

National Employment Indicator: June 2011

Embargoed until 10:45am – 30 August 2011

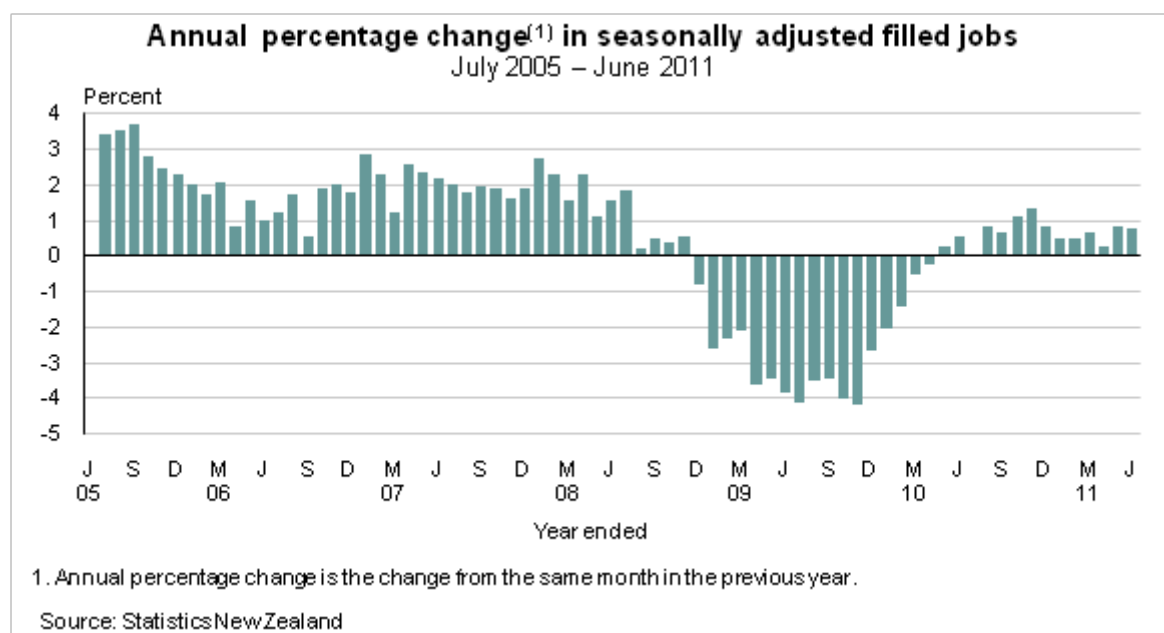
Key facts

In June 2011 compared with June 2010:

- Seasonally adjusted filled jobs were up 0.8 percent.

In June 2011 compared with May 2011:

- Seasonally adjusted filled jobs were up 0.1 percent.



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Government Statistician

30 August 2011
ISSN 2230-5904

Commentary

First release of the National Employment Indicator

This information release is the first of an experimental monthly series. The National Employment Indicator (NEI) uses tax data to measure changes in total filled jobs. The NEI provides an early indication of changes in total filled jobs over each month at the national level and complements the current suite of labour market statistics produced by Statistics NZ (see [Data Quality](#) for more information).

Data is available from July 2004. Regional, industry, and demographic breakdowns are not available for this series.

We welcome feedback on this indicator. Email us at: info@stats.govt.nz.

The NEI series has been developed using aggregated administrative data from employer monthly schedules (EMS) sourced from Inland Revenue. The NEI measures filled jobs where employees were paid wages or salaries during the month. People who had multiple jobs during the reference month are counted multiple times, once for each job. We recommend focusing on the changes and movements in the NEI series rather than the actual level of filled jobs.

In June 2011 compared with June 2010:

- Seasonally adjusted filled jobs were up 0.8 percent.

In June 2011 compared with May 2011:

- Seasonally adjusted filled jobs were up 0.1 percent.

The trend in filled jobs turned upwards in November 2009 and remained positive until May 2010. The trend decreased slightly in the months from May 2010 to July 2010 but has increased since then.



For more detailed data, see the Excel table in the 'Downloads' section.

Definitions

About the National Employment Indicator

The National Employment Indicator (NEI) covers filled jobs where employees were paid wages or salaries in the calendar month by an employer who filed an employer monthly schedule (EMS) return. This includes jobs filled by self-employed people who pay themselves a wage or salary. Data is only available at the national level.

The NEI is an experimental measure that provides an early indicator of changes in the number of filled jobs at the national level. A rate-up factor has been applied to the last two months to compensate for late EMS returns (see 'Accuracy of the data' in the [Data Quality](#) section for more information).

Statistics NZ aims to publish the NEI on the last Tuesday of each month, within eight weeks of the reference month. There are two exceptions to this:

- The October reference month (scheduled for publication in December) may be delayed until January due to timing of the data supply over the holiday period.
- The November reference month will not be released in the month of January due to anticipated delays in data processing and production. Therefore, data released in February will include two months of new data (November and December reference months).

Interpreting the data

The NEI covers all filled jobs (regardless of whether they are full-time or part-time). People who had multiple jobs during the reference month are counted multiple times, once for each job. The prevalence of multiple job holders, or people who change employer frequently within a month will impact on the NEI series. For example, workers in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing industry will often be counted multiple times in the March reference month as workers may have multiple short term jobs in this month due to the seasonal pattern of harvesting and production. This leads to a higher number of filled jobs in the March month when compared with other months when people are less likely to move rapidly between employers due to seasonal work.

We recommend focusing on changes and movements in the NEI series rather than the actual level of filled jobs. The NEI data is based on EMS data processed by Inland Revenue between 7 and 15 weeks following the reference month. Historically, this has captured 97 to 98 percent of all filled jobs processed by Inland Revenue within an 18 month period. Therefore, the level of filled jobs reported by the NEI will underestimate the actual level of all filled jobs in the New Zealand labour market.

Definition of terms

Employer: A business that has filed an EMS.

Employer monthly schedule: Inland Revenue's EMS contains information about monthly earnings of employees and earnings of individuals taxed at source.

NEI filled jobs: Covers filled jobs where employees were paid wages or salaries in the calendar month by an employer who filed an EMS return. This includes jobs filled by self-employed people who pay themselves a wage or salary.

Includes:

- individuals who received earnings from which pay as you earn (PAYE) tax was deducted in the reference month.

Excludes:

- individuals with a missing taxpayer code, or invalid IRD number
- individuals with income not taxed at source
- individuals withheld from data supplied by Inland Revenue to Statistics NZ
- individuals who received a benefit only
- individuals on unpaid leave
- unpaid jobs.

Related links

Upcoming releases

National Employment Indicator: July 2011 will be released on 27 September 2011. See our online [release calendar](#) for details of upcoming releases.

Related information

The NEI complements other Statistics NZ labour market statistics by providing an early indicator of changes in total filled jobs. You can find more information [comparing our labour market statistics](#) on our website.

Household Labour Force Survey: This release provides New Zealand's official employment and unemployment statistics, from the quarterly Household Labour Force Survey.

Quarterly Employment Survey: This release includes statistics on total gross earnings, total paid hours, filled jobs, average hourly and weekly earnings, and average weekly paid hours, based on the Quarterly Employment Survey.

Linked Employer-Employee Data: Linked Employer-Employee Data (LEED) provides statistics on filled jobs, job flows, worker flows, mean and median earnings for continuing jobs and new hires, and total earnings, based on tax data.

Business Demography Statistics: This annual release provides a snapshot of the structure and characteristics of New Zealand businesses. The series covers economically significant enterprises that are engaged in the production of goods and services in New Zealand.

Data quality

- Reference period
- Data source
- Accuracy of the data
- Seasonally adjusted series
- Estimated trend
- Consistency with other labour market statistics
- Timing of published data
- Confidentiality

Reference period

This information release presents National Employment Indicator (NEI) statistics at the national level for the month of June 2011.

Data source

The NEI data is based on Inland Revenue's employer monthly schedule (EMS), which contains information about monthly earnings of individuals taxed at source. It does not contain any information relating to the number of hours worked for those earnings.

Accuracy of the data

The NEI data is based on EMS returns processed by Inland Revenue. Delays in the receipt of EMS returns due to late filing by the employer or Inland Revenue processing are possible. Inland Revenue processing of EMS returns can also be affected by updates to systems or administrative changes. Statistics NZ reviews the quality of the data each month and NEI releases will be delayed if required to ensure data is of sufficient quality for release.

The last two months of data in the NEI series are based on data supplied by Inland Revenue 11 weeks and 7 weeks after the reference month. These two months are provisional and are subject to change when new data is received. The last two months of data are rated-up using multiplication factors, to account for extra data processed up to 15 weeks after the reference month. All other data in the NEI is based on data processed within 15 weeks of the reference month by Inland Revenue.

Seasonally adjusted series

The X-12-ARIMA package has been used to produce the seasonally adjusted estimates and trend estimates for the NEI series. Seasonal adjustment aims to eliminate the impact of regular seasonal events (such as annual cycles in agricultural production, or annual public holidays) on time series. This makes the data for adjacent months more comparable, and ensures that the underlying movements in the time series are more visible.

All seasonally adjusted figures are subject to revision each month. This enables the seasonal component to be better estimated and removed from the series.

Estimated trend

Most series can be broken down into three components: trend, seasonal, and irregular. While seasonally adjusted series have had the seasonal component removed, trend series have had both the seasonal and the irregular components removed. Trend estimates reveal the underlying direction of movement in a series, and are likely to indicate turning points more accurately than seasonally adjusted estimates.

The trend series are calculated using the X-12-ARIMA seasonal adjustment package. They are based on an 11-, 13-, or 23-month moving average of the seasonally adjusted series, with an adjustment for outlying values.

Trend estimates towards the end of the series incorporate new data as it becomes available and can therefore change as more observations are added to the series. Revisions can be particularly large if an observation is treated as an outlier in one month, but is found to be part of the underlying trend as further observations are added to the series. Typically, only the estimates for the most recent month will be subject to substantial revisions.

Consistency with other labour market statistics

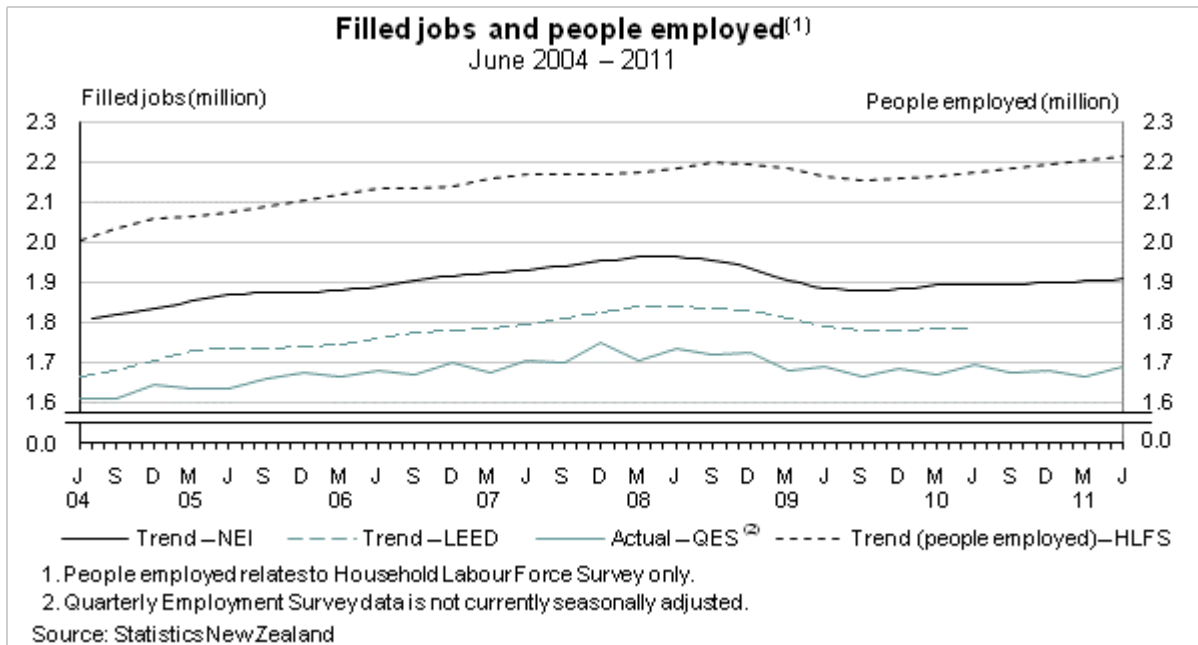
Statistics New Zealand publishes a suite of labour market statistics. These include the following quarterly releases:

- Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS)
- Quarterly Employment Survey (QES)
- Linked Employer-Employee Dataset (LEED)

and the following experimental monthly series:

- National Employment Indicator (NEI)

The following explains what measures of employment are included in each release, the timings, and coverage. Because of differences in coverage and timing, each of these measures provides a different view of employment.



Only the trend is plotted here to make it easier to compare the measures.

National Employment Indicator

Coverage

The NEI covers filled jobs where employees were paid wages or salaries in the calendar month by an employer who filed an EMS return.

Includes:

- individuals who received earnings from which pay as you earn (PAYE) tax was deducted in the reference month. This includes jobs filled by self-employed people who pay themselves a wage or salary. People who had multiple jobs during the reference month are counted multiple times, once for each job.

Excludes:

- individuals with a missing taxpayer code, or invalid IRD number
- individuals whose income is not taxed at source
- individuals whose details were withheld from data supplied by Inland Revenue to Statistics NZ
- individuals who receive a benefit only
- individuals on unpaid leave
- unpaid jobs.

Timing

Data is released monthly, eight weeks after the reference month and relates to the entire reference month.

Measure

The NEI measures the total number of filled jobs over the reference month, not the number of people employed. This means that a person with multiple jobs during the reference month is counted multiple times.

Quarterly Employment Survey

Coverage

The Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) is a sample of business locations selected from a population of economically significant enterprises in surveyed industries. Weights are allocated to each of the selected business locations to represent the population. Weights are based on employee counts sourced from the business frame.

An economically significant enterprise is defined as one that meets at least one of the following criteria:

- has annual GST expenses or sales greater than \$30,000
- has at least three for its rolling mean employment (the average employee count over the previous 12 months)
- recorded over \$40,000 of income in the IR10 annual tax return
- is part of a group of enterprises
- is a new GST registration that is compulsory, special, or forced
- is registered for GST and involved in agriculture or forestry.

Businesses in the following Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 2006 (ANZSIC06) industries are not surveyed as part of the QES:

- A01 Agriculture
- A02 Aquaculture
- A04 Fishing, hunting, and trapping
- A052 Agriculture and fishing support services
- L6711 Residential property operators
- O7552 Foreign government representation
- O76 Non-civilian defence staff
- S96 Households employing staff
- T99 Not included elsewhere.

Timing

Data is released quarterly and relates to a single reference week which is the week ending on, or immediately before, the 20th of the middle month of the quarter. Data is released within six weeks of the end of the reference quarter.

Measure

The QES measures the number of filled jobs, not the number of people employed. This means that a person with multiple jobs during the reference week could be counted multiple times.

The QES jobs estimates include:

- full-time equivalent employees (FTEs): the number of full-time employees plus half the number of part-time employees (Infoshare Series Reference QEXQ.SG)

- filled jobs: all full-time employees, plus part-time employees, plus working proprietors (Infoshare Series Reference QEXQ.SF).

Household Labour Force Survey

Coverage

The Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS) target population is the civilian, usually resident, non-institutionalised population aged 15 years and over. Responses from the HLFS are assigned weights to produce estimates that are representative of the population. The population for the HLFS is based on estimated national resident population estimates that have been adjusted to be consistent with the scope of the HLFS.

This means that the statistics from the HLFS do not cover:

- long-term residents of homes for older people, hospitals, and psychiatric institutions
- inmates of penal institutions
- members of the permanent armed forces
- members of the non-New Zealand armed forces
- overseas diplomats
- overseas visitors who expect to be resident in New Zealand for less than 12 months
- those aged less than 15 years.

Timing

Data is released quarterly. It is an average for the three-month period that makes up the quarter and does not apply to any specific point in time. Data is released within six weeks of the end of the reference quarter.

Measure

The HLFS measures the number of people employed (Infoshare Series Reference HLFQ.S1A). That is, all persons in the working-age population who during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay or profit in the context of an employee/employer relationship or self-employment, or
- worked without pay for one hour or more in work which contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business, or professional practice owned or operated by a relative, or
- had a job but were not at work due to: own illness or injury, personal or family responsibilities, bad weather or mechanical breakdown, direct involvement in an industrial dispute, or leave or holiday.

Linked Employer-Employee Data Quarterly

Coverage

The Linked Employer-Employee Data (LEED) quarterly statistics cover filled jobs where employees were paid wages or salaries on the 15th of the middle month of the quarter by an employer who filed an EMS return.

Includes:

- employees who had PAYE deducted from their earnings in the reference month
- self-employed people who pay themselves a wage and salary
- foreign residents, diplomats, and members of permanent armed forces
- employees on paid leave
- employees aged 15 years and over
- all industries.

Excludes:

- individuals with an invalid IRD number
- individuals whose income was not taxed at source
- individuals whose details were withheld from data supplied by Inland Revenue to Statistics NZ
- individuals who received a benefit only
- employees on unpaid leave
- unpaid jobs.

Timing

Data is released quarterly, 12 months after the reference quarter, and relates to filled jobs on the 15th of the middle month of the reference quarter.

Measure

LEED measures the number of filled jobs, not the number of people employed. This means that a person with multiple jobs on the reference day is counted multiple times.

Timing of published data

Statistics NZ aims to publish the NEI on the last Tuesday of each month, within eight weeks of the reference month. There are two exceptions to this:

- The October reference month (scheduled for publication in December) may be delayed until January due to timing of the data supply over the holiday period.
- The November reference month will not be released in the month of January due to anticipated delays in data processing and production. Therefore, data released in February will include two months of new data (November and December reference months).

Statistics NZ reviews the quality of the data each month and NEI releases will be delayed if required to ensure data is of sufficient quality for release.

Timed statistical releases are delivered using postal and electronic services provided by third parties. Delivery of these releases may be delayed by circumstances outside the control of Statistics NZ. Statistics NZ accepts no responsibility for any such delays.

Confidentiality

Graduated random rounding has been applied to all counts.

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Tables

The following table is printed with this information release and can be downloaded from the Statistics New Zealand website in Excel format. If you do not have access to Excel, you may use the [Excel file viewer](#) to view, print, and export the contents of the file.

1. National Employment Indicator, filled jobs – actual, seasonally adjusted, and trend

Table 1

National employment indicator⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

Filled jobs – actual, seasonally adjusted, and trend

Year	Month	Actual	Seasonally adjusted ⁽³⁾	Trend ⁽³⁾	Seasonally adjusted ⁽³⁾			
					Monthly change		Annual change	
					Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2004	July	1,795,610	1,809,240	1,811,120	..	..	..	..
	Aug	1,792,770	1,809,540	1,815,210	300	0.0	..	..
	Sep	1,809,590	1,825,170	1,820,080	15,630	0.9	..	..
	Oct	1,815,580	1,823,480	1,825,250	-1,690	-0.1	..	..
	Nov	1,856,360	1,832,410	1,830,360	8,930	0.5	..	..
	Dec	1,893,760	1,837,670	1,835,490	5,270	0.3	..	..
2005	Jan	1,776,570	1,835,880	1,840,820	-1,810	-0.1	..	..
	Feb	1,846,350	1,844,790	1,846,560	8,900	0.5	..	..
	Mar	1,883,300	1,854,190	1,852,670	9,400	0.5	..	..
	Apr	1,871,630	1,861,570	1,858,830	7,380	0.4	..	..
	May	1,867,870	1,862,110	1,864,240	550	0.0	..	..
	Jun	1,857,260	1,870,520	1,868,550	8,410	0.5	..	..
	July	1,858,360	1,871,600	1,871,700	1,080	0.1	62,360	3.4
	Aug	1,856,320	1,873,490	1,873,850	1,880	0.1	63,940	3.5
	Sep	1,876,270	1,892,720	1,875,190	19,230	1.0	67,550	3.7
	Oct	1,866,920	1,874,470	1,876,020	-18,250	-1.0	51,000	2.8
	Nov	1,901,480	1,878,150	1,876,380	3,680	0.2	45,740	2.5
	Dec	1,935,670	1,879,520	1,876,610	1,370	0.1	41,830	2.3
2006	Jan	1,813,860	1,872,530	1,877,200	-6,980	-0.4	36,650	2.0
	Feb	1,879,380	1,876,920	1,878,240	4,390	0.2	32,140	1.7
	Mar	1,922,130	1,892,660	1,880,170	15,730	0.8	38,470	2.1
	Apr	1,887,360	1,876,770	1,883,150	-15,890	-0.8	15,210	0.8
	May	1,895,750	1,891,040	1,887,010	14,260	0.8	28,920	1.6
	Jun	1,876,460	1,889,740	1,891,590	-1,280	-0.1	19,230	1.0
	July	1,881,840	1,894,490	1,896,300	4,740	0.3	22,890	1.2
	Aug	1,887,790	1,905,770	1,901,040	11,280	0.6	32,290	1.7
	Sep	1,885,440	1,903,190	1,905,940	-2,580	-0.1	10,480	0.6
	Oct	1,902,680	1,910,050	1,910,400	6,860	0.4	35,580	1.9
	Nov	1,937,590	1,915,640	1,913,830	5,580	0.3	37,490	2.0
	Dec	1,970,000	1,913,660	1,916,550	-1,980	-0.1	34,140	1.8
2007	Jan	1,868,710	1,925,840	1,918,790	12,180	0.6	53,310	2.8
	Feb	1,923,890	1,919,780	1,920,950	-6,070	-0.3	42,860	2.3
	Mar	1,946,060	1,915,640	1,923,290	-4,140	-0.2	22,990	1.2
	Apr	1,936,730	1,925,580	1,925,870	9,940	0.5	48,810	2.6
	May	1,939,250	1,935,930	1,928,940	10,350	0.5	44,900	2.4
	Jun	1,917,860	1,931,210	1,932,300	-4,730	-0.2	41,450	2.2
	July	1,919,690	1,932,260	1,935,600	1,050	0.1	37,770	2.0
	Aug	1,921,050	1,940,500	1,938,640	8,240	0.4	34,730	1.8
	Sep	1,921,750	1,940,890	1,941,490	400	0.0	37,700	2.0
	Oct	1,939,550	1,946,850	1,944,710	5,950	0.3	36,800	1.9
	Nov	1,967,250	1,946,560	1,948,830	-290	0.0	30,920	1.6
	Dec	2,007,480	1,950,700	1,953,370	4,140	0.2	37,040	1.9
2008	Jan	1,923,300	1,978,630	1,957,480	27,930	1.4	52,790	2.7
	Feb	1,969,650	1,963,800	1,960,950	-14,840	-0.7	44,020	2.3
	Mar	1,977,430	1,945,780	1,963,550	-18,020	-0.9	30,130	1.6
	Apr	1,981,380	1,969,930	1,964,770	24,150	1.2	44,350	2.3
	May	1,959,410	1,957,400	1,964,700	-12,540	-0.6	21,470	1.1
	Jun	1,948,880	1,961,920	1,963,550	4,520	0.2	30,720	1.6
	July	1,954,670	1,967,590	1,961,630	5,660	0.3	35,330	1.8
	Aug	1,923,680	1,944,950	1,958,930	-22,630	-1.1	4,460	0.2
	Sep	1,930,620	1,950,590	1,955,180	5,620	0.3	9,690	0.5
	Oct	1,946,320	1,953,830	1,950,020	3,240	0.2	6,980	0.4
	Nov	1,976,920	1,957,610	1,943,360	3,780	0.2	11,050	0.6
	Dec	1,993,070	1,935,670	1,935,220	-21,940	-1.1	-15,030	-0.8

For footnotes, see end of table

Table 1 (continued)

National employment indicator⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

Filled jobs – actual, seasonally adjusted, and trend

Month	Actual	Seasonally adjusted ⁽³⁾	Trend ⁽³⁾	Seasonally adjusted ⁽³⁾				
				Monthly change		Annual change		
				Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
2009	Jan	1,872,470	1,926,570	1,926,130	-9,090	-0.5	-52,050	-2.6
	Feb	1,925,270	1,917,700	1,916,570	-8,880	-0.5	-46,100	-2.3
	Mar	1,938,670	1,905,040	1,907,080	-12,650	-0.7	-40,730	-2.1
	Apr	1,910,800	1,899,020	1,898,730	-6,030	-0.3	-70,910	-3.6
	May	1,889,830	1,889,540	1,892,080	-9,500	-0.5	-67,870	-3.5
	Jun	1,873,610	1,886,260	1,886,870	-3,270	-0.2	-75,650	-3.9
	July	1,873,190	1,886,640	1,882,960	380	0.0	-80,940	-4.1
	Aug	1,853,740	1,876,890	1,880,250	-9,750	-0.5	-68,070	-3.5
	Sep	1,863,470	1,883,850	1,878,720	6,960	0.4	-66,740	-3.4
	Oct	1,867,600	1,875,220	1,878,550	-8,630	-0.5	-78,610	-4.0
	Nov	1,894,620	1,875,890	1,879,960	670	0.0	-81,720	-4.2
	Dec	1,942,410	1,884,300	1,882,680	8,410	0.4	-51,370	-2.7
2010	Jan	1,833,590	1,887,340	1,886,400	3,040	0.2	-39,240	-2.0
	Feb	1,898,550	1,890,070	1,890,120	2,730	0.1	-27,630	-1.4
	Mar	1,929,880	1,894,670	1,892,820	4,600	0.2	-10,380	-0.5
	Apr	1,906,470	1,894,770	1,894,150	110	0.0	-4,250	-0.2
	May	1,893,570	1,894,470	1,894,090	-300	0.0	4,940	0.3
	Jun	1,884,660	1,896,800	1,893,560	2,330	0.1	10,530	0.6
	July	1,873,940	1,887,360	1,893,400	-9,440	-0.5	720	0.0
	Aug	1,868,550	1,892,920	1,893,930	5,560	0.3	16,030	0.9
	Sep	1,875,840	1,896,310	1,895,020	3,390	0.2	12,460	0.7
	Oct	1,888,510	1,896,280	1,896,550	-30	0.0	21,070	1.1
	Nov	1,919,410	1,901,060	1,898,020	4,790	0.3	25,180	1.3
	Dec	1,958,880	1,900,210	1,899,150	-870	0.0	15,910	0.8
2011	Jan	1,843,110	1,897,010	1,900,130	-3,200	-0.2	9,670	0.5
	Feb	1,908,290	1,899,380	1,901,340	2,370	0.1	9,300	0.5
	Mar	1,943,810	1,907,490	1,903,130	8,110	0.4	12,810	0.7
	Apr	1,911,650	1,900,200	1,905,250	-7,280	-0.4	5,430	0.3
	May ⁽⁴⁾	1,908,240	1,909,810	1,907,380	9,610	0.5	15,330	0.8
	Jun ⁽⁵⁾	1,899,830	1,911,730	1,909,490	1,920	0.1	14,930	0.8

1. Total monthly jobs.
2. Covers people receiving wages and salaries in employers monthly schedules (EMS) processed within 15 weeks after the reference month.
3. Previously published figures are subject to revision when the seasonal adjustment and trend programs are run each month.
4. May 2011 data is provisional and based on EMS data processed in the 11 weeks since the end of May, and is rated-up to account for extra data expected to be processed over the following four weeks.
5. June 2011 data is provisional and based on EMS data processed in the seven weeks since the end of June, and is rated-up to account for extra data expected to be processed over the following eight weeks.

Note: All counts in this table have been rounded independently of each other.

Symbol:

.. figure not available

Source: Statistics New Zealand