

# 10 NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

## Adult and community education

Adult and community education is provided by community groups, secondary schools and tertiary education providers.

Adult and community education funded and provided through community groups in 2008 included:

- the Federation of Workers Education' Associations provided regional courses and distance learning
- Rural Education Activities Programmes
- community-based groups funded indirectly through schools, and
- adult education through other government initiatives, including health and prisoner education.

## Community education in schools

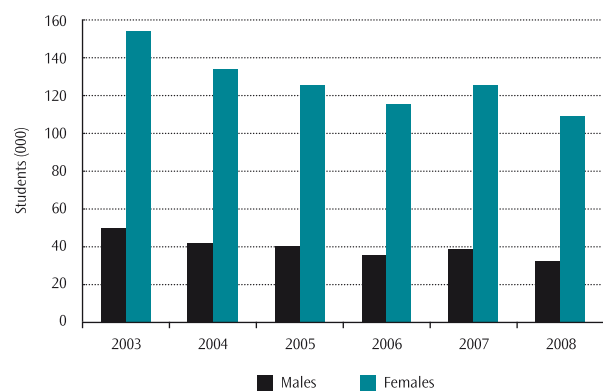
Secondary schools provide community education programmes for adults in addition to their regular daytime curriculum.

In 2008, there were 140,000 enrolments in school community education programmes, a decrease of 14 percent on 2007, when enrolments numbered 162,000.

Seventy-seven percent of enrolments in community education in schools were by women. The majority of students (84 percent) were European, 8.2 percent were Asian, 5.4 percent Māori and 2.2 percent Pasifika. Forty-one percent were aged between 30 and 49 years.

The two most common subjects for all students were fitness, sport and recreation and art, music and crafts. The next most common subject for women was home management and maintenance. For men the next most common subject was languages (other than Māori and English). The most common subject for Asian students was English for Speakers of Other Languages.

Figure 10.1: Students in community education in schools



## Community education in tertiary education providers

After peaking in 2004, the number of students enrolled in community education at tertiary education providers decreased. The decrease was due to a shift from demand-led funding to a capped funding pool between 2004 and 2006.

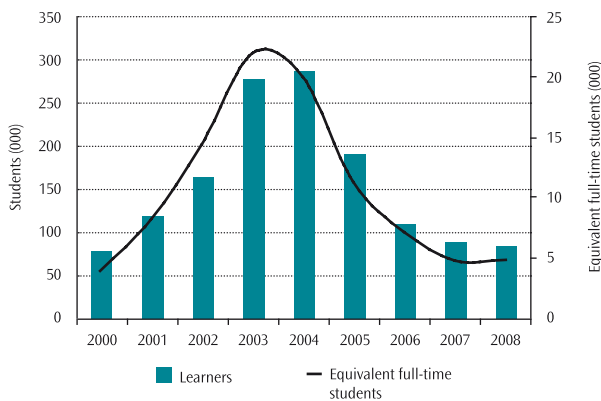
In 2008, 83,300 students enrolled in community education programmes, down 6.0 percent on 2007. Enrolments represented 4,750 equivalent full-time students, up 1.0 percent on 2007.

Seventy-five percent of students were subsidised through the student achievement fund. Six percent were international students. Sixty percent of students were enrolled at polytechnics and 36 percent at universities.

Sixty-four percent of students at tertiary education providers in 2008 were European, 16 percent were Māori, 11 percent Asian, 4.6 percent Pasifika and 4.8 percent identified with other ethnic groups.

Women made up 57 percent of students and those aged 25 years and over made up 78 percent. The most common fields of study were society and culture, management and commerce, and creative arts. Courses were provided by all 20 polytechnics, seven universities, six polytechnics and one wānanga.

**Figure 10.2: Students in community education in tertiary education providers**



## Adult literacy, language and numeracy

Adult literacy, language and numeracy are delivered through formal and non-formal education in workplaces and through providers.

In 2008, the Foundation Learning Pool funded 264 projects, valued at \$16.9 million. This was a significant expansion on the 137 projects funded in 2007, valued at \$3.7 million.

Workplace literacy programmes were delivered by 32 providers and five employers, involving 257 workplace projects, including needs assessment.

Language Partners New Zealand, formerly known as the National Association of English as a Second or Other Language Home Tutors, provided services to around 6,000 learners who are recent migrants and refugees. The number of learners was up from 5,560 in 2007.

Home tutoring was provided by 2,990 volunteers and 945 new volunteers were trained to certificate level during 2008, up from 934 in 2007.

There were 1,580 migrants and refugees assessed by the English as a Second or Other Language Advisory Services in 2008, up from 1,530 in 2007. Eighty providers (up from 79 in 2007) were contracted to provide English for Migrants programmes, with 730 migrants registered for programmes in 2008 (down from 1,070 in 2007).

## 2009 year

Funding for community education in schools and tertiary education providers continued at a similar level in 2009.

The 2009 Budget announced a \$5.5 million increase in annual funding for workplace literacy, which will result in a 50 percent increase in the number of learners catered for in 2009/10 and 2010/11, relative to 2008/09.

As part of ensuring funding for tertiary education providers was targeted to the highest priority areas, funding for community education provided through secondary schools was reduced in the budget by 50 percent from 2010. While the funding for community education in tertiary education institutions was retained for 2010, some cuts in this funding for 2011 were signalled in Budget 2009. The level of increase in literacy, language and numeracy that had been signalled in Budget 2008 was lowered as part of the new government's review of education expenditure. However, literacy, language and numeracy remained an important priority for the system and learner numbers will be greater in 2009/10 than in 2008/09.