



People from all around the world move to Aotearoa New Zealand to work and live. Some parties make strong arguments for policies that restrict the numbers of international migrants allowed to live and work here; others think we should welcome people with certain educational and professional skills, or people who have family members already here. In this activity, we will explore the policies that determine who gets to live and work in our country.

→ Go to policy.nz/2023/party-vote/policies/migration

→ Find and read the 'Immigration' section

→ Explore answers to these questions and share your ideas and reasoning with others

1. Net migration is the difference between how many people arrive and leave a country. It's an important consideration for any government, to ensure we can plan to have enough services (like roads, schools, hospitals) for everyone who needs them.

- Why do you think it is so important to know how many people are either arriving to live here or leaving Aotearoa New Zealand to live somewhere else?
- Have a look at [this graph](#) which shows net migration of New Zealand citizens from 2017 to 2023. What do you notice about 2020 and 2023? What might some implications of these changes in net migration trends be for our country?

2. 2020 and 2023 are not normal years when it comes to international migration. Use the data on [this page](#) to create your own graphs. Discuss with your classmates what you want to show in your graph, and the best way to represent the data. Remember to title and label your axes!

→ Go back to Policy.nz and browse the policies. Click on policies to read more detail

→ Save the policies you agree with by clicking the heart icon

3. Choose one policy you saved and find a partner who also saved that policy. Discuss the reasons that you like this policy. Then find another pair of students who did not save that policy. Can you explain your reasons to each other? Complete a PMI for the policy you saved and the policy the other students you spoke with saved.

4. Some people argue certain immigration policies are racist, or at least perpetuate racism. Read this [this NZHistory](#) page to look for historical examples of racist policies, and [this article](#) about a policy change made in 2019. Think, pair and share the different points of view that are made in the article. Do you think it is fair to accuse the government of passing a racist policy?

5. If you were in government, what would your immigration policy be? Why?