

Eastern Bay of Plenty Economic Development Agency

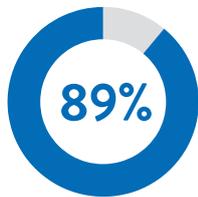
EASTERN BAY OF PLENTY YOUTH SURVEY RESULTS REPORT

JUNE 2021

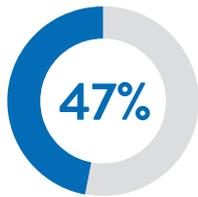
EBOP YOUTH SURVEY 2021 – KEY STATISTICS

370

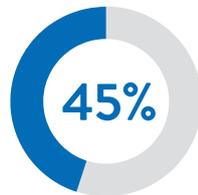
respondents aged 15-19 attending school in the Eastern Bay



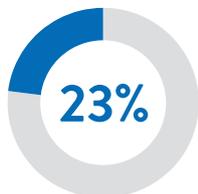
89% said they were somewhat, very or extremely confident in achieving their study/work goals after finishing school



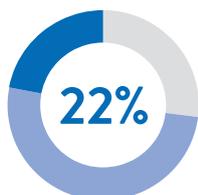
47% said they planned to enrol in a university course after finishing school



45% said they currently had paid work



23% said they had done some form of unpaid work in the last four weeks



22% said there are major barriers to achieving their study/work goals after finishing school – and 51% were unsure

Executive summary

The 2021 Eastern Bay Youth Survey asked school / kura students aged 15-19 about their future plans, current paid or unpaid work, and ideas for improving local youth job opportunities. The survey was completed by more than 370 students, representing around 10% of the population of Eastern Bay young people. The sample size and broadly representative profile means there is a relatively high degree of confidence the results would have been quite similar if every Year 11-13 Eastern Bay student had participated. The sample was under-represented by males and Māori young people.

Key findings include:

- **47% said they planned to enrol in a university course after finishing school**, while a further 15% said they would look for a job in the local area, 12% get an apprenticeship or traineeship, and 10% look for a job somewhere else.
 - Females were almost twice as likely as males to say they planned to enrol in university after finishing school; whereas males were twice as likely to say they planned to look for a job or get an apprenticeship or traineeship.
 - Māori were less likely than European respondents to say they planned to enrol in university after finishing school (45% compared to 56%).
- Respondents said they were **interested in a variety of jobs and career paths**, ranging from drama/science teacher or forensic scientist to youth worker, social worker or venturing into sports and recreation.
- **89% of respondents were somewhat, very or extremely confident in achieving their study/work goals after finishing school.**
 - There was a slight decrease in confidence from Year 11 to Year 12 respondents, but an increase in confidence for Year 13 respondents.
- When asked: **'Are there any major barriers to you achieving your study/work goals after finishing school'**, 22% said yes, 27% said no, and 51% were unsure.
 - The most frequently cited barriers were financial difficulty (12%) and mental health (11%), followed by academic ability (8%), family/whānau responsibilities (8%), and 'where you live' (8%).
 - A range of other barriers were also noted, including ADHD, dyslexia, family separation, hearing, weight, and transport options.
 - Female respondents (31%) were notably more likely than males (17%) to indicate there were any major barriers to achieving their study/work goals after finishing school.
- **45% of respondents said they currently had paid work.**
 - Of those with paid work, 55% said they worked regular hours during term time; 36% worked occasionally (e.g. casual, temporary or odd jobs); and 13% said they worked regular hours during school holidays only.
 - Of those with paid work, 16% worked an average 1-5 hours per week, 25% worked 6-10 hours, 19% worked 11-15 hours, 15% worked 16-20 hours, 9% worked 21-30 hours, 8% worked 40+ hours, and 8% did not specify.
 - Respondents cited a wide range of industries and occupations in which they worked, from retail and office work to 'babysitting', cleaning, food and hospitality, packhouse and farm-related work.
 - Not surprisingly, the percentage of respondents who said they currently have paid work was progressively higher in the older Year levels.

- 48% of female respondents said they currently have paid work compared to 40% of male respondents.
- 53% of European respondents said they currently have paid work compared to 36% of Māori respondents.
- **23% of respondents said they had done some form of unpaid work in the last four weeks.**
 - Unpaid work included 'babysitting', catering for a marae, coaching sports, housework, mowing lawns, volunteer work for various organisations, and other types of unpaid work.
 - Year 12 and 13 respondents were less likely than Year 11 respondents to report having done any unpaid work in the last four weeks.
- The most frequently cited **jobs or industries that respondents said they would like to know more about** were:
 - Health Care and Social Assistance (26%)
 - Education and Training (18%)
 - Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (16%)
 - Construction (16%)
 - Arts and Recreation Services (16%)
 - Respondents also cited a wide range of other jobs or industries of interest.
 - There is a relatively close match between the major employment industries in the Eastern Bay and top four areas of interest by Year 11-13 school students. While arts and recreation services were fifth on the list of interest areas, they are only 16th on the list of major employing industries. Conversely, manufacturing is the second largest employing industry in the Eastern Bay but was only 13th on the list of industries of interest.
- The most **preferred ways to learn about industries, jobs and opportunities** were:
 - Personal experiences (e.g. talking with people, field trips to workplaces, having a work experience/internship) (68%)
 - Internet (e.g. video clips, website, email) (44%)
 - Family experiences (e.g. family workshop, family night) (44%)
 - Social media (e.g. Facebook posts, Instagram) (38%)
 - There were some differences in preferred ways of learning about industries, jobs and opportunities by Year level, school, gender and ethnicity but overall a similar order. This was also the case when this question was asked in 2018.
- Many respondents provided their **ideas to help improve youth employment opportunities in the Eastern Bay**, including (in their own words):
 - *Create courses for young teenagers to keep them out of trouble. Helping and making sure that they're in a good and healthy environment.*
 - *Employers coming into school to maybe talk to someone who wants to get employed*
 - *Give people ideas of what occupation opportunities there are. A lot of people my age have no idea what they are interested in because they have not been introduced to many different opportunities*
 - *Giving us better responsibilities so we as youth can learn from our mistakes and be better people from learning them.*
 - *Have guest speakers come to rural schools more often*
 - *Teach us how to apply for jobs correctly.*
 - *Training course, work experience courses that could offer jobs, apprenticeship*
 - *You only live once so go make your life worth living and make it a good life. Do what benefits you and something that makes you happy*



Toi EDA is the Eastern Bay of Plenty Regional Economic Development Agency. Our mission is to ensure future generations have better opportunities and outcomes. Thriving communities depend on sustainable economic development, and a well skilled workforce is a key enabler to that. As part of our workforce development focus we generate and share information to raise awareness and aspirations, inform collective effort and action, and monitor our progress. Our workforce development information and monitoring including this and other documents can be found at [Workforce Development \(toi-eda.co.nz\)](https://www.toi-eda.co.nz/workforce-development) .

This document was prepared for Toi EDA by Paul Killerby.

For further information please contact Barbara@toi-eda.co.nz “