

02 OCT 2018



Thank you for your email of 20 September 2018 requesting the following information:

1. *I would like to know how many Housing NZ tenants have been evicted in the past five years, broken down into year on year statistics.*
2. *What the reasons for the evictions were and where they were located? i.e failed meth test in Dunedin.*
3. *How many tenants in Otago and Southland are likely to be compensated for based the now considered flawed meth testing regime.*

You were provided with the response to question three on 20 September 2018, by Glenn Conway, Communications and Stakeholder Manager, who said,

... there are seven tenants in the Otago and Southland area that are eligible to receive assistance as part of this programme.

Questions one and two of your request are being responded to under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

An eviction is a formal process involving a Court Bailiff who is authorised to obtain possession of a property after a tenancy has been ended by the Tenancy Tribunal, the landlord has an order for possession of the property, and the bailiff is required to remove a tenant from the property.

In response to questions one and two please see the attached table (appendix 1) which shows the number of Housing New Zealand tenants evicted in the last five years, broken down by calendar years with an explanation for the eviction, and includes the region where the eviction occurred.

Please note location is by Territorial Local Authority, the figures are for calendar year and any evictions which have not been carried out, are in process or under dispute were excluded from the count.

Housing New Zealand does not end tenancies, except in exceptional circumstances. As a state housing landlord, Housing New Zealand is focussed on supporting tenants to live well in our homes and sustain their tenancies, while also ensuring that the rights of the surrounding community are respected.

By helping tenants to stay in their homes, Housing New Zealand provides them with a secure foundation from which they can get them the level of support they need to address the behavioural issues that are affecting their tenancy and their neighbours.

Over the past year Housing New Zealand has been working on strengthening its focus on the needs of tenants. Amongst other things, this approach focuses on tenants with addictions and drug-related problems, chronic health conditions, who may be experiencing financial difficulties, and those who may be victims of domestic violence.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rachel Kelly', written in a cursive style.

Rachel Kelly
Manager Government Relations

Appendix 1: Number of evictions in last five years

Territorial Local Authority	Reason for eviction	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
Auckland	Rent Arrears	17	12	12	2		43
	Antisocial behaviour	7	6	3			16
	Illegal activity - Meth		4	7			11
	Illegal activity - Other drugs	2	1	1			4
	Evicted by Police after serving 90 day notice		1	1			1
	Unlawful Tenancy - Death of registered tenant and the property needed to be returned to Housing New Zealand		1				1
	Lease expiry ¹		1				1
	Fraud - Termination					1	1
	Auckland total	26	25	24	2	1	78
	Christchurch City	6	4	3	1		14
Christchurch City total	Unlawful Tenancy - Illegal occupancy		1				1
	Antisocial behaviour	1					1
		7	5	3	1		16
Dunedin City			1			1	
Dunedin City total			1			1	
Far North District	Fraud		1				1
	Antisocial behaviour				1		1
Far North District total			1		1		2
Gisborne District	Rent Arrears	1					1
Gisborne District total		1					1
Hamilton City	Rent Arrears	1					1
Hamilton City total		1					1
Hastings district	Rent Arrears		1				1
	Illegal activity - Other drugs		1				1
Hastings district total			2				2
Napier City	Rent Arrears		2				2
Napier City total			2				2

Please note - ¹Lease expiry – the tenant refused to leave the property

Appendix 1: Number of evictions in last five years

Palmerston North City	Illegal activity - Meth	1		1				2
Palmerston North City total		1		1				2
Porirua City	Rent Arrears				1			1
	RTA Breach – Illegal activity and rent arrears					1		1
Porirua City total					2			2
Tauranga City	Illegal activity - Meth		1	1				2
	Antisocial behaviour		1					1
	Rent Arrears		1					1
	Illegal activity - Other drugs			1				1
Tauranga City total			3	2				5
Thames-Coromandel District	Antisocial behaviour	1						1
Thames-Coromandel District total		1						1
Upper Hutt City	MSD Review ²			1				1
Upper Hutt City total				1				1
Waikato District	Rent Arrears				1			1
Waikato District total					1			1
Wanganui District	Rent Arrears	2						2
	Antisocial behaviour			1				1
Wanganui District total		2		1				3
Wellington City	Rent Arrears				1			1
	Antisocial behaviour	1						1
Wellington City total		1						2
Western Bay of Plenty District	Rent Arrears			1				1
Western Bay of Plenty District total				1				1
Whangarei District	Illegal activity - Meth					2		2
	Rent Arrears				1			1
Whangarei District total					2			3
Grand Total		40	41	34	8	1		124

Please note - ²MSD review – the tenant was no longer eligible for public housing