



Funding to Māori Health Providers, 2019/20 to 2023/24

June 2025

This is a report produced by the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on funding to Māori health providers.¹ It covers payments made by the Ministry, Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora, the former Māori Health Authority – Te Aka Whai Ora, and the former district health boards, together referred to as ‘health entities’. It covers the period 2019/20 to 2023/24 and follows on from our previous reports² on the same topic.

The types of services delivered by Māori providers include a range of health services, such as child health, oral health, maternity, community health, mental health, health of older people and public health. These services can be categorised generally as health services. Contracts delivered by Māori health providers are services targeted towards Māori, Pacific peoples and high-needs communities. The data presented in this report does not attempt to measure the total spend on health services for Māori. Instead, it focuses on funding allocated to Māori health providers. This report does not focus on or explain how well health needs are catered for, the quality of health services provided, or other services used to help these communities.

The number of Māori health providers is difficult to determine because of acquisitions, mergers, closures, the use of subsidiaries and trading names, and providers not receiving funding every financial year. In the 2023/24 year there were around 320 (285 excluding subsidiaries) Māori health providers, which is 10 more than reported in the 2022/23 year. The increase in providers is made up of:

- 10 new providers identified through new Māori Health Authority contracts
- 10 other new providers identified in contract data
- 10 providers who were removed for the reasons noted above.

Changes to the methodology used in this report

There have been many recent structural changes to the New Zealand health system resulting in different coding methods and funding streams being used. These changes include:

- the introduction of the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Act 2022
- the establishment of Health New Zealand and the Māori Health Authority
- the transfer of provider funding responsibilities from the Ministry and the district health boards to Health New Zealand and the Māori Health Authority

¹ Māori health providers have been identified as suppliers of health care services that are owned and governed by Māori and are providing health and disability services primarily but not exclusively for Māori.

² Ministry of Health. 2024. *Funding to Māori Health Providers 2018/19 to 2022/23*. Wellington: Ministry of Health. URL: health.govt.nz/publications/funding-to-maori-health-providers-201819-to-202223 (accessed 19 May 2025).

- the disestablishment of district health boards
- the disestablishment of the Māori Health Authority in 2024.

This means categories shown in this report are not comparable to previous reports. An example of different coding methods can be seen in the table below.

Table 1: The Ministry, Health New Zealand and the Māori Health Authority COVID-19 funding to Māori health providers, by coding type, 2019/20 to 2023/24

COVID-19 Funding	Year				
	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
By contract description	14.0	27.5	138.0	108.9	26.1
By COVID-19 coding	4.6	5.7	56.8	53.5	9.1
By MAOR1901 coding	1.4	17.1	66.4	54.3	16.5

Source: Ministry of Health, Wellington.

Showing funding relating to the COVID-19 response can be done in different ways. Identifying COVID-19 funding by contract description means including any contract which has the word 'COVID' in its title. This method has been used in all previous reports.

Identifying COVID-19 funding by COVID-19 coding includes all funding coded to COVID-19 specific purchase unit codes,³ such as: COV1901, COV1902, COV1903, COV1910, COV1912, and COV1914. Māori responses to COVID-19 can also have a different purchase unit code, MAOR1901, which can also be classified as COVID-19 funding. Contract managers decide which purchase unit codes are used. This report uses purchase unit codes to identify funding for different health service types.

Like previous reports, this report shows actual funding paid to providers during a financial year. The figures from Table 1 are included in the tables below.

Funding to Māori health providers and Vote Health, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Table 2: Funding to Māori health providers as a percentage of Vote Health, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Funding	Year					Increase	
	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	19/20 to 23/24	19/20 to 23/24
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	%
Total health entities funding to Māori health providers	529.8	588.0	780.0	818.6	999.8	469.9	88.7

³ See 'Purchase unit codes' on the Health New Zealand website: [tewhatauora.govt.nz/health-services-and-programmes/nationwide-service-framework-library/purchase-units](https://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/health-services-and-programmes/nationwide-service-framework-library/purchase-units)

Vote Health	17,890	19,313	20,704	21,111	22,901	5,011.5	28.0
Total funding as a percentage of Vote Health	3.0%	3.0%	3.8%	3.9%	4.4%	–	–

Source: Ministry of Health, Wellington; Health Sector – Estimates of Appropriations, The Treasury, Wellington.

Notes: Due to rounding, individual figures in this table may not add to the stated totals and percentages may appear to differ from those stated.

Total funding to Māori health providers increased from \$529.8 million in 2019/20 to \$999.8 million in 2023/24, an increase of \$469.9 million or 88.7%.

As in previous reports, although total funding to Māori health providers is increasing, it remains a small but increasing part of Vote Health. It has increased from 3.0% in 2019/20 to 4.4% in 2023/24.

Funding to Māori health providers by the five largest major service groups, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Table 3: Funding to Māori health providers by the five largest major service groups, 2019/20 to 2023/24

Funding by top five major service groups	Year					Increase	
	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	19/20 to 23/24	19/20 to 23/24
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	%
Mental health services	117.4	134.5	166.8	200.5	245.7	128.4	109.4
Hauora Māori services	66.2	64.8	85.4	93.3	227.8	161.6	244.3
Primary health organisation services	170.1	192.7	204.9	194.2	211.2	41.0	24.1
Public health services	25.9	26.7	28.1	38.5	70.2	44.3	170.8
Other community services	16.4	40.7	155.5	127.8	59.0	42.6	259.8
Total - five largest major service groups	396.0	459.4	640.6	654.3	813.9	417.9	105.5
All other major service groups	133.9	128.6	139.4	164.3	185.9	52.0	38.9
Total health entities funding to Māori health providers	529.8	588.0	780.0	818.6	999.8	469.9	88.7

Source: Ministry of Health, Wellington.

Notes: Due to rounding, individual figures in this table may not add to the stated totals and percentages may appear to differ from those stated.

The purchase unit coding system used by health entities allows for service lines to be grouped by just over 30 major service groups covering all services across the health system. As mentioned before, in some cases similar contracts could be coded under different codes. Despite this, reporting

by major service group allows for comparisons and provides an indication of where the increases in funding to Māori health providers were distributed.

Information on major service groups can be found on Health New Zealand's website, particularly within the purchase unit data dictionary.⁴

Table 3 shows funding by the five largest major service groups by dollar value. These five groups accounted for 81.4% of total funding to Māori health providers in 2023/24.

Between 2019/20 and 2023/24:

- Mental health service funding increased by \$128.4 million or 109.4%.
- Hauora Māori service funding increased by \$161.6 million or 244.3%. Most of this increase came from the areas of support services for mothers and their pēpi (\$44.0 million), Māori health development (\$36.6 million) and health promotion (\$15.2 million).
- Primary health organisation service funding increased by \$41.0 million or 24.1%.
- Public health service funding increased by \$44.3 million or 170.8%. The biggest increases were observed in the areas of preventative interventions – immunisation services (\$25.3 million) and health promotion (\$10.1 million).
- Other community service funding increased by \$42.6 million or 259.8%. These cover a wide range of contracts not included elsewhere. The biggest increase during this period came from COVID-19 contracts (\$19.6 million). COVID-19 contracts increased substantially between 2019/20 and 2021/22 and then decreased between 2021/22 and 2023/24 (see Table 1).



June 2025

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⁴ See 'Purchase unit codes' on the Health New Zealand website: [tewhatauora.govt.nz/health-services-and-programmes/nationwide-service-framework-library/purchase-units](https://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/health-services-and-programmes/nationwide-service-framework-library/purchase-units)