

# A CHANGING LABOUR MARKET AND IMMIGRATION

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**NEW ZEALAND** 



# **Changing Demand in Labour Markets**



#### **Advanced economies**

- 40-50% of 2016 jobs will not exist in 2026
- New jobs will emerge
- Less certainty in the **end** of careers and life time employment

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, most workers can expect to do 5-8 different jobs over a working life



#### **Global and Local Skill Shortages**

- New demography decline in labour supply
- New skills needed
  - Upskilling the workforce
  - Modifying education/training
- Recruitment from a global talent pool





# Demography



- Structural ageing of population (and workforce?)
- Sub-replacement fertility (2.1 births per woman)
- Delayed births (30 years plus)

Total Fertility	Rates	
Spain/Italy	1.2	
Japan	1.0	
Shanghai	0.9	





#### A "New" New Zealand Emerges – Sooner!

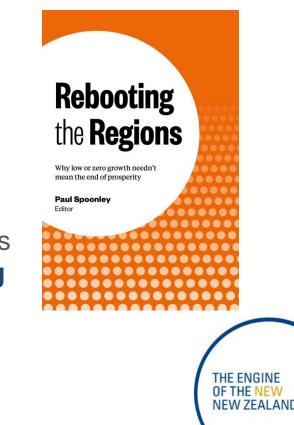
- Asian communities will outnumber Māori
- More people aged over 65 than 0-15 yrs of age
- Auckland/NZ dependent on immigration for skills supply and population
- 2 out of every 5 NZers will live in Auckland, nearly a third of them Asian



## **Two Countries – Or Three? Or Four?**



- Early 2020s, NZ population will reach 5 million
- Two-thirds of New Zealand's regions will experience population stagnation decline
- Auckland
  - 60% of future growth;
  - Home to 40% of NZers
- New metropolitan/Auckland values/behaviours vs Small Medium Cities (SMCs) vs Declining Regions



### **Immigration: Pretty Damn High!**



- Temporary work visas (+209,495, 30,000 more than previous year)
- PLT 125,000 (Net gain 65,000)
- Student visas 100,000 plus

**Next 2 years** Target set at 90,000 – 100,000



### Pick-and-Choose: Why Do We Do It?



- Labour market needs to grow by 1.5% to support moderate economic growth 2.5%
- Actual growth tends to be 0.5-1.0%
- Workforce exits are increasing, domestic entry levels modest and will decline









#### Diversity Dividend = an economic benefit of higher production and innovation

#### > Does immigration yield economic benefits?





# Pick-and-Choose: Why Do We Do It?



- More open/welcoming = more attractive to immigrants = higher levels of innovation
- Regional growth tied to immigration levels
- Contributes to "innovative outsiders" as part of self-reliant, tolerant communities
- Contributes to local aggregate demand for goods and services
- Contributes to human/capital stock of local economies
- Positive impact on productivity (including for locally-born)

#### **Social Cohesion: Challenges of Diversity**



- Downward trends of employment rates and earnings
- Objective and perceived ethnoracial inequality
- Immigrants settlement outcomes
- Immigrants displace local job seekers?
- Labour market absorption

#### Boon or bust?

Susan Smith June 1, 2016

An influx of immigrants who work and pay taxes might fix our budget woes and mitigate the effects of an aging population, but what are the costs of doing so?



Illustration : Michelle Thompson

It's not surprising Norman Nahas believes strongly in the economic benefits of immigration. His family's story is all about the successful immigrant experience. One could say, in fact, that the Nahas clan embodies it

#### How Much Longer Can We Expect to Recruit Skilled Immigrants From China?



- Ultra-low fertility
  - (1.5 China, 0.7 Shanghai)
- Impacts of one child policies
  - (80-100 million "lost")
- Growing median age
  - (34.5 vs USA 37)

Manpower anticipates that by 2030, China will be importing workers, not exporting them.

Unlike the rest of the developed world, China will grow old before it is rich The Economist, 2012

### **Immigration Issues**



- Economic Returns and Costs
- Social Cohesion
- Absorption
- National Identity
- Anti-immigrant Politics and Attitudes



