
Immigration Research Programme

Migrants and their take-up of English for speakers of other languages tuition

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Migrants and their take-up of English for speakers of other languages tuition

Workforce Group – Immigration Service
Department of Labour

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Introduction

Some people seeking permanent residence in New Zealand are required to meet a minimum standard of English language attainment. In most cases it is people aged 16 years and over migrating through the Skilled and Business immigration policies who are required to meet this standard. Principal applicants can demonstrate an English speaking background or meet the English language requirements by passing an English language assessment test.

Since November 1998, non-principal applicants under the Skilled and Business categories (and principal Business applicants prior to November 2002) who do not meet the minimum English language standards have been required to pre-purchase English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) training. There are some concerns about the level of take-up of this tuition. This research provides data on the numbers and characteristics of migrants who pre-purchase ESOL tuition and on the take-up (and non take-up) of the tuition.

1.2 Methodology

The methodology involved an analysis of Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) and Department of Labour (DoL) data. The first part involved an analysis of TEC data to describe the characteristics of those who had pre-purchased tuition and on the take-up of tuition between 30 November 1998 and 24 November 2004. A second part involved matching TEC records with those from the DoL's Immigration database to explore absenteeism from New Zealand during the tuition entitlement period.

1.3 Characteristics of migrants who pre-purchased ESOL tuition

Around 27 percent of Skilled/Business migrants eligible to pre-purchase ESOL training (ie non-principal applicants and Business principal applicants prior to November 2002) and approved between November 1998 and November 2004 pre-purchased ESOL tuition (12,558 out of 46,256 migrants). The remaining 73 percent met the English language standard. Thirty-seven percent of those to pre-purchase were applicants through the Business categories and 63 percent through the Skilled categories (ie approved through the General Skills Category or the Skilled Migrant Category).

The following summarises the characteristics of those who pre-purchased ESOL tuition:

- a high proportion of Business migrants eligible to pre-purchase, did so (60 percent)
- a comparatively smaller proportion of Skilled migrants pre-purchased ESOL tuition (21 percent)
- half of the migrants to pre-purchase ESOL training were from China. Other countries with a high proportion were South Korea (17 percent), Taiwan (10 percent) and India (7 percent)
- 57 percent were female and 43 percent were male
- nearly half were aged between 35 and 44 years. A further 30 percent were aged between 25 and 34 years
- nearly all Business migrants and 55 percent of Skilled migrants who pre-purchased had an average International Language Testing System (IELTS)

score of less than 3.5 at the time of their residence approval. An IELTS score of 3 indicates an “extremely limited user” of English (see Appendix A).

Migrants who take-up their English language training nominate an English language course (or courses) that best meets their needs from a list of tuition providers provided by TEC. Courses range from beginner level through to more advanced, with a range of teaching options including classes and individual tuition. Courses may be completed part-time or full-time.

A total of 19,429 English language courses were recorded in the TEC database for the 7,869 individuals who had partly or fully used their tuition entitlement (63 percent of the migrants who had pre-purchased). The majority of migrants (92 percent) had taken between one and five courses. For those courses where the length was recorded, the majority were less than six months long (96 percent).

Seventy-six percent of courses were taken in Auckland. Of the Auckland region courses, 67 percent were in Auckland City, 16 percent in Manukau and 16 percent in North Shore. Eleven percent of courses were in Wellington and 6 percent in Canterbury.

1.4 Migrants with expired tuition entitlement

Migrants have three years to use their ESOL tuition if they pre-purchase in New Zealand and three and a half years if they pre-purchase offshore (allowing migrants six months to arrive in New Zealand). As at 24 November 2004, entitlement to ESOL tuition had expired for those migrants who pre-purchased offshore before 27 May 2001 and onshore before 26 November 2001.

An analysis of the data relating to those with expired tuition entitlement, 2,803 in total, showed that:

- the take-up of tuition was high. Overall, 84 percent had fully used their tuition entitlement
- a higher proportion of Business than Skilled migrants had used none of their entitlement (20 percent and 6 percent respectively)
- of the top four source countries to pre-purchase in this period (China, South Korea, Taiwan and India) the proportion to use none of their tuition ranged from 3 percent of those from South Korea to 13 percent from Taiwan
- migrants from the Philippines had the lowest rate of take-up. Of the 49 migrants from the Philippines to pre-purchase, 16 percent had used none of their tuition within the allowed time
- the proportion to use none of their tuition was higher for those approved onshore (15 percent) than offshore (6 percent).

1.5 Migrants with current tuition entitlement

An analysis of take-up of tuition to date for those with current entitlement, 9,735 in total, (those who pre-purchased on or after 27 May 2001) highlighted a comparatively low rate of take-up in recent years. For those whose tuition was between three and three and a half years old, only 32 percent had fully used their tuition entitlement and 34 percent had used none of their entitlement.

For those whose entitlement was current:

- a higher proportion of Business (55 percent) than Skilled (39 percent) migrants had used none of their entitlement

- a higher proportion of males (53 percent) than females (41 percent) had used none of their entitlement
- 31 percent of Chinese migrants (the main group to pre-purchase) with entitlement between three and three and a half years old had used none of their entitlement
- migrants from Taiwan had a particularly low rate of tuition take-up. Fifty-three percent of Taiwanese migrants with tuition entitlement between three and three and a half years old had not used any of their entitlement.

1.6 Absence from New Zealand

An analysis was carried out using matched TEC and DoL records to determine rates of absence from New Zealand during the tuition entitlement period and the impact this had on take-up of tuition. For those whose tuition entitlement had expired, 30 percent were absent from New Zealand as at 26 November 2001. Eleven percent had been absent for six months or more. Absence rates for this group did not have a large impact on tuition take-up – around eight in ten of these migrants had fully used their tuition regardless of whether they were absent at this date or not.

Migrants whose tuition entitlement was current had comparatively high rates of absence. Fifty-two percent of the Business and 27 percent of the Skilled migrants were absent from New Zealand as at 24 November 2004. Business migrants in particular often spent long periods out of the country, with 29 percent absent for six months or more at this date. Fourteen percent of Skilled migrants had been absent for six months or more. A higher proportion of principal applicants (53 percent) than non-principal applicants (34 percent) were absent, although this absence did not result in much difference between principals and non-principals in the amount of tuition used. For those who were not absent, a higher proportion of principal applicants (37 percent) than non-principal applicants (27 percent) had used none of their entitlement.

Time spent absent from New Zealand during the tuition entitlement period had a large impact on take-up of tuition for those with current entitlement. Seventy percent of those who were absent as at 24 November 2004 had used none of their entitlement. This compared to 29 percent of those who were in New Zealand to have used none of their entitlement. As would be expected, those who were absent from New Zealand for longer periods of time were more likely to have not used their tuition.

Further analysis would be useful to more fully understand the dynamics of migrants' absenteeism from New Zealand and its impact on the take-up of tuition. In particular, further analysis would help to understand the high rates of absence in recent compared to earlier years.

1.7 Conclusions

In recent years, a relatively high proportion of migrants with current tuition entitlement have not used their tuition, even two to three and a half years after pre-purchasing. This finding contrasts with migrants who pre-purchased more than three and a half years ago. One reason for this finding is migrants, particularly Business migrants, spending often long periods outside of New Zealand. This tendency by a comparatively large proportion to not take up their tuition seems to undermine somewhat the intent of the policy. Further research is necessary to more fully understand the reasons for this becoming an issue in recent years. This further research should also explore the barriers and facilitators to these migrants taking-up tuition and the effectiveness of the tuition provided.

2 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

People migrating to New Zealand through Business and Skilled migrant categories need to be able to demonstrate ability with the English language to a degree commensurate with the types of occupations or work being undertaken and to assist their settlement in general. For principal applicants this is demonstrated by either having an English speaking background or by sitting an English language assessment test. The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is used to assess ability in English. Minimum standards of English language are set in Immigration policy. In most cases, migrants through the Family Sponsored and International/Humanitarian Stream do not need to demonstrate ability with the English language.

As part of the residence approval process, some applicants (mostly non-principal applicants such as partners and children aged 16 years and over) under the Skilled (General Skills Category and Skilled Migrant Category) and Business categories who do not meet the minimum English language standards are required to pre-purchase English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) training. There are some concerns about the level at which migrants are taking up the ESOL tuition they have pre-purchased.

This research provides an analysis of the take-up of pre-purchased ESOL tuition and was carried out to inform a review of the pre-purchased ESOL programme. The research has not examined the effectiveness of any training provided to migrants or the learning outcomes.

2.2 Background

2.2.1 *ESOL pre-purchase*

The broad objective of the English language requirement is to ensure that migrants have sufficient English language skills to assist their integration into New Zealand society and the labour market. Since November 1998, non-principal applicants aged 16 years and older, included in the Skilled (General Skills Category and Skilled Migrant Category), Entrepreneur, Investor and Employees of Relocating Businesses residence categories who do not meet the minimum English language standards have been required to pre-purchase English language tuition.¹ Prior to November 2002 when a number of changes were made to strengthen the English language requirements for migrants through the Skilled/Business Stream², principal applicants through the Business categories were also able to pre-purchase English language training if they did not meet the minimum standard of English. Since November 2002 these applicants have had to meet a minimum standard of English and are no longer able to pre-purchase.

In some cases, migrants other than those outlined above are required to pre-purchase ESOL tuition. Principal applicants in the General Skills Category who do not meet the minimum standard of English may instead pre-purchase ESOL tuition if they have been employed full-time in New Zealand for the 12 months before their

¹ Under the Skilled Migrant Category (that took effect in December 2003), a principal applicant's partner must have an English speaking background or have reached an average IELTS score of 6.5 if they are claiming points for a job or qualification.

² There are three streams in the New Zealand Immigration Programme through which people can migrate: the Skilled/Business Stream; Family Sponsored Stream; and International/Humanitarian Stream.

residence application was lodged. English must be the language of employment and the employment must be relevant to the qualification for which points were being awarded. If a principal applicant through a Family category was eligible to be included as a spouse or partner of a principal applicant in an earlier successful application through the Skilled/Business Stream, but was not included in that application, they need to meet the English language requirements. The English language requirements apply as if they were a non-principal applicant under a Skilled or Business category (as relevant).

Migrants who pre-purchase ESOL training as a condition of residence being granted, pay their money to the Immigration Service, who forward it to the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC). TEC advises the applicant of the list of suitable ESOL tuition providers in New Zealand, from which the applicant may nominate one of their own choice. TEC then manages the contract between the ESOL tuition provider and the applicant, and pays the applicant's money to the approved provider. The training must be used within three years from the date of payment, if purchased in New Zealand, and within three and a half years, if purchased offshore. Any training not used within these time periods is forfeited to the Crown.

The IELTS is an international organisation that provides an assessment of ability in English. Its General and Academic Modules provide band totals (test results) showing overall ability as well as ability in the separate areas of listening, reading, writing and speaking. The band scores range from 1 being a "Non User" to 9 being an "Expert User" of English (Appendix A contains more detail on the level of English associated with each score).

2.2.2 English language requirements

The English language requirements were strengthened as part of the changes introduced to Immigration policy in November 2002. Since 20 November 2002, General Skills Category principal applicants (and Interim General Skills Category principal applicants from July 2003) had to score an average of 6.5 across all bands and principal applicants in the Business categories an average of 5.0 across all bands. Under the Skilled Migrant Category, principal applicants (and their partners if that person is claiming points for a job or qualification) must also score an average of 6.5 across all bands. Prior to November 2002 General Skills migrants were required to demonstrate "modest" English (an average IELTS score of 5) while Business migrants were required to demonstrate a "basic" level (a minimum IELTS band score of 4 in each of the skill areas).³

The amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased, and the applicant's subsequent entitlement, is determined by the secondary applicant's IELTS overall band score (see Table 2.1). The level of English language training to be pre-purchased relates to the amount of ESOL tuition required for migrants to reach the pre-approval standard.

The number of hours of tuition that migrants can access with their ESOL entitlement varies depending on the training institution. For example, institutions that receive government funding charge approximately \$4 per hour for tuition, whereas those that

³ The amount to be paid and the subsequent ESOL entitlement for Business migrants were altered in November 2002. Since November 2002, Business migrants [with the exception of Entrepreneur applicants who were granted a Long Term Business Visa (LTBV) prior to November 2002] have been required to pay the same charges as Skilled migrants (see Table 2.1). Table B.1 in Appendix B has tuition entitlements prior to 20 November 2002.

do not receive government funding charge around \$12 per hour. Other individual programmes can charge between \$40 and \$54 per hour.

Table 2.1 IELTS score and subsequent ESOL tuition entitlement since 20 November 2002

Average IELTS score	Skilled/Business		Entrepreneur who previously held LTBV prior to November 2002	
	Charge to be paid*	ESOL entitlement	Charge to be paid*	ESOL entitlement
4.5 or more	\$1,700	\$1,500	-	-
4 or more, but less than 4.5	\$3,350	\$3,000	-	-
3.5 or more, but less than 4	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$1,700	\$1,500
Less than 3.5	\$6,650	\$6,000	\$3,350	\$3,000

* The charge includes the applicant's ESOL tuition entitlement, as well as the Immigration Service and TEC administration costs.

2.2.3 Review of pre-purchased ESOL programme

Competence in the English language is an important contributing factor for successful migrant settlement in New Zealand. A key goal of the national Immigration Settlement Strategy is that migrants and their families are confident using New Zealand English, or can access appropriate language support to bridge the gap. It is important to understand who is and is not taking up tuition and therefore by definition are not improving their English language ability by undertaking formal training. In addition, the reasons for people not taking-up tuition and the effectiveness of the tuition should be studied.

The important first step in understanding more about the pre-purchased ESOL programme is to examine the characteristics of those who pre-purchase ESOL tuition and the number and characteristics of those who take-up (and do not take-up) the tuition. This report provides some detailed quantitative data on the take-up of pre-purchased ESOL tuition. The data will inform a review of the pre-purchased ESOL programme, as well providing a basis for a more in-depth study, if it is considered necessary. Once more is known about the take-up of pre-purchased ESOL tuition, further research could examine factors such as facilitators and barriers to take-up of tuition and satisfaction with, and effectiveness of, the tuition provided.

2.3 Purpose

The main aim of this project was to provide data on the numbers and characteristics of migrants who pre-purchase ESOL tuition and on the take-up (and non take-up) of the tuition.

2.4 Research objectives

The objectives of the research were:

- 1 To identify the characteristics of all migrants who pre-purchased ESOL tuition between 30 November 1998 and 24 November 2004, including:
 - nationality
 - age
 - gender
 - regional location
 - residence category

- comparison with the total population – non-principal Skilled/Business approvals (and principal Business approvals prior to November 2002).
- 2 To identify the characteristics of those migrants who take-up their ESOL tuition entitlement within the allowed time, including:
 - nationality
 - age
 - gender
 - residence category
 - what proportion of the entitlement is taken up
 - how quickly the entitlement is taken up
 - the type of ESOL courses (including length and number of courses).
 - 3 To identify the characteristics of those migrants who do not take-up their ESOL tuition entitlement within the allowed time, including:
 - nationality
 - age
 - gender
 - residence category.
 - 4 To describe the characteristics of those whose ESOL tuition entitlement period was current, including:
 - nationality
 - age
 - gender
 - take-up of tuition to date
 - long-term absence from New Zealand during ESOL tuition entitlement period.

2.5 Structure of the report

After this introduction, Chapter 3 describes the methodology used. Chapter 4 describes the characteristics of all migrants who pre-purchased ESOL tuition during the period of interest. Chapter 5 examines the take-up (and non take-up) of tuition by those whose tuition entitlement period had expired and Chapter 6 examines take-up (and non take-up) of tuition by those whose tuition entitlement was current. Chapter 7 summarises the main findings and draws some conclusions.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

The methodology involved a quantitative analysis of TEC and DoL data on the pre-purchased ESOL scheme. There were two main parts to the research. The first part involved an analysis of TEC data to describe the characteristics of those who had pre-purchased tuition and on the take-up of tuition. The second part involved matching TEC records with those from the DoL's Immigration database to further explore the characteristics of those who had not taken up tuition, including time spent absent from New Zealand. No individuals are identified and the data is only presented as statistics.

3.2 Research methodology

The DoL and TEC (formally Skill New Zealand) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that sets out the means by which the pre-purchased ESOL programme is implemented. The DoL provides eligible migrants with information about the pre-purchase scheme before their residence application is approved. The DoL then determines the level of English language training to be purchased by each eligible migrant and ensures that each migrant signs an agreement with TEC. The DoL's Immigration database contains data on eligible migrants who have purchased English language training, and DoL supply this data to TEC each month. TEC keeps data on the demographic characteristics of migrants who have pre-purchased ESOL tuition, the amount of their entitlement, the number who have taken up their training entitlement, the regional location of the training provider and the types of training providers.

3.2.1 Analysis of TEC data

The analysis included Business migrants and non-principal Skilled migrants who pre-purchased ESOL tuition between 30 November 1998 and 24 November 2004. Prior to November 2002, principal applicants through the Business categories could pre-purchase ESOL tuition if they did not meet a minimum standard of English. Those principal applicants who pre-purchased were included in the analysis. Since November 2002 all principal applicants have had to meet a minimum standard of English and are not able to pre-purchase (only secondary applicants may pre-purchase).

Some comparison is provided between the migrants who pre-purchased ESOL tuition and all eligible migrants (as recorded in the Immigration database). "Eligible migrants" includes non-principal Skilled and Business migrants (as well as principal Business migrants prior to November 2002) approved between 30 November 1998 and 24 November 2004. It does not include the small number approved through the family categories or those principal applicants who worked in the 12 months before their application was lodged (as described in 2.2.1 above).

Applicants have three years to take-up their tuition if they pre-purchase onshore and three and a half years to take-up their tuition if they pre-purchase offshore. After this time any remaining money is forfeited to the Crown. To meet the objectives of the research, the analysis examined the take-up of ESOL tuition by two main groups – those whose tuition entitlement had expired and those whose tuition entitlement was current. As at 24 November 2004, tuition entitlement had expired for those who pre-

purchased offshore before 27 May 2001 and for those who pre-purchased in New Zealand before 26 November 2001.

3.2.2 Data match

One reason migrants may not take-up their pre-purchased ESOL entitlement is because they are spending time outside of the country. For example, as at 30 June 2004, 21 percent of those approved for residence in 1998 had been absent from New Zealand for six months or more and 19 percent had been absent for one year or more.⁴ There are a number of reasons migrants may spend time out of New Zealand, including globalisation of labour flows meaning that skilled migrants are mobile. Overseas family ties also mean that recent migrants are likely to spend time out of New Zealand.

To obtain further information about the characteristics of migrants who pre-purchase ESOL tuition, a data match was carried out to match TEC records with the corresponding records from the Immigration database. The data match provided additional information about migrants that was not recorded in the TEC database, including residence approval category and whether the migrant was a principal or non-principal applicant on the application for residence (see Appendix B).

The matched data also enabled an analysis to be carried out to determine the rates of absence from New Zealand during the tuition entitlement period. Absence rates (including length of time absent) were examined for migrants with expired entitlement and for those with current entitlement approximately three years after each entitlement period began. For those with expired entitlement, absence rates were analysed as at 26 November 2001 and for current entitlement absence rates were analysed as at 24 November 2004. The data provides a good picture of absence as at a specified date, however, it is important to note that migrants within each cohort had been in the country for differing lengths of time and this impacts on how long they may have been absent from New Zealand.

The data match was carried out in a number of steps as outlined below:

- match TEC client id and Immigration client id
- match surname, first given name and date of birth
- match passport number with applicant surname and date of birth
- find those individuals who have the correct passport number but have an incorrect date of birth listed
- find those individuals whose surname matches their date of birth but first given name does not match
- find those individuals whose surname and first given name has been transposed
- find those individuals who have the correct client id and the passport number that matches.

At each step identified individuals were placed in a separate database to avoid duplication. Of the 12,558 unique records in the original TEC data, 12,286 were matched with records in the Immigration database. This represented a 98 percent match rate.

⁴ Migration Trends 2003/2004. Department of Labour, September 2004.

3.3 Units of analysis

Unit	Categories included
Residence approval category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business (Entrepreneur, Investor and Employees of Relocating Businesses) - Skilled (Skilled Migrant Category, General Skills Category, Interim General Skills Category)
Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 16-24 years - 25-34 years - 35-44 years - 45-55 years - 55-64 years
Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Male - Female
Nationality	As recorded
Year of pre-purchase	The data is reported by financial year that runs from 1 July to 30 June
IELTS score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - < 3.5 - 3.5 - < 4.0 - 4.0 - < 4.5 - 4.5 +
Net entitlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$1,500 - \$3,000 - \$4,500 - \$6,000
Location of pre-purchase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Onshore - Offshore
Applicant type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Principal – the person assessed against the policy criteria - Non-principal – other people included in the residence application including partners and dependent children
Long term absence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1-30 days - 31-60 days - 61-120 days - 121-181 days - 182-365 days - 1-2 years - 2 years or more

3.4 Limitations

The analysis of TEC data provides a snapshot at one point in time rather than an analysis over time. The findings are likely to be specific to the migrants who pre-purchased ESOL tuition during the period of interest. For those whose entitlement was current in the period of interest, it is expected that many more will go on to fully use their tuition entitlement before it expires. Therefore, the take-up rate of tuition for holders of current tuition entitlement will increase.

Prior to November 2002, principal as well as non-principal Business applicants could pre-purchase ESOL tuition, yet the TEC data does not distinguish between principal and non-principal applicants. Data from the Immigration database, however, provides an indication of the number of principal applicants to pre-purchase during the analysis period (see Appendix B). The TEC data does not describe migrant approval category further than “Skilled” or “Business” and Appendix B also contains details of residence approval category as recorded in the Immigration database.

The data match successfully matched 98 percent of records from the TEC database. However, there were 272 cases where individual records were not able to be matched with records in the Immigration database. There are a number of reasons

that individual records may not be able to be matched. For example, when two datasets are matched on the basis of names, there can be matching issues due to alternative spellings of foreign names. If the spelling of the names was somewhat different on the two databases it is unlikely that a match would have been successful.

Some comparison is provided with the total migrant population who were eligible to pre-purchase ESOL tuition if they did not meet the English language requirements. This includes all non-principal Skilled/Business migrants (and principal Business migrants prior to November 2002). There are some other groups who are able to pre-purchase ESOL tuition such as those who worked for 12 months before their residence application was lodged (see 2.2.1 above). While these individuals are captured (but not labelled as such) in the TEC database, it was not possible to include them in the data on total eligible migrants, as they are not identified in the Immigration database. Also, these particular comparisons should be regarded as indicative as there are some discrepancies between the databases.

4 MIGRANTS WHO PRE-PURCHASED ESOL TUITION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the characteristics of those who pre-purchased ESOL tuition between 30 November 1998 and 24 November 2004. Some comparison with the total eligible migrants approved for residence during this period is included.

4.2 Characteristics of those who pre-purchased ESOL tuition

TEC data shows that as at 24 November 2004, 12,558 people aged 16 years and over had pre-purchased ESOL tuition since the policy was introduced in November 1998. A further 16 records were incomplete and were not included in the analysis. Data from the DoL's Immigration database shows that a total of 46,256 eligible migrants aged 16 years or older were approved for residence through the Skilled/Business Stream in this same period. "Eligible migrants" includes all non-principal Skilled/Business approvals as well as principal applicants approved through the Business categories prior to November 2002.⁵ Prior to November 2002, principal applicants through the Business categories could pre-purchase ESOL tuition if they did not meet the minimum standard of English.

4.2.1 Proportion of total population

Twenty-seven percent of the 46,256 eligible Skilled/Business migrants approved between 30 November 1998 and 24 November 2004 pre-purchased ESOL tuition, although this proportion varied from year to year (see Table 4.1). In 2001/02, there was a high proportion of eligible migrants pre-purchasing tuition (36 percent). The higher proportion of the total population to pre-purchase tuition between 2000/01 and 2003/04 compared to other years reflects total residence approvals over this period. Between 2000/01 and 2003/04 residence approvals from China, South Korea, Taiwan and India (the four main countries to pre-purchase) made up a higher proportion of the total residence approvals than in the other years outlined in Table 4.1.

Since 2001/02 there has been a decrease in the number of eligible migrants approved for residence, and a subsequent decrease in the number to pre-purchase ESOL tuition. This reflects a decrease in total Skilled/Business approvals during this period and can be accounted for by a number of factors all of which impacted on the flow of residence approvals through these policy categories.⁶

⁵ The "eligible migrant" data does not include the exceptions to the pre-purchase policy as described in Chapter 2 (2.2.1). For example, those who had worked in New Zealand for the 12 months prior to applying for residence can pre-purchase ESOL tuition if they do not meet the English language requirements. It is not possible to identify this population in the Immigration database.

⁶ From November 2002, the Skilled and Business categories were amended by a number of policy changes. The changes included higher English language requirements and tighter operational policy requirements regarding the source of funds in the Investor Category. The General Skills Category (GSC) was closed on 1 July 2003 and 11,000 lower quality GSC applications were subsequently lapsed. The Interim General Skills Category replaced the GSC and required applicants to have a job offer (which was not a requirement of the GSC). A new Skilled Migrant Category came into effect from 17 December 2003. Changing source countries of migrants also impacts on the numbers expected to pre-purchase ESOL tuition.

Table 4.1 Number who pre-purchased ESOL tuition and total eligible migrants between 30 November 1998 and 24 November 2004

Year	Number who pre-purchased n	Total eligible migrants n	Proportion who pre-purchased %
1998/99 (Nov-June)	69	2,415	3%
1999/00	869	5,169	17%
2000/01	2,071	8,524	24%
2001/02	4,288	11,954	36%
2002/03	3,090	9,505	33%
2003/04	1,846	6,369	29%
2004/05 (July-Nov)	325	2,320	14%
Total	12,558	46,256	27%

Note: The 1998/99 year covers a nine month period from November 1998 when the pre-purchase scheme was introduced through to June 1999. The 2004/05 year includes five months from July to November 2004.

Note: The data source for those who had pre-purchased ESOL tuition was the TEC database and the data source for the total population was the Immigration database.

4.2.2 Residence category

Of the 12,558 people who pre-purchased ESOL tuition between November 1998 and November 2004, 4,643 (37 percent) were applicants through the Business categories and 7,915 (63 percent) through the Skilled categories. In the first three years of the pre-purchase scheme, only a small number of applicants came through the Business categories (see Table 4.2). Overall, a higher proportion of eligible Business migrants than eligible Skilled migrants pre-purchased ESOL tuition. "Eligible migrants" includes non-principal Skilled and Business applicants approved between November 1998 and November 2004 and principal Business applicants prior to November 2002. Of the 7,733 eligible Business migrants approved between 1998/99 and 2004/05, 4,643 (60 percent) pre-purchased ESOL tuition. In the same period, 21 percent of Skilled migrants (7,915 out of 38,523) pre-purchased ESOL tuition. In part, this reflects the different nationality composition of the Business and Skilled categories. The Business categories were heavily weighted towards people from Asia.

The data in Table 4.2 relates to residence category as recorded in the TEC database and in some cases differs from that recorded in the Immigration database.

Table 4.2 Residence approval category of those who pre-purchased ESOL tuition and total eligible migrants: November 1998 to November 2004

Year of pre-purchase	Those who pre-purchased		Total eligible migrants	
	Business	Skilled	Business	Skilled
1998/99 (Nov-June)	0	69	94	2,321
1999/00	8	861	226	4,943
2000/01	157	1,914	1,536	6,988
2001/02	1,988	2,300	2,650	9,304
2002/03	1,253	1,837	1,461	8,044
2003/04	1,003	843	1,326	5,043
2004/05 (July-Nov)	234	91	440	1,880
Total	4,643	7,915	7,733	38,523

Note: The 1998/99 year covers a nine month period from November 1998 when the pre-purchase scheme was introduced through to June 1999. The 2004/05 year includes five months from July to November 2004.

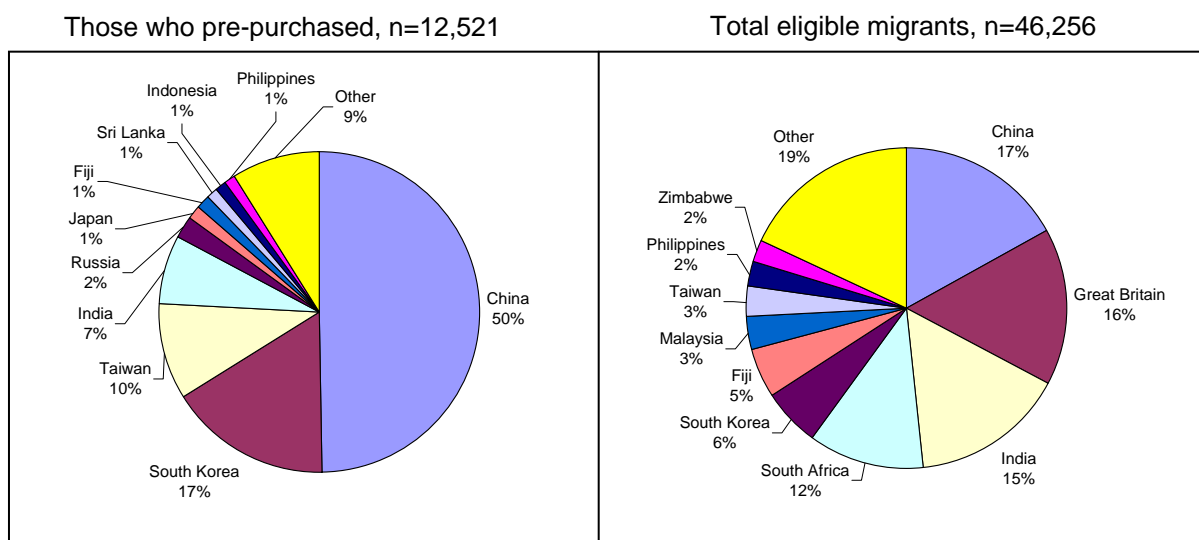
Note: The data source for the number who had pre-purchased ESOL tuition was the TEC database and the data source for the total population was the Immigration database.

Note: "Eligible" migrants includes non-principal Skilled/Business approvals between November 1998 and November 2004 and principal Business approvals before November 2002.

4.2.3 Nationality

Fifty percent of those who pre-purchased ESOL tuition since November 1998 were from China, 17 percent from South Korea, 10 percent from Taiwan and 7 percent from India. The remainder of those who pre-purchased were from 101 different countries making up 2 percent or less of the total each. The top source countries of eligible migrants in the same period were China (17 percent), Great Britain (16 percent), India (15 percent), South Africa (12 percent) and South Korea (6 percent) (see Figure 4.1).

Figure 4.1 Nationality of those who pre-purchased ESOL tuition and total eligible migrants: November 1998 to November 2004



Note: Nationality was not recorded for 37 people in the TEC database.
 Note: "Eligible" migrants includes non-principal Skilled/Business approvals between November 1998 and November 2004 and principal Business approvals before November 2002.

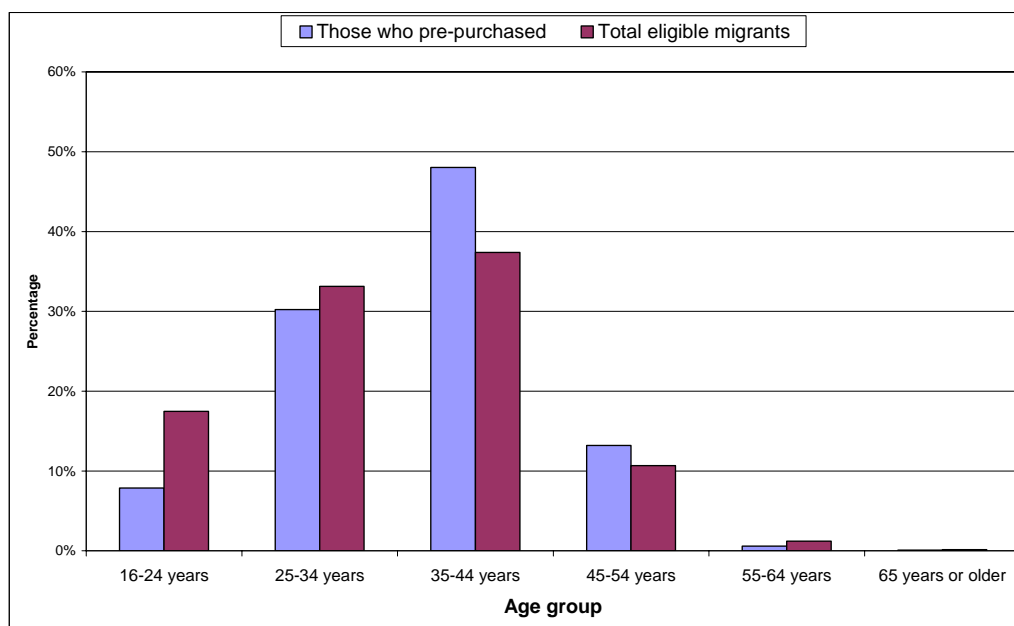
4.2.4 Gender

Of the 12,558 people who pre-purchased ESOL tuition, 57 percent were female and 43 percent were male. Of the total eligible Skilled/Business migrants approved in this period, 64 percent were female and 36 percent were male. Therefore, it was more common for males than females to need to pre-purchase ESOL tuition (ie a higher proportion of males than females from the total eligible migrant population pre-purchased tuition).

4.2.5 Age

Nearly half of those who pre-purchased ESOL tuition were aged between 35 and 44 years, 30 percent were aged between 25 and 34 years and 13 percent between 45 and 54 years (see Figure 4.2). Compared to all eligible Skilled/Business approvals, a higher proportion who pre-purchased were aged 35 to 44 years (48 percent compared to 37 percent) and a smaller proportion were aged between 16 and 24 years (8 percent compared to 17 percent).

Figure 4.2 Age of those who pre-purchased ESOL tuition and total eligible migrants: November 1998 to November 2004 *n*=12,549 (pre-purchased), 46,256 (total eligible migrants)



Note: Age was not recorded for 9 people in the TEC database.

4.3 ESOL tuition entitlement

The IELTS is used to assess ability in English. IELTS is jointly managed by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), the British Council, and IDP Education Australia (IELTS Australia), and is an international test that provides an assessment of ability in English. Its General and Academic Modules provide band totals (test results) showing overall ability as well as performance in listening, reading, writing and speaking. The band scores range from 1 being a “Non User” to 9 being an “Expert User” of English.

The amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased, and the applicant’s subsequent entitlement, is determined by the applicant’s IELTS overall band score. The level of English training to be pre-purchased relates to the amount of ESOL tuition required for migrants to reach the pre-approval standard.⁷ Table 3.3 shows the average IELTS score for those who pre-purchased between November 1998 and November 2004.

Seventy-one percent of those who pre-purchased (including nearly all Business migrants) had an average IELTS score of less than 3.5. Three percent had a score greater than 3.5 but less than 4, 12 percent had a score greater than 4 but less than 4.5 and 15 percent had a score of 4.5 or more. As an indication of the level of English associated with each band score, 5 is a “modest user”, 4 a “limited user”, 3 an “extremely limited user”, and 2 is an “intermittent user”. A more detailed description of what the band scores mean in a practical sense is included in Appendix A.

⁷ Since 20 November 2002, General Skills Category principal applicants (and Interim General Skills Category principal applicants from July 2003) had to score an *average* of 6.5 across *all* bands and principal applicants in the Business categories an *average* of 5.0 across *all* bands. Under the Skilled Migrant Category, principal applicants (and their partners if that person is claiming points for a job or qualification) must score an *average* of 6.5 across *all* bands.

Table 4.3 IELTS score for those who pre-purchased ESOL tuition: November 1998 to November 2004

Average IELTS score	Business	Skilled	Total
< 3.5	98%	55%	71%
3.5 - < 4.0	2%	3%	3%
4.0 - < 4.5	-	19%	12%
4.5 +	-	23%	15%
Total number	4,642	7,910	12,552

Note: IELTS scores were not recorded for 6 people.

4.4 Use of ESOL tuition entitlement

4.4.1 Currency of tuition

Migrants who pre-purchase ESOL training have three years to use the training, if purchased in New Zealand, and three and a half years, if purchased offshore. As at 24 November 2004, tuition entitlement had expired for those who pre-purchased offshore before 27 May 2001 and for those who pre-purchased in New Zealand before 26 November 2001 (see Table 4.4). Chapter 5 examines further the take-up of tuition for those whose entitlement had expired and Chapter 6 examines take-up for those whose entitlement was current.

Table 4.4 Entitlement currency by year of pre-purchase: November 1998 to November 2004

Year of pre-purchase	Entitlement currency				Total n
	Entitlement current		Entitlement expired		
	n	%	n	%	
1998/99	0	0%	69	100%	69
1999/00	0	0%	865	100%	865
2000/01	350	17%	1,716	83%	2,066
2001/02	4,131	96%	152	4%	4,283
2002/03	3,083	100%	1	0%	3,084
2003/04	1,846	100%	0	0%	1,846
2004/05	325	100%	0	0%	325
Total	9,735	78%	2,803	22%	12,538

Note: Entitlement currency was not recorded for 20 people.

4.4.2 Amount of tuition used by currency of tuition

Table 4.5 shows the proportion of tuition entitlement used by whether the entitlement was current or expired. Of those whose entitlement had expired, 84 percent had fully used their tuition entitlement. A further 5 percent had used between 81 and 99 percent and 5 percent had used between 1 and 80 percent. Only 7 percent of those whose entitlement had expired had not used any of their entitlement.

Of those with current entitlement, 46 percent had not used their entitlement, 33 percent had partly used their entitlement and 20 percent had fully used their entitlement.

Table 4.5 Proportion of entitlement used by currency of tuition entitlement: November 1998 to November 2004

Entitlement currency	Proportion of tuition entitlement used							Total n
	0%	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-99%	100%	
Expired	7%	1%	1%	1%	2%	5%	84%	2,801
Current	46%	4%	6%	6%	7%	10%	20%	9,731
Total number	4,676	438	590	624	751	1,124	4,329	12,532

Note: The amount of entitlement used or entitlement currency was not recorded for 26 people.

4.4.3 Amount of tuition used by year of pre-purchase

Table 4.6 shows the proportion of ESOL tuition used by the year the tuition was pre-purchased. All of the 69 people who pre-purchased tuition in 1998/99 and 96 percent of the 868 people who pre-purchased in 1999/00 had fully used their tuition. Of those who pre-purchased tuition in 2000/01, 72 percent had fully used their tuition and a further 15 percent had partly used their tuition. Thirteen percent of the 2,070 people who pre-purchased in 2000/01 had not used any of their entitlement. Just less than half of this 2000/01 cohort who had not used their entitlement, had entitlement that was still current.

Sixty-three percent of those who pre-purchased ESOL tuition in 2001/02 had fully or partly used their tuition. Half of the 162 people who pre-purchased tuition in 2001/02, and whose entitlement was current but due to expire by the end of 2004, had not used any of their tuition to date. Seventeen percent of those who pre-purchased in 2002/03 had fully used their tuition, as had 10 percent who pre-purchased in 2003/04 and 4 percent who pre-purchased in 2004/05.

Table 4.6 Proportion of tuition entitlement used by year of pre-purchase: November 1998 to November 2004

Year of pre-purchase	Proportion of tuition entitlement used							Total n
	0%	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-99%	100%	
1998/99	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	69
1999/00	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	96%	868
2000/01	13%	2%	1%	3%	3%	6%	72%	2,070
2001/02	37%	3%	4%	5%	8%	14%	29%	4,288
2002/03	45%	5%	8%	8%	8%	10%	17%	3,087
2003/04	62%	6%	7%	6%	5%	4%	10%	1,846
2004/05	88%	3%	1%	2%	0%	2%	4%	323
Total number	4,683	441	590	626	752	1,126	4,333	12,551

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 7 people.

Note: The 1998/99 year covers a nine month period from November 1998 when the pre-purchase scheme was introduced through to June 1999. The 2004/05 year includes five months from July to November 2004.

4.5 Course details

A total of 19,429 English language courses were recorded in the TEC database for the 7,869 individuals who had partly or fully used their tuition entitlement. The TEC database is updated each time a migrant takes up a course based on enrolment information that the training providers provide to TEC. This section provides some data on the number, length and location of English language courses taken-up by migrants who had partly or fully used their tuition entitlement.

Migrants who take-up their English language training nominate an English language course (or courses) that best meets their needs from a list of tuition providers provided by TEC. Courses range from beginner level through to more advanced, with a range of teaching options including classes and individual tuition. Courses may be completed part-time or full-time.

4.5.1 Number of courses

Table 4.7 shows the number of English language courses taken for those who had partly or fully used their tuition. The majority of migrants (92 percent) had taken between one and five courses. Sixty-eight migrants (1 percent) had taken between 11 and 21 courses.

Table 4.7 Number of courses taken up

Number of courses	n	%
1 to 5	7,204	92%
6 to 10	597	8%
11 to 15	60	1%
16 to 21	8	0%
Total	7,869	100%

4.5.2 Length of courses

For those courses where the length was recorded, the majority were less than six months long (96 percent). Almost one half of the courses (47 percent) were less than two months long (see Table 4.8).

Table 4.8 Length of courses

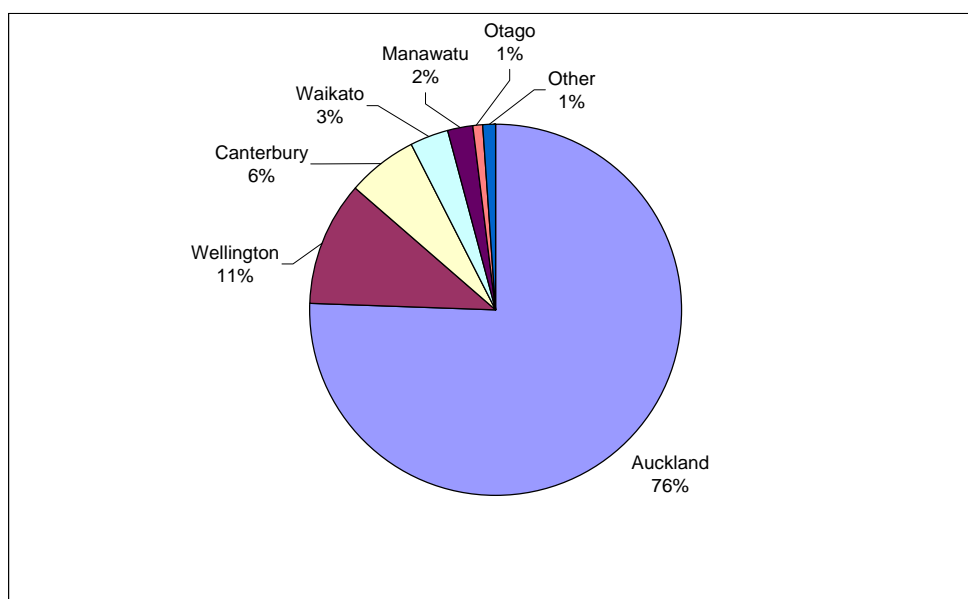
Length of course	n	%
0 to 2 months	8,573	47%
2 to 4 months	6,444	35%
4 to 6 months	2,459	14%
6 to 8 months	254	1%
8 to 10 months	340	2%
10 to 12 months	104	1%
More than one year	10	0%
Total	18,184	100%

Note: The length of 1,245 courses was not recorded.

4.5.3 Location of courses

Figure 4.3 shows the location of each course. Seventy-six percent of courses were taken in Auckland. Of the Auckland region courses, 67 percent were in Auckland City, 16 percent in Manukau, 16 percent in North Shore and 1 percent in other parts of Auckland. Eleven percent of courses were in Wellington and 6 percent in Canterbury. Eleven percent of courses were in Wellington and 6 percent in Canterbury.

Figure 4.3 Location of courses $n=18,546$



Note: The location was not recorded for 883 courses.

5 MIGRANTS WITH EXPIRED TUITION ENTITLEMENT

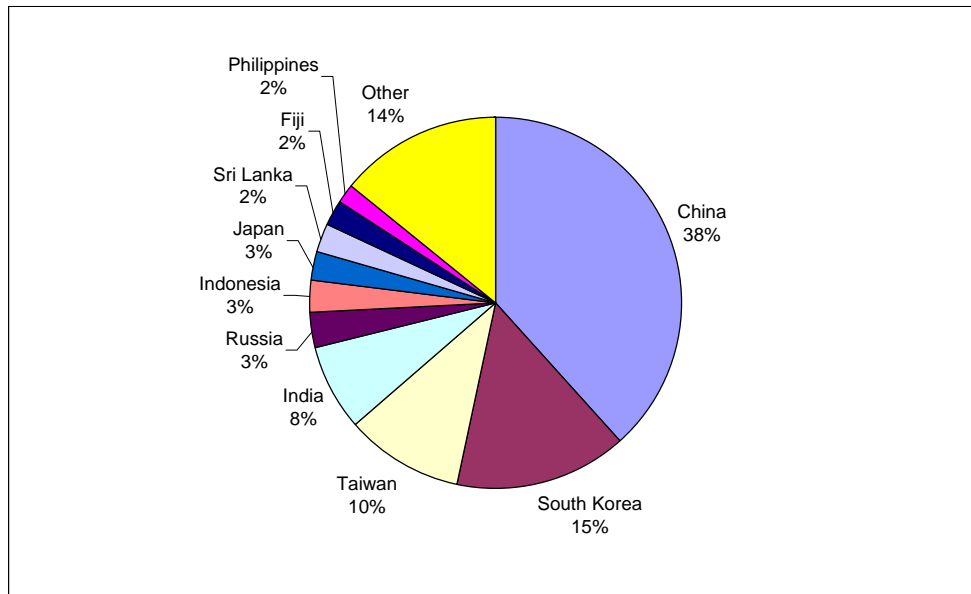
5.1 Introduction

This chapter examines the characteristics and take-up of tuition for the 2,803 migrants who had pre-purchased tuition since November 1998 and whose entitlement period had expired (see Table 4.4 above). As at 24 November 2004, the entitlement period had expired for those who pre-purchased offshore before 27 May 2001 and for those who pre-purchased in New Zealand before 26 November 2001.

5.2 Characteristics and take-up of tuition

Figure 5.1 shows the nationalities of all migrants who had pre-purchased English language tuition and whose tuition had expired as at 24 November 2004. The top source country in this period was China (38 percent). This was followed by South Korea (15 percent), Taiwan (10 percent) and India (8 percent).

Figure 5.1 Nationality for those whose tuition entitlement had expired $n=2,791$



Note: Nationality was not recorded for 12 people.

The majority of those whose tuition had expired had pre-purchased offshore (92 percent). Forty-six percent of those who pre-purchased offshore had an IELTS score of less than 4 (see Table 5.1). An IELTS score of 4 indicates a "limited user" (see Appendix A for more detail on the level of English associated with each IELTS score).

Table 5.1 IELTS score and location of pre-purchase for those whose tuition entitlement had expired

IELTS score	Location of pre-purchase				Total	
	Onshore		Offshore		n	%
	n	%	n	%		
< 3.5	157	67%	1,093	43%	1,250	45%
3.5 < 4.0	10	4%	69	3%	79	3%
4.0 < 4.5	36	15%	706	27%	742	26%
4.5 +	30	13%	701	27%	731	26%
Total	233	100%	2,569	100%	2,802	100%

Note: The location of pre-purchase was not recorded for 1 person.

5.2.1 Residence approval category

Overall, 84 percent of the 2,801 people whose tuition entitlement period had expired had fully used their tuition. A further 10 percent had partly used their entitlement. Twenty percent of the 147 people who were approved through the Business categories had used none of their tuition entitlement. Six percent of the 2,654 people approved through the Skilled categories had used none of their entitlement (see Table 5.2).

Table 5.2 Proportion of tuition entitlement taken up for those whose entitlement had expired by residence category

Residence category	Proportion of tuition entitlement used							Total
	0%	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-99%	100%	
Business	20%	2%	1%	1%	1%	5%	70%	147
Skilled	6%	1%	1%	1%	2%	5%	84%	2,654
Total	7%	1%	1%	1%	2%	5%	84%	100%
Total number	188	24	23	40	56	129	2,341	2,801

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 2 people.

Note: The data relates to residence category as recorded in the TEC database and in some cases differs from that recorded in the Immigration database.

5.2.2 Age

Table 5.3 shows the proportion of tuition entitlement used by age group. Aside from those aged between 55 and 64 years, more than 90 percent of those in each age group had fully or partly used their entitlement. Three of the 18 people aged between 55 and 64 years had not used their entitlement.

Table 5.3 Proportion of tuition entitlement used for those whose entitlement period had expired by age group

Age group	Proportion of tuition entitlement used							Total
	0%	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-99%	100%	
16-24 years	9%	1%	2%	2%	2%	4%	82%	200
25-34 years	6%	1%	1%	2%	2%	6%	83%	943
35-44 years	6%	1%	1%	2%	2%	4%	84%	1,313
45-54 years	8%	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%	85%	326
55-64 years	17%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	83%	18
Total number	187	24	23	40	56	129	2,341	2,800

Note: The amount of entitlement used or age was not recorded for 3 people.

5.2.3 Gender

There were no differences in the amount of tuition entitlement used by gender. Eighty-three percent of females and 84 percent of males had fully used their entitlement (see Table 5.4).

Table 5.4 Proportion of entitlement used for those whose entitlement period had expired by gender

Gender	Proportion of tuition entitlement used							Total
	0%	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-99%	100%	
Female	6%	1%	1%	1%	2%	6%	83%	1,641
Male	8%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	84%	1,160
Total number	188	24	23	40	56	129	2,341	2,801

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 2 people.

5.2.4 Nationality

Table 5.5 shows the proportion of tuition used by nationality. More than 80 percent of migrants from all countries had partly or fully used their entitlement. The four largest source countries of migrants to pre-purchase ESOL tuition during this period

were China, South Korea, Taiwan and India. The proportion of people from these countries who had not used any of their tuition, ranged from 3 percent of those from South Korea to 13 percent of those from Taiwan. Of the smaller source countries, with the exception of the Philippines, 90 percent or more had fully or partly used their tuition entitlement. Sixteen percent of the 49 people from the Philippines had not used any of their entitlement.

Table 5.5 Proportion of tuition entitlement used for those whose entitlement had expired by top 15 nationalities

Nationality	Proportion of tuition entitlement used							Total
	0%	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-99%	100%	
China	7%	1%	1%	1%	2%	6%	83%	1,067
South Korea	3%	0%	1%	2%	3%	6%	84%	424
Taiwan	13%	0%	0%	1%	2%	2%	81%	287
India	6%	1%	1%	1%	4%	4%	82%	209
Russia	5%	1%	2%	4%	2%	7%	79%	84
Indonesia	4%	1%	0%	0%	1%	4%	89%	76
Japan	4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	93%	70
Sri Lanka	9%	3%	1%	0%	3%	7%	76%	68
Fiji	10%	3%	2%	0%	2%	0%	83%	59
Philippines	16%	2%	2%	4%	2%	0%	73%	49
Hong Kong	5%	0%	0%	5%	0%	5%	84%	37
Malaysia	7%	3%	0%	0%	0%	3%	86%	29
Germany	4%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	93%	28
Ukraine	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	95%	20
South Africa	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	95%	19
Other	4%	1%	1%	2%	1%	4%	87%	263
Total number	187	24	23	40	56	129	2,330	2,789

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 2 people and nationality was not recorded for 12 people.

5.2.5 Net entitlement

The net English language tuition entitlement is based on applicants' IELTS overall band scores and ranges from \$1,500 through to \$6,000 (see Table 2.1 above). There was not much difference in the amount of tuition entitlement used by net entitlement:

- the proportion to fully use their tuition entitlement ranged from 76 percent of those with a net entitlement of \$4,500 through to 88 percent of those with a net entitlement of \$1,500
- only 4 percent of those with a \$6,000 net entitlement had not used any of their tuition
- 7 percent of those with a net entitlement of \$1,500 and \$4,500, and 11 percent of those with a net entitlement of \$3,000 had not taken-up any tuition (see Table 5.6).

Table 5.6 Proportion of tuition entitlement used for those whose entitlement had expired by net entitlement

Net entitlement	Proportion of tuition entitlement used							Total
	0%	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-99%	100%	
\$1,500	7%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	88%	734
\$3,000	11%	1%	0%	1%	1%	3%	82%	885
\$4,500	7%	4%	1%	4%	4%	4%	76%	76
\$6,000	4%	0%	1%	2%	3%	8%	82%	1,106
Total	188	24	23	40	56	129	2,341	2,801

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 2 people.

5.2.6 IELTS score

Similar to the previous table, there was not much difference in the amount of tuition entitlement used by IELTS score. The proportion of migrants who had used none of their tuition ranged from 5 percent of those with an IELTS score of less than 3.5 to 9 percent with an IELTS score of greater than 4 but less than 4.5 (see Table 5.7).

Table 5.7 Proportion of tuition entitlement taken up for those who entitlement had expired by IELTS score

IELTS score	Proportion of tuition entitlement used							Total
	0%	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-99%	100%	
< 3.5	5%	1%	1%	2%	3%	7%	81%	1,250
3.5 - < 4.0	6%	4%	1%	4%	4%	4%	77%	79
4.0 - < 4.5	9%	1%	0%	1%	1%	3%	85%	741
4.5 +	7%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	88%	731
Total	188	24	23	40	56	129	2,341	2,801

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 2 people.

5.2.7 Location of pre-purchase

Table 5.8 shows the proportion of tuition entitlement used by whether the application for residence was made offshore or onshore. Sixty-eight percent of the 233 people who pre-purchased their tuition onshore had fully used their entitlement (another 9 percent had used between 81 and 99 percent) compared to 85 percent of the 2,568 people who pre-purchased offshore.

Table 5.8 Proportion of entitlement used for those whose entitlement had expired by location of pre-purchase

Location of pre-purchase	Proportion of tuition entitlement used							Total
	0%	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-99%	100%	
Onshore	15%	2%	1%	1%	4%	9%	68%	233
Offshore	6%	1%	1%	1%	2%	4%	85%	2,568
Total number	188	24	23	40	56	129	2,341	2,801

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 2 people.

5.3 Absence from New Zealand for those whose entitlement had expired

An analysis was carried out to determine the number of migrants who actually arrived to take-up residence and the rates of absence from New Zealand as at 26 November 2001. This date is approximately three years after the pre-purchase policy was implemented. It is important to note that the migrants in this cohort had been resident in New Zealand for differing lengths of time and this impacts on the length that they may have been absent from New Zealand. For example, someone who had been in New Zealand for one month had less time to be absent than someone who has been here for two years. This section only includes the records that were successfully matched in the TEC and Immigration databases.

Table 5.9 shows the rates of absenteeism from the country for the 2,714 people whose entitlement had expired and for whom matched data was available. Ninety-six percent of these migrants actually arrived to take-up residence or were approved when they were onshore.⁸ Overall, 30 percent were absent from New Zealand as at 26 November 2001. Eleven percent had been absent for six months or more.

⁸ Migrants who apply for residence offshore have 12 months to arrive in New Zealand from the date their residence application is completed.

Table 5.9 Time absent from New Zealand as at 26 November 2001 for those whose entitlement had expired

Total in cohort	2,714	
Those who arrived or who were approved onshore	2,614	
Those in cohort with post arrival movements	2,588	
Absent from country for between 1 and 30 days	119	5%
Absent from country for between 31 and 60 days	104	4%
Absent from the country for between 61 and 120 days	170	7%
Absent from the country for between 121 and 181 days	102	4%
Absent from the country for between 182 and 365 days	190	7%
Absent from the country for between 1 to 2 years	76	3%
Absent from the country for 2 or more years	16	1%
Total absent from the country as at 26 November 2001	777	30%
Absent from the country for 6 months or more as at 26 November 2001	282	11%

A slightly higher proportion of those who were absent from New Zealand as at 26 November 2001 had not used any of their tuition entitlement (11 percent) compared to those who were not absent (5 percent). There was no difference in the proportion to fully use their tuition based on absence as at this date (see Table 5.10).

Rates of absence are explored in more detail in Chapter 6 for those with current tuition entitlement. Higher rates of absenteeism appear to have impacted on the rate of taking-up tuition for this group.

Table 5.10 Amount of entitlement used by whether absent from New Zealand as at 26 November 2001

Absent as at 26/11/01	Amount of entitlement used			Total
	Not used	Partly used	Fully used	
Absent	11%	7%	82%	777
Not absent	5%	12%	83%	1,837
Total	177	268	2,169	2,614

6 MIGRANTS WITH CURRENT TUITION ENTITLEMENT

6.1 Introduction

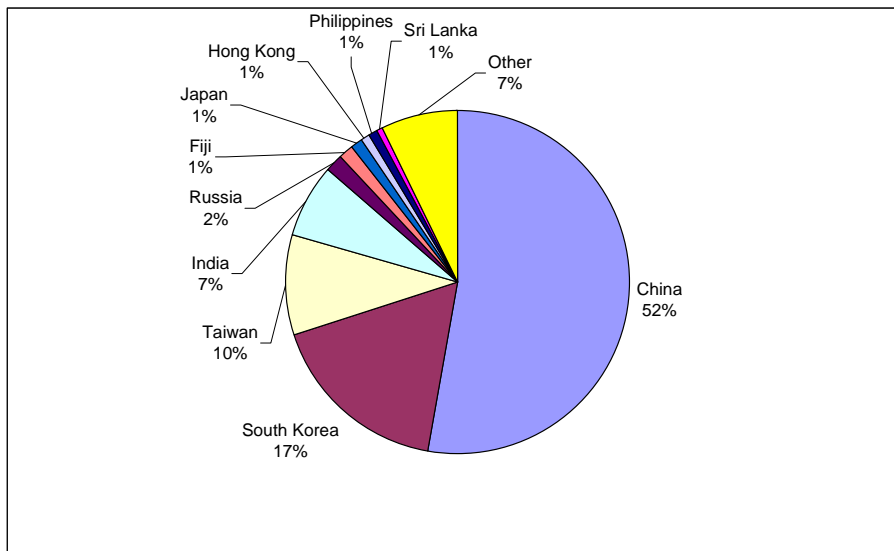
This chapter examines the characteristics of the 9,735 migrants who pre-purchased ESOL tuition and whose tuition entitlement was current as at 24 November 2004. These were migrants who pre-purchased on or after 27 May 2001. Take-up of English language tuition to date is examined.

6.2 Characteristics of those whose tuition entitlement was current

6.2.1 Nationality

More than half of those who pre-purchased, and whose entitlement was current at 24 November 2004, were from China (see Figure 6.1). This was followed by South Korea (17 percent), Taiwan (10 percent), and India (7 percent).

Figure 6.1 Nationality of those who pre-purchased whose tuition entitlement was current $n=9,711$



Note: Nationality was not recorded for 24 people.

6.2.2 IELTS score and location of pre-purchase

Table 6.1 shows migrants' IELTS scores and whether they pre-purchased in New Zealand or outside of New Zealand (depending on where their residence application was made). Of the 9,731 people who pre-purchased in this period, 3,206 (33 percent) were onshore and 6,525 (67 percent) were offshore. Seventy-five percent of those who pre-purchased offshore had an IELTS score of less than 3.5 compared to 86 percent of those who pre-purchased onshore. An IELTS score of 3 indicates an "extremely limited user" of English. Overall, four out of five of these migrants had an IELTS score of 3.5 or less.

Table 6.1 IELTS score and location of pre-purchase for those whose tuition entitlement was current

IELTS score	Location of pre-purchase				Total	
	Onshore		Offshore		n	%
	n	%	n	%		
< 3.5	2,758	86%	4,912	75%	7,670	79%
3.5 - < 4.0	72	2%	175	3%	247	3%
4.0 - < 4.5	164	5%	562	9%	726	7%
4.5 +	212	7%	876	13%	1,088	11%
Total	3,206	100%	6,525	100%	9,731	100%

Note: IELTS score was not recorded for 4 people.

6.3 Take-up of tuition to date

6.3.1 Length of time since entitlement start date

Table 6.2 shows the proportion of tuition entitlement taken-up by the number of years since the entitlement start date. Forty-one percent of those whose entitlement was between two and three years old and 34 percent of those whose entitlement was between three and three and a half years old had not used any of their tuition entitlement. Only 32 percent of those whose entitlement was between three and three and a half years old had fully used their entitlement although a further 16 percent had used between 81 and 99 percent. The characteristics of those who had taken-up and not taken-up their tuition entitlement are further explored below.

Table 6.2 Proportion of tuition entitlement used for those whose entitlement was current by years since pre-purchase

Years since pre-purchase	Proportion of tuition entitlement used							Total
	0%	1-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-99%	100%	
0-1 years	72%	5%	5%	4%	3%	2%	8%	1,169
1-2 years	52%	6%	8%	8%	7%	7%	12%	2,567
2-3 years	41%	4%	6%	6%	8%	12%	23%	4,049
3-<3.5 years	34%	3%	3%	5%	7%	16%	32%	1,946
Total number	4,488	414	567	584	695	995	1,988	9,731

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 4 people.

6.3.2 Residence approval category

Table 6.3 shows the amount of tuition entitlement used by residence approval category and the number of years since the tuition was pre-purchased. Overall, large proportions of migrants had not used any of their tuition entitlement and this was more pronounced for migrants through the Business categories. Forty-nine percent of Business migrants had not used any of their entitlement after two to three years, compared with 33 percent of Skilled migrants.

Thirty-eight percent of Business migrants whose tuition was between three and three and a half years old had fully used their tuition entitlement and a further 23 percent had partly used their tuition. Twenty-nine percent of Skilled migrants with tuition entitlement between three and three and a half years old had fully used their entitlement and a further 41 percent had partly used their entitlement. Overall a higher proportion of Business than Skilled migrants had used none of their tuition entitlement (55 percent compared to 39 percent respectively).

Table 6.3 Amount of tuition entitlement used for those whose entitlement was current by years since pre-purchase and residence category

Years since pre-purchase	Residence category	Amount of tuition entitlement used			Total
		Not used	Partly used	Fully used	
0-1 years	Business	76%	15%	9%	720
	Skilled	66%	27%	7%	449
1-2 years	Business	61%	24%	15%	1,096
	Skilled	46%	44%	11%	1,471
2-3 years	Business	49%	24%	27%	1,905
	Skilled	33%	46%	21%	2,144
3-<3.5 years	Business	39%	23%	38%	768
	Skilled	30%	41%	29%	1,178
Total	Business	55%	23%	23%	4,489
	Skilled	39%	43%	18%	5,242
Total number		4,488	3,255	1,988	9,731

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 4 people.

Note: The data relates to residence category as recorded in the TEC database and in some cases differs from that recorded in the Immigration database.

6.3.3 Gender

Table 6.4 shows the amount of tuition entitlement used by number of years since pre-purchase. Overall, more males than females had used none of their entitlement (53 percent compared to 41 percent respectively). For those whose entitlement was between two and three years old, 49 percent of males and 34 percent of females had used none of their tuition. For those whose entitlement was between three and three and a half years old, 40 percent of males and 29 percent of females had used none of their tuition.

Table 6.4 Amount of tuition entitlement used for those whose entitlement was current by years since pre-purchase and gender

Years since pre-purchase	Gender	Amount of tuition entitlement used			Total
		Not used	Partly used	Fully used	
0-1 years	Female	70%	21%	9%	651
	Male	75%	17%	8%	518
1-2 years	Female	48%	40%	12%	1,476
	Male	59%	29%	13%	1,091
2-3 years	Female	34%	41%	25%	2,264
	Male	49%	30%	22%	1,785
3-<3.5 years	Female	29%	37%	34%	1,119
	Male	40%	30%	30%	827
Total	Female	41%	38%	21%	5,510
	Male	53%	28%	19%	4,221
Total number		4,488	3,255	1,988	9,731

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 4 people.

6.3.4 Nationality

Table 6.5 shows the amount of tuition entitlement used by nationality and the number of years since pre-purchase. For those whose tuition entitlement period was between two and three years old, the proportion who had used none of their tuition ranged from 17 percent of those from South Korea to 73 percent of those from Taiwan. For those whose tuition entitlement period was between three and three and a half years old, the proportion who had used none of their tuition entitlement ranged from 14 percent of those from South Korea to 53 percent of those from Taiwan.

Table 6.5 Amount of tuition entitlement used for those whose entitlement was current by years since pre-purchase and nationality (top five to pre-purchase and other)

Years since pre-purchase	Nationality	Amount of tuition entitlement used			Total
		Not used	Partly used	Fully used	
0-1 years	China	68%	22%	10%	466
	South Korea	72%	20%	8%	401
	Taiwan	90%	5%	5%	97
	India	74%	23%	3%	62
	Russia	47%	35%	18%	17
	Other	78%	16%	6%	122
1-2 years	China	51%	35%	14%	1,379
	South Korea	43%	42%	15%	455
	Taiwan	81%	12%	7%	209
	India	48%	42%	10%	185
	Russia	15%	65%	19%	26
	Other	57%	35%	7%	310
2-3 years	China	40%	33%	27%	2,305
	South Korea	17%	59%	25%	538
	Taiwan	73%	18%	9%	393
	India	45%	37%	18%	284
	Russia	29%	48%	23%	77
	Other	44%	38%	18%	440
3-<3.5 years	China	31%	30%	40%	986
	South Korea	14%	51%	36%	255
	Taiwan	53%	31%	16%	227
	India	46%	30%	23%	132
	Russia	16%	44%	40%	62
	Other	46%	37%	17%	281
Total	China	44%	32%	24%	5,136
	South Korea	37%	43%	20%	1,649
	Taiwan	71%	19%	10%	926
	India	49%	36%	15%	663
	Russia	24%	48%	28%	182
	Other	52%	35%	14%	1,153
Total number		4,474	3,251	1,984	9,709

Note: Nationality was not recorded for 22 people. The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 4 people.

6.3.5 Age

Migrants aged 45 years or older were less likely than younger migrants to have used any of their tuition (see Table 6.6). For those whose tuition was between three and three and a half years old, 52 percent of those aged 45 years or older had used none of their tuition. This compared to 30 percent of 25 to 34 year olds, 32 percent of 35 to 44 year olds and 35 percent of 16 to 24 year olds.

Table 6.6 Amount of tuition entitlement used for those whose entitlement was current by years since pre-purchase and age

Years since pre-purchase	Age	Amount of tuition entitlement used			Total
		Not used	Partly used	Fully used	
0-1 years	16-24 years	75%	13%	11%	61
	25-34 years	69%	24%	7%	246
	35-44 years	72%	20%	9%	574
	45 years or older	76%	16%	8%	288
1-2 years	16-24 years	49%	29%	22%	199
	25-34 years	49%	40%	11%	767
	35-44 years	52%	36%	12%	1,234
	45 years or older	63%	29%	8%	365
2-3 years	16-24 years	35%	33%	31%	350
	25-34 years	36%	41%	23%	1,219
	35-44 years	40%	36%	24%	1,956
	45 years or older	56%	26%	18%	520
3-<3.5 years	16-24 years	35%	33%	33%	171
	25-34 years	30%	39%	31%	608
	35-44 years	32%	33%	35%	944
	45 years or older	52%	24%	25%	221
Total	16-24 years	42%	30%	28%	781
	25-34 years	41%	39%	20%	2,840
	35-44 years	45%	33%	21%	4,708
	45 years or older	61%	24%	15%	1,394
Total number		4,480	3,255	1,988	9,723

Note: Because only a small number of people were aged 55 years or older, those aged 45 years and older were grouped together.

6.4 Absence from New Zealand for those whose entitlement was current

To determine if time spent absent from New Zealand had an impact on rates of take-up of pre-purchased ESOL tuition, an analysis was carried out to see who was in and out of New Zealand at 24 November 2004. The data in this section only includes the records that were successfully matched in the TEC and Immigration databases.

It is important to note that the migrants in this cohort (those with current tuition entitlement) had been resident in New Zealand for differing lengths of time and this impacts on the length of time that they may have been absent from New Zealand.

6.4.1 Absence rates from New Zealand

Table 6.7 shows that 97 percent of those with current entitlement had arrived to take-up residence or were approved onshore. It is expected that more of this cohort will go on to take-up residence since migrants have 12 months from the date their application is completed to arrive in New Zealand.

Overall, 39 percent of those who pre-purchased during this period and who had taken-up residence were absent from New Zealand as at 24 November 2004. Twenty-one percent had been absent for six months or more. This long-term absence rate (six months or more) is higher than the absence rate as at November 2001 for those whose entitlement had expired (11 percent - see Table 5.9 above). The rate of absence for those whose entitlement was current is also higher compared to absence rates for other migrants approved for residence in recent years. For example, 30 percent of those approved for residence in 1998 were absent as at

December 2003. Of the cohort approved in 1999, 26 percent were absent as at December 2003.⁹

Table 6.7 Time absent from New Zealand as at 24 November 2004 for those whose entitlement was current

Total in cohort	9,572	
Those who arrived or who were approved onshore	9,281	
Those in cohort with post arrival movements	8,550	
Absent from country for between 1 and 30 days	492	5%
Absent from country for between 31 and 60 days	422	5%
Absent from the country for between 61 and 120 days	437	5%
Absent from the country for between 121 and 181 days	290	3%
Absent from the country for between 182 and 365 days	684	7%
Absent from the country for between 1 to 2 years	779	8%
Absent from the country for 2 or more years	498	5%
Total absent from the country as at 24 November 2004	3,602	39%
Absent from the country for 6 months or more as at 24 November 2004	1,961	21%

A higher proportion of the Business than Skilled migrants were absent (52 percent compared to 27 percent respectively). Twenty-nine percent of the Business migrants had been absent for six months or more, compared to 14 percent of the Skilled migrants (see Table 6.8).

Table 6.8 Time absent from New Zealand as at 24 November 2004 for those whose entitlement was current by residence category

	Residence category	
	Business	Skilled
Total in cohort	4,406	5,166
Those who arrived / approved onshore	4,301	4,980
Absent for between 1 and 30 days	7%	4%
Absent for between 31 and 60 days	6%	3%
Absent for between 61 and 120 days	6%	4%
Absent for between 121 and 181 days	4%	2%
Absent for between 182 and 365 days	9%	6%
Absent for between 1 to 2 years	12%	6%
Absent for 2 or more years	8%	3%
Total absent as at 24 November 2004	52%	27%
Absent for 6 months or more	29%	14%

Those who were absent from New Zealand as at 24 November 2004 had a much lower rate of taking-up tuition than those who were not absent. Seventy percent of those who were absent had not used any of their tuition entitlement, compared to 29 percent of those who were in New Zealand (see Table 6.9).

Table 6.9 Amount of tuition entitlement used by whether absent from New Zealand as at 24 November 2004

Absent as at 24/11/04	Amount of tuition entitlement used			Total
	Not used	Partly used	Fully used	
Absent	70%	17%	13%	3,600
Not absent	29%	45%	26%	5,678
Total	4,193	3,161	1,924	9,278

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 3 people.

⁹ This includes people approved through all residence streams (Skilled/Business, Family Sponsored and International Humanitarian Streams).

6.4.2 Take-up of tuition entitlement by those who were absent

Table 6.10 shows the amount of tuition entitlement used by the 3,600 people who were absent from New Zealand as at 24 November 2004:

- for those who pre-purchased between two and three years ago, 68 percent had not used any of their entitlement
- only 14 percent of those who pre-purchased between two and three years ago and 22 percent of the three to three and a half year group had fully used their tuition entitlement.

These figures highlight a much lower rate of taking-up ESOL tuition compared to all migrants with current tuition entitlement, regardless of the number of years since pre-purchase (see Table 6.2 above for comparison).

Table 6.10 Amount of tuition entitlement used by years since pre-purchase for those who were absent as at 24 November 2004

Years since pre-purchase	Amount of tuition entitlement used			Total
	Not used	Partly used	Fully used	
0-1 years	89%	8%	3%	310
1-2 years	77%	15%	7%	926
2-3 years	68%	18%	14%	1,635
3-<3.5 years	59%	19%	22%	729
Total	2,532	608	460	3,600

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 2 people.

Table 6.11 below shows, for those who were absent from New Zealand as at 24 November 2004, the amount of tuition entitlement used by time spent out of the country. As would be expected, the amount of tuition entitlement used was lower for those who had spent more time out of the country. Forty-four percent of those who had been absent from New Zealand for 30 days or less had not used any of their entitlement, rising to 94 percent of those who had been absent for two years or more.

Table 6.11 Amount of tuition entitlement used by time absent for those who were absent as at 24 November 2004

Time absent	Amount of tuition entitlement used			Total
	Not used	Partly used	Fully used	
1 to 30 days	44%	29%	27%	492
31 to 60 days	54%	25%	21%	421
61 to 120 days	55%	27%	18%	437
121 to 180 days	63%	19%	18%	289
181 to 365 days	77%	13%	10%	684
1 to 2 years	87%	10%	3%	779
2 years or more	94%	4%	2%	498
Total	2,532	608	460	3,600

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 2 people.

Table 6.12 shows that a higher proportion of Business than Skilled migrants who were absent from the country as at 24 November 2004 had used none of their entitlement (73 percent compared to 66 percent). This is a reflection of Business migrants spending more time out of the country than Skilled migrants (see Table 6.8 above).

Table 6.12 Amount of tuition entitlement used by residence category for those who were absent as at 24 November 2004

Residence category	Amount of tuition entitlement used			Total
	Not used	Partly used	Fully used	
Business	73%	14%	13%	2,242
Skilled	66%	22%	12%	1,358
Total	2,532	608	460	3,600

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 2 people.

Table 6.13 shows the amount of tuition entitlement used by principal and non-principal applicants based on whether they were absent or not absent from New Zealand as at 24 November 2004. A higher proportion of principal applicants (53 percent) than non-principal applicants (34 percent) were absent as at this date. For those who were absent, there was not much difference between principal and non-principal applicants in the amount of tuition used. For those who were not absent, a higher proportion of principal applicants (37 percent) than non-principal applicants (27 percent) had used none of their entitlement.

Table 6.13 Amount of tuition entitlement used by absence as at 24 November 2004 for principal and non-principal applicants

Applicant type	Amount of tuition entitlement used			Total
	Not used	Partly used	Fully used	
Absent as at 24/11/04				
Principal	72%	13%	15%	1,307
Non-principal	70%	19%	11%	2,293
Total	2,532	608	460	3,600
Not absent as at 24/11/04				
Principal	37%	35%	28%	1,161
Non-principal	27%	47%	25%	4,517
Total	1,661	2,553	1,464	5,678

Note: The amount of entitlement used was not recorded for 3 people.

7 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The main aim of this report was to provide data on the numbers and characteristics of Skilled and Business migrants who pre-purchase ESOL tuition and on the proportions taking-up and not taking-up the tuition.

The results show a high rate of tuition take-up in the first few years that the ESOL pre-purchase scheme was in place. The reported has highlighted, however, a comparatively low rate of take-up in recent years. One reason for this low take-up appears to be some migrants spending much of their tuition entitlement period out of the country.

7.1 Who pre-purchased ESOL tuition?

Around 27 percent of the eligible Skilled/Business migrants (ie non-principal applicants and Business principal applicants prior to November 2002) approved between November 1998 and November 2004 pre-purchased ESOL tuition. A higher proportion of eligible Business than Skilled migrants pre-purchased tuition (60 percent compared to 21 percent respectively).

Half of those to pre-purchase ESOL tuition in the period of interest were from China. The other main source countries were South Korea, Taiwan and India. Thirty-seven percent were applicants through the Business categories and 63 percent through the Skilled categories. Nearly half of applicants were aged 35 to 44 years and a further 30 percent were aged between 25 and 34 years. Fifty-seven percent of those to pre-purchase were female and 43 percent male.

Business migrants who pre-purchased tuition tended to have a lower average IELTS score than Skilled migrants. Ninety-eight percent of the 4,642 Business migrants had an IELTS score of less than 3.5 compared to 55 percent of the 7,910 Skilled migrants. Forty-two percent of Skilled migrants had an IELTS score of 4 or more. An IELTS score of 3 indicates an "extremely limited user" of English.

7.2 Take-up of tuition

Migrants have three years to take-up their ESOL tuition if they pre-purchase in New Zealand, and three and a half years if they pre-purchase offshore.

For migrants who pre-purchased ESOL tuition offshore before 27 May 2001 or onshore before 26 November 2001 and whose tuition had expired, the rate of take-up was fairly high:

- overall, 84 percent of those who pre-purchased tuition in this time had fully used their entitlement
- a higher proportion of Business migrants (20 percent) than Skilled migrants (6 percent) had used none of their tuition
- of the top four source countries to pre-purchase in this period (China, South Korea, Taiwan and India) the proportion to use none of their tuition ranged from 3 percent of those from South Korea to 13 percent from Taiwan. Migrants from the Philippines had the lowest rate of take-up. Of the 49 migrants from the Philippines to pre-purchase, 16 percent had used none of their tuition within the allowed time
- the proportion to use none of their tuition was higher for those approved onshore (15 percent) than offshore (6 percent).

An analysis of take-up of tuition to date for those whose entitlement was current (those who pre-purchased on or after 27 May 2001) highlighted a comparatively low rate of take-up in recent years. For those whose tuition was between two and three years old, only 23 percent had fully used their entitlement and 41 percent had used none of their tuition. For those whose tuition was between three and three and a half years old (and therefore soon due to expire), 32 percent had fully used their tuition and 34 percent had used none of their tuition.

For those whose entitlement was current:

- a higher proportion of Business than Skilled migrants had used none of their tuition (55 percent compared to 39 percent)
- a higher proportion of males than females had used none of their entitlement (53 percent compared to 41 percent)
- migrants from Taiwan had a low rate of take-up compared to those from other countries. For Taiwanese migrants whose tuition entitlement was between two and three years old, 73 percent had used none of their entitlement and for those whose entitlement was between three and three and a half years old, 53 percent had used none of their entitlement
- China was the largest source country of migrants to pre-purchase in this period. Of those Chinese migrants whose tuition entitlement was between two and three years old, 40 percent had used none of their tuition and for the three to three and a half years group, 31 percent had used none of their tuition.

7.3 Absence from New Zealand

An analysis was carried out using matched TEC and DoL records to determine rates of absence from New Zealand during the tuition entitlement period and the impact this had on take-up of tuition. For those whose tuition entitlement had expired, 30 percent were absent from New Zealand as at 26 November 2001. Eleven percent had been absent for six months or more. Absence rates for this group did not have a large impact on tuition take-up – around eight in ten of these migrants had fully used their tuition regardless of whether they were absent at this date or not.

Migrants whose tuition entitlement was current had comparatively high rates of absence. Fifty-two percent of the Business and 27 percent of the Skilled migrants were absent from New Zealand as at 24 November 2004. Business migrants in particular often spent long periods out of the country, with 29 percent absent for six months or more at this date. Fourteen percent of Skilled migrants had been absent for six months or more. A higher proportion of principal applicants (53 percent) than non-principal applicants (34 percent) were absent, although this absence did not result in much difference between principals and non-principals in the amount of tuition used. For those who were not absent, a higher proportion of principal applicants (37 percent) than non-principal applicants (27 percent) had used none of their entitlement.

Time spent absent from New Zealand during the tuition entitlement period had a large impact on take-up of tuition for those with current entitlement. Seventy percent of those who were absent as at 24 November 2004 had used none of their entitlement. This compared to 29 percent of those who were in New Zealand to have used none of their entitlement. As would be expected, those who were absent from New Zealand for longer periods of time were more likely to have not used their tuition.

Further analysis would be useful to more fully understand the dynamics of migrants' absenteeism from New Zealand and its impact on the take-up of tuition. In particular, further analysis would help to understand the high rates of absence in recent compared to earlier years.

7.4 Questions for future research

The low rate of take-up of ESOL tuition in recent years, particularly by Business migrants who tended to have poorer English language ability than Skilled migrants is a concern. There is a need for further research in order to understand more about the pre-purchased ESOL programme including facilitators and barriers to take-up. Future research could also examine the effectiveness of the tuition provided.

Some specific questions that could be addressed in future research include:

- why do migrants choose to take-up or not take-up their tuition?
- are their specific barriers for certain groups of migrants (such as Business migrants) taking-up their tuition?
- how effective is the tuition provided, for example, do migrants who take-up their tuition obtain the necessary English language skills within their tuition entitlement period?
- are some English language courses more effective than others?

7.5 Conclusions

There appears to be an emerging issue in recent years, with a relatively high proportion of migrants with current tuition entitlement having not used their tuition even two to three and a half years after pre-purchasing. One reason for this finding is migrants, particularly Business migrants, spending often long periods outside of New Zealand. Further research is necessary to more fully understand the reasons for this becoming an issue in recent years.

APPENDIX A: IELTS TEST RESULTS – DESCRIPTION OF BAND SCORES

Scores	Descriptions
9 Expert User	Has fully operational command of the language: appropriate, accurate and fluent with complete understanding
8 Very Good User	Has fully operational command of the language with only occasional unsystematic inaccuracies, and inappropriacies. Misunderstandings may occur in unfamiliar situations. Handles complex detailed argumentation well.
7 Good User	Has operational command of the language, though with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings in some situations. Generally handles complex language well and understands detailed reasoning.
6 Competent User	Has generally effective command of the language despite some inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings. Can use and understand fairly complex language, particularly in familiar situations.
5 Modest User	Has partial command of the language, coping with overall meaning in most situations, though is likely to make many mistakes. Should be able to handle basic communication in own field.
4 Limited User	Basic competence is limited to familiar situations. Has frequent problems in understanding and expression. Is not able to use complex language.
3 Extremely Limited User	Conveys and understand only general meaning in very familiar situations. Frequently breakdowns in communication occur.
2 Intermittent User	No real communication is possible except for the most basic information using isolated words or short formulae situations and to meet immediate needs. Has great difficulty understanding spoken and written English.
1 Non User	Essentially has no ability to use the language beyond possibly a few isolated words.
0 Did Not Attempt the Test	No assessable information provided.

APPENDIX B: ADDITIONAL DATA TABLES

Table B.1 IELTS score and subsequent ESOL tuition entitlement prior to 20 November 2002

Average IELTS score	Skilled		Business	
	Charge to be paid*	ESOL entitlement	Charge to be paid*	ESOL entitlement
4.5 or more	\$1,700	\$1,500	-	-
4 or more, but less than 4.5	\$3,350	\$3,000	-	-
3.5 or more, (but less than 4 for Skilled)	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$1,700	\$1,500
Less than 3.5	\$6,650	\$6,000	\$3,350	\$3,000

* The charge includes the applicant's ESOL tuition entitlement, as well as the Immigration Service and TEC administration costs.

Tables B.2 and B.3 show some data on the characteristics of those to pre-purchase ESOL tuition, as recorded in the Immigration database. Only the records that were successfully matched in the TEC and Immigration databases are included.

Table B.2 Residence approval category as recorded in the Immigration database

Residence approval category	Number
1995 General skills	6,524
Investor category	4,670
Entrepreneur (Transitional) Category	641
1995 Family marriage	267
Entrepreneur category	77
Employees of businesses	40
1995 Business investor	22
Partnership	18
2001 Family child dependent	9
Skilled Migrant	7
Ministerial direction	4
1995 Family child dependent	2
Talent - Accredited Employer	1
1995 Family de facto	1
Section 35A	1
Ministerial direction	1
1995 Family child adult	1
Total	12,286

Table B.3 Principal or non-principal applicant as recorded in the Immigration database

Applicant type	Expired entitlement	Current entitlement	Total
Principal	546	2,511	3,057
Non-principal	2,168	7,061	9,229
Total	2,714	9,572	12,286