



**NEW ZEALAND  
IMMIGRATION**

# Migrant Youth:

A statistical profile of recently arrived young migrants.



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,  
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**  
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## **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Purpose of this report

This report builds a profile of recent (arrived in New Zealand less than five years ago) migrant youth (people aged 12–24) in New Zealand by analysing immigration approvals data (2011/12 to 2015/16) and Statistics New Zealand’s Census of Population and Dwellings data (2001, 2006, and 2013). Data is reported separately for two age groups of migrant youth: 12–17 year olds (school age) and 18–24 year olds (post-school age).

This report focuses on youth born overseas, particularly youth who migrated to New Zealand within the past five years. The report also highlights areas where these recent migrant youth differ from youth who were born in New Zealand. The emphasis on ‘recent’ migrant youth is important, as this report aims to shed light on the outcomes for youth who are newly arrived in New Zealand and are in the process of adjusting to life in their new home.

The report covers a variety of characteristics and key outcomes, including immigration approval trends, demographics, ethnic identity, English language ability, location in New Zealand, living arrangements, study participation, labour force participation, and earnings. The analysis is intended to inform future research and policy development and to identify gaps in current settlement service support.

## Youth residence approval patterns 2011/12 to 2015/16

Immigration New Zealand’s immigration approval data showed that youth comprised 16 percent of residence approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16.<sup>1</sup> This proportion of residence approvals decreased slowly and steadily from 17 percent in 2011/12 to 15 percent in 2015/16. Although the proportion has declined slightly, the number of youth approved for residence increased 16 percent from 6,915 in 2011/12 to 7,996 in 2015/16.

Over the last five years, 47 percent of youth approvals were through the Skilled/Business Stream, 41 percent through the Family Stream, and 12 percent through the International/Humanitarian Stream.

The largest group of recent migrant youth approved for a visa were from the Pacific (22 percent) and South Asia (21 percent). While the Pacific held the overall highest average for youth approvals during this time, South Asia overtook the Pacific as the region with the highest youth approvals in 2015/16. Youth residence approvals from India and China increased the most over the period. Youth approvals for India grew steadily from 14 percent in 2011/12 to 19 percent in 2015/16. Approvals for China grew at a slower rate, but increased from 10 percent of youth approvals in 2011/12 to 13 percent in 2015/16.

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<sup>1</sup> Immigration New Zealand is part of the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment (MBIE).

## Migrant youth population in New Zealand

Over the last three censuses, an increasing proportion of youth was born overseas (from 17 percent in 2001 to 23 percent in 2013). The largest proportion of recent migrant youth came from North Asia, with a large proportion of the increase in recent migrant youth coming from South Asia.

China was the main source country of recent youth migrants in 2013. The number of recent migrant youth from China peaked in 2006 at 19,578 (27 percent), decreasing to 10,440 in 2013 (19 percent). India was the second largest source country of recent migrant youth – increasing from 4 percent (1,997 people) in 2001 to 14 percent (7,575 people) in 2013.

Over the last three censuses, the proportion of *very recent* (have been in New Zealand less than 2 years) migrant youth who could speak English from non-English-speaking regions increased (from 83 percent in 2001 to 89 percent in 2013).<sup>2</sup> As would be expected, the English language ability of migrant youth improved with their length of time in New Zealand.

### Location and living arrangements in New Zealand

More than half of recent migrant youth lived in the Auckland region, but the proportion living in this region decreased over time (from 60 percent in 2001 to 54 percent in 2013). The proportion of recent migrant youth living in Wellington remained stable between 2001 and 2013. The proportion of youth living in Canterbury increased from 2001 to 2006, but decreased in 2013. This decrease may be associated with the lingering effects of lower student enrolment in tertiary education in this region following the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury earthquakes.

While most recent migrants aged 12–17 lived with their family, the proportion who live outside their family is higher compared with their New Zealand-born counterparts. This was particularly evident for youth from North Asia. Recent migrants aged 18–24 were also more likely than their New Zealand-born counterparts to be living outside their family and/or married.

### Study participation and qualifications

Recent migrants aged 18–24 years tended to be more highly qualified than their New Zealand-born counterparts. The overall proportion of recent migrant youth in this age group without a qualification was consistently lower than the proportion of those born in New Zealand. Greater proportions of recent migrant youth held vocational and university qualifications compared with their New Zealand-born counterparts. Post-school-aged migrant youth were also more likely to be studying towards a qualification than were New Zealand-born youth.

Looking at recent migrant youth by region of birth reveals major differences and trajectories for different migrant groups. In 2013, recent migrant youth from North Asia, and South-East Asia had higher proportions of youth studying full-time (79 percent, and 64 percent respectively) while youth from the UK/Ireland, the Pacific, and South Asia were the least likely to be studying (under

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<sup>2</sup> The English language ability section (Section 3.7) focuses on youth from the Pacific, North Asia, South Asia, South-East Asia, and Other regions. A larger proportion of migrants from these regions than from other regions indicated that they could not speak English.



50 percent for all three regions of birth). Recent migrant youth from the UK/Ireland and South Asia had the highest proportions with vocational and university qualifications, but those from the Pacific were the least likely to hold a qualification.

### **Labour force participation, income, and wages**

In line with higher rates of study participation, recent migrant youth had lower rates of labour force participation (that is, being employed or unemployed and actively seeking work) than New Zealand-born youth. Over time, however, differences in labour force participation between the two groups diminished as the proportion of recent migrant youth who were in the labour force increased and labour force participation by New Zealand-born youth decreased. The Global Financial Crisis, which occurred between the 2006 and 2013 censuses, was a major contributing factor in the decline of labour force participation of New Zealand-born youth.<sup>3</sup> Lower proportions of New Zealand-born youth aged 18–24 were employed full time, while those in part-time employment, those unemployed, and those who were studying and not in the labour force increased. Surprisingly, recent migrants aged 18–24 did not follow the national trend as the proportion of youth who were employed full-time increased from 26 percent in 2006 to 30 percent in 2013. This increase was driven mainly by a rise in recent migrant youth from South Asia in full-time employment.

As more recent migrant youth aged 18–24 were studying full-time and not in the labour force, they have a higher proportion with no income than their New Zealand-born counterparts. For youth earning wages, the largest proportion of both recent migrant youth and New Zealand-born youth received \$1–\$10,000 per year. Above \$10,000, New Zealand-born youth were more likely to be earning wages at each subsequent income level than recent migrant youth.

Recent migrant youth aged 18–24 from the UK/Ireland were the most likely to be participating in the labour force and were the most likely to be engaged in full-time employment. Along with recent migrant youth from Australia, those from the UK/Ireland were also the most likely to be earning over \$30,000 per year. Not surprisingly, with their high proportions in full-time study, youth from North Asia and South-East Asia were the least likely to be participating in the labour force.

Of recent migrant youth who were employed, service and sales work was the most common type of occupation (particularly for those aged 15–17). Youth from North Asia and an increasing proportion from South-East Asia were primarily employed in service and sales. Youth from the Pacific had smaller proportions employed as service and sales workers and the most likely to hold jobs as labourers and related elementary service workers and plant and machine operators and assemblers.

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<sup>3</sup> Treasury (2013).

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Context of this report

For many people, life between the ages of 12 and 24 is a time of personal growth and challenging decisions. Transitioning from youth to adulthood, the choices made concerning school, work, and personal relationships during this time are highly significant and are often the foundation on which young people build their lives. For a young migrant recently arrived in New Zealand, the task of navigating these challenges is coupled with the added pressures of adapting to the culture (and, in some cases, language) of their new home.

The situation for young migrants is complex. The extent to which migrant youth have been raised in, and identify with, their native country will vary. Therefore, the experiences of recent migrant youth are likely to differ depending on their age when they migrate. Differences in education systems as well as issues associated with the migration process are also likely to affect the experiences and outcomes of migrant youth once they are in New Zealand.

While this report focuses on recent migrant youth, it is also important to note that New Zealand, along with many other countries, has an ageing population. The proportion of young people at each Census of Population and Dwellings from 1976 to 2013 decreased, and this decline is projected to continue into the near future.<sup>4</sup> With an ageing population, specific skills shortages, and increased demand for global skills in the labour market, New Zealand not only benefits from young migrants, but may be dependent on them to sustain growth and prosperity. These factors, in addition to a host of other elements, highlight the need to understand who recent migrant youth are and to determine how well they are doing in New Zealand society.

To help address these questions, this report, in conjunction with Immigration New Zealand's broader programme of research on migrant youth, explores the settlement, social inclusion, and outcomes of recent (arrived in New Zealand less than five years ago) migrants aged 12–24. It builds on a descriptive report on migrant youth published through the former Department of Labour.<sup>5</sup> While this report updates many elements from the earlier report, it examines additional indicators and provides greater insight into the different profiles of recent migrant youth in New Zealand. The analysis also highlights areas relating to recent migrant youth that would benefit from further research or consideration to gain greater insight into the implications of the trends identified in the report. These areas are described in the concluding chapter (Chapter 7).

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<sup>4</sup> Research New Zealand (2014).

<sup>5</sup> Department of Labour (2009) - The Department of Labour, Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Science and Innovation, and Department of Building and Housing were brought together to form MBIE in July 2012.

## 1.2 Immigration policy

Youth represent a significant proportion of immigrants to New Zealand, making up, on average, 16 percent of residence approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16. In addition, most international students are aged 12–24, and a significant proportion of temporary work visa approvals are for youth (approximately one-third of approvals).

Migrants may enter New Zealand on a temporary basis (as a visitor, worker, or student) or through the New Zealand Residence Programme. For those wishing to migrate to New Zealand permanently, they may apply through one of three residence streams: Skilled/Business, Family, or International/Humanitarian. Young people may migrate to New Zealand with their parents (for example, as part of their parents' residence application), as a dependent student with parents on a work visa, or independently.<sup>6</sup>

## 1.3 Data and variables used in this report

To build a profile of overseas-born youth living in New Zealand, this report uses:

- Immigration New Zealand's administrative data on visa approvals
- Statistics New Zealand's census data.

Information on recent migrant youth in New Zealand is limited. Other trend analyses tend to focus on all migrants, all youth, or all migrant youth, rather than on recent migrant youth specifically.

The variables analysed for this report include:

- immigration category
- demographics (including region of origin)
- ethnic identity
- English language ability
- geographic locations in New Zealand
- living arrangements
- study participation and qualifications
- labour force participation, income, and earnings.

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<sup>6</sup> Chapter 2 discusses relevant aspects of immigration policy.

## 1.4 Definitions

Four terms used throughout this report have the following definitions.

**Youth:** Youth are defined as people aged 12–24 years. The two main sub-groups of youth are school-age (12–17 years) and post-school age (18–24 years). In some cases, census data is collected only for those aged 15 and over (such as labour force and study participation data).<sup>7</sup>

**Recent migrant:** A recent migrant is a person who migrated to New Zealand less than five years ago.

**Region (country) of origin:** The countries in which migrants were born have been combined into nine regional groupings: Australia; the United Kingdom (UK)/Ireland; Europe (Including Russia), South Africa, and North America (ESANA); North Asia; South Asia; South-East Asia; Pacific; New Zealand; and Other regions.<sup>8</sup> The countries in each group are listed in Table A in Appendix A.<sup>9</sup> In the analysis of Immigration New Zealand administrative data, region of origin is based on nationality (as recorded in a passport), but in the analysis of census data it is based on country of birth.

**Principal applicant:** The principal applicant is the person in a residence application who is assessed against the policy criteria.

## 1.5 Data sources and limitations

The analysis underpinning this report was a quantitative analysis of specific variables from Immigration New Zealand's administrative data and from the 2001, 2006, and 2013 censuses.

The census is an important and valuable source of information on the overseas-born and New Zealand-born populations, but it has limitations. The census does not identify whether an individual is in New Zealand as a permanent resident or temporarily and does not identify the specific immigration category through which a person was allowed to enter New Zealand.

The census analysis examines the usually resident population, which includes people who came to New Zealand through the variety of residence categories, as well as those here temporarily – primarily, those on work and student visas, rather than short-term visitors.<sup>10</sup> The analysis of Immigration New Zealand's administrative data, however, describes trends and patterns by immigration approval category.

The incidence of non-response to various census questions negatively affects the data's accuracy. For example, in the 2006 census, 4.7 percent of participants did not answer the country of birth

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<sup>7</sup> This also aligns with the New Zealand working-age population of 15 years and over.

<sup>8</sup> The regional grouping ESANA was developed for the Longitudinal Immigration Survey: New Zealand. This high-level grouping combines countries with similar characteristics.

<sup>9</sup> The analysis is by both region and country of origin. Therefore, individual countries (such as the UK) are sometimes referred to separately.

<sup>10</sup> The census usually resident population is all people counted in New Zealand on census night, excluding overseas visitors and New Zealand residents temporarily overseas. Another limitation of census data is that New Zealand citizens of Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, and Australia and New Zealand citizens by descent are classed as migrants because they were born overseas, even though they are not part of the New Zealand Residence Programme.

question. Unless otherwise specified, non-responses are excluded from the analysis in this report, but are included in overall totals. The numbers who did not respond are included in a note to the table. This approach is consistent with that taken in other MBIE reports.

Some questions have changed across the three censuses, making comparisons difficult. Because of changes to the ethnicity question in an earlier census, the 2006 ethnicity question was consistent with that used in 2001, but the output is inconsistent because the classification was revised in 2006.<sup>11</sup>

Australian citizens and permanent residents do not require a visa to enter New Zealand. Therefore, Australians are included in the census analysis as part of the 'usually resident population' but are not included in the analysis of immigration data.

It should also be noted that this report focuses on recent migrant youth. However, in select sections, all overseas-born populations are included to provide relevant information for context and comparison.

Immigration New Zealand administrative data relates to the number of people approved for a visa rather than the number of people who arrived in New Zealand. For example, people approved for residence offshore have one year in which to move to New Zealand. The data relates to the date the immigration application was decided (that is, the date the decision was made to approve a person for residence). It is possible that a small number of decided applications would not go on to be completed. The date decided was used for consistency with other MBIE reports.

## 1.6 Report structure

After this introduction, chapter 2 uses Immigration New Zealand administrative data to describe immigration approval trends for youth from 2011/12 to 2015/16. The analysis includes youth approved for residency as well as for temporary work and student visas.

Chapters 3 to 6 draw on data from the three censuses for 2001, 2006, and 2013 for migrant youth who arrived less than five years from the relevant census. Chapter 3 describes the size and demographic makeup of the migrant youth population, as well as aspects of youth identity (such as ethnicity and English language ability). Chapter 4 looks at the geographic location of migrant youth in New Zealand, their living arrangements, and their marital status. Chapter 5 describes the participation of migrant youth in study, including rate of study (part-time or full-time) and qualifications and draws comparisons between migrant youth and those born in New Zealand. Chapter 6 reviews the participation in the labour force of migrant youth and compares their outcomes with youth born in New Zealand.

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<sup>11</sup> In 2006, the 'Other' category was split into two groups: Middle Eastern/Latin American/African (MELAA) and Other ethnicity. The Other category includes a separate category for 'New Zealander' that was previously included in 'New Zealand European'. In 2006, 11.1 percent of respondents gave New Zealander as their ethnicity compared with 2.4 percent in 2001.

Chapter 7 summarises comparisons of key indicators between migrant youth and New Zealand–born youth and provides brief overviews of migrant youth by regions of birth. The chapter also draws conclusions on the statistics analysed in this report and draws attention to areas for future research.

Supporting information is in the appendices, and references conclude the report.

## 2 YOUTH APPROVAL PATTERNS

This chapter describes residence, student, and work visa approval trends for youth (people aged 12–24) by financial year from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2016. The data is Immigration New Zealand’s administrative data.<sup>12</sup>

### Findings

- The total number of youth residence approvals increased from 6,915 in 2011/12 to 7,996 in 2015/16, but the proportion of youth approvals decreased from 17 percent to 15 percent during this time.
- A larger proportion of male than female youth were principal applicants under the Skilled/Business Stream (70 percent and 30 percent, respectively) while a larger proportion of female youth than male youth were approved as principal applicants under the Family Stream (60 percent and 40 percent, respectively).
- Most youth approved for residence were from the Pacific and South Asia. While the Pacific had the highest proportion of youth approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16, South Asia became the region with the highest number of youth approvals in 2015/16. The top source countries with their average proportion overall were India (16 percent), China (12 percent), Samoa (12 percent), the Philippines (8 percent), and the UK (7 percent)
- The largest group of youth approved under the Skilled/Business Stream were from South Asia and North Asia, and the largest proportion of youth approved under the Family Stream was from the Pacific. Youth approved for residence from South Asia showed the largest increase over the last five years. This was primarily driven by the increase in the number of approvals for 18–24 year olds from India under the Skilled Migrant Category.
- Most youth approved through the International/Humanitarian Stream were from the Pacific, which accounted for 45 percent of all youth approvals through this stream. Samoa was the main country of origin (with most approved through the Samoan Quota), representing 29 percent of all youth approvals.
- Twenty-seven percent of all refugees who were approved for residence were youth (aged 12–24). The main source countries for refugee youth over the last five years were Afghanistan, Myanmar, Colombia, Bhutan, Syria, and Iraq.
- In the temporary visa category (i.e. non-residents), fee-paying students made up most student visa approvals, and over three-quarters of fee-paying students were post-school age (18–24 years). On average, more than half of fee-paying students were from North Asia, mainly from China. China has been the main source country of international students and the number has been increasing over time. Since 2012/13 the number of student approvals from India has greatly increased.

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<sup>12</sup> Detailed information on all temporary and permanent migration trends is in the annual Migration Trends report, MBIE (2016).

- Sixty percent of youth approved for a work visa were approved on a Working Holiday visa and 15 percent on a Study to Work visa. Most youth approved under the Working Holiday visa were from the ESANA region or the UK/Ireland. Youth from North Asia and South Asia had high proportions approved under the Study to Work policy.

## 2.1 All youth residence approvals

From 2011/12 to 2015/16, youth accounted for an average of 16 percent of the residence approvals in New Zealand (see Table 2.1). While the proportion of youth approvals decreased over time, the actual number of youth residence approvals increased from 6,915 in 2011/12 to 7,996 in 2015/16.

**Table 2.1 Residence approvals by age, 2011/12 – 2015/16**

Year	Age (years)			Total (%)	Total number
	Under 12 (%)	12–24 (%)	25 and over (%)		
2011/12	14	17	69	100	40,448
2012/13	14	17	69	100	38,961
2013/14	14	16	70	100	44,008
2014/15	16	16	69	100	43,085
2015/16	16	15	69	100	52,052
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>218,554</b>

Source: MBIE.

Of the youth residence approvals for 2011/12 to 2015/16, on average, 36 percent were aged 12–17 and 64 percent were aged 18–24. Forty-five percent of youth aged 18–24 were the principal applicant in their visa applications. Overall, the average gender split for youth approvals was even with 50 percent for both males and females.

From 2011/12 to 2015/16, on average, 47 percent of youth were approved through the Business/Skilled Stream, 41 percent through the Family Stream, and 12 percent through the International/Humanitarian Stream (see Table 2.2).<sup>13</sup>

The proportion of youth approvals through the Business/Skilled Stream remained reasonably stable from 2011/12 to 2014/15. Total youth approvals for this stream increased from 3,227 in 2011/12 to 3,971 in 2015/16. The total number of approvals through the International/Humanitarian Stream increased each year between 2011/12 and 2015/16 (from 632 to 992). With fluctuating numbers of approvals in other streams, the proportion of youth approved through this stream averaged 12 percent of all approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16.

In 2011/12, the total number of youth approvals through the Family Stream was 3,056. Each year after this the total number of approvals decreased, but in 2015/16 approvals through the Family Stream increased to 3,033. Increases in other Streams offset this increase, and the overall proportion

<sup>13</sup> For a complete list of residence approvals by category and subcategory, see Appendix C.



of approvals through the Family Stream fell consistently from 2011/12 to 2015/16 (from 44 percent to 38 percent).

**Table 2.2 Youth (12–24 years) residence approvals by stream, 2011/12 – 2015/16**

Year	Skilled/ Business Stream (%)	Family Stream (%)	International/ Humanitarian Stream (%)	Total (%)	Total number
2011/12	47	44	9	100	6,915
2012/13	46	43	12	100	6,612
2013/14	47	42	12	100	6,833
2014/15	47	39	14	100	6,687
2015/16	50	38	12	100	7,996
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>35,043</b>

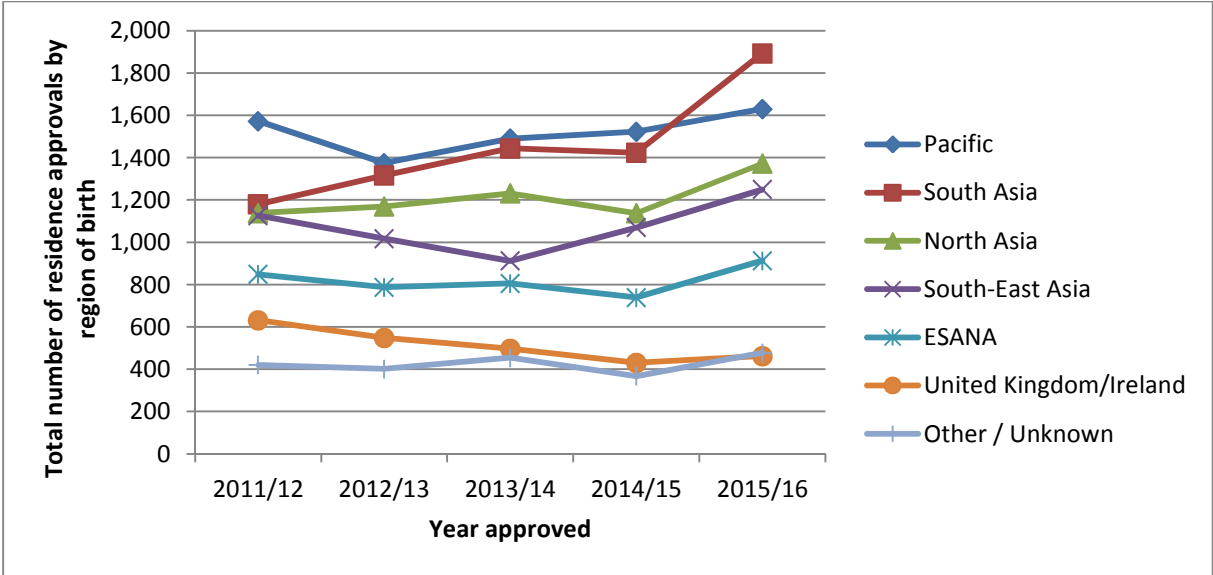
Source: MBIE.

Note: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent

**2.1.1 Region and country of origin**

Over the last five years, the main regions of origin<sup>14</sup> for youth residence approvals were the Pacific (22 percent) and South Asia (21 percent). While approvals from the Pacific remained relatively stable from 2011/12 to 2015/16, South Asia saw a gradual increase during this time (see Figure 2.1).

**Figure 2.1 Youth (12–24 years) residence approvals by region of origin, 2011/12 – 2015/16**



Source: MBIE.

Note: ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

<sup>14</sup> Region of origin in this section is based on nationality (as recorded in a passport).

Increasing from 1,180 (17 percent of youth approvals) in 2011/12 to 1,893 (24 percent of youth approvals) in 2015/16, South Asia surpassed the Pacific (1,630 approvals in 2015/16, accounting for 20 percent overall) as having the most migrant youth resident approvals in 2015/16. While the total number of approvals by region remained stable, the UK/Ireland saw a small but steady decline in residence approvals during this time (with the exception between 2014/15 and 2015/16).

The main countries of origin for youth residence approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16 were India (16 percent), China (12 percent), Samoa (12 percent), the Philippines (8 percent), and the UK (7 percent) (see Table 2.3). Of the top countries of origin, India, China, and Samoa had relatively consistent increasing representation in residence approvals (India: 941 to 1,524; China: 695 to 1,048; and Samoa: 758 to 976) while UK and Fiji had decreasing representation (UK: 612 to 435; Fiji: 610 to 450).

**Table 2.3 Youth (12–24 years) residence approvals by source country, 2011/12 – 2015/16**

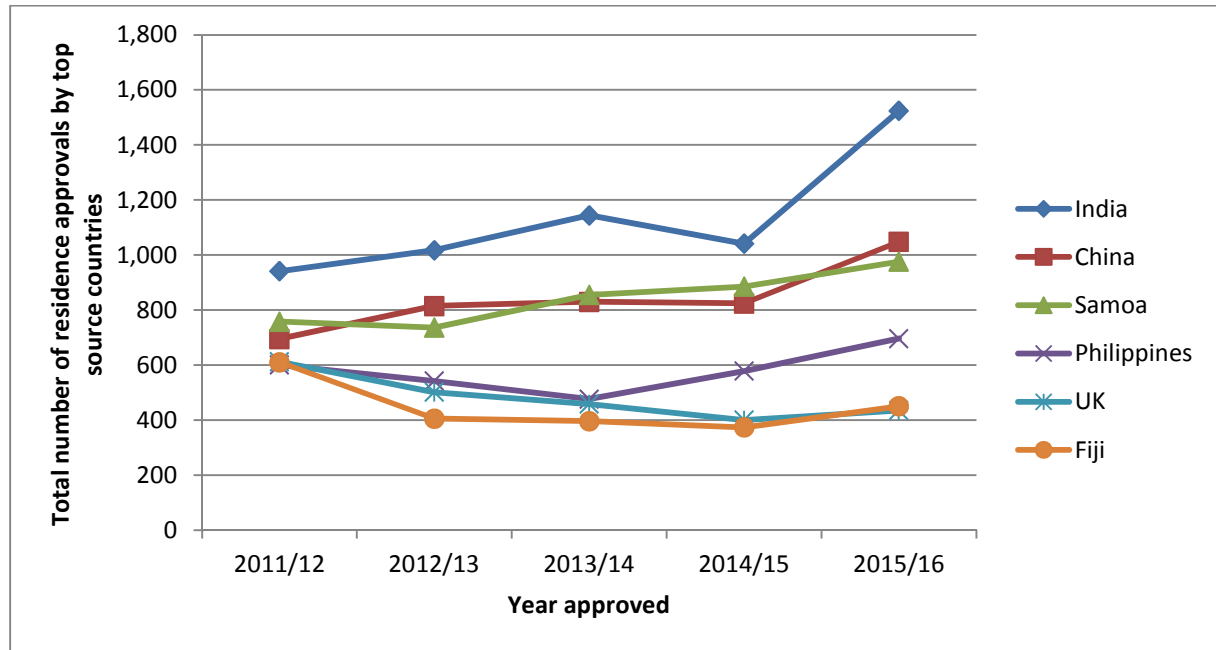
Source country	Financial year					Total	Average over 5 years (%)
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16		
India	941	1,017	1,144	1,041	1,524	5,667	16
China	695	815	830	824	1,048	4,212	12
Samoa	758	736	855	885	976	4,210	12
Philippines	600	542	476	578	696	2,892	8
UK	612	501	458	400	435	2,406	7
Fiji	610	405	396	373	450	2,234	6
South Africa	386	316	310	327	396	1,735	5
South Korea	342	270	311	224	225	1,372	4
Tonga	126	157	157	178	122	740	2
US	147	153	139	134	157	730	2
Afghanistan	57	126	103	171	134	591	2
Malaysia	132	104	89	105	109	539	2
Vietnam	106	98	98	102	129	533	2
Sri Lanka	71	63	74	81	107	396	1
Cambodia	80	79	50	88	72	369	1
Thailand	69	88	57	67	71	352	1
Myanmar	70	52	67	51	96	336	1
Russia	60	70	85	50	58	323	1
Other	1,053	1,020	1,134	1,008	1,191	5,406	15
<b>Total number</b>	<b>6,915</b>	<b>6,612</b>	<b>6,833</b>	<b>6,687</b>	<b>7,996</b>	<b>35,043</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: MBIE.

Note: The table shows the top 18 source countries of youth residence approvals.

Figure 2.2 illustrates the number of residence approvals for youth by the top six source countries over time. India consistently retained the highest total number of youth approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16. This was primarily driven through the growing representation of migrants from India in the Skilled/Business visa stream – increasing from 553 approvals in 2011/12 (17 percent) to 1,019 approvals in 2015/16 (25 percent).

**Figure 2.2 Youth (12–24 years) residence approvals by top six countries of origin, 2011/12 – 2015/16**



Source: MBIE.

## 2.2 Skilled/Business Stream

Youth made up an average of 14 percent of Skilled/Business approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16. The overall number of approvals remained steady from 2011/12 to 2014/15 but increased in 2015/16 (from 3,167 to 3,971). Despite this increase, the proportion of youth approved under the Skilled/Business stream declined during this time (from 16 percent of total approvals in 2011/12 to 13 percent in 2015/16).

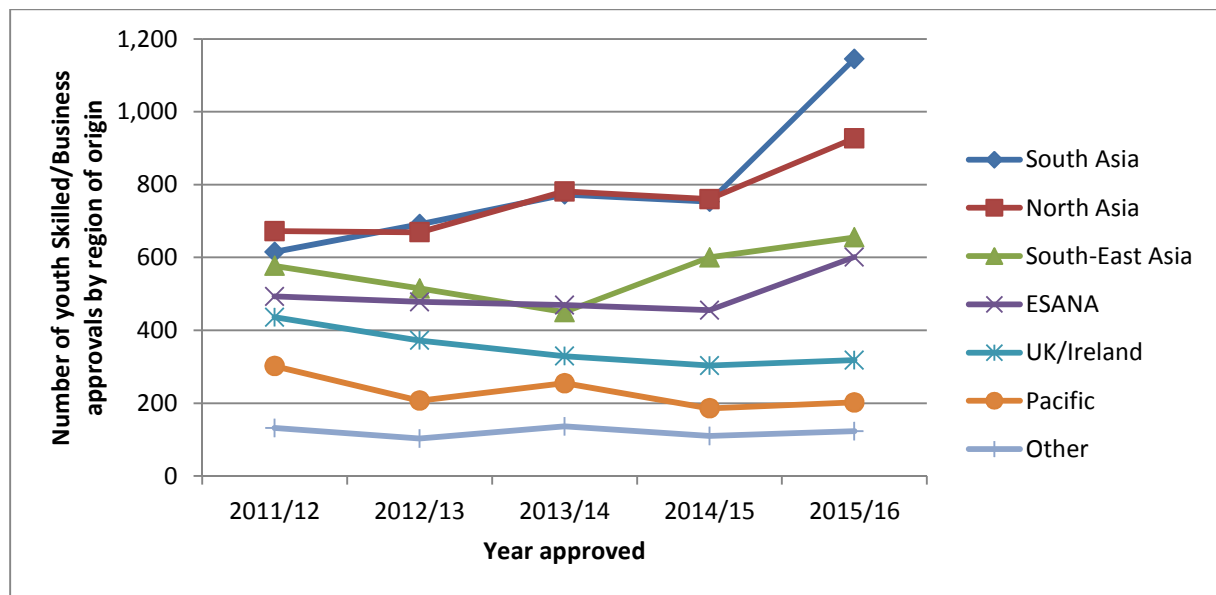
From 2011/12 to 2015/16, most youth approved under this visa stream were aged 18–24 (average of 60 percent). The proportion of approvals for youth aged 18–24 remained stable over this time, although there was a 34 percent increase in the number of approvals (1,866 in 2011/12 to 2,496 in 2015/16). The proportion of approvals for youth aged 12–17 decreased gradually year on year, despite an 8 percent increase in total approvals (from 1,361 in 2011/12 to 1,475 in 2015/16).

Thirty-four percent of 18–24 year olds were the principal applicant in their Skilled/Business Stream residence application. The proportion of male principal applicants aged 18–24 was consistently high, averaging 70 percent of the total applicants for the age group from 2011/12 to 2015/16. Forty-seven percent of 12–17 year olds and 41 percent of 18–24 year olds in the Skilled/Business Stream were female.

### 2.2.1 Region and country of origin

The main regions of origin for youth approved under the Skilled/Business stream between 2011/12 and 2015/16 were South Asia (24 percent) and North Asia (23 percent) (see Figure 2.3). While approvals from other regions remained relatively stable, the total number of approvals for youth from North Asia increased from 672 to 927 and South Asia increased from 615 to 1,145. The large portion of youth approvals from these regions were from the group aged 18–24, where they made up 88 percent of youth from South Asia and 70 percent of youth from North Asia.

**Figure 2.3 Youth (12–24 years) Skilled/Business residence approvals by region, 2011/12 – 2015/16**



Source: MBIE.

Note: ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America.

The main countries of origin for Skilled/Business youth were India (21 percent) and China (15 percent) (see Table 2.4). Approvals for youth from China grew each year, increasing by 94 percent from 2011/12 to 2015/16. During this time, the number of approvals for youth from India also rose, but a significant spike in approvals occurred between 2014/15 and 2015/16 increasing from 553 to 1,019 (56 percent increase). Since 2011/12, the number of youth approvals from India increased by 84 percent.

**Table 2.4 Skilled/Business youth (12–24 years) residence approvals by source country, by 2011/12 – 2015/16**

Source country	Financial year					Total	Average over 5 years (%)
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16		
India	553	635	680	654	1,019	3,541	21
China	355	394	491	521	688	2,449	15
Philippines	404	376	306	399	469	1,954	12
UK	424	342	294	280	300	1,640	10

South Africa	277	233	231	250	325	1,316	8
South Korea	274	236	246	194	181	1,131	7
Fiji	279	178	215	177	181	1,030	6
<b>Total number</b>	<b>2,566</b>	<b>2,394</b>	<b>2,463</b>	<b>2,475</b>	<b>3,163</b>	<b>13,061</b>	<b>79</b>

Source: MBIE.

Note: The table shows the top seven source countries of youth residence approvals under the Skilled/Business stream.

## 2.2.2 Approval categories

From 2011/12 to 2015/16, most youth in the Skilled/Business Stream were approved through the Skilled Migrant Category (88 percent). The Skilled Migrant Category targets migrants with qualifications and experience that New Zealand needs. It works on a system that awards points for several factors including a skilled job offer, experience, qualifications and age. For example, principal applicants aged 20–29 can claim the maximum points for age, with the points for age decreasing after this. Youth that transition from work or study in New Zealand to residence can also claim points for New Zealand qualifications or work experience.

In 2015/16, the Skilled Migrant Category was the main approval category for principal applicants aged 18–24 (approximately 90 percent). India was the main source of these Skilled Migrant Category approvals (24 percent), followed by the Philippines (13 percent), China (12 percent), and the UK (10 percent).

## 2.3 Family Stream

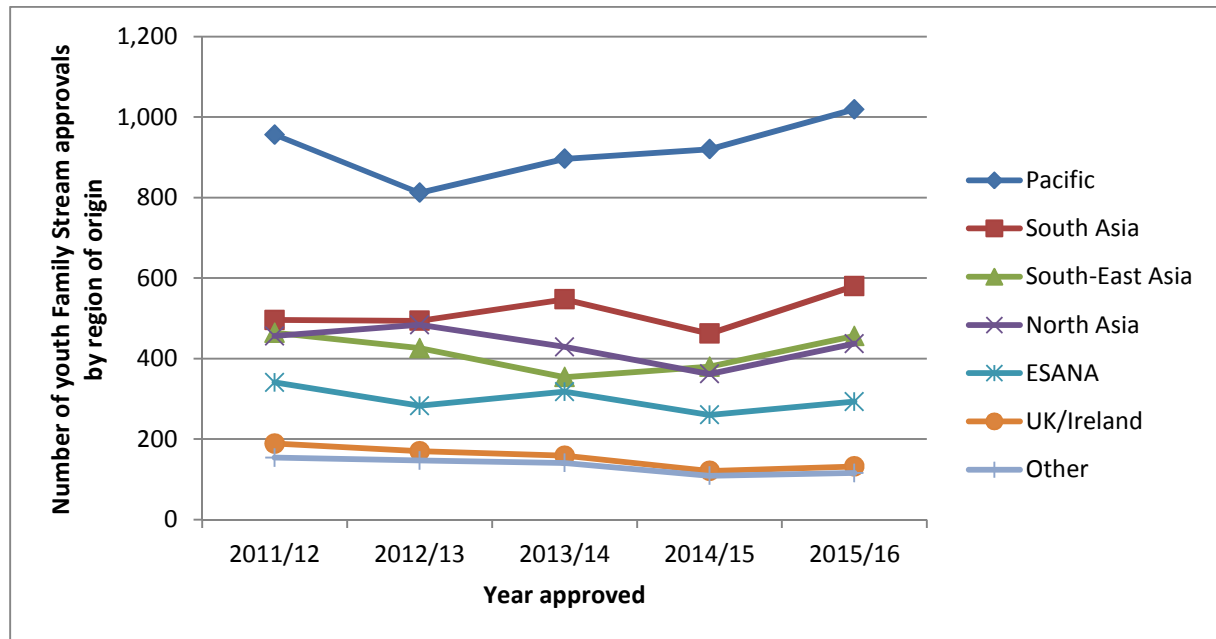
Approximately 17 percent of approvals through the Family Stream from 2011/12 to 2015/16 were youth. The proportion of all youth Family Stream approvals aged 12–24 remained relatively stable overall with youth aged 12–17 accounting for approximately 5 percent and those aged 18–24 approximately 12 percent. Unlike in the Skilled/Business Stream, the total number of approvals in this stream remained very stable during this time.

Sixty-one percent of youth aged 18–24 were the principal applicant in their residence application and approximately 60 percent of these were female. Fifty percent of 12–17 year olds and 60 percent of 18–24 year olds in the Family Stream were female.

### 2.3.1 Region and country of origin

Figure 2.4 shows the number of youth approved through the Family Stream by region of origin. The main region of origin for youth approved through the Family Stream was the Pacific, accounting for an average of 32 percent of all youth approvals in this stream.

**Figure 2.4 Youth (12–24 years) Family Stream residence approvals by region, 2011/12 – 2015/16**



Source: MBIE.

Note: ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America.

The main countries of origin for Family Stream approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16 were Samoa (21 percent), India (15 percent), and China (12 percent) (see Table 2.5). Most notably, youth approvals from Samoa decreased from 537 (18 percent) in 2011/12 to 486 in 2012/13 (17 percent), but increased steadily to 735 (24 percent) in 2015/16. Also of note, from 2011/12 to 2015/16, the number of approvals from Fiji decreased by 42 percent (from 310 to 181).

**Table 2.5 Family Stream youth (12–24 years) residence approvals by top five source countries, 2011/12 – 2015/16**

Source country	Financial year					Total	Average over 5 years (%)
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16		
Samoa	537	486	608	624	735	2,990	21
India	383	381	456	380	502	2,102	15
China	335	408	327	295	353	1,718	12
Fiji	310	208	164	165	181	1,028	7
Philippines	189	162	159	166	208	885	6
<b>Total number</b>	<b>1,754</b>	<b>1,645</b>	<b>1,714</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>1,979</b>	<b>8,723</b>	<b>61</b>

Source: MBIE.

### 2.3.2 Approval categories

Overall, the main youth approval categories under the Family Stream were Partnership (60 percent) and Dependent Child (32 percent). Young migrants are approved through the Partnership Category as either a partner of a New Zealand citizen or resident, or as a dependent child of a partner of a

New Zealand citizen or resident. Migrant youth approved through the Dependent Child category have a parent who is a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident.

For youth aged 12–17, the primary source of approvals came from the Dependant Child Category (53 percent) with the Partnership Category representing 36 percent of approvals. Within the Dependent Child Category, youth from Samoa accounted for 57 percent of the approvals.

Seventy percent of youth aged 18–24 were approved through the Partnership Category and 23 percent through the Dependent Child Category. The total number of Partnership approvals remained stable during this time, while the number of youth approvals for the Dependent Child category in this age group increased from 415 in 2011/12 to 604 in 2015/16 (a 46 percent increase).

## 2.4 International/Humanitarian Stream

From 2011/12 to 2015/16, approximately 12 percent of migrant youth were approved through the International/Humanitarian Stream. However, nearly one-quarter (24 percent) of the approvals in this category were for youth with fifty-five percent aged 18–24.

### 2.4.1 Region and country of origin

The Pacific was the main region of origin for youth approved under the International/Humanitarian stream, and from 2011/12 to 2015/16 accounted for 45 percent of youth approvals. South Asia (17 percent) and South-East Asia (12 percent) also accounted for significant proportions of youth approved in this category.

Table 2.6 shows the top five countries of origin for residence approvals through the International/Humanitarian stream. Approvals for youth from Afghanistan have grown sharply from 18 approvals in 2011/12 to 143 in 2014/15 and 108 in 2015/16. This trend was similarly found with the increase in Syrian youth approvals – increasing from 1 in 2011/12 to 80 in 2015/16.

**Table 2.6 International/Humanitarian youth (12–24 years) residence approvals by top five source countries, 2011/12 – 2015/16**

Source country	Financial year					Total	Average over 5 years (%)
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16		
Samoa	218	232	229	257	232	1,168	29
Afghanistan	18	64	68	143	108	401	10
Myanmar	67	50	65	49	94	325	8
Tonga	34	56	50	80	57	277	7
Colombia	19	43	58	18	55	193	5
<b>Total number</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>2364</b>	<b>59</b>

Source: MBIE.

## 2.4.2 Approval categories

Forty percent of International/Humanitarian youth were approved through refugee categories, 27 percent through the Samoan Quota, and 12 percent through the Pacific Access Category.<sup>15</sup> The Samoan Quota Scheme allows up to 1100 Samoan citizens, selected by ballot, to be granted residence in New Zealand each year. The Pacific Access Category is run by ballot, and allows up to 75 citizens of Kiribati, 75 citizens of Tuvalu, 250 citizens of Tonga and 250 citizens of Fiji to be granted residence in New Zealand every year.

As a signatory to the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, New Zealand takes an annual quota of about 750 refugees. From 2011/12 to 2015/16, 6,178 refugees were approved for residence. Twenty-seven percent of these refugees were youth. Over the last five years, the main source countries for quota refugee youth were Afghanistan, Myanmar, Colombia, Bhutan, Syria, and Iraq. The geographic pattern of source countries for refugees varies as global circumstances and humanitarian needs change. For example, from 2011/12 to 2013/14, there was only one youth residence approval for refugees from Syria. In response to geopolitical pressures, this number increased to 21 approvals in 2014/15 and 78 approvals in 2015/16. This pattern was also found in youth approvals for refugees from Afghanistan, while refugee approvals from Iraq decreased.

## 2.5 Temporary visa category approvals

To this point, the information provided has covered residence approval patterns. This section details approval patterns for youth on temporary visas. While both residence and temporary visas allow individuals to enter and remain in New Zealand, greater restrictions are usually placed on temporary visas. A primary distinction between the two is that as a resident, an individual can stay in New Zealand indefinitely and access most publicly funded services.

### 2.5.1 Student visa approvals

This section describes trends for youth coming to New Zealand on student visas from 2011/12 to 2015/16.<sup>16</sup> International students make an important contribution to New Zealand's economy. International education is estimated to contribute more than \$3.8 billion annually in foreign exchange to New Zealand.<sup>17</sup> In New Zealand, international students can also play an important role in the labour market through their labour market participation post-study, particularly if they are qualified and gain employment in areas with skill shortages.

As is described below, these visa approvals made up a substantial proportion of temporary migrant approvals over 2011/12 to 2015/16. International students attending courses lasting for more than

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<sup>15</sup> These categories include 1995 Refugee Status, Refugee Family Support Tiers, Refugee Quota, section 35A of the Immigration Act 1987 (no longer current policy), and section 61 of the Immigration Act 2009.

<sup>16</sup> This analysis is of individuals who held a student visa within each financial year. If a person held more than one student visa within a year, they are counted only once in that year. If an individual held a student visa in multiple years, they appear in the data more than once.

<sup>17</sup> Infometrics (2016).



three months must apply for a student visa. The analysis in this section separates student approvals into the four broad groups of:

- full fee-paying students (foreign fee-paying tertiary students)
- dependent students (the dependants or partners of temporary work visa holders)
- English language students (those in New Zealand doing long courses in English language as their only study)<sup>18</sup>
- other students (those studying on scholarships, those studying on student exchanges, and some vocational trainees).

Student approvals declined from 2011/12 to 2012/13 (from 81,816 to 75,436), but increased every year after to reach 103,900 in 2015/16. This growth has mainly been driven by increases in student visa approvals for those aged 12–24.

Student visa approvals approached half a million (443,611) in total from 2011/12 to 2015/16. Three-quarters of all students were fee-paying students (76 percent), 12 percent as dependent students, and 8 percent undertaking English language studies. Sixty-nine percent of all students were aged 12–24 – this group of students is the focus of the remainder of this section.

Over 75 percent of fee-paying students and 90 percent of English language studies students, were post-school age (18–24 years), while most dependent students (91 percent) were school age (12–17 years) (see Table 2.7). The approval rates for Other types of student visas were more evenly split between the two age groups.<sup>19</sup>

**Table 2.7 Youth (12–24 years) student approvals by age and student type, 2011/12 – 2015/16**

Student type	12–17 years		18–24 years		Total
	Number	Percentage (%)	Number	Percentage (%)	
Fee-paying	55,838	22	194,188	78	250,026
Dependent	18,034	91	1,876	9	19,910
English language studies	1,984	10	17,019	90	19,003
Other	4,784	32	10,344	68	15,128
<b>Total</b>	<b>80,640</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>223,427</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>304,067</b>

Source: MBIE.

Note Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

Overall, youth from North Asia accounted for the highest proportion of visa approvals (almost half on average). Approximately half of fee-paying (52 percent) and English language studies (49 percent) students were from North Asia.

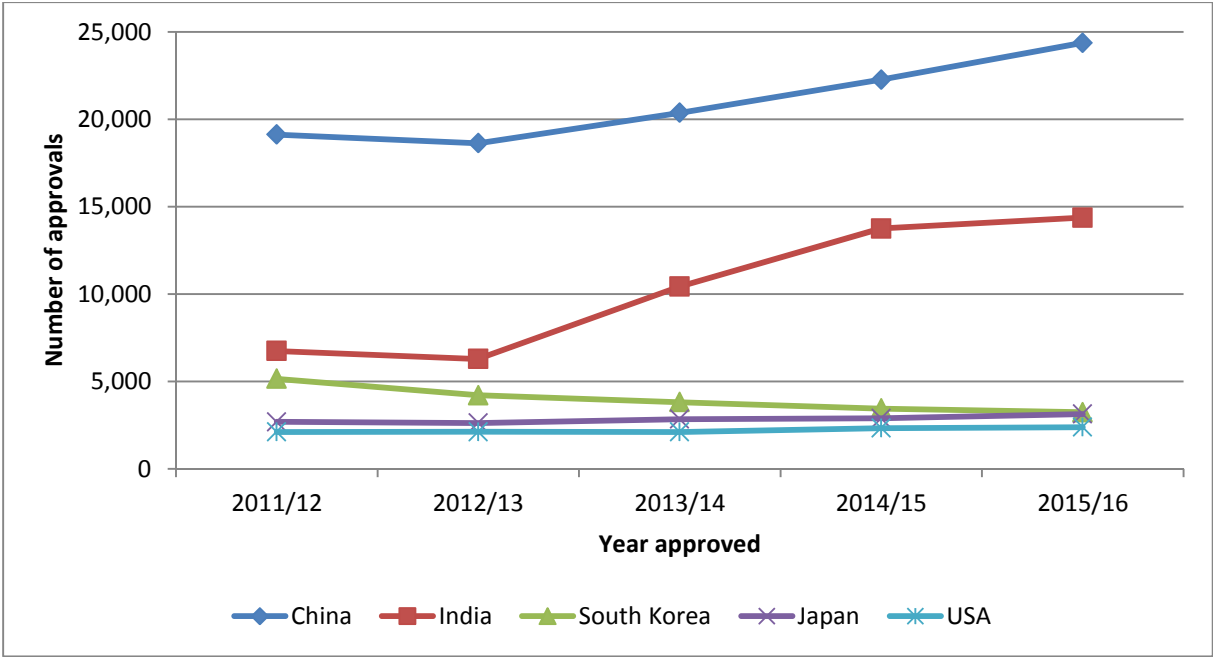
<sup>18</sup> Those who study English as short-stay visitors or those who are approved as fee-paying students who also study English are not included in this category.

<sup>19</sup> 'Other' student visas include, but are not limited to, exchange students, students with fee scholarships, other scholarships, and those approved through section 61 of the Immigration Act 2009.

Youth from South Asia accounted for the second highest proportion of fee-paying students. Approvals from this region increased from 15 percent in 2011/12 to 27 percent in 2015/16 (averaging 22 percent over five years). The regions of origin for dependent students and those approved under Other types of student visas were more varied.

Figure 2.5 shows student visa approvals for the top five source countries. Generally, China has been the main source country and had a steady increase in student visa approvals over the last five years. India was the second highest source country for student visa approvals. From 2012/13, approvals from this country grew rapidly increasing from 6,281 to 14,360 in 2015/16. The number of student visa approvals from South Korea has been decreasing and by 2015/16 was on a par with Japan.

**Figure 2.5 Youth (12–24 years) student visa approvals by country of origin, 2011/12 – 2015/16**



Source: MBIE.

**2.5.2 Temporary work visa approvals**

This section explores work visa approvals for migrant youth.<sup>20</sup> The number of work visa approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16 has grown with more than 193,000 people approved in 2015/16 compared with about 138,000 in 2011/12. The proportion of work visa approvals for youth remained stable at 32 percent during this time.

The three main regions of origin of youth approved for work visa were ESANA, UK/Ireland, and South Asia. The proportion of youth approved for a work visa from ESANA increased from 39 percent in 2011/12 to 47 percent in 2013/14, but remained stable through to 2015/16. This increase may be driven, in part, from the increasing number of working holiday agreements between New Zealand

<sup>20</sup> The analysis is of individuals who held a work visa within each calendar year. If a person held more than one work visa within a year, they are counted only once in that year. However, if an individual held a work visa in multiple years, they appear in the data more than once.

and ESANA countries.<sup>21</sup> From 2011/12 to 2015/16, youth from all but one other region saw a small but steady decline in overall work visa approvals. The exception was the UK/Ireland, which remained relatively stable during this time.

Table 2.8 shows the types and approval numbers of work visas for youth aged 18–24.

**Table 2.8 Youth (18–24 years) temporary work visa approvals by category, 2011/12 – 2015/16**

Work visa category	Financial year decided					Total	Average over 5 years (%)
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16		
Working Holiday Scheme	23,857	27,346	31,491	34,783	36,856	154,333	60
Study to Work	7,472	7,619	5,749	6,509	9,895	37,244	15
Family	3,633	3,717	3,785	3,938	4,231	19,304	8
Essential Skills	2,387	2,548	3,140	3,644	3,991	15,710	6
Horticulture and Viticulture Seasonal Work	1,887	1,930	2,115	2,213	2,459	10,604	4
Specific Purposes	1,073	1,115	1,201	1,224	1,320	5,933	2
Other	1,599	1,442	1,359	1,209	1,168	6,777	3
Student and Trainee	1,135	984	1,050	967	1,033	5,169	2
Humanitarian/ International	85	94	108	135	151	573	*
Work to Residence	99	108	115	131	123	576	*
Crew	64	66	48	36	36	250	*
Business	9	6	3	1	2	21	*
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,300</b>	<b>46,975</b>	<b>50,164</b>	<b>54,790</b>	<b>61,265</b>	<b>256,494</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: MBIE.

Notes: An asterisk (\*) indicates a value less than 1 percent. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

The main temporary work visas include the:

- Essential Skills Work visa (which enables employers to meet a skill need that New Zealand employees cannot meet)
- Family policy (for example, the partner of a work visa holder or student visa holder or partner of a New Zealand citizen or resident)
- Study to Work visa (for those who wish to work in New Zealand after obtaining an acceptable New Zealand qualification)
- Specific Purpose or Event visa (for those who come for a specific purpose or event or work for a specific employer for the time allowed to complete a specific purpose or event)

<sup>21</sup> For example, New Zealand now has working holiday agreements with Lithuania and Luxembourg – both are ESANA countries.

- Supplementary Seasonal Employer Work visa (seasonal work in the horticulture or viticulture industries)
- Residence from Work visa (transitional visa from temporary work visa to residence visa)
- Working Holiday Scheme for 18 to 30 year olds.<sup>22</sup>

From 2011/12 to 2015/16, the main work visa type was the Working Holiday Scheme, accounting for an average of 60 percent of youth followed by Study to Work, which averaged over 14 percent.

New Zealand has established working holiday agreements with 44 countries that allow young people whose primary intention is to holiday in New Zealand to undertake temporary employment and study (for up to three months) during their stay in accordance with their scheme.<sup>23</sup> Most working holiday agreements allow people aged 18–30 to spend a maximum of 12 months in New Zealand.<sup>24</sup>

Of the 272,933 Working Holiday Scheme approvals over 2011/12 to 2015/16, 57 percent were aged 18–24. Table 2.9 shows the top 10 countries with which New Zealand has, or have had, working holiday agreements and the number of approvals for each of these countries from 2011/12 to 2015/16.

**Table 2.9 Top 10 countries by number of Working Holiday Scheme visa approvals for youth (18–24 years), 2011/12 – 2015/16**

Country of origin	Financial year decided					Total	Average over 5 years (%)
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16		
Germany	6,289	8,025	9,817	10,985	12,289	47,405	31
UK	4,951	5,383	6,109	6,752	7,021	30,216	20
France	2,229	2,755	3,966	4,593	5,064	18,607	12
USA	1,451	1,543	1,879	2,002	2,134	9,009	6
Canada	878	972	1,070	1,280	1,403	5,603	4
South Korea	986	1,113	1,001	1,005	1,423	5,528	4
Ireland	984	1,074	1,076	1,000	745	4,879	3
Netherlands	576	666	758	834	922	3,756	2
Japan	576	599	595	734	887	3,391	2
Italy	336	532	647	767	674	2,956	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,256</b>	<b>22,662</b>	<b>26,918</b>	<b>29,952</b>	<b>32,562</b>	<b>131,350</b>	<b>86</b>

Source: MBIE.

<sup>22</sup> For a detailed description of work visa types, see Immigration New Zealand (2017).

<sup>23</sup> Working holiday agreements generally allow young New Zealanders to work overseas under mostly reciprocal agreements. The agreements with the United States and China are not reciprocal. For more information, see the Immigration New Zealand (2017).

<sup>24</sup> Working holiday agreements with Argentina, Canada, Chile, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Uruguay have an age requirement of 18–35 years. The United Kingdom working holiday agreement allows a maximum stay of 23 months.

All countries showed an increase in the total number of Working Holiday Scheme visa approvals over the five years. However, approvals from Germany, the UK, and France showed the largest increases. Approvals from Germany almost doubled, increasing from 6,289 in 2011/12 to 12,189 in 2015/16 while approvals from the UK increased from 4,951 to 7,021. Working holiday visa approvals for French migrant youth more than doubled, increasing from 2,229 in 2011/12 to 5,064 in 2015/16.

The second largest work visa category is Study to Work. International students who have finished qualified studies in New Zealand may be able to stay and work in the country for up to four years using the study to work pathway. This pathway has two steps: Post Study Work Visa (Open) and Post Study Work Visa (Employer Assisted).<sup>25</sup>

Of the 76,567 study to work approvals granted from 2011/12 to 2015/16, 49 percent were aged 18–24. These youth came from 93 different countries, but the vast majority of the approvals were from India and China. Table 2.10 shows the countries with the highest number of study to work approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16. Throughout this time, youth from India had the highest approval numbers through this profile and accounts, on average, for 60 percent of all youth approved under study to work. Youth from China also accounted for a large proportion of youth working after qualified study. Over the five years, youth from China represented an average of 23 percent of all youth approved through study to work.

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<sup>25</sup> The Post Study Work Visa (Open) is valid for 12 months and allows those approved to find a job that is relevant to the earned qualification, but does not place many restrictions on where the visa holder can work. The Post Study Work Visa (Employer Assisted) allows the visa holder to stay and work in New Zealand for an additional two years past the Post Study Work Visa (Open), but the applicant must work for a specific employer for the duration of the two years.

**Table 2.10 Top 10 countries by number of study to work visa approvals for youth (18–24 years), 2011/12 – 2015/16**

Country	Financial year decided					Total	Average over 5years (%)
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16		
India	4,767	4,574	2,978	3,647	6,357	22,323	60
China	1,473	1,657	1,660	1,682	1,956	8,428	23
South Korea	194	198	128	119	176	815	2
Vietnam	103	147	152	149	155	706	2
Philippines	81	142	86	118	238	665	2
Malaysia	118	106	90	112	132	558	1
Sri Lanka	76	141	97	89	116	519	1
Nepal	63	78	54	103	182	480	1
Fiji	152	114	69	61	80	476	1
Russia	59	44	58	51	48	260	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,472</b>	<b>7,619</b>	<b>5,749</b>	<b>6,509</b>	<b>9,895</b>	<b>37,244</b>	<b>94</b>

Source: MBIE.

Notes: An asterisk (\*) indicates a value less than 1 percent. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

## 3 RECENT MIGRANT YOUTH POPULATION IN NEW ZEALAND

The following three chapters use data from the 2001, 2006, and 2013 censuses to describe the size and demographic make-up of the recent migrant youth population. It is important to keep in mind that ‘recent migrants’ are identified those who have arrived in New Zealand less than five years from their relevant census and also include migrants on temporary visas.

### Findings

- The largest proportion of recent migrant youth came from North Asia, but the overall proportion from this region decreased from 39 percent (27,993 out of 71,472) in 2006 to 26 percent (14,265 out of 55,005) in 2013.
- Youth from South Asia and South-East Asia made up increasingly large proportions of the recent migrant youth population. Youth from South Asia had the most substantial increase from 9 percent in 2006 to 17 percent in 2013. This increase was mainly driven by growth in migrants from India, particularly in the 18–24 year old group.
- Over the three censuses, China was the main source country of recent migrant youth in New Zealand. The number of recent migrant youth from China peaked in 2006 at 19,578 (27 percent of all migrant youth in that year), but decreased to 10,440 in 2013 (19 percent). After China, the next highest source countries were India, the UK, and the Philippines.
- Migrant youth from India and the Philippines increased with youth from the Philippines increasing from 672 (1 percent) in 2001 to 3,567 (6 percent) in 2013 and from India increasing from 1,995 (4 percent) in 2001 to 7,575 (14 percent) in 2013.
- The ratio of males to females between recent migrant and New Zealand-born 12–17 year olds was almost identical (slightly more males). In 2013, recent migrant youth from the 18–24 year old group were more likely to be male than female. The gender composition has shifted from having more females to males in 2001 to having more males than females in 2013. This shift was largely driven by the increasing proportion of male migrants from South Asia.
- Asian was the largest ethnic group with approximately 60 percent of recent migrant youth identifying in this category.
- Recent migrant youth who arrived in New Zealand before the age of 13 are more likely to speak English than those who were a bit older when they migrated.

### 3.1 Introduction

According to the 2013 census, youth comprised 18 percent of the total population.<sup>26</sup> This proportion has remained stable since the 2001 census. Within the youth population, 23 percent were born overseas. The proportion of youth born overseas has increased from 17 percent in 2001 to 23 percent in 2013. In numerical terms, overseas-born youth increased 43 percent from 112,338 to

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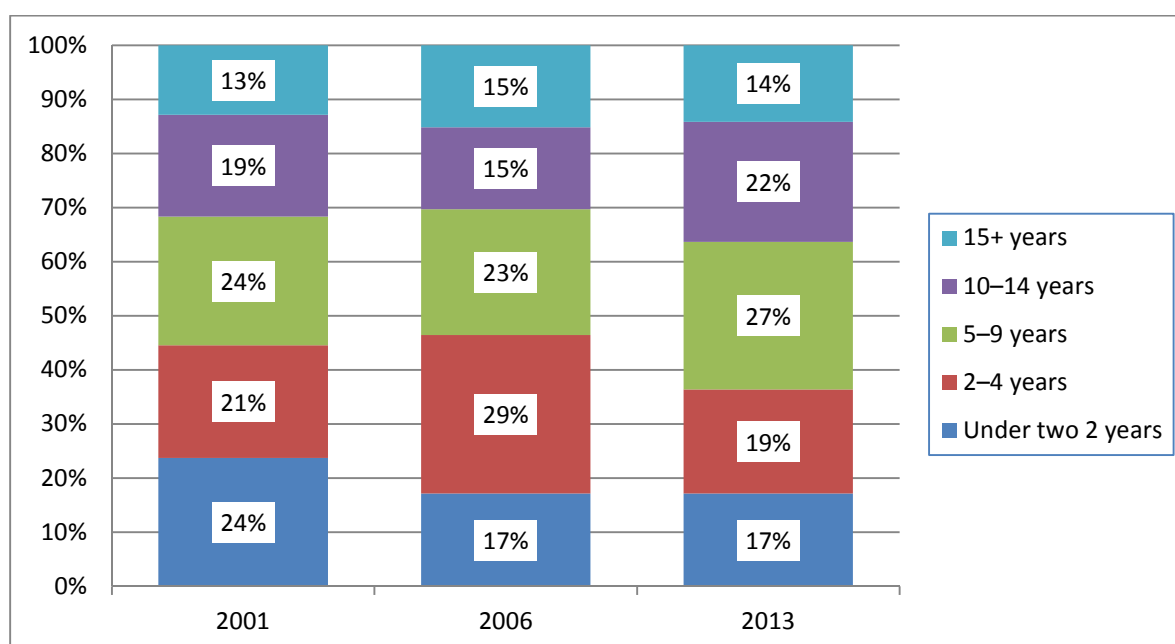
<sup>26</sup> Includes those who did not state their country of birth.

160,224. These figures continued an upward trend in overseas-born youth that started in the 1986 census (10 percent in 1986, 11 percent in 1991, and 14 percent in 1996).<sup>27</sup> Most of this growth occurred by 2006 as the number of overseas-born youth grew by 44 percent from 2001.<sup>28</sup>

While the proportion of overseas-born youth aged 12–17 decreased over the three censuses, their overall number increased (from 48,132 in 2001 to 61,608 in 2013). In comparison to the New Zealand–born population, the overseas-born population had consistently higher proportions (approximately sixty percent) of youth aged 18–24.

Of youth born overseas, 36 percent were recent migrants in 2013 (see Figure 3.1). This proportion has decreased from 44 percent in 2001 and 48 percent in 2006.

**Figure 3.1 Duration of residence in New Zealand for migrant youth (12–24 years), 2001, 2006, and 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Note: Excludes 8,898 in 2001, 7,902 in 2006, and 7,734 in 2013 who did not specify their length of time in New Zealand.

## 3.2 Gender

From 2001 to 2013, the ratio of females to males for both recent migrant youth and New Zealand–born youth aged 12–17 was similar. For 18 to 24 year olds, the New Zealand–born ratio was stable across the three censuses. However, the gender ratio among recent migrant youth changed. Female migrants outnumbered male migrants in 2001 (1.12 females per 1 male), but were outnumbered by their male counterparts by 2013 (0.89 females per 1 male).

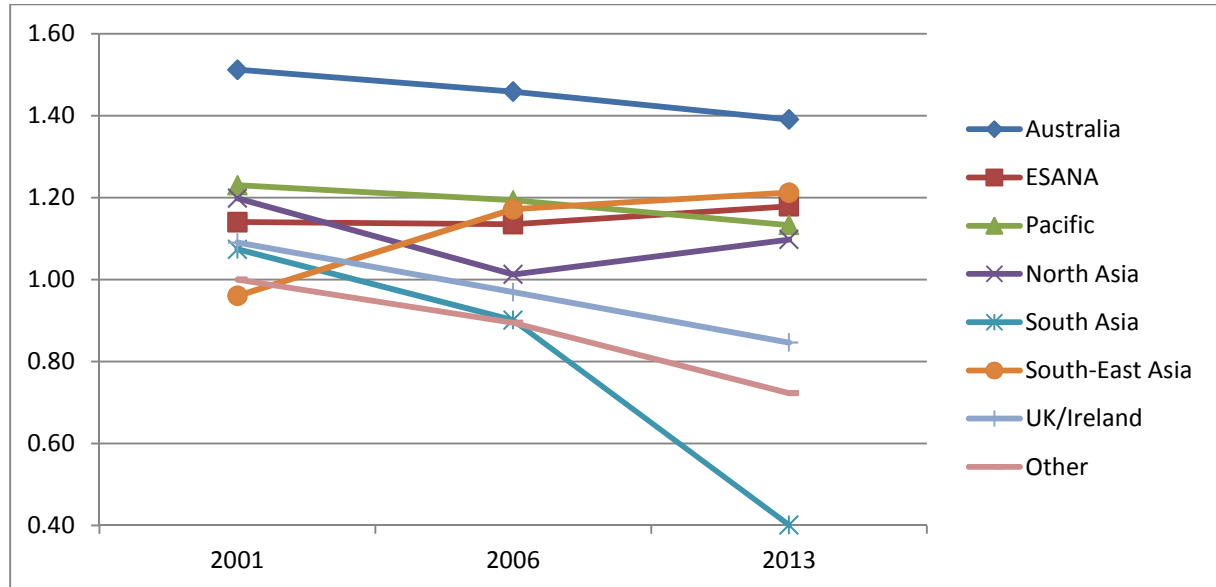
<sup>27</sup> Statistics New Zealand (1998) and Department of Labour (2009).

<sup>28</sup> Excludes those who did not state their country of birth.



With few exceptions, there were slightly more male than female recent migrant youth in the group aged 12–17 across all regions of origin. In 2013, only the Pacific and Australia had more females than males. The gender split was more varied among 18 to 24 year old recent migrants (see Figure 3.2).

**Figure 3.2 Ratio of female to male recent migrant youth (18–24 years) by region of birth, 2001, 2006, and 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Note: ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

At each census, Australia, ESANA, the Pacific, and North Asia had more females than males. The ratio of females was particularly high for those from Australia (ranging from 1.51 in 2001 to 1.39 in 2013). The ratio of females to males from the UK/Ireland and South Asia was equal or higher in 2001, but females were increasingly outnumbered by males in 2006 and 2013. This trend was particularly steep for those from South Asia where the female to male ratio went from 1.07 in 2001 to 0.40 in 2013. Recent migrants from South-East Asia had the highest increases in ratio of females to males, going from 0.96 in 2001 to 1.21 in 2013.

### 3.3 Age group and region of origin

Table 3.1 shows the region of origin and age group of recent migrant youth to New Zealand across the three censuses. Apart from youth from North Asia (where the group aged 18–24 was considerably larger), the proportional split between the two age groups was approximately equal for much of this time. In the 2013 census, however, recent migrant youth from South Asia had the largest increase compared with previous years. The proportion of youth aged 18–24 increased 352 percent from 2001 to 2013 (from 1,764 to 7,971). After 2001, approximately two-thirds of all recent migrant youth were aged 18–24.

**Table 3.1 Recent migrant youth (12–24 years) by age and region of origin, 2001, 2006, and 2013**

Region of origin	2001		2006		2013	
	12–17 years (row %)	18–24 years (row %)	12–17 years (row %)	18–24 years (row %)	12–17 years (row %)	18–24 years (row %)
	Total		Total		Total	
Australia	53	47	52	48	53	47
ESANA	54	46	44	56	42	58
Pacific	41	59	41	59	42	58
North Asia	38	62	26	74	26	74
South Asia	44	56	42	58	13	87
South-East Asia	39	61	41	59	44	56
UK/Ireland	52	48	63	37	46	54
Other	52	48	46	54	35	65
<b>Total (%)</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>20,253</b>	<b>25,617</b>	<b>27,462</b>	<b>44,010</b>	<b>18,612</b>	<b>36,393</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent. ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

While other regions had stable or decreasing proportions of recent migrant youth aged 12–17, the proportion from South-East Asia increased from 2001 to 2013. For recent migrants from South-East Asia, the number of 12- to 17-year-olds increased 90 percent from the 2001 census (from 1,779 to 3,378).

### 3.4 Region and country of birth

Table 3.2 shows the regions of birth for recent migrant youth. At each census, youth from North Asia consistently accounted for the highest overall number of recent migrant youth. The number of young migrants from this region almost doubled from 15,645 in 2001 to 27,993 in 2006, but in 2013 decreased to 14,265. While the proportion of this group remained substantial, the overall proportion decreased from a high of 39 percent in 2006 to 26 percent in 2013.

The decreasing proportion of recent migrant youth from North Asia was related to the increasing proportion of recent migrant youth from South Asia and South-East Asia. The total number of youth from South Asia grew from 6,351 in 2006 to 9,111 in 2013 and the number from South-East Asia grew from 6,063 to 7,632.

**Table 3.2 Recent migrant youth (12–24 years) by region of birth, 2001, 2006, and 2013**

Region of birth	2001			2006			2013		
	12–17 years (row %)	18–24 years (row %)	Total (%)	12–17 years (row %)	18–24 years (row %)	Total (%)	12–17 years (row %)	18–24 years (row %)	Total (%)
Australia	5	4	4	5	3	4	5	3	4
ESANA	20	13	16	16	12	14	17	12	14
Pacific	15	17	16	12	11	12	16	12	13
North Asia	30	38	34	27	47	39	20	27	26
South Asia	7	7	7	10	8	9	6	22	17
South-East Asia	9	11	10	9	8	8	18	12	14
UK/Ireland	7	5	6	14	5	9	12	8	9
Other	7	5	6	7	5	5	4	4	4
<b>Total number</b>	<b>20,253</b>	<b>25,617</b>	<b>45,867</b>	<b>27,462</b>	<b>44,010</b>	<b>71,475</b>	<b>18,612</b>	<b>36,393</b>	<b>55,005</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent. ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

Table 3.3 shows trends in the number of recent migrant youth from 15 major source countries at each of the three censuses. Throughout the three censuses, China accounted for the largest proportion and numbers of recent migrant youth, peaking in 2006 at 19,578 (27 percent). The increase was mainly among 18 to 24 year olds (from 5,445 in 2001 to 17,145 in 2006).

Recent migrant youth from India increased substantially – from 4 percent in 2001 to 14 percent in 2013. The upturn was mainly among youth aged 18–24 (increasing from 1,164 to 6,921). Other source countries that had an increase in number were the Philippines (from 672 in 2001 to 3,567 in 2013) and England (from 2,133 in 2001 to 4,011 in 2013).

From 2001 to 2013, recent migrant youth from South Korea, South Africa, and Taiwan had the largest decreases overall (3,093 to 2,025; 3,579 to 2,685; and 2,229 to 378, respectively). The decrease in recent migrants from South Korea and South Africa were further significant as the total number of youth in 2013 were considerably lower than in 2006 (South Korea: 5,418, South Africa: 4,083).

**Table 3.3 Recent migrant youth (12–24 years) from 15 major migrant source countries, 2001, 2006, and 2013**

Country of birth	2001		2006		2013	
	Number	Percentage (%)	Number	Percentage (%)	Number	Percentage (%)
China	7,095	15	19,578	27	10,440	19
India	1,995	4	4,776	7	7,575	14
UK	2,133	5	5,289	7	4,011	7
Philippines	672	1	1,107	2	3,567	6
Fiji	2,460	5	3,891	5	2,865	5
South Africa	3,579	8	4,083	6	2,685	5
Samoa	2,376	5	2,397	3	2,583	5
South Korea	3,093	7	5,418	8	2,025	4
Australia	2,046	4	2,790	4	1,932	4
Malaysia	1,278	3	1,950	3	1,317	2
USA	906	2	1,410	2	1,146	2
Japan	1,866	4	1,653	2	1,026	2
Tonga	1,257	3	939	1	831	2
Thailand	783	2	795	1	708	1
Taiwan	2,229	5	879	1	378	1
Other	12,102	26	14,517	20	11,913	22
<b>Total number</b>	<b>45,870</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>71,472</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>55,002</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Note: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

### 3.5 Age of arrival

Table 3.4 shows that across all regions of origin, recent migrant youth are more likely to be older (two-thirds of recent migrant youth) when they first arrived in New Zealand.<sup>29</sup> This ratio was even higher for those from the Asian regions where 9 in 10 recent migrant youth from North Asia and South Asia were aged 13 or over when they arrived in New Zealand. The proportion of recent migrant youth from South Asia who arrived in New Zealand aged 13 or over increased from 73 percent in 2001 to 92 percent in 2013.

Migrants' age of arrival is likely to have an impact on their outcomes in their new country. For example, it is likely that a large proportion of those who arrived after the age of 13 travelled

<sup>29</sup> As the target age for youth is 12–24 years and each census item is analysed for 'recent' migrants, the youngest age of arrival accounted for in this report are youth who are at least 8 years old on arrival i.e. they would be at least 12 years old during the time of the respective census.

independently from their parents, whereas those who arrived at a younger age travelled with their parents and are more likely to have been fully educated in New Zealand. The analysis suggests that the age of arrival can affect other aspects of migration i.e. English language ability (see Section 3.7).

**Table 3.4 Age of arrival in New Zealand for recent migrant youth (8–24 years), 2001, 2006, and 2013**

Region of birth	2001		2006		2013	
	8–12 years	13–24 years	8–12 years	13–24 years	8–12 years	13–24 years
	(row %)	(row %)	(row %)	(row %)	(row %)	(row %)
Australia	36	64	34	66	36	64
ESANA	34	66	28	72	28	72
Pacific	24	76	25	75	27	73
North Asia	17	83	15	85	10	90
South Asia	27	73	30	70	8	92
South-East Asia	18	82	24	76	28	72
UK/Ireland	39	61	42	58	35	65
Other	33	67	32	68	24	76
<b>Total (%)</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Total number</b>	<b>11,430</b>	<b>34,443</b>	<b>17,313</b>	<b>54,159</b>	<b>11,475</b>	<b>43,530</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent. ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

### 3.6 Ethnicity

When reviewing self-reported ethnicity, as in the census, it is important to note that a migrant's ethnicity and region of origin are not necessarily the same. For example, the percentage of youth who self-identified as being ethnically 'Pacific' was consistently lower than the percentage of recent migrant youth from the Pacific region of origin. A substantial proportion of youth from the Pacific region identified their ethnicity as Asian.

The ethnic composition of recent migrant youth across all three censuses has remained relatively stable. Overall, approximately 60 percent of recent migrant youth were Asian, 25 percent were European, 10 percent were Pacific, and 5 percent were Middle Eastern, Latin American, and African (MELAA). The number of recent migrant youth who are Asian increased significantly from 25,935 in 2001 to 44,301 in 2006, but decreased to 33,411 in 2013.

New Zealand-born youth were more likely than recent migrant youth to identify with more than one ethnic group. The proportion of recent migrant youth who identified with more than one ethnic group remained steadily low at approximately 3 percent over the three censuses, compared with approximately 20 percent for New Zealand-born youth.

### 3.7 English language ability

More than 90 percent of all recent migrant youth could speak English according to each census.<sup>30</sup>

While it is acknowledged that some recent migrant youth coming from the UK/Ireland and ESANA may not be able to speak English, the remainder of this section focuses on youth from regions of origin with larger proportions of non-English speakers.<sup>31</sup> The proportions who can speak English in the age groups 12–17 and 18–24 were similar. For this reason, data for the two age groups has been combined and notable differences are highlighted in the text.

As shown in Table 3.5, 89 percent of very recent migrants (in New Zealand for less than two years) from non-English-speaking regions could speak English according to the 2013 census. This is an increase from 83 percent in 2001. Over the years, increasingly strict English language requirements in immigration policy could have contributed to this increase. Overall, English language ability improved with length of time in New Zealand.

**Table 3.5 English language ability of migrant youth (12–24 years) from non-English-speaking regions, 2001, 2006, and 2013**

Length of time (years)	Proportion who could speak English (%)		
	2001	2006	2013
Under 2	83	84	89
2–4	92	91	93
5–9	95	94	96
10–14	97	97	97
15 and over	99	99	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>95</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001–2013.

Notes: Excludes 5,646 in 2001, 2,799 in 2006, and 4,455 in 2013 who did not specify English language ability. Data is not reported separately for those who did not specify their length of time in New Zealand, although these individuals are included in the total.

As well as duration of residence, the age at which youth arrived in New Zealand affected their English language ability. Across each census, 93 percent of migrant youth who arrived in New Zealand before the age of 13 could speak English. This proportion is slightly higher than for those who arrived when they were aged 12–24.

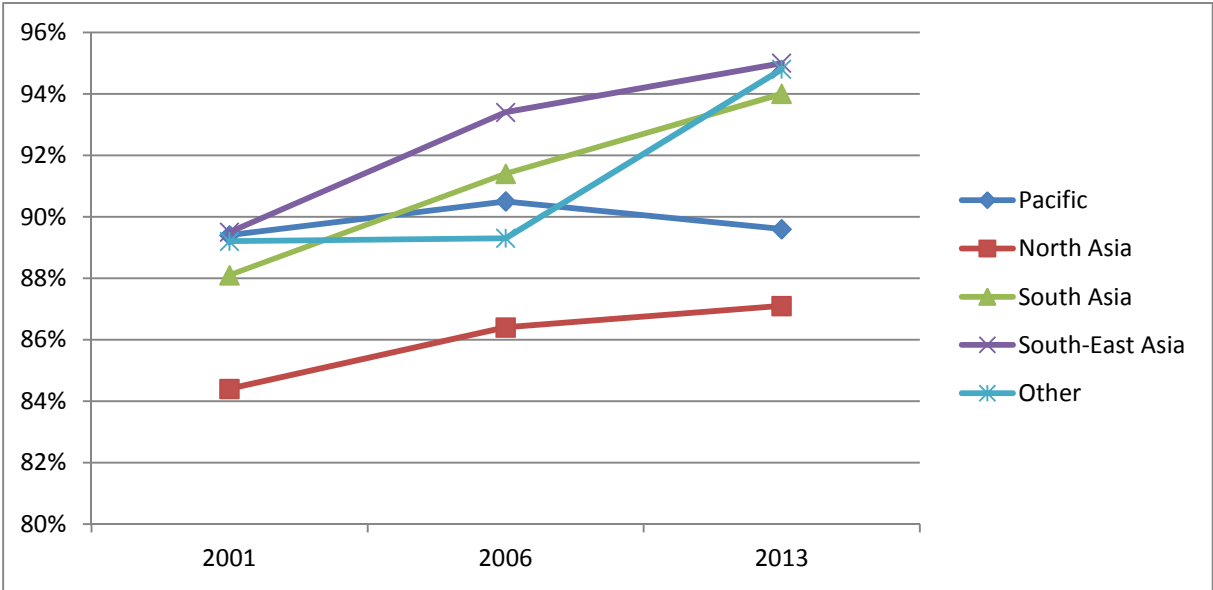
<sup>30</sup> The census question relating to English language ability is, 'In which language(s) could you have a conversation about a lot of everyday things?'

<sup>31</sup> The regions include the Pacific, North Asia, South Asia, South-East Asia, and Other. A larger proportion of migrants from these regions indicated that they could not speak English.

Figure 3.3 shows the proportion of recent migrant youth who can speak English from all regions of origin across the three censuses. The proportion overall has remained high (above 80 percent). A smaller proportion of recent migrant youth from North Asia were English speakers than youth from other regions. Numerically, migrants from North Asia had the highest number of recent migrant youth who could not speak English with 1,791 (out of 14,265) reporting no English language ability in 2013. This region was followed by the Pacific (741) and South Asia (531).

The number of recent migrant youth from South Asia who could not speak English increased from 369 in 2001 to 531 in 2013. However, this number is dwarfed by the increase in the number of youth from this region with could speak English (from 2,721 to 8,412).

**Figure 3.3 Proportion of recent migrant youth (12–24 years) who can speak English by region of birth, 2001, 2006, and 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes: Excludes 2,916 in 2001, 1,524 in 2006, and 2,022 in 2013 who did not specify their English language ability. 'Other' includes countries from North Africa, the Middle East, the Americas, and Sub-Saharan Africa.

## 4 LOCATION AND LIVING ARRANGEMENTS IN NEW ZEALAND

### Findings

- More than half of recent migrant youth reside in the Auckland region, but the proportion of youth living in this region has decreased over time (from 60 percent in 2001 to 54 percent to 2013).
- The proportion of recent migrant youth living in Wellington has remained stable from 2001 to 2013. The proportion of youth living in Canterbury increased from 2001 to 2006, but decreased in 2013. This decrease may be associated with the lingering effects of lower student enrolment in tertiary education in this region following the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury earthquakes.
- Most recent migrant youth aged 12–17 were living with their family. Recent migrants in this age group were two to three times more likely than their New Zealand–born counterparts to be living outside their family unit, particularly those from North Asia, who were most likely to be international students.
- Recent migrant youth aged 18–24 were more likely than their New Zealand–born counterparts to be living outside of a family unit (that is, living alone or flatting) – more than half of the recent migrant youth population within this age group compared with about a third for the New Zealand–born population.
- In 2013, recent migrant youth from North Asia and South Asia have a significantly higher proportion of those living outside of a family nucleus (75 percent and 70 percent, respectively) while youth from Australia and the UK/Ireland were the most likely to be a spouse or partner only in a family unit (approximately 30 percent for both regions).
- Recent migrant youth aged 18–24 were more likely than their New Zealand–born counterparts to be married.



## 4.1 Introduction

This chapter explores the geographical location of recent migrant youth living in New Zealand by regional council area.<sup>32</sup> This chapter also looks at the living arrangements of recent migrant youth, which is particularly important between the ages of 12 and 24 when youth are often making the transition between living with their parents to living apart from their parents by living alone, flatting, or living with a partner or spouse. Migrant youth who come to New Zealand without their parents (for example to study) are likely to have different living arrangements than other youth in New Zealand.

## 4.2 Location by regional council area

At each census, more than half of all recent migrant youth living in New Zealand resided in the Auckland region. However, the overall proportion of recent migrant youth in this region has decreased from 60 percent in 2001 to 54 percent in 2013 (see Table 4.1). While the proportion living in Auckland decreased steadily, the total number of recent migrant youth living in this region fluctuated greatly from census to census (increasing from 27,585 in 2001 to 40,539 in 2006, but decreasing to 29,811 in 2013).

Other regions where recent migrant youth tended to be concentrated were Wellington (9 percent), Canterbury (10 percent), the Waikato (7 percent), and to a lesser extent, Otago (5 percent) and the Bay of Plenty (4 percent). Apart from the Bay of Plenty, these regions are where New Zealand's universities are located, which, along with better employment opportunities, will attract youth aged 18–24 in particular.

Within these regions, the proportion of recent migrant youth remained relatively stable. However, the total number of recent migrant youth in Canterbury substantially decreased between 2006 and 2013 (from 8,385 to 5,682). This decrease may, in part, be related to the lingering impact of the 2010 and 2011 earthquakes. The tertiary education sector in this region saw international student enrolment decrease by approximately 28 percent between 2010 and 2011.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> New Zealand has 16 regional councils, covering all but one territorial authority. Generally, regional council areas contain complete territorial authority areas.

<sup>33</sup> Potter, Becker, Johnston, and Rossiter (2015).

**Table 4.1 Geographical locations of recent migrant youth (12–24 years), 2001, 2006, and 2013**

Regional council	2001		2006		2013	
	12–17 years (%)	18–24 years (%)	12–17 years (%)	18–24 years (%)	12–17 years (%)	18–24 years (%)
Northland	1	1	2	1	2	1
Auckland	61	59	57	57	51	56
Waikato	6	6	7	7	7	7
Bay of Plenty	3	2	4	2	5	4
Gisborne	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hawke's Bay	2	1	2	1	2	2
Taranaki	1	1	1	1	2	1
Manawatu–Wanganui	3	3	3	3	3	3
Wellington	8	9	8	10	10	9
Tasman	*	*	1	*	1	*
Nelson	1	1	1	*	1	1
Marlborough	*	*	*	*	1	*
West Coast	*	*	*	*	*	*
Canterbury	10	10	11	12	11	10
Otago	2	5	3	6	4	5
Southland	*	*	1	*	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,253</b>	<b>25,617</b>	<b>27,462</b>	<b>44,013</b>	<b>18,612</b>	<b>36,393</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes: An asterisk (\*) indicates a value less than 1 percent. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

#### 4.2.1 Recent migrant youth in Auckland, Wellington, and Canterbury by region of birth

In 2013, the largest proportion of recent migrant youth living in the Canterbury region were from North Asia (22 percent). This group of 1,257 accounted for 9 percent of all recent migrant youth from North Asia living in New Zealand. While still significant, the total number of recent migrant youth from North Asia living in Canterbury has decreased since 2006 (down from 3,618). 19 percent of all recent migrant youth from the UK/Ireland, who were living in New Zealand in 2013, resided in Canterbury. Other regions of birth with notably high proportions of their overall population living in the Canterbury region included Australia (13 percent), ESANA (12 percent), and South-East Asia (11 percent). Recent migrant youth from the Pacific were the least likely to be living in the Canterbury region (519 youth, representing 7 percent of all recent migrant youth from the Pacific living in New Zealand). While small, this proportion was higher than in previous censuses (4 percent in 2001 and 3 percent in 2006).

Youth from South-East Asia made up the largest proportion of recent migrant youth living in the Wellington region (20 percent in 2013). This group of 993 accounted for 13 percent of all recent

migrant youth from South-East Asia living in New Zealand. Notable proportions of recent migrant youth in New Zealand from Australia (12 percent), ESANA (11 percent) and UK/Ireland (12 percent) resided in the Wellington area. While 774 youth from North Asia lived in Wellington (accounting for 16 percent of recent migrant youth living in Wellington) this number represents only 5 percent of all the youth from this region who lived in New Zealand in 2013.

More than half of recent migrant youth from the Pacific, North Asia, and South Asia reside in Auckland. The proportion of recent migrant youth from South-East Asia has decreased (from 56 percent in 2006 to 48 percent in 2013) and even more so for youth from South Asia (from 72 percent to 58 percent). Youth from Australia and those from the UK/Ireland were most likely to live outside Auckland.

An examination of the total number of recent migrant youth living in the Auckland region also provides notable information. With the exceptions of the number of recent migrant youth from South Asia and South-East Asia (which consistently increased across all three censuses), the total number of recent migrant youth from all other regions of birth increased between 2001 to 2006, but decreased from 2006 to 2013. This was most notable for youth from North Asia, increasing from 9,705 to 17,148 then decreasing to 9,585.

### 4.3 Living arrangements

This section looks at the living arrangements of recent migrant youth – whether individuals were living with their family and, for those who were living with their family, their role in the family.

While most recent migrant youth aged 12–17 were living at home as a child, recent migrants were two to three times more likely than their New Zealand–born counterparts to be living ‘not in a family nucleus’<sup>34</sup> (that is, living alone or with flatmates). This is understandable, because a sizeable proportion of recent migrant youth are likely to be international students (Chapter 2 refers).

Recent migrants in the group 18–24 years were less likely than their New Zealand–born counterparts to be living as a child in a family nucleus and considerably more likely to be living outside their family. In 2013, more than half the recent migrant youth population in this age group (57 percent) are not in a family nucleus. This proportion has remained consistent since 2001.

Migrant youth were more likely than New Zealand–born youth to be married. For recent migrants, this number has remained relatively steady (3,033 in 2001 and 3,480 in 2013), although the proportion who were married decreased from 2001 to 2013.

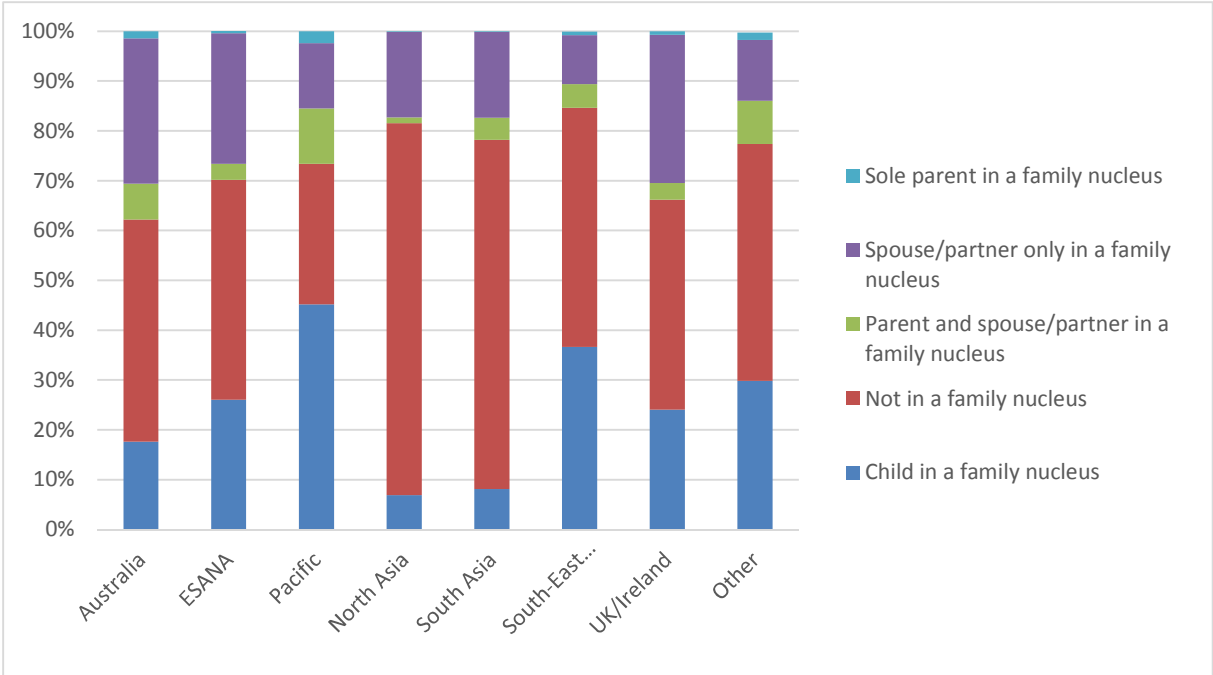
In 2013, recent migrant youth aged 18–24 from Australia and the UK/Ireland were the most likely to be only a spouse or partner in a family unit (approximately 30 percent for both regions) (see Figure 4.1). The proportion of youth from ESANA who were married has increased steadily from 19 percent in 2001 to 26 percent in 2013. Youth from the Pacific and South-East Asia were the most likely to be living as children in a family nucleus (45 percent and 37 percent, respectively). These proportions have increased since 2001, but the total number of recent migrant youth living as a child in a family

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<sup>34</sup> This is the terminology the censuses used.

nucleus is more revealing – from 3,831 to 4,548 for recent migrant youth from the Pacific and 1,764 to 4,272 for recent migrant youth from South-East Asia.

**Figure 4.1 Family structure for recent migrant youth (12–24 years) by region of birth, 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2013.

Note: ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

Analysis by region of birth shows a larger proportion of the group aged 12–17 from North Asia (42 percent) were living outside their family nucleus in 2013. This proportion, along with the consistently high proportion of the group aged 18–24 from North Asia living outside the family nucleus are likely to be international students as indicated by the large number of student visa approvals from this region (chapter 2 refers). Along with youth from South Asia (70 percent), youth from North Asia were the most likely to be not living in a family nucleus with 75 percent of all youth living outside the home in 2013.

## 5 STUDY PARTICIPATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

### Findings

- Recent migrant youth had a higher proportion in full-time study than New Zealand-born youth especially among those aged 15–17. Recent migrant youth aged 18–24 are considerably more likely than their New Zealand-born counterparts to be studying, although the proportion has decreased over time.
- Recent migrants aged 18–24 from North Asia had the highest study participation rates while those from the UK/Ireland had the lowest.
- In 2013, over half of all recent migrant youth from the Pacific, UK/Ireland, and South Asia were not in study. The change was largest for youth from South Asia where the proportion not in study increased from 35 percent in 2006 to 55 percent in 2013.
- The highest qualification held by most recent migrant youth is a school qualification. Recent migrant youth aged 18–24 were more likely to hold at least a vocational qualification than their New Zealand-born counterparts.
- Recent migrant youth from the Pacific were the most likely to have no qualifications.
- In 2013, recent migrant youth from South Asia were the most likely to have a university or a vocational qualification compared with other recent migrants. Youth from North Asia and South-East Asia had similar proportions with vocational or university qualifications.

### 5.1 Introduction

This chapter examines patterns in study participation and the highest qualifications earned among recent migrant youth. The proportion of recent migrant youth who are both studying and working is also reviewed in this chapter. The focus is on the two age groups 15–17 (school age) and 18–24 (post-school age).<sup>35</sup> These groups will have different study patterns since most 15 to 17 year olds would still be in school.

The limitations of using census data to measure study participation should be considered. In particular, the survey question on study participation differs from the 2001 census to the 2006 and 2013 censuses (see Appendix B). Because of this lack of comparability, 2001 data is not included in sections pertaining to study participation.<sup>36</sup> The 2006 and 2013 questions were similar, so are comparable. Also, the study participation question tends to have a high rate of non-response in total (4.6 percent in 2006 and 4.1 percent in 2013) as well as differing response rates between regions of birth of migrant youth (for example, in 2013 non-response rates were 4 percent for UK/Ireland, 6 percent for North Asia, and 11 percent for Pacific).

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<sup>35</sup> The census asks questions on employment and study participation to those aged 15 and older.

<sup>36</sup> The 2001 study participation question was part of the unpaid activities question.

## 5.2 Study participation

As would be expected, the proportion of youth aged 12–17 who were studying was high for both recent migrants and those born in New Zealand (see Table 5.1). Recent migrant youth aged 18–24 were more likely to be in study, although the proportion has decreased (from 66 percent in 2006 to 56 percent in 2013).

**Table 5.1 Study participation for youth (15–24 years), 2006 and 2013**

Study participation	15–17 years		18–24 years	
	Recent migrants (%)	NZ-born (%)	Recent migrants (%)	NZ-born (%)
<b>2006</b>				
Full-time study	87	74	60	25
Part-time study	2	3	6	8
Not studying	12	23	35	66
<b>Total number</b>	<b>12,681</b>	<b>136,143</b>	<b>40,662</b>	<b>259,959</b>
<b>2013</b>				
Full-time study	86	82	50	31
Part-time study	2	3	6	7
Not studying	12	16	45	62
<b>Total number</b>	<b>9,078</b>	<b>126,003</b>	<b>34,185</b>	<b>270,495</b>

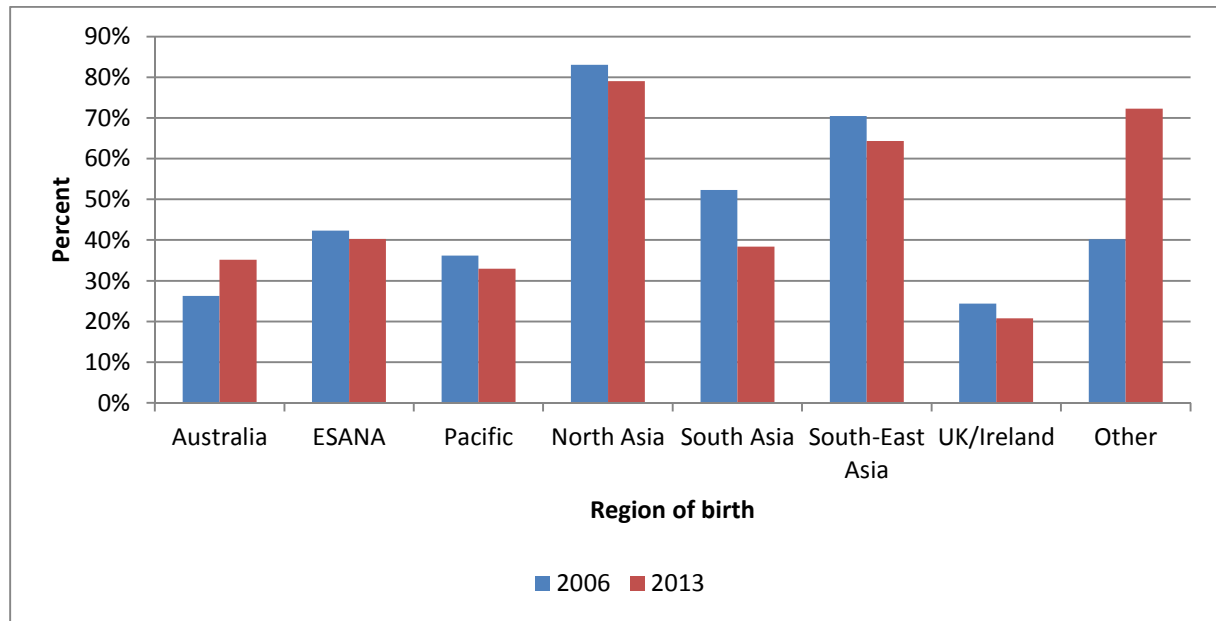
Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2006 and 2013.

Notes: Excludes 19,140 in 2006 and 20,166 in 2013 who did not specify their study participation. The proportion in full-time study includes a small number who were studying both full time and part time. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

As indicated above, most recent migrant youth aged 12–17 were studying in some capacity. This is prevalent across most regions of birth (where the proportions of recent migrant youth in this age group had approximately 84 percent to 91 percent studying). However, a smaller proportion of recent migrant youth from the Pacific were in study (74 percent in both 2006 and 2013).

Figure 5.1 shows rates of full-time study participation for recent migrants aged 18–24 in 2006 and 2013. Full-time study participation rates decreased for most regions over this time (the exception being Australia). Recent migrant youth aged 18–24 from North Asia had the highest study participation rates in 2006 and 2013 (83 percent and 79 percent, respectively), followed by youth from South-East Asia (70 percent and 64 percent, respectively).

**Figure 5.1 Full-time study participation for recent migrant youth (18–24 years) by region of birth, 2006 and 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2006 and 2013.

Note: ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

From 2006 to 2013, the number of recent migrant youth aged 18–24 who were studying full time remained relatively stable for most regions (the exceptions being North Asia and South Asia). For North Asia, the number of recent migrant youth in this age group studying full time decreased from 15,114 to 7,425 while those studying full time from South Asia increased from 1,674 to 2,694. These changes were mainly driven by the larger number of recent migrant youth in this age group who were in study in 2013. For South Asia, the region which had the largest decrease in the proportion who were studying, the total number of youth who were not studying increased from 1,527 to 4,323.

### 5.2.1 Combined study and labour force participation

Table 5.2 shows the proportion of recent migrant youth in both work and study.<sup>37</sup> Recent migrant youth aged 15–17 were more likely to be studying and not in the labour force (73 percent in 2013) than the New Zealand–born youth population (56 percent). Only 9 percent of recent migrant youth aged 15–17 were employed and studying part time compared with 19 percent of the counterpart New Zealand–born population.

In 2013, most recent migrant youth aged 18–24 were studying and not in the labour force (33 percent). This proportion is higher than that of the New Zealand–born counterparts (14 percent). Twenty-five percent of recent migrant youth aged 18–24 were not in study and employed full time (37 percent for New Zealand–born youth).

<sup>37</sup> Some figures in Table 5.2 may differ slightly from those in other tables because the ‘not specified’ responses for both the labour force and study participation questions have been excluded.

**Table 5.2 Combined study and labour force participation for youth (15–24 years) in 2013**

Study/labour force participation	15–17 years		18–24 years	
	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)
<b>2013</b>				
Studying and employed full time	1	1	5	8
Not studying and employed full time	1	3	25	37
Studying and employed part time	9	19	12	12
Not studying and employed part time	1	3	6	7
Studying and unemployed	6	8	5	4
Not studying and unemployed	1	2	4	7
Studying and not in labour force	73	56	33	14
Not studying and not in labour force	9	8	10	10
<b>Total number</b>	<b>9,078</b>	<b>126,003</b>	<b>34,185</b>	<b>270,495</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2006 and 2013.

Notes: Excludes 20,709 in 2006 and 20,169 in 2013 who did not specify their study participation. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

From the 2006 to the 2013 census, the proportion of recent migrant youth aged 15–17 who were studying and not in the labour force increased across all regions of birth. Recent migrant youth in this age group from North Asia had the highest proportion of youth studying and not in the labour force (82 percent in 2006 and 84 percent in 2013).<sup>38</sup>

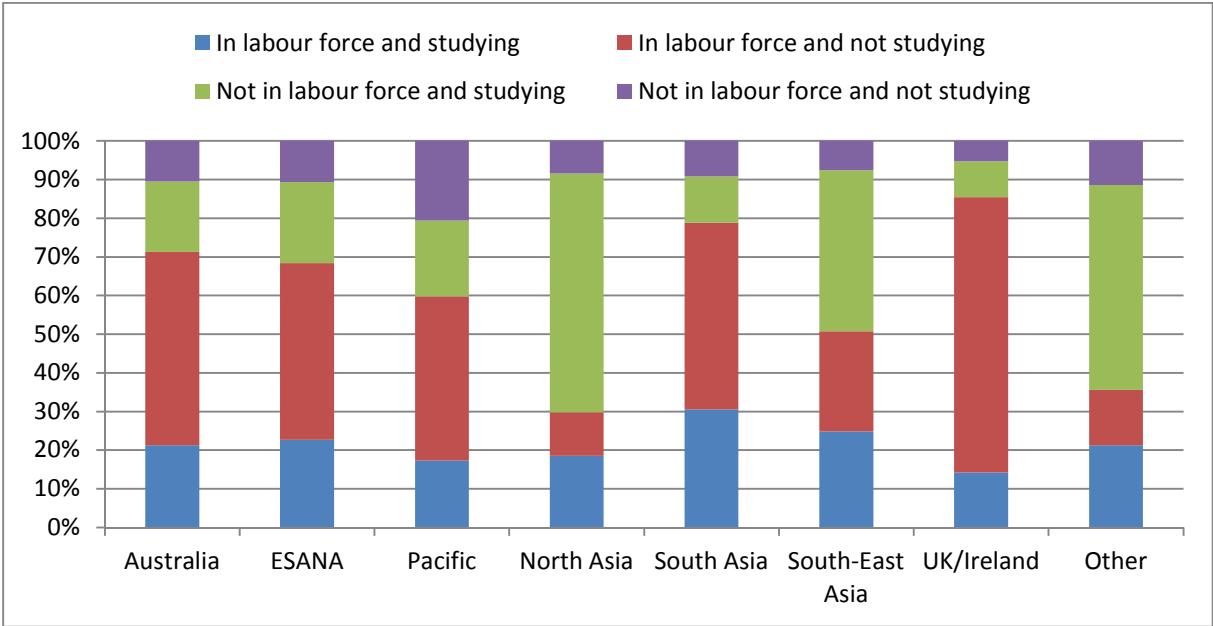
Recent migrant youth aged 15–17 from Australia were more likely than others to be working full time and not studying (see Figure 5.2). However, this proportion decreased from 10 percent in 2006 to 4 percent in 2013.

Consistent with the proportion of recent migrant youth aged 18–24 that was studying full time, those from North Asia were more likely to be studying and not in the labour force (50 percent in 2006 and 62 percent in 2013). Those from South-East Asia were also likely to be studying and not in the labour force (44 percent in 2006 and 42 percent in 2013). It is also worth noting the large proportion of youth from UK/Ireland who were in the labour force and not studying. Considering the number of recent migrants from the UK and Ireland who arrive to New Zealand on working holiday visas (see Chapter 2), this finding is not unexpected.

<sup>38</sup> Labour force participation includes those who are working full time or part time and those who are unemployed and looking for work. Labour force participation is analysed in greater detail in Chapter 6.



**Figure 5.2 Combined study and labour force participation for recent migrant youth (18–24 years) by region of origin, 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2013.

Note: ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

### 5.3 Highest qualification of recent migrant youth

This section explores the highest qualifications of recent migrants aged 18–24. An analysis of only this group of youth is relevant because a large proportion of younger youth will still be at school and in the process of gaining qualifications. Of course, many 18 to 24 year olds will also be in the process of gaining qualifications.

Table 5.3 shows that most youth have a school qualification as their highest qualification. However, compared with their New Zealand–born counterparts, recent migrant youth are more likely to hold at least a vocational qualification (30 percent compared with 17 percent). Also, recent migrants are less likely to have no qualification.

The most common qualification held by both recent migrant youth and New Zealand–born youth was a school qualification. In 2001 and 2006, a larger proportion of recent migrant youth than New Zealand–born youth had school qualifications as their highest qualification, but this trend was reversed in 2013.

**Table 5.3 Highest qualification for youth (18–24 years) 2001, 2006, and 2013**

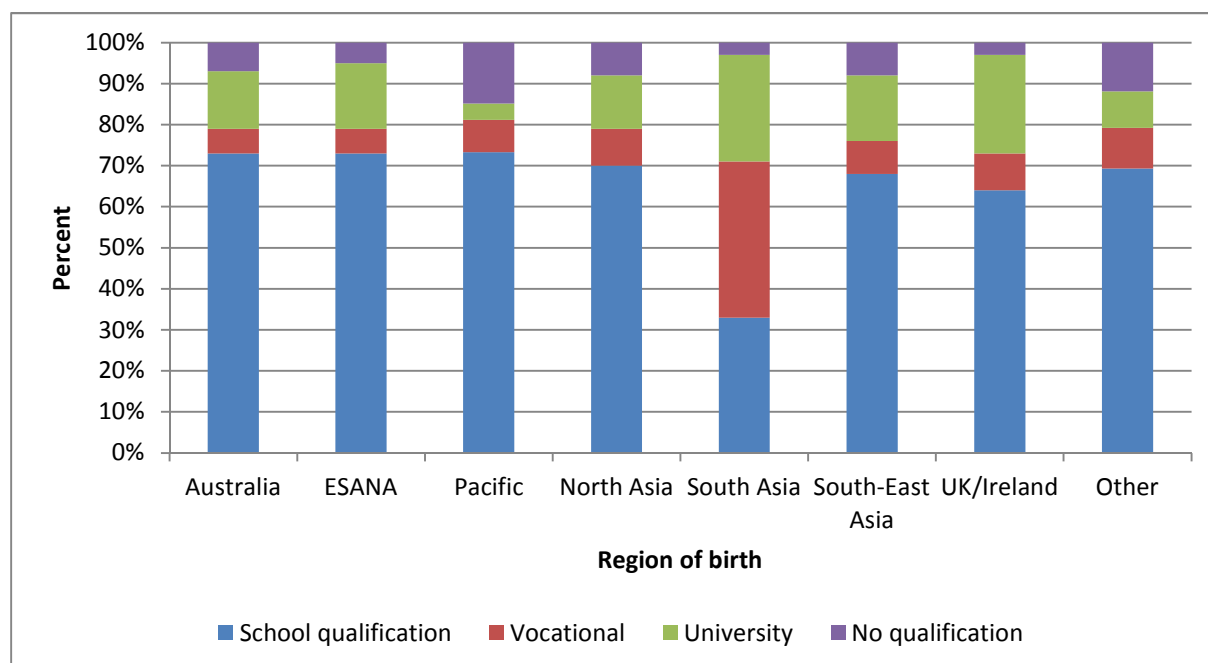
Migrant status	School qualification (%)	Vocational qualification (%)	Bachelor degree or higher (%)	No qualification (%)	Total
<b>2001</b>					
Recent migrant	73	11	8	8	21,468
NZ-born	55	19	10	17	250,857
<b>2006</b>					
Recent migrant	72	9	13	6	40,146
NZ-born	67	5	10	18	259,152
<b>2013</b>					
Recent migrant	62	14	16	7	33,009
NZ-born	72	5	12	12	270,702

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes: Excludes 19,203 in 2001, 14,700 in 2006, and 12,552 in 2013 who did not specify their qualifications. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

In 2013, recent migrant youth aged 18–24 from South Asia were the most likely to have a university qualification or a vocational qualification (26 percent and 38 percent, respectively; see Figure 5.3).

**Figure 5.3 Highest qualification held by recent migrant youth (18–24 years) by region of birth, 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2013.

Notes: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100. ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

Recent migrant youth from the UK/Ireland were the second most likely to have university and vocational qualifications (24 percent and 9 percent, respectively). Similar proportions of youth from

North Asia and South-East Asia had vocational and university qualifications, and were the most likely to be studying towards a higher qualification.

While recent migrant youth aged 18–24 from the Pacific region were the most likely to have a school qualification (74 percent), they were also the most likely to have no qualifications (15 percent). In addition, recent migrant youth from the Pacific were also least likely to hold a university qualification (4 percent).<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>39</sup> For the table of qualifications of recent migrant youth by region of birth across the three censuses, see Appendix D.

## 6 LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION AND EARNINGS

### Findings

- Recent migrant youth were more likely to utilise their social contacts to find employment than their New Zealand-born counterparts. This difference was most evident for recent migrant youth from non-English-speaking regions.
- Recent migrant youth had lower labour force participation rates and higher rates of zero income than their New Zealand-born counterparts. The proportion of recent migrant youth aged 18–24 earning income through wages increased from 2001 to 2013, and an increasing proportion of recent migrant youth were earning \$30,000 to \$50,000 by 2013 (from 3 percent to 13 percent).
- Across all three censuses, recent migrant youth from the UK/Ireland had the largest proportion of 18 to 24 year olds participating in the labour force and the highest rate of full-time employment. At the same time, an increasing proportion of recent migrant youth from South Asia were participating in the labour force and, by 2013, were the second most likely to be in full-time employment.
- At each census, most recent migrant youth were employed as service and sales workers.
- Recent migrant youth from North Asia and an increasing proportion of those from South-East Asia were more likely to be employed as service and sales workers than in other types of occupations. Recent migrant youth from the Pacific were most likely to be labourers and related elementary service workers and plant and machine operators and assemblers.
- From 2001 to 2013, the types of job held by youth from South Asia changed. The proportion employed as legislators, administrators, and managers as well as those in technical and associate professional jobs increased (from 6 percent to 17 percent and 7 percent to 14 percent, respectively) while the proportion employed as clerks decreased (from 18 percent to 8 percent).
- Most recent migrants aged 15–17 had no personal income. Of those with a personal income, 18 percent were earning from \$1 to \$10,000.
- As more recent migrant youth aged 18–24 were studying full time and not in the labour force, this group had a larger proportion with no income compared with their New Zealand-born counterparts.
- In line with larger proportions of recent migrant youth studying full time and not in the labour force, those from North Asia and South-East Asia were the most likely to report zero income across all three censuses. The reverse was true for recent migrant youth from the UK/Ireland, where they were among the least likely to be studying and were earning the highest incomes across all recent migrant youth (34 percent were earning over \$30,000).

## 6.1 Introduction

This chapter examines patterns in labour force participation of recent migrant youth aged 15–24 and, as with previous chapters, draws comparisons between migrant and New Zealand–born youth in these areas. In addition to general labour force statistics, this chapter looks at sources of income for youth, the main types of occupations held by youth, and the levels and trends in earned income. This chapter focuses on the two age groups 15–17 and 18–24.

When reviewing trends in labour force participation, it is important to consider the effects of the Global Financial Crisis that occurred between the 2006 and 2013 censuses. While New Zealand fared better than some OECD countries, the rate of youth unemployment was strongly affected by the recession.<sup>40</sup> Industries that often employ young and unskilled workers (for example, sales and services) were hit hard during this time, limiting opportunities and contributing to youth unemployment.

Note that the data in this chapter does not provide official employment or unemployment rates. However, the estimation of the unemployment rate for recent migrant youth is calculated using the same methods used to analyse official unemployment rates.<sup>41</sup> It is also important to bear in mind the problems associated with using the census to accurately measure labour force participation as well as changes to occupation categorisations (this is described further in Chapter 1).

## 6.2 Income source over the past 12 months of recent migrant youth

Across the three censuses, recent migrant youth were more likely to have no sources of income than their New Zealand–born counterparts (an average of 40 percent compared with 17 percent, respectively; see Table 6.1).<sup>42</sup> This is apparent across both age subgroups. The proportion was higher for those aged 15–17, as most of these individuals were still in school.

Regardless of birth location, the proportion of youth reporting no income increased between 2006 and 2013. Recent migrant youth who reported no income increased from 64 percent to 77 percent while the New Zealand–born population increased from 38 percent to 60 percent. These increases were mirrored by a decrease in the proportion of youth with income through wages (from 27 percent to 13 percent for recent migrant youth and from 57 percent to 35 percent for New Zealand–born). While the numbers of both recent migrant youth and New Zealand–born youth receiving ‘Other sources of income’ were low, recent migrant youth were more likely to receive income through these sources than were New Zealand–born youth.

In 2013, 30 percent of recent migrant youth aged 18–24 had no source of income. This proportion is much larger than that of their New Zealand–born counterparts (6 percent). This is likely to be because of the high proportion of youth in this age group who are in study and not in the labour

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<sup>40</sup> Treasury (2013).

<sup>41</sup> The unemployment ‘rate’ would be a proportion of only those in the labour force.

<sup>42</sup> ‘Sources of personal income’ includes all of the people who stated each source of personal income, whether as their only source of personal income or as one of several sources of personal income. Where a person reported more than one source of personal income, they are counted in each applicable group.

force (see Chapter 5). More than half of recent migrant youth in this age group earned income through wages (54 percent). The smaller proportion of recent migrant youth aged 18–24 receiving income from ‘Other government transfers’ (11 percent) indicates that they are less likely to receive welfare benefits from the Government compared with New Zealand–born youth (34 percent).<sup>43</sup> The proportion of recent migrant youth with no sources of income or who were receiving other government transfers decreased from 2001 to 2013 while the proportion of wage earners increased over the same time.

**Table 6.1 Comparison of sources of income for recent migrant and New Zealand–born youth (15–24 years), 2001, 2006, and 2013**

Source of income	15–17 years		18–24 years	
	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)
<b>2001</b>				
No source of income	64	38	35	3
Wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, etc	22	56	40	80
Self-employment or business	1	1	2	4
Interest, dividends, rent, other investments	3	8	5	10
Payments from a work accident insurer	*	1	*	2
Other government transfers	8	6	22	40
Other sources of income	7	3	12	4
<b>Total number</b>	<b>9,216</b>	<b>120,849</b>	<b>21,894</b>	<b>261,162</b>
<b>2006</b>				
No source of income	64	38	30	3
Wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, etc	27	57	54	84
Self-employment or business	*	1	2	4
Interest, dividends, rent, other investments	2	5	5	9
Payments from a work accident insurer	*	1	*	2
Other government transfers	5	4	11	27
Other sources of income	4	3	11	4
<b>Total number</b>	<b>12,264</b>	<b>133,947</b>	<b>40,668</b>	<b>264,810</b>

<sup>43</sup> ‘Other government transfers’ include student allowance, unemployment, sickness, domestic purposes, and invalid’s benefits.

Source of income	15–17 years		18–24 years	
	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)
<b>2013</b>				
No source of income	77	60	30	6
Wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, etc	13	35	54	76
Self-employment or business	*	1	2	4
Interest, dividends, rent, other investments	1	3	2	6
Payments from a work accident insurer	*	*	*	1
Other government transfers	6	3	11	34
Other sources of income	5	2	9	3
<b>Total number</b>	<b>8,898</b>	<b>124,737</b>	<b>34,470</b>	<b>275,097</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes: An asterisk (\*) indicates a value less than 1 percent. Respondents receiving superannuation and pension payments were included in the data collection. However, they accounted for less than 1 percent of respondents per group and census, so are omitted from this table. Excludes 18,441 from 2001, 21,468 from 2006, and 16,728 from 2013 who did not indicate sources of personal income. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

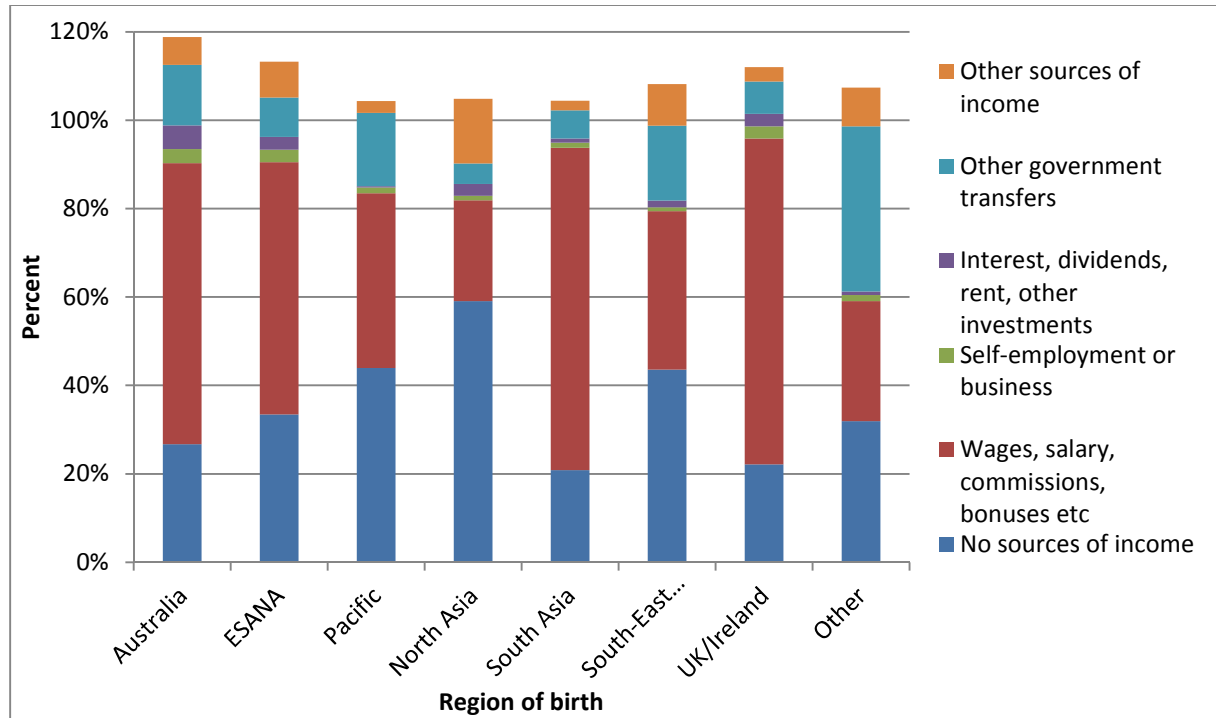
Sources of income for recent migrant youth varied greatly by region of birth (see Figure 6.1 for the 2013 profile).<sup>44</sup> Youth from North Asia had the highest proportion with no source of income (59 percent). This is in line with the high proportion of youth from this region who were studying and not in the labour force. Similarly, youth from South-East Asia were also more likely to be in study and had higher proportions reporting no sources of income (44 percent). The Pacific region, however, which had the third-highest proportion of youth without income (41 percent), did not follow this pattern. Where 62 percent of youth from North Asia and 42 percent from South-East Asia were studying and not in the labour force, only 20 percent of youth from the Pacific were studying and not in the labour force (see Chapter 5).

Recent migrant youth from the UK/Ireland, Australia, South Asia, and ESANA had higher proportions of those earning income through wages. For most, the proportion of those with wages and other sources of income remained relatively stable from 2001 to 2013 except for youth from South Asia. The proportion of recent migrant youth from South Asia receiving wages increased from 45 percent in 2001 to 73 percent in 2013.<sup>45</sup>

<sup>44</sup> When interpreting this figure, it is important to note that where a person reported more than one source of personal income, they are counted in each applicable group, resulting in percentages greater than 100 percent.

<sup>45</sup> For the table of sources of income for recent migrant youth by region of birth across the three censuses, see Appendix E.

**Figure 6.1 Income source for recent migrant youth (15–24 years) by region of birth, 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2013.

Notes: Where a person reported more than one source of personal income, they are counted in each applicable group, resulting in percentages greater than 100 percent. ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

### 6.3 Job seeking methods used by recent migrant youth

Recent migrant youth and their New Zealand–born counterpart used similar methods when seeking jobs.<sup>46</sup> In 2013, the top three methods for seeking employment used by recent migrant youth were looking at advertisements (79 percent), contacting employers directly by writing, by phone, or in person (58 percent), and using social contacts (that is, friends or family) for help (68 percent).

At all three censuses, recent migrant youth were less likely to use Work and Income<sup>47</sup> than their New Zealand–born counterparts, but were more likely to use their social contacts to find employment. Those aged 18–24 were more likely to look at job advertisements, use Work and Income, and use other job search methods<sup>48</sup> than those aged 15–17.

From 2001 to 2013, the job-seeking methods used by recent migrant youth remained relatively stable. The largest difference was among those aged 18–24, where the proportion using social contacts increased by 8 percentage points.

<sup>46</sup> Includes all people who stated each job search method, whether as their only job search method or as one of several.

<sup>47</sup> Work and Income is part of the Ministry of Social Development and provides employment services and financial assistance.

<sup>48</sup> Examples of other job search methods provided in the censuses were contacted other employment agency, placed an advertisement about a job, and took steps to set up own business.

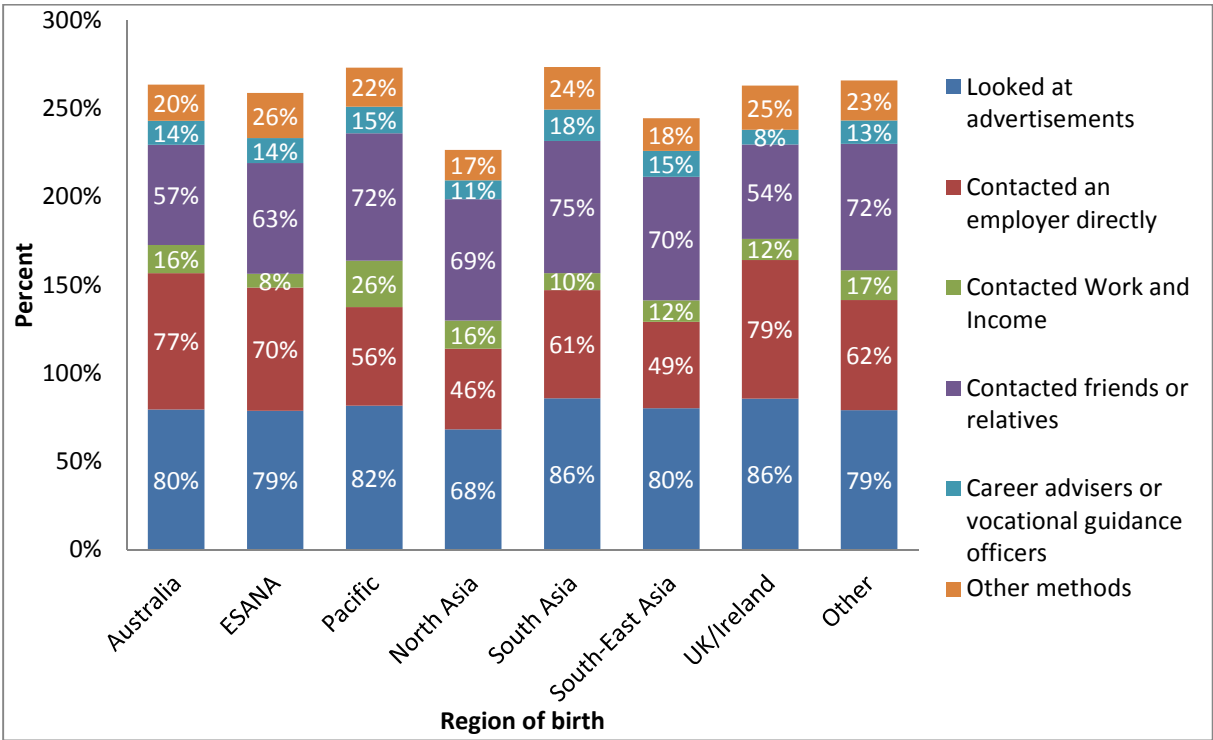


While the top three job-search methods (social contacts, contacting an employer, and looking at advertisements) used by recent migrant youth were the same across all regions of birth, notable differences existed between the regions (see Figure 6.2). Australia, ESANA, and UK/Ireland had similar profiles – looking at job advertisements was the most widely used method followed by or on a par with contacting an employer directly and, to a lesser extent, contacting friends or relatives.

Recent migrant youth from the Pacific, North Asia, South Asia, and South-East Asia are more likely to use social contacts to seek employment and less likely to contact an employer directly than other regions. This is interesting, as these regions also have larger proportions of recent migrant youth who are non-English speakers (Chapter 3 refers). This pattern may hint at a greater use of social contacts over direct interactions with employers relating to speaking English as a second language.

It is also interesting to note that recent migrant youth from the Pacific were more likely to use Work and Income to find employment than were youth from other regions.

**Figure 6.2 Job seeking methods of recent migrant youth (15–24 years) by region of birth, 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2013.

Notes: Where a person reported more than one job search method, they are counted in each applicable group, resulting in percentages greater than 100 percent. ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

### 6.4 Labour force status of recent migrant youth

Between the 2006 and 2013 censuses, the Global Financial Crisis had a negative impact on youth labour force participation in New Zealand,<sup>49</sup> and increasing numbers of young people turned to

<sup>49</sup> Junankar (2014).

studying as an alternative to paid work.<sup>50</sup> While the recession occurred several years before the 2013 census, ripple effects from this event cannot be ruled out as a contributing factor for differences between the state of New Zealand between 2006 and 2013.

Generally, recent migrants aged 15–17 were less likely to be actively participating in the labour force compared with their New Zealand–born counterparts.<sup>51</sup> In 2013, 82 percent of recent migrant youth aged 15–17 were not in the labour force compared with 64 percent of New Zealand–born youth. These proportions were both higher than in previous years (see Table 6.2).

**Table 6.2 Comparison of labour force status for recent migrant and New Zealand–born youth (15–24 years), 2001, 2006, and 2013**

Labour force status	15–17 years		18–24 years	
	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)
<b>2001</b>				
Employed full time	3	10	22	50
Employed part time	14	32	12	17
Unemployed and actively seeking work	9	12	10	11
Not in labour force	75	45	55	22
<b>Total number</b>	<b>10,935</b>	<b>129,096</b>	<b>25,617</b>	<b>265,911</b>
<b>2006</b>				
Employed full time	3	12	26	54
Employed part time	17	31	19	17
Unemployed and actively seeking work	8	10	9	8
Not in labour force	71	47	46	21
<b>Total number</b>	<b>13,899</b>	<b>145,260</b>	<b>44,010</b>	<b>269,985</b>
<b>2013</b>				
Employed full time	2	5	30	44
Employed part time	10	21	17	19
Unemployed and actively seeking work	7	10	9	12
Not in labour force	82	64	44	25
<b>Total number</b>	<b>9,912</b>	<b>133,758</b>	<b>36,393</b>	<b>279,870</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Note: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

<sup>50</sup> Treasury (2013).

<sup>51</sup> For this analysis, labour force participation is defined as those who were employed (part time or full time) or who were unemployed and actively seeking work.

In 2013, less than half (44 percent) of recent migrant youth aged 18–24 were not in the labour force. This proportion is larger than that of their New Zealand–born counterparts (25 percent). This lower labour force participation rate is because of the smaller proportion in employment (47 percent compared with 63 percent).

From 2001 to 2013, recent migrants aged 18–24 were consistently less likely than their New Zealand–born counterparts to be employed full time. However, between 2006 and 2013, an interesting pattern in full-time employment for recent migrant youth and New Zealand–born youth emerged. The proportion of these recent migrants who were employed full time increased from 26 percent to 30 percent while the proportion of New Zealand–born youth decreased from 54 percent to 44 percent. In terms of the total numbers, there were only 381 fewer recent migrant youth employed full time in 2013 than in 2006 (11,352 and 10,971 respectively). Compared with New Zealand–born youth, the total number who were employed full time was 23,214 lower in 2013 than in 2006 (146,958 and 123,744 respectively). The relatively small change in full-time employment for recent migrant youth is noteworthy, as the literature on youth job loss related to the Global Financial Crisis has not identified the resiliency of the recent migrant youth worker.<sup>52</sup>

In all three censuses, a very small proportion of recent migrant youth said they were employed but working without pay on a family farm or in a family business. For both recent migrant youth and New Zealand–born youth, these workers accounted for only 1–2 percent of employed youth workers. In addition to questions about paid and unpaid work, the census also asked about unpaid activities, including voluntary work.<sup>53</sup> Youth participation in helping or volunteer work increased from 2006 to 2013. Recent migrant youth were less likely than their New Zealand–born counterparts to be engaging in volunteer work in 2013 (7 percent compared with 12 percent).

#### 6.4.1 Labour force status by duration of residence

For migrant youth, the length of time in New Zealand also had an impact on labour force participation. In general, those who have been living in New Zealand longer are more likely to be employed (see Table 6.3).

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<sup>52</sup> Junankar (2014) and Treasury (2013).

<sup>53</sup> The census asked respondents if they provided 'other help or voluntary work for or through any organisation, group or marae'.

**Table 6.3 Labour force status of migrant youth (15–24 years) by length of time in New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013**

Length of time (years)	15–17 years				18–24 years			
	Employed full time (%)	Employed part time (%)	Unemployed and actively seeking work (%)	Not in the labour force (%)	Employed full time (%)	Employed part time (%)	Unemployed and actively seeking work (%)	Not in the labour force (%)
<b>2001</b>								
Under 2	2	8	7	82	21	8	10	62
2–4	4	20	10	66	25	17	11	46
5–9	4	25	10	61	25	17	11	47
10–14	5	28	12	54	37	21	12	29
15 and over	12	32	12	44	46	20	11	23
<b>Total number</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>5,220</b>	<b>2,457</b>	<b>15,657</b>	<b>17,304</b>	<b>9,165</b>	<b>6,462</b>	<b>25,452</b>
<b>2006</b>								
Under 2	3	11	7	78	31	12	8	48
2–4	3	22	9	66	23	23	10	44
5–9	5	26	10	60	34	22	10	34
10–14	5	29	9	56	37	23	9	31
15 and over	11	34	10	44	49	20	8	22
<b>Total number</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>7,341</b>	<b>2,787</b>	<b>19,773</b>	<b>29,349</b>	<b>18,372</b>	<b>8,109</b>	<b>33,414</b>
<b>2013</b>								
Under 2	1	5	5	89	27	16	9	47
2–4	2	13	8	77	33	18	9	40
5–9	2	17	9	71	32	23	13	33
10–14	2	17	9	72	30	24	13	33
15 and over	4	23	10	63	38	22	11	28
<b>Total number</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>4,917</b>	<b>2,682</b>	<b>23,859</b>	<b>29,967</b>	<b>19,383</b>	<b>10,359</b>	<b>33,720</b>

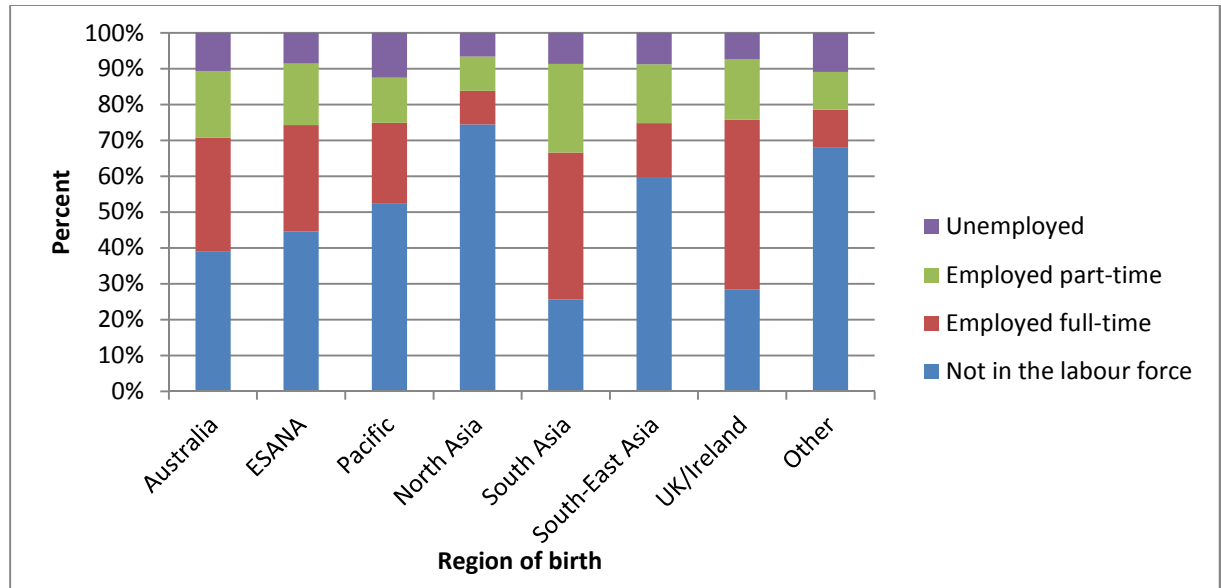
Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes: Excludes 7,761 in 2001, 6,705 in 2006, and 6,720 in 2013 who did not specify their length of time in New Zealand. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

#### 6.4.2 Labour force status by region of birth

Examination of the total population of recent migrant youth by region of birth shows those from South Asia has the largest proportion of youth in the labour force (74 percent), surpassing the UK/Ireland (72 percent) and Australia (61 percent) (see Figure 6.3). While the total number of recent migrants in the labour force from the UK/Ireland and Australia has remained relatively stable, the number from South Asia has increased dramatically over time (see chapter 3). By 2013, the total number of migrant youth from South Asia was considerably larger (8,535) than both the UK/Ireland and Australia (3,711 and 1,329 respectively) combined.

**Figure 6.3 Labour force status of recent migrant youth (15–24 years) by region of birth, 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2013.

Note: ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

Of recent migrant youth aged 15–17, those from Australia, ESANA, South Asia, and UK/Ireland tended to have higher labour force participation rates than those from the other regions. Youth from these regions had higher proportions employed part-time, although youth from Australia and UK/Ireland had higher rates of full-time employment than others. From 2001 to 2006, the proportion of youth from Asian regions not in the labour force decreased as more reported engaging in part-time employment. From 2006 to 2013, however, the proportion of recent migrant youth not in the labour force increased across all regions of origin.

From 2001 to 2006, the proportion of recent migrant youth aged 18–24 engaging in full-time employment increased across all regions of origin. From 2006 to 2013, this trend continued for youth from South Asia and from the UK/Ireland, but full-time employment for youth from the Pacific, Australia, and Other regions decreased. Youth from UK/Ireland had the highest proportion of labour force participation driven by high proportions of full-time employment across all three censuses.

In 2013, youth from South Asia were the second most likely group to be engaging in the labour force (78 percent). Full-time employment from this region was also high (44 percent) and equal to that in Australia. Youth from South Asia were also the most likely to hold part-time employment across all three censuses.

Overall, youth from North Asia and South-East Asia had much lower rates of labour force participation than youth in other regions, which was because of the high proportion of youth studying full-time and not in the labour force (see Chapter 5).

## 6.5 Occupation of employed recent migrant youth

Table 6.4 shows the main occupations of employed recent migrant youth and New Zealand-born youth. Most youth were employed as service and sales workers, particularly those aged 15–17. Labouring and related elementary service jobs and clerk positions represented significant

proportions of the occupations held by 15 to 17 year olds.<sup>54</sup> The largest proportions of recent migrant youth aged 18–24 were service and sales workers (38 percent) and technicians and associate professionals (12 percent).

**Table 6.4 Comparison between occupations of employed recent migrant youth and New Zealand–born youth (15–24 years) in 2013**

Occupation	15–17 years		18–24 years	
	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)
<b>2013</b>				
Legislators, administrators, and managers	1	1	10	6
Professionals	1	1	6	9
Technicians and associate professionals	7	7	12	13
Clerks	16	13	10	12
Service and sales workers	48	41	38	27
Agriculture and fishery workers	7	11	6	7
Trades workers	2	4	4	11
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	2	4	4	7
Labourers and related elementary service workers	16	17	10	8
<b>Total respondents</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>32,055</b>	<b>15,777</b>	<b>169,728</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

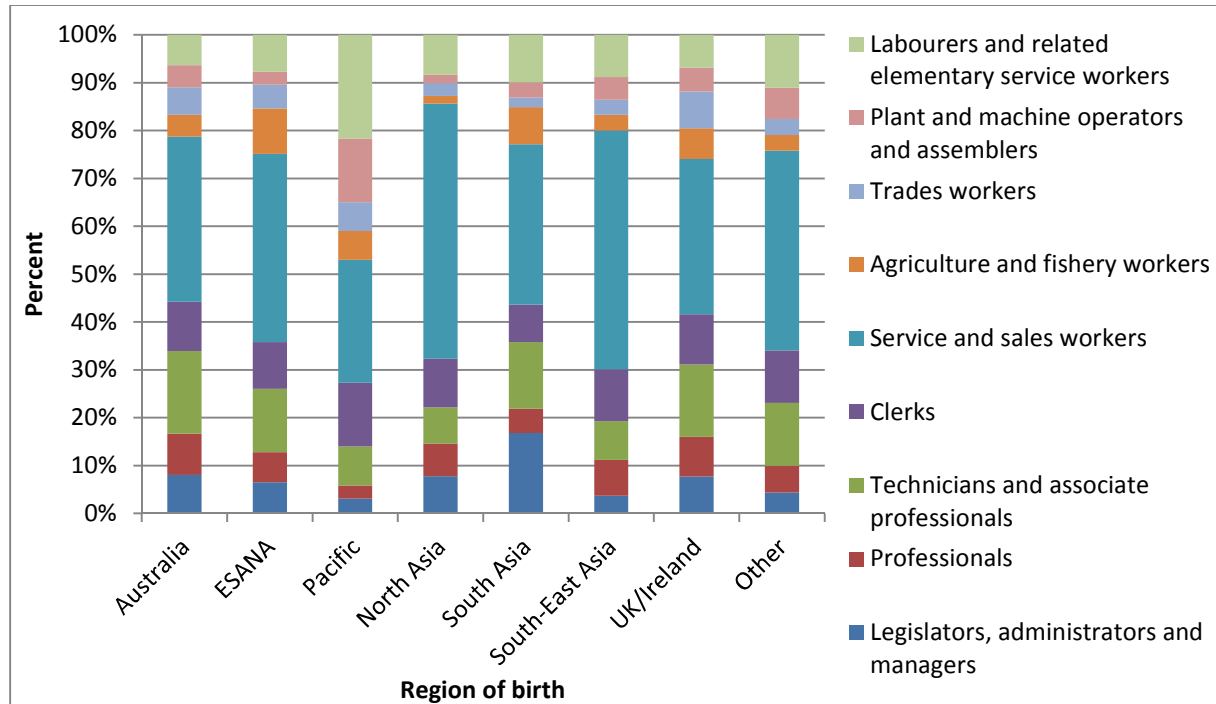
Notes: Excludes 12,141 in 2001, 15,132 in 2006, and 11,181 in 2013 who did not specify their occupation. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

While some school age youth (15–17 years) are employed, the time available for employment and the types of employment opportunities are likely to be more limited for this group. Once youth have attained their school qualifications, however, potential differences in occupation type by region of birth may offer greater insights into emerging career paths for migrant youth.

Across all regions of birth, the largest proportion of recent migrant youth are service and sales workers. In 2013, North Asia and South-East Asia had the largest proportions of youth working in this occupation (53 percent and 50 percent, respectively). Migrant youth from the Pacific were most likely to be labourers and related elementary service workers and plant and machine operators and assemblers (see Figure 6.4).

<sup>54</sup> The occupation classifications presented in this report are based on the New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations classification. Since 2009, this system has been replaced by the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations. For more information, see Statistics New Zealand (2009).

**Figure 6.4 Occupation of recent migrant youth (18–24 years) by region of birth, 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2013.

Notes: Occupational groupings are based on the 1999 New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations. ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

While overall occupation profiles by region of birth remained fairly stable across the three censuses, the proportion of migrant youth from South Asia working in certain occupations has changed. The proportion of recent migrant youth employed as legislators, administrators, and managers has increased (from 6 percent in 2001 to 17 percent in 2013) as well as the proportion employed in technical and associate professional jobs (7 percent in 2001 to 14 percent in 2013). Meanwhile, the proportion of recent migrant youth from South Asia employed as clerks decreased from 18 percent in 2001 to 8 percent in 2013.

In 2001, ESANA and the UK/Ireland had the highest proportion of youth working as professionals (12 percent and 15 percent, respectively) but the proportion decreased to levels on a par with youth from the other regions in 2013 (6 percent and 8 percent, respectively).

## 6.6 Income comparison between recent migrant youth and New Zealand–born youth

Regardless of birth location, 15 to 17 year olds were far more likely to report no income than those aged 18–24 (see Table 6.5). This is understandable as many in the younger age bracket are in school, living at home, and are dependent children. In addition, with an increasing proportion of youth in this age group not in the labour force, the increase in reporting zero income since 2001 is expected (from 59 percent in 2001 to 78 percent in 2013). Since they were more likely to be engaged in part-time employment, the majority of those working were earning \$1–\$10,000 annually (16 percent of recent migrants and 35 percent of the New Zealand–born population).

The range of incomes earned by both recent migrant youth and New Zealand-born youth aged 18–24 was more varied than the range earned by the younger group. In 2013, close to one-third of recent migrant youth reported earning zero income compared with 7 percent of the New Zealand-born population. Twenty-eight percent of recent migrant youth were earning \$1–\$10,000 and 25 percent were earning \$10,001 and \$30,000. These proportions are not unexpected, given that a large proportion of recent migrant youth in this age group were either studying full time and not in the labour force or working in low income jobs (such as service and sales).

With recent migrant youth having higher proportions with zero income and working part-time or in lower wage occupations it would be expected that they would have less representation in the higher income brackets. This was visible in income brackets over \$10,000, but was most evident in income brackets over \$30,000 where the proportion of recent migrant youth with incomes over \$40,000 increased at a much slower rate than for their New Zealand-born counterparts.

**Table 6.5 Total personal income of recent migrant and New Zealand-born youth (15–24 years), 2001, 2006, and 2013**

Total personal income	15–17 years		18–24 years	
	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)
<b>2001</b>				
Loss	2	1	2	1
Zero income	59	32	31	2
\$1–\$10,000	35	61	40	39
\$10,001–\$20,000	3	4	14	27
\$20,001–\$30,000	1	1	9	20
\$30,001–\$40,000	*	*	3	8
\$40,001–\$50,000	*	*	1	2
\$50,001–\$70,000	*	*	1	1
\$70,001–\$100,000	*	*	*	*
\$100,001 or more	*	*	*	*
<b>Total respondents</b>	<b>7,842</b>	<b>108,735</b>	<b>19,587</b>	<b>247,377</b>
<b>2006</b>				
Loss	1	1	2	*
Zero income	60	32	27	3
\$1–\$10,000	35	58	39	30
\$10,001–\$20,000	2	5	13	22
\$20,001–\$30,000	1	3	11	23
\$30,001–\$40,000	*	*	6	15
\$40,001–\$50,000	*	*	2	5
\$50,001–\$70,000	*	*	1	2



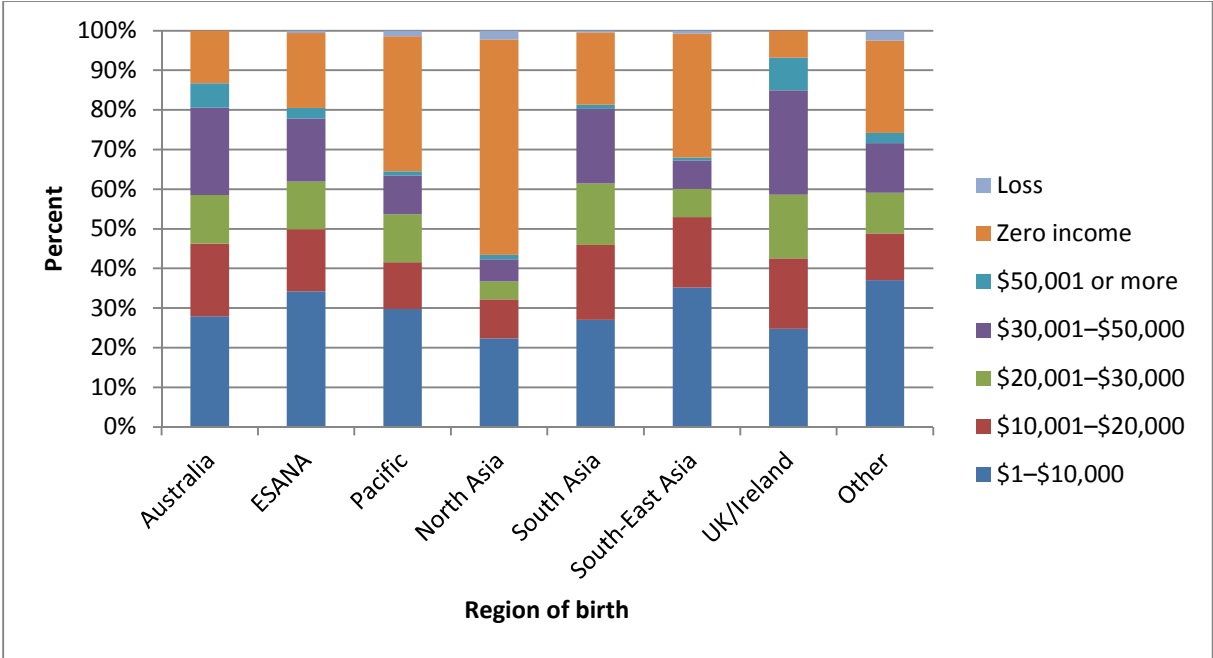
Total personal income	15–17 years		18–24 years	
	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)	Recent migrant (%)	NZ-born (%)
\$70,001–\$100,000	*	*	*	*
\$100,001 or more	*	*	*	*
<b>Total respondents</b>	<b>10,689</b>	<b>121,863</b>	<b>37,839</b>	<b>253,848</b>
<b>2013</b>				
Loss	1	1	1	1
Zero income	78	60	31	7
\$1–\$10,000	18	35	28	31
\$10,001–\$20,000	2	3	15	20
\$20,001–\$30,000	1	1	10	15
\$30,001–\$40,000	*	1	9	14
\$40,001–\$50,000	*	*	3	8
\$50,001–\$70,000	*	*	1	4
\$70,001–\$100,000	*	*	*	1
\$100,001 or more	*	*	*	*
<b>Total respondents</b>	<b>8,883</b>	<b>124,623</b>	<b>34,122</b>	<b>267,006</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes: An asterisk (\*) indicates a value less than 1 percent. Excludes 48,021 in 2001, 48,915 in 2006, and 11,013 in 2013 who did not specify their occupation. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100 percent.

In 2013, with the exception of recent migrant youth from the UK/Ireland (where the largest proportion of youth was earning \$30,000–\$50,000), most migrants by region of birth were earning \$1–\$10,000 (see Figure 6.5). Recent migrants aged 18–24 from North Asia and South-East Asia were the most likely to report zero income. The high proportion of youth from these regions with no income could be due to the high proportion in full-time study and not in employment (Chapter 5 refers). Recent migrant youth from the UK/Ireland and Australia were the most likely to be earning over \$30,000 (34 percent and 28 percent, respectively).

**Figure 6.5 Income of recent migrant youth (18–24 years) by region of birth, 2013**



Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2013.

Note: ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

The proportion of recent migrant youth with zero income increased over the last three censuses. This was most apparent for youth from North Asia and the Pacific. While the proportion of recent migrant youth reporting zero income increased from 2001 to 2013, the proportion with incomes of \$30,001–\$50,000 also increased across all regions of birth (from 3 percent to 13 percent). In 2013, youth from Australia, ESANA and the Pacific were 8 percent to 10 percent more likely to be earning in this income range than in 2001, while youth from the UK/Ireland were 14 percent more likely to be earning in this bracket. Youth from South Asia had the largest increase in this income range from 2001 to 2013 where the proportion earning \$30,001–\$50,000 increased from 2 percent to 19 percent.

## 7 CONCLUSION

The youth of today are the future of New Zealand. A significant proportion of these young people were born overseas, so it is important to gain a clearer picture of how migrant youth are faring in New Zealand – especially recent migrants who may be facing unique and particularly difficult challenges.

While there was a slight decrease in the youth proportion of all resident approvals to New Zealand from 2011/12 to 2015/16, the overall number of youth who were not born in New Zealand increased over that period. The growing presence of this group is most clearly displayed in data from the 2001, 2006, and 2013 censuses where migrant youth made up a consistently increasing percentage of the population aged 12–24.

The data further shows that migrant youth are not only contributing to the New Zealand economy, but also fundamentally changing the demographic landscape of the nation. To this end, the information in this report aims to produce an image of recent migrant youth in New Zealand.

### 7.1 Recent migrant youth overall

According to the 2013 census, recent migrant youth (aged 12–24) were more likely to be male (52 percent) and aged 18–24 (66 percent).

Most recent migrant youth live at home as a child in a family unit (43 percent). However, compared with their New Zealand–born counterparts, they were more likely to be living outside their family unit, alone or with flatmates (42 percent compared with 17 percent) and more likely to be living with a spouse or partner (12 percent compared with 8 percent). This is expected because many of these migrant youth are international students and are of an age where they would be less likely to live with their parents (based on the increase in the number of youth migrating to New Zealand aged 18–24).

Compared with New Zealand–born youth, recent migrant youth (aged 15–24) were more likely to be in full-time study (57 percent compared with 47 percent) and have zero personal income (41 percent compared with 24 percent). While the majority have a school qualification as their highest qualification, the rest tend to be more highly qualified than their New Zealand–born counterparts (24 percent have at least a vocational qualification compared with 11 percent).

Forty percent of recent migrant youth (aged 15–24) were in employment and were mostly employed as sales workers (21 percent) and labourers (21 percent). Eighty-eight percent of recent migrant youth working as agriculture and fishery workers lived outside Auckland.

Recent migrant youth were less likely to use employment support services such as Work and Income, but were more likely to depend on social contacts to find work – especially if they were from a region of origin with larger proportions of non-English speakers.

According to the 2013 census, more than half of recent migrant youth resided in the Auckland region (54 percent). The proportion of migrant youth living in this region decreased (from 60 percent in 2001 to 54 percent in 2013), but the number has remained high (from 27,585 in 2001 to 29,811 in

2013). However, the proportion of 12 to 17 year olds in Auckland decreased – from 61 percent (12,366 people) in 2001 to 51 percent (9,558 people) in 2013. The number of recent migrant youth in the region aged 18–24 increased from 15,219 in 2001 to 20,250 in 2013.

## **7.2 Recent migrant youth by region of birth**

### **7.2.1 Australia**

Recent migrant youth from Australia were the least likely to be living in Auckland and were less likely to be studying, opting instead to participate in the labour force (although a decreasing proportion was engaging in full-time employment). They had a higher tendency to have a university qualification and be earning over \$30,000 compared with recent migrant youth from other regions.

### **7.2.2 Europe (including Russia), South Africa, and North America**

Recent migrant youth from ESANA primarily enter New Zealand on a work visa (many through the Working Holiday Scheme). These youth were increasingly aged 18–24 and the most likely to be married compared with other recent migrant youth. They were somewhat likely to be studying (40 percent were studying full time in 2013), and had a higher than average likelihood of holding a university qualification. Recent migrant youth from ESANA were likely to be participating in the labour force, but in 2013 had a lower proportion of youth employed full time than in 2006.

### **7.2.3 Pacific**

The Pacific region had the highest number of youth residence approvals to New Zealand. Youth primarily entered the country through the Family Stream or the International/Humanitarian Stream. An increasing proportion of Pacific recent migrant youth were living as a child in a family nucleus. Compared with other recent migrant youth, a high proportion of youth from the Pacific are living in the Auckland region. The Pacific was the only region of birth where the proportion of recent migrant youth who could speak English did not increase at each census (the proportion decreased between the 2006 and 2013). Recent migrant youth from the Pacific were not likely to be studying, the least likely to have a university qualification, and the most likely to have no qualification compared with other recent migrant youth. An increasing proportion of those from the Pacific reported having no income, and the labour force participation rate for this group was under 50 percent in 2013. Full-time employment rates also decreased from 2006 to 2013. Recent migrant youth from the Pacific were the most likely to hold jobs as labourers and related elementary service workers and plant and machine operators and assemblers.

### **7.2.4 North Asia**

A significant proportion of migrant youth residence approvals through the Skilled/Business Stream were granted to youth from North Asia. However, most youth from this region entered New Zealand through student visas (youth from North Asia accounted for over 50 percent of all student visas from 2011/12 to 2015/16). Related to the high numbers of student visa approvals, recent migrant youth from North Asia were the most likely to be studying full time, the least likely to be participating in the labour force, the most likely to have no income but receive income through 'other sources' (possibly as support or an allowance from overseas parents), and the most likely to be living alone and outside

a family nucleus. Recent migrant youth from North Asia were also the most likely to be living in the Auckland region (this proportion also increased from 2006 to 2013). Out of all employed recent migrant youth, those from North Asia were the most likely to be working as service and sales workers. Most recent migrant youth from this region came from China and, to a lesser extent, Japan and South Korea.

### **7.2.5 South Asia**

After the Pacific, recent migrant youth from South Asia had the second highest rate of youth residence approvals from 2011/12 to 2015/16. The number of visa approvals from South Asia increased from 17 percent of approvals in 2011/12 to 24 percent in 2015/16, surpassing the Pacific for most recent migrant youth residence approvals by region in 2015/16. Many were arriving through the Skilled/Business Stream, but those from South Asia also represented a significant proportion of youth residence approvals coming through the Family Stream. Beyond residence approvals, recent migrant youth from South Asia also enter New Zealand to study and had the second highest proportion of student visa approvals after North Asia. The primary source country for recent migrant youth from South Asia was India, which was also the country of origin for the highest number of migrants who were approved Study to Work visas.

Out of all regions of birth, the profile of recent migrant youth from South Asia changed the most from 2001 to 2013. The proportion of youth aged 18–24 from this region increased 352 percent (from 1,764 in 2001 to 7,971 in 2013) and were more likely to be male than female. In 2013, while most lived in the Auckland region, the proportion living in Auckland had decreased from previous years. The proportion of those in study has been decreasing, while the proportion of recent migrant youth from this region who are participating in the labour force has increased. By 2013, recent migrant youth from this region were the most likely to have a vocational or university qualification, and, of those employed, were the most likely to be employed as legislators, administrators, and managers.

### **7.2.6 South-East Asia**

Recent migrant youth resident approvals from South-East Asia were similar to those from South Asia, but in smaller numbers (fourth in youth resident approvals and third in fee-paying student visas from 2011/12 to 2015/16). The primary source country for these residence approvals was the Philippines. Where other regions had increasing proportions of recent migrant youth aged 18–24, many recent migrant youth from South-East Asia were in the group aged 12–17 (a 90 percent increase from 2001 to 2013). As this group tended to be younger, these migrant youth were more likely to be living as a child in a family nucleus, studying full time, and with no source of income. Although youth from this region were less likely to be participating in the labour force, they did have moderate rates of both full-time and part-time employment and, of those employed, were likely working as services and sales workers.

### **7.2.7 United Kingdom/Ireland**

Residence approvals for recent youth from the UK/Ireland remained in the top five for most visa approvals by country. However, the number of approvals decreased from 2011/12 to 2015/16. The largest proportion of recent migrant youth from this region enter New Zealand on temporary work

visas – predominantly on working holiday visas (the UK was the second highest source country for this work visa). An increasing proportion of recent migrant youth from the UK/Ireland were male. Recent migrant youth from this region were the least likely to be living in Auckland, the least likely to be studying full time, likely to hold a university qualification, and the most likely to be working full time.

### **7.3 Auckland regional comparison**

The largest proportion of recent migrant youth live in the Auckland region. Overall, the profiles for recent migrant youth living in this region were very similar to those living in other regions of the country, with a few exceptions noted below.

Recent migrant youth from ESANA and the UK/Ireland living in Auckland were more likely to be studying than those living in other regions. In line with this finding, recent migrant youth from ESANA and the UK/Ireland were less likely to be working full-time and more likely to have no income.

Overall, recent migrant youth living in Auckland were slightly more likely to have vocational qualifications than those residing in other regions. Fitting with this finding, recent migrant youth in Auckland were also more likely to be working in technician and associate professional occupations. Nearly all recent migrant youth who were working as agriculture and fishery workers were living outside Auckland.

Finally, recent migrant youth living in Auckland were slightly more likely to be earning zero income and less likely to be earning at least \$1–\$10,000 than those living outside Auckland.

### **7.4 Future steps**

Based on these initial indicators, several elements begin to emerge. Over the years, the impact of New Zealand's immigration policy has worked to bring young skilled migrants into the country to fill many positions that, for one reason or another, are not being filled by the domestic population. Combining this with the continued high numbers of youth gaining post-school qualifications in New Zealand, these policies have enabled the country to maintain a highly talented and diverse population of young migrants who make a large contribution to the well-being of the country. Over time, this population has displayed increasingly higher proportions who can speak the English language, increased labour force participation while maintaining high levels of study participation, and, in some groups, improved incomes through wages.

For migrant youth, the path to New Zealand is an important factor in successful outcomes. With the high numbers of youth arriving as temporary students or qualifying for residency as skilled migrants, indicators such as study and work participation and qualifications can obscure potential issues. Youth from the Pacific represent nearly half of youth residence approvals through the International/Humanitarian Stream and make up a significant proportion of dependent children in the Family Stream. Unlike the other migration paths, which by design are attracting highly skilled and educated individuals, the path to New Zealand for many Pacific youth is not dependant on these factors. As a result, youth from this region are often younger and appear to face difficulties in accessing tertiary education and higher skilled work opportunities. It would be prudent to examine

the existing supports and resources available to this group of youth and investigate barriers to better outcomes.

In the wake of the Global Financial Crisis, it is interesting to note the resiliency of the recent migrant youth population, especially in labour force participation of those aged 18–24. For many OECD nations, including New Zealand, youth employment was particularly vulnerable to the recession as more youth reported being unemployed or no longer in the labour force and opting to return to full-time study.<sup>55</sup> The increase in the proportion of full-time employment by migrant youth ran counter to this global phenomenon. This result occurred, in large part, from the increasing number of recent migrant youth from South Asia engaged in the labour force. As this group has seen the largest increase and transformation in education, skills, and employment it would be important to further explore the evolving impact of this group on the nation.

The findings in this report show a growing and increasingly skilled migrant youth population. This population is unique from other migrant groups in several respects. To assist young migrants to settle effectively and contribute to New Zealand, it is important that recent migrant youth characteristics are well understood. This understanding will be useful in many areas, including for targeting settlement assistance. Many findings from this analysis could be more fully understood through focused research that uses the data in this report as a base.

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<sup>55</sup> Treasury (2013).

# APPENDICES

## Appendix A: Country and region groupings

**Table A Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) country and region groupings**

Country code and description	MBIE region
0000 Inadequately Described	Not elsewhere included
0001 At Sea	Not elsewhere included
9999 Not Stated	Not elsewhere included
1000 Oceania and Antarctica (not further defined)	Pacific
1101 Australia	Australia
1102 Norfolk Island	Pacific
1199 Australian External Territories not elsewhere classified (nec)	Pacific
1201 New Zealand	New Zealand
1300 Melanesia (not further defined)	Pacific
1301 New Caledonia	Pacific
1302 Papua New Guinea	Pacific
1303 Solomon Islands	Pacific
1304 Vanuatu	Pacific
1401 Guam	Pacific
1402 Kiribati	Pacific
1403 Marshall Islands	Pacific
1404 Micronesia, Federated States of	Pacific
1405 Nauru	Pacific
1406 Northern Mariana Islands	Pacific
1407 Palau	Pacific
1500 Polynesia (excludes Hawaii) (not further defined)	Pacific
1501 Cook Islands	Pacific
1502 Fiji	Pacific
1503 French Polynesia	Pacific
1504 Niue	Pacific
1505 Samoa	Pacific
1506 Samoa American	Pacific
1507 Tokelau	Pacific
1508 Tonga	Pacific
1511 Tuvalu	Pacific
1512 Wallis and Futuna	Pacific
1599 Polynesia (excludes Hawaii) nec	Pacific
1601 Antarctica	Pacific
2000 North-West Europe (not further defined)	Europe (including Russia), South Africa and North America (ESANA)
2100 United Kingdom (not further defined)	United Kingdom (UK)/Ireland
2101 Channel Islands	UK/Ireland
2102 England	UK/Ireland
2103 Isle of Man	UK/Ireland
2104 Northern Ireland	UK/Ireland
2105 Scotland	UK/Ireland
2106 Wales	UK/Ireland



Country code and description	MBIE region
2201 Ireland	UK/Ireland
2300 Western Europe (not further defined)	ESANA
2301 Austria	ESANA
2302 Belgium	ESANA
2303 France	ESANA
2304 Germany	ESANA
2305 Liechtenstein	ESANA
2306 Luxembourg	ESANA
2307 Monaco	ESANA
2308 Netherlands	ESANA
2311 Switzerland	ESANA
2400 Northern Europe (not further defined)	ESANA
2401 Denmark	ESANA
2402 Faeroe Islands	ESANA
2403 Finland	ESANA
2404 Greenland	ESANA
2405 Iceland	ESANA
2406 Norway	ESANA
2407 Sweden	ESANA
3000 Southern and Eastern Europe (not further defined)	ESANA
3100 Southern Europe (not further defined)	ESANA
3101 Andorra	ESANA
3102 Gibraltar	ESANA
3103 Vatican City State	ESANA
3104 Italy	ESANA
3105 Malta	ESANA
3106 Portugal	ESANA
3107 San Marino	ESANA
3108 Spain	ESANA
3200 South Eastern Europe (not further defined)	ESANA
3201 Albania	ESANA
3202 Bosnia and Herzegovina	ESANA
3203 Bulgaria	ESANA
3204 Croatia	ESANA
3205 Cyprus	ESANA
3206 Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	ESANA
3207 Greece	ESANA
3208 Moldova	ESANA
3211 Romania	ESANA
3212 Slovenia	ESANA
3213 Serbia and Montenegro	ESANA
3300 Eastern Europe (not further defined)	ESANA
3301 Belarus	ESANA
3302 Czech Republic	ESANA
3303 Estonia	ESANA
3304 Hungary	ESANA
3305 Latvia	ESANA
3306 Lithuania	ESANA
3307 Poland	ESANA

Country code and description	MBIE region
3308 Russia	ESANA
3311 Slovakia	ESANA
3312 Ukraine	ESANA
4000 North Africa and the Middle East (not further defined)	Other
4100 North Africa (not further defined)	Other
4101 Algeria	Other
4102 Egypt	Other
4103 Libya	Other
4104 Morocco	Other
4105 Sudan	Other
4106 Tunisia	Other
4107 Western Sahara	Other
4199 North Africa nec	Other
4200 Middle East (not further defined)	Other
4201 Bahrain	Other
4202 Gaza Strip/Palestine/West Bank	Other
4203 Iran	Other
4204 Iraq	Other
4205 Israel	Other
4206 Jordan	Other
4207 Kuwait	Other
4208 Lebanon	Other
4211 Oman	Other
4212 Qatar	Other
4213 Saudi Arabia	Other
4214 Syria	Other
4215 Turkey	Other
4216 United Arab Emirates	Other
4217 Yemen	Other
5000 South-East Asia (not further defined)	South East Asia
5100 Mainland South-East Asia (not further defined)	South East Asia
5101 Myanmar	South East Asia
5102 Cambodia	South East Asia
5103 Laos	South East Asia
5104 Thailand	South East Asia
5105 Viet Nam	South East Asia
5200 Maritime South-East Asia (not further defined)	South East Asia
5201 Brunei Darussalam	South East Asia
5202 Indonesia South	East Asia
5203 Malaysia South	East Asia
5204 Philippines South	East Asia
5205 Singapore South	East Asia
5206 Timor-Leste South	East Asia
6100 North-East Asia (not further defined)	North Asia
6101 China People's Republic of	North Asia
6102 Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region)	North Asia
6103 Japan	North Asia
6104 Korea Democratic People's Republic of	North Asia
6105 Korea Republic of	North Asia

Country code and description	MBIE region
6106 Macau (Special Administrative Region)	North Asia
6107 Mongolia	North Asia
6108 Taiwan	North Asia
7000 Southern and Central Asia (not further defined)	South Asia
7100 Southern Asia (not further defined)	South Asia
7101 Bangladesh	South Asia
7102 Bhutan	South Asia
7103 India	South Asia
7104 Maldives	South Asia
7105 Nepal	South Asia
7106 Pakistan	South Asia
7107 Sri Lanka	South Asia
7200 Central Asia (not further defined)	Other
7201 Afghanistan	South Asia
7202 Armenia	Other
7203 Azerbaijan	Other
7204 Georgia	Other
7205 Kazakhstan	Other
7206 Kyrgyzstan	Other
7207 Tajikistan	Other
7208 Turkmenistan	Other
7211 Uzbekistan	Other
8000 The Americas (not further defined)	Other
8100 Northern America (not further defined)	Other
8101 Bermuda	Other
8102 Canada	ESANA
8103 St Pierre and Miquelon	Other
8104 United States of America	ESANA
8200 South America (not further defined)	Other
8201 Argentina	Other
8202 Bolivia	Other
8203 Brazil	Other
8204 Chile	Other
8205 Colombia	Other
8206 Ecuador	Other
8207 Falkland Islands	Other
8208 French Guiana	Other
8211 Guyana	Other
8212 Paraguay	Other
8213 Peru	Other
8214 Suriname	Other
8215 Uruguay	Other
8216 Venezuela	Other
8299 South America nec	Other
8300 Central America (not further defined)	Other
8301 Belize	Other
8302 Costa Rica	Other
8303 El Salvador	Other
8304 Guatemala	Other
8305 Honduras	Other

Country code and description	MBIE region
8306 Mexico	Other
8307 Nicaragua	Other
8308 Panama	Other
8400 Caribbean (not further defined)	Other
8401 Anguilla	Other
8402 Antigua and Barbuda	Other
8403 Aruba	Other
8404 Bahamas	Other
8405 Barbados	Other
8406 Cayman Islands	Other
8407 Cuba	Other
8408 Dominica	Other
8411 Dominican Republic	Other
8412 Grenada	Other
8413 Guadeloupe	Other
8414 Haiti	Other
8415 Jamaica	Other
8416 Martinique	Other
8417 Montserrat	Other
8418 Netherlands Antilles	Other
8421 Puerto Rico	Other
8422 St Kitts and Nevis	Other
8423 St Lucia	Other
8424 St Vincent and the Grenadines	Other
8425 Trinidad and Tobago	Other
8426 Turks and Caicos Islands	Other
8427 Virgin Islands British	Other
8428 Virgin Islands United States	Other
9000 Sub-Saharan Africa (not further defined)	Other
9100 Central and West Africa (not further defined)	Other
9101 Benin	Other
9102 Burkina Faso	Other
9103 Cameroon	Other
9104 Cape Verde	Other
9105 Central African Republic	Other
9106 Chad	Other
9107 Congo	Other
9108 Congo the Democratic Republic of the	Other
9111 Cote d'Ivoire	Other
9112 Equatorial Guinea	Other
9113 Gabon	Other
9114 Gambia	Other
9115 Ghana	Other
9116 Guinea	Other
9117 Guinea-Bissau	Other
9118 Liberia	Other
9121 Mali	Other
9122 Mauritania	Other
9123 Niger	Other
9124 Nigeria	Other

Country code and description	MBIE region
9125 Sao Tome and Principe	Other
9126 Senegal	Other
9127 Sierra Leone	Other
9128 Togo	Other
9200 Southern and East Africa (not further defined)	Other
9201 Angola	Other
9202 Botswana	Other
9203 Burundi	Other
9204 Comoros	Other
9205 Djibouti	Other
9206 Eritrea	Other
9207 Ethiopia	Other
9208 Kenya	Other
9211 Lesotho	Other
9212 Madagascar	Other
9213 Malawi	Other
9214 Mauritius	Other
9215 Mayotte	Other
9216 Mozambique	Other
9217 Namibia	Other
9218 Reunion	Other
9221 Rwanda	Other
9222 St Helena	Other
9223 Seychelles	Other
9224 Somalia	Other
9225 South Africa	ESANA
9226 Swaziland	Other
9227 Tanzania	Other
9228 Uganda	Other
9231 Zambia	Other
9232 Zimbabwe	Other
9299 Southern and East Africa nec	Other

## **Appendix B: Unpaid activity and educational activity questions in the Census of Population and Dwellings, 2001, 2006, and 2013**

### **Census of Population and Dwellings 2001**

#### **Question 41**

Mark as many spaces as you need to answer this question. In the last 4 weeks, which of these have you done, **without pay**?

- household work, cooking, repairs, gardening, etc, for my own household
- looking after a child who is a member of my household
- looking after a member of my household who is ill or has a disability
- looking after a child (who does NOT live in my household)
- helping someone who is ill or has a disability (who does NOT live in my household)
- other helping or voluntary work for or through any organisation, group or marae
- attending or studying for 20 hours or more per week at school or any other place
- attending or studying for less than 20 hours per week at school or any other place

or

- none of these

### **Census of Population and Dwellings, 2006 and 2013**

#### **Question 29**

Are you attending, studying or enrolled at school or anywhere else:

- full-time (20 hours or more a week)
- part-time (less than 20 hours a week)

or

- neither of these

#### **Question 46**

Mark as many spaces as you need to answer this question. In the last 4 weeks, which of these have you done, **without pay**?

- household work, cooking, repairs, gardening, etc, for my own household
- looking after a child who is a member of my household
- looking after a member of my household who is ill or has a disability
- looking after a child (who does NOT live in my household)
- helping someone who is ill or has a disability (who does NOT live in my household)

- other helping or voluntary work for or through any organisation, group or marae
- attending or studying for 20 hours or more per week at school or any other place
- attending or studying for less than 20 hours per week at school or any other place

or

- none of these

## Appendix C: Youth residence approvals by category

Table C Youth (12–24 years) residence approvals by category, 2011/15 – 2015/16

Application stream	12–17 years					18–24 years					Total
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	
<b>Skilled/Business</b>											
Employee of businesses	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	10
Entrepreneur Category	61	71	104	82	101	44	47	59	58	49	676
Investor Category	24	40	70	69	110	11	32	47	33	63	499
Partnership Deferral Skilled	0	0	0	0	2	4	1	3	2	6	18
Skilled Migrant	1,170	1,053	902	1,002	1,133	1,768	1,665	1,802	1,730	2,319	14,544
Work to Residence	103	80	128	121	129	39	46	74	67	59	846
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>1,206</b>	<b>1,274</b>	<b>1,475</b>	<b>1,866</b>	<b>1,791</b>	<b>1,987</b>	<b>1,893</b>	<b>2,496</b>	<b>16,593</b>
<b>Family Sponsored</b>											
Adult Child	20	13	4	3	11	11	7	4	2	12	87
Dependent Child	408	394	458	426	501	415	387	463	531	604	4,587
Family Tier 1 & 2	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	4
Parent	28	17	7	6	9	143	80	40	23	43	396
Partnership	350	323	298	243	277	1,481	1,486	1,493	1,299	1,431	8,681
Partnership Deferral Family	0	1	0	0	0	12	6	5	12	7	43
Sibling	114	52	39	38	77	74	47	33	30	61	565



Application stream	12–17 years					18–24 years					Total
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	
<b>Total</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>2,136</b>	<b>2,015</b>	<b>2,038</b>	<b>1,898</b>	<b>2,158</b>	<b>14,363</b>
<b>International/ Humanitarian</b>											
1995 Refugee status	11	12	3	0	0	9	9	2	0	0	46
Other	60	41	63	74	62	78	79	97	77	58	689
Pacific Access	37	47	29	38	65	32	49	40	58	80	475
Refugee Family Support Tiers	0	36	51	56	34	0	40	70	59	53	399
Refugee Quota	81	82	88	160	221	90	110	108	99	169	1,208
Samoa Quota	87	71	79	81	78	129	140	131	149	139	1,084
Section 35a	11	15	0	0	0	7	30	0	0	0	63
Section 61	0	0	13	22	13	0	0	22	33	20	123
<b>Total</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>4,087</b>

Source: MBIE.

## Appendix D: Highest qualification of recent migrant youth by region of birth

**Table D** Highest qualification of recent migrant youth (18–24 years) by region of birth, 2001, 2006, and 2013

Region of birth	School qualification (%)	Post-school (vocational) (%)	Bachelor degree or higher (%)	No qualification (%)	Total number
<b>2001</b>					
Australia	64	16	14	6	897
ESANA	74	12	12	3	3,057
Pacific Islands	65	14	3	17	3,633
North Asia	83	7	5	5	7,725
South Asia	68	9	16	7	1,551
South-East Asia	65	11	12	12	2,358
UK/Ireland	55	20	22	3	1,134
Other	67	9	6	17	1,113
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21,468</b>
<b>2006</b>					
Australia	75	5	13	6	1,302
ESANA	77	5	15	3	4,968
Pacific Islands	74	7	5	13	4,389
North Asia	73	12	11	4	18,618
South Asia	58	9	27	6	3,423
South-East Asia	73	6	13	8	3,348
UK/Ireland	68	8	21	3	2,184
Other	74	5	8	13	1,911
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>40,146</b>
<b>2013</b>					
Australia	73	6	14	7	885
ESANA	73	6	16	5	4,068
Pacific Islands	74	8	4	15	3,786
North Asia	70	9	13	8	9,615
South Asia	33	38	26	3	6,858
South-East Asia	68	8	16	8	3,987
UK/Ireland	64	9	24	3	2,625
Other	70	10	9	12	1,179
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>33,009</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes:

Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

## Appendix E: Income source for recent migrant youth by region of birth

Table E Income source for recent migrant youth (15–24 years) by region of birth, 2001, 2006, and 2013

Region of birth	No source of income (%)	Wages, salary, and so on (%)	Self-employment or business (%)	Interest, dividends, and so on (%)	Payments from insurer (%)	Other government transfers (%)	Other sources of income (%)	Total number
<b>2001</b>								
Australia	20	71	4	8	*	20	4	1,332
ESANA	28	60	3	8	*	16	9	4,944
Pacific	35	42	1	1	*	26	4	5,055
North Asia	66	9	1	5	*	7	17	10,815
South Asia	34	45	4	2	*	27	3	2,226
South-East Asia	43	28	2	5	*	16	19	3,297
UK/Ireland	18	77	3	8	1	11	5	1,674
Other	25	30	1	2	*	53	3	1,770
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>31,110</b>
<b>2006</b>								
Australia	17	75	4	6	1	13	5	1,863
ESANA	27	65	3	5	*	8	8	7,071
Pacific	36	51	1	1	*	14	3	5,670
North Asia	50	35	1	5	*	5	14	22,713
South Asia	28	61	3	3	*	14	2	4,638
South-East Asia	38	40	2	4	*	14	15	4,605
UK/Ireland	23	73	2	6	*	6	4	3,651
Other	24	48	1	1	1	31	5	2,724

Region of birth	No source of income (%)	Wages, salary, and so on (%)	Self-employment or business (%)	Interest, dividends, and so on (%)	Payments from insurer (%)	Other government transfers (%)	Other sources of income (%)	Total number
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>52,932</b>
<b>2013</b>								
Australia	27	64	3	5	1	14	6	1,293
ESANA	33	57	3	3	*	9	8	5,694
Pacific	44	40	1	0	*	17	3	5,154
North Asia	59	23	1	3	*	5	15	12,318
South Asia	21	73	1	1	*	6	2	8,088
South-East Asia	44	36	1	2	*	17	9	5,709
UK/Ireland	22	74	3	3	*	7	3	3,606
Other	32	27	1	1	*	37	9	1,503
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>43,368</b>

Source: Census of Population and Dwellings, Statistics New Zealand, 2001, 2006, and 2013.

Notes:

An asterisk (\*) indicates a value less than 1 percent.

Excludes 5,439 from 2001, 4,983 from 2006, and 1,434 from 2013 who did not indicate sources of personal income.

Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

ESANA = Europe (including Russia), South Africa and North America; UK = United Kingdom.

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