

## Tertiary Education Report: August 2020 Enrolment Update

<b>Date:</b>	30 September 2020	<b>TEC priority:</b>	Low
<b>Security level:</b>	In Confidence	<b>Report no:</b>	B-20-00674
		<b>Minister's office No:</b>	

ACTION SOUGHT		
	Action sought	Deadline
<b>Hon Chris Hipkins</b> Minister of Education	Note the sector's enrolment data following the August 2020 SDR;  Note the TEC will provide a Fees Free update in a separate briefing;  Note the TEC will publish enrolment data in October; and  Agree for the TEC to proactively release this briefing in due course.	At your earliest convenience
<b>Enclosure:</b> Yes/No	<b>Round Robin:</b> No	

CONTACT FOR TELEPHONE DISCUSSION (IF REQUIRED)				
Name	Position	Telephone		1st contact
Gillian Dudgeon	Deputy Chief Executive, Delivery	§ 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]	§ 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]	✓

### THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES HAVE SEEN THIS REPORT

- DPMC   
  MPI   
  ENZ   
  ERO   
  MBIE   
  MoE   
  MFAT  
 MPP   
 MSD   
 NZQA   
 NZTE   
 TEC   
 TPK   
 Treasury

- Minister's Office to Complete:**
 Approved   
  Declined  
 Noted   
 Needs change  
 Seen   
 Overtaken by Events  
 See Minister's Notes   
 Withdrawn

**Comments:**

## Recommendations

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**Hon Chris Hipkins**, Minister of Education

*It is recommended that you:*

1. **note** the sector's enrolment data following the August 2020 SDR;
2. **note** the TEC will provide a Fees Free enrolment update in a separate briefing;
3. **note** the TEC will publish the enrolment data in October; and
4. **agree** for the TEC to proactively release this briefing in due course.

**AGREED**  **NOT AGREED**



**Gillian Dudgeon**

Deputy Chief Executive, Delivery

30 September 2020



**Hon Chris Hipkins**

Minister of Education

15 / 10 / 20

## Purpose

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1. This paper provides an update on enrolments as at August 2020 compared to the same time in 2019.
2. The first part of the paper focuses on enrolments in three funds – Student Achievement Component (SAC), Youth Guarantee (YG) and the Industry Training Fund (ITF)<sup>1</sup>.
3. Enrolments are cumulative and build from January to December during the calendar year. The figures used include learners who were eligible for funding between January and August 2020.
4. We would usually have provided you with an update following the April 2020 Single Data Return (SDR). Due to the timing of COVID-19 that briefing did not occur. Following the April SDR we analysed enrolments by level, gender, ethnicity and age. Any changes to enrolment patterns are outlined below.
5. The second part provides high level information on the Targeted Training and Apprenticeship Fund (TTAF). The fund commenced on 1 July 2020 and includes all learners who were enrolled in TTAF eligible programmes.
6. A separate briefing on Fees Free enrolments as at August 2020 will come to you in October 2020.

## Enrolment patterns vary between funds and sub-sectors

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**Table 1: Enrolment changes between August 2019 and August 2020<sup>2</sup>**

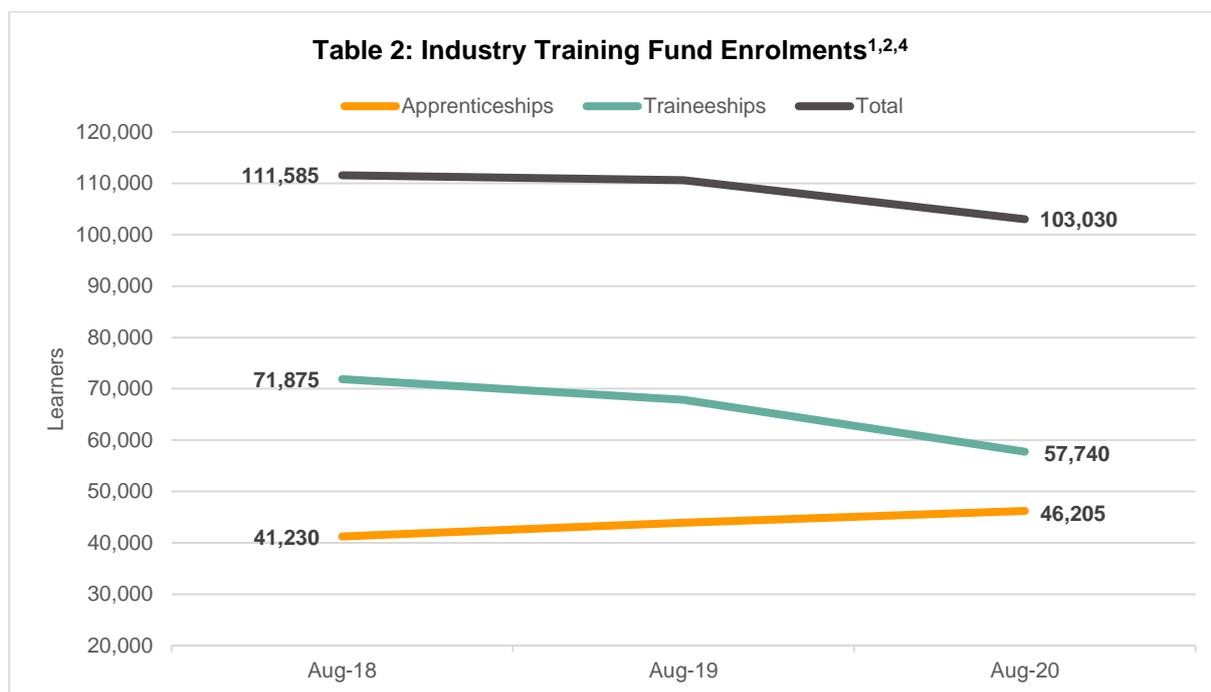
Fund	Change in EFTS/STMs		Change in Learners	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Industry Training Fund	-935	-3.1%	-7,590	-6.9%
SAC level 3 and above	-655	-0.3%	+1,605	+0.6%
SAC levels 1 and 2	-1,615	-18.6%	-1,505	-9.1%
Youth Guarantee	-1,040	-23.2%	-1,335	-18.1%

7. The overall number of learners in industry training decreased in August 2020 compared to the same period in 2019 due to a decline in traineeships. However the number of apprenticeships increased by 2,270 learners (5.2%).
8. SAC level 3 and above enrolments were stable when comparing August 2019 and August 2020.
9. Foundation level enrolments (SAC levels 1 and 2 and Youth Guarantee) are showing decreases similar to the same period between 2018 and 2019.
10. At the end of August 2020, 74,770 learners are enrolled in a TTAF programme. The majority of the learners were already enrolled before TTAF started on 1 July 2020.

<sup>1</sup> Data extracted as at 10 September 2020 from the August Single Data Return (SDR) and for the period ending 30 August 2020 from the Industry Training Register (ITR).

<sup>2</sup> All values in this briefing have been rounded to the nearest 5. Due to rounding, total values may not add up exactly to the underlying values.

## While industry training enrolments are down overall, apprenticeships have grown<sup>3</sup>



11. The industry training sector experienced an overall decrease of 7,590 learners (-6.9%) and 935 (-3.1%) standard training measures (STMs) between August 2019 and August 2020.
12. The overall decrease was due to 10,120 (-14.9%) fewer traineeships being reported, which equals a decrease of 1,440 (-9.2%) STMs. Ten of the 11 Transitional Industry Training Organisations (Transitional ITOs) reported decreased enrolments from trainees between August 2019 and August 2020.
13. We have been monitoring industry training enrolments monthly. In June 2020, year to date apprenticeship enrolments had dropped by 1,540 learners (-3.7%) when compared to the same period in June 2019. The drop in apprenticeships had reversed by the end of August. This may be due to apprentices starting later due to COVID-19 and responses to initiatives such as TTAF and Apprenticeship Boost.
14. In August 2020, apprenticeships<sup>5</sup> increased by 2,270 learners (5.2%) and 500 STMs (3.6%) compared to the same time last year. Six Transitional ITOs reported increases in apprenticeship enrolments.

<sup>3</sup> For Industry Training Register data we have focussed on changes in learner numbers. This is because the correlation between learners and STMs is not as comparable as between learners and EFTS due to learners being in employment.

<sup>4</sup> Learners can be double counted where they are studying at more than one provider and/or in more than one qualification. The totals in the tables and graphs remove double counted learners. Therefore, the sum of learner numbers by sub-category may not equal the totals in the tables.

<sup>5</sup> Based on the number of unique learners funded as Modern Apprentices and New Zealand Apprentices.

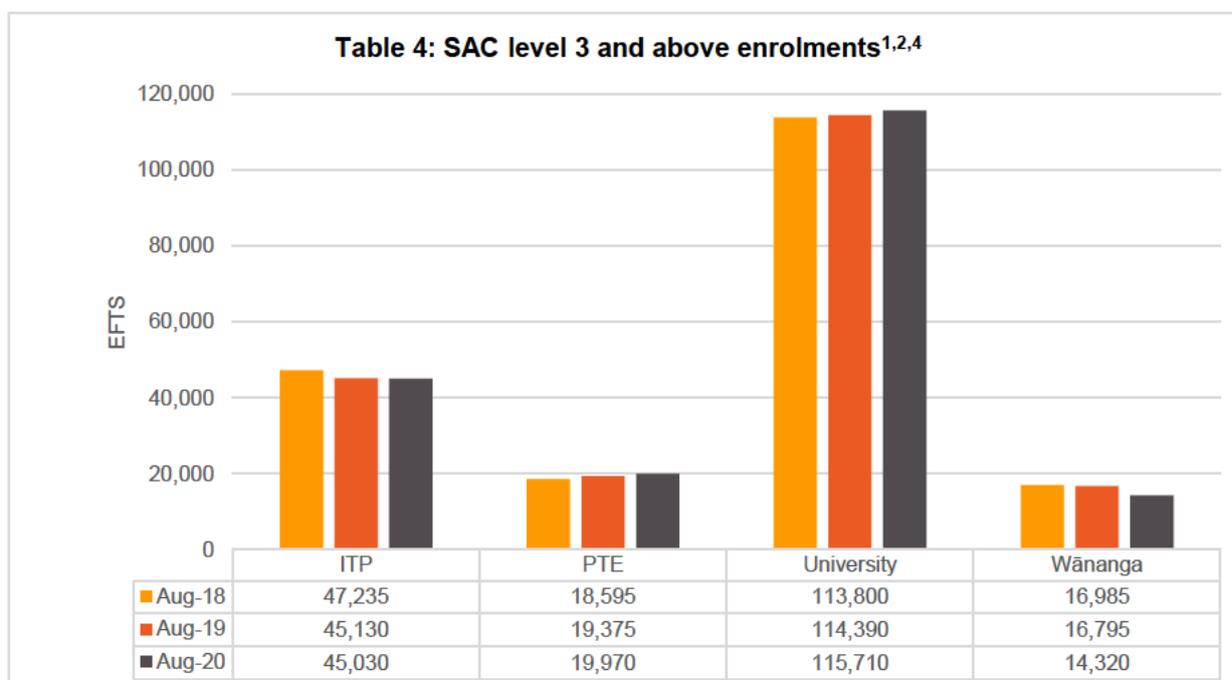
**Table 3: Transitional ITOs with increases in apprenticeships<sup>2</sup>**

Transitional ITO	Apprenticeships	Apprentice increase	Percentage
BCITO	15,545	1,180	8.2%
Primary ITO	4,270	800	23.2%
The Skills Organisation	10,395	470	4.7%
Infrastructure ITO	1,975	195	11.0%
HITO	1,215	55	4.7%
NZ Marine and Composites ITO	490	55	12.6%

### *Enrolment demographics have changed for apprentices*

15. There has been an increase in apprentices aged over 25-years-old between August 2019 and August 2020. Generally, apprentices tend to be younger than trainees. The number of apprentices aged 25 to 39-years-old increased by 1,190 (7%) and those 40-years-old and over increased by 365 (7.7%). There was a smaller increase in apprentices aged under 25-years-old (715/3.2%).
16. Apprentices who identify as Māori or Pacific Peoples increased by 765 (10.4%) and 310 (10.4%) respectively, compared to 1,570 (4.4%) for other ethnicities between August 2019 and August 2020.
17. While the proportion of women enrolled in industry training is relatively low, the number of female apprentices increased by 410 (8.5%) between August 2019 and August 2020. In the same period male apprentices increased by 1,830 (4.7%).

## **Overall SAC level 3 and above enrolments are stable**



18. In August 2020, total SAC level 3 and above enrolments decreased by 655 EFTS (-0.3%) compared to August 2019. However, the number of learners enrolled increased by 1,605 (+0.6%) in the same period. The difference between EFTS and learners is due to a combination of new enrolments studying part-time and learners starting study in the second half of the year.

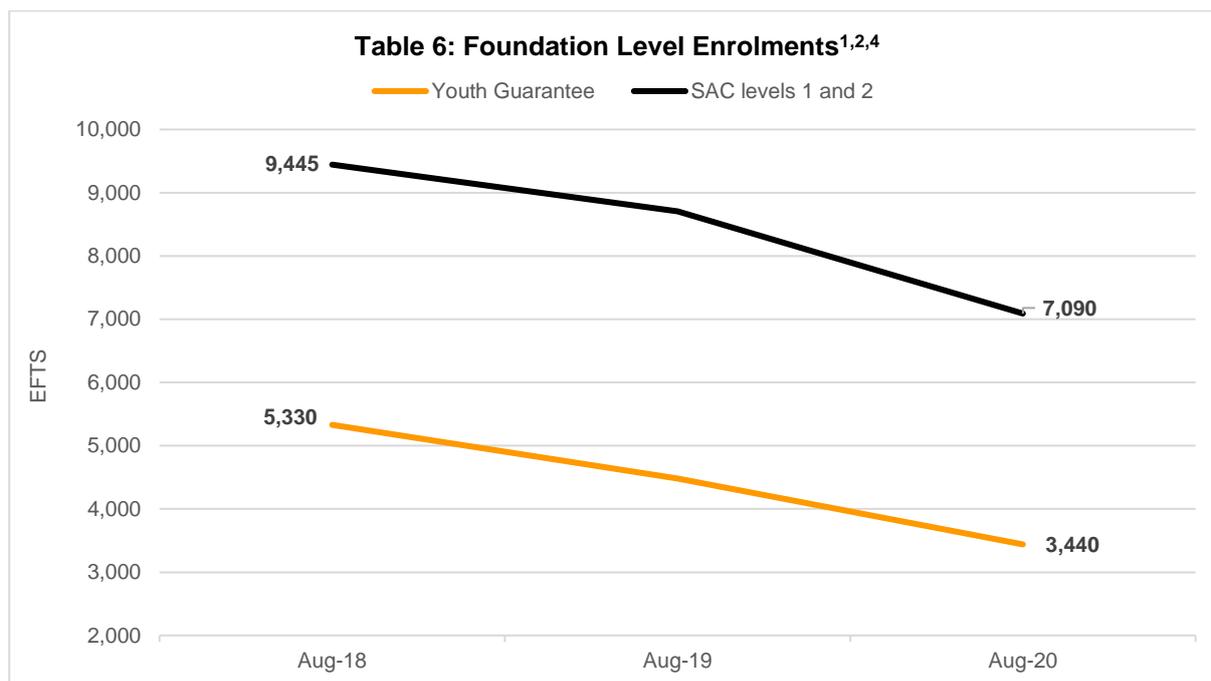
19. Enrolments at universities, the New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (NZIST) and Private Training Establishments (PTEs) have been relatively stable (refer to table 5). However, enrolments have decreased significantly at Wānanga.
20. The decline at Wānanga is due to decreased enrolments reported at Te Wānanga O Aotearoa (TWoA). TWoA surveyed learners who withdrew from their courses between the April and August SDRs. The survey results showed the decline was a result of the financial and social impacts of COVID-19.

**Table 5: SAC level 3 and above enrolments**

	August 2019		August 2020		Change			
	EFTS	Students	EFTS	Students	EFTS	%	Students	%
ITP	45,130	89,210	45,030	89,600	-100	-0.2%	390	0.4%
PTE	19,375	32,680	19,970	34,865	595	3.1%	2,185	6.7%
University	114,390	146,935	115,710	148,745	1,320	1.2%	1,810	1.2%
Wānanga	16,795	28,120	14,320	25,205	-2,475	-14.7%	-2,915	-10.4%
<b>Total<sup>1,2,4</sup></b>	<b>195,685</b>	<b>290,600</b>	<b>195,030</b>	<b>292,205</b>	<b>-655</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>0.6%</b>

21. There have been shifts in the age demographics of learners in August 2020 compared to August 2019. Learners aged 25-39 have increased by 2,900 (3.4%) across all provider types. Learners aged 40 and over increased by 1,190 (17.1%) at PTEs and 470 (3.1%) at universities in the same period.
22. In August 2020, 29.3% of all SAC level 3 and above learners were enrolled as extramural learners. This is an increase of 9,320 learners (12.2%) compared with August 2019.
23. There has been a small increase in the number of female learners (1,755) enrolled at SAC level 3 and above. This is a 1% increase compared to August 2019.

## Foundation education enrolments continue to decline



24. Foundation education enrolments continue to fall. YG enrolments decreased by 1,040 EFTS (-23.2%) and 1,335 students (-18.1%). SAC levels 1 and 2 enrolments decreased by 1,615 EFTS (-18.6%) and 1,505 students (-9.1%).

25. The decline in foundation level enrolments is across all sub-sectors and continues the trend seen for at least the past three years.

## Almost 75,000 learners are enrolled in a TTAF eligible programme<sup>6</sup>

26. The TTAF supports learners to undertake vocational education and training without fees. TTAF covers fees from 1 July 2020 for a range of training programmes and all apprenticeships at sub-degree level for learners. The fund is targeted towards industry skill needs where demand from employers for these skills will continue to be strong, or is expected to grow, during New Zealand's recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.

27. A total of \$57.5m<sup>7</sup> in TTAF funding has been allocated to providers for the six months to 31 December 2020. The funding allocated is an estimate of their TTAF entitlement. Information of the actual amount of fees paid for under the TTAF policy will be available in May 2021, once finalised 2020 delivery data is received.

28. Since 1 July 2020, 74,770 learners have become eligible for TTAF funding. The table below breaks down TTAF enrolments by subsector into the six targeted areas and apprenticeships not covered by the targeted areas.

<sup>6</sup> Data valid as at 11 September 2020. All TTAF values are indicative only and subject to change due to the addition of new qualifications/programmes being reviewed and added to the applicable target areas.

<sup>7</sup> Of the 57.5m allocated for fees since 1 July 2020, \$40.2m was paid to providers in July and August 2020. The remaining \$17.3m is scheduled to be paid to providers in October 2020.

**Table 7: TTAF Learners by target area and sub-sector**

Target Area	ITO	NZIST	PTE	University	Wānanga	Total Learners
Community support	8,340	1,880	1,095	145	470	11,860
Construction	21,025	4,685	475	0	<5	26,140
Electrical Engineering	6,875	1,335	240	0	0	8,430
Manufacturing, mechanical engineering and technology	7,355	675	145	0	0	8,145
Primary Industries	8,870	3,865	505	180	0	13,380
Road Transport	75	180	10	0	0	265
Non-Target Area Apprenticeship	6,450	250	0	0	0	6,695
<b>Total Learners<sup>1,2,4</sup></b>	<b>58,920</b>	<b>12,860</b>	<b>2,465</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>74,770</b>

29. Since 1 July 2020, 17,185 learners (23% of all TTAF eligible learners) have started training/study. As a comparison, 12,800 learners were enrolled in July and August 2019 in approved TTAF eligible programmes. This is an increase of 34.2% between 2019 and 2020. The increase may have been positively impacted be due to learners starting later due to COVID-19 restrictions.
30. The majority of TTAF learners are engaged in industry training with 78.8% (58,920 learners) enrolled at Transitional ITOs. The remaining learners are enrolled in provider-based study, primarily at NZIST. Smaller numbers are enrolled at PTEs, universities and Wānanga.
31. Over half of all TTAF learners (52.9%) are enrolled in either the Construction (35%) or Primary Industry (17.9%) target areas.
32. More than half (41,765 or 55.9%) of TTAF learners are engaged in apprenticeship programmes<sup>8</sup>. Over half (62.7%) of apprentices are in either the Construction (47.8%) or Electrical Engineering (14.9%) target areas. In addition, 16% of apprentices are studying outside the six target areas.

*A quarter of TTAF learners are female and over 60% of all learners are over 25-years-old*

33. Overall 25.7% (19,210) of TTAF learners are female. Participation rates for women differ between industry training (20.8%) and provider-based training (43.9%). Analysis shows half of all female learners are in the Community Support target area, comprising 81.9% of all learners in this target area. The next highest target area is Primary Industries where 32% of TTAF learners are female.
34. Learners over 25-years-old make up 61.2% of all TTAF learners, with 40.2% aged between 25 and 39 and 21% aged 40-years-old and over. Those aged under 25-years-old comprise 38.8% of all TTAF learners.
35. The proportion of learners under 25-years-old is higher in Construction (47.4%), Electrical Engineering (51.9%), and non-target area apprenticeships (61.8%). Learners aged over 40-years-old have higher participation rates in Community Support (50.4%), Road Transport (41.5%) and Primary Industries (26.9%).
36. Of the 74,770 learners eligible for TTAF funding:
- 17,330 (23.2%) enrolled in tertiary education for the first time in 2020<sup>9</sup>.
  - 3,440 (4.6%) left school in 2019. Of these, 980 (28.5%) started tertiary study since 1 July 2020.

<sup>8</sup> Includes industry-based New Zealand Apprenticeships and provider-based Managed Apprenticeships.

<sup>9</sup> First enrolment in tertiary education since 2001.

37. The ethnicity make-up of TTAF learners is similar to those in Industry Training and SAC level 3 and above. There are 14,045 learners (18.8%) who identify as Māori and 6,250 learners (8.4%) learners who identify as Pacific Peoples<sup>10</sup>.

## **Differences between data in this briefing and data the TEC publishes**

38. The SDR data in this briefing is for enrolment reporting purposes and includes all funding related to YG and SAC<sup>11</sup>. Enrolment figures in this briefing will differ compared to enrolment figures published on the TEC and MoE websites based on the approaches used to extract the data.

39. Enrolments at Transitional ITOs can occur throughout the year. Enrolment levels are subject to change.

## **We will update you following the December 2020 SDR**

40. We will provide you with an enrolment update covering SAC, YG, ITF and TTAF following the completion of the December 2020 SDR.

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<sup>10</sup> A learner may identify with more than one ethnicity, a learner will be counted in each ethnicity they identify with.

<sup>11</sup> Includes SAC level 3 and above which contains aggregate data for the following funds: SAC level 3 and above, SAC levels 3 and 4 Competitive funding, Māori and Pasifika Trades Training levels 3 and 4 and ICT Graduate Schools.