



The New Zealand Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy

What is the Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy?

The Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy is Government’s approach to effectively settle and integrate migrants in New Zealand, so that they:

“Make New Zealand their home, participate fully and contribute to all aspects of New Zealand life”.

It was approved by Government in July 2014 and builds on the New Zealand Settlement Strategy launched by Government a decade earlier.

How did the Strategy come about?

The Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy arose from recommendations made to Immigration New Zealand and its government agency partners by the Controller and Auditor-General in their performance audit of migration settlement in 2013.

The performance audit looked at how well Government funding to support new migrants was being used.

A better understanding was also needed of the outcomes being achieved through the delivery of Government-funded settlement services. The audit found that the targeting of settlement resources needed to be improved.

To accomplish this, the Controller and Auditor-General recommended:

- › An improved settlement governance structure and approach that supports the effective targeting and delivery of services to new migrants.
- › Better targeting of resources to the settlement outcomes for example ensuring all new migrants who need English language skills have access to learning opportunities.
- › Implementing a whole-of-government evaluation and monitoring framework and reporting of outcomes.

From this Immigration New Zealand developed the Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy which identifies five measurable settlement and integration outcomes - employment, education and training, English language, inclusion and health and wellbeing.

New Outcomes Framework for Migrant Settlement and Integration



How does the Strategy build on past settlement work?

The Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy builds on past settlement work through the identification of outcomes (specified on previous page) which facilitate the successful settlement and integration of migrants.

Employment and education and training are the key outcomes for the strategy (reflecting their importance to the Government's Business Growth Agenda).

However all five outcomes are strongly interconnected and contribute to the strategy's main aim, as well as to each other. For example, good English language skills and good health support migrants' participation in employment, while education and training helps them to build skills and social connections that support their wellbeing and inclusion.

The revised Strategy places value on long-term integration of migrants in conjunction with successful initial settlement.

The outcomes also demonstrate stronger recognition of the economic contribution of migration, aligning it with the Government's Business Growth Agenda (which focuses on a more productive and competitive economy).

How is the Strategy being implemented?

Immigration New Zealand has leadership of the Strategy and oversight of its implementation. Phase one Strategy implementation activities include:

- › A review of settlement services and information: A cross-government review of the information and services currently provided to migrants to determine if available services and information are properly targeted to contribute to the outcomes. Information and service gaps, particularly those that will help to overcome employment barriers, are being addressed.



- › Increased support in the regions: Immigration New Zealand has stepped up its regional support for attracting and retaining migrants by establishing new Regional Partnership Agreements. Regionally-based skills, attraction and retention staff provide information and support to regions and sectors to attract and prepare for skilled migrants as well as working with sector and employer organisations to retain migrant skills.
- › A new delivery model for settlement information for new migrants (formerly Settlement Support New Zealand) has made information more accessible to a greater number and range of migrants and ensures the information they receive is consistent and relevant.
- › Migrants can access information through:
 - A free-phone and email enquiry service provided by Immigration New Zealand's Contact Centre
 - Immigration New Zealand's dedicated information website that includes regional information – www.newzealandnow.govt.nz
 - A new face-to-face walk-in service and regular information seminars being provided throughout New Zealand by 30 Citizens Advice Bureaux.

How will we know if the Strategy is successful?

Outcomes will be measured against a number of success indicators using existing data-sets and surveys. Employment and education and training indicators will be reported annually, while the other three outcome indicators will be reported on, at two, three or five year intervals.

Government's Skilled and Safe Workplaces Chief Executive Group will monitor performance across the success indicators and a new Migrant Settlement and Integration Seniors Officials' Group of key agencies will collaborate on settlement-related policy and the purchase of services that support the outcomes and delivery effectively to migrants.

