The Whau local board area is located in the west of the Auckland isthmus, bordered on the north by the Waitemata Harbour and on the south by the Manukau Harbour. Suburbs include Kelston, Rosebank, New Lynn, Avondale, New Windsor, Blockhouse Bay, Green Bay. Whau is a mix of residential neighbourhoods and commercial areas. The north-western motorway passes across the northern tip of Whau.

Other features include the Avondale Racecourse and LynnMall shopping centre. Open spaces include Titirangi Golf Course and many other smaller parks. Sports facilities are available to the community at the Avondale College Stadium.

The Whau local board area is home to 50 Early Childhood Education Centres and 25 schools.

Whau is a significant area for Māori with marae located in Kelston (Auhia Ki a Mōhio Ki a Rangatira; Rūaumoko Marae) and Green Bay (Te Roopu O Kakariki Marae).

Whau spans the boundaries of both Auckland & Waitemata DHBs.

### The People

Whau is home to approximately 88,000 people. About 17,500 (20%) are children aged less than 15 years and 9,000 (10%) are people aged 65 years or more. The population is expected to reach about 119,000 by 2031.

Whau residents identify with a wide range of ethnic groups. In 2006, 9% identified as Māori, 16% as Pacific peoples, 31% as Asian people, and 43% as Europeans or other ethnic groups.

### In the 2006 Census:

- 31% of residents aged 15 years or more had a post-school qualification. 19% had no qualification.
- 57% of residents aged 15 years or more were employed. 2,400 residents were unemployed, which was 7% of the labour force.
- 29% of households had income greater than $70,000 per year and 22% of households had income of 30,000 or below per year.
- 9% of households were receiving income from sickness or invalids benefits.
- 14% of households were single parent families with dependent children.
- 55% of households owned their own house.

In 2006, the NZ Disability Survey estimated 17% of people live with a disability.

### Primary care providers

91% of the people living in Whau are enrolled with a GP/family doctor. Of all enrolled residents, 52% are enrolled with a GP/family doctor located within the Whau area, and 42% are enrolled in areas nearby (Puketāpapa 17%, Albert-Eden 8%, Waitemata 8%, Henderson-Massey 6%, Waitakere Ranges 6%).

For more information about GP/family doctors, such as opening hours and contact details, go to [www.healthpoint.co.nz](http://www.healthpoint.co.nz).

For information about after-hour services in the area, go to [http://afterhoursnetwork.co.nz](http://afterhoursnetwork.co.nz).
Health and wellbeing

Many factors contribute to good health and well-being in communities. Examples include:

- Education and employment opportunities.
- High quality physical environment.
- Good quality housing that is not crowded.
- Good urban design and healthy transport options e.g. walkways & cycle pathways, access to public transport.
- Support for people to be smokefree.
- Less alcohol outlets and gambling venues.
- Good access to healthy food.
- People feeling connected in their communities.

In 2012, people living in Whau said the most important health issues facing their communities were: obesity, diet, smoking, mental health, diabetes, aging, cost of health services, and access to health services.

25% of Whau residents live in Quintile 5 areas (the most deprived neighbourhoods, 2011 estimation). Across local boards in Auckland the range is 0% to 88% (median is 10%). Quintile 5 means a neighbourhood is among the most deprived 20% of neighbourhoods in New Zealand (according to the New Zealand Deprivation score 2006). Therefore, compared with other communities in New Zealand, many people living in Whau have relatively poor social and economic living conditions.

A range of factors related to health and ill-health are listed below. It is important to note that there is limited health information available at the local board level.

### Auckland DHB Community Health Survey (2012)

#### Self-rated health

In the 2012 Auckland DHB community health survey, this is how Whau residents rated their health.

- 39% of residents rated their health as high, 53% rated their health as moderate, and 9% rated their health as low (on a 7 point scale).
- Residents reported that the most positive impacts on health were:
  - Exercise.
  - Diet and nutrition.
  - Access to good healthcare services.
  - Support from family/community.
  - Good attitude/mindfulness.
  - Not smoking/quitting smoking.

#### Quality of health care

- In the 2012 survey, 51% of residents rated the quality of their health care as high, 43% rated quality as moderate, and 6% rated quality as low (on a 7 point scale).
- For those who rated their quality of health care as low, the main issues were problems with long waiting times and services being rushed.
- Whau residents had concerns about the cost and affordability of health services. Some people avoided accessing care unless the problem was urgent.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Whau</th>
<th>Lowest</th>
<th>Range for local boards in the Auckland Region</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Highest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Life expectancy at birth</td>
<td>81 years</td>
<td>76</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Over-crowded households</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. People aged 15 years or more who are regular smokers</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Adults commuting by:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• walking, jogging or riding a bike</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• taking public train or bus</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Dwellings with more than 1 alcohol off-license within 800m</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Emergency hospitalisations (age-standardised rate per 1,000 people)</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>106</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td>271</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Arranged hospitalisations (age-standardised rate per 1,000 people)</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>21</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td>66</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Ambulatory-sensitive hospitalisations in children aged under 5 years (rate per 1,000 people)</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>0</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td>74</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data sources: 1: Statistics NZ, with further analysis by Auckland DHB, 2009-2011 data; 2-4: 2006 Census, data in Number 4 applies to people aged 15 years or more who were employed in the week prior to the Census; 5: Auckland Regional Public Health Service, 2012 data; 6-8: Ministry of Health National Minimum Dataset with further analysis by Auckland DHB, 2010 data; Ambulatory-sensitive hospitalisations are admissions to hospital that are considered avoidable through treatment provided in primary care settings.*