

## REGIONAL WINNER

### University of Auckland The Index of Multiple Deprivation

#### What was the problem?

The New Zealand Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) was developed to better utilise existing data to empower communities, especially those with socioeconomic disadvantages. The IMD is designed to reduce inequities in society, or simply to better understand the neighbourhoods we live in, through informed research, policies, and practices.

#### How did you address it?

The project aimed to use routinely collected administrative data to measure disadvantage in various forms, using routinely collected data from government departments, census data and current international deprivation assessment methods. Data gathered on employment, income, crime, housing, health, education and access to services was combined to create the IMD, which may be used to explore the geography of deprivation and its association targeted health or social outcomes.

#### What were the key outcomes?

The IMD has had various practical applications, including identifying trends with regards to alcohol-related harm in communities experiencing socioeconomic disadvantages. In tandem with peer-reviewed research, targeted data used in support of communities has led to halting, and in cases, reductions of widening inequities in alcohol-related harm.

For more information about this project or to contact University of Auckland, please visit their website: [www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz)

