

6 August 2024

File Ref: OIA 49047

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your information request dated 3 July 2024. You asked for the following information:

“Under the OIA I request all substantive analysis of why Maori are disproportionately represented negatively across a wide range of social and economic indicators.

Please note this is not a request for minor statements relating to the existence of such inequities, rather robust analysis of why these inequities exist, including the extent to which domain specific variables and common variables have explanatory power.”

On 15 July 2024, after a phone call with our subject matter expert, you clarified the scope of your request. You expressed interest in comprehensive studies and robust analyses on the origins of Māori inequity and disadvantage, including factors such as colonisation, racism, education, and other indicators. Additionally, you inquired about any other studies or papers by academics that Te Puni Kōkiri may have compiled, commissioned, or referenced in papers and other documents on this topic.

Your request has been considered in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

We have made every possible effort to locate the information requested, including searching filing systems and information repositories, and asking people who would know of the existence of such information. We were unable to find any documents that match your request that are not already publicly available.

In response to your request for studies or papers by academics that Te Puni Kōkiri may have compiled, commissioned, or referenced in papers and other documents on this topic, please refer to Appendix A, for information and links to documents that are publicly available, which you may find useful.

As all the information in scope of your request is publicly available, your request is refused in full under section 18(d) of the Act.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that Te Puni Kōkiri publishes some of its OIA responses on its website, after the response is sent to the requester. The responses published are those that are considered to have a high level of public interest. We will not publish your name, address or contact details.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact us at oiatpk@govt.nz.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Stuart Gregory
Hautū, Te Puni Kaupapa Here | Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy Puni

Appendix A – documents OIA request from [REDACTED] dated 3 July 2024

Item	Date	Document description
1.	1 June 2023	<p>The Productivity Commission report, <i>A Fair Chance for All – Breaking the Cycle of Persistent Disadvantage</i>, found that Māori, alongside people with disabilities, Pacific peoples, and sole parents, experience higher rates of persistent disadvantage than average peak working age households.</p> <p>The Productivity Commission examined their influence on individuals, different population groups and wider society, and the link to productivity and economic performance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generate new insights about the dynamics and drivers of persistent disadvantage, and the incidence/impacts across different population groups, including social and economic factors; and • develop recommendations for actions and system changes to break or mitigate the cycle of disadvantage (both within a person’s lifetime and intergenerationally). <p>From the Productivity Commission’s unique and specialist perspective it examined why 697,000 New Zealanders experience persistent disadvantage.</p> <p>The Productivity Commission’s final report contained 20 findings and 20 recommendations.</p> <p>https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/fair-chance-all-breaking-cycle-persistent-disadvantage-productivity-commission-inquiry-material-2021-2023</p>

2.	1 July 2023	<p>A supplementary report to the main '<i>A Fair Chance for All</i>' report by the Productivity Commission is a quantitative analysis of disadvantage and its persistence in Aotearoa New Zealand, published in July 2023.</p> <p>https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/fair-chance-all-breaking-cycle-persistent-disadvantage-productivity-commission-inquiry-material-2021-2023</p>
3.	Published in 2018	<p>This literature review seeks to offer a comprehensive analysis of the state of the Māori language. It focuses on examining the loss of the language and the factors contributing to this decline. For example, some of the studies looked at the impact of colonisation on te reo Māori.</p> <p>Additionally, it discusses planning and policy measures, as well as actions and activities related to language loss, revitalisation, and maintenance. The review also aims to present an overview of the journey of te reo Māori from its origins to the present day.</p> <p>https://www.tpk.govt.nz/en/o-matou-mohiotanga/te-reo-maori/review-perceptions-of-the-health-of-te-reo-2015</p>
4.	Completed in July 2021	<p>Te Puni Kōkiri has played a role in the design of the Ihi Research completed in July 2021, which was published by the Royal Commission Inquiry into Abuse in State Care. The study, along with others, has referenced the impact of colonisation on Māori inequity. For instance, Part A of the research explores the connection between the over-representation of Māori in State Care and the effects of colonisation and racism.</p> <p>https://www.abuseinquiryresponse.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Maori-research-report/Haha-uri-haha-tea-Maori-Involvement-in-State-Care-1950-1999.pdf</p>