

Wages, wellbeing & location

Part 2. The New Zealand evidence

1. *New Zealand Quality of Life Survey (2004, 2008)*
 - a. Does New Zealand also have low and high wellbeing cities?
 - b. Do we exhibit different degrees of urban pride?
2. *Survey of Dynamics of Motivation and Migration (2007: 2005 -2006)*
 - a. What motivates internal migration within New Zealand ?
 - b. Do exiting locations constrain mobility?
 - c. Does migration raise wellbeing (post-move satisfaction)?

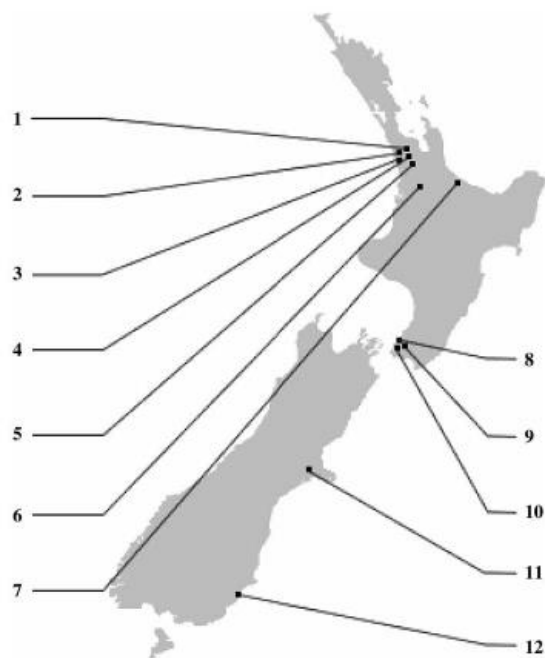
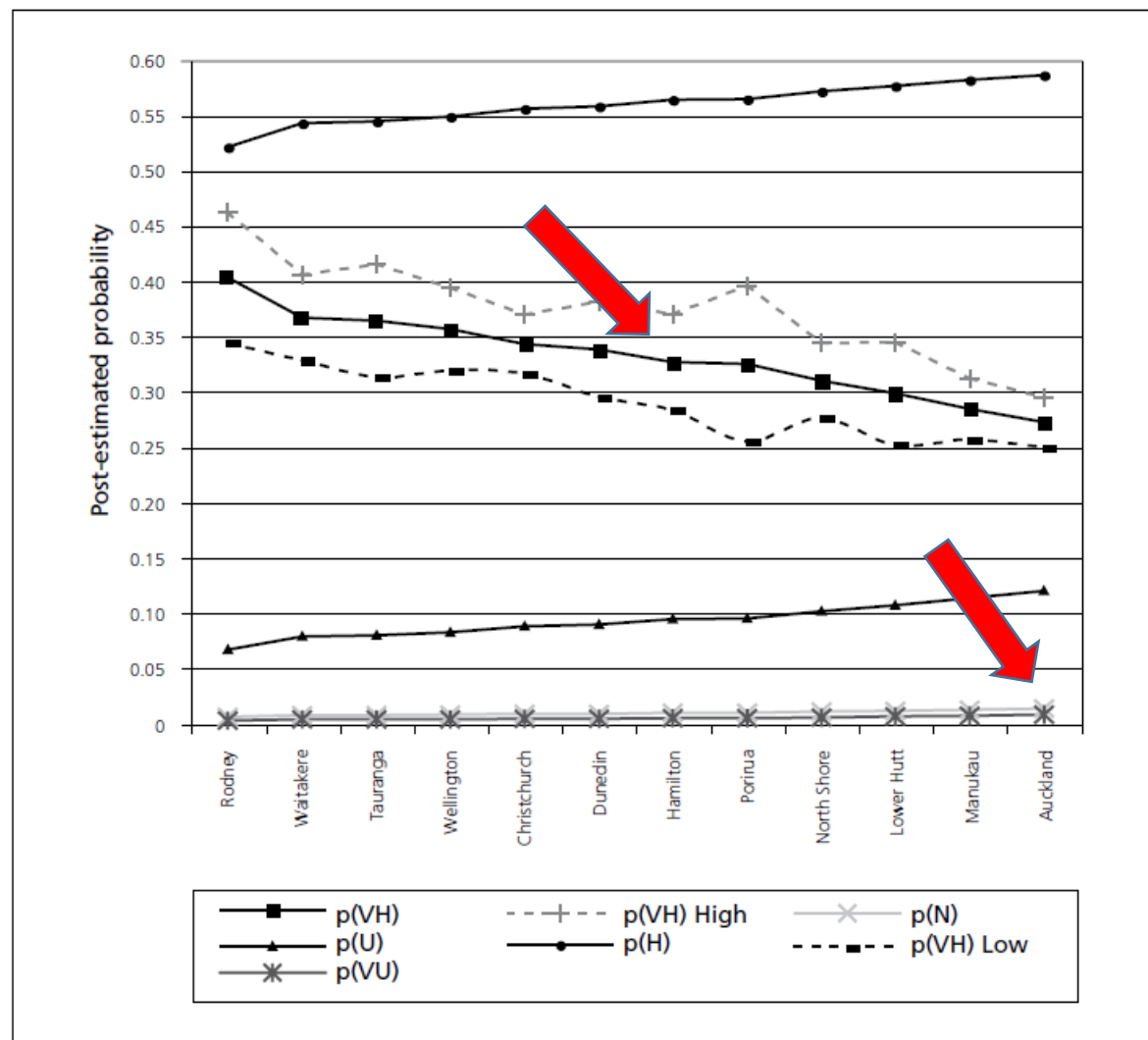


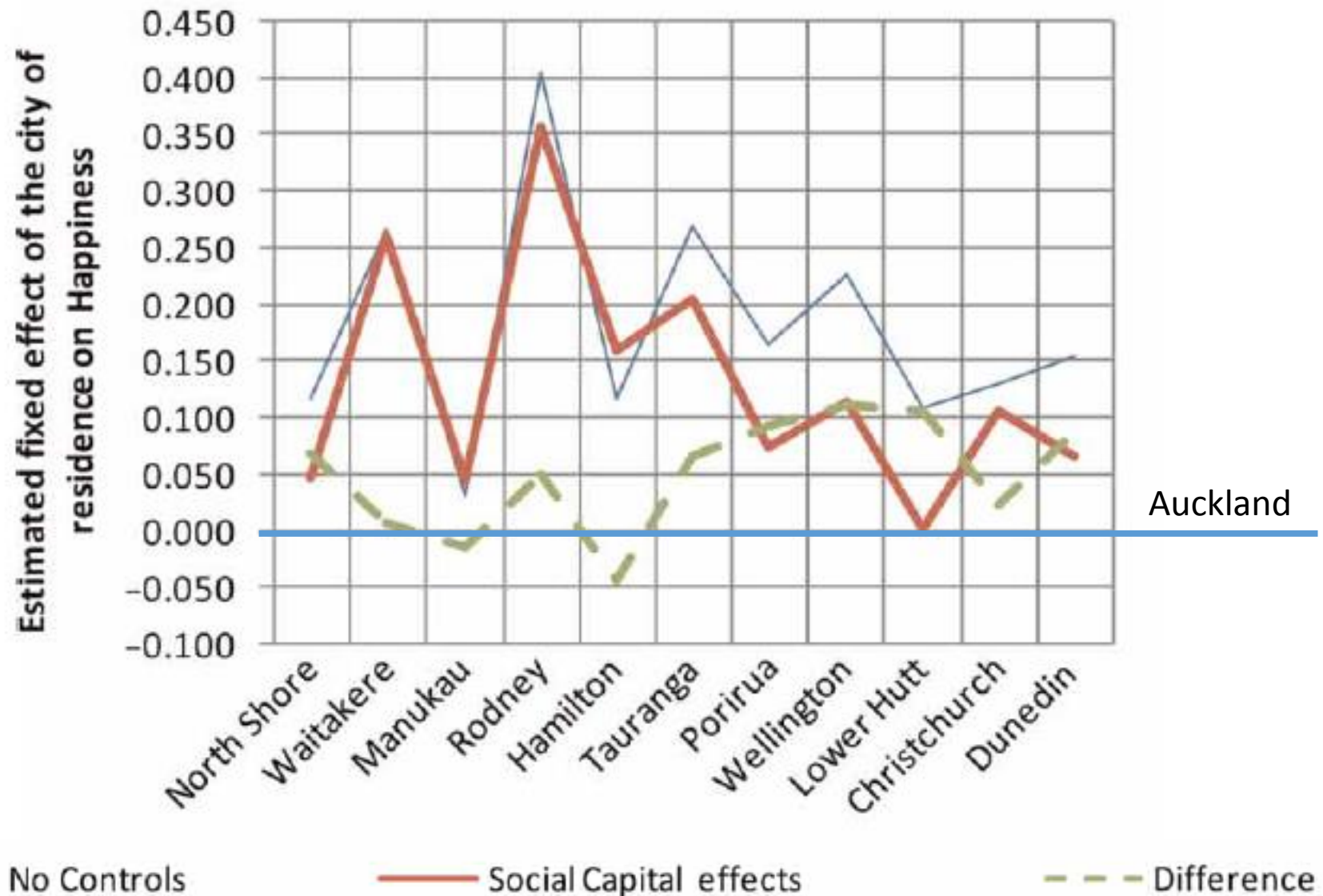
Fig. 1. Location and population size in 2006 of the twelve cities included in the Quality of Life Project, New Zealand
 Note: 1, Rodney; 2, North Shore; 3, Waitakere; 4, Auckland; 5, Manukau; 6, Hamilton; 7, Tauranga; 8, Porirua; 9, Hutt; 10, Wellington; 11, Christchurch; and 12, Dunedin

Figure 2 Post-Estimated Probabilities of Different Levels of Happiness by Place Ranked by $p(VH)$ after Controlling for the Characteristics of Respondents

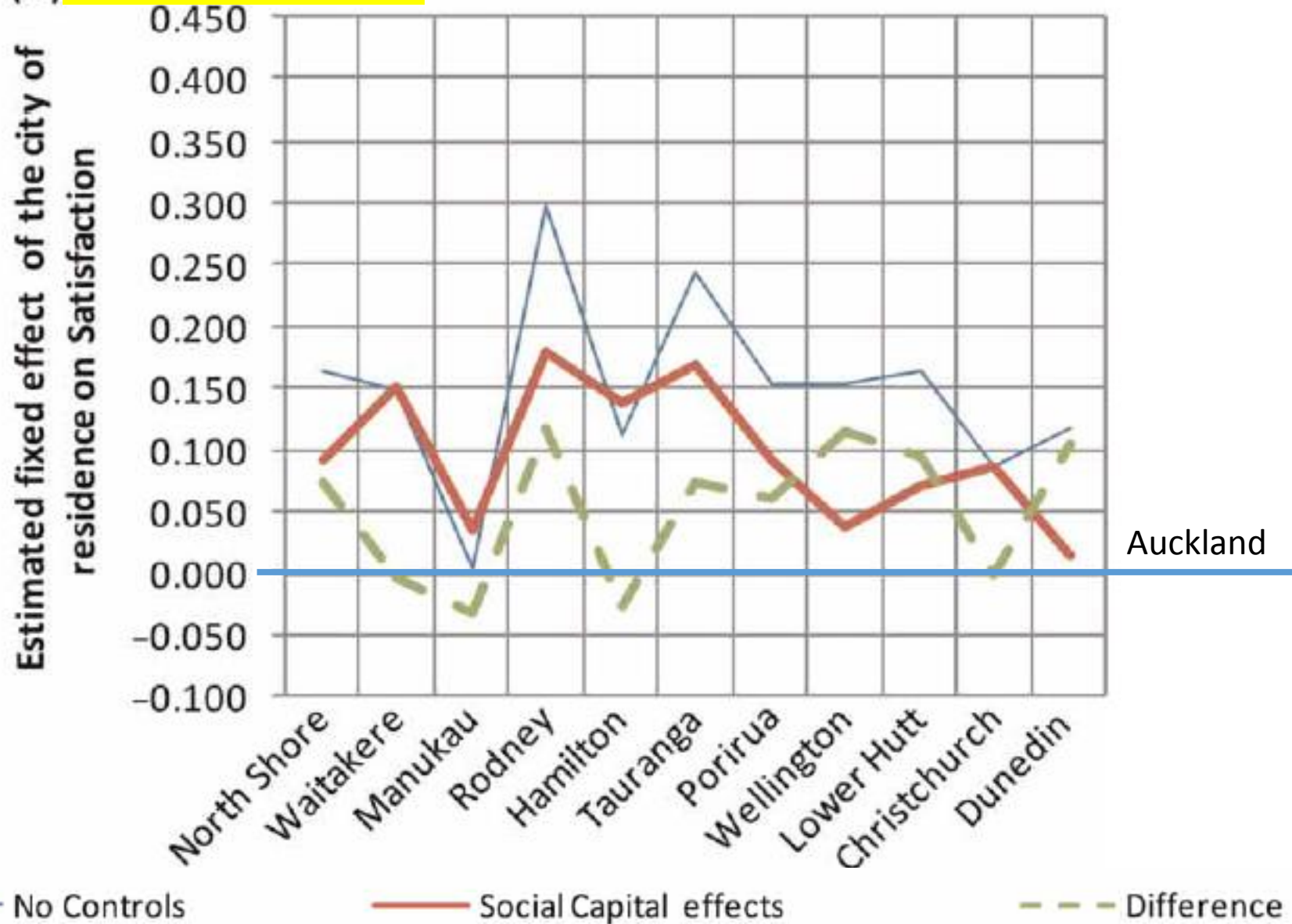


Source: New Zealand Quality of Life Survey 2004

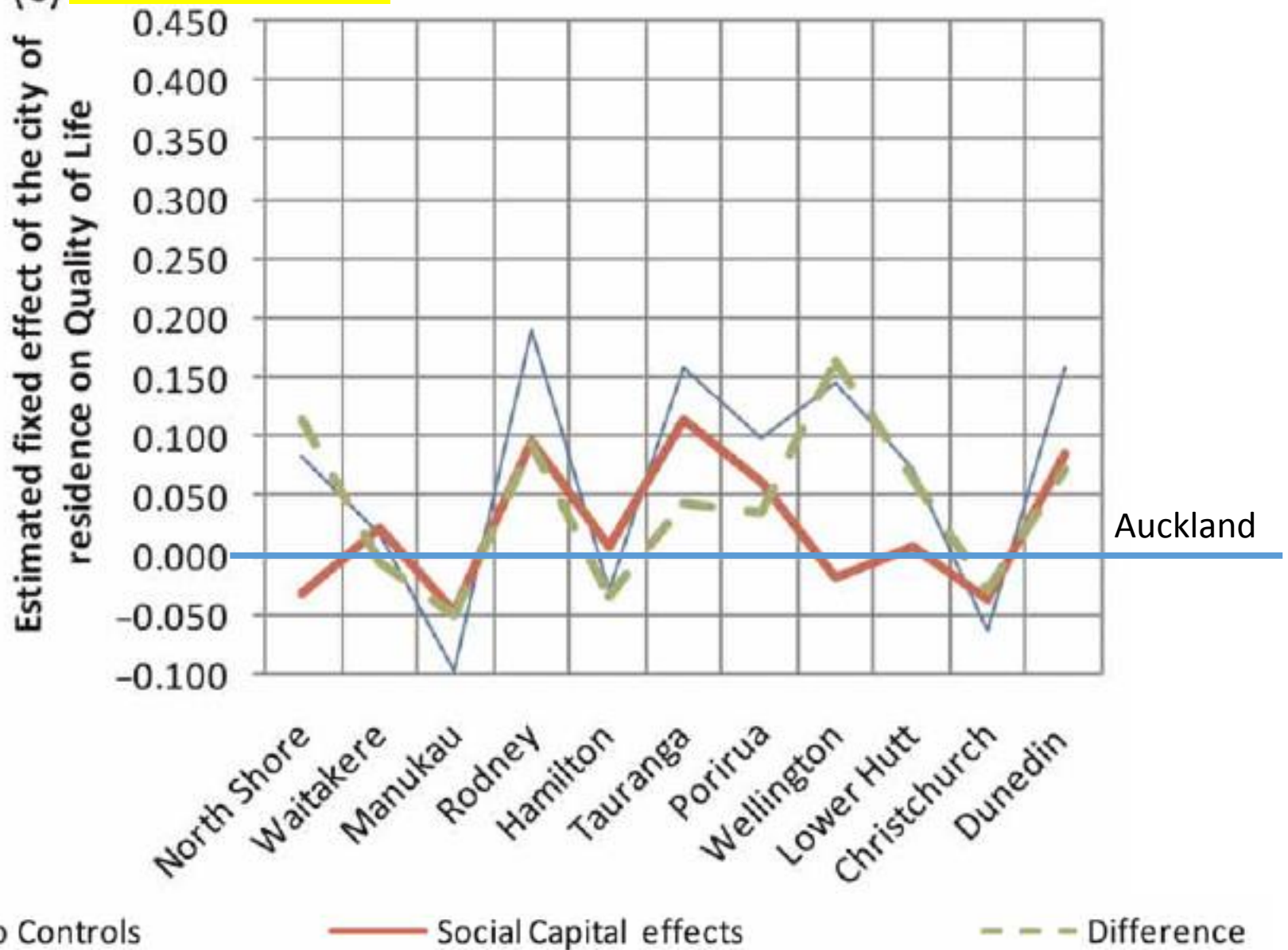
(a) Happiness



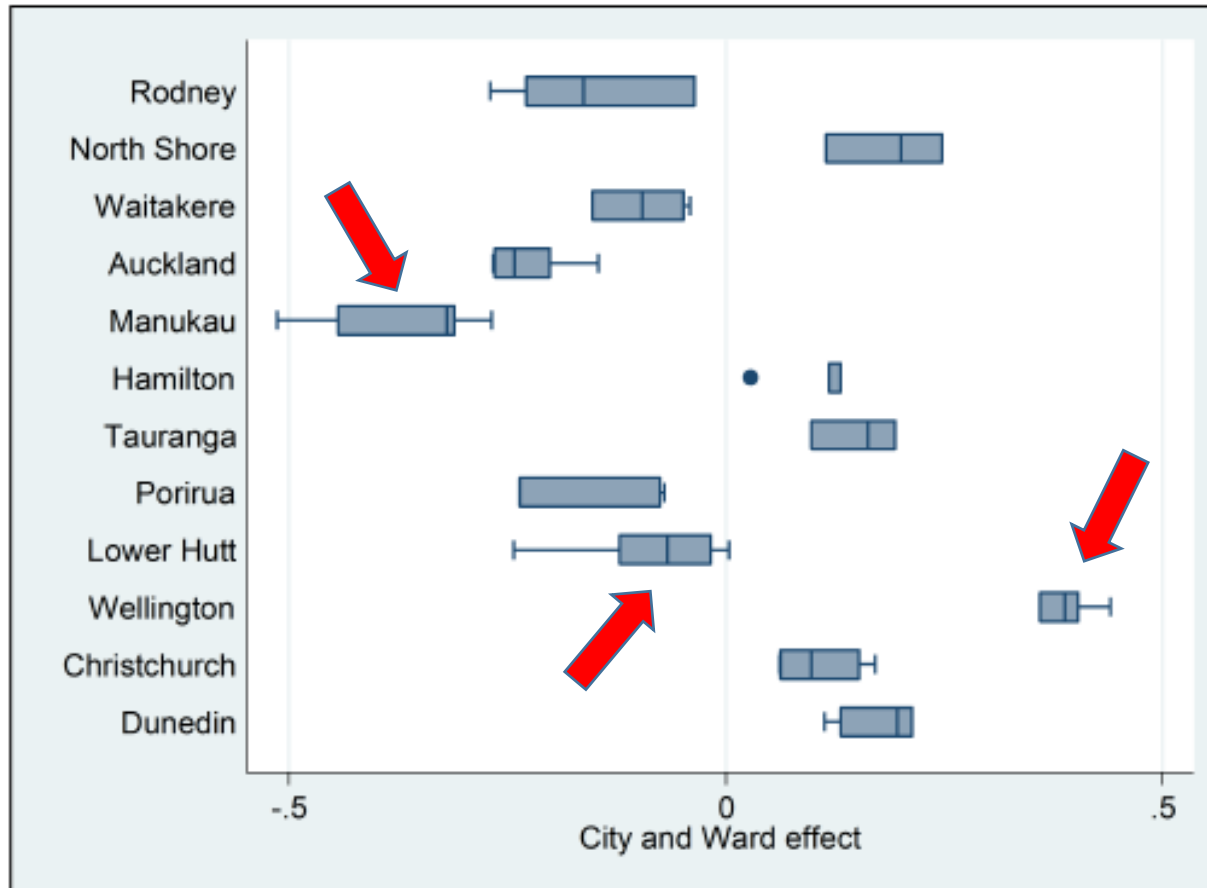
(b) Life Satisfaction



(c) Quality of Life

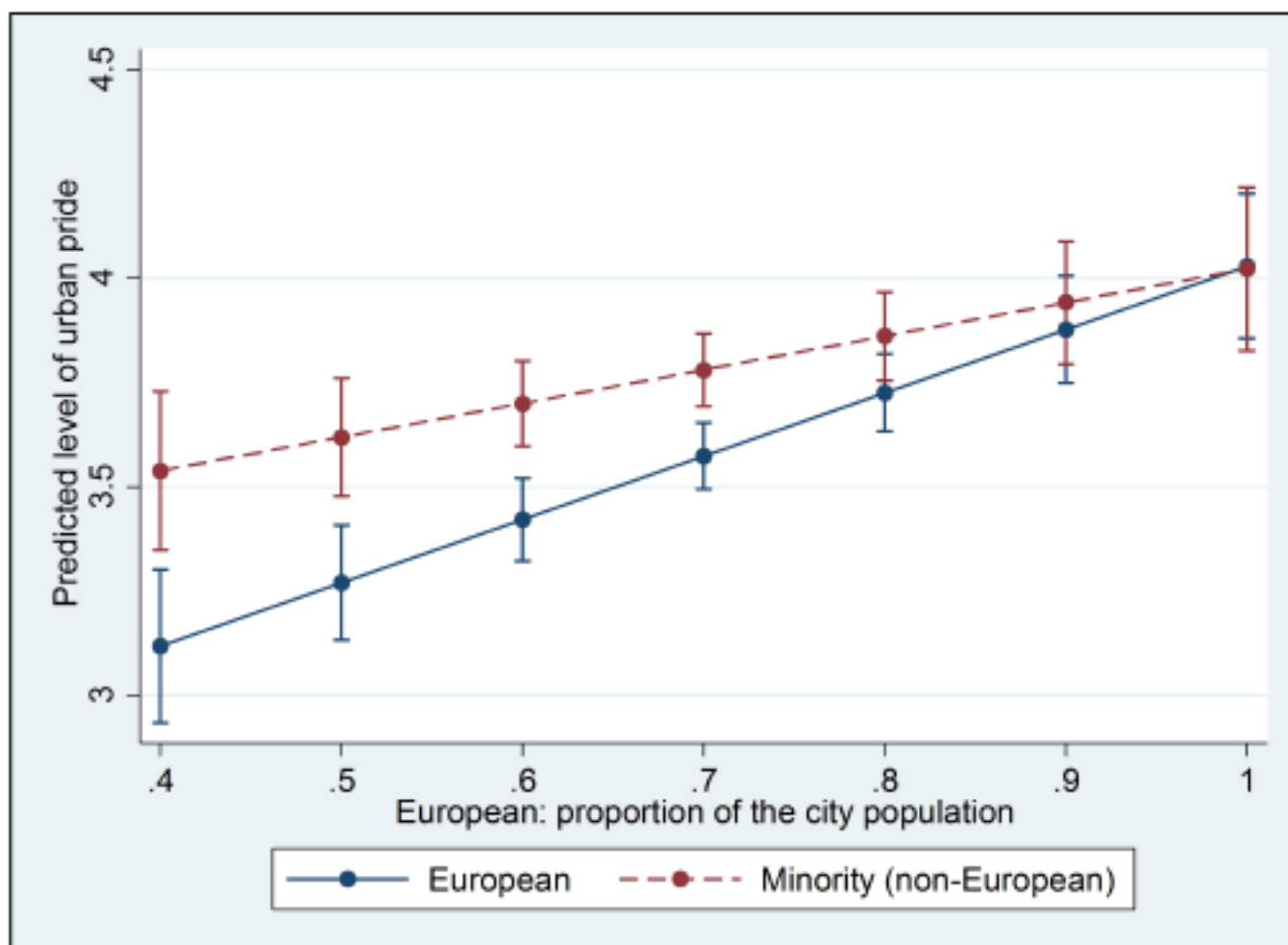


Pride in the city. REGION (3:2) 2016



Source: Quality of Life Survey, 2008.

Figure 3: Ward to ward variation in urban pride within cities: predicted random intercepts by wards within cities. New Zealand 2008.



Source: Quality of Life Survey, 2008 and Census of Population and Dwellings, 2006.
Note: With the fixed effects of Table 5 in the model, the addition of the cross-level term (minority x European) is $\beta = -0.710$ (SE=0.19; $z = -3.74$).

Figure 5: The positive impact of minority status on urban pride falls as the proportion of Europeans in the city rises. New Zealand, 2008

Environment and Planning A 2011 (43) Internal migration and employment: macro flows and micro motives

Survey of Dynamics of Motivation and Migration in New Zealand 2005-2007

Movers = 5000

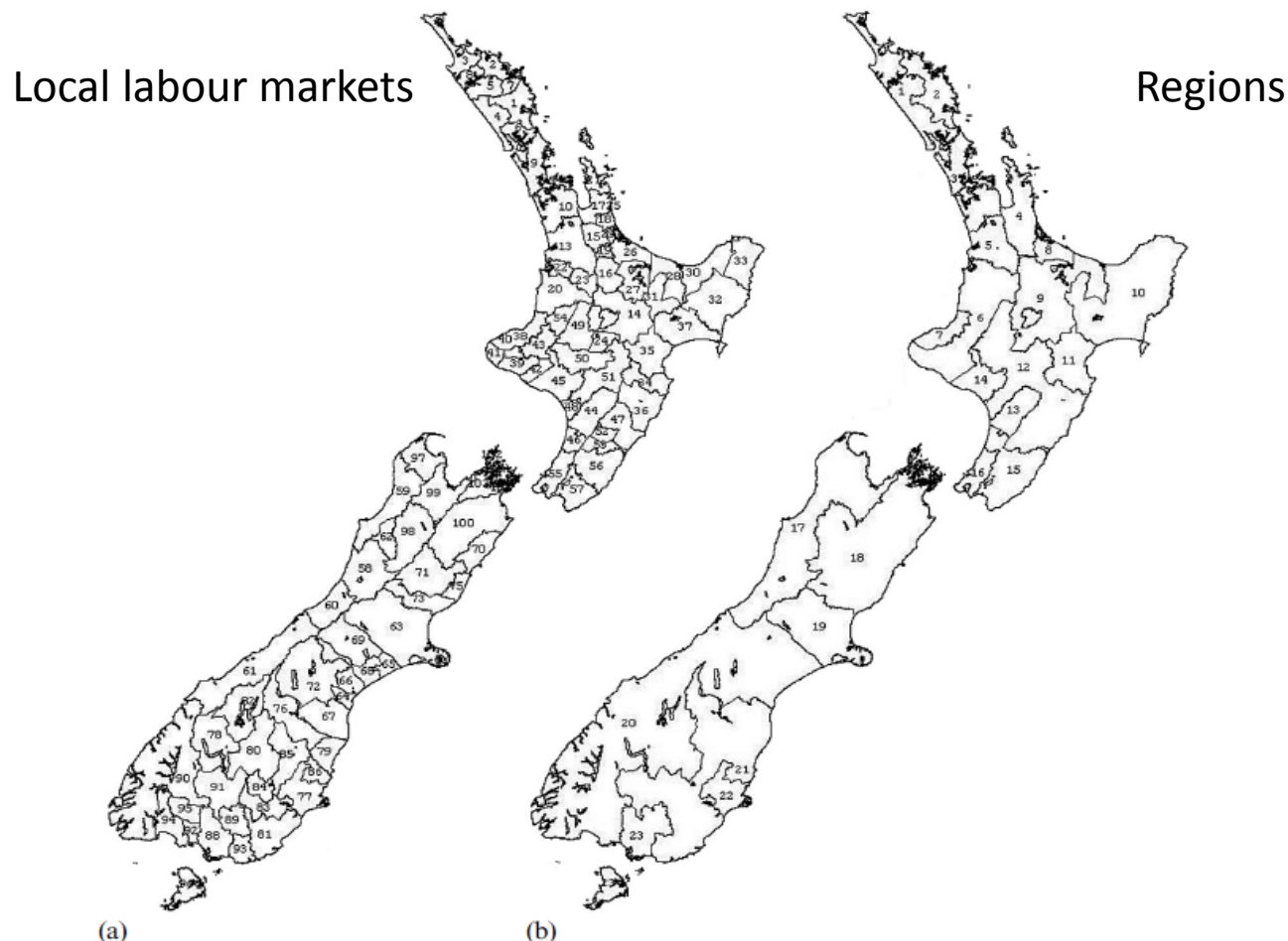


Figure 2. (a) Labour-market catchments and (b) labour-market regions of New Zealand, 2006 (source: based on 2006 Census returns using the algorithm described in Papps and Newell (2002)). The numbers in each map uniquely identify each local labour market.

Key result

Far from increasing returns to their employment, most migrants do not experience a rise in income or believe their employment prospects improved as a result of their move.

Rather than being motivated by having their employment **enhanced** by internal migration, the majority of internal migrants of working age appear to be motivated by other goals.

Employment remains important, but in most cases only insofar as the new destination **enables** its continuity.

Urban Studies 2012 (49:15) Socio-spatial Mobility and Residential Sorting: Evidence from a Large-scale Survey

Survey of Dynamics of Motivation and Migration in New Zealand 2005-2007
Movers = 5000

Those leaving very deprived areas are less likely to upgrade their neighbourhood, particularly if they also report relatively low incomes.

In other words, where you start from matters.

Table 1. The origin by destination matrix of movers in New Zealand, 2005 and 2006, based on deciles of the 2006 New Zealand Deprivation Index: frequencies

Origin /Destination	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1	51	49	38	37	34	28	25	33	27	22	344
2	43	40	31	29	38	34	31	36	34	16	332
3	29	43	72	57	42	49	38	40	29	24	423
4	28	33	57	65	49	77	47	42	66	37	501
5	21	29	60	44	38	58	51	65	52	36	454
6	31	32	42	35	43	84	48	91	77	36	519
7	28	26	38	37	57	67	57	95	67	52	524
8	21	14	40	38	58	76	50	159	135	82	673
9	16	33	40	19	34	54	65	104	152	79	596
10	6	8	13	30	23	44	49	68	124	203	568
	274	307	431	391	416	571	461	733	763	587	4934

Notes: Pearson chi squared(81) = 979.5728; pr = 0.000. Cramér's V = 0.1485.

Source: Statistics New Zealand, Survey of dynamics and motivation for migration in New Zealand, 2007.

Geoforum (in revision) 2017 Post-move satisfaction, domain substitution and migration within the urban hierarchy

Mover's overall post-move life satisfaction is not particularly sensitive to whether people move up or down the urban hierarchy.

The main reason is that **migrants change the relative weightings they assign to the different domains** of post-move satisfaction - the outdoors, housing, employment, social life and standard of living – in order to maintain a positive outcome (homeostasis).

Has implications for our interpretation of wellbeing differences between places.

Take home messages from the New Zealand research

1. Almost everybody moves but not very often and usually in same city
2. The motivators are mostly non-economic but they are constrained by employment opportunities (risk minimization rather than enhancement)
3. Wages and income are factors that enable people to improve or change life style; they are less rarely the drivers.
4. People are attracted to places that give them choice: economic, environmental, cultural and social
5. The four well beings are therefore important in enhancing the attractiveness of locations

As we have learned from the burgeoning literature on subjective wellbeing, investments in the community are unlikely to carry the force of change unless their returns can be measured (Stiglitz et al. 2009).

.....and analysed by a multidisciplinary team.

END