

## FOREWORD

More than six centuries ago Te Arawa people moved inland from their landing at Maketu on the Bay of Plenty coast to Rotorua, an area discovered by their ancestors. Rotorua is centred around a thriving urban area on the southern shore of Lake Rotorua and Rotorua District extends to include a substantial rural area as well as a number of lakeside communities.

Rotorua is a bicultural district with an increasingly multicultural population. It is the heart of Te Arawa people and Maori culture in New Zealand. 65,901 people usually live in Rotorua District (Census 2006).

European settlers arrived in New Zealand throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. The subsequent development of Rotorua District was driven by tourism generated through the unique geothermal and cultural attractions of the area.

Today, the Rotorua District Council has responsibility under the Local Government Act for the provision of a wide range of services to the community, including good-quality infrastructure, local public services and performance of regulatory functions in the most cost-effective way for households and businesses.

This report is part of an expanding series of publications produced by the council's Community Policy and Resources Department to track social trends and to assist with community planning.

Also incorporating 2006 Census data are separate publications on:

- Changing Communities Rotorua – Rotorua District Demographic Profile 2007.
- Young People Rotorua – Rotorua District Youth Demographic Profile 2007.
- Aging Population Rotorua – Rotorua District Older Persons Profile 2007.
- Patterns of Wellbeing Rotorua – Rotorua District Indicators of Socio-Economic Status 2008.

The publication 'Good Health, Rotorua District Health and Wellbeing Services' also provides up-to-date information for businesses, students, not-for-profit organisations, and local and central government agencies.

Naku noa na

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This document is available on the Rotorua District Council website:

[www.rdc.govt.nz](http://www.rdc.govt.nz)

A series of demographic profiles is also available on the website (keyword: "publications")

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