



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HIKINA WHAKATUTUKI

Settlement outcomes for Pacific migrants to New Zealand

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Managing Migration in the Pacific: Agreements, Outcomes, Futures
Workshop 49, Thursday, 12th September 2013



Outline

- New Zealand's Pacific people
- Migration from the Pacific
- Settlement outcomes of Pacific migrants in New Zealand

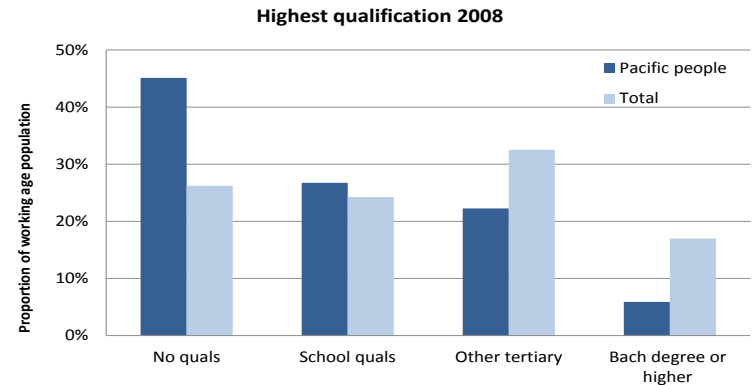


New Zealand's Pacific people

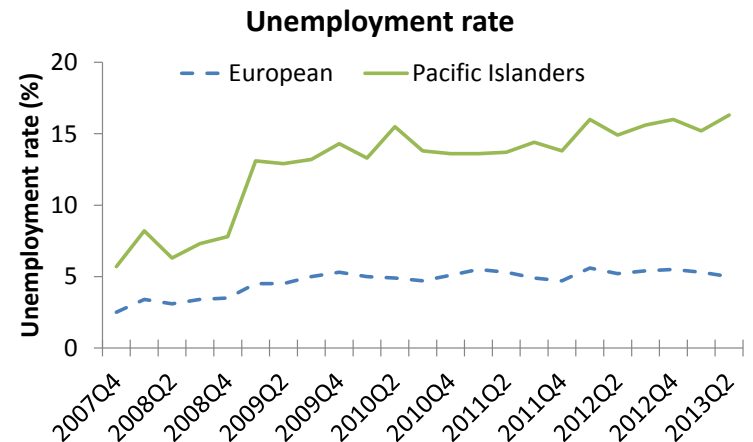
- 6.9% of NZ's population in 2006 – strong growth projection
- A diverse population – 13 distinct languages and cultural groups
- 60% born in NZ
- Young - median age 21, compares to 35 for total population
- Auckland has the largest Pacific population in the world – 27% of NZ Pacific people live in Auckland
- A major part of future workforce, but challenges of high youth unemployment and under achievement.

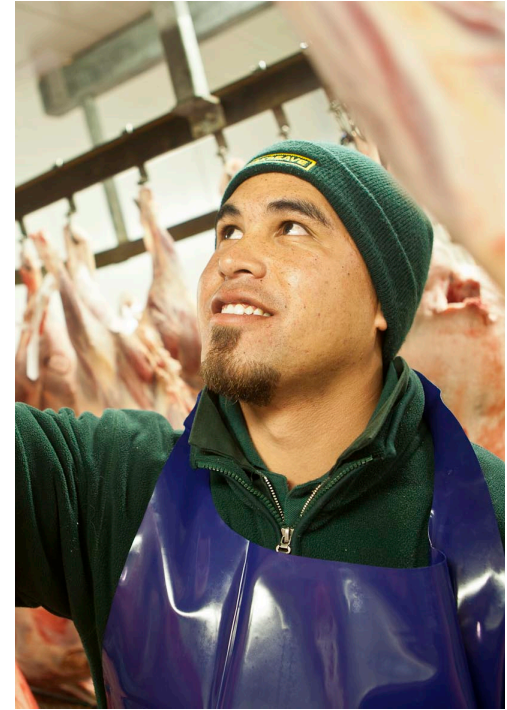
Pacific Economic Profile in NZ

- Pacific peoples are over-represented in low skill, low income occupations
- Average PI household income in 2012 was \$8400 less than NZ European and \$5000 less than total average
- Pacific unemployment rate was at 16% compared with 6.6% for the general population
- Pacific young people stay at school longer but are leaving with lower level qualifications than their peers.



Ministry of Education and HLFs



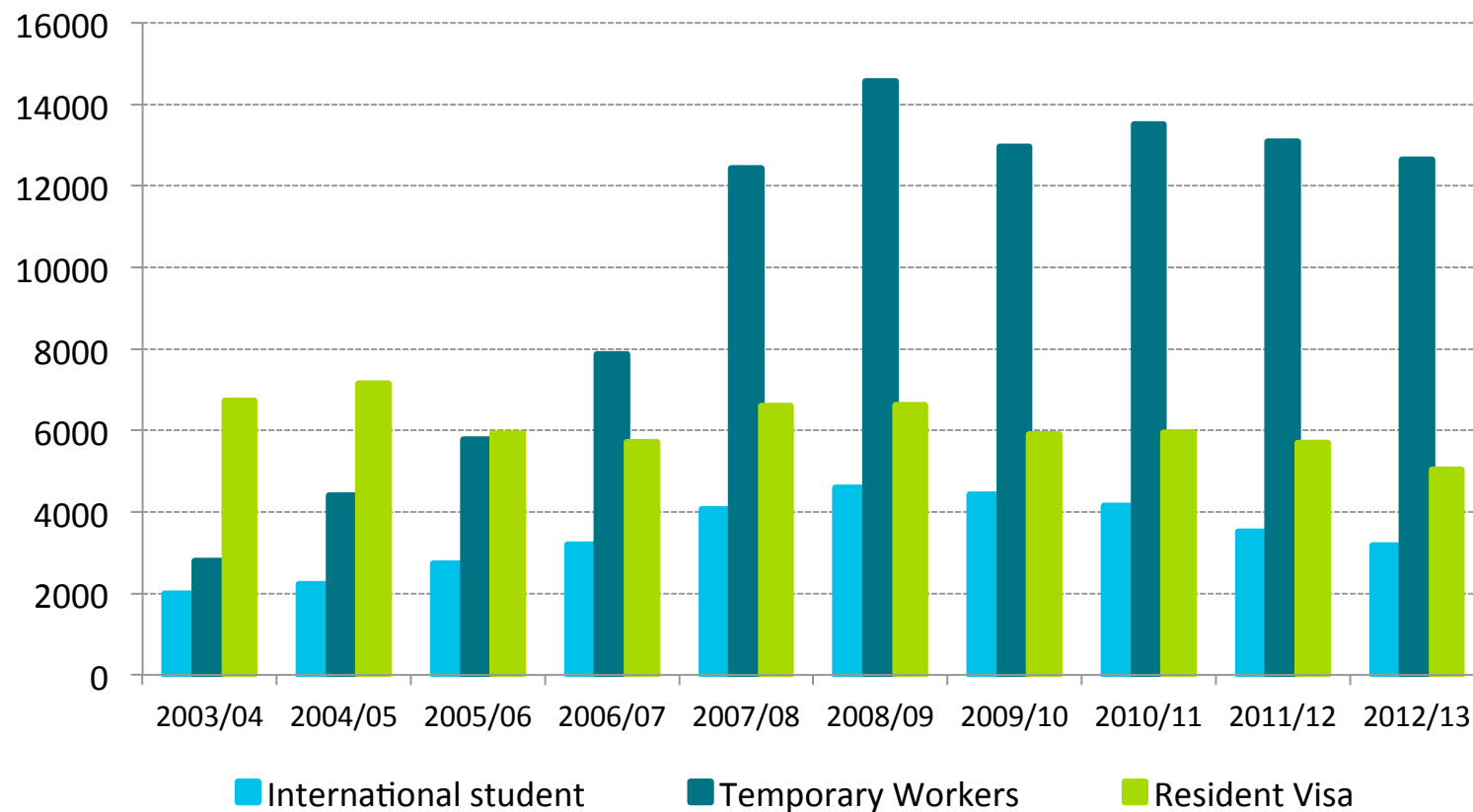


MIGRATION FROM THE PACIFIC

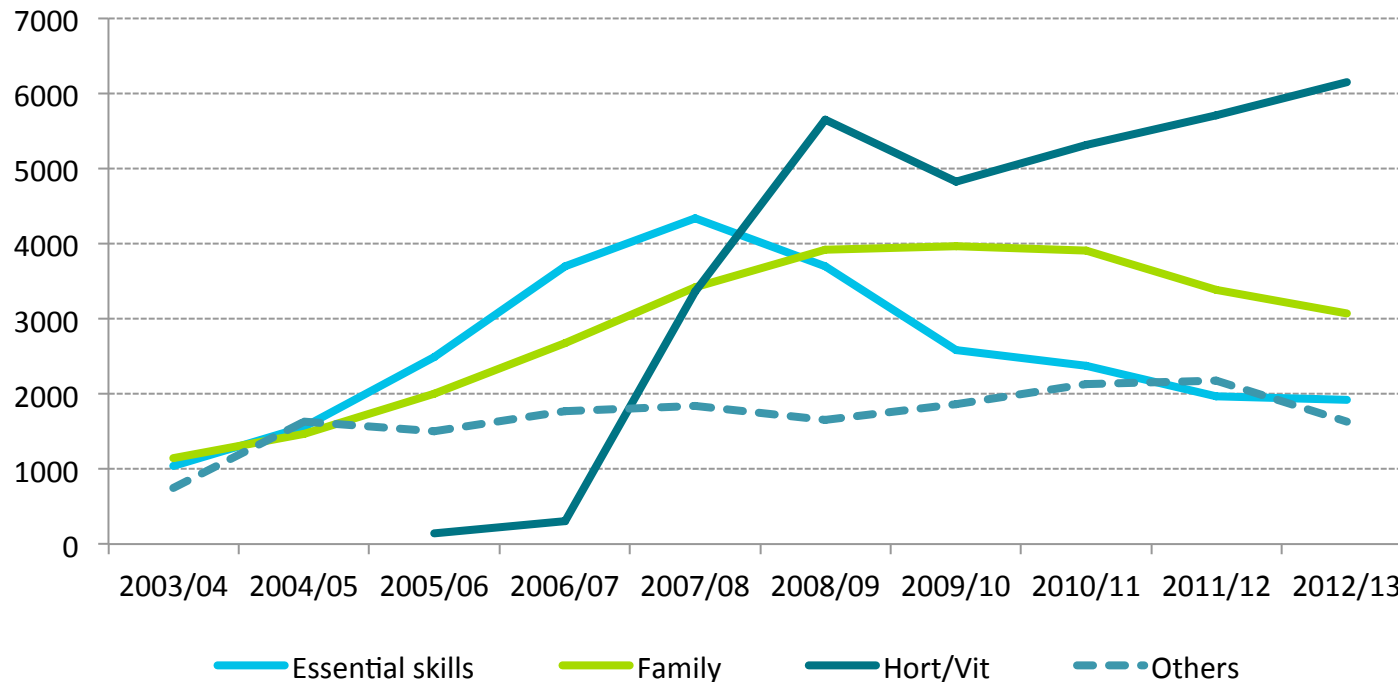


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Pacific migration to New Zealand



Temporary workers from the Pacific



103,000 temporary workers last decade

Seasonal policy (RSE) since 2007/08

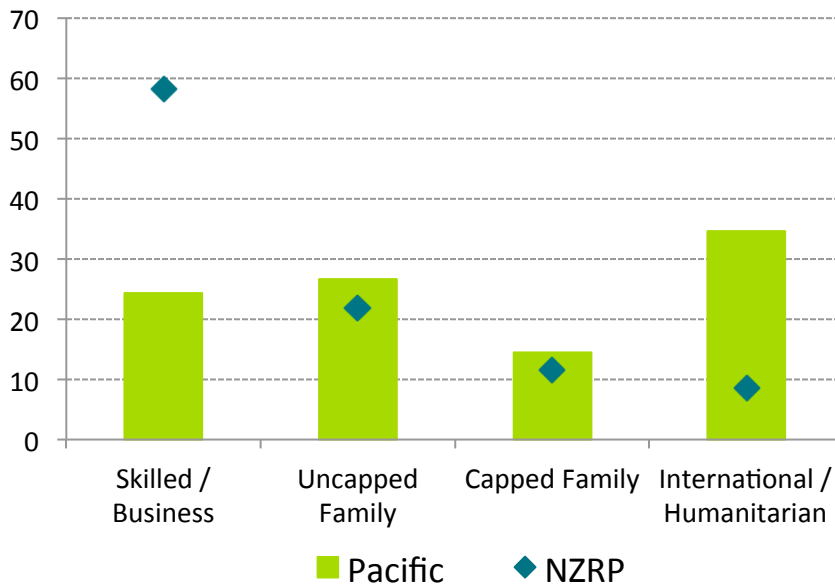
75% of seasonal workers from the Pacific

Fiji 44% of temporary workers

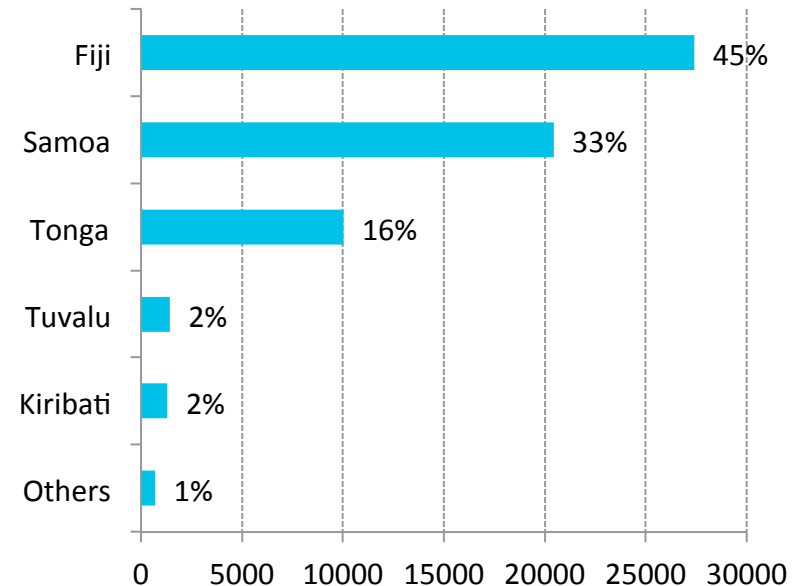


Components of permanent migration

Resident approvals by stream – last 10 years



Main source countries – last 10 years



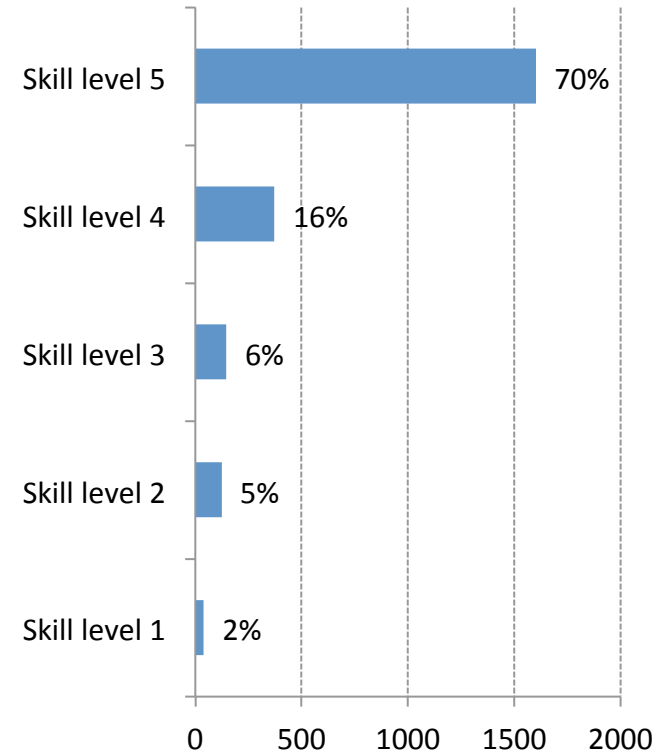
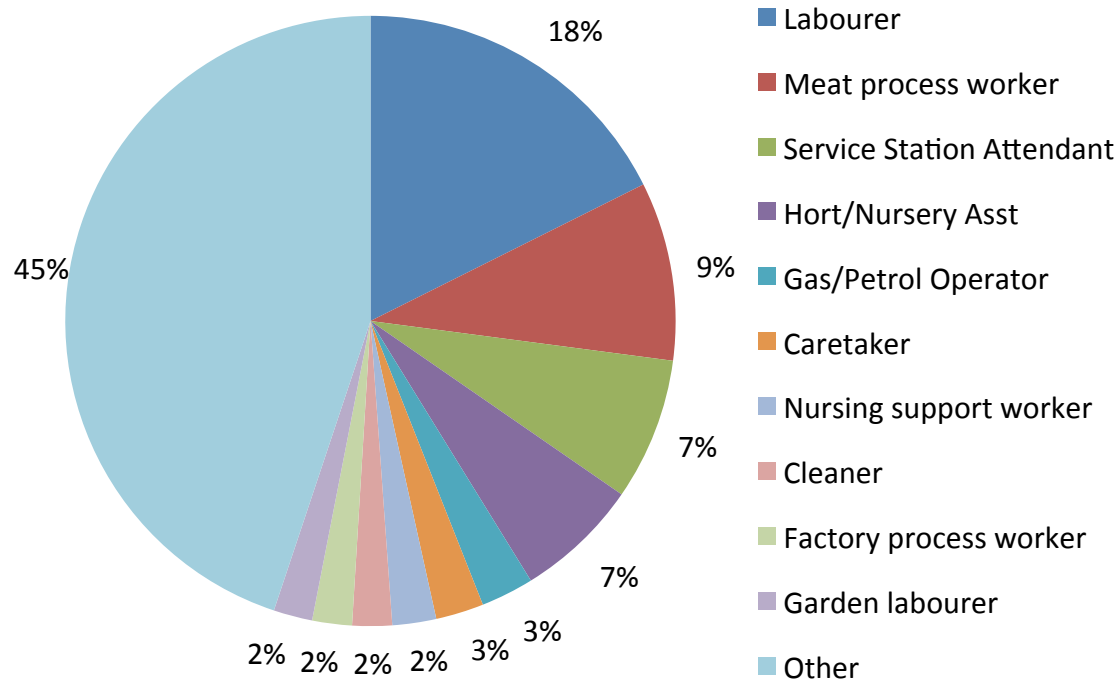
**61,000 Pacific people
in last decade**

**94% from three
countries (Fiji, Samoa,
Tonga)**

**13.8% of New Zealand
Residence Programme**

**23% enter as Skilled
Migrants; 29% through
quotas**

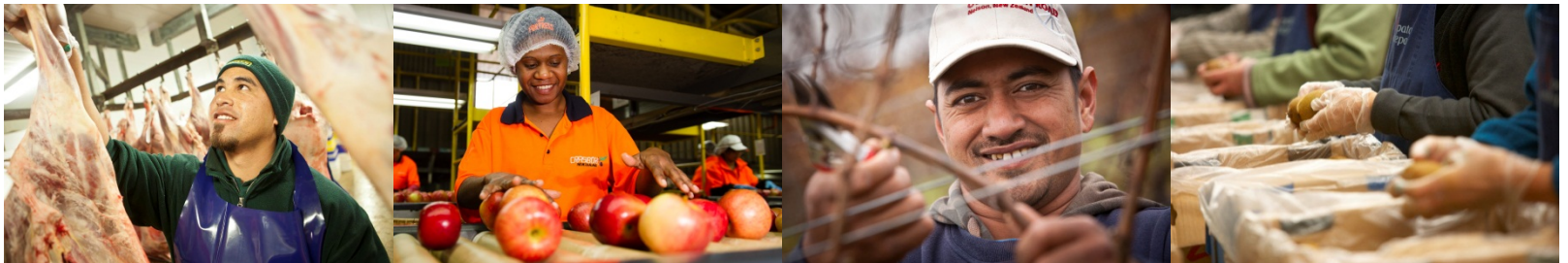
Pacific Access Category and Samoan Quota jobs 2008/09 - 2012/13



Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.



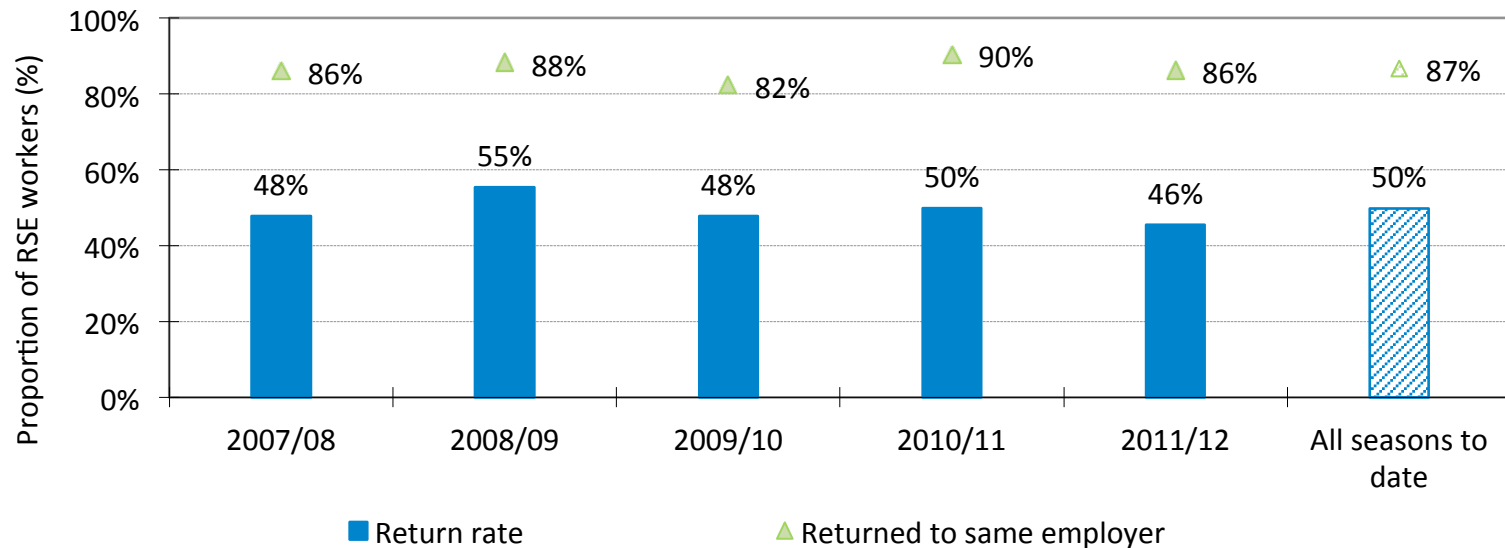
PACIFIC MIGRANTS' LABOUR MARKET OUTCOMES



Circular migration and worker earnings in the RSE Scheme



RSE worker return rates by season: 2007/08 – 2011/12



39,000 workers in six seasons

High return rate, most to same employer

Latest season: 69% are returning workers

Median seasonal earnings ~ \$14,000NZ

Conclusions

- Large increase in temporary, seasonal labour from the Pacific
 - Growing importance of migrant labour in NZ regions with high seasonal labour needs
 - High degree of circularity a measure of success
- Significant component of the NZ Residence Programme
 - But largely low skilled migration through quotas
- Pacific quota migrants typically high level of participation
 - But less likely to have experience in NZ on a temporary visa
 - Jobs in sectors most affected by the recession



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- Visit our research page:
www.dol.govt.nz/research/migration/index.asp
- Contact us: research@mbie.govt.nz
- Visit Statistics New Zealand at www.stats.govt.nz/idi



Disclaimer

Aspects of this work were undertaken while the author(s) were on secondment to Statistics New Zealand. This work is part of the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) that was created using Migrant Levy funding secured by the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment.

The opinions, findings, recommendations and conclusions expressed are those of the author(s). Statistics NZ or the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment take no responsibility for any omissions or errors in the information contained here.

The results in this report are not official statistics, they have been created for research purposes from the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) managed by Statistics NZ. On-going work within Statistics NZ to develop the IDI means it will not be possible to exactly reproduce the data presented here.

Access to the data used in this study was provided by Statistics NZ in accordance with security and confidentiality provisions of the Statistics Act 1975. Only people authorised by the Statistics Act 1975 are allowed to see data about a particular person, business or organisation. The results in this report have been confidentialised to protect individual people and businesses from identification.

Careful consideration has been given to the privacy, security and confidentiality issues associated with using administrative data in the Integrated Data Infrastructure. Further detail can be found in the [Privacy impact assessment for the Integrated Data Infrastructure](#) available from www.stats.govt.nz.

The results are based in part on tax data supplied by Inland Revenue to Statistics NZ under the Tax Administration Act 1994. This tax data must be used only for statistical purposes, and no individual information may be published or disclosed in any other form, or provided to Inland Revenue for administrative or regulatory purposes.

Any person who has had access to the unit-record data has certified that they have been shown, have read, and have understood section 81 of the Tax Administration Act 1994, which relates to privacy and confidentiality. Any discussion of data limitations or weaknesses is in the context of using the Integrated Data Infrastructure for statistical purposes, and is not related to the data's ability to support Inland Revenue's core operational requirements.