

# Understanding Te Pūkenga learners

## Understand, Strategise, Deliver

The Reform of Vocational Education transforms the way vocational education is delivered to learners.

Te Pūkenga must address the systemic failure of Tertiary education to deliver an education experience appropriate to the needs of its learners.

Achieving sustainable uplift in learner success requires a whole of organisation systemic change. Equity requires us to understand and deliberately meet the needs of underserved learners.

### Provision\*



**71%**

of Te Pūkenga provision at Levels 1–4\*\*



**70%**

of our Māori learners are enrolled in Level 1–4 programmes



**10%**

of Te Pūkenga learners disclose a disability  
(Nationally disclosed disability is 14–25%)



**45%**

of learners reside in a deprivation decile area 7 or higher

\* Progression from low skilled to high skilled employment is usually through obtaining a Level 5 or higher qualification, meaning income benefits of study may not be realised for some learners.

\*\* No reliable data on gender diversity.

### Demographics\*\*

**270,000** learners



**37%**

of learners are caring for dependent children (1 in 3)



**37%**

of Te Pūkenga learners (1 in 3) are under 25 years old  
(compared to 66% for universities)



**25%**

of our learners are over 40 years old  
(compared to 10% for universities)



**19%**

of learners are Māori (58,000)



**61%**

of Te Pūkenga learners (165,000) are caring for dependents



**25%**

of learners have a household income of less than \$60,000  
(below the living wage)



**38%**

of our learners are aged between 25–39 years old  
(compared to 25% for universities)



**10%**

of learners are first-in-family (27,000)



**8%**

of learners are Pacific (23,000)