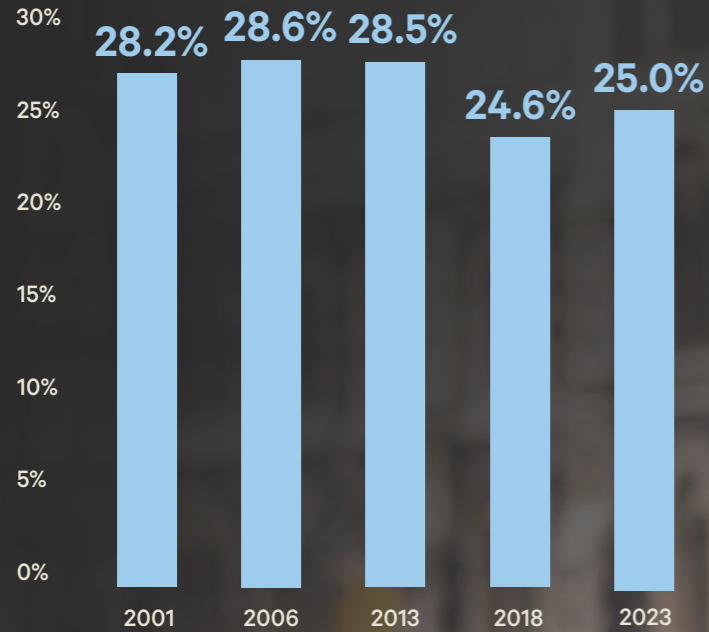
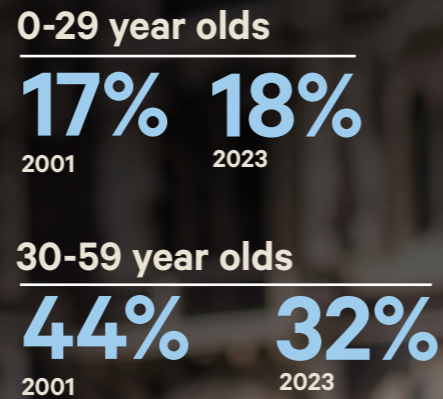


The proportion of vosa vakaViti speakers has declined slightly across the Fijian population.*

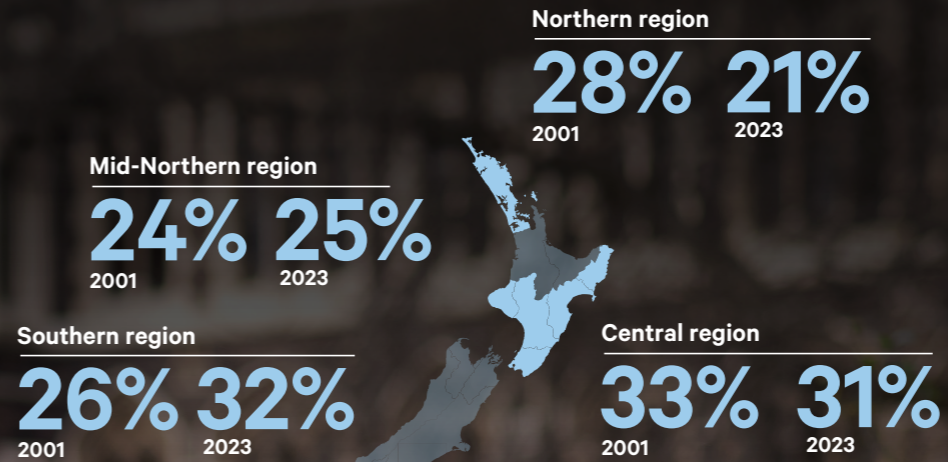


*excluding those who do not speak any language e.g. too young to talk.

The proportion of speakers under 30 has remained relatively stable, while the proportion of speakers between 30 and 59 has decreased.



The proportion of speakers in different regions has remained relatively stable, with an increase in the Southern region and a slightly bigger decrease in the Northern region.



There are very few options for learning vosa vakaViti in the education system in New Zealand...



In 2025, there were no bilingual/immersion early learning options for vosa vakaViti.



In 2025, there were no bilingual/immersion units in schools for vosa vakaViti.



In 2025, 52 students were recorded as learning vosa vakaViti as a school subject, up from zero in 2004.

The language is being maintained at higher rates among Fijians born overseas than those born in New Zealand, although the rate for those born overseas has declined over the last 20 years.

Proportion of speakers among those born in New Zealand



Proportion of speakers among those born overseas



What do the 2023 Census and education data tell us about

VOSA VAKAVITI in New Zealand?

IDI Disclaimer: This infographic contains census data that has been created for research purposes from the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) which is carefully managed by Statistics New Zealand. These results are not official statistics. For more information about the IDI please visit: <https://www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/> Access to the data used in this study was provided by Stats NZ under conditions designed to give effect to the security and confidentiality provisions of the Data and Statistics Act 2022. The data presented here is the work of the author, not Stats NZ or individual data suppliers.

Note: The infographic refers to the proportion of ethnic language speakers. This compares the number of people from the ethnic group who speak the language associated with that group to the total ethnic population. It does not include people in the ethnic population who do not speak any languages (e.g. children too young to talk). Census data from 2001, 2006 and 2013 include missing responses, while data from 2018 and 2023 includes imputed responses for missing data. Therefore, caution is advised when making comparisons across time.

Education data sourced from: www.educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/