# NCHENZ NATIONAL COUNCIL OF HOME EDUCATORS NZ

## **NCHENZ Survey Results**

Summary of Responses & Historical Comparison

These surveys were conducted by the National Council of Home Educators NZ (NCHENZ). The NCHENZ Executive Committee began surveying the home education community in 2013 on noticing a distinct lack of data about homeschooled children and families in NZ. The Executive uses this information to guide the goals and objectives of NCHENZ, and to inform our meetings with the Ministry of Education and the Education Review Office. If you have any comment or wish to use any of this data, please email coordinator@nchenz.org.nz.

2024 - 769 responses (4742 members), 16% response rate, margin of error 4%, confidence level 95%

2023 - 484 responses (3665 members), 13% response rate, margin of error 5%, confidence level 95%

2022 – 507 responses (2962 members), 17% response rate, margin of error 4%, confidence level 95%

2021 – 855 responses (2496 members), 34% response rate, margin of error 3%, confidence level 95%

2020 – 654 responses (1961 members), 33% response rate, margin of error 4%, confidence level 95%

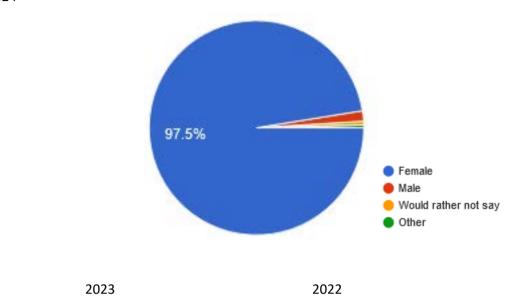
2016 - 541 responses

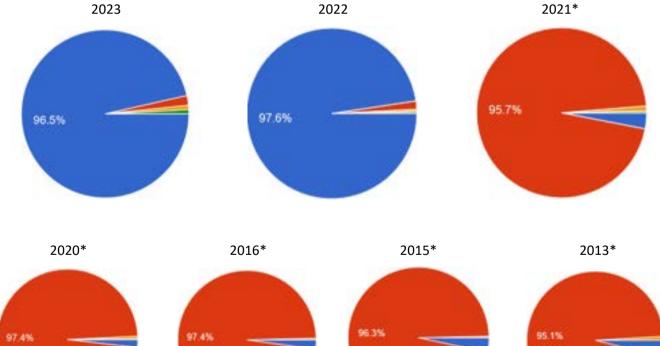
2015 - 300 responses

2013 - 532 responses

## **Demographics**

## Your gender

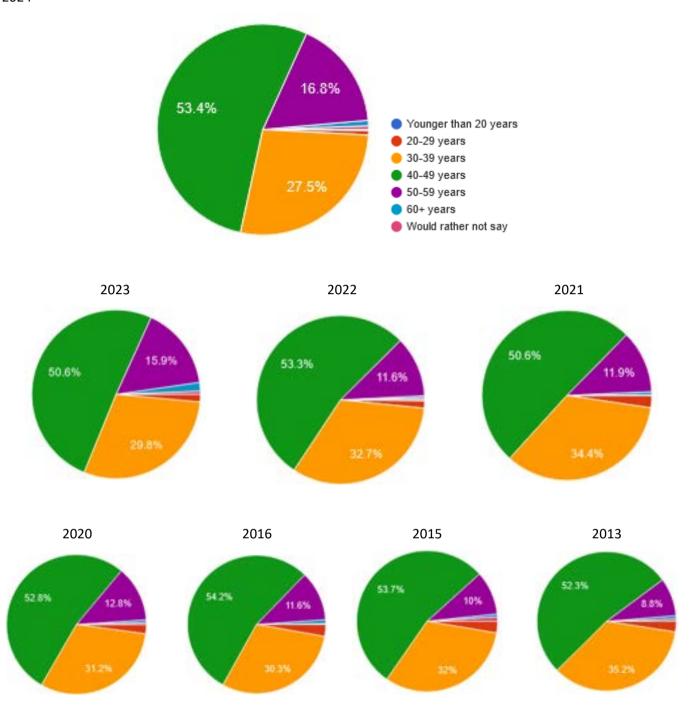




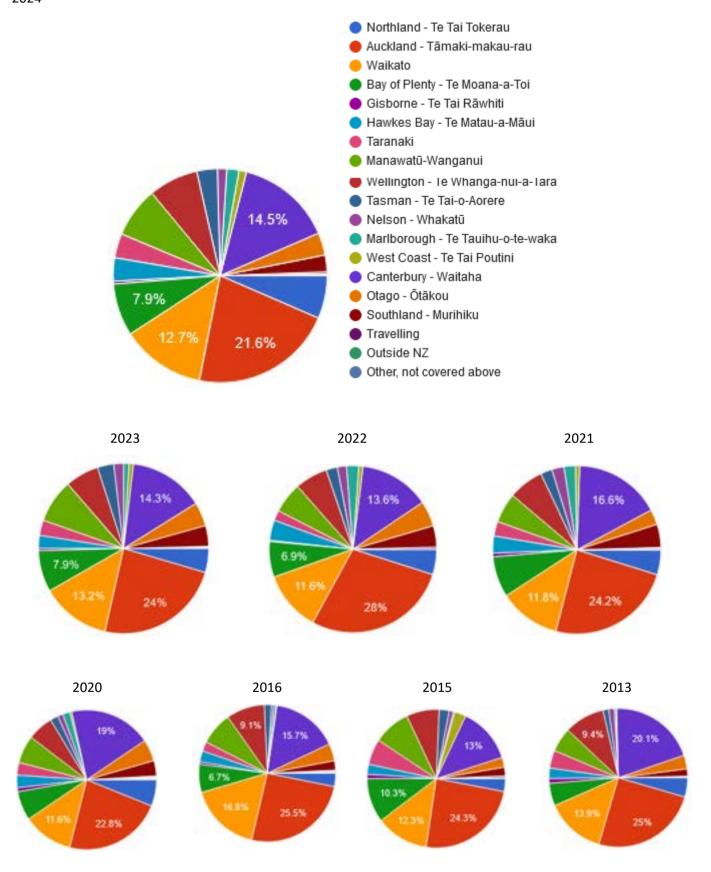
<sup>\* 2013-2021</sup> Alternate colours for male/female

## Which age group do you belong to?



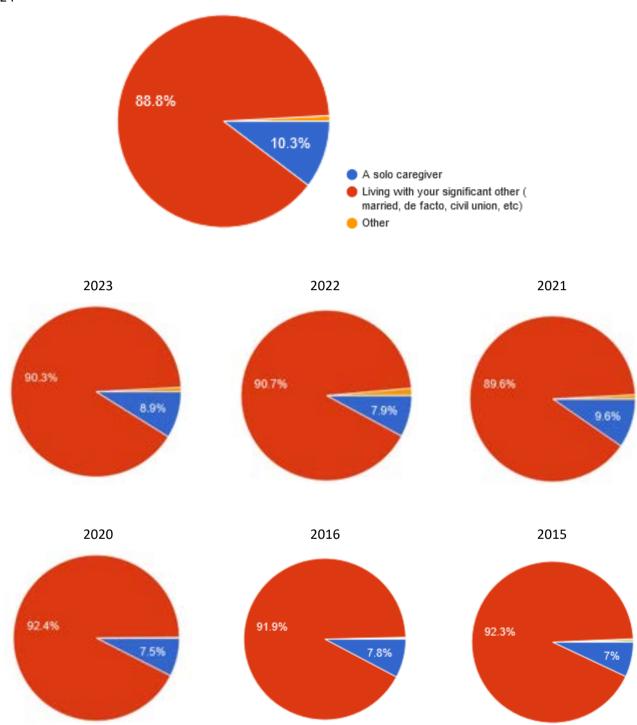


### Which region of New Zealand do you live in?



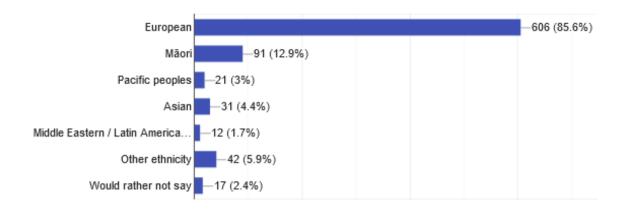
### Are you ...



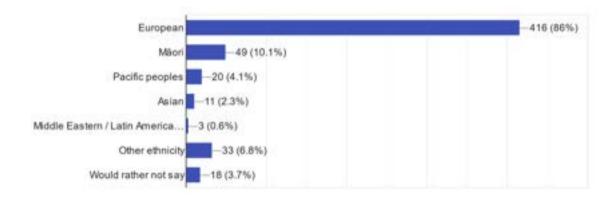


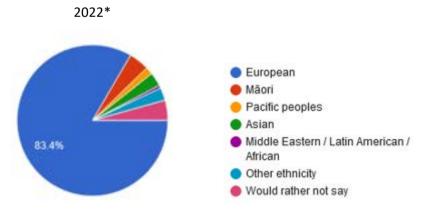
## Which best describes your ethnic group(s)?

#### 2024



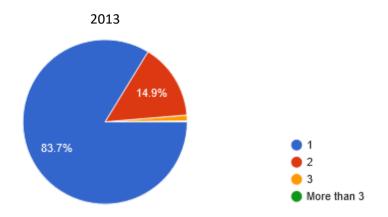
### 2023



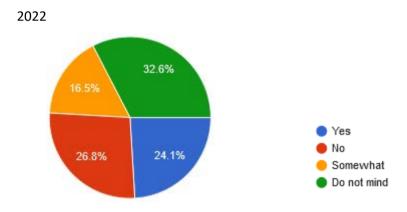


\* 2022 respondents could only select one ethnic group

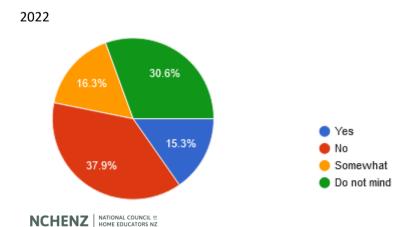
### How many languages are spoken regularly in your home?



Is it important to you that the NCHENZ website has Māori/Pasifika language options?

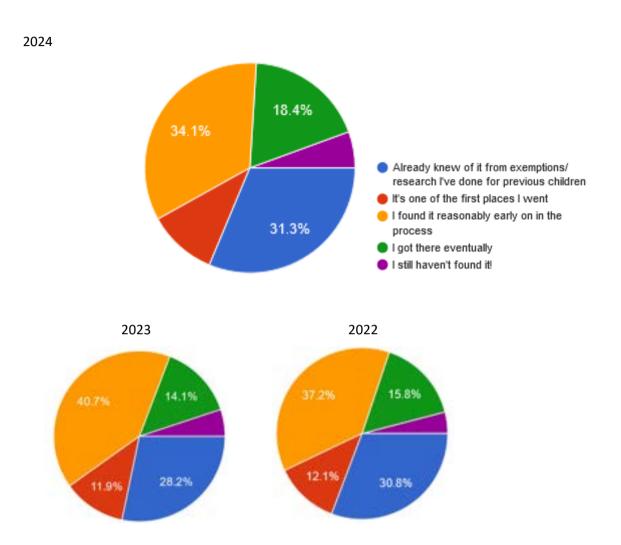


Some NCHENZ Executive Committee members speak Te Reo and have validated iwi registration; others are learning Te Reo and have affiliations with their local iwi. Is it important to you that you know the NCHENZ Executive Committee whakapapa Māori/Pasifika?



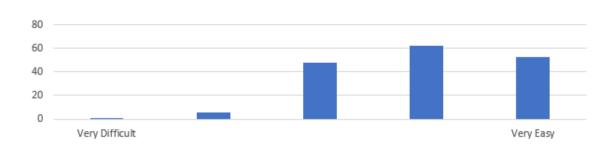
## **Questions About NCHENZ**

## How easy was it to find the NCHENZ website?

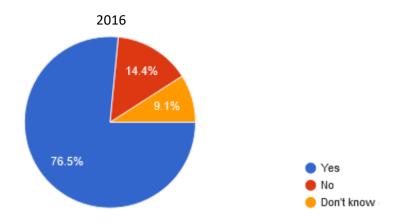


## How easy was it to find the information you wanted on the NCHENZ website?

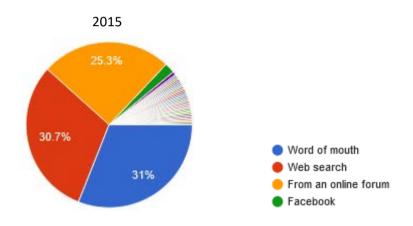




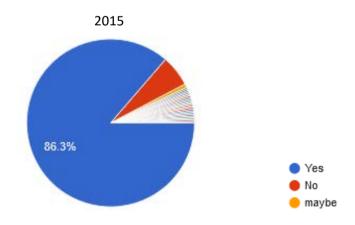
## Are you a current member of NCHENZ?



## How did you originally find out about NCHENZ?

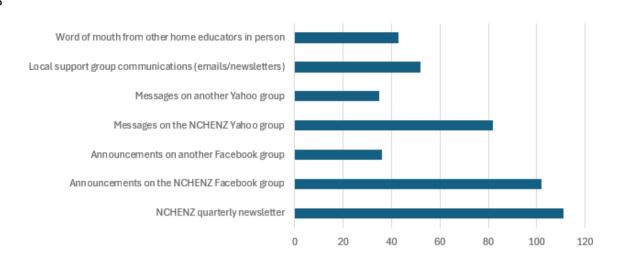


## Would you/do you recommend NCHENZ to other home educators?

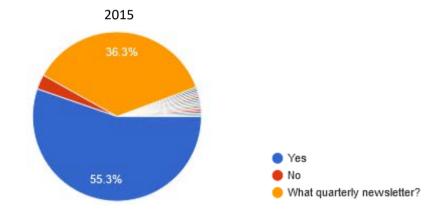


## How do you find out about current NCHENZ subscription offers and other news?

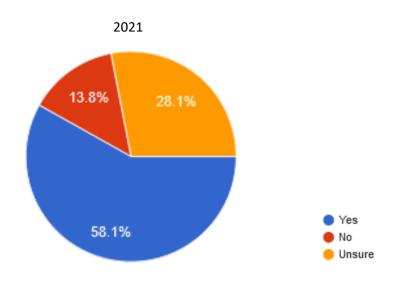
#### 2015



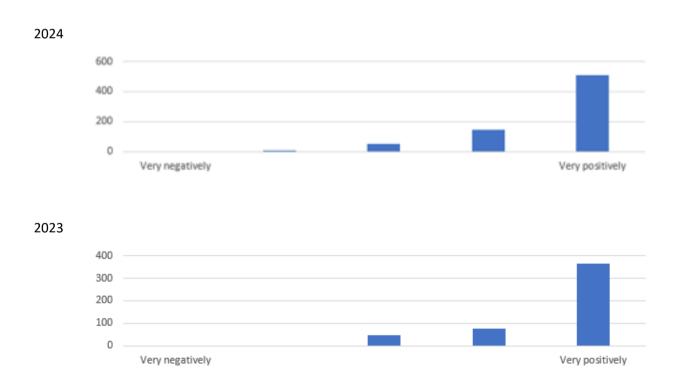
### Do you enjoy reading the quarterly newsletter?



If there was an annual fee of \$25 per family, would you be willing to pay this to be a member of NCHENZ?



# Generally, how positively or negatively do you view NCHENZ as an organisation?

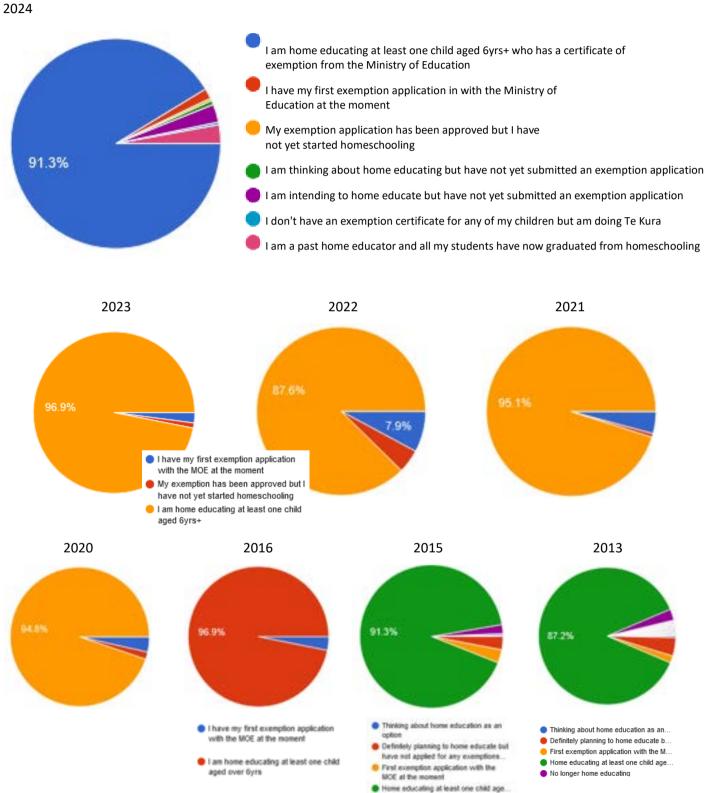


## Generally, how well does NCHENZ meet your needs as a home educator?



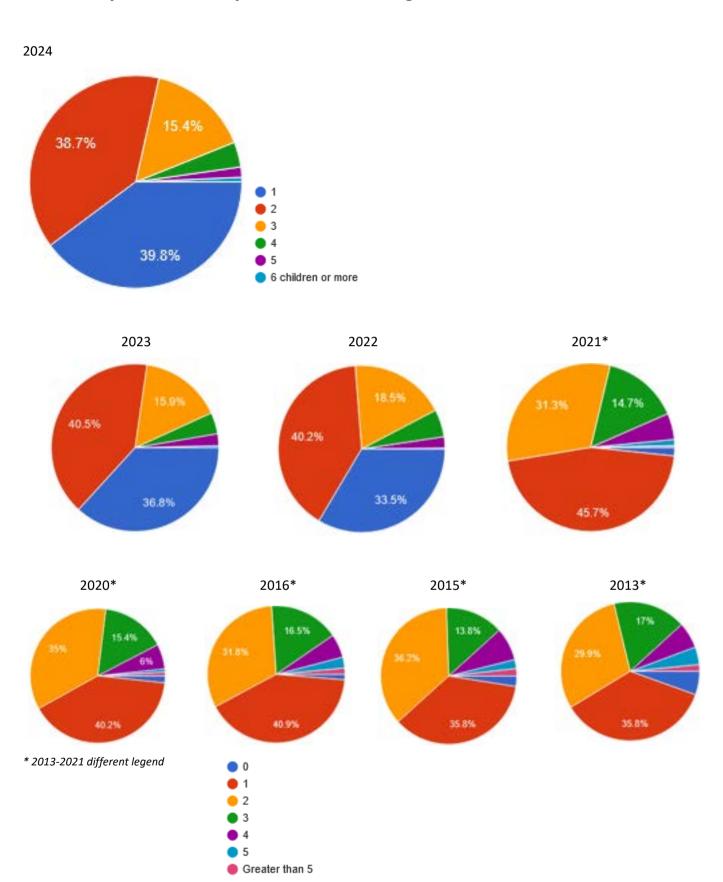
## "Your Home Education Journey"

### Where are you on your home education journey?



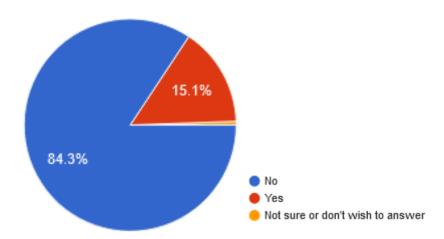
No longer home educating

## How many children are you home educating?



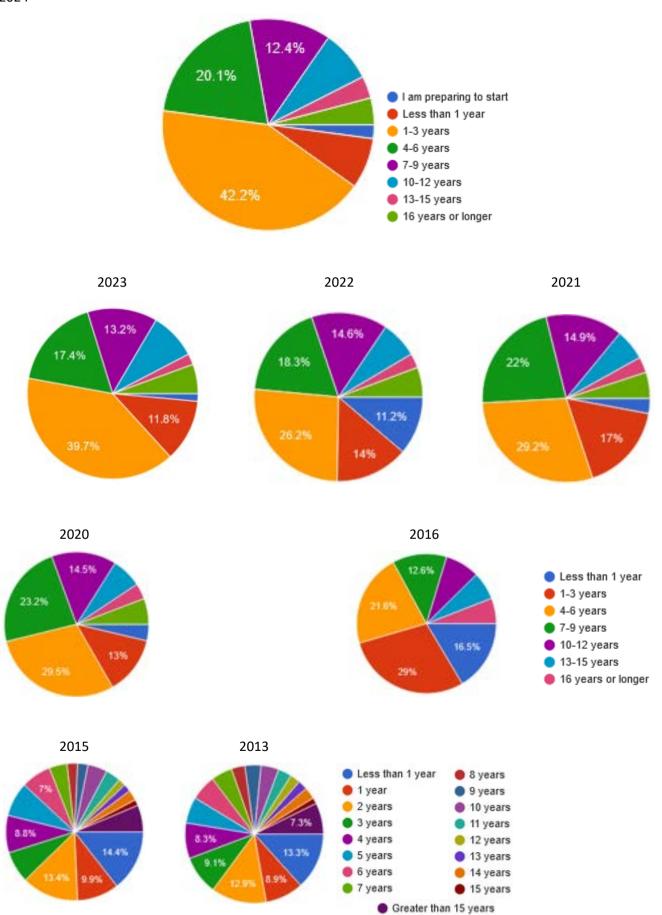
# Do you have any children who have 'graduated' homeschool and moved into a career or further study?



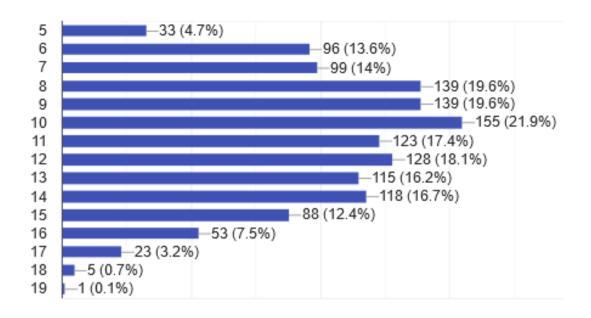


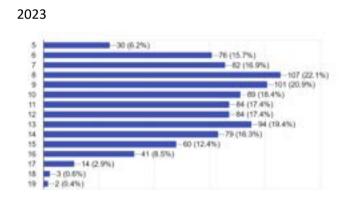
### How many years have you been home educating?

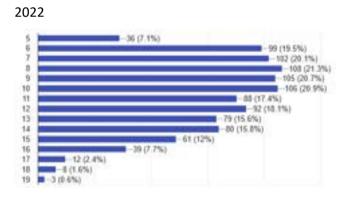


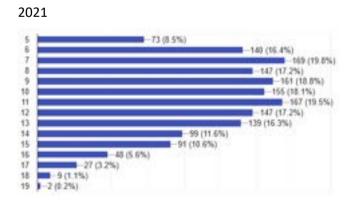


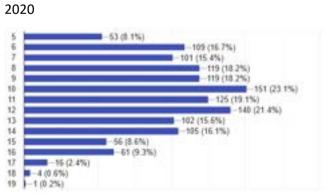
### What are the ages of the children you home educate?

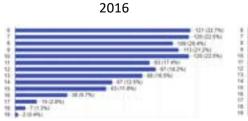


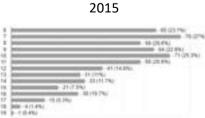


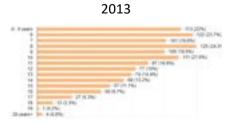






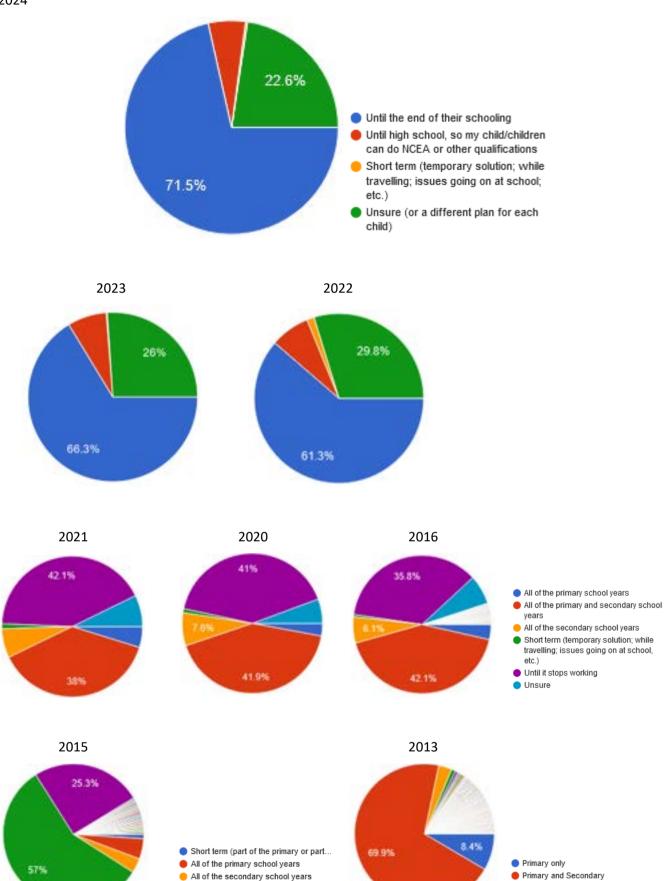






### How long do you INTEND to home educate your children?





All of the primary and secondary sch...

Undecided at this stage

Secondary only

Not sure

## What are your main motivations to home educate? (2024-2021)

Respondents could select only three, in any order.

Value	2024	2023	2022	2021
Family: Closer family unit; Family values more central	58%	58%	64%	53%
Lifestyle: Travel; Fit in other family commitments; More relaxed lifestyle	32%	32%	40%	37%
Socialisation: Higher quality social interactions	10%	11%	11%	12%
Health: Medical, emotional and/or mental health reasons	18%	19%	20%	23%
Learning: Higher quality tailored education	46%	48%	49%	49%
Religious: Provide a faith-based education	25%	27%	24%	21%
Special education needs: Not met or unlikely to be adequately met at school	18%	23%	23%	25%
Accessibility: Too far from appropriate schools	1%	0%	0%	2%
Schooling system: Avoid bullying, mistreatment, negative peer pressure	33%	36%	29%	32%
Avoid other negative aspects of school	30%	32%	27%	26%
Other reason, not covered above	4%	6%	6%	5%

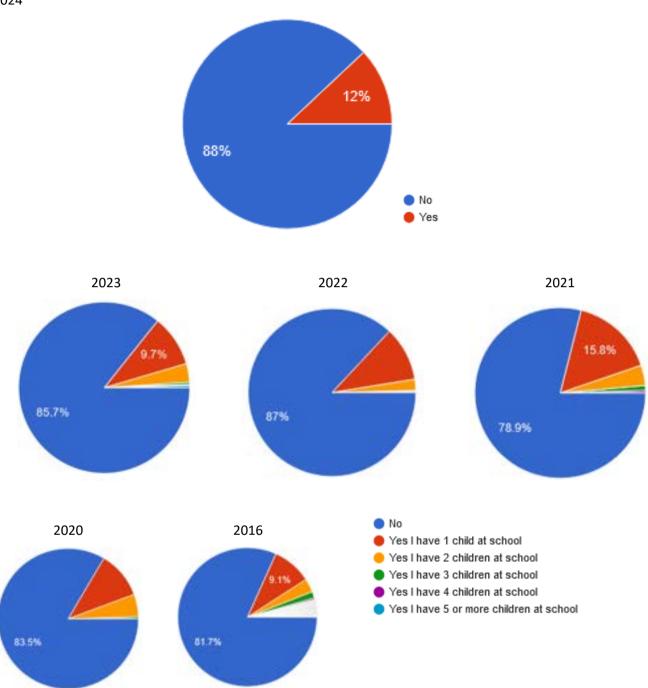
## What are your main motivations to home educate? (2016-2013)

Respondents could select any options that applied.

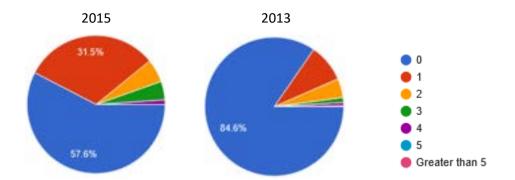
Value	2016	2015	2013
Bullying at school		23%	22%
Special needs not being met at school	18%	21%	24%
Other problems at school	11%	12%	17%
Distance from appropriate schools	6%	4%	5%
Not happy with the school system	49%	65%	63%
Too isolated (no schools nearby)	1%	0%	1%
You and/or your partner are qualified primary or secondary school teachers	13%	11%	10%
Better socialisation in the community	36%	42%	40%
Closer family unit	67%	71%	72%
Christian faith	41%	45%	44%
Other faith or spiritual approach	5%	5%	5%
Learn in the community from real people	42%	48%	46%
Family values more central	58%	63%	63%
Learn at own pace	82%	77%	82%
More flexible lifestyle/Great lifestyle	67%	68%	74%
Bullying/intimidation from school staff	16%		
My mainstream school child was being bullied	12%		
My special needs child was being bullied	6%		

## Do you also have children attending school?



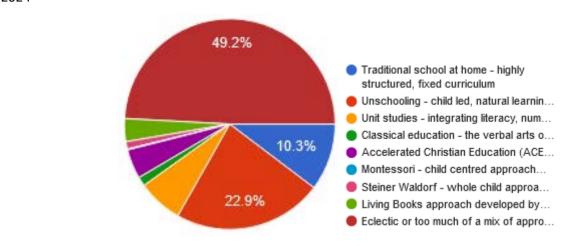


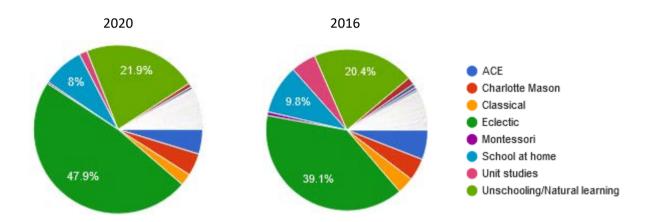
## How many children do you CURRENTLY have attending school?

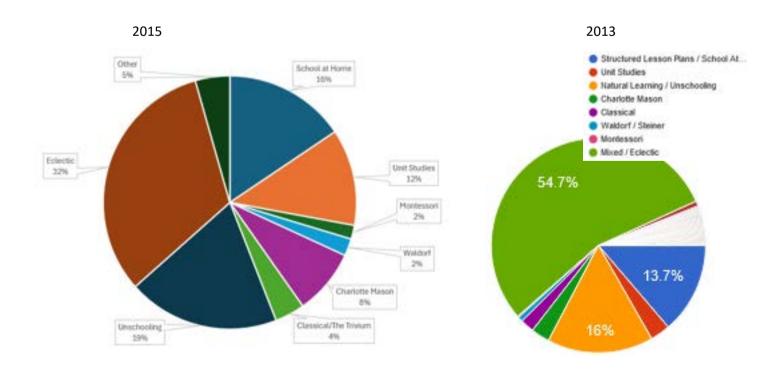


### What is your MAIN home education approach/style?

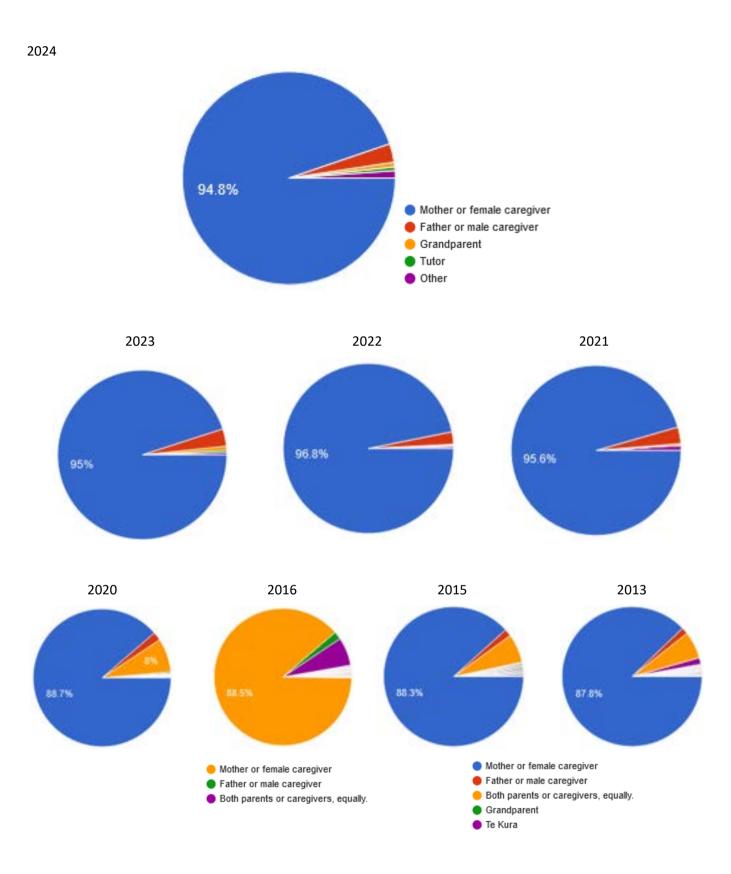






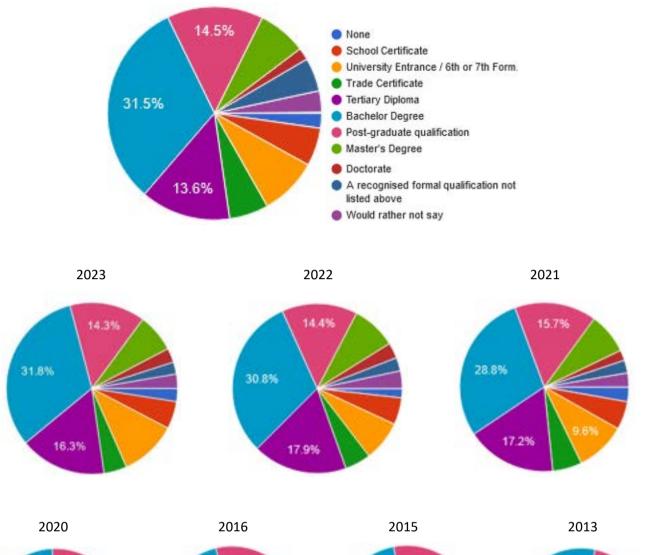


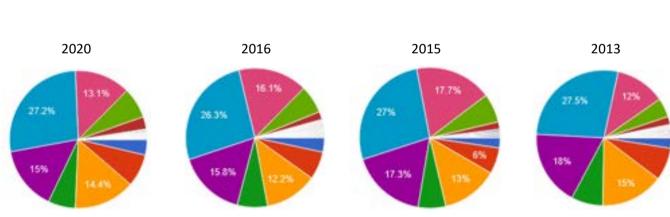
# Who delivers/facilitates/supervises the main day-to-day learning for your home educated child(ren)?



## What is that person's highest level of qualification?





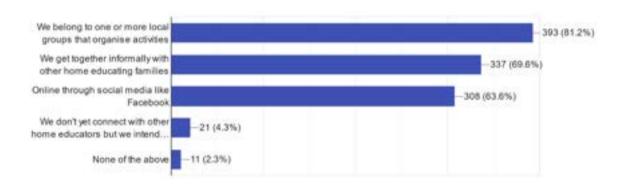


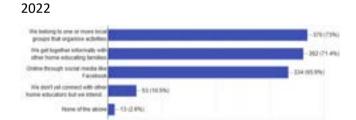
### How do you connect with other home educators?

#### 2024

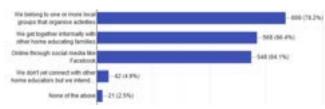


#### 2023







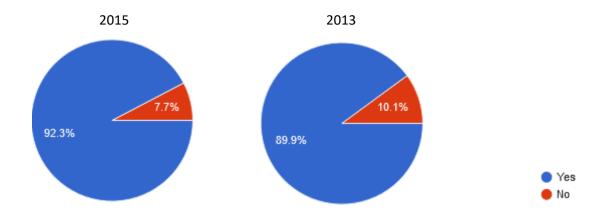




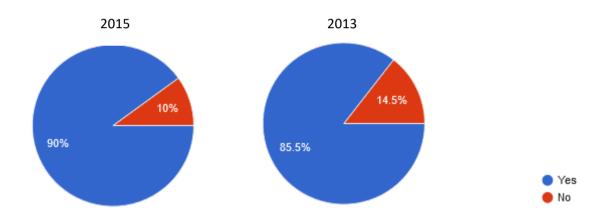
2016



# Do you belong to any home education networks or support groups in your region?



## Do you use social media to interact with other home educators?

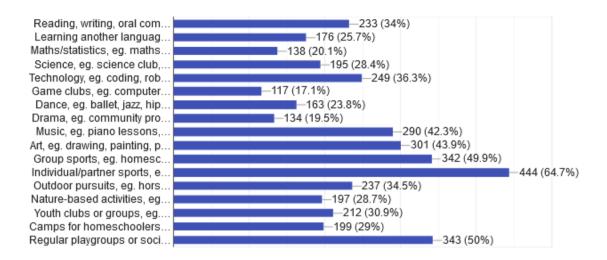


## If yes, please indicate which media you use:

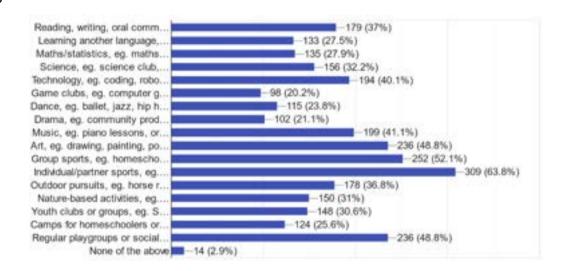
Media	2015	2013
Blogs by NZ Home Educators	34%	43%
Blogs by Overseas Home Educators	41%	43%
New Zealand Facebook groups	73%	61%
Overseas Facebook groups	30%	23%
Yahoo Groups - NZ	67%	67%
Yahoo Groups - Overseas	13%	15%
Email lists - NZ	62%	63%
Email lists - Overseas	9%	9%
TradeMe Message Boards	3%	4%
Twitter	2%	2%

## What "formal" activities have your children participated in over the last 12 months?

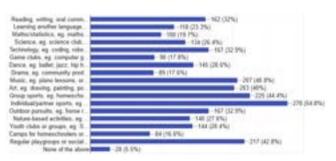
#### 2024

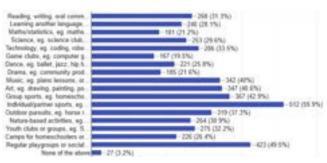


#### 2023



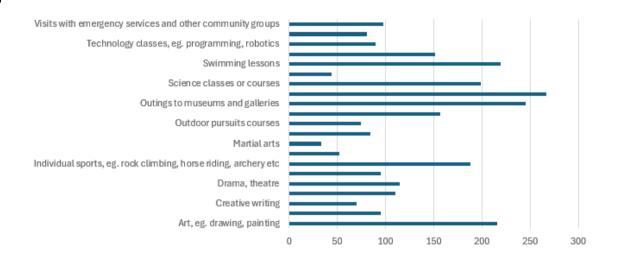
### 2022



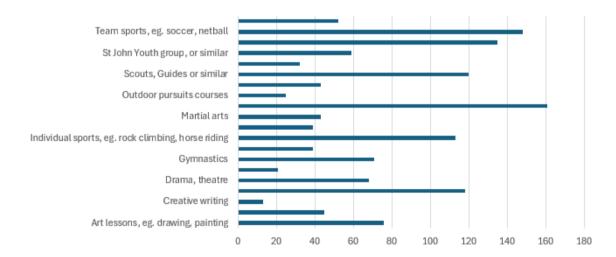


# What activities organised specifically for home educators have your children participated in over the last 12 months?

2016

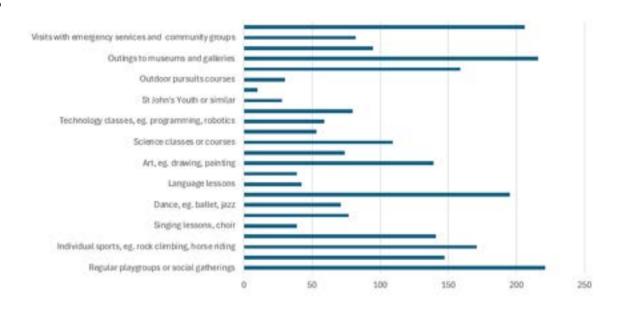


# What community based or "after school" activities have your home educated children participated in over the last 12 months?

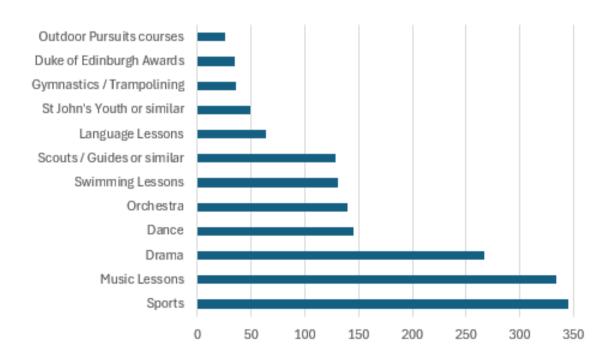


## What organised activities have your home educated children participated in over the last twelve months?

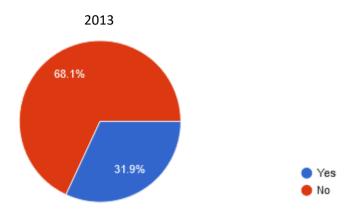
2015



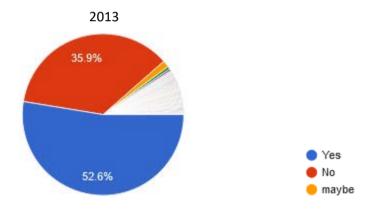
### What other organised activities do your children participate in?



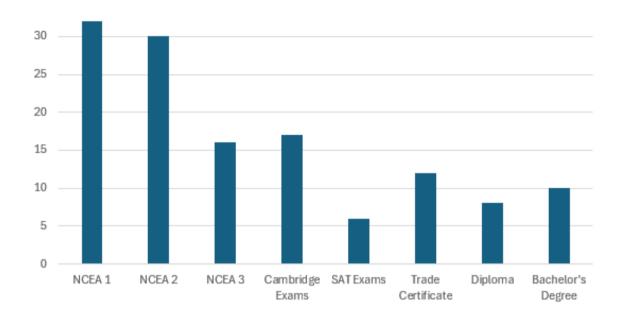
Have you travelled OUTSIDE of New Zealand as part of your Home Education programme?



Do you plan to travel outside of NZ in the future as part of your home education programme?

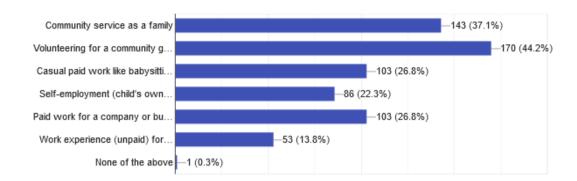


# Which external qualifications have your children attained while being home educated?

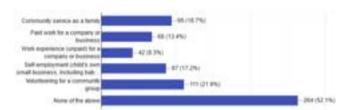


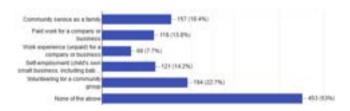
## Have your home educated children participated in voluntary or paid work in the last 12 months?

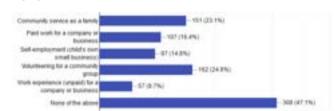
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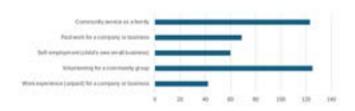










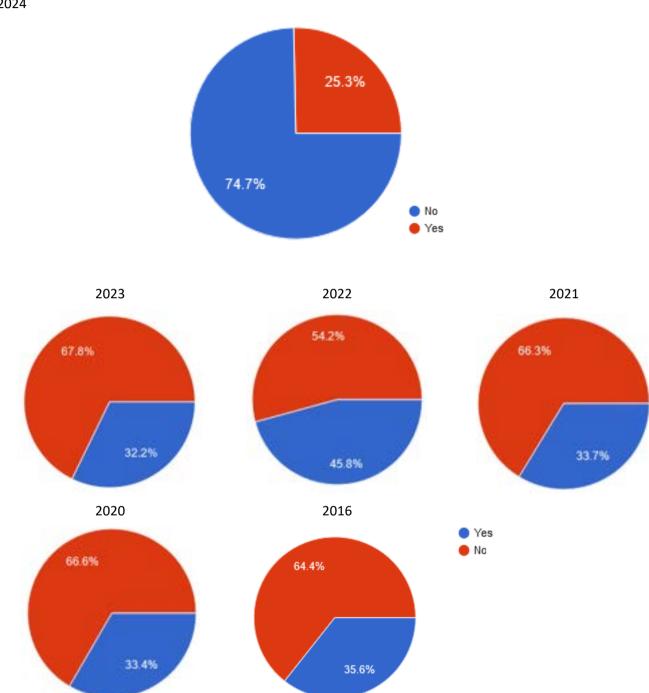




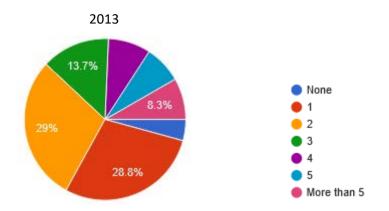
## **The Exemption Process**

Have you submitted an exemption application to the Ministry of Education in the last 12 months?

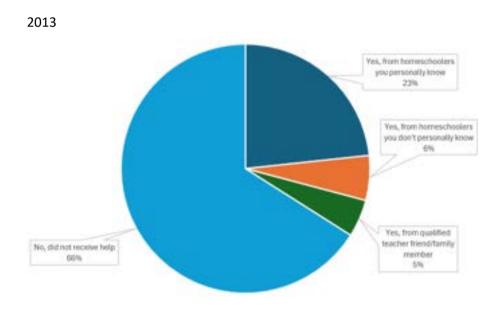




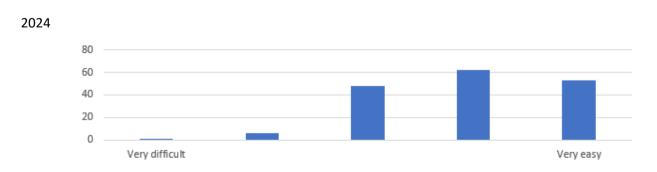
### How many Exemption Applications have you made in total?



# Did you receive help in completing your last exemption application? If so, who helped you?

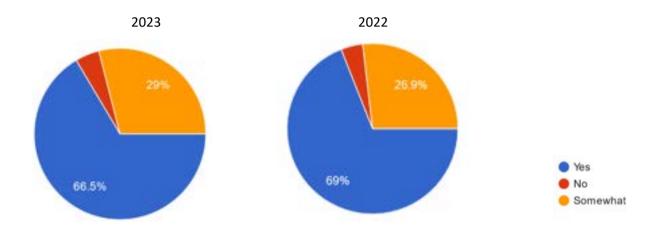


# How easy was it to find all of the information you needed in order to write your exemption application?



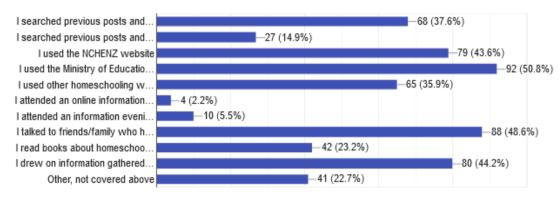


# Was it easy to get the information you needed prior to writing your exemption application?



### How did you gather the information you needed in order to write your exemption application?

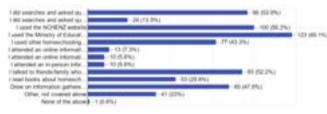
#### 2024



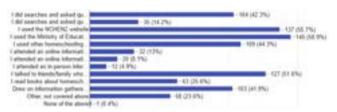
#### Response options:

- I searched previous posts and asked questions on homeschool groups on Facebook
- I searched previous posts and asked questions on other social media sites
- I used the NCHENZ website
- I used the Ministry of Education website
- I used other homeschooling websites
- I attended an online information evening held by NCHENZ or watched the NCHENZ webinar
- I attended an information evening (online or in person) held by another homeschooling group
- I talked to friends/family who homeschool
- I read books about homeschooling
- I drew on information gathered from completing exemptions for my other child/children
- Other, not covered above

#### 2023



#### 2022



#### Response options for 2023 and 2022:

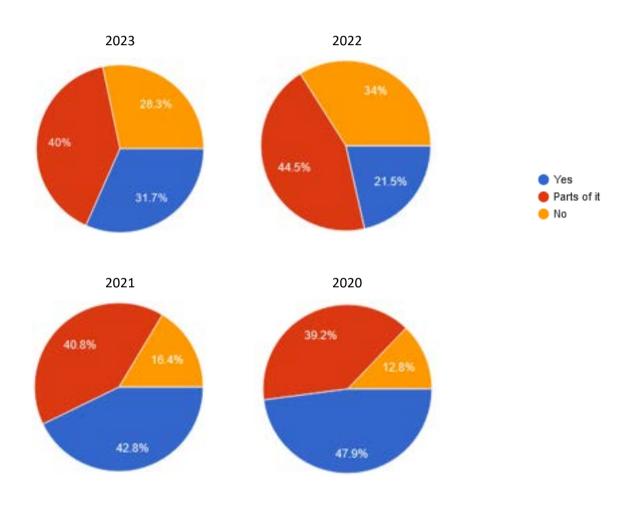
- I did searches and asked questions on homeschool groups on Facebook
- I did searches and asked questions on other social media sites
- I used the NCHENZ website
- I used the Ministry of Education website
- I used other homeschooling websites
- I attended an online information evening held by NCHENZ
- I attended an online information evening held by another homeschooling group
- I attended an in-person information evening held by my local homeschooling group
- I talked to friends/family who homeschool
- I read books about homeschooling
- Drew on information gathered from completing exemptions for my other child/children
- Other, not covered above
- None of the above

## How easy was it to understand what information the Ministry of Education wanted on the exemption application form?



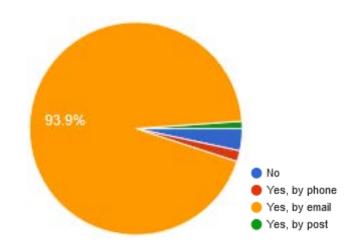


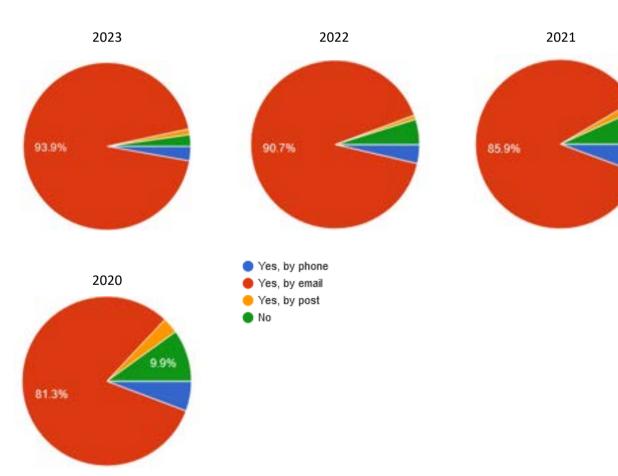
# Did you find the Ministry of Education exemption application form user friendly?



# Once you submitted your forms to the Ministry of Education were you advised of their receipt?



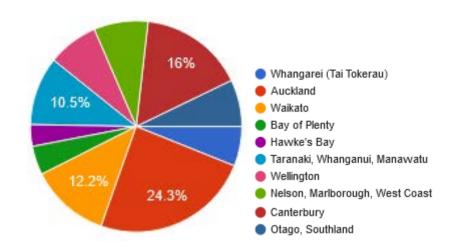


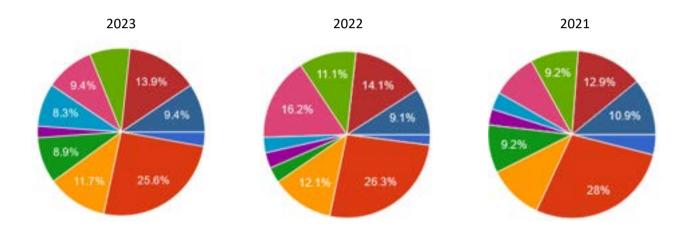


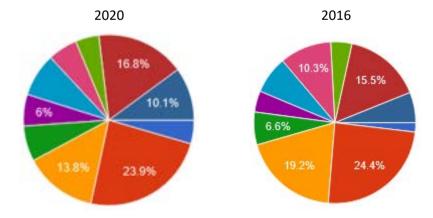


### Which Ministry of Education office did you submit the application to?



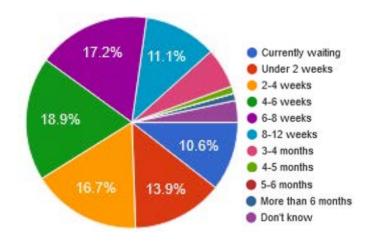


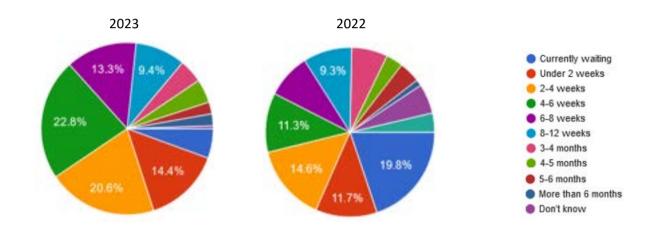


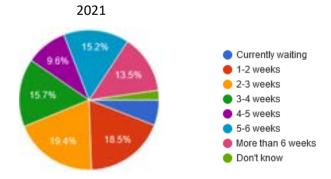


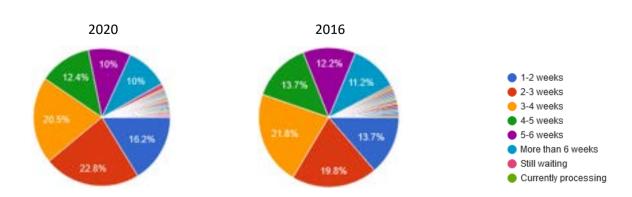
### How long did it take the Ministry of Education to process your exemption?





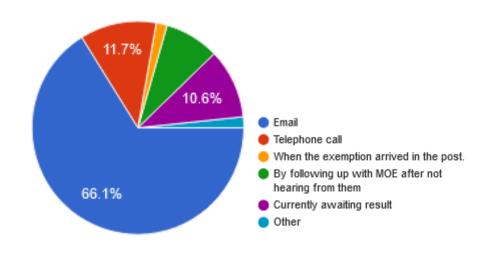


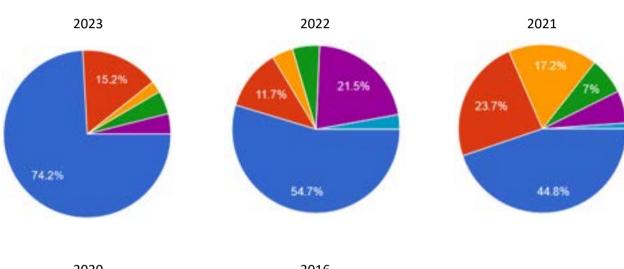


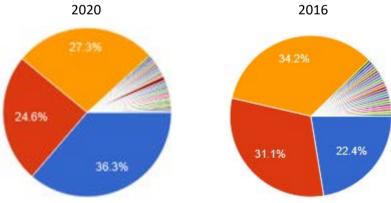


# How did the Ministry of Education advise you about the result of your application?



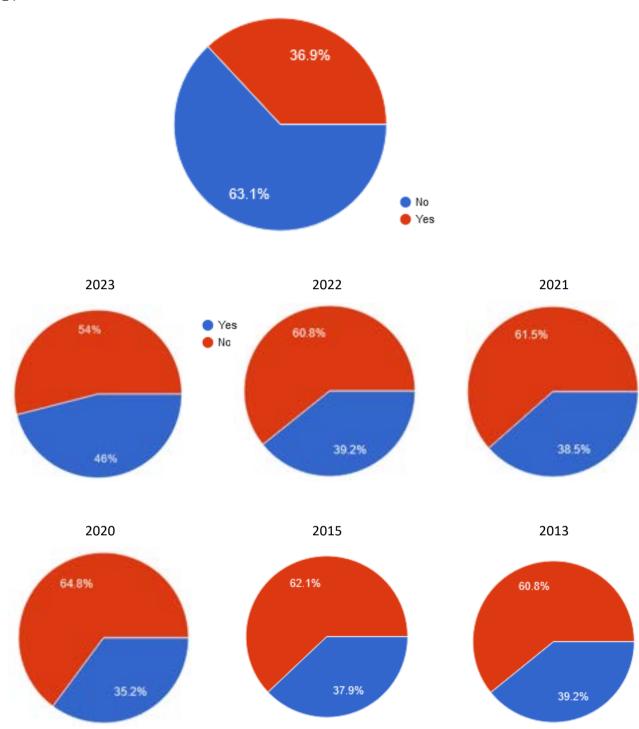






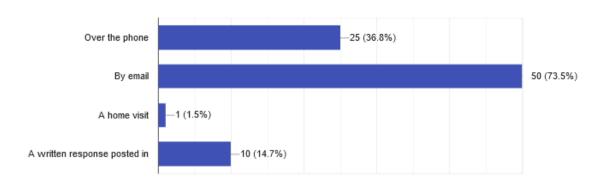
# Did the Ministry of Education ask for further information in order to process your exemption?



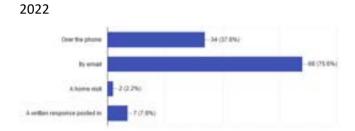


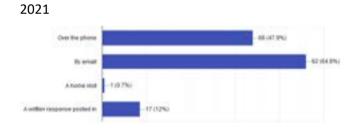
### What options were you given in order to provide this further information?

#### 2024

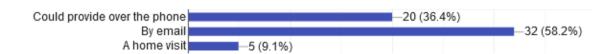






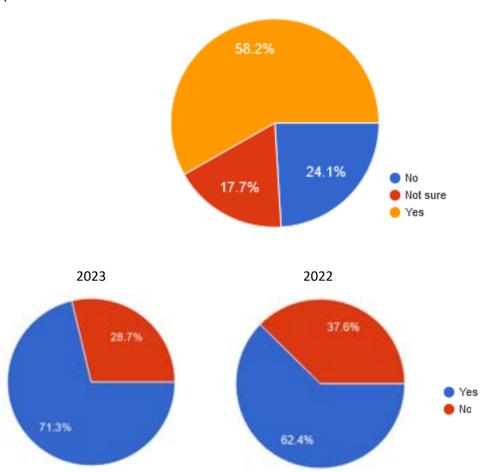




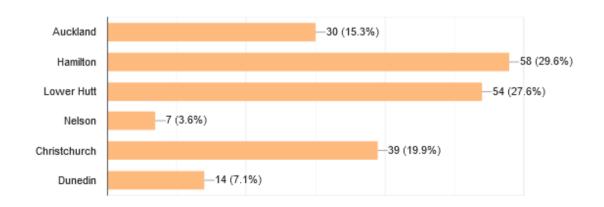


## Had you already provided the required information in your written exemption application?

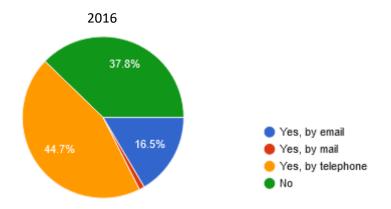




### Which Ministry of Education Office requested more information?

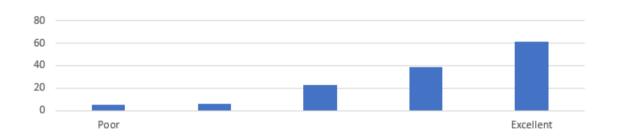


#### Did they contact you personally at any stage of the process?

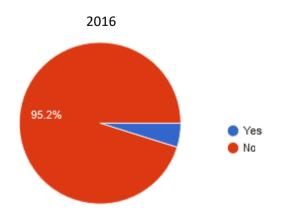


#### What were your impressions of the contact?

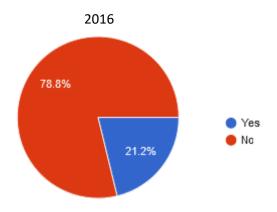
2016



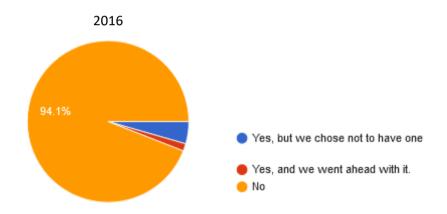
In your communications with MOE, were you ever given the impression a face-to-face visit was compulsory?



### Did you go ahead with a visit?



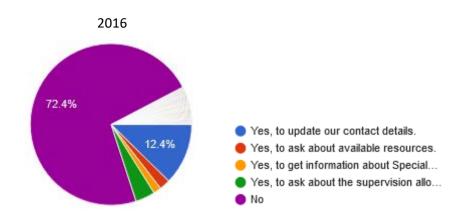
### Was a face to face visit given as an option?



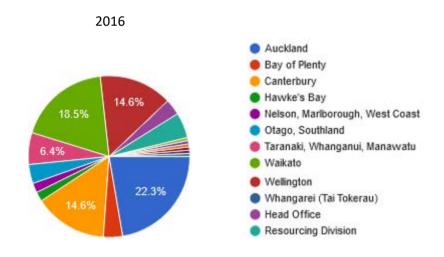
### How was your face to face visit experience?



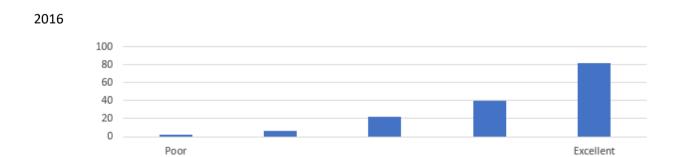
### Other than an exemption application, have you had any other contact with an MOE office about home education?



#### Which office did you contact?



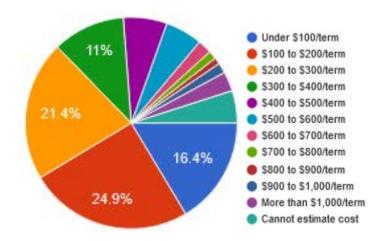
#### How did you find your dealings with the staff member/s you spoke to?

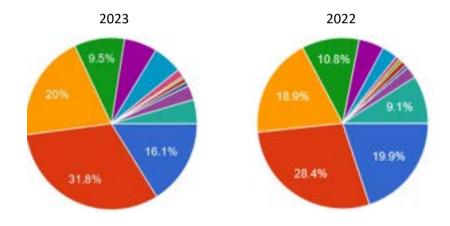


### The Cost of Home Educating

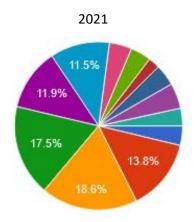
Approximately how much do you estimate that you spend on educational resources for ONE of your homeschooled children for ONE term?





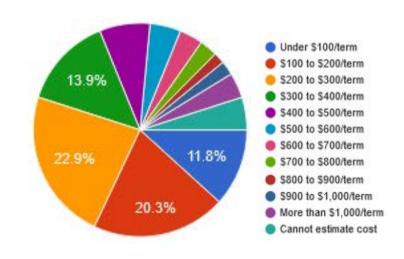


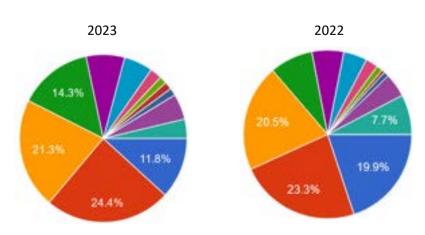
### Approximately how much do you spend on educational resources and activities for ONE of your homeschooled children in a typical term?



### Approximately how much do you estimate that you spend on other educational activities for ONE of your homeschooled children for ONE term?



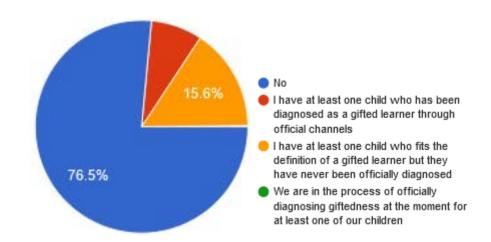


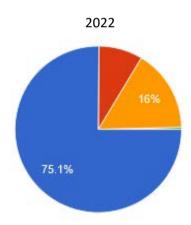


# Home Educating Children with Special Education Needs and/or Giftedness

### Do you home educate a gifted learner?

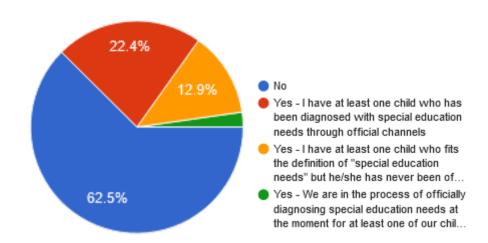




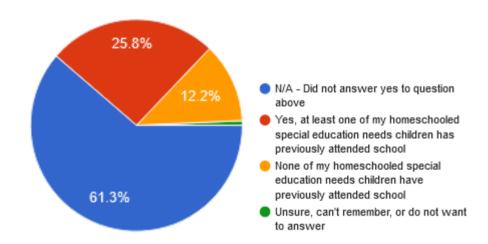


### Do you home educate a child with special education needs?

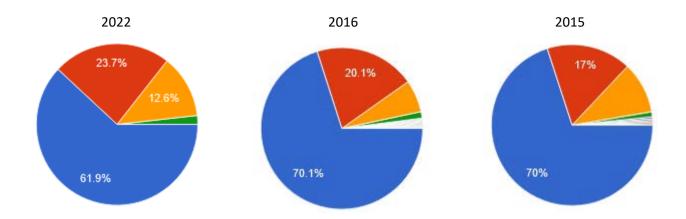
2024



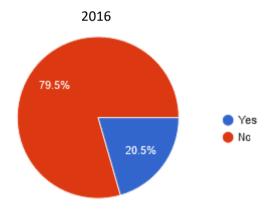
# If you answered YES in the question directly above, was your 'special education needs' child previously in the school system before being home educated?



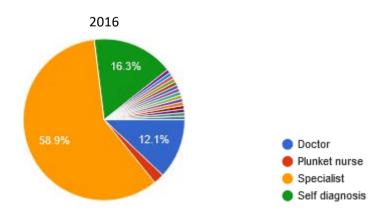
### Do you home educate a child with special education needs?



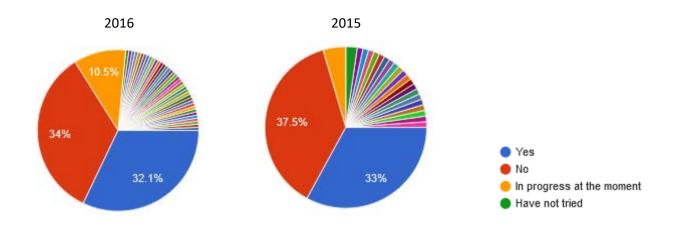
### Was your child diagnosed while attending school in consultation with the school?



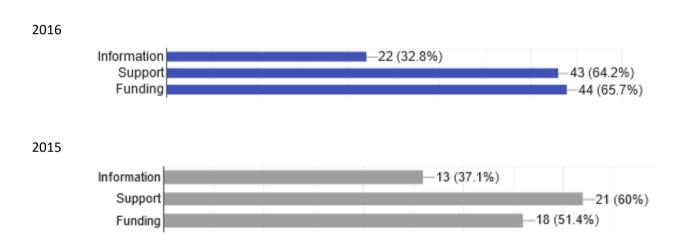
### If diagnosed outside of school who supported your child's diagnosis?



# Have you been able to access help/support for your child through the appropriate agencies?



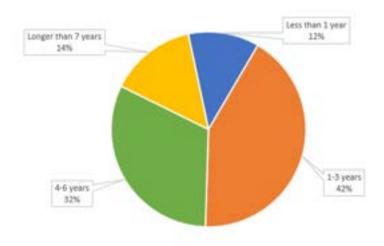
### If no, what have you been unable to access?



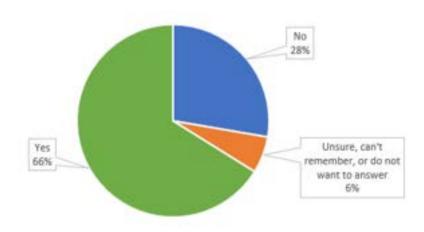
# Home educating a child with special education needs, who was previously in school

How many years did you endeavour to make traditional schooling work for your child?

2024

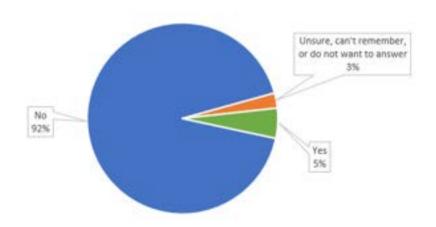


Did you feel forced to home educate this child because of a lack of support in the schooling system?

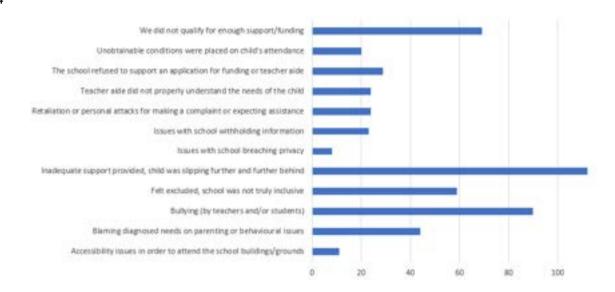


### Was it suggested to you by a school/principal that you home educate this child due to their needs being unable to be met in school?

2024

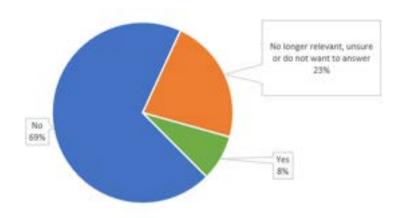


#### How did you feel the school system failed your child?

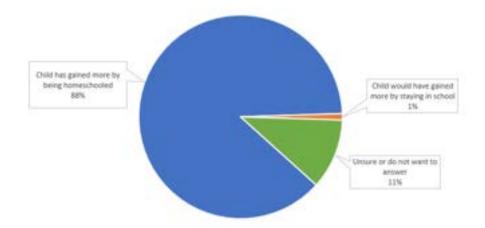


### Would you return to the schooling system if those issues were resolved?

2024



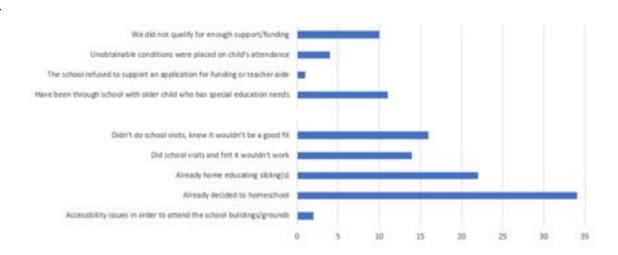
# Do you feel your child has gained more by homeschooling, or would have gained more in mainstream school?



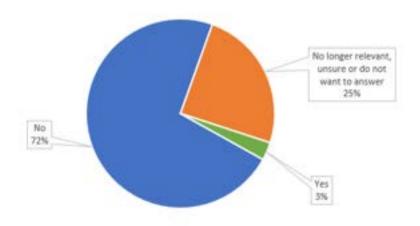
# Home educating a child with special education needs, who has never attended school

What were your reasons for going straight to home education and not giving school a go?

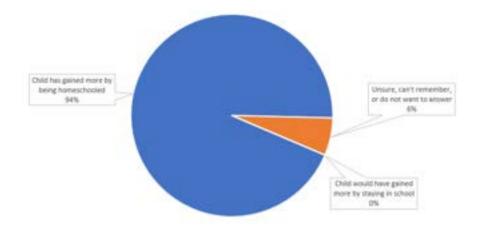
2024



#### Would you enter the schooling system if those issues were resolved?



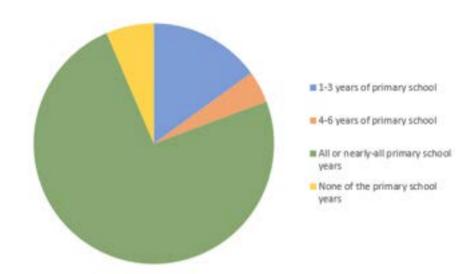
# Do you feel your child has gained more by homeschooling, or would have gained more in mainstream school?



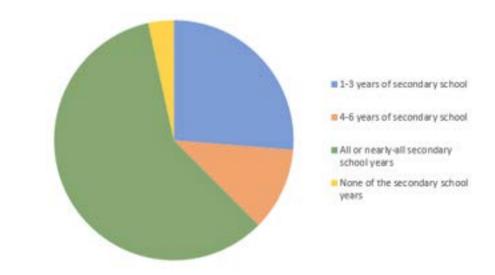
### **Graduates**

How many years was your graduate homeschooled during the equivalent primary school years?



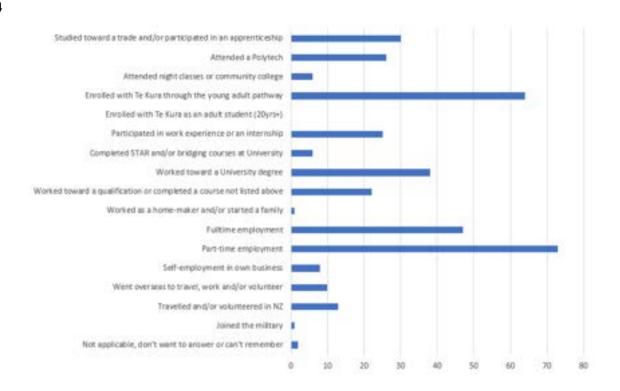


## How many years was your graduate homeschooled during the equivalent secondary school years?

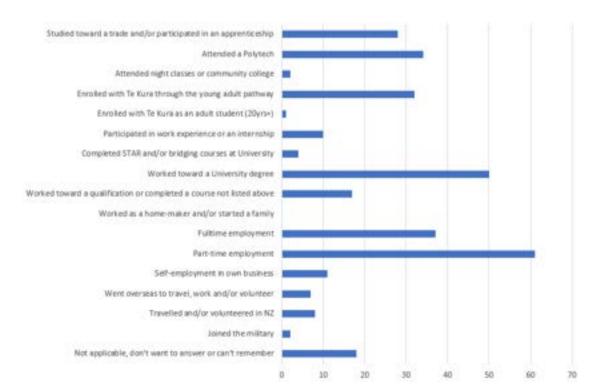


### What did your teen/adult-child do in the FIRST YEAR after graduating their homeschool programme?

2024



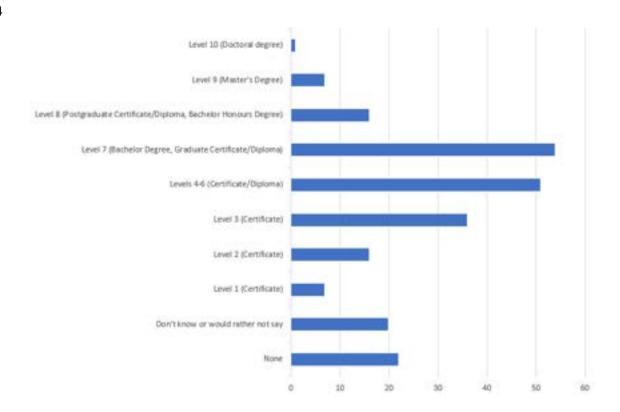
#### What did they do in the SECOND YEAR?



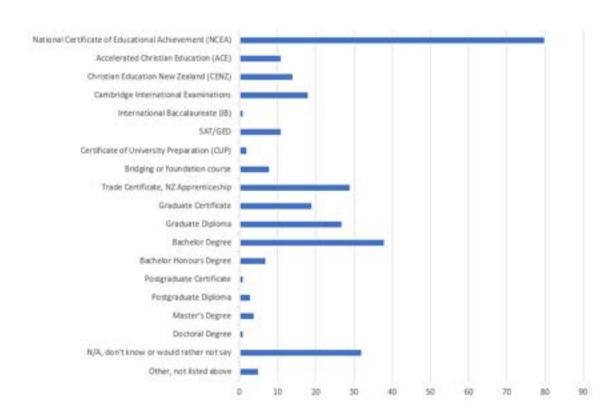
<sup>\*</sup> all options include full-time, part-time, paid or unpaid, in person or extramural

### What is the level of their highest qualification attainment?

2024

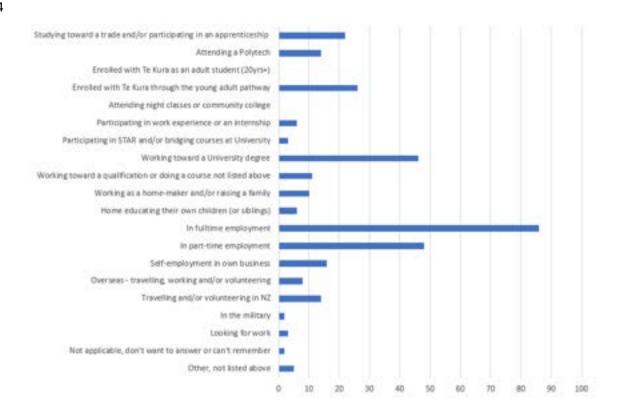


#### What qualification(s) have they attained?



#### What are they doing now?

2024



### How positively or negatively do you feel they view their home education journey?



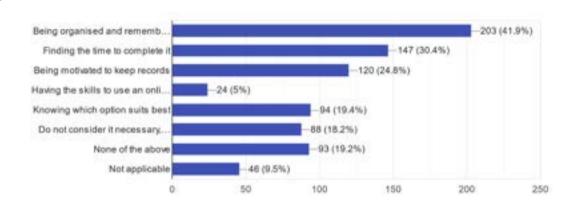
# If you had your time again, would you still choose to home educate this child?



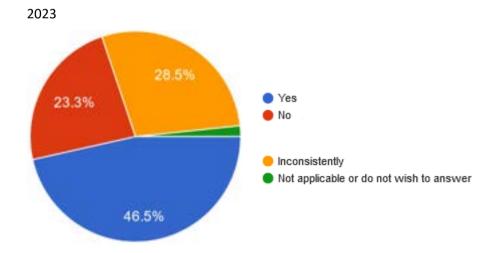
### **Record Keeping & Monitoring Progress**

What are the main challenges for yourself with regard to keeping a record of learning and progress?

2023

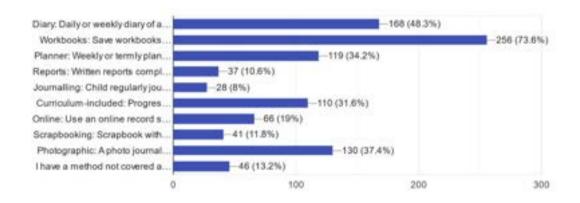


Do you currently keep an organised record of learning and progress for your home educated child(ren)?



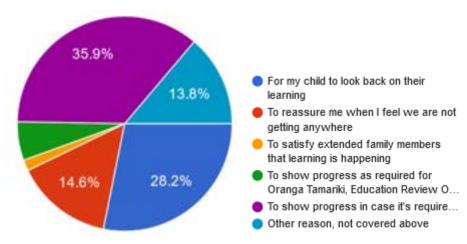
### If YES, what methods do you currently utilise to keep a record of learning and progress for your home educated child(ren)?

2023



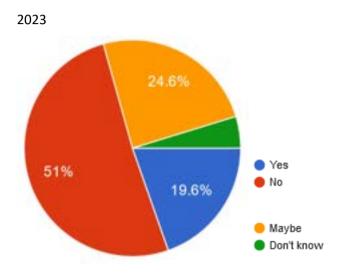
#### What is your MAIN reason for keeping an organised record of learning?



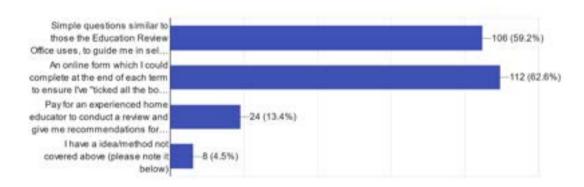


### **Self Review & Self Reflection**

Would you like some guidance or tools to help you voluntarily review your home education programme, for your own use only, and without the threat of your exemptions being revoked?

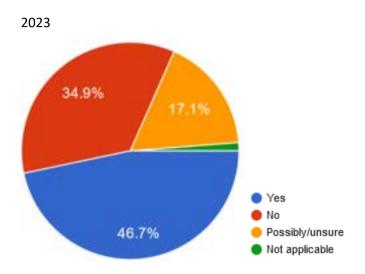


#### If YES, what format would you find most useful and be most likely to use?

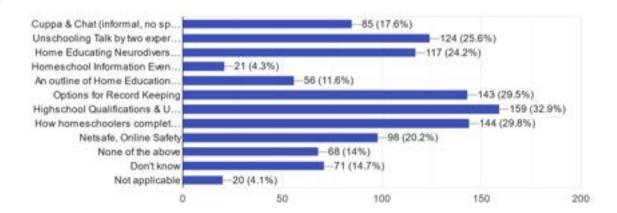


### **NCHENZ Seminars/Webinars**

#### Did you know NCHENZ ran a range of online Zoom sessions last year?

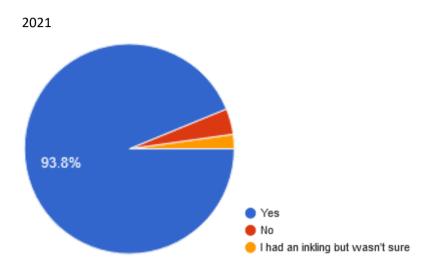


### Would you like to attend any of these online sessions this year?

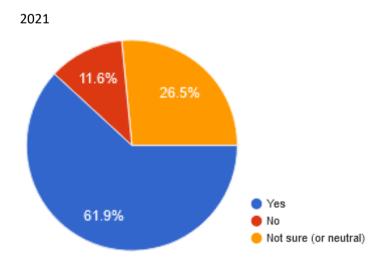


### **Supervisory Allowance**

Before now, were you aware there was a supervisory allowance for home educators?

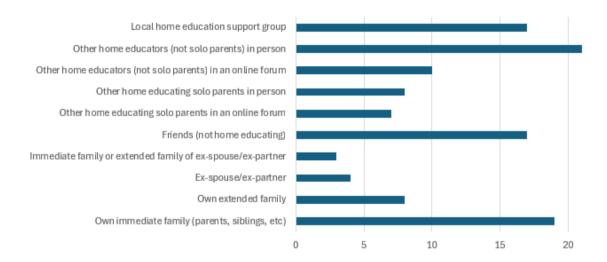


The NCHENZ Government Liaison Officers consider there is only a small risk that any increase to the supervisory allowance would come with additional reporting requirements. With this in mind would you like NCHENZ to lobby the Ministry of Education for an increase in the supervisory allowance?



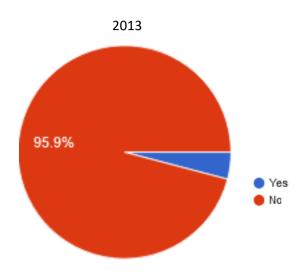
### **Solo Home Educating Parents**

### Who forms your support network?

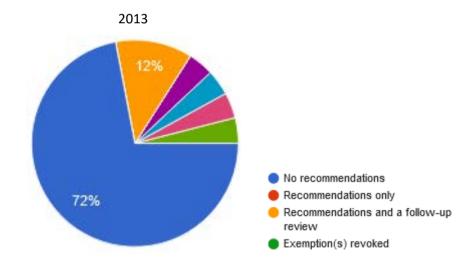


### **ERO Reviews**

### Have you been reviewed SINCE 2009?

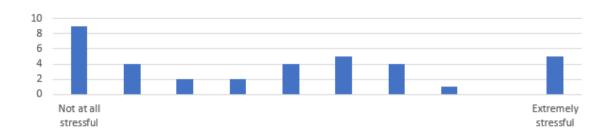


### If yes, were any of the following applicable?



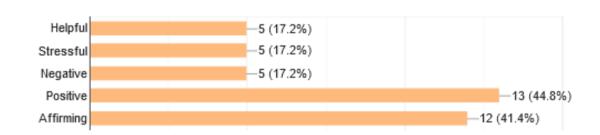
### Please rate the level of anxiety caused by the review:

2013

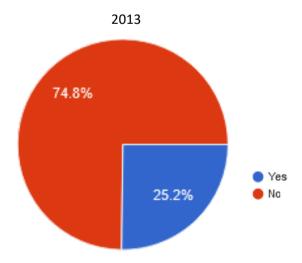


### How would you describe the process?

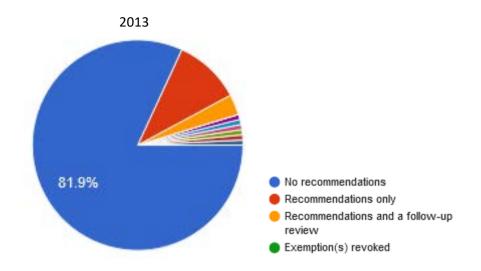
2013



### Were you reviewed PRIOR to 2009?



### If yes, were any of the following applicable?

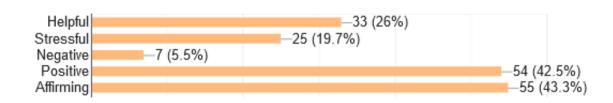


### Please rate the level of anxiety caused by the review:

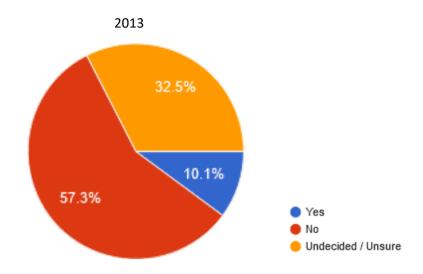




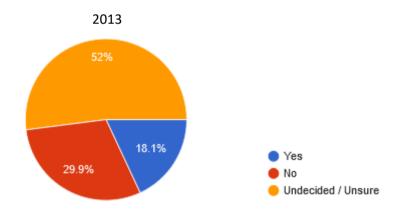
### How would you describe the process?



### Would you prefer regular reviews?

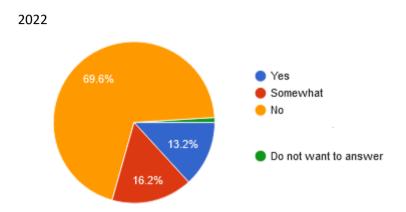


### Do you think the present "review by complaint" system is effective?

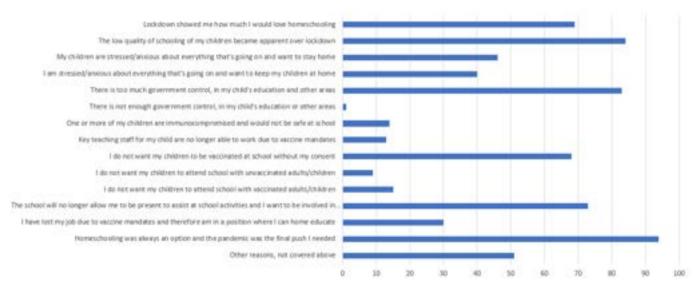


### **Pandemic Homeschooling**

Was the Covid pandemic (and subsequent response by the NZ government) a factor in your decision to home educate?



What were the factors which led you to decide to home educate due to the pandemic



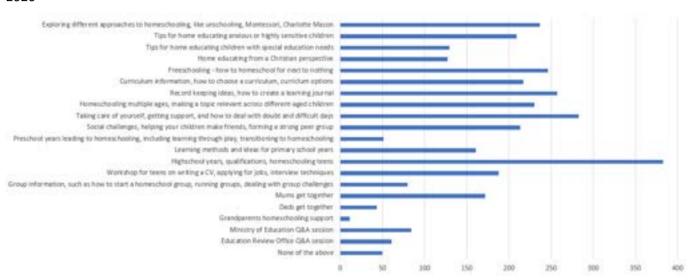
# How likely is it that you will put your children back into school once the pandemic is over?



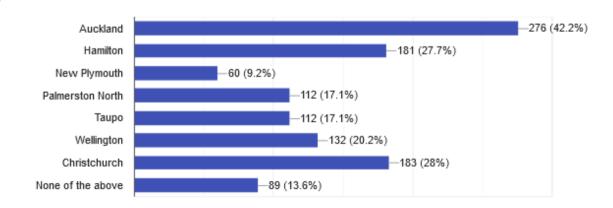
### **Home Education Conference**

### What type of workshops/seminars would you find most useful and interesting at a conference?

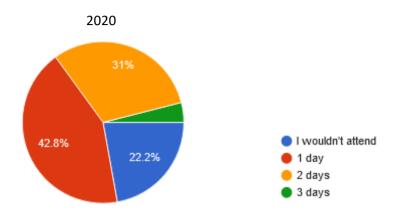




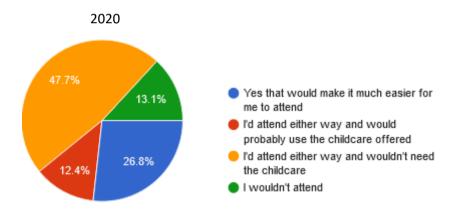
### Assuming there were great workshops and seminars on offer, where would you travel to in order to attend a conference?



Assuming there were no childcare facilities and non-breastfeeding children could not attend with you, how many days is your ideal homeschooling conference?



If there were some homeschooling teens available to offer childcare at the conference, would that make a difference to your attendance?



### When would be the times of the year that you'd attend a homeschooling conference?



