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## Provisional 2018 NCEA and University Entrance Attainment Statistics

Date:	16 January 2019	NZQA Priority:	High
Security Level:	In confidence	Report No.	CR18480

	Action Sought	Deadline
Minister of Education	<p><b>note</b> that provisional 2018 NCEA and University Entrance attainment statistics are now available.</p> <p><b>note</b> that schools will be able to access their own school's attainment statistics and a decile band comparator from 17 January 2019.</p> <p><b>note</b> that 2018 NCEA and University Entrance attainment statistics will be finalised in April 2019.</p> <p><b>note</b> that the Ministry of Education has been consulted on this briefing.</p> <p><b>note</b> that this report will not be proactively released until after the attainment statistics are finalised in April 2019.</p>	Immediate

Enclosure/Appendix: Yes

Round Robin No

### Contact for Telephone Discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	Cellphone	1 <sup>st</sup> Contact
Kristine Kilkelly	Deputy Chief Executive Assessment Division	04 463 3379	██████████ s9(2)(a)	√

The following departments/agencies have seen this report:

Ministry of Education       Tertiary Education Commission       Other (specify)

#### Minister's Office to Complete:

- Noted       Seen       Approved  
 Needs change       Withdrawn       Overtaken by Events  
 See Minister's comments       Declined

Referred to:

Comments:

## **Provisional 2018 NCEA and University Entrance Attainment Statistics**

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### Recommended Action

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It is recommended you:

- a. **note** that provisional 2018 NCEA and University Entrance attainment statistics are now available.
- b. **note** that schools will be able to access their own school's attainment statistics and a decile band comparator from 17 January 2019.
- c. **note** that 2018 NCEA and University Entrance attainment statistics will be finalised in April 2019.
- d. **note** that the Ministry of Education has been consulted on this briefing.

### Proactive Release Recommendation

NZQA recommends you:

- e. **note** that this report will not be proactively released until after the attainment statistics are finalised in April 2019.



Karen Poutasi (Dr)  
Chief Executive

16 January 2019

Hon Chris Hipkins  
Minister of Education

NOTED/APPROVED

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## Provisional 2018 NCEA and University Entrance Attainment Statistics

### Purpose of Report

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1. The provisional 2019 NCEA and University Entrance (UE) attainment statistics are now available. This report provides a high-level overview of these statistics, broken down by ethnicity, gender and decile.
2. These statistics are reported using the new enrolment-based measure of NCEA attainment. All historical data has been recast so that valid comparisons across years are able to be made. Control checks have been made, the population of students has a similar composition to that in past years and the trends in the new measure are consistent with trends in the measures used in the past.
3. The Ministry of Education has been consulted on this briefing.

### Comment

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4. The 2018 NCEA results were made available to students and schools on Tuesday 15 January 2019. 2018 provisional school attainment statistics will be made available to school Principals and Principal Nominees for their school (and including a decile band comparator in their Principal's report) on Thursday 17 January.<sup>1</sup>

### **Overall attainment**

5. The provisional NCEA attainment statistics are as follows:
  - a. 70.1% of Year 11 students attained NCEA Level 1 (41,882 of 59,762)
  - b. 76.1% of Year 12 students attained NCEA Level 2 (42,234 of 55,517)
  - c. 63.7% of Year 13 students attained NCEA Level 3 (31,069 of 48,757)
  - d. 46.1% of Year 13 students were awarded UE (22,467 of 48,757)
6. Based on patterns observed in previous years, these provisional overall national attainment statistics are likely to increase by one to two percentage points by the time attainment statistics are finalised in April 2019<sup>2</sup>.
7. We expect the final 2018 attainment statistics to reach similar levels to 2017, with the exception of Year 11 NCEA Level 1 attainment. Year 11 NCEA Level 1 attainment first dropped in 2017 (by 0.8 percentage points). This downward trend is expected to continue and will be amplified, in 2018.
8. Figure 1 below gives a ten-year view of NCEA and UE attainment percentages<sup>3</sup>. The 2009 to 2017 percentages are final, the 2018 percentages are provisional.

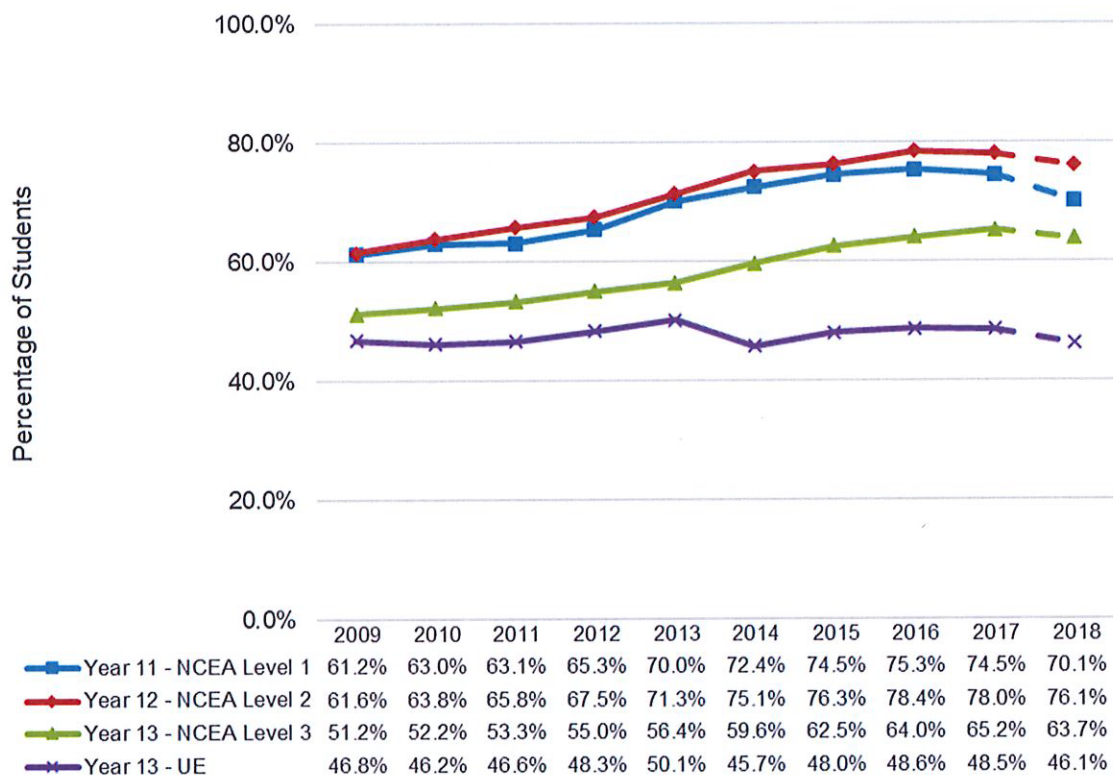
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<sup>1</sup> NZQA report CR18274, 2018 NCEA, University Entrance and New Zealand Scholarship Results Release covering NZQA's data release schedule refers

<sup>2</sup> This happens because some internally-assessed results are reported late by schools, and some students apply for a remark of some of their examination results which can result in further qualifications being awarded.

<sup>3</sup> The drop in UE attainment in 2014 was a result of changes made to the requirements for the UE award.

Figure 1: Enrolment Based NCEA and University Entrance Attainment 2009-2018 (2018 Provisional)<sup>4</sup>



### National attainment by ethnicity, gender and decile band

9. Appendix 1 Tables 1 to 4 provide a more detailed breakdown of attainment for 2009 to 2018, including by ethnicity, gender and decile band.
10. The decrease seen for the Year 11 NCEA Level 1 2018 attainment is reflected across the national provisional results when broken down by decile band and by ethnicity, compared to final 2017 results. The percentage point drop is more pronounced for Decile band 1 to 3 schools, and this is reflected in the rates for Māori and Pacific students because more students from these ethnic groups are in Decile band 1-3 schools.

#### At the decile band

- a. A drop of 8.6 percentage points at Deciles 1-3 (54.3% - 6,144 of 11,310)
- b. A drop of 4.6 percentage points at Deciles 4-7 (72.9% - 18,795 of 25,785)
- c. A drop of 1.6 percentage points at Deciles 8-10 (79.8% - 16,801 of 21,048)

#### By ethnicity

- a. A drop of 7.5 percentage points for Pacific students (58.7% - 4,295 of 7,314)
- b. A drop of 6.9 percentage points for Māori students (55.1% - 7,938 of 14,405)
- c. A drop of 3.8 percentage points for European students (76.0% - 28,314 of 37,244)
- d. A drop of 2.6 percentage points for Asian students (74.7% - 5,487 of 7,349)

11. We expect that once attainment statistics are finalised in April 2019, the decile band and ethnicity Year 11 Level 1 attainment statistics above will increase by up to 4 percentage

<sup>4</sup> 2018 figures are provisional.

points. This will largely be as a result of late reporting of 2018 internally-assessed results by schools. However, we expect that the final 2018 decile band and ethnicity Year 11 Level 1 attainment statistics will be lower than the equivalent 2017 attainment statistics.

### ***Factors affecting the decrease in Year 11 NCEA Level 1 attainment***

12. The drop in Year 11 NCEA Level 1 attainment in 2018 compared to 2017 could be due to one or a combination of:
  - a. individual changes in school assessment practises, leading to a smaller proportion of year 11 students being entered for sufficient credits to attain the NCEA Level 1 qualification in Year 11;
  - b. a greater proportion of Year 11 students failing to achieve the literacy and numeracy requirements for NCEA Level 1;
  - c. a greater number of unreported results for NCEA Level 1 students from schools.
13. We are investigating which of these factors or combination thereof may have caused the decrease in Year 11 NCEA Level 1 attainment, focussing on schools where Year 11 NCEA Level 1 2018 attainment has declined compared with 2017. Early investigations suggest that fewer students are being entered for sufficient credits to attain the qualification and a greater proportion of students are failing to achieve the literacy and numeracy requirements. This analysis is ongoing.
14. NZQA's School Relationship Managers will be liaising with schools to gain any insights into what might have changed between 2017 and 2018 focussing on whether:
  - a. there has been a school policy change and the school is no longer prioritising NCEA Level 1 attainment for year 11 students;
  - b. there have been any changes in their Year 11 cohort's engagement with schooling or attendance at school;
  - c. there are any 2018 result data reporting issues or other school administration issues.
15. Discussions with schools will occur once schools have had the opportunity to review their provisional attainment statistics - from Thursday 17 January onwards.

### ***Impact of moving to new enrolment-based measure of NCEA***

16. This is the first year we have reported results using the agreed enrolment-based measure. The main change associated with the new measure is to count all students enrolled across the year, rather than just those enrolled at the July 1 roll-count. All results have been back-cast using the same measure, so this is not responsible for the decreases seen in NCEA Level 1 achievement patterns. Our staff have engaged extensively with the sector on the new measure and will be on-hand to answer any questions schools may have about the measure.

### **Next steps**

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17. New Zealand Scholarship results will be released to students on 7 February 2019.
18. Final 2018 NCEA, UE and Scholarship attainment statistics will be made publicly available on NZQA's website on 16 April 2019. You will be provided with a briefing on the final statistics on 8 April 2019. NZQA will publish an Annual Report on NCEA and New Zealand Scholarship Data and Statistics at the end of May 2019. You will be provided with a briefing and a draft copy of the report by mid-May 2019.

## Appendix 1

Table 1: Enrolment-Based National NCEA and University Entrance Attainment 2009-2018 (2018 Provisional)<sup>5</sup>

	Year 11 - NCEA Level 1	Year 12 - NCEA Level 2	Year 13 - NCEA Level 3	Year 13 - UE
2009	61.2%	61.6%	51.2%	46.8%
2010	63.0%	63.8%	52.2%	46.2%
2011	63.1%	65.8%	53.3%	46.6%
2012	65.3%	67.5%	55.0%	48.3%
2013	70.0%	71.3%	56.4%	50.1%
2014	72.4%	75.1%	59.6%	45.7%
2015	74.5%	76.3%	62.5%	48.0%
2016	75.3%	78.4%	64.0%	48.6%
2017	74.5%	78.0%	65.2%	48.5%
2018*	70.1%	76.1%	63.7%	46.1%

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<sup>5</sup> 2018 figures are provisional.

Table 2: Enrolment-Based National NCEA and University Entrance Attainment by Ethnicity 2009-2018 (2018 Provisional)<sup>6</sup>

		Year 11 - NCEA Level 1	Year 12 - NCEA Level 2	Year 13 - NCEA Level 3	Year 13 - UE
<b>Māori</b>	2009	42.6%	43.6%	31.0%	24.9%
	2010	44.2%	47.6%	33.3%	24.8%
	2011	44.5%	50.8%	36.4%	26.5%
	2012	47.5%	52.6%	39.0%	28.4%
	2013	53.6%	58.5%	40.6%	30.4%
	2014	57.9%	63.6%	43.8%	25.1%
	2015	61.2%	66.9%	47.5%	27.7%
	2016	62.8%	70.6%	49.9%	28.0%
	2017	62.0%	69.8%	52.4%	29.3%
	2018*	55.1%	66.4%	50.8%	26.7%
<b>European</b>	2009	69.2%	68.5%	57.6%	53.5%
	2010	71.4%	70.4%	58.3%	52.9%
	2011	71.0%	72.1%	59.2%	53.1%
	2012	73.4%	73.7%	60.0%	54.3%
	2013	76.8%	76.4%	61.2%	56.0%
	2014	78.8%	79.8%	64.5%	52.1%
	2015	80.1%	80.5%	67.2%	54.5%
	2016	80.6%	82.0%	68.1%	55.1%
	2017	79.8%	81.6%	68.7%	54.3%
	2018*	76.0%	80.3%	67.6%	52.2%
<b>Pacific Peoples</b>	2009	42.9%	42.3%	27.5%	21.5%
	2010	44.3%	46.4%	32.3%	22.5%
	2011	46.5%	48.7%	34.3%	23.4%
	2012	50.1%	51.7%	39.5%	27.6%
	2013	58.4%	61.4%	43.0%	31.2%
	2014	61.9%	67.3%	47.0%	26.0%
	2015	66.4%	69.6%	51.5%	26.4%
	2016	66.5%	72.8%	53.9%	27.7%
	2017	66.2%	72.9%	58.4%	29.0%
	2018*	58.7%	69.6%	56.1%	26.2%
<b>Asian</b>	2009	65.5%	66.3%	57.3%	54.4%
	2010	68.5%	66.4%	58.8%	55.9%
	2011	69.6%	69.1%	57.8%	54.4%
	2012	70.2%	70.3%	61.2%	58.0%
	2013	72.9%	72.5%	62.5%	59.8%
	2014	74.0%	74.1%	65.1%	55.8%
	2015	76.8%	74.4%	66.5%	57.4%
	2016	77.9%	77.2%	68.8%	58.7%
	2017	77.3%	77.4%	70.1%	59.9%
2018*	74.7%	75.8%	68.1%	56.8%	

<sup>6</sup> 2018 figures are provisional.

Table 3: Enrolment-Based National NCEA and University Entrance Attainment by Gender 2009-2018 (2018 Provisional)<sup>7</sup>

		Year 11 - NCEA Level 1	Year 12 - NCEA Level 2	Year 13 - NCEA Level 3	Year 13 - UE
<b>Female</b>	<b>2009</b>	66.0%	67.3%	58.3%	52.8%
	<b>2010</b>	67.8%	69.1%	59.2%	52.6%
	<b>2011</b>	68.1%	71.0%	60.1%	52.8%
	<b>2012</b>	70.3%	72.0%	61.9%	55.1%
	<b>2013</b>	75.0%	75.2%	62.3%	55.7%
	<b>2014</b>	77.2%	79.2%	65.9%	52.1%
	<b>2015</b>	79.0%	80.1%	68.4%	54.3%
	<b>2016</b>	79.3%	81.8%	69.0%	54.7%
	<b>2017</b>	78.7%	81.1%	70.2%	54.8%
	<b>2018*</b>	74.8%	79.7%	68.4%	51.9%
<b>Male</b>	<b>2009</b>	56.6%	56.1%	43.6%	40.4%
	<b>2010</b>	58.4%	58.6%	44.7%	39.5%
	<b>2011</b>	58.4%	60.7%	46.2%	40.0%
	<b>2012</b>	60.6%	63.0%	47.6%	41.1%
	<b>2013</b>	65.3%	67.4%	50.1%	44.2%
	<b>2014</b>	68.0%	71.0%	52.9%	38.9%
	<b>2015</b>	70.3%	72.6%	56.2%	41.3%
	<b>2016</b>	71.5%	75.1%	58.6%	42.2%
	<b>2017</b>	70.4%	74.9%	59.8%	41.8%
	<b>2018*</b>	65.7%	72.5%	58.6%	39.8%

<sup>7</sup> 2018 figures are provisional.



Table 4: Enrolment-Based National NCEA and University Entrance Attainment by School Decile Band 2009-2018 (2018 Provisional)<sup>8</sup>

		Year 11 - NCEA Level 1	Year 12 - NCEA Level 2	Year 13 - NCEA Level 3	Year 13 - UE
<b>Decile 1-3</b>	<b>2009</b>	45.2%	44.9%	31.5%	25.2%
	<b>2010</b>	46.8%	48.8%	32.9%	23.5%
	<b>2011</b>	45.4%	51.8%	36.8%	25.6%
	<b>2012</b>	47.8%	53.9%	41.7%	29.4%
	<b>2013</b>	55.5%	60.0%	43.5%	31.4%
	<b>2014</b>	58.3%	65.1%	45.4%	24.0%
	<b>2015</b>	61.7%	67.9%	49.9%	26.3%
	<b>2016</b>	63.3%	70.7%	53.7%	28.0%
	<b>2017</b>	62.9%	70.7%	55.3%	27.2%
	<b>2018*</b>	54.3%	66.8%	54.1%	24.9%
<b>Decile 4-7</b>	<b>2009</b>	62.0%	62.1%	50.4%	44.9%
	<b>2010</b>	63.7%	64.9%	51.4%	44.7%
	<b>2011</b>	64.8%	67.8%	52.9%	45.3%
	<b>2012</b>	66.7%	69.4%	55.2%	47.5%
	<b>2013</b>	71.2%	74.1%	57.7%	50.4%
	<b>2014</b>	74.5%	77.6%	59.8%	43.5%
	<b>2015</b>	77.2%	79.7%	64.3%	48.2%
	<b>2016</b>	78.1%	81.4%	65.1%	47.7%
	<b>2017</b>	77.5%	80.8%	65.8%	46.9%
	<b>2018*</b>	72.9%	78.6%	64.6%	45.1%
<b>Decile 8-10</b>	<b>2009</b>	72.7%	72.6%	62.8%	60.0%
	<b>2010</b>	75.0%	74.1%	64.7%	60.3%
	<b>2011</b>	76.2%	75.8%	66.0%	61.4%
	<b>2012</b>	77.2%	77.5%	66.7%	62.7%
	<b>2013</b>	79.9%	79.9%	69.0%	65.7%
	<b>2014</b>	80.7%	81.9%	71.2%	61.4%
	<b>2015</b>	83.2%	82.8%	74.6%	64.8%
	<b>2016</b>	83.3%	85.0%	75.8%	66.3%
	<b>2017</b>	81.4%	84.3%	76.2%	65.8%
	<b>2018*</b>	79.8%	83.2%	74.5%	62.5%

<sup>8</sup> 2018 figures are provisional.