MOTHERS WITH CARE¹ HISTORY

The information below provides insight into the likelihood of a 20-28 year old mother with care and protection history having a baby placed into out of home care².

Findings

Mothers who have a baby (aged 0-2) placed into care

The graph below shows the number of mothers who had a baby (aged 0-2) placed into out of home care, broken down by the care and protection history of the mother³.



Number of mothers with a baby (aged 0-2) placed into out of home care, by

As at June 2018, there were 58,730 mothers aged 20-28 years old.

- 35,570 had no history of care and protection involvement. 160 (0.4%) of these mothers had a baby (aged 0-2) placed into out of home care (40 or 0.3% for Māori)
- 3,100 had a report of concern as a child. 40 (1%) had a baby placed into care (6 or 0.4% for Māori) •
- 11,900 had an assessment as a child. 220 (2%) had a baby placed into care (120 or 2% for Māori) •
- 3,950 had an FGC/FWA⁴ as a child. 180 (5%) had a baby placed into care (100 or 4% for Māori) .
- 4,210 had been in care as a child. 450 (11%) had a baby placed into care (270 or 12% for Māori).

Mothers who have been in care themselves who have a baby placed into care

As at June 2018, there were 4,210 mothers aged 20-28 with care history. Of these:

- 210 (5%) had a baby placed into care in the first 3 months of the child's life •
- 380 (9%) had a baby placed into care in the first year of the child's life
- 450 (11%) had a baby placed into care in the first 2 years of the child's life.

This indicates that almost 90% of mothers with an out of home care experience did not have a baby placed into care in the first 2 years of the child's life. Mothers of Māori ethnicity with a care history themselves had slightly higher rates of children being placed into care (12%), compared with 10% for non-Māori mothers.





Footnotes

Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number, with the exception of percentages under 1% which have been rounded to one decimal place.

¹ Throughout this analysis, 'care' refers to children who have been placed into an out of home care placement. A child is in an out of home placement if they are not able to live in their family home. Out of home care placements can include family/whānau placements, non-family/whānau placements and other placements (e.g. residences, family/group homes and contracted NGO services arrangements).

² Data from the Stats NZ IDI. The cohort looks at all New Zealand mothers aged 20-28 as at June 2018 (NB: due to the digitisation of records in 2000, we are not able to look at an older age cohort of mothers) and cross-references their care and protection history and ethnicity with whether they have had a child placed into out of home care.

³ Care and protection history is split by the mother's highest lifetime history. For example, those who are categorised as having a history of a report of concern, only had a report of concern and no higher interaction.

⁴ Family Group Conference/Family Whānau Agreement

Stats NZ Disclaimer

The results in this document are not official statistics, they have been created for research purposes from the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI), managed by Statistics New Zealand.

The opinions, findings, recommendations, and conclusions expressed in this document are those of the author(s), not Statistics NZ.

Access to the anonymised data used in this study was provided by Statistics NZ in accordance with security and confidentiality provisions of the Statistics Act 1975. Only people authorised by the Statistics Act 1975 are allowed to see data about a particular person, household, business, or organisation, and the results in this document have been confidentialised to protect these groups from identification.

Careful consideration has been given to the privacy, security, and confidentiality issues associated with using administrative and survey data in the IDI. Further detail can be found in the Privacy impact assessment for the Integrated Data Infrastructure available from www.stats.govt.nz.