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Jacques Poot is Professor of Population Economics, National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis, University of Waikato, New Zealand. His university education was at VU University Amsterdam (Doctorandus, econometrics, 1978) and at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand (PhD, labour economics, 1984). He was previously Foreign Professor at the University of Tsukuba in Japan (1994-97 and 2002) and employed in various academic positions at Victoria University of Wellington between 1979 and 2003.

He is an elected "Corresponding" Member (Honorary Fellow) of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and an elected Member of the Academia Europaea. He is an adjunct professor in the Department of Spatial Economics at VU University Amsterdam, an Affiliate of Motu Economic and Public Policy Research in Wellington, an Associate of the Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration (CReAM) at University College London; and a Research Fellow, at IZA - Institute for the Study of Labor, Bonn. Professor Poot was the recipient of the 2013 NZIER Economics Award.

Professor Poot is a member of the editorial board of a number of international journals and was 1997-2006 Pacific Editor of Papers in Regional Science.