



Older Aucklanders: a quality of life status report

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Older Aucklanders are well connected to family and friends



Older Aucklanders' connections to family and friends have increased. Around 84% agreed they were visited by friends and whānau as often as they wanted, up from 77% in 2016.



Older Aucklanders feel less safe in their local neighbourhoods and town centres after dark, compared to during the day. This was more pronounced for South/East and West Auckland residents.



Over three-quarters participated in some type of social network or group. Older Asian and West Aucklanders were more likely to not be part of any network or group.



Almost two in every three agreed they feel a sense of community with others in their local area. This was lower among West Auckland residents.



Two-thirds of our participants said they never or rarely felt lonely or isolated in the last 12 months. They were more likely to be male, but were less likely to be female and 85 years and over.



Almost 80% said they trusted others.

This was lower among younger participants (those aged 65-74), as well as South/East Aucklanders and Māori respondents.

Contact with others



Older Aucklanders were well connected to their friends and family. We asked respondents whether they were visited by friends, family and whānau as often as they liked. A very high proportion (84%) of respondents agreed with this question, with only 6 per cent disagreeing.

In 2021, there were no significant differences in the way that different groups of older Aucklanders responded to this question. However, comparing changes over time revealed that a slightly larger proportion of 2021 respondents agreed they were visited by friends, family or whānau as often as they liked, compared to 2016 respondents (77% agreed). This is notable given the context of COVID-19 lockdowns where face-to-face interactions were limited.

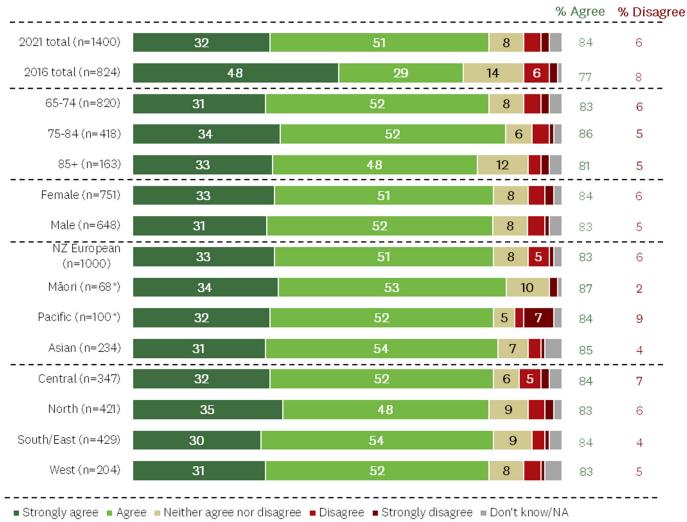


Figure 52: Agreement about whether friends, family and whānau visit as often as respondents like (2021 n=1400, 2016 n=824).

Participation in social networks and groups



We asked respondents whether they were part of any social network or group—77 per cent selected at least one type, while 23 per cent selected none. Differences included:

- Clubs and societies: Those part of this type of group were more likely to be New Zealand European (33%), living in North Auckland (33%), and aged 75-84 (33%).
- Faith/church community: Respondents were more likely to be Pacific (55%) and 85+ (33%).
- Hobby or interest groups: Respondents were more likely to be female (30%).
- Online social network/group: Respondents were more likely to be Asian (22%).
- Work/professional network: Respondents were more likely to be 65-74 (19%) and Māori (22%).
- Parent/grandparent networks: Respondents were more likely to be Māori (21%).
- **Performing arts group:** Respondents were more likely to be West Auckland residents (11%).
- Textiles group: This was selected more by women (10%) and those aged 85+ (10%).
- **Cultural group:** This was selected more by Pacific (10%) and Asian (13%) respondents.
- **No group:** More Asian (31%) respondents selected this option compared to other groups.

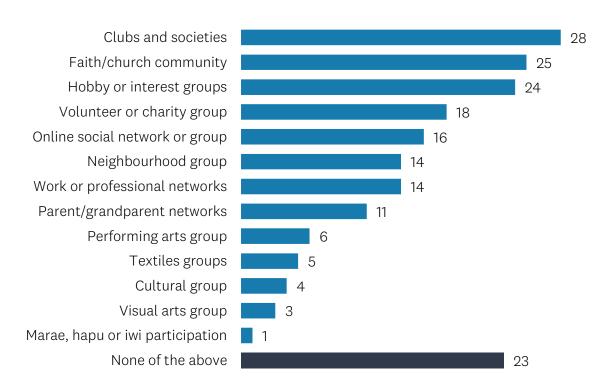


Figure 53: Respondent participation in social networks and groups (n=1400). Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Social connectedness

Two-thirds (67%) of older Aucklanders said that they rarely or never experienced loneliness and isolation in the last 12 months. This proportion is somewhat lower than the 2016 sample (75%).

In 2021, men and women reported differences in their experiences of loneliness and isolation. A larger proportion of men (74%) said they never or rarely experienced these feelings, while women (61%) were less likely to say they never or rarely experienced loneliness or isolation in the last 12 months.

Those aged 85 and over (59%) were also less likely to say they never or rarely experienced loneliness and isolation in the last 12 months.

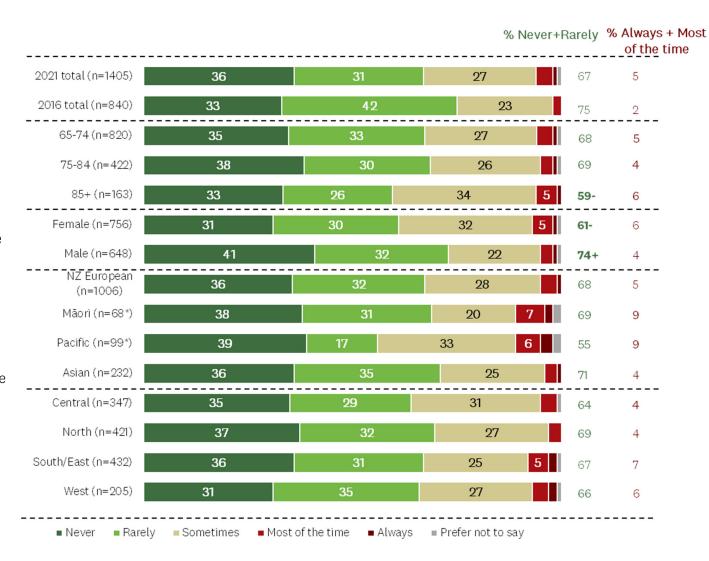


Figure 54: Respondent feelings of loneliness or isolation in the last 12 months (2021 n=1405, 2016 n=840). Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

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Trust in others

Over three-quarters (78%) of respondents said they trusted other people in general. However, there were clear differences between age groups. Younger respondents (those aged 65-74) were less likely to completely trust in other people. However, the 73 per cent who said they felt this way still indicated a high level of trust in others overall. Meanwhile, 83 per cent of those aged 75-84 and 89 per cent of those aged 85+ said they had a high level of trust in others.

South/East Auckland residents were less likely to trust in others (73%). Additionally, a lower proportion of Māori respondents said they trusted in others (62%)—however, this result is indicative only.



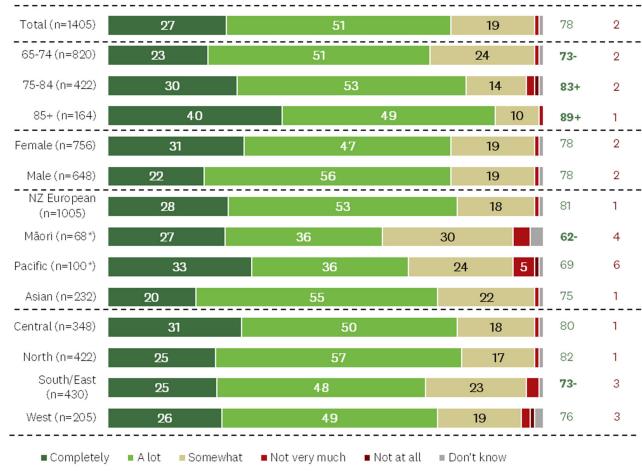


Figure 55: Respondent feelings of trust in other people (n=1405).

Community strength and spirit



Around three in every five (63%) older Aucklanders said they felt a sense of community with people in their local area. This was similar to the proportion of 2016 respondents (60%) who said they felt a sense of community with others in their local area.

In 2021, there were a few significant differences, with those aged 75-84 expressing a slightly higher sense of community (68% of this group).

Meanwhile, a substantially smaller proportion of West Auckland residents (53%) expressed feeling a sense of community with people in their local area, compared to older people living in other parts of Auckland.

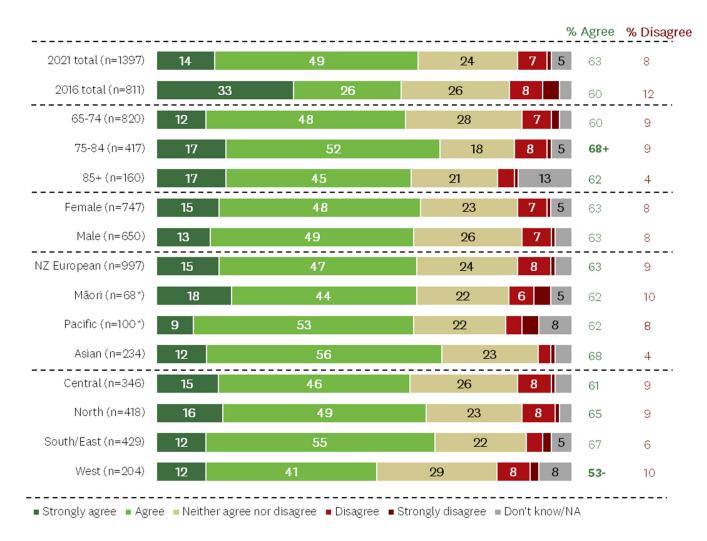


Figure 56: Respondent feelings of having a sense of community with people in their local area (2021 n=1397, 2016 n=811).





Just over half (56%) of older Aucklanders felt safe in their local neighbourhood after dark. Almost one-fifth (16%) said they felt unsafe in this situation. There were some slight changes since 2016, where 60 per cent felt safe and 10 per cent felt unsafe in this situation. In 2021, there were some differences:

- Gender: Just under half (49%) of women said they felt safe in their local neighbourhood after dark, compared to two-thirds (65%) of men.
- Ethnicity: Over one-fifth (23%) of Māori respondents said they felt unsafe in their local neighbourhoods after dark, compared to 16 per cent of all respondents.
- Area: Two-thirds (65%) of those living in the northern parts of Auckland felt safe in their neighbourhood after dark, compared to less than half (45%) of those living in West Auckland.

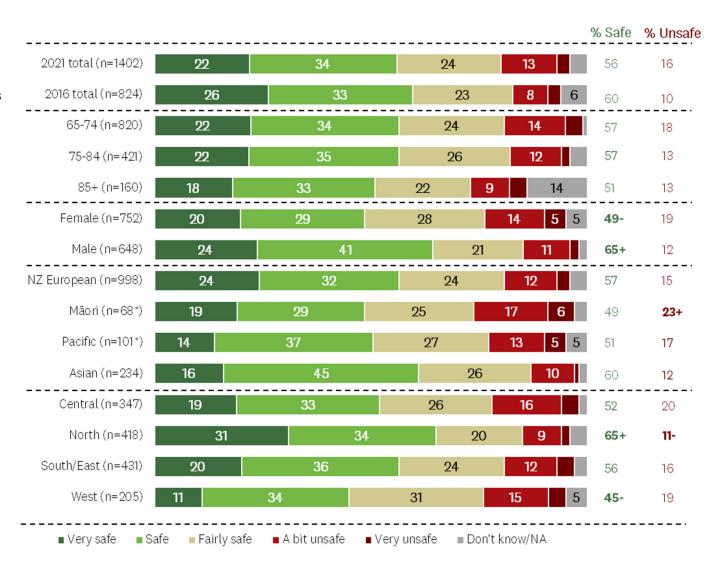


Figure 57: Perceptions of safety in local neighbourhood after dark (2021 n=1402, 2016 n=824). Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Perceptions of safety: Local town centre during the day



Almost three-quarters (72%) of older Aucklanders felt safe in their local town centre during the day. The 2016 survey item asked about feel safe in one's city centre during the day, so responses are not precisely comparable; however, in this situation, 60 per cent of 2016 respondents felt safe in this situation.

In 2021, geographical differences were significant. More residents living in the northern parts of Auckland (83%) felt safe in their local town centre during the day, compared to 67 per cent of those living in South/East Auckland and over half (56%) of those living in West Auckland.

A significantly smaller proportion of Asian respondents (62%) also expressed they felt safe in their local town centre during the day, compared to other ethnic groups.

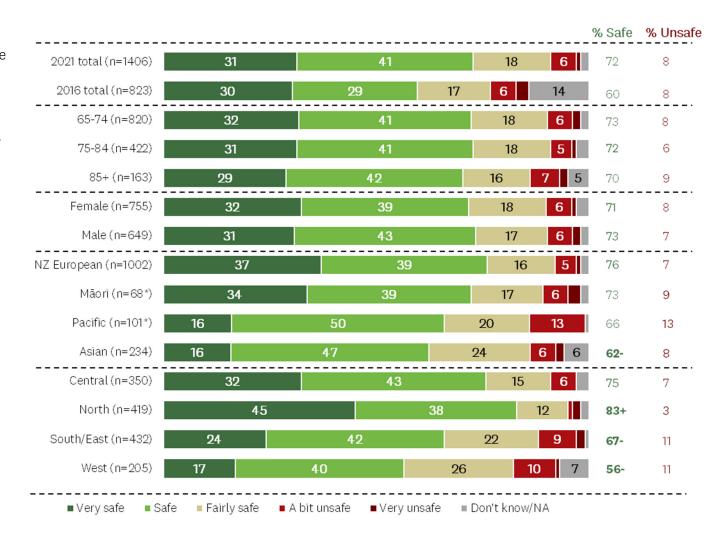


Figure 58: Perceptions of safety in local town centre during the day (2021 n=1406, 2016 n=823). Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Perceptions of safety: Local town centre after dark



Older Aucklanders said they felt less safe in their local town centre after dark—around one-third (34%) felt safe, similar to the proportion who felt unsafe (29%) in this situation. Again, the 2016 equivalent question is not precisely comparable, as it asks about feeling safe in one's city centre after dark. As such, a much smaller proportion (18%) of 2016 respondents felt safe in their city centre after dark while 38 per cent felt unsafe.

There were again gender differences in feeling safe in a situation after dark. More male respondents (42%) felt safe compared to females (27%).

Respondents in different parts of Auckland expressed differing levels of safety as well. More residents in North Auckland felt safe in their local town centre after dark (49%), compared to 27 per cent of South/East Auckland residents and only 16 per cent of those in West Auckland.

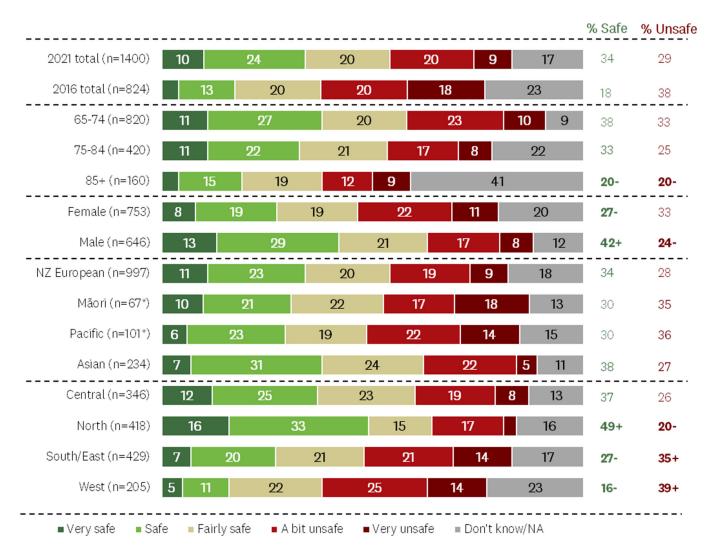


Figure 59: Perceptions of safety in local town centre after dark (2021 n=1400, 2016 n=824). Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Accessibility



Two-thirds of older people (67%) agreed that they felt comfortable using items like mobility aids, glasses, hearing aids, and so on, to improve their accessibility in public, while only two per cent disagreed.

The only significant differences were apparent between different age groups, with older age groups much more comfortable with using such items than younger age groups. Those aged 85 years and over expressed the most comfort (81% agreed), followed by those aged 75-84 years (72%). The youngest group (65-74 years) had the lowest level of agreement (61%).

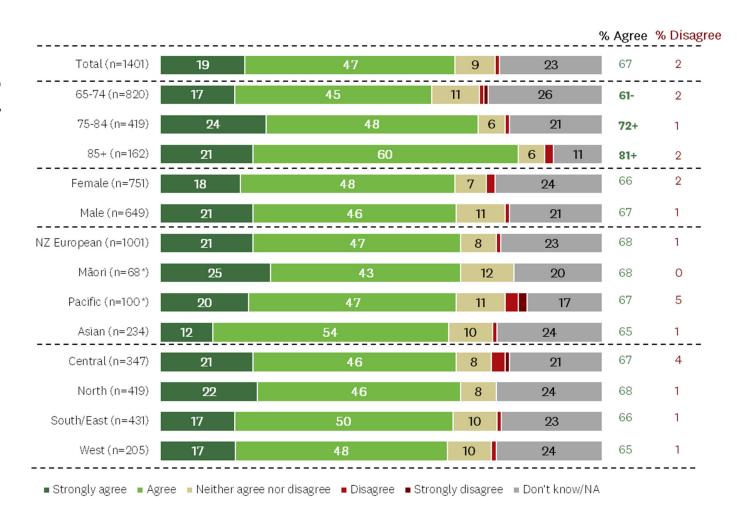


Figure 60: Respondent comfort with using items to improve accessibility in public (n=1401).











Almost one in five said they experienced age-based discrimination. People saying they had experienced this were more likely to be born in New Zealand than overseas.



Almost one in ten had experienced ethnicbased discrimination. They were more likely to be residents of South and East Auckland.



About one in every ten older New Zealanders have reported experiencing elder abuse. However, this is likely under-reported. Global data indicates elder abuse has been on the rise since the pandemic.



Only 4% of Aucklanders aged 65+ reported being victims of crime. The most common type of crime committed against them was theft.

Discrimination



Most older Aucklanders (79%) told us that they had not personally experienced any form of discrimination in the 12 months prior to the survey, and one-fifth (21%) had experienced at least one form of discrimination. When asked about six different forms of discrimination, there were varying answers from respondents (Figure 61). Significant differences are summarised below.

- Age-based discrimination: Respondents who said they experienced this were more likely to have been born in New Zealand (21% said they experienced this, compared to 16% of all respondents). Respondents were less likely to be aged 75-84 (11%), born overseas (10%), and Asian (7%).
- Ethnic-based discrimination: Respondents were more likely to be South/East Auckland residents (14%), than residents of other areas in Auckland. They were less likely to be aged 85+ (2%).

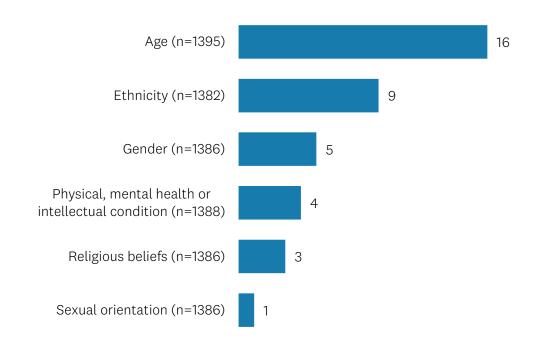


Figure 61: Proportion of respondents reporting they had experienced personal discrimination in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Victims of crime



Reported victimisations involving those aged 65 and over comprised about 4 per cent of all 2021 victimisations. Additional analysis of 2021 victimisation data highlights further details about the 1813 victimisations of older Aucklanders that occurred in that year:

- Ethnicity: Of the recorded victimisations, older Europeans were more commonly victimised (39%). Of the remaining victimisations, 9 per cent involved Asian/Indian people, 8 per cent involved older Māori, 8 per cent involved older Pacific, and 1 per cent involved those of Other ethnicities. Please note, however, that over one-third of victimisations (35%) had no stated ethnicity.
- Location: Slightly more victimisations of older Aucklanders occurred in the combined Auckland police area (38%), followed by the combined Counties Manukau (34%) and Waitematā (28%) police areas.
- Type of crime: The most common type of crime that occurred to victims was theft and related offences, accounting for 76 per cent of victimisations. Acts intended to cause injury were the next most common type of crime (22%), mainly comprising common assault and serious assault not resulting in injury. Very small proportions of victimisations were due to robbery, extortion and related offences (1%), sexual assault and related offences (1%), and abduction, harassment and other related offences (less than 1%).

Table 10: Reported victimisations of Aucklanders (2017-2021).

	2017	2019	2021	Change 2017-2021		
Age group		n		n	%	
0-14 years	2204	2177	1742	-462	-21	
15-24 years	8598	7611	6784	-1814	-21	
25-49 years	19,318	18,906	18,256	-1062	-6	
50-64 years	5927	5950	5556	-371	-6	
65 years and over	1966	2045	1813	-153	-8	
N/A or Not specified	10,160	10,013	8613	-1547	-15	
Total victimisations	48,173	46,702	42,764	-5409	-11	

Source: New Zealand Police data, Victimisations (demographics) - age, ethnicity, boundary.

Elder abuse



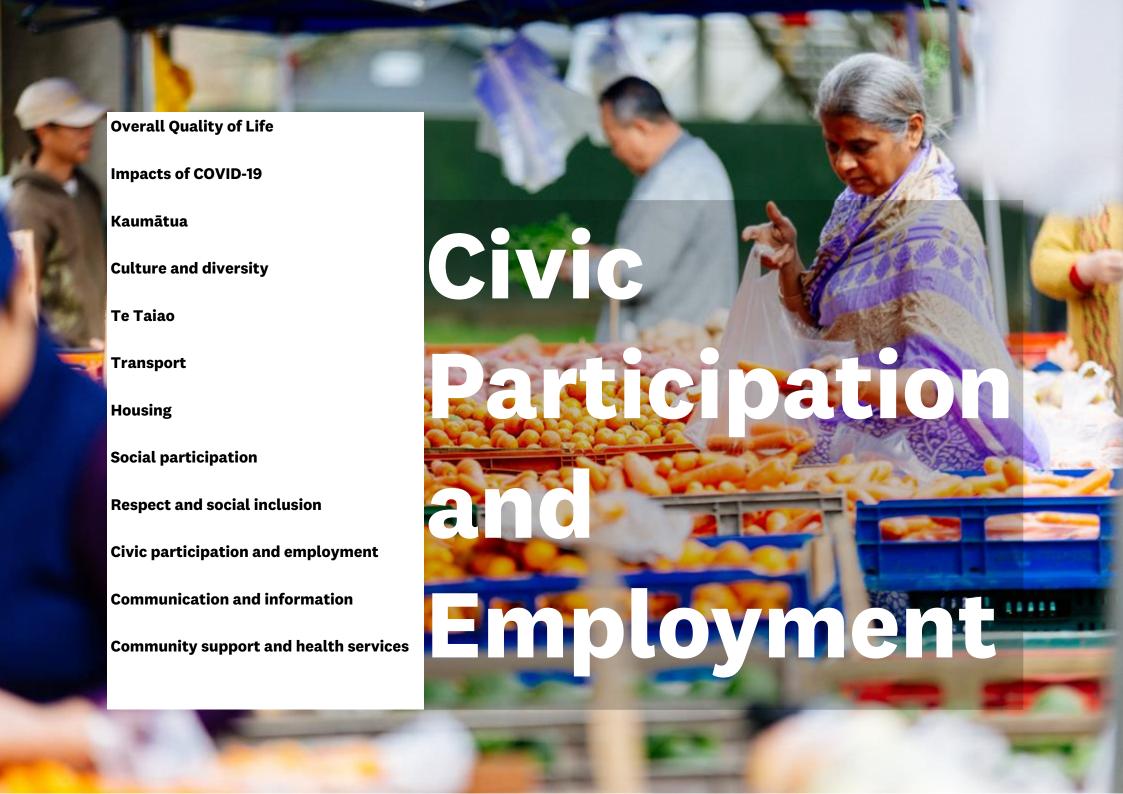
Elder abuse is a serious issue in New Zealand, involving the abuse and neglect of older people. Abuse and neglect can take many forms, including psychological, physical, financial, emotional/verbal, sexual and institutional. Abuse and neglect of any kind violates human rights and can have devastating effects on individuals and their whānau.

There is limited evidence in New Zealand focussing on the prevalence of elder abuse. The New Zealand Longitudinal Study of Ageing estimated that approximately 10 per cent of those aged 65 years and over had experienced some form of abuse. However, these data are based on data collected more than a decade ago. Additionally, it is likely that elder abuse is underreported—it is estimated that about only 1 in every 14 incidents of abuse and neglect are reported to a service or agency that can intervene.

There is some evidence to suggest that, globally, elder abuse has been on the rise since the start of the pandemic. Studies from the United Kingdom report a 30 per cent increase in calls from older people reporting abuse during lockdown, while in the United States, data showed the prevalence of elder abuse was about one in five—a significant increase since before the pandemic.¹⁰

¹⁰ Further information can be found here: https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanhl/article/PIIS2666-7568(21)00122-7/fulltext





Older Aucklanders make a valued contribution, but some are struggling to have needs met



Older Aucklanders have high turnout in local (58%) and central government (84%) elections, especially when compared to other age groups (35% of all enrolled Aucklanders voted in the local election and 79% voted in the central government election.



Older Aucklanders had more opportunities to play a valued role as an elder in their families and communities

Older non-New Zealand European Aucklanders felt they have more opportunities to be valued elders than New Zealand Europeans.



About eight in ten older Aucklanders did unpaid work—of this, two-thirds were 65-74 years old.



Most older Aucklanders received New Zealand Superannuation as their main source of income (85%).

Pacific and Asian older Aucklanders are less likely to receive this income type.



More Aucklanders aged 65-74 years are remaining in the labour workforce over time, meaning they are retiring later in life.



Almost three in every five older
Aucklanders said they had enough or
more than enough money to meet their
everyday needs.

Respondents less likely to have enough money to meet their daily needs were Pacific, Asian, and South/

Civic participation: Local government election turnout



More than half (58%) of older Aucklanders who were enrolled to vote participated in local government elections in 2019. Local government voter turnout data showed that voter turnout amongst those aged 66 and above was higher compared to other age groups.

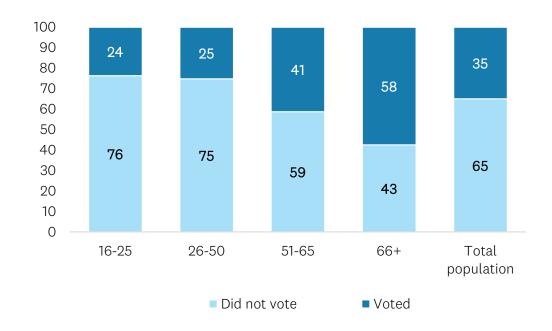


Figure 62: Local government voter turnout (2019).

Source: Auckland Council data.





Table 11: Proportion of older Aucklanders who voted in central government election 2020, by electorate.

Electorate	65-69 years	70+ years	Total 65+	Total population
Whangaparāoa	92	89	90	86
Kaipara ki Mahurangi	92	89	90	86
Port Waikato	91	89	89	84
Auckland Central	89	87	88	83
North Shore	90	87	88	83
Papakura	88	88	88	82
Tāmaki	88	86	87	84
Epsom	87	85	85	82
Mt Albert	88	82	84	84
Northcote	85	83	84	81
East Coast Bays	83	84	84	78
New Lynn	86	82	83	81
Maungakiekie	85	81	82	80
Upper Harbour	83	82	82	78
Pakuranga	83	81	82	79
Te Atatū	84	81	82	78
Kelston	84	79	81	77
Takanini	83	79	81	74
Mt Roskill	82	77	79	76
Botany	79	77	78	73
Manurewa	78	74	75	68
Panmure-Ōtāhuhu	79	72	74	67
Māngere	79	71	74	67
Total Auckland	86	83	84	79

Aucklanders aged 65 and over have a higher rate of participation in central government elections, compared to local government elections. In the last General Election, 84 per cent of enrolled Auckland voters aged 65 and over voted in the General Election (compared with 79% of all enrolled Aucklanders).

When broken down by electorate, the voter turnout of those aged 65 and over was slightly higher than that of the total population. Voter turnout amongst this population was highest in the Whangaparāoa and Kaipara ki Mahurangi electorates (both had 90% of enrolled individuals who voted), and lowest in the Māngere and Panmure-Ōtāhuhu electorates (74% each).

Voter turnout was also somewhat higher amongst those aged 65-69 years (compared to those 70 years and older).

Source: Electoral Commission, Voter turnout statistics for the 2020 General Election

Valued contribution



Almost two-thirds of older people (64%) agreed that they had an opportunity to contribute and play a valued role as an elder in their family or wider community—higher than the proportion (57%) who agreed in 2016. Likewise, the proportion in 2021 (7%) who disagreed with this statement was lower than that in 2016 (14%), suggesting that older Aucklanders feel they have more opportunities to contribute and play a valued role in their families and wider communities.

In 2021, there were similar levels of agreement across various groups of respondents. However, those aged 85+ expressed a lower level of agreement—just over half (56%) said that they had an opportunity to contribute and play a valued role as an elder in their family or wider community.

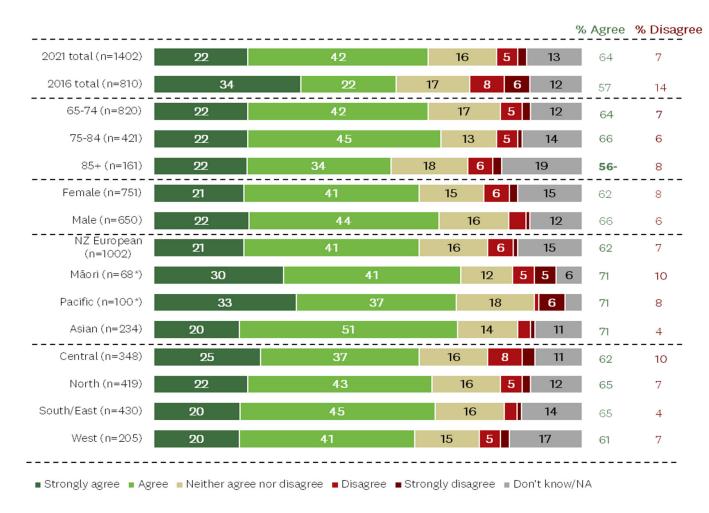


Figure 63: Respondent perceptions that they have an opportunity to contribute and play a valued role as an elder in their family or wider community (2021 n=1402, 2016 n=810).



Unpaid work

At the 2018 Census, around eight in ten Aucklanders aged 65 years and over (81%) said they participated in at least one unpaid activity in the four weeks prior to census day. About two-thirds (64%) of this group were aged 65 to 74 years. As indicated by Table 12, most older Aucklanders undertaking unpaid work were doing household work. There were also considerable proportions looking after children or other people who were unwell or had a disability. A large proportion of those not undertaking any unpaid work were aged 85+.

Table 12: Proportion of older Aucklanders doing unpaid work (2013, 2018).

	2013				2018			
	65-74	75-84	85+	Total 65+	65-74	75-84	85+	Total 65+
Household work, cooking, repairs, gardening, etc., for own household	84	72	49	76	85	74	52	78
Looking after a child who is a member of own household	12	5	1	9	12	6	2	9
Looking after a member of own household who is ill or has a disability	7	7	4	6	7	7	5	7
Looking after a child who does not live in own household	19	8	1	14	21	10	2	15
Helping someone who is ill or has a disability who does not live in own household	9	7	3	8	9	7	4	8
Other helping or voluntary work for or through any organisation, group or marae	17	15	6	15	17	15	7	15
At least one unpaid activity	87	76	51	80	88	78	55	81
No activities	13	25	49	20	12	22	46	19
Total people stated	83,835	40,146	15,018	138,999	95,634	47,799	17,238	160,671

Source: Stats NZ, Census of Population and Dwellings.

Income: Census data



In 2018, under half (49%) of older Aucklanders who stated an income source on their Census form listed more than one source—this represented a decrease of 9 per cent since the 2013 Census.

The majority (84%) reported that they received income from New Zealand Superannuation or a Veteran's Pension (Table 13). Another one-third (33%) received income from interest, dividends, rent and other investments. Only a very small proportion received no income at all (3%), which has remained stable since 2006.

Table 13: Proportion of older Aucklanders and income sources (2006, 2013, 2018).

	2006	2013	2018
No sources of income	2	2	3
Wages, salary, commission, bonuses, etc., paid by an employer	11	16	17
Self-employment or business	7	10	10
Interest, dividends, rent, other investments	41	39	33
Regular payments from ACC or a private work accident insurer	1	<1	1
NZ Superannuation or Veteran's Pension	84	85	84
Other superannuation, pensions or annuities	14	12	11
Other government benefits (incl. Jobseeker Support, Sole Parent Support, Supported Living Payment, and Student Allowance)	9	7	6
Other sources of income, including support payment from people not living in the same household	1	1	1
Total people stated	119,475	151,371	189,123

Source: Stats NZ, Census of Population and Dwellings.

Note: People could receive more than one source of income and categories are not mutually exclusive.

Income: Survey results



Survey results broadly reflected Census data on income sources. Our respondents received income from various sources—the top four are outlined in Figure 66.

Other sources of income included:

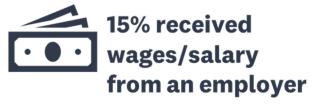
- 11 per cent received other superannuation, pensions or annuities.
- 4 per cent received other government benefits.
- 2 per cent said they had other sources of income.
- 1 per cent said they had no sources of income.

An additional 5 per cent of respondents preferred not to state their sources of income.



85% received NZ Super or a Veteran's Pension

Recipients were more likely to be 85 years and over (94%). Recipients were less likely to be Pacific (75%) or Asian (72%).



7% were employed full-time and 8% were part-time.

Respondents were more likely to be 65-74 years (23%) and Māori (26%). They were also less likely to be 75-84 years (6%) or 85+ (1%).



42% had interest, dividends, rent and other investments

Respondents were more likely to be New Zealand European (49%). They were also less likely to be:

- Asian (28%), Māori (27%) or Pacific (11%).
- Living in South/East Auckland (35%) or West Auckland (31%).



11% were selfemployed

Respondents were more likely to be male (17%) and 65-74 years (16%). They were less likely to be:

- 75-84 years (6%) or 85+ (2%)
- Living in West Auckland (6%).

Figure 66: Top four income sources and significant differences between respondent subgroups.

Income: Household income



We asked respondents about their household's annual income before tax. The largest proportion (26%) said their household's annual income before tax was between \$20,001-\$40,000, followed by an almost equal proportion (24%) who preferred not to state their household's annual income. There were some differences across older Aucklanders in their household's annual income tax by income bracket:

- Less than \$20,000: A larger proportion of respondents in this age bracket were 85 years and over (17%) and Pacific (22% this finding was indicative).
- \$20,001-\$40,000: Again, a larger proportion were aged 85 years and over (37%), and residents of West Auckland (33%). A smaller proportion (19%) were residents of Central Auckland.
- Don't know/prefer not to say: There were clear gender differences, with more females (29%) stating they were not sure or preferred not to say, and fewer males (19%) selecting this option.

Comparing these data to the 2016 survey revealed that there were very few changes in older Aucklanders' household incomes before tax. There was a slightly larger proportion in 2016 who earned between \$20,001-\$40,000, and slightly fewer who said they did not know their household income or preferred not to state it.

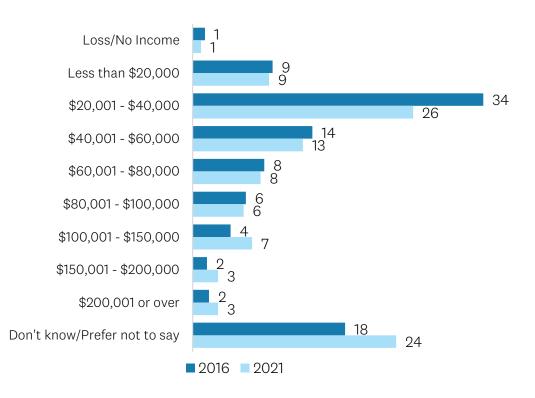


Figure 64: Respondents' household annual income before tax (%) (2021 n=1389, 2016 n=829)

Financial dependents

Over half of respondents (52%) said they had no financial dependents, while almost one in every three (28%) had one dependent. Very small proportions of respondents had more than five financial dependents. Although this finding is indicative, survey results showed that more Pacific respondents said they had more than five financial dependents.

There were noticeable changes over time compared to the 2016 survey (Figure 65). Most noticeably, a much higher proportion of 2021 respondents (48%) had at least one financial dependent compared to 2016 respondents (22%).

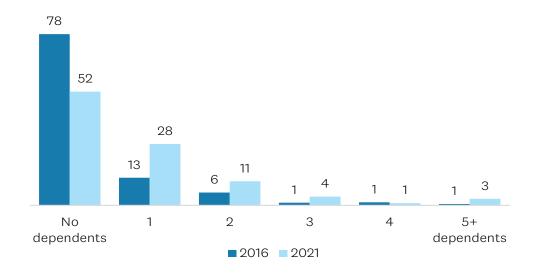


Figure 65: Respondents' financial dependents (2021 n=1392, 2016 n=768).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

52% had no financial dependents

Those with no financial dependents were more likely to be:

- Older (75-84 years: 58%, 85+: 65%)
- Female (65%).



28% had one dependent

Those with one financial dependent were more likely to be male (40%).



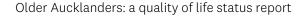
Those with three financial dependents were more likely to be Pacific (11%).



3% had 5+ dependents

Those with 5+ financial dependents were more likely to be Pacific (11%).

Figure 66: 2021 respondents' financial dependents (n=1392).



Living standards



Almost three in every five (58%) older Aucklanders said that they had enough or more than enough income to meet their everyday needs. This proportion was higher among New Zealand Europeans (66%), and much lower for Asian (39%) and Pacific (23%) respondents.

These differences likely overlap with the geographical differences observed. For instance, a larger proportion of Central Auckland residents (63%) said they had enough or more than enough income to meet their everyday needs, while a smaller proportion of those living in South/East Auckland (52%) and West Auckland (51% - although this was not a statistically significant difference) said they had enough or more than enough income to meet their everyday needs.

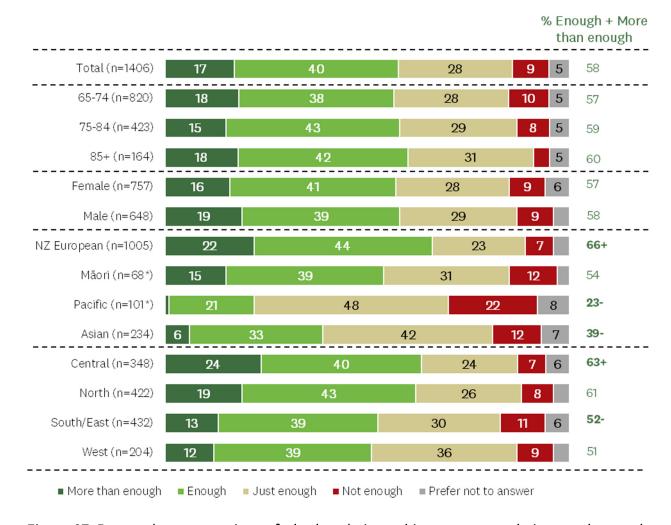


Figure 67: Respondent perceptions of whether their total income meets their everyday needs (n=1406).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Older Aucklanders: a quality of life status report

Paid employment

Increasing proportions of older Aucklanders aged 65-74 years are remaining in the labour workforce over time—the Census indicated that 27 per cent of older Aucklanders were in the labour force in 2006, rising to 34 per cent in 2018 (Table 14). Aucklanders aged 65-74 tend to have very low unemployment rates, with the majority of those in the labour

force either employed full-time or part-time.

According to the 2018 Census, more than three-quarters (79%) of those aged 65-74 still in the labour force were New Zealand European. Asians comprised the next largest group still in the labour force (11%), followed by Māori (7%) and Pacific people (6%) in this age group.

Table 14: Work and labour force status for Aucklanders aged 65-74 years (2006, 2013, 2018).

	2006		2013		2018	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Employed full-time	9855	15	17,886	20	22,485	21
Employed part-time	7683	12	11,880	13	13,806	13
Unemployed	342	1	720	1	876	1
Not in labour force	49,203	73	60,219	66	72,735	66
Total people stated	67,083	100	90,711	100	109,905	100
Work and labour force status unidentifiable	2484		4479		0	
Total people	69,570		95,190		109,905	
Subtotals						
Total people in labour force	17,880	27	30,486	34	37,167	34
Total people employed	17,538	26	29,766	33	36,291	33
Unemployment rate ⁽²⁾		2		2		2

Source: Stats NZ, Census of Population and Dwellings.

Notes:

¹⁾ A person's work and labour force status in the seven days ending 5 March 2006, 3 March 2013, and 4 March 2018.

²⁾ The proportion of older Aucklanders in the labour force who are unemployed. The unemployment rate is calculated as a proportion of 'Total people in labour force'.





Table 15: Work and labour force status for Aucklanders aged 75+ years (2006, 2013, 2018).

	2006		2013		2018	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Employed full-time	888	2	1305	2	2160	3
Employed part-time	2754	5	3255	5	3888	5
Unemployed	54	<1	60	<1	105	<1
Not in labour force	53,460	94	61,059	93	73,119	92
Total people stated	57,153	100	65,676	100	79,269	100
Work and labour force status unidentifiable	1824		2289		0	
Total people	58,974		67,968		79,269	
Subtotals						
Total people in labour force	3696	7	4620	7	6153	8
Total people employed	3642	6	4560	7	6048	8
Unemployment rate ⁽²⁾		2		<1		2

Source: Stats NZ, Census of Population and Dwellings.

Notes:

2) The proportion of older Aucklanders in the labour force who are unemployed. The unemployment rate is calculated as a proportion of 'Total people in labour force'.

In contrast to the younger age group,
Aucklanders aged 75 and over have largely
exited the labour force, with the vast majority
in 2018 (92%) no longer in the labour force.
This proportion has remained stable since
the 2006 Census. Again, of those still
remaining in the labour force, the majority
were employed.

Compared to those aged 65-74, a larger proportion of those aged 75-84 who were still in the labour force were European (88%). Smaller proportions of this age group still in the labour force were of other ethnic groups: Asian (6%), Māori (5%), and Pacific (4%).

¹⁾ A person's work and labour force status in the seven days ending 5 March 2006, 3 March 2013, and 4 March 2018.



Overall Quality of Life

Impacts of COVID-19

Kaumātua

Culture and diversity

Te Taiao

Transport

Housing

Social participation

Respect and social inclusion

Civic participation and employment

Communication and information

Community support and health services









Digital equity and access to the Internet

Older Aucklanders have increasing access to and use of the Internet: 88% can now access and use the Internet, up from 74% in 2016.

Around one in every ten older Aucklanders have no access to and cannot use the Internet. Lack of access to technology was much higher among those aged 85 and over, as well as among Pacific and Māori communities and residents of South/East Auckland.



Three-quarters feel confident using the Internet to make transactions...



... And more (83%) feel confident using the Internet to keep connected

Confidence to use the Internet was generally lower among 85+, Pacific and Asian peoples, and South/East and West Aucklanders.

Access to telecommunications



Most older Aucklanders told us that they had access to and used the Internet (88%). This indicates higher access and use compared to the 2016 survey, where 74 per cent had access and used the Internet, and where 18 per cent did not have access or use the Internet.

In 2021, around one-fifth (12%), however, either had no Internet access or were unsure if they did. Notably, there were a number of significant differences across groups of respondents. For example, a much lower proportion of those aged 65-74 (5%) had no Internet access/were unsure if they did, compared to a much higher proportion of those aged 85+ (36%).

Lack of Internet access was higher amongst South/East Auckland residents (17%) and lower in North Auckland residents (6%). Additionally, lack of Internet access was also higher amongst Māori (19%) and Pacific (40%) respondents, although these findings were indicative only.

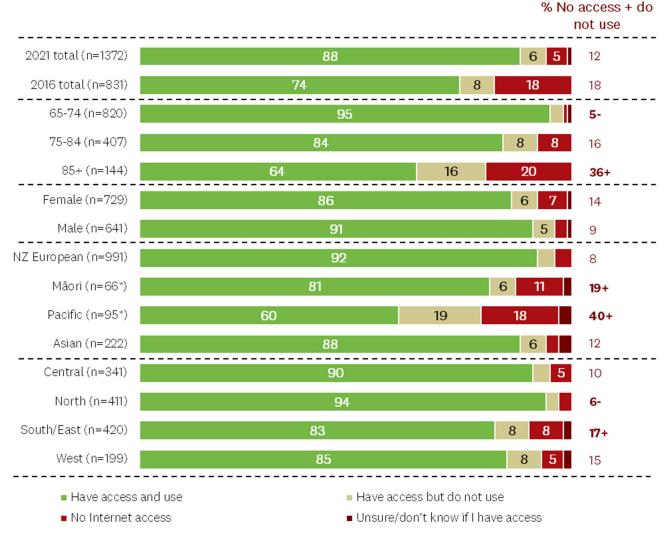


Figure 68: Respondent access to and use of the Internet (2021 n=1372, 2016 n=831).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Older Aucklanders: a quality of life status report

Use of the Internet to make transactions



Of those who said they had access to and used the Internet, almost three-quarters (74%) felt very confident using it to make transactions. There are some limitations comparing this with the 2016 survey, as the previous survey asked the extent to which respondents *agreed* that they felt confident, rather than asking them to rate on a confidence scale. Therefore, in 2016, 58 per cent agreed that they felt comfortable and confident using the Internet to make transactions, while 20 per cent disagreed. In 2021, significant differences included:

- Age group: Younger respondents (81% of those aged 65-74) expressed greater confidence in using the Internet to make transactions compared to older respondents (67% of those aged 75-84 and 45% of those aged 85+).
- Ethnic group: 80 per cent of New Zealand European respondents were very confident, compared to 47 per cent of Pacific and 58 per cent of Asian respondents.
- Geographical area: 81 per cent of North
 Aucklanders were very confident, compared
 to 69 per cent of South/East Aucklanders and
 65 per cent of West Aucklanders.

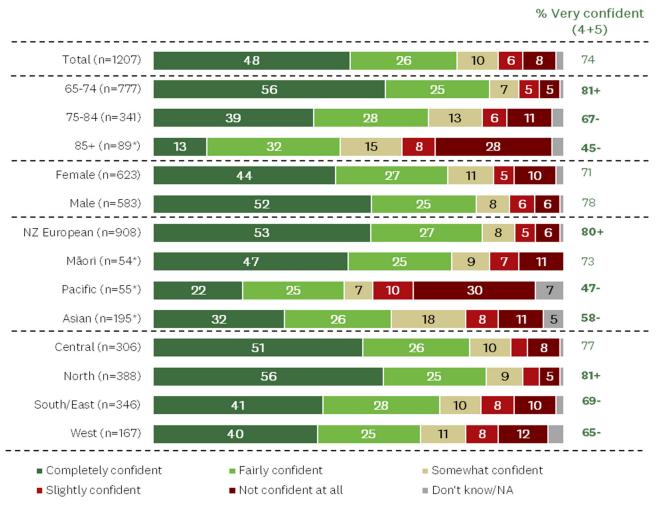


Figure 69: Respondent confidence in using the Internet to make transactions (n=1207).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Older Aucklanders: a quality of life status report

Use of the Internet to keep connected



Compared to using the Internet for making transactions, more older Aucklanders felt very confident using the Internet to keep connected with friends and family (83%).

Again, there were some significant differences:

- Age group: Fewer older respondents aged 85+ felt very confident (69%).
- Ethnic group: 56 per cent of Pacific respondents felt confident compared to all respondents, although this significant difference was indicative only.
- Geographical area: 89 per cent of North Auckland residents were very confident, compared to 77 per cent of South/East Auckland residents.

There was no equivalent 2016 survey question, meaning that comparing changes over time for this question was not possible.

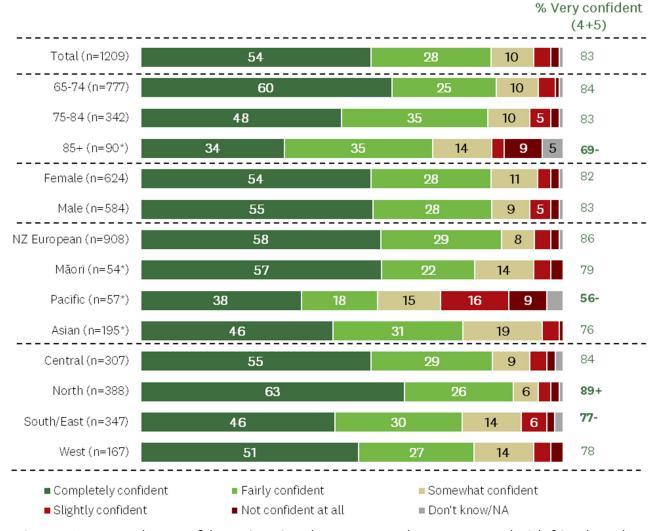


Figure 70: Respondent confidence in using the Internet to keep connected with friends and family (n=1209).











A high level of older Aucklanders rated their health in general (79%) and their physical health (72%) as good.

Those rating their general health as good were more likely to be European (84%), but less likely to be 85+ (72%), Asian (66%), and West Aucklanders (74%).



Nine in every ten told us their family health was good. This was slightly lower for West Aucklanders.



Most (95%) had visited a GP in the last 12 months.
Older people overall can access primary healthcare.



Fewer than half never or rarely experienced serious stress with a negative effect



A high level (75%) of older Aucklanders had good mental wellbeing, as shown by their high mental and emotional health ratings.



Most older Aucklanders (over 90%) said they did some type of physical activity in the last week.

Of the small number that said they did no or very little activity, this group was more likely to be 85 years and over (19%), Pacific (21%), or Asian (14%).

Life expectancy



Improvements in overall life expectancy reflect improvements in social and economic conditions, general lifestyle, access to health services, and advances in medical treatment and care.

Life expectancy at age 65 indicates the additional number of years a person could expect to live, on average, having reached age 65. This is based on the mortality rates of the population at each age in a given year.

The latest cohort life tables available from Stats NZ indicate that the average length of life for New Zealanders born in 1957 (therefore, 65 years in 2022) is 86.0 years for males and 88.2 years for females, assuming medium mortality rates.

Data on life expectancy by ethnic group are available only for life expectancy at birth using data from 2017-2019. This data indicates that life expectancy is lower for older Māori and Pacific peoples in New Zealand, compared to Europeans/Other and Asians. Life expectancy for Māori and Pacific males is the lowest out of all displayed categories (Table 16), although this mirrors the overall trend of lower life expectancy for males than for females as seen for all ethnic groups.

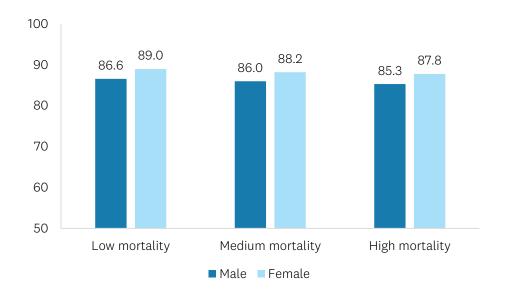


Figure 71: Life expectancy of New Zealanders aged 65 years.

Source: Stats NZ, How long will I live calculator—based on Stats NZ complete cohort life tables 1876-2022 (updated March 2022) and national population projections 2020(base)-2073, mortality assumptions (published December 2020).

Table 16: Life expectancy at birth for New Zealanders, by ethnic group and sex.

	Male	Female
European/Other	81	84.5
Māori	73.4	77.1
Pacific	75.4	79
Asian	85.1	87.9
Total	80	83.5

Source: Stats NZ, National and subnational period life tables 2017-2019.

Harmful behaviours



The New Zealand Health Survey provides information about the health and wellbeing of New Zealanders, drawing on survey data annually collected from approximately 13,000 adults and the parents or primary caregivers of over 4000 children.

Data regarding Aucklanders aged 65 years and over indicate that there is a very low prevalence of reported smoking behaviours among this age group.

A significantly smaller proportion (71.6%) of older Aucklanders said they had had at least one alcoholic drink in the past year, compared to older New Zealanders more generally (74.7%). For both groups, a substantially lower proportion were classified as hazardous drinkers who showed patterns of drinking that carried a high risk of future damage to physical or mental health (measured using the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test).

Table 17: Harmful behaviour indicators for Aucklanders aged 65 years and over.

	Unadjusted data 2017-		Test of significance of difference between PHU and NZ
Indicators	Auckland Regional New Public Health Service		p-value
Current smokers (at least monthly)	5.6	5.8	0.74
Daily smokers	5.4	5.4	0.96
Past-year drinkers	71.6	74.7	0.03* ↓
Hazardous drinkers (total population)	8.5	9.3	0.40
Heavy episodic drinking at least monthly (total population)	7.8	8.8	0.23
Heavy episodic drinking at least weekly (total population)	4.5	5.4	0.15
Cannabis use in the last 12 months	1.2	1.7	0.09
Amphetamine use (total population) in the last 12 months	0.0	0.0	0.19

Sources: 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 New Zealand Health Survey.

Notes: *p-values show statistically significant differences (p<0.05). PHU has a higher (\uparrow) or lower (\downarrow) prevalence than the NZ rate (Statistically significant).

Self-rated holistic health status: General health



Most (79%) of older Aucklanders rated their health in general as good and one-fifth rated it as poor or fair. There were no changes since 2016, when 80 per cent of respondents rated their health in general as good and 20 per cent again rated it as poor or fair.

In 2021, there were a few significant differences:

- Age group: More older respondents aged 85+ rated their general health as poor or fair (27%).
- Ethnic group: Slightly more New Zealand Europeans (84%) respondents rated their general health as good, while fewer Asians (66%) rated it as good.

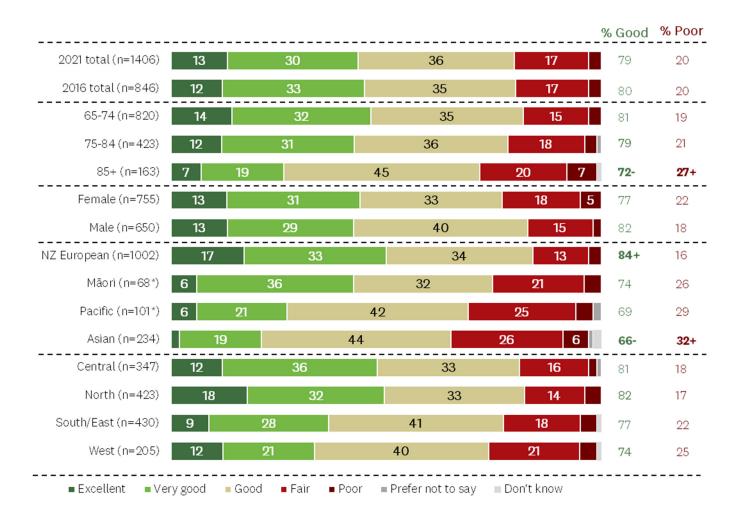


Figure 72: Respondent perceptions of their health in general (2021 n=1406, 2016 n=846).

Self-rated holistic health status: Physical health



Almost three-quarters (72%) of older Aucklanders rated their physical health as good, and 27 per cent rated it as poor or fair. There was no equivalent 2016 survey question, so analysing changes over time is not possible.

- Age group: More older respondents aged 85+ rated their general health as poor or fair (38%).
- Ethnic group: Fewer Asian (64%) and Pacific (52%) respondents rated their physical health as good.
- Geographical area: A larger proportion of residents in northern parts of Auckland (77%) rated their physical health as good, while fewer residents in West Auckland (64%) rated their physical health as good.

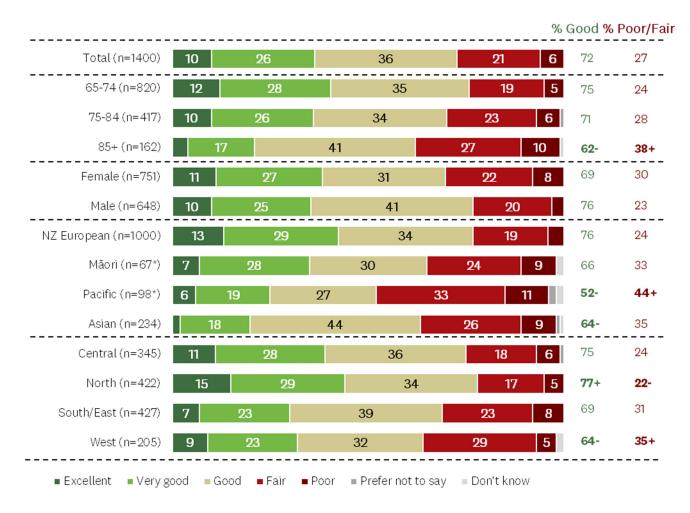


Figure 73: Respondent perceptions of their physical health (n=1400).

Self-rated holistic health status: Spiritual health



A slightly higher proportion (79%) of older Aucklanders rated their spiritual health as good (compared to physical health), and 10 per cent rated it as poor or fair. There was no equivalent 2016 survey question, so analysing changes over time is not possible.

There were very few differences between different groups of respondents. The only notable differences included:

- A larger proportion of residents in South/East Auckland (84%) rated their spiritual health as good
- Meanwhile, more residents in West Auckland (15%) rated their spiritual health as poor or fair.

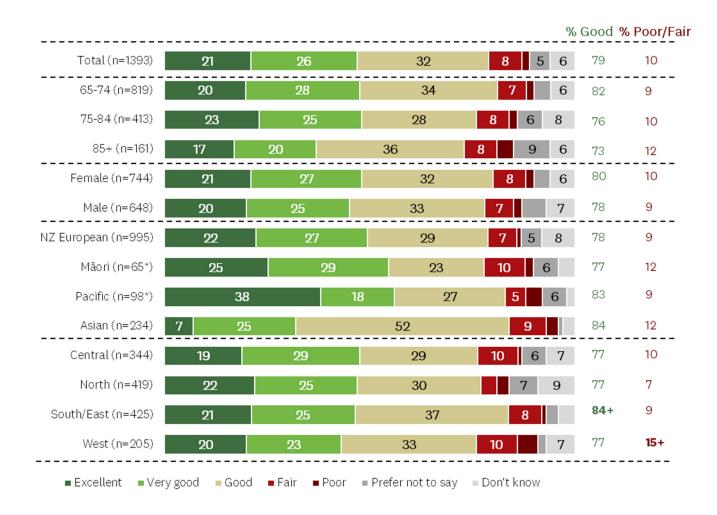


Figure 74: Respondent perceptions of their spiritual health (n=1393).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Older Aucklanders: a quality of life status report

Self-rated holistic health status: Mental and emotional health



A high level (80%) of older Aucklanders rated their mental and emotional health as good, and 19 per cent rated it as poor or fair. There was no equivalent 2016 survey question, so analysing changes over time is not possible.

Again, there were very few differences between varying groups of respondents. A larger proportion of those aged 75-84 (85%) rated their mental and emotional health as good, compared to other age groups.

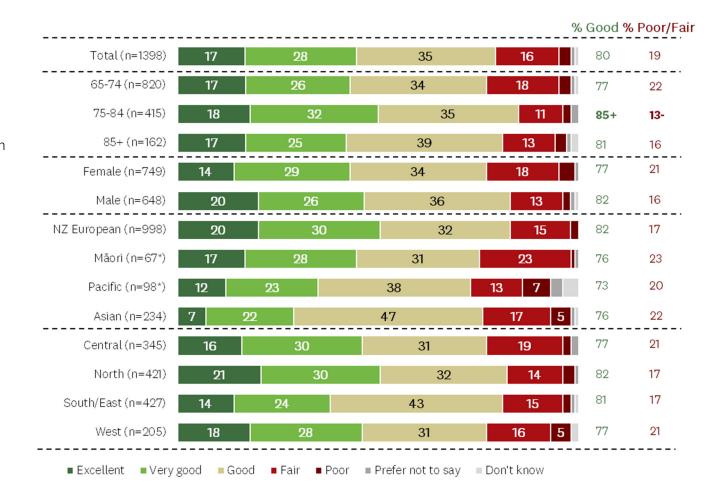


Figure 75: Respondent perceptions of their mental and emotional health (n=1398).

Self-rated holistic health status: Family and relationship health



The majority (90%) of respondents rated their family and relationship health as good, with less than one-tenth (8%) rating it as poor or fair. There was no equivalent 2016 survey question, so analysing changes over time is not possible.

There were again very few differences between different groups of respondents:

- Area: A slightly smaller proportion of residents in West Auckland (85%) rated their family and relationship health as good, compared to those living in other parts of Auckland.
- Ethnic group: Slightly fewer Pacific respondents (81%) rated their family and relationship health as good, compared to other respondents, but this result was indicative due to the small base size of Pacific respondents.

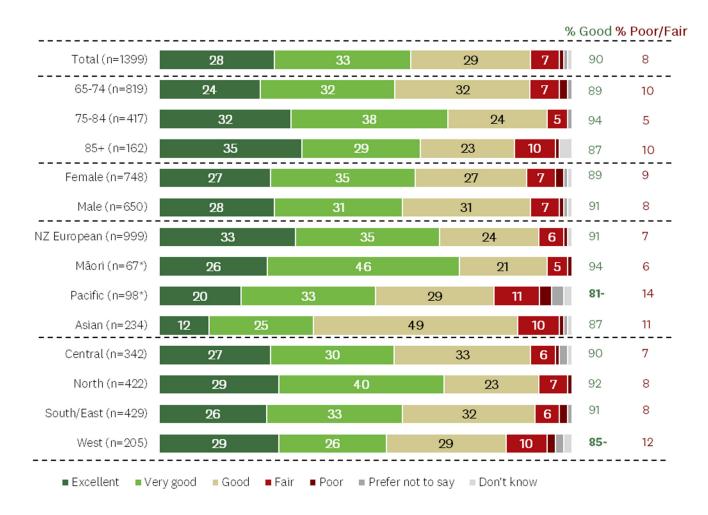


Figure 76: Respondent perceptions of their family and relationship health (n=1399).

Emotional and mental health: Stress



Around half (49%) of all respondents said they had never or rarely experienced serious and negative stress in the 12 months prior to the survey. Only 7 per cent said they had experienced this type of stress always or most of the time. These proportions are the same for the 2016 respondent sample, indicating no changes in the experience of serious and negative stress.

This proportion was largely very similar across most groups of respondents. The only significant difference was found for male respondents, where a slightly larger proportion (54%) said they had experienced serious and negative stress in the previous 12 months.

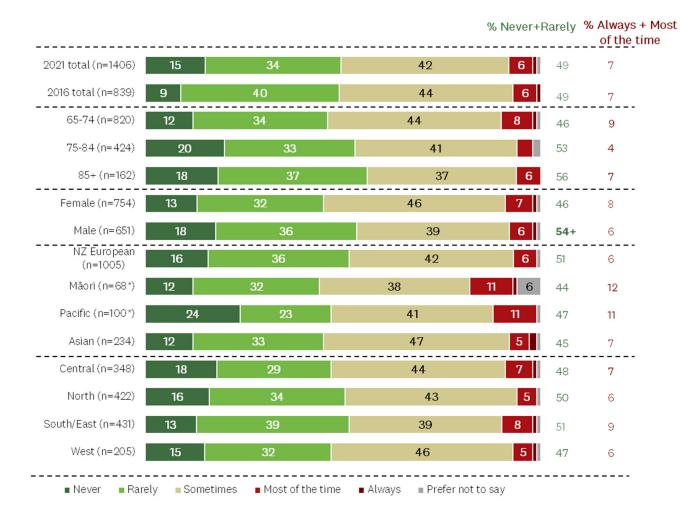


Figure 77: Respondent experiences of serious and negative stress in the last 12 months (2021 n=1406, 2016 n=839).

Emotional and mental health: WHO-5 index



The World Health Organization (WHO) measures emotional wellbeing through the WHO-5 index. Respondents are asked to rate their wellbeing using five indicators and whether they have been present or absent in their lives over the previous two weeks.

The raw score is calculated by totalling scores from the five answers and multiplying by 4, to get a raw score out of 100. The index ranges from 0 (the lowest level of wellbeing) to 100 (the highest possible level). Research has found that a score of 50 or less is a reasonably good predictor of clinical depression.

The mean score for respondents to the survey was 62.5, indicating an above average level of mental wellbeing. About three-quarters (75%) had a score over 50, indicating good wellbeing. There were no significant differences between the different subgroups being compared.

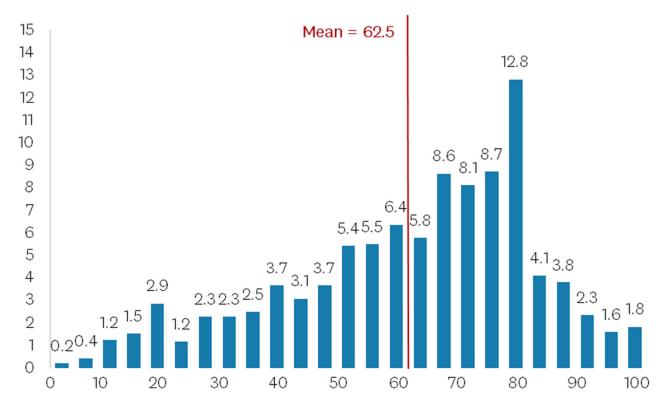


Figure 78: Respondents' WHO-5 scores (%) (n=1373).





Stats NZ collects national-level information about serious injury outcomes. The age-standardised rate for all fall injuries in older New Zealanders (those aged 75 years and over) was 1519.4 per 100,000 people in 2018. This rate has increased since 2000, with fluctuations in the intervening years.

Table 18: Age-standardised rates of fatal, serious non-fatal, and serious (fatal and non-fatal) fall injuries (0-74 years, 75+ years) (2000-2018).

Year		Fatal injuries		Serious non-fatal injuries			Total serious (fatal and non-fatal) inj		
rear	0-74	75+	Total	0-74	75+	Total	0-74	75+	Total
2000	1.6	96.6	6.7	33.8	1310.1	103.3	35.4	1406.7	110.0
2002	1.9	109.7	7.7	32.8	1253.4	99.3	34.7	1363.1	107.0
2004	2.5	116.0	8.7	32.1	1180.4	94.6	34.6	1296.4	103.3
2006	2.0	125.6	8.7	31.1	1132.1	91.1	33.1	1257.7	99.7
2008	2.4	146.0	10.2	32.1	1078.3	89.0	34.5	1224.3	99.2
2010	2.3	155.5	10.6	36.1	1157.8	97.1	38.4	1313.3	107.7
2012	1.9	148.8	9.9	37.6	1159.1	98.6	39.4	1307.9	108.5
2014	2.0	144.7	9.8	37.6	1234.3	102.7	39.6	1379.0	112.5
2016	1.8 ^R	139.9 ^R	9.3 ^R	40.8	1262.4	107.3	42.6 ^R	1402.3 ^R	116.6 ^R
2018	1.7 ^P	166.9 ^p	10.7 ^P	42.8 ^R	1352.4 ^R	114.1 ^R	44.5°	1519.4 ^p	124.8 ^P

Source: Stats NZ, Serious injury outcome indicators: 2000-2020.

Notes:

¹⁾ Serious non-fatal injuries involve those where a patient is admitted to hospital, and they are determined to have a probability of death of 6.9 per cent or more.

²⁾ Age-standardised rates are per 100,000 person years at risk. They are used to account for age changes in population structure.

^{3) &}quot;P" indicates a provisional rate, while "R" indicates a revised rate.

Access to support and services



Older Aucklanders reported good access to medical support and services. Results from the New Zealand Health Survey (Table 19) showed that a significantly higher proportion of older Aucklanders had visited a GP in the 12 months prior to data collection, compared to older New Zealanders more broadly. A smaller proportion had visited a practice nurse, suggesting a greater reliance or need for GP-level care.

Additionally, around one in ten older Aucklanders had had an afterhours medical centre visit in the previous 12 months—a significantly higher proportion than older New Zealanders more generally. About one -fifth noted they had an unmet need for primary healthcare, although high proportions indicated that they had definite confidence and trust in their GP.

Table 19: Access to support and services—indicators for Aucklanders aged 65 years and over.

	Unadjusted data 2017-		Test of significance of difference between PHU and NZ
Indicators	Auckland Regional Public Health Service	New Zealand	p-value
GP visit in the last 12 months	94.9	91.9	<0.01*↑
Practice nurse visit in the last 12 months	36.5	49.1	<0.01*↓
After-hours medical visit in the last 12 months	12.7	9.5	<0.01*↑
ED visit in the last 12 months	16.8	17.5	0.45
Unmet need for primary healthcare	23.1	22.0	0.24
Unable to get appointment within 24 hours	15.7	16.0	0.74
Unmet need for GP due to cost	6.0	5.8	0.75
Unmet need for GP due to lack of transport	2.8	2.2	0.08
Definite confidence and trust in GP	88.1	87.5	0.53
GP good at explaining health conditions/treatments	94.7	94.6	0.96

Sources: 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 New Zealand Health Survey.

Notes: *p-values show statistically significant differences (p<0.05). PHU has a higher (\uparrow) or lower (\downarrow) prevalence than the NZ rate (Statistically significant).

Levels of physical activity





8% none/very little physical activity

2016: 7% of respondents.2021 respondents were more likely to be:

- Pacific (21%)
- 85 years and over (19%)
- Asian (14%)
- Female (10%).



40% light intensity physical activity

This includes activities like day-to-day activities (e.g. shopping, housework). 2016: 37% of respondents.

2021 respondents were more likely to be:

- Māori (51%)
- 85 years and over (49%)
- Female (46%).



62%Moderate intensity physical activity

This included activities like gardening, yoga, and tai chi. The only notable significant difference was that 2021 respondents were less likely to be 85 years and over (50%). 2016: 56% of respondents.



16%
high intensity
physical activity

This included activities like jogging, swimming or playing a slower-paced sport.

2016: 15% of respondents. 2021 Respondents were more likely to be male (21%). They were also less likely to be:

- Female (11%)
- 85 years and over (6%)
- Living in West Auckland (10%).



5% vigorous physical activity

This included activities like running, playing a fast sport or doing gym classes. There were no significant differences across subgroups. 2016: 7% of respondents.

Figure 79: Reported types and intensity of physical activity over the last week (n=1405).

Conclusion

This report updates evidence about the quality of life of older Aucklanders. In doing so, it provides useful information about how this group has fared in the last five years since the baseline study. Auckland has faced multifaceted changes to its social, cultural, and economic landscape in recent years, particularly with COVID-19 and geopolitical challenges. The broader demographic context of an ageing, ethnically diverse population and accelerated population ageing in coming decades also poses unique challenges for the city to navigate.

Despite some of the challenges facing Auckland, like housing unaffordability, the cost of living, and climate change, older Aucklanders as a broad group continue to report good quality of life. However, this picture varies for different groups of older people across the city. Our data showed clear differences by broad geographic area, with more positive outcomes enjoyed by older residents in the central and northern parts of Auckland. Conversely, residents in the eastern, southern, and western parts of Auckland perceived there was room for greater improvements to the domains contributing to their wellbeing.

There are opportunities to plan and deliver our services in ways that meet the needs of our ever-evolving population of older people. To this end, Auckland Council will continue to work with its stakeholders—including central government, organisations, groups, and local communities—to understand and respond to these challenges and opportunities.



Appendix A: Survey methods

Questionnaire development

The project team for this study undertook a comprehensive review of the questionnaire used in the baseline 2016 study to determine whether the questions remained fit for purpose and to identify and fill gaps regarding the new domains added to the indicator framework. This review made a number of important considerations:

Survey length

Efforts were made to balance the need to include important survey questions while also minimising potential fatigue for respondents by reducing the questionnaire length.

Prioritising secondary data where possible

Survey questions were developed when no robust secondary data were available. Please see Appendix D for further detail on secondary data sources.

Deciding on the appropriateness of asking some survey questions to address indicators

For some indicators (e.g., elder abuse), it was deemed neither safe nor appropriate for potential respondents to answer a survey question pertaining to that topic. Instead, existing research was used.

The context of the COVID-19 pandemic

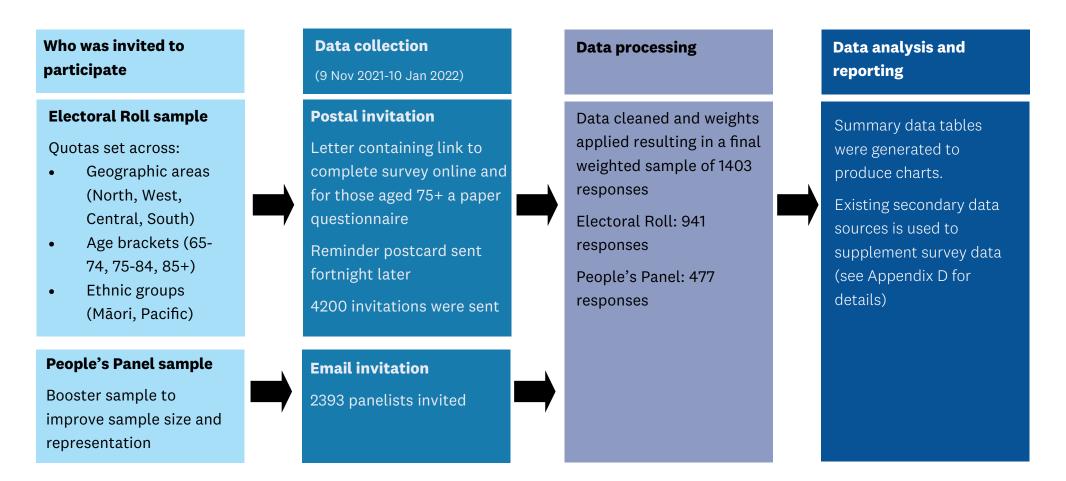
Some survey questions (e.g., use of public transport) were edited or developed as answers were dependent on respondents' consideration of the impacts of COVID-19.

The review of the 2016 questionnaire resulted in the addition of some questions and the removal of others to align the 2021 questionnaire with the indicator framework. New questions designed to capture new indicators drew on other surveys, such as the Quality of Life in New Zealand Cities survey, as well as other questionnaire items and scales. In a few instances, the project team developed new questions where validated scales were unavailable (e.g., understanding whether respondents found that Auckland Council services were culturally sensitive or not).

A copy of the full 2021 questionnaire can be located in Appendix B.

Data collection: survey of older Aucklanders

The 2016 baseline survey collected responses from 846 Aucklanders aged 65 years and over. The 2021 survey targeted a sample of n=1000 responses, with minimum sub-samples of Māori and Pacific peoples. A sequential mixed method was used for the survey, allowing respondents to complete it online, via telephone or on a hard copy (although online completion was prioritised). The diagram below provides an overview of the process.



Sampling design and recruitment

The New Zealand Electoral Roll was used as the primary sampling frame. This provided a representative and robust database for the Auckland population. It enabled sample selection by key demographic variables (gender, age, Māori descent, local council area).

A sample frame was drawn and potential respondents were sent a personalised letter outlining the survey purpose and how to complete the survey online. Initiatives to help ensure a robust and representative sample, inclusive of non-European ethnic groups, included:

- Those aged 75 years and over were provided with a hard copy survey in the initial invitation letter to promote survey completion amongst this group
- Those identifying as having Māori descent on the Electoral Roll were oversampled, as were meshblocks with higher proportions of

Māori and Pacific residents, in order to promote response rates in these groups

A supplementary approach was undertaken to boost response rates. During the first two weeks of fieldwork, it became apparent that achieving the target sample n=1000 could be at risk (possibly due to slowed New Zealand Post operations and other unknown COVID-19 impacts at this time). Therefore, the decision was made to boost the sample by inviting a sample of respondents from Council's People's Panel to participate in the survey online.

Response rates

A total of 4200 individuals were randomly selected from the Electoral Roll and invited to participate. Of this number, a proportion were excluded from the calculation of the response rate as they were deemed ineligible (due to being deceased, having moved out of Auckland, were listed as 'gone no address', etc.) or because the outcome of the invitation letter could not be tracked.

From these invitations, 941 respondents completed the survey. When removing the above ineligible or unknown outcome invitations, the response rate for the Electoral Roll was 24 per cent.

A total of 2393 individuals were invited to participate from Council's People's Panel (793 non-European and 1600 European panelists). From these invitations, 477 eligible responses were received, resulting in a response rate of 20 per cent for the sample.

Data cleaning, processing and weighting

NielsenIQ (the research company contracted to undertake the survey fieldwork) cleaned and processed the survey data, including the coding of open-text responses. Subsequently, the sample was weighted to account for biases in the sample design and non-response bias. Weighting was critical to adjust the sample to represent the population of Aucklanders aged 65 years and over in each area.

Weighting was based on population proportions using the 2018 Census. The two samples (from the Electoral Roll and the People's Panel) were combined and weighted together, to represent the survey population, using standard weighting techniques. Data were weighted using RIM (Random Iterative Method) weighting separately for each age group. This

method allows for the adjustment of multiple characteristics in a dataset at the same time in a way that keeps the different characteristics proportionate as a whole.

The final dataset contained 1400 responses (unweighted count, while with weighting and rounding, the weighted total was 1403).

Strengths and limitations of this study

The research design may not be fully responsive to non-European participants: Self-report surveys like the one implemented in this study are a useful and often cost-effective way of gathering information from a large number of individuals. However, the need to reach as many people as possible using the same set of survey questions may make it more challenging for minorities to respond to the survey. Unweighted ethnicity data indicated that around three-quarters of our final sample identified as New Zealand European, with smaller proportions of other ethnic groups. Responses from older Pacific and Asian Aucklanders were low in particular—5 per cent were Pacific and 8 per cent were Asian, even though in the 2018 Census they comprised 7 per cent and 17 per cent respectively of Aucklanders aged 65 years and over.

These low response rates may in part be due to cultural and language barriers. The survey was available only in English, which could impact on Pacific and Asian respondents' ability to participate in the research. Additionally, some concepts in the survey may not translate into other cultures, such as the concept of retirement villages and rest homes (there is some evidence in our research to support this, with only 1% of Pacific and 2% of Asian respondents living in retirement villages or rest homes—compared to 8% of the total sample). This may cause further challenges for respondents of non-European cultures and limit their participation.

We made attempts to mitigate these issues at the outset of the study with our sampling design, through the combined use of the New Zealand Electoral Roll and Auckland Council's People's Panel. Using the Electoral Roll, we oversampled people of Māori descent. We also oversampled meshblocks with higher proportions of Māori and Pacific residents. In addition, we boosted the sample using the People's Panel, focussing particularly on inviting those not of European descent. These strategies were successful to some extent. Unweighted ethnicity data showed we improved on the proportions of older Māori who participated since the 2016 baseline survey (3% in 2016, increased to 8% in 2021). However, the proportions of Pacific and Asian respondents remained stable over time, suggesting there is greater work to be done in the future to promote and facilitate their participation in research.

Strategies for future consideration to promote participation within these communities may include working closely together with ethnic communities to promote survey participation, alongside traditional sampling approaches using the Electoral Roll.

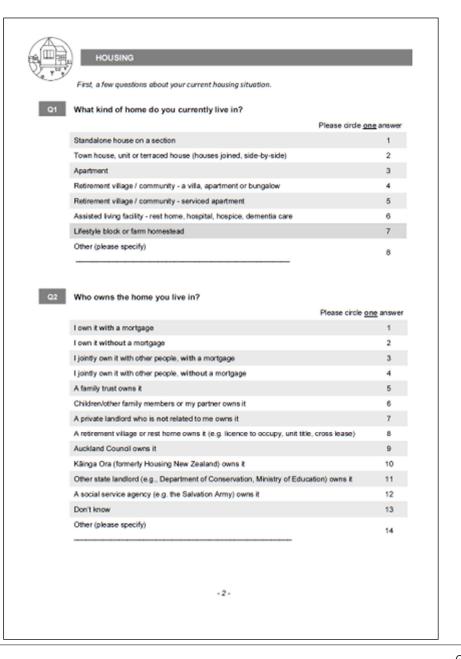
Appendix B: 2021 questionnaire

Older Aucklanders' Quality of Life Questionnaire

Thank you for taking part in this important survey. It measures what life is like for you in Auckland. The survey will take about 15 minutes to complete. Please answer all the questions and be as honest as you can in your responses. While we realise that aspects of your life may have changed because of COVID-19, please think about your overall quality of life when you answer the questions.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE SURVEY You will need to circle an answer like this Or like this. Please circle one answer Please circle one answer for each statement Question. (2) Question... If you change your mind after When there is an instruction to go to a certain question, please circle circling a number, just cross it out the correct answer before going to the question as instructed and circle the correct number for Please circle one answer vour answer. No





Currently, how many people live in your household, including you?

Household refers to anyone living in your house/sleep-out/granny flat on the same property. If you live in a retirement village/apartment/hostel, answer with how many people live in your unit/room.

Please	circle	one answer
9	10	11+

Q4 To what extent do you agree or disagree that...

Please circle one answer for each statement

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know / Not applicable
The type of home I live in suits my needs and the needs of others in my household	1	2	3	4	5	6
During winter, I/we can afford to heat my/our home properly	1	2	3	4	5	6
My housing costs are affordable (costs are rent, mortgage, rates, maintenance)	1	2	3	4	5	6



TRANSPORT

Now a few questions about public transport.

In the period between November 2020 and August 17th 2021, <u>before</u> the current COVID-19 restrictions, how often were you using public transport in Augustand?

Public transport includes trains, buses and ferries. Taxis/Uber are excluded.

	Please circle one answer
Every day or most days	1
About once or twice a week	2
About once or twice a month	3
Less often than once or twice a month	4
Did not use public transport during this period	5
Not applicable (no public transport available in area)	6

- 3 -

Since August 18th 2021, when COVID-19 restrictions began, how often have you used public transport in Auckland?

Public transport includes trains, buses and ferries. Taxis/Uber are excluded.

	Please circle one answer
Every day or most days	1
About once or twice a week	2
About once or twice a month	3
Less often than once or twice a month	4
Did not use public transport during this period	5
Not applicable (no public transport available in area)	6

IF YOU HAVE NOT USED PUBLIC TRANSPORT AT ALL IN THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS, PLEASE GO TO $\ensuremath{\mathrm{Q}8}$

Thinking about public transport in the period between November 2020 and August 17th 2021 before the current COVID-19 restrictions in Auckland, to what extent do you agree or disagree that public transport and the associated facilities (i.e., buses, trains, and ferries) were...

Please circle one answer for each statement

know/ plicable
8
6
8
S
6
6

4 -



YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD / LOCAL AREA

These questions are about the area that you live in.

How safe or unsafe do you feel in the following situations?

Please circle one answer for each statement

	Very unsafe	A bit unsafe	Fairty safe	Safe	Very safe	Don't know / Not applicable
In my home during the day	1	2	3	4	5	6
In my home after dark	1	2	3	4	5	6
When entering or leaving my home	1	2	3	4	5	6
In my neighbourhood after dark (outside of my home)	1	2	3	4	6	6
In my local town centre during the day	1	2	3	4	5	6
In my local town centre after dark	1	2	3	4	6	6

How satisfied are you with the following in your local area?

Please circle one answer for each statement

	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied	Don't know / Not applicable
The quality of green spaces (e.g., parks, community gardens, reserves, playgrounds, trees and plants around streets, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	6
The cleanliness of public spaces (e.g., roads and footpaths, parks, town squares)	1	2	3	4	6	6
The quality of footpeths, pevernents and walking tracks (e.g., free of cracks / holes, good surface for wheelchairs, wide enough)	1	2	3	4	5	6

-5-

To what extent, if at all, has each of the following been a problem in your local area over the past 12 months?

Please circle one answer for each statement

	A big problem	A bit of a problem	Not a problem	Don't know / Not applicable
Air pollution	1	2	3	4
Water pollution, including pollution in streams, rivers, lakes and in the sea	1	2	3	4
Noise pollution	1	2	3	4

In your daily life, to what extent do you consider <u>sustainability</u> and the <u>environment</u> when you make choices about what you do, buy or use?

Q12	worry about the	do you personally impact of climate uture of Auckland and ckland?
		Please circle one answe
	Not at all worried	1

	Please circle one answer
Never	1
Rarely	2
Sometimes	3
Most of the time	4
Always	5
I don't make choice what to do / buy / ur	
Don't know / Not ap	plicable 7

Please	circle one answer
Not at all worried	1
A little worried	2
Worried	3
Very worried	4
I don't know enough about climate change	5
I don't believe in climate change	6



HEALTH AND HAPPINESS

These questions are about your general level of happiness and health.

There are multiple aspects to people's personal health. Thinking about your own situation in general, how would you rate each of these aspects of your health during the past two months?

Please circle one answer for each statement

	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Prefer not to say	Don't know
My health in general	1	2	3	4	5	8	7
My physical health	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
My spiritual health	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
My mental and emotional health	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
My family and relationship health (i.e. quality of relationships with family and friends)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

-6-

Which of the following best describes how often in the past 12 months, if ever, you have experienced stress that has had a serious negative impact on you?

Stress refers to things that negatively affect aspects of people's lives, including work or home life, making important decisions, routines for taking care of household chores, leisure time or other activities.

Please circle one answer

Always	1
Most of the time	2
Sometimes	3
Rarely	4
Never	5
Prefer not to say	6

How often, if ever, have you felt the following over the last two weeks?

Please circle one answer for each statement

	All of the time	Most of the time	More than half of the time	Less than half of the time	Some of the time	At no time
I have felt cheerful and in good spirits	5	4	3	2	1	0
I have felt calm and relaxed	5	4	3	2	1	0
I have felt active and vigorous	5	4	3	2	1	0
I woke up feeling fresh and rested	5	4	3	2	1	0
My daily life has been filled with things that interest me	5	4	3	2	1	0

Which of the following types of physical activity have you done in the last week?

Please circle all that apply

None/very little physical activity	1
Light intensity - day to day activities such as carrying shopping or doing the housework	2
Moderate intensity - for example, gardening, stretching / tai chi / yoga, or walking to the shops	3
High intensity - for example, jogging, swimming or playing a slower paced sport like lawn bowls.	4
Vigorous - for example, doing a gym/exercise class, running or playing a fast sport like rugby	5

-7-



SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS

These questions are about your interactions with other people.

Thinking about the social networks and groups you are part of, do you currently belong to any of the following?

Please circle all that apply

The second secon	a. appy
Fath-based group or church community	1
Cultural group (e.g. kapa haka, Samoan group, Somalian group)	2
Performing arts group (e.g., dance, music, drama)	3
Visual arts group (e.g., photography, sculpture, painting, drawing, film)	4
Textiles groups (e.g., sewing, knitting, crochet, weaving, craft guilds)	5
Marae, hapû or iwi participation (e.g. Land Trust)	6
Neighbourhood group (e.g. residents' association)	7
Clubs and societies (e.g. sports clubs, Lions Club, RSA, etc.)	8
Hobby or interest groups (e.g. poetry/writing groups, book clubs, gym classes, tal chi- classes, etc.)	9
Volunteer or charity group (e.g. SPCA, Hospice, environmental group)	10
Parent or grandparent networks (e.g. school, pre-school)	11
Work or professional networks (e.g. network of colleagues or professional association)	12
Online community with a shared interest (e.g. yoga, music, games, sport or health issue)	13
Other social network or group (please specify)	14
None of the above	15

In the last 12 months, how often, if ever, have you felt lonely or isolated?

Which of the following best describes how much you trust most people you deal with regularly? (This includes family members and friends).

Please circle one answer

Always	1
Most of the time	2
Sometimes	3
Rarely	4
Never	5
Prefer not to say	6

Please circle one answer

I trust them completely	5
I trust them a lot	4
I trust them somewhat	3
I do not trust them very much	2
I do not trust them at all	1
I don't know	0



SOCIETY

These questions are about how much you feel valued and respected in Auckland.

Q20

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Please circle one answer for each statement

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know / Not applicable
People in Auckland accept and value me and others of my ethnicity	1	2	3	4	5	6
I feel safe, respected and supported in my local community	1	2	3	4	5	6
I feel comfortable dressing in a way that expresses my identity in public (e.g., individuality, social, cultural or feith)	1	2	3	4	5	6
I feel comfortable using items to improve my accessibility in public (e.g., mobility aids, hearing aids, glasses, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Before the August 17th 2021 COVID-19 restrictions, I was able to participate in events, activities and traditions from my culture as often as I wanted	1	2	3	4	5	6
Before the August 17th 2021 COVID-19 restrictions, I was able to participate in events and activities with other cultures and people of all ages as often as I wanted	1	2	3	4	5	6
I feel a sense of community with people in my local area	1	2	3	4	5	6
Before the August 17th 2021 COVID-19 restrictions, I was visited by friends, family or whânau as cêen as I wanted	1	2	3	4	5	6
I have the opportunity to play a role as an elder in my family and/or community (e.g. leadership, decision-making for the family, providing advice, caring for grandchildren, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	6

-9-

In the last 12 months, do you feel you have been discriminated against because of your:

Please dirdle one answer for each statement

	Yes	No	Prefer not to say	Don't know
Gender	1	2	3	4
Age	1	2	3	4
Ethnicity	1	2	3	4
Physical, mental health or intellectual condition	1	2	3	4
Sexual orientation	1	2	3	4
Religious beliefs	1	2	3	4

Thinking about experiences you have had with Auckland Council services (e.g., libraries, community centres, recreational and leisure centres, events, etc.) in the <u>past 12 months</u>, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements.

I feel that Auckland Council services I interacted with...

Please circle one answer for each statement

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
Treated me with kindness, understanding and respect	1	2	3	4	5	6
Communicated with me in my preferred language (verbally or written)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Met my cultural needs (e.g., had gander-appropriate facilities, dietary requirements, asked me how to say my name)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Are accessible (e.g., for hard of hearing or low vision, has wheelchair access)	1	2	3	4	5	6
I haven't interacted with any Auckland Council services in the past 12 months						

-10-

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COMMUNICATION

These questions are about your Internet use and how easy it is to use.

Which of the following best describes your use of the Internet (via laptop)PC, tablet or phone)?

	Please circle <u>one</u> answer
I do not have access to the Internet	1 Go to Q25
I have access to the Internet, but do not use it	2 5 30 10 225
I have access to the Internet and use it	3
Unsure / don't know if I have access to the Internet	4 → Go to Q25

24 How confident are you in using the internet for the following activities?

Please circle one answer for each statement

	Not confident at all	Slightly confident	Somewhat confident	Fairty confident	Completely confident	Don't know/ Not applicable
Transactions These include online banking, paying bills or buying goods, or filling in forms with personal information online, etc	1	2	3	4	5	6
Keeping connected with friends and family For example, using email, Facebook, FaceTime, Zoom, WeChaf	1	2	3	4	5	6



ECONOMIC STANDARD OF LIVING

The following questions are about your finances and economic wellbeing.

Which of the following describes your household's annual income before tax?

	Please circle <u>one</u> answer
Losañio Income	1
Less than \$20,000 (Less than approx. \$380 per week)	2
\$20,001 - \$40,000 (Approx. \$381-\$770 per week)	3
\$40,001 - \$60,000 (Approx. \$771-\$1,150 per week)	4
\$60,001 - \$80,000 (Approx. \$1,151-\$1,540 per week)	5
\$80,001 - \$100,000 (Approx. \$1,541-\$1,900 per week)	6
\$100,001 - \$150,000 (Approx. \$1,901-\$2,890 per week)	7
\$150,001 - \$200,000 (Approx. \$2,891-\$3,850 per week)	8
\$200,001 or over (Over approx. \$3,851 per week)	9
Don't know/Prefer not to say	10

In the last 12 months, which of the following ways did you get income?

Please circle all that apply

	. rease erese are mar apply
Wages, salary or commission paid by an employer (working full time)	1
Wages, salary or commission paid by an employer (working part time)	2
Self-employment or business I own and work in (working full time)	3
Self-employment or business I own and work in (working part time)	4
Interest, dividends, rent and other investments (e.g. Kiwisaver, shares,	bonds) 5
New Zealand Superannuation or Veteran's Pension	6
Other government benefits, support payments or war pensions (e.g. s. payment, accommodation supplement)	apported living 7
Other superannuation, pensions or annuities (e.g. overseas pensions, pensions from workplaces)	private 8
Regular payments from ACC or a private work accident insurer	9
Other sources of income, including support payments from people who my household	do not live in 10
No source of income during that time	11
Prefer not to say	12

- 12 -

-11-

Excluding yourself, how many people do you support financially on a regular basis? This includes people in New Zeeland and/or overseas.

	Please	circle	one answer
-			40.

Which of the following best describes how well your total income (from all sources) meets your everyday needs?

Everyday needs include things like accommodation, electricity, food, clothing, GP/doctor's visits.

Please cirde one answer

1
2
3
4
5



COVID-19

These questions are about COVID-19.

What kind of impact have COVID-19 and lock-down restrictions had on...?

Please circle one answer for each statement

	Major negative impact	Minor negative impact	No impact	Minor positive impact	Major positive impact	Don't know/ Not applicable
Your mental health	1	2	3	4	5	6
Your physical health	1	2	3	4	5	6
Maintaining social ties	1	2	3	4	5	6
Your financial situation	1	2	3	4	5	6
Your job security	1	2	3	4	5	6
The New Zealand economy	1	2	3	4	5	6

Do you have any further comments about the impact of COVID-19 on you and your friends and family?

- 13 -



QUALITY OF LIFE

Would you say that your overall quality of

P18888	arcie	one	answer	
			1	

Exitating pour	
Poor	2
Neither poor nor good	3
Good	4
Extremely good	5

For what reasons did you rate your quality of life that way?



DEMOGRAPHICS

These questions are about you.

Which of th groups do

85-89 years old

90 years or over

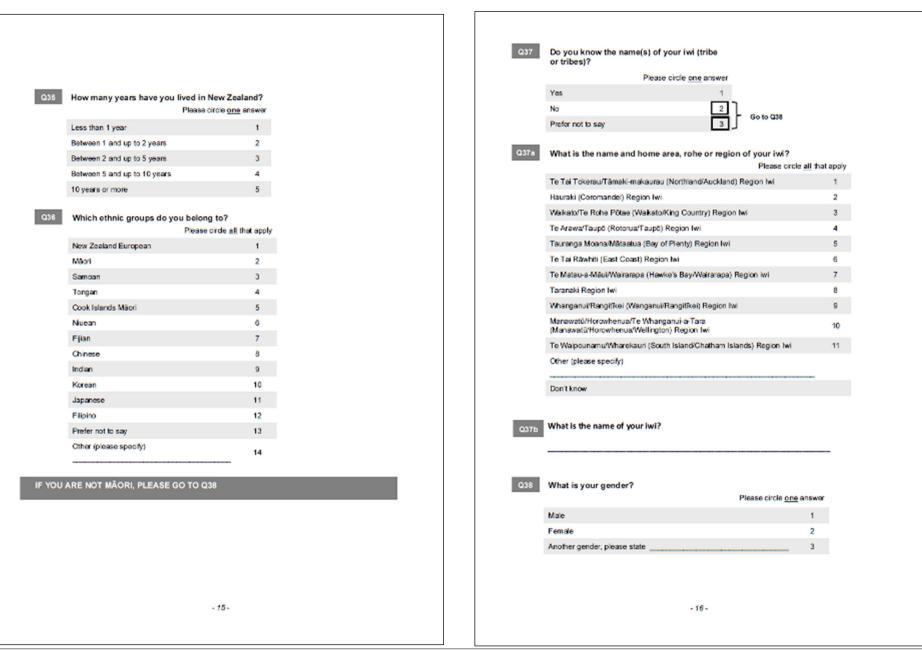
the	follo	wing	age	
yo	u be	long	to?	

Please circle one answ	
Below 65 years old	0
65-69 years old	1
70-74 years old	2
75-79 years old	3
80-84 years old	4

Were you born in New Zealand?

Please dircle one answer
1 → Go to Q36

- 14-



Q39	Do you consider yourself to be transgender?	
	Transgender is an umbreite term that refers to people whose geoder the sex they were assigned at birth. Other identities considered to tall umbreite can include non-binary, transsexual, taketëpui, fa'afafine, grand many more.	under this
	Please circl	le <u>one</u> answer
	Yes	1
	No	2
	I don't know	3
	Prefer not to say	4
Q40	Which of the following options best describes how you thi	nk of
4.0	yourself?	iik oi
	Please circl	e <u>one</u> answer
	Heterosexual or straight	1
	Gay or lesbian	2
	Bisexual	3
	Other, please specify	4
	I don't know	5
	I don tknow	
	Prefer not to say	6
Q41		6
Q41	Prefer not to say	6
Q41	Prefer not to say	6 make?
Pleas	Prefer not to say Lastly, do you have any final comments you would like to	make?
Pleas	Lastly, do you have any final comments you would like to a Thank you for taking the time to complete this survice check that you have completed all pages of the questionn the completed questionnaire in the Freepost envelope provenvelope (no stamp required) and post it to: FreePost Authority Number 196397	make?
Pleas	Lastly, do you have any final comments you would like to a Thank you for taking the time to complete this survice check that you have completed all pages of the questionn the completed questionnaire in the Freepost envelope provenvelope (no stamp required) and post it to: FreePost Authority Number 198397 Survey Returns Team	make?
Pleas	Lastly, do you have any final comments you would like to a Thank you for taking the time to complete this survice check that you have completed all pages of the questionn the completed questionnaire in the Freepost envelope provenvelope (no stamp required) and post it to: FreePost Authority Number 196397	make?
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Pleas	Lastly, do you have any final comments you would like to a Thank you for taking the time to complete this survice check that you have completed all pages of the questions the completed questionnaire in the Freepost envelope provience (no stamp required) and post it to: FreePost Authority Number 198397 Survey Returns Team Neisser(Q Private Bag 93500) Takaguna	make?

Appendix C: Survey participant sample

	Unweighted %	Weighted %			
Gender (Base: All respondents)					
Female	49	54			
Male	51	46			
Another gender	0	0			
Transgender	0	0			
Age (Base: All respondents)					
65-74	45	58			
75-84	44	30			
85+	12	12			
Ethnicity (Base: All respondents)					
Māori	8	5			
Pacific	5	7			
Asian	8	17			
Other	85	74			
Area (Base: All respondents)					
Central	26	25			
North	30	30			
South/East	29	31			
West	16	15			
Sexuality (Base: All respondents)					
Heterosexual or straight	89	87			
Gay or lesbian	1	1			
Bisexual	1	1			
Other	2	3			
Don't know	2	3			
Prefer not to say	5	6			

	Unweighted %	Weighted %			
Birthplace (Base: All respondents)					
Born in New Zealand	63	55			
Born overseas	37	45			
Length of time lived in New Zealand (Base: All respondents born overseas)					
Less than 1 year	0	0			
1 to up to 2 years	0	0			
2 to up to 5 years	0	0			
5 and up to 10 years	3	4			
10+ years	96	95			
Deprivation area (Base: All respondents)					
Quintile 1	24	25			
Quintile 2	24	24			
Quintile 3	23	21			
Quintile 4	12	12			
Quintile 5	16	18			

Appendix D: Secondary data sources

Existing secondary data were used to supplement data gathered from the survey of older Aucklanders (see Table 20).

Table 20: Indicators, measures, and secondary data sources.

Indicators and measures	Secondary data source
2.1: Ethnic and cultural diversity—Ethnic composition of older Aucklanders; Main languages used; Proportion born overseas and lived overseas five years prior to census	New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings
4.3: Licensed drivers—Proportion aged 75+ who have a driver's licence	Waka Kotahi customised data
4.4: Accessibility—Proportion of older Aucklanders who are registered users of the Total Mobility Scheme	Auckland Transport customised data
5.1: Housing type and tenure—Proportion who own or partly-own their residence	New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings
5.1: Housing type and tenure—Proportion living in Kāinga Ora homes or on waiting lists to be housed	Ministry of Social Development customised request
5.2: Household composition—Household composition of older Aucklanders	New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings
5.3: Crowding—Proportion living in housing defined as crowded	Stats NZ Housing report
7.2: Victims of crime—Reported rate of crimes (per year) against older Aucklanders	New Zealand Police—victimisations (demographics) data
7.5: Elder abuse—Proportion who experienced elder abuse	Existing academic research
8.1: Civic participation—Proportion of eligible older Aucklanders who voted in the most recent local and central government elections	Local Government New Zealand data; Electoral Commission voter turnout statistics
8.3: Unpaid work—Proportion who engaged in unpaid work four weeks prior to the Census	New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings
8.4: Income—Income sources of older Aucklanders	New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings
8.6: Paid employment—Employment status of older Aucklanders	New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings
10.1: Life expectancy at age 65—Healthy life expectancy at age 65 for New Zealanders	Stats NZ cohort tables
10.2: Harmful behaviours—Proportion who smoke regularly; proportion reporting hazardous drinking use	New Zealand Health Survey, pooled 2017-2020 data
10.5: Accidental injuries—The number of fatal incidents and serious non-fatal injuries	Stats NZ, Serious injury outcome indicators
10.6: Access to support and services: Proportion who visited a GP in the last 12 months	New Zealand Health Survey, pooled 2017-2020 data

Find out more:

phone 09 301 0101

email <u>rimu@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</u>

or visit <u>aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</u> and <u>knowledgeauckland.org.nz</u>

