

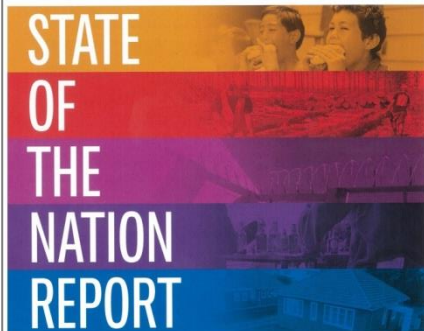
**Stats** **NZ**  
Tatauranga Aotearoa

### Are You Well? Are We Safe?

Alan Johnson | Social Policy Analyst  
The Salvation Army Social Policy & Parliamentary Unit  
February 2019

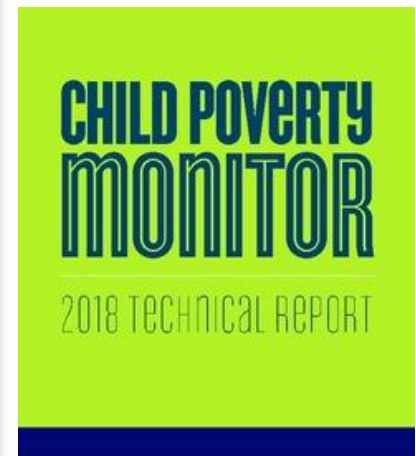
## STATE OF THE NATION REPORT

SUMMARY VERSION



**Social Policy & Parliamentary Unit**  
Working for the eradication of poverty in New Zealand  
[www.salvationarmy.org.nz/socialpolicy](http://www.salvationarmy.org.nz/socialpolicy)

We welcome your feedback  
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The full report is available for viewing or download from [www.salvationarmy.org.nz/areyouwell](http://www.salvationarmy.org.nz/areyouwell)



New Zealand Child and Youth  
Epidemiology Service

# Wellbeing & Inequality

PRESENTATION by ALAN JOHNSON  
SOCIAL POLICY & PARLIAMENTARY UNIT  
THE SALVATION ARMY

# Some events define a generation

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American planes over USS Missouri and Tokyo Bay, September 2, 1945



Springbok Tour protests in Auckland 1981

Seminal events in our lifetime may cause us to reflect more deeply on ourselves and our world.

The 1981 Springbok Tour protests caused a generation of Pakeha to consider the racist nature of New Zealand society

# How will the Christchurch mosques killing define this generation?

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The current response to the attacks has been a focus on racism

But the focus on racism from the 1981 Springbok tour did not fundamentally change the racist nature of New Zealand society



# A comparison of Police responses

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The scene of a fatal shooting of Astin Hooper near Te Teko, Eastern Bay of Plenty. – 22/02/19



Arrest of Brenton Tarrant in Christchurch following mosques shootings – 15/03/19

*‘Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said many people would have seen the footage of the arrest, and said it could only be described as an act of bravery’* Stuff 16/3/19

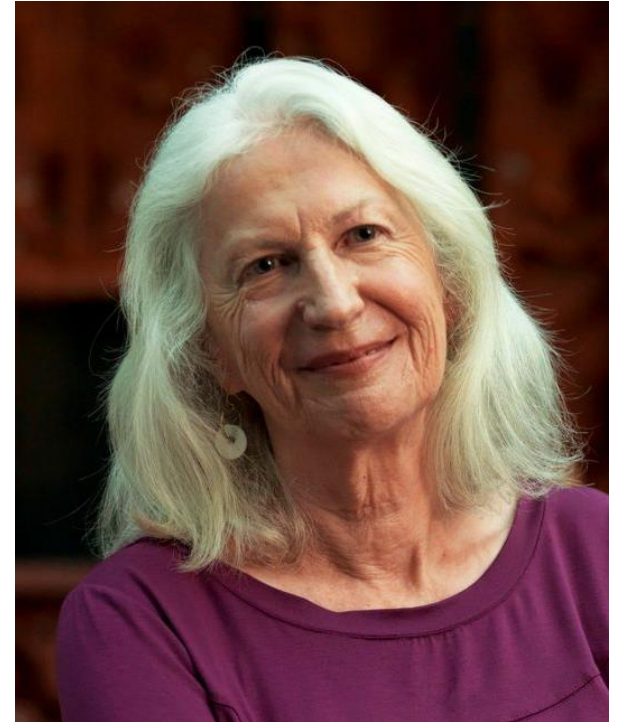
The Police response to the apprehension and arrest of Brenton Tarrant has been compared with their recent responses to armed offender incidents and car chases involving Māori which frequently end in death

# A re-evaluation of our racism

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*‘The doctrine of white superiority is based on arrogance, and ignorance. Since other cultures, languages and religions are worthless, there's no need to learn about them. The "others" are dehumanised, making their misery and suffering unreal.*

*This helps to explain our tolerance for the terrible statistics of youth suicide, incarceration, and family violence in New Zealand’.*



**DAME ANNE SALMOND**

Racist underbelly seethes beneath surface  
ODT 19/3/19

# Māori – non-Māori Gaps

Indicator	Measure	Outcome 2013 Māori	Outcome 2013 Non-Māori	Outcome 2017 Māori	Outcome 2017 Non-Māori	Outcome 2018 Māori	Outcome 2018 Non-Māori	Ratio 2013	Ratio 2017	Ratio 2018
Teenage pregnancies	Pregnancies to 1- to 19-year-olds per 1000 15–19 year old women	70	26	52	16	Not available	Not available	2.7	3.2	Not available
Infant mortality	Infant deaths (<1 year old) per 10,000 live births	47	41	55	29	40	35	1.1	1.9	1.2
Children in state care	Children in state care per 1,000 children	10.4	2.9	13.2	2.8	13.1	3.1	3.6	4.7	4.2
Early childhood education enrolment	Proportion of under-5-year-olds enrolled in ECE	53.0%	68.6%	57.3%	69.6%	57.3%	68.5%	0.8	0.8	0.8
Student engagement	Stand downs per 1000 students	38	16	41	18	Not available	Not available	2.4	2.3	Not available
Student achievement	Proportion of school leavers leaving with less than Level 1 NCEA	28.6%	10.5%	19.1%	7.6%	Not available	Not available	2.7	2.5	Not available
Youth offending	Overall offending rate by 12- to 16-year-olds –per 1000 population	21.3	5.1	18.1	3.2	16.3	2.7	4.1	5.6	5.9
Welfare support	Adults receiving a benefit as % of working age population	27.7%	8.8%	24.5%	7.1%	24.7%	7.0%	3.2	3.5	3.5
Unemployment rate	Official unemployment rate	12.5%	4.8%	10.1%	3.9%	8.9%	3.6%	2.6	2.6	2.5
Youth unemployment	Proportion of 15- to 24-year-olds NEET	22.9%	9.2%	18.7%	10.0%	18.6%	10.2%	2.5	1.9	1.8
Personal income from wages & salaries	Average weekly personal income for those employed	\$837	\$982	\$985	\$1,136	\$994	\$1,192	0.9	0.9	0.8
Distribution of personal income	Proportion of adults in lowest three income deciles	35.8%	29.3%	34.8%	29.3%	33.9%	29.4%	1.2	1.2	1.2
Adult prison sentence rates	Proportion of convicted 17- to 19-year-olds who are imprisoned	12.3%	5.1%	13.1%	5.5%	11.5%	4.5%	2.4	2.4	2.6
Imprisonment rate	Number of people imprisoned—per 100,000 population	625	114	700	122	717	126	5.5	5.7	5.7
Recidivism rate	Reimprisoned within 24 months of release	42.2%	32.8%	47.0%	37.2%	49.6%	36.7%	1.3	1.3	1.3
Alcohol consumption	Proportion of adult population as hazardous drinkers	Not available	Not available	33.0%	17.5%	31.7%	18.1%	Not available	1.9	1.8
Illicit drug offending	People convicted of illicit drug offences—per 1000 people	3.3	0.8	2.2	0.5	2.1	0.5	4.2	4.3	4.3
Demand for social housing	Households on social housing waiting list—per 1000 households	Not available	Not available	15.5	1.7	24.9	2.8	Not available	8.9	8.9

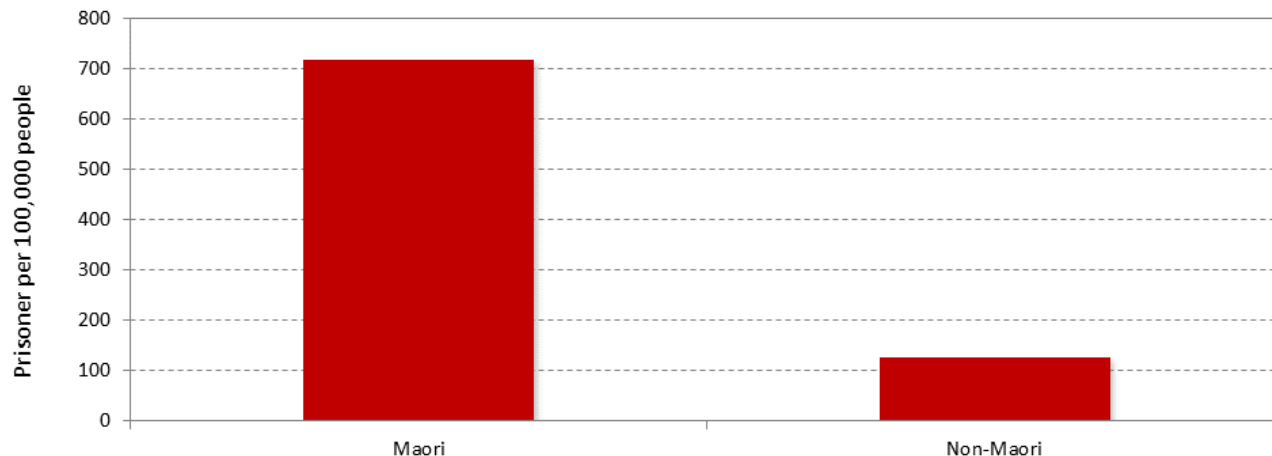
Background data for this table is available at [salvationarmy.org.nz/AreYouWell](https://salvationarmy.org.nz/AreYouWell)

# Māori experiences with the criminal-justice system

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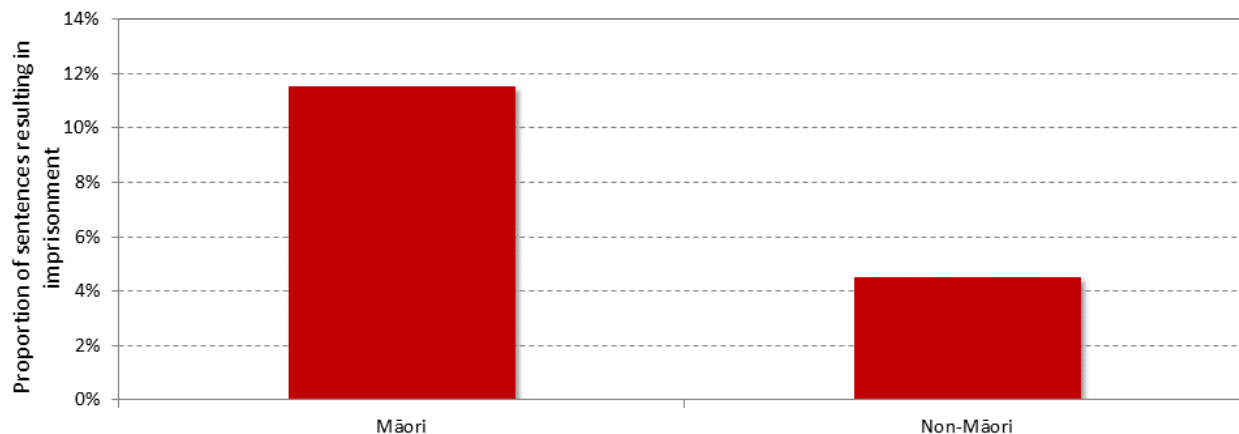
Māori are imprisoned at 5.7 times the rate of non-Māori

## IMPRISONMENT RATES - 2018



Māori convicted of an offence are sent to prison at 2.6 times the rate of non-Māori

## PROPORTION of SENTENCES RESULTING IN PRISON - 2018

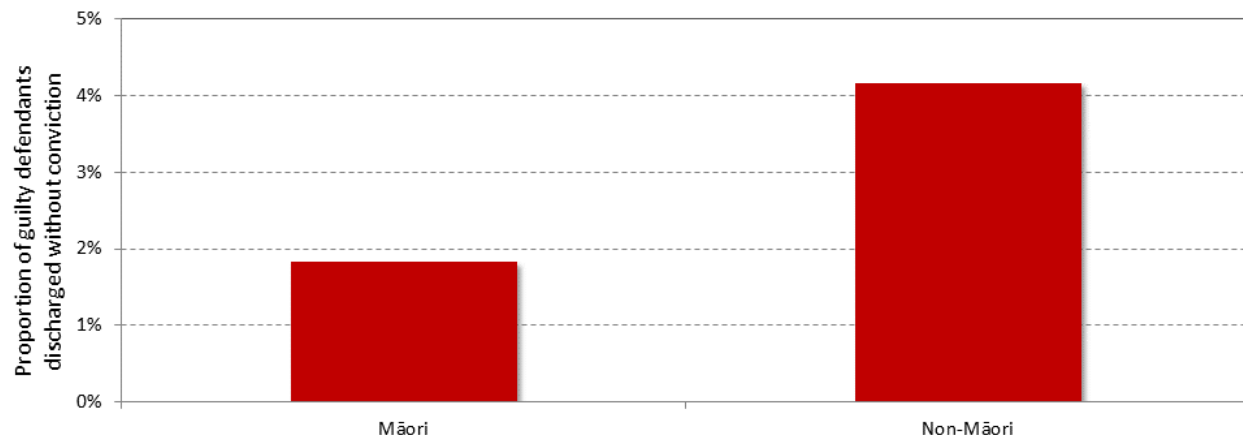


# Māori experiences with the criminal-justice system

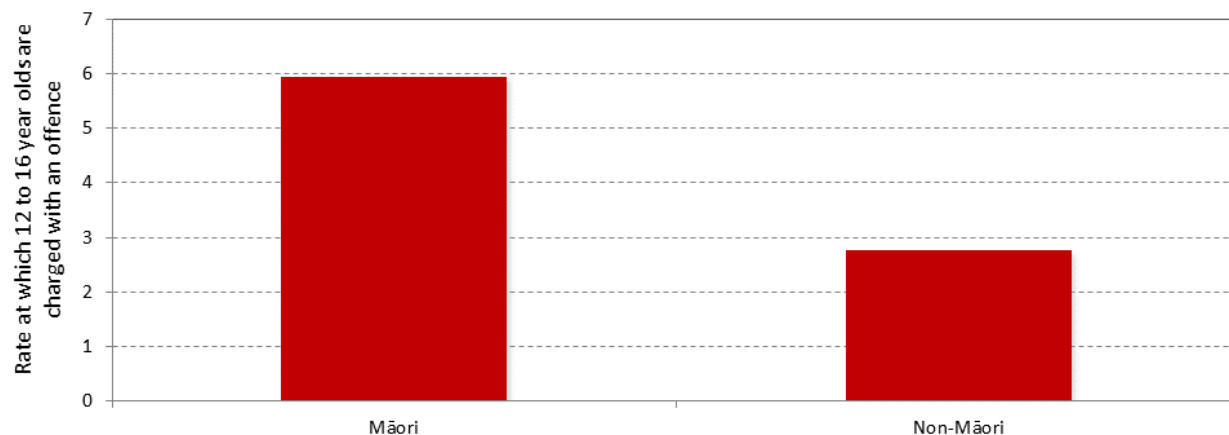
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Māori defendants found guilty are discharged without conviction at 0.4 times the rate of non-Māori

**DISCHARGED WITHOUT CONVICTION RATES - 2018**



**12 to 16 YEAR OLDS CHARGED with an OFFENCE (per 1000 population) - 2018**



Māori youth (aged 12 to 16) are charged with an offence at 2.2 times the rate of non-Māori

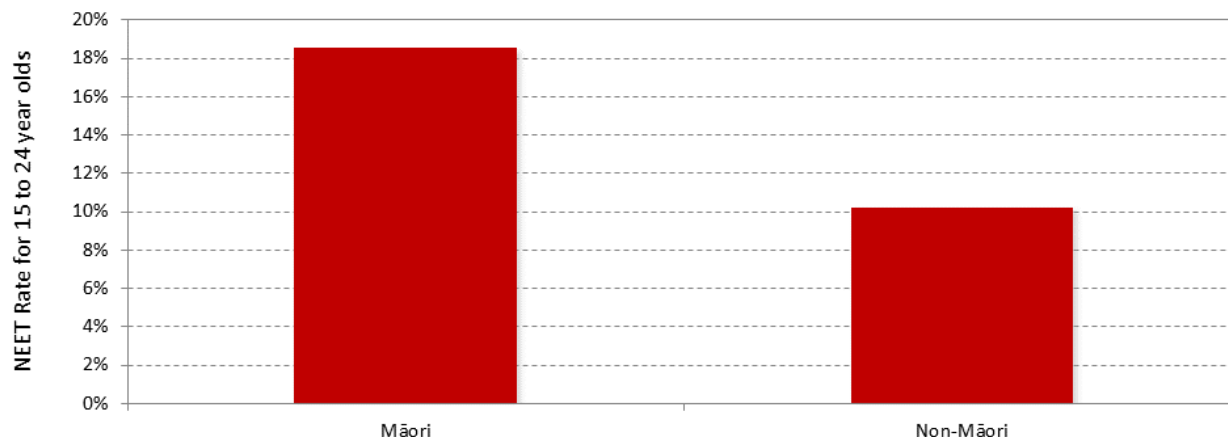


# Māori experiences with the education system

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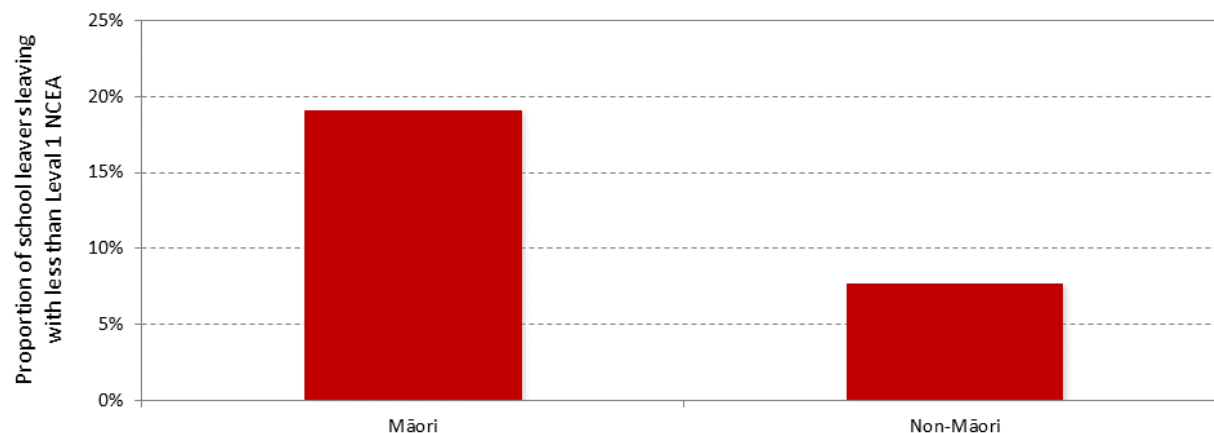
The NEET rate for Māori (aged 15 to 24) is 1.8 times the rate for non-Māori

**NEET RATES for 15 to 24 YEAR OLDS - 2018**



Māori students leave school with less than NCEA Level 1 at 2.5 times the rate of non-Māori

**SCHOOL LEAVERS without NCEA LEVEL 1 - 2017**

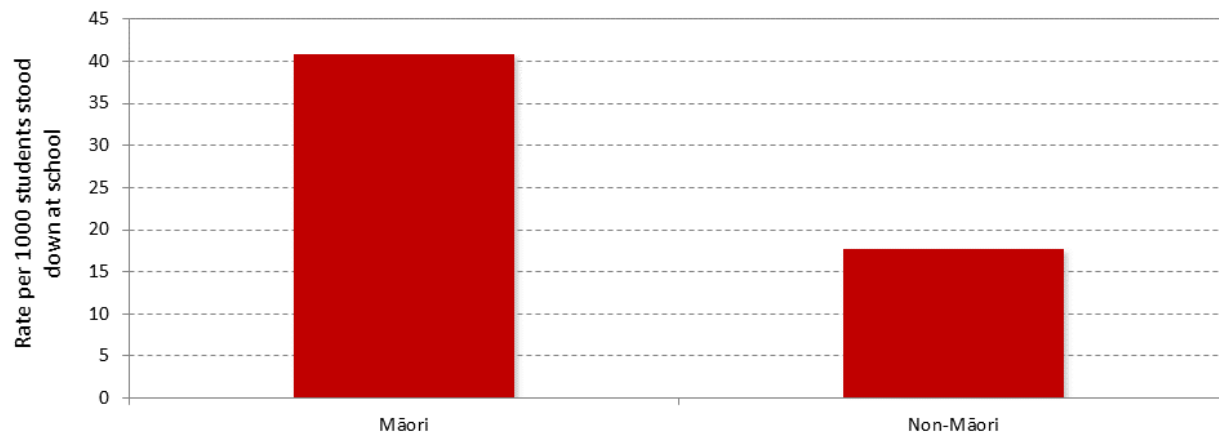


# Māori experiences with the education system

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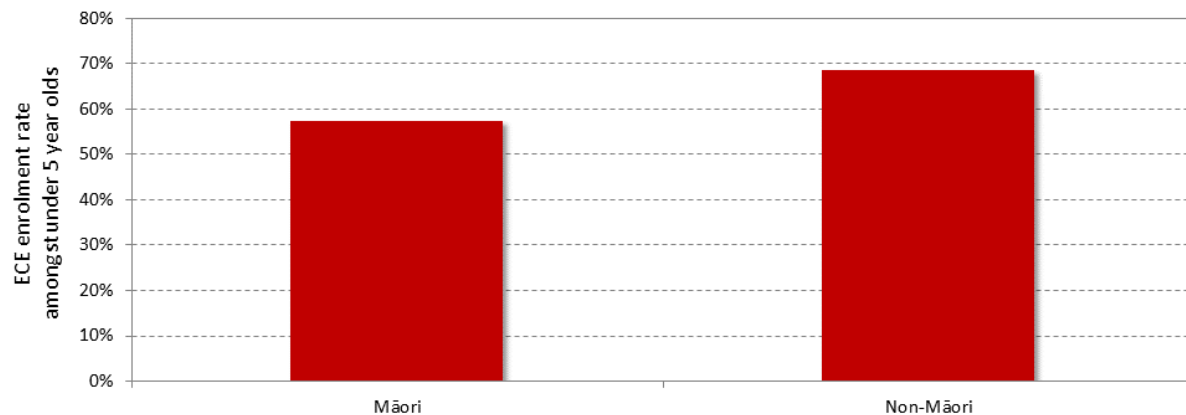
Māori school students are stood down or suspended at 2.3 times the rate for non-Māori

**STUDENT STAND-DOWN RATES – 2017**



Māori enrolment in ECE is 0.8 times the rate of non-Māori

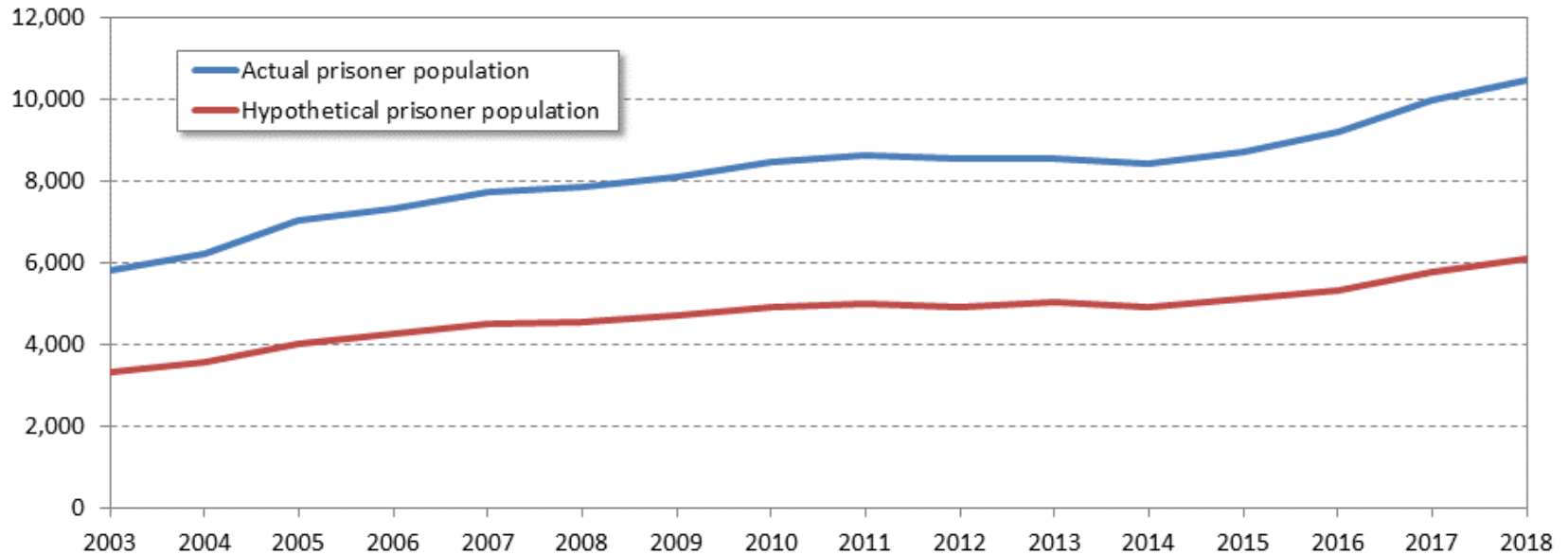
**ECE ENROLMENT RATES - 2018**



# Addressing inequality as a wellbeing strategy

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## PRISONER POPULATION with the SAME MĀORI & NON-MĀORI IMPRISONMENT RATES



If through enlightened social policy we could reduce the rate of imprisonment for Māori to that of non-Māori we would reduce the prison population by 40% and save around \$400 million in prison costs alone

# Addressing inequality as a wellbeing strategy

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There is a danger in the Treasury's wellbeing framework and the associated strategies that inequalities and their impacts are aggregated into vague and complex measure of broadly defined progress



# A focus on wellbeing

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There is a risk that the wellbeing narrative will be ignored or misunderstood by ordinary New Zealanders on account of its vagueness and complexity. With such a miss the opportunity to broaden our public policy debate may be lost.

The Salvation Army's 2019 State of the Nation report is an attempt to popularise this wellbeing narrative. This is being done in part through reference to five outcome statements which align to our five focus areas:

*All our children are safe and doing well*

*Our growing prosperity is fairly shared*

*Our homes and communities are free from violence and crime*

*Our homes and communities are free from addictions and related harm*

*We all have housing which healthy safe and secure*

# Our overall assessment

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## *All our children are safe and doing well*

No evidence that our most vulnerable children are safer or that gaps around achievement or material well-being are closing. Good news around teenager behaviours although suicide rates remain unchanged.

## *Our growing prosperity is fairly shared*

There has been a rising prosperity for those in employment pushed in part by minimum wage legislation. Relief of material hardship through kinder provision of supplementary assistance is noticeable although its effects may not last.

## *Our homes and communities are free from violence and crime*

There are some indicators showing a continuing decline in levels of offending although the prevalence of violence and especially family violence appears not to have changed much. The recent but still small decline in the prison population is encouraging.

## *Our homes and communities are free from addictions and related harm*

Levels of harmful drinking and gambling remain unchanged. The continuing rise of methamphetamine use is a major concern which should be addressed with some urgency. Current approaches to managing predatory lending and exploitative debt are inadequate.

## *We all have housing which healthy safe and secure*

Consents for new dwellings are at a 40 year high which is taking price pressure out of the housing market and improving affordability a little. Localised problems around the cost and availability of private rental housing are driving longer waiting lists for social housing.

# There is a larger truth

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*We know there's injustice. We know there's intolerance. We know there is discrimination and hate and suspicion and we know there is division among us. But there is a larger truth.*

*We have proved that great progress is possible. We know how much still remains to be done and if our efforts continue and if our will is strong and if our hearts are right and if courage remains our constant companion then my fellows Americans I am confident -we shall overcome.*

LBJ's final public speech 1968