

MIGRANTS' EXPERIENCE OF FINDING WORK

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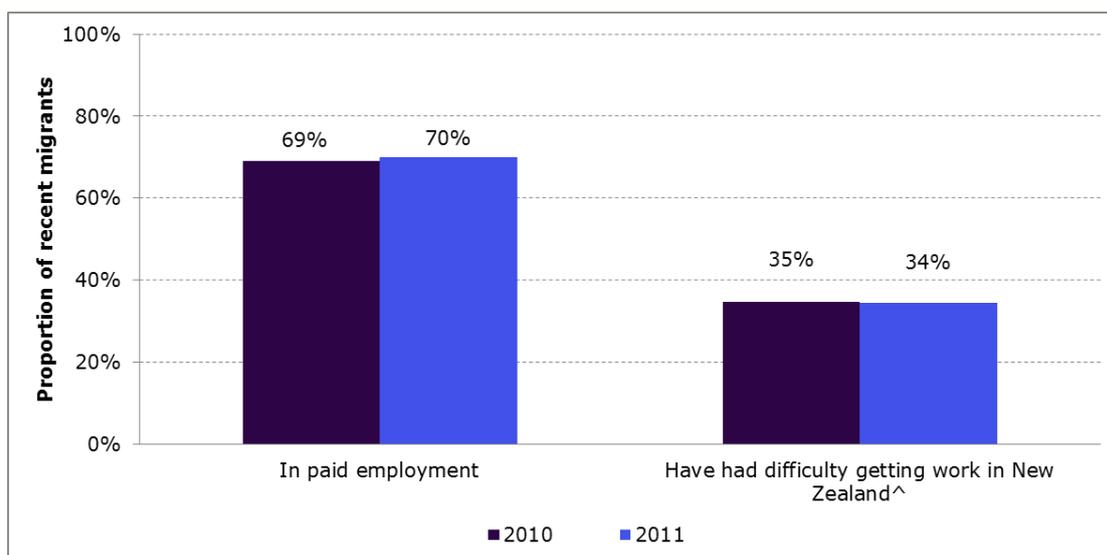
Why is this important?

Participation in New Zealand's labour market is a crucial factor in helping newcomers settle in New Zealand, for both financial and social reasons.

What we found

Seven out of ten recent migrants were in paid employment at the time of surveying but not all had found gaining employment easy. One third of recent migrants had difficulty in finding work both in 2010 and 2011.

Figure 1: Recent migrants' experiences of finding work 2010-2011



Source: Immigration Survey Monitoring Programme Migrants' Survey (2010 & 2011)

[^] In 2010, only those who were wage or salary earners, unemployed and looking for work, retired or no longer working or who had said in a previous question that they had tried to find paid work, answered this question. In 2011, only those who were wage or salary earners, unemployed and looking for work, running their own business or who had said in a previous question that they had tried to find paid work, answered this question.

For those who had difficulty finding work, the main reasons given for this were a lack of New Zealand work experience (36 percent in 2010 and 38 percent in 2011) and that there was not enough suitable work for someone with their skills or experience (25 percent in 2010 and 19 percent in 2011).

Immigration Survey Monitoring Programme – Migrants Survey Indicators

Year on year changes

Migrants who were more likely to state that they had difficulty finding work in 2011 compared with 2010 were:

- those aged 50 years or over
- those who were approved under the Family Parent category
- those not in the workforce
- those who had lived in New Zealand for 1 to 5 years.

Migrants who were less likely to state that they had difficulty finding work in 2011 compared with 2010 were:

- those aged 18 to 24 years
- those who were approved under an Other work visa¹
- those from South Asia
- those who had lived in New Zealand for 6 to 12 months.

The purpose of the Immigration Settlement Monitoring Programme is to improve our understanding of migrants' settlement and labour market outcomes, employers' experience with migrants, and community attitudes towards immigration.

These indicators are available at:

<http://www.dol.govt.nz/research/migration/ismp/ismpindicators.asp>

Contact the Labour and Immigration Research Centre at research@dol.govt.nz or visit us at www.dol.govt.nz/research.

¹ Migrants on an Other work visa are those migrants here on a work visa other than an Essential Skills visa.