



Quality of Life survey

Māori in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt

The 2022 Quality of Life Survey found a range of differences in the quality-of-life experienced by Māori in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai / Lower Hutt compared to non-Māori.

Sample details

People identifying as Māori made up 21% of the overall 2022 Quality of Life survey sample for Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai. This is consistent with the proportion of people identifying as being of Māori descent from the 2018 Census (20%).

Māori rated their quality of life in Lower Hutt lower than non-Māori

In terms of overall quality of life



78% of Māori rated their overall quality of life as good compared to **88%** of non-Māori.

Māori reported greater difficulty meeting the costs of living than non-Māori

Māori survey participants indicated greater challenges meeting the costs of living than non-Māori.



37% of Māori agreed that their housing costs are affordable compared to **46%** of non-Māori.

Conversely, 44% of Māori survey participants said that their housing costs are unaffordable, compared to 36% of non-Māori. This suggests that elevated housing-related costs in Lower Hutt are impacting Māori disproportionately.

Beyond housing, 33% agreed that their income meets their everyday needs (which includes food, power and other utilities), compared to 56% of non-Māori. Conversely, 23% of Māori said that their income does not cover their everyday needs, compared to 11% of non-Māori.

Māori reported poorer health outcomes than non-Māori

Māori survey respondents also reported poorer health outcomes than non-Māori.



20% of Māori agreed that they are in good physical health compared to **37%** of non-Māori.

Conversely, 41% of Māori survey participants indicated that they are in poor physical health, compared to 31% of non-Māori.

Similar disparities are evident in survey responses regarding mental health. For example, 26% of Māori survey participants agreed that they are in good mental health, compared to 37% of non-Māori, while 35% of Māori participants did not agree that they are in good mental health, compared to 31% of non-Māori.

48% of Māori perceived that Covid-19 had a negative impact their physical health, compared to 36% of non-Māori.

Understanding the results

The Quality of Life survey data suggests that Māori in Lower Hutt experience a poorer quality of life than non-Māori across several key measures. Broader Quality of Life survey results indicate that this is reflective of a nationwide trend (hutt.city/QOLproject).

Rather than being separate, issues associated with Māori experiencing poorer physical and mental health, housing affordability and the ability of income to meet every day needs are likely interlinked, with some degree of correlation between them.

This is likely reflective of the comparatively lower overall quality-of-life score for Māori in Lower Hutt compared to non-Māori.

Promoting Māori wellbeing

Alone, survey data is unable to tell the whole quality-of-life story for Māori in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai / Lower Hutt because it excludes community initiatives that seek to promote Māori being.

Below is a short summary of some of the local initiatives aimed at promoting Māori wellbeing in Lower Hutt.

- The Te Ara o Takapū housing development – a housing partnership between Hutt City Council, Iwi and Kahungunu Whānau Services (hutt.city/placetocalhome).
- The Te Awa Kairangi Kai Collective, which coordinates the provision of emergency kai parcels to people in our communities who are in need (www.takk.org.nz).
- Te reo Māori inclusion across Hutt City through signage and documentation.
- and equitable outcomes for Lower Hutt residents, regardless of whether they own their own home.