

EMPLOYERS WELCOME SKILLED MIGRANTS

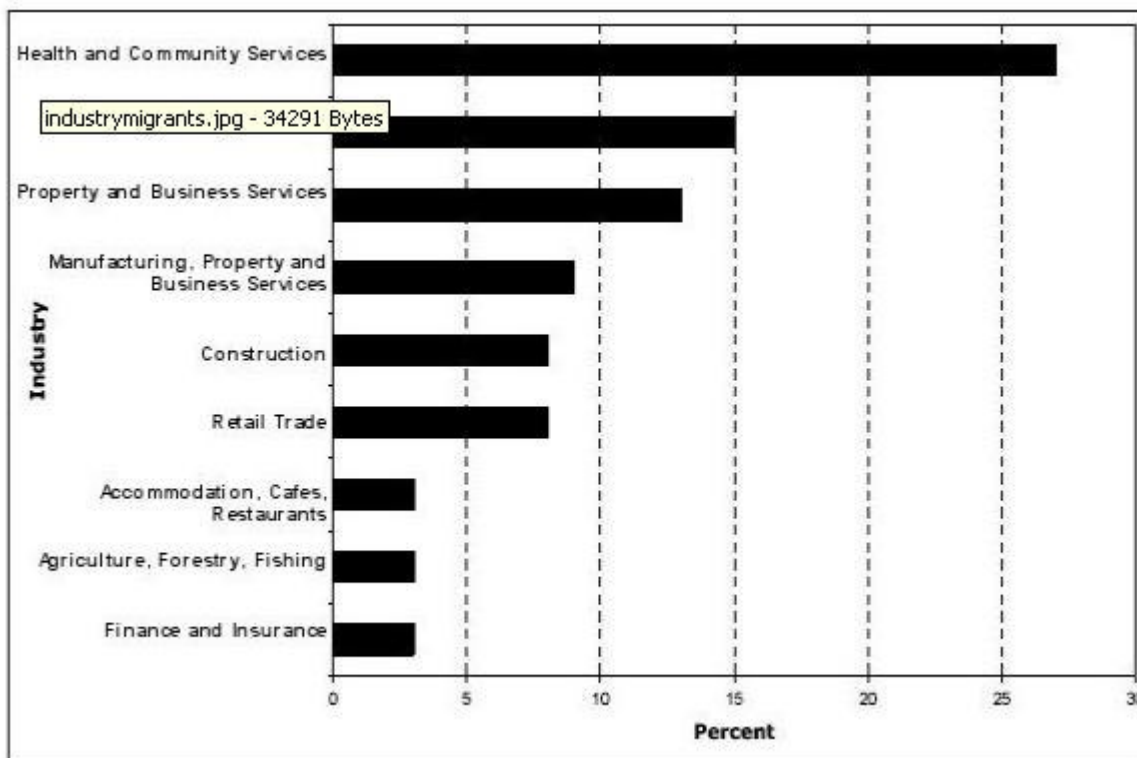
The vast majority of employers who have hired immigrants through various skilled migrant schemes are happy with the people they hired. Of the employers who responded to a survey regarding their experience of employing skilled immigrants, 81% rated their immigrant worker performance as "good" or "very good". And 56% of employers reported their organisation had benefited more from employing an immigrant than they would have from employing a worker who was born in New Zealand. Employers listed the main benefits of hiring immigrants are that they contribute to their organisation's knowledge, they possess skills that New Zealand residents didn't have, raise their organisation's level of expertise, contribute to their business's growth and they brought with them innovative practices. Very few employers reported that their skilled migrant workers had difficulties fitting in to the workplace culture or of having difficulties with the English language.

The survey found that 87% of employers had tried unsuccessfully to hire a New Zealander to do the job they had finally hired an immigrant to do. The occupations of the migrants vary widely but most frequently those who come as a Skilled Migrant are corporate managers or other professionals (24%), teaching professionals (9%), and physical science and engineering associate professionals (9%).

Nearly two years after the skilled migrant schemes were initiated, nearly 70% of the immigrants in the survey sample were still working for the same employer. Of those who had left their jobs, nearly half had gone to other jobs in New Zealand.

Source — Media release NZ govt David Cunliffe, 8 February 2006, "Employers impressed by skilled migrants"; media release Immigration NZ, 8 February 2006, "New report show Immigration New Zealand meeting employers needs"; For more Details see: <http://www.dol.govt.nz/publication-view.asp?ID=208>

Industries in which skilled migrants are employed in New Zealand:



Source — Department of Labour report Skilled Migrants in New Zealand: a Study of settlement outcomes, February 2006