

IMPORTANCE OF SPONSORING FAMILY TO NEW ZEALAND

July 2012

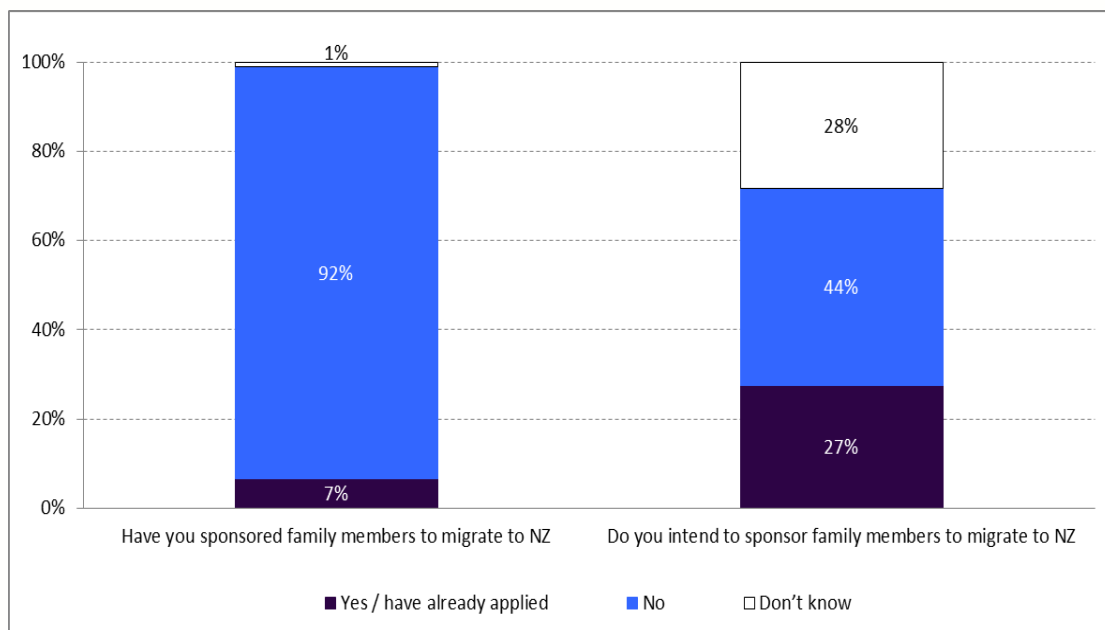
Why is this important?

The reasons migrants choose New Zealand over other traditional migrant-receiving countries is a complex mix of social and economic factors. One such social factor is the ability to bring family members to New Zealand.

What we found

Although very few recent migrants had sponsored family to New Zealand (7 percent), over a quarter (27 percent) intended to in the future.

Figure 1: Recent migrants' sponsorship of family 2010

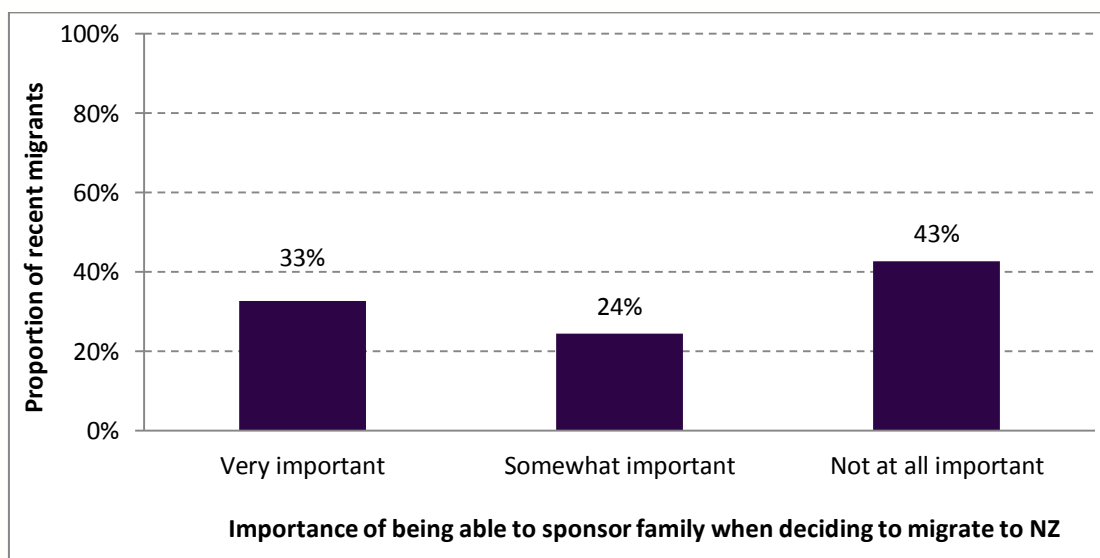


Source: Immigration Survey Monitoring Programme Migrants' Survey (2010)

As migrants have to have held residence for three years before they can sponsor family members to New Zealand, it's not surprising that so few recent migrants have done so.

In 2011, recent migrants were asked about the importance of being able to sponsor family when they chose to migrate to New Zealand. One-third stated that it was very important and almost a quarter stated it was somewhat important.

Figure 2: Importance to recent migrants of being able to sponsor family when deciding to migrate to NZ 2011



Source: Immigration Survey Monitoring Programme Migrants' Survey (2011)

Being able to sponsor family was most important to those from South East Asia (62 percent) and the Pacific (52 percent) and least important to those from North America (11 percent), the Rest of Europe (16 percent) and UK/Irish Republic (18 percent).

The purpose of the Immigration Settlement Monitoring Programme is to improve our understanding of migrants' settlement and labour market outcomes, employers' experience with migrants, and community attitudes towards immigration.

These indicators are available at:

<http://www.dol.govt.nz/research/migration/ismp/ismpindicators.asp>

Contact the Labour and Immigration Research Centre at research@dol.govt.nz or visit us at www.dol.govt.nz/research.