

District Court of New Zealand  
Te Kōti-ā-Rohe o Aotearoa

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# Annual Report

2021









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## Foreword

# Leading a new era of change

Tēnā koutou katoa

Ka pō, ka pō, ka ao, ka awatea! Tīhei mauri ora ki te whai ao, tīhei mauri ora ki te ao mārama, tīhei mauri ora!

As night transitions from dawn to daybreak, behold it is the living world, behold it is the world of light, a sneeze from a new-born child, behold it is the breath of life!

The past year has been a time of ongoing and significant disruption to our daily lives. The impacts of COVID-19 continue to be felt throughout the courts and wider justice system. The District Court has continued to

respond to the immediate challenges presented by the Pandemic. We have also continued to address longstanding challenges to the way we conduct our business.



In November 2020 we announced a new vision for the District Court, Te Ao Mārama – the world of light. Te Ao Mārama is the District Court response to decades of calls for transformative change to the justice system and it strives to make the District Court a more enlightened place where all people can come to seek justice, and be heard, seen and understood and meaningfully participate in the case about them.

As we embark on this historic journey, we look forward to strengthening our existing relationships and forming new ones, particularly with the many and diverse communities we serve.

Openness and transparency of the courts is fundamental – especially during these times of change. The 2020/21 Annual Report is an opportunity to reflect on where we have come from, reflect on our current position and look to the future of the District Court as we progress our Te Ao Mārama journey.

Ngā mihi

**Heemi Taumaunu**

Chief District Court Judge



Gisborne District Court

## Report of the Chief District Court Judge, Judge Heemi Taumaunu

# Leading a new era of change

For the past four decades, consistent themes that emerge from longstanding calls for transformative change to the District Court have identified that defendants, whānau, complainants and victims, are leaving our court feeling as if they have not been seen, heard, understood or been able to meaningfully participate in the proceedings that relate to them. In many cases their needs have not been identified and addressed.

It has become increasingly clear that the way ahead is to build a mainstream model on the foundation provided by specialist courts by partnership with local iwi. Solution focussed judging has been part of our court since the establishment of both the Family Court and Youth Court in the 1980s, as well as, the further establishment of judicial initiatives such as Te Kōti Rangatahi and the Young Adult List.

A mainstream approach will allow us to integrate best practices throughout the District Court, including the approaches that teach us about the value of whānau and community involvement, the power of tikanga in fostering rehabilitation and restoring lives, and the value of engaging with all people.



Hamilton High and District Court

## Te Ao Mārama

Te Ao Mārama literally means “The world of light” and envisages a more enlightened system of justice where all people (including defendants, witnesses, victims, whānau supporters, parties to proceedings, wider stakeholders, and representatives of iwi and local communities) can seek justice, regardless of their means and abilities, their ethnicity, language or culture, and who they are or where they are from. It is aimed at offering restorative and rehabilitative opportunities for all people who are affected by the business of the District Court.

The model is guided by the following principles:

- Equitable treatment for all people by recognising that people come from different starting points.
- Procedural fairness by ensuring that all people who are affected by the business of the court are seen, heard, understood and able to meaningfully participate.
- Substantive fairness by ensuring that judicial officers are provided with the best information to enable well informed decisions to be made.
- Relevance of the court within the wider community and thereby enhancing respect for the rule of law and promoting safer communities.

Te Ao Mārama encourages discussions between justice sector agencies and local iwi, in accordance with the principle of partnership under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. In developing this model for the District Court, we will invite the strength and support provided by local iwi, iwi organisations, and local communities into the court. This will help ensure that all people affected by the business of the District Court can benefit from best practices learnt from our specialist courts, regardless of whether they are parties, defendants, victims, complainants, witnesses, or support people.

It will be aligned with other areas of work to make best use of available resources from across the justice sector. The leadership of the District Court have met with the justice sector ministers and chief executives, who have all indicated their support. We look forward to growing the model across Aotearoa over the coming years. Development of the Te Ao Mārama model was first launched at the Hamilton District Court in November 2020. Development of the model was next launched at the Gisborne District Court in May 2021. We look forward to launching the model at other court locations in 2022.





The Kaihautū, or leadership team of the District Court, includes the Chief District Court Judge, Principal Family Court Judge, Principal Youth Court Judge and the National Executive Judge.

## Improving what we do

In support of Te Ao Mārama, the Criminal Process Improvement Programme (“CPIP”) has been established with the support of the Ministry of Justice. CPIP is a judicially-led, cross-sector programme designed to make the criminal justice system more efficient and improve the timeliness of cases. CPIP was commissioned out of a review of the criminal process by District Court judges, conducted at the time of the first COVID-19 lockdown in 2020. The review identified areas where there is delay across our court processes.

CPIP takes an enlightened approach to justice with the aim of making every court appearance meaningful, reducing the barriers to resolving criminal cases, reducing the backlogs, and further developing court capability. The nine workstreams of CPIP span across the justice process and present solutions that will be designed and tested to ensure they are fit for purpose and recognise the realities of working in court. A steering group of cross-sector leaders from across the Ministry of Justice, New Zealand Police, Ara Poutama (Department of Corrections) and the legal progression provide feedback and help to determine the solutions that are approved for roll-out in the District Court.



## Looking after each other

As judicial leaders, the Heads of Bench of all New Zealand Courts share responsibility for the wellbeing of the judiciary. Our judges are not immune to the mental and physical health strains that can result from managing high workloads and being exposed to distressing material. To help mitigate stressors that are inevitable in judicial roles, the District Court adopted a

judicial wellness programme, Mauri Tū, in November 2020. Mauri Tū is designed to provide practical assistance to promote and maintain the mental health and wellbeing of the judges of the District Court. The programme will continue to be reviewed, evaluated and refined over time to ensure it best meets the needs of the judiciary.

## Journey to a more enlightened system of Justice

Ka kuhu au ki te ture hei matua mō te pani

I seek refuge in the law as a parent for the oppressed and the impoverished.

These powerful words from the 19th century warrior prophet, Te Kōti-Arikirangi continue to resonate over 181 years since the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. These words can be seen as a call to action as we continue our journey to a more enlightened justice system by extending and building on the foundations that have already been laid.



# Report of the Principal Family Court Judge

The first of October 2021 will mark the 40th Anniversary of the establishment of the Family Court. It is timely to reflect upon the vision for the new court as articulated by the first Principal Family Court Judge, Peter Trapski, in an interview in September 1981.

*The substantive law [that the new Family Court] will apply remains largely unchanged. The main differences will be in procedure and attitude. By and large the parties coming before the Family Court will be people under stress. They will also be people who at the end of the day will usually need to maintain a continuing relationship, especially where children are involved.*

*At present these people come to the courts to have decisions made for them. Under the new structure they will*

*be encouraged to make the decisions themselves through the processes of conciliation, mediation and counselling.*

The creation of this specialist court has shifted the focus away from the adversarial to the conciliatory. We are peopled by a specialist bench and bar, and we are aided by other professionals who specialise in family dynamics. But we do not rest on our laurels. Forty years on, we continue to strive for change while our vision remains a work in progress.





## Family Court Navigators – Kaiārahi

In response to the Independent Panel recommendation that examined the 2014 family justice reforms, a group of Family Court judges have been working with Ministry staff to develop a new role that will act as a conduit between the court and the community – Family Court Navigators or Kaiārahi o Te Kōti ā-Whānau.

We have appointed 50 Kaiārahi to support our communities and help those coming to court understand the processes and the options available to them. As they are not legally qualified, kaiārahi will have the ability to distinguish between providing navigational advice about the courts and legal advice.

## Healing in the court

In December 2019, then Minister for Justice Andrew Little, announced that the Government would support the opening of a further Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Court (AODT Court) in Kirikiriroa, Hamilton. He later agreed to extend this brief to include a care and protection stream for parents with serious dependency on alcohol or other drugs that is impacting on their ability to provide the safe care of their children.

The aim is to reunite families by providing them with the tools and support to become drug and/or alcohol free in order to safely parent their children. This project has been on hold for some time while relationships with iwi are established and I anticipate that work will resume shortly. This will be the first court of its kind in Aotearoa, New Zealand.



## Surrogacy protocol

In the changing social landscape, the Court is dealing with issues that could not have been envisaged 40 years ago – like the COVID-19 pandemic inhibiting the travel to New Zealand of surrogate babies born overseas.

In August 2020, the Court issued a protocol to streamline the registry process so commissioning parents could adopt their children giving them New Zealand citizenship by descent and enable them to be issued with New

Zealand passports prior to travelling “home”. This was a temporary expedient that was not intended to replace the existing surrogacy framework. That is currently being reviewed by the Law Commission.

In tandem with this review, the Ministry of Justice is undertaking a long overdue review of the Adoption Act 1955. The Family Court will be making submissions on this important subject.

## Change of sex as recorded in the Registry of Births

Prior to the release of the Final Report of the Working Group for reducing barriers to changing registered sex, my advisory board had already begun looking at how we could make the court process better for applicants seeking to change the sex recorded on their birth certificates. On 31 July 2021 our interim protocol came into force, providing for three judges and registries to deal with all applications,

if necessary, remotely. As it happens, this accorded with the recommendations of the Working Group, who saw the court process itself as a barrier to such applications.

The protocol will remain in place until the required legislative amendments come into force, or a permanent process is finalised.





## Effective courts

In keeping with the vision of Te Ao Mārama, the Family Court is seeking to identify and engage the community resources currently available to improve outcomes for families and to advocate for such resources where they may not currently be available.

We are also reviewing the court experience of victims of family violence including the mode of evidence given in the Family Court, as well as the physical layout of the courtroom, to ensure that those who have been subjected to family violence feel both physically and psychologically safe.

## Family Court Associates

To cope with the increasing Family Court workload and help reduce delays, we are exploring ways to remove judges from the work others are capable of performing. The 2021 Budget included a provision of \$15.1 million towards introducing a new Family Court Associate role.

Further, there are number of educational projects designed to ensure that the judiciary is educated on topical social issues as well remaining up to date on black letter law. These include a project run in tandem with Behavioural Sciences Aotearoa to improve judicial communication with court participants. There is to be a complete review of the education programme that is offered to Family Court judges.

While the role is still in the high-level concept stage, it is intended that the Associates will be able to deal with much of the administrative side of judicial work. This is a hugely significant piece of work for the Family Court, and I will be involved at all stages.



# Report of the Principal Youth Court Judge



Young people coming before the Youth Court typically have complex and intersecting needs and there is a prevalence of early onset mental illness, alcohol or other drug dependencies, and exposure to trauma, including exposure to family violence. Additionally, we are becoming increasingly aware of neuro-disabilities, including autism, Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, and communication disorders, and like many others in the community, many young people suffer stressors arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

By focussing on diversion as a central pillar of the youth justice system, we can take these complex factors into account and aim to resolve minor offending outside of the courtroom.

Decreasing the number of young people in court increases the capacity for judicial monitoring and oversight to allow the system more time to deal with complex cases.

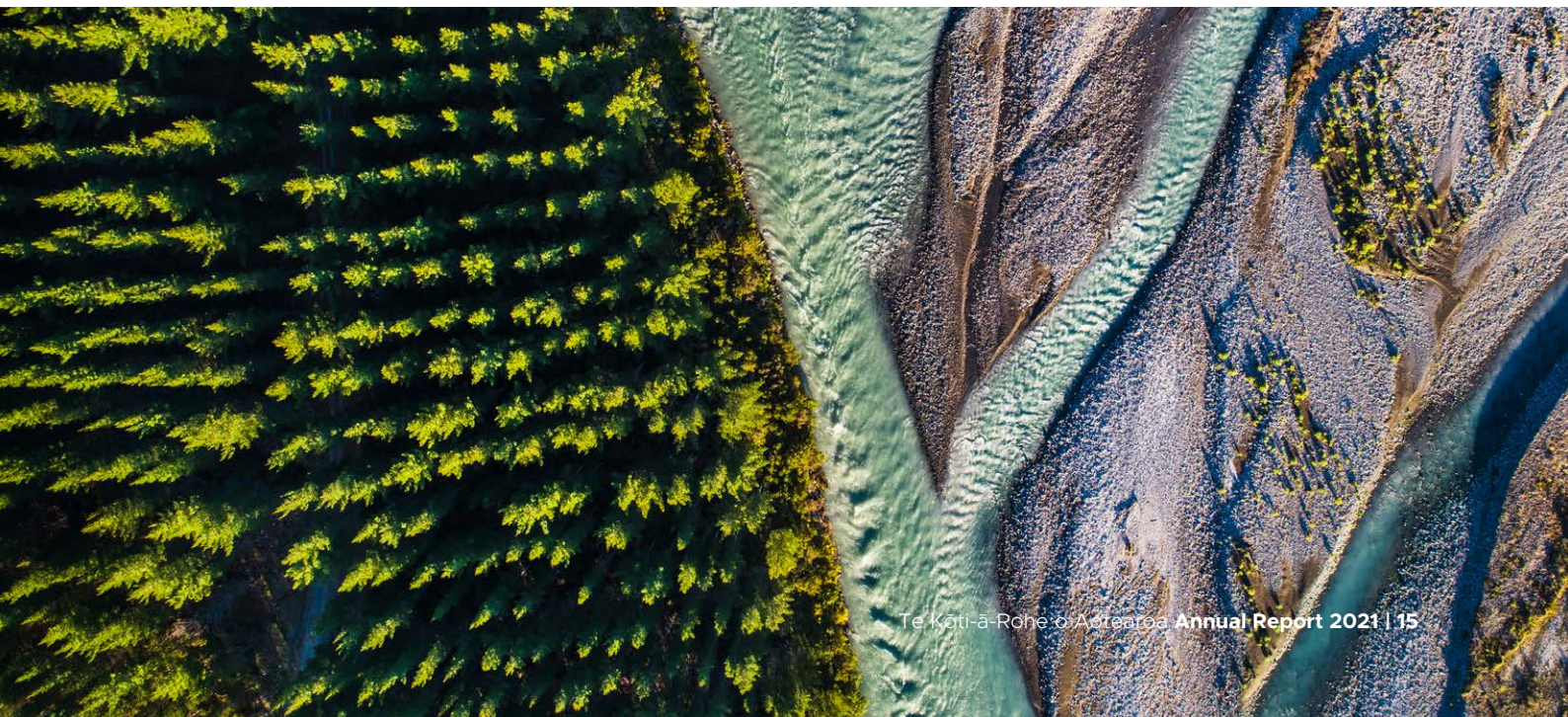


Looking back 30 years, the changes in the statistics are remarkable. In the year before the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 came into force, there were almost 10,000 young people in the youth justice system in New Zealand, and around 900 in custody. A year after the Act passed, the number of cases involving young people appearing in the Youth Court dropped from around 10,000 to just over 2,000. Today, there are only around 750 to 800 young people in court, and around 90 to 100 in custody in youth justice residences. The pandemic has further highlighted the positive outcomes of remaining vigilant and seeking alternative options to custody.

These low numbers enable the Youth Court to take a more a solution-focused approach – an integral feature of how the Youth Court operates. The Court is aimed at addressing the underlying causes of offending and meeting the needs of young people in court coming before it in a highly individualised way. Ngā Kōti Rangatahi and Pasifika Courts enable a closer connection between the Court and the community, with the aim of addressing the cultural needs of young people and ensuring the Court is relevant to the community in which it sits.

We have a committed multi-disciplinary team that provides wrap-around support to young people in court. This team is crucial to our operations and it includes Police Youth Aid, Oranga Tamariki, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, and service providers. The Youth Court could not function without all of the members of this team working together, with inter-agency support and information sharing. The benefits of such an approach were highlighted during the Youth Court's response to the COVID-19 lockdown.

The principles of the Youth Court heavily influenced the establishment of the Young Adult List in 2020, which in turn has influenced Te Ao Mārama, the new vision for the District Court. The concepts of solution-focused judging, enabling participation and knowing about who the Court is dealing with, are familiar concepts to the Youth Court. Drawing on the knowledge of the key players in the Youth Court will be crucial in the roll-out of Te Ao Mārama to courts around the country.




# Workload at a glance

(figures have been rounded)

## NEW WORK

- 113,800** Criminal cases
- 61,000** Family Court applications
- 16,300** Civil cases
- 3,000** Youth Court cases

 **158** District Court Judges\* and  
**18** Community Magistrates

 **58** courthouses and  
hearing centres

## ACTIVE WORKLOAD

- 32,700** Criminal cases
- 26,700** Family Court applications
- 9,000** Civil cases
- 800** Youth Court cases

## RESOLUTIONS

- 114,500** Criminal cases
- 62,600** Family Court applications
- 17,100** Civil cases
- 3,000** Youth Court cases

### NOTES:

**NEW WORK** new cases and applications that flow into courts.

**ACTIVE WORKLOAD** the number of cases or applications on hand at the end of the reporting period that have not been resolved.

**RESOLUTIONS** disposal of cases and applications.

\*This number excludes the 16 District Court judges performing different roles such as the Chief Coroner, the Children's Commissioner, the Chair of the IPCA, Environment Court judges.



# Role and Statistics

1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

## District Court – Criminal

The District Court is the primary court where criminal cases are initiated. Every person charged with a criminal offence will make their first appearance in the District Court, even if their charge will ultimately be heard in the

High Court. Most defendants will go through the entire justice process in the District Court, from first appearance until sentencing (if they are convicted), whether they plead guilty or not guilty.

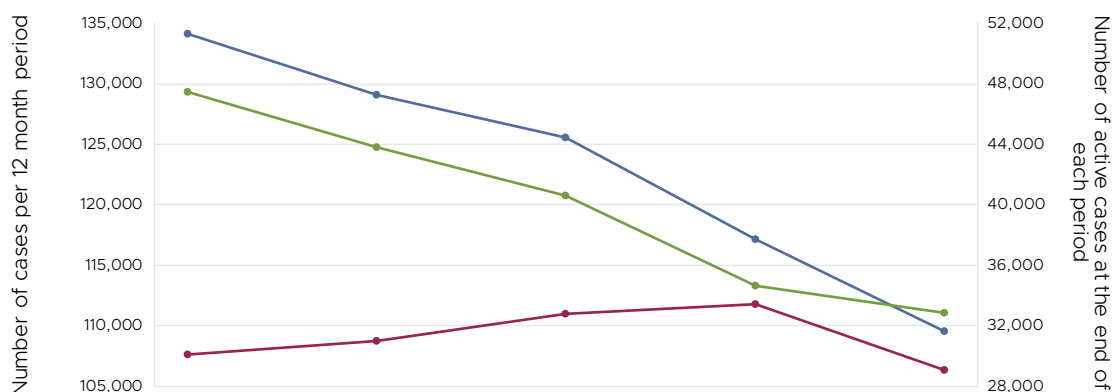
## Non-Jury Criminal

Most criminal cases in New Zealand come before District Court judges, and the non-jury criminal jurisdiction accounts for the bulk of the District Court’s work. This covers all criminal matters that do not involve a jury trial and involves a wide range of matters, including bail decisions, pre-trial hearings, judge-alone trials, and sentencing decisions. This includes cases across the spectrum of complexity and seriousness.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the District Court’s ability to hold hearings, significantly impacting timeframes and statistics.

Criminal statistics are recorded by number of cases rather than people because each case may involve several charges or people. Some cases may be managed together. Criminal statistics in this section exclude jury trial and Youth Court matters.

### Non-Jury Criminal Cases



2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	
134,112	129,052	125,519	117,154	109,556	<b>New Business</b>
129,335	124,777	120,732	113,330	111,086	<b>Disposals</b>
30,118	30,982	32,809	33,434	29,048	<b>Active Cases</b>

#### Comparing the current Fiscal year to the previous Fiscal year has seen:

- » New business decrease by 7,598 cases (-13%)
- » Disposals decrease by 2,244 cases (-8%)
- » Active cases decrease by 4,386 cases (-13%)

## Jury Trials

All New Zealanders have a right to choose trial by jury if they are charged with a serious offence, punishable by two or more years in prison. This right is protected by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

Jury trials are an important part of the criminal justice system. Members of the jury are the factfinders in a case – they determine the guilt or innocence of the defendant.

Sitting on a jury process allows members of the public to participate in the court process and to be directly involved in the administration of justice and the rule of law.

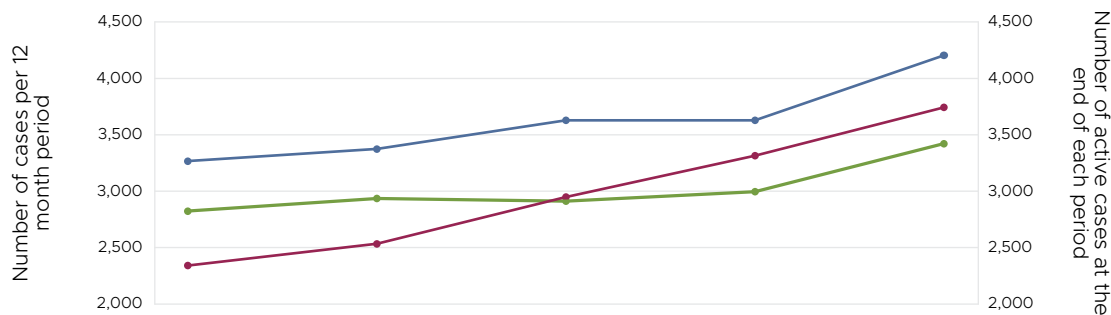
Each jury is comprised of 12 New Zealanders who are selected at random. To reach a decision, all members of the jury must agree. However, there are certain cases where a decision may be reached with the agreement of 11 jurors. If jurors return a guilty verdict, a judge will then sentence the offender.

Most jury trials in Aotearoa New Zealand are heard in the District Court. Just over 100 full-time District Court judges hold jury trial warrants, and another 17 acting warranted judges can also preside over jury trials.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the District Court's ability to hold jury trials, significantly impacting jury trial timeframes and statistics.

## NATIONAL STATISTICS

### Jury Trial Cases



	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	
	3,267	3,374	3,629	3,629	4,205	<b>New Trial Cases</b>
	2,824	2,936	2,912	2,996	3,422	<b>Disposals</b>
	2,342	2,534	2,949	3,315	3,743	<b>Active Cases</b>

Comparing the current Fiscal year to the previous Fiscal year has seen:

- » New trial cases increase by 576 cases (+16%)
- » Disposals increase by 426 cases (+14%)
- » Active cases increase by 428 cases (+13%)





Launch of Hawke's Bay's first Rangatahi Court at Te Aranga Marae in Flaxmere

## Youth Court

The Youth Court is a specialist division of the District Court and is overseen by the Principal Youth Court Judge. There are 64 designated Youth Court judges.

The Youth Court primarily deals with offending by young people aged 14-17 years, except for some serious offending by 17-year olds which is transferred automatically to the District Court. In certain circumstances the Youth Court also deals with serious offending by children aged 12-13 years.

The Youth Court is not just the District Court for young people. It has all the hallmarks of a solution-focused court, centred on rehabilitation, wrap-around support, addressing the underlying causes of offending, and diversion away from court. A team of dedicated specialists assist young people to actively engage and participate in proceedings.

Only 20–30 per cent of police apprehensions come before the Youth Court. This allows judges to focus on cases involving serious offending by young people with complex needs.

Young offenders have often been exposed to trauma, abuse and family violence. They may be dislocated from their culture or schooling and

increasingly suffer from mental illness. Neurodisabilities such as Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, autism and dyslexia are also common.

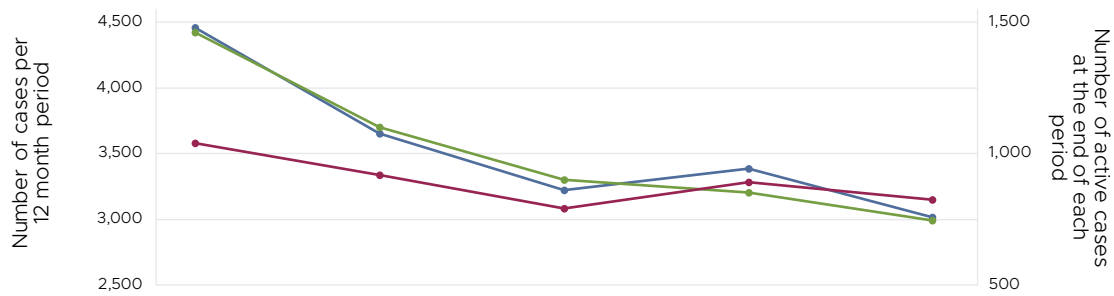
A unique feature of the Youth Court process is the Family Group Conference (FGC), which involves a gathering of the young person, their family, any victims, Police Youth Aid, the young person's Youth Advocate (lawyer) and other professionals. The parties establish a plan to address the offending and underlying causes, provide for any victims' interests and help the young person to take responsibility for their actions.

Not all Youth Court proceedings occur in a traditional courtroom. Ngā Kōti Rangatahi (Rangatahi Courts) and Pasifika Courts occur at a marae or a Pasifika hall. Māori or Pacific languages, custom and cultural practices are used as part of the court process. There are 16 Rangatahi Courts nationwide and two Pasifika Courts.

These courts were established to address the over-representation of Māori and Pasifika in the youth justice system. This has had visible positive effects. The number of Māori children and young people in court is decreasing, and at a faster rate than other ethnicities.

## NATIONAL STATISTICS

### Youth Court Cases

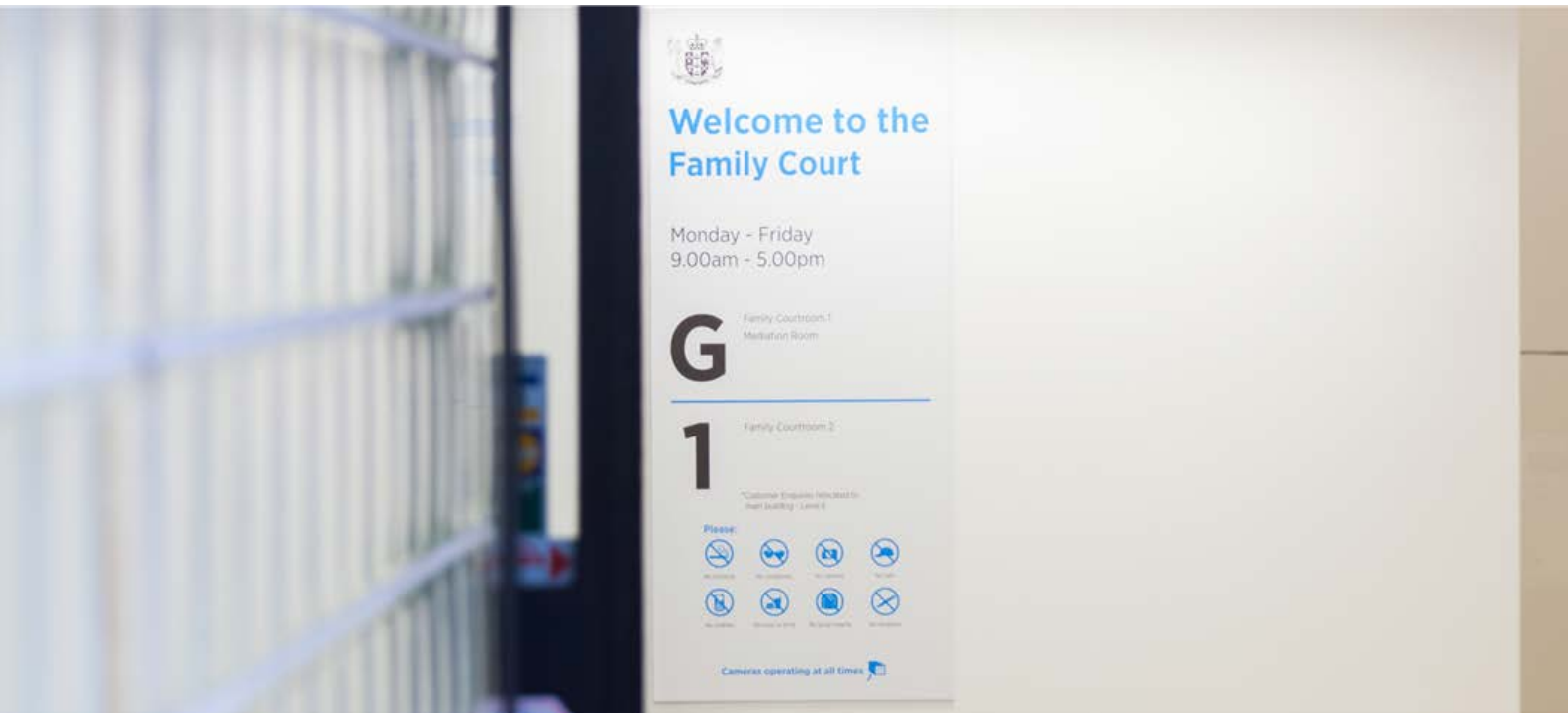


2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	
4,457	3,653	3,219	3,388	3,018	<b>New Business</b>
4,421	3,703	3,299	3,204	2,992	<b>Disposals</b>
1,039	918	791	892	826	<b>Active Cases</b>

Comparing the current Fiscal year to the previous Fiscal year has seen:

- » New business decrease by 370 cases (-11%)
- » Disposals decrease by 212 cases (-7%)
- » Active cases decrease by 66 cases (-7%)





## Family Court

The Family Court is the second busiest division of the District Court, after the criminal division.

The Family Court Act was passed in 1980, introducing a new forum to deal with what were perceived as inherently “family issues” including dissolution of marriage, disputes over relationship property and the care of children.

As society has changed over the last 40 years, so has the court’s jurisdiction. Nowadays its responsibilities include family violence, compulsory mental health and addiction treatment, civil unions and minors seeking to marry. Recently the registration of gender came within the Family Court’s mandate, in keeping with the evolving understanding of identity, currently a topical issue in the law.

The Family Court administers more than 20 legal statutes which reflect the wide range of issues and problems affecting the lives of families, and where the court

may be asked or required to assist or adjudicate when there is a dispute. These issues range from adoption, surrogacy, guardianship, child abduction, and State care and protection to wills and estates, and the protection of personal and property rights of the vulnerable elderly.

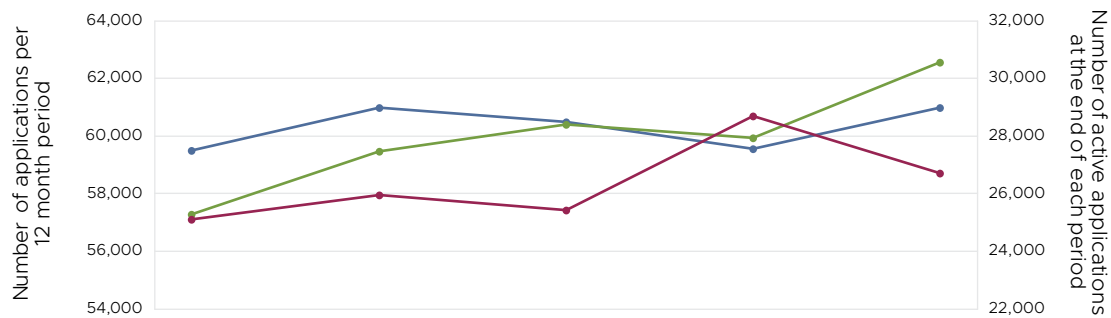
The court values the ability of parties to resolve their own matters too, and counselling, conciliation and mediation are an integral part of the Family Court’s work.

With such a wide jurisdiction, the Family Court sees a huge number of applications, with more than 60,000 filed each year.

Although the Family Court is a forum for personal and private disputes, it is not a “private” or “closed” court. Media may attend most proceedings and report on them, within the statutory restrictions around identification of children and young people or for those people legally defined as vulnerable.

## NATIONAL STATISTICS

### Family Court Applications



	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	
	59,507	60,985	60,505	59,558	60,985	<b>New Business</b>
	57,279	59,472	60,414	59,936	62,564	<b>Disposals</b>
	25,116	25,946	25,424	28,685	26,716	<b>Active Applications</b>

Comparing the current Fiscal year to the previous Fiscal year has seen:

- » New business increase by 1,427 applications (+2%)
- » Disposals increase by 2,628 applications (+4%)
- » Active applications decrease by 1,969 applications (-7%)



# Civil

In its civil jurisdiction, the District Court resolves disputes between individuals or organisations. A person who feels they have been wronged may bring a claim and, if successful, be awarded a remedy such as compensation.

The District Court may hear claims up to a value of \$350,000. Examples of common claims in the District Court include contractual disputes (where one party has not performed their obligations under an agreement), negligence (such as where services have not been provided with reasonable skill), or restraining orders (where a person is seeking an order to prevent harassment).

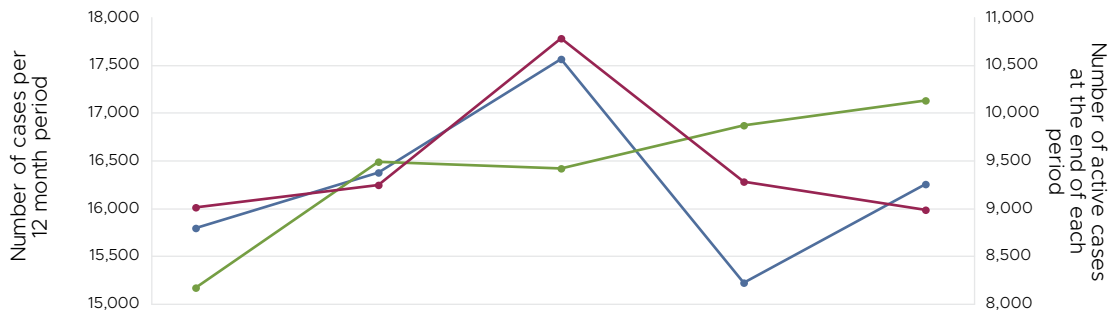
The District Court does not have jurisdiction to hear disputes regarding the recovery of land (with some exceptions), interpretation of wills or judicial review.

The civil workload in the District Court was impacted by the COVID-19 crisis during 2020 and 2021.

During the 2020 lockdown periods the court was unable to proceed with all hearings, in particular defended proceedings involving witnesses. There was also some delay and decrease evident with the filing of new proceedings.

## NATIONAL STATISTICS

### Civil cases



2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	
15,797	16,377	17,568	15,230	16,252	<b>New Business</b>
15,175	16,491	16,421	16,872	17,123	<b>Disposals</b>
9,019	9,246	10,787	9,287	8,986	<b>Active Cases</b>

#### Comparing the current Fiscal year to the previous Fiscal year has seen:

- » New business increase by 1,022 cases (+7%)
- » Disposals increase by 251 cases (+1%)
- » Active cases decrease by 301 cases (-3%)

# Judicial Performance Measures

District Court judges are committed to reporting on a range of appropriate measures to enhance public awareness of, and confidence in, the judiciary as a well organised, professional, efficient and independent institution. Performance measures presented are appeals and reserved judgments.

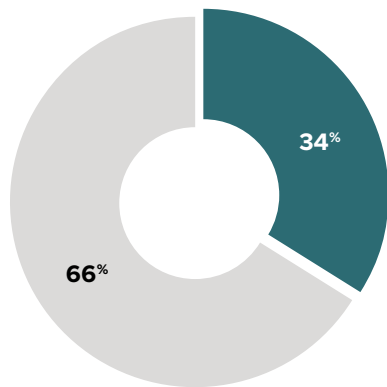
## Appeals

Decisions that are successfully appealed to the senior courts are a common measure of judicial performance. In 2020/2021 there were 635 successful

appeals from the total 1,889 appeals lodged following District Court decisions (595 were criminal proceedings, 22 Family Court and 18 civil).

### Criminal Appeals

#### Criminal Appeals by outcome

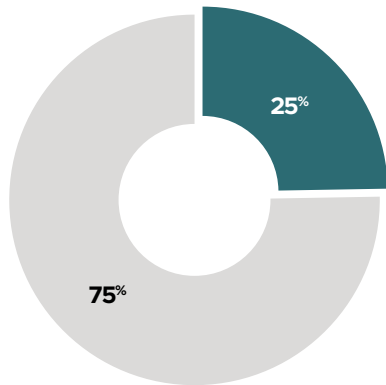


12 Month Period	Total Appeals	Successful	Dismissed / Withdrawn
to end June 2021	1,739	595 (34%)	1,144 (66%)
to end June 2020	1,618	543 (34%)	1,075 (66%)



## Family Appeals

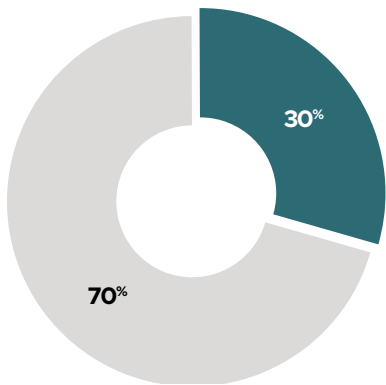
### Family Court Appeals by outcome



12 Month Period	Total Appeals	Successful	Dismissed / Withdrawn
to end June 2021	89	22 (25%)	67 (75%)
to end June 2020	84	25 (30%)	59 (70%)

## Civil Appeals

### Civil Appeals by outcome



12 Month Period	Total Appeals	Successful	Dismissed / Withdrawn
to end June 2021	61	18 (30%)	43 (70%)
to end June 2020	56	8 (14%)	48 (86%)

## TIMELY DELIVERY OF JUDGMENTS

Judges sometimes defer announcing their decisions at the end of a hearing because of the complexity of their work and matters they must consider. These decisions are “reserved” and delivered at a later time, usually in writing. The following charts show the number of reserved decisions and amount of time taken to deliver these.

### Information on reserved judgments — s 218 of the District Court Act 2016

Parties to proceedings can find information on the status of a reserved judgment by enquiring at the court where the proceedings were held.

Wherever possible, the Court aims to deliver judgment, or reasons for judgment, within one month of the conclusion of the hearing. This cannot always be attained, either because of the nature of the case or because workload commitments of the judge preclude it. There is an expectation that 90% of all judgments or reasons for judgments will be delivered within three months.

### 2020–2021 Fiscal Year

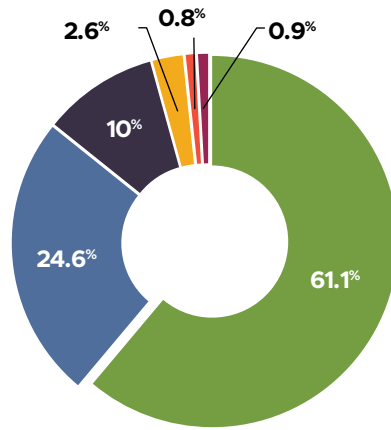
- » 86% of all reserved judgments were delivered within three months from the date of hearing.
- » 82% of reserved Criminal judgments were delivered within three months from the date of hearing.
- » 88% of reserved Family Court judgments were delivered within three months from the date of hearing.
- » 83% of reserved Civil judgments were delivered within three months from the date of hearing.

Delays beyond the 90-day delivery standard are likely to be attributable to the flow-on effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Chief District Court Judge does not consider any judgment of the District Court to have been outstanding beyond a reasonable time for delivery, as 96% of all judgments are delivered within six months.

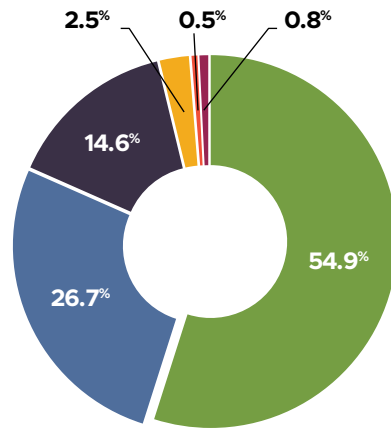


### All decisions



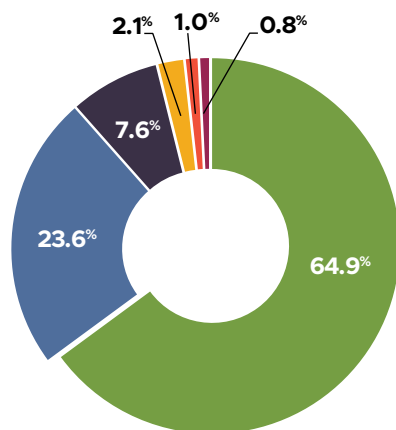
12 Month Period	Total Decisions	0-1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	12 months and above
to end June 2021	1,376	841	339	137	36	11	12
to end June 2020	999	594	258	108	30	3	6

### All criminal



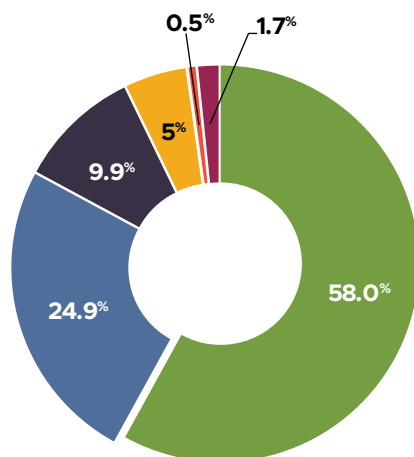
12 Month Period	Total Decisions	0-1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	12 months and above
to end June 2021	397	218	106	58	10	2	3
to end June 2020	250	143	65	30	9	2	1

## Family Court



12 Month Period	Total Decisions	0-1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	12 months and above
to end June 2021	798	518	188	61	17	8	6
to end June 2020	572	349	146	55	17	1	4

## Civil



12 Month Period	Total Decisions	0-1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	12 months and above
to end June 2021	181	105	45	18	9	1	3
to end June 2020	177	102	47	23	4		1

# Judicial Committee Structure AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

## TE KEI O TE WAKA

I Malosi	J Kelly	<b>National Executive Judge</b>	<b>Principal Family Court Judge</b>	<b>Chief District Court Judge</b>	<b>Principal Youth Court Judge</b>	D Clark	S Fleming
J Moses	S O'Driscoll			H Taumaunu	J Walker	M Crosbie	P Kellar
B Hastings	B Morris	L Hinton	J Moran			R Collins	C Cook

### PRINCIPAL FAMILY COURT JUDGE'S ADVISORY GROUP

#### Principal Family Court Judge

G Barkle  
S Coyle  
A Goodwin  
B Pidwell  
A Wills

### CIVIL COMMITTEE

#### National Executive Judge

P Kellar  
B Gibson  
S Harrop  
C Tuohy  
L Rowe  
L Spear

### DISTRICT COURT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

#### Chief District Court Judge

C Ryan  
B Morris  
B Hastings  
R Neave  
M MacKenzie  
D Sharp

### PRINCIPAL YOUTH COURT JUDGE'S ADVISORY GROUP

#### Principal Youth Court Judge

I Malosi  
A FitzGerald  
L Bidiois  
D Clark  
J McMeeken  
G Davis  
G Hikaka  
J Johnston  
F Eivers

### FAMILY COURT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

#### Principal Family Court Judge

C Doyle  
B Farnan  
S Fleming  
S Maude  
H Raumati  
B Pidwell  
N Taylor

### HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

#### Chief District Court Judge

#### National Executive Judge

R McIlraith  
M Turner  
M Hunt  
S Edwards  
C Ryan

### DISTRICT COURT MEDIA COMMITTEE

#### Chief District Court Judge

#### Principal Family Court Judge

#### Principal Youth Court Judge

I Malosi  
R Collins  
J Moses  
J Farish`

### YOUTH COURT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

#### Principal Youth Court Judge

A FitzGerald  
S Moala  
L Harrison  
J McMeeken

### JUDICIAL WELLNESS COMMITTEE

#### Chief District Court Judge

#### Principal Family Court Judge

#### Principal Youth Court Judge

#### National Executive Judge

B Davidson  
J Farish  
D Henare  
J Moses  
P Callinicos  
N Mascelle (CM)

### MĀORI PASIFIKA ASIAN ADVISORY GROUP

#### Chief District Court Judge

D Henare  
L Bidios  
F Eivers  
G Davis  
D Clark  
A Wills  
H Raumati  
J Johnston  
I Malosi  
K Tan

### CRIMINAL COMMITTEE

M Crosbie  
R Collins  
J Moses  
R Marshall  
P Mabey  
L Rowe  
J Farish



# Sitting Judges

\* indicates retirement during year ending 30 June 2021

\*\* indicates an appointment to the High Court

Judge A Adeane*	Napier	Judge C Doherty	Chair Independent
Judge E Aitken	Auckland		Police Complaints
Judge G AndréWiltens	(Vanuatu)		Authority
Judge G Barkle	Nelson	Judge J Down	Hamilton
Judge A Becroft	Children's Commissioner	Judge C Doyle	Wellington
		Judge D Dravitzki	Timaru
Judge D Barry*	Wellington	Judge M Duggan	Christchurch
Judge C Bennett	North Shore	Judge R Earwaker	Manukau
Judge J Bergseng	Auckland	Judge S Edwards	Palmerston North
Judge L Bidois	Tauranga	Judge F Eivers	Manukau
Judge J Binns	Wellington	Judge H Ellis	Whangarei
Judge T Black	Wellington	Judge J Farish	Christchurch
Judge D Blair	Hamilton	Judge B Farnan	Invercargill
Judge T Bolstad	Gisborne	Judge A Fitzgerald	Auckland
Judge S Bonnar QC	Auckland	Judge A Fitzgibbon	North Shore
Judge J Borthwick	Christchurch	Judge D Flatley	Dunedin
Judge N Broek	Rotorua	Judge S Fleming	Auckland
Judge K Broughton	Palmerston North	Judge G Fraser	Auckland
Judge D Burns	Auckland	Judge A Garland	Christchurch
Judge B Callaghan	Christchurch	Judge P Geoghegan	Tauranga
Judge M Callaghan	Christchurch	Judge B Gibson	Auckland
Judge P Callinicos	Napier	Judge T Gilbert	Christchurch
Judge D Cameron	Tauranga	Judge L Ginnen	Manukau
Judge I Carter	Whanganui	Judge K Glubb	Waitakere
Judge O Cassidy	Waitakere	Judge A Goodwin	Manukau
Judge W Cathcart	Gisborne	Judge K Grau	Manukau
Judge D Clark	Hamilton	Judge T Greig	New Plymouth
Judge S Clark	Hamilton	Judge N Grimes	Hamilton
Judge T Clark	Manukau	Judge J Hambleton	Christchurch
Judge P Connell*	Hamilton	Judge C Harding	Tauranga
Judge N Cocurullo	Hamilton	Judge L Harrison	New Plymouth
Judge G Collin	Hamilton	Judge S Harrop	Wellington
Judge R Collins	Napier	Judge M Harland**	Hamilton
Judge C Cook	Tauranga	Judge D Harvey*	Whangarei
Judge P Cooper	Rotorua	Judge J Hassan	Christchurch
Judge A Couch	Christchurch	Judge W Hastings	Wellington
Judge M Courtney	Hastings	Judge D Henare	Auckland
Judge S Coyle	Tauranga	Judge G Hikaka	New Plymouth
Judge P Crayton	Hamilton	Judge Q Hix	Christchurch
Judge M Crosbie	Christchurch	Judge P Hobbs	Wellington
Judge P Cunningham	Auckland	Judge G Hollister-Jones	Rotorua
Judge B Davidson	Wellington	Judge M Howard-Sager	Kaikohe
Judge G Davis	Whangarei	Judge M Hunt	Christchurch
Judge N Dawson	Auckland	Judge T Ingram	Tauranga
Judge L de Jong	Auckland	Judge J Jackson*	Christchurch
Judge K de Ridder*	Whangarei	Judge J Jelas	Waitakere
Judge M Dickey	Auckland	Judge A Johns	Manukau

Judge J Johnston	Porirua	Judge S Patel	Manukau
Judge P Kellar	Christchurch	Judge E Paul	Auckland
Judge J Kelly	Wellington	Judge R Paul	Hamilton
Judge K Kelly	Chair Alcohol Regulatory Licensing Authority	Judge B Pidwell	Waitakere
Judge L King	Whangarei	Judge H Raumati	Gisborne
Judge D Kirkpatrick	Principal Environment Court Judge	Judge G Rea	Napier
Judge J Krebs	Palmerston North	Judge J Reilly	Nelson
Judge B Lawson	Rotorua	Judge D Robinson	Dunedin
Judge S Lindsay	Christchurch	Judge M Rogers	Manukau
Judge K Lummis	Auckland	Judge L Rowe	Palmerston North
Judge G Lynch	Christchurch	Judge R Russell	Nelson
Judge P Mabey QC	Tauranga	Judge C Ryan	Auckland
Judge M MacKenzie	Rotorua	Judge P Rzepecky	Whangarei
Judge B Mackintosh	Napier	Judge N Sainsbury	Wellington
Judge A Mahon	Manukau	Judge D Saunders*	Christchurch
Judge I Malosi	Manukau	Judge K Saunders	Hamilton
Judge A Manuel	Auckland	Judge B Sellars QC	Auckland
Judge D Marshall	Chief Coroner	Judge M Sharp	Auckland
Judge G Marshall	Hamilton	Judge D Sharp	Auckland
Judge G Matenga	Hastings	Judge B Shortland	Kaikohe
Judge N Mathers	Auckland	Judge A Sinclair	Auckland
Judge D Matheson	Whanganui	Judge P Sinclair	Auckland
Judge S Maude	North Shore	Judge A Singh	Auckland
Judge J Maze	Timaru	Judge A Skellern	Auckland
Judge J McDonald	Whangarei	Judge E Smith	Dunedin
Judge I McHardy	Auckland	Judge J Smith	Auckland
Judge R McIlraith	Manukau	Judge T Snell	Rotorua
Judge A McLeod	Invercargill	Judge L Spear	Hamilton
Judge J McMeeken	Christchurch	Judge P Spiller	Chair, Immigration and Protection Tribunal
Judge D McNaughton	Manukau	Judge P Steven DC	Christchurch
Judge S Menzies*	Hamilton	Judge K Tan	Manukau
Judge M Mika	Hutt Valley	Judge H Taumaunu	Chief District Court Judge
Judge I Mill*	Wellington	Judge B Thomas	Auckland
Judge S Moala	Manukau	Judge G Tomlinson	Whangarei
Judge C Montague	Wellington	Judge A Tompkins	Wellington
Judge J Moran	Principal Family Court Judge	Judge L Tremewan	Waitakere
Judge B Morris	Masterton	Judge C Tuohy*	Wellington
Judge J Moses	Manukau	Judge M Turner	Dunedin
Judge J Moss	Palmerston North	Judge R von Keisenberg	Auckland
Judge K Muir	Auckland	Judge G Wagner	Manukau
Judge J Munro*	Rotorua	Judge D Wallwork*	North Shore
Judge R Neave	Christchurch	Judge J Walker	Principal Youth Court Judge
Judge L Newhook*	Former Principal Environment Court Judge	Judge R Walker	Invercargill
Judge B Northwood	Palmerston North	Judge N Walsh	Christchurch
Judge S O'Driscoll	Christchurch	Judge N Webby	Manukau
Judge M O'Dwyer	Wellington	Judge M Wharepouri	Manukau
Judge D Orchard	Whangarei	Judge A Wills	Rotorua
Judge S Otene	Manukau	Judge G Winter	Papakura
Judge E Parsons	Waitakere	Judge P Winter	Auckland
Judge D Partridge	North Shore	Judge Y Yelavich	Manukau
		Judge A Zohrab	Nelson



District Court of New Zealand  
Te Kōti-ā-Rohe o Aotearoa