



IMSED RESEARCH WORK PROGRAMME SUMMARY OF FINDINGS JANUARY 2008–DECEMBER 2009



IMSED Research
Department of Labour

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INTRODUCTION

This publication summarises findings from immigration-related research undertaken by International Migration Settlement and Employment Dynamics (IMSED) Research, a service of the New Zealand Department of Labour. The publication outlines research undertaken from January 2008 to December 2009.

This is the third edition of this publication. Earlier editions summarise immigration-related research undertaken July 2004 to December 2007 and from 1997 to 2004.

The strategic aims of the IMSED Research Work Programme are to undertake and facilitate high-quality research to understand the migration process as well as migrant experiences and settlement outcomes. This includes migrants' experiences of, contribution to, and impact on New Zealand over the short, medium, and longer terms.

The summaries in this publication highlights the varied nature of the IMSED Research Work Programme. The programme includes:

- Economic Impacts of Immigration
- Pacific
- Settlement
- Migration trends
- Longitudinal Immigration Survey: New Zealand (LisNZ)
- Youth
- Refugee research.

ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF IMMIGRATION

The Economic Impacts of Immigration research programme explores how immigration interacts with economic performance and the relationships that exist between migration and markets. This research programme is funded by the Cross-Departmental Research Pool.

Economic Impacts of Immigration: Scenarios using a computable general equilibrium model of the New Zealand economy

Dr Ganesh Nana and Kel Sanderson, BERL, for the Department of Labour, and Rob Hodgson, Department of Labour, October 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/cge>

This study reports on the application of a computable general equilibrium model of the New Zealand economy to investigate the economy-wide impacts of immigration.

The objective of this study was to better understand the impact of immigration on the New Zealand economy overall and on different parts of the economy. This was achieved by modelling changes to the scale of the immigrant inflow and by changing the focus of immigration to target higher-skilled immigrants. The model also tested the impact of additional influences that immigrants might have on productivity and trade. Finally, results from the model were compared with those from a similar study conducted in the 1980s and a more recent study undertaken for the Australian economy.

From an economy-wide perspective, the increased immigration scenarios investigated resulted in qualitatively similar impacts. In general, the results of the model scenarios found that increased immigration:

- reduces production costs
- improves the competitiveness of New Zealand goods and services, benefiting exports
- benefits domestic investment and/or consumer spending, depending on the skills composition of the immigration inflow
- results in higher revenues to government, which outweigh the impact on spending, so translate into an improvement in the balance of the Government's accounts.

The results listed above combine to improve both real gross domestic product and real gross domestic product per capita.

The Impact of Immigration on the Labour Market Outcomes of New Zealanders

David C Maré and Steven Stillman, Motu, for the Department of Labour, 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/impacts-labour-market-outcomes>

This research estimates the impact of inflows of recent immigrants on the wages and employment of earlier immigrants, New Zealand-born workers, and recent immigrants. Generally, overseas research has found that immigration has a small negative effect on the wages of non-immigrants. Theoretically, new immigrants will reduce the wages of New Zealand-born workers with whom they compete most directly, namely those in the same local area and in the same skill group ('substitutability'). However, if the mix of skills that immigrants bring is sufficiently different from the mix of skills in the New Zealand-born workforce, it could increase the wages of non-immigrants with different skills ('complementarity').

This research uses data from the New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings for 1996, 2001, and 2006. Findings showed overall that immigrants do not have a negative effect on the wages of the New Zealand-born population. The largest impact that inflows of recent immigrants have is on the wages paid to recent immigrants (for example, in areas with more recent immigrants in a particular skill group, recent immigrants are paid less than in other geographic areas). Immigrants are found to compete most with other immigrants with similar skill levels.

Four scenarios were developed to illustrate the impact of different immigration patterns. The scenarios show what the impact would have been if the immigrant inflow between 2001 and 2006 was halved or doubled or if the skill composition of the flow changed. These scenarios showed that a change in the number of recent immigrants would have the largest impact on recent immigrants. Under the more-restrictive assumptions, estimates implied that doubling the size of recent migrant inflows decreases recent immigrants' employment rates by 10 percent to 13 percent and their wages by 4 percent to 14 percent. The less-restrictive assumptions show a much larger negative wage impact on recent immigrants (around 60 percent). The overall impact of doubling recent immigrant inflows is positive but small on New Zealand-born workers, increasing employment rates by 1.4 percent to 1.8 percent and wage rates by 0.2 percent to 1.9 percent, depending on the model assumptions.

The only evidence found of negative impacts of recent immigrants regarding wages for New Zealand-born workers is when the skill composition of the inflow is changed. An increase in the overall skill mix of the migrant inflow has a small negative impact on the wages of high-skilled New Zealand-born workers (-1.8 percent) that is offset by a small positive impact on the wages of medium-skilled New Zealand-born workers (2.3 percent). Conversely, a decrease in the skill mix of the migrant inflow decreases wages of the medium-skilled New Zealand-born (-2.5 percent) but increases wages of the highly skilled (1.7 percent).

Migrants and Labour Market Outcomes

Dr Ganesh Nana and Kel Sanderson, BERL, for the Department of Labour, 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/migrant-types>

This paper investigates the labour market outcomes of immigrants to New Zealand. Labour market outcomes related to income, source of income, labour force status, and occupation. The study used data from the New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings for 1981, 1996, 2001, and 2006.

Findings were as follows.

- In 2006, 25 percent of the working-age population (those aged 15 years and over) were born overseas compared with 22 percent in 2001 and 18 percent in 1981.
- Between 2001 and 2006, the working-age population grew by around 271,000. Of this, just over 162,000 (60 percent) were born overseas.
- Between 2001 and 2006, the high-participation working-age group (30–49 years) had a net inflow of 64,200 immigrants and a net outflow of 1,200 New Zealand born.
- The retention of immigrants between the censuses has improved. The out-migration rate is defined as the relativity between the existing immigrants who leave between censuses and those who arrive. For every 100 immigrants who entered New Zealand between 2001 and 2006, 24 migrants who were in New Zealand in 2001 left the country. This figure of 24 compares with an overall out-migration rate of 42 between 1996 and 2001.
- The prolonged period of economic growth in New Zealand as well as changes in immigration policy focusing on matching migrants and employment are likely factors contributing to the improved retention of migrants. However, it is not possible to determine the extent of these contributing factors.
- The highest rates of out-migration are for migrants from countries with mainly European populations. This group is likely to be fluent in English and has fewer constraints to global mobility.
- The labour market outcomes for migrants improve as their length of residence in New Zealand increases.

In most cases differences in labour market outcomes across the various subgroups of the population could be described by non-migrant-related characteristics, namely differences in age composition and highest qualifications possessed.

The Labour Market Adjustment of Immigrants in New Zealand

David C Maré and Steven Stillman, Motu, for the Department of Labour, 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/lmainz>

This research uses data from the 1997–2007 New Zealand Income Survey to examine the path of economic outcomes of immigrants in New Zealand. It explores how employment rates, hourly wages, annual income, and occupations for immigrants compare with those of similarly skilled New Zealand-born people and the extent that these change with years in New Zealand. Outcomes are estimated for immigrants from different birth regions and with different qualifications.

The research shows that over the entire period analysed, newly arriving immigrants experience, on average, employment rates that are 20 percentage points lower than those of comparable New Zealand-born individuals. Their annual incomes are also \$10,000 to \$15,000 lower. Immigrants who gain employment work in slightly lower-level occupations, and hourly wages are 10 percent to 15 percent less than for comparable New Zealand-born workers. However, after around 15 years in New Zealand, outcomes have generally improved, and when compared with similar New Zealand-born people, they show that:

- employment rates for immigrants are about the same
- the income difference is halved for men and eliminated for women
- for employed immigrants:
 - occupation is at about the same level
 - wage differences of immigrant women close to within 5 percent, but the wage disadvantage for employed immigrant men remains about 10 percent to 15 percent less
- overall, there is much stronger evidence that employment rates improve more quickly than wages.

The major finding – that employment rates improve more quickly than wages for immigrants to New Zealand – is similar to results from Australia, but different from those from the United States. This may be expected since New Zealand has a relatively similar labour market to Australia. In fact, New Zealand's income distribution is smaller than that of Australia, the United States, and Canada, suggesting limited opportunity for wage adjustments. There is little evidence that the wage disadvantage reflects a low return on overseas qualifications. However, university-qualified immigrants receive a lower wage premium for their qualifications compared with New Zealand-born university graduates, but immigrants with vocational qualifications receive a higher wage premium.

Not all immigrant groups experience the same adjustment over time in labour market outcomes. Although the data did not identify what category immigrants were approved through, some differences in outcomes by other characteristics were found.

The Economic Impact of Immigration on Housing in New Zealand 1991–2016

BERL, for the Centre for Housing Research and Department of Labour, March 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/immigration-on-housing/summary.asp>

This paper explores links between immigration and housing demand and supply. It investigates housing behaviours of five different household types between 1991 and 2006. This information and the assumptions about migration flows are used to forecast two scenarios – a conservative scenario and a growth scenario – showing likely patterns of household formation, housing choices, and the future demand and supply for different tenures in 2016. The paper pays special attention to trends in Auckland.

A descriptive analysis of trends using data from the New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings for 1991 to 2006 found that the number of new households being created between censuses was relatively stable (ranging from 80,000 between 1996 and 2001 to 109,000 between 2001 and 2006). Of the increase of 109,000 households between 2001 and 2006, around 42,000 were migrant couple households (compared to 36,000 households of New Zealand-born couples). The only decrease was that of 40,000 New Zealand-born single households, whereby some would have coupled while others moved overseas.

In general, the housing behaviour of migrants who have been in New Zealand for more than 15 years becomes similar to that of New Zealand-born residents. Housing behaviour is linked more to the partnership status of a household than to place of birth. In other words, couples from various birthplaces have more in common with couples generally than with single households from the same birthplace.

The household behaviours observed between 1986 and 2006 and two different migration scenarios are used to project a picture of demand in 2016. The scenarios are a 'conservative' migration scenario and a 'growth' migration scenario. Under both scenarios:

- rentals from private landlords form the greatest tenure type of the increase in households (around 50 percent of the new households)
- houses remain the largest dwelling type category, followed by flats or apartments
- single migrant households will drive growth in demand for flats and apartments.

Between 2006 and 2016, the number of households in Auckland will grow by between 4,752 per year (conservative scenario) and 7,012 per year (growth scenario). Migrant couples are a significant share of this (33 percent under the conservative scenario and 37.7 percent under the growth scenario). The increase in renting from the private sector over the next 10 years in Auckland will be well above the national rate in both scenarios.

While most Aucklanders will continue to live in houses, the rate of growth will slow relative to the number of Aucklanders living in flats or apartments. Assuming the increase in households translates into demand for new dwellings, demand is not expected to exceed supply. However, the type of dwelling built may need to be adjusted to reflect the changing demand patterns.

Settlement Patterns and the Geographic Mobility of Recent Migrants to New Zealand

Motu, for the Department of Labour, April 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/settlement-patterns>

This paper uses data from the New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings to examine the characteristics of local areas that attract migrants and gauge the extent to which migrants choose to settle where there are the best labour market opportunities rather than where migrant networks are already established. The researchers estimated the choice models of McFadden¹ to examine the initial location choice made by recent migrants and the internal mobility of this cohort of migrants five years later. This allowed the researchers to examine whether the factors that affect the settlement decision change as migrants spend more time in New Zealand.

Results demonstrate that recent and earlier migrants live in highly concentrated locations compared with the New Zealand-born and that earlier migrants are more mobile than the New Zealand-born and are more likely to have been overseas at the time of the previous census. These results also suggest that recent and earlier migrants are more likely to live in labour market areas that have denser networks of migrants from the same region of birth, larger foreign-born populations, and larger populations in general. There is also weaker evidence that these migrants are more likely to live in areas with better economic opportunities, in particular, in labour market areas with higher average wages.

Regression results find consistent evidence that the density of migrant networks have a large impact on where recent and earlier migrants choose to settle. In particular, migrants are more likely to settle in labour market areas in which a larger proportion of the previous immigrant population from their same region of birth are living, but not the same region of birth and skill group. Once strength of region of birth migrant networks are controlled for results indicate recent and earlier migrants are less likely to settle in labour market areas with a proportionally larger foreign-born population, but are more likely to settle in areas with a larger foreign-born population of similarly skilled individuals.

¹ McFadden, Dan. 1973. "Conditional Logit Analysis of Qualitative Choice Behavior" in *Frontiers in Economics*, P. Zarembka, ed. New York: Academic Press.

Housing Markets and Migration: Evidence from New Zealand

Motu, for the Department of Labour, May 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/migration-and-housing/summary.asp>

This paper uses population data to examine how population change, international migration (including the return migration of New Zealanders abroad), and internal migration affect rents and sale prices of apartments and houses in various New Zealand housing markets. This research is the first of its kind in New Zealand conducted at such a detailed level of analysis.

Overall, population growth and house prices were found to be associated during the period from 1986 to 2006. For example, a 1 percent increase in an area's population was associated with a 0.2 percent to 0.5 percent increase in house prices. The impact on rents was found to be lower. Findings indicate that the link between migration flows and house prices may not be causal, but that they are both similarly affected by other factors such as the strong economy and expectations.

The source of population growth was broken down to separate impacts that new immigrants, New Zealanders returning from abroad, and movement within New Zealand have on house prices. Although immigration flows are an important contributor to population change, no evidence was found that the in-flow of immigrants had an impact on house prices. Local house price increases are more associated with where returning New Zealanders settle than with where immigrants live.

PACIFIC

IMSED Research leads an evaluation of the implementation of the Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme for Pacific kick-start states (Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu). The Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme allows workers from the Pacific Islands to come to New Zealand for up to 7 months to work in the horticulture and viticulture industries. An explicit objective of the scheme is to encourage economic development in the Pacific. IMSED Research also supports external institutions to evaluate the development outcomes of some Pacific states participating in the Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme.

Summary of Evaluation of Findings from Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE): First season (2007–08)

Evalue Research, for the Department of Labour, April 2009

Available from: http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/rse-summary/rse-summary_01.asp

This summary describes and assesses the first season (2007/08) of the Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme.

Overall, the first season of the Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme was successful. Most importantly, employers had a reliable workforce. Most workers returned home with savings that would benefit their families and communities. Other success indicators included a reasonable return rate of workers and a negligible number of overstayers.

The evaluation found that some implementation issues were still to be worked through, including the recruitment lead-in time, accommodation issues, and dispute resolution for workers.

How Pro-Poor is the Selection of Seasonal Migrant Workers from Tonga under New Zealand's Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) Program?

John Gibson, David McKenzie, and Halahingano Rohorua, Department of Economics, University of Waikato, June 2008

Available from: <http://wms-soros.mngt.waikato.ac.nz/Marsden+Fund+Project/Seasonal+Work.htm>

This paper examines the process of selection into the Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme in Tonga, using a large, specialised survey intended as a baseline for assessing the development impact of the scheme.

A survey of over 2,000 Tongans found that the new Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme had succeeded in opening up seasonal migration opportunities to poor, rural households in Tonga. Participation of poorer households and increased participation of rural households makes it more likely that the scheme will have some of the positive development impacts that are an objective of the scheme.

The enormous interest in the Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme is evidenced by about 20 percent of working-age men becoming part of the work-ready pool, with over 800 workers so far having the opportunity to work in New Zealand. Hence the Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme appears to have created new opportunities for migration for a large sector of the population that previously had no available mechanism for working abroad.

Who is Coming from Vanuatu to New Zealand under the New Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) Program?

David McKenzie, Pilar Garcia Martinez, and L Alan Winters, University of Waikato, June 2008

Available from: <http://wms-soros.mngt.waikato.ac.nz/Marsden+Fund+Project/Seasonal+Work.htm>

This paper reports on the results of a baseline survey undertaken in Vanuatu. It examines who wants to participate in the Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme and who is selected to participate from amongst those interested.

This study found the main participants in the scheme are males in their late twenties to early forties, most of whom are married and have children. Most workers are subsistence farmers in Vanuatu and have not completed more than 10 years of schooling. Such workers would be unlikely to be accepted under existing migration channels. Nevertheless, Recognised Seasonal Employer workers from Vanuatu come from wealthier households and have better English literacy skills and health than individuals not applying for the scheme. Lack of knowledge about the policy and application costs appear to be the main barriers preventing poorer individuals from applying to the scheme.

SETTLEMENT

How well migrants integrate or settle is of interest to all migrant-receiving countries. In recent years, many such nations have designed policy interventions, programmes, and activities to support good settlement outcomes. IMSED Research undertakes research and evaluation into the settlement of migrants and refugees in New Zealand.

Life in New Zealand: Settlement experiences of skilled migrants – results from the 2008 survey

Yuan Zhao, Department of Labour, December 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/life-in-nz>

This report presents findings from the 2008 Settlement Experience Feedback Survey of migrants who gained permanent residence in New Zealand through the Skilled/Business Stream between September and December 2007.

The 2008 survey findings provide a wide range of information about early settlement experiences and outcomes for 'skilled migrants'.² The 2008 survey results are useful to the Department of Labour in developing settlement resources and services for migrants, as well as providing valuable information to review the Skilled Migrant Category.

In total, 715 skilled migrants participated in the 2008 survey. Of these, 64 percent were principal applicants, 50 percent were female, and 67 percent were aged 20–39 years. The 2008 survey collected information about migrants' initial settlement experiences in three major areas, namely:

- expectation of and satisfaction with life in New Zealand
- employment in New Zealand
- living in New Zealand.

² Because the majority of interviewed migrants (93 percent) were approved for permanent residence through the Skilled Migrant Category, all respondents are referred to as 'skilled migrants' in this report.

Developing a New Zealand Settlement Knowledge Base: Phase One working paper - a framework and initial indicators

Bev Hong, Light Shed Research, and Kim Allen, Department of Labour, December 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/skb-baseline>

This paper reports on Phase One of a three-phase research project to establish a New Zealand settlement knowledge base platform. Phase One involves the development of the Settlement Knowledge Base framework and initial identification of indicators relating to the New Zealand Settlement Strategy.

The aim of the overall Settlement Knowledge Base project is to build an improved understanding of settlement outcomes for newcomers to New Zealand across central government agencies. The work programme for the project:

- identifies outcome-related measures and indicators at a range of levels
- maps the knowledge base and identifies research gaps
- identifies research investment strategies and collaborative opportunities to enhance research knowledge and capacities.

The Settlement Knowledge Base framework forms the basis for developing a matrix of settlement focus areas to map the current evidence base. Mapping the evidence base will enable IMSED Research to identify and prioritise information gaps, so that research approaches to further build its understanding of the settlement of newcomers can be developed.

It is envisaged that key findings from the mapping exercise will be disseminated through publicly-available working papers. The completion of this initial Settlement Knowledge Base project by June 2009 will form the basis for further building of the Settlement Knowledge Base in subsequent years.

Immigration New Zealand Global Visa and Permit Survey 2008

Kim Allen and Claire Harkess, Department of Labour, December 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/gvps>

This report summarises the key findings from the 2008 Global Visa and Permit Survey. This report contains information on the strength of Immigration New Zealand's relationship with its customers; customer satisfaction with various aspects of service; identified service improvement priorities; and knowledge about, and satisfaction with, information on life in New Zealand.

Benefit Receipt of Migrants to New Zealand 2007

Asif Quazi, Department of Labour, May 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/benefit-receipt-08>

This report details the findings from the 12th annual information match between Ministry of Social Development benefit data and Department of Labour immigration data to determine the extent of benefit receipt by recent migrants.

In 2007, the benefit rate was significantly lower than in 2002, falling by 1.5 percentage points from 7.2 percent in 2002 to 5.4 percent in 2007.

The reductions in the benefit rate can be attributed to a combination of factors including the New Zealand economy going through a sustained period of growth, falling unemployment, changes in immigration policy, and the introduction of specific settlement support services for migrants and refugees.

Most migrants who were receiving a benefit within two years of being approved for residence had entered under the International/Humanitarian Stream and predominantly were refugees. The Emergency Benefit was the most common benefit type, received by almost half of all migrant beneficiaries. Those approved for residence under the Skilled/Business Stream had a lower rate of benefit receipt (1.2 percent compared with 5.4 percent overall).

Life in New Zealand: Settlement experiences of skilled migrants – results from the 2007 survey

Juthika Badkar, Department of Labour, January 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/life-in-nz>

This report details the findings from the 2007 Settlement Experience Feedback Survey of migrants who took up residence in New Zealand through the Skilled/Business Stream from January 2006 to June 2006. The survey was sent to these migrants 12 months after their arrival in New Zealand or residence approval. This report also contains information on trends from 2005 to 2007 in the key settlement outcomes of principal applicants.

The survey was designed to monitor and provide a detailed picture of early settlement outcomes (the first year of settlement) of Skilled/Business Stream migrants who took up residence in New Zealand.

This survey collected information about specific aspects of migrants' settlement outcomes in New Zealand, including:

- employment and personal income
- satisfaction with housing and children's schooling
- access to core services
- likes, dislikes, and satisfaction with living in New Zealand.

Skilled migrants in New Zealand are a diverse group. This report shows that the early settlement outcomes of skilled migrants are positive. Employment is a key determinant for positive settlement; and over 90 percent of skilled principal applicants were employed at the time of the survey.

Despite a few areas of dissatisfaction, skilled migrants were mainly pleased with living in New Zealand, their jobs, their housing and their children's schooling, and they planned to live in New Zealand for at least five years.

MIGRATION TRENDS

A core activity of IMSED Research is publishing analyses of New Zealand immigration trends. This includes information about temporary and permanent migration flows, and information about the impacts of policy changes on migration.

The Migration Trends report is produced annually to provide background information about trends in residence approvals. Trends in residence approvals in this format have been monitored since July 2000 and now constitute a time series, enabling comparisons of recent migration patterns with those of previous years. Recently these have been supplemented with Monthly Migration Trends, which are brief online-only reports that resulted from the need to map the rapidly-changing trends experienced during the global economic slowdown.

International Migration Outlook is an annual report provided in response to the OECD's annual publication of the same name. The New Zealand report utilises data from existing sources and provides a useful overview of key findings and immigration policy developments during the financial year.

Migration Trends and Outlook: 2008/09

Department of Labour, 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/migration-outlook-200809>

This report is the ninth annual report in the Migration Trends series. Key findings from this report are as follows.

Impacts of the global economic slowdown

Impacts of the global economic slowdown on temporary migration have been mixed. There have been fewer opportunities for temporary migrant workers to enter New Zealand's labour market. The slowdown has resulted in both fewer applications and increasing decline rates as able and appropriately skilled New Zealanders become available to work.

Tourism has fallen, which in part is also due to the influenza A (H1N1) pandemic. In particular, 15 percent fewer visitors arrived from Asia than in 2007/08. However, the decline in the number of European and American visitors was not as severe.

Export education remains strong, and expanded into new markets. About 74,000 international students were approved to study in 2008/09 — 6 percent more than in the previous year. Notably 8,200 students from India were approved to study here — a 42 percent increase from the previous year.

Permanent residents

In 2008/09, 46,097 people were granted permanent residence. Of these, 81 percent were granted residence onshore.

The United Kingdom remains the largest source country of people granted permanent residence (19 percent), followed by China (15 percent) and South Africa (12 percent).

Residence approvals from the Philippines increased from 2 percent in 2005/06 to 8 percent in 2008/09, making it the fourth-largest source country for residence approvals.

Skilled migrants

New Zealand has immediate and long-term skill shortages in many areas, and skilled migrants can help meet these shortages. Sixty-two percent of permanent resident approvals in 2008/09 were Skilled/Business migrants.

Most of the residence approvals through the Skilled/Business Stream were in the Skilled Migrant Category (in which 27,011 people were approved).

Eighty percent of principal applicants in the Skilled Migrant Category were approved with a skilled job or offer of employment.

Transition between temporary and permanent residence

An increasing number of international students are choosing to remain in New Zealand when they have finished studying.

Fifteen percent of people who gained permanent residence in 2008/09 were previously on student permits, and another 59 percent were previously on work permits. Many students transition to work permits and then gain residence as skilled migrants.

In 2008/09, 30 percent of skilled migrants gained points for recognised New Zealand qualifications, up from 25 percent in 2007/08.

Family-sponsored migrants and refugees

In 2008/09, China was the largest source country of residence approvals in both the Uncapped Family Sponsored Stream (16 percent) and the Parent Sibling Adult Child Stream (28 percent).

New Zealand remains committed to its international obligations regarding refugees. In 2008/09, 757 people were approved for residence under the Refugee Quota programme. Myanmar was the largest source country of Refugee Quota approvals (24 percent).

International Migration Outlook: New Zealand 2008/09

Department of Labour, 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/sopemi>

This report was prepared in response to a request for information for the OECD's 2010 edition of *International Migration Outlook*. The New Zealand report utilises data from existing sources and overviews key findings and policy developments for 2008/09. The report covers:

- migration movements
- flows of refugees and asylum seekers
- the growth and characteristics of the overseas-born population
- the employment status of the overseas-born population
- principal developments in migration policy
- New Zealand citizenship
- public opinion on immigration
- migrants and entrepreneurship
- return migration due to the economic crisis.

Relevant data from the 2006 New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings is also included. Where available, a gender breakdown of data is provided.

Migration Trends and Outlook: 2007/08

Claire Harkess, Rob Hodgson, Paul Merwood, Asif Quazi, Penny Stock, Manuila Tausi, and Jason Zhao. Department of Labour, February 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/migration-trends-08>

In 2007/08, 46,077 people (24,722 applications) were approved for residence.

Fifty-nine percent of people were approved through the Skilled/Business Stream, 32 percent through the Family Sponsored Stream, and 9 percent through the International/Humanitarian Stream.

The number of people issued work permits in New Zealand increased by 13 percent between 2006/07 and 2007/08. An increasing proportion of people are studying and working in New Zealand before applying for residence: in 2007/08, 81 percent of residence approvals had previously held a temporary permit compared with 77 percent in 2006/07. In 2007/08, the largest source countries of residence approvals were the United Kingdom (22 percent), China (13 percent), South Africa (9 percent), and the Philippines (8 percent).

Permanent migration has been increasing at a faster rate than temporary migration, but the number of temporary migrants is much greater than the number of permanent migrants. In New Zealand, temporary migrants made up about 21 of every 1,000 head of population in New Zealand (compared with nearly 11 in Australia and about 5 in Canada). Opportunities exist for New Zealand as a migrant destination, if its economy is more resilient or less negatively affected than the economies of other potential destination countries.

The report also includes the special feature 'Economic Impact of Immigration – Summary of findings', which summarises the key findings from the Economic Impacts of Immigration research programme.

International Migration Outlook: New Zealand 2007/08

Department of Labour, 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/migration-outlook-2008>

This report provides information for the OECD's 2009 publication *International Migration Outlook*. This annual publication is an output of the OECD's continuous reporting system on migration (known by its French acronym SOPEMI).

The New Zealand report utilises data from existing sources and provides a useful overview of key findings and policy developments for 2007/08. It outlines migration movements (including refugee flows and estimated overstayer numbers), characteristics of the migrant population (including participation in the labour market), changes to immigration policy, and the settlement and support measures available to migrants.

Migration Trends 2006/07

Paul Merwood, Department of Labour, June 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/migration-trends-0607>

In 2006/07, 46,964 people were approved for residence.

Sixty percent of people were approved through the Skilled/Business Stream, 31 percent through the Family Sponsored Stream, and 9 percent through the International/Humanitarian Stream.

Eighty-nine percent of principal applicants and 70 percent of secondary applicants held a temporary visitor, student, or work permit before being granted residence. Ninety-two percent of Skilled/Business Stream migrants had previously held a temporary permit. Approximately 30 percent of work permit holders and 20 percent of international students gain permanent residence within five years of being issued their first permit.

In 2006/07, the largest source countries of residence approvals were the United Kingdom (26 percent), China (12 percent), India (9 percent), and South Africa (8 percent).

Significant legislative developments over 2006/07 included the introduction of the Immigration Advisers Licensing Act 2007 and a new Immigration Bill, which represents a fundamental review of the Immigration Act 1987. There have also been substantial policy developments, with the introduction of the Recognised Seasonal Employer Policy, the Active Investor Migrant Policy, and enhancements to the Skilled Migrant Category and Family Migration Policies.

The report includes the special feature 'Timeline of policy change'. This section features a timeline of immigration policy changes, detailing the major policy and legislative changes between 1986 and 2008.

LONGITUDINAL IMMIGRATION SURVEY: NEW ZEALAND

The main objective of the Longitudinal Immigration Survey: New Zealand (LisNZ) is to improve understanding of settlement processes and outcomes for migrants and their impact on New Zealand. This information will help develop a picture of migrants' contributions to New Zealand, their settlement experiences, and labour market outcomes.

For this survey, the same cohort of migrants is interviewed at 6, 18, and 36 months (waves 1, 2, and 3 respectively) after taking up permanent residence in New Zealand.

Hot off the Press – The Longitudinal Immigration Survey: New Zealand (LisNZ) – Wave 2

Statistics New Zealand, May 2009

Available from: http://stats.govt.nz/methods_and_services/information-releases/longitudinal-immigration-survey-nz.aspx

The results from the second wave of the LisNZ were released by Statistics New Zealand in a *Hot off the Press* publication. This release assesses changes in labour market and settlement outcomes for the same cohort of migrants at 6 months (wave 1) and 18 months (wave 2) after taking up permanent residence.

- At each wave, more than 9 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 8 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 4 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 7 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 unemployment at wave 1 to employment 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 at wave 2 compared with \$18 at wave 1.
- At both waves, more than 8 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).

New Faces, New Futures: New Zealand – findings from the Longitudinal Immigration Survey – New Zealand (LisNZ) – Wave One

Anne-Marie Masgoret, Paul Merwood, Manuila Tausi, Department of Labour, May 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/lisnz>

This report presents findings from wave 1 of the LisNZ – that is, interviews with migrants 6 months after their taking up residence in New Zealand – providing a comprehensive overview of early settlement experiences. Wave 1 comprised interviews with 7,137 migrants aged 16 years and over who were approved for permanent residence in New Zealand between November 2004 and October 2005. Along with detailed descriptive information on the characteristics of the migrants, the report focuses on their skills and resources, labour market activities and economic integration, social integration, and settlement. The major findings from this survey were as follows.

- Travel or work experience in New Zealand plays a big part in attracting new migrants to settle here. Eighty-six percent of new migrants had been to New Zealand before gaining residence and over half had worked here previously on a temporary work permit.
- The importance of family connections and friends already living in New Zealand are also significant for new residents. Two-thirds of all migrants had contacts in New Zealand before coming to live in New Zealand, and 40 percent reported having family already living here.
- Most new residents to New Zealand intend to stay here long term – 88 percent of migrants intended to stay in New Zealand for over five years. Almost all migrants (99 percent) reported that they had applied for permanent residence in New Zealand only during the past three years.
- English language skills contribute to the economic and social integration of migrants by improving their employment opportunities and providing a wider access to social networks.
- Migrants use their skills in New Zealand. Skilled principal migrants had the highest employment and labour force participation rates and the lowest seeking-work rates of all migrant groups. Most skilled principal migrants were working at the same skill level as they did in their previous country.
- The results from this survey lend strong support to immigration selection policies that value migrants with the language, skills, and qualifications that complement the needs of the New Zealand labour force.

Hot off the Press – The Longitudinal Immigration Survey: New Zealand (LisNZ) – Wave 1

Statistics New Zealand, May 2008

Available from: http://stats.govt.nz/methods_and_services/information-releases/longitudinal-immigration-survey-nz.aspx

Results from wave 1 of the LisNZ were released by Statistics New Zealand in a *Hot off the Press* publication. Highlights included the following.

- Most migrants had a high level of English language ability (86.5 percent), either reporting their English language skills as good or very good (27.2 percent) or as a language they spoke best (59.3 percent).
- Sixty-seven percent of migrants aged 16 years and over held a post-school qualification, and nearly half (47.4 percent) held an advanced vocational qualification or university degree.
- The three most common reasons migrants chose New Zealand were for the relaxed pace of life or lifestyle (44.1 percent), the climate or clean, green environment (39.6 percent), and the desire for a better future for their children (39.0 percent). Most migrants (92.5 percent) were satisfied or very satisfied with life in New Zealand.
- Most migrants (85.7 percent) had spent time in New Zealand before gaining permanent residence, and over half (54.6 percent) had been previously employed in New Zealand.
- At the time of interview, 94.9 percent of skilled principal migrants were in the labour force; of these, 1.9 percent were seeking work.

MIGRANT AND REFUGEE YOUTH

This programme of research aims to build a picture of migrant and refugee youth in New Zealand, and to identify factors that facilitate or act as barriers to settlement and social inclusion.

Migrant and Refugee Youth in New Zealand: Statistical profile, 1996–2007

Philippa Shorland, Department of Labour, 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/migrant-refugee-youth-nz/mrynz-1.asp>

This report builds a profile of migrant and refugee youth (people aged 12–24) in New Zealand by analysing Department of Labour immigration approval data (1998 to 2007) and Census of Population and Dwellings (census) data (1996, 2001, and 2006).

Immigration approval data shows that youth comprised 18 percent of residence approvals from 1998 to 2007, and an increasing proportion of all residence approvals over this period were youth. Half of youth approvals were through the Skilled/Business Stream, 38 percent through the Family Sponsored Stream, and 12 percent through the International/Humanitarian Stream. Three-quarters of the 599,798 student approvals from 1998 to 2007 were aged 12–24. The largest category of student approvals was fee-paying students (82 percent), which was the main approval category for those aged 18–24 years.

Three-quarters of fee-paying 12–24-year-old students were from North Asia. China was the main source country for these students, although the number of student approvals from China has declined steeply since 2003.

A total of 674,321 work permits were approved from 1998 to 2007. Work permit approval numbers grew over the period and an increasing proportion were aged 15–24 (around one-third in 2006 and 2007). Half of youth were approved through a Working Holiday Scheme, and 17 percent of youth had a labour market-tested work permit.

The three censuses recorded an increasing proportion of youth born overseas (from 14 percent in 1996 to 22 percent in 2006). Migrant youth had lower rates of labour force participation than New Zealand-born youth, reflecting migrants' higher rates of study participation. Migrants aged 18–24 tended to be better qualified than their New Zealand-born counterparts, with a smaller proportion with no qualifications and a larger proportion with university qualifications.

More than half of migrant youth lived in the Auckland region, and the proportion of 18–24-year-olds living in this region increased from 51 percent in 1996 to 58 percent in 2006. From 2001 to 2006 the number of recent migrant youth (youth in New Zealand for less than 5 years) living in Auckland decreased. A large proportion of youth from Asia and the Pacific lived in the Auckland region.

The Experience of Migrant Youth: A generational analysis

Colleen Ward, Centre for Applied Cross-Cultural Research, University of Waikato, for the Department of Labour, 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/migrant-youth>

This research is part of a larger international project, the International Comparative Study of Ethno-Cultural Youth, undertaken across 13 countries with almost 8,000 adolescents and young adults. The project relies on survey methodology to examine a range of intracultural and intercultural variables, such as ethnic and English language proficiency and use, peer contacts, identity, acculturation attitudes, family values, perceived discrimination, and psychological (life satisfaction and psychological symptoms) and social (school adjustment and behavioural problems) domains of adaptation. The larger project also concerns itself with the relationship between intercultural factors and adaptation outcomes.

This report is based on a subset of the New Zealand data and provides a generational analysis of the experiences of migrant youth and, where appropriate, compares migrant and national youth. The group 'migrant youth' includes the first generation (immigrant youth who were born overseas and arrived in New Zealand after the age of 12), the 1.5 generation (immigrant youth who were born overseas and arrived in New Zealand by the age of 12), and the second generation (New Zealand-born youth with both parents born overseas).

Overall, the results of this research are in accordance with international findings on generational changes in migrant communities. The findings converge to suggest that a view to the future should consider ways in which participation can be encouraged without threat to cultural maintenance in migrant communities. This is in line with the Government's New Zealand Settlement Strategy objective of promoting social cohesion in culturally diverse Aotearoa/New Zealand.

Annotated Bibliography of New Zealand Literature on Migrant and Refugee Youth

Jane Higgins, Agribusiness and Economics Research Unit, Lincoln University, for the Department of Labour, 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/annotated-bibliography>

This annotated bibliography provides a comprehensive account of the current evidence on settlement and social inclusion for migrant and refugee young people in New Zealand. A key aim of the bibliography was to identify evidence relating to factors that facilitate or act as barriers to the successful settlement and social inclusion of these young people. The bibliography is the first in the Migrant and Refugee Youth Settlement and Social Inclusion series.

The annotated bibliography contains over 200 annotations on various topics relating to migrant and refugee youth. Each annotation contains information on the research aim or focus, who the participants were, key findings and outcomes, and the scope of the research. The main sections are:

- family and social networks
- education and employment
- health and social services
- identity and participation
- research methods.

The bibliography is intended to be a resource for policy-makers, practitioners working with refugee and migrant youth, community and ethnic organisations, and researchers. The references gathered in the bibliography show that a significant amount of research has been done in New Zealand in this field over the past three decades, particularly in the areas of family and social networks, education, social services, and the crafting of identity by young refugees and migrants. The collection also indicates that this is a growing field of research. Researchers, particularly those belonging to refugee and migrant communities, are developing new research methods that complement and challenge longstanding methods. The bibliography also outlines areas in need of further research, and emerging research questions in this field.

REFUGEE

IMSED Research aims to better understand the resettlement and integration of people who arrive in New Zealand as refugees. This includes improved understanding of international resettlement policies and early resettlement experiences, and insight into long-term integration.

Looking Back and Building Futures: Former refugees' views on settling in New Zealand

Gatt Consulting Ltd, for the Department of Labour, 2009

Available from: <http://www.dol.govt.nz/publications/research/looking-back>

This exploratory study was carried out as part of the wider Quota Refugees Ten Years On: Perspectives on Integration, Community and Identity research programme.

The aim of this study was to hear and present the views and experiences of former quota refugees who have lived in New Zealand for more than 10 years. The findings from the study fed into the development of questions for a nationwide survey of people who had arrived in New Zealand through the Refugee Quota Programme between 1993 and 1999.

As part of this exploratory study, 41 former refugees attended focus groups and 13 participated in individual interviews. The focus groups and interviews were held across the country's main centres – Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, and Christchurch. The participants were asked three main questions:

1. What factors have helped or made it difficult to settle in New Zealand?
2. What does it mean to be well settled for former refugees?
3. What are the most important questions to include in a survey of former refugees?

The three factors that participants found to be most important for being well settled were English language ability, the core role of family, and being separated from family.

Other important factors were being safe from war and violence, having a reasonable level of income, having paid work, having access to education, having low-cost or free quality health care, and being treated fairly – including having access to the same services as other New Zealanders.

Long-Term Settlement of Refugees: An annotated bibliography of New Zealand and international literature

Natasha McMillan and Alison Gray, for the Department of Labour, 2009

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/abltsr/abltsr-1-2.asp>

This annotated bibliography brings together New Zealand and international literature on the long-term settlement of refugees and provides an insight into the factors that facilitate or act as barriers to integration. This report is the first publication from the Quota Refugees Ten Years On: Perspectives on Integration, Community and Identity research programme.

The bibliography contains nearly 200 annotations on various topics relating to the long-term settlement of refugees. Each annotation contains information on the research aim or focus, who the participants were, key findings and outcomes, and the scope of the research. The bibliography is structured around the main themes emerging from the research, and includes a thematic review of the literature. The main themes include:

- integration and social cohesion
- identity and citizenship
- community and social networks
- social exclusion
- education and training
- economic participation, including employment
- health and wellbeing
- housing
- integration issues related to gender, age, generation, and disability.

Refugee Resettlement: A literature review

Alison Gray, for the Department of Labour, 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/resettlement>

This international literature review on refugee resettlement policy relates to the OECD and European Union, with an emphasis on the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as well as Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. These countries were chosen because they are developed countries with resettlement programmes and offer a range of models and approaches to refugee resettlement.

The review describes policies and practices for refugee resettlement. It also summarises available evidence from reviews of policy and practice to identify factors that contribute to the success or failure of resettlement policy and practice. The focus of the review was to summarise and organise, rather than analyse, the descriptive and analytical material in the literature. For each country listed the review describes legal and policy definitions used to categorise refugees, and provides an overview of that country's policies and practices.

OTHER RESEARCH

Experiences of International Students in New Zealand: Report 2007 on the results of the national survey

Deloitte for the Ministry of Education and the Department of Labour, May 2008

Available from: <http://educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/international/22971>

This report presents findings from the National Survey of International Students and provides an opportunity to understand the international students' experience of life in New Zealand. A representative sample of 2,677 international students enrolled in secondary schools, tertiary institutions, private training establishments, and English language schools in New Zealand participated in the survey.

The average age of respondents was 22.9 years. Most students resided in the North Island (75 percent) and had been in New Zealand for more than a year (53 percent). Students from China (42 percent) were the largest national group of respondents, followed by students from Korea (11 percent) and Japan (7 percent). The remaining students came from a variety of different countries with more than 80 different nationalities represented.

The overwhelming majority (91 percent) of the international students surveyed were foreign fee-paying students. Various financial sources were relied on to support students' education in New Zealand. However, most students (72 percent) were supported by their parents. Twenty-three percent of students found payment for their education in New Zealand very or extremely difficult.

The 2007 results of the national survey show that, for the most part, international students have a largely positive experience of their education in New Zealand. Overall, academic programmes and institutional facilities received complimentary evaluations. Across all education sectors, students reported few academic difficulties and described their academic progress as average to good. Students were reasonably satisfied with their accommodation arrangements and, in those cases where it applied, homestay accommodation was deemed very satisfactory.

The results reinforced that social support was widely available to international students, but that sources of support used differed depending on what type of support was required. Sensitivity to cultural differences was apparent in the classroom, and discrimination occurred only infrequently. However, it was concerning to report that only a quarter of the international students reported that they had never experienced discrimination from New Zealand students.

The research found that students who had been living in New Zealand for longer (and therefore potentially were better assimilated into New Zealand society and culture) were more likely to perceive New Zealand education as good value for money, and more likely to recommend New Zealand as a place to study.

International Trade Negotiations and the Trans-Border Movement of People: A review of the literature

Anna Strutt, Jacques Poot, and Jason Dubbeldam, Populations Studies Centre, University of Waikato, March 2008

Available from: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/trade-negotiations>

This report reviews international and New Zealand literature on the interaction between enhancing cross-border trade and investment, through negotiations and agreements, and international migration.

There is a two-way interaction: increased trade will affect migration and increased migration will affect trade. Both directions of this two-way interaction are reviewed in the report.

The report also briefly reviews the benefits and costs of migration to the extent these might feature in trade and migration negotiations. The extent to which lessons for New Zealand can be drawn from the international literature is assessed.

