



## Briefing Note: 2021 Early Learning, Schooling and Tertiary Education Annual Data Release Schedule

<b>To:</b>	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education Hon Kelvin Davis, Associate Minister of Education Hon Aupito William Sio, Associate Minister of Education		
<b>Date:</b>	24 November 2020	<b>Priority:</b>	High
<b>Security Level:</b>	In Confidence	<b>METIS No:</b>	1244902
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<b>Messaging seen by Communications team:</b>	No	<b>Round Robin:</b>	No

### Purpose of Report

The purpose of this paper is to inform you about annual data releases for early learning, schooling, and tertiary education scheduled for 2021. In addition, this paper outlines a separate timetable for the release of key international study reports for the 2020 – 2024 period.

### Summary

- Each year we provide you with the forward schedule of releases for early learning, schooling and tertiary education data. There is also a schedule for the international releases from Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA).
- The 2021 annual release schedules are attached.
- The release process for 2021 remains the same as previous years. That is, the Ministry will:
  - signal upcoming releases through the Education Weekly Update (EWU).
  - work with your office to provide any necessary communications support; we expect to provide a considerable amount of support for major collections.

We recommend that you:

- a. **Note** the 2021 schedule for early learning, schooling and tertiary education annual data releases (refer Annex 1), and the schedule for release of international study results (refer Annex 2).

Noted

- b. **Agree** that the Ministry will be using the Education Weekly Update to signal the upcoming release of each data collection.

Agree / Disagree

- c. **Note** that the Ministry will work with your office to provide any necessary communications support.

Noted

- d. **Agree** that this Briefing will be proactively released.

Agree / Disagree



Alexander Brunt  
Acting Deputy Secretary,  
Evidence, Data and Knowledge

24/11/2020

Hon. Chris Hipkins  
Minister of Education

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Hon. Jan Tinetti  
Assoc. Minister of Education

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## Background

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1. The Ministry collects and releases a range of different datasets relating to early learning, schooling and tertiary education. The core data are derived from the Ministry's administrative datasets and this is supplemented with some survey data (for example the ECE census). In addition, there are studies such as the large international studies carried out by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) including:
  - i. Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA),
  - ii. Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS),
  - iii. Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS);
  - iv. Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC);
  - v. Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS) and
  - vi. the National Monitoring Study of Student Achievement (NMSSA) which provide key evidence about system performance.
2. The New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) and the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) are a source of data released by the Ministry and release data in their own right. Those agencies will brief you through their normal processes.
3. More timely access to all this data is a key objective for the Ministry. Schools, tertiary providers, researchers and other data users, including the public, continue to ask us why the data takes so long to release. Their feedback strongly supports release of data earlier.
4. Data releases are published on Education Counts ([www.educationcounts.govt.nz](http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz)). We seek to continuously improve ease of access to data on this site.

## The annual data release schedule

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5. The data release schedule is provided in Annex 1. The timing of each release is subject to change as for many collections we depend on providers submitting data in a timely manner. Any changes to releases are communicated either through the EWU (MoE Data and Publications Release Calendar) or directly with your office.

### National Certificates of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Data

6. We have included NZQA's release of NCEA attainment data. The January release is provisional data for schools; however, it is also provided to the Minister and Ministry of Education.
7. The release of this data is managed by NZQA. In collaboration with the Ministry, they will brief you on the NCEA results.

### Schooling Workforce Data

8. Teacher workforce data consist of three data series:
  - i. Teacher numbers - simple demographic information on teachers



- ii. Teacher turnover - the rates teachers are leaving and being replenished within schools
  - iii. Entering and leaving teaching - looks at teachers who move into or out of the schooling teacher workforce
9. 'Teacher turnover' data and 'Entering and leaving teaching' data are new data series and were released for the first time this year (14 August). All three data series will be updated in late April next year.

### **School Attendance Data**

10. The data release schedule shows the release of term two school attendance data.
11. Historically, the Ministry only collected attendance data from term two. However, the Ministry has been collecting attendance data each term for 2020. Decisions on whether these other terms' data will be released, and if so, what level of analysis will be undertaken and how it would be presented, are still to be made.
12. Each week a high-level summary of the weekly COVID-19 attendance survey is released on Education Counts. This graphical summary is not shown on the data release schedule.

### **Synthesis – summary reports**

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13. As part of the Ministry's strategy to create a system that learns and improves, we are developing more synthesis-focused products. Four key existing products that bring comprehensive information together include:
- i. Summary Reports
  - ii. Data Tables on Education Counts
  - iii. Tools such as "*FIND YOUR NEAREST SCHOOL*" on Education Counts
  - iv. Data and specialised tools for Ministry's regional staff

### **Nga Kura o Aotearoa | New Zealand Schools**

14. This is the Minister of Education's annual report on the compulsory schooling sector to the House of Representatives. It must be tabled by 30 September of the following year. This report gives a broad overview on the progress and performance of the compulsory schools' sector. The Ministry will contact you early in the new year to provide a more detailed briefing on next year's report, including a suggested outline for content.

### **International study data release**

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15. A separate timetable for the release of key international study reports is provided in Annex 2. As a companion to the release of these international reports the Ministry releases a report specifically highlighting and commenting on New Zealand results.
16. International studies have a single agreed fixed release date and time. We cannot change the release date of the international reports, even when they contain New Zealand data.

17. Until the international report is released all information in a study is embargoed. Prior to these studies being released, the Ministry organises for Ministers to sign a confidentiality agreement so that they can be briefed on the results.

## PIACC

18. The Programme for International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIACC) was originally scheduled for an international release in October/November 2023. Delays due to COVID-19 have moved the release date to December 2024.

## Other research and data related releases

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19. Throughout the year a range of research and evaluation reports will be released by the Ministry. This may be research undertaken by our staff or research managed by our staff which is done through other research agencies. An example of this research is the He Whakaaro | Education Insights series, produced by the Ministry's Evidence Data and Knowledge group.
20. He Whakaaro | Education Insights is a series of short, easy to read papers, which look across the range of New Zealand education system evidence. They provide interesting and useful insights and highlight latest findings, new analysis or ways of looking at issues. See Annex 3 for upcoming He Whakaaros.
21. There are also research activities undertaken by external parties which do not involve the Ministry. If we become aware of these reports, often because we are asked for comments and/or to fact check information with the reports, we will brief you when the report is assessed to be important, controversial, or likely to impact the Government.
22. Again, the standard release approach will be used, an EWU followed by a more detailed briefing if deemed necessary or requested.

## The data release process

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23. The release process for 2021 remains the same. That is, the Ministry will signal upcoming releases through the EWU. We will work with your office to provide any necessary communications support for key releases.
24. For major collections, such as those relating to student engagement, student achievement, or the international surveys, we expect to provide a considerable amount of support. This support will include:
  - i. a briefing outlining high level results and commenting on any points of interest and/or concern
  - ii. the release timeline, including an outline or pre- and post-release activities
  - iii. a communications approach
  - iv. drafts of the products being released
  - v. in-person briefings if required.
25. Data are released on the Education Counts website; the Ministry statistical and release website. Products included as part of the release can include:
  - i. summary reports
  - ii. data tables

- iii. dashboards and infographics
- iv. analytical publications
- v. agency pages on Education Counts - *FIND YOUR NEAREST SCHOOL*, *COMMUNITIES OF LEARNING*, and *KNOW YOUR REGION*.

## Next Steps

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26. The following information is yet to be released in 2020:

- i. The Student Loan Scheme Annual Report is tabled in Parliament each November/December. The report provides information on the scheme as well as statistics on the borrowers and their repayment behaviour. A separate briefing will be provided prior to the release.
- ii. Term 2, 2020 school attendance data is scheduled to be released in late November. A separate briefing will be provided prior to the release.
- iii. 2020 ECE census results are scheduled to be released in mid-December. An EWU will confirm the release date.

## Proactive Release

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27. We recommend that this Briefing is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

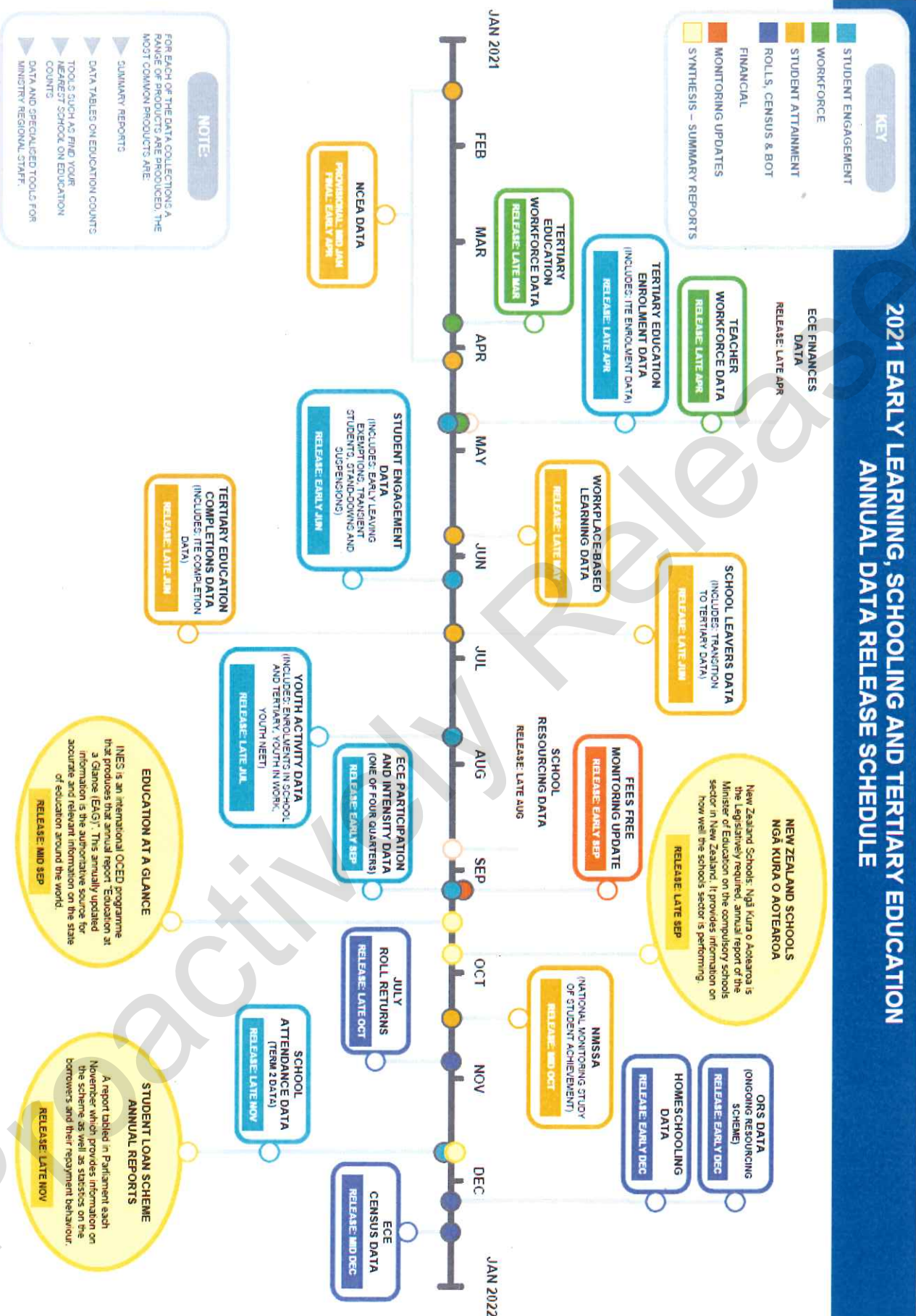
## Annexes

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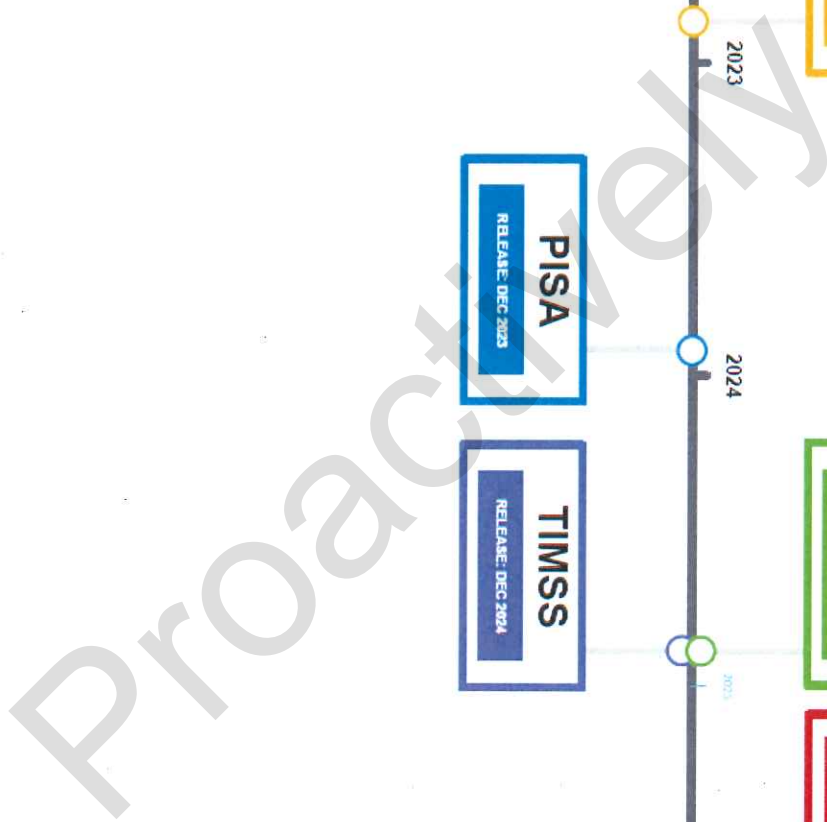
- Annex 1: 2021 Early Learning, Schooling and Tertiary Education Annual Data Release Schedule.
- Annex 2: 2020 – 2024 International Studies Release Schedule.
- Annex 3: Upcoming He Whakaaros



## 2021 EARLY LEARNING, SCHOOLING AND TERTIARY EDUCATION ANNUAL DATA RELEASE SCHEDULE



## 2020 – 2024 INTERNATIONAL STUDIES RELEASE SCHEDULE





### Annex 3: Upcoming He Whakaaros

Title	Contents	Author/Team	Release Date
He Whakaaro: Is COVID making students leave school?	This report uses data collected during 2020 to determine the extent to which the COVID-19 outbreaks and lockdowns are impacting on whether students are changing schools, or formally unenrolling from the school system altogether.	Andrew Webber / EDK	10 Dec
He Whakaaro: How participation in early learning is affected by COVID-19	This report uses emerging data collected during 2020 to explore children's patterns of participation in early childhood education (ECE), and how it is being affected by outbreaks, associated lockdowns, and recovery.	Andrew Webber / EDK	10 Dec
He Whakaaro: How COVID-19 is affecting school attendance	This report uses data collected during 2020 to determine the extent to which COVID-19 is impacting on whether students are attending school.	Andrew Webber / EDK	10 Dec
He Whakaaro: ECE Workforce - IDI	This report summarises the findings of an investigation into the career outcomes of Early Childhood Education (ECE) professionals. The investigation allowed for inference of the push and pull factors towards a career in ECE. (based on Motu external paper)	Ariarne Davy / EDK	Feb TBC
He Whakaaro: Equity index and workforce trends	This report explores trends in workforce loss to assess whether socio-economic deprivation, as measured by the Equity Index, is a notable driver of workforce departure from schools.	Andrew Pruchniewski / EDK	Feb TBC
He Whakaaro: Student Learning during COVID	This report outlines the creation of a predictive model to estimate 'expected' learning in e-asTTle over timeframes of less than two years. The report summarises tests of validation of this model, and then applies the model to 2020 data in order to assess whether there is clear evidence of a loss of learning due to COVID-19.	Andrew Webber / EDK	Feb TBC
He Whakaaro: Bullying in New Zealand Schools	A report summarising the evidence relating to bullying in the New Zealand education system. Key findings highlight that in comparison to other countries, New Zealand has a far higher proportion of students reporting frequent bullying.	Mercy Mhuru / EDK	TBC