

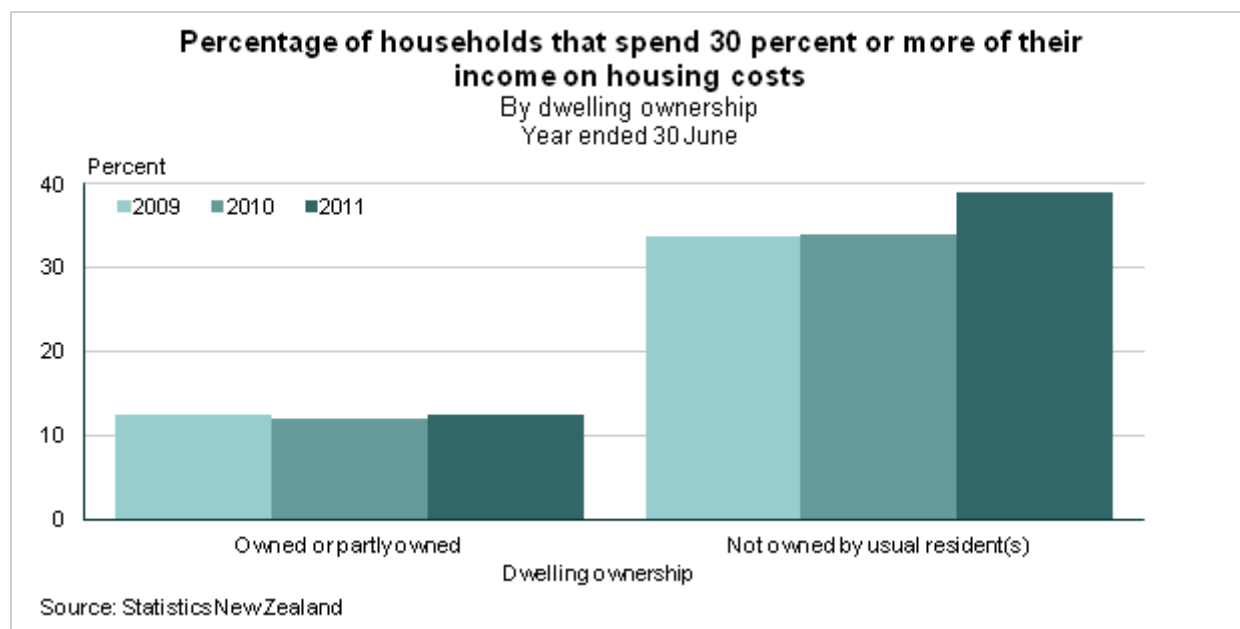
# Household Economic Survey (Income): Year ended June 2011

Embargoed until 10:45am – 25 November 2011

## Key facts

Over the two years from the year ended June 2009 to the year ended June 2011:

- Total housing costs as a proportion of total regular household income increased from 15.1 percent to 16.0 percent.
- The proportion of households spending 30 percent or more of their income on housing costs increased from 19.5 percent to 21.8 percent.
  - For those not owning their own dwelling this proportion increased from 33.8 percent to 39.1 percent.
- Components of housing costs that increased were:
  - average weekly expenditure on rent (up 6.6 percent)
  - average weekly expenditure on property rates (up 9.3 percent)
  - overall, average weekly total housing costs increased slightly (to \$248).
- Average annual household regular income was relatively unchanged, at \$79,159.



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## Commentary

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## Overview

Total housing costs as a proportion of total regular household income have increased in the two years since 30 June 2009 – from 15.1 percent in the year ended June 2009 (2008/09) to 16.0 percent in the year ended June 2011 (2010/11). This was due to housing costs increasing while there was little change in household incomes.

Components of housing costs that increased over this period were:

- average weekly expenditure on rents (up 6.6 percent)
- average weekly expenditure on property rates (up 9.3 percent).

For the two-year period from 2008/09 to 2010/11, average weekly total housing costs increased slightly (from \$232 to \$248). For households that own their own dwelling the main increases were for property rates and mortgage principal repayments, which were partly offset by a decrease in mortgage interest payments. For households that do not own their own dwelling the increase in housing costs was driven by an increase in rent payments.

Average annual household income from regular sources showed little change over the two years – from \$78,019 in 2008/09 to \$79,159 in 2010/11.

Due to differences in the questionnaire structure between Household Economic Survey (Income) and full HES, the mortgages and total housing costs expenditure is only compared with previous HES (Income) years in this commentary. See [data quality](#) for more information.

## Housing costs increase more than incomes

Total housing costs as a proportion of total regular household income have increased in the two years since 30 June 2009 – from 15.1 percent in the year ended June 2009 to 16.0 percent in the year ended June 2011 (the proportion is calculated by dividing total housing costs for all households by total income for all households. This proportion is often used as a measure of housing affordability).

The proportion of all households spending 30 percent or more of their income on housing costs increased from 19.5 percent in 2008/09 to 21.8 percent in 2010/11. The proportion spending 40 percent or more of their income on housing costs also increased, from 10.8 percent in 2008/09 to 12.5 percent in 2010/11.

For households that own their own dwelling, the proportion spending:

- 30 percent or more of their income on housing costs was relatively unchanged from 2008/09 to 2010/11 (12.5 percent and 12.6 percent, respectively)
- 40 percent or more of their income on housing costs was also relatively unchanged (6.3 percent and 6.9 percent, respectively).

For households that did not own their own dwelling, the proportion spending:

- 30 percent or more of their income on housing costs increased from 33.8 percent in 2008/09 to 39.1 percent in 2010/11
- 40 percent or more of their income on housing costs increased from 19.9 percent to 22.9 percent.

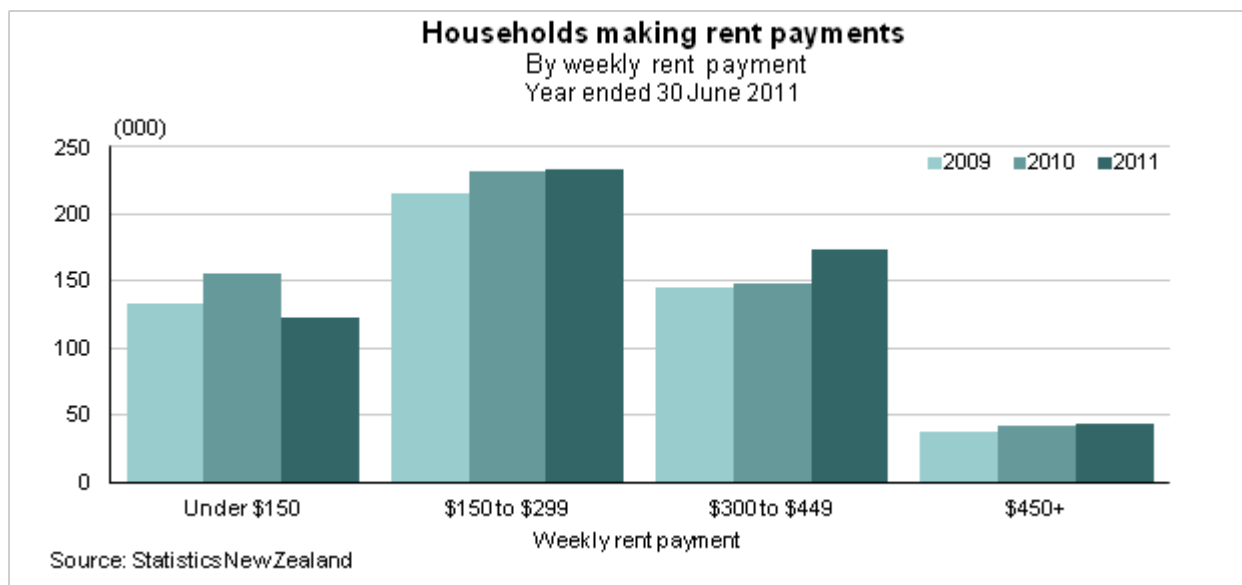
## Rent payments increase

In the year ended June 2011, 35 percent of all households made rent payments.

For these households the average weekly rent payment increased 7.4 percent, from \$242 in 2009/10 to \$260 in 2010/11. This increase followed a slight decrease in 2009/10, resulting in a 6.6 percent increase over the two years from 2008/09 to 2010/11.

In 2010/11, 38 percent of households made weekly rent payments of \$300 or more, up from 33 percent in 2009/10, and 34 percent in 2008/09. In 2010/11, 8 percent made weekly rent payments of \$450 and over, relatively unchanged from 2009/10, and 2008/09.

Rent payments include rent paid for primary property, rent paid for other properties, and other payments connected with renting (bonds, ground rent, and easements). For rent paid for primary property, the average weekly expenditure increased 6.5 percent, from \$252 in 2009/10 to \$269 in 2010/11. Since 2008/09, primary property rent has increased 7 percent.



## **Total mortgage costs relatively unchanged**

In the year ended June 2011, 31 percent of all households made mortgage payments.

Over the two years from the year ended June 2009 to the year ended June 2011, average weekly mortgage payments for households making payments decreased slightly (1.8 percent), down from \$376 to \$369. This change was influenced by a decrease in mortgage interest payments.

## **Property rates increase**

For households paying property rates, the average weekly expenditure increased 6.8 percent from \$37 in 2009/10 to \$39 in 2010/11. Over the two years from 2008/09 to 2010/11, average weekly property rates increased \$3 (9.3 percent).

## **Little change in income over last two years**

### **Household income relatively unchanged**

Average annual household income (from all regular sources) increased slightly, from \$76,584 in the year ended June 2010 to \$79,159 in the year ended June 2011. This follows a slight decrease in 2009/10, which leaves average household incomes relatively unchanged from the year ended June 2009, when it was \$78,019.

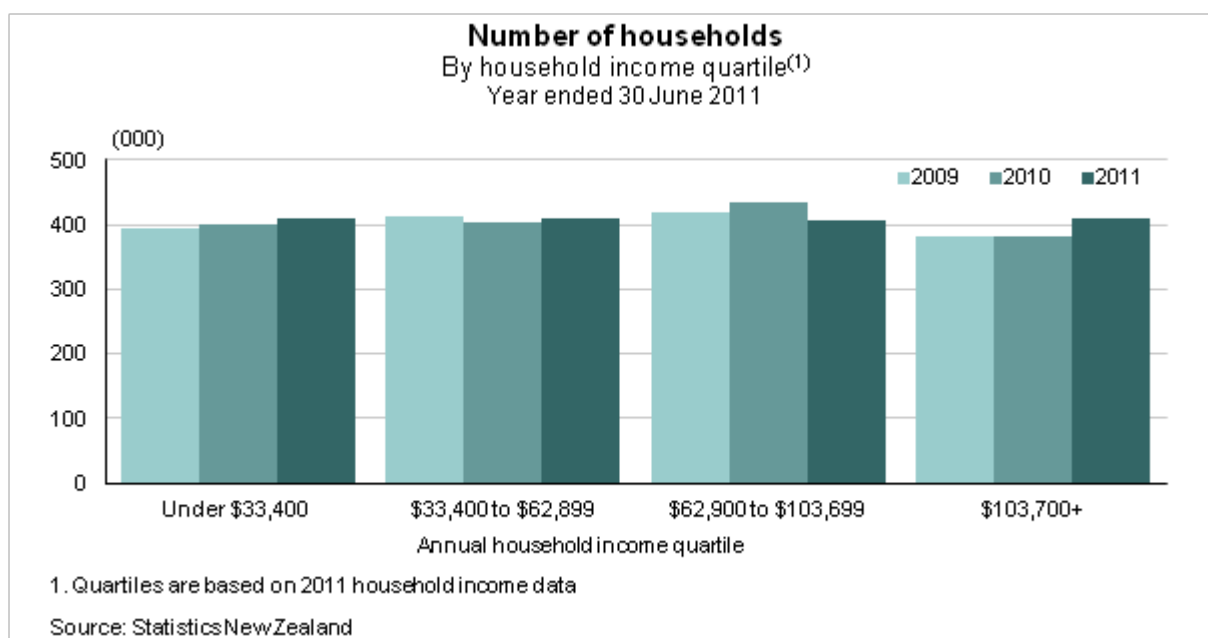
The last significant change in average annual household income (from all regular sources) was a 4.9 percent increase from \$74,408 in 2007/08 to \$78,019 in 2008/09. Between 2007/08 and 2010/11 the increase was 6.4 percent.

For the year ended June 2011, the only income source showing a significant change over all households was New Zealand Superannuation and war pensions, which increased from \$4,693 in 2009/10 to \$4,980 in 2010/11 (up 6.1 percent). A contributing factor to this change was the increased number of people receiving income from this source, relative to the overall population. The number in the 15–64-year age group increased 1 percent; while the number aged 65+ increased 3 percent.

For households receiving income from New Zealand Superannuation and war pensions, the average annual income from this source increased 4.6 percent in 2010/11, up from \$20,635 in 2009/10 to \$21,579.

The proportions of each income type that make up total household regular income remain relatively unchanged from 2009/10, with wages and salaries continuing to make up the largest proportion (74 percent).

While average annual household regular income increased slightly from 2009/10 to 2010/11, the median annual household regular income decreased slightly, from \$63,237 to \$62,853.



## Personal income relatively unchanged from 2008/09

For people aged 15 years and over (15+), average annual personal income (from all regular sources; including those who received no income) increased slightly, from \$36,847 in the year ended June 2010 to \$37,970 in the year ended June 2011. As with average household regular income, this increase followed a slight decrease in 2009/10, leaving personal income relatively unchanged from 2008/09, when it was \$37,748.

<b>Average annual personal income by income source (includes those with no income from source)</b>					
<b>Years ended June 2007–11</b>					
<b>Personal income source</b>	<b>Average annual personal income by source</b>				
	<b>2006/07</b>	<b>2007/08</b>	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>
	<b>\$</b>				
Wages and salaries	24,747	25,883	27,264	27,149	27,933
Self-employment	1,802	2,414	2,216	1,551	1,595
Investments	1,626	2,185	2,345	1,957	2,108
Private superannuation	326	390	344	357	396
New Zealand Superannuation and war pensions	1,898	2,063	2,203	2,258	2,389
Other government benefits	1,761	1,784	1,868	2,167	2,265
Other sources	1,028	1,306	1,507	1,408	1,285
<b>Total regular and recurring income</b>	<b>33,189</b>	<b>36,025</b>	<b>37,748</b>	<b>36,847</b>	<b>37,970</b>

## Proportion of people earning wages and salaries decreasing

The number of people earning income from wages and salaries is declining relative to the overall population aged 15+. Over the four years since 2006/07, the number of people earning income from wages and salaries has changed little, while the overall population aged 15+ has increased 5 percent.

Contributing to the decline is a decrease in the proportion of 15–24-year olds earning income from wages and salaries. Since 2006/07, the total number of people in this age group has increased 5 percent, while the number earning income from wages and salaries has decreased slightly.

Over the four years to 30 June 2011, for those receiving income from wages and salaries, the average annual personal income from this source increased, \$6,650 (17.6 percent) to \$44,353 in 2010/11. Over the past year there was little change in income from this source. It was \$42,537 in 2009/10.

<b>Average annual personal income by income source (only for those with income from source)</b>					
<b>Years ended June 2007–11</b>					
<b>Personal income source</b>	<b>Average annual personal income</b>				
	<b>2006/07</b>	<b>2007/08</b>	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>
	<b>\$</b>				
Wages and salaries	37,704	39,366	42,585	42,537	44,353
Self-employment	34,203	38,437	38,412	32,010	30,237
Investments	5,749	6,653	6,574	6,018	6,788
Private superannuation	18,020	21,150	17,066	20,568	20,929
New Zealand Superannuation and war pensions	13,051	14,216	14,667	14,984	15,323
Other government benefits	8,407	8,656	8,754	9,272	9,364
Other sources	9,188	10,359	10,991	9,920	9,919
<b>Total regular and recurring income</b>	<b>35,708</b>	<b>38,500</b>	<b>40,441</b>	<b>39,530</b>	<b>40,826</b>

## Most people satisfied with their material standard of living

Material standard of living is defined as the capacity to obtain the things that money can buy.

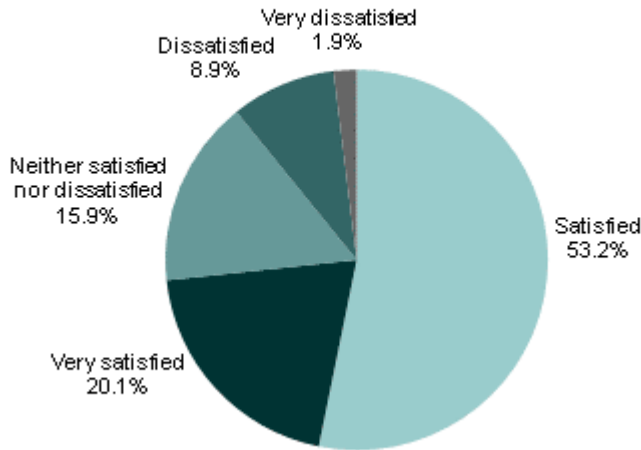
Questions asked people how satisfied they were with their standard of living, how they rated their material standard of living, and how adequately their income met their everyday needs.

In 2010/11, most people were either satisfied or very satisfied with their material standard of living.

- 73 percent of households were satisfied or very satisfied, with 20 percent being very satisfied
- 11 percent were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied
- 16 percent were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied.

### Household satisfaction with material standard of living

Year ended 30 June 2011



Source: StatisticsNewZealand

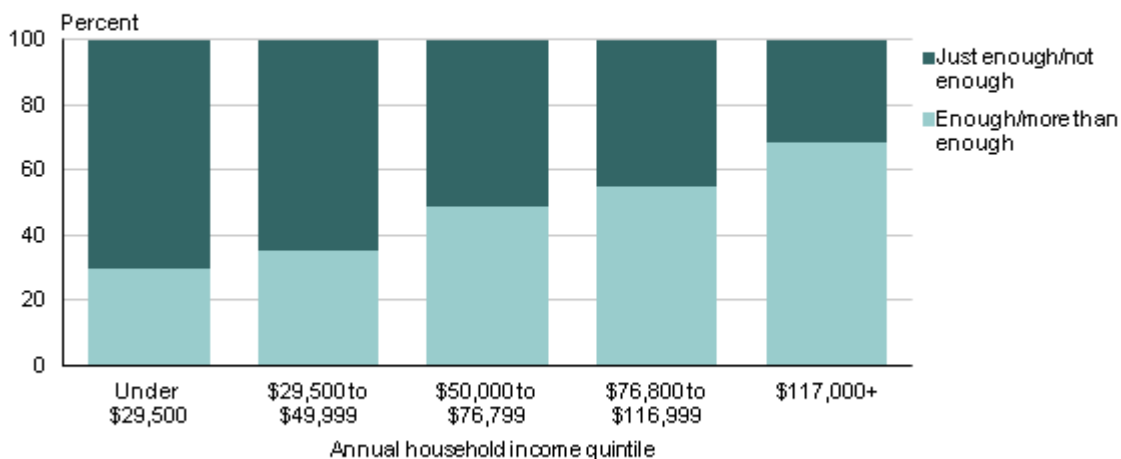
Almost all New Zealand households (90 percent) rated their current level of material standard of living as either medium or above (medium, fairly high, or high).

Forty-seven percent of all households reported their income was enough or more than enough to meet their everyday needs for things such as accommodation, food, and clothing. However, 53 percent said their income was just enough or not enough to meet their everyday needs.

For households whose total income was in the lowest 20 percent of the population, 30 percent reported that their income was enough or more than enough to meet their everyday needs. This compares with households in the highest 20 percent of the population, where 68 percent said they had enough or more than enough to meet their everyday needs.

### Adequacy of income to meet everyday needs

By annual household income quintile  
Year ended 30 June 2011



Source: StatisticsNewZealand

For more detailed data see the Excel tables in the 'Downloads' box.

## Definitions

### About the Household Economic Survey (Income)

The Household Economic Survey (Income) is a shortened version of the full three-yearly Household Economic Survey (HES). The shorter survey runs in the two years between the full HES to collect data on household and personal income, living standards, and housing cost expenditure.

The main differences between the two surveys are that in HES (Income) the only expenditure data collected relates to some types of housing costs, and there is no diary-sourced detailed expenditure information.

Housing costs information collected from HES (Income) includes expenditure on rent and mortgages, property rates, and building-related insurance.

HES (Income) can be compared with the full HES for most measures. However, differences in the questionnaire can affect the numbers reporting expenditure from mortgages and loans between full HES and HES (Income).

For more information see [differences between HES and HES \(Income\)](#).

### More definitions

**Average (mean):** the average value – the mean is calculated by adding two or more figures and dividing the sum by the number of figures.

**Average weekly household expenditure:** sum of weekly household expenditure (of those reporting expenditure), divided by the number of households in the population.

**Deciles:** are formed by dividing the population into 10 equal groups, from lowest to highest. The bottom decile (decile 1) is the lowest 10 percent of the population, while the top decile (decile 10) is the highest 10 percent.

**Dwelling ownership:** an aggregation of categories from the 'tenure of household' classification. Tenure refers to the occupancy a household has in a private dwelling. It does not refer to the tenure of the land on which the dwelling is situated.

There are two ways the dwelling can be classified:

- **Owned or partly owned:** covers dwellings that are held (or not held) in a family trust, regardless of whether mortgage payments are made or not made for the dwelling.
- **Dwelling not owned:** covers dwellings where the household does not own the dwelling, and either pays rent, or lives there rent-free.

**Expenditure:** the amount of money spent on specified items or services. All expenditure includes goods and services tax (GST) and excise duties.

**For those making mortgage/rent payments:** includes only households who say they make either a mortgage or rent payment.



**Household:** a group of people who share a private dwelling and normally spend four or more nights a week in the household. They must share consumption of food, or contribute some portion of income towards essentials for living as a group.

**Housing costs to household income ratio:** aggregate housing costs for all households as a proportion of the aggregate household income for all households. This measure is often used as an indicator of housing affordability.

However, it is typically calculated by using disposable household income (gross income minus income tax) instead of before-tax (gross) income. Only gross income is reported in this release.

This means that the housing costs to (gross) household income ratios may be slightly lower than ratios reported from other data sources. This measure includes households that do not make mortgage or rent payments.

**Imputation:** replaces missing values with actual values from similar respondents. For more information see [imputation in data quality section](#).

**Income:** before-tax (gross) income. Income in this release is not equivalised. That is, it is not adjusted to remove the effects of household size or household type (eg the number of dependent children).

**Income received from this source:** includes only people or households that receive the specified source of income used in calculating averages and medians (so excludes those who reported no income from the specified source).

**Investment income:** net profit or loss received from investments. Investments captured in this collection are rent, rents from Māori land or other leased land, dividends from New Zealand companies, royalties, or interest from: banks, other financial institutions, bonds, stocks, money market funds, debentures, or securities.

**Irregular income:** includes income from inheritances, matrimonial settlements, lump-sum life insurance pay-outs, lump-sum bursaries and prizes, and gifts of money from other New Zealand households.

**Median:** the point where half the population is above and half below the stated amount.

**Mortgage payments:** consists of mortgage principal repayments, mortgage interest payments, and application and service fees for mortgages.

**New Zealand Superannuation and war pensions:** covers New Zealand Superannuation, and veteran's, war disablement, and surviving spouse pensions.

**Other government benefits:** includes all family assistance payments such as those made as part of the Working for Families package. This category also includes main benefits (eg unemployment benefit, invalid's benefit), and student allowances, emergency benefits, and supplements.

**Other sources of regular and recurring income:** includes income received from trusts, annuities, alimony, educational scholarships, and income protection insurance.

**Percentage of households reporting:** sum of the households reporting expenditure or income, divided by the number of households in the population.

**Private superannuation income:** includes income received from both job-related superannuation schemes and other private schemes.

**Quintiles:** are formed by dividing the population into five equal groups, from lowest to highest. The bottom quintile (quintile 1) is the lowest 20 percent of the population, while the top quintile (quintile 5) is the highest 20 percent.

**Region:** the HES sample design has five broad regions. The Auckland, Wellington, and Canterbury regional council areas are separate regions, and the remaining regional council areas are grouped as Rest of the North Island and Rest of the South Island. These consist of:

- **Rest of the North Island:** Northland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne, Hawke's Bay, Taranaki, and Manawatu-Wanganui regional council areas.
- **Rest of the South Island:** Nelson, Marlborough, Tasman, West Coast, Otago, and Southland regional council areas.

**Rent payments:** includes rent paid for primary property, and for other properties, and other payments connected with renting – that is, bonds, ground rent, and easements.

**Rents:** are rent payments paid by the household. Imputed rent (the estimated benefit value from home-ownership of not having to pay rent, partly offset for home-owners by the expenses of home ownership) is not reported in this release.

**Self-employment income:** is the net profit or loss received from all current and previous self-employment jobs held over the reference period. It includes drawings (cash or goods the respondent takes out of the business instead of a 'wage').

**Wages and salaries:** consists of income received from all current and previous wage and salary jobs held over the reference period. This includes any job-related bonuses, commissions, redundancies, or other taxable income such as honoraria or directors fees. A respondent can have an employment status of 'self-employed', but receive wage and salary income instead of self-employment income.

## **Related links**

### **Upcoming releases**

*Household Economic Survey (Income): Year ended June 2012* will be released in November 2012.

The [Release calendar](#) lists all our upcoming information releases by date of release.

### **Past releases**

See [Household Economic Survey – Information releases](#) for links to past releases.

### **Related information**

[Consumers price index](#) measures the price change of goods and services purchased by private New Zealand households.

[Food price index](#) measures the rate of price change of a fixed basket of food goods and services purchased by households.

[New Zealand Income Survey](#) provides a snapshot of regular weekly income for individuals and households.

[Household incomes in New Zealand: trends in indicators of inequality and hardship 1982 to 2010](#) is a report written by the Ministry of Social Development analysing HES data in depth over time.

For more information about using wage and income measures, see the [User guide for wage and income measures](#).

## Data quality

### Period-specific information

This section contains data information that has changed since the last information release.

- [Comparing expenditure data over time](#)
- [External influences](#)
- [Impact of the Canterbury earthquake on the survey estimates](#)
- [Changes to Auckland and Waikato regions](#)
- [Changes to the questionnaires](#)
- [Response rate to the Household Economic Survey \(Income\)](#)
- [Imputation for HES \(Income\) 2010/11](#)
- [Sampling errors](#)

### General information

This section contains information about data that does not generally change between releases.

- [Scope of the survey](#)
- [Household Economic Survey \(Income\) components](#)
- [Sample design information](#)
- [Reliability of the survey estimates](#)
- [Proxy](#)
- [Imputation](#)
- [Population weighting adjustments](#)
- [Under-reporting of expenditure](#)
- [Consistency with other periods](#)
- [Interpreting the data](#)
- [Data excluded from full HES estimates in HES \(Income\) releases](#)
- [Recall period](#)
- [Using material standard of living data](#)
- [More information](#)

## Period-specific information

### Comparing expenditure data over time

In this release, expenditure figures for 2006/07 and 2009/10 have been revised to exclude items such as diary-sourced housing costs, and to adjust for the different level of detail collected in the expenditure questionnaire between full Household Economic Survey years and HES (Income) years. These adjustments account for some differences between the way data is collected in the two versions of the survey, and improve time series comparability.

Other differences between the surveys, including questionnaire structure, are not adjusted for. There is evidence that these may affect the comparability of mortgages and loan expenditure data between full HES and HES (Income) years. These differences particularly affect the comparability of total housing cost figures, of which mortgages are a significant part. For this reason, mortgages and loans and total housing costs for HES (Income) are only compared with previous HES (Income) years in the commentary for this release.

See [Differences between the full HES and HES \(Income\)](#) for more information on the differences between the surveys.

## **External influences**

Data in this release was collected between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011.

Changes in income or expenditure may be influenced by one-off events. Events that could have influenced the HES (Income) 2010/11 data include:

- increase in the adult minimum wage from \$12.75 to \$13.00, which came into effect on 1 April 2011
- increases in Government transfer maximum rates of 3.75 percent for main benefits, which came into effect on 1 April 2011
- increases in New Zealand Superannuation after-tax rates totalling 6.85 percent, which came into effect in two stages (October 2010 and April 2011)
- changes in personal tax rates, which came into effect on 1 October 2010
- increase in goods and services tax to 15 percent, which came into effect on 1 October 2010.

## **Impact of the Canterbury earthquake on the survey estimates**

The damage following the earthquakes in Canterbury on 4 September 2010 and 22 February 2011 resulted in some disruption to interviewing for HES (Income). A small number of households in Christchurch were excluded from interviewing. We managed the loss of these households through the survey's usual adjustment methods for non-response. After investigating the effect of excluding these households we found that any difference in the Canterbury and New Zealand estimates was well within the sampling error bounds. As HES (Income) was in the field for the whole year, the decision was made to not make any adjustments to Canterbury or national estimates.

## **Changes to Auckland and Waikato regions**

On 1 November 2010, the new Auckland Council replaced the existing councils of Rodney district, North Shore city, Auckland city, Waitakere city, Manukau city, Papakura district, and part of Franklin district.

The former Auckland Regional Council was amalgamated into the new Auckland Council. This resulted in a minor change to the boundary between Auckland and Waikato regions.

The statistics for HES (Income) 2010/11 are produced using the new boundaries. The new boundaries do not significantly affect measures in HES (Income).

## **Changes to the questionnaires**

Minor changes were made to the questionnaires to account for real-world changes since 2009/10, such as the way benefits are paid. See [Household Economic Survey 2010/11 flowcharts](#) for the latest questionnaires. For details of the differences between full HES and HES (Income) see [Differences between full HES and HES \(Income\)](#).

## **Response rate to the HES (Income) 2010/11**

The target response rate for HES (Income) is 75 percent of eligible respondents. The achieved response rate for the year ended June 2011 was 81 percent.

The response rate is calculated by determining the weighted number of eligible individuals who responded to the survey as a proportion of the estimated weighted number of total eligible individuals in the sample.

### Imputation for HES (Income) 2010/11

Imputation replaces missing values with actual values from similar respondents. For more information see [imputation](#).

The table shows the effect of imputation for the 2010/11 survey.

<b>Number of individuals before and after imputation</b>	
Year ended June 2011	
	Number of people aged 15+
Eligible individuals pre-imputation	6,631
Individuals imputed	162
Recovered records	240
Eligible individuals post-imputation	7,033

As a result of recovering and imputing records, the response rate for the year ending 30 June 2011 improved from 78 percent to 81 percent.

### Sampling errors

The tables below summarise the sampling errors for 2008/09, 2009/10, and 2010/11, by income source and housing cost type. The tables indicate the variability of the estimates for the three samples.

Care should be taken when interpreting income or expenditure estimates with sampling errors greater than 20 percent. They are less statistically reliable than estimates with sampling errors less than or equal to 20 percent. See [Reliability of survey estimates](#) for more information.

<b>Sampling errors for average annual household income, by income source</b>			
Years ended June 2009, 2010, and 2011			
Income source	Level sampling error (%)		
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Wage and salaries	4	5	4
Self-employment	29	41	35
Investments	22	16	22
Private superannuation	27	41	27
New Zealand Superannuation and war pensions	3	4	3
Other government benefits	10	10	8
Other sources	29	26	33
<b>Total regular income</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

Mortgage principal repayments	14	11	9
Mortgage interest payments	7	7	7
Application and service fees for mortgages	39	27	32
<b>Total mortgage payments</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>
Property rates	4	3	3
Building-related insurance	5	7	4
Other housing costs	32	53	25
<b>Total housing costs</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>
(1)Diary expenditure excluded from sample error calculations to improve comparability between full HES and HES (Income)			

More detailed sampling errors are available by contacting [info@stats.govt.nz](mailto:info@stats.govt.nz).

## General information

### Scope of the survey

As with the full HES, the target population for HES (Income) is the usually resident population of New Zealand residents living in private dwellings aged 15 years and over. This population does not include:

- overseas visitors who expect to be resident in New Zealand for less than 12 months
- people living in non-private dwellings such as hotels, motels, boarding houses, hostels, and homes for the elderly
- patients in hospitals, or residents of psychiatric or penal institutions
- members of the permanent armed forces
- people living on offshore islands (excluding Waiheke Island)
- members of the non-New Zealand armed forces
- overseas diplomats.

### Household Economic Survey (Income) components

HES (Income) has four survey components:

- a household questionnaire
- a shortened expenditure questionnaire collecting household housing costs
- an income questionnaire for each household member aged 15 years and over
- an economic living standards index (ELSI) short-form questionnaire for one member of the household who is 18 years and over (chosen randomly).

This survey uses computer-assisted interviewing, first introduced in the 2006/07 interview period. The [survey questionnaires](#) are available on our website.

### Sample design information

We select the sample for HES (Income) using a two-stage stratified cluster design. Households are sampled on a statistically representative random basis from rural and urban areas throughout the North and South Islands.

The HES (Income) sample has approximately 4,700 private households. Information is obtained for each member of sampled households that fall within the scope of the survey and meet survey coverage rules.

## Reliability of the survey estimates

Two types of error are possible in estimates based on a sample survey – sampling error and non-sampling error.

**Sampling error:** is a measure of the variability that occurs by chance because a sample rather than an entire population is surveyed.

**Non-sampling errors:** arise from biases in the patterns of response and non-response, questionnaire design, inaccuracies in reporting by respondents, and errors in recording and coding data. Statistics New Zealand endeavours to minimise the impact of these errors by applying best practice survey methods and monitoring known indicators (eg non-response).

## Proxy

A proxy may provide information for the income questionnaire in ‘family type’ households:

- where the whole household is informed about the survey. All agree to participate, but are not able to be present when the questionnaires are administered
- for children away at boarding school
- for people who don't work and have no source of income
- for the elderly, sick, or mentally incapacitated.

In all cases of proxy interviews, the interviewer must be convinced the proxy is totally familiar with the other respondent's information.

## Imputation

Imputation replaces missing values with actual values from similar respondents. A hierarchical hot-deck method is used to identify donors, with the donor's income questionnaire (and diary in full HES years) replacing that of the non-respondent.

Imputation was introduced into HES in 2009/10, and is used in all subsequent full HES and HES (Income) releases. It was also applied to data for 2006/07 (HES) and 2007/08 and 2008/09 (HES (Income)). Imputation is applied to a household where the household does not supply all the required income or diary information, but supplies sufficient information to be retained in the sample.

For households where at least one adult in the household has a fully completed income questionnaire, other household members without fully completed income questionnaire(s) have their income questionnaire(s) imputed. We apply the same process when diaries are not supplied by all eligible members of the household (in full HES years). In addition, respondents who do not provide an age have their age imputed.

Before imputation was introduced, households where one or more questionnaire(s) were missing were discarded. With imputation, some of these households are recovered.

## Population weighting adjustments

The population weighting used for the full HES and HES (Income) is integrated weighting. This statistical method adjusts the output to match externally sourced population benchmarks. In



particular, it takes account of undercoverage in the survey for specific population groups such as young males and Māori.

The key benefits of using integrated weighting are:

- improving the robustness and accuracy of the survey estimates
- reducing the effect of bias in estimates resulting from undercoverage
- decreasing the level of sampling error for benchmark variables.

The population used for the integrated weighting was benchmarked to estimates based on the 2006 Census.

### **Under-reporting of expenditure**

For some types of housing cost expenditure, the estimated amount for all private households is less than expenditure reported from other data sources.

There are three main reasons for this difference.

- Expenditure by residents of non-private households, or by those ineligible for the survey (eg overseas visitors), is excluded from this survey.
- Respondents to the survey forget or omit some types of purchases because they are unable to recall expenditure, or cannot refer to records at the time of the interview.
- A bias associated with non-response affects some statistics.

No adjustments are made to the data to compensate for any under-reporting.

### **Consistency with other periods**

HES (Income) has a relatively small sample size (approximately 4,700 households). Although we adjust survey results for various demographic variables (age, sex, and region), there can be variability in survey estimates from one survey collection period to the next. This variability is because a different group of households is selected for each survey.

### **Interpreting the data**

Factors influencing a household's expenditure or income include household size, household composition, geographic location, and employment-related factors.

All income figures refer to gross (before tax) income, and housing cost expenditure includes GST, where it applies.

The five broad regions reported on are based on the regional council areas of Auckland, Wellington, and Canterbury, and the combined regions of 'Rest of the North Island', and 'Rest of the South Island'. This level of geographical breakdown is the lowest available for HES (Income) due to the sample design.

### **Data excluded from full HES estimates in HES (Income) releases**

To make HES (Income) and full HES as comparable as possible, some expenditure that is not collected in HES (Income), such as diary sourced expenditure, is excluded from the full HES years of 2006/07 and 2009/10 when these are referenced in HES (Income) releases.

In addition to excluding diary expenditure, there is also a small amount of insurance expenditure that is only collected in full HES years that is assigned to an expenditure code used by HES (Income). To further increase comparability of the two surveys, starting with the 2010/11 release, this expenditure is now also excluded when comparing housing costs between years.

Other differences between the surveys, including questionnaire structure, are not adjusted for. For further detail see [Comparing expenditure data over time](#).

### Recall period

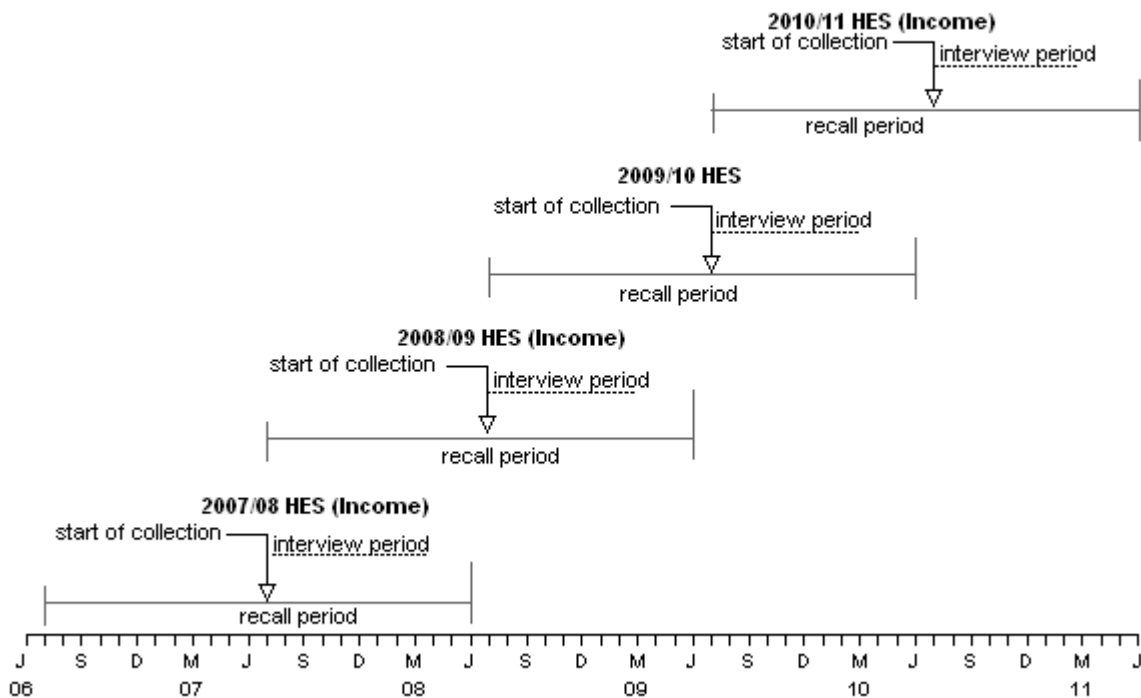
Most of the housing cost expenditure is collected as 'latest payment' – meaning the amount most recently spent on this item. However, for some housing costs, respondents are asked about their spending for the 12 months before the interview – examples include easement or ground rent, and lump-sum payments connected with renting (bond payments or rent administration fees). Expenditure data collected by 12-month recall covers a two-year period – ie one year back from 1 July 2010 for households interviewed in that month, through to 30 June 2011 for households interviewed then.

For information on income, each household member aged 15 years and over is asked about their income in the year before their interview date. As a result, income data also covers a two-year period.

The figure below demonstrates how the recall period can overlap with a previous reporting period.

#### Recall period for income measures in HES and HES (Income)

2007/08, 2008/09, 2009/10, and 2010/11



Source: Statistics New Zealand

## **Using material standard of living data**

The economic living standards index (ELSI) (short-form version) questionnaire collects information on material standard of living. ELSI asks questions about ownership of particular items (eg a good pair of shoes), or doing certain activities (eg a visit to hairdresser), social participation, and the extent that people engage in cost-related economising. Respondents are also asked how they rate their standard of living.

From the ELSI questionnaire we publish selected results for ratings, satisfaction levels, and adequacy of income to meet everyday needs. Statistics NZ does not produce an index measurement of economic standard of living from this data. Other agencies can use such index data in conjunction with other measures (eg income, expenditure on housing costs, or household demographics), to give an indication of the material standard of living of New Zealanders, however Statistics NZ does not do this.

Some components of the ELSI (short-form) questionnaire can be compared over time (eg adequacy of income to meet everyday needs). However, as judgements in level of satisfaction rise or fall in response to changes in aspirations over time, there can be an increase or decrease in ratings of material standard of living, so time series comparisons are not recommended.

## **Suppressed estimates**

Data in the information release are suppressed if based on fewer than five people or households. Data are also suppressed if they have a relative sample error of 51 percent or higher (21 percent for cross-tabulated data).

## **Customised data**

The tables in this information release do not contain all of the possible analyses of HES (Income) data. Data requests can be customised to users' specifications. Please contact [info@stats.govt.nz](mailto:info@stats.govt.nz) for more information.

## **More information**

For more information about HES, see [HES and HES \(Income\)](#) on the Statistics NZ website.

## **Liability**

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## Tables

The following tables are included with this release. They are available in Excel format from the 'Downloads' box of *Household Economic Survey (Income): Year ended June 2011* on the Statistics NZ website.

If you do not have access to Excel, you may use the [Excel file viewer](#) to view, print, and export the contents of the file.

1. Average annual household income, by income source, for the years ended 30 June 2009–11
2. Household expenditure on housing costs, by housing cost type, for the years ended 30 June 2007–11
3. Housing costs to income ratios, by dwelling ownership, for the year ended 30 June 2011
4. Housing costs to household income ratios, by region, for the years ended 30 June 2007–2011
5. Household material standard of living, by annual household income decile, for the year ended 30 June 2011
6. Personal demographics, by annual personal income decile, for the year ended 30 June 2011
7. Household demographics, by annual household income decile, for the year ended 30 June 2011

Table 1

**Average annual household income<sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup>**By income source<sup>(4)</sup>

For the years ended 30 June 2009–11

Income source	Average annual household income					Sampling error for percentage change 2009/10–2010/11 <sup>(6)(7)</sup>
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Percentage change <sup>(5)</sup> 2008/09–2009/10	Percentage change <sup>(5)</sup> 2009/10–2010/11	
	Dollars			Percent		
<b>Regular and recurring income</b>						
Wages and salaries	56,351	56,426	58,234	0.1	3.2	6
Self-employment	4,579 *	3,224 *	3,325 *	-29.6	3.1	54
Investments	4,848 *	4,068	4,395 *	-16.1	8.0	31
Private superannuation	712 *	741 *	826 *	4.1	11.4	58
New Zealand Superannuation and war pensions	4,552	4,693	4,980	3.1	6.1	6
Other government benefits	3,861	4,505	4,722	16.7	4.8	14
Other sources	3,115 *	2,927 *	2,678 *	-6.0	-8.5	41
<b>Total regular and recurring income<sup>(8)</sup></b>	<b>78,019</b>	<b>76,584</b>	<b>79,159</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total irregular income</b>	<b>1,851 *</b>	<b>2,350 *</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Total income from all sources<sup>(8)</sup></b>	<b>79,870</b>	<b>78,934</b>	<b>81,620</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>6</b>

- Income figures are collected for those aged 15 years and over.
- Household income is from total regular and recurring income sources, except for the 'total irregular' and 'all sources' income categories. Income is gross (before tax) income.
- Income is rounded to the nearest dollar.
- Definitions for each income source are in the 'definitions' section of this release.
- Percentage changes are rounded to one decimal place and are calculated using unrounded income figures.
- Each statistic from this survey is based on a sample and is subject to a sampling error. This sampling error is based on the average annual household income figure. Sampling errors are available in the data quality section of this release.
- Sampling errors are rounded to the nearest whole percent.
- Figures may not sum to stated totals, due to rounding.

**Symbols:**

- \* indicates estimates with a sampling error of between 21 and 50 percent, inclusive. Care should be taken when interpreting these income estimates, as there will be less statistical reliability than those with sampling errors less than 21 percent.
- S suppressed. Estimates are suppressed for confidentiality and quality reasons if sampling errors are 51 percent or greater, or if there are less than five households contributing to the cells.

**Source:** Statistics New Zealand

Table 2

**Household expenditure on housing costs**  
 By housing cost type<sup>(1)</sup> for those with that type of expenditure<sup>(2)</sup>  
 For the years ended 30 June 2007–11

Housing cost type	Average weekly household expenditure <sup>(3)</sup>	Percentage of households reporting expenditure <sup>(4)</sup>	Percentage of total housing costs expenditure <sup>(4)</sup>	Percentage change from previous year	Sampling error for percentage change <sup>(5)(6)</sup>
	Dollars	Percent <sup>(4)</sup>			
<b>Year ended 30 June 2007<sup>(7)</sup></b>					
Property and ground rent	218.10	30.5	32.8	...	...
Other payments connected with renting	10.80	9.3	0.5	...	...
<b>Total rent payment</b>	<b>212.00</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>33.3</b>	...	...
Mortgage principal repayments	139.60	24.5	16.8	...	...
Mortgage interest payments	216.10	30.9	32.9	...	...
Application and service fees for mortgages	S	S	S	...	...
<b>Total mortgage payments</b>	<b>321.40</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>50.1</b>	...	...
Property rates	33.20	72.0	11.8	...	...
Building-related insurance	14.60	64.2	4.6	...	...
Other housing costs	26.90 *	1.9	0.3	...	...
<b>Total housing costs<sup>(8)</sup></b>	<b>203.30</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	...	...
<b>Year ended 30 June 2008</b>					
Property and ground rent	231.20	32.6	32.7	6.0	7
Other payments connected with renting	17.40 *	11.5	0.9	61.7	48
<b>Total rent payment</b>	<b>225.30</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>7</b>
Mortgage principal repayments	144.70	25.5	16.0	3.6	21
Mortgage interest payments	268.80	30.5	35.6	24.4	14
Application and service fees for mortgages	7.40 *	4.2	0.1	S	S
<b>Total mortgage payments</b>	<b>386.80</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>11</b>
Property rates	34.20	70.6	10.5	2.8	6
Building-related insurance	14.70	63.3	4.0	0.5	8
Other housing costs	24.60 *	2.0	0.2	-8.7	43
<b>Total housing costs<sup>(8)</sup></b>	<b>230.60</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13.4<sup>(7)</sup></b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Year ended 30 June 2009</b>					
Property and ground rent	249.10	32.7	35.1	7.7	6
Other payments connected with renting	12.90 *	10.8	0.6	-25.7	25
<b>Total rent payment</b>	<b>243.90</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>6</b>
Mortgage principal repayments	140.80	26.3	15.9	-2.7	17
Mortgage interest payments	256.80	29.9	33.1	-4.5	10
Application and service fees for mortgages	5.60 *	3.5	0.1	-25.3	48
<b>Total mortgage payments</b>	<b>375.60</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>49.1</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>10</b>
Property rates	36.00	71.3	11.0	5.3	4
Building-related insurance	14.30	63.8	3.9	-2.4	7
Other housing costs	37.80 *	1.6	0.3	53.7	47
<b>Total housing costs<sup>(8)</sup></b>	<b>232.30</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>7</b>

**Note:** For footnotes, see end of table.



Table 2  
continued

**Household expenditure on housing costs**  
By housing cost type<sup>(1)</sup> for those with that type of expenditure<sup>(2)</sup>  
For the years ended 30 June 2007–11

Housing cost type	Average weekly household expenditure <sup>(3)</sup>	Percentage of households reporting expenditure <sup>(4)</sup>	Percentage of total housing costs expenditure <sup>(4)</sup>	Percentage change from previous year	Sampling error for the percentage change <sup>(5)(6)</sup>
	Dollars	Percent <sup>(4)</sup>			
<b>Year ended 30 June 2010<sup>(7)</sup></b>					
Property and ground rent	249.90	35.3	38.6	0.3	6
Other payments connected with renting	13.40	10.5	0.6	3.4	29
<b>Total rent payment</b>	<b>242.20</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>6</b>
Mortgage principal repayments	152.90	25.1	16.8	8.6	20
Mortgage interest payments	224.30	28.4	27.9	-12.7	8
Application and service fees for mortgages	4.20 *	4.1	0.1	-24.7	38
<b>Total mortgage payments</b>	<b>355.30</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>-5.4</b>	<b>11</b>
Property rates	36.80	70.3	11.3	2.3	4
Building-related insurance	16.30	61.9	4.4	13.8	9
Other housing costs	S	S	S	S	S
<b>Total housing costs<sup>(8)</sup></b>	<b>228.50</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-1.6<sup>(7)</sup></b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Year ended 30 June 2011</b>					
Property and ground rent	265.00	34.5	36.8	6.0	6
Other payments connected with renting	15.20 *	11.2	0.7	13.6	33
<b>Total rent payment</b>	<b>260.10</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>6</b>
Mortgage principal repayments	160.70	25.9	16.8	5.1	13
Mortgage interest payments	238.40	31.2	30.0	6.3	11
Application and service fees for mortgages	5.30 *	4.8	0.1	26.9	49
<b>Total mortgage payments</b>	<b>368.70</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>46.9</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>9</b>
Property rates	39.30	70.0	11.1	6.8	4
Building-related insurance	16.50	63.1	4.2	1.4	8
Other housing costs	35.80 *	2.0	0.3	S	S
<b>Total housing costs<sup>(8)</sup></b>	<b>248.20</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8.6<sup>(7)</sup></b>	<b>6</b>

1. The expenditure classification used is the New Zealand Household Expenditure Classification (NZHEC). Definitions for each housing cost type are in the definitions section of this release.
2. The population for this table is households reporting expenditure on each item.
3. Expenditure is rounded to the nearest 10 cents. All expenditure includes GST.
4. Percentages are rounded to one decimal place and are calculated using unrounded expenditure figures.
5. Each statistic from this survey is based on a sample and is subject to a sampling error. This sampling error is based on the average weekly household expenditure measure. Sampling errors are available in the data quality section of this release.
6. Sampling errors are rounded to the nearest whole percent.
7. Expenditure figures for 2006/07 and 2009/10 were revised to exclude items such as diary-sourced housing costs, for increased time-series comparability. The differing questionnaire structure between full HES and HES (Income) may affect comparability of total housing costs between the two surveys.
8. Figures may not sum to stated totals, due to rounding.

**Symbols:**

\* indicates estimates with a level sampling error of between 21 and 50 percent, inclusive. Care should be taken when interpreting these expenditure estimates, as there will be less statistical reliability than those with sampling errors less than 21 percent.

S suppressed. Estimates are suppressed for confidentiality and quality reasons if sampling errors are 51 percent or greater, or if there are less than five households contributing to the cells.

... not applicable

**Source:** Statistics New Zealand

Table 3

**Housing costs<sup>(1)</sup> to income<sup>(2)(3)</sup> ratios<sup>(4)</sup>**  
**By dwelling ownership<sup>(5)</sup>**  
 For the year ended 30 June 2011

Dwelling ownership	Housing costs as a percentage of total household income <sup>(6)</sup>		
	25% or more	30% or more	40% or more
<b>Owned or partly-owned dwelling<sup>(7)</sup></b>			
Number of households (000) <sup>(8)</sup>	196.8	134.8	74.2
Percentage of total households that owned or partly-owned dwelling <sup>(9)</sup>	18.4	12.6	6.9
<b>Dwelling not owned by usual resident(s)<sup>(10)</sup></b>			
Number of households (000) <sup>(8)</sup>	290.9	221.8	130.2
Percentage of total households where dwelling not owned by usual resident(s) <sup>(9)</sup>	51.2	39.1	22.9
<b>Total dwellings<sup>(11)</sup></b>			
Number of households (000) <sup>(8)</sup>	487.7	356.7	204.4
Percentage of total households <sup>(9)</sup>	29.8	21.8	12.5

1. Housing costs includes expenditure on rents and mortgages, property rates, and building-related insurance. A full definition of housing costs is in the 'definitions' section of this release.
2. Income figures are collected for those aged 15 years and over.
3. Household income is from total regular and recurring income sources, and is gross (before tax) income.
4. Ratios are calculated using the aggregate housing costs amount as a proportion of the aggregate household income amount.
5. Dwelling ownership is an aggregation of categories from the 'tenure of household' classification. Tenure refers to the nature of the occupancy of a household in a private dwelling at the time of the survey. It does not refer to the tenure of the land on which the dwelling is situated.
6. The ratios are not mutually exclusive. Households that pay 30 percent or more of their total household income on housing costs are also included in the 25 percent or more category. Similarly, those households that pay 40 percent or more of their total household income on housing costs are included in the 25 percent and 30 percent categories.
7. Covers dwellings that are either held or not held in a family trust, regardless of whether or not mortgage payments are made for the owned or partly-owned dwelling.
8. Household counts are rounded to the nearest hundred.
9. Percentages are rounded to one decimal place, and are calculated on unrounded figures.
10. Includes dwellings where the household does not own the dwelling, and either pays rent for the dwelling or lives there rent-free.
11. Total includes the 'not specified' category.

**Source:** Statistics New Zealand

Table 4

**Housing costs<sup>(1)</sup> to household income<sup>(2)(3)</sup> ratios**  
**By region<sup>(4)</sup>**

For the years ended 30 June 2007–11

Region	Average annual housing costs <sup>(5)</sup>	Average annual household income <sup>(5)</sup>	Ratio of housing costs to total household income <sup>(6)(7)</sup>	
	Dollars		(percent)	
<b>Year ended 30 June 2007<sup>(8)</sup></b>				
Auckland	13,667	R 82,940	16.5	R
Wellington	11,314	R 81,123	13.9	R
Rest of the North Island	8,165	R 54,835	14.9	R
Canterbury	9,795	R 66,461	14.7	R
Rest of the South Island	7,385	R 62,186	11.9	R
<b>Total New Zealand</b>	<b>10,303</b>	<b>R 68,710</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>R</b>
<b>Year ended 30 June 2008</b>				
Auckland	15,260	88,768	17.2	
Wellington	13,991	87,545	16.0	
Rest of the North Island	8,919	63,213	14.1	
Canterbury	11,531	67,312	17.1	
Rest of the South Island	8,738	64,548	13.5	
<b>Total New Zealand</b>	<b>11,731</b>	<b>74,408</b>	<b>15.8</b>	
<b>Year ended 30 June 2009</b>				
Auckland	14,499	90,100	16.1	
Wellington	14,089	91,408	15.4	
Rest of the North Island	10,143	67,524	15.0	
Canterbury	10,445	75,005	13.9	
Rest of the South Island	8,729	67,972	12.8	
<b>Total New Zealand</b>	<b>11,756</b>	<b>78,019</b>	<b>15.1</b>	
<b>Year ended 30 June 2010<sup>(8)</sup></b>				
Auckland	15,103	R 83,412	18.1	R
Wellington	13,606	R 95,510	14.2	R
Rest of the North Island	8,828	R 66,017	13.4	R
Canterbury	9,953	R 75,187	13.2	R
Rest of the South Island	8,768	R 71,330	12.3	R
<b>Total New Zealand</b>	<b>11,479</b>	<b>R 76,584</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>R</b>

**Note:** For footnotes, see end of table.

Table 4  
continued**Housing costs<sup>(1)</sup> to household income<sup>(2)(3)</sup> ratios**By region<sup>(4)</sup>

For the years ended 30 June 2007–11

Region	Average annual housing costs <sup>(5)</sup>	Average annual household income <sup>(5)</sup>	Ratio of housing costs to total household income <sup>(6)(7)</sup>
	Dollars		(percent)
<b>Year ended 30 June 2011</b>			
Auckland	17,070	90,623	18.8
Wellington	14,397	98,822	14.6
Rest of the North Island	9,905	67,505	14.7
Canterbury	10,795	73,415	14.7
Rest of the South Island	9,158	69,634	13.2
<b>Total New Zealand</b>	<b>12,641</b>	<b>79,159</b>	<b>16.0</b>

- Housing costs include expenditure on rents and mortgages, property rates, and building-related insurance. A full definition of housing costs is in the 'definitions' section of this release.
- Income figures are collected for those aged 15 years and over.
- Household income is from total regular and recurring income sources, and is gross (before tax) income.
- The five broad regions are Auckland, Wellington, and Canterbury (as three separate regional council areas) with the remaining regional council areas grouped as 'Rest of the North Island' and 'Rest of the South Island'.
- Income and expenditure are rounded to the nearest dollar.
- Ratios are calculated using the aggregate housing cost amount as a proportion of the aggregate household income amount.
- Percentages are rounded to one decimal place, and are calculated on unrounded figures.
- Expenditure figures for 2006/07 and 2009/10 have been revised to exclude items such as diary-sourced housing costs for increased time series comparability. The differing questionnaire structure between full HES and HES (Income) may affect comparability of total housing costs between the two surveys.

**Symbol:**

R revised

**Source:** Statistics New Zealand

Table 5

**Household material standard of living<sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup>**By annual household income decile<sup>(4)(5)</sup>

For the year ended 30 June 2011

Household material standard of living	Annual household income decile										All income groups
	Under \$20,100 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$20,100 to \$29,499	\$29,500 to \$38,699	\$38,700 to \$49,999	\$50,000 to \$62,899	\$62,900 to \$76,799	\$76,800 to \$93,299	\$93,300 to \$116,999	\$117,000 to \$155,199	\$155,200 +	
Households (000) <sup>(7)</sup>											
<b>Rating of material standard of living</b>											
High	10.7	6.3	7.3	7.4	11.8	10.0	17.1	16.0	23.4	40.7	150.8
Fairly high	22.4	23.7	27.3	31.2	34.2	43.1	43.2	59.3	66.9	76.4	427.6
Medium	99.1	98.5	101.0	100.7	100.4	97.2	91.8	79.8	67.4	42.5	878.5
Fairly low	21.8	23.6	20.3	14.2	9.5	8.9	6.1	2.5	3.9	S	111.1
Low	10.1	9.8	4.6	8.0	4.6	S	S	S	S	S	44.1
<b>Satisfaction with material standard of living</b>											
Very satisfied	22.9	19.1	25.7	24.0	26.7	31.2	36.8	38.0	43.1	56.3	323.7
Satisfied	80.2	73.4	79.0	80.1	94.2	90.1	87.0	96.4	91.7	85.4	857.5
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	31.1	36.5	30.2	33.6	22.9	25.8	26.8	19.5	15.3	13.7	255.5
Dissatisfied	21.6	26.4	21.6	18.9	14.4	12.5	8.4	5.3	11.0	3.5	143.5
Very dissatisfied	8.3	6.4	4.0	5.2	2.3	S	S	S	S	S	31.4
<b>Adequacy of income to meet everyday needs<sup>(8)</sup></b>											
More than enough	5.5	3.5	9.1	10.5	8.6	17.9	16.8	25.2	34.8	49.8	181.7
Enough	41.9	46.9	43.8	49.6	68.5	62.5	61.2	72.1	63.1	73.2	582.8
Just enough	68.4	67.9	65.9	57.6	55.7	56.1	59.4	51.3	52.6	29.3	564.2
Not enough	48.4	43.8	41.6	44.1	27.8	24.3	22.9	11.2	12.3	7.0	283.3

1. Material standard of living is defined as the things that money can buy, and so does not represent the capacity to enjoy life, or the state of health.
2. One usually resident member of the household aged 18 years or over was randomly selected to respond to survey questions about their material standard of living.
3. Some components of the economic living standard index (ELSI) (short-form version) questionnaire can be compared over time (eg adequacy of income to meet everyday needs). However, as judgements in level of satisfaction rise or fall, in response to changes in aspirations over time, there can be an increase or decrease in ratings of material standard of living.
4. Income is before tax, from regular and recurring sources only. Income figures are collected for those aged 15 years or over. Income groups are deciles (to the nearest hundred dollars) of household income.
5. Deciles are formed by dividing the population into 10 groups, by ranking households by the amount of income they receive. The bottom decile (decile 1) is the lowest 10 percent of the population in terms of income, while the top decile (decile 10) is the highest 10 percent of the population.
6. This decile includes loss from investment or self-employment income, or no source of income received.
7. Household counts in columns are rounded to the nearest hundred. Figures may not sum to stated totals, due to rounding.
8. This refers to the income of an individual, or a couple's combined income where the couple live in the same household.

**Symbol:**

S suppressed. Estimates have been suppressed if there are less than five households contributing to the cells.

**Source:** Statistics New Zealand

Table 6

**Personal demographics**By annual personal income decile<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

For the year ended 30 June 2011

Personal demographic	Annual personal income decile										All income groups
	Under \$1,100 <sup>(3)</sup>	\$1,100 to \$10,499	\$10,500 to \$15,799	\$15,800 to \$21,299	\$21,300 to \$28,899	\$28,900 to \$36,699	\$36,700 to \$45,899	\$45,900 to \$57,899	\$57,900 to \$77,599	\$77,600 +	
	People aged 15 years and over (000) <sup>(4)</sup>										
<b>Sex</b>											
Male	155.1	137.3	140.8	145.6	127.9	153.7	178.7	189.6	198.7	232.6	1,660.0
Female	188.5	203.4	200.1	196.2	211.3	190.0	164.3	151.7	141.1	109.8	1,756.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>343.6</b>	<b>340.6</b>	<b>340.9</b>	<b>341.8</b>	<b>339.2</b>	<b>343.6</b>	<b>343.0</b>	<b>341.3</b>	<b>339.9</b>	<b>342.4</b>	<b>3,416.2</b>
<b>Age group (years)</b>											
15–19	165.4	82.3	25.4	12.4	12.5	9.0	2.9	S	S	S	309.9
20–24	18.3	74.3	35.5	29.8	41.7	53.5	29.2	19.8	10.7	S	313.4
25–29	15.1	27.3	22.9	20.4	29.7	49.6	40.0	43.5	27.2	11.4	287.2
30–34	19.7	24.7	14.7	16.5	18.8	27.0	32.6	41.4	44.7	28.0	268.0
35–39	13.0	21.6	16.6	13.8	29.2	32.4	38.7	38.8	40.0	48.9	292.9
40–44	19.1	26.0	15.4	19.4	21.6	33.0	39.7	37.2	43.7	54.1	309.1
45–49	20.8	17.8	24.3	13.3	27.9	28.2	44.2	36.8	48.7	55.9	318.0
50–54	21.2	20.8	17.0	11.6	24.8	27.7	32.2	48.6	39.5	48.9	292.3
55–59	20.2	18.0	22.8	27.3	22.8	20.7	22.5	28.1	29.8	39.2	251.4
60–64	22.0	14.3	26.8	17.1	23.5	22.1	30.3	19.9	26.7	28.3	231.0
65 +	8.9	13.6	119.5	160.3	86.6	40.5	30.6	27.3	28.7	27.0	543.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>343.6</b>	<b>340.6</b>	<b>340.9</b>	<b>341.8</b>	<b>339.2</b>	<b>343.6</b>	<b>343.0</b>	<b>341.3</b>	<b>339.9</b>	<b>342.4</b>	<b>3,416.2</b>
<b>Ethnic group<sup>(5)</sup></b>											
European	209.9	228.9	242.6	247.7	249.4	248.6	238.8	264.2	285.2	302.8	2,518.1
Māori	55.2	44.0	55.5	43.5	45.9	49.0	44.8	39.5	31.8	22.5	431.8
Asian	52.3	49.7	32.7	30.2	26.8	33.8	44.1	33.5	22.2	18.2	343.6
Pacific peoples	45.2	28.7	18.5	24.9	23.4	30.5	24.9	17.2	10.5	4.3	228.1
MELAA <sup>(6)</sup>	8.2	10.0	8.1	6.8	2.0	2.1	2.2	S	1.8	2.1	44.5
Other ethnic group <sup>(7)</sup>	8.5	9.5	5.3	10.9	9.3	5.2	7.9	12.9	10.4	8.3	87.9
<b>Total<sup>(8)</sup></b>	<b>343.6</b>	<b>340.6</b>	<b>340.9</b>	<b>341.8</b>	<b>339.2</b>	<b>343.6</b>	<b>343.0</b>	<b>341.3</b>	<b>339.9</b>	<b>342.4</b>	<b>3,416.2</b>
<b>Highest qualification<sup>(9)</sup></b>											
No qualification	116.1	59.7	112.1	118.6	88.2	71.1	58.0	45.5	34.0	17.6	720.7
Level 1-3 certificate	115.0	134.0	94.7	74.1	101.9	106.3	81.4	81.0	69.6	48.9	907.0
Level 4 certificate	16.3	19.9	33.5	30.4	29.2	42.0	57.4	57.5	41.9	29.2	357.3
Level 5-6 diploma	24.6	35.7	28.5	31.2	38.2	35.8	41.1	49.1	56.2	53.3	393.6
Bachelor's degree and level 7	20.0	32.4	18.4	19.6	24.7	37.0	39.0	42.9	58.8	70.1	362.9
Postgraduate/honours degree	10.2	8.2	4.0	9.1	9.2	10.1	13.2	14.6	32.3	48.0	158.8
Master's degree	4.5	3.7	S	3.0	5.1	3.1	7.8	8.6	12.0	36.9	86.7
Doctorate degree	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	4.2	4.8	16.6
Other post-school	12.2	14.4	19.7	20.2	23.4	16.3	22.5	20.4	20.0	29.0	198.2
Other NZ secondary school	2.8	2.7	4.2	11.7	2.3	3.0	S	S	S	S	30.1
Overseas secondary school	20.3	25.8	22.9	20.8	16.2	18.0	18.0	16.9	8.6	4.8	172.2
<b>Total<sup>(10)</sup></b>	<b>343.6</b>	<b>340.6</b>	<b>340.9</b>	<b>341.8</b>	<b>339.2</b>	<b>343.6</b>	<b>343.0</b>	<b>341.3</b>	<b>339.9</b>	<b>342.4</b>	<b>3,416.2</b>

Note: For footnotes, see end of table.

Table 6  
continued**Personal demographics**By annual personal income decile<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

For the year ended 30 June 2011

Personal demographic	Annual personal income decile										All income groups
	Under \$1,100 <sup>(3)</sup>	\$1,100 to \$10,499	\$10,500 to \$15,799	\$15,800 to \$21,299	\$21,300 to \$28,899	\$28,900 to \$36,699	\$36,700 to \$45,899	\$45,900 to \$57,899	\$57,900 to \$77,599	\$77,600 +	
People aged 15 years and over (000) <sup>(4)</sup>											
<b>Labour force status</b>											
Employed	66.5	146.1	92.3	117.3	195.5	254.4	301.0	313.6	316.3	326.3	2,129.3
Unemployed	37.0	33.5	23.5	16.4	11.4	13.8	2.1	2.4	S	S	141.4
Not in the labour force	240.2	161.1	225.1	208.1	132.3	75.4	39.9	25.3	23.0	15.2	1,145.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>343.6</b>	<b>340.6</b>	<b>340.9</b>	<b>341.8</b>	<b>339.2</b>	<b>343.6</b>	<b>343.0</b>	<b>341.3</b>	<b>339.9</b>	<b>342.4</b>	<b>3,416.2</b>

- Income is before tax, from regular and recurring sources only. Income figures are collected for those aged 15 years or over. Income groups are deciles (to the nearest hundred dollars) of personal income.
- Deciles are formed by dividing the population into 10 groups, by ranking individuals by the amount of income they receive. The bottom decile (decile 1) is the lowest 10 percent of the population in terms of income, while the top decile (decile 10) is the highest 10 percent of the population.
- This decile includes loss from investment or self-employment income, or no source of income received.
- People counts are rounded to the nearest hundred. Figures may not sum to stated totals, due to rounding.
- Ethnic groups in this table are created using the total response method. People were able to identify with more than one ethnic group; therefore, figures will not sum to the total population.
- MELAA represents all Middle Eastern, Latin American, and African ethnicity responses.
- The category 'Other ethnic group' includes the 'New Zealander' responses.
- Total ethnic group includes the 'not specified' category.
- For further information on the qualifications framework, refer to see the Statistical Standard for Qualifications on the Statistics NZ website.
- Includes 'highest qualification unidentifiable' and 'not stated'.

**Symbol:**

S suppressed. Estimates are suppressed if there are less than five households contributing to the cells.

**Source:** Statistics New Zealand

Table 7

**Household demographics**By annual household income decile<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

For the year ended 30 June 2011

Household demographic	Annual household income decile										All income groups
	Under \$20,100 <sup>(3)</sup>	\$20,100 to \$29,499	\$29,500 to \$38,699	\$38,700 to \$49,999	\$50,000 to \$62,899	\$62,900 to \$76,799	\$76,800 to \$93,299	\$93,300 to \$116,999	\$117,000 to \$155,199	\$155,200 +	
Households (000) <sup>(4)</sup>											
<b>Household size<sup>(5)(6)</sup></b>											
One person	105.6	87.1	39.9	34.5	33.5	22.9	13.9	7.2	5.7	3.0	353.4
Two people	28.6	48.8	81.1	64.5	60.2	55.3	65.6	66.9	54.3	49.9	575.1
Three people	12.2	16.4	17.0	31.7	28.8	36.5	29.0	32.4	35.3	39.8	279.1
Four people	8.1	6.5	15.7	18.4	27.7	32.9	31.8	36.5	43.2	37.8	258.5
Five or more people	10.3	5.1	8.2	14.6	16.1	15.2	22.9	21.3	26.0	32.8	172.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>164.7</b>	<b>164.0</b>	<b>161.9</b>	<b>163.6</b>	<b>166.3</b>	<b>162.8</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>164.4</b>	<b>164.5</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>1,638.7</b>
<b>Household composition</b>											
Couple only	19.3	29.3	61.9	46.3	46.9	46.4	56.5	59.0	48.9	47.2	461.7
Couple with one dependent child	3.9	7.6	2.6	12.7	15.4	18.6	11.0	16.7	16.8	13.2	118.5
Couple with two dependent children	3.1	S	5.3	10.3	15.4	23.0	20.9	22.1	20.8	22.1	144.4
Couple with three or more dependent children	4.9	S	4.2	7.2	7.9	8.8	9.0	7.6	8.7	9.9	69.6
All other 'couples with child(ren) only' households <sup>(7)</sup>	3.8	S	4.8	9.5	12.1	11.5	15.4	20.5	30.7	40.5	150.0
One parent with dependent child(ren) only	15.0	21.5	25.0	12.5	7.8	5.8	2.8	2.6	S	S	94.9
All other 'one parent with child(ren) only' households <sup>(8)</sup>	S	4.1	6.6	12.4	8.3	7.7	6.0	3.0	S	S	51.2
Other one-family households <sup>(9)</sup>	4.2	7.2	7.2	10.1	10.7	10.8	13.5	9.7	11.4	9.8	94.6
One-person household	105.6	87.1	39.9	34.5	33.5	22.9	13.9	7.2	5.7	3.0	353.4
All other households <sup>(10)</sup>	4.3	3.4	4.4	8.0	8.3	7.3	14.2	16.0	17.8	16.7	100.3
<b>Total<sup>(11)</sup></b>	<b>164.7</b>	<b>164.0</b>	<b>161.9</b>	<b>163.6</b>	<b>166.3</b>	<b>162.8</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>164.4</b>	<b>164.5</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>1,638.7</b>
<b>Tenure of household<sup>(12)</sup></b>											
Dwelling owned or partly-owned by usual resident(s)	67.4	73.8	75.6	71.5	78.4	83.2	102.5	97.8	102.3	98.8	851.3
Mortgage arrangements not further defined	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Who make mortgage payments	16.6	17.0	18.6	31.8	41.7	51.7	72.4	69.0	78.9	68.3	466.1
Who do not make mortgage payments	50.7	56.8	57.0	39.8	36.7	31.5	30.1	28.8	23.4	30.4	385.2
Dwelling not owned by usual resident(s)	80.9	68.1	67.4	74.1	72.7	58.8	45.9	44.6	32.6	23.0	568.1
Rental arrangements not further defined	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Who make rent payments	73.0	64.8	65.7	72.1	70.9	58.3	43.5	44.6	28.7	21.7	543.1
Who do not make rent payments	8.0	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	3.9	S	25.0
Dwelling held in a family trust by usual resident(s)	16.1	22.2	18.9	18.0	15.2	20.7	14.8	22.0	29.7	41.5	219.1
Mortgage arrangements not further defined	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Who make mortgage payments	3.1	4.1	2.8	6.8	5.1	9.7	8.9	12.8	15.7	14.8	83.7
Who do not make mortgage payments	13.0	18.1	16.1	11.3	10.1	11.0	5.9	9.2	14.0	26.7	135.4
<b>Total<sup>(11)</sup></b>	<b>164.7</b>	<b>164.0</b>	<b>161.9</b>	<b>163.6</b>	<b>166.3</b>	<b>162.8</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>164.4</b>	<b>164.5</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>1,638.7</b>

- Income is before tax, from regular and recurring sources only. Income figures are collected for those aged 15 years or over. Income groups are deciles (to the nearest hundred dollars) of household income.
- Deciles are formed by dividing the population into 10 groups, by ranking households by the amount of income they receive. The bottom decile (decile 1) is the lowest 10 percent of the population in terms of income, while the top decile (decile 10) is the highest 10 percent of the population.
- This decile includes loss from investment or self-employment income, or no source of income received.
- Household counts are rounded to the nearest hundred. Figures may not sum to stated totals, due to rounding.
- The number of people in a household is defined as those who usually reside in that household.
- Two-or-more-person households may or may not include a family nucleus.
- Includes couple with adult children only, as well as couple with adult and dependent children.
- Includes one parent with adult children only, as well as one parent with dependent and adult children.
- Contains all one-family households where 'other people' are present, who may be related or unrelated to the family nucleus.
- This category is an aggregation of the following categories: two-family household, three-or-more-family households, or any other multi-person households.
- Total includes the 'not specified' category.
- Refers to the nature of the occupancy of a household in a private dwelling at the time of the survey. It does not refer to the tenure of the land on which the dwelling is situated.

**Symbol:**

S suppressed. Estimates are suppressed if there are less than five households contributing to the cells.

Source: Statistics New Zealand