

Gender Gap Facts



Te Wāhi Wāhine o
Tāmaki Makaurau

AUCKLAND WOMEN'S CENTRE

Violence against Women

- Rates of childhood sexual abuse have declined slightly but remain alarmingly high at 1 in 5 for women born 1981-2001, compared to more than 1 in 4 for women born 1951-1971 & ~1 in 10 for men born 1972/73 (Fanslow, Malihi et al., 2021; Van Roode et al, 2009).
- Up to 1 in 3 women who have ever had a male partner, experience psychological and/or physical abuse from a male partner or ex-partner during their lifetime. Controlling behavior and economic abuse have increased in the last 15-20 years (Fanslow et al., 2010; Fanslow, Hashemi et al., 2021).
- Māori women and disabled women have higher-than-average risk of experiencing partner violence (Fanslow et al., 2010; MoJ, 2019; NZFVC, 2012).
- Women (34%) are nearly 3 times more likely than men (12%) to have experienced sexual violence at some point during their lives, and 4 times as likely to have been raped (experienced forced intercourse): 20.4% women & 5% men. In NZ, ~400,000 women have experienced rape (MoJ, 2019).
- Only 9% (est) of sexual violations are reported to police, with only 13% of those cases resulting in conviction, ie approx only 1 of every 100 sexual violations results in conviction (Triggs et al., 2009).

Representation

- Of 120 MPs, 58 are women (48%), the highest ever proportion by a long way (Te Ara, 2020). At least nine (only 7.5%) are wāhine Māori (NZ Parliament, 2020). Eight cabinet ministers (40%) are women, including 2 wāhine Māori, 2 women of Pacific descent and 1 of Asian descent (DPMC, 2020).
- Women held only 22% of private sector board positions in 2017 & only 3 of our top 100 companies had female CEOs (McGregor & Davis-Tana, 2017).

Health

- Life expectancy for wāhine Māori at birth in 2013 was 6.8 years shorter than for other women (MoH, 2018a)
- Life expectancy for intellectually disabled women is 23 years less than for other women (NZ Govt, 2016).
- In Youth'19 survey, 29% of young women & 17% of young men reported significant depression symptoms; the gender gap for Māori & Pacific young people was particularly wide (Fleming et al, 2020).
- In Youth'19, 24% of young women & 14% of young men reported difficulty getting help in the past year for feeling bad/ having a hard time (Fleming et al, 2020).

- Women are 40% more likely than men to experience psychological distress; and 58% more likely to experience cost as a barrier to visiting a GP (MoH, 2018b).
- Girls and women are twice as likely as boys and men to have an eating disorder (RANZCP, 2015).
- Young women are twice as likely as young men to be hospitalised for intentional self-harm (MSD, 2016).
- Pregnancy and post-natal mortality almost halved between 2008 and 2016, to 9.4 in every 100,000 (PMMRC, 2018).
- Suicide is the leading cause of maternal death in NZ, 7 times the rate in the UK. Over half of NZ's 2.8 maternal suicides per year are wāhine Māori (PMMRC, 2018).

Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation

- Trans people face considerable discrimination which can threaten their personal safety, deny them a secure family life & undermine their health (HRC, 2008). Youth'19 survey found 57% of trans students had self-harmed in the past 12 months (Fenaughty et al., 2021).
- In Youth'12, only 22.2% of same/both-sex attracted respondents were very satisfied or happy with life, compared to 49.6% of opposite-sex attracted students (AHRG, 2012). (*Youth'19 data expected soon*)

Labour and Pay

- Total work: In 2007, women aged 30 spent 7.3 hours more per week on average total work (paid plus unpaid) than men aged 30 (Gibb et al., 2013).
- Unpaid work: In 2009/10, women spent an average of 4 hours 20 minutes a day on unpaid work; men did 2 hours 32 minutes. (Stats NZ, 2009/2010).
- The gender pay gap (measured by median hourly earnings) was 9.5% in 2020: reduction has stalled in the last decade. (MfW, 2020). Two-thirds of minimum wage earners over 25 are women. (MBIE, 2018).
- Gender is perhaps the strongest predictor of income after ethnicity. On average, Pacific women receive 73% of the pay received by Pākehā men. (Only Pākehā men get paid more on average than Pākehā women) (McDowall & Denee 2019).
- 71% of employed disabled women earn \$30,000 or less; for employed disabled men, it's 55%. (ODI, 2016).
- Migrant workers are nearly twice as likely to suffer workplace discrimination than NZ-born workers, and migrant women are 10% more likely to experience it than migrant men (Daldy et al., 2013).

Family and Poverty

- Approx half of all mothers in NZ will experience sole parenthood at some point by age 50 (Superu, 2018).

- After male-female relationship separation, 73% of women are worse off compared to 38% of men (Fletcher, 2017). 91% of families receiving Sole Parent Support are headed by women (MSD, 2020).
- The average debt for women owing money to MSD is over \$1,500 compared to just over \$1,000 for men, likely due to mothers borrowing for their children (Robson, 2020).

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Incarceration

- Wāhine Māori are 8 times more likely to be incarcerated than non-Māori women (Bevan & Wehipeihana, 2015).
- Half of the women incarcerated in NZ suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (Leilua, 2018).