



New Zealand  
Immigration Service  
*Te Ratonga Manene*

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Immigration Research Programme

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**Links Between Temporary Entry to  
New Zealand and Residence**

September 1999





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**New Zealand Immigration Service**

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# Executive Summary

## Introduction

This research examined the extent to which those people whose applications for residence were approved in 1998 had previously been in New Zealand as either visitors, workers or students. The main purpose was to provide baseline information on the links between temporary entry to New Zealand and subsequent residence.

The temporary permit histories of a sample of 3,041 principal applicants<sup>1</sup> approved for residence in the 1998 calendar year were examined. The analysis focused on applicants from the top six source countries for migrants in 1998 - Great Britain, China, South Africa, India, Western Samoa and Fiji.

This report also compares principal applicants approved under the “targeted categories” and those under the “social categories”. “Targeted categories” refers to the former 1991 General Category, the 1995 General Skills Category, and the 1995 Business Investor Category. “Social categories” refers to all the non-targeted categories (See Appendix A for a fuller definition of terms).

## Key Findings

The key findings were:

- 58 percent of principal applicants had been to New Zealand prior to being granted residence;
- 60 percent of social principal applicants and 55 percent of targeted principal applicants had previously held temporary permits<sup>2</sup>;
- The proportions of principal applicants who had held temporary permits varied with nationality, as follows:
  - \* 73 percent of South African principal applicants;
  - \* 69 percent of British principal applicants;
  - \* 64 percent of Fijian principal applicants;
  - \* 56 percent of Samoan principal applicants;
  - \* 25 percent of Chinese principal applicants; and
  - \* 34 percent of Indian principal applicants had held temporary permits prior to being granted residence.
- In looking at the type of temporary permits held immediately prior to residence being granted, the following patterns were evident:
  - \* 39 percent of principal applicants had held visitors’ permits;
  - \* 18 percent had held work permits; and
  - \* 2 percent had held student permits.
- The type of temporary permits held immediately prior to being granted residence were different for targeted and social principal applicants:
  - \* 28 percent of targeted principal applicants had most recently held work permits, 26 percent visitors’ permits and less than 1 percent had held students’ permits<sup>3</sup>; and
  - \* 45 percent of social principal applicants had most recently held visitors’ permits, 13 percent work permits and 2 percent students’ permits.

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<sup>1</sup> The principal applicant is the person assessed against the policy criteria.

<sup>2</sup> Note that these estimates had standard errors of  $\pm 2.8$  for the targeted 55 percent and  $\pm 1.9$  for the social 60 percent.

<sup>3</sup> Note that when the standard errors of these estimates are taken into account, there is potentially no difference between the proportions of visitors’ permits and work permits.

- Of those principal applicants who had ever held temporary permits, 39 percent had most recently been granted permits in 1997, 13 percent in 1996 and 20 percent in 1998.
- The proportions of principal applicants who had ever been granted each of the permit types were significantly greater than the proportions of principal applicants who had most recently held each permit type:
  - \* 51 percent of principal applicants had ever been granted visitors' permits;
  - \* 26 percent had ever been granted work permits; and
  - \* 4 percent had ever been granted students' permits.

## **Conclusion**

The findings suggest that there are significant links between temporary entry and residence. The underlying reasons for the patterns need to be explored in depth. However, it is likely that source of the links between temporary entry and residence and may include:

- People who visit New Zealand before making the decision to apply for residence;
- People who work or study in New Zealand and go on to apply for residence; and
- People who come to New Zealand to look for work in order to obtain extra points under the General Skills Category – a job offer is worth 5 points, while New Zealand work experience is worth up to 2 points.

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# 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

## 1.1 Introduction

This exploratory research project examined some of the links between temporary entry to New Zealand and residence. The main purpose was to provide baseline information on the extent to which recently approved residents had previously been lawfully in New Zealand as visitors, workers or students.

## 1.2 Use of the survey outputs

The findings will contribute to the understanding of migration flows and residence approval patterns in the 1990s and, consequently, will be useful for future work on the appropriate linkages between temporary policy and residence.

## 1.3 Background

Traditionally, immigration policy has categorised international migration as being either temporary or permanent. “Temporary migrants” are people who are granted visitors’, work or student permits when they arrive in New Zealand, whereas “permanent migrants” are people granted residence permits. More recently, commentators have suggested that “...a new paradigm of international movements in the 1990s” is emerging and that it might be more useful to view residence as a continuum<sup>4</sup>. Bilsborrow (1997), for example, suggests that aspects of globalisation, such as increased mobility and an international labour market for skilled workers, have changed the realities of “permanent residence”. This research, however, which draws on administrative data, can only describe the proportions of people who were in New Zealand on temporary permits prior to being granted residence.

Anecdotal feedback from New Zealand Immigration Service (NZIS) branch staff suggests that there may be links between temporary migration and residence. For example, people may arrive in New Zealand as visitors and use their time to find work or job offers. These people could then apply for residence under the General Skills points system where they can score 5 points for a job offer and 2 points for New Zealand work experience. Links between temporary entry and residence were also noted in a small sample qualitative research project on business migrants undertaken for the NZIS. It was found that a proportion of the business migrants interviewed had visited New Zealand before applying for residence offshore<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> Hugo, G. (1999). A New Paradigm of International Migration in Australia, Paper Prepared for the New Zealand Population Association Conference, University of Waikato, Hamilton New Zealand; Bilsborrow et.al.(1997), International Migration Statistics, ILO, Geneva; and a draft internal NZIS literature review [Fletcher, M.] Migrant Settlement: A review of the literature and its relevance to New Zealand (1999).

<sup>5</sup> NZIS (1998), Experiences of recent business migrants in New Zealand.

## **1.4 Research objectives**

The objectives were to determine:

1. The proportions of principal applicants granted residence in 1998, who had ever held temporary permits (i.e. had been in New Zealand temporarily and lawfully);
2. The proportions and nationalities of principal applicants who had previously held temporary permits;
3. The types of temporary permit most recently held;
4. The most recent years temporary permits were granted;
5. The types of permits ever granted by selected nationalities and residence approval categories;
6. The total number of temporary permits ever granted.

## **1.5 Report Structure**

The research methodology is outlined in the next section and is followed by three sections collectively addressing the research objectives. These are:

- principal applicants' experience of New Zealand prior to becoming residents;
- principal applicants' most recent temporary permits; and
- the types of permits ever granted to the principal applicants.

A concluding section discusses the key findings and some policy implications of these. The four appendices provide information on definitions used in the report, detailed methodology, sampling, and the tables the report charts were based on.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Research approach

The research was a sample survey of administrative data. A proportionate stratified random sample of 3,041 principal applicants approved for residence in the 1998 calendar year was used. This allowed accurate generalisations about the population of principal applicants to be made.

The sample strata corresponded to the six nationalities contributing the greatest number of migrants in 1998: China, Fiji, Great Britain, India, Samoa and South Africa. The remaining nationalities were aggregated in an “Other” grouping.

### 2.2 Measuring principal applicants’ prior experience of New Zealand

“Experience of New Zealand” was measured by identifying and counting principal applicants’ visitors’, work and/or student permits. This was appropriate as non-New Zealand residents must hold temporary permits to be in New Zealand lawfully. Principal applicants only were included in the research as they are the main people assessed in residence applications.

### 2.3 Data Sources

NZIS’s Application Management System (AMS) records were used as the source of data. Although the records in certain instances are less than perfect, they are still the most valid and reliable source of basic quantitative migrant and permit information available.

### 2.4 Classifications

Data were classified as follows:

- The “targeted” residence categories refers to the former 1991 General Category; the 1995 General Skills Category and the 1995 Business Investor Category. For each of these categories, principal applicants had to score enough points to achieve a “pass mark”. See Appendix A for details of the points structures.
- The “social” categories consist of all the non-targeted categories. The Family sub-categories made up a significant component. Also included under the “social categories” in the sample are the Humanitarian Category, refugee provisions, transition, Ministerial Direction and the Samoan Quota. See Appendix A for a discussion of the Family Category.

### 2.5 AMS Limitations

Any analysis of AMS data that uses information collected prior to October 1997 (the period before AMS went live) must be interpreted with caution. Information converted from previous immigration information systems is known to contain inconsistencies. For this project, the consequences of these are likely to be under-estimates of the proportion of principal applicants who had held temporary permits.

### 2.6 Response rate

The response rate was 100 percent as both the survey population and sample were confined to existing NZIS records.

### 2.7 Interpreting sampling errors

All the percentages shown in the charts and tables in this report are subject to sampling error. This is the variability of estimates because the figures were derived from a sample survey and not the entire population. The sampling errors, generally referred to as standard errors, shown in this report are absolute errors. This means that the value of a percentage in the population is likely to be in the range of the stated figure plus or minus the standard error.

For example, in analysing the survey data it was found that 58 percent of the approved principal applicants in the sample had previously been granted temporary permits of some type. The standard error for that estimate was calculated as being 1.6. The true percentage in the population then was likely to be 58 percent  $\pm$  1.6 percentage points. That is, in the range 56.4 percent to 59.6 percent. The likelihood of the population parameter being in this range is 95 percent, as the sampling errors were calculated at the 95 percent confidence interval.

The stratified random sample design ensured that, overall, the standard errors were quite low. Most were below  $\pm$  5 percentage points. The exceptions were some of the breakdowns for Fiji and Samoa, although even for these nationalities the standard errors were generally below  $\pm$  10. See Appendix C: Sampling for precise information on the standard errors.

### 3. PRINCIPAL APPLICANTS' EXPERIENCE OF NEW ZEALAND PRIOR TO BECOMING RESIDENTS

#### 3.1 Introduction

This section provides an overview of the proportions of principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 who had at some stage been in New Zealand on a temporary permit.

#### 3.2 Previous experience of New Zealand and nationality

In total, 58 percent of principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 had previously been granted temporary permits. The proportions varied by nationality.

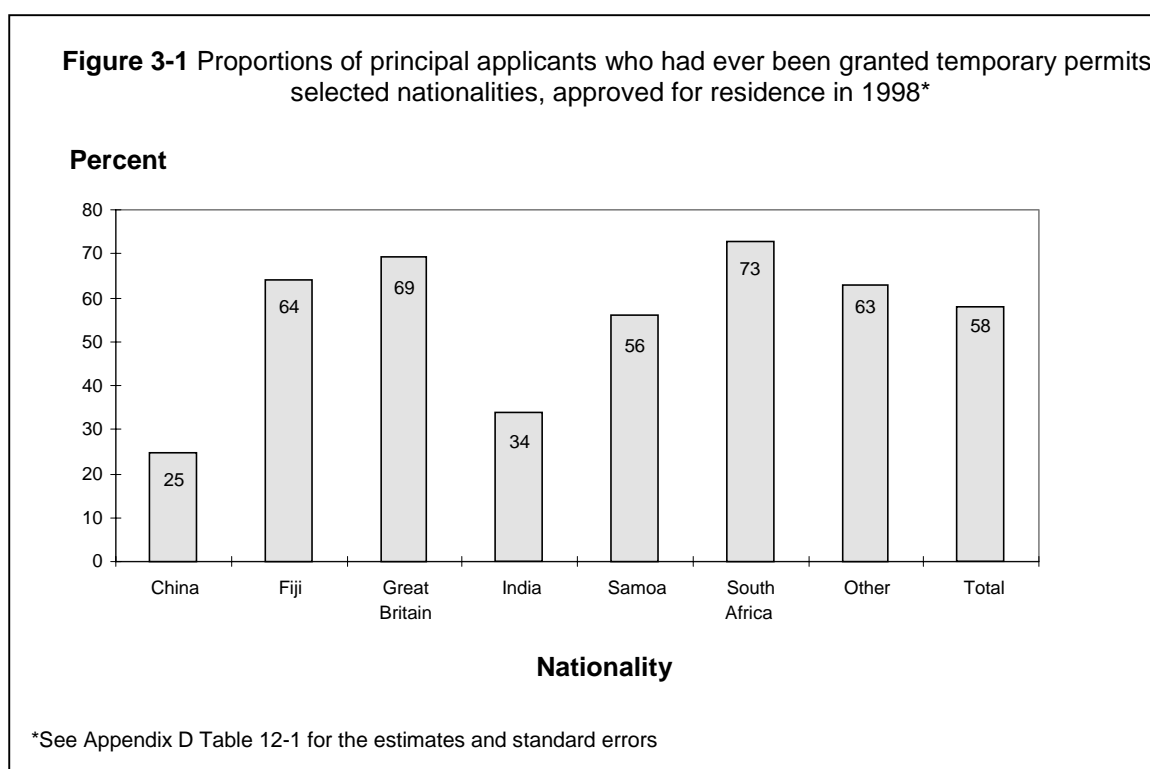


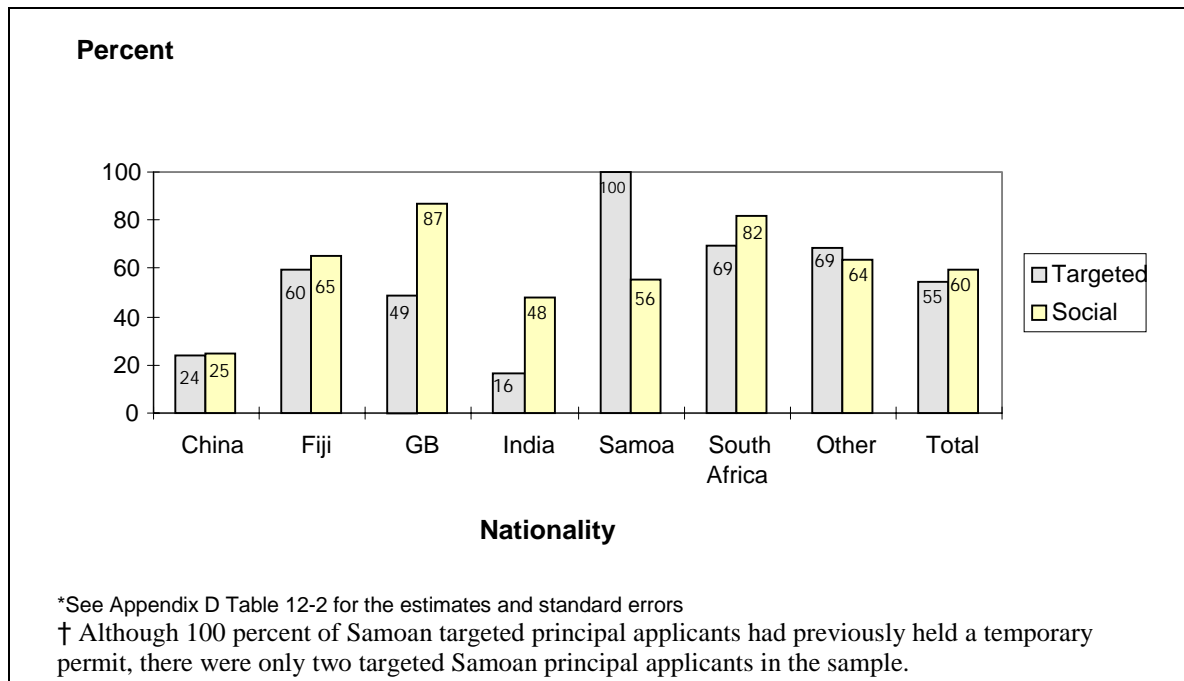
Figure 3-1 (above) shows that half of the selected nationalities had proportions higher than the average. Seventy-three percent of South African and 69 percent of British principal applicants had held at least one type of temporary permit prior to their approval for residence. Sixty-four percent of Fijians had previously been to New Zealand. Principal applicants from China and India had temporary permit proportions considerably lower than the total. Only 25 percent of Chinese and 34 percent of Indians had been to New Zealand before they were approved for residence.

#### 3.3 Targeted and social migrants' previous experience of New Zealand

A slightly proportion of social than targeted principal applicants had been to New Zealand before they were approved for residence. Figure 3-2 shows that overall, 60 percent of social principal applicants had held temporary permits, compared with 55 percent of targeted principal applicants<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>6</sup> Table 12-2 in Appendix D shows that there were only two targeted Samoans in the sample.

**Figure 3-2** Principal applicants' most recent temporary permits, proportions by nationality and residence category\*†



An explanation for the greater proportion of social than targeted principal applicants who had previously been in New Zealand is that half were the spouses, de facto or same-sex partners of New Zealand residents. Partners of New Zealand residents are eligible for visitors' and work visas and permits whilst their residence applications are decided. Parents made up about a quarter of all the social principal applicants. Anecdotal evidence indicates that parents often visit their New Zealand resident children and apply for residence onshore.

### 3.4 Nationality and principal applicants' previous experience of New Zealand

Figure 3-2 shows that, of the selected nationalities, South Africa (at 69 percent) had the largest proportion of targeted principal applicants with previous New Zealand experience, while Britain (at 87 percent) had the greatest proportion of social principal applicants with previous New Zealand experience. A number of factors probably contributed to these figures. Great Britain, for example, is visa free with New Zealand and annually about 150,000 visitors from this source arrive in New Zealand<sup>7</sup>.

Overall, the proportions of Indian and Chinese principal applicants with prior experience of New Zealand were lower than those of the other selected nationalities, although 48 percent of Indian social principal applicants had previously been to New Zealand.

<sup>7</sup> Statistics New Zealand 1998, International visitor arrivals to New Zealand, March 1998.

## 4. PRINCIPAL APPLICANTS' MOST RECENT TEMPORARY PERMITS

### 4.1 Introduction

All non-New Zealand residents are required to hold either visitors', work or student permits to be in New Zealand lawfully. This section examines the temporary permits which migrants in the sample held immediately before they were approved for residence.

Fiji and Samoa have been included as "Other" in the analyses of targeted migrants' most recently held permits because the numbers were small and consequently the standard errors were too high for the estimates to be meaningful.

### 4.2 The most recent types of temporary permits held

In total, visitors' permits accounted for a larger proportion of the most recently held permits than any other type. Thirty-nine percent of the migrants had most recently held visitors' permits, 18 percent had most recently held work permits and 2 percent had held student permits.

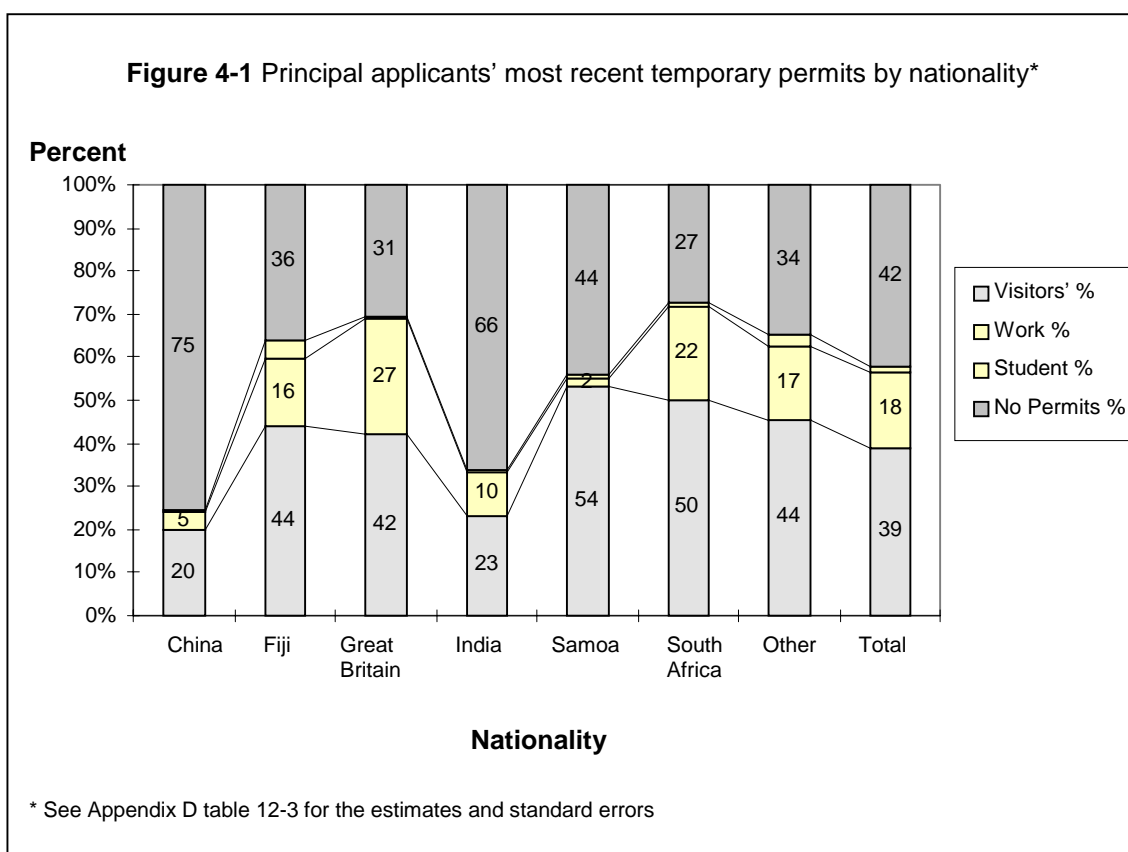
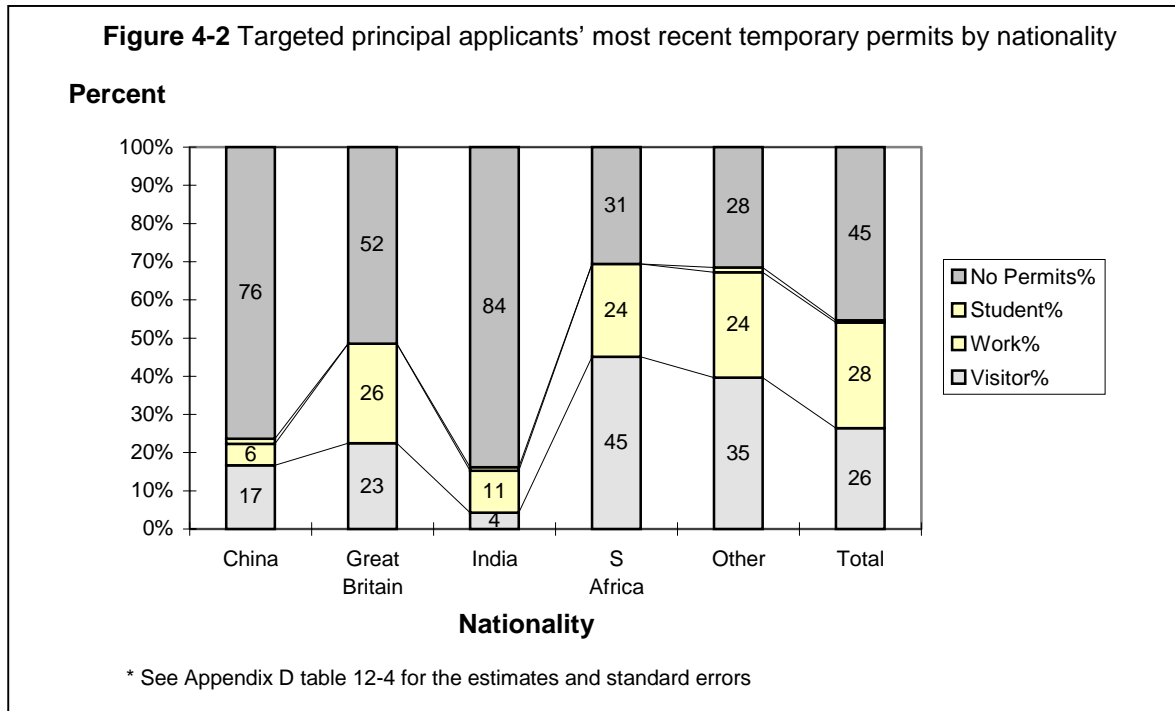


Figure 4-1 (above) shows that the proportions of the three types of temporary permits varied considerably among the selected nationalities. Consistent with the patterns identified earlier, principal applicants from India and China both had smaller proportions of visitors' and work permits than principal applicants of the other selected nationalities.

### 4.3 Targeted principal applicants' most recent temporary permits

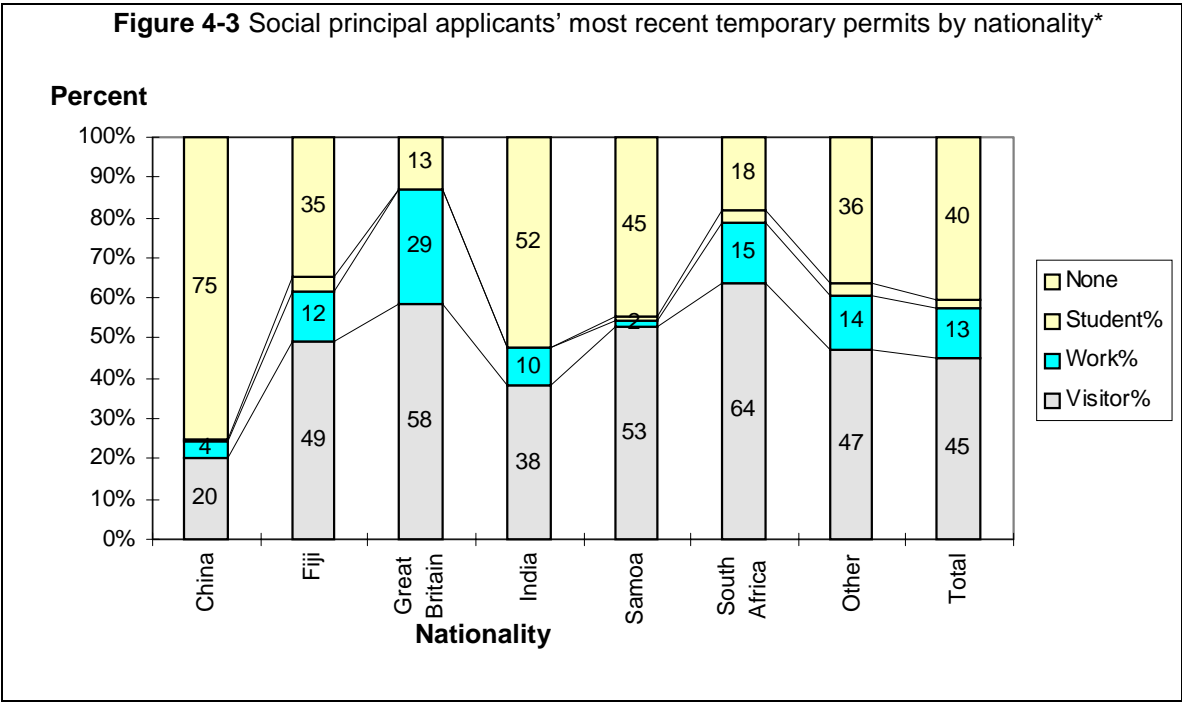
Work permits were the most recent temporary permit for 28 percent of targeted principal applicants, while visitors' permits were the most recent for 26 percent. In total, student permits accounted for less than 1 percent of targeted principal applicants' most recently granted permits. Figure 4-2 shows that 23 percent of principal applicants from Great Britain had most recently held visitors' permits and 26 percent work permits. In contrast, 45 percent of South Africans had most recently held visitors' permits and 24 percent work permits. Very few Chinese or Indians had held any permits.



### 4.4 Social principal applicants' most recent temporary permits

Figure 4-3 shows that the social principal applicants' most recent permit types were different from the targeted principal applicants'. Principal applicants from each of the selected nationalities most recently held a considerably greater proportion of visitors' permits than work permits. In total, 45 percent of principal applicants had most recently held visitors' permits, 13 percent work permits and just under 2 percent student permits.

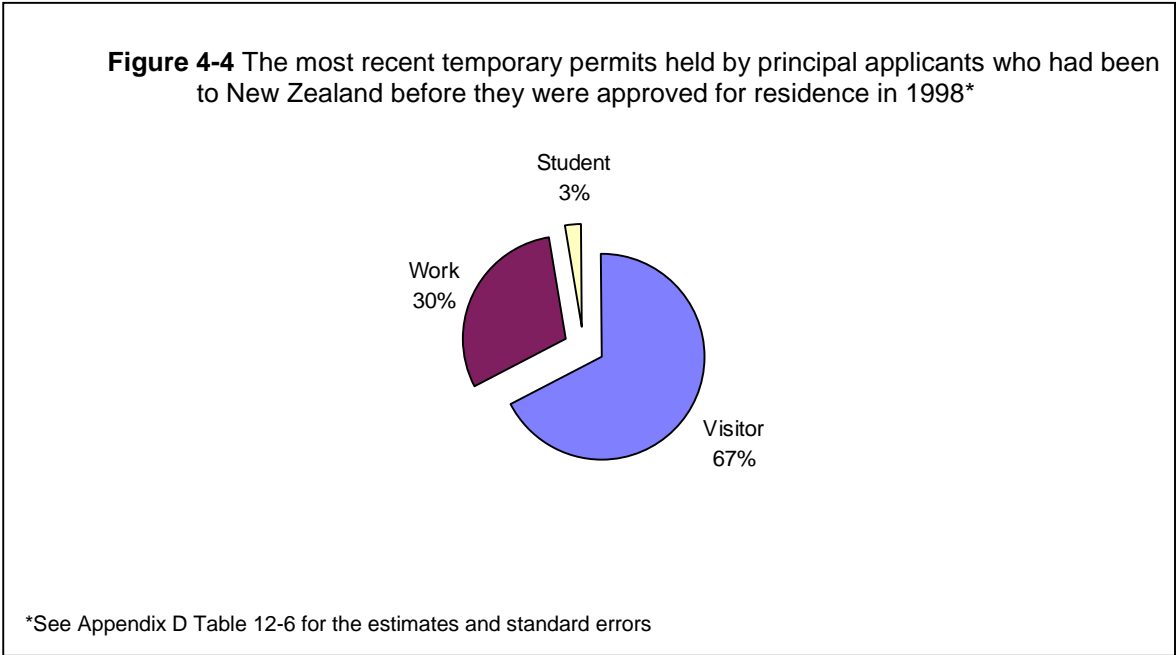
Sixty-four percent of South African social principal applicants had most recently held visitors' permits. Only 15 percent of South African social principal applicants had last held work permits. Fifty-eight percent of British social principal applicants had most recently been visitors. British principal applicants had the greatest proportion of work permits out of all the selected nationalities at 29 percent. The majority of the Chinese and Indian social principal applicants had never held any temporary permits: 75 percent of Chinese and 52 percent of Indian principal applicants had not previously been to New Zealand.



\*See Appendix D table 12-5 for the estimates and standard errors

#### 4.5 The most recent permits of principal applicants who had been to New Zealand

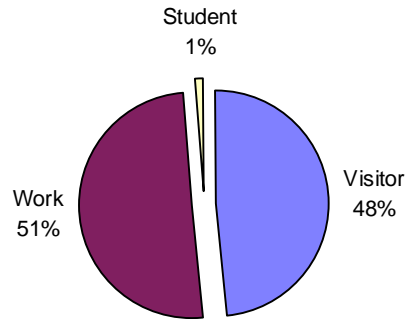
Another way of looking at the data is to focus on only those principal applicants who had been to New Zealand before they were granted residence. Figure 4-4 shows that, overall, 67 percent of such principal applicants had most recently been visitors, 30 percent workers and 3 percent students.



\*See Appendix D Table 12-6 for the estimates and standard errors

Figure 4-5 shows that of the targeted principal applicants who had been to New Zealand before being approved for residence, 51 percent had held work permits most recently, 48 percent visitors' permits and 1 percent student permits.

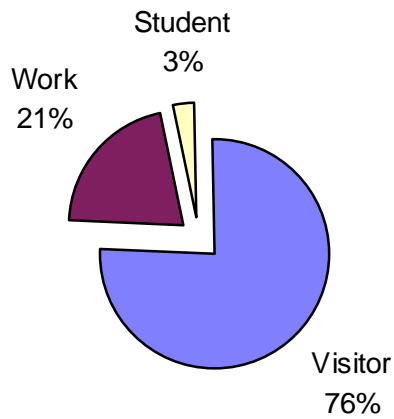
**Figure 4-5** The most recent temporary permits held by targeted principal applicants who had been to New Zealand before they were approved for residence in 1998\*



\*See Appendix D Table 12-7 for the estimates and standard errors

In comparison, 76 percent of the social principal applicants who had been to New Zealand before being approved for residence had most recently held visitors' permits, while 21 percent had held work permits and 3 percent student permits (see Figure 4-6 below).

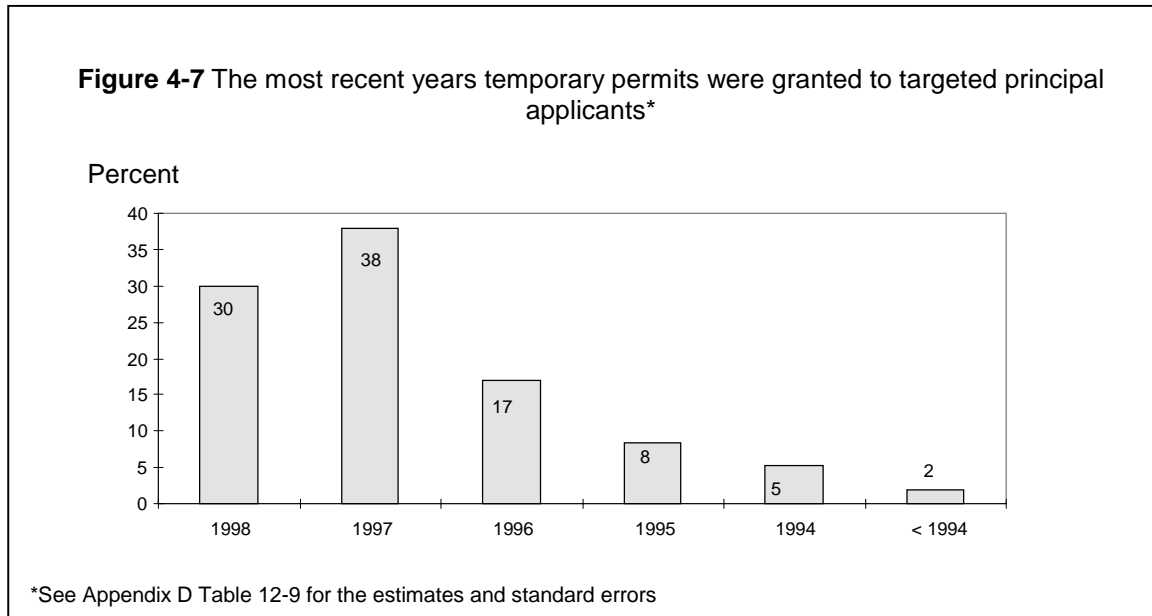
**Figure 4-6** The most recent temporary permits held by social principal applicants who had been to New Zealand before they were approved for residence in 1998\*



\*See Appendix D Table 12-8 for the estimates and standard errors

#### 4.6 The most recent year temporary permits were granted

Figure 4-7 shows that a greater proportion of permits had been granted in 1997 than any other year. Thirty-eight percent had most recently held temporary permits in 1997, 30 percent in 1998 and 17 percent in 1996. There was little difference between targeted and social principal applicants in terms of the most recent year they had been granted temporary permits.





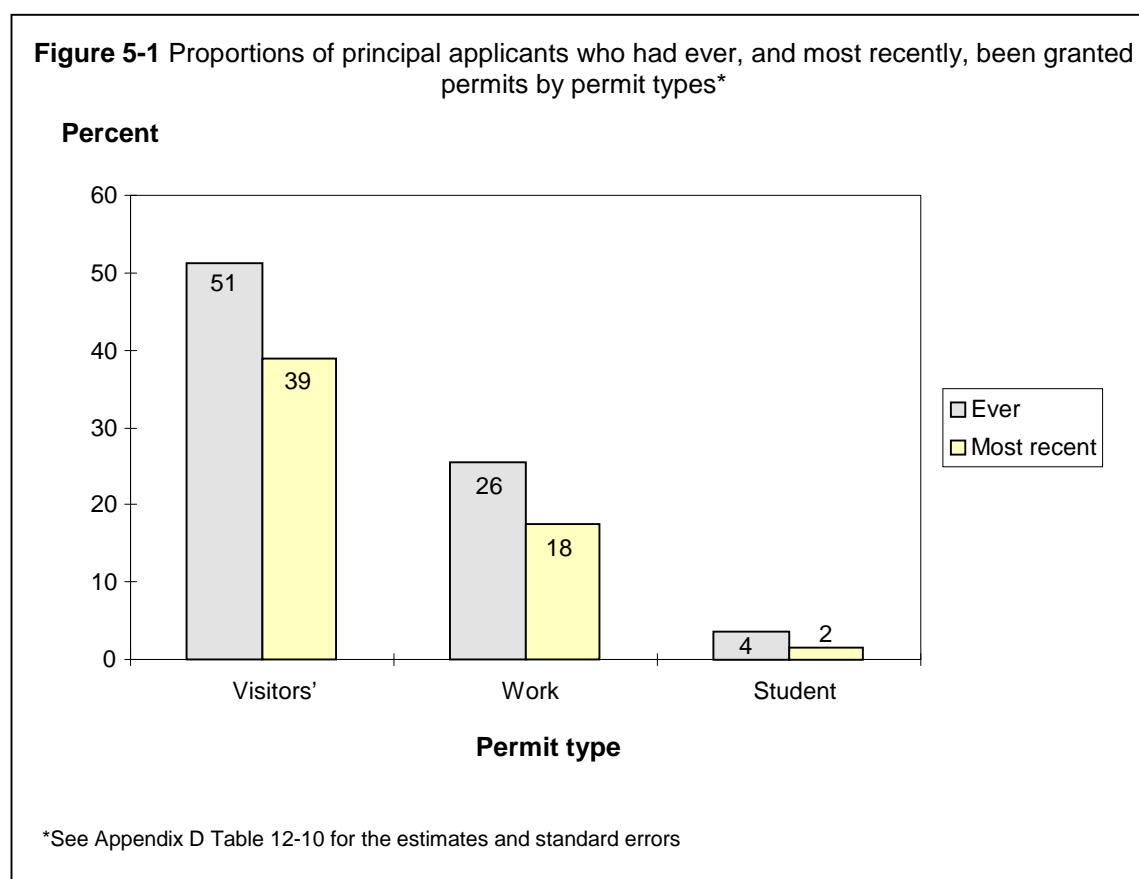
## 5. THE TYPES OF TEMPORARY PERMITS EVER GRANTED

### 5.1 Introduction

This section examines the types and numbers of temporary permits the principal applicants had *ever* held.

### 5.2 The types of temporary permits the principal applicants had ever held

The distribution of the temporary permit types the principal applicants had ever been granted generally conformed with the “most recent” permits. However, the proportions of principal applicants who had ever been granted each of the permits types were significantly greater than the “most recent” proportions. For example: 51 percent of principal applicants had, at some time, held visitors’ permits, while 39 percent had most recently held visitors’ permits. Twenty-six percent of the principal applicants had ever been granted work permits and 4 percent student permits. Clearly, principal applicants not only moved from temporary to residence permits, but also between different types of temporary permits.



### 5.3 The types of temporary permits targeted principal applicants ever held by nationality

Table 5-1 (below) shows that overall, 46 percent of targeted principal applicants had been granted visitors’ permits, 31 percent work permits and 3 percent student permits. The greatest differences between the “most recent” and “ever” proportions were those of principal applicants from Great Britain and South Africa. While 45 percent of South African targeted principal applicants had most recently held visitors’ permits, 68 percent had ever held these permits. Twenty-four percent of South African principal applicants had most recently been granted work permits, yet 42 percent had ever been granted work

permits. Similarly, 23 percent of British targeted principal applicants had most recently held visitors' permits, 34 percent had ever held these permits. Twenty-six percent of British principal applicants had most recently been granted work permits, while 34 percent had ever been granted work permits

**Table 5-1** The types of temporary permits ever held by targeted principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 by nationality\*

Nationality	n	Visitors' %	Work %	Student %	No Permits %
China	72	19	10	3	76
Great Britain	262	34	34	0	51
India	92	10	13	1	84
South Africa	173	68	42	0	31
Other	374	51	29	6	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>45</b>

\*See Appendix D Table 12-10 the standard errors of these estimates

#### 5.4 The types of temporary permits social principal applicants ever held by nationality

Social principal applicants had also been granted a greater range of permits than the earlier section on most recent temporary permits was able to indicate. Table 5-2 shows that, overall, 54 percent had been granted visitors' permits, 23 percent work permits and 4 percent student permits. The respective "most recent" proportions were 45 percent visitors', 13 percent work and less than 1 percent student. Movement between work and visitors' permits is one of the main patterns evident.

Again, British and South African principal applicants had the largest differences between "most recent" and "ever" temporary permit proportions. For example, 15 percent of South African social principal applicants had most recently held work permits; 30 percent had ever held these permits. Twenty-nine percent of British social principal applicants had been granted work permits most recently; 46 percent had ever held work permits.

There was little difference between the Samoan "most recent" and "ever" temporary permit proportions. Fifty-three percent of Samoan principal applicants most recently held visitors' permits, while 55 percent had ever held visitors' permits.

The student permit "ever" proportions were comparatively high for certain of the selected nationalities: 9 percent of Fijian social principal applicants; 7 percent of South Africans and 6 percent of "Others" nationalities.

**Table 5-2** Principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 under social categories: selected nationalities by type and proportion of temporary permits ever granted\*

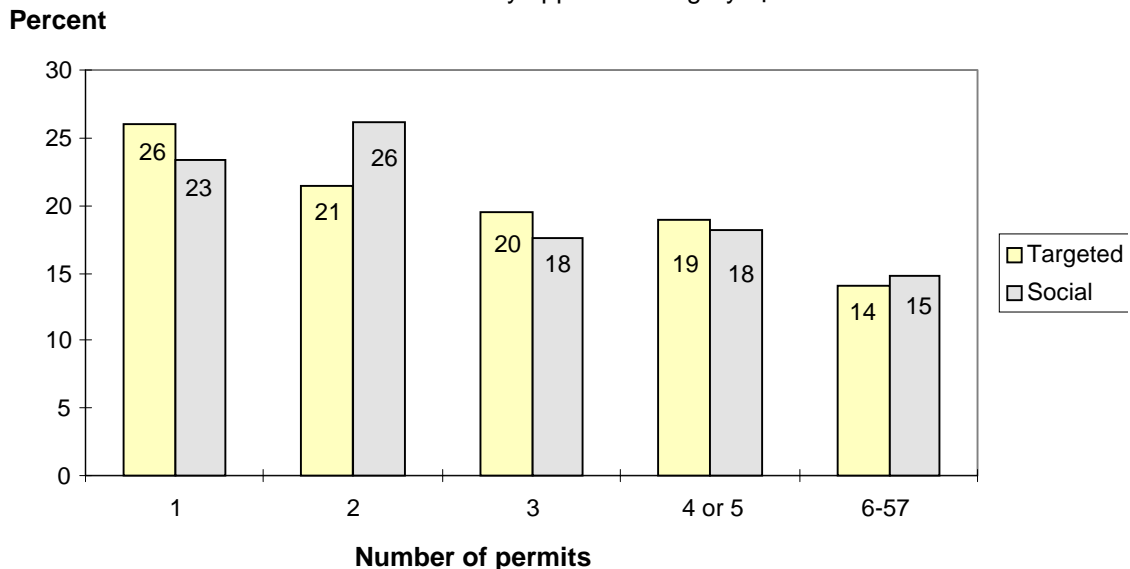
	n	Visitors' %	Work %	Student %	No Permits %
China	354	24	8	1	75
Fiji	130	59	20	9	35
Great Britain	309	73	46	1	13
India	115	46	17	1	52
Samoa	200	55	6	2	45
South Africa	61	79	30	7	18
Other	899	58	26	6	37
Total	2068	54	23	4	41

\*See Appendix D Table 12-11 for the standard errors of these estimates

## 5.5 The total number of temporary permits granted

Around two-thirds of principal applicants had been granted up to 3 temporary permits by the time they were approved for residence. Figure 5-2 shows that there was little variation in the number of permits held between those approved under the targeted categories and those approved under the social categories.

**Figure 5-2** The number of permits principal applicants had held before being approved for residence by approval category\* †



\*See Appendix D Table 12-12 and table 12-13 for the standard errors of these estimates

† Note that only those principal applicants who had held temporary permits are included in this chart



## 6. CASE STUDIES

### 6.1 Introduction

Illustrations of the temporary permit histories of a selection of migrants drawn from the sample are given in this section. The emphasis is on showing the progression of migrants from temporary permits to residence. The examples include both targeted and social migrants and include a range of nationalities.

### 6.2 Targeted migrants

- A 29 year old South African man was granted a visitors' permit when he arrived in September 1997. He was subsequently granted a work permit in October 1997. He lodged a residence application under the General Skills Category in November 1997 and this was approved in March 1998. The man's de facto partner was included in the residence application and he scored 29 points in total.
- In September 1995, a 30 year old British woman arrived in Wellington with a work visa. Her visa had been issued with the support of a New Zealand employer, who the NZIS were satisfied could not find a suitable person in New Zealand to fill the vacancy. The woman left New Zealand in February 1996, returned in January 1997 and left again in February 1997. She arrived in New Zealand for a third time in June 1997 and was granted residence under the General Skills Category on 3 April 1998. In total she scored 25 points.
- In August 1998, a 49 year old Chinese man was granted a residence permit under the General Skills Category. The man had a score of 28 points. Unlike most Chinese approved for residence this migrant had previously been to New Zealand on temporary permits. He had arrived in July 1997 with a visitors' visa and in September 1997 he was granted the first of three work permits. He lodged his residence application in December 1997 while holding a work permit.

### 6.3 Social

- On arriving in December 1995, a 68 year old South African women was granted a visitors' permit. She was granted a series of visitors' permits between 1995 and 1997. During a visit in October 1997 she lodged an application for residence under the Family-Parent sub-category. The woman's daughter, a New Zealand resident of South African birth, was the sponsor and amounted to the family's "centre of gravity", since the applicant's only other child was in South Africa. While the woman's residence application was being processed she departed New Zealand and returned a year later in September 1998. She was approved for residence in October 1998.
- A 17 year old Indian woman arrived in Auckland with a visitors' visa in April 1998. She was granted a visitors' permit on the grounds that she was the fiancée of a New Zealand resident. Subsequently, she was granted a work permit in June 1998. The woman was approved for residence under the Family Category as the spouse of a New Zealand resident in November 1998.
- A 17 year old Fijian woman was granted a visitors' permit in November 1997 on the grounds that she was to marry an Australian resident, of Fijian birth, who was living in New Zealand. The woman had her visitors' permit extended on 15 May 1998 and was approved for residence as a spouse on 1 December 1998.
- A 22 year old Samoan woman was granted residence under the Western Samoa Quota Scheme in January 1998. She had been in New Zealand as a visitor twice before - for three months starting in March 1997 and for a month in December of the same year.



## 7. CONCLUSION

The findings of this exploratory research project suggest that there are significant links between people who enter New Zealand temporarily and migrants approved for residence. In total, 58 percent of the principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 had previously been to New Zealand as visitors, workers or students. Many of the principal applicants in the sample had been granted a series of temporary permits. This was the case for both targeted and social migrants, although a slightly greater proportion of social principal applicants (60%) than targeted principal applicants (55%) had held temporary permits.

Almost three quarters (73%) of South African principal applicants had previously been in New Zealand. Larger proportions from Great Britain (69%) and, in descending order, from Fiji (64%) and Samoa (56%) had also previously been in New Zealand temporarily. Conversely, only a quarter (25%) of principal applicants from China and one third (33%) from India had previously been in New Zealand.

In addition to moving from temporary permits to residence permits, many principal applicants had also held a variety of temporary permits. Overall, 39 percent of the sample had most recently held visitors' permits, 18 percent work permits and 2 percent student permits. In comparison, over half (51%) of the principal applicants had at some time been granted visitors' permits and over a quarter (26%) work permits. The types of temporary permits granted also varied with the categories under which the principal applicants had been approved for residence. Work permits were the most frequent recent permits (28%) for targeted principal applicants, while visitors' permits (45%) were the most frequent for social principal applicants.

The links between temporary permits and residence probably have a number of sources. The General Skills Category policy settings provide incentives for principal applicants to enter New Zealand temporarily. New Zealand work experience is worth up to 2 points, and a job offer is worth 5 points. For some, these points would make the difference between achieving the "pass mark" and failing to have sufficient points.

Some of the other sources of links between temporary entry and residence policy would probably include people visiting New Zealand, such as parents of residents from Britain and South Africa, before they decide to apply for residence. For some targeted migrants, such as South Africans, the journey from visitors' to worker to resident probably is something of a continuum.



## 8. Appendix A: Definitions

<b>Definitions used in the report</b>	
<i>AMS</i>	The NZIS Application Management System, which is used for recording information about applications and applicants.
<i>Business Investor Category (1995-98)</i>	Applicants were assessed on a points system and had score 12 points to be approved for residence. Qualities and attributes taken into account included business experience, qualifications, funds, age and settlement factors.
<i>Family Category</i>	<p>The Family Category is available to those applicants who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are in a genuine and stable marriage or de facto relationship with a New Zealand citizen or resident; or</li> <li>• Have immediate family members who are New Zealand citizens or residents and who live permanently in New Zealand.</li> </ul> <p>It consists of the following sub-categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marriage and de facto;</li> <li>• Parent (subject to centre of gravity tests);</li> <li>• Sibling;</li> <li>• Adult child;</li> <li>• Dependent child.</li> </ul>
<i>General Category (1991-95)</i>	This category operated on a points system. Initially principal applicants had to score 25 points to be approved for residence under this category. Over time the threshold rose to 31. Points could be awarded for qualifications, work experience, age, job offers and settlement factors.
<i>General Skills Category(1995 – continuing)</i>	Applicants under this category are assessed on a points system. To be approved, migrants must score 25 points. Qualities and attributes taken into account include qualifications, work experience, age, funds and other settlement factors and job offers.
<i>Humanitarian Category</i>	<p>This is available to those applicants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who have the support of a close family member who is a New Zealand citizen or residence permit holder; and</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whose circumstances are causing serious physical harm or serious emotional harm to the applicant or a New Zealand party that can only be resolved by the applicant being granted residence in New Zealand.</li> </ul>
<i>Western Samoan Quota Scheme</i>	Up to 1100 Samoan citizens who have a job offer in New Zealand and are aged between 18-45 years, may be granted residence each year (1 July -30 June).
<i>Student</i>	A person issued a student permit upon arrival. People coming to New Zealand to study full time for longer than 3 months must have a student permit. They can be issued for up to 4 years.
<i>Visitor</i>	A person issued a visitors' permit upon arrival. Visitors' permits are generally issued for 6 or 9 months, although under certain circumstances, visitors may remain in New Zealand for 12 months. Individuals must remain out of New Zealand for a period equivalent to their last visitors' permit before being able to re-enter as a visitor.
<i>Worker</i>	A person issued a work permit upon arrival. These generally allow people to be in New Zealand for up to 3 years.

## 9. Appendix B: Research design

### 9.1 Methodology

A sample survey of administrative data was the main research technique used. This was the most effective and efficient way of meeting the research objectives. A proportionate stratified random sample was used to allow for generalisations about the population of principal applicants.

### 9.2 Target and survey populations

Principal applicants who had their residence applications finalised in the 1998 calendar year was the target population. Principal applicants (as opposed to all applicants in applications) were selected for study as they are the people most rigorously assessed in residence application processes. The 1998 calendar year was selected as the period to survey as it was most recent standard 12 month interval for which data existed at the time the research was designed. A 12 month interval was needed to control for seasonal variations.

### 9.3 Sampling frame

The sampling frame was an Impromptu report listing all principal applicants who were approved for residence and had their applications finalised in 1998.

### 9.4 Data Sources

The information needs specified that quantitative data showing the temporary permit history of individuals over time was required to meet the research objectives. NZIS's AMS records were used as the source of data because:

- ◆ AMS data is the most valid and reliable source of basic quantitative migrant and application information available; and
- ◆ the efficiencies of using existing in-house data at an exploratory stage are considerable, particularly in comparison to undertaking a new collection of data.

### 9.5 Classifications

Data were classified according to NZIS's MIS classifications. All categories and sub-categories were collapsed into either "targeted" or "social" categories.

Tables 9-1 (below) shows the targeted residence categories represented in the sample.

<b>Table 9-1 Targeted categories</b>
1991 General Category
1995 Business Investor
1995 General Skills

The "social" categories are simply all the non-targeted residence categories. Table 9-2 (below) lists the social categories represented in the sample.

<b>Table 9-2 Social categories</b>		
1991 Family marriage	1995 Family homosexual	Ministerial direction
1991 Family parent	1995 Family marriage	Refugee Quota
1991 Humanitarian	1995 Family parent	Samoan Quota
1995 Family child adult	1995 Family sibling	Transition 33(2) compliance
1995 Family child dependent	1995 Humanitarian	Transition 33(2) voluntary
1995 Family de facto	1995 Refugee status	

## 9.6 Data collection

Each application in the sample was looked up manually in an AMS *Application Search*. The name and client number of the principal applicant of each application listed in the *Application Details* window was recorded directly into an Access database.

*Client searches* were done for principal applicants. Identifying the correct principal applicants was assisted by combining information from the Impromptu report about the residence applications with information from the AMS Application Search *Application Details* window.

From the *Visa & Permits* tab of the *Client Details* window information about permits prior to residence were recorded.

## 10. Appendix C: Sampling

### 10.1 Population numbers

Table 10-1 below shows the numbers and proportions of migrants approved for residence by nationality for the period 1995-98, and 1998. The stratified sample was based on this information.

	1998%	Total 1995-1998	Total 1995-1998%
Great Britain	15%	21,311	14%
China	14%	18,849	12%
South Africa	12%	12,056	8%
India	8%	11,056	7%
Samoa	6%	7,926	5%
Fiji	6%	5,255	3%
Tonga	4%	3,497	2%
United States of America	3%	3,009	2%
Sri Lanka	2%	3,746	2%
Philippines	2%	3,779	2%
Korea (south)	2%	6,575	4%
Somalia	2%	1,427	1%
Taiwan	1%	18,511	12%
Hong Kong	1%	5,822	4%
Iraq	1%	4,396	3%
Russia	1%	2,002	1%
Other	21%	28,557	18%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>157,774</b>	<b>100%</b>

Great Britain	2,781
China	2,382
South Africa	1,204
India	1,106
Western Samoa	972
Fiji	868
Tonga	599
United States of America	439
Philippines	368
Sri Lanka	306
Taiwan	283
South Korea	279
Other	4,045
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,632</b>



## 11. ESTIMATORS FOR PROPORTIONS AND STANDARD ERRORS

### 11.1 Estimators

The formula below was used to estimate the sample proportions.

$$P_h \triangleq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_h} x_i}{n_h}$$

$x_i = 0,1$

### 11.2 Standard errors for proportions

The standard errors of the estimates were calculated using the formula below. The errors were calculated with a 95 percent confidence interval.

$$se = 1.96 \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{h=1}^l \left( N_h^2 \frac{(N_h - n_h)}{(N_h - 1)} \frac{\hat{p}_h \hat{q}_h}{n_h} \right)}{N^2}}$$

**Where:**

$h$  is the stratum number

$l$  is the total number of strata

$N$  is the population total

$N_h$  is the stratum population total

$n_h$  is the size of the sample within the stratum  $h$

$\hat{p}$  is the estimate of a sample proportion

$\hat{q}$  is  $1-p$



## 12. APPENDIX D TABLES

The standard errors in the following tables are in grey columns to the right of the estimates.

<b>Table 12-1</b> The proportions of principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 who had previously been to New Zealand by nationality					
<b>Nationality</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>Previous temporary permits (%)</b>	<b>SE ±</b>	<b>No previous permits (%)</b>	<b>SE ±</b>
<b>China</b>	426	24.6	3.6	75.4	3.6
<b>Fiji</b>	172	64.0	6.4	36	6.4
<b>GB</b>	571	69.4	3.3	30.6	3.3
<b>India</b>	207	33.8	5.7	66.2	5.7
<b>Samoa</b>	202	55.9	6.1	44.1	6.1
<b>S Africa</b>	234	72.6	5	27.4	5
<b>Other</b>	1,273	66.3	2.3	33.7	2.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	3,041	58.0	1.6	42	1.6

<b>Table 12-2</b> The proportions of targeted and social principal applicants who had been to New Zealand before being approved for residence						
<b>Nationality</b>	<b>Targeted</b>			<b>Social</b>		
	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>SE ±</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>SE ±</b>
<b>China</b>	72	23.6	8.7	354	24.9	4.0
<b>Fiji</b>	42	59.5	13.1	130	65.4	7.3
<b>GB</b>	262	48.5	5.3	309	87.1	3.3
<b>India</b>	92	16.3	6.7	115	47.8	8.1
<b>Samoa</b>	2	100.0	0.0	200	55.5	6.1
<b>S Africa</b>	173	69.4	6.1	61	82.0	8.6
<b>Other</b>	330	68.5	4.4	899	63.8	2.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2,068</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>

**Table 12-3** Principal applicants' most recent temporary permits, proportions by type and nationality, 1998

Nationality	n	All Permits	SE ±	Visitor %	SE ±	Work %	SE ±	Student %	SE±	No Permits %	SE ±
China	426	24.6	3.6	19.7	3.4	4.5	1.7	0.5	0.6	75.4	3.6
Fiji	172	64	6.4	44.2	6.6	15.7	4.8	4.1	2.6	36	6.4
GB	571	69.4	3.3	41.9	3.6	27.3	3.2	0.2	0.3	30.6	3.3
India	207	33.8	5.7	23.2	5.1	10.1	3.6	0.5	0.8	66.2	5.7
Samoa	202	55.9	6.1	53.5	6.1	1.5	1.5	1	1.2	44.1	6.1
S Africa	234	72.6	5	50	5.7	21.8	4.7	0.9	1	27.4	5
Other	1273	66.3	2.3	43.6	2.4	16.7	1.8	2.5	0.8	33.7	2.3
Total	3041	58	1.6	39	1.5	17.5	1.2	1.5	0.4	42	1.6

**Table 12-4** The most recent temporary permits granted to targeted principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 by nationality

Nationality	n	All Permits %	SE ±	Visitors' %	SE ±	Work %	SE ±	Student %	SE ±	No Permits %	SE ±
China	72	23.6	8.7	16.7	7.6	5.6	4.7	1.4	2.4	76.4	8.7
Great Britain	262	48.5	5.3	22.5	4.5	26	4.7	0	0	51.5	5.3
India	92	16.3	6.7	4.3	3.7	10.9	5.6	1	1.1	83.7	6.7
S Africa	173	69.4	6.1	45.1	6.5	24.3	5.6	0	0	30.6	6.1
Other	374	72.2	4	35	4.3	24.3	3.8	1.1	0.9	27.8	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>2.8</b>

**Table 12-5** The most recent temporary permits granted to social principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 by nationality

Nationality	n	All Permits %	SE ±	Visitors' %	SE ±	Work %	SE ±	Student %	SE ±	None	SE ±
China	354	24.9	4.0	20.3	3.7	4.2	1.9	0.3	0.5	75.1	4
Fiji	130	65.4	7.3	49.2	7.6	12.3	5	3.8	2.9	34.6	7.3
GB	309	87.1	3.3	58.3	4.9	28.5	4.5	0.3	0.6	12.9	3.3
India	115	47.8	8.1	38.3	7.9	9.6	4.8	0	0	52.2	8.1
Samoa	200	55.5	6.1	53.0	6.1	1.5	1.5	1	1.2	44.5	6.1
S Africa	61	82.0	8.6	63.9	10.7	14.8	7.9	3.3	4	18	8.6
Other	899	63.8	2.8	47.2	2.9	13.6	2	3.1	1	36.2	2.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,068</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>

**Table 12-6** The most recent temporary permits held by principal applicants who had been to New Zealand before being approved for residence in 1998

Permit type	%	SE ±
Visitors'	67.2	1.9
Work	30.2	1.9
Student	2.6	0.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>n =1,764</b>	

**Table 12-7** The most recent temporary permit held by targeted principal applicants who had been to New Zealand before being approved for residence in 1998

Permit type	%	SE ±
Visitors'	48.3	3.7
Work	50.6	3.7
Student	1.1	0.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>n = 532</b>	

**Table 12-8** The most recent temporary permit held by social principal applicants who had been to New Zealand before being approved for residence in 1998

Permit	%	SE ±
Visitors'	75.4	2.1
Work	21.4	2.0
Student	3.2	0.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	

**Table 12-9** The most recent year principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 had held temporary permits

Year	%	SE ±
1998	30	
1997	38	1.3
1996	17	0.9
1995	8	0.7
1994	5	0.5
< 1994	2	0.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>n =1,764</b>	

**Table 12-10** Principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 under targeted categories: selected nationalities by type and proportion of temporary permits ever granted

Nationality	n	Visitors' %	SE ±	Work %	SE ±	Student %	SE ±	No Permits %	SE ±
China	72	19.4	8.1	9.7	6	2.8	3.3	76.4	8.7
Great Britain	262	34.0	5.1	33.6	5	0	0	51.5	5.3
India	92	9.8	5.4	13	6.1	1.1	1.9	83.7	6.7
South Africa	173	68.2	6.1	41.6	6.5	0	0	30.6	6.1
Other	374	51.3	4.4	28.6	4	6.1	2.1	27.8	3.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>45.7</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>2.8</b>

**Table 12-11** Principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 under social categories: selected nationalities by type and proportion of temporary permits ever granted

	<b>n</b>	<b>Visitors'</b> <b>%</b>	<b>SE</b> <b>±</b>	<b>Work</b> <b>%</b>	<b>SE</b> <b>±</b>	<b>Student</b> <b>%</b>	<b>SE</b> <b>±</b>	<b>No Permits</b> <b>%</b>	<b>SE</b> <b>±</b>
China	354	23.7	3.9	7.6	2.5	0.8	0.8	75.1	4
Fiji	130	58.5	7.5	20.0	6.1	8.5	4.2	34.6	7.3
Great Britain	309	72.5	4.4	45.6	4.9	0.6	0.8	13.3	3.4
India	115	46.1	8.1	17.4	6.2	0.9	1.5	52.2	8.1
Samoa	200	54.5	6.1	6.0	2.9	2.0	1.7	44.5	6.1
South Africa	61	78.7	9.1	29.5	10.2	6.6	5.5	18.0	8.6
Other	899	57.8	2.9	25.8	2.5	6.1	1.4	36.8	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,068</b>	<b>53.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>

**Table 12-12** The number of temporary permits targeted principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 had ever been granted

<b>Number of permits</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>SE</b> <b>±</b>
<b>1</b>	25.9	3.3
<b>2</b>	21.4	3.1
<b>3</b>	19.5	3.0
<b>4 or 5</b>	19.0	2.9
<b>6-57</b>	14.1	2.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>n = 532</b>	

<b>Table 12-13</b> The number of temporary permits social principal applicants approved for residence in 1998 had ever been granted		
<b>Number of permits</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>SE ±</b>
<b>1</b>	23.3	2.1
<b>2</b>	26.1	2.2
<b>3</b>	17.6	1.9
<b>4 or 5</b>	18.2	1.9
<b>*6-31</b>	14.8	1.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>n = 1,234</b>	