

Taranaki Presbytery Community Profile

Geography

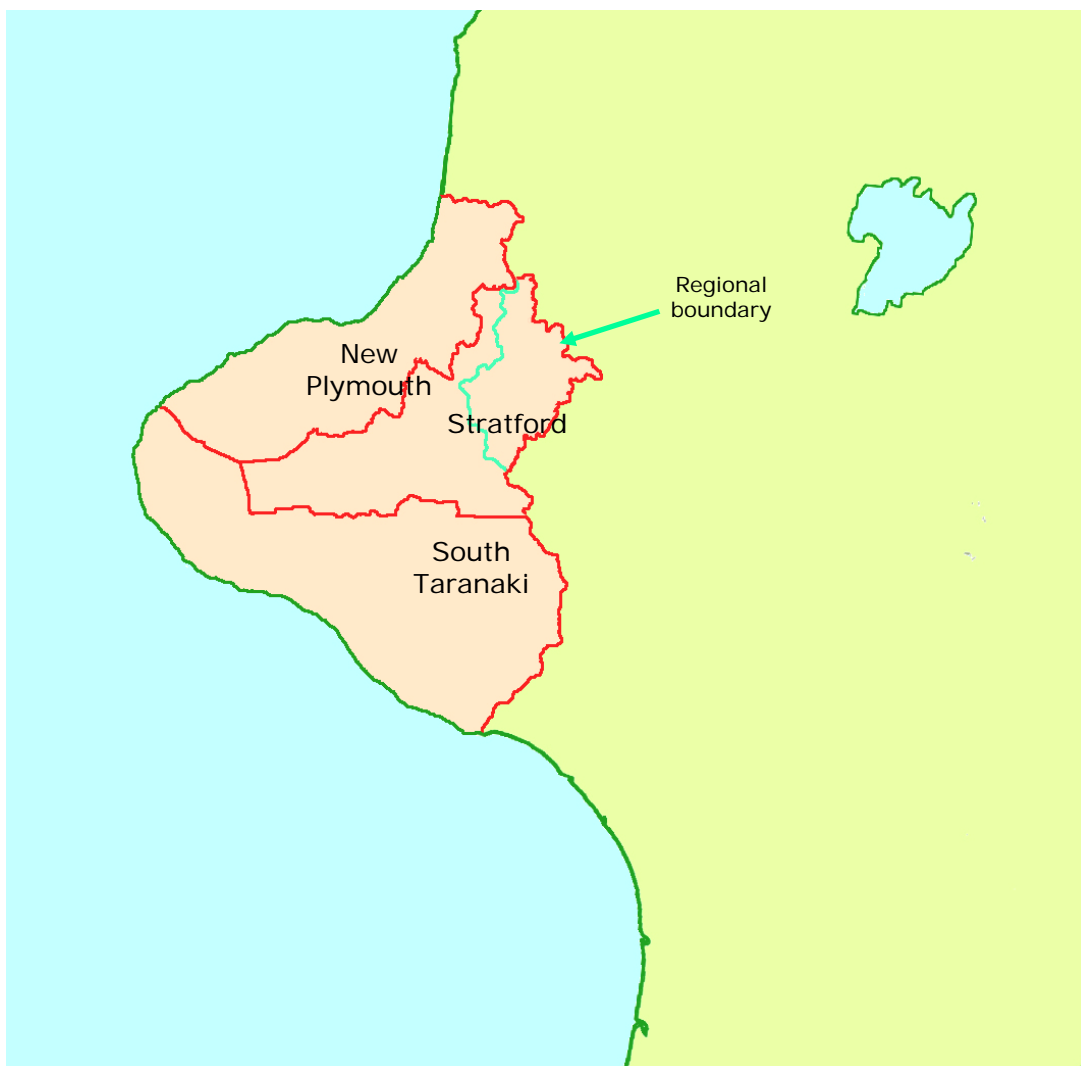
This presbytery is equivalent to

- Taranaki Region – made up of districts of:
 - New Plymouth
 - Stratford
 - South Taranaki

It is also equivalent to

- Taranaki Police District
- Taranaki District Health Board

Map of Taranaki Presbytery Districts





Taranaki Presbytery region at a glance

Some of the significant highs and lows for the three districts 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	New Plymouth District	Stratford District	South Taranaki District
Median age in years (NZ: 35)	38	37	36
% of people 0-24 years old	33.38%	36.04%	36.25%
% of people 25-44 years old	26.00%	24.84%	26.64%
% of people 45-64 years old	25.24%	24.13%	23.94%
% of people 65 years old and over	15.37%	15.15%	13.21%
Population density (people/km ²) (NZ: 9.71)	31.23	4.11	7.41
Population growth (2001-2006)	3.45%	0.10%	-3.81%

Work and Education

% receiving income from wages/salary*	58.10%	53.01%	54.51%
% receiving income from self-employment*	16.73%	23.73%	21.56%
% receiving income from investments*	25.78%	21.88%	21.82%
% as full-time students*	8.19%	7.03%	5.93%
% without any educational qualification*	26.57%	32.56%	34.36%
% graduated from university*	9.45%	5.30%	5.18%

Ethnicity

% European	77.13%	82.77%	74.51%
% Maori	14.09%	11.23%	21.70%
% Pacific Islander	1.50%	0.38%	1.33%
% Asian	2.63%	0.97%	1.26%

Family and Household

couples with children (as % of families)	38.92%	41.38%	40.72%
couples without children (as % of families)	42.84%	41.63%	41.02%
% solo parents (as % of families with children)	31.93%	28.96%	30.96%
% widowed, or bereaved civil union*	6.06%	5.71%	5.47%
% who have never married/partnered*	20.75%	18.89%	20.00%
Median family income	\$54,600	\$51,500	\$54,900
Mean weekly rental for households renting	\$178	\$119	\$125
% of households with 6 or more people	2.81%	3.43%	3.74%
% of households with only one occupant	25.25%	25.50%	25.44%

Benefits

% receiving unemployment benefit*	3.30%	3.65%	4.10%
% receiving sickness benefit*	2.22%	2.22%	2.45%
% receiving domestic purposes benefit*	3.50%	3.28%	3.89%
% receiving New Zealand superannuation*	18.76%	19.57%	16.86%

Faith

% Christian	51.99%	56.92%	52.87%
% Maori Christian	0.53%	0.78%	1.69%
% having no religion	33.02%	29.89%	29.80%
% following New Age/Spiritualism	0.50%	0.37%	0.34%
% Hindu	0.41%	0.10%	0.31%
% Islam	0.21%	0.07%	0.29%
% Buddhist	0.53%	0.27%	0.22%

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 2nd highest/2nd lowest in New Zealand

General Comments

The three districts making up this presbytery are remarkably close to New Zealand averages with regard to their population statistics. The population is ageing, growing very slowly, and ethnically less diverse than typical New Zealand. Levels of education are lower, as are incomes and rentals. There is a preponderance of couples without children, and less couples with children and unmarrieds.

There is little variation even at the district level. New Plymouth District population has no statistics that deviate significantly from the New Zealand average. Stratford district is significantly more European and less racially diverse. South Taranaki people have lower levels of education. Rentals are low in these last two districts.

Levels of deprivation are about average in all districts (percentages living in the most deprived meshblocks are: South Taranaki 30.5%; New Plymouth 29.5%; Stratford 27.3%).¹

Suicide levels (11.7/100,000; NZ average 13) and hospital admissions for self-harm (135.7/100,000; NZ average 153) are below average in the Taranaki District Health Board area.²

Numbers of non-casino gaming machines are similar to the New Zealand average (53.3/10,000 people) in all districts (South Taranaki, 67.8; Stratford, 67.4; New Plymouth, 59.8).³

There is little religious diversity in this presbytery, and a relatively strong Christian presence. Presbyterian statistics show an overall increase in attendance which is significant given the low population growth. However, attendance amongst under 25 year olds appears to be dropping, and the age profile of congregations is much older than that of the presbytery population overall.

¹ 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.

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

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

Selected Statistics for Taranaki 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 Taranaki Presbytery region was 104,280, a change of 1.22% since 2001 [NZ: change = 7.8%].

Numbers of people counted

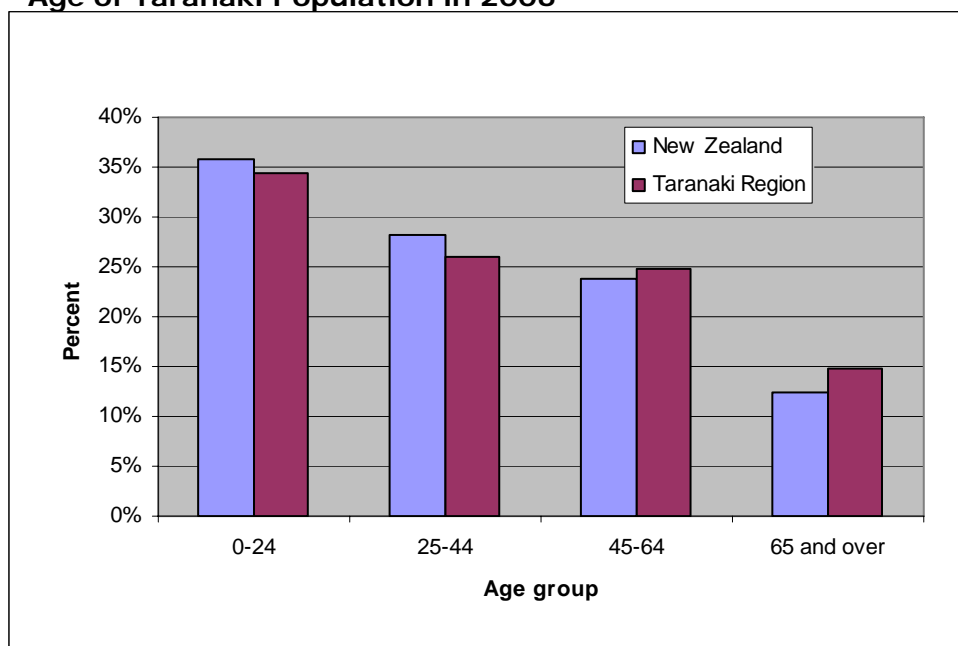
	Taranaki	New Zealand
Males	51,222	1,965,648
Females	53,058	2,062,323
Total	104,280	4,027,971

Age profile

At the 2006 Census:

- o 21.8% of people in Taranaki Presbytery region were **under 15** years old [NZ: 21.5%].
- o 14.8% of people in Taranaki Presbytery region were **over 65** years old [NZ: 12.3%].

Age of Taranaki Population in 2006



Employment

At the 2006 Census:

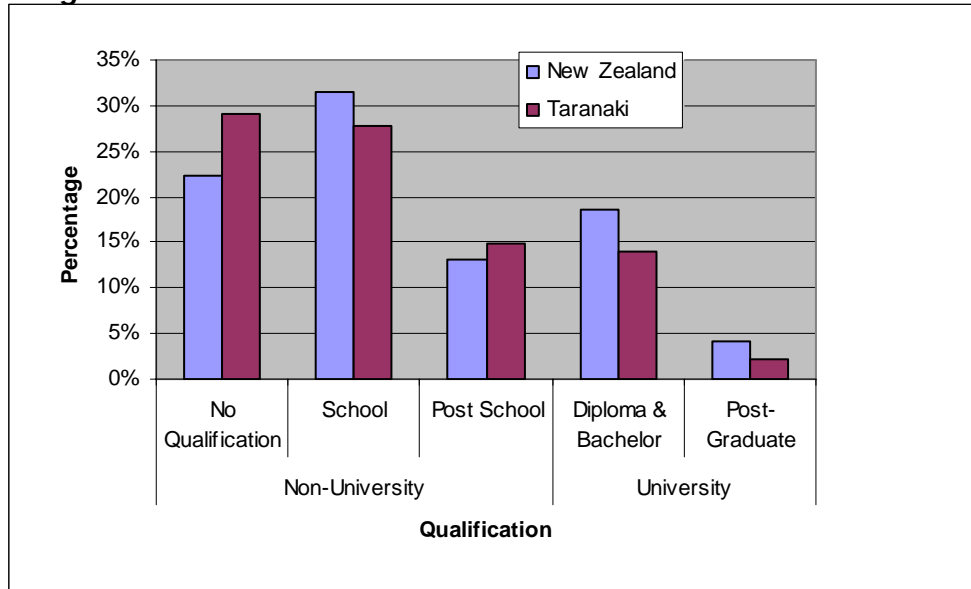
- o The **unemployment rate** in Taranaki Presbytery region was 4.7% [NZ: 5.4%].
- o The most popular occupational group in Taranaki Presbytery region was Managers at 20.0% [NZ: professionals (18.9%)].

Education

At the 2006 Census:

- 31.1% of people aged 15 years and over in Taranaki Presbytery region had a **post-school qualification** [NZ: 35.8%].

Highest Qualification in Taranaki and NZ

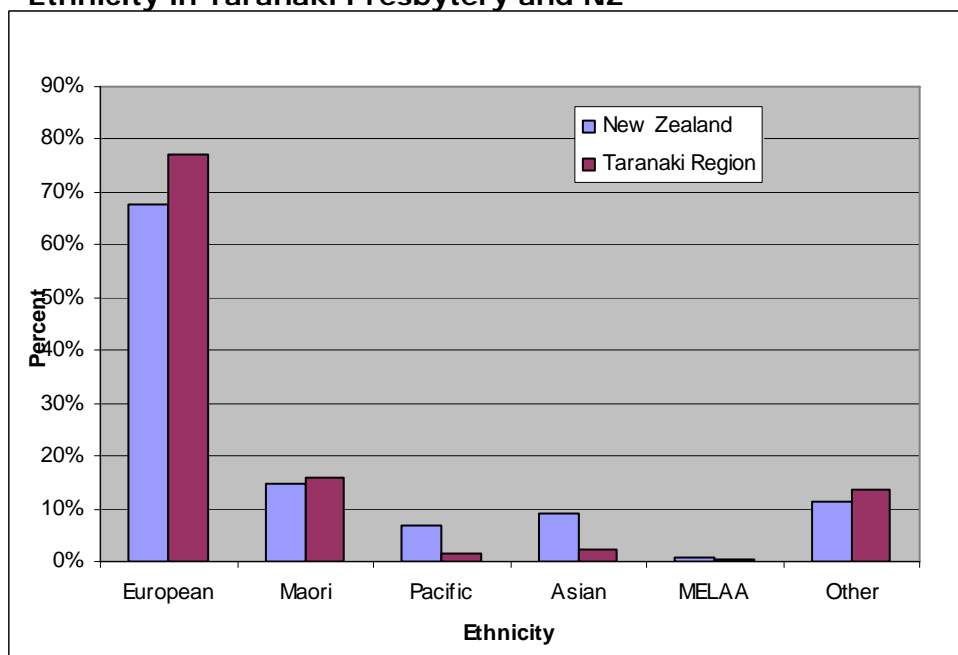


Ethnic groups

At the 2006 Census:

- 77.0% of people in Taranaki Presbytery region said they belong to the European ethnic group [NZ: 67.6%].

Ethnicity in Taranaki Presbytery and NZ



MELAA = Middle East, Latin American and African

Families

At the 2006 Census:

- o There were 28,392 families in Taranaki Presbytery region.

Family type

	Taranaki	New Zealand
Couples with child(ren)	39.6%	42.0%
Couples without children	42.3%	39.9%
1 parent with child(ren)	18.1%	18.1%

Marital Status

	Taranaki	New Zealand
Never married	28.2%	31.4%
Married (not civil union)	46.1%	44.8%
Previously married/partnered	17.3%	16.0%

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

Households

At the 2006 Census, in Taranaki Presbytery region there were 39,966 households:

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

New Plymouth District	2.5
Stratford District	2.5
South Taranaki District	2.5

- o **access to a telephone:** 87.8% of households [NZ: 91.7%].
- o **access to the internet:** 52.4% of households [NZ: 60.5%].
- o **access to a motor vehicle:** 92.4% of households [NZ: 92.2%].
- o **mean weekly rent** for rented permanent private dwellings: [NZ: \$225]

New Plymouth District	\$178
Stratford District	\$119
South Taranaki District	\$125

- o **ownership of dwelling** with or without a mortgage, 69.8% [NZ: 66.9%].

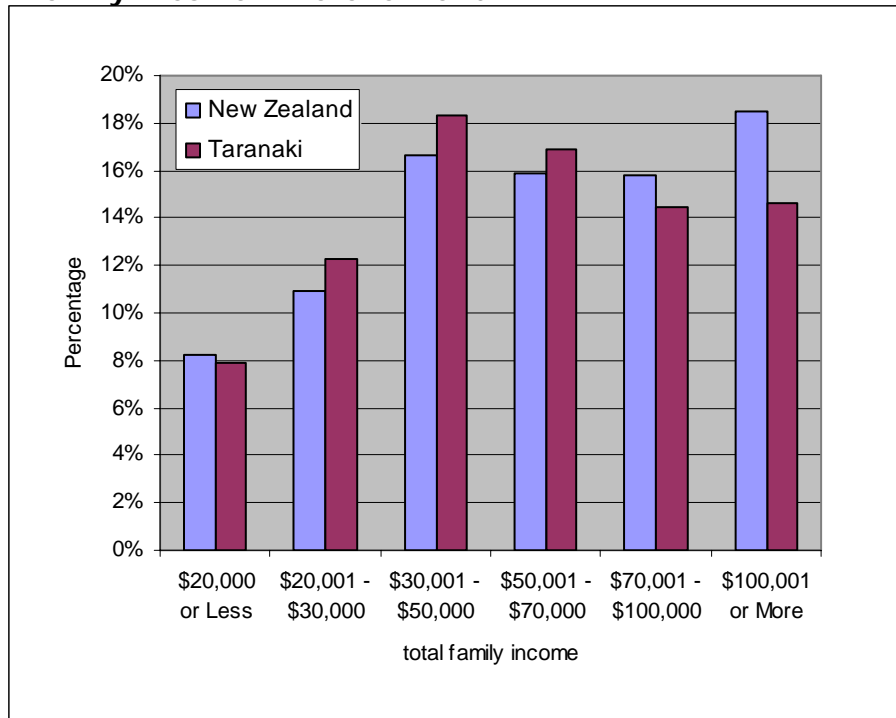
Income

At the 2006 Census:

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

New Plymouth District	\$54,600
Stratford District	\$51,500
South Taranaki District	\$54,900

Family Income in Taranaki and NZ



Benefits and Allowances

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

Benefits and Allowances

	Taranaki region	New Zealand
Unemployment Benefit	3.29%	3.11%
Sickness Benefit	2.13%	2.38%
Domestic Purposes Benefit	3.34%	3.14%
Student Allowance	0.99%	2.17%

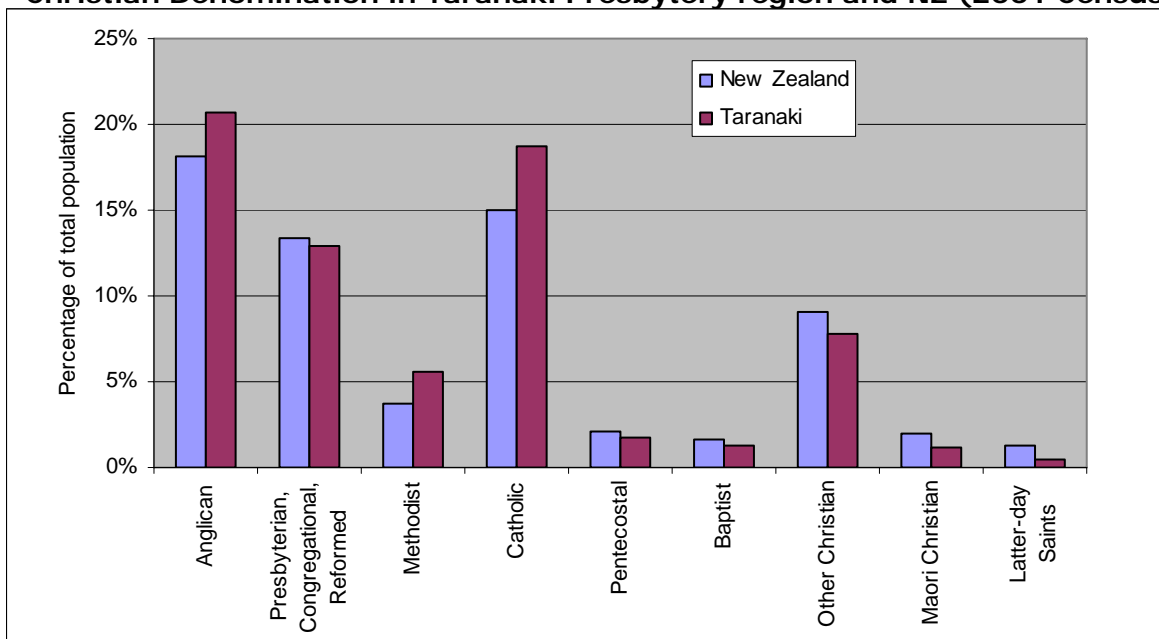
Religion

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%
Taranaki	62.05%	0.99%	0.53%	0.08%	0.26%	0.42%	0.51%	0.42%	37.65%

* includes Spiritualism

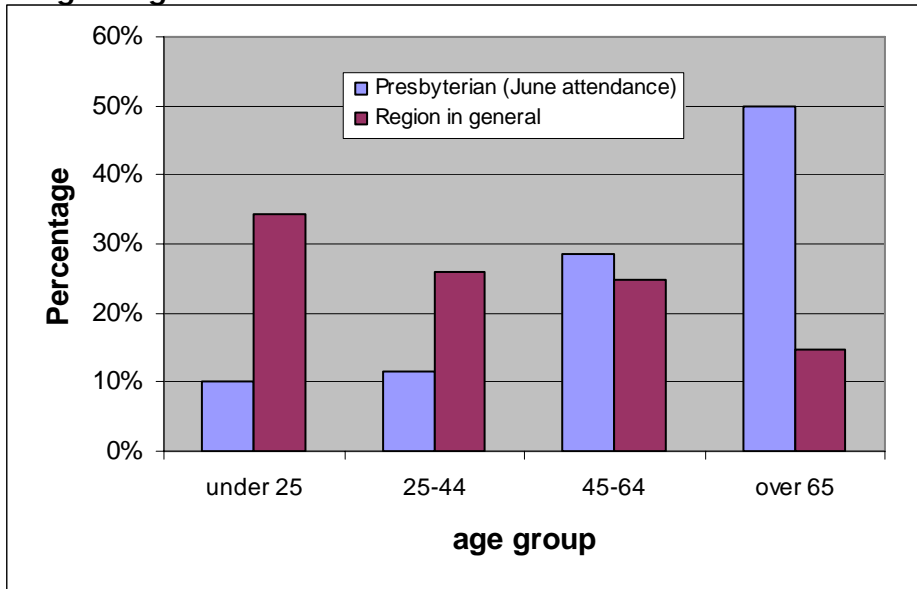
Christian Denomination in Taranaki Presbytery region and NZ (2001 Census)



"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 Taranaki Presbytery

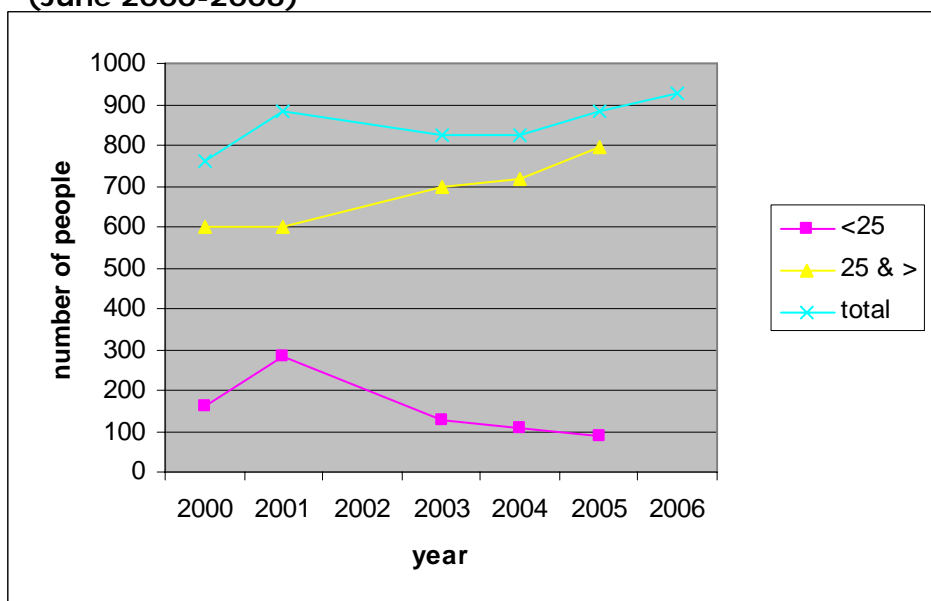
Age of those attending worship during June 2005 in Taranaki Presbytery compared with Taranaki Presbytery region age structure



Average numbers attending worship in June 2005 were 884.

In the 2001 census, 11,475 people in Taranaki Presbytery region identified themselves as being Presbyterian. Presbyterian statistics record an average June worship attendance of 883 people in 2001 in the whole of Taranaki Presbytery.

Average Worship Attendance in Taranaki 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