

Education: Highest qualification

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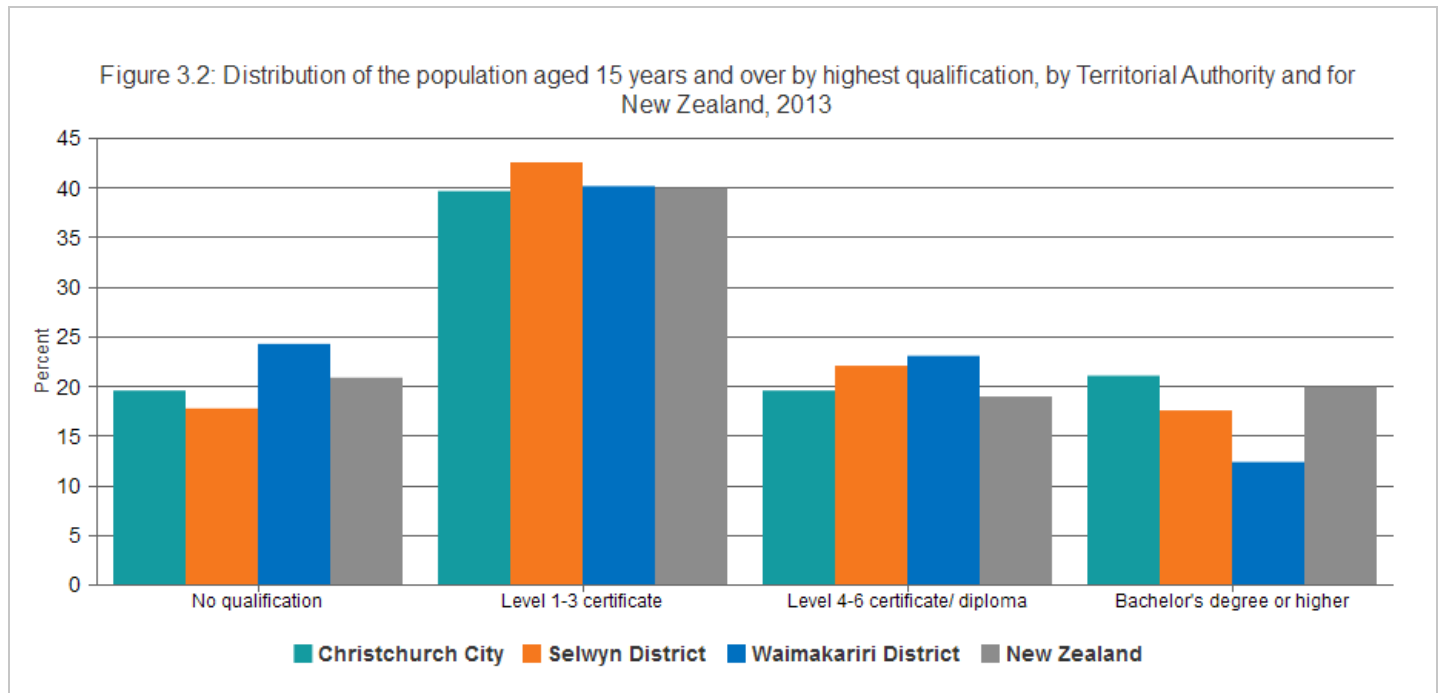
A higher level of formal education is associated with lower unemployment rates and higher income [11] as well as better self-rated health. Changes in the educational attainment of the population also provide information about access to education and the equity or fairness of the education system. Across New Zealand, employment rates are highest among people who have a tertiary education [11].

This indicator presents the distribution of the population aged 15 years and older by highest qualification, using census data.



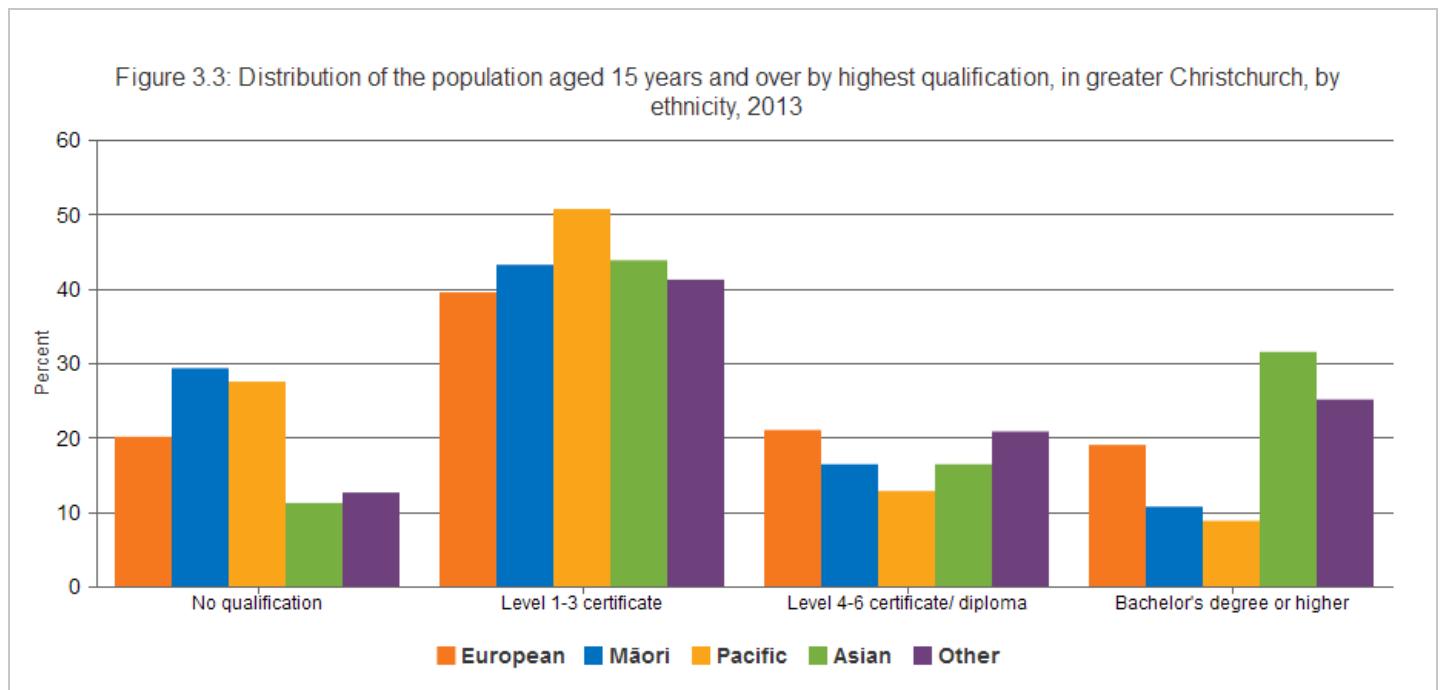
For the approximately 80 percent of people aged 15 years and over with a qualification, the distribution of highest qualifications gained is similar between greater Christchurch and New Zealand. For greater Christchurch, 40 percent of people aged 15 years and over hold a level 1–3 qualification (including overseas secondary school qualifications), 20.3 percent hold level 4–6 qualifications, and 19.7 percent of people aged 15 years and over hold bachelor’s or higher-level qualifications.

Breakdown by Territorial Authority



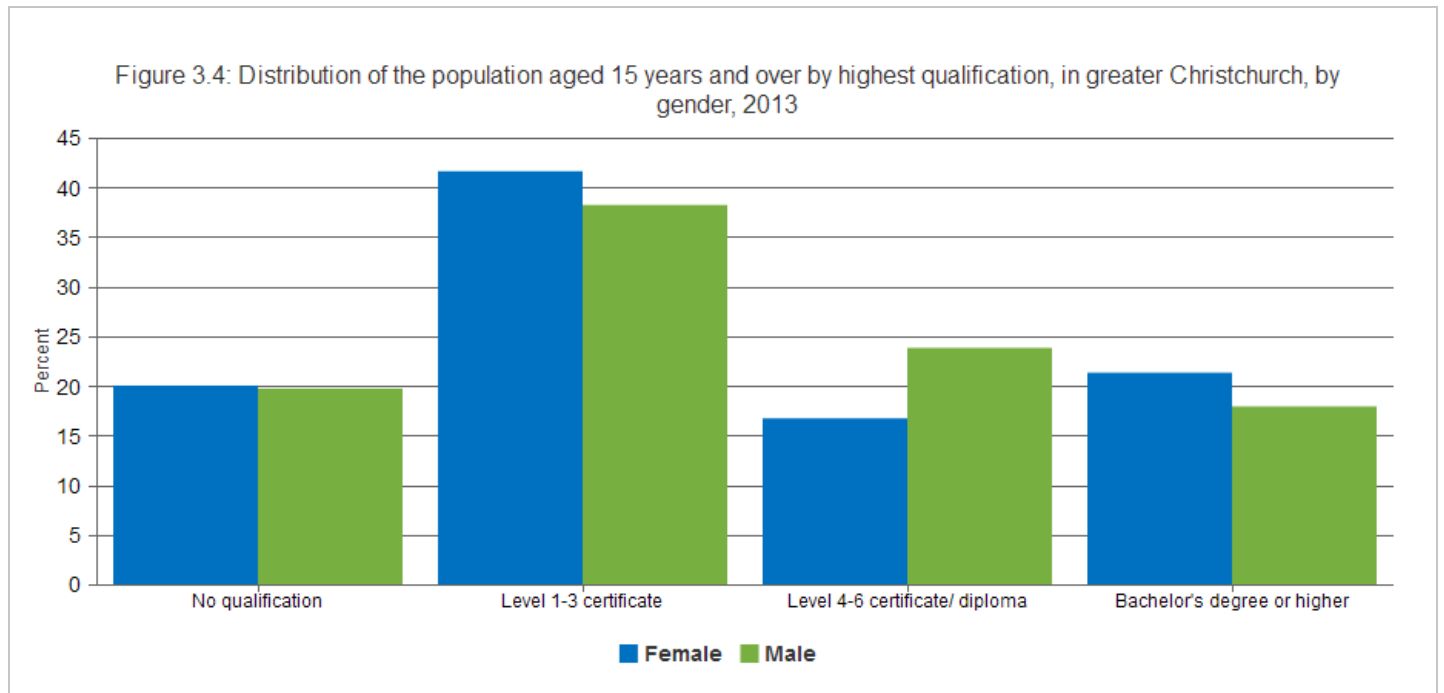
When the distribution of highest qualifications gained is broken down by Territorial Authority (TA), similar levels of overall achievement are evident at the 1–6 certificate/diploma levels. However, some TA-level differences are evident for low versus higher educational attainment levels. For example, Selwyn District has the highest proportion with school-level qualifications, while Christchurch City has a higher percentage with Bachelor's degree or higher qualifications than Selwyn District, Waimakariri District, and New Zealand overall.

Breakdown by ethnicity



In 2013, the Asian ethnic group had the highest proportion of people with a formal qualification in greater Christchurch, at 88.7 percent. Just over 10 percent of the Asian population in greater Christchurch had no qualification compared to 20 percent of European/Pākehā and almost 30 percent of Māori. Further, the proportions of Māori and Pacific with qualifications at Bachelor's degree or higher were substantially lower than for the Asian and European/Pākehā ethnic groups.

Breakdown by gender



In 2013 the proportion of women with any qualification was equal to that of men (both in greater Christchurch and nationally). However, in greater Christchurch, higher proportions of women have Bachelor's degree or higher qualifications (except for doctorate degrees). These patterns are generally consistent with the national picture. Note that Level 4 certificate qualifications (markedly dominated by men) include many trade qualifications and the demand for trade qualifications remains strong in greater Christchurch due to the ongoing post-earthquake rebuild.

Data Sources

Source: Statistics New Zealand.

Survey/data set: Census of Population and Dwellings. Access publicly available data from the Statistics New Zealand website <http://archive.stats.govt.nz/Census/2013-census/profile-and-summary-reports/qstats-education-training/highest-qualification.aspx>

Source data frequency: Census conducted every 5 years.

Metadata for this indicator is available at <https://www.canterburywellbeing.org.nz/our-wellbeing/index-data>

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This is the full reference list for **Education**.

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