

Embargoed until 10:45am – 29 May 2009

Longitudinal Immigration Survey: New Zealand – Wave 2, 2008

Highlights

- At each wave, more than nine out of 10 migrants were either satisfied or very satisfied with life in New Zealand (93.3 percent at wave 1 and 91.3 percent at wave 2).
- More than eight out of 10 (81.3 percent) migrants felt safe or very safe in New Zealand at wave 2, compared with 85.9 percent at wave 1.
- At wave 2, more than four out of 10 (42.9 percent) migrants owned or partly owned the dwelling they were living in, compared with 29.9 percent at wave 1.
- At wave 2, more than seven out of 10 (74.3 percent) migrants were employed, compared with 71.2 percent at wave 1.
- Compared with other migrant categories, skilled secondary migrants showed the largest movement into employment, with 16.0 percent moving from not being employed at wave 1 to being employed at wave 2.
- More than two-thirds (68.4 percent) of employed migrants worked in a skilled job at wave 2. Of these, 8.6 percent moved from a lower skilled job at wave 1 to a higher skilled job at wave 2.
- The overall median hourly wage for employed migrants was \$20.00 at wave 2, compared with \$18.00 at wave 1.
- At both waves, more than eight out of 10 employed migrants were satisfied or very satisfied with their main job (80.9 percent at wave 1 and 81.8 percent at wave 2).

Geoff Bascand
Government Statistician

29 May 2009
ISSN 1178-8682

See also [Longitudinal Immigration Survey: New Zealand – Wave 2, 2008 – Media release.](#)

Commentary

This release presents results from the first two waves of the Longitudinal Immigration Survey: New Zealand (LisNZ). The LisNZ is a longitudinal survey designed to trace the pathways of migrants and produce a detailed, ongoing information base of their experiences and settlement outcomes. Migrants are interviewed at 6, 18, and 36 months after they have taken up permanent residence in New Zealand. This release highlights the changes between the first two interviews, at 6 months (wave 1) and 18 months (wave 2) after migrants took up permanent residence in New Zealand.

The findings from the LisNZ will be used to inform broad immigration policy, particularly in the areas of immigration selection and settlement policies. In addition, the findings will assist a variety of agencies and community groups in developing services for migrants. More detailed analysis will be carried out and reported by the Department of Labour at a later date.

The survey sample was selected from migrants aged 16 years and over (excluding refugees) who were approved for permanent residence in New Zealand from 1 November 2004 to 31 October 2005. Wave 1 interviews were conducted between 1 May 2005 and 30 April 2007, and wave 2 interviews between 1 May 2006 and 30 April 2008.

The number of interviewed respondents (both onshore and offshore applicants) totalled 7,137 and 6,156 for wave 1 and wave 2, respectively. This release reports on the 6,156 longitudinal respondents (interviewed at both waves). For wave and longitudinal respondent definitions, refer to the technical notes of this release.

Along with a description of the immigration approval categories used in this Hot Off The Press, this release focuses on changes in aspects of migrants' settlement experiences in New Zealand and on their outcomes in the labour market since their first interview.

The LisNZ is a partnership between Statistics New Zealand and the Department of Labour.

Immigration approval category and type of application

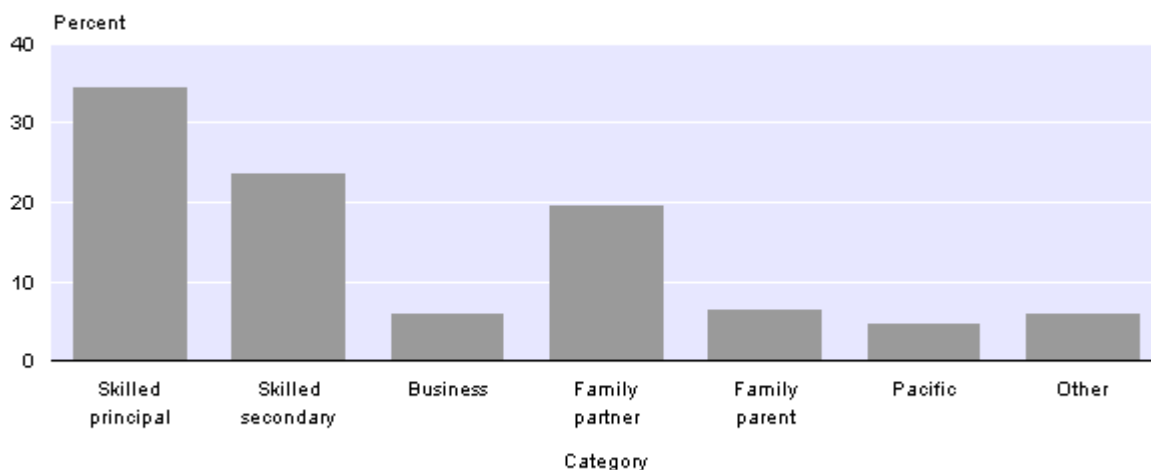
People who wish to migrate permanently to New Zealand can apply for permanent residence through one of several categories. For purposes of this analysis, some of these categories have been combined according to their specific characteristics.

One application can include more than one migrant. The person who makes the application is called the principal applicant and other people included in the same application are called secondary applicants. Secondary applicants might include a partner and/or child(ren). For this release, the skilled principal and skilled secondary migrants are mentioned separately because of their high numbers and unique characteristics. For immigration approval category definitions, refer to the technical notes of this release.

Of all migrants who were interviewed at wave 1 and wave 2, the largest group (57.8 percent) was approved through the different categories for skilled migrants (skilled principal migrants at 34.2 percent and skilled secondary migrants at 23.6 percent).

Family partner migrants were the second largest group (19.5 percent), followed by family parent migrants (6.3 percent). The remaining migrants at wave 2 (16.3 percent) were approved through other categories: business (6.0 percent), Pacific (4.5 percent), and 'other' (5.8 percent). The 'other' migrant category consists primarily of migrants approved through the Family Sibling and Family Adult Child immigration approval categories, as well as a small number approved through various categories in the International/Humanitarian residence stream.

Distribution of All Migrants at Wave 2⁽¹⁾
By immigration approval category



(1) Wave 1 interviews were between 1 May 2005 and 30 April 2007, wave 2 interviews between 1 May 2006 and 30 April 2008.

Changes in aspects of settlement

Satisfaction with life in New Zealand

At each wave, migrants were asked how satisfied or dissatisfied they were with life in New Zealand. Most migrants (91.3 percent) were either satisfied or very satisfied with life in New Zealand at wave 2, compared with 93.3 percent at wave 1.

Level of satisfaction with life in New Zealand at waves 1 and 2				
	Satisfied/ very satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Dissatisfied/ very dissatisfied	Total
	Percent			
Wave 1 ⁽¹⁾	93.3	5.9	0.8	100.0
Wave 2 ⁽¹⁾	91.3	7.5	1.2	100.0

(1) Excludes don't know responses and response refusals.
Note: Due to rounding, individual figures may not sum to stated totals.

The following table shows that most migrants (93.7 percent) who were satisfied or very satisfied at wave 1 remained satisfied or very satisfied at wave 2 and less than 1 percent (0.7 percent) were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied at wave 2. Of those who were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied at wave 1, one out of five (21.4 percent) remained dissatisfied or very dissatisfied at wave 2, while half (50.0 percent) were satisfied or very satisfied at wave 2.

Satisfaction with life in New Zealand at wave 2, given satisfaction at wave 1				
	Satisfied/ very satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Dissatisfied/ very dissatisfied	Total
	Percent			
Satisfaction with life at wave 1				
Satisfied/very satisfied	93.7	5.6	0.7	100.0
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	59.3	34.9	6.2	100.0
Dissatisfied/very dissatisfied	50.0	32.1	21.4	100.0

Note: Due to rounding, individual figures may not sum to stated totals.

In order to compare movements across all five levels of satisfaction by immigration approval category, refer to table 1 in the tables section of this release.

Perception of safety in New Zealand

At each wave, migrants were asked how safe or unsafe they felt in New Zealand (considering only crime in New Zealand). Most migrants (81.3 percent) felt either safe or very safe in New Zealand at wave 2, compared with 85.9 percent at wave 1. For the 'perception of safety' definition, refer to the technical notes of this release.

Perception of safety in New Zealand at waves 1 and 2				
	Safe/ very safe	Neither safe nor unsafe	Unsafe/ very unsafe	Total
	Percent			
Wave 1 ⁽¹⁾	85.9	11.0	3.1	100.0
Wave 2 ⁽¹⁾	81.3	12.9	5.8	100.0

(1) Excludes don't know responses and response refusals.
Note: Due to rounding, individual figures may not sum to stated totals.

The following table shows that most of the migrants (86.9 percent) who felt safe or very safe at wave 1 still felt safe or very safe at wave 2, while 3.3 percent said they felt unsafe or very unsafe at wave 2. Over forty percent (42.3 percent) of the migrants who reported they felt unsafe or very unsafe at wave 1 reported they felt the same way at wave 2, while 30.6 percent reported they felt safe or very safe at wave 2.

Perception of safety in New Zealand at wave 2, given perception of safety at wave 1				
	Safe/ very safe	Neither safe nor unsafe	Unsafe/ very unsafe	Total
	Percent			
Perception of safety at wave 1				
Safe/very safe	86.9	9.8	3.3	100.0
Neither safe nor unsafe	51.9	32.6	15.5	100.0
Unsafe/very unsafe	30.6	27.0	42.3	100.0

Note: Due to rounding, individual figures may not sum to stated totals.

In order to compare movements across all five levels of perception of safety by immigration approval category, refer to table 2 in the tables section of this release.

Dwelling ownership in New Zealand

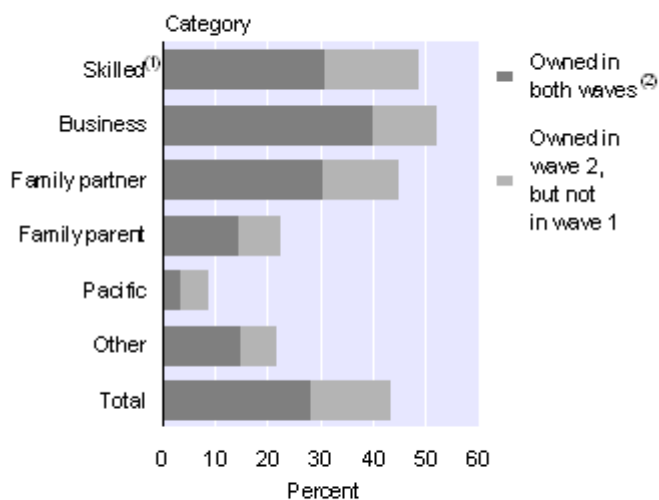
Dwelling ownership status indicates whether migrants owned or partly owned the dwelling they were living in at the time of the interview. For example, a migrant living in a dwelling owned by their siblings or parents would not be considered the owner of that dwelling.

More than four out of 10 (42.9 percent) migrants owned or partly owned the dwelling they lived in at wave 2, compared with 29.9 percent at wave 1.

By immigration approval category, migrants from the business, skilled, and family partner categories were more likely to own a dwelling at wave 2 (52.0 percent, 48.5 percent and 44.6 percent, respectively). Skilled migrants had the largest increase in dwelling ownership, with 17.9 percent purchasing a dwelling between wave 1 and wave 2, followed by family partner migrants at 14.4 percent.

Migrant Dwelling Ownership at Wave 2

By immigration approval category



(1) Includes both skilled principal and skilled secondary migrants.

(2) Wave 1 interviews were between 1 May 2005 and 30 April 2007, wave 2 interviews between 1 May 2006 and 30 April 2008.

Other results:

- At both waves, migrants from the UK/Ireland were more likely to own a dwelling (52.9 percent at wave 1 and 70.6 percent at wave 2) than other migrants.
- Migrants who had their residence granted offshore had a higher proportion of dwelling ownership (46.3 percent) than onshore migrants (41.6 percent).
- More than half of migrants in the 35- to 44-year age group and in the 45- to 54-year age group owned their dwelling at wave 2 (58.0 percent and 57.9 percent, respectively).
- Migrants residing in Auckland were less likely to own their dwelling (34.3 percent), compared with migrants from the rest of the North Island (50.2 percent) and the South Island (54.2 percent).

Changes in labour market outcomes

Labour market activity

At each wave, migrants were asked about their current involvement in the labour force. The following section presents information on migrants' labour market activities at both waves, comparing two points in time only. Note for example, that those who reported being employed at both waves may have looked for work or done other activities not related to the labour market between the two waves (eg studying or taking care of dependants). For labour market activity definitions, refer to the technical notes of this release.

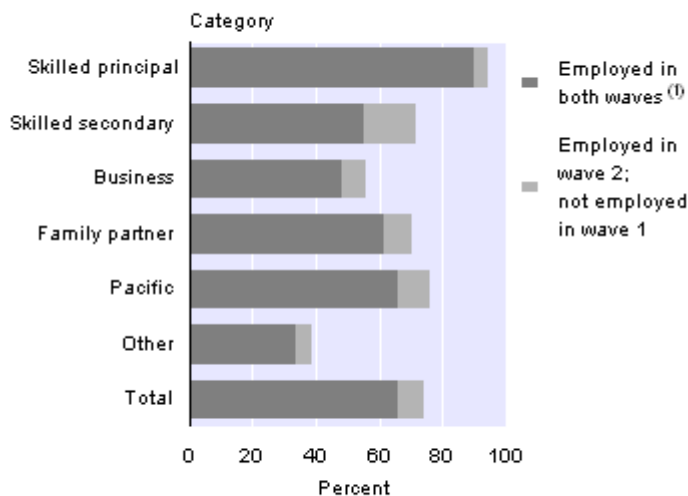
Three-quarters (74.3 percent) of migrants were employed at wave 2, compared with 71.2 percent at wave 1. At wave 2, the seeking-work rate was 2.7 percent, compared with 4.2 percent at wave 1.

Of all migrants, 8.4 percent moved from not being employed at wave 1 to being employed at wave 2. On the other hand, 5.3 percent moved from being employed at wave 1 to not being employed at wave 2.

By immigration approval category, skilled secondary migrants showed the largest movement into employment, with 16.0 percent of them moving from not being employed at wave 1 to being employed at wave 2.

Employed Migrants at Wave 2

Percent of population by immigration approval category



(1) Wave 1 interviews were between 1 May 2005 and 30 April 2007, wave 2 interviews between 1 May 2006 and 30 April 2008.

Overall, 84.2 percent of migrants interviewed at both waves reported the same type of labour market activity at each wave (65.9 percent being employed, 0.3 percent looking for work, and 18.0 percent doing other activities).

More than nine out of 10 (92.6 percent) migrants employed at wave 1 were still employed at wave 2. Of those who were out of the labour force at wave 1, 25.8 percent were employed at wave 2, 4.2 percent were looking for work, and 70.2 percent were still out of the labour force. Of those looking for work at wave 1, 58.6 percent were employed at wave 2, 32.4 percent were out of the labour force, and 9.0 percent were still looking for work.

Employment spells between wave 1 and wave 2

As well as information on current employment status, the LisNZ collects information about movements into and out of employment since the last interview. This data indicates that 80.9 percent of all migrants had at least one employment spell between wave 1 and wave 2 (compared with 74.3 percent who were employed at wave 2). Of these, 64.4 percent had only one employment spell between waves; 30.9 percent had two employment spells; and the remaining 4.7 percent had more than two employment spells.

Skill level of main job

This section provides information on skill level changes for migrants employed at both waves. The analysis uses Immigration New Zealand's (INZ) definition of skilled employment, which is primarily based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations 2006 (ANZSCO 06). The ANZSCO 06 defines five skill levels based on formal education and training, previous experience, and on-the-job training. For skill level definitions, refer to the technical notes of this release.

Migrants applying for residence through the Skilled Migrant Category are awarded points if they have employment (or a job offer) in an occupation listed in the INZ policy manual (primarily occupations classified as skill levels 1, 2, or 3 of ANZSCO 06). Occupations classified as level 4 or 5 are lower skilled than occupations classified as level 1, 2, or 3.

More than two-thirds (68.4 percent) of employed migrants worked in a skilled job at wave 2. Of these, 8.6 percent moved from a lower skilled job at wave 1 to a higher skilled job at wave 2.

At wave 2, 86.6 percent of employed skilled principal migrants and 74.7 percent of employed business migrants worked in a skilled job. The majority (82.8 percent) of employed skilled principal migrants worked in a skilled job at both waves.

Over half of employed family partner (54.9 percent) and skilled secondary (53.5 percent) migrants worked in a skilled job at wave 2. One out of 10 (9.5 percent) employed skilled secondary migrants and 7.8 percent of employed family partner migrants moved from a lower skilled job at wave 1 to a higher skilled job at wave 2.

Employed Pacific category migrants were the least likely to work in a skilled job (26.0 percent at wave 2), while 71.2 percent worked in a skill level 4 or 5 job at both waves.

Median hourly wages

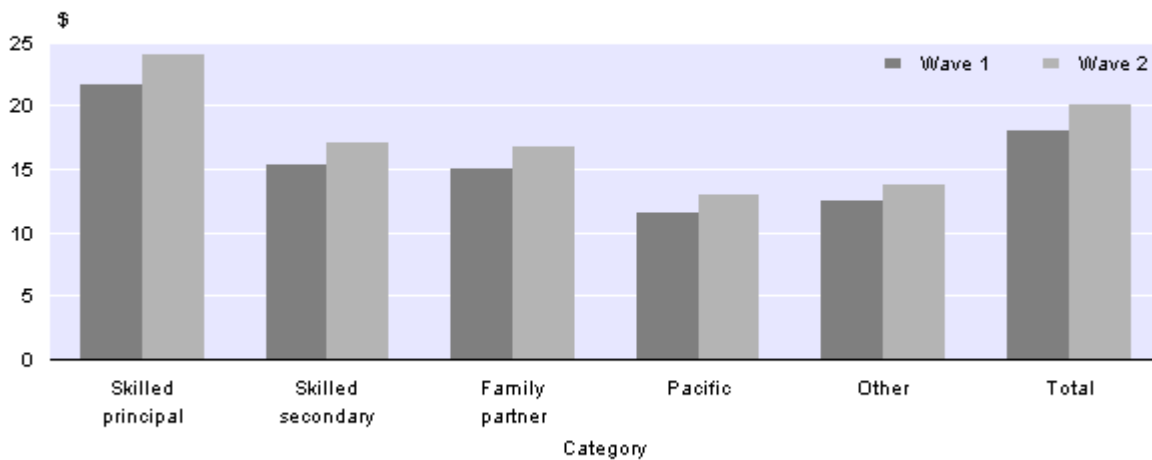
Wage and salary earners were asked about their gross earnings and the number of hours they usually worked each week. This section provides information about the median hourly earnings of migrants who reported their earnings and hours worked at both waves.

The overall median hourly wage was \$20.00 at wave 2, compared with \$18.00 at wave 1. At wave 2, median hourly earnings ranged from \$13.00 for Pacific category migrants to \$23.97 for skilled principal migrants. Skilled secondary and family partner migrants had median hourly earnings of \$17.00 and \$16.78, respectively, at wave 2. The median hourly wage increased by more than 10.0 percent for each immigration approval category between wave 1 and wave 2.

Median Hourly Earnings for Migrant Wage and Salary Earners

By immigration approval category

Waves 1 and 2 ⁽¹⁾



(1) Wave 1 interviews were between 1 May 2005 and 30 April 2007, wave 2 interviews between 1 May 2006 and 30 April 2008.

Migrants who rated their English language skills as moderate to poor (11.3 percent of all migrants at wave 2) had median hourly earnings of \$12.00 at wave 2, compared with \$22.06 for migrants who rated English as a language they spoke best.

Satisfaction with main job

At waves 1 and 2, four out of five employed migrants were satisfied or very satisfied with their main job (80.9 percent at wave 1 and 81.8 percent at wave 2). Seven out of 10 (70.0 percent) employed migrants were satisfied or very satisfied with their main job at both waves.

Level of satisfaction with main job in New Zealand at waves 1 and 2				
	Satisfied/ very satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Dissatisfied/ very dissatisfied	Total
	Percent			
Wave 1 ⁽¹⁾	80.9	13.2	5.9	100.0
Wave 2 ⁽¹⁾	81.8	12.9	5.3	100.0

(1) Excludes don't know responses and response refusals.
Note: Due to rounding, individual figures may not sum to stated totals.

Of those who were satisfied or very satisfied at wave 1, 13.5 percent were 'neither satisfied nor dissatisfied', 'dissatisfied', or 'very dissatisfied' at wave 2. Of those who were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied at wave 1, over half (54.0 percent) were satisfied or very satisfied at wave 2.

Level of satisfaction with main job in New Zealand at wave 2, given level of satisfaction at wave 1				
	Satisfied/ very satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Dissatisfied/ very dissatisfied	Total
	Percent			
Level of satisfaction at wave 1				
Satisfied/very satisfied	86.5	9.8	3.7	100.0
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	65.0	26.1	8.8	100.0
Dissatisfied/very dissatisfied	54.0	27.0	19.7	100.0

Note: Due to rounding, individual figures may not sum to stated totals.

In order to compare movements across all five levels of satisfaction with main job by immigration approval category, refer to table 7 in the tables section of this release.

For technical information contact:
Alan Bailey or Cécile Thoreau
Wellington 04 931 4600

Email: LisNZ@stats.govt.nz

Next release...

Future results will be published as they become available.

Technical notes

The Longitudinal Immigration Survey: New Zealand (LisNZ) was designed to collect longitudinal data in order to understand how well migrants settle over their first three years as residents in New Zealand.

The survey interviews migrants at around 6 months (wave 1), 18 months (wave 2), and 36 months (wave 3) after their residence uptake. The aim is to achieve a sample of around 5,000 migrants at the third interview, allowing for non-response rates and attrition rates.

All the results in the tables represent weighted estimates of migrants or percentages from the first two interviews. All the tables include the longitudinal respondents only (interviewed both at wave 1 and wave 2).

Survey population and scope

The target population for the LisNZ consists of all migrants (excluding refugees) who were at least 16 years old and were approved for residence in New Zealand from 1 November 2004 to 31 October 2005. These migrants could have already been in New Zealand at the time of residence approval or arrived in New Zealand within 12 months of their residence approval.

The target population excluded temporary visitors and all people from Australia, Niue, Cook Islands, and Tokelau. Migrants from Australia were excluded because they are entitled to enter New Zealand without applying for a residence permit or visa. In addition, migrants from Niue, Cook Islands, and Tokelau were excluded, as people from these countries have automatic rights to New Zealand citizenship. Refugees were also excluded from the target population because their routes to permanent residence, as well as their settlement experiences, are very different from those of migrants.

For practical and operational reasons, the survey population for the LisNZ was restricted to migrants in the target population who were living in the North Island, South Island, or Waiheke Island at the first interview (wave 1), and those who could understand at least one of the designated survey languages (English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Samoan, Korean, Hindi, and Punjabi).

Survey methodology

The survey involves a longitudinal design where the same migrants are interviewed three times over a period of three years. Individual migrants (as opposed to household units), are used for the selection of the LisNZ sample, the collection of data, and the analysis of the results from the survey.

The survey was designed to produce estimates for several subpopulations defined by immigration approval category and region of origin. It was estimated that 5,000 completed interviews in wave 3 would produce estimates of the required accuracy. A large initial sample was required to achieve this target and a stratified systematic random design was used to achieve this.

A sample of 12,202 migrants was randomly selected to participate in the survey. The migrants that were interviewed at wave 1 were then followed up for interview in wave 2.

Data collection method

The sample of migrants (both onshore and offshore) was selected from 1 November 2004 to 31 October 2005. As offshore migrants can arrive in New Zealand at any time up to 12 months after residence approval, the offshore arrival period is from 1 November 2004 to 31 October 2006. Consequently, the wave 1 interviews occurred between 1 May 2005 and 30 April 2007. Wave 2 interviews occurred 12 months after the first interview, between 1 May 2006 and 30 April 2008.

The LisNZ was conducted using computer-assisted face-to-face interviews. The questionnaire was translated into each of the designated survey languages.

Response rate

Despite all efforts to locate migrants selected for the survey, a number of migrants could not be interviewed. From the 12,202 migrants selected for the first wave, 217 were not eligible to take part in the survey, 145 did not arrive in New Zealand in time and 984 had no initial contact address in New Zealand. Of the remaining 10,856 migrants, 7,137 were interviewed at wave 1. This corresponds to a 66 percent response rate.

Most of the 'non-response' at wave 1 was due to non-contact (84 percent) rather than refusal by respondents (note that the LisNZ is a voluntary survey). Non-contact was particularly high for migrants who were approved offshore, where the response rate was 57 percent, compared with 70 percent for those approved onshore.

Of the 7,137 migrants interviewed for the first wave, 6,156 were interviewed at wave 2. This corresponds to an 86.3 percent response rate. Of the 981 non-responses at wave 2, 79.0 percent were due to non-contact, 17.6 percent to refusal, and the remaining 3.4 percent to other reasons.

Estimation

Longitudinal weights are produced after each wave so that the achieved sample for each wave is weighted up to represent the longitudinal population of interest. The population of interest was all migrants who were approved for permanent residence between 1 November 2004 and 31 October 2005 and, if they were approved offshore, arrived in New Zealand within 12 months of the approval.

A basic sampling weight is attached to each migrant to reflect the probability of that migrant being selected in the sample. An initial adjustment is made to the basic sampling weight to account for the retention of a maximum of two migrants per application. Two further adjustments are then applied to account for unit non-response and to benchmark to known population totals.

The weighting classes used for non-response adjustments are based on the strata and type of application. The population totals used for benchmarking are the actual number of migrants for the survey period by sex and age group, obtained from other administrative sources.

Item non-response

Item non-response causes incomplete information when answers are not provided to some questions. The item non-response rate for the LisNZ was less than 1 percent for most variables at both waves. Imputation was not applied for wave 1 and wave 2 data of the LisNZ.

Reliability of survey estimates

Two types of error are possible in estimates based on a sample survey: sample error and non-sample error. Sample error is a measure of the variability that occurs because information has been collected from a sample of migrants rather than the entire population of migrants in a given reference period.

Sample errors have been determined at the residence approval categories. For skilled and family partner migrants, the sample errors have also been determined at the region of origin. For this release, sample errors have been calculated based on a replication variance estimation method for all numbers produced, including estimates of change between the two waves. For example, the proportion of migrants who owned a dwelling was 42.9 percent at wave 2. This proportion is subject to a sample error of plus or minus 1.8 percentage points, giving a confidence interval of 41.1 percent to 44.7 percent. In general, about 95 percent of the published results are expected to include the actual value in intervals calculated this way.

Estimated changes are also subject to sample error. For example, the proportion of migrants employed at wave 1 was 71.1 percent; at wave 2, this proportion increased to 74.3 percent. The estimated change in employment was thus, 3.2 percentage points, and is subject to a sample error of plus or minus 1.7 percentage points. The change in this estimate is larger than its associated sample error.

Non-sample errors are very difficult to measure. They include inaccuracies and bias in migrants' responses during interviews, and errors made during data processing. Statistics NZ applies survey monitoring procedures, such as editing of the data collected from the interviews, to minimise these types of errors.

Confidentiality

All estimates provided in this release have been randomly rounded to 10. Weighted counts below 20 have been suppressed for confidentiality reasons. Percentages have been calculated after applying the rounding and suppression processes. Therefore, the estimated totals may differ from the sum of the individual cells.

Definitions

English language ability: English language ability is derived from responses to questions about migrants' language usage and their ability to read, write, speak, and understand English. English was either recorded as a language spoken best, otherwise various questions assessed migrants' ability to read, write, speak, and understand English (each on a five-point scale). An overall score was derived from the average of the four scores.

Hourly wages: An hourly rate is derived by dividing a weekly gross income from wages and salaries (excluding self-employment income) by the number of hours usually worked (rather than the hours actually paid for). The income from wages and salaries excludes allowances, bonuses, overtime, and any other extra payments.

Immigration approval category: People who wish to migrate permanently to New Zealand must apply through one of the following residence streams of the New Zealand Residence Programme (NZRP): the Skilled/Business, Family Sponsored, or International/Humanitarian streams. An application for permanent residence includes the principal applicant (the key person assessed against the policy criteria) and any secondary applicants (other people in an application, for example, a partner and children). All people in the application are approved through the same policy, such as the Skilled Migrant Category (SMC). Each stream has a number of categories (or policies) with specific approval criteria. The following groupings are used in this release:

Immigration approval categories	
Category	Definition
Skilled principal	Principal applicants granted residence through skilled migration policies (Skilled Migrant Category, General Skills Category (now closed), and the Residence from Work categories).
Skilled secondary	Secondary applicants granted residence through skilled migration policies (Skilled Migrant Category, General Skills Category (now closed), and the Residence from Work categories).
Business	Principal and secondary applicants granted residence through the business policies (Investor, Entrepreneur, and Employees of Relocating Businesses).
Family partner	Principal and secondary applicants granted residence through the Family Partner policy. This policy enables the partner (including spouse, de facto, or same-sex partner) of a New Zealand citizen or resident to apply for residence. Applicants must show that they have been living in a partnership for at least 12 months.
Family parent	Principal and secondary applicants granted residence through the Family Parent policy. This policy enables the parent(s) of a New Zealand citizen or resident to apply for residence if they have no dependent children. The policy includes all of their adult children under certain conditions.
Pacific	Principal and secondary applicants granted residence through the Pacific Access Category and the Samoan Quota. These policies fall under the International/Humanitarian Stream of the New Zealand Residence Programme.
Other	Principal and secondary applicants granted residence through categories not included above. It consists mainly of family categories (not stated above), including Family Sibling and Family Adult Child along with a small number of migrants approved through various International/Humanitarian Stream categories (excluding refugees).

Labour market activity: Labour market activity is measured by categorising migrants as employed, not employed but seeking work, or not employed and not seeking work. The definitions for involvement in the labour force are aligned with, but not identical to, the concepts and definitions used in the Household Labour Force Survey. In particular, the definition of people seeking work is different as standard job search questions or questions about current availability to start work are not asked in the LisNZ.

- **Employed:** All individuals in the working-age population who worked for one hour or more per week, either as an employee or in self-employment; or worked without pay for one hour or more in work which contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business or practice owned or operated by a relative; or 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 industrial dispute, or leave or holiday.
- **Not employed but seeking work:** All individuals in the working-age population who were without a paid job and seeking work. Note that this is not the same as the official measure of unemployment derived from the Household Labour Force Survey.
- **Labour force:** All individuals in the working-age population who were employed or not employed but seeking work.
- **Out of the labour force (or doing other activities):** All individuals in the working-age population who were neither employed nor seeking employment. For example, people who were retired, or had personal or family responsibilities; people attending educational institutions; and people permanently unable to work due to disabilities.
- **Working-age population:** All individuals aged 16 years and over, regardless of their labour market activity. This definition differs from the standard International Labour Organisation (population aged 15 years and over).
- **Employment rate:** Proportion of the working-age migrant population who were employed or self-employed.
- **Seeking-work rate:** Proportion of migrants who were looking for work (and who were currently not working) out of all those migrants in the labour force.

Level of satisfaction with life in New Zealand: At each wave, migrants were asked how satisfied or dissatisfied they were with life in New Zealand. At each wave, they could give one of the following options:

- very satisfied with life in New Zealand
- satisfied
- neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- dissatisfied
- very dissatisfied.

For the purpose of this release, these responses have been regrouped:

- very satisfied/satisfied with life in New Zealand
- neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- dissatisfied/very dissatisfied.

Level of satisfaction with main job: Refer to the level of satisfaction with life in New Zealand definition.

Longitudinal respondents: People responding in all waves of the survey are called longitudinal respondents. Those people who have responded at waves 1 and 2 of the LisNZ are the current longitudinal responding individuals. In this release, all estimates and proportions refer to the longitudinal respondents.

Perception of safety in New Zealand: At each wave, migrants were asked how safe or unsafe they felt in New Zealand considering crime only. At each wave, they could give one of the following options:

- very safe in New Zealand
- safe
- neither safe nor unsafe
- unsafe
- very unsafe.

For the purpose of this release, these responses have been regrouped:

- very safe/safe
- neither safe nor unsafe
- unsafe/very unsafe.

Region of origin: Region of origin is derived from country of nationality/citizenship. For an applicant with dual citizenship, citizenship refers to nationality recorded on the passport used for their residence application. The following regions of origin were derived based on these criteria:

Region of origin	
Region	Country of nationality/citizenship
UK/Ireland	Great Britain, Ireland
South Africa	South Africa
North America	Canada, United States of America, US Outlying Islands
Rest of Europe (includes Russia)	European Union 25, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Gibraltar, Iceland, Kosovo, Liechtenstein, Macedonia, Moldova, Monaco, Norway, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Switzerland, Ukraine, Vatican City
North Asia	China, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Mongolia, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan
South Asia	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
South-East Asia	Brunei Darussalam, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor Leste, Viet Nam
Pacific	American Samoa, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, Pacific Island Trust Territory, Palau, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, US Pacific Islands, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna
Other	Countries not stated above

Region of settlement: Derived from the 16 New Zealand regional councils. For the purpose of analysis, these have been grouped into three regions:

- **Auckland:** Auckland regional council area
- **North Island except Auckland:** Includes Northland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne, Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, Manawatu-Wanganui, and Wellington regional council area
- **South Island:** Includes West Coast, Canterbury, Otago, Southland, Tasman, Nelson, Marlborough regional council area.

Skill levels: Immigration New Zealand's (INZ) definition of skilled employment is primarily based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO 06). The five skill levels in ANZSCO are defined in terms of formal education and training, previous experience, and on-the-job training. The determination of boundaries between skill levels is based on the following definitions:

Skill levels based on ANZSCO 06	
Skill level	Definition
1	Level of skill at least equivalent to a bachelors degree. At least five years of relevant experience may substitute for the formal qualification. In some instances, relevant experience and/or on-the-job-training may be required in addition to the formal qualification.
2	Level of skill equivalent to a NZ register diploma or an Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) associate degree, advanced diploma or diploma. At least three years of relevant experience may substitute for the formal qualifications listed above. In some instances, relevant experience and/or on-the-job-training may be required in addition to the formal qualification.
3	Level of skill equivalent to a NZ register level 4 qualification, an AQF certificate IV or AQF certificate III including at least two years of on-the-job training. At least three years of relevant experience may substitute for the formal qualifications listed above. In some instances, relevant experience and/or on-the-job-training may be required in addition to the formal qualification.
4	Level of skill equivalent to a NZ register level 2 or 3 qualification or an AQF certificate II or III. At least one year of relevant experience may substitute for the formal qualifications listed above. In some instances, relevant experience may be required in addition to the formal qualification.
5	Level of skill equivalent to a NZ register level 1 qualification, an AQF certificate I or a compulsory secondary education. For some occupations, a short period of on-the-job training may be required in addition to or instead of the formal qualification. In some instances, no formal qualification or on-the-job training may be required.

Spell: At wave 2, the respondents were asked about the activities they had been doing since their last interview. For each activity (time spell), the following information was gathered or coded from the responses collected in the questionnaire:

- **Type of activity:** Paid job, self-employed, family unpaid job, casual work, looking for work, doing other activity.
- **Start and end dates:** If the respondent is still doing this activity, then no end date is recorded. When the respondent has been doing two activities, two time spells are recorded with overlapping start and/or end dates.
- **Occupation and industry codes:** For the employment spells only.

Time spell data are used, for example, to calculate the number and duration of jobs respondents had between two waves.

Wave: In a longitudinal survey, interviews are conducted with the same respondents repeatedly over time. The LisNZ is thus made up of cycles, or waves, of interviewing. The wave length is one year between the wave 1 and wave 2 interviews and 18 months between the wave 2 and wave 3 interviews.

Tables

The following tables are printed with this Hot Off The Press and can also be downloaded from the Statistics New Zealand website in Excel format. If you do not have access to Excel, you may use the [Excel file viewer](#) to view, print and export the contents of the file.

1. Migrants' satisfaction with life in New Zealand, by immigration approval category
2. Migrants' perception of safety, by immigration approval category
3. Migrants' dwelling ownership, by immigration approval category
4. Migrants' labour market status, by immigration approval category
5. Skill level of employed migrants' main job, by immigration approval category
6. Median hourly earnings of migrants earning income from wage/salary jobs, by immigration approval category
7. Migrants' satisfaction with main job in New Zealand, by immigration approval category