



Union membership return report 2014

Section 16 of the Employment Relations Act 2000 requires every registered union in New Zealand to file with the Registrar of Unions, by 1 June each year, an annual return of its membership numbers as at 1 March.

Summary

As at 1 March 2014, there were 144 registered unions in New Zealand, with a total membership of 364,846. This represented 15.7% of the employed labour force at that date (Household Labour Force Survey for the March 2014 quarter).

Total union membership declined by 1.8% compared with the previous year; the employed labour force increased by 1.4% (to 2,318,000) over the same period.

Analysis

125 unions have so far provided their membership returns. Of those:

- The average number of members is 1,398 but the median number is 100 members
- The ten largest unions have 287,839 members: accounting for 78.9% of total union membership
- More women than men are union members (58.1%/41.9%)
- 30.5% of unions have fewer than 100 members.

Follow-up action is being taken in respect of the unions that have not yet filed their 2014 returns: one of them is a newly-incorporated union; one has indicated an intention to merge with another union, and one has filed an application for dissolution.

Six-year trend in union membership

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Union membership at 1 March	387,959	379,649	384,644	379,185	371,613	364,846
% change in union membership year on year	+3.9	-2.1	+1.3	-1.4	-2.0	-1.8
% of employees who are union members	21.5	20.9	20.9	20.5	20.1	18.6
% of employed labour force who are union members	17.9	17.4	17.4	17.0	16.6	15.7
% change in employed labour force	+1.9	-0.1	+1.8	+0.7	+0.3	+1.4

Table 1: Union membership numbers as at 1 March 2014

Union name	Numbers
Alloy Yachts Employees' Federation Incorporated	151
Alternative Staff Group Incorporated	134
Amalgamated Workers' Union of New Zealand Incorporated	31
Amalgamated Workers' Union New Zealand Southern Incorporated	3,882
Ambulance Officer's Workplace Union Incorporated	56
Associated Council Employees Incorporated	62
Association of Academic Staff at CPIT Incorporated	198
Association of Professional & Executive Employees Incorporated	2,259
Association of Ritchie's Employees (Albany Branch) Incorporated	9
Association of Salaried Medical Specialists Incorporated	4,281
Aviation and Marine Engineers' Association Incorporated	2,400
Bay of Plenty Regional Council Staff Association Incorporated	213
Bay Road & Quarry Workers Incorporated	81
Bay Union Group Incorporated	300

Bureau Staff Association Incorporated	146
Canterbury and Regions Totalisator Employees' Association Incorporated	170
Cape Foulwind Drivers & Operators & General Workers' Union Incorporated	25
Central Amalgamated Workers' Union Incorporated	3,060
Central Staff Collective Incorporated	N/R
Christ's College Academic Staff Association Incorporated	66
CIE Workers Union Incorporated	N/R
Combined Employees' Association Incorporated	491
Combined Hospital Individual Contracts Collective Union Incorporated	N/R
Corrections Association of New Zealand Incorporated	2,500
DOTSE Staff Association Incorporated	53
Eastern Bay Independent Industrial Workers' Union 1995 Incorporated	58
Eastern Civil Engineers' Union Incorporated	N/R
Electrical Union 2011 Incorporated	109
Featherston Mill Workers' Union Incorporated	18
FIRST Union Incorporated	26,456
Flight Attendants and Related Services (NZ) Association Inc	1,919
Hastings District Council Employees' Association Incorporated	133
Hawkes Bay Workers' Union Inc	6
HHB Workers' Union Inc	75
Hostel Managers' Association Inc	19
Hutt Valley Society of Independent Bus Drivers Inc	60
IAG NZ Staff Association Inc	544
Independent Electrical Workers' Union 1995 Inc	38
J Ballantyne Staff Association Incorporated	144
King's College Teachers' Association Inc	74
Legal Workers Union of New Zealand Incorporated	N/R ¹
Manufacturing & Construction Workers' Union Incorporated	1,470
Maritime Union of New Zealand Incorporated	2,697
Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance (New Zealand) Incorporated	725
M.E.U Society Incorporated	120
Midwifery Employee Representation & Advisory Service Incorporated	1,473
Napier City Council Staff Association Incorporated	132
National Union of Public Employees Incorporated	1,176
Nelson Collective Union Incorporated	114
The New Plymouth District Council Staff Association	212
New Zealand Advertising Guild & Associates Incorporated	150
New Zealand Airline Pilots Association Industrial Union of Workers Incorporated	2,235
New Zealand Ambulance Association Incorporated	110
New Zealand Bakers, Pastrycooks and Related Employees Union Incorporated	694
New Zealand Central Baking Trades & Related Trades Employees' Union Incorporated	23
New Zealand Dairy Workers Union - Te Runanga Wai U Incorporated	7,100

New Zealand Educational Institute Te Riu Roa Incorporated	49,816
New Zealand Executive Fire Officers' Society Incorporated	47
New Zealand Fishing Industry Guild Incorporated	572
New Zealand Furniture Manufacturing and Associated Workers' Union Incorporated	150
New Zealand Halal Slaughtermen Union Incorporated	N/R ²
New Zealand Meat Workers and Related Trades Union Incorporated	13,602
New Zealand Medical Laboratory Workers Union Incorporated	1,104
New Zealand Merchant Service Guild Industrial Union of Workers Incorporated	700
New Zealand Netball Players' Association Incorporated	60
The New Zealand Nurses' Organisation Incorporated	46,536
New Zealand Police Association Incorporated	10,943
New Zealand Police Managers' Guild Incorporated	191
New Zealand Post-Primary Teachers' Association Incorporated	16,855
New Zealand Professional Drivers and Transport Employees' Association Incorporated	N/R
New Zealand Professional Firefighters' Union Incorporated	1,850
New Zealand Professional Footballers' Association Incorporated	101
New Zealand Public Service Association Incorporated	58,013
New Zealand Resident Doctors' Association Inc	2,207
The New Zealand Tertiary Education Union Te Hautu Kahurangi O Aotearoa Incorporated	10,069
New Zealand Tramways & Public Passenger Transport Employees' Industrial Union	1,280
New Zealand Writers' Guild	225
Night and Day Port Workers Association	N/R
North Island Mussel Employees' Union Inc	N/R
Northern Amalgamated Workers' Union Inc	2,514
Northern Chemical Workers' Union	1,100
Northern Totalisator & Allied Employees' Association Inc	163
Number One Manufacturing Association Inc	N/R
NZ Employees' Union Inc	47
NZ Tour Drivers' Union Inc	55
NZ Van Lines Union Inc	N/R
Omnibus Workers' Union Inc	44
Pareora Trades Guild Inc	N/R ³
Port Pro Incorporated	78
Postal Workers Union of Aotearoa Incorporated	1,050
Professional Verifiers' Institute Inc	99
Promina Group Staff Association of NZ Inc	191
QANTAS Employees' Collective Inc	82
Rail and Maritime Transport Union Inc	4,414
Reunited Employees' Association Inc	276
Saint Kentigern Teachers' Association Inc	125
Sanford Workers' Association Timaru Inc	50
School Executive Officers Association	364

Secondary Principals' Association New Zealand	76
Shorecare Staff Society Inc	N/R
Service & Food Workers Union	21,346
SLGOU (Southern Local Government Officers' Union) Associates Inc	54
Southern Coastal Employees' Association	137
Southern Local Government Officers' Union Inc	1,984
The Southland District Council Officers' Association Inc	30
The South Waikato District Council Staff Association Inc	6
St Margaret's College Teachers' Union Inc	90
St Peter's Cambridge Academic Staff Association	78
Taranaki Regional Council Staff Association Inc	118
Taranaki Union Group Incorporated	0
Tasman Staff Association Inc	52
Taxpro Inc	914
Te Kuiti Beef Workers' Union	N/R
Tertiary Institutes Allied Staff Association Inc	1,664
The Amalgamated Stevedores' Union Inc	N/R
The Auckland Association of International Flight Planners	29
The Caregivers and Related Employees' Independent Association of Staff Inc	217
The Clutha District Council Officers' Association	58
The Customs Officers' Association Inc	443
The Farmers Mutual Group Staff Association	8
The Federation of Air New Zealand Pilots	233
The Foreign Service Association	485
The Grey District Council Union of Employees Inc	66
The Hawkes Bay Regional Council Staff Union Inc	N/R
The Independent Schools' Education Association Inc	634
The New Zealand Amalgamated Engineering, Printing & Manufacturing Union Inc	33,203
The NZ Towage, Pilotage and Port Workers' Industrial Union Inc	N/R
The Rotorua Peoples' Advocacy Union Inc	31
The Royal New Zealand Ballet Union of Employees Inc	40
The Rugby Players' Collective Inc	750
The Surfside Employees' Association	N/R
TIG The Independent Group Inc	32
TIG-HW Inc	29
Together Incorporated	510
Towers Auckland Employees' Union Inc	N/R
Tuia Union Inc	734
Unison Networks Employees' Association Inc	39
UNITE Inc	6,691
United Fisheries Workplace Union Inc	42
Western Bay of Plenty District Council Employees' Association Inc	100

Whakatane District Council Employees' Association Inc	126
Work & Income Northland Staff Inc	62
WSA Inc	110
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TOTAL	364,846

Footnotes

¹ Newly incorporated union.

² Has indicated that it plans to merge with New Zealand Meat Workers and Related Trades Union.

³ Has filed an application for dissolution of union.

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Table 2: Union membership by industry and gender

Industry	Female	Male	Total
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Restaurants & Accommodation	3,970	2,418	6,388
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	979	3,954	4,933
Communication Services	3,139	2,957	6,096
Construction & Trade Services	349	6,111	6,460
Cultural & Recreational Services	3,220	2,937	6,157
Education	64,623	19,561	84,184
Electricity, Gas & Water Services	551	2,853	3,404
Finance, Insurance & Business Services	5,433	3,085	8,518
Government Administration and Defence	26,162	23,795	50,004
Health & Community Services	79,107	15,866	99,439
Manufacturing	9,660	35,550	45,210
Mining	123	1,616	1,739
Transport & Storage	5,457	21,134	26,616
Wholesale & Retail	8,570	5,274	13,844
Other Industry: Professional Sports			750
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Totals	211,343	147,111	363,742

Note

A small number of returns did not specify the gender of their membership.