

AGEING  
WELL

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talkaumatanga

# Elder voices in a foreign land: Renting experience of Asian elders

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## NZ's older Asian population

- Asian people aged 65 years or over (27,309 in 2013) comprise 5.8% of the total Asian population.
- Chinese make up 53% of the older Asian population, Indian 30% and Korean 4%.
- One in five older Asians were overseas-born and have lived in NZ for under 10 years.
- Among older Asians, new settlers – those who have lived in NZ for under 10 years – have lower level of home ownership (60%) than the NZ-born (81%) and established migrants (68%).



# Housing satisfaction

- **Public housing**

*Because it is Housing NZ, they don't throw us out but if I was renting a house outside private when those people want to sell their property then you have to move out.*

- **Children's home**

*We don't have any worries because it is our son's house ... We did some modifications to the kitchen, bathroom and laundry. ... My son paid for all the modifications – it's their house.*

- **Private rental**

*It does not make me feel like a home because this apartment is rented.*

*We have a sense of belonging because we can come when we want and we go when we want. There's a lot of freedom of that kind that I didn't realise this before .*

# Location preferences

- **Accessible bus routes**

- **Proximity to amenities**

*This house is near the bus stop, shopping centre. Especially because we don't have a car, we go by bus.*

- **Proximity to family and community groups**

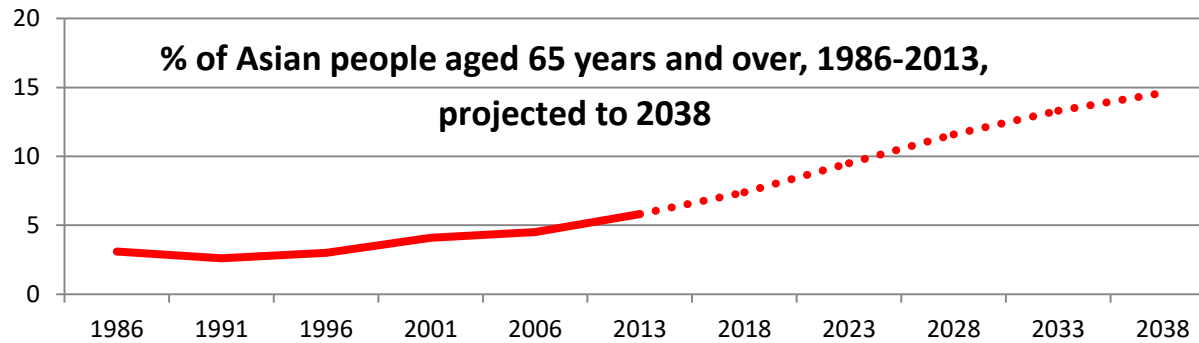
*It only takes me 15 minutes on the bus to where my son lives so I can see my grandchildren when I want to or they come over.*

- **Safety**

*I like this house because it's in the city and it is safe ... We feel very safe. It's an apartment, it has a secure entrance.*

# Challenges

- Barriers – language, finance, transport
- Declining functioning – cognitive, mobility
- Intergenerational tension
- Social isolation and loneliness
- Lack of knowledge how to access services
- Cultural barriers to help seeking



Older Asian people are projected to increase to 14.6% of the total Asian population in 2038.

**Need for more culturally appropriate services and community support**  
to enable positive ageing-in-place for this population