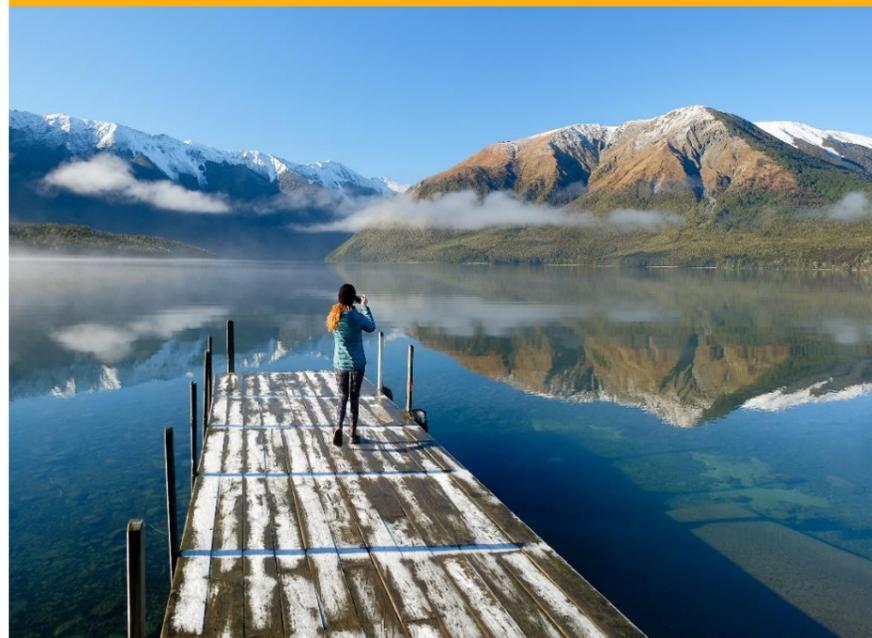


TOP REGIONAL INSIGHTS



The sense of “languishing” and uncertainty continues to have an affect on people’s wellbeing. This is being seen across all sectors, and examples of this include seeing fewer staff keen to return to their offices to work this time when Level Four restrictions were lifted, and a general sense of tiredness. One employer noted the need for their staff to take a break and was planning to ensure the Christmas and New Year period would not require staff to undertake work.

The costs and availability of housing are limiting employers ability to recruit and retain staff across all sectors, and having further effects on peoples well-being. Local employers have reported the loss of a key staff member after six-months due to them not being able to find a home to purchase

Vaccinations can be our pathway forward to economic recovery and employers are doing all they can to have their staff and their families/whanau vaccinated. One large employer in the seafood sector was reported to have vaccination clinics on-site for staff and their families. Mobile clinics have also been visiting schools and NMIT to help improve rangitahi vaccination rates.

TRENDS AT A GLANCE



1,500 The increase in the number of filled jobs compared to August 2020. The largest increase is in the number of filled jobs for younger people (15-24 years).
(Source: Stats NZ, Monthly Employment Indicators, August 2021)



-300 The decrease is recipients of the JobSeeker benefit compared to the same time last year. This is a 7.9% decrease compared to -2.4% decrease nationally.
(Source: MSD, Monthly Reporting August)



80% of Nelson City have received first dose of vaccination, 57% fully vaccinated

77% of Tasman District have received first dose of vaccination, 57% fully vaccinated
(Source: Ministry of Health, 5 Oct 2021)

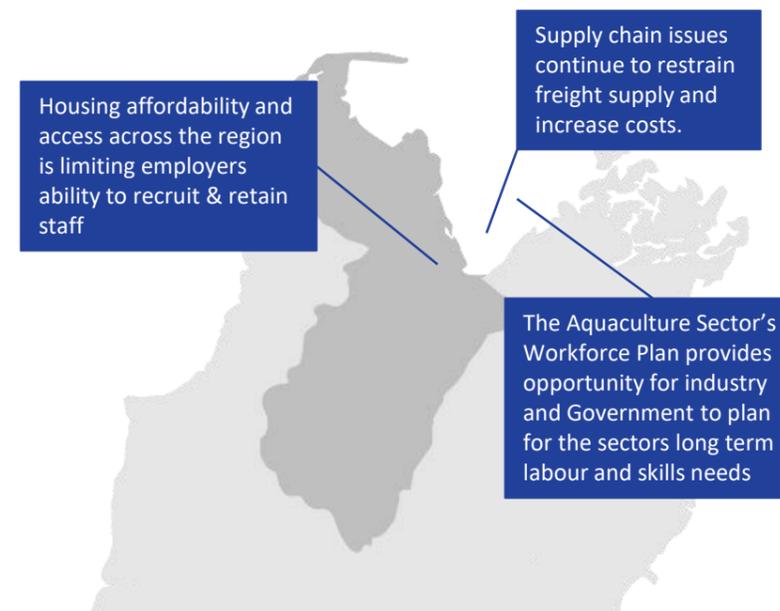
TOP LABOUR MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

- Employers are continuing to look after the well-being of their staff and doing all they can to keep them employed,** whilst the hospitality sector continues to be significantly affected by the Lockdowns. The uncertainty of the tourism/hospitality sector makes it harder to attract people to the industry which adds to the importance of valuing current staff.
- The region is keen to learn more and support opportunities in the Māori Economy** which will assist the RSLG to ensure it’s focus aligns with appropriate Māori and iwi aspirations. The Māori Business network is one key group the RSLG will seek to work with.
- The RSLG continues to focus on contributing to decisions on the national education curriculum and resources.** The roll out of NCEA changes provides opportunity for employers to help shape that curriculum across Nelson-Tasman, West Coast, Marlborough. Employers were invited to a workshop in October to learn about NCEA and how they could be involved. This will help with development of regionalisation of content, presentation and delivery.
- The RSLG continues work with the Sector Workforce Engagement Plans (SWEP) team, industry and government agencies to develop the Aquaculture Workforce Plan.** This plan is likely to align with draft Recommendations from the Ministerial Inquiry into the use of Migrant Labour in the Seafood Sector.

TOP LABOUR MARKET CHALLENGES

- The effects and flow on effects from supply chain issues are compounding,** with increased costs, delays, and lack of refrigerated containers continuing to hamper businesses. This is resulting in further hesitancy about planning construction projects, other business expansion, and limiting operations across a range of sectors. One freight firm reported they are currently receiving one container per-month, whereas prior to this lockdown it was managing at least two per-week.
- As COVID-19 uncertainty continues the region is experiencing cancellations and postponements of events, festivals and conferences.** There is a parallel challenge when trying to attract future events. An example is the cancellation of Te Mana Kuratahi 2021, which usually sees several thousand visitors to the region, resulting in a delay of at least two years of the larger Te Matatini national Kapa Haka event.
- There are anecdotal reports of increased numbers of young people not having returned to school,** or not planning to after the October school holidays. This may be due to them having employment or other options, however the RSLG will liaise closely with Ministry of Education (MOE), Careers and Transition Educators (CATE) and the Employment to Education (E2E) Coordinators to monitor this, and to make any recommendations that might be appropriate.

THE NELSON-TASMAN REGION



OUR FOCUS FOR THE NEXT 2 MONTHS:

- Further clarification of key Aspirations and Priority Focus areas for the Regional Workforce Plan and resulting analysis
- Identification of relevant stakeholders, networks and communication channels to test the draft Regional Workforce Plan thinking