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**PUBLICATION:**

**SETTLEMENT**



**DEVELOPING A NEW ZEALAND SETTLEMENT KNOWLEDGE BASE – BASELINE INFORMATION FOR THE NEW ZEALAND SETTLEMENT STRATEGY INDICATORS**

**H**ow well migrants integrate or settle is of interest to all migrant-receiving countries and, in recent years, many such nations have designed policy interventions, programmes and activities to support good settlement outcomes. Despite this, very little research exists internationally about indicators of good settlement. This report aims to identify indicators of good settlement, which can then be monitored over time.

**SETTLEMENT KNOWLEDGE BASE PROJECT**

The development of the Settlement Knowledge Base (SKB) is part of the Settlement National Action Plan (SNAP). The SNAP sets out what will be done at a national level under each of the New Zealand Settlement Strategy’s (NZSS) high-level goals. The aim of the SKB project is to build an improved understanding of settlement outcomes for newcomers to New Zealand across central government agencies. This is achieved through a work programme which:

- identifies outcome-related measures and indicators at a range of levels (Phase One);
- maps the knowledge base and identifies research gaps; and
- compiles evidence on ‘what works for whom and why’ in the settlement domain (Phase Two).

**BASELINE INDICATOR INFORMATION**

This report provides baseline information on the indicators which relate to the intermediate goals of the NZSS identified in Phase One of the SKB Project. Key baseline information includes the following:

**Feeling welcomed and connected**

- Half of New Zealanders are positive about New Zealand being home to an increasing number of people with different lifestyles and cultures from different countries, while only a small percentage feel it makes New Zealand a worse place to live.

**Getting the right job and contributing to future prosperity**

- Labour market participation and income levels for newcomers varies markedly depending on number of years lived in New Zealand, birthplace, and migrant category under which they entered New Zealand.
- Skilled migrant newcomers have a very high employment rate. However, underemployment and work discrimination are issues for a small number of newcomers.
- Most newcomers do not report any difficulties finding work in New Zealand.

PACIFIC

YOUTH

LISNZ

**SETTLEMENT**

FAMILY

ECONOMIC

GLOBAL MOBILITY

REFUGEE

### **Speaking and understanding New Zealand English**

- The majority of permanent residents have strong English language skills.

### **Knowing how to access information and services**

- Newcomers can and do access services that provide them with information and guidance. The most common requests are for information relating to employment, immigration, taxation and learning English.

### **Feeling proud and confident**

- Membership and involvement in social groups/networks is common for newcomers, with fifty percent of permanent residents and two-thirds of skilled migrants involved in at least one social group/network.

### **Feeling safe**

- Most permanent residents feel safe or very safe, and have not experienced discrimination.

### **Understanding and contributing to New Zealand society**

- The participation rate of overseas-born people in unpaid work is similar to that of New Zealand-born.

Settlement outcomes are a moving picture and this baseline information will provide a starting point for understanding the process of settlement in New Zealand. The Department of Labour intends to develop a web-based interactive tool to enable updating of settlement indicator information on a real-time basis. Breakdown of settlement indicator information by regions will also be available.

*Developing a New Zealand Settlement Knowledge Base – Baseline Information for the New Zealand Settlement Strategy Indicators* can be obtained from the New Zealand Department of Labour's website at <http://www.dol.govt.nz/publications/research/skb-baseline>

➔ For further information please contact [research@dol.govt.nz](mailto:research@dol.govt.nz), or visit [www.immigration.govt.nz/research](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/research)