



# Moni whiwhi mō ngā Kaitakuhu Māori *Incomes for Māori Self-employed*



## KEY FACTS

- Between 2001 and 2006 the number of Māori identifying themselves as self-employed grew by more than 20 percent.
- By far the largest source of income for New Zealanders remains paid employment.
- Since 2001 there has been a significant shift in the percentage of Māori earning over \$30,000 per year from self-employment.
- Compared to employed Māori, there is a higher percentage of self-employed Māori in the \$50,000 and over income bracket.

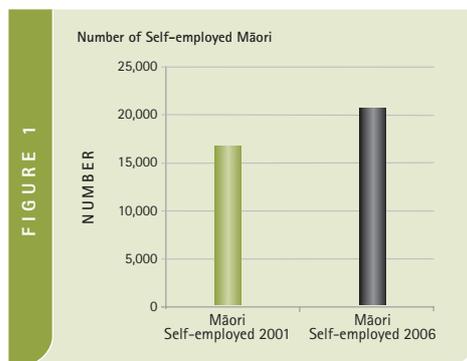
**New Zealand is primarily a nation of small businesses. Small and Medium Sized Entities account for 39 percent of economic output, with 85 percent of them employing five or fewer people. Self-employment statistics provide a snapshot of New Zealand's entrepreneurial spirit.**

A look at Māori self-employment data between 2001 and 2006, as captured by the Census, indicates the progress Māori have made in this area, and suggests that a greater percentage of self-employed Māori earn higher wages than Māori employees.

## ■ SIGNIFICANT GROWTH IN SELF-EMPLOYED MĀORI

Māori identifying themselves as self-employed (both with and without employees) grew by more than 20 percent between 2001 and 2006, from 17,100 to 20,850.

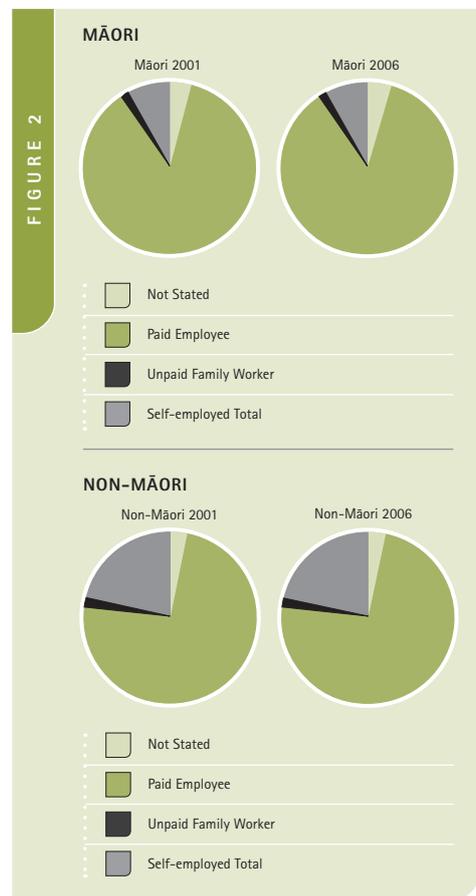
Non-Māori ticking the self-employed box grew by 8.8 percent during the same period.



Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census 2001, 2006

## ■ SELF-EMPLOYMENT IN TERMS OF TOTAL EMPLOYMENT

Although both self-employed Māori and non-Māori have grown in numbers, the overall proportion of self-employed in relation to the total working population has remained static. By far the largest source of income for New Zealanders remains paid employment.



Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census 2001, 2006

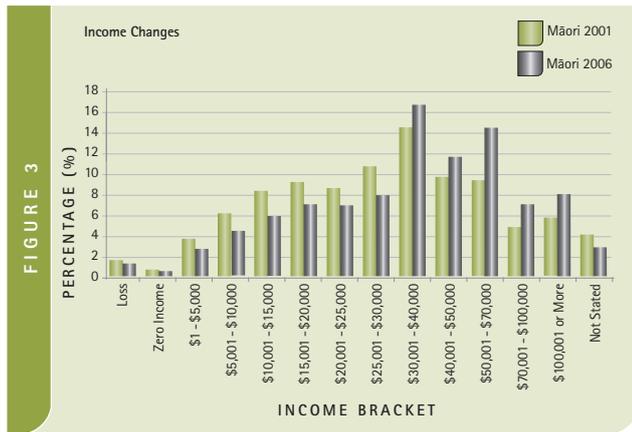
Figure 2 also demonstrates that there is a considerably larger proportion of the non-Māori workforce who identify themselves as 'self-employed', which suggests that many Māori are reluctant to start their own businesses, perhaps due a lack of start-up capital, or fears over income potential.





### INCOME FROM SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Since 2001 there has been a significant shift in the percentage of Māori earning over \$30,000 a year from self-employment.

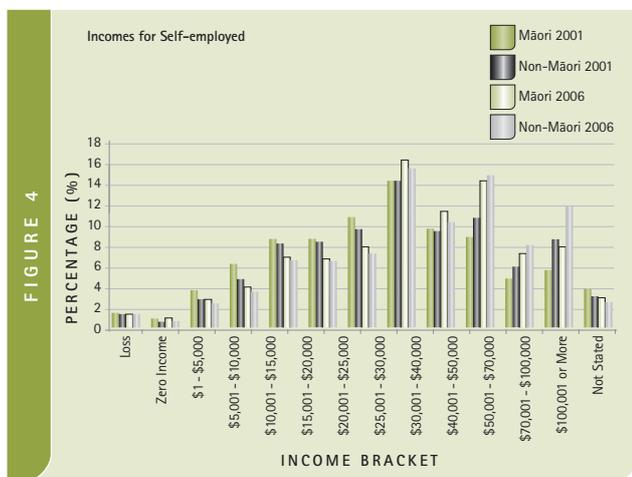


Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census 2001, 2006

The past five years have seen a growth of 13 percent in the number of self-employed Māori earning more than \$30,000 a year, and a corresponding drop in those self-employed earning below \$30,000 a year. Corresponding data for non-Māori self-employed shows only a 10 percent shift from the lower income brackets to the higher.

### MĀORI AND NON-MĀORI INCOMES

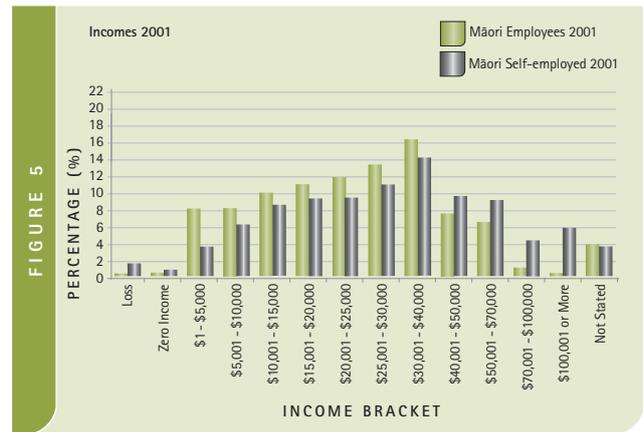
It appears that Māori are closing the gaps with non-Māori in the self-employment area. Not only has the number of self-employed Māori seen a greater increase (20 percent versus 8.8 percent for non-Māori) since 2001, but there has been a greater move into the higher income brackets as well (13 percent versus 10 percent).



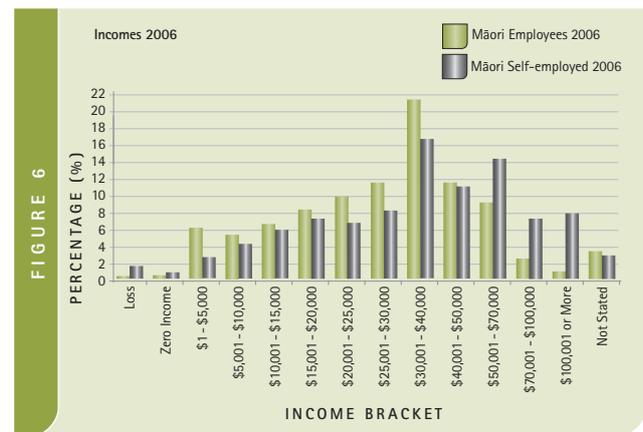
Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census 2001, 2006

### COMPARISON WITH EMPLOYEE INCOMES

In 2001 a greater proportion of Māori who were self-employed earned over \$40,000 a year, compared to Māori employees.



Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census 2001



Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census, 2006

As Figure 6 shows, by 2006 an even greater proportion of Māori self-employed earned over \$40,000. Although there are now more Māori employees in the higher income brackets, the percentage growth of self-employed Māori earning in the higher income brackets is greater still. There has been an increase of 5.5 percent in Māori employees earning over \$50,000, and an increase of 9.9 percent for self-employed Māori.

### CONCLUSION

Self-employment remains a strong source of income for Māori, with trends suggesting increasing numbers of self-employed earning increasingly higher incomes. However, with self-employed constituting less than 10 percent of the Māori workforce, there is room for growth in this area.

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