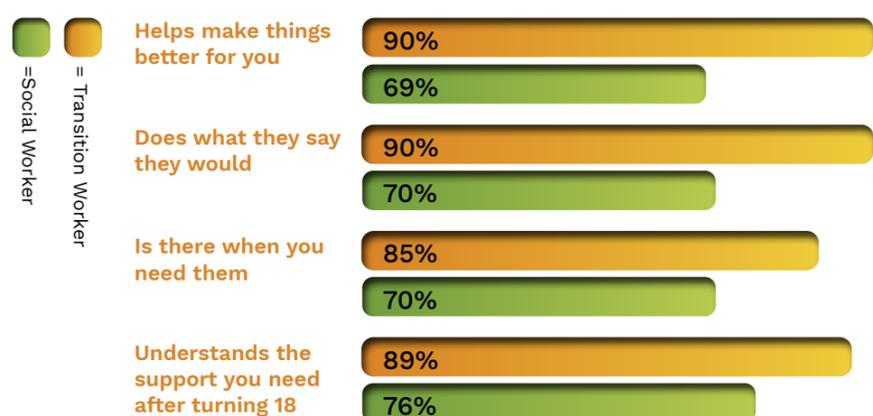




We talked with rangatahi who were eligible for transition worker support . . .

We wanted to understand what was going on in your lives and how Oranga Tamariki could better support your transition to independence, through the newly established [Transition Support Service](#). Here's some of the key results from the survey.

What you told us about your transition workers and Oranga Tamariki social workers



Most of you told us that having a transition worker you trust and who is supportive and reliable, makes a difference to your lives. Transition support service aims to give you a choice about what type of organisation, and 41% of you said you had a choice. Transition support service also aims to connect you with a culturally appropriate organisation if you are Māori or Pacific. One-third of rangatahi Māori told us they were being supported by a Māori organisation.

How your transition worker helps you

41%

of you told us that your transition worker gives you general support

Most of you told us that your transition worker gives you support that is tailored to your needs and covers many different areas of your lives. Many of you said your transition worker was supportive, understanding, efficient and is helping you become independent. Some of you said your transition worker gave you specific support with learning life skills (like driving and cooking), employment and education (finding a job, getting equipment for study), finding housing, and getting help for your mental health.

The Transition Support Service

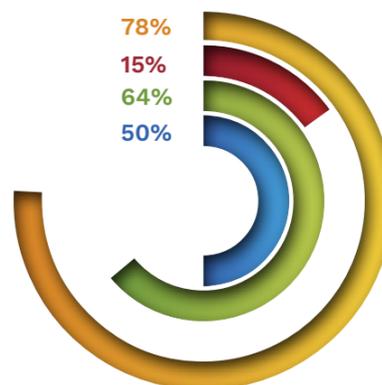
65%

of you said that you already have a transition worker

Over a year ago, Oranga Tamariki launched their Transition Support Service for 15-25 year olds transitioning from care to independence. If you are eligible for transition support, you can be connected to a transition worker, who will guide and support you to:

- Identify your strengths and interests so you can set and achieve goals
- Develop life skills and connect with your identity, culture and whānau.
- Gain confidence to access services independently

Awareness of available contacts



Know how to get help from Oranga Tamariki if needed

Have called the Transition Support Line at Oranga Tamariki

Have seen or heard about VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai

Know how to contact VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai

Oranga Tamariki has a duty to maintain contact with you after you leave care but it is important you also know how to get help from them if you need it. Many of you knew how to get help, although only a small number of you had called the Oranga Tamariki Transition Support Line.

If you need help, you can contact the Transition Support Line on 0800 55 89 89. You can also contact [VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai](#) on 0800 486 923. VOYCE advocates for care-experienced young people.

"SHE HAS HELPED ME TALK THROUGH PROBLEMS I HAVE HAD AND HAS SUPPORTED ME IN BEING INDEPENDENT"

"THEY HELPED ME GET A LOT OF THINGS LIKE PASSPORT, DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE, AND HAS TALKED ME THROUGH A LOT OF ADULT THINGS I'M GONNA FACE"

"WHEN I WAS IN THE PROCESS OF MOVING OUT SHE CAME WITH ME TO BUY THE THINGS I NEEDED FOR MY FLAT AND HELPED DROP THINGS OFF"

General Wellbeing

77%

of you told us you have positive general wellbeing

Most of you told us that, overall, you have good general wellbeing. Most of you rated your whānau and physical health most highly, and most of you said you had no long-term physical difficulties. However, some of you were not doing so well – 38% of you said your mental health was challenging and 36% of you said you often or always had long-term mental health or emotional difficulties. Most of you were getting the health support you needed. A small number of you said you had a hard time seeing a doctor or nurse because of mental health issues, lack of transport and GP fees.

Hope For the Future

75%

of you are 'reasonably' or 'very' hopeful about your future

Three-quarters of you were hopeful about your future. You told us about your goals for the future, like your career and study plans, your hopes for your whānau, your future, your housing and your lifestyle. Many of you mentioned that you wanted to learn life skills to help you achieve these goals, like driving, cooking, social skills and budgeting and were receiving the support to do so. Some of you also wanted to gain skills for work readiness or university entrance, and a smaller number of you talked about learning parenting skills, mental health skills, business skills and learning how to connect with your culture.

Identity and whakapapa



About three-quarters of you said you were secure in your identity and proud of who you are. Only 40% said you knew your whakapapa. Half of you wanted to know more

about your whakapapa and many wanted support to find out more.

Having trusted adults and Friends



Most of you said you had someone to turn to during a difficult time, including your friends, parents/carers, siblings and other whānau.

However, some of you had mixed views about your friends – 77% agreed your friends accepted you, but 37% disagreed or were unsure you had friends you could trust.

Where you live



Most of you told us you were living with whānau or friends in safe and stable housing. About three-quarters agreed you had somewhere warm to live, that you felt safe and settled in your homes, and that you felt you belonged and were accepted by those you lived with.

"PURSUING MY POSTGRADUATE DEGREE, HOPEFULLY IT IS IN A STABLE LOCATION AND STABLE FINANCIALLY"

"I SEE MYSELF WITH MY OWN BEAUTY THERAPIST BUSINESS, WITH MY OWN CLIENTS. BUSINESS OWNER"

"WORKING FULL-TIME ON THE WAY TO SAVE UP FOR A HOUSE"

Response From Oranga Tamariki

The Transition Support Service started on 1 July 2019 and is now over a year old. It was set up after lots of discussion with young people about what support was needed when leaving care. We are committed to hearing what young people think and this survey was the first opportunity for rangatahi to tell us their views on how it's going.

We are grateful to all the young people who took part. One of the main things we heard was that lots of young people had moderate to serious worries about what might happen after they turn 18. We will do two things to address this.

- We will work with young people to plan for what you need when you leave care
- We will get transition workers involved earlier in the process to help young people feel more prepared and ensure they have another person to talk to about their worries.

We also heard that young people value the support that they are getting from their transition worker. We are going to make sure that all eligible young people are told about what the Transition Support Service can do and that they are referred to a transition worker if that is what they want.