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PUBLICATION:

GLOBAL MOBILITY



MIGRATION TRENDS AND OUTLOOK 2007/08

The Migration Trends and Outlook 2007/08 report is the eighth in a series produced annually to provide background information about trends in temporary and permanent migration. It also discusses the outlook for New Zealand immigration in the context of the global environment and the effects of the economic downturn observed by October 2008. The special topic in this edition looks at the economic impact of immigration.

This report is prepared for policy makers concerned with migration flows and their impact, and also for the wider public with an interest in immigration policies and their outcomes.

Some of the key highlights from the report include:

- The net inflow of 40,000 non-New Zealand citizens in 2007/08 is the highest recorded net inflow since 2003. However, the number of New Zealand citizens departing on a permanent and long-term basis also increased between 2006/07 and 2007/08 to 35,300.
- About 1.5 million people were granted visitor, student, or work permits for temporary entry into New Zealand in 2007/08. In addition, more than 756,000 Australian citizens travelled to New Zealand, and 46,077 people were granted permanent residence in New Zealand.
- An increasing proportion of migrants are studying and working in New Zealand before applying for permanent

residence, and immigration policies support this transition. Most people approved for residency in 2007/08 had previously held a temporary permit (81 percent of 46,077 residence approvals).

- Of the 46,077 migrants granted permanent residence in 2007/08, 59 percent entered through the Skilled/Business stream, 32 percent entered through the family-sponsored streams, and 9 percent entered through the International/Humanitarian stream.
- The majority of the Skilled/Business stream was made up of migrants entering New Zealand through the Skilled Migrant Category (25,434 migrants). The United Kingdom remains the largest source country of Skilled Migrant Category approvals (27 percent), followed by South Africa, China, and the Philippines (all 13 percent).
- The three largest source countries of International/Humanitarian Stream migrants were Pacific nations (Samoa, Tonga and Fiji), reflecting the high proportion of approvals in this stream through the Samoan Quota and the Pacific Access Category. New Zealand also accepted 795 refugees for resettlement. Over the last five years refugees have been accepted from more than 50 countries, including Myanmar, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Sudan, Iraq, Iran, and Bhutan.

PACIFIC

YOUTH

LISNZ

SETTLEMENT

FAMILY

ECONOMIC

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REFUGEE

Migration Trends and Outlook 2007/08 can be obtained from the New Zealand Department of Labour's website at: <http://dol.govt.nz/publications/research/migration-trends-08/>

➤ For further information contact research@dol.govt.nz