

# Just Sayin'

The survey of young people and Transition Support Services

We heard from 408 rangatahi between the ages of 16-20 who were eligible for Transition Worker support

We wanted to understand what was going on in your lives and how Oranga Tamariki could better support your transition to independence, through the Transition Support Service. Here's some of the key results from the survey.



## We heard from 408 rangatahi between the ages of 16-20 who were eligible for transition worker support.

In 2019, Oranga Tamariki launched their Transition Support Service (TSS) for 15-25 year olds transitioning from care to independence. If you are a young person eligible for transition support, you can be connected to a transition worker from a Transition Support Service organisation, who will guide and support you to:

- Identify your strengths and interests so you can set and achieve goals
- Develop life skills and connect with your identity, culture, and whānau
- Gain confidence to access services independently.

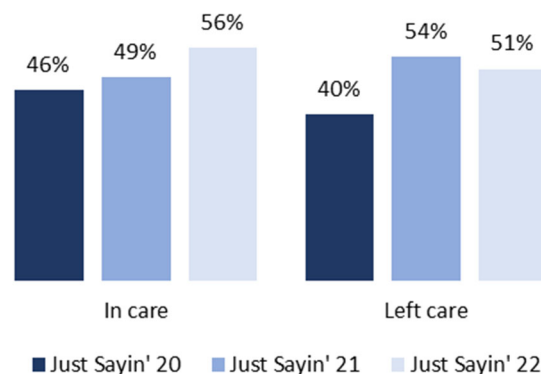
### Starting preparation and planning for leaving care as early as possible

There has been a steady increase in the percentage of rangatahi in care who recalled being talked with and working out a plan for transition. However, only 32% said they had a copy of their plan.

For those who had left care, there had been an increase in those who had a conversation to work out a plan between 2020 and 2021. Only 41% of those who had left care had a copy of their plan.

A family group conference (FGC) or hui a whānau are other ways you can discuss your plan for leaving care, 68% of those in care and 65% of those who had left care had an FGC to create a plan.

### Has/had anyone talked with you and worked out a plan for leaving care?



### Connecting young people with a TSS partner who understands their needs

The Just Sayin' survey asked you what you'd like in a transition worker. Most of you preferred a transition worker with a similar demographic to yourself. Of those young people responding to the Just Sayin' survey, 56% of rangatahi Māori, and 31% of Pacific young people were matched to a transition worker or organisation that matched their ethnicity. Many of you described wanting a transition worker who understood and had a passion for supporting you.

*It's important that they listen to your passion and goals and plans for your future and they are there when u need help or even someone to talk to and are willing to speak up and have ur back when u need them*

*Some one who sets realistic goals and guides me through the process someone who gets in my waka with me*

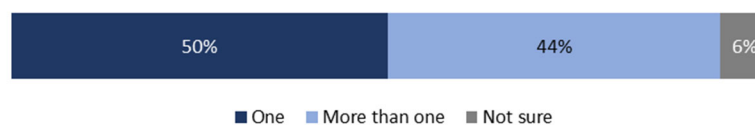
*Be more involved in my case, showing more interest, not just taking it as a job*

While many of you considered the time after being referred to seeing your transition worker as 'okay', 14% said you waited too long, and 26% could not recall the time.

### TSS is being delivered as a relationship-based model

Transition support is voluntary, but of those asked, 82% of you agreed to having a transition worker. Half of you had one transition worker, and 44% had changed transition workers at least once. Just under two-thirds of you had an adult you could turn to for support.

How many different transition workers have you had?

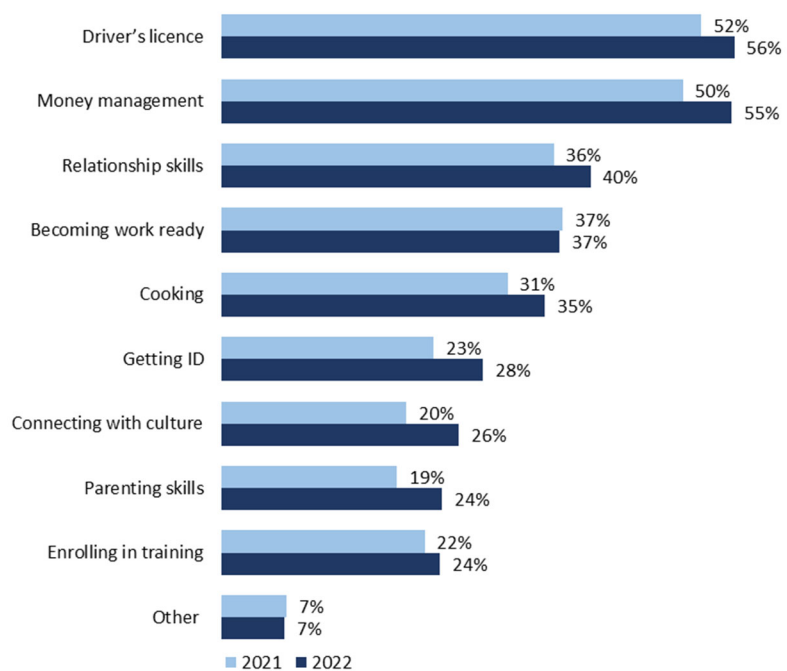


### Young people were generally positive about the transition support they received

When asked what skills you wanted to learn for the future, you most commonly said you wanted a driver licence. There were some differences in what you wanted to learn, compared to those who answered last year.

Most of you who had a current transition worker said you were still meeting with them (79%), however 13% were not, and 8% were not sure. Feeling you no longer needed their help was the main reason for leaving transition worker support.

What skills would you like to learn to help you get where you want to?



Eighty-one percent of those of you who had a transition worker considered they made things better for you. Overall, those of you with a transition worker were more positive about their support than your Oranga Tamariki social worker support.

## The Transition Support Line



Seventy-two percent of you who responded to Just Sayin’ knew how to contact Oranga Tamariki and 27% had called the Transition Support line. Those in care were more likely to know how to contact Oranga Tamariki (83%) compared to those who had left care (66%).

## Housing support remains a challenge in all regions



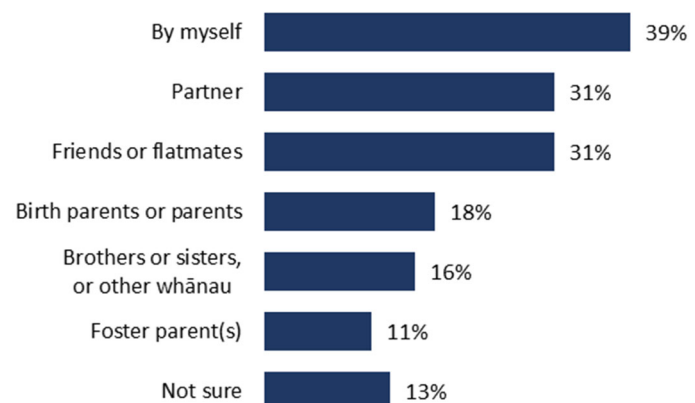
Most of you had stable accommodation and lived in one place. When asked where they usually lived, most young people (89%) selected only one answer.

The most common place young people lived was in a home with whānau or foster family (51%).

Most of you were reasonably positive about the quality of where you lived (it was warm, and you felt you belonged, felt safe, settled and accepted).

- There has been an increase in your knowledge of ETRR (Entitlement to remain or return to a caregiver) compared to previous survey years (2020; 12%, 2021; 46%, 2022; 53%).
- Most of you who were still in care said you wanted to live by yourself, with your partner, or friends and flatmates after you leave care.

### Who do you want to live with when you leave care?



## Evaluation data suggest the TSS intended outcomes are being achieved

Across all survey years, approximately one-third of you feel your life in general is very good or good, although 72% are hopeful for the future. There has been little change between surveys in some of the factors with the potential to enable young people to strengthen their identity including chances to connect with whānau, and support to find out about their ancestry or whakapapa.

## How Oranga Tamariki will use the information you provided

Oranga Tamariki is doing work to build on what you said to ensure that more rangatahi receive quality preparation and planning before leaving care; are able to be connected with a transition worker; and take up the entitlement to remain or return to living with their caregiver if they wish.

Information from the survey has been used extensively in policy work aimed at improving housing, education and health for young people, especially those who have been in contact with Oranga Tamariki.