

Care Status Fact Sheet - Summary of survey findings

Just Sayin' is an annual survey of young people

The Just Sayin' surveys are conducted annually to seek feedback from young people who are eligible for support from a transition worker. The surveys are one part of the Transition Support Service (TSS) evaluation. The 2021 survey included young people aged 16 to 20. A total of 331 young people provided analysable responses.

Just Sayin' survey findings for young people eligible for a transition worker included 129 young people in care and 202 not in care. Care status was self-reported.

Preparation and planning for transition

The same proportion of young people had been at a family group conference to discuss their plan for leaving, across both care statuses (68%). Most young people felt they had a say in the important decisions in their lives 'most' or 'all of the time' (in care: 78%, not in care: 79%).

Transition worker support

Four-fifths of young people felt their transition worker understood the kind of support they need.

There was little difference between care status (in care: 80%, not in care: 82%).

Responses of those in care to 'How has your transition worker helped you?':

She helped me get my learner's licence and birth certificate. Helped get into a course with [training establishment]. Helping with job searching.

She has helped me with learning about my background.

Responses of those not in care to 'How has your transition worker helped you?':

My transition worker helped by planning our future, also helped with financial planning.

Giving me a boost in confidence to head into independence and adulthood.

Living arrangements

More young people not in care felt a sense of belonging where they lived, when compared to those in care. 73% of young people not in care said they felt they belonged where they lived, compared with 66% of those in care. Similarly, a larger proportion of those not in care felt accepted for who they were by the people they lived with (In care: 73%, not in care: 81%).

Identity, health and wellbeing

More young people not in care rated their security and pride in their identity highly, compared to those in care. When asked to rate how secure they felt in their identity, 76% of those not in care and 66% of those in care answered 'reasonably' or 'very' on a four-point scale. The difference was similar when asked how proud they felt of who they were (in care: 65%, not in care: 78%).

Support

A larger proportion of those not in care felt they had someone to turn to if they were going through a difficult time, compared to those in care (in care, 72%, not in care: 78%). However, fewer young people

not in care felt they had an adult to turn to if they needed help, compared to those who were in care (in care: 71%, not in care: 66%).

Education, training and employment

Almost one-half of the proportion of young people not in care were in education or training compared to those in care (in care: 69%, not in care: 37%).

Demographics		In care (n=129)	Not in care (n=202)
Gender and identity	Male	43%	31%
	Female	53%	69%
	Diverse	4%	0%
Identifies as LGBTQIA+/rainbow		19%	19%
Ethnicity	Māori	59%	62%
	Pacific	9%	16%
	Non-Māori non-Pacific	38%	34%
Age	16	35%	6%
	17	47%	11%
	18	10%	40%
	19	5%	27%
	20+	3%	16%

Just Sayin' results

Holistic needs assessment	In care	Not in care
Does Oranga Tamariki help make things better for you? (3-yes, I think so, to 4-yes, definitely on 4-point scale)	61%	N/A
Does your Oranga Tamariki social worker do what they said they would do? (3-most of the time, to 4-all of the time, on 4-point scale)	65%	N/A
Is your Oranga Tamariki social worker there when you need them? (% yes)	66%	N/A
I think my Oranga Tamariki social worker understands what kinds of support I need after I leave care (% yes)	65%	N/A
Are you worried about anything that will happen when you leave care? (7-10 on 10-point worry scale – serious worries)	24%	N/A
Do you feel you can talk to your social worker at Oranga Tamariki about your worries? (3-yes, I think so, to 4-yes, definitely, on 4-point scale)	53%	N/A
Transition planning	In care	Not in care
Have/did you had a conversation with anyone at Oranga Tamariki about what you need when you leave/left care? (% yes)	49%	62%
Have you been at a family group conference where people talked with you about what you wanted to do when you leave/left care? (% yes)	68%	68%

Do/did you have a copy of your plan for leaving care? (% yes)	30%	42%
Do you feel you get to have a say in important decisions about your life? (3-most of the time, to 4-all of the time, on 4-point scale)	78%	79%
Are the important people to you from your chosen whānau or family involved in planning what happens with your life as much as you would like? (% yes)	58%	54%
Transition worker support	In care	Not in care
Have you been asked about whether you want to see a TW? (% yes)	82%	87%
Currently has a TW (% yes)	66%	56%
Used to have a TW (% yes)	5%	24%
Have you talked with a TW – this might be a social worker or someone else at another type of organisation? (% yes)	76%	82%
Do you think your Transition Worker understands what kinds of support you need? (% yes)	80%	82%
Are you worried about anything in your life just now? (7-10 on 10-point worry scale – serious worries)	32%	23%
(Of those with a TW) Do you feel you can talk to your TW about your worries? (3-yes, I think so, to 4-yes, definitely, on 4-point scale)	74%	80%
(Of those with a TW) Does your Transition worker do what they say they would do? (3-most of the time, to 4-all of the time, on 4-point scale)	84%	80%
(Of those with a TW) Is your TW there when you need them? (% yes)	84%	79%
(Of those with a TW) Does your TW help make things better for you? (3-yes, I think so, to 4-yes, definitely, on 4-point scale)	83%	80%
Improving outcomes for young people as they transition from Oranga Tamariki care	In care	Not in care
[Not in care] Lives in the same place as when they were in care	N/A	28%
Lives in unstable accommodation (includes: living rough, in garage, couch surf, in car or van, motel)	6%	10%
Agrees with the following statements (7 to 10 agreement on a 0-10 scale)		
I have somewhere warm to live	82%	85%
I feel like I belong	66%	73%
I feel safe where I live	83%	84%
I feel settled where I live	76%	74%
I feel accepted for who I am by the people I live with	73%	81%
Agrees with the following statements (4 to 5 agreement on a 5-point scale)		
I have friends I trust	56%	57%
I feel safe with my friends	71%	67%
My friends accept me for who I am	73%	72%
If you were going through a difficult time and needed help, do you have someone you could turn to? (% yes)	72%	78%
Has an adult they could turn to for help	71%	66%

Young people have an improved sense of identity and belonging	In care	Not in care
To what extent do you feel secure in your identity? (3-reasonably to 4-very on 4-point scale)	66%	76%
To what extent do you feel proud of who you are? (3-reasonably to 4-very on 4-point scale)	65%	78%
Do you have as many chances as you would like to connect with your whakapapa whānau? (% yes)	72%	67%
Do you know your whakapapa (ancestry)? (3-I think so, to 4-definitely on 4-point scale)	50%	57%
Do you want to know more about your ancestry or whakapapa? (% yes)	51%	50%
Are you being supported to find out more about your ancestry/whakapapa? (% yes - of those who wanted to know more)	52%	56%
More young people are healthy and recovering from trauma	In care	Not in care
How do you feel about your life in general? (4-very good, to 5-excellent on 5-point scale)	38%	42%
Washington scale disability (has at least one response of often or always for the categories: Difficulty hearing, seeing, doing physical activities, learning remembering or concentrating, emotional psychological or mental health conditions)	65%	55%
Washington scale disability (has two or more responses of often or always for the categories: Difficulty hearing, seeing, doing physical activities, learning remembering or concentrating, emotional psychological or mental health conditions)	27%	29%
Are you receiving the health support you need? (% yes of those who indicated poor or fair for any of the Te Whare Tapa Whā questions)	61%	53%
In the last 12 months, has there been any time when you wanted or needed to see a doctor or nurse (or other health care worker) about your health, but you weren't able to? (% yes)	30%	36%
More young people have the life skills they need to thrive as adults	In care	Not in care
To what extent do you feel hopeful about your future? (3-reasonably to 4-very on 4-point scale)	65%	77%
Are you getting the support you need to learn the skills you want to learn? (% yes)	58%	63%
More young people are in education, employment or training (in the past 12-months)	In care	Not in care
In education or training	69%	37%
School leavers (those not in education or training) with NCEA level 2 or higher	31%	52%
NEET	12%	23%

Young people feel supported to be parents	In care	Not in care
Is a parent	11%	18%
Hapū/pregnant	4%	8%