

Student Statistics Report: 2018 – 2019

SNAPSHOT OF FINDINGS

Australia

At the end of 2018, 3,693 medical students **graduated** from Australian medical schools, of which 87% were domestic students. The number of international graduates rose by 10% on the previous year to 496, this was the highest since 2013, following 2018's low of 450.

In 2019 there were 3,914 students who **commenced** studying medicine at an Australian medical school; 92 more than in 2018 (a 2.4% increase). Medical student numbers are expected to remain relatively stable in the coming years, with projections that commencements for 2020 will be 3,881.

There were 112 more domestic commencing students in 2019 than the previous year. They comprise 84% of the cohort, of which 9.5% are full fee paying – the same proportion as 2018 but up from 7.6% in 2017. The proportion of international commencing students fell slightly to 16.1% from 17% in 2018.

Overall there were 38 more Commonwealth Supported Places (CSPs) this year; with 42 fewer bonded places (to work in areas of workforce shortage) however 80 additional non-bonded places. Domestic medical students in a bonded scheme made up 26% of the total, similar to 2018.

The gender balance remains slightly in favour of females for all entry schemes with the exception of bonded places (where it was 47.3%). Overall females comprised 51.9% of commencing medical students, which is marginally lower than the 53% in 2018.

There are 3,668 students enrolled **in their final year** of medical school. Applying a final-year attrition rate similar to that seen in recent years (2.8%) it is likely that around 3,565 will graduate at the end of 2019.

New Zealand

In 2018, New Zealand medical schools **graduated** 523 doctors, 47 more than in 2017, of which 487 were domestic students.

584 medical students **commenced** study at New Zealand medical schools in 2019; 10 more than the previous year. Commencing numbers have been steady for the last 4 years, and are expected to remain so with a very slight drop in commencements projected next year. After a fall in international student numbers in 2018, the 2019 figure (38) returned to the level of 2017.

In New Zealand in 2019, 59.5% of commencing domestic medical students were female, a small increase over the 58.4% recorded in 2018.

534 medical students are **in their final year**. Based on the average of the last 4 years' final-year attrition rates (1%) at medical schools, 529 are likely to graduate in 2019.

Indigenous students and graduates

In 2018, 42 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors **graduated** from medical programs in Australia, and in New Zealand 70 Māori doctors graduated. Across Australia and New Zealand there has been a 57% increase in the number of Indigenous graduates from five years ago.

2019 has seen the highest number of **commencing** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical students in Australia. The number of Māori commencing medical students in New Zealand fell slightly from the previous two years but remains high by historical standards.

In Australia in 2019 114 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students started studying medicine, which is 3.5% of domestic commencing students (just under 30% growth from 2018 numbers). In New Zealand 90 commencing medical students were Māori, comprising 16.5% of the commencing domestic cohort, down slightly from the 19.4% in 2018.

A total of 360 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students were **enrolled** in an Australian medical school in 2019; 2.5% of domestic enrolments. There has continued to be an increase, from 265 total enrolments five years ago or 1.8% of domestic enrolments.

In New Zealand, 445 Māori students were enrolled, comprising 16.5% of enrolled domestic students. This has increased from the 325 enrolled Māori students in 2015, which was 13.3% of domestic enrolments across New Zealand medical schools.

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2018 Graduates

Australia

3,693 medical students graduated from Australian medical schools in 2018, of which 3,197 were domestic and 496 were international students. In 2018, the largest cohort (33.4%) graduated from NSW/ACT medical schools, followed by Queensland (23.5%) and Victoria (22.8%).

Table 1. Graduating Australian medical student numbers

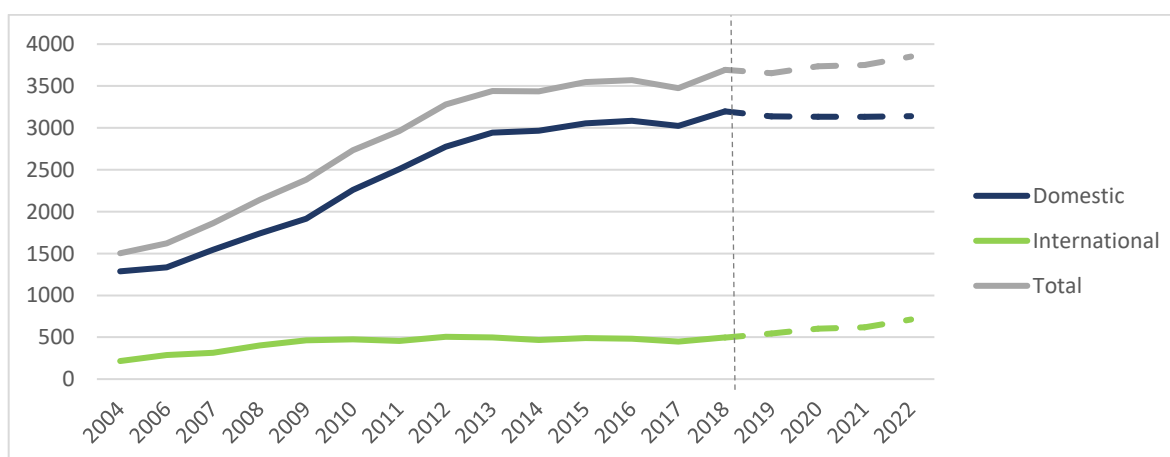
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	2,259	2,507	2,777	2,944	2,968	3,055	3,085	3,025	3,197
International	474	457	504	497	469	492	484	450	496
Total AUS	2,733	2,964	3,281	3,441	3,437	3,547	3,569	3,475	3,693

The number of future graduates cannot be accurately estimated as it depends on the rate of attrition for each year, which can vary widely. We have therefore calculated estimates for future years by applying a single reduction of 2.8% to the number of students currently enrolled in the years that will be graduating 2019 to 2020; 2.8% being the average of the last four years' final-year attrition rate of all Australian medical schools. Note: attrition rates for the years leading up to the final year have not been applied.

Graduating Year	Students enrolled in cohorts graduating that year	Students estimated to graduate (after applying single reduction of 2.8%)
2019	3,668	3,565 <i>estimated</i>
2020	3,781	3,675 <i>estimated</i>
2021	3,845	3,737 <i>estimated</i>
2022	4,014	3,902 <i>estimated</i>

Following the slowed growth in commencing students, the numbers of graduating students has started to plateau and is expected to remain fairly stable in the coming years.

Figure 1. Graduating Australian medical students by year (projected for 2019 onwards)



* Dashed lines indicate projected numbers

Figure 2. All Australian medical school graduates – by gender

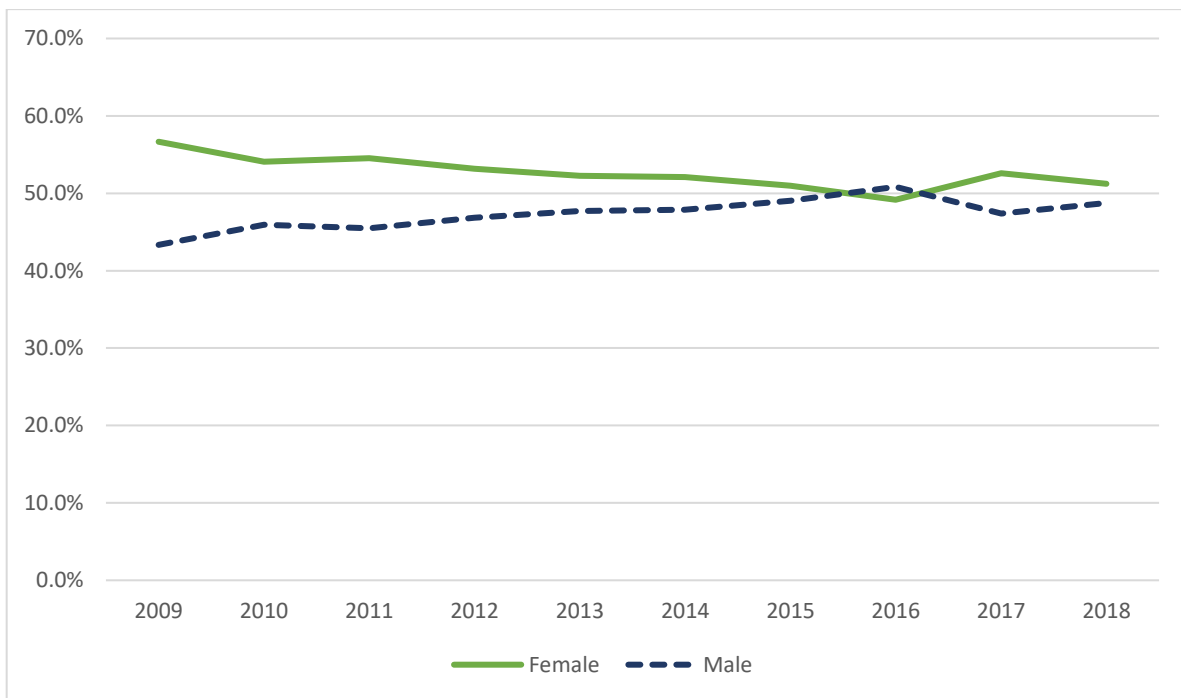
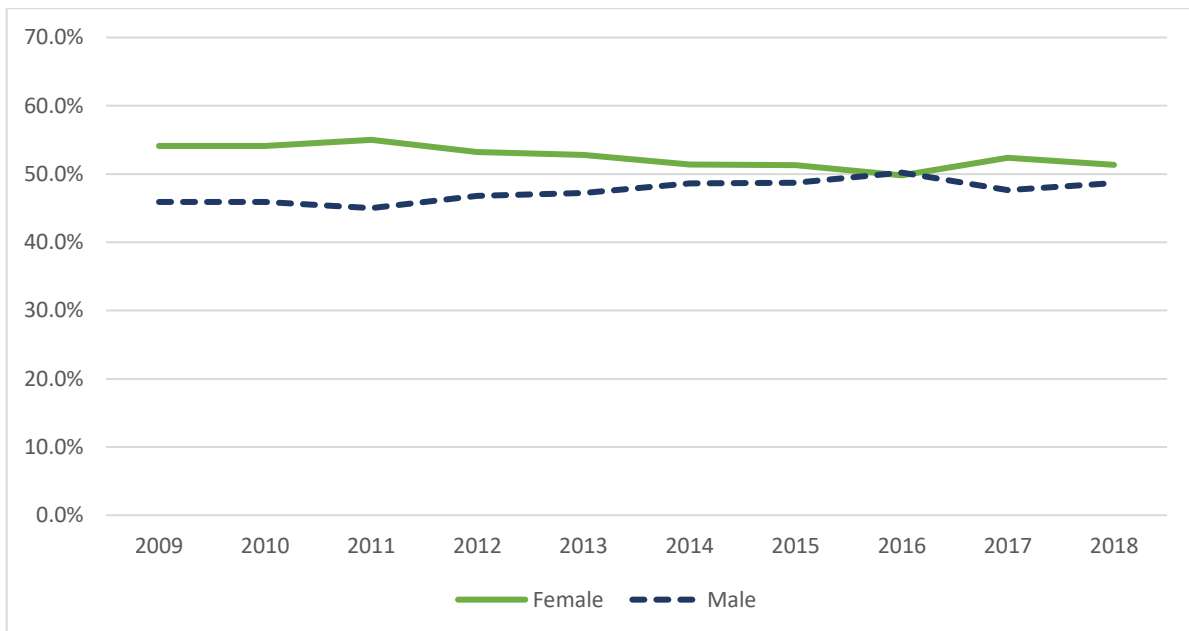


Figure 3. Domestic Australian medical school graduates – by gender



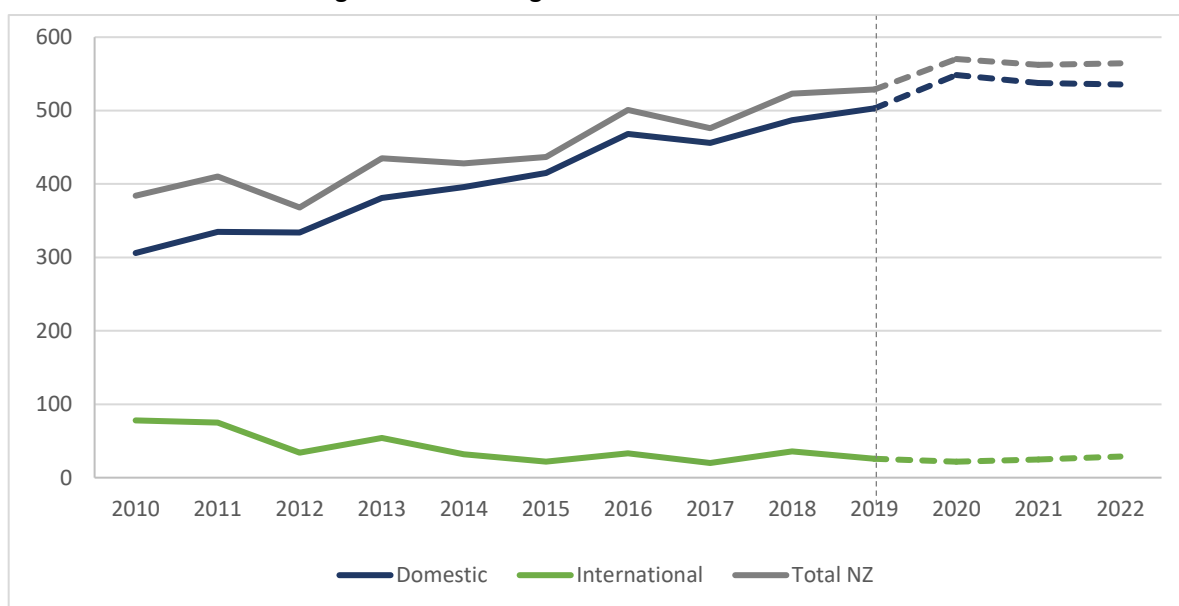
New Zealand

A total of 523 medical students graduated from New Zealand medical schools in 2018.

Table 2. Graduating New Zealand medical student numbers

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Domestic	306	335	334	381	396	415	468	456	487
International	78	75	34	54	32	22	33	20	36
Total NZ	384	410	368	435	428	437	501	476	523

Figure 4. Graduating New Zealand medical students



* Dashed lines indicate projected numbers

The number of future graduates depends on the attrition rate for each year, which can vary widely. We have therefore estimated future graduate number by applying a single reduction of 1% to the number of students currently enrolled in the years that will be graduating 2019 to 2022; 1% being the average of the New Zealand schools' final year attrition rate. Note: as for Australian estimates, attrition rates for the years leading up to the final year have not been applied.

<u>Graduating Year</u>	<u>Students enrolled in cohorts graduating that year</u>	<u>Students estimated to graduate (after applying single reduction of 1%)</u>
2019	534	529 <i>estimated</i>
2020	576	570 <i>estimated</i>
2021	568	562 <i>estimated</i>
2022	573	567 <i>estimated</i>

Figure 5. All New Zealand medical school graduates – by gender

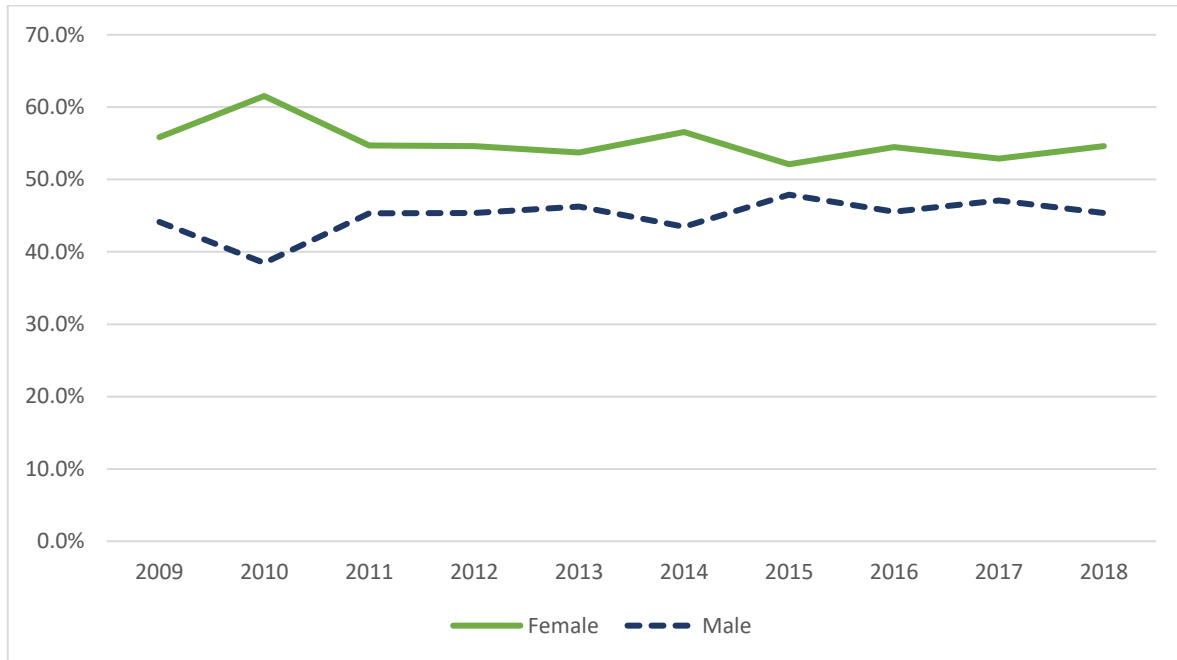
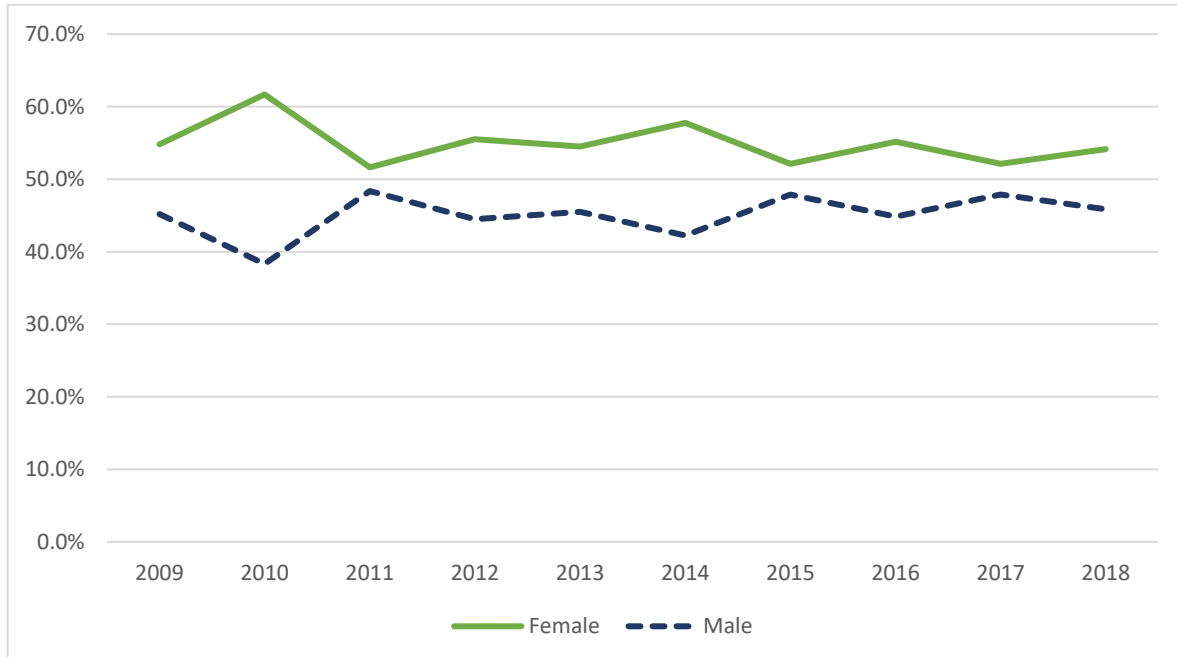


Figure 6. Domestic New Zealand medical school graduates – by gender



Indigenous graduating students

In 2018, 42 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors graduated from medical programs in Australia. A 57% increase on 5 years ago. There were 70 Māori doctors who graduated from New Zealand schools.

Table 3. Graduating Indigenous medical students – by year, projected for 2019

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
AUS	7	12	8	13	11	15	14	24	35	44	35	49	42	46
NZ	29	26	22	30	33	35	34	44	77	49	70	90

Figure 7. Graduating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from Australian medical schools

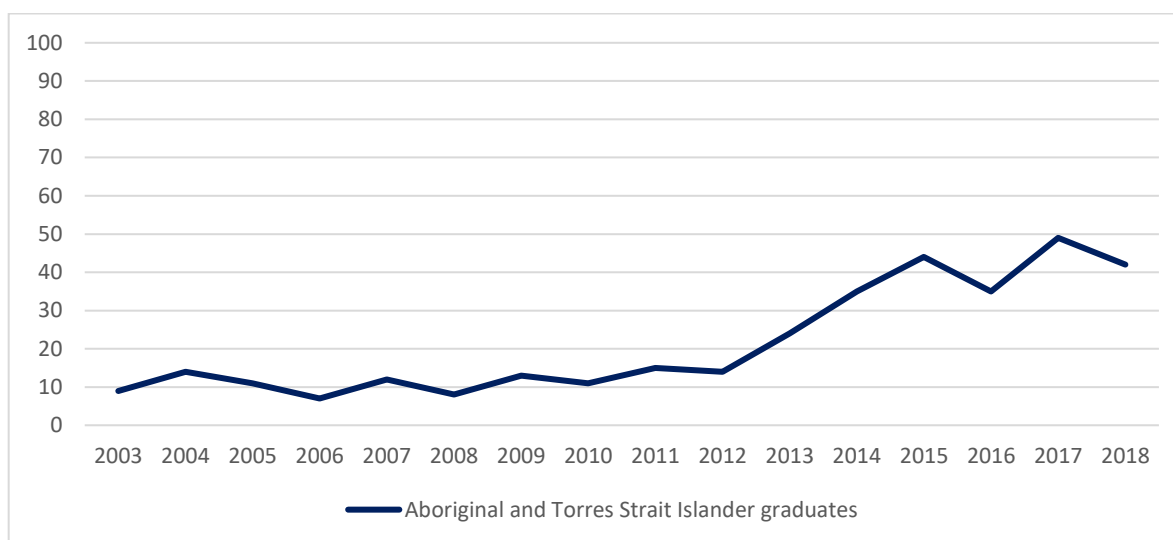
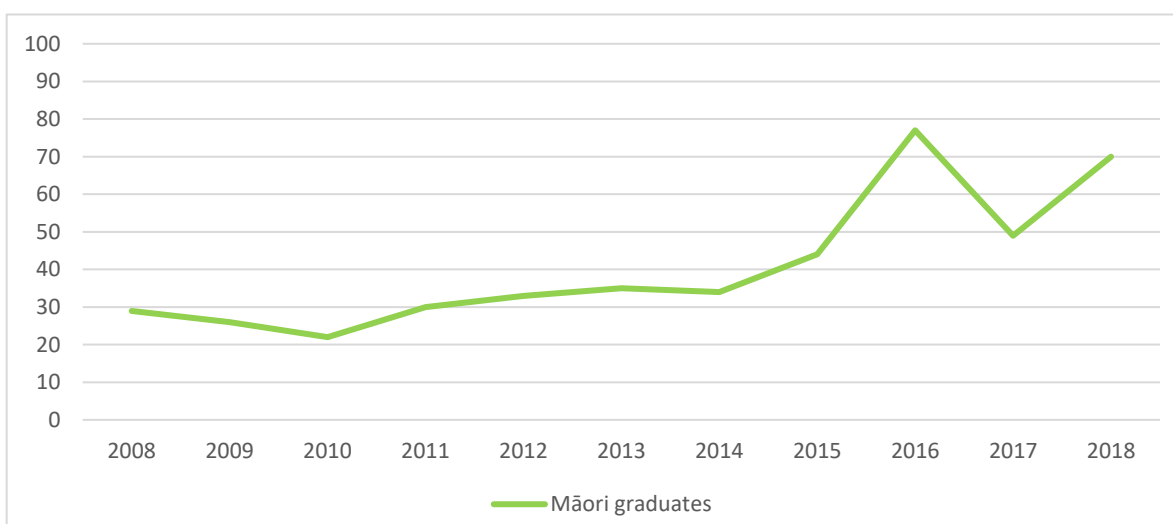


Figure 8. Graduating Māori students from New Zealand medical schools



Since 2013, there has been a 57% increase in the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduates and the number of Maori graduates has doubled.

2019 Commencements

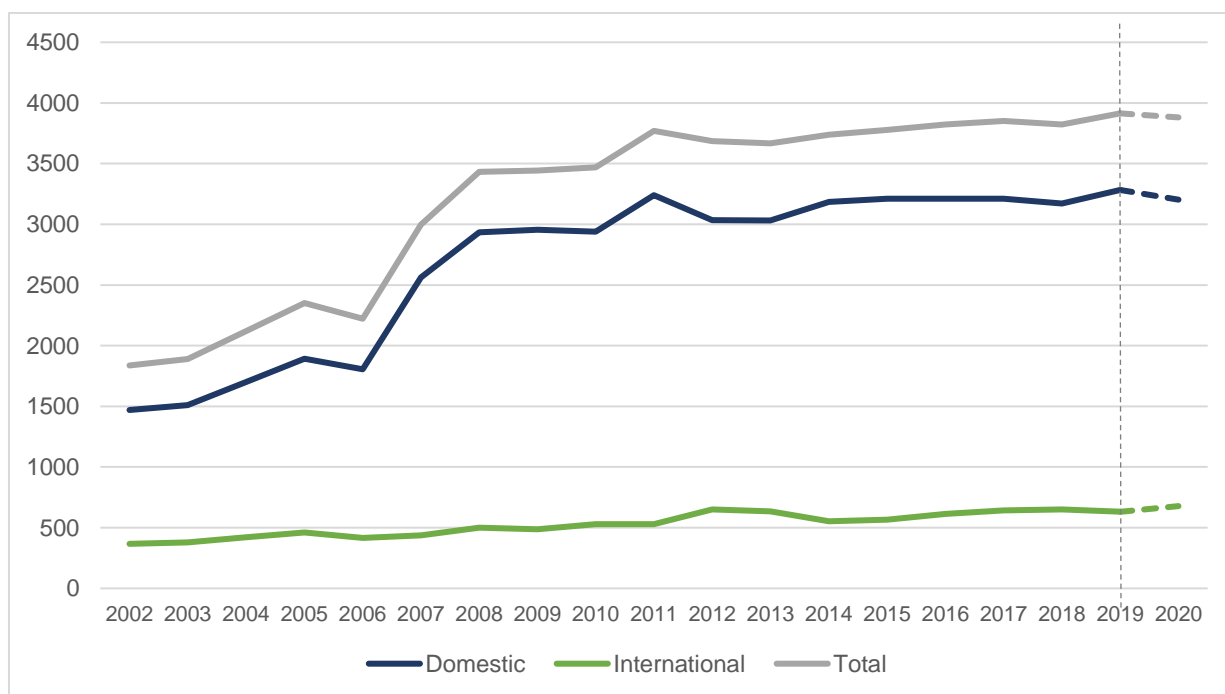
Australia

In 2019 there were 3,914 commencing medical students in Australia, comprising 3,283 domestic and 631 international students (Table 4). Following the period of rapid growth from 2006, the numbers started to plateau in 2011 and are expected to remain stable in the coming years, with 3,881 projected commencements in 2020.

Table 4. Students commencing at Australian medical schools

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Domestic students																	
1470	1511	1699	1892	1805	2562	2934	2955	2940	3241	3035	3032	3185	3210	3210	3211	3171	3283
International students																	
367	378	421	460	417	436	499	487	529	529	651	636	552	567	613	642	651	631
TOTAL students																	
1837	1889	2120	2352	2222	2998	3433	3442	3469	3770	3686	3668	3737	3777	3823	3853	3822	3914

Figure 9. Commencing students at Australian medical schools



* Dashed lines indicate projected figures for 2020

The number of commencing Australian medical students has been stable over the last four years

Gender

51.9% of commencing students in medical schools in Australia were female, slightly lower than the previous year. The gender balance is broadly similar in each entry scheme with the exception of bonded placements.

Note: a few students identified as indeterminate/intersex/unspecified, however are excluded from these tables and figures due to low numbers.

Figure 10. All commencements at Australian medical schools – by gender

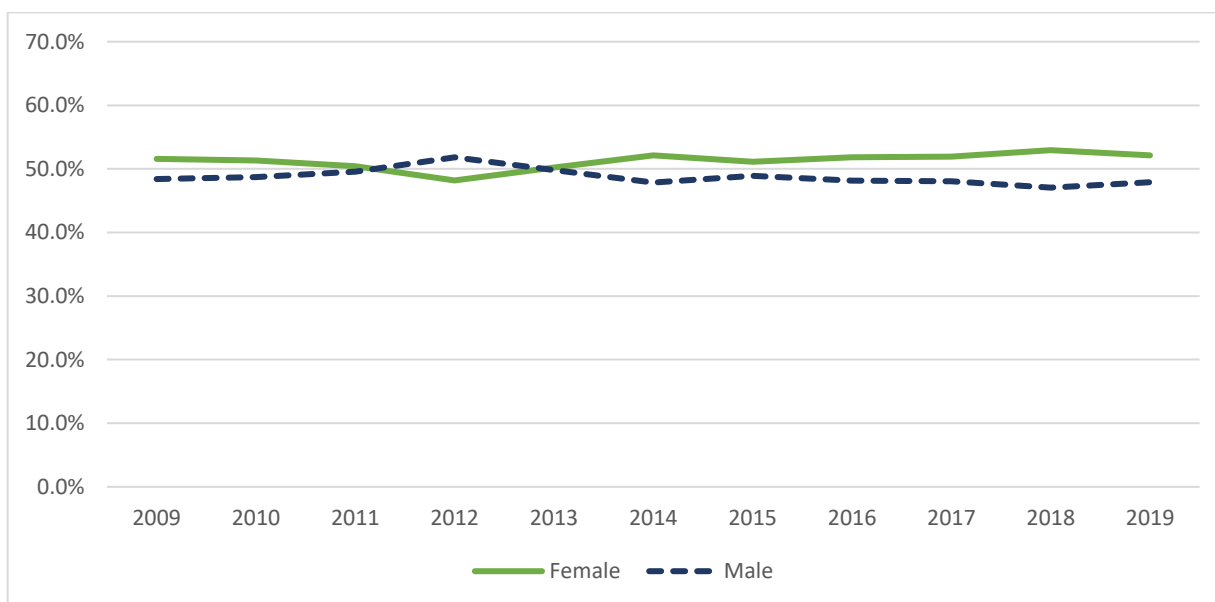
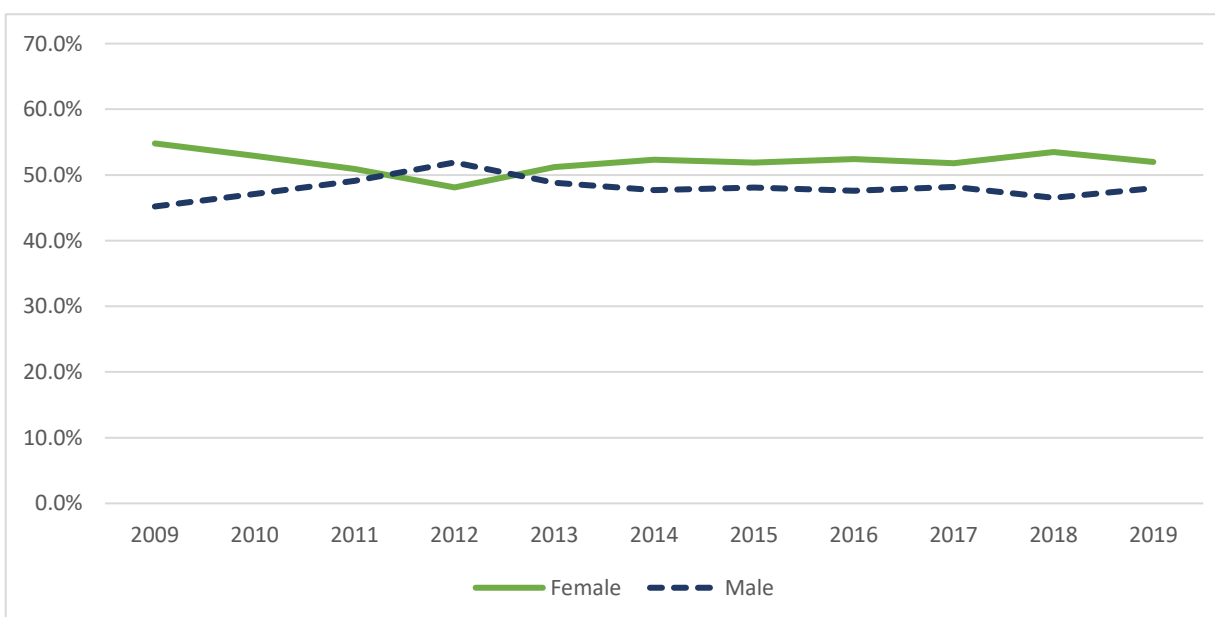


Figure 11. Domestic commencements at Australian medical schools – by gender

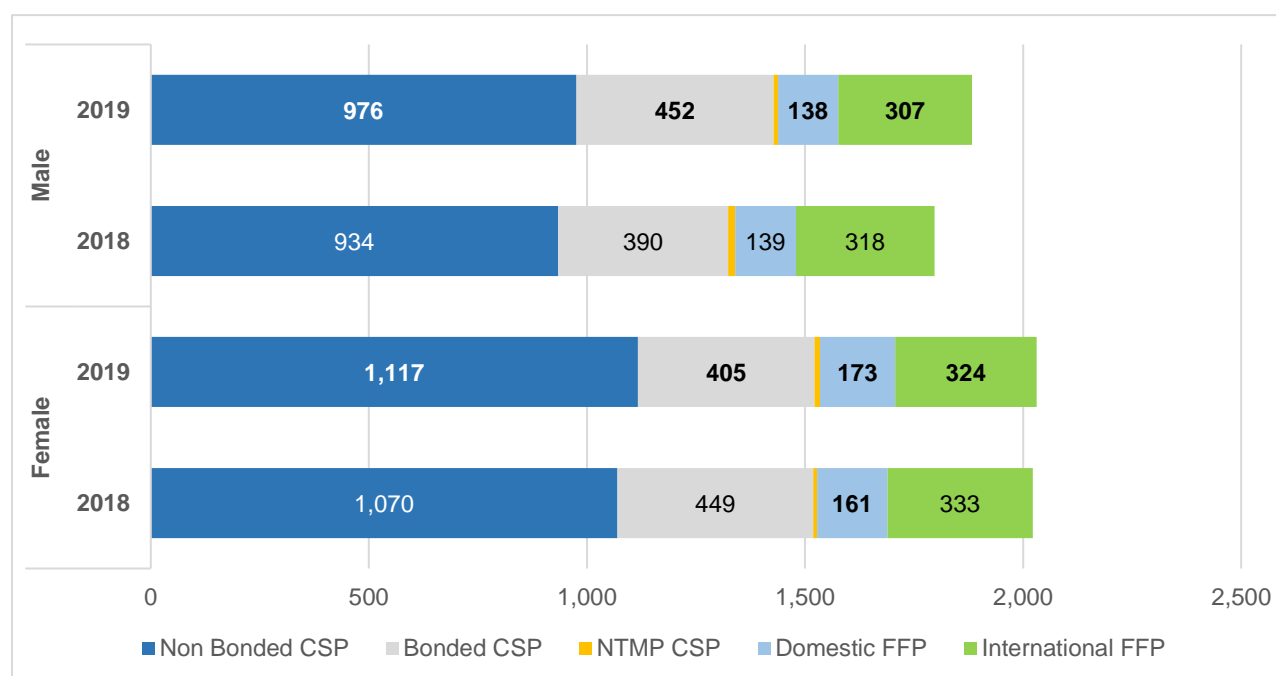


Entry schemes

Table 5. Commencing students at Australian medical schools – by gender and entry scheme

	Non Bonded CSP		Bonded CSP		Other (NTMP) CSP		Domestic FFP		International FFP		TOTAL	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
2019	1,117	976	405	452	12	10	173	138	324	307	2,031	1,883
2018	1,070	934	449	390	9	16	161	139	333	318	2,022	1,797

Figure 12. Australian medical school commencements – by gender and entry scheme in 2019



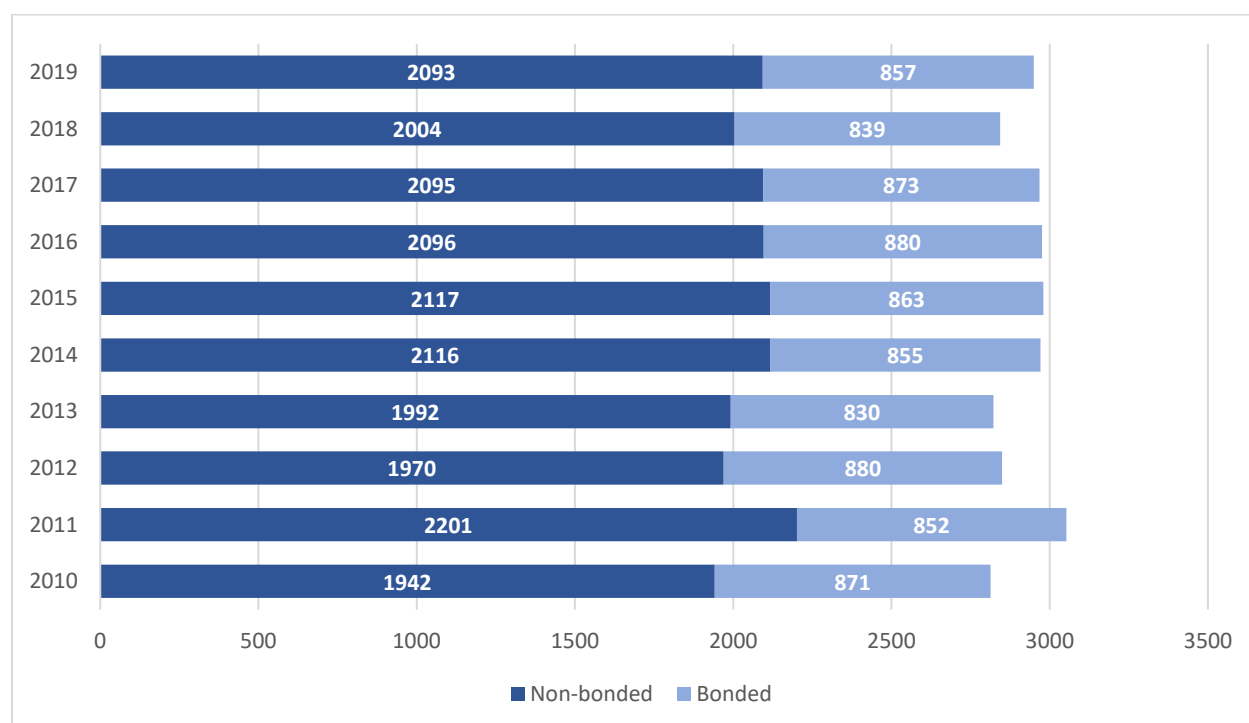
26% of Australian domestic graduates in 2019 were in bonded places

Commonwealth Supported Places

In Australia, 2019 saw an increase in the number of non-bonded Commonwealth Supported Places (CSPs) among commencing students, taking them back to the levels of 2016 and 2017, while there were fewer bonded CSPs. 26.0% of 2019 commencing domestic students were in the Commonwealth's Bonded Medical Program (BMP) scheme, in which the participant accepts a CSP and agrees to work in an area of workforce shortage for a period of time. This is slightly lower than 2018, when it was 26.8%.

Figure 13. Australian medical school commencements – by Commonwealth-Supported Places (CSPs)

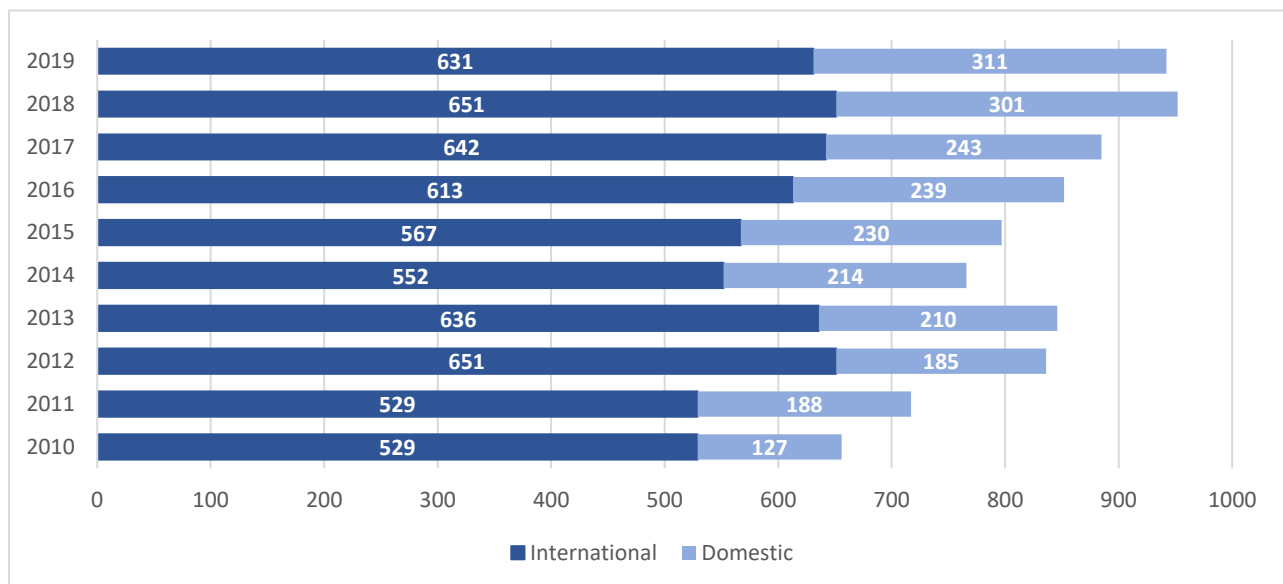
Note: the bonded numbers in Figure 13 include those in the Northern Territory Medical Program (NTMP), who do not fall under the Bonded programs (BMP or MRBS schemes).



Full-Fee Paying students

Across medical school in Australia in 2019, 9.5% of domestic commencing students were full fee paying (FFP), similar to 2018 but an increase from 7.6% on 2017 (which can be attributed primarily to the first cohort of Macquarie University's new medical program commencing in 2018). The proportion of commencing international students compared to total commencing students fell to 16.1% in 2019 from 17.0% in 2018. This has gone against the trend of previous years which had seen a gradual increase from 14.8% in 2014.

Figure 14. Australian medical school commencements – by full fee paying (FFP) places



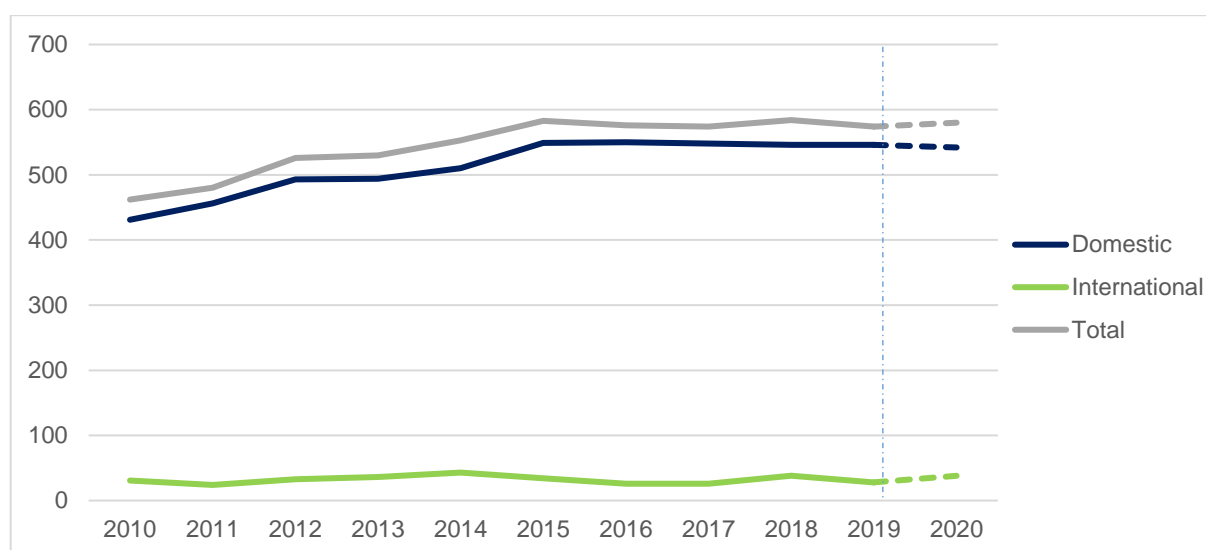
New Zealand

In New Zealand there were 546 domestic and 38 international commencing medical students in 2019. After a gradual increase of total commencements from 2010 to 2015, numbers have plateaued with a projection of 580 commencements in 2020.

Table 6. Students commencing at New Zealand medical schools

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Domestic	374	431	456	493	494	483	549	550	548	546	546
International	31	24	33	36	43	34	26	26	38	28	38
TOTAL	405	455	489	529	537	517	575	576	586	574	584

Figure 15. Commencements across New Zealand medical schools



* Dashed lines indicate projected numbers

Gender

Figure 16. All commencements across New Zealand medical schools – by gender

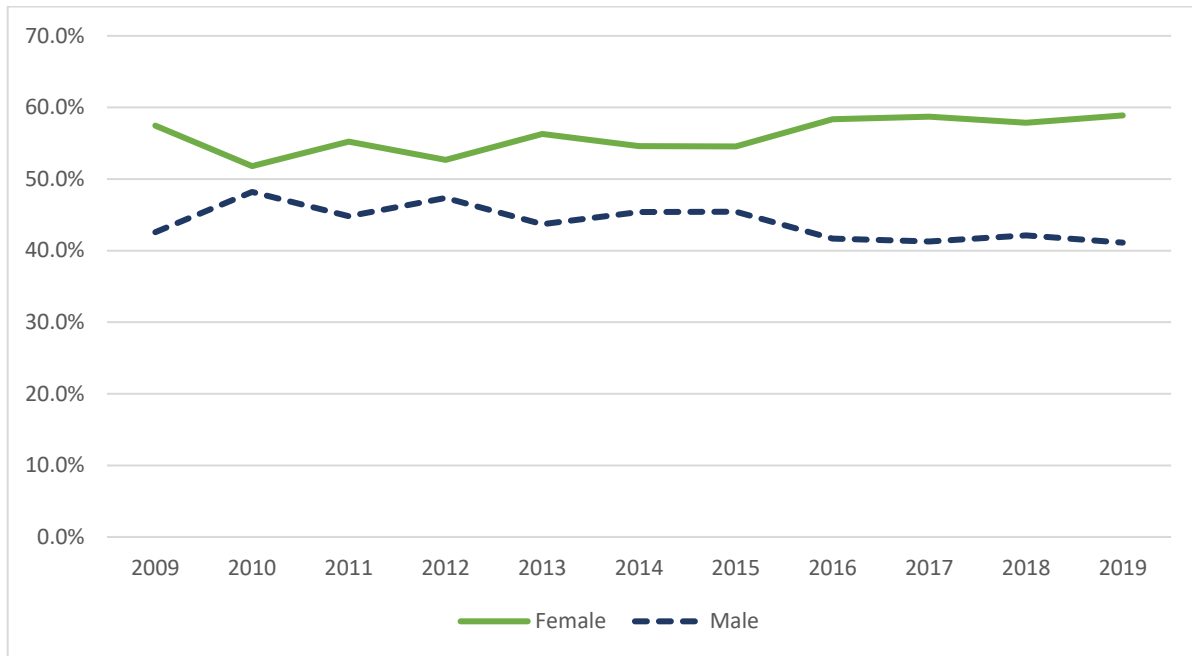
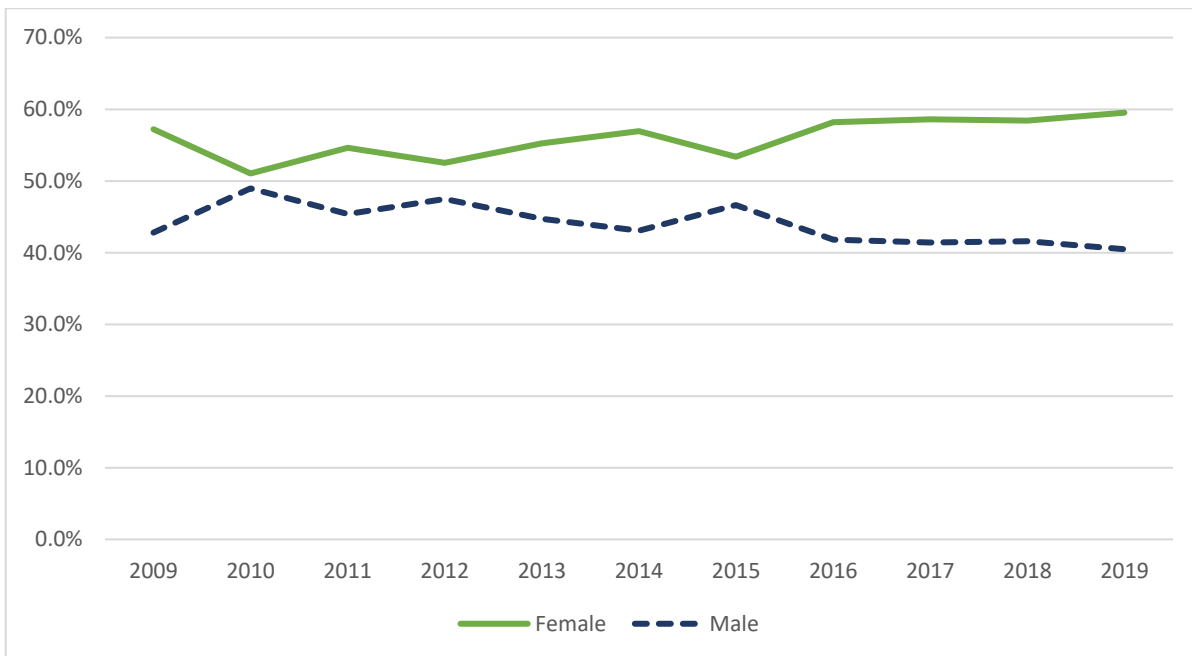


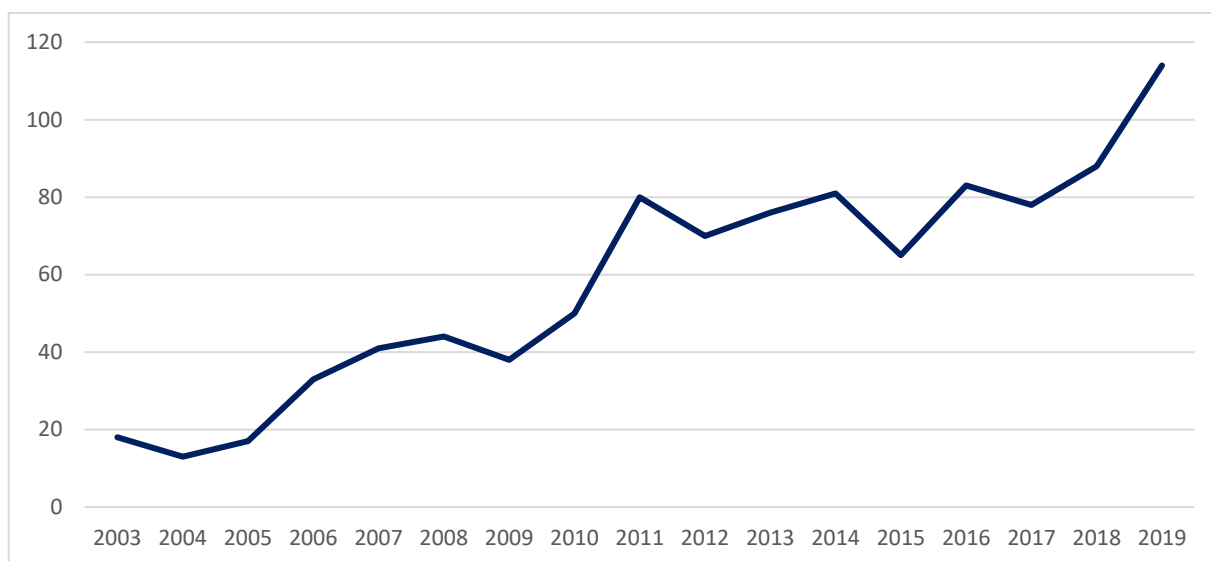
Figure 17. Domestic commencements across New Zealand medical schools – by gender



Indigenous commencing students

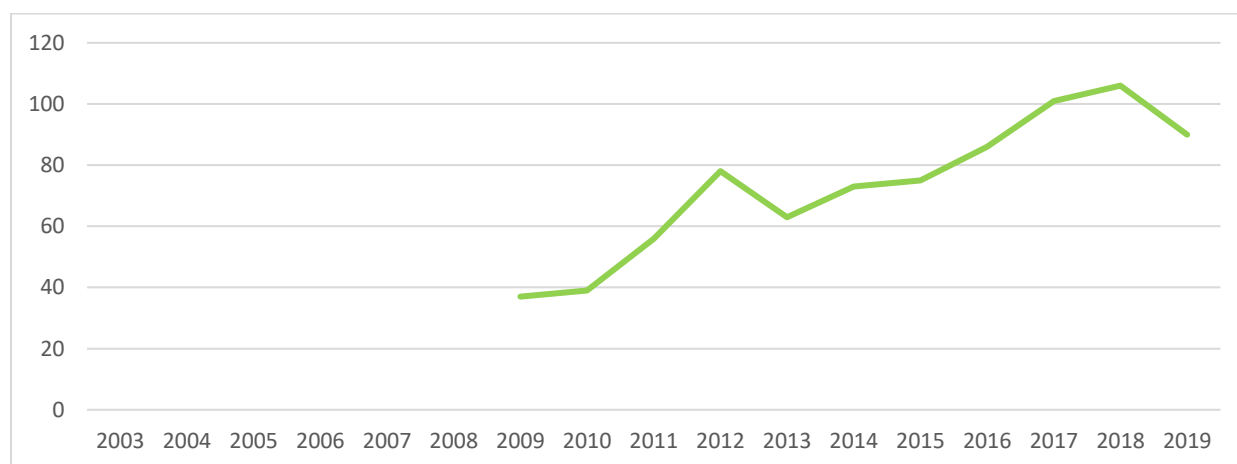
In 2019 114 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students started year one of medicine, which is 3.5% of domestic commencing Australian medical students, a 29.5% increase from 2018.

Figure 18. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student commencements at Australian medical schools



In New Zealand there were 90 commencing Māori medical students, comprising 16.5% of the domestic cohort.

Figure 19. Māori student commencements at New Zealand medical schools



2019 has seen the highest numbers of commencing Indigenous medical students in Australia, with nearly 30% growth since 2018

Total Enrolments in 2019

Australia

In 2019 there were a total of 17,459 students enrolled in Australian medical schools; comprising 14,601 (83.6%) domestic and 2,858 (16.4%) international students.

Table 7. Enrolled Australian medical students

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Domestic	12,946	13,956	14,177	14,266	14,384	14,424	14,498	14,388	14,284	14,601
International	2,451	2,535	2,691	2,727	2,483	2,535	2,580	2,668	2,768	2,858
TOTAL AUS	15,397	16,491	16,868	16,993	16,867	16,959	17,078	17,056	17,052	17,459

Figure 20. Enrolled students in Australian medical schools – domestic and international

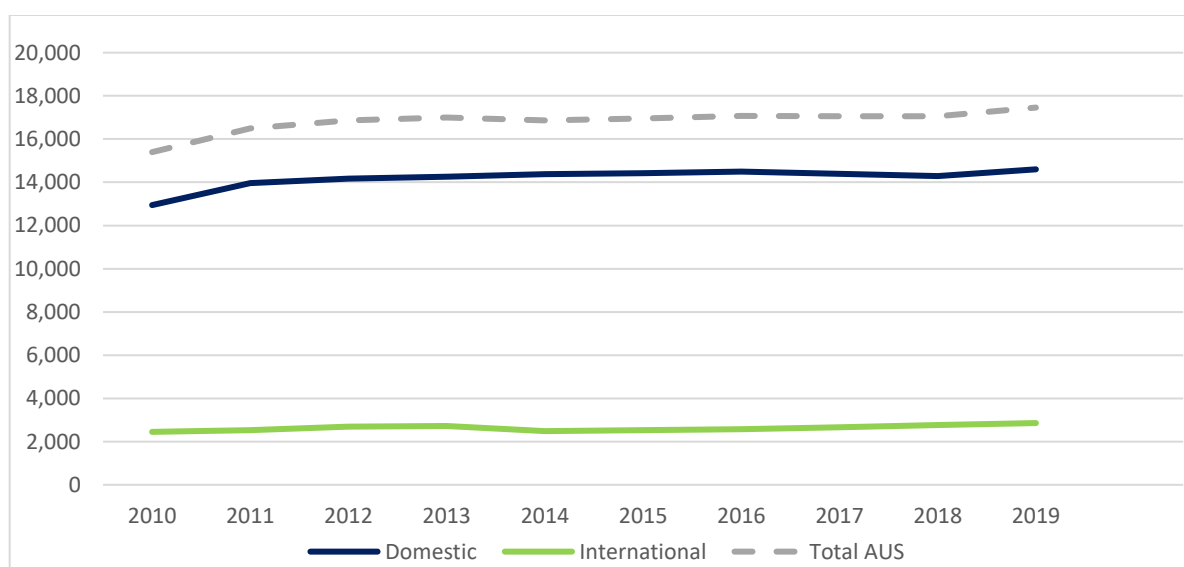
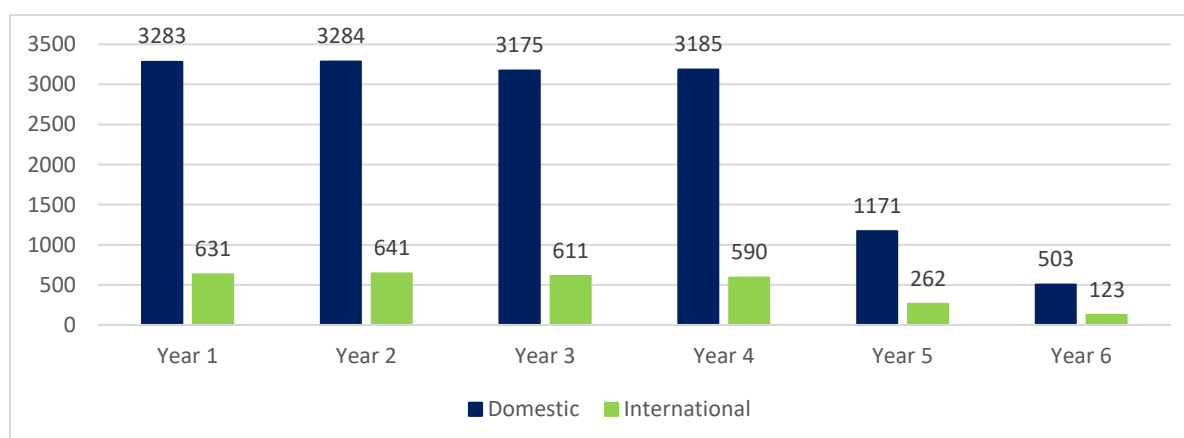


Figure 21. Enrolled students in Australian medical schools – by year of course in 2019



Gender

Note: These figures do not include the small number of students who identified as indeterminate / intersex / unspecified

Figure 22. All Enrolments across Australian medical schools – by gender

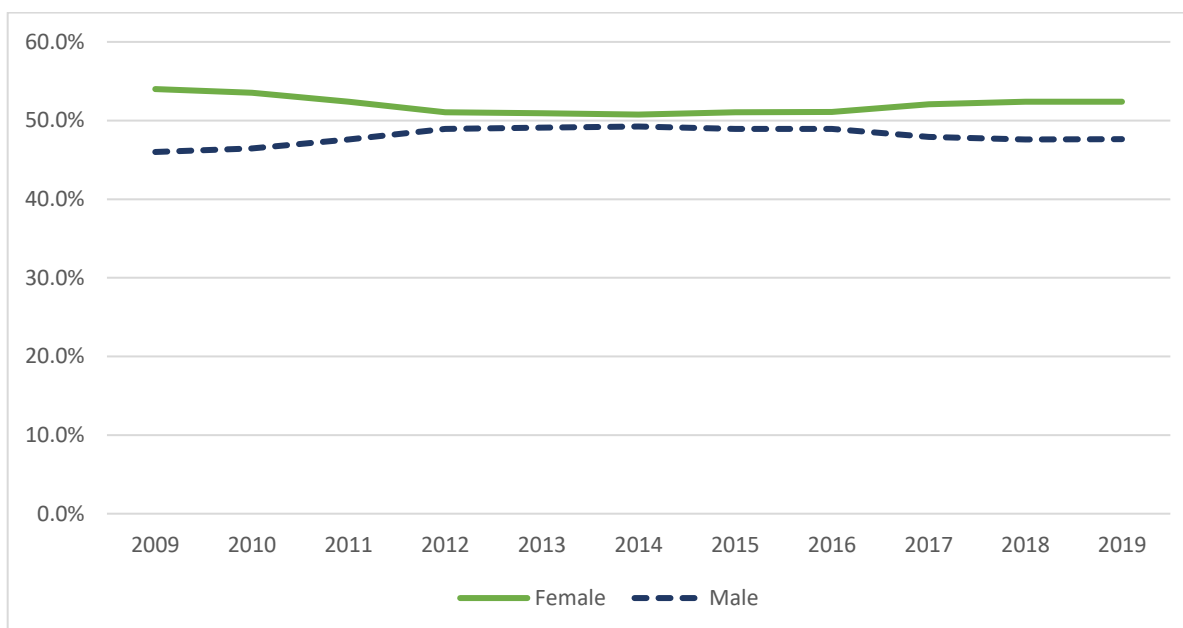
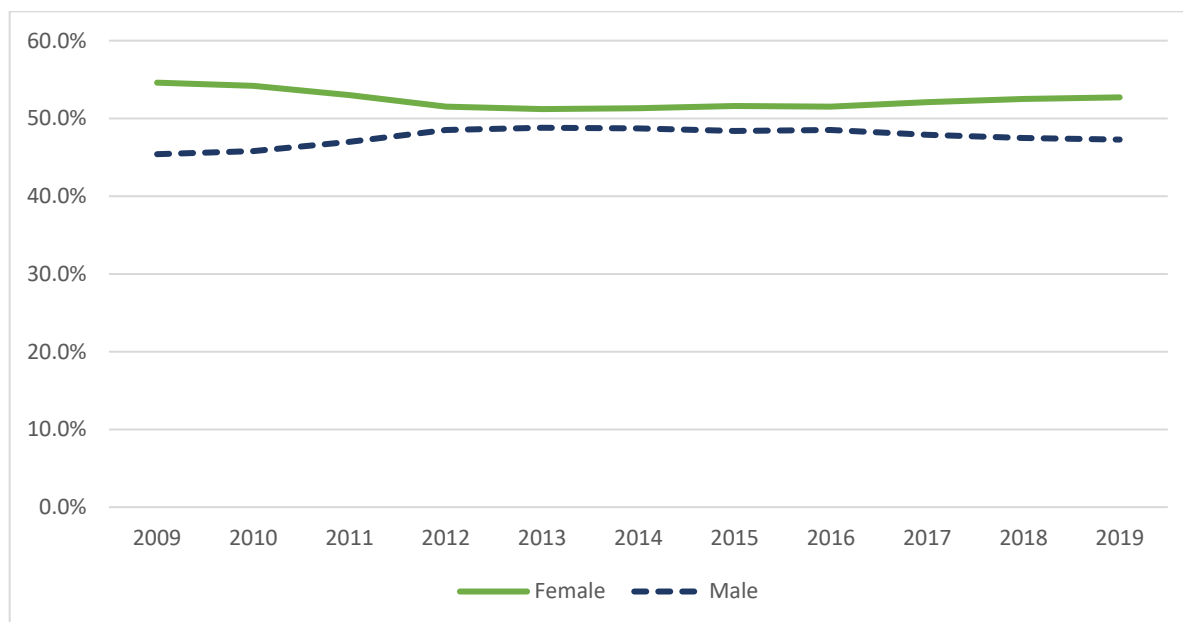


Figure 23. Domestic Enrolments across Australian medical schools – by gender



The trend of slightly more female enrolments across Australian medical schools remains steady

New Zealand

In New Zealand medical schools in 2019 there were 2,825 total enrolments, comprising 2,692 domestic and 133 international students (Table 8). The breakdown of these numbers across cohort years is illustrated in Figure 14.

Table 8. Enrolled New Zealand medical students

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Domestic	1,810	1,944	2,071	2,220	2,335	2,442	2,548	2,578	2,657	2,692
International	297	265	224	188	167	163	155	143	151	133
TOTAL NZ	2,107	2,209	2,295	2,408	2,502	2,605	2,703	2,721	2,808	2,825

Figure 24. Enrolled New Zealand medical students, domestic and international – by year

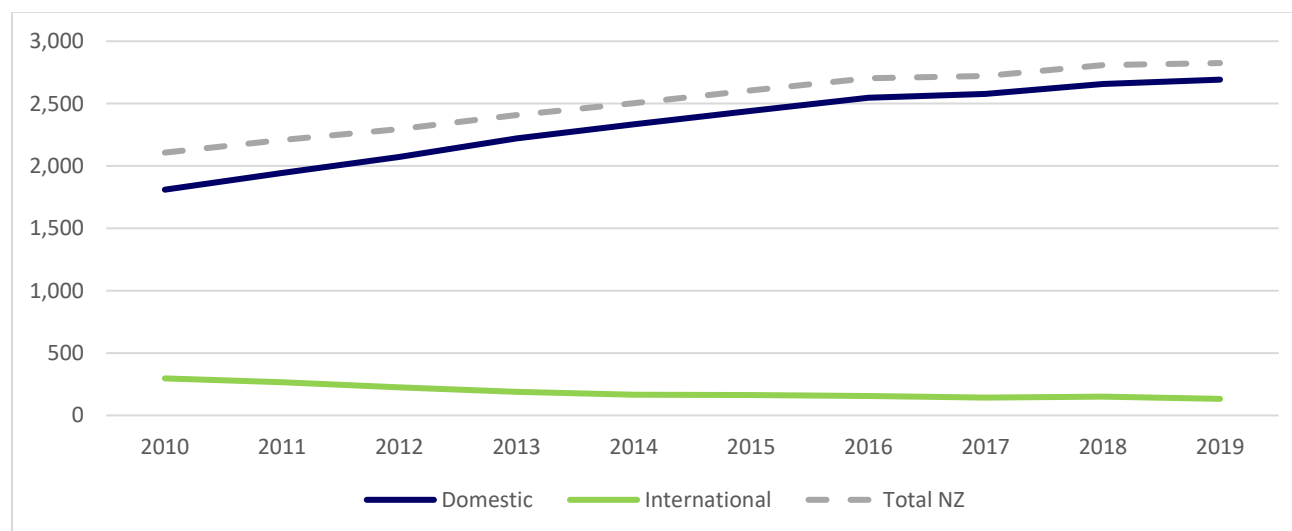
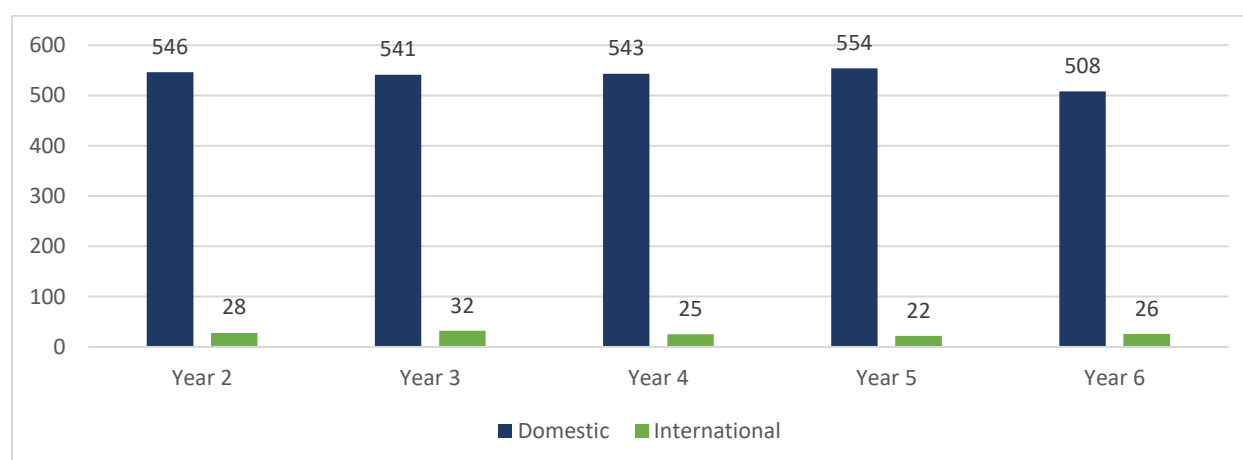


Figure 25. New Zealand medical student enrolments – by year of course in 2019



***Note:** All New Zealand students commence studying medicine in Year 2, as the first year is a foundation year in a Biomedical or Health Sciences course.*

Gender

Figure 26. All Enrolments at New Zealand medical schools – by gender

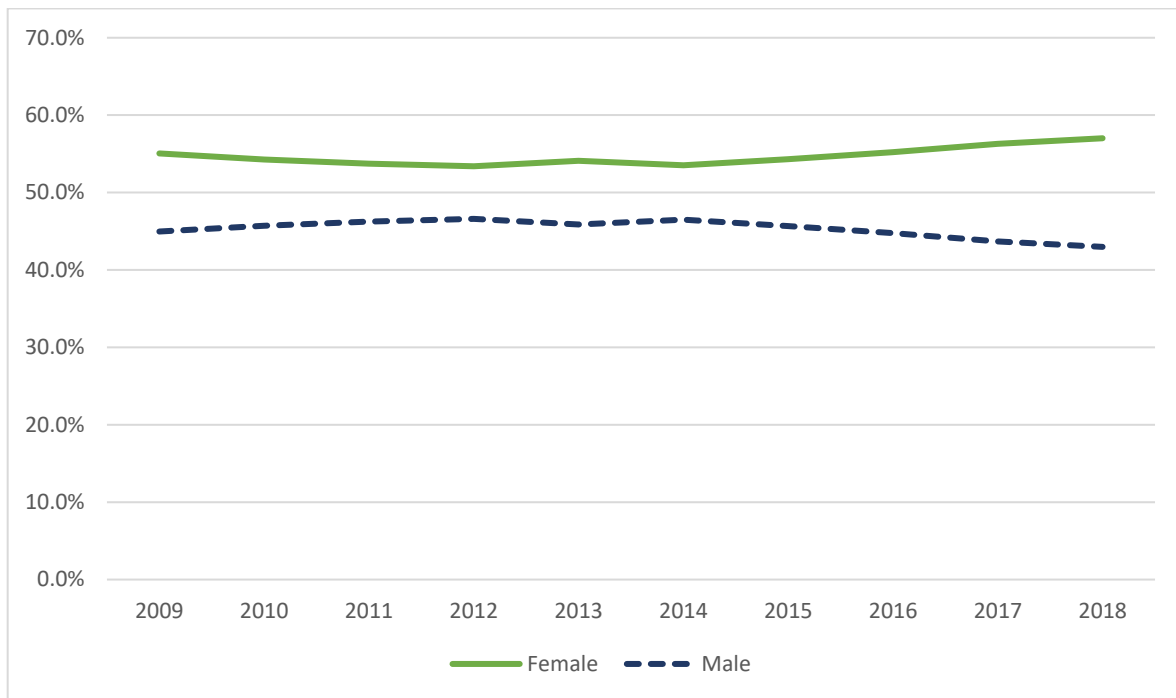
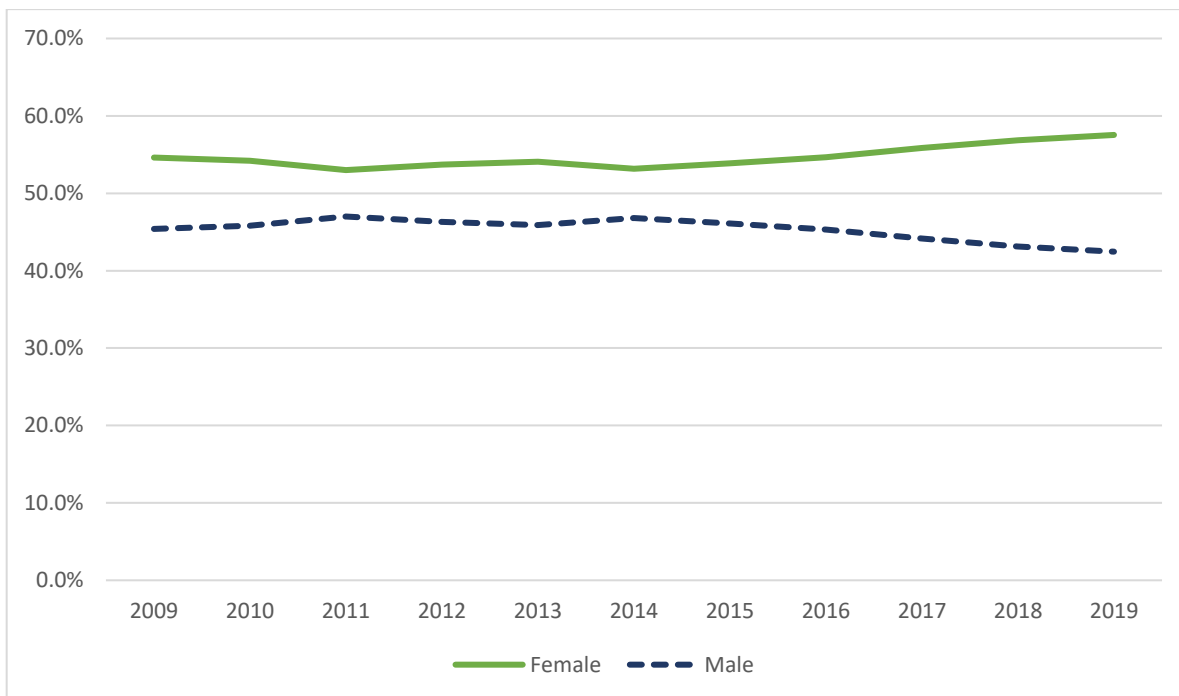


Figure 27. Domestic Enrolments at New Zealand medical schools – by gender



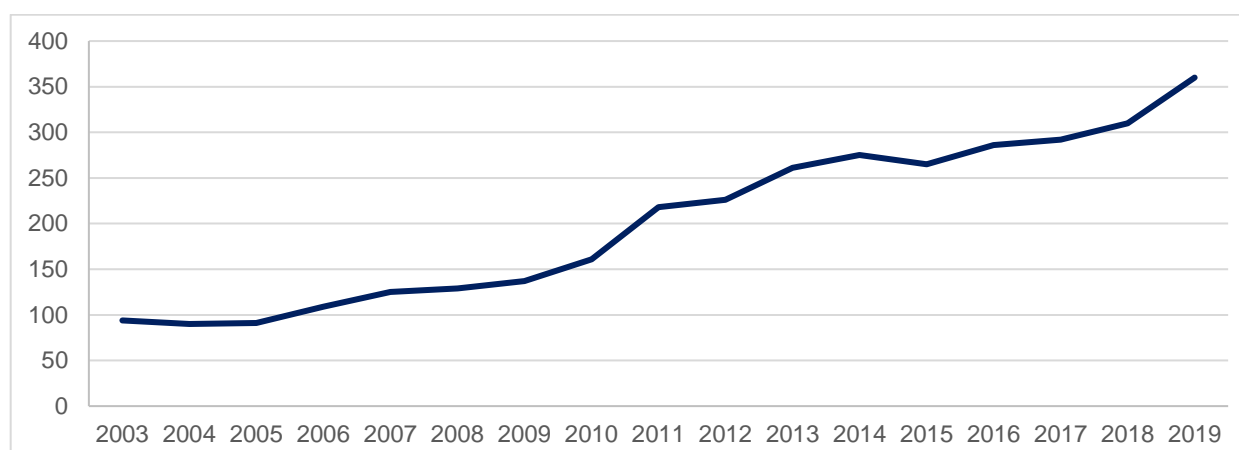
Indigenous enrolled students

In **Australian** medical schools in 2019 there were 360 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student enrolments; 2.5% of domestic enrolments.

Table 9. Enrolled Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical students

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
94	90	91	109	125	129	137	161	218	226	261	275	265	286	292	310	360

Figure 28. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student enrolments in Australian medical schools

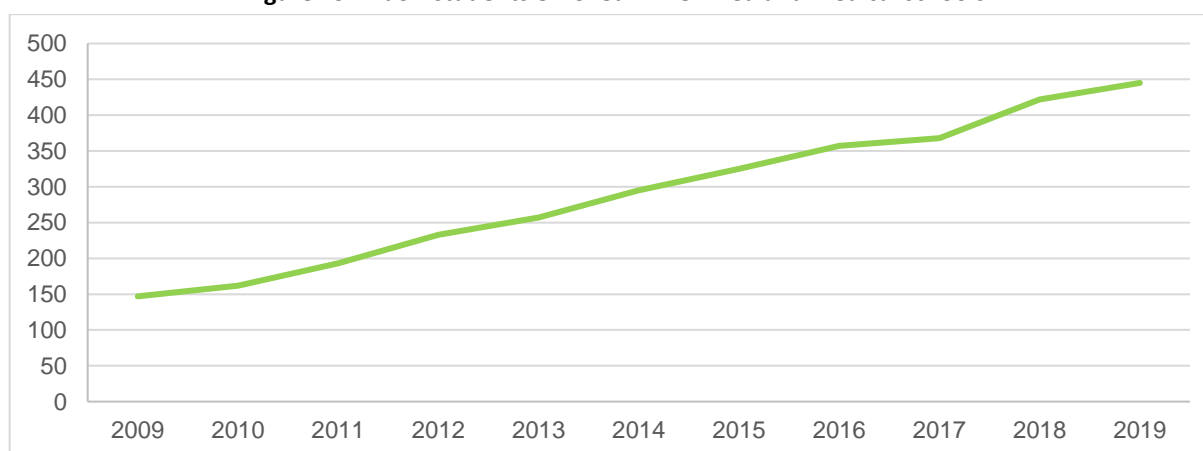


In 2019, there were 445 Māori students enrolled in **New Zealand** medical schools. This was 16.5% of enrolled domestic New Zealand students.

Table 10. Enrolled Māori students

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
147	162	193	233	257	295	325	357	368	422	445

Figure 29. Māori students enrolled in New Zealand medical schools



BACKGROUND

Medical Deans collates these annual student statistics from data provided by all medical schools across Australia and New Zealand. The collected statistics are stored and managed by Medical Deans, and provides a national source of comprehensive trans-Tasman medical school student and graduate data.

These student statistics are used by Medical Deans to provide our members with collated snapshot and trend information regarding enrolments, commencements, graduates, international, and indigenous student numbers.

The data collected each year is published on the Medical Deans website, and is also provided to the Australian Department of Health for the Medical Education and Training (MET) dataset.

Data and snapshot reports from previous years are available from the Medical Deans' website at <https://medicaldeans.org.au/data/student-statistics-reports/>

User-friendly access to the student statistics data is also available, with the data able to be queried and exported <https://medicaldeans.org.au/data/>

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