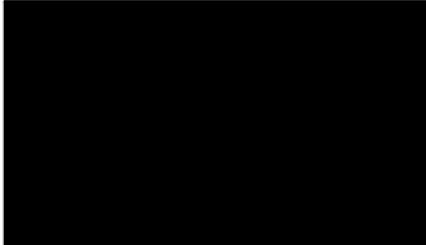


16 April 2021



Thank you for your email of 30 March 2021 to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982:

- *The number of Kāinga Ora houses to be damaged by fire from January 2016 until now. Can this please be broken down by year.*
- *The cause of those fires.*
- *The number of those houses to be rendered inhospitable as a result of the fires. Again, can this please be broken down by year*

The below tables provide information regarding the number of properties that were damaged by fire, and the causes of those fires.

Number of Kāinga Ora-managed properties with fire damage

Year	Fire incidents	Properties
2016	179	177
2017	232	230
2018	315	312
2019	331	322
2020	384	382
2021*	74	74

Note: more than one fire can occur at a property and are recorded as separate incidents.

*as at 31 March 2021

Cause of fire damage at Kāinga Ora-managed properties

Cause	Year					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*
Appliance	17	20	23	14	13	2
Arson/suspicious	23	43	25	43	34	8
Cigarette/candle	10	21	29	21	23	8
Electrical	5	16	25	21	28	5
Kids and matches/lighters	12	15	16	21	18	8
Other	25	36	40	35	42	6
Rubbish	2	2	3	3	3	1
Unattended cooking	78	69	138	150	198	28
Unknown	7	10	16	23	25	8
Grand Total	179	232	315	331	384	74

*as at 31 March 2021

Kāinga Ora does not record whether a property was rendered inhospitable after a fire. However, I can tell you how many properties were unavailable for tenanting for varying amounts of time while repairs were undertaken. In a small number of cases, a property would ultimately be demolished if the damage was severe. We cannot confirm how many were demolished without investigating individual property files, but anecdotally there are around 30-60 properties demolished a year due to fire damage.

Number of Kāinga Ora-managed properties that were unavailable for tenanting after a fire incident at the property

Year	Properties
2016	84
2017	73
2018	106
2019	95
2020	123
2021*	22

*as at 31 March 2021

The primary focus of Kāinga Ora is the wellbeing of its customers, especially when an event such as a fire has occurred. Staff work with the family involved to find out how they can best be supported, including providing temporary accommodation if needed to ensure they are safe and secure.

Kāinga Ora will also work with Fire and Emergency New Zealand regarding the condition of the building affected. Once assessments are concluded, the level of repair work can be determined to bring the home up to standard.

You also might like to know that Kāinga Ora works closely alongside Fire and Emergency at local and national levels to help spread the message of how to keep its customers and their homes fire-safe.

Yours sincerely



Rachel Kelly
Manager Government Relations