

Horizon Research

**Human rights and Te Tiriti/ Treaty issues
December 2024**

Prepared for

**Te Kāhui Tika Tangata
Human Rights Commission**

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Executive Summary

This report summarises the results of a survey of New Zealand adults' views and understanding of the Treaty of Waitangi/ Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and views on how it should be honoured.

It also finds what is most important for the future of the country when managing Treaty/ Te Tiriti issues.

The research aims to support work to educate, protect human rights and foster understanding of Treaty of Waitangi/ Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The survey was conducted nationwide between 16th and 21st December, 2024. There were 1,043 respondents aged 18+, representing New Zealand's adult population.

At a 95% confidence level, the survey has a maximum margin of error of $\pm 3\%$ overall.

Some results in this report are compared with results of a survey conducted for Te Kāhui Tika Tangata, Human Rights Commission in November 2023.

Summary of findings

What is important for the country?

When thinking about what is important for the country, **people believe that a country where human rights are respected, upheld and protected in New Zealand's laws and constitutions is important.**

93% (3,575,000 adults¹) believe that *A country where human rights are respected and upheld is important*².

- **54%** (2,079,000 adults) say it is *very important*.

90.2% (3,486,000 adults) believe *Human rights being protected in New Zealand's laws and constitution is important*.

- **70%** (2,702,000 adults) say it is *very important*.

89.8% (3,471,000 adults) also believe it is important *that everyone in New Zealand has a strong sense of belonging*.

- **66%** (2,555,000 adults) believe it is *very important*.

¹ All population numbers based on the Stats NZ 2023 Census population 3,865,235 people aged 18 or over. All population numbers are to the nearest thousand.

² Very important/somewhat important

Comparing three statements with 2023 results, there is a significant increase in the number who believe *Harmonious race relations through honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi/ the Treaty of Waitangi* is important.

	2024	2023
Respectful discussion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and racial issues	78%	80%
Harmonious race relations through honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi/ the Treaty of Waitangi.	72% ↑	66%
A country where everyone knows its history.	85%	83%

↑↓ Significant change from Nov 2023.

Respondents' views of The Treaty/Te Tiriti

73% (2,822,000 adults) agreed³ that *The signing of the Treaty / Te Tiriti is a significant event in New Zealand's history and an important part of our national identity.*

68% (2,632,000) also agreed that *Working through Treaty/ Te Tiriti issues requires more careful listening and understanding and less political rhetoric.*

And **23%** (897,000) agreed with the statement *I don't mind politicians or advocates inflaming race relations when debating Treaty/ Te Tiriti issues*, and **46%** (1,770,000 adults) disagreed.

	Total agree	Total disagree
The signing of the Treaty / Te Tiriti is a significant event in New Zealand's history and an important part of our national identity.	73%	9%
Working through Treaty/ Te Tiriti issues requires more careful listening and understanding and less political rhetoric.	68%	11%
By enabling non-Māori to settle peacefully in this country, the Treaty / Te Tiriti is a document that supports belonging for everyone in New Zealand.	67%	10%
The spirit and intent of the Treaty/Te Tiriti can help guide us in how we move forward as a country from here.	57%	17%
I don't mind politicians or advocates inflaming race relations when debating Treaty/ Te Tiriti issues.	23%	46%

³ Strongly agree/Somewhat agree

The Treaty of Waitangi/ Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Since 2023, there has been a significant increase in the number of people who feel they are informed about Te Tiriti/the Treaty and the issues being debated about how it should be honoured now.

72% (2,798,000 adults) believe they are informed, which is a significant increase from **58%** in November 2023.

- **12%** (475,000 adults) say they are *very well informed*.

58% (2,346,000 adults) say they are *informed* about the constitutional arrangements in New Zealand.

- **7%** (259,000 adults) are *very well informed*.

32% (1,183,000 adults) say they are *uninformed* about the constitutional arrangements.

Awareness of The Treaty/Te Tiriti and Human Rights

68% (2,632,000 adults) said they were aware that *The right to self-determination is a fundamental human right*.

65% (2,505,000 adults) are aware that *The Treaty/Te Tiriti relates to people's human rights in Aotearoa/New Zealand*.

63% (2,431,000 adults) are aware that *The Treaty/Te Tiriti applies to everyone in Aotearoa/New Zealand, not just Māori*.

Lowest awareness was for *current checks and balances on Government power do not stop Parliament from passing laws that breach human rights and/or the Treaty / Te Tiriti*.

- **45%** (1,735,000 adults) said they were aware and **32%** (1,221,000 adults) were unsure.

Trusted sources

The five most trusted sources to provide accurate information about the Treaty/Te Tiriti are:

- The National Library of New Zealand – **44%**
- The Waitangi Tribunal – **41%**, significantly up from **36%** in 2023
- Books, websites, podcasts, etc that cover New Zealand history – **33%**
- Te Kāhui Tika Tangata Human Rights Commission – **29%** significantly up from **25%** in 2023
- People associated with educational institutions – **25%**.

The five least trusted sources are:

- Social media - **7%**
- Political parties – **8%**
- Advocacy/activist groups or organisations – **9%**
- Members of Parliament – **10%**
- English language news media – **13%**.

Report

Before starting the survey respondents were told:

The Treaty of Waitangi / Te Tiriti o Waitangi was an agreement between Māori leaders and the British Crown in 1840. As New Zealand has evolved, the Crown has come to be represented by the New Zealand government and represents not only British settlers or Pākehā New Zealanders, but all the many peoples who came to call Aotearoa New Zealand home.

The signing of the Treaty / Te Tiriti allowed non-Māori settlers, a small minority population at the time, to settle peacefully and to create a governance system for themselves.

The Treaty / Te Tiriti also assured the majority Māori population that their way of life would continue and guaranteed that the things that are important to Māori and distinctive about Māori culture and life would be protected. This included that Māori would keep their existing authority and ability to make decisions for themselves, their tino rangatiratanga. In human rights terms, this is known as the right to self-determination.

Historians and experts, both Māori and non-Māori, say that all parties involved in the creating and signing of the Treaty/ Te Tiriti intended us to move forward together as a country while caring for and protecting each group's unique needs and differences.

Although the Crown has repeatedly breached the agreement, Māori and other New Zealanders have turned to the Treaty/ Te Tiriti – for instance, through the Waitangi Tribunal – to make sure that the government acted as they agreed.

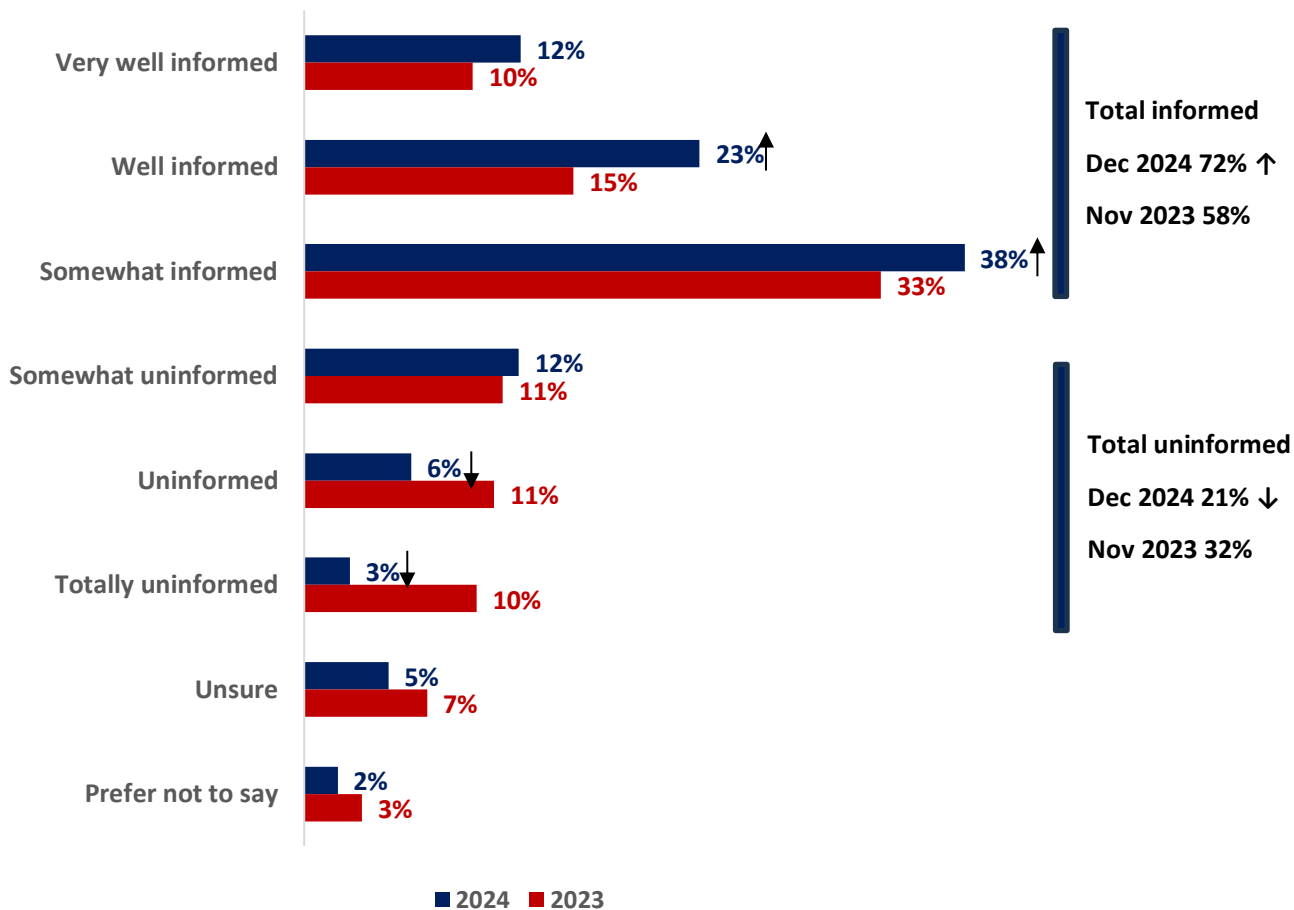
How well informed do people feel about the Treaty of Waitangi/ Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the issues being debated?

There has been a significant increase in the number of people who feel they are informed about Te Tiriti/the Treaty and the issues being debated about how it should be honoured now.

72% (2,798,000 adults) believe they are informed. This is a significant increase from **58%** in November 2023.

- **12%** of adults who say they are informed, believe they are *very well informed*. **23%** say they are *well informed*, which is a significant increase from **15%** in 2023.

How well informed do you feel about Te Tiriti/the Treaty and the issues being debated about how it should be honoured now?



Total Sample: December 2024 n=1,043; November 2023 n=1,074

↑↓ Significant change from Nov 2023.

The table below shows the differences across groups who feel they are informed or uninformed about the Te Tiriti/The Treaty and the issues currently being debated⁴.

More likely feel <u>informed</u> ⁵ about Te Tiriti/the Treaty Total 72%		More likely feel <u>uninformed</u> ⁶ about Te Tiriti/the Treaty Total 21%	
55+ year olds	82%	Under 35 year olds	27%
Professional/Government official	85%		
Teacher/ Nurse/ Police or other trained service worker	85%		
Self employed	90%		
Retired	81%		
Household income less than \$20k	83%		
Household income between \$30k-\$50k	83%		
Personal income between \$30k-\$50k	84%		
Personal income between \$100k-\$150k	87%		
Personal income more than \$150k	91%		
Māori	83%		
Pasifika	84%		

⁴ In the report sub-groups with sample sizes of less than n=50 are excluded in significance reporting

⁵ Very well informed/Well informed/Somewhat informed

⁶ Totally uninformed/Uninformed/Somewhat uninformed

New Zealand's Constitutional arrangements

Respondents were told:

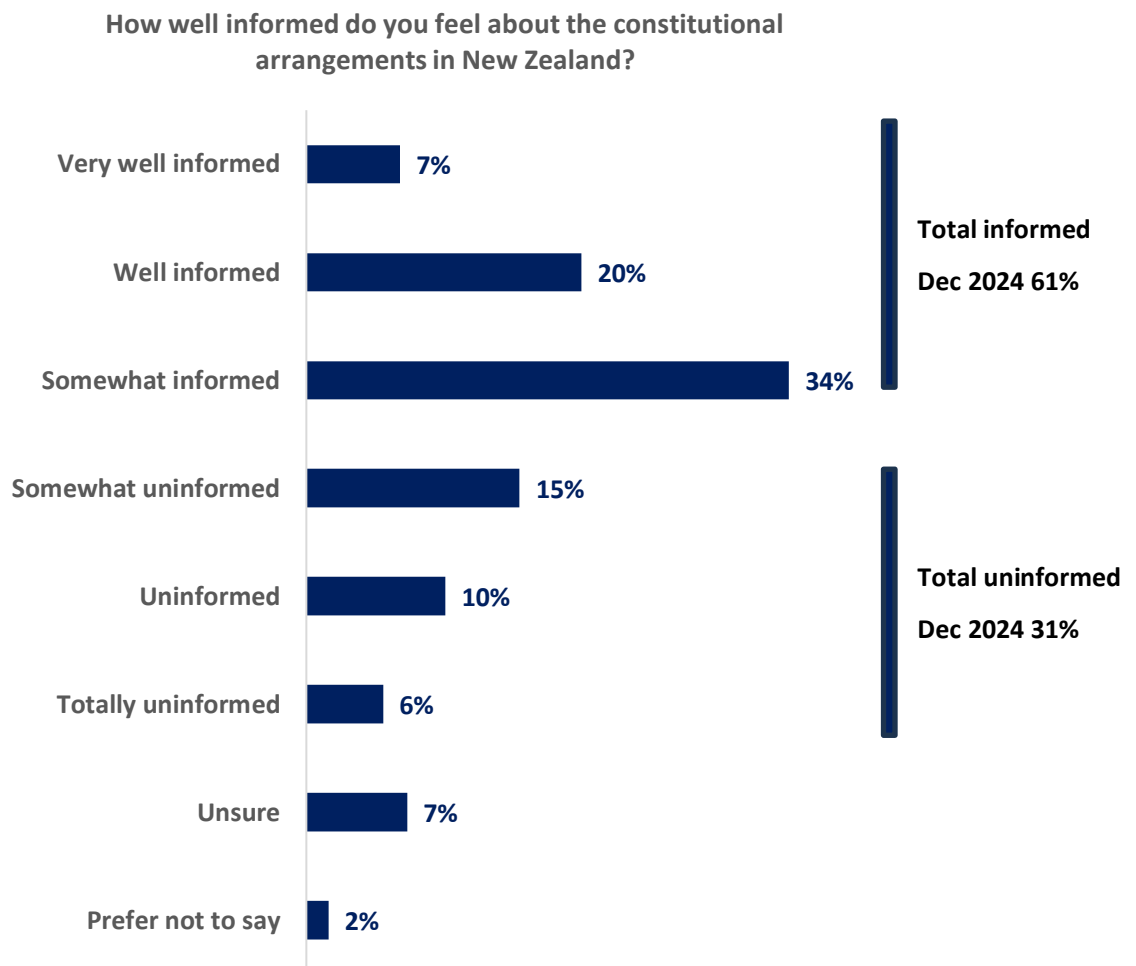
New Zealand's constitution is found in formal legal documents (like the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990), in decisions of the courts, and in practices. Te Tiriti / The Treaty is regarded as a founding document of the government in New Zealand.

61% (2,346,000 adults) feel they are *informed* about the constitutional arrangements in New Zealand.

- **7%** (259,000 adults) feel *very well informed*.

31% (1,183,000 adults) feel they are *uninformed* about the constitutional arrangements.

7% (278,000 adults) are unsure.



Total Sample: December 2024 n=1,043

The table below shows the differences across groups who feel they are informed or uninformed about the constitutional arrangements in New Zealand.

More likely feel <u>informed</u> ⁷ about constitutional arrangements in New Zealand. Total 61%		More likely feel <u>uninformed</u> ⁸ about constitutional arrangements in New Zealand. Total 31%	
55+ year olds	73%	Under 35 year olds	39%
Professional/Government official	71%	Clerical/Administrator role	43%
Self employed	89%	Household income between \$20k-\$30k	43%
Retired	77%		
Household income between \$30k-\$50k	73%		
Household income more than \$150k	69%		
Personal income between \$30k-\$50k	72%		
Personal income between \$100k-\$150k	82%		
Personal income more than \$150k	85%		
No children in household	67%		

⁷ Very well informed/Well informed/Somewhat informed

⁸ Totally uninformed/Uninformed/Somewhat uninformed

Awareness of The Treaty/Te Tiriti and Human Rights

Respondents were shown a number of statements and asked if they were aware of them.

68% (2,632,000 adults) said they were aware that *The right to self-determination is a fundamental human right.*

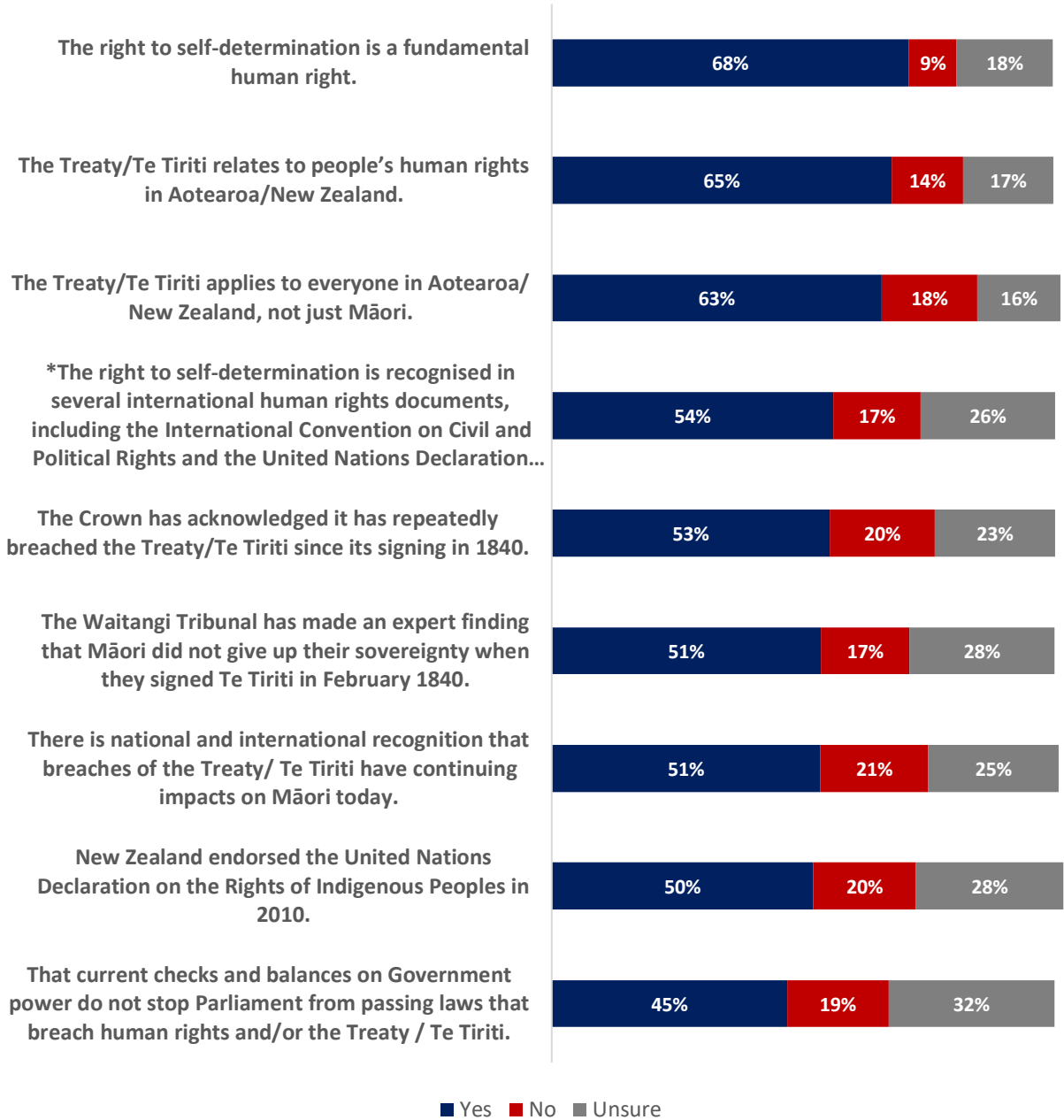
65% (2,505,000 adults) are aware that *The Treaty/Te Tiriti relates to people's human rights in Aotearoa/New Zealand.*

63% (2,431,000 adults) are aware that *The Treaty/Te Tiriti applies to everyone in Aotearoa/New Zealand, not just Māori.*

Lowest awareness was for *current checks and balances on Government power do not stop Parliament from passing laws that breach human rights and/or the Treaty / Te Tiriti.*

- **45%** (1,735,000 adults) said they were aware and **32%** (1,221,000 adults) were unsure.

Are you aware of the following?



Total Sample: December 2024 n=1,043

*Full statement - The right to self-determination is recognised in several international human rights documents, including the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The table below shows significant differences across groups who are aware of each of the statements.

Are you aware of the following?	Total	Significantly more likely to be aware▲
The right to self-determination is a fundamental human right.	68%	35-54 year olds 75% 55+ year olds 74% Professional/Government Official 81% Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker 84% Retired 77% Personal income \$30k-\$50k 78% Personal income \$100k-\$150k 80% Personal income \$150k-\$200k 84% Living in Wellington 77%
The Treaty/Te Tiriti relates to people's human rights in Aotearoa/New Zealand.	65%	Females 71% Self employed 81% Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker 78% Household income less than \$50k 74% Personal income less than \$50k 71% Māori 79%
The Treaty/Te Tiriti applies to everyone in Aotearoa/ New Zealand, not just Māori.	63%	55+ year olds 72% Professional/Government Official 76% Self employed 75% Retired 72% Household income \$100k-\$150k 71% Household income more than \$150k 74% Personal income \$100k-\$150k 82% Living in Wellington 74%
The right to self-determination is recognised in several international human rights documents, including the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.	54%	55+ year olds 64% Professional/Government Official 68% Self employed 74% Personal income \$30k-\$50k 64% Personal income \$100k-\$150k 65% Māori 63%
The Crown has acknowledged it has repeatedly breached the Treaty/Te Tiriti since its signing in 1840.	53%	55-64 year olds 61% Professional/Government Official 69% Business Manager/Executive 69% Student 70% Personal income \$100k-\$150k 69% Personal income more than \$150k 74% Māori 68%
The Waitangi Tribunal has made an expert finding that Māori did not give up their sovereignty when they signed Te Tiriti in February 1840.	51%	65-74 year olds 63% Professional/Government Official 67% Business Manager/Executive 71% Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker 62% Student 69% Household income \$30k-\$50k 63% Household income more than \$150k 60% Personal income \$100k-\$150k 61% Personal income more than \$150k 73% Māori 77%

Are you aware of the following?	Total	Significantly more likely to be aware ▲	
<p>There is national and international recognition that breaches of the Treaty/ Te Tiriti have continuing impacts on Māori today.</p>	51%	55-64 year olds Professional/Government Official Business Manager/Executive Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Student Household income \$100k-\$150k Personal income \$30k-\$50k Personal income \$100k-\$150k Māori	61% 65% 65% 71% 68% 60% 63% 65% 73%
<p>New Zealand endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2010.</p>	50%	55+ year olds Professional/Government Official Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Retired Household income \$30k-\$50k Household income \$100k-\$150k Personal income \$30k-\$50k Personal income \$100k-\$150k Living in South Island	66% 61% 66% 66% 61% 58% 63% 70% 60%
<p>That current checks and balances on Government power do not stop Parliament from passing laws that breach human rights and/or the Treaty / Te Tiriti.</p>	45%	Business Manager/Executive Self employed Household income more than \$150k Personal income \$100k-\$150k Personal income more than \$150k Māori	59% 65% 53% 56% 63% 66%

Views on current The Treaty/Te Tiriti debates

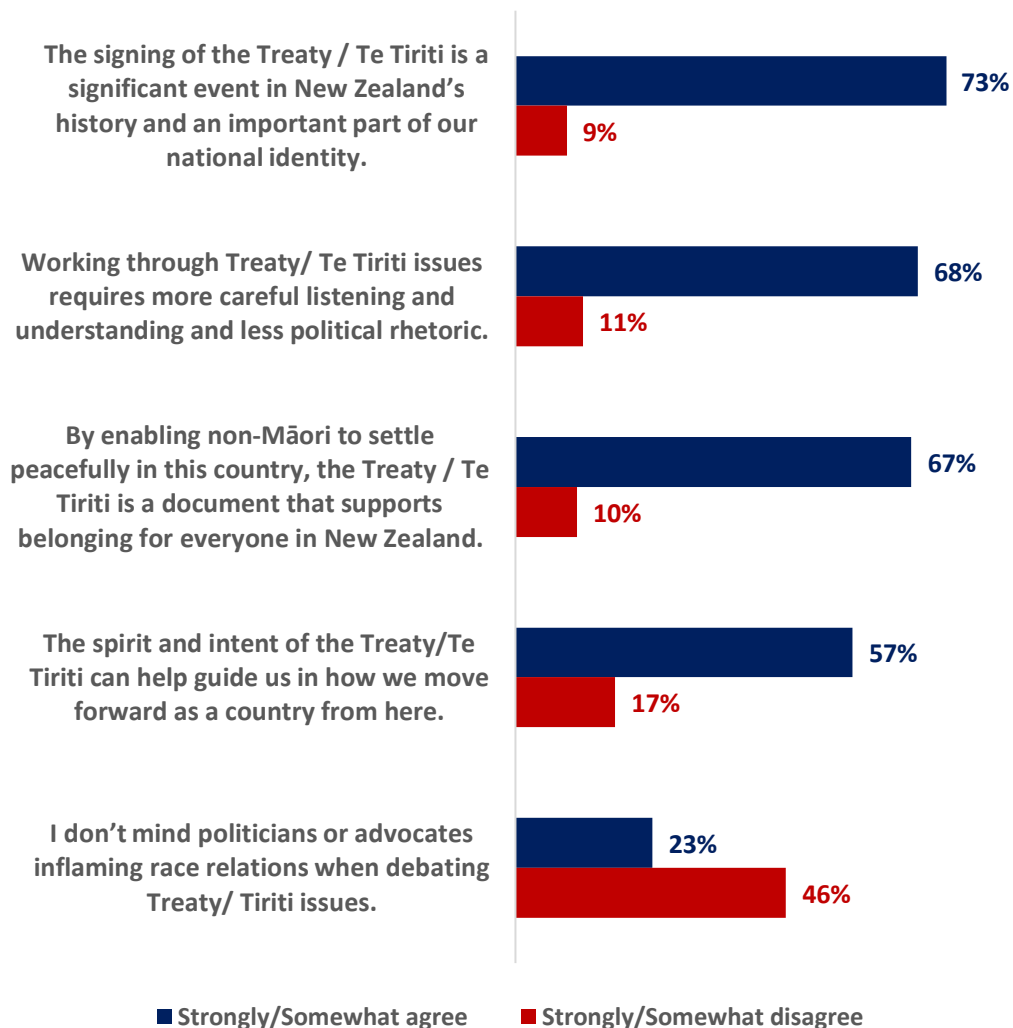
Respondents were shown a number of statements about The Treaty/Te Tiriti and asked if they agree or disagree with them.

73% (2,822,000 adults) agreed⁹ that *The signing of the Treaty / Te Tiriti is a significant event in New Zealand's history and an important part of our national identity.*

68% (2,632,000) also agreed that *Working through Treaty/ Te Tiriti issues requires more careful listening and understanding and less political rhetoric.*

And **more are likely to disagree with** *I don't mind politicians or advocates inflaming race relations when debating Treaty/ Te Tiriti issues* - **46%** (1,770,000 adults) disagree.

To what extent do you agree with the following statements?



Total Sample: December 2024 n=1,043

⁹ Strongly agree/Somewhat agree

Agreement with statements about the Treaty/Te Tiriti varies across different demographic groups.

	Significantly more likely to agree ¹⁰ ▲		Significantly more likely to disagree ¹¹ ▲	
The signing of the Treaty / Te Tiriti is a significant event in New Zealand's history and an important part of our national identity.	35-44 year olds 75+ year olds Self employed Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Student Household income \$20k-\$30k Household income \$150k-\$200k Personal income \$30k-\$50k Māori Living in Auckland	80% 81% 85% 90% 87% 82% 85% 80% 83% 79%	65-74 year olds Other European	16% 23%
Working through Treaty/ Te Tiriti issues requires more careful listening and understanding and less political rhetoric.	75+ year olds Business Manager/Executive Household income less than \$50k Personal income less than \$50k Māori	80% 81% 75% 76% 79%	No significant differences	
By enabling non-Māori to settle peacefully in this country, the Treaty / Te Tiriti is a document that supports belonging for everyone in New Zealand.	Student Retired Household income less than 50k	81% 77% 76%	55+ year olds	15%
The spirit and intent of the Treaty/Te Tiriti can help guide us in how we move forward as a country from here.	Professional/Government Official Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Household income \$30k-\$50k Household income \$100k-\$150k Personal income less than \$50k Māori Pasifika	67% 71% 66% 67% 63% 76% 73%	55+ year olds Retired	24% 27%
I don't mind politicians or advocates inflaming race relations when debating Treaty/ Tiriti issues.	Student Household income \$50k-\$150k Personal income more than \$150k Asian Indian	39% 28% 41% 34% 36%	55+ year olds Professional/Government Official Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other Retired Household income less than \$50k Household income more than \$200k Personal income \$30k-\$50k Living in Wellington	60% 56% 59% 59% 56% 59% 57% 56%

¹⁰ Strongly agree/Somewhat agree

¹¹ Strongly disagree/Somewhat disagree

Who to trust to provide accurate information about the Treaty/Te Tiriti

Respondents were shown a list of sources and asked to select all of those they would trust to provide accurate information about the Treaty/Te Tiriti. The most trusted source is The National Library of New Zealand (**44%**). It displays the original Treaty and Te Tiriti texts.

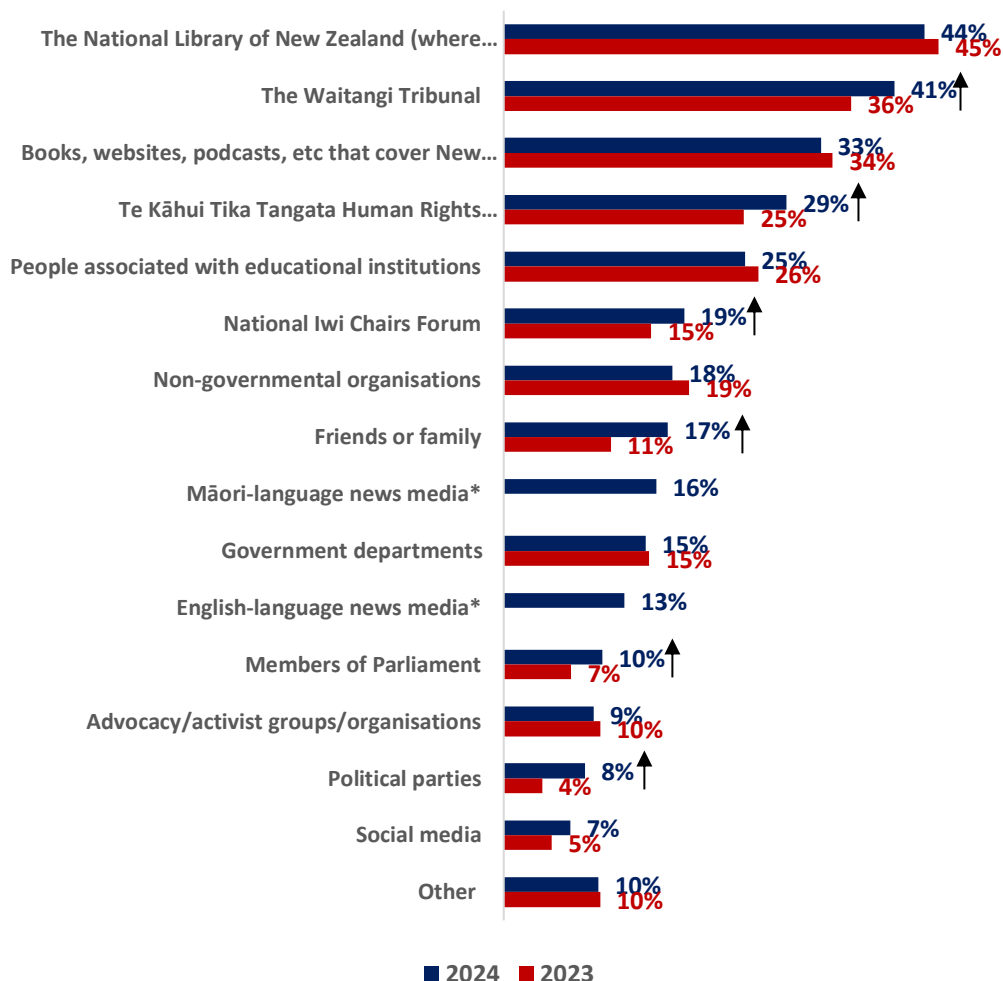
Other most trusted sources of accurate information are:

- The Waitangi Tribunal – **41%**, significantly up from **36%** in 2023,
- Books, websites, podcasts, etc that cover New Zealand history – **33%**
- Te Kāhui Tika Tangata Human Rights Commission – **29%** significantly up from **25%** in 2023.

The least trusted sources are:

- Social media - **7%**
- Political parties – **8%**
- Advocacy/activist groups – **9%**.

Who would you trust to provide you with accurate information about the Treaty/Te Tiriti?



Total Sample: December 2024 n=1,042; November 2023 n=1,072
 ↑↓ Significant change from Nov 2023.

In November 2023, **6%** said they trusted *News media (either specific media or the media generally)* to provide accurate information about the Treaty/Te Tiriti. In December 2024, the source was changed to

Māori-language news media – trusted by **16%**

English-language news media (either specific media or the media generally) – trusted by **13%**.

Overall, there is similar support for the top five trusted sources across all age groups.

There are some differences, however, with 18-24 year olds more likely to trust *Members of Parliament* (**18%**) and *social media* (**13%**).

25-34 year olds are more likely to trust **friends or family** (**18%**).

Who would you trust to provide you with accurate information about the Treaty/Te Tiriti?	ALL	AGE						
		18-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75+ years
The National Library of New Zealand	44%	37%	35%	34%	44%	42%	60%	65%
The Waitangi Tribunal	41%	36%	33%	40%	45%	40%	48%	44%
Books, websites, podcasts, etc that cover New Zealand history	33%	29%	33%	28%	29%	35%	33%	49%
Te Kāhui Tika Tangata Human Rights Commission	29%	28%	23%	27%	33%	33%	33%	30%
People associated with educational institutions	25%	26%	27%	23%	30%	25%	21%	19%
National Iwi Chairs Forum	19%	25%	17%	19%	21%	18%	18%	13%
Non-governmental organisations	18%	19%	19%	17%	16%	17%	17%	18%
Friends or family	17%	28%	22%	24%	15%	10%	9%	7%
Māori-language news media	16%	24%	18%	15%	17%	12%	11%	12%
Government departments	15%	11%	20%	20%	14%	14%	8%	12%
English-language news media (either specific media or the media generally)	13%	11%	12%	13%	11%	10%	13%	20%
Members of Parliament	10%	10%	14%	13%	8%	9%	7%	10%
Advocacy/activist groups or organisations	9%	13%	11%	11%	11%	6%	5%	6%
Political parties	8%	9%	11%	11%	6%	11%	2%	7%
Social media	7%	16%	12%	10%	2%	3%	0%	2%
Other	10%	3%	5%	11%	9%	19%	10%	12%

N (unweighted)	1,042	123	195	175	159	166	123	101
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BLUE = significantly higher than total sample RED =significantly lower than total sample

Top 5 trusted source for each group

Trusted sources vary for some ethnic groups.

Who would you trust to provide you with accurate information about the Treaty/Te Tiriti?	ALL	ETHNIC GROUP					
		Asian	Indian	Māori	NZ European/Pākehā	Other European	Pasifika
The National Library of New Zealand	44%	35%	29%	42%	49%	51%	49%
The Waitangi Tribunal	41%	29%	30%	55%	42%	47%	58%
Books, websites, podcasts, etc that cover New Zealand history	33%	26%	28%	28%	35%	39%	29%
Te Kāhui Tika Tangata Human Rights Commission	29%	23%	19%	40%	31%	27%	42%
People associated with educational institutions	25%	24%	22%	30%	26%	19%	40%
National Iwi Chairs Forum	19%	16%	15%	40%	18%	18%	36%
Non-governmental organisations	18%	13%	19%	14%	18%	17%	16%
Friends or family	17%	24%	27%	33%	14%	19%	30%
Māori-language news media	16%	15%	15%	32%	16%	16%	30%
Government departments	15%	23%	26%	9%	14%	22%	15%
English-language news media (either specific media or the media generally)	13%	9%	14%	8%	13%	18%	18%
Members of Parliament	10%	10%	14%	10%	10%	19%	12%
Advocacy/activist groups or organisations	9%	10%	9%	14%	10%	14%	18%
Political parties	8%	11%	11%	6%	8%	12%	7%
Social media	7%	14%	21%	9%	5%	7%	15%
Other	10%	3%	3%	12%	10%	12%	3%

N (unweighted)	1,042	92	136	192	683	55	64
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BLUE = significantly higher than total sample RED = significantly lower than total sample

Top 5 trusted source for each group

10% of respondents selected “other” as a trusted to provide accurate information about the Treaty/Te Tiriti. The themes of the responses are in [Appendix 2](#).

What is important for the country?

When thinking about what is important for the country, **people believe that a country where human rights are respected, upheld and protected in New Zealand’s laws and constitutions is important.**

93% (3,575,000 adults) believe that *A country where human rights are respected and upheld is important*¹².

- **54%** of New Zealand adults believe it is *very important*. This equates to 2,079,000 adults.

90.2% (3,486,000 adults) believe *Human rights being protected in New Zealand’s laws and constitution* is important.

- **70%** of New Zealand adults (2,702,000) believe it is *very important*.

89.8% (3,471,000 adults) also believe it is important for *Everyone in New Zealand having a strong sense of belonging*.

- **66%** of New Zealand adults (2,555,000) believe it is *very important*.

Three of the statements were asked in 2023 and the table below compares results for what respondents thought were important for the country.

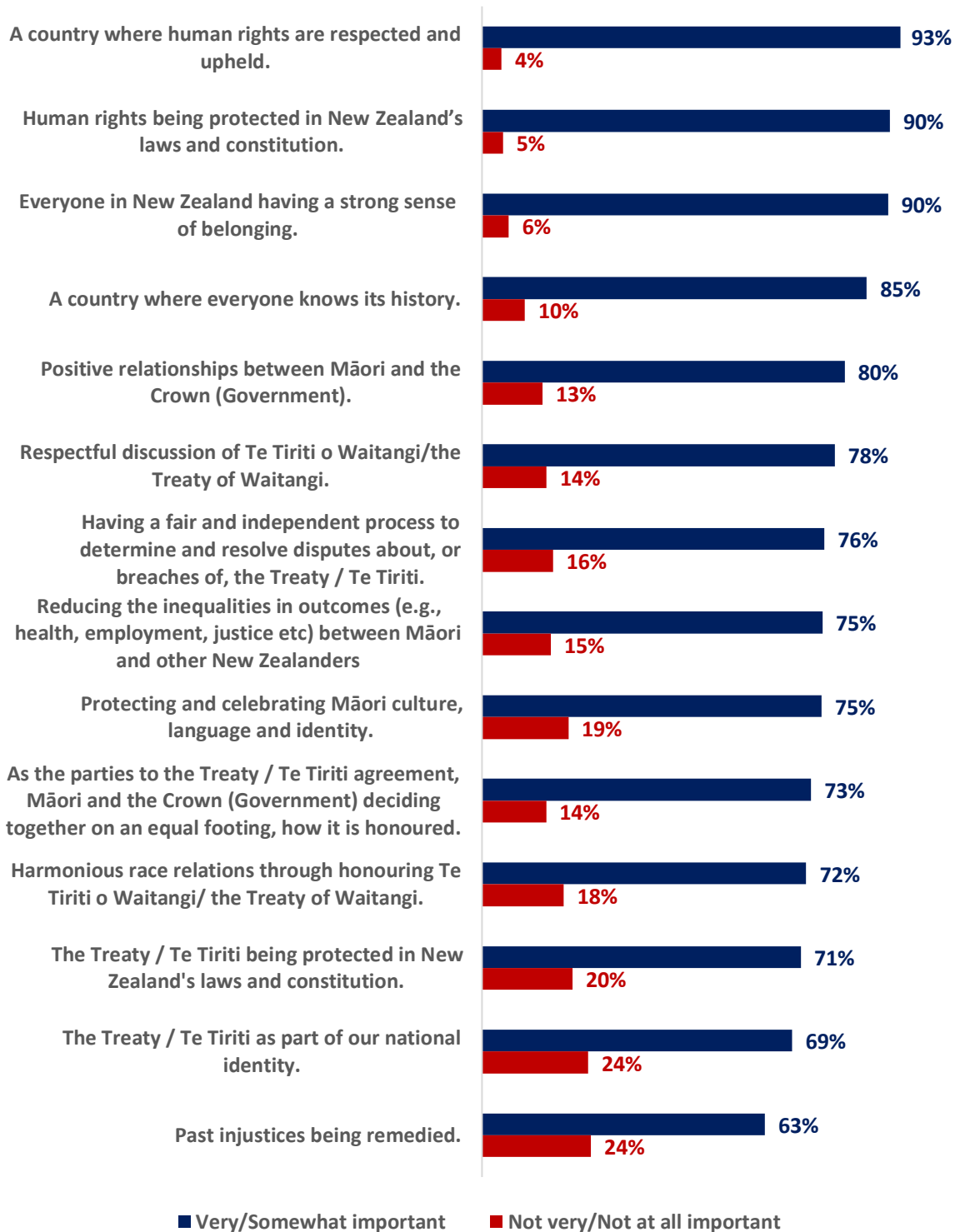
72% (2,771,000 adults) believe *Harmonious race relations through honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi/ the Treaty of Waitangi* is important. This is a significant increase from **66%** in 2023.

	2024	2023
Respectful discussion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and racial issues	78%	80%
Harmonious race relations through honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi/ the Treaty of Waitangi.	72% ↑	66%
A country where everyone knows its history.	85%	83%

↑↓ Significant change from Nov 2023.

¹² Very important/somewhat important

How important do you think the following is for the future of our country?



Total Sample: December 2024 n=1,030
 Percentages in chart are rounded

The table below shows differences across demographic groups on what people think is important for the country.

	Significantly more likely to say it is important ¹³ ▲		Significantly more likely to say it is not important ¹⁴ ▲	
A country where human rights are respected and upheld.	55+ year olds Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Retired Household income \$30k-\$50k Personal income \$30k-\$50k Living in a Regional town	98% 98% 99% 98% 98% 97%	25-34 year olds Business Manager/Executive	10% 16%
Human rights being protected in New Zealand's laws and constitution.	55+ year olds Business Manager/Executive Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Retired Household income \$30k-\$50k Household income more than \$150k Personal income less than \$50k Māori Live in a Regional town Living in South Island	98% 96% 98% 99% 97% 95% 93% 94% 95% 95%	Employed Asian Indian	7% 14% 12%
Everyone in New Zealand having a strong sense of belonging.	35-54 year olds 55+ year olds Professional/Government Official Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Retired Household income \$30k-\$50k Household income \$100k-\$150k Household income more than \$150k Personal income \$70k-\$100k Household income \$100k-\$150k Household income more than \$150k Living in Bay of Plenty Living in Wellington	94% 97% 96% 96% 99% 94% 94% 97% 95% 95% 96% 96% 96%	Under 35 year olds Living in Canterbury	13% 13%
A country where everyone knows its history.	55+ year olds Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Retired Household income \$30k-\$50k Household income more than \$150k Living in Wellington	91% 93% 93% 92% 91% 92%	Under 35 year olds Business Manager/ Executive Unemployed/Beneficiary	15% 18% 14%

¹³ Very important/somewhat important

¹⁴ Not very important/not at all important

	Significantly more likely to say it is important ¹⁵ ▲		Significantly more likely to say it is not important ¹⁶ ▲	
Positive relationships between Māori and the Crown (Government).	35-44 year olds 89% 75+ year olds 91% Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker 91% Clerical/Administrator role 89% Household income \$50k-\$70k 88% Household income more than \$150k 87% Māori 89% Living in Waikato 88%		25-34 year olds 20% Technical/ Mechanical/ Skilled Worker 27%	
Respectful discussion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi.	75+ year olds 88% Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker 94% Unemployed/ Beneficiary 87% Household income \$150k-\$200k 86% Personal income less than \$50k 83% Māori 87% Pasifika 96% Live in a Regional town 85%		Personal income \$50k-\$150k 20%	
Having a fair and independent process to determine and resolve disputes about, or breaches of, the Treaty / Te Tiriti.	35-54 year olds 82% 75+ year olds 87% Professional/Government Official 85% Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker 86% Clerical/Administrator role 86% Household income more than \$150k 84% Māori 88% Pasifika 88% Living in Wellington 83%		55-64 year olds 24% Living in Canterbury 24%	
Reducing the inequalities in outcomes (e.g., health, employment, justice etc) between Māori and other New Zealanders	35-54 year olds 83% Professional/Government Official 86% Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker 88% Household income less than \$50k 82% Household income more than \$150k 82% Māori 90% Pasifika 90% Living in Auckland/Wellington/Christchurch 80%		55+ year olds 22% Retired 23%	
Protecting and celebrating Māori culture, language and identity.	Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker 89% Māori 88% Pasifika 91% Living in Auckland/Wellington/Christchurch 80%		55+ year olds 26%	

¹⁵ Very important/somewhat important

¹⁶ Not very important/not at all important

	Significantly more likely to say it is important ¹⁷ ▲		Significantly more likely to say it is not important ¹⁸ ▲	
As the parties to the Treaty / Te Tiriti agreement, Māori and the Crown (Government) deciding together on an equal footing, how it is honoured.	75+ year olds Household income less than \$50k Personal income less than \$50k Māori Pasifika Living in Wellington Live in a Regional town	83% 79% 78% 81% 87% 82% 81%	Personal income \$70k-\$100k	21%
Harmonious race relations through honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi/ the Treaty of Waitangi.	Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Personal income less than \$50k Māori Pasifika Living in Auckland/Wellington/Christchurch	86% 78% 85% 90% 78%	Living in Waikato	28%
The Treaty / Te Tiriti being protected in New Zealand's laws and constitution.	Business Manager/Executive Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Household income \$150k-\$200k Personal income less than \$50k Māori Pasifika Live in a Regional town	81% 88% 82% 77% 86% 92% 78%	55-64 year olds	30%
The Treaty / Te Tiriti as part of our national identity.	Females Personal income less than \$50k Māori Pasifika	74% 74% 84% 91%	55-64 year olds Males	33% 30%
Past injustices being remedied.	35-54 year olds Business Manager/Executive Teacher/ Nurse/ Police/Other trained service worker Household income \$150k-\$200k Personal income less than \$20k Māori Pasifika Living in Auckland/Wellington/Christchurch	69% 77% 79% 73% 72% 83% 89% 69%	55+ year olds Technical/ Mechanical/ Skilled Worker Retired Living in Canterbury	32% 35% 38% 34%

¹⁷ Very important/somewhat important

¹⁸ Not very important/not at all important

Appendix 1 – Methodology and Sample

1,043 members from Horizon Research's online panels and a third-party research panel, representing the New Zealand population 18+, responded to the survey between 16th and 21st December 2024.

The total sample is weighted on age, gender, Party Vote 2023, region, personal income and ethnicity to match the New Zealand adult population.

The survey has a maximum margin of error, at a 95% confidence level of $\pm 3\%$ overall.

Demographic results tables accompany this report.

Contact

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Appendix 2 – Who would you trust to provide you with accurate information about the Treaty/Te Tiriti?

Other comments

10% of respondents selected “other” as trusted to provide accurate information about the Treaty/Te Tiriti. The themes of the responses are in the table below.

Overall distrust/No One (34 comments)
Government/Politicians/Groups (18 comments)
Māori Sources (14 comments)
Historians/Academics (12 comments)
Dismissive Views (8 comments)
Neutral and Impartial Voices/Peers (4 comments)
Bias Awareness (3 comments)
Media/Journalists (2 comments)
Community/Local Groups (1 comment)