

Funding to Māori Health Providers, 2020/21 to 2024/25

April 2026

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 (Health New Zealand), the former Māori Health Authority – Te Aka Whai Ora (Māori Health Authority), and the former district health boards, together referred to as ‘health entities’. It covers the period 2020/21 to 2024/25 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 2024/25 year there were around 370 Māori health providers, which is 50 more than reported in the 2023/24 year. The increase in providers is made up of new providers identified through new Health New Zealand contracts.

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, including:
 - 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
 - the disestablishment of district health boards
- the disestablishment of the Māori Health Authority in 2024
- the establishment of a new payments system by Health New Zealand in 2024/25.

These changes mean figures shown in this report are not comparable to previous reports.

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. 2025. *Funding to Māori Health Providers 2019/20 to 2023/24*. Wellington: Ministry of Health. URL: health.govt.nz/publications/funding-to-maori-health-providers-201920-to-202324 (accessed 19 December 2025).

Funding to Māori health providers and Vote Health, 2020/21 to 2024/25

Table 1: Funding to Māori health providers as a percentage of Vote Health, 2020/21 to 2024/25

| Funding | Year | | | | | Increase | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| | 20/21 \$m | 21/22 \$m | 22/23 \$m | 23/24 \$m | 24/25 \$m | 20/21 to 24/25 \$m | 20/21 to 24/25 % |
| Total health entities funding to Māori health providers | 584.8 | 778.1 | 809.6 | 1,014.8 | 1,093.4 | 508.6 | 87.0 |
| Vote Health | 19,313 | 20,704 | 21,111 | 22,901 | 26,122 | 6,809.0 | 35.3 |
| Total funding as a percentage of Vote Health | 3.0% | 3.8% | 3.8% | 4.4% | 4.2% | – | – |

Source: Ministry of Health, Wellington; Health New Zealand, Wellington; Total Non-Departmental Output Expenses, 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 \$584.8 million in 2020/21 to \$1,093.4 million in 2024/25, an increase of \$508.6 million or 87.0%.

As in previous reports, total funding to Māori health providers remains a small but increasing part of Vote Health. Funding increased from 3.0% in 2020/21 to 4.4% in 2023/24, then decreased to 4.2% in 24/25. While funding increased between 2023/24 and 2024/25 when measured in dollar terms, the increase in Vote Health was greater leading to a drop in percentage terms.

Funding to Māori health providers by the five largest major service groups, 2020/21 to 2024/25

Table 2: Funding to Māori health providers by the five largest major service groups, 2020/21 to 2024/25

| Funding by top five major service groups | Year | | | | | Increase | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| | 20/21 \$m | 21/22 \$m | 22/23 \$m | 23/24 \$m | 24/25 \$m | 20/21 to 24/25 \$m | 20/21 to 24/25 % |
| Mental health services | 132.7 | 166.9 | 198.9 | 246.7 | 290.2 | 157.5 | 118.8 |
| Primary care organisation services | 189.0 | 204.5 | 194.0 | 213.9 | 277.1 | 88.1 | 46.6 |
| Hauora Māori services | 64.1 | 83.2 | 92.0 | 238.3 | 265.2 | 201.1 | 313.6 |
| Public health services | 26.9 | 28.2 | 38.5 | 71.1 | 73.1 | 46.2 | 171.6 |
| Support services | 40.3 | 44.2 | 42.3 | 47.8 | 46.2 | 5.9 | 14.7 |
| Total - five largest major service groups | 453.0 | 527.1 | 565.6 | 817.8 | 951.7 | 498.8 | 110.1 |
| All other major service groups | 131.8 | 251.0 | 244.0 | 196.9 | 141.6 | 9.8 | 7.4 |
| Total health entities funding to Māori health providers | 584.8 | 778.1 | 809.6 | 1,014.8 | 1,093.4 | 508.6 | 87.0 |

Source: Ministry of Health, Wellington; Health New Zealand, 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. In some cases, contracts could be coded under different codes. For example, a contract for Hauora Māori mental health services could be coded under mental health or Hauora Māori services. The contract Manager decides which code will be used. 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.³

Table 2 shows funding by the five largest major service groups by dollar value. These five groups accounted for 86.9% of total funding to Māori health providers in 2024/25.

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)

Between 2020/21 and 2024/25:

- mental health service funding increased by \$157.5 million or 118.8%
- primary care organisation services funding increased by \$88.1 million or 46.6%
- hauora Māori service funding increased by \$201.1 million or 313.6%. Most of this increase came from the areas of support services for mothers and their pēpi (\$36.3 million), Māori health development (\$39.1 million), health promotion (\$47.4 million), and mātauranga Māori (\$65.1 million)
- public health service funding increased by \$46.2 million or 171.6%. The biggest increases were observed in the areas of preventative interventions – immunisation services (\$24.8 million) and health promotion (\$7.4 million)
- support service funding increased by \$5.9 million or 14.7%. These cover a wide range of contracts not included elsewhere.

Māori health providers remain an important and growing part of Aotearoa New Zealand’s health system, delivering a wide range of services that are responsive to need, culturally grounded and targeted to Māori, Pacific peoples, and other high-needs communities. Between 2020/21 and 2024/25, funding to Māori health providers increased by 87%, reflecting their expanding role across key service areas such as mental health, primary care, hauora Māori, and public health. While this funding still represents a relatively small proportion of overall Vote Health, its steady growth and the increasing number of Māori providers demonstrate the system’s continued reliance on Māori-led organisations to improve access, responsiveness to need, and outcomes for Māori and whānau.

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