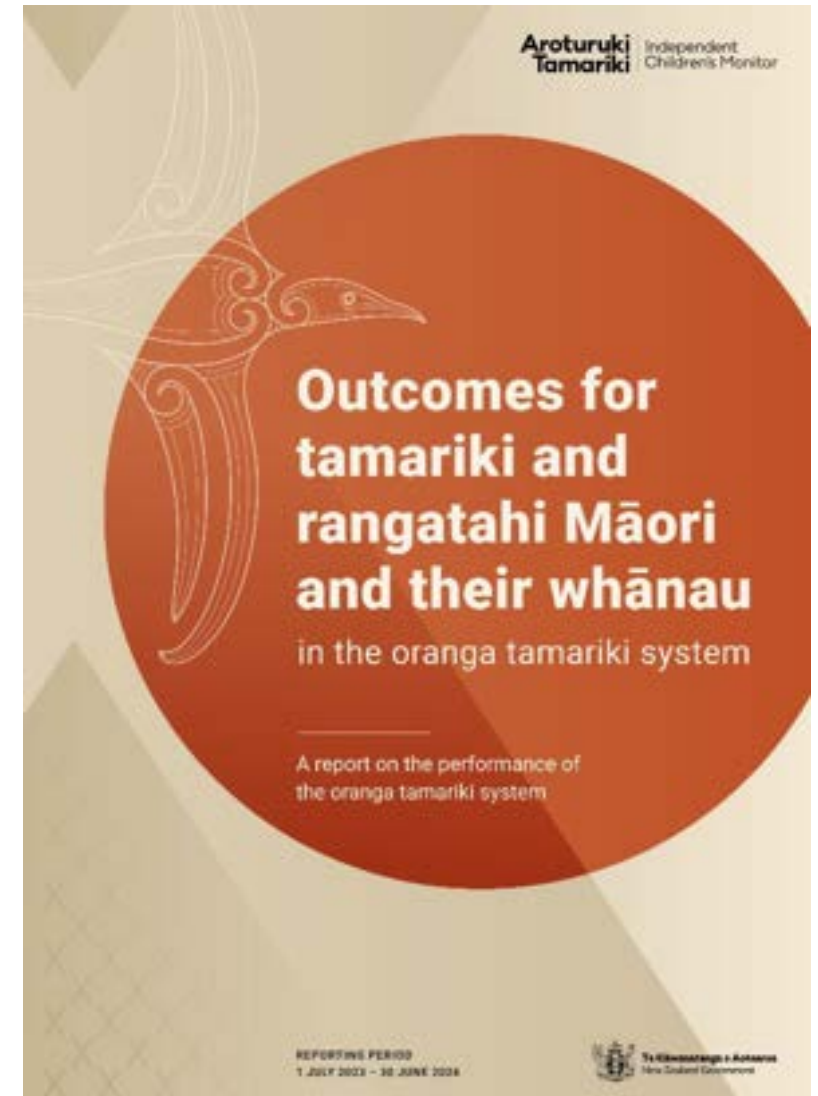


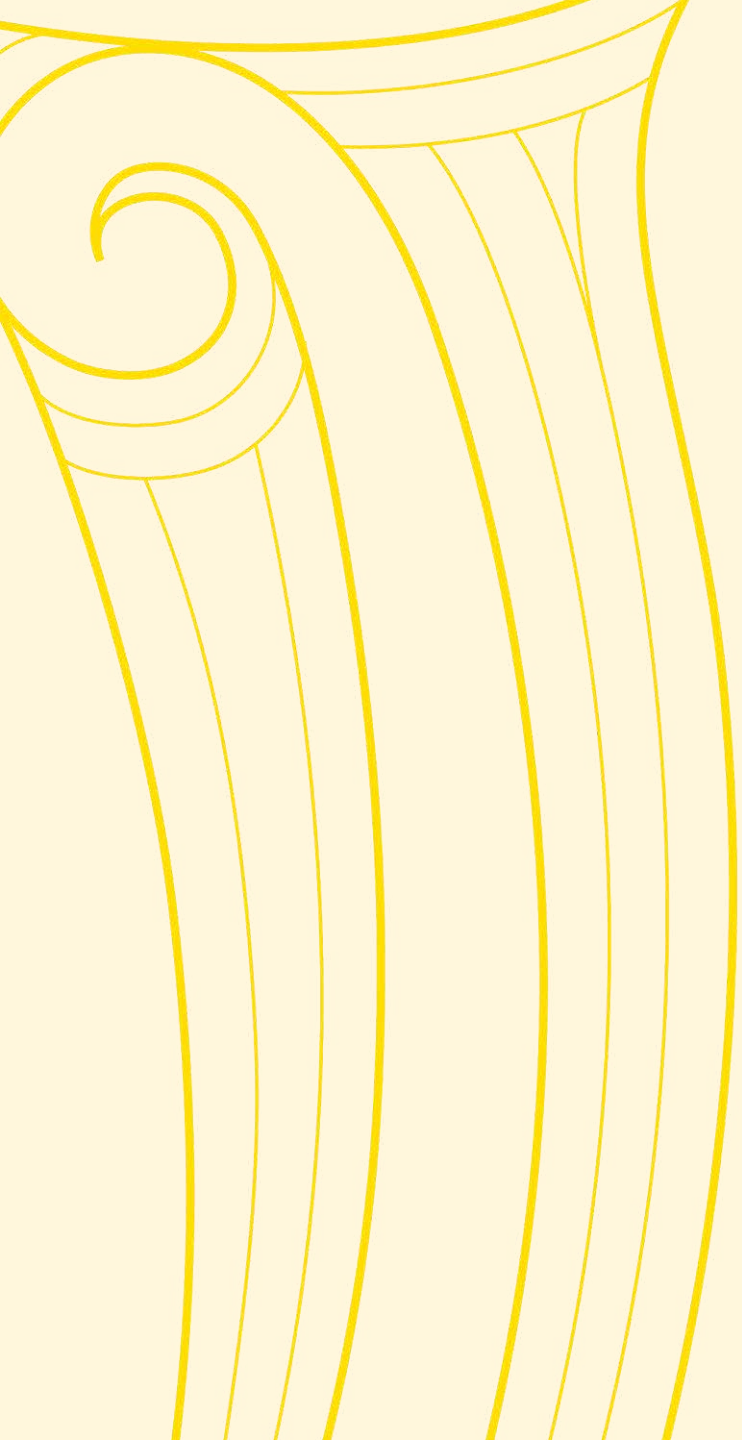
# Outcomes for tamariki and rangatahi Māori and their whānau

A report on the performance of the  
oranga tamariki system

Reporting period 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

Whakamanawa 2025



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Me he tākapu matakana  
He tākapu ruku hōhonu  
He tākapu tohatoha hua

# What we'll cover today

- Our role
- Our Outcomes for Māori report
- What we found
- The response from Oranga Tamariki and NZ Police
- Questions

# The oranga tamariki oversight system

## Advocacy



## Monitoring



## Complaints and Investigations



# Our monitoring approach



We analyse data alongside other contextual information.



We interview staff from organisations delivering services, such as social workers.



We interview people receiving services, such as tamariki and rangatahi in care and protection or in youth justice.



# **We heard from 1,800 people**

- 130 tamariki and rangatahi Māori – from a total of 200 tamariki and rangatahi
- 45 whānau Māori – from a total of 70 whānau
- 120 whānau and non-whānau caregivers
- 160 kaimahi from iwi and Māori providers
- 275 NGO kaimahi
- 980 kaimahi from government agencies

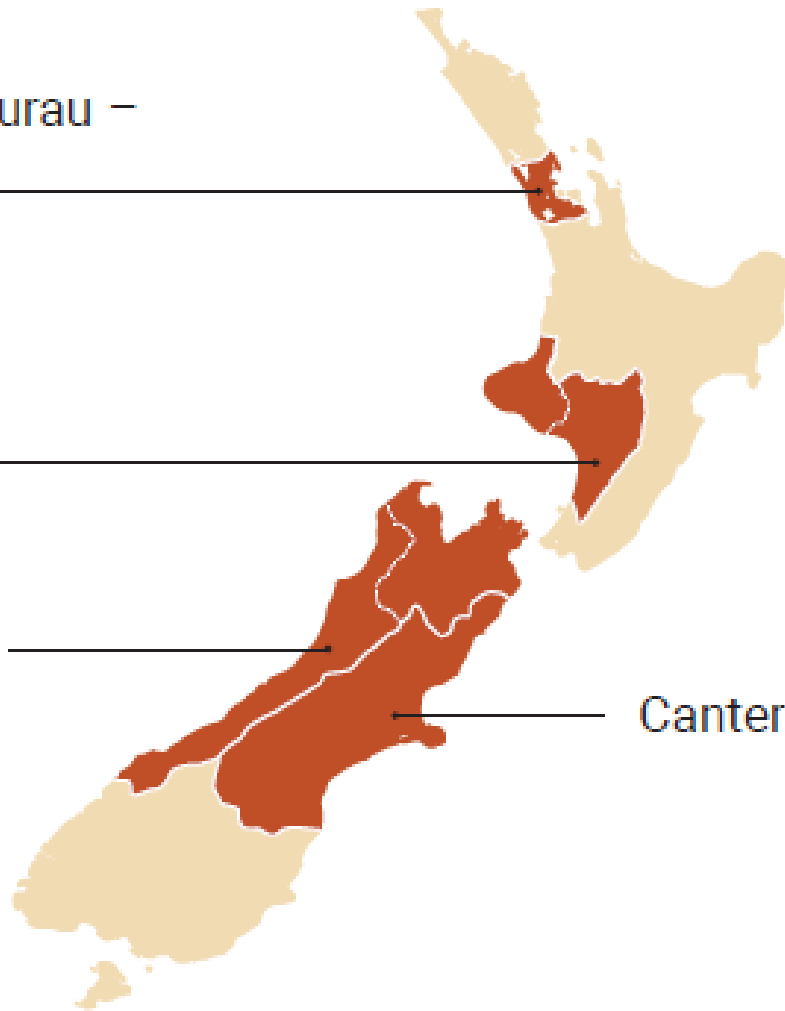
# ... across four regions as part of our monitoring

Tāmaki Makaurau –  
Auckland

Taranaki and  
Manawatū

Upper South

Canterbury








# Oranga Tamariki Strategic Partners

- Te Rūnanga-Ā-Iwi O Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated and Te Rūnanga O Toa Rangatira volunteered to feature.
- All ten strategic partners will be included over three years.

*“Our journey is ongoing, and we’re mindful that progress may be incremental. However, with sustained effort and collective commitment, we’re hopeful that our aspirations for tamariki, rangatahi, and whānau Māori will be realised.”– Ngāti Kahungunu in Outcomes for Māori report 23/24*





# Te Kāhui: our Māori Advisory Group

Tā Mark Solomon

Katie Murray

Eugene Ryder

Enid Ratahi- Pryor

Wayne Blissett

Dee-Ann Wolferstan

*“This report highlights critical decision points for tamariki and rangatahi Māori, and some pave the way for either positive or adverse outcomes. Early intervention is crucial and must be prioritised by Government policy”*

*– Statement from Te Kāhui in Outcomes for Māori report 23/24*



1.2 million

330,600

of those are tamariki  
and rangatahi Māori



Almost one third of the youth population are tamariki and rangatahi Māori and most are not known to Oranga Tamariki

# Tamariki and rangatahi Māori who are in care are more likely to be disabled

## Disabled tamariki and rangatahi Māori aged 0-14

In care



22%

In total Māori population




14%



# Where Māori are known to Oranga Tamariki, they are overrepresented

**49%** of tamariki and rangatahi Māori had a report of concern about safety or wellbeing

**67%** of tamariki and rangatahi Māori were in custody under care and protection orders



## **... and Māori are more likely to have police proceedings taken against them or be in youth justice custody**

**41%**

of police proceedings involved tamariki and rangatahi Māori


**78%**

of rangatahi in custody under youth justice orders were rangatahi Māori



## **Our key finding**

Tamariki and rangatahi Māori and their whānau are over-represented in the oranga tamariki system and the system is letting them down



# **The opportunity for the oranga tamariki system**

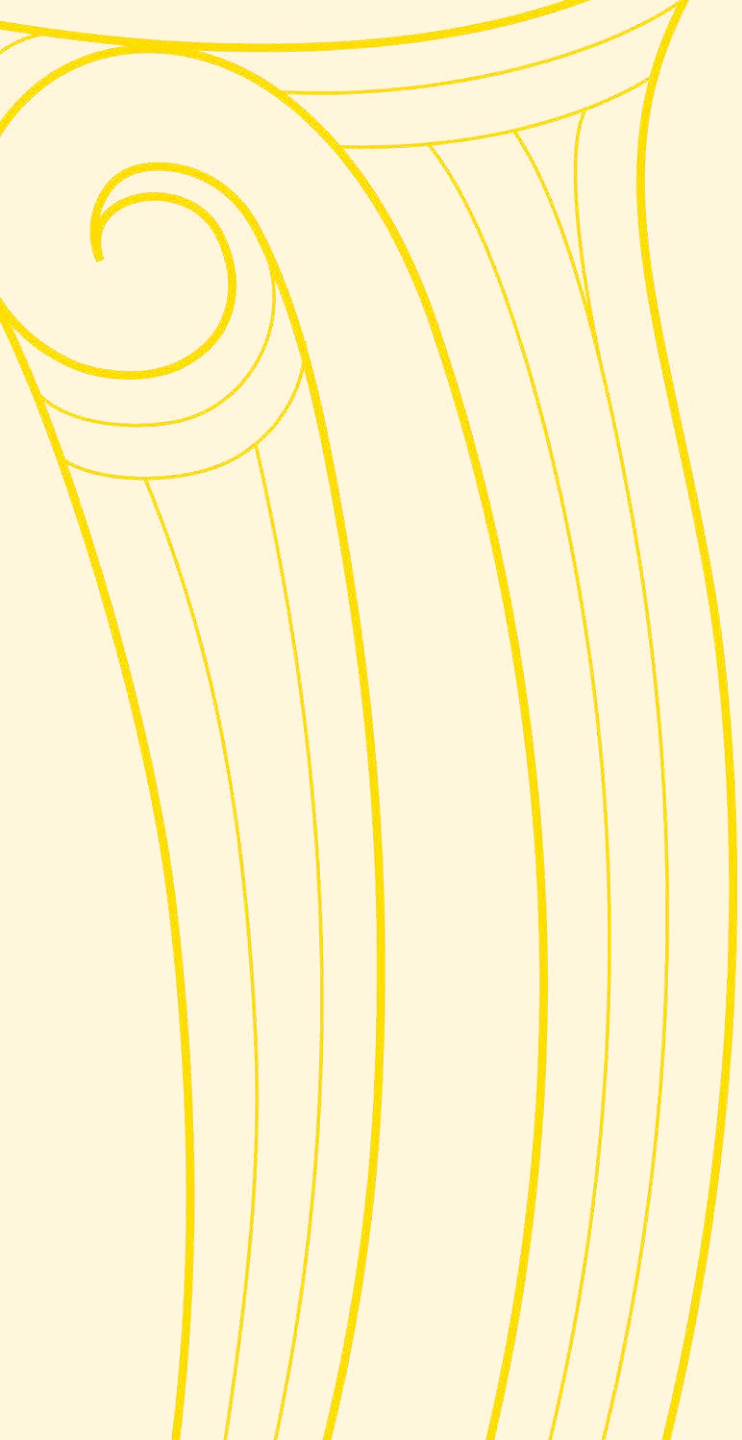
Provide the right support at the earliest time, and reduce disparities for Māori by improving both short and long-term outcomes and reducing intergenerational involvement.





**92%**

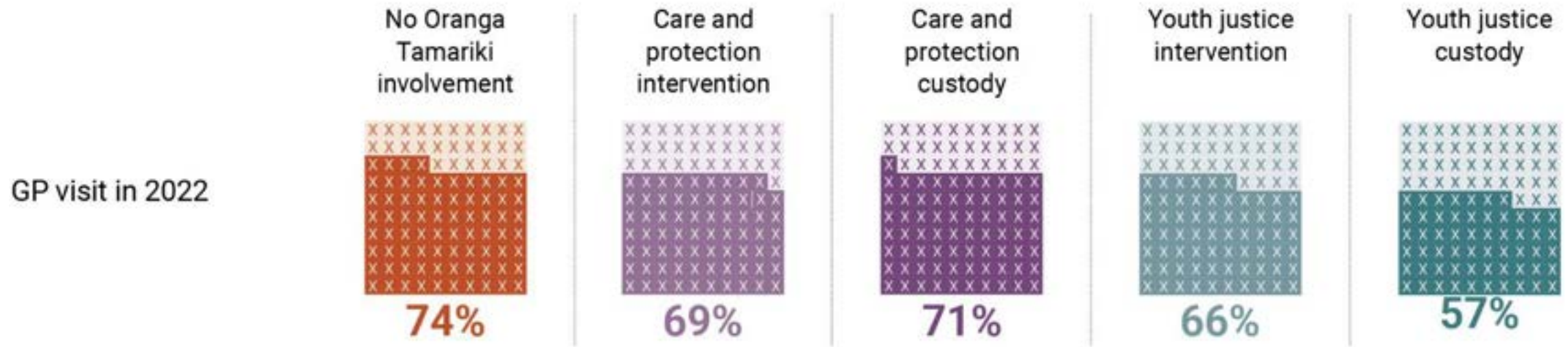
of rangatahi Māori referred for a youth justice family group conference in 2023/24 had a previous care and protection report of concern



# **Outcome indicators**

**for tamariki and rangatahi Māori  
aged 0–17 who are currently in  
the oranga tamariki system**

# Māori in the oranga tamariki system visited a GP at lower rates than those with no involvement



# Māori in the oranga tamariki system had more than seven times the rate of self-harm hospitalisation than those with no involvement

Self-harm  
hospitalisation  
in 2022

No Oranga  
Tamariki  
involvement



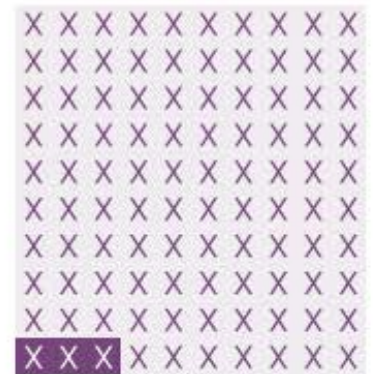
<1%

Care and protection  
and/or youth justice  
intervention



3%

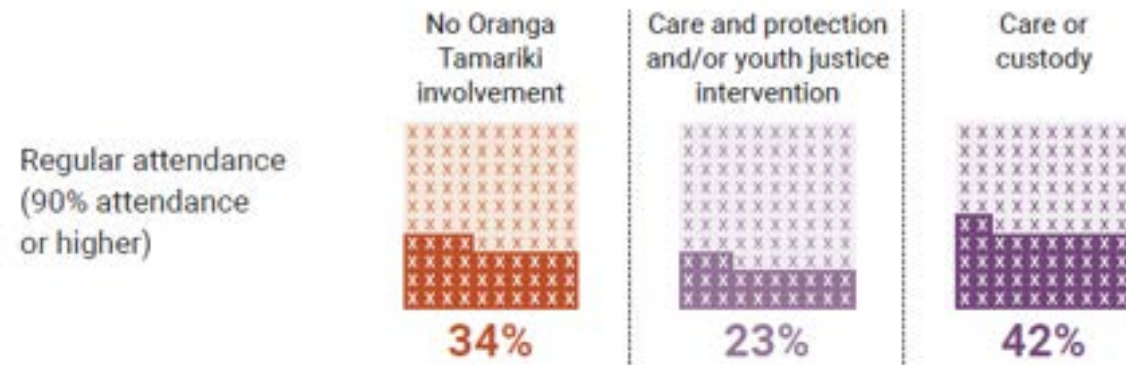
Care or  
custody



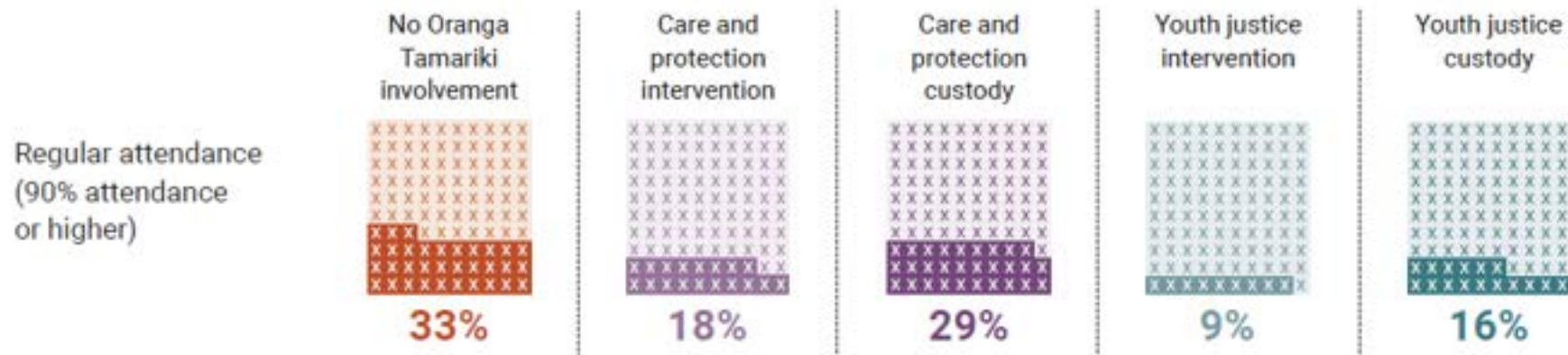
3%

# School attendance is worse for Māori receiving intervention than those in care or custody

Tamariki Māori primary and intermediate school attendance 2022



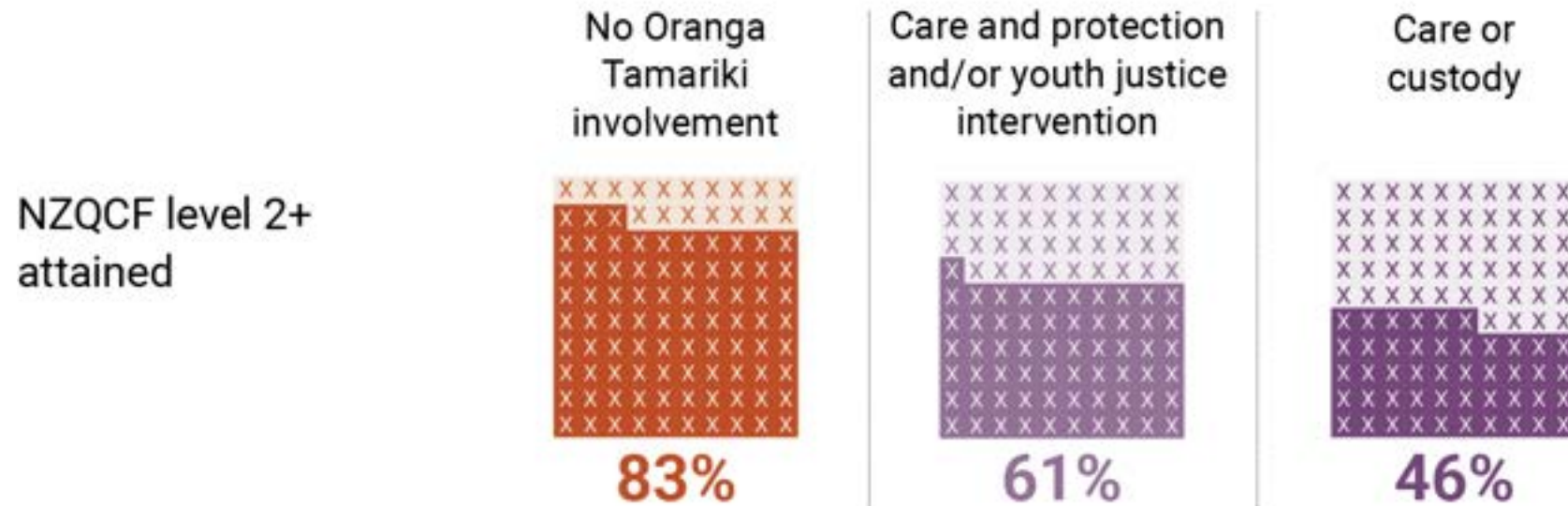
Rangatahi Māori secondary school attendance 2022

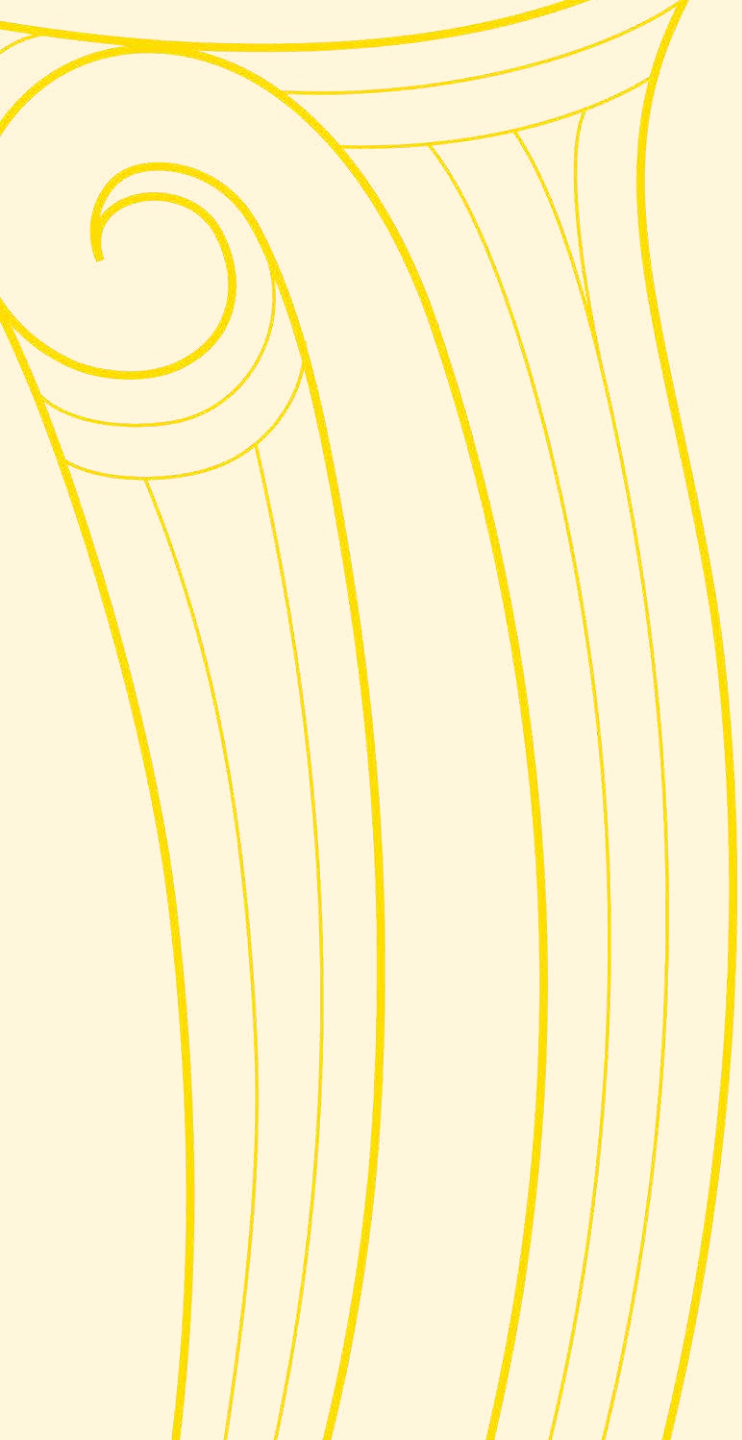




# Māori in care or custody achieve education qualifications at almost half the rate of Māori with no involvement

Māori in care or custody attain NZQCF level 2 and above at a much lower rate than those with no involvement in the oranga tamariki system



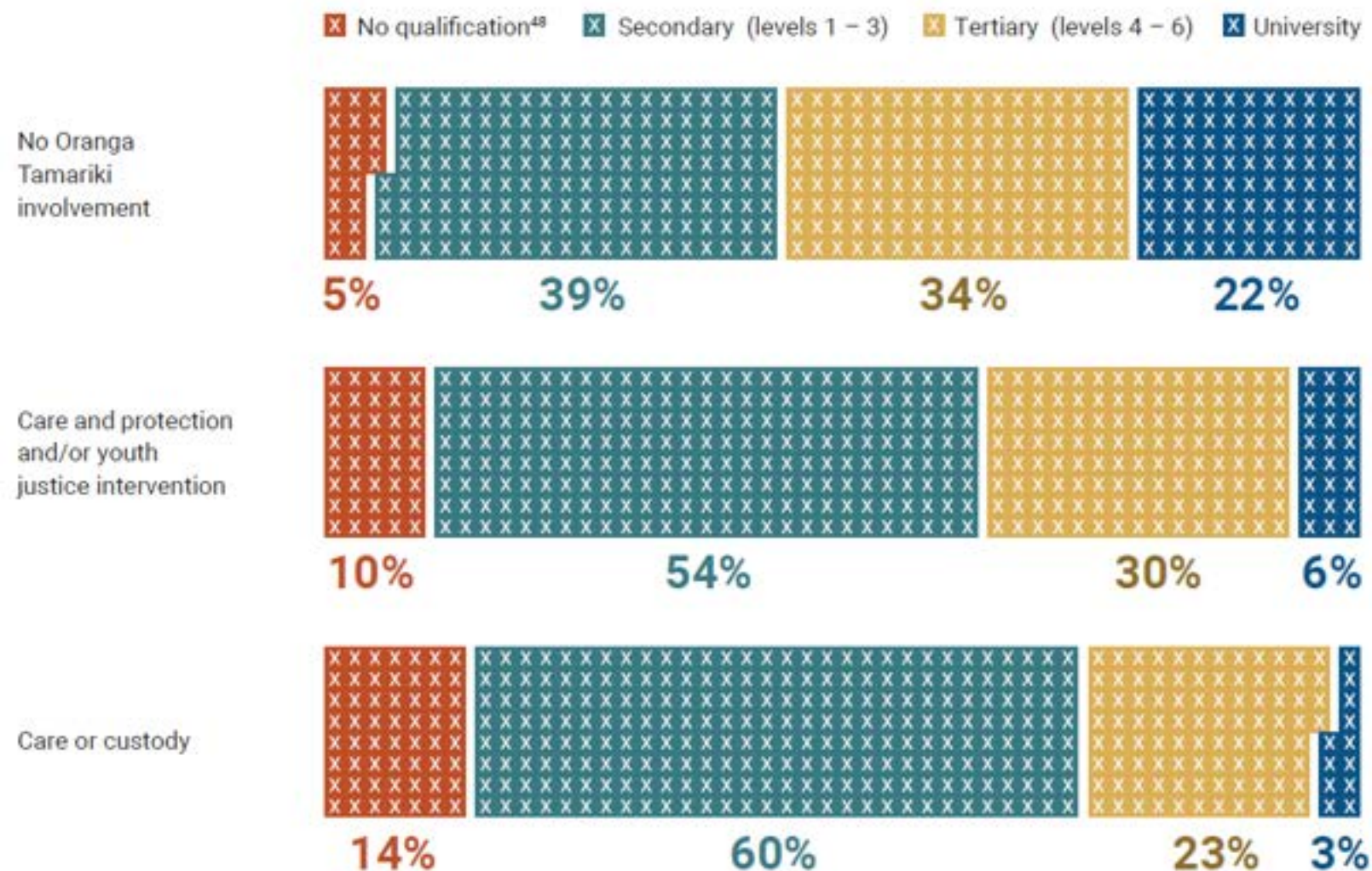


# **Outcome indicators**

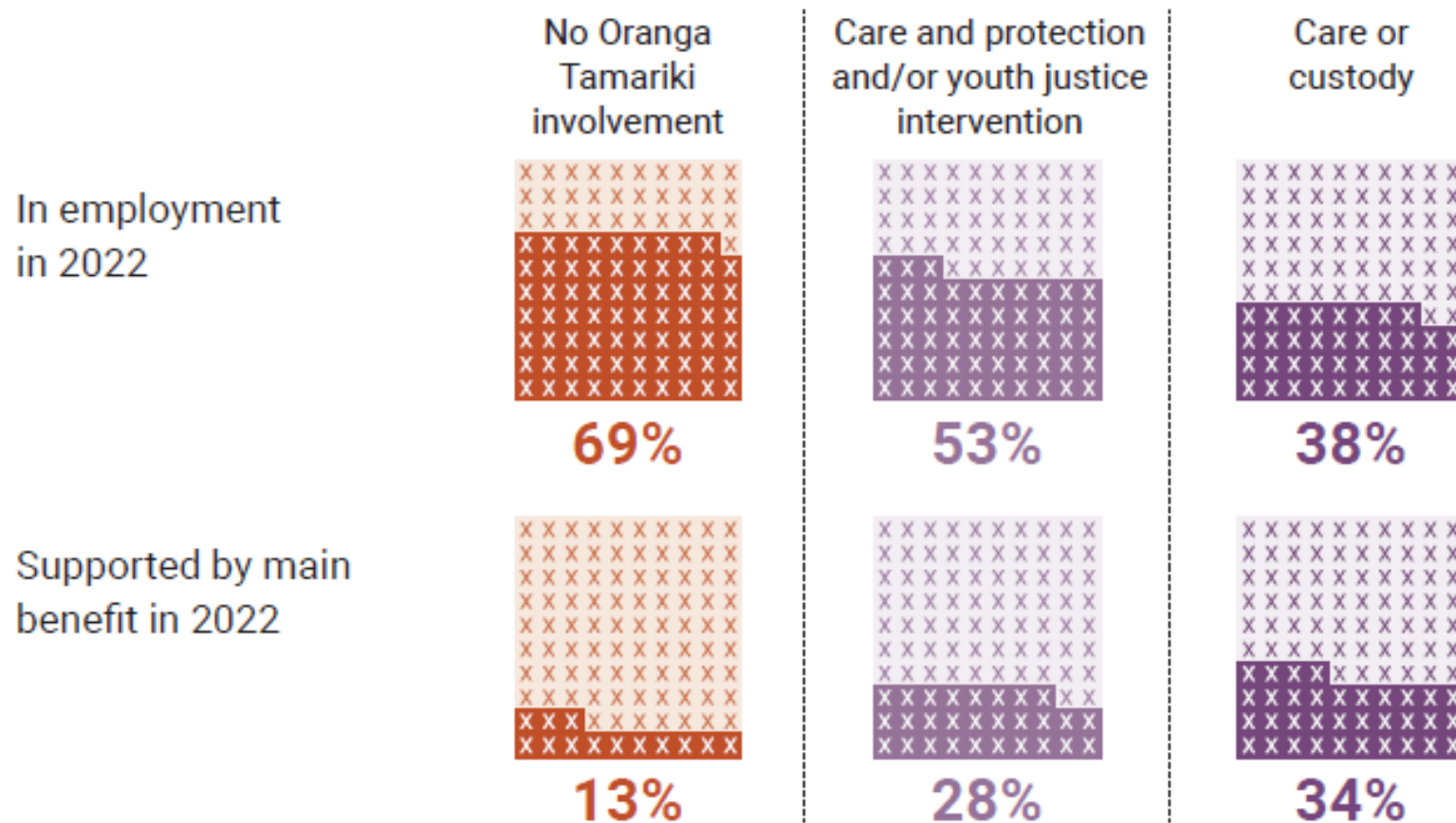
**for Māori aged 27-30 who were  
involved in the oranga tamariki  
system as children**



# Māori who had been in care or custody are three times more likely to have no qualification



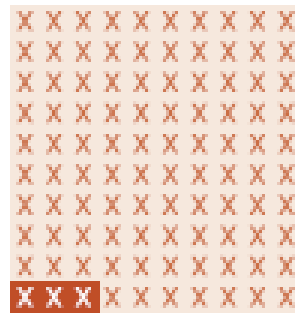
# Māori who had been in care or custody are almost half as likely to be in employment than Māori with no oranga tamariki system involvement



# Māori who had been in care or custody are nine times more likely to have spent some time in emergency housing as adults than Māori with no oranga tamariki system involvement

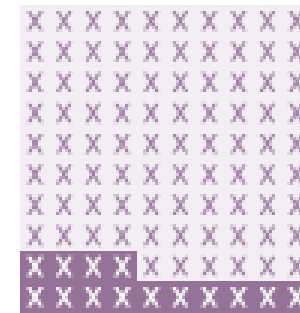
Emergency housing spell  
within adult life

No Oranga  
Tamariki  
involvement



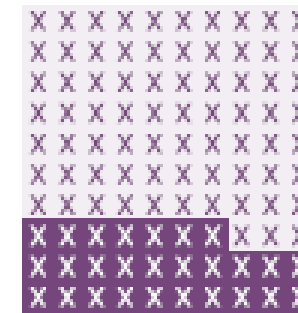
3%

Care and protection  
and/or youth justice  
intervention



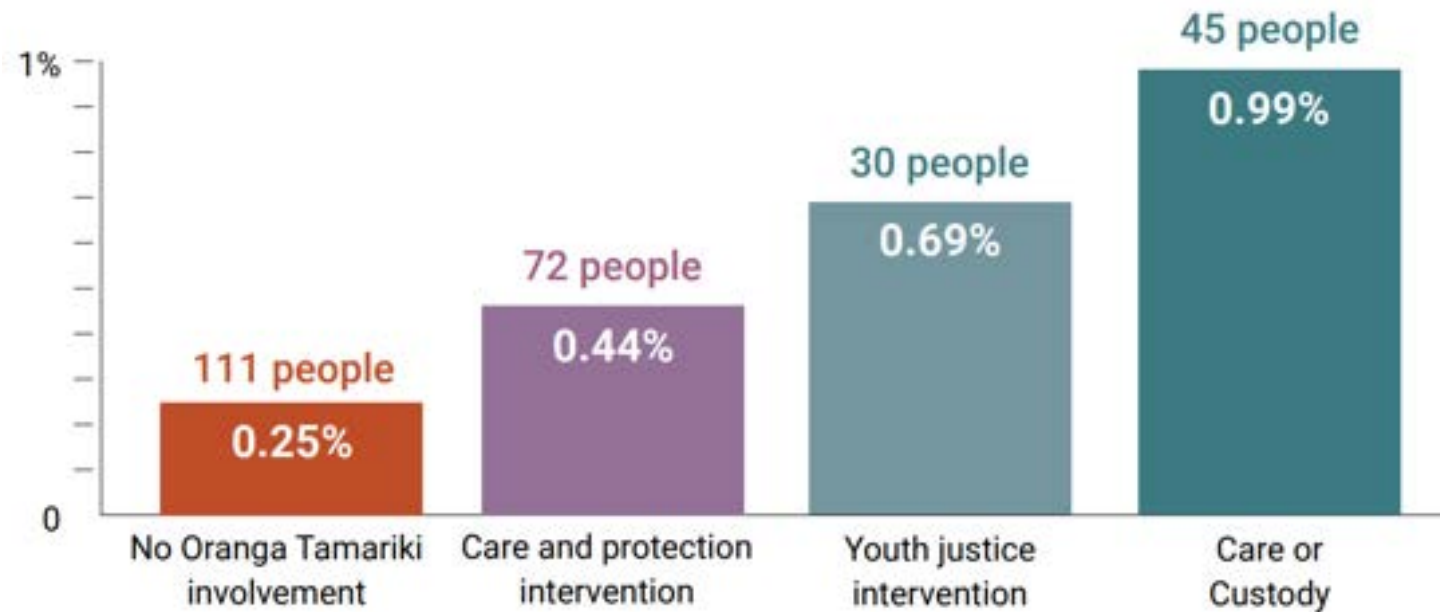
14%

Care or  
custody



27%

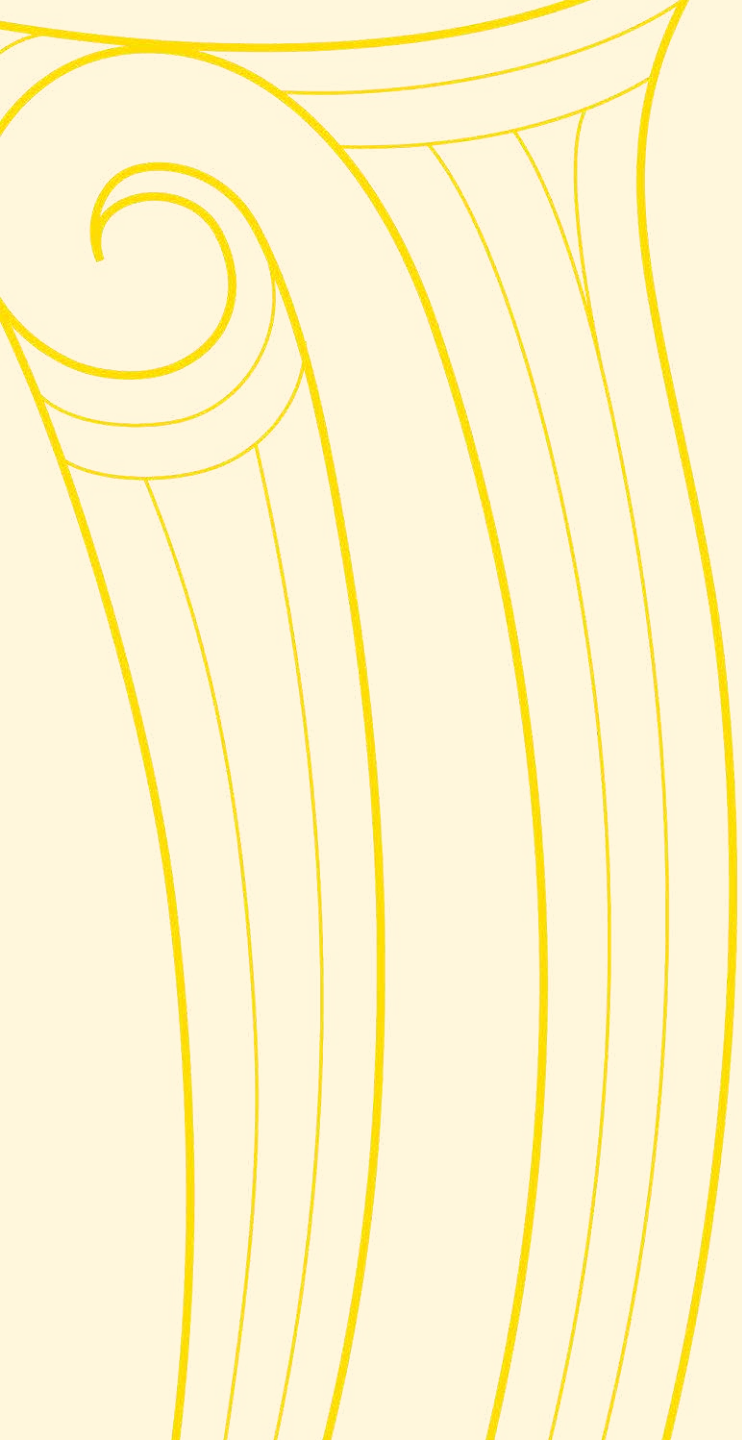
## A higher proportion of Māori who were involved in the oranga tamariki system as children have died from self-harm




Of Māori adults born between 1992 and 1995, by 2020 around:

- 3 in 1,000 — who had no Oranga Tamariki involvement had died from self-harm
- 4 in 1,000 — who had a care and protection intervention had died from self-harm
- 7 in 1,000 — who had a youth justice intervention had died from self-harm
- 10 in 1,000 — who had been in care or custody had died from self-harm



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of several concentric, flowing yellow lines that form a spiral or scroll-like shape, extending from the top left towards the bottom left.

# **How Oranga Tamariki and Police work with tamariki and rangatahi Māori and their whānau**



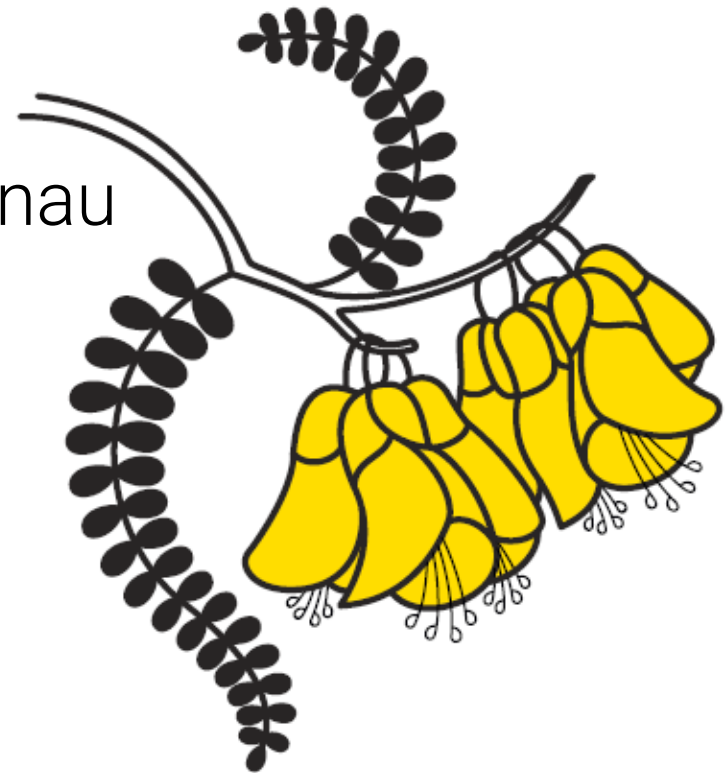
# **Tamariki and rangatahi are impacted by service gaps and waitlists**

- Across all regions, across the sector there are service gaps and long wait times
- More acute in rural locations and for disabled tamariki and rangatahi
- Oranga Tamariki kaimahi expressed frustration at being unable to directly purchase the things that were needed for tamariki and rangatahi

# Investment in iwi and Māori providers benefits Māori and their whānau

Rangatahi Māori and their whānau were positive about the services and support they received from iwi and Māori providers

- Working **with** tamariki, rangatahi and whānau
- Trusted relationships
- Wraparound support
- Holistic support for tamariki, rangatahi and their whānau can make a difference





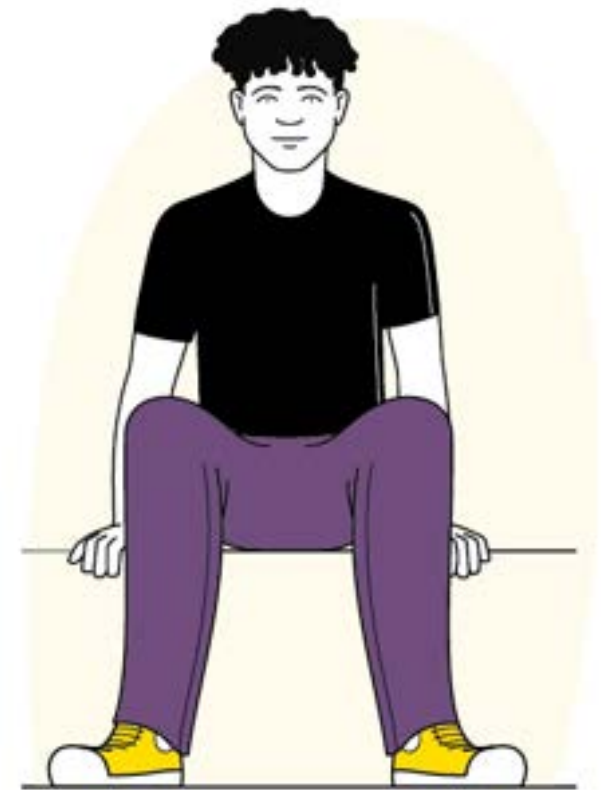
# Funding changes and cuts are starting to impact on services

“I don’t feel tika or pono at the moment. We’ve worked closely with iwi and forged good relationships, it’s been hard, but the goal-post changes then we have to go back and tell them. It breaks trust ... it’s the difficulties in contracts that’s the issue and their trust in us is dwindling, yet we are asking for more and more with less [funding].” - Oranga Tamariki leader



# Oranga Tamariki is not always taking action to respond to reports of concern at the earliest opportunity


“In youth justice the majority of our kids are Māori. They come through with trauma in the care system, there were missed opportunities where they have interacted with the care systems. A good 90 percent of them don’t know who they are. I try to get them back to be proud of who they are. We are mopping up at the end, flicking them through to the adult system.” - kairaranga ā-whānau



# Family Group Conferences (FGCs)

- FGCs are not always carried out as intended which can mean tamariki and rangatahi Māori don't always get the services they need
- Following up and delivering FGC plans is difficult due to the lack of funding and services





# **Rangatahi Māori are more likely to be prosecuted or referred to FGC**

## **Tamariki Māori aged 10-13 were**

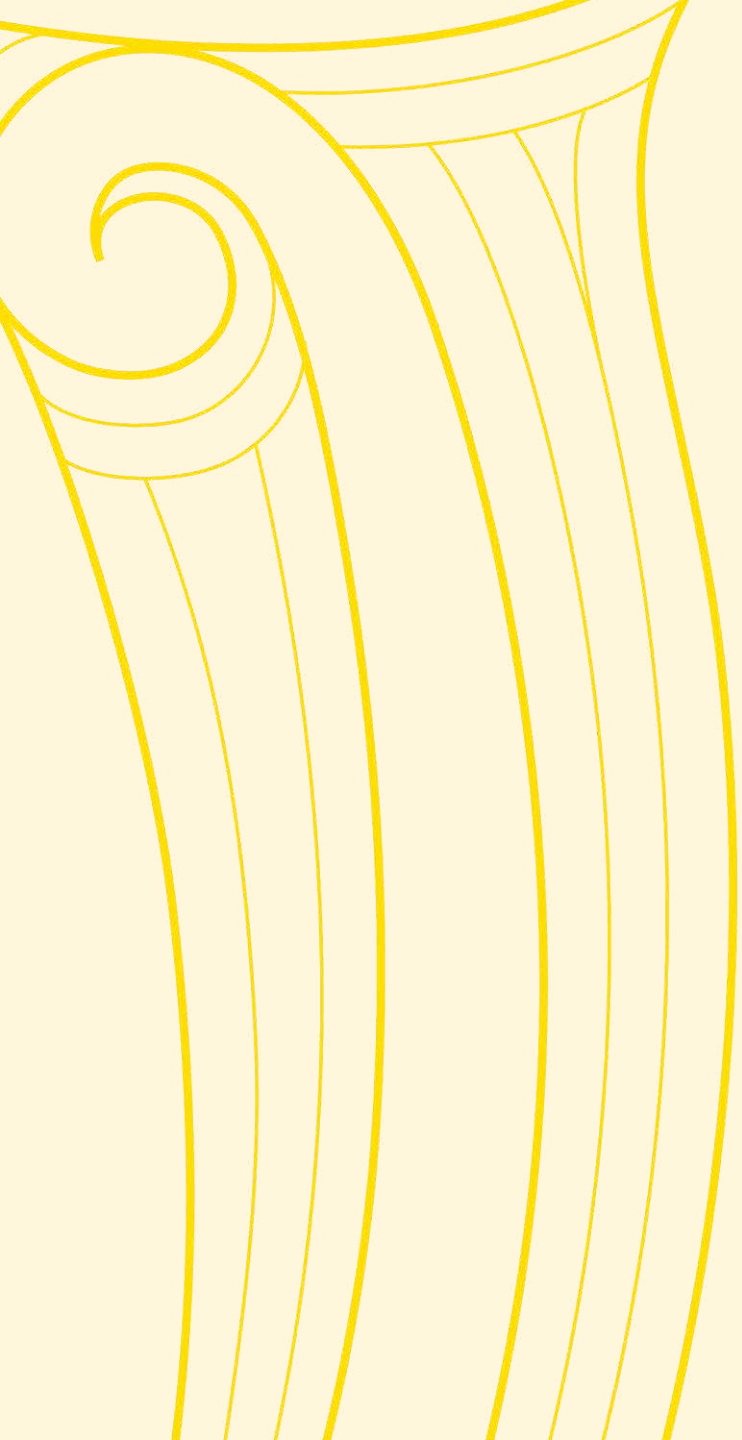
- less likely to be referred to alternative action or given a warning
- more likely to be prosecuted or referred to a youth justice FGC.

## **Rangatahi Māori aged 14-17 were**

- more likely to be prosecuted
- less likely to get a warning or be referred to alternative action



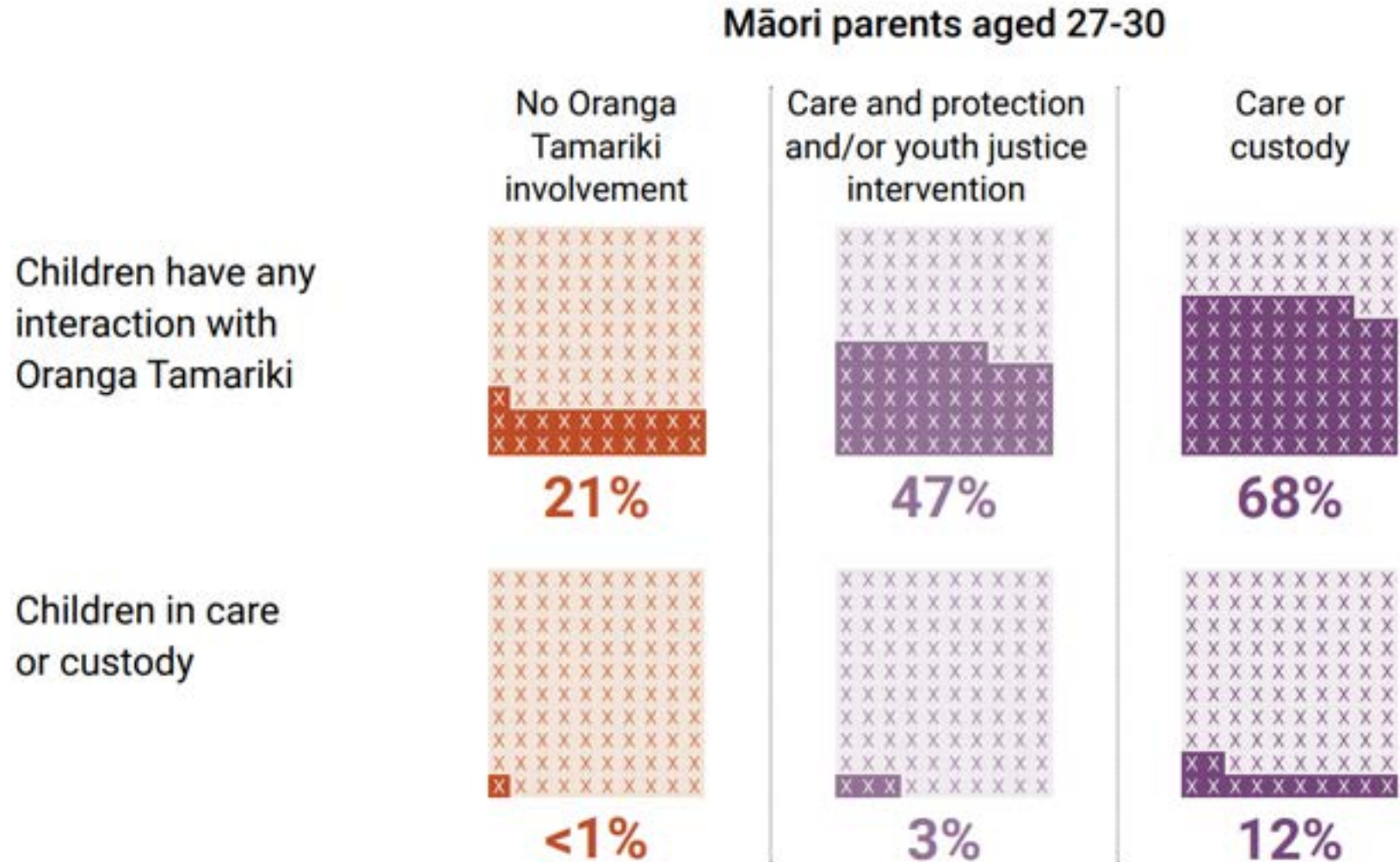
“There are tensions between government organisations, so there’s always scraps over funding – Those battles mean that there sometimes end up being gaps what we Oranga Tamariki, can’t fill. There are things that are too specialised for us to fill in, so we fill in gaps for education all the time. We will fund things for disability or for trauma that aren’t our specialist area and can be better managed by other agencies but aren’t.” - Oranga Tamariki kaimahi



# **Our pou for future reports**



# A reduction in intergenerational involvement in the system



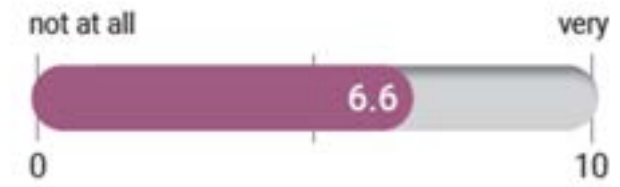
Current state:  
data from 2022



# Tamariki and rangatahi Māori are hopeful about their future

Current state from survey conducted in 2021

Tamariki and rangatahi Māori involved with Oranga Tamariki feel hopeful about their future (this figure includes those who self-identify as disabled)



“Just like to grow up  
successful and, if I find the  
right person, to give my kids  
what I couldn’t have.” -  
rangatahi





# **How government agencies responded to our report**



# What Oranga Tamariki said in response to our report

- Committed to improving outcomes.
- Devolving services to iwi, Māori and communities - a long-term direction.
- Working with other children's agencies to deliver on the Oranga Tamariki Action Plan.
- Enabling more effective locally led services to provide early intervention.
- Continuing to focus on the many positive initiatives identified in the report.



# What Police said in response to our report

- Committed to improving outcomes.
- Implementing Te Huringa o Te Tai - strategic framework for improving outcomes for Māori.
- Strengthening partnerships with iwi, hapū, whānau, and Māori communities.
- Expanding Te Pae Oranga Rangatahi from six to 13 sites across ten Police Districts by December 2025.
- Supporting whānau-centred, culturally grounded responses - like Kotahi te Whakaaro.
- Improving frontline practice through training.

# Our report in the media

## SPINOFF

POLITICS POP CULTURE ĀTEA BOOKS SECTIONS▼ PODCASTS VIDEO MORE▼

ĀTEA June 13, 2025

### 'Falling short': New oranga tamariki report finds 'sobering' outcomes for Māori in care

**RNZ** News Life Radio Podcasts Video Sections

New Zealand World Politics Pacific Te Ao Māori Sport Business Country

NEW ZEALAND / POLITICS

## Oranga Tamariki report finds stark outcomes for Māori in state care system

## 'Sobering' report reveals realities & optimism of Māori kids in the system: 'The state is falling short'



'My dreams will come true...even if it takes a while': The 'sobering' report on Māori kids in the system  
nzherald.co.nz

A stark picture of the consequences of Oranga Tamariki's system not helping young Maori enough

## The Post | TE UPOKO O TE IKA

OPINION AUCKLAND CULTURE SPORT PUZZLES

### 'Absolutely hopeful': Porirua iwi's work with OT a beacon for change

## The Post | TE UPOKO O TE IKA

OPINION AUCKLAND CULTURE SPORT PUZZLES

### Most Māori referred to youth justice had concerns reported to OT

Home / Herald NOW

## More evidence Māori children continue to fall through the cracks of Oranga Tamariki

### Independent Children's Monitor says Oranga Tamariki report makes case for state care investment

ON AIR HEATHER DU PLESSIS-ALLAN DRIVE

NewsTalk ZB Wed, 11 Jun 2025, 6:20pm

Heart  
Arran Jones: Independent Children's Monitor Chief Executive on the new report re...  
Heather du Plessis-Allan Drive

**TE AO** Video National Regional Politics Current Affairs Indigenous Rangatahi

Indigenous

### 'State falling short': Children's monitor urges collective action for mokopuna Māori





**Questions?**