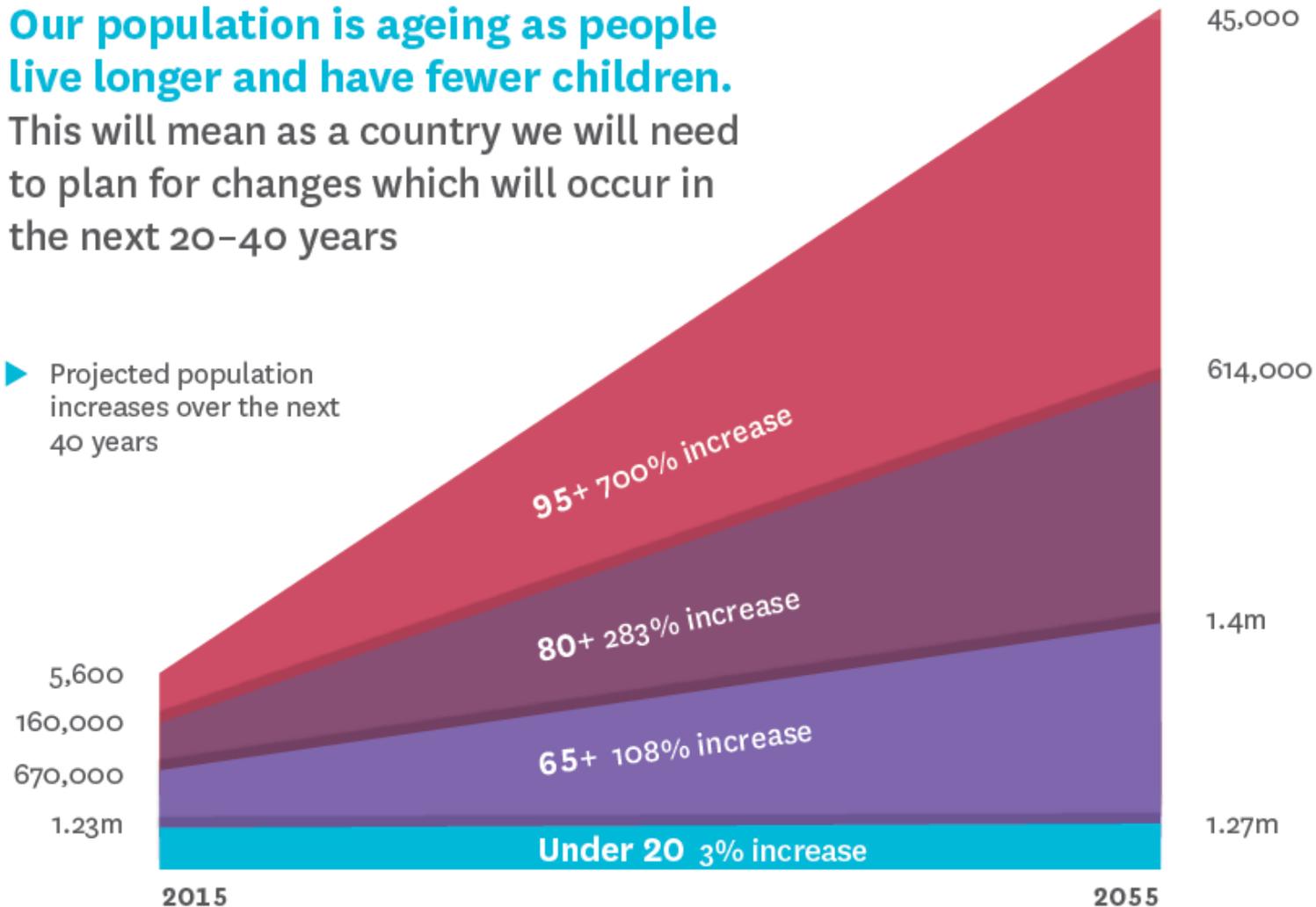
Office for Seniors
Te Tari Kaumātua

New Zealand is changing

Our population is ageing as people live longer and have fewer children.

This will mean as a country we will need to plan for changes which will occur in the next 20-40 years

► Projected population increases over the next 40 years



Why it's important for NZ

Our regions are ageing faster than many of our cities. Some regions will need to plan for a future where they will have much larger older populations at the same time as having declines in younger population groups.

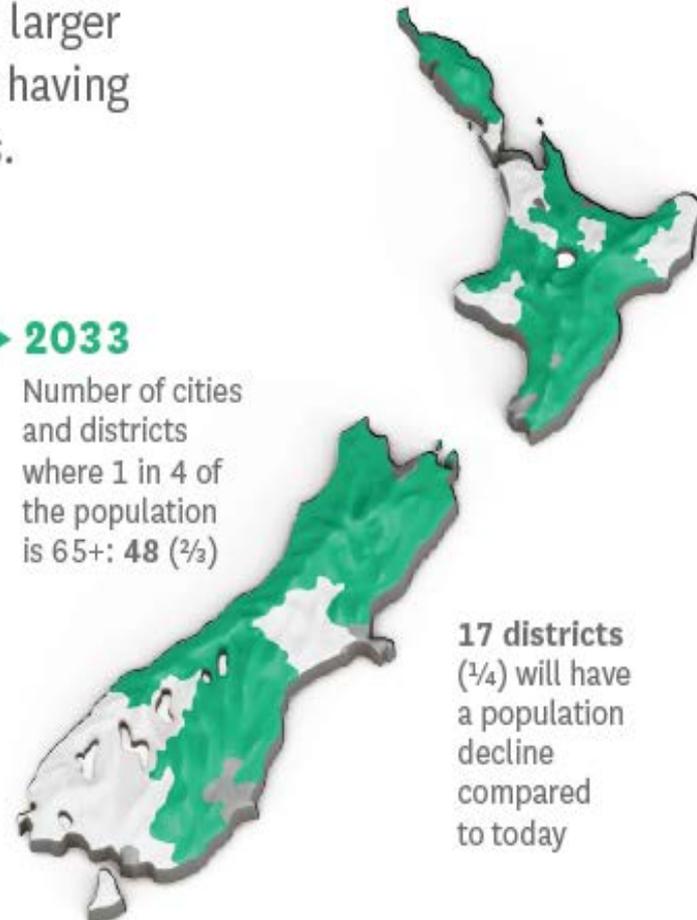
► 2015

Number of cities and districts where 1 in 4 of the population is 65+: 2



► 2033

Number of cities and districts where 1 in 4 of the population is 65+: 48 ($\frac{2}{3}$)



17 districts ($\frac{1}{4}$) will have a population decline compared to today

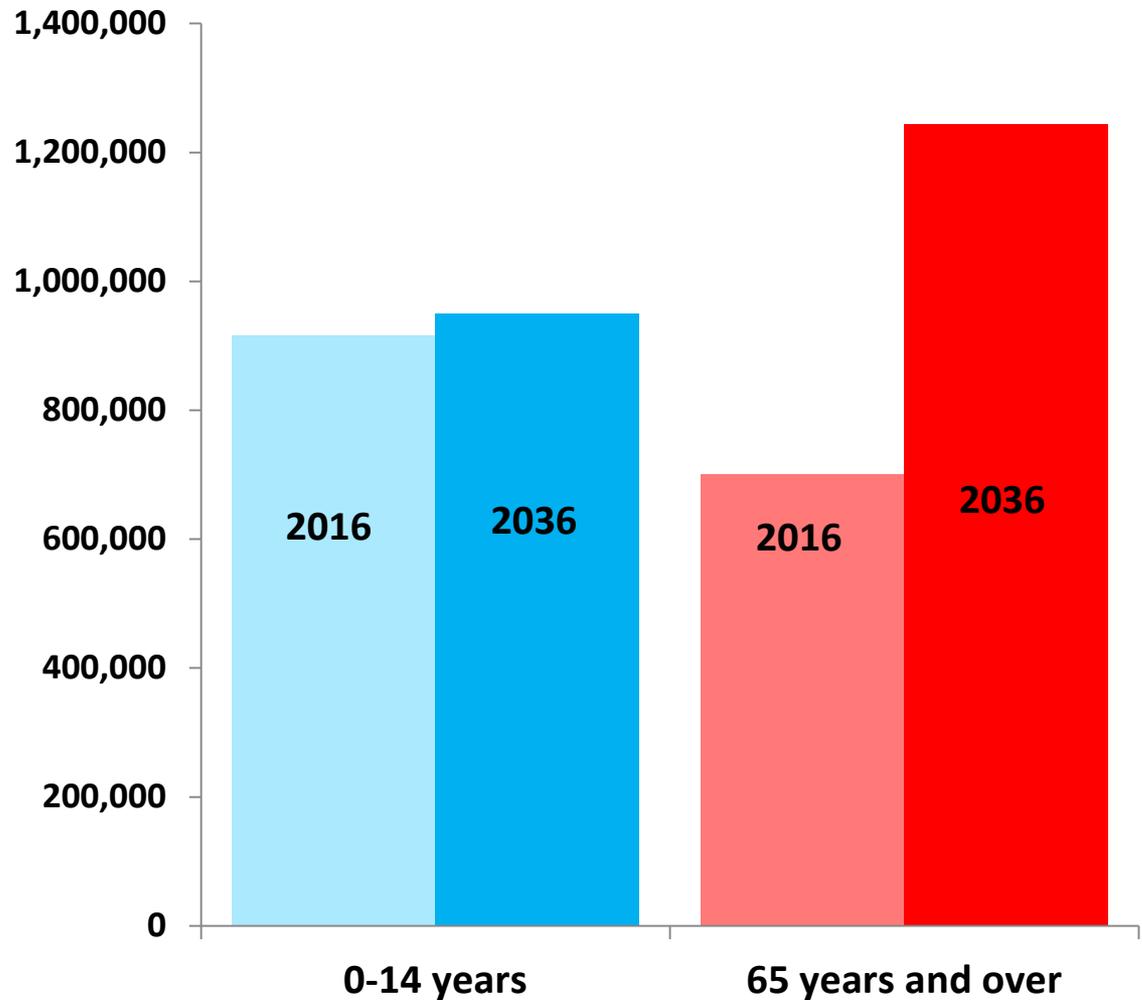
Why it's important for NZ

New Zealand

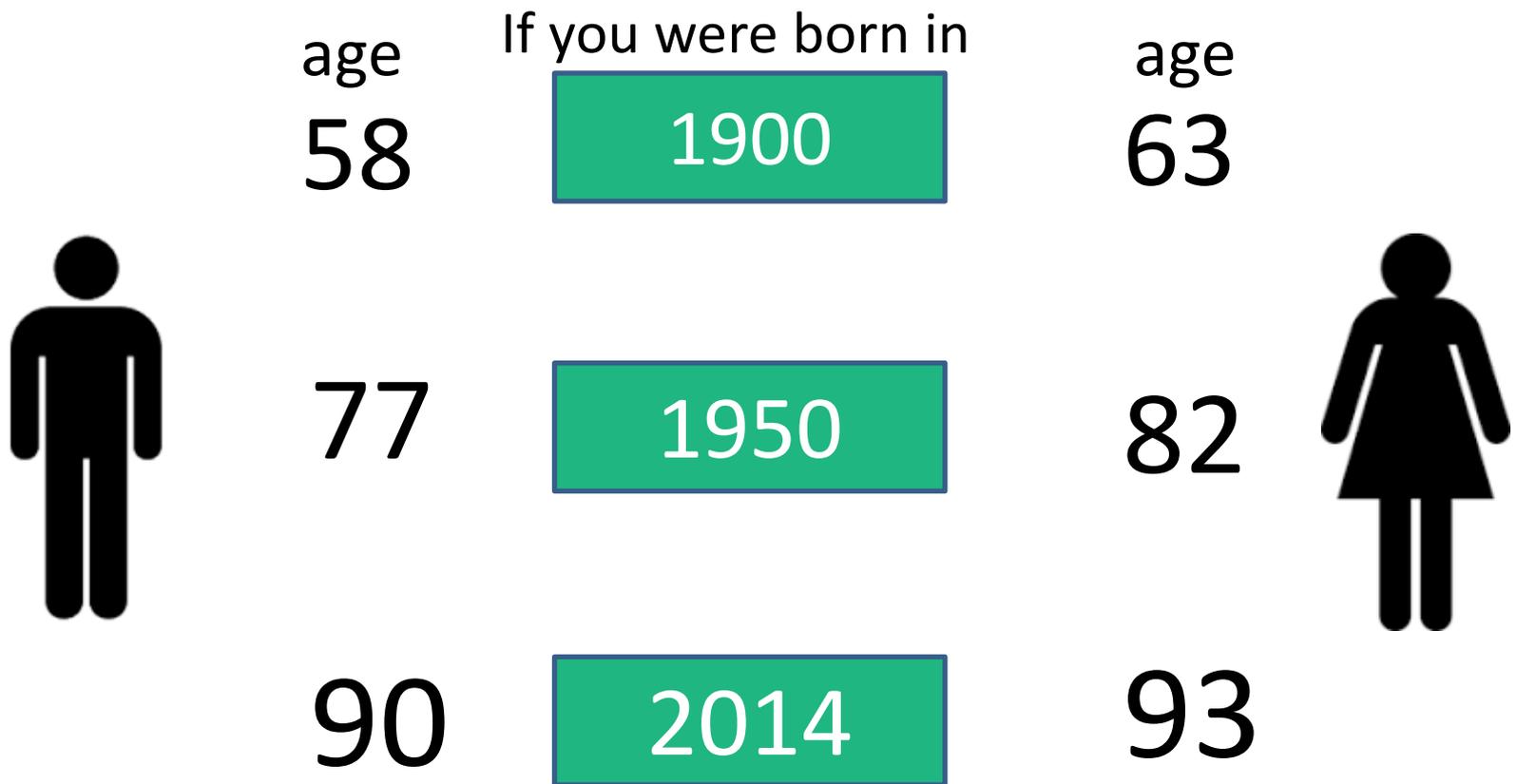
by 2036
is projected to
have:

470,000 extra
people aged 65+

30,000 extra
children aged 14
and under



How life expectancy is changing





Kate Harcourt, 88, Actor

If you look at people like Judi Dench and Meryl Streep, those people are huge examples for older women. I think I've been lucky – I've been cast my own age and I've never aspired to do anything else.

I used to be very bad at learning lines, but I've got better and better for some reason. I suppose it's practice. (Stuff, 8 Nov 2015)

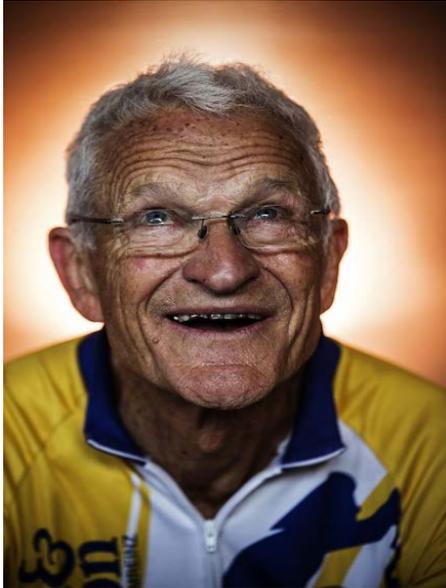


Ranginui Walker, 83, Academic

The drawback of being 83 is I'm not as sharp as I was. My memory blanks for names. I have to search sometimes for a minute, an hour, a day, before I recall a name. I don't have the same energy levels. Once I could work all hours. Now, I stop at five o'clock.

The benefits? Wisdom. Patience.

Knowledge. (Stuff, 8 Nov 2015)



Garth Barfoot, 79, Businessman

My age is a great advantage when interviewing people. In my near-80 years, I've come across enough to relate to most applicants. I find that a great help. You'll get the occasional snide comment like, "That old guy." Especially when I turn someone down, ha ha ha. But that comes with the job.

When you get to my age you brush that off.
(Stuff, 8 Nov 2015)

Negative images of older people



Let's reframe the debate



Contribution of older people

Be valued for their voluntary work

Contribute through unpaid and voluntary work

(based on their earning \$16.10 per hour)



Have influence as a consumer group

Spend in total

(Most will be spent on groceries, clothing and footwear, followed by housing and housing-related items, health, transport and recreation and culture)

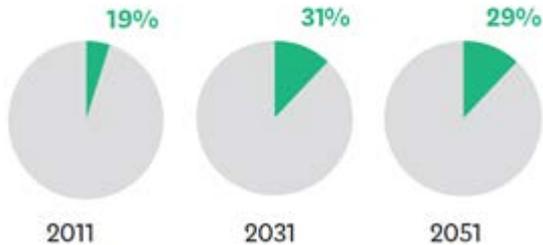


Be more active in the labour market

Labour force percentage



Participation rate



Older people
are making a
growing
contribution
to our
economy

Make a significant contribution to tax revenue

Pay income tax totalling



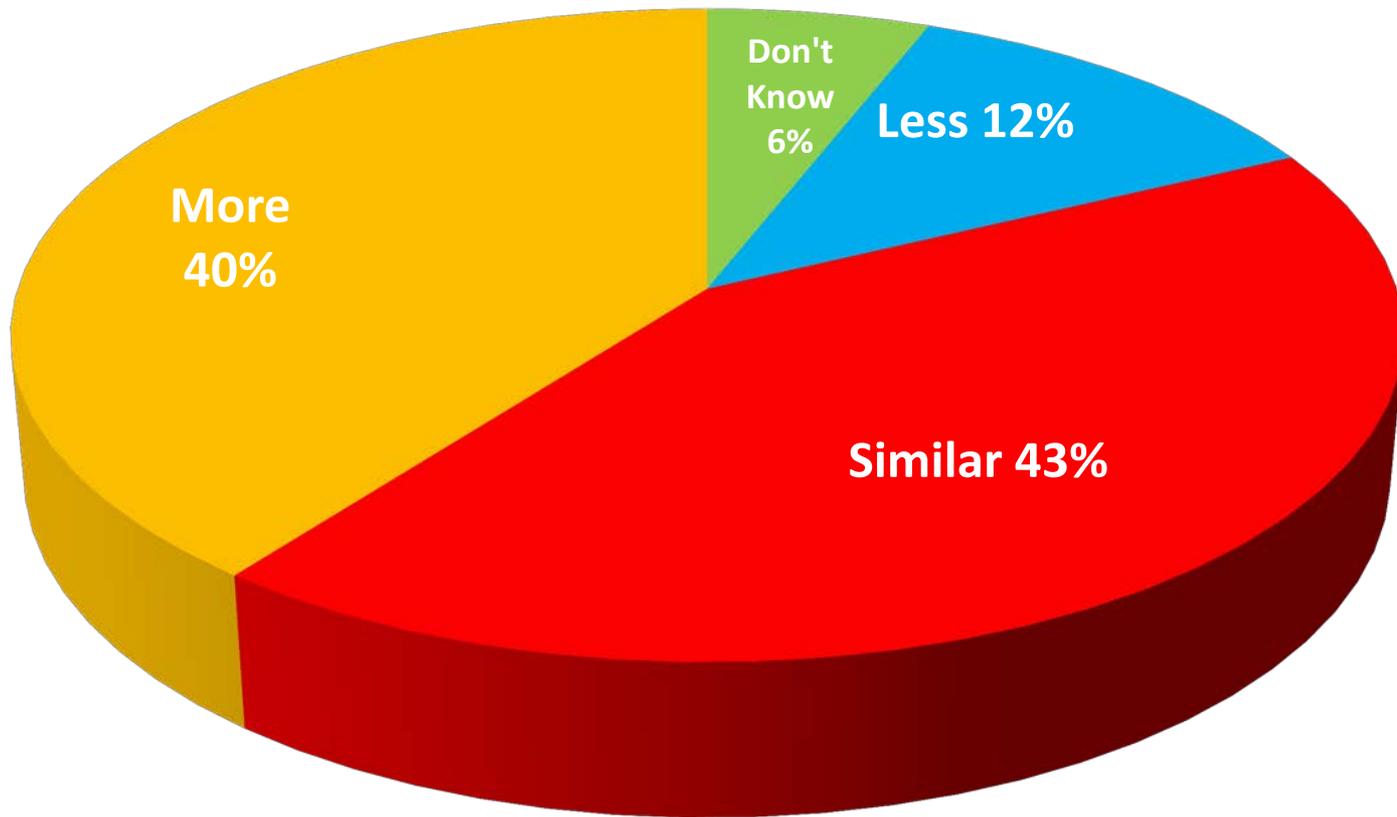
Pay total tax

(including payments on pensions such as New Zealand Superannuation, investments and GST)



Older workers are productive

How productive are older workers in comparison to younger workers?



Challenges

- **Just 14% of employers** have specific planning strategies around ageing workforce participation
- **40% of older workers** have experienced age related discrimination in the past 5 years

A good place to grow old

AGE-FRIENDLY WORLD

adding life to years

Welcome to Age-friendly World



Age-friendly cities – around the world

250 cities and communities

28 countries

100 million people

Age-friendly cities – fit for purpose

- Help seniors live safely, enjoy good health and stay involved (Canada)
- Work together to make sure the quality of life for people is enhanced as they age (Ireland)
- More welcoming to older adults to ensure they can remain engaged and active in the city (New York), USA

Community Connects

What is Community Connects?

- Aims to build age-friendly communities in New Zealand
- Create a place for people of all ages, cultures and abilities
- A national network, sharing their experience and resources.
- Modelled on the World Health Organization's Age-friendly Cities

Social participation

Respect
and social inclusion

Employment
and community
involvement

Communication
and information

Transport

Outdoor spaces
and public buildings

Ageing in place
and health services

Universal design
and housing

Adapted from: WHO (2007). Global age-friendly cities: a guide.

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Features



Social isolation

Having family and friends around can have positive impacts, but what if you don't? Dr Hamish Jamieson investigates.



Post holiday budget

If you splashed out over the holidays and have a spending hangover, Retirement Commissioner Diane Maxwell has some ideas for you.



Elder abuse

Family members are behind most abuse of older people. Being socially isolated is one of the risk factors but there is help available.



Tireless volunteer

An innovator and a constant challenger to the status quo, Sister Monica Landy recounts 25 years with WOOPs.

Age-Friendly Communities

Positive Ageing

Information Technology

Having Your Voice Heard

Kapiti Coast tackles age-friendly issues

Within the next 20 years, more than 1.2 million New Zealanders will be aged 65+ with all the looming challenges and opportunities that presents.

The rapidly ageing population is already a reality on the Kapiti Coast where a group, with the support of the council, has been meeting to explore what an age-friendly community would look like.

For resident Jill Stansfield, who's currently getting around on crutches after surgery, there are practicalities to consider.

"I have just been to the disabled toilet and the weight of the door, the spring on the door, was such that I had to use my head, in conjunction with my crutches, to get through the doorway.

"That is not accessible for some people and that would be a disaster, I mean it really would."

She would like Kapiti to put in place elderly preferred parking, not just disabled parking bays, and think about what's on offer at shopping centres and in public spaces.

"You've got to think about seating; the seat has to be high enough off the floor and it has to have arm rests as well.

"When we're talking about accessibility to services, then the queuing system needs to have a number system rather than standing there for half an hour."

Signage is also critical, she says.



Jill Stansfield says footpaths should fit pedestrians and mobility scooters

NZ Super

Get your finances sorted

Paid Work

Enduring Power of Attorney

Choosing Where You Live

Celebrate Your Consumer Power

Older workers could fill gaps in workforce

An ageing population is bringing with it an ageing workforce but there's been little discussion as to what that will mean, and few strategies put in place to take advantage of opportunities.

Management at a hospital in the South Island began thinking through the implications when they realised there were a lot of older staff in their workforce.

Geoff Pearman, the Managing Director of Partners in Change, was called in to devise a strategy.

"The way they experienced it first of all was, 'We've got all these older workers, when are they going to leave, and what are we going to do if they do?' That was their wake-up call.

"Now they're putting in an action plan which is very much focussed on retention but also investing in health and wellbeing programs, rethinking what flexibility of work is about."

There's been a 65 per cent increase in the number of people aged 50 and over in paid work between the 2001 and 2013 census.

There are now more than 665,000 people aged 50 plus in paid work, according to the latest census; 34 per cent of the total workforce.

It is not only ageing but older workers are motivated by different factors than they were at earlier stages in their career.

"The ageing of the workforce [is] driven basically by the boomer bulge moving through," says Mr Pearman.





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Office for Seniors New Zealand
Published by Sarah Clark [?] · 46 mins ·

Editorial on loneliness offers ideas after the issue was highlighted yesterday.



'Take courage to fight loneliness'
Mobility, mental illness, and feeling irrelevant contribute to an increase in loneliness among seniors.
STUFF.CO.NZ

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207 people reached

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“Grow old along with me! The best is yet to be.”

Robert Browning, 1812–1889



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