MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

Labour Market Statistics Snapshot - Pacific Peoples

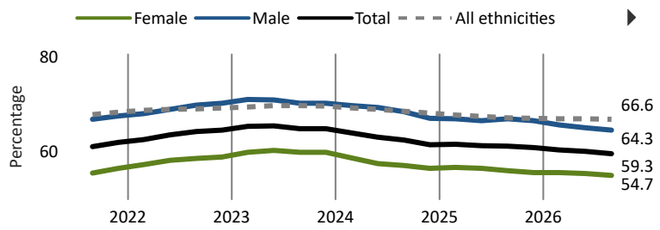
Annual September 2026

EMPLOYMENT

Employment Rate	**59.3%**	**Total**	**183,000**
from last year	-1.6pp	from last year	+3,000
from last 5 years	-1.5pp	from last 5 years	+18,200

Male Employment Rate	**64.3%**	**Aged 25-44 Employment rate**	**73.5%**
Total	95,700	Total	88,800
from last year	+2,400	from last year	+2,800
from last 5 years	+6,600	from last 5 years	+12,600
Female Employment Rate	**54.7%**	**Aged 45+ Employment rate**	**58.6%**
Total	87,400	Total	58,700
from last year	+700	from last year	+300
from last 5 years	+11,800	from last 5 years	+6,300

Employment Rate



Full-time	**153,800**	**Part-time**	**29,200**
from last year	+1,700	from last year	+1,300
from last 5 years	+16,400	from last 5 years	+1,300

Occupation	Employed	1 year change
Managers	25,000	+300
Professionals	34,800	+3,700
Trades & Technicians	20,700	+200
Service workers	23,700	+1,100
Clerical workers	18,800	-800
Sales workers	14,600	+1,000
Machinery Operators and Drivers	16,300	-2,100
Labourers	27,000	-400

Skill	Employed	1 year change
Highly-skilled	55,900	+3,900
Skilled	16,300	+900
Semi-skilled	21,400	+1,000
Low-skilled	50,300	-4,200
Unskilled	37,000	+1,500

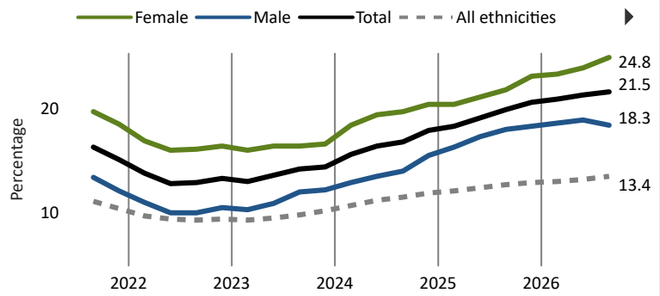
Industry	Employed	1 year change	5 year change
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Mining	4,800	+900	+500
Manufacturing	21,300	-400	-2,100
Utilities & Construction	24,500	+2,800	+5,500
Wholesale & Retail	22,500	+100	+1,400
Accommodation and food	10,400	+300	+900
Transport, Warehousing IM & Communications	14,800	-1,000	+700
Financial and Insurance Services	5,500	-1,100	+1,400
Other Business Services	18,000	+3,500	+2,500
Public Administration and Safety	14,100	-100	+1,000
Education and Training	11,900	+100	+700
Health Care and Social Assistance	20,300	-1,100	+4,000
Other Services	11,000	+200	+1,900

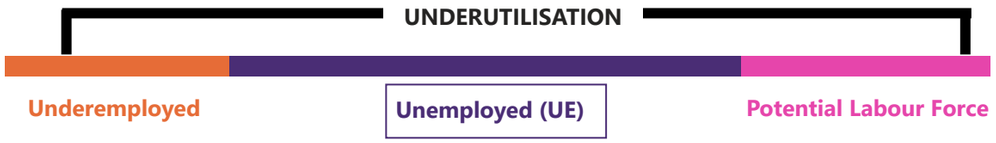
UNDERUTILISATION

Underutilisation Rate	**21.5%**	**Total**	**47,200**
from last year	+1.7pp	from last year	+5,100
from last 5 years	+5.3pp	from last 5 years	+16,700

Male Underutilisation Rate	**18.3%**		
Total	20,600		
from last year	+900		
from last 5 years	+7,300		
Female Underutilisation Rate	**24.8%**		
Total	26,600		
from last year	+4,200		
from last 5 years	+9,400		

Underutilisation Rate





Total	**10,700**	**UE Rate**	**11.8%**	**Total**	**24,500**	**Total**	**11,900**
from last year	+1,700	from last year	+0.4pp	from last year	+1,300	from last year	+2,000
from last 5 years	+3,500	from last 5 years	+3.4pp	from last 5 years	+9,500	from last 5 years	+3,700
Male Total	**4,000**	**Male UE Rate**	**11.0%**	**Aged 25-44 UE Rate**	**8.9%**	**Male Total**	**4,700**
from last year	+1,000	Total	11,900	Total	8,700	from last year	+700
from last 5 years	+1,700	from last year	-800	from last year	+600	from last 5 years	+1,300
		from last 5 years	+4,300	from last 5 years	+3,400		
Female Total	**6,700**	**Female UE Rate**	**12.6%**	**Aged 45+ UE Rate**	**5.2%**	**Female Total**	**7,300**
from last year	+700	Total	12,600	Total	3,200	from last year	+1,400
from last 5 years	+1,700	from last year	+2,100	from last year	+200	from last 5 years	+2,500
		from last 5 years	+5,200	from last 5 years	+1,600		

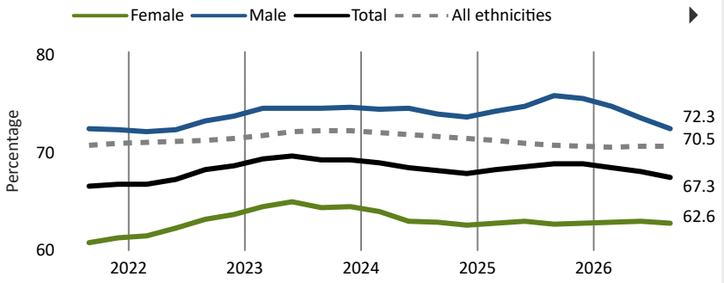
	Employed				Unemployed			
	Current quarter		Change from last Year		Current quarter		Change from last Year	
Region	People	Rate	People	Rate	People	Rate	People	Rate
Auckland	113,200	56.1%	+1,600	-2.3pp	16,900	13.0%	+2,100	+1.3pp
Wellington	22,700	66.7%	NC	-1.9pp	2,500	10.0%	NC	0.0pp
Rest of North island	27,400	60.5%	+900	-1.5pp	3,900	12.4%	+200	+0.3pp
South island	19,700	72.1%	+500	+5.4pp	1,200	5.7%	-1,000	-4.5pp
South Auckland	52,300	52.4%	+200	-0.9pp	8,200	13.6%	-400	-0.6pp
West Auckland	27,700	60.9%	-300	-2.7pp	3,500	11.3%	+300	+1.1pp
Rest of Auckland	33,200	58.6%	+1,700	-5.2pp	5,200	13.5%	+2,200	+4.8pp

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

Participation Rate	**67.3%**	**Total**	**207,500**
from last year	-1.4pp	from last year	+4,300
from last 5 years	+0.9pp	from last 5 years	+27,700

Male Participation Rate	**72.3%**	**Aged 25-44 Participation Rate**	**80.7%**
Total	107,500	Total	97,500
from last year	+1,500	from last year	+3,400
from last 5 years	+10,800	from last 5 years	+15,800
Female Participation Rate	**62.6%**	**Aged 45+ Participation Rate**	**62.0%**
Total	100,000	Total	62,100
from last year	+2,800	from last year	+400
from last 5 years	+17,000	from last 5 years	+7,400

Labour Force Participation Rate

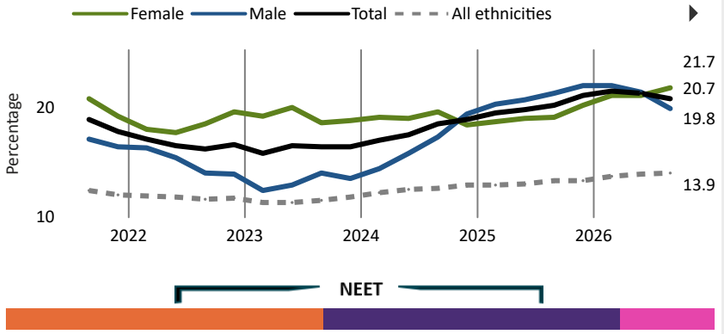


NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (Aged 15-24 years)

NEET rate	**20.7%**	**Total**	**18,200**
from last year	+0.6pp	from last year	+1,700
from last 5 years	+1.9pp	from last 5 years	+4,000

Male NEET rate	**19.8%**	**Aged 15-19 NEET rate**	**15.9%**
Total	9,000	Total	7,400
from last year	+500	from last year	+600
from last 5 years	+2,300	from last 5 years	+1,700
Female NEET rate	**21.7%**	**Aged 20-24 NEET rate**	**26.3%**
Total	9,200	Total	10,700
from last year	+1,200	from last year	+1,000
from last 5 years	+1,700	from last 5 years	+2,200

NEET Rate



Unemployed, Not in Education		Not in LF not in education - no caregiving		Not in LF not in education - caregiving	
Total	**8,100**	**Total**	**7,600**	**Total**	**2,400**
from last year	+300	from last year	+1,700	from last year	-400

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Annual September 2026

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES

All data provided apart from regional, industry, age group and NEET breakdowns is seasonally adjusted. This process removes the seasonal component present when dealing with quarterly data. Seasonal patterns obscure the underlying behaviour of the series. For the unadjusted series, only annual changes are reported to avoid seasonal effects.

DEFINITIONS

EMPLOYED: People in the working-age population who, during the reference week, did one of the following:

- worked for one hour or more for pay or profit in the context of an employee/employer relationship or self-employment
- worked without pay for one hour or more in work which contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business, or professional practice owned or operated by a relative
- had a job but were not at work due to own illness or injury, personal or family responsibilities, bad weather or mechanical breakdown, direct involvement in an industrial dispute, or leave or holiday.

EMPLOYMENT RATE: The number of employed people expressed as a percentage of the working-age population. The employment rate is closely linked to the working-age population definition.

FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS: Full-time workers usually work 30 hours or more per week, even if they did not do so in the survey reference week because of sickness, holidays, or other reasons. Part-time workers usually work fewer than 30 hours per week.

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) JOBS: The total number of full-time jobs plus half the number of part-time jobs. Does not include working proprietors.

HOURS WORKED: Average weekly paid hours (FTE) are calculated by dividing total ordinary hours paid by total FTEs.

HOURLY EARNINGS: Average hourly earnings are calculated by dividing total gross earnings by total paid hours.

LABOUR FORCE: Members of the working-age population, who during the survey reference week, were classified as 'employed' or 'unemployed.'

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE: The total labour force expressed as a percentage of the working-age population. Labour force participation is closely linked to how the working-age population is defined.

NEET (NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION, OR TRAINING): Young people aged 15–24 years who are unemployed (part of the labour force) and not engaged in education or training, and those not in the labour force and not engaged in education or training for many reasons.

NEET RATE: The total number of youth (aged 15–24 years) who are not in education, employment, or training (NEET), as a proportion of the total youth working-age population.

NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE: Any neither employed nor unemployed. For example, this residual category includes people who:

- are retired
- have personal or family responsibilities such as unpaid housework and childcare
- attend educational institutions
- are permanently unable to work due to physical or mental disabilities,
- were temporarily unavailable for work in the survey reference week
- are not actively seeking work.

POTENTIAL LABOUR FORCE: The potential labour force consists of people who are not in the labour force but can be considered to be 'just outside it'. They meet two of the three criteria needed to be considered unemployed. Two main groups of individuals are in the potential labour force:

- **UNAVAILABLE JOBSEEKERS** – People who were actively seeking work, were not available to have started work in the reference week, but would become available within a short subsequent period
- **AVAILABLE POTENTIAL JOBSEEKERS** – People who are not actively seeking work but were available in the reference week and want a job.

UNDEREMPLOYMENT: People who are in part-time employment who would like to, and are available to, work more hours.

UNDERUTILISATION: The sum of those unemployed, underemployed, who are not actively seeking but are available and wanting a job and people who are actively seeking but not currently available, but will be available to work in the next four weeks.

UNEMPLOYED: All people in the working-age population who, during the reference week, were without a paid job, available for work, and had either actively sought work in the past four weeks ending with the reference week, or had a new job to start within the next four weeks.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: The number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

WORKING-AGE POPULATION: The usually resident, non-institutionalised population of New Zealand aged 15 years and over.

Disclaimer
This document is a guide only. It should not be used as a substitute for legislation or legal advice. The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment is not responsible for the results of any actions taken on the basis of information in this document, or for any errors or omissions.

Data Source
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Coverage Difference
Average weekly paid hours and average hourly earnings are calculated from the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES), which has different coverage than the Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS). The QES is a survey of employers that excludes self-employed people, the Agriculture industry, unpaid family workers and New Zealand Defence Force, while the HLFS is a survey of households that only includes usually resident New Zealanders, so can exclude some temporary seasonal labourers. If you have any feedback, questions or suggestions please contact us at:
LabourMarketInsights@mbie.govt.nz

Data Terminology
NC - "No change"
S - "Suppressed"