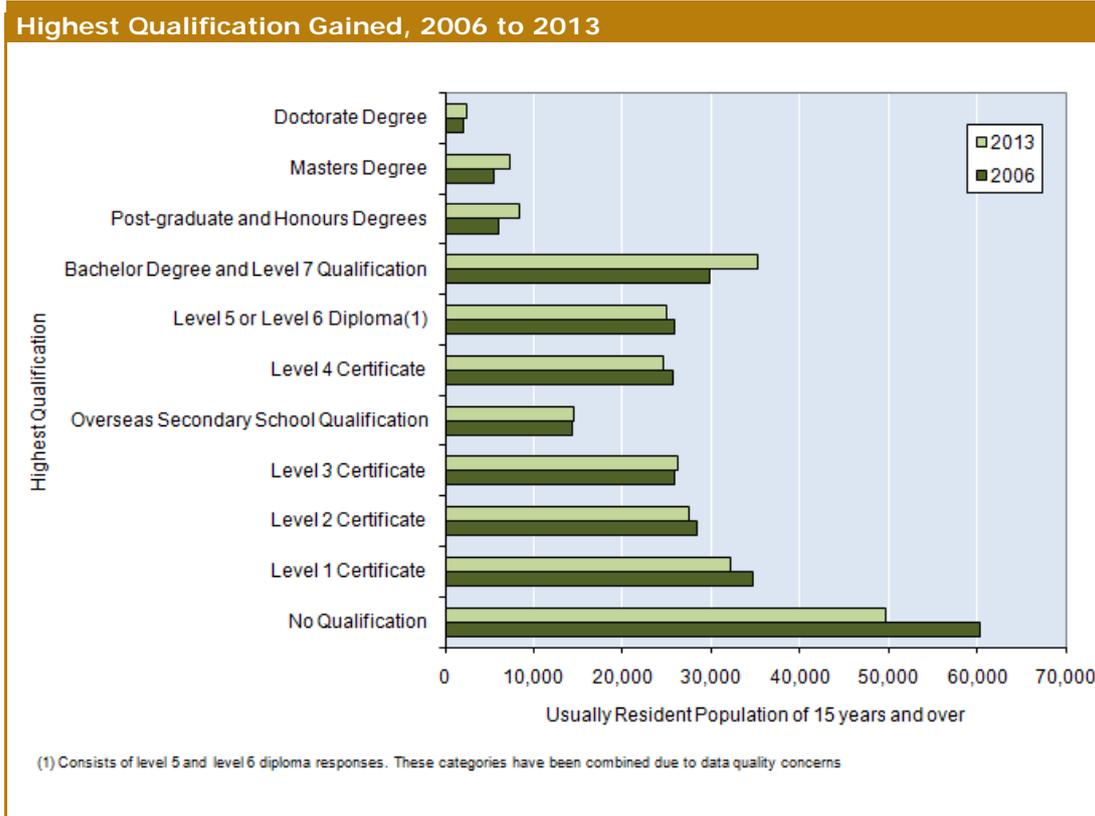


Knowledge and Skills

Highest Qualification



Source: Statistics New Zealand: Census of Population and Dwellings.

Key Points:

- Overall, the majority of Christchurch residents aged 15 years and over have some form of formal qualification. This number has increased from 197,973 (77%) in 2006 to 203,148 (80%) in 2013.
- In 2006, a high school qualification was the highest qualification gained by 39.9% (103,170) of Christchurch residents over the age of 15. In 2013, this had slightly decreased to 39.7% (100,449).
- A significant number of Christchurch residents aged 15 years and over have no qualifications. However, this number has decreased from 60,417 (23.4%) in 2006 to 49,674 (19.6%) in 2013.
- The percentage of residents that have gained a bachelors degree or higher degree increased from 15.8% (43,284) in 2006 to 21.1% (53,277) in 2013.
- In 2006, 51,507 (19.9%) of residents had gained vocational post-school qualifications. In 2013, this figure slightly decreased to 49,692 (19.6%).

What is this about?

This measure shows the highest level of qualification gained within the population aged 15 years and over as recorded in the New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings.

There is a strong link between education and income levels. People without qualifications are less likely to be able to find work that pays as well as those with qualifications. This may impact on an individual's quality of life, both financially, and from a job satisfaction perspective. Technological, economic and social changes coupled with increasing internationalisation are broadening career opportunities while requiring highly skilled workers. Knowledge and innovation are the key drivers of economic growth and social cohesion.

Data limitations:

The data only considers formal qualifications and does not take into account informal training such as work experience.

Only those people who were in New Zealand at the time of the census are recorded. It does not include residents that were temporarily overseas during this time.

Related topics:

- Income
- Transport
- Health
- Quality of Life
- Employment