

Overcrowding in Auckland

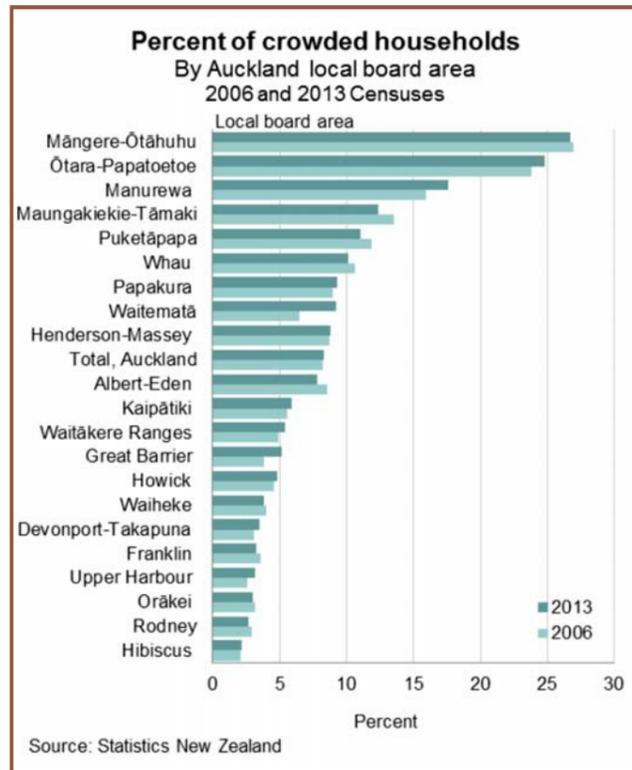
March 2017

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Facts and data

Geographical spread of crowded homes



At the time of the 2013 census:
36,594
Auckland households were crowded
203,817
Aucklanders lived in crowded conditions

“Having more people in the household can be an effective way of reducing the cost of renting, but can lead to household crowding”
– Statistics New Zealand, Housing trends in Auckland 1991 - 2013

63,155
Auckland children under the age of 15 were crowded
Under 24's have the highest rates of crowding

Who is living in crowded homes?

2006 and 2013 Censuses Source: Statistics New Zealand, Housing trends in Auckland 1991 - 2013

Ethnicity	2006		2013	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
European/Other ⁽¹⁾	38,787	5.2	39,939	5.2
Māori	33,735	26.8	33,702	25.4
Pacific peoples	78,015	47.8	81,642	45.3
Asian	47,508	21.5	57,294	19.5
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	4,059	23.7	4,392	18.8

How is overcrowding measured?

Statistics New Zealand use the Canadian National Occupancy Standard to calculate overcrowding. In this definition:

- Couples and people aged 18 and over are allocated a bedroom
- Children under 5 of either sex may share a bedroom
- Children aged between 5 and 18 should only share a bedroom if they are of the same sex
- Households are defined as crowded if these conditions are not met.

! Census data is likely to be lower than actual crowding, due to a reluctance to tell 'officials' about their living arrangements.

! People who were not usual residents (e.g. couch surfing / temporarily sharing) are not included in overcrowding stats. They can be found in other homelessness data.

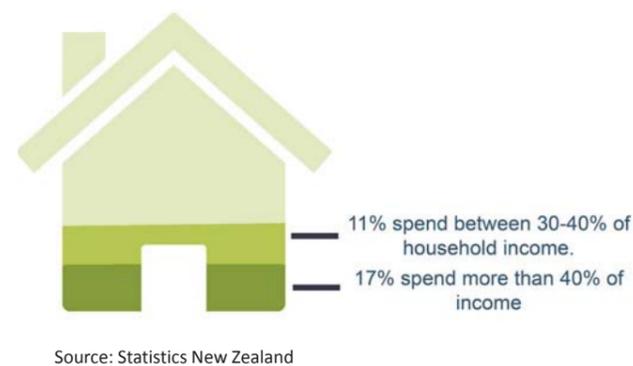
Related factors

“After a period of time living in overcrowded accommodation, the stress of overcrowding becomes so overwhelming that people no longer have the emotional strength to move out of the situation”
Statistics New Zealand, Housing trends in Auckland 1991 - 2013

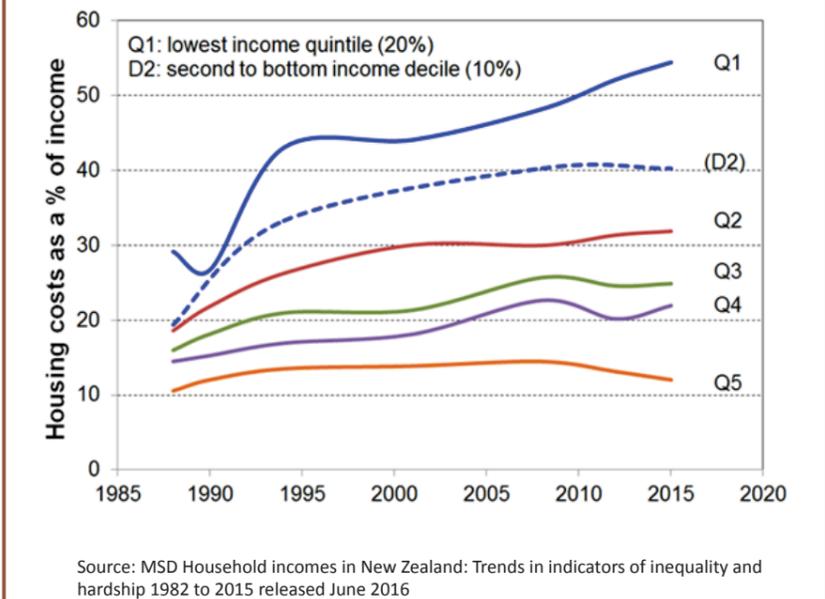
\$526 per week
Auckland mean rent in January 2017
Source: MBIE rental data

2,060
Auckland households on the social housing register waiting for a state home
Source: MSD Social Housing Register December 2016

28% of Auckland households spent more than 30% of total household income on housing costs in 2013



New Zealand's lowest income groups are paying the greatest percentage of their income on housing costs.



Recent Government activities and policies

- **\$303 million package of spending to address homelessness** in Auckland over 4 ½ years which includes (Nov 2016):
 - \$71 million in rental subsidies
 - \$102 million to Community Housing Providers
 - \$10.4 million for more Ministry of Social Development frontline staff
 - \$120 towards capital funding for housing
- **1,900 additional IRRS funded places** over the next four years in Auckland (MSD purchasing intentions, December 2016)
- **\$1m to support some families transition out of social housing**
- **\$5m, 2 year sustaining tenancies initiative** to support social housing tenants at risk of losing their home (Feb 2017).
- **300 new homes for Point England Reserve** jointly delivered by Ngāti Paoa and Tāmaki Redevelopment Company. Intention to create 20 per cent social housing and 20 per cent affordable houses (December 2016)
- **60 new apartments announced on the Te Atatu Peninsula** under the Crown Land Program, which requires 20% of dwellings to be sold under the HomeStart cap of \$650,000 and 20% made available for social housing