

Older Aucklanders: Results From the 2018 Census

Laura Roberts

November 2020

Technical Report 2020/023



Research and
Evaluation Unit

RIMU

**Auckland
Council**
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau



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Executive summary

This report provides an overview of older adults aged 65 years and over in Auckland, based on data from the 2018 Census. Auckland Council recognises the importance of ensuring future decisions include the needs and aspirations of this large, growing, and diverse group. Part of this involves maintaining an understanding of older Aucklanders based on available census data.

Key findings:

- In 2018, there were 189,177 usual residents aged 65 years and over in Auckland. Older Aucklanders made up 12.0 per cent of the total Auckland population. More than half (58.1%) were aged 65 to 74 years, with 30.1 per cent aged 75 to 84 years and 11.8 per cent aged 85 years or over.
- Older Aucklanders made up over a quarter (26.5%) of the national count of older people.
- The number of older Aucklanders continues to increase over time, up 13.0 per cent or 21,813 people since 2013. The rate of growth among older adults is occurring slightly more quickly than general population growth, reflective of Auckland's ageing population.
- There are more older females than older males in Auckland, with 117 females to every 100 males. This ratio becomes more pronounced among those aged 85 years and over, to 173 females to every 100 males. However, over time this ratio has become less marked, down from 226 females to every 100 males in 2006.
- The distribution of where older adults live varied across Auckland. The highest numbers lived around the edge of the isthmus – especially in the east, along the coast of the North Shore, the Whangaparāoa peninsula, and Warkworth. More generally, the North Shore and east Auckland tend to have high numbers of older Aucklanders living there, followed by west Auckland. There are lower numbers of older Aucklanders living in the city centre and in south Auckland.
- The local board areas with the largest number of older adults are Howick (19,092 people), Hibiscus and Bays (18,306 people) and Ōrākei (13,338 people). The local boards with the highest proportion of their population aged 65 years and over are Aotea / Great Barrier (23.6%), Waiheke (20.2%), Hibiscus and Bays (17.5%), Rodney (17.5%) and Devonport-Takapuna (15.9%).
- The majority of older Aucklanders identify as European, this group making up 70.8 per cent of those aged 65 and over in Auckland. The next largest ethnic group was the broad Asian (16.1%) group, followed by Pacific (7.0%), Māori (4.7%) and Middle Eastern, Latin American or African (0.8%).
- Compared to the general Auckland population, older Aucklanders are less ethnically diverse. For example, among the general population, just over half (53.5%) identify as European, compared with seven in ten (70.8%) among those aged 65 years and older.

- Ethnic diversity is less pronounced among those aged 85 years and older, 84.7 per cent were European.
- The proportion of older Aucklanders who are European has declined since 2013 by 6.9 percentage points (from 77.7% in 2013, to 70.8% in 2018). Meanwhile, the proportion who are Māori, Pacific, Asian or other have all increased to some extent. This indicates that although older Aucklanders still tend to be predominantly European, this group is gradually becoming more ethnically diverse over time.
- The proportion of older Aucklanders who identify within the broad Asian category has almost doubled since 2006, from 8.8 per cent (10,749 people) in 2006, to 16.1 per cent (31,356 people) in 2018.
- After English (90.1% of older Aucklanders), the second most commonly spoken language was Northern Chinese (3.8% or 7116 people), followed by Samoan (3.3% or 6270 people) and Yue (3.0% or 5751 people). Just 1.8 per cent of older Aucklanders spoke Māori (3429 people) and 0.3 per cent spoke New Zealand Sign Language (492 people), both official languages of New Zealand.
- Just over half (55.5% or 103,524) of older Aucklanders were born in New Zealand, with the remainder born overseas (44.5% or 82,932 people). Among those born overseas, the largest number were born in Asia (31.2% or 25,875 people), followed closely by the United Kingdom and Ireland (30.5% or 25,290 people), and the Pacific Islands (19.7% or 16,332 people).
- Almost three quarters (71.2%) of overseas born older Aucklanders arrived in New Zealand 20 years ago or longer, with an additional 19.2 per cent who arrived between 10 to 19 years ago.
- Just over two thirds of older Aucklanders said they owned the home they lived in (67.0%), compared with just under half (49.1%) of the general population aged 15 years and over. However, the proportion of older Aucklanders who own the home they live in (67.0%), is smaller than that among older adults who live elsewhere in New Zealand (76.8%).
- In total, 22.4 per cent of older Aucklanders were employed, this includes 13.0 per cent who were employed full-time and 9.4 per cent who were employed part-time. The largest group of older Aucklanders were not in the labour force (77.1%). The most common occupation among employed older Aucklanders was professionals (26.8%) and managers (19.7%).
- Older Aucklanders have a median income of \$22,500, relatively low compared to the overall Auckland median of \$34,400, likely a result of older Aucklanders tending to cease employment and move into retirement. Almost half (48.5%) of older Aucklanders reported receiving income from one source only, and more than a third (35.6%) reported two sources. The two most frequently reported income sources were New Zealand Superannuation and interest/dividends/rent/other investments.

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1.0 Introduction

This report presents an overview of older adults aged 65 years and over in Auckland / Tāmaki Makaurau, based on data from the 2018 Census. It is important for Auckland Council to maintain a comprehensive understanding of this large, growing and diverse group by exploring available data.

Auckland Council recognises the importance of ensuring future decisions align with the needs and aspirations of older Aucklanders. At the time of writing, the council is working with other organisations to develop a cross-sectoral Age-Friendly Action Plan. This is expected to raise awareness of older people's needs and contributions and improve the wellbeing of older Aucklanders. The plan will also enable Auckland to obtain membership of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Network of Age-Friendly cities and communities¹.

The project is connected to the Belonging and Participation outcome in the Auckland Plan 2050², along with other Auckland Council strategies and policies. The WHO's framework for an age-friendly city includes eight domains that cover requisites to ensure the age-friendliness of Auckland's physical and social environment.

This report is part of a suite of reports produced based on 2018 Census data for Auckland, including Children and young people in Auckland: results from the 2018 Census³ and profiles produced by Local Board Area and ethnic group⁴.

1.1 This report

Information presented in this report is based on the usually resident population count from the 2018 New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings. This excludes New Zealand residents who were temporarily overseas on census night.

Older adults are defined as any individual aged 65 years or over. This report presents results for three aged-defined groups, namely those aged 65-74 years (referred to as the 'young-old'), those aged 75-84 years (referred to as the 'old') and those aged 85 years and over (referred to as the 'old-old'). This helps to discern responses associated with the different life stages of each of the three groups. Where relevant, results are also provided for all older Aucklanders aged 65 years and over in total.

¹ More information is available at: https://www.who.int/ageing/projects/age_friendly_cities_network/en/

² The Auckland Plan 2050 is available at: www.theaucklandplan.govt.nz

³ Full report is available at: <https://knowledgeauckland.org.nz/publications/children-and-young-people-in-auckland-results-from-the-2018-census/>

⁴ Profiles are available at: <https://www.censusauckland.co.nz/InformationSheet/>

Unless otherwise stated, all percentages in this report exclude responses that cannot be classified (e.g. 'not stated', 'response unidentifiable', 'response out of scope'). This is in line with Stats NZ conventions.

Throughout the report, comparisons from 2018 are made with results from the 2013 and 2006 censuses. Please note that the time period between these censuses differs, with the gap between the 2006 and 2013 Census being seven years, and the gap between the 2013 and 2018 Census being five years. Caution should be exercised when comparing inter-censal change.

Ethnicity is identified as a measure of cultural affiliation by Stats NZ, rather than a measure of race, ancestry, nationality or citizenship. Ethnicity is self-perceived, and individuals could identify with more than one ethnicity. As a result, proportions may add to more than 100 per cent.

The 2018 Census took place in March 2018, well before the Covid-19 pandemic. Results detailed in this report therefore are not influenced by Covid-19 in any way and should not be used to make inferences about the impact of Covid-19 on older Aucklanders.

1.2 Data quality

In response to issues with the 2018 Census, Stats NZ for the first time, used administrative and other data to help fill gaps caused by response rates that were lower than anticipated. More information on data sources used by variable is available on the Stats NZ website⁵. For the purpose of this report, only variables that have received quality ratings of 'very high', 'high' or in some cases, 'moderate' have been included.

⁵ www.stats.govt.nz/methods/data-quality-assurance-for-2018-census

2.0 Numbers and Growth

In 2018, there were 189,177 usual residents aged 65 years and over in Auckland. This group made up 12.0 per cent of the total Auckland population. Within this age group:

- 109,905 were aged 65-74 years (58.1%)
- 57,003 were aged 75-84 years (30.1%)
- 22,269 were aged 85 years and over (11.8%).

Auckland’s older adult population makes up more than a quarter (26.5%) of the national count of older people.

2.1 Growth by age group

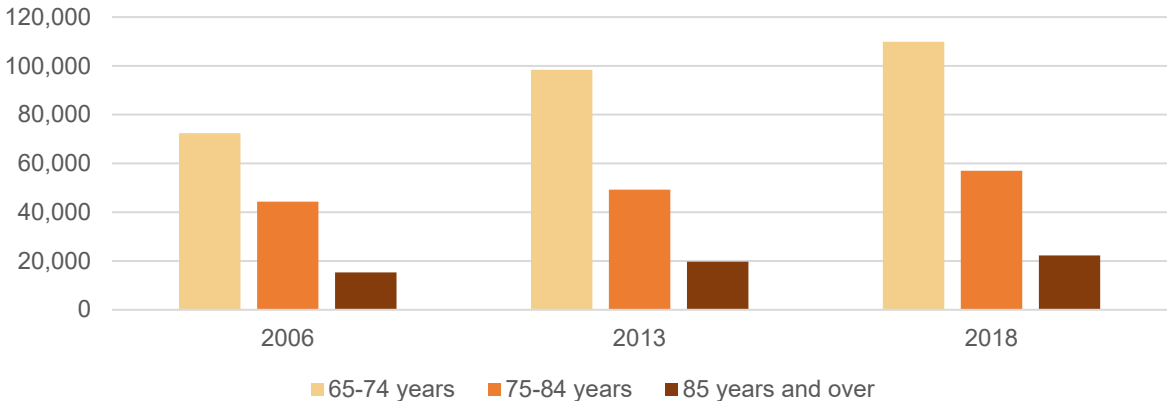
The number of older Aucklanders continues to increase over time, in line with general population growth.

In 2006, there were 132,033 people aged 65 years and over in Auckland (10.0% of the total Auckland population). By 2013, the number had increased by 35,331 people to reach 167,364 (constituting 11.8% of the Auckland population). By 2018, the number of older Aucklanders had increased by 21,813 people to 189,177 (12.0% of the population). This indicates that the proportion of the Auckland population aged 65 years and over is increasing slightly over time, in line with an ageing population.

As Figure 1 illustrates, this growth has been particularly large in the 65-74 year age group, increasing from 72,405 in 2006, to 98,421 in 2013, to 109,905 in 2018. This is related to the ‘baby boomer’ cohort reaching this age group. Baby boomers were born roughly between 1946 and 1965 following the end of World War Two, so would have been aged between 53 and 72 years in 2018.

There has been growth in the two other age groups, but not to such a large extent.

Figure 1. Number of older Aucklanders by age group over time (2006, 2013, 2018)



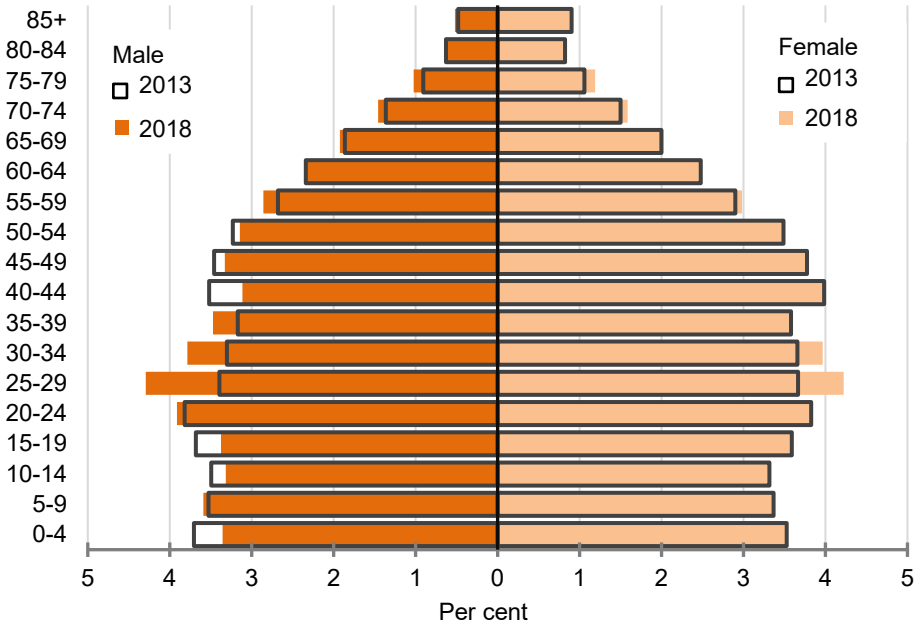
2.2 Auckland’s ageing population

Auckland, and New Zealand more generally, has an ageing population. This is shown by the age-sex structure at Figure 2, with its relatively narrow base of children and young people (under 25 years), bulge in the adult population (25 to 64 years), and relatively large proportion in the older adult age range (65 years and over). In the future, it is expected the proportion of Auckland’s population who are older adults will continue to increase.

An ageing population occurs when historically, there has been a gradual transition from high birth and death rates, to lower birth and death rates. Another factor is the cohort effect of the ‘baby boomer’ generation continuing to age, with more and more reaching the older adult age range.

As Auckland’s ageing population progresses, the higher proportion of the population aged 65 years and over is expected to have substantial implications on healthcare, housing, transport, the labour force, employment, and recreation.

Figure 2. Age-sex structure for Auckland (2013, 2018)



3.0 Sex Ratios

There are more older females than older males in Auckland. Overall, the Auckland older adult population had a ratio of 117 females to 100 males in 2018.

3.1 Sex ratios by age group

Sex ratios differ significantly among the three age groups, with almost twice as many females than males in the 85 years and over age group (ratio of 100:173), compared to an almost 1:1 ratio for people aged 65-74 years (ratio of 100:107). This is a result of females having a longer life expectancy than males.

Table 1. Sex ratios of Aucklanders aged 65 years and over, by age group (2018)

	Total number of males : females	Rounded ratio of males : females
65-74 years	53,157 : 56,745	100 : 107
75-84 years	25,935 : 31,071	100 : 120
85 years and over	8172 : 14,097	100 : 173
Total 65 years and over	87,264 : 101,913	100 : 117

3.2 Sex ratios by local board area

Sex ratios differ across Auckland by local board area. All local board areas had more females than males, excluding Aotea / Great Barrier which had 141 males and 99 females (ratio of 100:70). The local boards with the largest number of females compared to males aged 65 years and over are Whau (100:126), Henderson-Massey (100:125), Devonport-Takapuna (100:125) Ōrākei (100:124), and Kaipātiki (100:123).

Table 2. Sex ratios of Aucklanders aged 65 years and older, by local board area (2018)

	Total number of males : females	Rounded ratio of males : females
Rodney	5505 : 5589	100 : 102
Hibiscus and Bays	8373 : 9984	100 : 119
Upper Harbour	3531 : 4068	100 : 115
Kaipātiki	4617 : 5640	100 : 122
Devonport-Takapuna	4191 : 5238	100 : 125
Henderson-Massey	5490 : 6843	100 : 125
Waitākere Ranges	2616 : 2772	100 : 106
Aotea / Great Barrier	138 : 93	100 : 67
Waiheke	912 : 984	100 : 108
Waitematā	3252 : 3294	100 : 101
Whau	4263 : 5364	100 : 126
Albert-Eden	4446 : 5493	100 : 124
Puketāpapa	3207 : 3810	100 : 119
Ōrākei	5973 : 7365	100 : 123

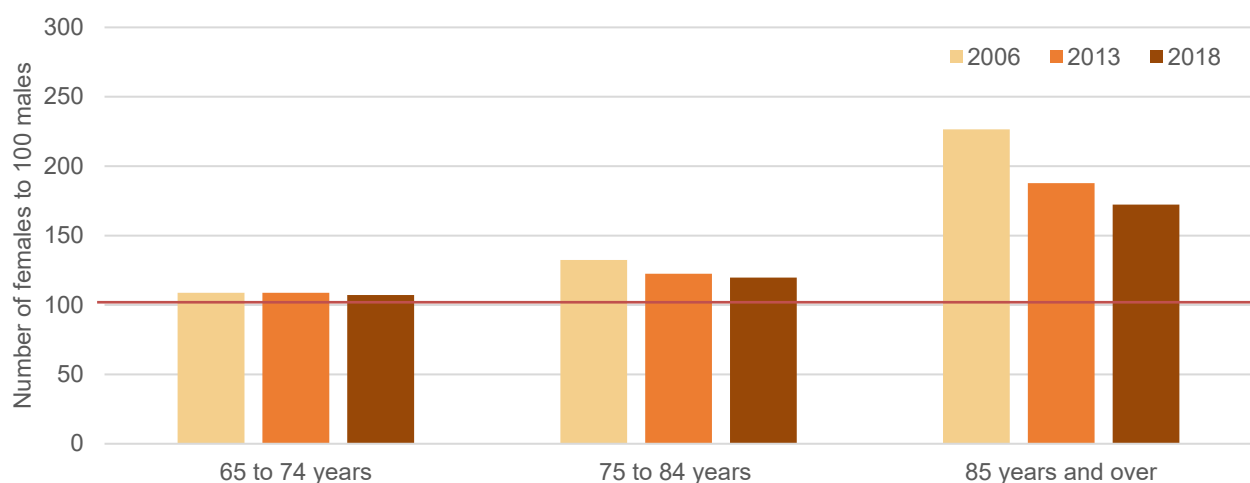
	Total number of males : females	Rounded ratio of males : females
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki	3687 : 4425	100 : 120
Howick	8850 : 10,236	100 : 116
Māngere-Ōtāhuhu	3174 : 3471	100 : 109
Ōtara-Papatoetoe	3168 : 3783	100 : 119
Manurewa	3732 : 4245	100 : 114
Papakura	2736 : 3327	100 : 122
Franklin	5403 : 5895	100 : 109

3.3 Change in sex ratio over time

Since 2006, the ratio of older females to males has been declining, as shown in Figure 3. In 2006 there were 126 older females for every 100 males aged 65, dropping to 120 females for every 100 males in 2013, and to 117 females for every 100 males in 2018.

The greatest decrease in sex ratio has occurred among those aged 85 years and over, down from 226 older females to every 100 males in 2006, to 188 older females to every 100 males in 2013 and 172 females for every 100 males in 2018. This is expected to be a result of increased life expectancy of men, with higher numbers reaching the 85 years and over age group.

Figure 3. Sex ratio, by age group (2006, 2013, 2018)



Note: Red line indicates 100 males.

4.0 Geographical Distribution

This section illustrates where older Aucklanders live and the extent to which they had moved their usual residence in the five years prior to the 2018 Census.

4.1 Where older Aucklanders live

The distribution of where older Aucklanders lived varied across the region. The map at Figure 4 shows the highest numbers living around the edge of the isthmus – including in the east, along the coast of the North Shore, the Whangaparāoa peninsula, and Warkworth. More generally, the North Shore and east Auckland tend to have high numbers of older Aucklanders living there, followed by west Auckland. There are lower numbers of older Aucklanders living in the city centre and in south Auckland. Please note that the maps show distribution by Stats NZ’s Statistical Area 2 (SA2), while distribution by local board is provided in Table 3.

The largest number of older Aucklanders live within the Howick local board area (19,092 people), partly a reflection of the large total population of this local board area. This is followed by Hibiscus and Bays (18,360 people) and Ōrākei (13,338 people).

The local boards with the highest proportion of their population aged 65 years and over are Aotea / Great Barrier (23.6%), Waiheke (20.2%), Hibiscus and Bays (17.5%), Rodney (16.8%) and Devonport-Takapuna (15.9%). While the local boards with the lowest proportion of their population aged 65 years and over include Waitemātā (7.1%), Ōtara-Papatoetoe (8.1%), Manurewa (8.3%) and Māngere-Ōtāhuhu (8.3%).

Figure 5 shows the distribution of where older Aucklanders live, by the three age groups. The maps show that those aged 85 years and over tend to live in the same areas as described above, but in a more concentrated pattern. This geographic concentration of the ‘old-old’ is likely to be a result of provisions for older people being based in these areas, such as rest-homes and retirement villages. For example, Howick, Hibiscus and Bays, Devonport-Takapuna and Albert-Eden are all known to have a high density of such facilities located within their local board areas.

Figure 4. Distribution of all older Aucklanders (65 years and over), by SA2 (2018)

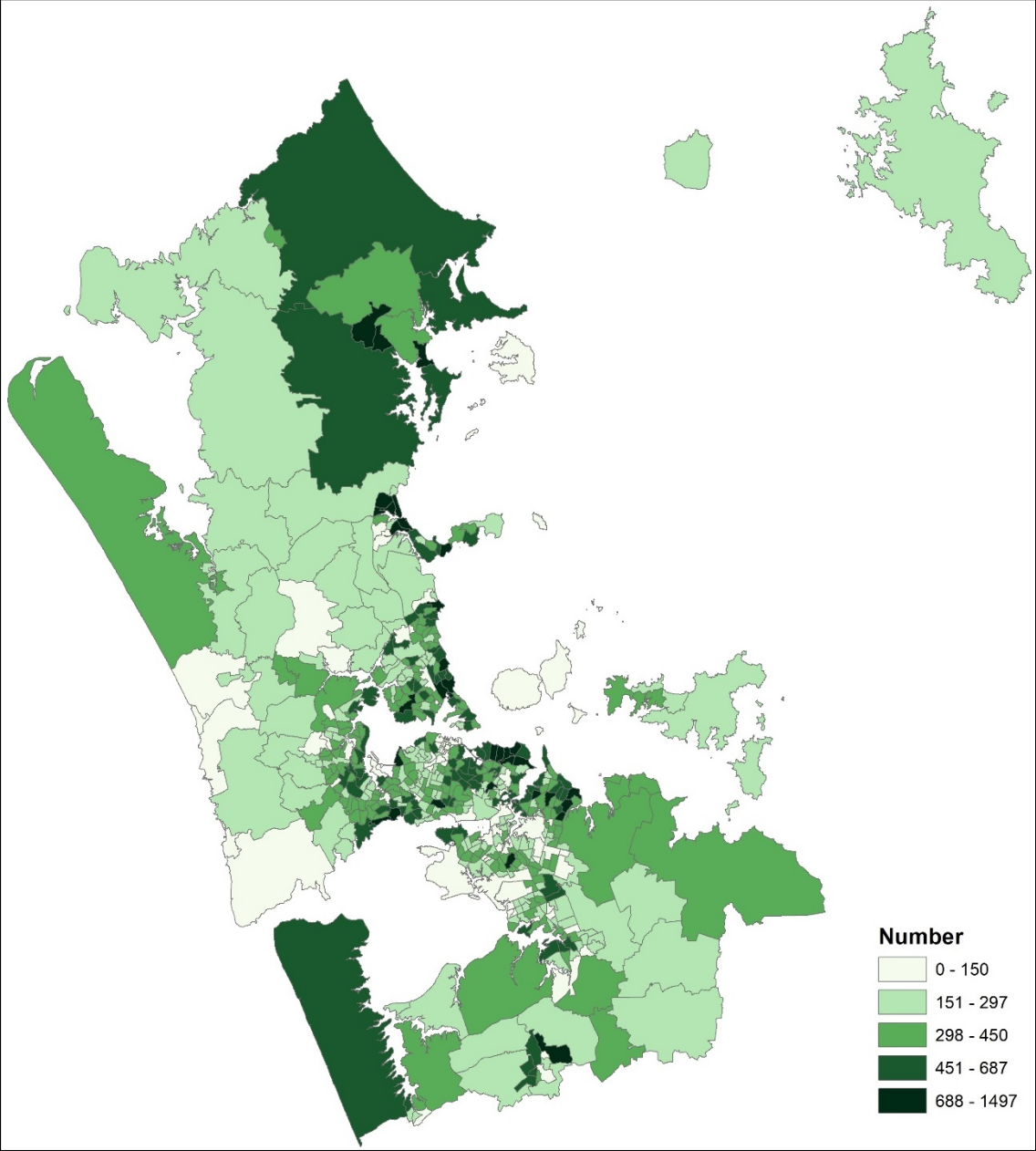
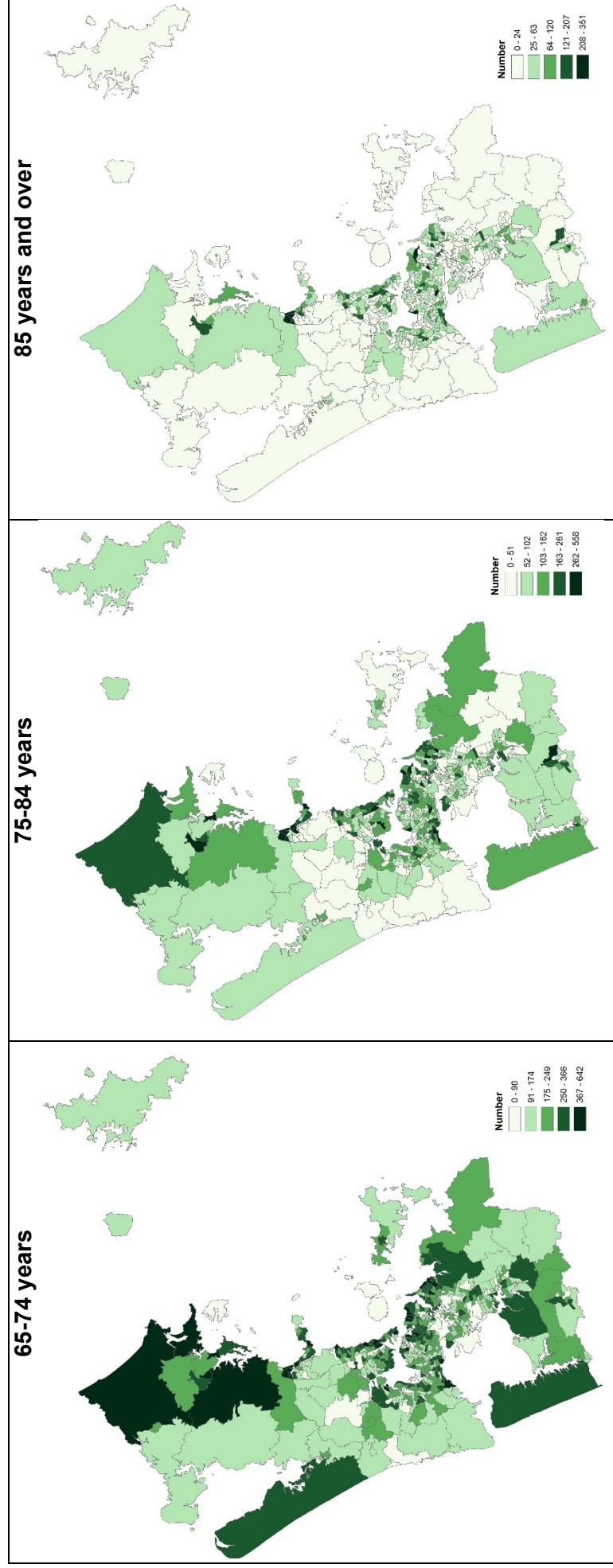


Figure 5. Distribution of older Aucklanders, by age group and SA2



Note: Different colour scales are used in each of these maps.

Table 3. Number of older Aucklanders in each local board area, as a percentage of the total local board area population, and as a percentage of the older Aucklander population (2018)

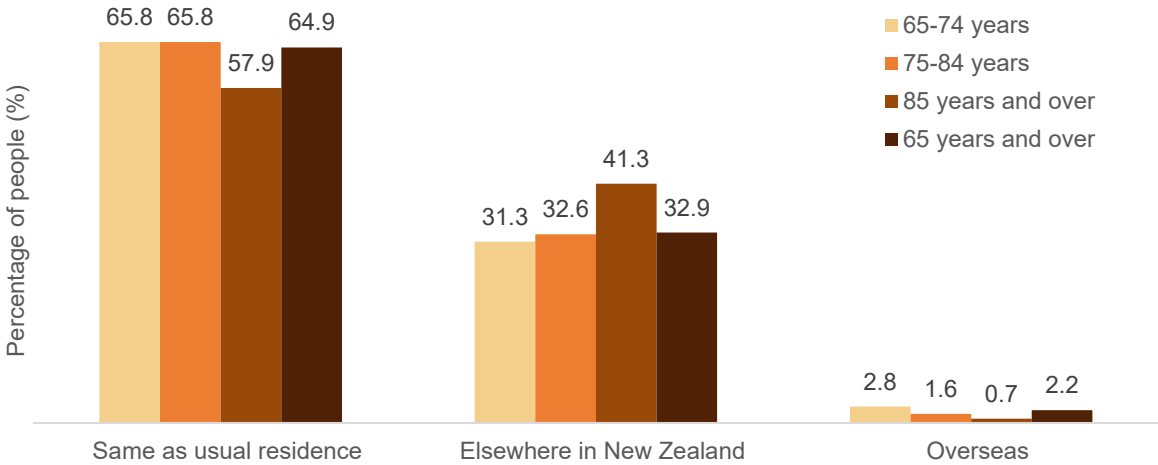
	Number of people				Percentage of total local board area population				Percentage of local board areas older population			
	65-74 years	75-84 years	85 years and over	Total 65 years and over	65-74 years	75-84 years	85 years and over	Total 65 years and over	65-74 years	75-84 years	85 years and over	Total 65 years and over
Rodney	6969	3111	1014	11,094	10.5	4.7	1.5	16.8	62.8	28.0	9.1	
Hibiscus and Bays	10,116	5889	2355	18,360	9.7	5.6	2.2	17.5	55.1	32.1	12.8	
Upper Harbour	4164	2367	1077	7608	6.5	3.7	1.7	11.9	54.7	31.1	14.2	
Kaipātiki	5838	3219	1197	10,254	6.6	3.6	1.3	11.6	56.9	31.4	11.7	
Devonport-Takapuna	5148	2913	1371	9432	8.7	4.9	2.3	15.9	54.6	30.9	14.5	
Henderson-Massey	7086	3777	1470	12,333	6.0	3.2	1.2	10.4	57.5	30.6	11.9	
Waitākere Ranges	3594	1362	432	5388	6.9	2.6	0.8	10.3	66.7	25.3	8.0	
Aotea / Great Barrier	150	69	12	231	15.3	7.1	1.2	23.6	64.9	29.9	5.2	
Waiheke	1296	489	114	1899	13.8	5.2	1.2	20.2	68.2	25.8	6.0	
Waitematā	4428	1626	486	6540	4.8	1.8	0.5	7.1	67.7	24.9	7.4	
Whau	5022	3246	1359	9627	6.3	4.1	1.7	12.1	52.2	33.7	14.1	
Albert-Eden	5592	2907	1443	9942	5.6	2.9	1.4	9.9	56.2	29.2	14.5	
Puketāpapa	3759	2316	942	7017	6.5	4.0	1.6	12.1	53.6	33.0	13.4	
Ōrākei	7533	3954	1851	13,338	8.9	4.7	2.2	15.7	56.5	29.6	13.9	
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki	4515	2508	1098	8121	5.9	3.3	1.4	10.7	55.6	30.9	13.5	
Howick	11,025	5811	2256	19,092	7.8	4.1	1.6	13.4	57.7	30.4	11.8	
Māngere-Ōtāhuhu	4230	1905	507	6642	5.3	2.4	0.6	8.3	63.7	28.7	7.6	
Ōtara-Papatoetoe	4299	2067	585	6951	5.0	2.4	0.7	8.1	61.8	29.7	8.4	
Manurewa	4842	2292	840	7974	5.1	2.4	0.9	8.3	60.7	28.7	10.5	
Papakura	3522	1788	759	6069	6.1	3.1	1.3	10.6	58.0	29.5	12.5	
Franklin	6780	3396	1116	11,292	9.1	4.5	1.5	15.1	60.0	30.1	9.9	
Total Auckland	109,905	57,003	22,269	189,177	6.9	3.6	1.4	11.9	58.1	30.1	11.8	

4.2 Usual residence five years prior

In 2018, almost two thirds (64.9%) of older Aucklanders were living in the same residence as they had been in 2013. Another third (32.9%) were living ‘elsewhere in New Zealand’ (this includes Auckland) in 2013, while just 2.2 per cent were living overseas at that time.

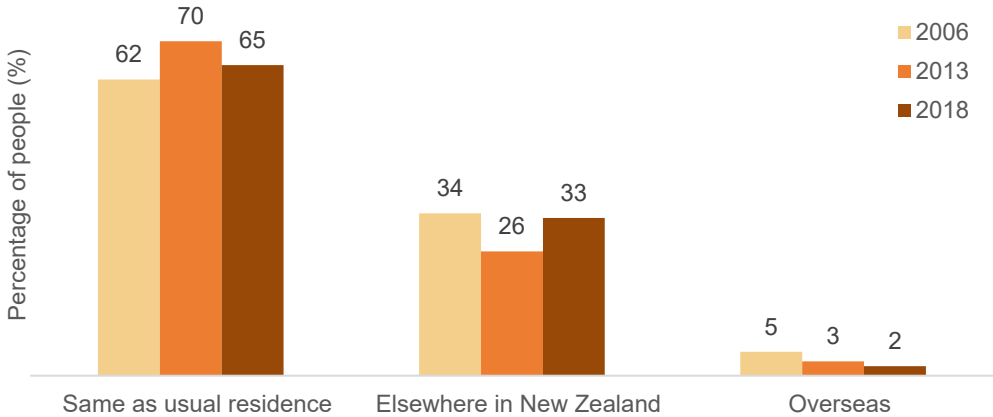
The ‘old-old’ were more likely than the ‘young-old’ and ‘old’ to report living elsewhere in New Zealand in 2013 (41.3% compared with 31.3% and 32.6% respectively), which may be reflective of individuals in this age group moving closer to family, health care services, or into an aged-care facility within the last five years.

Figure 6. Usual residence five years prior, by age group (2018)(%)



The overall pattern of responses has remained fairly consistent over the last three censuses, as Figure 7 shows.

Figure 7. Usual residence five years prior (2006, 2013, 2018)(%)



5.0 Ethnic and Cultural Diversity

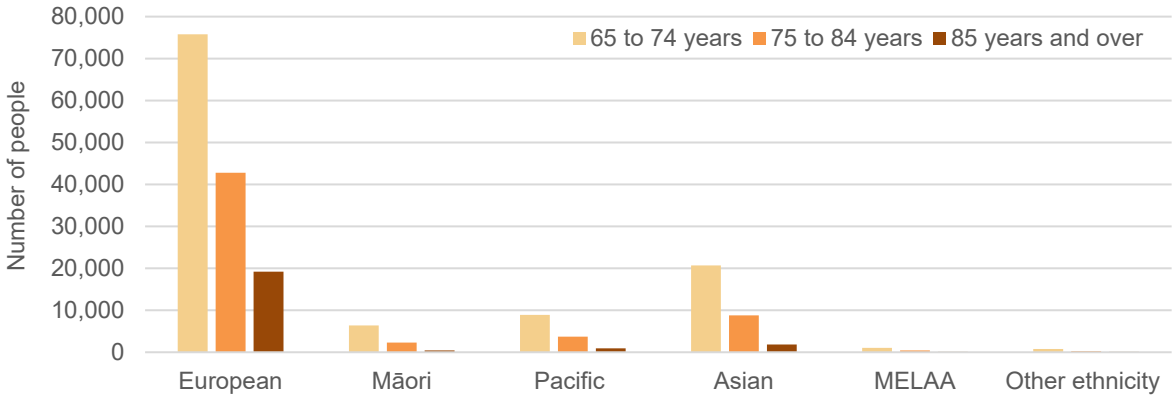
5.1 Ethnicity by age group

The majority of older Aucklanders identify as European, this group making up 70.8 per cent of those aged 65 and over in Auckland. The next largest ethnic group was the broad Asian (16.1%) group, followed by Pacific (7.0%), Māori (4.7%) and Middle Eastern, Latin American or African (MELAA) (0.8%).

Compared to the general Auckland population, older Aucklanders are less ethnically diverse. For example, among the general Auckland population, just over half (53.5%) identify as European, compared with more than seven in ten (70.8%) among those aged 65 years and older. The proportion of all other broad ethnic groups are smaller among older Aucklanders, compared to the general population.

Ethnic diversity is less pronounced among the older age groups. Among those aged 85 years and older, 84.7 per cent were European. This is likely to be a result of New Zealand’s immigration history of migration from ‘traditional source’ countries such as the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Figure 8. Number of people in each ethnic group, by age group (2018)



5.2 Change in ethnic group composition over time

Since 2006 the number of older Aucklanders has increased for all ethnic groups, in line with general population growth. However, the proportion of older Aucklanders that identify with each of the broad ethnic groups reveals some interesting changes over time.

The proportion of older Aucklanders who are European has declined since 2013 by 6.9 percentage points (from 77.7% in 2013, to 70.8% in 2018). Meanwhile, the proportion who are Māori, Pacific, Asian or other have all increased to some extent. This indicates that although older Aucklanders still tend to be predominantly European, this group is gradually becoming more ethnically diverse over time.

Significantly, the proportion of older Aucklanders who identify within the broad Asian category has almost doubled since 2006, from 8.8 per cent (10,749 people) in 2006, to 16.1 per cent

(31,356 people) in 2018. This represents a growth of 20,607 people over this 12 year period. This aligns with large growth in the proportion of Auckland’s general population that identify within the broad Asian category. This growth is expected to also be related to the rapid increased of immigration from Asian countries starting from the mid-1990s.

The proportion who identify as Māori or Pacific have all also increased to a small degree.

Table 4. Ethnicity (2006, 2013, 2018)

	Number			Percentage		
	2006	2013	2018	2006	2013	2018
European	94,302	120,312	137,775	76.9	77.7	70.8
Māori	4239	6264	9144	3.5	4.0	4.7
Pacific	7173	9792	13,566	5.8	6.3	7.0
Asian	10,749	18,927	31,356	8.8	12.2	16.1
MELAA	570	951	1566	0.5	0.6	0.8
Other ethnicity	9120	1830	1149	7.4	1.2	0.6
Total stated	122,634	154,839	194,556	-	-	-

Note: People could choose more than one ethnic identity, therefore percentages will not add to 100.

The broad European category was predominantly made up of people that identified as New Zealand European (91.4% or 125,931 people), followed by British and Irish (3.7% or 5073 people).

Among the broad Asian category, over half were Chinese (53.7% or 16,836 people). The next largest group was Indian (29.8% or 9345 people), followed by Korean (4.6% or 1434 people), Filipino (2.8% or 891 people) and Sri Lankan (2.7% or 840 people).

Among the broad Pacific category, just under half are Samoan (48.3% or 6546 people). The next largest group is Tongan (22.1% or 2994 people), followed by Cook Island Māori (15.5% or 2100 people), Niuean (8.6% or 1173 people) and Fijian (4.8% or 654 people).

5.3 Language

The census asks about languages “in which you can hold a conversation about a lot of everyday things”.

After English (90.1% of older Aucklanders), the second mostly commonly spoken language was Northern Chinese (3.8% or 7116 people). This was followed by Samoan (3.3% or 6270 people) and Yue (3.0% or 5751 people).

Just 1.8 per cent of older Aucklanders spoke Māori (3429 people) and 0.3 per cent spoke New Zealand Sign Language (492 people), both official languages of New Zealand.

Almost one in five older Aucklanders (18.5%) spoke more than one language, this proportion substantially higher than that among the national population of older adults (11.4%), illustrating Auckland’s cultural diversity.

Auckland has high concentrations of older adults that speak some less common languages, relative to the general population of New Zealand. For example, in 2018 Auckland was home

to 84.3 per cent of New Zealand's older adults who spoke Tongan, 78.6 per cent who spoke Northern Chinese and 77.2 per cent that spoke Hindi as shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Top 15 languages spoken (2018)

	Number	% of older adults in Auckland	% of total older adults in New Zealand
English	170,100	90.1	24.7
Northern Chinese ⁽¹⁾	7116	3.8	78.6
Samoan	6270	3.3	65.7
Yue ⁽²⁾	5751	3.0	68.3
Sinitic not further defined ⁽³⁾	3480	1.8	73.2
Māori	3429	1.8	18.9
Hindi	3153	1.7	77.2
French	3216	1.7	29.3
Tongan	2409	1.3	84.3
German	1893	1.0	29.1
Afrikaans	1239	0.7	42.9
Panjabi	1176	0.6	65.7
Spanish	822	0.4	32.9
Tagalog	750	0.4	52.5
New Zealand Sign Language	492	0.3	24.3
Other	19,020	10.1	50.7
Total	188,805	-	-

Notes:

- 1) Includes Mandarin
 - 2) Includes Cantonese
 - 3) Includes Chinese languages not further defined
- People could identify as speaking more than one language, so percentages do not add to 100. Percentages exclude 'not elsewhere stated'

5.4 Geographical distribution by ethnic group

The four maps below show the percentage of older Aucklanders within each SA2 area who identify with the four broad ethnic groups (European, Asian, Pacific, Māori). The maps demonstrate distinct variation across ethnicities.

As Figure 9 shows, areas with relatively large proportions of European older Aucklanders include the rural outskirts of the city, coastal North Shore, the eastern suburbs, city fringe suburbs and Waiheke Island. There is also a moderately large proportion on the North Shore generally, on the isthmus and in the western suburbs.

The proportion of Asian older Aucklanders is highest in the southeast, particularly in Manukau, Flat Bush and Papatoetoe. Moderate proportions are found across the region, from inland North Shore, on the isthmus and in the eastern, southern and western suburbs.

The proportion of Pacific older Aucklanders is also high in the southeast, clustered around Māngere, Papatoetoe, Ōtara and Manukau. Smaller proportions are found on the isthmus, western and in Manurewa.

Finally, the proportion of Māori is lowest generally across the region, due to the relatively low number of Māori older Aucklanders compared to the other three main ethnic groups. The highest proportion of Māori older Aucklanders is found in the south, predominantly in Māngere, Wiri, Manurewa, Takanini and Papakura. There is a low proportion of Māori older adults across the rest of the Auckland region.

Some parts of Auckland are not shown in these maps to ensure clarity within the most populous areas.

Figure 9. Percentage of older Aucklanders in each SA2 who identify as European (2018)

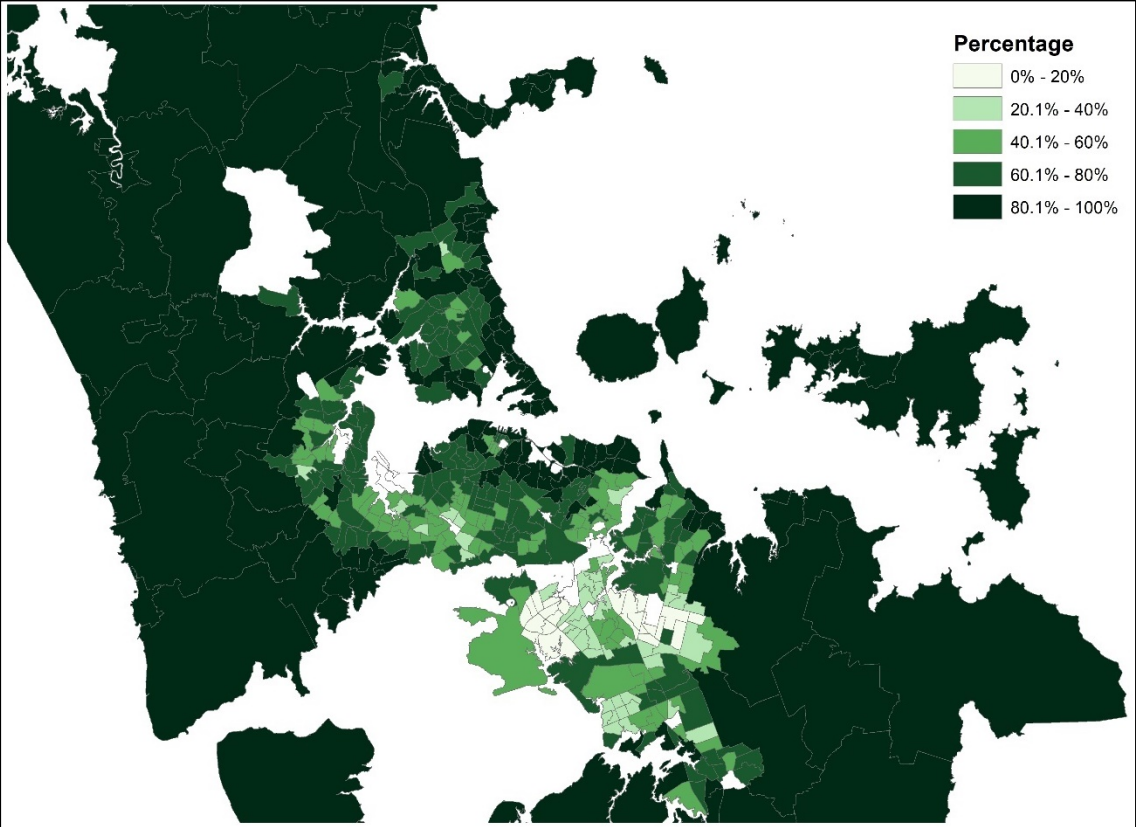


Figure 10. Percentage of older Aucklanders who identify as Asian, by SA2 (2018)

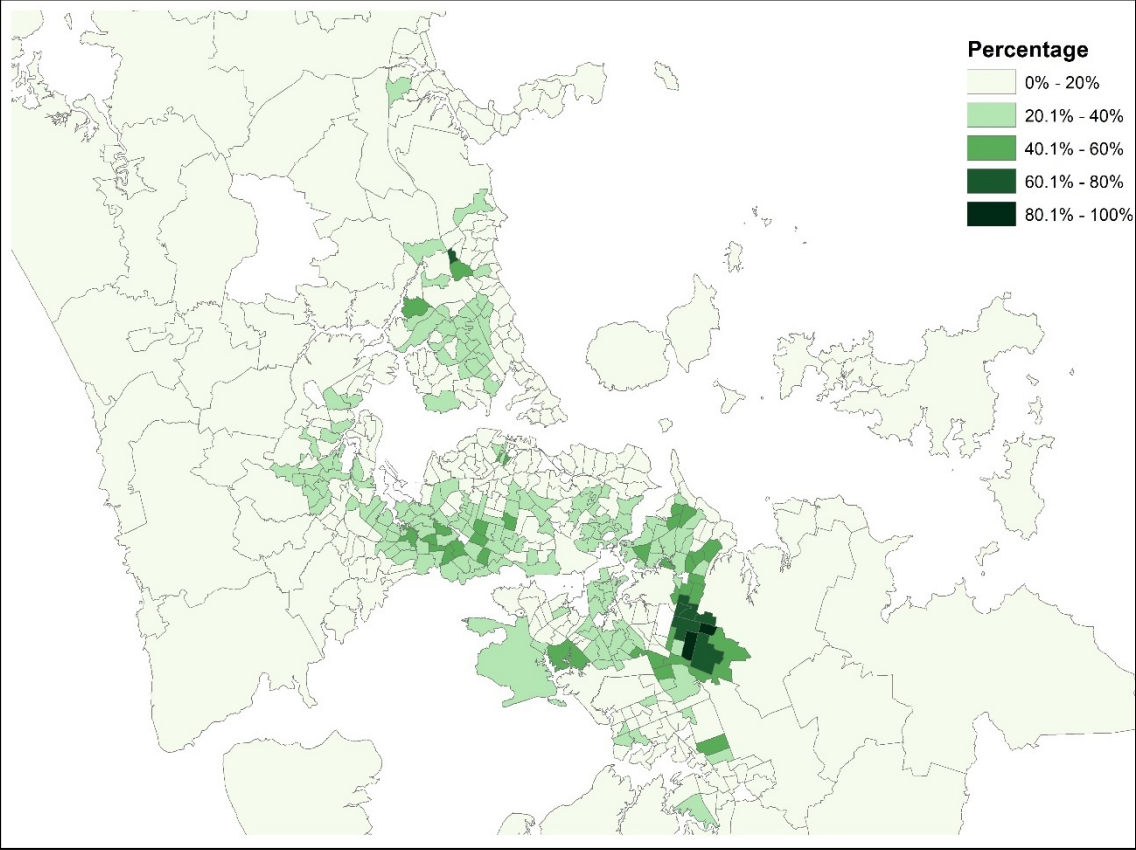


Figure 11. Percentage of older Aucklanders who identify as Pacific, by SA2 (2018)

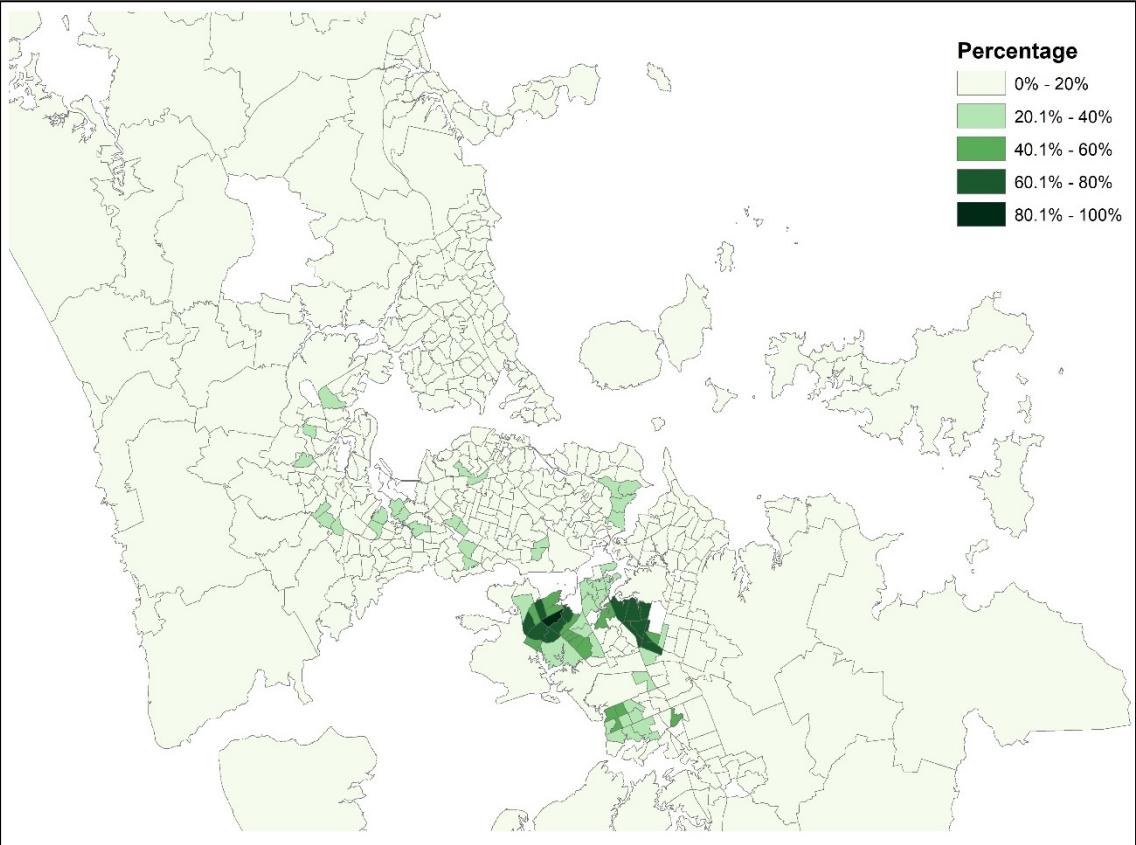
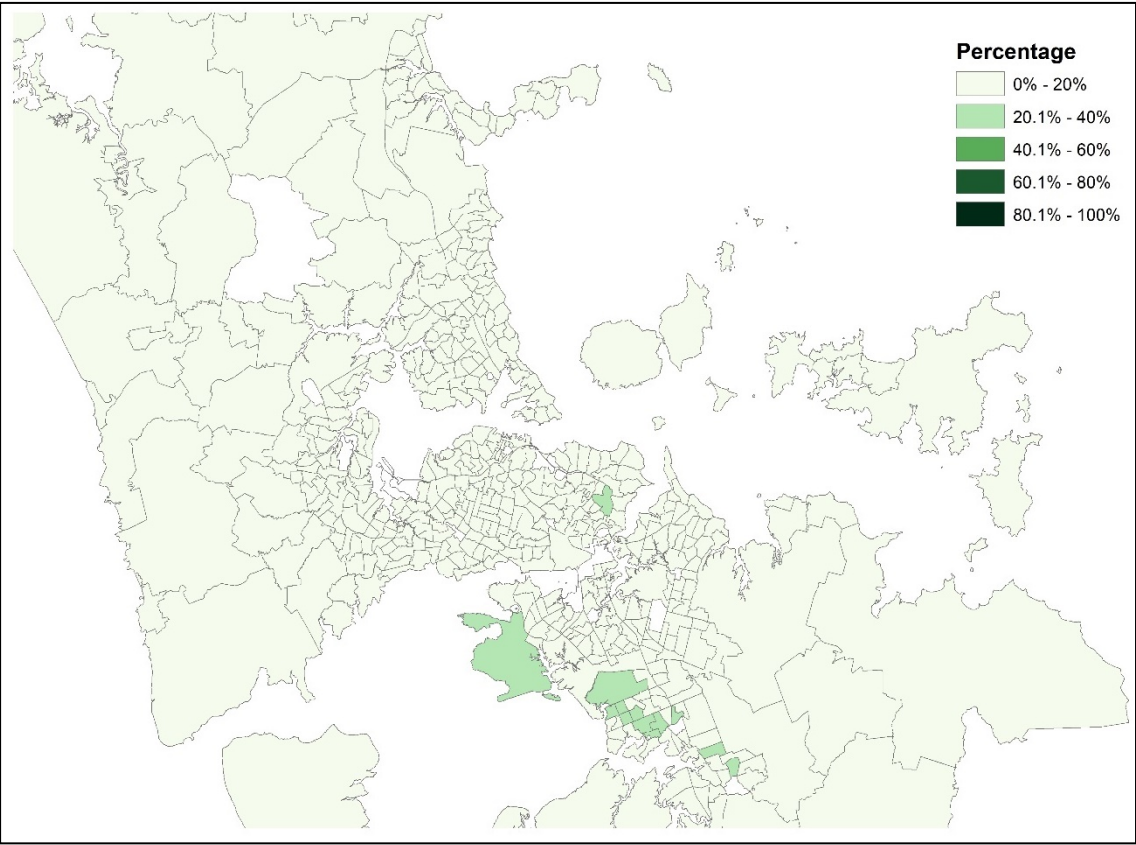


Figure 12. Percentage of older Aucklanders who identify as Māori, by SA2 (2018)



6.0 Birthplace

This section outlines the proportion of older Aucklanders born overseas, the place of birth among those born outside New Zealand and the length of time since they first arrived in New Zealand to live.

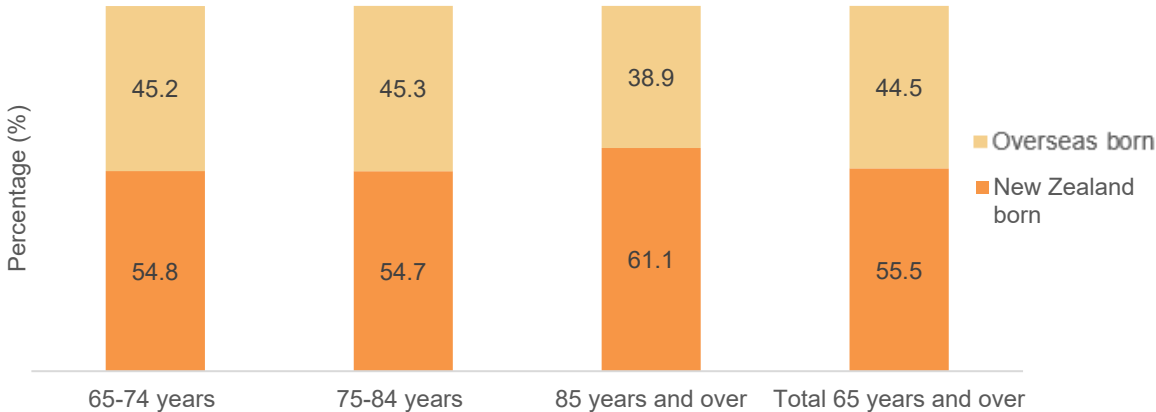
6.1 Proportion born overseas

In 2018, just over half (55.5%) of older Aucklanders were born in New Zealand (similar to 56.9% in 2013).

This equates to 103,524 older Aucklanders being born in New Zealand, and 82,932 born overseas.

A higher proportion of the ‘old-old’ age group, aged 85 years and over, were born in New Zealand (61.1%), compared with the ‘young-old’ (54.8%) and the ‘old’ (54.7%).

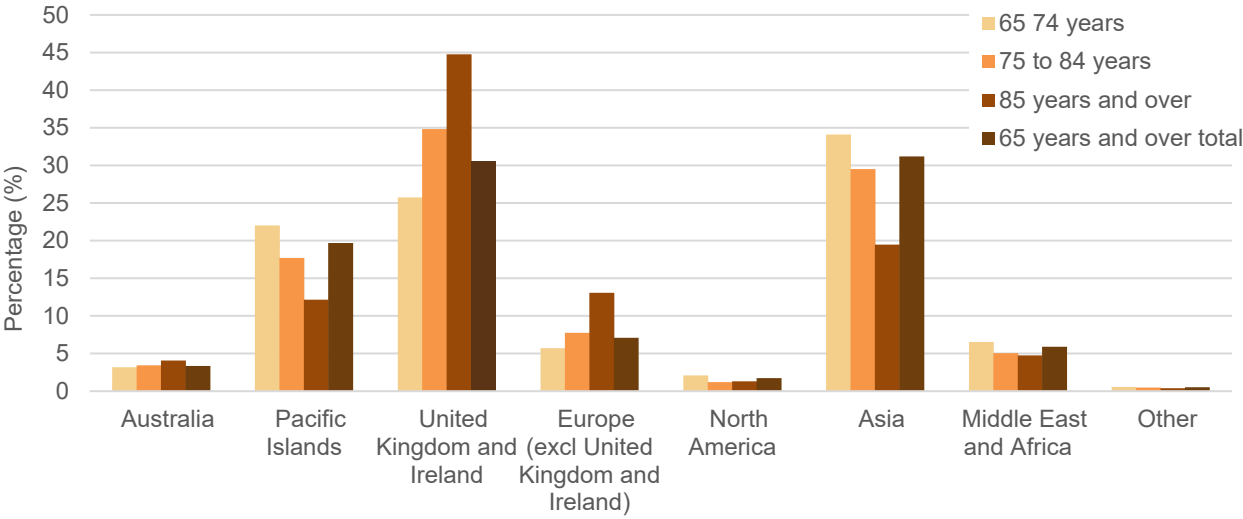
Figure 13. Birthplace, by age group (2018)



Among those born overseas, the largest number were born in Asia (31.2% or 25,875 people), followed closely by the United Kingdom and Ireland (30.5% or 25,290 people), and then the Pacific Islands (19.7% or 16,332 people).

A relatively high proportion of ‘old-old’ Aucklanders were born in Australia, the United Kingdom and Ireland, and Europe. Conversely a relatively high proportion of ‘young-old’ Aucklanders were born in the Pacific Islands, North America, Asia, and the Middle East and Africa.

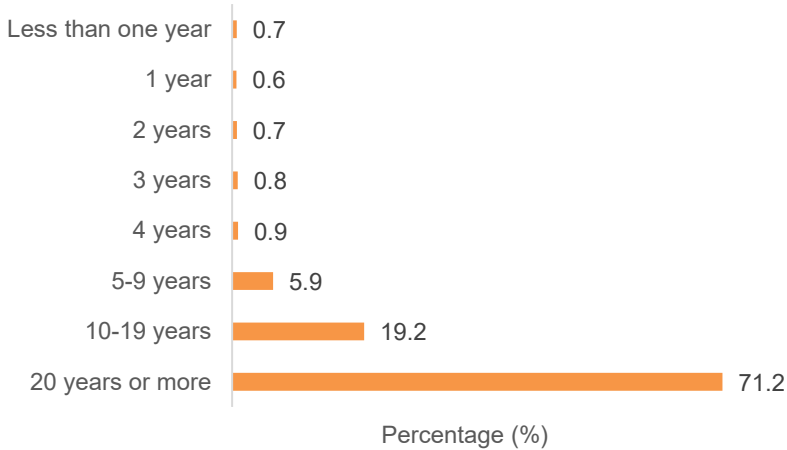
Figure 14. Place of birth of those born overseas (2018)



6.2 Years since arriving to New Zealand

The majority of overseas-born older Aucklanders first arrived in New Zealand to live some time ago. Almost three quarters (71.2%) of overseas born older Aucklanders arrived in New Zealand 20 years ago or longer, with an additional 19.2 per cent who arrived between 10 to 19 years ago.

Figure 15. Years since arrival for overseas born older Aucklanders (2018) (%)



The number of years since arrival to New Zealand differs across the 21 local board areas. For example, older adults who were born overseas living in Aotea / Great Barrier, Waiheke and Waitākere Ranges local board areas are most likely to report arriving in New Zealand 20 years ago or longer (94.1%, 84.0% and 82.3% respectively), compared to the Auckland total (71.2%). Those living in Upper Harbour, Howick and Papakura local board areas are most likely to report arriving to New Zealand less than 10 years ago (13.6%, 12.6% and 12.3% respectively), compared to the Auckland total (9.6%).

6.3 Ethnicity of overseas-born older Aucklanders

Among older Aucklanders born overseas, almost half (48.7%) identified with an ethnicity in the broad European ethnic group, and over a third (35.7%) identified with an ethnicity in the broad Asian category. An additional 14.5 per cent identified with an ethnic group within the broad Pacific ethnic group.

New Zealand-born older Aucklanders predominantly identified within the broad European group (92.6%), followed by Māori (8.5%).

These results indicate that New Zealand-born older Aucklanders are almost twice as likely to identify with an ethnic group within the broad European ethnic group, compared to those born overseas, who tend to be more diverse.

Table 6. Ethnic identity by birthplace for older Aucklanders (2018)

	Number			Percentage		
	NZ born	Overseas born	Total stated	NZ born	Overseas born	Total stated
European	95,859	40,407	136,266	92.6	48.7	72.0
Māori	8772	120	8892	8.5	0.1	4.7
Pacific	954	12,054	13,008	0.9	14.5	6.9
Asian	1233	29,646	30,879	1.2	35.7	16.3
MELAA	66	1476	1542	0.1	1.8	0.8
Other ethnicity	783	351	1134	0.8	0.4	0.6
Total stated	103,524	82,932	189,174	104.0	101.4	101.3

Note: Percentages are column based. Percentages do not add to 100 as people could identify with more than one ethnic identity.

7.0 Home Ownership

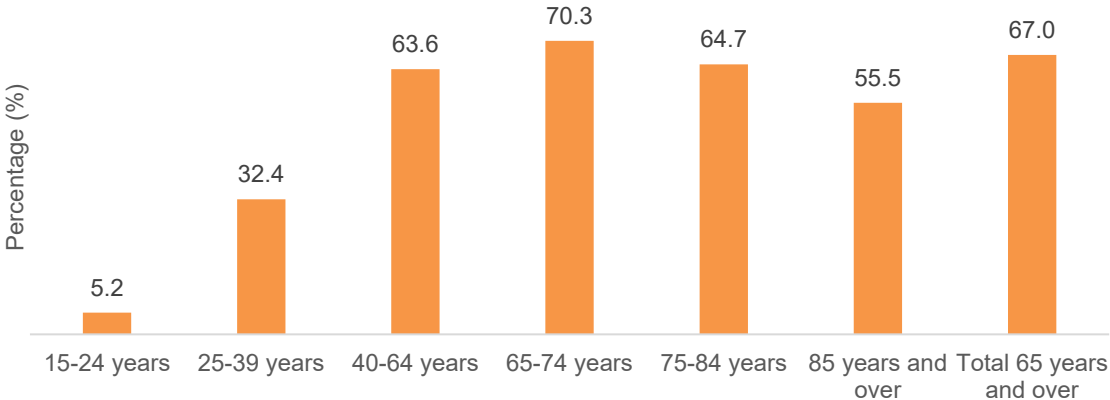
This section describes home ownership rates at the individual level, this is defined as individuals who either owned the dwelling they lived in, held it in a family trust, rented it out, or occupied it rent-free. It will therefore include a mixture of individuals who live on their own, and those who co-own the property as a couple or in another arrangement.

In 2018, just over two thirds of older Aucklanders said they owned the home they lived in (67.0%), compared with just under half (49.1%) of the general population aged 15 years and over. The proportion of older Aucklanders who own the home they live in (67.0%), is smaller than among older adults who live elsewhere in New Zealand (76.8%). This is likely a result of Auckland’s more limited and higher cost housing relative to the rest of the country.

Home ownership among older Aucklanders has been declining slightly but steadily over time, from 71.1 per cent in 2001, 70.7 per cent in 2006, 67.3 per cent in 2013, to 67.0 per cent in 2018.

Home ownership differs by age group, as shown by Figure 16. Levels of home ownership tend to rise as age increases, peaking at 70.3 per cent among those aged 65 to 74 years. It then starts to drop off, down to 64.7 per cent among those aged 75 to 84 years and to 55.5 per cent among those aged 85 years and over. This reduction in home ownership among those aged 75 to 84 years, and especially 85 years and over is likely the result of a range of factors prompting a move into aged care facilities or in with family for care and support. These factors may include deteriorating health, decreased mobility, disability, loss of a partner and decreased social networks.

Figure 16. Proportion who own or partly own the home they lived in, by age group (2018) (%)



Home ownership among older Aucklanders differs by ethnic group. Three quarters of European older Aucklanders own the home they live in (75.3%), followed by just over half of Māori (51.3%). Home ownership rates are lower among Asian (43.6%), MELAA (40.7%) and Pacific (40.3%) older Aucklanders.

8.0 Employment and Occupation

This section describes the work and labour force status of older Aucklanders, and the occupational structure of those who were employed.

8.1 Work and labour force status

In 2018, 22.4 per cent of older Aucklanders were employed, this includes 13.0 per cent who were employed full-time and 9.4 per cent who were employed part-time. The largest group of older Aucklanders were not in the labour force (77.1%).

In comparison, 65.5 per cent of the general Auckland adult population (aged 15 years and over) were employed.

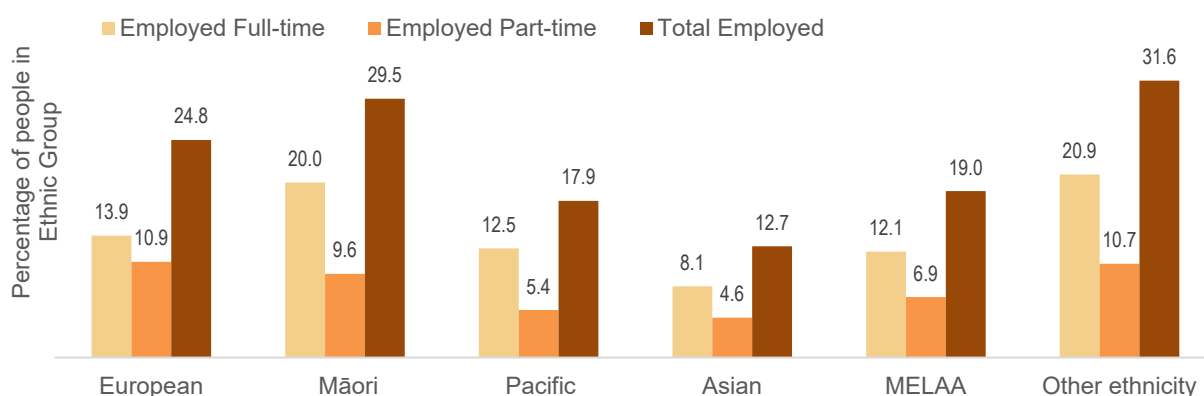
Since 2013 there has been very little change in the work and labour force status profile of older Aucklanders.

Table 7. Work and labour force status of older Aucklanders (2013 and 2018)

	2013		2018	
	Count	%	Count	%
Employed Full-time	19,191	12.3	24,642	13.0
Employed Part-time	15,138	9.7	17,694	9.4
Unemployed	777	0.5	987	0.5
Not in the Labour Force	121,281	77.6	145,854	77.1
Total people stated	156,387	100.0	189,177	100.0
Work and Labour Force Status Unidentifiable	6,768		0	0.0
Total people	163,155		189,177	
<i>Subtotals</i>				
Total people in labour force	35,106	22.4	43,323	22.9
Total people employed	34,329	22.0	42,336	22.4
<i>Unemployment rate</i>		2.2		2.3

Employment status varied by ethnic group. Employment rates were highest among Māori (29.5% or 1700 people) and European (24.8% or 34,206 people), in comparison to other ethnic groups. All ethnic groups had a higher proportion of older Aucklanders in full-time employment, compared to those in part-time employment.

Figure 17. Employment status, by ethnicity (2018) (%)



8.2 Occupation

The most common occupation category among employed older Aucklanders was in the broad professionals grouping (26.8%), followed by managers (19.7%).

Looking at occupation sub-groups, the largest proportion of older Aucklanders were employed as:

- Chief Executives, General Managers and Legislators (7.8% or 3318 people)
- Specialist Managers (7.3% or 3096 people)
- Education Professionals (7.2% or 3033 people)
- Business, Human Resource and Marketing Professionals (6.0% or 2544 people).

There are several distinct gender differences in the occupation of older Aucklanders, as shown in Table 8. For example, a higher proportion of females were clerical and administrative workers (24.7%) or community and personal service workers (11.4%) than males (5.1% and 4.0% respectively). In comparison, a higher proportion of males were managers (24.1%), technicians and trades workers (13.0%) or machinery operators and drivers (10.5%) than females were (13.4%, 3.2% and 2.4% respectively).

Table 8. Occupation, by gender (2018) (%)

	Number			Percentage (%)		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Professionals	6360	4995	11,355	25.7	28.4	26.8
Managers	5973	2358	8331	24.1	13.4	19.7
Clerical and Administrative Workers	1272	4350	5622	5.1	24.7	13.3
Technicians and Trades Workers	3216	570	3786	13.0	3.2	8.9
Sales Workers	2007	1731	3738	8.1	9.8	8.8
Labourers	2316	1161	3477	9.4	6.6	8.2
Community and Personal Service Workers	996	2013	3009	4.0	11.4	7.1
Machinery Operators and Drivers	2601	423	3024	10.5	2.4	7.1
Total people stated	24,738	17,598	42,336	100.0	100.0	100.0

9.0 Income

This section illustrates the levels of personal income and income sources of older Aucklanders.

9.1 Personal income

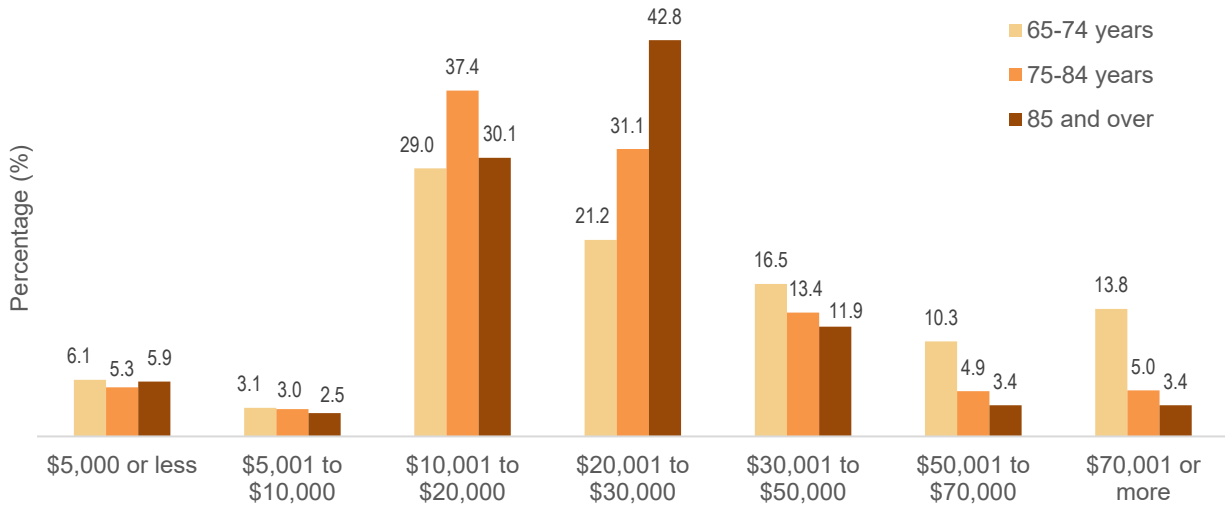
At the 2018 Census, the median income of older Aucklanders was \$22,500, relatively low compared to the overall Auckland median of \$34,400. This is likely a result of older Aucklanders tending to cease paid employment and move into retirement.

Since 2013, the median income of older Aucklanders increased by \$1,600, up from \$20,900.

The largest proportion of older Aucklanders have a personal income in the range of \$10,001 to \$20,000 (31.7% or 59,880 people), followed by the \$20,001 to \$30,000 range (26.7% or 50,604 people).

Personal income is not uniform across all age groups as shown in Figure 18. The ‘young-old’ are more likely to be represented in the higher income brackets above \$30,001, with a smaller proportion of the ‘old’ and an even smaller proportion of the ‘old-old’ within these income brackets. This is likely to be reflective of a higher proportion of the ‘young-old’ being in paid employment, compared with the ‘old’ and the ‘old-old’.

Figure 18. Proportion in personal income brackets, by age group (2018)



Median personal income also varied by ethnic group. The highest median personal incomes were reported by older Aucklanders who were European (\$24,200) and Māori (\$22,500). Lower median incomes were recorded among Pacific (\$19,300), Middle Eastern, Latin American and African (\$18,700) and Asian (\$16,300) older Aucklanders. This may be reflective of higher proportions of new migrants in these groups who do not qualify for New Zealand superannuation, or who may be on lower paid incomes.

9.2 Type of income sources

Table 9 illustrates the range of sources from where older Aucklanders receive income. The majority receive income from New Zealand superannuation or a veteran's pension (83.5%). A third receive income from interest, dividends, rent or other investments (33.4%).

A high proportion of those aged 65-74 report wages, salary, commissions or bonuses as an income source (25.4%) or from self-employment (14.3%), compared to those 75 years and over (who are more likely to be retired).

Table 9. Income sources reported, by age group (2018)

	65-74 years	75-84 years	85 years and over	Total 65 years and over
New Zealand superannuation or veteran's pension	80.4	87.4	89.1	83.5
Interest, dividends, rent, other investments	32.6	34.9	33.5	33.4
Wages, salary, commissions, bonuses etc	25.4	5.5	1.5	16.6
Other superannuation, pensions, or annuities (other than NZ Superannuation, Veteran's Pension or war pensions)	9.6	12.0	14.8	10.9
Self-employment or business I own and work in	14.3	5.4	1.5	10.1
Other government benefits, government income support payments, war pensions or paid parental leave	3.3	3.6	3.5	3.4
Jobseeker Support	1.7	0.6	0.5	1.2
Other sources of income, including support payments from people who do not live in my household	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1
Supported Living Payment	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9
Regular payments from ACC or a private work accident insurer	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.6
Student Allowance	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Sole Parent Support	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
No source of income during that time	2.7	2.1	2.5	2.5
Total people stated	172.9	154.1	149.5	164.5

Note: Percentages will add to more than 100 as people could receive income from more than one source.

Income sources differed by local board area. The proportion of older adults receiving other government benefits or support payments (excluding superannuation) was highest in Ōtara-Papatoetoe (6.9%) and Māngere-Ōtāhuhu (5.9%), compared to the Auckland total (3.4%). These payments include the sickness benefit, invalids benefit, domestic purposes benefit, and other government payment or pensions. These local board areas also have the lowest proportion of older adults who report receiving income from interest, dividends, rent or other investment, at 9.3 per cent in Māngere-Ōtāhuhu and 10.9 per cent in Ōtara-Papatoetoe, compared to 33.4 per cent among Auckland generally.

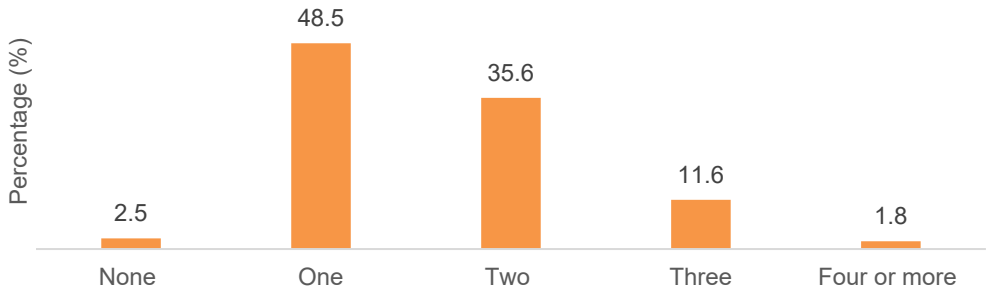
The local board areas with the highest proportion of older adults receiving income from interest, dividends, rent or other investment were Ōrākei (52.9%), Devonport-Takapuna (48.3%) and Waitematā (45.5%). These results are reflective of socio-economic status disparities across the region.

9.3 Number of income sources

Almost half (48.5%) of older Aucklanders reported receiving income from one source only, and more than a third (35.6%) reported two sources.

The number of income sources varies by local board area. The proportion of those aged 65 years and over who received income from four or more sources was highest among those living in Waitematā (3.8%), Ōrākei (3.4%), Devonport-Takapuna (2.8%) and Albert-Eden (2.8%). In contrast, the proportion of those aged 65 years and over who received income from one source was highest among those living in Māngere-Ōtāhuhu (71.9%), Ōtara-Papatoetoe (70.0%), and Manurewa (62.9%). This is perhaps reflective of the variation in socio-economic status across Auckland.

Figure 19. Number of income sources reported (2018)



9.4 Unpaid activities

More than four in five (81.4%) older Aucklanders partook in at least one form of unpaid activity in the four weeks prior to completing their 2018 Census form. Those aged 65-74 years were most likely to report partaking in at least one activity (87.9%), this proportion dropping among those aged 75-84 years (77.8%) and those aged 85 years and over (54.6%). The decline in unpaid activity among the older age groups is likely to be reflective of general lower levels of health and physical ability among those in older age groups.

Older Aucklanders were most likely to say they had done housework, cooking, repairs, gardening etc. for their own household (78.0%). This was followed by looking after a child who doesn't live in their own household (15.3%) and helping or voluntary work (15.3%).

Table 10. Unpaid activities in previous four weeks, by age group (2018)

	65-74 years	75-84 years	85 years and over	Total 65 years and over
Household work, cooking, repairs, gardening, etc, for own household	84.7	74.1	51.9	78.0
Looking after a child who does not live in own household	20.5	9.7	1.9	15.3
Other helping or voluntary work for or through any organisation, group or marae	16.8	15.4	7.0	15.3
Looking after a child who is a member of own household	11.7	6.0	1.6	8.9
Helping someone who is ill or has a disability who does not live in own household	9.0	6.8	3.9	7.8
Looking after a member of own household who is ill or has a disability	6.7	7.0	4.6	6.6
No activities	12.1	22.1	45.4	18.6
Total people stated	161.4	141.1	116.3	150.5

10.0 Discussion and Conclusion

In 2018, both the proportion and number of older adults in Auckland continued to increase. This is due to the long-term trend of overall population growth and structural ageing, and the proportion of older adults in Auckland increasing slowly but steadily since the early 1900s⁶. This shift has occurred alongside a relative decline in the proportion of the population that are children (aged 15 years and under).

It is expected these simultaneous trends of an increase in the numbers of people aged 65 and over living in Auckland, and their proportionality of the general population, will continue to increase over time, as the baby boom cohort continues to move into the older adult age range. Stats NZ population projections⁷ suggest that by 2043, almost one in five Aucklanders will be aged 65 years and over (18.6%). This equates to 432,800 people, an increase of 238,760 people since 2018.

It is important to understand and acknowledge the diversity that exists among older Aucklanders, particularly across two key variables: age and ethnicity. The older Aucklander age group discussed here spans more than 30 years, and there is considerable variation in the lifestyle, needs and contributions of the 'young-old', 'old' and 'old-old'. As life expectancy continues to increase alongside medical advancements, it is expected that variation by age group will become more pronounced, as individuals spend more years of their life aged 65 years and over.

Ethnic diversity among this group is also becoming richer over time. Although older Aucklanders are still predominantly European (70.8%), this proportion is in decline (down from 77.7% in 2013). Meanwhile, the proportion of older Aucklanders who are Māori, Pacific, Asian or Middle Eastern, Latin American or African have all increased over this period. Most notably, the proportion of older adults in the Asian group has increased substantially, up from 12.2 per cent in 2013 to 16.1 per cent in 2018, equating to an increase of 12,429 people. Furthermore, substantial ethnic diversity in Auckland's general population today means that over the next few decades, the ethnic diversity of the older adult group will also become more pronounced. A growing number of older Aucklanders brings far-reaching implications that need to be considered. This includes but is not limited to social, cultural, and economic impacts. Social implications include increased range of cultural expectations, attitudes and traditions around ageing and the demand for culturally appropriate services.

Life as an older Aucklander does not look the same for everyone. It is increasingly important for council's policies, strategies, plans and initiatives, services and facilities to ensure they meet the diverse needs and expectations of older Aucklander.

⁶ http://archive.stats.govt.nz/browse_for_stats/people_and_communities/older_people/pop-ageing-in-nz.aspx#gsc.tab=0

⁷ Stats NZ produces three alternative population projections (low, medium, and high) based on different fertility, mortality, and migration assumptions. These results are based on the medium projection (February 2017).

Find out more: phone 09 301 0101, email rimu@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz and knowledgeauckland.org.nz