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Emerging Social Issues Division

Social Policy and Population Section

Asia-Pacific Population Journal

Article Interregional Demographic Aging and Migration of the

Elderly in New Zealand

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Abstract One of the largest and most rapidly expanding minorities in New Zealand is the elderly section of the population. Currently comprising about 10 per cent of the population, the relatively recent increase in the number of persons 65 years of age or older has been brought about by a decline in the birth rate and by a lengthening of the expectation of life at birth. The main aim of this article is to document the way in which the increased number and proportion of the elderly evident at the national level has been manifested among major regions of the country, and to identify the demographic factors which have been responsible for the regional differences which occur.

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