

16 February 2026

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request of 16 January 2026, under the Official Information Act 1982, for the following information:

For each year between 2021-2024, and for each secondary school in New Zealand, please provide the following:

- % University Entrance (Year 13 Cumulative Attainment Rate)
- % NCEA Level 3 Excellence (Year 13 Cumulative Attainment Rate)
- NZ Scholarship count
- NZ Outstanding Scholarship count

Please provide data in csv or xlsx format.

Response

In response to your request, please see the attached spreadsheet [PRS-6510 OIA [REDACTED] NCEA L3 UE and Scholarship v1.0.xlsx] which contains the information requested.

Note:

- We have also included a word document [School-Level Documentation.docx] which includes some general information we provide when school-level information is requested.
- We would like to draw your attention to the following paragraph, included in this word document: "School contexts vary significantly, as noted in the following paragraphs. For that reason, NZQA does not support the use of the data for league-table-like comparisons. Out of context these can paint an inaccurate picture of student and school achievement, which has the potential to cause harm to students, schools and their communities."

Our response to your request may be published on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed before publication.

If you require further assistance or believe we have misinterpreted your request, please contact Elizabeth Templeton in the Office of the Chief Executive, email elizabeth.templeton@nzqa.govt.nz or telephone (04) 463 3339.

You have the right to seek an investigation or review by the Ombudsman of this decision under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982. Details of how to make a complaint can be found

at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz. You can also telephone 0800 802 502 or write to the Ombudsman at PO Box 10152, Wellington, 6143.

Nāku nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Klinkum', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr Grant Klinkum
Pouwhakahaere/Chief Executive

School-Level
Participation-based NCEA Level 1 Statistics
Enrolment-based NCEA Levels 2 and 3, and University
Entrance Statistics
NCEA Endorsement Statistics
Literacy and Numeracy Statistics
Scholarship Statistics

General Information

NCEA and UE School level attainment statistics using the enrolment-based measure are concerned with the reporting population of domestic students in years 11-13 aged less than 19-years on 1 January of reporting year enrolled at a secondary school.

School contexts vary significantly, as noted in the following paragraphs. For that reason, NZQA does not support the use of the data for league-table-like comparisons. Out of context these can paint an inaccurate picture of student and school achievement, which has the potential to cause harm to students, schools and their communities.

Alternative Education students, Ongoing Resourcing Scheme (ORS) funded students and students in Secondary-Tertiary Programmes are included with their enrolling school.

Attainment statistics cover NCEA qualifications and awards only, and do not include results from alternative assessments such as International Baccalaureate, Cambridge International Qualifications or Accelerated Christian Education.

Approximately 1,300 students leave school each year with a non-NZQF award at the equivalent of NCEA Level 3 or University Entrance.

For some schools who offer both NCEA and other awards, their NCEA attainment underestimates students' total attainment.

Enrolment-Based Cohort

NZQA and the Ministry of Education have developed a measure of attainment that is more precise. More information about this measure, and how it compares with the previous measure(s) can be found here: <https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/studying-in-new-zealand/secondary-school-and-ncea/find-information-about-a-school/secondary-school-statistics/>

As part of this measure, students are categorised into various populations, these are:

- New Zealand Domestic Years 11-13 Students
(aged less than 19 years on the 1st of January of the reporting year, enrolled at a secondary school)
- International Fee-Paying and Exchange Students

- New Zealand Domestic Adults
- Pacific Island School Students (Cook Islands and Niue)
- New Zealand Students not in Years 11-13
 - These are broken into those in Years 1-10, and those in Years 14-15.

For the NCEA and University Entrance Attainment Statistics files, NCEA Qualification Endorsement Attainment Statistics files, and Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy Attainment Statistics files, only students from the Years 11-13 Domestic Students are included.

For the remainder of the files, students from all populations listed above are included.

Participation-Based Cohort

These students are a subset of the Enrolment-Based Cohort, where students have participated in a full NCEA qualification. Currently this is limited to NCEA Level 1 where participation is defined as being entered for 80+ credits at Level 1 or above (this includes credits achieved in prior years).

As of 2025, attainment of NCEA Level 1 uses a participation-based measure. Default reporting includes the previous ten academic years to enable valid comparisons.

Which Students are Excluded from the Enrolment-Based Measure?

- International fee-paying students
- Adults aged 19-years or more on 1 January
- Students not in years 11-13
- Students enrolled with tertiary institutions
- Those students with unknown genders or ethnicities are not included in their respective breakdowns

Which Students are Excluded in School-Level reporting?

- Short enrolment students - those students who were enrolled at their last school for less than 70 days between 1 February and 15 December of the reporting year
- Students attending teen parent units

Schools and students that are excluded from School-Level reporting are presented in these files as separate notional schools with the names “Other Schools” and “Students with Short Enrolments and Teen Parent Unit Students” respectively.

Please note that the above exclusions do not apply to the Scholarship Statistics files.

Additional Context about School-Level Statistics

The reporting population covered by the enrolment measure includes all enrolled students including those not on an NCEA pathway. Many schools have a significant involvement in providing specialist support for students including students with specialist learning support needs, ORS funded students and students in Alternative Education.

There are some other schools that offer non NZQF qualifications (such as the International Baccalaureate, Cambridge, or Accelerated Christian Education) in addition to NCEA.

For this reason, NZQA does not consider league tables to be a valid use of this data.

What Suppression of Data has been Applied?

To protect privacy, percentages and counts for populations of 1 to 4 students have been suppressed.

Note that any efforts on the part of those receiving these files to deduce privacy-sensitive data which has been suppressed, or not included in reports, is considered a breach of privacy.

What is the “Small Cohort Warning”?

This is an indicator that the data should be used with caution as the cohort size is small and attainment rates are less likely to be stable (less than 30).

What Measures are Reported on as Counts and Percentages?

All files include counts and percentages, subject to privacy requirements as detailed above.

MEASURE	USAGE
NCEA LEVEL 1	Attainment of this qualification is the standard measure used for Year 11 students but available for all year levels.
NCEA LEVEL 2	Attainment of this qualification is standard measure used for Year 12 students but available for all year levels.
NCEA LEVEL 3	Attainment of this qualification is standard measure used for Year 13 students but available for all year levels.
UE	Attainment of University Entrance is a standard measure reported for Year 13 students but available for all year levels.