



THE TREASURY

Kaitohutohu Kaupapa Rawa

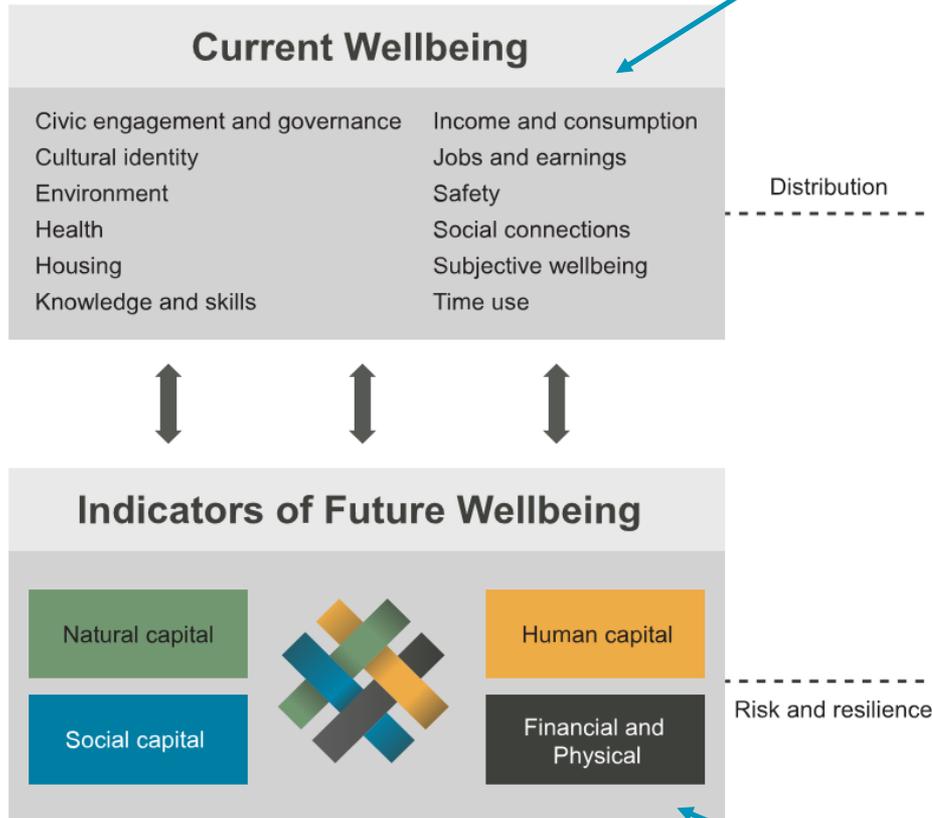
The Living Standards Framework and wellbeing analysis

Steven Johnston and Simon Brown

20 June 2019

Living Standards Framework

12 domains



- Improve the quality of Treasury's advice
- Based on OECD work, adapted for NZ (inclusion of cultural identity)

4 capitals

LSF Dashboard released late 2018

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `https://lsfdashboard.treasury.govt.nz/wellbeing/`. The page title is "Living Standards Framework - Dashboard". A navigation menu on the left includes "Home", "Our people", "Our country", "Our future", "Key terms", "About", "Contact", and "Privacy". The main content area features the heading "Presenting New Zealand's wellbeing across Our people, Our country and Our future" and a paragraph explaining the dashboard's purpose. Below this is a diagram illustrating the relationship between "Current Wellbeing" and "Indicators of Future Wellbeing".

Current Wellbeing

Civic engagement and governance	Income and consumption
Cultural identity	Jobs and earnings
Environment	Safety
Health	Social connections
Housing	Subjective wellbeing
Knowledge and skills	Time use

Indicators of Future Wellbeing

Natural capital	Human capital
Social capital	Financial and Physical

The diagram also includes a central graphic of interlocking squares and labels for "Distribution" and "Risk and resilience".

Our people

Our country

Our future

`lsfdashboard.treasury.govt.nz`

Our people

- Analysis using 2014 and 2016 General Social Survey data from StatsNZ (~17,000 respondents)
- Use relevant GSS questions to assign each respondent to low / medium / high wellbeing on each LSF domain

Domain	GSS question or derived variable	Low wellbeing	Medium wellbeing	High wellbeing
Housing	Condition	Immediate repairs or maintenance needed	Some repairs or maintenance needed	Only minor repairs or maintenance needed
	Mould problem	Major dampness or mould problem	Minor dampness or mould problem	No dampness or mould problem
	Cold problem	House always too cold in winter	House sometimes or often too cold in winter	House never too cold in winter
	Crowding	Bedrooms needed	N/A	No bedrooms needed

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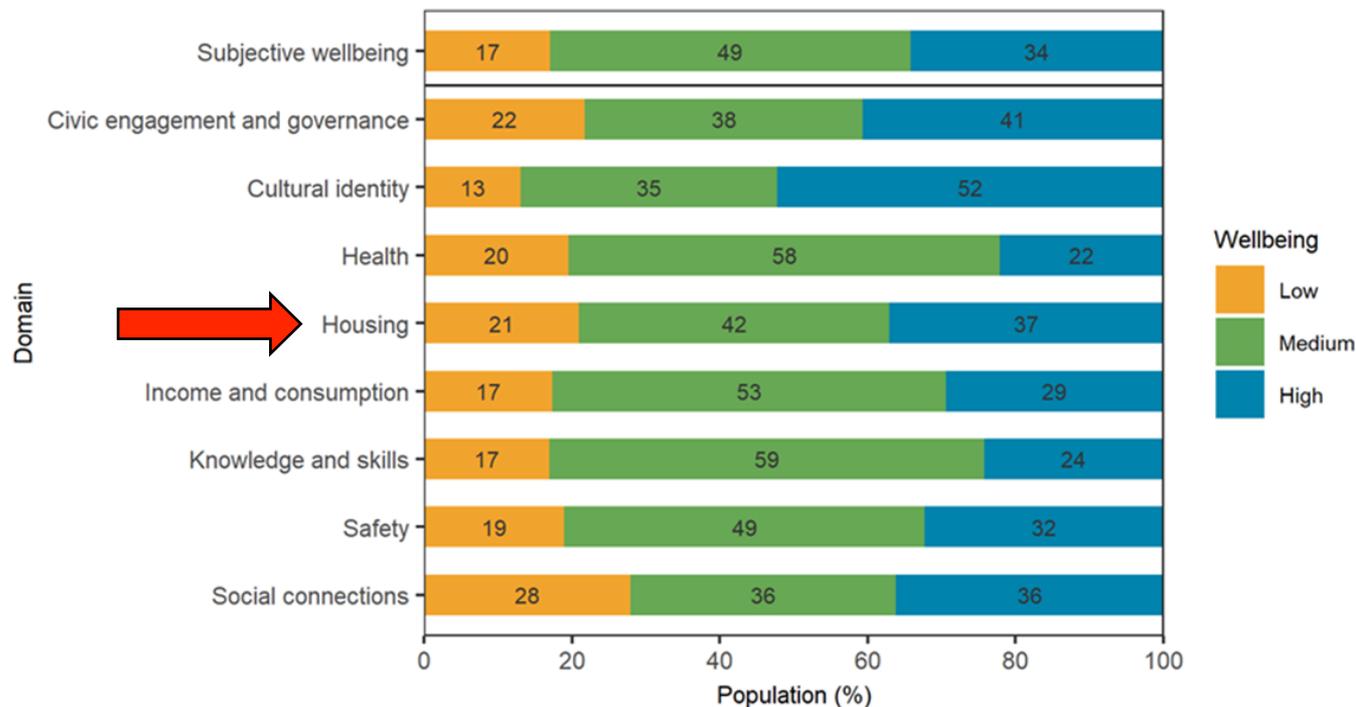
If **ANY** of these, then **LOW** housing wellbeing

If **ALL** of these, then **HIGH** housing wellbeing

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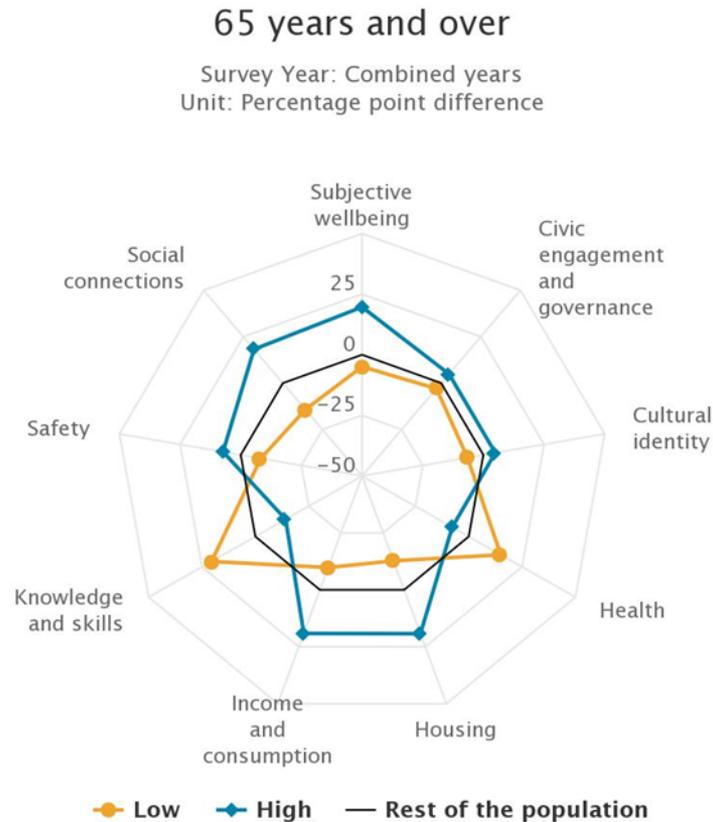
GSS-based wellbeing variables

- A measure of wellbeing for 9 out of 12 LSF domains, for every person in the GSS sample



Source: New Zealand General Social Survey 2014/2016

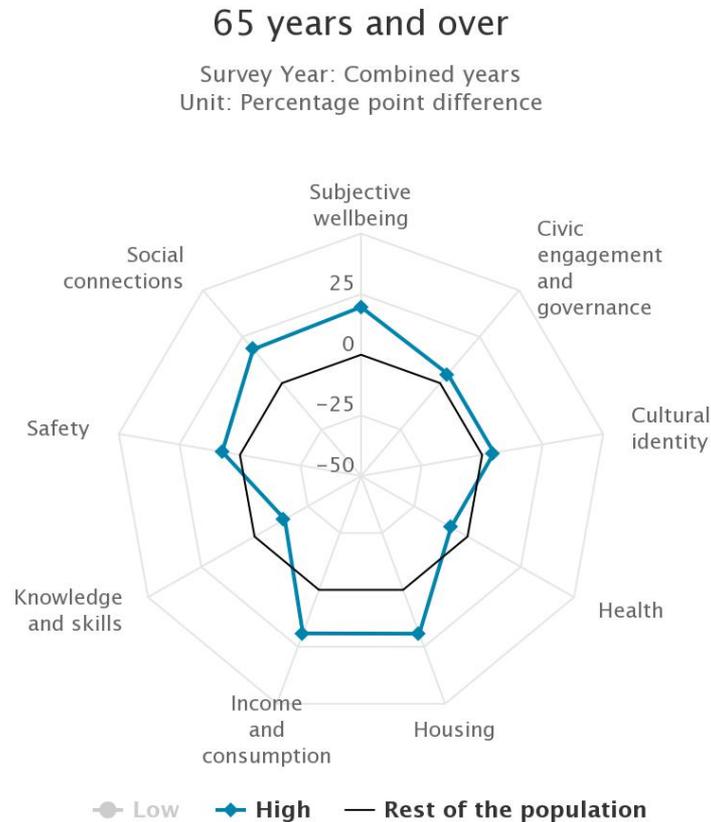
Look at multi-dimensional wellbeing of population groups



Source: Stats NZ, General Social Survey

- By:
 - Age group
 - Sex
 - Ethnicity
 - Region
 - NZDep quintile
 - Family type
 - Employment

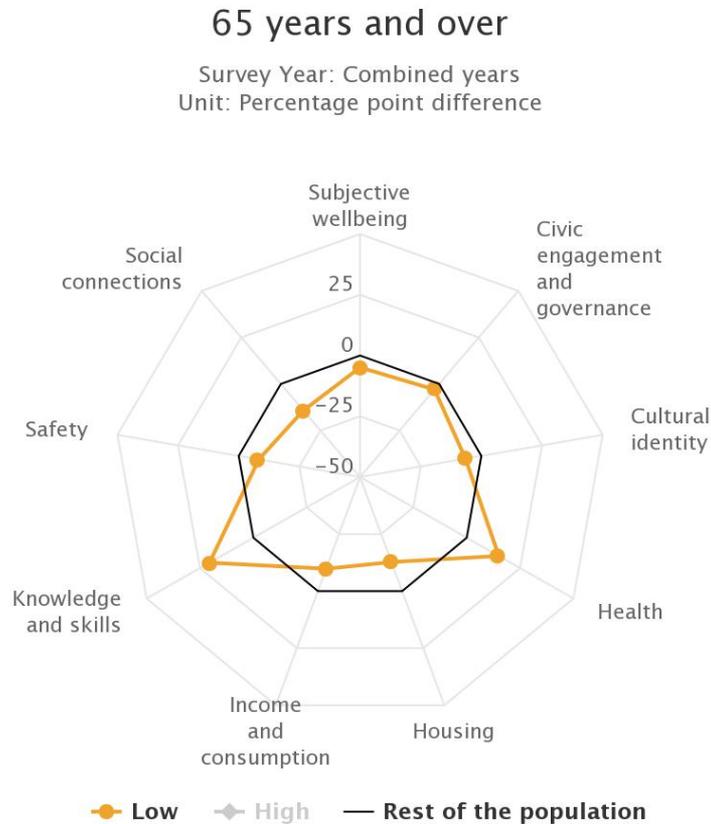
Where do 65+ have higher wellbeing than 15-64 year olds?



Source: Stats NZ, General Social Survey

- Relative to younger adults, 65+ group more likely to:
 - Be satisfied with life
 - Have good housing
 - Have enough money
 - Have contact with family and friends, and not be lonely

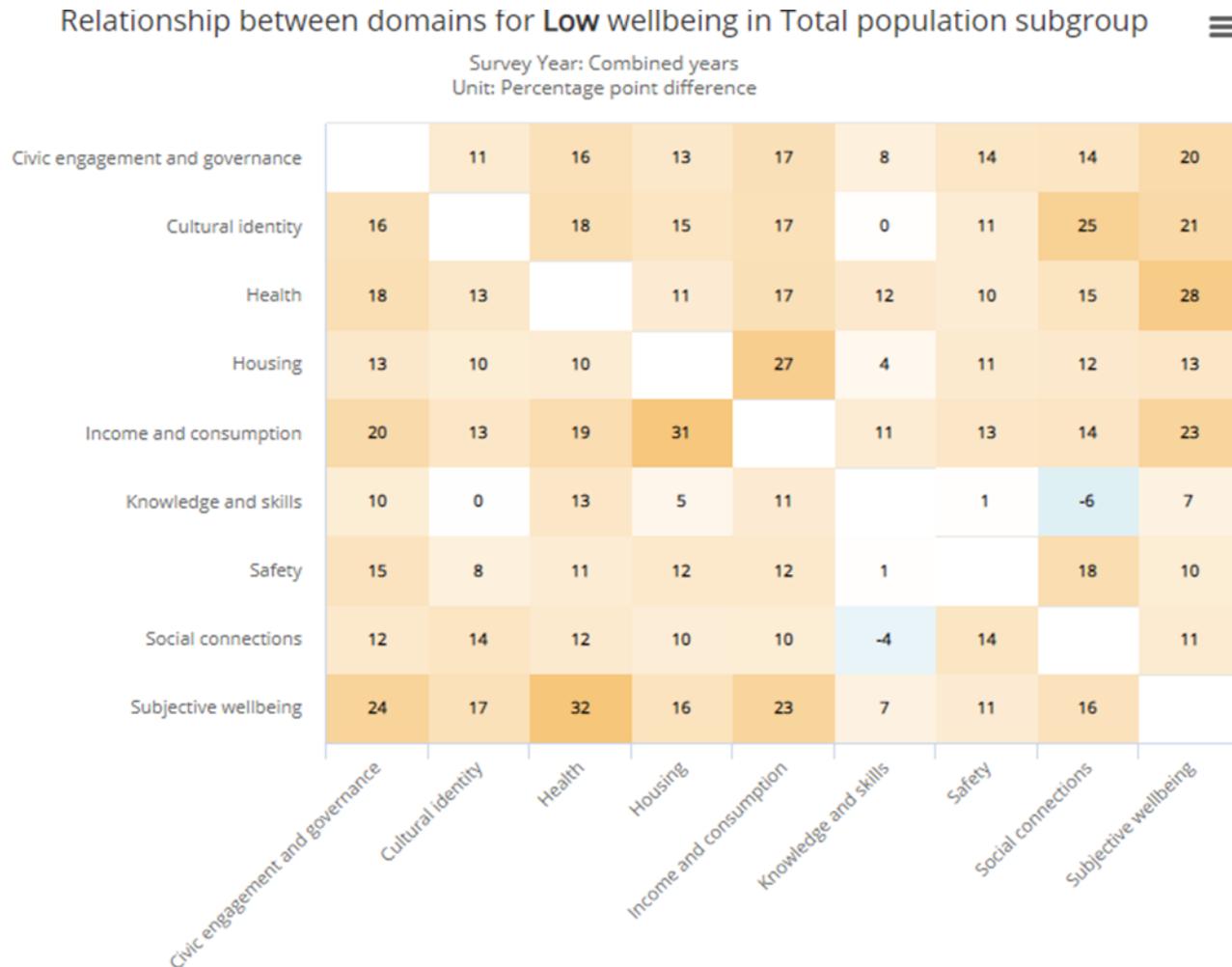
Where do 65+ have lower wellbeing than 15-64 year olds?



Source: Stats NZ, General Social Survey

- Relative to younger adults, 65+ group more likely to:
 - Be in poor health
 - Have no qualifications

Look at associations between domains



Low wellbeing on income, more likely to have low wellbeing on housing

Relationship between domains for **Low** wellbeing in Total population subgroup 

Survey Year: Combined years
Unit: Percentage point difference



Low wellbeing on health, more likely to have low life satisfaction



New work using GSS data linked to IDI

- Extend to 5 General Social Surveys (2008 to 2016)
- ~40,000 respondents linked to the Integrated Data Infrastructure
- Look at relationships between GSS wellbeing variables and other characteristics we can see in the IDI

Analytical paper on mental health wellbeing: research questions

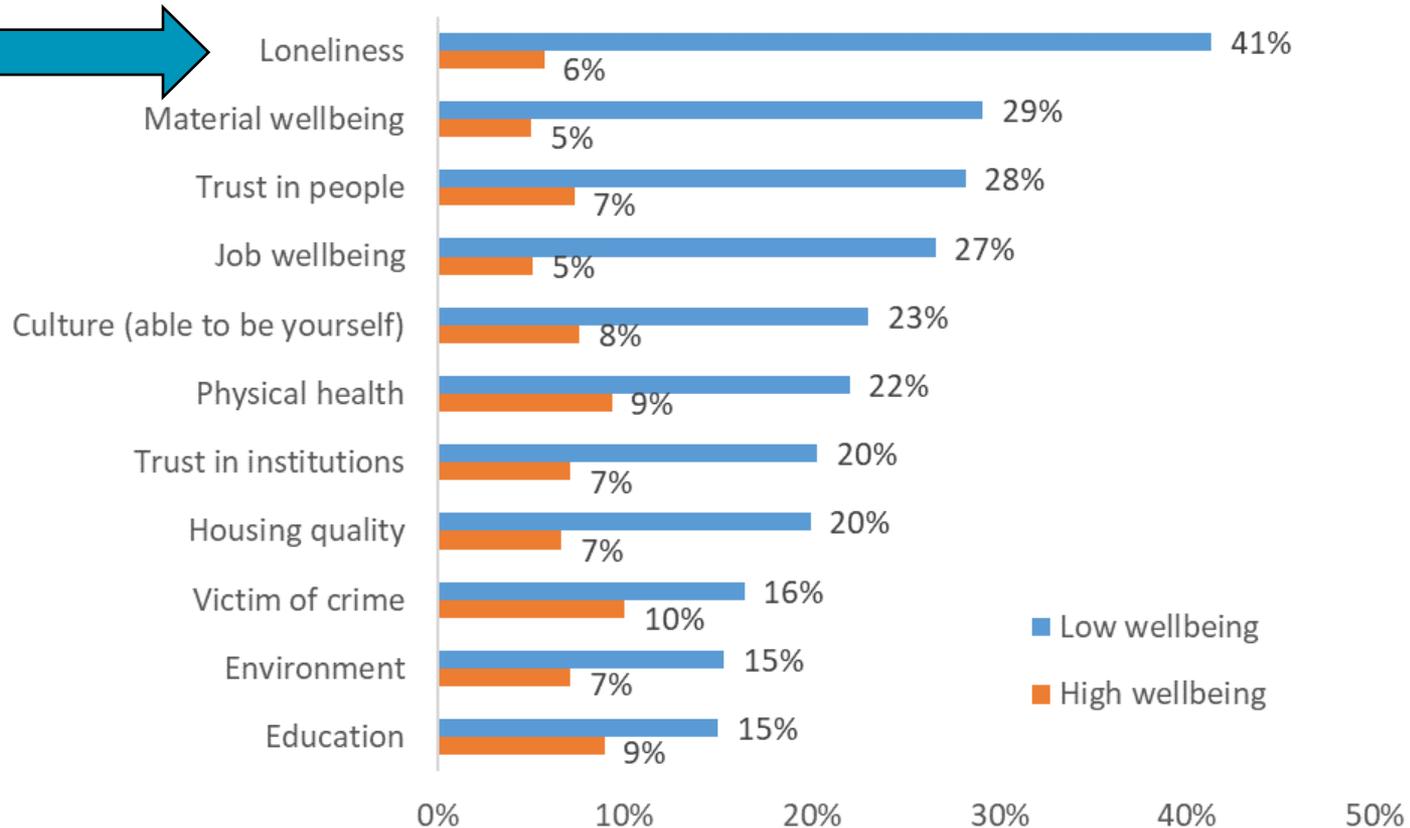
- Which demographic groups and wellbeing indicators are associated with higher rates of low wellbeing for mental health?
- What is the multi-dimensional wellbeing profile for users of selected mental health services, and other types of services?
- Which people with low mental health wellbeing are less likely to access mental health prescriptions and referrals?
- Note: Our mental health wellbeing indicator is based on the SF-12 questions (recent anxiety and depression)

Association between low mental health wellbeing and other wellbeing indicators

41% of people who were “always or often lonely” also had low mental health wellbeing.



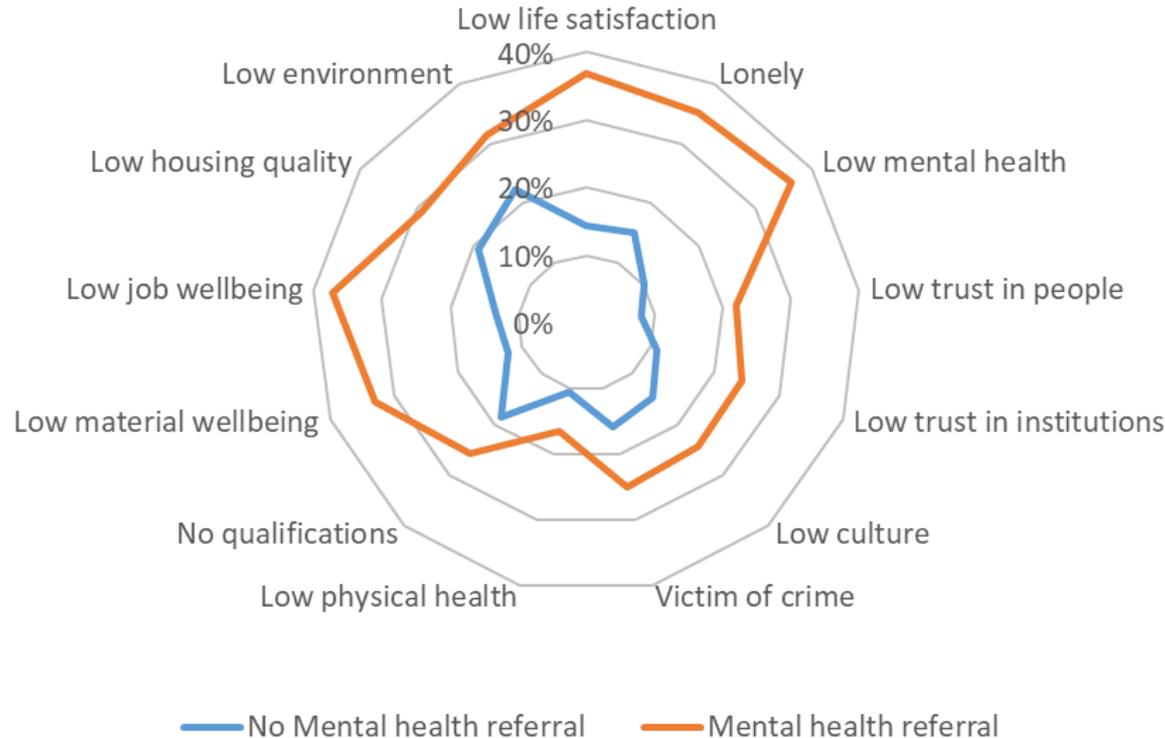
Only 6% of people who were “never lonely” had low mental health wellbeing.



Mental health wellbeing strongly associated with life satisfaction

- Demographic groups with higher prevalence of low mental health wellbeing included: sole parent households, the unemployed, living in a deprived area, Māori and those with no qualifications.
- Broadly similar findings to the Mental Health Survey.
- In a regression model, mental health wellbeing was the indicator most strongly associated with overall life satisfaction. This was followed by job wellbeing, material wellbeing, civic engagement and loneliness.

Wellbeing profile for people with mental health referrals in the past 2 years



Interpretation: Recent mental health referrals were particularly associated with higher prevalence for low mental health wellbeing, low job wellbeing, low life satisfaction, low material wellbeing and loneliness. All of the differences shown in the chart were statistically significant (at the 95% confidence level).

Wellbeing profile for people with a criminal conviction in the past 2 years



Interpretation: A criminal conviction was particularly associated with higher prevalence of low job wellbeing, low material wellbeing, low housing quality, and also with being a victim of crime. The differences for physical health, culture and environment were not statistically significant.

Who has low mental health wellbeing but is not accessing services?

- Overall, 37% of people with low mental health wellbeing had either a mental health prescription or referral in the past 2 years.
- The lowest access rates were for Asians (18%) and Pacific people (22%).
- Higher access rates for women (42%), Europeans (42%) and people with more severe mental health wellbeing issues (46%).
- Again, broadly similar results to the Mental Health Survey.

Next steps for wellbeing analysis

- Analytical paper on mental health wellbeing due to be published in July
- Planning a paper looking at childhood events associated with wellbeing as a young adult. Childhood wellbeing is a gap in the current data.
- Wellbeing analysis is most useful as part of a sector engagement and when considered alongside other sources that can provide more detail.
- The recent Wellbeing Budget has committed \$455 million to a new frontline service for mental health, amongst other measures.

Questions?

DISCLAIMER

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