

Gender and ethnicity in the New Zealand labour market

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Abstract

Using data from New Zealand's annual Income Survey 1997-2000, we estimate wage regressions by two methods (Heckman and Maximum Likelihood) that take account of sample selection bias arising from the exclusion of individuals with no market income. Controlling for a set of productivity characteristics, we find evidence of significant and persistent positive differentials for males and individuals of European descent. Female discrimination is marked and consistent over all years. Evidence in the case of indigenous people (Maori) is more mixed with discrimination against other non-European ethnicities, especially Pacific Peoples, stronger.

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