


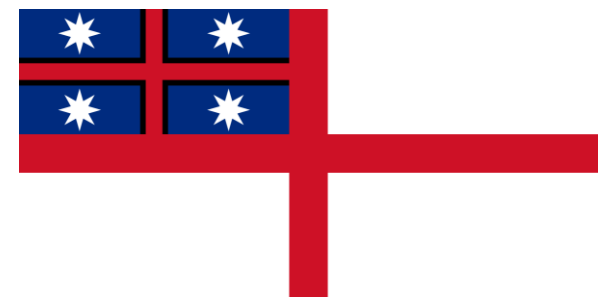
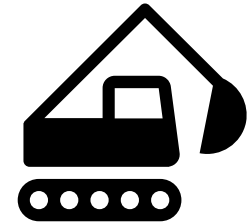
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> of August 2023

Presentation to AusIMM NZ Branch Annual  
Conference

Patrick Phelps



# Some somewhat meandering musings on Māori and mining



Based on a paper I wrote  
up a month or two ago:



## Māori and the New Zealand Mining Industry (14<sup>th</sup> June 2023)

### Introduction

Minerals West Coast has prepared this brief to deliver a fuller appreciation of how Māori benefit from mining, and the extent to which some Māori support or oppose mining in New Zealand.

What can be inferred from the information outlined in this document is that for many Māori, the minerals sector is seen as a worthwhile investment of their labour or capital.

Since the 2017 election and the swearing in of New Zealand's 6<sup>th</sup> Labour-led Government there has been an ongoing public discussion about the future of mining on public conservation land.

This is due to the pledge made at the time of the swearing in of the government by Dame Patsy Reddy that there would be no new mines on conservation land<sup>1</sup>.

Due to lack of consensus within Cabinet in 2017-2020, no policy measures were taken during the first term of the present government to give effect to the commitment made in the November 2017 Speech from the Throne, and no such measures are expected to be taken between now and New Zealand's next general election on 14 October 2023.

Comments from various groups suggest that at most, Māori interest in mining is limited to pounamu recovery as a by-product of alluvial goldmining<sup>2</sup>, if not in general suggesting that Māori are, broadly speaking, opposed to mining.

Opponents of mining are fond of invoking "Māoridom", loosely defined, when criticising mining generally, and mining on conservation land particularly<sup>3</sup>.

Adding to this perception is the fact that Te Pāti Māori leadership (namely Debbie Ngarewa-Packer) have been vocal opponents of seabed mining, and also have a stated policy of banning mining on conservation land, while extending the policy to include reserves and significant natural areas under the Resource Management Act<sup>4</sup>, and the seabed.

Notwithstanding the above, there are information and data to indicate for many Māori (including a sizeable number living in Australia), that mining is a valuable source of income insofar as it provides a return on labour for employees, or on land or other investments owned either privately or through iwi collectives.

<sup>1</sup> [Speech from the Throne, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017](#).

<sup>2</sup> [Pounamu slows Labour's ban on mining on conservation land](#).

<sup>3</sup> [Catherine Delahunty says Government's Witchdox will 'stand alongside the pounamu whānau'](#).

<sup>4</sup> [Te Pāti Māori climate change policy](#).

# Why a presentation or paper on “Māori and mining?”

- Because the policies of the one political party affecting to represent the interests of Māori is explicitly anti-mining
- I personally don't think there's any weight to the idea of a “Māori view of mining” any more than there is a Scottish view, a Chinese view, a Sri Lankan view, a Fijian Indian view, and so forth
- Conjecture aside, I came across some data in the course of going through Stats NZ spreadsheets indicating Māori are more likely than the general NZ population to work in mining and are overrepresented in mining

# Why a presentation or paper on “Māori and mining?” (continued)

- Among other sticks with which miners/mining is hit from time-to-time, being at odds with the wants and needs of Māori is one that crops up
- The assumptions behind such rhetorical sticks aren't consistent with some data and information in this presentation
- For those of you not astute enough to have noticed, as a disclaimer, I am not in fact, Māori myself

# Explicit opposition to mining from Te Pāti Māori

The Māori Party will;

- Establish dedicated \$1bn Pūngao Auaha fund for Māori-owned community energy projects and solar panel and insulation installations on marae, kura, homes and papakāinga housing developments
- Work alongside interested whānau, hapū and iwi to develop a national Māori strategy for renewable energy and clean technology and ensure the Crown supports Māori-led clean technology projects with R&D, start-up funding, and partnership finance
- Ban coal mine permits and phase out the industrial burning of coal by 2030

The Māori Party will;

- End new onshore oil and gas permits and withdraw existing onshore and offshore oil and gas permits within five years and aim to decommission sites by 2030
- Ban seabed mining permits nationwide and withdraw existing seabed mining permits
- Implement the policy to end mining on conservation land and extend the policy to include reserves and Significant Natural Areas under the RMA

# Prevalence of media coverage conveying Māori (and also Pasifika) opposition to mining



CONSERVATION ●

## NZ Government urged to ban seabed mining for Pacific's sake

The Supreme Court has ruled against a bid to mine the South Taranaki seabed.

### Our deep sea is being colonised

2:27 pm on 4 April 2023

Share this     



Liam Koka'ua: "Deep-sea mining affects all Indigenous peoples who depend on Te Moana Nui a Kiwa for physical, cultural and sustenance." Photo: Ffion Thompson



This fits with a pop-culture narrative\* of “at-one-with-nature indigenous victims” defying “greedy mining imperialists”.





- Generally, conquest/mass settlement/whatever you'd like to call imperialism or colonialism is in pursuit of a resource – land, ivory, markets, slaves, timber, minerals, spices, tea, opium – take your pick.
- Through human history people with technological and other advantages have exploited those advantages in a way that has been conducive to exploitation of sought after resources and there's been a fairly high human cost by way of conquest, slavery, genocide, and so on.
- Lazy and inaccurate as James Cameron and Disney producers can be, there's some truth in the narratives they propagate...



# Numbers indicate a less clear picture...

We are replacing NZ.Stat. [Click here to find out more](#) [Chat with us now!](#) [Contact us | User guide | Ho](#)  [Getting Started](#)

Earnings from main wage and salary job by industry (ANZSIC 2006), sex, age groups, and ethnic groups

[Customise](#) [Export](#)

Industry	Mining						
	Total Both Sexes						
Sex	Total Age Groups						
Age Group	Number of People (000)						
Ethnic Group	Total Ethnic Groups	European	Maori	Pacific Peoples	Asian	MELAA	Other Ethnicity
Measure							
Year							
2013	5.9	5.1	1.0	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)
2014	6.9	5.7	1.0	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)
2015	6.4	5.8	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)
2016	4.5	3.6	1.2	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)
2017	3.2	1.9	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)
2018	5.5	3.9	1.4	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)
2019	5.4	4.0	1.4	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)
2020	5.6	4.8	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)
2021	4.6	3.9	1.1	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)
2022	6.1	4.4	1.5	(s)	(s)	(s)	(s)

Using this Stats NZ data for reference Indicates...



# Numbers indicate a less clear picture...



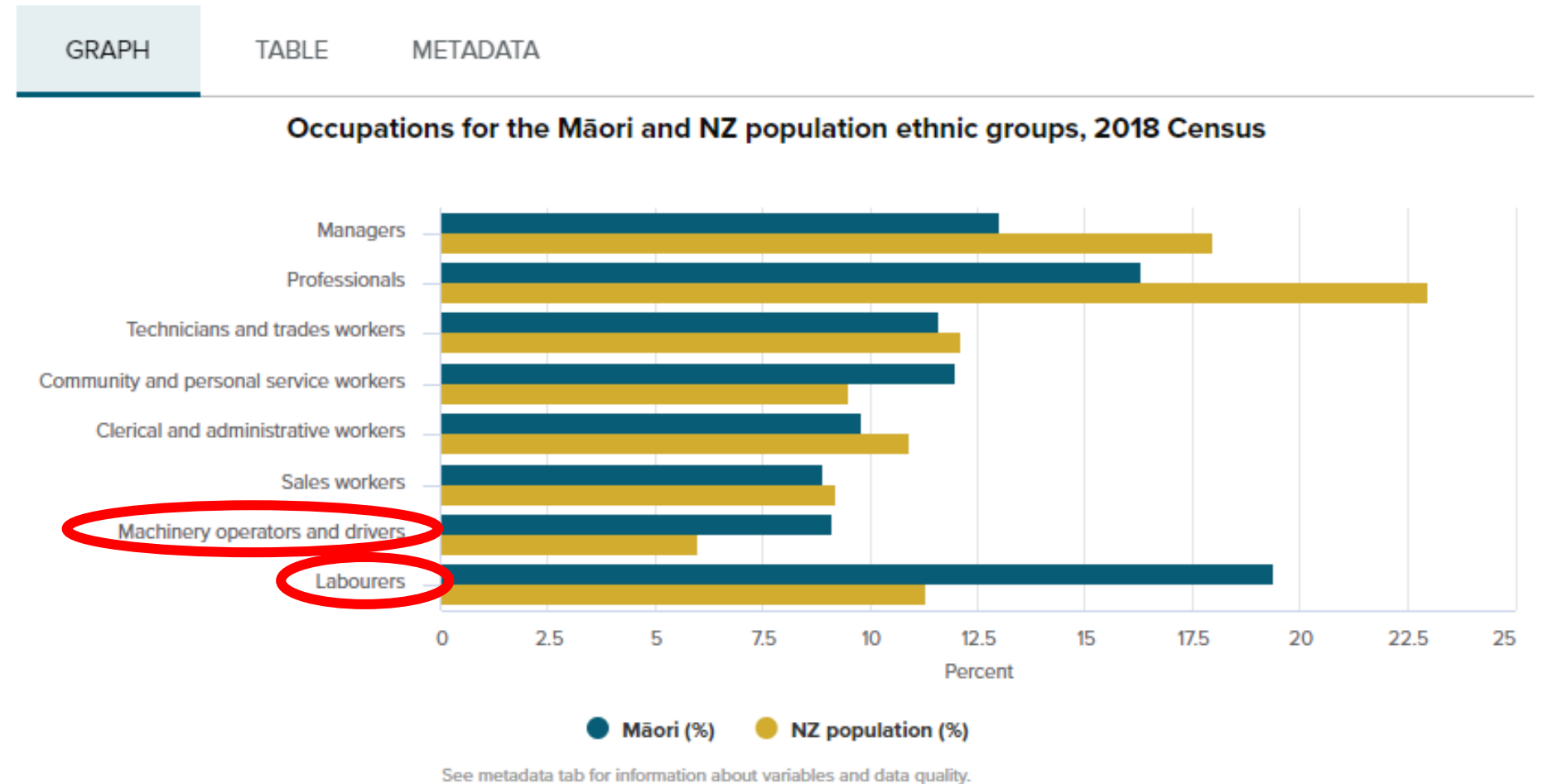
...Māori are *overrepresented* within mining compared to percentage of general population (16.5%)

Year	Percentage of mining workforce identifying as Māori
2009	23.8%
2010	21.8%
2011	28%
2013	16.9%
2014	14.5%
2016	26.6%
2018	25.4%
2019	25.9%
2021	23.9%
2022	24.6%
<b>Average of averages:</b>	<b>23.14%</b>



# Numbers indicate a less clear picture...

## Occupations, Māori compared with NZ population



# Numbers indicate a less clear picture...

**Occupations, Māori compared with NZ population**

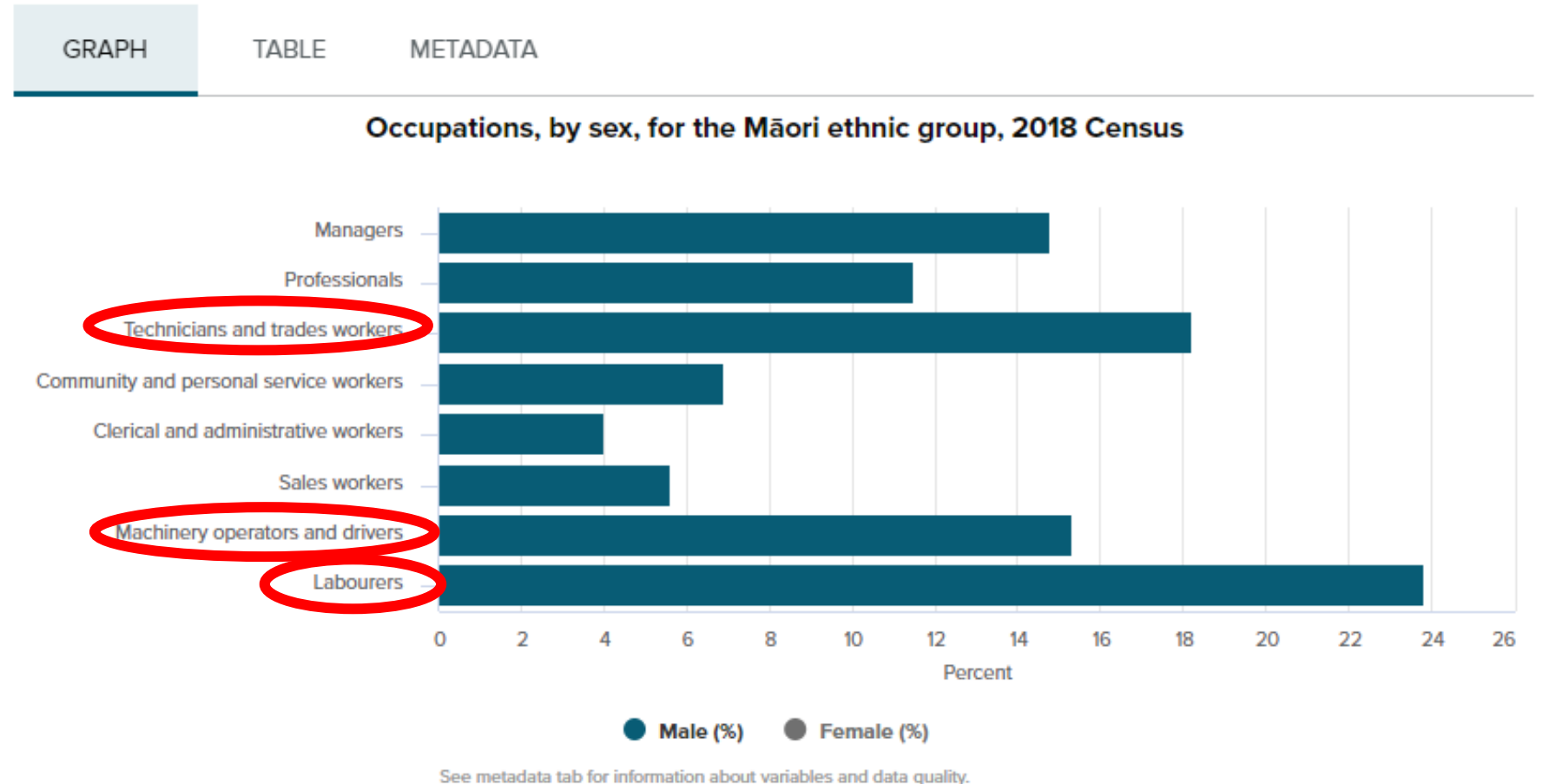
GRAPH **TABLE** METADATA

**Occupations for the Māori and NZ population ethnic groups, 2018 Census**

Occupations	Māori (%)	NZ population (%)
Managers	13	18
Professionals	16.3	23
Technicians and trades workers	11.6	12.1
Community and personal service workers	12	9.5
Clerical and administrative workers	9.8	10.9
Sales workers	8.9	9.2
Machinery operators and drivers	9.1	6
Labourers	19.4	11.3

# Numbers indicate a less clear picture...

## Occupations, by sex



# Numbers indicate a less clear picture...

Occupations, by sex

GRAPH TABLE METADATA

Occupations, by sex, for the Māori ethnic group, 2018 Census

Occupations	Male (%)	Female (%)
Managers	14.8	11
Professionals	11.5	21.4
Technicians and trades workers	18.2	4.6
Community and personal service workers	6.9	17.4
Clerical and administrative workers	4	15.8
Sales workers	5.6	12.3
Machinery operators and drivers	15.3	2.6
Labourers	23.8	14.8

# Numbers indicate a less clear picture...

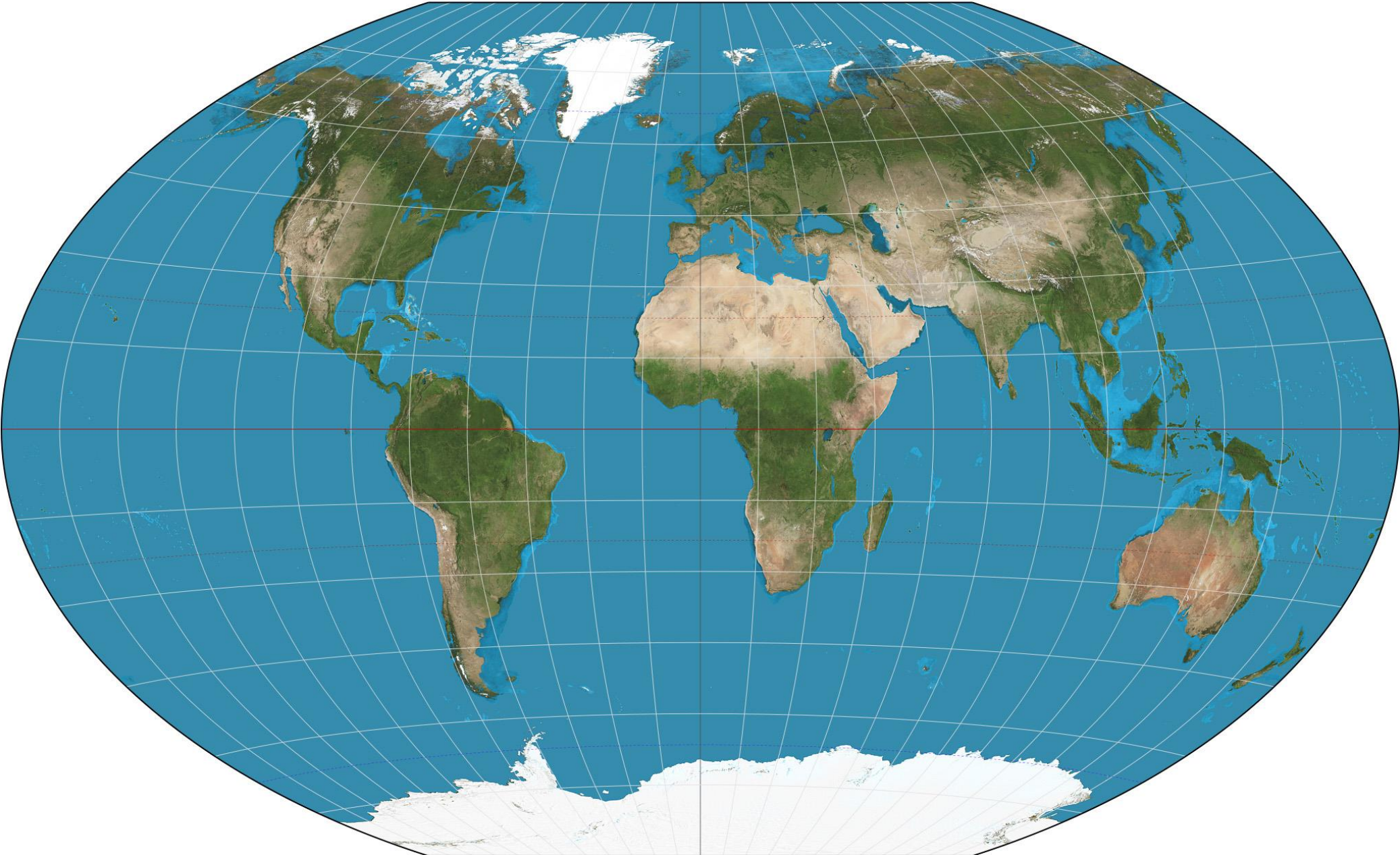
Annualised earnings  
of Māori in mining:  
\$78,624.00

Annualised earnings  
of Māori in all sectors:  
\$60,537.36

*Māori earnings by sector in New Zealand (averaged out over the five years from 2018-2022)<sup>10</sup>*

Sector	Average weekly earnings among Māori (2018-2022)
Mining	\$1,512.00
Financial and Insurance Services	\$1,434.60
Public Administration and Safety	\$1,394.60
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	\$1,355.40
Rental, Hiring, and Real Estate Services	\$1,250.80
Information, Media and Telecommunications	\$1,246.60
Wholesale Trade	\$1,173.20
Construction	\$1,164.00
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	\$1,163.00
Manufacturing	\$1,152.00
Professional and Administrative Services	\$1,080.80
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	\$1,079.20
Education and Training	\$1,072.60
Not Specified	\$1,034.40
Health	\$1,001.20
Art, Recreation and Other Services	\$979.20
Retail Trade and Accommodation	\$697.40

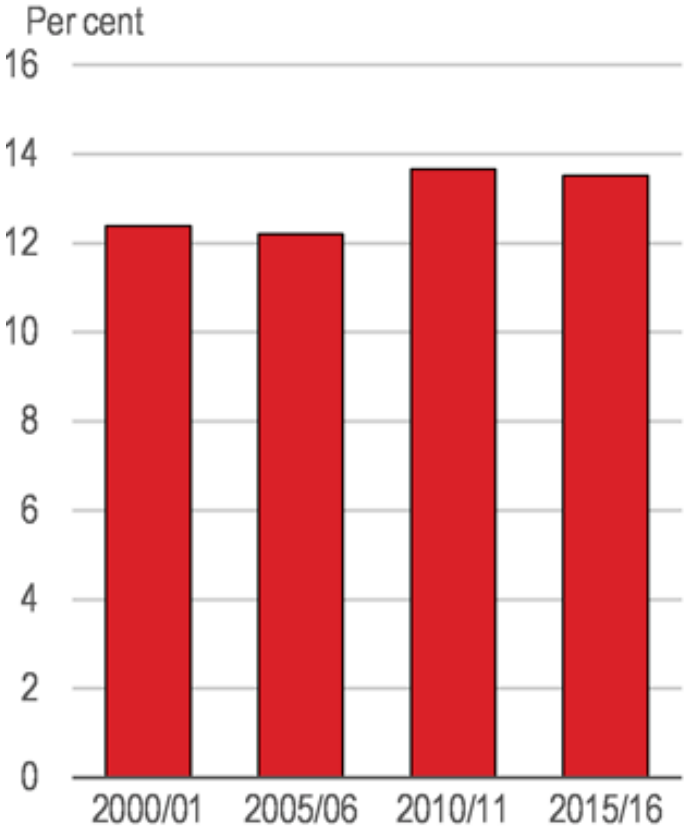
And how do people vote with their feet?





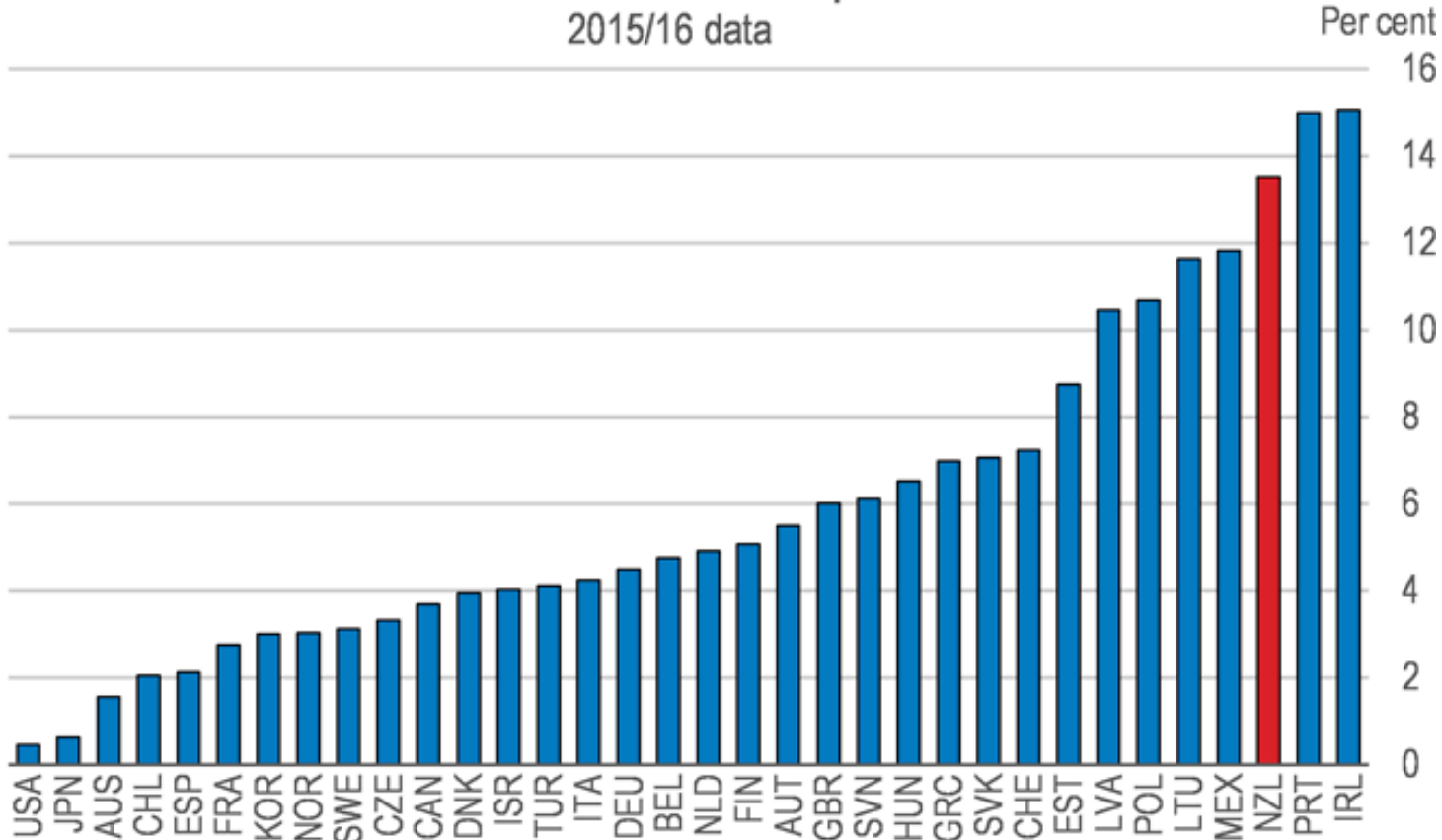
# New Zealand has a large diaspora compared with other OECD nations.

A. New Zealand's diaspora



B. OECD countries' diaspora

2015/16 data



# A fair chunk of which lives in Australia...

<b>New Zealanders in NZ</b>	<b>New Zealanders in Australia</b>	<b>New Zealanders in Australasia</b>	<b>Percentage of Australasian NZers in Australia</b>
5,120,000	670,000	5,790,000	11.5%

<b>Māori in NZ</b>	<b>Māori in Australia</b>	<b>Māori in Australasia</b>	<b>Percentage of Australasian Māori in Australia</b>
775,836	170,000	945,836	17.9%

**New Zealanders in Australia = 13% of New Zealanders in NZ**

...and this is especially true for Māori New Zealanders.

New Zealanders in NZ	New Zealanders in Australia	New Zealanders in Australasia	Percentage of Australasian NZers in Australia
5,120,000	670,000	5,790,000	11.5%

Māori in NZ	Māori in Australia	Māori in Australasia	Percentage of Australasian Māori in Australia
775,836	170,000	945,836	17.9%

Māori in Australia = 22% of Māori in NZ

...and this is especially true for Māori New Zealanders.

Māori in NZ	Māori in Australia	Māori in Australasia	Percentage of Australasian Māori in Australia
775,836	170,000	945,836	17.9%

More Māori live in Australia than the entire South Island.

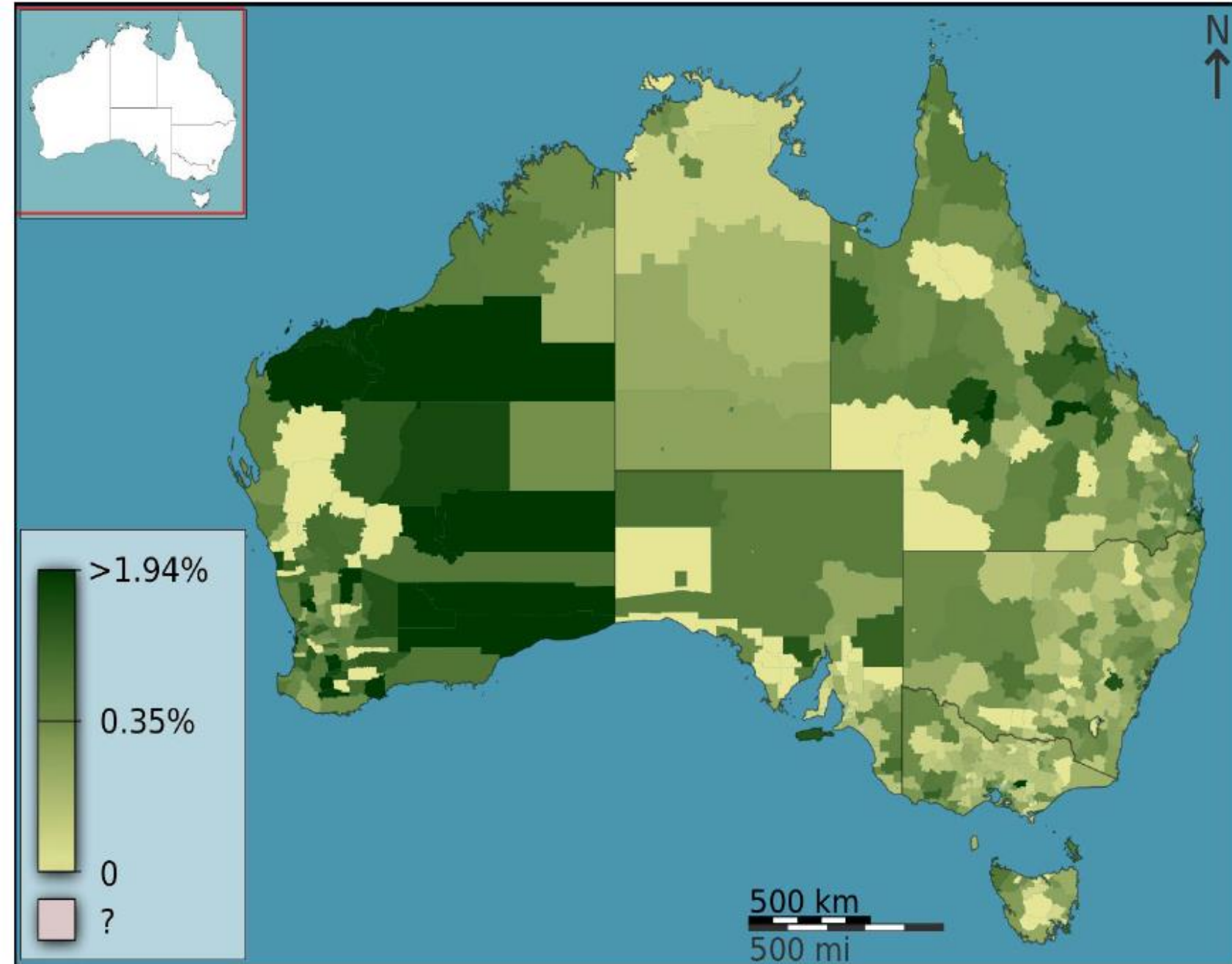
Ethnic groups of South Island residents, 2006–18 census<sup>[44]</sup>

Ethnicity	2006 census		2013 census		2018 census	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
European	737,010	78.4	846,384	88.2	937,188	84.8
Māori	73,230	7.8	83,457	8.7	110,301	10.0
Pacific peoples	17,499	1.9	21,132	2.2	31,545	2.9
Asian	40,716	4.3	53,427	5.6	96,105	8.7
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	5,313	0.6	7,443	0.8	13,116	1.2
Other	134,349	14.3	20,340	2.1	15,675	1.4
<b>Total people stated</b>	<b>939,681</b>		<b>959,967</b>		<b>1,104,531</b>	
Not elsewhere included	28,236	2.9	44,439	4.4	0	0.0

Does mining have anything to do with this?



People with Māori ancestry as a percentage of the population in Australia divided geographically by statistical local area, as of the 2011 census.



Does mining  
have anything  
to do with  
this?

# Does mining have anything to do with this?

## WORKING ACROSS THE DITCH: NEW ZEALANDERS IN AUSTRALIA

**Robert Haig**

*Department of Labour*

**Abstract**

Australia's mining industry contained the highest relative share of New Zealanders. New Zealanders accounted for 5.3% of the Australian workforce, and a very high 62.9% of all New Zealanders working in mining across Australasia. It was the only industry in which the number of New Zealand born working in Australia exceeded the number of New Zealand born working at home (4,478 versus 2,643). This is partly a reflection of the greater number of jobs in mining in Australia. Mining accounted for 8% of Australia's GDP and was beginning to move into a sustained period of growth in 2006 (MiningCareers.com). The strong involvement of New Zealand expatriates in mining is of particular interest given the recent focus on expanding New Zealand's domestic mining activity.

Labour, Employment and Work in New Zealand 2010

Table 14: Top ten industries of employment (percentage of 25-54 year olds employed), Census 2011

Total Australia		All Māori	
Health Care and Social Assistance	12.3	Construction	14.4
Manufacturing	9.7	Manufacturing	13.5
Retail Trade	8.8	Transport, Postal and Warehousing	9.5
Construction	8.6	Health Care and Social Assistance	9.1
Education and Training	8.5	Retail Trade	7.9
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	8.1	Accommodation and Food Services	5.9
Public Administration and Safety	7.8	Public Administration and Safety	5.4
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	5.1	Wholesale Trade	5.0
Accommodation and Food Services	4.8	Administrative and Support Services	4.7
Financial and Insurance Services	4.5	Mining	4.4

Does mining have anything to do with this?



Table 14: Top ten industries of employment (percentage of 25-54 year olds employed), Census 2011

NZ Born Māori		NZ Born Non-Māori	
Construction	14.5	Health Care and Social Assistance	11.0
Manufacturing	14.0	Construction	10.7
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	10.0	Manufacturing	10.5
Health Care and Social Assistance	8.9	Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	8.3
Retail Trade	7.7	Retail Trade	8.0
Accommodation and Food Services	5.8	Transport, Postal and Warehousing	5.9
Wholesale Trade	5.2	Education and Training	5.6
Public Administration and Safety	4.9	Public Administration and Safety	5.6
Administrative and Support Services	4.9	Wholesale Trade	5.0
Mining	4.6	Accommodation and Food Services	4.9

Does mining have anything to do with this?

**Table 15: Top ten industries of employment for Māori in Australia (percentage of 25-54 year olds employed) by sex, Census 2011**

	<b>Māori Males</b>		<b>Māori Females</b>
Construction	24.0	Health Care and Social Assistance	17.0
Manufacturing	16.4	Retail Trade	10.9
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	12.4	Manufacturing	10.0
Mining	6.5	Accommodation and Food Services	9.1
Wholesale Trade	5.4	Public Administration and Safety	6.4
Retail Trade	5.3	Transport, Postal and Warehousing	6.1
Public Administration and Safety	4.5	Administrative and Support Services	6.0
Administrative and Support Services	3.6	Education and Training	5.5
Accommodation and Food Services	3.3	Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	4.7
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	3.0	Financial and Insurance Services	4.6
	<b>All Australian Males</b>		<b>All Australian Females</b>
Construction	13.9	Health Care and Social Assistance	20.7
Manufacturing	13.5	Education and Training	13.1
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	8.4	Retail Trade	10.8
Public Administration and Safety	7.7	Public Administration and Safety	7.9
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	7.2	Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	7.8
Retail Trade	7.0	Accommodation and Food Services	5.7
Wholesale Trade	5.4	Manufacturing	5.4
Health Care and Social Assistance	4.8	Financial and Insurance Services	5.1
Education and Training	4.4	Administrative and Support Services	3.8
Financial and Insurance Services	4.0	Other Services	3.5

Does mining have anything to do with this?

Does mining  
have anything  
to do with  
this?

Table 16: Top ten industries of employment for Māori (percentage of 25-54 year olds employed) in major states, Census 2011

New South Wales		Victoria	
Construction	12.8	Manufacturing	16.8
Manufacturing	12.5	Construction	12.8
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	10.5	Transport, Postal and Warehousing	10.6
Health Care and Social Assistance	9.4	Health Care and Social Assistance	8.5
Retail Trade	8.3	Retail Trade	7.7
Wholesale Trade	6.1	Wholesale Trade	5.9
Accommodation and Food Services	5.8	Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	5.1
Public Administration and Safety	5.6	Accommodation and Food Services	4.7
Administrative and Support Services	5.0	Public Administration and Safety	4.6
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	4.4	Administrative and Support Services	4.1
Queensland		Western Australia	
Manufacturing	15.1	Construction	18.0
Construction	14.6	Mining	13.7
Health Care and Social Assistance	9.9	Manufacturing	9.8
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	9.6	Transport, Postal and Warehousing	8.4
Retail Trade	8.0	Retail Trade	7.2
Accommodation and Food Services	6.4	Health Care and Social Assistance	7.1
Administrative and Support Services	5.1	Accommodation and Food Services	5.9
Public Administration and Safety	4.7	Public Administration and Safety	4.9
Wholesale Trade	4.7	Administrative and Support Services	4.5
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	3.3	Wholesale Trade	3.9

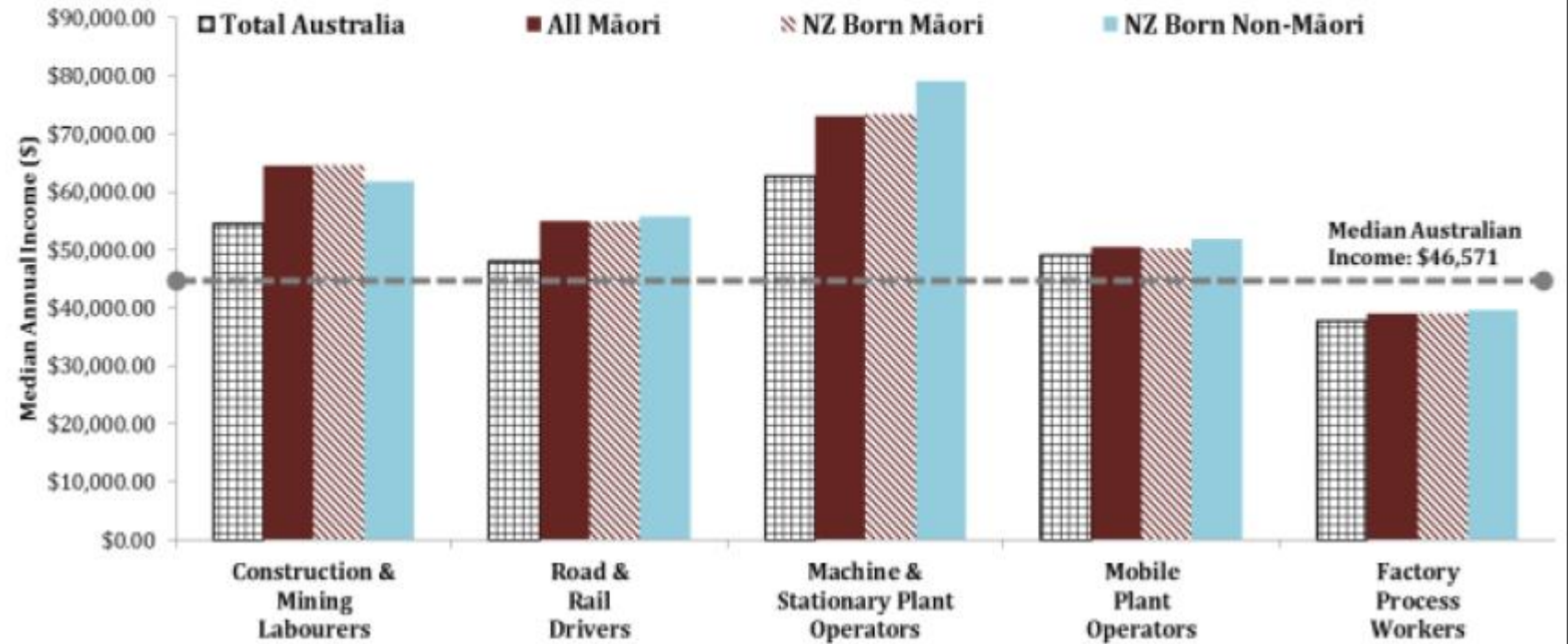
Does mining  
have anything  
to do with  
this?

Table 11: Top ten 2-digit occupations of employed persons, 25-54 years, Census 2011

Total Australia	All Māori	NZ Born Māori
Specialist Managers	Construction and Mining Labourers	Road and Rail Drivers
Business, Human Resource and Marketing Professionals	Road and Rail Drivers	Construction and Mining Labourers
Health Professionals	Machine and Stationary Plant Operators	Machine and Stationary Plant Operators
Education Professionals	Mobile Plant Operators	Mobile Plant Operators
Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers	Factory Process Workers	Factory Process Workers
Sales Assistants and Salespersons	Storepersons	Storepersons
Carers and Aides	Specialist Managers	Specialist Managers
Numerical Clerks	Carers and Aides	Carers and Aides
Design, Engineering, Science and Transport Professionals	Sales Assistants and Salespersons	Cleaners and Laundry Workers
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	Construction Trades Workers	Construction Trades Workers
Australian Born Māori	NZ Born Non-Māori	
Specialist Managers	Specialist Managers	
Business, Human Resource and Marketing Professionals	Business, Human Resource and Marketing Professionals	
Construction and Mining Labourers	Health Professionals	
Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers	Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers	
Sales Assistants and Salespersons	Sales Assistants and Salespersons	
Carers and Aides	Numerical Clerks	
Construction Trades Workers	Design, Engineering, Science and Transport Professionals	
Machine and Stationary Plant Operators	Construction Trades Workers	
Numerical Clerks	Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	
Education Professionals	Road and Rail Drivers	

Does mining  
have anything  
to do with  
this?

Figure 43: Median annual income for the top five 2-digit occupations for Māori in Australia, 25-54 years, Census 2011



Data would indicate many Māori have a propensity to invest their labour in mining – but what about capital?



## TAHAROA MINING INVESTMENTS LIMITED (6214232) Registered

Last updated on 28 Sep 2022

To maintain this company [log on here](#)

[View as Single Page](#) [Certificate of Incorporation](#) [Company Extract](#)

[Print](#)

Company Summary

Addresses

Directors (5)

Shareholdings (2)

Documents (25)

PPSR Search

NZBN

Total Number of Shares: 100000

Extensive Shareholding: No

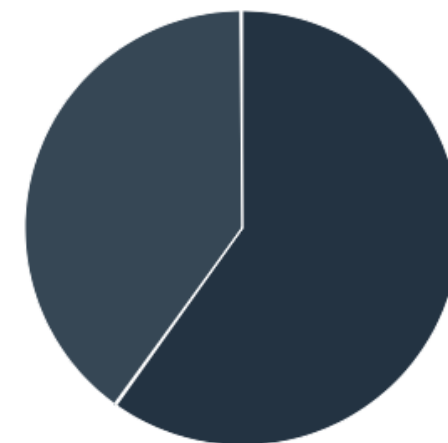
Shareholders in Allocation:

Allocation 1: 60000 shares (60.00%)

The Proprietors of Taharoa C Block Incorporated  
Waitomo Caves Hotel, School Access Road, Waitomo,  
3977 , New Zealand

Allocation 2: 40000 shares (40.00%)

[MELROSE PRIVATE CAPITAL LIMITED](#)  
Level 5, 38 Warring Taylor St, Wellington, 6011 , New  
Zealand



Ngāi Tahu Forest Estates owns about 54,000 hectares of native and exotic forests, mainly on the West Coast, and draws a return from gold mined on this land.

Incidentally about 90% of pounamu is sourced from third party mining operations.





# Environment Court blocks mine on butterfly home



Forest and Bird

Forest & Bird says it's time for a mining company to ditch its plan to strip coal from a mountain top near Westport.

Forest & Bird says it's time for a mining company to ditch its plan to strip coal from a mountain top near Westport.

The Environment Court has ruled against Stevenson Mining's planned opencast coal mine at Te Kuha because of the biodiversity values of the site and surrounding wetlands, overturning a 2017 consent.

The project is a limited partnership between Stevenson Group Limited and Gisborne-based WI Pere Holdings Limited Partnership.



## TE KUHA GENERAL PARTNER LIMITED (3378973) Registered

Last updated on 26 Apr 2023

To maintain this company [log on here](#)

[View as Single Page](#) [Certificate of Incorporation](#) [Company Extract](#)

[Print](#)

Company Summary   Addresses   Directors (4)   Shareholdings (3)   Documents (39)   PPSR Search   NZBN

Total Number of Shares: 3000000   Extensive Shareholding: No

Shareholders in Allocation:

Allocation 1: 1500000 shares (50.00%)

[STEVENSON HOLDINGS LIMITED](#)

Suite 10, 152 Quay Street, Auckland Central, Auckland, 1010, New Zealand

Allocation 2: 1125000 shares (37.50%)

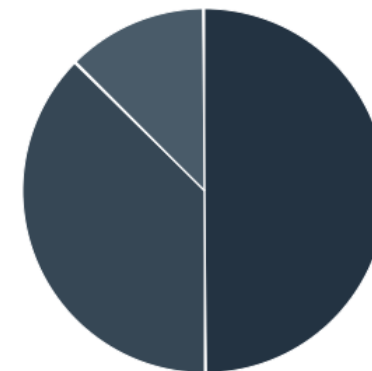
Wi Pere Holdings Limited Partnership

C/- Bdo, 1 Peel Street, Gisborne, 4010, New Zealand

Allocation 3: 375000 shares (12.50%)

Wi Pere Holdings Limited Partnership

C/- Bdo, 1 Peel Street, Gisborne, 4010, New Zealand



[Historic data for shareholders](#)

[Show History](#)

# Māori political preferences and priorities: Hui Newshub Horizon Poll



In March 2022, a Horizon Poll on behalf of Newshub current affairs show, The Hui, surveyed/pollled 511 Māori aged 18 or older, with a margin of error of +/- 4.3%.

# Māori political preferences and priorities: Hui Newshub Horizon Poll



## PREFERRED PARTY

If an election was held tomorrow, which of these parties, if any, would you vote for?

Party	Percentage of respondents who would give party vote to this party
Labour Party	37%
Don't know	14%
National Party	11%
Māori Party	11%
Another Party	10%
Green Party	9%
Act Party	5%
I would not vote	2%

# Māori political preferences and priorities: Hui Newshub Horizon Poll



## PREFERRED PRIME MINISTER

Which of these party leaders, or co-leaders, do you prefer as Prime Minister?

Party leaders	Percentage of respondents who said they'd prefer this party leader as Prime Minister
Jacinda Ardern	47%
None of these	21%
Chris Luxon	12%
Rawiri Waititi	6%
David Seymour	5%
Debbie Ngarewa-Packer	4%
Marama Davidson	3%
James Shaw	2%

# Māori political preferences and priorities: Hui Newshub Horizon Poll



**TOP 10 ISSUES**  
Which of these issues will you be basing your party vote on at the next general election?

Issue	Percentage of respondents who said they'd most base their party votes on these issues
Cost of living	72%
Housing	65%
Health	60%
Covid-19 response	55%
Poverty	54%
Economy	51%
Employment	45%
Education	42%
Environment/climate change	38%
Tiriti o Waitangi Settlements	33%

# A slight side-note...



# A slight side-note...



### Enrolment-based Year 13 Students Attaining University Entrance by Decile Band

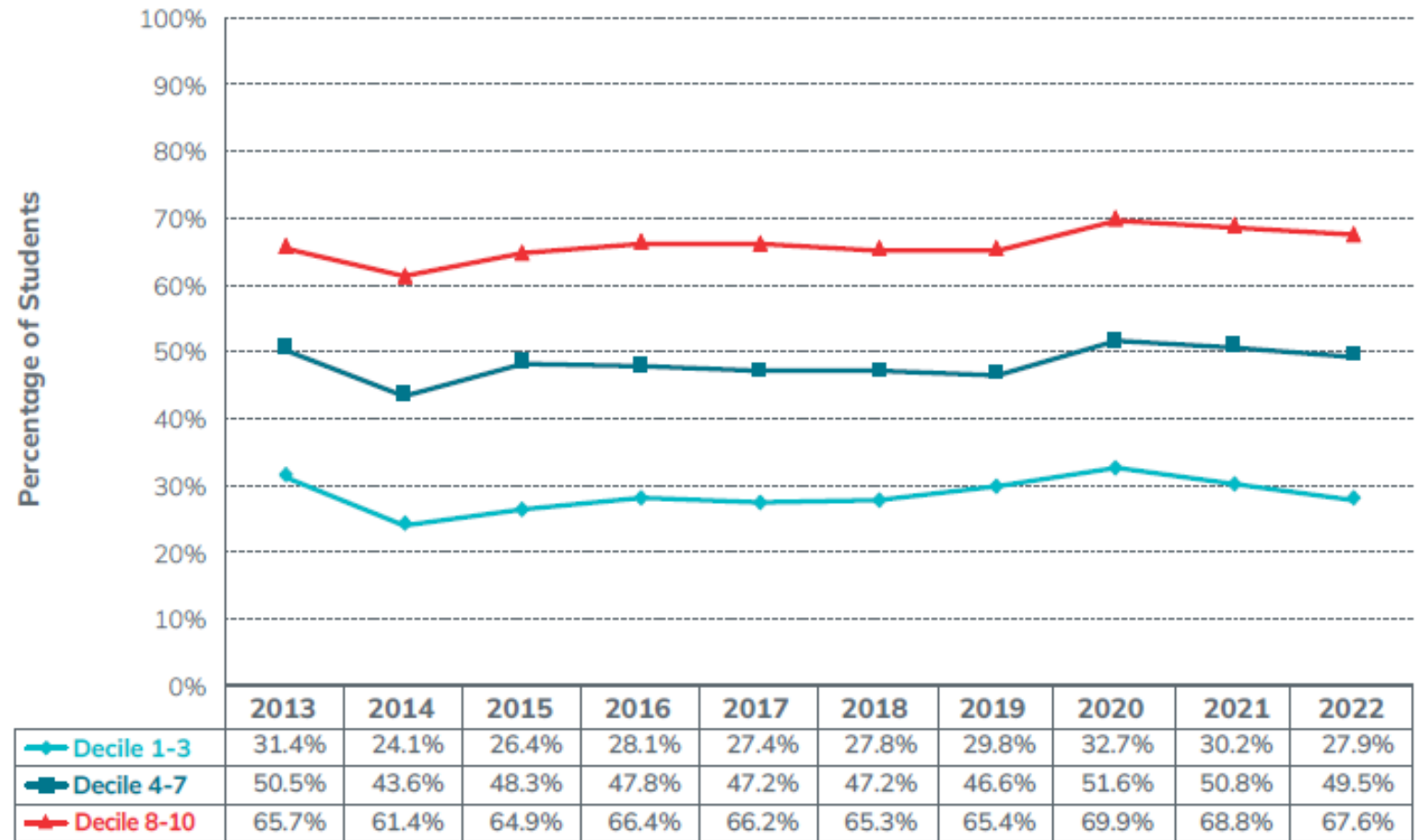
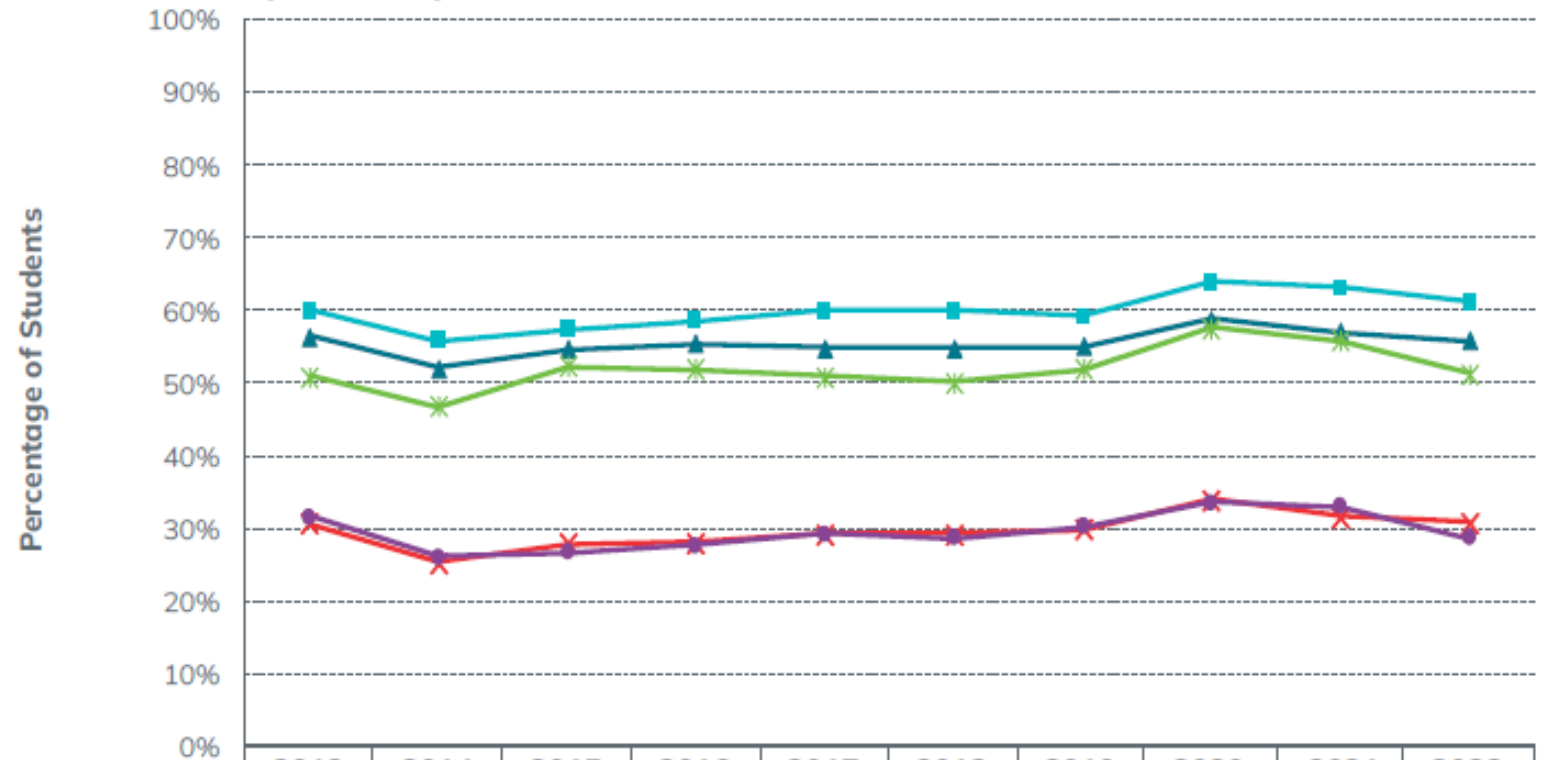


Figure 13. Enrolment-based attainment rates of Year 13 students attaining University Entrance by school decile band.

# A slight side-note...

Enrolment-based Year 13 Students attainment of University Entrance by Ethnicity



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Asian	60.1%	56.0%	57.5%	58.8%	60.1%	60.1%	59.3%	64.1%	63.4%	61.3%
European	56.5%	52.3%	54.8%	55.6%	55.0%	55.0%	55.1%	59.0%	57.2%	56.0%
Māori	30.6%	25.3%	27.8%	28.1%	29.3%	29.3%	29.9%	34.1%	31.7%	30.9%
MELAA	51.0%	46.8%	52.5%	52.0%	51.0%	50.2%	52.0%	57.7%	56.0%	51.4%
Pacific Peoples	31.6%	26.2%	26.7%	27.7%	29.3%	28.6%	30.3%	33.7%	33.0%	28.7%

Figure 9. Enrolment-based attainment rates of Year 13 students attaining University Entrance by ethnicity.



# Upshot/Summary Part 1:

- Within New Zealand, Māori, more so than other New Zealanders, take up opportunities for work within the mining industry
- Māori working in mining earn more than Māori working in all other sectors of the New Zealand economy
- Data and research suggests Māori are more likely than other New Zealanders to “vote with their feet” and opt out of New Zealand in pursuit of opportunities for higher paying work in Australia
- Mining would appear to be a significant reason for this, both directly and indirectly

# Upshot/Summary Part 2:

- There are many examples around New Zealand of iwi-collectives or Māori owned businesses investing in mining projects or drawing a revenue from minerals
- Of polls conducted among Māori, the minority support Te Pāti Māori and the Greens, and the same goes for the co-leadership of these parties
- When asked about issues that would determine voting decisions (a proxy indicator for areas of concern), the cost of living, housing, health, poverty, and the economy ranked highest on the list
- For both Māori and the general population from low decile schools, 2 in 3 finish school without attaining University Entrance

# Conclusions/inferences

- There is a case to be made for allowing mining to thrive in New Zealand so that people in New Zealand wishing to work in mining can pursue opportunities in this country
- It appears Māori New Zealanders in particular have a propensity to pursue these opportunities, as far afield as Western Australia if necessary
- These opportunities provide a platform for prosperity and stability, and to limit the scope of mining in New Zealand would seemingly limit the scope of opportunities available for Māori in New Zealand

# Questions?

**Patrick Phelps – Minerals West Coast**

**[patrick@mineralswestcoast.org.nz](mailto:patrick@mineralswestcoast.org.nz)**

**021 238 6846**

