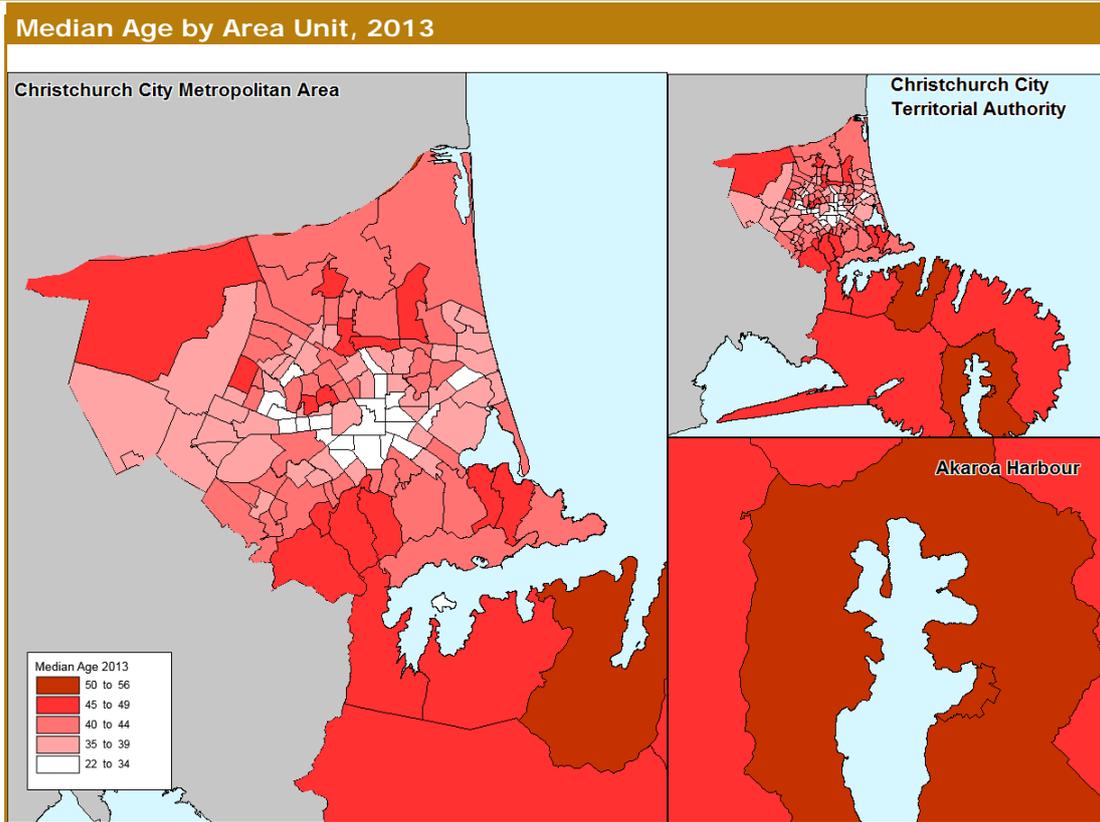


Age, Gender and Ethnicity

Median Age



Source: Statistics New Zealand: Census of Population and Dwellings.

Key Points:

- In 2013, the median age for Christchurch residents was 39 years. In 2006, it was 36 years.
- There are some areas of the City that had a higher median age than others. The Banks Peninsula area units and along the Port Hills from Kennedy's Bush to Sumner generally had an older population.
- The Akaroa area unit had the oldest median age of 56 years, followed by Akaroa Harbour (54) and Port Levy (54).
- The Central City and surrounding areas, plus Aranui, Linwood, Jellie Park and Riccarton all had younger populations. The Ilam area unit had the youngest median age of 23 years, followed by Riccarton West (24) and Upper Riccarton (27).

What is this about?

The map above shows the spatial distribution of median age across the City by area unit in 2013. Median age is the point at which half the population is older and half is younger. The distribution of median age reflects housing type and property prices and relative income levels of the various age groups. Information about the structure of a population is important as it has implications for the provision of appropriate services such as healthcare and education.

Christchurch's median age is expected to increase due to the large post-World War Two birth cohort (the Baby Boomers) reaching older ages, lower birth rates due to couples delaying or deciding not to have children, and increased life expectancy, due to medical advances and improvements in overall quality of life.

Data limitations:

The map above shows data to an area unit (suburb) level, so variations at smaller (i.e meshblock or city block) levels will not be apparent.

Related topics:

- Population Growth
- Quality of Life
- Service Provision
- Housing
- Income