

About the Warmer Kiwis Study

The Warmer Kiwis Study is collecting data over winter 2021 in homes with a heat pump installed through the Government's Warmer Kiwi Homes subsidy programme. Your participation will help us find out which factors are most important in helping Kiwis feel warm and comfortable in their homes.

What we will ask you about

We want to understand how you use energy in your daily lives to stay warm and healthy — and how having a new heat pump might affect this. To do this, we will be asking you for a few things.

- 🔥 Answer some questions — before and after you have your heat pump installed — to find out about the health and wellbeing of your household, how you use energy and what you do to keep your home warm and dry in winter. While some of these questions are personal in nature, they are standard wellbeing questions from the Statistics New Zealand General Social Survey.
- 🔥 Allow us to fit a monitor into your living room over the winter to measure temperature and amount of moisture, carbon dioxide and small particles in the air.
- 🔥 Allow your heat pump provider to fit a device to your heat pump when it is installed, so we can measure the amount of electricity it uses over the winter. This will not affect the operation of your heat pump in any way.
- 🔥 Allow us to ask your electricity provider for a breakdown of the amount of electricity you have used before and after your heat pump is installed.
- 🔥 Let us look around the outside of your house so we can understand the type of house you live in and how this might influence your energy use.

What your participation will involve

We will arrange a convenient time for a field worker to visit you at home. They will introduce themselves and show an ID card on arrival. The visit will take about one hour and will take place a few weeks before you get your heat pump. We will ask you to complete a questionnaire while the field worker sets up the monitoring equipment. The field worker will then do a brief inspection of the outside of your house.

A second visit will be arranged for a couple of months after your heat pump has been put in. This visit will last about 30 minutes. We will ask you to complete a second questionnaire while a field worker removes all monitoring equipment.

How the monitoring equipment works

The monitoring equipment sits in a box in your living room. It takes readings throughout the day and night and uses an internet connection (separate from your home internet) to send the readings to a secure server. We will need to plug the box into an electricity socket, but the monitoring equipment uses hardly any electricity.

What the information collected will be used for

We will collate the information we collect from all the houses we visit (about 200 houses) so we can understand how having a heat pump has influenced the way people keep warm and healthy in their homes, including how they budget for the cost of keeping warm in winter.

We will send a report to the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) about the impact the Warmer Kiwi Homes programme has had on helping Kiwis stay warm and healthy. Once the study has been completed, we may publish the findings in scientific journals. The information we collect will be stored (for up to seven years) and may be used in the future, by Motu Research approved researchers, to investigate how the way people keep warm has changed over time and the things that have influenced this.

How your information will be kept safe

- We will not use any information about individual households in the report to EECA.
- We will not collect any information that will be personally identifiable to you.
- Your name, address and other contact details are not connected to the information we are collecting about your home.
- Only the Motu evaluation team will have access to this information.
- All the information we collect will be stored on a secure server behind a firewall in password protected files that only our project team will have access to.

You are free to withdraw from the study at any time. If you withdraw between the first and second visits to your house, we will need to arrange a time to pick up the monitoring equipment.

We would like to say thank-you

We will give you a personalised energy use report, which will help you get the very best out of your new heat pump. We will also give you a \$30 supermarket voucher as koha for your investment of time in our study.

How can you contact us?

Please email us at warmerkiwis@motu.org.nz or phone 0800 886669 (0800 MOTUNZ).

Find out more about Motu on our website www.motu.org.nz

