



School Trustees who are Māori

The proportion of board members who are Māori has increased since 1998

Indicator Description

Proportion of parent representatives on the boards of trustees who are Māori.

Why This Is Important

Boards of trustees of state schools must hold elections for parent representatives every three years. A board may also decide to adopt a mid-term election cycle where half the number of its parent representatives are elected at a mid-term election (18 months after the triennial election) and the remainder are elected at the triennial election.

Triennial elections were held every three years from 1998. A by-election can occur at any stage in the election cycle if an elected parent representative leaves the board

and thereby creates a casual vacancy. Although the major changes in board membership occur in triennial election years, there is still some fluctuation in intervening years due to by-elections and mid-term elections.

This indicator is a snapshot of the composition of boards of trustees as at 1 December of each year.

Active participation by Māori in planning, development and delivery of education services will help to ensure that those services are appropriate and effective for Māori. Māori representation on boards of trustees is one key mechanism for participation. Other mechanisms include Māori provider development, and Māori workforce development.

How We Are Going

In December 2010 one fifth of board members were Māori.

Since 1998 the proportion of Māori board members increased from 15.2% to 19.1% in 2010.

The proportion of Māori on boards of trustees is four percentage points lower than the proportion of Māori students in these schools (23.1% in 2010).

Demographics, such as family size, is a contributor to this underrepresentation. Based on the Population Census 2006 for every school aged Māori child (5-19 years old) there are 1.24 Māori adults aged 25 to 49. In comparison there are 1.81 European/Pākehā adults for every European/Pākehā child.

In 2010, Māori women accounted for 63.7% of all Māori board members. This represents a 5% increase from the proportion of Māori trustees who were women in 1998 (60.6%). In comparison, 45.6% of all non-Māori board members in 2010 were women.

Where To Find Out More

To obtain further information on Māori participation in providing education services, consider indicator:

- Kura kaupapa Māori and kura teina

To obtain information on the proportion of Pasifika representatives, consider indicator:

- Pasifika parent representation on the boards of trustees

References

- Mill, A. (2007). *Results of the School Board of Trustees Elections: 2007*. Wellington: Ministry of Education.
- Ministry of Education (2007). *Working in Partnership: Information for New School Trustees 2007 – 2010*. Wellington: Ministry of Education.

Proportion of board of trustees members who are Māori (1998 to 2010)

