

NSNZ NOTICE – INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

How does Aotearoa New Zealand compare with other developed countries on attracting foreign nurses and other health professionals?

- **FACT:** Aotearoa New Zealand is actually at the top of the list amongst developed countries when it comes to the proportion of foreign-trained and foreign-born health professionals in the workforce.
- This is indicated in OECD data on international migration, spanning 27 developed countries.
- New Zealand ranks number one for the **proportion of registered nurses who are foreign-trained:**
 - OECD average – 7.4%
 - Proportion of nurses who are foreign trained in New Zealand – 29.86%
 - Comparable figure for Australia – 18.07%
- New Zealand ranks number three for the **proportion of nurses who are foreign-born:**
 - OECD average – 15.8%
 - New Zealand – 35.0%
 - Australia – 35.3%
- New Zealand ranks number two for the **proportion of doctors who are foreign-trained:**
 - OECD average – 18.2%
 - New Zealand – 42.12%
 - Australia – 32.3%
- New Zealand ranks number two for the **proportion of foreign-born doctors** in the country:
 - OECD average – 24.2%
 - New Zealand – 54.3%
 - Australia – 53.9%
- Nursing Council of New Zealand data show that the number of foreign-trained nurses seeking and obtaining registration in Aotearoa has steadily increased over the last 10 years.
- Indeed, annual figures show that overseas nurses have doubled compared to 10 years ago. For example, in the year 2015–2016 1,153 foreign-qualified nurses obtained registration here, compared to 2,768 in 2019–2020.

- Currently, 19.58% of our members are foreign graduates and 26.59% are foreign-born.

Sources: Primarily OECD, as well as Te Kaunihera Tapuhi o Aotearoa Nursing Council of New Zealand

NURSES SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND *Te Kāhui Tapuhi o Aotearoa & Te Uniana o NSNZ*



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