

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

STATISTICAL REPORT

2009



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Cook Islands Ministry of Education Statistics Report 2009. This report provides statistical information about education in the Cook Islands reporting on a range of data and achievements. Data are provided for the current year as well as a 5 year time series where possible. Annexes are provided of data tables.

It is the aim of the Ministry of Education to provide all its stakeholders as well as national, regional and international partners with quality educational statistics.

Information in this report is produced from the Education Management Information System in the Ministry of Education. The data for this report are collected at least annually from schools. The data also allows for informed decision making within the Ministry of Education.

Should you require any further data or information, please do not hesitate to contact the Statistics Officer at the Secretariat division of the Ministry of Education.

The Ministry of Education acknowledges all those who have supported the collection and analysis of the data.

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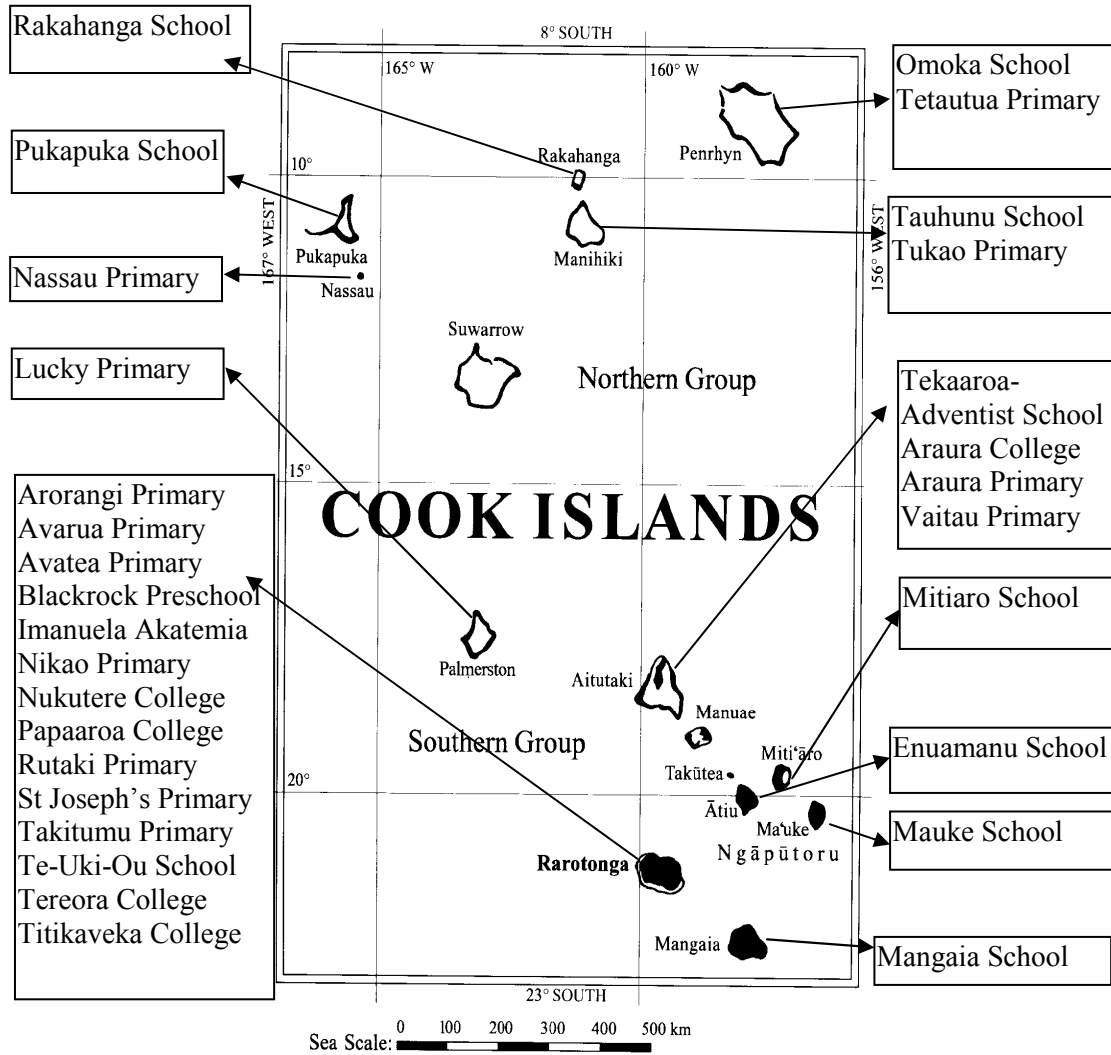
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STRUCTURE OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Education in the Cook Islands, in the main, is provided by government institutions. There are 30 providers including 24 ECE Centres (predominantly attached to primary and area schools), 13 primary schools, 4 secondary schools and 12 area schools¹.

The geographical spread of these schools is shown on the map below.



All church and private schools receive 100% of the equivalent allocation of funds that they would as a government school from the national budget. All government and government-funded church and private schools are required to be open to both educational and financial audit.

¹ An area school is a school that provides education from Early Childhood through to secondary level on one site and under one management structure.

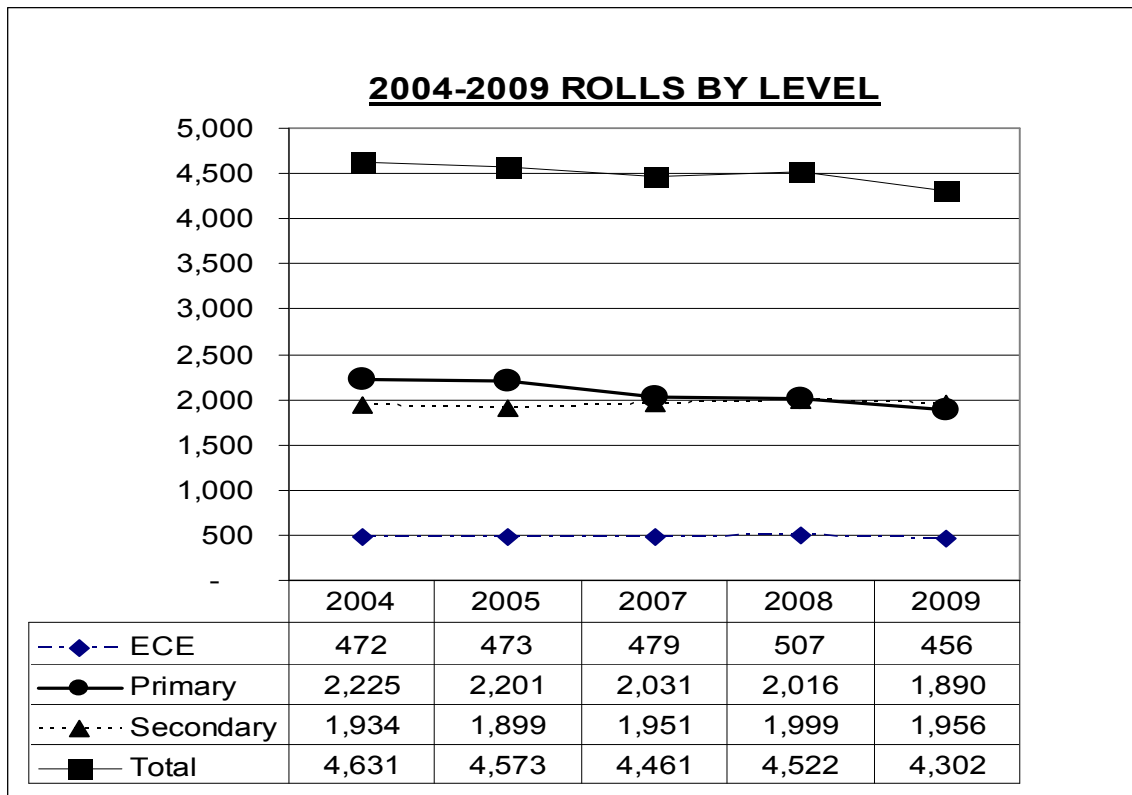
Schools in the Cook Islands

Schools by Status, Island and Region:

Region	Island	Schools by Status
Rarotonga	Rarotonga	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arorangi Primary • Avarua Primary • Avatea Primary • Nikao Primary • Rutaki Primary • Takitumu Primary • Tereora College • Titikaveka College <u>Church:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Joseph’s Primary School • Nukutere College • Papaaroa SDA College • Imanuela Akatemia <u>Private:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackrock ECE • Te-Uki-Ou School
Southern Group	Aitutaki	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Araura Primary • Vaitau Primary • Araura College <u>Church:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tekaaroa Adventist School
	Mitiaro	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitiaro School
	Atiu	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enuamanu School
	Mauke	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauke School
	Mangaia	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mangaia School (Incorporating Tamarua and Ivirua Schools)
Northern Group	Manihiki	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tukao Primary • Tauhunu School
	Penrhyn	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tetautua Primary • Omoka School
	Rakahanga	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rakahanga School
	Pukapuka	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Niua School
	Nassau	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nassau Primary
	Palmerston	<u>Government:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucky School

NOTABLE ENROLMENT AND TEACHERS' STATISTICS

- The total enrolment for 2009 is 4302. This continues the annual decline that we have seen for the last five years.
- Early Childhood Education and Primary Education in particular show a continued decline in enrolments
- The total number of teachers this year (281) is also recorded as the lowest compared to the past five years with the highest of 295 in 2008.



Note: Data for 2006 is not available due to database error.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Early Childhood Education has been one of the three main foci of the Ministry of Education in recent years. The Ministry has reviewed its approach to the development of ECE with the recruitment of a specialist ECE Advisor and the development of a new ECE specific curriculum document. Considerable investment has also been made into ECE specific training and upgrading the qualifications of teachers.

The following tables and charts show the total enrolment and breakdown by gender for the year 2009 and the past five years by region.

2009 Enrolment by Gender and Region

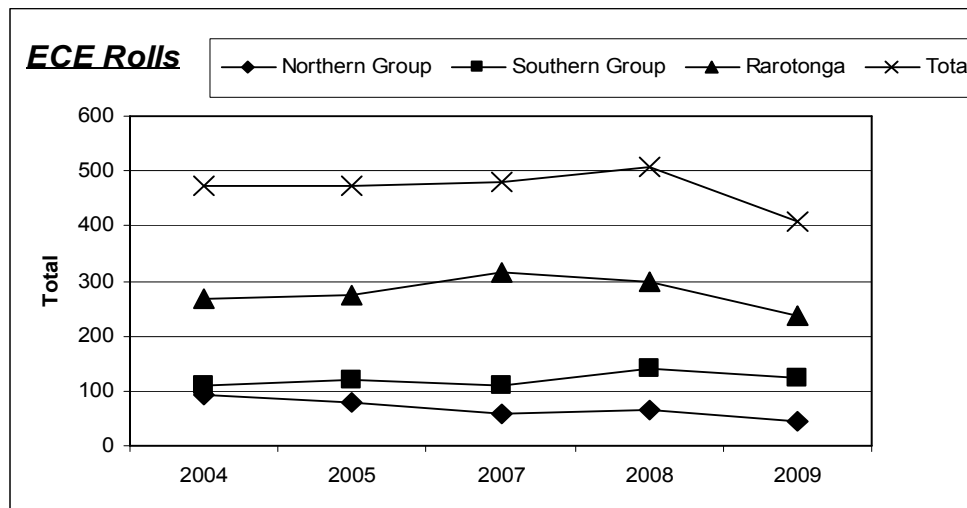
Region	Gender	Primary	Percentage per Gender
Rarotonga	Female	628	49
	Male	643	51
Southern	Female	210	48
	Male	226	52
Northern	Female	114	49
	Male	118	51
Total	Female	952	49
	Male	987	51



ECE ROLLS 2004 - 2009

Year	Northern Group	Southern Group	Rarotonga	Total
2004	94	109	269	472
2005	80	119	274	473
2007	57	108	314	479
2008	66	142	299	507
2009	45	125	238	408

Note: Data for 2006 is not available due to database error.



With the implementation of the new curriculum, the focus of the Ministry has been on developing quality teaching practices and supporting teacher qualifications in ECE by supporting University courses. National workshops and smaller group tutorials have also been run.

The tables and chart below show the number of ECE teachers by gender and region for the year 2009 and tracking back over the past five years.

All teachers of ECE are female.

Early Childhood Education Teachers by Gender and Region, 2009

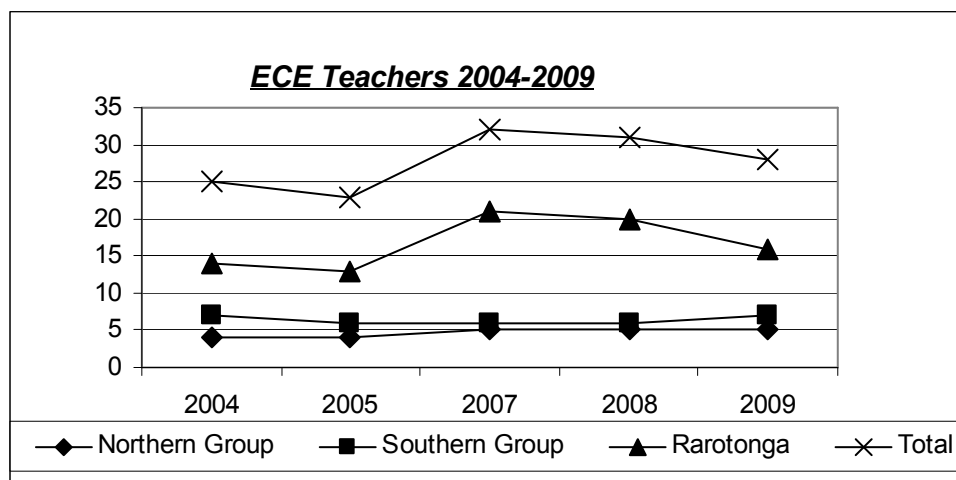
Region	Gender	ECE
Rarotonga	Female	16
	Male	0
Southern Group	Female	7
	Male	0
Northern Group	Female	5
	Male	0
Total		28



ECE Teachers by Region, 2004-2009

Year	Northern Group	Southern Group	Rarotonga	Total
2004	4	7	14	25
2005	4	6	13	23
2007	5	6	21	32
2008	5	6	20	31
2009	5	7	16	28

Note: Data for 2006 is not available due to database error.



Student/Teacher Ratio in ECE for 2009

Region	ECE Roll	ECE Teachers	ECE Student/Teacher Ratio.
Rarotonga	238	16	15:1
Southern Group	125	7	18:1
Northern Group	45	5	9:1
Total	408	28	15:1

ECE Student/Teacher Ratio by Region, 2004-2009

Year	Northern Group	Southern Group	Rarotonga	Total
2004	24:1	16:1	19:1	19:1
2005	20:1	20:1	21:1	21:1
2007	11:1	18:1	15:1	15:1
2008	13:1	24:1	15:1	16:1
2009	9:1	18:1	15:1	15:1

Note: Data for 2006 is not available due to database error.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education has developed a number of initiatives to ensure quality primary education. These include:

- numeracy and literacy programmes supported by “Lead Teachers”
- significant resourcing of school libraries
- resource production
- significant developments in the area of inclusive education

The tables and chart below show the enrolments at primary level by gender in different regions of the Cook Islands. A study of the data below shows that there is low gender disparity at the primary level.

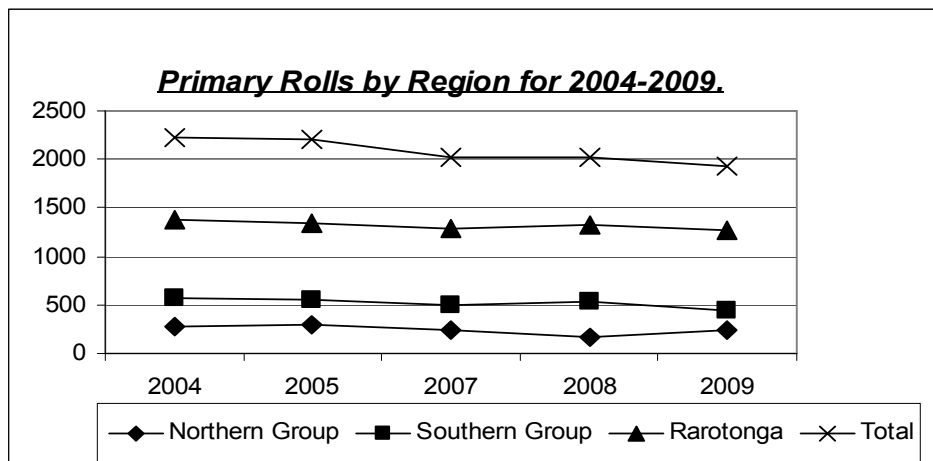
Primary Education Rolls by Gender and Region for 2009

Region	Gender	Primary	Percentage per Gender
Rarotonga	Female	628	49
	Male	643	51
Southern Group	Female	210	48
	Male	226	52
Northern Group	Female	114	49
	Male	118	51
Total	Female	952	49
	Male	987	51

Primary Education Rolls by Region, 2004-2009

Year	Northern Group	Southern Group	Rarotonga	Total
2004	271	578	1376	2225
2005	291	559	1351	2201
2007	237	501	1293	2031
2008	160	534	1322	2016
2009	232	436	1271	1939

Note: Data for 2006 is not available due to database error.

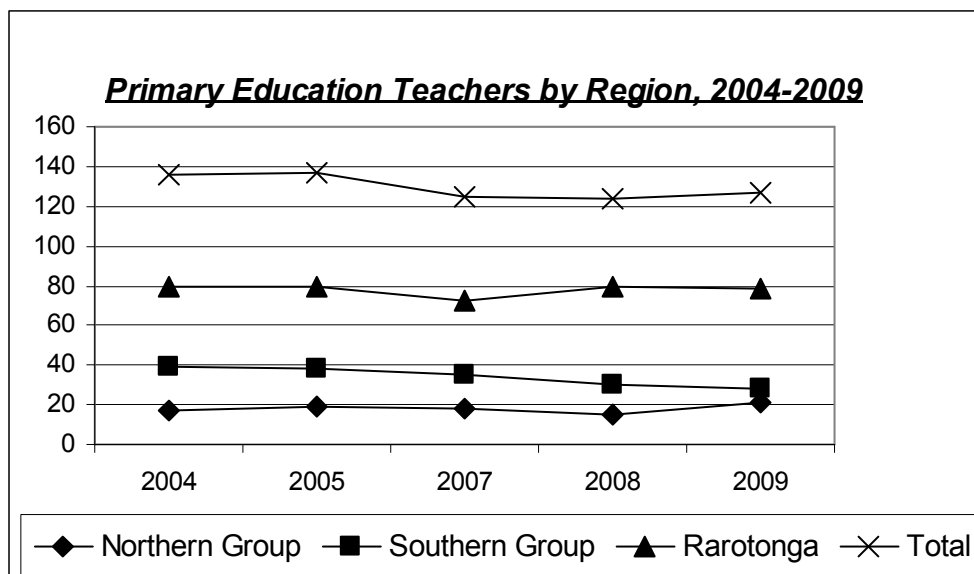


Primary Education Teachers by region and gender, 2009

Region	Gender	Primary	Percentage per Gender
Rarotonga	Female	63	81
	Male	15	19
Southern Group	Female	26	93
	Male	2	7
Northern Group	Female	18	86
	Male	3	14
Total	Female	107	84
	Male	20	16

Year	Northern Group	Southern Group	Rarotonga	Total
2004	17	39	80	136
2005	19	38	80	137
2007	18	35	72	125
2008	15	30	79	124
2009	21	28	78	127

Note: Data for 2006 is not available due to database error.



Primary Education Student/Teacher Ratio, 2009

Region	Primary Roll	Primary Teachers	Primary Student/Teacher Ratio.
Rarotonga	1271	78	16:1
Southern Group	436	28	16:1
Northern Group	232	21	11:1
Total	1939	127	15:1

Primary Education Student/Teacher Ratio, 2004-2009

Year	Northern Group	Southern Group	Rarotonga	Total
2004	16:1	15:1	17:1	16:1
2005	15:1	15:1	17:1	16:1
2007	13:1	14:1	18:1	16:1
2008	11:1	18:1	17:1	16:1
2009	11:1	16:1	16:1	15:1

Note: Data for 2006 is not available due to database error.

NUMERACY AND LITERACY

An improved numeracy and literacy outcome for all learners is a key goal for the Ministry of Education and relates to many targets of the Education Master Plan *Learning for Life*. The Ministry of Education is ensuring that financial and professional support is provided to achieve these two areas.

The Numeracy project started in the Cook Islands in 2004. The aim of the project is for students to become numerate. It is focused on improving student performance in mathematics through improving the professional capability of teachers.

This can be achieved by teachers:

- understanding how children develop number concepts.
- understanding how children develop and use mental strategies.
- recognizing the stage of development of each child and responding to the children's learning needs.
- increasing confidence in teaching mathematics.

The numeracy project has been targeted at Year1 – Year 8, eventually it will extend to Year10.

The table below shows the data on numeracy achievements for 2007 and 2008 and the breakdown by region.

**SUMMARY OF NUMERACY ACHIEVEMENT RATES FOR
2007 & 2008**

	Rarotonga		Southern Group		Northern Group		National	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
Below standard (Levels 1&2)	37.8	33.9	43.9	32	N/A	80	40.9	39.5
At/Above standard (Levels 3&4)	62.2	66.1	56.1	58	N/A	20	59.1	60.5

An increase in primary school literacy will lead to a literate adult population. There has been a focus on literacy in both English and Maori language since 2002 with the introduction of specific advisors at first in reading and then in literacy.

Activities developed under these programmes include:

- development of readers in the dialects of Cook Islands Maori and the Pukapuka dialect
- development and implementation of in-service programmes including cluster and school based workshops and in school modeling
- implementation of a lead teacher programme
- the development, testing, evaluation and editing of instruments to gather evidence on students' reading levels in both English and Cook Islands Maori
- research and development of bilingual models suitable for the Cook Islands
- Significant resourcing of school libraries.

Literacy in the primary school has been measured using different instruments. Between 1999 and 2006 formal diagnostic testing at Grade 4 and 6 was used to assess literacy in both Cook Islands Maori and English. In 2007, this changed to use evidence gathered by teachers over the year using newly developed instruments and reported to the Ministry against agreed standards and levels.

The table below shows the summary of Literacy achievements in 2007 and 2008. The breakdown is by Region.

SUMMARY OF LITERACY ACHIEVEMENT RATES FOR 2007 & 2008

	Rarotonga		Southern Group		Northern Group		National	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
CI Maori Below standard	41.4	51	66.7	51	N/A	67	54.1	51
CI Maori At/Above standard	58.6	49	33.3	49	N/A	33	45.9	48
English Below standard	30.8	21	67.7	61	N/A	94	49.2	37
English At/Above standard	69.2	79	32.3	39	N/A	6	50.8	63
Best Below standard	19.5	16	53	37	N/A	67	36.2	25
Best At/Above standard	80.5	84	47	63	N/A	33	63.8	75

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Secondary Education in the Cook Islands has been an area of significant growth in the last five years in terms of scope of subjects and new initiatives. Such development was in response to:

- The increasing retention of senior secondary students with NCEA qualifications.
- The need to increase the scope of subjects available at senior levels to meet the needs of students.
- The growing number of northern group students attending Tereora College for senior secondary education.
- The addition of transition courses at senior secondary level to provide alternative pathways and improve retention.

The following targets are set for national achievement in school based qualifications and the retention of students in learning in the Education Master Plan *Learning for Life (2008 – 2023)*:

- ensuring 75% of students entering NCEA Level 1 for the first time at Year 11 will achieve the qualification;
- achieving 90% student retention beyond the minimum leaving age either in formal schooling or another recognized course of learning.

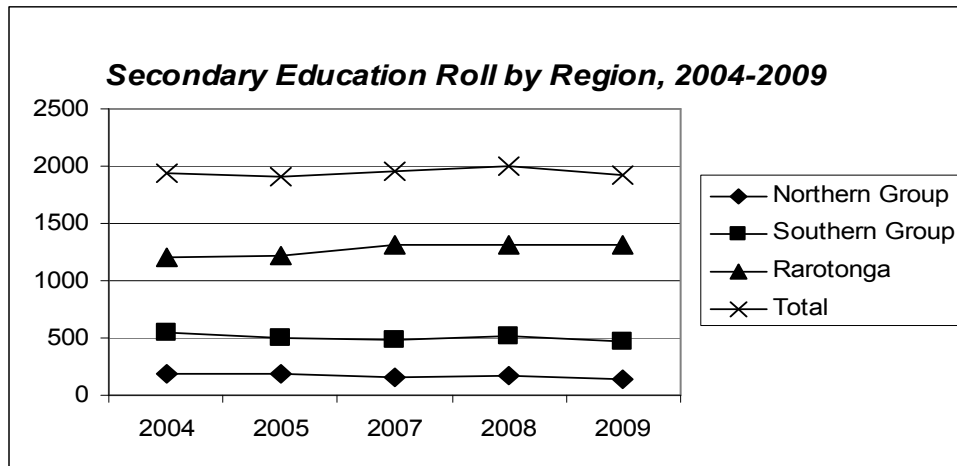
Secondary Education Roll by Gender and Region, 2009

Region	Gender	Secondary	Percentage per Gender
Rarotonga	Female	683	52
	Male	636	48
Southern Group	Female	231	49
	Male	239	51
Northern Group	Female	61	44
	Male	78	56
Total	Female	975	51
	Male	953	49

Secondary Education Roll by Region, 2004-2009

Year	Northern Group	Southern Group	Rarotonga	Total
2004	192	540	1202	1934
2005	187	497	1215	1899
2007	157	488	1306	1951
2008	169	512	1318	1999
2009	139	470	1319	1928

Note: Data for 2006 are not available due to database error.



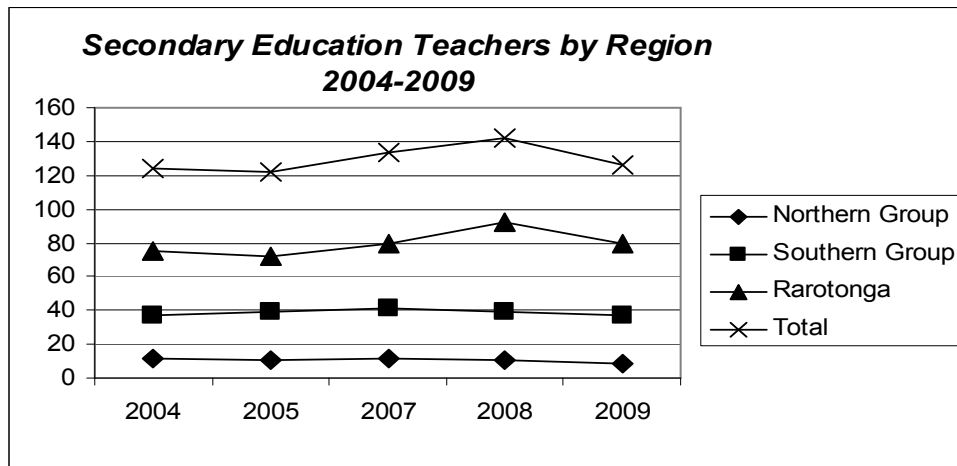
Secondary Education Teachers by Gender and Region 2009

Region	Gender	Secondary	Percentage per Gender
Rarotonga	Female	46	57
	Male	34	43
Southern Group	Female	26	70
	Male	11	30
Northern Group	Female	5	56
	Male	4	44
Total	Female	77	61
	Male	49	39

Secondary Education Teachers by Region 2004-2009

Year	Northern Group	Southern Group	Rarotonga	Total
2004	12	37	75	124
2005	11	39	72	122
2007	12	41	80	133
2008	11	39	92	142
2009	9	37	80	126

Note: Data for 2006 are not available due to database error.



Secondary Education Student/Teacher Ratios by Region 2009

Region	Secondary Roll	Secondary Teachers	Secondary Student/Teacher Ratio.
Rarotonga	1319	80	16:1
Southern Group	470	37	13:1
Northern Group	139	9	15:1
Total	1928	126	15:1

Secondary Education Student/Teacher Ratios 2004-2009

Year	Northern Group	Southern Group	Rarotonga	Total
2004	16:1	15:1	16:1	16:1
2005	17:1	13:1	17:1	16:1
2007	13:1	12:1	16:1	15:1
2008	15:1	13:1	14:1	14:1
2009	15:1	13:1	16:1	15:1

Note: Data for 2006 are not available due to database error.

National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA)

In 2002, to maintain alignment with New Zealand, the Cook Islands changed to the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) as its national qualification. NCEA is a standards based qualification where students gain credits by providing evidence against particular performance criteria. This evidence can be provided through external examination and/or work completed internally over the school year. This qualification has three levels of attainment which align to the final three years of secondary schooling.

The following trends have been noted since this change:

- student retention in senior secondary school is increasing;
- the range of subjects and standards students are accessing is increasing.

With a falling national population, the retention of students from Senior Level 1 (the last year of compulsory education for most students) on to Senior Level 2 and 3 is increasing.

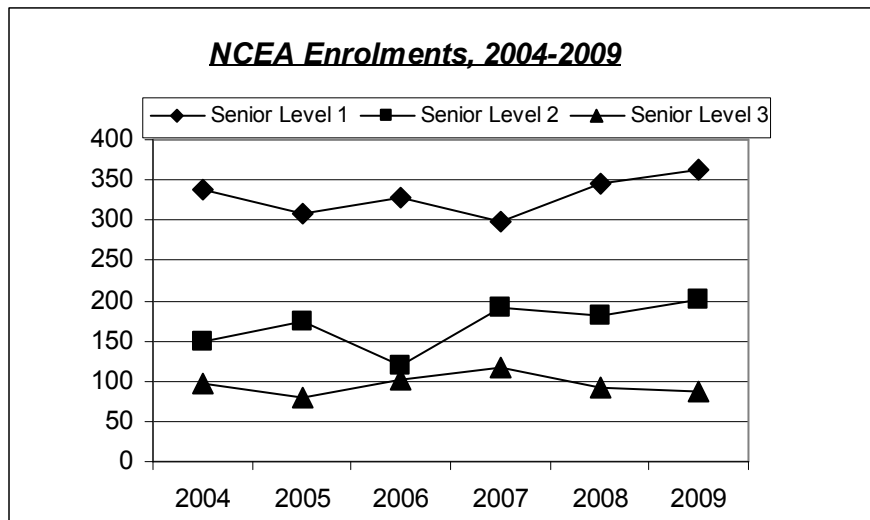
The Cook Islands has set the following targets for national achievement in school based qualifications and retention of students in learning:

- ensuring 75% of students entering NCEA Level 1 for the first time at year 11 will achieve the qualification;
- achieving 90% student retention beyond the minimum leaving age either in formal schooling or another recognized course of learning
- ensuring that at least 60% of school leavers are participating in some form of tertiary education.

With a world wide shortage of secondary teachers, and particularly those with NCEA experience, a challenge for the Ministry will be to attract and retain quality teachers across a wide range of learning areas for the senior secondary school. In particular, the challenge is to maintain parents' confidence in the range and quality of education provided in the Cook Islands so that senior students remain in country and involved in learning programmes. The Ministry has developed a direct recruit programme to attract teachers from New Zealand. It is also working closely with DNHRD and other providers to increase the pathways of learning for secondary school students.

NCEA Enrolments, 2004-2009

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
SL1	339	307	327	299	346	362
SL2	149	175	120	191	182	201
SL3	98	79	101	118	91	87
Total	586	561	548	608	619	650



Percentage of Third year students achieving NCEA Level 1

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
National	32.8	40.7	39.3	43.4	49.1	48.3
Rarotonga	29.8	55.6	43.6	50.5	57	48.1
Southern group	40	12.8	30.9	26.3	25.6	48.8

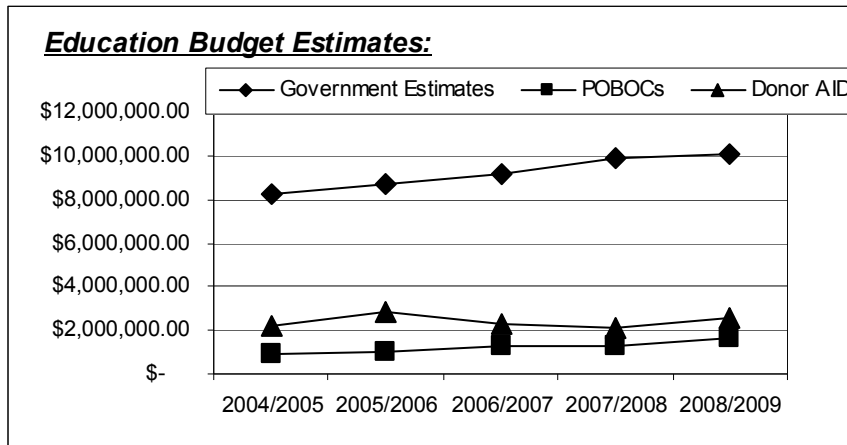
Please note that from 2008, schools offering “2 Year” Level 1 programmes did not record student results under third Year.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Number of entries into NCEA L3 four or more subjects	23	17	30	31	45
Number qualifying for NZUE	12	9	22	20	13
Percentage NZUE	52	53	73	65	29

BUDGET: The Ministry of Education develops an annual business plan and budget for consideration by the government appointed budget committee and central agencies.

Education Budget Estimates:

Financial Year	Government Estimate	POBOCs	Donor AID
2004/2005	\$ 8,216,347.00	\$ 907,390.00	\$ 2,240,745.00
2005/2006	\$ 8,729,114.00	\$ 1,040,100.00	\$ 2,850,000.00
2006/2007	\$ 9,178,455.00	\$ 1,252,433.00	\$ 2,250,000.00
2007/2008	\$ 9,938,591.00	\$ 1,316,017.00	\$ 2,150,000.00
2008/2009	\$ 10,070,622.00	\$ 1,656,076.00	\$ 2,600,000.00



Appendix 1: Rolls by School and Level.

Groups	Schools	ECE	Year1	Year2	Year3	Year4	Year5	Year6	Year7	Year8	Year9	Year10	Year11	Year12	Year13	Total
Rarotonga	Imanuella Akaternia	10	11	4	2	3	5	6	7	9	4	7	4	3	5	80
	Takitumu School	37	19	15	17	19	18	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	148
	St Josephs	20	54	29	30	31	28	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	215
	Avatea School	0	48	32	33	28	33	45	48	39	0	0	0	0	0	306
	Nukutere College	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	31	40	49	50	0	0	195
	Blackrock	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35
	Avatua School	64	64	51	57	68	59	55	61	63	0	0	0	0	0	542
	Te-Uki-Ou School	0	16	15	16	12	12	11	16	10	0	0	0	0	0	108
	Nikao School	17	15	16	9	12	11	13	8	10	0	0	0	0	0	111
	Papaaroa School	18	6	14	7	12	12	18	6	8	9	8	0	0	0	118
	Rutaki School	19	5	8	11	5	5	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63
	Titikaveka College	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	28	25	27	39	0	0	135
	Arurangi School	18	19	14	20	12	14	11	11	12	16	0	0	0	0	136
	Tereora College	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	111	133	157	159	636
	Araura Primary	24	19	24	18	16	17	19	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	137
	Vaitau School	18	17	10	7	13	12	12	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	82
	Araura College	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	34	48	42	51	7	217
	Tekaaroa School	25	5	15	10	4	9	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	79
Enuamanu School	12	14	10	10	6	8	13	13	17	10	13	10	11	12	146	
Mangaia School	21	17	16	16	11	6	20	20	20	21	12	21	10	15	206	
Mauke School	19	7	5	5	5	4	7	7	13	11	5	11	4	4	100	
Mitiaro School	6	5	3	4	2	3	8	8	9	9	3	8	4	0	64	
Tukao School	0	4	2	4	4	2	7	7	2	6	2	1	2	0	36	
Tauhunu School	1	6	3	3	3	5	4	4	3	4	5	0	3	0	40	
Tetautua Primary	5	4	0	2	0	4	0	0	2	5	3	0	0	0	25	
Omoka School	8	7	5	6	4	5	8	8	5	3	5	0	0	0	56	
Lucky	3	2	4	0	4	4	3	3	2	2	0	2	0	0	26	
Nassau	6	2	6	5	0	2	2	2	2	3	4	4	0	0	36	
Rakahanga School	2	3	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	2	1	0	13	
Pukapuka School	20	30	13	16	17	14	10	10	13	16	7	17	7	4	184	
Total	408	399	315	308	291	293	333	322	340	296	342	343	204	81	4275	

Southern Group

Northern Group

Appendix 2: Teachers by School and Level.

Regions	Schools	ECE	Primary	Secondary	Total
Rarotonga	Imanuela Akatemia	1	4	1	6
	Takitumu School	2	8	0	10
	St Josephs	1	8	0	9
	Avatea School	0	17	0	17
	Nukutere College	0	0	13	13
	Blackrock	3	0	0	3
	Avarua School	2	17	5	24
	Te-Uki-Ou School	3	7	2	12
	Nikao School	2	4	2	8
	Papaaroa School	1	3	3	7
	Rutaki School	1	4	0	5
	Titikaveka College	0	0	11	11
	Arorangi School	0	6	2	8
	Tereora College	0	0	41	41
Southern Group	Araura Primary	1	7	0	8
	Vaitau School	0	4	0	4
	Araura College	0	0	15	15
	Tekaaroa School	1	3	0	4
	Enuamanu School	1	5	7	13
	Mangaia School	2	5	7	14
	Mauke School	1	2	6	9
	Mitiaro School	1	2	2	5
Northern Group	Tukao School	0	2	1	3
	Tauhunu School	1	2	1	4
	Tetautua Primary	1	1	0	2
	Omoka School	1	2	1	4
	Lucky	1	4	0	5
	Nassau	0	3	0	3
	Rakahanga School	1	1	1	3
	Pukapuka School	0	6	5	11
	Total	28	127	126	281