



Condition of New Zealand Housing

#### 5<sup>th</sup> House Condition Survey (HCS)

Sept 2015 – June 2016 N=560 National coverage Owned & rented houses

- Telephone interview
- Appliance-use questionnaire
- Physical house assessment

#### Occupant ventilation behaviour

Winter 2016 N=64 (subset of HCS) 4 areas of the country Owner-occupied houses

- Temperature and RH in bedrooms & bathrooms
- Windows and door motion sensors

# Occupant behaviour and fungal exposure

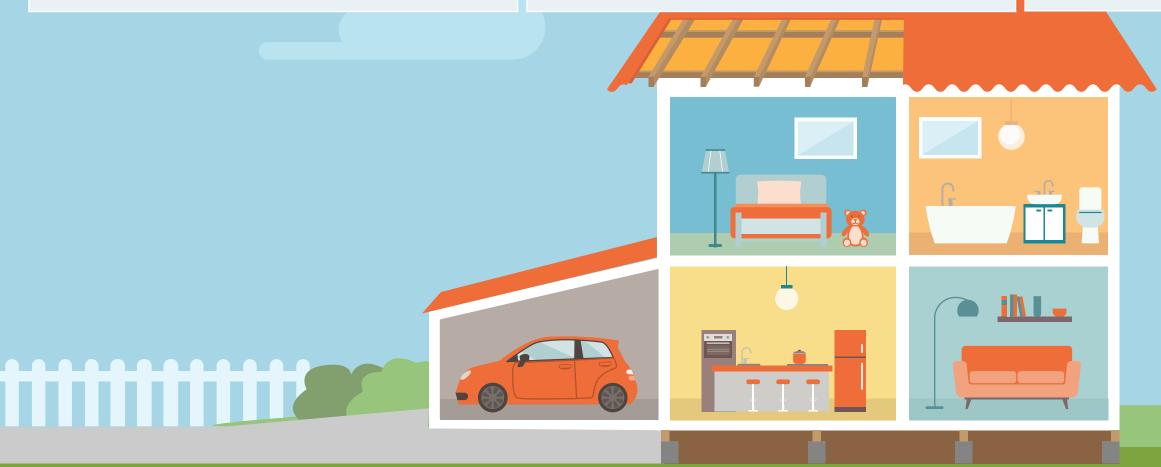
Winter-Spring 2017

N = 24

Wellington region

Owned and rented houses

- Temperature and RH in all rooms
- Windows and doors motion sensors
- Air and floor fungal spore sampling
- In-home semi-structured interview



# Condition and maintenance



# House Condition Survey physical house assessment

- Foundations and subfloor
- 2. Exterior (walls, windows, doors)
- Interior (all room linings and fittings)
- 4. Roof
- Roof space
- 6. Insulation
- 7. Hot water cylinder
- 8. Decks
- 9. Carports, garages, sleepouts
- 10. Paths, steps, ramps

49 features assessed on condition and defects

#### CONDITION RATING DESCRIPTION

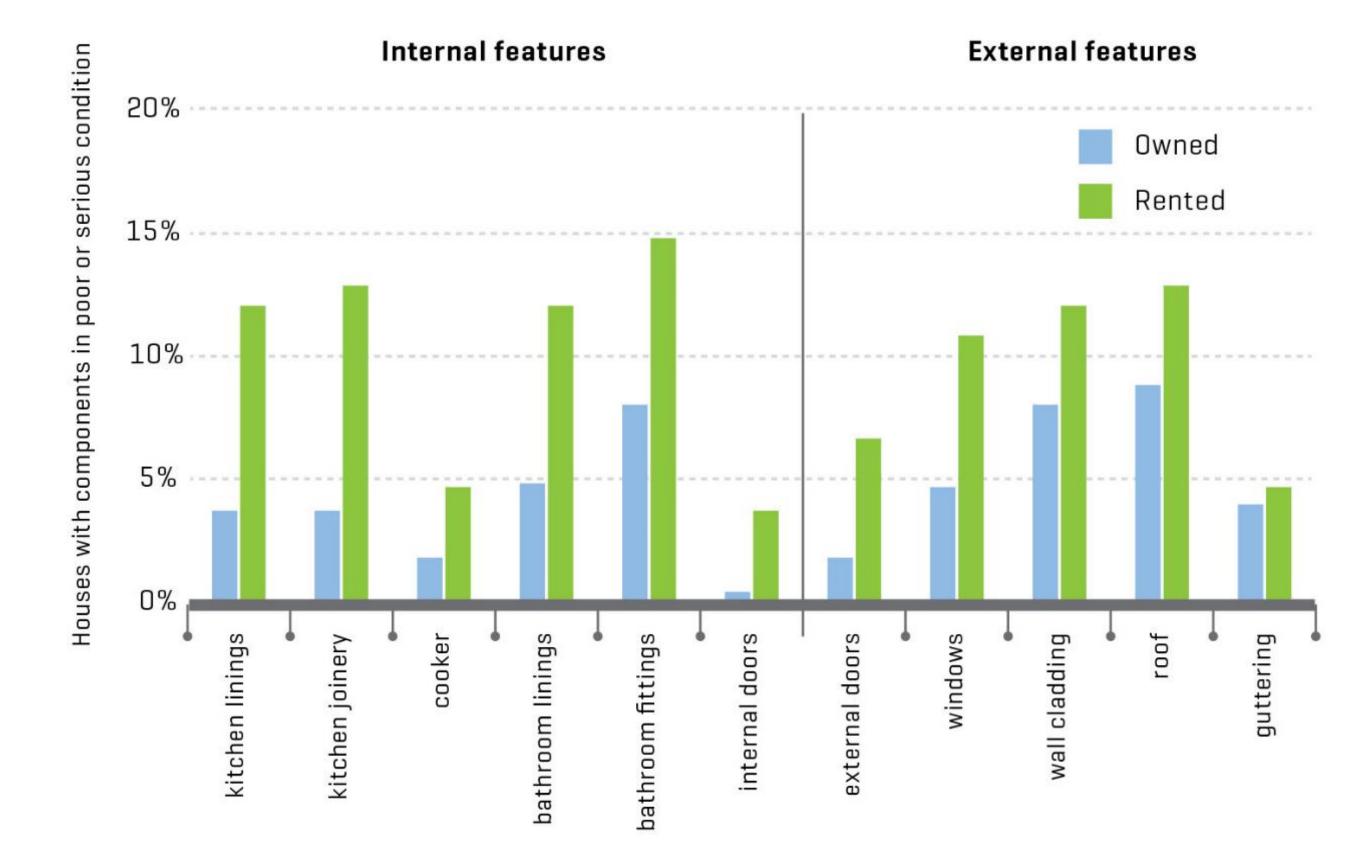
☐ Serious	Health and safety implications; needs immediate attention	
□ Poor	Needs attention within 3 months	
☐ Moderate	Will need attention within the next 2 years	
☐ Good	Very few defects; near-new condition	
☐ Excellent	No defects; as-new condition	

#### Defects

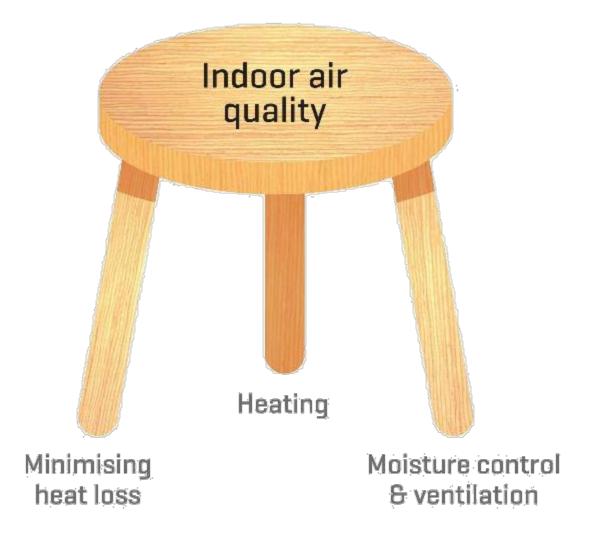
- Decay
- □ Rot
- Chipped paint
- Surface cracks
- Borer

# Defects - examples





# What is needed for warm, dry, healthy homes?



# Minimising heat loss



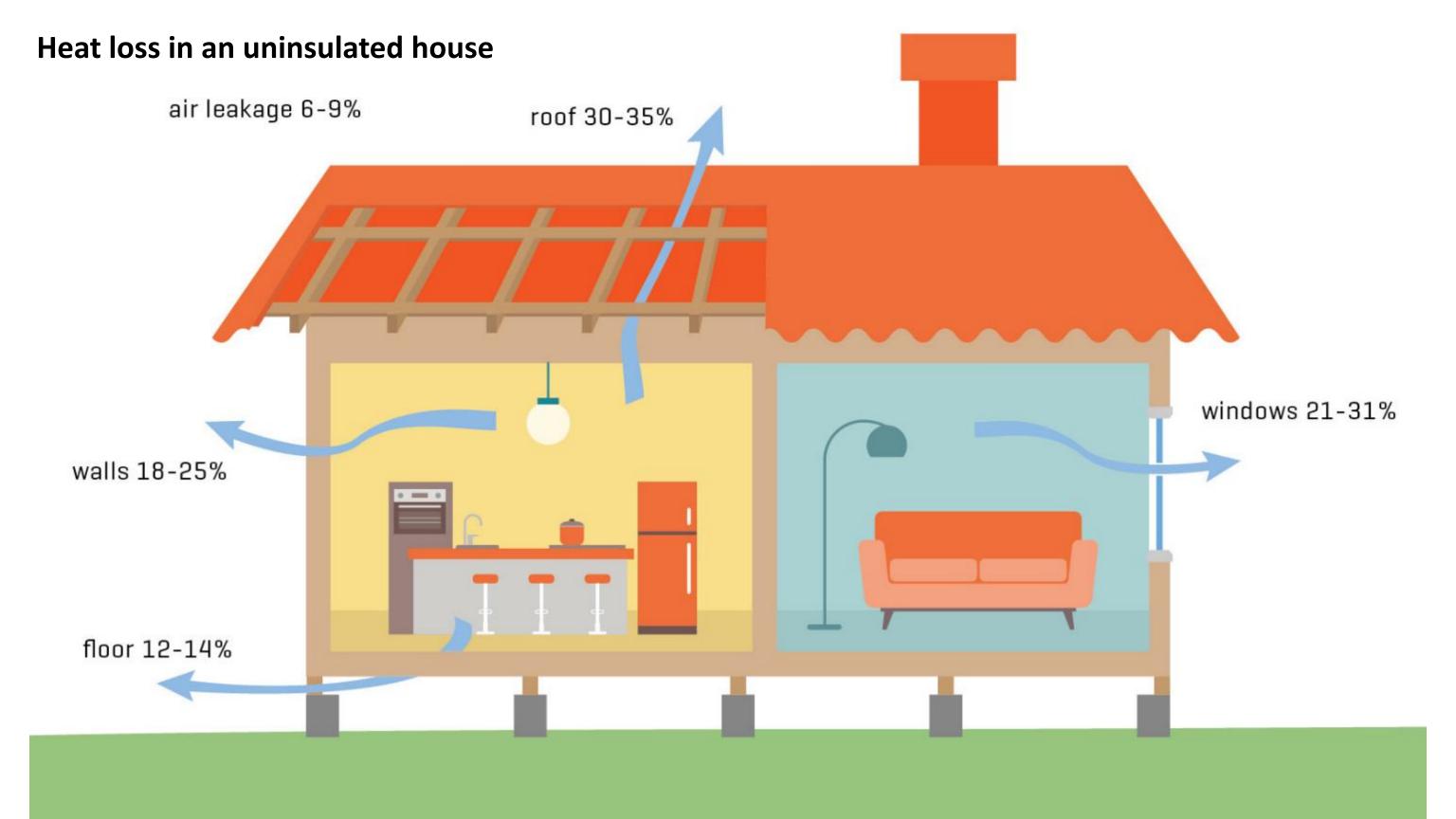


Heating



Moisture control & Ventilation





#### Sources of moisture in the home







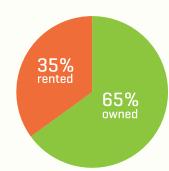






# **NZ HOUSES** assessed from September 2015

to June 2016



## **HEATING HABITS**

46% of households did not heat bedrooms



51% of children's bedrooms heated in winter





### **VENTILATION**

Only around

had an extractor fan in the bathroom in the kitchen venting to outside

Only around

had an extractor fan extracting to outside

#### **INSULATION**



could benefit from retrofitted insulation in the roof space and/or subfloor

47% had less than 120mm or insufficient coverage of insulation in the roof space

19% had insufficient coverage of insulation in the subfloor









# **HEATING APPLIANCES**



40% of owner-occupied 25% of rentals



**Wood burners** 

39% of owner-occupied houses

#### Electric heaters

25% of owner-occupied houses

#### Portable unflued gas heaters

4% of owner-occupied 15% of rentals





# **HEATING HABITS**

46% of households heat bedrooms in winter



51% of children's bedrooms heated in winter





# **HEATING APPLIANCES**

Heat pumps



40% of owner-occupied 25% of rentals





#### **Wood burners**



39% of owner-occupied 23% of rentals

#### **Electric heaters**



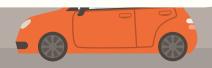
25% of owner-occupied 33% of rentals



#### Portable unflued gas heaters



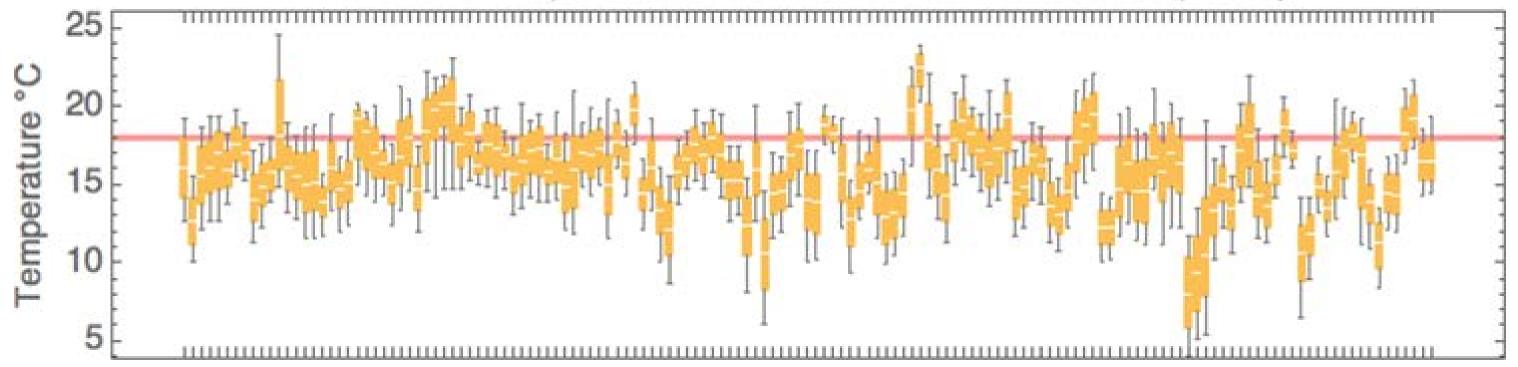
4% of owner-occupied 15% of rentals

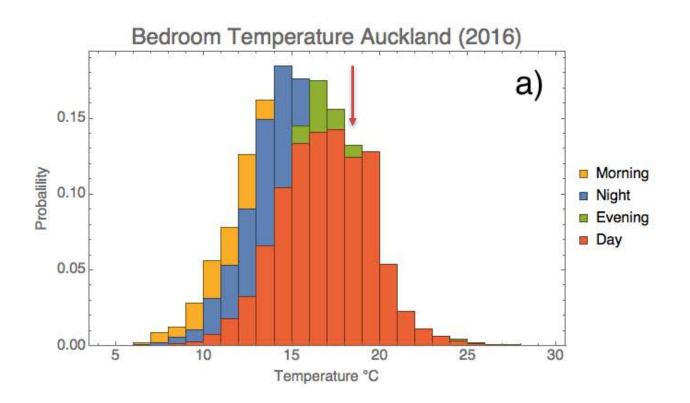


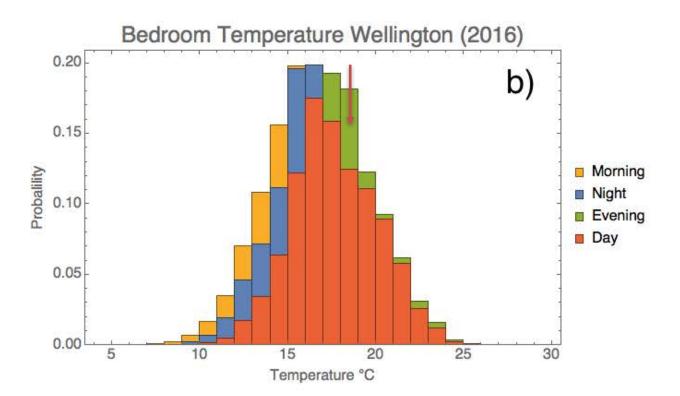


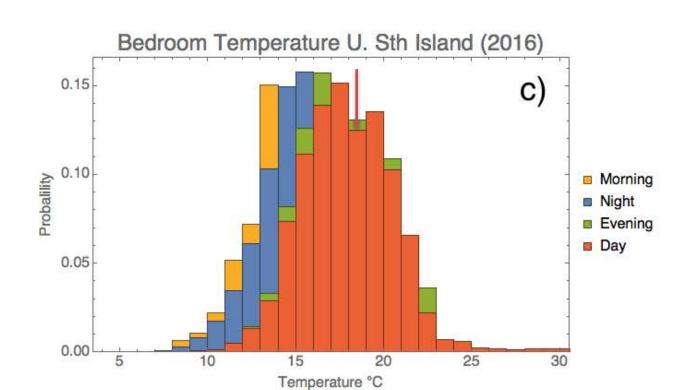


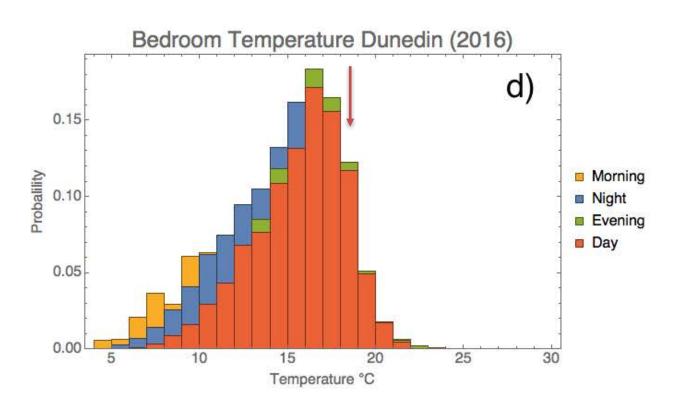
# Overall Temperature Distribution in Bedrooms (2016)











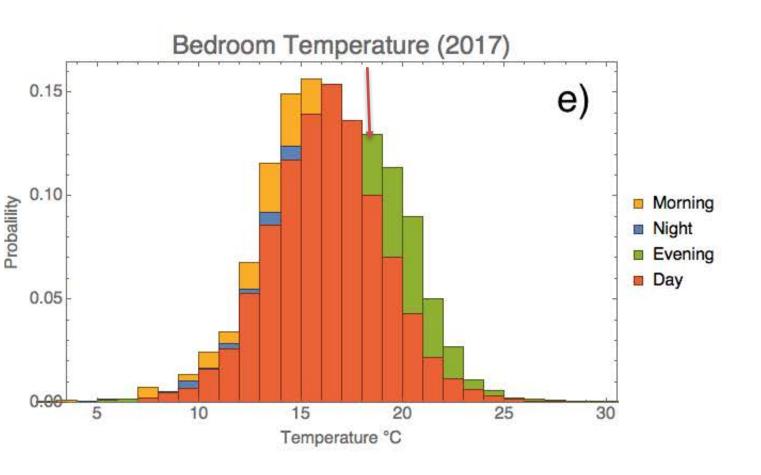
# Temperature readings for all bedroom from the 2016 study

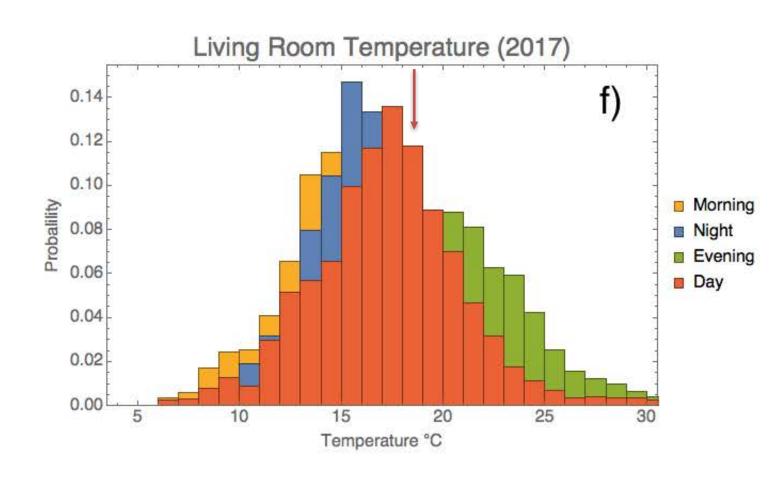
Readings	Proportion of time	Percentage of bedrooms
Less than 10°C	3%	54%
Less than 12°C	8%	84%
Less than 14°C	21%	96%
Less than 16°C	43%	98%
Less than 18 °C	71%	100%
Less than 21 °C	95%	100%



# Occupant heating habits and coping strategies (2017 study)

Heat the living area and rely on heat flow to bedrooms







# Occupant heating habits and coping strategies

- Heat the living area and rely on heat flow to bedrooms
- Sleep in one room, electric blankets, hot water bottles, extra blankets

"It heats up in here, we get it hot enough for us, so we can't bear it, then open all the doors so then the heat goes out." "Nah, I've got an electric blanket, that's my heater! It's nice with my electric blanket on...but it does get really... what do you call it, when it gets cold...real damp, musty."

"It's cold as. We actually had a column heater in there quite a bit, cos at the back of the section there are retaining walls, when the cold comes down and rain and wet, it just sits in that area. It doesn't get dry."





Only around

had an extractor fan in the bathroom in the kitchen venting to outside

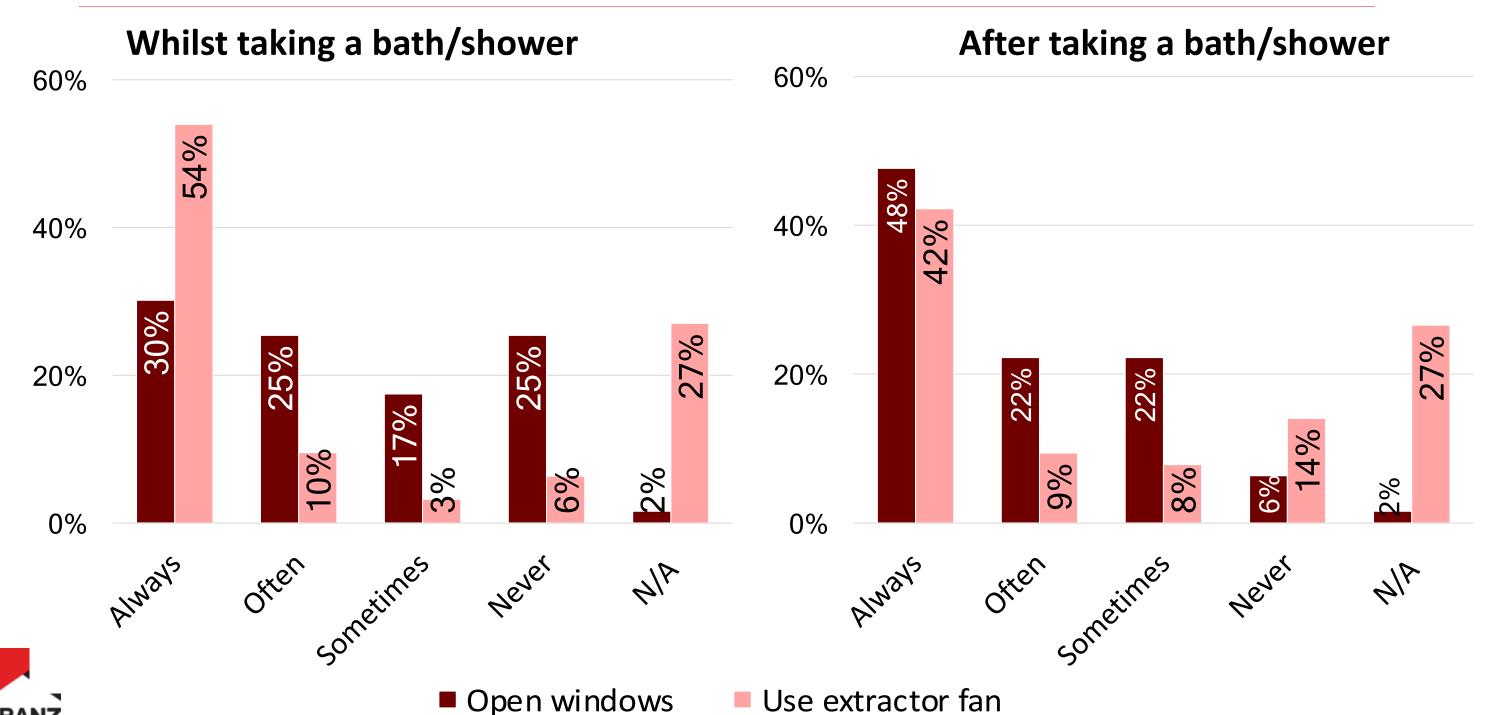
Only around

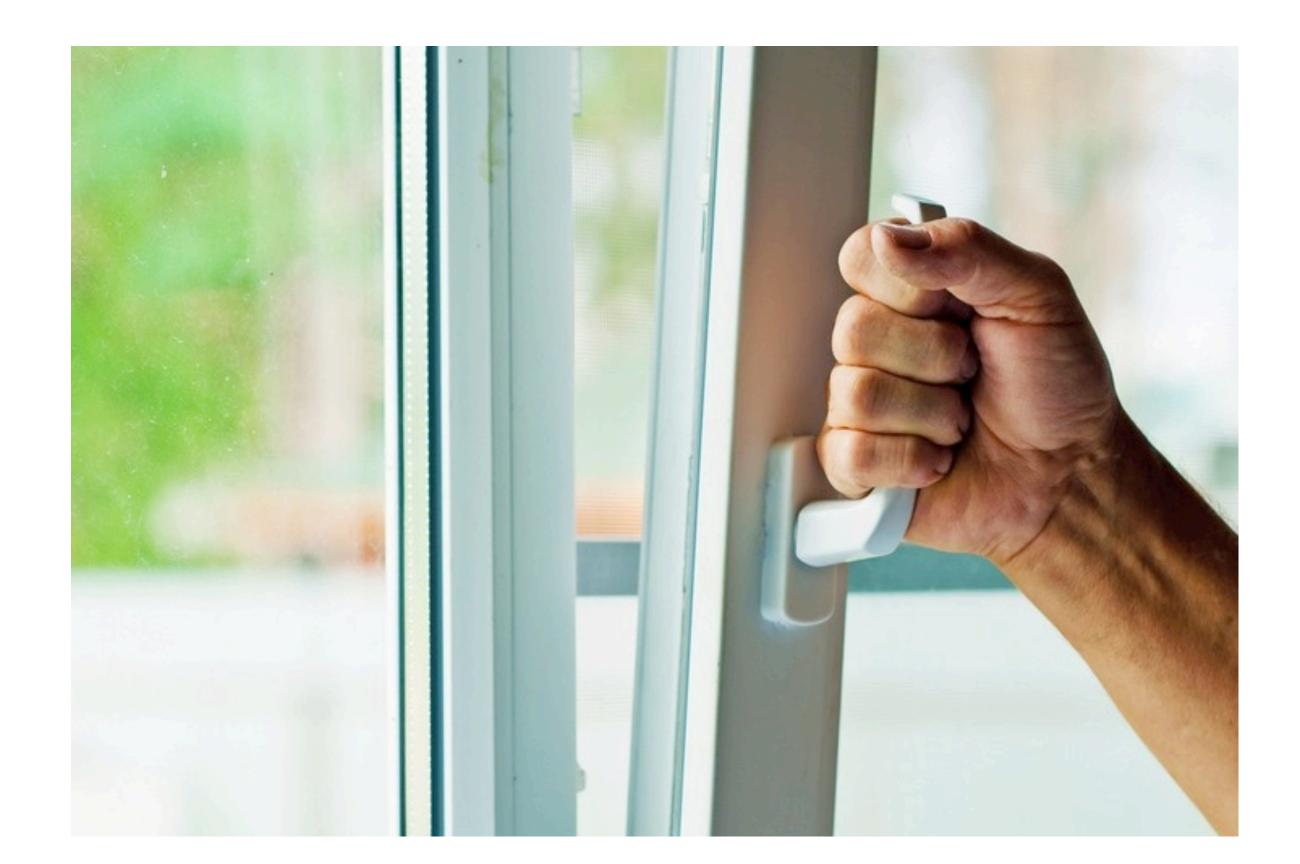
had an extractor fan

extracting to outside

<u>||||||</u>

# Occupant ventilation behaviour (reported)

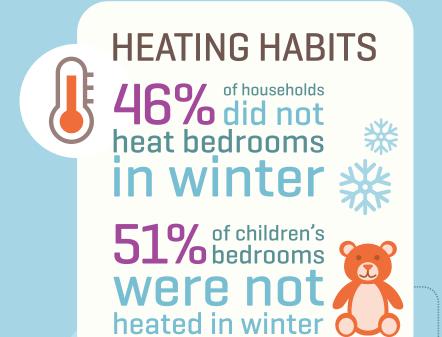








Increasing relative humidity





Only around

had an extractor fan in the bathroom

venting to outside

Only around

had an extractor fan in the kitchen

extracting to outside

#### **INSULATION**

could benefit from retrofitted insulation in the roof space and/or subfloor

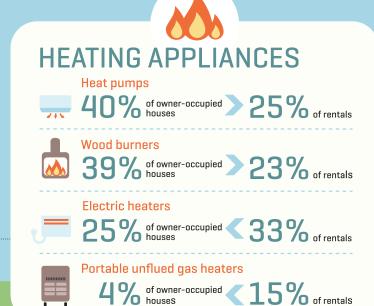
had less than 120mm or insufficient coverage of insulation in the roof space

had insufficient coverage of insulation in the subfloor











8% "musty" smell

18% felt damp

Rentals twice as likely to smell damp

Rentals three times as likely to feel damp



44% > 56% owned rented



Mould was most commonly found in bathrooms.

# mould in bedrooms ===



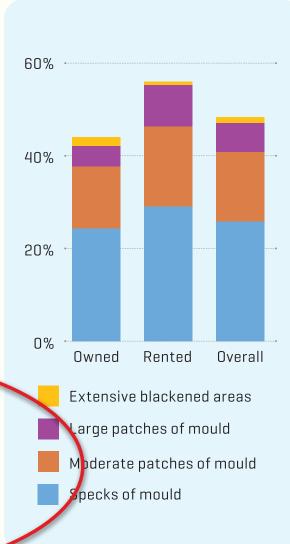
almost

30% > 18%

# Managing mould

Mould was more commonly observed in houses lacking effective heating,

ventilation and insulation



'people shouldn't have to live in houses contaminated by methamphetamine – but they shouldn't have to live in houses that are damp and mouldy either' David Rutherford,

> Chief Commissioner, **Human Rights Commission**