

Collecting ethnicity data

In New Zealand, ethnicity is based on self-identification. Some people will identify with more than one ethnicity.

Guessing a person's ethnicity is not reliable, so the best way is to ask. Everyone should be asked the question so that they have the choice of responding.

Some people may also choose not to answer this question. Their response can be recorded as 'not stated'.

How do I ask?

- Give patients the opportunity to complete the ethnicity question themselves. If a person needs help or wants more information, you can show them the information pamphlet for patients.
- If you are asking the question directly, be confident and matter-of-fact. Most people will not object to being asked this question. You can introduce the question by saying something like:

"We are currently updating our patient information and adding ethnicity to our patient register. Would you mind completing this form/answering this question?"

- Avoid questioning an individual's response – it is their right to define their own ethnicity.
- Remember a child's ethnicity is not always the same as their parents'. For children, ask the parent or caregiver to complete the ethnicity question.
- Avoid transferring data from another source.
- Reassure the person about confidentiality if they are concerned about privacy.

It is important that ethnicity data is collected consistently and accurately. We recommend using the question from the 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

Who collects ethnicity data?

Many organisations now collect ethnicity data, such as:

- doctors' surgeries
- hospitals
- schools
- funeral directors
- Statistics New Zealand

Information that you provide to organisations such as those listed above is protected by privacy rules. If you wish, you can ask to see your information and make any changes.

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Ethnicity

Ko wai kēi te kōhi kōrero mō te karangatanga tangata?

He maha tonu ngā whakahaere e kōhi kōrero ana mō te karangatanga tangata, pērā i:

- ngā tari tākuta
- ngā hōhipera
- ngā kura
- te hunga whāwhā tūpapaku
- Tatauranga Aotearoa

I raro i ngā tikanga matatapu, ka noho tapu tonu ngā kōrero ka whākina e koe ki ngā whakahaere pērā i ō runga ake nei. Ki te hiahia koe, ka ahei koe ki te tono kia kite i ngā kōrero mōu, ka whakatikatika haere.

HURA

Health Utilisation Research Alliance

Te Karangatanga Tangata

Ethnicity

In New Zealand, ethnicity is based on self-identification. You can belong to more than one ethnic group. At different times of your life you may wish to identify with other groups.

Ethnicity is not the same as the country you were born in, the country you live in, or your ancestry.

Many organisations are now using the 2001 Census question to collect ethnicity information.

This is the question being asked about ethnicity in the 2001 Census.

Which ethnic group do you belong to?
Mark the space or spaces which apply to you.

- NZ European
- Māori
- Samoan
- Cook Island Maori
- Tongan
- Niuean
- Chinese
- Indian
- other (such as *DUTCH, JAPANESE, TOKELAUAN*). Please state:

Why do people need to ask this question?

This information helps in developing appropriate services and policies for everyone and ensuring that people's needs are met.

The best way to collect ethnicity data is to ask you to fill in the ethnicity question.

Deciding from appearance or guessing is not reliable, so the best way is to ask. It is your decision which ethnic group(s) you belong to.

Te Karangatanga Tangata

I Aotearoa nei, ka riro māu tonu e whakatau nō tēhea karangatanga tangata koe. Neke atu i te karangatanga kotahi ka taea. I ōna wā anō tērā koe ka whai pānga ki ētahi atu karangatanga.

Kāore i rite te karangatanga tangata ki te whenua i whānau mai ai koe, ki te whenua rānei e noho ana koe, ki tō whakapapa rānei.

He maha tonu ngā whakahaere kei te whakamahi i tēnei pātahi hei kohikohi kōrero mō te karangatanga tangata.

Ānei te pātahi i pātahia mō te karangatanga tangata i te Tatauranga 2001.

Ko tēhea momo tāngata e whai pānga atu ana koe? *Tohua te katoa o raro nei e hāngai ana ki a koe.*

- Pākehā
- Māori
- Hāmoa
- Māori Kuki Airani
- Tonga
- Niue
- Hainamana
- Īnia
- tētahi atu (pērā i *TATIMANA, HAPANIHĪ, TOKELAU*). Tuhia mai:

He aha i pātahia ai tēnei pātahi?

He āwhina kei ānei kōrero e whakatakotoria ai ngā ratonga me ngā kaupapa here e hāngai ana ki te katoa, e tutuki anō ai ngā hiahia o tēna, o tinā.

Ko te huarahi pai katoa e kohia ai ngā kōrero mō te karangatanga tangata, ko te moī māu tonu e whakautu te pātahi e pā ana ki te karangatanga tangata.

Tērā ka hē ki te whakatauria i runga i te āhua o te kiri, ki te whakapae noā iho rānei. Māu anō e whakatau ko hea karangatanga tangata e tika ana māu.