



Job market growing despite lower business confidence

Despite waning employment confidence according to [Westpac: McDermott Miller](#), Trade Me Jobs continues to see healthy signs in the New Zealand employment market.

Head of Trade Me Jobs Peter Osborne said it was great to see Kiwis continuing to have so many opportunities and options in the job market. “While some gloss may be coming off the economy, the job market’s shown signs of healthy persistence this quarter. We saw more than 58,000 listings onsite between April and June, up more than 5 per cent on the second quarter of last year.

“Overall we’ve seen some nice pockets of growth across the country. This is heartening given the economic tailwinds of recent quarters have slowed to a breeze.”

People are also taking the opportunity to assess their job options, with the number of applicants per job up more than 7 per cent on a year ago. A slowing in job advertising with an increase in job applications means employers should find it easier to fill roles, while job hunters will find it more difficult to land a job.

Consistent with recent news surrounding the energy sector and dairy pay-outs Taranaki has continued a recent downward trend in listings, dipping more than 5 per cent, while Canterbury’s listing numbers fell for the first time in long time – down 3 per cent. Canterbury’s change is indicative of an area that has experienced enormous employment off the back of the rebuild and is now settling.

Mr Osborne said that given not every region was experiencing the same progress and the national market was “patchy”, job hunters may be more inclined to travel to find work. Since the biggest job market is Auckland more people moving to the ‘big smoke’ looking for work could exacerbate issues like housing affordability and supply.

Meanwhile Wellington turned its fortunes around a little, up almost 2 per cent on this time last year. The capital continues to be the place to be when it comes to wages, with the highest average pay in the country at \$74,253. This is driven by higher paying banking, finance, technology and other skilled roles dominating the employment landscape

Auckland powers on

The Auckland region has seen a 10 per cent increase in job listings from this time last year and is the second highest area for average pay at \$71,253. Mr Osborne said there were plenty of reports about the pressure on wages and salaries, given the price of property in the Super City.

Auckland City experienced fantastic 9 per cent growth but was beaten by the North Shore which had a 10 per cent increase in listings, while other areas around the city also experienced significant growth.

Brakes go on in Christchurch

“Christchurch’s 6% reduction in advertised jobs isn’t exactly a shock given the well-documented influx of workers and demand at the peak of the rebuild has plateaued,” Mr Osborne said. “It looks like it might be tougher for job seekers in the broader region too. Canterbury has seen a 25 per cent increase in applicants per job than this time last year.

“Perhaps we’re seeing a slight return to normal after the frenetic pace of change in the city. It’s interesting to see that although Christchurch is slowing, many of the districts around the Garden City like Mackenzie, Selwyn, Timaru and Waimakariri are experiencing double-digit growth.”

Regional round-up

For many regions there was excellent growth this quarter, but six of the 15 regions turned in year-on-year declines in listings. Gisborne had a bad quarter, with advertised roles down 21 per cent on a year ago.

Following in the footsteps of increased [property price expectations and rents](#) the Bay of Plenty was the best performer of all regions with 20 per cent growth in jobs, spurred by Tauranga which was up 29 per cent on last year.

Sector news

Applicants in the education, construction & architecture and retail sectors had the most choice in the job market with year-on-year job growth of 28 per cent, 16 per cent and 16 per cent respectively.

IT was the most competitive sector with 45 per cent more applications per job landing than last year, and the market had tightened with a decline of listings of 4 per cent.

Mr Osborne said that with news of economic unrest in the EU still very fresh, there was uncertainty as to how that situation might impact the wider economy. “We need to maintain a watching brief to see if that impacts further on businesses hiring intentions and the job market. The New Zealand job market has shown some resilience to adverse global trends in recent years, and we’re hopeful that will again be the case.”

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More info:

1/ Peter Osborne is available for interviews. To tee up an interview time or for regional data requests, please email Logan Mudge via mediaenquiries@trademe.co.nz or phone (04) 803 2706.

2/ The full Trade Me Jobs employment survey results are set out below.

Trade Me Jobs employment survey results: Apr - Jun 2015

1. Listings growth by job: Q2/2015

Category	Year-on-year % change Q2/2014 vs Q2/2015
Accounting	11.1
Agriculture, fishing & forestry	-1.6
Automotive	0.2
Banking, finance & insurance	2.7
Construction & architecture	16.3
Customer service	-4.1
Education	28.2
Engineering	-5.1
Executive & general management	-2.2
Government & council	-23.2
Healthcare	10.0
Hospitality & tourism	6.5
HR & recruitment	26.8
IT	-3.8
Legal	13.5
Manufacturing & operations	-0.3
Marketing, media & communications	-1.0
Office & administration	-0.9
Other	11.0
Property	25.3
Retail	16.0
Sales	-14.0
Science & technology	19.8
Trades & services	12.6
Transport & logistics	5.6
Overall	5.3

2. Average rates of pay by job (full-time jobs only): Q2/2015

Highest paid		Pay rate (\$)
1	IT architects	147,792
2	IT project managers	131,813
3	IT functional consultants	126,858
4	IT managers	125,633
5	IT data warehousing & business intelligence	120,533
Lowest paid		Pay rate (\$)
1	Au pairs & nannies	35,741
2	Caregiving	36,761
3	Kitchen staff	37,788
4	Retail assistants	38,320
5	Bar staff & baristas	38,399

3. Listings growth by region for Q2/2015

Region	% change vs Q2/2014
Auckland	10.4
Bay of Plenty	20.4
Canterbury	- 3.1
Gisborne	- 20.6
Hawke's Bay	17.3
Manawatu/Wanganui	4.6
Marlborough	4.9
Nelson/Tasman	- 2.7
Northland	10.6
Otago	12.2
Southland	- 0.4
Taranaki	- 5.2
Waikato	0.9
Wellington	1.7
West Coast	- 7.7
National	5.3

4. Average rates of pay by region (full-time jobs only): Q2/2015

	Highest paid	Pay rate (\$)
1	Wellington City	74,253
2	Auckland City	71,253
3	South Taranaki	60,156
4	Waikato	59,551
5	Whakatane	58,558
	Lowest paid	Pay rate (\$)
1	Horowhenua	46,478
2	Kapiti Coast	48,317
3	Waitakere City	49,518
4	Hastings	50,094
5	Napier	50,532

NB: Segments with less than 50 jobs excluded.

About Trade Me Jobs

On average more New Zealanders have visited Trade Me Jobs (trademe.co.nz/jobs) than any other NZ job site in the 12 months to May 2015 according to Nielsen Online. Full details of pay by profession for full-time job listings between July and December 2014 are in the Trade Me Jobs Salary Guide.

*Nielsen Netview: Monthly Unique Audience Report