
INZ Hospitality Data and Insights

September 2019

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Work and Residence Visas: Key Occupations

Occupation	Visa type	Visa	Sep-18		Sep-19		YOY Decided	Year to September 2019
			# Decided	% Approved	# Decided	% Approved	% Change	# Decided
Cafe or Restaurant Manager	Residence	Skilled Migrant	22	64%	16	63%	-27%	213
	Work	Essential Skills	54	81%	85	82%	+57%	1,243
		Variation of Conditions	34	94%	41	95%	+21%	347
Chef	Residence	Skilled Migrant	6	100%	14	100%	+133%	135
	Work	Approved In Principle	3	100%	--	--	--	57
		Essential Skills	127	79%	190	84%	+50%	2,589
		Long Term Skill Shortage	41	68%	45	80%	+10%	509
		Variation of Conditions	112	93%	165	96%	+47%	1,287
Cook	Work	Approved In Principle	--	--	--	--	--	14
		Essential Skills	58	90%	129	87%	+122%	1,299
		Variation of Conditions	13	92%	15	100%	+15%	110

Key Insights

- **Café and Restaurant Managers:** Essential Skills visa volumes are up **57%** YoY, and Variation of Conditions visa volumes are up by **21%**. Approval rates are comparatively the same to last year. A drop in Skilled Migrant application volumes and the approval rate is slightly down.
- **Chefs:** **50%** increase YoY in work visa volumes for Essential Skills. Long Term Skill Shortage and Variation of Conditions visas have also seen increases YOY. No Approved in Principle applications this September. The number of Skilled Migrant residence visa applications has increased **133%** this month, but volumes are quite low. Overall, approval rates have increased YOY.
- **Cooks:** Essential Skills visa application volumes are up **122%** compared to last year. Volumes of Approved in Principle and Variation of Conditions visa applications remain low. Work visa approval rates are down slightly for Essential Skills YOY.

Work and Residence Visas: Key Occupations cont.

Occupation	Visa type	Visa	Sep-18		Sep-19		YOY Decided	Year to September 2019
			# Decided	% Approved	# Decided	% Approved	% Change	# Decided
Hotel Service Manager	Residence	Skilled Migrant	8	75%	7	100%	-13%	22
	Work	Essential Skills	12	100%	15	100%	+25%	341
		Variation of Conditions	7	71%	3	100%	-57%	30
Hotel or Motel Manager	Residence	Skilled Migrant	--	--	2	100%	--	51
	Work	Essential Skills	5	80%	12	83%	+140%	139
		Variation of Conditions	2	100%	3	100%	+50%	24
Retail Supervisor	Work	Essential Skills	119	91%	323	91%	+171%	2,860
		Variation of Conditions	47	98%	17	94%	-64%	174

Key Insights

- **Hotel Service Managers:** work visa volumes are up **25%** YOY for Essential Skills , whereas Variation of Conditions visa applications are down **57%**. Approval rates remain high YOY. Number of Skilled Migrant residence visa applications remain low .
- **Hotel/Motel Managers:** increase of **140%** in application volumes for Essential Skills. Variation of Conditions visa volumes remain low and there were only three this September. Approval rates for work visas remain high YoY. Skilled Migrant residence visa applications remain low.
- **Retail Supervisors:** a decent increase in volumes (**171%**) for Essential Skills visas. Variation of Conditions visa applications have dropped significantly (**64%**) this September. Approval rates remain the same for Essential Skills, but are slightly down for Variation of Conditions.

THEMES

Work visas

- Overall, work visa application volumes have increased YoY:
- **Essential Skills** volumes stronger for: *All occupations*
- **Variation of Conditions** volumes stronger for: *Chefs, Cooks, Café/Restaurant Managers and Hotel/Motel Managers*. Volumes weaker for: *Hotel Service Managers and Retail Supervisors*.
- **Long Term Skill Shortage** is only available for *Chefs* and volumes are stronger YoY.
- **Approved in Principle** volumes remain low and not really used this month
- Overall, approval rates have mostly increased across all visa categories YOY.

Residence visas

- YOY reductions across most occupations in terms of application volumes re Skilled Migrant category. These volumes also remain very low.

Working Holiday Visa

Approved

	Month of September 2019	% change	Year to September 2019	% change
United Kingdom	1,306	+8%	11,851	-9%
Germany	1,442	-7%	10,674	-17%
France	1,138	-2%	9,254	-7%
United States	412	-9%	4,403	-13%
Canada	335	-16%	3,056	-6%
Korea	9	-31%	2,816	-5%
Japan	254	+44%	2,686	+11%
Italy	238	+3%	2,008	-6%
Ireland	229	+19%	1,763	+2%
Netherlands	190	+11%	1,632	-4%
Other	1,154	+29%	10,209	-9%
Total	6,707	+4%	60,352	-9%

Key Insights

- A drop of **-9%** in the number of WHV applicants YTD and a small increase this month of **4%** for the month of September 2019.
- Quite a few increases in WHV applications this September, with decent increases for the *Japan*, *Ireland* and *Other* schemes.
- Decent decrease in WHV applications in September for the *Canada* scheme.
- *Korea* scheme is capped but is also down **-5%** YOY.
- Only *Japan* and *Ireland* schemes have small YTD increases. However, decent YTD decrease for *Germany* again (**-17%**) and *United States* (**-13%**).

Glossary of terms – work visa categories

- [Essential skills work visa](#)
 - The Essential Skills category is a temporary work visa category designed to allow employers to recruit overseas workers where shortages mean that no suitable New Zealanders are available or trainable. The length of the visa depends on whether the job is lower-skilled, mid-skilled or higher-skilled.
- [Variation of conditions visa](#)
 - Temporary visas such as work, student or visitor visas are granted with conditions telling the candidate what they are allowed to do while on the visa. These conditions can be things like working in a particular job or studying at a particular education provider. If the visa conditions no longer match their circumstances, the migrant may apply to change their conditions. This is called a variation of conditions. However, in some situations, a new visa may need to be applied for instead.
- [Long term skill shortage visa](#)
 - This visa offers a pathway to New Zealand residence. To apply, the candidate will need to have the specified work experience, qualifications and occupational registration to work in an occupation on NZ's Long Term Skill Shortage List, and an offer for work in that occupation. If the migrant continues working in that occupation in New Zealand for 2 years, they can apply for residence.
- [Approved in principle](#)
 - Being approved in principle means an employer can hire multiple migrant workers without repeating the labour market test. Employers can employ as many migrants as approved in their approval in principle. Employers can employ migrants for between 12 months and 5 years, depending on skill level, making recruitment planning easier.