

# Migration and Labour Force Trends Wellington Overview **2015**



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New Zealand Government

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# Wellington Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of Wellington's recent migrant population and migration trends, and with a particular focus on the Wellington labour market. The report shows trends to 2014/15 and compares recent immigration patterns with previous years.

The primary data sources used in this report are Statistics New Zealand's 2013 Census of Population and Dwellings and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's (MBIE) 2014/15 immigration administrative data. The data are publicly available through Statistics New Zealand, Immigration NZ and MBIE's websites.

## **Wellington's share of overseas-born population is similar to New Zealand overall**

Twenty-five percent of Wellington's population were born overseas according to the 2013 Census. This is an increase from the 21 percent reported in the 2001 Census. Of the overseas-born residents in the region, the majority were born in the United Kingdom and Ireland and the proportion is higher compared with the overall New Zealand population (32 percent in Wellington versus 26 percent nationwide). Wellington's overseas-born population is more likely to be highly qualified compared with its New Zealand-born population.

## **Wellington's overseas-born working-age population has a lower employment rate**

The Wellington working-age population, in general, have a higher employment rate compared with New Zealand overall. Aggregated by birthplace, the overseas-born population in the region has a lower employment rate and lower labour market participation rate compared with the New Zealand-born population. The trend of unemployment for the overseas-born population in the region has been generally downward.

## **Increase in the number of Skilled Migrant Category principal applicants over the past year in Wellington**

In 2014/15, 11 percent (or 1,036 people) of New Zealand's Skilled Migrant Category principal applicants resided in the Wellington region. This is an increase of 7 percent on the previous year. India, the United Kingdom and China were the top source countries for skilled migrants in the region.

The top three occupations of skilled migrants in Wellington in 2014/15 were Software and Applications Programmers (12 percent), Registered Nurses (8 percent), and ICT Support Technicians (5 percent).

## **Essential Skills temporary workers decreased over the past year in Wellington**

In 2014/15, 2,061 people were approved for temporary work visas in the region. This is a decrease of three percent on the number of Essential Skills workers in Wellington over the past year. The United Kingdom and India were the top source countries for Essential Skills workers in the region.

The top three occupations for Essential Skills workers in Wellington in 2014/15 were Chefs (10 percent), Café and Restaurant Managers (5 percent) and Aged and Disabled Carers (5 percent).

## **International Student numbers increase in Wellington**

In the 2014/15 year, 4,628 people were granted a student visa to study in Wellington. This represents a ten percent increase from 2013/14. Wellington has the third largest share of international students in the country, after Auckland and Canterbury, making up six percent of the total student visas granted.

# Introduction

Wellington is New Zealand's centre of government and the world's southernmost capital region. It has been nicknamed the 'coolest little capital in the world'. It is strikingly positioned on the Cook Strait, following the Kapiti Coastline to the northwest, and encompassing the Rimutaka mountain ranges over to Wairarapa. Its five metropolitan areas are Wellington, Porirua, Hutt City, Upper Hutt and Masterton.

There are a number of sectors in the Wellington region that have significant competitive advantages including screen and digital, ICT, high-value manufacturing, and the primary sector. Tertiary education and research are other important contributors to the local economy. Average salaries and education levels in the region are notably higher compared with the national average.

The Wellington Regional Strategy<sup>1</sup> was released in 2012 and set out an approach to build a long-term sustainable economy. One of the focus areas of the Strategy is 'attracting business, investment and talent to the region'. This includes a targeted approach to attract skilled migrants and students into the region. Activities to support this include:

- › Attracting and supporting international students by working through the tertiary sector and international agencies;
- › Ensuring aftercare for skilled migrants and international students is in place;
- › Monitoring provision of support services and retention rates for skilled migrants and students;
- › Working with government agencies to inform, influence and implement programmes targeted at skills/youth development, reducing unemployment and retaining skilled migrants in the region;
- › Retaining skilled people, businesses and investors.

According to the 2013 Census, Wellington has a population of 471,315 people, which is 11 percent of New Zealand's total population. It is New Zealand's third most populated region, after Auckland and Canterbury.

Wellington has a high proportion of people who belong to the European ethnic group. Seventy-seven percent of Wellington's residents identify themselves as European (compared with 74 percent for New Zealand overall), 13 percent identify as Māori, 11 percent as Asian and 8 percent as Pacific.

The proportion of Wellington's population who were born overseas is the same as for New Zealand as a whole (25 percent).

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1 Wellington Regional Strategy 2012: <http://www.gw.govt.nz/wellington-regional-strategy-2012/>

## Background

A driving goal of Government is to build a more competitive and internationally focused economy. Migration plays a key role in meeting this goal as it helps to grow New Zealand's labour force, which in turn drives our economy. Migration also increases international connections that give access to foreign knowledge, foreign capital and international trade.

In July 2014, Government approved the New Zealand Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy, a revised approach to successfully settle and integrate migrants in New Zealand.

The Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy builds on the New Zealand Settlement Strategy which led Settlement work in New Zealand for the past decade. It places value on the economic contribution of migration and stresses the importance of the long-term integration of migrants in conjunction with successful initial settlement.

The Strategy's aim is that migrants: "Make New Zealand their home, participate fully and contribute to all aspects of New Zealand life".

Key to achieving this aim are the Strategy's five outcomes – Employment, Education and Training, Inclusion, English Language and Health and Wellbeing ( see Figure 1).

Employment, and Education and Training are the key outcomes for the Strategy (reflecting their importance to the Government's Business Growth Agenda). However all five outcomes are strongly interconnected and contribute to the Strategy's aim, as well as to each other. For example, good English language skills and good health support migrants' participation in employment, while education and training helps them to make social connections that support their wellbeing and inclusion.

Sixteen indicators measure progress towards achievement of the five outcomes overseas.

Figure 1: New Outcomes Framework for Migrant Settlement and Integration



As part of the Strategy, regional support to attract and retain migrants is being stepped up, with Immigration New Zealand establishing new Regional Partnership Agreements, the first of which was developed for the Auckland region.

Quality immigration data on the current migration population in Wellington, their participation in the workforce, as well as future projections of inward and outward migration helps inform Wellington's economic planning, and in turn can help deliver on the outcomes defined in the Migration Settlement and Integration Strategy.

## Wellington's migrant demographics

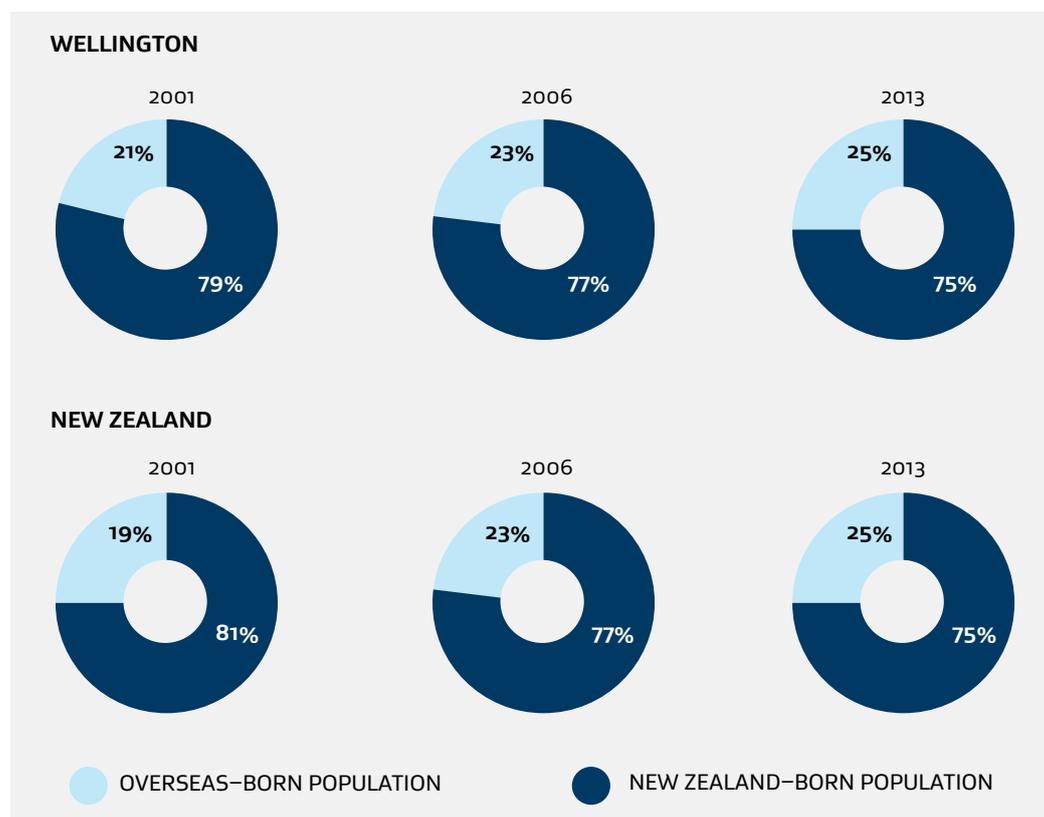
Wellington is the third most populated region in New Zealand. According to the 2013 Census, Wellington's usual resident population was 471,315, or 11 percent of the total New Zealand population.

The 2013 Census showed that 25 percent of Wellington's total population was born overseas, which matches the 25 percent of the overseas-born population recorded across the overall New Zealand population.

### Population size and gender

The share of the overseas-born population in Wellington has been growing at a similar rate to the overall New Zealand population. The 2001 Census reported that 21 percent of the region's population was born overseas; this increased to 23 percent in the 2006 Census and further increased to 25 percent in the 2013 Census. This is illustrated in Figure 2.

**Figure 2: The proportion of the overseas-born population compared with the New Zealand-born population in Wellington and New Zealand overall**



Source: 2001, 2006 and 2013 Censuses, Statistics New Zealand

The male to female ratio of the overseas-born population is very similar to the national proportions. Of those overseas-born living in Wellington, 48 percent are male and 52 percent are female (compared with 48 percent male and 52 percent female nationwide).

## Birthplace of the overseas-born population

The Wellington region has a larger share of overseas-born individuals who were born in the United Kingdom and Ireland in comparison with the overall New Zealand overseas-born population (see Table 1). Thirty-two percent of the overseas-born residents in Wellington were born in the United Kingdom and Ireland. A further 26 percent were born in Asia.

**Table 1: Overseas-born population in Wellington by birthplace, 2013**

Birthplace (by broad geographic areas)	Wellington	New Zealand
UK and Ireland	32%	26%
Asia	26%	32%
Pacific Islands	13%	15%
Europe*	9%	7%
Middle East and Africa	8%	9%
Australia	6%	6%
North America	4%	3%
Other	1%	1%

Source: 2013 Census, Statistics New Zealand

Note: \*Europe excluding UK and Ireland

## Recent migrants

In this report, a 'recent' migrant is defined as those who have been living in New Zealand for under two years. Table 2 shows that a majority of recent migrants in Wellington were from Asia (38 percent) and the United Kingdom and Ireland (22 percent). The Wellington region has a higher share of new migrants who were born in the United Kingdom and Ireland compared with the overall New Zealand population.

**Table 2: Number and share of overseas-born population in Wellington by their country of origin, who have been in New Zealand for under two years in 2013.**

	Australia	Pacific Islands	UK & Ireland	Europe*	North America	Asia	Middle East & Africa	Other
<b>Wellington</b>								
Number	963	972	3135	1260	1050	5595	1113	492
% of overseas-born population	7%	7%	22%	9%	7%	38%	8%	3%
<b>New Zealand</b>								
Number	8,556	12,093	21,693	9,186	6,144	61,122	10,011	3,567
% of overseas-born population	6%	9%	16%	7%	5%	46%	8%	3%

Note: \*Europe excluding UK and Ireland.

Source: Census 2013, Statistics New Zealand

## Highest qualification

A knowledge-based society relies on a highly qualified labour force, not only in high-tech and research sectors, but increasingly in all sectors of the economy and society. Wellington's economy will continue to rely on offshore skills and talent to support its growth.

Table 3 shows that the overseas-born population is more likely to be highly qualified than the New Zealand-born population. This is particularly the case in Wellington, where 35 percent of those born overseas have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with only 26 percent of the New Zealand-born population.

**Table 3: Overseas and New Zealand-born population by highest qualification attained, 2013**

	No qualification	Overseas secondary school qualification	Level 1-3 certificate	Level 4 certificate or Level 5 or 6 diploma	Bachelor degree & level 7 qualifications	Honours or post-graduate degree
<b>Wellington</b>						
New Zealand-born	17%	0%	39%	19%	17%	9%
Overseas-born	14%	19%	17%	15%	20%	15%
<b>New Zealand</b>						
New Zealand-born	24%	0%	39%	20%	12%	5%
Overseas-born	14%	22%	18%	17%	18%	11%

Source: Census 2013, Statistics New Zealand

# Migration and the Wellington labour market

Immigration New Zealand (as part of MBIE) recognises the significance that migration plays in meeting workforce needs and, together with local council and economic development agencies, has a shared interest in attracting and retaining migrants to Wellington to meet skill shortages.

Immigration New Zealand's priorities align with the Government's Business Growth Agenda which prioritises lifting the skills and productivity of the workforce overall and ensuring skilled migration meets New Zealand's needs.

## Wellington context

Wellington's migrants make for a labour market that is both ethnically and culturally diverse. This creates opportunities as well as challenges and reaffirms the need for the long-term economic and social integration of migrants as an integral part of the region's economic growth.

The Wellington region's population is projected to grow by, on average, 0.4 percent a year (a projected increase to 548,400) between 2013 and 2043.<sup>2</sup>

Wellington is the third largest regional employer in New Zealand and employs 12 percent of New Zealand's workers. Industries with the highest share of workers in Wellington are Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (13 percent); Public Administration and Safety (12 percent); and Health Care and Social Assistance (10 percent).<sup>3</sup>

This section will focus on migrant participation in Wellington's labour force. As stated in a technical report published by Auckland Council<sup>4</sup>: participation, employment and unemployment rates are three of the most commonly reported and widely understood indicators of the state of the labour market. Together, these three indicators can provide insight in to the pressures that individuals are facing in relation to finding and keeping a job, and the decisions they make about whether to seek work or whether to pursue other, non-work activities.

Table 4 summarises the employment rate, unemployment rate and participation rate of the working-age population in Wellington in 2013, split by those born overseas and born in New Zealand. Wellington has a higher employment rate compared with New Zealand overall. Wellington's overseas-born working-age population has a similar unemployment rate as the New Zealand-born population a lower labour market participation rate compared with the New Zealand-born population.

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2 Statistics NZ (2015): Subnational population projections: 2013(base)-2043

3 Source: 2013 Census, Statistics New Zealand

4 Auckland Council (2014): The Labour Market and Skills in Auckland 2014: Technical Report 2014/026

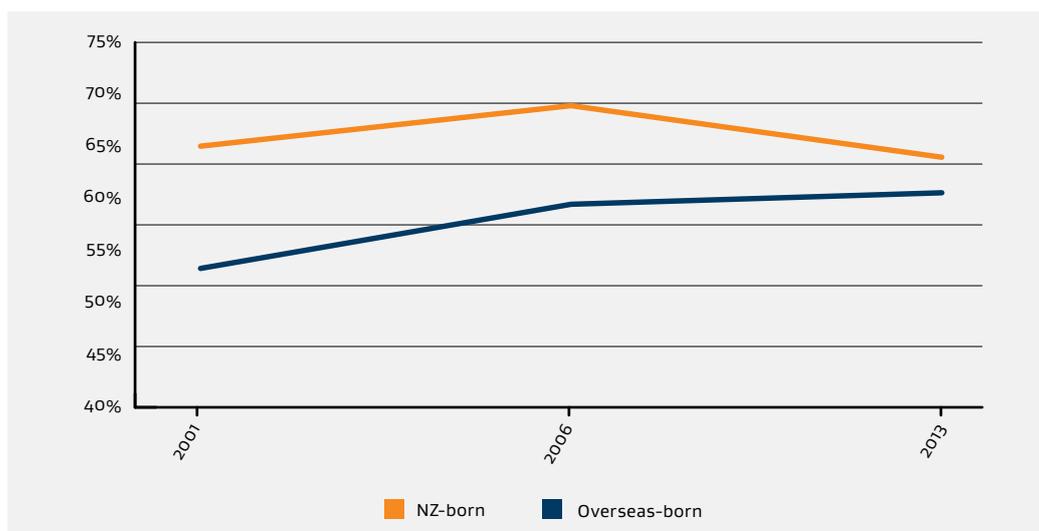
**Table 4: Working-age population<sup>5</sup> in Wellington by labour force status and birthplace, 2013**

		Employment Rate	Unemployment Rate	Participation Rate <sup>6</sup>
Wellington	Overseas-born	62.0%	7.2%	66.8%
	New Zealand-born	66.5%	7.2%	71.6%
New Zealand	Overseas-born	59.9%	7.4%	64.6%
	New Zealand-born	63.6%	7.0%	68.4%

Source: 2013 Census, Statistics New Zealand

Figure 3 illustrates the employment rate of the working-age population in Wellington over time, split by those born overseas and those born in New Zealand. The employment rate is an indicator used to show the percentage of the working-age population that is in work.

The New Zealand-born population in Wellington is more likely to be in employment compared to those who were born overseas. The overseas-born population has a lower employment rate compared with the New Zealand-born, but the overall trend is showing that the employment rate for the overseas-born population is steadily increasing over time, narrowing the gap between the two populations.

**Figure 3: Employment rate of overseas-born and New Zealand-born individuals in Wellington, 2001-2013**

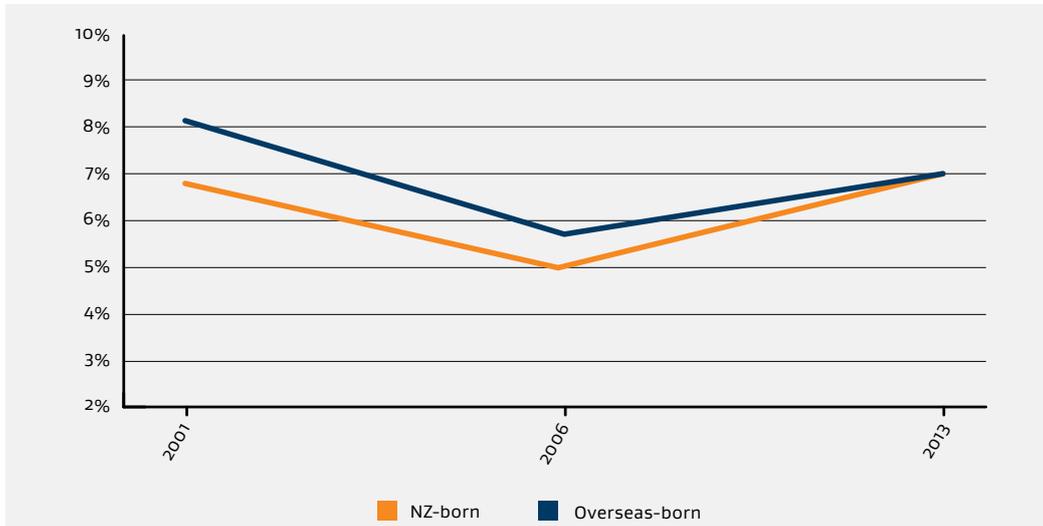
Source: 2001, 2006 and 2013 Censuses, Statistics New Zealand

The unemployment rate is an indicator showing the percentage of individuals in the labour force without a job but is available for work and actively seeking work. Figure 4 shows that the overseas-born population in Wellington historically has a higher unemployment rate compared with the New Zealand-born population. However in 2013, the unemployment rate for overseas-born was lower compared with the New Zealand-born population.

<sup>5</sup> Working-age population comprises those aged 15 years and over.

<sup>6</sup> The participation rate is the number of people in the labour force (i.e. employed and unemployed) divided by the total working-age population.

**Figure 4: Unemployment rate of overseas-born and New Zealand-born individuals in Wellington, 2001-2013**

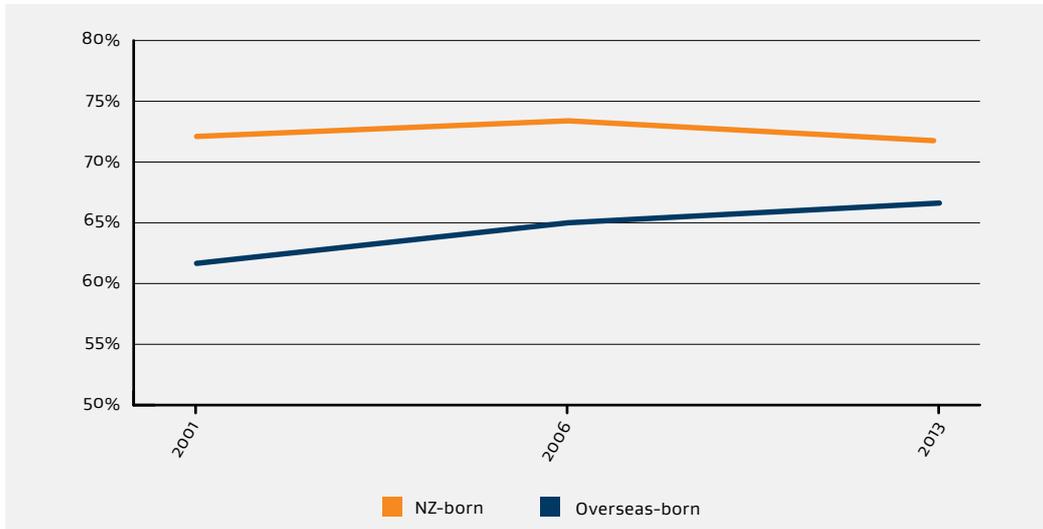


Source: 2001, 2006 and 2013 Censuses, Statistics New Zealand

Figure 5 shows the labour force participation rate of Wellington's working-age population. The participation rate measures the proportion of the working-age population who are either employed, or unemployed and looking for work. This is a useful indicator to show the country's job market trends since short-term changes in the participation rate are linked to current job market conditions.

The New Zealand-born population, in general, have a higher labour force participation rate compared with the overseas-born population. The participation rate for the New Zealand-born population has remained steady over time, while the participation rate for the overseas-born population is showing an increasing trend. The gap between the two has been narrowing over time.

**Figure 5: Participation rate of overseas-born and New Zealand-born individuals in Wellington, 2001-2013**



Source: 2001, 2006 and 2013 Censuses, Statistics New Zealand

# Permanent migration

People who wish to migrate permanently to New Zealand must enter through one of the three residence streams of the New Zealand Residence Programme (NZRP). These are:

New Zealand Residence Programme stream	Percentage of NZRP in 2014/15
Skilled/Business Stream	56%
Family Stream	35%
International (Pacific Access Category and the Samoan Quota) and Humanitarian (refugees) Stream	9%

Residence provides a person with the right to live in New Zealand and to gain access to all the normal work, business, education, property, and health privileges available to New Zealanders. The permanent migrant flows have been relatively stable over time. In 2014/15, there were 43,085 residence approvals in New Zealand, down from 44,008 in 2013/14. Of these, 72 percent of residence applications were approved in New Zealand (onshore)<sup>7</sup>. This is a result of immigration policies that support the transition from temporary to permanent visa status<sup>8</sup> of migrants who have been living and working in New Zealand.

New Zealand needs skilled migrants to contribute to skills acquisition, productivity and growth in a range of industries. Under the Skilled/Business Stream, the Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) has the largest number of residence approvals. The Skilled Migrant Category is a points-based system designed to ensure people migrating to New Zealand have the skills, qualifications and work experience that New Zealand needs.

In 2014/15, 50 percent of residence approvals under the Skilled Migrant Category were principal applicants and 50 percent were secondary applicants (partners and children).

## Wellington context

In 2014/15, the Wellington region attracted 11 percent (or 1,036 people) of the approved Skilled Migrant Category principal applicants to New Zealand. This is an increase of 7 percent from the 972 approved the previous year (see Appendix 1).

### ■ Source country

Table 5 shows the top source countries of SMC principal applicants over the last five years. India is the largest source country of SMC principal applicants in Wellington, followed by the United Kingdom and China. Together, the top five source countries represent 66 percent<sup>9</sup> of the total SMC approved applicants in Wellington in 2014/15.

7 MBIE, Migration Trends and Outlook 2014/15.

8 These policies include the Long-Term Business Visa, Work to Residence and Study to Work Policies for foreign graduates.

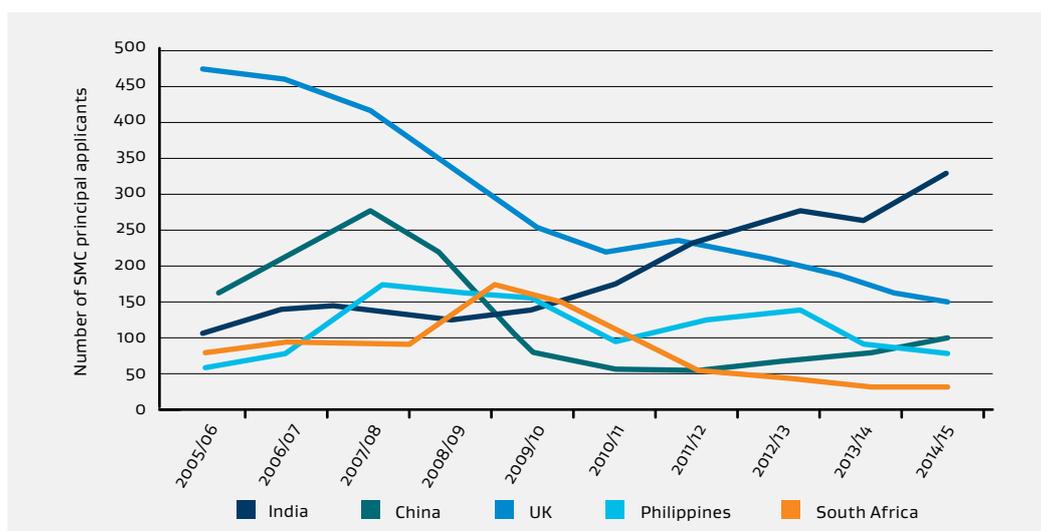
9 This may differ to the total in Table 5 due to rounding.

**Table 5: Top source countries of Skilled Migrant Category (SMC) principal applicants in Wellington, FY 2010/11 to 2014/15**

Source country of principal applicant	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
India	184 (19%)	241 (23%)	277 (26%)	268 (27%)	333 (32%)
UK	226 (24%)	238 (23%)	207 (19%)	173 (17%)	150 (14%)
Philippines	68 (7%)	55 (5%)	53 (5%)	71 (7%)	99 (9%)
China	84 (9%)	115 (11%)	129 (12%)	92 (9%)	78 (7%)
South Africa	65 (7%)	51 (5%)	45 (4%)	39 (4%)	37 (4%)

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Figure 6 shows that the number of SMC principal applicants arriving from the United Kingdom has been declining over the last ten years. The United Kingdom was the main source of skilled migrants in Wellington up until 2010/11, and then India took over. The number of skilled migrants coming in from India has been increasing over time.

**Figure 6: The top five source countries of Skilled Migrant Category principal applicants in Wellington, FY 2005/06 to 2014/15**

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

### ■ Occupations

Table 6 shows the top 10 occupation groups<sup>10</sup> of SMC principal applicants in the Wellington region for the 2014/15 year. It also summarises the top source countries for each occupation group. The top three occupations for skilled migrants in Wellington in 2014/15 were Software and Applications Programmers (12 percent), Registered Nurses (8 percent), and ICT Support Technicians (5 percent).

<sup>10</sup> Occupations are based on those defined in the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO). Data presented at both a high level breakdown (i.e. 2-digit level ANZSCO) and a more detailed breakdown (i.e. 4-digit level ANZSCO) of occupations.

**Table 6: Occupations of Skilled Migrant Category principal applicants, with a job offer in Wellington, FY 2013/14 and 2014/15**

	Number of applicants <sup>11</sup>		% change over the past year	Top 2 source countries for each occupation
	2013/14	2014/15		
<b>Top 10 occupations (2-digit level ANZSCO)</b>				
ICT Professionals	232	243	5%	India (37%), China (9%)
Health Professionals	144	128	-11%	India (34%), Philippines (24%)
Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers	70	111	59%	India (62%), China (13%)
Business, Human Resource and Marketing Professionals	91	94	3%	UK (26%), India (13%)
Engineering, ICT and Science Technicians	91	89	-2%	India (49%), UK (8%)
Food Trades Workers	71	75	6%	India (32%), China (25%)
Design, Engineering, Science and Transport Professionals	65	70	8%	UK (14%), India (21%)
Specialist Managers	46	53	15%	UK (43%), India (21%)
Education Professionals	30	31	3%	UK (26%), China (23%)
Office Managers and Program Administrators	24	23	-4%	India (39%), UK (13%)
<b>Top 10 occupations (4-digit level ANZSCO)</b>				
Software and Applications Programmers	103	128	24%	India (42%), China (16%)
Registered Nurses	96	85	-11%	India (47%), Philippines (36%)
ICT Support Technicians	66	51	-23%	India (69%), China (8%)
Chefs	37	51	38%	India (27%), China (22%)
Cafe and Restaurant Managers	34	49	44%	India (69%), China (10%)
Retail Managers	19	37	95%	India (62%), China (22%)
ICT Support and Test Engineers	21	35	67%	India (51%), Philippines (14%)
Database and Systems Administrators, and ICT Security Specialists	28	23	-18%	India (26%), South Africa (22%)
Multimedia Specialists and Web Developers	28	20	-29%	US (25%), UK (10%)
Contract, Program and Project Administrators	21	19	-10%	India (42%), UK (16%)

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

<sup>11</sup> Applicants whose occupation were not coded to ANZSCO or were classified as 'responses out of the current definition of the labour force' are excluded from the count.

## Temporary migration

The temporary work policy<sup>12</sup> aims to facilitate the access of employers and industry to global skills and knowledge, while complementing the Government's education, training, employment and economic development policies.

Work visas allow employers to recruit temporary workers from overseas to meet particular or seasonal work shortages, while still protecting employment opportunities for New Zealand workers. In 2014/15, 170,814 people were granted work visas in New Zealand, an increase of ten percent from the 155,683 approvals in the previous year.

Temporary work policies can also lead to pathways to residence for those migrants who have the skills that New Zealand needs. In 2014/15, 18 percent of temporary workers had gained residence within three years of their first work visa<sup>13</sup>.

Working Holiday makers, partners of work visa holders, partners of some student visa holders and partners of New Zealand citizens and residents can also be issued temporary work visas.

### Essential Skills workers

The Essential Skills policy facilitates the entry of people required on a temporary basis to fill shortages where there are no suitably qualified New Zealand citizens or residents for the work offered.

The Essential Skills data series is a good indicator of labour demand as it is a labour market tested visa. This means that employers in New Zealand have proven that they made genuine efforts to attract and recruit suitable citizens and residents to fill a position, but have been unable to find such people.

The demand for Essential Skills workers slowed down from October 2008 with the onset of the global financial crisis and its effect on the domestic economy. Since 2012/13, there has been a gradual increase in the number of Essential Skills workers in New Zealand. In 2014/15, a total of 28,548 people were approved to work in New Zealand under the Essential Skills work policy.

### Wellington context

Wellington is the fourth main region of employment of Essential Skills workers in New Zealand. In 2014/15, a total of 2,061 people were approved to work in Wellington under the Essential Skills work policy (see Appendix 2). Overall, there has been a three percent decrease in the number of approved workers in the region over the previous year (compared to an 8 percent increase nationwide).

#### ■ Source country

Table 7 shows the top five source countries of Essential Skills workers in Wellington from 2010/11 to 2014/15. In 2014/15, the United Kingdom was the largest source country of Essential Skills workers in the region, followed by India and the Philippines. Together, the top five source countries accounted for over half (58 percent)<sup>14</sup> of the total number of Essential Skills workers coming to jobs in Wellington.

12 This includes Essential Skills, Work to Residence, Family and Study to Work.

13 MBIE, Migration Trends and Outlook 2014/15

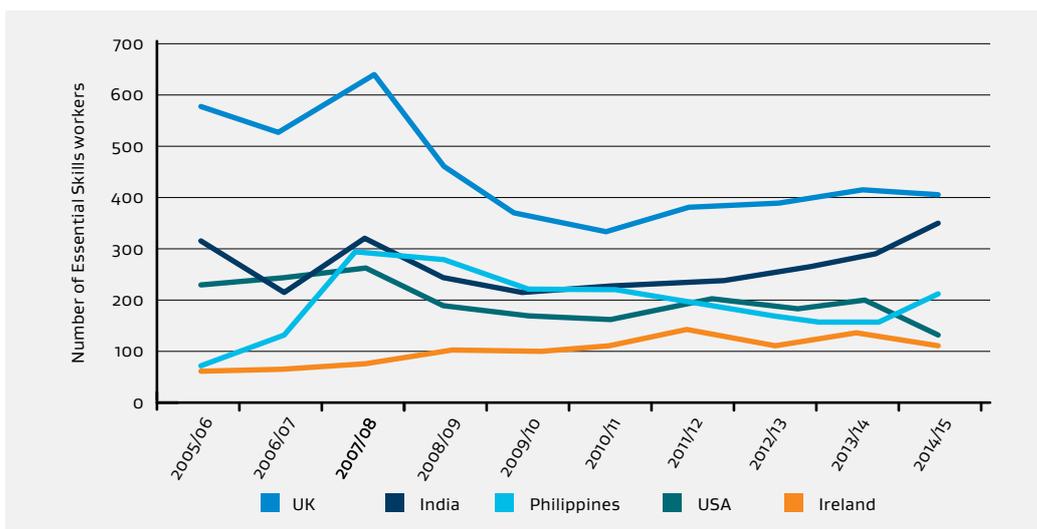
14 This may differ to the total in Table 7 due to rounding.

**Table 7: Top source countries of Essential Skills workers in Wellington, FY 2010/11 to 2014/15**

Source country	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
UK	351 (19%)	390 (20%)	393 (20%)	415 (20%)	403 (20%)
India	202 (11%)	235 (12%)	261 (13%)	297 (14%)	356 (17%)
Philippines	219 (12%)	187 (10%)	161 (8%)	164 (8%)	206 (10%)
USA	155 (8%)	196 (10%)	191 (10%)	197 (9%)	127 (6%)
Ireland	109 (6%)	145 (7%)	113 (6%)	131 (6%)	109 (5%)

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

The United Kingdom has been the main source country of Essential Skills workers in the Wellington region over the last ten years (see Figure 7). The number of workers arriving from the United Kingdom, however, has been showing a decreasing trend over the years. In contrast, the number of workers arriving from India has been increasing over the same period.

**Figure 7: The top five source countries of Essential Skills workers in the Wellington region, FY 2005/06 to 2014/15**

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

### ■ Occupations

Table 8 shows the top 10 occupation groups<sup>15</sup> of approved Essential Skills workers who received an offer of employment in Wellington in the 2014/15 year. It also summarises the top source countries for each occupation group. The top three occupations for Essential Skills workers in Wellington in 2014/15 were Chefs (10 percent), Café and Restaurant Managers (5 percent) and Aged and Disabled Carers (5 percent).

<sup>15</sup> Occupations are based on those defined in the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO). Data presented at both a high level breakdown (i.e. 2-digit level ANZSCO) and a more detailed breakdown (i.e. 4-digit level ANZSCO) of occupations.

**Table 8: Occupations of Essential Skills workers in Wellington, FY 2013/14 and 2014/15**

	Number of workers		% change over the past year	Top 2 source countries for each occupation
	2013/14	2014/15		
<b>Top 10 occupations (2-digit level ANZSCO)</b>				
Food Trades Workers	230	256	11%	India (23%), China (14%)
Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers	212	235	11%	India (48%), UK (13%)
ICT Professionals	479	220	-54%	India (15%), UK (13%)
Health Professionals	206	178	-14%	UK (35%), US (17%)
Carers and Aides	108	110	2%	Philippines (55%), Fiji (14%)
Business, Human Resource and Marketing Professionals	90	93	3%	UK (34%), USA (12%)
Design, Engineering, Science and Transport Professionals	69	87	26%	UK (20%), USA (15%)
Engineering, ICT and Science Technicians	71	75	6%	UK (28%), India (19%)
Hospitality Workers	29	66	128%	India (26%), UK (23%)
Specialist Managers	68	58	-15%	UK (38%), India (12%)
<b>Top 10 occupations (4-digit level ANZSCO)</b>				
Chefs	181	202	12%	India (25%), China (13%)
Cafe and Restaurant Managers	114	108	-5%	India (38%), UK (13%)
Aged and Disabled Carers	91	98	8%	Philippines (61%), Fiji (13%)
Retail Managers	62	85	37%	India (65%), UK (8%)
Multimedia Specialists and Web Developers	328	75	-77%	US (21%), UK (19%)
Software and Applications Programmers	68	75	10%	India (20%), Brazil (13%)
Registered Nurses	70	61	-13%	Philippines (39%), India (38%)
General Practitioners and Resident Medical Officers	64	55	-14%	UK (56%), US (16%)
Hotel Service Managers	20	40	100%	India (38%), UK (15%)
Retail Supervisors	20	38	90%	India (66%), Philippines (8%)

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

# International students

International Education makes a considerable contribution to New Zealand's economy. The current economic value of export education is estimated to be worth \$2.75 billion<sup>16</sup>. The Leadership Statement for International Education 2011, which aims to double the economic value of international education to \$5 billion over the next 15 years, includes targets to:

- › increase the number of international students enrolled in New Zealand providers offshore, from 3,000 to 10,000
- › double the number of international postgraduate students (particularly in programmes in addition to those at PhD level) from 10,000 to 20,000
- › increase the transition rate from study to residence for international university students.

Student policy is New Zealand's temporary entry policy for international students. It aims to attract genuine international students who have the skills and talent New Zealand needs. In 2014/15, 84,856 international students<sup>17</sup> were approved to study in New Zealand, a 16 percent increase from 73,423 in 2013/14 (see Appendix 3).

International students have identified that they chose to study in New Zealand because of the quality and cost of education, opportunities to work after graduation and to apply for residence, and opportunities to study in an English language country<sup>18</sup>.

Many international students stay on to work in New Zealand after they complete their study. Immigration policies enable the most skilled to stay in New Zealand and take up skilled employment, so that they can help drive economic growth. In 2014/15, 43 percent of skilled migrant category principal applicants were previously on a student visa in New Zealand. Seventeen percent of full fee paying students were granted a resident visa within five years of being issued their first student visa<sup>19</sup>. The trend is a steady take up of permanent residence over time. Several factors might influence the length of time it takes a student to get residence, including the length of time of study and whether there is an intermediary move to a work visa before applying for residence.

To ensure New Zealand continues to benefit from having international students and secure a healthy growth in this sector, we must ensure that international students in New Zealand have a high quality experience, so New Zealand's reputation as a safe and attractive education destination is maintained.

## Wellington context

International students are an important contributor to migration into and out of New Zealand. Getting international students into Wellington plays an important role in bringing value into the region.

Wellington is home to a number of tertiary education institutions including Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand's most internationalised university with over 210 partner universities around the world. Graduates with the skills the region needs are encouraged to stay on and work after completing their studies.

Wellington has the third largest share of international students in the country after Auckland and Canterbury, making up 6 percent of the total student visas granted.

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<sup>16</sup> Infometrics (2015). *The economic impact of international education 2014*. Wellington: Education New Zealand. [http://enz.govt.nz/sites/public\\_files/ExportEd2014.pdf](http://enz.govt.nz/sites/public_files/ExportEd2014.pdf)

<sup>17</sup> This includes primary and secondary school students.

<sup>18</sup> MBIE (2010). *Life After Study: International students' settlement experiences in New Zealand*.

<sup>19</sup> MBIE, *Migration Trends and Outlook 2014/15*.

In 2014/15, 4,628 people intending to study in Wellington were granted student visas<sup>20</sup>. This represents a 10 percent increase from 2013/14 (see Appendix 3). There has also been an increase in the number of new international students in the region, up 21 percent between 2013/14 and 2014/15 (see Appendix 4).

## Further readings on International Students

### ■ Student Visa Dashboard July 2016

This dashboard was developed by Education New Zealand and is based on Immigration New Zealand (INZ) data on student visas issued. It provides a monthly summary of where in New Zealand international students are choosing to study, and what education sector they are enrolled in. Student visa data is a strong indicator of whether students are entering, staying or leaving New Zealand to study, which can be used as a predictor for future enrolment trends.

<http://www.enz.govt.nz/news-and-research/research/student-visa-dashboard-for-july-2016/>

### ■ New Zealand International Education Snapshot: January to August 2015

Developed for Education New Zealand, this provides a snapshot of the trends in New Zealand's international student enrolments. It brings together data from a number of sources and the trends are represented by sector, fields of study, level of study, location of study and top movements by source country.

<http://www.enz.govt.nz/news-and-research/research/new-zealand-international-education-snapshot3a-january-to-august-2015/>

## Conclusion

The report provides an overview of the demographics of the overseas-born population living in the Wellington region and detailed information on the source country and occupation of migrants who have come to New Zealand under the Skilled Migrant Category and the Essential Skills policy with job offers in Wellington.

Some of the key points of note are:

- › Twenty-five percent of Wellington's population are overseas-born.
- › Of the overseas-born population in Wellington, 32 percent were born in the United Kingdom and Ireland and a further 26 percent were born in Asia. The proportion of the overseas-born population in Wellington who were born in the United Kingdom and Ireland is higher than the proportion for New Zealand overall.
- › Eleven percent of New Zealand's approved SMC principal applicants reside in Wellington in 2014/15, most of whom arrive from India, the United Kingdom and China.
- › The top three occupations of SMC principal applicants (permanent migrants) in Wellington in 2014/15 were Software and Applications Programmers (12 percent), Registered Nurses (8 percent) and ICT Support Technicians (5 percent).
- › The United Kingdom was the largest source country of Essential Skills temporary workers in Wellington (20 percent) followed by India (17 percent).
- › The top three occupations for Essential Skills workers in Wellington in 2014/15 were Chefs (10 percent), Café and Restaurant Managers (5 percent) and Aged and Disabled Carers (5 percent).
- › Six percent of student visas (4,628 people) granted in 2014/15, were for study in Wellington. This is an increase of 10 percent on the previous year.

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20 Both new and returning.

# Appendices

Appendix 1: Region of skilled employment for Skilled Migrant Category principal applicants,  
FY 2009/10-2014/15

Region	Financial Year						% change since 2013/14
	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	
Auckland	3,706	4,002	4,063	4,648	4,317	4,648	8%
Canterbury	861	754	990	774	1,629	1,473	-10%
Wellington	1,182	918	1,018	1,051	972	1,036	7%
Waikato	656	535	473	493	430	482	12%
Bay of Plenty	407	439	305	276	399	461	16%
Otago	288	313	378	162	374	327	-13%
Manawatu-Wanganui	211	201	190	172	188	160	-15%
Taranaki	202	174	133	168	166	142	-14%
Northland	205	203	146	143	142	167	18%
Southland	91	91	124	62	137	130	-5%
Hawke's Bay	137	139	87	125	135	148	10%
Nelson	84	66	92	42	90	61	-32%
Marlborough	63	60	76	31	73	53	-27%
Other	214	198	184	154	167	177	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,307</b>	<b>8,093</b>	<b>8,259</b>	<b>8,301</b>	<b>9,219</b>	<b>9,465</b>	<b>3%</b>

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Note: 'Other' includes Gisborne and West Coast

Appendix 2: Number of people granted Essential Skills work visas by region of employment, FY 2005/06-2014/15

Region	Financial Year											% change since 2013/14
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15		
Auckland	9,225	9,860	10,585	10,191	7,873	8,094	7,016	6,639	7,580	8,668	14%	
Canterbury	3,234	3,499	4,545	3,567	2,910	2,469	3,335	4,694	6,592	7,166	9%	
Otago	2,864	3,259	3,904	3,206	2,645	2,531	2,482	2,604	2,927	3,190	9%	
Wellington	2,470	2,376	3,496	2,637	1,978	1,869	1,963	1,979	2,119	2,061	-3%	
Waikato	1,610	1,673	1,776	1,492	1,100	1,086	1,198	1,195	1,342	1,450	8%	
Bay of Plenty	882	1,526	1,529	1,035	833	826	809	709	920	998	8%	
Southland	377	562	778	790	624	721	713	737	752	935	24%	
Nelson/Marlborough/ Tasman	774	1,274	1,886	1,285	748	609	659	641	756	796	5%	
Manawatu-Wanganui	601	589	667	573	480	481	462	455	507	515	2%	
Hawke's Bay	525	955	750	382	304	299	284	331	380	429	13%	
Taranaki	397	551	854	595	496	514	505	479	710	424	-40%	
Northland	292	347	346	309	256	270	247	269	320	380	19%	
West Coast	108	148	144	173	171	142	175	170	211	213	1%	
Gisborne	92	116	91	111	88	111	152	172	181	193	7%	
Region not specified	5,294	4,280	4,982	3,280	2,441	2,319	2,065	1,332	1,200	1,130		
Total where region is known	23,451	26,735	31,351	26,346	20,506	20,022	20,000	21,074	25,297	27,418	8%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,745</b>	<b>31,015</b>	<b>36,333</b>	<b>29,626</b>	<b>22,947</b>	<b>22,341</b>	<b>22,065</b>	<b>22,406</b>	<b>26,497</b>	<b>28,548</b>	<b>8%</b>	

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Appendix 3: Number of people granted student visas by region of study, FY 2005/06-2014/15

Region	Financial Year											% change since 2013/14
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15		
Auckland	31,366	29,866	30,774	33,278	33,952	36,499	34,741	31,984	38,929	46,697	20%	
Canterbury	9,455	8,746	8,224	8,422	8,639	7,367	5,189	5,215	5,832	6,720	15%	
Wellington	5,034	4,805	4,508	4,231	4,422	4,371	4,162	4,148	4,204	4,628	10%	
Waikato	4,662	3,942	3,761	3,810	3,821	3,705	3,674	3,494	3,667	3,985	9%	
Otago	3,511	3,312	3,220	3,360	3,556	3,629	3,524	3,526	3,587	3,749	5%	
Bay of Plenty	952	996	1,079	1,396	1,520	2,238	2,057	1,792	2,311	2,680	16%	
Manawatu-Wanganui	2,751	2,369	2,249	2,220	2,283	2,327	2,494	2,240	2,247	2,314	3%	
Nelson/Marlborough/Tasman	632	649	728	796	882	886	830	673	671	1,023	52%	
Southland	198	185	187	226	344	434	501	526	648	767	18%	
Hawke's Bay	478	494	517	555	543	598	689	543	623	745	20%	
Taranaki	652	512	442	474	544	546	536	463	517	549	6%	
Northland	390	444	433	467	518	426	472	425	417	451	8%	
Other	133	113	97	62	68	53	36	32	49	41	-16%	
Region not specified	9,050	10,716	12,886	13,810	11,663	11,017	10,000	9,128	9,721	10,507		
Total where region is known	60,214	56,433	56,219	59,297	61,092	63,079	58,905	55,061	63,702	74,349	17%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,264</b>	<b>67,149</b>	<b>69,105</b>	<b>73,107</b>	<b>72,755</b>	<b>74,096</b>	<b>68,905</b>	<b>64,189</b>	<b>73,423</b>	<b>84,856</b>	<b>16%</b>	

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment  
Note: 'Other' includes Gisborne and West Coast.

Appendix 4: Number of new students by region of study, FY 2005/06-2014/15

Region	Financial Year											% change since 2013/14
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15		
Auckland	9,983	12,229	15,416	17,687	17,835	19,235	17,421	14,828	20,283	26,029	28%	
Canterbury	3,701	4,214	4,394	4,869	4,700	3,685	2,104	2,558	3,217	3,858	20%	
Wellington	1,916	2,089	2,176	2,333	2,482	2,438	2,246	2,291	2,316	2,797	21%	
Waikato	1,586	1,653	1,958	2,177	1,917	1,827	1,776	1,725	1,936	2,208	14%	
Otago	1,564	1,693	1,725	1,894	2,026	2,064	1,829	1,767	1,884	2,083	11%	
Bay of Plenty	558	702	769	1,074	1,097	1,711	1,408	1,211	1,499	1,839	23%	
Manawatu-Wanganui	1,026	1,088	1,240	1,182	1,141	1,115	1,214	1,038	1,033	1,123	9%	
Nelson/Marlborough/Tasman	407	473	517	578	597	594	544	472	471	813	73%	
Southland	123	124	148	179	252	293	335	314	394	530	35%	
Hawke's Bay	283	341	361	390	354	388	477	319	387	483	25%	
Northland	257	335	337	382	430	367	401	341	331	332	0%	
Taranaki	247	239	252	300	341	353	298	218	309	278	-10%	
Other	101	86	73	46	55	32	21	22	31	26	-16%	
Region not specified	5,589	7,205	8,576	8,605	5,130	4,484	4,351	4,337	5,027	5,631		
Total where region is known	21,752	25,266	29,366	33,091	33,227	34,102	30,074	27,104	34,091	42,399	24%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,341</b>	<b>32,471</b>	<b>37,942</b>	<b>41,696</b>	<b>38,357</b>	<b>38,586</b>	<b>34,425</b>	<b>31,441</b>	<b>39,118</b>	<b>48,030</b>	<b>23%</b>	

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Note 1: In this analysis, a student is counted as 'new' the year in which their first visa was approved. This is a subset of Appendix 3.

Note 2: 'Other' includes Gisborne and West Coast



