

Pipeline snapshot

March 2025

The Pipeline at a glance

The **National Infrastructure Pipeline** (Pipeline) is New Zealand's national dataset of infrastructure initiatives providing transparency on investments and activity to maintain, renew, and improve the infrastructure we all rely on. This important evidence base includes thousands of projects and programmes at various stages of planning, commitment, and delivery from central government, local government, and private sector infrastructure providers.

The March 2025 Pipeline update¹ included \$111.6 billion of initiatives underway and in planning which were reported as funded, part funded, or with a funding source confirmed. This value represents an increase of \$3.7 billion relative to the December 2024 Pipeline update, which included \$107.9 billion of initiatives with the same funding status.

The Pipeline also includes initiatives that are earlier in the planning cycle and do not yet have a funding source confirmed. These initiatives signal potential investment demand, offering early insights to the construction industry and helping infrastructure providers to coordinate their planning. Transparency of both investment options and opportunity costs are important to inform funding decisions. Further support to decision makers will be provided by the

Infrastructure Priorities Programme (IPP) which is undertaking independent standardised assessments of unfunded proposals to evaluate their strategic alignment, value for money, and deliverability.

The combined value of all initiatives in the Pipeline, regardless of funding status, is \$206.9 billion. This value represents an increase of \$2.9 billion relative to the December 2024 Pipeline update, which included a combined total of \$204 billion of funded and unfunded initiatives. Further changes are expected as we integrate IPP initiatives into the forward view of infrastructure activity.

The Pipeline will play an important part in the National Infrastructure Plan

The Government has requested the Commission develop a **National Infrastructure Plan** for New Zealand. The Plan is progressing well and considers long-term infrastructure needs and compares these to infrastructure providers' current initiatives and investment intentions. It will address what should be prioritised and how to deliver on longer-term requirements. A draft of the Plan will be published in late June 2025, after which we will be seeking feedback.

¹ The information release for the March update was published through our online facilitation tools on 31 March 2025.

To inform further development of the Plan and decision-making across the system, it's crucial the Pipeline continues to build toward representing a complete picture of regional and sectoral infrastructure investment activity across project lifecycle stages. Timely updates are critical to support us to present a clear picture on the state, activity, and challenges within the infrastructure system.

In September 2024 the Minister for Infrastructure sent **letters to public sector infrastructure providers** requesting they regularly update the Pipeline with their investment intentions. Information from private sector providers is equally important.

Infrastructure providers yet to contribute information need to do so by June 2025 to ensure their intentions, needs and resource requirements are represented in the finalised Plan to be released in December 2025. These submissions and updates are particularly important for the 14 councils yet to contribute information for their regions.

Please reach out to contribute, update data, or if you have a question regarding the information in the Pipeline at: pipeline@tewaihanga.govt.nz.

Total value of Pipeline initiatives with funding or funding source confirmed is \$111.6 billion

The Pipeline includes project and programme initiatives at various stages of planning and commitment. In March 2025 the Pipeline included information on over 8,100 infrastructure initiatives underway and in planning for 150 infrastructure providers.

The value of initiatives reported as funded, part funded or with a confirmed funding source was \$111.6 billion, up \$3.7 billion from December 2024. The value of initiatives with a funding source yet to be confirmed decreased slightly from \$96 billion in December 2024 to \$95.3 billion in March 2025².

The combined value of all Pipeline initiatives was \$206.9 billion, this includes \$5.3 billion of initiatives reported as 'on hold' or 'under review'. Over 2,000 initiatives are currently under construction totalling \$46.7 billion in expected cost. Our modelling indicates work to progress the delivery of these initiatives will result in \$1.9 billion spend in the current June quarter.

Figure 1 highlights the funding status for initiatives in the Pipeline by value and initiative count. It's encouraging to see improving transparency of initiatives in the early planning stages which are yet to secure funding.

Interactive tool



What's in the Pipeline? Project search

Search the Pipeline project list by upcoming procurement opportunities, project timings, sectors, regions, and more, and download Pipeline data on our insights platform.



Login or register for access at insights.tewaihanga.govt.nz

² The Pipeline is a live system that is updated regularly. Our snapshot reports are based on best known information at the time of publication. This may cause differences in reported values over time and between publications.

Figure 1:

\$111.6 billion of Pipeline initiatives are funded or have a funding source confirmed

Pipeline value and initiative count by funding status, March 2025

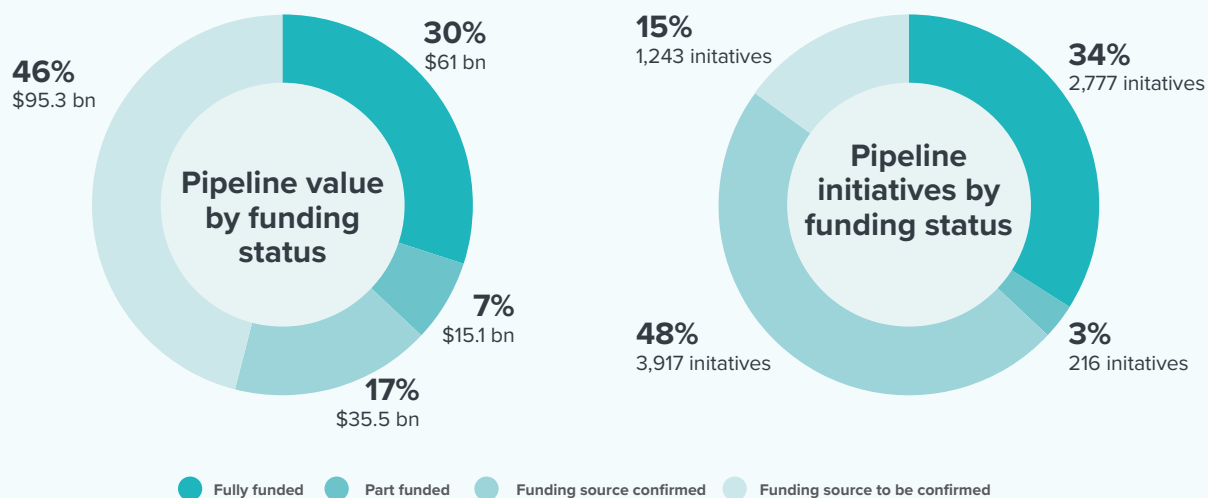


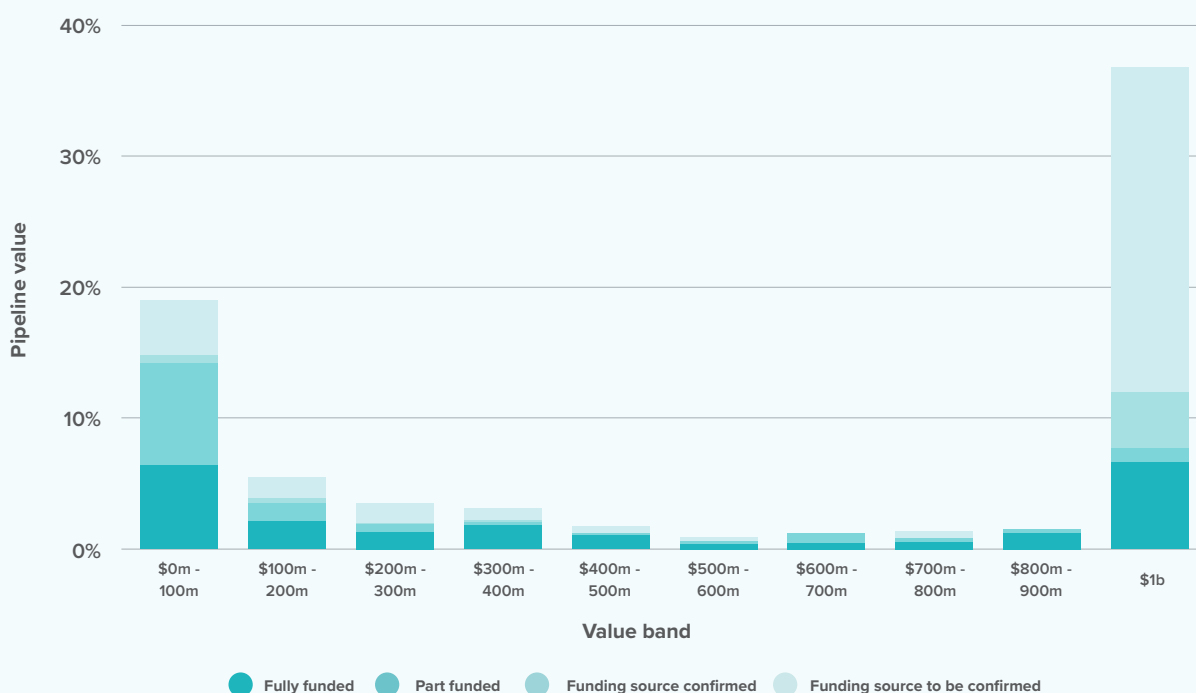
Figure 2 shows the distribution of initiatives in the Pipeline by scale and funding status. The figure highlights 25% of total Pipeline value comes from 7,918 initiatives each valued up to \$100m (97% of all initiatives in the Pipeline by number). Of these smaller initiatives 85% (or 20% of total Pipeline value) have a confirmed funded source. This proportion highlights the importance of smaller projects and programmes for achieving stability and confidence in the forward works program.

At the other end of the scale, the Pipeline currently includes 28 initiatives with expected costs of \$1 billion or more. While these initiatives account for 49% of total Pipeline value, only 17 (16% of total Pipeline value) have a confirmed funding source.

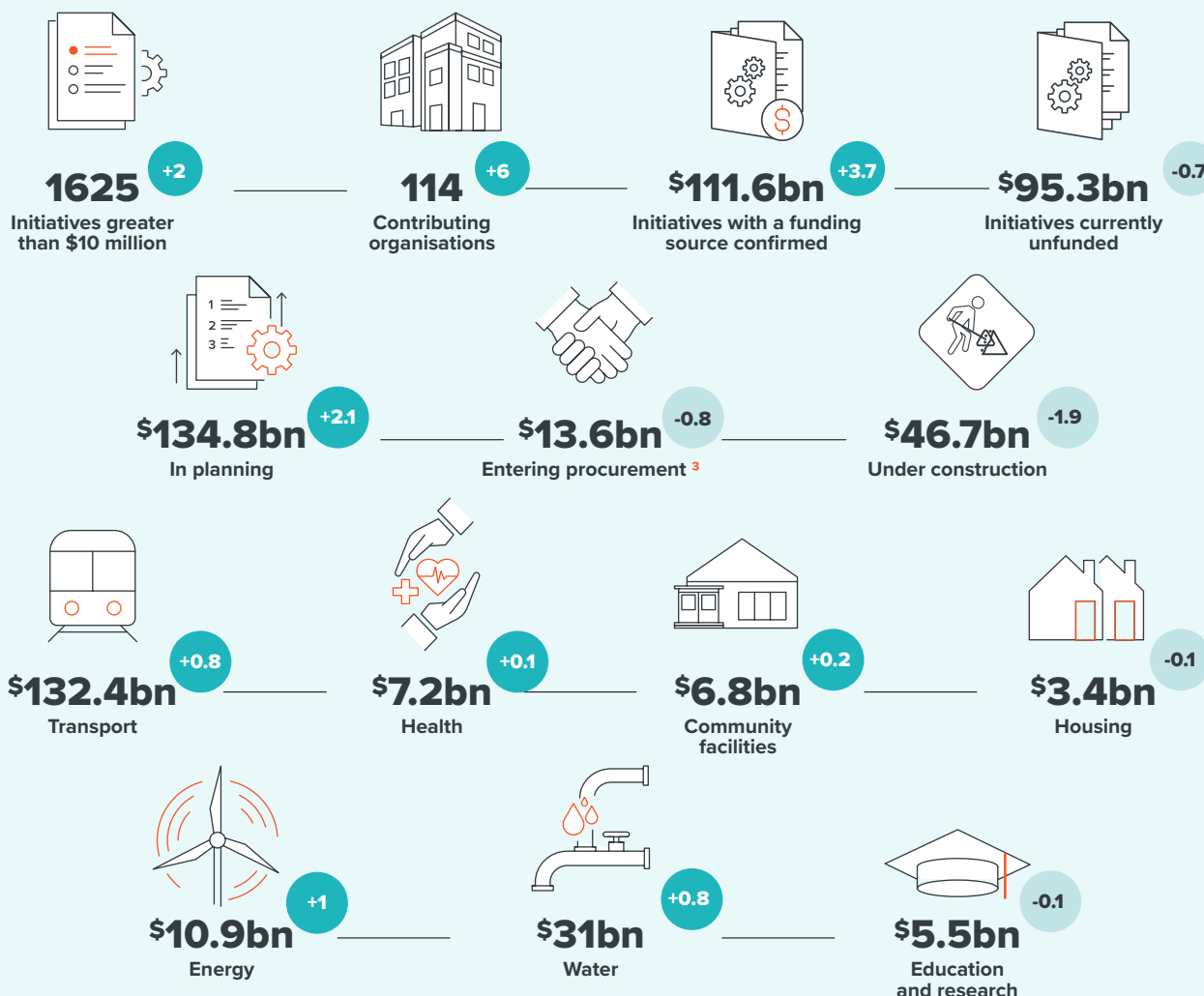
Figure 2:

Larger initiatives account for a significant proportion of infrastructure investment but are largely unfunded

Distribution of initiatives in the Pipeline by expected project cost, March 2025



The Pipeline at a glance



Change from December 2024

+

Note: Dollar amounts are rounded.

New Pipeline contributors

A total of 114 organisations now contribute information about their infrastructure initiatives to the Pipeline. We are observing increased interest in the Pipeline, more insights derived from this evidence base, and recognition that contributing to the Pipeline ensures representation in the National Infrastructure Plan. In March, 82% of our contributors provided project updates, made changes, or confirmed their information. In addition to these updates, we welcomed six new contributors:

Buller District Council

Central Hawke's Bay District Council

Greater Wellington Regional Council

Hastings District Council

Port of Tauranga Limited

Whakatāne District Council

We thank our partners for their efforts and another step change to improving the national coverage of the Pipeline and supporting planning in the construction sector.

³ Projects submitted with a project status of 'In procurement' and projects reported to enter procurement in 12 months from 1 April 2025.

Using the Pipeline

The Pipeline forms an important evidence base to support a coordinated approach to infrastructure delivery across sectors, regions, and markets. Insights from the Pipeline enable understanding of investment options (and opportunity costs), competing demand for construction resources and workforce, and constraints or opportunities in the market. This understanding is fundamental to promoting efficient investment in infrastructure.

The Pipeline helps inform policy development and the Commission's advice on improvements to the wider infrastructure system, as well as Government demand-side decisions (e.g. increasing or curtailing demand through funding and other settings), and supply-side decisions (e.g. economic, education, and employment initiatives and settings).

Infrastructure providers use the forward view of infrastructure activity the Pipeline provides to inform prioritisation, coordination, planning, and investment decisions. Our stakeholders within the construction market use the Pipeline to understand upcoming business opportunities and the workforce capability and capacity that will be needed to deliver infrastructure projects. Regional economic and employment agencies use the Pipeline to understand when they need to draw skills to their region.

Initiatives entering procurement

The March update indicated 450 initiatives totalling \$9.4 billion in expected costs (including \$7.5 billion of initiatives that have a funding source confirmed) were in procurement at the time of the update.

- 223 initiatives totalling \$2.1 billion were from local and regional councils,
- 143 initiatives totalling \$3.7 billion from central government entities, and
- 84 initiatives totalling \$3.6 billion from state owned entities, private organisations and council-controlled organisations.

A further 307 initiatives totalling \$4.2 billion in expected costs (including \$1.2 billion of initiatives that have a funding source confirmed) are expected to enter procurement during the 12 months from 1 April 2025.

- 236 initiatives totalling \$1.1 billion were from local and regional councils,
- 20 initiatives totalling \$600 million from central government entities, and
- 51 initiatives totalling \$2.5 billion from council-controlled organisations. (State owned enterprises and other private sector infrastructure providers have not indicated any initiatives that are planned to enter procurement over the next 12 months.)

The initiatives in procurement and expected to enter procurement in the next 12 months are projected to contribute between \$350 to \$720 million spend per quarter through to 2029.

The Pipeline includes a further 4,517 initiatives totalling \$130.6 billion in expected costs (including \$86.8 billion of initiatives that do not yet have a funding source confirmed). These initiatives are either recorded as expected to enter procurement after 31 March 2026, or have been submitted to the Pipeline without a reliable indication of expected procurement timing.

- 3,321 initiatives totalling \$18.2 billion were from local and regional councils,
- 472 initiatives totalling \$78 billion from central government agencies, and
- 724 initiatives totalling \$34.2 billion from state owned entities, private organisations and council-controlled organisations.

Projections show these initiatives could add \$1.2 to \$2.4 billion spend per quarter through to 2033 and then a further \$1.4 to \$4.2 billion through to 2036.

Initiatives under construction

In March there were 2,043 initiatives totalling \$46.7 billion in expected costs that were recorded as being under construction. These initiatives will be at various stages of completion with some having just started construction and others near completion, with little remaining spend to enter the market.

- 1,329 initiatives totalling \$12.4 billion were from local and regional councils,
- 546 initiatives totalling \$22.1 billion from central government entities, and
- 68 initiatives totalling \$12.2 billion from state owned entities, private organisations and council-controlled organisations.



You may notice some changes in our visualisation tools this quarter as we migrate some elements of our supporting technology. If you experience any issues – please let us know using the Pipeline email address.

Where to learn more

Learn more on our **insights platform** where you can gain access to a range of Pipeline insights and tools:

- Pipeline project list searchable by project timings, sectors, regions and more
- download the Pipeline project data
- interactive Pipeline workforce projection tool



Login or register for access at **insights.tewaihangā.govt.nz**

Drivers of change in value between quarters

Total value of initiatives in the Pipeline increased by \$2.9 billion

The main drivers of the change in the total expected costs of initiatives in the Pipeline from December 2024 (\$204 billion) to March 2025 (\$206.9 billion) are outlined in the list below and highlighted visually in Figures 3 and 4.

Increases in total Pipeline value

- \$1.1 billion from new organisations providing information
- \$2.2 billion from existing contributors providing additional initiatives
- \$5.9 billion from adjustments in the reported value of existing initiatives

Decreases in total Pipeline value

- \$2.6 billion from initiatives completed during the quarter
- \$200 million from initiatives cancelled during the quarter
- \$3.9 billion from adjustments in the reported value of existing initiatives

We are committed to working with Pipeline contributors to improve information quality. Quality adjustments resulted in a net increase of \$300 million in Pipeline value.

Together, contributors added \$3.3 billion of new initiatives to the Pipeline in March. Adjustments to previously reported initiatives had a net result of adding a further \$2 billion in value. Figure 3 illustrates the total change in Pipeline value in March inclusive of all initiatives, regardless of funding status, or their progress through the planning and delivery lifecycle.

Total value of initiatives with confirmed funding sources increased by \$3.7 billion

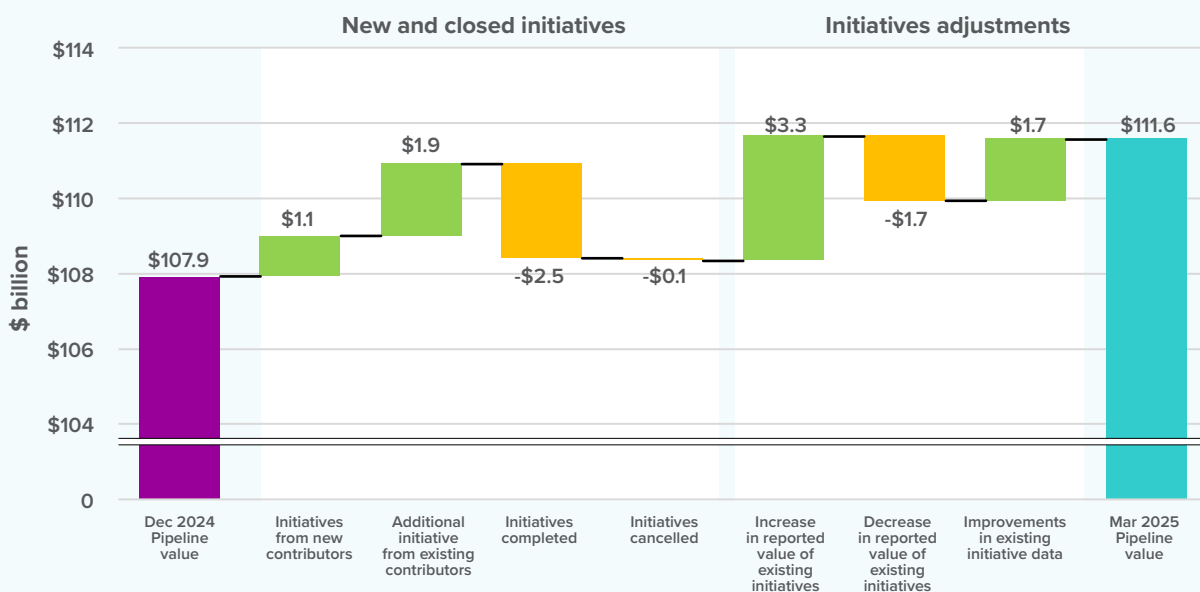
Transparent reporting of funding status enables the Commission to build a clearer view of committed investment and provide a better signal to the construction market of what is being planned with insights into the relative certainty of initiatives proceeding.

Figure 4 shows that 30% (\$1.1 billion) of the \$3.7 billion increase in value for initiatives with confirmed funding sources came from new contributors' submissions. A further \$1.8 billion (49% of the increase) came from initiatives recorded in December 2024 without a confirmed funding source, progressing in March to having confirmed funding or funding source.

Changes in total Pipeline value including unfunded initiatives
December 2024 - March 2025



Changes in Pipeline value for initiatives with confirmed funding sources
December 2024 - March 2025



Adjustments to expected costs of initiatives

Figures 3 and 4 highlight that changes to the expected cost of existing initiatives are significant and a large driver of changes to Pipeline value. Cost estimates for initiatives in early planning stages are typically lower-confidence. However, these early stages are also the easiest time to accommodate change to these initiatives.

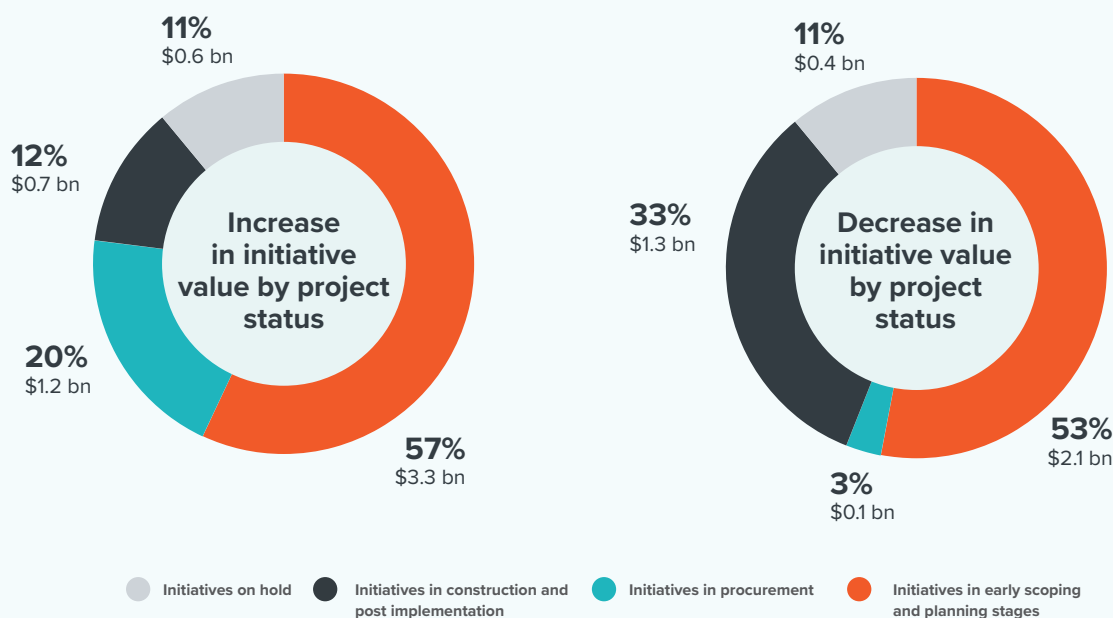
In the March update, changes to initiatives in early scoping and planning phases accounted for 57% of the \$5.9 billion increase in the expected costs for existing initiatives. A further 20% came from initiatives in procurement, when anticipated costs become firmer. Initiatives in construction and post-implementation accounted for 12% of the increase.

Similarly, initiatives in early scoping and planning stages accounted for 53% of the \$3.9 billion decrease in the expected costs from existing initiatives, while 33% came from initiatives in construction or post implementation stages.

Changes in expected costs can be driven by a change in approach to reporting to better reflect potential costs for full initiatives, rather than by a change in initiative scope. We continue to work with contributors to standardise and align their reporting processes.

Most adjustments in initiative value occur in early planning stages

Project status for pre-existing Pipeline initiatives that have increased or decreased in reported value since December 2024



Projected spend by sector

Each quarter we model the projected spend to deliver initiatives in the Pipeline. The projections include all Pipeline initiatives regardless of funding status except for initiatives reported as 'under review' and 'on hold' which have been excluded. The shape of the projections reflect that both initiative demand and certainty naturally decrease over the planning horizon. We can also see how the rate of the decrease varies across infrastructure sectors. Factors such as the relative size of an individual initiative (to the size of the market), initiative scope, and initiative complexity influence how far ahead initiatives are typically planned within each sector.

The March 2025 update shows a total of \$16.6 billion in projected potential spend across the 2025 calendar year. This figure is a \$1.5 billion increase in projected spend for 2025 relative to our previous projections using December 2024 Pipeline information. The projected spend for 2026 is currently \$15.5 billion. These figures are expected to rise as near-term projects are planned and submitted to the Pipeline.

The \$16.6 billion in projected spend for 2025 equates to around 3.9% of GDP and highlights the level of infrastructure activity in the Pipeline in the near term. Our modelling indicates that for Pipeline initiatives with confirmed funding sources, three quarters of projected spend will occur within five and a half years. This measure provides a benchmark of how far ahead we are making commitments in aggregate across the Pipeline.

Figure 6 illustrates projected spend by infrastructure sector. Spend in the transport sector (including road, rail, ports, and airports) dominates the Pipeline over the next 10 years. In 2025 transport spend accounts for \$8.2 billion or 49% of total projected spend. Annual spend for all initiatives in this sector remains above \$4 billion across the 10-year spend period. Over the next 10 years the total projected transport spend is \$72.6 billion or 61% of spend across all sectors.

The water sector accounts for \$3.4 billion or 20% of projected spend in the 2025 calendar year. Projected annual spend in the water sector fluctuates between \$1.2 billion and \$3.5 billion between 2025 and 2032 and, based on current submitted information, drops to \$0.5 billion in 2033. Local councils will be well advanced in the development of their water services

delivery plans, due 3 September 2025. The Pipeline continues to provide a way to iterate their delivery programmes and coordinate their approach with neighbouring entities. While water service delivery plans have a funding requirement, there is no such constraint to submit project detail to the Pipeline.

Building the forward view

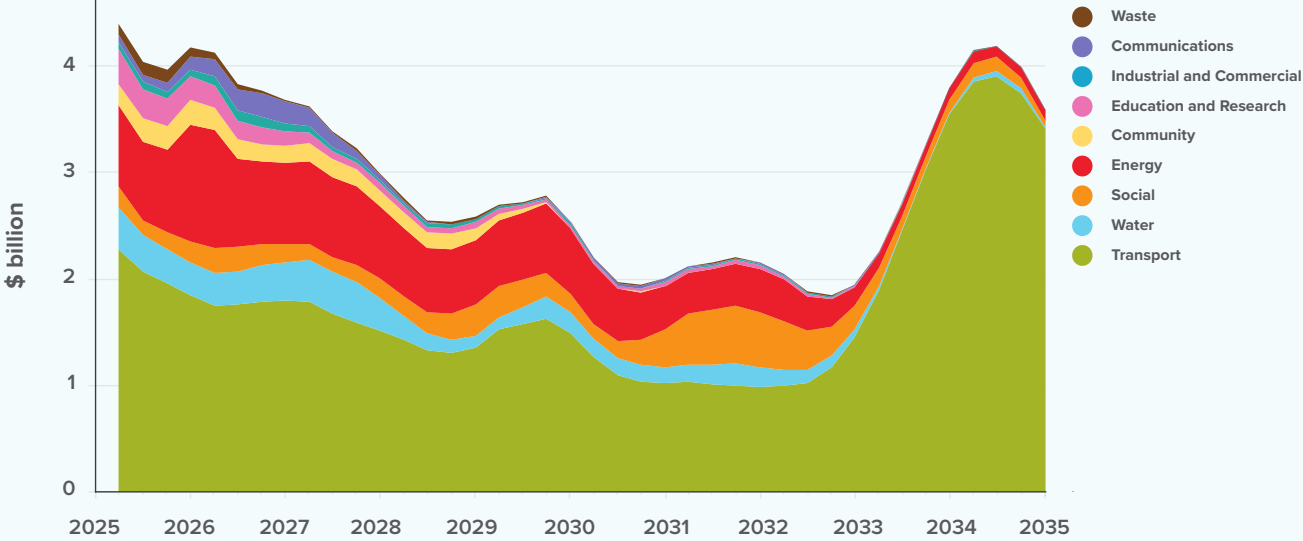
We continue working with our contributors to improve the visibility of lower-certainty initiatives that are earlier in the planning cycle and are currently unfunded. A more complete Pipeline with a transparent longer-term view of expected activity becomes a powerful tool to support scheduling and assessment of project deliverability in addition to funding and policy decisions.

The improved visibility of lower-certainty initiatives is shown more clearly in Figures 7 and 8, where in 2032 the balance of projected spend shifts from spend for initiatives that are largely in delivery and planning with confirmed funding sources, to spend for initiatives that are in early planning stages without confirmed funding sources.

The spend projections will continue to evolve as projects are adjusted, scheduled, and completed, new projects are planned and added, and as new contributors provide project information to the Pipeline.

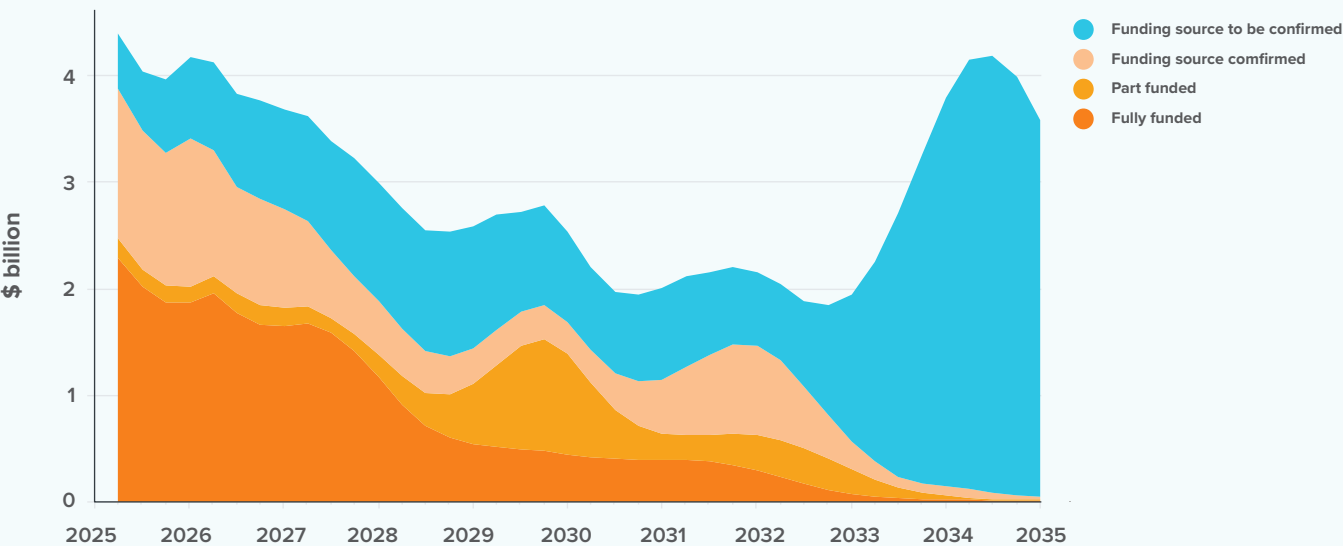
Transport sector spend is projected to dominate infrastructure investment over the next ten years

Projected quarterly spend by sector, 2025 – 2035



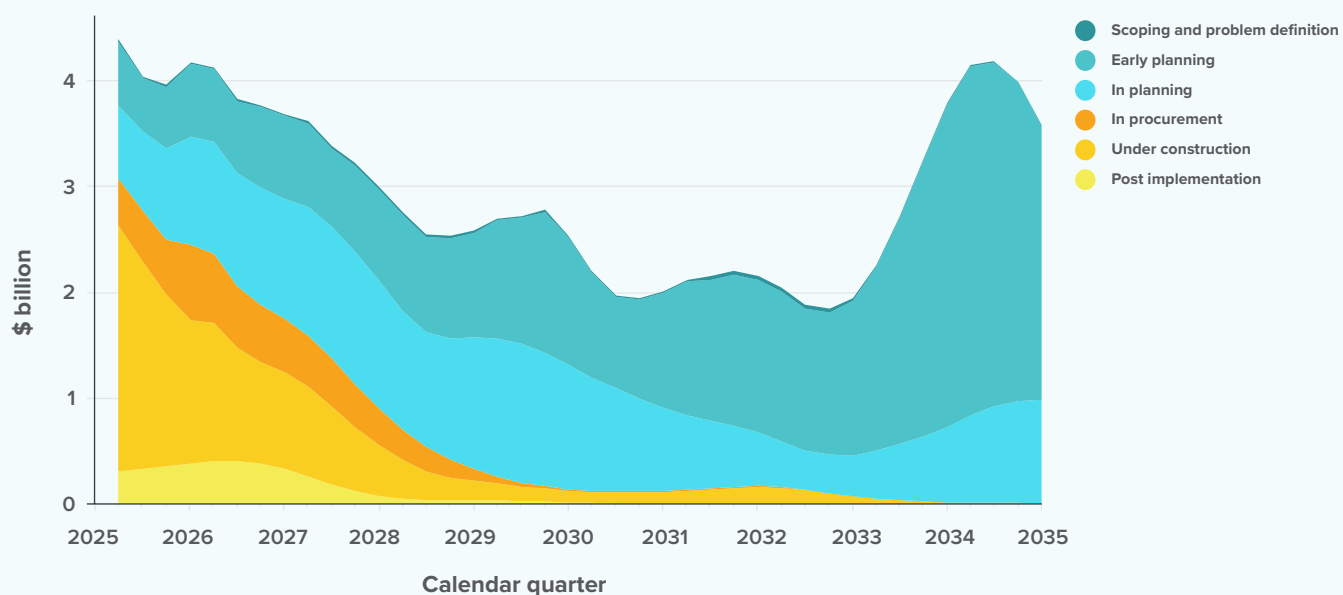
Almost half of projected spend is funded or has a confirmed funding source

Projected quarterly spend by funding status, 2025 – 2035



Most unfunded spend comes from projects in early planning stages

Projected quarterly spend by project status, 2025 – 2035



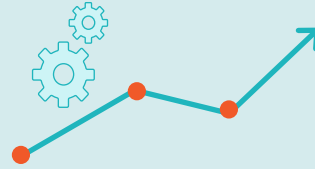
The workforce needed to deliver the Pipeline

Even when faced with challenging market conditions, an early view of workforce demand (and measures of certainty) is important for planning, coordination, and scheduling of work. It also helps training institutions, the construction sector, and regions to make more informed and careful decisions on investments in developing the skills and workforce that will be needed.

Each quarter we model the workforce required to deliver the initiatives in the Pipeline. Figure 9 illustrates the national workforce demand by occupation group.⁴

The workforce numbers presented in the projections below include estimates of both full-time and part time workers needed for all Pipeline initiatives⁵ regardless of initiative funding status. These workforce projections will continue to change, as new initiatives are planned across the horizon and this information is submitted to the Pipeline.

Interactive tool



Pipeline workforce projections

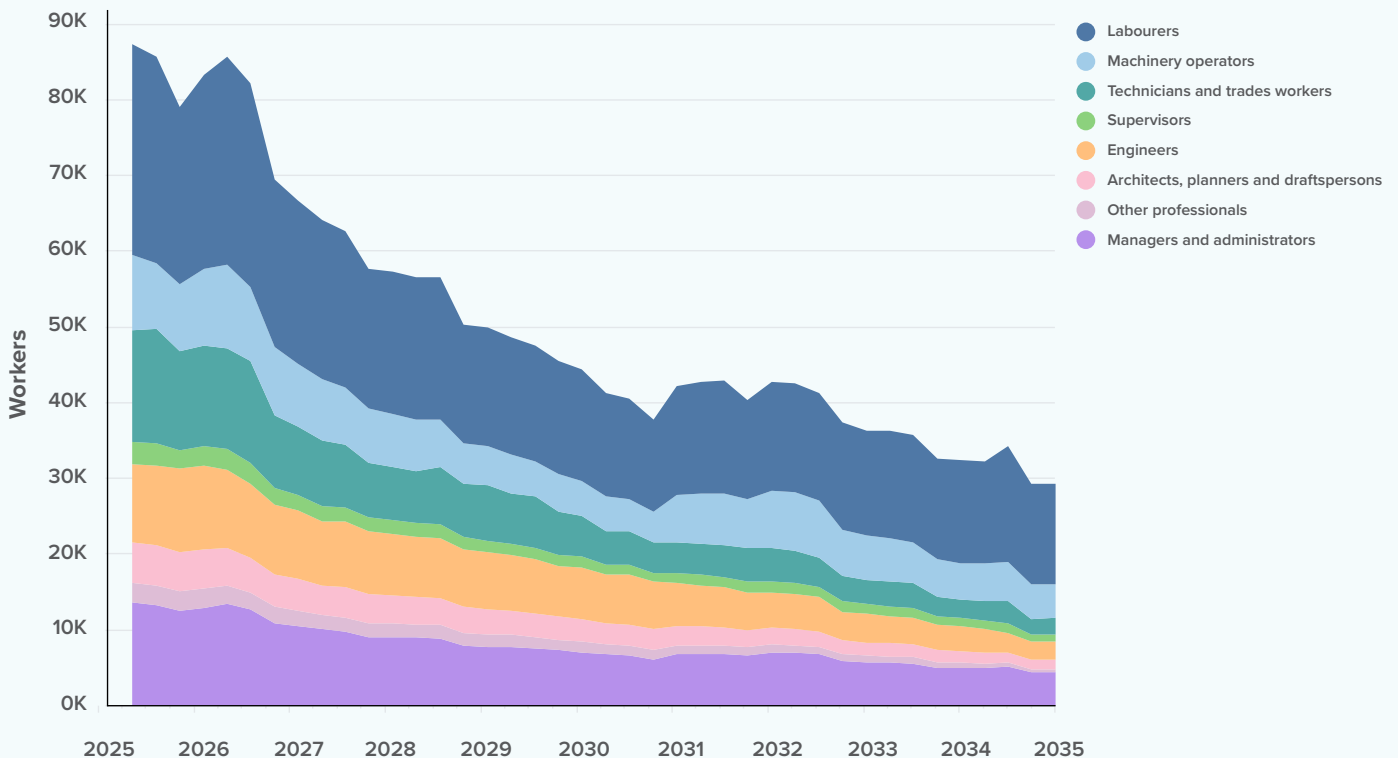
Learn about the projected workforce demand by occupation, for your region, sector, or industry on our insights platform.



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Projected workforce required to deliver Pipeline initiatives

Workers each quarter by occupation group, 2025 – 2035



⁴ Our workforce modelling currently uses a different model to the spend modelling and some differences may arise because of this. Over time we will integrate these two models.

⁵ Projections of the number of workers needed will generally be larger than the number of full-time equivalents needed due to the presence of workers that where their specialist skills only required for part of the time.

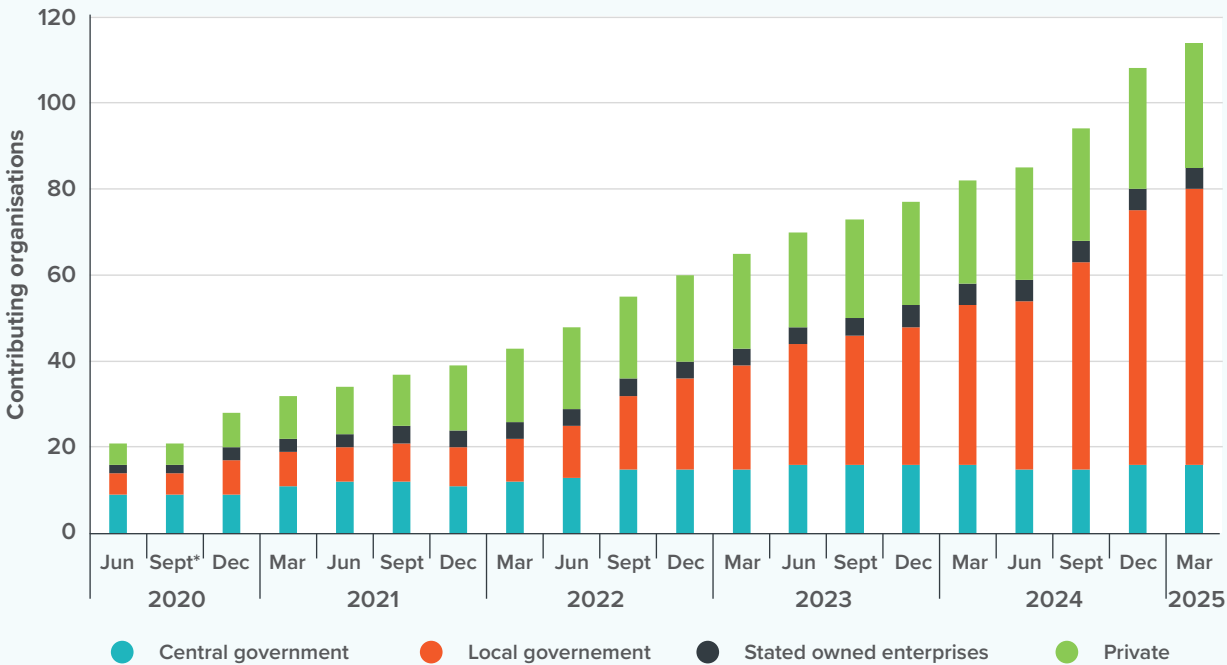
Towards a complete Pipeline

Te Waihanga first published the Pipeline in June of 2020 to support statutory functions required under the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission/Te Waihanga Act 2019.

The Pipeline continues to build towards a trusted and complete view of current and planned infrastructure investment and activity in New Zealand.

Pipeline contributors grew by 39% in the last 12 months

Pipeline contributors, June 2020 – March 2025 ⁶



*The Pipeline update process was not run in the September quarter of 2020.

The March 2025 quarter lifted our contributors to 114 organisations, up 39% on 12 months ago. Pipeline contributors include 16 central government organisations, 5 State owned enterprises, 4 electrical lines companies covering 54% of the installation control points (ICPs) , and 64 councils (82% of councils across New Zealand).

Local government organisations are responsible for providing many important infrastructure services at a local and regional level. Our council contributors represent over 94% of all rates revenue collected and are illustrated in Figure 11. We continue to work with these organisations to improve quality of the information in the Pipeline.

⁶ In Figure 6 central government includes Crown entities; State-owned enterprises include mixed-ownership models; private organisations includes council-controlled organisations and universities.

⁷ An ICP is an installation control point or the point of connection to an electricity network where an electricity retailer is deemed to supply electricity to a consumer.

Most local government entities are now contributing to the Pipeline

March 2025

Illustrated by territorial and regional boundaries

Metropolitan

100%

Provincial

88.9%

Rural

81.8%

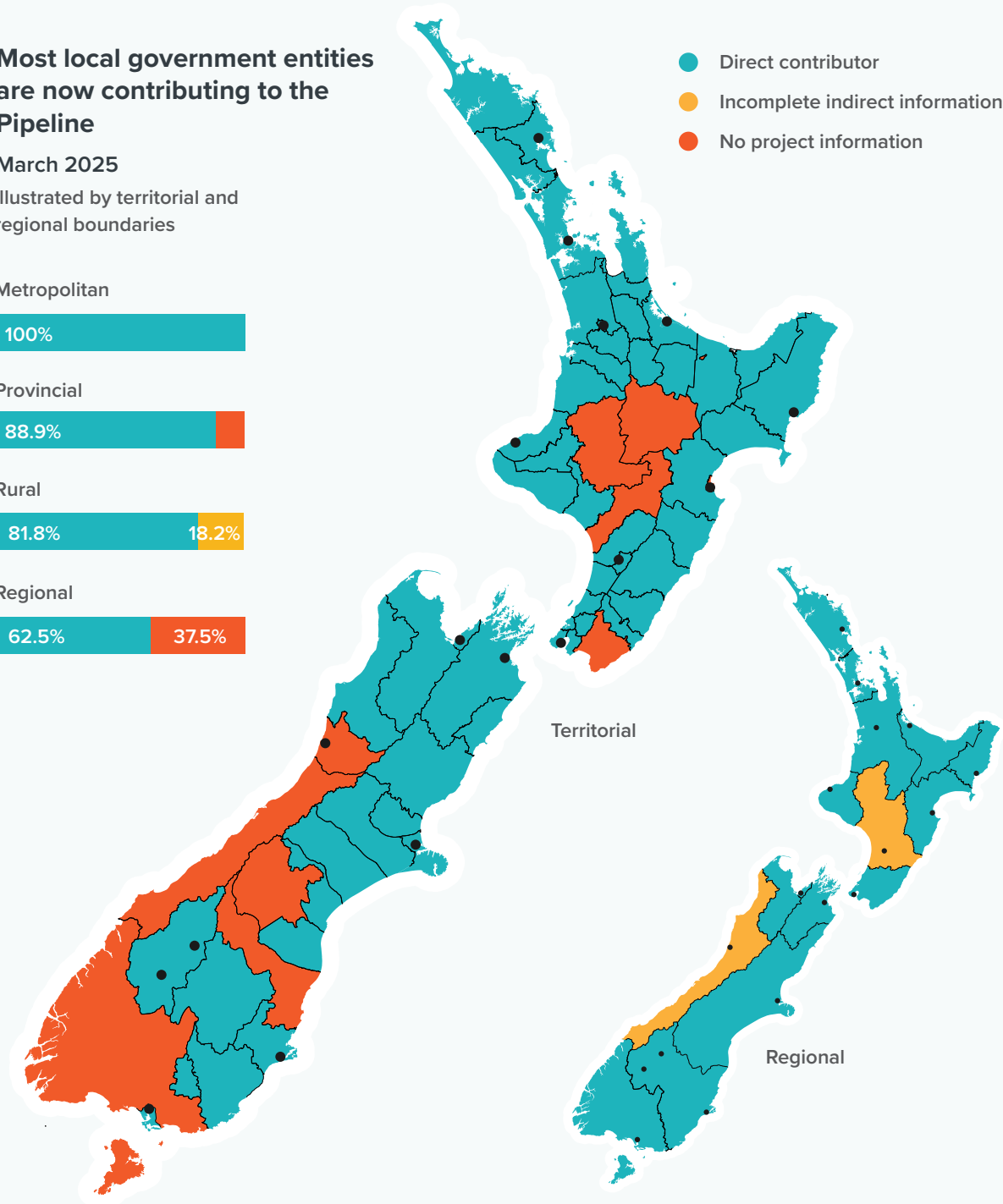
18.2%

Regional

62.5%

37.5%

- Direct contributor
- Incomplete indirect information
- No project information



Join the Pipeline

If your organisation has project information that is not included in the Pipeline, or you are new in your organisation and want to know more, contact the Pipeline team via pipeline@tewaihanga.govt.nz

Watch our [introduction to the Pipeline webinar](#) and find out more about the role of the Pipeline, value to your organisation, submission process, and data requirements.

We appreciate your support as we continue to build a complete picture of infrastructure investment and project intentions from across New Zealand.

Improving the Pipeline information collection

The Pipeline integrates with other functions and programmes across government, informing decisions, and providing stakeholders with transparency on the forward works programme for infrastructure. Information in the Pipeline evolves as initiatives progress, data maturity grows, value provided from the information increases, and information quality submitted by infrastructure providers improves. This creates a need for ongoing changes in the information we request and how we describe it to ensure the evidence base remains fit for purpose.

In March we indicated that changes to the submission template were required and sought feedback from contributing organisations. Contributors provided a range of feedback that we will consider as we implement changes, including requests to:

- Improve the usability and structure of the submission template.
- Support greater nuance in reporting of funding status.
- Improve alignment with other departments reporting standards where possible.
- Allow uncertainty in project dates and values to be indicated.
- Balance information requirements with template efficiency.

In the June quarter we are seeking further feedback from contributors as we develop our thinking and work to implement proposed changes. We aim to align the Pipeline information template and evidence base with existing standards or conventions, where possible. The Commission is working with the Treasury, and Department of Internal Affairs, and other government stakeholders on information standardisation.