



Environmental Health Indicators for New Zealand

NUMBER OF PASSENGER ARRIVALS TO NEW ZEALAND

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The number of people entering New Zealand is relevant to environmental health for a number of reasons. An increase in the number of people entering New Zealand can lead to an increased biosecurity risk, by increasing the potential for the introduction of pests and disease into the country.

The indicator presents the annual number of passenger arrivals into New Zealand from 1961 to 2011 (Statistics New Zealand (2012)). The data records arrivals to, and departures from, New Zealand for the following groups:

- short-term overseas visitors (overseas residents arriving for a stay of less than 12 months)
- short-term New Zealand-resident visitors (New Zealand residents who had been overseas for less than 12 months)
- permanent residents (which includes overseas residents intending to stay more than 12 months, and New Zealand residents returning after being overseas for more than 12 months).

The data take into account international air and sea passengers at the Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin and Queenstown international airports and the major seaports of Auckland, Tauranga, Napier, Wellington, Christchurch (Lyttelton), Nelson and Dunedin.

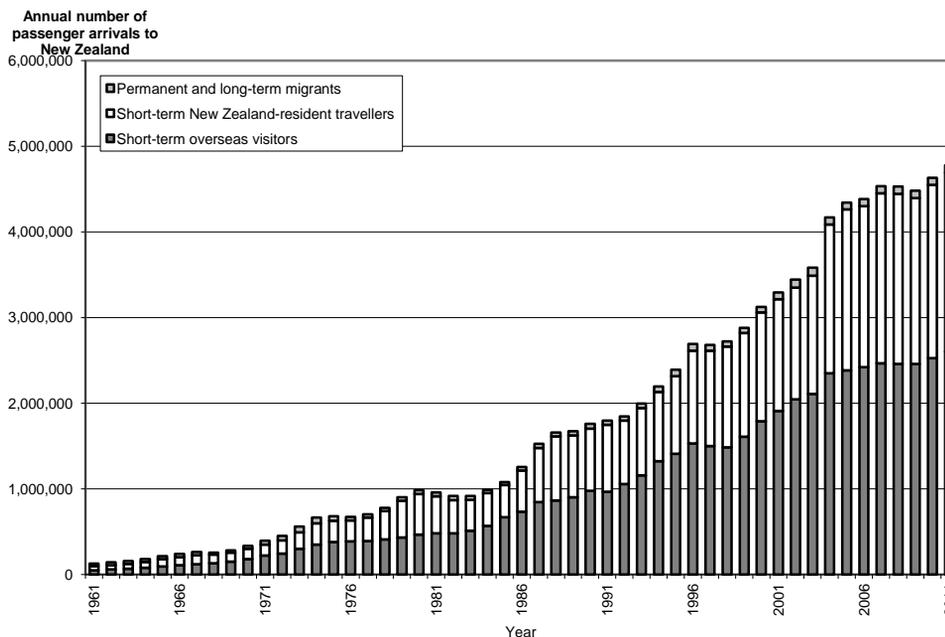
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Current situation

Figure 1 shows that there has been a dramatic increase in the annual number of passenger arrivals into New Zealand over the past 50 years. The overall increase is mainly accounted for by short-term visitors, of whom the majority were overseas visitors. In 2011, an estimated 2.60 million short-term overseas visitors arrived in New Zealand, an increase of 3.0% from 2010.

Figure 1:

ANNUAL NUMBER OF PASSENGER ARRIVALS TO NEW ZEALAND BY TYPE OF VISITOR, 1961 - 2011



Notes: 'Short-term' means a length of stay of less than 12 months. Year to December.
Source: Statistics New Zealand (2012c)

References

- Statistics New Zealand 2012c.