

NEW FINDINGS

Census analysis 1981-2001 shows increase in non-standard work

The number of people in non-standard work has increased markedly since 1981. For the purposes of this analysis non-standard work is a combination of those in part-time work, self employment and multiple job holding. These people now comprise 39% of all people employed in New Zealand. This trend includes 10.1% holding more than one job in 2001 compared to 4.2% in 1981. A much higher proportion of those employed are now self employed and also in part-time work.

	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001
Total Non Standard Work	336407	405429	449586	627891	674274
Total Non Standard Work as % of Total Employed	24.3%	27.0%	32.1%	38.5%	39.0%
% MJH	4.2%	5.1%	7.2%	10.0%	10.1%
% PT	14.0%	14.8%	17.8%	23.2%	23.1%
% Self Employed	7.3%	9.8%	11.4%	11.4%	12.3%

When interpreting the data in this table remember that there is some overlap between these three categories; this overlap has been removed when estimating the total in non-standard work, which is why the percentages of each of the non-standard categories shown does not sum to the total percentage.

By most definitions, non-standard work includes casual work and temporary work (as well as the three categories shown) but the census does not have any data on casual and temporary work.

Members of the Multiple Job Holding research team (James Baines and Jamie Newell) have undertaken a major effort to build the data base for analysis of trends in work in New Zealand based on the five censuses from 1981 to 2001¹

Further analysis will be available later on by sex, ethnicity, age, industry, region and employment status.

If this data set is of interest to you, please contact:

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