

# Emergency Housing SNGs | Jan 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.



Amount granted  
Jan 2023

**\$23.8M**

\$6.9M less than last month

Monthly Emergency  
Housing Special  
Needs Grants

**7,221**

1,182 less than last month

Households in  
emergency housing  
as at 31 January

**3,276**

66 fewer than last month

↳ Adults in emergency  
housing as at 31 Jan

**3,657**

45 fewer than last month

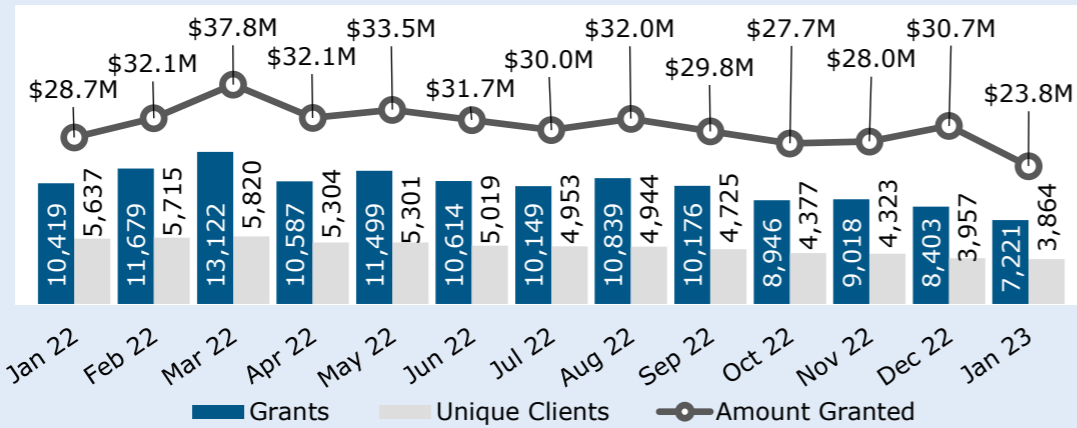
↳ Children in emergency  
housing as at 31 Jan

**3,108**

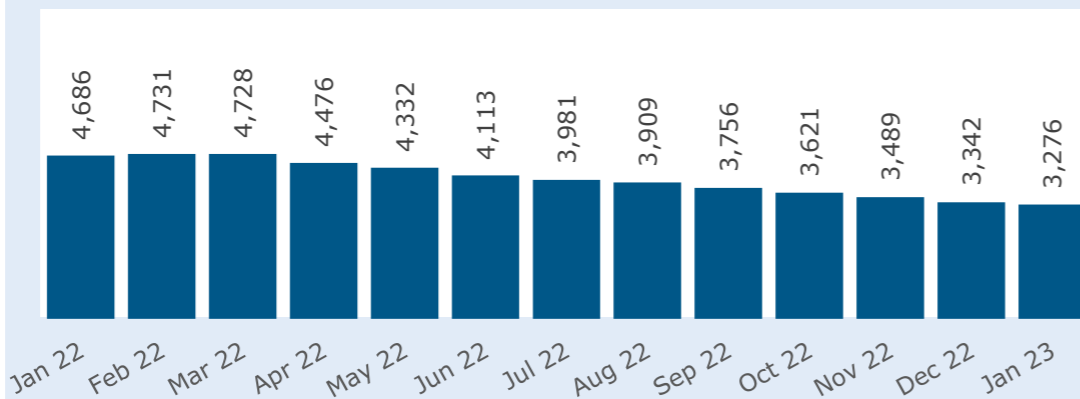
51 more than last month

## Emergency housing – over the month and historic numbers

1 Grants/clients/amount granted over each month



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



## Commentary

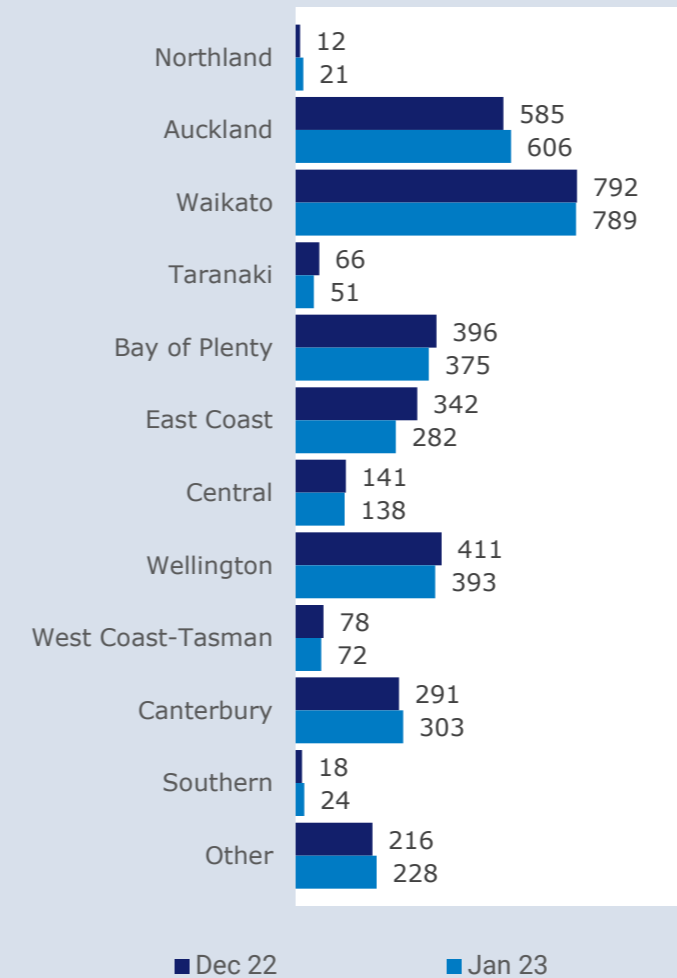
The number of Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants (EH-SNGs) dropped by around 1,180 last month. This reduction was partially because some EH-SNGs in December were granted for longer durations to cover the holiday period.

The number of households in emergency housing has continued to trend down since January 2022, reaching 3,276 (down 66) households in January 2023. The decrease in client numbers was smaller this month, which may reflect the fewer working days over the holiday period, as there is less time for people to transition into alternative accommodation. There have been 1,410 (30.1 percent) fewer households in emergency housing between January 2022 and January 2023.

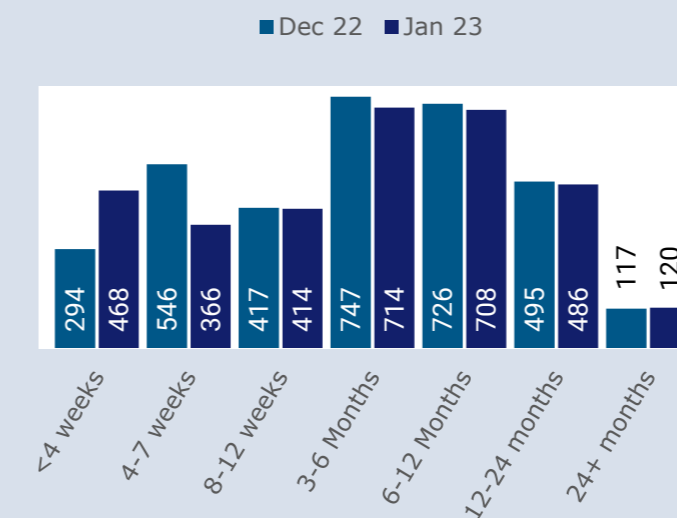
The East Coast and Wellington regions saw the largest decreases in the number of households in emergency housing last month. The overall decrease was offset by small increases in the Auckland and Canterbury regions.

## Emergency housing – at the end of the month

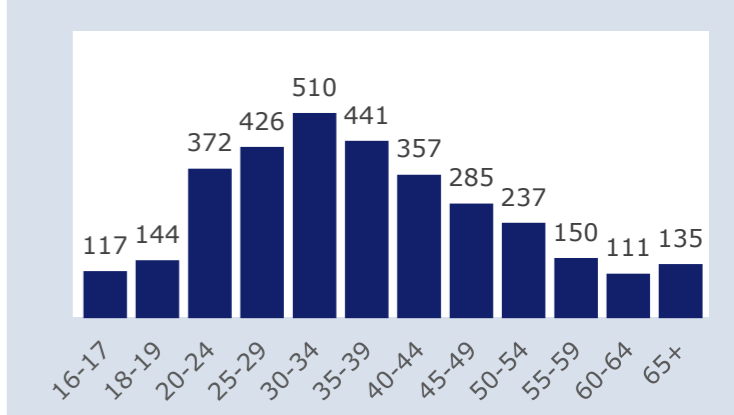
3 Households in emergency housing by MSD region – as at end of the month



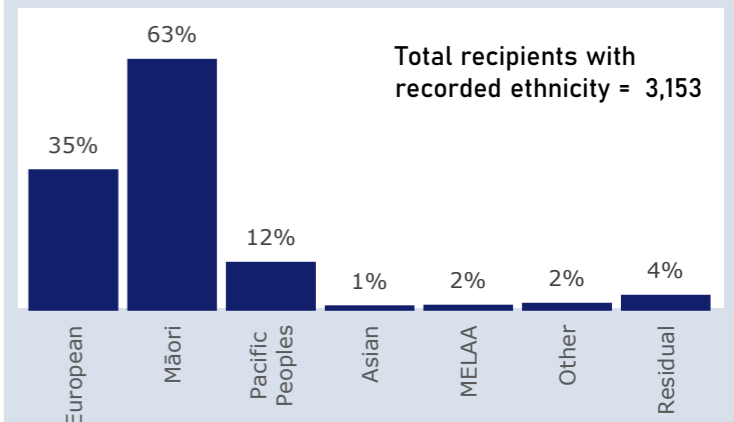
4 Households by duration in emergency housing – as at end of the month



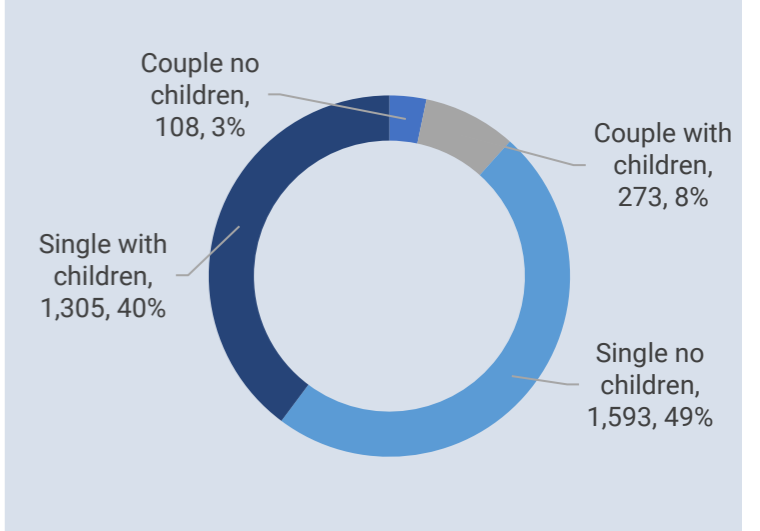
5 Age distribution of primary applicants in emergency housing – as at end of the month



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



7 Household composition – as at end of the 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.

As at 31 Jan 2023

Housing Register

**23,589**

459 more than last month

Transfer Register\*

**5,079**

42 more than last month

Public Housing Register

**28,668**

501 more than last month

New applications that entered the Public Housing Register

**1,446**

36 fewer than last month

Housed in public housing

**381**

234 fewer than last month

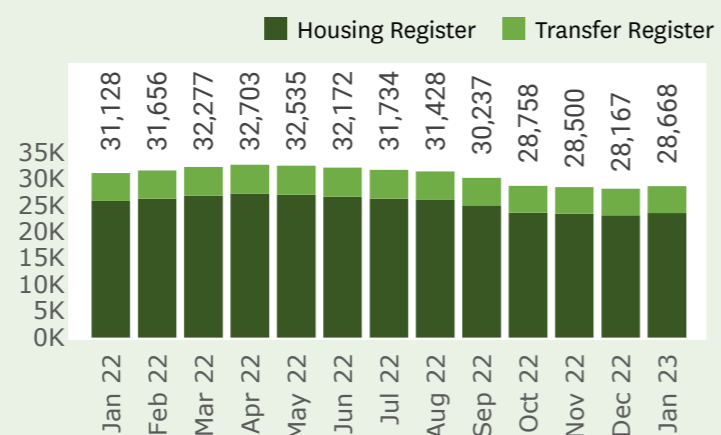
\*People who already live in public housing, but have applied and are eligible to transfer to another property are placed on the Transfer Register.

\*\*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](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/social-housing/assessment-of-eligibility/index.html)

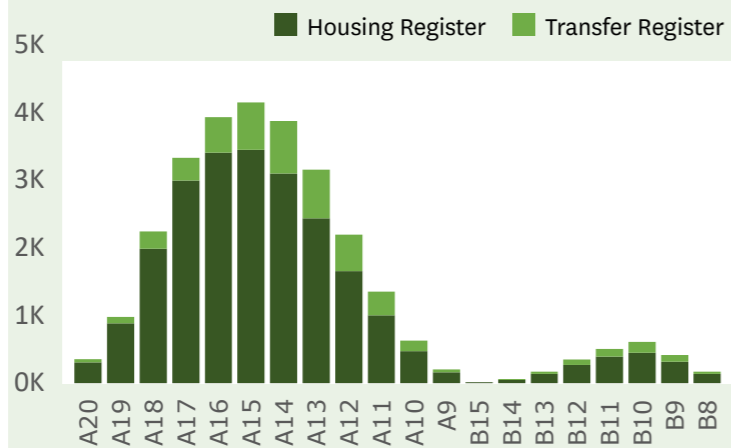
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## Public Housing Register numbers

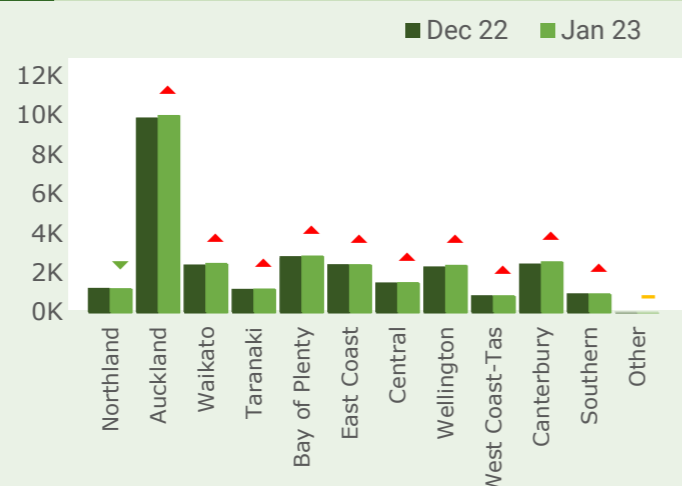
**8** Applications live on the Public Housing Register – as at end of the month



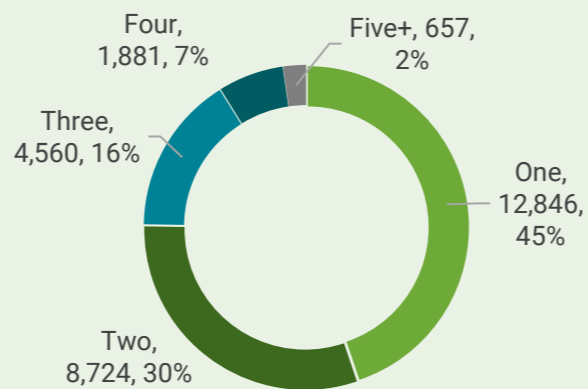
**9** Applications by priority\*\* – as at end of the month



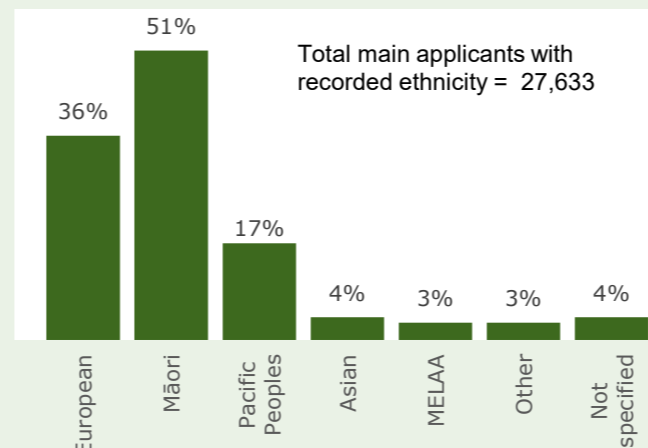
**10** Register applications by MSD region – as at end of the month



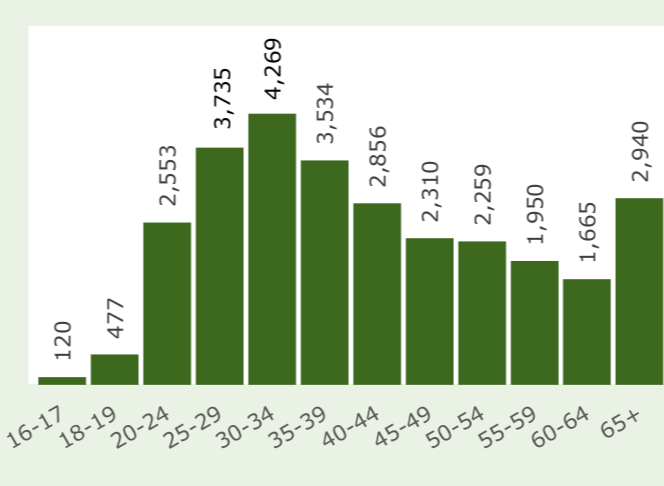
**11** Percentage of applications by bedrooms required – as at end of the month



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

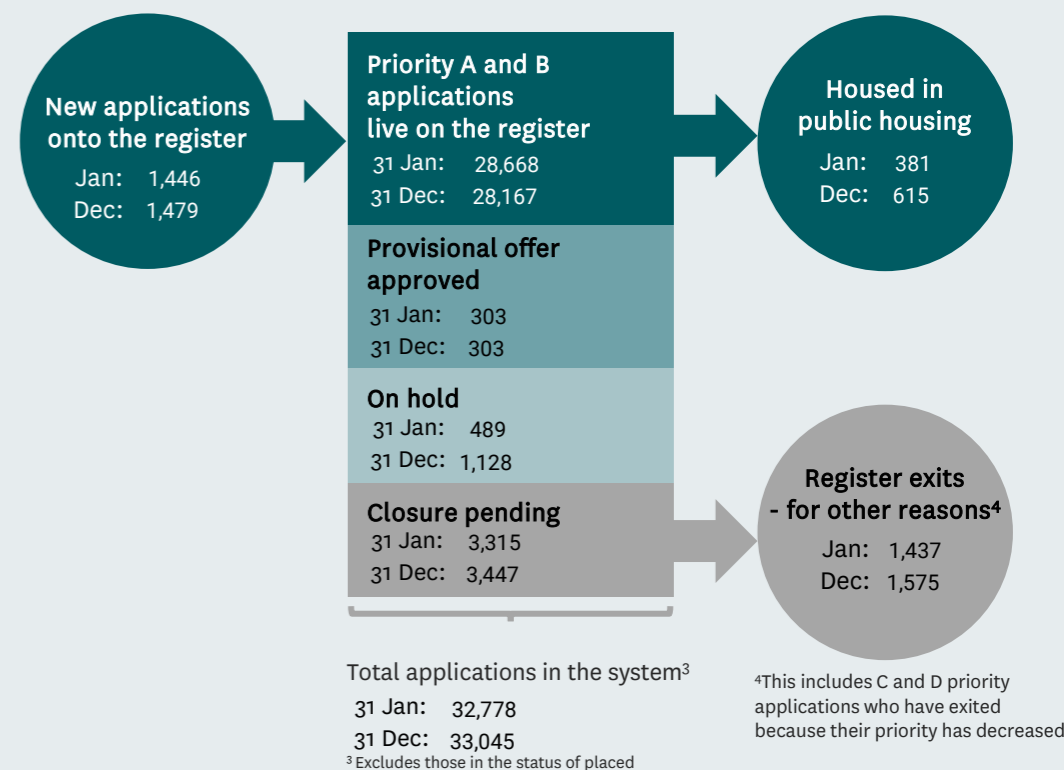


**13** Age of main applicant – as at end of the month



## Public Housing Register flow

**14** Register flow data – as at end of the month



## Commentary

There were 28,668 applications in the Public Housing Register as at the end of January 2023, an increase of 501 (1.8 percent) compared to the end of December. This increase was partially due to fewer applicants housed or who went into public housing as there were fewer working days during January. This had an impact on placements due to fewer processing days.

Most regions, except Northland, had an increase in applications in January.

System improvements continued to be undertaken to increase the capacity for register management. These improvements have resulted in the completion of one year's worth of housing register conversations in 12 weeks, along with an increase of public housing applications with closure pending status. This trend is likely to continue over the next few months as improvements are completed.

<sup>1</sup> MSD 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](http://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.