



2006 Census

Community Stories





Introduction

During the 2006 Census, New Zealand's population told Statistics New Zealand a great deal about how and where they live, their families, culture, work and recreation. This allows us to form a picture of communities all over New Zealand.

As you will read in the following stories, community organisations throughout the country have used census data to inform decisions they make.

This has allowed them to better serve their communities, resulting in positive outcomes for members of those communities.

If you are planning a project or initiative within your community, we have information to help you.

A new disability centre for Queenstown

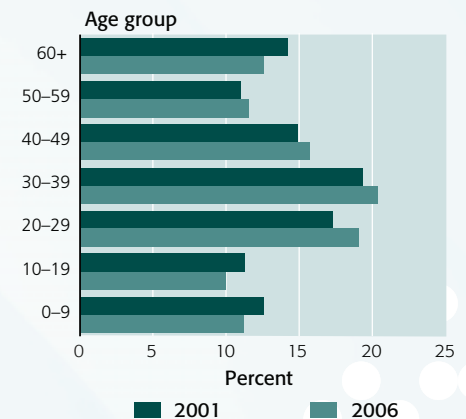
The disAbilities Resource Centre Southland found it was fielding many enquiries from the Queenstown area, including requests for equipment, advice and other services for the disabled. The centre is in Invercargill, and the drive to Queenstown takes approximately three hours. The roads are often dangerous or closed during winter.

The centre decided to assess the need for another centre in the Queenstown area. In doing so, it discovered an increasing need for disability services in the area. 2006 Census population data revealed a 34.7 percent population increase in the Queenstown-Lakes district between 2001 and 2006, the highest percentage growth of all territorial authorities in the country. The data also showed that, like in many parts of New Zealand, the district's population is ageing. With ageing comes an increased occurrence of disability.

A disability resource centre is now planned to open in 2010 in Frankton, just outside Queenstown. By including related service providers and community groups, it's intended to be a one-stop shop for people with disabilities, their families and friends. The centre will provide information and equipment, raise awareness about disability and issues such as access, and advocate for people with disabilities.



Percentage of Usually Resident Population by Age Group
Queenstown Lakes District
2001 and 2006 Censuses



Ethnic diversity in the volunteer sector



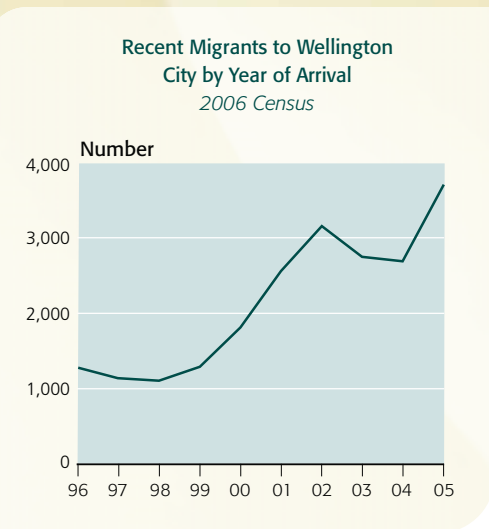
Volunteer Wellington's mission is to create opportunities for engagement in the community through volunteering. It supports more than 370 community-based agencies and their volunteers, through advice, recruitment, consultancy services and training.

Volunteer Wellington noticed increasing numbers of migrants wanting to take part in volunteer work. It wanted to involve these people and realised it needed to promote to its member organisations the benefits of involving migrant volunteers.

Volunteer Wellington used 2006 Census data to raise its members' awareness of the increase in the number of migrants in the area. The data showed nearly three times as

many people who were living in Wellington City had arrived in New Zealand in 2005, compared with the number who had arrived in 1996. As a result, training forums were provided that were dedicated to cultural diversity and ways to respond to the needs of volunteers.

Volunteers and members have benefited from this initiative. For migrants, volunteer work gives them greater confidence and helps their integration into the community, language and vocational skills. In some cases, their involvement has resulted in paid employment. The organisation, in turn, benefits from the richness of having a diverse team.



Responding to the community

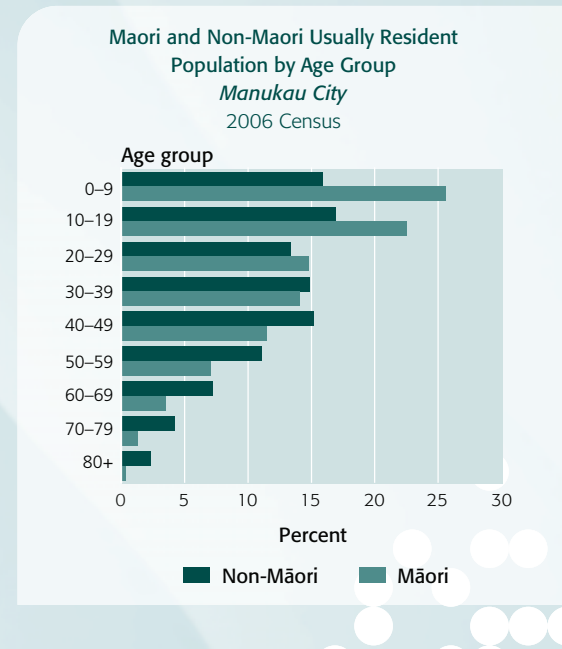
Randwick Park Community House is in Manurewa, Manukau City.

Community house staff were concerned that with a large population of young Māori, there were few services in the immediate area catering to this group.

The community house needed to be sure its services were targeted to its community. 2006 Census data confirmed the high numbers of Māori youth, with 47.9 percent of Manukau City's Māori population aged 19 years and under. It also showed that there were many single-parent families in the area.

Staff surveyed the local neighbourhood about the services they'd like the community house to provide. Many wanted classes in Te Reo, driver licensing and activities for youth such as hip hop classes and afterschool care.

The community house has responded by providing these as well as weaving classes, a youth drop-in centre and free clothing days. Those using the services are enjoying the programmes, with many gaining confidence to move on to further learning opportunities.



Families in Parks



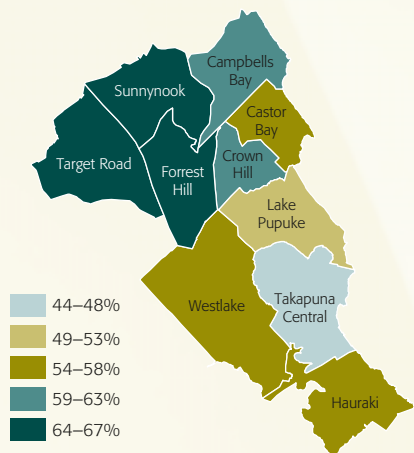
Families in Parks are summertime events in parks and reserves in North Shore City. They're a way to bring families and communities together to enjoy the outdoors, to promote recreation, and for community groups and councils to get first-hand feedback about community issues.

While these events have been successful in attracting large numbers in other parts of the North Shore, the Takapuna event didn't have the same support. Fewer people seemed aware of the event and attendance was low.

The Takapuna Community Trust decided that to raise awareness of and involvement in the event it needed to better understand its community. 2006 Census data was used to profile family types within different areas of Takapuna. This highlighted areas such as Sunnynook, where 66.7% of families have children. As a result, communication about the events is better targeted and parks are selected in areas which are representative of the proportion of families with children in the area.

In 2006, the Families in Parks Takapuna event saw a groundswell of support, with over 3,000 people taking part.

Percentage of Families with Children, by selected Area Units within Takapuna Community 2006 Census



Wainuiomata youth are on air

The Wainuiomata Community Centre knew that while there were lots of young people living in their area, there was also a shortage of activities specifically for youth.

In 2003, the centre held a youth hui where young people came together and suggested the activities they'd like the centre to provide. One idea was a youth radio station.

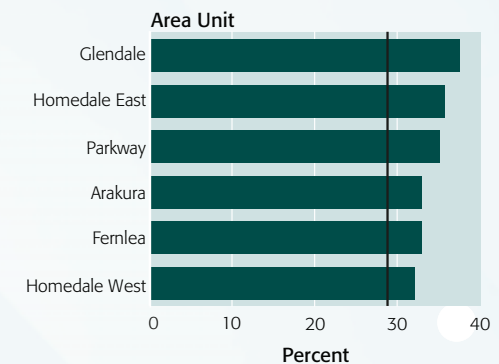
The centre investigated the idea and found it to be feasible – they just needed to source funds to get the station up and running. The latest census data from 2006 shows that more than a third of Wainuiomata's population is aged 19 years and under, confirming the high numbers of young people in the area. As a result of using the census data, the centre put together a successful funding application. The radio station could be set up!

Initially, workshops were held to train young volunteers interested in DJ-ing on RageFM. A peer training system was established so that as DJs became more experienced, they could train others who were keen to DJ too. As well as gaining valuable leadership and training skills, some of the young people involved in RageFM are keen to further their careers in broadcasting and journalism.

¹ The Wainuiomata area has been defined by the following area units: Glendale, Homedale East, Parkway, Arakura, Fernlea and Homedale West.



Percentage of Usually Resident Population Aged Under 20 Years Wainuiomata community 2006 Census



Note: The solid line represents the national median of usually resident population aged under 20 years, which is 29%.

Saving the Niuean language



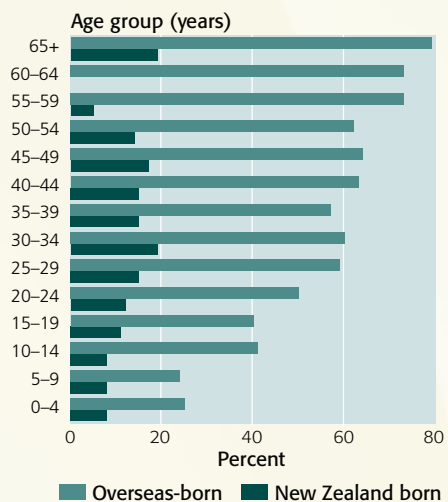
Over time, people of Niuean ethnicity in New Zealand have been losing their mother tongue. Many fluent speakers have not transferred the language to their children and grandchildren. As they have passed away, the number of speakers necessary to keep the language alive has dwindled.

NIU Development Inc used census data to gain government support to foster the Niuean language. 2006 Census data showed that only 11 percent of the New Zealand-born Niuean population who could speak a language were able to hold an everyday conversation in Niuean. With a population of approximately 22,000 people of Niuean ethnicity in New Zealand, compared with approximately 1,600 in Niue, this was of concern to NIU Development Inc.

The result is a programme produced with the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs called Mind Your Language. It includes booklets and CDs that enable fluent speakers to teach the Niuean language without teaching qualifications. Access Radio provides Niuean language lessons on air, and a website and DVD are under development.

Ensuring future generations of Niuean people learn their language strengthens their identity and enriches our country. Similar programmes to safeguard the Cook Island Maori and Tokelaun languages are underway.

Speakers of Niuean Language in the Niuean Population By birthplace and age 2006 Census



Learning centres for our youngest kiwis

Barnardos has 24 early learning centres throughout New Zealand for children under five years of age. They are constantly researching new areas to assess the need for further centres and aim to boost the number of centres to 40 by 2012.

Barnardos uses census data to find the population of under fives in a given area. This is then compared with the number involved in pre-school education, to determine whether there is a need for a new centre. When assessing Oamaru, Barnardos found no learning facilities for children two years and under, yet 2006 Census data showed there were more than 300 children in that age group in the Oamaru community. Barnardos included the research in a funding proposal, and has since established a centre there.

Barnardos also uses census data to decide whether additional services are required – such as budgeting advice in low socio-economic areas, or childcare facilities where there's a high proportion of single-parent



families. In this way, the centres do more than prepare children for school – they cater to parents and provide an important hub within the community.

Usual Residents Aged Under Three Years Selected area units within Oamaru community 2006 Census

| Area unit | Residents aged under three |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| Oamaru North | 93 |
| Orana Park | 63 |
| Oamaru Central | 72 |
| Oamaru South | 93 |
| Total | 318 |

² The Oamaru Community has been defined by the following area units: Oamaru North, Orana Park, Oamaru Central and Oamaru South.

We have information on...

2006 Census of Population and Dwellings

New Zealand's population

- numbers of people
- where people live

Our population's characteristics

- age and sex
- personal income
- education
- ethnicity
- employment, occupation and industry
- where people work and how they travel there
- religious affiliation
- where people were born and length of time in New Zealand

The homes we live in

- type of home, such as house, apartment or flat
- number of rooms
- means of heating
- home ownership
- number of motor vehicles
- access to telephone/fax/internet

Our families and households

- family type, such as single or couples with or without children
- family and household size and characteristics
- family and household income

Other relevant information

Population

- subnational population estimates
- subnational population projections

Work and income

- employment and unemployment
- income
- consumer spending

Health and social themes

- work-related injuries
- life expectancy
- crime
- housing quality

Economy

- inflation
- economic growth
- retail and wholesale activity
- tourism
- manufacturing levels
- building consents
- business demographics

More information

The information mentioned on these pages is not an exhaustive list of information available. Contact our Information Centre staff who can direct you to the most appropriate products and services. Answers to simple queries are free, although more complex questions may involve customised statistics, and therefore a charge. We will discuss your planning needs and provide obligation-free quotes.

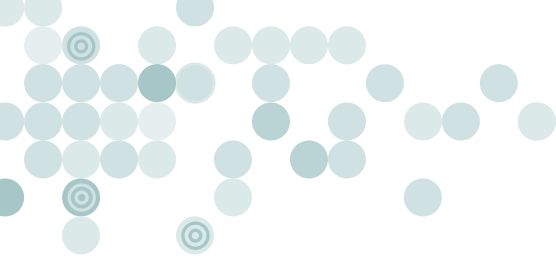
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