

Pacific Peoples in the Labour Market - June 2021 Quarter (unadjusted)

Overall, the labour market results for Pacific Peoples are showing signs of recovery. More Pacific Peoples entered the labour force over the past year to June 2021.

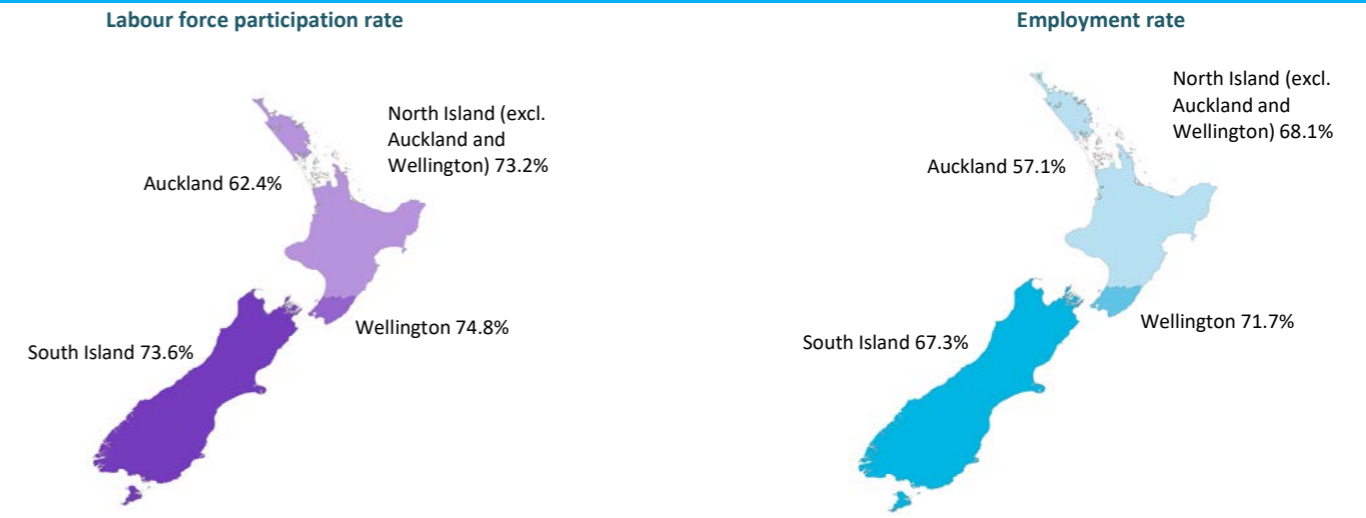
Employment grew by 20,600 people over the year to June 2021, with the highest growth in the Education & training, Agriculture, forestry, fishing & mining and Public admin & safety industries.

The employment rate grew by 1.1 percentage points (pp) over the same time period.

The labour force participation rate increased to 66.2 per cent, up 2.2pp from June 2020 to June 2021.

The unemployment rate grew by 1.5pp to 7.8 per cent in June 2021.

The NEET rate fell by 1.7pp to 16.6 per cent over the year to June 2021, with the NEET rate for Pacific women falling by 2.4pp to 18.8 per cent. About 13,000 Pacific Peoples youth were NEET.



National and regional labour markets

As at June 2021, there were 287,500 Pacific Peoples in the working-age population, an increase of 11.2 per cent from a year ago to June 2021. Of these, 190,300 were in the labour force.

A higher proportion of Pacific Peoples were participating in the labour market (up 2.2pp) over the year to June 2021, contributed to by large increases in those aged 15 to 24 and 55 to 64 years, and Pacific women. Participation grew the most outside Auckland.

The employment rate grew, with 20,600 more Pacific Peoples employed over the year to June 2021. The employment rates grew for Pacific Peoples in most age groups, especially young Pacific Peoples and those aged 45 to 64 years.

Differences in Pacific Peoples' employment across the regions continue. The highest employment rates for Pacific Peoples were in Wellington and the North Island (excl. Auckland and Wellington).

The employment rate for Auckland fell, where the Pacific Peoples' working-age population is most concentrated (193,300 people). Around two thirds of the Pacific Peoples labour force is in Auckland (120,700 people) and 12.8 per cent (24,300) is in Wellington.

The number of Pacific Peoples employed in Auckland (including the sub regions) grew, despite the fall in the employment rate.

The unemployment rate for Pacific peoples overall grew, coinciding with a fall of those not in the labour force, with those unemployed growing faster than those employed. The unemployment rate for men increased more than for Pacific women.

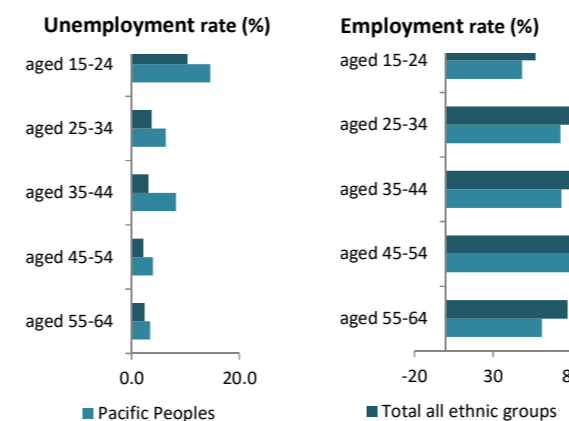
Access to the sub-Auckland data used in this study was provided by Stats NZ under conditions designed to give effect to the security and confidentiality provisions of the Statistics Act 1975. The results presented in this study are the work of the author, not Stats NZ or individual data suppliers.

Labour Demand			
People unemployed ('000)	▲ 14.8	Unemployment rate	▲ 7.8%
	up 41.0% from a year ago 13.3% of total unemployed in NZ (111.3)		up 1.5pp from a year ago 3.9pp above NZ average (3.9%)
		Employment rate	▲ 61.0%
			up 1.1pp from a year ago 6.5pp below NZ average (67.5%)
Labour supply and participation			
Total labour force ('000)	▲ 190.3	Working age population (WAP),	▲ 287.5
	up 15.1% from a year ago 6.6% of the total labour force in NZ		up 11.2% from a year ago 7.0% of total WAP in NZ (4,106.1)
		Labour force participation rate	▲ 66.2
			up 2.2pp from a year ago 4.0pp below NZ average (70.2%)
Employment by region			
Region	Jun-2021	Annual	Three-year
Auckland	110,400	▲ 7.9%	▲ 15.2%
Wellington	23,300	▲ 36.3%	▲ 18.3%
North Island (excl. Auckland and Wellington)	26,200	▲ 11.0%	▲ 10.5%
South Island	15,600	▲ 31.1%	▲ 12.2%
South Auckland#	60,700	▲ 10.2%	▲ 13.0%
West Auckland#	19,400	▲ 5.4%	▲ 3.7%
Rest of Auckland#	30,300	▲ 5.6%	▲ 30.0%
Total Pacific Peoples' employment	175,500	▲ 13.3%	▲ 14.6%
Total New Zealand employment	2,770,400	▲ 1.7%	▲ 4.9%

Unemployment and employment by age

The unemployment rate for Pacific Peoples fell for younger (15 to 24 years) and older (45 to 64 years) age groups over the year to June 2021, but remained higher than the national average overall.

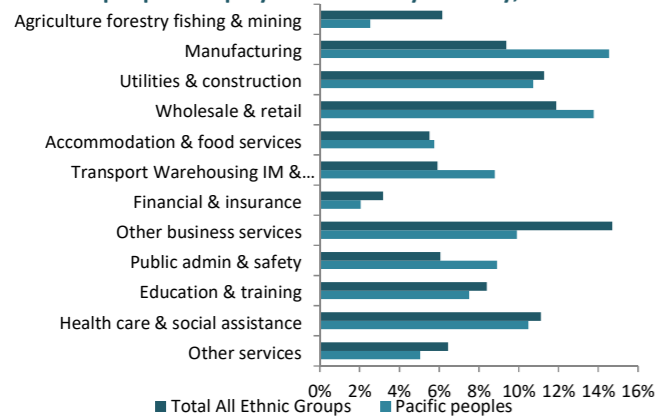
Over the year to June 2021, the employment rate grew for the same age groups of Pacific Peoples – those who were younger (15 to 24 years) and older (45 to 64 years), while also remaining lower than the national average overall.



Age groups	Unemployment and employment rates by age group		
	Jun-2021	Change (percentage points)	
Pacific Peoples		Annual	Three-year
aged 15-24 years	Unemployment rate 14.6	▼ 0.6pp	▼ 2.2pp
aged 25-34 years	6.3	▲ 2.4pp	▼ 2.1pp
aged 35-44 years	8.2	▲ 5.4pp	▲ 3.7pp
aged 45-54 years	3.9	▼ 0.8pp	▼ 3.9pp
aged 55-64 years	3.4	▼ 1.5pp	▼ 2.2pp
Pacific Peoples	Employment rate	Annual	Three-year
aged 15-24 years	48.3	▲ 3.9pp	▲ 7.2pp
aged 25-34 years	72.8	▼ 2.3pp	▼ 1.7pp
aged 35-44 years	73.3	▼ 4.6pp	▼ 4.7pp
aged 45-54 years	78.7	▲ 0.8pp	▲ 5.1pp
aged 55-64 years	61.0	▲ 2.6pp	▼ 4.0pp

Industry employment*

Pacific peoples employment share by industry, June 2021



The industries employing the most Pacific Peoples in June 2021 were Manufacturing, Utilities & construction, and Health care & social assistance.

From June 2020 to June 2021, employment grew in eight out of twelve industry groups. The strongest annual growth was in Education & training, Agriculture, forestry fishing & mining, and Public admin & safety.

Note: Sum of employment by industry may not equal total employed due to rounding. The smaller estimates are subject to large sampling errors.

*Includes Rental, hiring & real estate services, administrative & support services, and Professional, scientific & technical services.

**Includes Arts and recreation services, and Other services

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Employment by industry

Industry	Jun-2021	Annual change	Three-year change
Agriculture forestry fishing & mining	4,300	↑ 38.7%	↓ 20.4%
Manufacturing	24,800	↑ 15.9%	↑ 2.5%
Utilities & construction	18,300	↑ 2.8%	↑ 6.4%
Wholesale & retail	23,500	↑ 4.0%	↑ 19.3%
Accommodation & food services	9,800	↑ 25.6%	↑ 6.5%
Transport warehousing IM & communications	15,000	↑ 17.2%	↑ 9.5%
Financial & insurance	3,500	↓ 18.6%	↓ 30.0%
Other business services*	16,900	↑ 24.3%	↑ 16.6%
Public admin & safety	15,200	↑ 35.7%	↑ 53.5%
Education & training	12,800	↑ 52.4%	↑ 54.2%
Health care & social assistance	17,900	↓ 2.2%	↓ 0.6%
Other services**	8,600	↓ 1.1%	↑ 41.0%
Total Pacific Peoples Employed (includes Not Specified)	175,500	↑ 13.3%	↑ 14.6%

Occupational Representation

From June 2020 to June 2021, employment in seven out of eight occupation groups grew. The biggest increases in employment were in Service, Labourers and Plant workers.

Pacific Peoples in Skilled occupations grew (up 0.7pp to 46.2 per cent) over the past three years from June 2018, but still remain lower when compared to all workers (68.0 per cent).

46.2% were in Skilled* occupations**

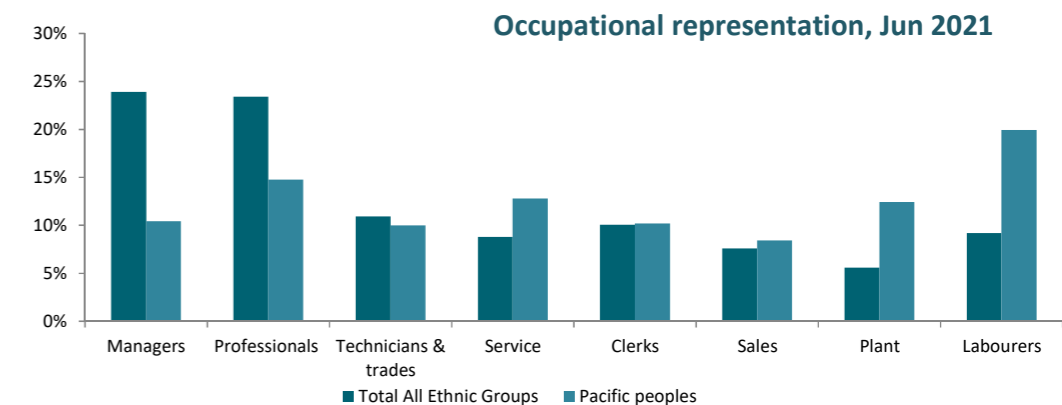
21.1 % of Pacific Peoples were in Unskilled occupations.**

* Includes those in skill levels 1, 2 and 3 according to ANZSCO skill levels (Highly skilled, Skilled and Semi-skilled). Weighted by skill levels derived from 4 digit ANZSCO occupations in the 2018 Census. Skilled occupations predominantly include Managers, Professionals, Technicians and trades workers, and some Service workers such as Sports peoples and Health care workers.

** Unskilled occupations are Skill Level 5 ANZSCO occupations.

*** Total employment includes not specified

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Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

As at June 2021, there were about 78,500 Pacific Peoples aged 15 to 24 years in the working-age population. Of these, around 13,000 people were NEET (16.6 per cent).

Of those young Pacific People (aged 15 to 24 years) who were NEET 3,800 were unemployed and not in education; 3,400 were not in the labour force, not in education but were caregiving and 5,900 were not in labour force, not in education and not caregiving in June 2021.

The NEET rate for Pacific Peoples has been consistently higher than European and Asian ethnic groups. Pacific women were more likely to be NEET (18.8 per cent) than their male counterparts (14.6 per cent).

Ethnic group	NEET rate	Change (percentage points)	
	Jun-2021	Annual	Three-year
European	8.8	↓ 1.5pp	↓ 0.2pp
Māori	17.6	↓ 0.2pp	↑ 2.0pp
Pacific Peoples	16.6	↓ 1.7pp	↑ 2.4pp
Asian	6.0	↓ 2.1pp	↓ 1.9pp
Total All Ethnic Groups	10.8	↓ 1.0pp	↑ 0.3pp

Gender	NEET rate	Annual	Three-year
	Male	14.6	↓ 0.6pp
Female	18.8	↓ 2.4pp	↑ 2.3pp
Total Pacific Peoples	16.6	↓ 1.7pp	↑ 2.4pp

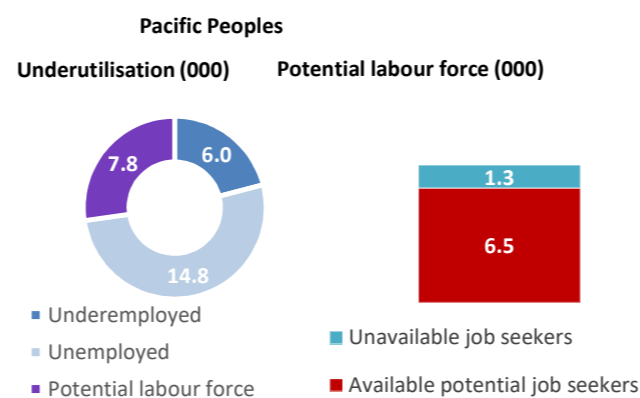
Underutilisation rate*

There were 28,600 Pacific Peoples underutilised in the working-age population in the year to June 2021, with underutilisation growing by 4,500 people over the year.

Increases in Pacific Peoples unemployed (up 4,300 people) and underemployed (up 1,600 people) were partially offset by the potential labour force falling by 1,500 people.

The underutilisation rate for Pacific females was higher than Pacific males.

*People who are underutilised as a proportion of the extended labour force provides a more detailed picture of the workforce. Those people who are underutilised are those who are underemployed, officially unemployed and potentially in the labour force. Underemployed are those who are employed part-time (working fewer than 30 hours per week) and have the desire and availability to increase their hours. The potential labour force includes people who would like a job but are not currently actively seeking one (available job seekers) and people who are currently looking for a job but are not available to start quite yet (unavailable job seekers).



Ethnic group	Underutilisation rate	Change (percentage points)	
	Jun-2021	Annual	Three-year
European	9.2	↓ 1.6pp	↓ 1.2pp
Māori	17.5	↓ 0.1pp	↓ 2.6pp
Pacific Peoples	14.4	↑ 0.6pp	↓ 2.9pp
Asian	9.1	↓ 2.8pp	↓ 2.0pp
Total All Ethnic Groups	10.2	↓ 1.6pp	↓ 1.6pp

Gender	Underutilisation rate	Annual	Three-year
	Male	12.6	↑ 1.5pp
Female	16.5	↓ 0.5pp	↓ 5.8pp
Total Pacific Peoples	14.4	↑ 0.6pp	↓ 2.9pp