Data 201 Māori data sovereignty written advice

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With the census being scrapped in favour of administrative data, a wider variety of sources will be required to be pooled together to reach the same volume of data the census provided. This change will make controlling the flow of data potentially more difficult, from creation, processing, pooling and interpreting there will be far more parties involved, leading to higher chances of jurisdictional collisions. With the census the data was voluntarily given by the people the data was about, meaning in the case of Māori data, there was complete control over the creation and collection of said data. With most of the data coming from one source also means it is more likely to stay in one source, which means it is far easier to control how the data is used, any issues with said control are far easier to resolve as there is one centralised place to go to: Stats NZ. Conversely issues with administrative data may have problems with multiple different parties making any resolution far more complicated. To conclude, scrapping the census in favour of administrative data will lead to more vulnerabilities surrounding who has authority over said data, which will impact Māori data sovereignty.

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