

19 February 2026

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your email, received on 20 January 2026, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki) requesting information regarding Māori outcomes data for Te Tai Tokerau. We support your aspirations to drive collective efforts to improve the lives of tamariki and whānau Māori and are happy to respond to your request. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I have responded to each part of your request below:

Section 78

*Distinct number of Tamariki with section 78 orders by ethnicity or Māori/non-Māori if that is all that is available as above but without Section 78 notice*

As of end of January 2026 there were 290 tamariki or rangatahi in the custody of the Chief Executive in Te Tai Tokerau. Of those, our records show 256 identify as Māori. Please note some of these tamariki and rangatahi also identify with other ethnicities.

The majority of the tamariki and rangatahi in this group are in care under section 101 custody orders, which is a custody order that can be agreed by the Family Court after a section 78 interim custody order.

Please note, 48 of this group were under section 78 orders, and 45 of the 48 had entered custody on without notice section 78 orders.

Investing in iwi and Māori

*Percentage of all service contract funding with iwi and Māori organisations*

*\$ spend with Māori/iwi providers*

*Percentage increase on previous year \$ spend*

*Number of iwi Māori providers*

Please find the information you have requested in **Appendix A Table One**, attached to this response.

### Placements

*Percentage of Tamariki Māori in care for more than three months living with a caregiver, who are placed with Māori, non-whanau caregivers*

*Percentage of Tamariki Māori in care for more than three months living with a caregiver, who placed with whanau*

*Percentage (%) of tamariki Māori in care who are placed with at least one other sibling who is also in care*

*Number of tamariki Māori in care who have siblings also in care*

*Number of tamariki Māori siblings placed together*

As of 31 January 2026, there are 245 tamariki Māori in Te Tai Tokerau with an open placement record. Of those:

- 153 (62%) are with Whānau
  - 112 are placed with Whānau caregivers
  - 41 are in Return or Remain home placements.

As of 31 December 2025:

- 82 (81%) Māori tamariki in Te Tai Tokerau are placed alongside one sibling
- 15 (83%) Māori/Pacific tamariki in Te Tai Tokerau are placed alongside one sibling.

### Leaving care

*Percentage of tamariki Māori referred for another youth justice family group conference in the six months following release*

*Percentage admitted to a youth justice residence who are tamariki Māori*

There are no youth justice residences in Te Tai Tokerau region. Young people from the region may be placed in one of the five youth justice residences across the country, depending on their legal status and individual needs.

As of 21 January 2026, there are fewer than 10 rangatahi in youth justice residences who are associated with a Te Tai Tokerau Oranga Tamariki site. As the number is low and may result in identification, in order to protect the privacy of individuals we are unable provide the number, in accordance with section 9(2)(a) of the Act. However, we can advise of those rangatahi, 83% identify as Māori.

*Percentage of eligible rangatahi Māori referred to a transition worker*

*Percentage of eligible rangatahi Māori who have been offered a referral to Transition Support Services*

Please find the information you have requested in **Appendix A Table Two**, attached to this response.

### Re-entry to care

*Percentage of tamariki Māori exiting out-of-home placements in the 18 months prior who re-entered an out-of-home placement*

*Year-on-Year number and percentage of tamariki Māori exiting out-of-home placements in the 18 months prior who re-entered an out-of-home placement (age groups 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15,16 17, total)*

Please find the information you have requested in **Appendix A Table Three**, attached to this response.

Transition

*Numbers of young people eligible for transition from care to independence in previous five year and the coming five years by year, by age brackets 15-16 years (planning), 16 to 21(transition support worker); 21-25 (Assistance from transition line); including those who have a disability*

*Needs of those in transition services - housing, health, education, employment. Include young parents, disabled young people including FASD, Maori and Pacific, Rainbow, from youth justice residences categories.*

*Regional numbers of funded TSS partners and transition worker FTE (Oranga Tamariki data) and eligible young people in the region (refer to table 1.*

*<https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/About-us/Research/Latest-research/Transition-Support-Service-four-year-evaluation/TSS-Evaluation-report.pdf>)*

Please find the information you have requested in **Appendix A Table Four and Table Five**, attached to this response.

In response to your request regarding Transition Support Services (TSS), Oranga Tamariki does not hold structured data about the needs of those in transition services. The TSS evaluation [TSS-Evaluation-report.pdf](#) and the Ngā Haerenga longitudinal study [Ngā Haerenga | Transition Journeys Phase Three](#) are in depth pieces of research which discuss the needs of the transition cohort.

Additionally, as of 30 September 2025, quarterly provider reporting from Te Tai Tokerau shows that provides the following indicators:

<b>Indicators</b>	<b>% of rangatahi</b>
% of individuals in safe and stable living arrangements*	81%
% of individuals in custody (Youth and Adult Justice Systems)	4%
% of individuals actively engaged in education, training, employment, or volunteering	46%
% of individuals that are parents	12%

Please be advised as this is not individualised reporting, we are unable to provide breakdowns by the different categories listed.

Oranga Tamariki may make the information contained in this letter available to the public by publishing this on our website with any personal details removed.

I trust you find this information useful. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise them with Oranga Tamariki. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Simon Harding  
**Chief Advisor, Tamariki and Whānau Services**

## Appendix A

**Table One - Te Tai Tokerau contracted services**

	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
<b>% of contracted funding with iwi Māori providers</b>	52%	51%
<b>Spend with iwi Māori providers</b>	\$17,818,671.68	\$15,095,948.23
<b>% change from previous year</b>	-	-1%
<b>Number of iwi Māori providers</b>	17	16

Please note information from the 2024/25 financial year has been provided, and compared to the previous financial year, as the last available full year spend.

Categorisation of providers and services as 'Te Tai Tokerau' providers accounts for where the contract is held, and where the service is delivered. Providers and services may span multiple regions.

Categorisation of Iwi Māori providers is self-identified by organisations.

**Table Two – Rangatahi Māori and transition workers in Te Tai Tokerau**

Percentage of Eligible Māori Referred to a Transition Worker (up to age 21)	65%
Percentage of Eligible Māori Offered to work with a Transition Worker (up to age 21)	71%

Please note this is data as of 30 September 2025, and includes all rangatahi who identify as either Māori or Māori & Pacific in the Te Tai Tokerau region, who are eligible for a Transition Worker from the ages of 15 to up to 21 years old.

**Table Three – Out of home placement exits in Te Tai Tokerau**

*Tamariki and rangatahi Māori and Māori and Pacific*

As at 30 November 2026	Distinct exits in the last 18 months Māori	Distinct exits in the last 18 months Māori and Pacific	Distinct re-entries Māori	Distinct re-entries Māori and Pacific	% of re-entries vs exists	% of re-entries vs exists
	107	7	14	1	13%	14%

*Tamariki and rangatahi Māori*

Age	Distinct entries in the last 18 months	Distinct re-entries	% of re-entries vs exists
0 – 1	S	S	0%
2 - 5	22	S	5%
6 – 9	24	S	8%
10 – 13	24	S	8%
14 – 16	28	7	25%
17 – 18	7	S	29%

*Tamariki and rangatahi Māori and Pacific*

Age	Distinct entries in the last 18 months	Distinct re-entries	% of re-entries vs exists
0 – 1	0	0	0
2 - 5	S	0	0
6 – 9	S	0	0
10 – 13	S	0	0
14 – 16	S	S	33%
17 – 18	0	0	0
Total all ages	7	S	14%

Please note this is data as at 30 November 2025. Please note that where the number is low and may result in identification, or can be calculated, this has been suppressed. This is represented by an ‘S’ in the Appendix in order to protect the privacy of individuals in accordance with section 9(2)(a) of the Act. Secondary suppression rules have been applied when required. A total has not been provided for tamariki and rangatahi Māori to prevent the ability to recalculate other suppressed values.

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**Table Four - Numbers of young people eligible for transition support services in Te Tai Tokerau as at the end of the month**

<b>Period End</b>	<b>Age up to 16</b>	<b>Age 16 up to 21</b>	<b>Age 21 up to 25</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
Oct-20	27	191	138	<b>356</b>
Nov-20	26	188	138	<b>352</b>
Dec-20	27	191	139	<b>357</b>
Jan-21	29	189	140	<b>358</b>
Feb-21	30	184	142	<b>356</b>
Mar-21	26	189	142	<b>357</b>
Apr-21	27	185	143	<b>355</b>
May-21	29	186	143	<b>358</b>
Jun-21	21	190	145	<b>356</b>
Jul-21	21	187	147	<b>355</b>
Aug-21	23	189	142	<b>354</b>
Sep-21	24	192	140	<b>356</b>
Oct-21	24	192	141	<b>357</b>
Nov-21	26	187	140	<b>353</b>
Dec-21	32	186	142	<b>360</b>
Jan-22	33	185	142	<b>360</b>
Feb-22	34	181	142	<b>357</b>
Mar-22	39	183	140	<b>362</b>
Apr-22	35	185	141	<b>361</b>
May-22	34	188	142	<b>364</b>
Jun-22	36	182	147	<b>365</b>
Jul-22	37	176	152	<b>365</b>
Aug-22	33	178	154	<b>365</b>
Sep-22	28	179	149	<b>356</b>
Oct-22	25	178	151	<b>354</b>
Nov-22	24	177	152	<b>353</b>
Dec-22	26	178	153	<b>357</b>
Jan-23	25	178	153	<b>356</b>
Feb-23	26	175	157	<b>358</b>
Mar-23	20	180	156	<b>356</b>
Apr-23	23	183	156	<b>362</b>
May-23	21	182	157	<b>360</b>
Jun-23	23	182	158	<b>363</b>
Jul-23	22	183	160	<b>365</b>
Aug-23	21	183	157	<b>361</b>
Sep-23	21	184	153	<b>358</b>
Oct-23	23	182	155	<b>360</b>
Nov-23	24	177	158	<b>359</b>
Dec-23	26	173	157	<b>356</b>
Jan-24	27	172	157	<b>356</b>
Feb-24	26	176	156	<b>358</b>
Mar-24	31	171	154	<b>356</b>
Apr-24	27	174	154	<b>355</b>

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May-24	24	171	158	<b>353</b>
Jun-24	25	167	156	<b>348</b>
Jul-24	28	168	158	<b>354</b>
Aug-24	27	163	159	<b>349</b>
Sep-24	28	162	158	<b>348</b>
Oct-24	26	168	154	<b>348</b>
Nov-24	26	166	154	<b>346</b>
Dec-24	23	165	158	<b>346</b>
Jan-25	23	166	156	<b>345</b>
Feb-25	21	164	154	<b>339</b>
Mar-25	15	168	153	<b>336</b>
Apr-25	17	167	149	<b>333</b>
May-25	20	168	149	<b>337</b>
Jun-25	22	166	147	<b>335</b>
Jul-25	20	166	148	<b>334</b>
Aug-25	22	166	148	<b>336</b>
Sep-25	21	166	150	<b>337</b>

Please note due to eligibility being impacted by the length of care orders and the age at which they are discharged we are unable to predict the number eligible for the future five years, as individual situations may change.

Please also note, *disability* is not recorded in structured data therefore, we are unable to provide a breakdown for disability in this analysis.

Please also note, for those out of custody, their last associated Oranga Tamariki site was used, rangatahi may move after they leave custody so may no longer reside in Te Tai Tokerau.

Additionally, transition planning from Oranga Tamariki social workers will continue up until their 18th birthday or when they leave custody.

**Table Five - Number of regional funded TSS partners and transition worker FTE (Oranga Tamariki data).**

Region	Number of Transition Worker Providers	Number of Contracted FTE	Number of all Transition Worker Eligible Young People	Eligible Young People per Transition Worker FTE	Referral Rate
Te Tai Tokerau	3	6.5	187	29	64%
Auckland	8	35	759	22	66%
Waikato	7	12	290	24	67%
Bay of Plenty	8	13	199	15	72%
East Coast	10	14	258	18	69%
Taranaki and Manawatū	5	11	246	22	71%
Wellington	7	12	212	18	71%
Upper South	3	4.75	77	16	66%
Canterbury	10	17	291	17	76%
Lower South	9	12	156	13	74%
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>137.25</b>	<b>2675</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>69%</b>

Please note, this includes all providers who hold a Transition to Adulthood Contract and their associated FTE by region. This includes the number eligible for a Transition Worker up to 21 years old and the associated referral rate. All information is as of 30 September 2025.