

Subject: FW: Response to your correspondence of 23 June 2024
Date: Monday, 8 July 2024 at 11:44:35 AM New Zealand Standard Time
From: Wendy McGuinness <wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
To: Arne Larsen <al@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Attachments: image001.png, Outlook-iw0armya.png

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 5 July 2024 at 2:52 PM
To: Wendy McGuinness <wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Cc: Josie McGuinness <jm@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Subject: Response to your correspondence of 23 June 2024

Kia ora Wendy,

Thank you for your email on 23 June 2024, for information regarding the Ministry's Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) 'Review of Public Health Measures to support the future of the COVID-19 Protection Framework and moving to the new strategy'. You requested:

"Our OIA: 2024/16: Point of clarification on Figure 3, found in the MOH Regulatory Impact Statement, dated 29 August 2022. We are keen to cite this graph in our upcoming 2nd edition of COVID-19 Nation Dates. However, we have noticed that the title of Figure 3 is entirely different from the y-axis label – the title shows hospitalisation and the axis refers to mortality rate. I think the latter should read hospitalisation, but can you confirm? Also, can you indicate who prepared the figure – was it MOH? The link to the document can be found here: <https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/ria-moh-rphm-aug22.pdf> "

The graphs were produced by the data and analytics team in the Ministry for the COVID-19 Trends and Insight Report August 2022. The graph title in the RIS was mislabelled as the graph is for mortality not hospitalisations.

The correct title for Figure 3 in the Ministry's RIS 'Review of Public Health Measures to support the future of the COVID-19 Protection Framework and moving to the new strategy' is 'Age-standardised cumulative incidence (and 95% confidence intervals of mortality with COVID-19 by ethnicity, March 2020 to 14 August 2022'.

We apologise for any confusion this may have caused.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: [REDACTED]

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi



[Ministry of Health information releases](#)

[Unite against COVID-19](#)

From: Wendy McGuinness <wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Sent: Sunday, 23 June 2024 16:29

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Josie McGuinness <jm@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Subject: Our OIA: 2024/16: Point of clarification on Figure 3, found in the MOH Regulatory Impact Statement, dated 29 August 2022

Hi there,

Our OIA: 2024/16: Point of clarification on Figure 3, found in the MOH Regulatory Impact Statement, dated 29 August 2022

We are keen to cite this graph in our upcoming 2nd edition of *COVID-19 Nation Dates*. However we have noticed that the title of Figure 3 is entirely different from the y-axis label – the title shows hospitalisation and the axis refers to mortality rate. I think the latter should read hospitalisation, but can you confirm? Also can you indicate who prepared the figure – was it MOH?

The link to the document can be found here: <https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/ria-moh-rphm-aug22.pdf>

Many thanks, Wendy

Wendy McGuinness

Chief Executive

McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka

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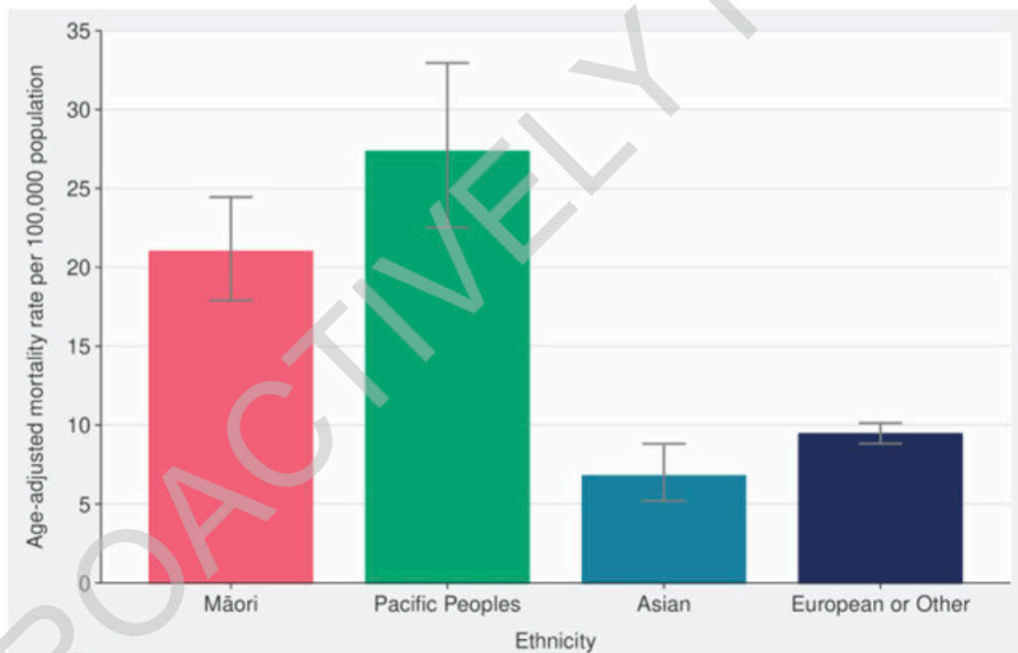
be an important baseline measure.

Does this problem disproportionately affect any population groups? eg Māori (as individuals, iwi, hapū, and whānau), children, seniors, people with disabilities, women, people who are gender diverse, Pacific people, veterans, rural communities, ethnic communities, etc.

The burden of COVID-19 does not fall equally, and some people are at higher risk of adverse health outcomes from the virus.

Analysis undertaken to assess hospitalisation risk from COVID-19 has found that disparities in hospitalisation risk by ethnicity, deprivation and vaccination are clearly observed after adjusting (age-standardising) for differences in age demographics. Pacific Peoples had the highest cumulative incidence rate of hospitalisation with COVID-19, which was 1.4 times higher than Māori ethnicity, 3.4 times higher than European or Other ethnicity and 3.6 times higher than Asian Peoples (see Figure 3 below).

Figure 3 - Age-standardised cumulative incidence (and 95% confidence intervals) of hospitalisation with COVID-19 by ethnicity, March 2020 to 14 August 2022



Similarly, for total COVID-19 attributed mortality rates by ethnicity, Pacific Peoples had the highest rate which was 1.4 times higher than Māori ethnicity, 3.1 times higher than European or Other ethnicity and 4.2 times higher than Asian ethnicity.

That is why the baseline measures include targeted protections for the most vulnerable. For example, in the winter package there was expanded access to antivirals, particularly for people at significant risk of adverse health outcomes from COVID-19. These measures included increased availability of medical masks, including to Pacific churches, marae, kaumātua facilities, aged residential care (ARC), and Māori and Pacific vaccination

naumata facilities, aged residential care (ARC), and adult and family vaccination providers.

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