In 2015, 80% of employed principal applicants reported that their current role match their skills and qualifications. Despite the slight decrease over the previous year (89% in 2014), this has remained high and stable over time. Among secondary applicants, almost half (48%) of those employed reported that their current job match their skills and qualifications. This is a decrease from 60% in 2014.

Generally, the employment rate of recent migrants is lower compared with the NZ-born population. However, in the year ending December 2015, recent migrants have a higher employment rate (66.8%) than the NZ average (59.4%).

In 2015, 24% of all full-time migrants arrived in New Zealand have a bachelor’s degree or higher. Of these, 61% of those who have a bachelor’s degree or higher have transitioned into residency within three years of their last student visa, 2008-2014.

The number of migrant children getting ESOL funding has increased from 16,500 in 2015 to 18,200 in 2016. New migrant children make up 48% of those who get ESOL funding. In addition, 47% are New Zealand born children of migrants, and the rest are refugees.

As at 30 May 2016, 57% of migrants used all or part of their ESOL pre-paid tuition entitlement in 2015. This is lower than the 64% reported in 2014. In 2015, 72% of TEC-funded ESOL went to migrant enrolments in ESOL courses.

Greater proportion of migrant school leavers who achieve NCEA level 2 or above qualification on the New Zealand Qualification Framework.

In 2015, 70% of migrants reported that their current role matches their skills and New Zealand qualifications. A large increase (22%) from a year ago. This observed increase could be due to unexpected variations in employment data since 2014.

In 2015, the overall employment rate of recent migrants and the New Zealand born working population was 72% (91% of recent migrants and 84% of the New Zealand born working population). Therefore, the employed recent migrants are more likely to feel safer in New Zealand. In 2014, 72% of recent migrants reported feeling safe or very safe when walking alone at night in their neighbourhood. This is an increase from 68% reported in 2012.

Fewer recent migrants reported to being victims of crime. Ten percent of recent migrants said they had crime committed against them in the last 12 months, a decrease from 16% in 2012. This is lower compared with the overall New Zealand population.

In 2015, 90% of migrants who arrived or approved for residency in 2010 were enrolled in a primary health organisation within five years (79% were enrolled within the first year). This is an increase from 83.8% for the 2009 migrant cohort.

Note: The year in the graph refers to the year the migrant arrived or were approved for residency. The data for the year 2008-2012 are based on a migrant’s age at the time of approval ARR/arrival.