

Microsoft datacentres in New Zealand

As we build and operate datacentres, we aim to address local challenges and create benefits for communities.

Our commitment is reflected in three key areas: advancing community prosperity, contributing to a sustainable future, and being a good neighbour through responsible operations.

Published October 2025. 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.

About

We currently operate a datacentre in the greater Auckland area.



Jobs

Our operational datacentre employs approximately 30 people.



Investments

Last year, Microsoft community investments supported four community identified projects in Auckland.



Water

Our existing facility is cooled using outside air only. Direct air cooling uses no water.



Living near a datacentre

Our practices include noise and light reduction, community ecological restoration, and ensuring suppliers comply with local laws and environmental regulations.



Learn more



Learn more about our datacentres by visiting aka.ms/insideadatacenter

Advancing community prosperity and well-being

Our datacentres increase local economic activity, create jobs, and boost tax revenue, benefiting residents and the community.

Watch our video to learn more about [Microsoft jobs in your community](#)



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Jobs

We partner with local suppliers and create well-paid construction and datacentre operations jobs.

Microsoft operates a datacentre and is planning to build new facilities in the greater Auckland area.

- As of 2025, this facility currently employs approximately 30 people.
- Typically, when we build new facilities, we estimate it will require 350 construction roles and approximately 2.2 million work hours to complete construction of the new datacentres.

Datacentre operations jobs

- 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



Advancing community prosperity and well-being

Our datacentres increase local economic activity, create jobs, and boost tax revenue, benefiting residents and the community.

Taxes and economic impact

Microsoft datacentres represent a capital-intensive investment and long-term commitment to the community.

Communities around the world can typically anticipate significant economic benefits in combined local output, employment income, and public revenue contributions—from a single large-scale datacentre.

- Local economies benefit through significant investments in land, construction, and infrastructure.
- Local businesses are supported through sourcing materials and services from nearby vendors and contractors.
- Operational activities—such as purchases from local businesses and utility usage—generate economic output and tax revenue.
- A datacentre presence can serve as a catalyst for technology sector growth, attracting startups, spurring innovation, and creating new job opportunities.

Community investments

Working with local partners, we invest in programmes that reflect community priorities and use our strengths as a technology company.

Last year, Microsoft's community investments supported multiple investments in Greater Auckland. These build on various skilling and sustainability programmes and partnerships that Microsoft has supported in New Zealand since the cloud region was announced. A couple of these investments include:

- Supporting creative tech in West Auckland in collaboration with Te Pūkenga, with the aim of addressing talent shortages by providing upskilling and reskilling opportunities—particularly for underrepresented groups such as Māori, Pacific peoples, and women.
- Working alongside Community Waitākere and the local community to restore the biodiversity values and mauri of the threatened stream, floodplain, and wetland habitats in the Paremuka Stream catchment.

Restoring the Mana of the Whenua

Microsoft, Community Waitākere, and the Society for Ecological Restoration are working together to restore the freshwater wetlands, saltmarsh, and native coastal forest within Harbourview Orangihina Reserve in Te Atatū Peninsula.

The area is home to many rare and threatened iconic bird species. The project aims to protect rare bird species and preserve the area's cultural significance, supporting its sustainability for future generations.

Learn more about [Microsoft investments in New Zealand](#).



Contributing to a sustainable future

Our datacentres are designed for high efficiency, using less energy and water than traditional enterprise facilities.

Resources

[Learn more about datacentre sustainability](#)

[PUE & WUE for operational datacentres](#)

[Watch this video to understand water use at Microsoft datacentres](#)



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Energy

- We've committed to achieving 100% renewable energy coverage globally by 2025.
- This commitment is supported by the 10-year agreement Microsoft signed with Contact Energy for renewable energy attributes generated by the 51.4-MW Te Huka Unit 3 geothermal power station.
- Our datacentres in New Zealand will be designed for the backup generators to use a renewable biofuel that reduces net carbon emissions.

Water

- Our existing facility is cooled using outside air only. Direct air cooling uses no water.
- To learn more, visit the [datacentre water consumption fact sheet](#).

Waste

- In 2020, as part of our goal to become zero waste by 2030, we set a target of reusing or recycling 90% of our end-of-life assets globally.
- We reached a 90.9% reuse and recycling rate in 2024. Microsoft Circular Centres—which process decommissioned servers and cloud hardware—were a key part of that success.
- To learn more, take a [virtual tour](#) of a Microsoft Circular Centre.

Operating responsibly as a good neighbour

Each datacentre has a unique design, where the environment, community, and safety are prioritised.

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Living near a datacentre

- Vegetative screening and building setbacks are included where possible and in accordance with local ordinances.
- Unlike distribution warehouses, datacentres do not generate constant truck traffic. Deliveries are infrequent. Each building typically supports around 50 employees working in shifts across 24 hours, resulting in minimal parking lot traffic. Employee arrivals and departures are also staggered to avoid large shift changes.

- The main sources of sound at datacentres include employee vehicles, occasional truck deliveries, backup generators, and HVAC equipment. Building setbacks help minimise the noise from backup generators and HVAC equipment.
- Exterior lighting is strategically placed around buildings, parking lots, roadways, sidewalks, and perimeter fencing. Fixtures are designed to direct light downward, ensuring security while minimising light pollution.

- During construction Microsoft's general contractors comply with local noise ordinances and specifications outlined in the permitting process.
- The community is informed of permitted work hours and other updates through the [Microsoft in your community](#) blog.

Staying connected



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