

## Key Area: Creating diverse housing choices and options



Increasing trend



Decreasing trend



No change in trend, or changes are minimal/not significant

Indicators are signs of progress towards what the Better Later Life Strategy and Action Plan aim to achieve. Some figures in these indicators (marked with \*) should be taken with caution because of small number of people sampled or counted. This means that changes may not be statistically significant, or the figures are estimates. However, the general trends and overall picture are still informative.

**What we want to achieve:** People can age in a place they call home, safely and, where possible, independently.

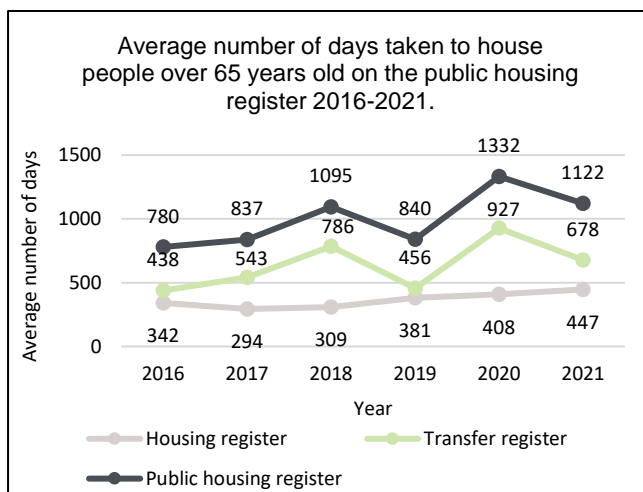
### Indicator 25: The number of over 65-year-olds who are in severe housing deprivation.

For older people the rate of those who are severely housing deprived were; **43.4 per 10,000 (2018), 4 per 1,000 (2013), 5 per 1,000 (2006), 5 per 1,000 (2001)**. In each of the three years it has been calculated older people are the smallest percentage of all severely housing deprived people (7.5 percent in 2018, 7 percent in 2013, 8 percent in 2006, 8 percent in 2001).

Severe housing deprivation includes several different experiences such as those who do not have shelter, people in night shelters or refuges, temporary accommodation such as campgrounds, or people sharing accommodation temporarily in overcrowded private houses.

It is a difficult figure to accurately calculate and was affected by data issues with Census 2018. Therefore, the numbers above are indicative figures only.

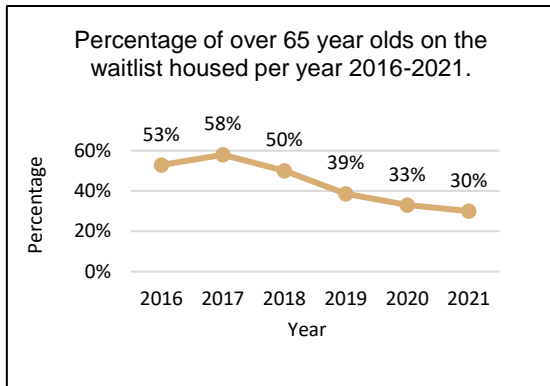
### Indicator 26: Access to social housing – number of days taken to house over 65-year-olds on the public housing register 2016-2021.



The overall number of over 65-year-olds on the public housing waitlist has had a large increase since 2016 (from 567 to 2736).

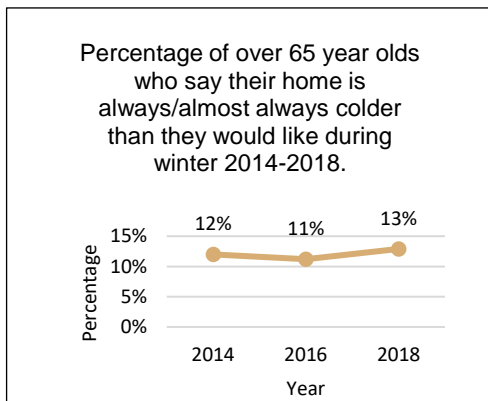
However, the increase in demand itself is not an issue if supply of public housing keeps up. The upward trend of wait time to be housed shows this is not the case. For the last three years people over 65 have, on average, had to wait over a year to be housed once they are on the wait list. Those already in homes who wish to transfer have on average, had wait times more around 18 months.

**Indicator 27:** Percentage of over 65-year-olds on the public housing register housed each year 2016-2021.



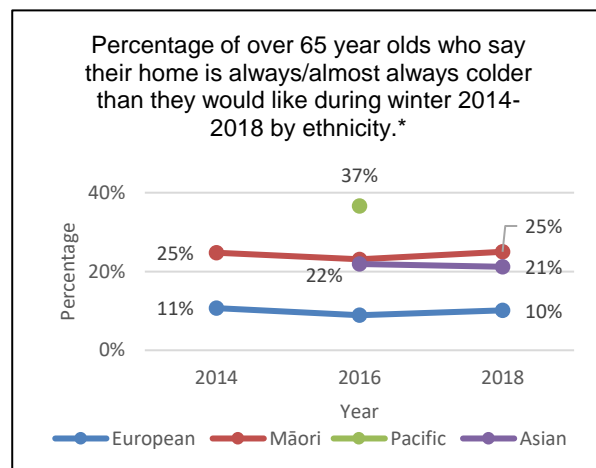
Another indicator of demand for public housing by older people not meeting supply is the percentage of those who are *housed*, regardless of wait time. In the last five years this has steadily declined (from 58 percent in 2016 down to 30 percent).

**Indicator 28:** The percentage of over 65-year-olds who report their house is always or often colder than they would like in winter.

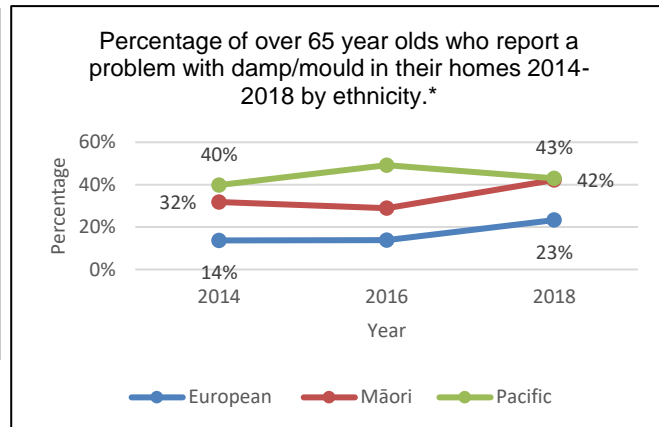
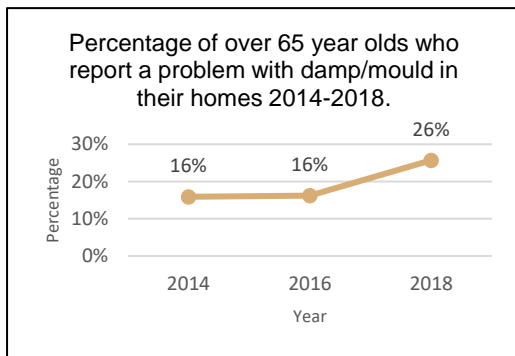


The percentage of older people who report their home as always or often colder than they would like during winter stayed generally stable between 2014 and 2018. There is no gender difference in this indicator.

While ethnicity data needs to be treated with caution, it does show that for most ethnic groups, the trend over the years is stable. A lower percentage of Europeans than the percentages of other ethnicities report cold as an issue in all three years.

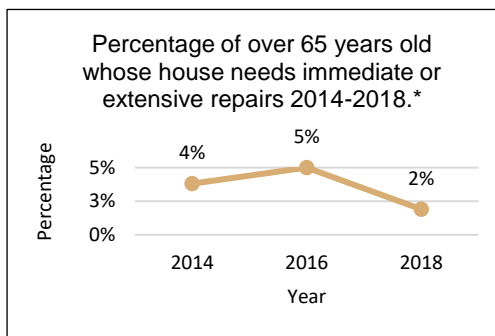


**Indicator 29:** Percentage of over 65-year-olds who report that their house has a major problem with dampness or mould.



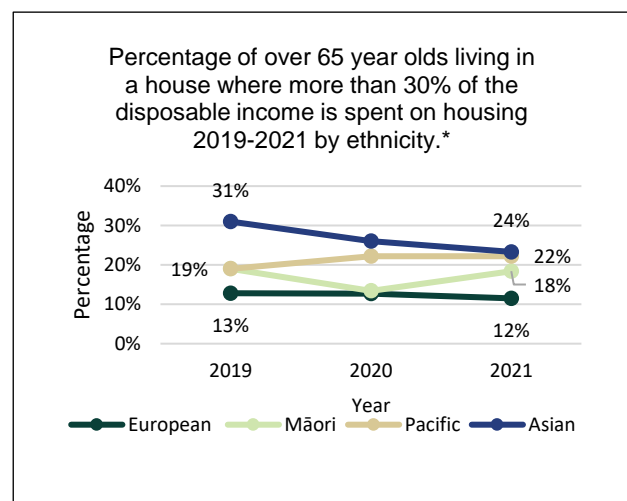
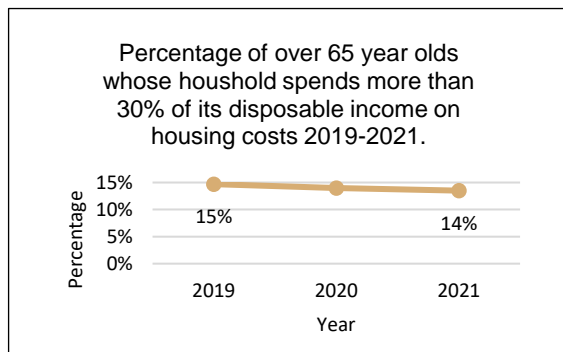
The 2018 result combines dampness and mould into one due to a change in methodology – therefore it does not represent a significant upward trend. There were no notable differences in gender for this indicator. Again, while ethnicity data for Māori and Pacific needs to be taken with caution, there is a clear pattern of them reporting these issues in their home at a higher level to Europeans.

**Indicator 30.:** Percentage of over 65-year-olds who report that their home needs major repairs or maintenance.



This data should be viewed with caution. While the drop from 2016 to 2018 is interesting – it is too soon to say if this is an ongoing trend. There were no differences between genders and the ethnicity data is not reliable.

**Indicator 31:** Percentage of over 65-year-olds who live in a household that spends more than 30% of its disposable income on housing costs.

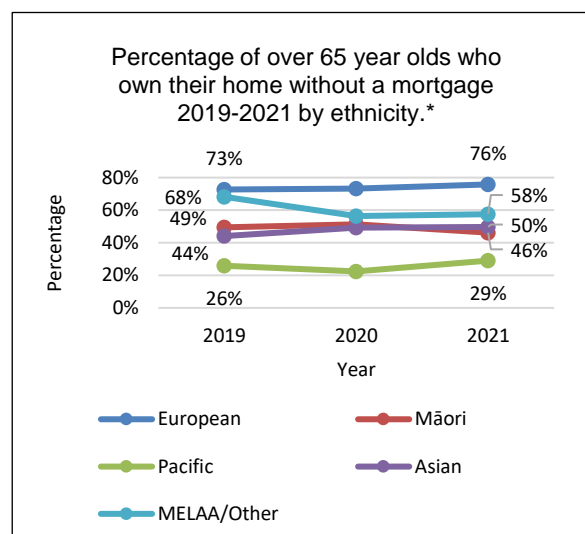
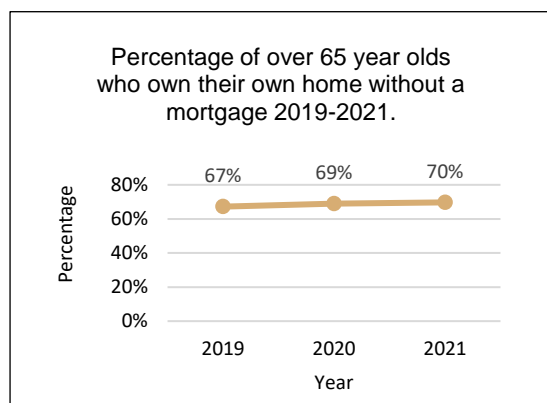


The percentage of older people whose household spends more than 30 percent of its disposable income on housing costs has stayed essentially stable.

While the percentages are stable, it is important to recognise the *number* of people this represents given the fundamental importance of housing. For example, the 14 percent of all over 65-year-olds who lived in a household where more than 30 percent of income is spent on housing costs represents around 104,800 *people*. And while there is not a notable difference in percentages between genders the number of women in this situation in 2021 was around 9,500 more than men.

Similarly, while the ethnicity data should be viewed with notable caution, it's worth noting that in 2021 the 12 percent of Europeans represented around 72,300 people, the 18 percent of Māori represented around 12,700 people and the 22 percent of Pacific represented around 6,500 people.

**Indicator 32:** Percentage of over 65-year-olds who own their own home without a mortgage.



The percentage of older people who own their own homes without a mortgage has remained generally stable at slightly under 70 percent. There is no notable gender difference. Older Europeans are in this position at higher rates than the other ethnicities. In 2021 this was approximately 30 percent higher than Māori and around 46 percent higher than Pacific people (though these ethnicity results should be taken with caution).

## Indicator sources:

Indicator	Source
The number of over 65-year-olds who are in severe housing deprivation.	2018 Severe Housing Deprivation Estimate, HUD
Access to social housing – number of days taken to house over 65-year-olds on the public housing register 2016-2021.	Housing register, MSD
Percentage of over 65-year-olds on the public housing register housed each year 2016-2021.	Housing register, MSD
The percentage of over 65-year-olds who report their house is always or often colder than they would like in winter.	General Social Survey, Stats NZ
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who report that their house has a major problem with dampness or mould.	General Social Survey, Stats NZ
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who report that their home needs major repairs or maintenance.	General Social Survey, Stats NZ
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who live in a household that spends more than 30% of its disposable income on housing costs.	Household Income and housing costs statistics, Household Economic Survey, StatsNZ
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who own their own home without a mortgage.	Household Income and housing costs statistics, Household Economic Survey, StatsNZ