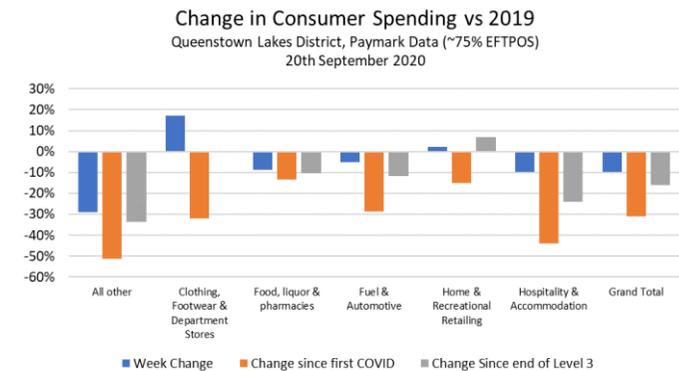
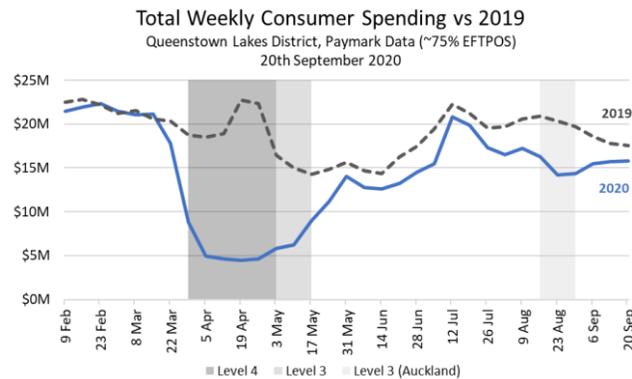


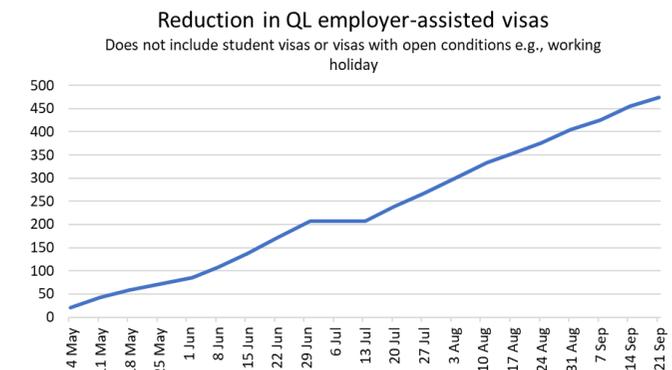
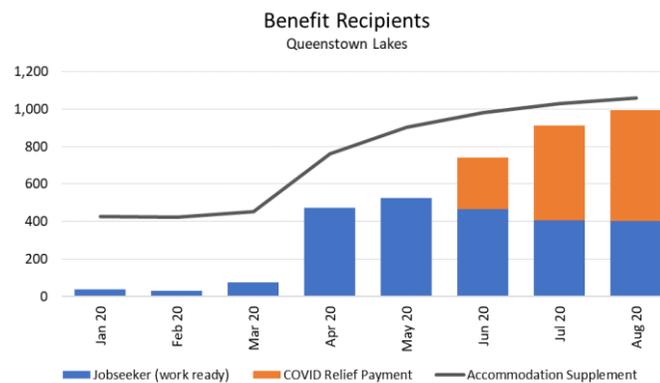
Recovery update 28th September 2020

Key Recovery Stats:

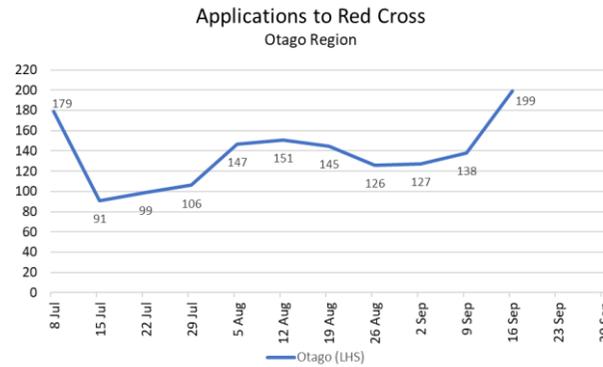
Spending in the week ending 20th Sept closed to within 10% of 2019 levels. Most categories of spending are very close to last year's levels, except for the "All Other" category which contains the bulk of tourism activities. Department store spending exceeded the same time as last year.



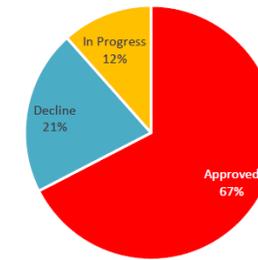
The number of people receiving job-related MSD benefits is now 1,000 greater than levels seen in February. The 276 people who sought the COVID Income Relief Payment in June will see that 12-week benefit end this month, which is likely to result in an increase in Jobseeker numbers. In addition, nearly 500 employer-assisted visas in Queenstown Lakes have now been notified as ended, implying a job-loss rate of at least 5%.



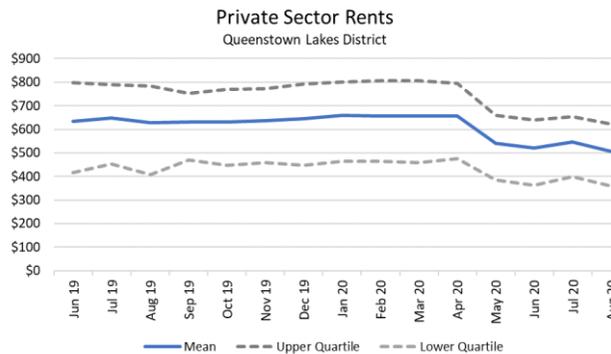
The number of Otago-based migrants applying to Red Cross for welfare spiked to 199 this week. The scheme was originally planned to end on September 30th, and we await information from DIA about continuation beyond that date. Red Cross have substantially reduced the number of pending applications to 12%, down from 20% last week.



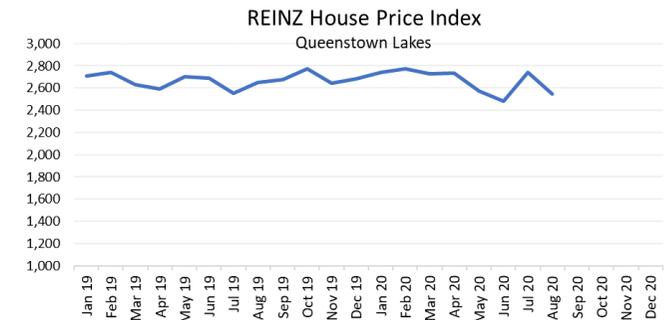
APPLICATIONS BY STATUS



Rents fell slightly in August, sitting just over \$500 per week, down from over \$650 pre-COVID. The upper quartile rent has reduced nearly \$200/wk.



REINZ's House Price Index for Queenstown Lakes dropped 7% from July's rebound; we expect the volatility in this index to continue for a number of months yet.



Key Recovery Updates

- We have released a video which outlines the two exciting shovel-ready projects: <https://youtu.be/acuDSRDsxbw> . We received notification from Crown Infrastructure Partners this week that our remaining applications (Queenstown Events Centre, Wanaka Lakefront and Cardrona Wastewater) were unsuccessful in obtaining Government support.
- QLDC will launch **next phase of the Kia Kaha QL Service on October 5th**. The programme of events, focused on helping workers and businesses, can be found here: <https://www.qldc.govt.nz/recovery/kia-kaha-queenstown-lakes>
- Around the same time (Saturday 10th October), the Otago Mayoral Forum, led by Clutha district in partnership with QLDC, will hold the “Jobbortunities” jobs expo in Queenstown, which will bring employers together with job seekers, as well as connect people to training opportunities. Employers across Otago will attend to meet with local job-seekers in a 'speed-dating' type expo at Queenstown Memorial Centre. The day prior, Friday 9th October, it is planned to have Immigration NZ, immigration lawyers, repatriation agents and social agencies present at the Memorial Centre to meet with those on work visas / ineligible to work.

What we have been reading

- Brad Olsen/Infometrics article on Diversification:
<https://www.infometrics.co.nz/industry-concentrations-and-the-fall-of-think-big/>

Recovery Initiatives

REPAIR 0-3m	REBUILD 3-18m	REGEN 18m+	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJECT STATUS
•			Migrant Welfare	Monitoring DIA and Red Cross welfare needs and delivery	Underway
•	•		Kia Kaha QL Hub	QLDC in partnership with CG agencies establishing a local (virtual or physical) community and employment hub offering a single place which connects different components of services (locally and centrally)	Design
•	•	•	Psychosocial & Mental Wellbeing Recovery	Working with community orgs and SDHB etc. to develop/enhance services for mental health	Design
•	•	•	Social sector agency capacity analysis	Regular Survey of social agencies to assess capacity to meet increased demand	Underway
•	•	•	Recovery Reporting	Monitoring key indicators of community and economic status and recovery; production of weekly intelligence report.	Underway
	•		Short-term Mayoral Taskforce	The mayoral taskforce will now meet monthly with a focus on information sharing and support.	Underway

	•		In the Wild	Collaboration of QLDC/DOC/ORC and other nature-based projects to create jobs	Underway
	•		Workforce Alliance Pilot	Piloting an alliance of local businesses for redeployment into nature-based jobs	Underway
	•		Workforce Planning	Project considering workforce requirements and coordination across multiple sectors (hort, vit, dairy, conservation, tourism)	Design
	•	•	Diversification plan	Diversification stocktake which will then inform a diversification plan to consolidate efforts	Design
	•	•	RRAG	Input into The Regenerative Recovery Advisory Group	Underway
	•	•	Torokiki	Community-facing system (Hunchbuzz) to triage, evaluate and advance good ideas	Underway
•	•	•	Intelligence Gathering	Sourcing data, research, analysis and modelling including Infometrics scenarios, ORED, DataVentures etc.	Underway

•	•	•	Advocacy, Briefings for key stakeholders	Ad-hoc advice, infographics, briefings and presentations to key stakeholders e.g., officials, Ministers, community groups etc	Underway
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