

The logo for the Crane Association of New Zealand (INC) is located in the top left corner. It consists of the word "crane" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, with "ASSOCIATION" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font directly below it. The text is set against a solid orange rectangular background.

crane
ASSOCIATION

OF NEW ZEALAND (INC)

The background of the slide features a silhouette of a crane lifting a large, dark rectangular object. The crane's cables and hook are visible against a light sky. The right side of the slide is dominated by a large, solid orange triangle that points towards the bottom right corner. The title text is overlaid on the left side of the slide, in white.

Crane Operator Shortage Survey Results

Conducted by the Crane Association of New Zealand - April 2021

Introduction

The Crane Operator Shortage Survey was conducted in order to quantify the shortage of crane operators in New Zealand, following feedback from industry that this issue had emerged.

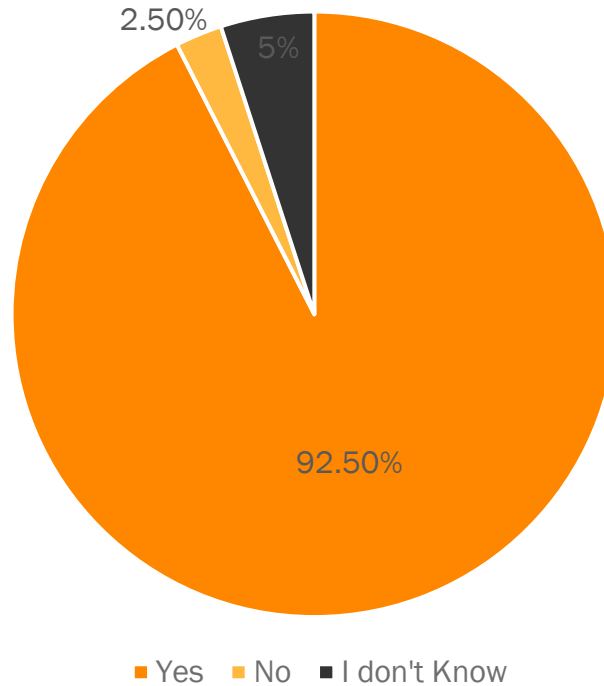
The survey was sent to all members of the Crane Association asking questions to determine the nature of any shortage and to identify plausible solutions.

All data provided is preliminary and done through a sample survey.

1. The Situation

What is happening in the industry

Do you believe there is currently a shortage of skilled crane operators in NZ (incl riggers and dogmen)?

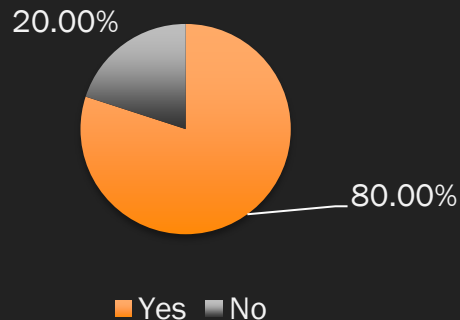


The shortage is real

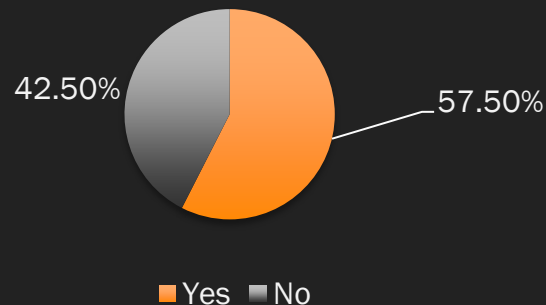
Throughout New Zealand, an overwhelming majority of companies are finding a shortage of skilled crane operators in New Zealand.

Approximately 57% of companies are turning down work because of their labour requirements, meaning construction projects are being delayed or cancelled.

Is your company currently experiencing a shortage of operators?



Is your company currently turning down work due to a lack of crane operators?



On average, 3-4 skilled crane operators per company are needed in the next 12 months, which means just from our survey, we need:

405 - 540 skilled crane operators*
in the next 12 months across New Zealand

Where are they going to come from?

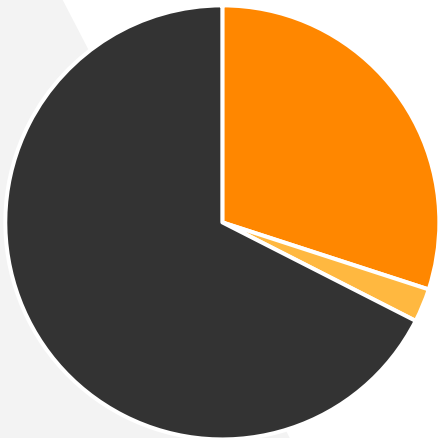
*estimate calculated as an average using the data provided from respondents x number of members of the CANZ – this number is expected to be much greater across the wider industry

2. Sourcing Crane Operators

And why companies are looking overseas

Sourcing operators from overseas

If you have a shortage of operators, is this able to be filled by training new operators?



■ Yes ■ No ■ Partly - recruitment is still required

Industry feedback is that there are very few skilled crane operators available to hire. The majority of those hired, come from a competitor company.

The additional resource needed to meet the current construction demand is not being met by the pool of available workers.

Therefore crane companies are looking overseas to fill the gap.

Only **32%** of companies say they can hire crane operators within New Zealand.

Can't we just train new operators in New Zealand?

Training is important and remains a focus for crane companies and the industry association.

However it takes two years to train a new operator and two to five years for that operator to be fully competent.

Crane training happens on the job, so the skilled operators needed to help train and supervise new operators are not available. They are needed to operate the cranes.

Companies said that if they were able to hire experienced crane operators from overseas, this would free up time for training new operators.

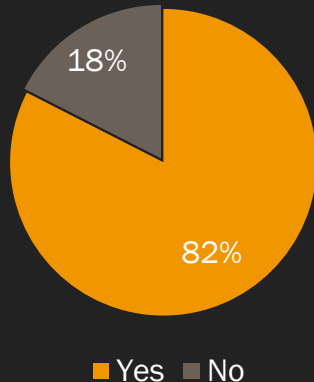
From our survey this indicates:

270 additional Crane Operators*

could be trained across New Zealand

*Estimate taken from our survey, this number may be significantly higher

If experienced operators were able to be hired in from overseas, would this help your company to provide training to new operators due to the additional resource taking pressure off operations?





“

Unfortunately, it takes time to create the skill set.

Up to 5 years for 100+ tonne mobile cranes.

Training new operators won't fill the gap fast enough, so we need overseas operators to help.

- Mcleod Cranes



”

3 - 4 Crane Operators per company

In the next 12 months

405 - 540 Crane Operators

In the next 12 months

None coming in

From overseas

3. Effects on the Construction Industry

What happens if we do nothing?

Effect on the Construction Industry

70% of crane companies surveyed believe that the shortage of operators will have detrimental effects (such as major delays) on the construction industry in the next 12 months.

Crane companies are already turning away work because they don't have enough operators to do the job.

We are hearing that this pressure is forcing companies to use operators for jobs that are beyond their current capabilities – just to get the job done.

This shortage will affect the entire construction industry due to the reliance on cranes.



4. Summary & Solution

A thick, dark blue horizontal bar spanning the width of the slide, positioned below the main title.

Here is what the survey told us – a summary

- ▶ There is a crane operator shortage in New Zealand.
- ▶ The Crane Association signals delays to the wider construction industry if the shortage is not solved.
- ▶ Training will continue but does not solve the immediate need for skilled & experienced operators.
- ▶ New operators must come from elsewhere – the obvious solution being overseas / immigration.
- ▶ 95% of companies would commit to more training if they can get more workers from overseas to help meet the current demand.

This is what we should do about it – our solution

By supporting the crane industry to bring operators in from overseas on temporary visas, the current demand for crane services can be met.

This in turn, allows the breathing room required within crane companies to focus on training new operators. This will provide more jobs for kiwis and helps to build capacity into the industry to meet future demand.

To do this, the following is needed:

- ▶ Acknowledge crane operator shortage
- ▶ Add crane operators to the skills shortage list
- ▶ Support applications for temporary work visas
- ▶ Continue the allocated MIQ slots whilst visas and recruitment are sorted

THANK YOU

Any questions?

Contact us → info@cranes.org.nz

Credits

Special thanks to all the companies that completed the survey.

John Jones Steel Limited

Hi Lift Cranes Ltd

CLL Group

McLeod Hiabs Ltd

McLeod Cranes Ltd

JD Rigging Services Ltd

Juno Civil

Titan Cranes Ltd

Cranetec group

Banks Crane Hire

Digital Training and
Assessment Ltd

Southern Tower's

Calder Stewart Plant MRL LTD

Seipp Construction Ltd

Design Production Ltd

Agtrans Ltd

Heron Construction

Culham Engineering

Foster Construction 4

Real Ltd Mini Cranes NZ LTD

Auckland Cranes Ltd

Thompson Engineering

Atlas Cranes

Northland Ltd

Hi Lift Cranes

Evan Jones construction

Lattey group

Smith Crane & Construction Ltd

Ian Roebuck Crane Hire Limited

Hawkes Bay Crane Hire 2015
Ltd

Murtagh Crane Hire Ltd

Downer NZ

Linkalliance