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PROFILE & TRENDS 2008

NEW ZEALAND'S TERTIARY
EDUCATION SECTOR



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
Te Tihuhu o te Mātauranga

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ANTHROPOLOGY
THEOLOGY

ASIAN
STUDIES
HORTICULTURE
POLITICAL
STUDIES
QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS
COMPUTER
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PROFILE & TRENDS 2008

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Notes:

1. Unless otherwise stated, the data in this publication is for the year ended 31 December 2008 and has been sourced from the Ministry of Education.
2. The information in this report and the analytical tables on the Education Counts website need to be used in conjunction with the technical notes in chapter 18.
3. A list of references to the web tables associated with the data highlights is provided at the beginning of each chapter.



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FOREWORD BY THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION

Profile & Trends 2008: New Zealand's tertiary education sector is the 11th edition of this annual report published by the Ministry of Education. It provides a comprehensive overview of the performance and characteristics of the tertiary education sector.

While this issue is largely focused on the system as it was in 2008, we have also taken account of the weaker economic conditions that exist in 2009. The report foreshadows the release of New Zealand's third education strategy, which will take effect from 2010. In addition, the commentary and the postscript provide insight into how the new government is setting its direction for the tertiary education system.

In 2008, the Tertiary Education Commission finalised multi-year investment plans with tertiary education organisations. And the sector responded to students' and employers' needs through working on its focus on: increasing educational success for young New Zealanders; increasing literacy, numeracy and language levels for the workforce; increasing the achievement of advanced trade, technical and professional qualifications to meet regional and national industry needs; and improving research linkages to create economic opportunities. The new government continues to develop a system that is closely connected to national goals and to the communities it serves. It is also continuing the implementation of the new quality assurance system, linking funding more strongly to performance and simplifying the planning system.

This edition of *Profile & Trends* is a much slimmer reference publication. It is supported by three web booklets – *The tertiary education system*, *What the tertiary education sector provides* and *Finding out more about tertiary education*. These booklets are indexed and can be easily accessed from the *Profile & Trends* home page: www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/series/2531.

Profile & Trends begins with an overview of the tertiary education sector in 2008 followed by a description of the system and what it provides. A survey of the outcomes of tertiary education follows. Details of where students are studying, what qualifications they are taking, their field of study and other important characteristics of people undertaking tertiary study are presented for provider-based and workplace-based tertiary education. This section includes information on the financial support for students. To complete the picture, there is information on the sector's research capability and how this is funded, together with the financial performance of providers, government funding for tertiary education and the human resources in the system.

While the statistics provided in this report and on Education Counts – the Ministry of Education's research and statistics website – are derived mainly from reports provided to the ministry by tertiary education organisations, care has been taken to consult with the different agencies and organisations with responsibilities for tertiary education outside the ministry. A considerable amount of information in this report has also come from these agencies. I thank all contributors for the data and assistance they have provided in preparing this report.

I trust that you will find *Profile & Trends 2008: New Zealand's Tertiary Sector Report* to be relevant and useful to your understanding of the tertiary education system.



Karen Sewell
SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION

