A comparison of the NZDep index of socioeconomic deprivation and the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

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Outline

- Aims
- Methods
- Findings
- Conclusion and discussion



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- George Salmond
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- Users, communities



Statistics New Zealand Disclaimer Statement

- Access to the data presented was managed by Statistics New Zealand under strict micro-data access protocols and in accordance with the security and confidentiality provisions of the Statistic Act 1975.
- Our findings are not Official Statistics. The opinions, findings, recommendations, and conclusions expressed are those of the researchers, not Statistics NZ, nor the University of Otago.



Aims

Compare:

- 1. Theoretical and methodological bases for the two indexes
- 2. NZDep2013 small areas and IMD data zones
- 3. NZDep2013 and IMD in their rankings of all small areas
- 4. NZDep2013 and IMD in terms of their relationships with various health and social outcomes



Methods

- NZDep2013 used as a basis for comparison
- Stats NZ data lab access
- Literature



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Theoretical and methodological bases for the two indexes

- 1. Different theoretical approaches for selecting variables
- 2. Single vs multiple domains of deprivation that can be used individually or in combination
- 3. Statistically-derived vs judgement-based weights
- 4. Census and non-Census data sources
- 5. Different spatial boundaries
- 6. Age/sex standardisation of variables



Some approaches to measuring socioeconomic position and socioeconomic wellbeing



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le Whare Wasanga o Orage NEW ZEALAND

NZDep2013 first principal component weights

Proportion of persons (with a lack of something)	2006	2013	Change
People aged <65 with no access to Internet at home	-	0.372	-
People aged 18-64 receiving a means tested benefit	0.371	0.364	-0.007
People living in households with equivalised income below an income threshold	0.356	0.356	0
People aged 18-64 unemployed	0.332	0.338	+0.006
People aged 18-64 without any qualifications	0.326	0.332	+0.006
People not living in own home	0.334	0.322	-0.012
People aged <65 living in a single parent family	0.333	0.317	-0.016
People living in households below an equivalised bedroom occupancy threshold	0.318	0.303	-0.015
People with no access to a car	0.311	0.286	-0.025
People with no access to any phone at home	0.314	-	-
Proportion of variance explained	55.4%	60.7%	5.3

Variables in the Index of Multiple Deprivation



Source: Exeter, D., et al. (2017). "The New Zealand Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD): A new suite of indicators for social and health research in Aotearoa, New Zetaland." PLoS One 12(8): e0181260.

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Comparison of NZDep2013 small areas and IMD data zones

- NZDep2013 is based on 23,669 small areas that have a minimum population of 100, and average population of 179
- NZDep is reported at MB level (45,921 MBs)
- IMD is based on 5958 data zones with an average population of 712 (excluding outliers, the population range is 501-999)
- Data zones are almost four times the size (3.98) of NZDep small areas on average



Comparison of NZDep2013 small areas and IMD data zones

• Modifiable areal unit problem



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Agreement between NZDep2013 and IMD deprivation deciles (unit of analysis: people)





Agreement between NZDep2013 deciles and IMD Access-domain deciles (unit of analysis: people)





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Estimated odds ratios for smoking for NZDep2013 and IMD-minus-Health, controlling for age and sex





Estimated odds ratios for all-cause mortality for those under 75 years for deciles of NZDep2013 and IMD-minus-Health, controlling for age group and sex





Percent victims-of-crime during 2014-15 by deciles of NZDep2013 and IMD-minus-Crime, by age group, females





Percent offenders during 2014-15 by deciles of NZDep2013 and IMD-minus-Crime, by age group, females





Conclusions

- There are theoretical and methodological differences between the two indexes
- It doesn't matter greatly which index you use in a large data set
- Data zones are innovative new area boundaries
- NZDep small areas are smaller than Data Zones, so may pick up pockets of deprivation missed by data zones



Conclusions continued

- IMD uses more input variables and data
- IMD demonstrates the value of non-census data sources (IDI)
- Both depend on a census, NZDep wholly, IMD only in part (eg housing)
- NZDep is age/sex standardised
- Further analyses to come

