

Aotearoa New Zealand Gender Attitudes Survey 2023



National Council of Women of New Zealand
Te Kaunihera Wahine o Aotearoa



Rangahau Aotearoa
Research New Zealand

Why was this survey completed?

The Gender Attitudes Survey 2023 updates the bi-annual Gender Attitudes Survey, first completed in 2017 (i.e., the baseline survey). The survey seeks to answer and track **three key questions** from the perspective of the general public of Aotearoa New Zealand:

- How well are we doing in terms of achieving gender equality in Aotearoa New Zealand?
- Do New Zealanders have particular opinions about the genders?
- What are New Zealanders' opinions about gender and sexual diversity?

As such, the Gender Attitudes Survey 2023 had the following objectives:

- **Update and compare** the current results with those of the earlier surveys (completed in 2017, 2019 and 2021).
- Identify any **new emerging trends**.
- Identify any **key differences** by gender, age and ethnicity.

How was the survey completed?

- As with the previous surveys, the Gender Attitudes Survey 2023 was completed **online**, with the sample provided by a panel provider.
- The survey was completed with an achieved **sample of n=1,250 respondents**, representing New Zealanders, 18 years of age and over.
- This sample was selected to be **representative** of all New Zealanders, 18 years of age and over in terms of their gender, age, ethnicity and geographic location.
- **Māori and Pacific people** were over-sampled so that their results could be examined with more confidence.
- The survey results have been **weighted** to correct for this sampling, as well as by gender, using weighting parameters from the 2021 Census of Population and Dwellings.
- Results based on the total weighted sample are subject to a **maximum margin of error** of +/- 3.0% (at the 95% confidence level).
- A copy of the survey questionnaire may be found in Appendix A of this report.



Fieldwork
dates: 26th
June to
07th July
2023

Survey
completes:
n=1,250

Key findings



How well are we doing in terms of achieving gender equality in Aotearoa New Zealand?

Key findings relating to gender equality

- 1. 81% of respondents agreed that gender equality is a fundamental right.**
In statistical terms, this percentage has **not** changed in the three most recent Gender Attitudes Surveys (i.e. 2019, 2021 and 2023, remaining at between 79-80%).
- 2. 48% of respondents stated they believe that gender equality has ‘for the most part been achieved’.**
This percentage has **increased**; from 42% in 2019 to 48% in 2023, with male respondents more likely to agree that this is the case (57% compared with 40% of female respondents).

3. **Whilst there are similarities in the way male and female respondents defined ‘gender equality’, there are also subtle, but important differences.** For example, female respondents were more likely than male respondents to define gender equality in terms of an acceptance of diverse gender identities.

4. **This, in turn, is reflected in many of the results for the other survey questions, including in terms of:**
 - What Aotearoa New Zealand would be like **when gender equality has been achieved**. Female respondents generally set the bar higher than male respondents. For example, in terms of ‘women having improved access to healthcare services’, 65% of male respondents agreed that this would be a feature of achieving gender equality compared with 79% of female respondents.

 - The extent to which we are **‘doing well’ in achieving gender equality** in various aspects of Aotearoa’s society (e.g., the home). For example, 59% of male respondents believed we are ‘doing well’ in achieving gender equality in the home compared with 41% of females.

 - The population groups that are **disadvantaged by gender inequality** in Aotearoa New Zealand. Male respondents were significantly **less likely** to identify ‘women generally’ as being disadvantaged by gender inequality compared with female respondents (27% and 50% respectively).

5. Despite these differences of opinion between male and female respondents, there has been some positive movement in other areas between 2019 and 2023 for all respondents. For example, in terms of:

- A reduction in some negative social indicators. One-third of all respondents in 2019 (32%) believed there would be a reduction in the suicide rate when gender equality was achieved, and this has now increased to 41%. Similarly, there would be a reduction in sexual violence (from 39% in 2019 to 45% in 2023) and a reduction in domestic violence (from 42% in 2019 to 47% in 2023).
- On a more positive note, more respondents this year believed there would be more stories about women's sport when gender equality was achieved (from 51% in 2019 to 59% in 2023).
- Furthermore, significantly more respondents this year also believed that, when gender equality was achieved, women would have improved access to healthcare services (from 54% in 2019 to 72% in 2023), there would be more equal sharing of household chores between men and women (from 63% in 2019 to 84% in 2023) and there would be more equal sharing of childcare responsibilities between men and women (from 68% in 2019 to 86% in 2023).

6. While most respondents considered the household chores, school subjects and occupations covered by the survey as being 'suitable' for all genders, there has been little improvement between 2019 and 2023, with some continuing to think they are 'more suitable' for either men or women.

These include:

- Opinions about who are **'better suited'** for particular **household chores**. For example, 21% of male respondents considered 'cooking meals' to be better suited to females compared with 13% of female respondents.
- Opinions about the **'suitability'** of **school subject topics**. For example, 31% of male respondents considered 'fashion and textile technology' to be better suited to female students compared with 19% of female respondents.
- Opinions about the **'suitability'** of particular **jobs/occupations**. For example, 33% percent of male respondents considered being a 'nurse' was better suited to females compared with 16% of female respondents.

7. Opinions about the way men are supposed to react in certain situations also remain unchanged between 2019 and 2023, or has gone backward. Again, male and female respondents have different opinions; for example:

- 25% of all respondents in 2023 agreed that ‘a man who doesn’t fight back when he’s pushed around will lose respect as a man’ (37% of male respondents were more likely to state this compared with 13% of female respondents). This was 22% in 2019.
- 13% of all respondents in 2023 agreed that ‘hitting out is an understandable response for a man when his wife or girlfriend tries to end a relationship’ (19% of male respondents were more likely to state this compared with 7% of female respondents). This was 9% in 2019.

8. Similarly, opinions about rape also remain unchanged between 2019 and 2023, or have gone backward. Again, male and female respondents have different opinions; for example:

- 33% of all respondents in 2023 agreed that ‘false rape accusations are common’ (41% of male respondents were more likely to state this compared with 26% of female respondents). This was 35% in 2019.
- Overall, 30% of all respondents in 2023 agreed that ‘rape happens when a man’s sex drive is out of control’ (36% of male respondents were more likely to state this compared with 25% of female respondents). This was 25% in 2019.

9. 74% of all respondents agreed that online harassment is a serious problem in Aotearoa New Zealand.

- However, much fewer respondents agreed that ‘women are more exposed to online harassment than men’ (63% of female respondents compared with 57% of male respondents).
- Despite this, significantly more female respondents agreed that this has ‘an effect on how women are treated in real life’ (76% compared with 66% of male respondents).

Key findings relating to sexual diversity

10. 76% of all respondents agreed they would be comfortable with a gay or bisexual man being ‘part of their immediate family’ (81% with a lesbian or bisexual woman).

The level of acceptance of gay and bisexual men and lesbian and bisexual women in various situations, ranging from ‘being part of their immediate family’ to ‘being their manager’, has **not** changed between 2019 and 2023.

In contrast, in the same period, there has been a significant **increase** in the percentage of respondents stating they would be comfortable with transgender men, transgender women and non-binary gender people. For example, in terms of ‘being part of their immediate family’:

- 74% stated they would be comfortable with a transgender man compared with 65% in 2019.
- 75% stated they would be comfortable with a transgender woman compared with 63% in 2019.

11. 23% of all respondents believed lessons about ‘healthy relationships, including consent’ should commence with children in Year 0-6.

In the 4 years between 2019 and 2023, significantly more respondents reported that lessons about ‘healthy relationships, including consent’ and ‘sexual diversity’ should be taught to younger year groups. For example, in 2019, 13% of respondents felt that lessons about ‘healthy relationships, including consent’ should commence with children in Years 0-6 (and older year groups) and this is now almost double at 23%.

In terms of lessons in ‘gender diversity’, significantly more respondents are now of the opinion that lessons about this topic should commence with children in Years 9-11 (and older year groups) than was the case in 2019 (23% in 2019 compared with 31% in 2023).

Conclusion

In the four years since 2019, a significantly higher percentage of respondents believe that gender equality has ‘for the most part been achieved’ (from 42% to 48% in 2023). While this is a notable result, it also means that one in every two respondents do **not** believe it’s been achieved, or it is still in progress.

This is especially the opinion of female respondents; 60% of whom believed gender equality has **not** ‘for the most part been achieved’ or is still in progress (compared with 43% of male respondents).

In fact, as was the case in 2021 and compared with male respondents, female respondents are less impressed with the current status quo. For example, they were significantly:

- Less likely than male respondents to believe that we’re making ‘good progress’ towards gender equality.
- More likely than any other group in the population to state that ‘women generally’ are disadvantaged by gender inequality.
- More likely to state that women are targeted by online harassment and that rape myths persist.

Taken as a whole, this latest survey confirms that there is still a significant way to go before we can genuinely say that gender equality in Aotearoa New Zealand has been achieved.

Section 1: This year's results



About this section

In this section, we provide the results to the survey questions, identifying differences by **gender**. Please access the online e-reporting tool to view results by age and ethnicity. The survey questions:

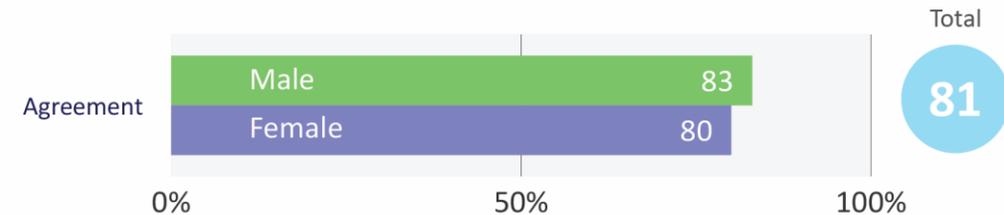
- Defined what respondents understood by the term 'gender equality'.
- Measured the extent to which respondents believed 'gender equality is a fundamental right' and 'has for the most part been achieved in Aotearoa New Zealand'.
- Identified respondents' opinions about the progress being made to achieve gender equality in various areas of life and society.
- Identified respondents' opinions about what Aotearoa New Zealand would look like when gender equality had been achieved.
- Identified respondents' opinions about gender in terms of responsibility for household chores, the suitability of school subjects and the suitability of occupations.
- Identified respondents' opinions about rape myths and stories, and online harassment.
- Identified respondents' opinions about gender diversity.

Eight out of every 10 respondents this year believed that gender equality is a fundamental right

Overall, 81% of all respondents agreed that 'Gender equality in Aotearoa New Zealand is a fundamental right'.

The figure to the right shows that, in statistically significant terms, male and female respondents agreed to the same extent.

Figure 1: Agreement-disagreement that gender equality in Aotearoa New Zealand is a fundamental right



While male and female respondents for the most part defined ‘gender equality’ in the same way, there are subtle, but important differences

An open-ended question was asked in order to establish what people understood by the term ‘gender equality’. The response was subsequently coded by key themes and the results presented on this page are the themes for **male** respondents that were most frequently mentioned, together with examples of how they were expressed:

- **Equal rights and opportunities for both males and females.**

“Equal opportunities for males & females. Ability, regardless of sex, should be rewarded.”

“Gender equality means that everyone has equal rights, including but not limited to education, employment, political participation, economic opportunity and decision-making rights. Whether male or female, everyone should have an equal opportunity to pursue their dreams and goals.”

- **Respect for all genders and treating them fairly.**

“We should respect each other's gender and accept the gender that person wants to be known as.”

- **Advocacy for equal pay and equal treatment in the workplace.**

“Men and women should get the same pay for the same job and should be treated equally in every aspect of life.”

The themes that were most frequently mentioned by **female** respondents were as follows. Note the differences between these and those for males:

- **Equal rights and opportunities for both males and females**

“Women have the same rights to do what they want as men. If the man wants to stay home and look after the children so the woman can work that is okay.”

- **Respect for all genders and treating them fairly.**

“That all situations are treated evenly, and women and men get the same opportunities and fairness. Including pay and responsibilities in life. Stop putting up glass ceilings for women!”

- **Acceptance of diverse gender identities.**

“Gender equality to me means that all people of diverse and non-binary genders have equal rights in all social settings and are able to pursue the same opportunities and have the same freedom of choice in all aspects of their life.”

- **Equal treatment.**

“Gender equality to me means everything is the same for both genders e.g. If a boy can play rugby so can a girl. A man can work in construction so can a female.”

- **Non-discrimination.**

“All genders take part in all aspects of life without gender discrimination.”

- **Shared responsibilities.**

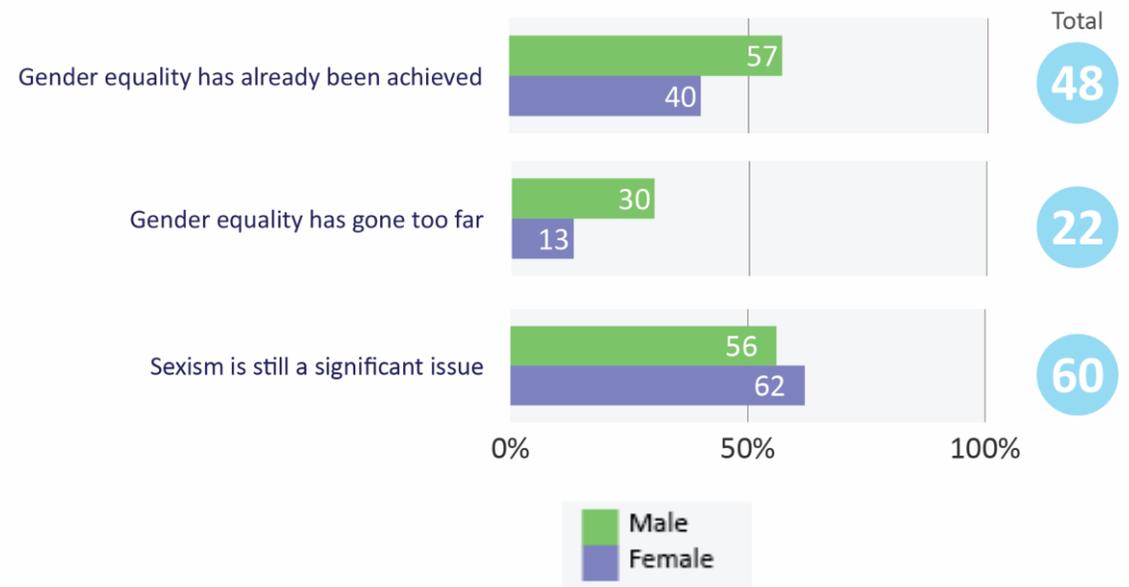
“Both genders have the same chances as one another. Life is shared equally.”

One out of every two respondents this year believed gender equality has already been achieved for the most part

Reflecting male and female respondents slightly different definitions of 'gender equality', are the results to the three statements on the right:

- **More male respondents** agreed that 'gender equality has been achieved for the most part in Aotearoa New Zealand' (57% of male respondents agreed with this compared with 40% of female respondents).
- **More male respondents** also agreed that 'gender equality has gone too far in Aotearoa New Zealand' (30% cf. 13%).
- In comparison, slightly **more female respondents** agreed that 'Sexism is still a significant issue in Aotearoa New Zealand' (62% of female respondents agreed with this compared with 56% of male respondents).

Figure 2: Agreement about gender equality in Aotearoa New Zealand



We're making good progress in some areas, less so in others

To a certain degree, **all** respondents said they believed we are making **good progress** in achieving gender equality in Aotearoa New Zealand, in various areas of life and society. In fact, **one half or more** of all respondents said they believed we are making good progress in:

- In Parliament (60% of all respondents considered we are **doing well** in this area).
- In the health system (55%).
- In the education system (54%).
- In the mass media (53%).
- In sports (51%).
- In the home (50%).

However, significantly fewer felt that we are **doing poorly**; particularly:

- In senior management (29% of all respondents considered we are **doing poorly** in this area).
- In the workplace (25%).
- In the Armed Forces (24%).

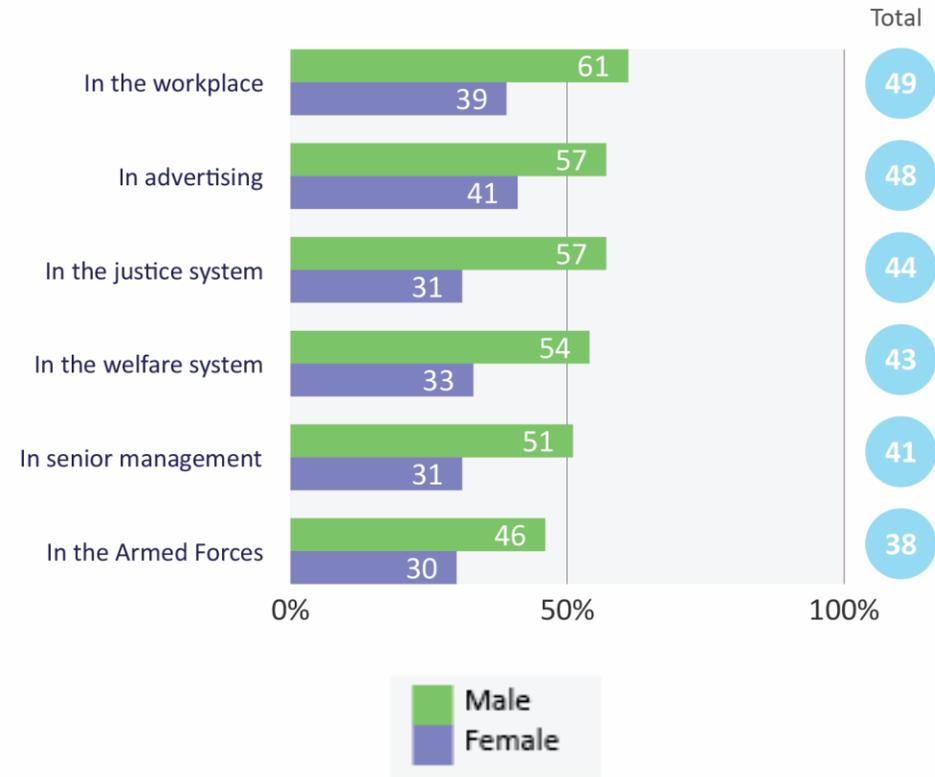
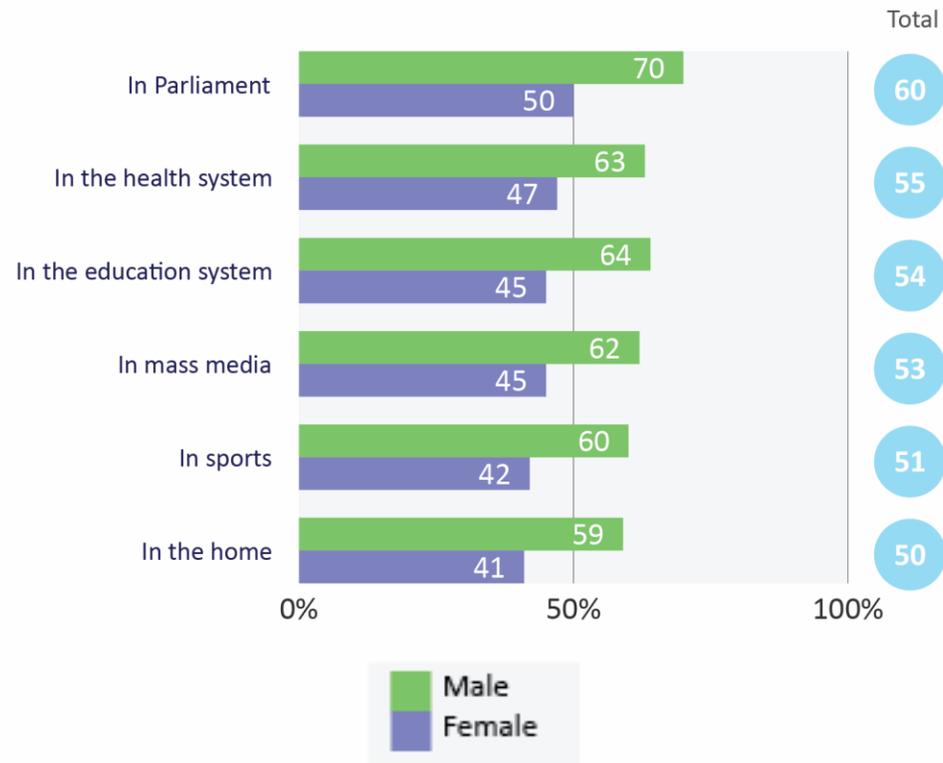


Compared with female respondents, **male respondents** were **more likely** to state they believed we are making **good progress** in all areas. Perhaps this reflects their greater belief that, 'gender equality has been achieved for the most part in Aotearoa New Zealand'.

The largest differences between male and female respondents are in terms of the following (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- In the workplace (61% of male respondents believed this compared with 39% of female respondents, a relative difference of 56%).
- In the home (59% cf. 41%; a relative difference of 44%).
- In sports (60% cf. 42%; a relative difference of 43%).
- In the education system (64% cf. 45%; a relative difference of 42%).
- In Parliament (70% of cf. 50%; a relative difference of 40%).
- In the mass media (62% cf. 45%; a relative difference of 38%).
- In the health system (63% cf. 47%; a relative difference of 34%).

Figure 3: Opinions about the progress being made in achieving gender equality (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents reporting that New Zealand is doing 'well' in each area of society)



Male and female respondents had different opinions when asked what Aotearoa New Zealand would look like when gender equality was achieved

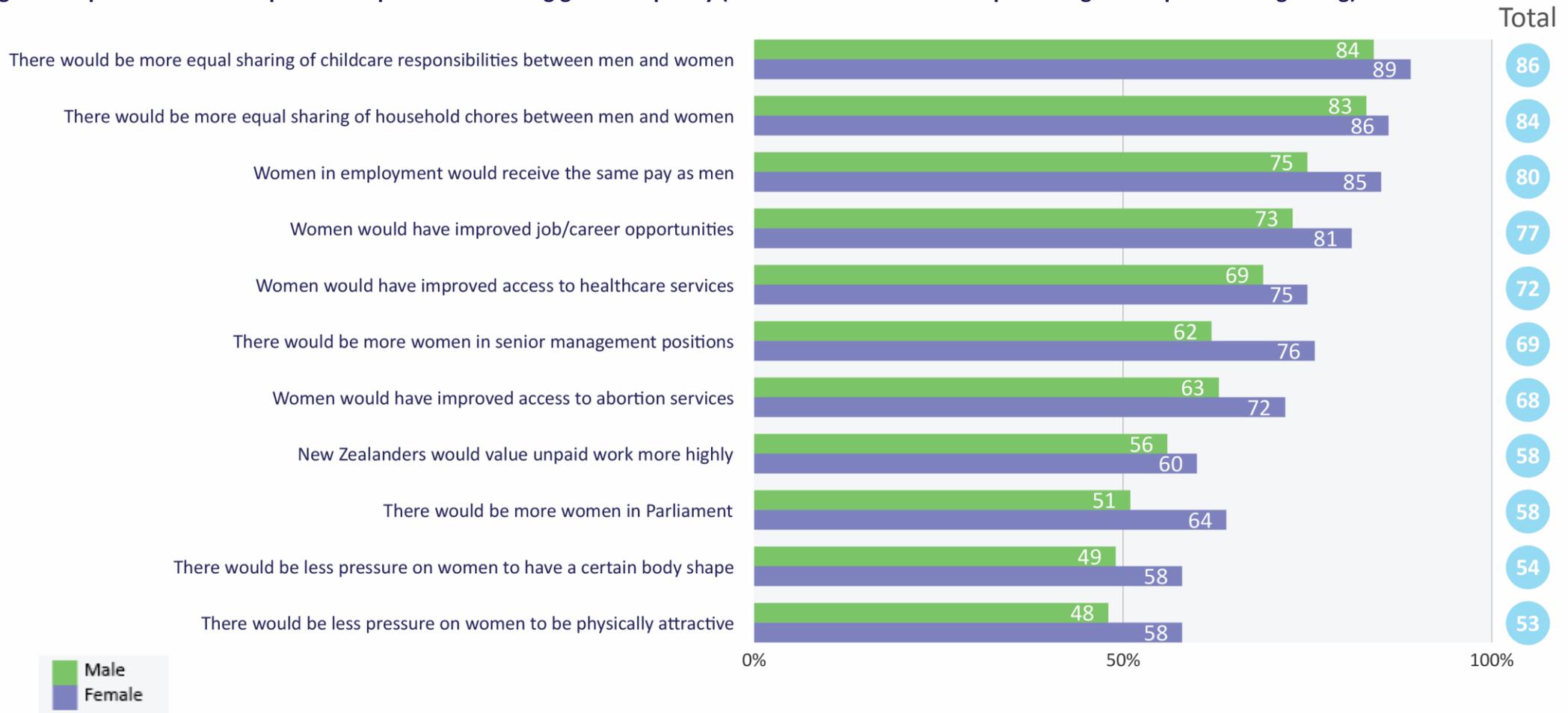
However, compared with female respondents, **male respondents** were **less likely to agree** with **all** aspects. For example (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- There would be more women in Parliament (51% of male respondents agreed with this compared with 64% of female respondents; a relative difference of 25%).
- There would be more women in senior management positions (62% cf. 76%; a relative difference of 23%).
- There would be less pressure on women to be physically attractive (48% cf. 58%; a relative difference of 21%).
- There would be less pressure on women to have a certain body shape (49% cf. 58%; a relative difference of 19%).

- Women would have improved access to abortion services (63% cf. 72%; a relative difference of 14%).
- Women in employment would receive the same pay as men (75% cf. 85%; a relative difference of 13%).
- Women would have improved job/career opportunities (73% cf. 81%; a relative difference of 11%).
- Women would have improved access to healthcare services (69% cf. 75%; a relative difference of 9%).

What would achieving gender equality look like?

Figure 4: Opinions about the positive impacts of achieving gender equality (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents agreeing)

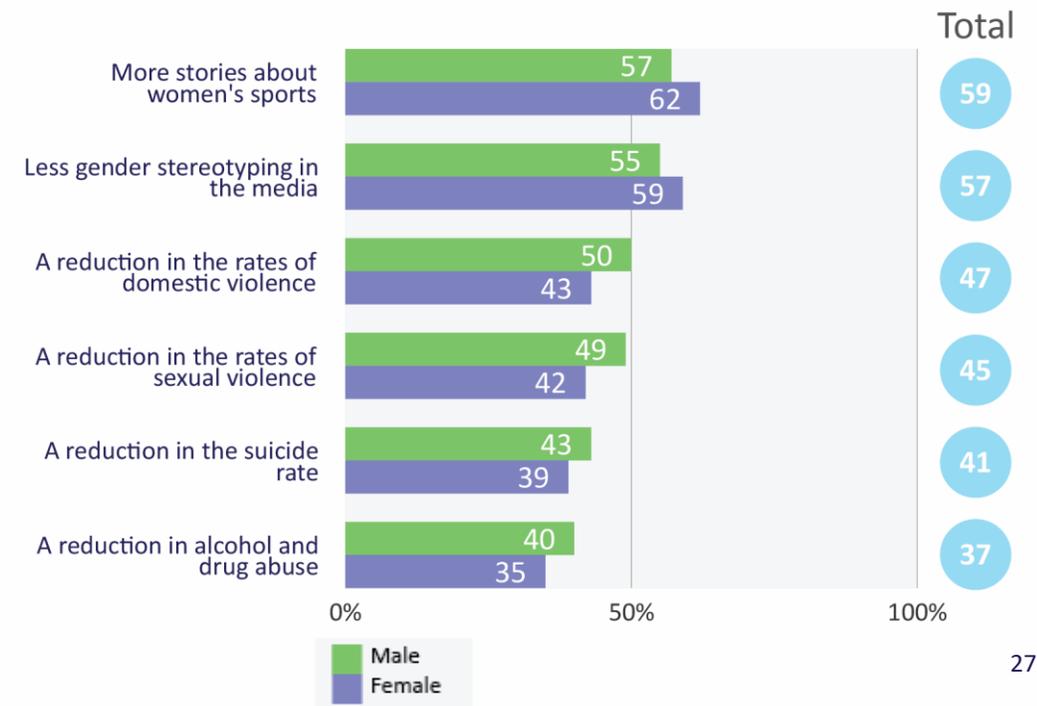


Male and female respondents also had different opinions when asked what some of Aotearoa New Zealand’s key social metrics would look like if gender equality was achieved

Interestingly, male respondents were more likely to agree than female respondents with most aspects. For example (these are in descending order, with those with the largest relative differences first):

- A reduction in the rates of sexual violence (49% of male respondents agreed with this compared with 42% of female respondents; a relative difference of 17%).
- A reduction in the rates of domestic violence (50% cf. 43%; a relative difference of 16%).
- A reduction in alcohol and drug abuse (40% cf. 35%; a relative difference of 14%).

Figure 5: Opinions about the impact of achieving gender equality on social metrics (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents agreeing)



Male respondents were **less likely** to agree that there would be, 'more stories about women's sports' (57% compared with 62% of female respondents; a relative difference of 9%).

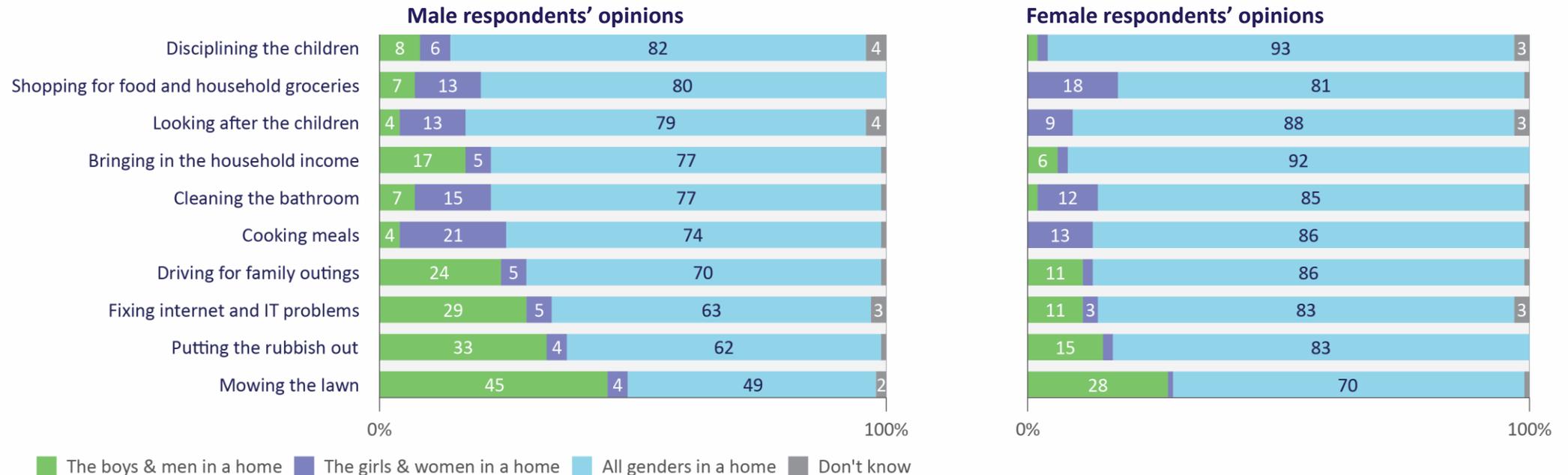
Do New Zealanders have particular opinions about the genders?



In general, all respondents considered all activities to be suited to both males and females.

However, **male respondents** were **less likely** to state this than female respondents, and **more likely** to identify some activities as being **more suited** to males or females.

Figure 6: Opinions about household chores being suited to genders



For example, **male respondents** were **more likely** to identify the following activities as better suited to **females**:

- Cooking meals (21% of male respondents considered this to be better suited to females compared with 13% of female respondents).
- Looking after children (13% cf. 9%).

Male respondents were also **more likely** to identify the following activities as better suited to **males** (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

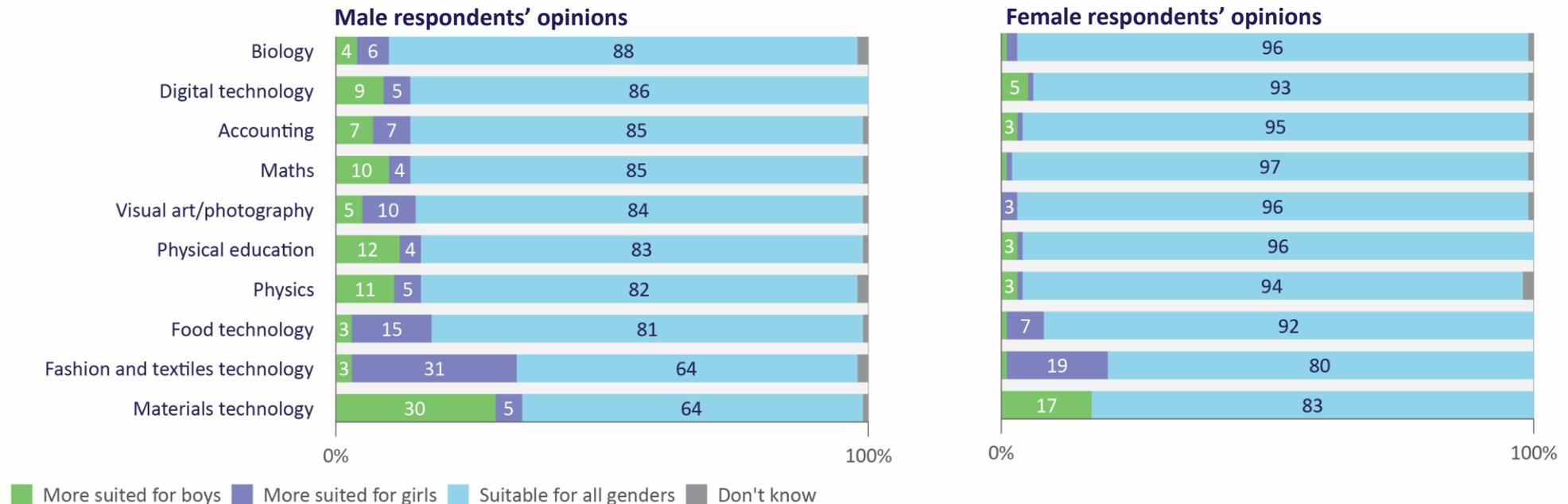
- Disciplining the children (8% of male respondents considered this to be better suited to males compared with 2% of female respondents; a relative difference of 300%).
- Bringing in the household income (17% cf. 6%; a relative difference of 183%).
- Fixing internet and IT problems (29% cf. 11%; a relative difference of 164%).
- Putting the rubbish out (33% cf. 15%; a relative difference of 120%).
- Driving for family outings (24% cf. 11%; a relative difference of 118%).
- Mowing the lawn (45% cf. 28%; a relative difference of 61%).



In general, all respondents considered all school subjects to be suited to both male and female students

However, **male respondents** were again **less likely** to state this than female respondents, and **more likely** to identify some subjects as being **more suited** to male or female students.

Figure 7: Opinions about the suitability of school subjects for all genders



For example, **male respondents** were **more likely** to identify the following subjects as better suited to **female students** (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- Accounting (7% of male respondents considered this subject to be better suited to female students compared with 1% of male respondents; a relative difference of 600%).
- Visual art/Photography (10% cf. 3%; a relative difference of 233%).
- Food technology (15% cf. 7%; a relative difference of 114%).
- Fashion and textiles technology (31% cf. 19%; a relative difference of 63%).

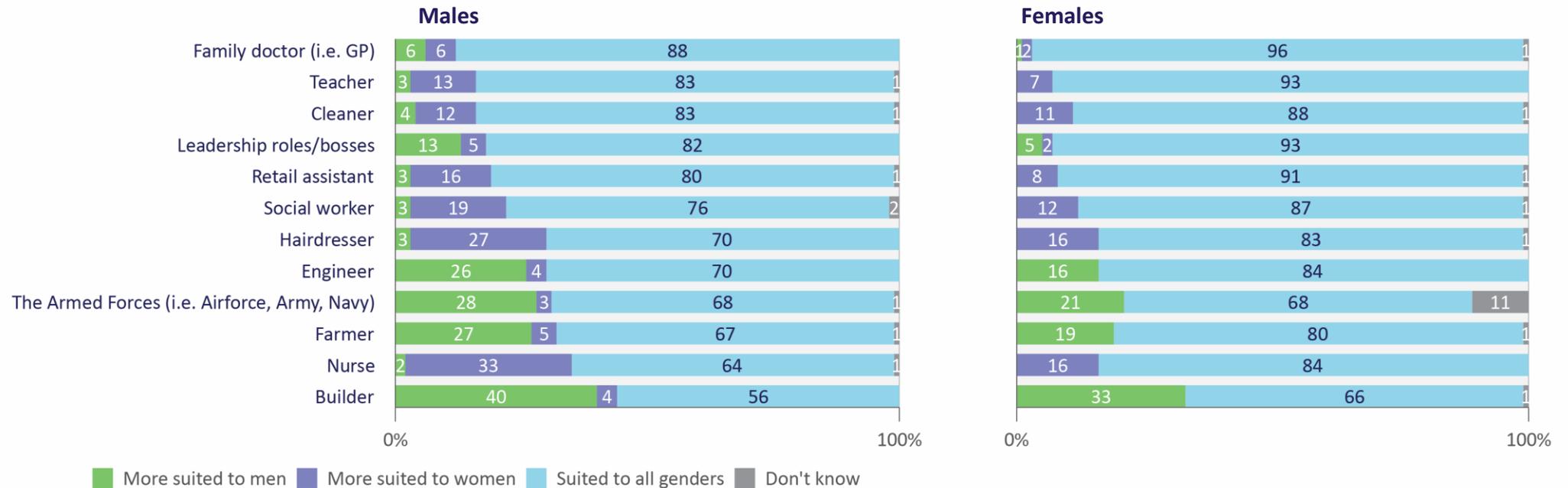
Male respondents were also **more likely** to identify the following subjects as better suited to **male students** (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- Maths (10% cf. 1%). (10% of male respondents considered this subject to be better suited to male students compared with 1% of female respondents; a relative difference of 900%).
- Physics (11% cf. 3%; a relative difference of 267%).
- Physical education (12% cf. 3% a relative difference of 233%).
- Materials technology (metal work/woodwork) (30% cf. 17%; a relative difference of 76%).

In general, all respondents considered all occupations to be suited to both males and females

However, **male respondents** were **less likely** to state this compared with female respondents, and **more likely** to identify some occupations as being more suited to males or females.

Figure 8: Opinions about jobs and roles being suited to all genders



For example, **male respondents** were **more likely** to identify the following occupations as better suited to **females** (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- Nurse (33% of male respondents considered this to be better suited to females compared with 16% of female respondents; a relative difference of 106%).
- Teacher (13% cf. 7%; a relative difference of 86%).
- Hairdresser (27% cf. 16%; a relative difference of 69%).
- Social worker (19% cf. 12%; a relative difference of 58%).
- Retail assistant (16% cf. 8%; a relative difference of 100%).

Male respondents were also **more likely** to identify the following occupations as better suited to **males** (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- Leadership roles/bosses (13% of male respondents considered this to be better suited to males compared with 5% of female respondents; a relative difference of 160%).
- Engineer (26% cf. 16%; a relative difference of 63%).
- Farmer (27% cf. 19%; a relative difference of 42%).
- The Armed Forces (28% cf. 21%; a relative difference of 33%).
- Builder (40% cf. 33%; a relative difference of 30%).

In general, all respondents considered all personal characteristics to be important to both males and females, or not necessarily important to any gender

However, **male respondents** were again **less likely** to state this compared with female respondents, and more likely to identify some characteristics as being more important to males or females.

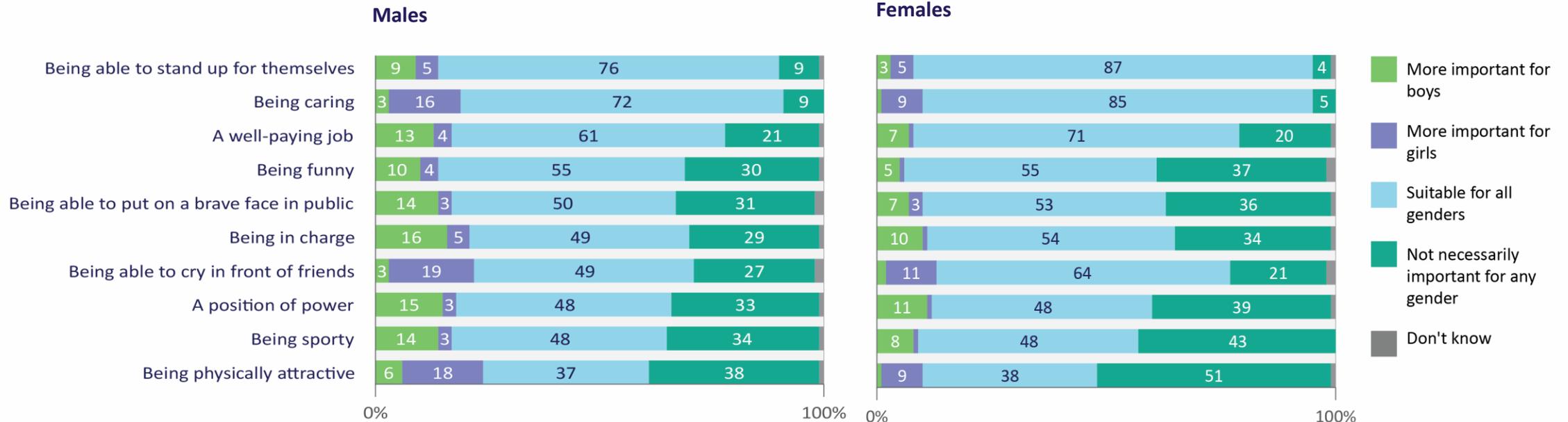
For example, **male respondents** were **more likely** to identify the following characteristics as more important for **females** (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- Being physically attractive (18% of male respondents considered this to be important for females compared with 9% of female respondents; a relative difference of 100%).
- Being caring (16% cf. 9%; a relative difference of 78%).
- Being able to cry in front of friends (19% cf. 11%; a relative difference of 73%).

Male respondents were also **more likely** to identify the following characteristics as more important for **males** (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- Being able to stand up for themselves (9% of male respondents considered this to be a more important characteristic for males compared with 3% of female respondents; a relative difference of 200%).
- Being able to put a brave face on in public (14% cf. 7%; a relative difference of 100%).
- Being funny (10% cf. 5%; a relative difference of 100%).
- A well-paying job (13% cf. 7%; a relative difference of 86%).
- Being sporty (14% cf. 8%; a relative difference of 75%).
- Being in charge (16% cf. 10%; a relative difference of 60%).

Figure 9: Opinions about the importance of personal attributes to all genders



In general, all respondents shared the same views in terms of social norms

However, **male respondents** were again **less likely** to agree than female respondents with all social norms.

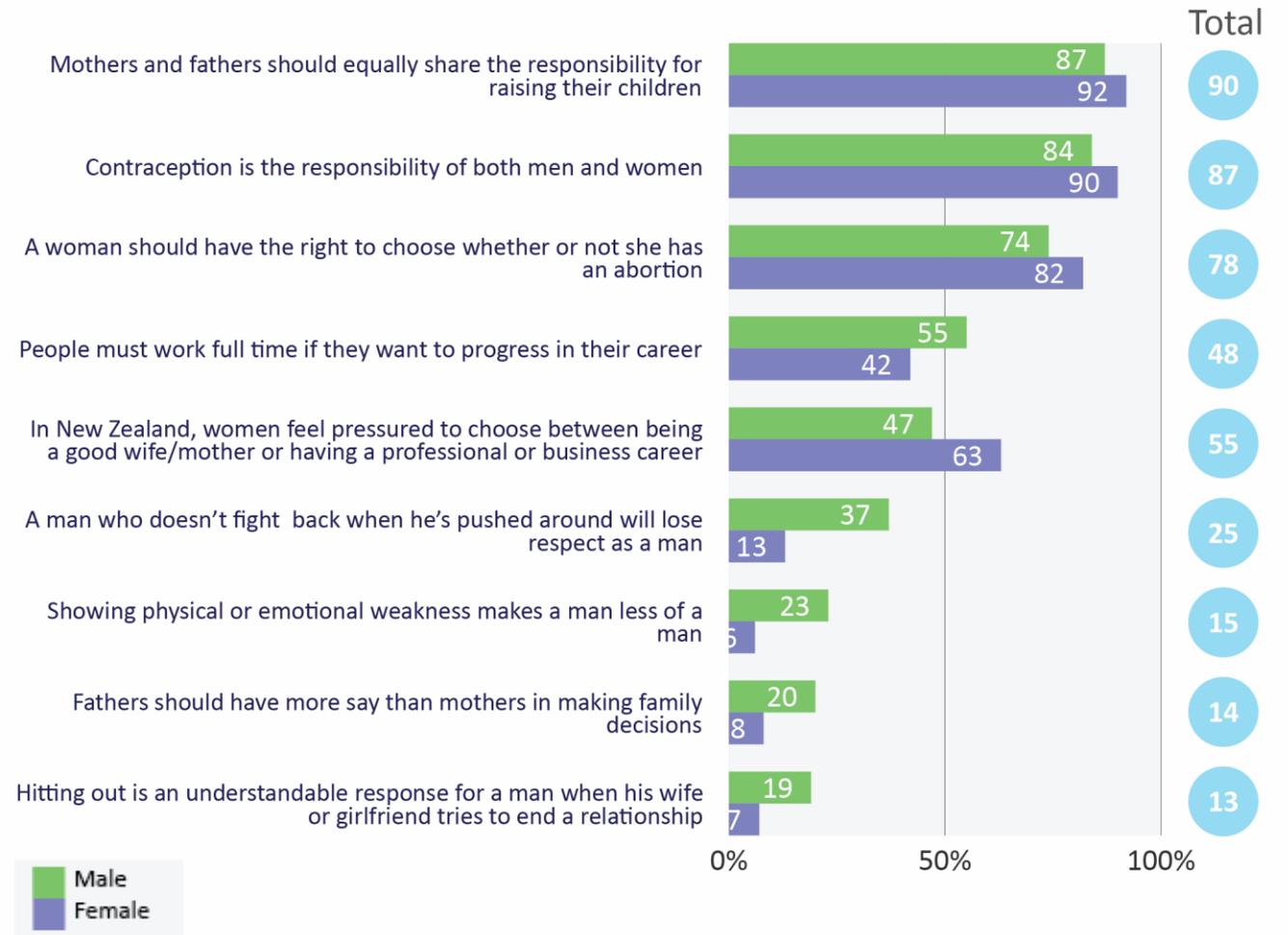
For example, **male respondents** were **more likely** to agree with the following compared with **female respondents** (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- Showing physical or emotional weakness makes a man less of a man (23% of male respondents agreed with this compared with 6% of female respondents; a relative difference of 283%).
- A man who doesn't fight back when he's pushed around will lose respect as a man (37% cf. 13%; a relative difference of 185%).
- Hitting out is an understandable response for a man when his wife or girlfriend tries to end a relationship (19% cf. 7%; a relative difference of 171%).
- Fathers should have more say than mothers in making family decision (20% cf. 8%; a relative difference of 50%).
- People must work full time if they want to progress in their career (55% cf. 42%; a relative difference of 31%).

In contrast, **male respondents** were **less likely** to agree with the following compared with **female respondents** (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- A woman should have the right to choose whether or not she has an abortion (74% of male respondents agreed with this compared with 82% of female respondents; a relative difference of 11%).
- Contraception is the responsibility of both men and women (84% cf. 90%; a relative difference of 7%).
- Mothers and fathers should equally share the responsibility for raising their children (87% cf. 92%; a relative difference of 6%).

Figure 10: Agreement with statements about New Zealand society’s expectations of men and women (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents agreeing)



In general, all respondents shared the same views in terms of what girls and boys could and could not do

However, **male respondents** were **less likely** to agree than female respondents on some aspects.

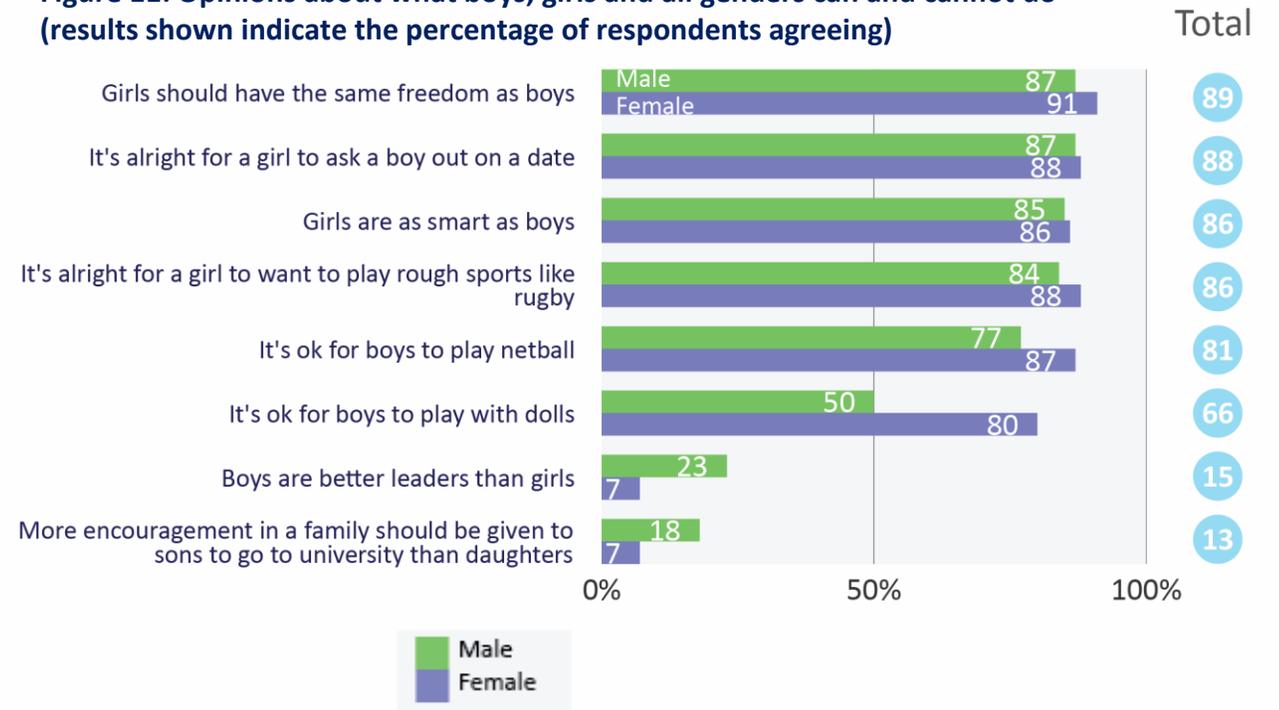
For example, **male respondents** were **less likely** to **agree** with the following compared with **female respondents** (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- It's ok for boys to play with dolls (50% of male respondents agreed with this compared with 80% of female respondents; a relative difference of 60%).
- It's ok for boys to play netball (77% cf. 87%; a relative difference of 13%).
- Girls should have the same freedom as boys (87% cf. 91%; a relative difference of 5%).
- It's alright for a girl to want to play rough sports like rugby (84% cf. 88%; a relative difference of 5%).

In addition, **male respondents** were also **more likely to agree** with the following (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- Boys are better leaders than girls (23% of male respondents agreed with this compared with 7% of female respondents; a relative difference of 229%).
- More encouragement in a family should be given to sons to go to university than daughters (18% cf. 7%; a relative difference of 157%).

Figure 11: Opinions about what boys, girls and all genders can and cannot do (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents agreeing)

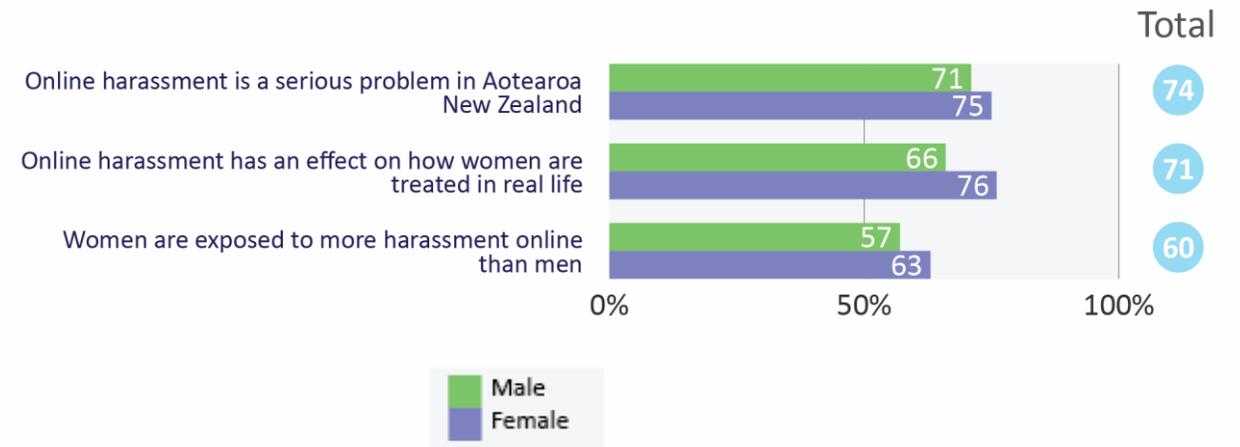


In general, all respondents shared the same views in terms of online harassment (including social media)

Although most male and female respondents agreed that, ‘online harassment is a serious problem’ (74% agreed overall), fewer agreed that, ‘women are exposed to more harassment online than men’ (60%).

However, **male respondents were less likely to agree** that, ‘online harassment has an effect on how women are treated in real life’ (66% of male respondents compared with 76% of female respondents). They were also less likely to agree that women more than men are exposed to online harassment (63% of male respondents compared with 57% of female respondents).

Figure 12: Opinions about online harassment (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents agreeing)

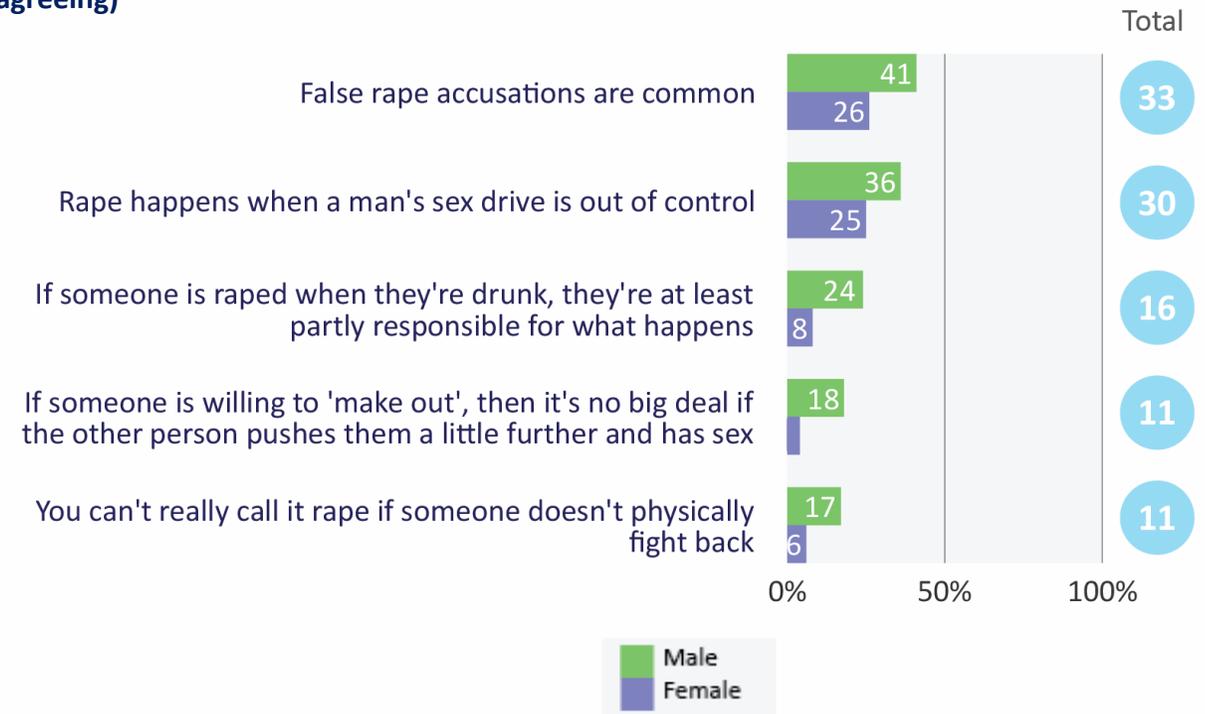


Male respondents were more likely to agree than female respondents about rape myths and stories

For example, male respondents were more likely to agree with the following compared with female respondents (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

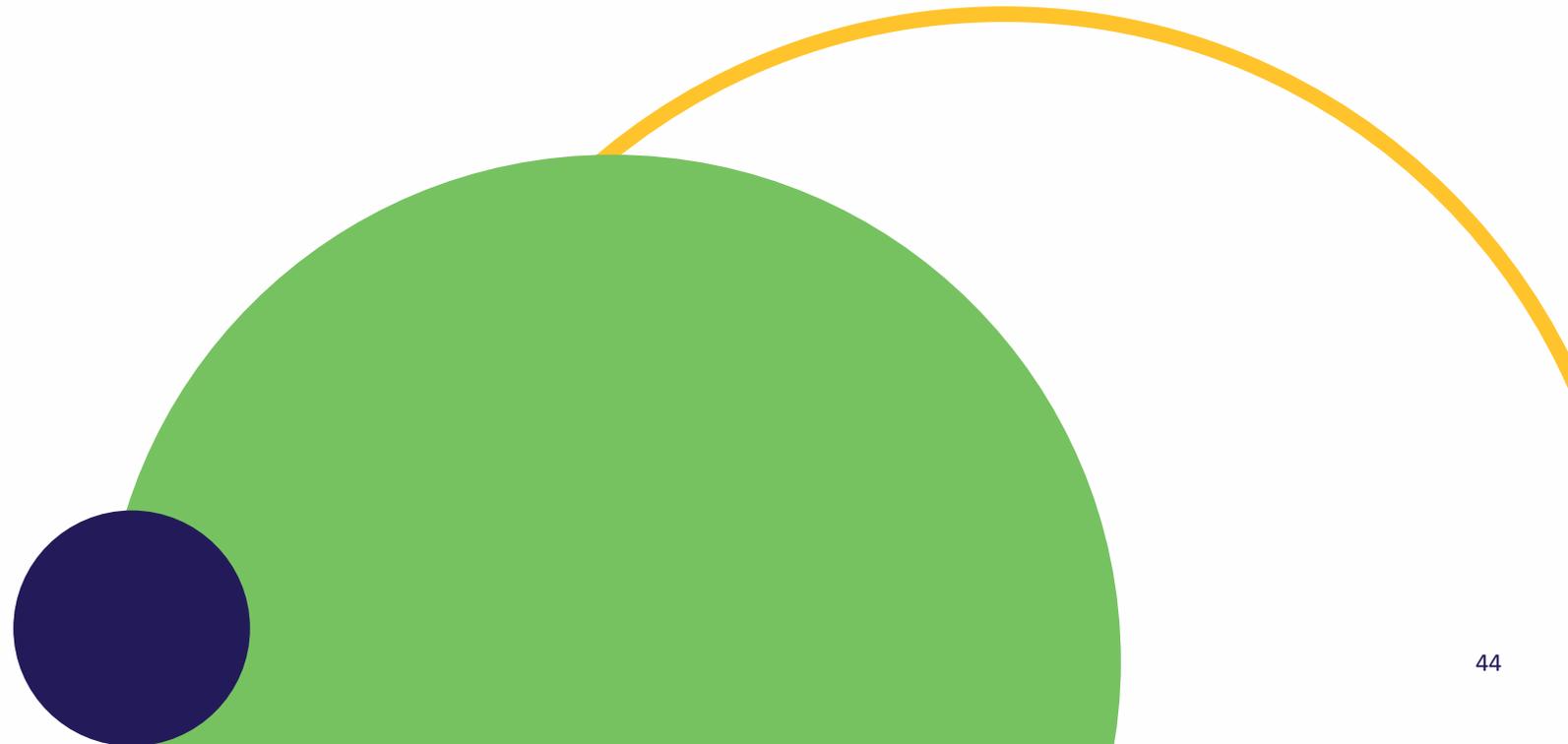
- If someone is willing to 'make out', then it's no big deal if the other person pushes them a little further and has sex (18% of male respondents agreed with this compared with 4% of female respondents; a relative difference of 350%).
- If someone is raped when they're drunk, they're at least partly responsible for what happens (24% cf. 8%; a relative difference of 200%).
- False rape accusations are common (41% cf. 26%).
- Rape happens when a man's sex drive is out of control (36% cf. 25%; a relative difference of 44%).

Figure 13: Agreement-disagreement with statements relating to Aotearoa New Zealand society's opinions about rape myths (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents agreeing)



Male respondents were also **less likely** to **disagree** with the following:

- You can't really call it rape if someone doesn't physically fight back (74% of male respondents disagreed with this compared with 90% of female respondents).



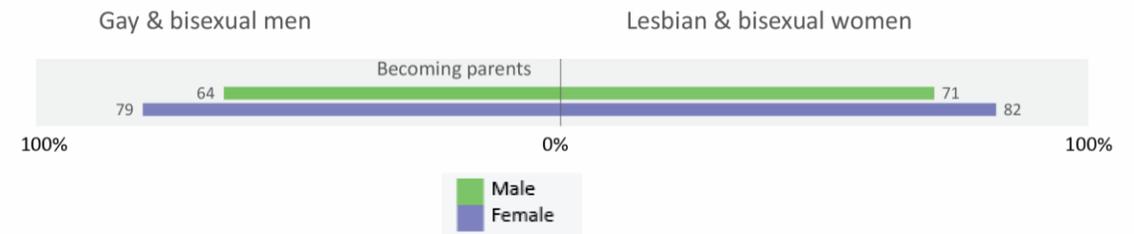
Do New Zealanders have particular opinions about gender diversity?



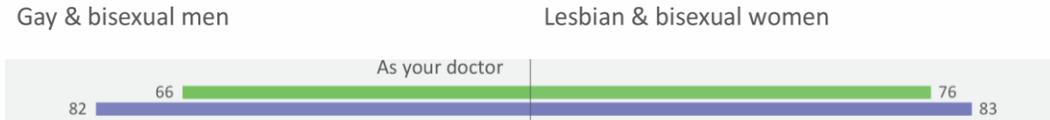
Male and female respondents had different levels of comfort with gay and bisexual men, and lesbian and bisexual women, in certain situations

However, **male respondents** were **less likely** to be comfortable than female respondents regarding **all** situations. The following comparisons are indicative of the extent to which male respondents would be comfortable with gay and bisexual men in various situations compared with the extent to which women respondents would be comfortable with lesbian and bisexual women in the same situations (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

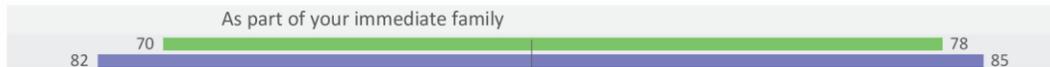
- Becoming parents (64% of male respondents stated they would be comfortable with a gay or bisexual man in this situation compared with 82% of female respondents who stated they would be comfortable with a lesbian or bisexual women in the same situation; a relative difference of 27%).



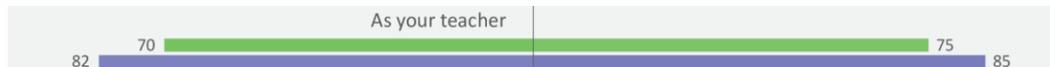
- As your doctor (66% cf. 83%; a relative difference of 26%).



- Part of your immed. family (70% cf. 85%; rel. diff. 21%).



- As your teacher (70% cf. 85%; rel. diff. 21%).



- As PM of New Zealand (71% cf. 83%; rel. diff. 17%).

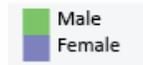
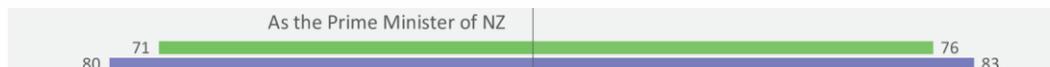
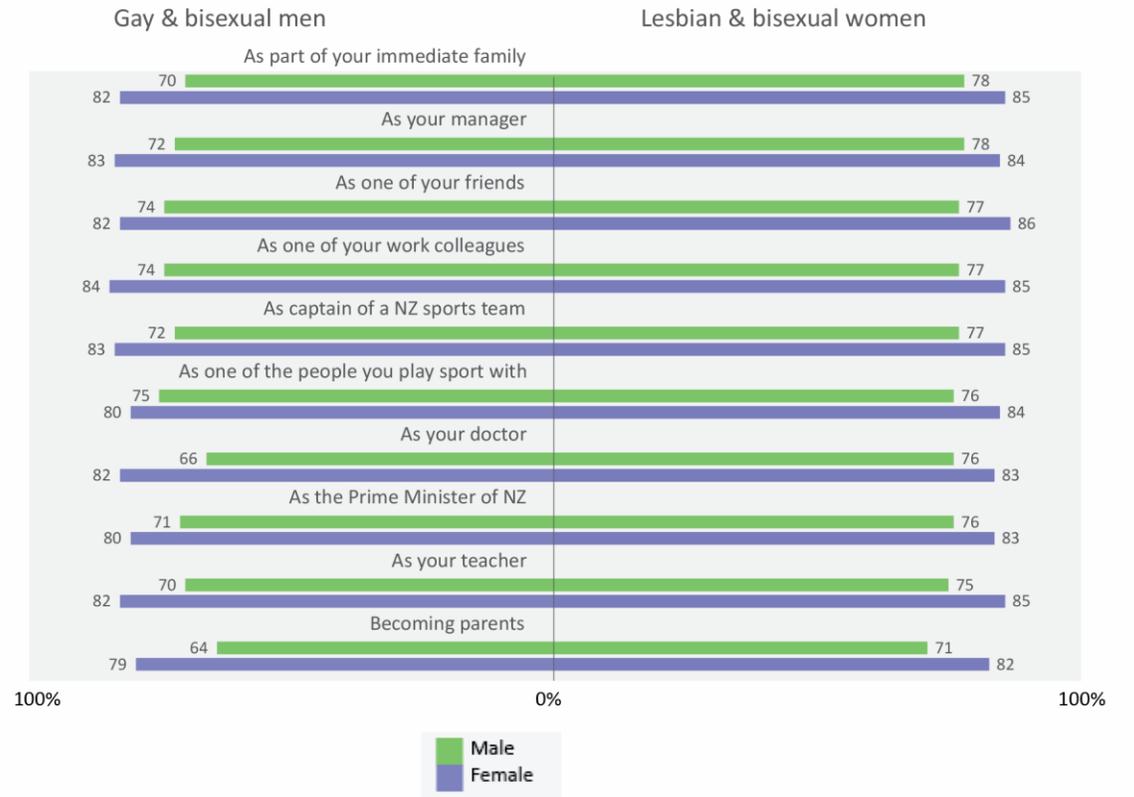


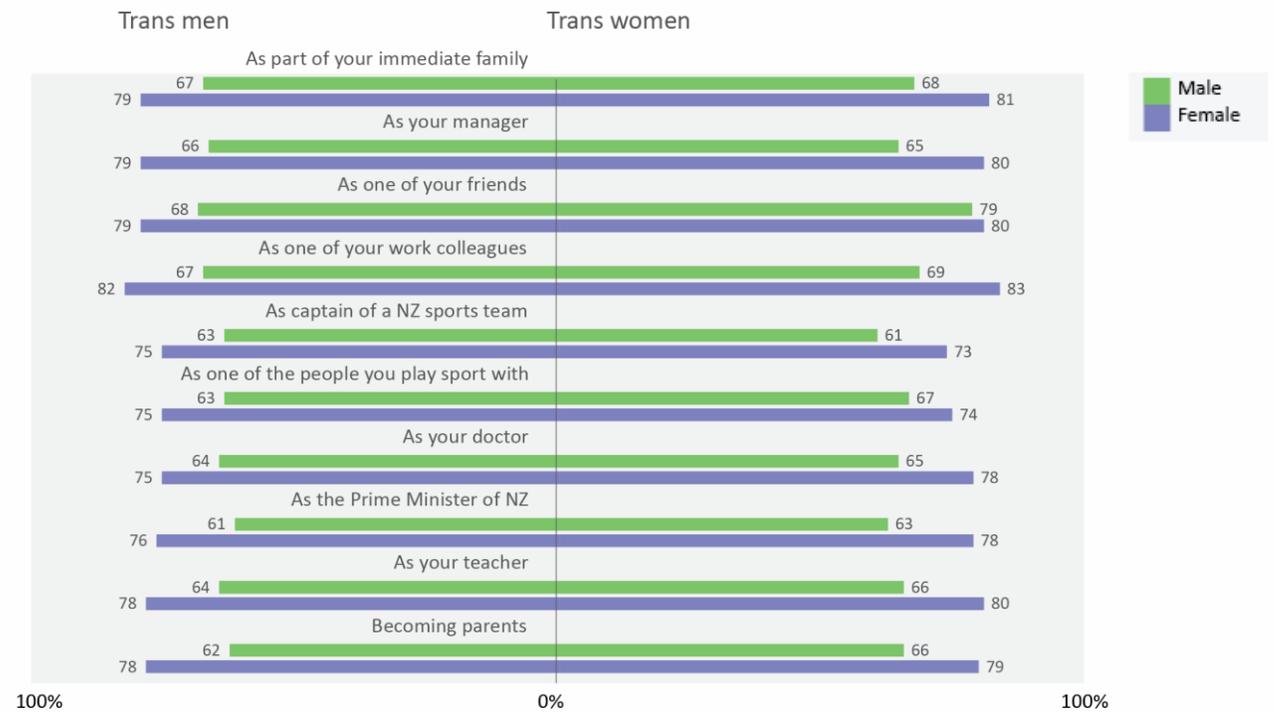
Figure 14: Levels of acceptance of gender and sexually diverse people (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents indicating they would be comfortable in each situation)



Male and female respondents had different levels of comfort with trans men, and trans women, in the same situations

However, male respondents were less likely to be comfortable than female respondents in regard to all situations.

Figure 15: Levels of acceptance of gender and sexually diverse people (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents indicating they would be comfortable in each situation)



The following comparisons between **male and female respondents** are indicative of the extent to which male respondents would be comfortable with trans men in various situations compared with the extent to which female respondents would be comfortable with trans women in the same situations (these are in descending order, with those with the largest **relative differences** first):

- As Prime Minister of New Zealand (61% of male respondents stated they would be comfortable with a trans man in this situation compared with 78% of female respondents; relative difference of 28%).
- Becoming parents (62% cf. 79%; a relative difference of 27%).
- As your teacher (64% cf. 80%; a relative difference of 25%).
- As one of your work colleagues (67% cf. 83%; a relative difference of 24%).
- As your doctor (64% cf. 78%; a relative difference of 22%).
- Part of your immediate family (67% cf. 81%; a relative difference of 21%).
- As your manager (66% cf. 80%; a relative difference of 21%).
- As one of your friends (68% cf. 80%; a relative difference of 18%).
- As one of the people you play sport with (63% cf. 74%; a relative difference of 17%).
- A captain of a New Zealand sports team (63% cf. 73%); a relative difference of 16%.

‘Women generally’ were most frequently identified as being disadvantaged by ‘gender equality’

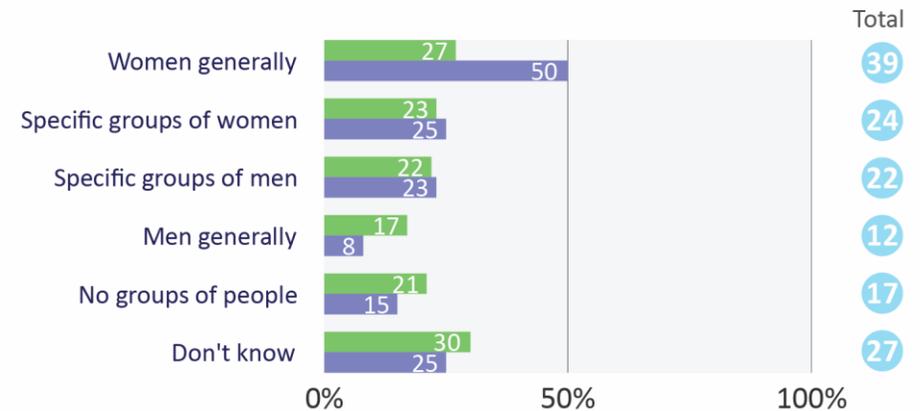
When respondents were asked which specific groups of the population were disadvantaged by gender inequality in Aotearoa New Zealand, 17% stated no groups were disadvantaged and another 27% said they ‘didn’t know’. This is a total of 44%.

Over one-third (39%) identified ‘women generally’ as being disadvantaged; three times as many as ‘men generally’ (12%). Specific groups of women were also mentioned; most frequently, lesbian women, trans gender women and women of colour.

There were significant differences by male and female respondents:

- Twenty-seven percent of male respondents identified ‘women generally’ as being disadvantaged by gender

Figure 16: Opinions about groups in Aotearoa New Zealand society that are disadvantaged by gender inequality (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents indicating they would be comfortable in each situation)



inequality, but this was about one-half less than female respondents (50%).

- Seventeen percent of male respondents identified ‘men generally’ as being disadvantaged, twice as many as female respondents (8%).

Most respondents indicated that children should be taught lessons in schools and kura about ‘healthy relationships’, ‘gender diversity’ and ‘sexual diversity’

However, roughly one in every five indicated that gender diversity (21%) and sexual diversity (19%) should not be taught, regardless of age. Another 10% or so ‘didn’t know’ in either case. This compares with 7% of respondents indicating that ‘healthy relationships’ should not be taught and 6% not knowing.

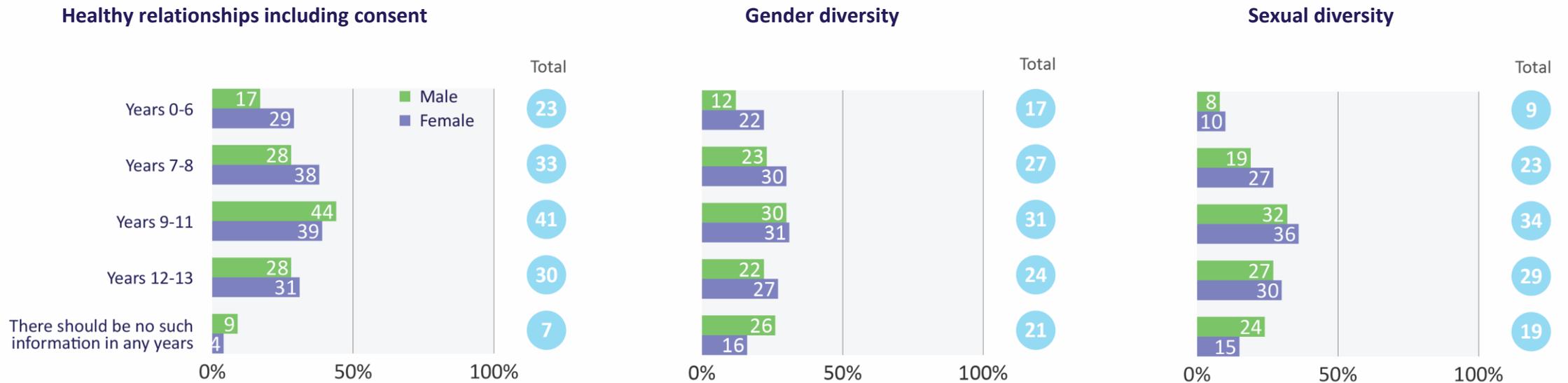
Over one-half of all respondents (56%) indicated that lessons on ‘healthy relationships’ should commence during the primary school years (Years 0-8) and 44% on ‘gender diversity’. A significantly lower percentage (32%) indicated that lessons on ‘sexual diversity’ should commence in these early years of school.

Male respondents were more conservative in their views than female respondents. For example:

- In terms of lessons on ‘healthy relationships’, 45% of male respondents indicated that these should commence in the primary school years, compared with 67% of female respondents.

- In terms of lessons on ‘gender diversity’ (35% cf. 52%).
- In terms of lessons on ‘sexual diversity’ (27% cf. 37%).

Figure 17: Opinions about which age group to commence teaching healthy relationships (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents indicating at each age group)



Section 2: This year's results compared with 2019 and 2021 results



About this section

In this section, we provide this year's results to all questions and where possible, compare them with the results to the same questions in 2019 and 2021.

In all three of the most recent survey years (i.e. 2019, 2021 and 2023), most respondents have agreed that gender equality is a fundamental right

In statistical terms, this percentage has **not** changed significantly, remaining at 79-81%.

However, across the same period, the percentage disagreeing has **increased**, although this is only currently at 6%. This increase has come from the percentage of respondents giving a neutral response (i.e., neither agreeing nor disagreeing), which has **decreased** from 14% in 2019 to 8% in 2023.

Table 1: Agreement-disagreement that gender equality is a fundamental right

	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,276 %
Unweighted base =			
Agree	81	79	79
Neutral	8	10	14
Disagree	6	6	3
Don't know	4	5	4

Note: Total may not add to 100 percent exactly due to rounding.

Across the five years covered by the three most recent surveys, the percentage of respondents agreeing that gender equality has ‘for the most part been achieved’ has increased

This **increase**, from 42% in 2019 to 48% in 2023, is matched by a **decrease** across the same period in the percentage disagreeing with this proposition; from 29% in 2019 to 24% in 2023. Note, however, that the percentage disagreeing increased significantly in 2021 to 32%.

Table 2: Agreement-disagreement that gender equality has been achieved for the most part in Aotearoa New Zealand

Unweighted base =	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,276 %
Agree	▲ 48	40	42
Neutral	19	20	22
Disagree	▼ 24	32	29
Don't know	8	8	6

Note: Total may not add to 100 percent exactly due to rounding.

A comparison between the results for 2019 and 2023 points to the fact that there is a general belief that Aotearoa New Zealand is making good progress in achieving gender equality

Relatively-speaking, the most progress is being seen in the following five areas of our life and society:

- In senior management (from 32% in 2019 to 41% in 2023; a relative increase of 28%).
- In advertising (from 38% in 2019 to 48% in 2023; a relative increase of 26%).
- In the workplace (from 41% in 2019 to 49% in 2023; a relative increase of 20%).
- In sports (from 43% in 2019 to 51% in 2023; a relative increase of 19%).

Table 3: Opinions about the progress being made in achieving gender equality

Unweighted base =	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,276 %
In Parliament	▲ 60	62	56
In the health system	▲ 55	54	50
In the education system	▲ 54	54	48
In mass media	53	55	50
In sports	▲ 51	52	43

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

Note: Percentage rating each area with a 5, 6 or 7, indicating that New Zealand is doing well in terms of achieving gender equality in this area.

- The justice system (from 37% in 2019 to 44% in 2023; a relative increase of 19%).

Table 3: Opinions about the progress being made in achieving gender equality (continued)

Unweighted base =	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,276 %
In the home	▲ 50	51	45
In the workplace	▲ 49	48	41
In advertising	▲ 48	45	38
In the justice system	▲ 44	45	37
In the welfare system	▲ 43	44	37
In senior management	▲ 41	39	32
In the Armed Forces	38	37	35

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

Note: Percentage rating each area with a 5, 6 or 7, indicating that New Zealand is doing well in terms of achieving gender equality in this area.

Opinions about what Aotearoa New Zealand would look like when gender equality has been achieved have been developing

Comparisons between the 2021 and 2023 surveys are made here because this question used a different response scale in 2019. The most significant differences in relative terms are as follows:

- Women would have improved access to healthcare services (from 54% in 2021 to 72% in 2023; a relative increase of 33%).
- There would be more equal sharing of household chores between men and women (from 63% in 2021 to 84% in 2023; a relative increase of 31%).
- There would be more equal sharing of childcare responsibilities between men and women (from 68% in 2021 to 86% in 2023; a relative increase of 26%).
- Women would have improved access to abortion services (from 54% in 2021 to 68% in 2023; a relative increase of 26%).
- Women would have improved job/career opportunities (from 68% in 2021 to 77% in 2023; a relative increase of 13%).

- New Zealanders would value unpaid work more highly (from 51% in 2021 to 58% in 2023; a relative increase of 16%).
- Women in employment would receive the same pay as men (from 75% in 2021 to 80% in 2023; a relative increase of 7%).

Table 4: Opinions about the positive impacts of achieving gender equality (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents agreeing)

	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %
Unweighted base =		
There would be more equal sharing of childcare responsibilities between men and women	▲ 86	68
There would be more equal sharing of household chores between men and women	▲ 84	63
Women in employment would receive the same pay as men	▲ 80	75
Women would have improved job/career opportunities	▲ 77	68
Women would have improved access to healthcare services	▲ 72	54
There would be more women in senior management positions	69	65
Women would have improved access to abortion services	▲ 68	54
New Zealanders would value unpaid work more highly	▲ 58	51
There would be more women in Parliament	▲ 58	50
There would be less pressure on women to have a certain body shape	54	nm
There would be less pressure on women to be physically attractive	53	nm

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

Note: Percentage rating each statement with a 4 or 5, indicating agreement with the statement..

Opinions about what Aotearoa New Zealand would look like when gender equality has been achieved can be seen in opinions about a reduction in some negative social indicators

In the two years between 2021 and 2023, significantly more respondents have noted that there would be:

- A reduction in the suicide rate (from 32% in 2021 to 41% in 2023; a relative increase of 28%).
- More stories about women’s sports (from 51% in 2021 to 59% in 2023; a relative increase of 16%).
- A reduction in the rates of sexual violence (from 39% in 2021 to 45% in 2023; a relative increase of 15%).
- A reduction in the rates of domestic violence (from 42% in 2021 to 47% in 2023; a relative increase of 12%).

Table 5: Opinions about the impact of achieving gender equality on negative consequences (results shown indicate the percentage of respondents agreeing)

	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %
Unweighted base =		
More stories about women’s sports	59	51
Less gender stereotyping in the media	57	54
A reduction in the rates of domestic violence	▲ 47	42
A reduction in the rates of sexual violence	▲ 45	39
A reduction in the suicide rate	▲ 41	32
A reduction in alcohol and drug abuse	37	33

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

Note: Percentage rating each statement with a 4 or 5, indicating agreement with the statement..

Opinions about the suitability of household tasks for the genders remain unchanged

A question about who within a household should be responsible for a range of household tasks was asked in this year's survey and in 2019. A comparison of the results between these two years shows that respondents' opinions have **not** changed.

In both years, all tasks were considered to be suitable for all genders, from 59% for mowing the lawns to 88% for looking after the children (2023 figures). However, where there was a difference of opinion – either in favour of the task being more suited to men or more suited to women – in most cases, the percentage thinking this has also not changed.

For example:

- Mowing the lawn (in 2019 34% considered this to be **more suited to men** and in 2023 this is 36%).
- Putting the rubbish out (in 2019 21% considered this to be **more suited to men** and in 2023 this is 24%).
- Cooking meals (in 2019 12% considered this to be **more suited to women** and in 2023 this is 17% - a significant difference).
- Shopping for food and household groceries (in 2019, 14% considered this to be **more suited to women** and in 2023, this is 15%).

Table 6: Opinions about household chores being suited to all genders

	2023 More suited to men & boys 1,250 %	2023 More suited to women & girls 1,250 %	2023 Suited to all genders 1,250 %	2019 More suited to men & boys 1,276 %	2019 More suited to women & girls 1,276 %	2019 Suited to all genders 1,276 %
Unweighted base =						
Looking after the children	2	11	88	1	8	89
Disciplining the children	5	4	88	3	4	90
Bringing in the household income	11	3	84	10	2	87
Shopping for food and household groceries	4	15	81	2	14	83
Cleaning the bathroom	4	14	81	2	13	83
Cooking meals	2	▲ 17	80	1	12	86
Driving for family outings	18	4	78	15	2	82
Putting the rubbish out	24	2	73	21	3	75
Fixing internet and IT problems	20	4	73	19	3	74
Mowing the lawn	36	3	59	34	2	62

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

Opinions about the suitability of school subjects for the genders also remain unchanged

A question about the suitability of school subjects for the genders was asked in this year's survey and in 2019. A comparison of the results between these two years shows that respondents' opinions have **not** changed.

In both years, all subjects were considered to be suitable for all genders, from 72% for fashion and textile technology to 90% for accounting (2023 figures). However, where there was a difference of opinion – in favour of the subject being more suited to boys or more suited to girls – in most cases, the percentage thinking this has **not** changed.

For example:

- Metal and wood work (in 2019 24% considered this to be **more suited to boys** and in 2023 this is 24%).
- Fashion and textile technology (in 2019 24% considered this to be **more suited to girls** and in 2023 this is 25%).

Table 7: Opinions about the suitability of school subjects for all genders

	2023 More suitable for boys 1,250 %	2023 More suitable for girls 1,250 %	2023 Suitable for all genders 1,250 %	2019 More suitable for boys 1,276 %	2019 More suitable for girls 1,276 %	2019 Suitable for all genders 1,276 %
Unweighted base =						
Accounting	5	4	90	3	4	91
Biology	3	4	92	2	4	91
Maths	5	3	91	4	2	92
Visual art/ photography	3	7	90	1	6	91
Digital technology	7	3	90	6	2	91
Physics	7	3	88	8	2	88
Food technology	2	11	86	1	8	89
Physical education	7	2	89	6	1	90
Materials technology (metal work/wood work)	24	3	73	24	2	73
Fashion and textiles technology	2	25	72	1	24	73

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

Respondents' opinions about the suitability of occupations have also remained unchanged

Opinions about the suitability of certain occupations for all genders have also **remained unchanged** in the six years between 2019 and 2023:

- A person's family doctor and people in leadership roles (bosses) have remained as the top two occupations that most respondents considered suitable for all genders.
- While other occupations were also considered suitable for all genders by most respondents, opinion about the extent to which they are suitable for males and/or females has remained unchanged. For example:
 - The occupations most suitable for **males** are: builder (41% in 2019 and 36% in 2023); the Armed Forces (22% in 2019 and 24% in 2023) and farmer (25% in 2019 and 23% in 2023)
 - The occupations most suitable for **females** are: hairdresser (22% in 2019 and 21% in 2023); social worker (13% in 2019 and 15% in 2023), retail assistant (11% in 2019 and 12% in 2023) and cleaner (11% in 2019 and 12% in 2023).

Table 8: Opinions about jobs and roles being suited to all genders

Unweighted base =	2023 More suited to men 1,250 %	2023 More suited to women 1,250 %	2023 Suited to all genders 1,250 %	2021 More suited to men 1,250 %	2021 More suited to women 1,250 %	2021 Suited to all genders 1,250 %	2019 More suited to men 1276 %	2019 More suited to women 1276 %	2019 Suited to all genders 1276 %
Family doctor (i.e. GP)	4	4	92	5	6	88	3	3	94
Teacher	2	10	88	2	12	84	1	8	89
Leadership roles/bosses	9	3	87	9	5	85	6	2	91
Retail assistant	2	12	86	3	15	81	2	11	86
Cleaner	2	12	86	3	15	80	1	11	86
Social worker	2	15	82	3	16	80	1	13	84
Hairdresser	1	21	77	2	22	74	1	22	76
Engineer	21	2	77	24	3	71	20	1	78
Nurse	1	24	74	2	26	70	1	23	75
Farmer	23	3	74	28	2	68	25	1	73
The Armed Forces (i.e. Airforce, Army, Navy)	24	2	73	27	3	68	22	1	75
Builder	36	2	61	40	1	58	41	1	57

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

‘Being able to stand up for themselves’ and ‘being caring’ are now seen as being more important to all genders

Three-quarters or more of all respondents identified two attributes as being important to all genders; namely, ‘being able to stand up for themselves’ (82% of respondents considered this was important to all genders) and ‘being caring’ (79%). Significant **increases** have been recorded by both attributes in comparison to 2019 and 2021.

Although all remaining attributes were also considered important to all genders, this was less so. Consequently, they were considered to be relatively more important for men or women. For example, the following attributes were considered to be relatively more important for **men** (these are ordered in terms of relative difference):

- A position of power (13% of respondents considered this attribute to be more important to men in comparison to 3% for women).
- Being in charge (13% cf. 3%).
- Being sporty (11% cf.2%).
- A well-paying job (10% cf.3%).
- Being able to put on a brave face in public (10% cf. 3%).

In comparison, the following attributes were considered to be relatively more important to **women** (these are ordered in terms of relative difference):

- Being able to cry in front of friends (15% of respondents considered this attribute to be more important to women in comparison to 3% for men).
- Being physically attractive (14% cf. 3%).
- Being caring (12% cf.2%).

Table 9: Opinions about the importance of personal attributes to all genders

	2023 More important for men 1,250 %	2023 More important for women 1,250 %	2023 Important to all genders 1,250 %	2023 Not important to any gender 1,250 %
Unweighted base =				
Being able to stand up for themselves	6	5	▲ 81	7
Being caring	2	12	▲ 79	7
A well paying job	10	3	66	20
Being able to cry in front of friends	2	15	▲ 56	24
Being funny	8	2	▲ 55	33
Being in charge	13	3	51	32
Being able to put on a brave face in public	10	3	51	33
A position of power	13	2	▲ 48	36
Being sporty	11	2	48	38
Being physically attractive	3	14	38	44

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

Table 9: Opinions about the importance of personal attributes to all genders (continued)

	2021 More important for men 1,250 %	2021 More important for women 1,250 %	2021 Important to all genders 1,250 %	2021 Not important to any gender 1,250 %	2019 More important for men 1276 %	2019 More important for women 1276 %	2019 Important to all genders 1276 %	2019 Not important to any gender 1276 %
Unweighted base =								
Being able to stand up for themselves	8	8	73	10	8	6	76	8
Being caring	3	17	70	8	1	16	73	9
A well paying job	10	4	65	20	13	1	62	22
Being able to cry in front of friends	4	17	49	26	2	18	45	30
Being funny	8	3	50	36	8	1	51	38
Being in charge	15	3	49	31	16	2	47	33
Being able to put on a brave face in public	13	5	49	30	13	5	48	32
A position of power	15	4	46	33	16	2	43	36
Being sporty	12	3	45	38	14	1	45	38
Being physically attractive	4	17	40	38	2	20	37	39

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

With respect to a woman's right to choose whether or not to have an abortion, respondents' opinions about social norms have not changed between 2019 and 2023

Three-quarters or more of all respondents agreed with three statements about Aotearoa New Zealand's expectations of men and women:

- Mothers and fathers should equally share the responsibility for raising their children (90%).
- Contraception is the responsibility of both men and women (87%).
- A woman should have the right to choose whether or not she has an abortion (78%).

With the exception of the third statement (which has increased), there has been **no** change in the level of agreement between 2019 and 2023. This also applies to all the other statements; for example, about one-half of all respondents continue to agree that:

- In New Zealand, women feel pressured to choose between being a good wife/mother or having a professional or business career (55% agreement).
- People must work full time if they want to progress in their career (48%).

Furthermore, there continue to be reasonable percentages of respondents who believe:

- A man who doesn't fight back when he's pushed around will lose respect as a man (25%).
- Showing physical or emotional weakness makes a man less of a man (15%).
- Fathers should have more say than mothers in making family decisions (14%).
- Hitting out is an understandable response for a man when his wife or girlfriend tries to end a relationship (13%).

Table 10: Agreement-disagreement with statements about New Zealand society's expectations of men and women

	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,276 %
Unweighted base =			
Mothers and fathers should equally share the responsibility for raising their children	90	87	89
Contraception is the responsibility of both men and women	87	84	85
A woman should have the right to choose whether or not she has an abortion	▲ 78	74	72
In New Zealand, women feel pressured to choose between being a good wife/mother or having a professional or business career	55	49	54
People must work full time if they want to progress in their career	48	46	48
A man who doesn't fight back when he's pushed around will lose respect as a man	25	27	22
Showing physical or emotional weakness makes a man less of a man	15	18	12
Fathers should have more say than mothers in making family decisions	14	16	10
Hitting out is an understandable response for a man when his wife or girlfriend tries to end a relationship	13	17	9

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

Table 11: Opinions about what boys, girls and all genders can and cannot do

Unweighted base =	2023 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,276 %
Girls should have the same freedom as boys	89	86
It's alright for a girl to ask a boy out on a date	88	84
Girls are as smart as boys	86	84
It's alright for a girl to want to play rough sports like rugby	86	82
It's ok for boys to play netball	81	78
It's ok for boys to play with dolls	66	58
Boys are better leaders than girls	15	10
More encouragement in a family should be given to sons to go to university than daughters	13	9

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

Respondents’ opinions about rape myths and stories have not changed between 2019 and 2023

Agreement with various statements about rape, clearly point to the fact that rape myths continue to be held by some people. Furthermore, the levels of agreement suggest these are **not** decreasing, but possibly trending upwards. For example:

- False rape accusations are common (33% agreement).
- Rape happens when a man’s sex drive is out of control (30%, increased from 25% in 2019).
- If someone is raped when they’re drunk, they’re at least partly responsible for what happens (16%).

Table 12: Agreement-disagreement with statements relating to Aotearoa New Zealand society’s opinions about rape myths

Unweighted base =	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,276 %
False rape accusations are common	33	28	35
Rape happens when a man’s sex drive is out of control	▲ 30	27	25
If someone is raped when they’re drunk, they’re at least partly responsible for what happens	16	16	14
You can’t really call it rape if someone doesn’t physically fight back	11	11	7
If someone is willing to ‘make out’, then it’s no big deal if the other person pushes them a little further and has sex	11	10	9

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

The level of acceptance of gay and bisexual men and lesbian and bisexual women has not changed between 2019 and 2023, but there are significant increases in terms of the acceptance of transgender men and women

About three-quarters of all respondents stated they would be comfortable with gender and sexually diverse people in situations ranging from 'being part of their immediate family' to 'being their manager'. The levels of acceptance of gay and bisexual men and lesbian and bisexual women have **not** changed between 2019 and 2023.

For example, in terms of 'being part of their immediate family':

- 76% stated they would be comfortable with a gay and bisexual man compared with 79% in 2019.
- 81% stated they would be comfortable with a lesbian and bisexual woman compared with 81% in 2019.

In contrast, between 2019 and 2023, there has been a significant **increase** in the percentage of respondents stating they would be comfortable with transgender men, transgender women and non-binary gender people.

For example, in terms of ‘being part of their immediate family’:

- 74% stated they would be comfortable with a transgender man compared with 65% in 2019.
- 75% stated they would be comfortable with a transgender woman compared with 63% in 2019.
- 85% stated they would be comfortable with a non-binary gender person compared with 72% in 2019.

Table 13: Levels of acceptance of gender and sexually diverse people

Unweighted base =	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,250 %
As part of your immediate family			
Gay & bisexual men	76	73	79
Lesbian & bisexual women	81	74	81
Transgender men	▲ 74	59	65
Transgender women	▲ 75	56	63
Non-binary gender people	▲ 85	68	72
As one of your friends			
Gay & bisexual men	78	75	81
Lesbian & bisexual women	82	77	82
Transgender men	▲ 74	60	66
Transgender women	▲ 75	59	64
Non-binary gender people	▲ 86	69	71

Continued

Table 13: Levels of acceptance of gender and sexually diverse people (continued)

	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,250 %
Unweighted base =			
As one of your work colleagues			
Gay & bisexual men	79	75	82
Lesbian & bisexual women	81	77	82
Transgender men	▲ 75	63	69
Transgender women	▲ 77	62	67
Non-binary gender people	▲ 86	69	73
As one of the people you play sport with			
Gay & bisexual men	78	72	78
Lesbian & bisexual women	80	73	80
Transgender men	▲ 70	55	63
Transgender women	▲ 71	55	61
Non-binary gender people	▲ 86	67	70

Continued

Table 13: Levels of acceptance of gender and sexually diverse people (continued)

Unweighted base =	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,250 %
Becoming parents			
Gay & bisexual men	72	68	76
Lesbian & bisexual women	77	72	79
Transgender men	▲ 70	52	63
Transgender women	▲ 73	53	62
Non-binary gender people	▲ 86	68	71
As your doctor			
Gay & bisexual men	75	70	76
Lesbian & bisexual women	80	72	78
Transgender men	▲ 70	53	61
Transgender women	▲ 72	51	59
Non-binary gender people	▲ 85	66	70

Continued

Table 13: Levels of acceptance of gender and sexually diverse people (continued)

	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,250 %
Unweighted base =			
As captain of a NZ sports team			
Gay & bisexual men	78	73	79
Lesbian & bisexual women	81	75	80
Transgender men	▲ 70	52	61
Transgender women	▲ 68	51	59
Non-binary gender people	▲ 86	65	70
As the Prime Minister of NZ			
Gay & bisexual men	76	70	76
Lesbian & bisexual women	80	72	79
Transgender men	▲ 69	55	61
Transgender women	▲ 71	54	61
Non-binary gender people	▲ 87	68	71

Continued

Table 13: Levels of acceptance of gender and sexually diverse people (continued)

Unweighted base =	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,250 %
As your teacher			
Gay & bisexual men	76	73	78
Lesbian & bisexual women	80	75	81
Transgender men	▲ 72	56	62
Transgender women	▲ 74	56	62
Non-binary gender people	▲ 85	68	70
As your manager			
Gay & bisexual men	78	73	80
Lesbian & bisexual women	81	74	81
Transgender men	▲ 73	58	66
Transgender women	▲ 73	57	64
Non-binary gender people	▲ 86	68	70

Continued

‘Women generally’ continue to be the population group that is most frequently identified as being disadvantaged by gender equality

Opinion remains **unchanged** in terms of which groups in the population are disadvantaged by gender inequality.

A similar percentage of respondents this year believed no groups were disadvantaged as in 2019 (17% compared with 16% in 2019) and a similar percentage identified ‘women generally’ most frequently as the group disadvantaged (39% compared with 36% in 2019).

Table 14: Opinions about groups in Aotearoa New Zealand society that are disadvantaged by gender inequality

	2023 Total 1,250 %	2021 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,276 %
Unweighted base =			
Women generally	39	27	36
People with non-binary gender	nm	19	26
Specific groups of women	24	16	20
Specific groups of men	22	15	18
Men generally	12	10	12
No groups of people	17	23	16
Don't know	27	33	28
Total	**	**	**

Note: Total does not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.

There has been a significant shift in opinion in terms of the age at which lessons should be taught about healthy relationships and sexual diversity

In the 4 years between 2019 and 2023, significantly **more** respondents reported that lessons about ‘healthy relationships, including consent’ and ‘gender diversity’ should be taught to younger year groups.

For example, in 2019, 13% of respondents felt that lessons about ‘healthy relationships, including consent’ should be taught to Years 0-6 and this is now almost double at 23%. The results for older age groups also point towards this shift in opinion.

However, whilst this is not the case in terms of ‘gender diversity’, significantly more are now of the opinion that lessons in ‘gender diversity’ should be taught to Years 9-11 than was the case in 2019 (23% in 2019 compared with 31% in 2023). The results for older age groups also point towards this shift in opinion.

A question about ‘sexual diversity’ lessons was not included until this year.

Table 15: Opinion about the age at which subjects should be taught in New Zealand schools/kura

Unweighted base =	2023 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,276 %
Healthy relationships, including consent		
Years 0-6	▲ 23	13
Years 7-8	▲ 33	26
Years 9-11	▲ 41	29
Years 12-13	▲ 30	17
There should be no such information included in any years	7	5
Don't know	6	10
	100	100

Note: Total may not add to 100 percent exactly due to rounding.

Unweighted base =	2023 Total 1,250 %	2019 Total 1,276 %
Gender diversity		
Years 0-6	17	16
Years 7-8	27	23
Years 9-11	▲ 31	23
Years 12-13	▲ 24	15
There should be no such information included in any years	▲ 21	11
Don't know	11	13
	100	100

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