**State of the I.T Industry in Dunedin**

The goal of this report is to find out what the current state of the I.T. Industry is in Dunedin.

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**The I.T. Sector:**

A significant portion of the sector is research, which is attracting $180m in funding to Dunedin annually which is through University, Polytechnic and Crown Research Institute activity. The Dunedin City Council claims that about 180 ICT companies generate $80m GDP within Dunedin, represented by the Dunedin ICT Business Cluster, of which around 50 companies are focused on selling products and services outside the city of Dunedin.

Economists say that "While employment declined in 2010, over the long-term employment has grown, which has been largely due to expansion in the commercial services industry.

The major employment providers in the local sector are mostly wholesale and commercial businesses and services. Despite a decrease Dunedin’s GDP in 2010, The ICT sector managed to grow an average rate of 1.6% p/year over the last ten years

**Currently available jobs:**

A current (as of the date of this publication) job search shows Jobs available in areas such as Application Development, numerous .Net Developer (C#, WPF, MVC) positions, Web development with Java, Project management, software testing and Helpdesk Administration.

**Future Developments:**

An Otago Daily Times articles in November 2015 said that there was a ‘boom in the air’ which is ‘on the horizon’ with Dunedin showing signs of a tech industry explosion with Start-up businesses appearing constantly and expanding. The already established companies are leading the world and continuing to innovate and grow. With the recent GigaTown promotion, with much of the city and suburbs being Fibre ready, the city's internet infrastructure is becoming the best in the southern hemisphere with Jobs being created weekly.

As of February 2017, the Labour Party is pushing for a $1b digital gaming industry, promising to spend $10 million start-up centre in the Dunedin area. Leader of Labour Andrew Little announced this at a new technology workspace on February 1st. Little stated that if Labour was to win the upcoming election, the $10 million would be taken from a larger $200 million regional development fund previously layed out.

Otago University would gain an academic chair of digital gaming, a gaming development centre with motion capture studio and a funding pool for any young entrepreneurs wishing to further themselves in this area. According to Little the gaming industry is already well established in Dunedin and could help grow a $90 million p/year industry to $1 billion.

**Conclusion:**

While it would be fair to say, things could be better, things appear to me to be looking up for the I.T. industry here in Dunedin.

**References:**

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[Dunedin rival’s best tech hubs](https://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/dunedin-rivals-best-tech-hubs) [Otago Daily Times, Craig Borley, 22 November 2015]