



8 November 2022

Tēnā koe

On 12 October 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

I would be grateful if you could provide me some statistics on the social housing register.

Please can you provide a breakdown by ethnicity of applicants on the social housing register who have applied for housing in the Wellington region as at June 2022?

Please see the table below showing the number of applicants on the Social Housing Register¹ that have applied for housing in the Wellington Region² as at June 2022, broken down by ethnicity.³

Ethnicities	Clients
European	1,188
Māori	1,329
Pasifika	591
Asian	135
MELAA ⁴	216
Other ⁵	108
Not Specified ⁶	126
Total distinct clients	3,174

¹ This includes applications on both the Housing Register and Transfer Register. This only includes priority A and B applications.

² The Wellington region is defined by the following Territorial Local Authorities: Carterton District, Kapiti Coast District, Lower Hutt City, Masterton District, Porirua City, South Wairarapa District, Upper Hutt City, Wellington City.

³ Ethnicity data is self-identified and multiple ethnicities may be chosen by an individual. Total response ethnicity means that if a person identifies with more than one ethnic group, they are counted in each applicable group. Because a client can choose more than one ethnic response, the total number of ethnic responses will be greater than the number of total distinct clients.

⁴ MELAA refers to Middle Eastern, Latin American, and African.

⁵ 'Other' is where ethnicities fall outside the reported ethnicities.

⁶ 'Not Specified' is where ethnicity is not recorded.

To protect confidentiality, the Ministry uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data. The above table has had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts. The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals. The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding the number of applicants on the Social Housing Register that have applied for housing in the Wellington region, broken down by ethnicity, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

Bridget Saunders

Bridget Saunders
**Manager Issue Resolution
Service Delivery**