Ethnic density and area deprivation: Neighbourhood effects on Māori health and racial discrimination in Aotearoa/New Zealand

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Summary: This study analysed the Māori sample from the 2006/07 New Zealand Health Survey to examine the association between increased Māori ethnic density, area deprivation, health, and experiences of racial discrimination. The results of the study showed that whereas ethnic density is protective of the health and exposure to racial discrimination of Māori, this effect is concealed by the detrimental effect of area deprivation, signalling that the benefits of ethnic density must be interpreted within the current socio-political context.

Comment: As identified by the authors, whilst Māori ethnic density is associated with improved Māori health and reduced racial discrimination, these benefits are buried by the detrimental effect of area deprivation. Factors that drive and maintain deprivation in areas where Māori live must be eliminated in order for us to fully realise the advantages of living in self-determined communities.


Māori Participation and Attainment in Science Subjects (Year 11–13) 2007 to 2011

The Ministry of Health has just published data measuring Māori students’ participation and attainment in science subjects (Year 11-13). Māori students’ participation and attainment in science subjects is necessary to enable them to study at higher levels to become Māori health professionals which is vital to providing appropriate care to Māori individuals, their whānau and all New Zealanders.

Data can be viewed in an easy to use excel workbook at:

For more information, please go to http://www.maorihealth.govt.nz