

TARGET

8

# Fewer people in emergency housing

75% fewer households in emergency housing.

**LEAD MINISTER**

**Hon Tama Potaka**, Associate Minister of Housing

**LEAD AGENCIES**

**Ministry of Housing and Urban Development**, Acting Secretary for Housing and Urban Development, Adrienne Meikle

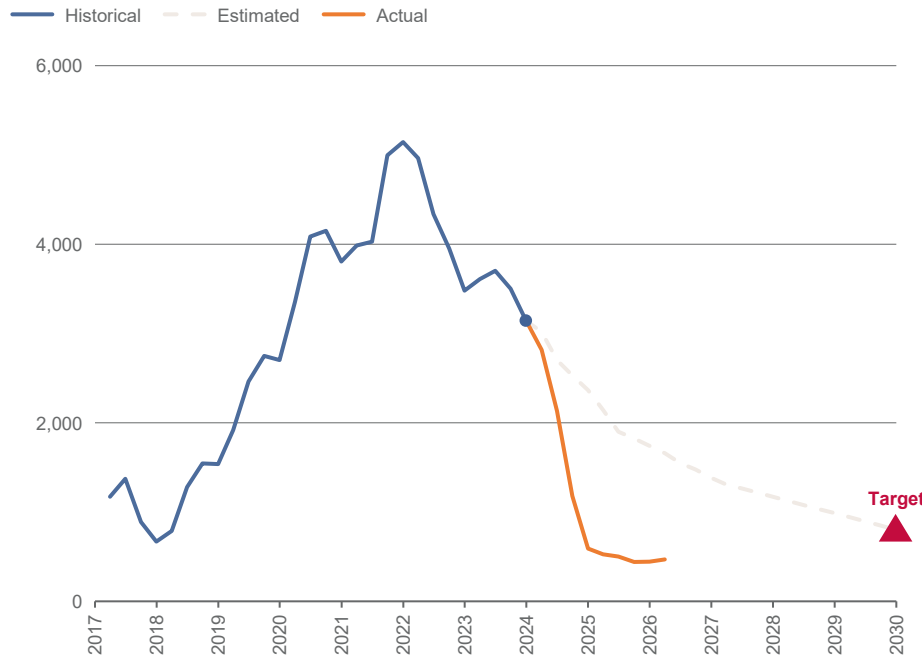
**Ministry of Social Development**, Secretary for Social Development, Debbie Power

**TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING MARCH 2026**

Target	Baseline (December 2023)	Current (December 2025)	Status
75% reduction (<800 households)	3,141	471	On Track

**PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET**

Households in emergency housing at the end of each month



**TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS**

The Target was met in December 2024, with the Government now having achieved an 85% reduction from baseline.

The Government remains focused on:

- Improving pathways out of emergency housing, including appropriate supports to ensure exits into stable housing.**

  - The Priority One Fast Track established in April 2024 is getting more families with children out of emergency housing (EH) and into social housing. As of March 2026, 1,101 households (with 2,367 children) have been housed in a social housing tenancy.
  - Social outcomes contracting trials are progressing well – Wellington currently has 29 households in service, and Waikato has 26 households in service. 42 households have been stably housed throughout the trial so far.
- Reducing demand and ensuring emergency housing is only used when necessary.**

  - The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) continues to improve operational guidance to support frontline staff to consistently and accurately assess EH need. Recently, MSD has released updated guidance on the exercise of discretion and use of short-stay grants (October 2025) and clarifying what constitutes ‘contributing to your homelessness’ (January 2026). MSD will keep EH guidance for staff under review, including as the Ministry considers and implements the recommendations of the OAG.
- Increasing the supply of suitable housing and maximising the impact of existing supply.** This includes 1,500 social housing places of which, 1,549 places have been committed, approved or delivered as of March 2026.
- Going for Housing Growth programme and reform of the Resource Management Act** to address the underlying causes of the housing supply shortage.

The Government will continue to monitor and track the target to ensure results are sustained.

**HOW TO FIND OUT MORE**

For more information go to the Ministry of Social Development’s website: [www.msd.govt.nz](http://www.msd.govt.nz) or Housing and Urban Development’s website: [www.hud.govt.nz](http://www.hud.govt.nz)

For information on the Government Targets go to [www.dpmc.govt.nz](http://www.dpmc.govt.nz)