



Te Puni Kōkiri
REALISING MĀORI POTENTIAL

Ngā Pukenga Mātauranga Māori Māori Graduates



KEY FACTS

- In 2003, 20,090 Māori gained a tertiary qualification.
- Of all Māori who gained a tertiary qualification in 2003, 58 percent were from wānanga, 27 percent from polytechnics, 12 percent from universities, and 3 percent from colleges of education.
- In 2003 most of the tertiary qualifications gained by Māori were certificates and diplomas²; 56 percent of Māori graduates received a certificate and 28 percent received a diploma.
- Society and Culture (30 percent) and Mixed Field programmes (22 percent) were the main areas of study for Māori graduates in 2003.
- Māori with a post-school qualification³ are more likely to be employed than Māori with lower or no qualifications.

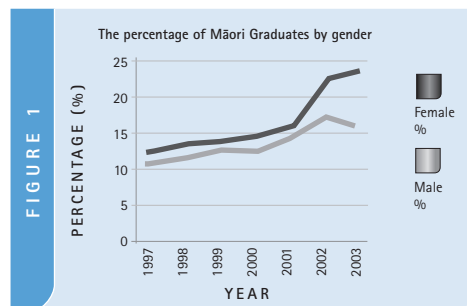
Education is an important factor in determining a person's social and economic status. Generally, the possession of tertiary qualifications improves the employment and income opportunities available to people.

This information uses data from the Ministry of Education to examine the characteristics of Māori tertiary graduates up to 2003¹.

WHO IS GRADUATING?

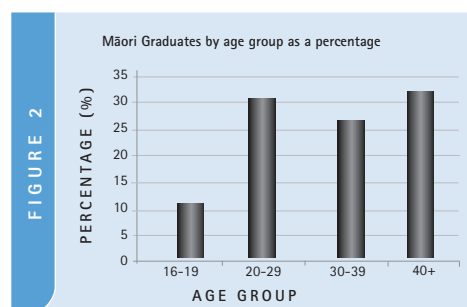
In 2003, 16,446 Māori gained a tertiary qualification from a university, polytechnic, college of education or wānanga, and an additional 3,644 graduated from private tertiary providers. This was an increase of 9,955 Māori graduates since 1997 (an increase of 153 percent).

In 2003, the composition of Māori graduates was 69 percent female and 31 percent male. As can be seen in Figure 1 below, between 1997 and 2003, the proportion of Māori female graduates to all female graduates has always been higher than the proportion of Māori male graduates to all male graduates.



Source: Ministry of Education, 2004.

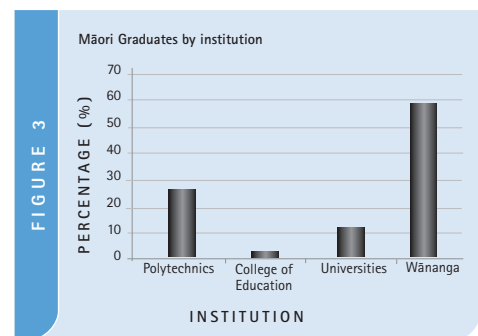
There were more Māori graduates in 2003 over the age of 30 (11,715), with most of these graduates being over 40 years old (6,347, almost a third of total Māori graduates). The largest ten-year age group was 20-29 year olds (6,124).



Source: Ministry of Education, 2004.

INSTITUTION OF GRADUATION

As shown in Figure 3, the majority (58 percent) of Māori who graduated in 2003 were from wānanga, followed by polytechnics (27 percent). Only 12 percent of Māori graduates in the same year were from universities.



Source: Ministry of Education, 2004.

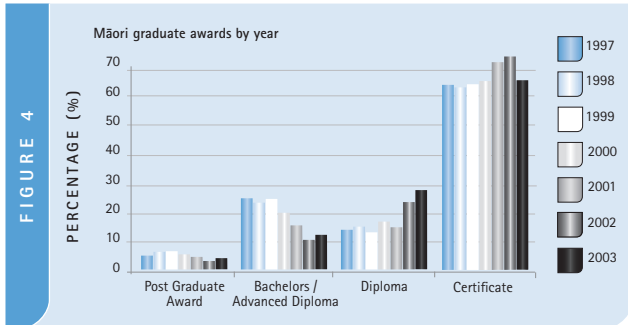
Wānanga were established in 1993. Between 1993 and 2003 there has been a substantial increase in the number of Māori students attending wānanga. The wānanga with the highest number of Māori graduates was Te Wānanga o Aotearoa. In 2003 Te Wānanga o Aotearoa had 10,564 graduates, 7,985 (76 percent) of whom were Māori.

The university with the highest number of Māori graduates for 2003 (440 graduates) was the University of Waikato. The polytechnic with the highest number of Māori graduates for 2003 was the Waiariki Institute of Technology (588 graduates).

AWARDS RECEIVED BY MĀORI GRADUATES

Certificates and diplomas made up the bulk of awards received by Māori graduates (56 percent and 28 percent, respectively). Twelve percent of Māori graduates received a Bachelor's degree or advanced diploma; only three percent of Māori graduates gained a post-graduate degree.



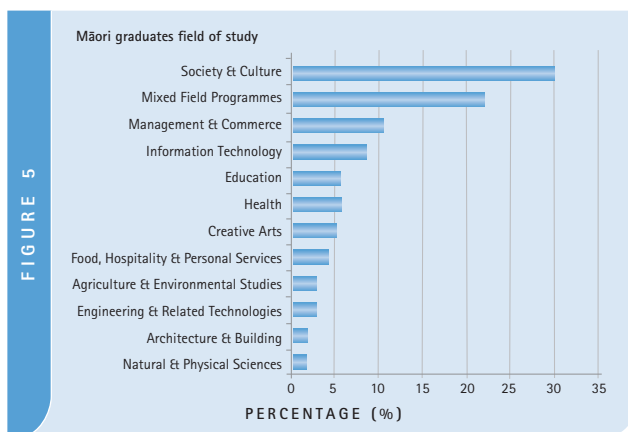


Source: Ministry of Education, 2004.

In Figure 4, in 1997 just over a quarter (25.5 percent) of Māori graduates received a Bachelors degree or advanced certificate. By 2003, this dropped to 12.4 percent. The proportional decrease of bachelors and post-graduate degrees is because the number of Māori graduating with diplomas and certificates has increased at a faster rate than the number graduating with bachelors and post-graduate qualifications. Fifteen percent of graduates earned a diploma in 1997, increasing to 28 percent of graduates in 2003.

MAIN FIELD OF STUDY

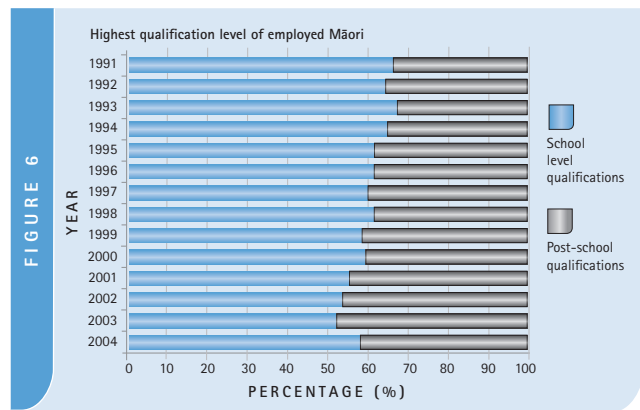
Figure 5 shows that in 2003 Society & Culture⁴ was the most common field of study for Māori graduates (30 percent), followed by Mixed Field Programmes⁵ (22 percent) and Management & Commerce (10 percent).



Source: Ministry of Education, 2004.

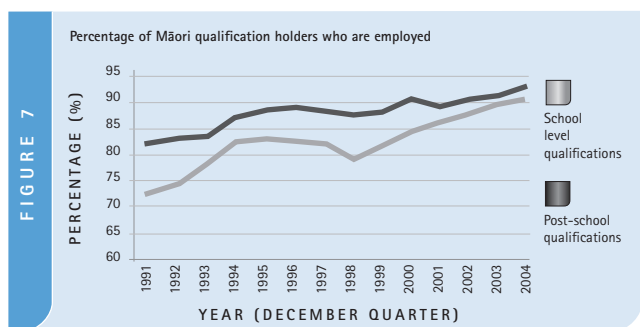
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Overall, Māori with higher, post-school qualifications gain employment in occupations of higher skill levels than those who have only school level qualifications. Māori with school level qualifications or lower make up a larger proportion of employed Māori, although the trend is slowly moving in the other direction.



Source: Statistics New Zealand, Household Labour Force Survey, 2005.

Also, the latest Household Labour Force Survey data shows that Māori are more likely to be employed if they have a post-school qualification. Approximately 93 percent of Māori who hold a post-school qualification are currently employed.



Source: Statistics New Zealand, Household Labour Force Survey, 2005.
 Note: Vertical axis begins at 60%.

EARNINGS OF MĀORI GRADUATES

The median starting salary of 1999 Māori students who studied at Bachelor's and Advanced Diploma level and completed their qualification was \$29,630 in 2000⁶.

FOOTNOTES 1 The most recent graduate data from the Ministry of Education is from 2003. 2 This does not include advanced diplomas or post-graduate diplomas and certificates. 3 Including tertiary and vocational training. 4 This includes political science and policy studies, human welfare studies and services, behavioural sciences, law, justice and law enforcement, librarianship, philosophy and religious studies and sports and recreation. 5 Education programmes, social skills programmes, employment skills programs, training opportunities and youth training. 6 Source: Statistics New Zealand, Integrated Dataset on Student Loan Scheme Borrowers.

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