

MISSION POSSIBLE PROJECTS

Focus on Pacific Islanders in NZ
and What Presbyterians Are Doing



Part One: Stats

Prepared by Mike Crowl for the National Mission Office, 2008
A work in progress

Part One: Stats

Pacific Island Focus

A. Some general points about NZ demographics now and in the future

B. Seven Pacific Island peoples who are making an impact on NZ society:

Samoan

Cook Islanders

Tongan

Niuean

Fijian

Tokelauan

Tuvaluan

C. *From Summary Findings: Children and Young People: Indicators of Wellbeing in New Zealand 2008*, published by Ministry of Social Development.

Photo Acknowledgements

Some general points about NZ demographics now and in the future:

- By 2051 57% of Kiwi children will be of Maori or Pacific Island descent
- There'll be just 2.2 workers for every person over 65 by mid-century — that compares with 5.5 now
- 20% of New Zealanders and over 30% of Aucklanders now living were born overseas. That makes us more cosmopolitan than the US — a nation built on migration — where only one in ten was born overseas
- Maori and Pacific Islanders are producing more children than Pakeha
- Maori and Pacific Islanders will gradually make up a larger percentage of the workforce
 - 18% at 2000
 - 23% at 2021

NZ Stats projections (2008)

- New Zealand's 'European or Other' population is projected to reach 3.43 million by 2026, an increase of 220,000 (0.3 percent a year) over the estimated resident population at 30 June 2006 of 3.21 million.

They'll be 62% of the population.

- New Zealand's Māori population is projected to reach 820,000 by 2026, an increase of 190,000 (1.4 percent a year) over the 2006 estimate of 620,000.

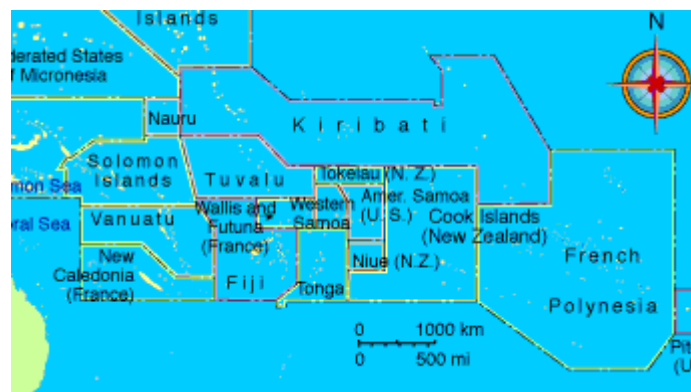
They'll be 14.9% of the population.

- New Zealand's Asian population is projected to reach 790,000 by 2026, an increase of 380,000 (3.4 percent a year) over the 2006 estimate of 400,000.

They'll be 14.3% of the population.

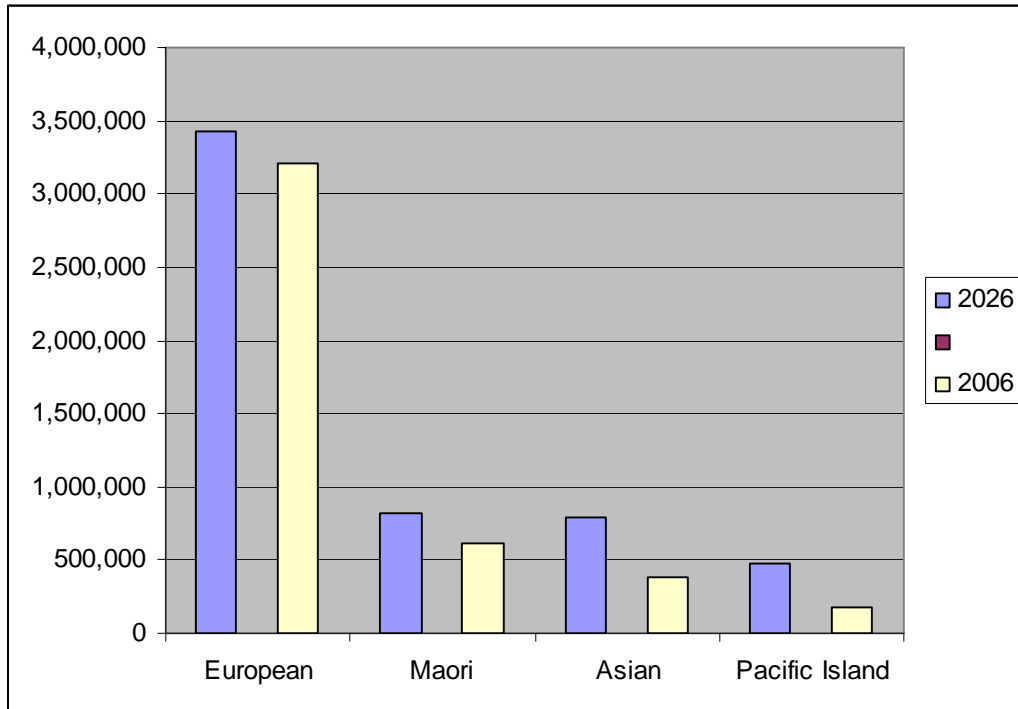
- New Zealand's Pacific population is projected to reach 480,000 by 2026, an increase of 180,000 (2.4 percent a year) over the 2006 estimate of 300,000.

They'll be 8.6% of the population.



*Islands north-east of New Zealand and Australia:
Samoa, Cook Islands, Tonga, Niue, Tokelau, Tuvalu*

Projected rate of growth of European, Maori, Asian and Pacific Island ethnicities between 2006 and 2026(NZ Stats 2008)



Seven Pacific Island peoples who are making an impact on NZ society

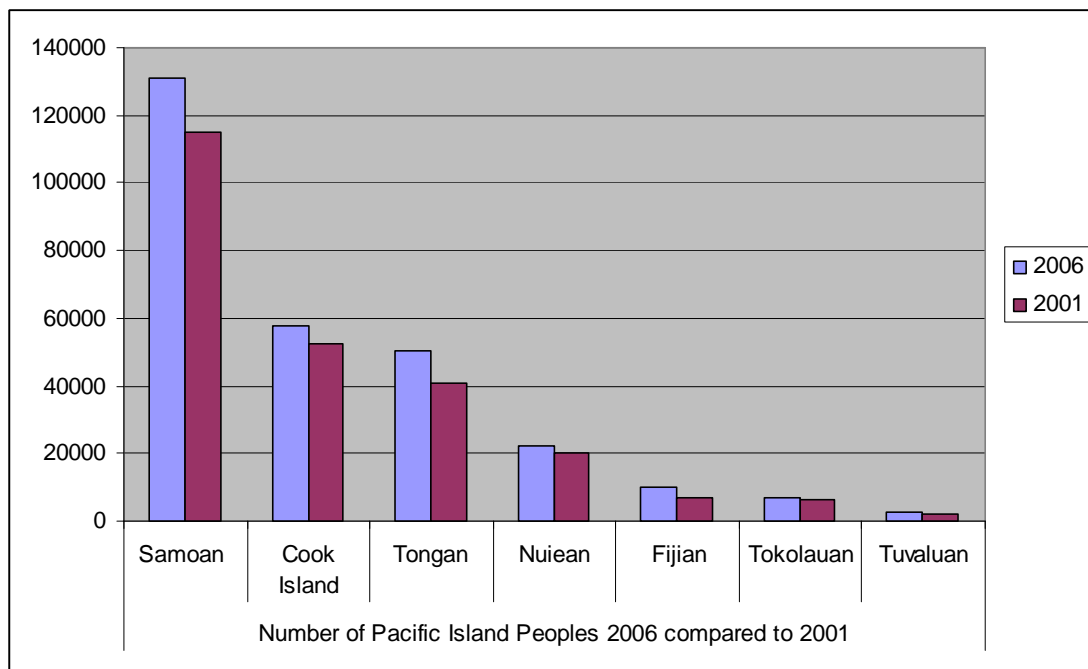
Samoan People



- In 2006, Samoans were the **largest** Pacific ethnic group in New Zealand, making up 131,100 or 49 percent of New Zealand's Pacific population (265,974).
- The Samoan population increased by 14 percent (16,083) between 2001 and 2006.
- The median age of the Samoan population (half are younger and half are older than this age) was 21 years. By comparison, the median ages for the Pacific and total New Zealand populations were 21 years and 36 years, respectively.
- Samoans *born in New Zealand* account for 60 percent (77,247) of the total Samoan population.
- 63 percent (77,109) of Samoans are able to hold an everyday conversation in Samoan. This is a *decrease* of 4 percentage points since 2001.

- 86 percent (105,903) of Samoans affiliated with a religion. Of those Samoans who affiliated with a religion, 98 percent (104,190) affiliated with a Christian religion.
- 69 percent (48,147) of Samoan 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.
- 67 percent (87,003) of the Samoan population live in the Auckland region, which is the same proportion as in 2001.

*Numbers of Pacific Island People in New Zealand
2006 compared to 2001*



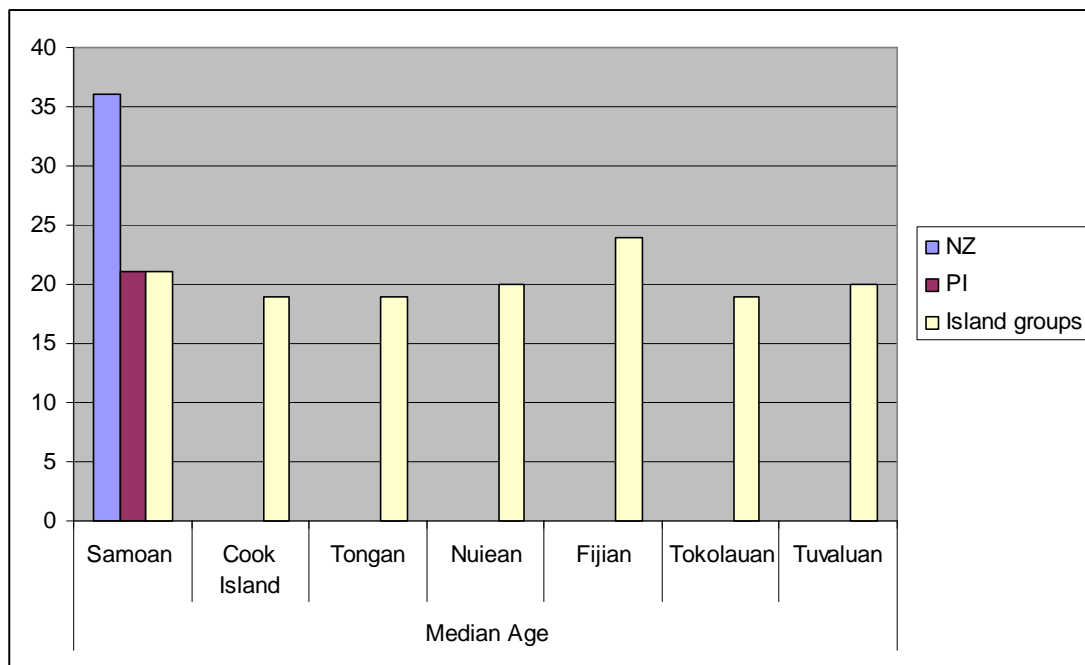
Cook Island People



- In 2006, Cook Island Maori were the **second** largest Pacific ethnic group in New Zealand, making up 58,011 or 22 percent of New Zealand's Pacific population (265,974).
- The Cook Island Maori population increased by 10 percent (5,442) between 2001 and 2006.
- The median age of the Cook Island Maori population (half are younger and half are older than this age) was 19 years. By comparison, the median ages for the Pacific and total New Zealand populations were 21 years and 36 years, respectively.

- Cook Island Maori *born in New Zealand* account for 73 percent (41,886) of the total Cook Island Maori population.
- 16 percent (9,075) of Cook Islands Maori are able to hold an everyday conversation in Cook Islands Maori. This is a two percentage point *decrease* since 2001.
- 70 percent (38,082) of Cook Island Maori affiliated with a religion. Of those Cook Island Maori who affiliated with a religion, 96 percent (36,399) were *affiliated with a Christian religion*.
- 55 percent (16,443) of Cook Island Maori 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.
- 60 percent (34,776) of the Cook Island Maori population *live in the Auckland region*, which is the same proportion as in 2001.

*Median age of different Pacific groups compared to Total Pacific and Total NZ
(half are younger and half are older than this age)*



Tongan People

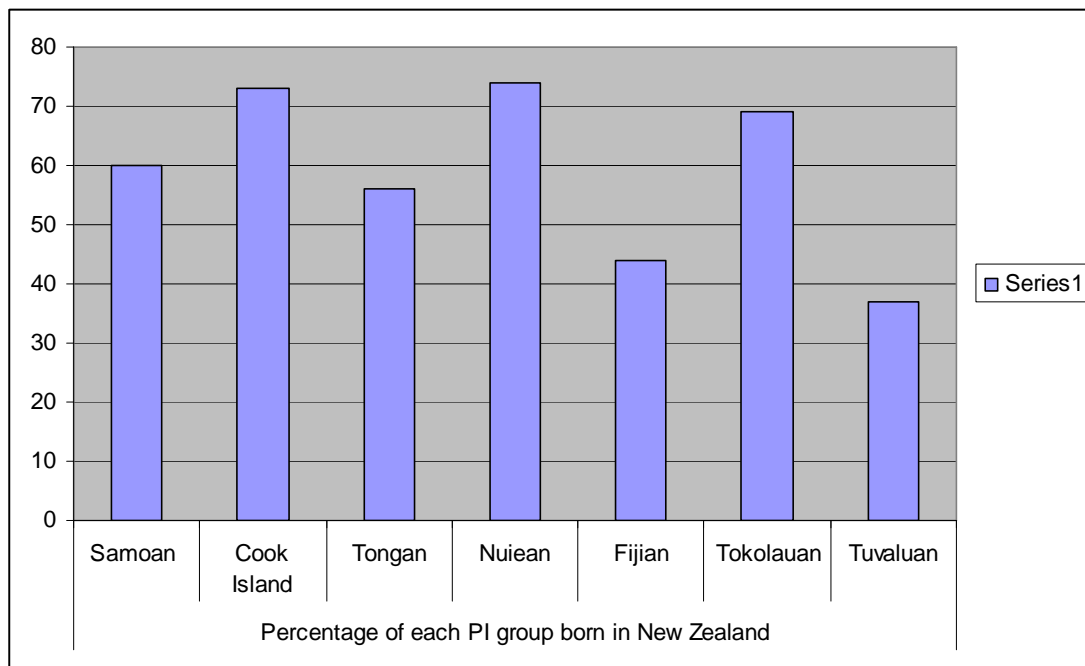


- In 2006, Tongans were the **third** largest Pacific ethnic group in New Zealand, making up 50,478 or 19 percent of New Zealand's Pacific population (265,974).
- The Tongan population increased by 24 percent (9,763) between 2001 and 2006.
- The median age of the Tongan population (half are younger and 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.

Percentage of each Pacific Island Group Born in New Zealand



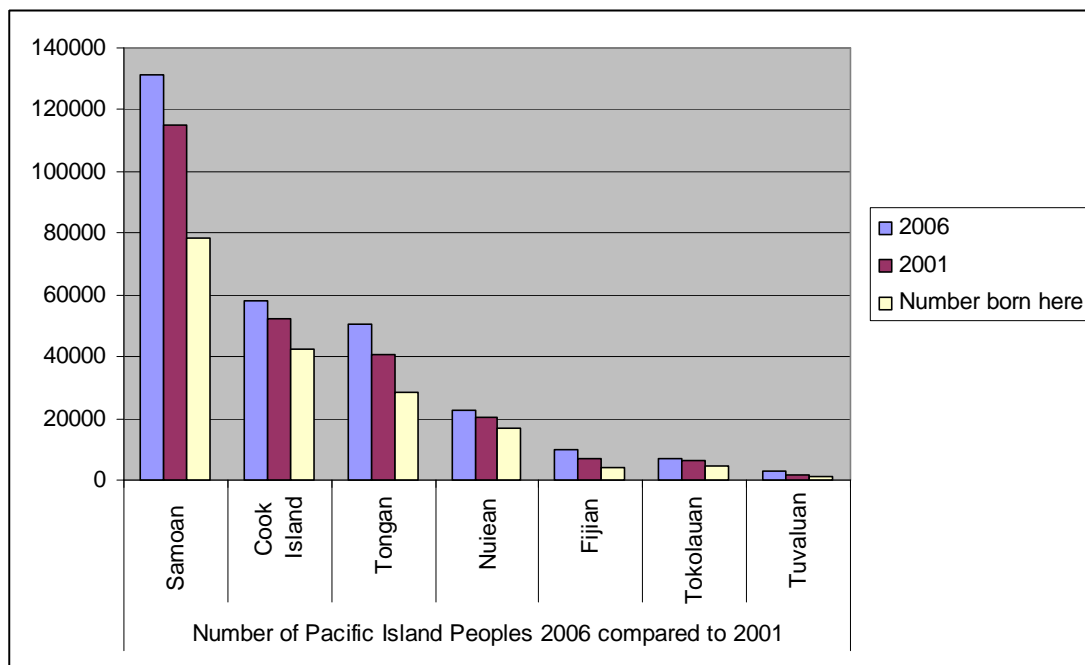
Niuean People



- In 2006, Niueans were the **fourth** largest Pacific ethnic group in New Zealand, making up 22,473 or 8 percent of New Zealand's Pacific population (265,974).
- The Niuean population *increased* by 12 percent (2,325) between 2001 and 2006.
- The median age of the Niuean population (half are younger and half are older than this age) was 20 years. By comparison, the median ages for the Pacific and total New Zealand populations were 21 years and 36 years, respectively.

- Niueans *born in New Zealand* accounted for 74 percent (16,275) of the total Niuean population.
- 25 percent (5,190) of Niueans are able to hold an everyday conversation in Niuean.
- 70 percent (14,739) of Niueans affiliated with a religion. Of those Niueans who affiliated with a religion, 96 percent (14,112) were affiliated with a Christian religion.
- 60 percent (7,035) of Niuean adults have a formal educational qualification (secondary school or post-school qualification). The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations were 65 percent and 75 percent, respectively.
- 79 percent (17,667) of the Niuean population *live in the Auckland region*, which is an increase of 20 percentage points since 2001.

Increases in population compared with numbers born in NZ



Fijian People

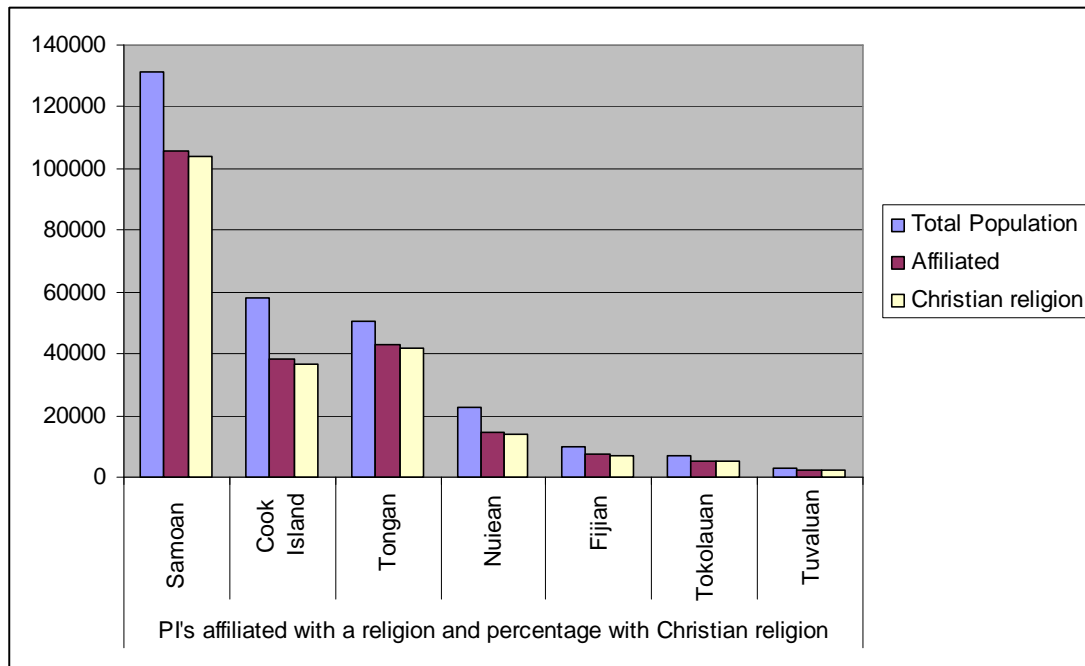


- In 2006, Fijians were the *fifth* largest Pacific ethnic group in New Zealand, making up 9,861 or 4 percent of New Zealand's Pacific population (265,974).
- The Fijian population *increased* by 40 percent (2,820) between 2001 and 2006.
- The median age of the Fijian population (half are younger and half are older than this age) was 24 years. By comparison, the median ages for the Pacific and total

New Zealand populations were 21 years and 36 years, respectively.

- Fijians *born in New Zealand* account for 44 percent (4,251) of the total Fijian population. This was a 3 percentage point decrease since 2001.
- 29 percent (2,676) of Fijians are able to hold an everyday conversation in Fijian. This was a 1 percentage point *decrease* since 2001.
- 82 percent (7,779) of Fijians affiliated with a religion. Of those Fijians who affiliated with a religion, 87 percent (6,801) *affiliated with a Christian religion*.
- 82 percent (4995) of Fijian adults have a formal educational qualification (secondary school or post-school qualification). The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations were 65 percent and 75 percent, respectively.
- 59 percent (5,847) of the Fijian population *live in the Auckland region*, which is an increase of 1 percentage point since 2001.

Total PI population compared with those who are affiliated to a religion, and those who are affiliated to a Christian religion.

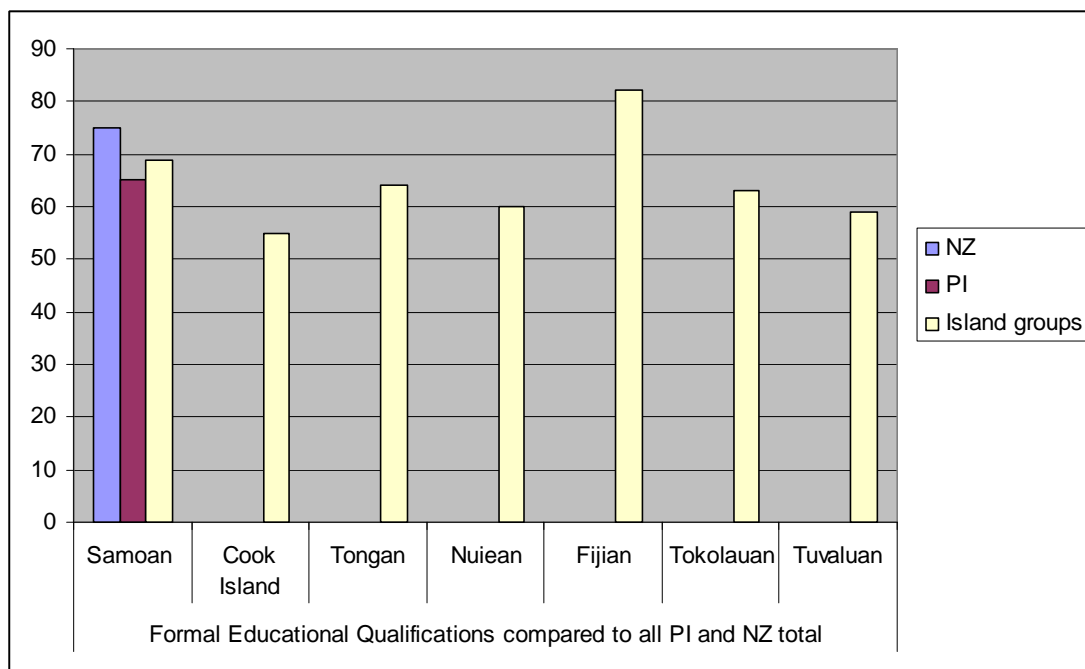


Tokelauan People

- In 2006, Tokelauans were the *sixth* largest Pacific ethnic group in New Zealand, making up 6,819 or 3 percent of New Zealand's Pacific population (265,974).
- The Tokelauan population increased by 10 percent (615) between 2001 and 2006.
- The median age of the Tokelauan 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.

- Tokelauans *born in New Zealand* account for 69 percent (4,626) of the total Tokelauan population.
- 40 percent (2,505) of Tokelauans are able to hold an everyday conversation in Tokelauan.
- 86 percent (5,514) of Tokelauans affiliated with a religion. Of those Tokelauans who affiliated with a religion, 98 percent (5,439) affiliated with a Christian religion.
- 63 percent (2145) of Tokelauan adults have a formal educational qualification (secondary school or post-school qualification). The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations were 65 percent and 75 percent, respectively.
- 51 percent (3462) of the Tokelauan population *live in the Wellington region*, which is a decrease of 2 percentage points since 2001

Formal Educational Qualifications compared to all PI and NZ total



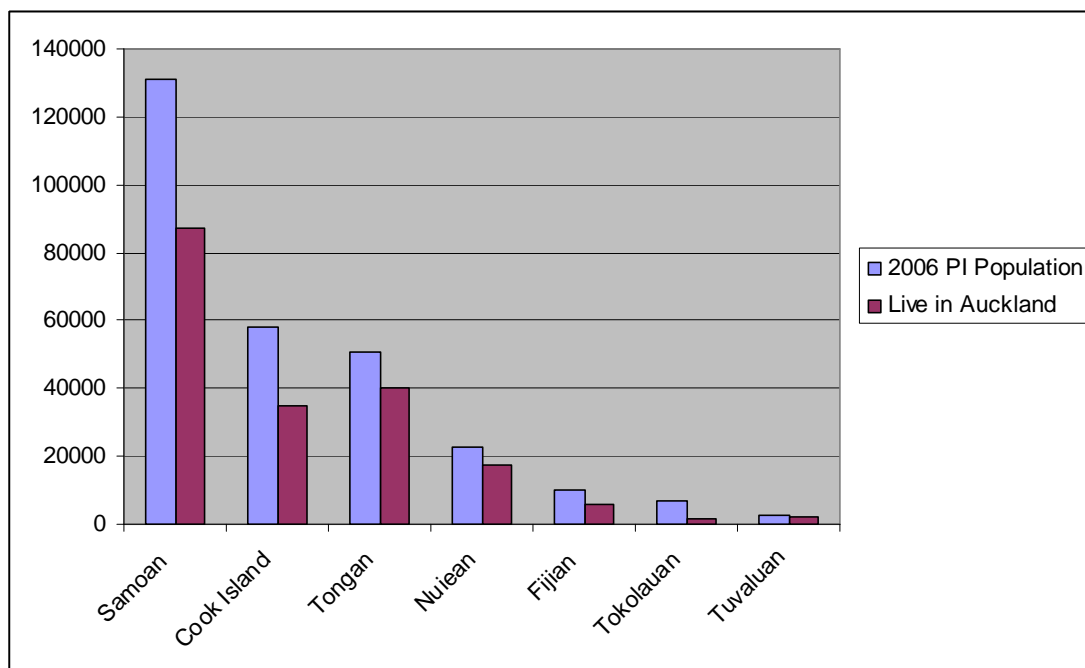
Tuvaluan People



- In 2006, Tuvaluans were the *seventh* largest Pacific ethnic group in New Zealand, making up 2,625 or 1 percent of New Zealand's Pacific population (265,974).
- The Tuvaluan population increased by 34 percent (660) between 2001 and 2006.

- The median age of the Tuvaluan population (half are younger and half are older than this age) was 20 years. By comparison, the median ages for the Pacific and total New Zealand populations were 21 years and 36 years, respectively.
- Tuvaluans *born in New Zealand* account for 37 percent (954) of the total Tuvaluan population.
- 71 percent (1,635) of Tuvaluans are able to hold an everyday conversation in Tuvaluan. *This figure has remained steady since 2001.*
- 96 percent (2,316) of Tuvaluans affiliated with a religion. Of those Tuvaluans who affiliated with a religion, 97 percent (2,244) *affiliated with a Christian religion.*
- 59 percent (732) of Tuvaluan adults have a formal educational qualification (secondary school or post-school qualification). The comparable figures for the total Pacific and New Zealand populations were 65 percent and 75 percent, respectively.
- 80 percent (2,109) of the Tuvaluan population *live in the Auckland region*, which is a 3 percentage point decrease since 2001.

Number of PI people who live in Auckland compared to total PI populations



Note that far fewer Tokelauans live in Auckland than in Wellington

<http://www.presbyterian.org.nz/525.0.html>

In 2003 the four gospels were translated into Tokelauan for the first time (previously Tokelauans had had to use a Samoan translation). Work is slowly proceeding on the Old Testament.

It should be noted that to class all these peoples as Pacific Islanders is similar to classing Indians, Chinese, Malaysians and others as 'Asian.' There are very distinct differences in every case.

From Summary Findings: Children and Young People: Indicators of Wellbeing in New Zealand 2008, published by Ministry of Social Development.
<http://www.msd.govt.nz/>

Pacific children and young people

Outcomes for Pacific children and young people have improved within the last decade for most of the 22 indicators for which there is trend data: 15 have changed for the better, while seven showed little or no change.

In the health domain, the picture is mixed:

- The proportion of Pacific babies with a low birth weight, which is relatively low compared to other ethnic groups, declined slightly between 2000 and 2006, although it changed little over the decade.
- Pacific infant mortality rate is relatively high and has fluctuated since 1996, with no clear pattern of improvement over the period as a whole.
- At school entry, Pacific children are more likely than others to fail the hearing test, although their failure rates have declined since 2001/2002.
- Rates of cigarette smoking among 14–15 year-old Pacific students have fallen substantially since 1999, by 41 percent for males and 45 percent for females.
- Pacific children have poorer oral health outcomes than children of other ethnic groups.
- Obesity prevalence was highest among Pacific children and did not change between 2002/03 and 2006/07.
- Pacific youth were not significantly less likely than youth generally to meet physical activity guidelines and there was no change in this outcome between 2002/03 and 2006/07.
- Suicide rates for Pacific youth were not statistically different from the national average rate for 15–24 year olds in the period 2000–2005.

In the care and support domain:

- the teenage birth rate for Pacific women declined between 2001 and 2006.
- Pacific students, along with New Zealand European students, were more likely than other students to report positive relationships with their parents.
- However, like Māori, Pacific students were more likely than other students to report witnessing adults in the home hurting other adults or children.

Several gains for Pacific children and young people are evident in the education domain.

- There was a substantial fall in the proportion of Pacific children living with parents without educational qualifications between 1986 and 2006, from 47 percent to 23 percent.
- Since 2000, improvements in early childhood education participation have been greater for Pacific children than for the total population, although Pacific children still have the lowest rate.
- Since 1998, Pacific students have been more likely than secondary students generally to stay on at school to age 17.5 years.
- The proportion of Pacific school leavers with NCEA Level 2 or above increased from 42 percent in 2003 to 56 percent in 2007.

- Tertiary education participation has increased for Pacific 18–24 year olds since 2001, particularly for females.
- Other education outcomes are less favourable: Pacific students have relatively high school truancy rates and had the lowest mean scores for reading, mathematical and scientific literacy.

In the economic security domain there have been some substantial gains:

- the dramatic fall since 1991 in the proportion of Pacific children without a parent in paid work (from 45 percent to 29 percent in 2006).
- For 15–24 year old Pacific youth, the unemployment rate has fallen since 1999, while the employment rate has increased over the same period.
- However, there was no significant increase in median hourly earnings for Pacific youth over the decade to 2007.

In the safety domain:

- there is no clear trend between 2001 and 2005 in the road death rate for Pacific children and young people under 25 years of age, although the rates for young Pacific people were lower than the national average from 2003.
- Pacific youth aged 15–24 years were not significantly more likely than youth of other ethnic groups to experience criminal victimisation, and they were less likely than New Zealand European students to report being bullied at school.
- Those who had been bullied were more likely to regard it as severe.

In the justice domain:

- the police apprehension rate for Pacific youth, while higher than that of the New Zealand European and other category (including Asian), is lower than the rate for the total population aged 14–16 years.
- Pacific young people accounted for 11 percent of cases proved in the Youth Court, the same proportion as they made up of the population aged 14–16 years.

In the culture and identity domain:

- the proportion of the population under 25 years who could speak the first language of their ethnic group declined slightly between 2001 and 2006 for those of
 - Samoan,
 - Niuean
 - Cook Island Māori ethnicity
 - remained steady for Tongans.
- Pacific children and young people born in New Zealand are less likely to be able to speak the first language of their ethnic group than those born overseas, and the proportion varies widely between Pacific ethnic groups, ranging from 6 percent of Cook Island Māori to 46 percent of Samoans.

Outcomes in the social connectedness and environment domains were generally positive.

- Between 2001 and 2006 there was an increase in the proportion of Pacific people under 25 years with household access to a telephone, while the proportion living in households with internet access almost doubled.

- However, in both cases Pacific people are less likely than the national average to have access.
- The proportion of Pacific children living with parents who are regular smokers has declined slightly since 1996, but only for those living in two-parent families.
- Parental smoking remains much higher for Pacific children than for children generally.
- Pacific people under 25 years are far more likely than those of other ethnic groups to be living in crowded households, but there was an improvement in this outcome between 1986 and 2006, particularly for 15–24 year olds.

Photo acknowledgements:

Samoan Girl: “ASB Polyfest 2008 Aorere College Samoan Group” courtesy of [Richard Sihamau](#), Flickr.com

Cook Island: “ASB Polyfest 2008 Mangere College Cook Island Group” courtesy of [Richard Sihamau](#), Flickr.com

Tongan: “ASB Polyfest 2008 Mangere College Tongan Group” courtesy of [Richard Sihamau](#), Flickr.com

Niuean: “Niuean 2” courtesy of [Tamaki College](#), Flickr.com

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