



**NEW ZEALAND POLICY
RESEARCH INSTITUTE**
TE KĀHUI RANGAHAU MANA TAURITE



Gender and ethnic pay gaps: An industry level portrait for New Zealand

Commissioned by the Ministry for Women

Leon Iusitini, Lisa Meehan, Gail Pacheco



Disclaimer

These results are not official statistics. They have been created for research purposes from the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) and Longitudinal Business Database (LBD) which is carefully managed by Stats NZ. For more information about the IDI and LBD please visit <https://www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/>.

The results are based in part on tax data supplied by Inland Revenue to Stats NZ under the Tax Administration Act 1994 for statistical purposes. Any discussion of data limitations or weaknesses is in the context of using the IDI for statistical purposes, and is not related to the data's ability to support Inland Revenue's core operational requirements.



Research aims

- Aim 1: Estimation of gender, ethnic, and intersectional (gender-ethnic) pay gaps by industry in New Zealand over 2016 to 2022
- Aim 2: Exploration of structural and contextual drivers of pay gaps
- Building on previous work on gender (Pacheco et al., 2019) and ethnic (Cochrane & Pacheco, 2022) pay gaps, our contribution is focus on *industry level* and estimation of *intersectional pay gaps*
- This presentation reports results for:
 - *Gender pay gap*: women vs. men
 - *Māori pay gap*: Māori vs. Europeans
 - *Pacific pay gap*: Pacific vs. Europeans
 - *Asian pay gap*: Asians vs. Europeans



Method

- Data source is Household Labour Force Survey 2016-2022
- Sample is paid employees aged 16 to 64 years pooled over two years (2016/2017, 2017/2018, 2021/2022)
- 'Pay' defined as *hourly earnings*
- Industry measured with 14 categories (collapsed ANZSIC)
- Pay gaps calculated as:

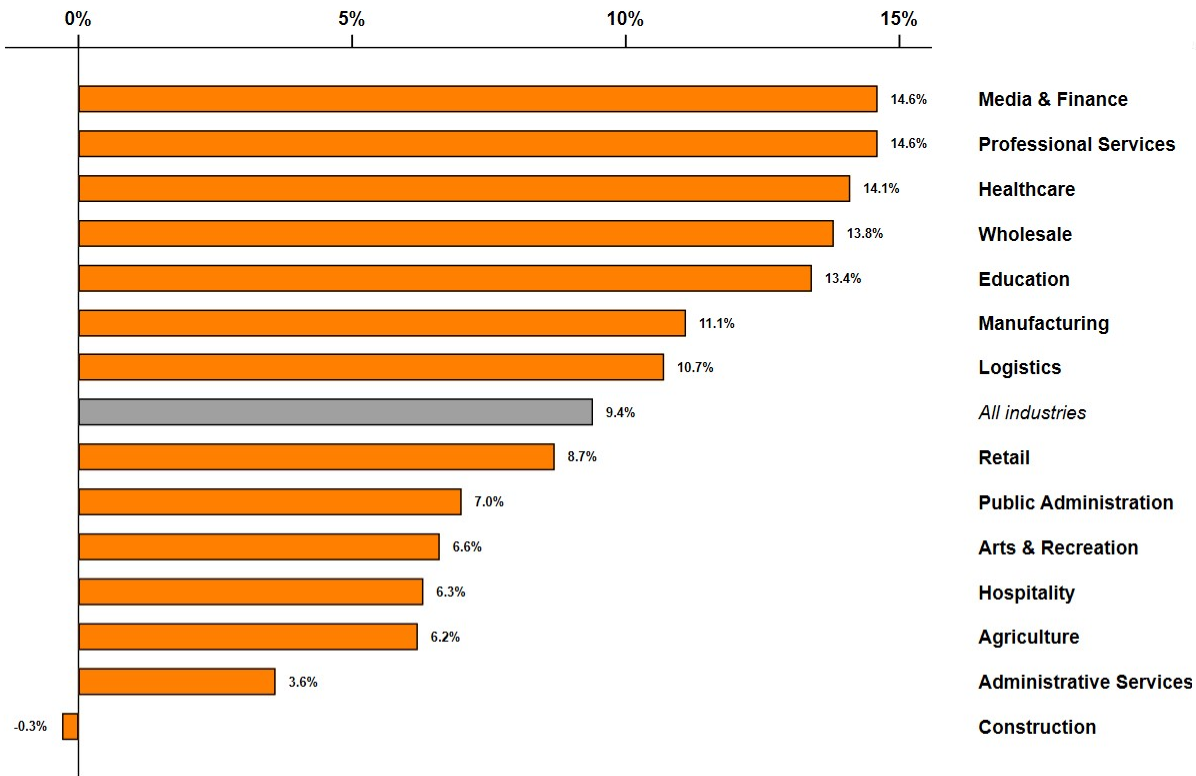
$$\frac{\text{Men's mean real hourly earnings} - \text{women's mean real hourly earnings}}{\text{Men's mean real hourly earnings}} \times 100$$

- Drivers of pay gaps investigated with Blinder-Oaxaca decomposition

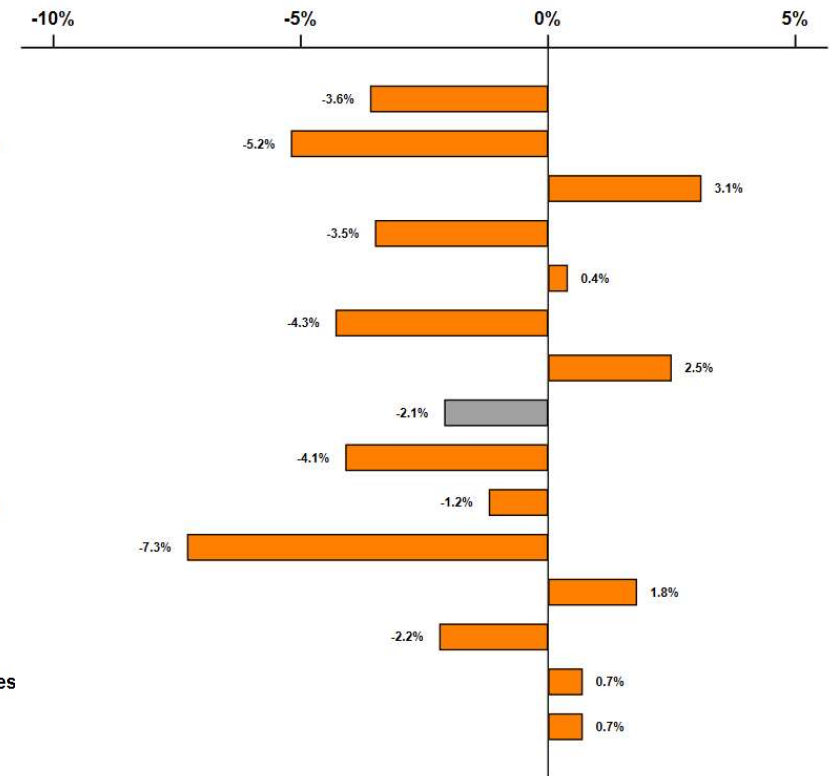


Gender pay gap level and trend

Gender pay gap in 2022



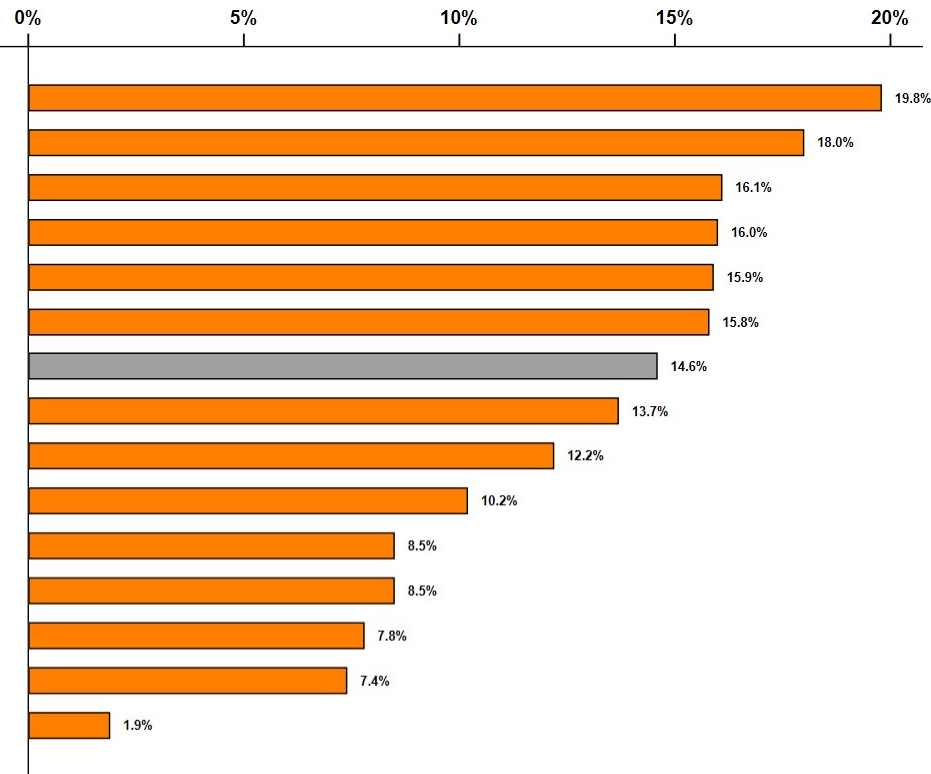
Change in gender pay gap 2017-2022



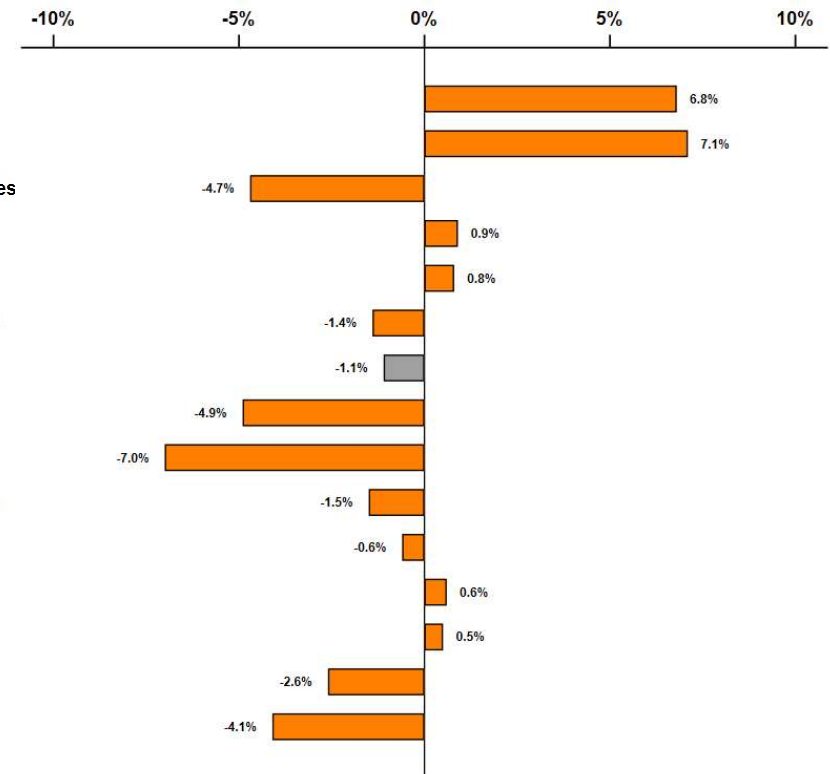


Māori vs. European pay gap level and trend

Māori pay gap in 2022



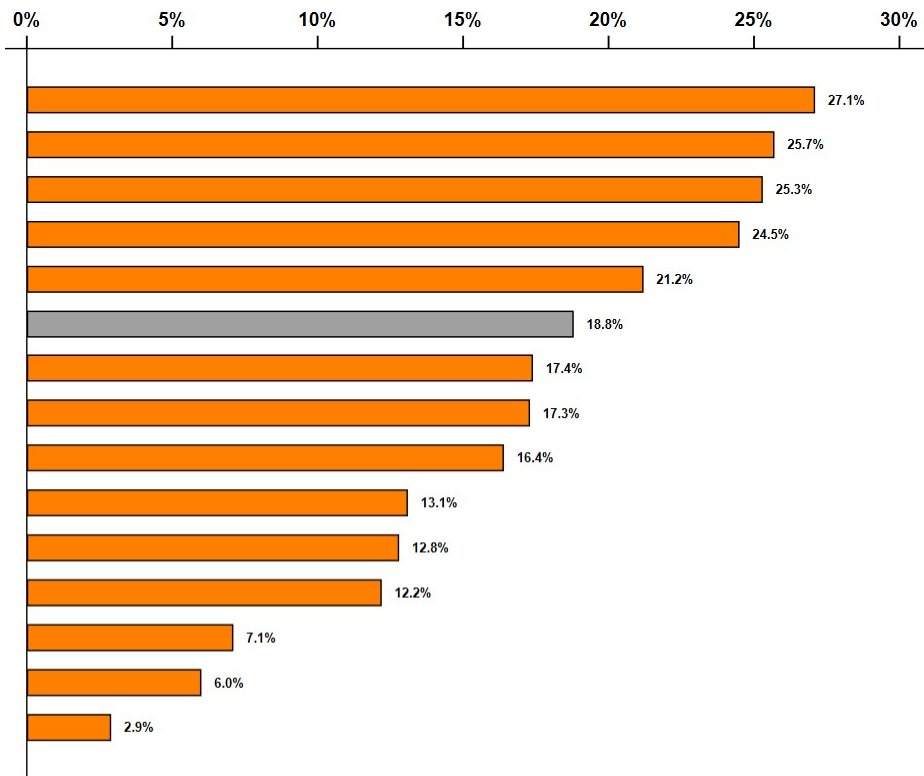
Change in Māori pay gap 2017-2022



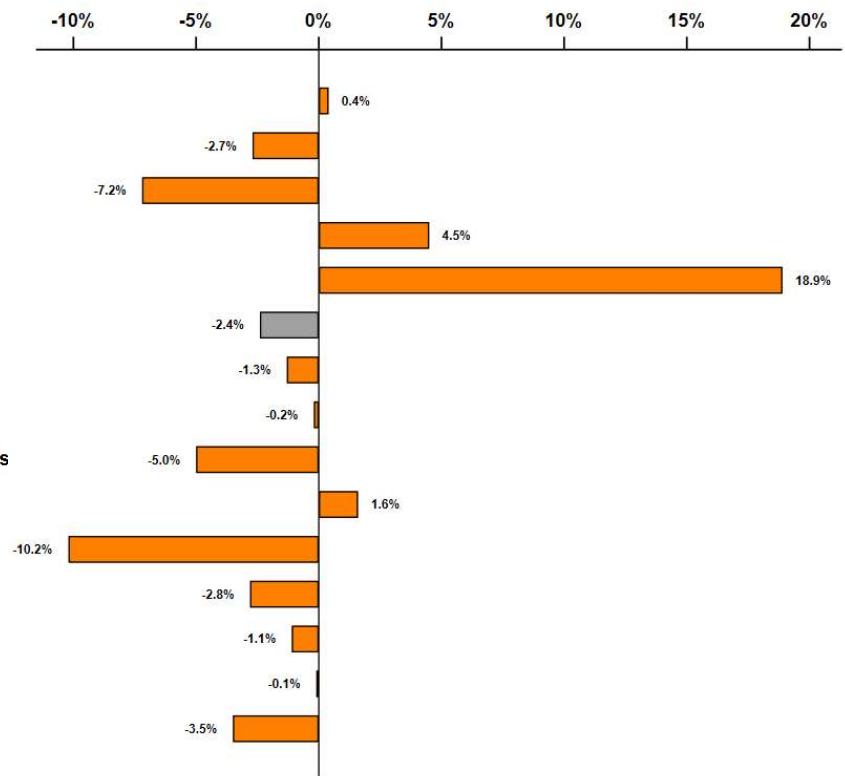


Pacific vs. European pay gap level and trend

Pacific pay gap in 2022



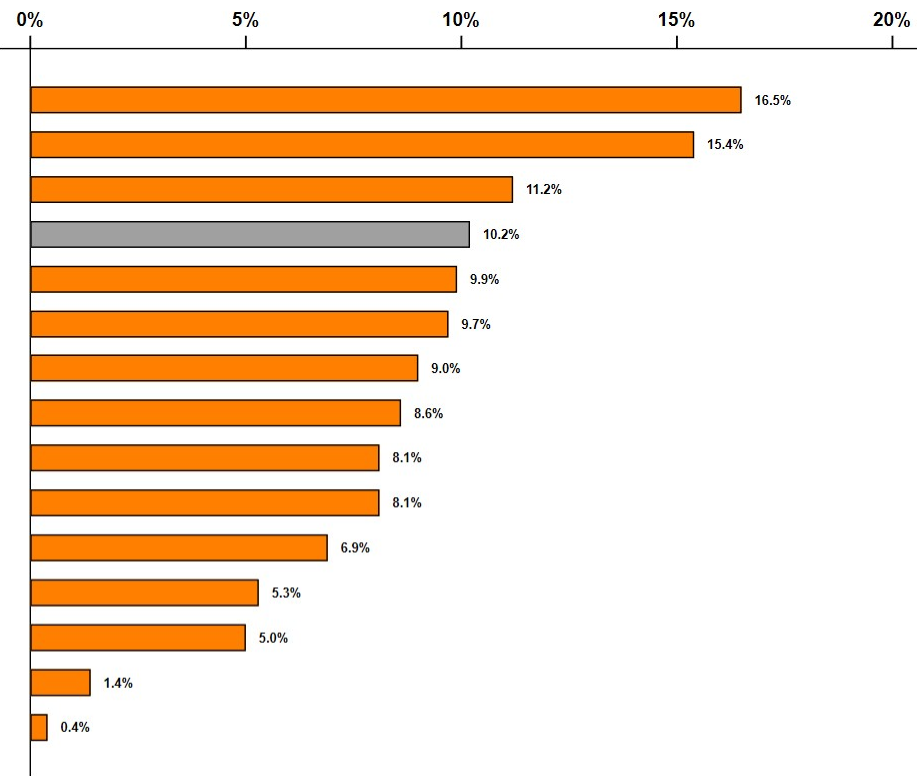
Change in Pacific pay gap 2017-2022



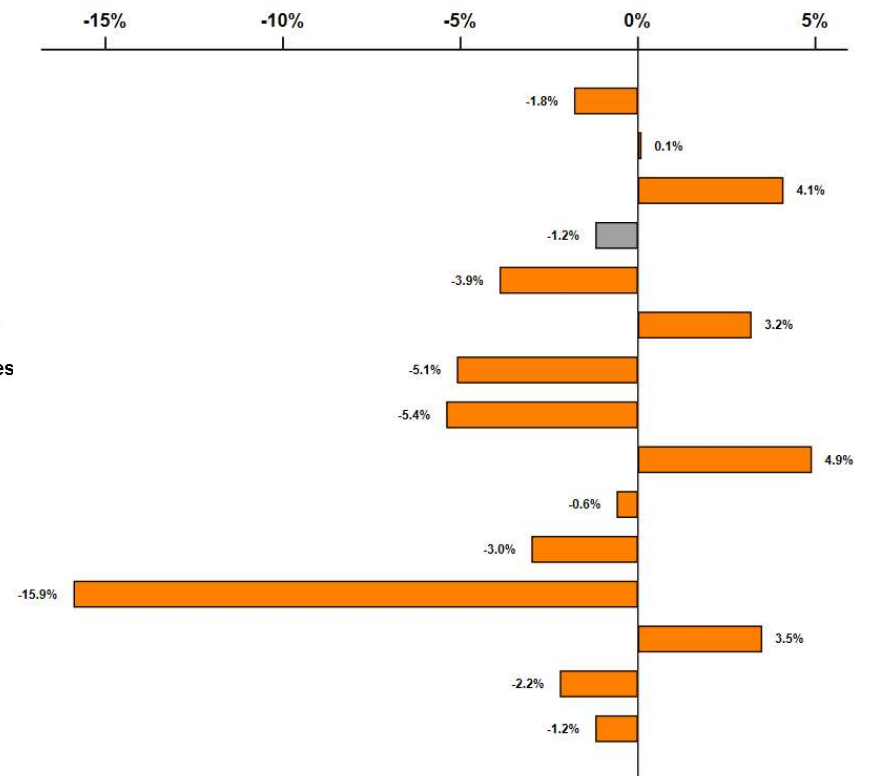


Asian vs. European pay gap level and trend

Asian pay gap in 2022



Change in Asian pay gap 2017-2022





Conclusions

- In 2022, pay gaps ranged from 9.4% (gender pay gap) to 18.8% (Pacific pay gap)
- High-paying industries (e.g., Media & Finance, Professional Services) tend to have larger pay gaps, while low-paying industries (e.g., Hospitality, Retail) tend to have smaller ones
- Across all industries, gender and ethnic pay gaps have decreased over recent years
- Gender, Pacific, and Asian (all-industry) pay gaps are mostly unexplained, while Māori pay gap is mostly explained
- Provides industry-specific benchmarks against which organisations can compare their own pay gaps
- Monitoring of impact of pay parity initiatives and pay equity settlements
- NZPRI has begun a new research programme looking at what workplace practices/policies are empirically associated with lower pay gaps



Industry variable

ANZSIC level 1		Collapsed to 14 industries	
1	Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	1	Agriculture
2	Mining		
3	Manufacturing	2	Manufacturing
4	Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	3	Construction
5	Construction		
6	Wholesale Trade	4	Wholesale
7	Retail Trade	5	Retail
8	Accommodation and Food Services	6	Hospitality
9	Transport, Postal and Warehousing	7	Logistics
10	Information Media and Telecommunications	8	Media & Finance
11	Financial and Insurance Services		
12	Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services		
13	Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	9	Professional Services
14	Administrative and Support Services	10	Administrative Services
15	Public Administration and Safety	11	Public Administration
16	Education and Training	12	Education
17	Health Care and Social Assistance	13	Healthcare
18	Arts and Recreation Services	14	Arts & Recreation
19	Other Services		



Explanatory variables used in decomposition

- Earnings-related characteristics used in Blinder-Oaxaca decomposition:

Category	Variables
Demographic characteristics	Sex, age, age-squared, ethnicity, country of birth
Household characteristics*	Sole parent, partnered status, number of dependent children, household income
Regional characteristics	Region of residence
Education characteristics	Highest qualification attained
Job-related characteristics	Occupation, part-time work, permanent job, job tenure, employment continuity, union membership
Industry characteristics	Industry of main job

* Household characteristics are excluded from the decomposition in order to identify the Heckman selection model.



Gender pay gap – HLFS vs. Inland Revenue

