



Tongan People in New Zealand: 2006

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Introduction

Tongan People in New Zealand: 2006 is one of seven profiles on Pacific peoples based on the results from the 2006 Census. The subject population for this profile is the usually resident New Zealand population of Tongans at the time of the 2006 Census. Tongans are defined as those who specified Tongan as a response to the ethnicity question. Where appropriate, comparisons are made between Tongans born in New Zealand and those born overseas, as well as with the total Pacific and total New Zealand usually resident populations. Time series information is provided, using data from previous censuses. This has not been possible for all topics because changes in the way that some of the data is collected means it cannot always be easily compared across time.

Highlights

Tongan People in New Zealand

- In 2006, Tongans were the third largest Pacific ethnic group in New Zealand, making up 50,478 or 19 percent of New Zealand's Pacific population (265,974).
- The Tongan population increased by 24 percent (9,763) between 2001 and 2006.
- The median age of the Tongan population (half are younger and half are older than this age) was 19 years. By comparison, the median ages for the total Pacific and total New Zealand populations were 21 years and 36 years, respectively.
- Tongans born in New Zealand account for 56 percent (27,693) of the total Tongan population.
- 61 percent (28,186) of Tongan people are able to hold an everyday conversation in Tongan. This is a 1 percentage point increase since 2001.
- 90 percent (42,813) of Tongan people affiliated with a religion. Of those Tongans who affiliated with a religion, 98 percent (41,988) were affiliated with a Christian religion.
- 64 percent (16,041) of Tongan adults have a formal educational qualification (secondary school or post-school qualification). The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations are 65 percent and 75 percent, respectively.
- 80 percent (40,140) of the Tongan population live in the Auckland region, which is the same proportion as in 2001.

Ko e Kakai Tonga 'i Nu'u Sila'.

'I he 2006, na'e hoko 'a e kakai Tonga' ko e matakali fika tolu lahi taha mei' he Pasifiki 'i Nu'u Sila' ni', 'a ia ko e toko 50,478 pē ko e pēseti 'e 19 'o e fakakātoa e kakai Pasifiki 'i Nu'u Sila' ni (265,974).

- Ko e kakai Tonga' kuo nau tokolahi ange 'aki ha pēseti 'e 24 (9,763) mei' he vaha'ataimi 'o e 2001 ki he 2006.
- Ko e vaha'a ta'u motu'a lotoloto' (ko e vaeua 'o e kakai Tonga' 'oku nau si'i hifo he ta'u motu'a ko eni' pea vaeua 'oku nau 'i 'olunga 'i he vaha'a ta'u motu'a ko eni') ko e ta'u 19. 'I hono fakahoa atu ki he vaha'a ta'umotu'a lotoloto 'o e Kakai Pasifiki' fakakātoa pea mo Nu'u Sila' ni fakakātoa', 'oku 'i he ta'u 21 mo e 36 'a e fakahokohoko'.

- Ko e pēseti 'e 56 'o e fakakātoa e kakai Tonga 'i Nu'u Sila' ni' ko e fā'ele'i pē kinautolu 'i Nu'u Sila' ni (27,693).
- Ko e pēseti 'e 61, (28,186) 'o e Kakai Tonga' 'oku nau lava ke talanoa femahino'aki faka'aho 'i he lea faka-Tonga'. Ko e hiki hake 'aki eni ha pēseti 'e 1 talu mei' he 2001.
- Ko e pēseti 'e 90, (42,813) 'o e Kakai Tonga' 'oku nau kau atu ki ha fa'ahinga Lotu. 'I he fakakātoa 'o e Kakai Tonga' 'oku nau kau atu ki ha fa'ahinga Lotu', ko e pēseti ai 'e 98 (41,988) 'o kinautolu' ni 'oku nau kau atu ki ha Lotu faka-Kalisitiane.
- Ko e pēseti 'e 64, (16,041) 'o e Kakai Tonga' 'oku 'i ai ha'anau tu'unga fakaako fakalao (lava 'i he sivi mei' he kolisi' pē ko ha tu'unga fakaako hili 'a e kolisi'). Ko hono fakahoa atu e ngaahi fika' ki he fakakātoa 'o e Kakai mei he Pasifiki' pea mo Nu'u Sila' ni' 'oku 'i ai ha'anau tu'unga fakaako fakalao', ko e pēseti 'e 65 pea mo e pēseti 'e 75 e fakahokohoko'.
- Ko e pēseti 'e 80, (40,140) 'o e tokolahi 'o e Kakai Tonga' 'oku nau nofo 'i he vāhenga 'Okalani', pea 'oku 'ikai ha liliu mei he fika na'e 'i ai 'i he ta'u 2001.

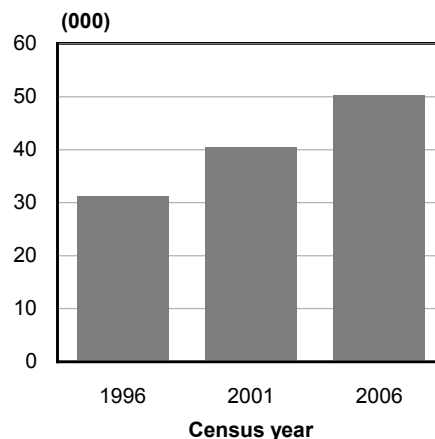
1. Population

Tongans formed the third largest Pacific ethnic group in New Zealand in 2006, and comprised 50,478 or 19 percent of the usually resident Pacific population (265,974). The six other largest Pacific ethnic groups were Samoan (49 percent), Cook Islands Maori (22 percent), Niuean (8 percent), Fijian (4 percent), Tokelauan (3 percent), and Tuvaluan (1 percent).

The Tongan population in New Zealand increased by 24 percent between 2001 and 2006. In the five-year period prior to 2001, the Tongan population experienced a 30 percent increase. The total Pacific population increased by 15 percent between 1996 and 2001, and a further 15 percent between 2001 and 2006.

Figure 1

Tongan Population in New Zealand
1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses

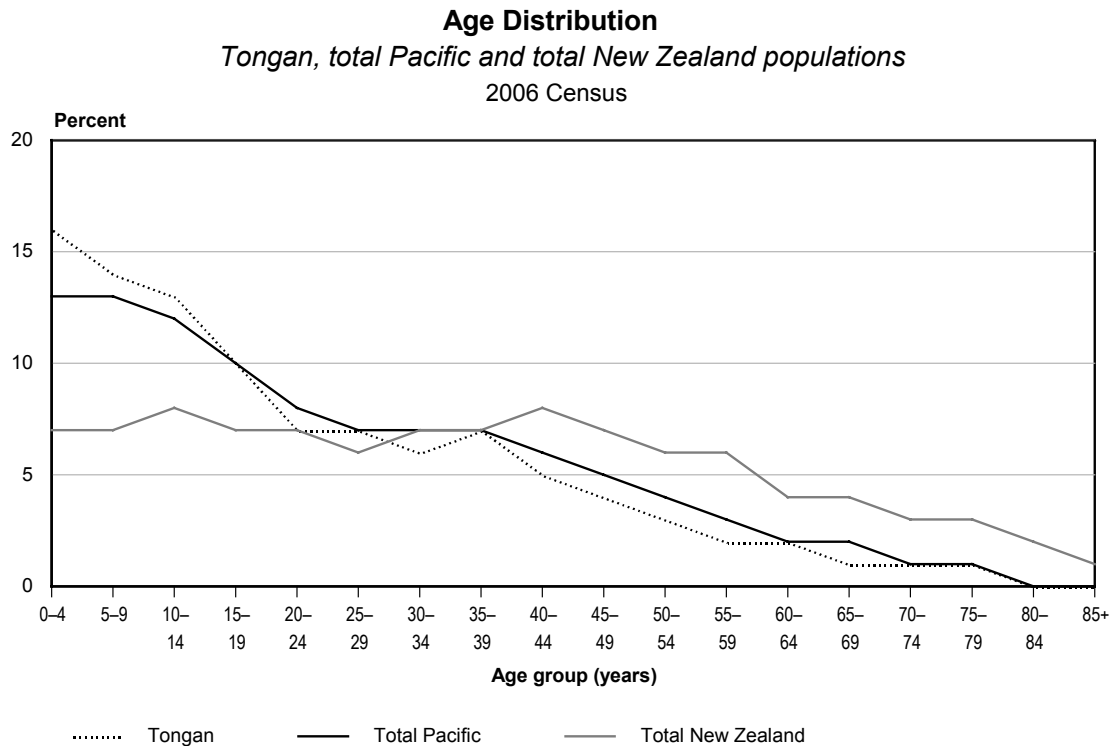


Age and sex distribution

The age distribution of the Tongan population in New Zealand generally mirrors that of the Pacific population in New Zealand, in that both are weighted to the very young. In 2006, 42 percent of Tongans were under the age of 15, which was the same proportion as in 2001. The comparable figure for the Pacific population was 38 percent. The high proportion of young people in both the Tongan and the Pacific populations is further evident in the small proportions of the total population over the age of 65 (4 percent and 3 percent, respectively).

The total New Zealand population on the other hand was older, with only 22 percent under 15 years old, and 12 percent over the age of 65. The distinctive age structure of the Tongan and Pacific populations contributes to many of the differences between these two groups and the total New Zealand population.

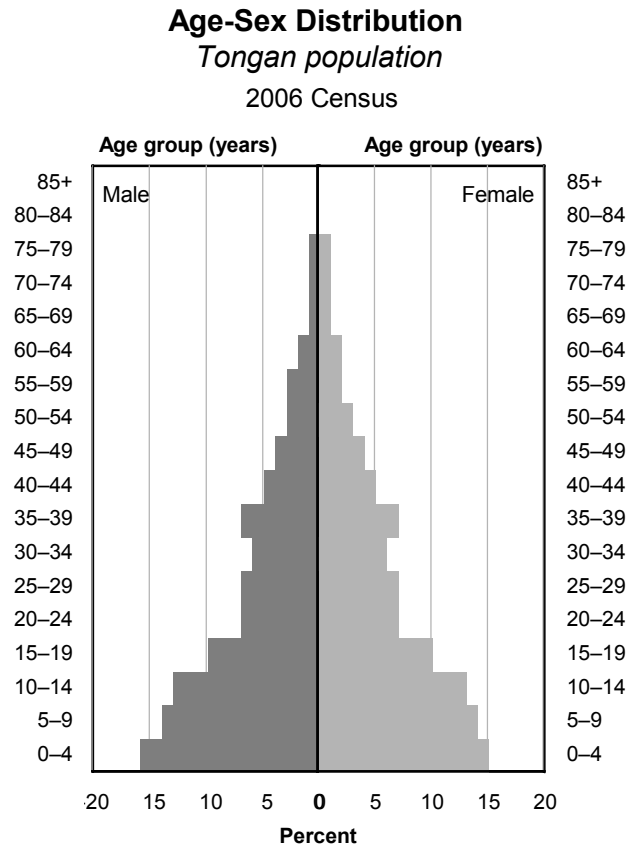
Figure 2



In 2006, the median age of the Tongan population (half are younger and half are older than this age) was 19 years, slightly younger than in 2001, when it was 19 years. By comparison, the median age of the Pacific population in 2006 was 21, and the median age of the New Zealand population was 36 years.

The sex distribution of Tongans was evenly balanced with males (25,324) and females (25,155) each making up 50 percent of the Tongan population. The sex distribution of both the total Pacific population and the total New Zealand population were slightly lower, with males making up 49 percent of each population.

Figure 3



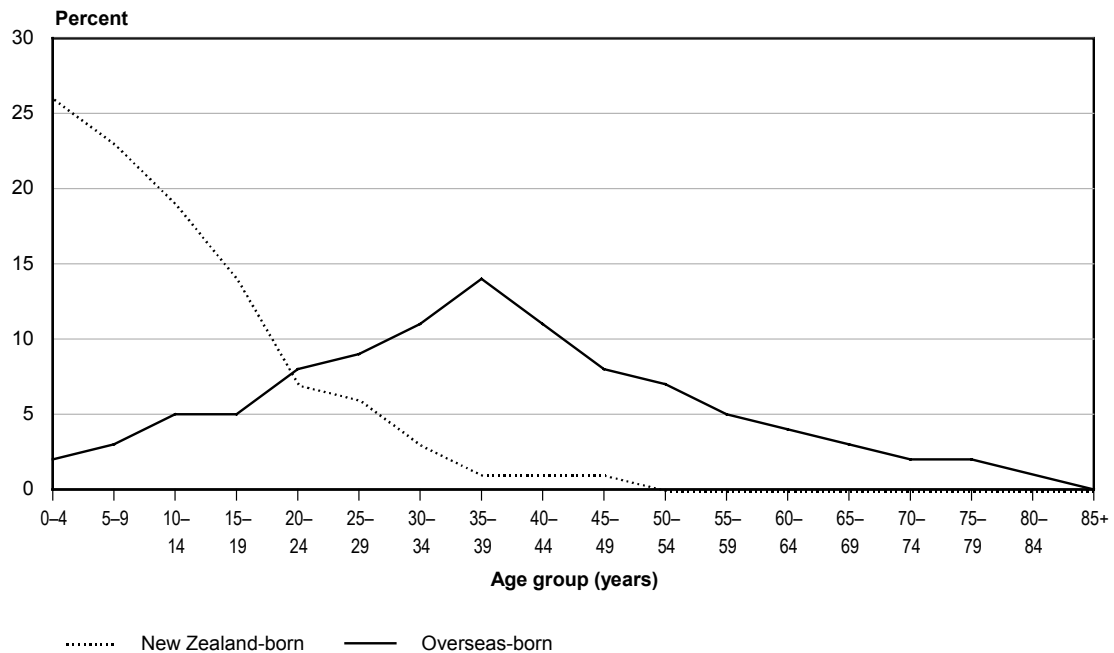
Place of birth

In 2006, over half (56 percent) of the usually resident Tongan population in New Zealand were born in New Zealand, which was an increase of three percentage points since 2001. Of those Tongans who were born overseas, 93 percent gave Tonga as their birthplace, four percentage points fewer than 2001.

The age distribution of the New Zealand-born Tongan population had a much higher proportion of young people than the overseas-born population. Of the New Zealand-born Tongan population, 68 percent were under the age of 15, compared with 10 percent for overseas-born Tongans. Conversely, a very small proportion of the New Zealand-born and overseas-born Tongan population was over the age of 65 at 0.2 percent and 8 percent, respectively.

Figure 4

Age Distribution of Tongan Population
By birthplace
 2006 Census



Duration of residence

At the time of the 2006 Census, 6 percent of Tongans born overseas had been residing in New Zealand for less than one year, an increase of 1 percentage point from 2001. A quarter (25 percent) of overseas-born Tongans had lived in New Zealand for over 20 years.

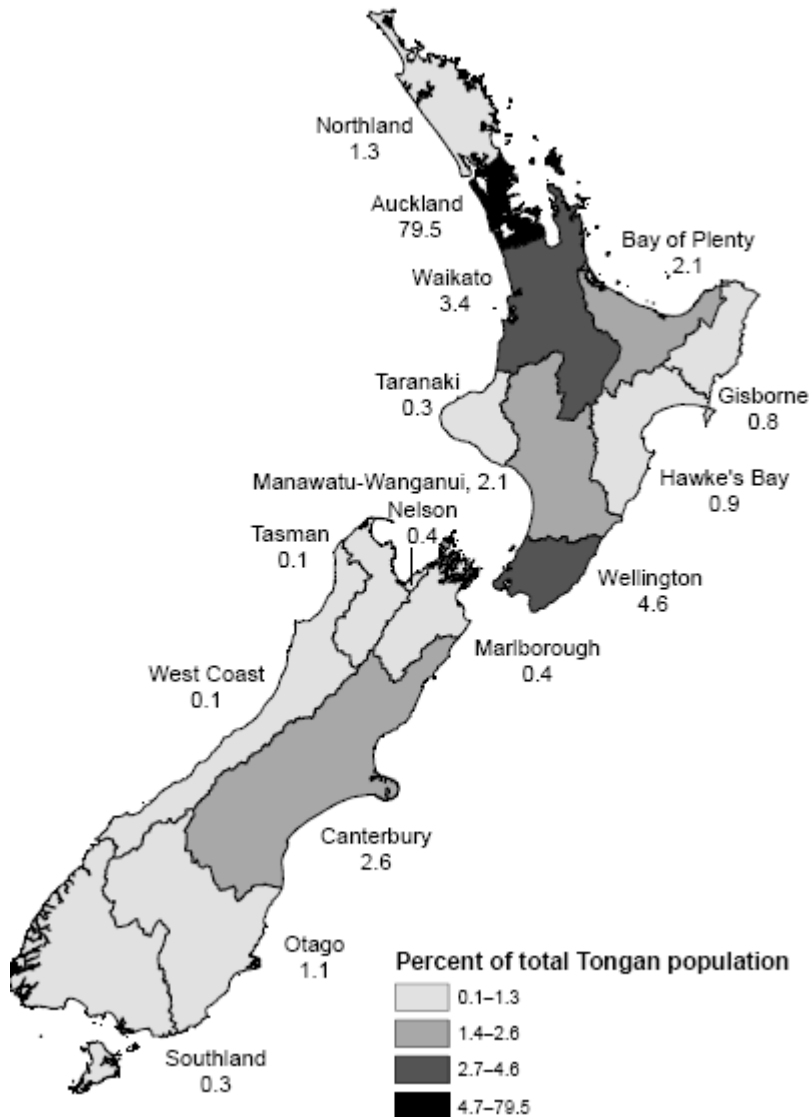
Geographical distribution

Ninety-five percent (47,979) of the Tongan population in New Zealand in 2006 lived in the North Island. Of the Tongans living in the South Island, 52 percent (1,296) lived in the Canterbury region. A breakdown of the regions in which Tongans reside shows that the majority lived in the Auckland region (80 percent), while 5 percent lived in the Wellington region, and 3 percent each in the Waikato and Canterbury regions.

An overwhelming majority of Tongans (95 percent) lived in urban areas. The comparable figure for the total Pacific population in New Zealand was 97 percent. A further breakdown shows that 78 percent (39,399) of Tongans live in the Auckland urban area. Of this total, 48 percent (18,957) lived in South Auckland and 38 percent (14,829) lived in Central Auckland.

Figure 5

Geographical Distribution of the Tongan Population
By regional council area
 2006 Census



Multiple ethnicities

Seventy-one percent (35,601) of the Tongan population in New Zealand gave Tongan as their sole ethnicity in the 2006 Census. Nineteen percent (9,402) reported Tongan and one other ethnic group, and 7 percent (3,615) reported Tongan and two other ethnic groups.

Further analysis of Tongans who gave one other ethnic group shows that 38 percent reported Tongan and another Pacific ethnic group, 32 percent reported Tongan/European and 27 percent reported Tongan/Māori. Of those Tongans who reported two other ethnic groups, the most common combinations were Tongan/Pacific/European (24 percent) and Tongan/Māori/Pacific (13 percent).

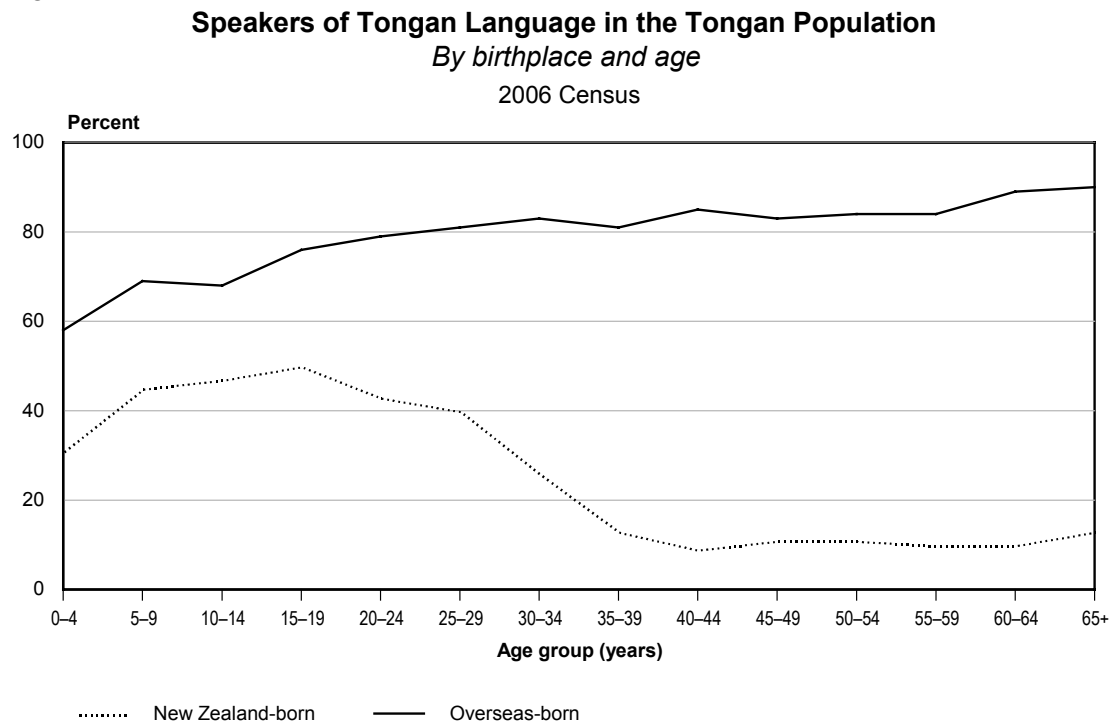
Tongans belonging to other ethnic groups were more likely to fall into younger age groups. This is evident in the fact that 58 percent of Tongans who reported belonging to one other ethnic group were under 15 years old. Furthermore, just over two thirds (67 percent) of Tongans who reported belonging to three ethnic groups were under the age of 15 years.

2. Language

Sixty-one percent (28,186) of the Tongan population in New Zealand who could speak a language were able to hold an everyday conversation in Tongan, an increase of one percentage point since 2001. A higher proportion of overseas-born Tongans than New Zealand-born Tongans were able to speak Tongan (81 percent and 40 percent, respectively).

When comparing the New Zealand-born with the overseas-born Tongan population, there were clear differences in the proportions by age group of those able to speak Tongan. The following figure shows that, as can be expected, the proportion of overseas-born Tongans able to speak Tongan was higher across all age groups. Furthermore, the proportion of overseas-born Tongans able to speak Tongan increased steadily with age. On the other hand, the proportion of New Zealand-born Tongans able to speak Tongan increased from birth to a high of 50 percent for the 15–19 year age group, at which point it decreased to a low of 9 percent within the 45–49 age group with no significant increase evident in the older age groups.

Figure 6



3. Religion¹

At the time of the 2006 Census, 90 percent (42,813) of the Tongan population in New Zealand stated an affiliation to at least one religious denomination. The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations were 83 and 61 percent, respectively.

The table below highlights the religious affiliation in the Tongan population at the time of the 2006 Census.

Eight percent (3,555) of the Tongan population reported no religious affiliation, while 3 percent (1,539) objected to answering the religion question. A higher proportion of New Zealand-born Tongans were in both categories than overseas-born Tongans.

Table 1

Religious Affiliation in the Tongan Population
By birthplace
2006 Census

Religious affiliation	New Zealand-born	Overseas-born	Total
	Percent		
No religion	12.1	1.8	7.6
Buddhist	0.2	0.2	0.2
Christian	82.5	96.0	90.0
Hindu	0.2	0.1	0.1
Islam/Muslim	0.3	0.1	0.2
Judaism/Jewish	0.0	0.0	0.0
Māori Christian	1.4	0.2	0.9
Spiritualism and new age religions	0.2	0.1	0.2
Other religions	0.8	0.8	0.8
Object to answering	4.4	1.8	3.3

Note: Totals do not add up to 100 as people can affiliate with more than one religion.

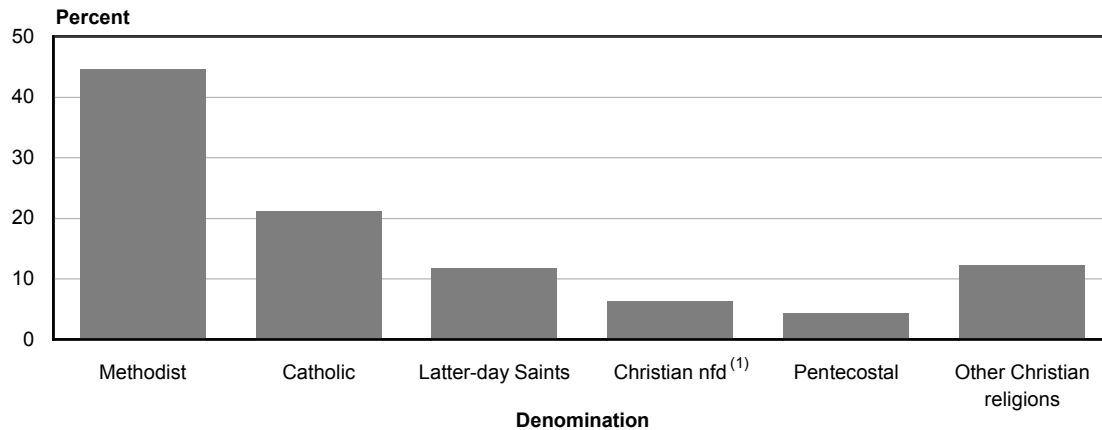
Ninety-eight percent (41,985) of Tongans with a religious affiliation said they belonged to a Christian denomination². The most common Christian denomination was Methodist, making up 45 percent (18,858) of those affiliated to a Christian denomination, followed by Catholic at 21 percent (9,006), and Latter Day Saints at 12 percent (5,025).

¹ Percentages are calculated including 'object to answering' in the denominator, as this was a valid response option for the religious affiliation question.

² The Christian figures in this profile do not include 'Māori Christian'.

Figure 7

Christian Denomination Affiliation in the Tongan Population
2006 Census



(1) Not further defined.

4. Families and households

Families

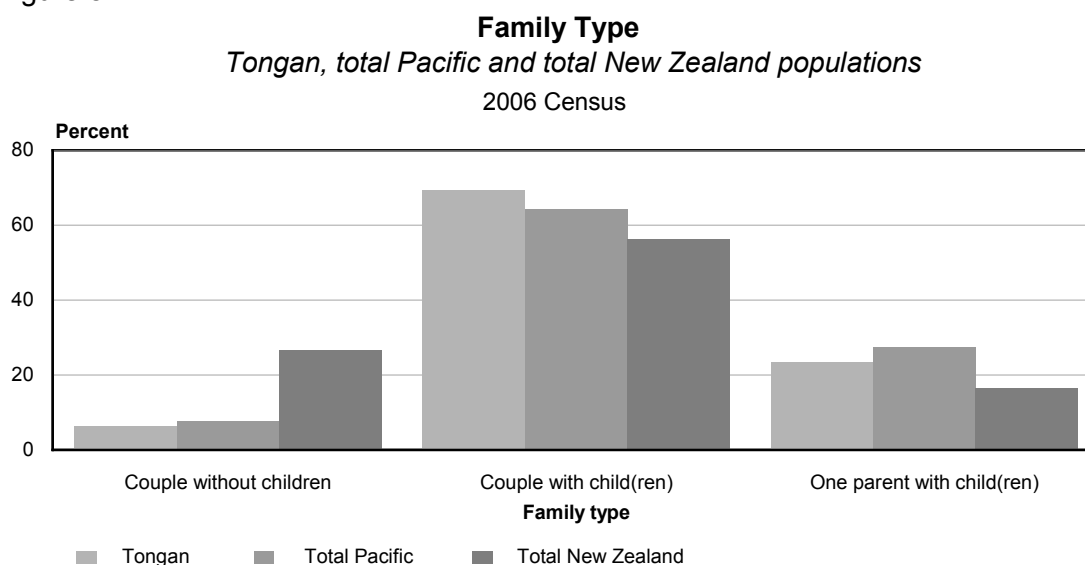
In 2006, Tongans in New Zealand were more likely to live in a family situation than the total New Zealand population. Eighty-seven percent of Tongans lived as members of a family, an increase of 3 percentage points since 2001. The comparable figure for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations were 86 percent and 79 percent, respectively.

The most common family type was a couple with children, which accounted for 70 percent of all Tongans living in a family. This represented an increase for this family type of 1 percentage points since 2001. The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations were 64 percent and 56 percent, respectively.

The second most common family type was a one-parent family. Just under a quarter (24 percent) of Tongan people living in a family were in a one-parent family, which remains unchanged since 2001. The comparable figures for the Pacific and New Zealand populations in 2006 were 28 percent and 17 percent, respectively.

The least common family type was a couple without children, which accounted for just 7 percent of all Tongan people living in a family. The comparable figures for the Pacific and New Zealand populations were 8 percent and 27 percent, respectively. The difference between the Tongan and Pacific proportions compared with the New Zealand proportion was driven partly by the high proportion of young people in Tongan and Pacific populations.

Figure 8



Note: The total number of people in families for the total New Zealand population includes absentees, while the total number of people in families for ethnic group populations does not include absentees.

In 2006, a higher proportion of Tongans (39 percent) were living in an extended family situation³ than the total Pacific (34 percent) and total New Zealand populations (10 percent).

The average size of families with at least one person of Tongan ethnicity was 5. At the time of the 2001 Census, the average family size with at least one person of Tongan ethnicity was 4.

Households

Tongans, as well as Pacific peoples in general, were more likely to live in multi-family households in New Zealand in 2006 than members of the wider population. The table below shows that Tongans, however, were less likely than those in the total population to live in shared living situations such as flatting, or to live alone.

Table 2

Household Composition
Tongan, total Pacific and total New Zealand populations
2006 Census

Household composition	Tongan	Total Pacific	Total New Zealand
	Percent		
One-family household (with or without other people)	75.0	75.4	69.1
Two-family household (with or without other people)	14.0	11.6	2.6
Three-or-more family household (with or without other people)	2.3	1.4	0.2
Other multi-person household	4.7	5.4	5.1
One-person household	4.0	6.2	23.0

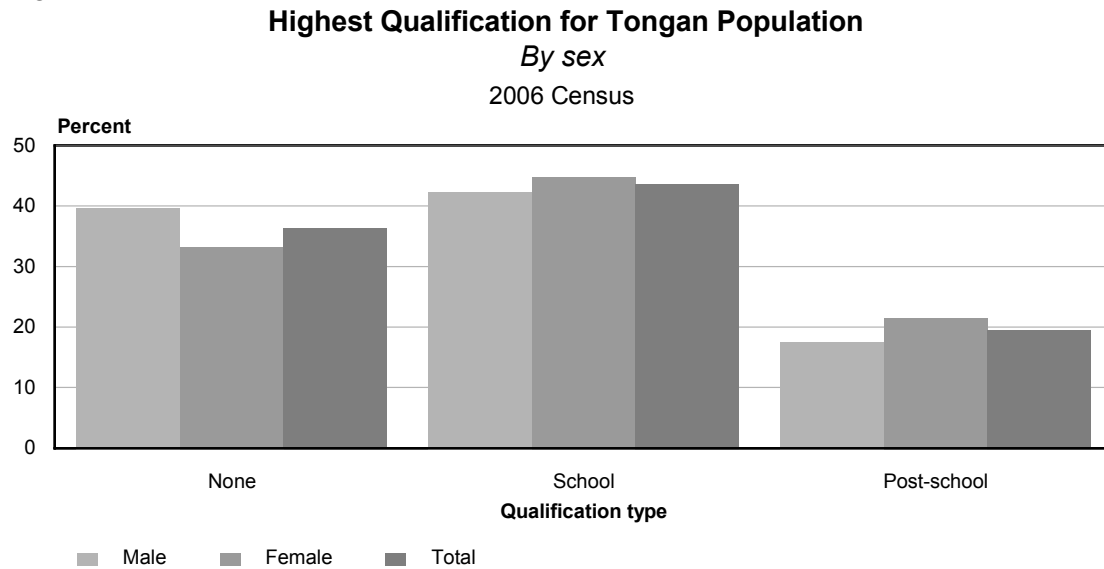
³ An extended family consists of a group of related persons who reside together and consists of a family nucleus as well as one or more other related persons. An extended family may also consist of two or more related family nuclei, with or without related persons.

5. Education

At the time of the 2006 Census, 64 percent (16,041) of adult Tongans in New Zealand had a formal educational qualification, which was lower than for the total Pacific and New Zealand adult populations (65 percent and 75 percent, respectively).

A higher proportion of Tongan women (67 percent) than men (60 percent) have a formal qualification. Furthermore, a higher proportion of New Zealand-born Tongans have a formal qualification (71 percent) than overseas-born Tongans (60 percent).

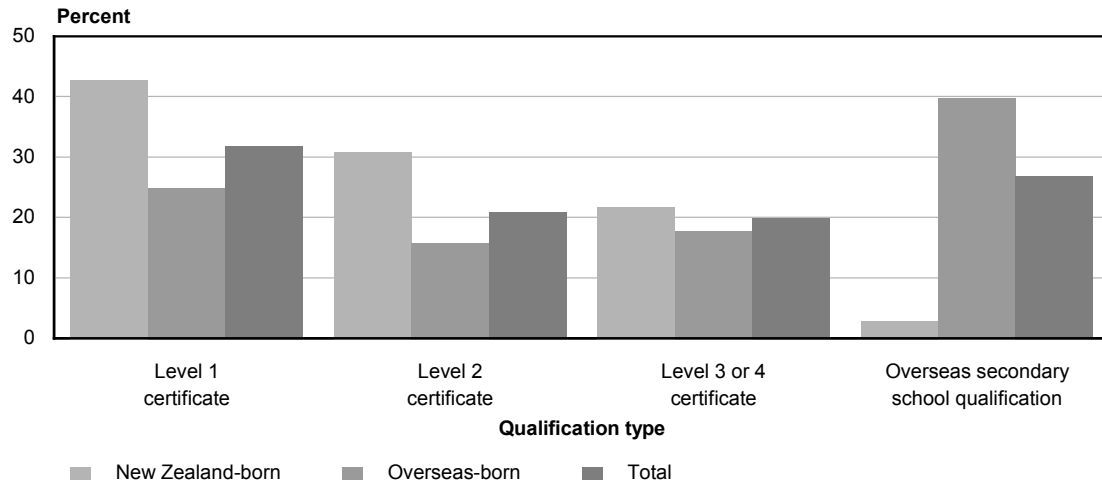
Figure 9



A higher proportion of New Zealand-born Tongans than overseas-born Tongans had some form of school qualification as their highest qualification, as shown in the following figure. The only exception was 'overseas secondary school qualification' where overseas-born Tongans had a higher proportion (40 percent) compared with New Zealand-born Tongans (3 percent), as would be expected.

Figure 10

Highest School Qualification for Tongan Population
By birthplace
 2006 Census

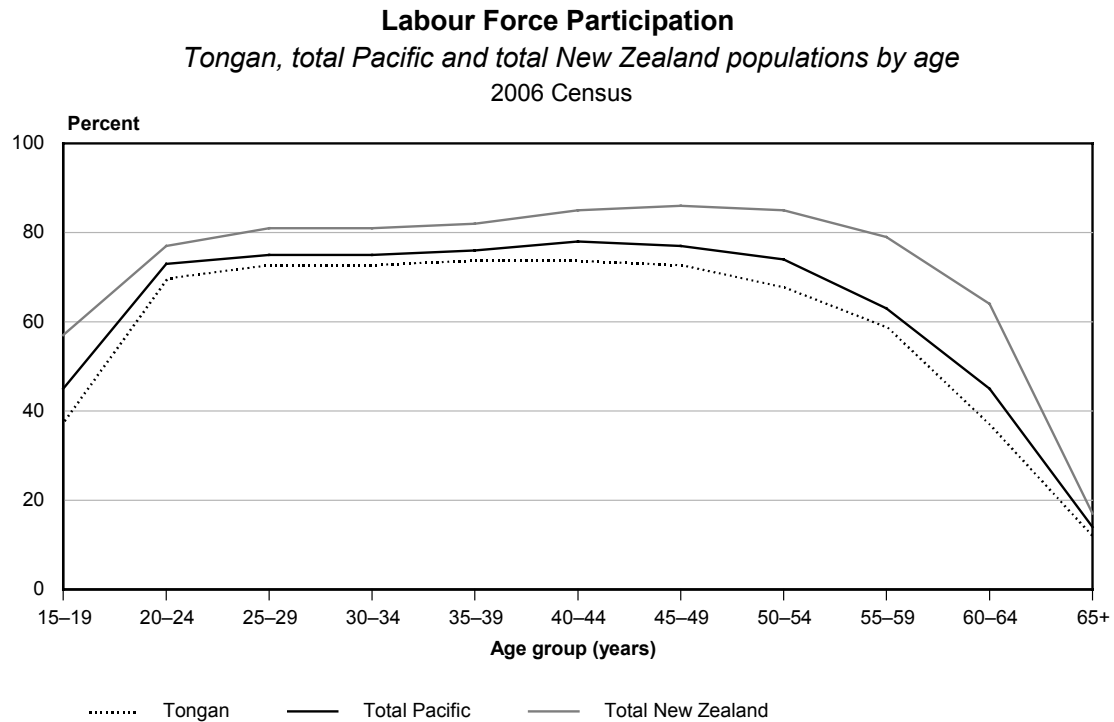


6. Labour force

Labour force participation

The labour force participation rate refers to the proportion of people who are of working age (15 years and over) and are classified as either employed or unemployed. The labour force participation rate for the adult Tongan population in New Zealand in 2006 (29,163 people) was the same as in 2001, at 61 percent. This was somewhat lower than the comparable rates for the total Pacific and total New Zealand adult populations, which were 65 and 69 percent, respectively. The figure below shows the labour force participation rates across the lifespan and shows that a lower proportion of Tongans were in the labour force in all age groups.

Figure 11

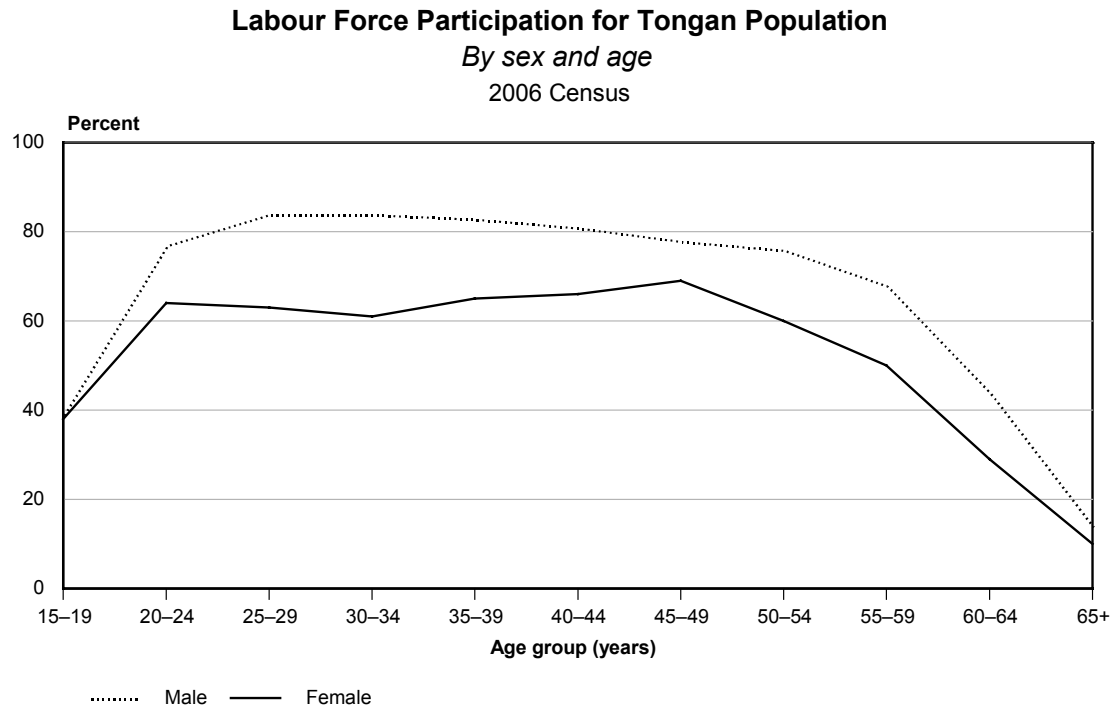


The highest labour force participation rate for Tongans (74 percent) was in the 35–39 years age group. This compares with the total Pacific population for whom the labour force participation rate was highest (78 percent) in the 40–44 years age group, and for the total New Zealand population with the highest rate (86 percent) in the 45–49 years age group.

Tongans aged 65 years and over were the group most likely not to be in the labour force (88 percent). They were followed by those in the 60–64 years age group (64 percent) and the 15–19 years age group (62 percent). These groups are made up of those who were most likely either to be retired, or to have not yet entered the workforce.

The following figure compares Tongan male and female rates of labour force participation. Female rates were lower, as could be expected because of child-rearing responsibilities.

Figure 12



Nearly half of Tongan women were not in the labour force, which was a higher proportion than for total Pacific Island and total New Zealand populations, as shown in the following table.

Table 3

Proportion Not in Labour Force
Tongan, total Pacific and total New Zealand populations
2006 Census

	Males	Females	Total
Tongan	32.1	46.0	39.1
Total Pacific	28.8	40.8	35.0
Total New Zealand	25.2	37.3	31.5

The differences in the age distributions of overseas-born and New Zealand-born Tongans are reflected in differences in the age distribution of those not in the labour force. As shown in the following table, there was a higher proportion of overseas-born Tongans (by age group) not in the labour force. The most significant difference can be seen within the 60–64 years age group, where 65 percent of overseas-born Tongans were not in the labour force compared with 36 percent for New Zealand-born Tongans.

Table 4

Tongan Population Not in the Labour Force⁽¹⁾
By birthplace and age
 2006 Census

Age (years)	New Zealand-born	Overseas-born	Total Tongan
	Percent		
15–19	61.7	62.4	61.9
20–24	27.2	32.2	29.7
25–29	24.1	28.9	27.1
30–34	20.6	29.0	27.2
35–39	25.5	25.8	26.1
40–44	15.3	27.5	26.4
45–49	21.3	27.3	26.6
50–54	23.9	32.3	31.8
55–59	23.3	42.7	40.9
60–64	35.7	65.0	63.4
65+	77.3	88.7	87.9

(1) Working age population only (ages 15 years and over).

Employment

The 2006 Census showed that 54 percent (15,822) of the Tongan adult population in New Zealand were employed either full time⁴ or part time⁵. This proportion has not changed since the 2001 Census. Of those people who were employed, 81 percent were in full-time employment. As shown in the following table, a higher proportion of Tongan men were employed than Tongan women. The proportion of employed Tongans was considerably lower than for both the total Pacific and the total New Zealand populations.

Table 5

Proportion Employed⁽¹⁾
Tongan, total Pacific and total New Zealand populations
 2006 Census

Population	Males	Females	Total
Tongan	61.7	46.9	54.3
Total Pacific	64.8	51.7	58.0
Total New Zealand	71.5	59.0	65.0

(1) Working age population only (ages 15 years and over).

Half (50 percent) of New Zealand-born Tongans aged 15-years and over were employed compared with 56 percent of those born overseas. This difference is likely to be attributed to the differing age distributions of the two groups.

Unemployment

The 2006 Census recorded just under 7 percent (1,947 people) of the Tongan labour force as unemployed, which was a decrease of 10 percentage points since 2001. As shown in the following table, the unemployment rate for the Tongan population was similar to that for the total Pacific population, and both rates were higher than the rate for the total New Zealand population.

The unemployment rate was higher for Tongan women (13 percent) than for Tongan men (9 percent).

4 People who are employed full time usually work 30 or more hours per week.

5 People who are employed part time usually work fewer than 30 hours per week.

Table 6

Unemployment Rate⁽¹⁾
Tongan, total Pacific and total New Zealand populations
 2006 Census

Population	Males	Females	Total
	Percent		
Tongan	9.2	13.2	11.0
Total Pacific	9.0	12.6	10.7
Total New Zealand	4.4	5.7	5.0

(1) The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

The unemployment rate also varies between New Zealand-born (16 percent) and overseas-born Tongans (9 percent).

Occupation

In 2006, the three most common occupations for Tongans in New Zealand were labourers (25 percent), technicians and trades workers (15 percent), and machinery operators and drivers (15 percent). The following figure shows the occupational distribution of Tongan men and women. There were marked differences between the sexes.

Figure 13

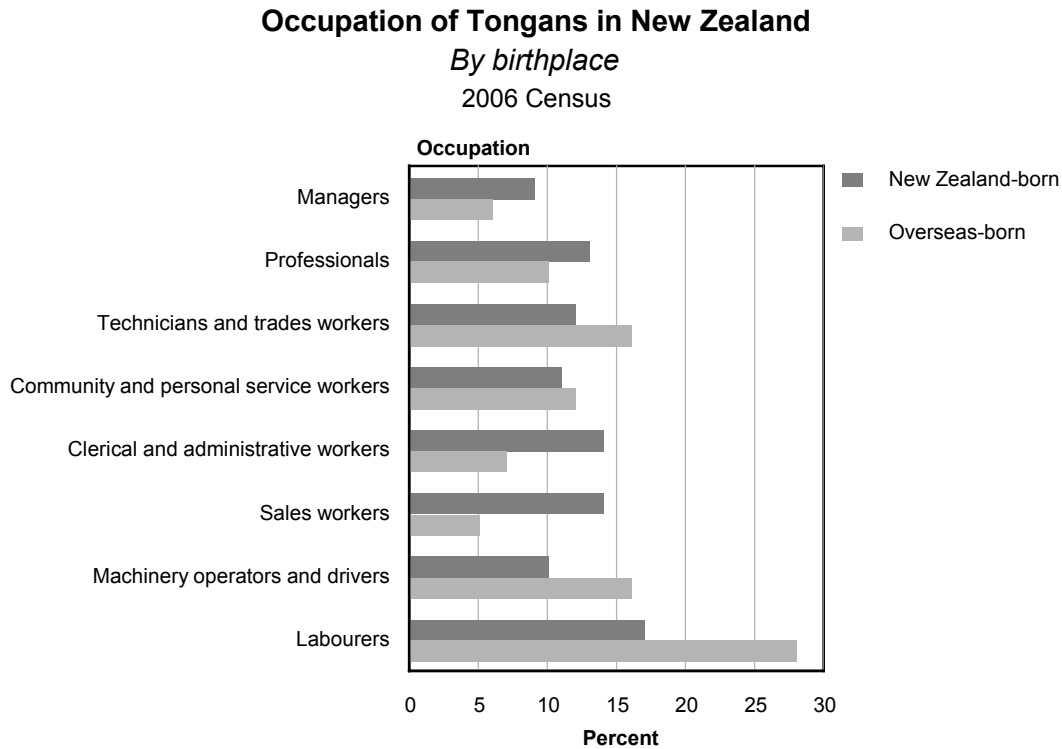
Occupation of Tongans in New Zealand
By sex
 2006 Census



A higher proportion of Tongan men than women work as machinery operators and drivers, as well as technicians and trades workers. On the other hand a higher proportion of women than men work as professionals, community and personal service workers, clerical and administrative workers and sales workers.

The following figure compares the occupations of New Zealand-born and overseas-born Tongans. New Zealand-born Tongans were more likely to be managers, professionals, and office and sales workers, whereas overseas-born Tongans were more likely to be employed in labouring and trades related occupations.

Figure 14



Industry

In 2006, Tongans in New Zealand worked in a variety of industries. As in 2001, the industry employing the most Tongans in 2006 was manufacturing. It employed more than double the number of Tongans than the health care and social assistance industry, which was the next largest employer of Tongans. The third largest industry for Tongan employment was construction. The proportion of employed Tongan men and women working in these and other industries is shown in the following table.

Table 7

Proportion of Tongans Employed
By industry and sex
2006 Census

Industry	Male	Female	Total Tongan
	Percent		
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	4.1	2.1	3.2
Mining	0.2	0.0	0.1
Manufacturing	30.2	15.9	24.0
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	0.5	0.3	0.4
Construction	14.9	1.1	8.8
Wholesale trade	8.5	4.2	6.6
Retail trade	6.5	9.5	7.8
Accommodation and food services	3.0	8.9	5.5
Transport, postal and warehousing	6.4	3.7	5.2
Information media and telecommunications	1.1	2.3	1.6
Financial and insurance services	1.6	2.1	2.6
Rental, hiring and real estate services	1.9	1.8	1.9
Professional, scientific and technical services	3.8	4.8	4.2
Administrative and support services	4.5	7.1	5.6
Public administration and training	3.5	3.7	3.6
Education and training	2.5	7.1	4.5
Health care and social assistance	2.8	19.2	9.9
Arts and recreation services	1.3	1.3	1.3
Other services	2.7	3.4	3.0

The following table shows the industries where overseas-born Tongans worked in 2006, compared with their New Zealand-born counterparts. Overseas-born Tongans were much more likely to work in manufacturing than those born in New Zealand.

Table 8

Proportion of Tongans Employed
By industry and birthplace
2006 Census

Industry	New Zealand-born	Overseas-born	Total Tongan
	Percent		
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2.5	3.5	3.2
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1
Manufacturing	13.9	28.2	24.0
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	0.4	0.4	0.4
Construction	8.7	8.9	8.8
Wholesale trade	6.9	6.4	6.6
Retail trade	10.8	6.6	7.8
Accommodation and food services	7.4	4.8	5.6
Transport, postal and warehousing	7.0	4.4	5.2
Information media and telecommunications	3.2	1.0	1.6
Financial and insurance services	3.5	2.3	2.6
Rental, hiring and real estate services	1.9	1.9	1.9
Professional, scientific and technical services	5.8	3.6	4.2
Administrative and support services	5.0	5.8	5.6
Public administration and safety	5.3	2.9	3.6
Education and training	5.5	4.2	4.5
Health care and social assistance	6.7	11.3	9.9
Arts and recreation services	2.5	0.7	1.3
Other services	3.0	3.0	3.0

Self-employment

At the time of the 2006 Census, 2 percent of employed Tongan adults in New Zealand were employers, no change since 2001. Four percent of Tongan adults were self-employed and without employees, a 1 percentage point increase since 2001. The comparable figures for the Pacific population were identical with the Tongan totals. Seven percent of the total employed New Zealand population were employers and 12 percent were self employed and without employees.

There was little or no difference in these proportions between Tongans born overseas and those born in New Zealand.

7. Unpaid work

Eighty-six percent of the Tongan adult population in New Zealand reported involvement in unpaid or voluntary work inside and outside of the household in the four weeks prior to the 2006 Census. The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations in 2006 were 86 percent and 89 percent, respectively. The types of unpaid activities are shown in the following table, which compares Tongan rates of participation to total Pacific and New Zealand rates of participation.

Table 9

Type of Unpaid Work
Tongan, total Pacific and total New Zealand populations
2006 Census

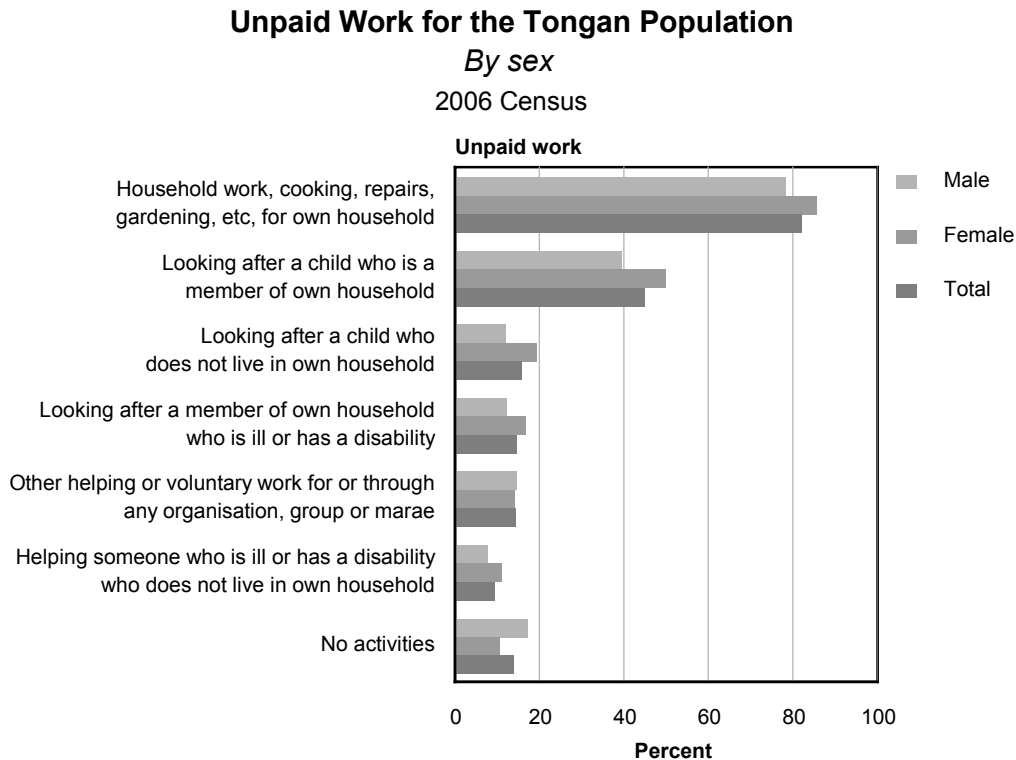
Unpaid Activities	Tongans	Total Pacific	Total New Zealand
	Percent		
Household work, cooking, repairs, gardening etc, for own household	81.8	81.6	86.1
Looking after a child who is a member of own household	44.5	43.0	31.6
Looking after a member of own household who is ill or has a disability	14.3	12.7	7.8
Looking after a child who does not live in own household	15.5	18.0	16.2
Helping someone who is ill or has a disability who does not live in own household	9.3	9.0	9.1
Other helping or voluntary work for or through any organisation, group or marae	14.1	14.4	15.4
No activities	13.5	14.0	11.3

Note: Totals do not add up to 100 as people can participate in more than one type of unpaid activity.

The most common category of unpaid work was 'household work, cooking, repairs, and gardening for own household'. A higher proportion of Tongans (and Pacific peoples in general) reported carrying out unpaid activities that involved looking after a child who was a member of their own household than the total New Zealand population. Members of the Tongan and Pacific populations were also more likely to report looking after a sick or disabled member of their own household.

A higher proportion of women participate in unpaid work in all categories except 'other helping or voluntary work for or through any organisation, group or marae', where men have a higher rate of involvement (15 percent, compared with 13 percent for women). Notably, the differences are not great.

Figure 15



There was little or no difference in the participation in unpaid work by New Zealand and overseas-born Tongans except that a higher proportion of New Zealand-born Tongans (21 percent) look after a child who does not live in their own household when compared to overseas-born Tongans (13 percent). This was probably due to the high proportion of young people in the New Zealand-born population.

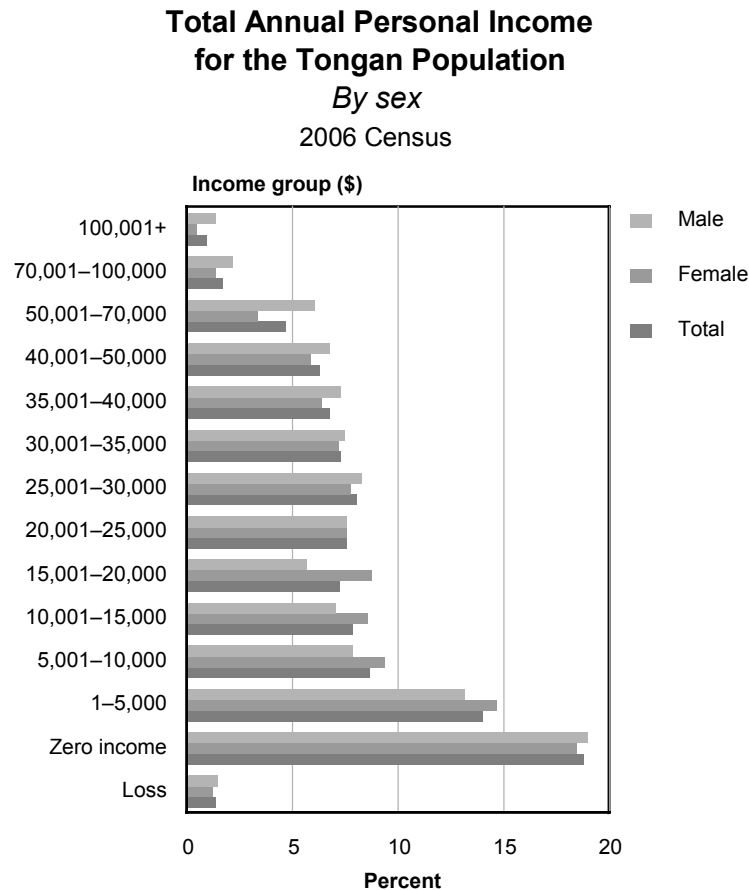
8. Income⁶

Nineteen percent of the adult Tongan population in New Zealand reported no personal income in the 2006 Census, while 38 percent received up to \$20,000 per annum. Only 3 percent received over \$70,000.

The Tongan adult population received a median annual income of \$17,500 (half received less and half received more than this figure) for the year ended 31 March 2006. This median was markedly higher than in 2001 when the median Tongan income was \$11,800. By way of comparison, the median annual incomes for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations in 2006 were \$20,500 and \$24,400, respectively. There were sex differences in median annual income for Tongans, with men's being much higher (\$22,100) than that of women (\$14,100). Furthermore, overseas-born Tongans have a higher median annual income (\$18,600) than New Zealand-born Tongans (\$14,900). This reflects the higher employment rates of overseas-born Tongans compared with their New Zealand-born counterparts.

⁶ Income as captured in the 2006 Census includes income from all sources over the 12-month period proceeding census day.

Figure 16



Income sources

In 2006, 15 percent of Tongans in New Zealand aged 15 years and over reported no source of income⁷, with little difference in the proportions of men and women reporting no source of income. Twenty-three percent of New Zealand-born Tongan adults reported no source of income while the comparable figure for those born overseas was 12 percent.

The most common source of income for the Tongan adult population was wages and salaries (including commissions and bonuses). Fifty-eight percent (15,330) of Tongan adults received income in this way, which was an increase of 5 percentage points since 2001. The comparable figures for the total Pacific and total New Zealand usually resident population were slightly higher at 62 percent and 60 percent, respectively. Tongan men (65 percent) were much more likely than women (49 percent) to receive income from wages or salary.

Twenty-eight percent of Tongan adults received income support⁸ which was the same as for the total Pacific population. This proportion was much higher than for the total New Zealand population (17 percent).

⁷ Note that this figure differs from 'zero income' in the previous section because personal income and income source are taken from separate census questions and thus have different numbers of valid responses.

⁸ This includes the unemployment benefit, sickness benefit, domestic purposes benefit, invalids benefit, student allowance, and other government benefits or payments.

Table 10

Source of Income for Tongan Population
By sex
2006 Census

Source of income	Male	Female	Total
	Percent		
No source of income	13.8	16.4	15.4
Wages, salary, commissions, bonuses etc	64.9	49.4	58.1
Self-employment or business	5.8	2.5	4.2
Interest, dividends, rent, other investments	2.7	2.2	2.5
Payments from a work accident insurer	1.4	0.4	0.9
NZ Superannuation or veterans pension	2.8	3.9	3.4
Other superannuation, pensions, annuities	0.8	1.2	1.0
Unemployment benefit	6.9	7.8	7.5
Sickness benefit	4.4	4.8	4.7
Domestic purposes benefit	0.9	8.1	4.7
Invalids benefit	2.2	2.0	2.1
Student allowance	3.3	4.0	3.7
Other government benefits, payments or pension	2.6	7.0	4.9
Other sources of income	1.4	2.0	2.1

Note: Totals do not add up to 100 as people can have more than one source of income.

When comparing Tongan sources of income with total Pacific and New Zealand sources of income, the most noteworthy difference is in the area of investments. The proportion of Tongans getting income through investments was the same as for the total Pacific population, at 3 percent, whereas 24 percent of the total New Zealand population got income from investments of some kind.

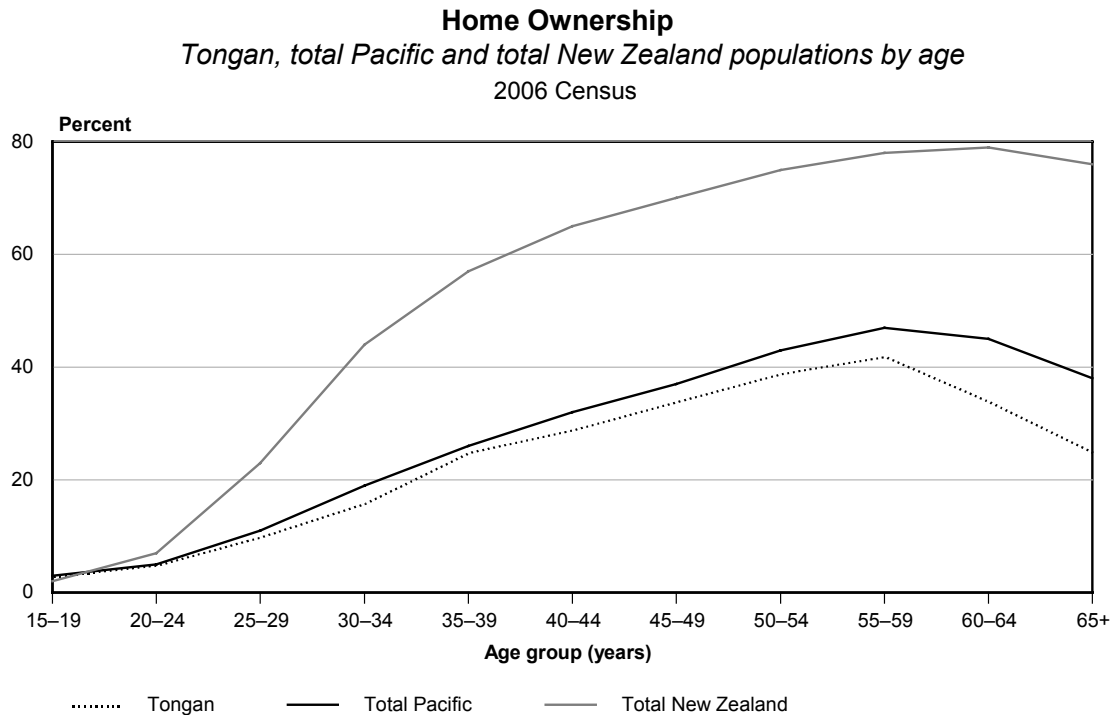
9. Housing

Home ownership

In 2006, 19 percent of Tongan adults in New Zealand owned or partly owned the dwelling that they lived in. There was little or no difference in the proportions of men and women in this category. The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations were 22 percent and 53 percent, respectively.

The age distribution of home owners for the Tongan, total Pacific and New Zealand adult populations in the following figure shows that across all of the age groups the rate of home ownership by Tongans was lower than that of the total Pacific and New Zealand populations. The highest rate of home ownership within the Tongan adult population occurred within the 55–59 years age group (42 percent).

Figure 17



A higher proportion of overseas-born Tongans (78 percent) owned or partly owned the dwelling that they lived in compared with New Zealand-born Tongans (22 percent).

Rental housing

Over half of Tongans (55 percent) who were living in rental accommodation in New Zealand lived in accommodation owned by a private person, trust or business in 2006. The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand population were 60 percent and 82 percent, respectively. A further 43 percent of Tongans lived in Housing New Zealand Corporation accommodation. The comparable figures for the Pacific and New Zealand population were 37 percent and 13 percent, respectively.

Of Tongans living in rental accommodation, 24 percent paid less than \$100 a week in rent. Twenty-six percent paid between \$100 and \$199 per week, 32 percent paid between \$200 and \$299, and 18 percent paid more than \$300 a week.

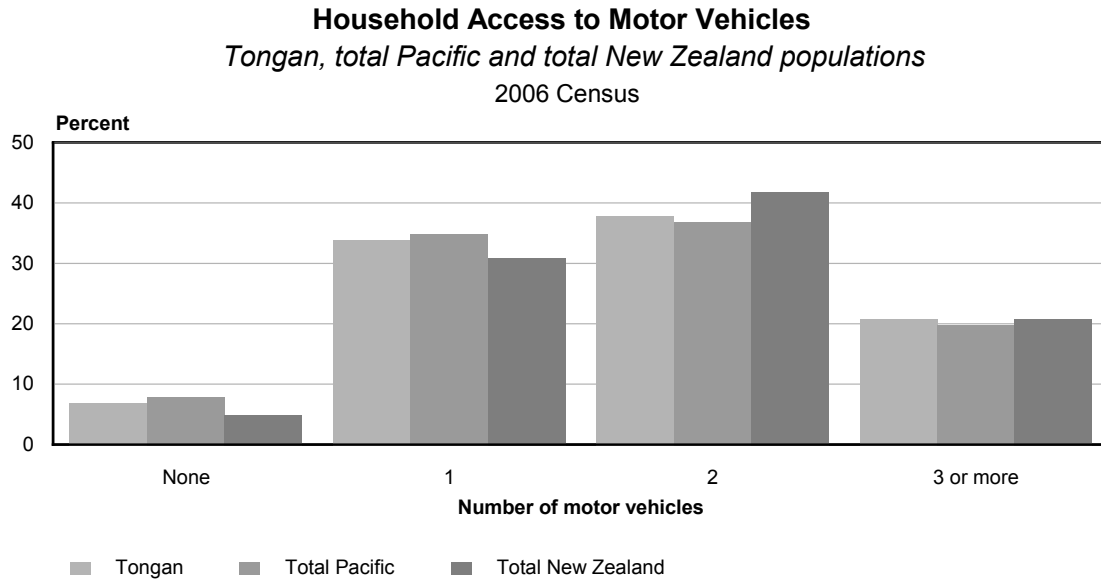
10. Access to amenities

Motor vehicles

Ninety-four percent of Tongans in New Zealand lived in households with access to a motor vehicle⁹. This proportion was very similar to that of the total Pacific and New Zealand populations (92 percent and 95 percent, respectively). The proportion of people with access to one, two, three or more cars is shown in the following figure.

⁹ Motor vehicles include cars, station wagons, vans, trucks, four-wheel-drive vehicles and other vehicles used on public roads; business vehicles available for private use by people in the dwelling; vehicles hired or leased; and vehicles temporarily under repair. They do not include motor bikes or scooters, vehicles used only for business, farm vehicles not licensed for road use, vehicles that belong to visitors, vehicles occasionally borrowed from another household.

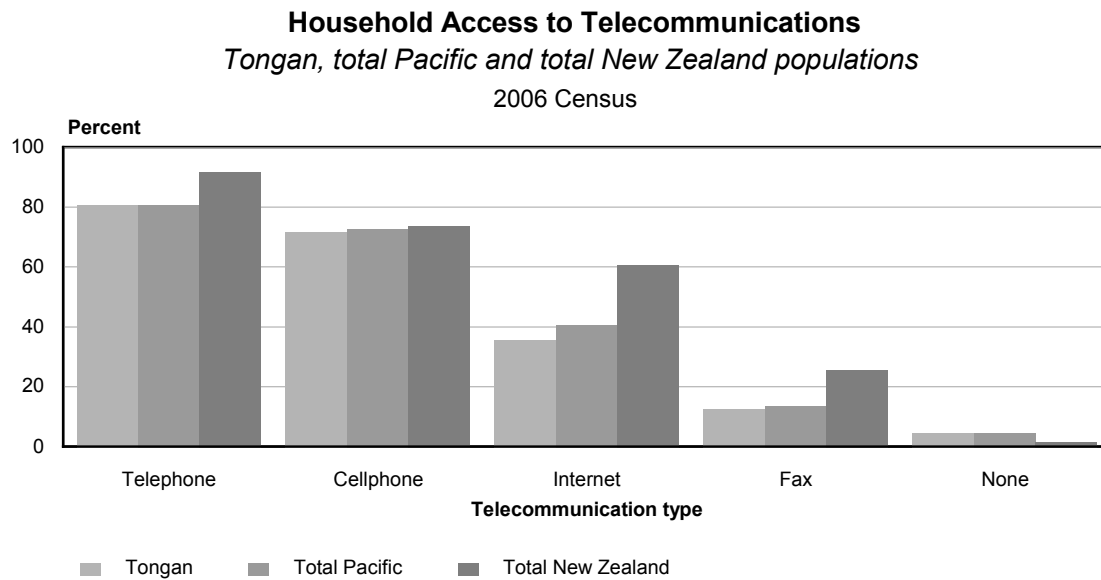
Figure 18



Telecommunications

In 2006, 81 percent of Tongans in New Zealand lived in households with access to a telephone. This was considerably less than the New Zealand population, where 92 percent of people lived in households with access to a telephone. As shown in the following figure, Tongan households were also less likely to have access to fax machines and the internet, when compared with the total New Zealand population.

Figure 19



11. Smoking behaviour

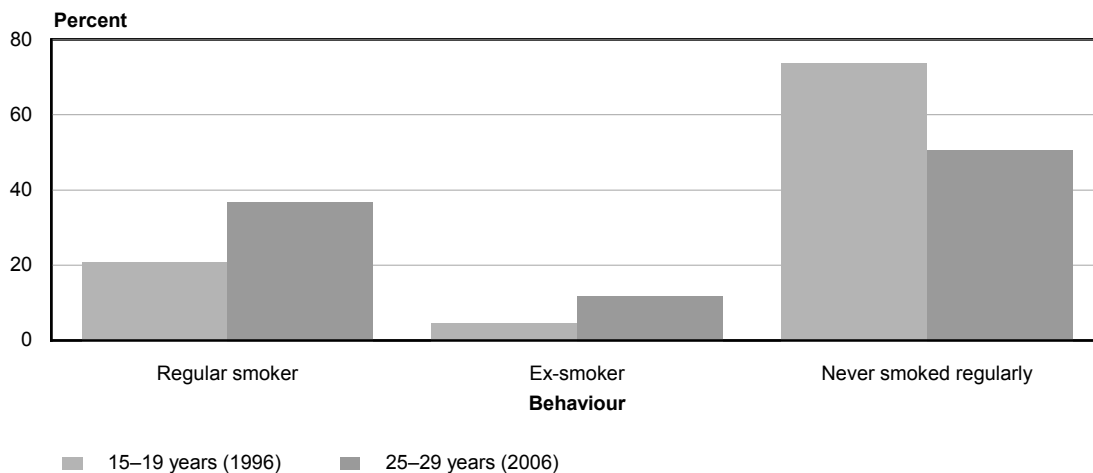
Compared with the total Pacific and New Zealand populations, a higher proportion (61 percent) of the Tongan population in New Zealand in 2006 stated that they have never been a regular smoker, a 1 percentage point decrease since 1996 (when this question was last asked in a census). The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations were very similar with 59 percent and 57 percent respectively.

Twenty-nine percent of Tongans reported that they were regular smokers, while 10 percent stated that they used to smoke. The comparable figures for the total Pacific population were 30 percent and 11 percent respectively, while for the New Zealand population they were 21 percent and 22 percent, respectively.

Changes in smoking behaviour can be seen by taking a cohort of people from the Tongan population who were 15–19 years at the time of the 1996 Census and comparing them to Tongan people within the 25–29 years age group at the time of the 2006 Census. In 1996, 21 percent of Tongan adults between 15–19 years stated that they regularly smoked. In 2006, this figure had increased to 37 percent for adult Tongans aged 25–29 years, suggesting that over a 10 year period more people within the cohort have become regular smokers. Those who stated that they used to smoke stood at 5 percent in 1996 and had more than doubled to 12 percent in 2006. Conversely, the figure for those who never regularly smoked decreased from 1996 when it was 74 percent to 51 percent in 2006. These changes can be seen in the following figure.

Figure 20

Smoking Behaviour in a Cohort of the Tongan Population
1996 and 2006 Censuses

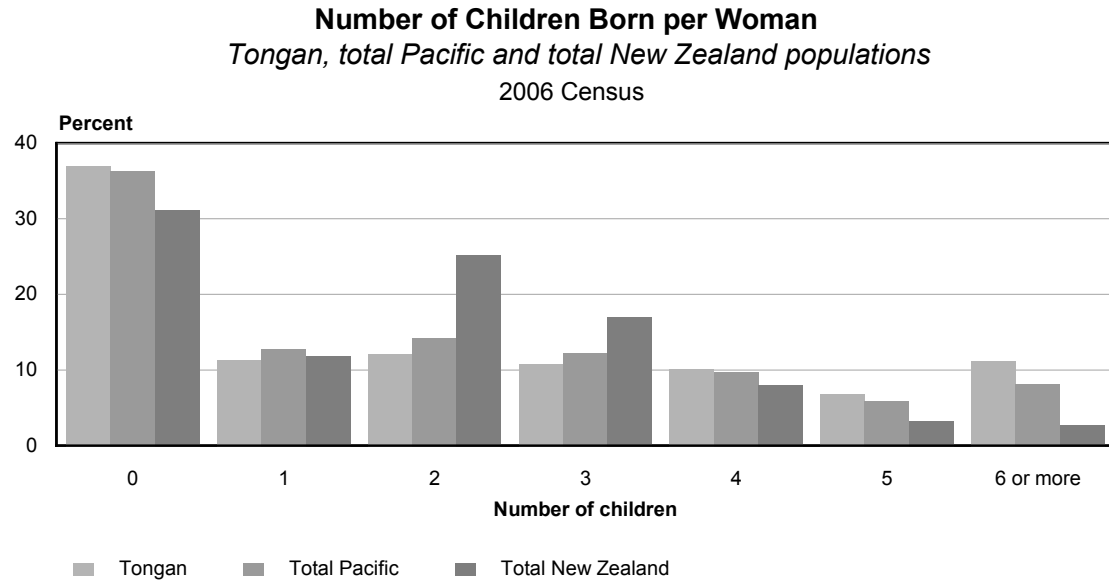


12. Number of children born

In 2006, 37 percent of Tongan women in New Zealand over the age of 15 did not have any children. This figure has remained the same since 1996 when this cyclical census question was last asked. The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations were 36 percent and 31 percent, respectively.

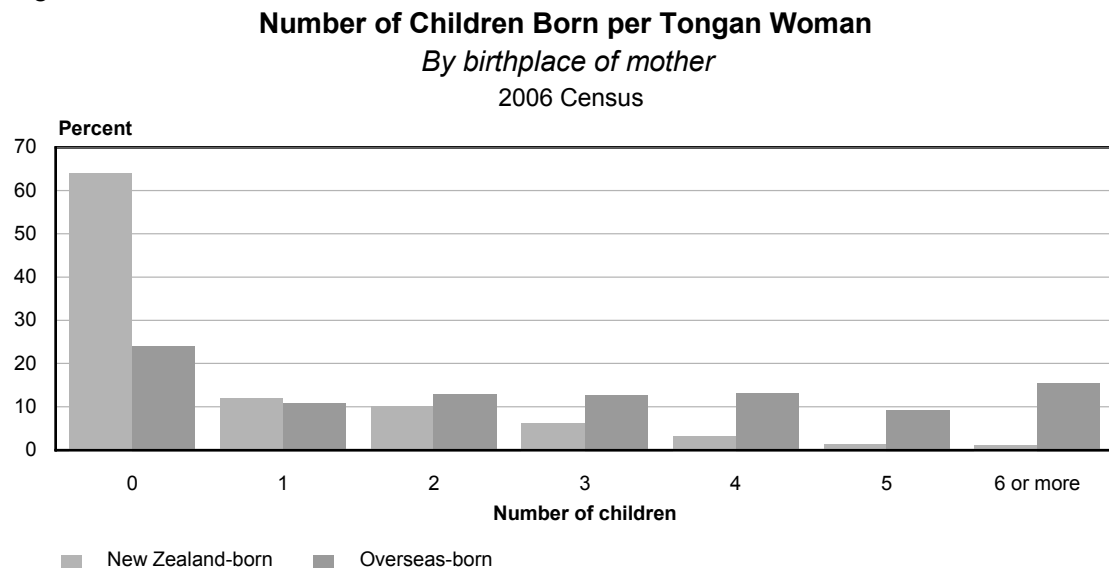
As shown in the following figure, while the Tongan and total Pacific Island populations were more likely than the total New Zealand population to have no children, they were less likely to stop at having just two or three children, and were more likely than the general New Zealand population to have four or more children. Twenty-eight percent of Tongans had four or more children, while 24 percent and 14 percent of the total Pacific and New Zealand populations, respectively, had four or more children.

Figure 21



Given the different age distributions of overseas-born and New Zealand-born Tongans, it is not surprising that a higher proportion of overseas-born Tongan women had children than New Zealand-born Tongan women. The following figure shows that overseas-born Tongans were much more likely to have a higher number of children than those born in New Zealand, and that New Zealand-born Tongans were more likely to have fewer or no children.

Figure 22



Technical appendix

Access to telecommunication systems

Access to telecommunication systems measures whether a household has access to: a cellphone/mobile phone (that is in the dwelling all or most of the time); a telephone; a fax and/or the Internet, to communicate with people outside the dwelling and to use services provided through these media. This requires the device to be in working order and for there to be a working connection.

Cigarette smoking behaviour

Cigarette smoking refers to the active smoking of one or more manufactured or hand-rolled tobacco cigarettes, from purchased or home-grown tobacco, per day, by people aged 15 years and over. The term 'smoking' refers to active smoking behaviour; that is, the intentional inhalation of tobacco smoke. Smoking does not refer to or include passive smoking (the unintentional inhalation of tobacco smoke). Cigarette smoking behaviour is a cyclical topic that was first asked about in the 1976 census, and was repeated in the 1981, 1996 and 2006 Censuses.

Employed

A person is employed if they were in the working-age population (people aged 15 years and over) and during the week ended 5 March 2006:

- worked for one hour or more for pay or profit in the context of an employee/employer relationship or self-employment
- worked without pay for one hour or more in work that contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business or professional practice owned or operated by a relative
- had a job but were not at work due to:
 - their illness or injury
 - personal or family responsibilities
 - bad weather or mechanical breakdown
 - direct involvement in an industrial dispute
 - being on leave or holiday.

Full time refers to people who are employed full time usually work 30 or more hours per week.

Part time refers to people who are employed part time usually work fewer than 30 hours per week.

Ethnicity/Ethnic group

Ethnicity is the ethnic group or groups that people identify with or feel they belong to. Ethnicity is a measure of cultural affiliation, as opposed to race, ancestry, nationality or citizenship. Ethnicity is self-perceived and people can belong to more than one ethnic group.

An ethnic group is made up of people who have some or all of the following characteristics:

- a common proper name
- one or more elements of common culture that need not be specified, but may include religion, customs, or language
- unique community of interests, feelings and actions

- a shared sense of common origins or ancestry, and
- a common geographic origin.

Extended family

An extended family is a group of related persons who usually reside together and consists of: a family nucleus and one or more 'other related persons', or two or more related family nuclei, with or without other related persons.

Family

A family is a couple with or without child(ren), or one parent and their child(ren), living in the same household.

Full-time and part-time employment

Full-time work is defined as 30 hours or more of work per week while part-time work is defined as less than 30 hours of work per week.

Highest qualification

Highest qualification is derived for people aged 15 years and over, and combines highest secondary school qualification and post-school qualification to derive a single highest qualification by category of attainment.

Highest secondary school qualification

This is the highest secondary school qualification gained by category of attainment, and is collected for people aged 15 years and over.

Household

A household is one person who usually resides alone, or two or more people who usually reside together and share facilities (such as eating facilities, cooking facilities, bathroom and toilet facilities, and a living area), in a private dwelling.

Industry

Industry is the type of activity undertaken by the organisation, enterprise, business or unit of economic activity within which a person aged 15 years and over is employed.

Labour force

The labour force consists of members of the working-age population (people aged 15 years and over) who, during the week ended 5 March 2006, were classified as 'employed' or 'unemployed'.

Labour force participation rate

The percentage of the working-age population (people aged 15 years and over) who are either employed or unemployed at the time of the census. The calculation for labour force participation rate excludes people with a work and labour force status of 'unidentifiable'.

Languages spoken

This variable provides information on whether a person can speak and understand spoken or sign language(s). Totals do not add up to 100 as people can speak more than one language.

Median age

The median age represents the mid-point, where half the population is older and half is younger than this age.

Median income

Median income is one measure of the central tendency of income. The median income is calculated by ranking incomes from highest to lowest and selecting the middle value. The median incomes calculated from census income ranges are estimates and are calculated by assuming that the income values within a range are equally distributed across the range. Median income values are rounded to the nearest hundred dollars. Percentage calculations for median incomes are calculated on the unrounded medians.

Number of children born alive

The number of children ever born alive to each female aged 15 years and over who usually resides in New Zealand. Foetal deaths and stillborn children are not included. Stepchildren, adopted children, foster children and wards of the States are also not included.

Number of motor vehicles

The number of motor vehicles is the number of motor vehicles that are mechanically operational, but not necessarily licensed or having a current warrant of fitness, and are available for private use by the usual residents of private dwellings.

Motor vehicles include:

- cars, station wagons, vans, trucks, four-wheel-drive vehicles and other vehicles used on public roads
- business vehicles available for private use by people in the dwelling
- vehicles hired or leased
- vehicles temporarily under repair.

They do not include:

- motor bikes or scooters
- vehicles used only for business
- farm vehicles not licensed for road use
- vehicles that belong to visitors
- vehicles occasionally borrowed from another household.

Occupation

An occupation is defined as a set of jobs that require the performance of similar or identical tasks, and is collected for employed people aged 15 years and over.

Total personal income

Information on total personal income received is collected from individuals in the 2006 Census. It represents the before-tax income for the respondent in the 12 months ending 31 March 2006. To overcome collection difficulties, total personal income is collected as an income range rather than an actual dollar income.

Post-school qualification

Post-school qualification is the highest qualification gained over and above any school qualifications and is collected for people aged 15 years and over. Included are qualifications awarded by training and educational institutions, as well as those gained from on-the-job training. Post-school qualifications data is produced by category of attainment and by field of study.

Qualification

A qualification is a formally recognised award for attainment resulting from: a full-time (20 hours per week or more) learning course of at least three months; part-time study that, when completed, is equivalent to three months full time; or on-the-job training.

Formal recognition means that the qualification is:

- awarded by a New Zealand secondary school or institution as defined by the Education Act, or
- awarded under the auspices of the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA), that is, by a registered qualifications provider, or
- awarded by a publicly recognised New Zealand authority of a profession, academic discipline or trade, or
- awarded by a New Zealand recognised overseas authority of a profession, academic discipline or trade.

Category of attainment is an indication of the amount and type of learning required to gain a qualification.

The amount of learning is the total learning time usually necessary to obtain a qualification. Included are any previous learning or educational attainment required for admission to the educational course leading to the qualification and the amount of learning time necessary to complete the qualification.

The type of learning is the blend of theoretical knowledge and understanding and the attainment of practical skills. For example, academic qualifications have greater theoretical content than vocational qualifications; vocational qualifications have greater applied skills content than academic qualifications.

Religious affiliation

Religious affiliation is the self-identified association of a person with a religion, denomination or sub-denominational religious group. A denomination is the church or religious sect that forms a subgroup of a religion share the same principles but differ from each other in aspects such as the form of worship used, and the way in which they are governed. Totals do not add up to 100 as people can affiliate with more than one religion.

Resident population

Refers to all people counted during a census who usually live in New Zealand, excluding people who usually live overseas and New Zealand residents overseas.

Sources of personal income

This variable identifies the various sources from which an individual aged 15 years and over received their total personal income in the 12 months ending 31 March 2006.

In the census, it is generally only realistic to collect information on money income. This is income that the individual respondent can normally recall or can readily retrieve from their financial records. Money income is money flow from the deployment of one's labour, entrepreneurial skills and assets, and transfers received. The concept of money income therefore relies on identifying the sources from which money income is derived.

Excluded are income in kind, imputed income, unrealised income and contingent income. Contingent income is that dependent on the unknown income of a course of

action, for example, to sue. Moneys received by borrowing, making withdrawals from savings and receiving repayments of loan principal are excluded. Tax credits and reimbursements of expenses are also excluded.

Unemployment rate

The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Unpaid work

Unpaid work covers unpaid activities performed in the four weeks prior to census that are either:

- for people living in the same household as the respondent, or
- for people outside the respondent's household (for which the performance of those activities is not paid).

Working-age population

The usually resident non-institutionalised civilian population of New Zealand aged 15 years and over.