

Māori at bachelors level 2005

Introduction

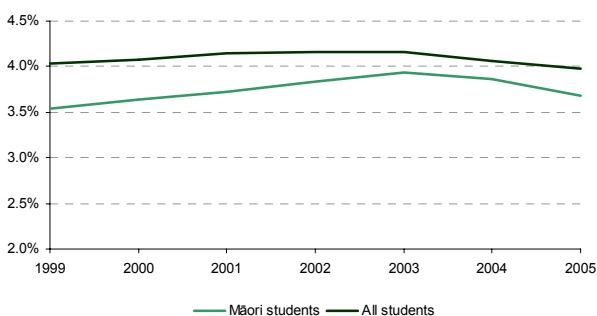
This fact sheet is part of a series that looks at Māori student participation, retention and completion by level of study, using the latest data for the year to December 2005.¹

Qualifications at bachelors level include bachelors degrees, graduate certificates and graduate diplomas. Bachelors degrees are theoretically-based qualifications that require three years or more of full-time study to complete. Graduate certificates and diplomas are designed as vehicles for graduates to pursue further study at an advanced undergraduate level.

Participation

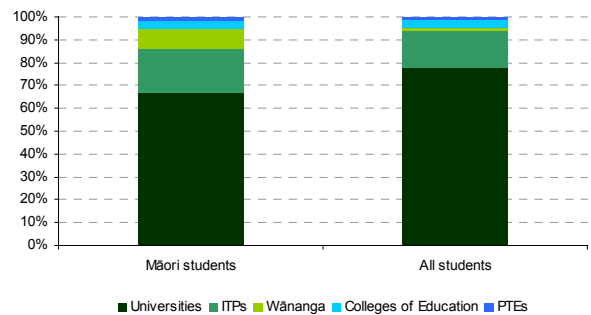
As for all students, the number of Māori students enrolled in bachelors-level study has declined recently. The percentage of Māori aged 15 years and over participating in bachelors-level study rose from 3.5 percent in 1999 to 3.9 percent in 2003 and decreased to 3.7 percent in 2005. This compares with 4.0 percent for bachelors-level students of all ethnic groups in 2005.

Participation rates in bachelors-level study



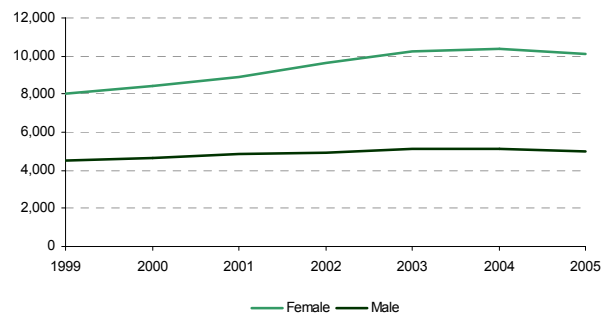
Sixty-eight percent of Māori bachelors-level students were studying at a university in 2005. Māori students are more likely to be undertaking bachelors-level study at a wānanga than other ethnic groups, with 9 percent of Māori bachelors-level students studying at wānanga, compared with 1 percent for all students.

Distribution of bachelors-level students by sub-sector 2005



While women participate in bachelors-level study at a greater rate than men across all ethnic groups, the gender difference is greater for Māori students, with Māori women outnumbering Māori men by more than two to one. Since 1999, the number of Māori women participating in bachelors-level study has grown at more than twice the rate of Māori men.

Māori students in bachelors-level study by gender

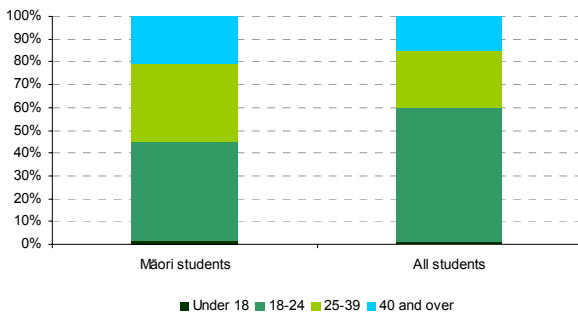


Māori students at bachelors level are more likely to be aged 25 years and over than other ethnic groups. In 2005, 55 percent of Māori students were aged 25 years and over, compared with 40 percent for all students.

¹ See *Māori participation in tertiary education 2005* for notes on data usage.

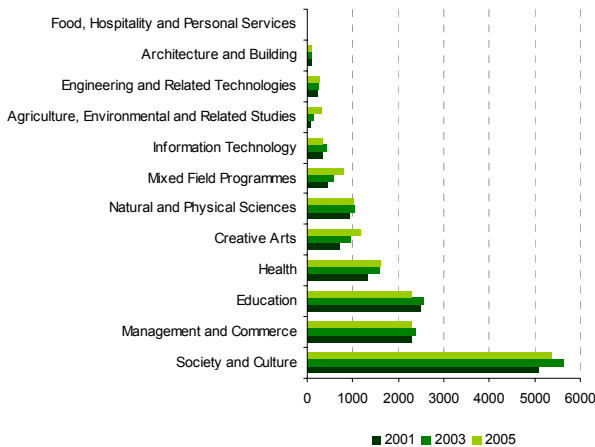
Māori at bachelors level 2005

Distribution of bachelors-level students by age group 2005



In 2005, the most popular field of study for Māori bachelors-level students was society and culture (36 percent of students). Study in the broad field of society and culture includes law, economics, philosophy, sociology, history, language studies, human welfare support and services, and sport and recreation. Other popular fields of study were management and commerce (15 percent of students) and education (15 percent).

Māori students in bachelors-level study by qualification field of study



The fields of study with the largest growth in Māori student numbers from 2001 to 2005 have been creative arts, mixed field programmes, health, and agriculture, environmental and related studies.

Attrition, completion and progression

Thirty-two percent of Māori bachelors-level students who started study in 2004 did not continue to study in 2005. This compares with only 22 percent for all students. The highest attrition rates for Māori

students were at wānanga and institutes of technology and polytechnics (ITPs) and the lowest at colleges of education. Female students had a slightly higher attrition rate than males. Students aged 25 and over were more likely to drop out after one year than younger students.

Over a five-year period, 30 percent of Māori students completed a bachelors-level qualification, compared with 41 percent for all students. Māori students at colleges of education and private training establishments (PTEs) were more likely to complete than those at ITPs, wānanga and universities. Female students were more likely to complete than male students, as were students under 25 years of age.

Attrition, completion and progression rates for Māori students in bachelors-level study

	First-year attrition	5-year completion	5-year higher level progression
All Māori bachelors level students	32%	30%	23%
Universities	32%	28%	25%
ITPs	38%	27%	16%
Wānanga	38%	26%	31%
Colleges of Education	26%	50%	13%
PTEs	39%	34%	7%
Female	33%	32%	23%
Male	31%	26%	22%
Under 18	26%	32%	
18-24	23%	36%	22%
25-39	42%	26%	22%
40 and over	41%	25%	25%

First-year attrition rates are for students who started study in 2004. Five-year completion rates are for students who started study in 2001. Five-year higher progression rates are for students who completed a qualification in 2000. Definitions of these rates can be found on pages 249-251 of Ministry of Education, *Profile and Trends, New Zealand's Tertiary Education Sector 2005*.

A quarter of Māori students who completed a bachelors-level qualification went on to postgraduate study in the following five years. This is a very similar proportion as for all students (22 percent). Students completing at wānanga were most likely to go on to postgraduate study and those completing at colleges of education and PTEs were least likely to do so. There was very little difference in progression between male and female students or by age group.