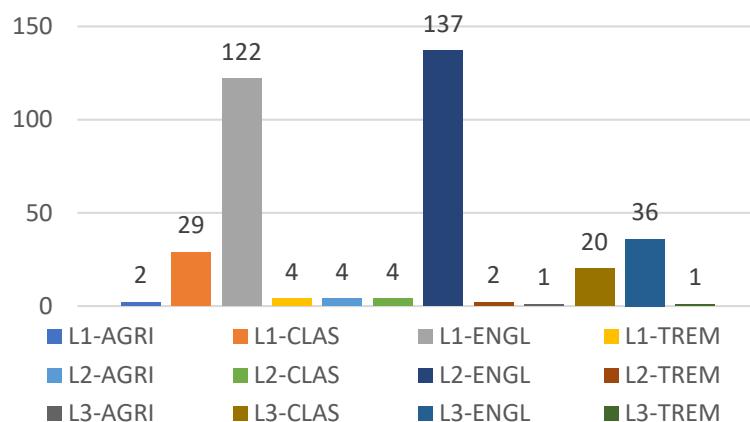


# 2020 Digital Practice Exams – Student Experience

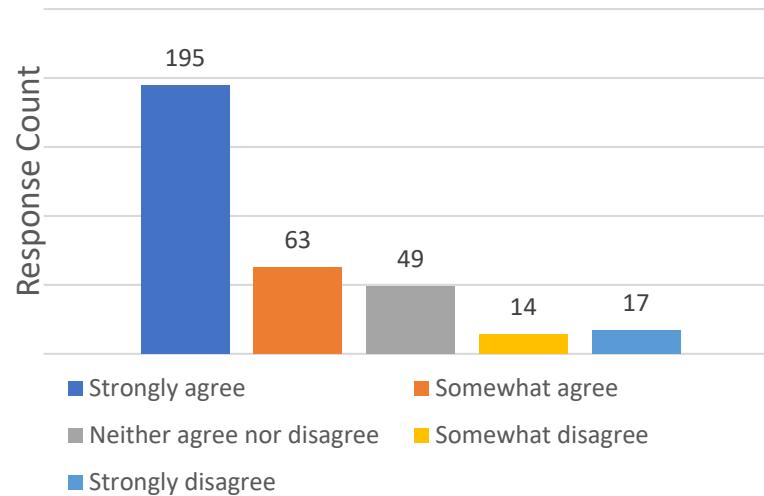
## Key Points:

- ✓ In 2020 NZQA offered 12 digital practice exams in four subjects (English, Classical Studies, Te Reo Māori and Agricultural and Horticultural Science).
- ✓ 6,236 students from 96 schools participated in at least one digital practice exam.
- ✓ 338 students responded to the student survey offered as part of the digital practice exams, giving a response rate of 5.4% which is lower than the rate for recent years' NCEA Online end-of-year exam surveys.
- ✓ Of the 5.4% of students who responded to the post-exam survey, 12.7% (43 of 338) identified as Māori, and 9.2% (31 of 338) as Pacific.
- ✓ Overall, students were very positive about completing practice exams online, with 77.8% of student survey respondents reporting a positive experience.
- ✓ When asked about likes, dislikes and/or anything that should be included in the future, common suggestions from student respondents were:
  - being able to adjust the text box sizes
  - adjust split screens
  - pin the planning box
  - view marker comments
  - improve the spell check and tool bar
  - introduce a 'find' tool
  - have a timer available on screen.

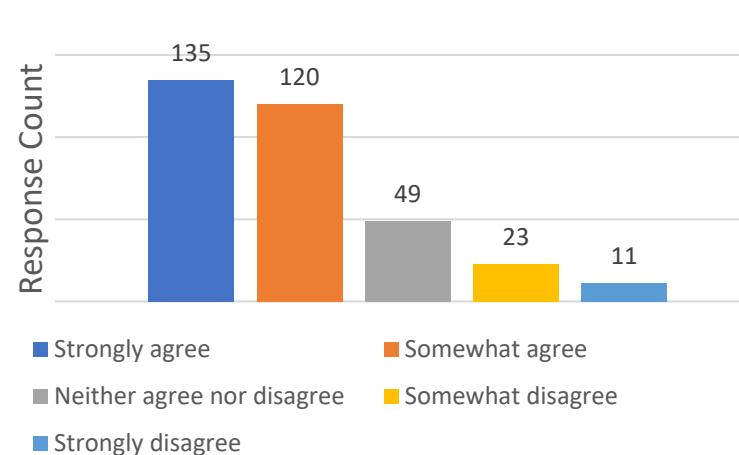
Student survey respondents by digital exam session



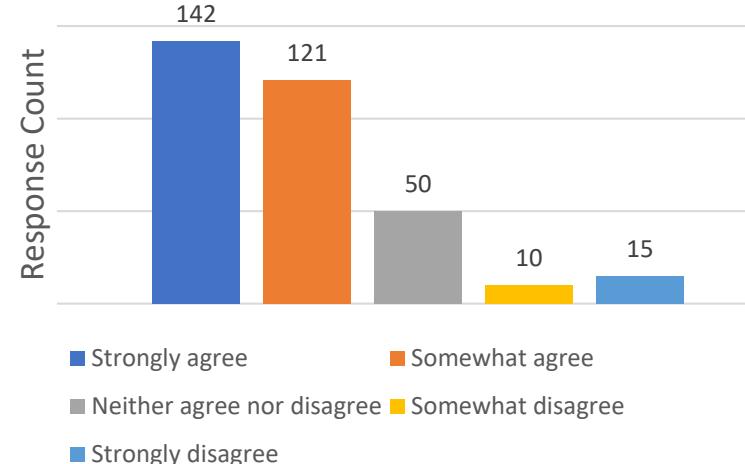
"I preferred completing the exam digitally rather than on paper"



"My digital practice exam has made me more confident about doing my NCEA exams online"



"Overall, I found doing my practice exam(s) digitally was a positive experience"



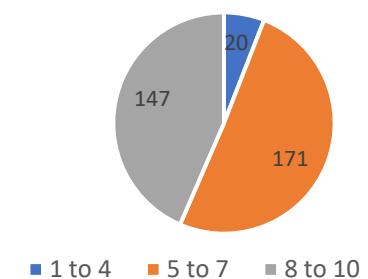
## Percentages of student respondents who agreed with these statements:

- "I preferred completing the exam digitally rather than on paper." (76.3%)
- "My digital practice exam has made me more confident about doing my NCEA exams online." (75.4%)
- "Overall, I found doing my practice exam(s) digitally was a positive experience." (77.8%)
- "It was easy to find my way around the digital exam." (82.5%)
- "It was easy to enter my responses to the digital exam." (81.7%)

## Device use

- 82.5% of student respondents reported experiencing no network or device problems while accessing or completing their digital exam.
- 32.8% of student respondents reported using a school-provided device to complete their digital exam.
- 67.2% of student respondents reported using their own device to complete their digital exam, as follows:
  - 44.2% of Māori respondents
  - 32.3% of Pacific respondents
  - 73.8% of non-Māori/non-Pacific respondents

Student respondents by their school's decile band



## Preparation

Students responding to the survey said they prepared for their practice exams as follows:

- ✓ tried a past digital exam on the NZQA website (22.5%)
- ✓ watched a video on the NZQA website (18.0%)
- ✓ checked their device on the NZQA website (21.6%)
- ✓ discussed the digital practice exam in class (58.0%)
- ✓ created or checked their NCEA login (60.9%)
- ✓ didn't prepare for their digital practice exam (10.1%)

## Key points:

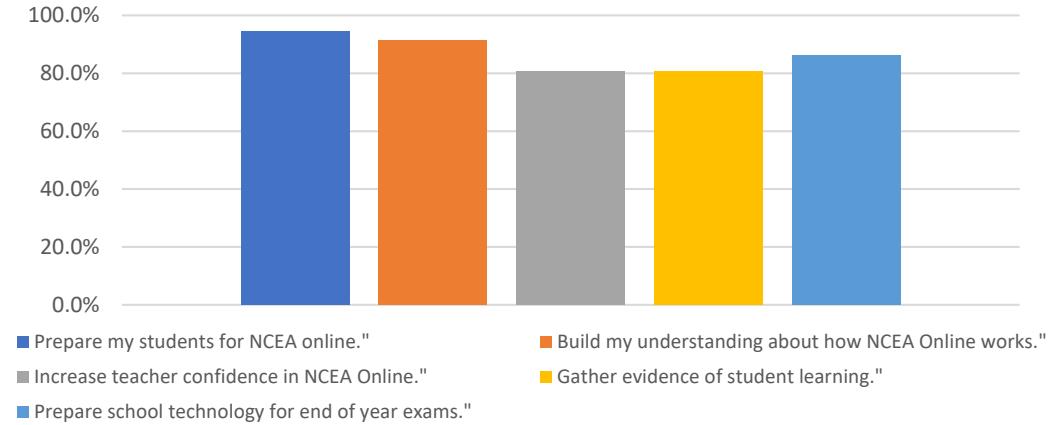
- ✓ Schools told us the impacts of COVID-19 would make it especially useful to have some of their practice exams on the same platform as end of year NCEA exams.
- ✓ Digital practice exams were available to schools for the four weeks from 31 August to 25 September 2020. Schools chose the week that they intended to participate in the practice exams.
- ✓ NZQA worked with three subject associations to offer their digital practice exams for English, Agriculture and Horticulture Science and Classical Studies at Levels 1-3. New content was developed for Te Reo Māori reading standards at Levels 1-3.
- ✓ 6,236 students from 96 schools participated, with 264 students doing more than one session.
- ✓ 96 administrators, 352 supervisors and 375 markers participated, giving survey responses rates of 37.5% for administrators, 14.8% for supervisors, and 13.9% for markers.
- ✓ Of the 96 participating schools, 61 had participated in 2019 NCEA Online exams.
- ✓ Data about schools' and students' participation in 2020 practice exams and end-of-year exams will be available in the evaluation report of NCEA Online 2020.

## Location of schools participating in 2020 digital practice exams

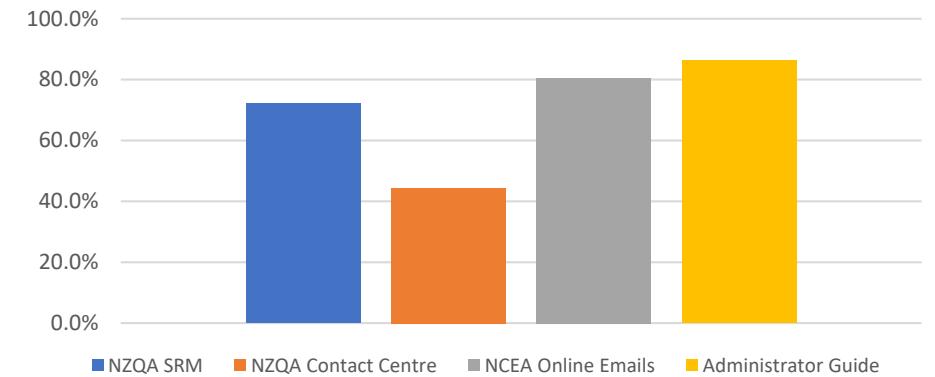


## Administrator survey respondents

Administrator survey respondents who agreed that "The digital practice exams were useful to..."

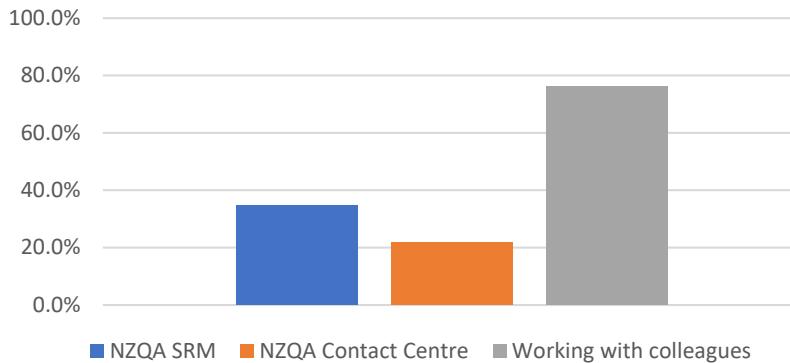


Administrator survey respondents who found the following NZQA support useful:



## Marker survey respondents

Marker survey respondents who found the following NZQA support useful:



## Survey respondents

NZQA received survey responses as follows:

- 338 from students attending 22 unique schools
- 36 from administrators in 33 unique schools
- 52 from supervisors in 33 unique schools
- 52 from markers in 34 unique schools.

## Supervisor survey respondents

Supervisor survey respondents who found the following activities user-friendly and helpful preparation for digital supervision:

