

**Table 1:** Demographic and health profile of 71,502 people in Aotearoa, according to unmet need in paying for prescriptions.

<b>Unmet need for prescriptions due to cost</b>				
	<b>Unmet need</b>		<b>No unmet need</b>	
	<b>N=5,889</b>		<b>N=65,613</b>	
	<b>%</b>	<b>95% CI</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>95% CI</b>
<b>Sex</b>				
Female	71.5	(70.3–72.6)	56.0	(55.6–56.4)
Male	28.5	(27.4–29.7)	44.0	(43.6–44.4)
<b>Age group</b>				
15–24	12.3	(11.4–13.1)	11.1	(10.8–11.3)
25–34	22.1	(21.0–23.1)	15.1	(14.9–15.4)
35–44	19.5	(18.4–20.5)	16.2	(15.9–16.5)
45–54	19.7	(18.6–20.7)	15.8	(15.6–16.1)
55–64	15.6	(14.7–16.6)	16.2	(15.9–16.5)
65–74	7.5	(6.9–8.2)	14.4	(14.1–14.6)
75+	3.4	(2.9–3.8)	11.1	(10.9–11.4)
<b>Prioritised ethnicity</b>				
Māori	39.1	(37.9–40.4)	19.0	(18.7–19.3)
Pacific people	11.9	(11.1–12.7)	4.6	(4.5–4.8)
Asian	4.5	(4.0–5.0)	8.4	(8.2–8.6)
NZ European/Other	44.5	(43.2–45.7)	67.9	(67.6–68.3)
<b>NZDep quintiles</b>				
1 (least deprived)	5.0	(4.4–5.5)	14.6	(14.3–14.9)
2	8.8	(8.1–9.5)	17.5	(17.2–17.8)
3	15.2	(14.3–16.1)	20.3	(20.0–20.6)
4	22.3	(21.2–23.4)	22.8	(22.5–23.1)
5 (most deprived)	48.7	(47.4–50.0)	24.8	(24.5–25.1)
<b>Highest educational qualification</b>				
None	37.0	(35.8–38.2)	29.9	(29.5–30.2)
Secondary	20.5	(19.4–21.5)	14.7	(14.4–15.0)
Post-secondary	32.5	(31.3–33.7)	34.2	(33.8–34.6)

**Table 1 (continued):** Demographic and health profile of 71,502 people in Aotearoa, according to unmet need in paying for prescriptions.

Undergraduate	6.3	(5.7–6.9)	11.7	(11.5–12.0)
Postgraduate	3.7	(3.2–4.2)	9.5	(9.3–9.7)
<b>Household income (NZ\$)</b>				
Loss or up to 20,000	24.6	(23.5–25.7)	9.3	(9.1–9.5)
20,001–30,000	17.1	(16.1–18.0)	11.5	(11.3–11.8)
30,001–50,000	19.0	(18.0–20.0)	16.3	(16.1–16.6)
50,001–70,000	12.8	(12.0–13.7)	15.4	(15.1–15.6)
70,001–100,000	7.7	(7.1–8.4)	14.6	(14.3–14.9)
100,001+	6.6	(6.0–7.3)	24.1	(23.8–24.4)
Missing	12.1	(11.3–13.0)	8.8	(8.6–9.0)
<b>Self-rated health</b>				
Excellent	5.8	(5.2–6.4)	13.9	(13.6–14.1)
Very good	22.3	(21.2–23.3)	40.5	(40.1–40.9)
Good	38.9	(37.6–40.1)	33.6	(33.2–34.0)
Poor	22.4	(21.3–23.5)	9.8	(9.5–10.0)
Very poor	10.6	(9.9–11.4)	2.3	(2.1–2.4)
<b>Have you been told by a doctor that you have</b>				
had a heart attack	5.2	(4.6–5.8)	4.1	(4.0–4.3)
angina	6.4	(5.8–7.0)	3.9	(3.8–4.1)
heart failure	4.4	(3.9–4.9)	2.4	(2.3–2.6)
other heart disease	10.7	(10.0–11.5)	8.5	(8.3–8.7)
had a stroke <sup>a</sup>	3.1	(2.6–3.5)	2.1	(2.0–2.2)
diabetes <sup>b</sup>	12.2	(11.3–13.0)	6.9	(6.7–7.1)
asthma	35.9	(34.6–37.1)	19.7	(19.4–20.0)
arthritis <sup>c</sup>	23.9	(22.9–25.0)	20.9	(20.5–21.2)
depression <sup>d</sup>	39.1	(37.8–40.3)	16.8	(16.5–17.1)
bipolar disorder <sup>d</sup>	4.3	(3.8–4.8)	1.1	(1.0–1.1)
anxiety disorder <sup>d,e</sup>	27.0	(25.9–28.1)	9.9	(9.7–10.2)

Note: a) does not include transient ischaemic attacks; b) does not include diabetes during pregnancy; c) includes gout, lupus and psoriatic arthritis d) conditions that lasted or expected to last more than 6 months; e) includes panic attacks, post-traumatic stress disorder, phobias and obsessive-compulsive disorders.

**Table 2:** Inpatient hospitalisations and length of hospital stay according to unmet need for paying for prescriptions, by demographic variables.

	Percentage hospitalised during the study period				Number of hospitalisations during the study period*				Length of first hospital stay during the study period*			
	Unmet need		No unmet need		Unmet need		No unmet need		Unmet need		No unmet need	
	n=5,889		n=65,613		n=3,531		n=28,827		n=3,531		n=28,827	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	Mean	95% CI	Mean	95% CI	Mean	95% CI	Mean	95% CI
<b>All</b>	60.0	(58.7–61.2)	43.9	(43.6–44.3)	3.8	(3.6–4.0)	3.1	(3.1–3.1)	2.7	(2.6–2.8)	3.2	(3.0–3.4)
<b>Sex</b>												
Female	62.2	(60.8–63.7)	47.0	(46.5–47.5)	3.7	(3.5–3.9)	3.0	(3.0–3.1)	2.6	(2.4–2.7)	3.1	(2.9–3.3)
Male	54.5	(52.1–56.8)	40.0	(39.5–40.6)	4.1	(3.6–4.5)	3.2	(3.1–3.3)	3.1	(2.8–3.4)	3.4	(3.1–3.8)
<b>Age group</b>												
15–24	58.5	(54.9–62.1)	34.7	(33.6–35.8)	3.8	(3.3–4.3)	2.4	(2.3–2.5)	2.2	(2.0–2.3)	2.8	(2.2–3.3)
25–34	59.9	(57.2–62.6)	40.5	(39.5–41.4)	3.4	(3.1–3.7)	2.5	(2.3–2.6)	2.3	(2.1–2.5)	2.5	(2.4–2.7)
35–44	54.7	(51.8–57.6)	31.3	(30.4–32.1)	3.2	(2.9–3.5)	2.3	(2.2–2.4)	2.8	(2.5–3.2)	2.7	(2.4–3.0)
45–54	57.1	(54.3–60.0)	35.2	(34.3–36.1)	3.6	(3.3–4.0)	2.7	(2.6–2.8)	2.7	(2.4–3.0)	2.7	(2.5–2.9)
55–64	60.6	(57.4–63.7)	43.1	(42.2–44.1)	4.5	(3.8–5.1)	3.0	(2.9–3.1)	2.9	(2.6–3.2)	2.9	(2.6–3.2)
65–74	75.2	(71.2–79.2)	56.5	(55.5–57.5)	4.5	(4.0–5.0)	3.6	(3.4–3.7)	3.4	(2.8–4.0)	3.1	(3.0–3.3)
75+	76.9	(71.0–82.8)	73.5	(72.5–74.5)	5.2	(4.3–6.2)	4.3	(4.2–4.4)	3.9	(3.3–4.5)	5.1	(4.0–6.1)
<b>Prioritised ethnicity</b>												
Māori	63.0	(61.0–65.0)	45.9	(45.0–46.7)	3.8	(3.6–4.1)	3.1	(3.0–3.2)	2.6	(2.4–2.8)	3.1	(2.8–3.5)
Pacific people	59.8	(56.2–63.5)	42.6	(40.8–44.3)	4.2	(3.4–5.0)	3.0	(2.8–3.2)	2.9	(2.6–3.2)	3.1	(2.8–3.4)
Asian	40.4	(34.6–46.3)	28.5	(27.3–29.6)	2.8	(2.2–3.4)	2.4	(2.2–2.5)	2.8	(2.1–3.5)	2.6	(2.4–2.8)

**Table 2 (continued):** Inpatient hospitalisations and length of hospital stay according to unmet need for paying for prescriptions, by demographic variables.

	Percentage hospitalised during the study period				Number of hospitalisations during the study period*				Length of first hospital stay during the study period*			
	Unmet need		No unmet need		Unmet need		No unmet need		Unmet need		No unmet need	
	n=5,889		n=65,613		n=3,531		n=28,827		n=3,531		n=28,827	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	Mean	95% CI	Mean	95% CI	Mean	95% CI	Mean	95% CI
NZ European/ Other	59.3	(57.4–61.2)	45.4	(44.9–45.9)	3.8	(3.5–4.0)	3.2	(3.1–3.2)	2.8	(2.6–3.0)	3.3	(3.0–3.6)
<b>NZDep quintiles</b>												
1 (least deprived)	53.1	(47.4–58.8)	36.8	(35.8–37.8)	4.0	(3.2–4.7)	2.7	(2.6–2.8)	2.7	(2.2–3.1)	2.9	(2.7–3.0)
2	58.4	(54.1–62.6)	40.5	(39.6–41.4)	4.0	(3.4–4.5)	3.0	(2.9–3.1)	2.8	(2.4–3.1)	3.1	(2.6–3.6)
3	58.2	(55.0–61.5)	43.8	(43.0–44.7)	3.6	(3.2–4.1)	3.1	(3.0–3.2)	2.5	(2.2–2.8)	2.9	(2.7–3.1)
4	58.5	(55.9–61.2)	46.0	(45.2–46.8)	4.0	(3.6–4.3)	3.1	(3.0–3.2)	2.7	(2.4–3.0)	3.5	(2.8–4.1)
5 (most deprived)	62.2	(60.5–64.0)	48.7	(48.0–49.5)	3.8	(3.5–4.0)	3.4	(3.3–3.5)	2.8	(2.6–2.9)	3.5	(3.1–3.9)
<b>Highest educational qualification</b>												
None	66.4	(64.4–68.4)	53.4	(52.7–54.1)	4.2	(3.8–4.5)	3.6	(3.5–3.7)	2.7	(2.5–2.9)	3.7	(3.2–4.2)
Secondary	55.5	(52.7–58.3)	39.0	(38.0–39.9)	3.3	(3.0–3.6)	2.7	(2.6–2.8)	2.6	(2.3–3.0)	3.1	(2.7–3.5)
Post-secondary	59.9	(57.7–62.1)	44.3	(43.7–45.0)	3.9	(3.6–4.2)	3.0	(2.9–3.1)	2.8	(2.6–3.1)	3.1	(2.8–3.4)
Undergraduate	45.2	(40.1–50.2)	33.9	(32.9–35.0)	3.1	(2.4–3.7)	2.6	(2.4–2.7)	2.6	(2.1–3.1)	2.6	(2.5–2.8)
Postgraduate	46.6	(40.0–53.2)	32.8	(31.7–34.0)	2.8	(2.1–3.6)	2.6	(2.4–2.8)	2.7	(2.2–3.2)	2.5	(2.4–2.7)
<b>Household income (\$)</b>												
Loss, 0–20,000	66.0	(63.6–68.5)	57.6	(56.3–58.8)	4.5	(4.0–4.9)	4.0	(3.8–4.2)	3.2	(2.9–3.5)	3.9	(3.4–4.4)

**Table 2 (continued):** Inpatient hospitalisations and length of hospital stay according to unmet need for paying for prescriptions, by demographic variables.

	Percentage hospitalised during the study period				Number of hospitalisations during the study period*				Length of first hospital stay during the study period*			
	Unmet need		No unmet need		Unmet need		No unmet need		Unmet need		No unmet need	
	n=5,889		n=65,613		n=3,531		n=28,827		n=3,531		n=28,827	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	Mean	95% CI	Mean	95% CI	Mean	95% CI	Mean	95% CI
20,001–30,000	64.5	(61.5–67.4)	59.5	(58.4–60.6)	3.9	(3.5–4.3)	3.8	(3.7–3.9)	2.5	(2.3–2.7)	3.9	(3.2–4.6)
30,001–50,000	59.5	(56.6–62.4)	48.9	(47.9–49.8)	3.2	(2.9–3.4)	3.2	(3.1–3.3)	2.7	(2.4–3.0)	3.2	(2.9–3.5)
50,001–70,000	50.4	(46.8–54.0)	40.9	(39.9–41.8)	3.3	(2.9–3.6)	2.7	(2.6–2.8)	2.4	(2.2–2.7)	2.8	(2.2–3.4)
70,001–100,000	53.3	(48.7–57.9)	36.9	(35.9–37.8)	3.1	(2.6–3.7)	2.5	(2.4–2.6)	2.5	(2.1–2.9)	2.5	(2.4–2.7)
100,001+	46.9	(42.0–51.9)	31.7	(30.9–32.4)	3.1	(2.4–3.7)	2.3	(2.2–2.4)	2.0	(1.8–2.2)	2.6	(2.4–2.7)
Missing	63.9	(60.3–67.4)	50.8	(49.5–52.0)	4.4	(3.9–4.9)	3.4	(3.2–3.5)	2.8	(2.5–3.1)	4.1	(2.8–5.5)
<b>Self-rated health</b>												
Excellent	53.5	(48.2–58.8)	36.7	(35.7–37.7)	3.0	(2.5–3.4)	2.6	(2.5–2.7)	2.6	(2.2–3.0)	2.9	(2.6–3.2)
Very good	53.7	(51.0–56.4)	40.7	(40.1–41.3)	3.0	(2.8–3.3)	2.8	(2.7–2.8)	2.6	(2.3–2.8)	3.1	(2.8–3.4)
Good	60.2	(58.2–62.2)	46.1	(45.5–46.8)	3.8	(3.4–4.1)	3.2	(3.1–3.2)	2.7	(2.5–2.9)	3.1	(2.8–3.5)
Poor	63.0	(60.4–65.6)	54.4	(53.2–55.6)	3.9	(3.7–4.2)	4.0	(3.8–4.1)	2.8	(2.5–3.1)	4.0	(3.1–4.8)
Very poor	69.4	(65.8–73.0)	67.4	(65.0–69.8)	5.4	(4.7–6.0)	4.8	(4.4–5.3)	3.0	(2.6–3.3)	4.7	(3.4–6.1)

\*For those people with at least one inpatient hospitalisation.

**Table 3:** Time to first inpatient hospitalisation according to unmet need for paying for prescriptions, by demographic variables, among 32,358 people who were hospitalised.

<b>Days till first inpatient hospitalisation*</b>				
	<b>Unmet need</b>		<b>No unmet need</b>	
	<b>n=3,531</b>		<b>n=28,827</b>	
	<b>Mean</b>	<b>95% CI</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>95% CI</b>
All	582	(564–599)	650	(644–657)
<b>Sex</b>				
Female	576	(556–596)	643	(635–651)
Male	596	(561–630)	662	(652–672)
<b>Age group</b>				
15–24	579	(531–627)	743	(720–765)
25–34	567	(530–603)	650	(633–666)
35–44	611	(568–654)	693	(674–712)
45–54	617	(575–660)	729	(710–749)
55–64	579	(536–621)	702	(685–719)
65–74	534	(482–587)	624	(609–638)
75+	497	(413–580)	510	(498–523)
<b>Prioritised ethnicity</b>				
Māori	573	(546–601)	660	(645–675)
Pacific people	567	(517–617)	642	(611–672)
Asian	630	(524–737)	671	(644–698)
NZ European/ Other	590	(564–616)	647	(639–654)
<b>NZDep quintiles</b>				
1 (least deprived)	604	(529–680)	687	(669–706)
2	638	(576–700)	683	(667–700)
3	575	(530–620)	674	(659–688)
4	563	(526–599)	625	(612–637)
5 (most deprived)	580	(555–604)	620	(608–632)
<b>Highest educational qualification</b>				
None	613	(585–641)	666	(655–677)
Secondary	554	(515–592)	600	(583–616)
Post-secondary	552	(523–582)	648	(637–659)

**Table 3 (continued):** Time to first inpatient hospitalisation according to unmet need for paying for prescriptions, by demographic variables, among 32,358 people who were hospitalised.

Undergraduate	616	(536–697)	662	(641–683)
Postgraduate	594	(483–704)	663	(639, –686)
<b>Household income</b>				
Loss, 0–20,000	553	(520–587)	600	(582–618)
20,001–30,000	589	(549–629)	557	(543–572)
30,001–50,000	581	(543–620)	641	(626–656)
50,001–70,000	609	(556–662)	689	(671–706)
70,001–100,000	610	(543–676)	687	(669–706)
100,001+	584	(505–662)	691	(676–706)
Missing	589	(538–641)	703	(681–725)
<b>Self-rated health</b>				
Excellent	713	(632–795)	734	(714–753)
Very good	656	(615–696)	696	(685–706)
Good	593	(565–621)	633	(623–644)
Poor	538	(503–572)	544	(528–561)
Very poor	455	(412–499)	423	(396–450)

\*For those people with at least one inpatient hospitalisation

**Table 4:** Fully adjusted model of time to first hospitalisation.

	Hazard ratio	95% CI	P-value
<b>Need groups</b>			
Unmet need	1.34	(1.29–1.39)	<0.001
Met need	1		
<b>Sex</b>			
Female	1.19	(1.17–1.22)	<0.001
Male	1		
<b>Age group</b>			
15–24	1.08	(1.03–1.13)	0.002
25–34	1.37	(1.32–1.43)	<0.001
35–44	1		
45–54	1.09	(1.05–1.14)	<0.001
55–64	1.40	(1.34–1.46)	<0.001
65–74	2.08	(1.99–2.17)	<0.001
75+	3.27	(3.13–3.43)	<0.001
<b>Prioritised ethnicity</b>			
Māori	1.49	(1.41–1.57)	<0.001
Pacific people	1.43	(1.34–1.54)	<0.001
Asian	1		
NZ European/Other	1.42	(1.35–1.50)	<0.001
<b>NZDep quintiles</b>			
1 (least deprived)	1		
2	1.07	(1.02–1.12)	0.002
3	1.15	(1.10–1.19)	<0.001
4	1.21	(1.17–1.26)	<0.001
5 (most deprived)	1.27	(1.21–1.32)	<0.001
<b>Highest educational qualification</b>			
None	1.16	(1.10–1.22)	<0.001
Secondary	1.10	(1.04–1.16)	<0.001
Post-secondary	1.15	(1.09–1.20)	<0.001



**Table 4 (continued):** Fully adjusted model of time to first hospitalisation.

Undergraduate	1.03	(0.98–1.09)	0.27
Postgraduate	1		
<b>Household income</b>			
Loss, 0–20,000	1		
20,001–30,000	1.28	(1.23–1.34)	<0.001
30,001–50,000	1.24	(1.19–1.30)	<0.001
50,001–70,000	1.16	(1.11–1.20)	<0.001
70,001–100,000	1.08	(1.04–1.13)	<0.001
100,001+	1.06	(1.02–1.11)	0.004
Missing	1.16	(1.11–1.21)	<0.001
<b>Self-rated health</b>			
Excellent	1		
Very good	1.14	(1.10–1.18)	<0.001
Good	1.41	(1.36–1.47)	<0.001
Poor	1.80	(1.72–1.88)	<0.001
Very poor	2.45	(2.30–2.61)	<0.001

Note: Hazard ratios are adjusted for all other variables in the table.