



Pacific Aotearoa Status Report A snapshot

2020

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Pacific peoples have made significant contribution to Aotearoa New Zealand for more than a century - economically, socially, politically and culturally.

They are an integral part of Aotearoa New Zealand society with approximately 382,000 currently residing in New Zealand, making up eight per cent of the country's population. The majority were born here and as such are a youthful group.

Pacific peoples' vibrant languages and cultures are what set them apart from other groups in Aotearoa New Zealand, and are driven by their values, principles and history. To ensure that Pacific languages and cultures thrive in Aotearoa New Zealand, more needs to be done by way of developing the use of Pacific languages in schools, homes and workplaces. Building cultural competency across all areas of society is also needed. The number of multicultural Pacific individuals is on the rise and has implications for language programmes and cultural services in New Zealand. The Pacific Realm countries of Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau are in particular need of language and culture revitalisation and prioritisation because their populations largely reside in New Zealand and consequently their languages are threatened and in danger of extinction.

Pacific peoples have contributed significantly to Aotearoa New Zealand's economy. Latest figures show that their contribution to Aotearoa New Zealand's GDP is eight billion dollars per annum. They are the backbone of New Zealand's economy with a quarter of the current working population in labouring jobs. While Pacific men are more likely to work in manufacturing jobs, Pacific women are more likely to be in healthcare and social services roles. There is, unfortunately, a lot of potential Pacific labour that is underutilised in the work force and needs attention, as all this rich economic resource remains untapped. There are a number of Pacific peoples who own businesses, and it is these people who earn more than those who are employees. They also contribute significantly through unpaid informal economic activities, running family households and supporting community groups and others. There continues to be fewer Pacific homeowners compared to other ethnic groups and further assistance is needed to support this area.

The health sector is enriched by the 3.3% of Pacific nurses and 1.8% of doctors, 10.8% of carers and 39 Pacific providers that support the health system. Pacific peoples have made some gains by decreasing some negative health conditions in the areas of mental health, alcohol and drugs and physical activities, but there remains an alarmingly high number of Pacific people with obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

Young Pacific people have a lot to offer through their engagement in different sectors. It is this group that is more multicultural and diverse and yet more monolingual. There are a handful who are business owners and are fruitful in the manufacturing sector. While their mental health fares better than others, the areas of nutrition, oral health and obesity require attention. In the education sector, while there are some high achievers, these are few and far between and much is needed to support Pacific students who are failing in the system. Of the students who are completing a qualification, many gain a Level 3 or 4 certificate.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought the nation to a halt and lockdown saw the closures of many businesses. Health issues increased significantly. It also saw the rise of Pacific peoples' resiliency and tautua (service) to their communities, to ensure families were supported and key messages were delivered. The pandemic brought church into the homes and strengthened the vā (relationships) between different family members. For many, their faith was also strengthened as they looked to God for hope.

The threads that bind Pacific peoples and are woven intricately into the fabric of Aotearoa New Zealand society enriches it for all to benefit. However, much is needed to ensure this richness continues to flourish. The influence of Pacific peoples will only continue to increase in New Zealand as the future of this young population continues to materialise.



Latest figures show that Pacific peoples have contributed 8 billion dollars to Aotearoa New Zealand's GDP per annum.

The Report

This report provides a picture of Pacific peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand utilising various data sources that were available at a particular point in time. It does not seek to analyse the data in depth, but to present data and facts as they stand.

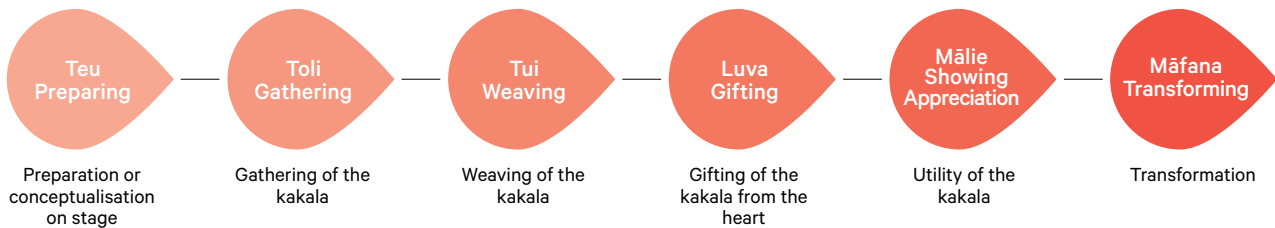
There are four chapters to this report that are framed under the Lalanga Fou goals. Each chapter tells the story of Pacific peoples and also highlights areas for further focus.

Data of the total Pacific population includes all people who identified with a Pacific people’s group including 17 cultural groups. Unless stated, the report does not generally present trends or comparisons over time. Some comparisons will look at nine ethnic categories, including Samoan, Cook Islands, Tongan, Niuean, Fijian, Tokelauan, Tuvaluan, i-Kiribati and Rotuman,¹ and at other times, comparisons will be made across 17 ethnic groups that make up the total Pacific population.

The data for each of the four chapters was gathered using the Kakala method. The framework involves six phases. At each phase, care was taken to ensure the right data was obtained and weaved together to tell an enriching story of Pacific peoples. The report aims to inform and transform decision-making processes and policies that will support Pacific peoples to continue to enrich and thrive in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Figure 1: Pacific Aotearoa Lalanga Fou goals



The report captures information on the following four Lalanga Fou goals:

<p>Goal 1: Thriving Pacific peoples, cultures and identities (Chapter 1)</p>	<p>Goal 2: Prosperous Pacific communities (Chapter 2)</p>	<p>Goal 3: Resilient and healthy Pacific peoples (Chapter 3)</p>	<p>Goal 4: Confident, thriving and resilient young Pacific peoples (Chapter 4)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A growing population • A diverse population • A younger population • A culturally rich population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Pacific workforce • Pacific unpaid and volunteer contribution • Pacific-owned businesses • Housing and immigration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions Pacific make to the health sector • Caring for Pacific communities • Pacific health conditions • Health and wellbeing focus areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging young Pacific people in culture, language and identity • Engaging young Pacific people in wellbeing • Engaging young Pacific people in education • Engaging young Pacific people in the economy

¹ Based on the groups that supported the Ministry in the Pacific Languages Weeks Series.

Kupa's perspective on what will support thriving Pacific cultures, languages and identities in NZ



Kupa

“If we are to thrive in New Zealand there are some things that need to be ironed out. There are some things in this journey of ours that need to be pruned and cleared out of the way, otherwise we can't focus.”

Kupa is passionate about Pacific cultures and identities, and in particular about his own Tokelauan culture. He comes from Fakaofu in Tokelau, Tongareva in the Cook Islands and Nanumea in Tuvalu. He works in a Pacific-based nursing service and has been working in the health sector for over 30 years. He invests much of his time in supporting communities, for example, local school board of trustees, leading projects for the Te Kaiga Fakaofu I Ueiligitone Inc and the Tokelau lead facilitator for Kaiga Maopoopo Family Violence Prevention Training. He is also currently pursuing his PhD with the University of Otago.

When asked about his perspective on what would support thriving Pacific cultures and identities, Kupa addressed it using a wellbeing model he developed in 1992 called Vaka Atafaga. The framework looks at six key areas of family, social systems, physical, environment, mind, and spirituality. According to Kupa, we need to look at “what is happening currently, what happened historically and how we see the future.”

Kupa shared the historical context of Tokelauan people's settlement in New Zealand and says that it influenced how they lived and were able to express their language, culture and identity. Living in isolation between groups, lack of transport, learning a new language and adjusting to a new climate, he says, had an effect on people's health and “those factors had a role to play in where language and culture are today.”

“The Tokelauan language is a dying language,” says Kupa. But there are current activities in the community to support the maintenance of the language and culture such as teaching the language in ECEs, community group

gatherings, church and family groups. “We had to be creative and to be unified to come together in one form or another. People are then able to speak their own language and maintain their culture. What is important for the present time is working together.”

Creating the right environment is one of Kupa's key factors in supporting thriving Pacific cultures and languages. For example, the declining use of the Tokelauan language requires a crisis response and immediate action.

“There is a real threat to our language, it is a language crisis. We can't just be thinking about it, we need to be acting now.” Kupa says this requires government to act on this “threat of cultural erosion” and to “nurture and grow our Pacific languages and culture.” He also believes mainstream sectors need to support the development of schools of languages and cultures, and the health sector needs good interpreters. “Through existing education opportunities, it should be made available for ethnic groups to have a choice about what language they want their education to be in.” Language nests and the older generation are a great resource. He gives an example of the Cook Islands Language Nests where “the women here have so much cultural knowledge, but their cultural knowledge is not being recognised,” although they “share stories and they share the culture.” His plea is for recognition of the older people who have cultural knowledge and language expertise. “We need to continue!”

Spirituality is another key factor. Kupa says the role of the church is important. His view is that “these are perfect places to learn the language. It has strength, and it has a role to play.”



Family is another critical factor. Kupa says, “They have a role to play to share this burden. It takes time and energy and resources. Our families are working hard to get by so we cannot have unrealistic expectations. They might have the knowledge but not the time or the resources. But the family environment needs to be identified and supported as a nurturing place of culture and identity.”

Social systems are another key factor. Kupa states that social systems need to address the values of equity and equality and also compassion for the vulnerable. “There needs to be a fairness in how resources are shared and spread across the communities. Communities need to be consulted and satisfied. There needs to be evidence that resources have gone out to where they are supposed to be. This needs to be demonstrated every step of the way. If the languages are dying, then there needs to be some serious compassion to drive some action.”

The physical element is also important. “In order to support this, everyone needs to be at their optimum health. Families live in different circumstances. They need the energy to support this.”

The mind makes up the sixth factor of Kupa’s Vaka Atafaga model. He says, “That has to do with their attitudes. We need to transform the mindset that this is not a problem. We need to transform it so they feel they have a part to play.”


Kupa believes that the current status of Pacific peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand should be seen as a strength. “We need to capitalise on the resilience of those strengths.” He also emphasises that “if we are to thrive in New Zealand there are some things that need to be ironed out. There are some things in this journey of ours that need to be pruned and cleared out of the way, otherwise we can’t focus.” A couple of these issues he states are around citizenship and residency.

His last thoughts look to the future of Pacific communities in New Zealand. He says, “One of the key things is that our children and ourselves move into the future knowing who we are. That is an ideal world. The future needs to be for our children too.”



Kia Aroha College

Kia Aroha College



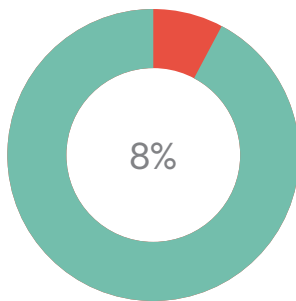
Chapter One: Pacific identities, languages, and culture in Aotearoa

This section is about acknowledging and understanding our diverse Pacific population group. It describes their characteristics as a growing, young, diverse and culturally rich population.

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A growing population

Total Pacific population



Pacific peoples make up eight per cent of the Aotearoa New Zealand population. That equates to 381,642 people who identify themselves as being Pacific.

Over time, the Pacific population has been steadily growing. The growth rate from the 2013 census to the 2018 census was 29%.

It is estimated that the Pacific population will increase to 440,000 – 480,000 in 2025 and to 530,000 – 650,000 in 2038.

The largest Pacific population, the Samoan population, will increase to 220,000 – 240,000 in 2025 and to 260,000 – 340,000 in 2038.²

Table 1: Population count for Pacific peoples and NZ population between 2006 to 2018 Censuses

	2018 (count)	2013 (count)	2006 (count)
Pacific Peoples	381,642	295,941	265,974
NZ population	4,699,755	4,011,399	3,860,163



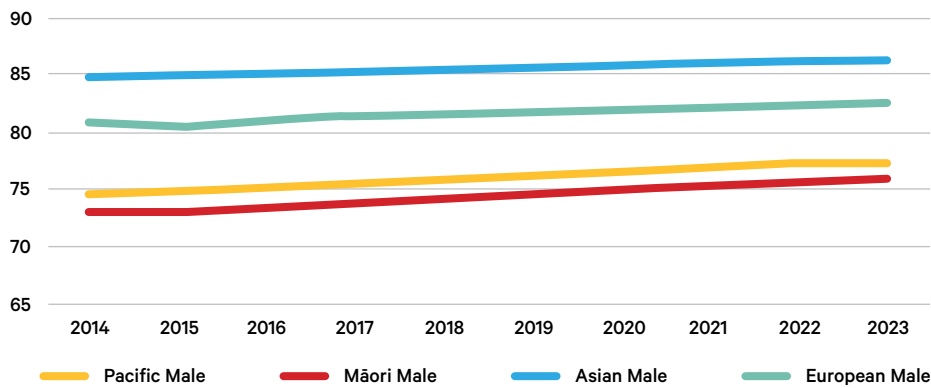
² National Ethnic Population Projections: 2013 (base) – 2018 (update).

Pacific life expectancy at birth³

In 2018, the estimated life expectancy for Pacific males at birth in New Zealand was 75.9 years and for females 80.2 years. In 2021 it is projected to be 76.9 years for Pacific males and 81.1 years for Pacific females. The Pacific and Māori populations have similar lower life expectancies compared to Asian and European peoples in New Zealand.

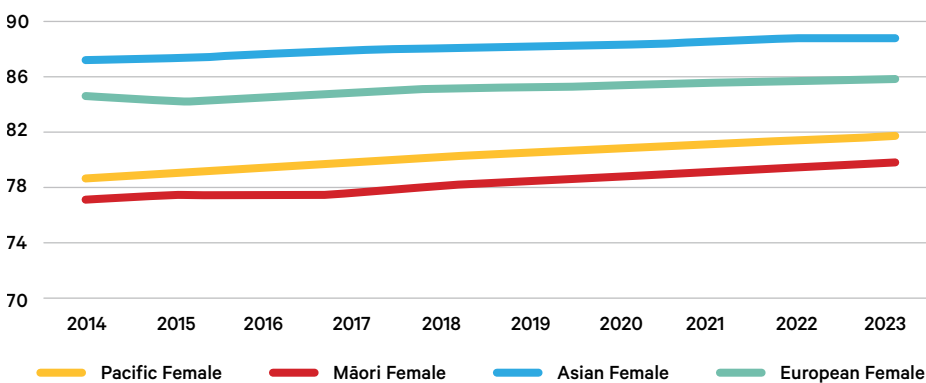
The gap between Pacific and European men is approximately five years. The European male population is expected to live five years longer than Pacific males. The gap is even wider between Pacific and Asian populations where Asian men are expected to live between eight to ten years longer than Pacific men.

Figure 1: Male life expectancy change from 2014 to 2023 - ethnic comparisons



For females, the gap between Pacific and European populations is between four and five, and there is an eight-year gap between the life expectancy of Asian and Pacific women.

Figure 2: Female life expectancy change from 2014 to 2023 - ethnic comparisons

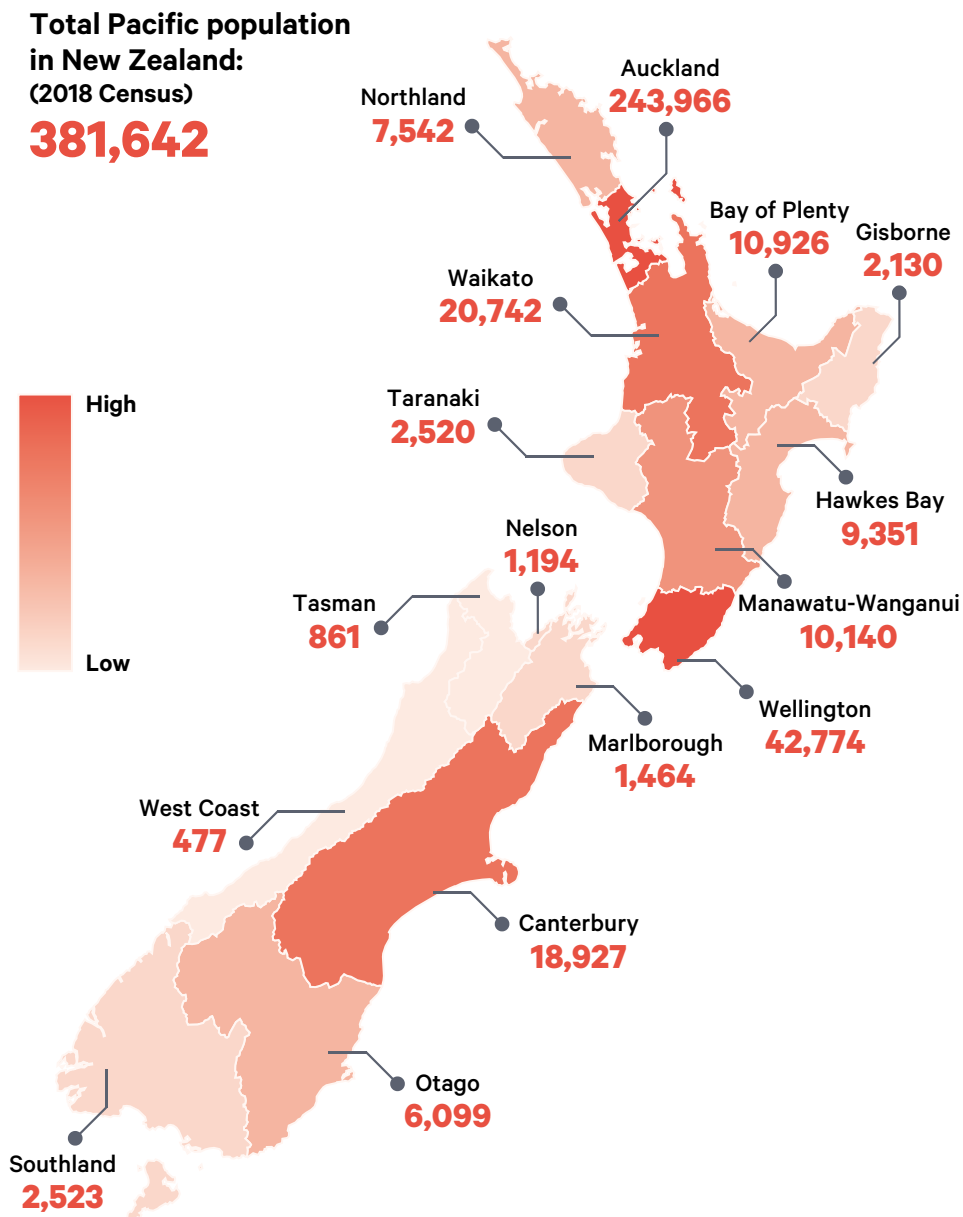


³ At the 50th percentile (median). An estimated probability that the actual result will be 50 percent lower or higher than this percentile.

Regional profile

There are at least 400 Pacific residents living in every region across New Zealand. The majority of the Pacific population lives in the Northern regions. The four regions highly populated by Pacific peoples are Auckland, Wellington, Waikato and Canterbury. Auckland is the region of choice for the majority of the Pacific population, with 64% in residence. Wellington region houses 11% of the Pacific population and 5% equally live in Waikato and Canterbury regions.

Figure 3: Regional map of the total Pacific population⁴



⁴ Number of people in the regions do not add up to the overall number of people due to rounding.

Ethnic regional and Local Board area distribution

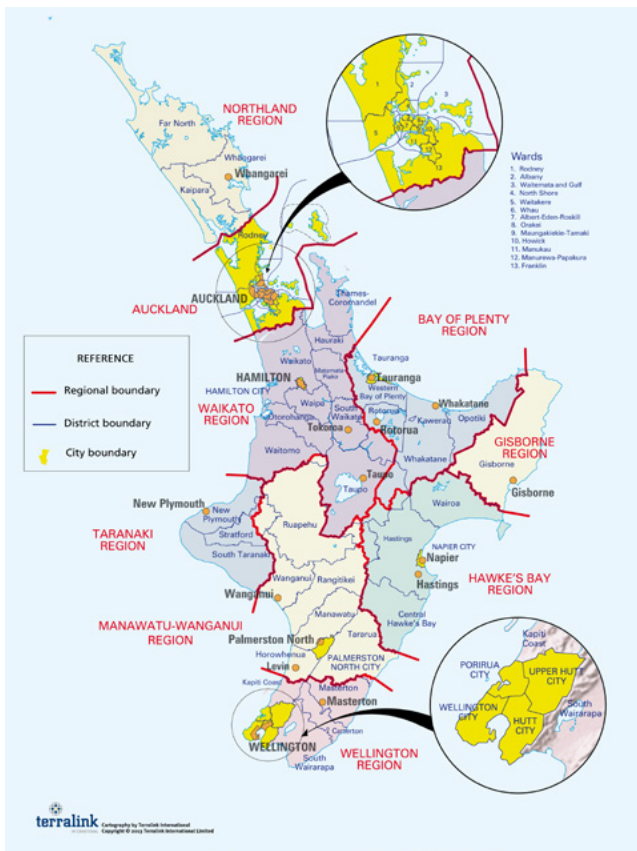
The majority of the communities from Samoa, Cook Islands, Tonga, Niue, Fiji, Indigenous Australia, Hawaii, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Rotuma, Tahiti, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu live in the Auckland region. The ethnic groups of Tokelau and Pitcairn Islands mainly reside in the Wellington region. The majority of the Ni-Vanuatu community live in Hawkes Bay.

In the Auckland region, you will find the Samoan, Cook Islands and Niuean communities mainly in the Mangere-Otahuhu, Otara-Papatoetoe and Manurewa Local Board areas. The Tongan community is across the Mangere-Otahuhu, Otara-Papatoetoe and Maungakiekie Local Board areas. The Fijian community is mainly spread across the Henderson-Massey, Otara-Papatoetoe, and Manurewa Local Board areas. The Tuvalu community is clustered in the Henderson-Massey Local Board area. The Kiribati community is spread across the Rodney, Manurewa, Henderson-Massey, and Franklin Local Board areas. The other, smaller groups of Indigenous Australia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Rotuma and Tahiti are spread across the Auckland Territorial Authority and are not concentrated in any local board area.

In the Wellington region, the Tokelauan community is concentrated in the cities of Porirua and Lower Hutt. The Pitcairn Islanders are situated in Porirua and Wellington cities.

Much of the Ni Vanuatu community in the Hawkes Bay region are mainly living in the Hastings District.⁵

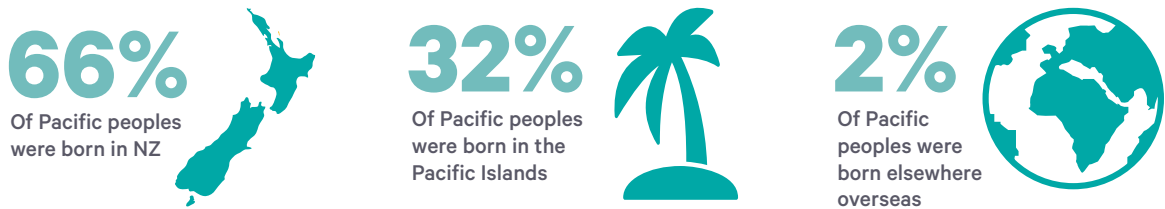
Figure 4: North Island regions and local boards.



⁵ Map accessed from <https://www.lgnz.co.nz/local-government-in-nz/new-zealands-councils/>. Accessed on 15 December 2020.

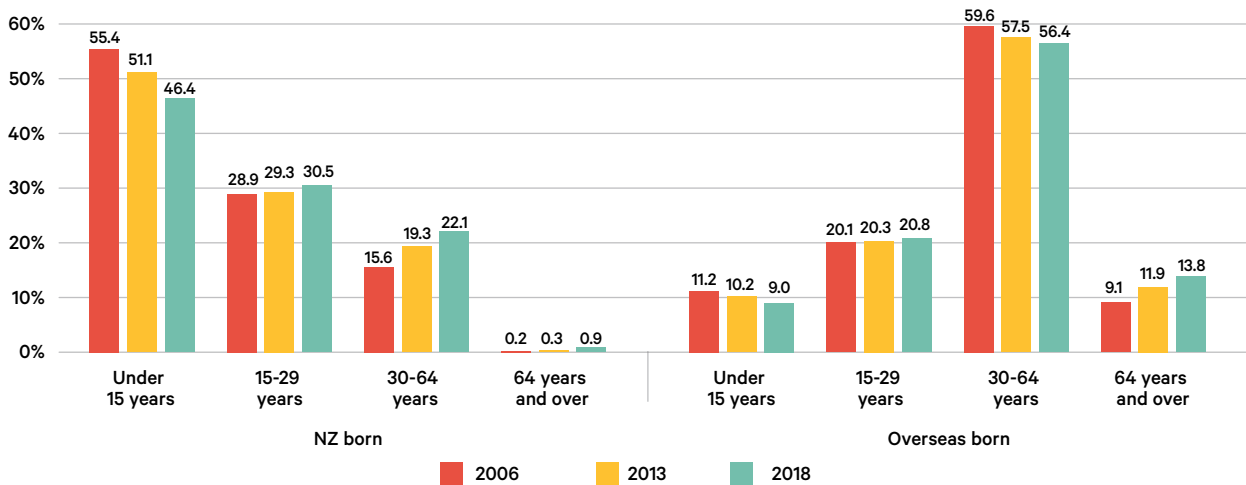
Growth by birth

The majority of Pacific peoples were born in Aotearoa New Zealand and a third were born overseas.⁶ The total population also resembles this pattern with 72% born in Aotearoa New Zealand and 27% born overseas.



The majority of Aotearoa New Zealand-born Pacific peoples are young, particularly those aged under 15 years. The majority of overseas born Pacific peoples are aged 30 years and over.

Figure 5: Birthplace of Pacific peoples by age group from 2006 to 2018

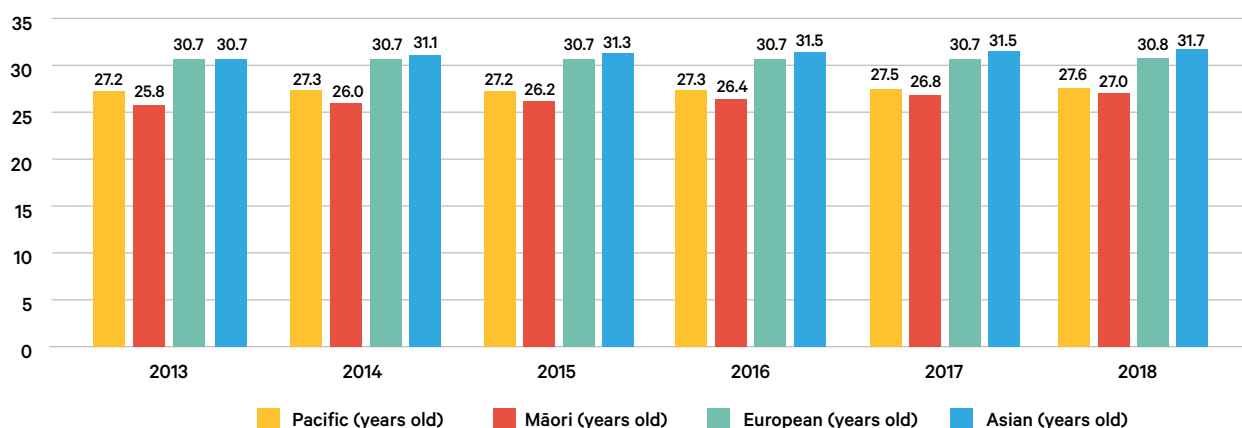


⁶ Figures are based on 373,131 Pacific peoples. 2% of people born elsewhere include Australia (1.1%), Europe incl. UK and Ireland (0.3%), North America (0.3%), Asia (0.2%).

Pacific fertility trends

Pacific women are having babies at a younger age on average when compared to non-Pacific, non- Māori groups. In 2018, the median age for Pacific mothers was 27.6 years. Similarly, Māori mothers was 27.0 years. In comparison, European and Asian groups are having babies at older ages (30.8 and 31.7 and years respectively). These trends have remained relatively the same over the years.

Figure 6: Median age of mothers from 2013 to 2018 - ethnic comparisons⁷



In 2018, 60% of Pacific mothers aged 15 years and over had at least one child born. Predominantly, Pacific women are having one, two or three children, and two children are the most common number of children in a Pacific family.

Table 2: Number of children born for each female for the Pacific people's ethnic group, 2006 – 2018 Censuses⁸

Number of children born	2006 (%)	2013 (%)	2018 (%)
No children	35.3	36.5	36.7
One child	12.5	12.5	12.1
Two children	13.8	14	14
Three children	12	11.7	12.2
Four children	9.6	9	9.1
Five children	5.9	5.7	5.7
Six or more children	8.1	7.2	6.9
Object to answering	3	3.3	3.3

⁷ <https://www.stats.govt.nz/reports/parenting-and-fertility-trends-in-new-zealand-2018>

⁸ This has a moderate data quality for 2018 census. 85.6 percent of the data was from the 2018 census.

Of the missing data 2.8 per cent from 2013 census, 4.1 administrative data. There is 7.5 per cent of no information. Stepchildren, adopted children, foster children and wards of the State are not included.

Growth by migration

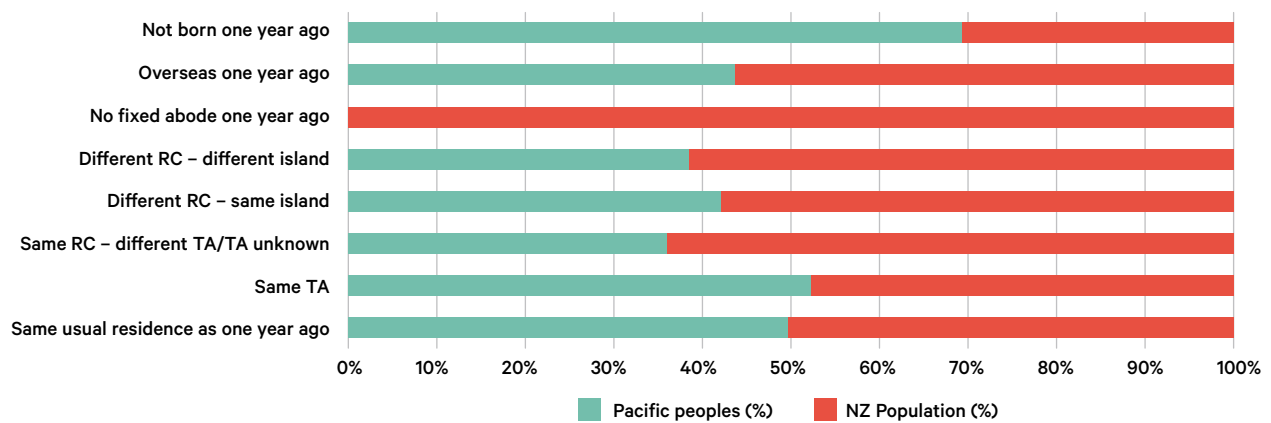
Aotearoa New Zealand has a long history of migration from the Pacific. At the 2018 census, 46% of people born overseas have been living in Aotearoa New Zealand for 20 years or more. Since the 2016 census, 13.3% of the Pacific population had arrived in the country.

Table 3: Years since arriving in New Zealand for Pacific peoples from 2006 to 2018

Years since arrival	2006 (%)	2013 (%)	2018 (%)
Less than 1 year	6.2	3.7	3.0
1 year	3.9	2.9	3.0
2 years	3.2	2.7	2.9
3 years	2.6	3.2	2.6
4 years	3.2	4.1	2.3
5-9 years	17.3	16.4	13.3
10-19 years	23.9	21.5	26.9
20 years or more	39.8	45.5	46.0

The Pacific population in Aotearoa New Zealand is no more transient than the general population. Their movements across the country mimic each other. At the 2018 census, 16.3% of Pacific peoples indicated that they had lived elsewhere in the country a year ago in relation to their usual residence, compared to 16.7% of the total population.

Figure 7: Usual place of residence one year ago for Pacific peoples



Pacific people with Aotearoa New Zealand citizenship

From 2013 to 2018 the Samoan, Fijian and Tongan ethnic groups were in the top 10 groups who had been granted citizenship. On average they made up 19.7% of the total people granted citizenship in the last five years. In 2018, there were 6,724 people (or 19.6%) collectively from Samoa, Fiji and Tonga who were granted citizenship.

Table 4: Number of granted New Zealand citizenships for Samoan, Fijian and Tongan groups from 2013 to 2018

Years	NZ Citizenship	Samoan	Fijian	Tongan
2018	Total granted	3,185	2,691	848
	Top 10 rank	3	6	8
2017	Total granted	2,954	3,242	684
	Top 10 rank	5	4	9
2016	Total granted	3,020	2,696	767
	Top 10 rank	4	6	8
2015	Total granted	2,722	2,365	506
	Top 10 rank	4	6	8
2014	Total granted	2,590	2,235	500
	Top 10 rank	4	5	10
2013	Total granted	2,934	2,093	522
	Top 10 rank	3	6	9

Multigenerational family households

Pacific peoples tend to live in larger and multigenerational households. The trend across 2001 and 2013 censuses showed that the percentage of children (0 to 4 years) in extended family households was higher than all other ethnic groups. It can be inferred that at the 2018 census this was still the case. However, the 2018 census is limited in providing a proper narrative.



Limitations of the 2018 census data on Pacific family households

In the 2018 census, households with Pacific residents were under-represented in the census household data. Pacific people were disproportionately missed by the census field collection and are more reliant on administration data than other ethnic groups.⁹ Pacific peoples make up 46.1% of all people missing from households (compared with 23.1 percent of census usual residents). There are 54,951 who have been identified as Pacific Peoples missing from households. These represent 14.0% of all census usual residents with Māori or Pacific ethnicity, or both.

People of Pacific ethnicity who were missing from households came from fully missed households rather than from within responding dwellings. There are particularly high numbers of children of Pacific ethnicity missing from households (i.e. multiple children per household missed as a result of the full household being missed, rather than multiple children being left off the Dwelling/Household set-up form).


















⁹ This was also the same for Māori

A diverse Pacific population

The Pacific population is not homogenous. According to the census classification there are 17 distinct ethnic groups in the Pacific classification category. These include: Cook Islands Māori, Fijian, Hawaiian, i-Kiribati, Indigenous Australian, Kiribati, Nauruan, Niuean, Ni Vanuatu, Papua New Guinean, Pitcairn Islander, Rotuman, Samoan, Solomon Islander, Tahitian, Tokelauan, Tongan, and Tuvaluan.

The 10 largest Pacific populations are: Samoan (47.9%), Tongan (21.6%), Cook Islands Māori (21.1%), Niuean (8.1%), Fijian (5.2%), Tokelauan (2.3%), Tuvaluan (1.2%), i-Kiribati (0.8%), Tahitian (0.5%) and Papua New Guinean (0.3%).

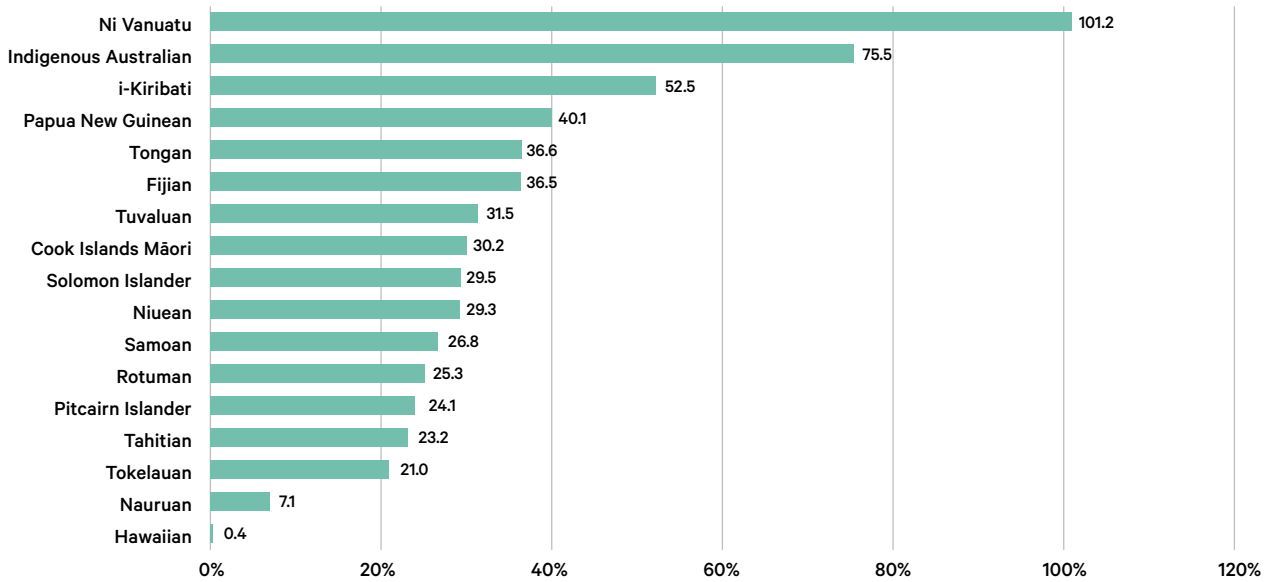
Table 5: Breakdown of Pacific populations in New Zealand at the 2018 Census

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
																	N/A
Samoan	Tongan	Cook Islands Māori	Niuean	Fijian	Tokelauan	Tuvaluan	i-Kiribati	Tahitian	Papua New Guinean	Ni Vanuatu	Rotuman	Indigenous Australian	Solomon Islander	Hawaiian	Pitcairn Islander	Nauruan	Other ¹⁰
182721	82389	80532	30867	19722	8676	4653	3225	1737	1131	990	981	795	777	429	216	135	3060
47.9%	21.6	21.1%	8.1%	5.2%	2.3%	1.2%	0.8%	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.05%	0.03%	0.8%

All 17 distinct Pacific groups have seen growth since the last census count. The top six ethnic groups with the biggest growth are Ni Vanuatu, who have more than doubled in number since the last census (101.2% growth), Indigenous Australian (75.5% growth) i-Kiribati (52.5% growth), Papua New Guinean (40.1% growth), Tongan (36.6% growth) and Fijian (36.5% growth).

¹⁰ Includes Pacific peoples nfd (2,724) and Pacific peoples nec (336). About half of those who were Pacific peoples nfd were aged 30–64 years (49 percent). Majority of those who were classified as Pacific peoples nec were aged under 15 years (38 percent).

Figure 8: Percentage increase of Pacific ethnic groups from 2013 census to 2018 census



Realm countries of New Zealand

Tokelau, the Cook Islands and Niue are part of the realm of New Zealand. More of the population from these Pacific communities are living in New Zealand than in their home countries. The majority of the Cook Islands Māori and Niue groups reside in New Zealand (90% and 94% respectively) and over half of the Tokelauan population live in New Zealand (54%).

Table 6: Proportion of realm country populations in NZ

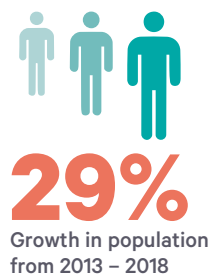
Realm countries	Proportion of population in NZ compared to home country (%) ¹¹
Cook Islands	90%
Niue	94%
Tokelau	54%

Over the last five years, all realm country communities have experienced an increase in population size.

Cook Islands community



Niue community



Tokelau community



¹¹ Sources include: 2018 Stats NZ Census data and Central Intelligence Agency's The World Fact Book, July 2019 data, accessed March 2020.

They have young population groups with an average median age of 21 years. This is younger than the total Pacific median age of 23 years.



Cook Island Māori median age



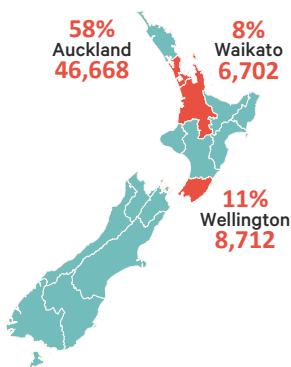
Niuean median age



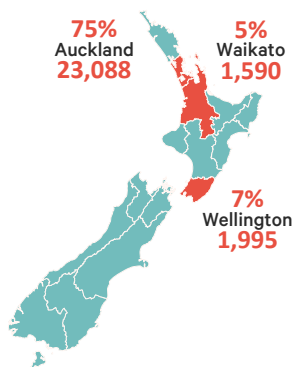
Tokelauan median age

The major population areas for the realm country communities are Auckland, Wellington, Waikato and Bay of Plenty.

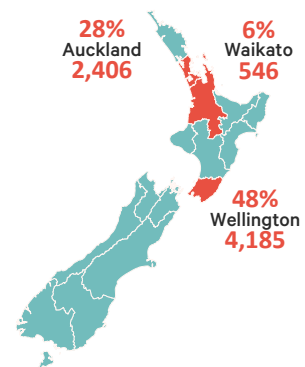
Cook Islands Māori population



Niuean population



Tokelauan population

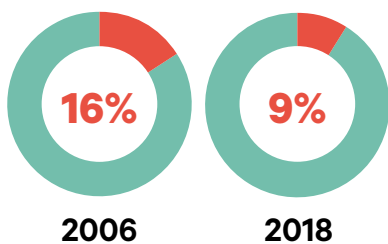


Of the realm countries, the Niuean community has a more multicultural population compared to Cook Islanders and Tokelauans. Seventy-one per cent of Niueans identify with two or more cultures. Fifty-seven percent of Cook Islanders identify with two more cultures.

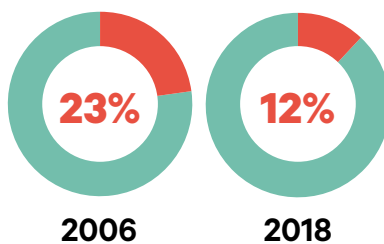
Cook Islands Māori ethnic make up		Niuean ethnic make up		Tokelauan ethnic make up	
2 ethnic groups	33.4%	2 ethnic groups	38.2%	2 ethnic groups	38.4%
3 ethnic groups	18.1%	3 ethnic groups	22.1%	3 ethnic groups	18.1%
4 or more	5.8%	4 or more	10.3%	4 or more	8.6%

The number of ethnic speakers compared to the population size is very disproportionate amongst the realm countries.

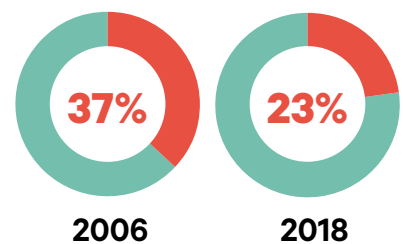
Percentage of Ethnic Cook Māori Language Speakers (2006 and 2018 Censuses)



Percentage of Ethnic Niuean Language Speakers (2006 and 2018 Censuses)



Percentage of Ethnic Tokelau Language Speakers (2006 and 2018 Censuses)



A younger population

Age distribution

The Pacific population is a young population with a median age of 23 years. Thirty-four percent are aged under 15 years compared to five percent aged 65 years and over.

The Pacific population is the youngest population in comparison to other ethnic groups. Its median age of 23 years is younger than Māori’s median age of 25.4 years, 31.3 years for Asian and 41.4 years for European.

A younger population
Median age of

23

are aged under
15 years

34%

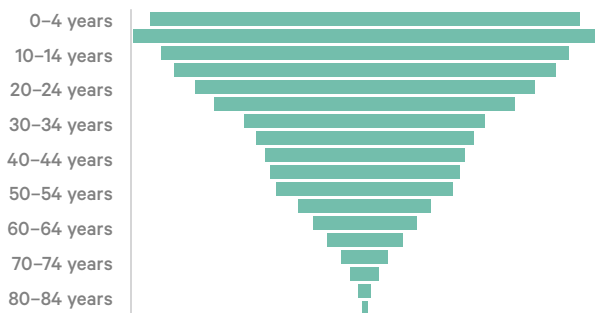


Table 7: Age distribution of Pacific peoples from 0 to 65+ years, 2018

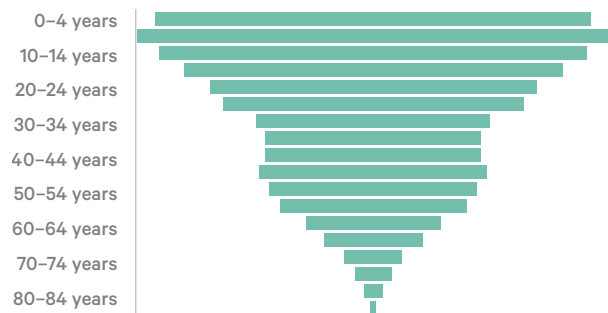
	Pacific Peoples				
	Total people – age group	Under 15 years	15-29 years	30-64 years	65 years and over
Count	381,642	128,154	103,752	129,504	20,232
%	100%	33.6%	27.2%	33.9%	5.3%

Funnel charts comparing population distributions across different ethnic groups shows Pacific and Māori having a much younger population and higher numbers aged from 0-14 years. The Asian population has a higher number of people aged 20-34 years and Europeans have a much rounder population distribution with more people aged 65+ age compared to other ethnic groups.

Pacific peoples population distribution



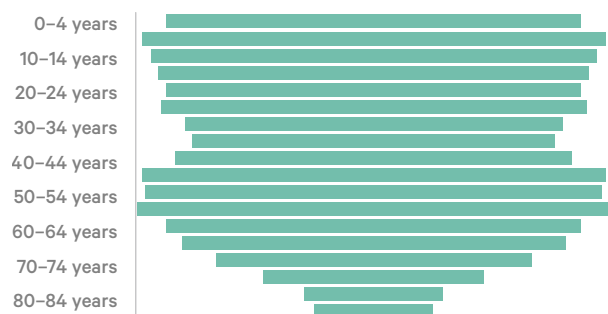
Māori population distribution



Asian population distribution

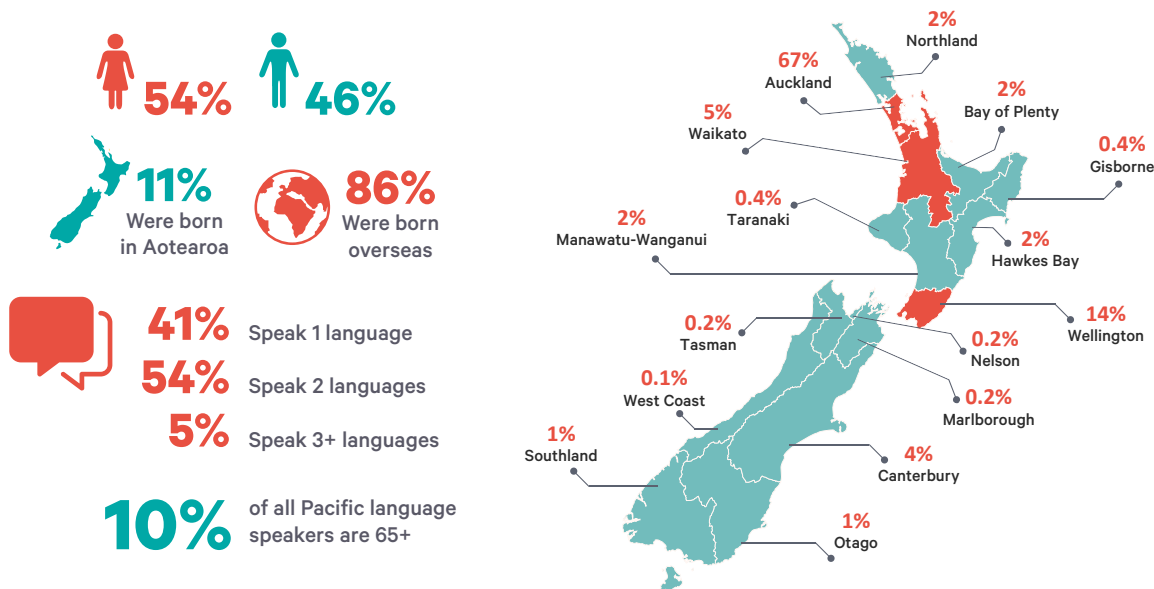


European population distribution



65 years and over

The five per cent of Pacific peoples aged 65 years and over is mainly made up of females who were largely born overseas. They have the highest percentage of bilingual speakers and mainly live in the Auckland region.



Dependency age groups¹²

While Europeans face an ageing population, Pacific and Māori, and Asians to some extent, have a much younger population. Therefore, the dependency of older peoples will be greater in European populations and the total in Aotearoa New Zealand because they are getting older. As such they will likely have an impact on New Zealand’s health and economic sector as they age, whilst the Pacific and Māori populations will be making an impact on New Zealand’s economy as their populations enter the working-age group in years to come.

Twenty per cent (or 923,403) of the total Aotearoa New Zealand population is aged under 15 years and 15% (or 715,167) is aged 65 years and over, whereas 34% of the Pacific population is under 15 years and 5% is 65 years and over; 32% per cent of the Māori population is aged under 15 and 6% is 65+; 20% of the Asian population is under 15 years and 6% is 65+; 19% of the European population is under 15 years and 18% is 65 years and over.

Table 8: Comparison of Under 15 and 65+ age groups across ethnic populations, 2018

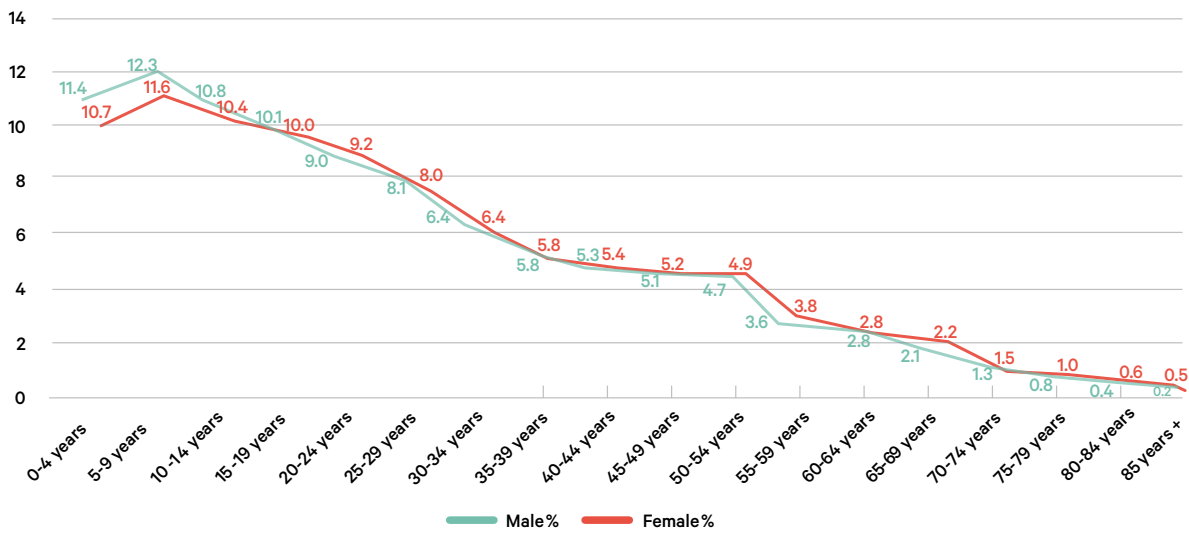
	Under 15 years (count)	65 years and over (count)	Total (count)	Dependency ratio
Pacific peoples	128,154	20,232	381,642	34% to 5%
Māori	248,784	48,252	775,836	32% to 6%
Asian	143,691	45,462	707,598	20% to 6%
European	621,552	613,149	3,297,864	19% to 18%
Total	923,403	715,167	4,699,755	20% to 15%

¹² The 0-14 years and 65+ are considered dependent age groups as opposed to those aged 15-64 years who are the working age group.

Gender differences

The male Pacific population tends to be younger than the female Pacific population. There is a gender difference between those aged between 0-14 years with more males compared to females. Also, there are slightly more females than males from 40 years of age onwards.

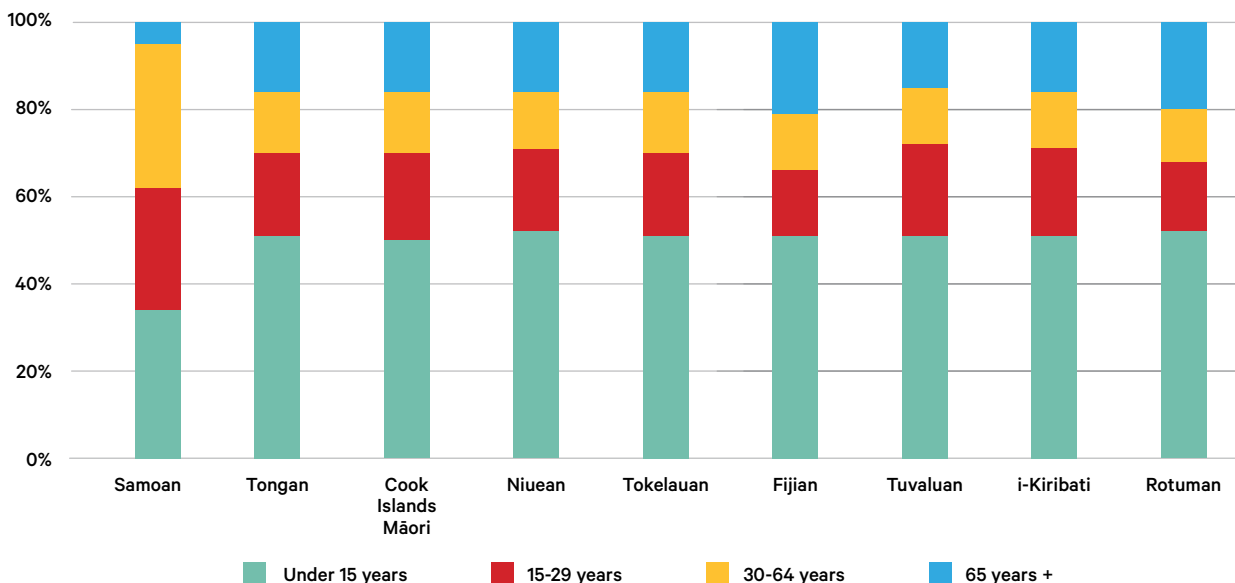
Figure 9: Gender and age distribution of the Pacific population



Ethnic differences

Across nine Pacific ethnic groups, the percentage of young people is greater than the older population. Except for the Samoan population, all other ethnic groups have half of their populations under the age of 15 years. The Samoan population has over a third of its population under 15 years (34 percent).

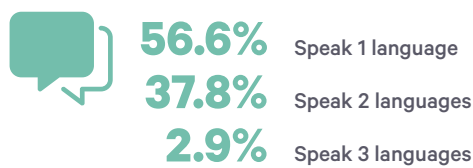
Figure 10: Comparison of ethnic population groups by age groups



A culturally rich population

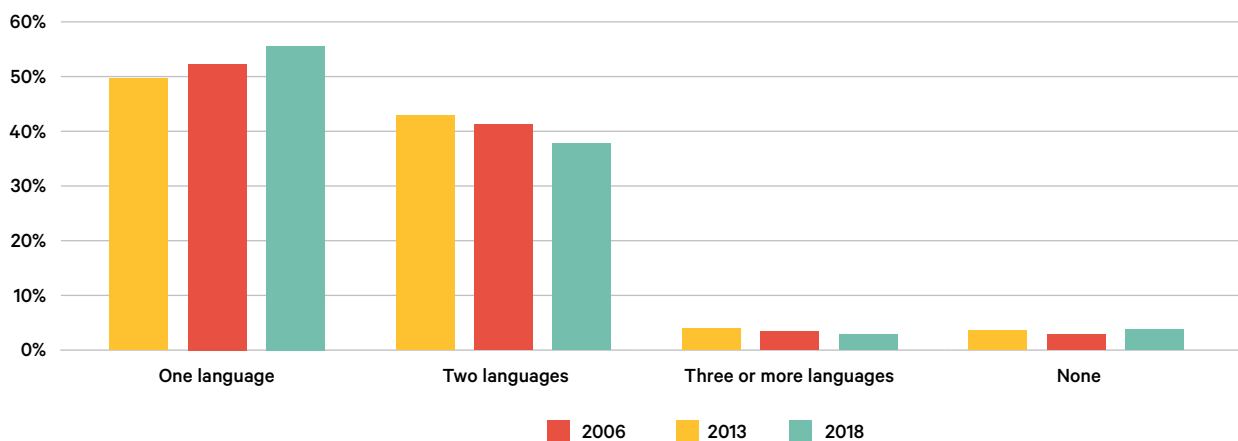
Pacific language use

Pacific peoples have the third highest number of bilingual speakers in Aotearoa New Zealand with more than a third of its population stating that they speak two languages. There are 37.8% of Pacific people who are bilingual speakers in Aotearoa New Zealand. In comparison, 19.7% of the Māori population speak two languages and 7.8% of the European population are bilingual speakers.



The number of Pacific bilingual and multilingual speakers has decreased over time as the number of monolingual speakers has risen.

Figure 11: Number of languages spoken, over time 2006 – 2018 censuses



It is the older Pacific peoples who are more bilingual, or multilingual, particularly those aged 65 years and over, compared to the younger Pacific peoples.










Table 9: Percentage of the number of languages spoken by Pacific peoples by age group, 2018

	Under 15 years (%)	15-29 years (%)	30-64 years (%)	65 years and over (%)
One language	63.0	58.9	47.9	40.8
Two languages	24.4	38.5	47.9	54.5
Three or more languages	1.7	2.6	4.1	4.6
None	10.7	0.1	0.1	0.1

Language use by ethnicity

The Samoan language has the highest number of speakers (50.4%), followed by Kiribati language (50%), Tuvaluan language (48.3%), Tongan language (40.1%), Rotuman language (34%) and Fijian language (23.7%). The realm country languages of Tokelauan, Niuean and Cook Islands Māori have the least percentage of speakers (23.3%, 12.2% and 9% respectively).

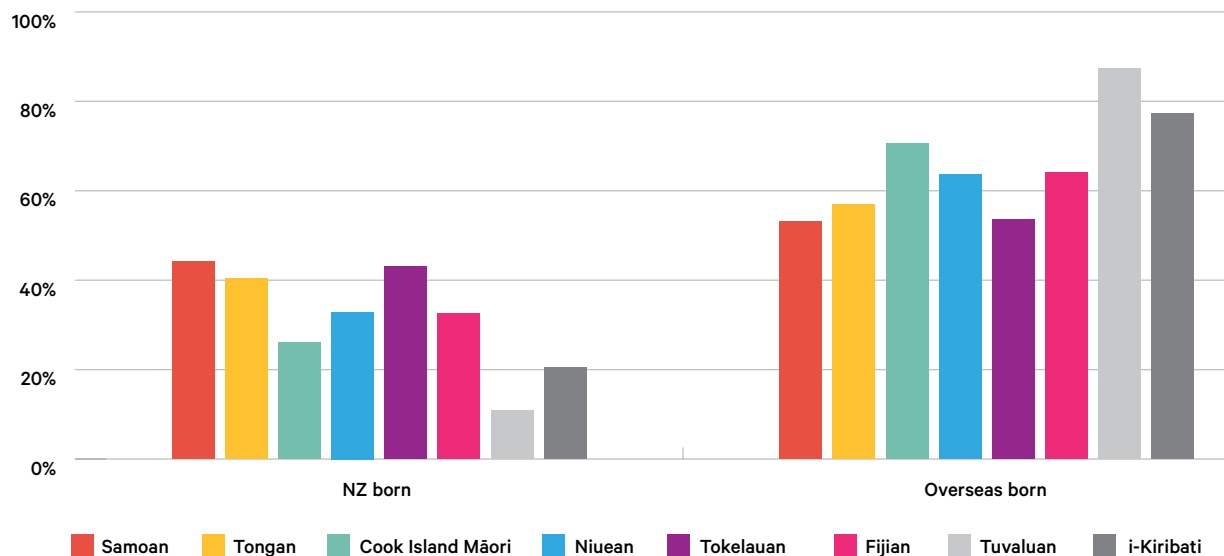
Table 10: Number and percentage of Pacific ethnic language speakers across nine language groups, 2018

Pacific ethnic group		Total ethnic language speakers 2018 (n)	Total Pacific population stated 2018 (n)	Proportion of specific Pacific language speakers 2018 (%)
Samoa		92,058	182,721	50.4%
Kiribati		1,611	3,225	50.0%
Tuvalu		2,250	4,653	48.3%
Tonga		33,072	82,389	40.1%
Rotuman		333	981	34.0%
Fiji		4,680	19,722	23.7%
Tokelau		2,025	8,676	23.3%
Niue		3,777	30,867	12.2%
Cook Islands Māori		7,179	80,532	9.0%

NZ born versus overseas born language use

Pacific people born overseas are more likely than those born in New Zealand to speak Samoan, Tongan, Cook Islands Māori, Niuean, Tokelauan, Tuvaluan, Fijian or Kiribati. The divergence is more notable for Fijian and Kiribati languages than others.

Figure 12: Percentage of speakers of Pacific languages by birthplace, 2018



Pacific language use by age

Those people who are 65 years and over have the highest number of Pacific language speakers, making up 10% of all people who speak a Pacific language. Combined age groups of 0-14 years make up 19% of all who speak a Pacific language, ages 15-29 years make up 26% and ages 30-64 years make up 46% of all who speak a Pacific language.

When comparing across languages, the age group with the highest number of Samoan language speakers is 20-24 years, for the Tongan and Tuvaluan languages it is those aged 15-19 years, for Cook Islands Māori, Niuean and Tokelauan languages it is those aged 65 years and over, for the Fijian language it is those aged 35-39 years and for Kiribati language it is those aged 25-29 years.

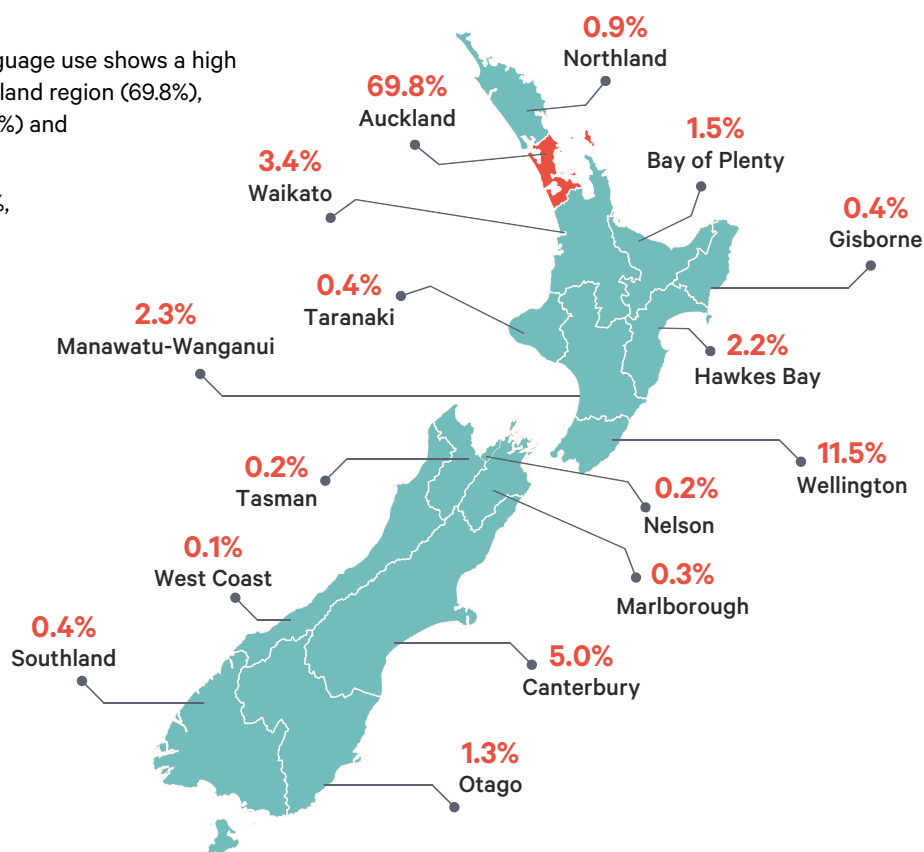
Table 11: Number of people who speak a Pacific language by age group, 2018

Age Group	Samoan	Tongan	Cook Islands Māori	Niuean	Tokelauan	Tuvaluan	Fijian	Kiribati	All Pacific Languages
0-4 years	5,094	1,689	126	72	78	159	153	102	7,341
5-9 years	7,662	3,057	198	90	114	270	261	213	11,649
10-14 years	7,359	2,895	228	129	117	288	255	222	11,301
15-19 years	8,634	3,168	273	141	132	303	387	201	13,065
20-24 years	9,576	3,162	387	162	159	276	519	204	14,250
25-29 years	9,066	3,138	438	225	189	246	636	228	13,962
30-34 years	7,554	2,766	423	213	174	228	738	210	12,078
35-39 years	6,972	2,565	453	279	165	204	741	186	11,316
40-44 years	6,978	2,478	492	309	183	180	645	129	11,175
45-49 years	6,936	2,553	618	387	201	177	570	156	11,331
50-54 years	6,663	2,502	762	429	195	174	543	123	11,100
55-59 years	5,391	1,677	804	447	171	144	504	96	8,952
60-64 years	4,509	1,311	789	444	165	96	366	48	7,470
65+ years	9,540	2,856	1,839	852	360	153	822	87	16,074
Total	101,937	35,820	7,833	4,182	2,406	2,898	7,143	2,196	161,064

Regional differences

Regional breakdown of Pacific language use shows a high concentration of users in the Auckland region (69.8%), followed by Wellington region (11.5%) and Canterbury region (5%).

All other regions have less than 6%, with the lowest number of users in the West Coast region.

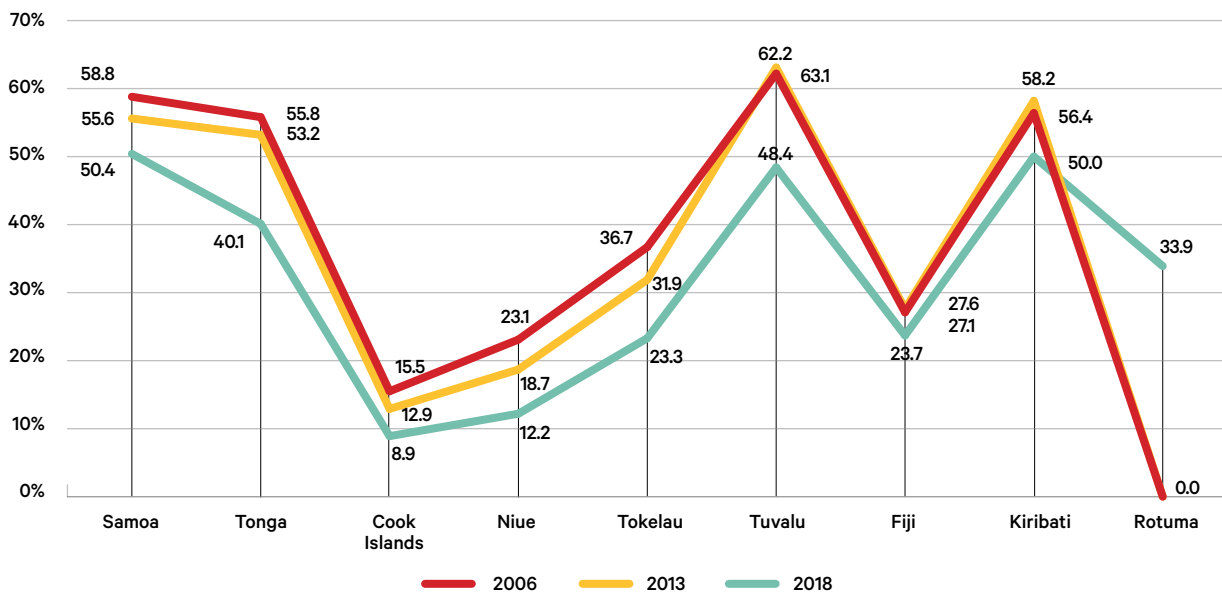


Declining use of Pacific languages

There has been a decline in the use of Pacific languages by Pacific peoples in New Zealand. Nine Pacific languages, supported through the Ministry for Pacific People’s Pacific Language Weeks Series have all experienced language loss.

The two Pacific groups that are experiencing language loss at a faster rate are the Tongan and Tokelauan groups, who have seen the steepest decline between the 2006 and 2018 censuses.

Figure 13: Pacific language use over time, 2006, 2013, 2018 censuses



While the Tongan population has seen one of the highest percentage increases over the last five years, the language retention has continued to decline. At the 2006 census, 55.8% of a population of 50,478 people could speak the language. At the 2013 census, 53.2% of a population of 60,333 people could speak the language. Now at the 2018 Census, only 40.1% of a population of 82,389 can speak the language, representing a decline of about 16% from 10 years ago.

A similar trend can be observed with the Tuvaluan population and language use. At the 2006 census 62.8% of a population of 2,625 could speak the language. At the 2013 census, there was an increase of 0.9% of people who could speak the language. But in 2018 census, there was a sharp decrease to 48.4% of a population of 4,653 who could speak the Tuvaluan language.

On a global scale, five of the nine Pacific languages are listed as languages in danger on UNESCO’s atlas of languages that need to be prioritised.

Table 12: UNESCO's Pacific languages in danger^{13 14}

Language	Vitality	Location of population
Tokelauan	Severely endangered	Tokelau and New Zealand
Niuean	Definitely in danger	Niue and New Zealand
Tuvaluan	Definitely in danger	Tuvalu and New Zealand
Rotuman	Vulnerable	Rotuma Island (including diaspora)
Rarotongan	Vulnerable	Cook Islands and New Zealand

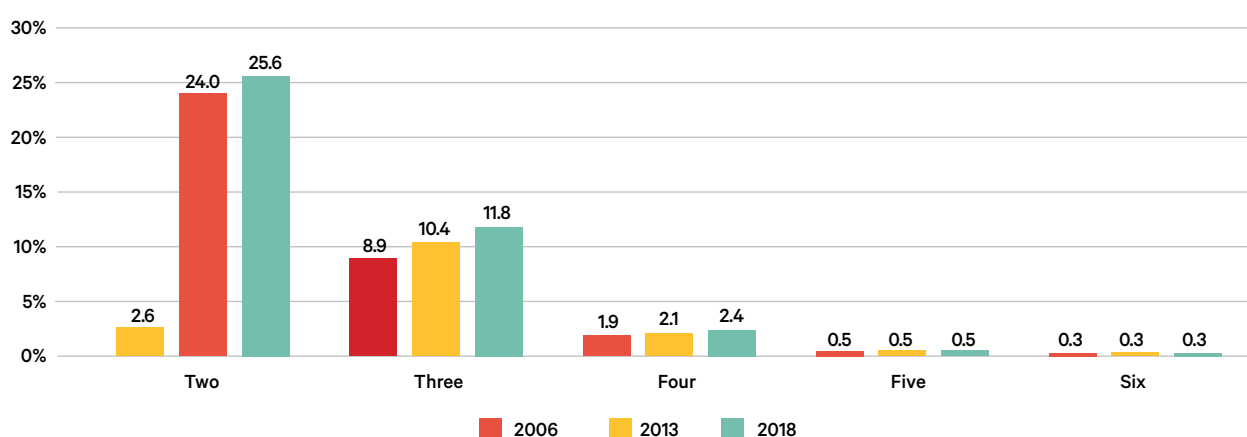
Multiple ethnicities

Over time, the Pacific population has increasingly identified with multiple ethnicities. Since the 2006 census, the average rate of Pacific peoples identifying with two or more ethnicities has been 34.3%.

Table 13: Percentages of Pacific peoples who identify with two or more ethnic groups, 2006, 2013 and 2018 censuses

% of Pacific peoples who identify with two to six ethnic groups	2006 (%)	2013 (%)	2018 (%)
Total	34.3	37.3	40.6

There is a higher proportion of those who state that they belong to two ethnic groups (25.6%) compared to those who stated three or more ethnicities. This trend has remained the same across three census counts.

Figure 14: Number of ethnic group identities from 2006 to 2018 Censuses


13 Degrees of endangerment: **Vulnerable** – most children speak the language, but it may be restricted to certain domains (e.g. home). **Definitely endangered** – children no longer learn the language as mother tongue in the home. **Severely endangered** – language is spoken to grandparents and older generations; while the parent generation may understand it, they do not speak it to children or among themselves. **Critically endangered** – the youngest speakers are grandparents and older, and they speak the language partially and infrequently.

14 UNSECO Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger, accessed 14 December 2020. <http://www.unesco.org/languages-atlas/index.php>

Of those who identify with two ethnicities, more identify as Pacific and European (13%), followed by those identifying as Pacific and Māori (9%), Pacific and Asian (2%) and Pacific and other (0.2%).

Those who identify as Pacific/European or Pacific/Māori are in some cases being prioritised into European or Māori categories. This is problematic as it omits their Pacific identity and it may not be their choice.

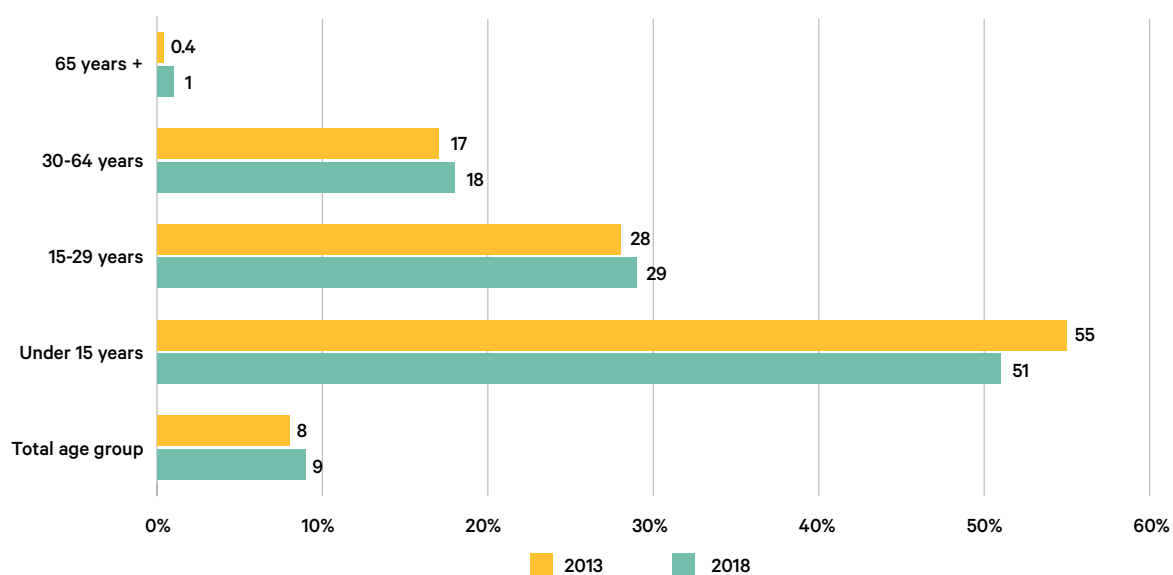
Table 14: Ethnic combinations of Pacific peoples by age group, 2018

Ethnic group combination	Years	Total age group	Under 15 years	15-29 years	30-64 years	65 years and over
Pacific peoples only	2018	247,083	63,645	66,120	99,594	17,724
	2013	200,322	56,511	50,667	80,283	12,864
Pacific peoples/European (Palagi/Palangi/Pakeha)	2018	50,520	19,860	14,448	14,841	1,377
	2013	38,562	16,824	10,917	10,230	594
Pacific peoples/Māori	2018	34,269	17,616	10,083	6,315	255
	2013	22,884	12,636	6,327	3,816	105
Pacific peoples/Asian	2018	6,924	2,448	1,827	2,286	363
	2013	4,776	1,680	1,398	1,500	198
Pacific peoples/Other ethnicity	2018	738	222	180	318	24
	2013	414	153	78	177	6

Pacific and Māori identity

The number of people who identify as Pacific and Māori has had the greatest increase over the last five years. Whilst other ethnic combinations have increased by 0.1 or 0.2%, those who identify as Pacific and Māori has increased by 1.3%. About half of the 9% of Pacific and Māori are aged under 15 years.

Figure 15: Percentage of those who identify as Pacific and Māori by age group, 2013 and 2018



Religious affiliation

Pacific peoples place a high importance on religion, church-related activities, Christian values and lifestyle. A high proportion of Pacific peoples have at least one church affiliation (70.8%) and are largely affiliated with a Christian religious group (95% or 261,489). Smaller numbers affiliate with Eastern religions (2% or 6,129), Rātānā, Ringatu and other Māori religions (2% or 3,990), and Spiritualism, new-age religions and others (1% or 2,628).

 **70.8%**
have at least one religious affiliation

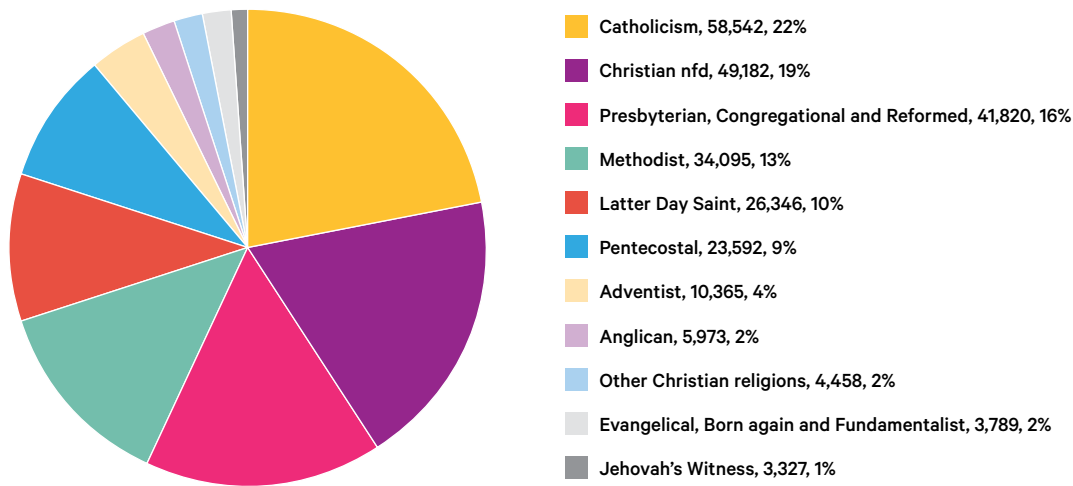
Table 15: Number of Pacific peoples with religious affiliation, 2018

Total number of Pacific people with at least one religious affiliation	Number of Pacific peoples with no religious affiliation
270,390	87,324
70.8% of total Pacific population	22.9%

The Pacific population has the highest level of religious affiliation compared to European (37.9%), Māori (38.9%), Asian (62%), Middle Eastern, Latin American and African (68.3%), and other ethnicities (44.6%).

The top five Christian religious groups attended by Pacific peoples are Catholicism (22%), Christianity (19%), Presbyterian, Congregational and Reformed (16%), Methodist (13%) and Latter-Day Saints (10%).

Figure 16: Christian religions attended by Pacific peoples

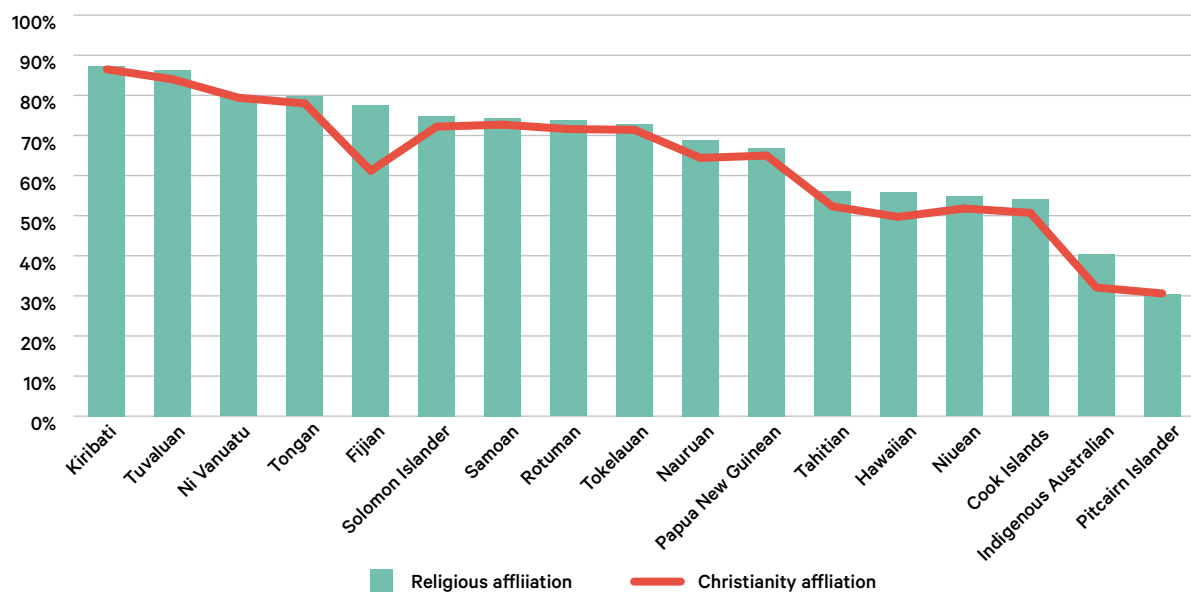


Religious affiliation by ethnicity

Kiribati has the highest percentage of people with at least one religious affiliation by population size (87.3%), followed by Tuvaluan (86.3%), Tongan (79.8%), Ni Vanuatu (79.7%), Fijian (77.6%), Solomon Islander (74.9%), Samoan (74.4%), Rotuman (73.7%), Tokelauan (72.9%), Nauruan (68.9%), Papua New Guinean (66.9%), Tahitian (56.1%), Hawaiian (55.9%), Niuean (54.8%), Cook Islands Māori (54.0%), Indigenous Australian (40.4%) and Pitcairn Islander (30.5%).

Christianity is the religion of choice for the majority of Pacific peoples who indicated a religious affiliation.

Figure 17: Christian affiliation by ethnicity, 2018



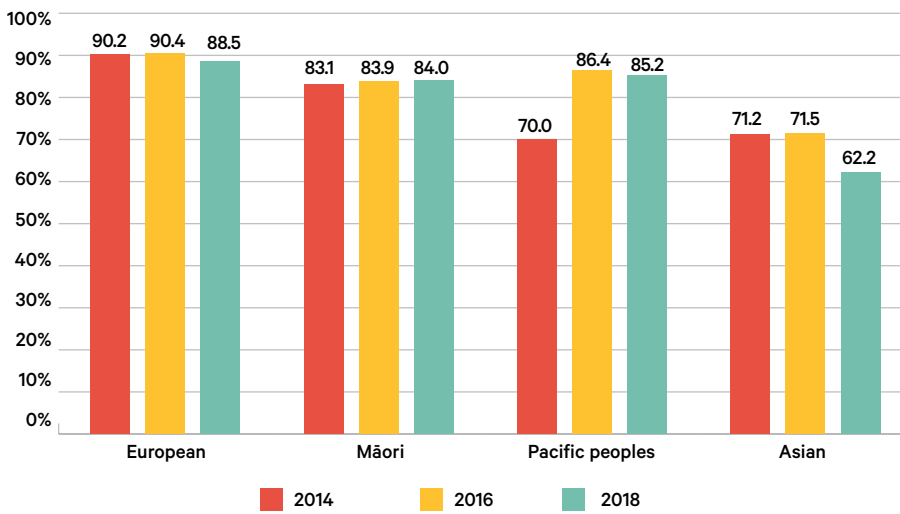
Cultural and Social status¹⁵

Ability to express culture and identity

There are many Pacific peoples who find it easy or very easy to express their identity (85.2%). This has changed over time, when it was 70% in 2014 and at the highest in 2016 with 86.4%.

Pacific peoples find it easier than Māori or Asian groups to express their culture and identity.

Figure 18: Percentage of people who find it easy or very easy to express their identity, 2014, 2016, 2018



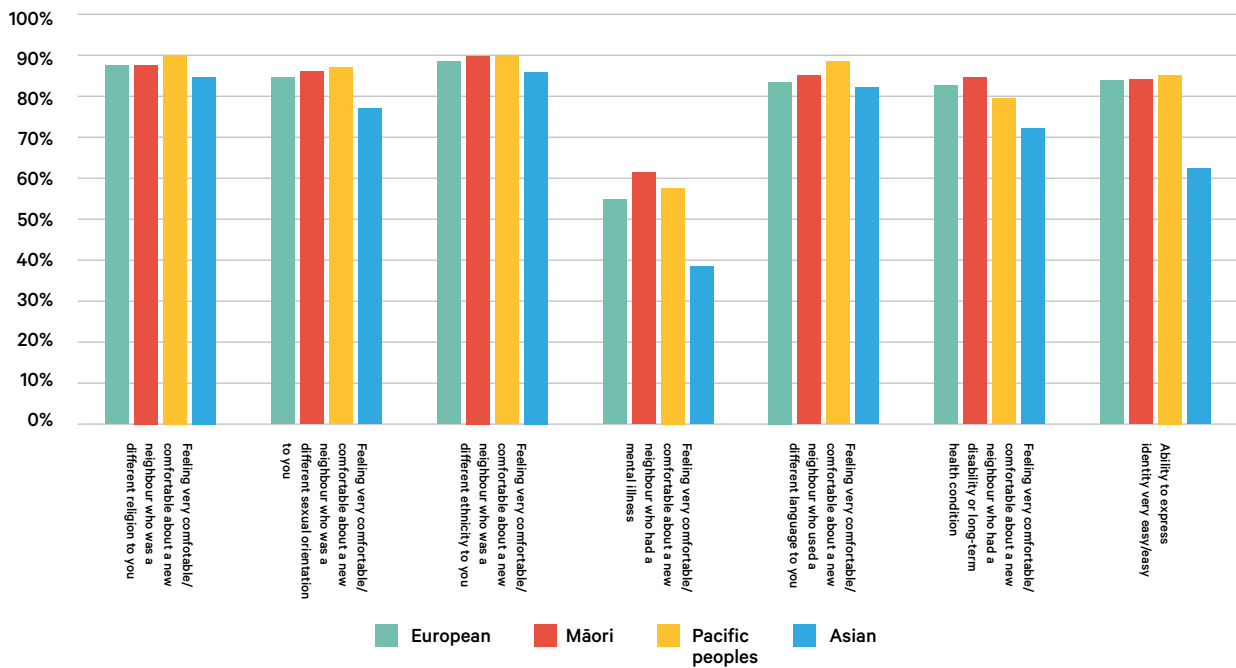
¹⁵ Based on the General Social Survey data for years 2014, 2016, 2018.

Acceptance of diversity

Pacific peoples are very accepting of diversity compared to other ethnic groups. They report being very comfortable or comfortable with neighbours who have a different religion, sexual orientation or ethnicity and who speak a different language. A group that all ethnic groups are not very comfortable with are those with mental illness.

Pacific peoples feel more easy than other ethnic groups to express their identity.

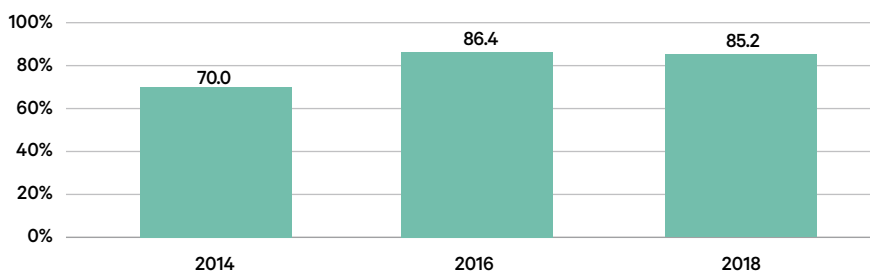
Figure 19: Percentage of Pacific peoples' acceptable of diversity by ethnicity, 2018



Ability to be yourself

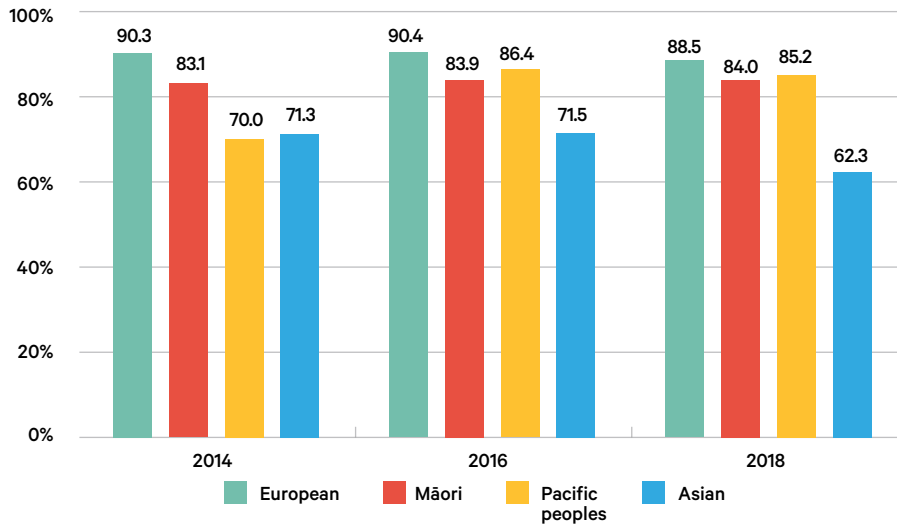
Many Pacific peoples report that it is easy or very easy to be themselves (85.2%). This is a significant increase from 2014 when it was 70%.

Figure 20: Percentage of Pacific peoples who reported that it was easy or very easy to be themselves, 2014, 2016 and 2018



Compared to other ethnic groups, Pacific peoples self-rated responses of being able to be themselves have been above Māori and Asian populations since 2016.

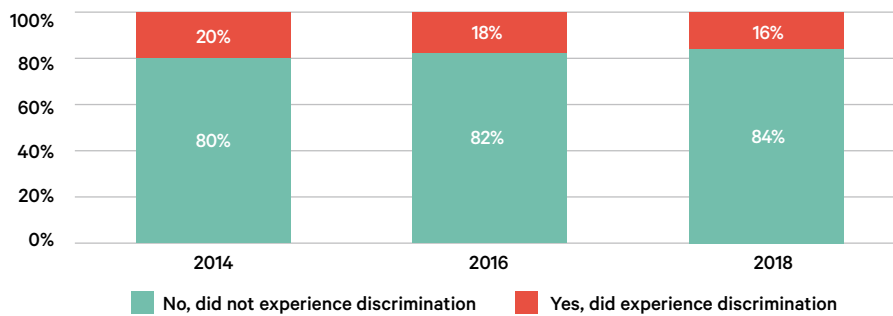
Figure 21: Percentage of people who reported that it was easy or very easy to be themselves by ethnicity, 2014, 2016 and 2018



Experience of discrimination

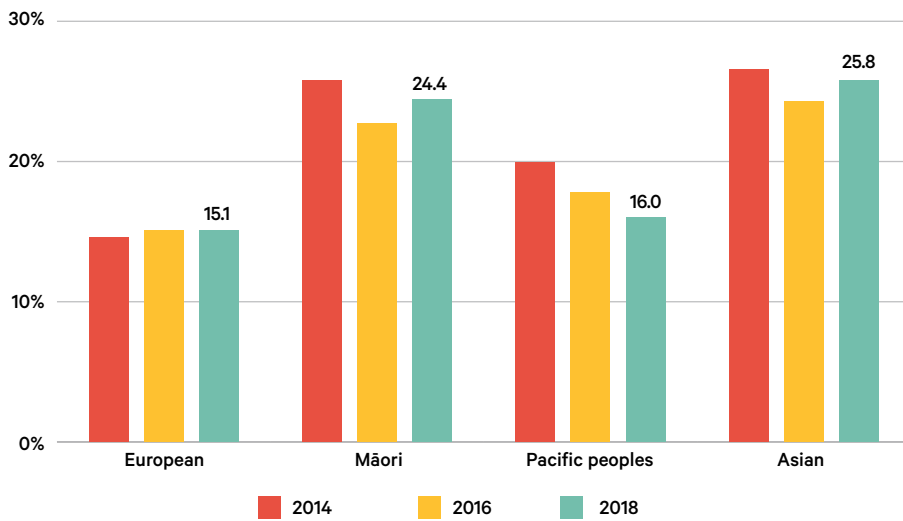
Pacific peoples largely report that they do not experience discrimination. Of those that have reported experiences of discrimination, this has decreased over time from 20% in 2014 to 18% in 2016 to 16% in 2018.

Figure 22: Pacific peoples experience of discrimination, 2014, 2016 and 2018



When comparing ethnic groups, those aged 15+ who reported being subjected to some form of discrimination are highest among Asian and Māori populations. Pacific peoples are the only group who have reported a decrease in discrimination over time and have the second lowest percentage in 2018.

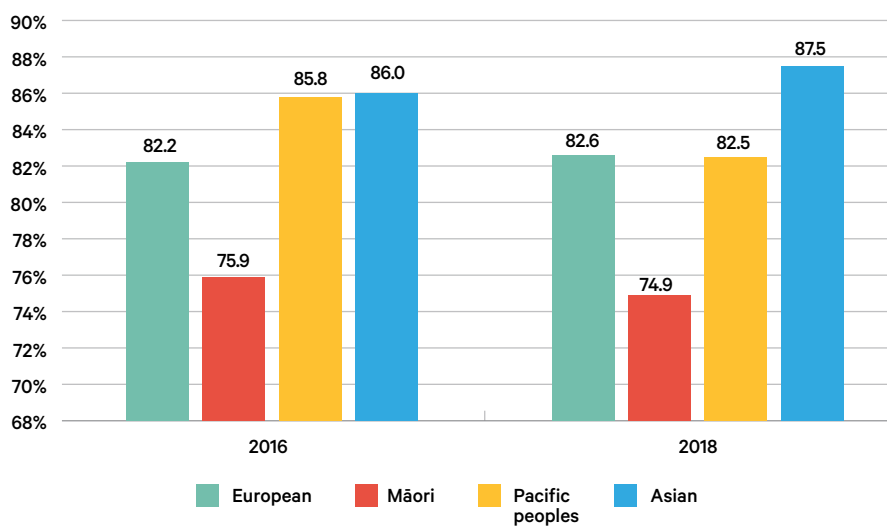
Figure 23: Percentage of people who experienced discrimination in the last 12 months, by ethnicity, 2014, 2016 and 2018



Family wellbeing

A high percentage of Pacific peoples aged 15+ with family, rated their family wellbeing at 7 or higher on a scale of 0-10.

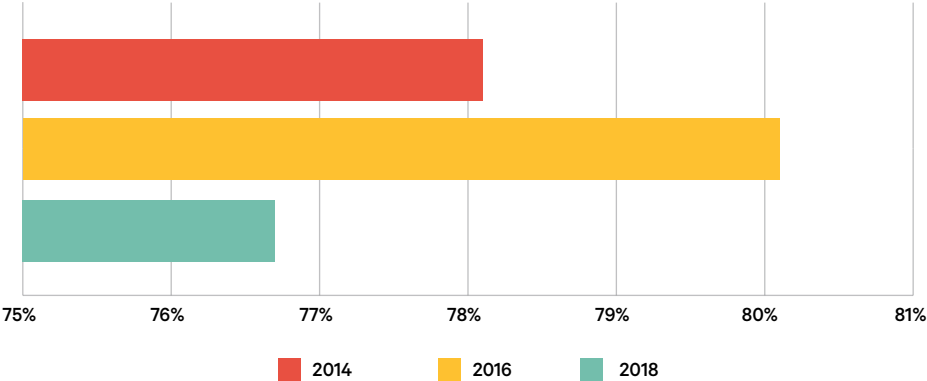
Figure 24: Percentage of people who rated their family wellbeing highly by ethnic group, 2016 and 2018



Life satisfaction

Overall, life satisfaction remains high for Pacific peoples, although it dropped over the years from 78.1% in 2014 to 80.1% in 2016 to 76.7% in 2018.

Figure 25: Life satisfaction for Pacific peoples, 2014, 2016 and 2018



Peter's perspective on what will support Pacific businesses to prosper



Peter Elbourne

“As Pacific Islanders, with our flare, we breathe life into whatever we do; we bring vitality. It is the colourfulness of Pasifika which allows us to bring much more than just functionality – we bring vitality.”

There are more Fijian working proprietors per Fijian population than any other Pacific group in Aotearoa New Zealand. Peter believes that this is due to the “DNA of entrepreneurship” of its people. This entrepreneurial DNA, he says, “has been adopted into our way of life.”

“Late in the 19th century and at the turn of the 20th century, with the second industrial revolution spreading to the Pacific region as part of the British empire expansion, Fiji became a British colony, a major trading route in the Pacific Ocean, and it led the way with economic prosperity and development amongst its Pacific neighbours. What also emerged was the migration of many highly-skilled and educated Fijians to New Zealand, Australia, the USA, Canada and even Europe. Fijian immigrants living abroad, like my family, started to break away from its strict hierarchy. It freed us from that whole system, and we gained a free spirit of entrepreneurship. We didn't have to deal with that traditional systemic flow of authority - we could passively participate when and if needed. In hindsight, a lot of immigrants, to their detriment, experienced a loss of culture. In contrast, other immigrants balanced the two in harmony, thanks to New Zealand's geographical location to the Pacific and its commitment to indigenous growth and multiculturalism.”

Peter puts the success of Fijian businesses in Aotearoa New Zealand down to the ease of setting up and doing business in this country. “According to recent research, New Zealand is ranked number one in the world for starting up and doing business. In addition to that, there is the independence Fijian immigrants enjoy or suffer, depending on how you look at the autonomy of living abroad as an immigrant, like lack of social welfare and government support similar to that of Kiwis living in Australia.”

A ‘can-do attitude’ of Fijians also contributes to more Fijian business owners, says Peter. “When a job interview or opportunity comes up, a Fijian will always answer the question, ‘Can you do it?’ with ‘Yes I can.’ We always say we can and then find a way to learn on the job. There's a saying, ‘Fake it till you make it,’ and it's that Fijian can-do attitude

that embodies the meaning. We tend to imitate confidence and competence with optimistic mindsets. We as people tend to realise those qualities in life and work really hard to achieve the results we seek out.”

He has seen in recent times the important support of the Aotearoa New Zealand government for the Pasifika business community through economic development funding agencies like the Pacific Business Trust, Ministry of Pacific People, Ministry of Social Development, Regional Business Partner Network and Te Puni Kokiri. “I can already see how this is starting to make a massive difference to an already thriving Fijian business community. So, there are all sorts of funding available, but what do you do with the financing that's made available to solve business problems?”

Peter, who is a business consultant and advisor, says one of the biggest lessons is to ensure businesses take advantage of the digital environment. “We are living in an era of exponential technological growth, big data, digital information and now a massive push by the private and government sector to close the digital gap. This is a big part of why Pacific businesses are set up to prosper and shine. When I talk to businesses, we quickly realise that in today's market, there are a lot of technological and digital solutions to help solve some of the business problems we face. Our Pasifika community must know that access to these tech and digital solutions is readily available to them and how technology fits into their business.”

Peter believes that Pacific businesses should have basic connectivity, a mobile phone, a laptop or desktop device, software supported by capability training (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Xero or MYOB), websites, mentors and coaches. “Our Pacific businesses don't always have the most basic technology available nor the personal support around them or their businesses. I have been very lucky that I have had access to and use technology to my advantage and also have some great mentors and coaches available to me. We need more of our Pasifika entrepreneurs, business owners and professionals accessing some of these basic resources - capability training comes to mind.”

According to Peter, unfortunately, Pacific business owners are not capitalising on their asset – their languages. In Peter’s journey, he said that in Fiji he was “indoctrinated to learn English as a first language” at school. But he advocates for education to be delivered in our Pacific languages. “It will be cool if you could learn core subjects at school in your own language.” He supports Pacific languages being used in business. “Imagine doing an online session with Xero software, and it is in Samoan? How easy would book-keeping and accounting be for Samoan business owners?”

“From a social element, what I took from my travels and working abroad is that indigenous people of Pasifika, Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand have never had the luxury of getting educated in their native tongue. If you had to ask every successful person from the Pacific, they would probably tell you that they never learned maths, social science, physics, medicine or even economics in their native tongue. Of their professional counterparts in the rest of the world, many have had this luxury; we hear and see Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, Russian, German; doctors, scientists, business experts learn and speak in their native tongues. For many Pacific Islanders,” Peter says, “English is not their first language, and then with that, they try to understand the business of doing business in a language they barely understand.”

Peter feels that Pacific people need to bring their culture into their businesses. “Another piece is not being able to bring your full self to the business you run or your place of employment. You have to leave your culture and religion at the door because we are entering a world with no desire to understand that. Turning up to work not your full self is like writing with your non-dominant hand.” Peter believes that promoting our cultural uniqueness will give Pacific businesses an edge because it is their point of difference. He says what Pacific businesses need to do is embrace their culture and weave it into their business. “I always take it back to ‘What is your vision, who are you?’ We need to unwrap that. Anyone can have a functional role; as Pacific islanders, with our flare, we breathe life into whatever we do; we bring vitality. It is the colourfulness of us which allows us to bring much more than just functionality – we bring vitality.”

Peter believes Pacific people are given the best opportunities to explore their entrepreneurship in New Zealand. In the Islands, he says, “the moment you go to a cultural gathering, if you don’t have any cultural titles, you don’t go and sit in front because of your job title, constantly playing a supporting role, never leading. When we come to a place like New Zealand, we don’t have to follow those rules with rigorous adherence. We are encouraged to explore our entrepreneurial freedom, and at times we are rewarded for it.” In recent times, he said, people with business or community leadership status are given recognition at cultural gatherings.

Peter describes one of the strengths of Pacific businesses: a model that is not learnt but inherited, something western

scholars describe as ‘servant leadership.’ “To serve others, that is how we run our business. We give everyone around us the best version of us when we do the job. We are the type of people who can lead without titles or lead from the middle, and we know how to be empathetic without being taken advantage of or coming off as weak. Lastly, it is integrity that is part of who we are.”

Peter believes an essential element for Pacific businesses to prosper is to have proper processes in place. He says, most times Pacific businesses starting up suffer from the ‘shiny object syndrome’. “We pursue the latest and greatest gadgets or sign up to the newest business craze (the shiny objects) without ensuring we have the suitable systems and processes to support the very basics or core of our business.” At the other end of the scale, he says, Pacific businesses do not have a system to support growth. “We do the work, and then when someone comes in to buy the business or want to know what we do, 90% of the business owners I talk to would say, ‘I don’t know, I just do what I do, and the business survives. I don’t have systems and processes in place. We don’t systemise things; it is in our head.” He says that culturally, we are systematic in how we pass down our cultural knowledge through stories, song and dance, but not in the business world. If Pacific businesses focus on laying out the right foundation with proper systems and processes in place, it will lead to success and increase the life of a business.

He notes that construction is a growing sector for Pacific businesses with billions of dollars being pumped into it. He finds, however, that Pacific businesses are not securing the contracts and puts it down to a lack of collaboration and knowhow. “I feel sorry for Pasifika businesses. When local and central government say they want to give Pasifika an opportunity, often small Pasifika businesses fail the tender process, and they don’t ever get to learn or understand the process. For many, it just stops there, and their business suffers. I have always wondered, ‘Why does no one take their hand and take them through the process, to help them gain the experience?’ I am starting to see agencies like Deloitte and Pacific Business Trust starting these initiatives.”

Peter’s advice is that Pacific businesses in construction need to collaborate and work together as a village to take on these big tenders. He says there is a buzzword in this space, ‘social procurement’, to define this process. He emphasises that it is “something we do daily back in the islands; we function as a village. We know it. It gets us excited because we know what it is.” He advocates for the need to use our Pacific languages to explain it. “Social procurement needs to be named in our language.” He notes, “When you look from the outside in, it seems the system is built for them all to compete against each other rather than collaborate and partner up. If airlines and oil companies can form alliances, why can’t we? Pasifika needs to work collectively; then, we will all win. Collaborating as a corporate village is missing, particularly in the construction industry, which I am only new to and still learning.”





Chapter Two: Pacific workforces, housing and immigration in Aotearoa NZ

This section is about acknowledging and understanding the Pacific workforce. The complexities of the Pacific unpaid and volunteer contribution will be highlighted and some light will be shed on Pacific-owned businesses. Focus will then turn to Pacific housing and immigration as areas of improvement in order for Pacific peoples to be prosperous in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Pacific work force	42
Pacific volunteer contribution	58
Pacific-owned businesses	61
Housing	66
Immigration	74

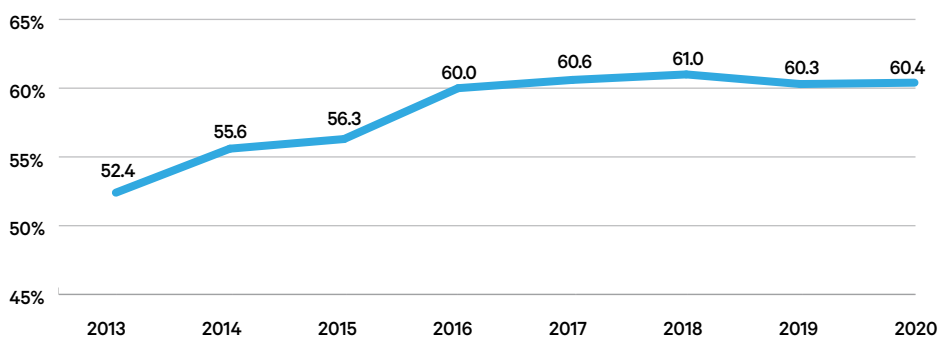
The Pacific workforce

Pacific employment¹⁶

Annual trends

Over the last 7 years, from the 2013 census to December 2020, Pacific people's employment rate has been steadily increasing annually. This is a positive outlook for Pacific in the workforce sector. At the end of 2013, the annual employment rate was at 52.4% and reached 60.4% at the end of December 2020, with the highest point reached in 2018 at 61.0% .

Figure 26: Annual employment rate for Pacific peoples, December 2013 to December 2020



This steady increase in employment was driven largely by an increase in the utilities, construction, transport and warehousing sectors.

Quarterly trends

In the latest quarterly figures¹⁷ (December 2020), the Pacific working-age population was 274,200, an increase of 1,300 from the last quarter in September 2020 when it was 272,900. The total Pacific labour force was 181,800 in December 2020 with 164,400 being employed which was a decrease of 1,300 from the from last quarter's employment performance of 165,700 in September 2020.

With job instability, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, impact on the labour force market saw a 0.8% drop in employment from the September 2020 quarter to December (i.e. 60.7 to 59.9%). This performance of 2020 was also below that of last year's December quarter by 1%.

¹⁶ In this section labour force data was sourced from the Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS) unless otherwise stated.

¹⁷ Quarterly rates have not been seasonally adjusted.

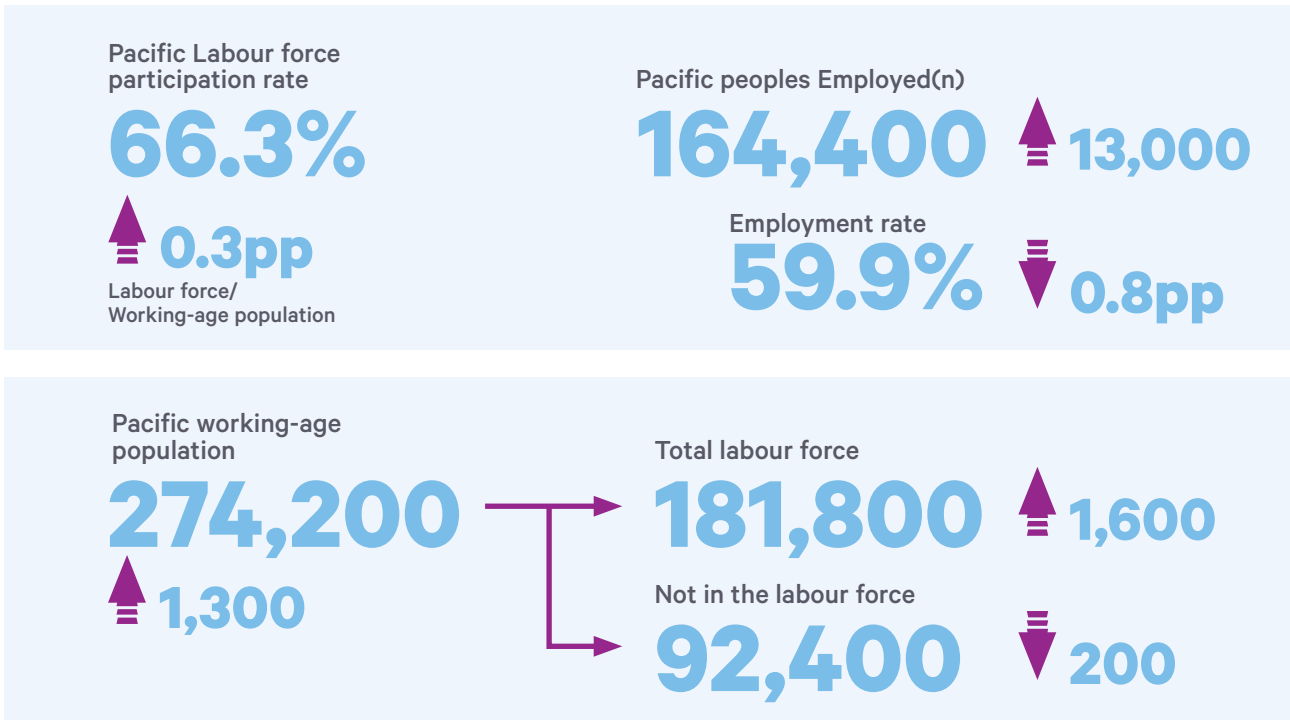
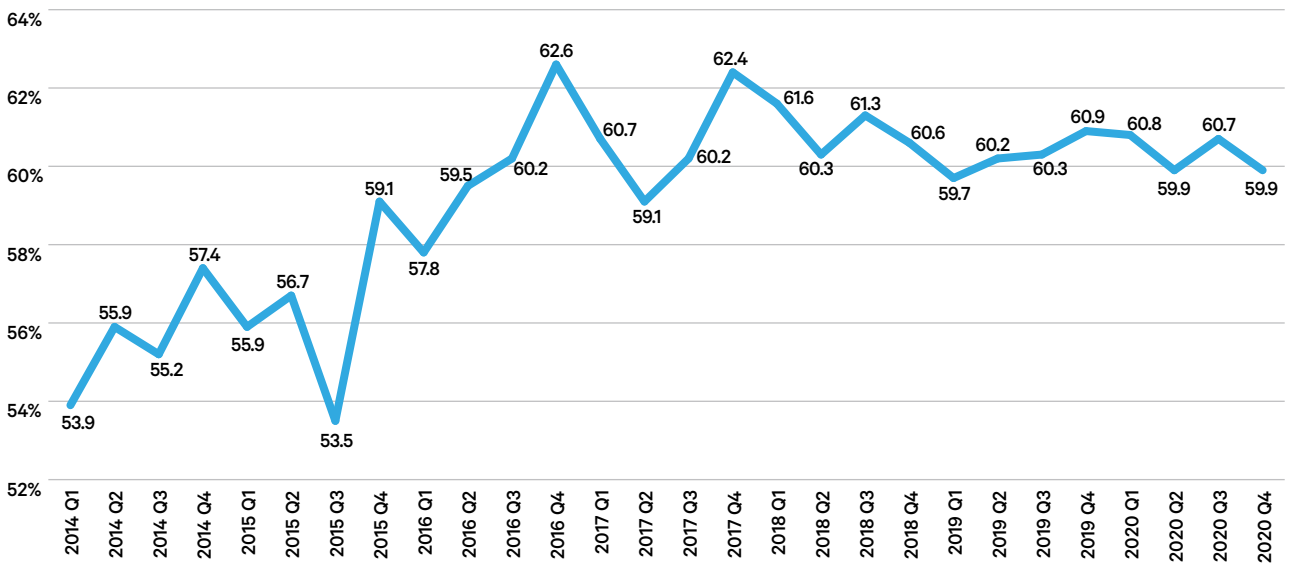


Figure 27: Pacific peoples quarterly employment rates from 2014 to 2020

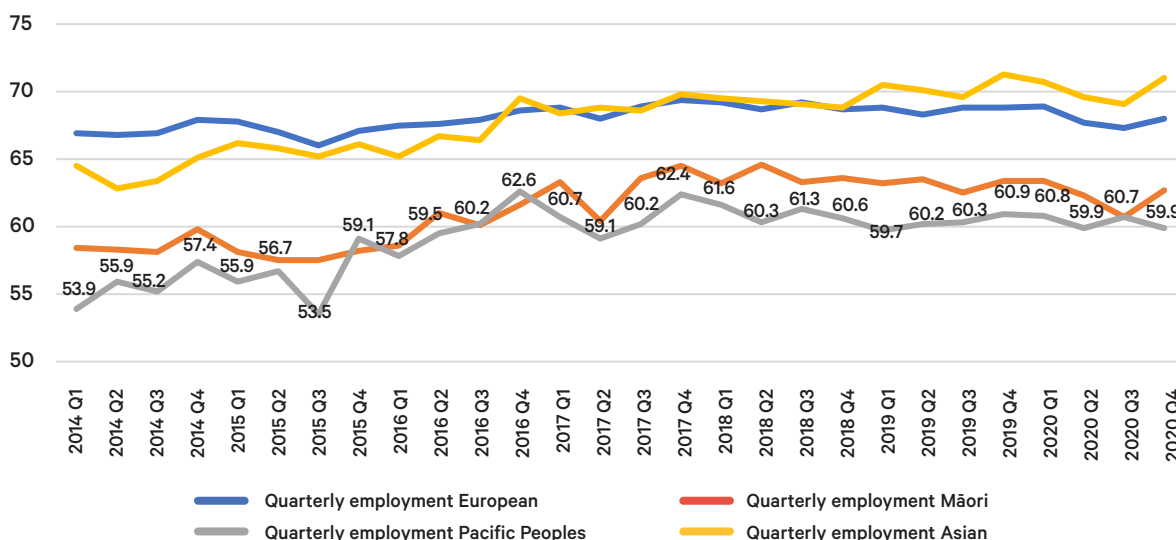


Comparison with other New Zealand populations

Compared to other ethnic groups, changes in Pacific peoples’ employment rates over the last four years has been much lower than the rest. At the end of 2020, Pacific peoples’ employment shows a downward trend while others are trending up. This may be the result of the effects of COVID-19 and the industries where Pacific peoples are concentrated, namely manufacturing industries (Figure 28).

The following graph shows that employment rates across ethnic groups were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns in 2020. This can be seen in the decrease of employment rates in the June quarter. However, while employment rates for all other groups ended on an increase, the Pacific population ended with a decrease. Despite the increase in employment across all other groups, figures for all, including Pacific are lower than they were at the end of last year.

Figure 28: Quarterly employment rates, comparisons across ethnic groups for 2014 to 2020

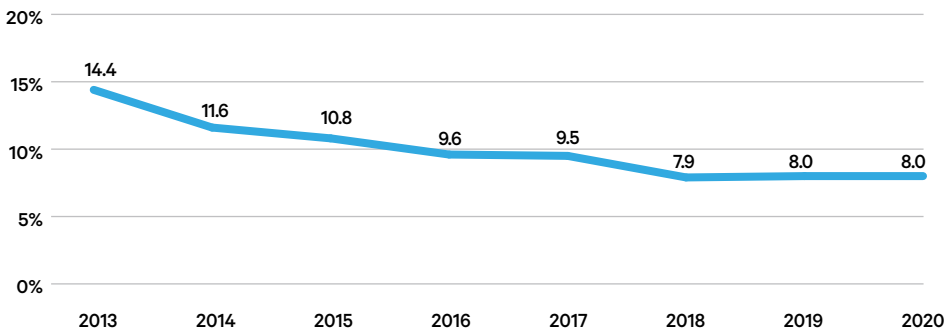


Pacific unemployment

Annual trends

The annual unemployment figures for Pacific peoples has a positive downward trend from 2013, where it has decreased from 14.4% to 8% in 2020.

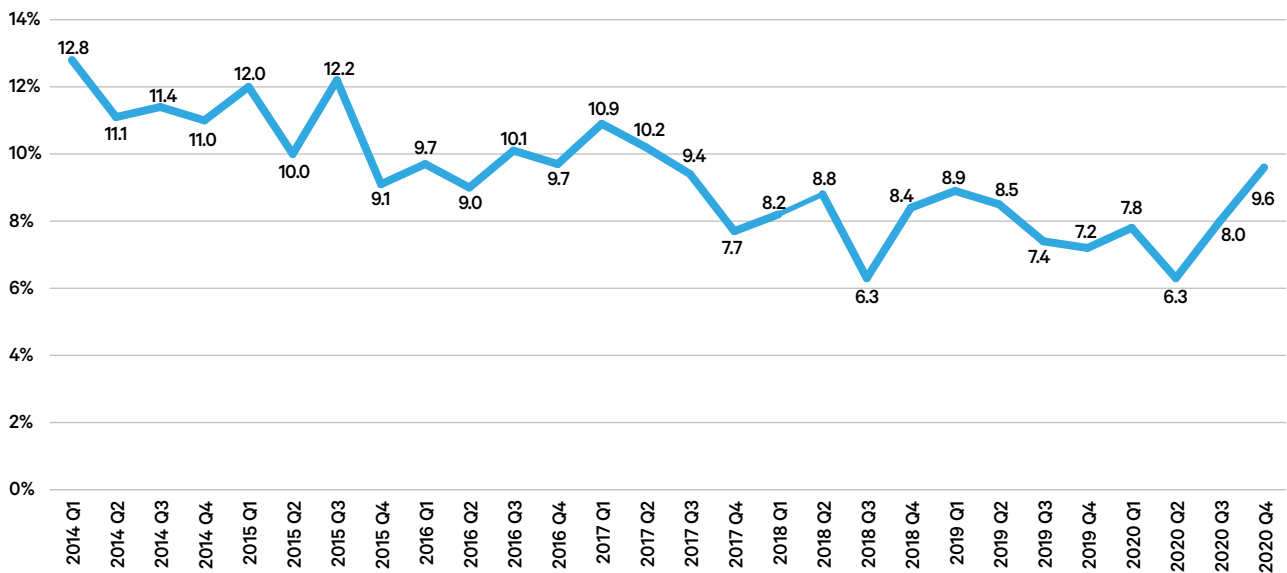
Figure 29: Annual unemployment rate for Pacific peoples from 2013 to 2020



Quarterly trends

Unfortunately, quarterly trends show an increase in unemployment rates during 2020. The number of Pacific unemployed was recorded as 17,500 at the end of 2020 – an increase of 3,000 people from 2019. There was also an increase of 1.6% from September 2020 to December 2020 quarters. This was to be expected due to the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns (Figure 30).

Figure 30: Quarterly unemployment rates for Pacific peoples from 2014 to 2020



Pacific peoples Unemployed(n)

17,500 ▲ **3,000**

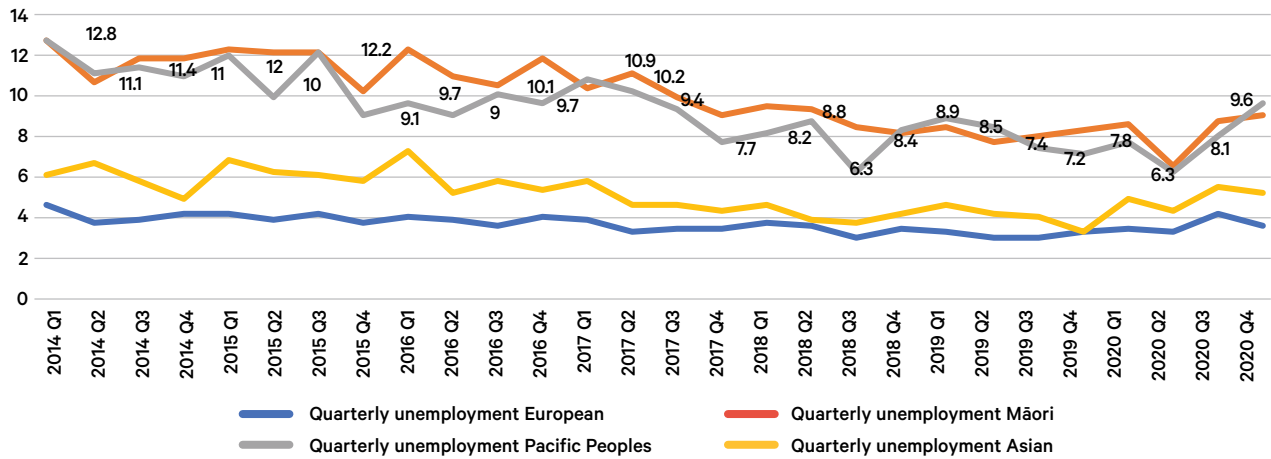
Unemployment rate

9.6% ▲ **1.6pp**

Comparison with other New Zealand populations

When comparing against other ethnic groups, Pacific peoples’ unemployment rate show a similar downward trend as others over the last seven years. Maori and Pacific have similar unemployment rates which are higher than the European and Asian groups. As opposed to the European group, Pacific peoples figures have doubled in terms of unemployment.

Figure 31: Quarterly unemployment rates by ethnic groups from 2014 to 2020

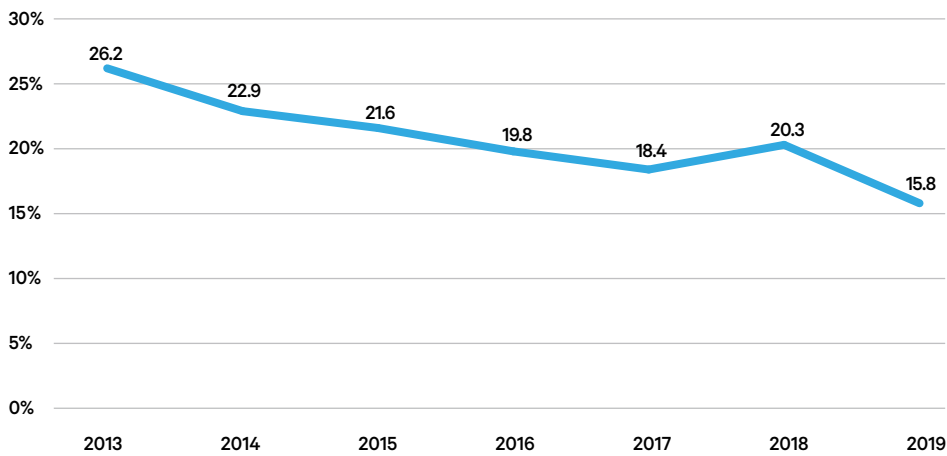


Pacific underutilisation

Annual trends

Just as important to highlight is the underutilisation rate¹⁸ for Pacific peoples over time, as it indicates the untapped capacity of Pacific peoples in the labour market.¹⁹ The trend over the last three years has been less steady, indicating a large proportion of Pacific peoples in and out of work – most likely to be casual or temporary in nature. Unfortunately, the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic has seen an increase in the number of underutilised Pacific peoples in the labour market.

Figure 32: Underutilisation rates for Pacific peoples from 2013 to 2020

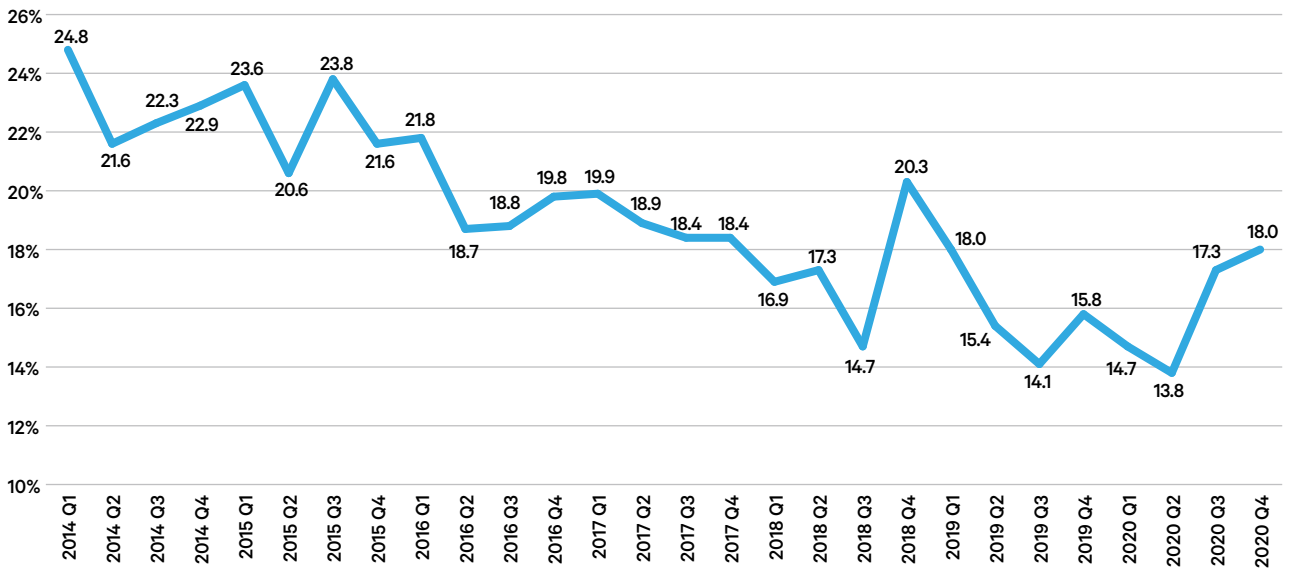


Quarterly trends

In the 2020 quarter, underutilisation rates for Pacific peoples show that prior to the COVID-19 lockdown these were beginning to improve significantly for Pacific peoples at the beginning of the year. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 lockdown and a level of economic uncertainty impacted greatly on Pacific people’s underutilisation rates, jumping from June’s record low 13.8% (24,100 people) to 17.3% in September (32,900 people) and ending with an increase to 18% in December (34,200 people).

Pacific peoples Underutilised(n)
34,200 ▲ 1,300
 Underutilised rate
18% ▲ 0.7pp

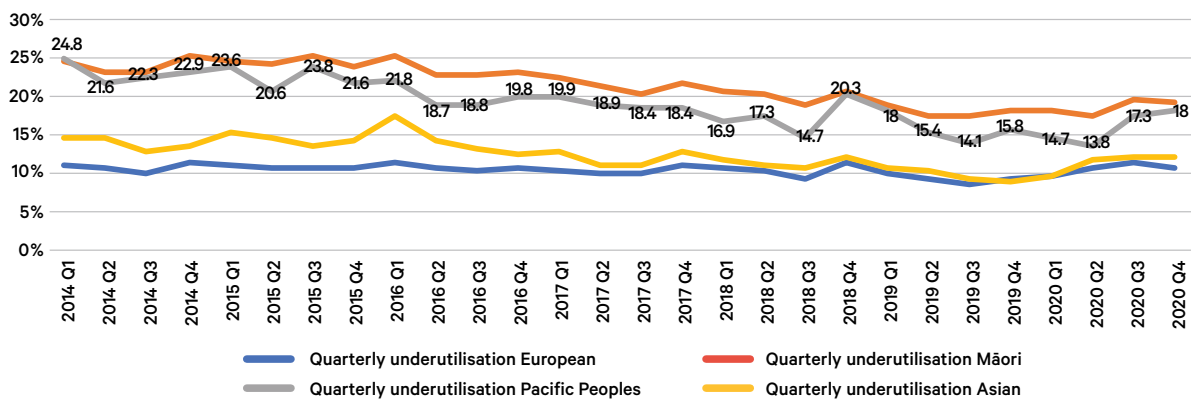
Figure 33: Quarterly underutilisation rates from 2014 to 2020



Comparison with other New Zealand populations

Compared to other population groups, Pacific peoples’ underutilisation rates are higher than European and Asian, but lower than Māori. While all other groups decreased from the September to December quarter, Pacific peoples ended on an increase. This time last year, all population groups were in a better position with lower underutilisation rates.

Figure 34: Quarterly underutilisation rates by ethnic groups from 2014 to 2020



Regional employment and unemployment differences

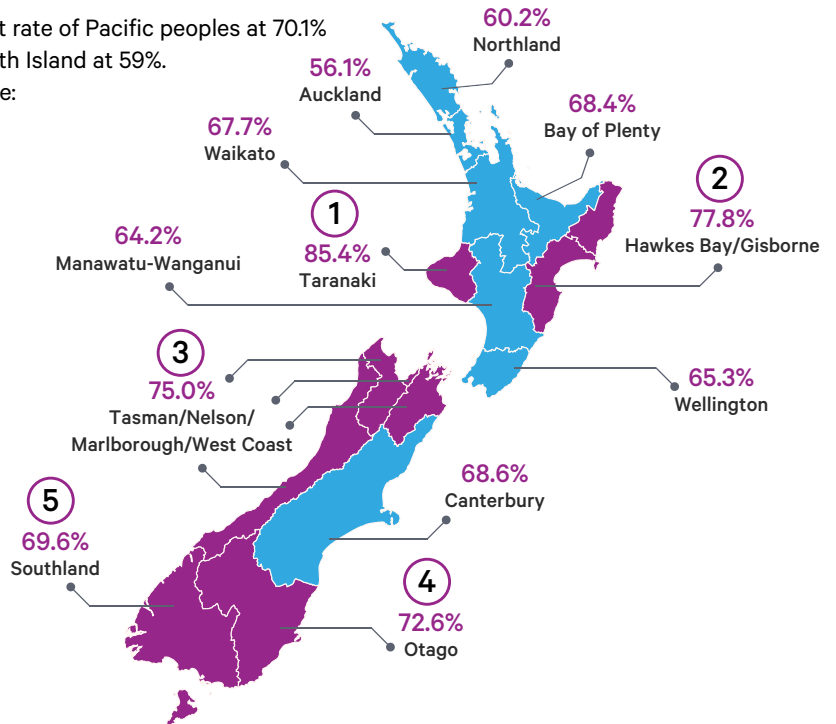
Overall, the South Island has the highest employment rate of Pacific peoples at 70.1% for the December 2020 quarter compared to the North Island at 59%.

The top five regions with high employment rates were:

1. Taranaki – 85.4%
2. Gisborne/Hawkes Bay – 77.8%
3. Tasman, Nelson, Marlborough, Westcoast – 75%
4. Otago – 72.6%
5. Southland – 69.6%

Other regions that followed were:

1. Canterbury – 68.6%
2. Bay of plenty – 68.4%
3. Waikato – 67.7%
4. Wellington – 65.3%
5. Manuwatu-Wanganui – 64.2%
6. Northland – 60.2%
7. Auckland 56.1%



The lowest employment rate was in Auckland at 56.1 percent.

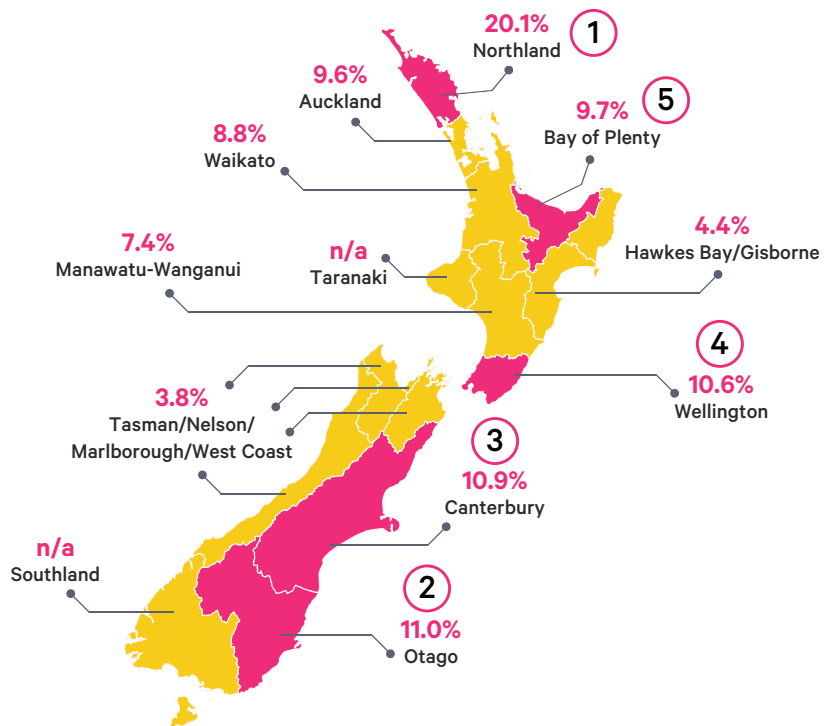
Overall, the North Island had the highest unemployment rate with 9.6% compared to the South Island with 9.3%. The top five regions with the highest unemployment rates were:

1. Northland – 20.1%
2. Otago – 11%
3. Canterbury – 10.9%
4. Wellington – 10.6%
5. Bay of Plenty – 9.7%

Other regions that followed were:

6. Auckland – 9.6%
7. Waikato – 8.8%
8. Manuwatu-Wanganui – 7.4%
9. Hawkes Bay/Gisborne – 4.4%
10. Tasman, Nelson, Marlborough, West coast – 3.8%.
11. Taranaki and Southland – unavailable²⁰

Tasman/Nelson/Marlborough/West Coast had the lowest recorded unemployment rate at 3.8%.



²⁰ Note: Taranaki and Southland’s unemployment numbers were so low they were not available.

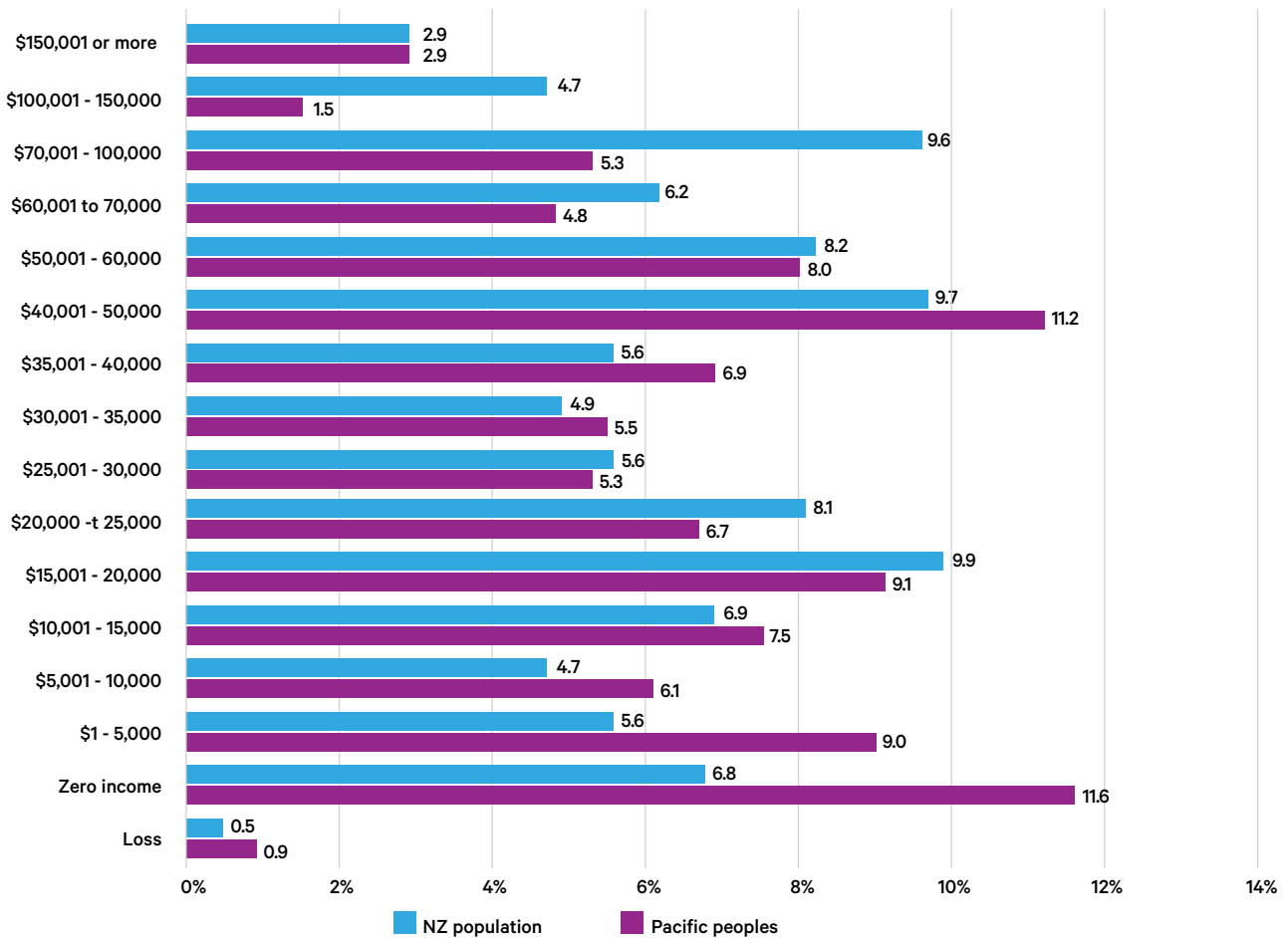
Median income of Pacific peoples

The Pacific median income recorded at the 2018 Census was \$24,300²¹. This was higher than the \$19,700 recorded at the 2013 Census.

Pacific peoples Median income
\$24,300

Half of Pacific peoples earn between \$0 – 25,000 in income. Only 5.3 per cent earn between \$70,000 and \$100,000 a year. Less than 5% earn more than \$100,000.

Figure 35: Total personal income for Pacific peoples and New Zealand population, 2018 Census



An overall comparison with the total Aotearoa New Zealand population shows New Zealanders earn a median income of \$31,800, a difference of \$7,500 more than the median income of Pacific peoples. Generally, the average Aotearoa New Zealand population is almost two times more likely to earn in the higher earning bracket of \$70,000 and above compared to Pacific, and three times more likely to earn between \$100,001 and \$150,000.

Median income comparisons between ethnic groups show that Europeans earn on average \$34,500, Asians \$28,400 and Maori \$24,300, which is the same as Pacific. The European population earns more than any other ethnic group but the ethnic group with the largest growth in median personal income since the last census was the Asian community (41.3%) followed by Pacific (23.4%).

²¹ 2018 Census ethnic group summaries. This information is for the census usually resident population aged 15 years and over.

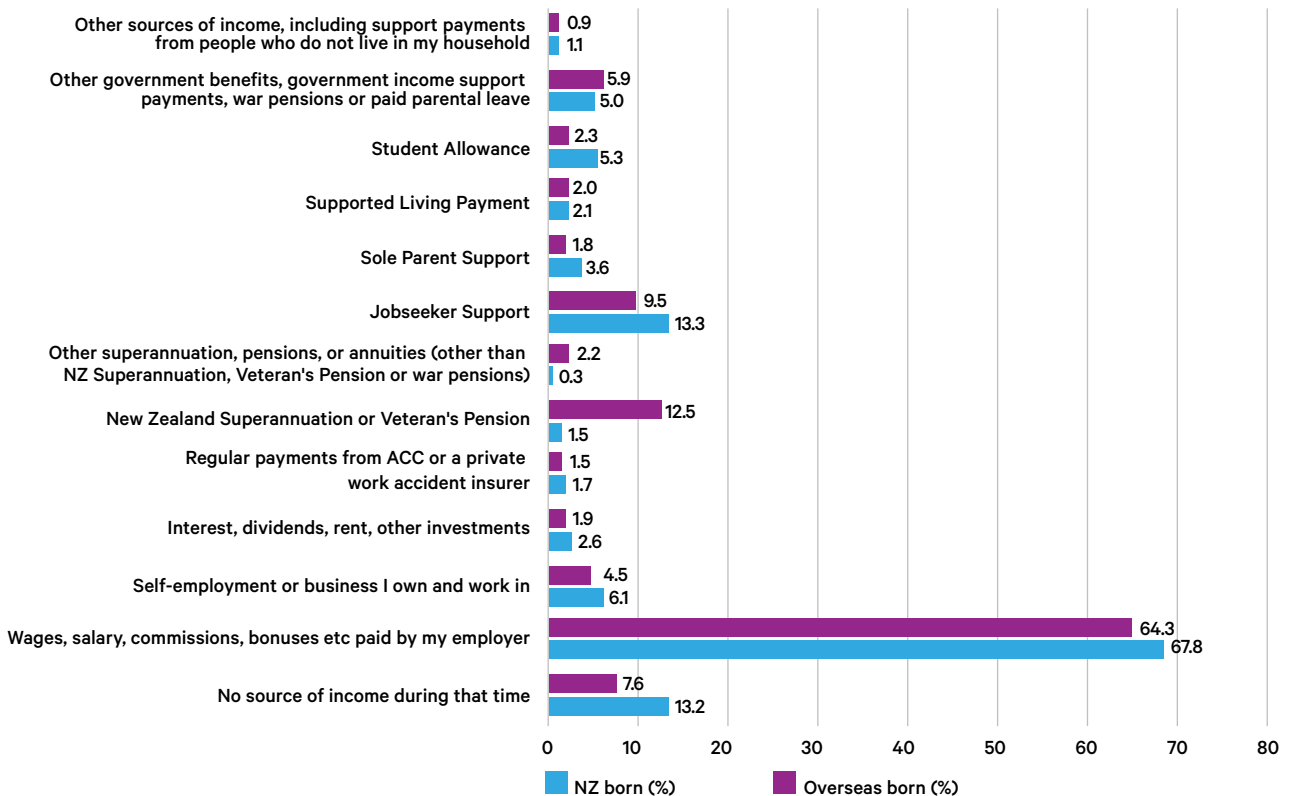
Table 16: Median income by ethnic groups, 2013 and 2018

Ethnic groups for comparison	Median income (\$) 2018	Median income (\$) 2013	% increase from 2013
European	34,500	30,900	11.7%
Asian	28,400	20,100	41.3%
Māori	24,300	22,500	8.0%
Pacific peoples	24,300	19,700	23.4%
Total NZ population	31,800	28,500	11.6%

Sources of income

Two thirds of Pacific people’s income comes from wages, salary, commission or bonuses. Pacific people born in Aotearoa New Zealand earn higher income in most cases, except for those receiving government benefits, New Zealand superannuation, pensions or annuities.

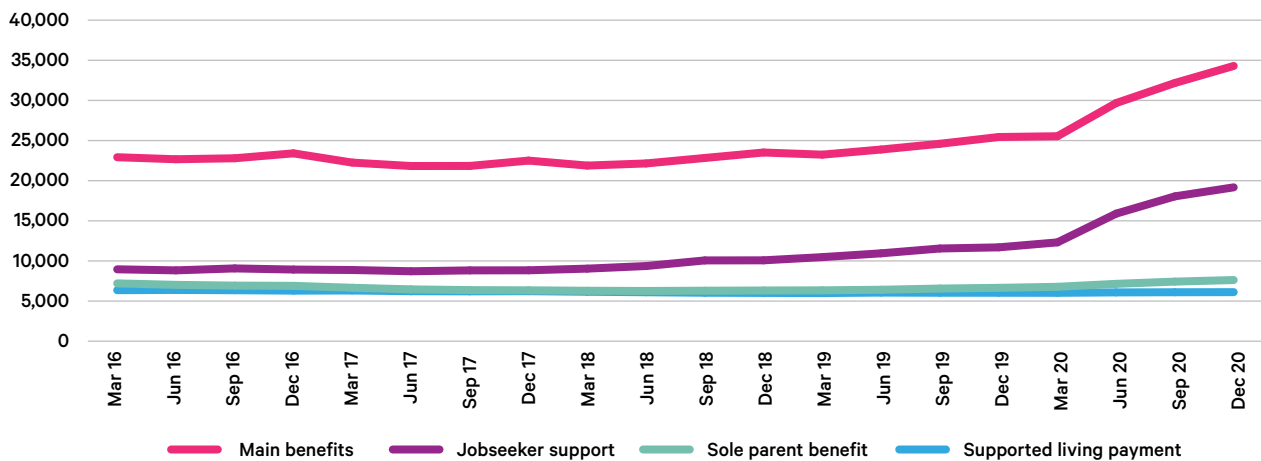
Figure 36: Sources of income for Pacific peoples, 2018



Main benefits for Pacific peoples

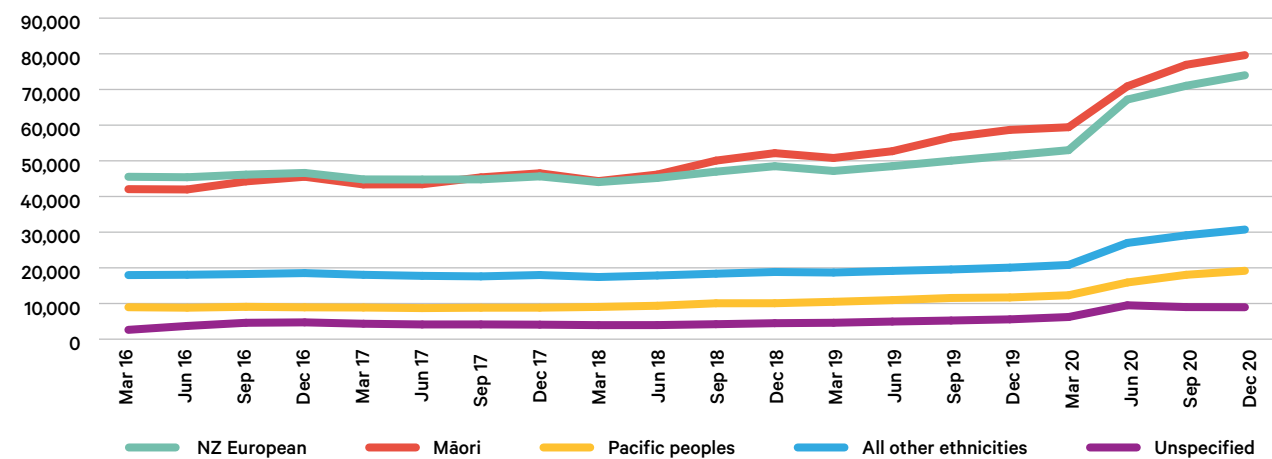
The number of working-age Pacific people receiving benefits was relatively steady over the last five years but started to pick up in 2019. During 2020 there has been a steady increase of Pacific peoples now receiving main benefits, particularly Job Seeker support. The sharp incline in the growth of benefit support began during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. About 70% of working-age Pacific peoples receiving the main benefits live in Auckland.

Figure 37: Benefits received by Pacific peoples from 2016 to 2020²²



The COVID-19 pandemic saw a sharp rise in Job Seeker support for Pacific peoples and other ethnic groups since the lockdown period, and it continues to grow. As the pandemic continues with no end in sight, we may continue to see this increase.

Figure 38: Jobseeker support by ethnic groups from 2016 to 2020²³



²² Ministry of Social Development.

²³ Ministry of Social Development.

Ethnic differences in Labour Force participation



Fijians have the highest rate of full-time employment (56%) and overall, the highest total employment rate of 70.4%. The Rotuman's have the highest part-time employment rate at 14.5%.



Tuvaluans have the highest unemployment rate compared to others at 9.1%. The Tuvaluan group also has the least participation in the labour force (35.8%).

Table 17: Pacific peoples' participation in the labour force by ethnicity, 2018²⁴

	Employed full time 2018	Employed part time 2018	Unemployed 2018	Not in the labour force 2018
Samoa	50.6	12.5	6.8	30.1
Cook Island Māori	46.5	12.7	8.9	31.9
Tongan	47.7	12.2	7.1	33.0
Niuean	49.7	12.8	7.7	29.8
Tokelauan	45.8	13.9	8.6	31.6
Fijian	56.3	14.1	5.4	24.2
Kiribati	51.7	12.9	5.3	30.2
Rotuman	52.6	14.5	4.8	27.6
Tuvaluan	43.3	11.9	9.1	35.8

Age distribution in the Labour Force

The majority of Pacific peoples in the labour force are aged 45 to 54 years, and have a high employment rate. The least are those aged 65 years and over. The unemployment rate is the highest in the age group 15 – 24 years.

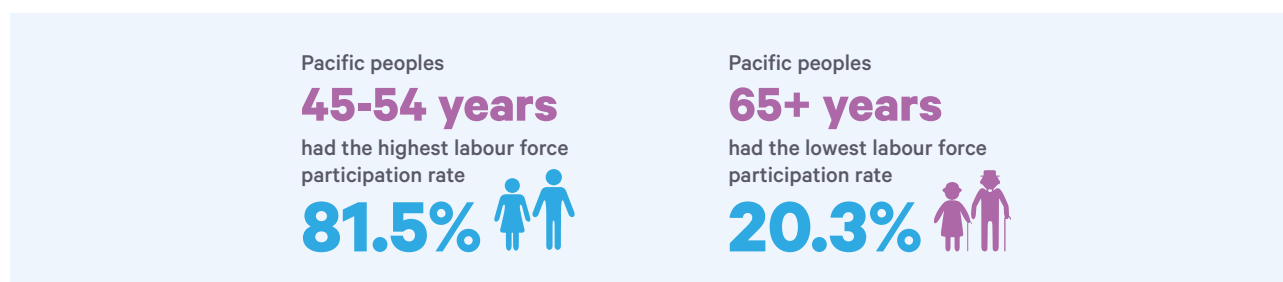
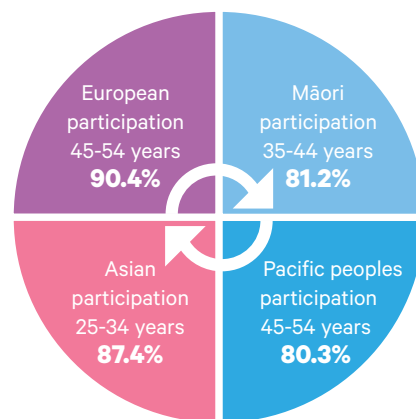


Table 18: Age distribution of Pacific peoples in the labour force, 2020

	15-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and older	Total ages
Employment rate	46.6	74.1	75.5	76.3	61	19.9	60.4
Unemployment rate	16.8	6.4	4.6	4.9	5.1	2.2	8
Labour force participation rate	56	79.1	79.1	80.3	64.3	20.3	65.5

²⁴ Stats NZ Ethnic Summaries Profiles Census data.

Compared with other ethnic groups, Pacific peoples and European have more older population in the labour force market with majority aged 45-54 years (80.3% and 90.4% respectively). Majority of Māori are aged between 35-44 years (81.2%) and Asians have the youngest age group with majority aged 25-34 years (87.4%).



Occupations of Pacific people

Pacific peoples’ top three occupations are labourers (19.9%), professionals (13.8%) and machine operators and drivers.

Pacific peoples are least likely to be in managerial roles.



Table 19: Occupation types held by Pacific peoples, 2018²⁵

Occupations	Pacific peoples (%)
Labourers	19.9
Professionals	13.8
Machinery operators and drivers	12.6
Community and personal service work	12.3
Technicians and trades workers	11.0
Clerical and administrative workers	11.0
Sales workers	10.0
Managers	9.3
Total	100.0

²⁵ Stats NZ 2018 census data.

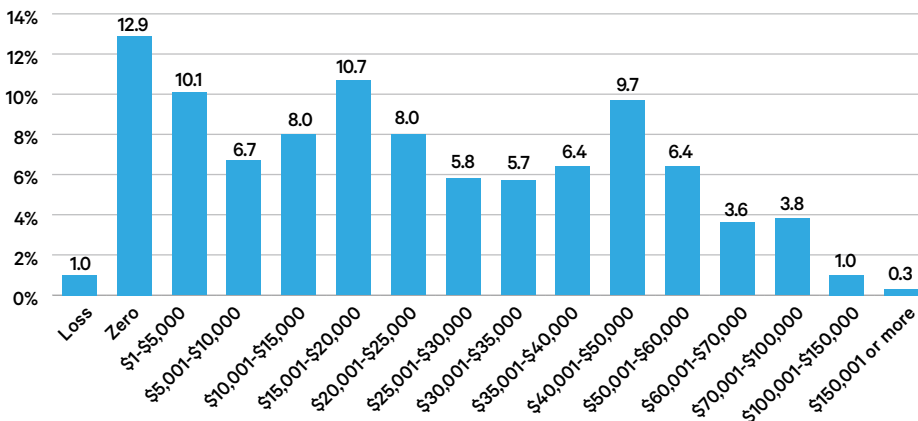
Pacific women and men in the workforce

Personal income levels

Pacific females have low personal incomes.

Pacific women’s median personal income is \$35,001 to \$40,000. Their highest income value is zero (12.9%) and their lowest is \$150,000 or more. Half of the Pacific female population has an income between \$0 and \$20,000.

Figure 39: Personal income levels for Pacific females, 2018

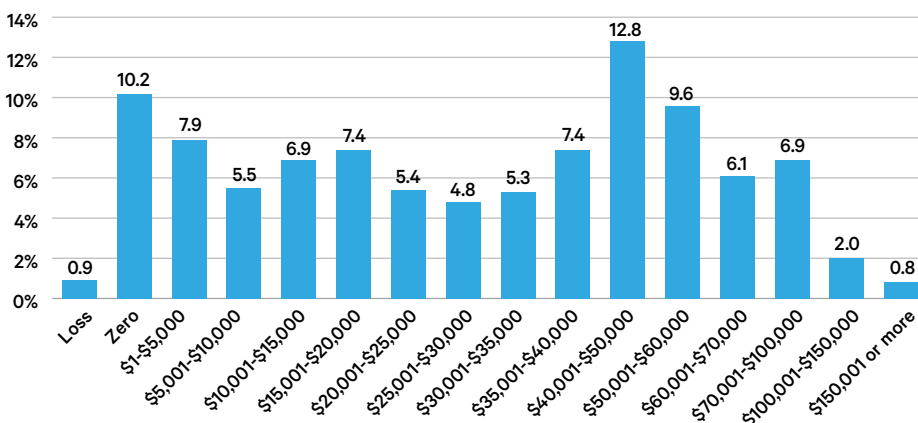


Pacific men generally earn more than Pacific women.

Pacific men’s median personal income is between \$60,001 and \$70,000. Their highest income value is the \$40,001 to \$50,000 bracket (12.8%) and their lowest is the \$150,000 or more bracket (0.8%). Half of the Pacific female population has an income between \$0 and \$30,000.

Pacific men in the higher income group (\$40,000 annual income and above) generally earn more than Pacific women. However, Pacific women in the lower income groups (from \$30,000 a year) earn more than their male counterparts. The gaps between Pacific males and females are, however, much bigger in the higher income groups than in the lower income groups.

Figure 40: Personal income levels for Pacific males, 2018



Gender differences in industries

Pacific women contribute to a caring and supportive workforce

According to the latest available Labour Force statistics (December 2020, Q4), Pacific women make a huge contribution to the healthcare, social assistance and education and training industries, with 16% of all Pacific women employed in each. This is followed by manufacturing, which employs 10% of Pacific women. These make up the top three industries that employ Pacific women.



More Pacific women are in skilled jobs than men

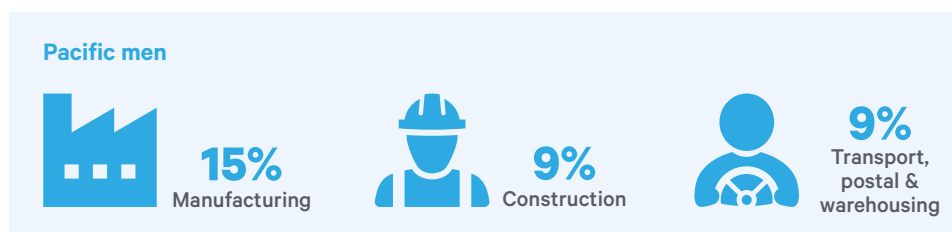
At the 2018 census data, a majority (76.2%) of employed Pacific women were in skilled jobs such as professional, community and personal services, clerical and administrative roles, sales workers and managers. Of these, they were less likely to be in manager roles (8.3%).

Only about a quarter (23.8%) of all employed Pacific women are in manual jobs such as labourers, machinery operators, drivers, technicians and trades.

Pacific women working in the community and personal service roles was the second most common area. In the 2013 census, community and personal service jobs were the third biggest occupation for Pacific women. This shows the contribution Pacific women are making in Aotearoa New Zealand in these supportive roles. During COVID-19 lockdowns, these roles were very important and Pacific women made a big contribution in this regard.

Pacific men have a labour-intensive workforce

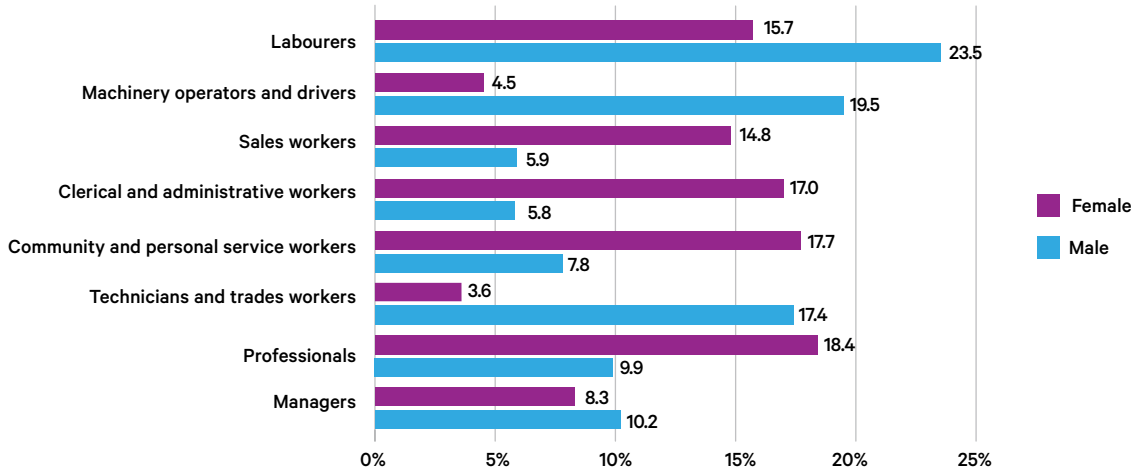
Recent Labour Force data (December 2020, Q4) shows that Pacific men are predominantly employed in the manufacturing industry (15%), followed by the construction industry (9%) and the transport, postal and warehousing industries (9%).



At the 2018 census, Pacific men were mainly (60.4%) employed in manual jobs such as labourers (23.5%), machinery operators and drivers (19.5%) and technicians and trades (17.4%).

Approximately 40% were employed in skilled jobs such as managers (10.2%), professionals (9.9%), community and personal service workers (7.8%), sales workers (5.9%) and clerical and administrative workers (5.8%) (Figure 41).

Figure 41: Occupation types held by Pacific peoples by sex, 2018



Pacific women have a higher unemployment rate than Pacific men

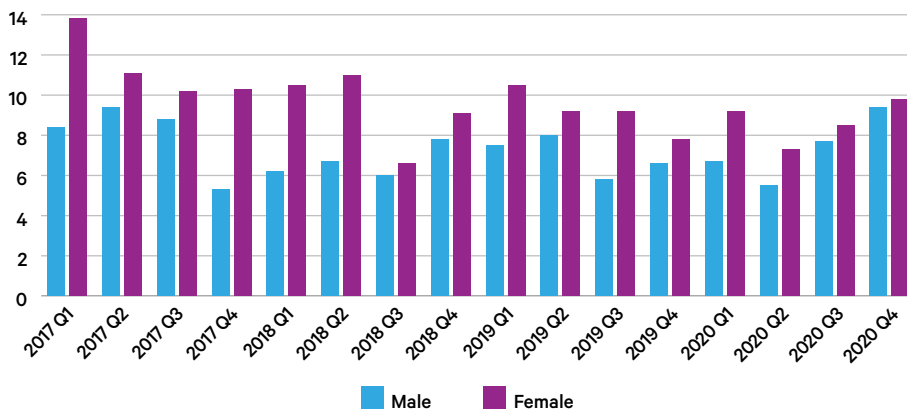
Pacific women’s recent unemployment is 9.8% (up from 8.4% in the third quarter of 2020) and Pacific men’s unemployment has also risen to 9.4% (up from 7.7% in the third quarter of 2020).

The gap that traditionally exists between Pacific men’s and Pacific women’s unemployment rates has narrowed and is the smallest it has ever been since 2017.



Of interest, Pacific women are by far the most untapped asset in the labour force market. At the end of 2020 (Q4) the unemployment rate for Pacific males was 15.3% compared to 21.1% for Pacific females. This time last year, both genders were in a better position at 13.4% for males and 18.6% for females. The average underutilisation rate for Pacific males in 2020 was 12.9% compared to 19.5% for Pacific women.

Figure 42: Quarterly Pacific unemployment rate by sex from 2017 to 2020



Pacific unpaid and voluntary contribution

It is important to note that the unpaid activities section²⁶ here is somewhat problematic due to lack of appropriate questions to capture the types of unpaid activities that Pacific peoples engage in. It is important moving forward that questions in this area need to reflect the realities for Pacific peoples and how they view and define unpaid activities. However, the following data emerged from the current set of 2018 census questions around unpaid activities for Pacific peoples. The latest findings on this topic may be found on the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (2021) *Pacific Economy Research Report on Unpaid Work and Volunteering in Aotearoa*.

Fewer Pacific peoples are engaging in unpaid and voluntary work compared to others

Overall, about 65% of Pacific peoples engage in unpaid or voluntary activities. The majority of the unpaid work is for household work, cooking, repairs and gardening.

This is a significant drop from the 2013 census statistics which showed 81% of Pacific peoples engaging in unpaid or voluntary work, and is lower than the total Aotearoa New Zealand population and all other ethnic groups.

Compared to other groups, Pacific peoples are reporting higher numbers in ‘no activities’ and ‘looking after a child who is a member of own household’ compared to all other groups. The higher number of ‘no activities’ responses may be an indication of the options not being appropriate to describe the unpaid activities undertaken by Pacific peoples.

82.5%
Total NZ

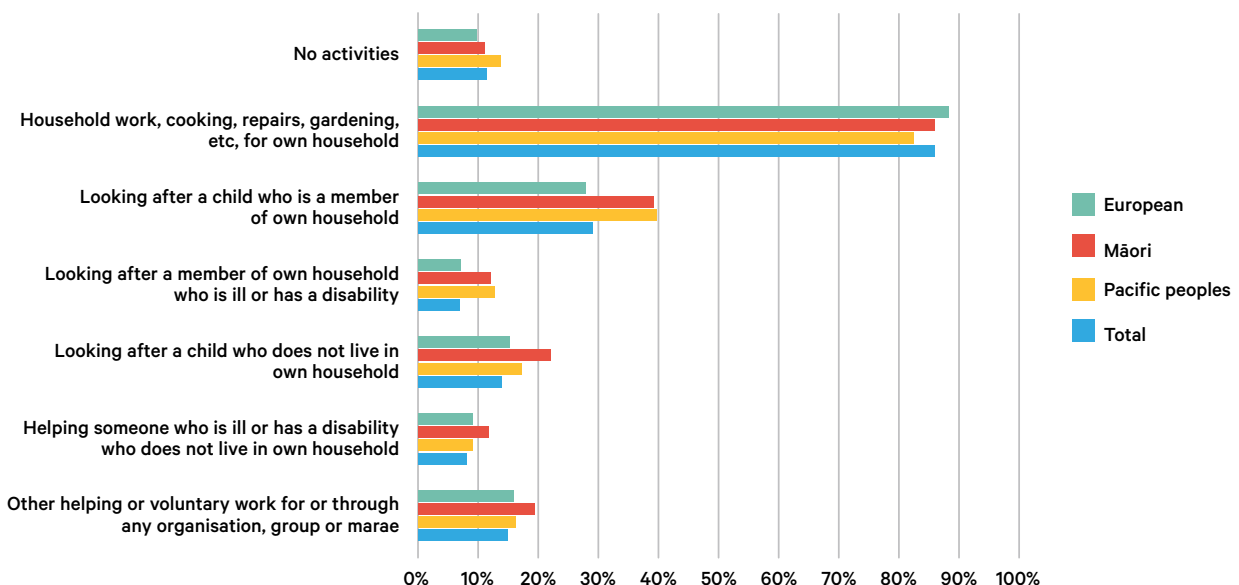
86.7%
European

81.1%
Asian

69.1%
Māori

64.9%
Pacific peoples

Figure 43: Unpaid activities undertaken by ethnic groups, 2018

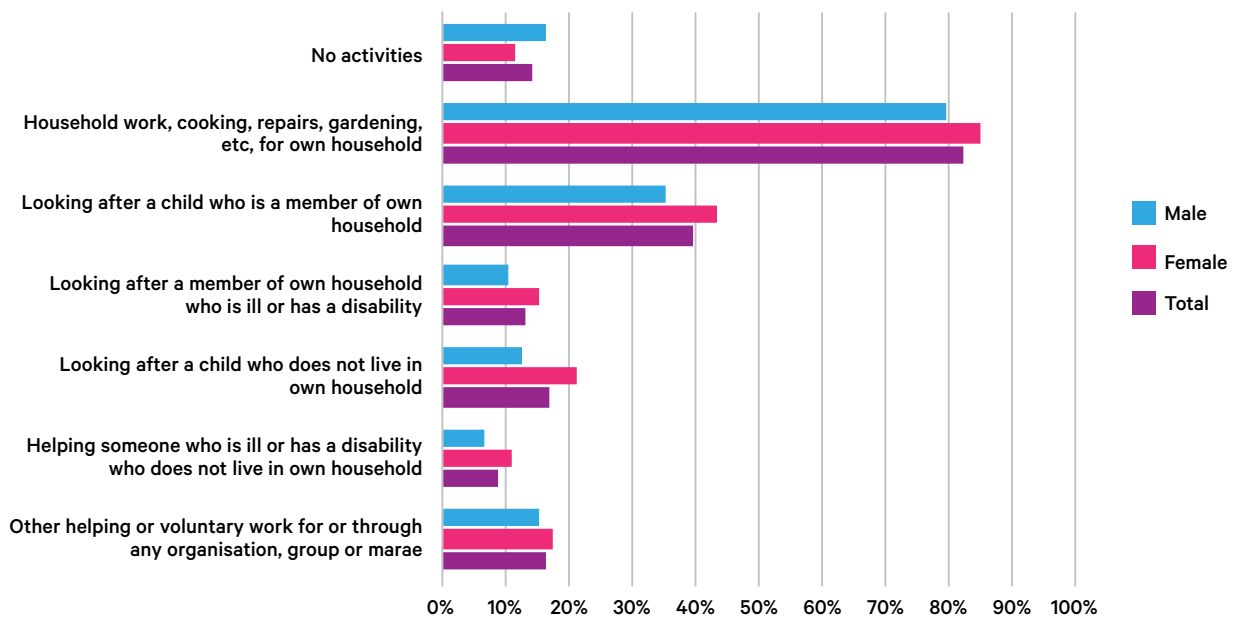


²⁶ Stats 2018 census data.

More Pacific females are engaging in unpaid or voluntary work than males

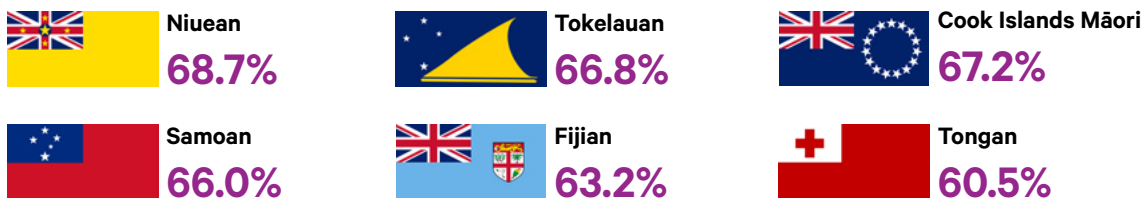
Pacific females are more likely than Pacific males to engage in unpaid or voluntary activities across the board, except for 'no activities' where Pacific males reported 2.6% higher than Pacific females.

Figure 44: Unpaid activities undertaken by Pacific people by sex, 2018



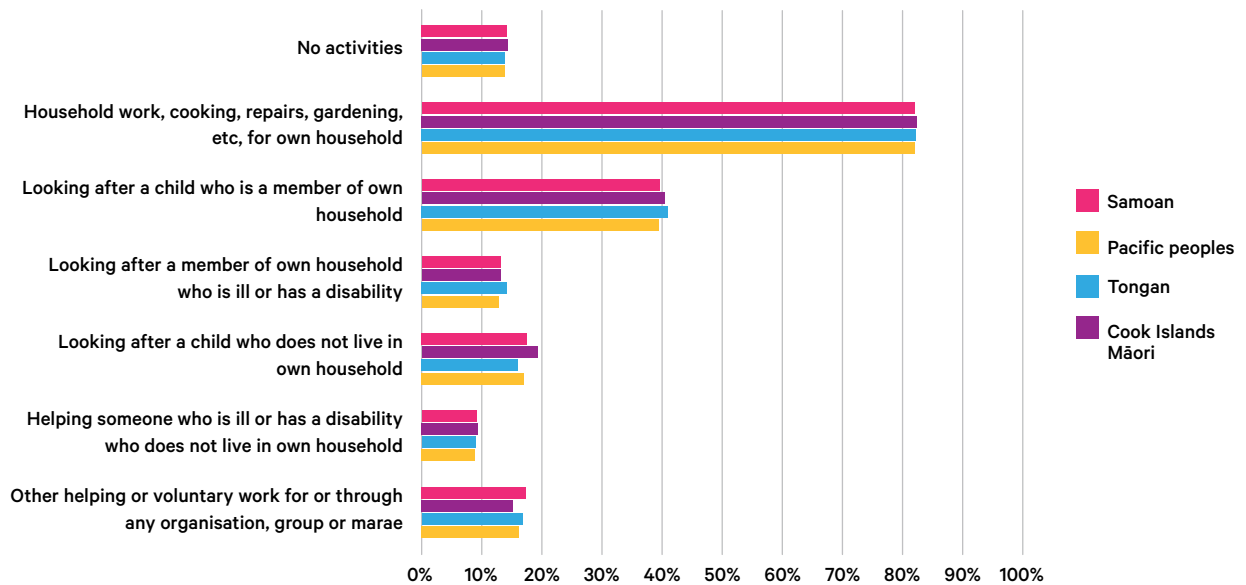
More Niueans are engaging in unpaid or voluntary work

More Niuean's (68.7%) reported doing unpaid or voluntary work compared to all other Pacific groups including Cook Islands Maori (67.2%), Tokelauan (66.8%), Samoan (66%), Fijian (63.2%) and Tongan (60.5%).



There are no significant differences across all Pacific groups, however, Cook Islands Maori are reporting slightly higher numbers in ‘looking after a child who does not live in own household,’ Tongans are showing slightly higher numbers in ‘looking after a child who is a member of own household’ and Samoans are slightly more likely to do ‘other helping or voluntary work for or through any organisation, group or marae.’

Figure 45: Unpaid activities undertaken by Pacific ethnicities, 2018



Pacific-owned businesses

Pacific people contribute
\$8 Billion
 to the New Zealand GDP



Pacific peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand contribute significantly to the economy despite the many challenges and inequities they experience in areas such as health, education, housing and employment. In 2018, Treasury²⁷ estimated that Pacific individuals and businesses, working in a variety of industries, contributed **\$8 billion** to the New Zealand Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Pacific working proprietors²⁸

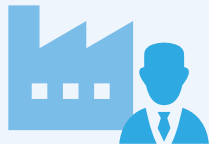
A small number of Pacific people are considered working proprietors.²⁹

Recent data shows that there were 3,831 Pacific working proprietors from a population of 258,840 or 1.5 per cent of Pacific peoples aged 15 years and over in 2017.³⁰

In 2015³¹, 1.6% of New Zealand's Pacific population was either self-employed or an employer. At the 2013 census, 2.6% of Pacific workers in Auckland were either self-employed, without employees or employers.

1.5%

of Pacific
 people are
 working proprietors



8%

of all
 New Zealanders
 are working proprietors

²⁷ The New Zealand Pacific Economy available at <https://treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2018-11/nz-pacific-economy-nov18.pdf>.

²⁸ Pacific Women and Men in Business by the Ministry for Women and the Ministry for Pacific peoples.

²⁹ A working proprietor is a person who works in a business that they own or part own.

³⁰ Pacific Women and Men in Business by the Ministry for Women and the Ministry for Pacific peoples.

³¹ MBIE's Pacific Economic Strategy 2015-2021.

There are more Pacific male working proprietors

Pacific women make up one third of all Pacific business owners. As a proportion of all Pacific women, 0.9 percent of Pacific women own businesses compared with 2 percent of Pacific men who own businesses.

While most industries have higher proportions of male owners, women make up the majority (61%) of business owners in the healthcare and social assistance industry.

There are more Fijian business owners per population



Fijians are more likely to work in their own businesses compared to other Pacific ethnic groups. This is true for both women and men. Fijian women have the highest rate of business ownership across Pacific women at 1.9%, and Fijian men have the highest rate amongst men at 3.5%. Niueans and Samoans follow with business ownership rates of 1.6% and 1.5%, respectively. The rates of working proprietors between realm and non-realm countries are very similar (Table 20).

Four in ten Pacific working proprietors are Samoan



Samoans make up 43% (or 112,617) of all Pacific working proprietors, followed by Cook Islands (17% or 68,919) and Tongan (15% or 46,923). (Table 20).

Table 20: Pacific working proprietors by sex and ethnicity³²

Ethnic group ³³	Pacific working proprietors			Pacific population			% working proprietors		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Realm countries	663	327	990	33,123	35,796	68,919	2.0	0.9	1.4
Cook Islands	435	231	663	22,836	24,525	47,361	1.9	0.9	1.4
Niuean	195	87	282	8,631	9,339	17,970	2.3	0.9	1.6
Tokelauan	39	6	48	2,451	2,814	5,268	1.6	0.2	0.9
Non-realm countries	1,944	897	2,841	96,735	93,183	189,921	2.0	1.0	1.5
Samoan	1,113	537	1,650	55,434	57,183	112,617	2.0	0.9	1.5
Tongan	420	150	570	23,772	23,151	46,923	1.8	0.6	1.2
Fijian	228	120	351	6,459	6,252	12,711	3.5	1.9	2.8
Tuvaluan	21	18	33	1,215	1,308	2,523	1.7	1.4	1.3
Total Pacific	2,607	1,224	3,831	129,861	128,979	258,840	2.0	0.9	1.5

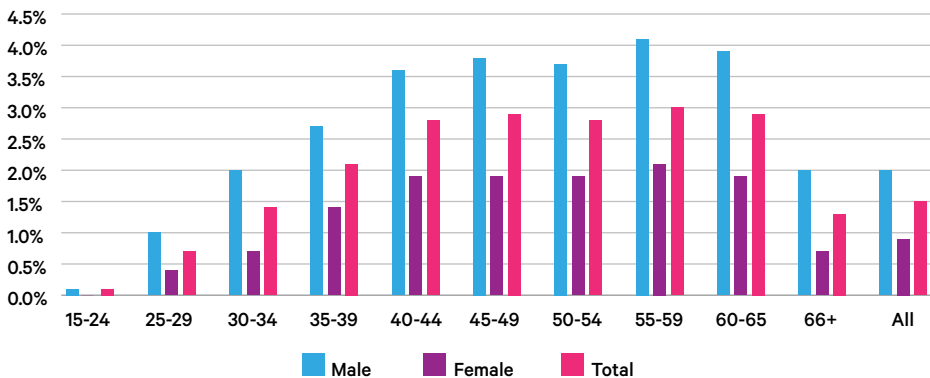
³² Numbers have been rounded (to base 3) to protect the privacy of individuals.

³³ The rates for Tokelau and Tuvalu should be treated with caution given the small number of working proprietors (fewer than 50) for each of these groups.

Pacific working proprietors are older

More Pacific working proprietors are aged between 40 and 65 years. This could be the result of people starting their own businesses at a later age once they have saved sufficient capital.³⁴ This is similar for all business owners in Aotearoa New Zealand, who are older and clustered around age 55.³⁵

Figure 46: Proportion of Pacific peoples who are working proprietors by age group and sex, 2017



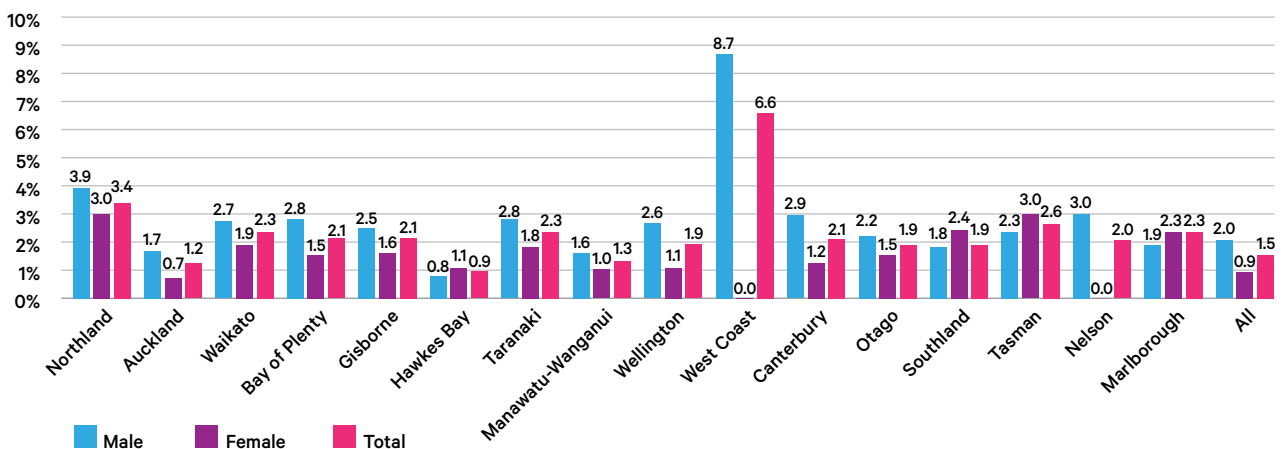
Pacific working proprietors are mostly New Zealand-born

Just over half of Pacific business owners (57 per cent) are born in Aotearoa New Zealand. This difference is even more pronounced among women business owners – 61% per cent of Pacific women working proprietors are New Zealand-born.

Northland has the highest rate of working proprietors per population

Northland has the highest rate of Pacific working proprietors, with 3.4% (3.9% of men in the region, and 3.0% of women). The rate for Auckland (1.2%) is lower than the overall rate of 1.5%; it is also lower compared to all other regions except for Hawke’s Bay. It is worth noting that while the rate of Pacific working proprietors in Auckland is low, Auckland has the highest number of Pacific working proprietors, and is the hub of Pacific business in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Figure 47: Proportion of Pacific peoples who are working proprietors by region, 2017



³⁴ Tuatagaloa and Huang, 2017.

³⁵ Stats NZ, Dataset: Earnings from wages and salaries and self-employment, by sex, age groups and ethnic groups.

Auckland has the highest number of working proprietors overall

More than half (55%) of Pacific working proprietors live in Auckland. The next most popular regions are Wellington (15%), Waikato (8%) and Canterbury (7%).

Half of Pacific working proprietors have a certificate as their highest qualification



As their highest level of qualification, 52% of Pacific working proprietors have a certificate, and another 11% have no qualifications, indicating that a basic qualification is sufficient to set up a business.

Sixty per cent of Pacific working proprietors aged 15 to 34 have a certificate and 15% have a bachelor's degree, graduate diploma or graduate certificate, so younger people are more likely to be qualified.

Pacific working proprietors have higher incomes

The annual median income of Pacific business owners who earned income through self-employment only is \$47,350 – this is about \$10,000 higher than the median income of Pacific people who did not own businesses and earned incomes through wage and salaries only.

A third group are the Pacific working proprietors who earn wages and salaries in addition to their self-employment income. For these business owners, the combined annual median income increases to \$53,910, making them the highest-earning category.

Median income
of Pacific business owners

\$47,350

One in four Pacific working proprietors are in the construction industry

The top three industries for Pacific working proprietors' businesses are construction, professional, scientific and technical services, and transport, postal and warehousing, the highest being construction. These three industries cover about half of all Pacific owners' businesses.

Median income
of Pacific people who don't
own businesses

\$37,350

Pacific working proprietors



26%
Construction



15%
Professional
scientific, and
technical services



13%
Transport,
postal &
warehousing

Self-rated financial wellbeing

Pacific peoples rate themselves quite low in terms of financial wellbeing.

A higher proportion of Pacific peoples say that they do not have enough money or only have enough money compared to other ethnic groups (71.7%).

Close to half of Pacific peoples agree that they only have just enough money (45.2%) while over a quarter agree that they do not have enough money (26.5%).

Only 5% of Pacific peoples claim to have more than enough money – the lowest percentage across all groups.



Table 21: Pacific peoples perceived financial wellbeing, 2018

Financial wellbeing: Adequacy of income to meet everyday needs	Total population	European	Māori	Pacific peoples	Asian
	Estimate (%)	Estimate (%)	Estimate (%)	Estimate (%)	Estimate (%)
Not enough money	10.0	7.5	17.9	26.5	8.7
Only just enough money	27.1	23.0	31.8	45.2	35.6
Enough money	44.4	47.4	36.8	23.5	44.8
More than enough money	18.4	22.1	13.5	4.7	10.9



Housing

Pacific housing situation

The overall housing situation for Pacific peoples is that they are least likely to own their own homes or hold them in a trust. They are more likely to be living in rentals or are homeless, and make up a quarter of all residents in social housing. The majority live in homes that are damper, mouldier, colder and more crowded than any other ethnic group.

Home ownership rate

At the 2018 census, there were 37,821 Pacific people who owned (or partly owned) the dwellings they usually live in or hold the dwellings in a family trust³⁶. In 2018, 21% of Pacific people owned or partially owned their dwellings (including held by a family trust). This was up three per cent from 2013, when it was 18%.



21%

of Pacific people own or partly own a home

Table 22: Home ownership and homeownership rates by ethnic groups, 2006, 2013 and 2018

	2006		2013		2018	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total NZ	1,578,081	53	1,590,543	50	1,661,061	52
European	1,183,641	58	1,343,490	57	1,375,449	58
Māori	105,387	30	109,980	28	121,836	31
Pacific peoples	33,654	22	34,350	18	37,821	21
Asian	96,192	37	127,380	35	186,132	40

Whilst home ownership has increased slightly from 2013 to 2018 for Pacific people, it is still well below the total number of home owners in New Zealand and lower than any other ethnic group.

³⁶ Stats NZ 2018 Census: From 2018 'Hold in a family trust' is a separate category, but for the purpose of this publication this number was added to people who own or partly own a home.

Figure 48: Home ownership rates by ethnic groups, 2006, 2013 and 2018



51%
of Pacific homeowners are female

49%
of Pacific homeowners are male

Pacific females are slightly more likely than Pacific males to own their own homes. This has been consistent across three censuses. At the latest 2018 census two per cent more females owned their homes.

People who do not own a home

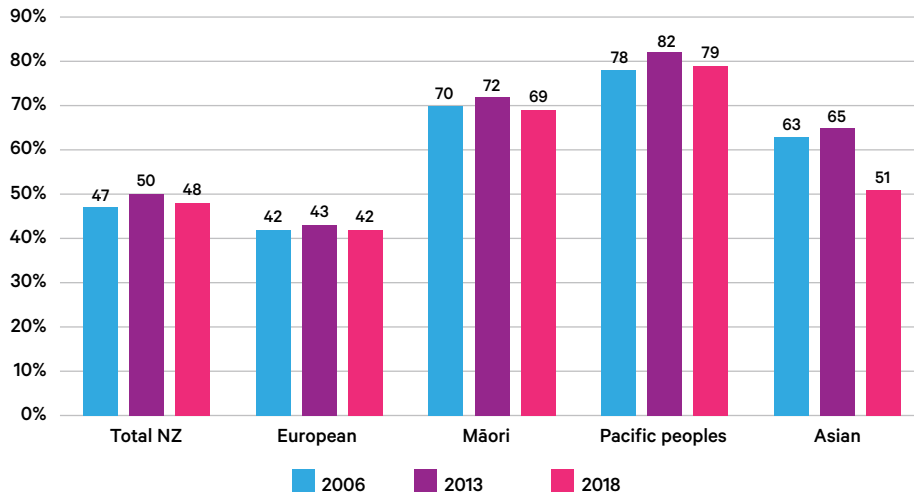
According to the 2018 census, 142,353 or 79% of the Pacific population live in a home they do not own or hold in a family trust, which includes people who are renting.³⁷ This is slightly down from 2013 when it was 151,764 (81.5%). Comparatively, more Pacific peoples are in this housing category than any other ethnic group. Over the years, the numbers have dropped slightly across each ethnic group with the exception of the Asian population.

Table 23: Do not own a home or hold a family trust and do not own a home or hold a family trust rates by ethnic groups, 2006, 2013 and 2018

	2006		2013		2018	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total NZ	1,385,856	46.8	1,603,014	50.2	1,548,078	48.2
European	849,741	41.8	1,022,358	43.2	1,000,260	42.1
Māori	244,218	69.9	280,371	71.8	270,642	69.0
Pacific peoples	120,099	78.2	151,764	81.5	142,353	79.0
Asian	167,241	63.5	238,614	65.2	280,548	60.1

³⁷ The 'Do not own and do not hold in a family trust' category includes people who were renting, living in a home owned by other household members (for example parents), living in housing provided to them on a rent-free basis, or living in types of dwellings which they themselves would not own, such as a student hostel or residential care for older people, for example a rest home.

Figure 49: Percentage of people who do not own a home and do not hold in a family trust by ethnic groups, 2006, 2013 and 2018



Social housing

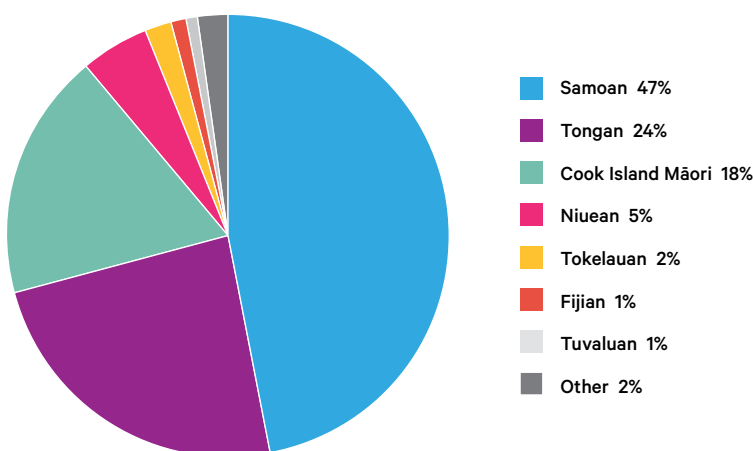
One in four Pacific people (or 26%) are in social housing (or Housing New Zealand tenancy). There were 69,509 public housing tenancies as of 16 August 2019, with this Government signalling it wants to increase the public housing places to 73,628 by June 2022.³⁸ This plan to increase the stock is positive and will support the housing needs of Maori and Pacific communities.

During 2018/19, Kainga Ora (Government’s primary housing and urban development delivery arm) had 16,081 tenancies that identified as Pacific people. These tenancies had approximately 66,133 household members in September 2020.³⁹ Almost half of Pacific tenants were Samoan and a quarter were Tongan.



26%
Live in social housing

Figure 50: Ethnic breakdown of Kainga Ora tenancy, 2020



³⁸ The Housing Crises facing Pasifika People in Aotearoa, Ronji Tanielu, 2019, Housing in Aotearoa, 2020, Amore, K., Viggers, H., Howden Chapman, P. (2020).

³⁹ Some tenants and occupants have declared multiple ethnicities and therefore the grand totals are less than the sum of the numbers in the Tenancy Count and the Total Household Count.

Homeless Pacific peoples

Pacific peoples are severely over-represented in homelessness statistics, particularly in Auckland. This is concerning given that more than 244,250 (63.9%) of the Pacific population live in the Auckland region. Any acute housing need in the Auckland region has a disproportionate impact on Pacific people, and in particular Pacific young people and children. Additionally, the social issues associated with acute housing need such as health issues (e.g. rheumatic fever), child poverty and problem debt will also excessively impact on Pacific people in Auckland.

Rates of severe housing deprivation were highest among Pacific and Māori young people, and overall, Māori and Pacific peoples saw severe housing deprivation rates close to four and six times the European rate, respectively.⁴⁰

Table 24: Severely housing deprived people by housing deprivation type and ethnicity – count, percentage and prevalence rate, 2018⁴¹

Characteristic	Category	NZ Definition of Homelessness (NZDH) category								
		Without shelter		Temporary accommodation ²¹		Sharing accommodation		Total severely housing deprived ⁴²		Prevalence rate per 10,000 people ⁴³
		No. of people	% of people	No. of people	% of people	No. of people	% of people	No. of people	% of all severely housing-deprived people	
Ethnicity ⁴⁴	European	2,580	73.3	3,327	58.4	7,716	25.3	13,626	34.3	
	Māori	903	25.6	978	17.5	10,938	35.8	12,819	32.3	165.2
	Pacific peoples	228	6.5	495	8.8	8,952	29.3	9,625	24.4	253.5
	Asian	198	5.6	1,107	19.8	8,076	26.4	9,378	23.6	132.5
	MELAA ⁴⁵	36	1.0	166	2.9	567	1.9	768	1.9	109.2
	Other	63	1.8	60	1.1	117	0.4	240	0.6	41.3

40 The Housing Crises facing Pasifika People in Aotearoa, Ronji Tanielu, 2019, Housing in Aotearoa, 2020, Amore, K., Viggers, H., Howden Chapman, P. (2020).

41 This table is sourced from Amore, K., Viggers, H., Howden Chapman, P. (2020). Severe Housing Deprivation in Aotearoa New Zealand, 2018. Wellington: Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga. Data for this table is analysed from Stats NZ, HUD, and emergency housing providers.

42 Data does not include 'prorata' proportions of children in non-private dwellings. The ethnicity data also does not include people in Emergency and transitional accommodation. Therefore, the total severely housing deprived populations vary by characteristic.

43 Denominator population is NZ usual residents.

44 People who reported more than one ethnic group are counted once in each group reported. This means that the total number of responses for all ethnic groups can be greater than the total number of people who stated their ethnicities.

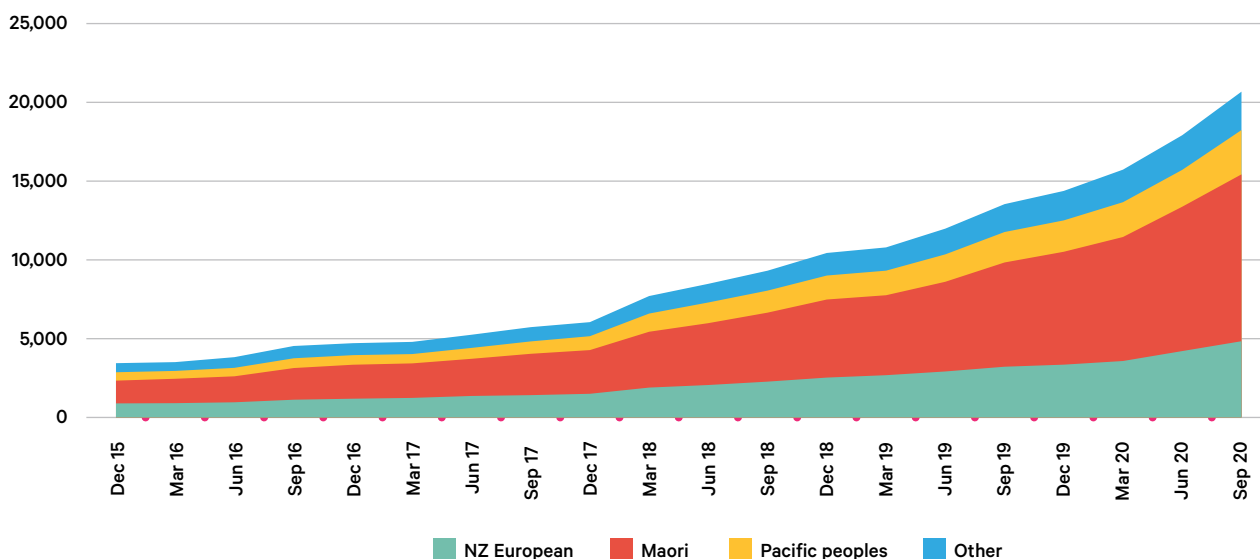
45 Middle Eastern, Latin American and Africa.

Housing register⁴⁶

There is an increasing number of Pacific peoples on the housing register. Figure 51 shows the number of applicants on the Ministry of Social Development Housing Register over the last five years. The Housing Register includes applicants not currently in public housing who have been assessed as eligible, and who are ready to be matched to a suitable property. The number of applicants on the Housing Register is subject to change, as people come on and off the register, and as their circumstances change.

- Overall, there were 21,415 applicants on the Housing Register as at 31 September 2020, an increase of 53% compared with the same time last year and an increase of 16% from the last quarter.
- For Pacific peoples there were 2,812 applicants on the Housing Register as at 31 September 2020, which is 13% of all applicants.
- It is expected that the number of applicants on the Housing Register will continue to increase during the COVID-19 pandemic and through the recovery period.

Figure 51: Number of applicants on the Housing register by ethnic groups from 2015 to 2020



⁴⁶ Ministry of Social Development, Housing register statistics, accessed 5 February 2021.

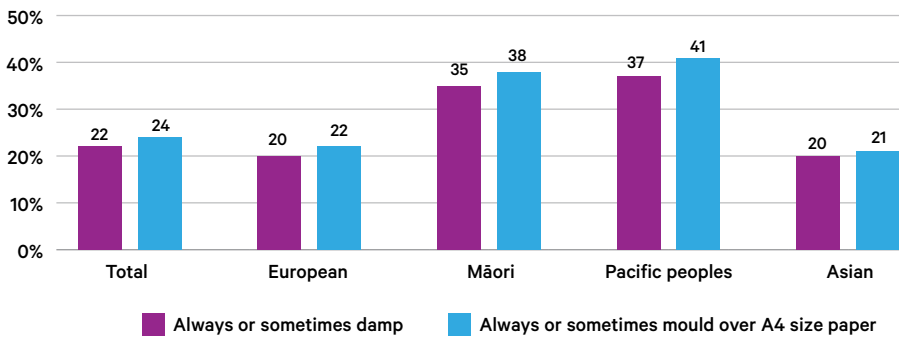
Housing condition

Dampness and mould

Pacific peoples were more likely to live in homes affected by dampness or mould than other ethnic groups. 37% of Pacific peoples live in damp homes compared with 35% of Maori and 22% for New Zealand overall. 35% of Pacific peoples were living in homes with mould larger than a sheet of A4 paper sometimes or always.

Statistics New Zealand noted from previous research that cold, damp and mouldy homes adversely impact whanau health and wellbeing. As well, indoor dampness and the presence of mould in the home have been linked to serious health conditions such as asthma, respiratory infections, and rheumatic fever. Therefore, Pacific peoples are more likely to have poor health outcomes from living in these damp and mouldy homes.

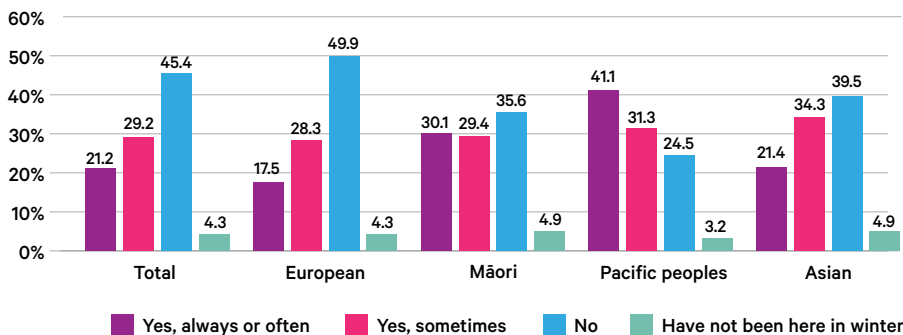
Figure 52: Percentage of people living in homes with damp or mould, by ethnic groups, 2018



Heating and coldness

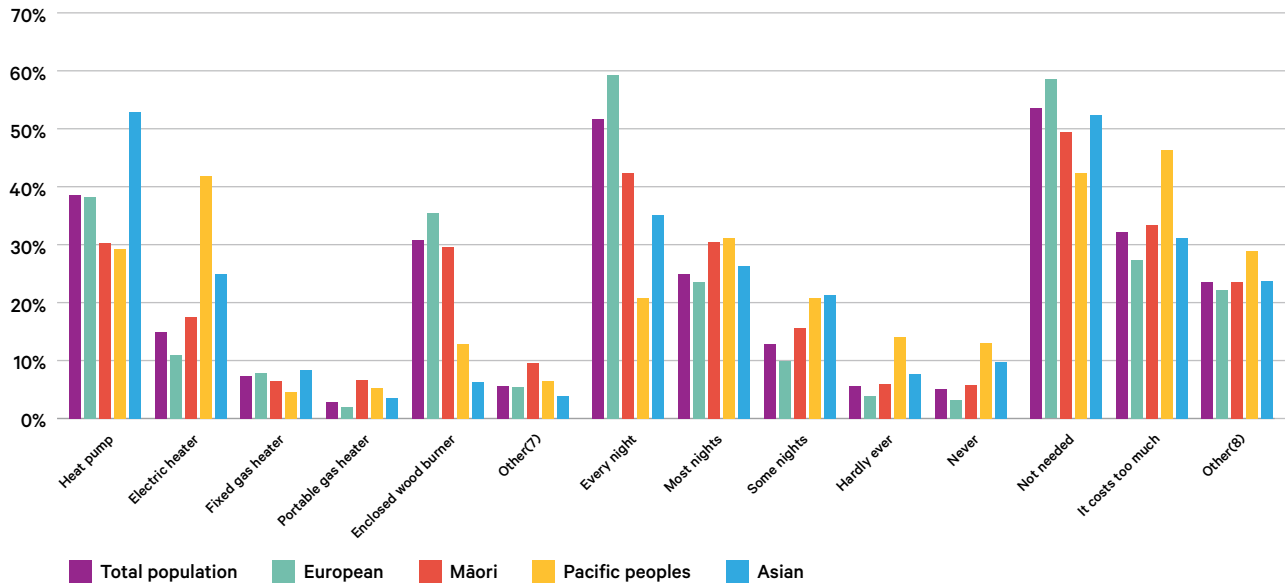
Pacific peoples live in colder homes compared to other ethnic groups. 72% of Pacific peoples say their homes are always/often or sometimes cold compared to 60% Maori, 56% Asian and 46% European.

Figure 53: Responses to house or flat colder than would like, 2018



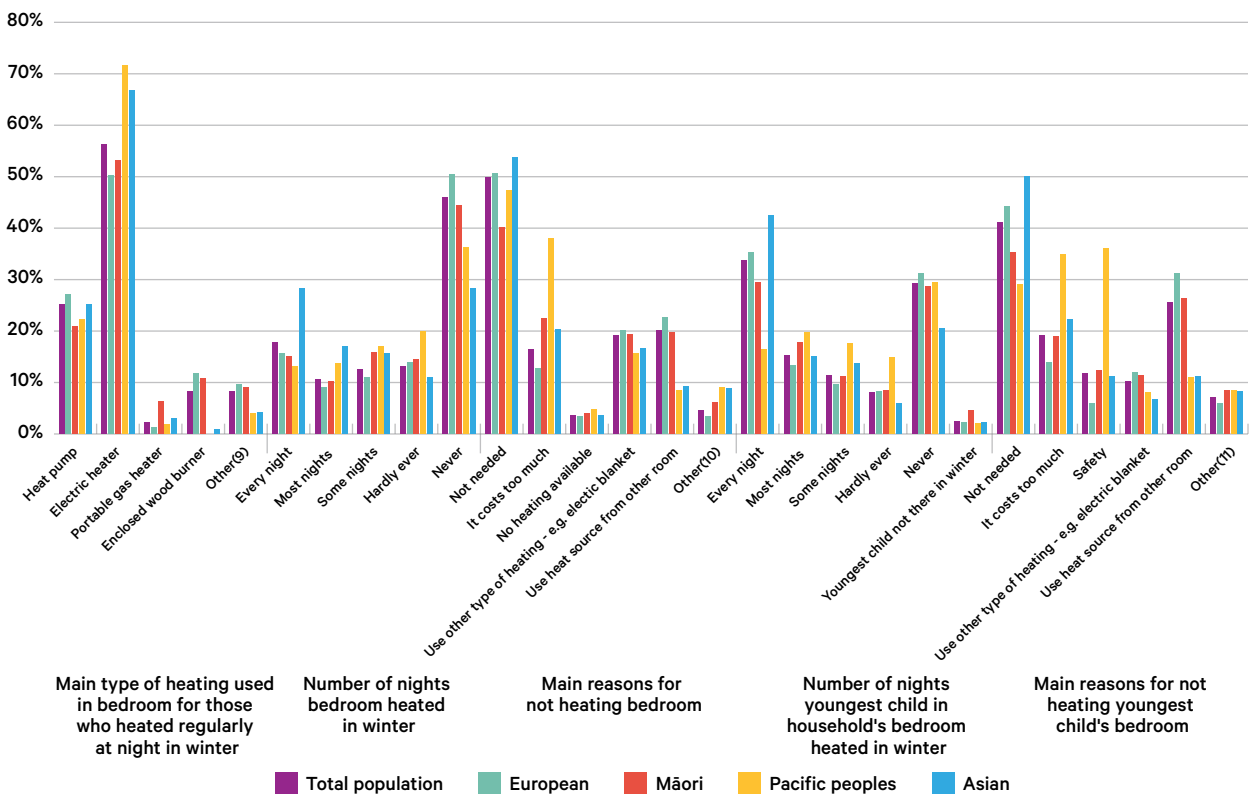
As coldness is an issue, Pacific peoples are more likely to heat their living rooms with electric heaters and will do so most or some nights which increases costs compared to other ethnic groups. However, they are more likely to say they will hardly or never heat their living room compared to others.

Figure 54: Heating options in living rooms by ethnic groups, 2018



Pacific peoples are also most likely to use electric heating in the bedrooms but never really heat these rooms due to high costs. Similarly, in children’s rooms, electric heating was most likely to be used but most times it was never used due to safety and cost issues.

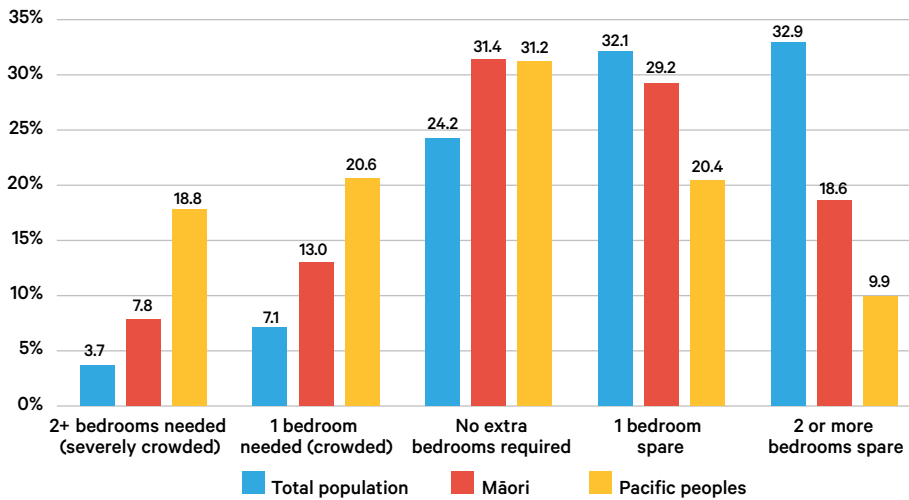
Figure 55: Heating options in living rooms by ethnic groups, 2018



Crowding rates highest for Pacific peoples

Pacific peoples and Māori have consistently been more likely to experience crowding than the total population. In the 2018 census, Pacific peoples were more likely to require extra bedrooms compared to others. Almost two in five Pacific peoples and around one in five Māori were living in a crowded home.

Figure 56: Proportion of people by level of household crowding, for total Maori and Pacific peoples, 2018⁴⁷



⁴⁷ Stats NZ, 2018: Almost 1 in 9 people live in a crowded house. Crowding measured by the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (CNOS). <https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/almost-1-in-9-people-live-in-a-crowded-house> accessed 5 February, 2021.

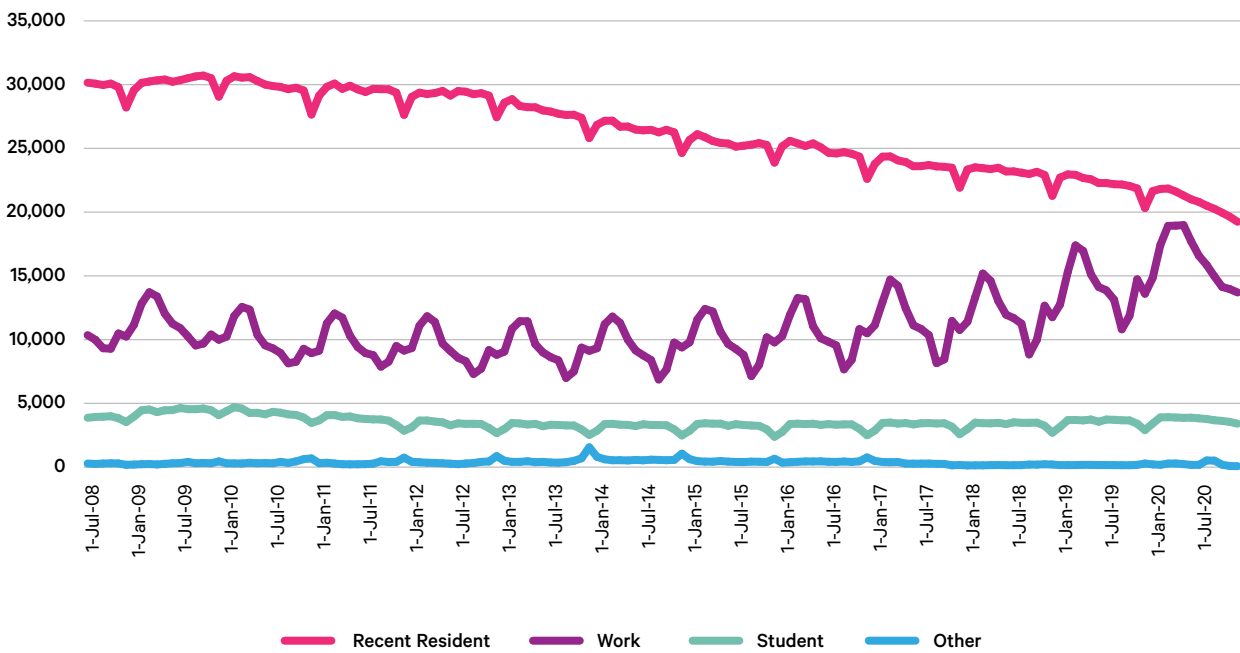
Immigration

This section looks at the migration trends of migrants from the Pacific using Immigration New Zealand administrative data.

Pacific migrants in Aotearoa New Zealand

Migration from the Pacific has been declining over the last 10 years. Most recent data shows that 19,242 Pacific people in total were granted residency.

Figure 57: Migrants in New Zealand by visa type from 2008 to 2020



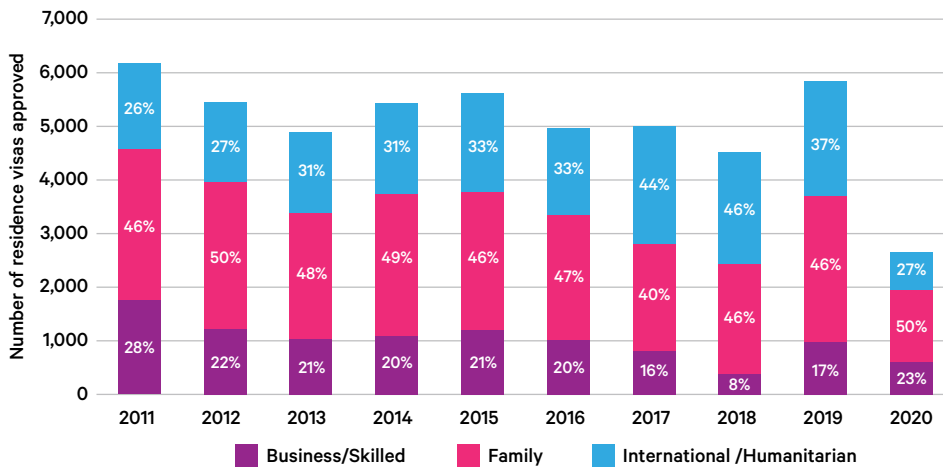
Residence approvals

There are three residence streams for people who wish to migrate permanently to New Zealand: skilled/business stream, family stream and international/humanitarian stream.

In 2020, 2,661 migrants from the Pacific were approved for residence. This is a drop of 3,171 approvals from 2019. This is the lowest approval rate for residence over a 10-year period and is largely due to border closure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the years prior (2011 – 2019) Pacific residence approvals were steadier at an average of 5,300 approvals.

Similar to years prior, residence approval in 2020 was mainly given under the family stream (1,332) followed by 726 under the humanitarian stream and 603 under the business/skilled stream. A majority of approvals under the family stream have been through the Partner resident visa category (58%).

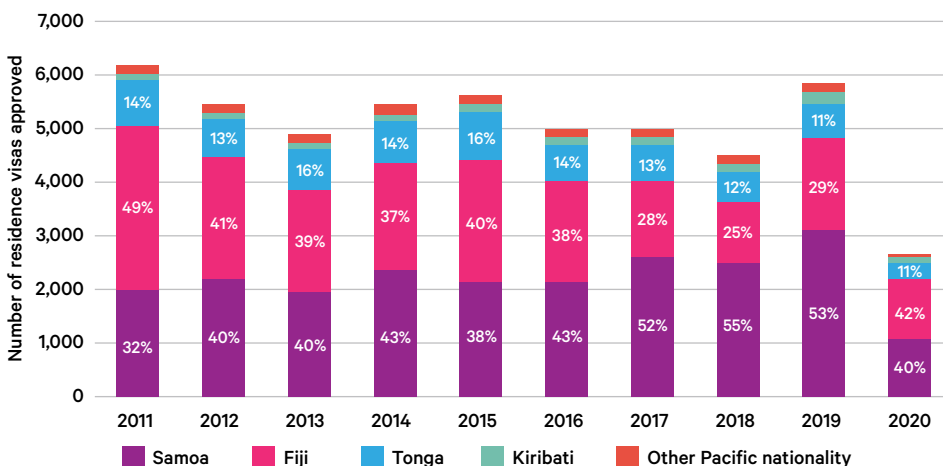
Figure 58: Residence visas approved by visa type for each year from 2011 to 2020



Source country

In 2020, most of the Pacific migrants approved for residence were from Samoa and Fiji, together making up 80% of the approved group.

Figure 59: Residence visas approved by nationality for each year from 2011 to 2020⁴⁸

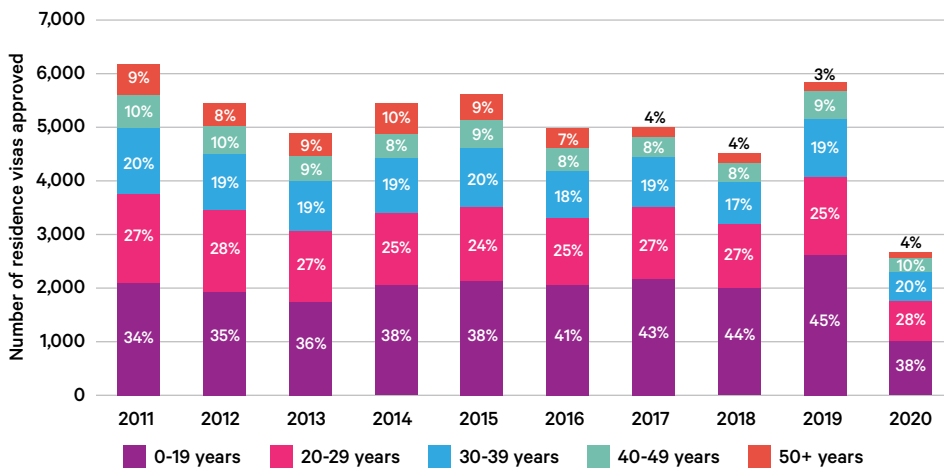


⁴⁸ "Other" includes Vanuatu, Nauru, Marshall Islands, American Samoa, French Polynesia and New Caledonia.

Age and gender

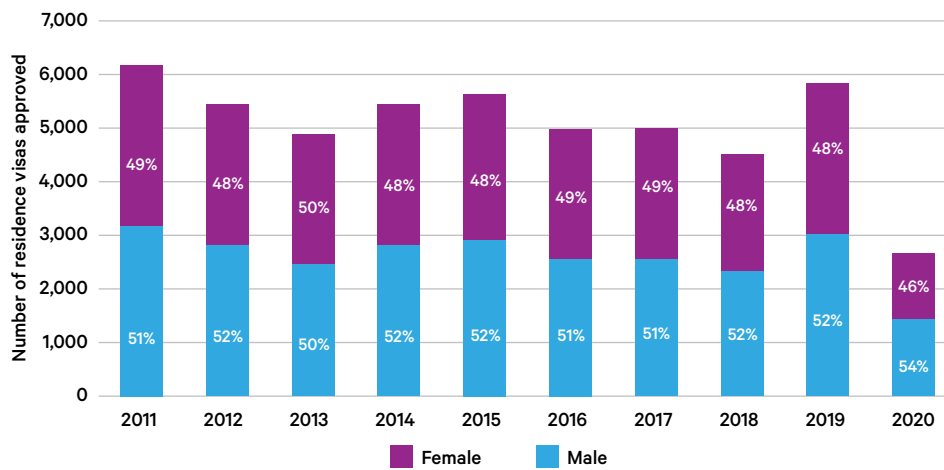
Migrant residents from the Pacific tend to be young, with the majority under 20 years of age. In 2020 they made up almost 40% of the total migrants approved for residence, followed by almost 30% of migrants between 20 to 29 years. A further 30% of approved Pacific residents are aged 40 years and over.

Figure 60: Residents visas approved by age group for each year from 2011 to 2020



There are proportionately slightly more Pacific males approved for residence compared to females. This has been a consistent trend for the last 10 years.

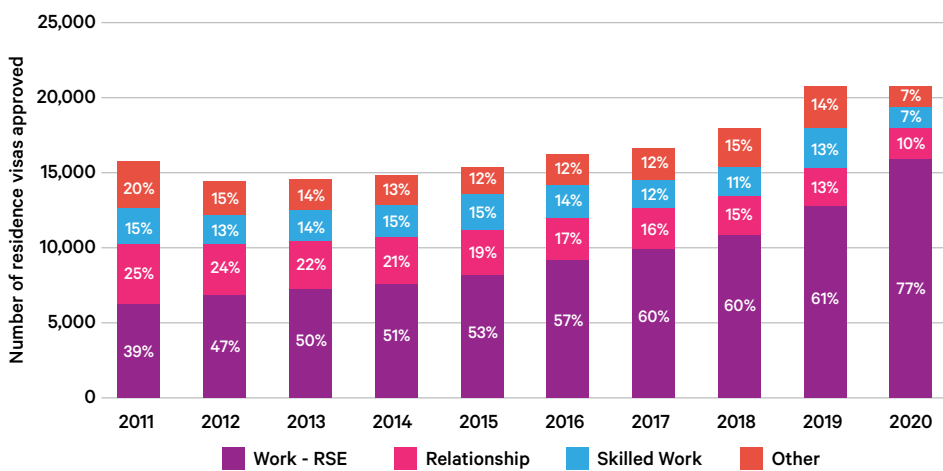
Figure 61: Residents visas approved by sex for each year from 2011 to 2020



Workers from the Pacific

Pacific migrant workers contribute the most to the Aotearoa New Zealand economy via the Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) scheme. Those that are approved under the RSE scheme are issued with a temporary visa. In 2020, they made up 77% of the total population of all work visa approvals. This work visa allows workers from eligible Pacific Forum countries such as Fiji, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu to work in New Zealand for a short period of time (up to seven months each year) in the horticulture and viticulture industries.

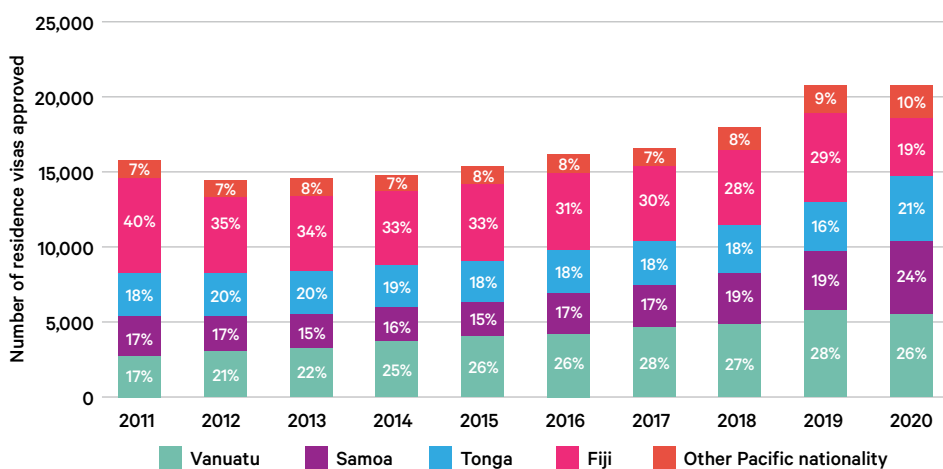
Figure 62: Work visas approved by work type for each year from 2011 to 2020



Source country

Approvals for work visas from the Pacific has been increasing over the last 10 years. In 2020, 100 Pacific work visas were approved and were mainly from Vanuatu, Samoan, Tonga and Fiji.

Figure 63: Work visas approved by nationality for each year from 2011 to 2020⁴⁹



⁴⁹ "Other" includes Vanuatu, Nauru, Marshall Islands, American Samoa, French Polynesia and New Caledonia.

Age and gender

Most Pacific approved work visas are aged between 20 – 39 years (41% between 20 – 29 years and 37% aged between 30 – 39 years). The majority of those approved with work visas have consistently been Pacific males, with over 80% male worker approvals in 2020.

Figure 64: Work visas approved by age group for each year from 2011 to 2020

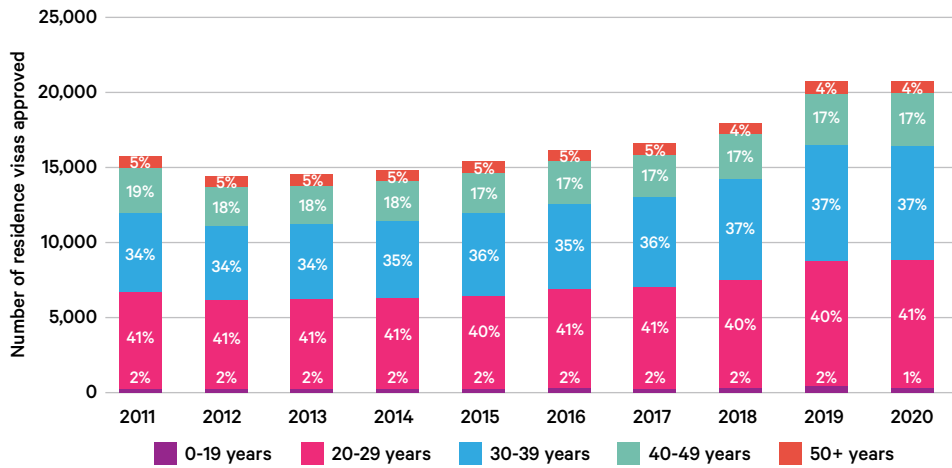
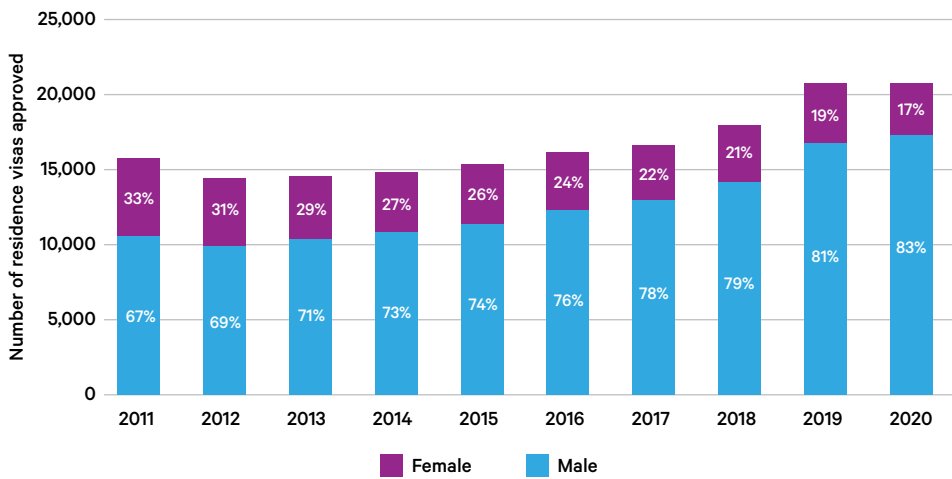


Figure 65: Work visas approved by sex for each year from 2011 to 2020



Lorna's perspective on what supports Pacific wellbeing



Lorna Kumitau

“Their culture is their wellbeing. Their belief and religion are their wellbeing. Pacific people base their wellness on their culture and the whole fanau and their religion. This we cannot take away from Pacific people.”

Lorna is a Niuean nurse who graduated 1998 as a New Zealand Registered Comprehensive Nurse (NZRCPN) from Unitec. She took an interest in orthopaedic nursing, but realised that the Pacific community is where she needed to be and left the orthopaedic unit at ADHB in 2004. Since then, she has been more involved with community nurse-led clinics on the North Shore.

At 60 years of age Lorna continues to love the work she does. She has continued to practise nursing for the past 11 years. She plays a huge role in the Pacific community. It was her dream to “come out to the community to help Pacific people.” She says, “I know about so much information that my people need to know. Our people. I did the best I can to help my people.”

Her understanding of Pacific peoples' health and wellness is that it is holistic.

She is a firm believer that family support is an integral part to health and wellness. “It is about the holistic togetherness of the family staying together, helping and providing the support to every member of the family and extended families.” She says, “Pacific peoples have been branded with overcrowding, but they need to understand that this is the way we Pacific people have been brought up and live.”

As well as family, Lorna believes that culture and religion are support factors for Pacific peoples. “Their culture is their wellbeing. Their belief and religion are their wellbeing. Pacific people base their wellness on their culture and the whole fanau and their religion. This we cannot take away from Pacific people. As a Pacific person you base your whole life and your family's life on your culture and your religion.” She feels, though, that “their health can be overlooked sometimes as their religion comes first.” Sometimes, she says, “You cannot tell them to take this medication. They believe in prayer, and this will heal them. Their faith is more to them than a doctor and medication.”

Lorna provides more than just nursing for Pacific peoples. She also helps families with filling out forms and other services. “Yes, I can help them. I know people that can help them, and I know the system. I show them where to go. That is on top of my job description.”

Her advice is to educate Pacific peoples about health. It is for this reason that she goes on the radio to give health advice to the Niuean community. “Use simple language. They need to simplify medical terms that our people can understand. Like with COVID-19, a lot of people are scared of the vaccine, they don't know what it is. I have talked to them in simple terms. We also need to translate our information into ethnic languages.”

To improve the wellbeing of our people, she says to run workshops about available services. “There is support out there, but we need to educate them and take them along. They need to know about it. There are resources for them. Our people don't know.”

There are other nurses like Lorna who work tirelessly to support Pacific peoples. When asked who helps them, she answers, “I don't know. There is no help for us, but I do belong to a cell group we nurses have. Once a week we get together but it is not only Pacific nurses, it is a mixture.” According to Lorna, the types of support that she would like for the Pacific health workforce are integrated and involve many different areas. “I think a group with a councillor, Minister from a church, mental health support. Support groups will help. Talking with people helps me to bring these issues up. A group with a social worker, councillor, mental health worker, Reverend can also be included. Even a teacher. Young people should also be included.”



Chapter Three: Pacific health in Aotearoa NZ: contributions in the health sector and health outcomes

This section will look at the contributions Pacific peoples are making to Aotearoa New Zealand's health sector and highlight Pacific health conditions. Although many Pacific communities are thriving, overall, Pacific peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand experience significant and long-standing health inequities compared with other groups.

Contributions Pacific people make in the health sector	82
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Pacific contributions to the health sector

Pacific peoples are making a significant contribution to the New Zealand health sector, especially in the unregulated work force and the care and support workforce where there is a high proportion of Pacific representation.

Pacific nurses

There were **2,188** practising nurses who identified with at least one Pacific ethnic group on the Register at 31 March 2019: seven Nurse Practitioners, 2,059 Registered Nurses and 122 Enrolled Nurses. This represents four per cent of the total nursing workforce, two per cent of Nurse Practitioners, four per cent of Registered Nurses and five per cent of Enrolled Nurses.

The distribution of Pacific nurses between scopes of practice was very similar to the non-Pacific workforce, although six per cent of Pacific nurses were Enrolled Nurses compared with four per cent of non-Pacific nurses. Ministry of Education records show that in 2018 Pacific learners made up nine per cent of all tertiary education students enrolled in the 'narrow' field of Nursing, including 11 per cent of those studying at degree level (although this does include midwifery students).⁵⁰

The Pacific workforce had a similar proportion of men to that of the workforce as a whole: eight per cent of Pacific nurses were male compared with nine per cent of all nurses. The Pacific nursing workforce had a significantly younger age profile than the overall nursing workforce, with 32% aged 50 or older and 43% aged under 40. This compares with 43% and 38% respectively of all practising nurses. In keeping with this age profile, Pacific nurses had generally been practising for a shorter time than non-Pacific nurses; 32% had been practising for fewer than six years compared with 20% of the non-Pacific workforce, while 40% had been practising for over 15 years compared with 51% of non-Pacific nurses.⁵¹



2,188
Pacific nurses



4%
of all nurses
in NZ are Pacific

⁵⁰ https://www.nursingcouncil.org.nz/Public/Publications/Workforce_Statistics/NCNZ/publications-section/Workforce_statistics.aspx?hkey=3f3f39c4-c909-4d1d-b87f-e6270b531145. Accessed on 12 February 2021.

⁵¹ Te Ohu Mahi Tapuhi o Aotearoa, The New Zealand Nursing Workforce. A profile of Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses and Enrolled Nurses.

Regional distribution of Pacific nurses

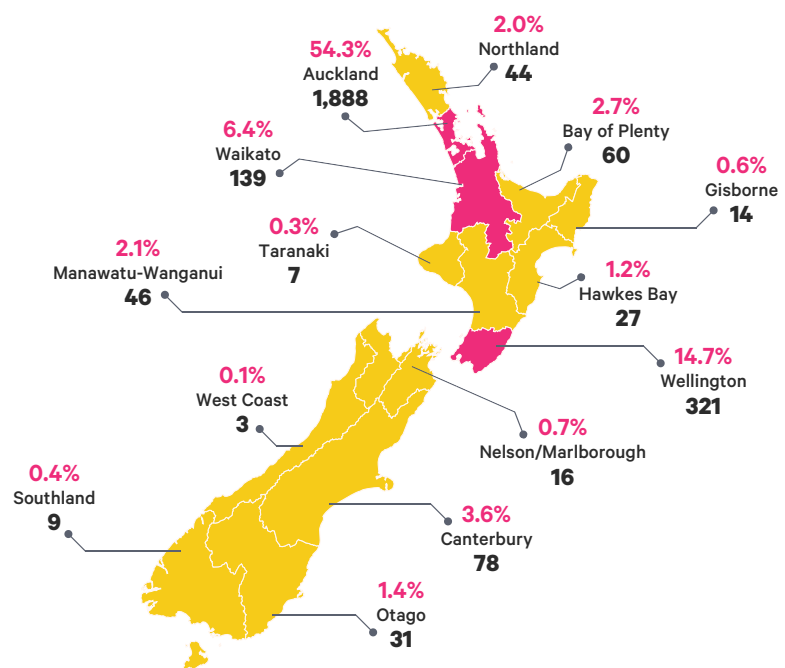
Table 25: Distribution of Pacific nurses by ethnicity across New Zealand, 2018/19⁵²

Region	Pacific Enrolled Nurses		Pacific Registered Nurses		Total Pacific Workforce		All Nurses
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Auckland	61	50.0%	1,123	54.5%	1,118	54.3%	27.8%
Bay of Plenty	1	0.8%	58	2.8%	60	2.7%	6.4%
Canterbury	9	7.4%	69	3.4%	78	3.6%	13.8%
Hawkes Bay	1	0.8%	26	1.3%	27	1.2%	3.6%
Manawatu-Wanganui	1	0.8%	44	2.1%	46	2.1%	5.2%
Nelson-Marlborough	-	-	16	0.8%	16	0.7%	2.9%
Northland	3	2.5%	41	2.0%	44	2.0%	3.7%
Otago	4	3.3%	27	1.3%	31	1.4%	4.8%
Southland	-	-	9	0.4%	9	0.4%	2.1%
Gisborne	1	0.8%	13	0.6%	14	0.6%	1.0%
Taranaki	-	-	7	0.3%	7	0.3%	2.4%
Waikato	7	5.7%	131	6.4%	139	6.4%	9.0%
Wellington	12	9.8%	309	15.0%	321	14.7%	10.5%
West Coast	-	-	3	0.1%	3	0.1%	0.8%
Unstated	22	18.0%	183	8.9%	205	9.4%	5.9%
All regions⁵³	122		2,059		2,188		54,456

The Pacific nursing workforce is concentrated in Auckland

Pacific nurses are concentrated in Auckland with 54.3% of all Pacific nurses in New Zealand working in this region. This is followed by Wellington with a total of 321 (14.7%) and third is the Waikato with 139 (6.4%) Pacific nurses.⁵⁴ The West Coast of New Zealand has three Pacific nurses, Taranaki seven, and Southland nine (as at 31 March 2019)⁵⁵.

Also, there were 54,456 practising nurses (all ethnic groups) in New Zealand of which 15,146 (27.8%) were based in Auckland.



52 Te Ohu Mahi Tapuhi o Aotearoa, The New Zealand Nursing Workforce. A profile of Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses and Enrolled Nurses. https://www.nursingcouncil.org.nz/Public/Publications/Workforce_Statistics/NCNZ/publications-section/Workforce_statistics.aspx?hkey=3f3f39c4-c909-4d1d-b87f-e6270b531145. Accessed on 12 February 2021.

53 This table includes items where nurses could give more than one answer in terms of multiple ethnicities.

54 Note: This total does not add up to the total of 2,188 as nurses in this table could have identified with more than one ethnicity.

55 Te Ohu Mahi Tapuhi o Aotearoa The New Zealand Nursing Workforce, A profile of Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses and Enrolled Nurses 2018-2019.

Number of Pacific doctors

As at 25 July 2020 the current number of doctors identifying as Pacific Islanders was 362.⁵⁶ This was calculated by looking at doctors who were registered, held a current practising certificate and who had self-identified as Pacific Islanders in our workforce survey.

Table 26: Percentage of doctors in New Zealand by ethnic groups⁵⁷

Ethnicity	2000	2005	2010	2015	2018
Māori	2.3	2.6	3.0	3.4	3.5
Pasifika	1.1	1.5	1.3	2.0	1.8
Chinese	4.5	5.4	5.3	5.9	5.8
Indian	4.5	5.1	5.9	6.0	5.5
Other- non-European	7.6	10.8	9.9	11.9	10.6
Other European	-	15.4	19.7	20.5	19.5
NZ European	76.5	57.5	53.3	51.4	51.0
Not answered ⁵⁸	3.2	1.5	1.5	2.4	2.3
Refused	0.2	0.2	0.2	-	-
Total ⁵⁹	100	100	100	100	100



1.8%
of all medical doctors
in NZ are Pacific

Number of Unregulated Pacific Health Workers

The unregulated workforce can include community health workers, healthcare assistants, orderlies, cultural support workers, support workers, community homecare workers, Pacific perspectives whanau ora workers, mental health workers, youth workers, compulsory care coordinators, cultural assessors, care givers, care workers, care assistants, care managers, care support workers, mental health support workers, nurse assistants, caregivers, nurse aides and rehabilitation assistants.

Terms which are commonly used within the Pacific health sector to describe the unregulated workforce include matua, interpreters, consumer advisers, traditional healers, community support workers, cultural advisers, family advisers, interpreters and service administrative staff. The unregulated workforce can also include parents providing in-home care.⁶⁰ It is difficult to ascertain the number of Pacific people in the unregulated workforce. However, comparison of various datasets suggest that Pacific unregulated health workers may represent the largest group of Pacific health workers and are likely to comprise the majority of the Pacific health workforce. The skill levels of this group, and their relatively large number, suggests that they represent one of the most significant opportunities for enhancing the Pacific health workforce.⁶¹

⁵⁶ Te Kaunihera Rata o Aotearoa | Medical Council of New Zealand.

⁵⁷ The New Zealand Medical Workforce, 2018. Medical Council of New Zealand.

⁵⁸ From 2016, not answered is no longer an available option. The ethnicity question can only be answered or refused.

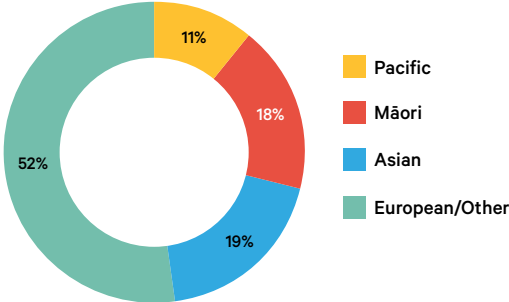
⁵⁹ Individual categories may not add up due to rounding.

⁶¹ Pacific Health Publication: <https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/publications/pacific-health-wsf-june-2014.pdf>

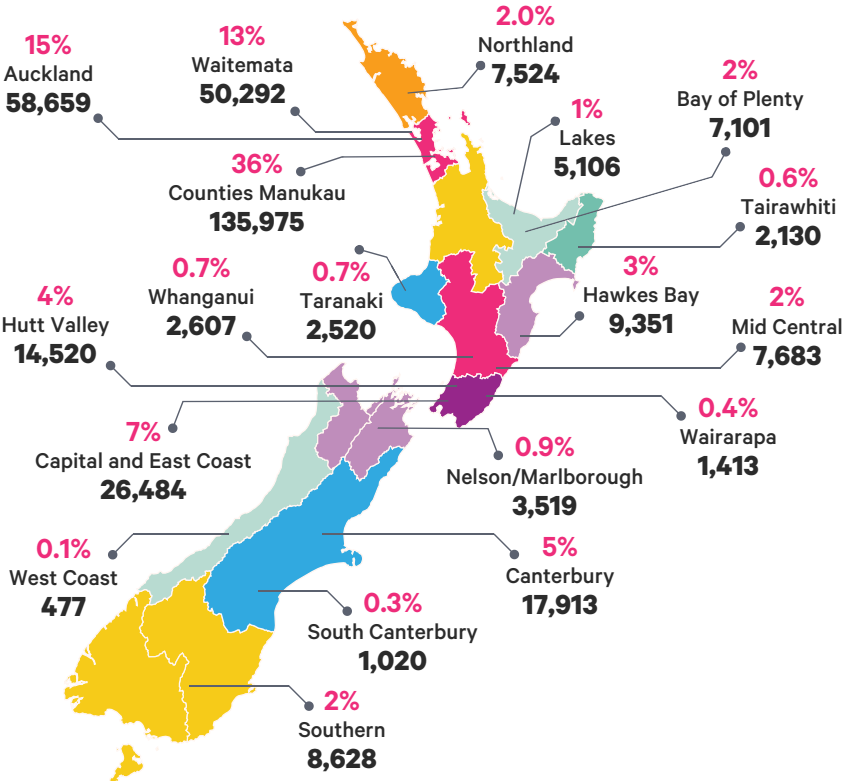
Pacific care and support workers

The care and support workforce has a higher proportion of Pacific, Māori and Asian ethnicities compared to the New Zealand population. In June 2020, the workforce was 11% Pacific, 18% Māori, 19% Asian, and 52% other ethnicities.⁶²

Figure 66: Pacific care and support workers



Percentage and number of Pacific people in the District Health Boards



The map above outlines the number and percentage of Pacific people in each District Health Board (DHB).⁶³ Counties Manukau has the most Pacific people in their DHB with 135,975 or 36% of the total Pacific population. The second largest DHB is Auckland with a total of 58,659 (15.4%), and third is Waitemata DHB with 50,292 Pacific peoples (13.2%).

62 <https://tas.health.nz/assets/Workforce/DHB-workforce-dashboard-2020.pdf>
 63 Source: Stats NZ 2018 census data.

Number of Pacific health services

There are approximately 39 Pacific health providers⁶⁴ known to the Ministry of Health.⁶⁵ Pacific health providers emerged in the 1980s with a focus on allowing Pacific communities to take greater control over their own health.⁶⁶ Some of the services started as ethnic-specific, to cater and advocate for specific communities. Frontline health interventions are provided in Pacific settings, with engagement with churches, schools, community groups and sports clubs. These Pacific models of care are tailored according to the patient’s family environment, community setting and cultural beliefs. The services offered integrate primary care, health promotion, secondary care and social services. For example, many primary care practices include community health workers who undertake home visits and health promotion.

Pacific health providers are largely community ‘owned and operated’ and most operate on a not-for-profit basis. Many of the providers are small in size, relative to mainstream organisations, and often have to partner with larger organisations (including mainstream providers) in order to secure new contracts in the current market and fiscal environment.

However, it has proven to be a challenge to provide ethnic-specific services for each ethnic group. Providers struggle with having sufficient capacity to deliver services tailored for each ethnic group (e.g. ethnic-specific health promotion services). However, responding to this expectation of delivering services to specific Pacific communities is seen as being of value, as providers believe this will help build community trust, get buy-in and increase provider visibility.



⁶⁴ Review of the Ministry of Health Pacific Provider Development Fund (PPDF) 2018.

⁶⁵ These providers meet the Cabinet Minute (01) 31/6B definition of a Pacific Provider, namely that they are owned and governed by Pacific peoples, and provide services primarily but not exclusively to Pacific peoples (Cabinet 2001).

⁶⁶ Ministry of Health 2010.

Caring for Pacific communities

Disability support services⁶⁷

Disability Support Services (DSS) is a range of support services for people with disabilities and their families and whānau.

Disability among Pacific peoples may be underestimated. Rates are influenced by questions used to assess disability and individual responses. The reporting of disability among Pacific peoples depends in part on cultural factors including language, the meaning of disability, perceived need and health beliefs.

Ethnic breakdown of disability services

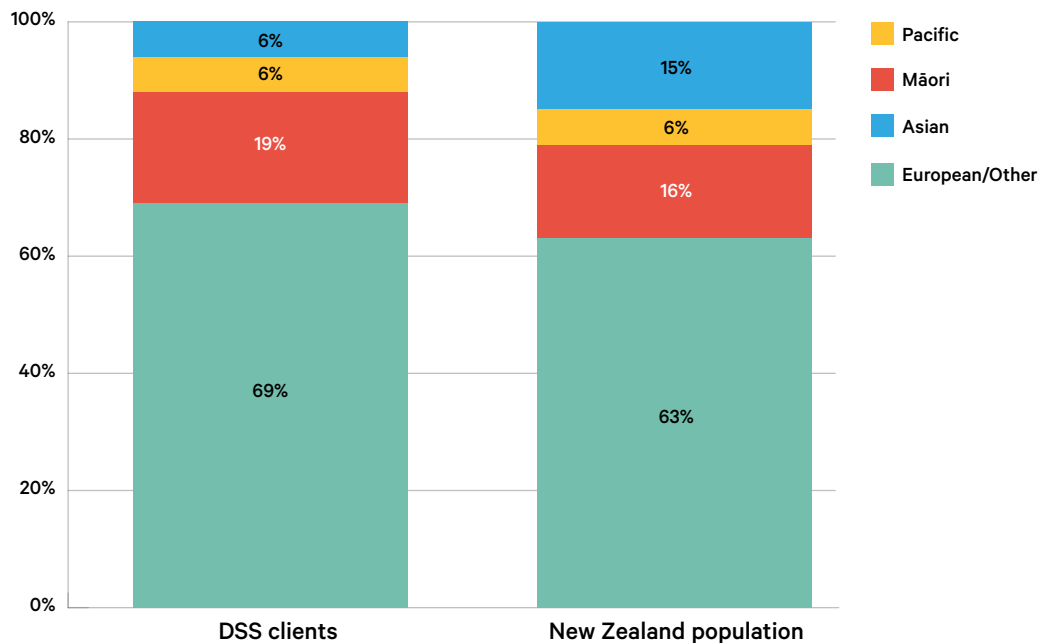
Table 27: Disability Support Services clients by ethnic groups compared with New Zealand population, 2018⁶⁸

Ethnicity (prioritised)	DSS clients	New Zealand population
European/Other	26,391	3,075,260
Māori	7,151	765,270
Pacific	2,350	315,845
Asian	2,450	728,460
Total	38,342	4,884,835

⁶⁷ Demographic Report for Clients Allocated the Ministry of Health's Disability Support Services, 2018 update.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

Figure 67: Ethnicity distribution of Disability Support Services clients compared with New Zealand population, 2018



Since 2014 there has been a 34% increase (1,799) in the number of Māori DSS clients, a 24% increase (457) in the number of Pacific DSS clients and a 60% increase (918) in the number of Asian DSS clients.

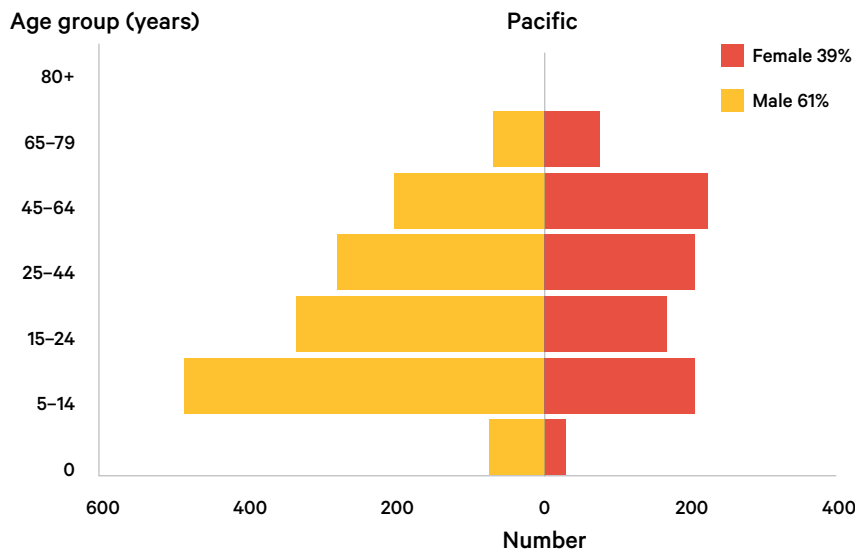
Table 28: Number of Disability Support Services clients, by ethnicity, 2018 and 2016

Ethnicity	2018	2016	Change from 2016 to 2018 (%)
European/Other	26,391	25,428	3.8
Māori	7,151	6,415	11.5
Pacific	2,350	2,222	5.8
Asian	2,450	1,982	23.6
Total	38,342	36,047	6.4

The median age of Pacific clients is 22 years

Pacific disability clients are predominantly younger, and more males than females receive disability support funding. Disability clients are the most common among younger Pacific people age 5 to 14 years and 15 to 24 years.

Figure 68: Age distribution of Pacific Disability clients, 2016⁶⁹



Pacific Disability services

Faiva Ora 2014–2016 is the second national Pacific disability plan and follows on from the achievements of the first Faiva Ora 2010–2013 plan. This three-year plan is aligned with Government priorities and supports the delivery of the Ministry of Health priorities. It has been developed, and will be implemented, in partnership with Pacific disabled people and communities and the disability sector. While this is a national plan, Faiva Ora 2014–2016 will specifically focus its activities within the four main regions of New Zealand – Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington and Christchurch – given the concentration of the Pacific population in these areas.⁷⁰

⁶⁹ <https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/demographic-report-clients-allocated-ministry-healths-disability-support-services-2018-update>

⁷⁰ [https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/faiva-ora-plan-2014-16\).pdf](https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/faiva-ora-plan-2014-16).pdf)

Aged care sector

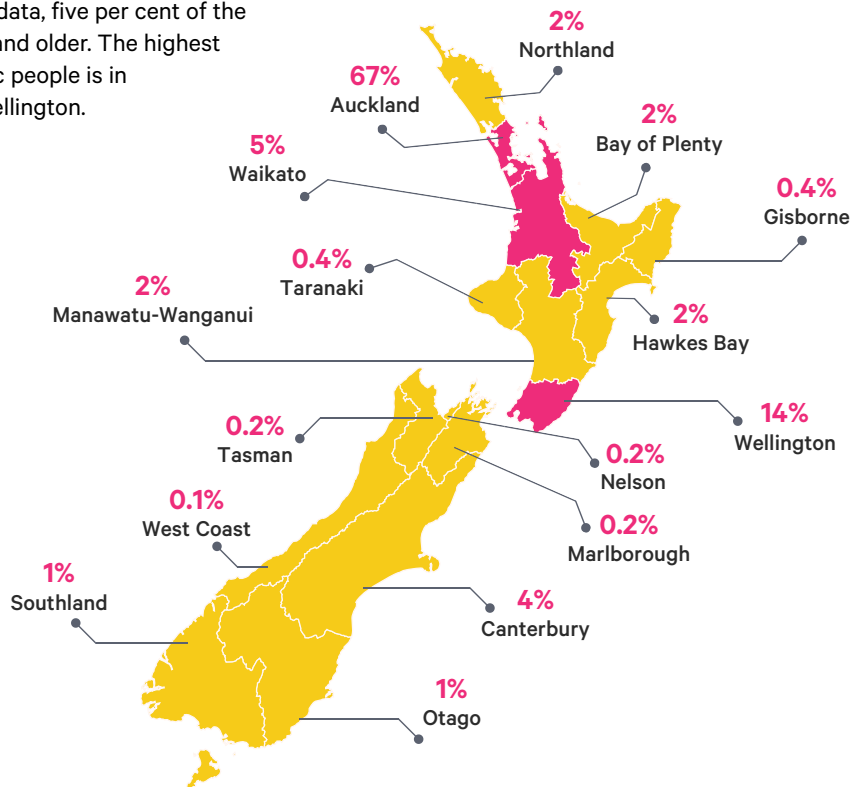
According to interRAI New Zealand, 31,600 New Zealanders live in aged residential care and 2.3% in aged care identified as Pacific.⁷¹

In most instances Pacific people look after their elderly and this contributes to the percentage of Pacific people in aged residential care being so low. Pacific households are also multi-generational and this is also a contributing factor explaining why the percentage is so low.



Distribution of Pacific people 65+ years and older

According to the 2018 census data, five per cent of the Pacific population is 65 years and older. The highest concentration of elderly Pacific people is in Auckland (67%) with 14% in Wellington.



⁷¹ <https://www.interrai.co.nz/data-and-reporting/>

Pacific health conditions

Pacific peoples aspire to lead healthier lifestyles, and most have a positive perception of their health. In some areas, such as immunisation rates for children, Pacific peoples are leading the way. However, while Pacific peoples have a positive perception of their health, some of the key health indicators tell a different story. Over the long-term, most health indicators have improved for Pacific people and although it might still not be at the desired level, it can be seen as an improvement over time. In this section, where applicable, only estimates of the NZ health survey were used and sampling errors have not been taken into account.

Health indicators

A detailed table containing health indicators from the Ministry of Health's New Zealand Health Survey (NZHS) is annexed as appendix 1 and outlines key health indicators for Pacific people compared, firstly, with themselves showing a trend from 2018/19 to 2019/20 and, secondly, with the total national average.

Health indicators from the NZHS show that Pacific peoples' health has improved in 2019/20 in the following areas:

- Mental health – psychological distress
- Mental health – bipolar disorder
- Mental health – anxiety disorder
- Tobacco use – current smokers
- Alcohol use – heavy episodic drinking at least weekly (total population)
- Illicit drugs – cannabis use
- Illicit drugs – amphetamine use (total population)
- Physically active
- Little or no physical activity
- Obesity
- Gout
- Type 2 diabetes
- Unmet need for primary health care
- Private health insurance
- Dental health care worker visit (adult)
- Teeth removed due to decay last 12 months (child 1-14 years)

However, there are still some areas of health concerns amongst Pacific peoples, as these indicators have not improved over the past year:

- Mental health – mood and anxiety disorder
- Mental health – depression
- Alcohol use – hazardous drinking (total population)
- Alcohol use – heavy episodic drinking at least monthly (total population)
- Overweight (but not obese)
- Osteoarthritis
- Chronic pain
- Diabetes

Pacific peoples have a positive perception of their health

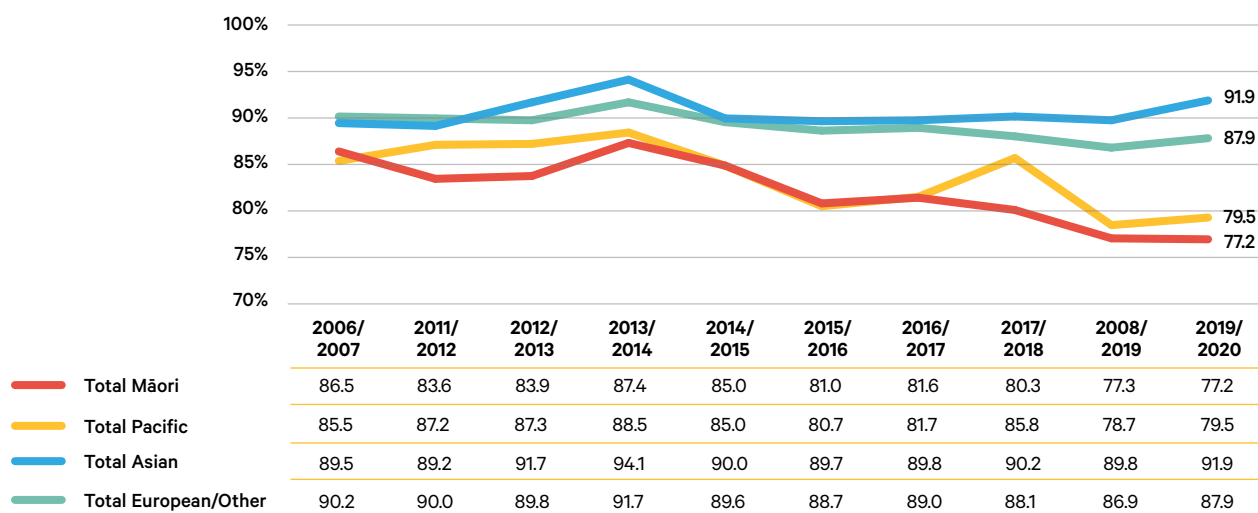
The majority of Pacific peoples rate their health status positively. Overall, Pacific peoples rate their health as good, very good or excellent (79.5%). There is a quarter of this population, however, who state they have fair or poor health (20.5%). Although Asian and European people rate their health higher than Pacific people’s health, four out of five Pacific people still rate their health as good, very good or excellent.



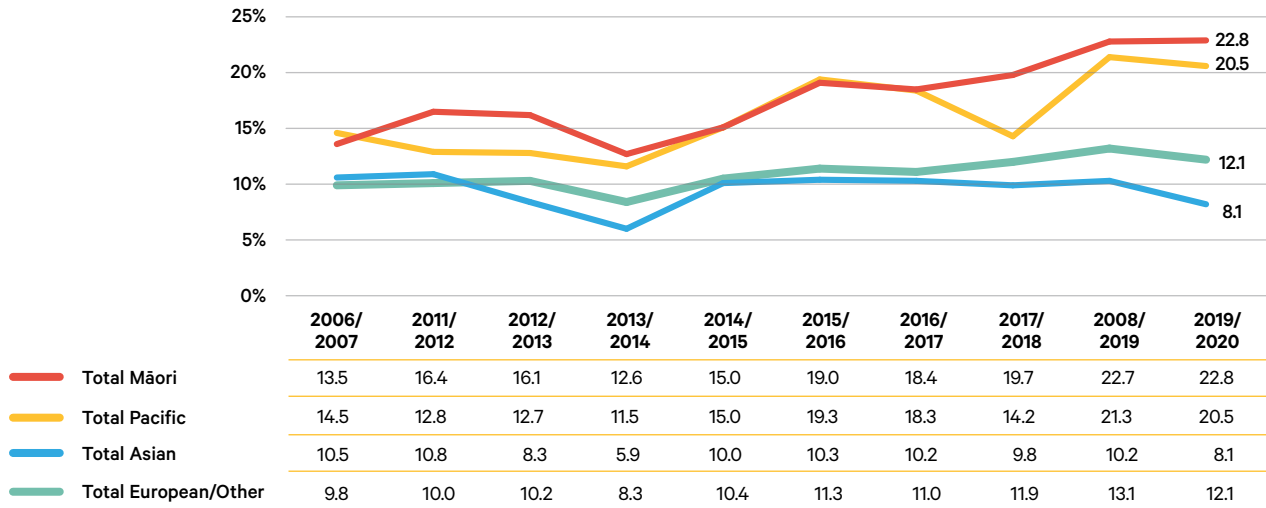
4 out of 5

Pacific people rate their health as good, very good or excellent

Figure 69: Self-rated health: Good, very good or excellent



Over the long-term, Pacific peoples’ perception of their health as being good, very good or excellent has decreased from 85.5% to 79.5%.

Figure 70: Fair or poor self-rated health

The rate of Pacific people rating their health as fair or poor has decreased from 21.3% in 2018/19 to 20.5% in 2019/20. However, over the long-term, Pacific peoples rating their health as fair or poor has increased from 14.5% in 2006/07 to 20.5% in 2019/20.

The Pacific community is progressing towards meeting the Government and the Ministry of Health's goals to increase immunisation rates

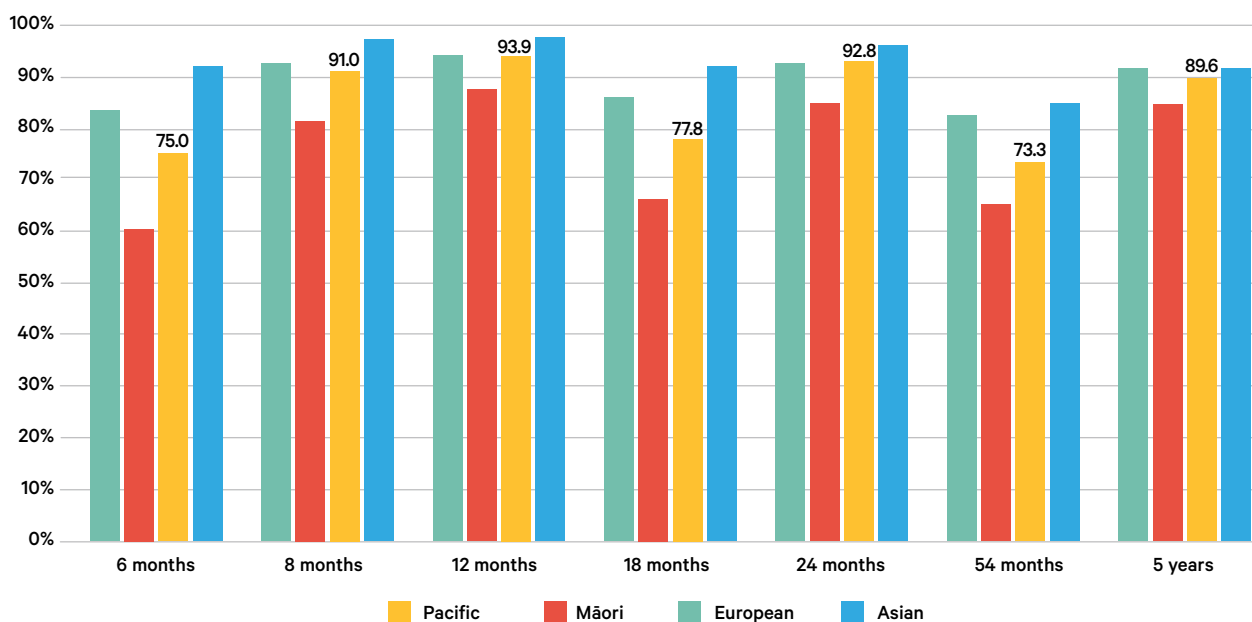
The Pacific community is progressing towards meeting the Government and the Ministry of Health's goals to increase immunisation rates to 95% of eight-month-olds. Performance measures also aim for 95% immunisation coverage at age two years and five years.

Pacific immunisation coverage at eight months increased from 82.4% in 2019 to 91% in 2020. Pacific immunisation coverage at two years increased slightly from 92.4% in 2019 to 92.8% in 2020. Immunisation coverage for five-year-olds also increased from 88.7% in 2019 to 89.6% in 2020.

Table 29: Immunisation coverage data – 12-month reporting period (1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020)⁷²

Milestone age	Total	NZ European	Māori (%)	Pacific (%)	Asian (%)
6 months	77.8	83.4	60.4	75.0	91.9
8 months	89.8	92.5	81.3	91.0	97.0
12 months	92.3	94.0	87.4	93.9	97.5
18 months	80.4	85.9	66.2	77.8	91.9
24 months	90.3	92.5	84.7	92.8	95.9
54 months	76.3	82.3	65.1	73.3	84.7
5 years	88.4	91.5	84.5	89.6	91.4

Compared to other ethnicities, Pacific people are faring very well in terms of immunisation coverage. For the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020 immunisation coverage of 54-month-old Pacific children was 73.3%. This was the lowest coverage rate for all the milestones. The highest coverage rate for Pacific children was at 12 months at 93.9%. At five years old, Pacific children were 89.6% immunised. At the 12-month and 24-month milestones, Pacific children are the second highest. The long-term immunisation rates at five years old for Pacific people have increased steadily since June 2010. It is still, however, below the target mentioned above.

Figure 71: Immunisation coverage data: Percentage fully immunised at 5 years old by ethnicity – June 2010 to December 2020⁷³

⁷² <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/preventative-health-wellness/immunisation/immunisation-coverage/national-and-dhb-immunisation-data>

⁷³ <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/preventative-health-wellness/immunisation/immunisation-coverage/national-and-dhb-immunisation-data>

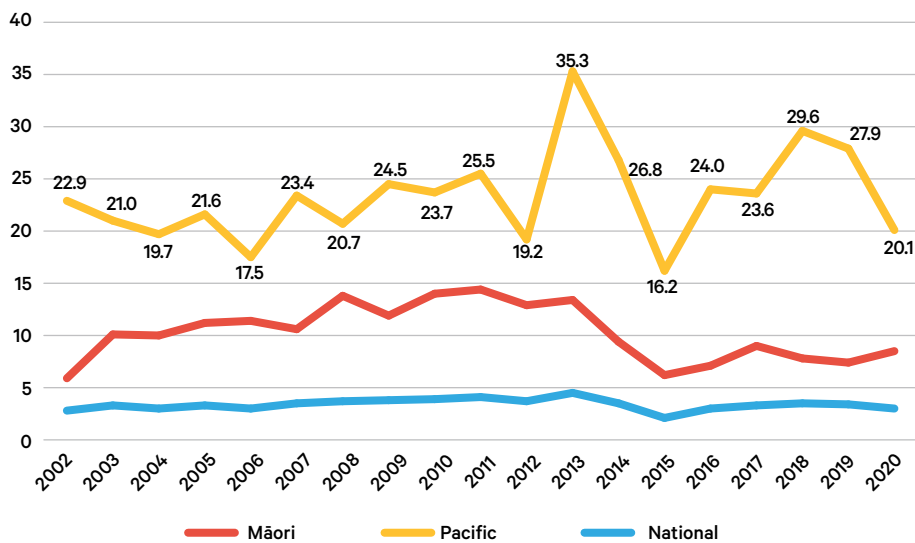
Reduced rates of rheumatic fever hospitalisation among Pacific peoples⁷⁴

Pacific peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand have high rates of rheumatic fever. In the 2020 calendar year, 69 Pacific people were hospitalised for the first time with rheumatic fever – a rate of 20 per 100,000. In the same year the equivalent number within the total population was 151 – a rate of 3.0 per 100,000.

The target rate for first episode rheumatic fever hospitalisation is 1.4 cases per 100,000 people.

Figure 7 shows the rate of rheumatic fever hospitalisation for the Pacific population in comparison to the total New Zealand population between 2002 and 2020. From 2013 to 2015, the rate consistently decreased, from 35.2 to 16.2 per 100,000. However, the rate had increased again by 2016, to 24 per 100,000. However, since 2018 there has been a downward trend from 29.6 per 100,000 to 20.1 per 100,000 in 2020.

Figure 72: First episode rheumatic fever hospitalisation rate per 100,000 population by prioritised ethnic group from 2002 to 2020



⁷⁴ <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/rheumatic-fever/reducing-rheumatic-fever>

Health and wellbeing focus areas

Leading causes of the differences in lifespan between Pacific and non-Pacific Aotearoa

Chapter 1 highlighted the estimated life expectancy for Pacific males at birth in New Zealand as 75.9 years and for females 80.2 years. In 2021, it is projected to be 76.9 years for Pacific males and 81.1 years for Pacific females. The Pacific and Maori populations have similarly lower life expectancies compared to Asian and European peoples in New Zealand.

The gap between Pacific and European men is approximately five years. The European male population is expected to live five years longer than Pacific males. The gap is even wider between Pacific and Asian populations where Asian men are expected to live between eight to ten years longer than Pacific men.

The leading causes of the differences in lifespan between Pacific and non-Māori, non-Pacific are the following.⁷⁵

- Heart disease
- Cancer
- Diabetes
- Injuries
- Infections

Heart disease is the leading cause of differences in life expectancy between Pacific and non-Maori non-Pacific and it is also the leading cause of death among Pacific people (one in three deaths) as well as the leading cause of amenable deaths (i.e. deaths potentially preventable through better access to care).⁷⁶

Compared to non-Māori non-Pacific, Pacific peoples:

- Experience heart disease 6-8 years younger
- Are twice as likely to die from heart disease
- Are 1.4 times more likely to be living with heart disease
- Are 3 times more likely to have diabetes
- Are 4 times more likely to have kidney failure

But

- Are less likely to receive 'revascularisation' after a heart attack
- Are less likely to be on cholesterol-lowering medications in the year after a heart attack.

2x
as likely to die
of a heart disease

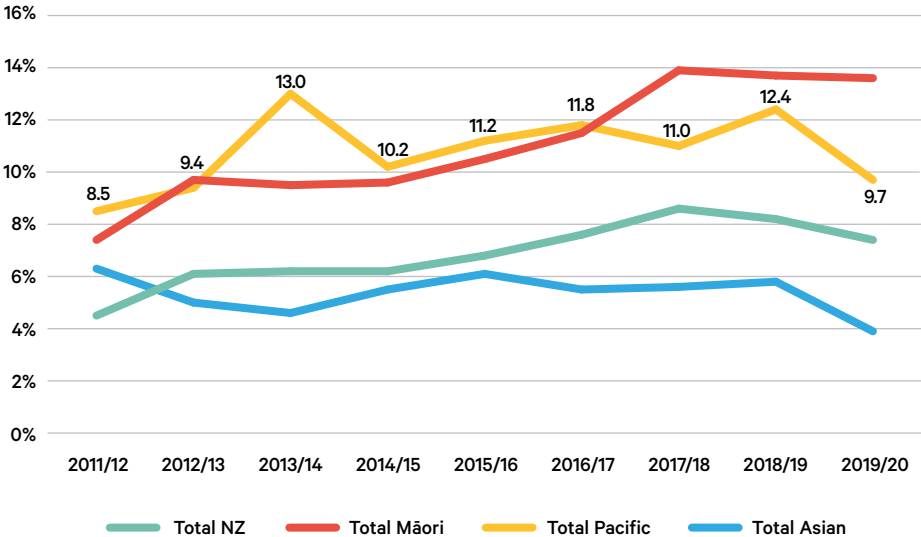
⁷⁵ Mazengarb et al, 2020), (ANZDATA, 2018), (Grey et al, 2016), (Muniandy et al, unpublished)

⁷⁶ Ministry of Health

Psychological distress

Psychological or mental distress (aged 15+ years) refers to a person’s experience of symptoms such as anxiety, psychological fatigue or depression in the past four weeks.

Figure 73: Psychological distress across ethnic groups in the last 4 weeks (%)



Pacific adults experience high rates of psychological distress, but it had decreased from 12.4% in 2018/19 to 9.7% in 2019/20. Pacific adults are, however, 1.2 times as likely to experience psychological distress in the past four weeks compared to non-Pacific, indicating a high probability of anxiety or depressive disorder.

Diabetes rates are high

Adults (aged 15+ years) are defined as having diabetes if they had ever been told by a doctor that they had diabetes. This does not include diabetes during pregnancy (gestational diabetes).

The diabetes prevalence rates among Pacific adults were 11.0% in 2019/2020.⁷⁷

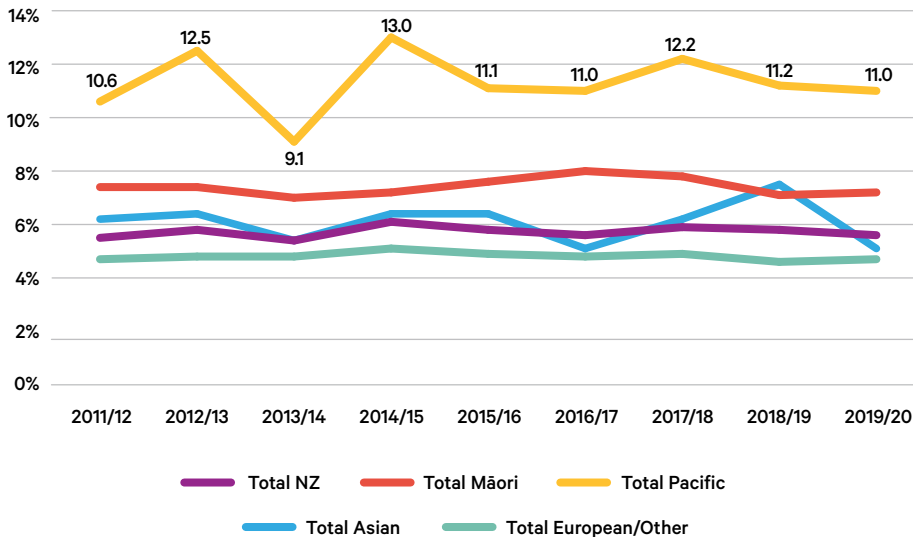
Pacific adults were **3 times** as likely to have diabetes as non-Pacific adults, after adjusting for age and gender.

11%
of Pacific adults have diabetes

Pacific adults are
3x
as likely to die of
a heart disease

⁷⁷ Ministry of Health: New Zealand Health Survey 2019/20.

Figure 74: Diagnosed diabetes, excluding diabetes during pregnancy (%)



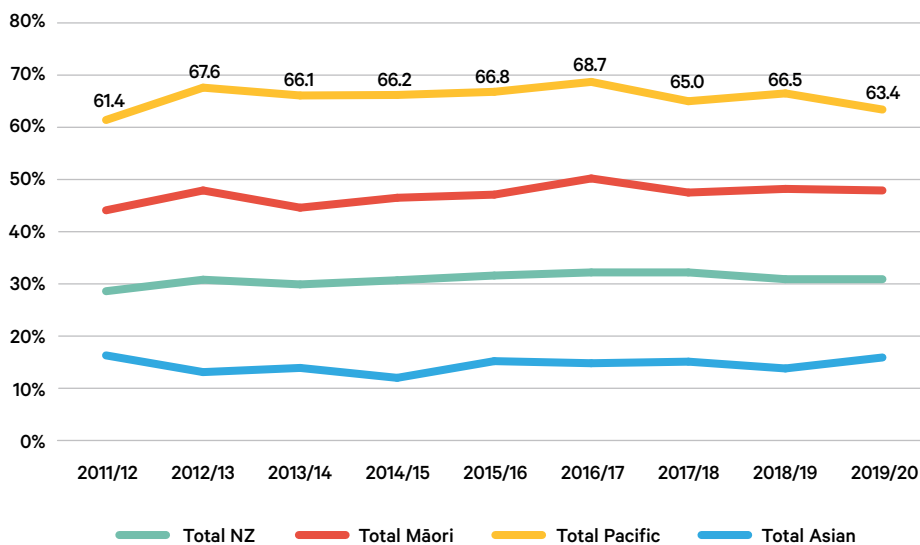
Obesity among Pacific adults is the highest of all ethnic groups



as likely to be obese as non-Pacific adults

The prevalence of obesity among adults varied by ethnic group, with the highest prevalence amongst Pacific (63.4%), followed by Māori (47.9%), European/Other (29.3%) and Asian adults (15.9%). These percentages represent about 168,000 Pacific adults, 242,000 Māori, 890,000 European/Other and 93,000 Asian adults who were obese in 2019/20. After adjusting for age and gender differences, Pacific adults were 2.3 times as likely to be obese as non-Pacific adults.⁷⁸ Obesity among Pacific adults has however decreased from 66.5% in 2018/19 to 63.4% in 2019/20.

Figure 75: Prevalence of obesity among adults (%) by ethnic groups for each year from 2011 to 2020



⁷⁸ Ministry of Health: New Zealand Health Survey 2019/20.

Obesity in Pacific children is the highest of all ethnic groups

Children aged 2–14 years are regarded as obese when they have a body mass index (BMI) equivalent to an adult BMI of 30 (or greater). BMI is a person’s weight in kilograms divided by the square of height in meters. A high BMI can be an indicator of high body fatness.

The obesity prevalence rates among Pacific children were 29.1% in 2019/20, the highest of all the ethnic groups. Pacific children were **4.67 times as likely to be obese as non-Pacific children, after adjusting for age and gender**. Obesity among Pacific children has increased from 28.4% in 2018/19 to 29.1% in 2019/20 while all the other ethnic groups’ obesity rates have decreased since 2019.

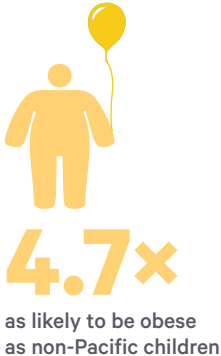
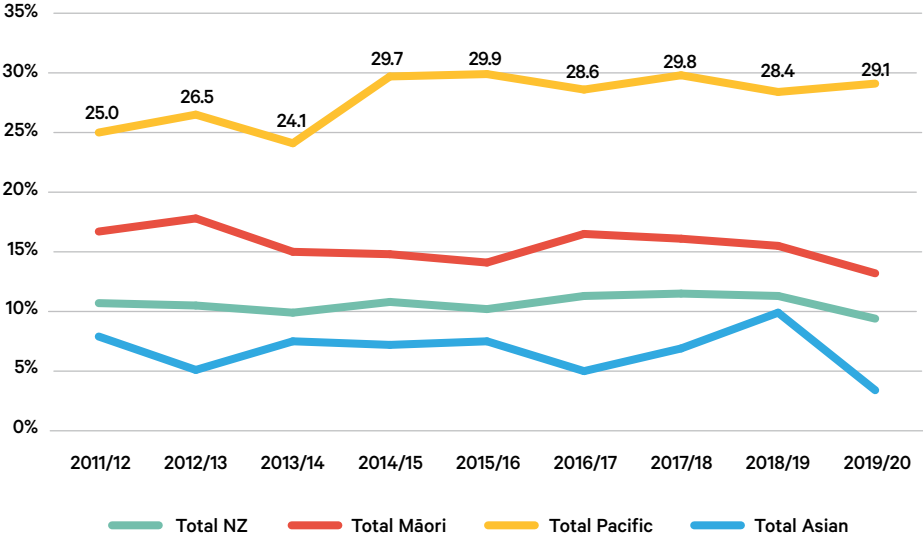


Figure 76: Prevalence of obesity among children (%) by ethnic groups for each year from 2011 to 2020

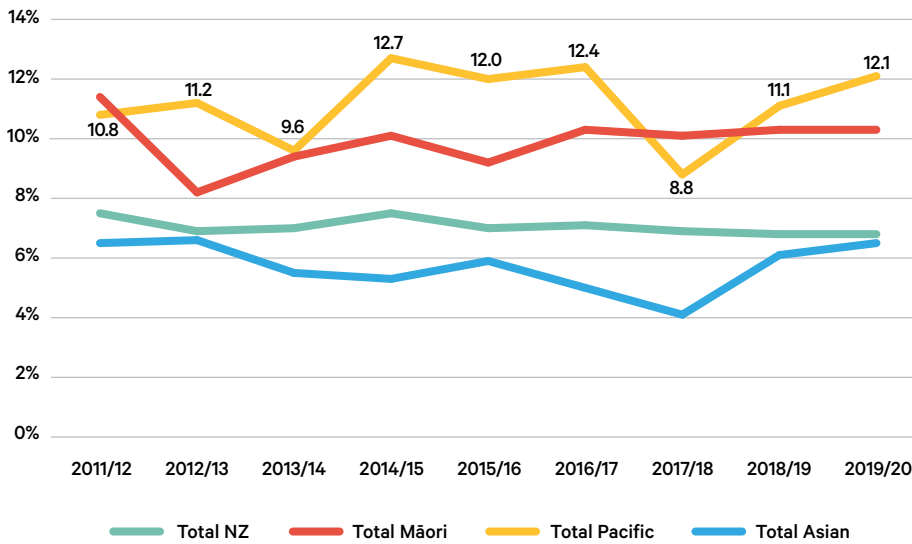


Pacific adults are twice as likely to have had teeth removed due to tooth decay, an abscess or gum disease



Pacific adults are twice as likely to have teeth removed

Figure 77: One or more teeth removed due to tooth decay, an abscess or gum disease in the past year (%) by ethnic groups for each year from 2011 to 2020



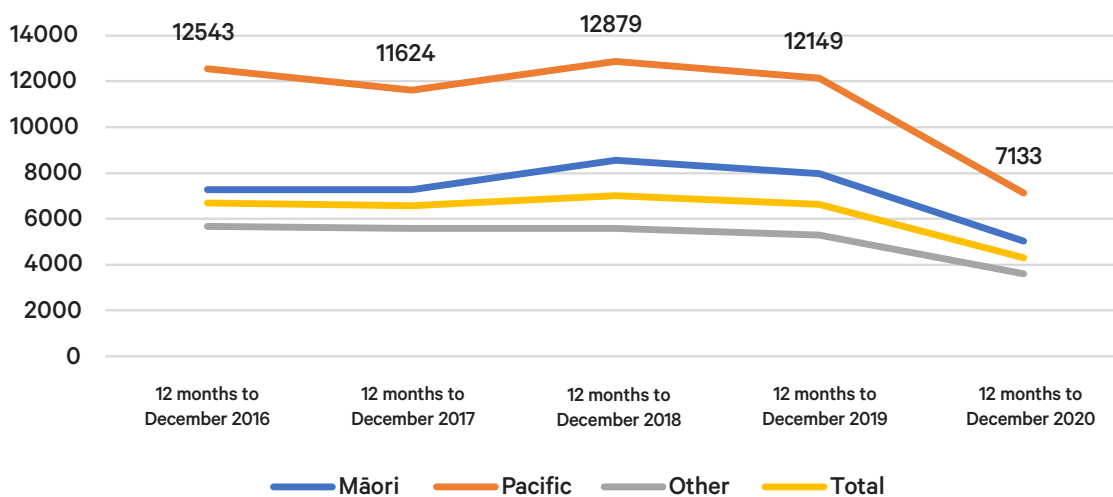
12.1% of all Pacific adults had one or more teeth removed due to tooth decay, an abscess or gum disease in 2019/20. This is up from 11.1% the previous year. Pacific adults are twice as likely to have had teeth removed due to tooth decay, an abscess or gum disease compared to non-Pacific.



Pacific children under the age of 4 have the highest ambulatory-sensitive hospital admissions (ASH) rate

Ambulatory-sensitive hospital (ASH) admissions are often used as a measure of the effectiveness of the interface between primary and secondary healthcare. The assumption is that better management of conditions within local communities and primary healthcare has the potential to reduce the number of avoidable hospital admissions (and to moderate demand on hospital resources). These conditions include cellulitis, dental conditions, upper respiratory and ENT (ear nose and throat) infections, respiratory infections (pneumonia), gastroenteritis/dehydration, and asthma.

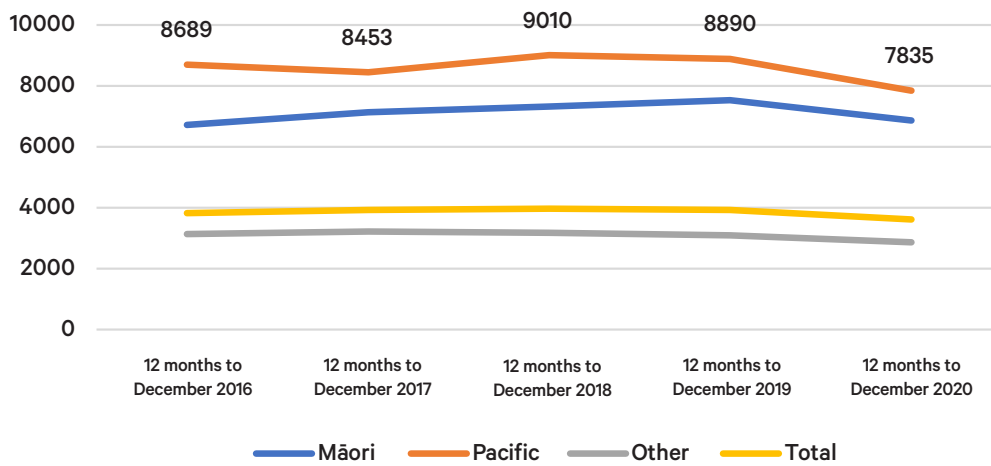
Figure 78: Non-standardised ASH rate per 100,000 population, 0 to 4 age group, all conditions⁷⁹



The non-standardised ASH rate for Pacific children (0-4 years) has come down in the last decade but is still high compared to the total population. The non-standardised ASH rate per 100,000 population for age group 0 to 4 years for Pacific children has decreased in 2020 to 7,133 from 2019 when it was 12,149. Pacific children under the age of 4 have the highest ASH rate of all ethnicities in New Zealand.

⁷⁹ <https://nsfl.health.govt.nz/accountability/performance-and-monitoring/data-quarterly-reports-and-reporting/ambulatory-sensitive>

Figure 79: Non-standardised ASH rate per 100,000 population, 45 to 64 age group, all conditions⁸⁰



The non- standardised ASH rate per 100,000 population for the 45 to 64 age group has decreased for Pacific people since September 2016 when it was at 8,890, to 7,835 in December 2020 although it is still much higher than the non-standardised ASH rate of the total population.

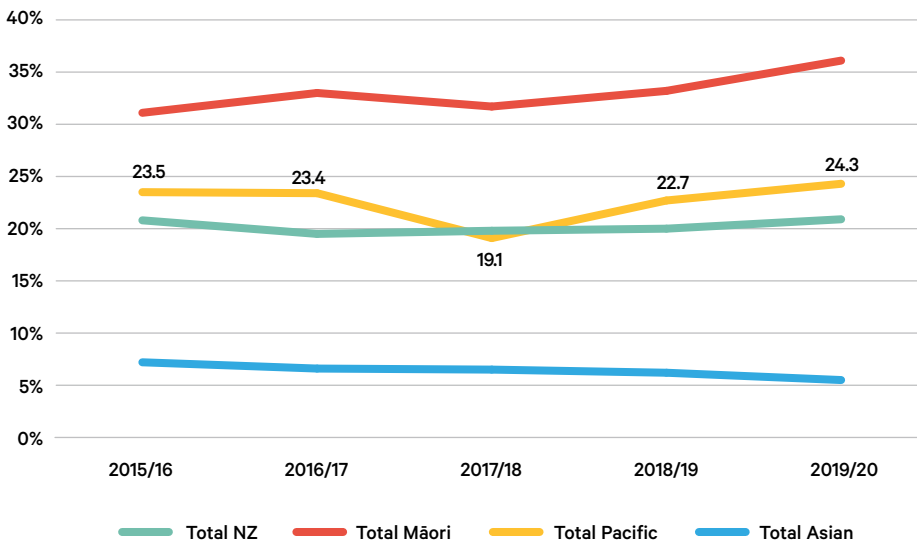


⁸⁰ <https://nsfl.health.govt.nz/accountability/performance-and-monitoring/data-quarterly-reports-and-reporting/ambulatory-sensitive>

Hazardous drinking

Hazardous drinking (aged 15+ years) is measured using the 10-question Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) developed by the World Health Organization.

Figure 80: Hazardous drinkers (total population) (%) by ethnic groups from 2015 to 2020



Hazardous drinking for Pacific adults has increased over time. In 2015/16, it was at 23.5% and has also increased from 2018/19 when it was at 22.7% to 24.3% in 2019/20.

Tobacco use

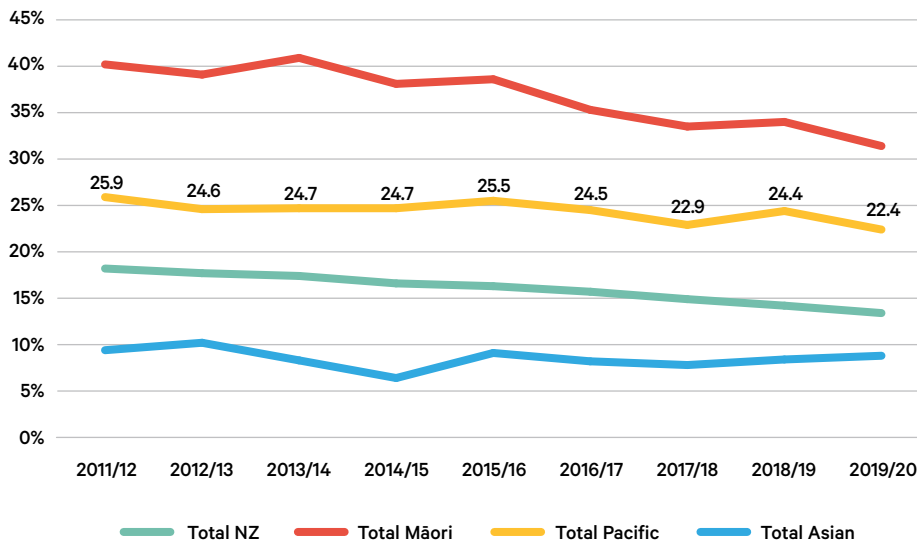
Current smokers (aged 15+ years) smoke at least monthly and have smoked more than 100 cigarettes in their whole life.

Current smoking Pacific adults have decreased slightly over time but still at a high level. The percentage of Pacific adults who are current smokers has decreased from 24.4% in 2018/19 to 22.4% in 2019/20.

22% 

of Pacific adults are current smokers

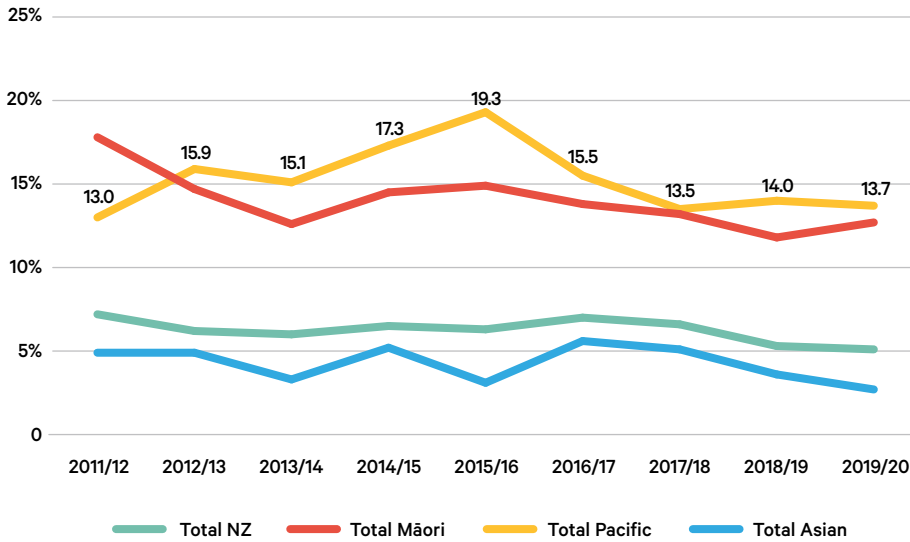
Figure 81: Current smokers (total population) (%) by ethnic groups from 2011 to 2020



Prescription costs are still a health barrier

Unfilled prescriptions due to cost is defined for adults (aged 15+ years) as having got a prescription for themselves but not collecting one or more prescription items from the pharmacy or chemist because of cost, in the past 12 months.

Figure 82: Prescription costs as a barrier by ethnic groups from 2011 to 2020 (%)



Pacific adults were more than twice as likely as non-Pacific adults to not collect a prescription due to cost, after adjusting for age, gender and ethnicity.



Justice issues

Aotearoa New Zealand's legal profession is out of kilter with the wider population in terms of ethnicity, but there are indications that things are changing. The ethnic makeup of recently admitted lawyers and those who will become lawyers in the next few years is much closer to that of Aotearoa New Zealand's working-age population.⁸¹

At 30 June 2018, however, over 85% of lawyers located in Aotearoa New Zealand were of European ethnicity, compared to 74% of New Zealanders of working age. Representation of the other main ethnic groups in the legal profession is well below the national situation.

Lawyers are asked to select from 18 different ethnicity options, including the option not to state ethnicity. There is wide variance between ethnicities in the proportion of lawyers who are female, with women dominating in most ethnicities except the one with most NZ European.

377
Pacific lawyers



2.8%
of all lawyers
in NZ are Pacific




Table 30: Ethnicity of Pacific New Zealand lawyers, 30 June 2018⁸²

Ethnicity	Female	Male	Total	% NZ total	% Female
Cook Islands Māori	23	12	35	0.3%	65.7%
Fijian	39	34	73	0.5%	53.4%
Samoa	117	65	182	1.4%	64.3%
Tongan	20	21	41	0.3%	48.8%
Other Pacific peoples	21	25	46	0.3%	45.7%

Table 31: Lawyers compared to working age population⁸³

Ethnicity	Lawyers	% Lawyers selecting
European or other	11,344	85.0%
Asian	1,095	8.2%
Māori	820	6.1%
Pacific	377	2.8%
Middle Eastern/Latin/American/African	101	0.8%

Pacific lawyers are more likely to practise criminal law and family law, with 45.8% of Pacific lawyers practising in family law, criminal law (39.4%), employment law (30.3%) and company law (28.5).

81 <https://www.lawsociety.org.nz/news/lawtalk/issue-920/lawyer-ethnicity-differs-from-new-zealand-population/> accessed on 22 Feb 2021.

82 To ensure privacy, separate information has not been provided for ethnicities with fewer than 30 individuals.

83 <https://www.lawsociety.org.nz/news/lawtalk/issue-920/lawyer-ethnicity-differs-from-new-zealand-population/> accessed on 22 Feb 2021.

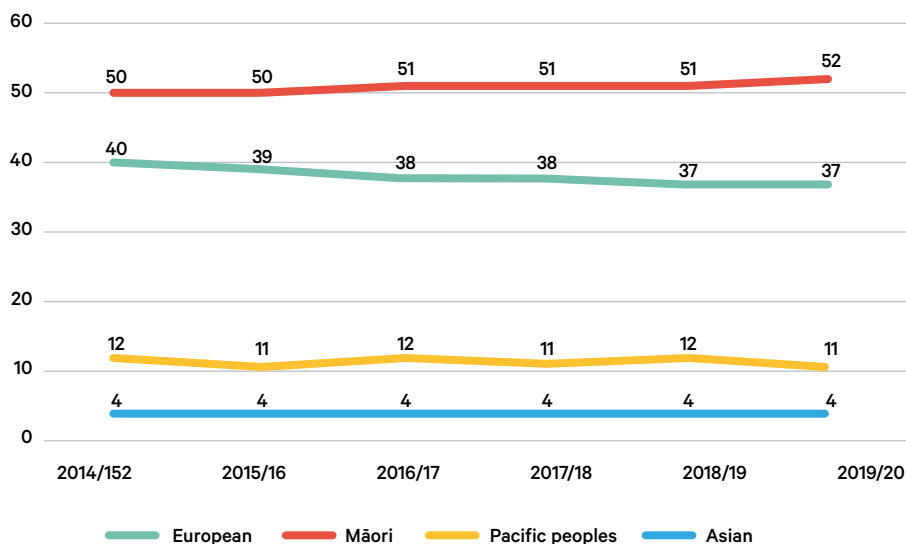
Family/domestic violence⁸⁴

Table 32: Number of people charged with family violence offences by ethnicity 2014/2015 -2019/2020

Ethnicity	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
European	5,125	5,566	5,509	5,343	5,006	4,974
Māori	6,350	7,127	7,406	7,083	6,886	6,986
Pacific peoples	1,473	1,619	1,677	1,535	1,579	1,436
Asian	479	545	612	586	580	530

Of all people that were charged with family violence offences, 1,436 were Pacific (11%). This was down from 2019 when it was 1,579 (12%). In the same year 37% of all people charged with family violence offences were from European decent and 52% were Māori.

Figure 83: People charged with family violence offences, by ethnicity (%)



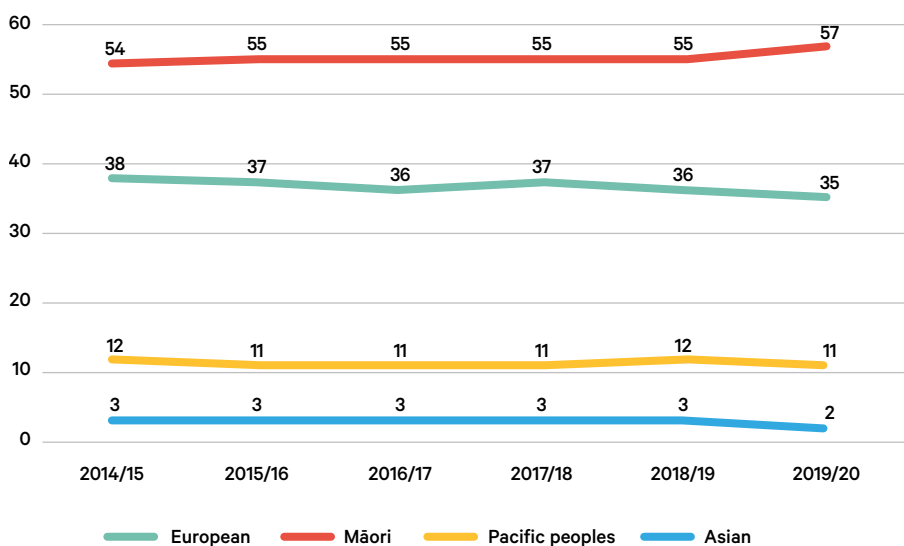
84 Ministry for Justice

Table 33: Number of people convicted of family violence offences, by ethnicity 2014/2015 - 2019/2020

Ethnicity	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
European	3,497	3,846	3,813	3,668	3,425	3,316
Māori	4,978	5,705	5,771	5,564	5,283	5,363
Pacific peoples	1,080	1,186	1,189	1,084	1,107	983
Asian	238	267	298	284	267	232

In 2020, a total number of 983 Pacific peoples were convicted of family offences, down from 2019 when it was 1,107. The total percentage of Pacific peoples convicted of family offences was 11%, also down from the previous year when it was 12%. In the same year, 35% of all people convicted with family violence offences were from European descent and 57% were Māori.

Figure 84: People convicted of family violence offences, by ethnicity (%)



Logolelei's perspective on what is important for Pacific youth in NZ



Logolelei
Vaeluaga Iosefa

“The youth have a voice and critical things to say, but if no one is listening how will we ever secure our future? We are the voice of change because we are the future. Our voices must be heard.”

Logolelei describes herself as a “young, strong, Tuvaluan-Tokelauan Pacific woman” who was born in New Zealand and lives with her parents and sisters. She is 17 years old and is a senior student at a local West Auckland school. As with many Pacific youth living in New Zealand, Logolelei navigates between multiple worlds, but she is very much connected to her Tuvaluan culture because she is “surrounded by it every day.” She also has a bond with her Tokelauan culture as well, as this is where her grandfather came from.

She believes that maintaining the language, culture and identity for Pacific youth is important and it is ultimately their responsibility. “It is up to us as youth, it is our choice if we want to maintain the language and culture, if we want to put effort into it. It is our choice at the end of the day. If we do understand the importance of that, that will encourage most young people to do just that. They need to know how important our language and culture are.”

Connecting young people to their Pacific culture and languages requires reaching out to them using the right approaches. Social media, she says, are the most important platforms and suggests Instagram as one of the best. However, she also says that church can be a vehicle to connect to youth as well, as long as it is delivered in a way that speaks to the youth.

Logolelei believes that the challenges of looking after or promoting Pacific language and culture are resourcing and environmental. “Not having the appropriate resources or surroundings to be able to learn. Children without phones might miss out but then they can go to their school, and they can hopefully help.”

Pacific youth wellbeing, according to Logolelei, encompasses “mental, emotional, physical and social wellbeing.” She thinks the best way to support Pacific youth emotionally is to give them a space to talk. For herself she would “talk one-on-one with someone or within a little group of people I can relate to so that I don’t feel all alone.” She also feels that she can reach out to her family and sisters, and is aware of services like Youth Line but has

never used them as she feels comfortable speaking to those within her networks.

Logolelei is someone who embraces who she is as Tuvaluan and is also surrounded by it. These are key factors that support a young Pasifika person in New Zealand. “I love that I am brown. I feel that way mostly in my school because I see Pasifika promoted around school. I love it. I have never felt that I don’t feel proud.” The support systems that allow young people like Logolelei feel proud to be brown are “seeing the culture around me and speaking the language in places other than home. When I go on my phone, there’s like the Bible app, it’s in Tuvaluan version now. It pops up and gives a verse of the day in my language. I love that. Little things make me remember how great it is to be Tuvaluan.”

Logolelei expresses excitement when talking about the traditional Tuvaluan fatele dance. She says, “To be honest, that gives me the boost. I think that’s the same with all Tuvaluans, especially the youth. Every year we have Independence Day and we are so excited for the fatele. The fatele is the main show of the day, or the whole year even. The fatele is the only way I can express how happy I am to be Tuvaluan.”

One of the important things Logolelei has expressed is that young Pacific people need to have a voice that is listened to. “Our voices are not being heard. The youth have a voice and critical things to say, but if no one is listening how will we ever secure our future? We are the voice of change because we are the future. Our voices must be heard.”

Her suggestion for bridging the intergenerational gap that exists in some Pacific families is for someone to mediate the relationship between parents and young people. She says that for most Pacific families, parents often do not listen and she puts it down to cultural upbringing and values such as “showing respect to your elderly, don’t talk over them, just listen, basically just listen, listen, listen.” She emphasises, however, that “they need to realise how important we are because we are the future.” She believes “if this is done it would create a better understanding of us much more.”





Chapter Four: Young Pacific people in Aotearoa NZ

This section will look at how young Pacific people are faring in Aotearoa New Zealand. Young Pacific people make up a significant proportion of the Pacific population. While they may be born and raised here, their language, culture and identity continues to be an area where further work is required.

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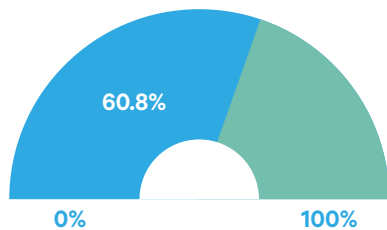
Engaging young Pacific people in culture, language and identity

Population counts for young Pacific aged 0 – 29 years

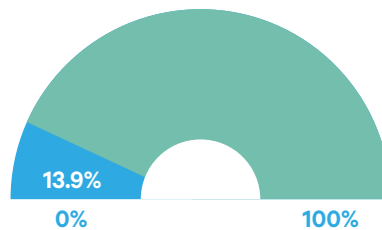
Young Pacific peoples aged 0-29 years make up 60.8% of the total Pacific population. Those aged 0-14 years make up 33.6% and those aged 15-29 make up 27.2%.

27%

Growth in population from 2013 to 2018



60.8% of the total Pacific population is aged 0-29 years



13.9% of the total NZ population aged 0-29 years is Pacific

Pacific children make up 13.9% of the total NZ population under 15 years and Pacific youth make up almost 10% of the total NZ population aged 15-29 years. In total, Pacific peoples aged 0-29 make up 12.3% of the total NZ population in this age bracket.

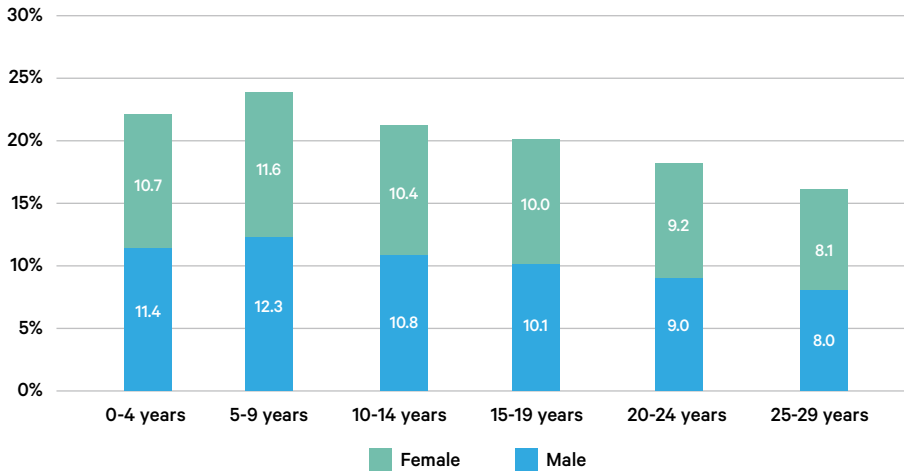
Table 34: Population counts of Pacific aged 0-29, 2006, 2013, 2018 censuses

		2006 (count)	2013 (count)	2018 (count)
Pacific Peoples	0-14 years	100,344	105,519	128,154
	15-29 years	67,329	76,563	103,752
	0-29 years	167,673	182,082	231,906
NZ population	0-14 years	867,576	865,629	923,403
	15-29 years	813,618	844,578	963,687
	0-29 years	1,681,194	1,710,207	1,887,090

Pacific population by age and sex

Pacific females slightly outnumber Pacific males in the 0-29 years age group by 1.6% (61.6% and 60% respectively).

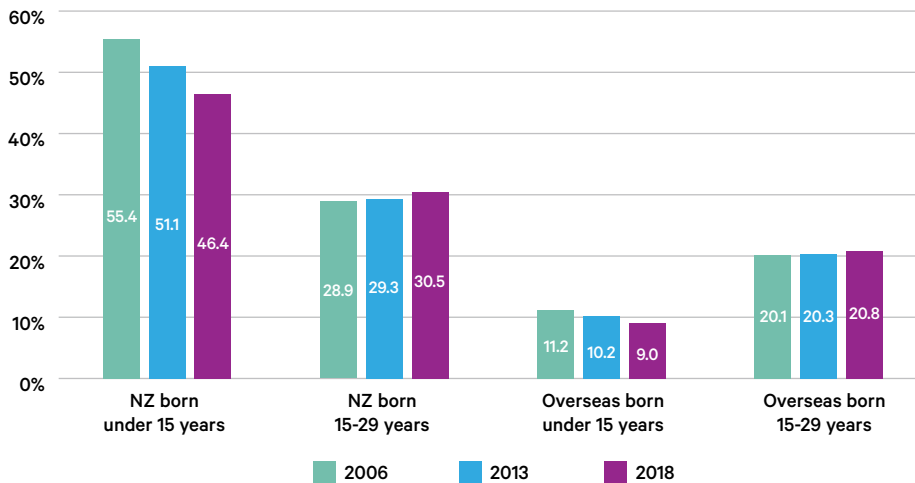
Figure 85: Pacific population aged 0-29 by age and sex, 2018 census



Birthplace, 0 – 29 years

The majority (76.9%) of Pacific peoples aged 0-29 were born in Aotearoa New Zealand, with many under the age of 15 years. Overseas-born young Pacific people were more likely to be between 15-29 years.

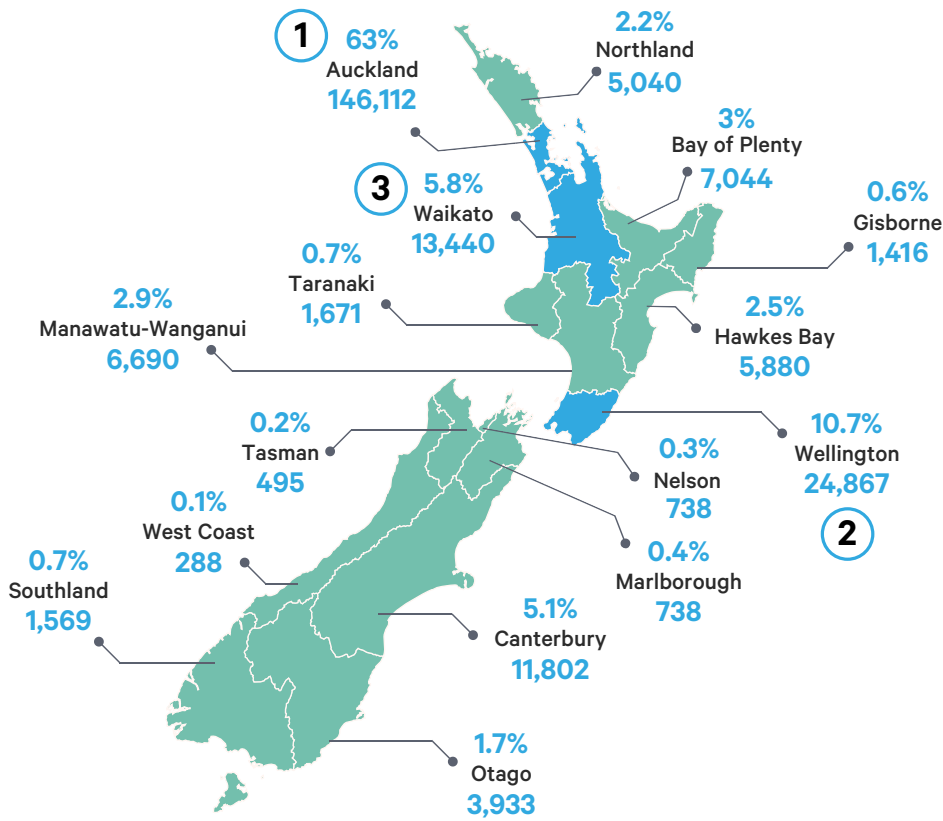
Figure 86: Pacific aged 0-29 by birthplace, 2006, 2013, 2018 censuses



76.9%
of young Pacific
people are NZ born

Pacific distribution by region, 0-29 years


















Young Pacific people live across all regions in Aotearoa New Zealand. The region with the highest number of young Pacific people is Auckland with 63% per cent, followed by Wellington with 10.7% and Waikato with 5.8%. All other regions have less than five per cent of the total young Pacific population aged 0-29 years.



A diverse population, 0 – 29 years

Young Pacific peoples aged 0-29 years make up a high proportion of each of the 17 Pacific ethnic groups represented under the Stats NZ-defined Pacific umbrella.

Young people make up 61.8% of the total Samoan population, 65.2% of the Tongan population, 65% of Cook Islanders, 63.6% of Niueans, 53.9% of Fijians, 64.3% of Tokelauans, 67.4% of Tuvaluans, 65.7% of i-Kiribati, 62.3% of Tahitians, 63.4% of Papua New Guineans, 44.8% of Ni Vanuatus, 54.4% of Rotumans, 60.7% of Indigenous Australians, 62.2% of Solomon Islanders, 60.8% of Hawaiians, 51.4% of Pitcairn Islanders and 68.9% of Nauruans.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
																	N/A
Samoan	Tongan	Cook Islands Māori	Niuean	Fijian	Tokelauan	Tuvaluan	i-Kiribati	Tahitian	Papua New Guinean	Ni Vanuatu	Rotuman	Indigenous Australian	Solomon Islander	Hawaiian	Pitcairn Islander	Nauruan	Other ⁸⁵
62,688	31,539	30,564	11,577	5,592	3,186	1,947	1,299	624	348	135	300	282	246	171	57	60	558
50,229	22,154	21,774	8,049	5,040	2,391	1,191	819	458	372	309	234	201	237	90	54	33	882
112,917	53,693	52,338	19,626	10,632	5,577	3,138	2,118	1,082	720	444	534	483	483	261	111	93	1,440

0-14 years
 15-29 years
 0-29 years

Multiple ethnicities, 0 – 29 years

Of the total Pacific population who identify with more than one ethnicity, the majority are between 0-29 years.

Over a period of five years (2013 to 2018 censuses), the percentage of total Pacific peoples identifying as mixed ethnicity has increased. From 2013 the number of people identifying as Pacific peoples went down from 68% to 65% of the total Pacific population. The percentage of people identifying as Pacific/European and Pacific/Asian has remained the same at 12% and 2% respectively. However, the number of people identifying as Pacific/Māori has increased by one percent from 8% to 9%. Of this 9% of people identifying as Pacific/Māori, majority are aged between 0-29 years (81%).



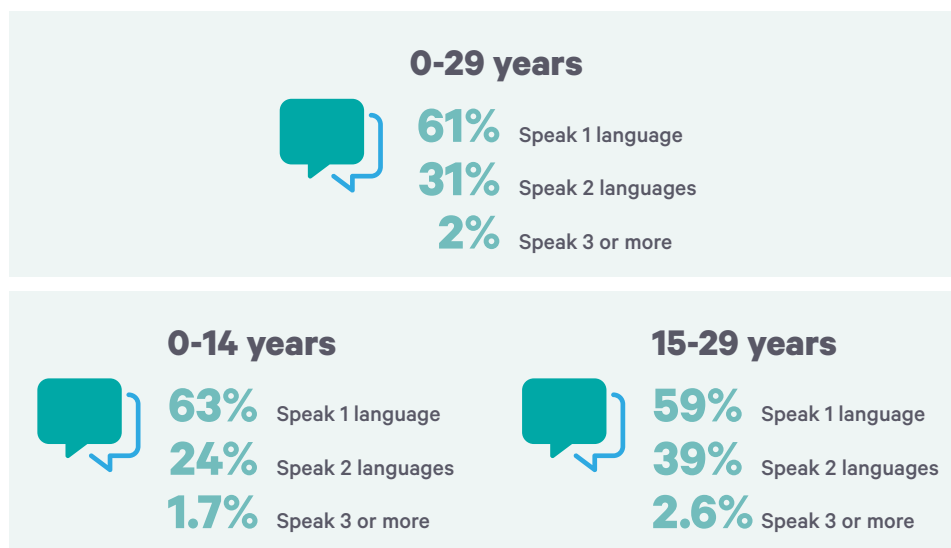
⁸⁵ Includes Pacific peoples nfd (2,724) and Pacific peoples nec (336). About half of those who were Pacific peoples nfd were aged 30-64 years (49 percent). Majority of those who were classified as Pacific peoples nec were aged under 15 years (38 percent).

Table 35: Pacific ethnic combinations for 0-29 years, 2013 and 2018 censuses

Ethnic group combination	Years	Total age group	Under 15 years (n)	15-29 years (n)	0-29 years (n)	Under 15 years %	15-29 years %	0-29 years %
Pacific peoples only	2013	200,322	56,511	50,667	107,178	28%	25%	54%
	2018	247,083	63,645	66,120	129,765	26%	27%	53%
Pacific peoples/European (Palagi/Palangi/Pakeha)	2013	38,562	16,824	10,917	27,741	44%	28%	72%
	2018	50,520	19,860	14,448	34,308	39%	29%	68%
Pacific peoples/Māori	2013	22,884	12,636	6,327	18,963	55%	28%	83%
	2018	34,269	17,616	10,083	27,699	51%	29%	81%
Pacific peoples/Asian	2013	4,776	1,680	1,398	3,078	35%	29%	64%
	2018	6,924	2,448	1,827	4,275	35%	26%	62%
Pacific peoples/Other ethnicity	2013	414	153	78	231	37%	19%	56%
	2018	738	222	180	402	30%	24%	54%

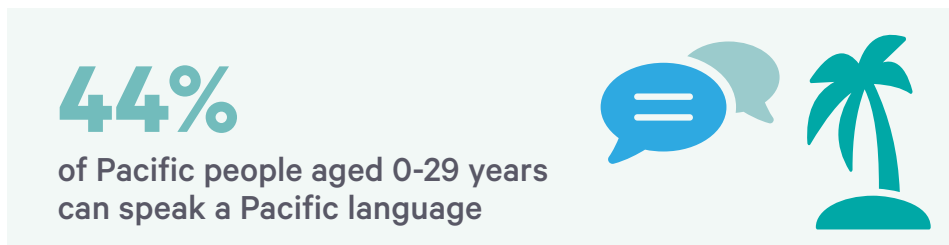
Number of languages spoken, 0-29 years

The majority of young Pacific peoples aged 0-29 speak one language (61%) but almost a third are bilingual (31%). Those aged 15-29 years are more likely to be bilingual speakers than younger Pacific under 15 years.



Pacific languages spoken, 0-29 years

Forty-four per cent of the young Pacific population aged 0-29 years can speak a Pacific language, with 19% being under 15 years of age and 26% aged between 15 and 29 years.



The number of Pacific language speakers aged 0-29 years across eight Pacific groups is varied. Just over half of Tuvaluan and Kiribati groups of this age group can speak their language. Almost half of Samoan and Tongan groups can speak their language. A third of Tokelauan and Fijian people and about a fourth of young Cook Islanders and Niueans can speak their language. Note: the Rotuman language by age breakdown is unavailable due to data being suppressed.

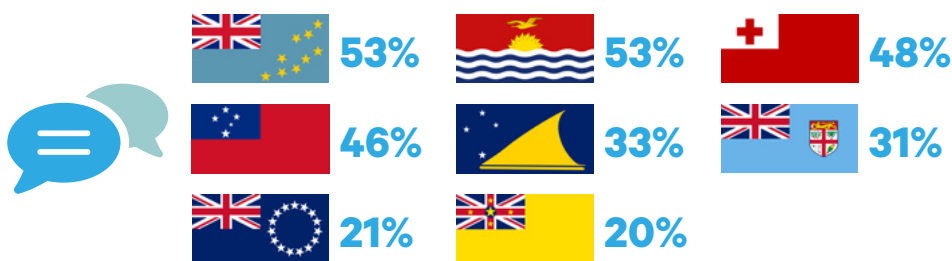


Table 36: Pacific language speakers aged 0-29 years, 2018

Age Group	Samoan	Tongan	Cook Islands Māori	Niuean	Tokelauan	Tuvaluan	Fijian	Kiribati
Under 15	20,115	7,641	552	291	309	717	669	537
%	20%	21%	7%	7%	13%	25%	9%	24%
15-29	27,276	9,468	1,098	528	480	825	1,542	633
%	27%	26%	14%	13%	20%	28%	22%	29%
0-29	101,937	35,820	7,833	4,182	2,406	2,898	7,143	2,196
%	46%	48%	21%	20%	33%	53%	31%	53%

Proportion of young people who speak a Pacific language by birthplace 0-29 years

The languages of Kiribati, Gagana Tuvalu, Lea FakaTonga, Vakaviti and Gagana Samoa are spoken by many New Zealand-born young people aged 0-29 years. But realm country languages of Gagana Tokelau, Te reo Māori Kuki Airani and Vagahau Niueare less spoken with approximately half of the 0-29 population speaking these languages.

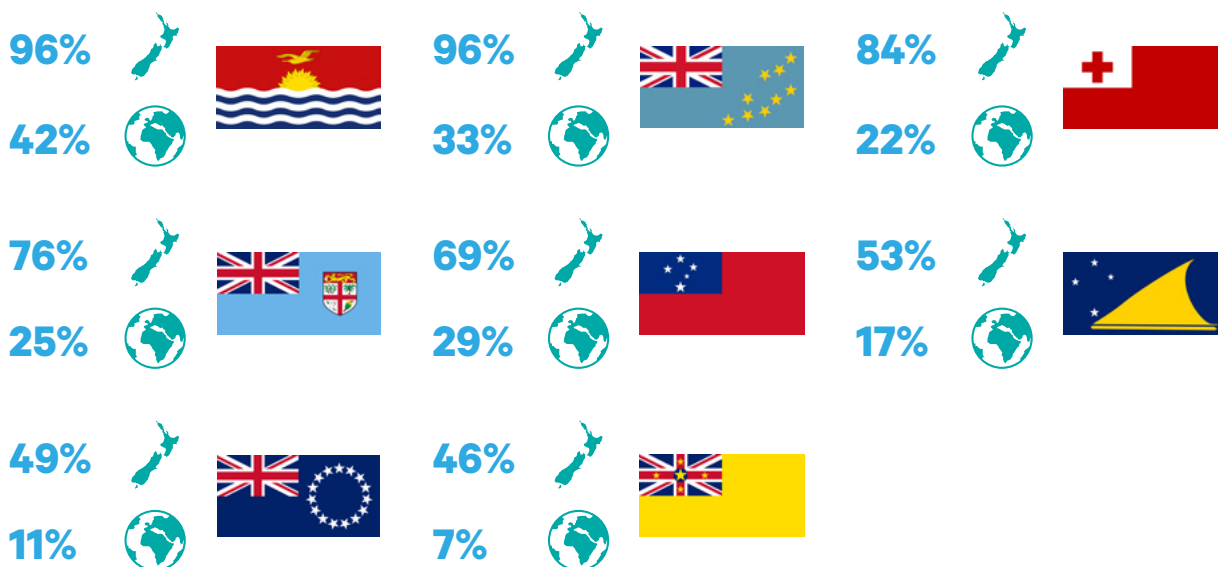


Table 37: Proportion of people who speak a Pacific language by birthplace, 0-29 years

Birthplace	Age Group		Samoa	Tongan	Cook Islands Māori	Niuean	Tokelauan	Tuvaluan	Fijian	Kiribati
New Zealand born	Under 15	n	15,720	6,381	447	276	267	579	342	315
		%	35%	44%	22%	20%	26%	61%	44%	70%
	15-29	n	15,129	5,829	546	351	279	324	249	99
		%	34%	40%	27%	25%	27%	34%	32%	22%
	0-29	n	30,849	12,210	993	627	546	903	591	414
		%	69%	84%	49%	46%	53%	96%	76%	93%
Overseas born	Under 15	n	4,029	1,137	84	9	33	126	321	210
		%	7%	6%	2%	0%	3%	7%	5%	12%
	15-29	n	11,463	3,453	516	165	180	483	1,248	510
		%	21%	17%	9%	6%	14%	26%	20%	30%
	0-29	n	15,492	4,590	600	174	213	609	1,569	720
		%	29%	22%	11%	7%	17%	33%	25%	42%

Engaging young Pacific peoples in wellbeing

Young Pacific people’s health status⁸⁶

Young Pacific people’s parent-rated health status is very positive (97%). Only 2.6% thought their children’s health was fair or poor. These figures are similar to the total 0-14 years old population in New Zealand, with 98% of parents indicating excellent, very good and good health status versus 1.8% stating fair or poor health of their children.

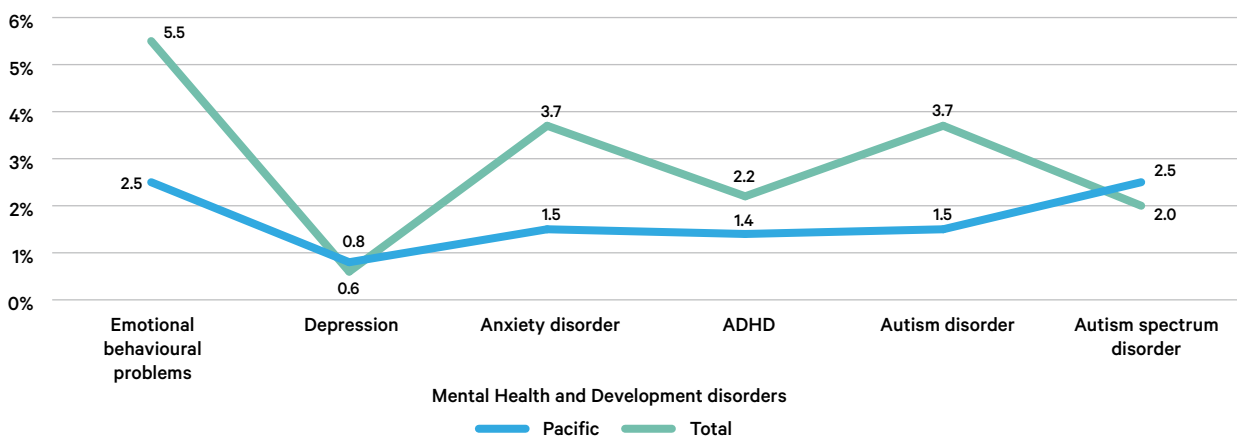


Pacific aged 0-14 years are in Excellent, Very good or Good health according to parents

Mental health and development disorders aged 2-14 years.

Pacific children’s mental health fares better in most areas compared to the total sample group, except in two areas: depression and autism spectrum, where they are slightly higher.

Figure 87: Mental health and Development disorders Pacific 2-14 years compared to total population, 2018/19



⁸⁶ Young Pacific people’s health status in this report is taken from the Ministry of Health’s health survey report – 2018/19 and is based on 613 Pacific adult and 491 Pacific children, unless otherwise stated. The total number of survey respondents for the study was 9,699 adults and 3,290 children.

However, upon closer examination across different ethnic groups, Pacific children came second equal with European/Other compared to Māori in depression rates and second to Māori in the autism spectrum disorder rates – but only by a small margin of 0.2%.

Figure 88: Depression rates (%) for children aged 2-14 years by ethnic groups, 2018

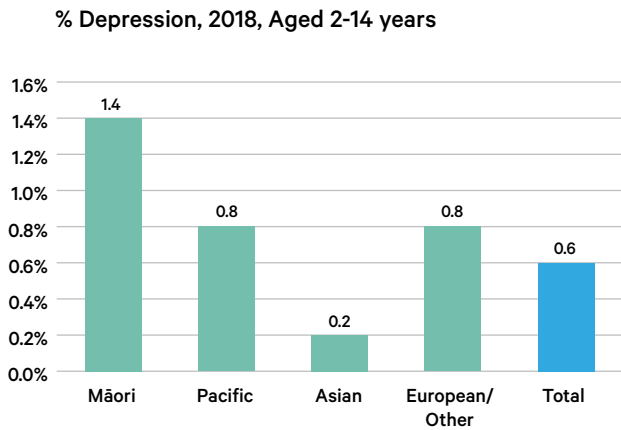
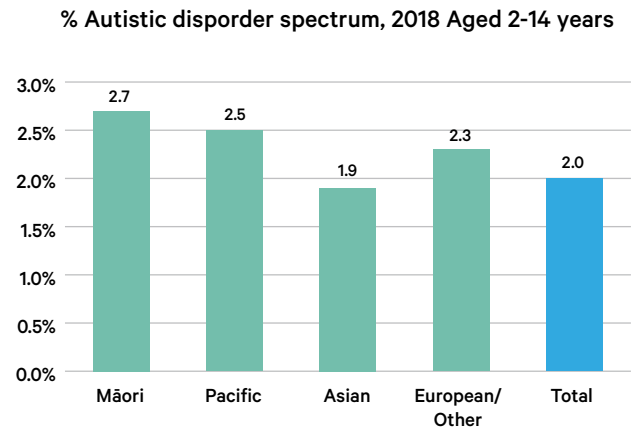


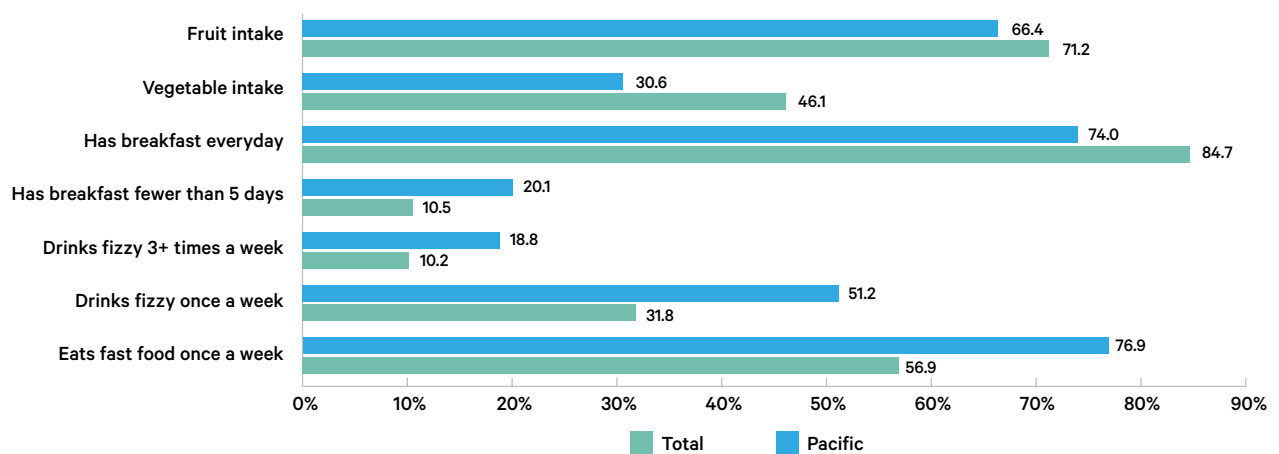
Figure 89: Autistic disorder spectrum rates (%) for children aged 2-14 years by ethnic groups, 2018



Nutrition

Pacific children’s nutrition is poorer than the total sample group aged 2-14 years. They eat more fast food and have a higher intake of fizzy drinks. They eat fewer vegetables and fruits and are less likely to start their days with breakfast.

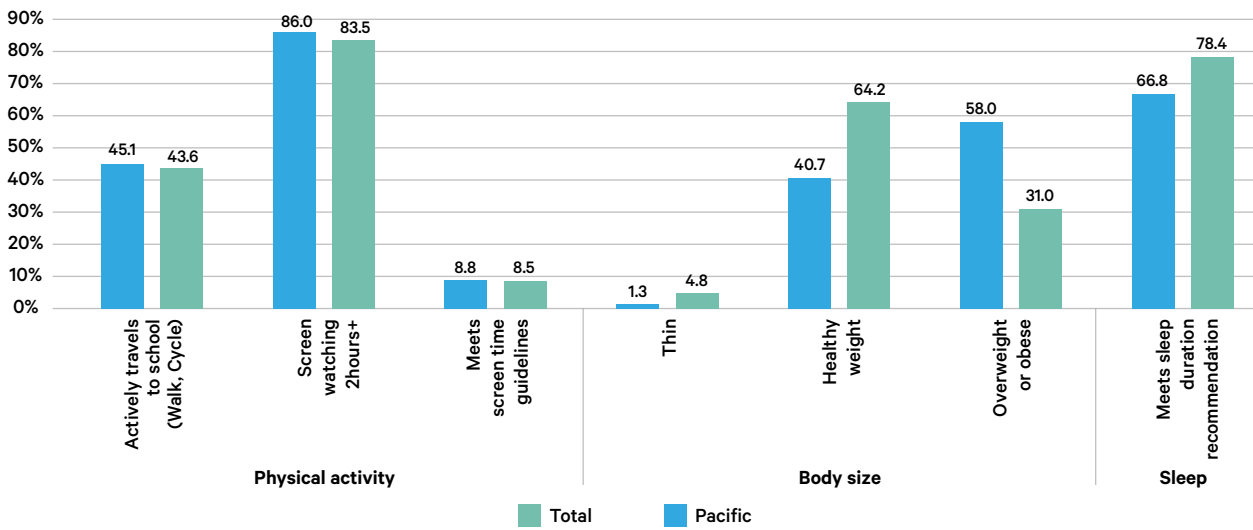
Figure 90: Nutrition behaviours for Pacific children aged 2-14 years compared with total population, 2018/19



Body health

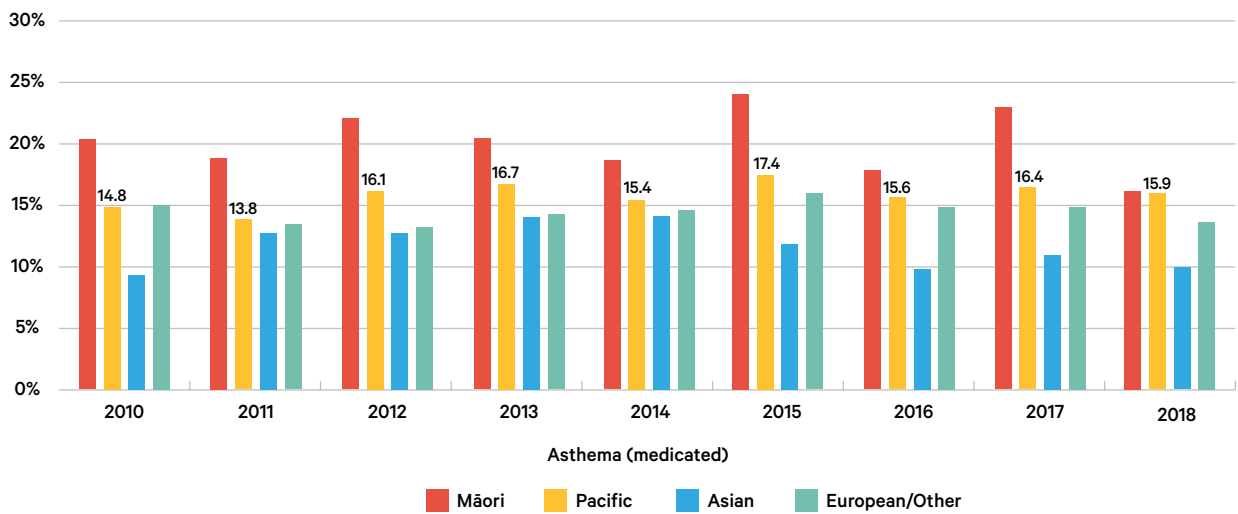
Pacific children are more actively travelling to school and watching less screen time compared to the total sample group aged 2-14 years. However, they are also twice as likely to be overweight or obese and not meet recommended sleep duration compared to the total sample group.

Figure 91: Body health for Pacific children aged 2-14 years compared with total population, 2018/19



Pacific children are not as asthmatic as Māori children but have higher rates than European and Asian ethnic groups. In 2018, however, the gap between Māori and Pacific children has decreased with now only a 0.2% margin between the two groups (16.1% and 15.9% respectively).

Figure 92: Asthma (medicated) rates of children aged 0-14 years by ethnicity from 2010 to 2018



Oral health

Pacific parents rate their children’s oral health positively high. Most Pacific kids have also visited a dentist in the past 12 months.

92.9%

of parents rated Pacific kids (aged 1-14 years) oral health as Excellent, Very good or Good

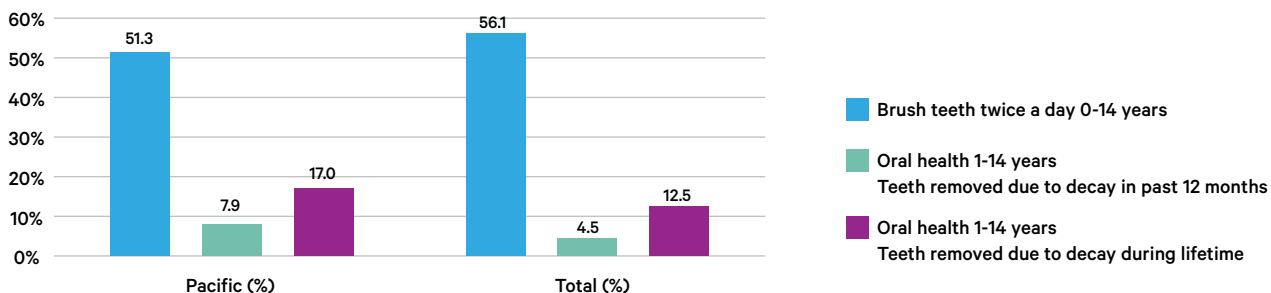


76.4%

of Pacific kids (aged 1-14 years) have visited a dentist in the past 12 months

However, when comparing Pacific with the total sample data, more Pacific children have had their teeth removed due to decay either within the last 12 months or at some point in their lives.

Figure 93: Oral health of Pacific children aged 1-14 years compared with total population



Sexual health, 13 – 17 years^{87 88 89}

The Youth19 study found that 22% of young Pacific people (aged 13-17 years) have ‘ever had sex,’ with Pacific males more likely to report having sex. There was no difference by neighbourhood deprivation in any of the Pacific data. The rate of Pacific females ever having sex declined over time from 29% in 2012 to 22% in 2019. The age of initiating sex also increased – or they were older on average.

At the time of the study, 12% of Pacific students reported being sexually active, with higher numbers of Pacific males compared to Pacific females. This has also declined over time from 20% in 2001 to 12% in 2019.

87 The Youth19 study is the latest of the Youth2000 series of New Zealand adolescent health and wellbeing surveys of high school students around Aotearoa. In 2019, a total of 7721 Year 9-13 students were surveyed in 49 secondary schools from Auckland, Waikato and Tai Tokerau areas. This included a sample of 945 Pacific high school students who make up 12.2% of the total survey population. a

88 Fleming, T., Peiris-John, R., Crengle, S., Archer, D., Sutcliffe, K., Lewycka, S., & Clark, T. (2020). Youth19 Rangatahi Smart Survey, Initial Findings: Introduction and Methods. The Youth19 Research Group, The University of Auckland and Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, pp 14.

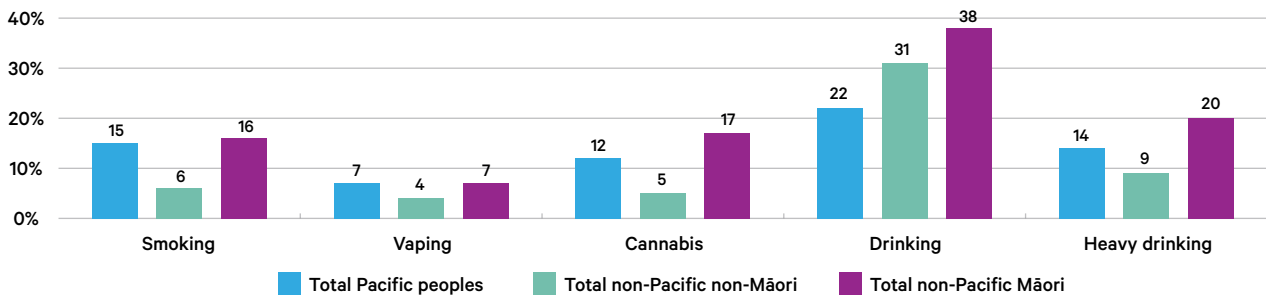
89 Clark, T.C., Lambert, M., Fenaughty, J., Tiatia-Seath, J., Bavin, L., Peiris-John, R., Sutcliffe, K., Crengle, S., & Fleming, T. (2020). Youth19 Rangatahi Smart Survey, Initial Findings: Sexual and reproductive health of New Zealand secondary school students. The Youth19 Research Group, The University of Auckland and Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.

There were 29% of sexually active Pacific youth reporting always using a condom to protect themselves. This, however, has decreased among Pacific males over time from 2001 (54%) to 2019 (29%). The use of contraception to prevent pregnancy was used by 30% of sexually active Pacific youth. However, use of contraception among sexually active Pacific males has decreased over time from 2001 (52%) to 2019 (28%).

Substance and alcohol use, 14-15 years^{90 91}

The Youth Insights Survey (YIS) study found that young Pacific peoples (aged 14-15 years) were engaging in higher levels of substance use (smoking, vaping and cannabis) and heavy alcohol use compared to non-Pacific, non-Māori (nPnM), but were not higher than young Māori people (excluding those who identify as Pacific-Māori).

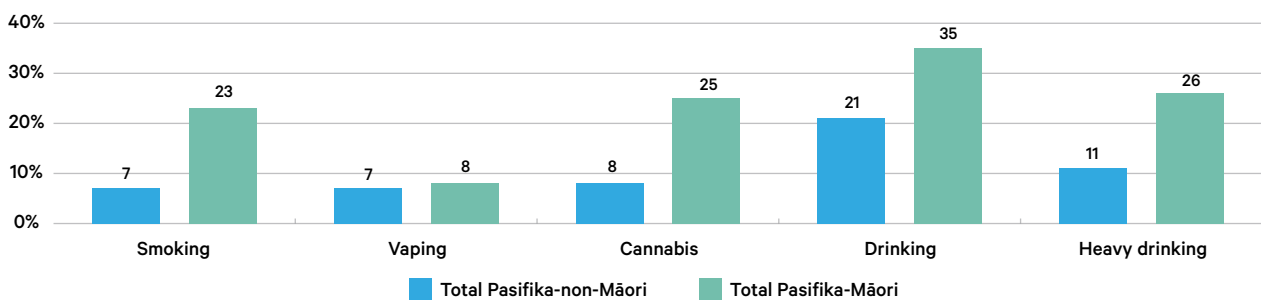
Figure 94: Young Pacific people’s past month-substance use using re-prioritised ethnicity



Whilst the study made ethnic comparisons across nine Pacific ethnic groups (Samoan, Tongan, Cook Islanders, Niuean, Fijian, Tokelauan, Tuvaluan, i-Kiribati and Solomon Islanders), the interesting findings were found in those who identified as Pacific and Māori and those from the Realm countries.

Those who identified as Pacific-Māori have reported higher past-month use of smoking, vaping, cannabis, drinking and heavy drinking compared to those who only identify as Pacific.

Figure 95: Substance and alcohol use by Maori and Pacific young people

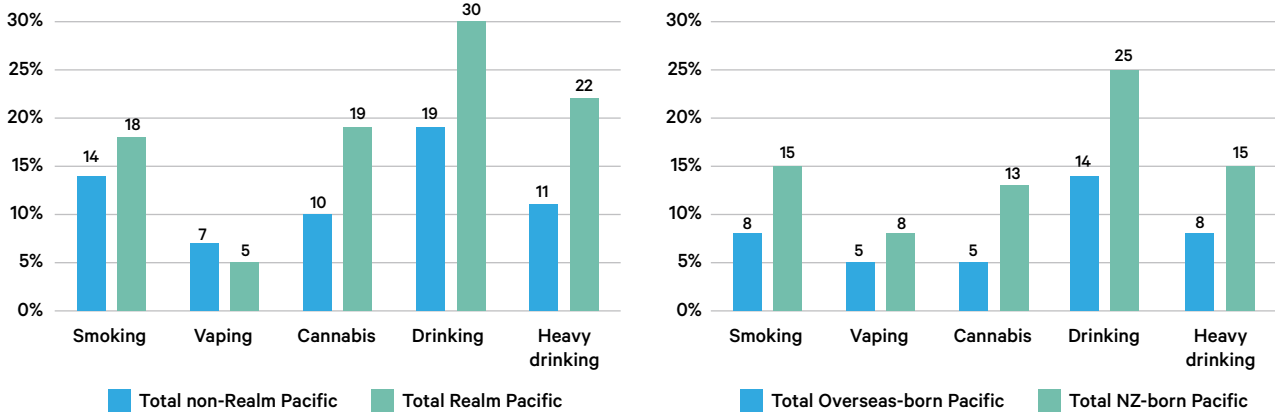


90 The Youth Insights Survey (YIS) study collects data on health-related behaviours, lifestyles, activities and connectedness from Year 10 students aged 14-15 years. This study included a sample of 1,191 Pacific students (14% of the total 8,651 student sample population). 49% of this sample were male and 51% female. 88% lived in urban areas while 12% lived in rural areas. 68% lived in the Northern regions, 27% in Central and 9% in Southern. 58% were in low decile (1-3) schools, 24% in mid (4-7) and 18% in high (8-10) decile schools. 77% were NZ-born and 22% were born overseas. 27% were from Realm countries while the majority were non-Realm (73%).

91 Tamapeau, M., & Kingstone, S. (2020). Tau Amanaki Onoono Ki Mua: Pacific peoples’ youth substance use analyses from the pooled Youth Insights Survey (2014-2018). Wellington, NZ: Te Hīringa Hauora.

New Zealand-born and Realm country Pacific youth were reporting higher past-month use of cannabis, drinking and heavy drinking, and were closely aligned to the Aotearoa NZ general population.

Figure 96: Substance and alcohol use by non-realm Pacific youth compared to realm Pacific youth



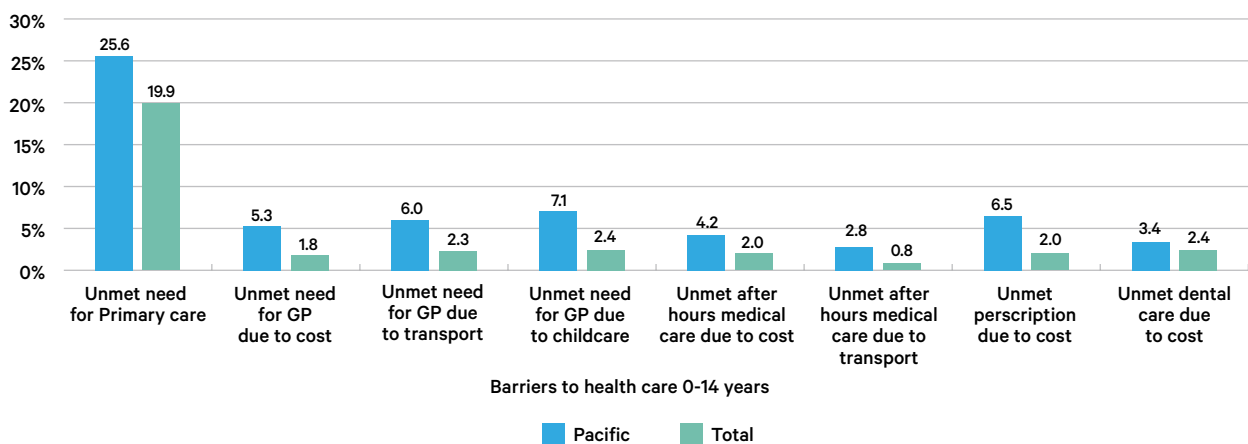
Of interest, the study found that known protective factors against risk-taking behaviours are close friend/s who do not smoke or drink, higher MHI-5 scores (low depression/anxiety), strong parent/caregiver connectedness, parents who do not smoke, strong school connectedness and higher self-esteem.

This study supports the need for re-prioritised data to ensure that there is provision for an equity-based model of research. This method provides a voice to under-represented groups other than Māori, such as Pacific peoples.

Barriers to healthcare

Pacific children have higher unmet needs compared to the total sample population aged 0-14 years. The barrier to healthcare is significantly higher in terms of prescription costs, transportation, and childcare.

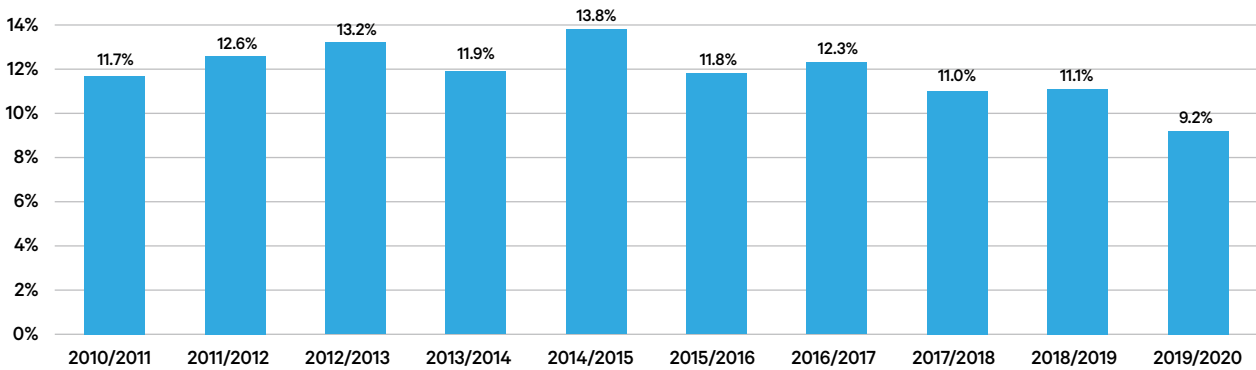
Figure 97: Barriers to healthcare for Pacific children aged 0-14 years compared to total New Zealand population



Experience with Justice system

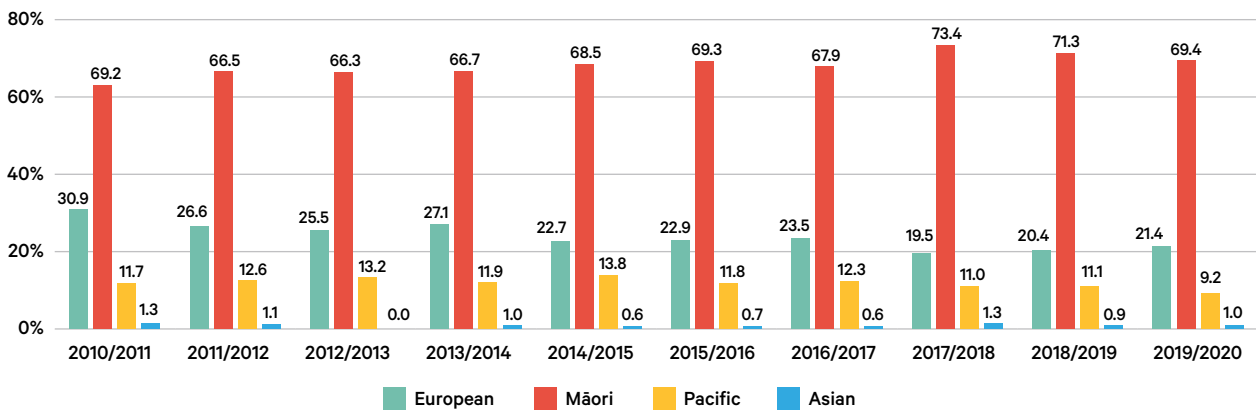
Young Pacific people in the Youth Court with orders have been hovering between 11-14% over the last 10 years. Latest 2019/2020 figures, however, have shown a big drop in young Pacific people in the Youth Court to 9.2%. Hopefully, the downward trend will continue.

Figure 98: Percentage of Pacific aged 10 -17 years with charges finalised in the Youth Court with proved outcomes from 2010/2011 to 2019/2020



In comparison to other ethnic groups, they are a distant third from Māori and European young people. In 2019/2020, in total, 204 children and young people in the Youth Court with orders were Māori (69%); 63 were European (21%), 27 were Pacific peoples (9%), three were Asian (1%), three had other ethnicities (1%) and nine had no ethnicity recorded (3%).⁹²

Figure 99: Percentage of Pacific aged 10-17 years with charges finalised in the Youth Court with proved outcomes, ethnic comparisons from 2010/2011 to 2019/2020



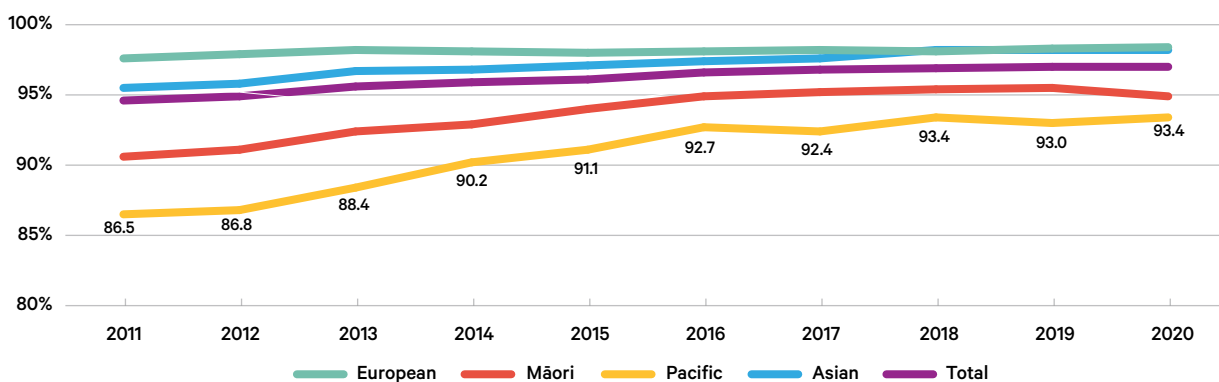
⁹² This data counts a child or young person once per financial year for their most serious Youth Court offence which received an order or sentence each year.

Engaging young Pacific people in education

Early childhood education

Since 2011, Pacific children have shown the greatest increase in Early Childhood Education (ECE) participation. Participation in ECE of Pacific children increased from 86.5% in 2011 to 93.4% in 2020 (7% increase) with the difference now between ethnic groups growing smaller.

Figure 100: Percentage of children starting school with prior ECE attendance by ethnic group by year from 2011 to 2020



Pacific languages used in Early learning

The number of Pacific medium licenced⁹³ early learning services has decreased since 2016 from 132 to 118. Overall, 3% of licenced learning services in 2020 were considered Pacific medium services. This includes 9% of home-based services.

Excluding home-based services, Southland and the Hawkes Bay have the highest percentage of Pacific children in the region enrolled at a Pacific medium early learning service. There are 57 Pacific medium education and care services in Auckland – and 36 Pacific medium home-based providers.



Tongan has been the most commonly used language within Pacific medium licenced early learning services. The number of Tongan medium services increased from 31 to 48 from 2015 to 2016, then to 52 in 2018, and in 2020 to 50 services. The number of Samoan medium services has decreased from 61 in 2015 to 41 in 2020.

118

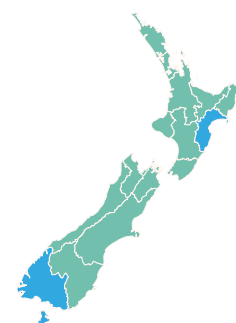


Pacific medium licenced early learning services

19%



of Pacific children were enrolled at a Pacific medium licenced early learning service

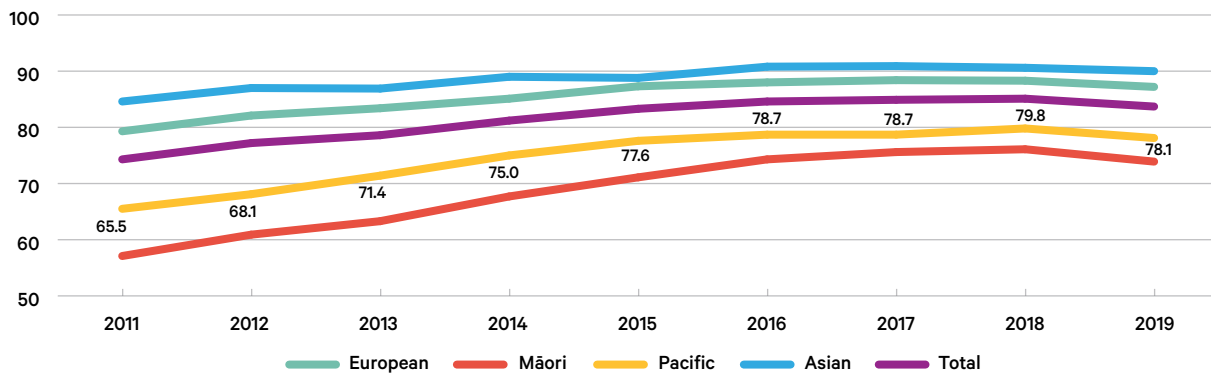


⁹³ Services are defined as 'Pacific medium' if they spend at least 51 percent of their teaching time in a Pacific language. The percentage of teaching time spent in a language may change from year to year and is based on estimates from the services themselves. Due to differences in staffing, a service may move from being in or out of the 51 per cent + teaching time band from year to year.

School leavers with at least NCEA level 2 qualification

The number of Pacific school leavers with at least NCEA level 2 qualification has increased over the last 10 years and has been hovering around 70% over the last six years (2014 – 2019).

Figure 101: Percentage of school leavers with at least a NCEA Level 2 qualification or equivalent by ethnic group from 2009 to 2019

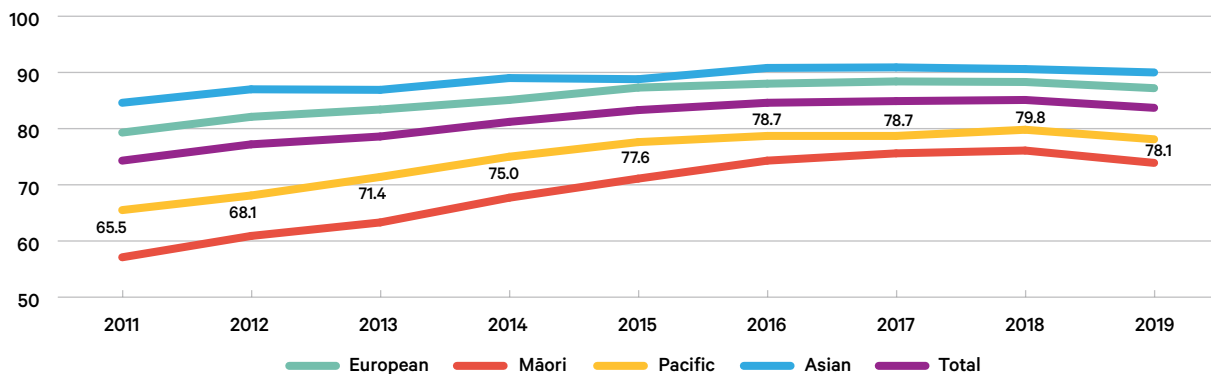


In 2019, the proportion of Pacific leavers attaining at least NCEA Level 2 or equivalent was 73.7% per cent, which was 5.1 percentage points lower than the total of all New Zealand school leavers.

Compared to 2018, 2019 has seen an overall decrease in the proportion of leavers achieving NCEA Level 2 or equivalent with Pacific having a 1.9 percentage point decrease.

Whilst over the last 10 years all ethnic groups have seen improvements in school leavers achieving NCEA Level 2 or equivalent, Māori school leavers have shown the biggest increase of 19%. Pacific school leavers had an increase of 17.3%, followed by European/Pākehā school leavers (9.2% increase) and Asian school leavers (6.8% increase). These changes indicate that the disparities between ethnic groups have reduced over time, but a large achievement gap remains for Māori and Pacific students.

Figure 102: Percentage of 18-year-olds with at least NCEA Level 2 or equivalent, by ethnic group from 2011 to 2019⁹⁴



Data on 18-year-old school leavers with at least NCEA level 2 or equivalent have increased over a seven-year period, from 2011 to 2018.

⁹⁴ The total response ethnicity collection involves counting people who identify with more than one ethnic group in each of those ethnic groups. For the New Zealand total individuals are counted only once.

Asian 18-year-olds had the highest proportion attaining the equivalent of NCEA Level 2 or above in 2018 (90.6%), which was 2.3 percentage points higher than European/Pākehā (88.3%). Pacific and Māori 18-year-olds had the lowest attainment rates, with 79.8% and 76.1% respectively.

Number of teachers in state and state-integrated schools in New Zealand⁹⁵

In 2019 there was a total of 1,629 teachers who identified as Pacific in the Primary sector and 1,126 in the Secondary sector. The total number of teachers who identify as Pacific was 2,755 and is 3.9% of the total teachers in State and State-Integrated Schools.

Table 38: Total teacher headcount in state and state-integrated schools by sector and ethnic group, 2019⁹⁶

Ethnicity	Primary (n)	Secondary (n)	Total (n)
Māori	4,550	3,772	8,322
Pacific	1,629	1,126	2,755
Asian	1,626	1,736	3,362
MELAA	363	254	617
European	31,710	20,800	52,510
Other (no response)	4,020	4,104	8,124
Total	41,321	30,132	71,453



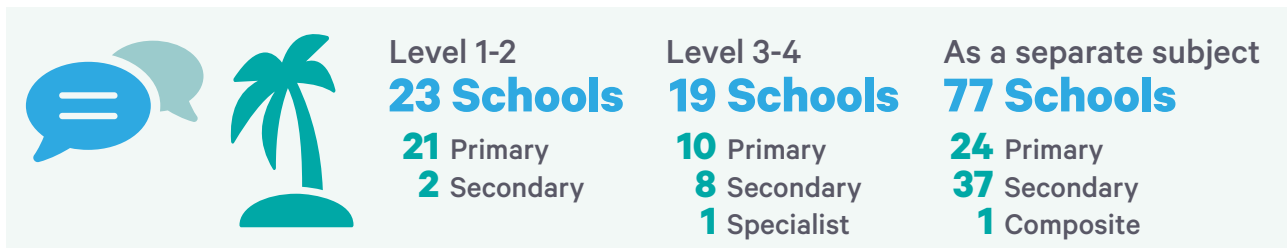
Pacific language use in schools

Pacific language learning is offered at five levels:

- Level 1: Where a Pacific language is the medium of instruction 81-100% of the time.
- Level 2: Where a Pacific language is the medium of instruction 51-80% of the time.
- Level 3: Where a Pacific language is the medium of instruction 31-50% of the time.
- Level 4: Where a Pacific language is the medium of instruction 12-30% of the time.
- Level 5: Where students are learning a Pacific language as a separate subject at the Primary level (Years 1-8) for a minimum of 15 hours a year or at secondary level (Years 9-15) for a minimum of 20 hours a year.

⁹⁵ Includes all teachers, both regular (permanent and fixed term) and day relief teachers

⁹⁶ The total response ethnicity is used here. This means teachers are counted under each ethnic group they identify with, and only once under 'Total'. This means that the different ethnic groups will not add up to the total.



Levels 1-2: As at 1 July 2020, a total of 23 schools offered Pacific language education at Levels 1-2; 21 primary schools and two secondary schools. Majority (87 percent) were located in the Auckland region (20 out of 23 schools). Gagana Sāmoa was the most common Pacific language for instruction (21 out of the 23 schools). Four schools offered Level 1 and/or Level 2 programmes in two or more Pacific languages.

Levels 3-4: A total of 19 schools offered Pacific language education at Levels 3-4. Ten were primary schools, eight secondary schools and one specialist school. Many (58 percent) were located out of the Auckland region (11 out of 19 schools). Gagana Sāmoa was the most common Pacific language for instruction with 15 out of the 19 schools delivering curriculum in Gagana Sāmoa.

As a Subject: A further 77 schools had students enrolled in Pacific languages as a separate subject (24 were primary schools, 37 secondary schools and 1 composite school). A third (35 percent or 27 schools) were located in the Auckland region and just over a quarter (27 percent or 21 schools) were located in Wellington. Gagana Sāmoa was the most common Pacific language offered as a separate subject in 65 out of the 77 schools. Seventeen out of the 77 schools offered two or more Pacific languages.

Table 39: Number of schools offering a Pacific language by Immersion Level and languages as at 1 July 2020⁹⁷

Highest level of learning ⁹⁸	Te reo					Other	Total ⁹⁹
	Gagana Samoa	Lea Faka Tonga	Māori Kuki 'Āirani	Vagahau Niue	Gagana Tokelau		
Level 1: 81 – 100%	14	4	0	0	0	0	16
Level 2: 51 – 80%	7	2	0	0	0	0	7
Level 3: 31 – 50%	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
Level 4: 12 – 30%	9	4	3	0	0	0	13
Level 5: separate subject ¹⁰⁰	65	17	5	3	3	12	77
Total	101	27	8	3	3	12	119

⁹⁷ <https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/6044> accessed on 3 March 2020.

⁹⁸ Where a school offers multiple levels in a particular Pacific language, it is only counted at its highest level

⁹⁹ Where a school offers more than one language it has been counted once in each language but only once in total.

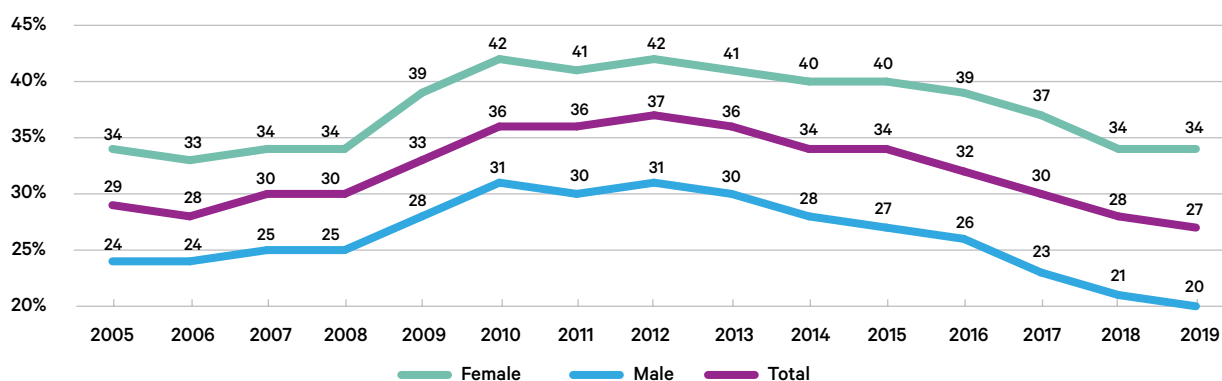
¹⁰⁰ Level 5: As a separate subject' for Years 1-8 is for a minimum of 15 hours a year, and Years 9 and above for a minimum of 20 hours a year.

Tertiary education

Participation rates¹⁰¹

Overall, the participation rates of Pacific peoples in tertiary level studies have decreased over time. About 10 years ago participation rates were beginning to increase but have since declined. Figures from 2019 almost mirror that of 2005 with Pacific males showing more decline. There are more Pacific females taking up tertiary studies compared to Pacific males.

Figure 103: Participation rates of Pacific students at tertiary level education from 2005 to 2019

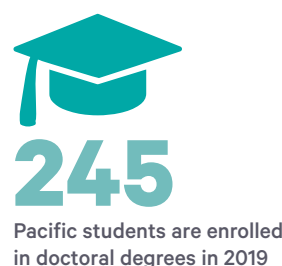


Doctorate studies

The number of Pacific peoples enrolled in doctoral degrees has increased over time. To date, there are currently 245 Pacific students enrolled in doctoral degrees.

Table 40: Number of Pacific students enrolled in doctoral degrees from 1998 to 2019

Year	Number enrolled	% change over time
1998	40	Baseline
2001	60	50%
2004	85	42%
2007	120	41%
2010	150	25%
2013	170	13%
2016	190	12%
2019	245	29%

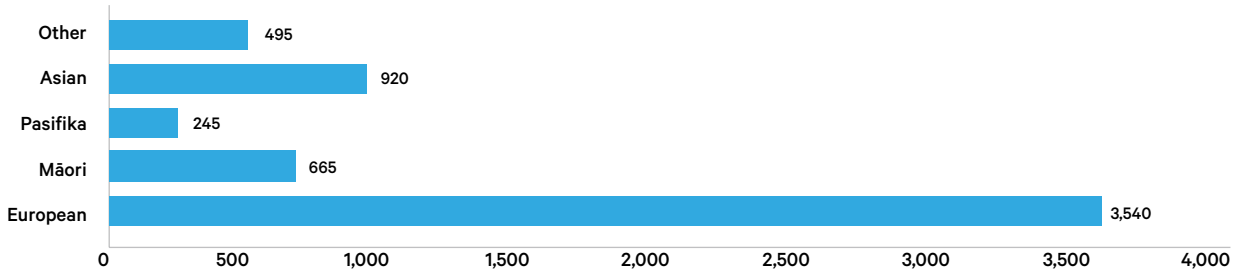


In comparison to other ethnic groups, Pacific peoples have the lowest number of students enrolled in doctoral degrees.

¹⁰¹ Participation rates show the proportion of the population who are enrolled in education. They provide a useful way of comparing enrolments relative to the size of different unfinished sentence.

The participation rate is the number of domestic students enrolled in tertiary education at any time during the year divided by the number of people in the population.

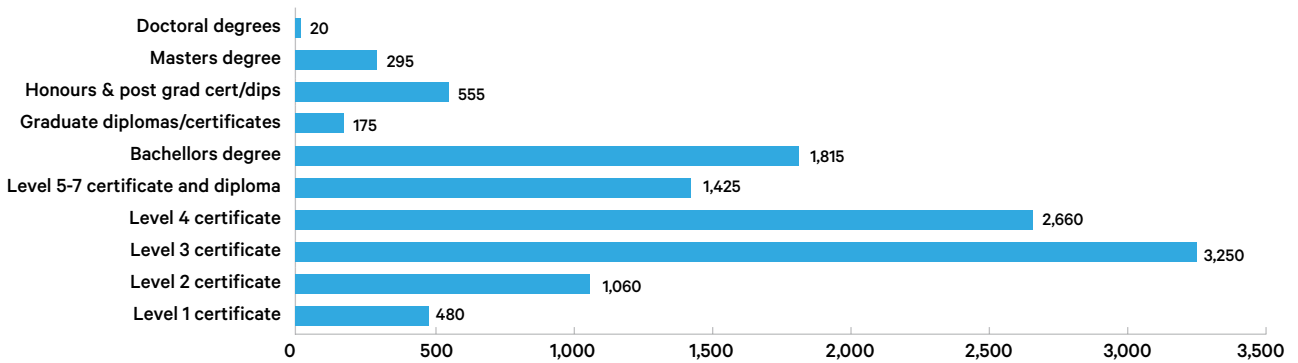
Figure 104: Number of domestic students enrolled in doctoral degrees by ethnic group, 2019



Course completion rates

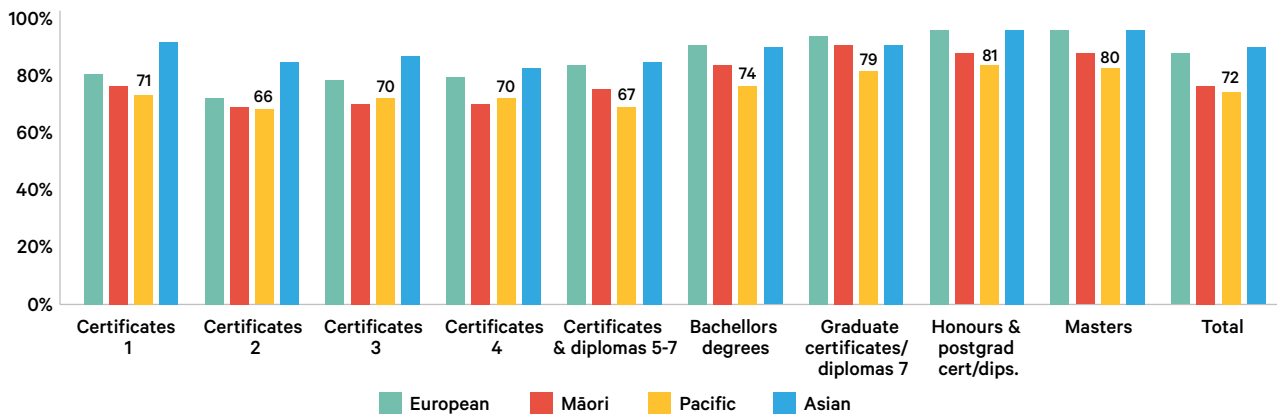
In 2019, a total of 11,735 Pacific students had completed a qualification. Over a quarter (27.7%) had completed a Level 3 certificate, which was higher than any other level of qualification. A total of 2,860 or a quarter of students had completed a university level qualification.

Figure 105: Number of Pacific students that completed a qualification by level, 2019



When compared to other ethnic groups, Pacific fared lower in course completions across qualifications, except in Certificates 3 and 4 where Māori were slightly lower.

Figure 106: Course completion rates for domestic students by ethnic group and qualification type/NZQF level for courses that ended in 2019

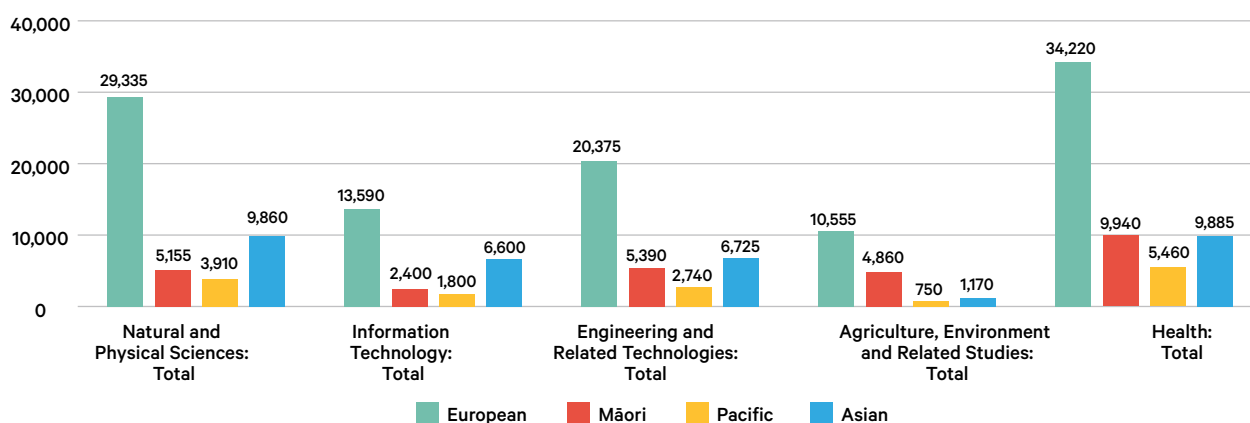


STEM

The STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) areas traditionally lack both Pacific and female participants, but with the likes of the Ministry for Pacific Peoples' Toloa Programme, participation and completion rates should improve.

In 2019, the total number of Pacific domestic students taking a STEM subject at all levels (Certificate 1 to Doctorate) was 14,600 or 8.6% of the total number of people taking STEM subjects (169,515). In comparison, a total of 108,075 Europeans or 63.8% took STEM subjects, 27,245 Māori or 16.4%, 34,240 or 20.2% Asians and 8,510 or 5% of Other.

Figure 107: Number of domestic students taking STEM subjects at all levels (Certificate 1 to Doctorate) by ethnic group, 2019



At the tertiary levels 7 to 10, there are more Pacific people studying STEM at bachelor levels. The STEM area that is most popular for Pacific people is health, followed by natural and physical sciences. These fields, and engineering, have seen a number of people progress their studies to doctorate level.

Table 41: Number of Pacific students taking STEM subjects at tertiary level (Bachelor – Doctorate levels), 2019

	Bachelor	Graduate Certificate/	Te reo Māori Kuki 'Āirani	Vagahau Niue	Gagana Tokelau
Natural and Physical Sciences	2,545	15	125	45	25
Information Technology	1,085	15	110	35	0
Engineering and Related Technologies	485	15	395	30	5
Agriculture, Environmental & Related Studies	235	5	20	20	0
Health	3,095	35	470	95	55

The number of Pacific students who have completed a STEM qualification totals 10,355 with the majority (64.5%) being males.

Table 42: Pacific domestic students completing STEM qualifications by gender, and field of study 2019

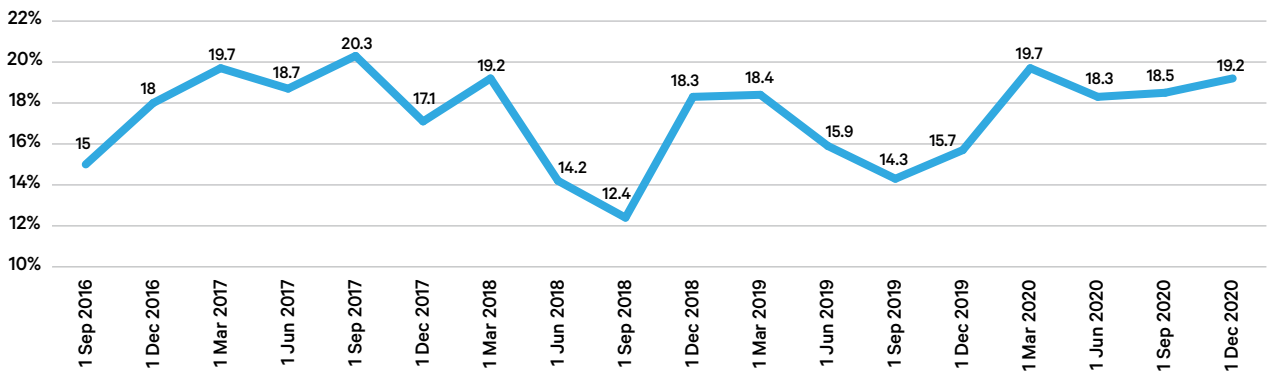
Pacific peoples	Gender	Natural and Physical Sciences	Information Technology	Engineering and Related Technologies	Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies	Health	Total
	Male	275	85	210	70	765	6,680
	Female	100	170	510	80	235	3,670
	Total	370	255	720	150	1,000	10,355

NEET, 15 – 24 years

The Pacific NEET rate for ages 15 to 24 is 19.2% of the total population of 78,600. This equates to 15,100 people aged 15-24 years on 1 December 2020. Total Pacific NEET rate has fluctuated since 1 May 2017, and is at about the same level in November 2020 as it was on 1 March 2017.

19.2%
Pacific NEETs (15,100 of 78,600 Pacific aged 15-24 years)

Figure 108: Total number of Pacific NEET rates for 15–24-year-olds from 2017 to 2020

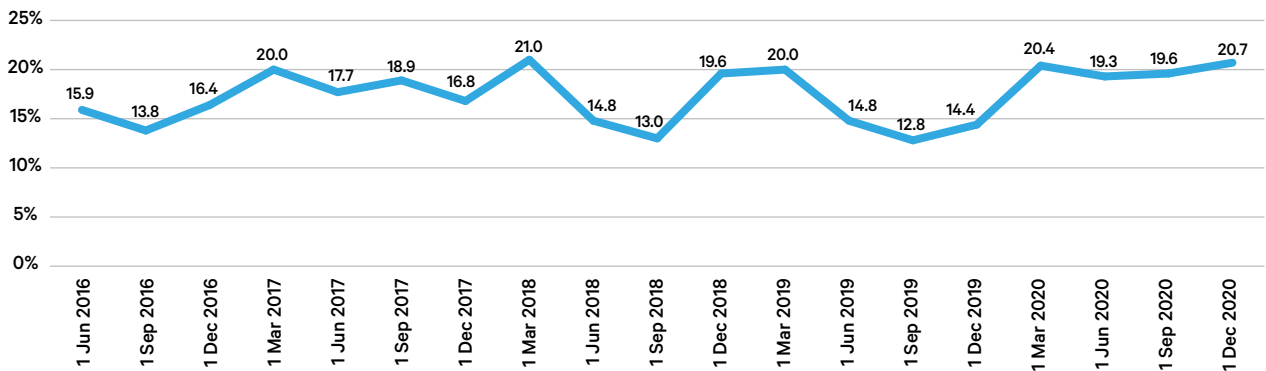


Regional differences

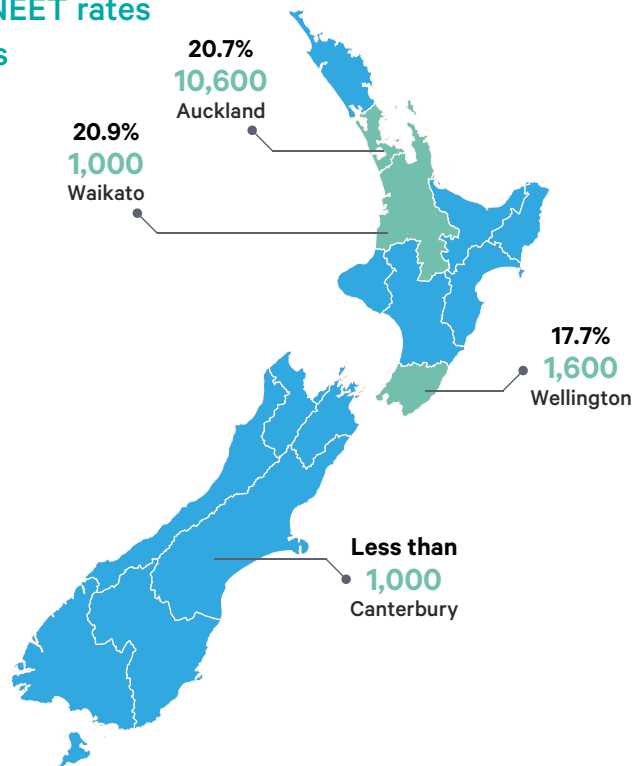
Auckland holds the highest number of NEET and it has been increasing over time. In December 2020, the NEET rate for Auckland was 20.7%. The majority were women at 23.3% and men at 18.3%. (Total population of 51,200)

In the Waikato, the NEET rate was 20.9% (or 1,000 people) with a working-age population of 4,800. In Wellington, the NEET rate was 17.7% (or 1,600 people) with a working-age population of 9,200. In Canterbury, the NEET rate was less than a thousand. NEET data for other regions is not available due to suppressed data.

Figure 109: Figure 110: Auckland NEET rate for 15-24 years from 2016 to 2020



Regional NEET rates and NEETs

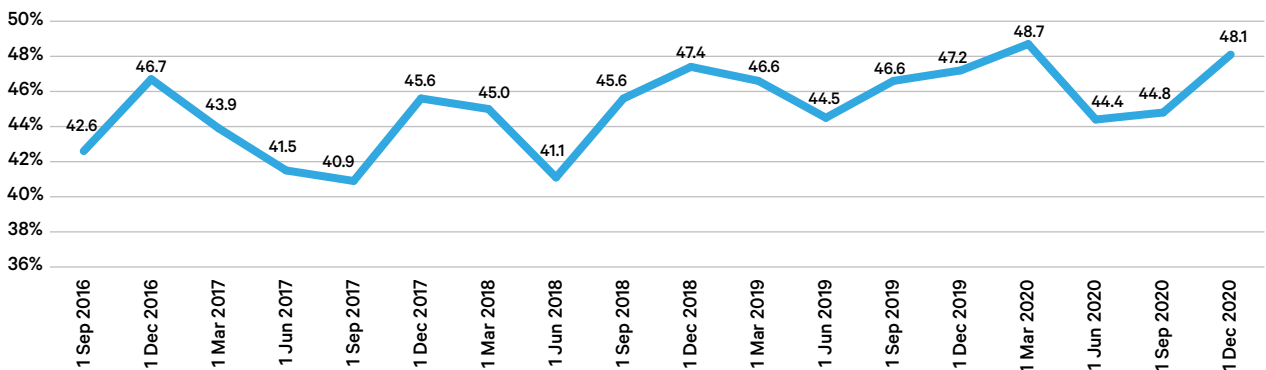


Engaging young Pacific people in the economy

Employment, 15 – 29 years

At the fourth quarter of 2020¹⁰², the employment rate for Pacific peoples aged 15 to 24 was 48.1%. This is up 3.3% from the September 2020 quarter. The working-age population at the December quarter was 160,200 with a labour force participation rate of 69.2%.

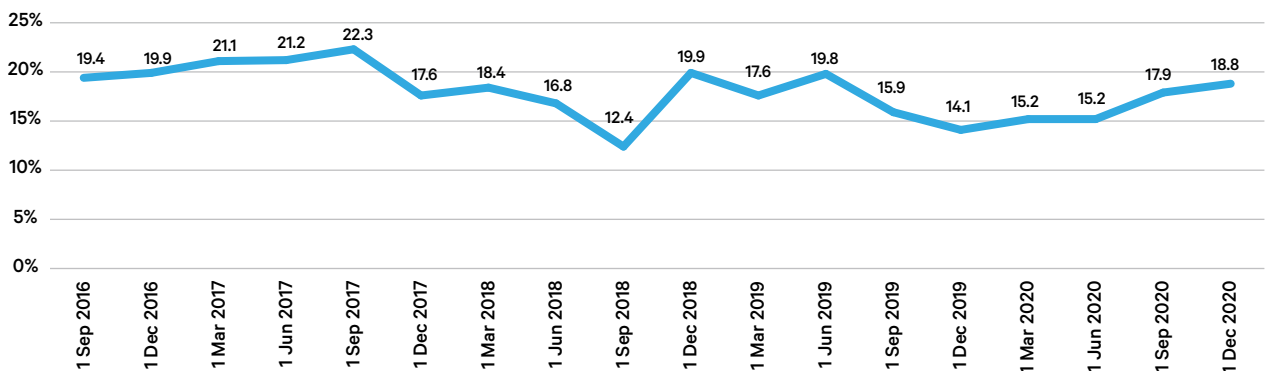
Figure 110: Pacific employment rate for 15 – 29 year olds from 2016 to 2020



Unemployment, 15- 24 years

The unemployment rate for the same period was 18.8%. This was 0.9% higher than the previous quarter.

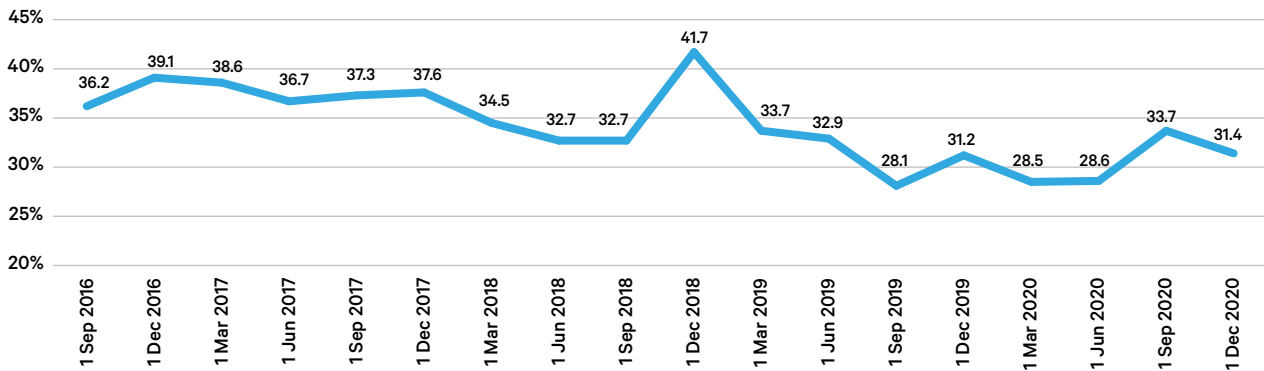
Figure 111: Pacific unemployment rate for 15 - 24 year olds from 2016 to 2020



Underutilisation, 15- 24 years

The underutilisation rate for young Pacific peoples was 31.4% in December 2020. This is down 2.3% from the previous September quarter of young people aged 15 – 24 years. This figure is significantly higher than the general working Pacific population which is 18%.

Figure 112: Pacific underutilisation rate for 15 – 24 year olds from 2016 to 2020



Young Pacific people in business, 15 - 34 years¹⁰³

There is a small number of Pacific business owners (or working proprietors) who are young, aged 15-34 years.

In total, this age group make up 2.2% (621 people) of the total 1.5% (3,831) of all Pacific working proprietors in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The majority of young Pacific business owners are males.

68%

New Zealand born



32%

Overseas born

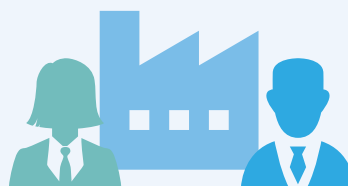


621 Young Pacific business owners (Full or part time)

69 aged 15-24 years

216 aged 25-29 years

336 aged 30-34 years



471 (aged 15-34 years)

48 aged 15-24 years

165 aged 25-29 years

258 aged 30-34 years

153 (aged 15-34 years)

18 aged 15-24 years

54 aged 25-29 years

81 aged 30-34 years

¹⁰³ Due to small numbers the age range for describing young working proprietors for this section will be in the main from 15-34 years. Where possible age breakdowns for 15-29 years will be made.

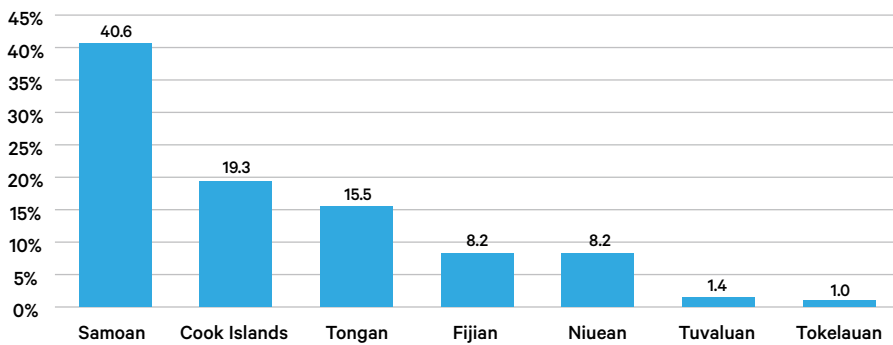
They are mostly New Zealand born (432 people) compared to those born overseas (201 people).



Many are of Samoan descent.

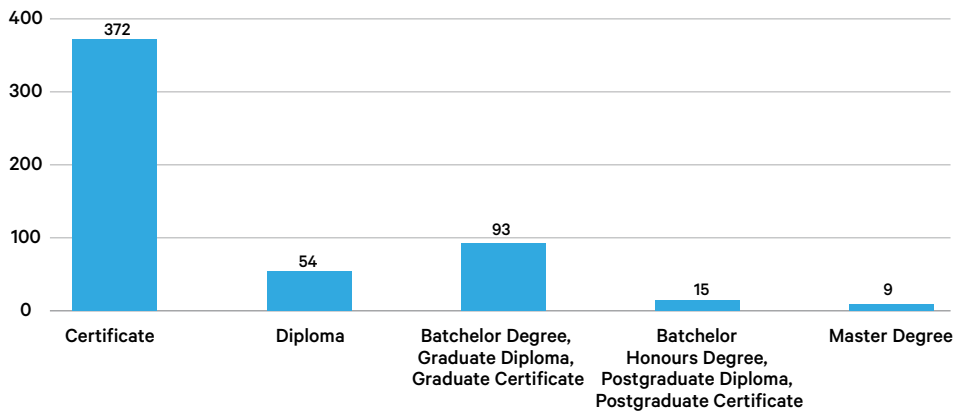
Of those who stated an ethnicity (585 people), just under half were of Samoan ethnic descent (43%), a fifth (20%) were Cook Islanders and 16% were Tongan. Fijian, Niuean, Tuvaluan and Tokelauan groups made up another quarter of this young business population (20%).

Figure 113: Ethnicity of young Pacific business owners



The majority have a certificate as their highest level of qualification.

Figure 114: Qualifications of young Pacific business owners





They have higher incomes as business owners.

Young business owners earn higher incomes compared to those who earned incomes through wage and salaries only (\$15,104 for those aged 15-24 years, \$37,367 for those aged 25-29 years and \$42,595 for those aged 30-34 years).

Higher incomes were earned by those working proprietors with self-employment income plus wages and salary: \$41,293 for those aged 15-24 years, \$60,512 for those aged 25-29 years and \$53,042 for those aged 30-34 years.

One in three have businesses in the construction industry.

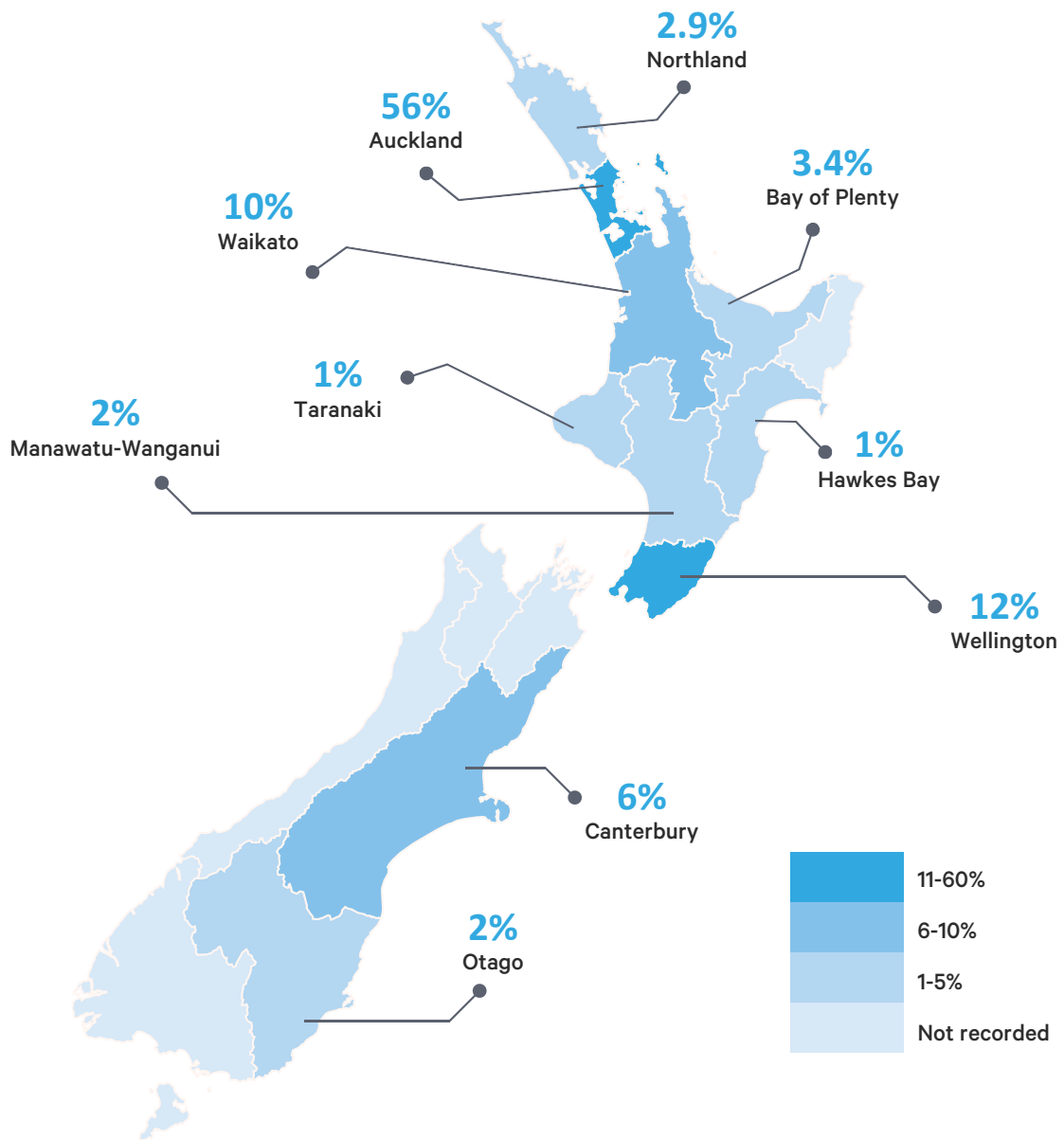
The top three industries for young Pacific business owners are 1) construction, 2) transport, postal and warehousing and 3) professional, scientific and technical services. These three industries cover about 60% of Pacific owners' business in this age group.

While Pacific males dominate these industries, Pacific female proprietors make up the majority of the healthcare and social assistance industry.



More than half reside in the Auckland region (56%), with 12% in the Wellington region and 10% in the Waikato region. The rest are spread throughout Aotearoa.

Regional location of young business owners, 15-34 years



Data sources

Census 2018

The census is the official count of how many people and dwellings there are in Aotearoa New Zealand. It takes a snapshot of the people and the places where we live. The 2018 New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings was held on Tuesday, 6 March 2018. Some statistics in this report are reported at Levels 3 and 4 of the classification of ethnicity as used in the 2018 census data. The 2018 census provides disaggregated data for 17 Pacific groups. Much of the data in this report is for the total Pacific population, but where possible, ethnic-specific data is reported for Samoa, Cook Islands, Tonga, Niue, Fiji, Tokelau, Tuvalu, Kiribati and Rotuma.

Education Counts

Education Counts is the official education statistics site of the Ministry of Education and Statistics New Zealand. The website provides a range of information on the education sector. Information includes early childhood education, primary and secondary schooling, and tertiary education by national counts, ethnic and regional breakdowns. This document reports on recent available Pasifika Education statistics.

Labour market statistics

Statistics New Zealand (Stats NZ) provides data from household and business surveys, as well as administrative data to describe people in Aotearoa New Zealand who are in paid employment, unemployed and not in the labour force, as well as information about jobs and earnings. This document reports labour market data up to 2020 Quarter 4.

New Zealand Health Survey (NZHS)

The NZHS provides information about the health and wellbeing of New Zealanders. It became a continuous survey in 2011, enabling the publication of annual updates on the health of New Zealanders. The Annual Update of Key Results 2019/20: New Zealand Health Survey report utilised in this document provides a snapshot of the health of New Zealanders through the publication of key indicators on health behaviours, health status and access to health care for both adults and children. It presents the 2019/20 results from the continuous NZHS, with comparisons to the 2018/19 and 2013/14 surveys.

General Social Survey (GSS)

The GSS gives a picture of social wellbeing in the Aotearoa New Zealand population. It surveys around 8,500 people aged 15 years and over every two years. The GSS looks at social and economic outcomes and makes comparisons across different ethnic groups. It provides information on how New Zealanders are faring across multiple life domains, such as life satisfaction, health, social connectedness, culture and identity, and overall subjective wellbeing. This report highlights the wellbeing 2018 data pertaining only to Pacific peoples and comparisons over time. The overall sample aimed at 12,000 households and achieved 72% or about 8600 - 8800 valid respondents. The Pacific share of valid responses came to about 500 - 550.

Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI)

The IDI is a large research database that holds microdata about people and households. The data is about life events like education, income, benefits, migration, justice and health. It comes from government agencies, Stats NZ surveys and non-government organisations (NGOs). The data is linked together, or integrated, to form the IDI. The IDI database can be accessed by researchers to gain insight into an area of interest in relation to society and the economy. This report uses IDI data about the Pacific Working Proprietors.



Ministry of Social Development (MSD) administrative data

MSD provides statistical information and reports on how people interact with their services. This includes information on those who have accessed and receive Job Seeker support and other benefits as well as those on the housing register. This report accessed data looking at the Pacific population, with comparisons over time and with other ethnic groups.

Immigration New Zealand administrative data

Immigration New Zealand gathers statistics on how many people come and go from Aotearoa New Zealand, the reason for their visits, if they come as residents and how well they settle. The migration data explorer is a tool that lets you drill into immigration data, and also protects individual privacy. This report accessed data from the migration data explorer to look at the immigration status of people from Pacific nations.

Housing data sources

The housing data in this report was sourced from various databases and reports. This includes:

Census 2018 data on the number of homeowners and non-homeowners by ethnicity,

- Kainga Ora data on the number of Pacific peoples in social housing,
- MSD data on the number of Pacific applicants on the Housing Register,
- GSS data on housing conditions, and
- The Salvation Army report on the crisis of Pacific housing in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Ministry of Justice (MoJ)

MoJ produces a range of information and statistics across a wide variety of activity within the justice sector. It produces general justice tables on charges and convicted charges, data on children and young people, specific offence types, specific justice processes, Family Court and Justice services. This report accessed data related to the Pacific population.

Youth19 data on sexual health

The Youth19 study is the latest of the Youth2000 series of Aotearoa New Zealand adolescent health and wellbeing surveys of high school students around Aotearoa. In 2019, a total of 7721 Year 9-13 students were surveyed in 49 secondary schools from Auckland, Waikato and Tai Tokerau areas. This included a sample of 945 Pacific high school students who make up 12.2% of the total survey population. Publications from this dataset that were used for this report include:

- Fleming, T., Peiris-John, R., Crengle, S., Archer, D., Sutcliffe, K., Lewycka, S., & Clark, T. (2020). Youth19 Rangatahi Smart Survey, Initial Findings: Introduction and Methods. The Youth19 Research Group, The University of Auckland and Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, pp 14.
- Clark, T.C., Lambert, M., Fenaughty, J., Tiatia-Seath, J., Bavin, L., Peiris-John, R., Sutcliffe, K., Crengle, S., & Fleming, T. (2020). Youth19 Rangatahi Smart Survey, Initial Findings: Sexual and reproductive health of w New Zealand secondary school students. The Youth19 Research Group, The University of Auckland and Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.

Youth Insights Survey (YIS) data on substance use

The Youth Insights Survey (YIS) collects data on health-related behaviours, lifestyles, activities and connectedness from Year 10 students aged 14-15 years. This study included a sample of 1,191 Pacific students (14% of the total 8,651 student sample population). 49% of this sample were male and 51% female. 88% lived in urban areas while 12% lived in rural areas. 68% lived in the Northern regions, 27% in Central and 9% in Southern. 58% were in low decile (1-3) schools, 24% in mid (4-7) and 18% in high (8-10) decile schools. 77% were NZ-born and 22% were born overseas. 27% were from Realm countries while the majority were non-Realm (73%). The publication used for this report is:

Tamapeau, M., & Kingstone, S. (2020). Tau Amanaki Onoona Ki Mua: Pacific peoples' youth substance use analyses from the pooled Youth Insights Survey (2014-2018). Wellington, NZ: Te Hiringa Hauora.



Appendix 1: Health indicators for Pacific peoples 2019/2020

Table 12: MOH Health indicators for Pacific peoples compared to National population, 2019 – 2020¹⁰⁴

Health indicators ¹⁰⁵	Pacific Peoples		Total NZ	Pacific trend	National trend
	2019/20 (%)	2015/16 (%)	2019/20 (%)	2018/19 – 2019/20 comparison	Pacific and total NZ comparison 2019/20
Mental health – psychological distress	9.7	12.4	7.4	↓	↑
Mental health – mood and anxiety disorder	10.2	8.0	20.2	↑	↓
Mental health – depression	8.3	7.2	16.5	↑	↓
Mental health – depression (child 2-14 years)	0.8	0.8	0.8	→	→
Mental health – bipolar disorder	0.4	1.0	0.9	↓	↓
Mental health – anxiety disorder	5.4	4.8	11.3	↓	↓
Tobacco use – current smokers	22.4	24.4	13.4	↓	↑
Alcohol use – hazardous drinking (total population)	24.3	22.7	20.9	↑	↑
Alcohol use – heavy episodic drinking at least monthly (total population)	25.1	20.0	22.4	↑	↑
Alcohol use – heavy episodic drinking at least weekly (total population)	11.9	12.4	11.9	↓	→
Illicit drugs – cannabis use	15.3	17.2	14.9	↓	↑
Illicit drugs – amphetamine use (total population)	0.9	1.1	1.1	↓	↓
Physically active	47.4	44.8	51.7	↑	↓
Highly physically active	43.8	41.0	46.8	↑	↓
Little or no physical activity	17.1	19.1	12.5	↓	↑
Overweight (but not obese)	25.9	20.5	35.3	↑	↓
Obese	63.4	66.5	30.9	↓	↑
Osteoarthritis	4.6	3.5	10.2	↑	↓
Chronic pain	19.3	14.7	19.6	↑	↓
Gout	5.0	5.1	2.7	↓	↑
Diabetes	11.0	11.2	5.6	↑	↑
Type 2 diabetes	13.6	14.6	5.9	↓	↑
Unmet need for primary health care	35.1	35.9	30.8	↓	↑
Private health insurance	18.7	16.8	35.0	↑	↓
Dental health care worker visit (adult)	36.1	33.1	48.4	↑	↓
All teeth removed due to decay (adult)	2.7	2.7	5.3	→	↓
Teeth removed due to decay last 12 months (child 1-14 years)	5.0	7.9	3.5	↓	↑

¹⁰⁴ Indicators are estimates of the NZ health survey and sampling errors have not been taken into account.

¹⁰⁵ Ministry of Health Survey 2019/20.

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