

Older Aucklanders: a quality of life status report

August 2022



Research and
Evaluation Unit

RIMU





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Executive summary

Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland is undergoing significant changes in its population structure. In Auckland, it is expected that there will be rapid growth in the coming decades among those aged 65 and over, from 12 per cent in 2018 to a projected 19 per cent by 2048. This is unprecedented in New Zealand but is consistent with overseas trends. Auckland Council has a clear strategic directive to recognise what older people can offer to the community and to respond to their needs, particularly as they constitute a growing proportion of Auckland's population. This directive is outlined in the Auckland Plan 2050 and the Tāmaki Makaurau Tauawhi Kaumātua - Age-friendly Auckland Action Plan. One of the aims of the Age-friendly Action Plan is to improve the quality of life for older Aucklanders, which will help guide actions to support this group.

Understanding the quality of life of older Aucklanders is a key strategic focus for council. Council's Research and Evaluation Unit (RIMU) conducted a baseline study in 2016-2017 to develop an evidence base about the quality of life of Aucklanders aged 65 years and over. Auckland's demographic, social, and economic landscape has undergone substantial change over the six years since the baseline study. Factors such as the COVID-19 pandemic, housing affordability, the increasing cost of living, and climate change all have a growing and ongoing impact on quality of life. The baseline dataset required updating to monitor changes over time and understand the current state of older Aucklanders' quality of life.

This report explores the current state of older Aucklanders' quality of life. We analysed data from secondary sources as well as primary data

from a survey of Aucklanders aged 65 years and over. The 2021 survey collected responses from over 1400 older Aucklanders. We also compared survey responses, where possible, to results from the baseline 2016 survey (where 846 people responded).

Findings revealed that although older Aucklanders as a broader group experience a high level of quality of life, there is also a considerable amount of diversity in their lived experiences. For instance, older people living in the central and northern areas of Auckland were generally more positive about the different domains contributing to quality of life. Meanwhile, residents in the eastern, southern, and western parts of Auckland reported more negative experiences, particularly concerning housing affordability, economic living standards, and perceptions of safety at home and in their local neighbourhoods.

Quality of Life of Older Māori in Auckland

An additional qualitative research study was undertaken to explore the quality of life for older Māori, to support the kaumātua domain of the Age-friendly Auckland Action Plan and provide deeper insight into the wellbeing of older mana whenua (iwi and hapū with historic and territorial rights in Tāmaki Makaurau), and mataawaka (urban Māori). This research on the quality of life of older Māori Aucklanders was led by Māori researchers, and guided by a Rōpū Kaumātua. The Quality of Life of Older Māori in Auckland report can be found on the Knowledge Auckland website.

Key findings

1. **Kaumātua:** Most told us they had a good quality of life, but there were some notable areas that could be improved. For example, they were less satisfied with their local green spaces, had more negative views of public transport, and were less likely to be able to adequately heat their homes during winter, compared to other older Aucklanders.
2. **Culture and diversity:** Around three in five older Aucklanders told us that they felt accepted and valued in their communities. Meanwhile, around three in four older Aucklanders were positive about Auckland Council, saying that staff treated them with kindness and communicated in their preferred language. However, there was room to improve council services' ability to meet their cultural and accessibility needs.
3. **Te Taiao—the natural and built environments:** In general, older Aucklanders were satisfied with the quality and cleanliness of green spaces around them, although there were clear differences by area and ethnic group. Many participants were concerned about water and noise pollution, as well as climate change.
4. **Transport:** Use of public transport amongst older Aucklanders more than halved since the introduction of COVID-19 restrictions in August 2021. Use of and perceptions about public transport were more positive among Central Auckland residents but lower among South/East Auckland residents.
5. **Housing:** Only three in every five older Aucklanders agreed that their housing costs were affordable. Again, this varied according to age, area, and ethnic group. A higher proportion agreed they could afford to heat their homes in winter, but there was less agreement amongst older Māori and Pacific peoples. Additionally, feeling safe at home was more common among those living in North Auckland and less common amongst West Auckland residents.
6. **Social participation:** Older Aucklanders had a high level of social participation and connection. Most agreed they were visited by friends and family as often as they wanted. Additionally, two in three never or rarely felt lonely in the last 12 months, and most participated in some type of social network. However, older Aucklanders felt less safe in their local neighbourhoods after dark, particularly those living in South, East, and West Auckland.
7. **Respect and social inclusion:** Most older Aucklanders told us they had not experienced any form of discrimination in the last 12 months. Of the small proportion who did, one in five experienced age-based discrimination and one in 10 had experienced ethnic-based discrimination.

8. **Civic participation and employment:** More Aucklanders aged 65-74 are remaining in the labour workforce over time. Only three in every five said they had enough or more than enough money to meet their everyday needs. Older Aucklanders also have high civic participation, with high voting turnout at elections. Survey participants largely had positive perceptions that they had opportunities to play a valued role as an elder within their families and communities.
9. **Communication and information:** Older people have increasing access to and use of the Internet. They also have a high level of confidence in using the Internet to make transactions and keep connected to other people. However, access, use, and confidence was lower among those aged 85 and over, as well as Māori, Pacific, and South/East Auckland residents.
10. **Community support and health services:** A high level of older Aucklanders rated various domains of their health positively (including their physical, mental and emotional, spiritual, and family and relationship health). They had a high level of access to primary care and support when they needed it.

COVID-19 impacts

Lockdown restrictions had the largest impacts on older Aucklanders' ability to maintain relationships and their mental health. On the other hand, many told us that COVID-19 restrictions had no impact on their physical health, financial situations, and job security. Older Pacific Aucklanders reported the most positive impacts from COVID-19 (out of all ethnic groups), namely regarding their mental health, physical health, social ties, and financial situation.

Differences across geographic areas

The results indicated that there are substantial differences in quality of life for older Aucklanders residing in different parts of Auckland. Our data showed heightened disparities for those living in the southern, eastern, and western parts of Auckland in particular. Older residents in those areas had greater perceptions of housing unaffordability, lack of safety, and challenges meeting their everyday needs.

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Introduction

What is Quality of Life?

Quality of Life is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as 'individuals' perceptions of their position in life in the context of the culture and value systems in which they live and in relation to their goals, expectations, standards and concerns'¹. There are many aspects which can contribute to an individual's quality of life including, for example, relationships, mental and physical health, safety, and sense of belonging in a community.

Quality of life studies aim to monitor a suite of indicators that describe aspects that impact quality of life. Information collected by such studies is used by governments and NGOs internationally to inform policies, plans and other initiatives aiming to improve quality of life.



¹<https://www.who.int/tools/whoqol>

Understanding Quality of Life for older Aucklanders

Understanding the quality of life of older Aucklanders is a key strategic focus for council. In 2016-2017, Council's Research and Evaluation Unit (RIMU) undertook a baseline study to develop an evidence base about the quality of life of Aucklanders aged 65 years and over. This baseline study involved conducting a literature review of existing evidence about older people's quality of life, as well as engaging with stakeholders to develop a suite of indicators to measure older people's quality of life in Auckland². This formed the basis of a survey that was administered to a representative sample of Aucklanders aged 65 years and over, which was analysed alongside secondary datasets, including the New Zealand Census, the Quality of Life in New Zealand Cities survey, and Te Kupenga – the Māori Social Survey. The findings from these studies provided an initial understanding of older Aucklanders' wellbeing.

Auckland's demographic, social, and economic landscape has undergone substantial change over the six years since the baseline study. Recent critical factors contributing to quality of life include COVID-19, housing unaffordability, the increasing cost of living, and climate change. The baseline dataset required updating to monitor changes over time and understand the current state of older Aucklanders quality of life. The findings in this report provides evidence about older people in Auckland that can be used not only by Auckland Council, but also other government

agencies, community organisations and businesses to inform services, programmes, and products.

This report provides an update on the quality of life of older people in Auckland. The domains outlined in Tāmaki Makaurau Tauawhi Kaumātua form the basis of an indicator framework which sets the parameters of this study. The indicators and associated measures were developed in consultation with Auckland Council's Seniors' Advisory Panel and aim to reflect aspects impacting quality of life currently such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Quality of Life of Older Māori in Auckland

An additional qualitative research study was undertaken to explore the quality of life for older Māori, to support the kaumātua domain of the Age-friendly Auckland Action Plan and provide deeper insight into the wellbeing of older mana whenua (iwi and hapū with historic and territorial rights in Tāmaki Makaurau), and mataawaka (urban Māori). This research on the quality of life of older Māori Aucklanders was led by Māori researchers, and guided by a Rōpū Kaumātua. The Quality of Life of Older Māori in Auckland report can be found on the Knowledge Auckland website.

²Reports from previous studies can be found:

<https://knowledgeauckland.org.nz/publications/determinants-of-wellbeing-for-older-aucklanders/>

<https://knowledgeauckland.org.nz/publications/older-aucklanders-a-quality-of-life-status-report/>

Factors impacting quality of life



COVID-19 Pandemic

The early 2020s in Tāmaki Makaurau have been shaped by the global COVID-19 pandemic and the consequences of which can have a significant impact on quality of life. The survey administered for this report collected data during the Delta variant outbreak.



Housing

Tāmaki Makaurau’s housing supply has not kept pace with increases in population or demand for investment, which has resulted in the current housing crisis. Available housing stock often does not meet the needs of older people and the quality of housing stock is poor, resulting in negative health and safety consequences.



Cost of living

Some have described Aotearoa as facing a ‘cost of living crisis’ with the consumers price index recording an annual change of +5.9 per cent in December 2021, the biggest movement since 1990. Many older people are on fixed incomes and as such are expected to experience the greatest impact.



Climate change

A climate change emergency was declared in 2020, and 2021 was Aotearoa’s warmest year on record. Our more vulnerable communities, such as those aged 85+ years, will be most affected by the impacts of climate change³.

³See Environmental Health Intelligence New Zealand: <https://www.ehinz.ac.nz/indicators/climate-change/vulnerability/#ref1>

Demographic context

Tāmaki Makaurau, and indeed Aotearoa overall, is undergoing significant changes in its population structure. Like many international cities, Auckland is experiencing a trend of population ageing, whereby those aged 65 years and over are increasingly constituting a larger proportion of the overall population. According to the 2018 Census, there were 189,177 usual residents aged 65 years and over in Auckland (12% of the total Auckland

population). Rapid growth in this population is expected to occur in the coming decades, as indicated by Figure 1. It is projected that this group will reach a total of 434,000 by 2048 (19% of the total projected Auckland population). This means that older Aucklanders will comprise a greater proportion of the population, which is unprecedented in New Zealand but consistent with international trends.

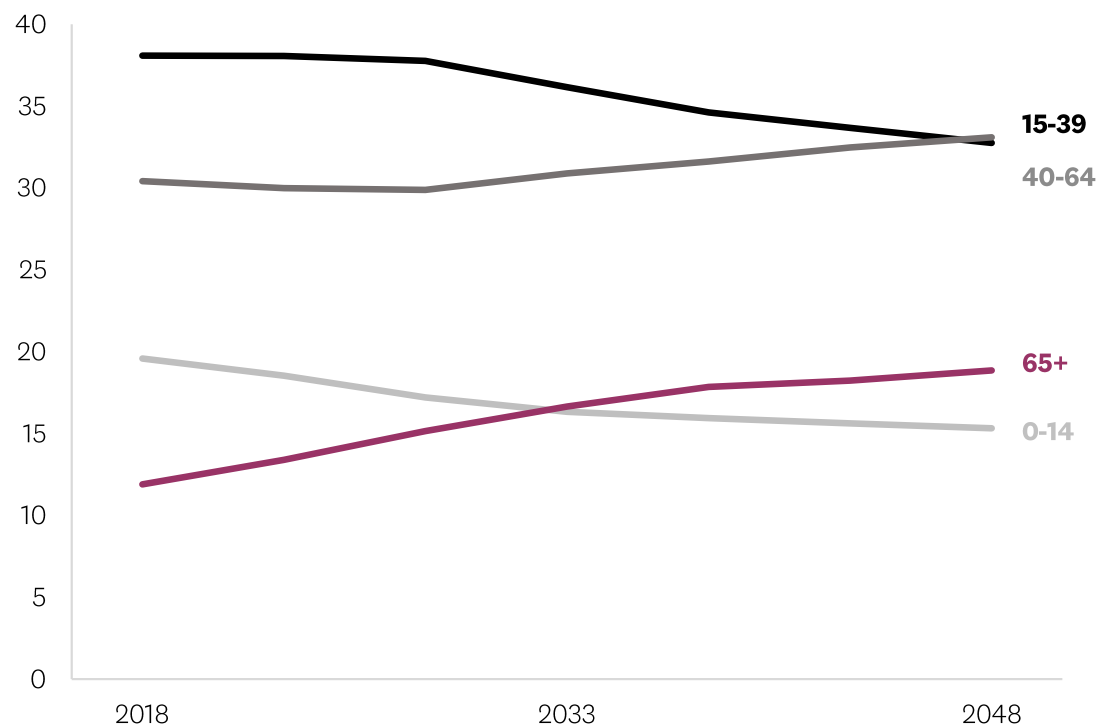


Figure 1: Age distribution of Auckland population 2018-2048 (%).

Source: Stats NZ.

What is population ageing and why does it matter?

Population ageing describes a population structure where an increasingly large proportion of the population is aged 65 years and over. Older people tend to require support in the form of superannuation, aged care facilities, and healthcare. These requirements have financial implications and maintaining the provision of such services can generate pressure on working age people, such as higher taxes or providing care to relatives.

A greater quality of life is associated with higher levels of health, economic independence and consequently less reliance on government-funded services. Monitoring the quality of life of older people enables planning and delivery of services to best meet the changing needs of our population.

Tāmaki Makaurau Tauawhi Kaumātua / Age-Friendly Auckland Action Plan



Auckland Council has a clear directive to “recognise and value the contribution of older people to the community”, as outlined in the Auckland Plan 2050⁴, a 30-year vision for making Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland ‘the world’s most liveable city’.

As part of this, the Tāmaki Makaurau Tauawhi Kaumātua – Age-Friendly Auckland Action Plan was developed with the intention of responding to the needs of Auckland’s older people. The plan is based on the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Framework and Te Whare Tapa Whā, a Māori framework of wellbeing. It integrates the domains of wellbeing outlined in each model to provide a holistic way to frame the plan. The primary aims of the plan are to:

- Improve the quality of life for older Aucklanders
- Future-proof the Auckland region so that everyone is supported to age well
- Identify and guide action to support those most in need.

In order to achieve these aims, the plan identifies relevant actions for council, organisations, individuals, and communities to take to address the 10 domains of wellbeing (see Table 1). Auckland was accepted into the World Health Organization’s Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities (GNAFCC) in March 2022.

⁴ The Auckland Plan 2050 can be found at: <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/plans-projects-policies-reports-bylaws/our-plans-strategies/auckland-plan/Pages/default.aspx>

Methods

An indicator framework was developed for the baseline study⁵ on the status of older Aucklanders. The framework underpinned the research by enumerating the factors contributing to the social and economic wellbeing of older people in Auckland. The first iteration of the framework was developed using:

- A comprehensive literature review of the determinants of wellbeing for older people⁶
- A review of the domains and indicators in the New Zealand Government's Positive Ageing Strategy and the WHO Age-friendly Cities materials
- Consultation with a range of external stakeholders who worked with or advocated for older people in Auckland.

The framework outlined over 40 indicators of wellbeing across eight broad domains. The current iteration of the indicator framework (Table 1) was revised to align with the ten domains in Auckland Council's Age-friendly Action Plan. As part of this review, Auckland Council's Seniors' Advisory Panel was consulted in order to ensure the ten domains of wellbeing, along with the proposed indicators and measures, were relevant for measuring older people's quality of life, as well as to identify and fill any gaps in the framework.

The findings in this report are structured by these domains, indicators, and their accompanying measures. A brief explanation of each of these terms is provided below.



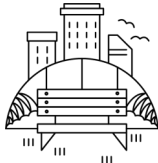


- **Ngā rohe/Domains:** The broad themes contributing to quality of life. *Example: Housing.*
- **Indicators:** These describe the areas of focus in each domain. *Example: Housing tenure.*
- **Measures:** These describe the data (which can be quantitative or qualitative) that we will collect to understand each indicator. *Example: The proportion of older Aucklanders who own, or partly own, their residence.*


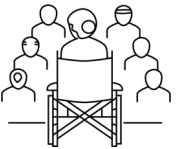



This report contains a range of primary and secondary data. Many of the indicators are able to be measured using publicly available data, such as the New Zealand Census (see Appendix D for a list of secondary data sources). Other indicators are informed by data from our survey of older Aucklanders, which had a final weighted sample of 1403 responses (see Appendix A for more details about the survey).

⁵ Available at: <https://knowledgeauckland.org.nz/publications/older-aucklanders-a-quality-of-life-status-report/>

⁶ Available at: <https://knowledgeauckland.org.nz/publications/determinants-of-wellbeing-for-older-aucklanders/>

Table 1: The revised indicator framework

Ngā rohe/Domains	Description	Indicators
<p>Kaumātua</p> 	<p><i>We are tangata whenua, and our unique cultural identity, tikanga and world view are recognised, respected and guaranteed.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in te ao Māori • Te reo Māori • Whanaungatanga • Wairua • Mana • Mauri • Hinengaro • Whatumanawa • Tinana • Hā a koro ma, a kui ma/taonga tuku iho
<p>Culture and Diversity</p> 	<p><i>We are respected and able to stay connected, active and engaged in our culture, identity and customs.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnic and cultural diversity • Feeling respected • Feeling safe and supported • Culturally appropriate services • Cultural participation and expression
<p>Te Taiao</p> 	<p><i>We live in healthy natural and built environments that provide public amenities that are safe and encourage us to stay active.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of green spaces • Cleanliness of green spaces • Perceptions of pollution • Climate change
<p>Transport</p> 	<p><i>We can get where we want to go in a comfortable and timely manner regardless of our abilities, mode of transport, income, time of day, weather or season, and distance to our destination.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of public transport • Perceptions of public transport • Walkability • Licensed drivers • Accessibility
<p>Housing</p> 	<p><i>We have a healthy, comfortable and secure home where we belong regardless of whether we rent, own a place or live on our own or with others.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing type and tenure • Household composition • Crowding • Perceptions of safety • Affordability • Housing quality and suitability

Ngā rohe/Domains	Description	Indicators
Social Participation 	<p><i>We have places to go, things to do and people to meet outside our homes to keep us active, stimulated, connected and healthy.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact with others • Social connectedness • Trust in others • Community strength and spirit • Perceptions of safety
Respect and Social Inclusion 	<p><i>We are visible; our decisions, diversity and experience are respected and appreciated.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discrimination • Victims of crime • Elder abuse
Civic Participation and Employment 	<p><i>We have an active role in our community for as long as we choose regardless of our background, health and abilities, or first language.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic participation • Valued contribution • Unpaid work/volunteering • Income • Living standards • Paid employment
Communication and information 	<p><i>We can easily find information and support in our community in ways that suit us regardless of our abilities, channel or medium preferences, or first language.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to telecommunications
Community support and health services 	<p><i>We can proactively stay well and get wellbeing support when we want it regardless of our income or where we live.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life expectancy at age 65 • Harmful behaviours • Self-rated holistic health status • Emotional and mental health • Accidental injuries • Access to support and services • Levels of physical activity

Presentation of data

Data labels: Labels of less than 5 per cent were removed from charts to reduce visual clutter.

Rounding: Percentages shown in charts may not always add to 100 due to the effects of rounding.

Net counts: These aggregated scores were calculated by creating a proportion of the total number of respondents. Net counts may differ slightly from the sum of the corresponding figures in the charts, due to rounding.

Total response ethnicity: This approach was used to allow people to report multiple ethnicities, so percentages may exceed 100 per cent.

Base sizes: All base sizes shown on charts are weighted base sizes. Please note that any base size of under n=100 is considered small, and under n=50 is extremely small. These results are indicative only. Small base sizes are shown on charts with an asterisk (*).

Significant differences: A plus sign (+) indicates a net result that is statistically higher than the Auckland total, while a minus sign (-) shows a net result statistically lower than the Auckland total. Statistical differences are only highlighted when the difference is statistically significant at the 95 per cent confidence level and the difference in the results is five percentage points or higher.

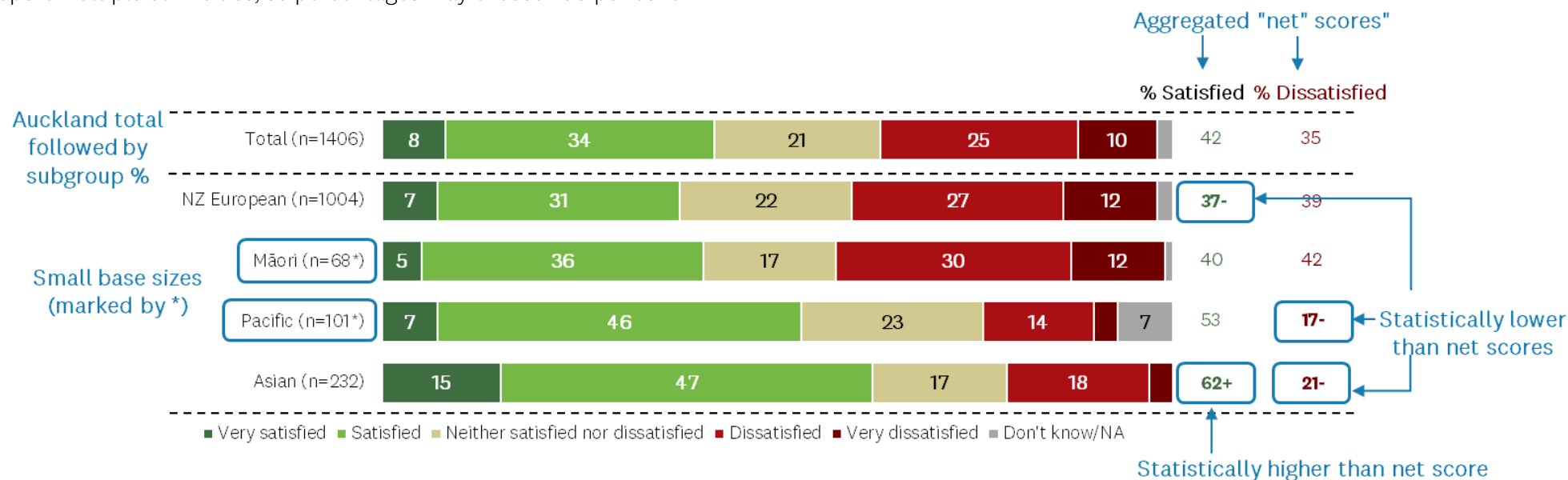


Figure 2: Example annotated chart.



Overarching findings

There are key differences by geographic area

Results highlighted that older people living in the central and northern areas of Auckland were generally more positive about the different domains contributing to quality of life. Meanwhile, residents in the eastern, southern, and western parts of Auckland reported more negative experiences, particularly concerning housing affordability, economic living standards, and perceptions of safety at home and in their local neighbourhoods. The following pages highlight some key findings relating to older Aucklanders' quality of life and this primary theme of geographic area differences.

Please note that South and East Auckland were combined for analysis purposes. Although South and East Auckland have different social and economic contexts, creating a separate East Auckland analytical category would create imbalanced sample sizes across the geographic areas, as it would have a very small sample size for analysis.

Table 2: Percentage (%) of respondents from each ethnic group, by geographic area

	Central	North	South/East	West	Total sample
New Zealand European	75	86	65	69	74
Māori	8	5	13	6	8
Pacific	4	1	10	7	5
Asian	9	5	9	13	8
<i>Non-NZ European</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>22</i>

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Note: Respondents can report multiple ethnicities and so columns do not total to 100%. 'Total sample' shows the percentage of ethnic groups for the Auckland region, which is an average of the four areas.

⁷For example, see Stone et al. (2021): https://www.waikato.ac.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/823206/CaDDANZ-report-FINAL.pdf

Possible associations between geographic area and ethnicity

Recent research has shown that some ethnic communities often congregate residentially⁷, and there are some indications of this in our data (Table 2). For instance, there were larger proportions of non-European respondents (Māori, Pacific, and Asian combined) and smaller proportions of New Zealand Europeans in South/East and West Auckland. The converse was observed in Central and North Auckland.

To illustrate this, non-European respondents comprised 31 per cent of South/East Auckland respondents, but only 11 and 21 per cent of North and Central Auckland respectively. Meanwhile, higher proportions of New Zealand European respondents lived in North (86%) and Central (75%) Auckland, than in South/East (65%) and West (69%) Auckland (Table 2).

However, due to the small sample sizes of Māori and Pacific respondents in our study, all findings about the experiences of these groups are indicative only.

Correlations between geographic area and deprivation

There are links between geographic area and deprivation quintile in our data. Our data suggest that there were higher proportions of Quintile 1 and 2 areas in Central and North Auckland, while there were higher proportions of Quintile 4 and 5 areas in South/East and West Auckland (Table 3). For instance, although 24 per cent of all respondents in the sample lived in a Quintile 1 area, higher proportions lived in Central and North Auckland, while much lower proportions lived in West Auckland. Similarly, although 16 per cent of the total sample lived in a Quintile 5 area, many more lived in South/East and West Auckland, while hardly any at all lived in North Auckland. These associations between area and deprivation may explain part of the greater negative experiences of residents in these areas.

What are Quintiles in the NZDep Index?

The New Zealand Deprivation Index (NZDep) measures socioeconomic deprivation by measuring the level of deprivation for people in different areas. The index uses a scale of 1-10, where 1 represents the least deprived areas and 10 represents the most deprived areas. Quintiles combine two scores (e.g. Quintile 1 combines deprivation scores of 1-2, resulting in the top two least deprived areas, while Quintile 5 combines scores of 9-10, resulting in the top two most deprived areas).

Table 3: Percentage (%) of respondents living in each NZDep Index quintile, by geographic area

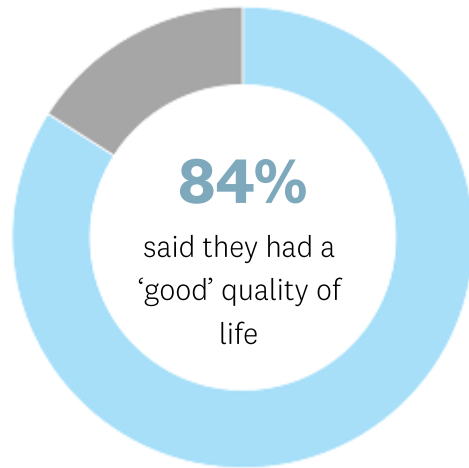
	Central	North	South/East	West	Total sample
Quintile 1	31	30	20	9	24
Quintile 2	21	31	23	19	24
Quintile 3	20	27	21	29	24
Quintile 4	13	10	11	18	12
Quintile 5	14	3	25	26	16
<i>Quintiles 1-2</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>48</i>
<i>Quintiles 4-5</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>28</i>

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Note: 'Total sample' shows the percentage of each quintile for the Auckland region, this is an average of the four areas.

Older Aucklanders experienced varying quality of life depending on where they live

North Auckland



More likely to



Be more satisfied with green spaces, but also more likely to view water pollution as a problem

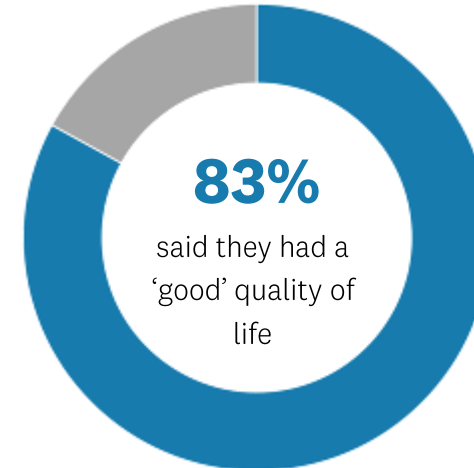


Feel safe at home, in their local neighbourhoods and in their town centres



Be more confident using the Internet

Central Auckland



More likely to



Have high cultural participation



Be satisfied with green spaces



Agree housing is affordable

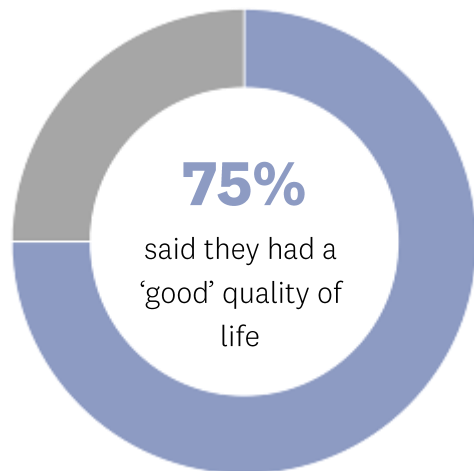


Be positive about and have higher usage of public transport



Have enough income to meet everyday needs

South/East Auckland



More likely to



Be dissatisfied with
green spaces



Have low trust in
others and feel
unsafe



Not have enough
income to meet needs

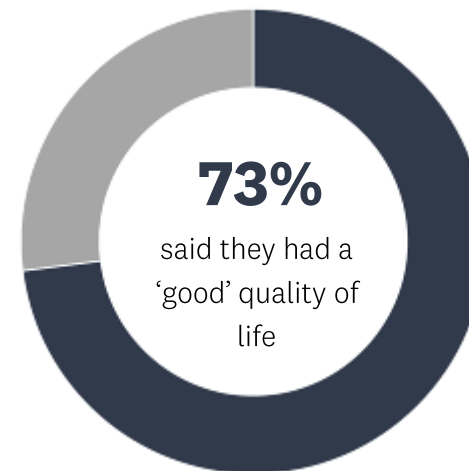


Be negative about and
have low usage of
public transport



Have low access to and
confidence in using the
Internet

West Auckland



More likely to



Feel unsafe at home
and in their local area



Say they have poor/
fair physical health

Less likely to



Feel a sense of
community



Agree that housing costs
are affordable

Detailed results

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

This section describes the results for each domain and indicator in turn.

You can click on the navigation pane to the left to take you to the results for each domain. When you click on a domain name, it will take you to its summary page.

Each domain summary has overview statistics. Clicking on the icons to take you to detailed results for that measure.

Overall Quality of Life

In 2021, eight in ten older Aucklanders reported a ‘good’ quality of life. This was similar to 2016. Higher quality of life was more common in those aged 75-84, New Zealand Europeans, and those living in North Auckland. On the other hand, Asians and those living in West Auckland were less likely to report a good quality of life.

Having a positive quality of life was driven by family relationships, enjoying life, good health, and having enough to meet their needs. A negative quality of life was driven by poor financial wellbeing, poor health, and losing independence.

COVID-19 impacts

COVID-19 restrictions had a negative impact on older Aucklanders’ ability to maintain relationships and mental health.

On the other hand, large proportions of older Aucklanders told us that COVID-19 restrictions had no impact on their physical health, financial situations and job security.

Older Pacific Aucklanders reported the most positive impacts experienced from COVID-19 restrictions, namely regarding their mental health, physical health, social ties, and financial situation.

Overall quality of life

Most Aucklanders aged 65 years and above (79%) rated their overall quality of life positively—a small, insignificant decrease since 2016 from 83 per cent.

Only a small proportion (4%) rated their overall quality of life in a negative light. There were some subgroup differences:

- **Age group:** those aged 75-84 years were more likely to rate their quality of life positively than younger and older respondents.
- **Ethnic group:** New Zealand European respondents were more positive and Asian respondents were less positive about their quality of life.
- **Area:** West Aucklanders were significantly less positive about their quality of life, while those living in the northern parts of Auckland reported enjoying a more positive quality of life.

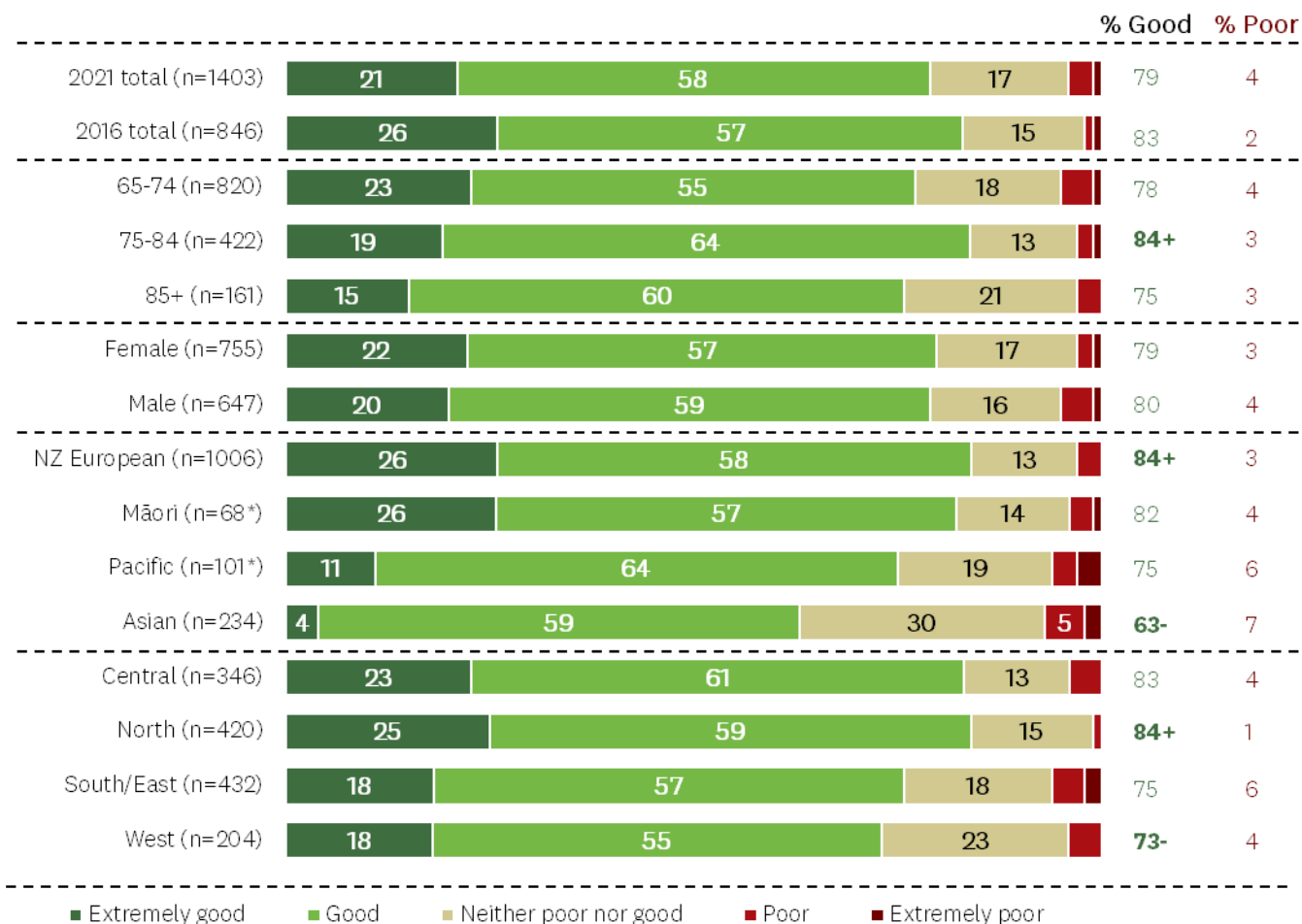
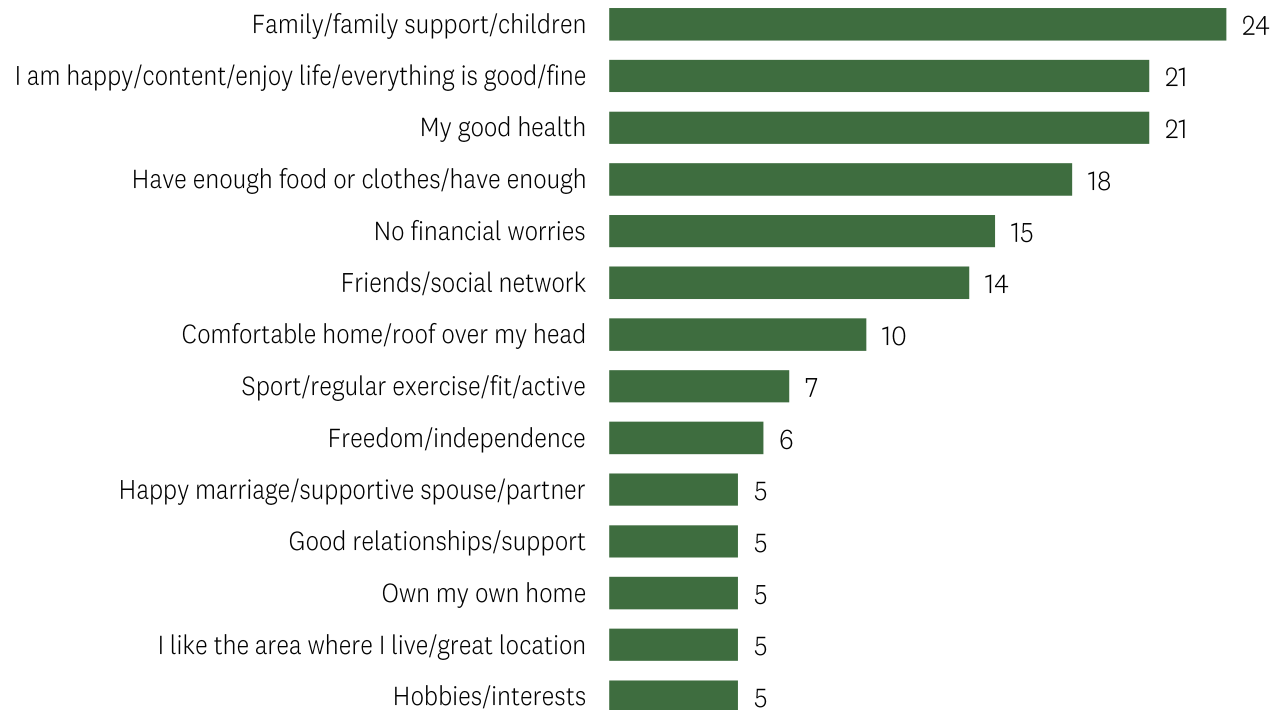


Figure 3: Overall quality of life (%) (2021 n=1403, 2016 n=846).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Reasons for having a positive quality of life

We asked respondents for the reasons why they had rated their quality of life as 'good' or 'extremely good'. The top reason provided (by 24% of respondents) was that their family, children, and wider support networks made their quality of life good, followed by a general feeling that they were happy with life (noted by 21% of respondents). The same proportion also felt their quality of life was good due to their good health. Other top reasons pertained to having important necessities, while smaller proportions also noted having positive and healthy relationships, being physically active, and continuing to have freedom and independence.



I live in a beautiful place surrounded by a great community, and have plenty of creative stuff to do. What else could I want for? (70-74 year old woman)

Living in a small apartment close to shops, cafes, and public transport. Keeping fit by walking to most places. Plenty of opportunities to travel. (65-69 year old man)

All our needs for a safe and comfortable life are met. Not a luxurious life, just a good [life]and lack nothing we need life. (80-84 year old man)

I have minimal health problems and a very sound and loving relationship with my husband. (65-69 year old woman)

I have a warm comfortable home mortgage free, close family nearby and belong to the local golf club. I have good health. (75-79 year old woman)

Figure 4: Reasons for rating overall quality of life as 'good' or 'extremely good' (%) (n=769).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Reasons for having a negative quality of life

A very small proportion (4%) of respondents rated their overall quality of life as poor or extremely poor. When asked for reasons why, the main reason was having poor financial wellbeing (27%), followed by poor or declining health (23%), and loss of freedom and independence (23%). A small number pointed to feelings of social isolation. Even smaller proportions rated their quality of life as poor due to mental health issues, having to take precautions against COVID-19, their age in general, and lack of job security. A small number also had negative comments about central and local government.

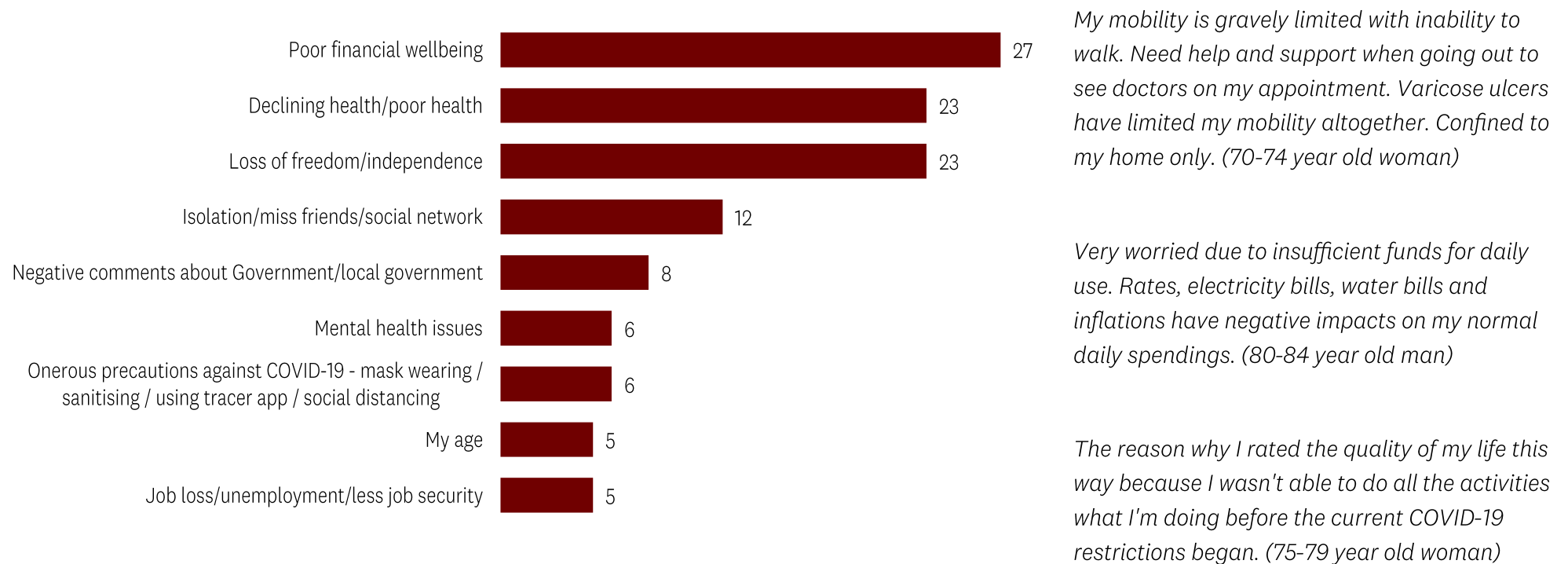


Figure 5: Reasons for rating overall quality of life as 'poor' or 'extremely poor' (%) (n=52).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Impact of COVID-19 and lockdown restrictions: Mental health

More than half (54%) of respondents said the pandemic had negatively impacted their mental health, with only 7 per cent noting a positive impact.

Some groups were less likely to say the pandemic had negatively impacted their mental health, such as those aged 75-84 (47% noted a negative impact) and men (48%).

Findings for Pacific respondents were also of note, although they should be interpreted cautiously due to the small base size. A larger proportion (19%) of Pacific respondents noted a positive impact of the pandemic on their mental health, while at the same time, fewer (40%) reported a negative impact on their mental health.

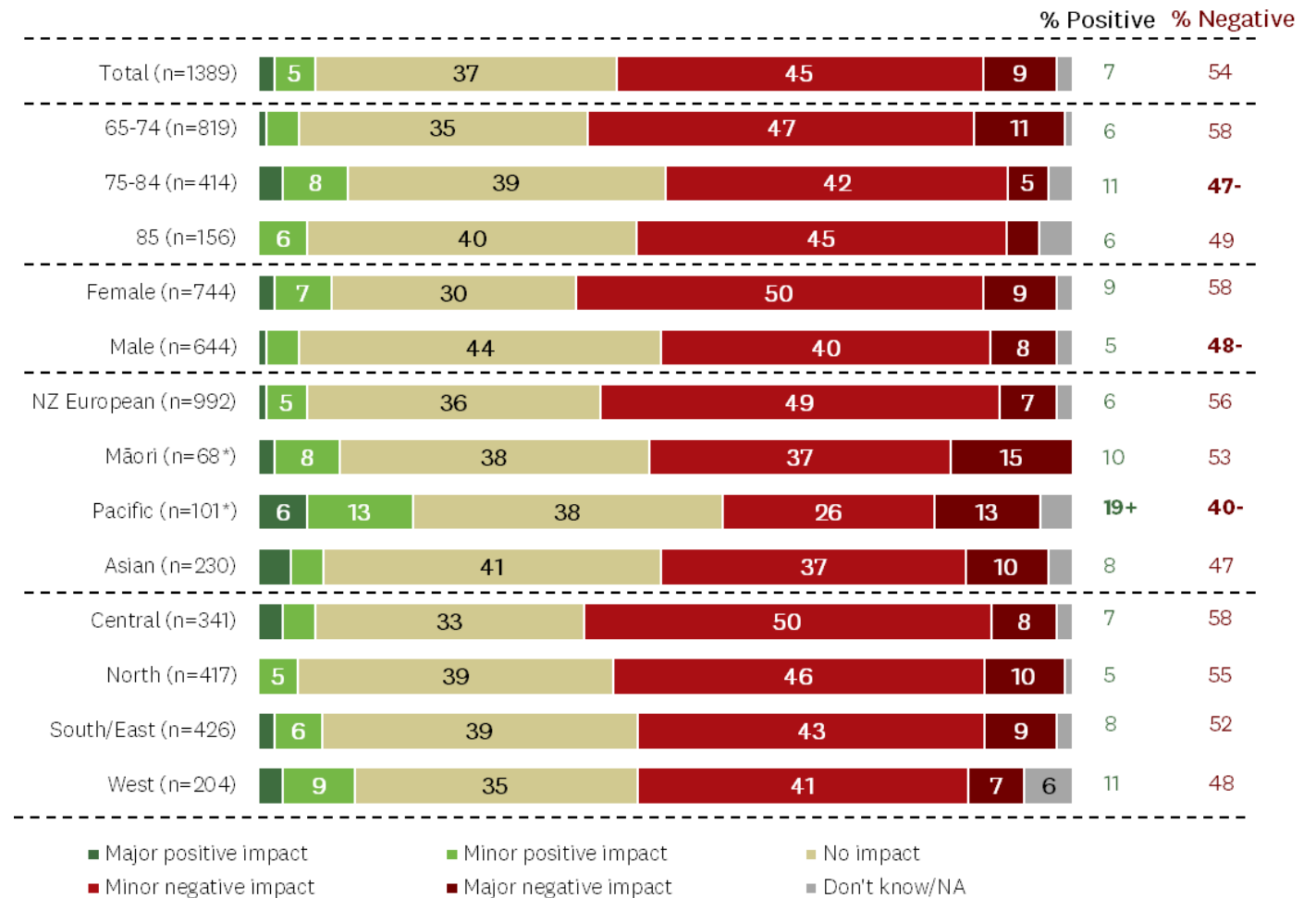


Figure 6: COVID-19 impacts on respondents' mental health (n=1389).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Impact of COVID-19 and lockdown restrictions: Physical health

More than one-third (37%) of respondents said the pandemic had negatively impacted their physical health, with 10 per cent noting a positive impact.

Older Aucklanders from different subgroups largely responded similarly to this question. The only difference, although this was indicative, was that a larger proportion of Pacific respondents (22%) said the pandemic had positively impacted their physical health, compared to 10 per cent of all respondents.

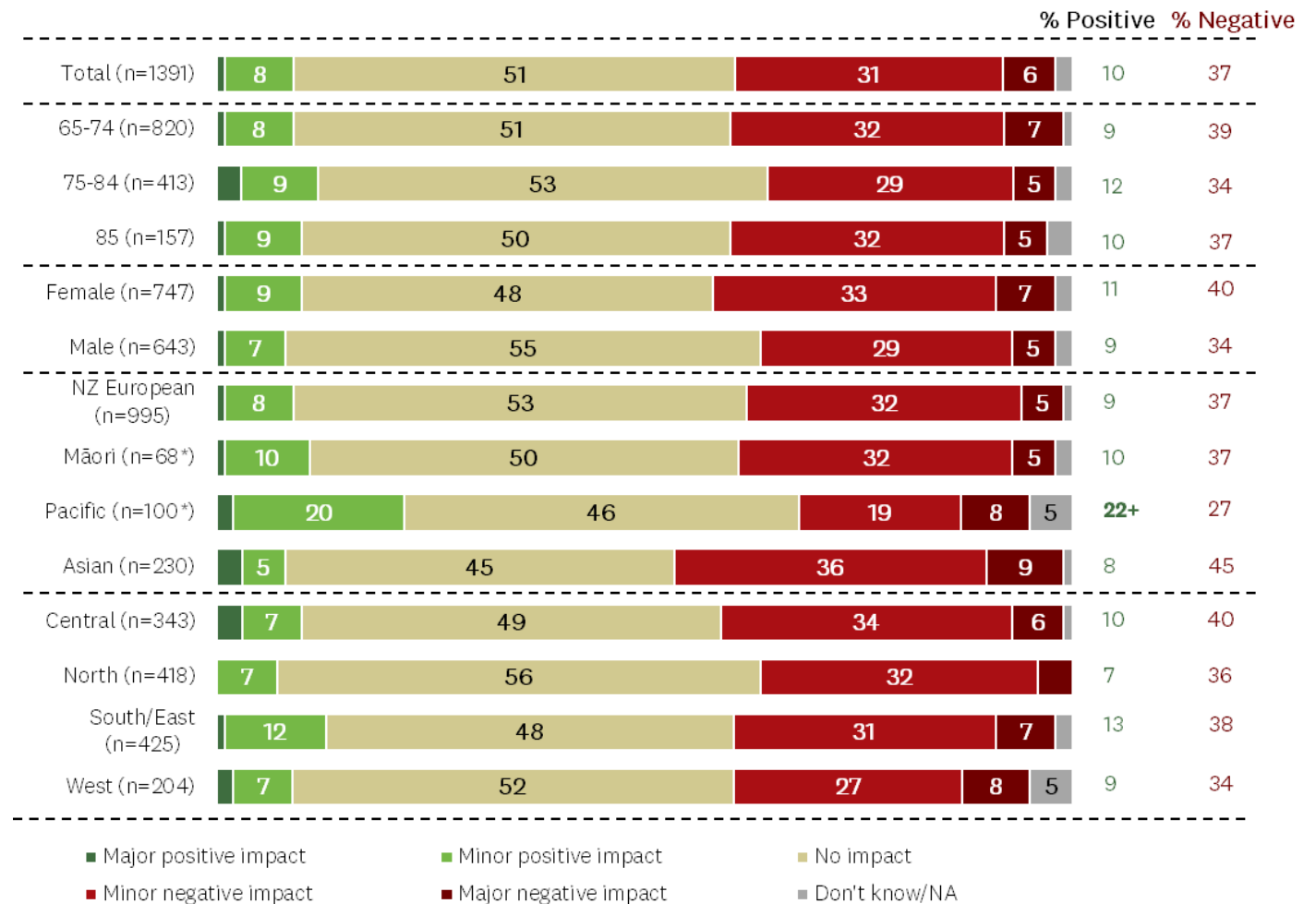


Figure 7: COVID-19 impacts on respondents' physical health (n=1391).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Impact of COVID-19 and lockdown restrictions: Maintaining social ties

The ability to maintain social ties revealed the largest negative impact of COVID-19, with 75 per cent of respondents saying the pandemic negatively impacted this aspect.

New Zealand Europeans were more likely to state a negative impact (80%), as were residents living in the northern parts of Auckland (81% noting a negative impact).

Meanwhile, a significantly smaller proportion of South/East Auckland residents (70%) said the pandemic negatively impacted their ability to maintain social ties, although this remained relatively high.

The only two groups reporting a larger positive impact were Pacific respondents (26% noted a positive impact—indicative only) and respondents aged 75-84 (14% reporting a positive impact).

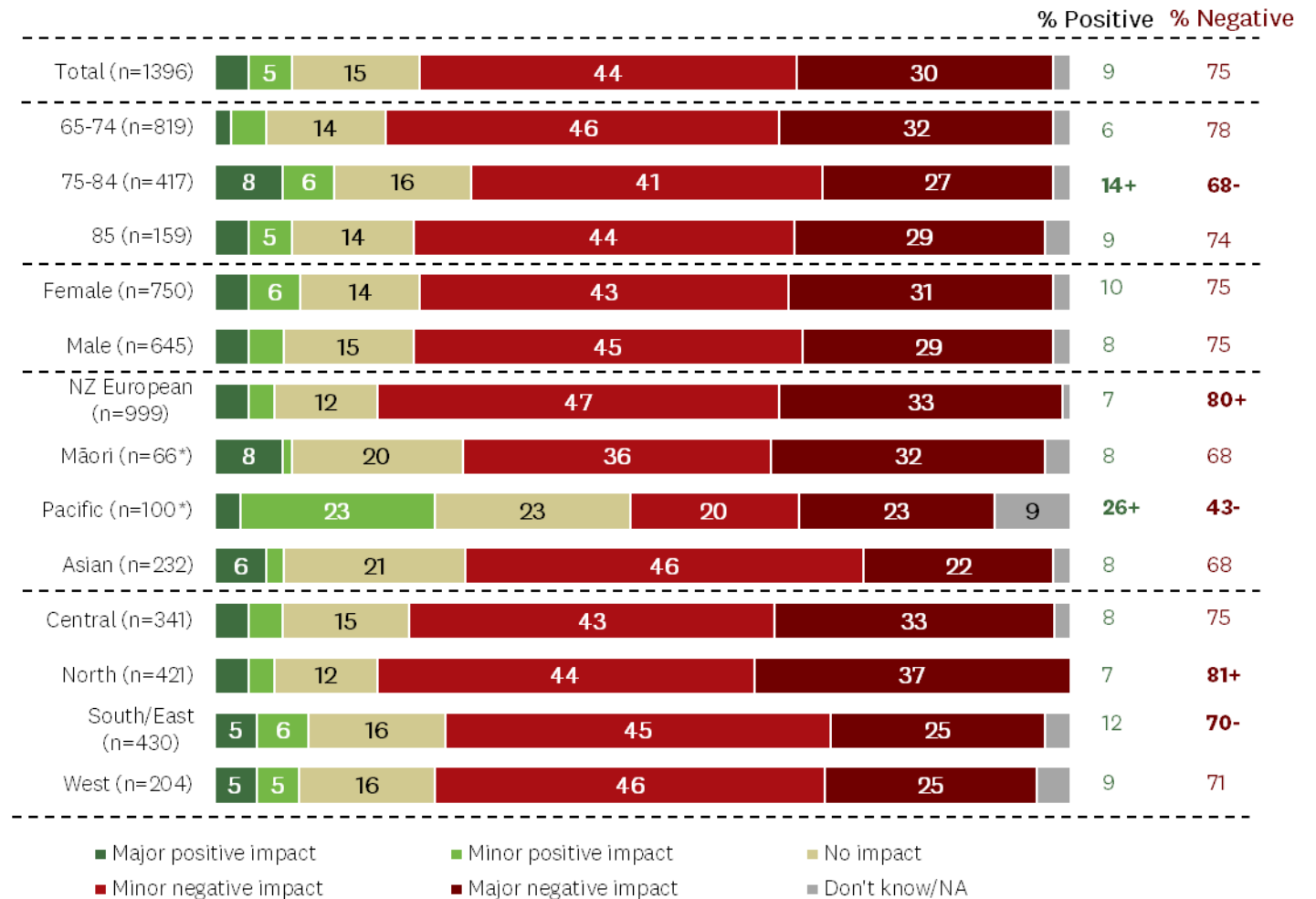


Figure 8: COVID-19 impacts on respondents' ability to maintain social ties (n=1396).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Impact of COVID-19 and lockdown restrictions: Financial situation

Almost three-fifths (57%) of older Aucklanders said the pandemic had no impact on their financial situation, with varying proportions across the different subgroups. Thus, smaller proportions felt that the pandemic had a positive (11%) or negative (28%) impact.

Younger respondents (those aged 65-74) were more likely to report a greater negative impact on their financial situations, with one-third (34%) stating a negative impact. In contrast, older respondents were less likely to report that the pandemic had a negative impact on their financial situations (19% of those aged 75-84 and 20% of those aged 85+ reported a negative impact).

Māori respondents also reported a greater negative impact on their financial situations (38% of this group—indicative only).

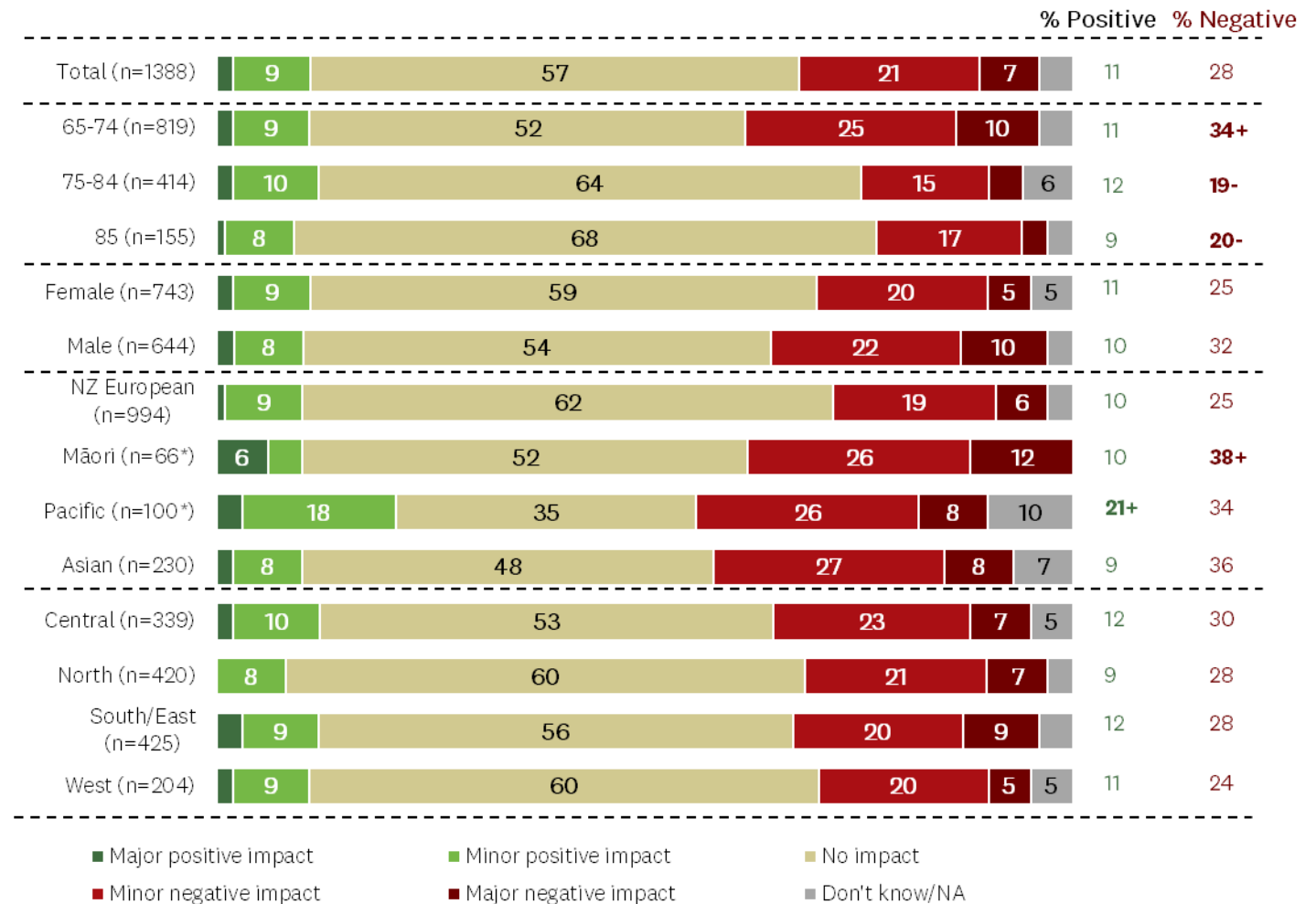


Figure 9: COVID-19 impacts on respondents' financial situations (n=1388).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Impact of COVID-19 and lockdown restrictions: Job security

When asked about the impact of COVID on their job security, a large proportion said they did not know or that this was not applicable for them. Figure 10 therefore excludes those who selected this answer option.

Of those remaining, very few (4%) reported a positive impact, while one-quarter (24%) reported a negative impact on their job security. However, a substantial proportion (72%) said that COVID had no impact on their job security.

Differences across subgroups should be interpreted with caution due to very small sample sizes. However, it appears that smaller proportions of some groups reported negative impacts: those aged 75 and over, as well as Māori and Pacific respondents.

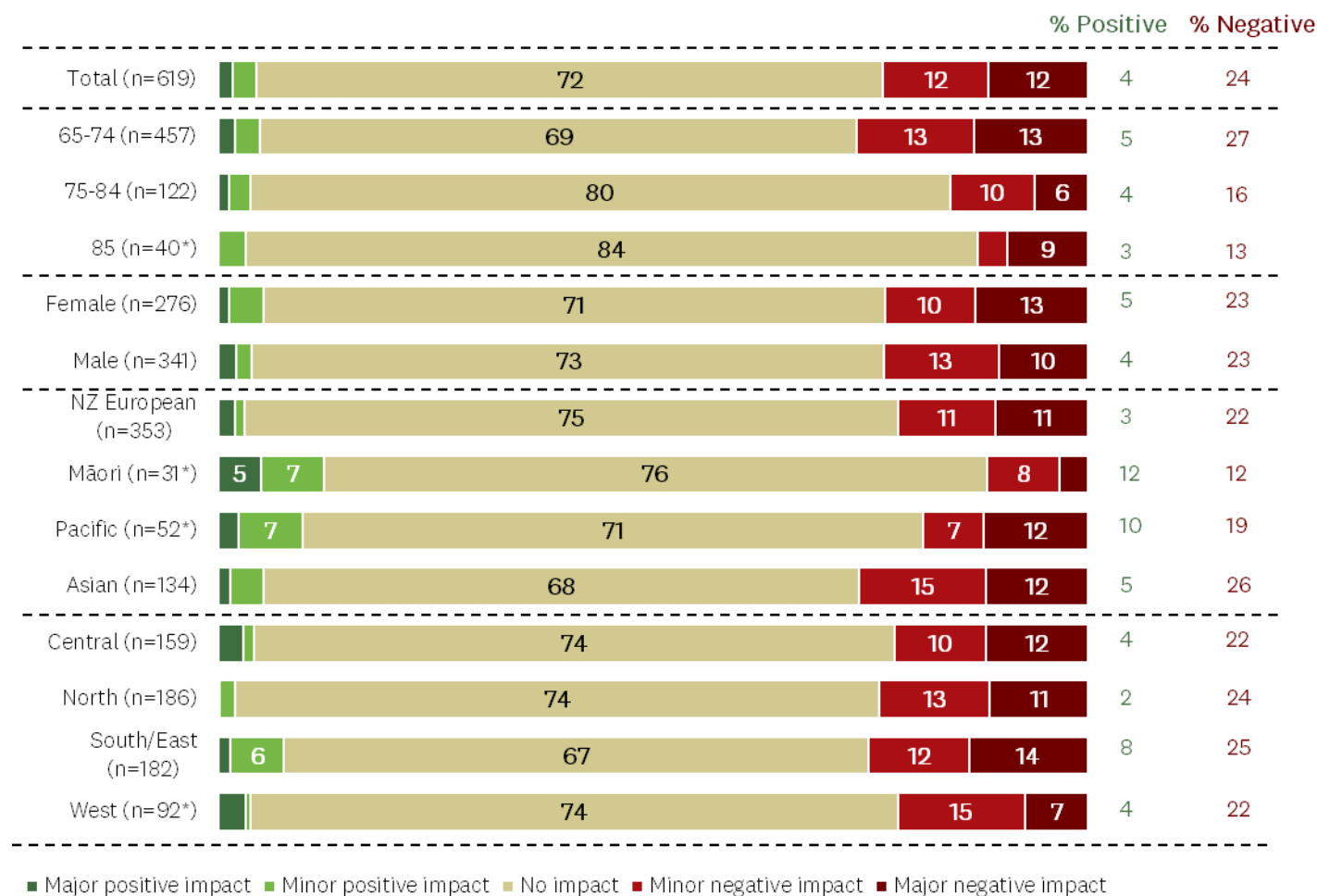


Figure 10: COVID-19 impacts on respondents' job security (n=619, excluding "Don't know/NA").

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Impact of COVID-19 and lockdown restrictions: New Zealand economy

Respondents perceived that the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions had a substantial negative impact on New Zealand's economy (70% - with 49% perceiving that this had been a major negative impact). Only one-tenth (11%) said there had been a positive impact.

Younger respondents were more likely than older respondents to say there had been a negative impact (75% of those aged 65-74, compared to 64% of those aged 75-84 and 56% of those aged 85+).

Similarly, those living in the northern parts of Auckland were also slightly more likely to state there had been a negative impact (75%, compared to 70% of all respondents).

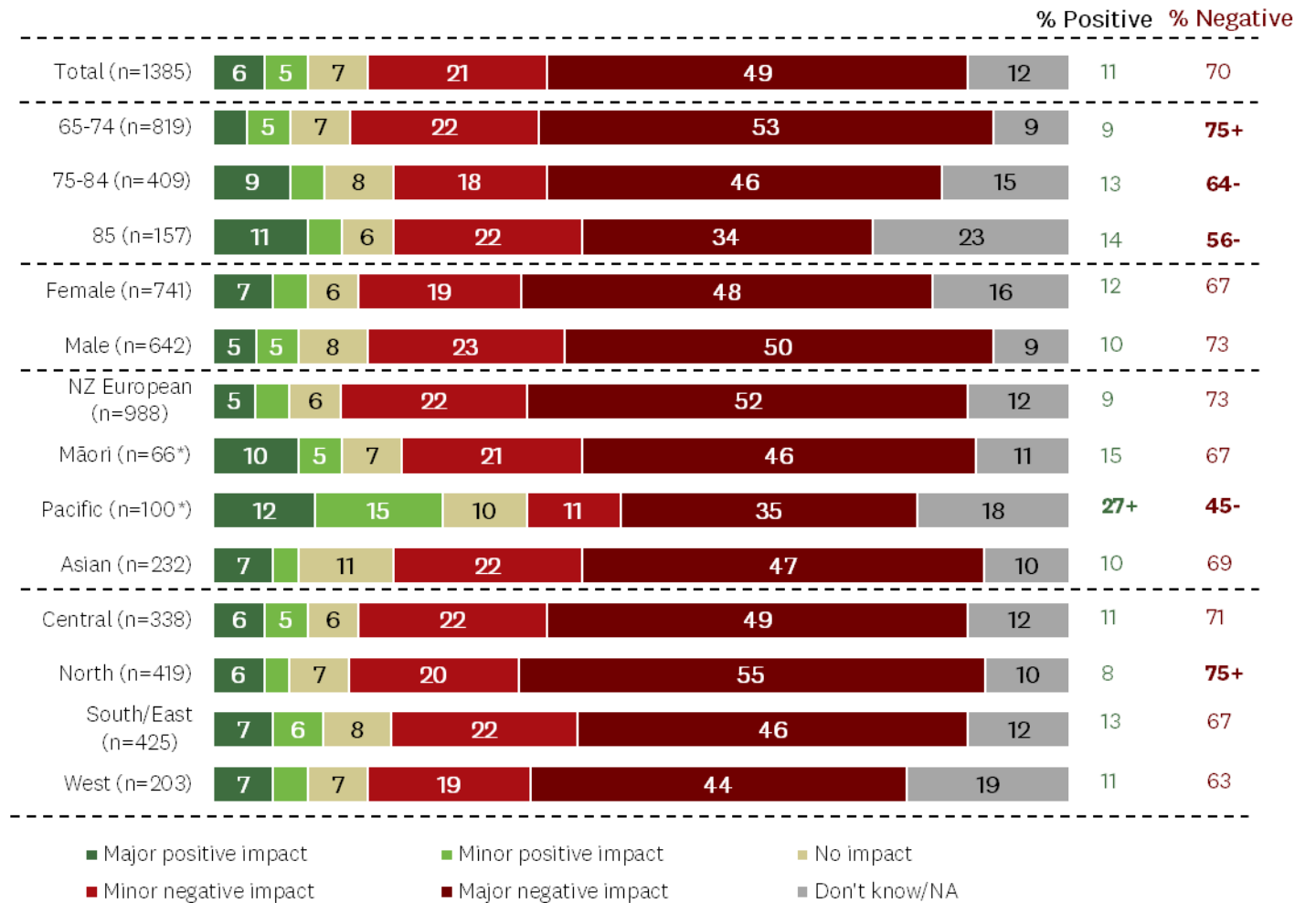


Figure 11: Respondents' perceptions of COVID-19 impacts on New Zealand's economy (n=1385).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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

Kaumātua



Older Māori had similar quality of life outcomes to non-Māori older Aucklanders



Most older Māori (82%) said they had a good quality of life.

But like all older Aucklanders, COVID-19 negatively impacted them (especially their mental health and social ties).



Overall, many reported having good health.

However, fewer (66%) said they had good physical health, compared to all older Aucklanders (72%).

Older Māori were well connected.



They participated in different social networks and groups, especially professional and parent/grandparent networks. However, they had less trust in others (62%), compared to older Aucklanders in general (78%).



A high proportion (71%) felt they had opportunities to play a valued role as an elder in their whānau and communities.



More older Māori (28%) were dissatisfied with how clean their green spaces were, compared to all older Aucklanders (20%).



Older Māori tended to have negative experiences with public transport, especially with safety and accessibility.

47% felt that it was safe while waiting for public transport (compared to 58% of the total sample) and 46% thought public transport was accessible (compared to 58% of all older Aucklanders).



They were also less likely to agree they could afford to heat their homes in winter (66%), compared to 76% of all older Aucklanders.



Older Māori had lower access to the Internet (19%) than all older Aucklanders (12%).



Engagement in te ao Māori

The ability of older Māori to trace their whakapapa is similar to younger Māori according to the 2018 Te Kupenga survey (a post-censal national survey of Māori wellbeing).

In Te Kupenga, 83% of older Māori knew their iwi (similar to the 89% that knew their iwi in the Older Aucklanders survey).



56% know hapū 49% know waka
50% know maunga 64% know tīpuna
56% know awa

According to Te Kupenga 2018:

- **Marae participation:** Nine in ten had been to a marae during their life. Around half (47%) had been to a marae in the last 12 months. Older Māori visited a marae slightly less often than other age groups.
- **Tūrangawaewae (ancestral marae):** 77 per cent had an ancestral marae they thought of as their tūrangawaewae. The connection with tūrangawaewae is slightly stronger for older Māori than other age groups.

Of those who had ever visited, 82 per cent had been to their ancestral marae in the last 12 months. Like marae participation generally, older Māori visited their ancestral marae slightly less often than other age groups.

In addition, 59 per cent of older Māori would have liked to visit their ancestral marae in the last 12 months.

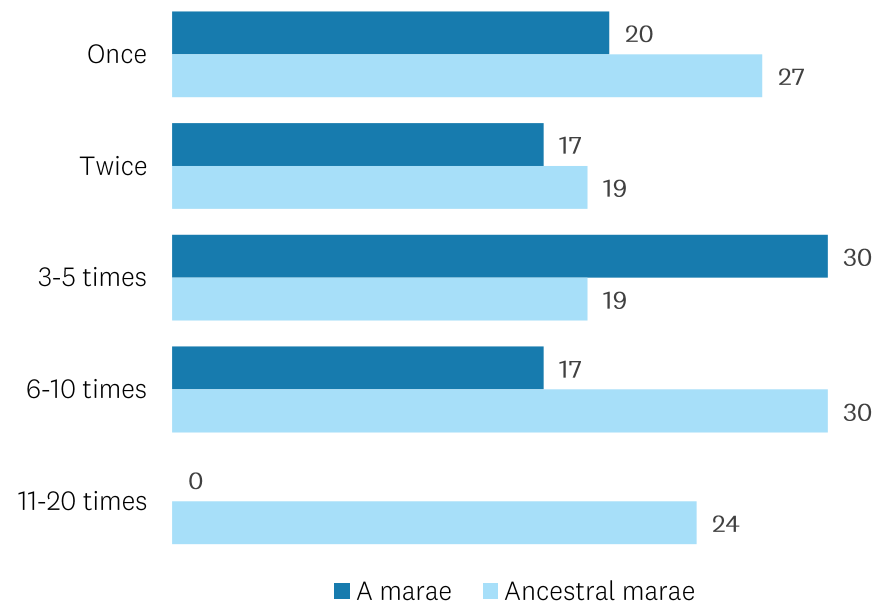


Figure 12: Frequency of visits to a marae and ancestral marae for Māori in Auckland aged 65+ in the last 12 months.

Source: Te Kupenga 2018, customised request.



Te reo Māori

Being able to speak and understand te reo Māori is an important indicator of engagement and immersion within te ao Māori. However, assimilation policies in Aotearoa New Zealand resulted in the near elimination of te reo among many older generations. For example, the Native Schools Act 1867 required all schooling to be conducted in English where practical. Although there was no official legislation banning children from speaking te reo, many suffered physical punishment for doing so, resulting in the loss over time of te reo.

The impacts of such policies are reflected in Te Kupenga data, showing low use of te reo among older age groups in particular, while there is

stronger use of it among younger generations. Among those aged 65 and over:

- 14 per cent had te reo spoken regularly at home, compared to 26 per cent of all respondents (Figure 13)
- There were similar proportions to the total sample who could speak, understand, read and write te reo (Figure 14)
- 57 per cent said te reo was ‘somewhat’, ‘quite’ or ‘very’ important, compared to 71 per cent of all respondents (Figure 15).

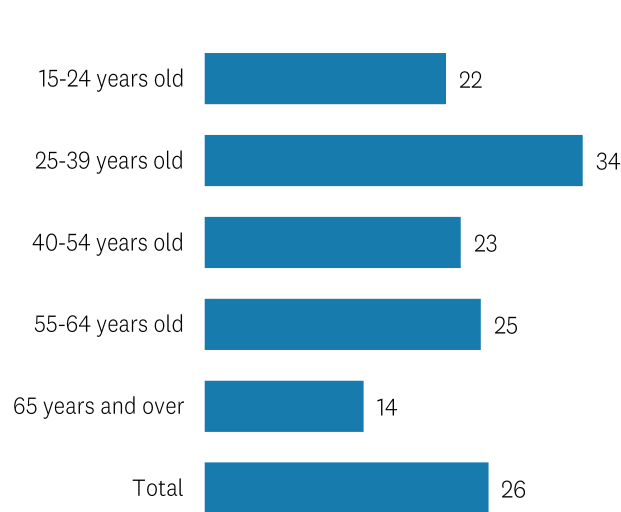


Figure 13: Proportion of Te Reo regularly spoken at home for Māori Aucklanders, by age group.

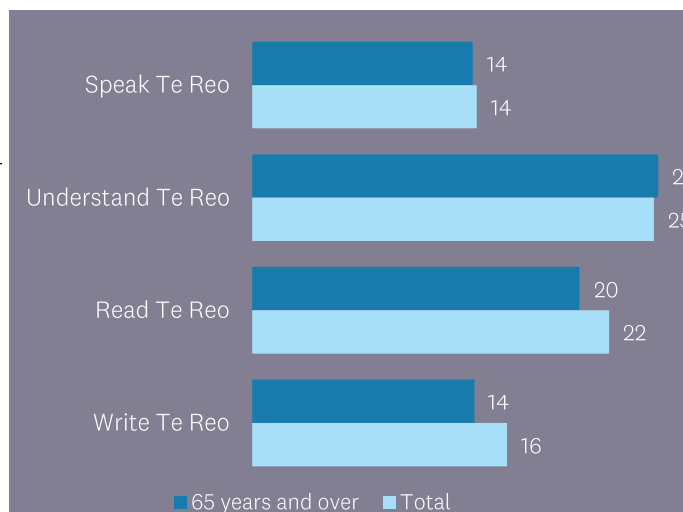


Figure 14: Ability to speak, understand, read and write Te Reo well or very well for Māori Aucklanders aged 65+.

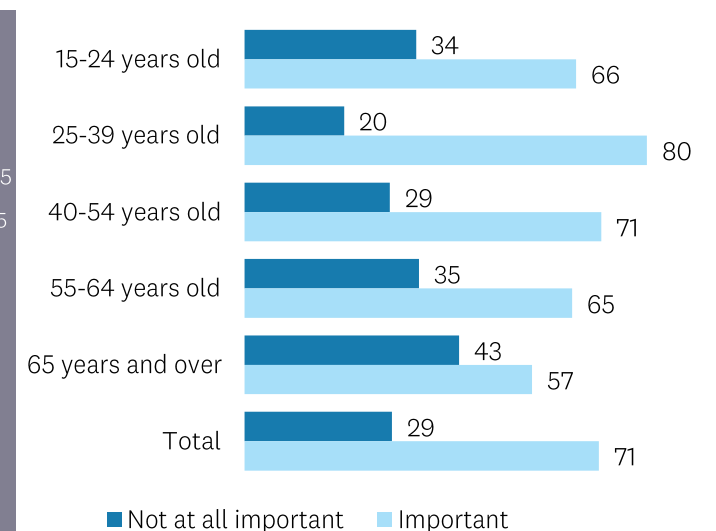


Figure 15: Rating of importance of Te Reo by Māori Aucklanders, by age group.



Whanāungatanga

Te Kupenga 2018 asked respondents whether they had seen any of their whānau in person in the last four weeks. Over three-quarters (78%) said they had. Frequency of contact for older Māori was similar to the average across all age groups, and indicated a high level of contact with whānau.

The survey also asked respondents how satisfied they felt with the amount of contact with whānau over the last four weeks. Around two-thirds (69%) felt they had ‘about the right amount’ of contact, while 30 per cent said they had ‘not enough’ contact. These were again similar proportions observed across other age groups.

Quality of Life of Older Māori in Auckland

The results in this section are based on the Older Aucklanders survey and Te Kupenga. For more detailed information about the quality of life of older Māori in Auckland, please refer to the findings of our qualitative study, which can be found on the Knowledge Auckland website.

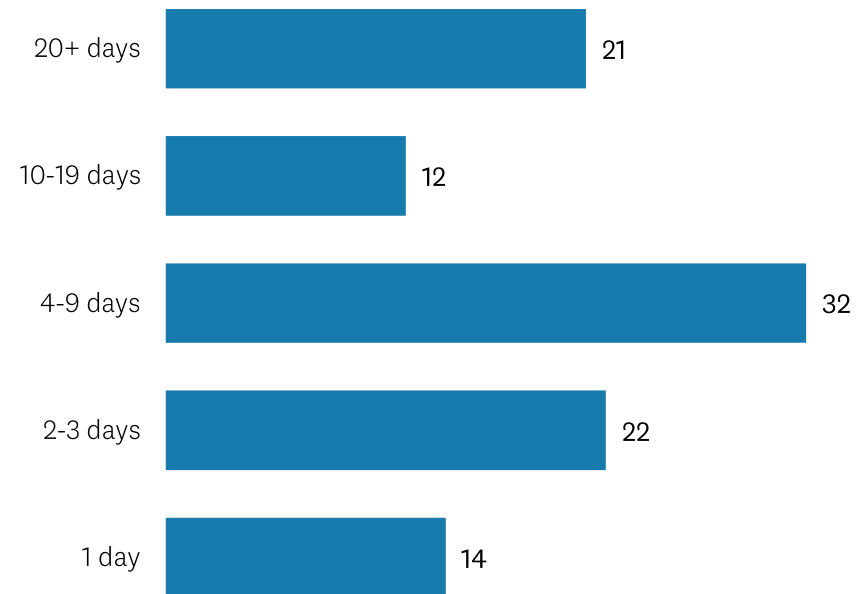


Figure 16: Frequency of contact with whānau for Māori in Auckland aged 65+ in last four weeks (%).

Source: Te Kupenga 2018, customised request.



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

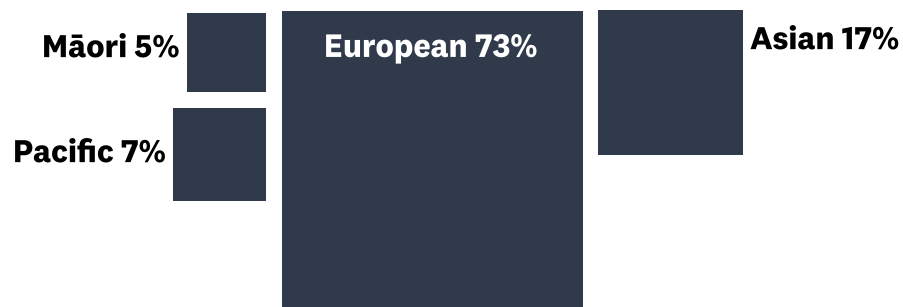
Community support and health services

A woman with a large, vibrant floral headdress (pouwhiri) made of yellow and purple flowers. She is wearing a traditional Maori dress (haka) with a red and yellow pattern. She is standing in a library, with bookshelves visible in the background. The text 'Culture and Diversity' is overlaid on the image in large white font.

Culture and Diversity



Older Aucklanders are growing in ethnic diversity



Proportion of Māori, Pacific, and Asian ethnic groups are growing:

Older Māori grew from 3% in 2006 to 5% in 2018.

Older Pacific grew from 6% in 2006 to 7% in 2018.

Older Asians grew from 9% in 2006 to 17% in 2018.



Around three in every five older Aucklanders told us they feel accepted and valued in their community. Those who felt this way were more likely to be Central Aucklanders.



Two in every three felt they could participate in activities and events of their own culture. This has improved substantially since 2016.



Two-thirds said they feel safe and supported. However, those less likely to feel supported tended to be 65-74, with a bigger proportion living in West Auckland.



Three-quarters felt that council services treated them with kindness and communicated in their preferred language. A lower proportion thought that Council services met their cultural (56%) or accessibility (58%) needs.



Three in every four told us they felt comfortable dressing in a way that expressed their identity in public.

Asian older Aucklanders, plus those living in Central Auckland, were especially positive.



Ethnic composition

According to the 2018 Census, almost three-quarters (73% or 137,778 people) of Aucklanders aged 65 years and over identified as European. Among the broad European category, the majority identified as New Zealand European (125,931 people); the next two largest subgroups were British and Irish (5073 people) and Other European (2961 people). Among older Aucklanders, the next largest broad ethnic group in 2018 was Asian (17%), followed by Pacific (7%) and Māori (5%). Those identifying as the broad Middle Eastern, Latin American and African (MELAA) group comprised less than 1 per cent, as did those identifying as ‘Other’.

- Among the broad Pacific ethnic group, most were Samoan (6546 people), followed by Tongan (2994 people), Cook Islands Māori (2100 people), and Niuean (1173 people).
- Among the broad Asian ethnic group, most were Chinese (16,836 people). Smaller numbers were Indian (9345 people), Korean (1434 people), and Filipino (891 people).

Figure 18 indicates that older European Aucklanders comprise the majority when broken down into three age groups: “young-old” (65-74 years old), “old” (75-84 years) and “old-old” (85 years and over).

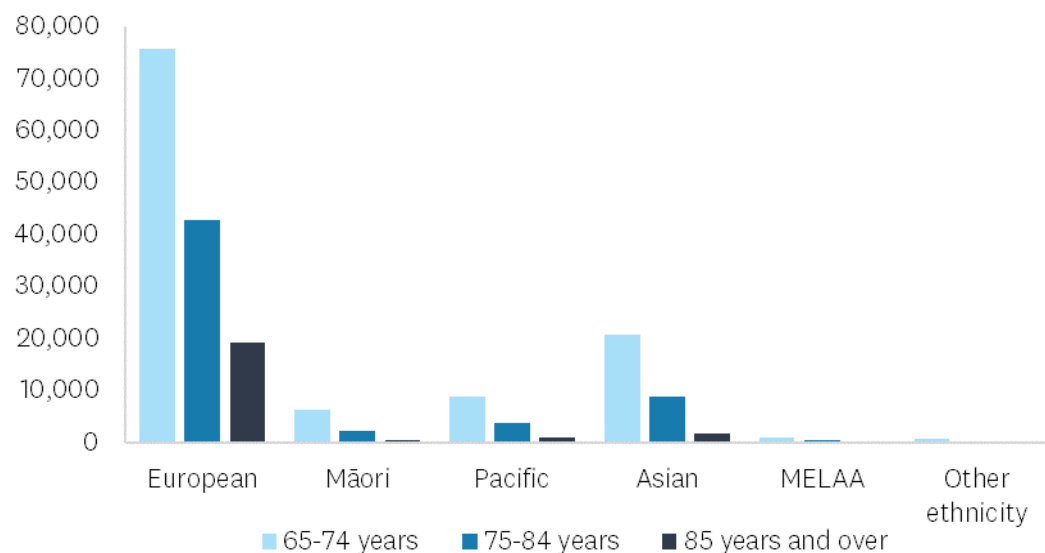


Figure 17: Number of older Aucklanders in each ethnic group, by age group (2018).

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census of Population and Dwellings.

People could identify with more than one ethnicity, so these groups are not mutually exclusive.



According to the census, over time, the proportion of older Aucklanders identifying as European has remained fairly stable (Table 4). However, there have been small proportional increases in those identifying as other ethnic groups, particularly Asian. The proportion of older Aucklanders identifying as Asian almost doubled between 2006 and 2018. On the other hand, there have been much smaller increases numerically and proportionately in the Māori and Pacific groups.

Table 4: Ethnicity of older Aucklanders (aged 65 years and over) (2006, 2013, 2018).

	2006	2013	2018	2006	2013	2018
	Number			Percentage		
European	94,302	120,312	137,778	77	78	73
Māori	4239	6264	9141	3	4	5
Pacific	7170	9792	13,563	6	6	7
Asian	10,752	18,924	31,353	9	12	17
MELAA	570	951	1563	<1	<1	<1
Other	9120	1830	1149	7	1	<1
Total people stated	122,634	154,839	189,177			

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census of Population and Dwellings.

People could identify with more than one ethnicity, so these groups are not mutually exclusive.

Ethnicity results in the older Aucklanders survey: Unweighted results showed that the respondent sample was predominantly New Zealand European, with 74 per cent of respondents identifying with this ethnicity. In addition, 8 per cent were Māori, followed by Asian (8%) and Pacific (5%).

Of the Māori respondents, 89 per cent knew their iwi. When breaking down the Asian and Pacific respondents further:

- Pacific respondents: Of the 73 respondents who identified as Pacific, 44 per cent were Samoan, followed by Cook Islands Māori (21%), Tongan (15%), Niuean (11%), and Fijian (7%). An additional 6 per cent were of other Pacific ethnicities, such as Tuvaluan and I-Kiribati.
- Asian respondents: Of the 115 respondents classified as Asian, 43 per cent were Chinese, followed by Indian (32%), Korean (6%), Filipino (3%), and Japanese (1%). An additional 16 per cent were of other Asian ethnicities, such as Sri Lankan, Malaysian, and Indonesian.



Language

The range of languages spoken by older Aucklanders is another reflection of their ethnic and cultural composition. Nine-tenths (90%) of Aucklanders aged 65 years and over speak English (Table 5). There exists a substantial gap between the proportions who speak the two most common languages. As indicated by Table 5, a much smaller proportion (4%) of older Aucklanders speak the next most common language, Northern Chinese. This is followed by Samoan (3%) and Yue (3%).

Table 5: Languages spoken by older Aucklanders (2018).

Language	Number	% of older people in Auckland
English	170,100	90
Northern Chinese	7116	4
Samoan	6270	3
Yue	5751	3
Sinitic not further defined	3480	2
Māori	3429	2
French	3216	2
Hindi	3153	2
Tongan	2409	1
German	1893	1
Afrikaans	1239	<1
Punjabi	1176	<1
Spanish	822	<1
Tagalog	750	<1
New Zealand Sign Language	492	<1
Other	19,020	10
None	366	<1
Total people stated	189,171	100
Not elsewhere included	3	
Total people	189,177	

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census of Population and Dwellings.

Percentage totals do not add to 100 per cent because people can speak multiple languages.



Birthplace

In 2018, just over two in every five older Aucklanders were born overseas (44% or 82,917 people). Of this group of overseas-born people (Table 6):

- Almost one-third (31% or 25,878 people) were born in Asia – the main countries included China (11,073 people) and India (4,713 people).
- A similar proportion (31% or 25,287 people) were born in the United Kingdom and Ireland – most of this group were born in England (19,656 people).
- One-fifth (20% or 16,332 people) were born in the Pacific Islands – the main countries included Samoa (5,787 people), Fiji (4,926 people), and Tonga (2,622 people).
- The majority of those born overseas (94% or 78,075 people) had arrived in New Zealand five years or more ago since the most recent census. A slightly larger proportion of older Aucklanders who had arrived less than five years ago were Asian compared to other ethnic groups.

Table 6: Place of birth for overseas-born older Aucklanders and years since arrival (2018).

Place of birth	<5 years since arrival	5+ years since arrival	Total people stated
Australia	42	2679	2781
Pacific Islands	261	15,297	16,332
United Kingdom and Ireland	396	24,567	25,287
Europe (excl. United Kingdom and Ireland)	117	5652	5883
North America	78	1305	1437
Asia	1731	23,673	25,878
Middle East and Africa	336	4503	4890
Other	15	402	432
Total people stated – overseas-born	2985	78,075	82,917

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census of Population and Dwellings.



Feeling respected

Almost three in five (58%) older Aucklanders agreed that they felt accepted and valued in their communities. Interestingly, a substantial proportion neither agreed nor disagreed about feeling accepted and valued (21%). This proportion was similar across most subgroups that were analysed.

There were no notable differences in feeling accepted and valued by gender or ethnic group. However, age group differences were apparent. Among younger respondents, 53 per cent agreed that they felt accepted and valued, while those in the middle age bracket were significantly more likely to feel valued in their communities.

Those living in Central Auckland were also more likely to feel valued than those in other parts of Auckland, with 64 per cent agreeing that they felt accepted and valued, compared to 58 per cent of the total sample.

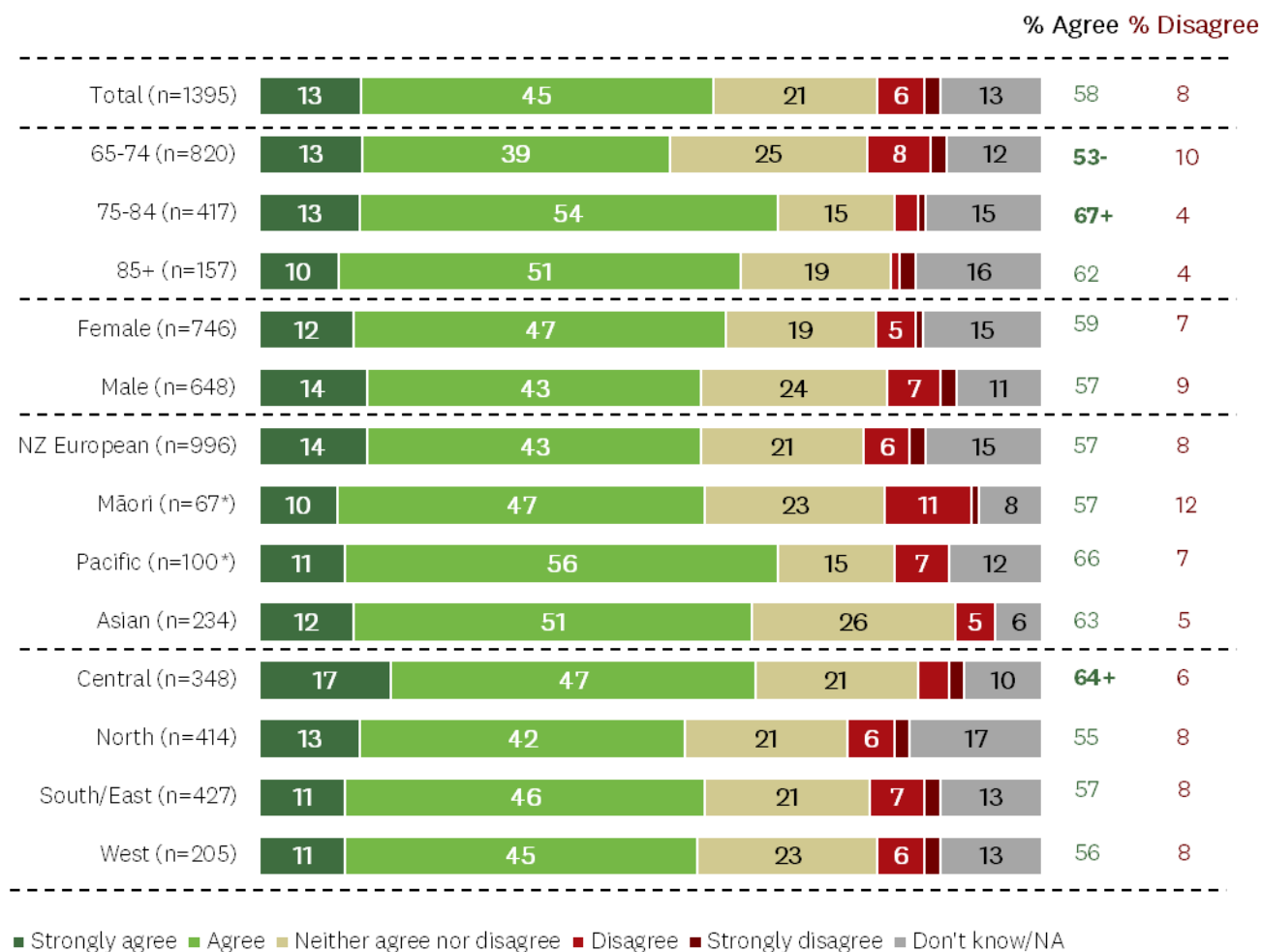


Figure 18: Respondent perceptions of feeling accepted and valued in their communities (n=1395)

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Safety and support

Two-thirds (67%) of older Aucklanders agreed that they felt safe, supported and respected in their communities. Again, this proportion was significantly lower for those aged 65-74 years (62%) but higher for older respondents.

A larger proportion of Asian respondents said that they felt safe, supported and respected (73%) compared to other ethnic groups, but this was not a significant difference.

However, respondents in West Auckland expressed a significantly lower degree of feeling safe and supported in their communities, compared to other Aucklanders.

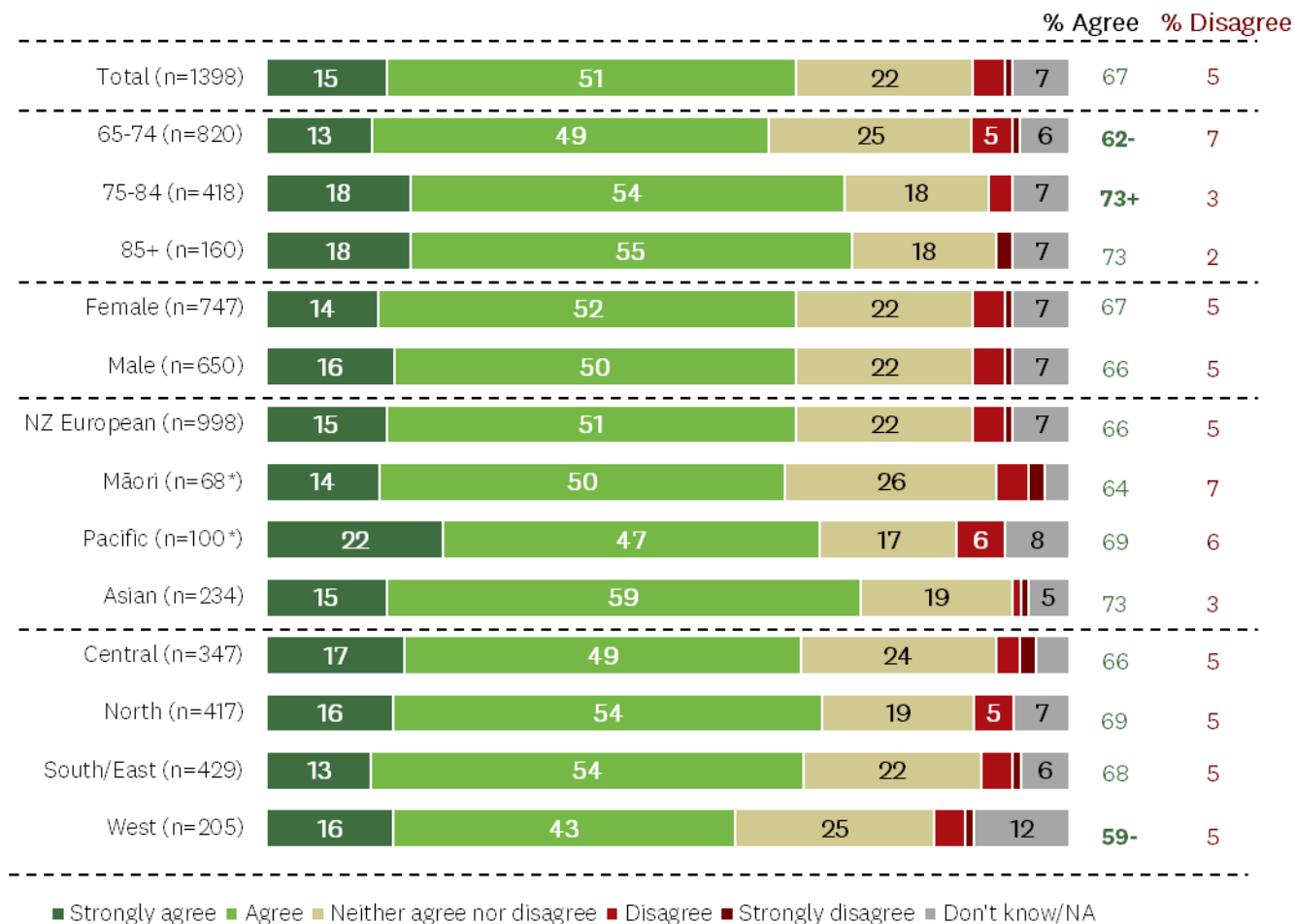


Figure 19: Respondent perceptions of feeling safe, supported, and respected (n=1398)

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Culturally appropriate services: Being treated with kindness

In order to understand whether older Aucklanders perceive Auckland Council services as being culturally responsive, we asked them about their interactions with such services in the last 12 months. Responses are displayed in Figure 20 to Figure 23. Those who selected the answer option “I haven’t interacted with Auckland Council services” are excluded from these figures.

Of those reporting an interaction with council services, around three-quarters (77%) agreed that they had been treated with kindness. This proportion was slightly lower among Māori respondents, but must be treated with caution due to the very small sample size.

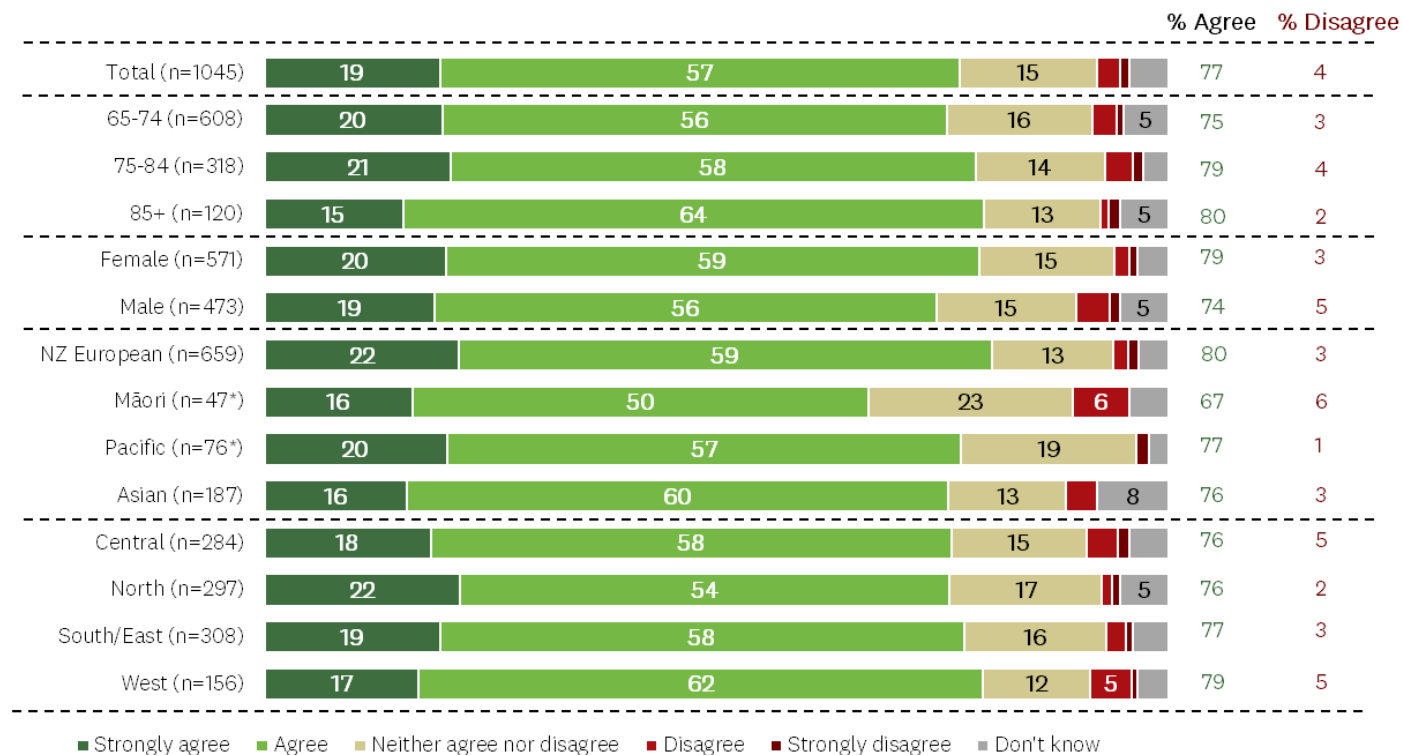


Figure 20: Perceptions of whether council services treated respondents with kindness (n=1045).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Culturally appropriate services: Communication in preferred language

Older Aucklanders were asked if council services had communicated with them in their preferred language during these interactions. Over-three quarters (77%) agreed they had. There were few differences between groups, although a smaller proportion of those aged 85 and over (71%) and Asian residents (72%) agreed with this statement. Meanwhile, a slightly larger proportion of New Zealand Europeans (82%) agreed with this statement.

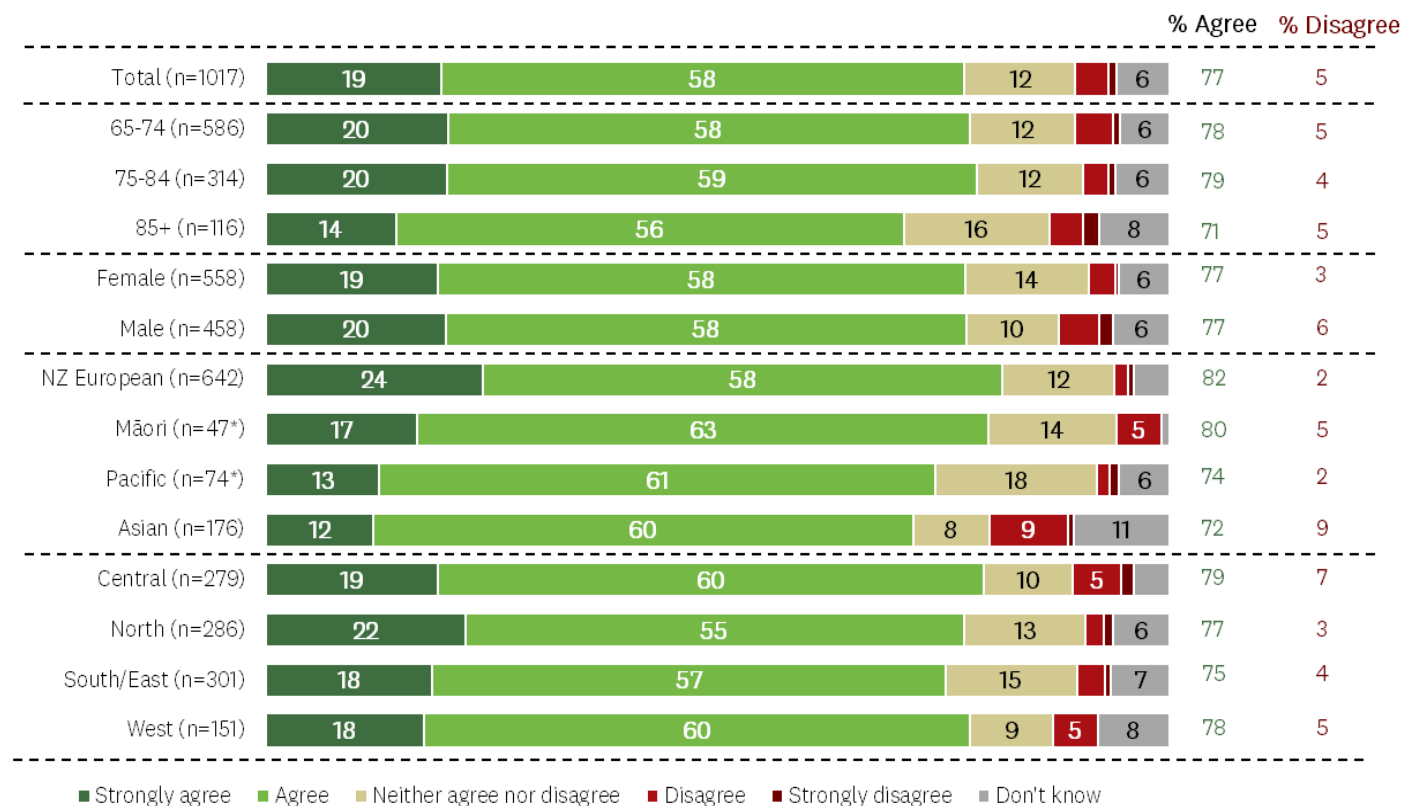


Figure 21: Perceptions that council services communicated in respondents' preferred language (n=1017).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Culturally appropriate services: Having cultural needs met

Respondents were asked whether council services had met their cultural needs during these interactions in the last 12 months. Over half of respondents (56%) agreed with this statement. Asian respondents were more likely to agree, with 68 per cent of Asian respondents agreeing that council services had met their cultural needs.

Again, a smaller proportion (46%) of those aged 85 and over agreed that council services had met their cultural needs.

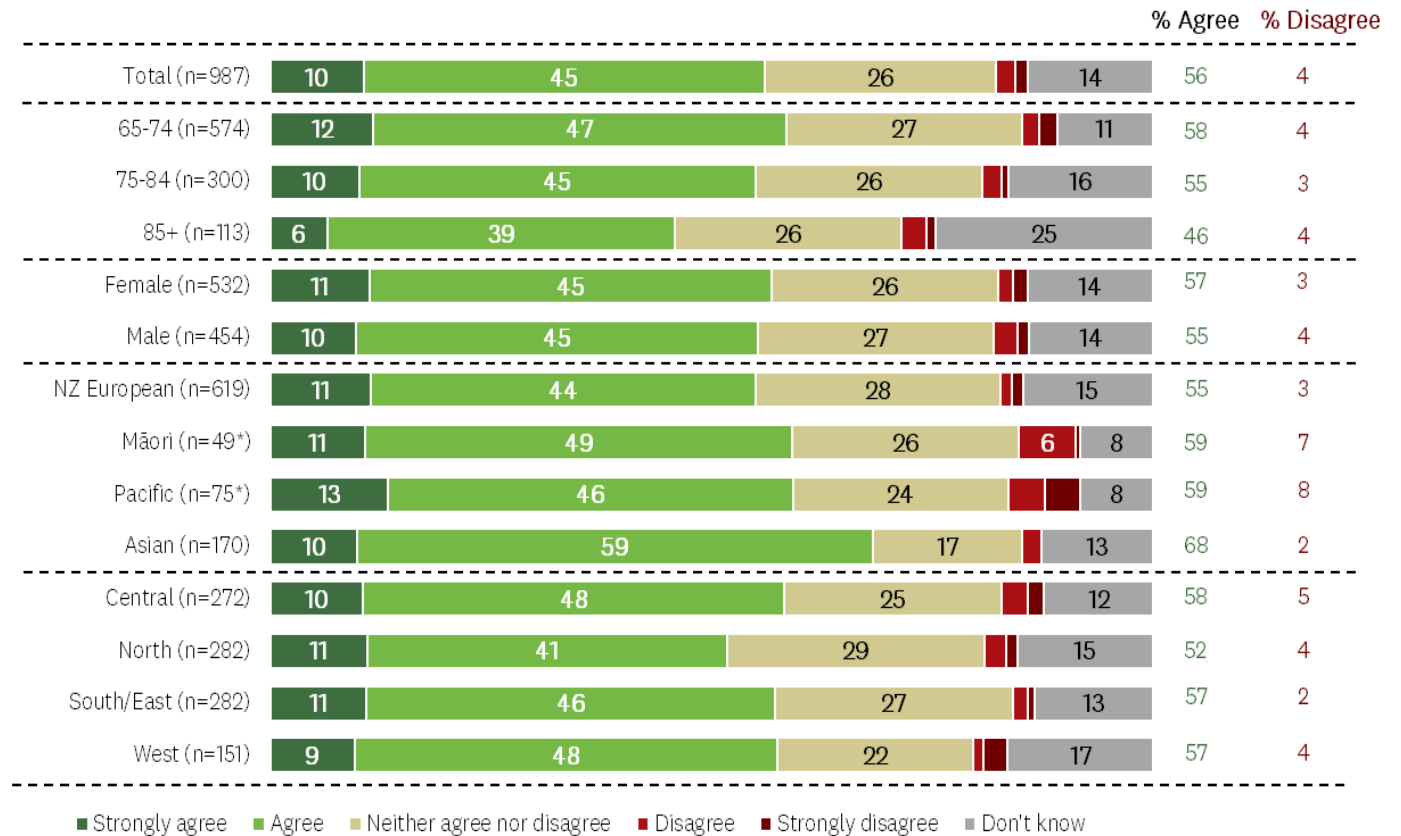


Figure 22: Perceptions that council services met respondents' cultural needs (n=987).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Culturally appropriate services: Accessibility of services

Finally, we asked respondents whether they found council services to be accessible for those who were hard of hearing, had low vision, mobility needs, and so on. Again, over half (58%) of participants agreed with this statement. This proportion was higher again for Asian respondents, with 70 per cent agreeing with this statement.

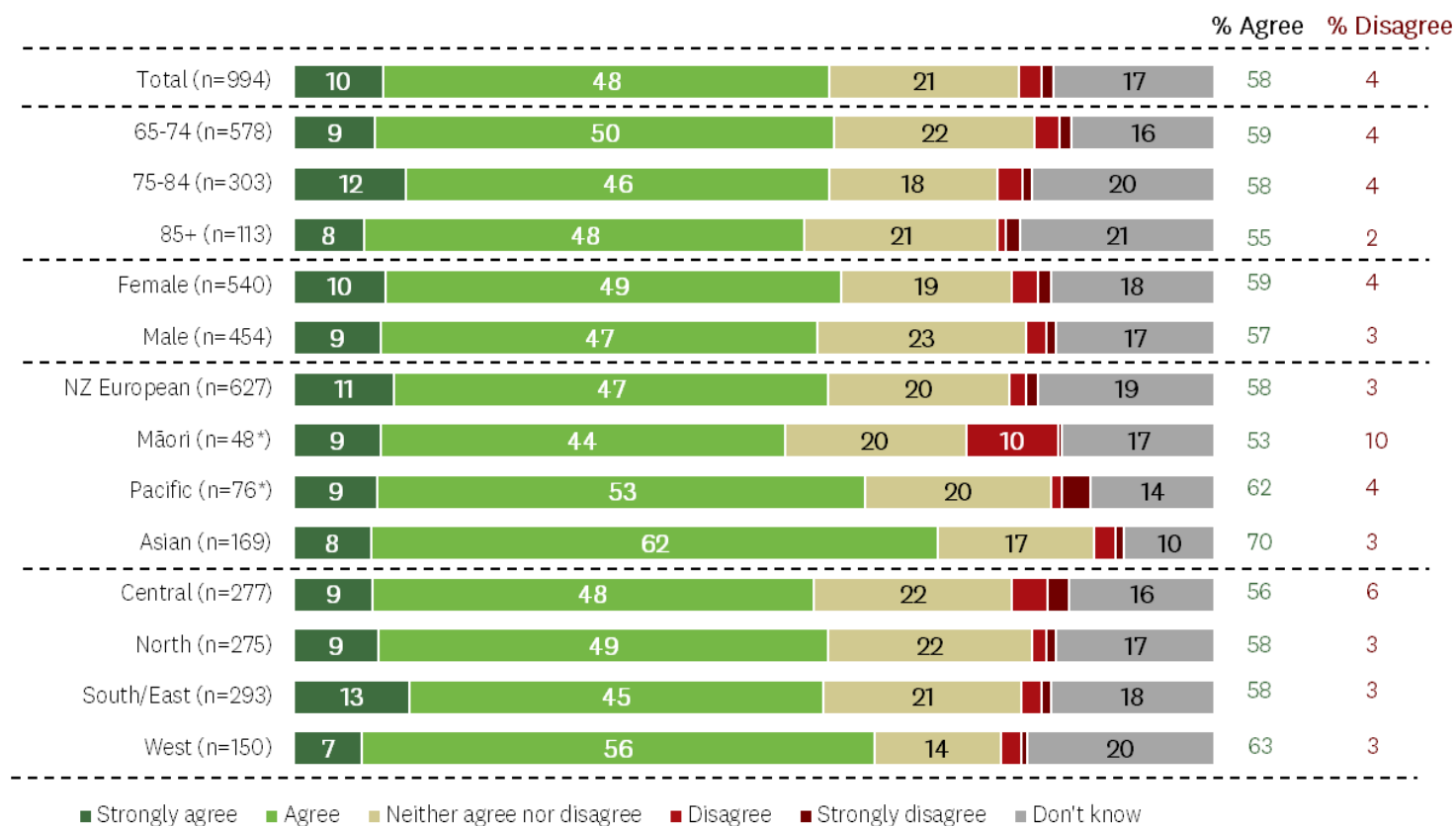


Figure 23: Perceptions that council services are accessible (n=994).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Ability to participate in events of own culture

Respondents were asked about their ability to participate in events, activities and traditions from their own culture, prior to the August 2021 COVID-19 lockdown—67 per cent agreed they could, which was considerably higher than the equivalent 2016 survey question, where only 38 per cent agreed with this statement. This increase is stark. It is possible that in 2021, changes in wording asking respondents to consider experiences pre-lockdown may have resulted in positive memory biases of what life was like.

In 2021, significant differences were apparent for:

- **Age:** Those aged 85 years and over were less likely to agree with this statement.
- **Ethnic group:** Significantly more Asian respondents (77%) agreed, while more Pacific respondents (12%) disagreed.
- **Area:** Central Aucklanders were more likely to agree and West Aucklanders were less likely to agree.

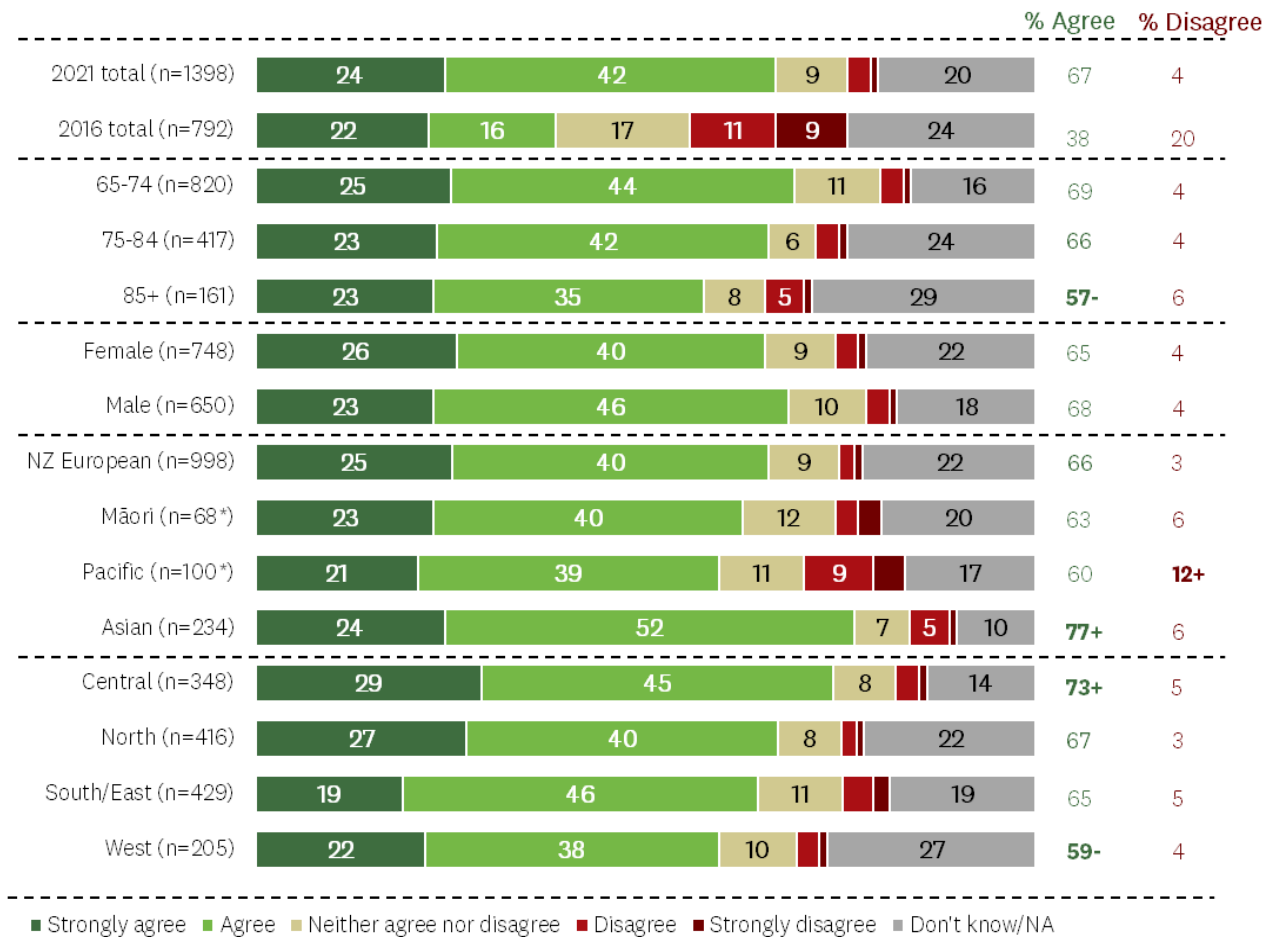


Figure 24: Respondent participation in activities from their own culture (2021 n=1398, 2016 n=792).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Ability to participate in events of other cultures

Respondents were also asked about their ability to participate in events, activities and traditions from other cultures, prior to the August 2021 COVID-19 lockdown.

Almost two-thirds (64%) agreed they were able to participate in such cultural activities. Again, older people aged 85 years and over were less likely to agree with this statement.

The same ethnic group differences in Figure 25 were observed for this question as well. Asian respondents were significantly more likely to agree (75%) with this statement. In contrast, Pacific respondents were more likely to disagree that they could participate in such activities from other cultures (14% disagreed, compared to 4 per cent of all respondents).

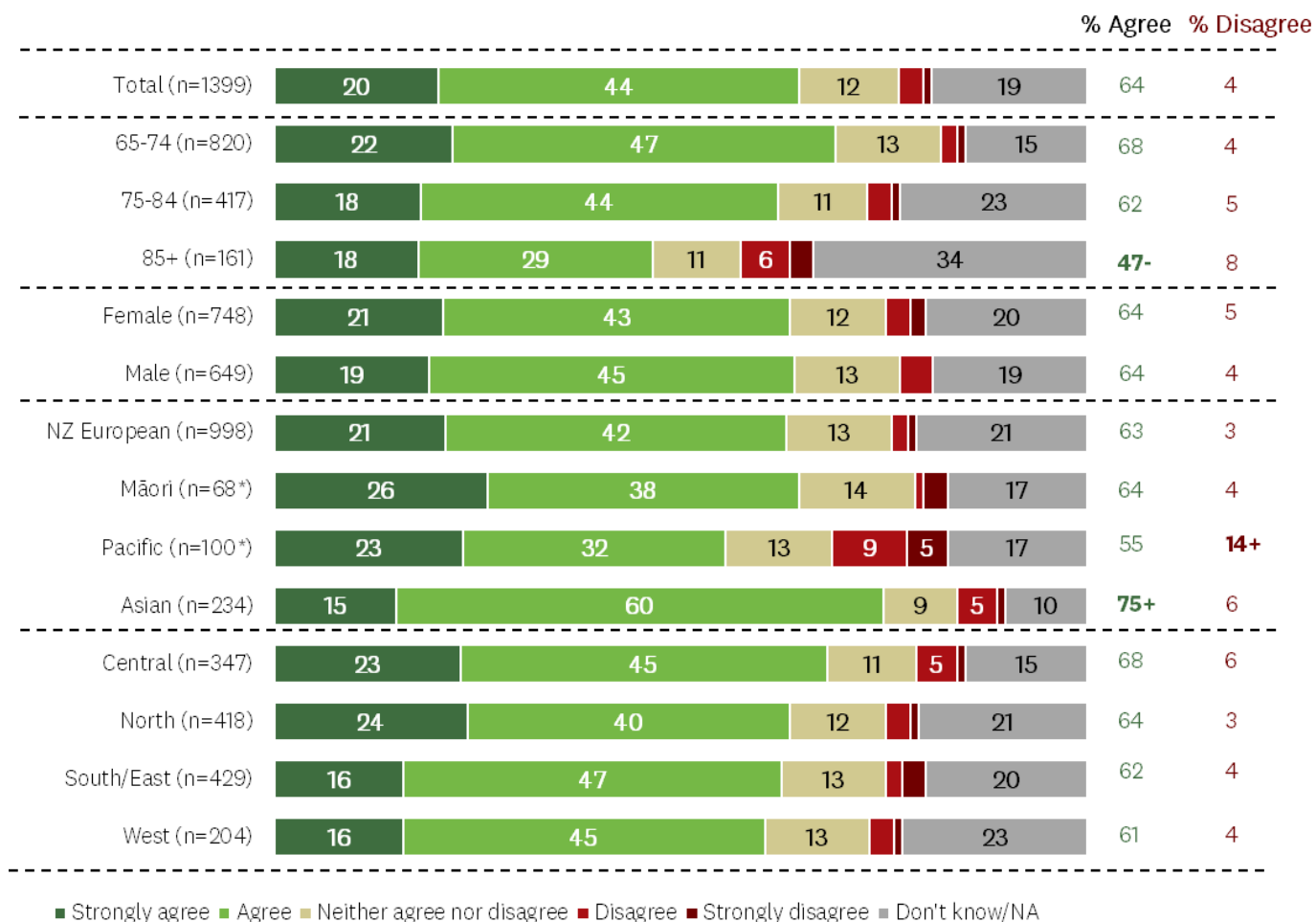


Figure 25: Respondent participation in activities from other cultures (n=1399).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Comfort expressing identity in public

A high level of respondents were comfortable dressing in a way that expressed their identity in public with almost three-quarters (74%) agreeing with this statement. “Identity” could include dressing in a way to express individual or social identity, or a cultural/ethnic/faith identity.

There were similar levels of agreement across the subgroups that were analysed. A slightly higher proportion of older Aucklanders in Central Auckland agreed with this statement (79%), compared to older people living in other parts of Auckland.

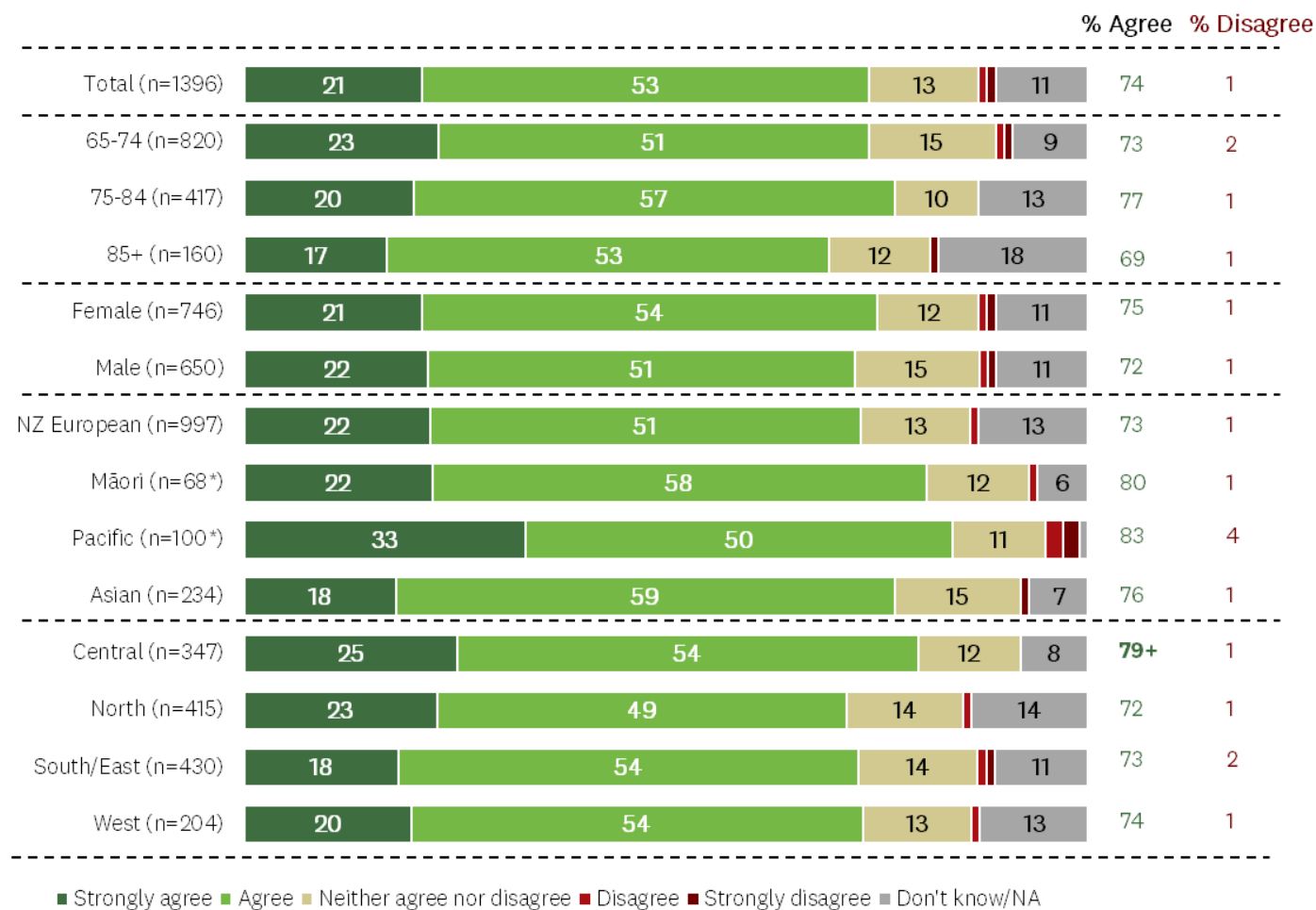


Figure 26: Respondent comfort with dressing in a way to express their identity in public (n=1396).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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



Te Taiao



The natural and built environments are of concern to older Aucklanders



In general, older Aucklanders were satisfied with the quality and cleanliness of green spaces around them.

There were clear differences by area and ethnic group. Satisfaction was higher among Asians and those living in North or Central Auckland, but was lower among Māori, Pacific and South/East Aucklanders.



Older Aucklanders were concerned about noise and water pollution.

Females were more concerned than males about pollution, as were Pacific and New Zealand European older Aucklanders.



Close to half of our participants said they were worried about climate change.

Pacific older Aucklanders were most likely out of all ethnic groups to say they did not know enough about climate change.



Three in every five older Aucklanders told us they made sustainable consumption choices in their daily lives.

This was more common among female respondents, and less common among males, Pacific participants, and those aged 85 years and over.



Quality of green spaces

Almost three-quarters (74%) of respondents were satisfied with the quality of green spaces in their local area. Green spaces included parks, community gardens, reserves, playgrounds, trees and plants around streets, and so on. Only one in ten (11%) were dissatisfied with such spaces.

Those living in Central Auckland were slightly more satisfied with green spaces in their local area, with 80 per cent of respondents expressing satisfaction. There were no other significant differences between subgroups.

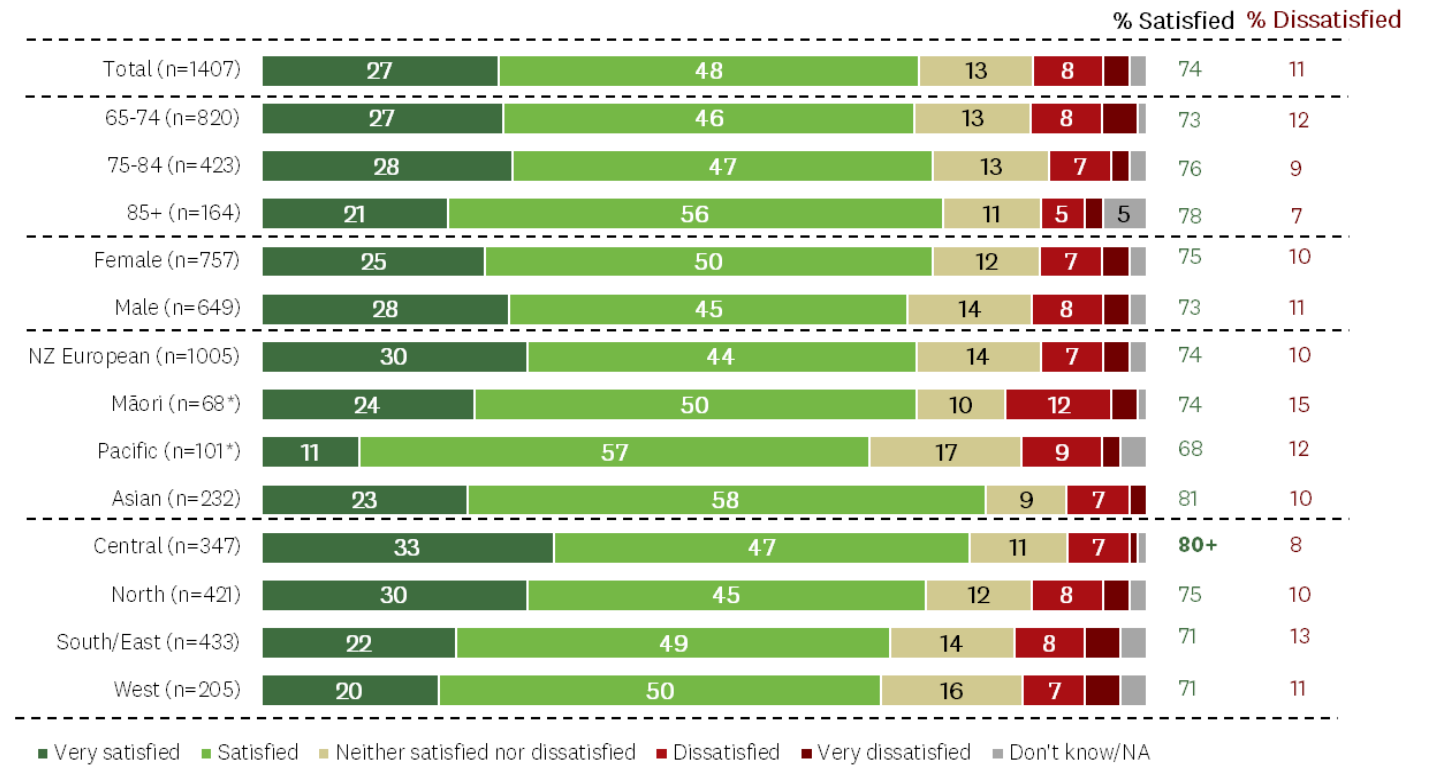


Figure 27: Respondent satisfaction with the quality of green spaces (n=1407).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Cleanliness of green spaces

Around three-fifths (63%) of respondents were satisfied with the cleanliness of green spaces in their local area. However, 20 per cent were dissatisfied. Notably, there were differences in satisfaction between ethnic groups and residents of different parts of Auckland.

- Ethnic group:** More Māori respondents (28%) were dissatisfied with the cleanliness of local areas. Similarly, Pacific respondents were less likely to agree that they were satisfied (only 49% satisfied). Meanwhile, Asian respondents were much more likely to be satisfied.
- Area:** Residents in North Auckland were more satisfied, while those in South/East Auckland expressed greater dissatisfaction.

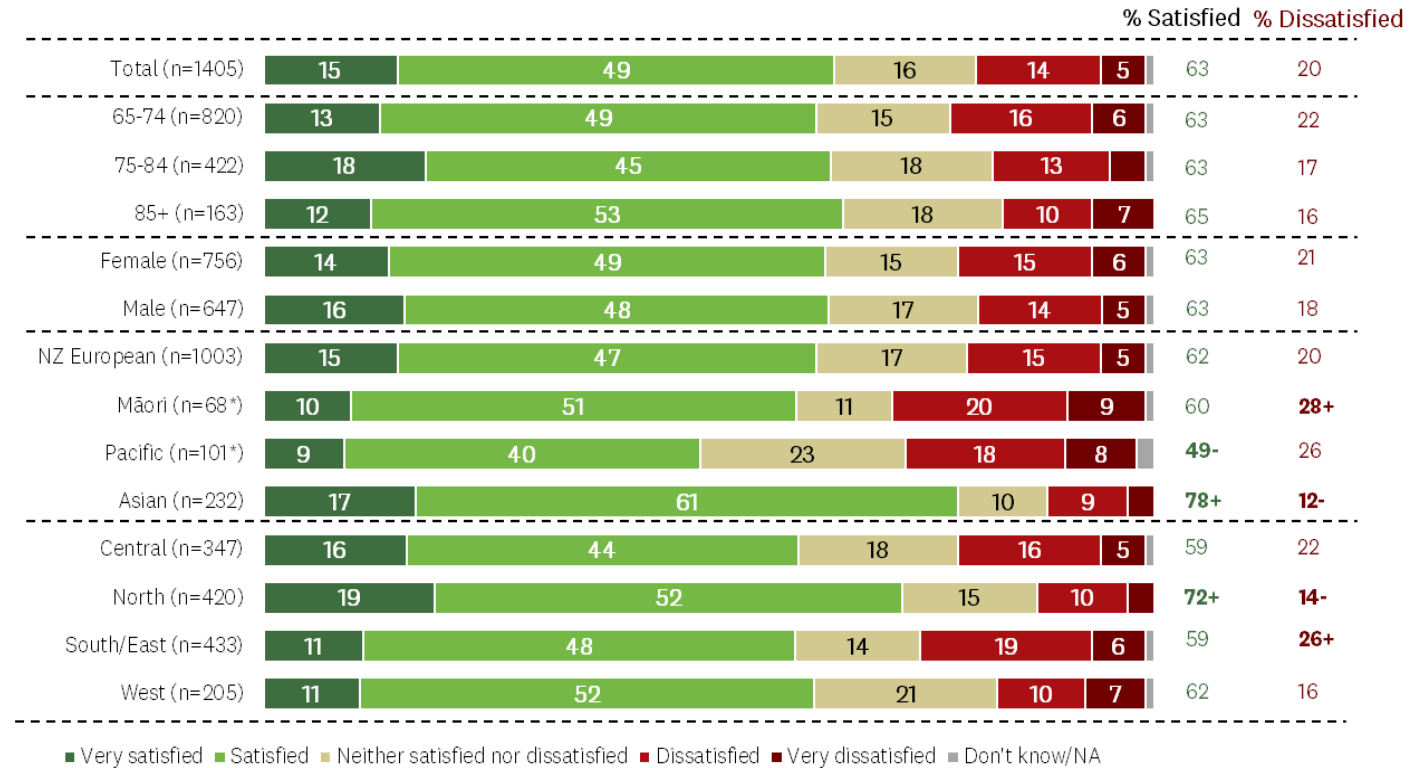


Figure 28: Respondent satisfaction with the cleanliness of green spaces (n=1405).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of pollution: Air pollution

Respondents were asked about their perceptions of air pollution, water pollution, and noise pollution in their local area over the last 12 months. Figures 29 to 31 show respondents' answers. Just under one-fifth (18%) of older Aucklanders believed that air pollution had been a problem in their local area during this time.

There were indicative gender differences in respondents' perceptions of whether air pollution had been a problem—21 per cent of female respondents compared to 14 per cent of male respondents thought it had been a problem.

A larger proportion of Pacific respondents also thought that air pollution had been a problem (34%), compared to other ethnic groups. These results should be treated with caution, however, due to the small base number of Pacific respondents.

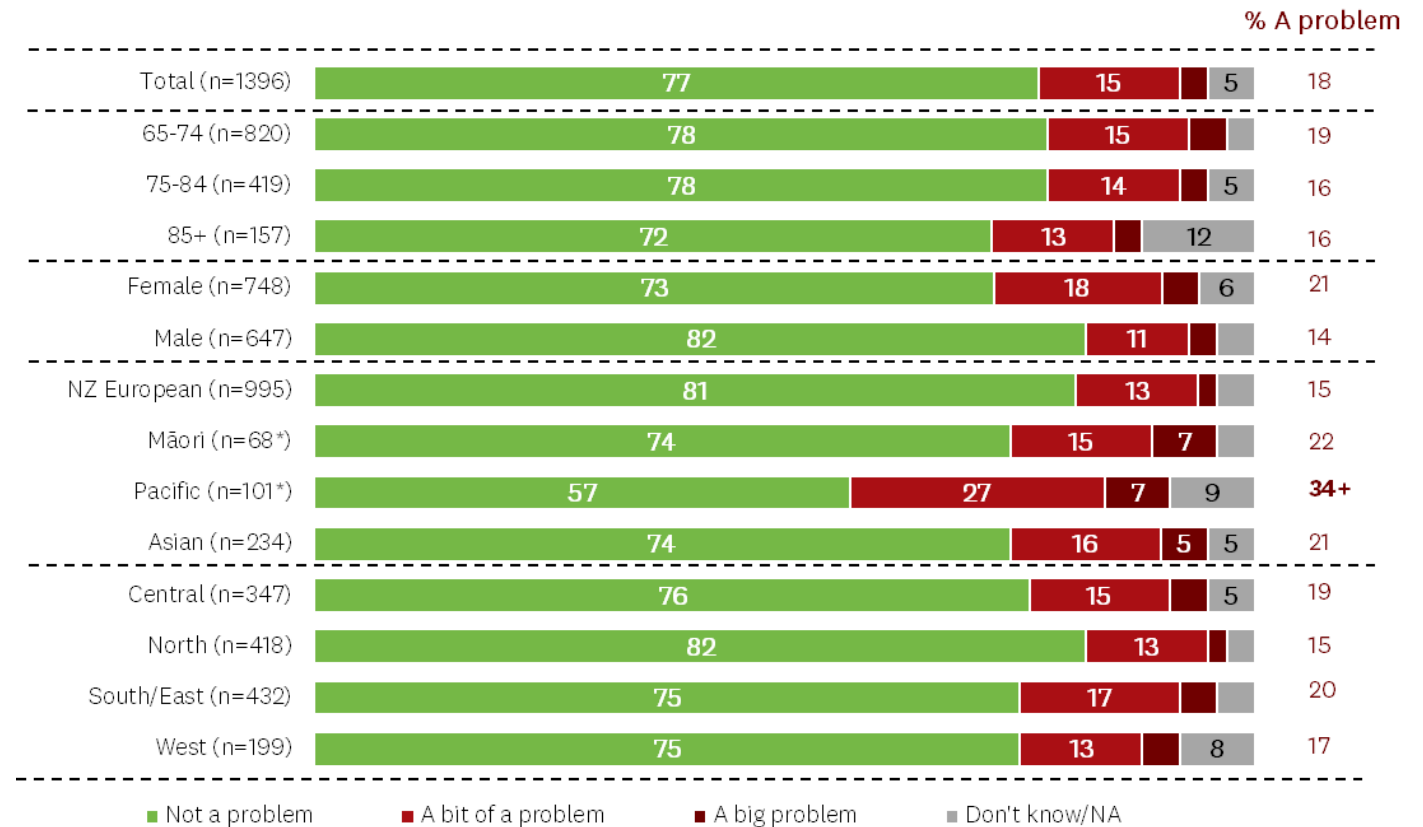


Figure 29: Respondent perceptions of air pollution in their local area over the last 12 months (n=1396).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of pollution: Water pollution

Compared to air pollution, around twice as many respondents (37%) perceived that water pollution had been a problem in their local area over the last 12 months. Further analysis of the data revealed that some groups of respondents were more likely to perceive that water pollution had been a problem in their local area during this time.

For example, larger proportions of women (41%), New Zealand Europeans (42%), and older Aucklanders living in northern local board areas (44%) thought that water pollution had been a problem.

In contrast, those aged 85 years and over (25%), men (32%), Asians (19%), and those living in South/East Auckland (31%) were less likely to agree that water pollution had been a problem.

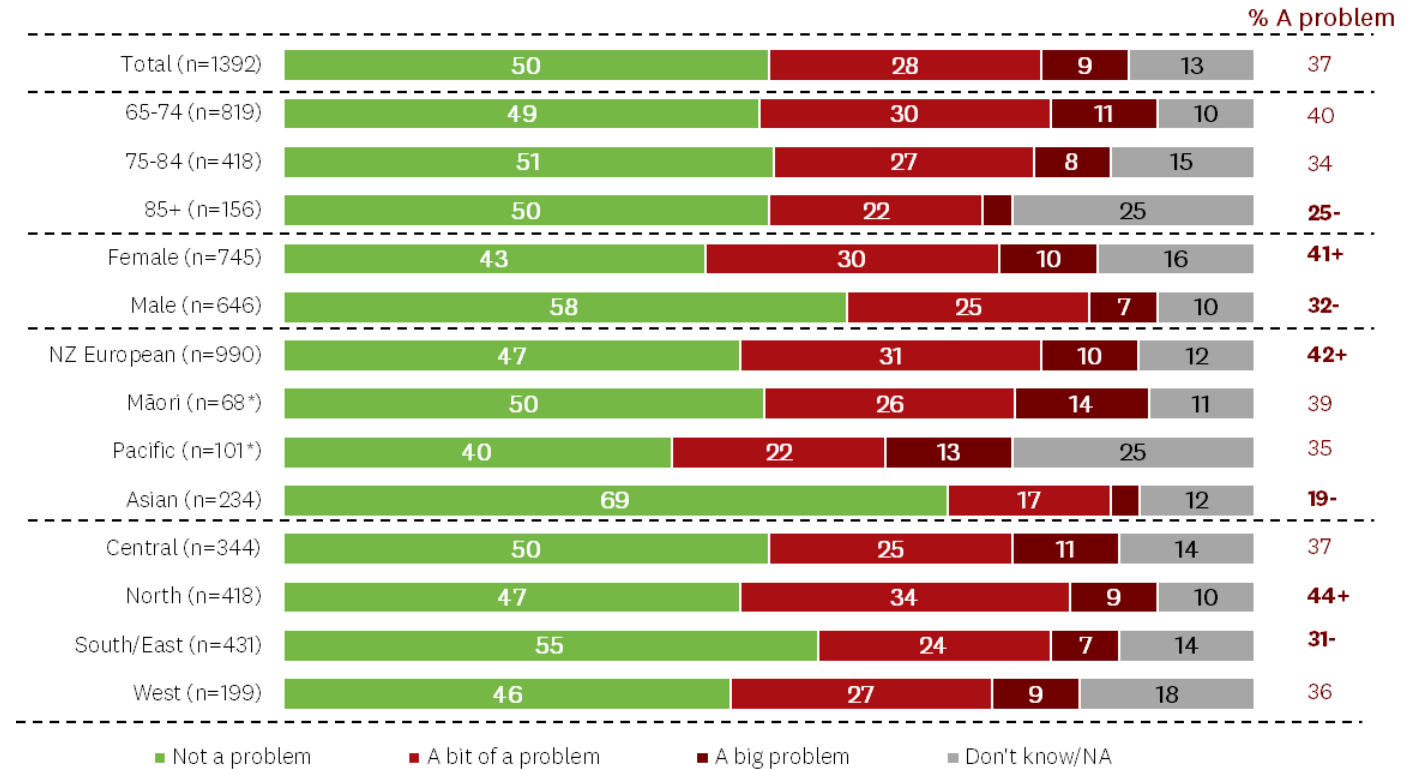


Figure 30: Respondent perceptions of water pollution in their local area over the last 12 months (n=1392).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of pollution: Noise pollution

Noise pollution was perceived by older Aucklanders to be the most serious type of pollution in their local area. Just under half (49%) of respondents said that noise pollution had been a problem in their local area in the last 12 months.

Pacific respondents expressed the most concern about noise pollution compared to other groups—67 per cent said that noise pollution had been a problem. However, this result should be interpreted cautiously due to the small base size of Pacific respondents.

Survey respondents aged 85 years and over were less likely to believe that noise pollution had been a problem, with only 37 per cent expressing concern.

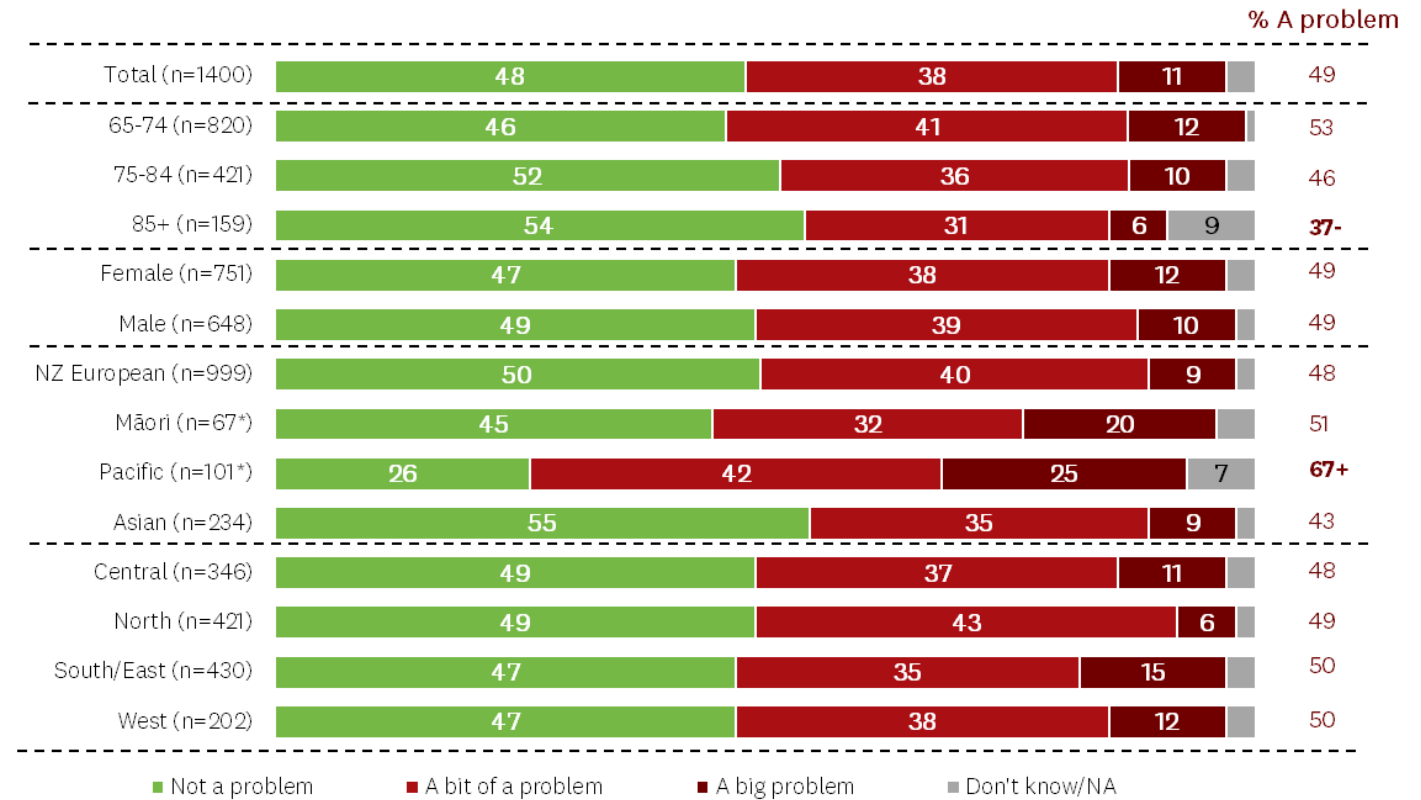


Figure 31: Respondent perceptions of noise pollution in their local area over the last 12 months (n=1400).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Climate change: Sustainable consumption choices

Approximately three in every five (59%) of respondents reported that they often considered sustainability and the environment when making consumption choices in their daily life. One-tenth (10%) reported that they rarely made such considerations.

- **Age:** Additionally, significantly fewer people aged 85 years and over (47%) said they often considered sustainability and the environment.
- **Gender:** More female respondents (64%) reported that they often considered such impacts than males (53%).
- **Ethnic group:** Fewer Pacific respondents (46%) said that they often considered these impacts, although this finding is indicative only.

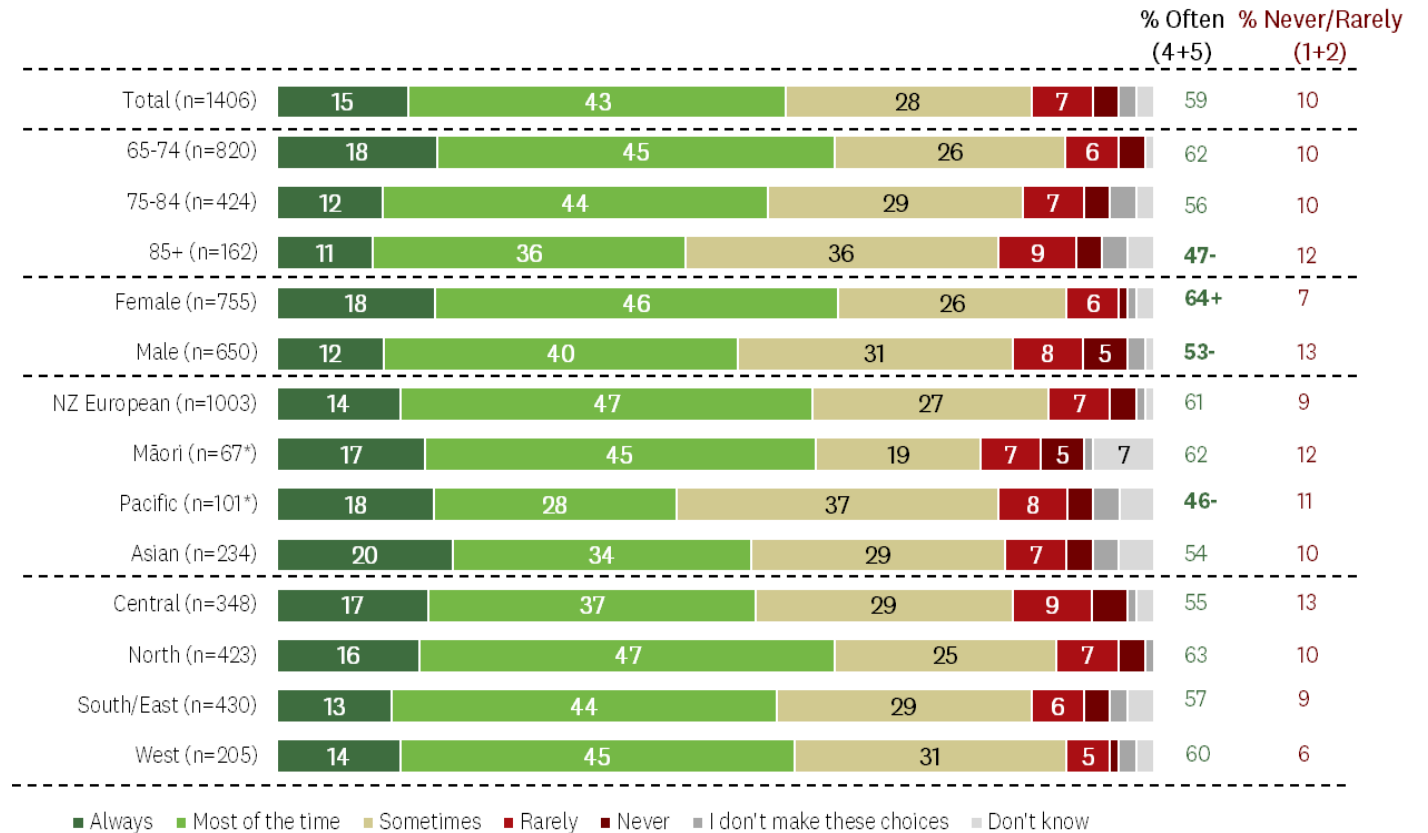


Figure 32: Respondent reports of sustainable consumption choices (n=1406).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Climate change: Worry about impact of climate change

Just under half (48%) of survey respondents expressed that they were worried or very worried about the impact of climate change on the future of Auckland and its residents. Additionally, 5 per cent expressed that they did not know enough about climate change to answer this question. There were no significant differences across genders, age groups, ethnic groups and geographic areas regarding those that were worried (or not worried) about climate change.

However, there were differences among those that said they did not know enough about climate change. For example, larger proportions of those aged 85 years and over (11%) and Pacific respondents (12%) said they did not know enough about climate change, compared to other age or ethnic groups. This finding about Pacific respondents is indicative only.

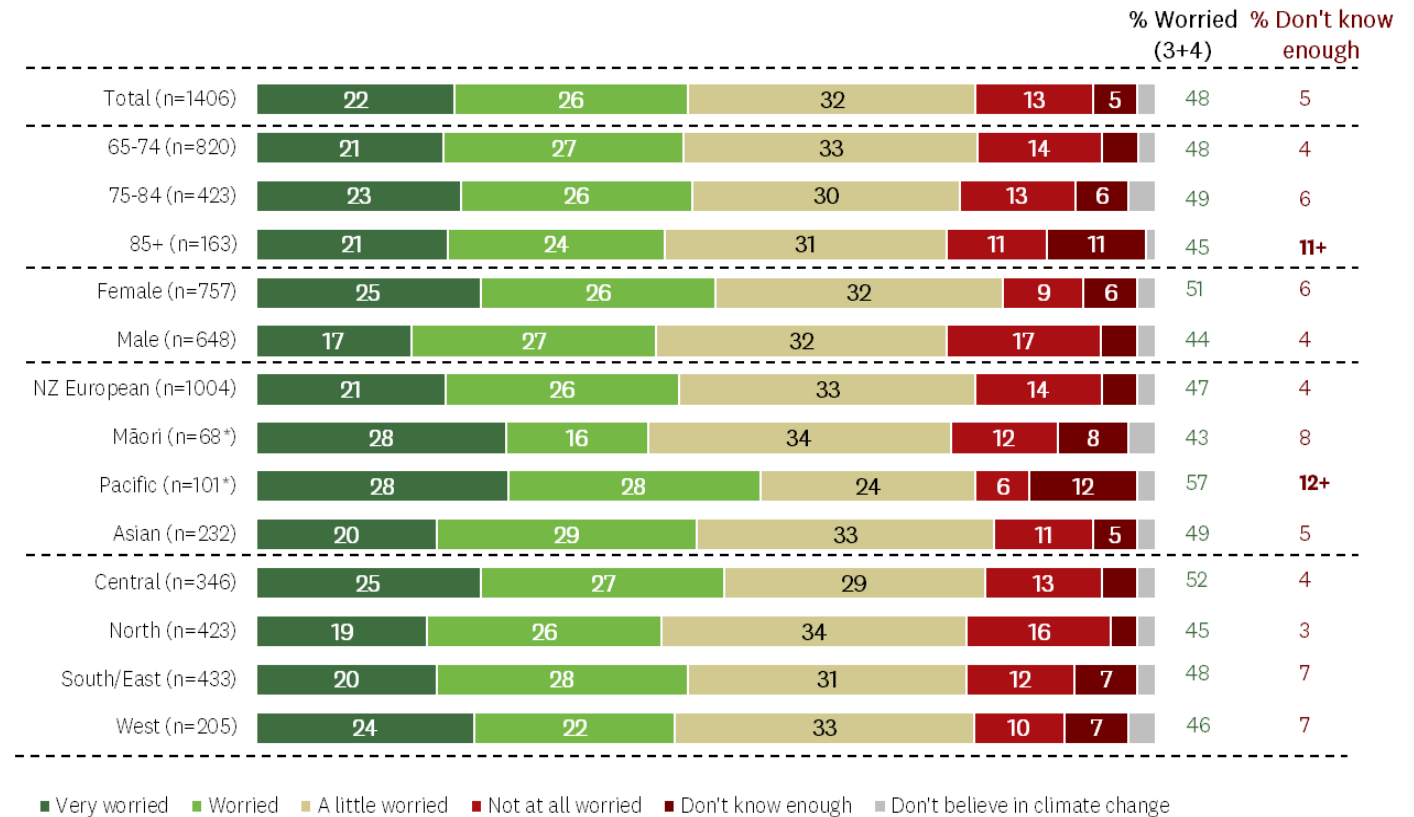


Figure 33: Respondent worries about climate change (n=1406).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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

Transport

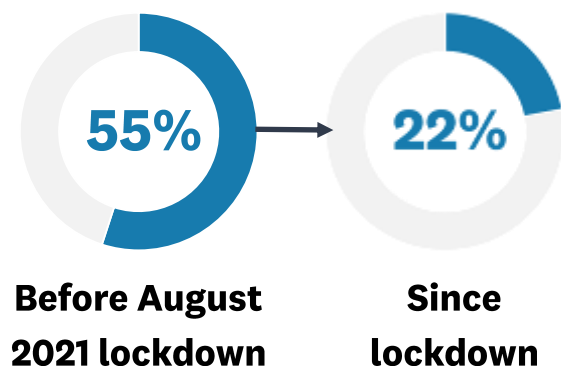


For your safety. Do not hold this pole.



There is a need for accessible footpaths, tracks and public transport

Use of public transport

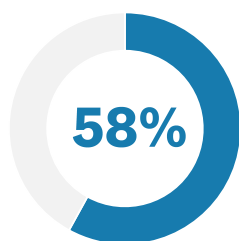


Accessible mobility of the neighbourhood

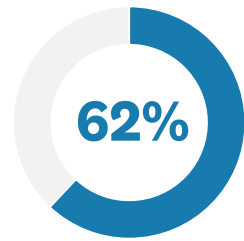


Fewer than half of the respondents were satisfied with the quality of footpaths and accessible tracks in their neighbourhood. Those who were satisfied were more likely to be Asian, and less likely to be New Zealand European or Pacific.

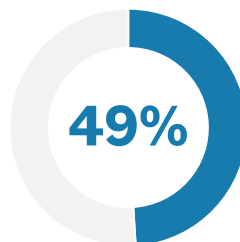
Older Aucklanders' perceptions of public transport



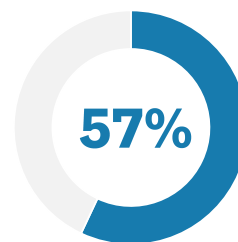
Agreed it was safe while waiting for public transport to arrive



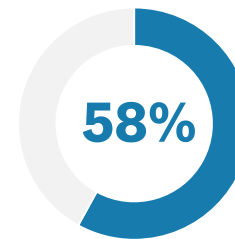
Agreed it was safe when on public transport



Agreed it was comfortable



Agreed it was affordable



Agreed it met accessibility needs

More positive perceptions among Central Auckland residents and less positive perceptions among South/East Auckland residents.



Use of public transport: pre-COVID-19 lockdown

We asked respondents how often they used public transport before the August 2021 COVID-19 lockdown. Roughly equal proportions said they used public transport (55%) as those that did not (45%). Results from 2016 show that public transport use was higher—61 per cent had used public transport in the 12 months prior, while 37 per cent did not. This is only somewhat higher than 2021 results and are notable given the context of COVID-19 potentially impacting on public transport use. Please note that the 2016 bar is not shown below due to different answer options for the question.

Age: Older respondents (85 years and over) were less likely to say they used public transport (41%, compared to 55% of all respondents).

Ethnicity: Māori and Pacific respondents were also less likely to use public transport before this time.

Area: Those living in South and East Auckland were also less likely to use public transport. Meanwhile, those living in Central Auckland were more likely to use public transport before the COVID-19 lockdown.

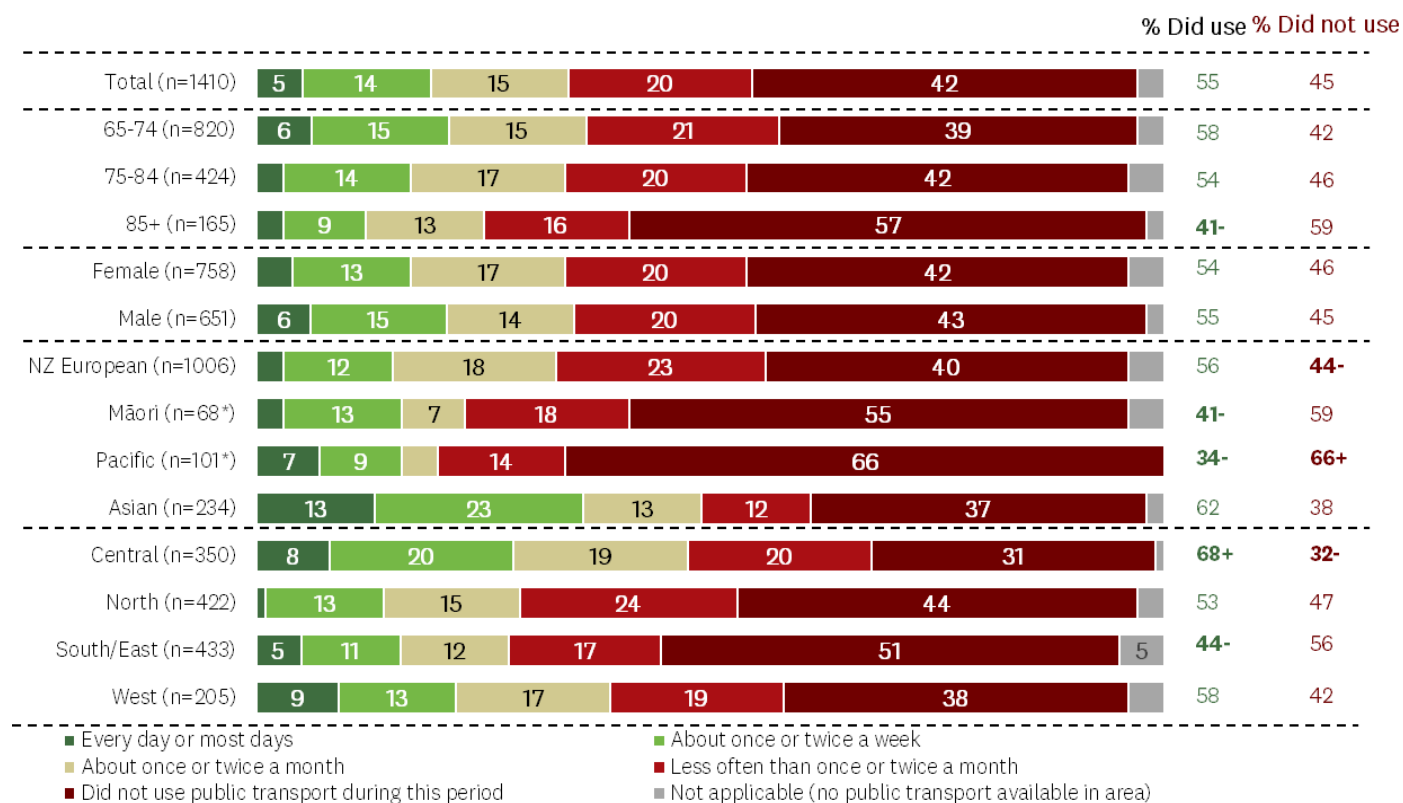


Figure 34: Use of public transport before 18 August 2021 (n=1410).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Use of public transport: since COVID-19 lockdown

We asked respondents how often they used public transport since the August 2021 COVID-19 lockdown. The results indicate that older Aucklanders' use of public transport reduced drastically since then, with only 22 per cent saying they had used public transport.

The use of public transport was similarly low across most subgroups. Exceptions were Asian respondents and Central Aucklanders, for whom reported public transport use was higher than other ethnic groups and geographical areas since the lockdown began—32 per cent of Asians and 30 per cent of Central Aucklanders said they used public transport since this time.

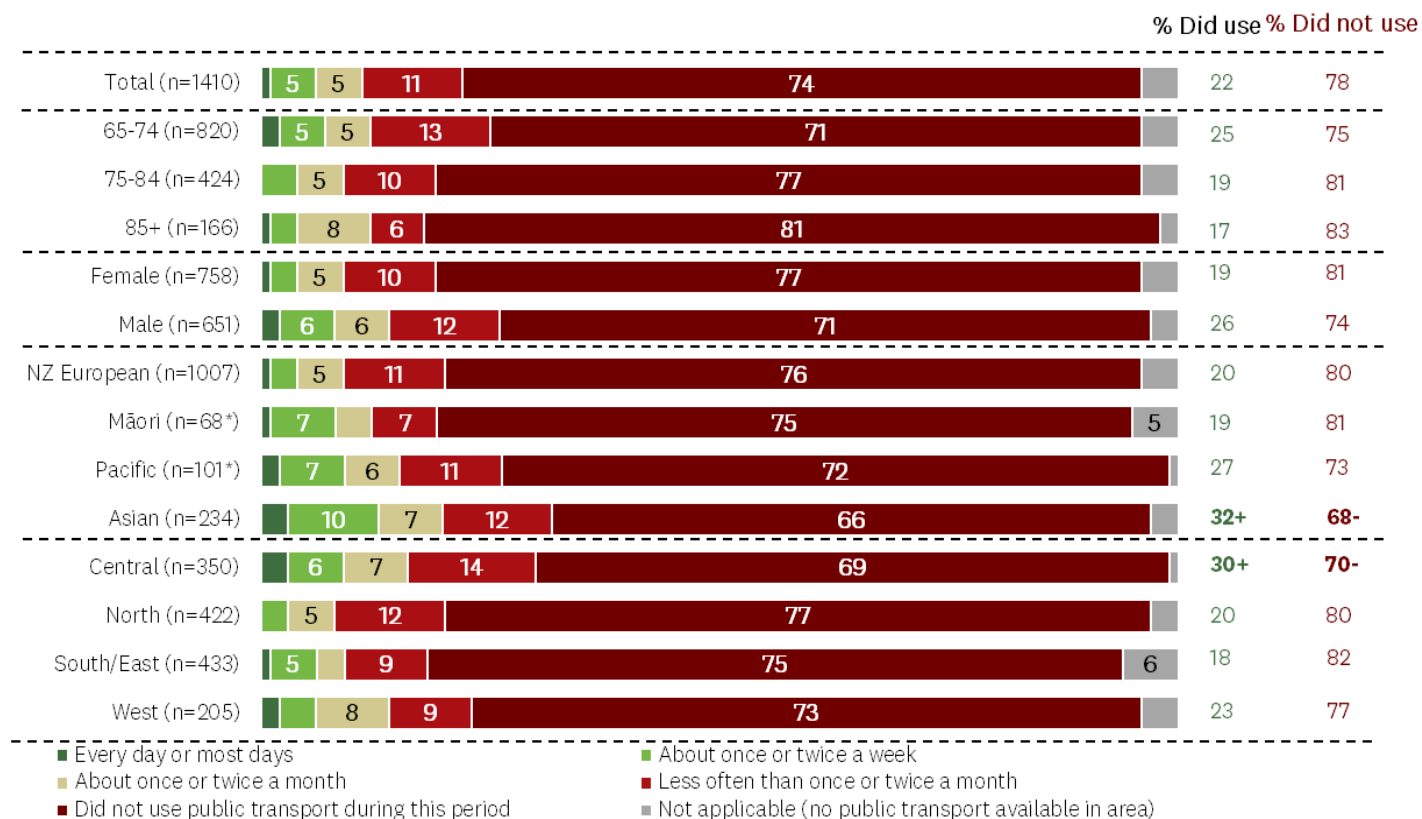


Figure 35: Use of public transport since 18 August 2021 (n=1410).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of public transport: Safe while waiting for transport to arrive

Almost three-fifths (58%) of older Aucklanders agreed that public transport was safe (while waiting for it to arrive), while about one-quarter (24%) were not sure. Please note that there is no equivalent 2016 question, as the 2016 survey did not differentiate between feelings of safety while waiting for transport to arrive and while on the transport itself.

Feelings of safety while waiting for transport to arrive were significantly lower among Māori and Pacific respondents, as well as those living in South and East Auckland. Less than half of Māori (47%) and Pacific (42%) of respondents agreed that it was safe to wait for public transport. This aligned with the 47 per cent agreeing that it was safe among South/East Aucklanders. In contrast, 70 per cent of those in Central Auckland agreed that it was safe.

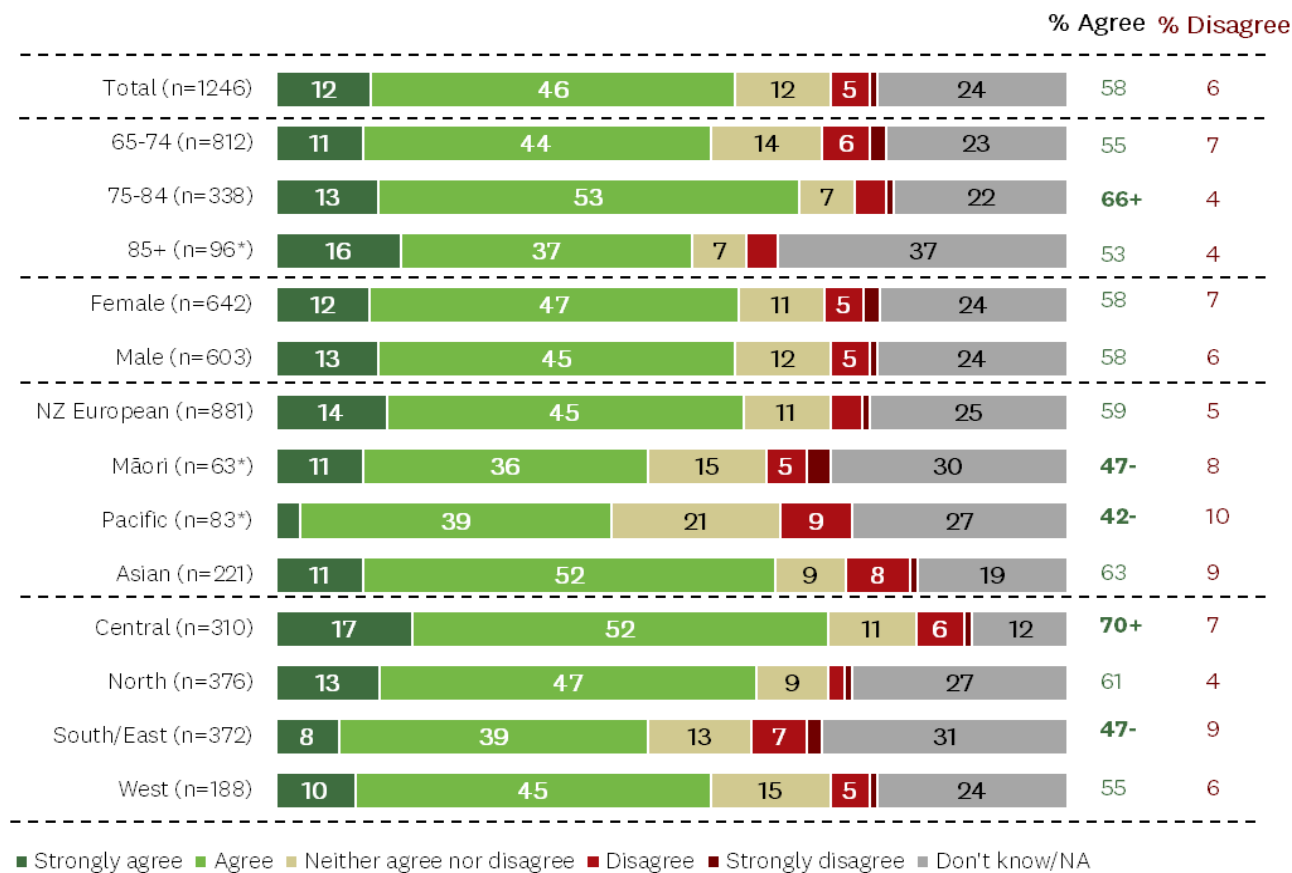


Figure 36: Perceptions that public transport is safe when waiting for transport to arrive (n=1246).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of public transport: Safe while on public transport

When asked whether they thought public transport was safe while on the transport itself, almost two-thirds (62%) of respondents agreed. This proportion was significantly higher among those aged 75-84 years old (70%), as well as those living in Central Auckland (75%).

Once again, this perception was lower amongst Pacific respondents and those living in South/East Auckland. Only 43 per cent of Pacific respondents and 51 per cent of South/East Auckland residents agreed that public transport was safe (while on the transport itself).

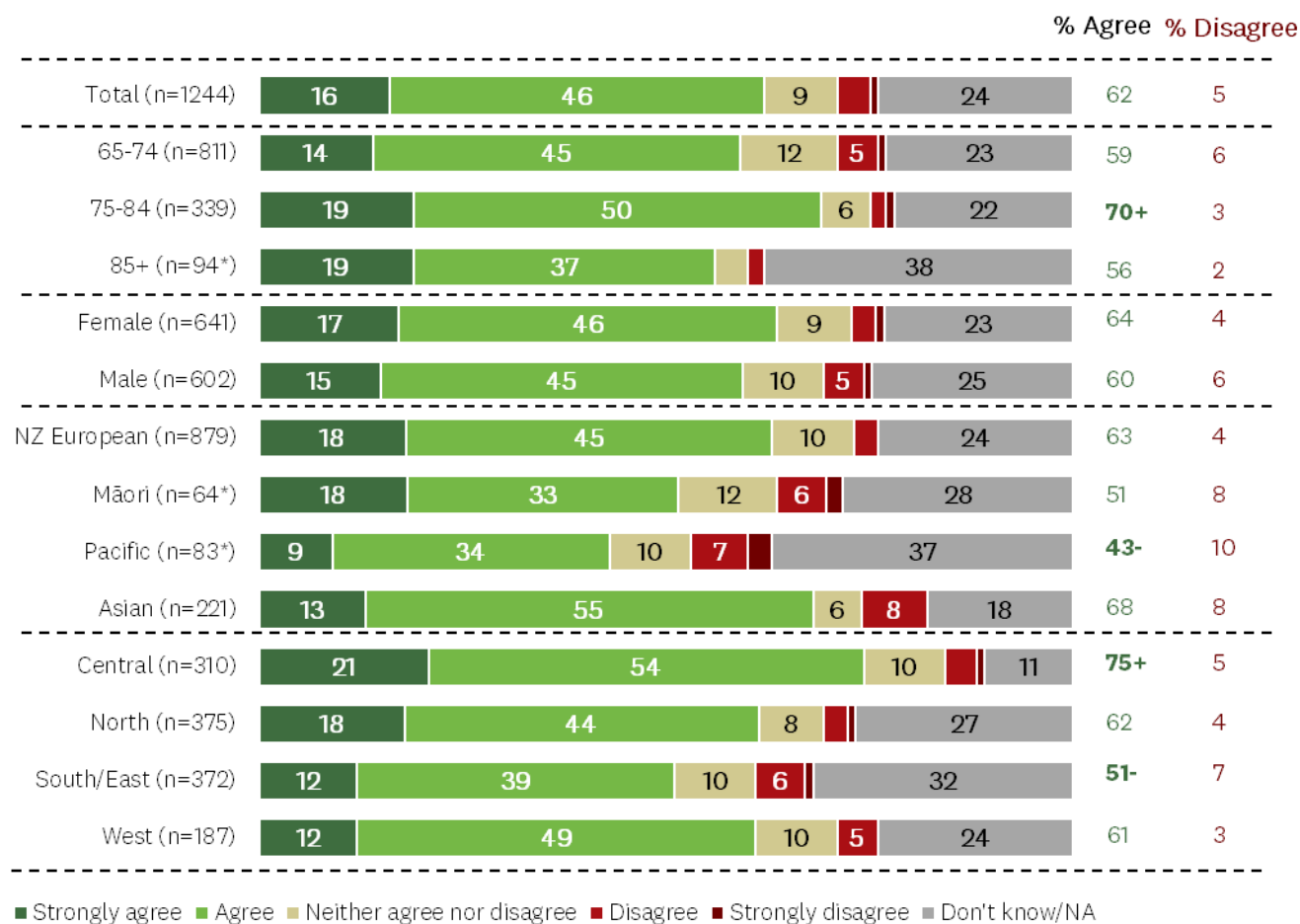


Figure 37: Perceptions that public transport is safe when on public transport (n=1244).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of public transport: Comfort

A much lower proportion (49%) of respondents agreed that public transport is comfortable. However, please note that significant proportions of respondents were not sure about whether public transport was comfortable (24% of all respondents, with variances among subgroups).

Differences among subgroups mimic those observed in previous public transport perception items. Significantly larger proportions of Central Auckland residents (57%) and those aged 75-84 years (55%) agreed that public transport was comfortable, while significantly smaller proportions of South/East Auckland residents (40%) agreed with this statement.

Changes since 2016 are not shown here as there was no equivalent survey item in that previous survey.

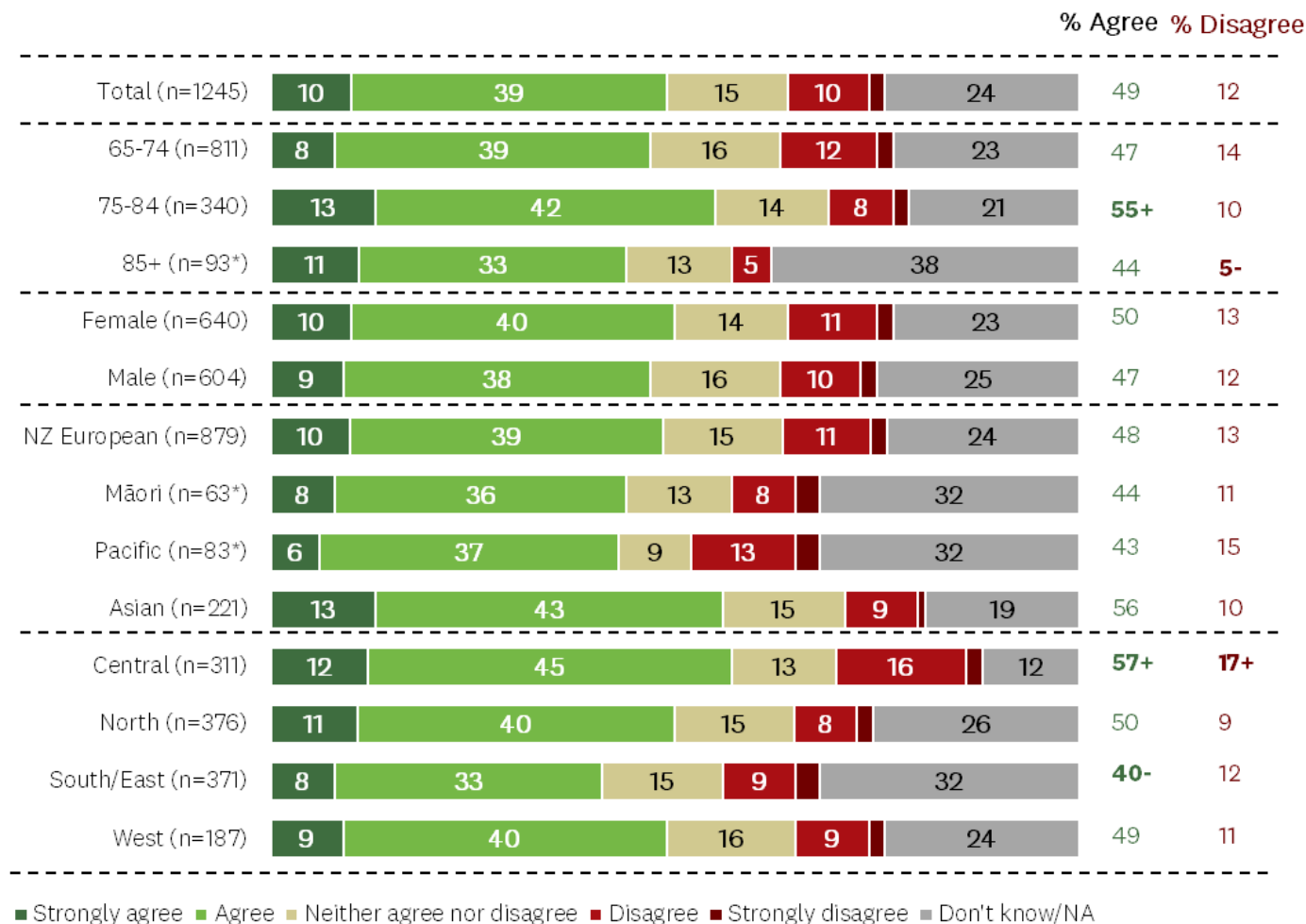


Figure 38: Perceptions that public transport is comfortable (n=1245).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of public transport: Affordability

Almost three in every five respondents (57%) agreed that public transport was affordable, with only 6 per cent disagreeing with this statement. Only 57 per cent agreement may seem unusual, given that those aged 65 years and over may be eligible for free public transport through the SuperGold card. However, this may be due to respondents interpreting the survey question broadly to encompass all age groups.

A lower proportion of 2016 survey respondents agreed that public transport was affordable (44%) while in contrast, a similar proportion (4%) disagreed that it was affordable.

In 2021, similar patterns among subgroups were observed when contrasted with other public transport perception items. South/East Auckland residents were less likely to agree that public transport was affordable, with 49 per cent agreeing with this statement. Public transport was viewed as more affordable by a greater proportion of Central Aucklanders (67%) and those aged 75-84 (62%).

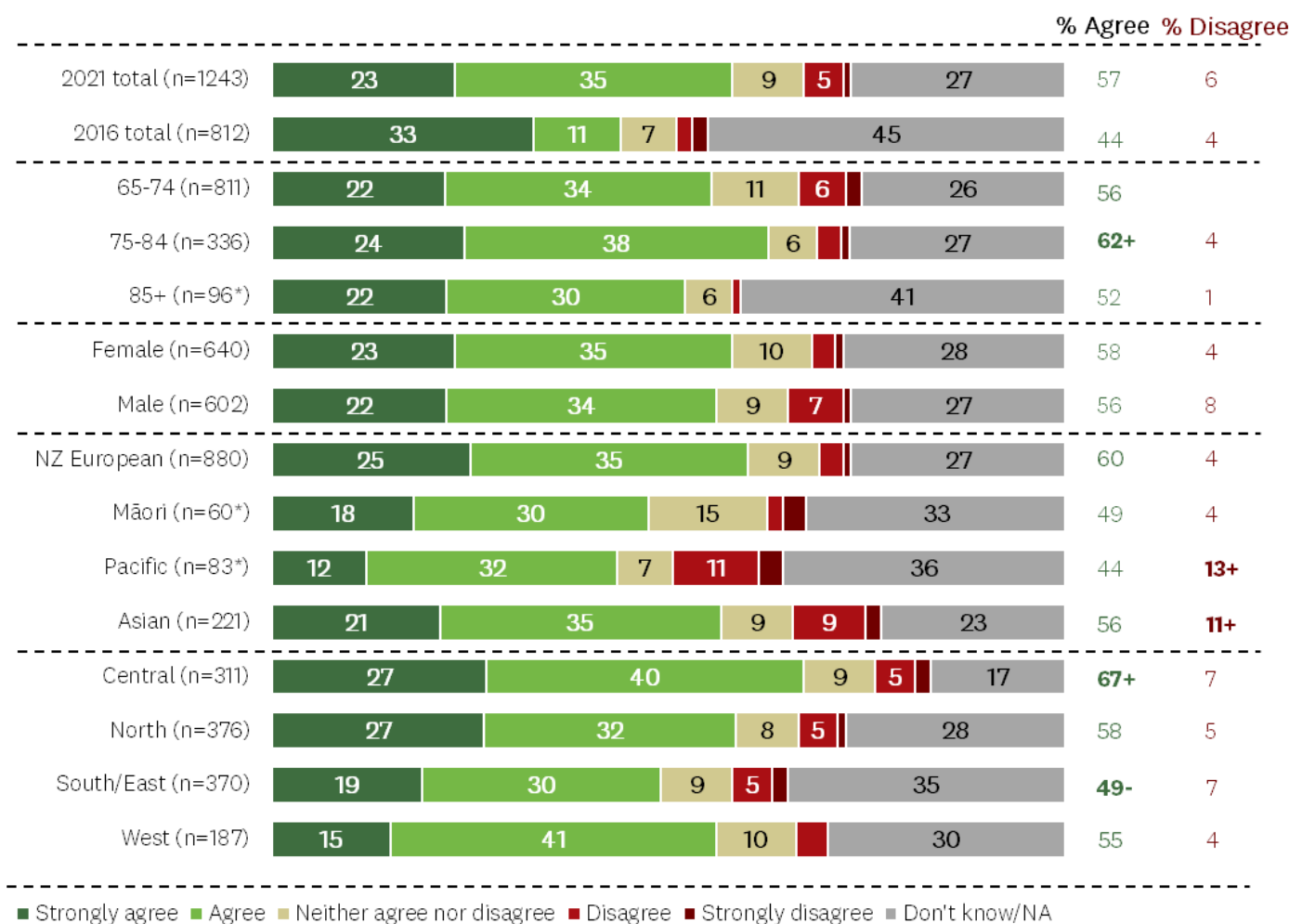


Figure 39: Perceptions that public transport is affordable (2021 n=1243, 2016 n=812).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of public transport: Accessibility

Finally, 58 per cent of respondents agreed that public transport met their accessibility needs, with again only 5 per cent disagreeing with this statement. There was no equivalent 2016 question for comparing changes over time.

The same ethnic group and geographical area differences were observed. South/East Auckland residents and Māori respondents were less likely to agree, half (50%) of South/East Aucklanders and 46 per cent of Māori respondents agreeing with this statement.

In contrast, larger proportions of Central Auckland residents (69%) and those aged 75-84 (63%) agreed that public transport met their accessibility needs.

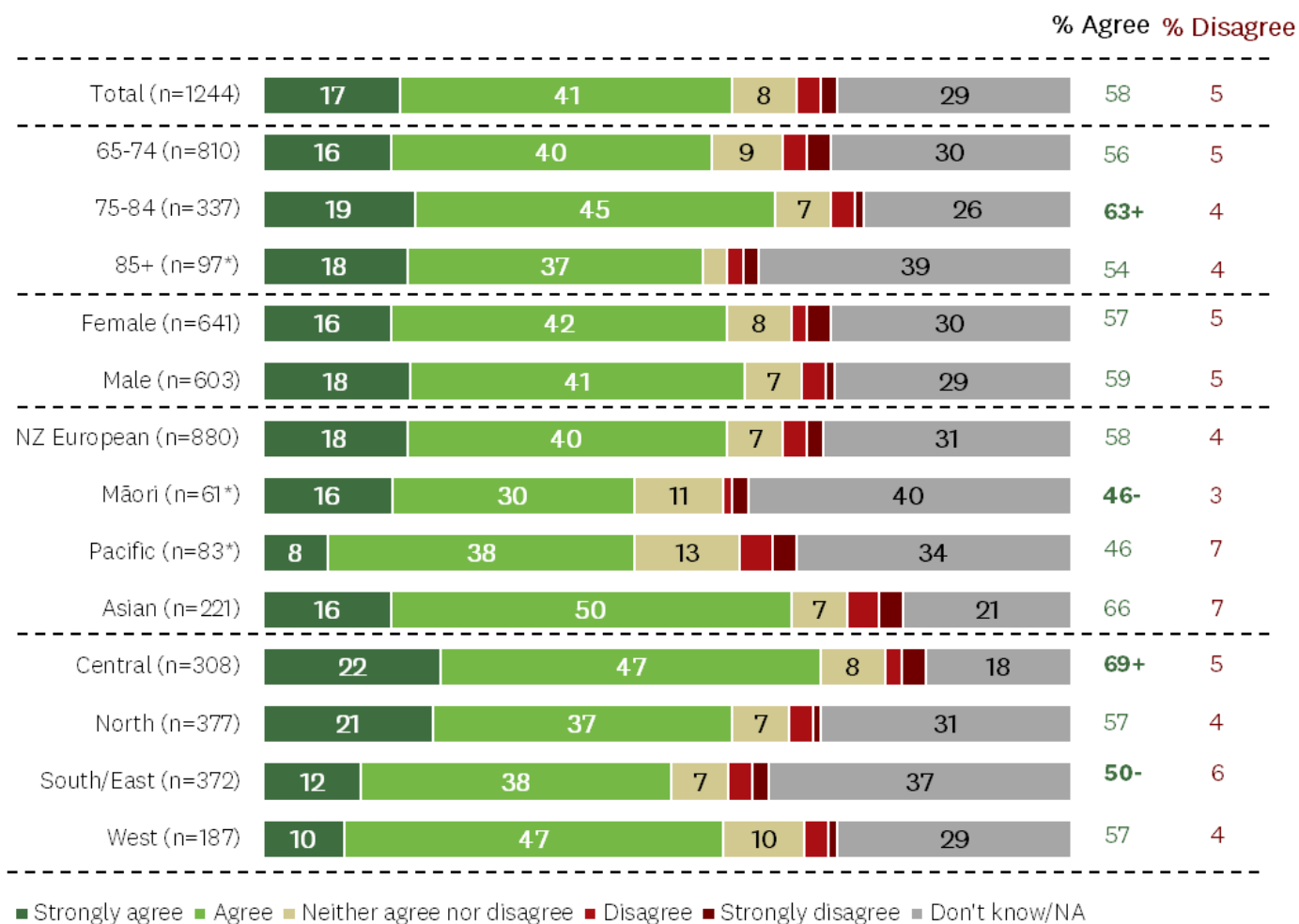


Figure 40: Perceptions that public transport meets respondents' accessibility needs (n=1244).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Walkability of the neighbourhood

There were mixed views amongst older Aucklanders about how satisfied they were with the walkability of their neighbourhood. Similar proportions of older Aucklanders were satisfied (42%) and dissatisfied (35%) with the quality of footpaths and walking tracks in their local area, suggesting that the quality of footpaths and walking tracks is consistent throughout Auckland.

Older New Zealand European respondents in particular were less satisfied with the quality of footpaths in their local area, with just over one-third (37%) expressing satisfaction. Asian respondents, on the other hand, were much more satisfied (62%).

Pacific respondents expressed a much lower degree of dissatisfaction (17%), but these results are indicative only due to the small base size of Pacific respondents.

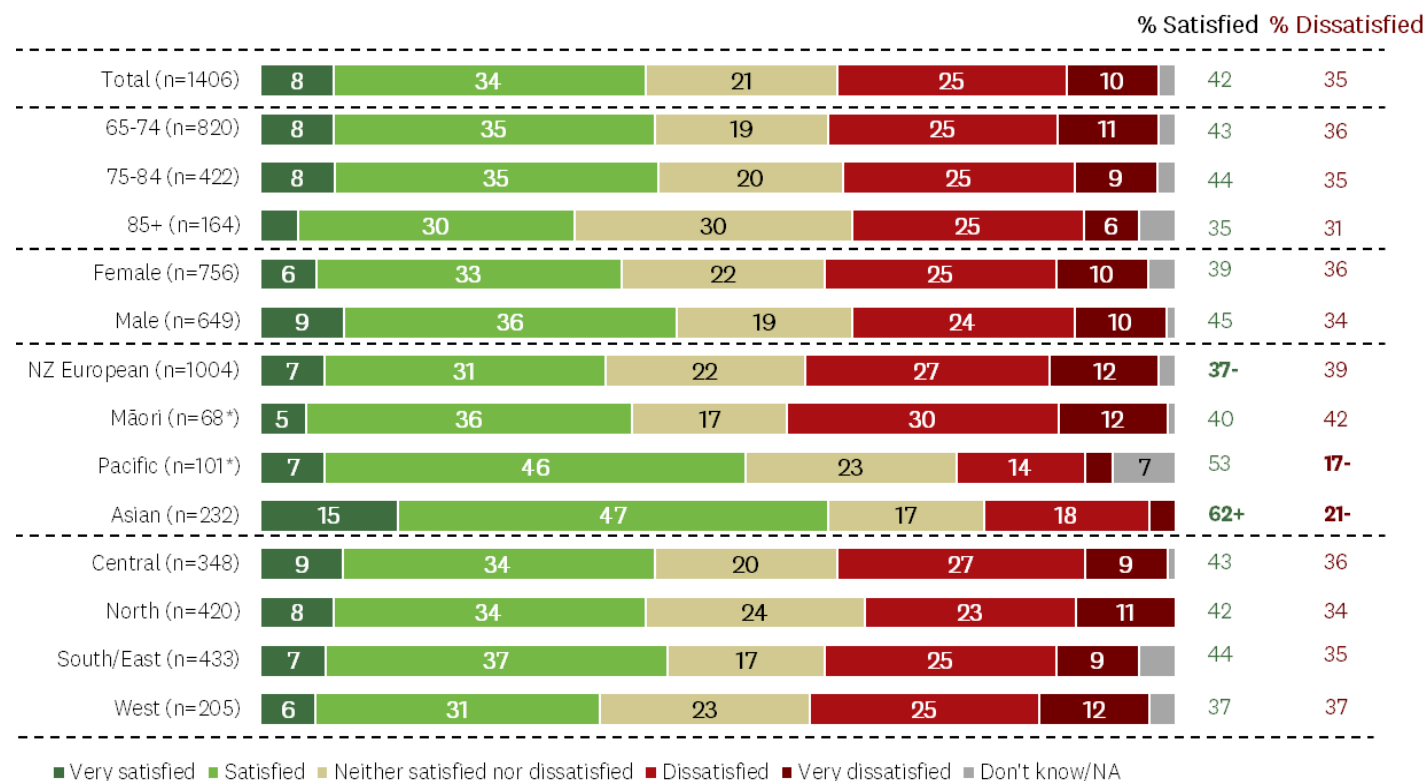


Figure 41: Respondent satisfaction with the quality of footpaths and walking tracks (n=1406).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Licensed drivers

As of the year ending 1 July 2021, there were 168,930 Aucklanders aged 65 years and over who held a current driver's licence (Motor Cars and Light Motor Vehicles only) – 67 per cent (112,624 people) were 65-74 years old, while the remaining one-third (33% or 56,306 people) were 75 years and over. Using 2021 subnational population estimates by age and sex (where it was estimated that there were 220,800 Aucklanders aged 65 and over), this was 77 per cent of all older Aucklanders with a driver's licence.

Similar proportions between each age group held a full licence: 98 per cent of those aged 65 years and over held a full licence, compared to 99 per cent of those aged 75 years and over. A slightly higher proportion of those aged 65-74 years, therefore, held a restricted or learner licence (2%), compared to 1 per cent of those aged 75 years and over.



Accessibility

The Total Mobility Scheme is a nationwide scheme that supports people who cannot use public transport to travel all or some of the time. In Auckland, eligible individuals receive a subsidised rate on contracted taxis for door to door transport, as well as an accessible concession for discounted public transport travel.

As of 9 December 2021, there were 15,672 Aucklanders aged 65 years and over who were registered users of the Total Mobility Scheme (7% of the total 65+ population in Auckland, using 2021 subnational population projections). There were more registered users among the group aged 81-90 compared to other groups, likely due to having a larger proportion of individuals with sharply declining mobility.

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



Housing



Forty per cent of older Aucklanders disagree that their housing costs are affordable



Two in every three people in our sample lived in a standalone home. Most people said they owned their own home.



Only three in every five agreed their housing costs were affordable. Clear differences by age, area, and ethnic group included lower perceptions of affordability among Pacific (45%) and Asian (50%) older Aucklanders, as well as those aged 65-74 (55%).



More than half of all respondents lived with just one other person. This was more common among males, New Zealand Europeans, and those living in North Auckland.



Three in every four agreed they could afford to heat their homes in winter. Respondents were much less likely to be Māori (66%) and Pacific (56%).



Older Aucklanders felt safer at home during the day than at home after dark. Feeling safe was more common among North Auckland residents, and less common among West Auckland residents.



Most older Aucklanders agreed their house suited their household's needs (87%). Pacific older Aucklanders were more likely to disagree that their house met their household's needs, compared to other ethnic groups (14% versus 6%).



Housing type

Almost two-thirds (65%) of respondents lived in a standalone house. Some types of respondents were more likely to live in a standalone house—this included respondents who were male (70% lived in this type of home), Asian (74%), aged 65-74 years (71%), and residents of South/East Auckland (72%) or West Auckland (76%). Those living in a standalone house were also more likely to be owner-occupiers (75%).

Meanwhile, those less likely to live in a standalone house included older respondents (61% of those aged 75-84 and 50% of those aged 85+ lived in a standalone house), Central (59%) and North Auckland (59%) residents, those living alone (40%), and those renting privately (53%).

There were also differences in the types of respondents who lived in the following housing types:

- **Townhouses/units:** Respondents were more likely to be Central Auckland residents (19%) and those living alone (23%). They were also less likely to be those living in a household of 4 or more people (6%).
- **Residents of retirement villages and rest homes:** Respondents were more likely to be 75-84 (17%) or 85+ (24%), and those living alone (21%). Meanwhile, they were also less likely to be 65-74 (3%), Pacific (4%), or Asian (3%).
- **Apartments:** Respondents were again more likely to be Central Auckland residents (10%) and those renting privately (11%).

There were no significant changes over time since the 2016 survey in the proportions of respondents living in different housing types.

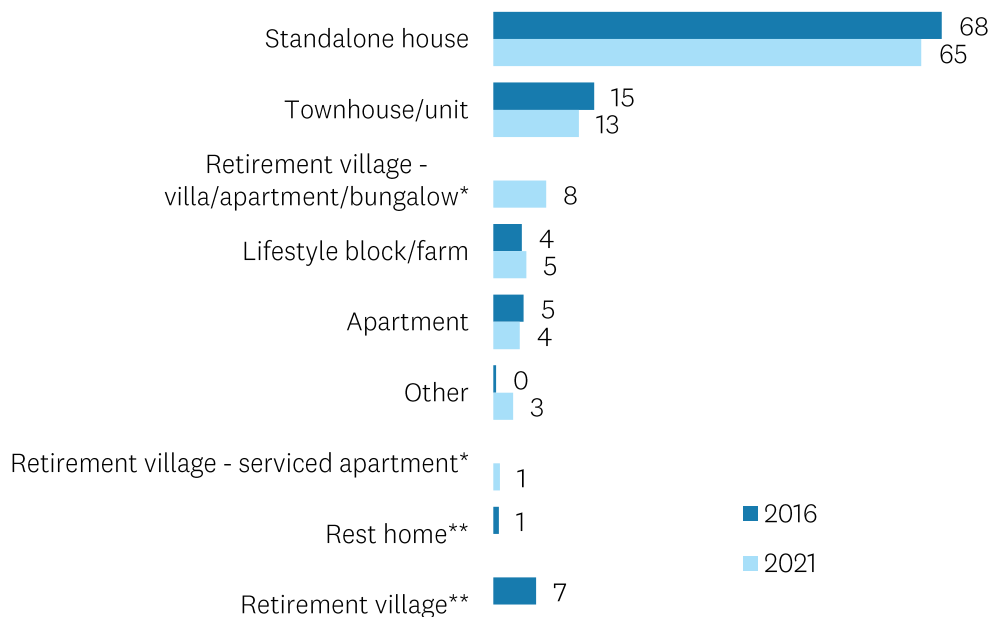


Figure 42: Proportion of respondents living in different housing types (2021 n=1408, 2016 n=843).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Asterisks indicate that answer options changed between 2016 and 2021, so some housing types only have data for one year: * indicates a 2021 option only while ** indicates a 2016 option only.



Housing tenure

According to the 2018 Census, around two-thirds (67%) of older Aucklanders aged 65 years and over either owned/part-owned their home or held it in a family trust (Table 7). The rate of home ownership (own/part-own and holding in a family trust) has remained relatively stable among this age group over the last three censuses, although there has been a slight drop in home ownership in 2006 (from 70% in 2006 to 67% in 2018).

However, there are clear differences in home ownership between ethnic groups (Figure 44). In 2018, older European Aucklanders had the highest rate of individual home ownership (75%) compared to all other ethnic groups. In contrast, older Pacific and Asian Aucklanders had the lowest rates of individual home ownership—40 per cent of Pacific and 44 per cent of Asians either owned/part-owned their home or held it in a family trust.

Table 7: Individual home ownership among older Aucklanders (2006, 2013, 2018).

Individual home ownership	2006		2013		2018	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Hold in a family trust	0	0	0	0	29,385	18
Own or partly own	83,607	70	103,602	67	81,063	49
Do not own/do not hold in a family trust	35,685	30	50,442	33	54,480	33
<i>Total people stated</i>	<i>119,292</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>154,044</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>164,928</i>	<i>100</i>
Not elsewhere included	9,252	-	9,111	-	24,249	-
Total people	128,544	-	163,158	-	189,177	-

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census of Population and Dwellings.

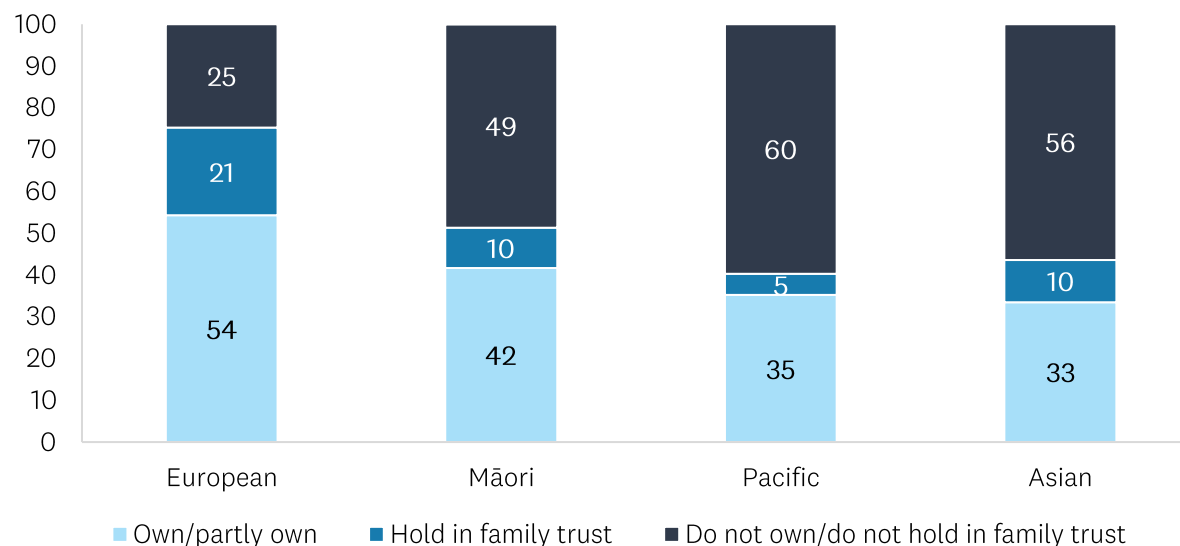


Figure 43: Individual home ownership among older Aucklanders, by ethnic group (%) (2018).

Source: Stats NZ, Census of Population and Dwellings.



Housing tenure

We asked respondents about their housing tenure. Survey results showed that a higher proportion of respondents were owner-occupiers (80%), in comparison to 2018 Census data. Owner-occupiers included those who were sole or joint owners (with or without mortgages), those living in a home owned by a relative or partner, and those living in a home held by a family trust. The remaining sample either lived in a home owned by a retirement village or rest home (8%), rented from a private landlord (6%) or were social renters (5%).

When compared to 2016 survey results, there were no significant changes over time in housing tenure: 85 per cent of respondents were owner-occupiers (slightly higher than the 2021 proportion), while 6 per cent were private renters.

According to the survey results, differences between owner-occupiers and those living in retirement villages/rest homes included:

Owner-occupiers: Respondents were more likely to be 65-74 years old (86%), residents of West Auckland (86%), those living with just one other person (86%), and those living in the least deprived areas (Quintile 1) of Auckland (90%).

Meanwhile, owner-occupiers were less likely to be: older respondents (73% of those aged 75-84 and 64% of those 85+), Pacific (55%), residents of South/East Auckland (75%), those living alone (65%), and those living in the three top most deprived areas of Auckland (71% of Quintile 3 residents, 65 of Quintile 4 residents, and 54% of Quintile 5 residents).

Retirement/rest home residents: There were greater proportions of respondents who were 75-84 (15%) and 85+ (20%). However, smaller proportions were Māori (3%), Pacific (1%), Asian (2%), and 65-74 years (2%).

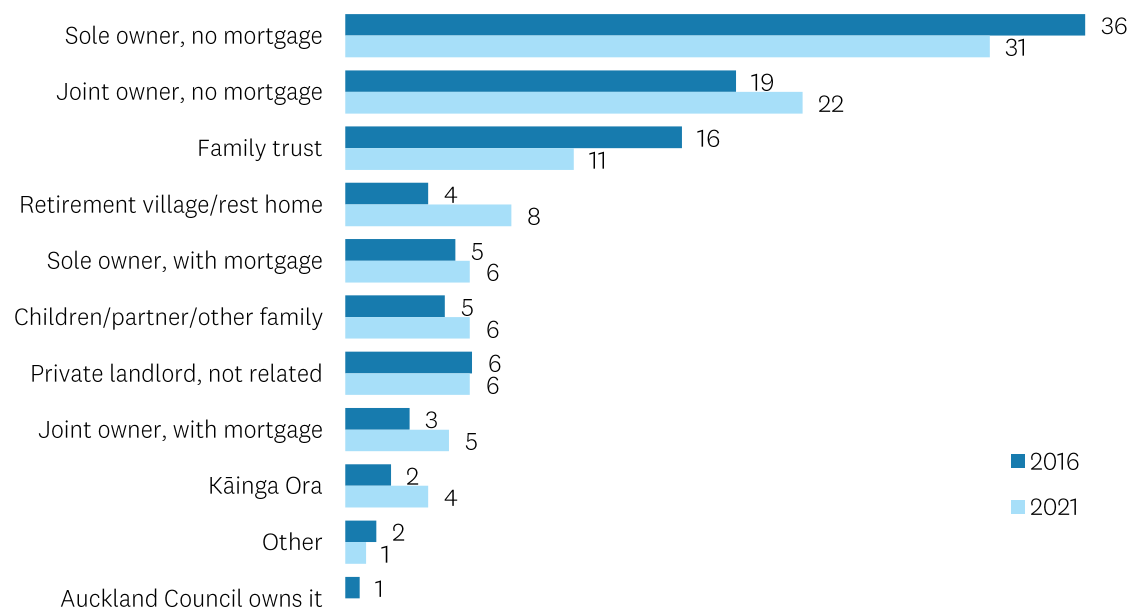


Figure 44: Proportion of respondents in different housing tenure (2021 n=1406, 2016 n=834).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Public housing

Public housing in New Zealand refers to homes provided through Kāinga Ora (formerly Housing New Zealand) and community housing providers (normally not-for-profit organisations).

The Housing Register records information about those who have been assessed as eligible for public housing, but who are not currently living in public housing. This register is dynamic, rather than static, as people's circumstances often change. This means that the length of time waiting on the register can vary, as people are prioritised depending on their need for housing, as well as the type of home that they need balanced against what housing stock is available

Table 8 shows the numbers of older Aucklanders living in public housing and those on the Housing Register, as of September 2021.

Table 8: Number of applicants aged 65 years and over on the Housing Register or living in Public Housing, quarter ending September 2021.

	European	Māori	Pacific	Asian	Other	Total
<i>Number of applicants on the Housing Register</i>						
Auckland Region	330	141	195	216	111	936
New Zealand	987	495	261	270	198	2,082
<i>Number of applicants currently living in Public Housing</i>						
Auckland Region	2,562	1,245	2,910	1,170	744	8,181
New Zealand	7,374	3,567	3,603	1,425	1,470	16,512

Source: Ministry of Social Development, customised request under the Official Information Act.

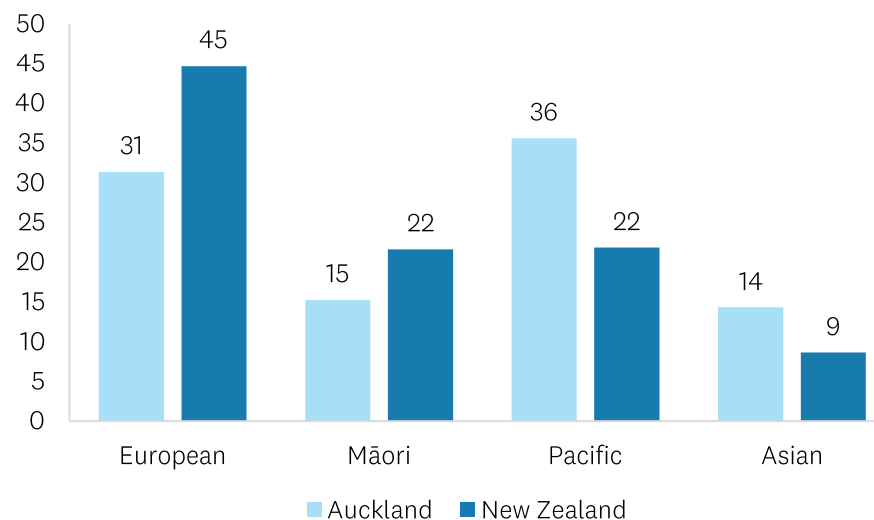


Figure 45: Comparison of those currently living in Public Housing aged 65 years and over between Auckland Region and New Zealand total, quarter ending September 2021.

Source: Ministry of Social Development, customised request under the Official Information Act.



Household composition

Census data since 2006 indicates that 2-person households are the most common composition type for Aucklanders aged 65 years and over (Table 9), followed by living alone. However, it has become increasingly common for older Aucklanders to live in multi-person, multi-generational households.

Data from the older Aucklanders survey supported Census data, showing that 2-person households were also the most common in the sample (Figure 47). This was similar to 2016, where 54 per cent lived with one other person, followed by 28 per cent living alone (slightly higher than the 23 per cent in 2021 living alone).

Table 9: Proportion of older Aucklanders living in different household compositions.

Household composition	2006	2013	2018
One-person household	28	25	22
Couple only	43	44	42
Couple only and other person(s)	3	3	4
Couple with child(ren)	6	7	8
Couple with child(ren) and other person(s)	4	4	5
One parent with child(ren)	4	4	4
One parent with child(ren) and other person(s)	2	2	2
Two-family household (with or without other people)	7	8	9
Three or more family household (with or without other people)	<1	1	1
Other multi-person household	3	3	4
Total people in households stated	115,158	148,011	172,347

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Census of Population and Dwellings.



Respondents were more likely to be:

- 85 years and over (47%)
- Female (32%)
- Living in Central Auckland (29%)
- New Zealand European (28%)
- Born in New Zealand (28%)



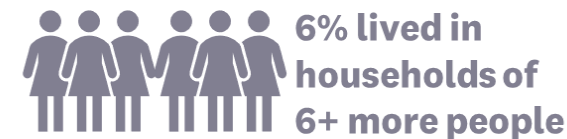
Respondents were more likely to be:

- Living in the two least deprived areas (65% Quintile 1, 63% Quintile 2)
- Living in North Auckland (62%)
- Male (61%)
- New Zealand European (60%)
- Born in New Zealand (58%)



Respondents were more likely to be:

- Māori (19%)
- Asian (17%)
- Living in the most deprived areas of Auckland (15%)



Respondents were more likely to be:

- Pacific (29%)
- Living in the most deprived areas of Auckland (16%)
- Māori (13%)
- Asian (13%)

Figure 47: Older Aucklanders and household composition (n=1406).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Overcrowding

Overcrowding is a significant problem in Auckland and disproportionately affects people of certain ethnic groups. The Auckland region accounts for almost half of all crowded households in the country—in 2018, 42,100 Auckland households were classified as crowded (9% of all Auckland households). This equated to 16 per cent of all Aucklanders living in crowded conditions (209,000 people) (Stats NZ, 2020).⁸

Nationally, household crowding affects Pacific and Māori peoples more so than the total population, with 44 per cent of Pacific peoples and 26 per cent of Māori peoples living in crowded households.

There is little publicly available data about older Aucklanders and overcrowding. However, national-level data show that older Pacific people are more likely to live in a crowded household, compared to older New Zealanders of other ethnic groups. Among Pacific people aged 70 and over, 27 per cent lived in a crowded home, compared to 3 per cent of this age group amongst the total population (Stats NZ, 2020).

⁸ <https://www.stats.govt.nz/reports/housing-in-aotearoa-2020>

⁹ <https://www.stats.govt.nz/research/finding-the-crowding-index-that-works-best-for-new-zealand-applying-different-crowding-indexes-to-census-of-population-and-dwellings-data-for-19862006>

Measuring household crowding in New Zealand:

Stats NZ measures levels of household crowding in using the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (considered the best fit for the New Zealand social context).

In this standard, children under 5 of either sex may share a bedroom, but children between 5 and 18 should only share a bedroom if they are of the same sex. Couples and people aged 18 and over are also allocated a bedroom. The household is defined as crowded if these definitions are not met.⁹

Overcrowding can impact many aspects of wellbeing:

- Taha tinana / physical wellbeing: overcrowding is associated with a greater risk of transmitting infections diseases (e.g. TB, RSV, and COVID-19) and disrupted sleep
- Taha whānau / relationships can be strained
- Taha hinengaro / mental wellbeing: stress associated with overcrowding can be detrimental for mental health



Perceptions of safety: At home during the day

Most older Aucklanders told us that they felt safe at home during the day (87% said they felt safe in this situation, and only 2% felt unsafe). A slightly larger proportion of 2016 respondents felt safe in this situation (92%), while 1 per cent felt unsafe.

In 2021, residents of North Auckland felt significantly safer in their home during the day, with 92 per cent agreeing they felt safe. West Auckland residents felt slightly less safe, with 76 per cent agreeing. However, despite these differences, the level of safety felt by West Auckland residents remained very high.

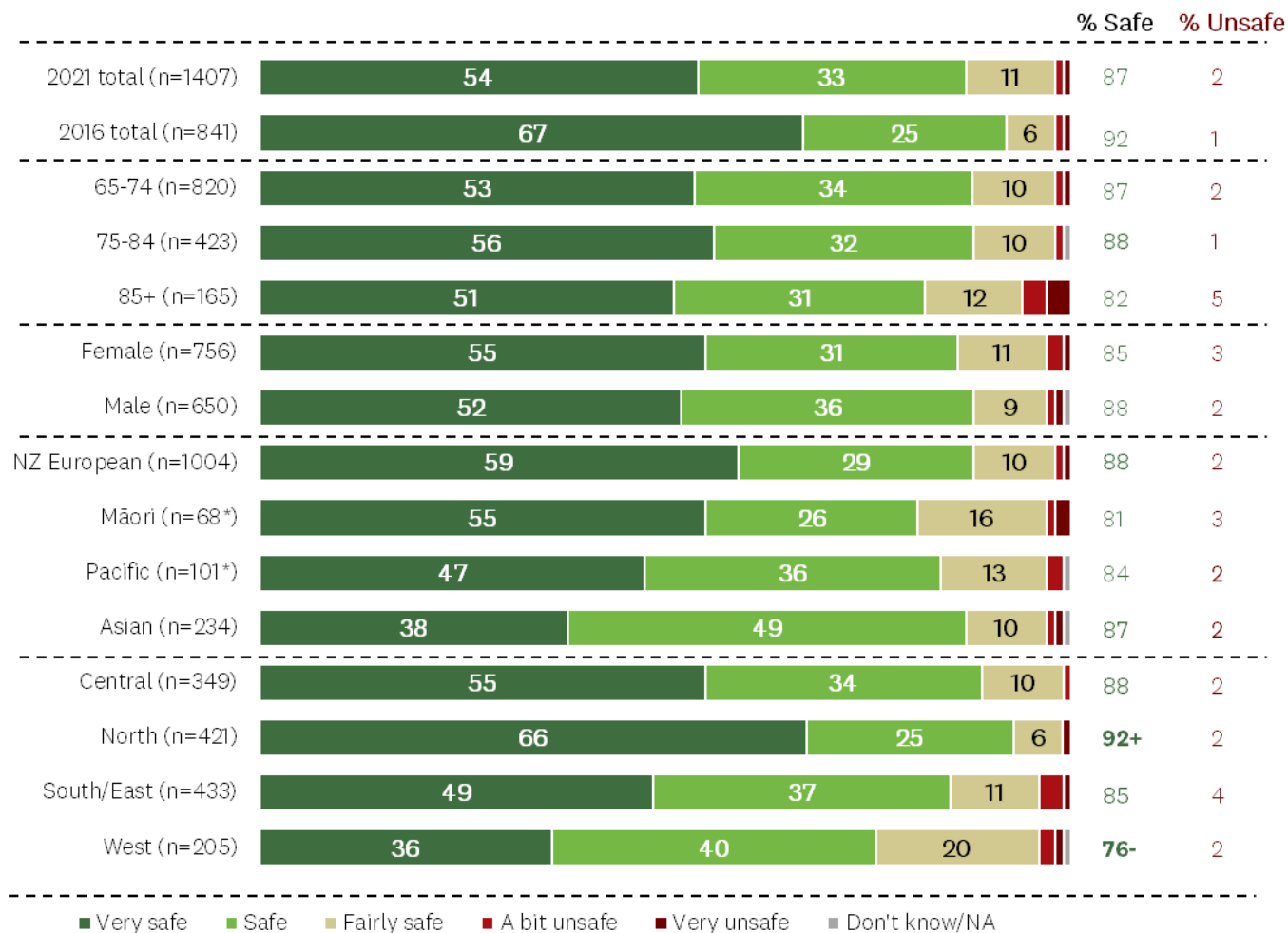


Figure 46: Perceptions of safety at home during the day (2021 n=1407, 2016 n=841).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of safety: At home after dark

Slightly fewer older Aucklanders told us that they felt safe at home after dark, compared to during the day (79% said they felt safe at home after dark, with 6% feeling unsafe). In 2016, a larger proportion of respondents felt safe in their homes after dark (84%, while 4% felt unsafe).

Māori and Pacific respondents were more likely to say they felt unsafe, with 12 per cent of each group saying that they felt unsafe. Meanwhile, Asian respondents also said they felt slightly less safe compared to other groups.

There were again notable geographical differences. North Aucklanders (84%) were more likely to agree they felt safe at home after dark, while West Auckland residents (65%) were less likely to do so.

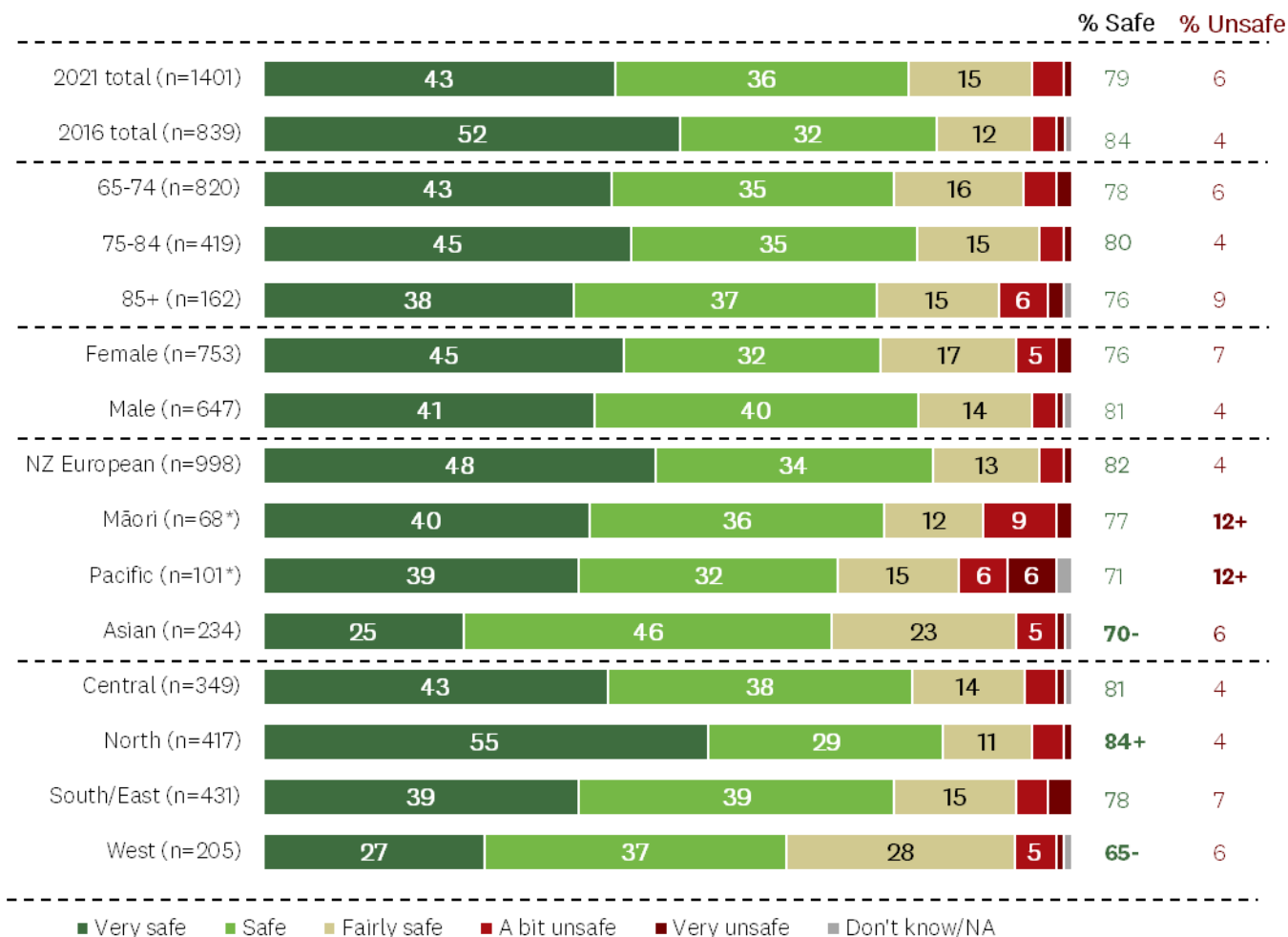


Figure 47: Perceptions of safety at home after dark (2021 n=1401, 2016 n=839).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of safety: When entering or leaving home

Again, 79 per cent of respondents said they felt safe when entering or leaving their home, with 4 per cent feeling unsafe in this situation. There was no equivalent question in the 2016 survey so we cannot examine changes over time.

Similar differences by geographical area and ethnic groups were again observed. A greater proportion of North Auckland residents felt safe in this situation (88%), while fewer West Auckland residents felt safe (65%).

Fewer Asian respondents felt unsafe when entering or leaving their home (69%) compared to the total, while a greater proportion of Pacific respondents (11%) said they felt unsafe compared to other groups.

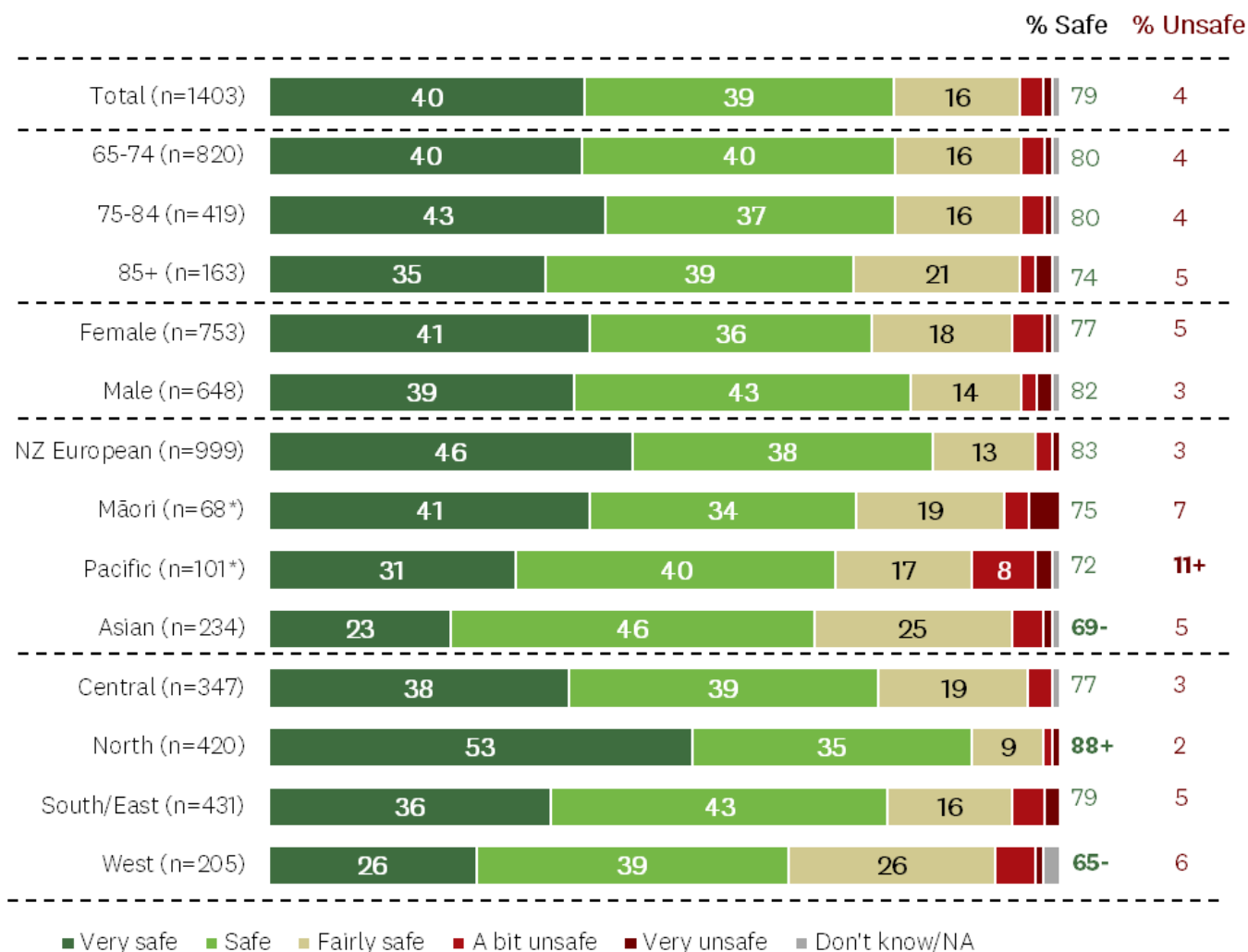


Figure 48: Perceptions of safety when entering or leaving home (n=1403).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Housing affordability

Just over three-fifths (61%) of older Aucklanders agreed that their housing costs were affordable, with one-fifth (20%) disagreeing. There were no significant changes over time—in 2016, 59 per cent agreed and 17 per cent disagreed that their housing costs were affordable.

Differences between groups of respondents were many and significant:

- **Age group:** A lower proportion (55%) of younger respondents (those aged 65-74) believed that housing costs were affordable. In contrast, greater proportions of those aged 75-84 (69%) and 85+ (71%) agreed that housing costs were affordable.
- **Ethnic group:** New Zealand Europeans were also more likely to agree that housing costs were affordable (66%), while Pacific (45%) and Asian (50%) respondents were less likely to agree.

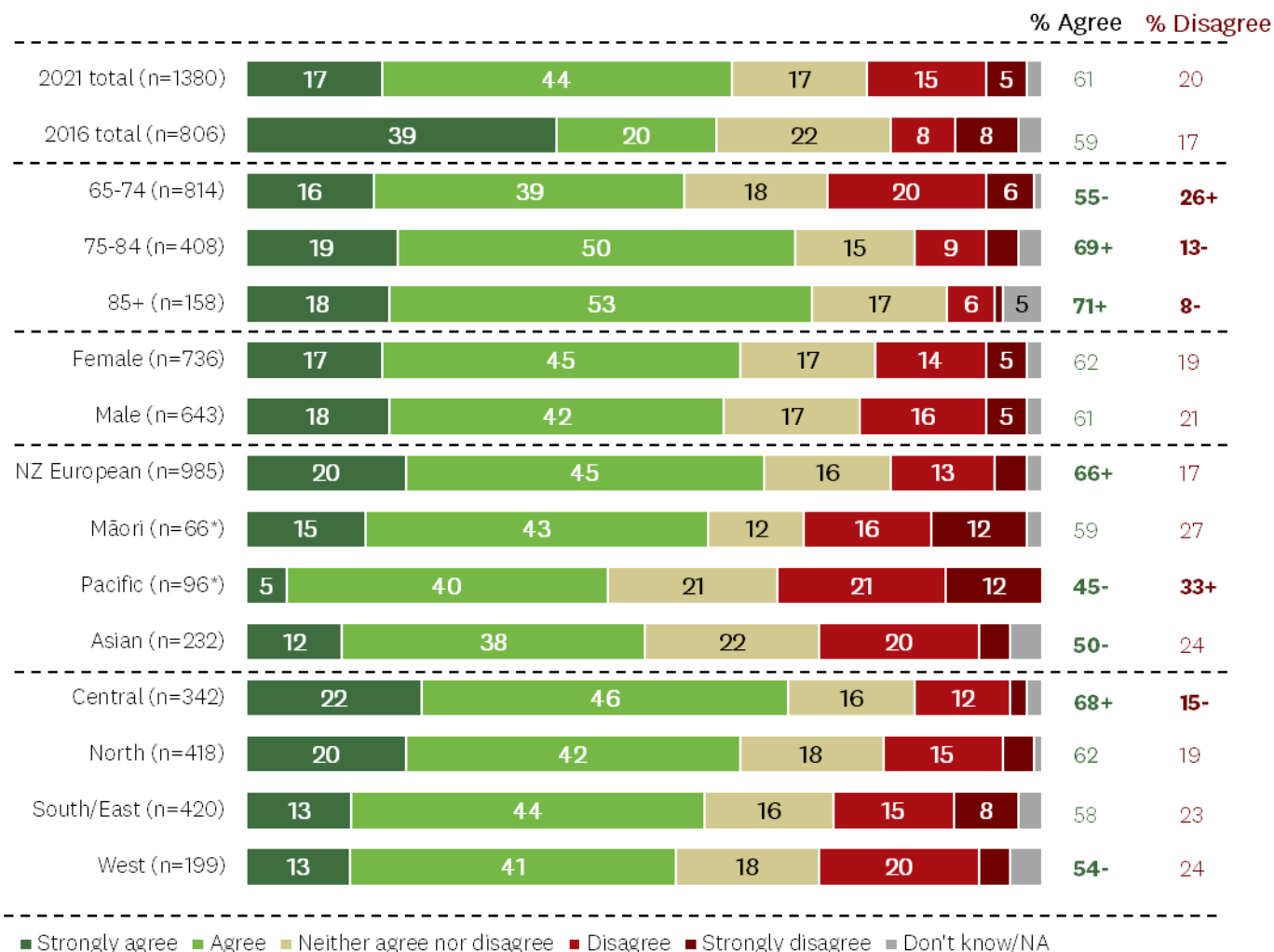


Figure 49: Agreement about whether housing costs are affordable (2021 n=1380, 2016 n=806).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Housing quality

Around three-quarters (76%) of respondents agreed that they were able to heat their homes during winter. This proportion was higher for those aged 75-84 (82%). However, these proportions were lower for Māori and Pacific respondents, with 66 per cent and 56 per cent respectively agreeing that they could adequately heat their homes during winter.

Compared to 2016 survey results, a larger proportion in 2021 agreed that they could heat their homes during winter (76% in 2021, compared to 67% in 2016). The proportion that disagreed was lower in 2021 too—13 per cent disagreed, compared to 18 per cent in 2016.

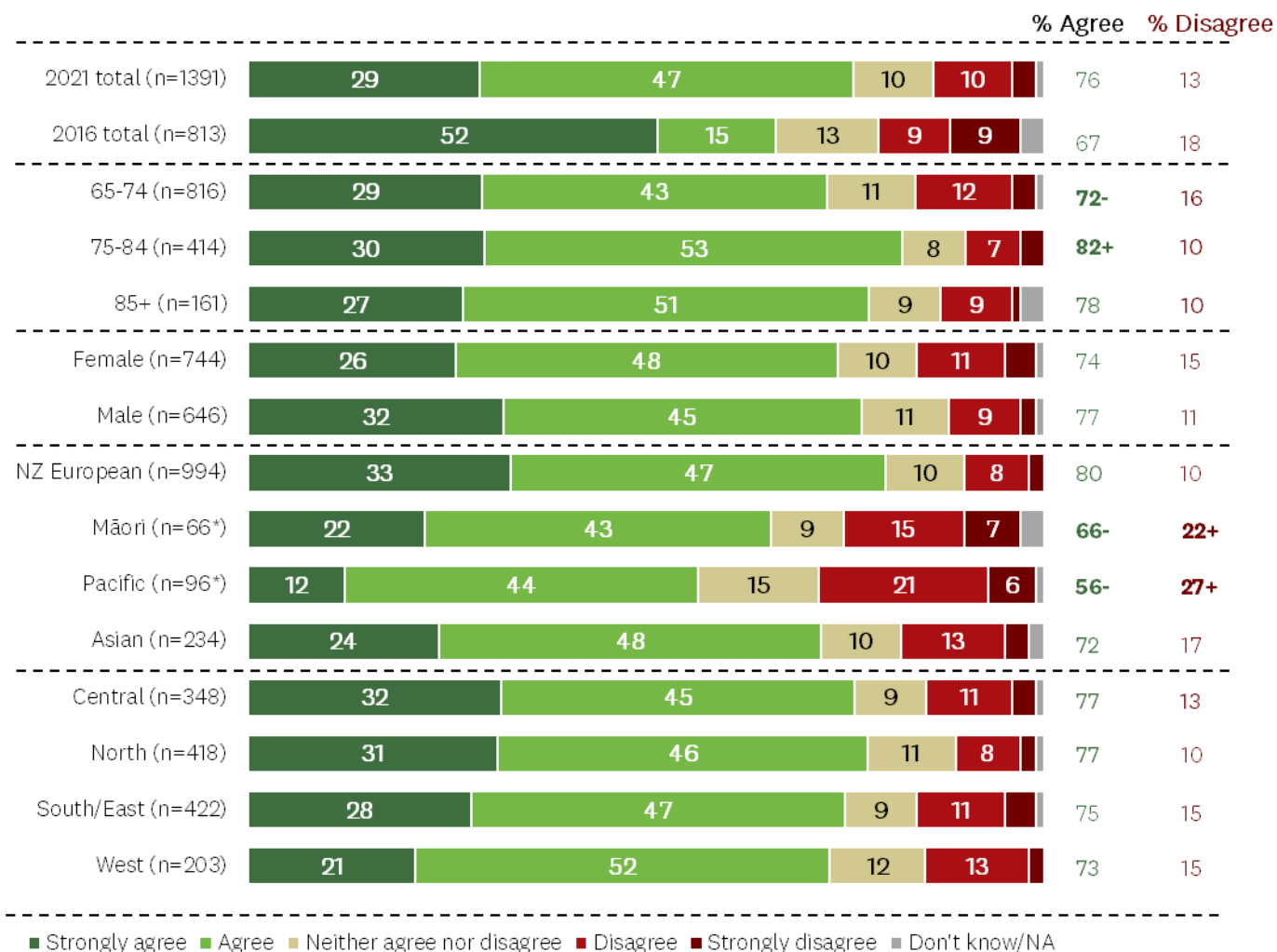


Figure 50: Agreement about ability to heat home during winter (2021 n=1391, 2016 n=813).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Housing suitability

A larger proportion of respondents (87%) agreed that their home suited their needs and the needs of others in their household.

There were no real significant differences in the way that different groups of respondents answered this question. Although a larger proportion of Pacific respondents disagreed with this statement (14%) compared with the total (6%), these results are indicative only due to the small base size of Pacific respondents.

Changes over time indicate that a larger proportion (87%) of respondents in 2021 agreed that their house suited their needs and those of others in their household, compared to 2016 (82% of respondents).

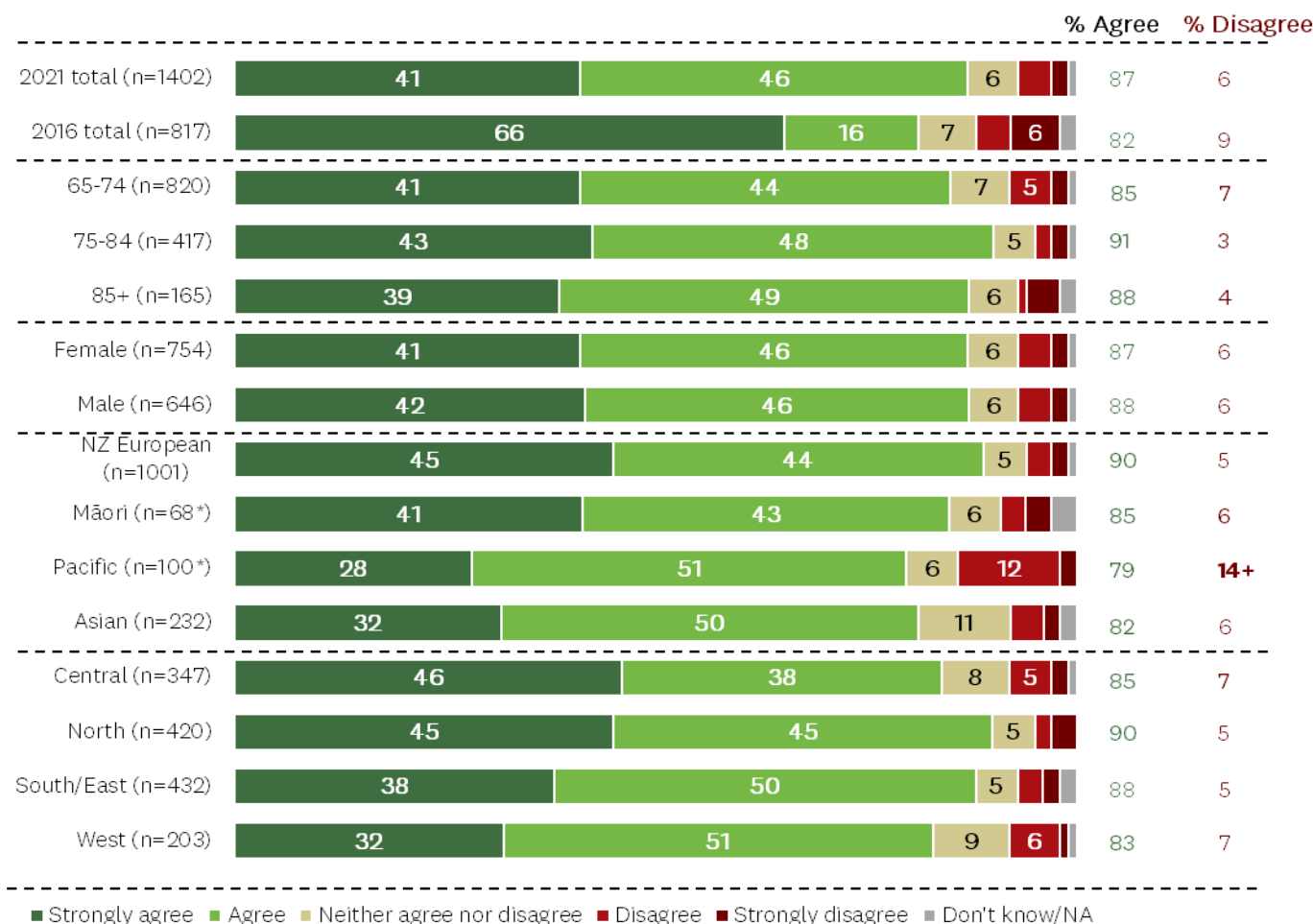


Figure 51: Agreement about whether house suits own needs and those of others in household (2021 n=1402, 2016 n=817).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

Overall Quality of Life

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Community support and health services

A photograph of two elderly women sitting at a table, engaged in a knitting activity. The woman on the left is wearing glasses and a colorful patterned sweater, smiling as she works on a piece of fabric. The woman on the right is wearing a blue patterned sweater and is also smiling. The table is covered with various colorful yarns and knitting projects. In the background, there is a green wall with a poster that says "Be kind".

Social Participation



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.

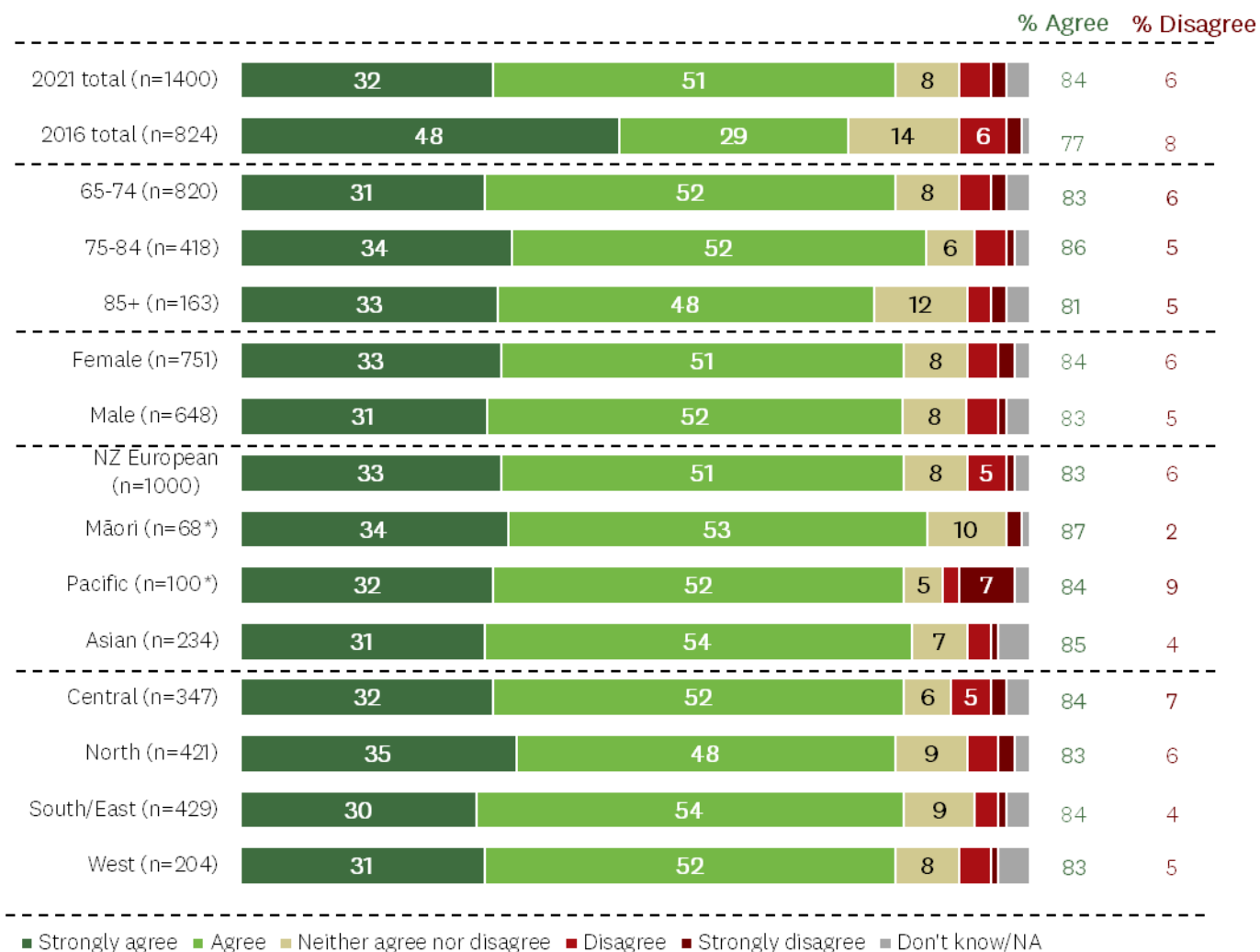


Figure 52: Agreement about whether friends, family and whānau visit as often as respondents like (2021 n=1400, 2016 n=824).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

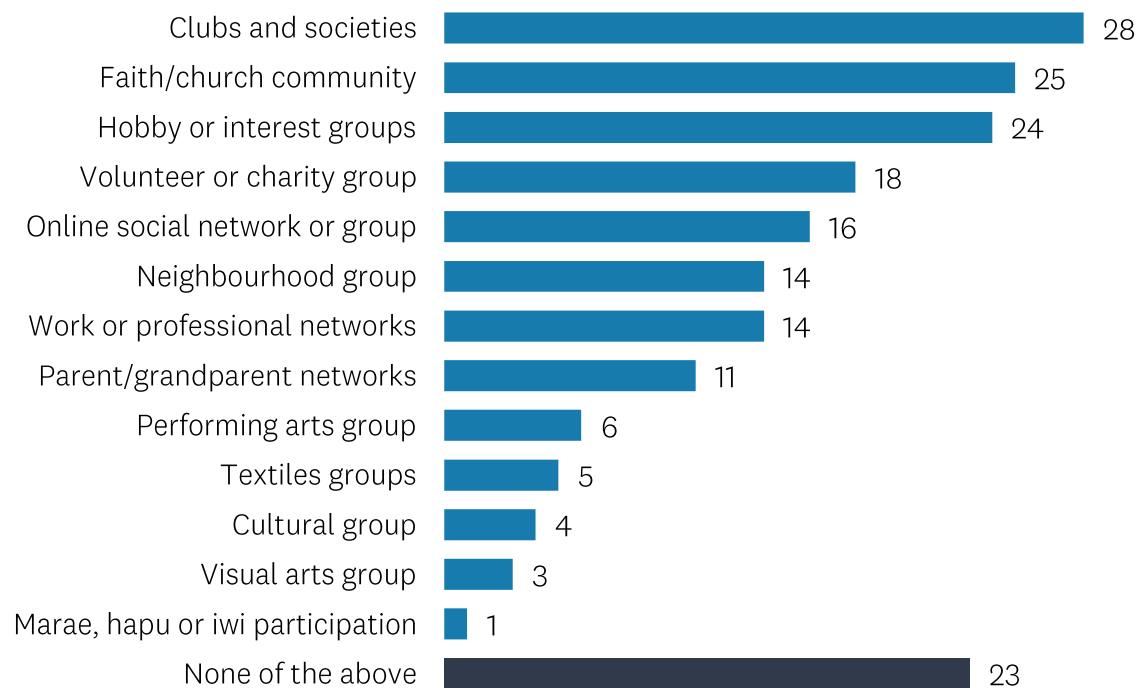


Figure 53: Respondent participation in social networks and groups (n=1400).

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.

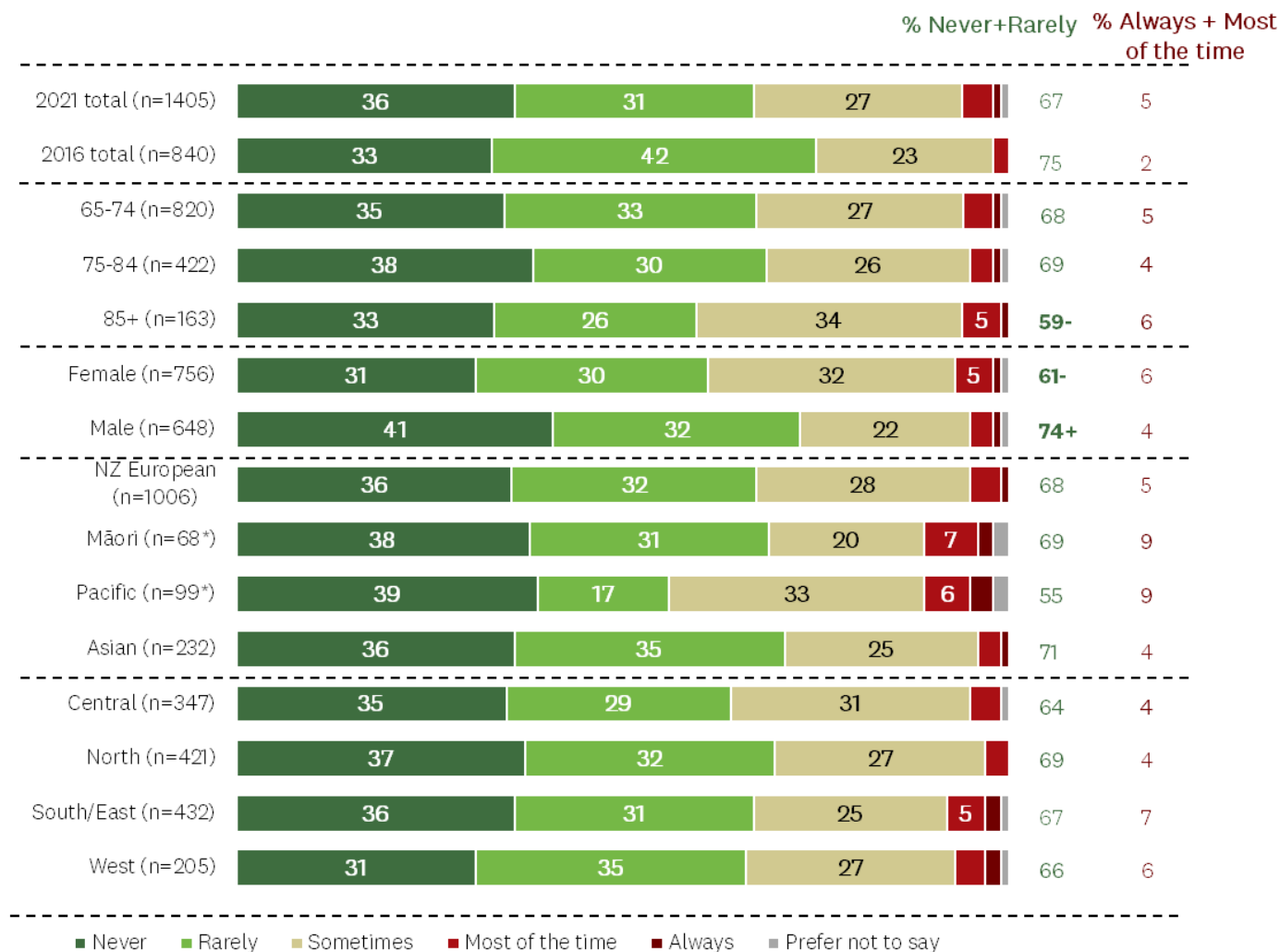


Figure 54: Respondent feelings of loneliness or isolation in the last 12 months (2021 n=1405, 2016 n=840).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

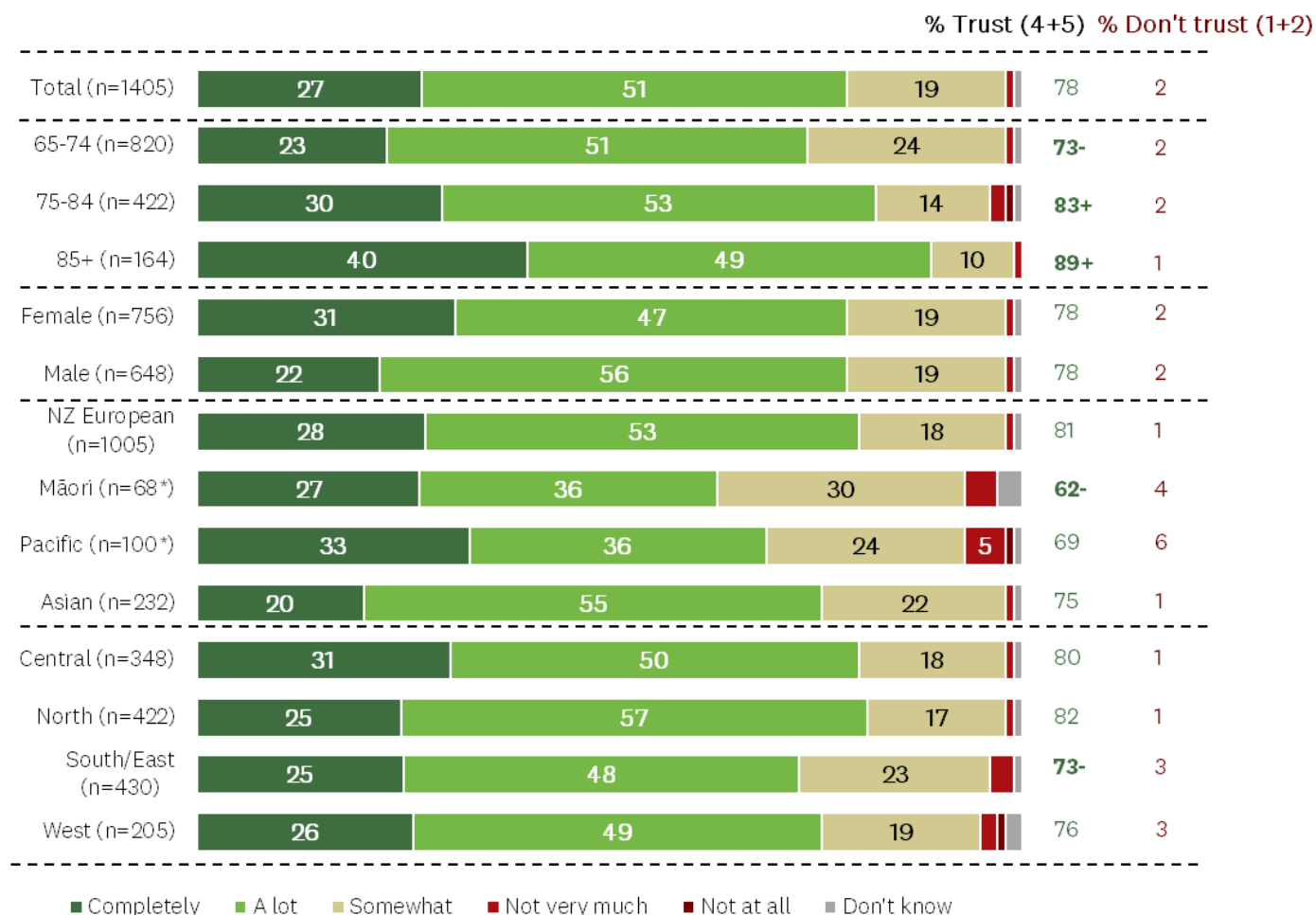


Figure 55: Respondent feelings of trust in other people (n=1405).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

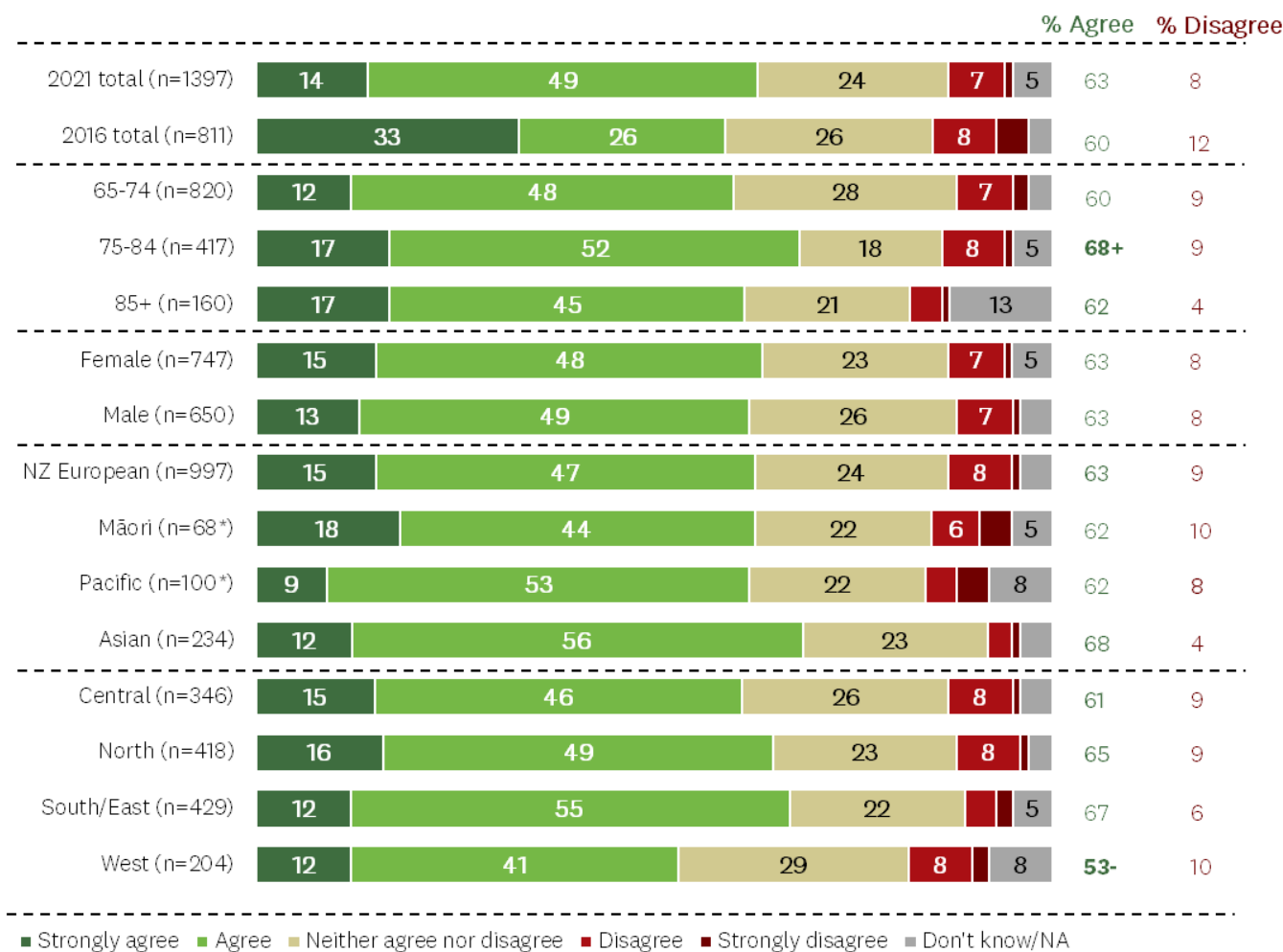


Figure 56: Respondent feelings of having a sense of community with people in their local area (2021 n=1397, 2016 n=811).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Perceptions of safety: Local neighbourhood after dark

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.

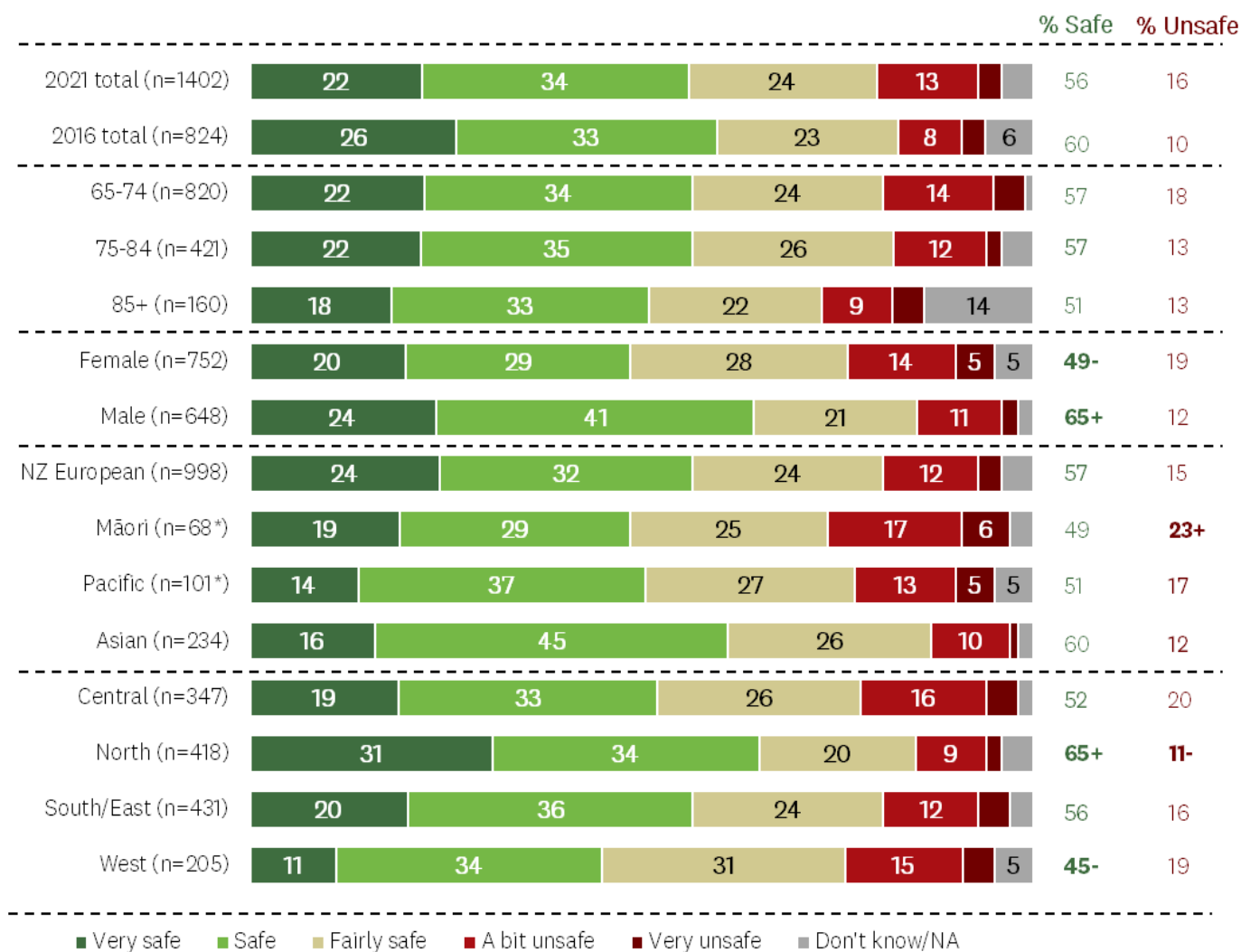


Figure 57: Perceptions of safety in local neighbourhood after dark (2021 n=1402, 2016 n=824).

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.

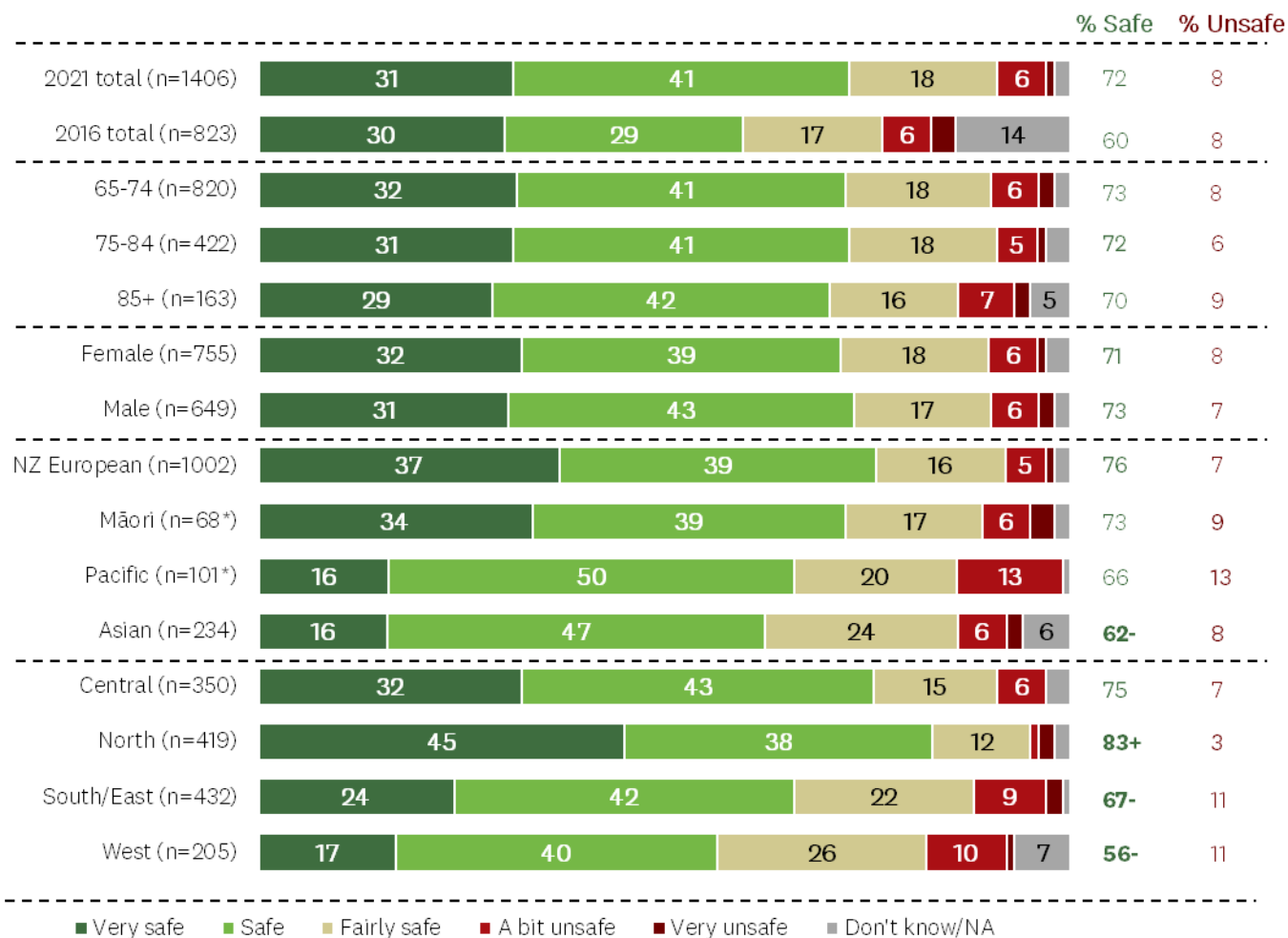


Figure 58: Perceptions of safety in local town centre during the day (2021 n=1406, 2016 n=823).

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.

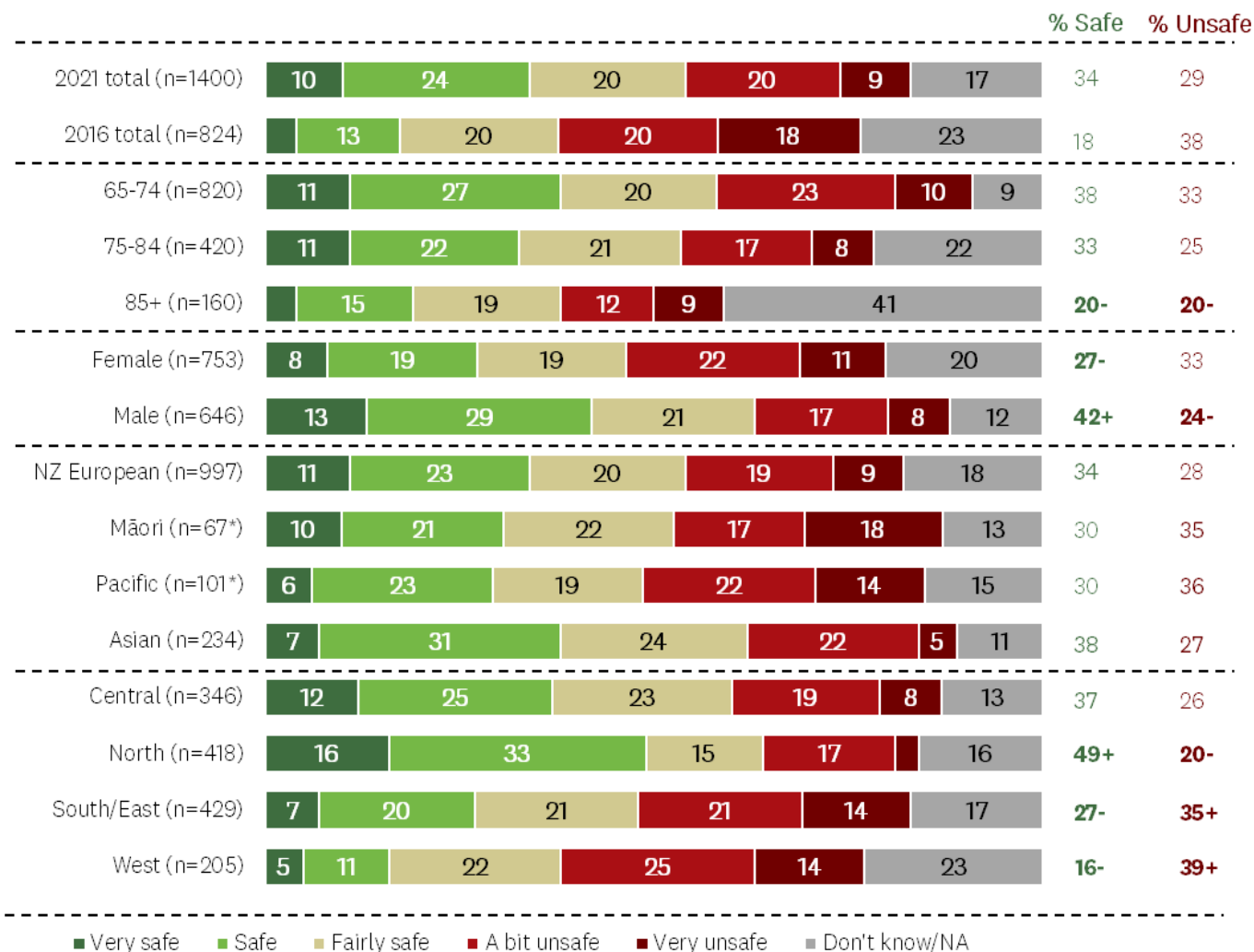


Figure 59: Perceptions of safety in local town centre after dark (2021 n=1400, 2016 n=824).

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%).

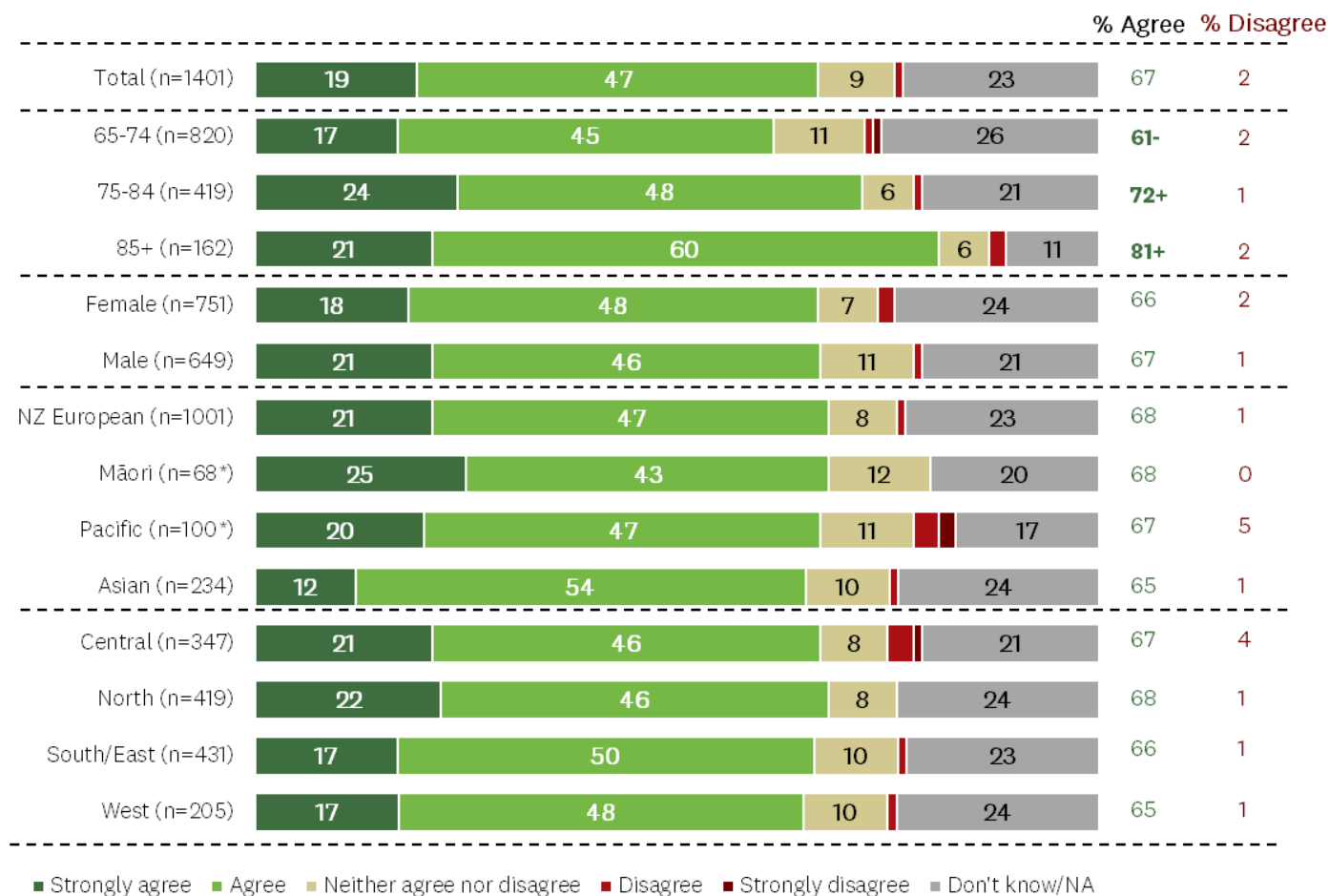


Figure 60: Respondent comfort with using items to improve accessibility in public (n=1401).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Overall Quality of Life

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A photograph of two elderly people, a man and a woman, sitting on a golf cart on a golf course. The man is wearing a dark cap and a purple jacket, and the woman is wearing a white cap and a dark jacket. They are both smiling and looking towards the right. The background shows a golf course with trees and a cloudy sky.

Respect and Social Inclusion



Older Aucklanders experience discrimination



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 ethnic-based 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%).

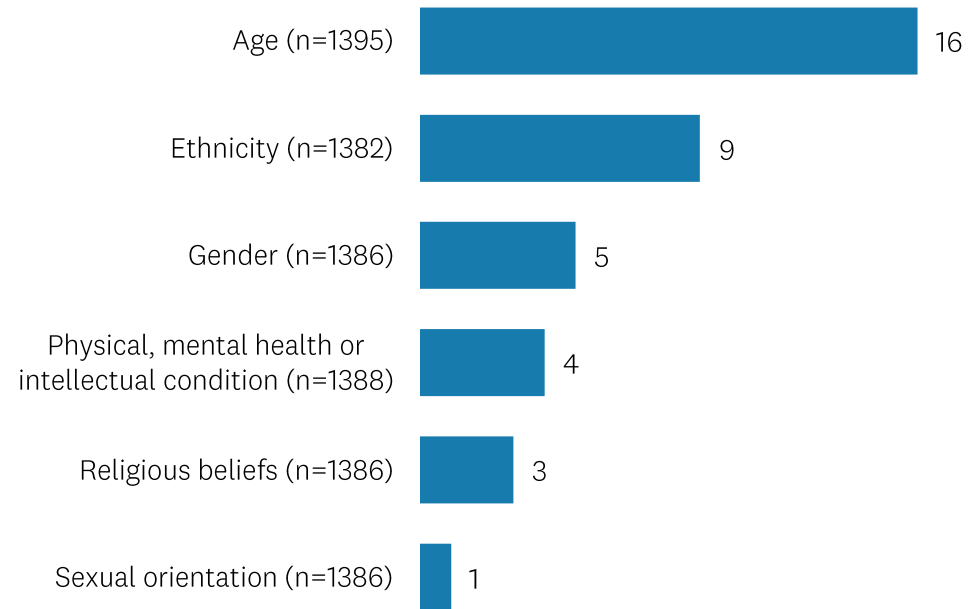


Figure 61: Proportion of respondents reporting they had experienced personal discrimination in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Source: Older Aucklanders 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 Waitemātā (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).

Age group	2017	2019	2021	Change 2017-2021	
	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](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanhl/article/PIIS2666-7568(21)00122-7/fulltext)



Overall Quality of Life

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Communication and information

Community support and health services

A photograph of an elderly woman with grey hair, wearing a purple and gold patterned shawl, shopping at an outdoor market. She is looking down at a white plastic bag she is holding, with her hand pointing towards a stall. The stall is filled with various produce, including yellow and orange items in blue crates. In the background, other people and market stalls are visible, creating a busy market atmosphere.

Civic Participation and Employment



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/East Auckland residents.



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.

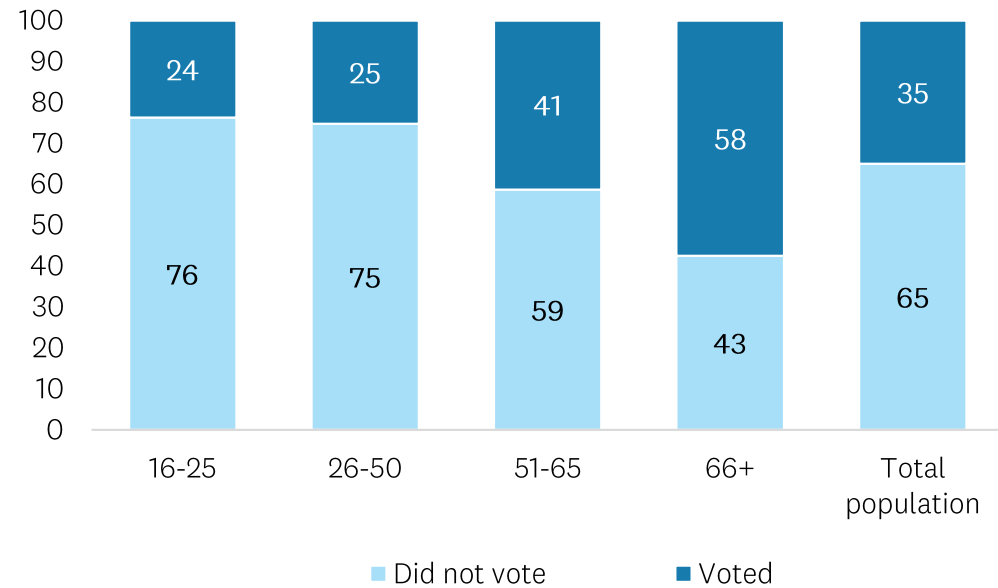


Figure 62: Local government voter turnout (2019).

Source: Auckland Council data.



Civic participation: Central government election turnout

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

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

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).



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.

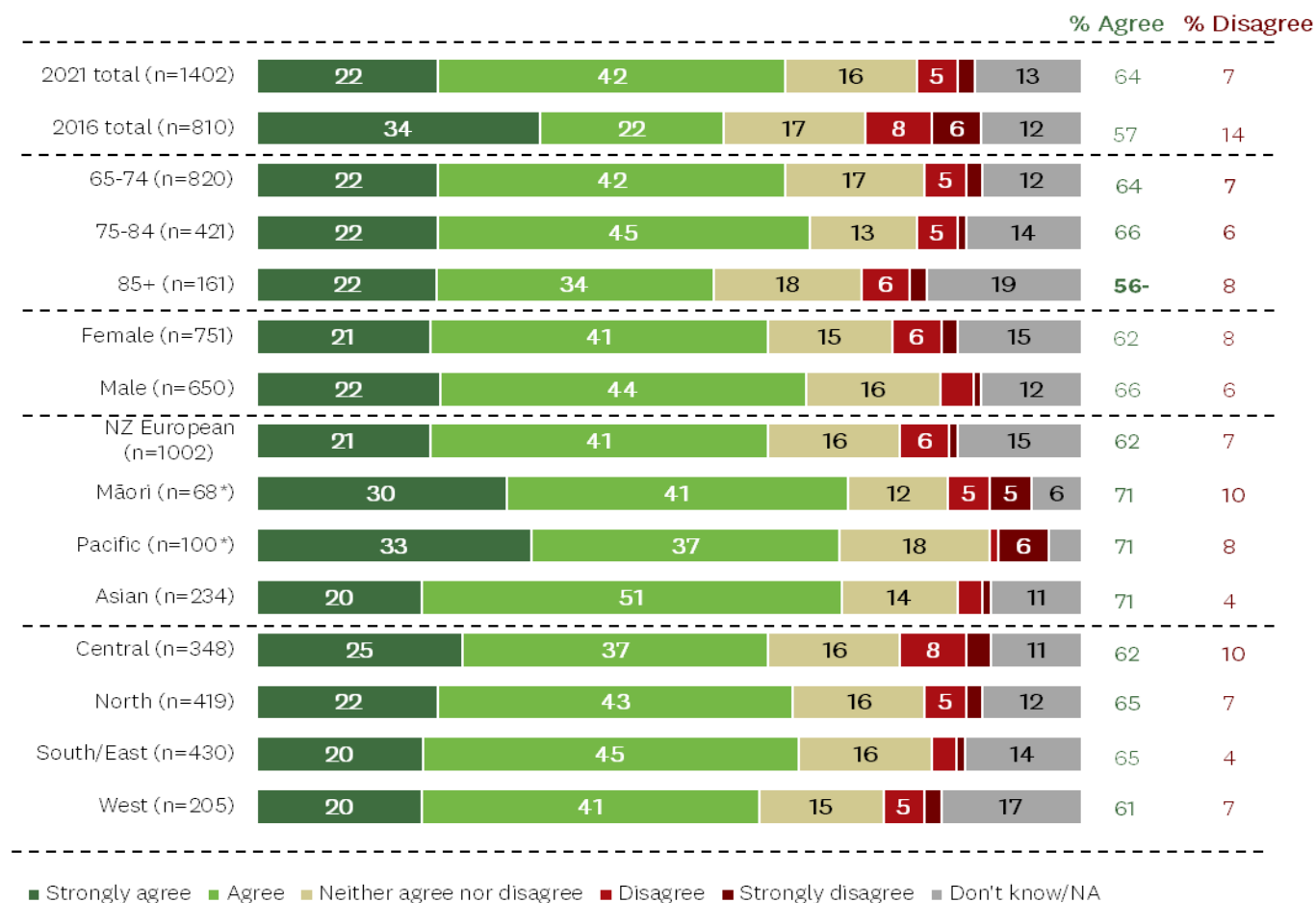


Figure 63: Respondent perceptions that they have an opportunity to contribute and play a valued role as an elder in their family or wider community (2021 n=1402, 2016 n=810).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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
<i>At least one unpaid activity</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>88</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>81</i>
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%).



15% received wages/salary from an employer

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 self-employed

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.

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

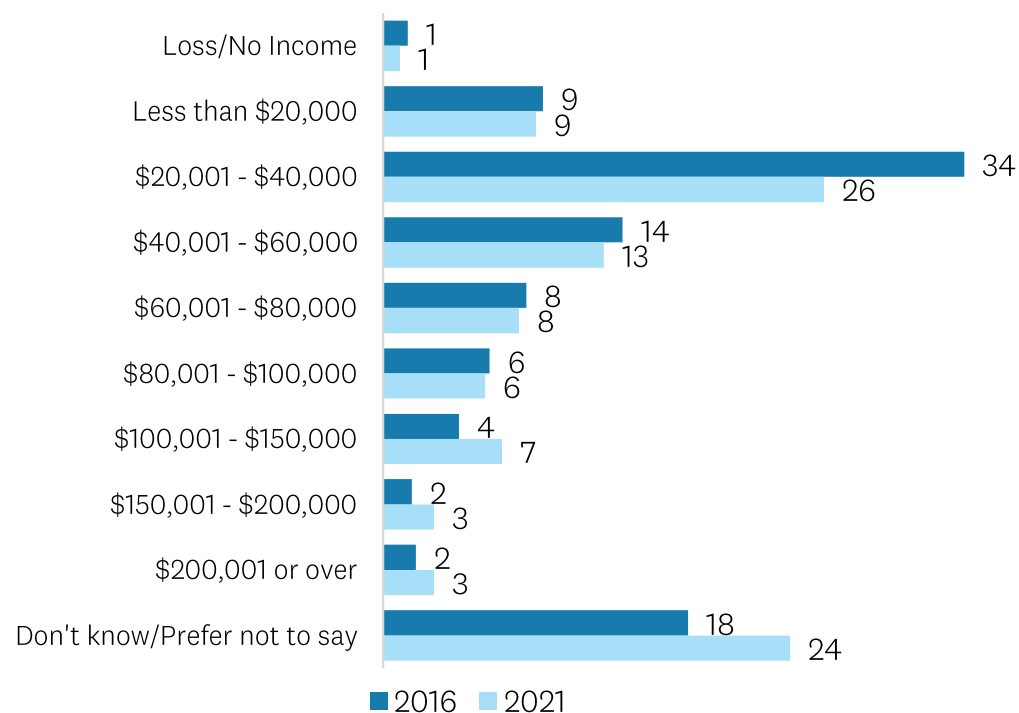


Figure 64: Respondents' household annual income before tax (%) (2021 n=1389, 2016 n=829)

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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%).

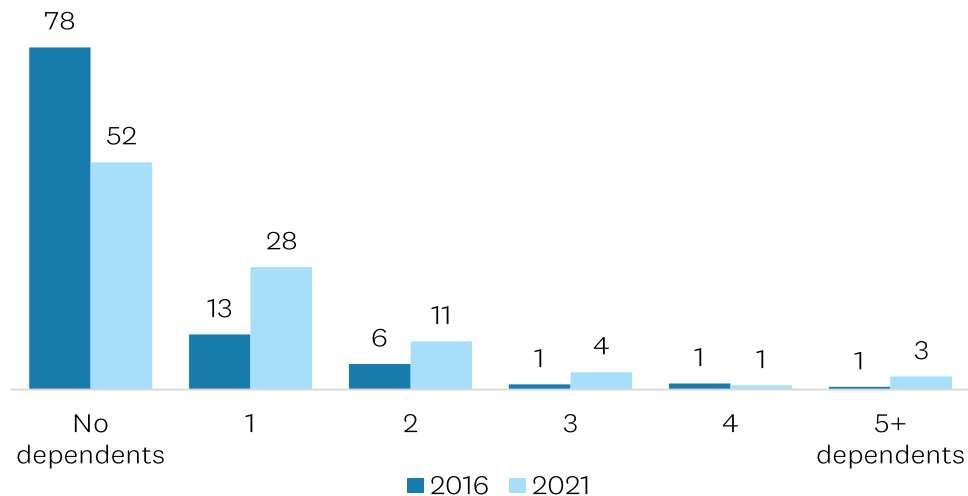


Figure 65: Respondents' financial dependents (2021 n=1392, 2016 n=768).

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%).



11% had two dependents; 4% had three dependents

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).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

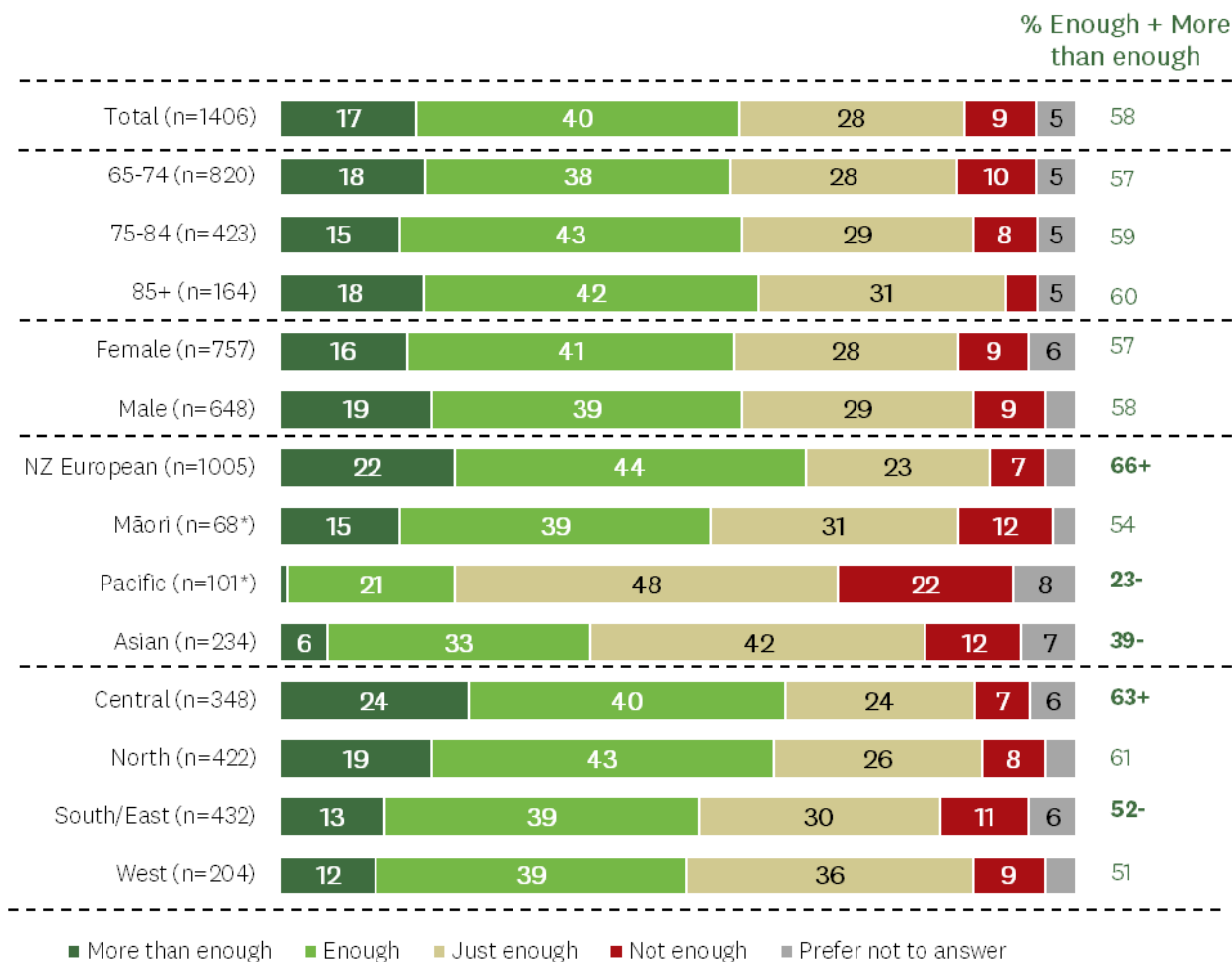


Figure 67: Respondent perceptions of whether their total income meets their everyday needs (n=1406).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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	
<i>Subtotals</i>						
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
<i>Unemployment rate</i> ⁽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'.



Paid employment: Work and labour force status

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	
<i>Subtotals</i>						
Total people in labour force	3696	7	4620	7	6153	8
Total people employed	3642	6	4560	7	6048	8
<i>Unemployment rate</i> ⁽²⁾		2		<1		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'.

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%).



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



Communication and Information



Older Aucklanders have increasing access to, and confidence using, the Internet



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.

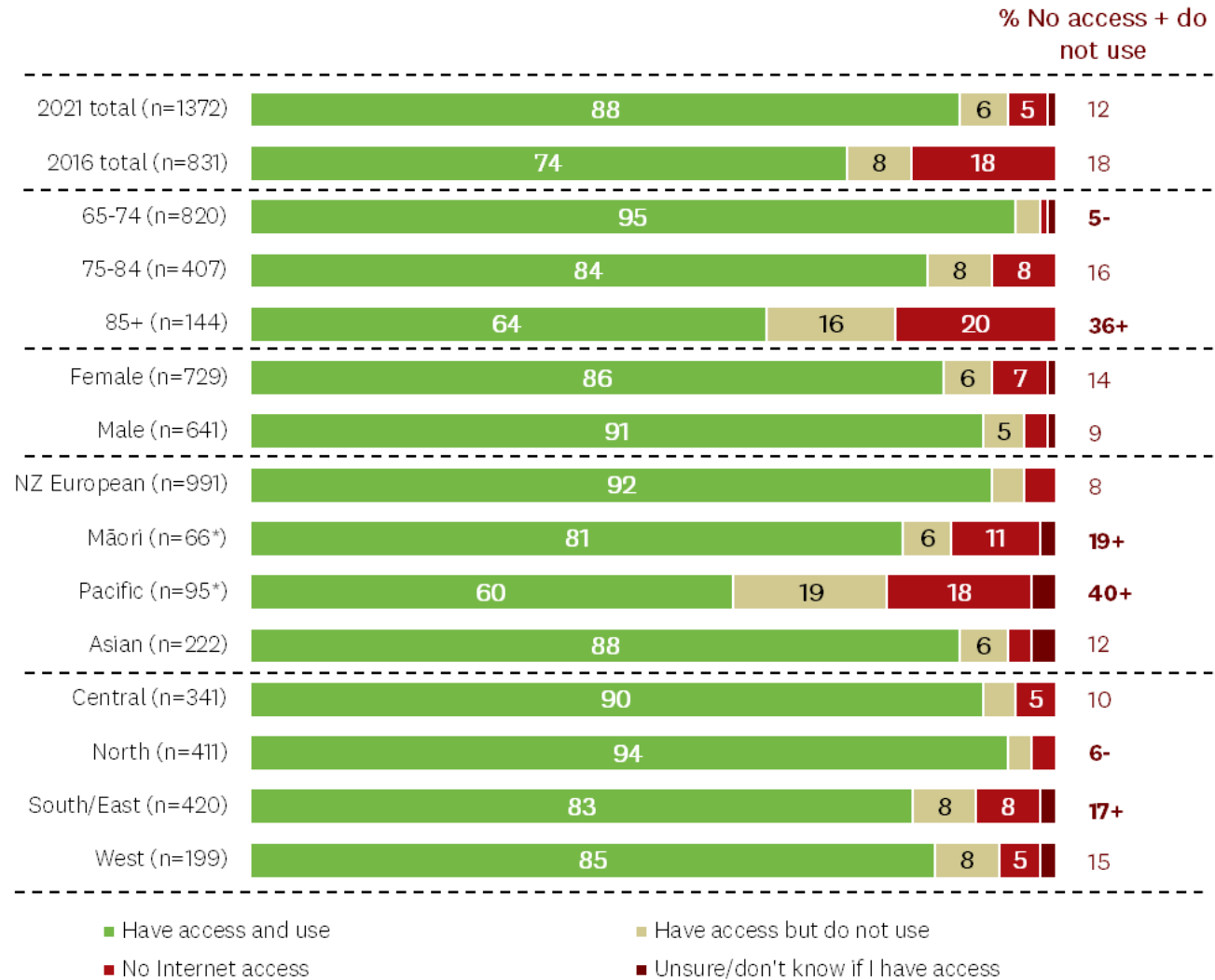


Figure 68: Respondent access to and use of the Internet (2021 n=1372, 2016 n=831).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

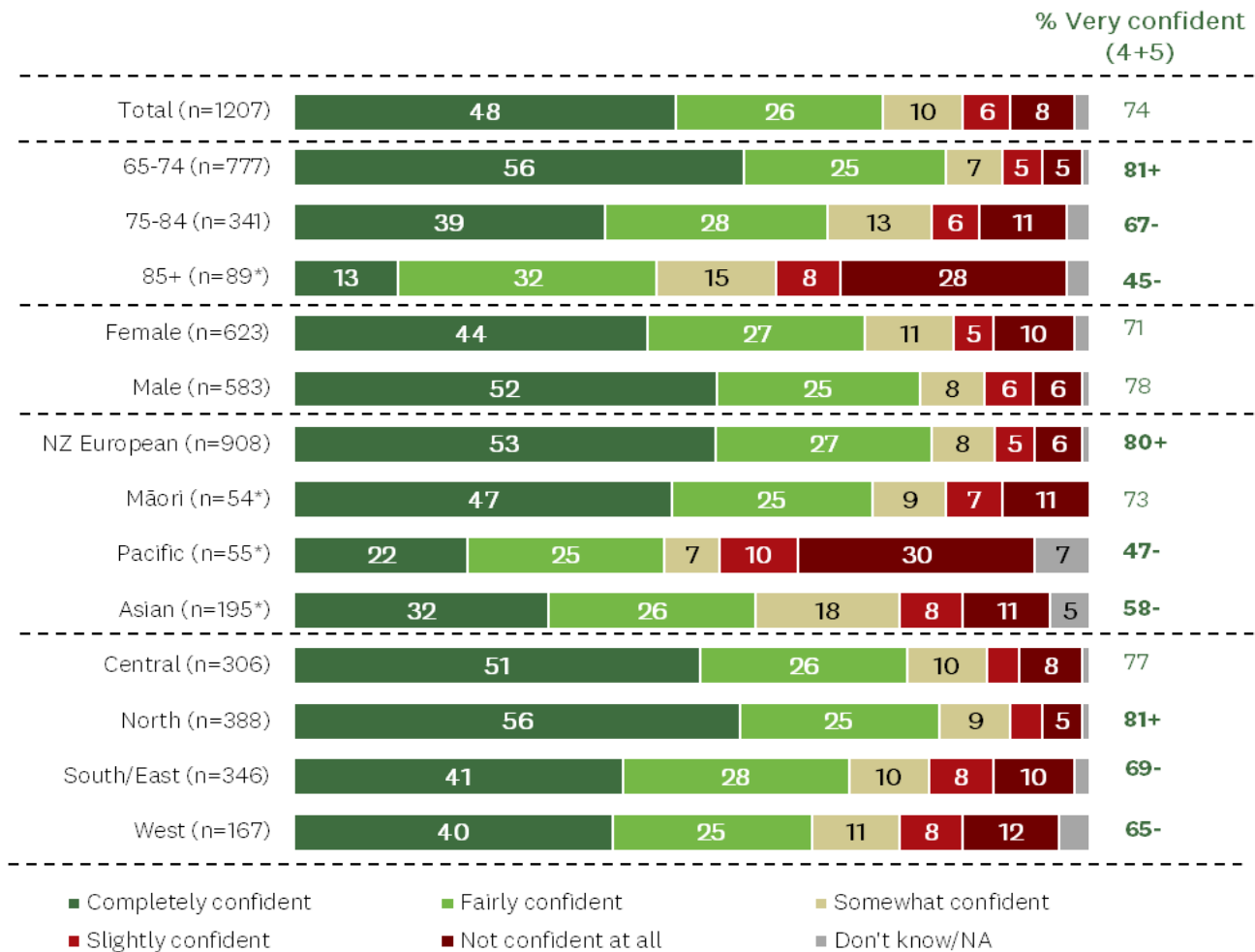


Figure 69: Respondent confidence in using the Internet to make transactions (n=1207).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

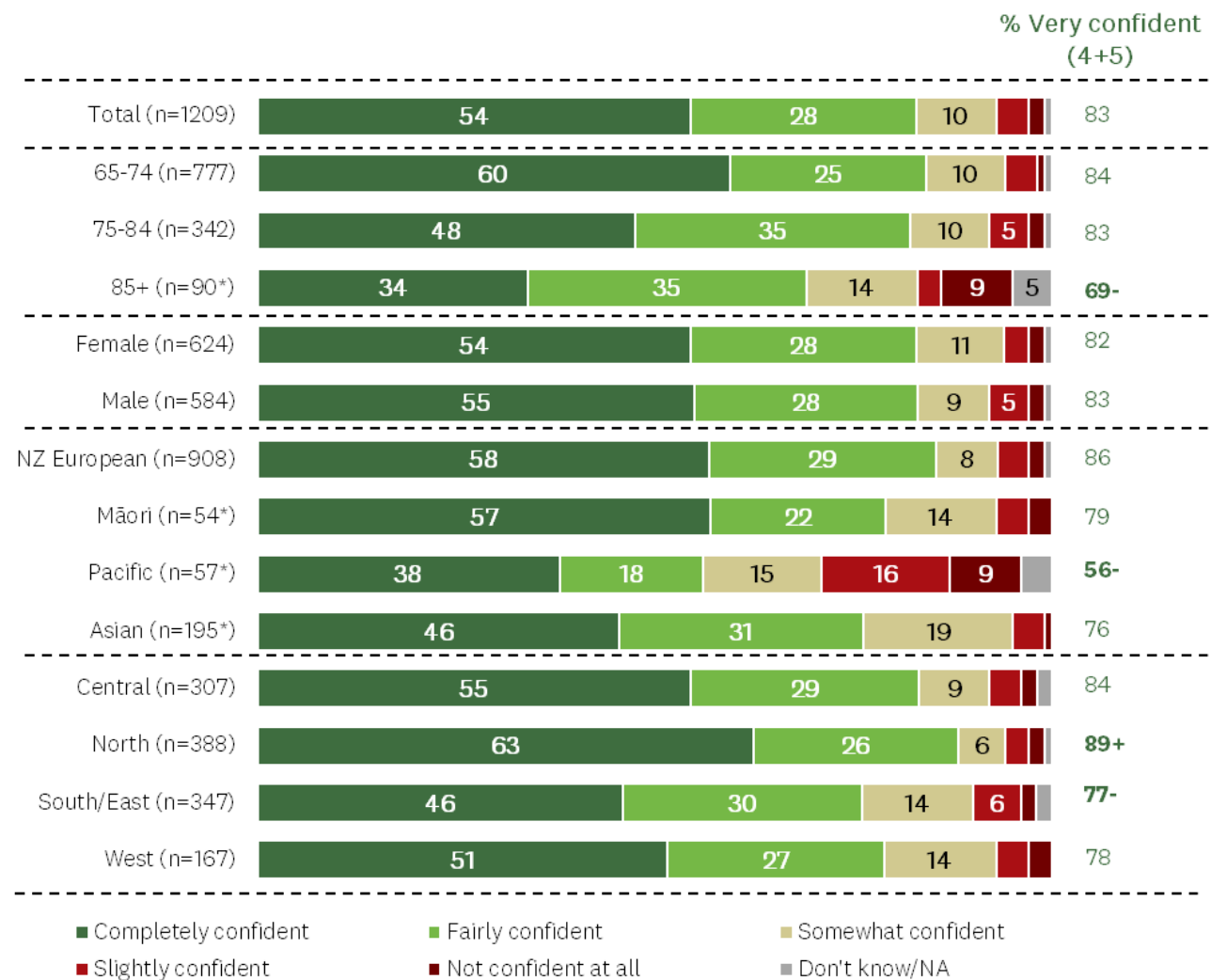


Figure 70: Respondent confidence in using the Internet to keep connected with friends and family (n=1209).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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



Community Support and Health Services



High levels of health reported by many older Aucklanders



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.

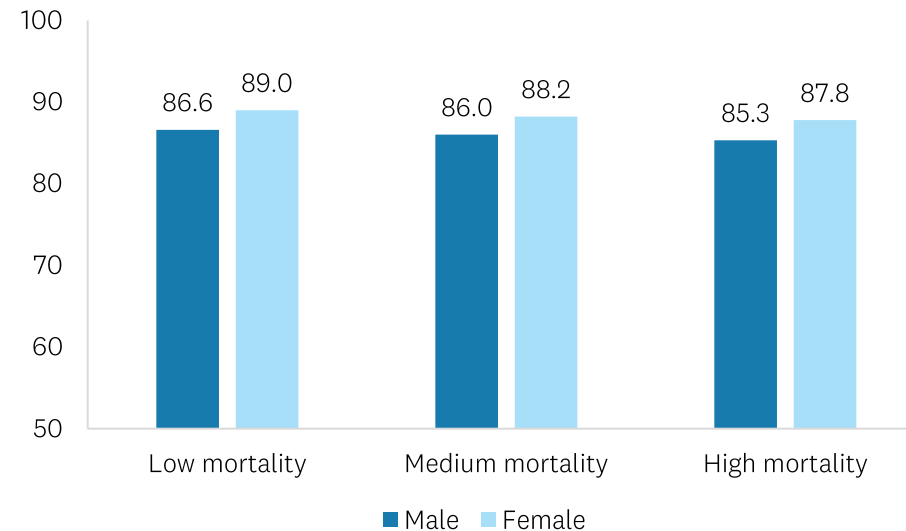


Figure 71: Life expectancy of New Zealanders aged 65 years.

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.

Indicators	Unadjusted data prevalence (%), 2017-2020		Test of significance of difference between PHU and NZ
	Auckland Regional Public Health Service	New Zealand	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 (↑) or lower (↓) 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.

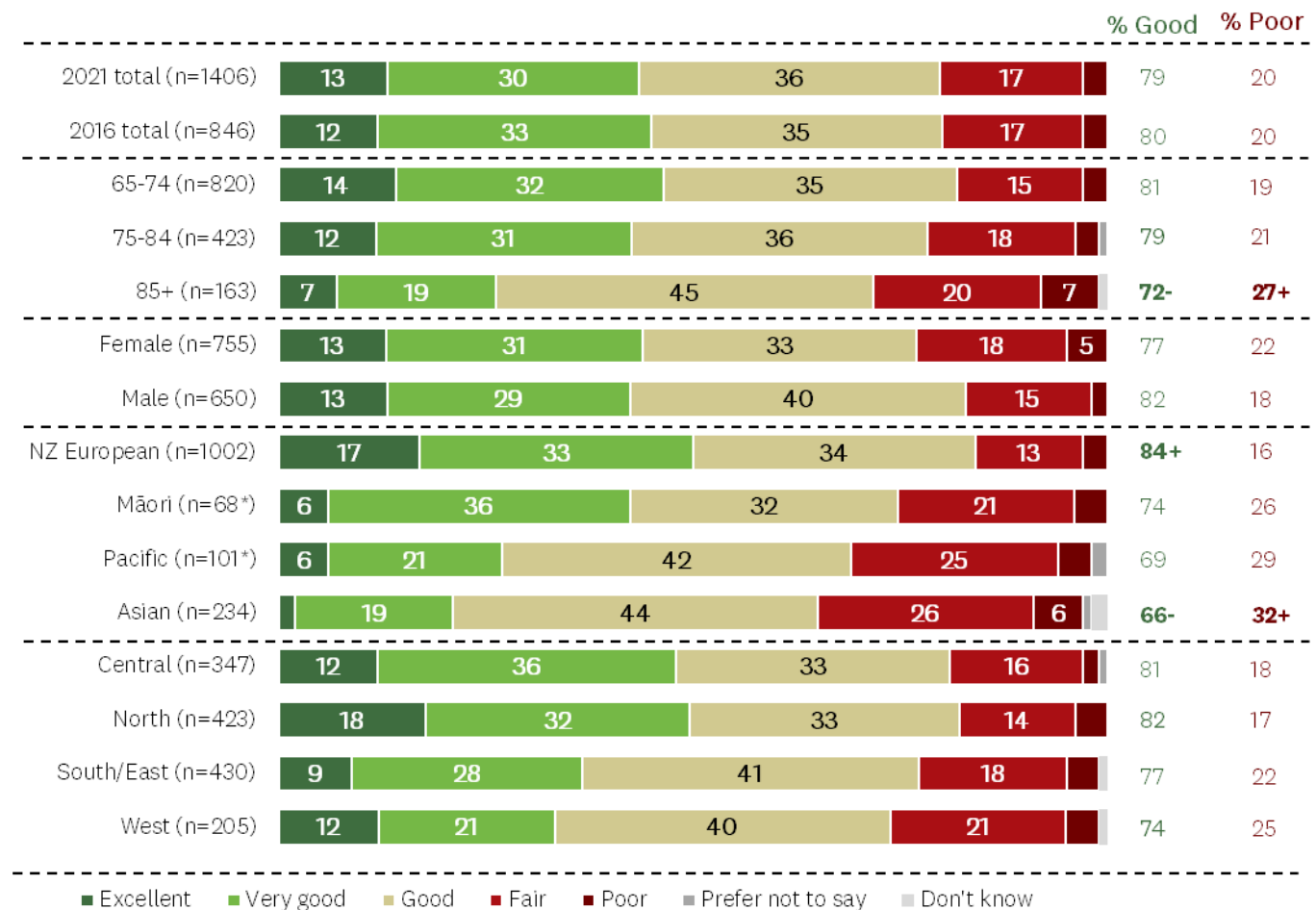


Figure 72: Respondent perceptions of their health in general (2021 n=1406, 2016 n=846).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

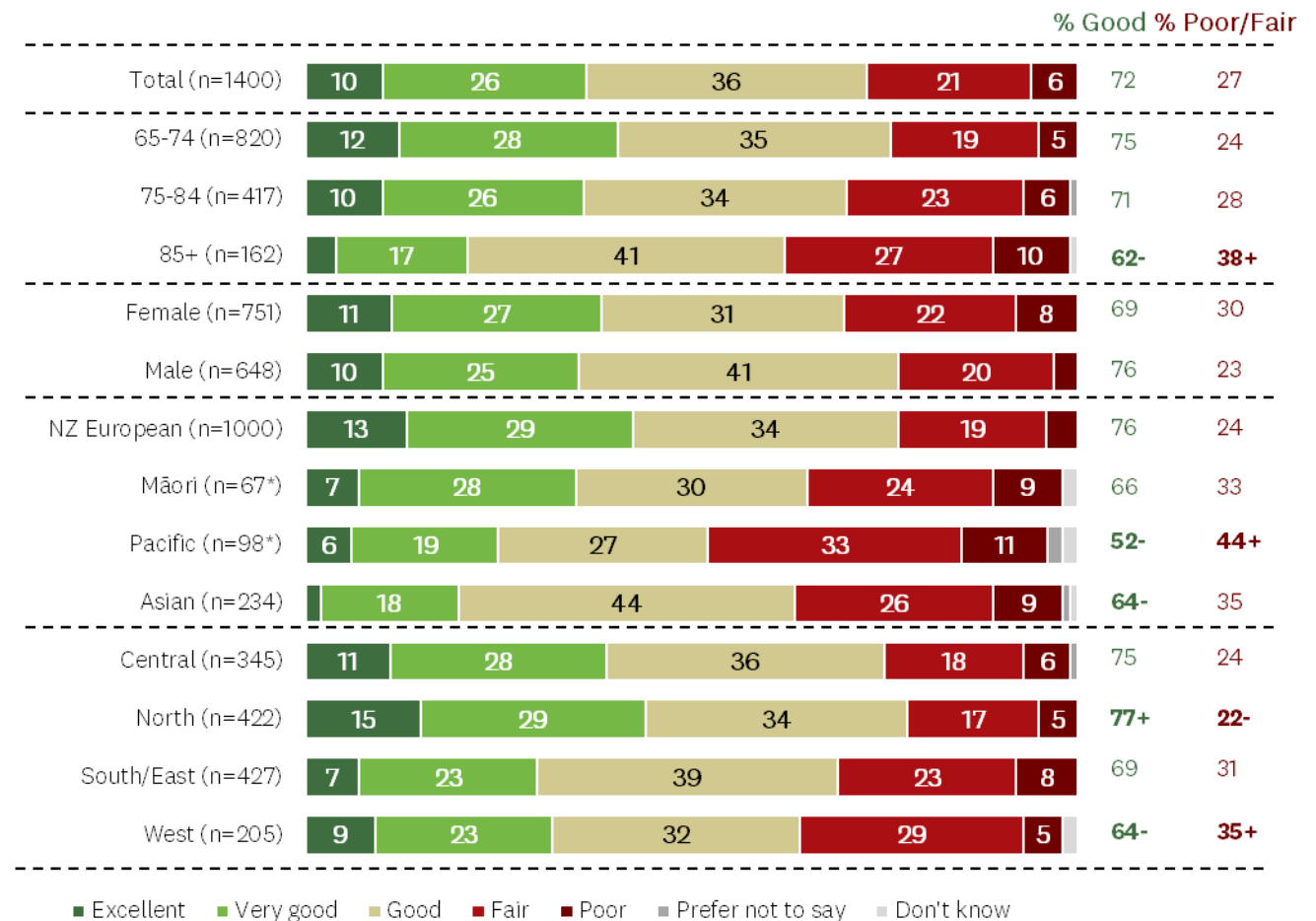


Figure 73: Respondent perceptions of their physical health (n=1400).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

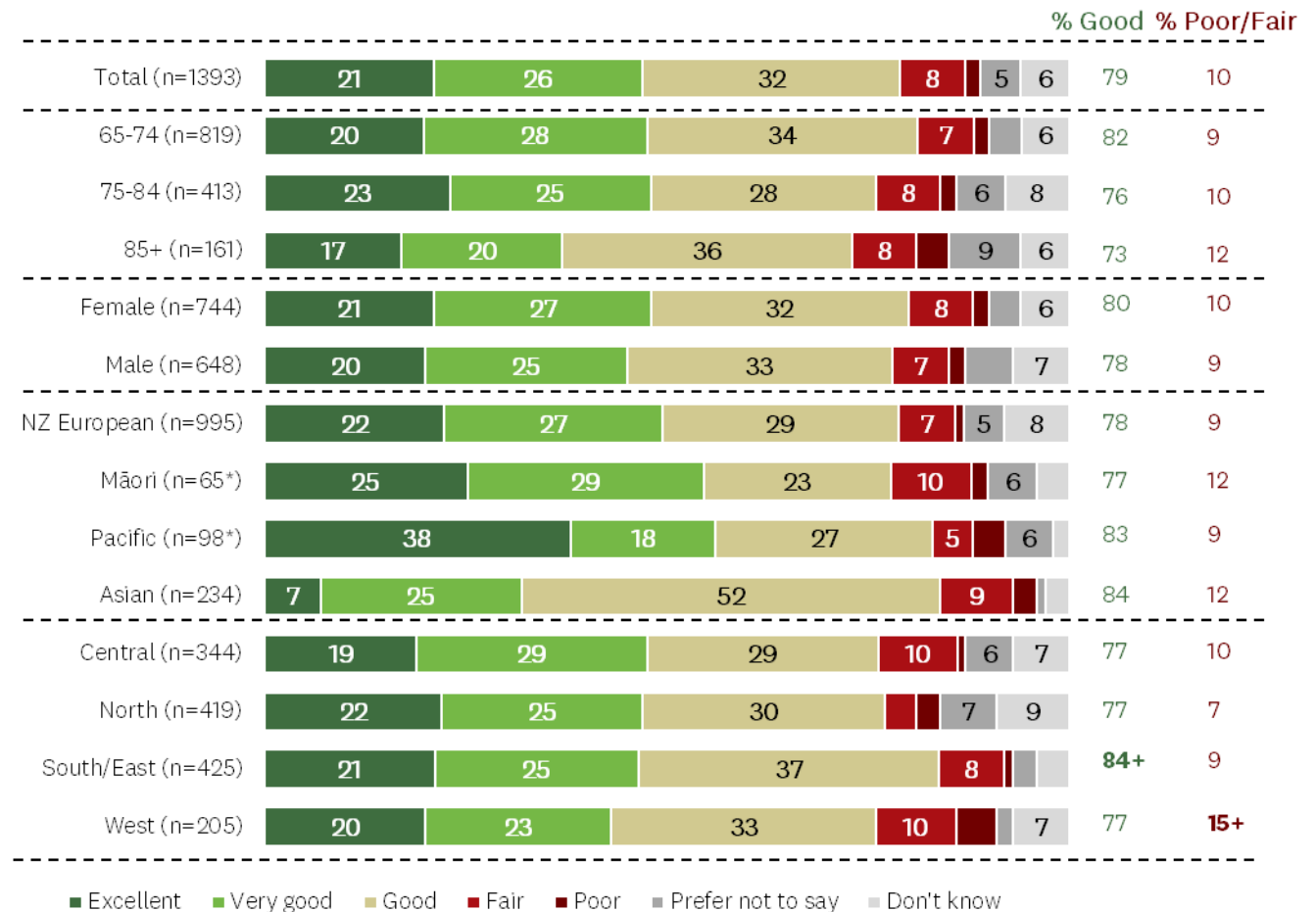


Figure 74: Respondent perceptions of their spiritual health (n=1393).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

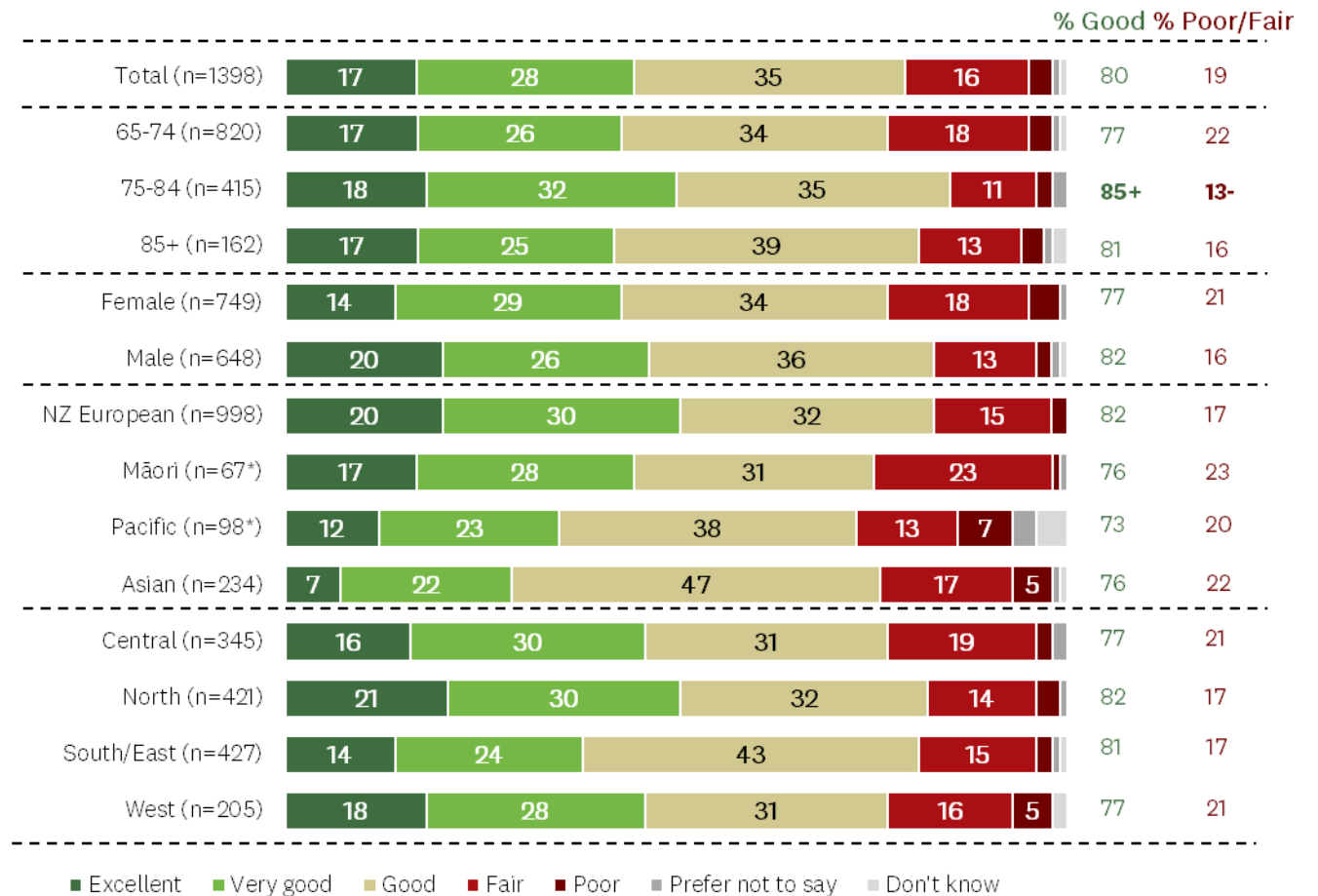


Figure 75: Respondent perceptions of their mental and emotional health (n=1398).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

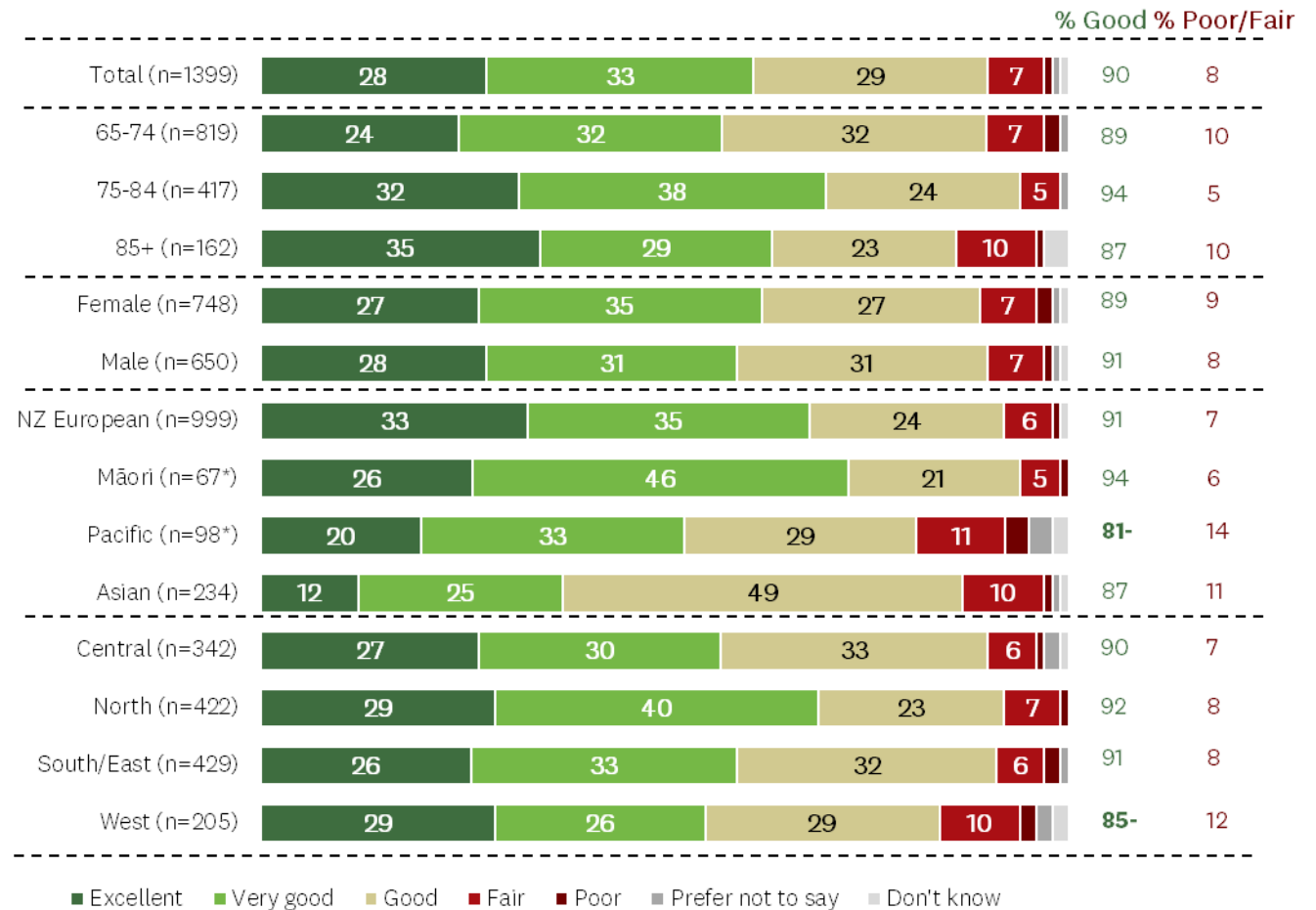


Figure 76: Respondent perceptions of their family and relationship health (n=1399).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

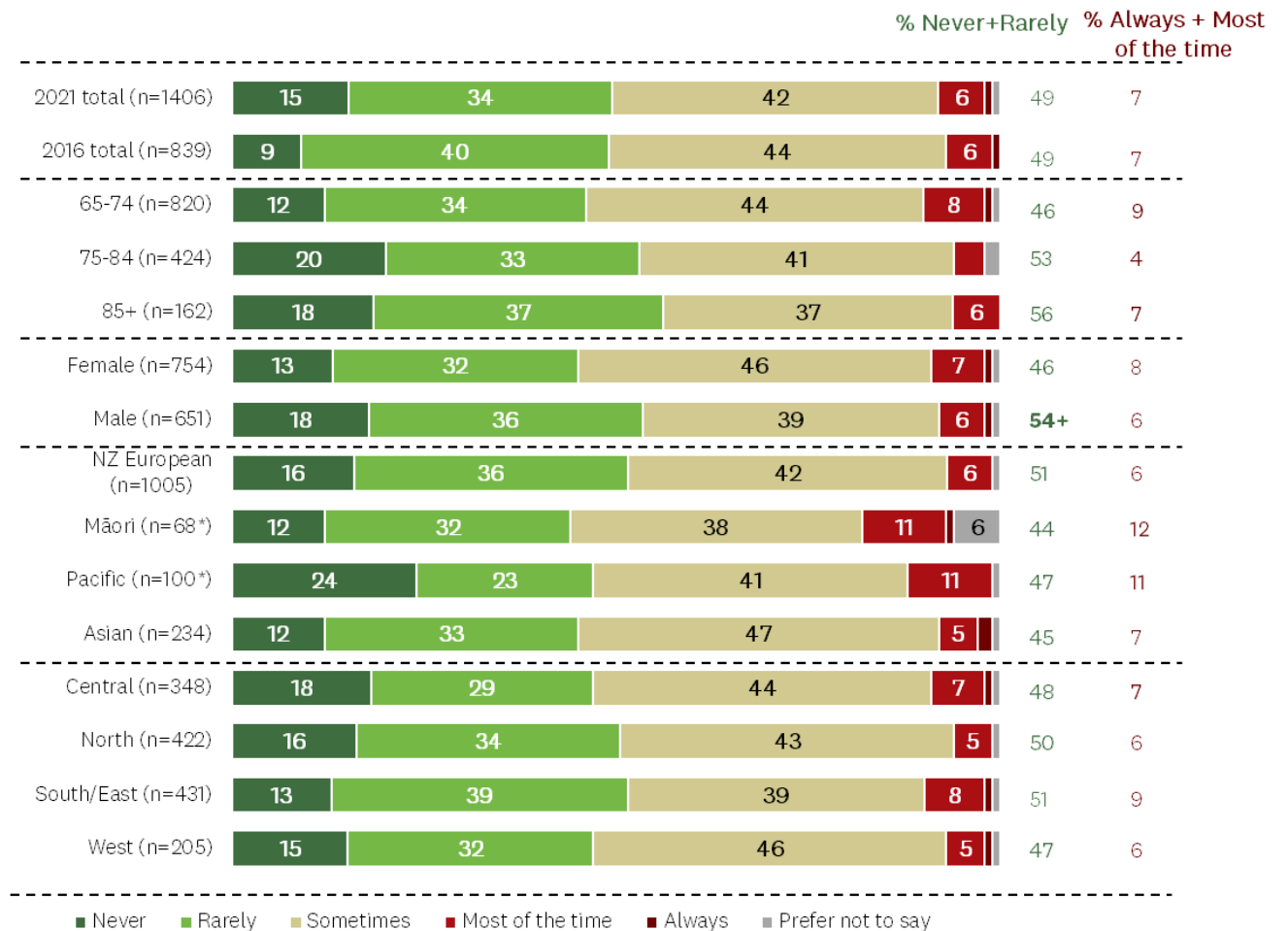


Figure 77: Respondent experiences of serious and negative stress in the last 12 months (2021 n=1406, 2016 n=839).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



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.

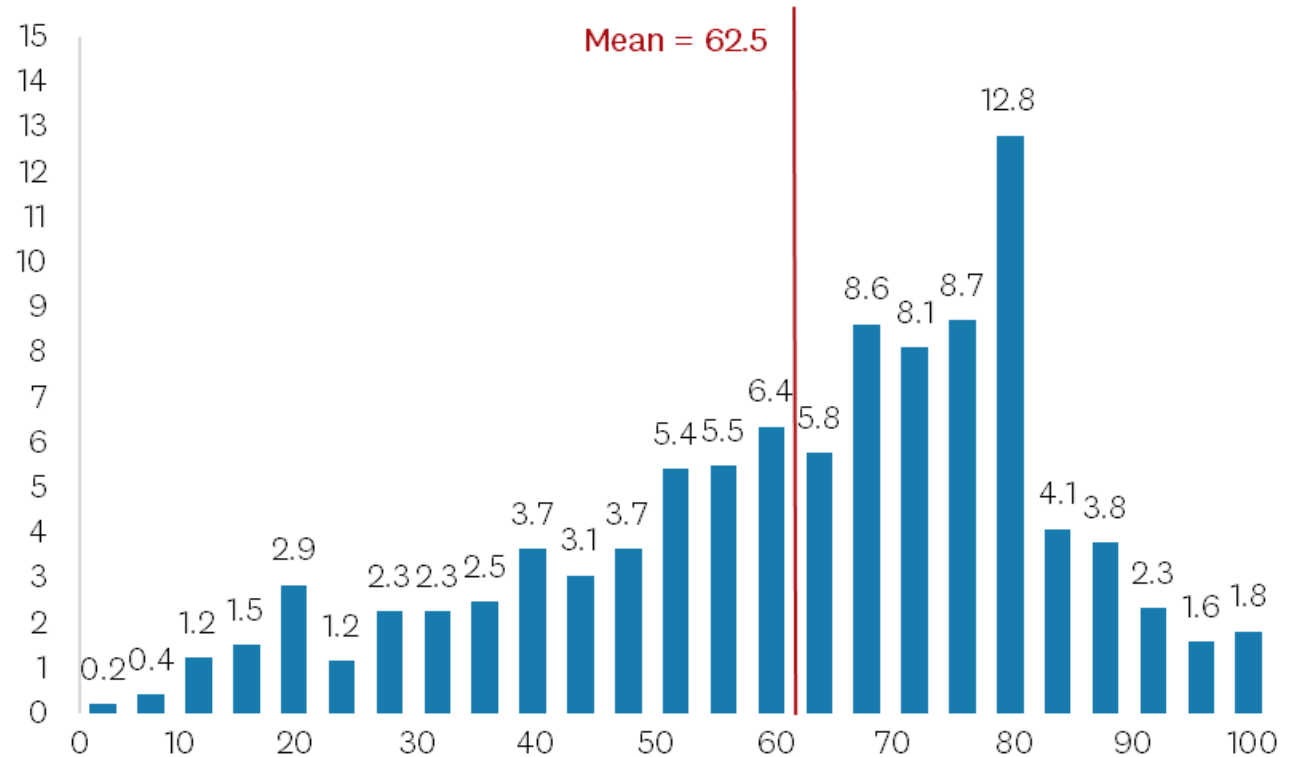


Figure 78: Respondents' WHO-5 scores (%) (n=1373).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.



Accidental injuries

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) injuries		
	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 ^P	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) "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 after-hours 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.

Indicators	Unadjusted data prevalence (%), 2017-2020		Test of significance of difference between PHU and NZ
	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 (↑) or lower (↓) prevalence than the NZ rate (Statistically significant).



Levels of physical activity

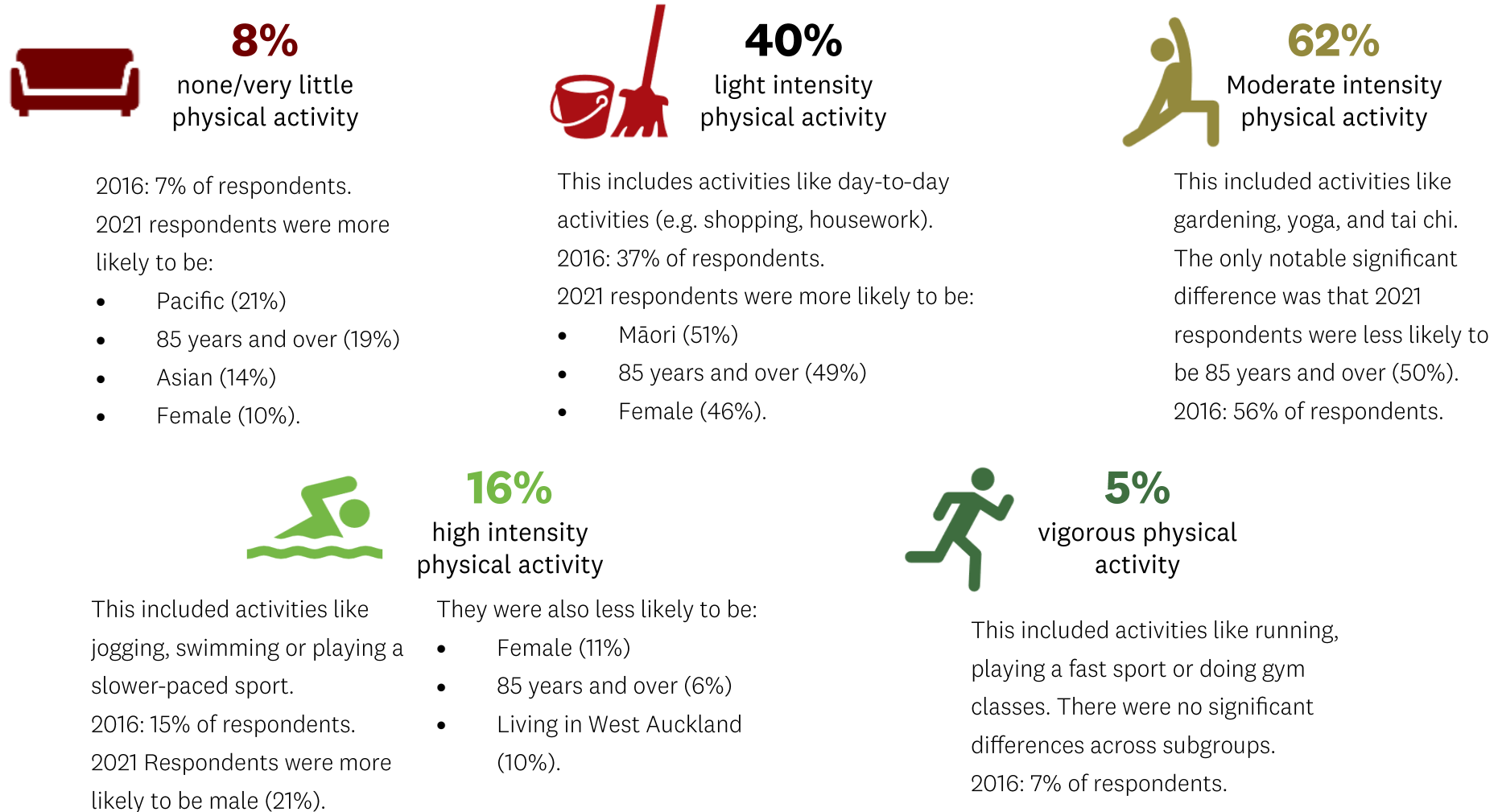


Figure 79: Reported types and intensity of physical activity over the last week (n=1405).

Source: Older Aucklanders survey.

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

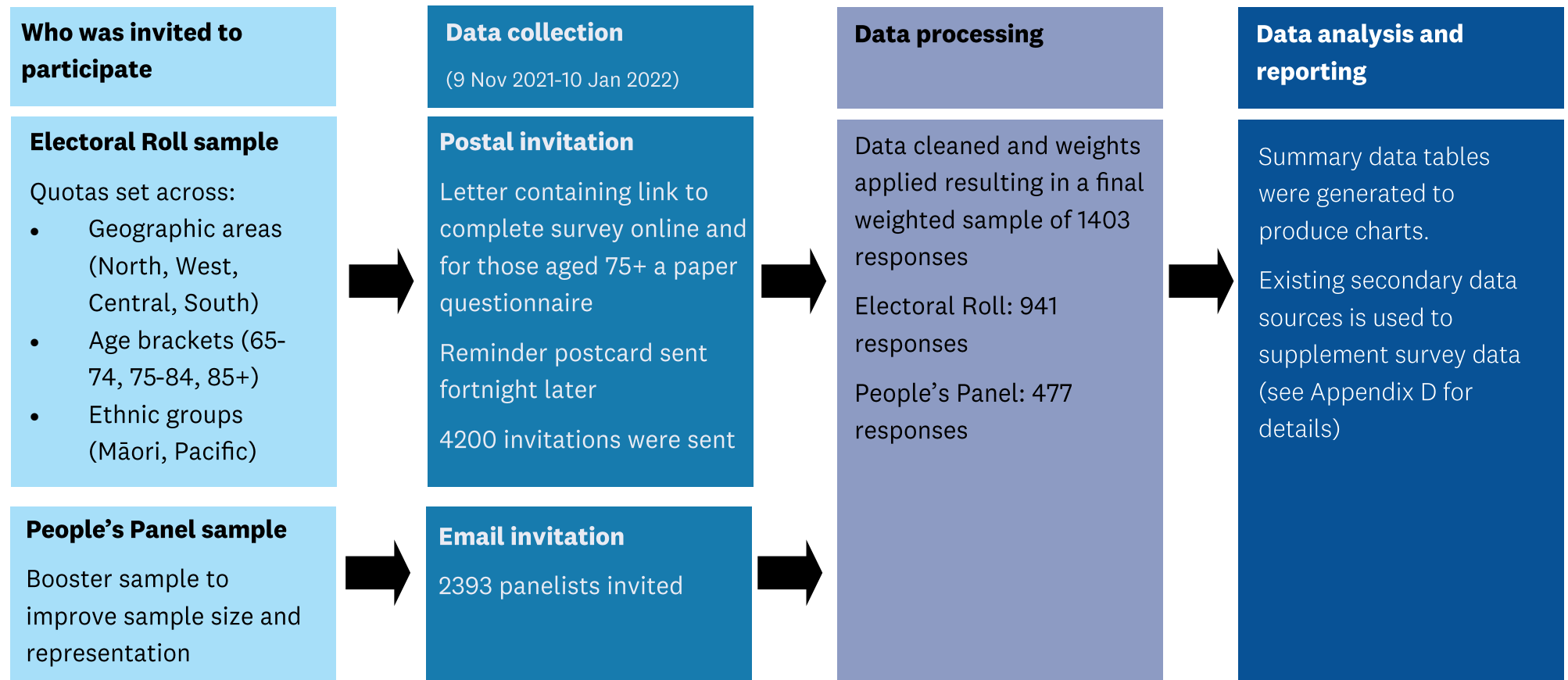
Some survey questions (e.g., use of public transport) were edited or developed as answers were dependent on respondents' consideration of the impacts of COVID-19.

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 <u>one</u> answer	Please circle <u>one</u> answer for each statement
Yes 1	Question... 1 2 3 4 5
No 2	Question... 1 2 3 4 5

When there is an instruction to go to a certain question, please circle the correct answer before going to the question as instructed

Please circle one answer

Yes 1 → Go to Q1	if you change your mind after circling a number, just cross it out and circle the correct number for your answer.
No 2	1 2 3





HOUSING

First, a few questions about your current housing situation.

Q1 What kind of home do you currently live in? Please circle one answer

Standalone house on a section	1
Town house, unit or terraced house (houses joined, side-by-side)	2
Apartment	3
Retirement village / community - a villa, apartment or bungalow	4
Retirement village / community - serviced apartment	5
Assisted living facility - rest home, hospital, hospice, dementia care	6
Lifestyle block or farm homestead	7
Other (please specify)	8
<hr style="width: 80%; margin-left: 0;"/>	

Q2 Who owns the home you live in? Please circle one answer

I own it with a mortgage	1
I own it without a mortgage	2
I jointly own it with other people, with a mortgage	3
I jointly own it with other people, without a mortgage	4
A family trust owns it	5
Children/other family members or my partner owns it	6
A private landlord who is not related to me owns it	7
A retirement village or rest home owns it (e.g. licence to occupy, unit title, cross lease)	8
Auckland Council owns it	9
Kāinga Ora (formerly Housing New Zealand) owns it	10
Other state landlord (e.g., Department of Conservation, Ministry of Education) owns it	11
A social service agency (e.g. the Salvation Army) owns it	12
Don't know	13
Other (please specify)	14
<hr style="width: 80%; margin-left: 0;"/>	

- 2 -

Q3 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

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 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.

Q5 In the period between November 2020 and August 17th 2021, before the current COVID-19 restrictions, how often were you using 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

Q6 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 Q8

Q7 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

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know / Not applicable
Safe (when waiting for transport to arrive)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Comfortable (when waiting for transport to arrive including sheltered dry seating)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Affordable	1	2	3	4	5	6
Safe (when on the bus, train or ferry)	1	2	3	4	5	6
Meeting your accessibility needs (physical, sensory or intellectual) throughout the journey	1	2	3	4	5	6



YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD / LOCAL AREA

These questions are about the area that you live in.

Q8 How safe or unsafe do you feel in the following situations?

Please circle one answer for each statement

	Very unsafe	A bit unsafe	Fairly 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	5	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	5	6

Q9 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	5	6
The quality of footpaths, pavements and walking tracks (e.g., free of cracks / holes, good surface for wheelchairs, wide enough)	1	2	3	4	5	6

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Q10 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

Q11 In your daily life, to what extent do you consider sustainability and the environment when you make choices about what you do, buy or use?

Please circle one answer

Never	1
Rarely	2
Sometimes	3
Most of the time	4
Always	5
I don't make choices about what to do / buy / use	6
Don't know / Not applicable	7

Q12 To what extent do you personally worry about the impact of climate change on the future of Auckland and residents of Auckland?

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.

Q13 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	6	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

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Q14 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

Q15 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

Q16 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.

Q17 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

Faith-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, hapū 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, tai 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

Q18 In the last 12 months, how often, if ever, have you felt lonely or isolated?

Please circle one answer

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

Q19 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

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

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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 faith)	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 17 th 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 17 th 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 17 th 2021 COVID-19 restrictions, I was visited by friends, family or whānau as often 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

Q21 In the last 12 months, do you feel you have been discriminated against because of your:

Please circle 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

Q22 Thinking about experiences you have had with Auckland Council services (e.g., libraries, community centres, recreational and leisure centres, events, etc.) in the past 12 months, 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 gender-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	<input type="checkbox"/>					



COMMUNICATION

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

Q23 Which of the following best describes your use of the Internet (via laptop/PC, tablet or phone)?

Please circle one 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 | |
| I have access to the Internet and use it | 3 | |
| Unsure / don't know if I have access to the Internet | 4 | |

Q24 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	Fairly confident	Completely confident	Don't know/Not applicable
Transactions <i>These include online banking, paying bills or buying goods, or filling in forms with personal information online, etc</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6
Keeping connected with friends and family <i>For example, using email, Facebook, FaceTime, Zoom, WeChat</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6

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ECONOMIC STANDARD OF LIVING

The following questions are about your finances and economic wellbeing.

Q25 Which of the following describes your household's annual income before tax?

Please circle one answer

- | | |
|--|----|
| Loss/No 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-\$2,800 per week) | 7 |
| \$150,001 – \$200,000 (Approx. \$2,801-\$3,850 per week) | 8 |
| \$200,001 or over (Over approx. \$3,851 per week) | 9 |
| Don't know/Prefer not to say | 10 |

Q26 In the last 12 months, which of the following ways did you get income?

Please circle all that 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. supported living payment, accommodation supplement) | 7 |
| Other superannuation, pensions or annuities (e.g. overseas pensions, private pensions from workplaces) | 8 |
| Regular payments from ACC or a private work accident insurer | 9 |
| Other sources of income, including support payments from people who do not live in my household | 10 |
| No source of income during that time | 11 |
| Prefer not to say | 12 |

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Q27 Excluding yourself, how many people do you support financially on a regular basis?

This includes people in New Zealand and/or overseas.

Please circle one answer

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10+

Q28 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 circle one answer

Not enough money to meet my everyday needs	1
Just enough money to meet my everyday needs	2
Enough money to meet my everyday needs	3
More than enough money to meet my everyday needs	4
Prefer not to answer	5



COVID-19

These questions are about COVID-19.

Q29 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

Q30 Do you have any further comments about the impact of COVID-19 on you and your friends and family?

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QUALITY OF LIFE

Q31 Would you say that your overall quality of life is...

Please circle one answer

Extremely poor	1
Poor	2
Neither poor nor good	3
Good	4
Extremely good	5

Q32 For what reasons did you rate your quality of life that way?



DEMOGRAPHICS

These questions are about you.

Q33 Which of the following age groups do you belong to?

Please circle one answer

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
85-89 years old	5
90 years or over	6

Q34 Were you born in New Zealand?

Please circle one answer

Yes	1
No	2

→ Go to Q36

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Q36 How many years have you lived in New Zealand?
Please circle one answer

Less than 1 year	1
Between 1 and up to 2 years	2
Between 2 and up to 5 years	3
Between 5 and up to 10 years	4
10 years or more	5

Q38 Which ethnic groups do you belong to?
Please circle all that apply

New Zealand European	1
Māori	2
Samoan	3
Tongan	4
Cook Islands Māori	5
Niuean	6
Fijian	7
Chinese	8
Indian	9
Korean	10
Japanese	11
Filipino	12
Prefer not to say	13
Other (please specify)	14

IF YOU ARE NOT MĀORI, PLEASE GO TO Q38

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Q37 Do you know the name(s) of your iwi (tribe or tribes)?

Please circle one answer

Yes	1	} Go to Q38
No	2	
Prefer not to say	3	

Q37a What is the name and home area, rohe or region of your iwi?

Please circle all that apply

Te Tai Tokerau/Tāmaki-makaurau (Northland/Auckland) Region Iwi	1
Hauraki (Coromandel) Region Iwi	2
Waikato/Te Rohe Pōtae (Waikato/King Country) Region Iwi	3
Te Arawa/Taupō (Rotorua/Taupō) Region Iwi	4
Tairāngia Moana/Mātaeua (Bay of Plenty) Region Iwi	5
Te Tai Rāwhiti (East Coast) Region Iwi	6
Te Matau-a-Māui/Wairarapa (Hawke's Bay/Wairarapa) Region Iwi	7
Taranaki Region Iwi	8
Whanganui/Rangitīkei (Wanganui/Rangitīkei) Region Iwi	8
Manawātū/Horowhenua/Te Whanganui-a-Tara (Manawātū/Horowhenua/Wellington) Region Iwi	10
Te Waipounamu/Wharekauri (South Island/Chatham Islands) Region Iwi	11
Other (please specify)	

Don't know	

Q37b What is the name of your iwi?

Q38 What is your gender?

Please circle one answer

Male	1
Female	2
Another gender, please state	3

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Q39 Do you consider yourself to be transgender?

Transgender is an umbrella term that refers to people whose gender is different to the sex they were assigned at birth. Other identities considered to fall under this umbrella can include non-binary, transsexual, takatāpui, fa'afafine, genderqueer - and many more.

Please circle one 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 think of yourself?

Please circle one answer

Heterosexual or straight	1
Gay or lesbian	2
Bisexual	3
Other, please specify _____	4
I don't know	5
Prefer not to say	6

Q41 Lastly, do you have any final comments you would like to make?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Please check that you have completed all pages of the questionnaire and then put the completed questionnaire in the Freepost envelope provided or any envelope (no stamp required) and post it to:

FreePost Authority Number 196397
Survey Returns Team
NeisenIQ
Private Bag 83500
Takapuna
Auckland 0740
New Zealand

if you have any questions please call 0800 400 402

Appendix C: Survey participant sample

	Unweighted %	Weighted %
<i>Gender (Base: All respondents)</i>		
Female	49	54
Male	51	46
Another gender	0	0
Transgender	0	0
<i>Age (Base: All respondents)</i>		
65-74	45	58
75-84	44	30
85+	12	12
<i>Ethnicity (Base: All respondents)</i>		
Māori	8	5
Pacific	5	7
Asian	8	17
Other	85	74
<i>Area (Base: All respondents)</i>		
Central	26	25
North	30	30
South/East	29	31
West	16	15
<i>Sexuality (Base: All respondents)</i>		
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 %
<i>Birthplace (Base: All respondents)</i>		
Born in New Zealand	63	55
Born overseas	37	45
<i>Length of time lived in New Zealand (Base: All respondents born overseas)</i>		
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
<i>Deprivation area (Base: All respondents)</i>		
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 rimu@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

or visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz and knowledgeauckland.org.nz