Dockless bikeshare – friend or foe?

Axel Wilke, Transport Engineer, ViaStrada John Lieswyn, Principal Transport Planner, ViaStrada

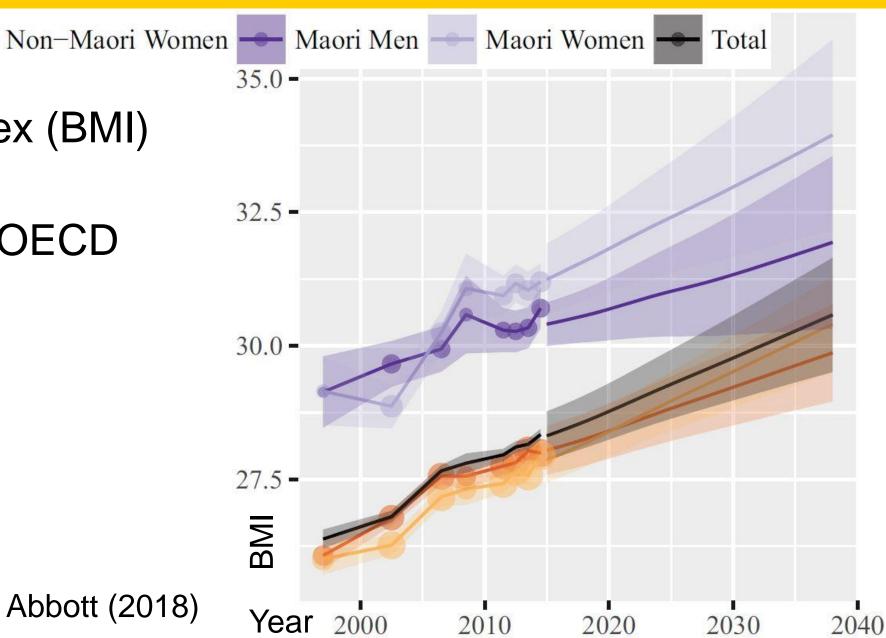




Projected Body Mass Index (BMI)

Non-Maori Men

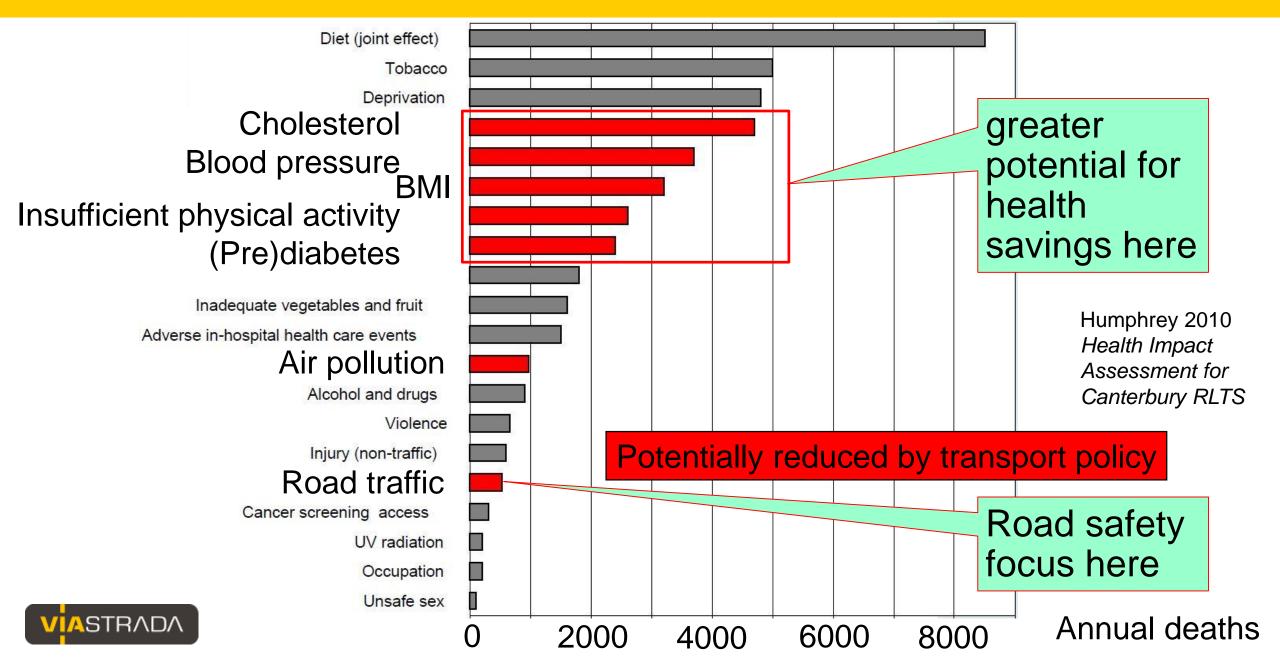
- Body mass index (BMI) is growing fast
- NZ is #3 in the OECD for obesity





Wilson & Abbott (2018)

Risk factors for death in New Zealand

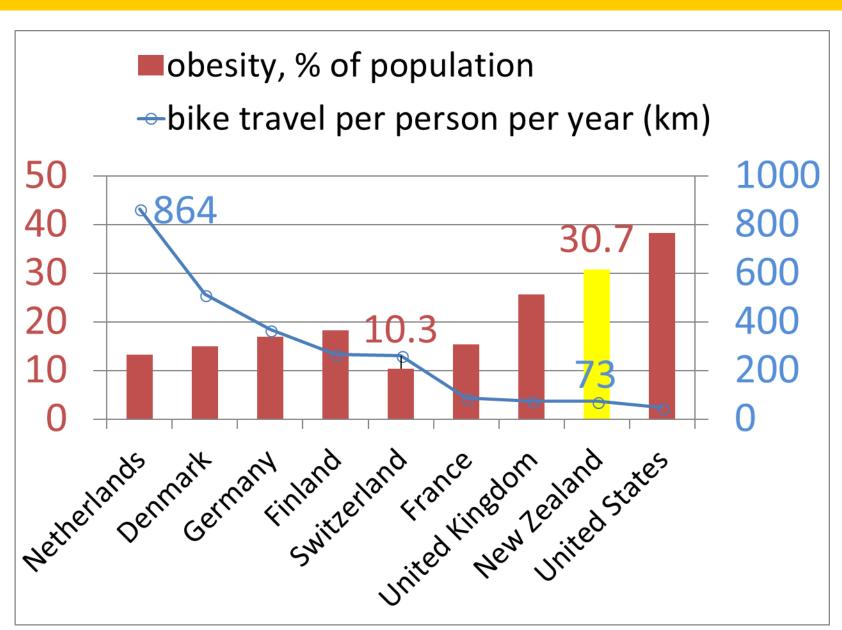


Link between obesity and active transport

More active transport

_

Less obesity





Bikeshare can get people active

- Example Paris
- Cycling used to be uncool
- Since Vélib' cycling is "chic"





Dockless bikeshare

- Sharebikes that don't need a docking station
- Find one via smartphone app
- Leave anywhere it suits





Dockless bikes blocking cycle lanes



Dockless bikes blocking footpaths





Dockless bikes being dumped



Density of dockless bikes causing problems



Mountains of discarded share bikes



Why focus on problems?

- Dockless bikeshare can cause problems
- Will they be a problem in NZ?
 - To what extent?
- Matter of perspective
 - Equivalent problems by cars orders of magnitude bigger
 - Problems can be controlled
 - Should focus on opportunities





Docked bikeshare

- Plus
 - Orderly
 - -Easy to control (one operator only?)
- Minus
 - Expensive and slow to set up
 - Lower customer convenience
 - Needs subsidy
- Predict that docked systems will disappear once subsidies expire





Benefits of dockless bikeshare

- Set up is easy, fast and cheaper
- Gives customers max convenience
- Usage is higher
- No subsidy needed





Mandatory helmet legislation

- Mandatory helmet laws in Australasia
 - Big issue for OnzO in Auckland
- Helmets hinder uptake of bikeshare





Mandatory helmet legislation

Focus on ensuring helmet supply?

- -Hound OnzO for failing on that front?
- No exempt bikeshare users from helmet legislation





Civic management approaches to dockless





We suggest:

- Operators welcome "by invitation only"
 - Max control by councils
- Trading or public spaces bylaw is legal mechanism
 - Central government should strengthen councils' legal ability





Getting the best out of bikeshare

Get best results out of dockless bikeshare through strong

collaboration between cities and operators

- Back the operators
- Give them social license
- Easiest if you work with invited partners





Recommendations

Focus on the opportunities (not the problems)

Government to relax helmet law for bikeshare users

Invite bikeshare operator(s) & work together

Advertise a "by invitation only" stance

 Central government to give local government more legislative control to restrict market access



Thank you