
A Bright Future for ICT: Continuing Growth in Enrolments and Jobs

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Abstract

In spite of the slow recovery from the recession that began in September 2008, IT & T jobs advertised in NZ on both the Trademe and Seek web sites have continued their upward trend from the September 2009 trough.

Tertiary enrolments in ICT programmes are also continuing to increase, presumably/anecdotally in response to the ongoing recession.

This poster highlights the trends in ICT job advertisements, tertiary enrolments and the demand for specific ICT skills, both here in New Zealand and overseas

Keywords

ICT, jobs, tertiary, enrolments

Introduction

ICT jobs advertised on Seek IT NZ and Trademe fell dramatically, following the global recession in September 2008. The low point, however, was short lived and by September 2009 ICT job advertisements on both Seek NZ and Trademe were, once again, on the rise. The increasing demand for graduates with the right combination of knowledge and skills was also highlighted throughout 2010 in various national and international publications. The author continues to monitor ICT job and tertiary enrolment trends and to publish the results in a series of monthly PowerPoint slides on the CITRENZ web site, together with commentary.

Content

Data from the Seek and Trademe web sites is accessed on the 15th of each month to chart the ICT job advertisement trends (Fig 1).

This quality assured paper appeared at the 2nd annual conference of Computing and Information Technology Research and Education New Zealand (CITRENZ2011) incorporating the 24th Annual Conference of the National Advisory Committee on Computing Qualifications, Rotorua, New Zealand, July 6-8. Samuel Mann and Michael Verhaart (Eds).

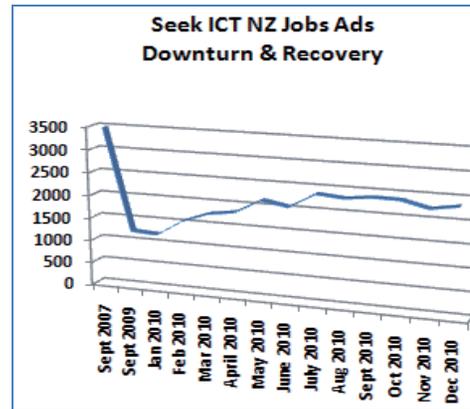


Figure 1 Seek IT NZ Job Ads Downturn & Recovery

These monthly records, together with national and international commentary regarding ICT trends, are published on the CITRENZ web site <http://www.naccq.ac.nz/index.php/job-trends> (Accessed March 2011)

ICT EFTS (Equivalent Full Time Students) trends in the ITP sector have been charted from 2002 and are steadily increasing, following prolonged period of decline from 2002 to 2007 (Fig 2).

The ICT job advert monthly series for 2011 has been expanded to include a variety of job categories to indicate demand for programming languages and for industry certifications.

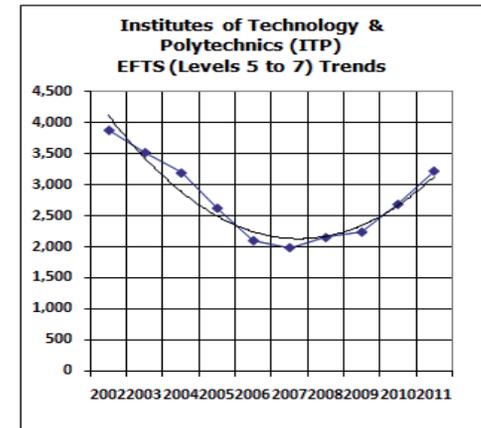


Figure 2: ITP ICT EFTS 2002 to 2011 (Estimated)

Conclusion

The following extract from the NZ Herald perhaps best expresses the current state of the ICT industry in NZ:

ICT Needs to Up Their Game (Jane Kennelly –director of Frog Recruitment)

"The ICT sector is full of amazing opportunities.....but the industry doesn't seem to be able to showcase itself in a way that makes it understandable or inviting.....It's an area where we're going to have a [skills] shortage.....If young people aren't attracted into industries with skills shortages the only option is to bring people in from overseas"

(NZ Herald, 2011)

References

[Seek IT & T Jobs](#) (Accessed April 2011)

[NACCQ EFTS Data](#) (Accessed May 2011)

NZ Herald, Education Supplement, 26th January 2011