


**AGTA SCHOLARSHIP
GEOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS**

**Migration:
An Auckland perspective**

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A. Causes of Migration: the national level

From migrants' perspectives

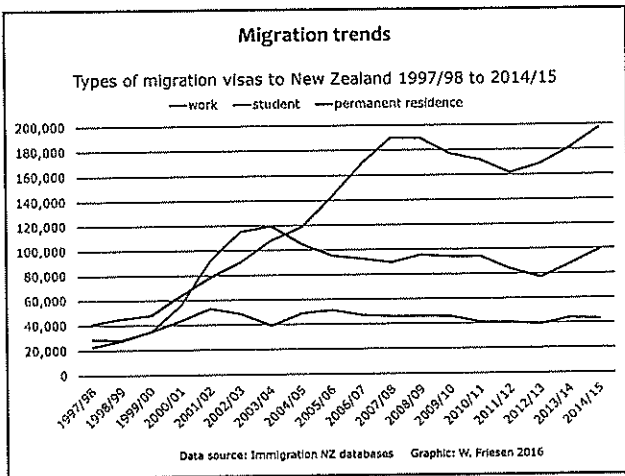
- Economic opportunity (better wages, small business opportunities etc.)
- "Clean, green (100%) New Zealand"
- High quality (and less pressured?) education system
- May be escaping conditions in home country (poverty, political/cultural/religious persecution)

New Zealand government initiatives

- "Selling" of New Zealand as a place to settle, work, study (actively promoting migration internationally)
- Immigration Act 1987 allowed permanent migrants from any country if they had education, skills, investment capital etc. (and were 'right' age)
- Since early 20th century, allowing transitions between student, work and permanent residence visas (including work during and after study)

Types of migrant visas in NZ

- Permanent residence visas
 - Skilled migrant visa
 - Partnership visa
 - Quota refugee (750 per year)
 - Other humanitarian visas
 - Special categories e.g. Samoan quota, Pacific Access Category
- Working visas
 - Temporary work visas (skills shortages)
 - Working Holiday Scheme
 - Partner of worker visa
 - Recognised Seasonal Employer (in agriculture, mostly from Pacific)
 - Many different special categories
- Student visas



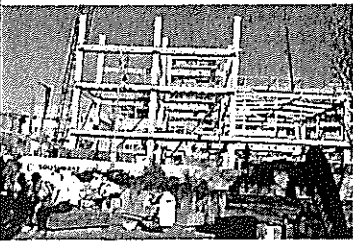
Why has there been such a large increase in work visas?

- Increased demand for labour in some sectors where there are not enough New Zealanders available (usually minimum wages paid)
 - e.g. dairying
 - SO many recruited from Philippines and other countries

Why has there been such a large increase in work visas? (cont.)

e.g. tourism:
cleaners,
catering staff,
seasonal work
(mostly near
minimum wage)


e.g. health care:
shortage of professional
staff (doctors, nurses etc.)
AND semi-skilled and less
skilled (aged carers, nurse
aides etc.)



Why has there been such a large increase in work visas? (cont.)

Many of the work visas are in the Working Holiday Scheme targeting youth aged 18 to 30 (esp. British and German), who are also tourists

The Christchurch rebuild




International student numbers are driven by international marketing, such as at this international education fair in India (source of recent rapid increases in student numbers)

NEW ZEALAND EDUCATION FAIR - PUNE

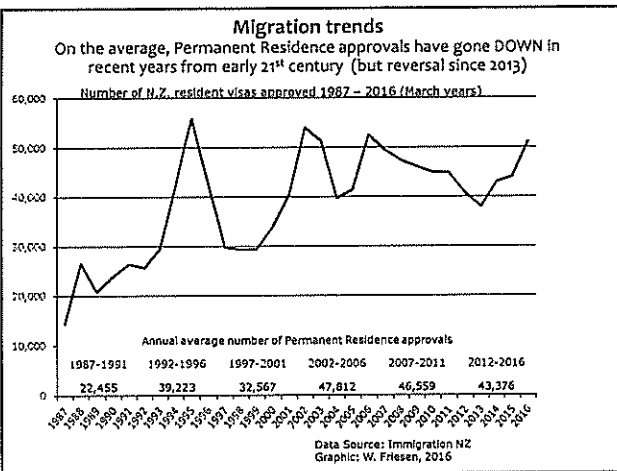
8th April 2015 1 pm to 8 pm

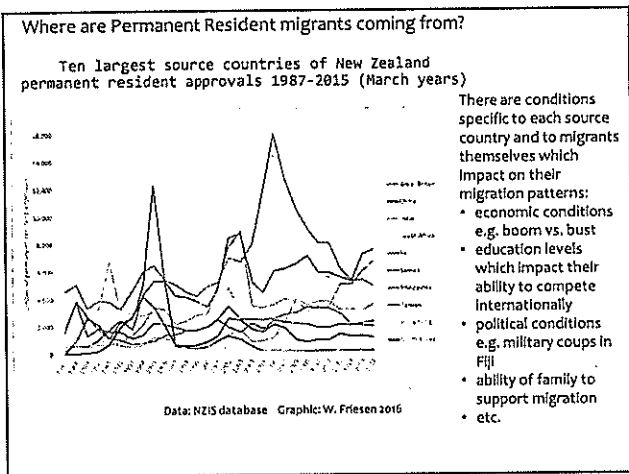
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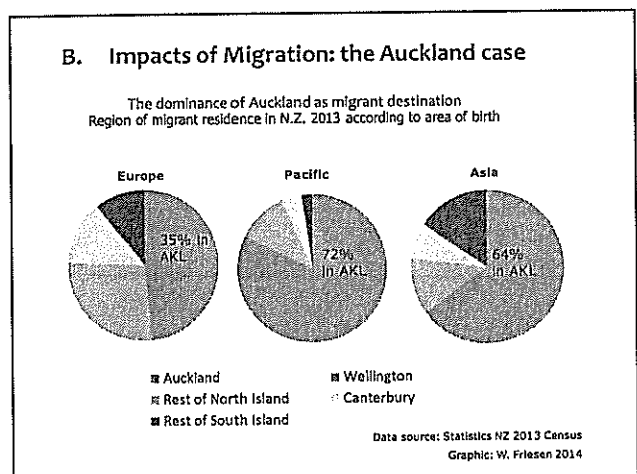


NEW ZEALAND RECOGNISED AGENCY

NEW ZEALAND EDUCATION **ThinkNew**

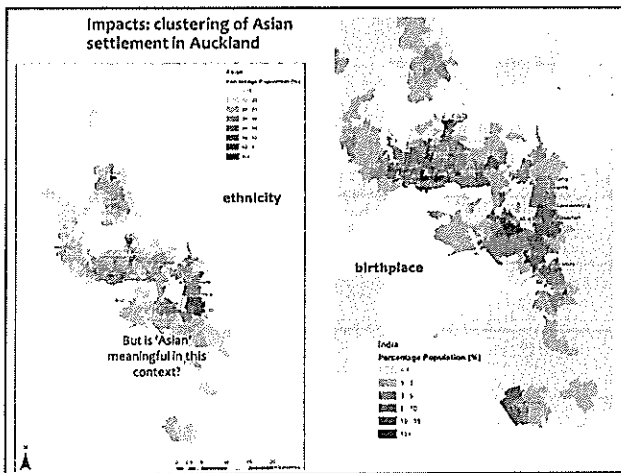


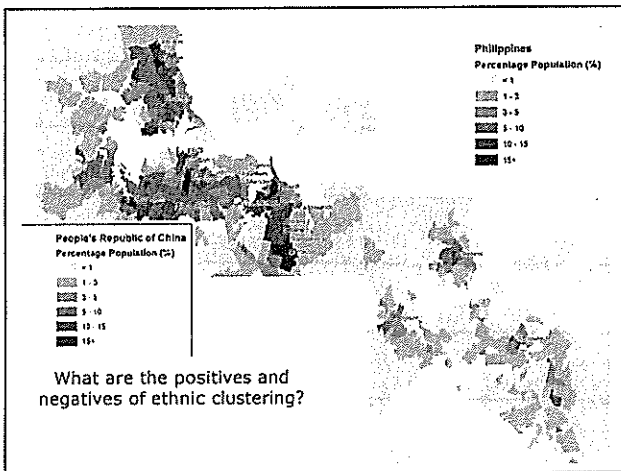




Why does Auckland attract migrants?

- Gateway City: the largest city where most migrants first arrive; economically predominant in NZ; most job opportunities; many nationalities and ethnic groups already have a presence here...
- Examples of other gateway cities: Vancouver, Los Angeles, Sydney
- Ethnic clustering: new migrant groups, especially those that are distinctly different from the predominant 'host society', tend to cluster together. In this case in the largest city, Auckland, and also within Auckland.





W. Friesen (2015) *Asian Auckland: the multiple meanings of diversity*, Asia NZ Foundation. <http://asianz.org.nz/reports/report/asian-auckland-the-multiple-meanings-of-diversity>

Some Conclusions from this report:

- Majority of migrants admitted on basis of economic qualifications, many come for lifestyle reasons
- Permanent residence visas still important, but work and student visa entry increasingly important
- Increasing diversity by visa type and origin countries
- Asian clusters don't appear to be 'segregation' in comparison to some clusters in U.S. and U.K.
- Clustering may be a problem if it slows migrant integration, especially English language ability
- New 'ethnoscapes' provide spaces for new migrants and serve as 'bridges' to dominant host society

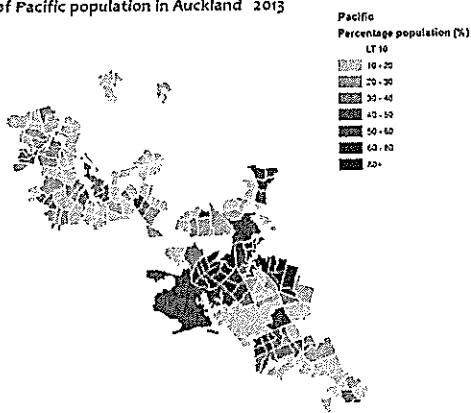
W. Friesen (2015) *Asian Auckland: the multiple meanings of diversity*, Asia NZ Foundation.
Interactive maps of Auckland
http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11414457

NZ Herald March 10, 2015



But is some ethnic clustering more a matter of economic necessity than choice?

Location of Pacific population in Auckland 2013



One way of considering the impact of migrants 'on the landscape': ethnoscapes

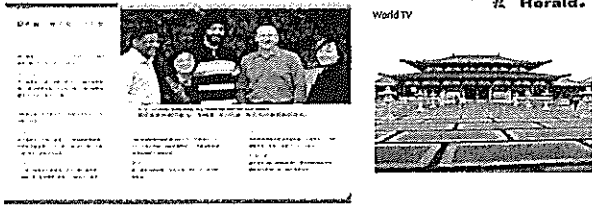
What is an ethnoscape?

>>> manifestations of (new) cultures in places and societies, generally resulting from migrations (past and present)

- Physical aspects: houses, shops, restaurants, temples....
- Transitory aspects: markets, festivals...
- Metaphysical & cultural aspects: languages heard, "public" attitudes, media coverage, fashions, community and ethnic networks....and of course, music!

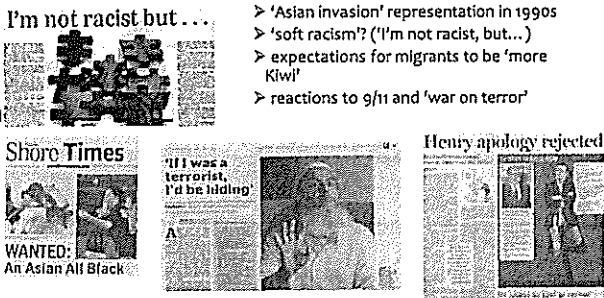
Evolving Chinese ethnoscapes over last 30 years

- Mismatch of qualifications and jobs in the 1990s >> unemployment and underemployment
- Considerable return or on-movement as a result
- Development of significant media presence: newspapers, radio, TV
- Increasing political involvement



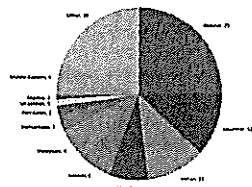
Representation of migration in the media

- Migration represented in many different ways in the media:
 - > 'Asian invasion' representation in 1990s
 - > 'soft racism'? ('I'm not racist, but...')
 - > expectations for migrants to be 'more Kiwi'
 - > reactions to 9/11 and 'war on terror'



A lot of positivity and celebration as well

Metro Magazine's "100 Best Cheap Eats in Auckland 2013, by ethnic speciality of café/restaurant"



Asian immigrants: our untapped intellectual capital



Fatu Fe'u, Samoan artist



C. Conclusions: Future Implications of Migration

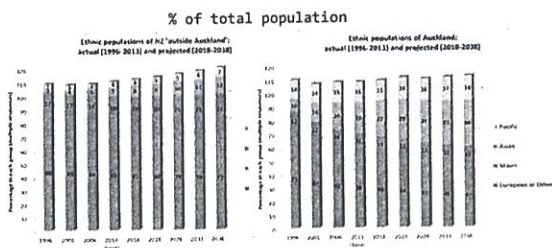
Net migration to NZ hits another record high, and could hit 70,000



Need for balanced treatment of 'net migration debate':

- Record net migration NOT a result of increased number of permanent residents
- It IS partly a result of much reduced net loss of NZers e.g. to and from Australia (which can not be regulated)
- Increased work immigration is significant, but many employers say it is difficult to find NZ employees for low paid jobs

Ethnic projections: Auckland vs. rest of New Zealand



Data source: Statistics New Zealand, Subnational ethnic population projections, 2013-2038, September 2015. Graphics: W. Friesen 2016

- After 2030, less than 50% of Auckland population will be of European origin
- Rapid diversification in Auckland, but note significance nation-wide (increase in ALL regional councils, and in MOST Territorial Authorities)

Some conclusions

- Rapid ethnic change is likely to continue
- Largest impact will be in Auckland, but change is spreading to all parts of NZ
- The attitudes of media, individuals, and government tend to evolve as they become accustomed to change e.g. those who know migrants are more likely to accept them than those who don't
- Planning at all levels is needed to accommodate for change i.e. national government, local/regional government, private companies, private and public service provision agencies
