Analytics

Improving social services with better decision-making begins by analysing available data about people's lives and wellbeing.

Our analytics team supports the social system's ability to use data analytics and insights for social sector decision making. Ultimately, we want to empower social service providers and government agencies to understand, decide on and do more of what really works, for better lives.

What is analytics?

Analytics provides one type of evidence to support better decision making. Analytics is the use of computer skills and statistics to draw conclusions from data. We seek to blend analytics with complementary information including qualitative data, science and people's lived experience.

What can analytics do?

Social sector analytics can help social service providers and government agencies improve:

- evidence informed decision making
- service delivery measurement, and
- develop and enhance innovative social services.

Our tools for technical users

We've produced analytical tools and reusable code for technical users who have access to Stats NZ's Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI).
Code, assembly and visualisation tools and user guidance is publicly available on GitHub — an open source, collaborative software development platform and repository.

Available resources include:

Topic	Subject	Tool	Description
Representative timeline modelling	People's life experience	Method and code	Constructing cross-sector representative timelines of people's life experience
Representative timeline visualisation	People's life experience	Run code	Interactive timeline visualisation tool for exploring journey timelines
Wellbeing impacts evaluation	Benefit to employment transition	Method and code	Using linked administrative and survey data to evaluate the wellbeing impacts of transitioning from benefit to employment
Wellbeing impacts evaluation	Social housing	Method and code	Using linked administrative and survey data to evaluate the wellbeing impacts of social housing

Social services variables	Social Investment Analytical layer	User guide and code	Constructing events structured tables for cross-agency analytics in Stats NZ's Integrated Data Infrastrcuture (IDI)
Dataset assembly	Social Investment Data Foundation	User guide and code	The Social Investment Data Foundation (SIDF) code produces datasets within the IDI that are ready for analysis. It reduces the time to generate datasets and speeds up the analysis.
IDI Measures	Social Investment Measurement Map	Map and user guide	The Social Investment Measurement Map (SIMM) provides people with information on what type of measures are available before they access Statistics New Zealand's Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI). It's intended to be used during the scoping phase of a project to assess what can be measured in the IDI.
Services access	Mental health and addictions	Data definition and code	Events structured table of mental health and addictions service access based on available IDI data

Visit the Social Investment Agency Github or the Social Wellbeing Github .