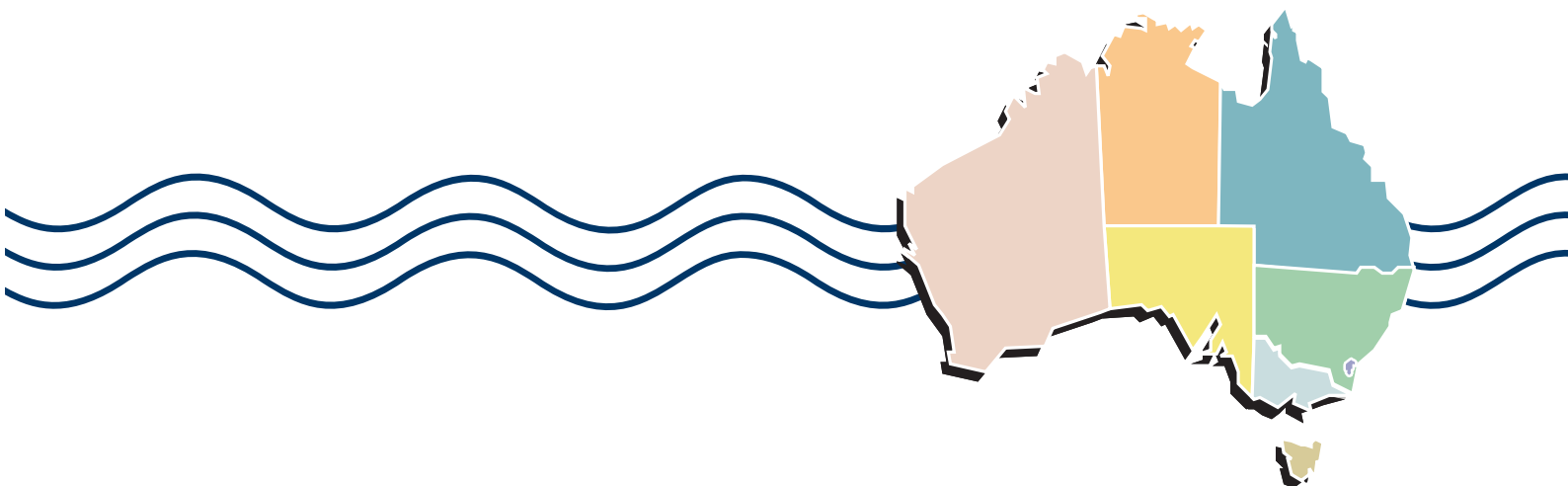


Chapter 4

New Zealand Movement

- At 30 June 2006, an estimated 471,000 New Zealand citizens were present in Australia, an increase of 4.9 per cent from a year earlier.
- The New Zealand-born in Australia had a higher participation rate in the labour market than the Australia-born (76.7 per cent compared with 68.6 per cent).
- The New Zealand-born in Australia had a lower unemployment rate than the Australia-born (3.5 per cent compared with 4.7 per cent).
- About 63.5 per cent of New Zealanders in Australia had described themselves as Australian residents on their last arrival in Australia.



New Zealand Movement

The Trans-Tasman Travel Agreement

Since the 1920s there has been virtually unrestricted movement of people between Australia and New Zealand under various reciprocal entry arrangements. In 1973, the Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement was introduced which allows Australian and New Zealand citizens to enter each others' country freely to visit, live, work and remain indefinitely without the need to apply formally for authority to enter the other country.

On arrival in Australia, New Zealand passport holders are granted a Special Category visa in the immigration clearance process. As with all visa applicants, New Zealand citizens must satisfy certain health and character requirements. A Special Category visa remains valid for as long as its holder remains in Australia.

The size of the movement of New Zealanders to and from Australia responds to relative economic conditions in Australia and New Zealand such as differences in relative real incomes and employment opportunities. Traditionally, the number of New Zealanders in Australia increases in times of relative economic buoyancy in Australia and declines when economic conditions are slower.

The net permanent and long-term movement of New Zealanders to Australia has rose steadily over the 1990s, from less than 3,000 in 1991–92 to just over 30,000 in 1999–2000, and 38,949 in 2000–01. However, net movement fell sharply in 2001–02 and again in 2002–03, largely reflecting a fall in arrivals from New Zealand. This probably reflects in part a correction following significant gains in arrivals prior to Australia-New Zealand negotiations of social security arrangements. Net movement has increased each year subsequently.

At 30 June 2006, an estimated 471,000 New Zealand citizens were present in Australia, compared with 449,000 at 30 June 2005. 257,000 New Zealanders (or 54.7 per cent) had been in Australia for 12 months or more.

From the stock of New Zealanders, 63.5 per cent described themselves as Australian residents on incoming passenger cards.

New Zealand Visa Grants

On 26 February 2001, the Australian and New Zealand governments announced new bilateral social security arrangements which introduced a durable and equitable approach for sharing the social security costs of Australians and New Zealanders living in each other's countries. Under these arrangements, Australians and New Zealanders reliant on Australian age pensions, New Zealand superannuation and veterans' pensions are guaranteed continued payment of their entitlements regardless of on which side of the Tasman they choose to live. Where people have spent part of their working lives in both countries, both governments contribute to their retirement incomes. Both governments also contribute support for people with severe disabilities. The arrangement also recognises the right of each country to determine access to social

security benefits not covered by the agreement, and to set any related residence and citizenship rules according to their respective national legislative and policy frameworks.

Accordingly, the Australian government also introduced new policies regarding residence and citizenship rules for New Zealand citizens who arrive in Australia on or after 27 February 2001. Under these rules, New Zealand citizens wishing to access certain social security payments, obtain Australian citizenship or sponsor their family members for permanent residence can do so only if they have applied for, and been granted, Australian permanent residence under a permanent residence visa subclass. These changes do not affect the Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement. The Special Category visa remains the primary means by which New Zealand citizens travel to and stay in Australia. New Zealand citizens coming to Australia permanently do not enter as part of Australia's annual Migration Programme, but are included in settler arrival and net overseas migration figures.

The changes of 26 February 2001 have led to a small number of applications for permanent visas by New Zealand citizens.

Three new onshore permanent visa subclasses were created specifically to allow New Zealand citizens and their dependent family members to apply onshore for General Skilled Migration.

Visas granted to New Zealand citizens under onshore permanent visa subclasses in 2005–06 totalled 915 visas comprising 347 in the Skilled Independent category, 312 in the Employer Sponsored category, 84 in the Skilled Australian Sponsored category, 9 in the Business Skills category, one in the Distinguished talent category and 162 in the Partner category.

Other offshore permanent visa subclasses granted to New Zealand citizens in 2005–06 included a total of 128 visas comprising, 58 in the Skilled Independent category, 21 in the Employer Sponsored category, 16 in the Skilled Australian Sponsored category, 15 in the Business Skills category and 18 in the Partner category.

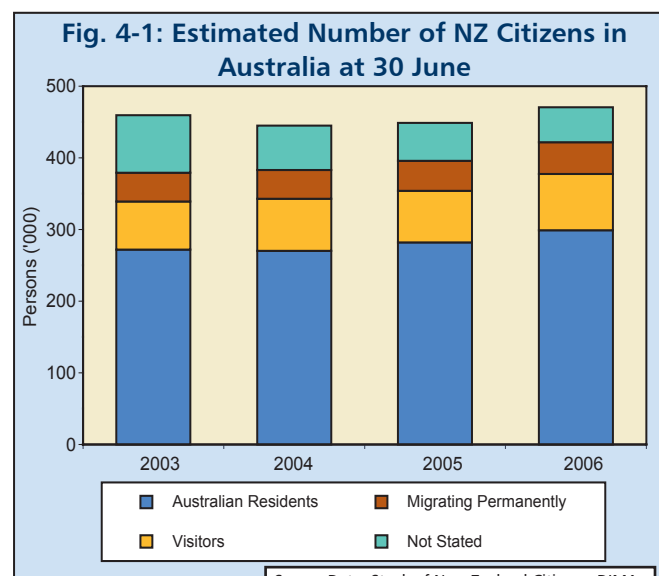
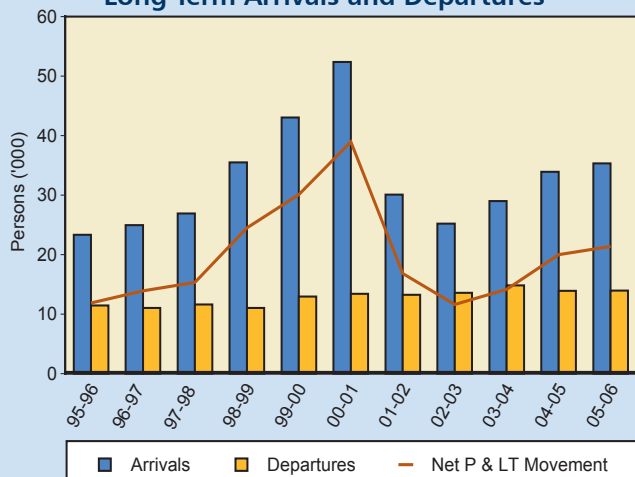
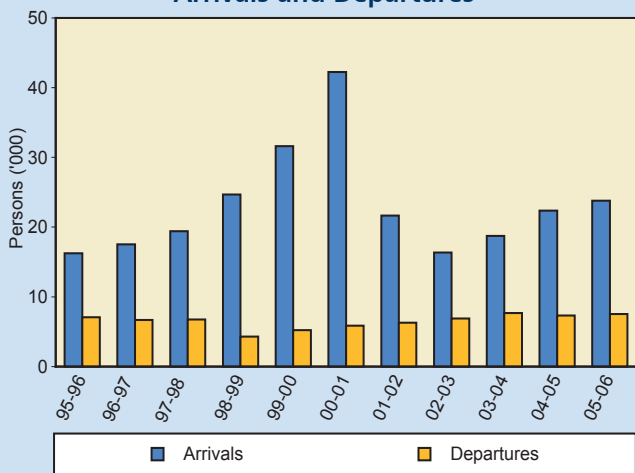


Fig. 4-2: NZ Citizen Permanent and Long-Term Arrivals and Departures



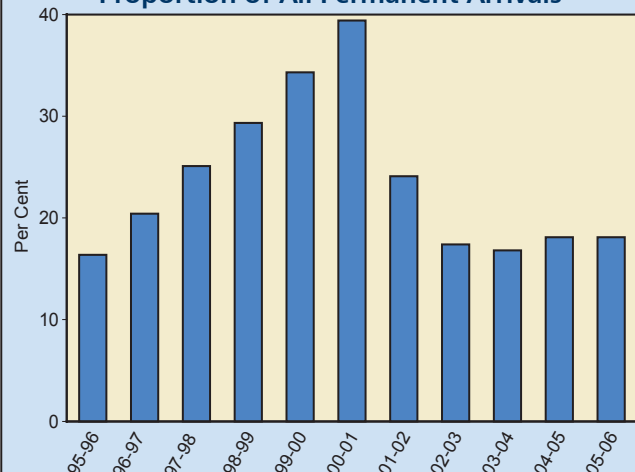
Source Data: OAD Statistics, DIMA

Fig. 4-3: NZ Citizen Permanent Arrivals and Departures



Source Data: OAD Statistics, DIMA

Fig. 4-4: NZ Citizen Permanent Arrivals as a Proportion of All Permanent Arrivals



Source Data: OAD Statistics, DIMA

A temporary visa, the New Zealand Citizen Family Relationship visa (subclass 461), was created in 2001 to enable non-New Zealand citizen family members to accompany Special Category visa holders to Australia and/or allow them to remain onshore lawfully with work rights. 692 visas were granted in 2005–06, compared to 499 visas in 2004–05.

Arrivals of New Zealand Citizens

In 2005–06, a total of 1,305,640 New Zealand citizens came to Australia, an increase of 5,318 (or 0.4 per cent) from 1,300,322 in the previous year. The growth in arrivals of New Zealand citizens has declined in 2005–06 compared with the previous year, mainly due to a decrease in the number of short term and long term visitors and Australian resident arrivals to Australia.

Permanent and Long-term Movement

In 2005–06, a total of 35,325 New Zealand citizens came to Australia permanently or as long-term (12 months or more) arrivals. This represented an increase of 4.2 per cent or 1,422 persons from the 33,903 permanent and long-term arrivals in 2004–05.

New Zealand citizen permanent and long-term arrivals were made up of 23,781 (or 67.3 per cent) permanent arrivals and 11,544 (or 32.7 per cent) long-term arrivals.

In 2005–06, there were 13,947 permanent and long-term departures of New Zealand citizens from Australia, an increase on 2004–05 of 42 (or 0.3 per cent). Compared with the previous year, permanent departures increased to 7,536 (up 3 per cent), while long-term departures decreased to 6,411, a decrease of 2.7 per cent.

Permanent Arrivals

The overall number of New Zealand citizens migrating to Australia increased consistently during the 1990s from less than 5,000 in 1990–91 to 42,254 in 2000–01. However, permanent arrival of New Zealand citizens dropped in both 2001–02 and 2002–03 (16,364), before increasing to 23,781 in 2005–06.

This large fall was probably influenced by the Australian and New Zealand governments' new bilateral social security arrangements announced on 26 February 2001.

But the fall also coincided with improvement in the New Zealand economy. In recent years, the New Zealand labour market has shown strong employment growth, lower unemployment rates and higher wages growth, especially in the public sector.

Long-term Arrivals

In 2005–06, there were 11,544 long-term arrivals, similar to the previous year. Of this 9,364 (81.1 per cent) were long-term visitors. The remaining 2,180 long-term arrivals were residents returning to Australia. The number of long-term residents returning to Australia and long-term visitors to Australia has remained relatively constant over the last two years.

New Zealanders in the Labour Market

At June 2006, the New Zealand-born in Australia had a high participation rate (76.7 per cent) compared with the Australia-born (68.6 per cent) and all migrants from the Main English Speaking Countries (MESC) (65.2 per cent). This is partly related to the concentration of New Zealanders in the young adult age groups.

Also at June 2006, the New Zealand-born had an unemployment rate of 3.5 per cent, less than the 4.7 per cent for the Australia-born and very similar to the 3.6 per cent for MESC migrants.

According to the 2001 Census, the largest numbers of New Zealand-born were employed in the major industry sectors of manufacturing (13.7 per cent of employed New Zealand-born), property and business services (12.8 per cent), retail trade (12.7 per cent), and health and community services (9.5 per cent).

Fig. 4-5: NZ Citizen Long-Term Arrivals and Departures

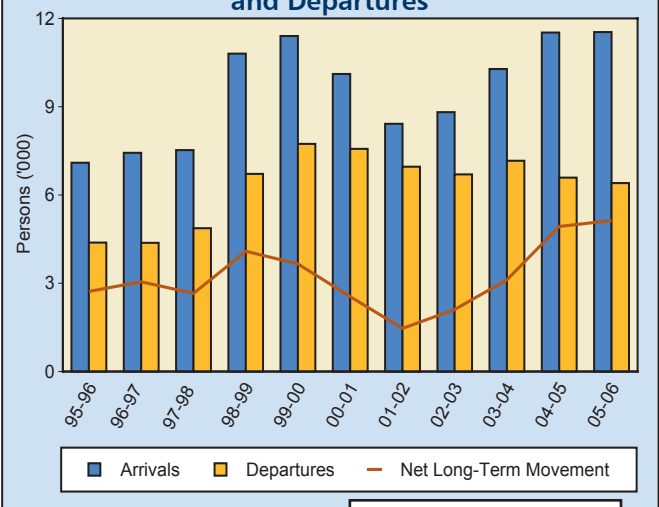


Fig. 4-6: Participation Rates by Birthplace at June

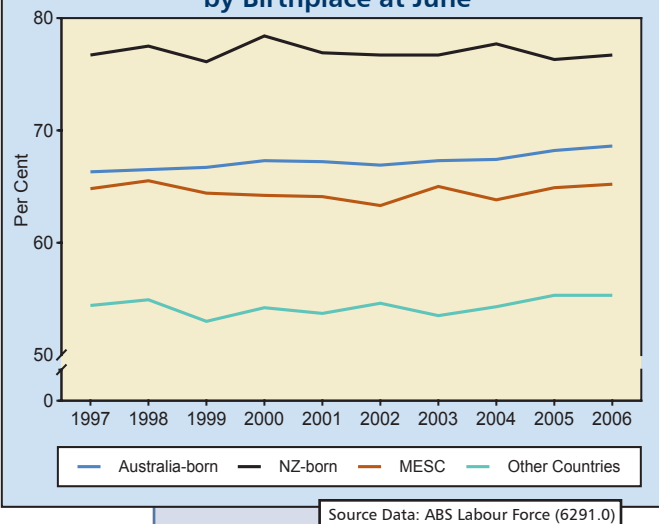


Fig. 4-7: Unemployment Rates by Birthplace at June

