

Emergency Housing Grants | Mar 2025

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. Clients may be eligible for an Emergency Housing Grant if 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
Mar 2025

\$3.7M

\$0.7M more than last month

Monthly Emergency Housing Grants

1,338

243 more than last month

Households in emergency housing as at 31 March

459

3 fewer than last month

Adults in emergency housing as at 31 Mar

498

3 fewer than last month

Children in emergency housing as at 31 Mar

390

48 more than last month

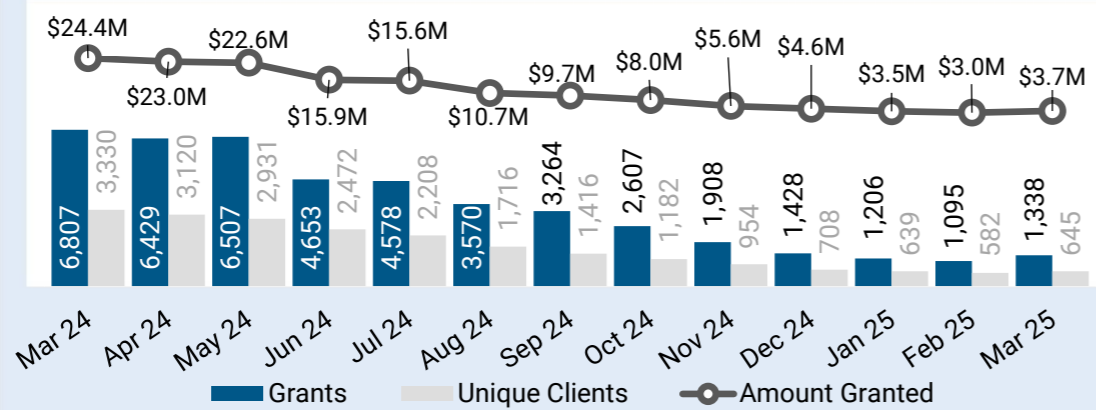
Households with children in EH for 12 weeks+ as at 31 March

27

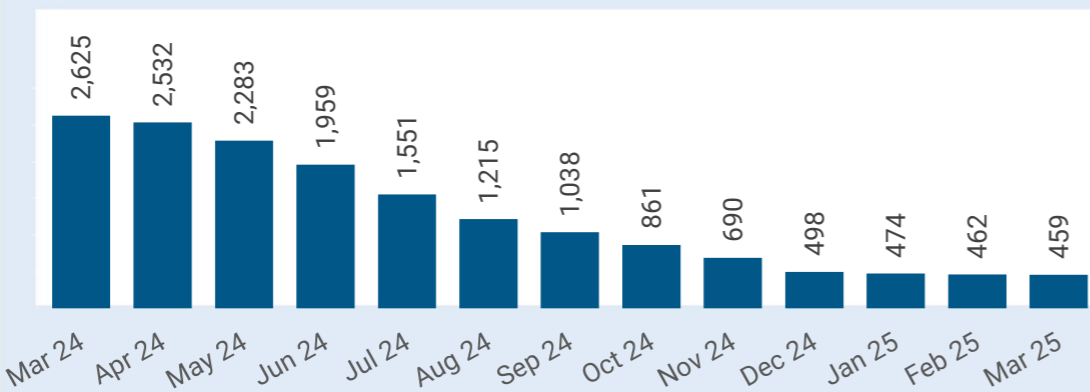
6 fewer than last month

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 households in emergency housing (EH) was at 459 at the end of March 2025 and remained relatively unchanged compared to the previous month. This is a significant drop from the same time last year, when the number of households in EH stood at 2,625, marking a 83% decrease.

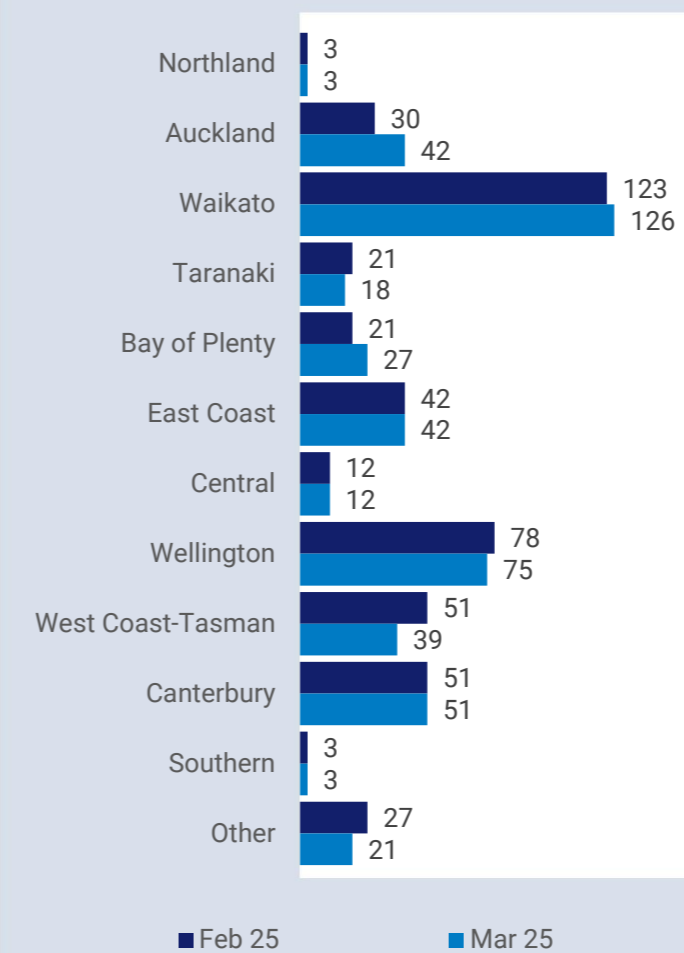
Four regions observed a monthly decline in the number of households. West Coast-Tasman recorded the largest decrease with 12 or 24% fewer households, followed by Other, Wellington and Taranaki.

The number of children in EH increased by 48 in March 2025 compared to February 2025. Almost half of this increase was in Auckland, with 22 more children in EH since the end of February 2025.

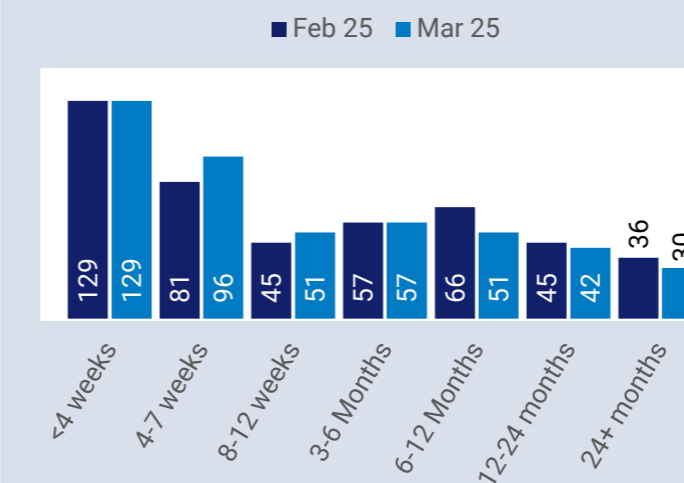
Note: Households living in Contracted Emergency Housing (CEH) in Rotorua are not included in this reporting. The new model is being piloted in Rotorua. Reporting of the number of households in CEH is currently unavailable. Random rounding has been applied to these figures. Figures in tables may not add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

Emergency housing – at the end of the month

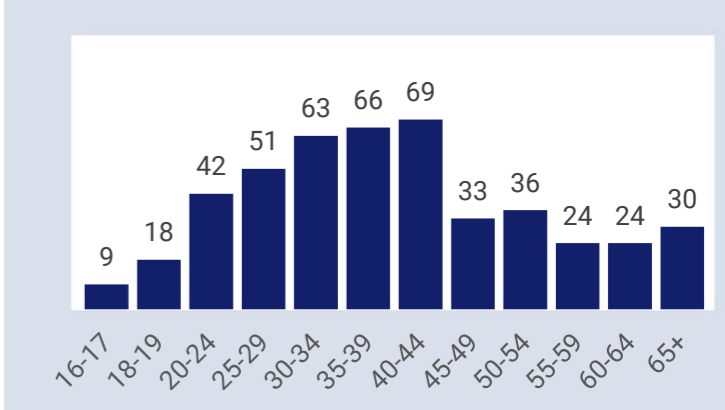
3 Households in emergency housing by MSD region – as at end of the month



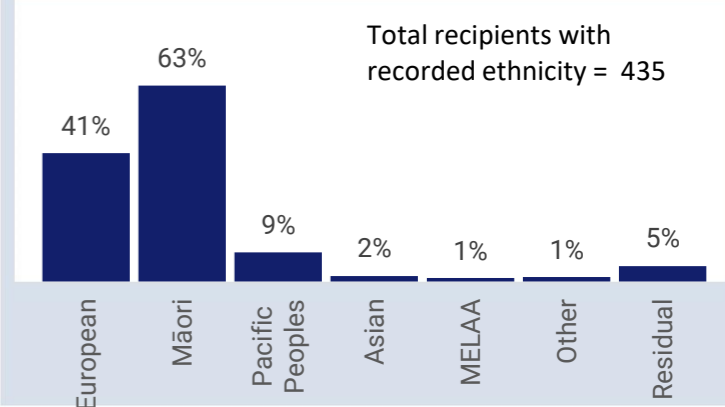
4 Households by duration in emergency housing – as at end of the month



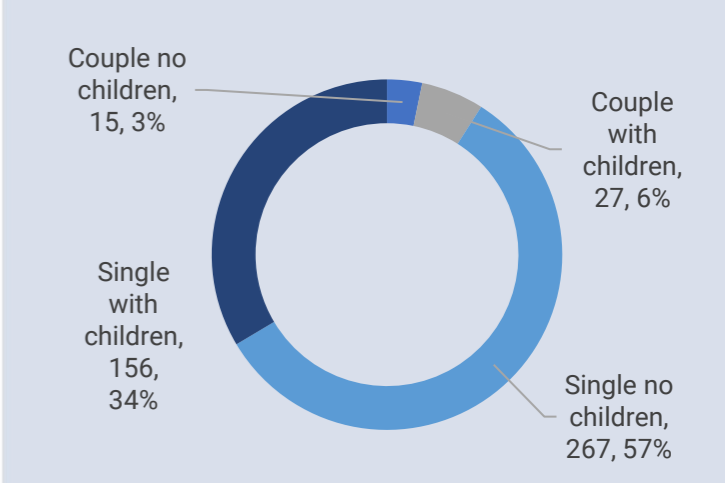
5 Age distribution of primary applicants in emergency housing – as at end of the month



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



7 Household composition – as at end of the month



As at 31 Mar 2025

Housing Register

19,308

747 fewer than last month

Transfer Register*

4,578

42 fewer than last month

Social Housing Register

23,886

789 fewer than last month

New applications that entered the Social Housing Register

1,884

6 more than last month

Housed in social housing

957

132 more than last month

Priority One Fast Track

Live on Register

60

Housed in Mar 25

21

Housed since May 24

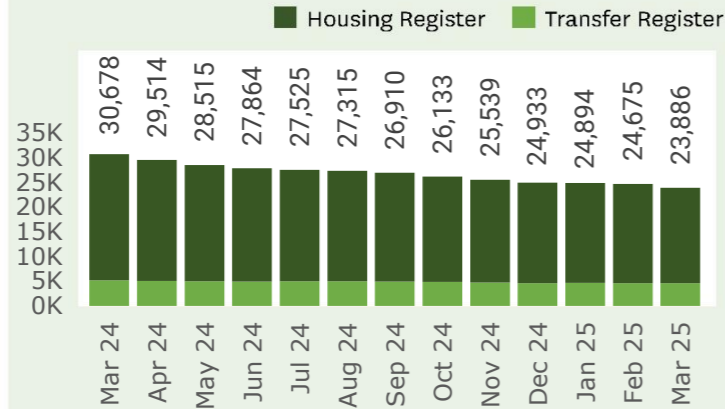
972

Children housed since May 24

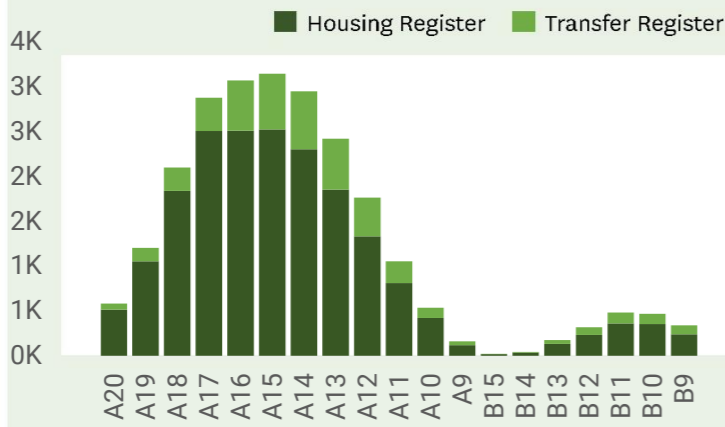
2,055

Social Housing Register numbers

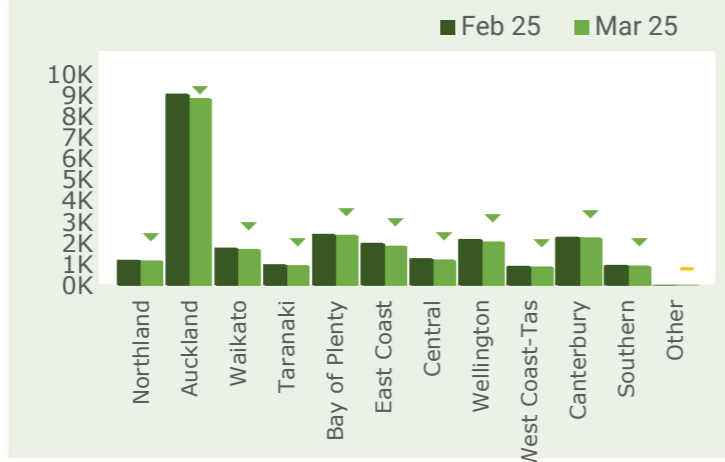
8 Applications live on the Social Housing Register



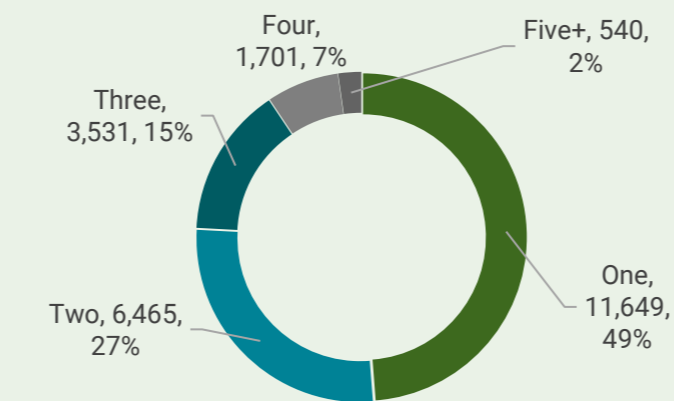
9 Applications by priority** – as at end of the month



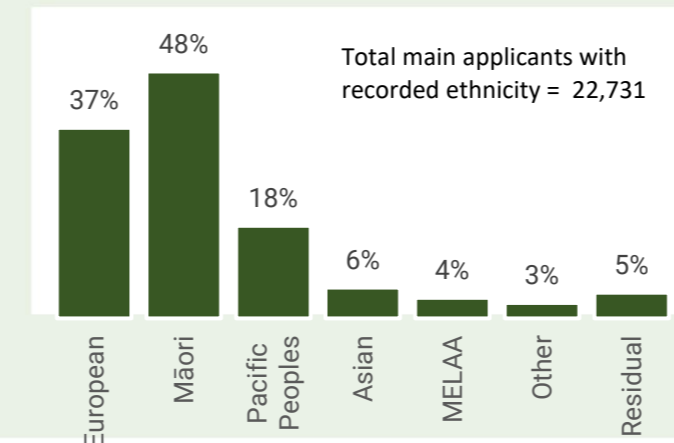
10 Register applications by MSD region – as at end of the month



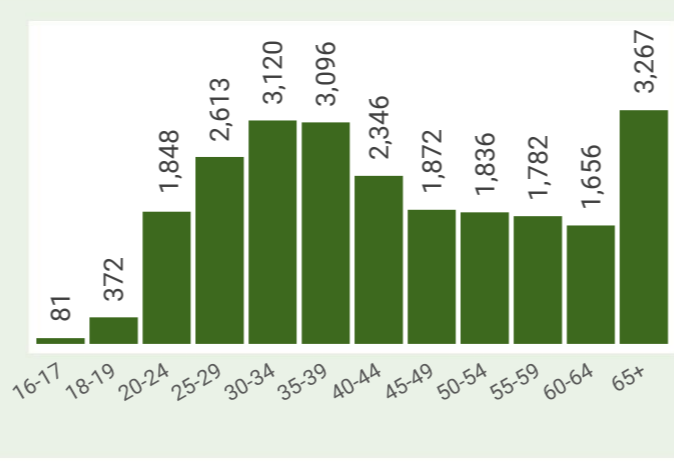
11 Percentage of applications by bedrooms required – as at end of the month



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

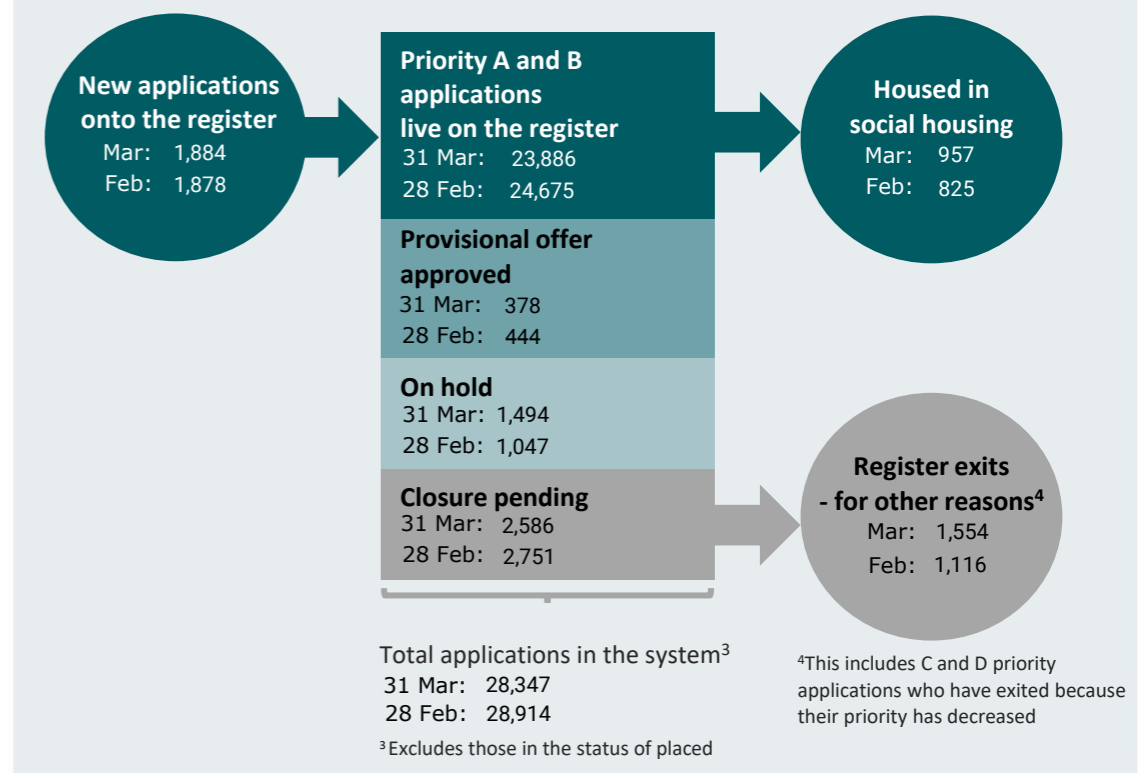


13 Age of main applicant – as at end of the month



Social Housing Register flow

14 Register flow data – as at end of the month



Commentary

The number of applications on the Social Housing Register has decreased in March 2025, down by 789 compared to February 2025 or nearly 6,800 compared to March 2024.

All regions experienced a monthly decrease in applications with the highest decreases in Auckland, down by 207 or 2%.

This decrease is potentially due to more applicants being housed and exited from the Register for other reasons. The increase in applicants being housed follows the usual pattern for the beginning of each calendar year after the holiday season.

**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

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

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

¹MSD 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.