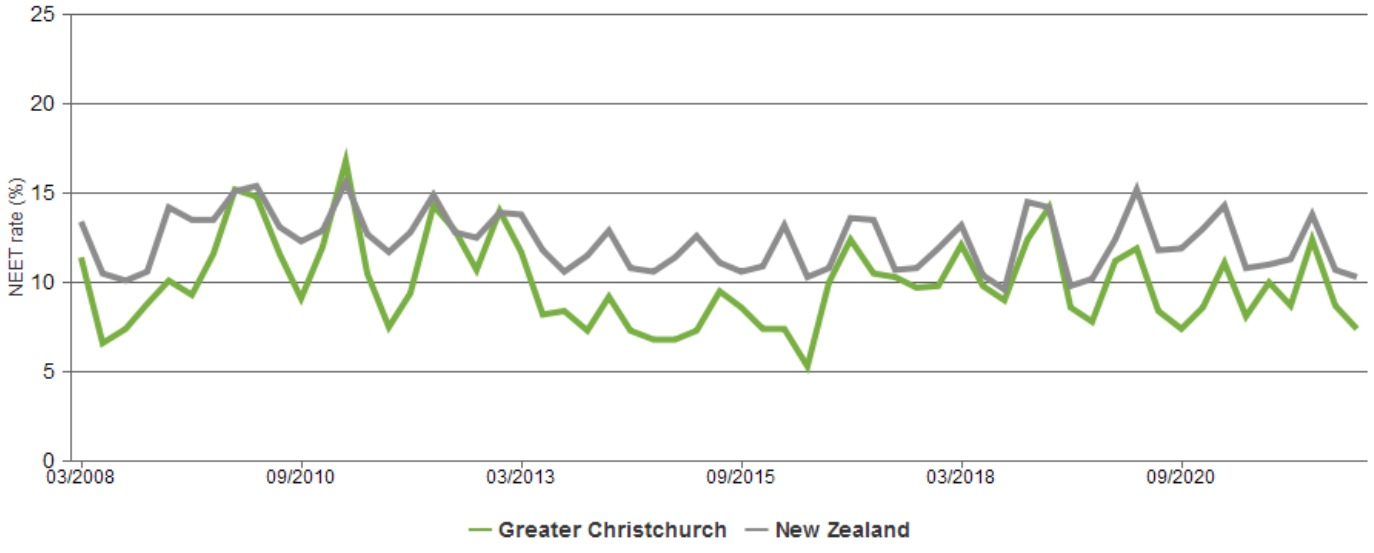
Education: Not engaged in employment, education, or training

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The proportion of young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET) is commonly used as a measure of non-utilised youth labour potential [12]. Young people who are NEET are at risk of becoming disadvantaged or marginalised in the future [12-14]. How young people transition from education to employment can have major implications over their lifetime. The long-term impacts of becoming NEET include lower levels of earnings in later life, future unemployment, poorer physical and mental health, increased risk of teenage and early parenthood, insecure housing, homelessness, and involvement in crime [12]. NEET rates tend to follow a seasonal pattern reflecting the academic year.

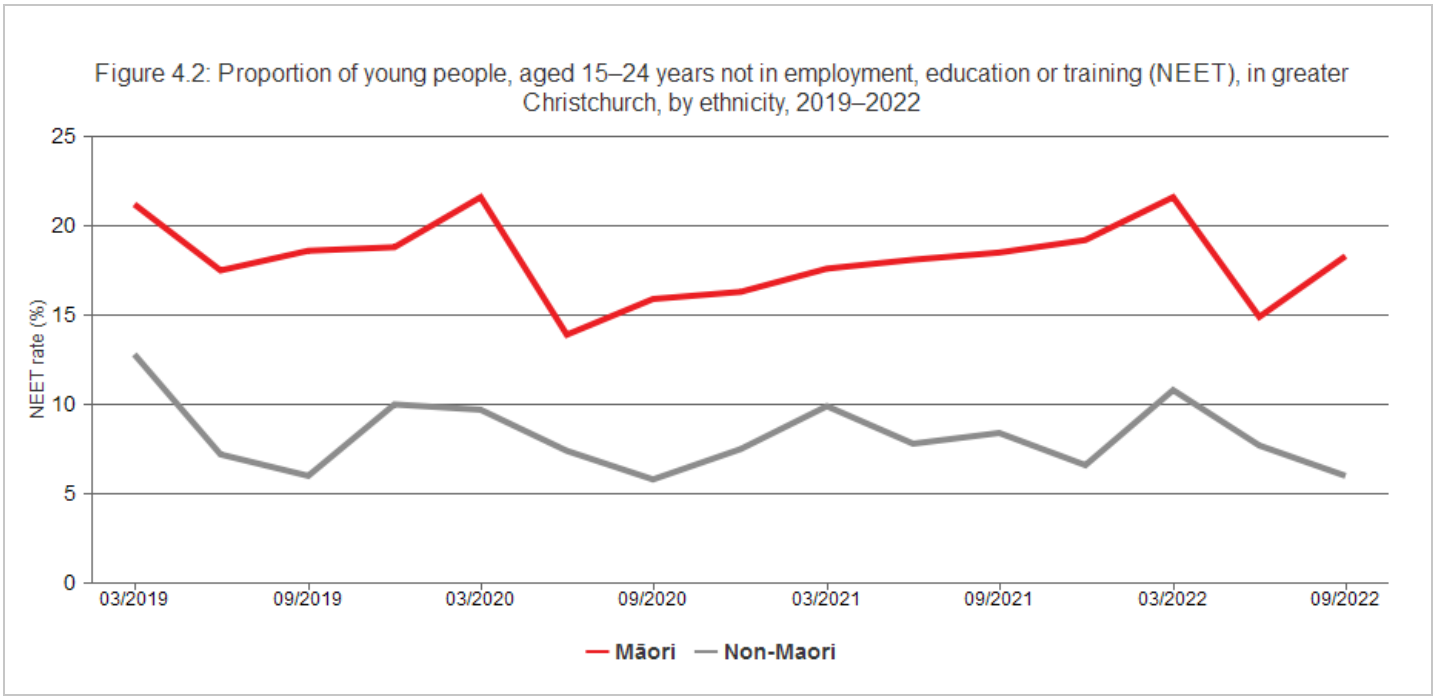
This indicator presents the proportion of young people aged 15 to 24 years who are not engaged in employment, education, or training (NEET).

Figure 4.1: Proportion of young people aged 15–24 years not in employment, education or training (NEET), in greater Christchurch and New Zealand, 2008–2022



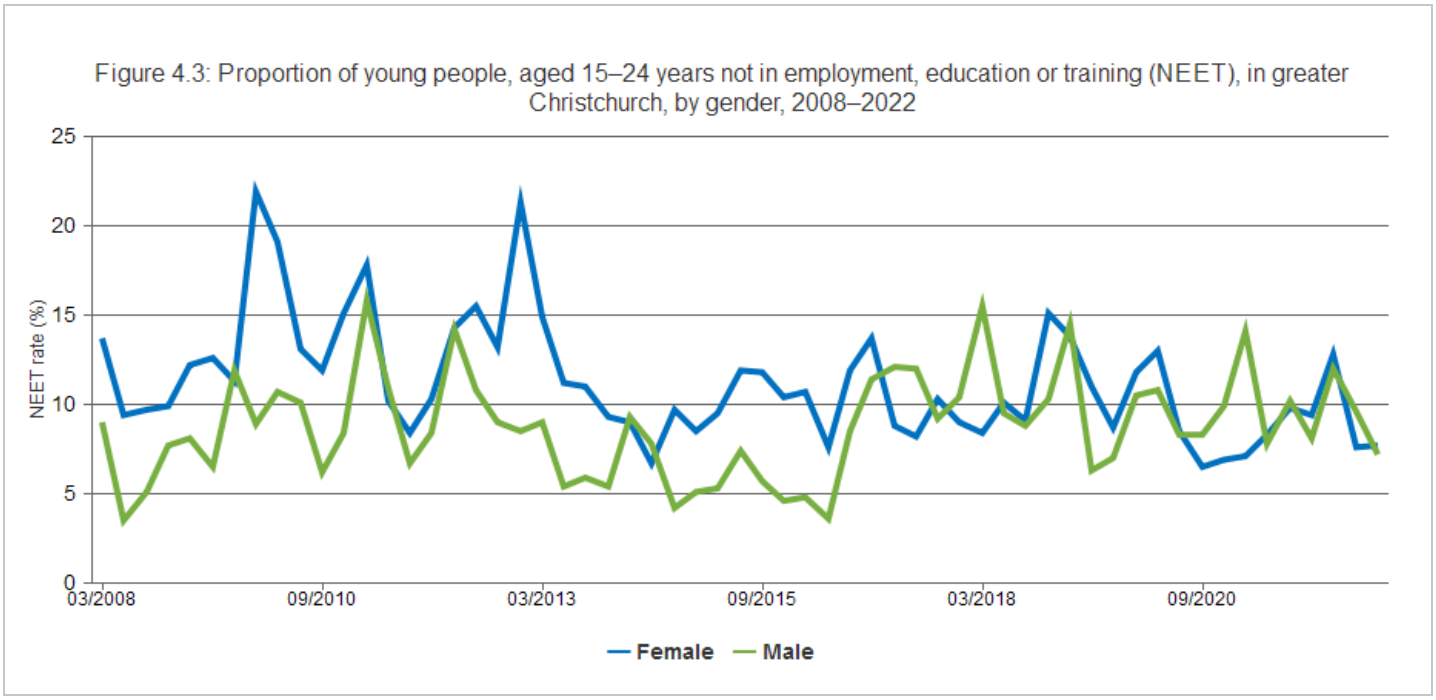
The proportion of young people aged 15 to 24 years who are not in employment, education or training (NEET) in greater Christchurch peaked after the February 2011 earthquakes at 16.8 percent in March 2011. Then, as young people in greater Christchurch took advantage of rebuild and other opportunities, the NEET rate decreased steadily to a low of 5.3 percent in June 2016. The figure suggests that the post-earthquake drop in the NEET rate for greater Christchurch has now dissipated. In September 2022 the greater Christchurch NEET rate was 7.4 percent, compared to 10.3 percent for New Zealand overall.

Breakdown by ethnicity



The figure highlights the substantial disparity in the proportion of young Māori respondents aged 15–24 years not in employment, education, or training (NEET), in greater Christchurch, compared with non-Māori respondents, over the time-series shown. The difference between Māori and non-Māori NEET outcomes has been approximately 10 percentage points, consistently, for the period March 2019 to September 2022 (12.3 percentage points difference in September 2022; 18.3% and 6% respectively). Note, the June 2021 data point is an estimate as the actual number is suppressed.

Breakdown by gender



The gender gap seen in the greater Christchurch NEET rate in the initial post-earthquake years has dissipated. In September 2022, the NEET rate was 7.2 percent for males and 7.7 percent for females in greater Christchurch.

Data Sources

Source: Statistics New Zealand.
Survey/data set: Household Labour Force Survey to September 2022. Custom data request for greater Christchurch region.
Source data frequency: Quarterly.

Metadata for this indicator is available at https://www.canterburywellbeing.org.nz/our-wellbeing/index-data

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