



Education New Zealand Briefing

29 AUG 2018  
Office of Hon Hipley

<b>Title:</b>	July 2018 student visa summary		
<b>Date:</b>	28 August 2018	<b>Priority:</b>	Medium
<b>Security level:</b>	Unclassified	<b>ENZ ID no:</b>	1819-046

Action sought

Addressee:	Action sought:	Deadline:
	Note that Education New Zealand will release the July 2018 student visa numbers on 4 September 2018.	
Minister of Education	Forward this briefing to the Minister of Immigration for his information.  Agree that this briefing is proactively released as part of the September 2018 release.	

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name:	Position:	Telephone:	Cell phone:	1 <sup>st</sup> contact
John Goulter	General Manager, Stakeholders and Communications	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	Withheld under s9(2)(a)
Andy McPhee	Intelligence Manager	[Redacted]	Withheld under s9(2)(a)	x

The following departments/agencies have seen this report

<input type="checkbox"/> ERO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MBIE	<input type="checkbox"/> MFaT	<input type="checkbox"/> MoE	<input type="checkbox"/> MoH	<input type="checkbox"/> MSD
<input type="checkbox"/> NZQA	<input type="checkbox"/> NZTE	<input type="checkbox"/> TEC	<input type="checkbox"/> TPK	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>

Minister's office to complete

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Declined	<input type="checkbox"/> Noted	<input type="checkbox"/> Needs change
<input type="checkbox"/> Seen	<input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events	<input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's notes	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn

Comments:

Proactively released

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### Recommendations

Education New Zealand recommends that you

- a. **note** that Education New Zealand will release the July 2018 student visa numbers on 4 September 2018
- b. **forward** this briefing to the Minister of Immigration for his information
- c. **agree** that this briefing is proactively released as part of the September 2018 release

Noted

Agree / Disagree



Grant McPherson  
Chief Executive  
Education New Zealand



Hon Chris Hipkins  
Minister of Education

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## Purpose

1. This paper summarises the July 2018 student visa numbers that Education New Zealand (ENZ) will publish in [IntelliLab](#), ENZ's intelligence portal for the international education sector and government agencies, on 4 September 2018.

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## Background

2. International student enrolments and student visa numbers are used to assess trends in the international education sector. International student enrolments and student visa numbers are also important for sector planning and for government policy makers. ENZ reports student visa and international student enrolment numbers to industry and government.
3. Non-New Zealand residents wishing to study here generally require a visa to enter New Zealand. However, people from visa waiver countries who enter New Zealand on a visitor visa are able to study on courses of three months duration or less without requiring a student visa.
4. Student visa data, which is made available to ENZ on a monthly basis by Immigration New Zealand, provides a more timely indicator of sector trends than international student enrolment data, which is collected three times a year by the Ministry of Education. It should be noted however that student visa trends do not always provide an accurate means of estimating current (or future) international student enrolments.
5. ENZ focuses on first-time student visas to indicate the number of new international students being attracted to New Zealand and valid student visas as a lead indicator for international student enrolment numbers.
6. For sectors that typically attract multiyear enrolments (e.g. an international student undertaking a three-year Bachelors degree at a university), a decline in first-time student visas is often the first leading indicator of an impending future decline in total enrolments.

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## July 2018 student visa summary

7. For the July 2018 year to date, first-time student visas are down 3% compared to the same period in 2017. Chinese first-time student visas have continued the decline that started in May 2017, down 20%. In contrast, Indian first-time student visas have continued to recover and are up 7% in the year to date.
8. At 1 August 2018<sup>1</sup>, there were 2% fewer valid student visas in total compared to August 2017. There was a 16% decrease in valid student visas for the private training establishment (PTE) sector and a 6% decrease for the institutes of technology and polytechnics sector.
9. An increase in the number of valid student visas for the schools and university sectors is masking flat or decreasing first-time student visas for those sectors. The number of valid student visas is being bolstered by returning international students, rather than new students. Sectors with multiple years of valid student visa growth and flat or declining

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<sup>1</sup> Valid student visas are a count of the number of student visas that valid (i.e. a student visa that has been issued to an international student and has not expired) on a particular day.

first-time student visa numbers can expect decreasing international student enrolments when the returning international students complete their studies.

### **Next steps**

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10. On 4 September 2018, ENZ will release the July 2018 Visa Summary (Appendix One) in its online intelligence portal, [IntelliLab](#).

### **Proactive release**

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11. ENZ intends to proactively release this briefing as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Proactively released

## Appendix One: July 2018 Visa Summary

