Emergency Housing SNGs |Aug 2023|

Emergency housing is short-term accommodation (usually in motels) for individuals who have an urgent need because they are unable to remain in their usual place of residence. It is funded through Special Needs Grants that clients apply for when they cannot access accommodation and we have explored all the other options available to them. Grants can cover between one and 21 nights of accommodation at a time.

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Amount granted
Aug 2023

$30.6M
$1M more than last month

Monthly Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants
9,015
492 more than last month

Households in emergency housing as at 31 August
3,396
159 fewer than last month

↳ **Adults in emergency housing as at 31 Aug**
3,795
180 fewer than last month

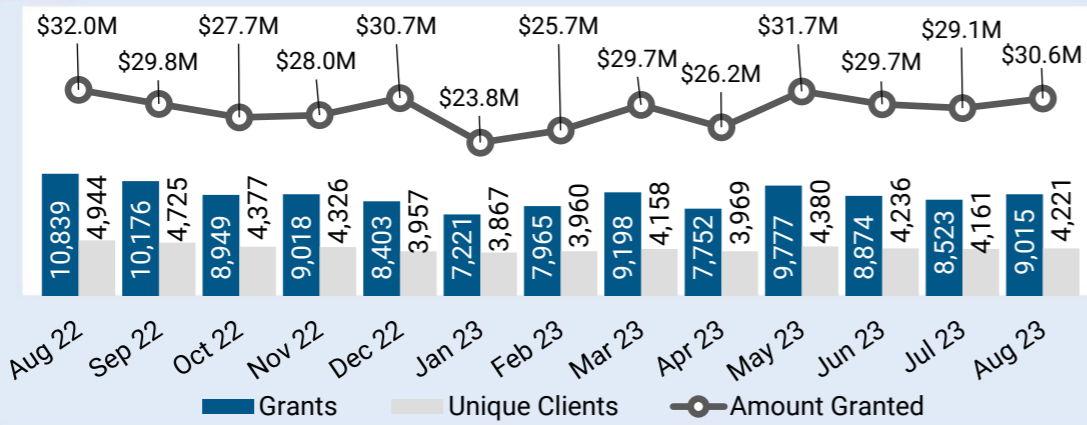↳ **Children in emergency housing as at 31 Aug**
3,537
39 fewer than last month

Note: Households living in Contracted Emergency Housing (CEH) in Rotorua are not included in this reporting. The new model is being piloted in Rotorua. Reporting of the number of households in CEH is currently unavailable.
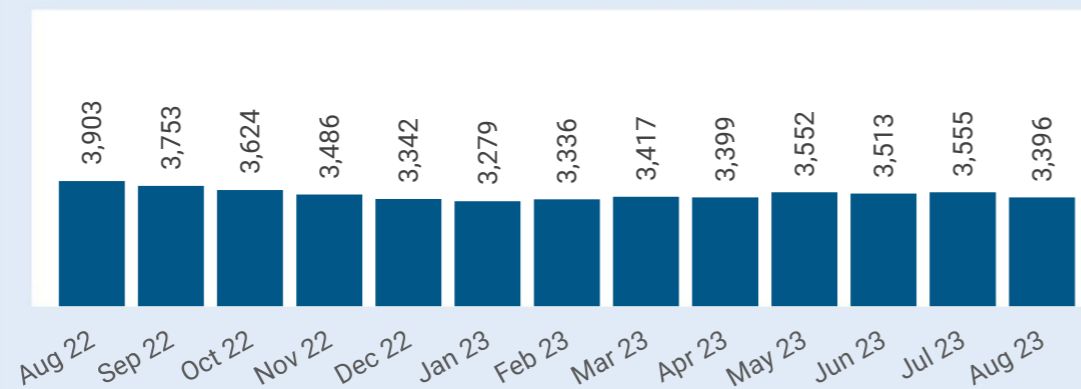
Random rounding has been applied to these figures. Figures in tables may not add up to the total due to random rounding.

Emergency housing – over the month and historic numbers

1 Grants/clients/amount granted over each month

	Aug 22	Sep 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23
Amount Granted	$32.0M	$29.8M	$27.7M	$28.0M	$30.7M	$23.8M	$25.7M	$29.7M	$26.2M	$31.7M	$29.7M	$29.1M	$30.6M
Grants	10,839	10,176	8,949	9,018	8,403	7,221	7,965	9,198	7,752	9,777	8,874	8,523	9,015
Unique Clients	4,944	4,725	4,377	4,326	3,957	3,867	3,960	4,158	3,969	4,380	4,236	4,161	4,221

Legend: Grants · Unique Clients · Amount Granted

2 Number of households in emergency housing – as at the end of each month

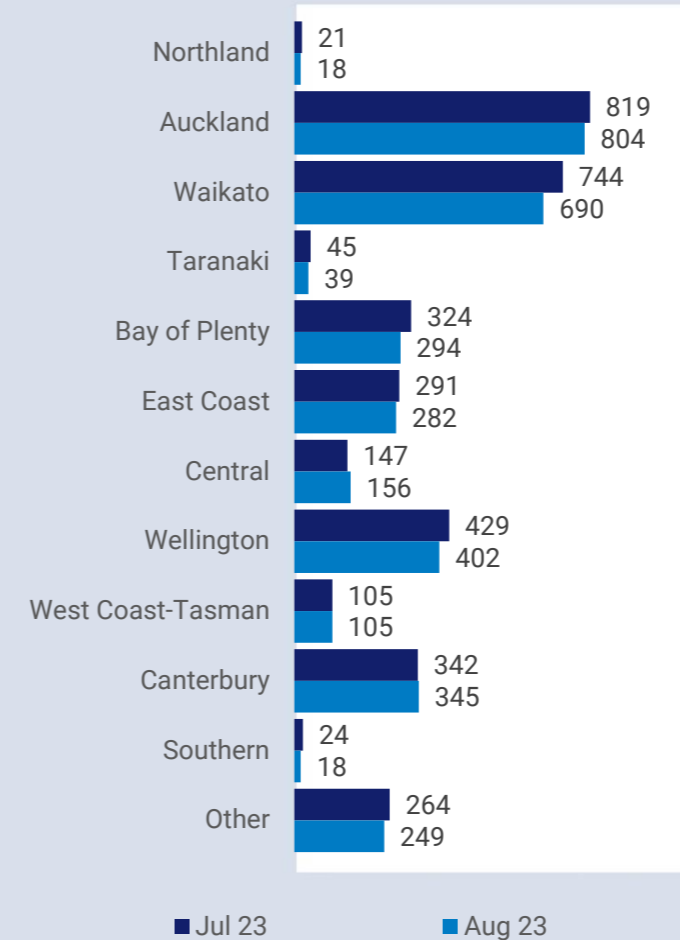	Aug 22	Sep 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23
3,903	3,753	3,624	3,486	3,342	3,279	3,336	3,417	3,399	3,552	3,513	3,555	3,396

Commentary

The number of Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants (EH-SNGs) increased by 492 from last month (a 5.8 percent increase). There was $1.5 million more granted during August 2023 than for July 2023 (a 5.1 percent increase). This is partly due to clients being granted emergency housing for shorter durations than in July with more clients being granted 1-7 nights than 8-21 nights.
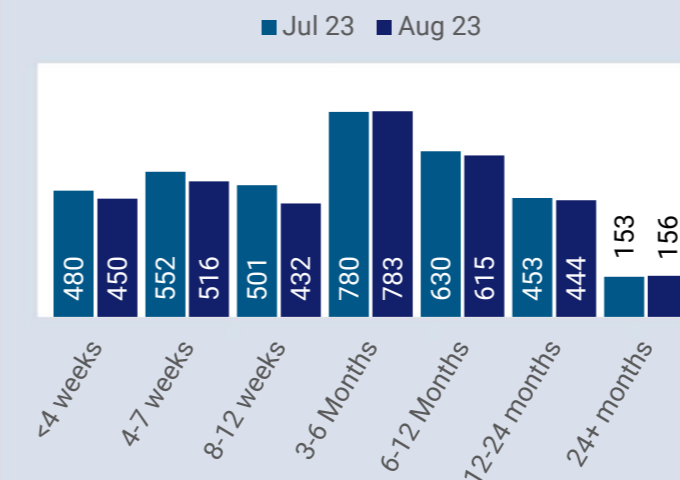
The number of households in emergency housing continues to stabilise. At the end of August 2023, the number of households decreased from July by 159 (4.5 percent). Most regions saw a decrease except Central and Canterbury which saw relatively small increases.
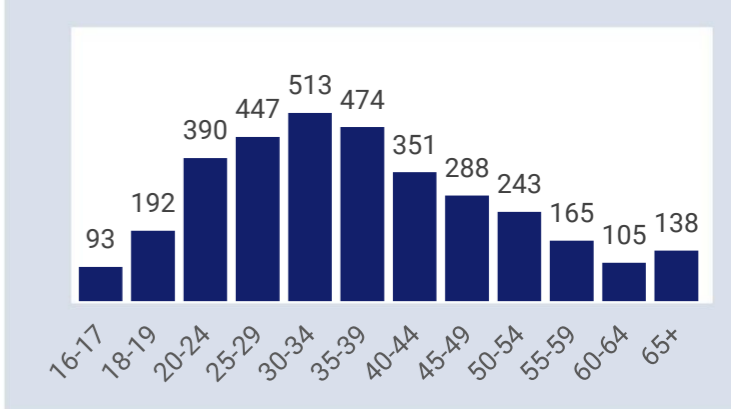
Emergency housing – at the end of the month

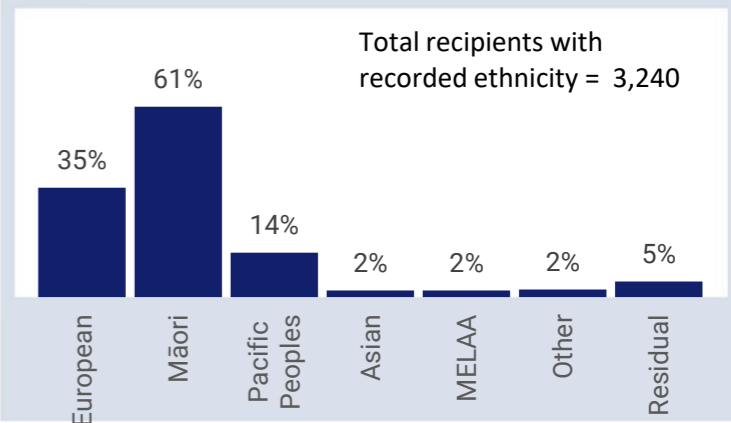### 3 Households in emergency housing by MSD region – as at end of the month

Region	Jul 23	Aug 23
Northland	21	18
Auckland	819	804
Waikato	744	690
Taranaki	45	39
Bay of Plenty	324	294
East Coast	291	282
Central	147	156
Wellington	429	402
West Coast-Tasman	105	105
Canterbury	342	345
Southern	24	18
Other	264	249

4 Households by duration in emergency housing – as at end of the month

	<4 weeks	4-7 weeks	8-12 weeks	3-6 Months	6-12 Months	12-24 months	24+ months
Jul 23	480	552	501	780	630	453	153
Aug 23	450	516	432	783	615	444	156

5 Age distribution of primary applicants in emergency housing – as at end of the month

16-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
93	192	390	447	513	474	351	288	243	165	105	138

6 Ethnicity* of primary applicant in emergency housing – as at end of the month

Total recipients with recorded ethnicity = 3,240

European	Māori	Pacific Peoples	Asian	MELAA	Other	Residual
35%	61%	14%	2%	2%	2%	5%

7 Household composition – as at end of the month

- Couple no children, 102, 3%
- Couple with children, 300, 9%
- Single no children, 1,581, 46%
- Single with children, 1,419, 42%
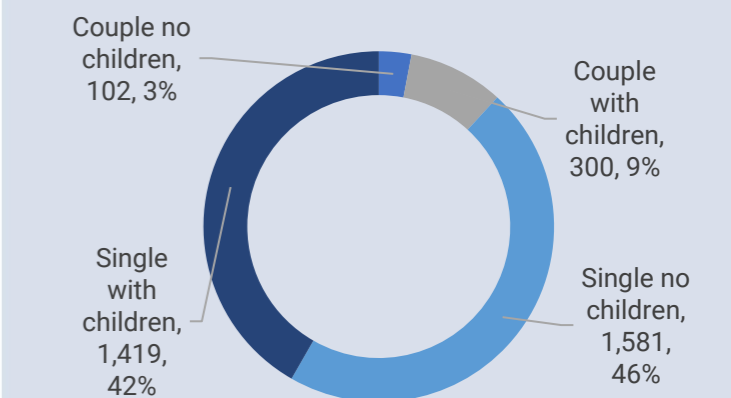
Public Housing Register | 31 Aug 2023 |

The Public Housing Register is a non-time bound list of all applicants eligible to be placed in public housing. Applicants complete a public housing assessment which determines eligibility and priority for public housing against an agreed set of criteria, which is then used to assist the public housing provider in matching to the most appropriate property.

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As at 31 Aug 2023

Housing Register
25,083
441 more than last month

Transfer Register*
5,028
51 more than last month

Public Housing Register
30,111
492 more than last month

New applications that entered the Public Housing Register
2,268
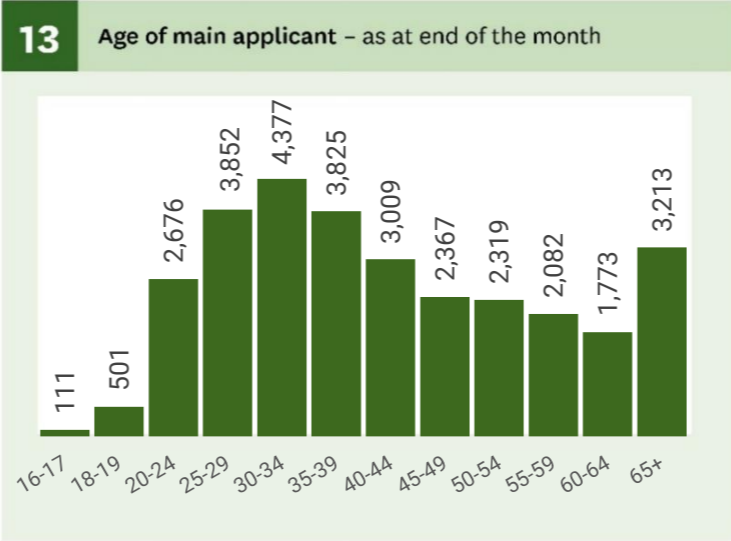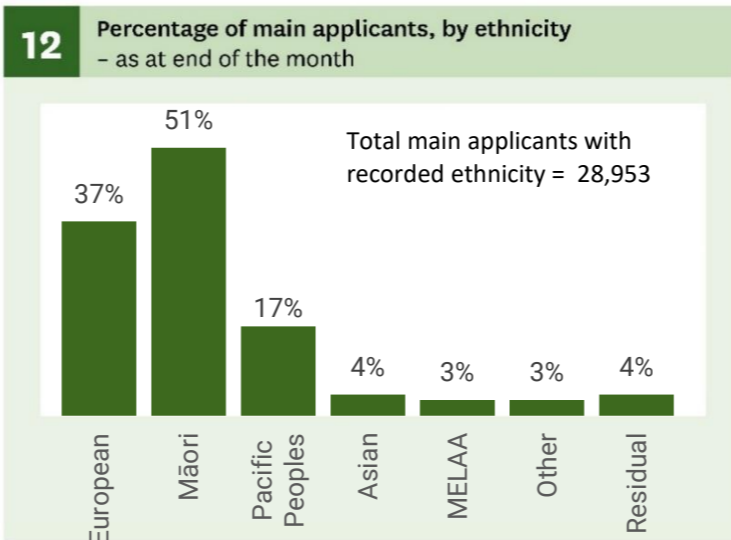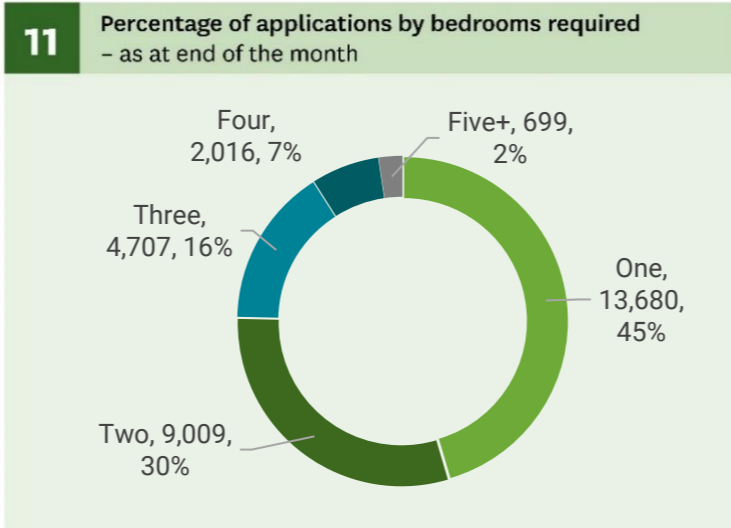516 more than last month

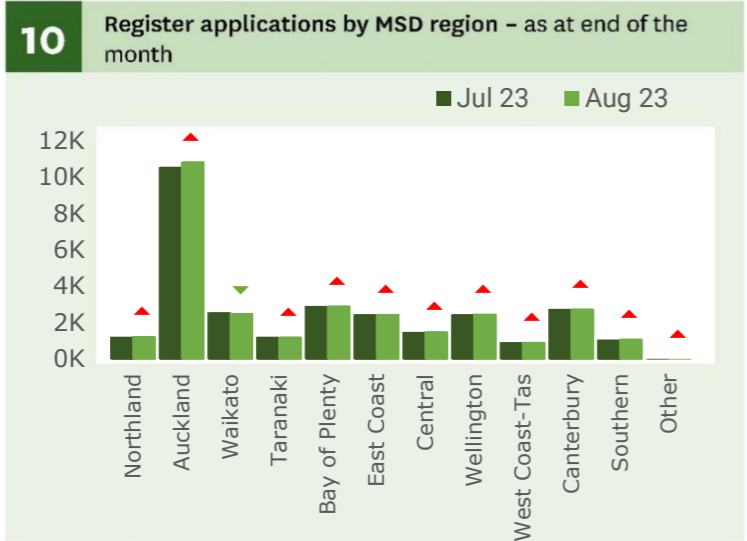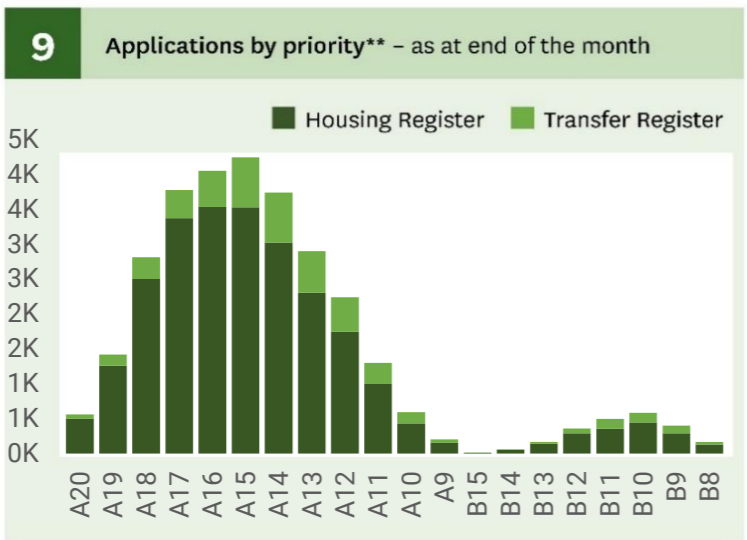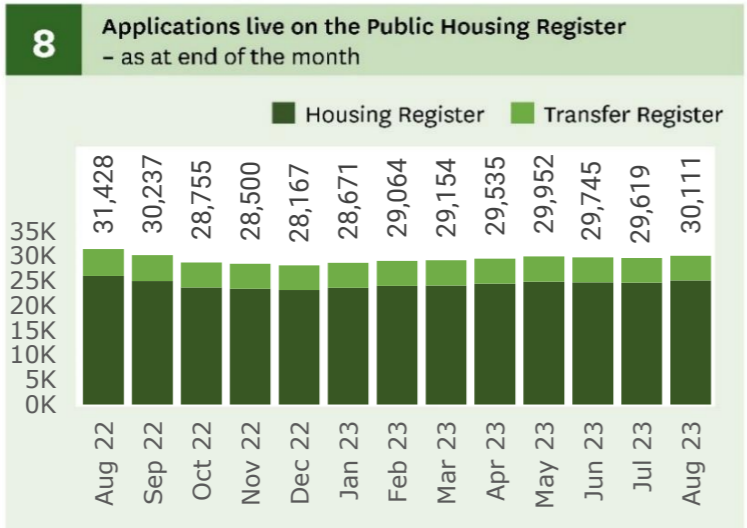**Housed in public housing**
756
120 more than last month

*People who already live in public housing, but have applied and are eligible to transfer to another property are placed on the Transfer Register.
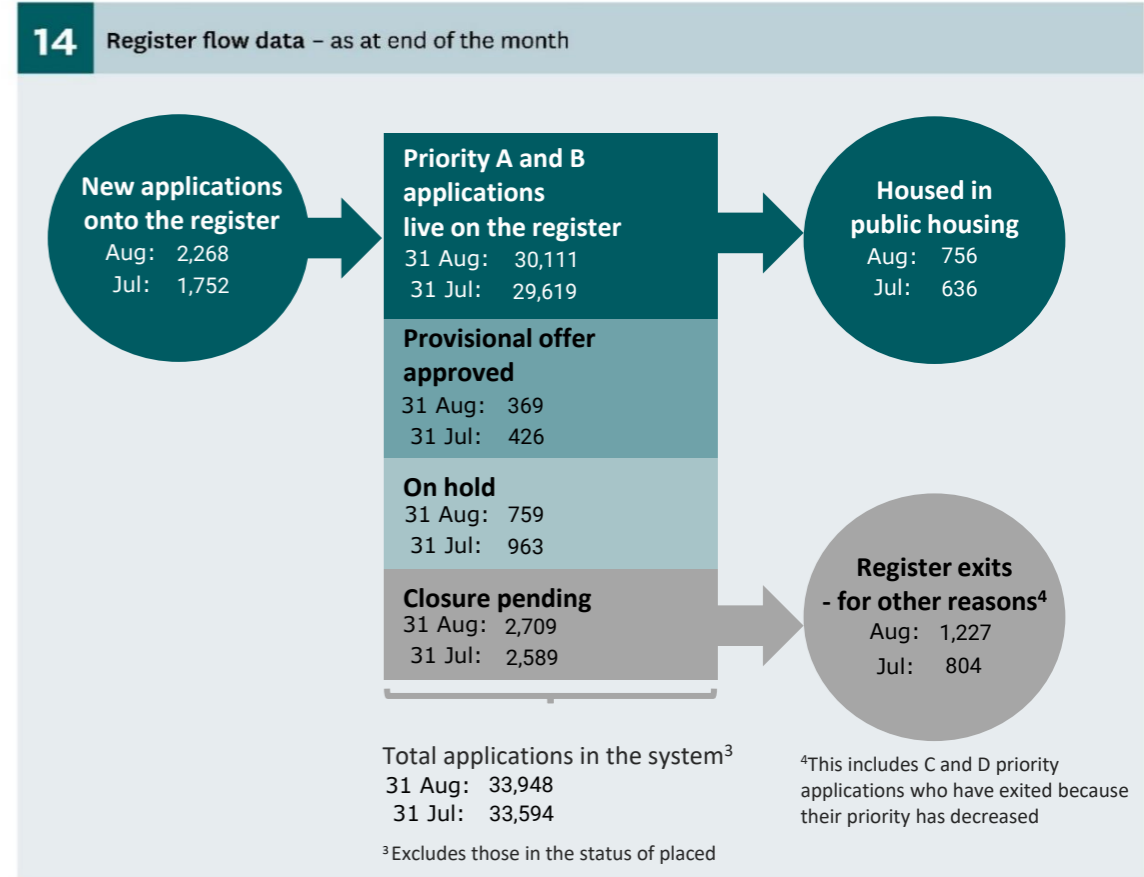
**Graph 9 – Info on the SAS criteria used to determine eligibility and priority can be found here:
www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/social-housing/assessment-of-eligibility/index.html

Random Rounding has been applied to these figures. Figures in tables may not add up to the total due to random rounding.

Public Housing Register numbers

8 Applications live on the Public Housing Register – as at end of the month

Legend: Housing Register, Transfer Register

Month	Total
Aug 22	31,428
Sep 22	30,237
Oct 22	28,755
Nov 22	28,500
Dec 22	28,167
Jan 23	28,671
Feb 23	29,064
Mar 23	29,154
Apr 23	29,535
May 23	29,952
Jun 23	29,745
Jul 23	29,619
Aug 23	30,111

9 Applications by priority** – as at end of the month

Legend: Housing Register, Transfer Register
(Bar chart categories: A20, A19, A18, A17, A16, A15, A14, A13, A12, A11, A10, A9, B15, B14, B13, B12, B11, B10, B9, B8)

10 Register applications by MSD region – as at end of the month

Legend: Jul 23, Aug 23
(Regions: Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Taranaki, Bay of Plenty, East Coast, Central, Wellington, West Coast-Tas, Canterbury, Southern, Other)

11 Percentage of applications by bedrooms required – as at end of the month

- Four, 2,016, 7%
- Five+, 699, 2%
- Three, 4,707, 16%
- One, 13,680, 45%
- Two, 9,009, 30%

12 Percentage of main applicants, by ethnicity – as at end of the month

Total main applicants with recorded ethnicity = 28,953

Ethnicity	Percentage
European	37%
Māori	51%
Pacific Peoples	17%
Asian	4%
MELAA	3%
Other	3%
Residual	4%

13 Age of main applicant – as at end of the month

Age	Count
16-17	111
18-19	501
20-24	2,676
25-29	3,852
30-34	4,377
35-39	3,825
40-44	3,009
45-49	2,367
50-54	2,319
55-59	2,082
60-64	1,773
65+	3,213

Public Housing Register flow

14 Register flow data – as at end of the month

New applications onto the register
Aug: 2,268
Jul: 1,752

Priority A and B applications live on the register
31 Aug: 30,111
31 Jul: 29,619

Provisional offer approved
31 Aug: 369
31 Jul: 426

On hold
31 Aug: 759
31 Jul: 963

Closure pending
31 Aug: 2,709
31 Jul: 2,589

Housed in public housing
Aug: 756
Jul: 636

Register exits - for other reasons[4]
Aug: 1,227
Jul: 804

Total applications in the system[3]
31 Aug: 33,948
31 Jul: 33,594

[3] Excludes those in the status of placed

[4] This includes C and D priority applications who have exited because their priority has decreased

Commentary

The number of Public Housing Register applications increased by 492 (1.7 percent) to 30,111 at the end of August 2023 reflecting an increase in new applications. There were an additional 516 more new applications in August 2023 compared to July 2023 (an increase of 29.5 percent). All regions except Waikato saw an increase in applications.

Anecdotally, MSD understands that the increase has been driven by a range of factors including proactive engagement by MSD staff with Transitional Housing and Contracted Emergency Housing providers (the former can take up to 30% of self-referrals) to ensure their clients have completed an assessment, renters affected by the North Island Weather Event (NIWE) testing their eligibility to long-term public housing, and further Boarding House closures.

The increase was partly offset by increases in the number of applications housed and exited from the Register for other reasons. There were 756 applications housed in August 2023 (an increase of 19 percent from July 2023) and 1,227 applications exited the register for other reasons (an increase of 52.6 percent). The increase in 'other exits' reflects MSD's focus on reaching out to register applicants that have not had contact with MSD over the last month to ensure they still require public housing, and to ensure that MSD accurately understands their housing requirements.

ᶦMSD reports total response ethnicity. This means if a person identifies with more than one ethnic group, they are counted in each applicable group and the sum of responses for all ethnic groups may exceed 100%. For more information www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/tools/how-we-report-ethnicity.html. Note, MELAA refers to Middle Eastern, Latin American, and African.