Purpose

This is the second report providing results from the 2023 Social Outcomes Model (SOM). This report provides information on the social housing system, offering insight into how its dynamics are changing over time. The focus is on estimated average future years in social housing, the affordability gap separating social housing clients from the private housing market, and the challenges that emergency housing clients have faced. These results are compared to the previous year's (2022 SOM) estimates and historical data to help explain what changes have occurred.

Key insights

The gap between market rent and what social housing tenants pay has widened, leading to lower exit rates from social housing and a long-term increase in estimated future years in social housing for tenants.

Average future years in social housing

- For people currently in social housing, estimated average future years in social housing has decreased slightly between the 2022 and 2023 SOM, from 17.0 to 16.7 years (down 0.3).
- Longer term, for people in social housing, the estimate of average future years in social housing has increased markedly from 12.4 years in 2017 to 16.7 years in 2023 (up 4.3 years or 34.7 percent).
- This longer-term increase reflects the declining rate at which people exit social housing, which fell from around 2.5 percent in 2017 to around 1.7 percent in 2021. Declining exit rates have been driven by the widening gap between market rent and what social housing tenants can afford. Future changes to tenancy reviews or social housing eligibility settings could impact exit rates, and therefore estimates of future time in social housing.

Social housing and the private rental market

- The gap between what social housing clients pay and market rent for a comparable property is large and projected to grow. Between September 2014 and September 2023, the average market rent for social housing increased substantially (from $325 to $494 per week). Over this period the proportion paid by Income Related Rent Subsidies increased from 64.1 percent to 69.7 percent. As a result, social housing clients appear to be further from being able to afford private rentals.
- Some social housing households are likely to be closer to the private rental market. Around seven percent of social housing households with a primary tenant under age 65 receive a subsidy less than $150 per week. This suggests that the right support could help them transition out of the social housing system. However, there may be other non-income factors that need to be considered.

Social housing and the Housing Register[1]

- The number of social houses has been growing over the last five years. However, increases in housing supply have not kept pace with demand.
- From June 2019 to June 2024, the number of social houses grew by 21.0 percent (from 69,500 to 84,100), while the number of households on the Housing Register increased by 86.2 percent (from 12,300 to 22,900 households).
- There has been a recent decrease in the Housing Register, with the number of households falling in 2024 (a 10.4 percent decrease from January to June 2024, with 2,700 fewer applicants).
- There is a mismatch between the needs of households on the Housing Register (50.6 percent require a one-bedroom dwelling) and properties managed by Kāinga Ora[2] (11.9 percent are one-bedroom, data as at June 2024). This makes it challenging to place people on the register into houses, and has contributed to growth in the number of people on the Register.

[1] The Housing Register contains applicants not currently in public housing who have been assessed as eligible and who are ready to be matched to a suitable property. It does not include those on the Transfer Register.

[2] Properties managed by Kāinga Ora make up the majority of social houses. This excludes Transitional Housing, and properties owned by Community Housing Providers.

Emergency housing

- Clients accessing Emergency Housing (EH) have frequently experienced challenges, and therefore have a mix of particularly acute needs and indicators of childhood disadvantage. For example, they are 8.7 times more likely to have received specialist mental health care or addiction services than the wider population. Young clients (aged under 30) in EH are likely to have intergenerational benefit history, with 78.7 percent having been supported while a teenager by a parent receiving a main benefit.
- The 2023 SOM uses data available to September 2023. Since then, the target to reduce the number of households in EH was announced. From December 2023 to June 2024 the number of households in EH has decreased by around 1,017 households (a 34 percent decrease).
- A range of policy and operational changes have been introduced to reduce the reliance on EH. These include:
  - **a.** changes to tighten the gateway into EH
  - **b.** establishment of the Priority One social housing fast-track for whānau with tamariki in EH for longer than 12-weeks
  - **c.** continuation of emergency housing support services to help people access and sustain suitable accommodation
  - **d.** continuing the supply of additional social housing and maximising its impact by focusing on target cohorts.

The Social Outcomes Model (SOM)

The SOM uses the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI)[3] to model social outcomes for the entire New Zealand adult (aged 16+) population. It uses people's past interactions with the benefit and housing systems as well as health, justice, education, etc to understand and project how people move into, through, and out of the social housing system.[4] The future outcomes estimated by the SOM include social and emergency housing use, benefit use, employment earnings and other income, and a range of other social outcomes. Focusing on expected future outcomes, which have not yet happened, gives us the opportunity to intervene to improve people's lives.

[3] The IDI is a large research database curated by Stats NZ. It contains matched, de-identified data on people and households in New Zealand collected by Government agencies, Stats NZ surveys, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

[4] More detailed information about the data, assumptions, and methodology used for the 2023 SOM are available in the Social Outcomes Modelling 2023 Technical Report, available here: www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/research/benefit-system/2023-social-outcomes-modelling-technical-report.pdf

Social housing

Social housing is for people who cannot afford to live in a private rental. It provides accommodation in properties owned or leased by Kāinga Ora and registered Community Housing Providers.

The SOM estimates how long different groups will spend in social housing in the future

The SOM estimates how many future years people will spend in social housing over the rest of their lives. This estimate is cumulative, allowing for people to move in and out of social housing. It is future focussed and does not include time spent in social housing in the past, although this is used when estimating a person's future status.

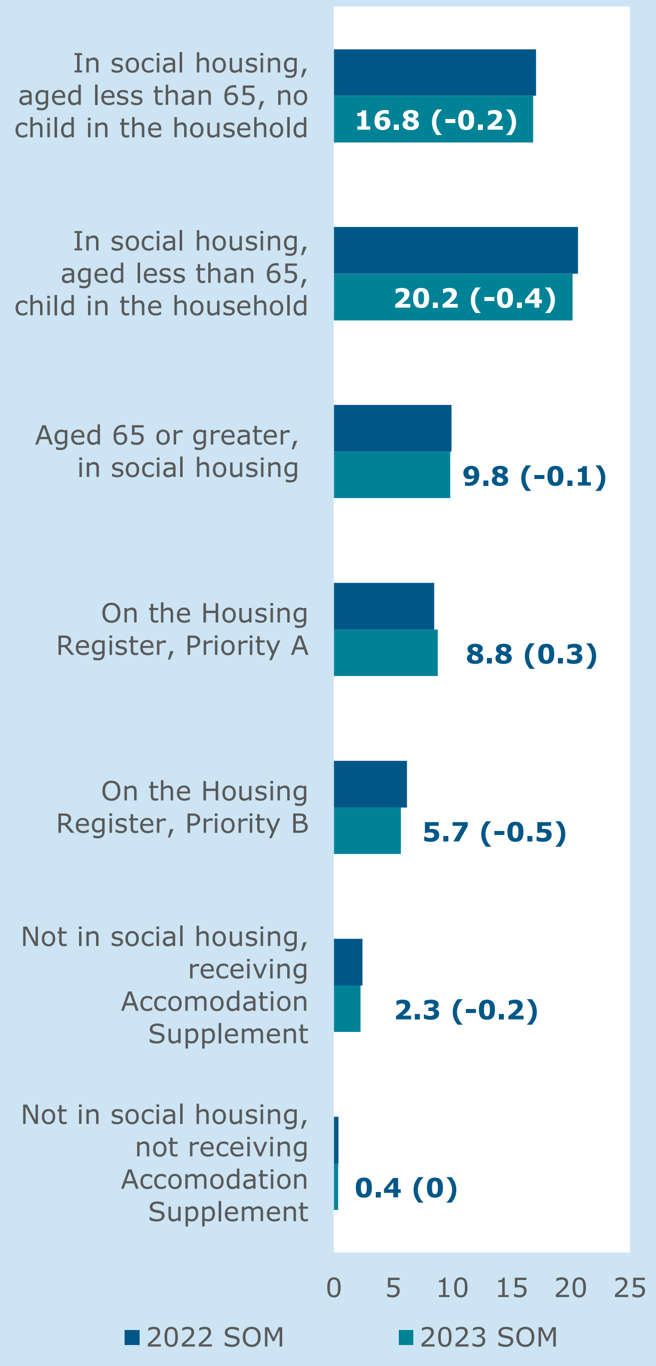
For people in social housing, their estimated average future years in social housing has decreased slightly between the 2022 and 2023 SOM

For people living in social housing, estimated average future years in social housing has fallen slightly for the second year in a row, from 17.0 years in the 2022 SOM to 16.7 years in the 2023 SOM.

Most groups have seen small decreases in their estimated average future years in social housing

Figure 1 shows the estimated average future years in social housing by housing segment. All groups have had a decrease in their average future years in social housing, except for those on the Housing Register in Priority Group A who have had a small increase.

Figure 1: Most groups have seen a small decrease in their estimated average future years in social housing.[5]



[5] The Housing Register excludes those on the transfer list.

Households with children are projected to spend more time in social housing than those without children

Households with children are projected to spend longer in social housing than those without children. The need to provide childcare can be a barrier to higher employment earnings and therefore limit the ability to afford a private rental. In addition, households with children aged 18 and below are currently exempt from tenancy reviews. However, both social housing households with and without children are expected to spend, on average, a significant time in social housing. This highlights that childcare requirements are not the only barrier, and that the barriers each household experiences can change over time.

While they also have high needs, individuals on the Housing Register[6] are projected to spend much less time in social housing than those currently in social housing due to wait times for placement

While also having high needs, those on the Housing Register are estimated to spend significantly less time in social housing than those currently in social housing. This is because there are significant wait times for placement, and not everyone on the Housing Register will be placed in a social house. This includes those whose circumstances improve meaning they no longer require social housing support. Those in Priority Group A are projected to spend, on average, 9.8 years in social housing. This is much lower than under 65s already in social housing, who are estimated to spend on average 16.8 (no children) or 20.2 (with children) years in social housing.

[6] Clients on the Housing Register are assessed as at risk (Priority A) or as having a serious housing need (Priority B).

Social housing

The recent slight decrease in estimated average future years in social housing has been driven by a reduction in estimated future time on benefit

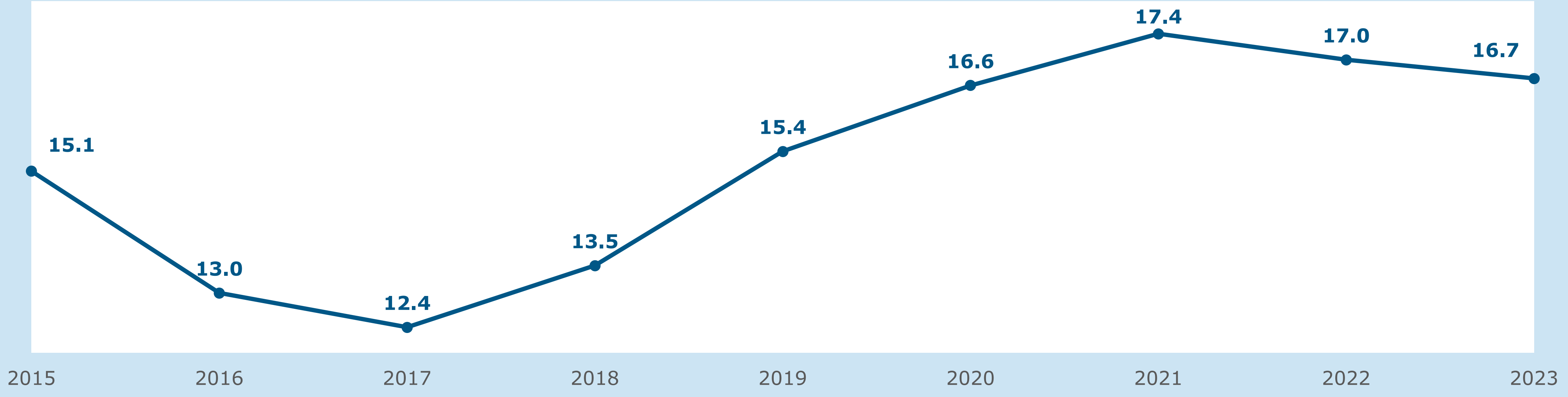
The recent decrease in estimated average future years in social housing has largely been driven by a slight decrease in estimated future time on a main benefit. As covered in the SOM Benefit System Insights Report,[7] estimated average future years on a main benefit has decreased slightly from 13.6 years in the 2022 SOM to 13.4 years in the 2023 SOM for main benefit clients. If people spend less time on a main benefit in the future, they are expected to spend more time in employment and therefore have more income. This means they are estimated to have less need for long-term housing support.

However, estimated average future years in social housing is still higher than most estimates since 2015

Estimated average future years in social housing, for people in social housing, decreased from 15.1 years in 2015, when estimates began, to 12.4 years in 2017. Estimates of average future years in social housing started increasing from 2018, growing to 17.4 years by 2021, largely driven by the decreasing affordability of market rents which made it harder for people to exit social housing into the private housing market.

[7] See msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/research/benefit-system/social-outcomes-modelling-2023.html

Figure 2: For people in social housing, estimated average future years in social housing has decreased since 2021, but is still significantly higher than estimates from 2015 to 2019.



Changes in the tenancy review policy can impact estimates of average future years in social housing through exit rates

Changes in tenancy review policy can change the social housing exit rate,[8] which impacts estimates of average future years in social housing. The expansion of tenancy reviews to more social housing clients in 2014 and the broadened scope of these reviews in April 2016 both contributed to an increase in exit rates and therefore the decreases in estimated average future years in social housing between 2015 and 2017. Analysis at the time suggested that reviews were effective at identifying people who, given the right support, could then transition to private housing.[9]

In March 2018 the Government paused periodic tenancy reviews of social housing tenants for vulnerable groups, including people aged 65 or over, families with dependent children, and people with disabilities, to conduct a review of exemption criteria. Then in March 2020, in response to the COVID-19 lockdowns, the pause was extended to all tenancy reviews to avoid creating uncertainty for tenants. These changes contributed to a decrease in exit rates and consequently an increase in estimates of average future years in social housing over this period. Reviews restarted on 25 March 2024.

Future changes to tenancy reviews or social housing eligibility settings could impact exit rates, and therefore estimates of future time in socal housing.

[8] The exit rate is defined as the number of people aged 16+ who exited social housing divided by the Social housing population (aged 16+).

[9] See www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/evaluation/annual-report-on-the-public-housing-system-as-at-30-june-2017.pdf

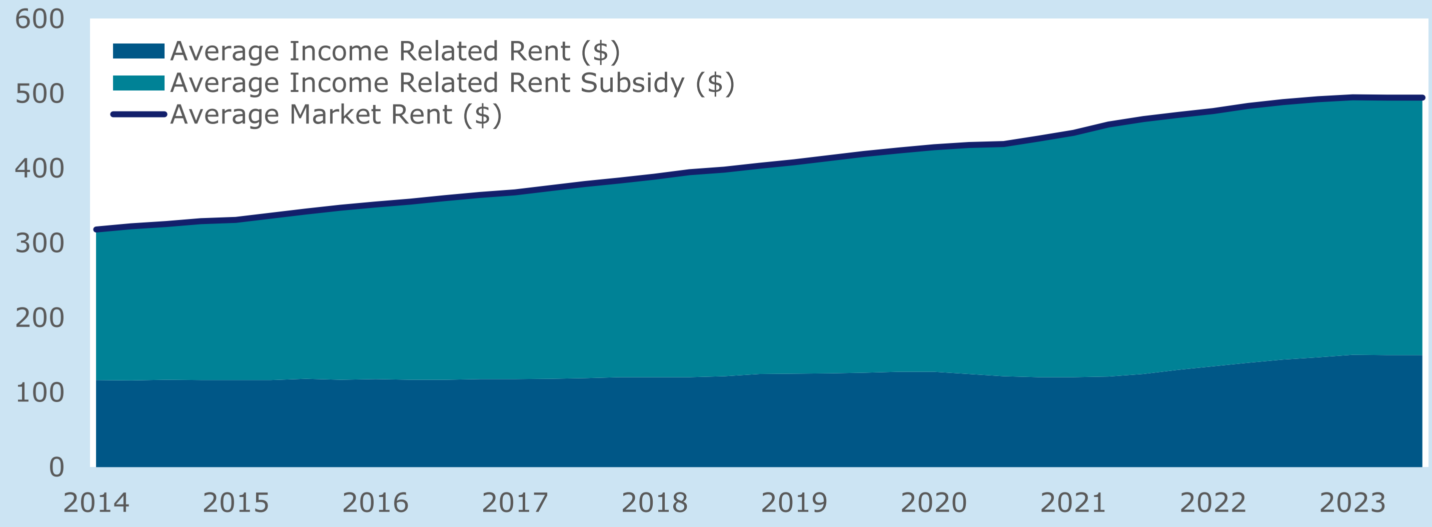
High market rents are making it harder for social housing tenants to exit to the rental market resulting in increases in long-term estimated future time in social housing

The long-term decreasing affordability of market rents has made it harder for people to exit social housing into the private housing market. This has resulted in declining exit rates. The SOM assumes that future exit rates will also continue to be lower than historical levels.

Social housing

Figure 3: Quarterly social housing exit rates have decreased significantly, generally, since at least 2008 – although they have increased slightly since 2020.

Figure 4: Average weekly market rent has steadily increased since 2014, while the average amount paid by households receiving IRRS has stayed relatively flat, meaning the average amount of IRRS has increased.



The decline in exit rates has caused entry rates[10] to similarly decrease over this period. If existing tenancies take longer to be vacated, and the social housing supply does not increase quickly enough to counter this, then those on the Housing Register will spend more time waiting, and a lower proportion will enter social housing each quarter.

Decreasing housing affordability can be an even larger issue for older clients with accessibility needs or low fixed incomes

There has been an increase in the proportion of people in social housing who are aged 65+, increasing from 18.8 percent in 2017 to 21.5 percent in 2023. These clients are more likely to have greater accessibility needs as well as lower fixed incomes, so finding suitable alternative housing options in the private market can be difficult. This is in line with declining home ownership for people over 65.

[10] The entry rate is defined as the number of people aged 16+ who entered social housing divided by the New Zealand population (aged 16+).

The gap between what social housing clients pay and the equivalent market rents is large and projected to grow

In general, social housing tenants pay 25 percent of their income as rent for their social housing tenancy. This is known as Income Related Rent (IRR). The difference between what the tenant pays and market rent is paid by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and is known as the Income Related Rent Subsidy (IRRS).

Figure 4 shows that the average weekly market rent for social housing has steadily been increasing, from $325 in September 2014 to $494 in September 2023. However, average IRR has been relatively stable over this period. This means that average weekly market rents have been steadily increasing while income has been relatively stable for social housing tenants. As a result, the proportion of market rent paid by the IRRS has increased significantly from 64.1 percent in September 2014 ($209) to a peak of 73.5 percent in June 2021 ($337). From June 2021 to September 2023 the proportion closed slightly to 69.7 percent, as a tight labour market meant that incomes grew faster than rents, but the gap was higher at $344 per week.

However, future increases in income are expected to be smaller and more in line with historical increases in incomes. Market rents are also assumed to increase in line with historical increases in rents. Therefore, the 2023 SOM projects the percentage of market rent paid by IRRS to increase again, increasing the gap between what social housing tenants can afford and the private market, as it did over the 2014 to 2019 period.

As a result, there is a significant gap between what households are paying for social housing compared to the cost of a private rental

As the gap between the market rent for a house and a social housing client's IRR grows, the cost of a private rental becomes increasingly unaffordable for the social housing client. This makes it less likely that clients can afford to exit social housing to the private market. There may also be a disincentive to enter employment or increase hours as a portion of this increase in income goes towards a higher IRR payment.

However, some tenants receive a subsidy of less than $150 per week, and could be closer to moving into the private market

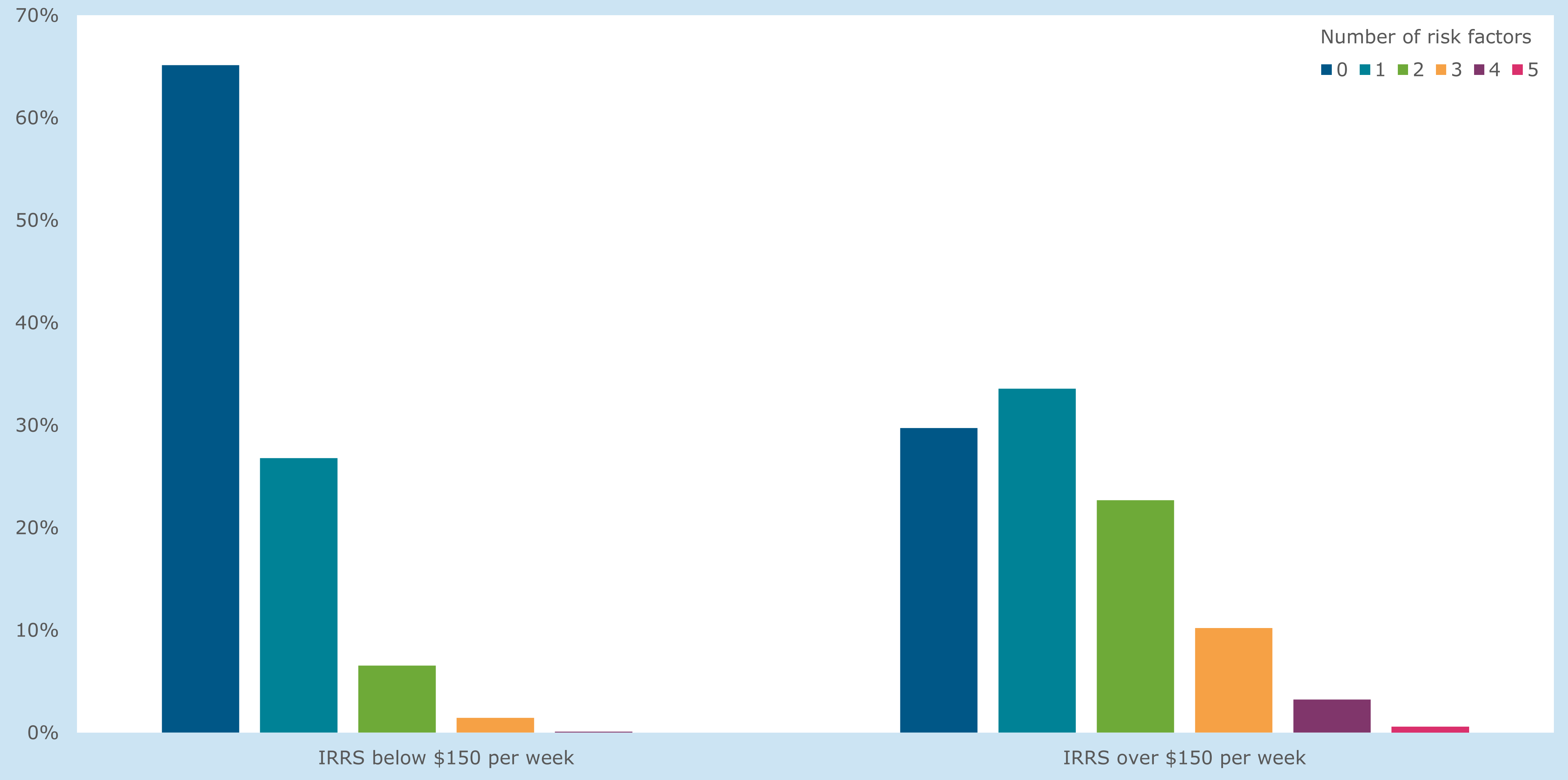
Among households where the primary tenant is under 65 years old, around 7 percent of tenants have an IRRS of less than $150 per week. From an income perspective, this group appear to be closer to being able to afford a private rental, however, they may face other housing barriers (e.g. lack of suitable housing). This group is roughly split evenly between households with a child/children, and those without children.

Supporting these clients to overcome their housing barriers (such as accessibility, improved employment income, etc.) may increase the likelihood that they can afford to move into the private housing market, creating space for other households on the Housing Register.

The **market rent** of social housing is set according to comparable rent charged for other properties of a similar type, size, and location.

Social housing

Figure 5: Individuals aged 16+ living in social housing with lower levels of received IRRS tend to have fewer risk factors.



Households that receive an IRRS of more than $150 per week tend to have more risk factors than households that receive less than $150 per week

The SOM identifies several 'risk factors'[11] that indicate a person is more likely to need benefit or housing support.

Figure 5 shows that people further from the market (IRRS of more than $150 per week) tend to be impacted by more risk factors than those closer to the housing market. For example, 14.0 percent of those with IRRS more than $150 per week have three or more risk factors, compared to 1.5 percent for those with IRRS less than $150 per week. In contrast, 29.7 percent of those with IRRS more than $150 per week have none of these risk factors, compared to 65.1 percent of those with IRRS less than $150 per week.

[11] The five risk indicators are based on looking back at people's past experiences from the end of the September 2023 quarter. These risk indicators comprise whether a person: was proceeded against by Police in the previous three years; accessed publicly funded, community or inpatient, specialist mental health or addiction services in the previous three years; received a main benefit for at least half of the previous five years (or since turning 16); served a Correction's sentence (either a community or custodial) in the previous year; or was discharged after receiving acute hospital care in the previous three years. See the appendix for details on data quality and timing that may impact these factors.

The number of social houses has been increasing over the last five years, but not as fast as growth in the Housing Register

Although estimated future years in social housing decreased between the 2021 and the 2023 SOM, the number of households in social housing and on the Housing Register has been growing. In the five years between June 2019 and June 2024, the number of social houses increased by 21.0 percent[12] (from 69,500 to 84,100 houses).

While the number of households on the Housing Register has fallen by 10.4 percent over the first half of 2024 (from 25,600 to 22,900), over the past five years it has grown significantly. From June 2019 to June 2025, the number of households on the Housing Register increased by 86.2 percent[13] (from 12,300 to 22,900 households). This suggests that available social housing is not keeping up with demand.

[12] www.hud.govt.nz/stats-and-insights/the-government-housing-dashboard/public-homes

[13] www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/housing/housing-register.html

The Housing Register[14]

The number of households on the Housing Register decreased during the first half of 2024, but is still significantly higher than the 2015 to 2019 period

The Housing Register has grown significantly since 2015, with the growth in the supply of social housing being outstripped by the increase in demand (see Figure 6). As described above, from 2017 to 2020 social housing exit rates fell significantly, freeing up fewer social houses. Social housing exit rates have subsequently increased slightly since 2020.

Register management, including new applications, 90-day notices, evictions, and non-essential placement activity was paused in March 2020 because of COVID-19, before resuming from 1 July 2020.

Active management of the Register through enhanced outbound calling was restarted in July 2020, ensuring information about a client's housing needs was up to date. The 2022 Budget provided MSD with additional funding of $11.725 million over four years to improve management of the Social Housing Register and to better support clients with a serious housing need.

As a result of the changes to register management, the Register dropped sharply during the second half of 2022 but then increased over 2023. Between January and June 2024, the number of households on the Register has fallen by 9.3 percent and the number of social housing tenancies has increased by 3.0 percent. The number of people housed from the Register has increased by 41.3 percent between January and June 2024.

[14] This does not include those on the Social Housing Transfer Register.

A mismatch between the requirements of households on the register and the social housing supply contributes to increased register numbers.

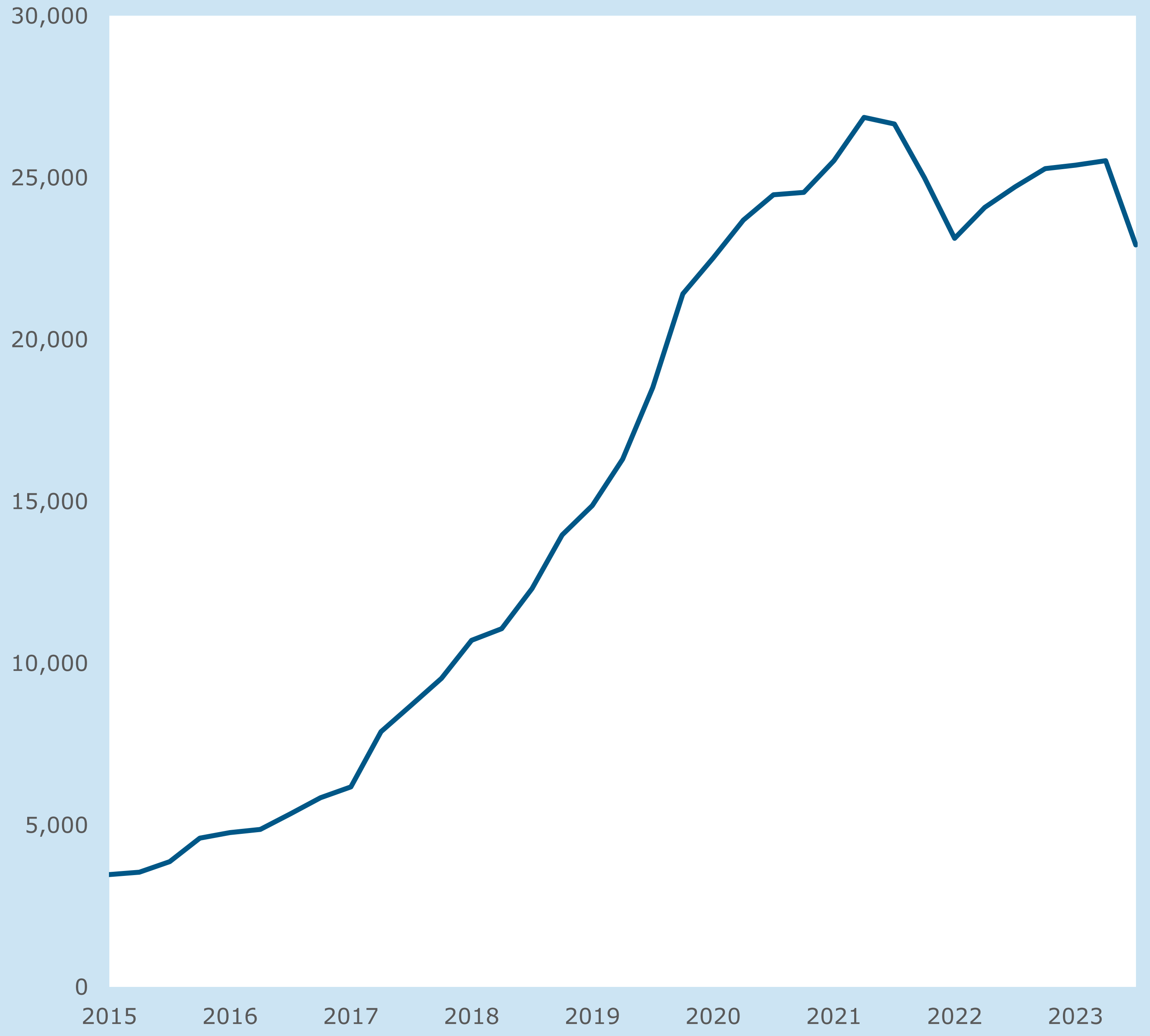
There is a mismatch between the requirements of those on the Register versus the social housing supply. In June 2024, 50.6 percent of households on the Register required a one-bedroom dwelling, but only 11.9 percent of the properties managed by Kāinga Ora were one-bedroom.[15] This mismatch between the social housing supply and the needs of households on the Register makes it challenging to place people into accommodation and further contributes to the increased number of households on the register.

The **Housing Register** is a list of all applicants eligible to be placed in social housing.[16] Applicants complete a social housing assessment which determines eligibility and priority for social housing against an agreed set of criteria, which is then used to assist the social housing provider in matching to the most appropriate property.

[15] Includes properties managed by Kāinga Ora, which make up the majority of social houses, but excludes Transitional Housing, and properties owned by Community Housing Providers. See https://kaingaora.govt.nz/assets/Publications/Managed-stock/Managed-Stock-National-Summary-June-2024.pdf

[16] For information on the eligibility criteria see www.workandincome.govt.nz/housing/find-a-house/who-can-get-public-housing.html

Figure 6: While the number of households on the Housing Register has decreased from the peak observed in March 2022, as of June 2024 it is still much higher than the 2015 to 2019 period.



Emergency Housing

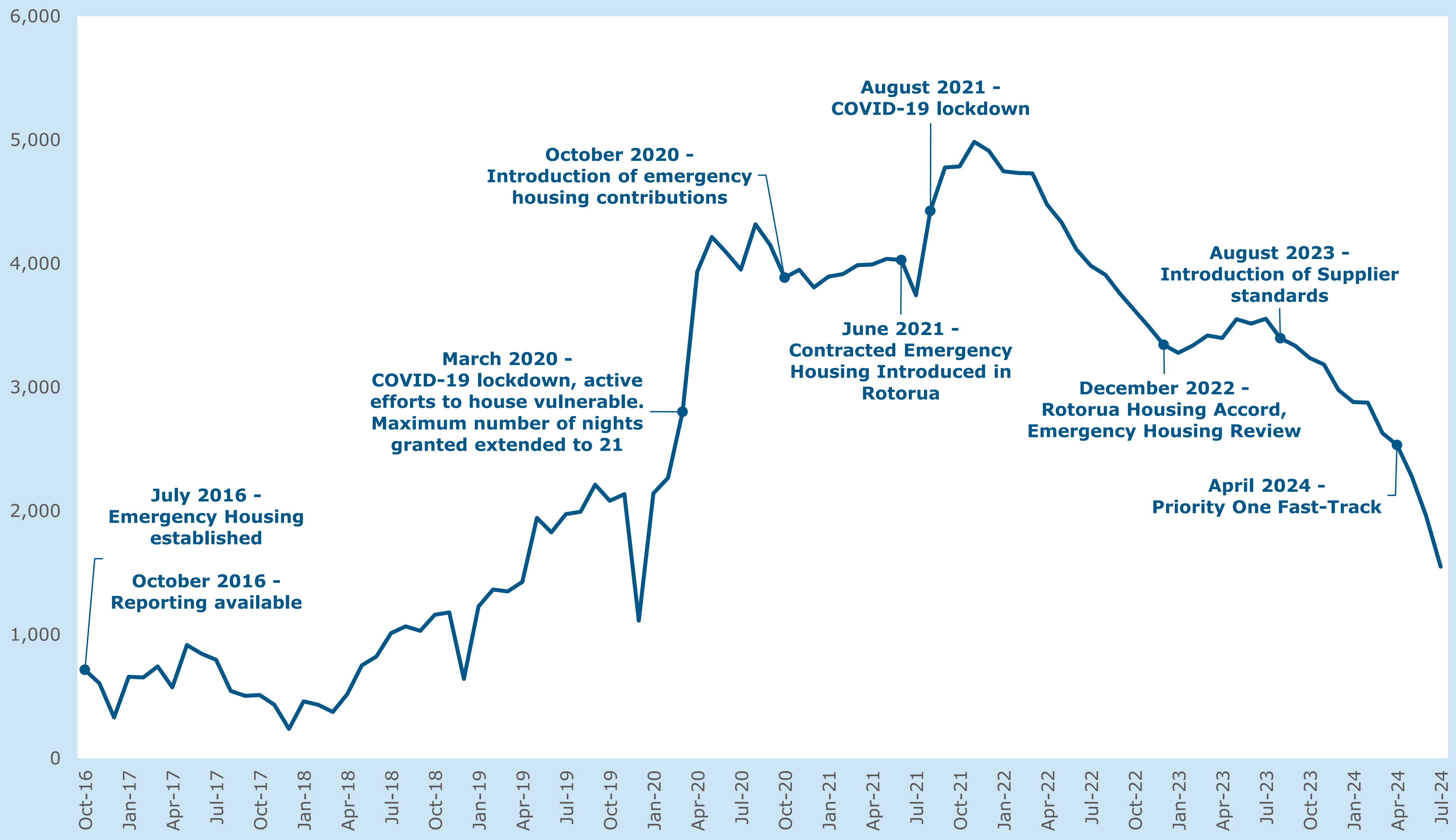
Emergency Housing (EH) is short-term accommodation (usually in motels) for individuals who have an urgent need because they are unable to remain in their usual place of residence. It is funded through EH Grants that clients apply for when they cannot access accommodation and we have explored all the other options available to them.

Since its inception in 2016, the number of households in Emergency Housing generally increased until peaking in November 2021

The number of households in EH generally increased from when the Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant (EH-SNG) commenced in 2016, and increased much faster during the COVID-19 lockdowns (see Figure 7).[17] After peaking at 4,983 in November 2021, the number of households in EH has, in general, been decreasing.

[17] From August 26th 2024, EH moved to a separate welfare programme, so EH-SNGs are now known as EH grants.

Figure 7: The number of households (at month end) receiving an Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant (EH-SNG) over time.



Emergency Housing

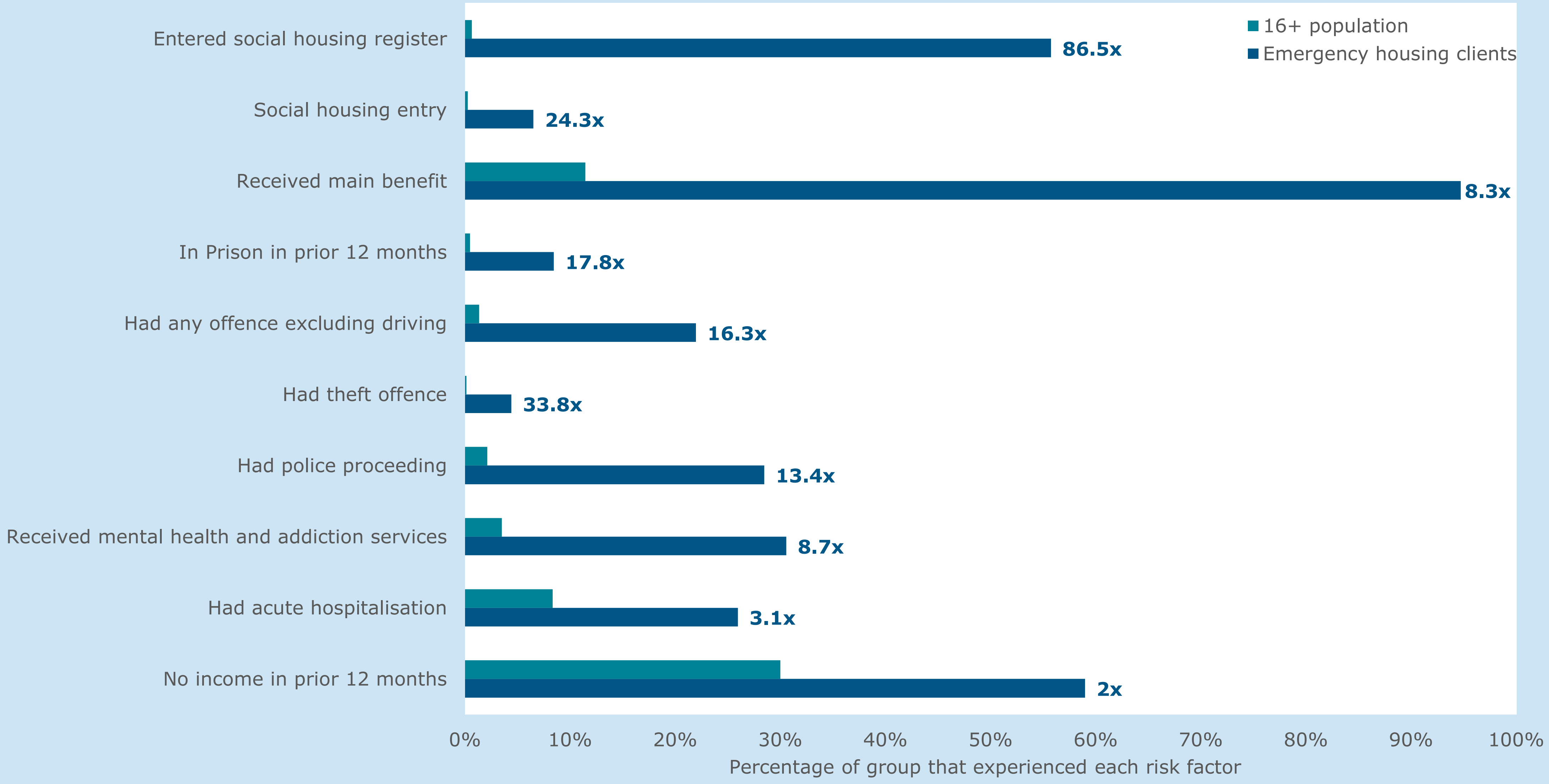
People accessing Emergency Housing are a group that can have particularly acute levels of need

People in EH face a combination of challenges including higher levels of need for support, low levels of income, and wider challenges around the affordability and availability of rental housing in the current market.

Relatively high proportions of people who access EH have experienced challenging situations over the past year including needing acute healthcare (26.0 percent), recieved mental health or addiction services (30.6 percent), had no income (apart from receiving a main benefit or NZ superannuation, 59.0 percent) or spending time in prison (8.4 percent). These are all significantly higher than the general adult population, see Figure 8.

Additionally, many people who are in EH have additional indicators of childhood disadvantage. Data on some childhood challenges is available for people aged 16–30, and shows high rates of additional risk factors such as having an Oranga Tamariki care and protection event (72.8 percent), a youth justice interaction (24.9 percent) or, while a teenager, their parent received a main benefit (78.7 percent).

Figure 8: Risk factors experienced by those in Emergency Housing compared to the wider population[18]



[18] This analysis counts people once for each quarter in which they received an EH-SNG between September 2016 and December 2022.
Entered Social Housing Register: Entered Social Housing Register in the last 12 months. Entries are defined here as having the factor in one quarter and not having that factor in the prior quarter.
Social housing entry: Entered social housing in the last 12 months. Entries are defined here as having the factor in one quarter and not having that factor in the prior quarter.
Received main benefit: Had received main benefit in the last 12 months.
In prison: Had been in prison in the last 12 months. This is a Corrections managed sentence.
Had any offence excluding driving: Serving any community or custodial sentence (excluding driving-related offences) in the last 12 months. This is a Corrections managed sentence.
Had theft offence: Serving any community or custodial sentence for a theft-related offence in the last 12 months. This is a Corrections managed sentence.
Received mental health and addiction services: Received an inpatient or community specialist mental health service in the last 12 months.
Had police proceeding: Proceeded against by police for an offence in the last 12 months. Police proceeding include all types of police proceedings against a person, including proactively detected, acquisitive, interpersonal and personal sexual.
Had acute hospitalisation: Had at least one day in hospital from an acute hospitalisation event in the last 12 months.
No income in prior 12 months: Proportion of people who had no income in the last 12 months. Income includes wages and salaries, ACC weekly compensation, Paid Parental Leave, Student Allowance, sole trader/partnership/company income. It excludes benefits and NZ Superannuation.

Emergency Housing

MSD and HUD have made a number of policy and operational changes to reduce the number of people living in EH

The Government has set a target to reduce the number of households in EH by 75 percent over the next six years. This means a maximum of 800 households in EH by 2030.

Work is underway to reduce the number of people entering EH and to move those in EH into longer-term housing. We are already seeing numbers decreasing. The Government has a Delivery Plan to help achieve the target and to ensure exits from EH are sustained.

Changes that have already been introduced include:

- introducing the Priority One Fast Track policy to support households with children in EH for 12 weeks or more into social housing (April 2024)
- providing better guidance for MSD staff to help conversations and decision-making for EH entry (April 2024)
- MSD support services for people in EH have had funding continued through to 2026
- shifting to a more rules-based eligibility system to help MSD administer EH, and for people to understand what is expected of them while in EH (August 2024)
- expanding Housing Support Products[19] to cover accommodation arrangements not covered by the Residential Tenancies Act 1986 (August 2024).

[19] Housing Support Products are individual products that generally provide recoverable financial assistance for clients needing help to obtain and retain accommodation.

The number of households in EH has decreased since December 2023, with the downward trend accelerating from February 2024.

The number of households in EH decreased by 1,017 from 2,976 in December 2023 to 1,959 in June 2024. The downwards trend accelerated from February 2024, with over half of the six-month decrease occurring in May and June 2024.

Analysis completed by MSD in July 2024 shows that initial operational changes to enhance the verification process for entry into EH have reduced the entry rates, especially for families without children.[20] This decrease in households entering EH has driven the reduction in households in EH, with around 75 percent of the decrease since December 2023 attributable to fewer entries. Over the same period, exit rates have increased, contributing to the overall decrease of households in EH.

[20] See www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/information-releases/emergency-housing-deep-dive-report-july-2024.html

Of those who left EH in April 2024, MSD was able to identify where around 78 percent of households went in the 60 days following leaving EH:

- 28 percent accessed the Accommodation Supplement (private accommodation)
- 27 percent entered Social Housing
- 21 percent entered Transitional Housing.[21]

MSD and HUD have additional work underway aimed at achieving the EH target.

[21] Transitional housing provides short-term housing for families who do not have anywhere to live and have an urgent need for a place to stay.

Accommodation Supplement

The **Accommodation Supplement** (AS) is a weekly payment that assists people who are not in social housing with their rent, board or the cost of owning a home. A person does not have to be receiving a benefit to qualify for AS.

There has been a small reduction in estimated average future years in social housing for people currently receiving Accommodation Supplement (AS)

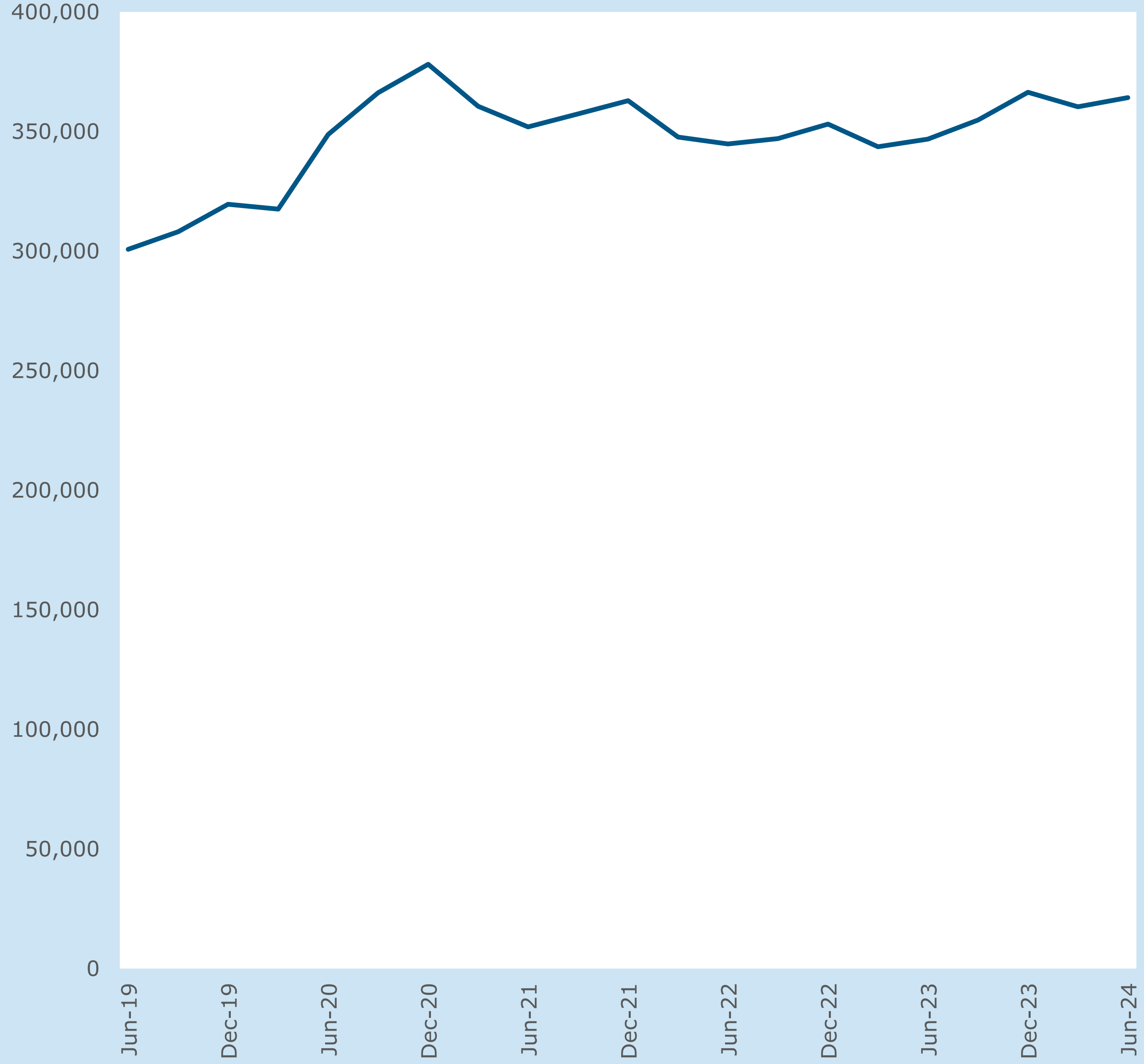
Estimated average future years in social housing has fallen slightly for those receiving AS, from 2.4 years in SOM 2022 to 2.3 years in SOM 2023.

The number of people receiving the accommodation supplement spiked during COVID-19, and is forecast to peak again in 2025

COVID-19 caused a sudden reduction in economic activity during lockdowns, and ongoing impacts due to border restrictions and general uncertainty. This resulted in increased uptake of benefits, including AS. Figure 9 shows the 5-year trend for AS recipients. The number of people receiving AS had been reasonably steady after increasing significantly during the COVID-19 period, peaking at 378,000 in December 2020. From December 2023 to June 2024 it has been relatively stable at around 360,000 people.

Both the SOM and Budget 2024 forecasts project that the number of people receiving AS will peak again in 2025 (at around 380,000 in Budget 2024 forecasts). This is due to projected increases in unemployment and the number of people receiving main benefits.

Figure 9: AS increased during COVID-19, but is now relatively stable.



Appendix

Figure 10: Estimated average future years in social housing by high-level housing segment.[22]

Segment			Number of people 2022	Number of people 2023	Ave. future years in social housing 2022	Ave. future years in social housing 2023
On register	Priority A		31,200	28,200	8.4	8.7
	Priority B and Other		2,700	2,400	6.1	5.9
	Sub total		**33,900**	**30,600**	**8.3**	**8.5**
Social housing tenants, primary aged <65	Less close / IRRS > $150	Child in the household	52,000	53,400	20.7	20.3
		No child in the household	42,800	44,200	17.2	16.9
	Closer / IRRS < $150	Child in the household	3,200	3,600	17.4	17.3
		No child in the household	3,800	3,900	14.9	15.0
	Sub Total		**101,800**	**105,100**	**18.9**	**18.6**
Social housing tenants, primary aged >65	IRRS 65+		27,400	28,700	9.9	9.8
	Sub total		**27,400**	**28,700**	**9.9**	**9.8**
Rest of the population	Receiving AS		395,100	400,400	2.4	2.3
	Not receiving AS		3,613,000	3,560,200	0.4	0.4
	Sub total		**4,008,100**	**3,960,600**	**0.6**	**0.6**
Total			**4,171,200**	**4,125,000**	**1.2**	**1.1**

[22] Social housing tenant numbers from the SOM may not match official MSD statistics as they are based on analysis of past trends of administrative data in the IDI, as well as economic forecasts. The SOM also includes a wider age range (16–64 years old) compared to official MSD numbers, which are working age (18–64), and counts partners. All counts are rounded to the nearest hundred.

Technical information

This report has been prepared specifically for social development decision makers including MSD leadership, the Minister for Social Development and Employment, and housing Ministers.

This report was completed on September 24th 2024 based on data up to 30 September 2023 from the 2023 SOM. Recent data is also drawn upon to provide more up to date analysis.

We have checked the data we have used for reasonableness and consistency where possible. Our analysis is based on the data available. We do not take responsibility for the quality of the underlying IDI data used to prepare the 2023 SOM. Some IDI data has a significant lag and missing data has been imputed to 30 September 2023. For publicly funded specialist mental health or addiction services, we have imputed data from July 2021 to September 2023. For acute hospital discharges, we have imputed data from July 2022 to September 2023.

More detailed information about the data, assumptions, and methodology used for the 2023 SOM are available in the Social Outcomes Modelling 2023 Technical Report.[23]

This report complies with the requirements of the professional standards of the New Zealand Society of Actuaries.

[23] This report has also been published on MSD's website and is available here: msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/research/benefit-system/2023-social-outcomes-modelling-technical-report.pdf

IDI disclaimers

These results are not official statistics. They have been created for research purposes from the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) which is carefully managed by Stats NZ. For more information about the IDI please visit www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/.

Access to the data used in this study was provided by Stats NZ under conditions designed to give effect to the security and confidentiality provisions of the Data and Statistics Act 2022. The results presented in this study are the work of the author, not Stats NZ or individual data suppliers.

The results are based in part on tax data supplied by Inland Revenue to Stats NZ under the Tax Administration Act 1994 for statistical purposes. Any discussion of data limitations or weaknesses is in the context of using the IDI for statistical purposes, and is not related to the data's ability to support Inland Revenue's core operational requirements.