



Health & Community Profile

Employment Nelson-Tasman

Introduction

The health services industry includes a broad range of health care providers. The main services are mental health, health, and elderly care. Health services have a strong focus towards community-based rehabilitation and develop programmes to help prevent and overcome illness, which means an increasing number of providers are working in schools, community clinics and private practice.

Employment in the Industry

This sector employed over 3000 in the year 2000.

- ◆ **Public Hospitals** are one of the larger employers in the health and community industry. Nelson Marlborough Health employs 2500 people in Nelson - Blenheim.
- ◆ **Community Support** services require people to have life skills and maturity to work with people in disability, mental health, and elder care.
- ◆ **Health Service Practitioners** develop ongoing therapeutic programmes to help people (and often their families) overcome their illnesses, and play a major part in educating clients on how to help themselves prevent injuries and long-term health problems.
- ◆ **Community Services** - There is a wide variety of different areas in community service and much of this is provided by volunteers. People working in the community service sectors have a primary focus of working with their clients to improve their quality of life. Qualifications needed to enter these jobs vary widely, from the post-tertiary degree and registration needed to work as a clinical psychologist, to the training and life experience required for career counselling.
- ◆ **Pharmacy** is concerned with the preparation and use of medicines and their effect on the human body. The three main categories of pharmacy are hospital, industrial and community. New Zealand Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are welcomed in Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States.
- ◆ **Elderly Care** – New Zealand has an aging population and a number of people choose to retire in Nelson. This will mean more people will be needed to provide care for the elderly.
- ◆ **Personal Health** and fitness is becoming more and more popular increasing the need for personal trainers.
- ◆ **Specialists** – Qualified health specialists are highly valued.

What Employers Are Looking For

- ◆ To have compassion, and an interest in caring for people is important.
- ◆ A strong belief in the importance of health and well being is needed.
- ◆ Health providers need to have skill and qualifications relevant to their area of work.

Current Skill Shortages

- ◆ There is a shortage of nursing staff nationwide, particularly Registered Nurses.
- ◆ Care givers and kitchen assistants for elderly care.
- ◆ Support workers in the community working for the Hospital.

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY Employment Categories

Job Title Wages	No employ	Job Description	Training
Public Hospital	1450	Work in public health care	
Doctor \$50,000+ pa	195	Private practise or treating patients in a hospital	Doctor – five years university training required
Qualified Nurse \$40,000pa		General nursing duties. Oversee junior staff. NZ registered general nurse	Bachelor Nursing – Three years nursing degree

Nurse Assistant \$28 - \$30,000pa		General nursing duties	Foundation in Nursing or introduced nursing training
Pharmacist – \$23,000-\$60,000pa Hospital pay generally higher		Pharmacist, prepare and dispense medication	Pharmacists need to have a UE qual, & four year Bachelor of Pharmacy. Pharmacists must have a National Cert in Pharmacy
Counsellor \$22,000+ pa		Drug or Alcohol rehabilitation and personal issues	Social Work degree or diploma and appropriate counselling Training
Support Workers Community Worker \$22,000-\$27,500pa	200 +	Promoting independence for people with disabilities and the elderly in their home or in the community	No fixed pre entry requirements. Attributes are patience, empathy, good communication skills and appropriate skills are needed
Orderly \$18,700-\$20,800pa		Assist nursing staff and transfer patients as required	On the job training
Specialised Services wages vary greatly	135	For example Optometry, Pathology, Osteopathy	Specialised training in appropriate field
Physiotherapists \$30,500+ pa Assistants \$18,500-\$24,700pa	27	Helps people retain and maintain physical mobility	Post graduate diploma qualifications
Massage Therapist Varies greatly		Therapeutic or relaxation massage	Diploma in Massage
Natural health therapists \$30-\$50 per hour		Uses natural healing methods to help restore and promote health.	Recognised study in Homeopathy or natural healing.
Dentist most are self employed and wages vary greatly	90	Provides dental care	Complete 7 th form Particularly chemistry, physics, and biology subjects. Bachelor of Dental Surgery
Dental Assistant \$16,600-\$31,200 pa		Helps dentist with patient care and the running of a dental practice	School C English & science preferred. Complete dental association course
Accommodation for Aged	330	Provide care and services to the elderly	Caregivers Cert, National Certificate in care of the elderly
Non Residential Care Givers Residential Care Givers \$19,800-\$22,800pa	30 140	Provide care and services to the elderly	Caregivers Cert, National Certificate in Care for the Elderly. People working in this area need to have compassion and an interest in working with older people
Fitness Centre Managers \$30,000+ pa		Manage Staff and the running of a health and fitness centre	Prior experience in fitness Industry and business management skills or qualifications
Personal Trainers Paid on contract wages vary		Work-out and maintain individual training and fitness programmes for individual clients	Diploma Exercise Science, Practical knowledge and experience, good communication skills
Aerobics Instructors \$25 - \$30 per class		Lead aerobics classes	Aerobics training
Gymfloor Instructors \$20,800+ pa		Take clients through fitness programmes and provide support	Sports Science or Sports Medicine. Good communication skills and good people skills

Some Training Pathways to Employment

- ◆ Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology offers courses in:
 - ◆ **Certificate in Family Care and Home Management** (Nanny) – 34 weeks.
 - ◆ **Certificate in Mental Health (Hospital)** – one year full time.
 - ◆ **Foundation Nursing Programme** –18 weeks. Designed for students over 20yrs.
 - ◆ **Bachelor of Nursing** - 3 years full time.
- ◆ Nelson Marlborough Hospital puts internal vacancies on their website every Friday. For further details visit www.nmhs.co.nz.
- ◆ For further information about nursing see the NZ Nurses' Organisation, PO Box 2128, Wellington. Ph (04) 385 0847.
- ◆ Dentistry involves 5 years university study available at Otago.

Major Employers

- ◆ Public Hospitals
- ◆ Private Elder Care Facilities
- ◆ Private Health Care Providers