January year saw net migration gain of 2573 people a week, Statistics NZ says

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New Zealand's estimated population growth from migration declined for the fifth consecutive month in January.

Statistics NZ estimates NZ had a net population gain from migration of 5259 people in January. That figure has consistently declined since August last year, when there was an estimated net gain of 13,876 for the month.

January's net gain of 5259 came came from 21,188 people who came to this country long term during the month, including 3421 NZ citizens who returned after an extended absence, less 15,929 people who left long term, including 8771 NZ citizens.

That left NZ with a net loss of 5350 NZ citizens for the month, and a net gain of 10,911 citizens of other countries.

On an annual basis there was a net gain of 133,835 people over the 12 months to January this year, which came from 257,159 long term arrivals, less 123,324 long term departures.

There was a net loss 46,862 NZ citizens over the 12 months to January and a net gain of 180,697 citizens from other countries.

So on average, there was a was net population gain of 2573 people a week due to migration, over the 12 months to the end of January.

However Statistics NZ's migration estimates should be treated with caution, because they take 16 months to be finalised and are subject to revision. Revisions of the latest figures may be significant.