



17 October 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 26 September 2024 requesting information about the publicly reported statistic on emergency housing exits in The Post, specifically:

- *"About 80% of the more than 1770 households that have left emergency housing are being housed elsewhere with government support, he said."*
- *Can I please receive the data/report on this statistic?*

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Between 31 December 2023 and 30 August 2024, 1764 households - or 1779 households including Contracted Emergency Housing - left emergency housing. This is reported in the Monthly Housing Update on the Ministry's website and in the Rotorua Temporary Housing Dashboard on the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD's) website:

- www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/housing/monthly-housing-update/2024/monthly-housing-report-august-2024.pdf.
- www.hud.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Documents/Rotorua-Temporary-Housing-Dashboard/Rotorua-Temporary-Housing-Dashboard-August-2024.pdf.

Based on a separate analysis completed in July 2024, the Ministry identified that households leaving emergency housing during April 2024 went on to the following support within 60 days of leaving emergency housing:

- 28% accessed Accommodation Supplement
- 27% entered Social Housing
- 21% entered Transitional Housing.

These statistics are from the report REP/24/7/674 - *Emergency Housing Deep Dive* - dated 24 July 2024. This report is due to be published on the Ministry's website within the next eight weeks and is therefore refused under section 18(d) of the Act as the information will soon be made publicly available.

Formal reporting on where people go when they leave emergency housing is still under development and is not currently part of the Ministry's regular reporting. We are working to develop official reporting on emergency housing exits, however this requires linking information from multiple systems, agencies, and organisations.

It is important to note that these two statistics cover two different populations.

The statistic on the number of households leaving emergency housing is based on the change in numbers between two points in time – in this case, 31 December 2023 and 30 August 2024.

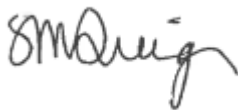
The separate analysis on where the person goes after leaving emergency housing is based on the number of emergency housing stays ended during that month – in this case, April 2024. A single household may have multiple stays in emergency housing during this time as a 'stay' begins once the Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant is granted. As a household may have multiple stays, they may end up being counted multiple times during the month.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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 my decision on your request, 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

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill
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Ministerial and Executive Services