MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

Labour Market Statistics Snapshot - Māori

Annual September 2026

EMPLOYMENT

Employment Rate	**59.4%**	**Total**	**397,700**
from last year	-1.2pp	from last year	NC
from last 5 years	-3.6pp	from last 5 years	+18,400

UNDERUTILISATION

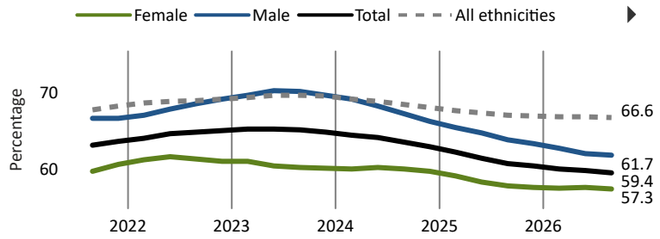
Underutilisation Rate	**22.2%**	**Total**	**106,300**
from last year	+2.2pp	from last year	+12,400
from last 5 years	+4.4pp	from last 5 years	+28,600

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

Participation Rate	**66.9%**	**Total**	**447,400**
from last year	-0.6pp	from last year	+4,600
from last 5 years	-1.6pp	from last 5 years	+34,600

Male Employment Rate	**61.7%**	**Aged 25-44 Employment rate**	**72.2%**
Total	201,300	Total	170,800
from last year	-2,500	from last year	+3,700
from last 5 years	+5,800	from last 5 years	+8,100
Female Employment Rate	**57.3%**	**Aged 45+ Employment rate**	**56.5%**
Total	196,400	Total	149,200
from last year	+2,500	from last year	-1,300
from last 5 years	+12,600	from last 5 years	+9,200

Employment Rate



Full-time	**314,000**	**Part-time**	**83,700**
from last year	-2,400	from last year	+2,300
from last 5 years	+10,700	from last 5 years	+9,300

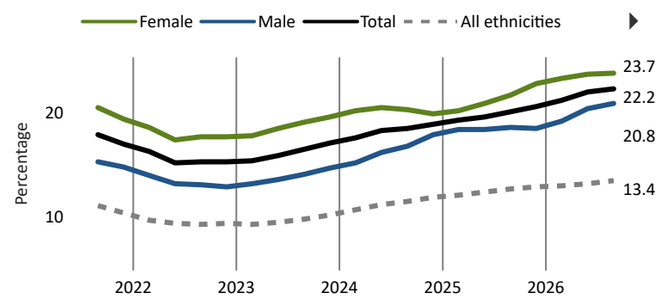
Occupation	Employed	1 year change
Managers	82,100	+6,200
Professionals	85,900	+4,700
Trades & Technicians	40,700	-3,800
Service workers	42,500	-200
Clerical workers	34,600	-1,700
Sales workers	30,500	+1,800
Machinery Operators and Drivers	28,000	-3,000
Labourers	50,900	-4,200

Skill	Employed	1 year change
Highly-skilled	158,200	+10,500
Skilled	32,700	+900
Semi-skilled	44,500	-3,900
Low-skilled	90,700	-4,800
Unskilled	69,000	-3,100

Industry	Employed	1 year change	5 year change
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Mining	25,400	+1,000	+400
Manufacturing	38,900	+400	-4,100
Utilities & Construction	51,300	-1,800	+2,300
Wholesale & Retail	42,900	+100	+300
Accommodation and food	24,300	+1,700	+4,200
Transport, Warehousing IM & Communications	19,900	-3,100	-4,000
Financial and Insurance Services	9,400	+700	+2,600
Other Business Services	46,900	+4,000	+9,300
Public Administration and Safety	29,700	-2,600	+1,800
Education and Training	35,600	+200	+3,200
Health Care and Social Assistance	40,900	+200	+4,400
Other Services	28,700	-1,000	+3,800

Male Underutilisation Rate	**20.8%**	**Female Underutilisation Rate**	**23.7%**
Total	50,100	Total	56,200
from last year	+5,700	from last year	+6,700
from last 5 years	+16,200	from last 5 years	+12,500

Underutilisation Rate



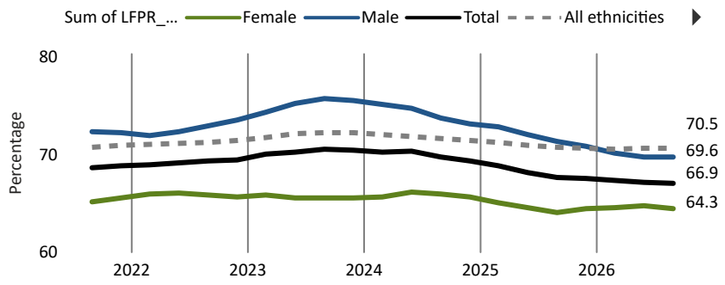


Total	**25,900**	**UE Rate**	**11.1%**	**Total**	**49,600**	**Total**	**30,700**
from last year	+3,500	from last year	+0.9pp	from last year	+4,500	from last year	+4,200
from last 5 years	+6,400	from last 5 years	+3.0pp	from last 5 years	+16,000	from last 5 years	+6,100
Male Total	**10,200**	**Male UE Rate**	**11.3%**	**Aged 25-44 UE Rate**	**8.3%**	**Male Total**	**14,300**
from last year	+2,500	Total	25,600	Total	15,500	from last year	+1,600
from last 5 years	+3,800	from last year	+1,600	from last year	+2,100	from last 5 years	+3,700
		from last 5 years	+8,700	from last 5 years	+3,900		
Female Total	**15,800**	**Female UE Rate**	**10.9%**	**Aged 45+ UE Rate**	**4.8%**	**Female Total**	**16,400**
from last year	+1,100	Total	24,000	Total	7,500	from last year	+2,600
from last 5 years	+2,700	from last year	+2,900	from last year	-2,100	from last 5 years	+2,400
		from last 5 years	+7,400	from last 5 years	+1,700		

	Employed				Unemployed			
	Current quarter		Change from last Year		Current quarter		Change from last Year	
Region	People	Rate	People	Rate	People	Rate	People	Rate
Northland	27,800	52.0%	+400	-1.4pp	4,400	13.8%	+1,000	+2.8pp
Auckland	85,200	54.2%	-2,700	-1.6pp	13,900	14.0%	+400	+0.7pp
Waikato	55,500	60.5%	+1,500	+0.9pp	7,100	11.4%	-400	-0.8pp
Bay of Plenty	44,400	58.4%	-2,400	-1.5pp	6,000	12.0%	+1,400	+3.1pp
Gisborne / Hawke's Bay	32,500	57.1%	+7,700	+1.2pp	3,600	10.0%	+400	-1.3pp
Taranaki / Manawatū-Whanganui	44,800	63.7%	+4,000	+1.9pp	4,000	8.1%	+400	0.0pp
Wellington	40,700	66.7%	-4,300	-4.1pp	4,900	10.7%	+1,500	+3.7pp
Canterbury	35,500	66.2%	-700	+1.3pp	3,100	8.0%	-1,200	-2.5pp
Rest of South island	31,400	64.1%	-3,400	-7.1pp	2,600	7.7%	+800	+2.9pp
South Auckland	23,400	44.7%	+2,600	+0.5pp	5,800	19.8%	+800	+0.5pp
West Auckland	19,500	54.9%	-100	+2.6pp	2,700	12.4%	-1,400	-4.8pp
Rest of Auckland	42,300	61.1%	-5,200	-3.9pp	5,300	11.2%	+900	+2.7pp

Male Participation Rate	**69.6%**	**Aged 25-44 Participation Rate**	**78.8%**
Total	226,900	Total	186,400
from last year	-900	from last year	+5,700
from last 5 years	+14,400	from last 5 years	+12,200
Female Participation Rate	**64.3%**	**Aged 45+ Participation Rate**	**59.7%**
Total	220,500	Total	157,500
from last year	+5,500	from last year	-2,600
from last 5 years	+20,100	from last 5 years	+11,200

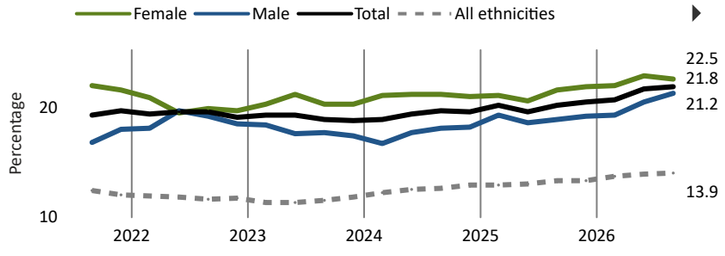
Labour Force Participation Rate



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

NEET rate	**21.8%**	**Total**	**36,800**
from last year	+1.7pp	from last year	+3,400
from last 5 years	+2.6pp	from last 5 years	+7,500
Male NEET rate	**21.2%**	**Aged 15-19 NEET rate**	**16.8%**
Total	18,000	Total	16,100
from last year	+2,400	from last year	+700
from last 5 years	+4,800	from last 5 years	+3,500
Female NEET rate	**22.5%**	**Aged 20-24 NEET rate**	**28.5%**
Total	18,800	Total	20,700
from last year	+1,000	from last year	+2,700
from last 5 years	+2,700	from last 5 years	+4,000

NEET Rate





Total	**15,800**	**Total**	**14,800**	**Total**	**6,200**
from last year	+1,800	from last year	+2,100	from last year	-600

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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.

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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"