Christchurch Report

September 2017

Christchurch tech sector

$2.4bn contribution to GDP
1,650 companies in tech sector
14,837 employees in the tech sector

45.5% digital media companies
23.8% software solutions companies
13.6% contribution to total revenue for tech sector in NZ

The South Island ICT Graduate school opened its doors on 22 August 2017. It aims to produce graduates with work-relevant and business-focused skills and provide more direct pathways from education into employment. The school will focus on key ICT areas relevant to the regional economies, including agri-tech, health technology and communication products and services.

IT Jobseekers in Christchurch

- Permanent (78%)
- Contractor (22%)
- Male (85%)
- Female (15%)
- Private Sector (71%)
- Public Sector (29%)
$79,000
median base salary

$95
median base rate per hour

Most prevalent IT skills in Christchurch?
1. Software Developer
2. Network & Infrastructure
3. Support/Help desk
4. Business Analysis
5. IT Management

Pay rise expectations?
61% - Yes, expecting it
15% - Not expecting it
24% - Not sure

Top non-financial benefits for Christchurch job seekers?

Flexible working hours
Career development planning
Additional Annual leave

52% indicate that they will look for a new role within the next year
Biggest deciding factor when accepting a new job offer:

1. Better salary package - 26%
2. Challenging work - 25%
3. Training and development opportunities - 16%

Top 3 reasons for moving jobs:

"Skills not being utilised" - 26%
"Time for a change" - 18%
"Better remuneration" - 13%

Work/life balance:

38% Above average
57% Average
5% Below average

83% of IT professionals in Christchurch have flexible working options i.e. flexible working hours and/or remote access

90% of IT professionals in Christchurch rate their workplace as a good place to work
IT Employers in Christchurch

Biggest business challenges for IT employers in Christchurch?

- Growing market share (27%)
- Attracting and retaining staff (24%)

Planning to recruit IT staff?

- Yes -90%
- No - 10%

Key reasons for hiring in Christchurch?

1. Increased IT demand from the business
2. Increased customer demand
3. New projects

Top 10 skills in demand in Christchurch

1. Software Development
2. Business Analysis
3. Cloud & Digital
4. Networking/Infrastructure
5. Project Management
6. Support & Helpdesk
7. Business Intelligence
8. Architecture
9. Data/Database
10. Production/Operations
Attracting talent - easier, harder or the same as a year ago?

- **Easier**: 11% in 2015, 11% in 2016, 5% in 2017.
- **Harder**: 89% in 2015, 71% in 2016, 71% in 2017.

Year on year figures show that Christchurch employers are finding it increasingly difficult to attract talent. An average increase of 6.5% YoY in the 'harder' category.

Will you pay increases this year?

- **Yes**: 69%
- **No**: 2%
- **Unsure**: 29%

Top 3 benefits in Christchurch

1. Flexible working hours (43%)
2. Mobile phone (40%)
3. Health care subsidies (35%)

Median bonus rate is $3,000 in Christchurch.

26% of IT professionals received bonuses over the past year, down 2% from 2016.

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AbsoluteIT delivers New Zealand’s best IT recruitment solutions. We used the following sources for this report: over 43,000 real-time contract and permanent employees’ details as entered into itsalaries.co.nz, July 2017 Absolute IT Remuneration Report, The 2017 TIN100 Investor’s Guide to the NZ Technology Sector & NZTA Investment Canterbury.

We are proudly New Zealand-owned and our record speaks for itself: 96% of IT jobseekers would recommend us to others.