

Kiwi job market shows growth from Northland to Southland

All regions across the country recorded growth in the number of jobs advertised on Trade Me Jobs according to an analysis of listings onsite in the April-June quarter.

Head of Trade Me Jobs, Peter Osborne, said the number of job listings nationwide was up 19% on the same period in 2013, continuing the healthy job market trend evident since the September quarter. "Growth in listings has been very strong, despite the potential handbrake effect of the unusual combination of Easter and Anzac Day holidays in March, and a Budget that had a cooling effect on the number of jobs advertised in May."

Mr Osborne said most advertisers were upbeat. "We're hearing plenty of optimistic reports from recruiters and employers, and the majority are planning to keep on hiring too."

He said improved economic and employment opportunities in New Zealand also contributed to the lowest ever level of migration to Australia in May. "Kiwis are increasingly likely to stay in New Zealand which is good news for NZ Inc, and is also complemented by returning expats who have noticed things on the improve back here in New Zealand."

The national picture

Mr Osborne said the lift in advertised roles in all regions was a "pretty unusual but very welcome" result. Auckland still shines brightly (up 21%), while Canterbury and Wellington maintained their considerable growth trajectories (up 21% and 15% respectively).

Waikato was another standout performer with job ad growth of 24%, and Otago comfortably reached double digits with a 16% lift.

In the sectors

The demand for skilled workers is still high, with candidates in IT, engineering, construction and legal the most difficult to source. "Anyone with decent skills in these areas holds the balance of power at present, and they're in a great position if they are hunting for new opportunities," Mr Osborne said.

In terms of the number of jobs available, roles in trade (32%), construction (39%) and transport (29%) saw the highest jump compared to this time last year.

Mr Osborne said the average pay was flat at \$60,881 nationally. "Pay levels holding firm is good news for employers, and a little unexpected given the tight labour market. If demand for workers continues to outstrip supply, wage inflation is inevitable as employers offer fatter pay packets in a bid to entice staff."

Looking ahead

Mr Osborne said he remained upbeat about the coming months. “We’re confident the market will continue to grow despite the cool-down in May. Employer confidence remains high and there are still a number of sectors where candidates are in short supply and set to drive underlying growth.

“The Christchurch rebuild remains a major contributor and we’re seeing a shift in the type of demand from construction related roles to professional and infrastructure roles.”

He said there was “no end in sight” for Auckland’s consistently high demand for skilled labour. “The City of Sails accounts for around 40% of all jobs advertised across the country, and will continue to be a beacon of opportunity.”

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More info: The full Trade Me Jobs employment survey results are set out below.

Trade Me Jobs employment survey: April-June 2014 (Q2)

1. Listings growth by job: Q2/2014

Job	% change Q2/2014 vs Q2/2013
Accounting	- 1.6
Agriculture, fishing & forestry	34.7
Banking, finance & insurance	- 0.3
Construction & architecture	39.1
Customer service	21.7
Education	6.7
Engineering	15.2
Government & council	- 8.5
Healthcare	4.6
Hospitality & tourism	23.0
HR & recruitment	27.4
IT	7.5
Legal	- 31.4
Manufacturing & operations	33.9
Marketing, media & communications	15.6
Office & administration	17.8
Property	- 3.6
Retail	15.6
Sales	9.6
Science & technology	27.6
Trades & services	31.6
Transport & logistics	29.4
Overall	19.0

2. Average rates of pay by job (full-time jobs only): Q2/2014

	Highest paid	Pay rate (\$)
1	IT architects	139,476
2	IT project managers	132,857
3	IT managers	123,164
4	IT sales & pre-sales	122,418
5	Doctors & medical specialists	120,633
	Lowest paid	Pay rate (\$)
1	Kitchen staff	35,582
2	Health caregivers	37,252
3	Reception & front desk	37,637
4	Waiting staff	37,829
5	Retail assistants	37,982

3. Listings growth by region for Q2/2014

Region	% change vs Q2/2013
Auckland	21.2
Bay Of Plenty	13.2
Canterbury	20.5
Gisborne	7.2
Hawke's Bay	11.1
Manawatu / Wanganui	11.6
Marlborough	10.7
Nelson / Tasman	20.6
Northland	2.9
Otago	15.6
Southland	65.6
Taranaki	2.2
Waikato	23.7
Wellington	15.3
West Coast	48.7
Grand Total	19.0

4. Average rates of pay by region (full-time jobs only): Q2/2014

	Highest paid	Pay rate (\$)
1	Auckland City	72,302
2	Wellington	70,234
3	Kawerau	66,105
4	New Plymouth	61,143
5	Buller	59,742
	Lowest paid	Pay rate (\$)
1	Mackenzie (Canterbury)	42,333
2	Tararua	45,417
3	Horowhenua	46,036
4	Hauraki (Waikato)	47,095
5	Upper Hutt	47,863

NB: Segments with less than 50 jobs excluded.

About Trade Me Jobs

More New Zealanders have visited Trade Me Jobs (www.trademe.co.nz/jobs) than any other NZ job site in 2013 according to Nielsen Online.

Full details of pay by profession for full-time jobs listed between July and December 2013 are in the [Trade Me Jobs Salary Guide](#).

*Nielsen NetView: Monthly Unique Audience Report