

Emergency Housing Grants | Oct 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.



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

Amount granted
Oct 2025

\$3.3M

\$0.2M more than last month

Monthly Emergency
Housing Grants

1,437

147 more than last month

Households in
emergency housing
as at 31 October

453

15 more than last month

↳ Adults in emergency
housing as at 31 Oct

495

21 more than last month

↳ Children in emergency
housing as at 31 Oct

321

3 fewer than last
month

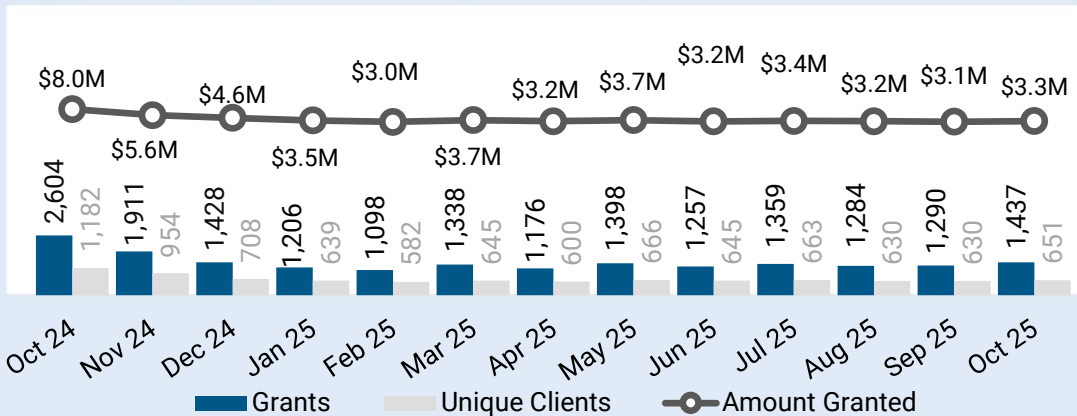
Households with
children in EH for
12 weeks+ as at
31 October

18

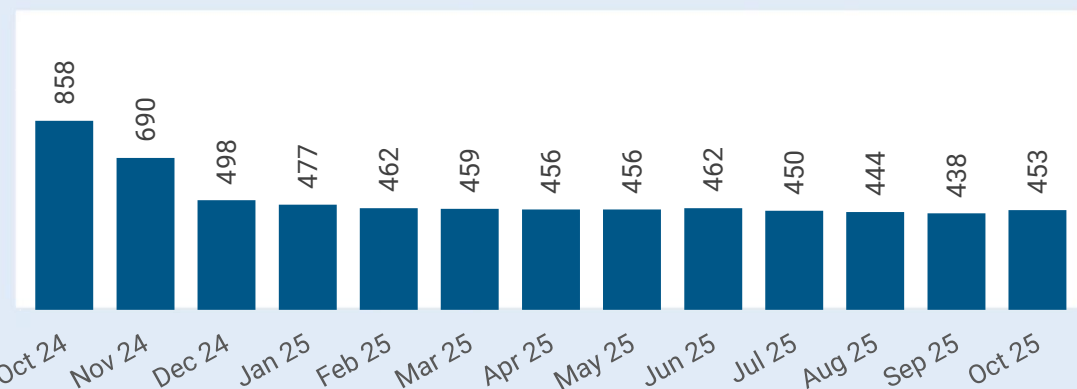
3 fewer than last month

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

There were 453 households in emergency housing (EH) as at the end of October 2025, a rise of 15 or 3% from the previous month. However, this represents a fall of 47% from the same time last year when there were 858 households in EH.

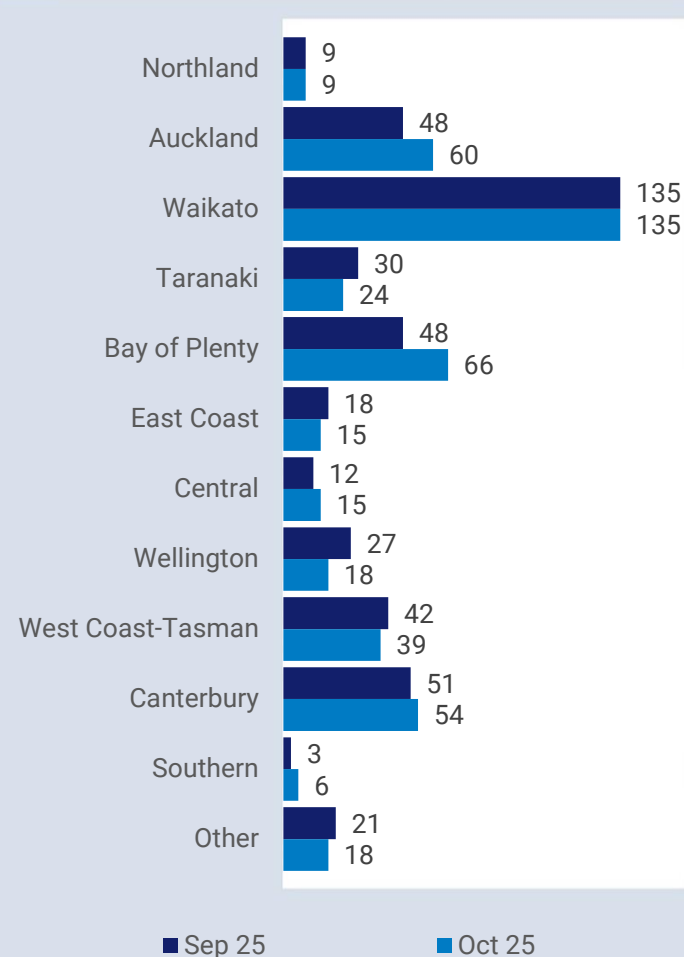
In most regions, the number of households in EH remained stable from September to October 2025. The largest change was in Bay of Plenty, which had 18 more households in EH, a rise of 38%.

As at the end of October 2025, the number of children in EH was 321, nearly the same as in the previous month.

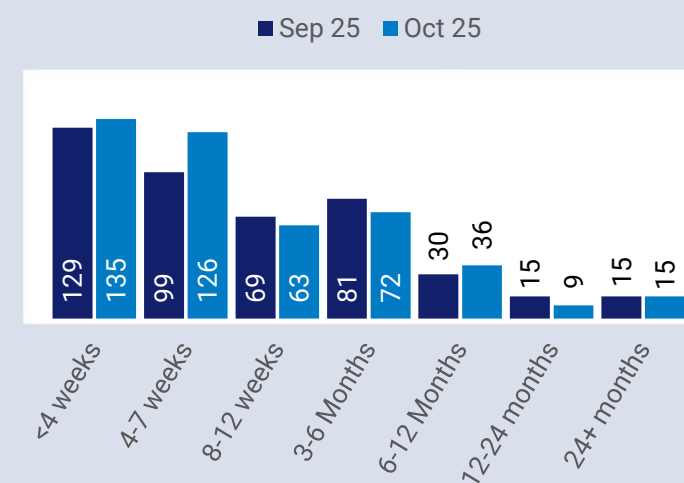
Note: Households living in Contracted Emergency Housing (CEH) in Rotorua are not included in this reporting. The new model is being piloted in Rotorua. Reporting of the number of households in CEH is currently unavailable. Random rounding has been applied to these figures. Figures in tables may not add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

Emergency housing – at the end of the month

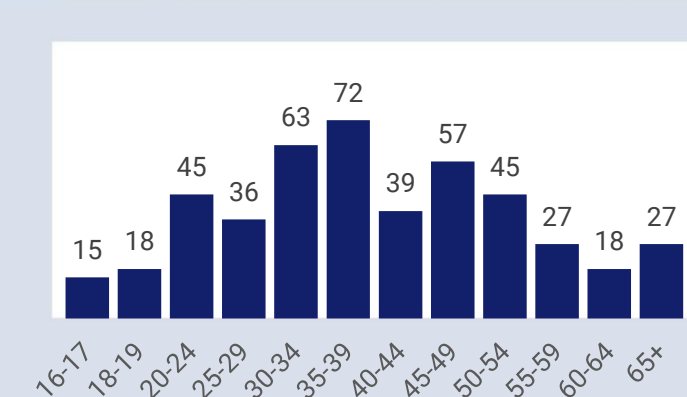
3 Households in emergency housing by MSD region – as at end of the month



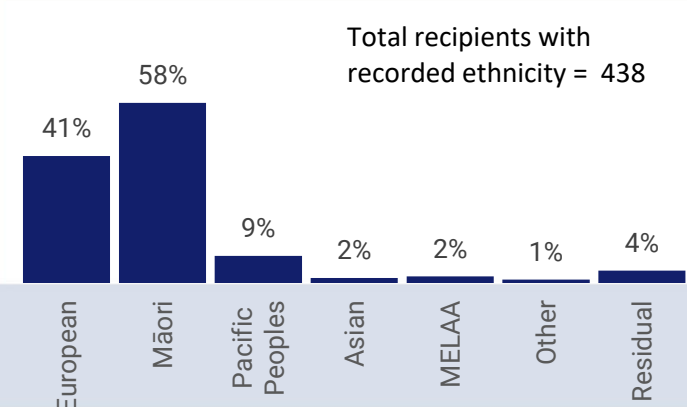
4 Households by duration in emergency housing – as at end of the month



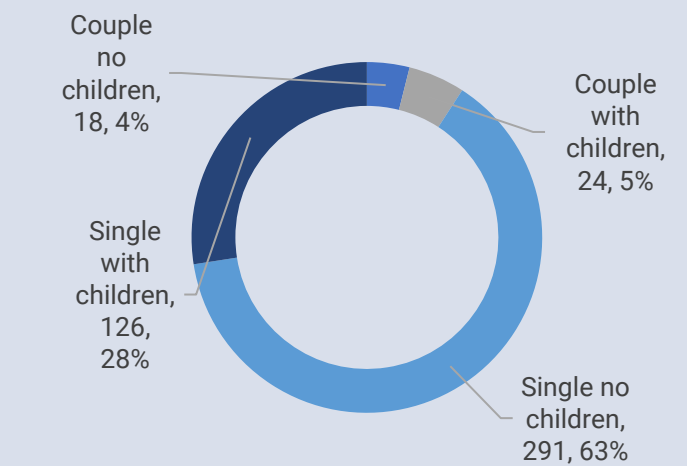
5 Age distribution of primary applicants in emergency housing – as at end of the month



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



7 Household composition – as at end of the month



Social Housing Register | 31 Oct 2025

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



As at 31 Oct 2025

Housing Register
19,362
72 fewer than last month

Transfer Register*
4,839
21 fewer than last month

Social Housing Register
24,201
90 fewer than last month

New applications that entered the Social Housing Register
2,004
126 fewer than last month

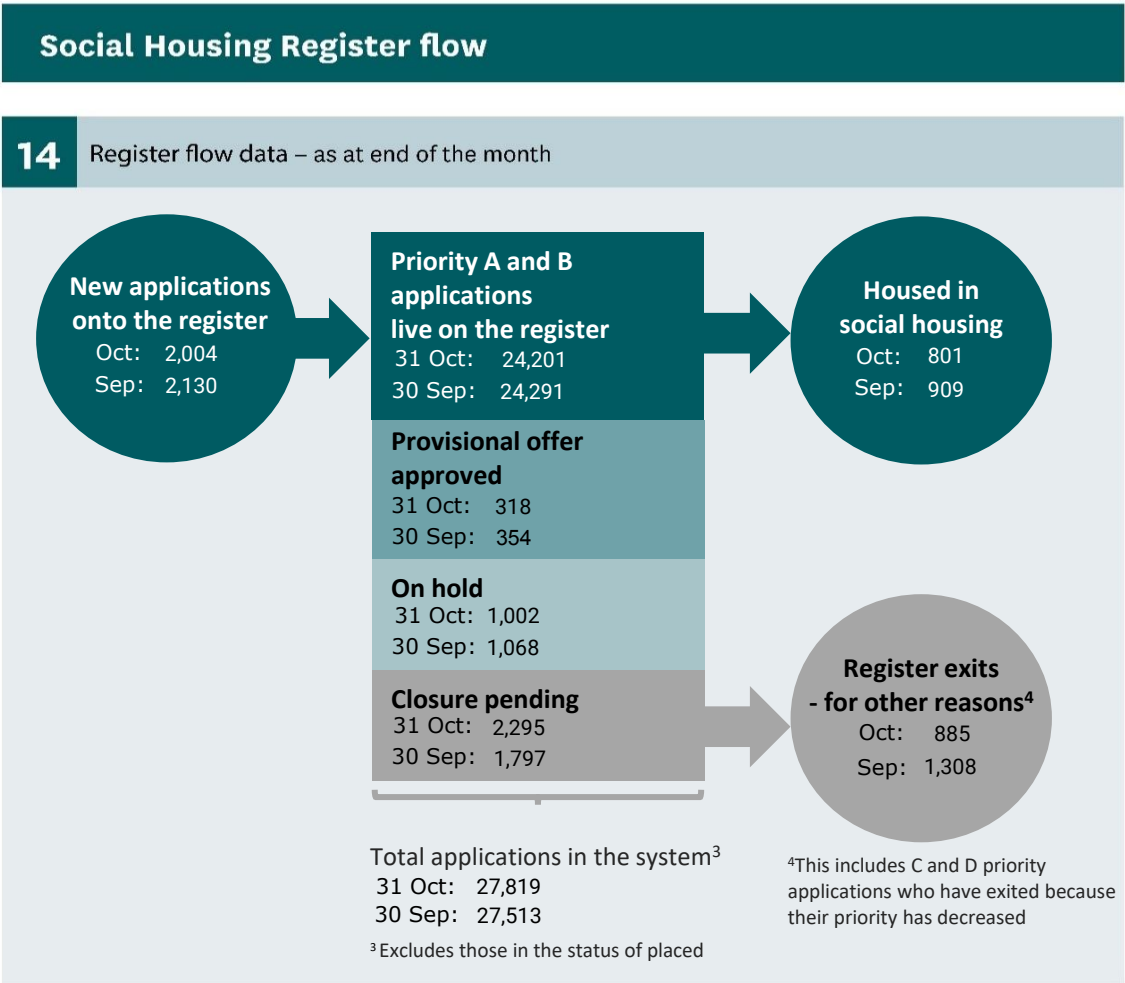
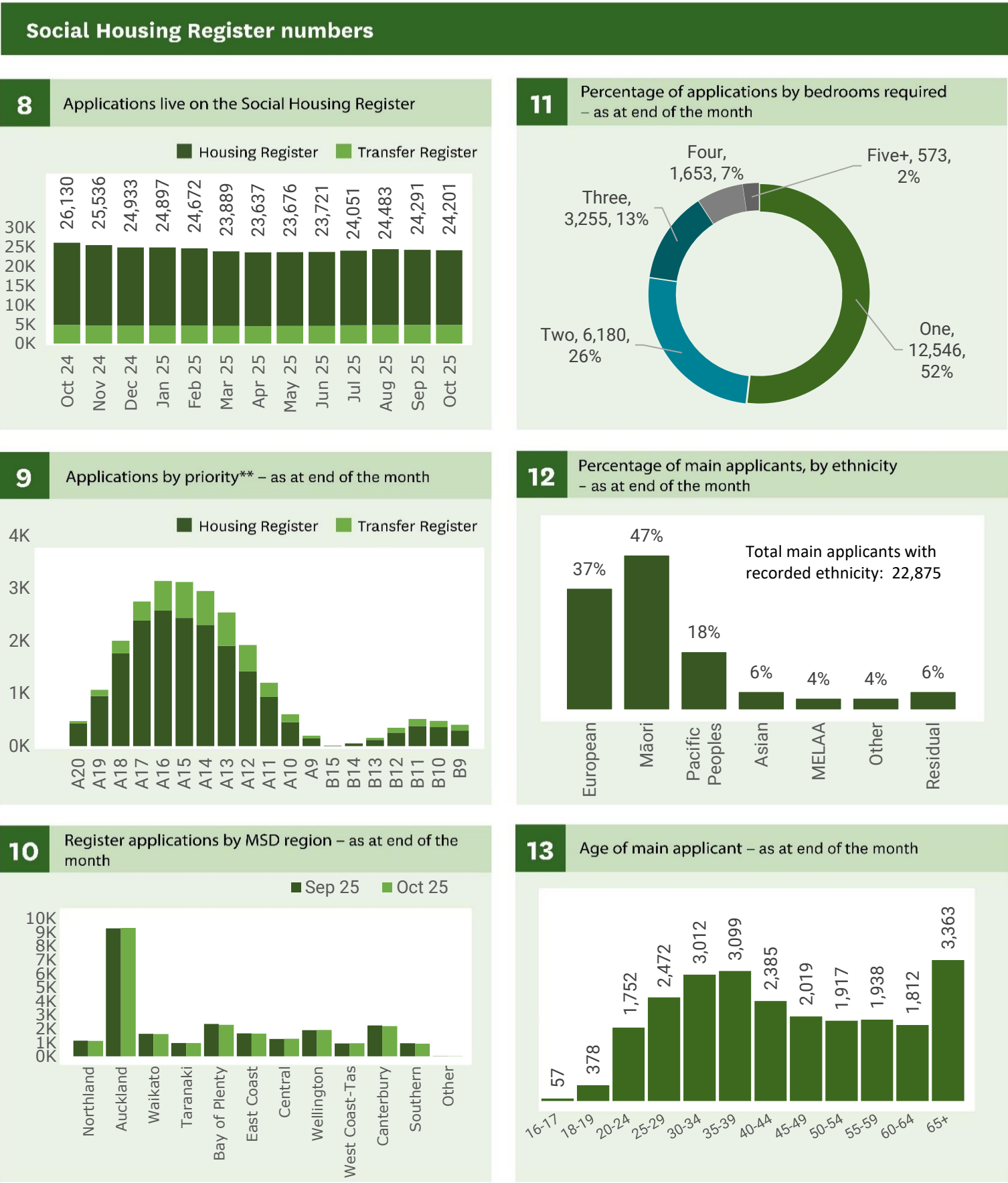
Housed in social housing
801
108 fewer than last month

Priority One Fast Track
Live on Register
18

Housed in Oct 25
3

Housed since May 24
1,089

Children housed since May 24
2,337



Commentary

From September 2025 to October 2025, the number of applications on the Social Housing Register fell by 90 or 0.4%.

The number of applications on the Social Housing Register remained stable in most regions. The largest month-on-month percentage change was in Bay of Plenty, down by 60 or 3%.

**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.

*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. Note, MELAA refers to Middle Eastern, Latin American, and African.