

The truth about New Zealand's housing crisis

Homelessness is increasing across New Zealand

There is more suffering

Government policy is making it worse

Māori experience higher rates of housing deprivation and homelessness. Over 50% of Housing Register applicants identify as Māori. Housing First Auckland data highlights that over 50% of the people and whānau we support who are experiencing homelessness are Māori. Pacific peoples are also over-represented in housing deprivation and homelessness. Over 16% of Housing Register applicants identify as Pacific peoples, and our Housing First Auckland data highlights that over 20% of the people and whānau we support who are experiencing homelessness are Pacific peoples.

Take a visual journey through Aotearoa New Zealand's housing failure... our national shame.

These findings are the result of over 50 OIA requests to local government and central government agencies

1 IN EVERY 1000 PEOPLE ARE LIVING WITHOUT SHELTER

Countless others suffer beyond statistical reach, their desperation unrecorded

Updated: 11 April 2025

HORRIFYING 81% SPIKE IN CRIMES AGAINST PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

While offences committed by those without shelter increased by 7% since 2017

Updated: 11 April 2025

14 IN EVERY 1000 PEOPLE LIVE IN UNINHABITABLE HOUSING

No water, no electricity, no way to cook, no kitchen sink, no shower or toilet

Updated: 11 April 2025

OVER 112,000 PEOPLE ARE HOMELESS

With a 74% surge in people living in temporary accommodation since 2018

Updated: 11 April 2025

WHERE ARE OUR MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND YOUTH SLEEPING NOW?

Admissions by Oranga Tamariki to in-service residence sharply declined in 2024

Updated: 14 April 2025

EVERY EMPTY SCHOOL DESK HIDES A HOUSING STORY WE FAIL TO TRACK

Zero data collected connecting housing situation to missed school attendance

Updated: 11 April 2025

130% INCREASE IN NUMBER OF PEOPLE HOSPITALISED WHO WERE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Increase since 2017

Updated: 11 April 2025

HOUSING IS A HUGE WORRY FOR KIWIS AGED 18-40 YEARS

Ranks as the second biggest concern for those aged 18-34 and third for 35-40 yrs

Updated: 11 April 2025

386% INCREASE IN EMERGENCY HOUSING DECLINES ON BASIS PEOPLE 'CONTRIBUTED TO THEIR HOMELESSNESS'

Increase over 6 months following policy change on how MSD supports people in Emergency Housing

Updated: 11 April 2025

EMERGENCY HOUSING: WHERE ARE PEOPLE LIVING NOW?

Since 2020, EH declines have soared from 2% to 27%

Updated: 11 April 2025

SYSTEM IGNORES IMPACT OF HOUSING CRISIS ON TERTIARY STUDENTS

No data collected on how housing instability or homelessness affects students

Updated: 11 April 2025

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY HAS PLUMMETED SINCE 2018

Public housing waitlists grew 90%, people receiving housing supplements grew 28%

Updated: 11 April 2025

NO HOUSE, NO CHILD: # OF SHATTERED FAMILIES DUE TO UNSTABLE HOUSING IS UNKNOWN

Updated: 11 April 2025

CITIES FLYING BLIND ON HOMELESSNESS CRISIS

Zero city councils regularly collecting local homelessness data and trends

Updated: 11 April 2025

ALARMING RATES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

19% increase in women being supported by Women's Refuge since 2017

Updated: 11 April 2025

JUSTICE SYSTEM IGNORES HOUSING SITUATION ON ENTRY AND HOUSING NEED ON EXIT

Pre-custody addresses and type of housing people are released to is not recorded

Updated: 11 April 2025

INTEGRATED HOUSING DATA ACROSS THE SYSTEM WOULD ENABLE BETTER RESPONSES

When people apply for wide support their housing situation is not recorded

Updated: 11 April 2025