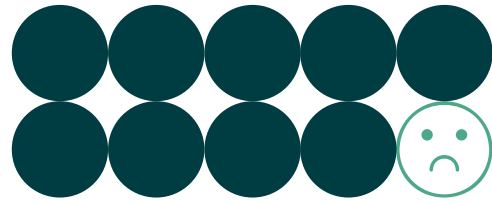


Digital Equity in 2026: A Snapshot

Presented by Digital Equity Coalition Aotearoa (DECA)



1 in 10 households have **no internet access.**¹



1 in 10 New Zealanders lack digital skills or confidence.²



79% of New Zealanders have used AI tools but



only **31%** say they understand them.³



Meaningful connectivity costs approximately **\$27 ~ \$54** per week.⁴

NZ ranks **20th globally** for government digital engagement but **77th for individual digital usage**: a gap that points directly to unmet inclusion need.⁵

Only **13%** of New Zealanders feel confident keeping themselves safe online.⁶

Disabled people are **2X** as likely to have no internet access.⁷

Māori and Pasifika are significantly **less likely** to have internet access than the general population.⁸

48%

of New Zealanders worry about personal data security.⁹

No government agency currently has a mandate or funding to ensure excluded communities are not left behind by digital transformation.¹⁰

[1], [2] Stats NZ Wellbeing Statistics 2023
[3] InternetNZ Aotearoa Internet Insights 2025
[4] DECA Affordable Connectivity Report 2023
[5] Portulans Network Readiness Index 2025



[6] Netsafe 2025 Annual Survey
[7], [8] Stats NZ Wellbeing Statistics 2023
[9] InternetNZ Aotearoa Internet Insights 2025
[10] DIA Digital Inclusion Programme closure March 2023

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