

11 February 2025

Official Information Request - 8140015182
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

By email fyi-request-29666-60c9ff98@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Erica

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA)
How many households pay rates

Thank you for your request for official information which we received on 31 January. The specific details of your request and our responses are set out below

What is the total number of households in Auckland?
How many households pay rates?
How many households get their rates for free eg remitted under Māori freehold land.

Your Questions 1 and 2

Auckland Council does not hold information on the number of households in Auckland. Statistics New Zealand has information on dwellings in Auckland [here](#)

The closest information we have in our data base is the number of residential or lifestyle SUIPs (separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit) excluding those with a vacant land use. I have presented the numbers below.

	For rating year 2024/2025 (as at Nov 2024)
Total number of residential or lifestyle SUIPs excluding vacant land use	609,237
Of the above:	
Number of SUIPs that pay rates	608,335
Number of SUIPs that don't pay rates (except rates applicable to non-rateable properties in accordance with legislation)	902

Note that numbers may change slightly over time due to maintenance of the rating database.

Your Question 3

We have a total of 259 rating units that are Māori Freehold Land (MFL).

- There are 117 non-rateable MFL rating units
- There are 142 fully rateable MFL rating units
 - 25 receive a full remission
 - 22 receive a partial remission

Māori Freehold Land is fully rateable under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 (LGRA) unless it has non-rateable status under Schedule 1 Part 1 of the Act. Examples of non-rateable MFL are some Māori reserves, marae, meeting places, reservations, customary land and land that is unused.

For fully rateable land, the council remits rates in part or in full through remission policies allowed by the LGRA. Current remissions are made under policies for -

- a) unused MFL (Policy 1), or
- b) MFL used for non-commercial purposes for the community benefit of Māori (Policy 4)

In June 2024, we wrote off rates and arrears on 39 rating units on the basis that they were uncollectable (under Section 900A of the LGRA). Rates on MFL land are deemed to be uncollectable as this land cannot be sold to collect unpaid rates

As a result of the above 177 MFL rating units effectively paid no rates in 2023/24

- Fully non-rateable - 117
- 100% Remission - 21
- Uncollectable write-off - 39

The decision by Auckland Council to release the information contained in this response was made by Rhonwen Heath.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any questions please contact me on 09 301 0101, quoting LGOIMA No. 8140015182.

Ngā mihi



Joanne Kearney

Senior Business Partner, Privacy & Official Information

Te Wheako ā-Kirihoko me ngā Ratonga Matihiko | Customer Experience & Digital Services

