New Zealand Income Survey: June 2014 quarter
Embargoed until 10:45am – 03 October 2014

Key facts
Between the June 2013 and June 2014 quarters:

- Median weekly income from all sources (for all people) increased by $25.
- Median weekly income from wages and salaries (for those receiving income from this source) increased by $19.
- Average weekly income from wages and salaries (for those receiving income from this source) increased by $29.
- Median hourly earnings increased slightly by 36 cents.
- Average hourly earnings increased by 78 cents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>June 2014 quarter</th>
<th>Annual change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>($)</td>
<td>($)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median weekly income from all sources(1)</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median weekly income from wages and salaries(2)</td>
<td>$863</td>
<td>$19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average weekly income from wages and salaries(2)</td>
<td>$991</td>
<td>$29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median hourly earnings</td>
<td>$21.94</td>
<td>$0.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average hourly earnings</td>
<td>$26.78</td>
<td>$0.78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. For all people
2. For those receiving income from this source

Liz MacPherson, Government Statistician
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Commentary

- Overview
- More wage and salary earners contribute to increase in income from all sources
- More full-time workers increase weekly wage and salary income
- Little change in median hourly earnings
- Fewer people receive government transfer income

All income changes in this information release are statistically significant unless otherwise specified.

All income figures in this information release refer to gross (before tax) income for individuals.

Overview

Between the June 2013 and June 2014 quarters:

**Income from all sources**: Median weekly income from all sources, for all people, increased by $25 (4.3 percent) to $600. This was partially due to more people receiving income from wages and salaries and fewer receiving income from government transfers.

**Wage and salary income**: Median weekly income from wages and salaries (for people receiving income from this source) increased by $19 (2.3 percent) to $863, while average weekly income from this source increased by $29 (3.0 percent) to $991 due to more people being in full-time employment.

Average hourly earnings increased by 78 cents (3.0 percent) to $26.78 due to changes in the minimum wage and the number of full-time workers, while median hourly earnings showed little change, up 36 cents (1.7 percent) to $21.94.

**Government transfer income**: Fewer people received income from government transfers mainly due to fewer women (down 22,500 or 3.2 percent) receiving this income.

See Definitions for more information on the terms and concepts used in this release.

More wage and salary earners contribute to increase in income from all sources

Between the June 2013 and June 2014 quarters, median weekly income from all sources for all people (including those with no source of income) increased by $25 (4.3 percent) to $600. This was the largest annual increase since the June 2007 quarter.
Contributing to the increase in median weekly income from all sources were more people receiving income from wages and salaries and fewer people receiving income from government transfers.

These changes increased median weekly income from all sources as income received from wages and salaries is typically higher than income received from government transfers.

These changes were also seen at the household level, with more households receiving income from wages and salaries and fewer households receiving income from government transfers. This resulted in median weekly household income from all sources increasing by $64 (4.7 percent) to $1,422.

More full-time workers increase weekly wage and salary income

Between the June 2013 and June 2014 quarters, the following changes occurred for those receiving income from wages and salaries.
- Median weekly income from wages and salaries increased by $19 (2.3 percent), to $863 (not statistically significant).
- Average weekly income from wages and salaries increased by $29 (3.0 percent) to $991.
- 94,500 (5.0 percent) more people received income from wages and salaries.

Contributing to the increase in median and average weekly wage and salary income (for those receiving income from this source) was a change in the distribution of this income. Compared with the June 2013 quarter, the number of people earning above $720 a week increased more than the number of people earning less than $720 a week. This figure was the boundary between the second and third quintile in the June 2013 quarter, as shown on the following graph.

In the June 2014 quarter, median weekly income from wages and salaries (for those receiving income from this source) for people in:

- full-time employment was $989
- part-time employment was $300.

These changes were in line with other labour market statistics.

For example, the Quarterly Employment Survey: June 2014 quarter showed the strongest annual growth in full-time jobs (in the year to the June 2014 quarter) since the year to the September 2004 quarter.

In the year to the June 2014 quarter, the New Zealand Income Survey also showed increases in median weekly income from wages and salaries for the following subgroups:

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1. The quintile boundaries used are from the NZIS June 2013 quarter. Source: Statistics New Zealand
• women – up $29 (4.0 percent) to $739
• Māori – up $33 (4.3 percent) to $800
• European – up $34 (3.9 percent) to $900.

No other subgroups showed statistically significant increases.

**Little change in median hourly earnings**

Median hourly earnings for those receiving wage and salary income were up 36 cents (1.7 percent) to $21.94, between the June 2013 and June 2014 quarters. This movement was not statistically significant.

While median hourly earnings showed the smallest change since the June 2000 quarter, average hourly earnings increased by 78 cents (3.0 percent) to $26.78. The greater increase in average hourly earnings compared with median hourly earnings was due to two key factors.

- The 50 cent minimum wage increase, from $13.75 to $14.25, which came into effect on 1 April 2014. This increase for people earning the minimum wage helped push up average hourly earnings. However, it did not affect median hourly earnings because the minimum wage lies below the median.
- A statistically significant increase in the number of full-time workers, up 70,500. This increased average hourly earnings but had little effect on median hourly earnings because the number of part-time workers also increased, up 20,200.

Although there was little change in median hourly earnings for all wage and salary earners, there was an increase for the 15–19-year age group, up 65 cents (4.7 percent) to $14.40.

The wholesale trade industry showed an increase in median hourly earnings, up $2.09 (9.6 percent) to $23.97. No other industries or occupations reported statistically significant increases.

**Fewer people receive government transfer income**

The number of people receiving income from government transfers fell by 30,700 (2.6 percent). This was driven by a statistically significant decrease in the number of women receiving income from government transfers, down 22,500 (3.2 percent).

Despite the overall decrease in the year to the June 2014 quarter, there was a statistically significant increase in the number of people aged 65+ receiving government transfer income, up 17,900 (3.1 percent). This was in line with an increase in those aged 65+ in the working-age population, up 22,500 (3.8 percent). Median weekly income from government transfers for people in this age group increased by $6 (1.8 percent) to $320.

Between the June 2013 and June 2014 quarters, median weekly income from government transfers (for those receiving income from this source) increased $3 (1.2 percent), to $303, although this was not statistically significant.

From 1 April 2014, the rate of New Zealand Superannuation increased by 2.66 percent; main benefits, student allowances, and some supplementary assistance increased by 1.38 percent.

For more detailed data, see the Excel tables in the 'Downloads' box.
Definitions

About the New Zealand Income Survey

The New Zealand Income Survey (NZIS) produces a comprehensive range of income statistics. This allows analysis of the links between labour force status, educational achievement, and income of individuals and households, both at an aggregate level and for sub-populations of interest.

The information is used to make policy decisions on economic and social issues that affect all New Zealanders, including retirement, education, income tax, minimum wage, and infrastructure developments. The government uses this information to estimate the number of people who could be affected by changes in legislation, and what those effects might be.

The NZIS is run annually as a supplement to the Household Labour Force Survey during the June quarter (1 April to 30 June). It ran for the first time in the June 1997 quarter.

More definitions

**Actual pay**: what the respondent actually earned in their last pay period or in the reference week.

**Average (mean)**: the average value – the mean is calculated by adding two or more figures and dividing the sum by the number of figures.

**Employed**: people in the working-age population who did one of these 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
- worked without pay for one hour or more in work that contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business, or professional practice owned or operated by a relative
- 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.

**Full-time employment**: when an employee works 30 hours or more a week.

**Government transfers**: income from benefits, working for families tax credits, paid parental leave, student allowances, ACC payments, New Zealand Superannuation, and veteran's and war pensions.

**Hourly earnings**: number of hours usually worked and the usual income, rather than the hours actually paid for and actual hours worked.

**In paid employment**: people who receive self-employment income and/or income from wages and salaries. ‘Not in paid employment’ are those who do not fit the ‘in paid employment’ category. These people may or may not have a source of income.

**Labour force status**: people in the working-age population are either employed, unemployed or not in the labour force.
**Median:** the point at which half the people receive more and half receive less than the stated amount.

Since the 2008 release a greater emphasis has been put on medians, because extremely high or low incomes tend to have less influence on median amounts than they do on an average (mean) figure.

**Not in the labour force:** anyone in the working-age population who is not employed or unemployed. This residual category includes people who:

- are retired
- have personal or family responsibilities such as unpaid housework and childcare
- attend educational institutions
- are permanently unable to work due to physical or mental disabilities
- were temporarily unavailable for work in the survey reference week
- are not actively seeking work.

**Other transfers:** a category in the tables that refers to the sum of private superannuation and other private transfers, including pensions and annuities.

**Part-time employment:** employment in which the employee works less than 30 hours a week.

**Quintile:** one-fifth of the population. The bottom quintile in terms of income represents the 20 percent of the population with the lowest personal incomes, while the top quintile represents the 20 percent of the population who receive the highest incomes.

**Quintile boundary:** the dollar value at which the quintile falls. For example, if quintile one (the bottom quintile) had income below $200 a week, the quintile boundary between quintiles one and two would be $200.

**Sampling error:** a measure of the variability that occurs by chance because a sample rather than an entire population is surveyed.

**Statistically significant:** if a change in an estimate between quarters a year apart is larger than the associated sampling error, it is referred to as a significant change. In this release, all income changes are significant unless otherwise specified.

**Unemployed:** all people in the working-age population who, during the reference week, were without a paid job, available for work, and had either actively sought work in the past four weeks ending with the reference week, or had a new job to start within the next four weeks.

**Usual pay:** what the respondent usually earns in their pay; may be different from actual pay.

**Working-age population:** the population the NZIS represents. It is the same population as the Household Labour Force Survey, and consists of the usually resident, non-institutionalised, civilian population of New Zealand aged 15 years and over.
Related links

Upcoming releases

The New Zealand Income Survey: June 2015 quarter will be released in October 2015.

Subscribe to information releases, including this one, by completing the online subscription form.

The release calendar lists all our upcoming information releases by date of release.

Past releases

New Zealand Income Survey has links to past releases.

Related information

User guide for Statistics New Zealand's wage and income measures provides information on the New Zealand Income Survey and other income measures from Statistics NZ.

Household Labour Force Survey produces a range of statistics relating to employment, unemployment, and people not in the labour force.

Quarterly Employment Survey publishes statistics on total earnings, hours paid for, filled jobs, average hourly and weekly earnings, and average weekly paid hours.

Household Expenditure Survey collects information on household expenditure and income, as well as a wide range of demographic information on individuals and households.

Labour Cost Index (All Labour Costs) provides information on movements in base salary and ordinary time wage rates, overtime wage rates, and the following non-wage costs: annual leave and statutory holidays, superannuation, ACC employer premiums, and medical insurance.

Labour Cost Index (Salary and Wage Rates) provides information on movements in base salary and ordinary time wage rates, and overtime wage rates.
Data quality

Period specific information
Information about data that has changed since the last information release

- External data influencers
- Response rates to New Zealand Income Survey
- Sampling errors
- Highest-qualification statistics

General information
Information that does not generally change between releases

- Scope of the survey
- Survey questionnaire
- Accuracy of the data
- Sample design information
- Consistency with other periods and datasets
- Interpreting the data
- Confidentiality and access to the data
- More information

Period specific information

External data influencers

We collected data in this release in the June 2014 quarter (6 April to 6 July 2014).

Changes in income may be influenced by one-off events. Events that could have influenced the NZIS June 2014 quarter data are:

- the increase in the adult minimum wage from $13.75 to $14.25 (effective from 1 April 2014)
- increases in government transfer maximum rates of 1.38 percent for main benefits and student allowances (effective from 1 April 2014)
- increases in New Zealand Superannuation rates of 2.66 percent (effective from 1 April 2014).

Response rates to New Zealand Income Survey

The target response rate for NZIS is 80.0 percent of eligible Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS) respondents. The achieved response rate for the June 2014 quarter was 86.5 percent.

We calculate the response rate by determining the number of eligible individuals who responded to the survey, as a proportion of the estimated number of total eligible individuals in the sample. The following table shows the NZIS response rates for the June 2014 quarter.
New Zealand Income Survey response rates, by major sub-populations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic</th>
<th>Response rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sex</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>85.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>87.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European</td>
<td>87.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Māori</td>
<td>83.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific peoples</td>
<td>81.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>86.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELAA(1)</td>
<td>85.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other ethnicity</td>
<td>88.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Labour force status</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>84.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not in labour force</td>
<td>90.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>88.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time employed</td>
<td>84.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time employed</td>
<td>85.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td>86.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. MELAA-Middle Eastern/Latin American/African.

Sampling errors

The table below summarises the main sampling errors for the June 2013 and June 2014 quarters, by income source.

See Reliability of survey estimates for more information.

Relative sampling errors for average and median weekly income for all people aged 15 years and over, June 2013 and June 2014 quarters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income source</th>
<th>Sampling error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2013 (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages and salaries</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-employment</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government transfers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other transfers(1)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All sources collected</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Median</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All sources collected</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Other transfers includes private superannuation and annuities.

Contact info@stats.govt.nz for more detailed sampling errors.

Highest-qualification statistics

In the June 2013 quarter we updated our highest qualification output categories based on changes made to the HLFS qualification response options.
See Consistency with other periods or datasets for more information. In the June 2014 quarter, we made some improvements to these output categories to better meet our customer needs.

Adopting the new highest-qualification categories gives a continuity break in the highest qualification series. Therefore, the June 2014 quarter highest-qualification data is not directly comparable with previous years. Data for the June 2013 quarter using the latest output categories is available on request by contacting info@stats.govt.nz

General information

Scope of the survey

NZIS is a supplement to the HLFS and as such uses the same sample population. The HLFS sample has approximately 15,000 private households, sampled randomly from rural and urban areas throughout New Zealand. We gather information for each household member who falls within the scope of the survey and meets the survey coverage rules. The final NZIS dataset has approximately 30,000 individuals.

We ask all respondents to the HLFS to participate in the NZIS. The target population of the NZIS is the usually-resident, non-institutionalised civilian population of New Zealand aged 15 and over. This population does not include:

- 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 live in New Zealand for less than 12 months
- those aged under 15 years.

New Zealand residents living on offshore islands (except for Waiheke Island), and those temporarily overseas are not surveyed. The survey population is therefore marginally different from the target population.

Survey questionnaire

Questions relate to the respondent's most-recent pay period, except for questions on annual income, self-employment income, and investment income, which cover the 12 months before the interview. We collect the following items:

- actual and usual gross wages and salaries, for main job and up to two other jobs, by ordinary time, overtime, other income
- weeks and hours worked, matching the wage and salary components as above
- sources of latest actual gross government transfers received
- latest actual gross government transfers received, in total and from each agency (Ministry of Social Development, Inland Revenue, and Accident Compensation Corporation)
- total latest actual gross private superannuation payment(s) received
- total latest actual gross 'other private transfers including pensions, and annuities' received
- weeks covered for the transfer payments defined above
- total annual gross income received from self-employment
- total annual gross income received from investment
• total annual gross income received from all income sources (income ranges are the ones used in the 2013 Census).

The collected data relates to cash only, pre-tax (gross) income wherever possible and does not include any non-cash fringe benefits.

Questions about some forms of income are not included in the NZIS, for instance income from hobbies, casual jobs, and other sources. Therefore total income estimates from the survey may underestimate actual total income.

See flowcharts for the NZIS questionnaire

**Accuracy of the data**

**Reliability of survey estimates**

Two types of error are possible in estimates based on a sample survey: sampling error and non-sampling error. Sampling error is a measure of the variability that occurs by chance because a sample rather than an entire population is surveyed. We revised the method for calculating sampling errors in 2012.

Contact info@stats.govt.nz for more information about sampling errors.

Non-sampling errors include errors arising from biases in the patterns of response and non-response, inaccuracies in reporting by respondents (including inaccuracies as a result of proxy interviewing), and errors in recording and coding data. Non-sampling errors are not quantified. We endeavour to minimise the impact of these errors by applying best survey practices and monitoring known indicators (e.g., non-response).

**Proxy**

Where possible, the NZIS gets information directly from each household member. However, a proxy can provide information under the following circumstances:

• for a person unable to answer on health or language grounds
• for a 15- or 16-year-old with an after-school job (parent can respond)
• for a retired couple whose only source of income is New Zealand Superannuation (one of the couple can respond)
• for a self-employed couple, or farmer, where one of the couple does the accounts for both (one of the couple can respond)
• when one person in a couple controls the finances for both (one of the couple can respond).

The proxy rate for the June 2014 quarter was 20.3 percent. This compares with 15.2 percent in the June 2013 quarter and 17.1 percent in the June 2012 quarter.

**Sample design information**

Because the NZIS is a supplement to the HLFS, it uses the same sample design. We select the sample using a two-stage stratified cluster design. Households are sampled on a statistically representative random basis from rural and urban areas throughout the North and South Islands.
Each quarter, one-eighth of the households in the sample are rotated out and replaced by a new set of households. The overlap between two surveys can be as high as one half, and some households can be asked the NZIS questionnaire twice.

Imputation

For records where there is not a valid and usable response, we use a form of imputation known as 'hot-deck imputation'. In this imputation method, a 'donor record' replaces the non-usable record in the dataset. The donor record is chosen randomly from an imputation pool of records that have similar characteristics to that of the record to be imputed.

We construct imputation pools on the basis of the following HLFS variables: age group, sex, ethnicity, highest qualification, labour force status (modified), full-time/part-time work status, and region. Imputation classes are combined in a priority order where there are fewer than 10 donor records in any particular class.

We use hot-deck imputation for three reasons:

- to maintain an accurate income distribution of the New Zealand population
- to allow the calculation and analysis of household income for a larger number of households
- to account for likely biases due to non-response.

The imputation rate for the June 2014 quarter was 12.8 percent. There is little change in the income distribution or average income figures in the dataset due to imputation.

Contact info@stats.govt.nz for further information about the imputation method, or the effects of imputation on the final dataset.

Consistency with other periods or datasets

Highest-qualification statistics

In the June 2013 quarter we updated the HLFS qualification response options. The new response options ask respondents to supply the level of the qualification (eg level 4) they obtained, rather than the type of qualification (eg national certificate in business). As a supplement to the HLFS, we changed the NZIS highest-qualification output categories to reflect this.

In previous years, the vocational or trade qualification category captured all levels of certificates and diplomas obtained since leaving school. From the June 2013 quarter, these qualifications are grouped by their level. This means those who obtained their highest post-school qualifications at level 1, 2, or 3 are now included in the NCEA level 1, 2, or 3 or equivalent categories. Also, those who gained certificates or diplomas at level 7 are output to bachelor’s degree / level 7 category.

Adopting the new highest-qualification output categories gives a continuity break in the highest-qualification series as the old output categories are no longer produced. Therefore, the June 2013 data is not directly comparable with previous years.
Self-employment income questionnaire change

In the NZIS, if a self-employed respondent cannot provide their current or previous year’s net profit/loss, we ask them to estimate this amount by indicating whether they receive greater than or less than a series of income values. For example, a respondent may receive a net profit that is greater than $20,000, but less than $25,000.

In the June 2013 quarter, we updated the self-employment income values to reflect changes in the pattern of self-employment income received. Previously, the values started at greater or less than $30,000. However, from the June 2013 quarter onwards, the values begin at $35,000.

See the self-employment flowchart for the June 2013 quarter for more details. The changes are written in red.

In the June 2013 quarter, 17 percent of respondents estimated their self-employment income using these values. The updated values had no major impact on self-employment income and, therefore, the self-employment income data is still comparable with previous years.

Contact info@stats.govt.nz for more information about this change.

Industry statistics

Since the June 2010 quarter, we have based industry statistics on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 2006 (ANZSIC06). This aligns with the HLFS. Earlier NZIS releases used ANZSIC96, and are not comparable with those based on ANZSIC06.

See Industry classification for more information.

Occupation statistics

Since the June 2010 quarter, we have used the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) to classify occupation data. ANZSCO is a harmonised classification for use in both countries. Occupation outputs defined using ANZSCO are not comparable with those in earlier NZIS releases, which were based on the New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations 1999.

See Occupation for more information.

Ethnic statistics

Since the December 2007 quarter, the HLFS has collected ethnicity data using the 2005 New Zealand Statistical Standard for Ethnicity, with up to 14 responses captured for the ethnicity question. Under the total response method, we count people who report more than one ethnic group once in each group reported. This means the total number of responses for all ethnic groups can be greater than the total number of people who stated their ethnicities.

We have used the total response method to publish ethnicity statistics in the NZIS since the June 2009 quarter. Before then, the NZIS used the prioritisation method, where a single ethnic group was assigned to individuals who answered with more than one ethnicity.

Adopting the total response method gives a continuity break in the ethnicity series, as the prioritisation of ethnic groups is no longer produced. We can only produce the total response ethnicity series for 2008 onwards.

Computer-assisted interviewing

In 2005 we introduced computer assisted interviewing (CAI) to the NZIS. We completed implementation in 2007. During the transition to CAI, we compared estimates for the CAI part of the sample were compared with estimates from the remainder of the sample, and no statistically significant differences were detected.

The main benefits of CAI are improved data quality through better-controlled interviews, and modest resource savings through eliminating some processing steps and centralising others. We interview seven-eighths of the sample by computer-assisted telephone interviewing and one-eighth by computer-assisted personal interviewing.

All sources income

The introduction of income from investment in 2002 caused a discontinuity in time series for the 'all sources' category. Before 2002, this category included wages and salaries, self-employment, government transfers, and other transfers. Since 2002, it also includes income from investment and so the category is not comparable with previous years.

Household statistics

The household categories incorporate the concept of dependent children rather than just children. A child is a person of any age who usually resides with at least one parent (natural, step, adopted, or foster), and who does not usually reside with a partner or child(ren) of his or her own. Statistics NZ defines a 'dependent child' as a child aged under 18 years and not in full-time employment.

The household income statistics table in this release excludes households where all members are outside the ages of 18 to 64 years. This exclusion primarily affects 'couple only' and 'one person' households. These households typically contain two distinct groups of the population: couples and single people who are likely to be in the labour force, and couples and single people who are primarily retired. Because these groups can have very different income characteristics, the household income table excludes older households where all members are aged 65 years and over (65+). The income figures for 'couple only' and 'one person' households for those aged 65+ are available from Statistics NZ on request.

Interpreting the data

Compositional effects

Movements in average and median income statistics are influenced by many factors. As well as changes in levels of income, movements are also influenced by the population's composition from survey to survey. These changes occur between males and females, different ethnic groups, different labour force statuses, numbers of full-time and part-time workers, between or within industries, and between or within occupations.

Income averaged across all people from all sources includes those who have zero income for some income sources. Income averaged across those receiving income from a particular source only includes those who received income from that source.
See User guide for wage and income measures for more information on income measures at Statistics NZ.

**Period effects**

The NZIS reports on ‘weekly income’ that relates to a week during the June quarter – it is a snapshot in time. Conversion of this weekly income into an annual equivalent is not recommended as an individual's circumstances can change significantly during a year (eg change of job or a period out of work).

**Tables**

In this information release, all tables showing wages and salaries include usual income figures rather than actual income figures

**Confidentiality and access to the data**

**Suppressed estimates**

Cells that represent fewer than 1,000 people are suppressed and appear with the symbol 'S' in the tables. These estimates are subject to sampling errors that are too great for most practical purposes. We may remove records for quality and confidentially purposes in some publications.

**Customised data**

The tables in this information release are not a full set of the possible analyses that could be carried out from the NZIS data. We can customise data requests to users' specifications.

Contact info@stats.govt.nz for more information about customised data.

**More information**

See New Zealand Income Survey resource for more information about the NZIS.

See User guide for wage and income measures for more information about using wage and income measures.

See Information about the New Zealand Income Survey for more technical information.

Confidentialised unit record files (CURFs) for un-rebased 2002–07 NZIS data are available on application. See User guides for Confidentialised Unit Record Files for more information, or request information from us.

Statistics in this release have been produced in accordance with the Official Statistics System principles and protocols for producers of Tier 1 statistics for quality. They conform to the Statistics NZ Methodological Standard for Reporting of Data Quality.
Liability

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Correction

On 3 October 2014 a correction was made to tables 2 and 3 in the tables attached to this release. Only the June 2014 quarter estimates for ‘Median: all sources collected’ were affected; all other figures are correct.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.
Contacts

For media enquiries contact:
Daniel Griffiths
Wellington 04 931 4600
Email: info@stats.govt.nz

For technical information contact:
Albert Chin or Steph Dorne
Wellington 04 931 4600
Email: info@stats.govt.nz

For general enquiries contact our Information Centre:
Phone: 0508 525 525 (toll-free in New Zealand)
+64 4 931 4600 (outside New Zealand)
Email: info@stats.govt.nz

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Tables

Correction
On 3 October 2014 a correction was made to some of the tables in this release. Please view the Corrections page for details.

The following tables are available in Excel format from the 'Downloads' box. If you have problems viewing the files, see opening files and PDFs.

1. Average and median weekly income for all people, aged 15 years and over, by source
2. Average and median weekly income for all people, aged 15 years and over, by source and sex
3. Average and median weekly income for all people, aged 15 years and over, by source and age group
4. Average and median weekly income for all people, aged 15 years and over, by source and ethnic group
5. Average and median weekly income for people in paid employment, by source
6. Median weekly earnings for those in paid employment, by regional council area
7. Average and median weekly income for people not in paid employment, by source
8. Personal income distribution, by quintile
9. Average and median weekly household income, by household type and source
10. Average and median hourly earnings for those earning income from wage/salary jobs
11. Median weekly and hourly earnings for those earning income from wage/salary jobs, by full-time and part-time status
12. Median weekly income by source, for those receiving that source of income

Supplementary tables

These tables include extra information about the data collected, including breakdowns of key indicators by average (mean) measures.

1. Median weekly income by labour force status
2. Average weekly income by labour force status
3. Average and median weekly household income, by source and household type
4. Average weekly income by source, for those receiving that source of income
5. Average weekly and hourly earnings for those earning income from wage/salary jobs, by full-time and part-time status
6. Average weekly income for all people, by regional council area
7. Aggregate weekly income, June quarter 2010–14
8. Average and median hourly earnings, for those earning income from wage and salary jobs, by sex
9. Average and median hourly earnings, for those earning income from wage and salary jobs, by age group
10. Average and median hourly earnings, for those earning income from wage and salary jobs, by ethnic group

Access more data on NZ.Stat

Use NZ.Stat to access a range of time-series data from this release and previous NZIS releases.