

Parents 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, of who 329 answered the question about being a parent. The remaining two young people provided no information and were assumed part of the not parent group.

Just Sayin' survey findings for young people eligible for a transition worker included 51 young people who were parents and 278 who were not parents. Of those who were not parents, four young people were hapū/pregnant.

In reading the findings below please remember they are based on small numbers of young parents.

Preparation and planning for transition

Most parents felt they had a say in the important decisions in their lives 'most' or 'all of the time' (parents: 74%, not parents: 79%). However, fewer parents felt the important people in their lives were involved in their planning as much as they would like, when compared with those who were not parents (parents: 39%, not parents: 59%).

Transition worker support

Fewer parents felt their transition worker understood the support they needed compared to those who were not parents (parents: 71%, not parents: 83%). Although more parents were worried about their life (parents: 34%, not parents: 26%), there was no difference between parents and not parents when asked whether they felt they could talk to their transition worker about their worries (78%). Most parents' worries were about the safety and security of their children and whānau.

Just about baby's dads mental health and that affecting our daughter even though we are no[t] together.

I'm worried about not seeing my son, and I'm worried that my son will be kept away from me, and I'm worried that I'll never see him again.

I worried about where I will live, how I will financially support myself and my lil family.

Living arrangements

Nearly two-thirds of parents said their child/children lived with them either some or all of the time; Most were women (75%) compared to men (33%). Of those who lived with their children, 59% felt supported to look after their child. A few (12%) parents lived in unstable accommodation, including living rough, in a garage, couch surfing, or living in a car, van or motel.

Identity, health and wellbeing

Thirty-nine percent of parents wanted to know more about their ancestry or whakapapa. Of those who wanted to know more, one-third (35%) reported they were being supported to do so, compared with 57% of those who were not parents.

Support

A smaller proportion of parents had someone to turn to if they were going through a difficult time and needed help, compared to those who were not parents (parents: 65%, not parents: 78%). Over one-half (56%) of parents had an adult they could turn to, compared to 70% of those who were not parents.

Education, training and employment

Thirty-three percent of parents were Not in Education, Employment or Training. The proportion of those who were not parents was 16%.

Demographics		Parent (n=51)	Not parent (n=278)
Gender and identity	Male	29%	37%
	Female	71%	61%
	Diverse	0%	2%
Identifies as LGBTQIA+/rainbow		10%	21%
Ethnicity	Māori	73%	59%
	Pacific	10%	14%
	Non-Māori non-Pacific	22%	38%
Age	16	6%	20%
	17	10%	27%
	18	25%	29%
	19	35%	16%
	20+	24%	9%
Care status	In care	27%	41%

Just Sayin' results

Holistic needs assessment	Parent	Not parent
[In care] Does Oranga Tamariki help make things better for you? (3-yes, I think so, to 4-yes, definitely on 4-point scale)	38%	63%
[In care] 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)	64%	65%
[In care] Is your Oranga Tamariki social worker there when you need them? (% yes)	57%	67%
[In care] I think my Oranga Tamariki social worker understands what kinds of support I need after I leave care (% yes)	54%	66%
[In care] Are you worried about anything that will happen when you leave care? (7-10 on 10-point worry scale – serious worries)	31%	23%
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)	31%	55%

Transition planning	Parent	Not parent
[In care] Have you had a conversation with anyone at Oranga Tamariki about what you need when you leave care? (% yes)	21%	51%
[In care] Have you been at a family group conference where people talked with you about what you wanted to do when you leave care? (% yes)	64%	69%
[In care] Do you have a copy of your plan for leaving care? (% yes)	14%	32%
[Not in care] Did anyone talk with you and work out a plan for when you left care? (% yes)	68%	61%
[Not in care] When you left care had you been part of an FGC to discuss your future? (% yes)	68%	68%
[Not in care] Did you have a copy of your plan for leaving care? (% yes)	46%	41%
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)	74%	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)	39%	59%
Transition worker support	Parent	Not parent
Have you been asked about whether you want to see a TW? (% yes)	76%	86%
Currently has a TW (% yes)	37%	64%
Used to have a TW (% yes)	29%	15%
Have you talked with a TW – this might be a social worker or someone else at another type of organisation? (% yes)	69%	82%
Do you think your TW understands what kinds of support you need? (% yes)	71%	83%
Are you worried about anything in your life just now? (7-10 on 10-point worry scale – serious worries)	34%	26%
(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)	78%	78%
(Of those with a TW) Does your TW do what they say they would do? (3-most of the time, to 4-all of the time, on 4-point scale)	68%	83%
(Of those with a TW) Is your TW there when you need them? (% yes)	65%	83%
(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)	65%	84%

Improving outcomes for young people as they transition from Oranga Tamariki care	Parent	Not parent
[Not in care] Lives in the same place as when they were in care	19%	30%
Lives in unstable accommodation (includes: living rough, in garage, couch surf, in car or van, motel)	12%	8%
Agrees with the following statements (<i>7 to 10 agreement on a 0-10 scale</i>)		
I have somewhere warm to live	86%	84%
I feel like I belong	66%	71%
I feel safe where I live	81%	84%
I feel settled where I live	65%	76%
I feel accepted for who I am by the people I live with	74%	79%
Agrees with the following statements (<i>4 to 5 agreement on a 5-point scale</i>)		
I have friends I trust	65%	55%
I feel safe with my friends	69%	69%
My friends accept me for who I am	80%	71%
If you were going through a difficult time and needed help, do you have someone you could turn to? (% yes)	65%	78%
Has an adult they could turn to for help	56%	70%
Young people have an improved sense of identity and belonging	Parent	Not parent
To what extent do you feel secure in your identity? (<i>3-reasonably to 4-very on 4-point scale</i>)	63%	74%
To what extent do you feel proud of who you are? (<i>3-reasonably to 4-very on 4-point scale</i>)	62%	74%
Do you have as many chances as you would like to connect with your whakapapa whānau? (% yes)	61%	71%
Do you know your whakapapa (ancestry)? (<i>3-I think so, to 4-definitely on 4-point scale</i>)	63%	53%
Do you want to know more about your ancestry or whakapapa? (% yes)	39%	53%
Are you being supported to find out more about your ancestry/whakapapa? (% yes - of those who wanted to know more)	35%	57%
More young people are healthy and recovering from trauma	Parent	Not parent
How do you feel about your life in general? (<i>4-very good, to 5-excellent on 5-point scale</i>)	40%	40%
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)	57%	60%
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)	42%	58%

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%	34%
More young people have the life skills they need to thrive as adults	Parent	Not parent
To what extent do you feel hopeful about your future? (3-reasonably to 4-very on 4-point scale)	62%	74%
Are you getting the support you need to learn the skills you want to learn? (% yes of those who indicated poor or fair for any of the Te Whare Tapa Whā questions)	48%	63%
More young people are in education, employment or training (in the past 12-months)	Parent	Not parent
In education or training	29%	53%
School leavers (those not in education or training) with NCEA level 2 or higher	36%	50%
NEET	33%	16%
Young people feel supported to be parents	Parent	Not parent
Hapū/pregnant	28%	2%
My child/children live with me all or some of the time	63%	N/A
(for young people who live with their child/children, n=32) I am supported to look after my child (By support we mean all kinds of support including looking after your child, advice about what to do, money) (7-10 agreement to support)	59%	N/A