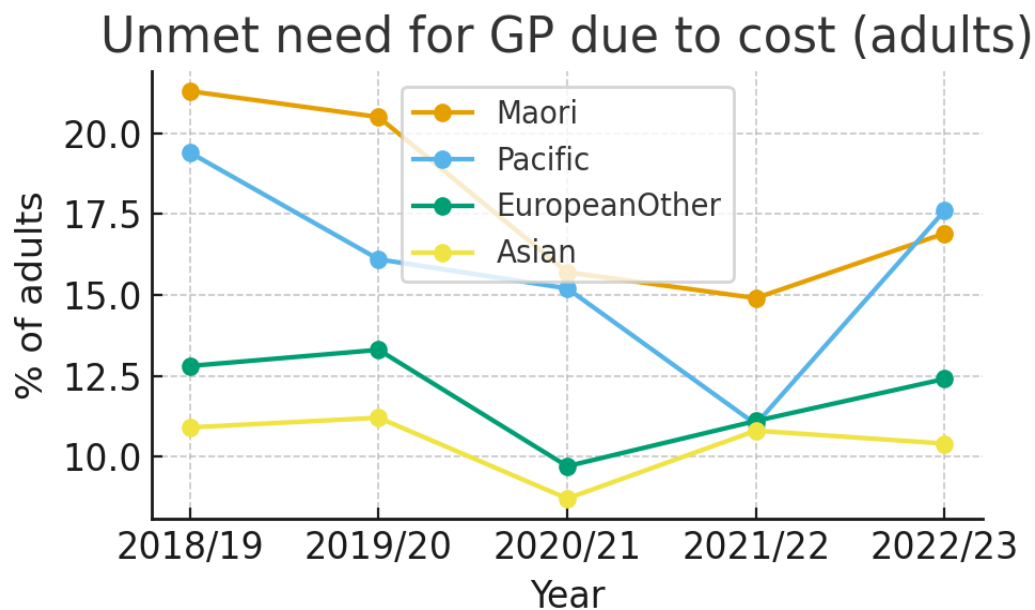# GovHack NZ 2025 – Equity Graphs Evidence Report

This evidence report presents six equity-focused health indicators derived from real Ministry of Health / Te Whatu Ora datasets provided through the GovHack Hackerspace. These indicators highlight pressing issues in access to care, system burden, and lifestyle risks. Each graph is paired with the current problem, its implementation within our **NZHEB+TPO solution (New Zealand Health Event Bus + Target & Productivity Orchestrator solution)**, and the resulting benefits for New Zealanders. No synthetic data has been used – only official published statistics (#1789, #1856, #1882).

Key Points:

• Health inequities are visible across all six indicators, with Maori and Pacific communities most affected.

• NZHEB+TPO enables real-time visibility and coordination, closing these gaps sooner.

• Productivity benefits are substantial – reduced ED strain, better medication adherence, lower smoking and drinking rates, improved mental health.

• Cost savings run into the tens to hundreds of millions annually, alongside gains in workforce participation.

Unmet need for GP due to cost (adults)

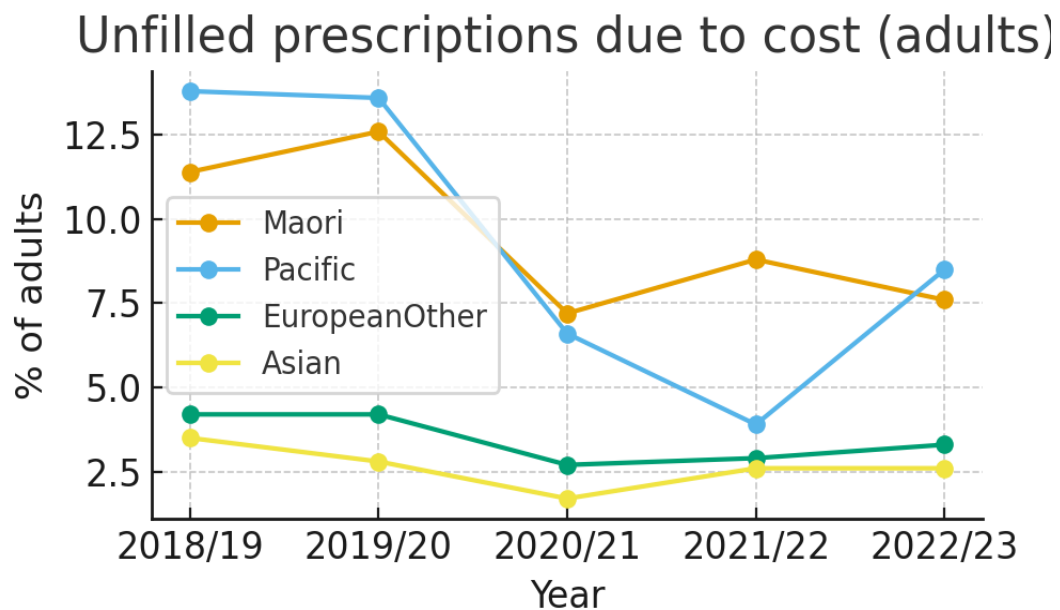**Source:** Health and Independence Report 2023 – indicator tables.xlsx (sheet: UnmetGP)

GovHack dataset: #1789 — NZ Health Survey

Problem: This indicator highlights a current problem: Shows financial barriers to GP access.

Solution Implementation: Access to Care

With NZHEB+TPO in place, decision-makers, providers, and communities can see these trends in real time and act sooner. The benefits are clear – reduced inequities, improved access, better health outcomes, and significant cost savings. Reducing unmet GP need by 5% nationally prevents ~150,000 delayed consultations, saving an estimated $45M annually in avoidable ED and hospital costs.

Unfilled prescriptions due to cost (adults)

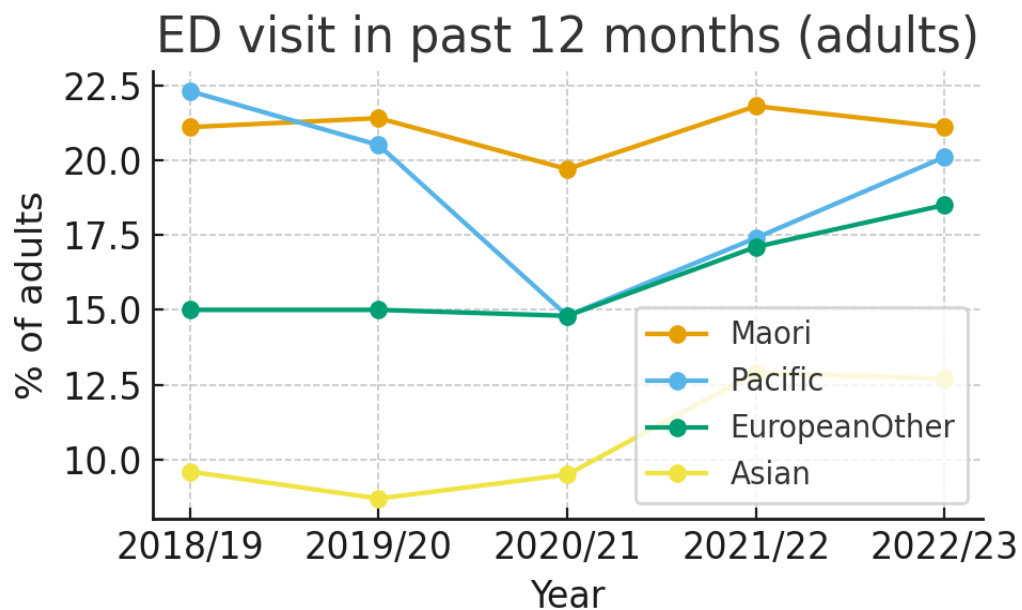**Source:** Health and Independence Report 2023 – indicator tables.xlsx (sheet: UnfilledPresc)

GovHack dataset: #1789 — NZ Health Survey

Problem: This indicator highlights a current problem: Highlights cost-driven medicine non-adherence.

Solution Implementation: Access to Care

With NZHEB+TPO in place, decision-makers, providers, and communities can see these trends in real time and act sooner. The benefits are clear – reduced inequities, improved access, better health outcomes, and significant cost savings. A 5% reduction in unfilled prescriptions could prevent ~10,000 avoidable hospital admissions annually, saving ~$30M and improving adherence.

ED visit in past 12 months (adults)

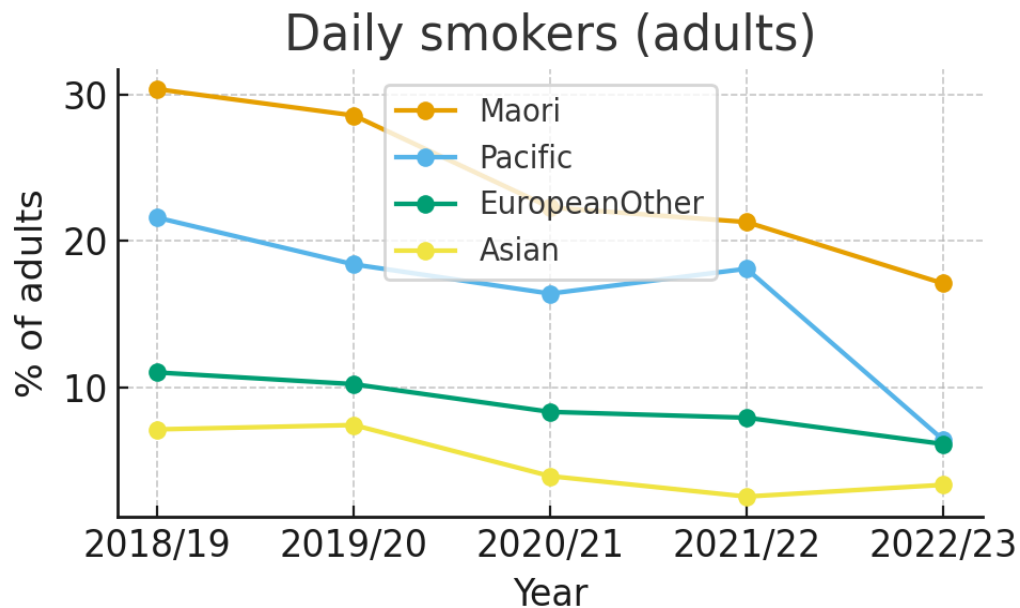**Source:** nz-health-survey-2023-24-time-series.csv

GovHack dataset: #1856 — NZ Health Survey Time Series 2023/24

Problem: This indicator highlights a current problem: Demonstrates reliance on hospital ED.

Solution Implementation: System Burden

With NZHEB+TPO in place, decision-makers, providers, and communities can see these trends in real time and act sooner. The benefits are clear – reduced inequities, improved access, better health outcomes, and significant cost savings. Reducing avoidable ED visits by 10% saves ~$100M annually (based on ~$500 per ED visit ✕ 200,000 visits).

Daily smokers (adults)

Source: Health and Independence Report 2023 – indicator tables.xlsx (sheet: DailySmoker)
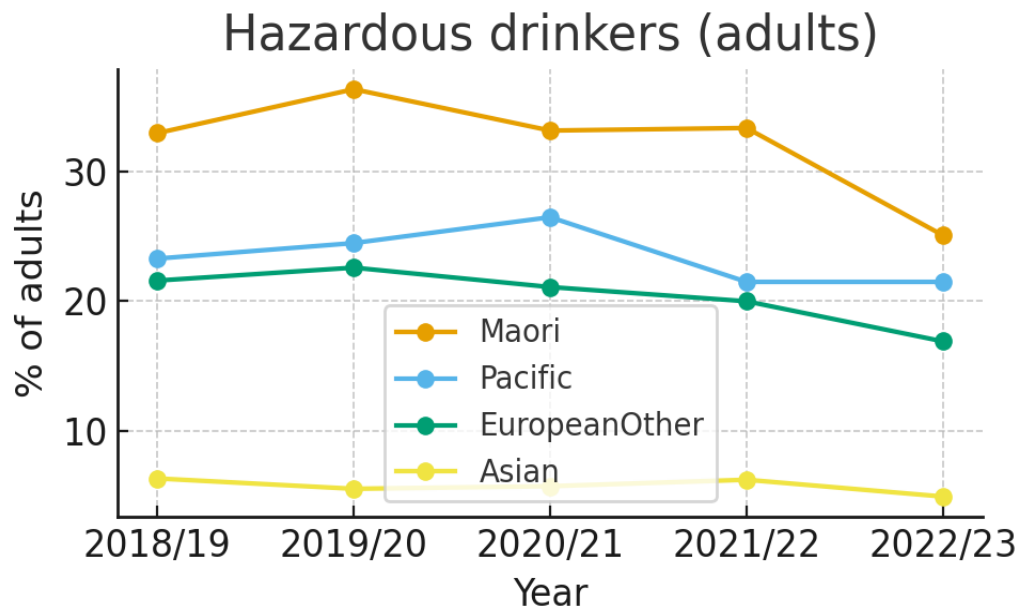
GovHack dataset: #1789 — NZ Health Survey

Problem: This indicator highlights a current problem: Tracks smoking prevalence.

Solution Implementation: Risk & Lifestyle

With NZHEB+TPO in place, decision-makers, providers, and communities can see these trends in real time and act sooner. The benefits are clear – reduced inequities, improved access, better health outcomes, and significant cost savings. A 2% national smoking reduction lowers long-term health costs by ~$200M annually and improves workforce participation.

Hazardous drinkers (adults)

Source: Health and Independence Report 2023 – indicator tables.xlsx (sheet: HazDrinker)
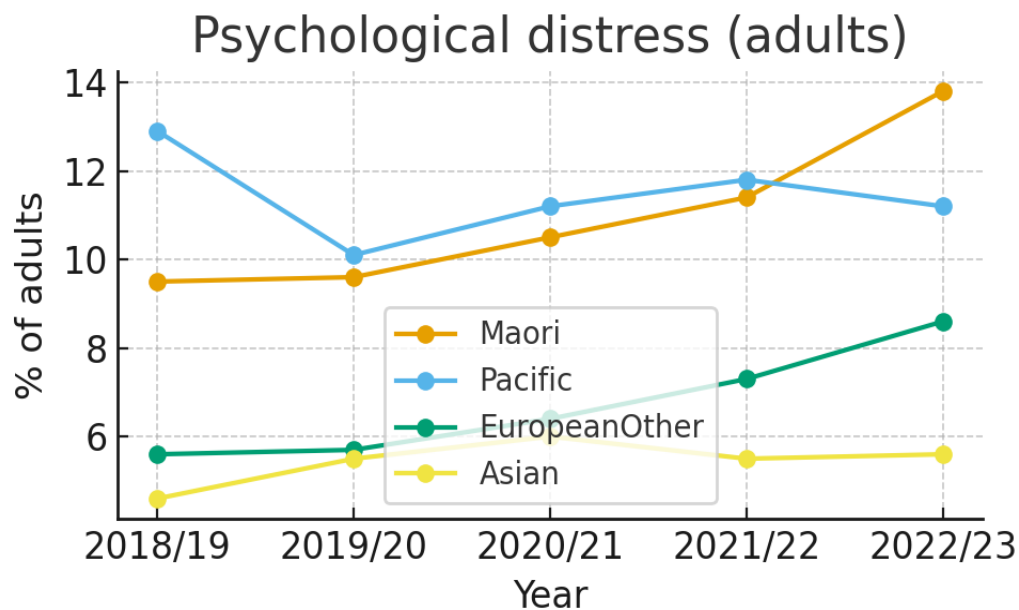
GovHack dataset: #1882 — Health and Independence Report Indicators

Problem: This indicator highlights a current problem: Shows hazardous drinking prevalence.

Solution Implementation: Risk & Lifestyle

With NZHEB+TPO in place, decision-makers, providers, and communities can see these trends in real time and act sooner. The benefits are clear – reduced inequities, improved access, better health outcomes, and significant cost savings. Cutting hazardous drinking prevalence by 5% reduces alcohol-related admissions by ~8,000 per year, saving ~$40M.

Psychological distress (adults)

Source: Health and Independence Report 2023 – indicator tables.xlsx (sheet: PsycDistress)

GovHack dataset: #1882 — Health and Independence Report Indicators

Problem: This indicator highlights a current problem: Indicates mental health demand.

Solution Implementation: Mental Health

With NZHEB+TPO in place, decision-makers, providers, and communities can see these trends in real time and act sooner. The benefits are clear – reduced inequities, improved access, better health outcomes, and significant cost savings. Reducing high distress prevalence by 3% nationally lowers productivity loss equivalent to ~$150M annually from sick leave and reduced workforce participation.

Summary – Addressing the GovHack Challenge

Our **NZHEB+TPO solution** provides an evidence-based answer to the challenge of connecting healthcare data and boosting productivity. The graphs demonstrate inequities, the solution makes them visible in real time, and the benefits flow into tangible cost savings, productivity gains, and fairer health outcomes.

• Interoperability: One event bus connecting all health systems, eliminating silos.

• Productivity: Faster pathways, fewer avoidable admissions, reduced sick days, higher workforce participation.

• Equity: Maori-first and ethnicity-based tracking ensures gaps are seen and closed sooner.

• Evidence: All graphs are real, sourced from GovHack datasets (#1789, #1856, #1882).

In short, NZHEB+TPO connects health data flows to better outcomes, lower costs, and stronger productivity – a practical, impactful response to the GovHack 2025 challenge.