

2023 Census results

Asian ethnicity in Auckland

About the 2023 Census

The 2023 New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings was held on 7 March 2023. This is the official count by Stats NZ of how many people and dwellings there are in New Zealand. It provides a snapshot of New Zealand on census day.

Stats NZ used a combined census model in 2023 to produce the highest possible data quality. For more information on what this involved, go to:

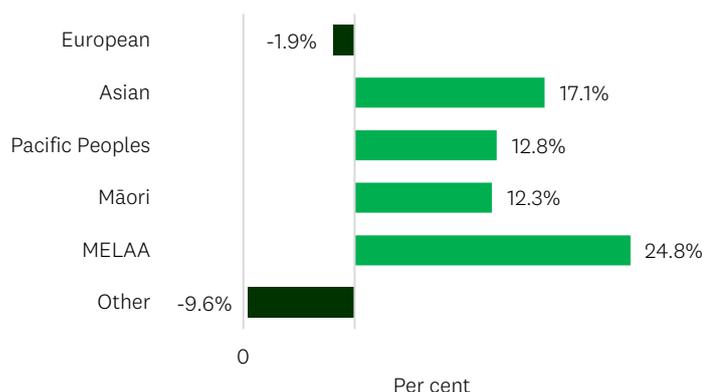
www.stats.govt.nz/topics/using-a-combined-census-model-for-the-2023-census/.

This summary report provides an overview of results from the census for people in the broad Asian ethnic group. Ethnicity is self-reported, and a person can be part of more than one ethnic group.

Asian ethnicity is growing rapidly

At the 2023 Census, 518,178 usual residents in Auckland identified with an Asian ethnicity (31.3% of Auckland's population). This is an increase of 75,504 people, or 17.1%, since the 2018 Census. The Asian population has grown more rapidly than the wider Auckland population (5.4%).

Population growth by ethnic group (2018 to 2023)



MELAA refers to Middle Eastern, Latin American and African. People could choose more than one ethnicity and therefore categories are not exclusive.



518,178

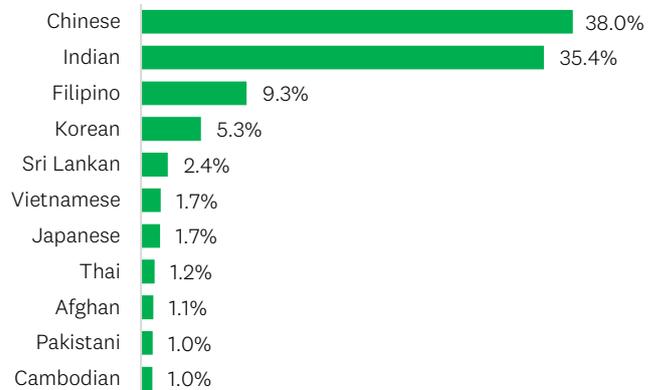
identified with an Asian ethnicity in 2023

+75,504 (+17.1%)
since the 2018 Census

The Asian ethnic group is diverse

The majority of the Auckland Asian population identified as either Chinese (38.0%) or Indian (35.4%), however multiple ethnicities are represented in this broad category.

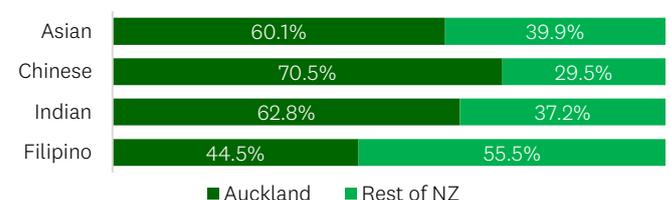
Largest Asian ethnic groups living in Auckland



Percentages are within the total Asian ethnic group in Auckland. Only includes those groups with a percentage 1% and over. People could choose more than one ethnicity.

As shown below, the majority of New Zealand's Asian population live in Auckland (60.1%), particularly the Chinese and Indian populations.

Proportion of the Asian population living in Auckland



The proportion of Aucklanders who are Asian has increased

In 2023, 31.3% of the total Auckland usually resident population identified with an Asian ethnicity, up from 28.2% at the 2018 Census.

Ethnic group as a proportion of Auckland total population (%)

| | 2013 | 2018 | 2023 |
|-----------------|------|------|------|
| European | 59.3 | 53.5 | 49.8 |
| Asian | 23.1 | 28.2 | 31.3 |
| Pacific Peoples | 14.6 | 15.5 | 16.6 |
| Māori | 10.7 | 11.5 | 12.3 |
| MELAA | 1.9 | 2.3 | 2.7 |
| Other | 1.2 | 1.1 | 0.9 |

People could choose more than one ethnicity and therefore categories are not exclusive. Percentages will add to more than 100.

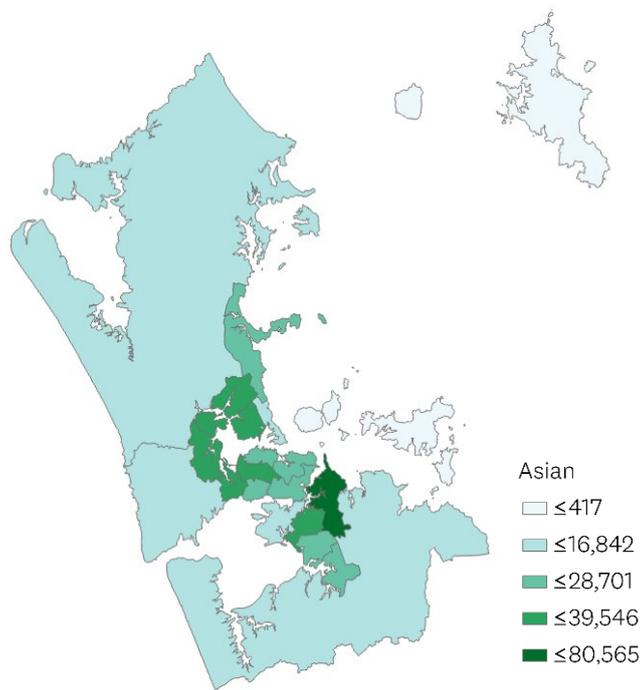
As shown in the table below, over half of all usual residents living in Howick (52.5%) and Puketāpapa (50.4%) local board areas identified with an Asian ethnicity. Howick is home to the highest proportion of Auckland's Asian population (15.5% live there).

Asian population by local board (2023)

| Local Board (ordered north to south) | Number | % | Distribution of Asian population in Auckland (%) |
|--------------------------------------|---------|------|--|
| Rodney | 7,341 | 9.4 | 1.4 |
| Hibiscus and Bays | 23,436 | 20.6 | 4.5 |
| Upper Harbour | 34,983 | 45.5 | 6.8 |
| Kaipātiki | 30,669 | 34.8 | 5.9 |
| Devonport-Takapuna | 16,842 | 29.0 | 3.3 |
| Henderson-Massey | 39,546 | 31.7 | 7.6 |
| Waitākere Ranges | 9,405 | 17.4 | 1.8 |
| Aotea / Great Barrier | 21 | 1.7 | 0.0 |
| Waiheke | 417 | 4.6 | 0.1 |
| Waitematā | 25,692 | 31.5 | 5.0 |
| Whau | 34,332 | 42.2 | 6.6 |
| Albert-Eden | 31,953 | 33.1 | 6.2 |
| Puketāpapa | 28,701 | 50.4 | 5.5 |
| Ōrākei | 22,215 | 26.7 | 4.3 |
| Maungakiekie-Tāmaki | 23,370 | 29.9 | 4.5 |
| Howick | 80,565 | 52.5 | 15.5 |
| Māngere-Ōtāhuhu | 15,408 | 19.6 | 3.0 |
| Ōtara-Papatoetoe | 30,792 | 35.4 | 5.9 |
| Manurewa | 27,249 | 27.6 | 5.3 |
| Papakura | 24,732 | 34.2 | 4.8 |
| Franklin | 10,509 | 12.5 | 2.0 |
| Auckland total | 518,178 | 31.3 | 100.0 |

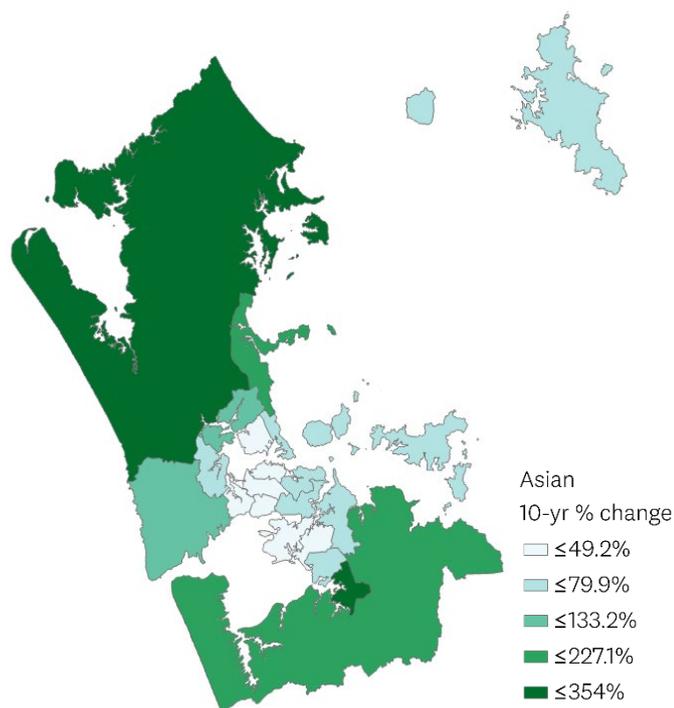
The map below shows a visual representation of the first column of the previous table. Most of the Asian population tends to be in the north-western and south-eastern local boards.

Number of usual residents identifying with an Asian ethnic group, by local board (2023)



The following map shows that between 2013 and 2023 the largest percentage changes for the Asian ethnic group were in Papakura (+354%) and Rodney (+320%).

Percentage change of usual residents identifying with an Asian ethnic group, by local board (2013-2023)

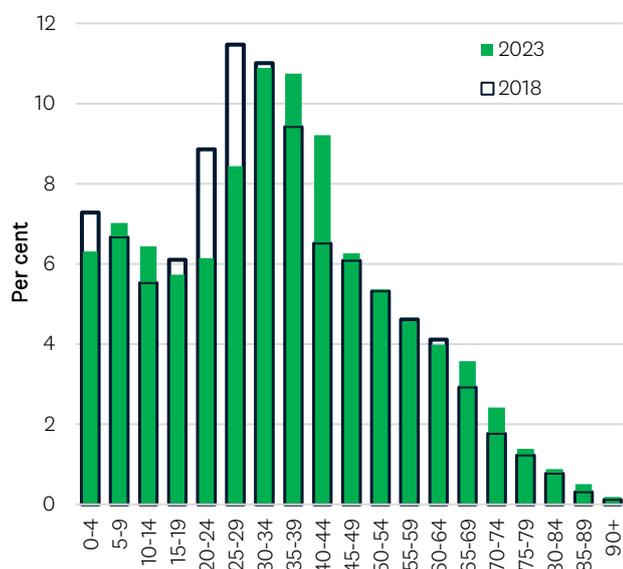


There is a larger proportion of older Asian population than in 2018

Since the 2018 Census, the proportion of the Asian population aged between 0-34 dropped from 56.9% to 51.0%, while the proportion aged 35 and over increased from 43.1% to 49.0%. All the age groups over 65 increased between 2018 and 2023.

The largest difference occurred in the 25-29 age group, which decreased from 11.5% to 8.4% (-27.0%). The 40-44 age group increased from 6.5% to 9.2% (+41.5%).

Asian ethnicity age structure (2018 compared with 2023)



Asian ethnicity by broad age group, compared to the rest of the Auckland population (2023)

| Age group | Asian | | Rest of Auckland | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| | Number | % | Number | % |
| 0-14 | 102,399 | 19.8 | 216,444 | 19.0 |
| 15-64 | 369,564 | 71.3 | 748,326 | 65.7 |
| 65 + | 46,218 | 8.9 | 173,535 | 15.2 |
| Total | 518,181 | 100.0 | 1,138,305 | 100.0 |

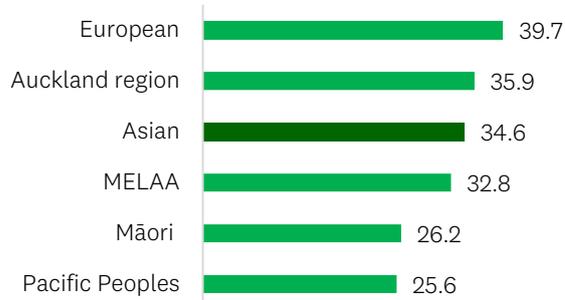
In 2023, the Auckland Asian population included:

102,399
children aged under 15 years
+16,287 (+18.9%)
since the 2018 Census

46,218
people aged over 65
+14,862 (+47.4%)
since the 2018 Census

The median age of the Asian population in Auckland was 34.6 years, compared with 31.9 in 2018. The median age for the entire Auckland population was 35.9 years in 2023.

Median age (2023) (years)



The following table shows that the four largest Asian ethnic groups have a broadly similar age structure. There was a relatively lower proportion of those aged over 65 in the Filipino ethnic group compared to other ethnicities.

The four largest Asian ethnicities by broad age group and median age (2023)

| Age group | Chinese n=194,484 (%) | Indian n=175,794 (%) | Filipino n=48,186 (%) | Korean n=27,270 (%) |
|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 0-14 | 19.5 | 20.3 | 18.9 | 15.9 |
| 15-64 | 67.8 | 72.2 | 77.9 | 74.5 |
| 65+ | 12.7 | 7.5 | 3.2 | 9.6 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Median age (yrs) | 36.8 | 33.2 | 35.0 | 36.3 |

Further information

This document was prepared in November 2024 by the Social and Economic Research and Evaluation team at Auckland Council as part of a series of [census summaries](#), available on Knowledge Auckland (www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz). For further information or queries on the census please contact us at census@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.