

Housing and Energy Inequality in New Zealand

Fatima McKague for the Joint Salvation Army and University of Otago Colloquium



Centre for Sustainability
Kā Rakahau o Te Ao Tūroa



**"Auckland woman dies from
power cut related death"**
(NZ Herald, 2007)

**"Surge in electricity disconnection –
30,000 households a year disconnected"**
(Radio News New Zealand, 2014)

**"Damp state house played part in
toddler's death"** (NZ Herald, 2015)

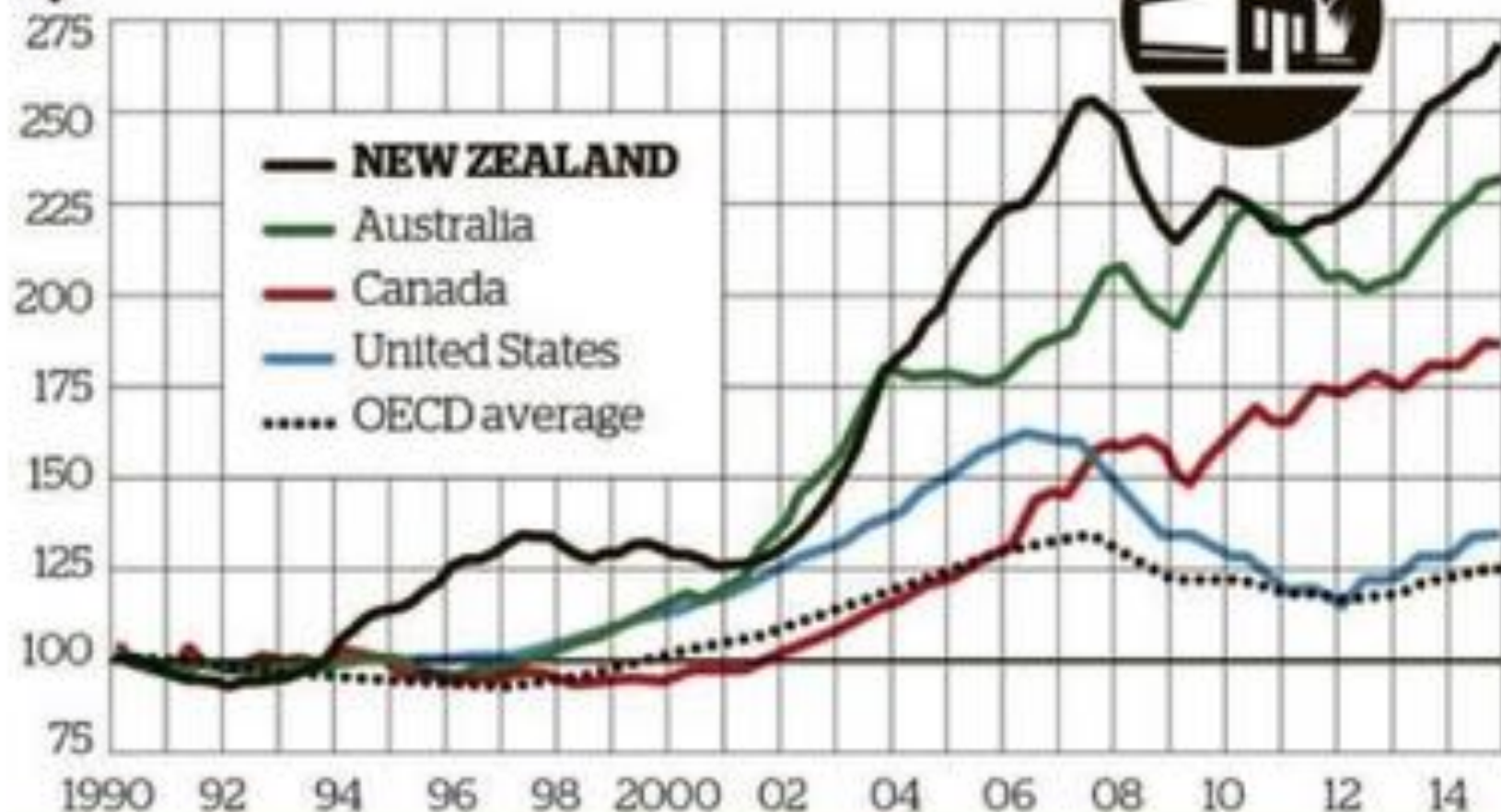
**"Fuel poverty an increasing
problem in New Zealand"**
(Citizens Advice Bureau, 2015)

**"Low income housing standards
declining"** (Out in the Cold, 2014)

**"NZ kids suffering in cold
homes"** (NZ Herald, 2012)

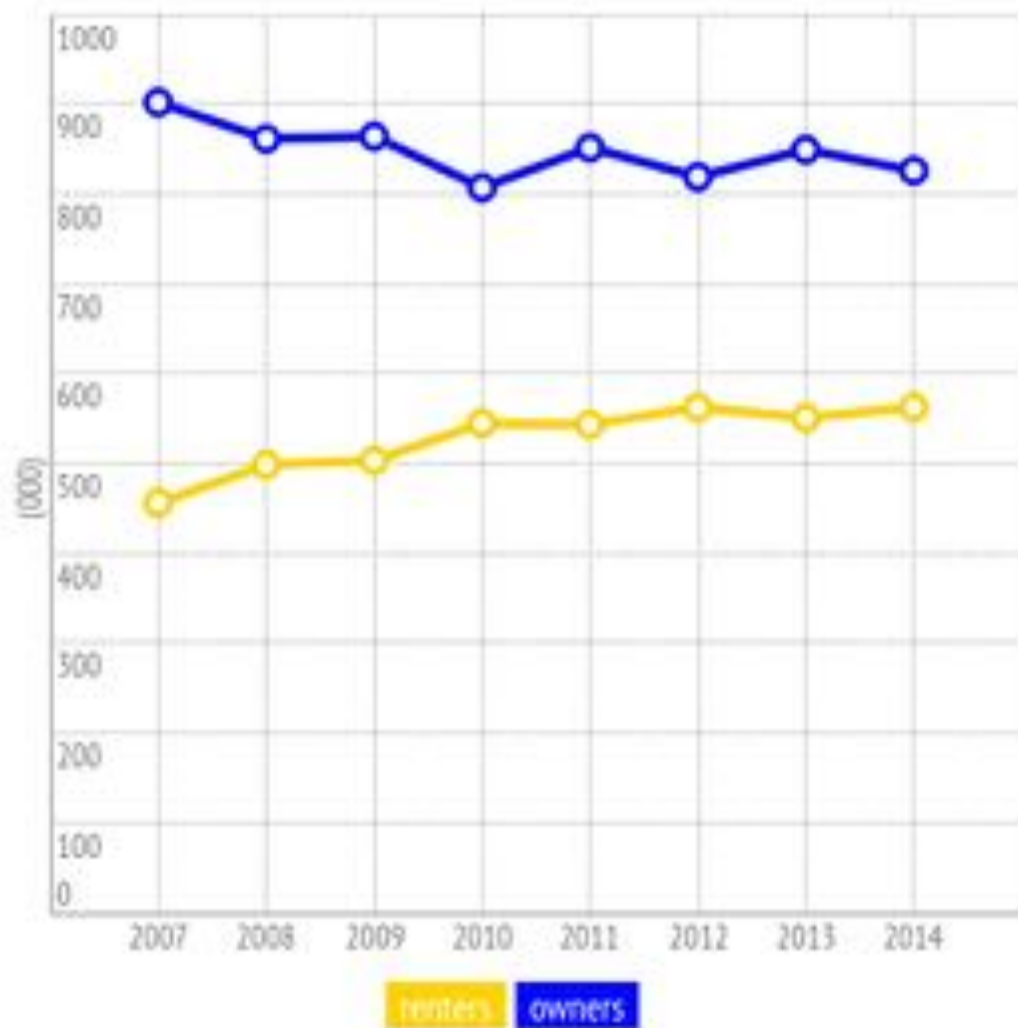
EVOLUTION OF REAL HOUSE PRICES

Index: 1990 = 100



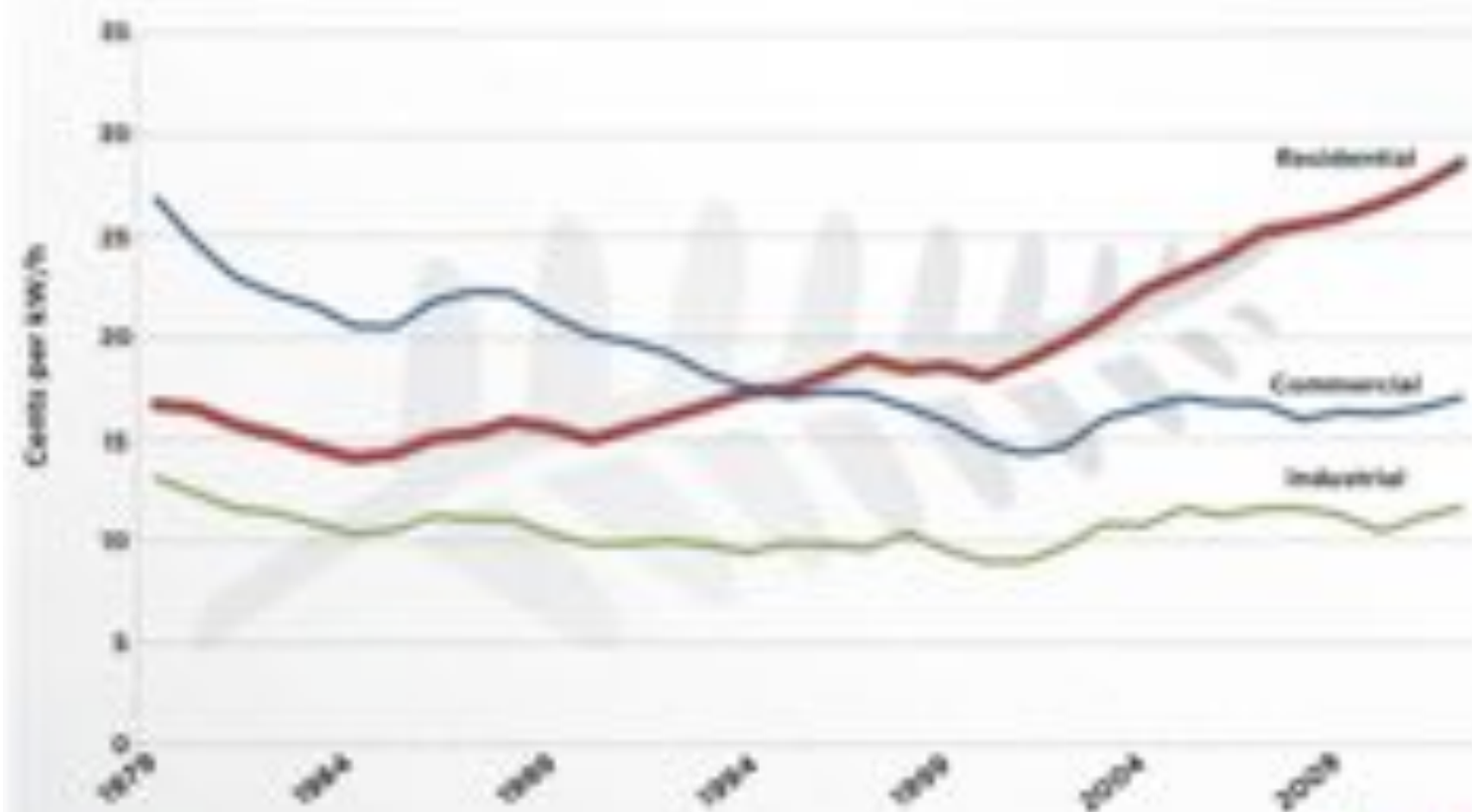
Source: OECD Economic Survey of New Zealand / Herald graphic

Home ownership status



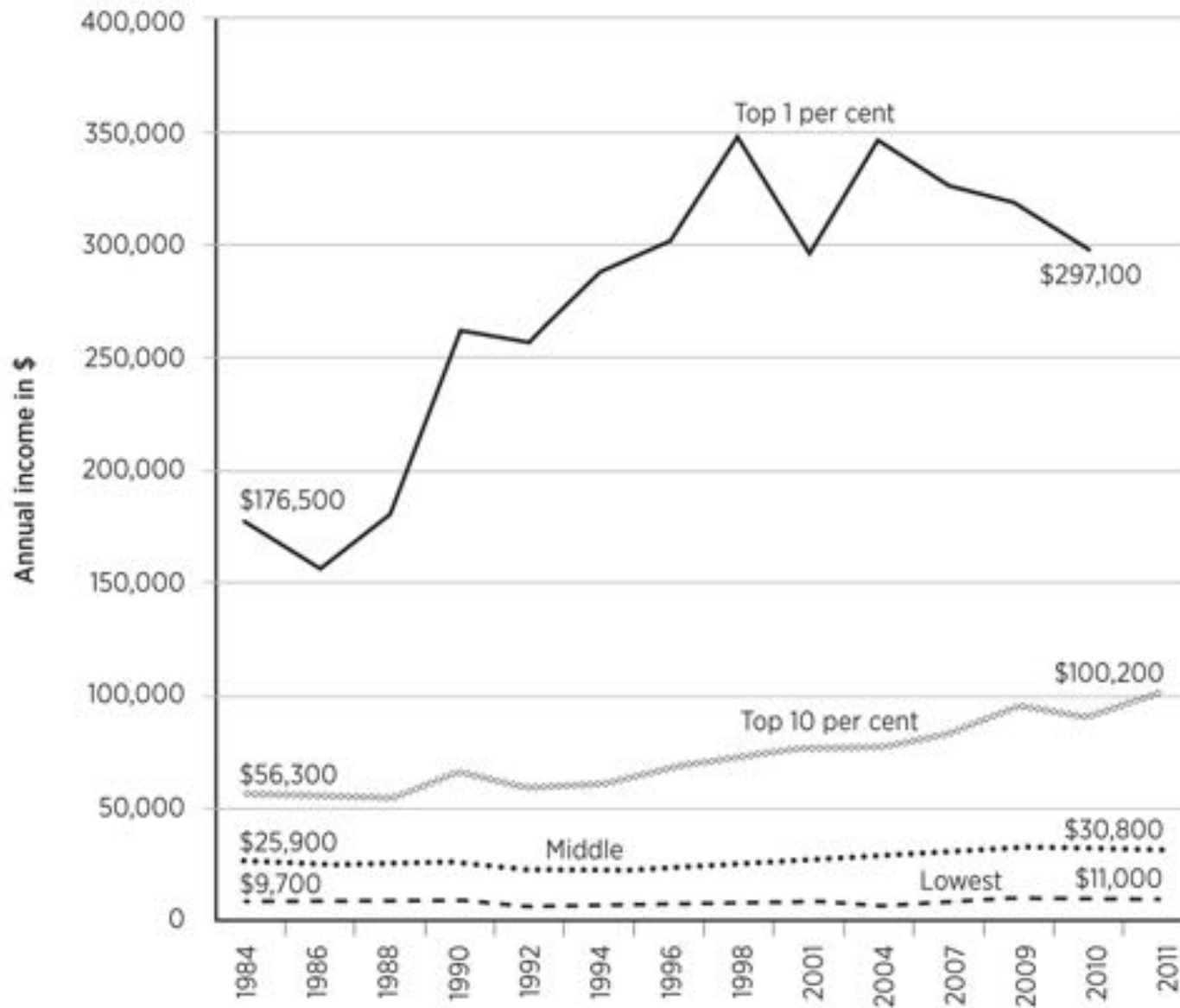
source: Household Economic Survey

Electricity Prices (real)

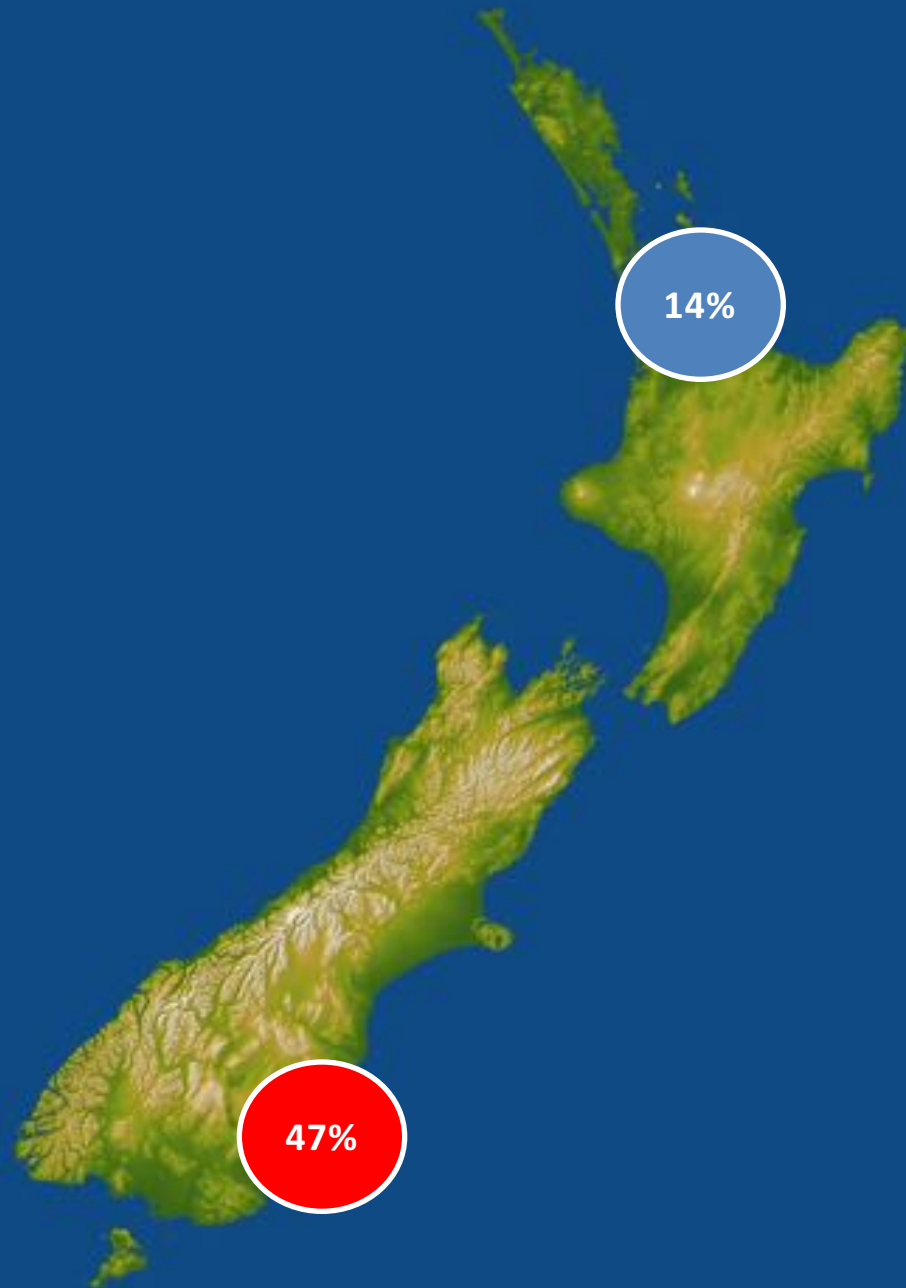


Source: MGS

Increase in household income over the years



New
Zealand
fuel
poverty
rate



Housing-energy-poverty nexus



“There was no quality of life... isolation, staying in bed, confining myself to one room... my life shrank to one room... I don’t think people realise how important it is... to have a warm house and just to have a little bit (of money) over to make you feel that you are still human”

Retired, elderly woman



“You often hear people talking that New Zealand needs affordable houses...in Dunedin the houses are affordable, but they are not habitable...they are simply not safe to live in...the houses in Dunedin are killing people...it might not be killing people outright, but it’s affecting their health ... we can’t afford to heat them... we don’t have an affordable housing problem in Dunedin... we have an inhabitable housing problem”

Single father with two children