

Local Health Profile

Great Barrier Island (Aotea)

Great Barrier Island (Aotea) is located in the Hauraki Gulf, 90km from downtown Auckland.

The local board area also includes Little Barrier Island.

Great Barrier Island is the sixth largest island in New Zealand. The landscape is beautiful and includes beaches and estuaries, anchorages, rugged bush-covered hills, and wetlands. Much of this remote Island is looked after by the Department of Conservation. There is a small permanent population and a strong sense of community spirit. The Island attracts many visitors during the summer months and the population increases markedly during this time.

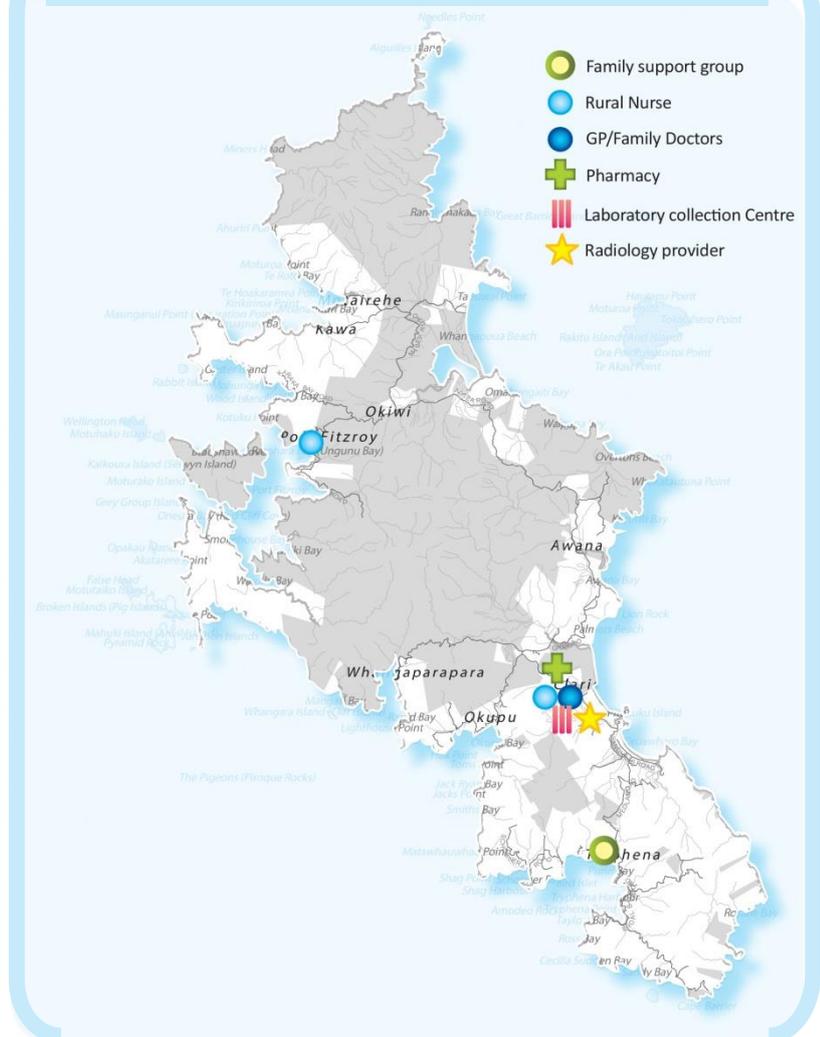
Great Barrier is a significant area for Māori. Motairehe Marae is located on Motairehe Rd, Motairehe, and Ngātiwai O Aotea Kāwa Marae is located on Kawa Rd.

On Great Barrier Island there are three primary schools and one Playcentre.

Aotea Health Ltd is the sole provider of primary care health services to the population. The main office is in Claris, with a satellite clinic at Port Fitzroy.

Included in care provided are home-based support, community mental health, maternity care, and public health, school, and health promotion services.

Primary care providers



The People

Great Barrier is home to approximately 1000 people. About 17% are children aged less than 15 years and 26% are people aged 65 years or more. The total population number is expected to stay about the same over the next 20 years.

Great Barrier residents identify with a range of ethnic groups. In 2013, 18% identified as Māori, 1.5% as Pacific peoples, 1.1% as Asian people, and 79.6% as Europeans or other ethnic groups.

In the 2013 Census:

- 26% of residents aged 15 years or more had a degree or diploma qualification. 25% had no qualification.
- 53% of residents aged 15 years or more were employed. About 55 residents were unemployed, which was 13% of the labour force.

- 15% of households had income greater than \$70,000 per year and 50% of households had income of \$30,000 or below per year.
- 12% of households were receiving income from sickness or invalids benefits.
- 4% of households were single parent families with dependent children.
- 70% of households owned their own house.

In 2013, the NZ Disability Survey estimated 19% of people live with a disability.

Health and wellbeing

Many factors contribute to good health and well-being in communities. Examples include:

- Education and employment opportunities.
- High quality physical environment.
- Good quality housing that is not crowded.
- Good urban design and healthy transport options e.g. walkways & cycle pathways, access to public transport.
- Support for people to be smokefree.
- Less alcohol outlets and gambling venues.
- Good access to healthy food.
- People feeling connected in their communities.

In 2012, people living on Great Barrier Island said the most important health issues facing their community were: drug and alcohol abuse, aged care supports and facilities, geographic isolation, and cost and affordability of healthcare services.

81% of Great Barrier residents live in Quintile 5 areas (the most deprived neighbourhoods, 2013 estimation). Across local boards in Auckland the range is 0% to 82%[†] (median is 18%). Quintile 5 means a neighbourhood is among the most deprived 20% of neighbourhoods in New Zealand (according to the New Zealand Deprivation score 2013). Therefore, compared with other communities in New Zealand, people living on Great Barrier have relatively poor social and economic living conditions.

A range of factors related to health and ill-health are listed below. It is important to note that there is limited health information available at the local board level.

Auckland DHB Community Health Survey (2012)

Self-rated health

In the 2012 Auckland DHB community health survey, this is how Great Barrier residents rated their health.

- 49% of residents rated their health as high, 44% rated their health as moderate, and 7% rated their health as low (on a 7 point scale).
- Residents reported that the most positive impacts on health were:
 - Diet.
 - Exercise.
 - The Island environment, including fresh air and the physical opportunities it offers.
 - Quitting smoking/not smoking.

Quality of health care

- In the 2012 survey, 78% of residents rated the quality of their health care as high, 15% rated quality as moderate, and 3% rated quality as low (on a 7 point scale).
- Residents rated the local health centre very highly. Some people had concerns about locum doctors being below their expectations and a lack of specialist services on the Island.
- Important issues identified by residents were the lack of services and structures to support their aging population and drug and alcohol issues in the community.

Source: Auckland DHB Community Health Survey, 2012, available online at: <https://www.healthvoice.org.nz/show-reports/community-health-wellbeing-survey-update.aspx>.

Indicator	Great Barrier	Worst	Range for local boards in the Auckland Region	Best
1 Male Life Expectancy at birth (years)	81	75		83
2 Female Life Expectancy at birth (years)	85	80		87
3 Population in overcrowded households	11%	43%		4%
4 People aged 15 years or more who are regular smokers	19%	22%		7%
5 Adults commuting by:	12%	2%		28%
6 - walking, jogging or riding a bike	0%	0%		13%
6 - taking public train or bus	0%	0%		13%
7 Dwellings with more than 1 alcohol off-license within 800m	10%	84%		5%
8 Hospital discharge rate ASR per 1,000	150	209		108
9 Emergency Department Visits ASR per 1,000 population	116	297		116
10 Out patient First Specialist Assessment ASR per 1,000 population	143	226		109
11 Cancer Mortality ASR per 1,000	n/a	193		64
12 Cardiovascular Mortality ASR per 1,000	n/a	196		44

*Data sources: 1-2: Statistics NZ, with further analysis by Auckland DHB, 2010-2012 data; 3-5: 2013 Census, data in 5-6 applies to people aged 15 years or more who were employed in the week prior to the Census; 7: Auckland Regional Public Health Service, 2012 data; 8: Ministry of Health National Minimum Dataset with further analysis by Auckland DHB, 2014 data; 9-10 Ministry of Health National Non-Admitted patient collection with further analysis by Auckland DHB, 2014 data; 11-12 Ministry of Health Mortality collection with further analysis by Auckland DHB, 2010-12

[†]Great Barrier not included due to small population numbers.

For more population-level health information for local board areas, see the Locality Atlas at www.adhb.govt.nz/planningandfunding.

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