



Briefing Note: Māori participation in early learning

To:	Hon. Kelvin Davis, Associate Minister of Education		
CC:	Hon. Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education Hon. Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education		
Date:	15 February 2022	Priority:	Low
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Messaging seen by Communications team:	Yes	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

This report discusses key aspects of mokopuna Māori participation in early learning (all service types, including kōhanga reo) between 2014 and 2021. It highlights changes in mokopuna Māori participation in early learning by the percentage of teaching time in te reo Māori. It also provides information about mokopuna Māori participation in early learning at a regional level.

The information in this report is linked to the strategies Ka Hikitia and Tau Mai Te Reo and to the early learning curriculum Te Whāriki. It also provides background for the Māori medium and Kaupapa Māori pathways programme.

Recommendations

1. **Note** the attached report about Māori participation in early learning.
2. **Note** that we propose to release this report on Education Counts on 1 March 2022 and will liaise with your office about the communications.
3. **Agree** to proactively release this Briefing Note.

☒ **Agree** ☐ **Disagree**

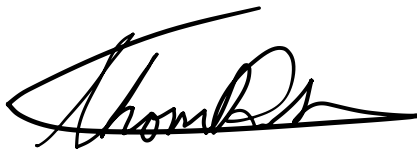
Summary

The main insights about trends in Māori participation in early learning are:

- a. The percentage of mokopuna Māori aged 0 to 4 attending early learning increased from 51 percent in 2014 to 54 percent in 2021.

- b. Since 2014, over 54 percent of mokopuna Māori attending early learning did so at education and care services, which is the largest service type in New Zealand.
- c. Around 50 percent of mokopuna Māori attend an early learning service where te reo Māori is spoken for more than 11 percent of the teaching time.
- d. Between 2014 and 2021, the two regions with the largest increase in mokopuna Māori attendances were Te Tai-o-Aorere/Tasman and Waitaha/Canterbury, however the numbers attending in these regions are small. Attendance for mokopuna Māori increased in Te Tai-o-Aorere/Tasman region by 48 percent from 252 to 373; followed by the Waitaha/Canterbury region which increased by 25 percent (from 3,071 to 3,832).
- e. Overall, the percentage of mokopuna Māori attending early learning was greater in the North. Te Moana-o-Toi/Bay of Plenty and Te Matau-a-Māui/Hawke's Bay regions had the greatest percentage attendance with 69 percent and 68 percent attendance respectively.

We propose to release the report on Education Counts on 1 March 2022 and will liaise with your office on the communications. The full report is attached in Annex one.



Tom Dibley
Tumu Te Puna Mohiotanga
Te Puna Mohiotanga

15/02/2022



Kelvin Davis
Associate Minister of Education

24/02/2022

Background

1. This report uses the 2021 ECE census data (BN-METIS no: 1243217) and focuses on Māori participation in early learning.
2. The annual ECE census is a data snapshot from New Zealand early learning services across one week each year, typically the last week in June. Some information is also drawn from other data sources the Ministry maintains and Stats NZ data.
3. In this report early learning services include kōhanga reo, education & care services, kindergartens, home-based services, and playcentres.

Key findings

4. Early learning attendance for mokopuna Māori has increased overall between 2014 and 2021. The percentage of mokopuna Māori aged 0 to 4 attending early learning increased from 51 percent in 2014 to 54 percent in 2021.
5. Around 50 percent of mokopuna Māori attend early learning where te reo Māori is spoken for more than 11 percent of the teaching time.
6. Since 2014, over 54 percent of mokopuna Māori attending early learning did so at education and care services, which is the largest service type in New Zealand. Attendance at education and care services by mokopuna Māori increased from 24,581 in 2014 to 28,663 in 2021 (a 17 percent increase).
7. Between 2014 and 2021, the two regions with the largest increase in mokopuna Māori attendances were Te Tai-o-Aorere and Waitaha. Attendance for mokopuna Māori increased in Te Tai-o-Aorere/Tasman region by 48 percent from 252 to 373; followed by the Waitaha/Canterbury region which increased by 25 percent (from 3,071 to 3,832).
8. Overall, the percentage of mokopuna Māori attending early learning was greater in the North Island in 2018. Regionally, Te Moana-o-Toi/Bay of Plenty and Te Matau-a-Māui/Hawke's Bay regions had the greatest percentage attendance with 69 percent and 68 percent attendance respectively.

Next Steps

9. We propose to release the report on Education Counts on 1 March 2022 and will liaise with your office on the communications. The full report is attached in Annex one.

Proactive Release

10. We recommend that this Briefing is proactively released as per your expectation that information be released as soon as possible. Any information which may need to be withheld will be done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Annexes

Annex one: Māori participation in early learning