

COVID-19 economic impacts, responses and outlook

VUW Auckland Commerce Teachers' Professional
Development Day
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Outline

- 1. Where have we come from?
- 2. The outlook, some questions, and challenges and opportunities
- 3. Discussion

Where have we come from?

Big challenges



Technological disruption



Environmental degradation Excessive resource drawdowns



Social disconnection & disparities



Climate change

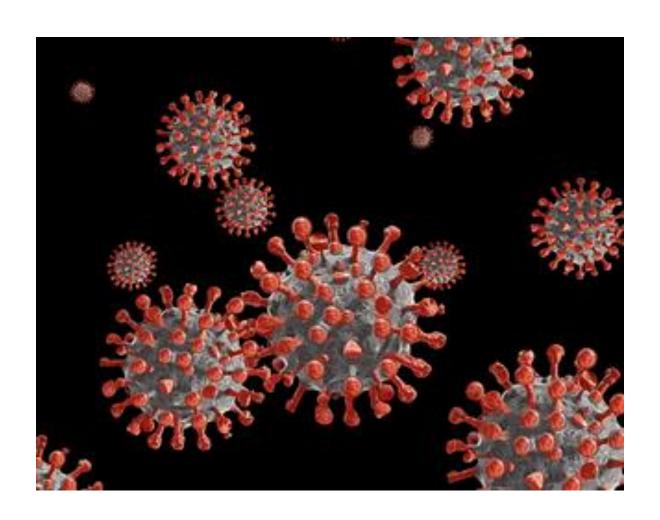
Big shocks





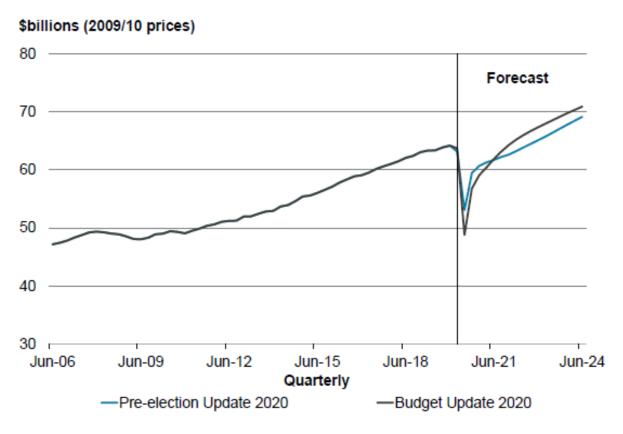
Photo by Saikiran Kesari on Unsplash

... and the "once in a century"?



Large, persistent national income loss...

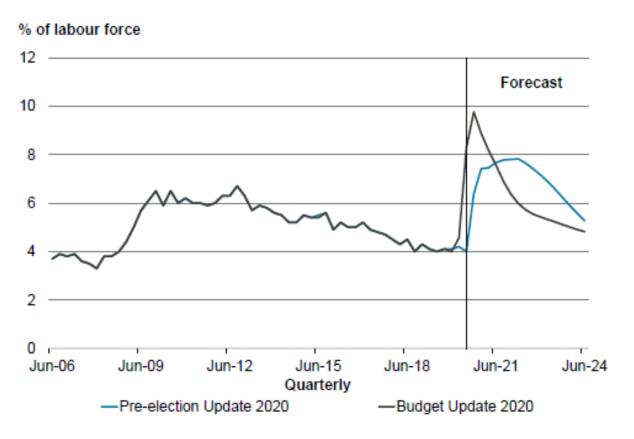
Figure 1.1 – Real production GDP



Sources: Stats NZ, the Treasury

... and large impact on employment...

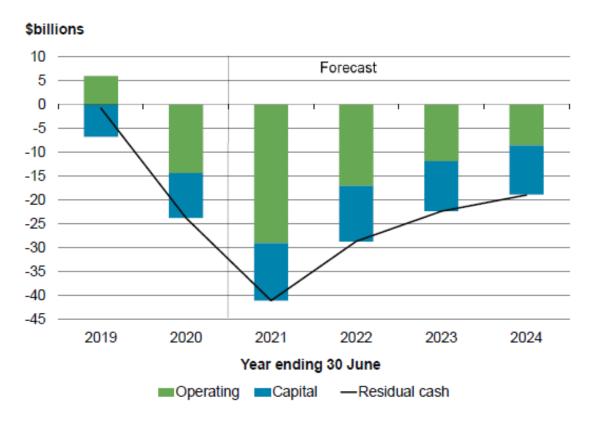
Figure 1.8 – Unemployment



Sources: Stats NZ, the Treasury

... cushioned by fiscal policy...

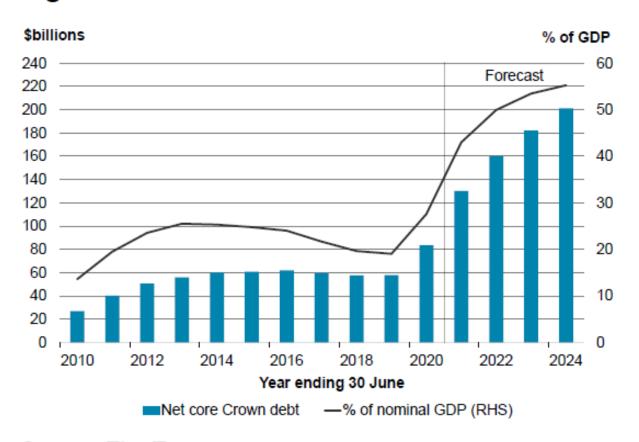
Figure 2.9 – Core Crown residual cash



Source: The Treasury

... all adding up to a very large public debt increase

Figure 2.10 – Net core Crown debt



Source: The Treasury

Key facts

- economic impact so far has been severe, but less so than expected
- the outlook remains grim (peak forecast unemployment rate 7.8%)
- many dimensions of living standards are under severe strain
 - jobs/incomes, mental health, human capital
- disparate impacts across age, gender, ethnic groups

The outlook, some questions, and challenges and opportunities

COVID-19 is casting a long shadow

- Ongoing public health risks (border; outbreak management)
- Global outbreak situation getting worse in many places
- Vaccine / therapeutics pathways promising, but still early days

Fiscal and monetary responses are still playing out

- What's going to get people back in (good) jobs?
- How will the economy adjust to a post-COVID world?
- Who's going to pay?

Thanks for listening