

# Microsoft datacenters in **New Zealand**

## Datacenters provide the physical infrastructure for the technology we depend on at work and in our personal lives

A datacenter building houses thousands of computer servers and data storage devices connected to the internet



These buildings are similar in size and appearance to a distribution warehouse.



Microsoft aims to build datacenters that are best in class in performance, reliability, safety, aesthetics, and sustainability.



Compared to many other industrial facilities, datacenters do not create significant noise pollution or have a significant impact on traffic flow or congestion.



Microsoft operates more than 300 datacenters in over 34 countries.

## Datacenters are part of everyday life

Whenever you open an app on your phone, join a virtual classroom or meeting, snap and save photos, or play a game with your friends online, you are using a datacenter.



Email



Online shopping



Mobile apps



Online banking



File storage



Streaming videos

[Take a virtual tour of a datacenter](#)



# Microsoft datacenters create local operations and construction jobs

Microsoft datacenters in New Zealand currently employ **32 people**.

We estimate it will require **120 construction roles** and approximately **756,000 work hours** to build the new datacenters.

By the end of 2026, we project **47 full-time employees and contractors** will work across all operational facilities.

## Datacenter operations

- Campus management
- People management
- Learning and development
- IT operations
- Mechanical engineers
- Electrical engineers
- Security contractors
- Building maintenance
- Critical environments

## Construction jobs

- Electricians
- Plumbers and pipefitters
- Carpenters
- Structural iron and steel workers
- Concrete workers
- Earth movers

[Find Microsoft jobs in your community](#)



## Taxes from Microsoft datacenter operations represent important revenue for national, regional, and local governments

Microsoft datacenters represent a capital-intensive investment and long-term commitment to the community. This investment grows the commercial property tax base, increasing revenue for municipal services that benefit local citizens.

Examples of country, provincial, and local taxes that support cities, municipal services, schools, and colleges include:



### Property taxes

Collected annually once land is purchased.



### Indirect taxes

From construction and operation expenses. Examples include VAT, GST, and sales tax.



### Income taxes

From construction and operations workers.

Published April 2023. This document shares information we have as of the publication date, and it includes estimated information and projections. The information is provided as is and may change without notice.

# Microsoft is investing in local priorities in New Zealand

## Investing in people of all cultures through local skill-building programs

### Addressing urgent cybersecurity skills shortage

A joint initiative by Microsoft, TupuToa, Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand, and vocational education provider Te Pūkenga aims to fill the huge need for skilled cybersecurity experts in New Zealand, while boosting diversity. This tailored education programme will help deliver cybersecurity training and apprenticeships to under-represented ākonga (learners) in Aotearoa New Zealand.

[Learn more about the cybersecurity programme >](#)



## Partnering with Platforms for Good for local impact

### Connecting caregivers with the community

Using the power of the Microsoft Cloud, app developer Platforms for Good created a range of platforms that are connecting caregivers and Kiwis in a nationwide digital community. And global expansion is already underway—in just six years, more than 14,000 workers have signed up on the platform.



[Learn more about Platforms for Good >](#)

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# Microsoft global commitments

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## CARBON

**Microsoft pledged to become carbon negative by 2030 and to remove historical carbon since its 1975 founding by 2050.**

Microsoft will reduce Scope 1 and 2 emissions to near zero through energy efficiency work and by reaching **100 percent renewable energy coverage by 2025.**

Microsoft has also committed by 2030 to:

- Be free of diesel.
- Match 100 percent of electricity consumption, 100 percent of the time, with zero-carbon energy purchases.
- Reduce our Scope 3 emissions by more than half.

## WATER

**In 2020, Microsoft pledged to be water positive for our direct operations by 2030.**

Through this commitment, we will replenish the water consumed by datacenter operations in water-stressed regions. We have also committed to **reduce water waste by 95 percent in our datacenter operations by 2024.**

## WASTE

In 2020, Microsoft announced enhanced goals for waste reduction, circular supply chains, and zero-waste certification. We are working towards our goal of **90 percent reuse and recycle of servers and components by 2025** through our first-of-a-kind Microsoft Circular Centers.

Microsoft is using **circular economy** principles in our datacenters by implementing reuse and comprehensive recycling programs.

**By 2030, Microsoft datacenters will be zero waste**



## ECOSYSTEMS

Microsoft has committed to **protecting more land than we use for direct operations by 2025.**

Microsoft is committed to community investment, pollution remediation, and fair economic inclusion initiatives, as well as investment in clean energy, broadband access, and water replenishment initiatives.

# New Zealand

## Datacenter operations sustainability investments

We're committed to providing a sustainable Microsoft Cloud, so we wanted to share information about how we take responsibility for our datacenter operations.

For Microsoft datacenters located in New Zealand we have included local sustainability investments and datapoints in support of meeting and exceeding our commitments around carbon, water, waste, and ecosystems.

### CARBON



Design power usage effectiveness (PUE)

Not yet in operation

In New Zealand, we plan to **power our backup generators with a renewable biofuel blend that reduces net carbon emissions.**

New Microsoft datacenters are designed to earn **LEED Gold certification.**

Microsoft operations in New Zealand will comply with applicable air quality requirements.

[Learn about PUE >](#)

### WATER



Design water usage effectiveness (WUE)

Not yet in operation

Microsoft's New Zealand datacenters will be cooled using **outside air only**, requiring **zero water for cooling and humidification.**

[Learn about WUE >](#)

### WASTE

Globally, Microsoft datacenters reuse



of our end-of-life assets and components. **The remaining 22 percent of materials are recycled.**

Additionally, Microsoft is conducting research and development to **improve waste diversion by determining new recycling solutions for used air filters and fiber optic cables.**

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