

Disparity and Disproportionality in the Care and Protection System to June 2023



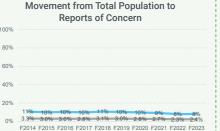


Key measures of disparities and disproportionality for tamariki Māori

Disparity in the flow through the Care and Protection System

The percentage of tamariki who move through the care and protection system from one decision point to the next. The closer the lines are together, the less disparity there is between decisions being made for tamariki Māori compared to non-Māori.

REPORT OF CONCERN (ROC)



This graph shows the proportion of 0-17 year olds in New Zealand who were the subject of a Report of Concern (ROC). Tamariki Māori were consistently more likely to be the subject of a ROC than non-Māori children.

ASSESSMENT

Movement from Reports of Concern to Referrals for Assessment



This graph shows the proportion of children who were referred for further assessment after a report of concern. While this has fluctuated slightly over time, tamariki Māori were consistently more likely to be referred for assessment.

FAMILY GROUP CONFERENCE (FGC)

Movement from Referrals for Assessment to Family Group Conferences



This graph shows the proportion of children who were referred to a Family Group Conference (FGC) after assessment. Tamariki Māori were more likely than non-Māori to be referred to an FGC following an assessment.

CARE ENTRY

Movement from Family Group Conferences to Entries to Care



In recent years, tamariki Māori were slightly less likely to enter care following an FGC.

Despite this, the overall number of tamariki Māori entering care was still higher than the number of non-Māori children (as shown in the distinct entries to care graph below).

IN CARE

Movement from Care to Exits from Care

CARE EXIT

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While all other boxes in this row demonstrate a movement through the care and protection system, this looks at the population of children and young people in care.

The movement of children into care is covered in the previous box.



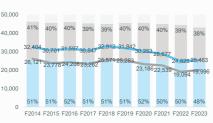
F2014 F2015 F2016 F2017 F2018 F2019 F2020 F2021 F2022 F2023

Tamariki Māori were consistently less likely to leave care when compared to non-Māori children, however this changed in the last three years where they were almost equally likely.

Disparity at each point in the Care and Protection System

The number of unique tamariki involved in each step of the care and protection system, and the ratio of tamariki Māori/non-Māori. Ideally the proportion of tamariki Māori to non-Māori across the care system would match the overall population in New Zealand for these groups (27% Māori : 73% non-Māori, among 0-17 year olds).

Distinct Reports of Concern (Number and Percentage)



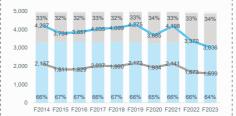
Over the last 10 years, the number of Reports of Concerns (ROCs) made to Oranga Tamariki has been decreasing with the lowest received in FY 2022, but the proportion of reports received for Māori has remained at approximately 50%. The disproportional number of reports received for tamariki Māori contributes significantly to the disparity seen across the following decision points in the Care and Protection system.

Distinct Referrals for Assessment (Number and Percentage)



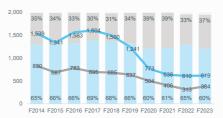
The number of tamariki referred for further assessment has varied slightly over the last 10 years. Following a steady decline, the number of referrals has been relatively stable since FY 2018 but noticeably fell in FY 2022. While the number of referrals for both tamariki Māori and non-Māori have increased slightly since FY2022, the proportion for Māori has fallen slightly.

Distinct Family Group Conferences (Number and Percentage)



Significantly more FGCs are convened for tamariki Māori than non-Māori. However, in FY 2020 there was a significant drop in the number of FGCs for tamariki Māori, which was potentially driven by COVID-19 restrictions. FY 2022 and FY 2023 have also seen a drop in FGCs for both tamariki Māori and non-Māori to the lowest in a decade. As a proportion, the percentage of FGCs being held for tamariki Māori has remained fairly stable the past few years, though dropped in FY 2023.

Distinct Entries to Care (Number and Percentage)



In all years, tamariki Māori accounted for more than half of all children entering care. The number of tamariki Māori entering care was consistently higher than non-Māori. The number of tamariki Māori entering care has decreased significantly since FY 2018, but has tapered off the past couple years.

Distinct Tamariki in Care at 30 June (Number and Percentage)



Over the last 10 years the overall care population was increasing until FY 2019, at which point it fell noticeably, and has continued to slowly decrease. The decrease was driven by a decrease in the number of tamariki Māori in care, while the number of non-Māori children fell at a slower rate. The proportion of tamariki Māori in care has decreased slightly as a result.

Distinct Exits from Care (Number and Percentage)



In all years, tamariki Māori accounted for more than half of children exiting care, with their proportion generally increasing to the highest in FY 2021. Since FY 2020 the total number of exits was larger than the number of entries, leading to a reduction in the number of tamariki in care.

Disproportionality compared to broader society

The rate of incidence per 1,000 tamariki in New Zealand for each step of the care and protection system. Population rates take into account annual population changes over time.

Distinct Reports of Concern (Per 1.000 Tamariki in New Zealand)



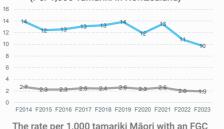
The rate of reports about tamariki Māori has decreased in the past several years per 1,000 population but is still much higher than for non-Māori. In the year ending June 2023, for every 1,000 tamariki Māori, 82 were reported to Oranga Tamariki (compared with only 24 non-Māori children).

Distinct Referrals for Assessment (Per 1,000 tamariki in New Zealand)



The rate per 1,000 tamariki Māori referred to assessment has decreased over the last 10 years, reaching its lowest in FY 2022, but is still much higher than for non-Māori. In the year ending June 2023, for every 1,000 tamariki Māori, 53 received an assessment (compared with 15 non-Māori).

Distinct Family Group Conferences (Per 1,000 Tamariki in NewZealand)



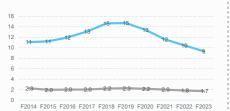
has decreased slightly over the past few years. In the year ending June 2023, for every 1,000 tamariki Māori, 10 had an FGC (compared with around 2 non-Māori).

Distinct Entries to Care (Per 1,000 Tamariki in New Zealand)



Entries to care per 1,000 have decreased over the past several years, but tapered off since FY 2021, with the reduction in the disparity gap stabilising. In the year ending June 2023, for every 1,000 tamariki Māori, 2 entered care (compared with fewer than one for non-Māori)

Distinct Tamariki in Care at 30 June (Per 1,000 Tamariki in New Zealand)



The rate per 1,000 tamariki Māori in care increased between FY 2014 and FY 2018 before decreasing in the past several years. As at June 2023, for every 1,000 tamariki Māori, 9 were in care (compared with fewer than 2 non-Māori).





The rate of exits for tamariki Māori was higher than non-Māori but has generally decreased over the past ten years. In the year ending June 2023, for every 1,000 tamariki Māori, 3 exited care (compared with fewer than 1 non-Māori).

NB: Reported rates per 1,000 may have changed compared to previously reported figures due to an update in population estimates from Statistics New Zealand. NB: Ethnicity recording improves the more we are involved with a child. For example, where a child has been reported to us, but does not progress further through our system, we may never know or capture their ethnicity. This can result in ethnicity being reported as 'not specified'. Where an ethnicity is 'not specified' it has been excluded from this analysis. However, where total proportion breakdowns are observed in the graphs on row two, 'not specified' ethnicity has been demarcated as a third category shaded light grey. Due to the continuous improvement in ethnicity recording, numbers above may differ from those previously published.