

Aide-Memoire: New enrolment-based measure of NCEA attainment – Updated data

To:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education
From:	Dr Karen Poutasi, Chief Executive
Date:	22 June 2018
Reference:	CR17590

Purpose

1. This aide memoire is to notify you that a discrepancy has been identified in the summary table of the infographic that NZQA provided to the Ministry as part of their briefing to you dated 24 May 2018 (METIS 1127163 refers). It only affects the ethnicity figures reported in the infographic. The briefing note was also copied to Ministers Davies, Salesa, and Martin.
2. The discrepancy arose in the process of summarising the data for presentation purposes. Data in the core information systems is correct, and the discrepancy is unrelated.
3. The Ministry has been informed and we will continue to work closely with them as the new achievement data is released to the sector.
4. The impact of the discrepancy is that the achievement rates at an ethnicity level have changed, albeit in a positive direction.
5. The most significant of these changes is for Māori learners, where the revised impact is now a decrease in achievement across NCEA Levels 1 to 3 and UE of between 2.2 and 4.7 percentage points compared to the previously advised range of 7.3 to 8.0 percentage points. However, the amount of improvement in student attainment over time is similar and positive.
6. There has been a minor change to the achievement figures previously provided to you for Pasifika and Asian learners and the figures for European learners are unchanged.
7. I have attached an updated data summary table for your information.
8. NZQA was planning to publicly release the new enrolment-based data on Monday 25 June 2018. We now intend to move the release date to Thursday 28 June to ensure we have

sufficient specialist school-facing capacity to respond to queries from schools as they review their data.



Karen Poutasi (Dr)
Chief Executive, NZQA

22 June 2018

Noted/Approved

Chris Hipkins
Minister Education

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Group	Impact – based on 2017 figures (NCEA Levels 1-3 and UE)	Reasons for change
Nationwide	Down 0.2 to 0.9 percentage points	New measure draws from larger population than 1 July roll, adding students to the roll and removing international and adult students.
Māori	Down 2.2 to 4.7 percentage points	Previously around 4,000 Māori students were not part of the 1 July return and are now included.
Pasifika	Down 3.3 to 7.8 percentage points	International Pasifika students are excluded. Extra 3,250 students formerly prioritised as Māori are now also part of Pasifika grouping (Total Response Methodology).
Asian	Down 9.7 to 20.4 percent points	Mainly due to the exclusion of international students who were included in the NZQA attainment data but not on the 1 July roll of Asian students.
European/ Pākehā	Down 1.7 to 3.0 percentage points	An increase of 12,200 students being considered European/Pākehā who were previously prioritised as Māori or Pasifika.
Decile 1- 3	Down 1.7 to 3.4 percentage points	Added students who were not captured on 1 July rolls.
Decile 8 - 10	Down 0.2 to up 2.4 percentage points	Mainly due to the exclusion of international students from the measure.
