

Key Area: Enhancing opportunities for participation and social connection



Increasing trend



Decreasing trend



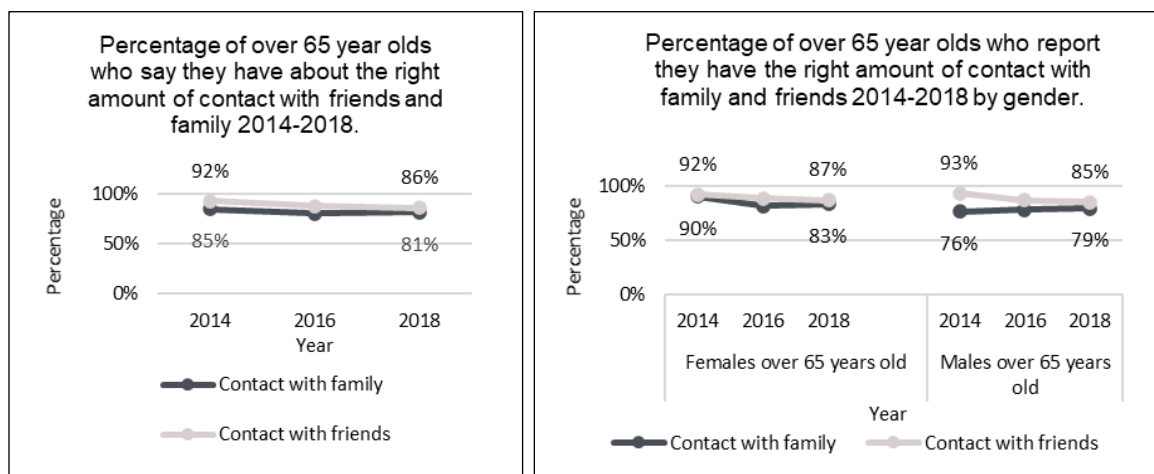
No change in trend, or changes are minimal/not significant

Indicators are signs of progress towards what the Better Later Life Strategy and Action Plan aim to achieve. Some figures in these indicators (marked with *) should be taken with caution because of small number of people sampled or counted. This means that changes may not be statistically significant, or the figures are estimates. However, the general trends and overall picture are still informative.

What we want to achieve: As we age, we remain socially connected and actively participate in our communities.

Indicator 33: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who say they have the right amount of contact with family.

Indicator 34: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who say they have right amount of contact with friends.



Most older people (over 80 percent) feel they have about the right amount of contact with friends and family. It appears to have decreased slightly (from around 92 to around 86 percent for contact with friends and from around 85 to 81 percent for contact with family). These changes may not be significant, though if the downward trend continues it could show a pattern of increasing disconnection. Males and females are similar, though males were slightly less likely to report having the right amount of contact with friends.

From an ethnicity perspective there is no clear consistent differences.

Indicator 35: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who have a strong/very strong sense of connection with their neighbourhood.

In 2018 around 42 percent of older people feel that they have a strong connection with their community.

The next result for this question is due in mid-2022.

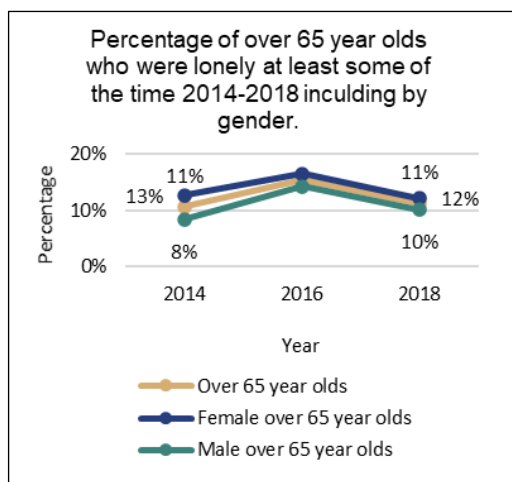
Indicator 36: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who are engaged with at least one community/social group (eg hobby group, religious organisation, recreational or cultural group).

In 2021 approximately 90 percent of older people were involved in at least one kind of community or social group.

This is a new calculation so should be viewed with caution.

What we want to achieve: Reduced loneliness amongst older people

Indicator 37: The percentage of over 65-year-olds have felt lonely all, or most, of the time.



Most older people do not feel high levels of loneliness, but for a consistent 10 to 12 percent of people this is a notable concern. There was a very small difference between genders with women reporting slightly higher in 2014 but this difference was not significant by 2018.

Ethnicity data for this indicator is not available.

What we want to achieve: Recognise older people are as diverse as any other group, with individual aspirations and needs.

There are two indicators that do not currently have reliable data sources however options are beginning to be explored:

- Indicator 38: The percentage of over 65-year-olds who report that health services they use accommodate their needs (eg age, gender, ethnicity, cultural, religious, disability).
- Indicator 39: The percentage of over 65-year-olds who report that other government services they use accommodate their needs (eg age, gender, ethnicity, cultural, religious, disability).

What we want to achieve: Barriers to volunteering are identified and addressed.

There is no current data source for the following indicator

- Indicator 40: The percentage of over 65-year-olds who report that there are no barriers to them volunteering if they wished to.

In the meantime, the overall rate of volunteering can be used as a proxy.

Indicator 40: The percentage of over 65-year-olds who volunteer.

In 2016/2017 just over half of all people aged over 65 volunteered in some capacity (54.5%). This was a total of around 6,874,000 hours of volunteering time.

The next result for this question is due in mid-2022.

What we want to achieve: As people age, they safely use technology to improve their lives.

Indicator 41: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who cannot afford a device OR an internet connection

In 2021 approximately 9 percent of over 65-year-olds who used the internet less often than weekly could not afford a device and/or an internet connection.

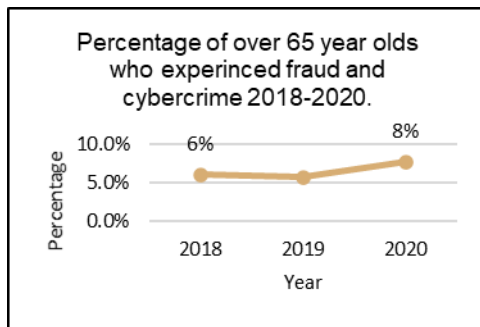
This is a new calculation so should be viewed with caution and methodology may change in the future.

Indicator 42: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who do use the internet and feel very or reasonably confident they can do what they want online

In 2021 approximately 84 percent of over 65-year-olds felt they were very or reasonably confident they can do what they want online.

This is a new calculation so should be viewed with caution and methodology may change in the future.

Indicator 43: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who experienced fraud and cybercrime.



Only a small percentage of people over 65 experience fraud or cybercrime. Between 2018 and 2020 it was an average of around 6.5 percent.

There is no gender or ethnicity breakdown available for this indicator.

What we want to achieve: People who do not use technology can still access the services they need.

There is no current data source for the following indicators

- Indicator 44: The percentage of over 65-year-olds who report they can still access what they need from government services without using the internet.
- Indicator 45: The percentage of over 65-year-olds who report they can still access what they need from without using the internet (eg food, travel, health, pay bills).

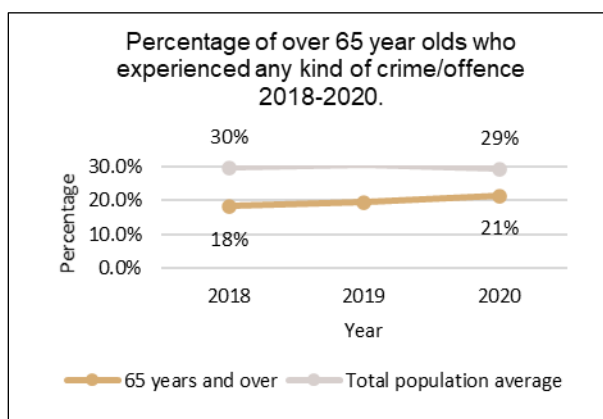
What we want to achieve: People can successfully transition through and adapt to life changes.

There is no current data source for the following indicators

- Indicator 46: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who describe themselves as resilient in the face of change.
- Indicator 47: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who have plans in place for possible changes in their future (significant health event, significant change in finances, loss of a partner or support person).

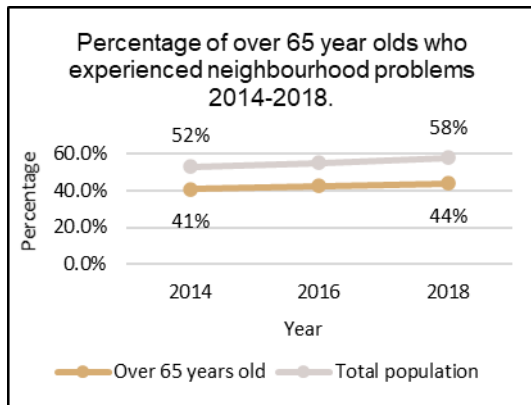
What we want to achieve: As people age, they feel, and are, safe.

Indicator 48: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who were victim of any kind offence.



Older people experience crime at a notably lower rate than the total population, and at the lowest rate of all age groups. The slight rise in percentage of older people from 2018 to 2020 is not significant.

Indicator 49. Percentage of over 65-year-olds who report their neighbourhood was notably affected by problems.

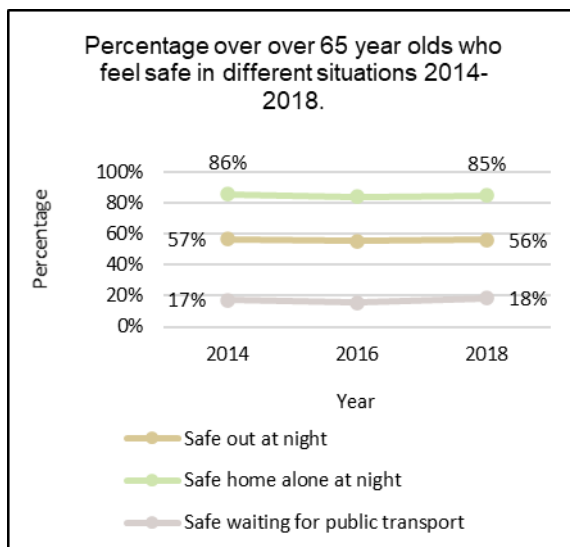


Older people report neighbourhood problems at a notably lower rate than the total population. The rate has also remained relatively steady.

The kind of problems covered in this indicator are noise, vandalism, burglary, assaults, drug or alcohol issues, dangerous driving.

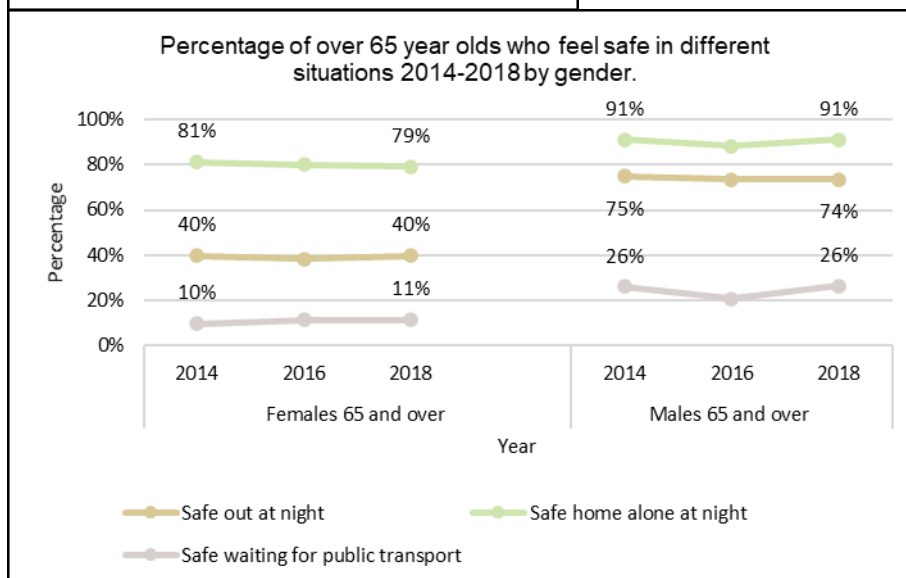
Indicator 50: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who report that they feel very safe or safe in their community (home by themselves at night, out at night, waiting for public transport).

NOTE: Percentages for “Safe out at night” and “Safe waiting for public transport” are calculated of those who do those activities, not the total population (in 208 that was 90.8 percent and 38.9 percent of all over 65-year-olds).



There have been no changes over time in the percentage of older people who feel safe in these three situations.

Older people feel less safe than those of other age groups when waiting for public transport or being out at night. For example, in 2018 the percentage of older people who felt safe waiting for public transport, feeling safe out at night was lower than all other age groups (and interesting as age rises feelings of safety reduce across all age ranges). Though there are not any notable differences in feeling safe at home between the age ranges.



More men over the age of 65 feel safe in all three situations than women and this gap has stayed across the years.

There are no notable differences between ethnicities for this indicator.

What we want to achieve: The prevalence of elder abuse and neglect is reduced, and those who experience abuse are well supported.

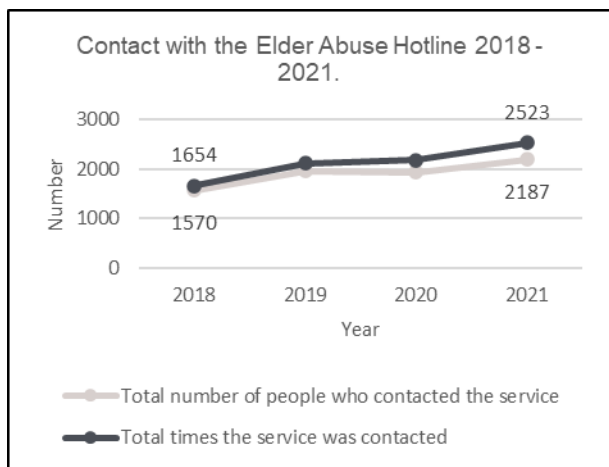
Indicator 51: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who experiences indicators of elder abuse

In 2021 approximately 19 percent of older people reported they had experience one or more indicators of elder abuse. This means that in the prior 12 months one of these things had happened to them:

- Financially taken advantage of
- Not cared for properly or neglected
- Made to feel excluded or isolated
- Treated like a “child”
- Called names or put down
- Physically hurt or restrained

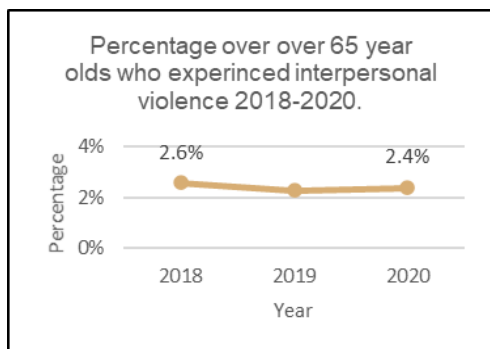
This is a new calculation so should be viewed with caution and methodology may change in the future.

Indicator 52: Number of calls to the Elder Abuse Hotline.



↑ Both the number times someone has contacted the Elder Abuse hotline and the total number of people who contacted them has risen since 2018. This shows there is an increasing awareness of elder abuse and where to get support from.

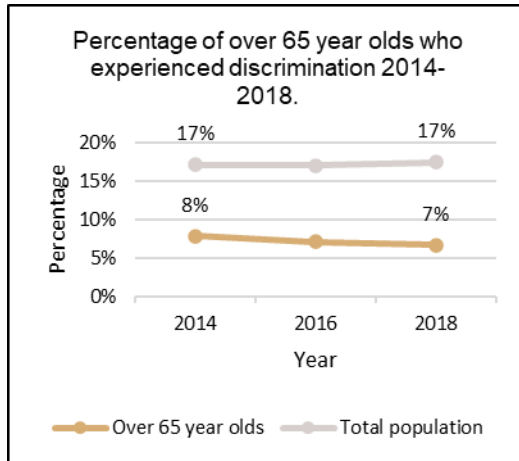
Indicator 53: Percentage of over 65-year-olds who experienced interpersonal violence (a subset of elder abuse).



■ Only a very small minority of over 65-year-olds report they have experienced interpersonal violence. However, the true percentage may be higher as many people do not recognise what interpersonal violence is. This data should be viewed with caution.

What we want to achieve: All older people are respected and valued.

Indicator 54: The percentage of over 65-year-olds who report they experienced discrimination.



A small minority of over 65-year-olds report experiencing discrimination, and this has been consistent. The experience is at a notably lower level than all other age groups (for example in 2018, 21 percent of 15–49-year-olds reported experiences of discrimination).

There is no notable gender difference for this indicator. Ethnicity data is unreliable for this indicator.

Indicator 55: The percentage of people who believe that older people are an asset to society.

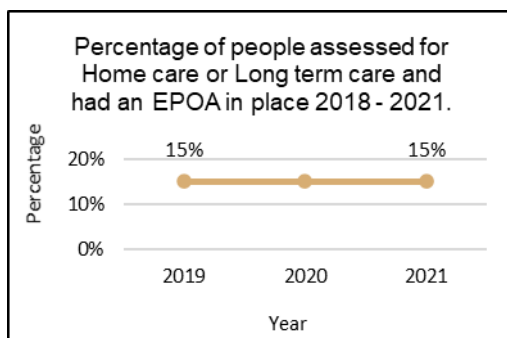
In 2021 approximately 53% of New Zealanders believed older people are an asset to society.

This is a new calculation so should be viewed with caution and methodology may change in the future.

What we want to achieve: People are supported to make choices and have the right to make decisions about their lives as they age.

Indicator 56: The percentage of over 65-year-olds who have an Enduring Power of Attorney

There is no current data for the percentage of older people in general who have an Enduring Power of Attorney. A proxy measure is based on those who are assessed for long term residential care or home care services (there are a minimal number of people under 65 included in this calculation).



The percentage of people with an EPOA has remained steady.

Indicator sources:

Indicator	Source
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who say they have the right amount of contact with family.	General Social Survey, Stats NZ
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who say they have right amount of contact with friends.	General Social Survey, Stats NZ
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who have a strong/very strong sense of connection with their neighbourhood.	General Social Survey, Stats NZ
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who are engaged with at least one community/social group (eg hobby group, religious organisation, recreational or cultural group).	Attitudes to ageing survey, OFS
The percentage of over 65-year-olds have felt lonely all, or most, of the time.	General Social Survey, Stats NZ
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who cannot afford a device OR an internet connection	Attitudes to ageing survey, Office for Seniors
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who do use the internet and feel very or reasonably confident they can do what they want online	Attitudes to ageing survey, Office for Seniors
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who experienced fraud and cybercrime.	NZ Victim of crime survey
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who were victim of any kind offence.	NZ Victim of Crime Survey
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who report their neighbourhood was notably affected by problems.	General Social Survey, Stats NZ
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who report that they feel very safe or safe in their community (home by themselves at night, out at night, waiting for public transport).	General Social Survey, Stats NZ
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who experiences indicators of elder abuse	Attitudes to ageing survey, Office for Seniors
Number of calls to the Elder Abuse Hotline.	Operational reporting data MSD
Percentage of over 65-year-olds who experienced interpersonal violence (a subset of elder abuse).	NZ Victim and Crime Survey
The percentage of over 65-year-olds who report they experienced discrimination.	General Social Survey, Stats NZ
The percentage of people who believe that older people are an asset to society.	Attitudes to ageing survey, Office for Seniors
The percentage of over 65-year-olds who have an Enduring Power of Attorney	INTERRAI administrative data.