

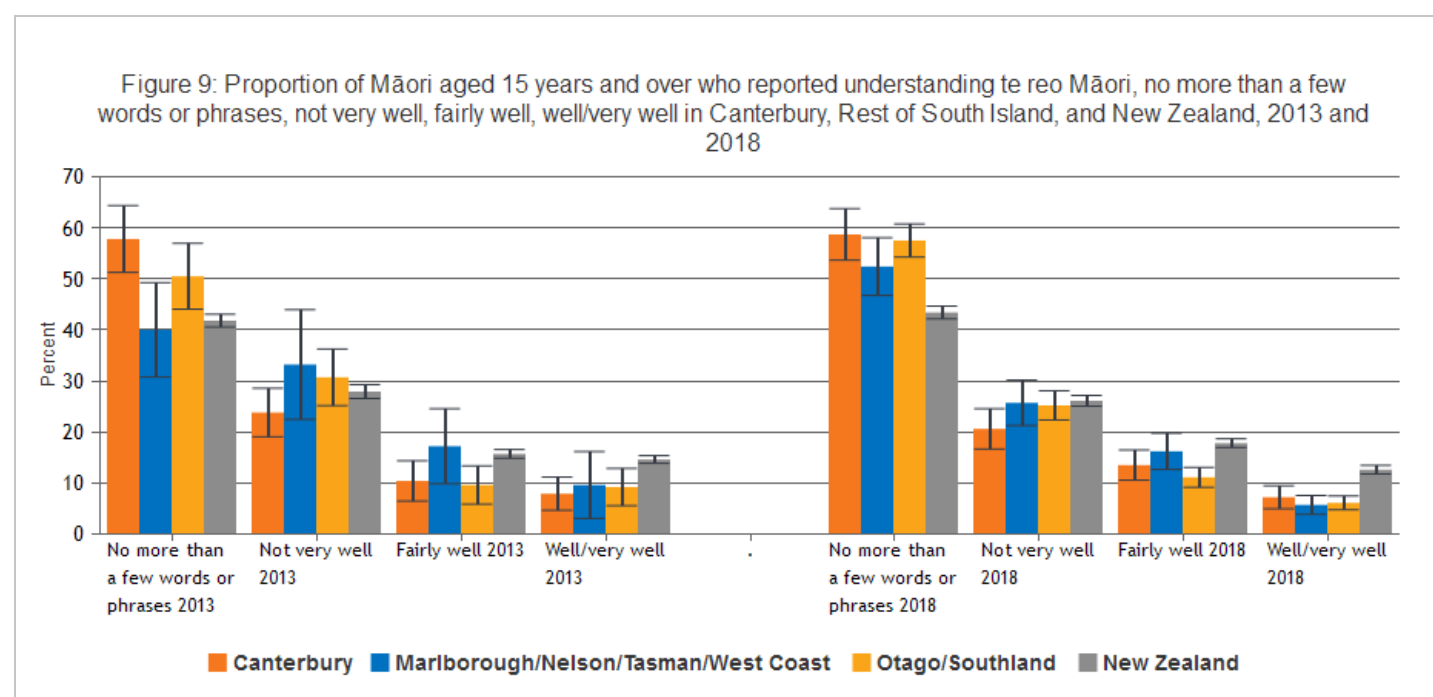
# He Tohu Ora: Te reo Māori understanding

Downloaded from <https://www.canterburywellbeing.org.nz/he-tohu-ora/#link-te-reo-māori-understanding> on 28/04/2024 3:19 PM

Māori language is recognised as an important cultural resource which contributes to an individual's cultural identity and sense of 'being Māori' [1]. For Māori, high levels of cultural efficacy (including speaking te reo Māori, Māori heritage, and tikanga me kawa (protocols and processes, including marae protocol) have been found to be associated with better emotional wellbeing [19]. While some Māori may feel whakamā (shy or embarrassed) about speaking te reo Māori – if they are not fluent and are fearful about getting it wrong, particularly those learning later in life – they may still take pride in hearing and understanding the language [22]. This indicator reports on te reo Māori understanding, rather than speaking, noting the distinction between these two aspects of wellbeing.

Te Kupenga asked respondents how well they are able to understand Māori in day-to-day conversation [12]. The questions had five response options ranging from no more than a few words or phrases to very well.

This indicator presents the proportion of respondents that reported understanding te reo Māori very well, well, fairly well, not very well, or no more than a few words or phrases.



Higher proportions of respondents reported understanding te reo Māori very well or well (12.6%) or fairly well (17.8%) at the national level compared with Canterbury and Marlborough/Nelson/Tasman/West Coast and Otago/Southland in 2018 (Canterbury well/very well 7.2%, fairly well 13.5% in 2018). The proportion of respondents that reported understanding te reo Māori at least fairly well increased between 2013 and 2018 in Canterbury (18.3% to 20.7%) and remained stable for New Zealand across these timepoints (30.3% 2013 and 30.4% 2018).

## Data Sources

**Source:** Statistics New Zealand.

**Survey/data set:** Te Kupenga 2013 and 2018. Access publicly available data from the Statistics New Zealand website

[www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/te-kupenga-2018-final-english](http://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/te-kupenga-2018-final-english)

**Source data frequency:** Survey conducted every 10 years - following the national census.

Metadata for this indicator is available at <https://www.canterburywellbeing.org.nz/index-data>

## REFERENCES

---

This is the full reference list for **He Tohu Ora**.

- 1 Durie M (2006) Measuring Māori Wellbeing. New Zealand Treasury guest lecture series. Wellington.
- 2 Durie M (1999) Te Pae Māhutonga: A model for Māori health promotion. *Health Promotion Forum of New Zealand Newsletter* 49: 5.
- 3 Kingi TK, Durie M, Elder H, Tapsell R, Lawrence M, et al. (2018) *Maea te Toi Ora: Māori Health Transformations*. Wellington: Huia Publishers.
- 4 Durie M (1998) *Whaiora: Māori health development*. Auckland: Oxford University Press.
- 5 Durie M (2001) *Mauri Ora: The Dynamics of Māori Health*. Auckland: Oxford University Press.
- 6 Te Puni Kōkiri (2018) *Whānau Ora Annual Summary Report: 1 July 2016 - 30 June 2017*.
- 7 Pevalin D, Rose D (2004) *Investigating the links between social capital and health using the British Household Panel Survey*. Essex: Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Essex.
- 8 Elliott J, Gale CR, Parsons S, Kuh D, HALCyon Study Team (2014) Neighbourhood cohesion and mental wellbeing among older adults: A mixed methods approach. *Social Science & Medicine* 107: 44-51.
- 9 Robinson D, Williams T (2001) Social capital and voluntary activity: Giving and sharing in Māori and non-Māori society. *Social Policy Journal of New Zealand/Te Puna Whakaaro* 52.
- 10 Te Whatu Ora Waitaha (2022) *Canterbury Wellbeing Survey: Report prepared by Nielsen for Te Whatu Ora Waitaha and partnering agencies*. Christchurch: Te Whatu Ora Waitaha.
- 11 Social Policy Evaluation and Research Unit (2017) *Subjective whānau wellbeing in Te Kupenga*. Wellington: Superu.
- 12 Statistics New Zealand (2013) *Te Kupenga 2013: A survey of Māori well-being questionnaire*. Wellington: Statistics New Zealand.
- 13 Statistics New Zealand (2015) *Ngā tohu o te ora: The determinants of life satisfaction for Māori 2013*. Wellington: Statistics New Zealand.
- 14 Statistics New Zealand (2018) *New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings: individual form*. Wellington: Statistics New Zealand.
- 15 Social Policy Evaluation and Research Unit (2017) *Families and whānau status report*. Wellington: Superu.
- 16 Kingi TK, Durie M, Durie M, Cunningham C, Borman B, et al. (2014) *Te Puawaitanga o Ngā Whānau: Six Markers of Flourishing Whānau*. Palmerston North: Massey University.
- 17 Fayers P, Hays R (2005) *Assessing quality of life in clinical trials: methods and practice (2nd edition)*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- 18 Reid J, Varona, G, Fisher, M, & Smith, C. (2016) Understanding Māori 'lived' culture to determine cultural connectedness and wellbeing. *Journal of Population Research* 33: 31-49s.
- 19 Muriwai E, Houkamau CA, Sibley CG (2015) Culture as cure? The protective function of Māori cultural efficacy on psychological distress. *New Zealand Journal of Psychology* 44: 14.
- 20 Ministry of Social Development (2016) *The social report 2016: Te pūrongo oranga tangata*. Wellington: Ministry of Social Development.
- 21 Māori party (2016) \$34.6m to support Te Reo Māori revival. Accessed 15 November 2018 from [www.maoriparty.org](http://www.maoriparty.org)
- 22 Chrisp S (2005) Māori Intergenerational Language Transmission. *International Journal of the Sociology of Language* 2005: 149-181.
- 23 Te Ahukaramū Charles Royal (2007) Story: Papatūānuku - the land. Te Ara: the Encyclopedia of New Zealand
- 24 National Advisory Committee on Health and Disability (1998) The social, cultural, and economic determinants of health in New Zealand: action to improve health. Wellington: National Health Committee.
- 25 Te Kotahi Research Institute: Waikato University (2014) Ngā Hua a Tāne Rore: the Benefits of Kapa Haka Manatū Taonga - Ministry for Culture and Heritage & Te Matatini.
- 26 Kennedy V, Cram F, Paipa K, Pipi K, Baker M (2015) Wairua and cultural values in evaluation. *Evaluation Matters-He take tō te aromatawai* 1: 83-111.
- 27 Howden-Chapman P, Matheson A, Crane J, Viggers H, Cunningham M, et al. (2007) Effect of insulating existing houses on health inequality: cluster randomised study in the community. *British Medical Journal* 334: 460-464.

- 28 Baker M, Zhang J, Keall M, Howden-Chapman P (2011) *Health Impacts of the Healthy Housing Programme on Housing New Zealand Tenants: 2004-2008*. Wellington: He Kainga Oranga, University of Otago.
- 29 Raerino K, Macmillan AK, Jones RG (2013) Indigenous Māori perspectives on urban transport patterns linked to health and wellbeing. *Health and Place* 23: 54-62.
- 30 Waitangi Tribunal (2011) *Ko Aotearoa tēnei : a report into claims concerning New Zealand law and policy affecting Māori culture and identity. Te taumata tuatahi. (Waitangi Tribunal report)*. Wellington: Legislation Direct.
- 31 Ministry of Health (2014) *The guide to He Korowai Oranga: Māori Health Strategy*. Wellington: Ministry of Health.