

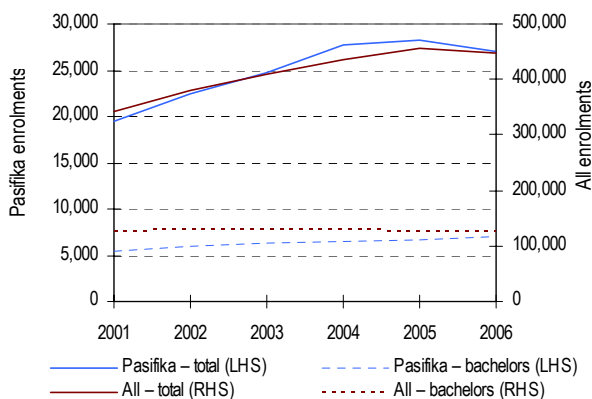
# Pacific peoples in tertiary education in New Zealand

Twelve percent of Pacific peoples aged 15 years and over participated in formal tertiary education in 2006 – a total of 27,100 enrolments. Forty-five percent of these students were Samoan, 21 percent Cook Islander, 16 percent Tongan, 11 percent Fijian, 7 percent Niuean and 3 percent Tokelauan.

While the number of Pasifika enrolments fell overall in 2006, more students studied at bachelors-level. The increase in bachelors-level study was even greater in terms of the amount of study (up by 4.5 percent as measured in equivalent full-time student units). In contrast, study at bachelors-level for all domestic students remained stable between 2004 and 2006. The Pasifika participation rate in bachelors-level study was 3.0 percent in 2006, compared to 3.8 percent for Europeans and 3.0 percent for Māori.

Postgraduate and doctoral study increased among Pasifika in 2006. At masters level the number of Pasifika students remained steady in 2006, although the amount of study declined in terms of equivalent full-time student units.

Figure 1: Pasifika in provider-based formal tertiary education compared with total domestic students



Proportionately more Pacific people (over 10 percent) participated in non-degree tertiary study in 2006, compared to the total population (9.0 percent). However, Pasifika enrolments in level 1 to 3 certificates fell by 13 percent in 2006. The 2005 reviews of non-degree qualifications investigated the quality, relevance and value for money of these provisions and this led to the significant decrease in lower level enrolments. The government's new tertiary education strategy, released in 2006, carries forward the emphasis to get more people into higher level (and consequently higher value) qualifications. Another reason for the fall in student numbers was the lower unemployment rate. The decline in certificate enrolments was bigger for Pacific peoples than for all domestic students.

## About the data used in this fact-sheet:

The information presented here refers to New Zealand's domestic Pasifika students enrolled in provider-based formal qualifications of more than one week's duration, unless otherwise stated.

Cook Islanders, Niueans and Tokelauans are grouped with domestic Pasifika students, whether they are resident in New Zealand or not. Fijian, Tongan and Samoan students who do not reside permanently in New Zealand are classed as international students.

In 2000, the data collection was extended to record multiple ethnicities. Before this, the number of Pasifika students was under-stated. Only one ethnicity was collected before 2000, while now up to 3 ethnicities are collected and students are counted in each group.

Students may be enrolled with a tertiary education provider at any time during the year.

From 1999 onwards, information for private training establishments has been included in the statistical collections. Private providers are included if they receive government enrolments-based funding or if their students were eligible to apply for loans or allowances.

The equivalent full-time student (EFTS) unit referred to in this factsheet is a measure or 'size' of each student's enrolment. One equivalent full-time student unit represents the load taken by a student enrolled full-time for one year. Part-time study years are expressed as proportions of an EFTS, for example, 0.75 EFTS. The equivalent full-time student count is the sum of the EFTS units for a year.

The equivalent full-time student count used in this fact-sheet does not equate to the count of student component-funded learners.

Go to Education Counts for information on Samoans, Cook Islanders, Tongans, Fijians, Niueans, Tokelauans and other Pasifika: [www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications](http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications)

Study in level 4 certificates increased by 2.9 percent in terms of equivalent full-time students. The percentage of Pasifika students aged under 25 years and studying at qualification level 4 and above, increased from 58 percent in 2005 to 63 percent in 2006. This result shows progress towards the achievement of one of the priority outcomes for tertiary education for 2008 to 2010 – more young New Zealanders achieving qualifications at level four and above by age 25.

### More women with higher-level qualifications

Over the last five years, 6 out of every 10 Pasifika students were women. Over the same period, 30 percent of Pasifika female students and 27 percent of Pasifika male students studied, on average, at bachelors-level or higher. In comparison, 40 percent of all female domestic students and 35 percent of males studied at bachelors-level or higher.

While the proportion of Pasifika students completing bachelors or higher qualifications increased in 2006, it was considerably smaller than that for all students. Of Pasifika women who completed a qualification, 21 percent completed a bachelors or higher qualification while for all domestic female students the corresponding percentage was 32. For Pasifika men, the percentage was 20 in 2006 compared to 31 for all domestic male students.

Government priorities to get more people into higher level qualifications, combined with a strong labour market, led to a decline in the overall number of qualifications completed in 2006. The decline was driven by a fall in level 1 to 4 certificate completions. However, the overall qualification completions for Pasifika students increased in 2006. Pasifika women completed 5.6 percent more qualifications in 2006 than in 2005, while Pasifika males completed only slightly fewer qualifications in 2006 than in 2005 (down 0.4 percent). In contrast, total domestic male students completed 17 percent fewer qualifications in 2006 than in 2005 and for female students the decline was 1.8 percent.

Information from the 2006 Census of Population and Dwellings shows that significant progress has been made by New Zealand's Pasifika population, with those holding a tertiary qualification doubling over the last 10 years. Ten percent of the Pasifika population held a tertiary qualification in 1996 and by 2006 this had increased to 19 percent. The challenge ahead is to bring this proportion closer to that for the population as a whole – nearer to 40 percent.

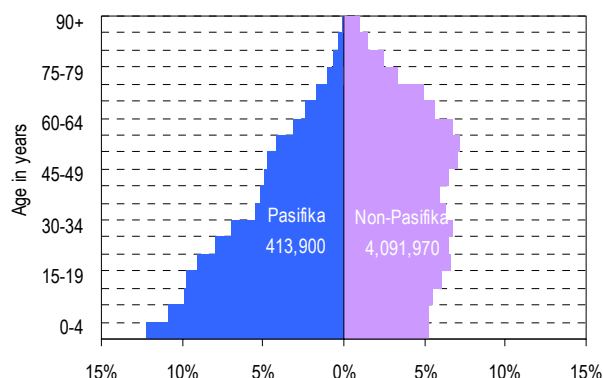
### More Pasifika students aged 25 years and under

Mirroring the Pasifika population as a whole, the Pasifika student population was younger in 2006 than New Zealand's total student population. Forty-six percent of Pasifika students were aged under 25 years, compared to 38 percent of all domestic students. The situation was reversed for those aged 40 years and over. Close to one in three in the total student population fell into this age group in 2006, while for Pasifika this was only one in five.

The projected population in Figure 2 suggests that the Pasifika population is likely to become younger in the foreseeable future. This is expected to lead to an increasing proportion of Pacific people in the total student population. Also, as younger students tend to study with the aim of getting a qualification, it is

expected that the qualification completion rate for Pasifika students will increase.

Figure 2: Projection of the New Zealand Pasifika population in 2012

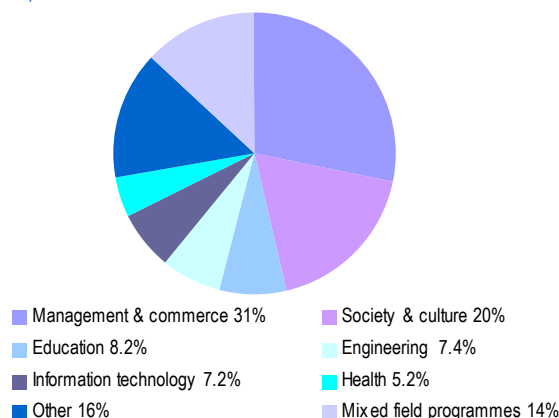


Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

### More Pasifika students in management and commerce

In 2006, 31 percent of Pasifika students studied in the field of management and commerce, compared to one in four for all students. Information technology also attracted a greater percentage of Pasifika students at 7.2 percent – nearly 2 percentage points higher than that for all students.

Figure 3: Pasifika tertiary education students by field of study (2006)



Few Pasifika students enrolled in agricultural, environmental and related studies in 2006 – only 1.7 percent, compared to 9.1 percent of all domestic students. Pasifika enrolments were proportionately lower than for all students (between 1 and 2 percentage points) in the following fields: engineering (7.4%), health (5.2%) and natural and physical sciences (2.9 %).

### Student allowances and loans

In 2006, 3,100 students in receipt of student allowances identified themselves with the Pasifika ethnic group – up 4.4 percent on the previous year. Over the same period, the total number of allowance recipients increased by 4.6 percent.

The overall student loan uptake rate – the proportion of students eligible to borrow who actually do so – was 56 percent in 2006. This compared with 49 percent in 2005. In 2006, 7 percent of

borrowers and 6.6 percent of students identified themselves as Pasifika. In comparison, 16.7 percent of borrowers and 21 percent of students identified themselves as Māori. Forty-three percent of Pasifika students borrowed from the Student Loan Scheme in 2006 – 46 percent of Pasifika women held loans and 39 percent of Pasifika men. In the case of total domestic students, 41 percent of women and 33 percent of men held loans.

In terms of the number of borrowers, 8.0 percent more Pasifika students borrowed in 2006 – the year in which interest-free student loans were introduced. From 2005 to 2006, the increase in the total number of borrowers was 8.4 percent. Total male borrowers increased by 9.7 percent, while Pasifika male borrowers increased by 7.0 percent. Total female borrowers increased by 7.6 percent, while Pasifika female borrowers increased by 8.5 percent.

The average amount borrowed by Pasifika in 2006 was \$6,493. Compared to 2005, the average amount borrowed was 1.8 percent higher in 2006, while compared with five years earlier it was 4.2 percent lower. Europeans and Asians borrowed more in 2006, on average, than Pacific peoples. Five years earlier, the average amount borrowed by Pasifika was \$6,775. This was higher, on average, than for Europeans but lower than the amount borrowed by Asians.

### Pasifika students and industry training

Twelve percent of Pasifika employees participated in industry training in 2006. Only Māori had a higher participation rate in 2006, with 16 percent of Māori employees in industry training. Overall, 8.3 percent of employees in the labour force participated in industry training in 2006.

In 2006, only 3.0 percent of modern apprentices identified themselves as Pasifika. As Pasifika were 8.9 percent of the population aged 15 to 24 years in 2006, this group was under-represented in the Modern Apprenticeship Scheme. Māori were also under-represented in 2006 as 20 percent were aged 15 to 24 years and only 15 percent of apprentices were Māori.

Over the last five years, there has been a shift in industry training of Pasifika from qualification level 2 to level 3. In 2006, 31 percent trained at level 2, down from 40 percent in 2001. In 2006, another 31 percent of trainees were in level 3 training, up from 24 percent in 2001. The proportions training at level 1 (16 percent) and at level 4 and above (21 percent) have remained stable over the last five years. Industry training of non-Pacific people in 2006 has been more focused at qualification level 4 and above.

A simple measure of achievement in industry training is to average the number of credits passed across the total number of trainees. For example, Pasifika trainees gained 15 credits, on average, towards national qualifications in 2006, compared to 23 credits per non-Pasifika trainee. Applying the simple measure of achievement to national certificates in 2006, showed that one in seven Pasifika trainees achieved a national certificate, compared to one in five for non-Pasifika trainees.

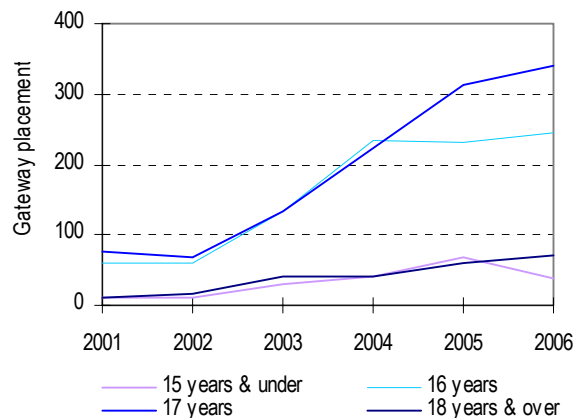
### Strong growth in Pasifika Gateway placements

Over the last 5 years, more Pacific people participated in Gateway – a programme designed to help learners achieve outcomes such as gaining employment or undertaking further study. In 2001, 156 men and women took part in a Gateway

assignment and in 2006 there were 695 men and women in the programme. In 2006, 334 men and 361 women participated.

In 2006, 541 Pasifika Gateway learners achieved a positive outcome. Seventeen percent started full-time employment, 1.5 percent went into part-time employment, 74 percent continued with further training and the remaining 6.8 percent of Gateway learners had 'other' positive outcomes.

Figure 4: Number of Pasific people in Gateway

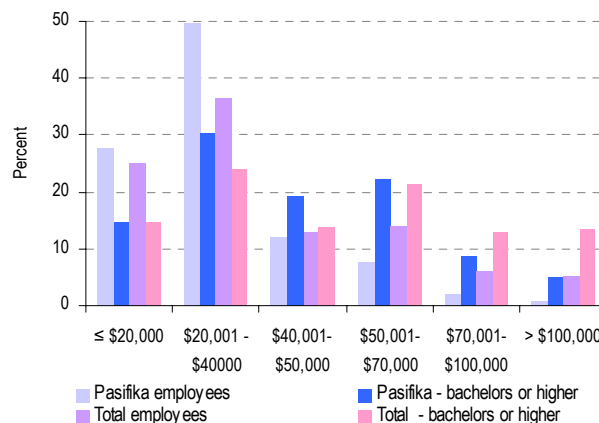


Source: Tertiary Education Commission.

### Higher earnings for tertiary qualifications

Forty-one percent of Pasifika employees with a bachelors or higher qualification earned between \$40,001 and \$70,000 per annum in 2006. The comparable proportion for all employees in 2006, at 35 percent, was 6 percentage points lower. On the other hand, 26 percent of all bachelors or higher qualified employees earned more than \$70,000 per annum in 2006, while the comparable proportion of Pasifika employees was only 14 percent. In 2006, 26 percent of Pasifika employees were not formally qualified and 53 percent held a non-degree tertiary qualification. This was reflected in the income distribution of Pasifika employees – see Figure 4. This shows that 28 percent earned less than \$20,000 per year and another 50 percent of Pasifika employees earned between \$20,000 and \$40,000.

Figure 4: Income distributions of Pasifika employees and total employees (March 2006)



Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2006 Census of Population and Dwellings. Note: Graph excludes people who have not stated their highest qualification or who had zero income or reported a loss.

## Pasifika tertiary education students by selected characteristics

	Student enrolments					Equivalent full-time students				
	1996	2001	2005	2006	% change 05-06	1996	2001	2005	2006	% change 05-06
<b>Type of qualification (domestic students)</b>										
Students in formal qualifications > 0.03 EFTS <sup>1</sup>	9,060	19,397	28,301	27,088	-4.3%	5,697	12,967	18,035	17,756	-1.5%
Students in formal qualifications < 0.03 EFTS <sup>2</sup>	na	na	9,421	4,890	-48.1%	na	72	359	230	-36.0%
Students in informal education programmes <sup>3</sup>	na	na	7,623	4,902	-35.7%	na	537	527	335	-36.4%
<b>Domestic students enrolled in formal qualifications &gt; 0.03 EFTS<sup>1</sup></b>										
<b>Qualification level</b>										
Certificates 1-3	3,270	9,476	14,909	12,930	-13.3%	1,464	4,975	6,921	6,320	-8.7%
Certificates 4	460	2,059	4,138	4,199	1.5%	129	1,209	2,485	2,558	2.9%
Diplomas 5-7	2,085	2,928	4,089	4,188	2.4%	1,286	1,943	2,635	2,613	-0.8%
Bachelors	3,332	5,359	6,732	6,947	3.2%	2,576	4,390	5,415	5,660	4.5%
Honours and postgraduate cert./dip.	136	328	461	546	18.4%	84	199	273	301	10.3%
Masters	174	292	327	327	0.0%	131	196	197	187	-5.1%
Doctorates	28	59	95	109	14.7%	26	54	110	116	5.9%
<b>Age group</b>										
Under 18 years	415	1,301	1,874	1,542	-17.7%	199	829	1,205	1,139	-5.5%
18 to 19 years	1,632	3,100	3,804	4,216	10.8%	1,227	2,617	3,310	3,727	12.6%
20 to 24 years	2,898	5,375	6,598	6,593	-0.1%	2,200	4,137	4,972	5,015	0.9%
25 to 39 years	3,099	6,965	10,227	9,490	-7.2%	1,602	3,984	5,692	5,231	-8.1%
40 years and over	994	2,656	5,798	5,247	-9.5%	467	1,398	2,857	2,644	-7.5%
<b>Female / Male</b>										
Female	4,798	11,207	17,035	16,091	-5.5%	3,088	7,513	11,142	10,886	-2.3%
Male	4,262	8,190	11,266	10,997	-2.4%	2,609	5,454	6,893	6,870	-0.3%
<b>Common fields of study</b>										
Agriculture, environmental and related studies	96	163	437	474	8.5%	45	92	166	176	6.5%
Architecture and building	267	582	774	838	8.3%	147	380	429	494	15.2%
Creative arts	276	797	1,148	1,168	1.7%	239	662	937	975	4.0%
Education	920	1,602	2,291	2,224	-2.9%	628	1,154	1,532	1,432	-6.5%
Engineering and related technologies	873	1,374	1,918	1,997	4.1%	416	806	983	981	-0.2%
Food, hospitality and personal services	248	667	964	1,041	8.0%	102	418	669	710	6.1%
Health	412	805	1,309	1,416	8.2%	255	566	863	978	13.3%
Information technology	336	1,540	1,917	1,956	2.0%	173	741	921	910	-1.1%
Management and commerce	2,427	5,452	8,599	8,330	-3.1%	1,340	3,086	4,681	4,747	1.4%
Mixed field programmes	1,023	3,601	5,426	3,850	-29.0%	389	1,846	2,377	2,027	-14.8%
Natural and physical sciences	478	613	762	794	4.2%	362	473	604	647	7.0%
Society and culture	2,095	3,766	5,518	5,287	-4.2%	1,599	2,743	3,872	3,678	-5.0%
<b>Sub-sector</b>										
Universities	3,071	5,619	7,891	8,134	3.1%	2,481	4,646	6,274	6,544	4.3%
Institutes of technology and polytechnics	5,358	6,052	10,369	9,860	-4.9%	2,670	3,542	4,996	4,684	-6.3%
Colleges of education	726	870	130	134	3.1%	491	628	86	79	-8.1%
Wānanga	73	882	4,074	2,496	-38.7%	55	415	2,019	1,333	-34.0%
Public providers	9,060	13,216	21,820	20,203	-7.4%	5,697	9,231	13,375	12,640	-5.5%
Private training establishments	na	6,496	7,211	7,577	5.1%	na	3,735	4,660	5,116	9.8%
<b>Study type</b>										
Full-time full-year	3,799	7,436	10,153	9,958	-1.9%	3,906	8,247	11,242	10,965	-2.5%
Full-time part-year	1,271	4,719	5,203	5,182	-0.4%	740	2,457	2,793	2,823	1.1%
Part-time full-year	2,318	3,038	4,930	5,092	3.3%	825	1,292	2,258	2,382	5.5%
Part-time part-year	1,672	4,204	8,015	6,856	-14.5%	226	971	1,742	1,586	-9.0%
<b>Gaining qualifications and age-standardised participation rate</b>										
Number of students who completed a qualification	1,406	4,070	6,088	6,185	1.6%					
Number of qualifications completed	1,520	4,500	6,811	7,042	3.4%					
Pasifika students participation rate	na	8.9%	12.7%	11.7%						
All students participation rate	8.5%	11.3%	14.1%	13.7%						

<sup>1</sup> Students enrolled at any time during the year with a tertiary education provider in formal qualifications of greater than 0.03 EFTS (more than one week's duration).

<sup>2</sup> Students enrolled at any time during the year with a tertiary education provider in formal qualifications of less than 0.03 EFTS (less than one week's duration).

<sup>3</sup> Students enrolled at any time during the year with a tertiary education provider in informal programmes, i.e. programmes not registered on the New Zealand Register of Quality Assured Qualifications.

Note: The equivalent full-time student count used in this report does not equate to the funded equivalent full-time student count. The data is also not adjusted to allow for students who do not complete their study programme.