

2023 Census results

European 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:

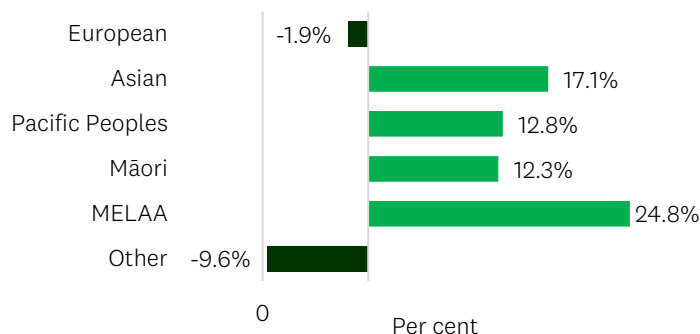
www.stats.govt.nz/topics/using-a-combined-census-model-for-the-2023-census/.

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

Similar proportion of Aucklanders were of European ethnicity compared to 2018

At the 2023 Census, 825,144 usual residents in Auckland identified with a European ethnicity (49.8% of Auckland's population). This is a decrease of 16,242 people, or -1.9%, since the 2018 Census.

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.



825,144

identified as European in 2023

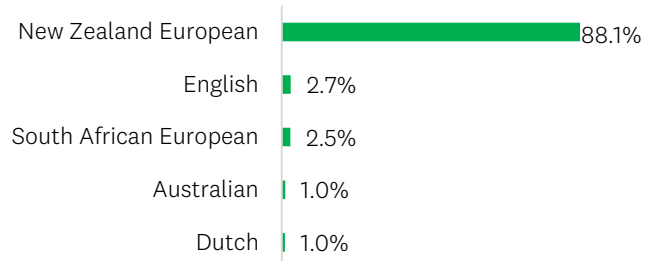
-16,242 (-1.9%)

since the 2018 Census

Most Aucklanders of European ethnicity are New Zealand European

People who identify as New Zealand European accounted for 88.1% of the broad European ethnic group in Auckland. All other groups in this category are much smaller and include English (2.7%), South African European (2.5%), Australian (1.0%) and Dutch (1.0%).

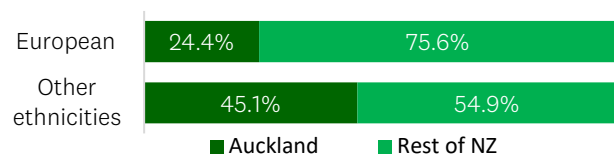
Largest European ethnic groups living in Auckland



Percentages are within the total European ethnic group in Auckland. Only includes those groups with a percentage 1% and over. People could choose more than one ethnicity and therefore categories are not exclusive.

As shown below, a quarter (24.4%) of New Zealand's European population live in Auckland. This is a smaller proportion than other ethnicities.

Proportion of the European population living in Auckland



European remains Auckland's largest ethnic group

In 2023, 49.8% of the total Auckland usually resident population identified with a European ethnicity, down from 53.5% 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.

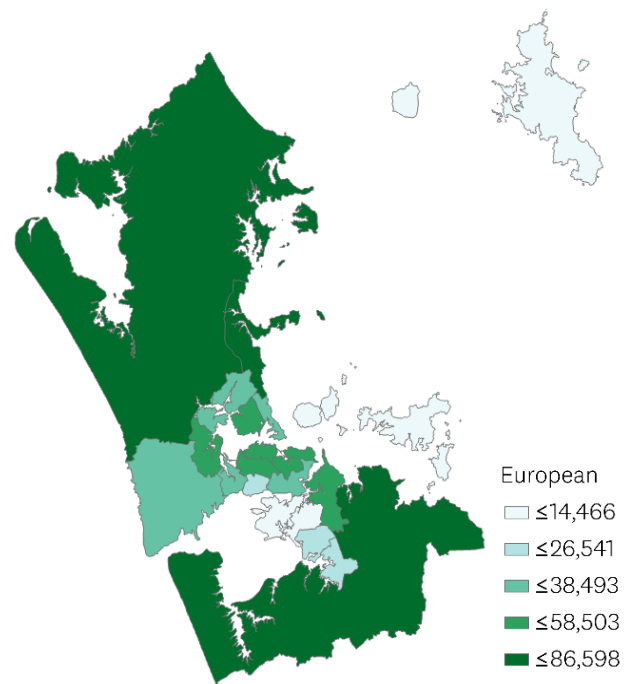
There was variation in the proportions of people living in Auckland's local board areas who identified with a European ethnicity. The five local board areas with the largest proportion (over 80%) were Aotea/Great Barrier, Waiheke, Rodney, Franklin, Hibiscus and Bays.

European population by local board (2023)

Local Board (ordered north to south)	Number	%	Distribution of European population in Auckland
Rodney	66,204	84.9	8.0
Hibiscus and Bays	86,598	75.9	10.5
Upper Harbour	37,794	49.1	4.6
Kaipātiki	49,785	56.5	6.0
Devonport-Takapuna	38,493	66.4	4.7
Henderson-Massey	54,420	43.6	6.6
Waitākere Ranges	37,737	70.0	4.6
Aotea/Great Barrier	1,122	89.7	0.1
Waiheke	8,061	88.0	1.0
Waitematā	48,819	59.9	5.9
Whau	30,522	37.6	3.7
Albert-Eden	56,025	58.0	6.8
Puketāpapa	18,261	32.1	2.2
Ōrākei	56,937	68.4	6.9
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki	32,973	42.2	4.0
Howick	58,503	38.1	7.1
Māngere-Ōtāhuhu	14,466	18.4	1.8
Ōtara-Papatoetoe	12,678	14.6	1.5
Manurewa	24,213	24.5	2.9
Papakura	26,541	36.7	3.2
Franklin	64,986	77.0	7.9
Auckland	825,144	49.8	100.0

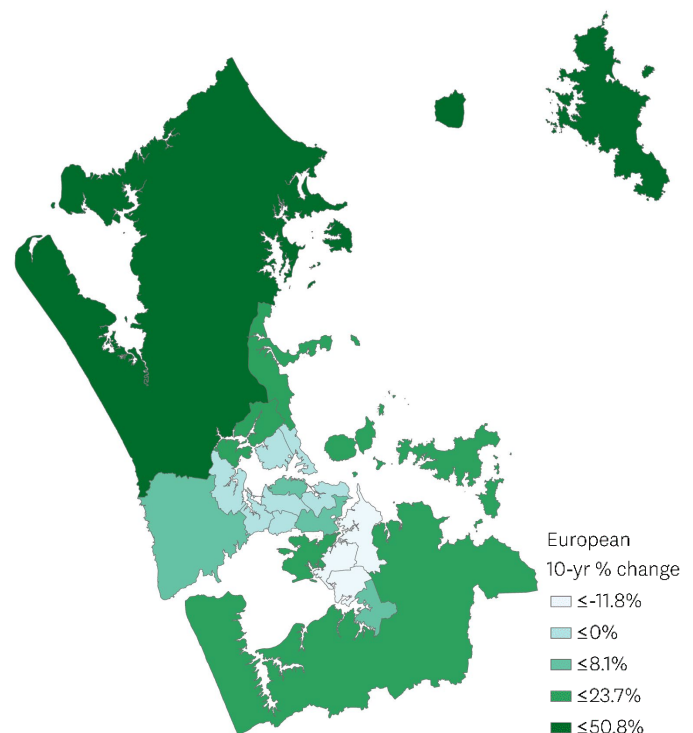
The map below shows a visual representation of the first column of the previous table. Hibiscus and Bays, Rodney and Franklin have the largest European populations of all the local boards.

Number of usual residents identifying with a European ethnic group, by local board (2023)



The following map shows that between 2013 and 2023 the largest percentage changes were in Aotea/Great Barrier (+51%) and Rodney (+42%).

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



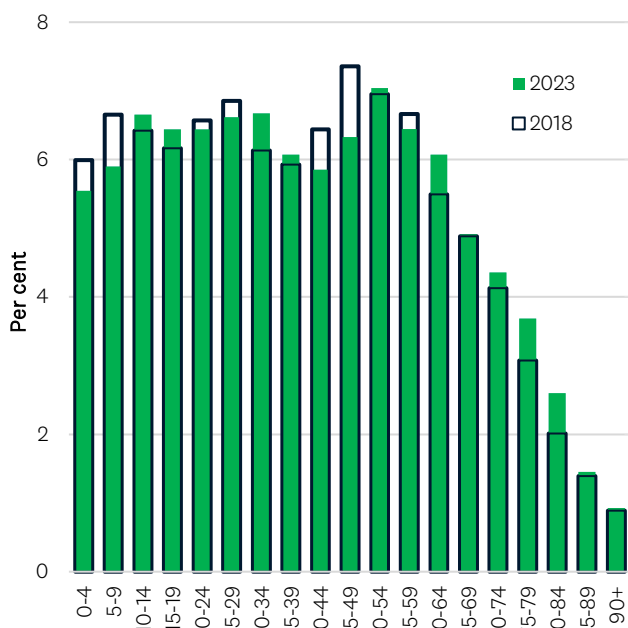
Auckland's European population has a relatively older age structure

In 2023, 17.9% of Auckland's European population were aged 65 or older, an increase from 16.4% in 2018. Almost two thirds (64.0%) were aged between 15-64, similar to 2018 (64.6%). There were 18.1% aged between 0-14, slightly lower than in 2018 (19.1%).

Between 2018 and 2023 there was a structural ageing effect. The age graph below shows a decrease in the proportions aged 0 to 14, and an increase in all age groups 60 and over.

In 2023, almost one in five (17.9%) of the European population was aged 65 and over, compared to 8.6% for the rest of Auckland.

European ethnicity age structure (2018 compared with 2023)




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

Age group	European		Rest of Auckland	
	Number	%	Numbers	%
0-14	149,325	18.1	169,518	20.4
15-64	527,868	64.0	590,022	71.0
65 +	147,951	17.9	71,802	8.6
Total	825,144	100.0	831,342	100.0

In 2023, the Auckland European population included:

149,325
children aged under 15 years

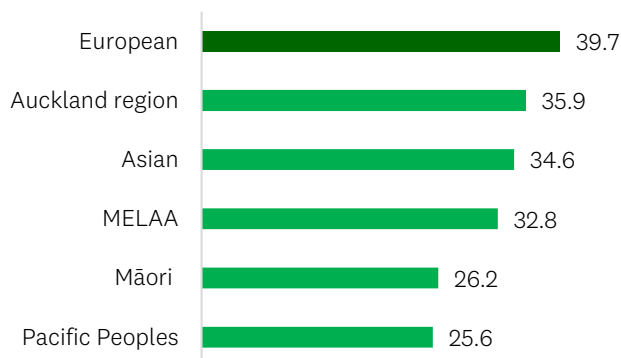
 **-11,103 (-6.9%)**
since the 2018 Census

147,951
people aged over 65

 **+10,173 (+7.4%)**
since the 2018 Census

The median age of the European population in Auckland was 39.7 years, compared with 35.9 years overall in Auckland. The European ethnic group had the highest median age of all the major ethnic groups.

Median age (2023) (years)



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.