# Who Lives in a Cycling Desert?

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| The last 10 years have seen increased investment in New Zealand’s cycling infrastructure in the form of shared paths, cycle lanes, and cycleways. The cycling network is more connected than ever, and we're now at a point where we can begin to evaluate the performance and impact of these networks. It is important to understand who is benefitting most from the existing network and also who has the greatest need for additional investment in the form of network expansion. A 'Cycling Desert' analysis will identify which areas are furthest from the nearest cycle facility and will help to inform decisions regarding future network investment, ultimately leading to a more equitable network.  This presentation will highlight the findings of a Cycling Desert analysis for all of New Zealand’s major urban areas. Findings will include insight into the proportion of the population living within close proximity to cycling infrastructure as well as the demographics of those populations. Is there a spatial correlation between cycling deserts and deprived areas? An example of this analysis was prepared for Christchurch and is provided below. This research will continue the work presented at the 2020 Transportation Group conference in Christchurch which was awarded Best Poster. This presentation aims to share a new way to visualise the coverage and equity of our existing cycling networks and will touch on accessibility considerations and measurement. |