



26 January 2026

9(2)(a) privacy

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Official Information Request
Our Ref: OIA 2026-0004

I refer to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request received on 13 January 2026 for:

“Re p14 of the census summary, are you able to specify the number of respondents who thought there was too much Māori content and the number of respondents who thought that it was just the right amount or that there could be more. In other words, how many of the 44,000 responses expressed concern about this question?”

Information being released

Te Taunaki Public Service Census ran from 3–21 March 2025. All employees of departments and departmental agencies were invited to participate, and 68.5% did so (44,737 responses). Of these, 14,430 people answered the final open-ended question: *“What changes would help your organisation deliver better results for taxpayers?”*

From those responses, 382 mentioned Māori capability, focus, or delivery in some way (including positive, negative, mixed, or unclear views). This is about 2.6% of open-text responses and 0.9% of all survey participants.

Within those 382 comments:

- Need more Māori content or capability: **308**
- Too much Māori focus: **66**
- Both (mixed views): **6**
- Unclear: **2**

In other words, 382 respondents expressed a view on Māori-related issues, and 66 raised concerns about too much Māori content — around 0.15% of all survey participants.

It is important to note the question was broad and not specifically about the Māori–Crown relationship.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Enquiries@publicservice.govt.nz.

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

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's website.

Yours sincerely



Nicky Dirks

Manager – Ministerial and Executive Services
Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission