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Notes:

1. More detailed contents are provided at the start of each section.
2. Unless otherwise stated, the data in this publication is for the year ended 31 December 2005 and has been sourced from the Ministry of Education.
3. 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 17.

FOREWORD BY THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION

Profile & Trends 2005: New Zealand's Tertiary Education Sector is the eighth annual publication released by the Ministry of Education giving a picture of the tertiary education sector. It provides a comprehensive overview of the performance and key characteristics of the tertiary education system in 2005. Brief forward-looking commentary is also provided throughout the report and in the postscript on 2006.

In 2005, New Zealand's third statement of tertiary education priorities was released and tertiary education organisations developed their profile for the period 2006 to 2008 stating how they will give effect to the latest statement of priorities and the tertiary education strategy. Another major event was the review, led by the State Services Commission, of the education sector agencies. The review highlighted the scale of change over the last 15 years across education, including tertiary education. It noted the impact of these changes on students, teachers, parents, communities and employers, as well as education providers.

Profile & Trends 2005 looks in detail at the tertiary education system and its agencies, at tertiary education organisations and at the options available for students in tertiary education. The financial performance of tertiary education organisations is discussed, as is government funding for tertiary education. The report considers the outcomes of tertiary education. It looks at enrolments and student achievement, both at tertiary education providers and in workplace training programmes. The types of tertiary education providers are considered in the light of their capability and changes occurring in 2006. There is information on the human resources in tertiary education providers and there are descriptions of the type of financial support available for students. There is a chapter that explores the research undertaken by tertiary education providers and another on the funding of research in tertiary education.

At the time of writing this report, consultations on the discussion document on the next tertiary education strategy were being held and the proposals for system reforms, announced by the Minister for Tertiary Education in April 2006, were being worked through. This work aims to allow the tertiary education system to contribute to New Zealand's goals in such areas as economic transformation, families – young and old, and national identity. The main theme of the reforms is improving the quality and relevance of tertiary teaching and learning – quality-driven provision, clearer focus on the distinctive contribution of each provider and multi-year funding to give the government and the sector more certainty.

The statistics provided in this report are derived mainly from reports provided to the Ministry of Education by tertiary education organisations. Information and statistics have also been provided by the Tertiary Education Commission, the New Zealand Qualifications Authority, the Ministry of Social Development, Inland Revenue, Career Services rapuara, Statistics New Zealand and a range of other government agencies, as well as the Industry Training Federation and quality assurance agencies.

I would like to thank all contributors for the data, time and assistance they have provided in helping the ministry to prepare this report.

I trust you will find the information presented in *Profile & Trends 2005* to be relevant and useful to your understanding of the tertiary education sector as a whole.



Karen Sewell

SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION