

# Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery Community Profile

## Geography

This presbytery is approximately equivalent to

- o Manawatu-Wanganui Region – made up of districts of:
  - Ruapehu
  - Manawatu
  - Horowhenua
  - Rangitikei
  - Palmerston North City
  - Wanganui
  - Tararua

It is also approximately equivalent to

- o Central Police District (minus Areas of New Plymouth and Taranaki Rural)
- o Whanganui and Midcentral District Health Boards

**Map of Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery**





# Wanganui-Manawatu Presbytery region at a glance

Some of the significant highs and lows for the six districts and one city in this presbytery compared with the 72 districts in mainland New Zealand are as follows: (highest/high in New Zealand; lowest/low in New Zealand). Data is from the 2006 census.

Population general	Ruapehu District	Wanganui District	Rangitikei District	Manawatu District	Palmerston North City	Tararua District	Horowhenua District
Median age in years(NZ: 35)	34	39	38	37	32	37	42
% of people 0-24 years old	38.44%	33.84%	35.20%	35.39%	39.78%	35.44%	31.67%
% of people 25-44 years old	26.17%	23.86%	24.47%	25.91%	27.54%	25.22%	22.42%
% of people 45-64 years old	24.80%	25.04%	25.98%	25.85%	21.09%	25.37%	25.89%
% of people 65 years old and over	10.57%	17.26%	14.38%	12.87%	11.58%	13.95%	20.02%
Population density (people/km <sup>2</sup> ; NZ: 9.7)	2.02	17.97	3.28	10.77	225.13	4.04	28.08
Population growth (2001-2006)	-5.06%	-1.46%	-2.58%	2.70%	4.87%	-1.26%	0.15%

## Work and Education

% receiving income from wages/salary*	59.35%	54.42%	58.21%	59.40%	65.73%	55.22%	47.86%
% receiving income from self-employment*	19.71%	12.43%	20.04%	21.29%	11.22%	23.60%	14.35%
% receiving income from investments*	19.48%	21.22%	22.95%	25.05%	23.57%	23.76%	19.93%
% as full-time students*	6.62%	8.35%	6.52%	7.94%	15.87%	6.60%	6.88%
% without any educational qualification*	30.44%	29.23%	31.29%	28.78%	21.06%	33.37%	35.26%
% graduated from university*	5.87%	8.05%	6.87%	9.03%	16.41%	5.70%	5.73%

## Ethnicity

% European	62.97%	74.21%	71.58%	77.90%	71.40%	75.42%	74.42%
% Maori	39.17%	22.02%	24.47%	13.98%	15.39%	20.36%	20.98%
% Pacific Islander	2.21%	2.39%	1.62%	1.47%	3.74%	1.31%	3.49%
% Asian	2.06%	2.38%	0.89%	1.27%	7.35%	1.31%	2.64%

## Family and Household

couples with children (as % of families)	41.83%	35.35%	40.24%	42.77%	39.60%	41.23%	34.16%
couples without children (as % of families)	38.11%	40.93%	43.17%	41.37%	40.15%	41.99%	46.36%
% solo parents (as % of families with children)	32.21%	40.15%	29.10%	27.06%	33.82%	28.85%	36.36%
% widowed, or bereaved civil union*	5.64%	7.20%	5.89%	5.07%	4.86%	6.24%	7.98%
% who have never married/partnered*	22.58%	22.05%	19.29%	19.99%	29.23%	19.35%	18.46%
Median family income	\$46,600	\$45,500	\$49,100	\$55,800	\$56,700	\$50,600	\$41,200
Mean weekly rental for households renting	\$105	\$141	\$118	\$148	\$187	\$129	\$142
% of households with 6 or more people	5.15%	3.52%	4.08%	3.81%	3.42%	3.99%	3.81%
% of households with only one occupant	26.61%	28.98%	24.92%	22.15%	23.65%	26.20%	28.93%

## Benefits

% receiving unemployment benefit*	5.91%	5.23%	4.32%	2.66%	3.16%	3.25%	4.62%
% receiving sickness benefit*	2.71%	2.97%	2.30%	2.13%	2.21%	2.35%	3.31%
% receiving domestic purposes benefit*	3.88%	4.84%	3.14%	3.31%	3.48%	3.53%	4.39%
% receiving New Zealand superannuation*	13.74%	21.60%	18.75%	16.30%	14.04%	18.00%	25.16%

## Faith

% Christian	46.04%	52.75%	54.06%	54.11%	51.55%	56.05%	53.28%
% Maori Christian	5.08%	3.06%	6.02%	1.25%	1.32%	3.15%	1.68%
% having no religion	31.01%	29.68%	27.24%	33.46%	34.11%	28.18%	31.62%
% following New Age/Spiritualism	0.33%	0.57%	0.31%	0.49%	0.56%	0.41%	0.47%
% Hindu	0.38%	0.44%	0.18%	0.10%	0.91%	0.17%	0.36%
% Islam	0.15%	0.20%	0.14%	0.22%	0.85%	0.20%	0.17%
% Buddhist	0.29%	0.52%	0.29%	0.33%	1.04%	0.53%	0.36%

Notes:

- Statistics with (\*) are for the population aged 15 years and older
- "family" is defined as the total of couples with children plus couples without children plus solo parents
- Statistics in **bold** are 2<sup>nd</sup> highest/2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in New Zealand

## General Comments

This presbytery covers seven territorial authorities, incorporating two cities (one, Palmerston North, is a territorial authority itself) and extensive rural areas which vary from intensively farmed to sparsely populated. Population growth is very low. As a whole, this presbytery has a similar age profile to the New Zealand average, although there are more old people. There are more people of European and Maori ethnicity, at the expense of other ethnicities. People are less well-educated. There are fewer couples with children, and households are smaller and less well-endowed in telecommunication terms. Rentals are low, as are family incomes. Proportions on benefits are similar to the New Zealand average

The northern half (Ruapehu, Wanganui and Rangitikei Districts) have experienced population declines since the 2001 census. Ruapehu is a low income low rental district with a high proportion of Maori, and relatively high unemployment. Wanganui District has fewer couples with children, a high percentage of solo parents, and more elderly and bereaved people. A higher than average proportion of households has only one occupant. Household income is low, and many people receive welfare benefits. Rangitikei District's socio-economic indicators are healthier; incomes are higher and average numbers receive benefits.

Manawatu and Tararua Districts are very average – there are no exceptional statistics apart from the religious ones, and a population decline in Tararua.

Palmerston North City is the “odd one out” of the seven territorial authorities, which is not surprising given its mostly urban and university city nature. There are many more young people, more wage-earners and very high proportions of full-time students, university graduates and unmarried adults. A significant proportion of the population are Asian.

Horowhenua District population has a high median age and a high proportion of elderly people. Fewer than average people are on wages/salaries or earn income by investment, and incomes are low. Many people have no educational qualifications. There are few couples with children; the percentage of solo parents is high and there are very high numbers of bereaved people. Higher than average numbers draw welfare benefits and NZ Superannuation.

Based on 2001 census data Horowhenua District has the highest proportion of people living in the most deprived meshblocks (54.4%) but Ruapehu (49.5%) and Wanganui (49.3%) are also high. Other districts are closer to average values.<sup>1</sup>

Rates of suicide are high in Whanganui District Health Board (districts of Ruapehu, Wanganui and Rangitikei) – 18.7/100,000 people but average in MidCentral DHB (districts of Tararua, Palmerston North, Manawatu and Horowhenua) – 14.3/100,000. The inverse is true for admissions for self-harm – Whanganui DHB has a low rate (99.2/100,000) whereas MidCentral DHB has a high rate (206.1/100,000).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> NZDep2001 Index of Deprivation: A meshblock is the smallest area used for census data, typically contains around 110 people (a city block). The figure is for those living in decile 8-10 meshblocks.

<sup>2</sup> Miranda Devlin. Ministry of Health. 2006. *Suicide Facts: 2004–2005 data*.

Wellington. Suicide statistics are averaged over the years 2002-2004, self-harm statistics are for 2005.

Ruapehu District has a high number of non-casino gaming machines (100/10,000 people). Horowhenua also has a relatively high number (75). Manawatu is at the opposite end of the scale, with 43.5.<sup>3</sup>

There are few followers of non-Christian faiths in the four northern districts, and average numbers in the southern two. Palmerston North City contrasts with this, showing higher than average levels. Tararua District is more Christian than average. The presbytery is more Presbyterian than average (and less Anglican). Presbyterian church attendance has declined over the past six years, and the age profile of congregations is significantly older than that of the overall presbytery population.

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<sup>3</sup> Kylie Mason. Ministry of Health. 2006. *Problem Gambling Geography of New Zealand 2005*. Wellington: Ministry of Health.

# Selected Statistics for Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region

Note: The same statistic for all of New Zealand is given in square brackets e.g. [NZ: 20%]

## Population

At the 2006 Census of Population and Dwellings:

- o The census usually resident population count for Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region was 222,219, a change of 1.06% since 2001 [NZ: change = 7.8%].

## Numbers of people counted

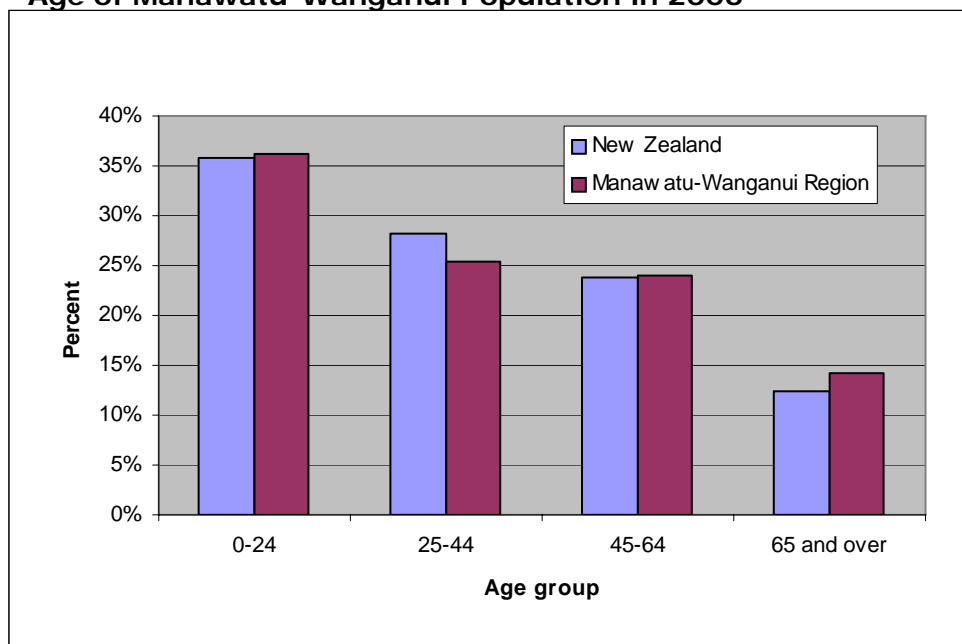
	Manawatu-Wanganui	New Zealand
<b>Males</b>	108,249	1,965,648
<b>Females</b>	113,964	2,062,323
<b>Total</b>	222,219	4,027,971

## Age profile

At the 2006 Census:

- o 21.8% of people in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region were **under 15** years old [NZ: 21.5%].
- o 14.3% of people in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region were **over 65** years old [NZ: 12.3%].

**Age of Manawatu-Wanganui Population in 2006**



## Employment

At the 2006 Census:

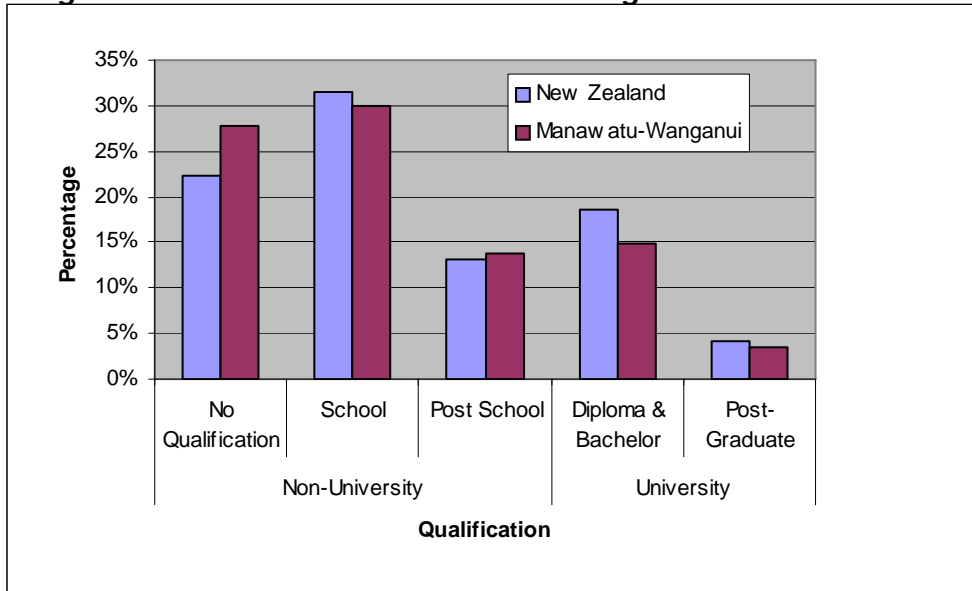
- o The **unemployment rate** in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region was 5.2% [NZ: 5.4%].
- o The most popular occupational group in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region was Managers at 16.4% [NZ: professionals (18.9%)].

## Education

At the 2006 Census:

- 32.0% of people aged 15 years and over in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region had a **post-school qualification** [NZ: 35.8%].

**Highest Qualification in Manawatu-Wanganui and NZ**

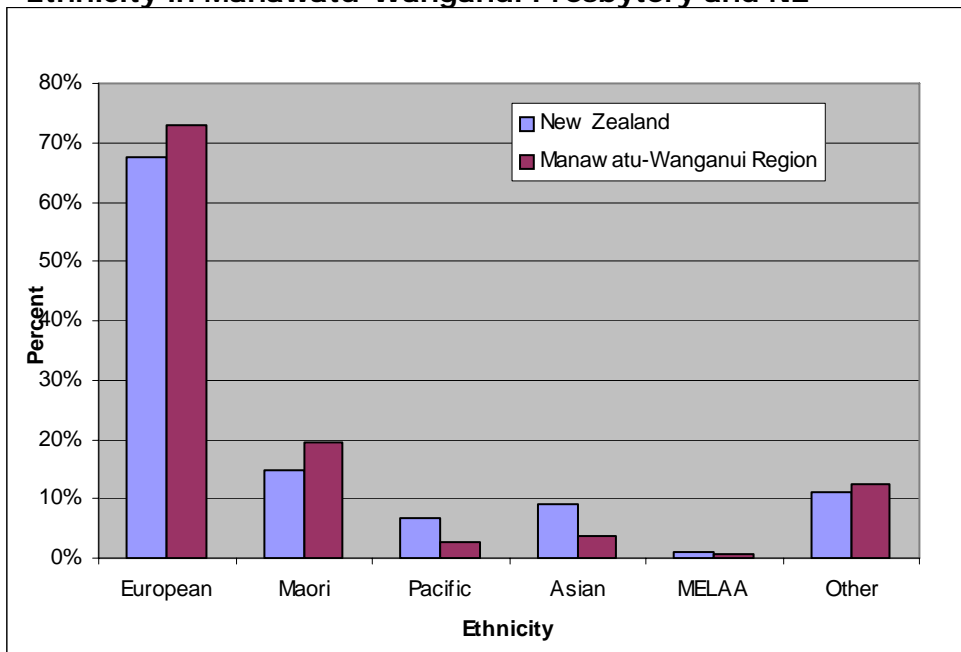


## Ethnic groups

At the 2006 Census:

- 73.0% of people in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region said they belong to the European ethnic group [NZ: 67.6%].

**Ethnicity in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery and NZ**



MELAA = Middle East, Latin American and African

## Families

At the 2006 Census:

- There were 58,593 families in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region.

### Family type

	Manawatu-Wanganui	New Zealand
<b>Couples with child(ren)</b>	38.7%	42.0%
<b>Couples without children</b>	41.6%	39.9%
<b>1 parent with child(ren)</b>	19.7%	18.1%

### Marital Status

	Manawatu-Wanganui	New Zealand
<b>Never married</b>	31.5%	31.4%
<b>Married (not civil union)</b>	43.6%	44.8%
<b>Previously married/partnered</b>	17.8%	16.0%

'Previously married/partnered' includes separated, divorced and bereaved.

## Households

At the 2006 Census, in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region there were 83,934 households:

- **Mean number of household members:** [NZ: 2.7]

Ruapehu District	2.6
Wanganui District	2.4
Rangitikei District	2.5
Manawatu District	2.6
Palmerston North City	2.6
Tararua District	2.5
Horowhenua District	2.4

- **access to a telephone:** 86.7% of households [NZ: 91.7%].
- **access to the internet:** 52.6% of households [NZ: 60.5%].
- **access to a motor vehicle:** 91.4% of households [NZ: 92.2%].
- **mean weekly rent** for rented permanent private dwellings: [NZ: \$225]

Ruapehu District	\$105
Wanganui District	\$141
Rangitikei District	\$118
Manawatu District	\$148
Palmerston North City	\$187
Tararua District	\$129
Horowhenua District	\$142

- **ownership of dwelling** with or without a mortgage, 66.8% [NZ: 66.9%].

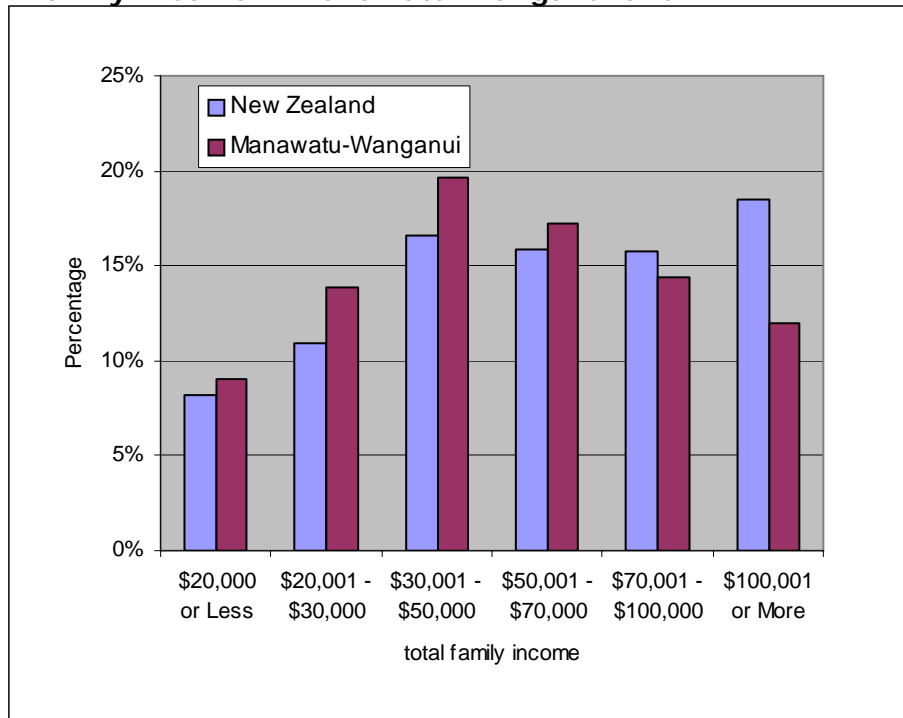
## Income

At the 2006 Census:

- o The median family income in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region was: [NZ: \$59,000]

Ruapehu District	\$46,600
Wanganui District	\$45,500
Rangitikei District	\$49,100
Manawatu District	\$55,800
Palmerston North City	\$56,700
Tararua District	\$50,600
Horowhenua District	\$41,200

**Family Income in Manawatu-Wanganui and NZ**



## Benefits and Allowances

The percentages of people 15 years of age and over in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region receiving the following government benefits and allowances are:

### Benefits and Allowances

	Manawatu-Wanganui region	New Zealand
Unemployment Benefit	3.72%	3.11%
Sickness Benefit	2.41%	2.38%
Domestic Purposes Benefit	3.64%	3.14%
Student Allowance	2.20%	2.17%

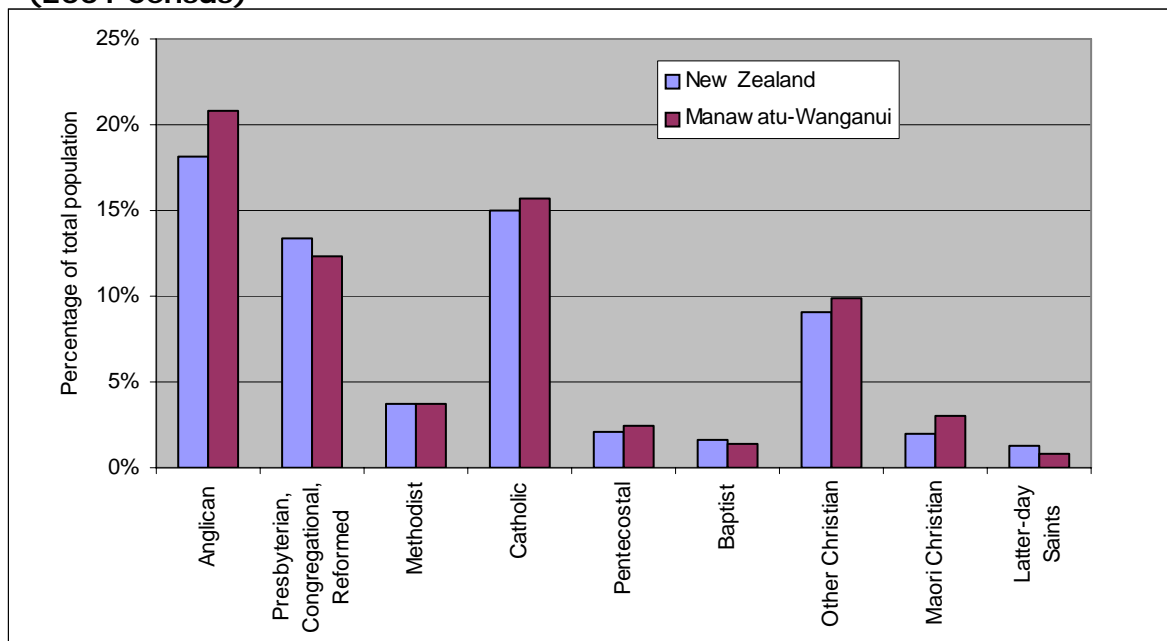
## Religion

### Religious Affiliation (2006 Census)

	Christian	Māori Christian	*New Age Religions	Judaism	Islam	Hindu	Buddhist	Other Religions	No Religion
New Zealand	58.03%	1.88%	0.57%	0.20%	1.03%	1.84%	1.50%	0.70%	37.13%
Manawatu-Wanganui	60.57%	2.74%	0.57%	0.12%	0.48%	0.58%	0.72%	0.45%	36.58%

\* includes Spiritualism

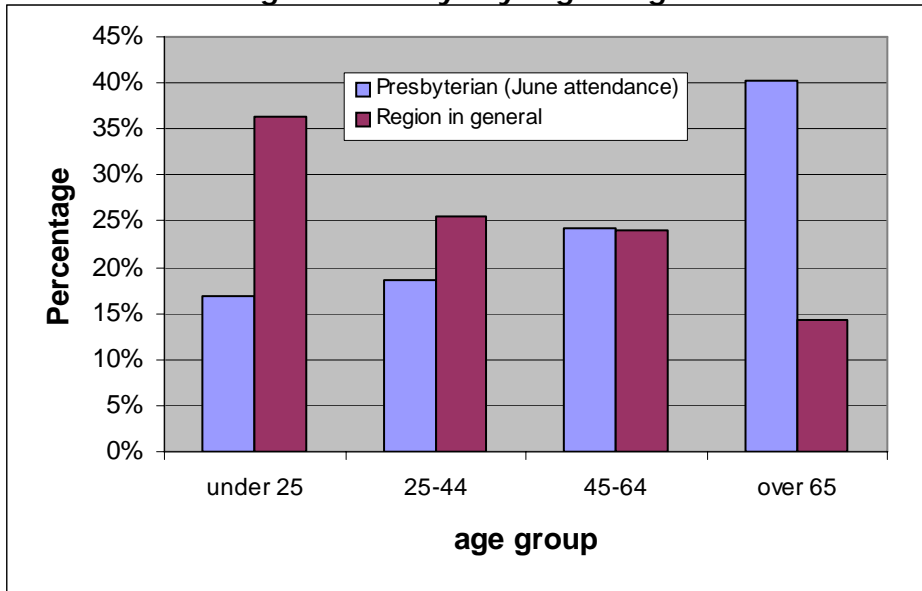
### Christian Denomination in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region and NZ (2001 Census)



**“Other Christian”** includes Church of Christ, Lutheran, Adventists, Orthodox, Evangelical non-denominational, Reformed, Uniting/Union, Salvation Army, smaller groups and Christians who did not define their denomination further

# Presbyterian Church Statistics for Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery

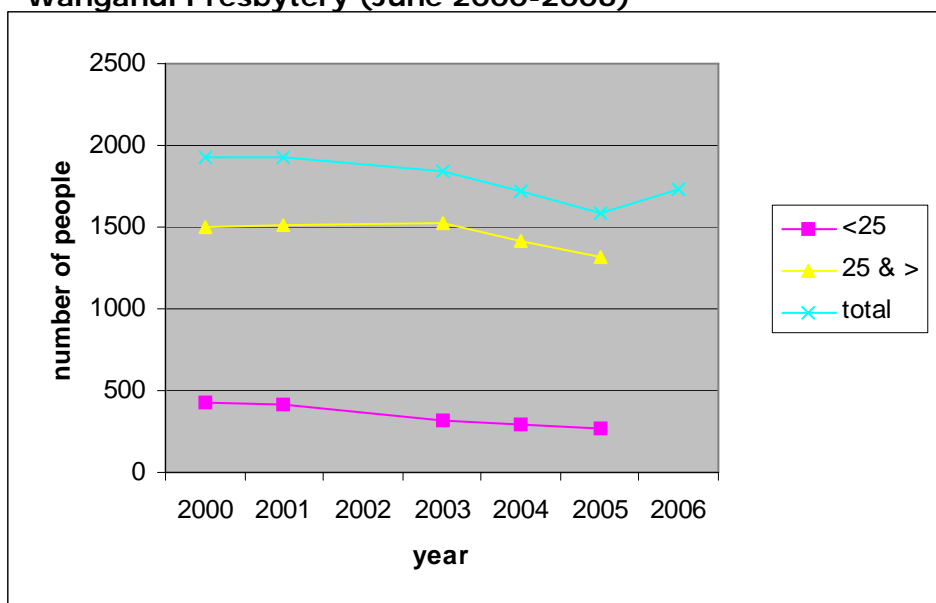
**Age of those attending worship during June 2005 in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery compared with Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region age structure**



Average numbers attending worship in June 2005 were 1584.

In the 2001 census, 23,460 people in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery region identified themselves as being Presbyterian. Presbyterian statistics record an average June worship attendance of 1924 people in 2001 in the whole of Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery.

**Average Worship Attendance in Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery (June 2000-2006)**



The statistics for 2002 appear to have errors so they have been omitted. Age categories for 2006 were changed so only the total is given.