



2013QuickStats

About people aged 65 and over





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1 2013 Census QuickStats about people aged 65 and over

2013 Census QuickStats about people aged 65 and over gives you information about a variety of topics relating to this age group in New Zealand.

Find information about the population aged 65+, including:

- an overview of the population
- geographic location
- household composition and housing
- culture and identity
- work and unpaid activities
- income.

2 Population overview

65+ age group nearly doubled since 1981

New Zealand had 607,032 usual residents aged 65 years and over (65+) in at the time of the 2013 Census. This age group has increased 22.5 percent since 2006, when it included 495,603 people, and nearly doubled since 1981, when it included 309,795 people.

By 2038, 25 years on from the 2013 Census, the number of people aged 65+ is projected to more than double, to reach 1,285,800. In 50 years, the projected number will reach 1,618,700.

The proportion of the overall usually resident population that is aged 65+ is also increasing. In 1981 this age group made up 9.9 percent of the population, and in 2013 it was 14.3 percent. It is projected to be just over one-quarter (26.7 percent) of the population in 2063.

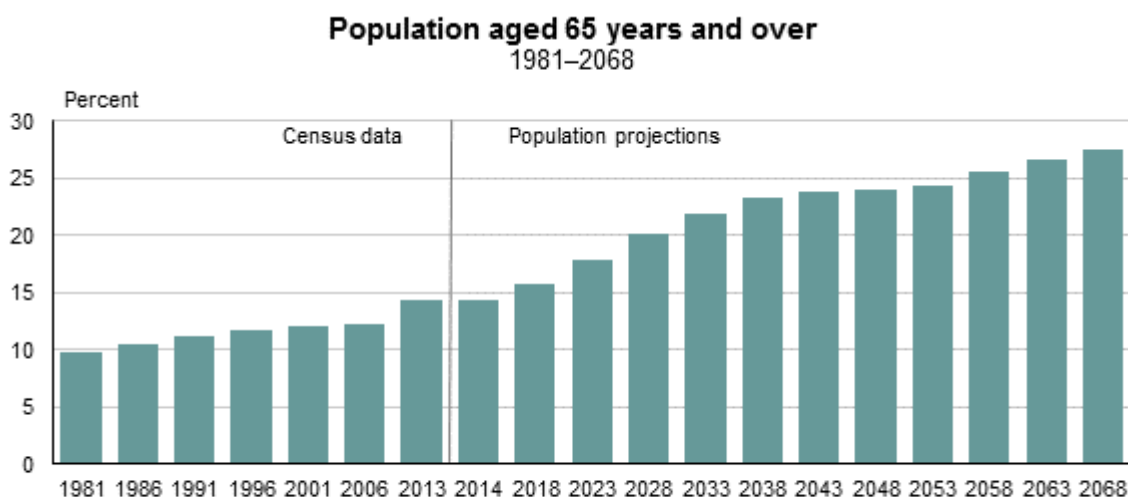
As the proportion of people aged 65+ increases, the proportion of people in the younger age groups decreases. The proportion of people aged under 15 years:

- was 26.9 percent in 1981
- was 20.4 percent in 2013
- is projected to decrease to 15.9 percent in 2063.

Those aged 15–64 years made up 63.2 percent of the population in 1981. This age group increased slightly to 65.3 percent in 2013, but is projected to decrease to 57.5 percent in 2063.

Even though the proportions are changing for these three age groups, the number of people in each group is increasing.

Figure 1



Source: Statistics New Zealand

In 2013, within the 65+ age group:

- 57.0 percent of people were aged 65–74 years – up from 53.6 percent in 2006
- 30.9 percent of people were aged 75–84 years – down from 35.0 percent in 2006
- 12.1 percent of people were aged 85 years and over – up from 11.4 percent in 2006.

Proportion of 85s and over projected to nearly double by 2063

Population projections indicate that by 2063 there will be 378,800 people aged 85 years and over (85+) – which will be 23.4 percent of the 65+ age group. This is nearly double the proportion in 2013. This, along with the increase in the proportion of people aged 75–84 years to 32.8 percent for the same time period, shows the population is ageing within the 65+ age group.

While the number of people aged 65–74 years will increase, the age group is projected to decrease as a proportion of the 65+ age group – to 43.8 percent in 2063.

[Estimates and projections](#) has more information on population projections.

Over half of all people aged 65+ are women

In 2013, over half of all people in the 65+ age group were women. Women made up 54.1 percent of this age group, and men 45.9 percent.

Within the 65+ age group, the percentage of women increases as age increases. Of people aged:

- 65–74 years, 51.6 percent were women
- 75–84 years, 54.6 percent were women
- 85+ years, 64.3 percent were women.

New Zealand female life expectancy still longer than male

The greater proportion of females than males in the older ages reflects differences in life expectancy. The average New Zealand female can expect to live longer than the average New Zealand male. While the life expectancy of both sexes is increasing, male life expectancy is increasing more quickly.

For the 2012–14 period, a newborn female could expect to live to 83.2 years and a newborn male 79.5 years – a difference of 3.7 years. In comparison, females born in the 1980–82 period could expect to live to 76.4 years and males 70.4 years – a difference of 6.0 years.

In the 2012–14 period, the average 65-year-old woman could expect to live another 21.3 years, and the average 65-year-old man another 18.9 years.

[Life expectancy](#) has more information.

Most 65s and over are living with a partner

Nearly two-thirds of people (62.1 percent) aged 65+ were living with a partner (ie spouse, de facto, or not further defined) in 2013. The proportion of people partnered decreases as age increases. Of people aged:

- 65–74 years, 71.4 percent were partnered
- 75–84 years, 56.0 percent were partnered
- 85+ years, 29.4 percent were partnered.

Just over one-third of people aged 65+ were non-partnered. Those who were 'non-partnered – widowed or surviving civil union partner' made up 21.9 percent of the 65+ age group – the largest proportion of all non-partnered people in this age group. This was followed by those who were non-partnered and divorced, at 7.5 percent. Only 3.6 percent were 'non-partnered – never married and never in a civil union'.



3 Geographic location

Marlborough region has highest proportion of 65s and over

The regional council with the highest proportion of people aged 65+ was Marlborough (20.5 percent).

The regions with the next-highest percentages of people aged 65+ were:

- Northland – 18.3 percent
- Tasman – 17.9 percent.

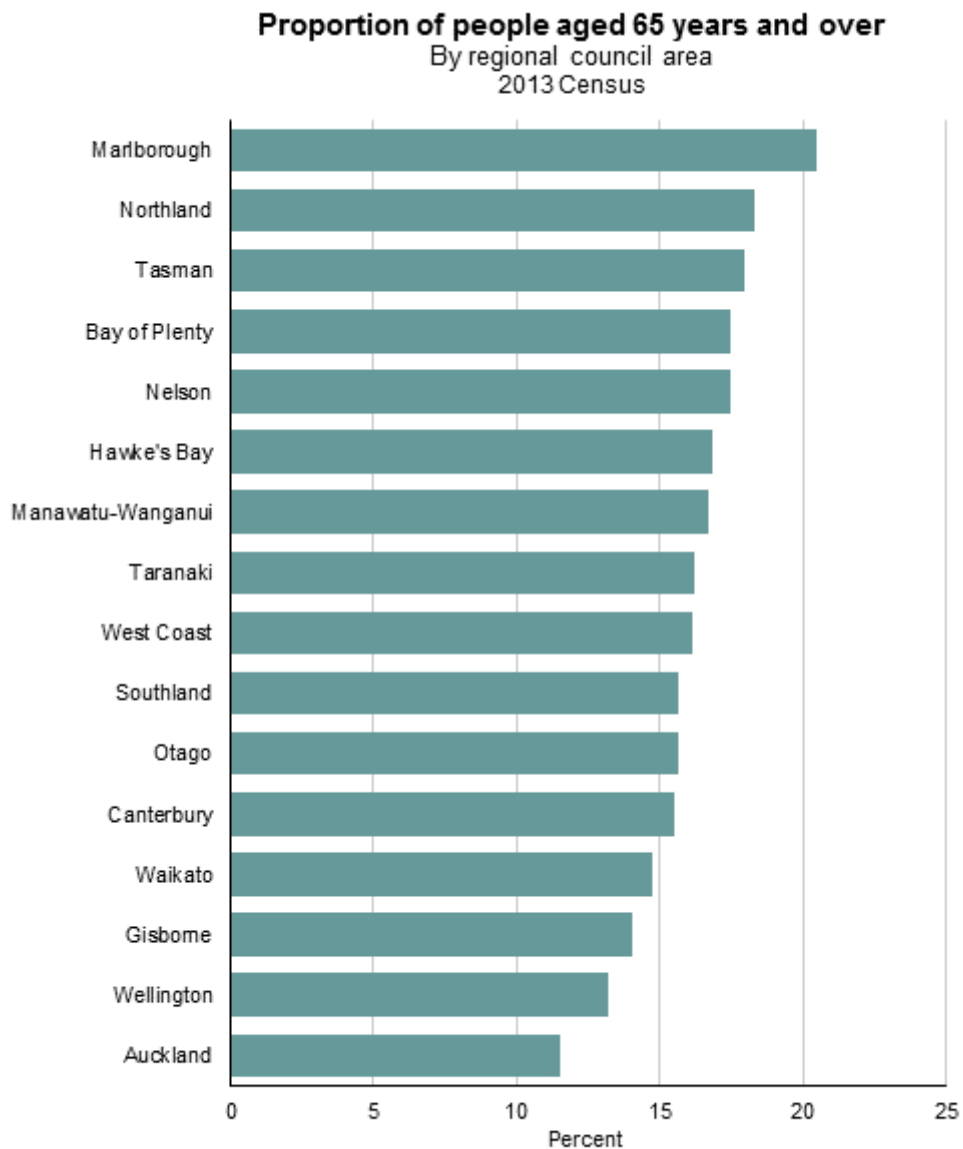
While the Auckland region had the most people aged 65+ in 2013 (163,155), it had the smallest proportion of its population in this age group – 11.5 percent.

All regions have had an increase in the number of people aged 65+ between 2006 and 2013. While New Zealand's 65+ population increased by 22.5 percent between 2006 and 2013, in half of the regions this age group grew at a faster rate. The three regions with the highest growth rate of people aged 65+ were:

- Tasman – 39.4 percent
- Nelson – 30.1 percent
- Marlborough – 29.5 percent.

The Gisborne region had the smallest increase in the 65+ age group, with a 14.6 percent increase since 2006.

Figure 2



Source: Statistics New Zealand

The territorial authority areas (cities and districts) with the highest proportions of people aged 65+ were:

- Thames-Coromandel district – 27.0 percent
- Kapiti Coast district – 25.3 percent
- Horowhenua district – 23.7 percent.

The territorial authority areas with the lowest proportions of people aged 65+ were:

- Wellington city – 9.5 percent
- Porirua city – 10.3 percent
- Queenstown-Lakes district – 10.7 percent.

4 Household composition and housing

Most people aged 65+ live in private dwellings

The majority of people aged 65 and over live in private dwellings, but the proportion decreases with age. In 2013, of people aged 65+ living in private dwellings:

- 59.3 percent were aged 65–74 years
- 31.0 percent were aged 75–84 years
- 9.7 percent were aged 85+.

Most people (77.0 percent) aged 65+ living in private dwellings lived in a separate (ie not joined to another) house.

Around half of 65s and over live in couple-only households

Around half of people (51.1 percent) aged 65+ in households in occupied private dwellings live in couple-only households. A further 28.8 percent live alone.

Table 1

Household composition

For people aged 65 and over in households in occupied private dwellings
2013 Census

Household composition	Percent
Couple only	51.1
Couple only and other person(s)	2.3
Couple with child(ren)	5.0
Couple with child(ren) and other person(s)	1.9
One parent with child(ren)	3.1
One parent with child(ren) and other person(s)	1.3
Two-family household (with or without other people)	3.7
Three or more family household (with or without other people)	0.3
Household of related people	0.8
Household of related and unrelated people	0.1
Household of unrelated people	1.6
One-person household	28.8

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Most 65s and over in non-private dwellings are in residential care for older people

Of the people aged 65+ living in non-private dwellings:

- the majority (88.8 percent) were in residential care for older people
- 3.1 percent were living in hospitals
- 2.4 percent were living in residential and community care facilities.

The remaining lived in other types of institutions or various other non-private dwellings such as hotel, motel, or guest accommodation (3.3 percent), boarding houses (0.6 percent), and motor camp/camping ground (0.5 percent).

3 in 4 people aged 65+ own or partly own their usual residence

Around 75 percent of people aged 65+ owned or partly owned their usual residence in 2013. This was quite similar across the three broad age groups within the 65s and over. In comparison, 44.4 percent of the usually resident population aged 15–64 years owned or partly owned their usual residence.

Proportion of people in households with Internet access decreases with age

In 2013, of people aged 65+ who lived in households, 64.7 percent lived in households with access to the Internet. This is compared with 85.1 percent of people aged 15–64 years.

The proportion of people in households in private dwellings with access to the Internet decreases with age. Of people aged:

- 65–74 years, 75.3 percent lived in households with access to the Internet
- 75–84 years, 54.2 percent lived in households with access to the Internet
- 85+ years, 33.0 percent lived in households with access to the Internet.

5 Culture and identity

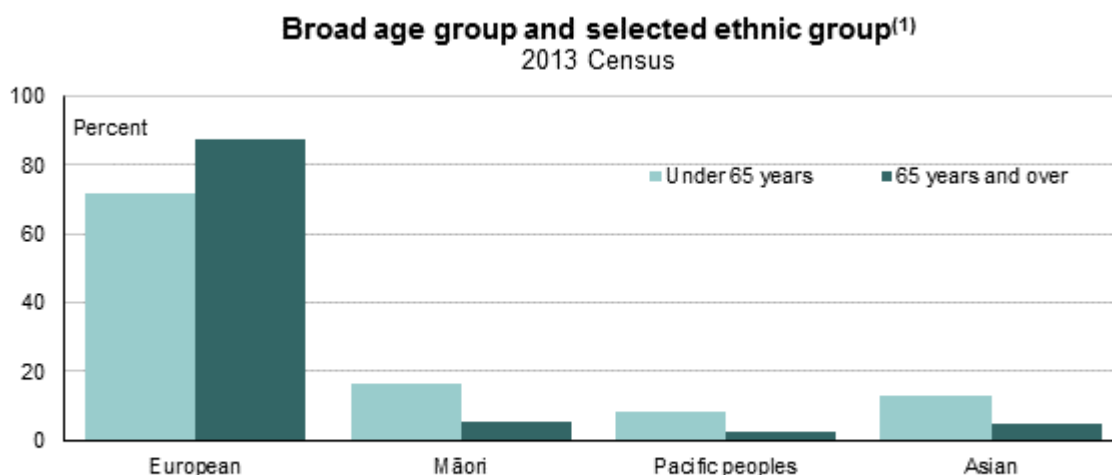
People aged 65+ less ethnically diverse

Among people aged 65 years and over, European was the largest major ethnic group at the 2013 Census. Nearly 9 in 10 people aged 65+ (87.8 percent, or 508,506 people) identified with one or more European ethnicities. Less than three-quarters (71.7 percent) of those aged less than 65 years identified as European. The older age group accounted for 17.1 percent of the total European ethnic group.

In other major ethnic groups, those in the 65 and over age group are much less ethnically diverse than younger age groups:

- the Māori ethnic group makes up 5.6 percent (32,181 people) of the 65+ population, compared with 16.5 percent of the under-65
- the Asian ethnic group makes up 4.7 percent (27,312 people) of the 65+ population, compared with 12.9 percent of the under-65
- the Pacific peoples ethnic group makes up 2.4 percent (13,944 people) of the 65+ population, compared with 8.2 percent of the under-65 – less than half the size of population in the Māori ethnic group.

Figure 3



1. People reporting more than one ethnic group were counted in each stated category.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Among the remaining major ethnic groups:

- Middle Eastern/Latin American/African, with 1,551 people aged 65+, represents just over 1 in 400 (0.27 percent) of the people in this age group

'Other' contains 7,800 people aged 65+, making up 1.3 percent of this age group. Most people (7,704) in the Other ethnic group are people who identified New Zealander as one of their ethnicities.

Māori most likely to identify with more than one ethnic group

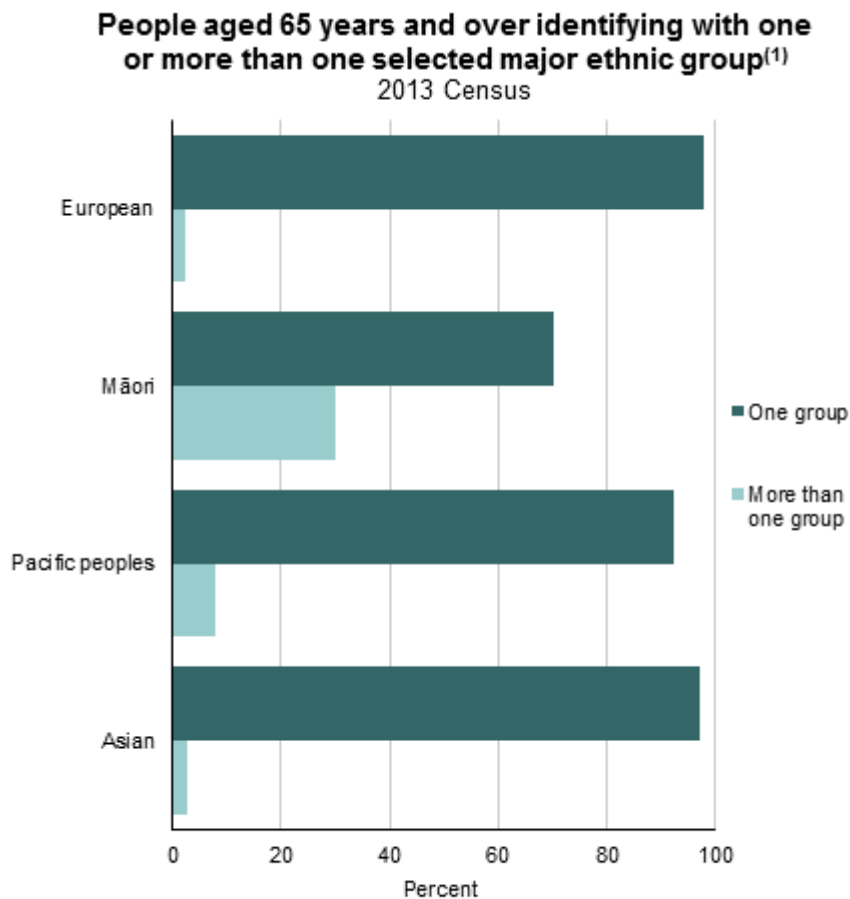
People aged 65+ of Māori ethnicity are much more likely to also identify with other ethnic groups. In 2013, 29.8 percent (9,594 out of 32,181 people) of the older Māori population also identified with at least one other ethnic group.

However, older people of Māori ethnicity are much less likely than Māori in the younger age groups to identify with other ethnicities. Among those aged less than 65 years, more than half of Māori (54.9 percent or 310,812 people) identified with at least one other ethnic group, compared with 45.1 percent who identified with Māori only.

A smaller proportion of those who identified with one of the other major ethnic groups also identified with at least one other major ethnic group. For people aged 65+ who identified as:

- European, 2.2 percent also identified with another major ethnic group – compared with 14.4 percent for those under 65 years
- Asian, 2.8 percent also identified with another major ethnic group – compared with 9.0 percent for those under 65 years
- Pacific peoples, 7.7 percent also identified with another major ethnic group – compared with 33.5 percent for those under 65 years
- Middle Eastern/Latin American/African, 8.3 percent also identified with another major ethnic group – compared with 16.2 percent for those under 65 years
- Other, 12.2 percent also identified with another major ethnic group – compared with 15.0 percent for those under 65 years.

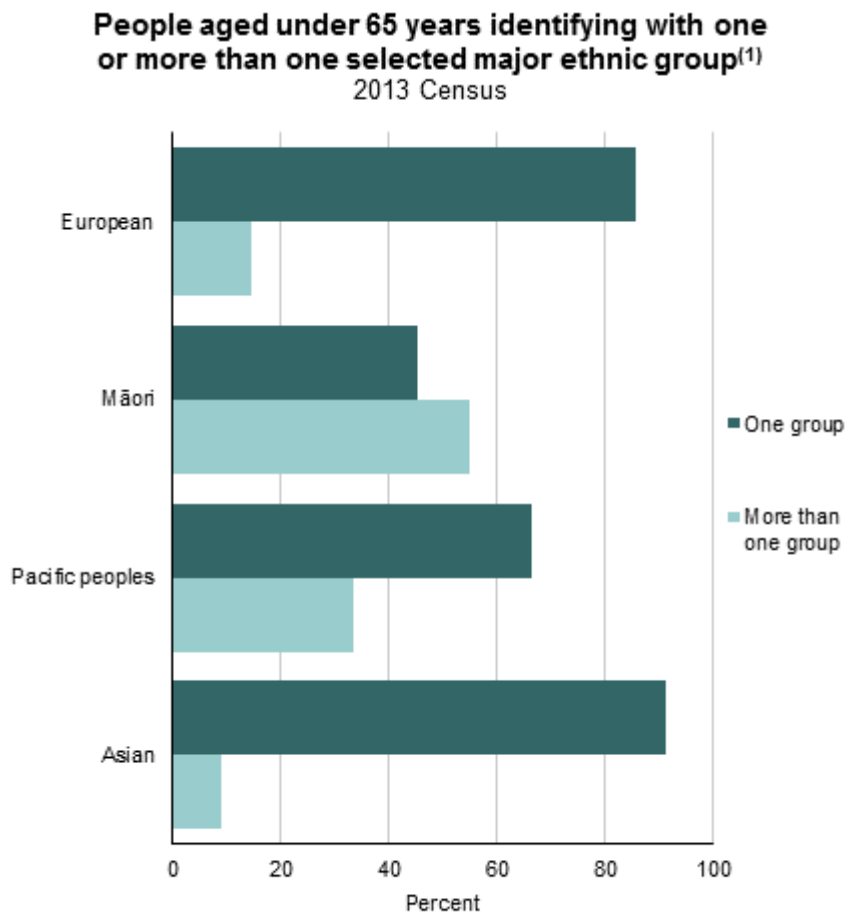
Figure 4



1. People reporting more than one ethnic group were counted in each stated category.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Figure 5



1. People reporting more than one ethnic group were counted in each stated category.
Source: Statistics New Zealand

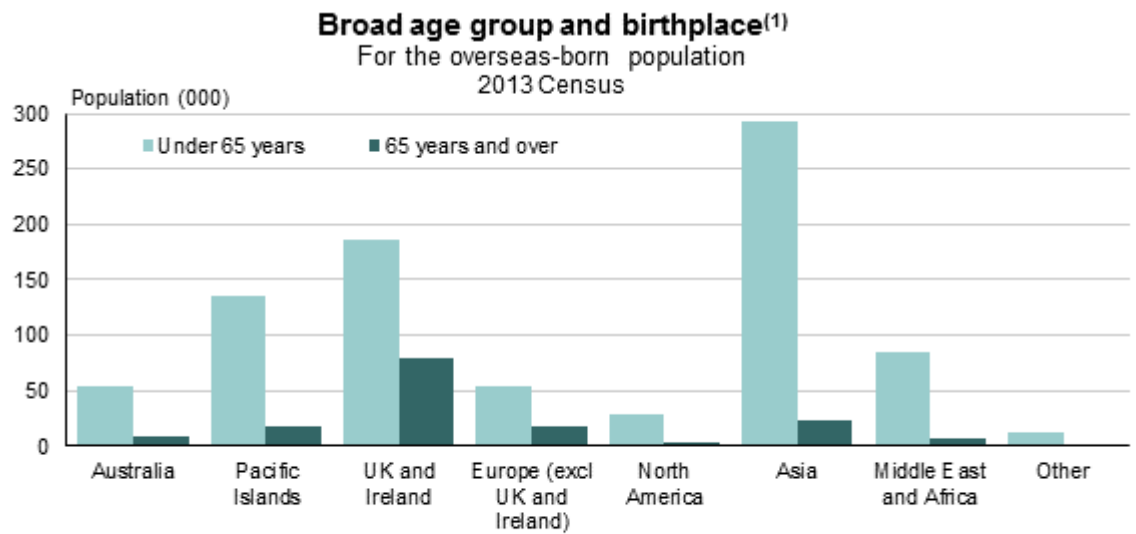
More than one-quarter born overseas

In 2013, 156,114 people living in New Zealand aged 65+ were born overseas. As a proportion of the population:

- 27.5 percent of people aged 65+ were born overseas, compared with 24.8 percent of under-65s
- 15.6 percent of the total New Zealand usually resident population who were born overseas were aged 65 years and over.

In 2013, among the people aged 65+ born overseas, the most common broad region of birth was the United Kingdom and Ireland. This contrasts with those under-65s born overseas, where Asia was the most common broad region of birth.

Figure 6



1. Broad geographic area.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Most overseas-born long settled in New Zealand

Among those aged 65 years and over who were born overseas and told us how long ago they arrived in New Zealand, 87,057 out of 149,325 people (58.3 percent) had lived in this country for 40 years or more at the time of the 2013 Census.

Countries of birth and length of settlement reflect migration histories. Those born in Europe or Australia were much more likely to have lived in New Zealand for a longer time than people from other parts of the world. Australia-born people aged 65+ tend to have been in New Zealand longest.

For example, of people aged 65+:

- 88.2 percent of those born in Australia had been here for at least 30 years, with 76.4 percent here for at least 40 years
- 87.5 percent of those born in the United Kingdom or Ireland had been in New Zealand for at least 30 years, and 70.3 percent had been here for 40 years or more
- 83.8 percent of those born in other parts of Europe had been here at least 30 years, with 73.5 percent here for at least 40 years.

Most people born in Europe or Australia arrived in New Zealand relatively early in life and had lived most of their working lives in New Zealand.

People aged 65+ born in other parts of the world had lived in New Zealand for shorter periods:

- fewer than 1 in 5 (19.7 percent) of those born in Asia, the Middle East, or Africa had lived here for 40 years or more
- just under half of those born in Pacific countries or in North America (47.7 percent and 46.1 percent, respectively) had lived here for 40 years or more.

Only 9.4 percent of people aged 65+ (14,094 people) who were born overseas had arrived in New Zealand less than 10 years ago.

Most older people only speak English

At the 2013 Census, 86.1 percent (or 492,165) of people aged 65+ who stated they could speak at least one language said they spoke only English. This compares with 77.9 percent for those under 65 years of age.

Among those aged 65+, 18,750 people did not indicate that they speak English. This included:

- 666 people who could hold a conversation only in te reo Māori
- 339 people who used New Zealand Sign Language only
- 492 people who couldn't hold a conversation in any language.

The proportion of the population aged 65+ who could not speak English was 3.3 percent, compared with 4.0 percent of those younger than 65 years.

Older age groups more likely to affiliate with at least one religion

Older age groups are more likely than younger people to affiliate with at least one religion. People may affiliate with more than one religion. The proportion affiliating with one or more of the Christian religions and at least one other religion add to more than 100 percent, indicating that a small number of people affiliated with religions in both groups in 2013.

In the 2013 Census, of people aged 65+:

- 435,420 people stated a religious affiliation (excluding no religion)
- 96.5 percent (420,174 people) affiliated with at least one Christian religion (including Māori Christian).
- 3.7 percent affiliated with at least one of the religions outside the Christian group.

The five largest Christian religions in 2013 for people aged 65+ were:

- Anglican – 150,204 people
- Presbyterian, Congregational, and Reformed – 102,681 people
- Catholic – 76,494 people
- Methodist – 27,921 people
- Baptist – 9,516 people.

In addition, 25,851 people aged 65+ said they were Christian, but did not specify which of the Christian religions.

While 14.5 percent of the people who answered the religion question were aged 65+, almost one-third (32.7 percent) of Anglicans were in the older age groups. Similarly, 31.1 percent of those who affiliated with the Presbyterian, Congregational, and Reformed, and 27.1 percent of those affiliated with the Methodist religion, were aged 65 years+. This contrasts with 15.5 percent for the Catholic religion. Catholicism has a younger age profile and is associated with significant numbers of new migrants, as noted in [2013 Census QuickStats about culture and identity](#)

A further 108,486 people aged 65+ said they had no religion. This is 20.2 percent of those who provided their religious affiliations (excluding no response or objected to answering), compared with 47.8 percent for those under 65 years of age. Only 6.6 percent of the people with no religion were aged 65+.

Religious diversity has not yet extended to the 65+.

The New Zealand population is becoming religiously more diverse. However, this diversity has not yet extended into the older age groups. In 2013, only 7.6 percent (or 4,437) of Buddhists were aged 65+. Buddhism made up only 1.0 percent of people in this age group who stated a religious affiliation.

Slightly more of those aged 65+ (5,415 people or 1.2 percent) affiliated with Hinduism. However, Hindus aged 65+ are a smaller proportion (6.0 percent) of the Hindu population of New Zealand (89,919 people) in 2013.

Islam is a growing religion in New Zealand, with 46,146 adherents, of whom 1,764 people (3.8 percent) were aged 65+. Among those aged 65 years and over who affiliated with at least one religion, only 0.4 percent were Muslim.

Most 65s and over never smoked cigarettes

Older people are less likely to be smokers than younger people. The number of people aged 65+ who stated that they were regular smokers (35,976 people, or 6.5 percent of those who told us about their smoking status) were outnumbered by those who said they were ex-smokers (191,199 people, or 34.8 percent). However, most people in this age group said they had never smoked regularly (322,605 people, or 58.7 percent).

This contrasts with people aged 15–64 years, who were much more likely to be smokers (17.0 percent) and less likely to be ex-smokers (20.3 percent). As with their older compatriots, most in this age group (62.7 percent) have never smoked.

While the proportion of both broad age groups who had never smoked was similar, there were differences by ethnicity. Among those aged 65+, Māori were more likely than people in other ethnic groups to be current or ex-smokers in 2013.

However, older people of Māori and Pacific ethnicities were still less likely to be smokers or ex-smokers than those under 65 years of age. In 2013:

- 53.9 percent of Māori aged 65+ were smokers or ex-smokers – compared with 56.0 percent of Māori under 65 years of age
- 28.0 percent of Pacific people aged 65+ people were smokers or ex-smokers – compared with 37.1 percent of those under 65 years of age.

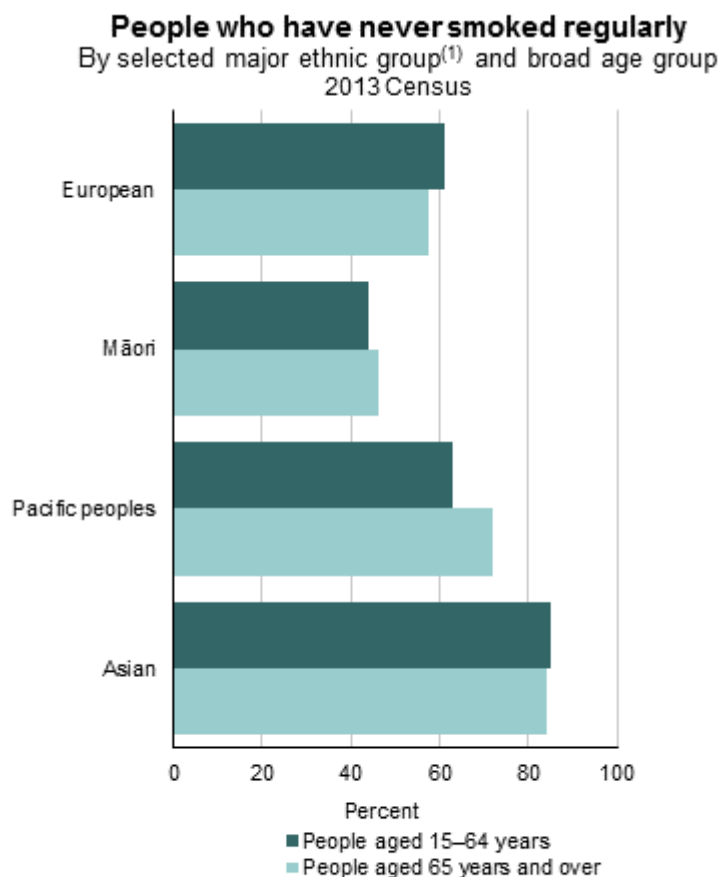
This is in contrast to the pattern seen in the Asian and European ethnic groups, where the younger ages are more likely to be smokers or ex-smokers.

Of those aged 65+, the ethnic groups most likely to have never smoked were:

- Asian, at 84.3 percent
- Pacific peoples, at 72.0 percent
- European, at 57.6 percent
- Māori, at 46.1 percent.

Among the older age groups, European ex-smokers outnumbered smokers by almost 6 to 1. In contrast, ex-smokers in the Māori, Asian, and Pacific ethnic groups outnumbered smokers by less than 3 to 1.

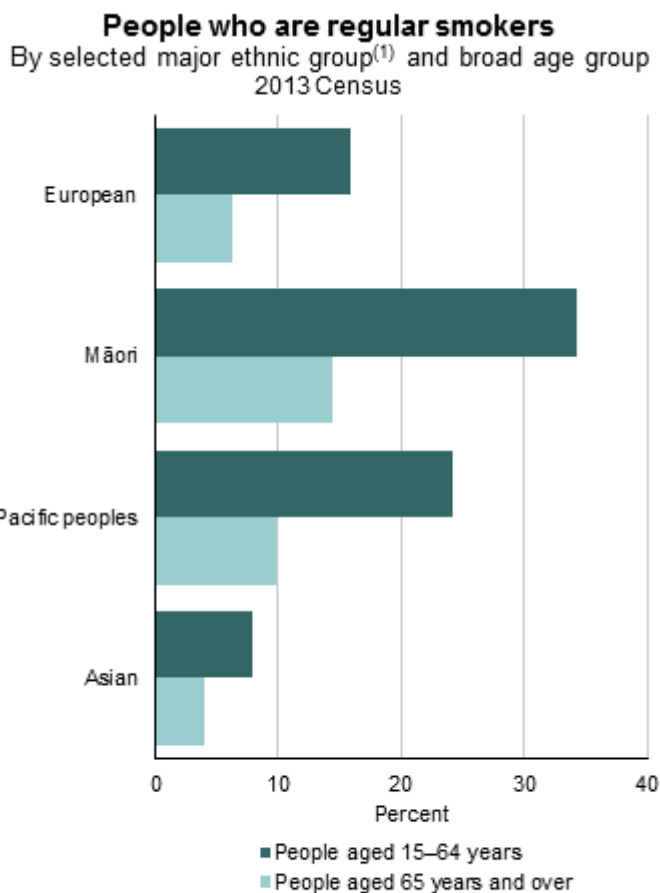
Figure 7



1. People reporting more than one ethnic group were counted in each stated category.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

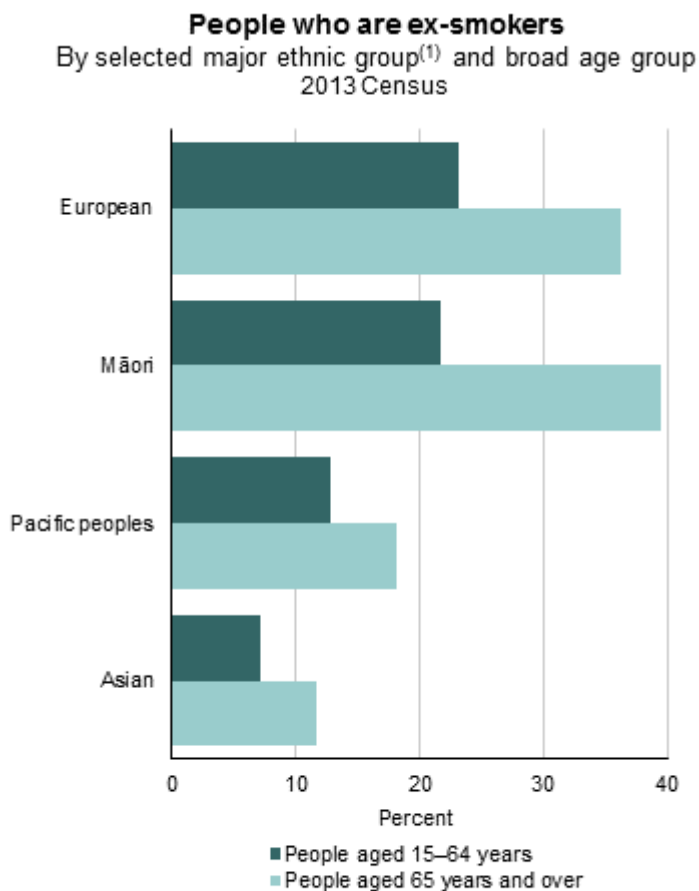
Figure 8



1. People reporting more than one ethnic group were counted in each stated category.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Figure 9



1. People reporting more than one ethnic group were counted in each stated category.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

6 Work and unpaid activities

Statistics NZ sources of work data

Census is not the official source of data about work in New Zealand. The official source is [Labour Market Statistics](#) – a quarterly release that provides employment and unemployment statistics and wage and salary information. This information was previously published in the Household Labour Force Survey, Quarterly Employment Survey, and Labour Cost Index (Salary and Wage Rates) releases.

However, unlike the official employment data, which comes from surveying samples of the population, census data covers the population as a whole. It is useful for detailed regional and demographic breakdowns.

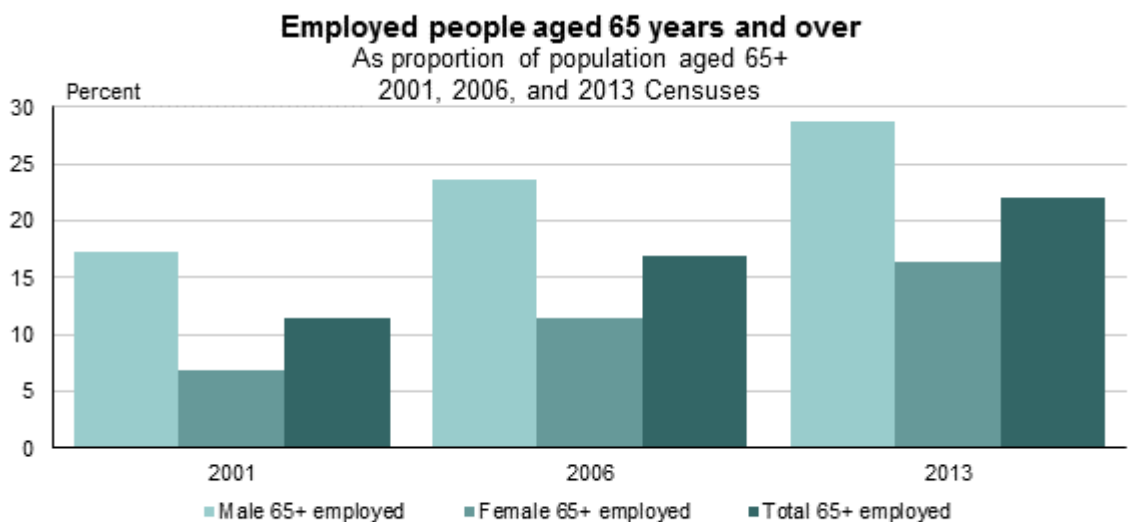
Any comparison between census data and the official measures of employment and unemployment are not recommended.

More 65s and over are employed

An increasing number of New Zealand residents aged 65+ are employed. In the week before the 2013 Census, 129,513 people (22.1 percent) aged 65+ were in full-time or part-time employment. This was up from 81,369 (16.8 percent) in 2006 and 49,935 (11.4 percent) in 2001.

This increase occurred for both men and women. Of men aged 65+, 28.8 percent were employed in 2013 – up from 23.6 percent in 2006 and 17.2 percent in 2001. The proportion of women in this age group who were employed increased, but the overall proportions were smaller – 16.5 percent in 2013, up from 11.4 percent in 2006 and 6.9 percent in 2001.

Figure 10



Source: Statistics New Zealand

Across the three broad age groups within the 65s and over, there is a noticeable decline in the percentage employed as the groups get older. However, there are still people employed in all three of these broad age groups:

- 33.3 percent of people aged 65–74 years were employed
- 8.7 percent of people aged 75–84 years were employed
- 3.9 percent of people aged 85 years and over were employed.

We also see differences across the three 65+ age groups between people working full-time (30 hours or more per week) and part-time (less than 30 hours per week) in the week before the 2013 Census.

Of those aged 65–74 years:

- 19.1 percent worked full-time – the highest percentage of full-time workers in the 65+ age group
- a significantly higher proportion of men (27.1 percent) than women (11.6 percent) worked full-time
- 14.3 percent worked part-time
- a slightly higher proportion of women (14.9 percent) than men (13.5 percent) worked part-time.

In the next age group, 75–84 years, 2.6 percent worked full-time and 6.2 percent worked part-time. As with the 65–74 age group, a higher proportion of men worked full-time (4.5 percent) than women (1.0 percent).

Almost all people in the oldest age group (85+) were not in the labour force (96.1 percent). However, a small proportion were employed, with 3.2 percent working part-time and 0.7 percent full-time.

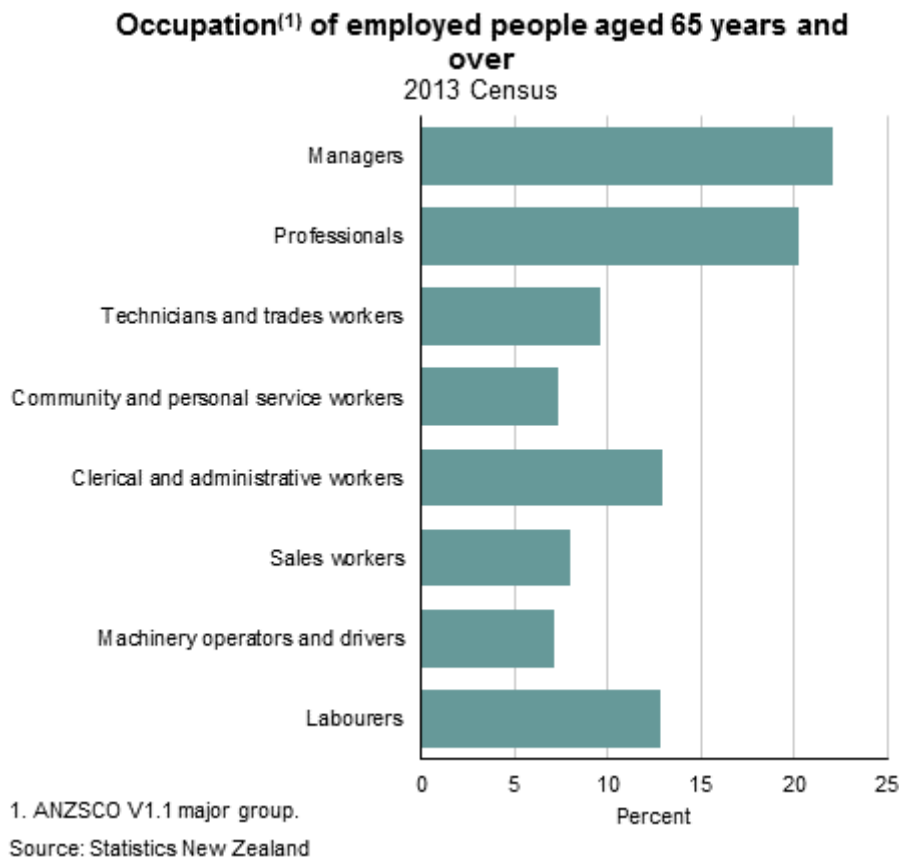
65s and over most likely to be managers or professionals

People aged 65+ who were employed in the week before the 2013 Census were most likely to be managers (22.1 percent) or professionals (20.2 percent). Within the managers group, the most common types were 'farmers and farm managers' (7.4 percent of employed people aged 65+, and 33.4 percent of this occupation group), followed by 'chief executives, general managers, and legislators' (5.7 percent of employed people aged 65+, and 25.8 percent of the occupation group).

Within the professionals group, education professionals were the most common (5.2 percent of employed people aged 65+).

Equal proportions (12.9 percent) of employed people aged 65+ were clerical and administrative workers, and labourers.

Figure 11



Men aged 65+ were likely to be employed as managers (26.4 percent) or professionals (18.7 percent). Women aged 65+ were more likely to be employed as clerical and administrative workers (23.5 percent) or professionals (22.5 percent).

Most 65s and over are involved in unpaid activities

Most people aged 65+ were involved in some form of unpaid activity in the four weeks before the 2013 Census. However, 2 in 10 people were not involved in any unpaid activities.

The most common type of unpaid activity for 65s and over was 'household work, cooking, repairs, gardening, etc for their own household' (77.0 percent). The next-most common types were:

- other helping or voluntary work for or through any organisation, group, or marae – 18.7 percent
- looking after a child who does not live in the same household – 12.7 percent.

Looking at the three age groups within the 65s and over, we find the following participation rates in the different types of unpaid activity.

Household work, cooking, repairs, gardening, etc for their own household was done by:

- 84.1 percent of people aged 65–74 years
- 72.7 percent of people aged 75–84 years
- 50.1 percent of those aged 85+ years.

Other helping or voluntary work for or through any organisation, group, or marae was done by:

- 21.3 percent of people aged 65–74 years
- 17.9 percent of people aged 75–84 years
- 6.5 percent of those aged 85+ years.

Looking after a child who does not live in the same household was done by:

- 17.8 percent of people aged 65–74 years
- 6.6 percent of people aged 75–84 years
- 1.3 percent of those aged 85+ years.

In comparison, almost all people aged 15–64 years were involved in unpaid activities – only 1 in 10 were not.

The most common type of unpaid activity for those aged 15–64 years was 'household work, cooking, repairs, gardening, etc for their own household' (87.5 percent). The next-most common types were:

- looking after a child who is a member of own household – 35.7 percent
- looking after a child who does not live in the same household – 15.9 percent.

Over 5,000 people aged 65+ participating in study

At the time of the 2013 Census, 5,403 people aged 65+ (1.0 percent) indicated that they participated in study.

Most people aged 65+ who were studying were involved in part-time study (3,915 people). Similar percentages of men and women aged 65+ were studying.

7 Income

Using Statistics NZ sources of income data

Statistics NZ produces several income measures, each with its own strengths and weaknesses. Surveys such as the [Household Economic Survey \(Income\)](#) are best for annual measures of household and personal income in New Zealand and are used for official income statistics. On the other hand, as census covers the population as a whole, it can be more useful in detailed regional and demographic breakdowns.

Further sources of income data at a more aggregated level are available from the [New Zealand Income Survey](#), the [Linked Employer-Employee Database](#), and the [Quarterly Employment Survey](#). Each measure of income is useful for different purposes. Familiarise yourself with the strengths and limitations of individual data sources before comparing with census data. The [user guide for wage and income measures](#) sets out each measure's design and purpose.

Median annual income nearly \$21,000 for 65s and over

For people aged 65+, median annual income was \$20,900 in the year to 31 March 2013. This is compared with \$28,500 for all New Zealand residents aged 15 years and over.

A small proportion of people aged 65+ received zero to \$10,000 in annual income (5.8 percent). Almost 25 percent received \$15,001 to \$20,000, and 16.3 percent received \$20,001 to \$25,000. Only 8.7 percent received more than \$60,000 in annual income.

Looking across the income bands, higher proportions of women than men aged 65+ were in the lower income bands (up to \$30,000). Higher proportions of men than women were in the income bands from \$30,001 and above.

Men more likely than women to receive income from self-employment or business

A significantly higher proportion of men (15.4 percent) than women (5.5 percent) aged 65+ received income from 'self-employment or business' in the 12 months ending 5 March 2013. Men in this age group were also more likely than women to receive 'wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, etc' – 18.1 percent (men) versus 13.1 percent (women) – and 'other superannuation, pensions, annuities' – 14.8 percent for men and 10.3 percent for women.

Most people aged 65+ indicated they received 'New Zealand superannuation or veterans pension' (90.1 percent). The next-most common income sources for the over-65s were:

- interest, dividends, rent, other investment – 40.0 percent
- wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, etc – 15.4 percent
- other superannuation, pensions, annuities – 12.4 percent
- self-employment or business – 10.1 percent.

Table 2**The five most common sources of personal income by sex**

For the census usually resident population aged 65 and over

2013 Census

Sources of personal income	Percent
New Zealand superannuation or veterans pension	
Male	89.2
Female	90.8
Total people 65 and over	90.1
Interest, dividends, rent, other investment	
Male	41.8
Female	38.5
Total people 65 and over	40.0
Wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, etc	
Male	18.1
Female	13.1
Total people 65 and over	15.4
Other superannuation, pensions, annuities	
Male	14.8
Female	10.3
Total people 65 and over	12.4
Self-employment or business	
Male	15.4
Female	5.5
Total people 65 and over	10.1
Source: Statistics New Zealand	



Definitions and information about the data

Definitions

Base population: the starting population for the projections.

Birthplace: refers to the country where a person was born, and uses the name of the country at the time of the census. Country is the current, short or official name of a country, dependency, or other area of particular geopolitical interest. The term is defined to include:

- independent countries recognised by the New Zealand Government
- units that are recognised geographic areas
- administrative subdivisions of Australia and the United Kingdom
- overseas dependencies, or external territories of independent countries.

Cigarette smoking behaviour: refers to the active smoking of one or more manufactured or hand-rolled tobacco cigarettes, from purchased or home-grown tobacco, per day, by a person aged 15 years and over.

The term 'smoking' refers to active smoking behaviour, that is, the intentional inhalation of tobacco smoke. Smoking does not refer to, or include, passive smoking (the unintentional inhalation of tobacco smoke).

Cigarette smoking does not include:

- smoking of tobacco in cigars, pipes, and cigarillos
- smoking of any other substances such as herbal cigarettes or marijuana
- consumption of tobacco products by other means, such as chewing.

Questions about cigarette smoking behaviour are cyclical: they were first asked in the 1976 Census, and repeated in the 1981, 1996, 2006, and 2013 Censuses.

Employed: A person was employed if they were part of the working-age population (15 years and over) and if, during the week ended 3 March 2013, they:

- worked for one hour or more for pay or profit in the context of an employee/employer relationship or self-employment, or
- worked without pay for one hour or more in work that contributed directly to the operation of a farm, business, or professional practice owned or operated by a relative, or
- had a job but were not at work due to:
 - their illness or injury
 - personal or family responsibilities
 - bad weather or mechanical breakdown
 - direct involvement in an industrial dispute
 - being on leave or holiday.

Full-time employment means usually working 30 or more hours per week. Part-time employment means usually working fewer than 30 hours per week.

Ethnicity/Ethnic group: the ethnic group or groups a person identifies with or has a sense of belonging to. It is a measure of cultural affiliation (in contrast to race, ancestry, nationality, or citizenship). Ethnicity is self-perceived and a person can belong to more than one ethnic group.

An ethnic group is made up of people who have some or all of the following characteristics:

- a common proper name
- one or more elements of common culture that need not be specified, but may include religion, customs, or language
- a unique community of interests, feelings, and actions
- a shared sense of common origins or ancestry
- a common geographic origin.

Ethnic group (grouped total responses): In ethnic group (grouped total responses) a person belonging to more than one ethnic group is counted once in each group. For example, at level one of this classification, a person of Samoan, Tongan, and German ethnicity would be counted once in the category of Pacific peoples and once as European.

Household: either one person who usually resides alone, or two or more people who usually reside together and share facilities (such as for eating, cooking, or a living area; and bathroom and toilet) in a private dwelling. Included are people who were absent on census night but usually live in a particular dwelling and are members of that household, as long as they were reported as being absent by the reference person on the dwelling form.

Household composition: classifies households according to the relationships between usually resident people. The classification is based on how many and what type(s) of family nuclei were present in a household, and whether or not there were related or unrelated people present.

Life expectancy (period): the average length of life remaining at a given age, assuming people experience the age-specific death rates of a given period from the given age onwards. For example, life expectancy at birth for the period 2010–12 is based on death rates in that period, and takes no account of changes in death rates after that period.

Median age: half the population is younger, and half the population is older, than this age.

Median projection: the 50th percentile, which indicates an estimated 50 percent chance that the actual result will be lower, and a 50 percent chance that the actual result will be higher, than this percentile.

Non-private dwelling: Occupied non-private dwellings provide short or long-term communal or transitory type accommodation. They are generally available to the public for reasons of employment, study, special need, legal requirement, or recreation.

Occupied non-private dwellings include:

- backpackers, guest accommodation, hotels, motels, youth hostels
- camps, communal staff quarters, hospitals, and institutional complexes
- bed-and-breakfasts, farm stays, and home stays that are mainly intended to be used as facilities for paying guests.

Occupation: a set of jobs that require the performance of similar or identical sets of tasks by employed people aged 15 years and over.

Partnered: a partnered person is related to another person through:

- marriage or civil union
- a de facto relationship.

Civil unions and de facto relationships include both same-sex couples and opposite-sex couples.

Partnership status in current relationship (previously known as social marital status): a person's status with respect to their current relationship – either partnered or non-partnered.

Percentile: indicates the distribution of values. For example, the range between the 2.5th percentile and the 97.5th percentile represents the 95 percent credible interval. There is a 95 percent chance that the true value lies between these two values.

Private dwellings: An occupied private dwelling accommodates a person or group of people and is not generally available for public use. The main purpose of a private dwelling is as a place of habitation; it is usually built (or converted) to function as a self-contained housing unit.

Occupied private dwellings may be considered part of housing stock, or not part of housing stock.

Dwellings that are considered part of housing stock include:

- houses, flats, units, townhouses and apartments (these may be stand alone or joined together). Generally they will be fully self-contained but there may be exceptions, for instance where several flats share a toilet, laundry, or kitchen
- independent self-care units in retirement complexes
- private dwellings within a non-private dwelling structure or complex
- residences attached to a business or institution.

Dwellings that are not considered part of housing stock include:

- dwellings in a motor camp. These include any caravan, campervan, house bus, cabin, unit, tent, or improvised dwelling in a motor camp that has permanent residents and is therefore not generally available for public use
- mobile dwellings. These include any mobile dwelling, on water or land, which is not in a motor camp, such as houseboats, campervans, mobile homes, house buses, house trucks, caravans, and tents. They are intended to be transportable and movable but may be fixed in one location
- improvised dwellings. These include dwellings or shelters not necessarily erected for human habitation but which are occupied. The structure will support a roof of some kind, no matter how roughly fashioned or makeshift, and will lack some or all of the usual household amenities such as electric lighting, piped water, bathroom, toilet, and kitchen/cooking facilities. For example, shacks, garages, and private vehicles other than those designed as, or converted into, dwellings
- places of habitation with no dwelling. These include public or outdoor areas, not intended for human habitation but which are occupied, including public parks, bus shelters, under bridges, on beaches, in caves, train stations, doorways, and private property such as car parks, and farm land are included in the roofless or rough sleeper category
- vehicles lived in
- vessels lived in.

People may offer board or lodging to paying guests in their own homes (such as bed-and-breakfast, farm stay, home stay, or families hosting foreign students or boarders). Such

homes are counted as private dwellings unless their main intent is to house boarders or paying guests.

Projection: indication of the future characteristics of a population based on an assessment of past trends and assumptions about the future course of demographic behaviour (eg fertility, mortality, migration).

Religious affiliation: the self-identified association of a person with a religion, denomination, or sub-denominational religious group.

A religion is a set of beliefs and practices that usually involves acknowledgement of a divine or higher being or power, and that guides people's conduct and morals.

A denomination is the church or religious sect that forms a subgroup of a religion. Denominations of a particular religion share the same principles but differ from each other in aspects such as the form of worship, or how they are governed.

Resident population concept: a statistical basis for a population in terms of those who usually live in a given area at a given time. For example, the 'estimated resident population' of New Zealand is an estimate of all people who usually live in New Zealand at a given date, including New Zealand residents who are temporarily overseas, but excluding visitors from overseas.

Sources of personal income: identifies all the various sources from which a person aged 15 years and over received income in the 12 months ending 5 March 2013.

In the census, it is generally only realistic to collect information on money income. This is income that a person can normally recall or can readily retrieve from their financial records. Money income is money flow from the deployment of one's labour, entrepreneurial skills, and assets; and from transfers received. So the concept of money income relies on identifying its sources.

Excluded are income in kind, imputed income, unrealised income, and contingent income (contingent income depends on the unknown outcome of a course of action, for example, to sue). Excluded also is money received by borrowing, making withdrawals from savings, and receiving repayments of loan principal; and also tax credits and reimbursements of expenses.

Study participation: measures those attending, studying, or enrolled at school or anywhere else. It is grouped into full-time study (20 hours or more a week), part-time study (less than 20 hours a week), and those not studying.

Tenure holder: describes whether a person owns or partly owns the dwelling they usually live in.

Total personal income: the before-tax income of a person in the 12 months ended 31 March 2013. The information is collected as income bands rather than in actual dollars.

Unpaid activities: covers activities performed in the four weeks before 5 March 2013, without payment, for people living either in the same household, or outside.

Work and labour force status: classifies a person aged 15 years and over by their inclusion in or exclusion from the labour force. For an employed person, it distinguishes between full-time employment (30 hours or more per week) and part-time employment (fewer than 30 hours per week). A person who was not employed is classified as either 'unemployed' or 'not in the labour force'.

Information about the data

Comparability with past censuses

Because the 2011 Census was cancelled after the Canterbury earthquake on 22 February 2011, the gap between the 2013 Census and the last one is seven years. The change in the data between 2006 and 2013 may be greater than in the usual five-year gap between censuses. Be careful when comparing trends.

Calculation of percentages

Unless otherwise stated, all percentages and ratios in this report exclude responses that cannot be classified (eg 'not stated', 'not elsewhere included', 'household composition unidentifiable', 'work and labour force status unidentifiable').

Confidentiality

The data in this report has been randomly rounded to protect confidentiality. Individual figures may not add up to totals, and values for the same data may vary in different tables.



More information

Other census information

- [2013 Census](#)
- [2013 Census products and services release schedule](#)
- [2013 Census tables in NZ.Stat](#)
- [2013 Census information by variable](#)
- [2013 Census definitions and forms](#)
- [2013 Census QuickStats about culture and identity](#)

[See our infographic about people aged 65+ living in New Zealand](#)

Other sources of information

- [Estimates and projections](#)
- [Life expectancy](#)
- [New Zealand's 65+ population: A statistical volume \(2007\)](#)
- [Population statistics](#)
- [Employment and unemployment](#)

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List of available tables

The following tables are available in Excel format from the 'Available files' box. If you have problems viewing the files, see [opening files and PDFs](#).

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3. Age group and sex, projected population, 2014–2068
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29. Access to telecommunication systems (total responses) by age group and sex of household members, 2013 Census
30. Access to telecommunication systems (total responses) by age group of household members, 2001, 2006, and 2013 Censuses