



2025 Annual Report



**Annual Report of the Registration Authority to the Chartered Professional Engineers Council
pursuant to section 52 of the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Act 2002**

1 January – 31 December 2025

Under the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Act 2002, the Registration Authority reports to the Chartered Professional Engineers Council each year on its administration of the Register of Chartered Professional Engineers. This report covers the 23rd year of operation of the Chartered Professional Engineers (CPEng) Register.

The Registration Authority under the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Act 2002 is the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (trading as Engineering New Zealand Te Ao Rangahau).

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From the Chair

Over the last year the Registration Authority has continued to focus on improvements to the regulatory system for the benefit of stakeholders and the public who rely on our work. I am very proud of the achievements we have made and the dedication of the staff in helping us reach our goals.

This report includes commentary on some of our work in 2025 and goals for 2026.

The Chartered Professional Engineer (CPEng) rules are a critical framework to assure engineering quality and safety. By upholding engineering competency and managing the Chartered Professional Engineers register, the Registration Authority safeguards professional integrity in New Zealand.

The Registration Authority is led by a Board made up of CPEng engineers, stakeholders and regulatory professionals. Having members outside the profession on our Board ensures we have different perspectives, reduce groupthink, reflect stakeholders and society and embrace new ideas.

I am proud of the work the Board and staff have done over the year and know that we are contributing to a stronger engineering profession and enhanced public trust in the CPEng title. I commend the work of the Registration Authority management team and staff in driving growth, change and continuing to deliver on the day to day work that is critical to our success. This includes a significant improvement in the Registration Authority's financial position.

The largest project in 2025 was the amendments to our rules. The CPEng system has long been considered for replacement, however, we have demonstrated that through applying modern regulatory concepts such as right touch regulation, stakeholder engagement and risk analysis, the current legislation can meet the demands of today. We have adapted the CPEng regulatory framework to evolve with emerging engineering demands, feedback from stakeholders and new technologies.

I am confident that we will be able to continue to evolve the CPEng framework in the coming years. The rules revisions will empower the Registration Authority to define specialist registration classes for safety-critical work or where current risk management processes are not enough to assess competence in a practice area. We look forward to the establishment of the class for fire engineering in 2026 and many more after that.

A critical component of our direction is feedback not only from CPEng engineers but engagement with stakeholders and the public. I would like to thank all of those involved as their feedback and engagement has assisted us in adapting to change.

We look forward to continue working with the Hon Minister Penk, Minister for Building and Construction and his officials to support our collective mahi and ensuring safety, innovation, and prosperity for New Zealand.

Nga mihi nui

Keryn Kliskey
Chair, CPEng Board

Our achievements in 2025

In 2025, the Registration Authority updated the Chartered Professional Engineers Rules, enabling us to improve regulatory outcomes, operate more efficiently, and reduce barriers for applicants. Key achievements include:

- » **Legal authority to publish own rules** – The Registration Authority now has the legal authority to draft and publish its own rules under the Legislation Act. This means that the CPEng Rules 2025 that are in force are published on the Registration Authority’s website not on the Parliamentary Council Office New Zealand Legislation website.
- » **Updated Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Rules 2025 (CPEng Rules)** – Key changes made include:
 - » **New Continued Registration assessment** – The Registration Authority launched updated reassessment pathways under the CPEng Rules 2025, designed to make reassessments more proportionate and risk-based. Applications with no known concerns or complaints can now follow a streamlined desktop review, reducing time and administrative burden, while applications requiring further verification continue through a full assessment. This targeted approach ensures resources are focused where they are most needed, while maintaining public confidence in the profession.
 - » **Legal authority to introduce classes of registration** – The CPEng Rules (2002) were updated in 2025 to include Subpart 7 – Classes. This subpart introduces Rule 43 which sets out the regulatory requirements for the establishment of classes. Following feedback from the profession and other stakeholders, Fire Engineering has been identified as the first priority among classes likely to be established. This work will run from October 2025 to September 2026.
 - » **Updated concerns and complaints process** – The concerns and complaints process has been updated to align with the new Rules. New guidance for both complainants and respondents is now available.
 - » **Competence assessment arising from a complaint** – Under the new Rules, an engineer’s competence may be assessed if a complaint raises concerns about whether they meet the minimum standard for continued registration. Guidance for engineers undergoing a competence assessment triggered by a complaint is now available and will be provided to those affected.
 - » **Annual renewal of CPEng registration** – All CPEngs must renew their registration each year by submitting a declaration and fee, confirming they meet fitness-to-practise, CPD, and ethical requirements. This process ensures the register remains accurate and reflects engineers who continue to meet professional standards.
- » **Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition pathway** – The Registration Authority strengthened the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act (TTMRA) pathway, including provision of a separate application form and webpage for Australian applicants, enabling smoother registration for Australian-registered engineers.
- » **Engagement with Building Consent Authorities (BCAs)** – The Registration Authority continued active engagement with BCAs, including regular meetings and presentations, to improve relationships, understand stakeholder needs, and ensure CPEng registration aligns with regulatory and sector requirements.
- » **Finances** – the financial deficit has been reduced by \$655,362 to \$1,921,998 at 30 September 2025.

Strategic priorities for 2026

The Registration Authority has the following strategic priorities for 2026:

- » Introduction of one CPEng class – This work includes the formation of a group of experts to oversee the development of the first class which will be in the Fire area, as well as clear transition arrangements.
- » Undertake quality assurance checks on 5% of continued registration assessments that are completed under the new streamlined process for applications identified as being lower risk to maintain consistency and reliability.
- » Develop standard operating procedures for disciplinary committees, including defined timeframes, to ensure complaints are handled efficiently and Key Performance Indicator (KPI) targets are met.
- » Ensure cost neutrality – manage operations to ensure the Registration Authority operates within budget.
- » Ensure that CPEng assessment times remain within a median of 60 days and median complaint times across stages decreases year-on-year.
- » Review the CPEng competence standard and align with the International Engineering Alliance’s international benchmark to maintain international credibility and support ongoing mutual recognition agreements.

Annual operations performance

Under section 52 of the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Act 2002 the Registration Authority must report on its functions to the Chartered Professional Engineers Council on its operations, no later than 31 March each year.

Table 1: Required annual performance information under the CPEng Act 2002

Number of registered CPEngs	4,950
Number of first-time applicants registered	403
Number of applicants declined registration	35
Number of engineers resigned or removed from the register	86
Number of registrations placed in abeyance	47
Number of registrations suspended	51
Number of disciplinary findings made against registered CPEngs	1
Charges payable for registration (less any rebates)*	\$1,861.00
Charges payable for the issue of a registration certificate*	\$547.00

Governance

CPEng Board

The CPEng Board’s role is to govern the Registration Authority’s functions in line with the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Act 2002 and the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Rules 2025. The Board currently has seven members. Members are appointed by the Engineering New Zealand Governing Board, following a call for nominations or expressions of interest.

*Charges are set out in Schedule 2 of the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Rules 2025.

The CPEng Board currently comprises of the following members:

Board member	Field	Location	Term expiry date
Keryn Kliskey (Chair)	Civil, Structural	Auckland	30 March 2026
Debbie Scott (Deputy Chair)	Fire	Hamilton	30 March 2027
Paul Campbell	Structural	Auckland	30 March 2027
Mel Orange	Lawyer	Christchurch	30 March 2027
Rachel Wright	Civil, Geotechnical, Structural	Whangarei	30 March 2026
Jeff Fahrensohn	Consumer representative – Auckland City Council	Auckland	30 March 2026
Geoffrey Farquhar	Geotechnical	Auckland	30 March 2026

Competency Assessment Board

The Competency Assessment Board (CAB) operates in accordance with the provisions outlined in the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Act 2002, and the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Rules 2025.

CAB Members are Chartered Professional Engineers with extensive experience in, and knowledge of, professional engineering. In appointing members, the Registration Authority looks for candidates with experience in competency assessments and quality assurance of competency assessments. Consideration is given to geographical representation, diversity, and inclusivity within the CAB membership.

The current members of the CAB are:

Name	Field(s)	Location	Date first appointed	Date reappointed	Expiry date of current term
Brady Cosgrove (Chair)	Fire	Christchurch	1/04/2020	1/04/2022 1/04/2024	31/03/2026
Rachel Wright (CPEng Board rep)	Civil, Geotechnical, Structural	Whangarei	1/04/2022	1/04/2024	31/03/2026
Jan Kupec	Geotechnical, Engineering Management	Christchurch	1/04/2023	1/04/2025	31/03/2027
Victor Mthamo	Civil, Environmental	Rolleston	1/04/2023	1/04/2025	31/03/2027
Alasdair Sinclair	Structural	Wellington	1/04/2023	1/04/2025	31/03/2027
Richard Snow	Electrical, Engineering Management	Auckland	1/04/2023	1/04/2025	31/03/2027
Vincent Wong	Structural	Christchurch	1/07/2023	1/04/2025	31/03/2027
Don McKenzie	Transportation	Auckland	21/06/2024	–	31/03/2026
Ed Rafferty	Electrical, Mechanical, Engineering Management	Paraparaumu	21/06/2024	–	31/03/2026
Iain Daly-Jones	Electrical, Building Services	Auckland	01/02/2025	–	31/03/2027
Chantelle Bailey	Structural	Wellington	01/02/2025	–	31/03/2027
Dominique Tharandt	Chemical, Water	Timaru	01/04/2020	4/11/2025	31/03/2027

Stakeholder engagement activities

The Registration Authority actively engages with stakeholders to strengthen understanding of CPEng registration, support professional development, and maintain strong relationships across the sector. Key activities in 2025 included:

- » Continued training and support for assessors.
- » Presentations at several industry seminars and conferences to educate stakeholders and the profession on CPEng registration.
- » Meetings with Building Consent Authorities to improve relationships and understand the needs of stakeholders.
- » Active engagement with engineering firms through face-to-face presentations to promote CPEng and encourage uptake.

These activities help ensure that the CPEng system remains relevant, accessible, and aligned with the evolving needs of the engineering workforce and wider sector.

Registration activity in 2025

The CPEng register continued its steady growth in 2025, reaching 4,950 registrants, a net increase of 169 over the year. This sustained upward trend reflects the ongoing demand for recognised professional engineering capability across New Zealand.

A total of 403 engineers were newly registered, broadly consistent with recent years. Mutual recognition registrations rose to 82, the highest level to date. Of these, 27 came via the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act (TTMRA) pathway, reflecting the positive effect of the dedicated application form and tailored webpage we introduced this year, with the remaining 55 coming via mutual recognition arrangements with other jurisdictions.

Assessment outcomes remained strong, with a 92% pass rate, indicating a stable and consistent assessment system. Declines increased slightly but remain proportionate, reflecting continued rigour rather than any change in standards.

After elevated volumes in earlier years, continued registration activity normalised in 2025, alongside fewer resignations, removals, and suspensions. This suggests improved engagement with ongoing competence requirements across the profession.

Operational performance continued to strengthen. Median processing times reduced to 53 business days for admission assessments and 47 business days for continued registration, delivering a more predictable and timely experience for engineers and employers.

Overall, in 2025, the CPEng system remained reliable and effective, supporting engineers, safeguarding standards, and managing growth efficiently.

Table 2 provides key registration and assessment statistics since 2020, including those required by section 52(2) of the CPEng Act.

Table 2: Registration Statistics

Registration Statistics for	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
(A) Chartered Professional Engineers at the end of the reporting period	4010	4,251	4,300	4,532	4,781	4,950
(B) Applicants (first) registered during the reporting period	398	421	247	432	366	403
(C) Applicants (first) registered via mutual recognition (subset of B)	31	36	33	66	50	82
(D) Applicants declined registration during the reporting period	23	25	21	23	29	35
(E) Total Assessments for Admission completed (B+D)	421	446	268	464	395	438
(F) Assessment for Admission pass rate	95%	95%	92%	95%	93%	92%
(G) Continued Registration Assessments completed	587	461	836	750	680	552
(H) Registrants resigned or removed during the reporting period (see note 1)	79	89	157	209	110	86
(I) Registrants suspended during the reporting period	117	92	72	55	47	51
(J) Registrants placed in abeyance during the reporting period	36	42	30	24	67	47
Median Processing times (business days)						
Assessments for Admission	101 days	116 days	139 days	65 days	55 days	53 days
Continued Registration Assessment	147 days	151 days	238 days	47 days	50 days	47 days

Note 1: Reasons for removal from the register can include:

- » resignation
- » death

Registration Authority action due to non-payment of fees, inability to meet the standard for continued registration or disciplinary action.

The number of registrants who resigned or were removed from the register during a year includes registrants whose registration was already in suspension at the beginning of that year.

Net Promoter Score

The Registration Authority runs a Net Promoter Score (NPS) survey as part of its focus on continuous improvement. The survey provides a useful benchmark of applicant experience and helps identify opportunities to improve the CPEng application process.

The NPS survey is sent to all applicants on completion of their CPEng application, allowing feedback to be captured across admission and continued registration pathways. Scores range from -100 to +100, with higher scores indicating a more positive applicant experience. Scores above 20 are generally considered good, with scores above 50 regarded as excellent.

Across all responses collected to date (n=987), the Registration Authority recorded an overall NPS of 43, indicating generally positive sentiment among applicants. In 2025, the NPS increased to 52, up from 48 in 2024 and 31 in 2023, indicating improving applicant sentiment over time.

The improvement reflects a reduction in detractor responses and a growing proportion of applicants rating their experience positively. In 2025, 65% of respondents were promoters, compared with 50% in 2023.

As this is the first year NPS results have been included in the annual report, these results provide an important baseline for tracking applicant experience alongside other performance measures, such as assessment timeframes and outcomes. The Registration Authority will continue to use this feedback to identify areas for improvement and monitor the impact of system and process changes over time.

Table 3: Net Promoter Score results

	Detractors (0-6)	Passives (7-8)	Promoters (9-10)	NPS
Overall (n=987)	15%	28%	58%	43
2025 (n=280)	13%	22%	65%	52
2024 (n=327)	11%	29%	59%	48
2023 (n=380)	19%	31%	50%	31

Registrant demographics

First-time registrant demographics

First-time registration demographics are being reported for the first time in 2025 to provide greater insight into when engineers typically enter the CPEng system.

Age at first registration

The data show that CPEng continues to be a mid-career milestone, with 66% of first-time registrants in 2025 aged 24–39. There has been a gradual increase in registrations among engineers aged 40–59, reaching 34%, indicating that some experienced engineers are choosing to formalise registration later in their careers. First-time registrations at older ages remain uncommon.

Table 4: Age at first registration

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
24-39	74%	73%	66%	67%	66%
40-59	25%	24%	27%	28%	34%
60-69	1%	2%	6%	3%	1%
70-89	-	-	1%	1%	-

Gender of first-time registrants

The gender profile of first-time CPEng registrants is more diverse than the overall register. In 2025, 18% of new registrants were female, compared with 12.2% of all CPEngs. While year-to-year proportions fluctuate, the increase in 2025 represents the highest level observed over the past five years and suggests gradual improvement at the point of entry to registration.

Table 5: Gender of first-time registrants over time

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Female	17%	14%	13%	16%	18%
Gender diverse	-	-	0.3%	-	-
Male	83%	86%	86%	84%	82%

Māori CPEng registrations over time

Annual registrations of Māori engineers remain low and fluctuate year to year, reflecting wider pipeline challenges across the engineering profession. In 2025, 13 new Māori engineers registered, representing 3.3% of first-time applicants - the highest proportion in recent years and an encouraging sign of progress. However, overall Māori representation on the CPEng register remains at 2%. Sustained improvement will require ongoing, long-term efforts to support Māori participation and progression into professional engineering roles.

Table 6: Number of new Māori registrants over time

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of new Māori registrants	9	5	11	6	13
% of first-time applicants	2.7%	2.2%	2.9%	1.6%	3.3%

Overall registrant demographics

Gender breakdown

Female representation among CPEngs increased modestly in 2025, from 11.7% to 12.2%. While progress remains incremental, the long-term trend shows gradual improvement over time.

As noted in the first-time registration demographics, gender diversity is stronger at the point of entry to CPEng registration than across the overall register, with women comprising 18% of new registrants in 2025. This indicates emerging change within the pipeline, although it will take time for this to be reflected across the full population of registered engineers.

Improving gender diversity in engineering remains a system-wide challenge that requires sustained effort across the education pipeline, workplaces, and professional standards. Engineering New Zealand's Diversity Agenda, supported by over 50 signatories, provides sector leadership in this area and contributes to longer-term improvements in diversity within the CPEng register.

Initiatives such as the Wonder Project, which engages young people - particularly girls, Māori and Pasifika - aim to shift perceptions of engineering and STEM careers. While the impact of these programmes will take time to flow through to professional registration, they remain critical to future change.

Figure 1: Gender breakdown of CPEng registrants

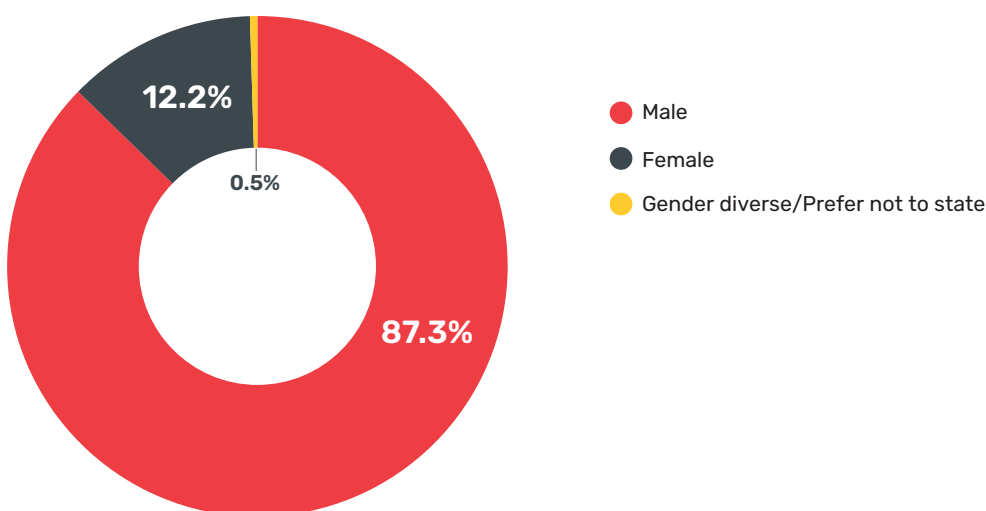


Table 7: Gender breakdown of CPEng registrants 2019–2025

	Female	Male	Gender diverse/ Prefer not to state
2025	12.2%	87.3%	0.5%
2024	11.7%	88.1%	0.2%
2023	11.2%	88.7%	0.1%
2022	11%	88.9%	Not available
2021	10.6%	89.4%	
2020	9.8%	90.2%	
2019	9.7%	90.3%	

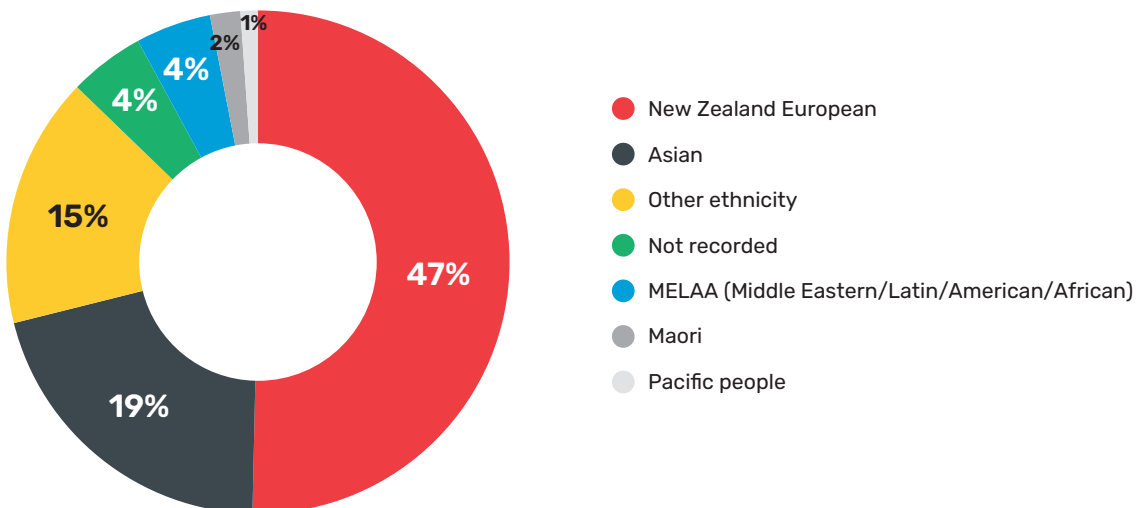
Ethnicity breakdown

Māori remain underrepresented within the CPEng register. Based on voluntarily provided data, 2% of registrants identify as Māori, unchanged from recent years.

While demographic change is gradual, Engineering New Zealand continues to strengthen the integration of te ao Māori considerations within the CPEng framework. In 2024 and 2025, this included updates to assessment guidance, mutual recognition information, and interview questions to better reflect expectations around Te Tiriti o Waitangi, cultural competence, and the New Zealand context of engineering practice.

These changes support the Registration Authority’s role in setting professional expectations, while broader shifts in representation will continue to depend on long-term workforce and education pathways.

Figure 2: Ethnicity of CPEng Registrants



Age distribution

The age profile of CPEng registrants remained stable in 2025, reflecting the long career pathways typical of the engineering profession. Just over half of registrants are aged 40–59, with approximately 31% aged under 40.

This distribution has changed little over time and aligns with steady admission volumes rather than structural shifts in the profession.

Figure 3: Age distribution of CPEng registrants

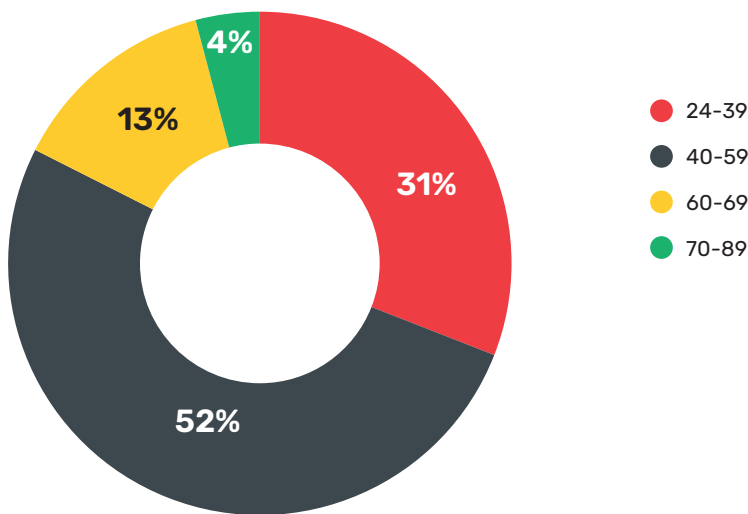


Table 8: Age distribution of CPEng registrants 2019-2025

	24-39	40-59	60-69	70-89
2025	30.9%	51.5%	13.4%	4.1%
2024	30.2%	51.3%	13.8%	4.7%
2023	31.7%	50.1%	14.3%	4.0%
2022	30.7%	50.4%	15%	3.9%
2021	32.0%	49.1%	14.6%	4.1%
2020	30.1%	49.2%	15.9%	4.8%
2019	29.1%	50.1%	16.3%	4.5%

Fields of engineering practice

Registrants continue to be concentrated in a small number of core practice fields, with Structural, Civil, Water, and Geotechnical engineering accounting for a significant proportion of the register.

Growth in the Water practice field since 2021 reflects increased demand for recognised water and wastewater expertise following the previous Government's Three Waters reform programme. This demand has continued, with Water now the fifth-largest practice field.

More recent growth is also evident in Construction Engineering and the introduction of Asset Management Engineering as a new practice field in 2025, signalling evolving professional specialisation in response to sector needs.

As registrants may declare more than one practice field, totals across fields exceed the total number of CPEng.

Table 9: Distribution of CPEng registrants by practice field

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Structural	1,258	1,402	1,457	1,471	1,542	1,633	1,691
Civil	1,427	1,505	1,415	1,336	1,349	1,382	1,386
Geotechnical	354	392	401	406	427	459	486
Management	520	499	420	421	439	443	433
Water	2	48	126*	220	304	355	415
Transportation	311	352	345	344	359	368	369
Electrical	241	277	270	267	299	311	326
Mechanical	285	306	315	317	300	302	315
Building Services	187	224	227	238	246	257	270
Environmental	382	380	312	276	254	237	225
Fire	93	97	108	110	120	128	138
Industrial	113	119	123	107	102	97	93
Construction Engineering	0	0	0	0	19	39	63
Asset Management Engineering (NEW)	-	-	-	-	-	-	45
Chemical	31	35	31	22	30	30	31
Academic	6	1	1	10	15		18
Petroleum	34	33	32	27	21	19	17
Information	20	17	14	14	14	18	11
Aerospace	11	11	10	8	7	7	6
Mining	6	6	7	6	5	6	4
Mechatronics	0	0	0	3	3	3	1
Bio	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Software	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Geographical distribution

CPEng registrants continue to be concentrated in major population and infrastructure centres, particularly Auckland, Wellington, and Canterbury. There was growth in regional centres such as Tauranga, Waikato, Otago, and Northland, likely reflecting broader population shifts and infrastructure investment outside the main metropolitan areas.

Internationally based registrants, particularly those outside New Zealand and the United Kingdom, increased in 2025. This aligns with higher mutual recognition volumes and highlights the growing role of international mobility within the CPEng system.

Geographic reporting has been improved to include all registrants, regardless of Engineering New Zealand membership status, providing a more complete picture of where CPEngs are based.

Table 10: Geographical distribution of CPEng registrants

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Northland	60	68	71	71	72	78	90
Auckland	1,390	1,558	1,628	1,642	1,803	1,958	1,952
Waikato-Bay of Plenty - Hamilton	225	248	254	250	273	315	300
Waikato-Bay of Plenty - Tauranga	123	136	157	162	188	217	264
East Coast	4	6	6	5	5	6	9
Taranaki	76	79	80	80	84	87	90
Hawke's Bay	67	75	82	84	90	99	98
Manawatū-Whanganui	53	53	47	45	52	39	55
Wellington	430	464	486	489	537	584	557
Nelson-Marlborough	80	88	93	87	93	104	100
West Coast	11	12	10	9	9	10	12
Canterbury	657	757	748	756	814	893	898
Otago	117	128	122	126	134	138	155
Southland	19	21	21	20	19	20	18
United Kingdom	46	47	32	30	29	41	46
Not in New Zealand or the UK	200	200	257	149	159	190	285
Not specified/unknown ¹	321	227	157	295 ²	171	2	21
TOTAL	3,879	4,167	4,251³	4,300	4,532	4,781	4,950

¹ In previous years reporting of geographic region was tied to Engineering New Zealand membership branches but this is no longer relevant for 2024 as reporting has been improved to enable the location of all registrants regardless of membership to be provided.

² The increase in the number of CPEngs who are not members of Engineering New Zealand may be attributed to the increasing cost of living, or potentially due to them not seeing the need to be both CPEng and Engineering New Zealand members.

³ The 2021 total included those CPEng on voluntary hold (4), in abeyance (42) and suspended (117).

Complaints and disciplinary activity

Introduction

Under the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Act 2002, any person may complain about the conduct of a Chartered Professional Engineer, and the Registration Authority must investigate whether disciplinary grounds exist. The complaints process exists to uphold the CPEng status of trustworthiness and competence. If CPEng status is misused or poorly exercised it carries risk to those who rely on it such as councils, regulators, courts and the public.

The complaints system is how the Registration Authority ensures that trust is justified, it is in place to protect the public and the integrity of the profession by identifying, correcting, and learning from failures in professional engineering practice.

The Registration Authority ensures that all complaints outcomes are proportionate, fair, and transparent. The complaints focus is on whether an engineer has met the standards reasonably expected of a professional engineer, all conduct and professional practice are measured against objective practice standards and the Code of Ethics.

Complaints must be dealt with promptly because delay undermines public safety, procedural fairness, evidence quality, professional trust, and the legitimacy of the regulator – regardless of the eventual outcome. The Registration Authority has been focusing on timeliness of the complaints and disciplinary process.

In 2025, the Registration Authority continued to strengthen its processes and reduce the time taken to resolve matters across all stages of the complaints pathway. The Registration Authority resolved 35 cases in 2025, down from 48 in 2024, but achieved a substantial improvement in timeliness, reducing median resolution time from 156 business days in December 2024 to 104 business days in December 2025.

The following sets out the activity of complaints for 2025.

Complaints

Complaints received in 2025

A total of 36 complaints were received during the 2025 calendar year. The sources of complaints were:

Complaints received from	Total
Public	26
Building Consent Authorities (BCAs)	8
Fellow engineers	4
Other industry professionals	1

Structural, civil, and geotechnical engineering continued to account for the highest number of concerns, consistent with previous years and reflective of the high risk nature and public visibility of these practice areas. Structural engineering represented 45% of all complaints.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Structural	24	18	21	16	23	18
Civil	6	1	5	5	9	10
Geotechnical	3	2	8	3	11	10
Water	1	-	-	-	-	-
Transport	-	1	2	-	-	1
Fire	-	-	1	1	3	1

Median processing time for complaints at this stage of the process was 67 working days, close to the KPI target of 60 working days, with further reductions expected as new process improvements are embedded.

Complaints resolved in 2025

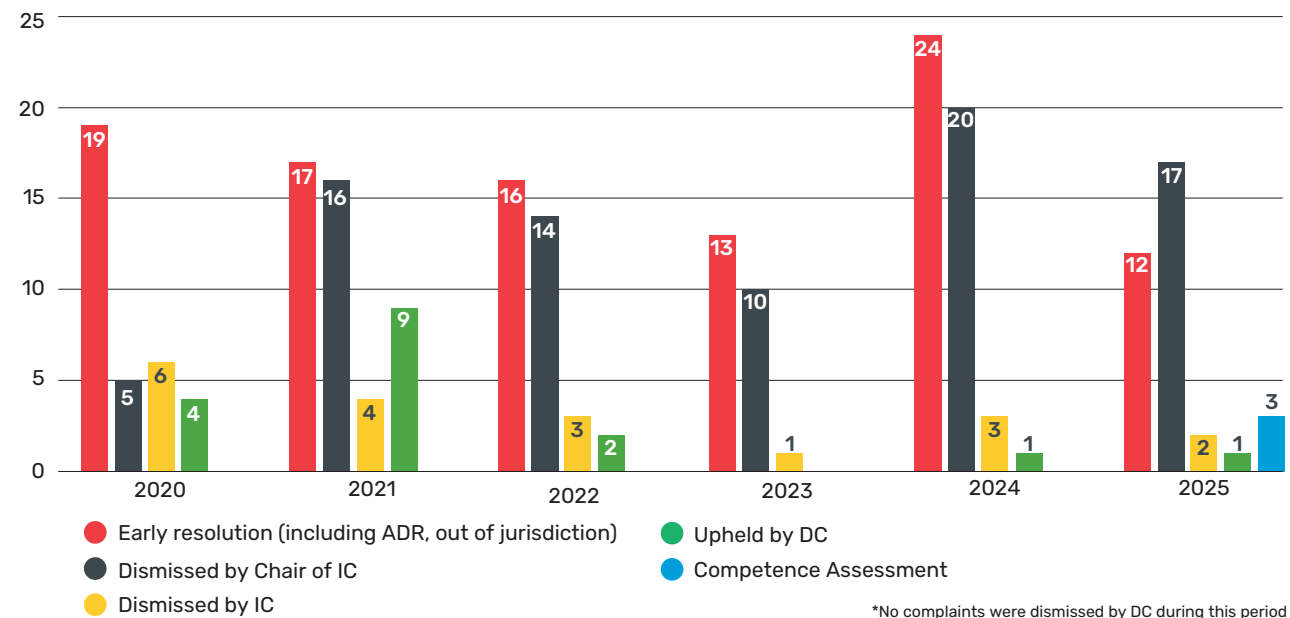
A total of 35 complaints were resolved during 2025.

Matters were resolved through a range of pathways, including early resolution, dismissal by the Chair of an Investigating Committee, dismissal following full Investigating Committee review, and (in a small number of cases) referral to a Disciplinary Committee.

The proportion of complaints resolved at an early stage remains positive, helping to ensure that only credible, substantive matters progress through the full disciplinary process.

The median time to close complaints reduced significantly, from 182 business days in 2024 to 104 business days in 2025, reflecting improved case management and clearer process guidance introduced under the CPEng Rules 2025.

Figure 4: Manner of resolution of complaints files



Investigating Committees

Investigating Committees (ICs) independently and fairly assess whether a complaint about an engineer raises genuine professional-standards or public-interest concerns that justify disciplinary action – and, just as importantly, to filter out matters that do not.

Members of Investigating Committees are made up of independent, appointed decisionmakers with engineering expertise, selected to ensure fairness, technical competence, and independence from the parties.

Investigating Committees exist primarily to protect the public by ensuring that credible concerns about competence, ethics, or professional conduct are properly examined. Equally important, Investigating Committees protect engineers by screening out trivial complaints, vexatious or bad-faith allegations, matters outside jurisdiction ensuring engineers are not subjected to full disciplinary hearings unless justified.

Key activity in 2025:

- » 15 new investigations were initiated.
- » 6 decisions were issued, with:
- » 4 matters referred to a Disciplinary Committee
- » 2 matters closed
- » 18 matters remained under consideration at year end.

Complaints referred to ICs in 2025 came primarily from BCAs and the public, with the majority concerning structural engineering practice.

Median processing time for Investigating Committee cases was 188 working days, against a KPI of 120 working days. Improvements to IC support and defined timeframes, planned for 2026, aim to reduce these timelines.

Investigating Committee decisions issued in 2025 – 6

Investigating Committee Decisions	Total
Decisions Issued at the IC	6
Referred to Disciplinary Committee (DC)	4
Closed	2

Investigations Committees started in 2025: Complainants

Investigations Committees started in 2025 - complaints received from	Total
Public	8
BCA	7
Fellow Engineers	2
Other Industry Professionals	1
OMI	1

Investigations Committees started in 2025: Practice field of the respondent

Practice field of respondent	Total
Structural	13
Civil	2
Building Services	1

Disciplinary Committees

A Disciplinary Committee must determine whether there are grounds for discipline under the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Act 2002 and, if so, how to exercise the Registration Authority's powers.

Members of Disciplinary Committees are made up of a senior legal advisor, experienced engineers and a consumer representative. The legal adviser ensures the disciplinary process is fair and follows the law and the consumer representative is appointed to ensure that engineering discipline decisions reflect public expectations and public risk, not just professional norms.

Engineer members are senior or very experienced practitioners selected for technical relevance to the complaint and independent of the engineer under complaint and the complainant. Their role is to bring professional standards judgement, technical competence assessment and insight into what a reasonable engineer would do in the same context. This ensures engineers are effectively judged by their peers, but within a structured legal process.

In 2025:

- » One disciplinary finding was upheld, the first since 2023 (noting that the 2025 finding is currently under appeal).
- » The median timeframe for DC proceedings was 497 working days, significantly exceeding the KPI target of 120 working days. This reflects the complexity of cases, legal processes, and the availability of external specialists. The Registration Authority has identified this as a key improvement area for 2026.

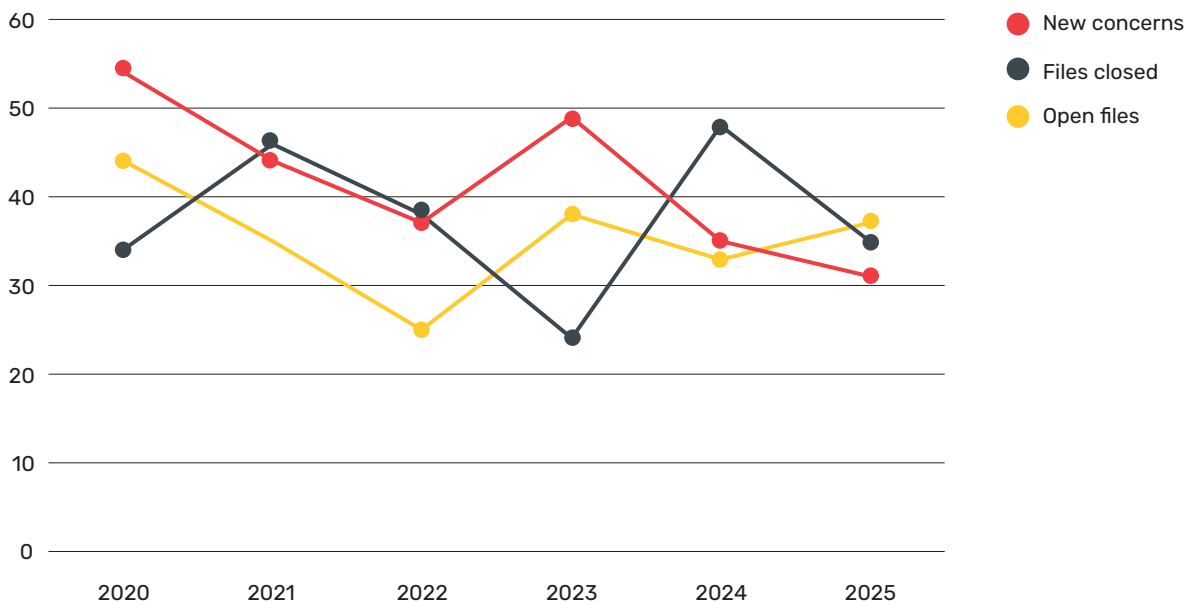
Year on year comparison: Open files, concerns received, and files closed

Key indicators for the 2020–2025 period show:

- » Complaints received have remained relatively stable, with minor fluctuations reflecting sector dynamics and public activity.
- » The number of open files has continued to decrease - from 54 in 2020 to 31 in 2025.
- » Complaints closed dropped from 48 in 2024 to 35 in 2025, reflecting a focus on resolving older, more complex matters.

The continued reduction in median processing time is a significant achievement and demonstrates the effectiveness of updated processes, clearer guidance, and improved triage.

Figure 5: Comparison of open files, concerns received, and files closed: 2020–2025



The median time for the resolution of complaints at the end of 2025 was 104 business days, down from 182 the previous year.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Structural	24	18	21	16	23	18
Civil	6	1	5	5	9	10
Geotechnical	3	2	8	3	11	10
Water	1	-	-	-	-	-
Transport	-	1	2	-	-	1
Fire	-	-	1	1	3	1
Environmental	-	-	-	1	-	-
Management	-	-	-	-	1	-
Mechanical	-	-	-	-	1	-
Electrical	-	-	-	-	1	-

Note: There are 49 areas counted (with 48 complaints) as two complaints were multidisciplinary.

Appeals to Chartered Professional Engineers Council

The Chartered Professional Engineers Council (CPEC) is established under the Act. Its appeal role allows affected parties to challenge certain decisions made by the Registration Authority. CPEC does not investigate complaints or consider registration applications itself; it reviews whether the Registration Authority's decision was correct and lawful and in compliance with Chartered Professional Engineers Act and rules.

CPEC members come from the engineering profession, industry, consumer/public-interest roles, and independent governance and legal backgrounds, and are appointed by the Minister to ensure credible, independent oversight of engineering regulation.

In 2025, there were five new appeals against Registration Authority decisions. All appeals were about complaints decisions, three from complainants challenging dismissal, and two from respondent engineers challenging referral, and a disciplinary committee decision finding a ground of discipline had been made out.

Financials

Appendix 1: CPEng fees for 2025

Initial Registration

Charge	Amount (\$) Excl. GST
Assessment for initial registration – Standard	\$1,861
Assessment for initial registration – Mutual recognition (for applicants excused under rule 9(2) from having to provide certain information)	\$1,445

Continued registration

Charge	Amount (\$) Excl. GST
Annual registration charge – Standard	\$547
Annual registration charge – On hold (Voluntary abeyance)	\$344
Annual registration charge – For each calendar month, or part of a calendar month, for which a certificate is issued, if issued for less than 1 year	\$48
Continued registration assessment – Further interactive assessment charge	\$761

Review of registration decision procedures

Charge or rebate	Amount (\$) Excl. GST
Charge for review of decision procedures	\$1,189

Appendix 2: Summary of fee income and costs incurred in 2025

CPEng annual summary

Summary of fee income and costs incurred	2025 \$	2024 \$
Revenue from annual CPEng fees. Fines and admission applications	3,254,727	3,599,881
Less:		
Operational costs	842,726	1,012,250
Professional standards costs	1,438,879	1,956,436
Complaints and litigation	317,759	676,890
Total Expenditure	2,599,364	3,645,576
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	655,362	(45,695)
Carry forward loss	(\$1,921,998)	(\$2,577,361)

Notes:

All figures are for the year ended 30 September 2025 and are taken from The Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand Incorporated (Engineering New Zealand) audited accounts and associated management reporting.

Operational costs are an allocation of costs based on cost allocation by activity.

Professional standards costs are based on a direct allocation of costs associated with CPEng professional standards activity and knowledge assessments.

Complaints and litigation costs are the direct costs associated with receiving and processing complaints and costs associated with individual hearings. Included in this total is \$101,744 (2024, \$494,072) of external consultant costs related to disciplinary hearings and investigations.

There is a carried-forward deficit of \$1,921,998 after this year's result. Some years we aim for a surplus to account for years where we have higher expenses (e.g. where we have a year with a high number of reassessments or a year with complex disciplinary cases).

The 2025 financial year does not include any revenue or associated expenditure from providing Knowledge Assessments. Knowledge Assessments are primarily used if an engineer is planning to immigrate to New Zealand or to check their eligibility before applying to be Chartered. A Knowledge Assessment determines if an engineer has equivalent knowledge to a Washington Accord-accredited qualification. This function falls outside the remittance of the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Act 2002 and is not a function of the Registration Authority under the Chartered Professional Engineers Rules 2025. Prior years have not been restated.



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The Registration Authority under the Chartered Professional Engineers of New Zealand Act 2002 is the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (trading as Engineering New Zealand).