

Demographic and Statistical Analysis Unit

National Qualifications Framework Achievement Fact Sheet 2002 – 2005

Claire Harkess, Michael Parkin, Siobhan Murray and Jacinta Dalgety
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This fact sheet provides some high level analysis of trends in National Qualifications Framework (NQF) achievement, focusing on the 2005 data. With the exception of participation, all data is calculated on the basis of candidates (students who gain at least one credit on the NQF)¹.

Participation

- Participation in NQF study is at similar levels for 2005 as for 2004, with 90% of Year 11 students being a candidate in 2005. Year 13 students' participation remains high at 93%. Maori students have lower participation rates, particularly in Year 11.

Table 1: Participation* in NQF Study 2004 - 2005

	2004			2005		
	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
All students	90%	90%	94%	90%	91%	93%
Maori	83%	83%	90%	84%	88%	90%
Pasifika	89%	91%	92%	91%	95%	93%
Asian	91%	91%	93%	89%	88%	91%
New Zealand European	87%	87%	91%	89%	89%	92%

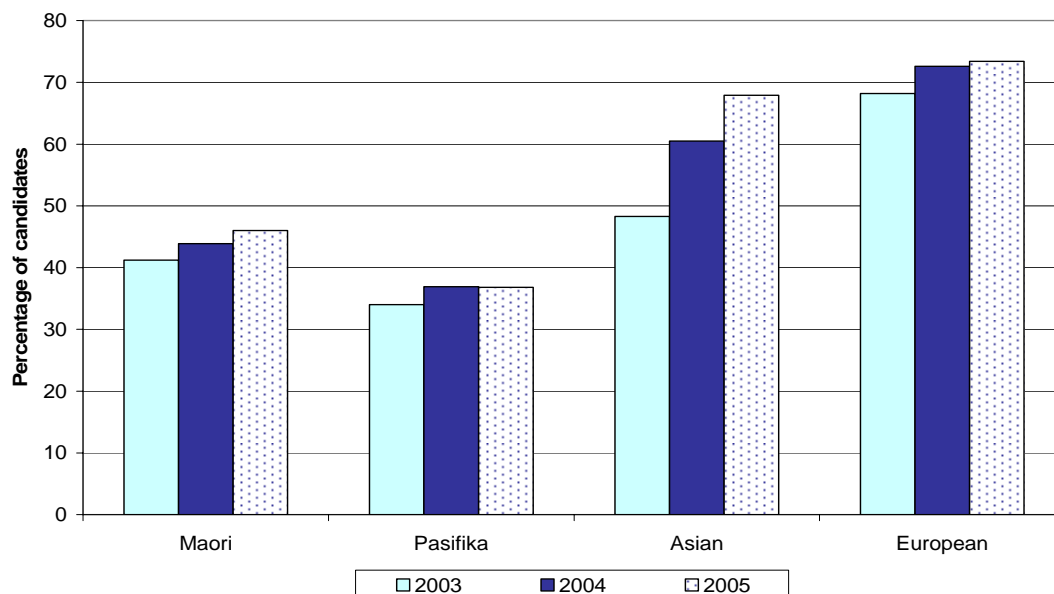
* Ethnic groups exclude foreign fee paying students

¹ Proportions will therefore differ from other sources that use other bases, most commonly school roll.

Qualifications gained

- Overall the proportions of Year 11 – 13 candidates gaining National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) qualifications is similar between 2004 and 2005. Small increases in the proportions of candidates gaining qualifications are apparent from 2002 - 2005:
 - The proportion of Year 11 candidates to gain NCEA (62%) in 2005 was 3 percentage points higher than that of 2002. After an initial increase between 2002 and 2003, the proportion has been stable since 2003.
 - The proportion of Year 12 candidates to gain NCEA level 2 or higher (65%) in 2005 is 7 percentage points higher than the proportion in 2003.
 - The proportion of Year 13 candidates to gain NCEA level 3 in 2005 (54%) is similar to that of 2004.
- Females continue to be more likely to gain a qualification than males.

Figure 1: Year 12 candidates to gain Level 2 NCEA or higher, by ethnicity

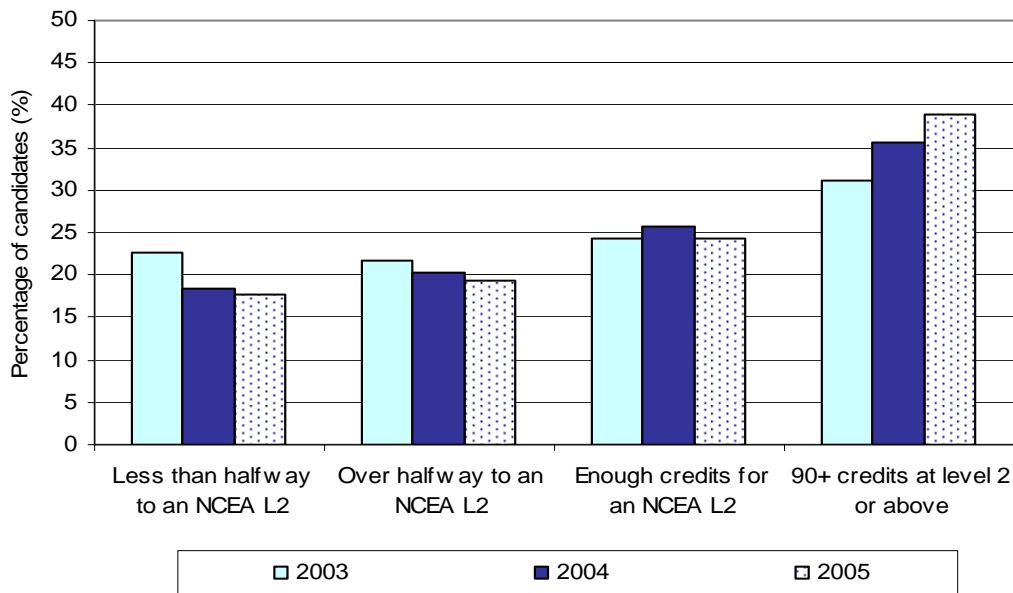


- European/Pakeha and Asian candidates continue to be more likely to gain a qualification than Maori and Pasifika candidates. The proportions of Maori and Asian candidates gaining NCEA level 2 or above in Year 12 has increased more so than for other ethnic groups between 2003 and 2005.
- Year 13 candidates were more likely to gain level 3 qualifications in 2005 than 2004. However less Year 13 candidates gained level 1 or 2 qualifications in 2005 so overall the proportion of Year 13 candidates to gain any qualification in 2005 was lower than in 2004. This finding will be investigated further. It may represent changes in participation or changes in the pattern of qualification achievement by different student cohorts.
- Attainment of the University Entrance requirement is at similar levels in 2004 and 2005.

Credits gained

- The spread of Year 11 candidates gaining less than 80 credits or more than 80 credits² is very similar between 2004 and 2005. In 2005, 64% of all Year 11 candidates gained 80 credits or more.
- Overall the proportion of Year 12 candidates gaining 60 credits or more³ is slightly higher in 2005 than in 2004. Asian candidates are more likely to gain 60 credits or more in 2005 than in 2004. The proportions of other ethnic groups gaining 60 credits or more are similar between 2004 and 2005.
- A higher proportion of Year 12 candidates gained over 90 credits at level 2 or above in 2005 compared to 2004 and 2003 (see Figure 2). 90 credits represents 150% of the requirement for an NCEA level 2 qualification.

Figure 2: Year 12 candidates by number of credits gained at level 2 or above, 2003-2005



- In Year 13 the proportions of candidates gaining 60 credits or more credits is similar between 2004 and 2005.
- Some Year 13 candidates gain no credits at level 3 or above. The proportion of Maori Year 13 candidates in this category is smaller in 2005 compared to 2004.

² To gain NCEA level 1, candidates need to gain 80 credits and meet the literacy and numeracy requirements.

³ To gain NCEA level 2, candidates need to gain 80 credits, of which 60 credits must be at level 2 or higher.

Literacy and Numeracy

- To gain NCEA level 1, candidates have to meet literacy and numeracy requirements. NCEA Level 1 is the typical qualification that Year 11 candidates work towards.
- 75% of Year 11 candidates gained literacy and numeracy in 2005. The proportion of Year 11 candidates attaining literacy and numeracy has been stable after a small increase between 2002 and 2003.
- Female candidates continue to be more likely to gain literacy and numeracy. The proportions in each ethnic group to meet the requirements have also slowly increased over time with the largest increases amongst Pasifika and Asian candidates between 2004 and 2005.

Figure 3: Year 11 candidates to meet NCEA level 1 literacy and numeracy requirements, by ethnicity, 2004-2005

