

# Cervical Cancer Screening Best Practice - Supplementary Resource 1:

## Asian population

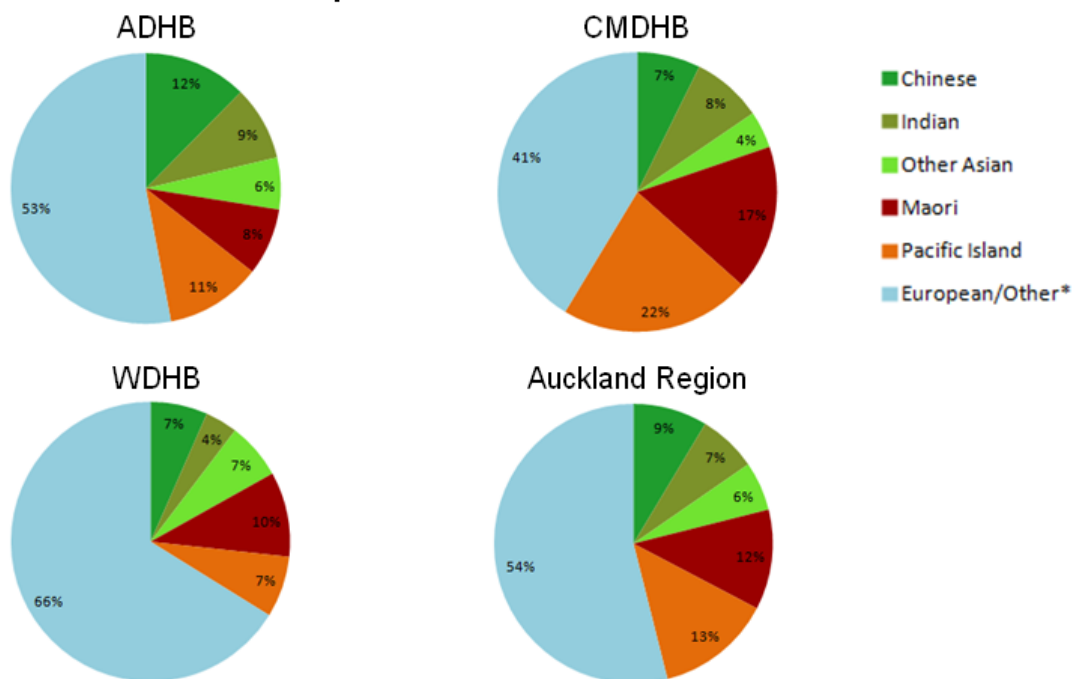
The term 'Asian' is used in New Zealand to describe culturally diverse communities origins in the Asian continent, from China in the north to Indonesia in the south and from Afghanistan in the west to Japan in the east.<sup>4</sup> This definition of 'Asian' excludes people originating from the Middle East, Central Asia (except Afghanistan) and Asian Russia. The ethnicity protocols subdivide the level 1 group 'Asian' into five level 2 categories: 'Other Asian', 'Chinese', 'Indian', 'South East Asian' and 'Asian NFD'. See more Asian categories under Appendix 1.

### Demography

Changes to New Zealand's immigration policy in 1986 led to significant increases in Asian migration to New Zealand which peaked in 1995. Since this time, Asian migration has continued to lead the net migration figures with an average of over 15,000 people per year over 1996 to 2002, making Asian people the fastest growing population in New Zealand.

The Auckland Asian population currently represents 22% of the total population in the Auckland region, and is projected to increase more than 60% by 2026 (Mehta, 2012). See projection details under Appendix 1. Of the three DHBs, ADHB has the largest Asian population, with an estimated 27% of people identifying as being Chinese, Indian or Other Asian. In Waitemata and Counties Manukau DHBs Asian groups are respectively 18% and 19% of the populations served. Across the Auckland region, an estimated 9% of people identified as being Chinese, 7% as being Indian and 6% as being Other Asian in 2010.

## Ethnic Composition of Auckland, 2010



### Asian population characteristics

- Asian groups are not homogenous in nature

- They are very diverse in terms of cultural beliefs, customs, religious practices, education, acculturation level and social structures, although they do share certain collective cultural values and orientation
- Asian sub groups within Asian Chinese and Asian Indian communities are heterogeneous in nature.
- In New Zealand, Chinese migrants mainly come from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam. Indian migrants mainly come from India, South East Asian countries and Fiji.
- Asians in New Zealand may be local-born or first, 1.5, second, third, and fourth generation migrants.
- There is no typical Asian traditional family system.
- There are different customs and religious beliefs in Asian countries that influence death and funeral practices; end of life care issues and serious illness; and family violence
- Culture and religion play a significant role in how disability and mental health are perceived, how the issues are dealt with, and their health seeking patterns, thus it is important to explore cultural barriers and how these barriers influence help-seeking behaviors.
- Culture and religious practices influence how people view abuse, whether they seek help, how they communicate their experience and from whom they are likely to seek assistance.
- Asian countries have vastly different health systems to New Zealand. There are no Primary Health Organisations (PHOs) and Asian migrants have no concept of general practice (or PHO) enrolments. Asian migrants are not familiar with the health system in New Zealand, the services available, the different roles of health providers.
- There are a large number of non-English speaking Asians in the ADHB, WDHB and CMDHB districts
- Chinese peoples in New Zealand speak a variety of languages and dialects eg. Mandarin, Cantonese, Hokkien, Foochow, Hakka, Teochew, Shanghainese, Taiwanese. Indian peoples speak a variety of languages/dialects. Korean peoples speak Korean and some Koreans from China speak Mandarin.
- The top three largest Asian sub-groups in the Auckland region are Chinese, Indian and Korean

## References

- Lim, S., Mortensen, M. (2013). *Best Practice Principles: CALD Cultural Competency Standards and Framework*. Auckland: Waitemata DHB. Retrieved from: <http://www.caldresources.org.nz/info/Home.php>
- Mehta, S. (2012). *Health needs assessment of Asian people living in the Auckland region*. Auckland: Auckland Northern DHB Support Agency.