

# Combining junior and NCEA assessments to 'prove' impact on learning

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Today's resources:

- Preliminary survey <https://bit.ly/4qVXBWz>
- Online dashboards [sounddata.co.nz/dashboard/](https://sounddata.co.nz/dashboard/)



# How can you 'prove' the impact of initiatives on learning?

- You must compare assessment data of those who experienced the initiative with those who didn't
- The initiative group must make *significantly* more *progress* than the comparison group *and* this effect must be large enough to be worth attending to.

## Experimental method

- Compare the progress of two equivalent groups
  - control and experiment group
- Often very difficult to arrange and can be unethical

## Quasi-experimental method

- Compare naturally occurring groups
  - Compare the progress of cohorts
- Assumptions
  - latest cohort is otherwise typical
  - The historical record is large enough to describe the population

# Establishing differences in achievement is not enough,

## NCEA Qualifications: Demographic differences

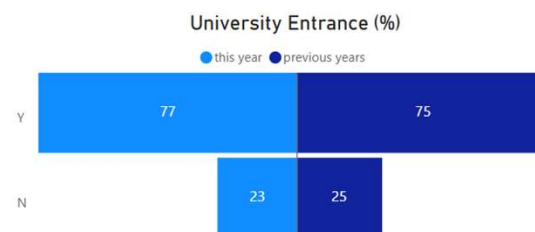
| Level 3 NCEA |                                                                 |       |        |         |          |       |       |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|---------|----------|-------|-------|
| Demographic  | Statement                                                       | n (D) | n (nD) | med (D) | med (nD) | p     | ES    |
| Asian        | NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE, Asian > nonAsian                     | 407   | 1669   | M       | M        | 0.275 | 0.02  |
| Gender       | minimal highly significant difference, Female > Male            | 1032  | 1044   | M       | M        | 0.000 | 0.09  |
| L3 Cohort    | small highly significant difference, this year > previous years | 175   | 1901   | M       | M        | 0.000 | 0.12  |
| Maori        | NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE, nonMaori > Maori                     | 289   | 1787   | M       | M        | 0.204 | -0.03 |
| MELAA        | NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE, MELAA > nonMELAA                     | 87    | 1989   | M       | M        | 0.975 | 0.00  |
| Other        | NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE, Other > nonOther                     | 39    | 2037   | M       | M        | 0.208 | 0.03  |
| Pacific      | NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE, nonPacific > Pacific                 | 289   | 1787   | M       | M        | 0.204 | -0.03 |
| Pakeha       | minimal highly significant difference, Pakeha > nonPakeha       | 1373  | 703    | M       | M        | 0.000 | 0.08  |

Demographic

L3 Cohort



| University Entrance |                                             |       |        |         |          |      |       |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------|--------|---------|----------|------|-------|
| Demographic         | Statement                                   | n (D) | n (nD) | med (D) | med (nD) | p    | ES    |
| Asian               | NOT SIGNIFICANT, Asian > nonAsian           | 407   | 1669   | Y       | Y        | 0.75 | 0.02  |
| Gender              | NOT SIGNIFICANT, Female > Male              | 1032  | 1044   | Y       | Y        | 0.17 | 0.07  |
| L3 Cohort           | NOT SIGNIFICANT, this year > previous years | 175   | 1901   | Y       | Y        | 0.65 | 0.05  |
| Maori               | NOT SIGNIFICANT, nonMaori > Maori           | 289   | 1787   | Y       | Y        | 0.51 | -0.05 |
| MELAA               | NOT SIGNIFICANT, nonMELAA > MELAA           | 87    | 1989   | Y       | Y        | 0.80 | -0.04 |
| Other               | NOT SIGNIFICANT, Other > nonOther           | 39    | 2037   | Y       | Y        | 0.58 | 0.13  |
| Pacific             | NOT SIGNIFICANT, Pacific > nonPacific       | 321   | 1755   | Y       | Y        | 0.89 | 0.01  |
| Pakeha              | NOT SIGNIFICANT, Pakeha > nonPakeha         | 1373  | 703    | Y       | Y        | 0.36 | 0.05  |



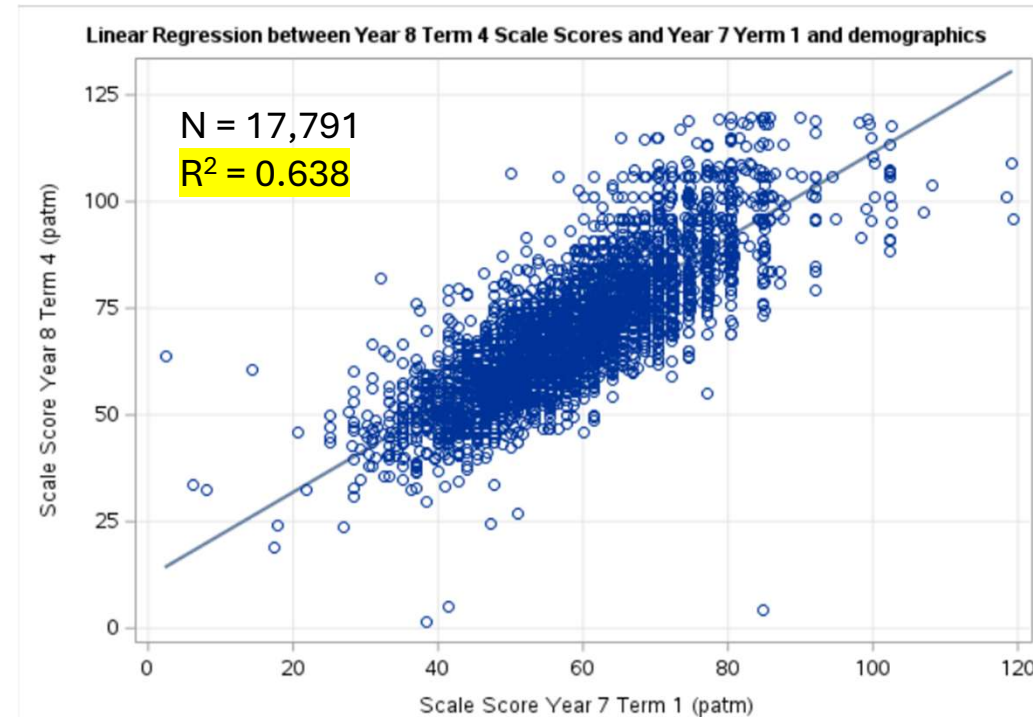
they may just have been a more able cohort!

# Measuring progress requires evaluating achievement with a pre- and post-test

- If using the same assessment measure, then an independent sample or paired sample test is commonly used.
- If using different assessment measures, then some form of regression model can be used and the features of the model can describe learning.
- Think about science experiments and x-y graphs e.g., F vs a graphs

# Linear regression model

- **Single or multivariate Linear Regressions**
  - **Independent variables:** 1+ continuous independent variables e.g., scale scores, credits; binary variables e.g., cohort, gender, non/Māori, etc
  - **Dependent variable:** 1 continuous variable e.g., scale scores, credits
- Explains that increases in or presence of independents causes increase in continuous dependent
- Impact of a teaching initiative would be shown by a significant cohort effect
  - e.g., this year's students gained an average of 1.30 more scale scores than in previous years
- However, NCEA Year Level Qualifications are ordinal rather than Scale Variables so a LINEAR regression cannot be used



| Predictor          | B    | p        |
|--------------------|------|----------|
| Intercept          | 14.2 | < 0.0001 |
| ScaleScore_TA      | 0.85 | < 0.0001 |
| Gender (Female)    | 1.03 | < 0.0001 |
| Cohort (this year) | 1.30 | < 0.0001 |

## Evaluating Across Sector Learning.

Evaluating learning requires assessing students twice. When single pre- and post-tests use the same form of measurement, then a simple subtraction will represent progress/learning that took place. When different forms of measurement are used, more complex analysis is required. In this case where we use PAT Reading Comprehension and PAT Mathematics as our pre-tests and NCEA Qualifications for our post-tests, we analyse our data using an Ordinal Logistic Regression as illustrated on the following dashboard.

## Dependent Variables: NCEA Level 3 and University Entrance Qualifications

### NCEA Level 3 Qualification

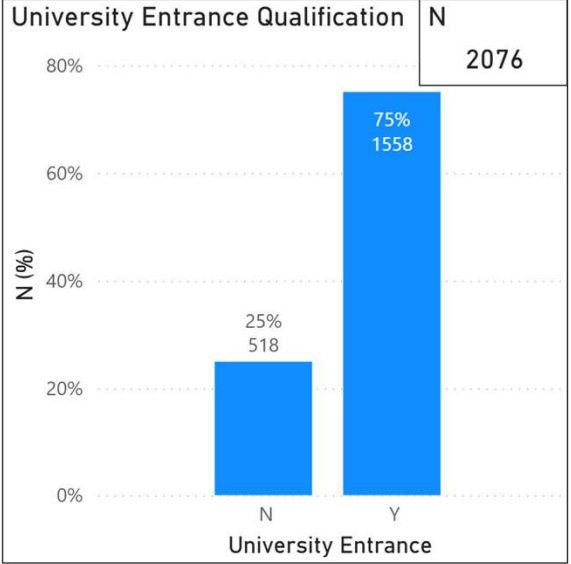
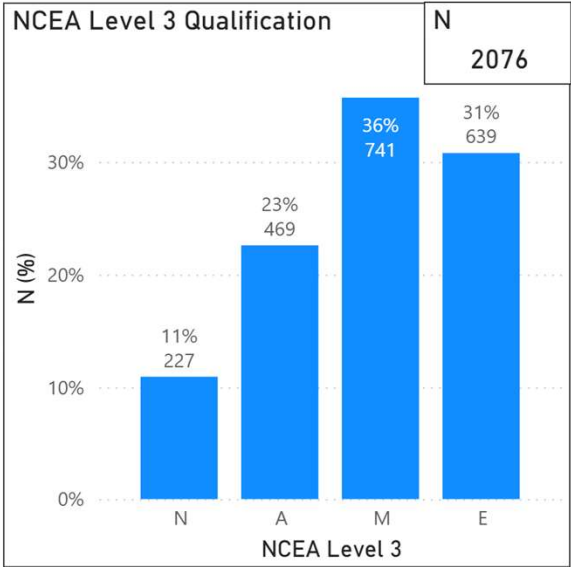
NCEA Level 3 forms ordered variables

| NCEA Level | Order |
|------------|-------|
| E          | 4     |
| M          | 3     |
| A          | 2     |
| N          | 1     |

### University Entrance

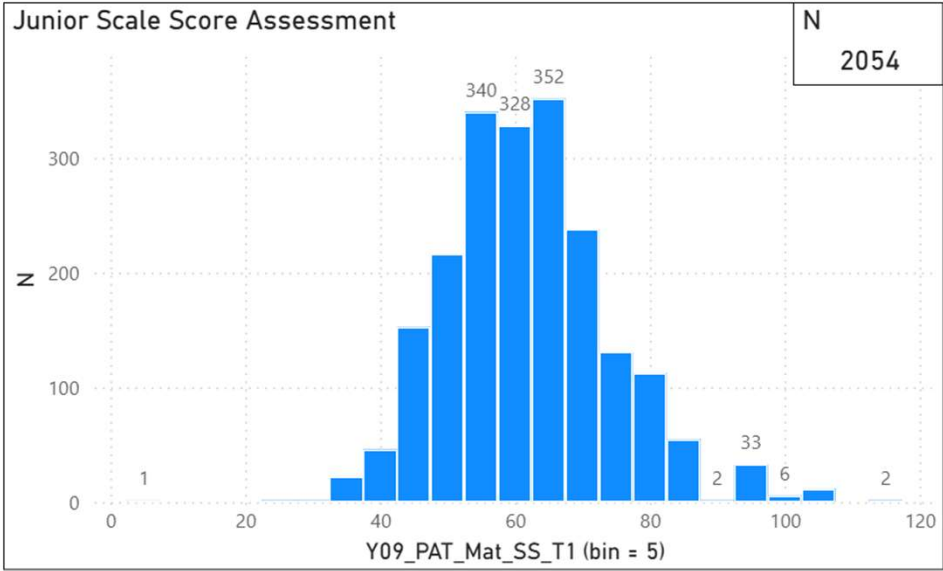
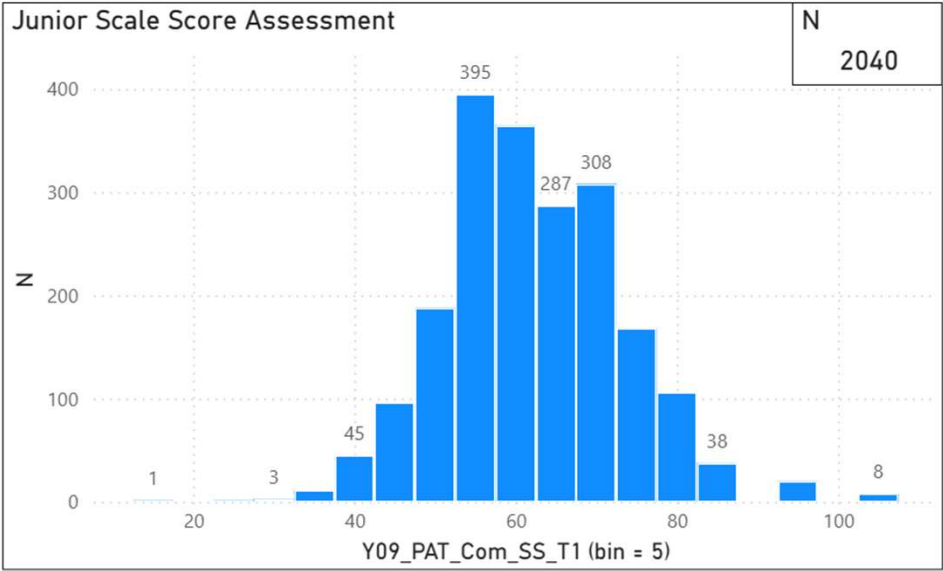
University Entrance forms a binary ordered variable

| University Entrance | Order |
|---------------------|-------|
| Y                   | 2     |
| N                   | 1     |



Are the chances of students gaining a higher NCEA Qualification able to be modeled and predicted by student and school attributes and activities, and thereby potentially influenced and changed?

# Independent variables: Junior Assessment pre-tests, Demographics and Cohort



| Continuous Variable Symbols and Names |                                                      |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Symbol                                | Name                                                 |
| Y09_PAT_Com_SS_T1                     | Year 09 PAT Reading Comprehension Scale Score Term 1 |
| Y09_PAT_Com_ST_T1                     | Year 09 PAT Reading Comprehension Stanine Term 1     |
| Y09_PAT_Mat_SS_T1                     | Year 09 PAT Reading Mathematics Scale Score Term 1   |
| Y09_PAT_Mat_ST_T1                     | Year 09 PAT Reading Mathematics Stanine Term 1       |

| Demographic variables |        |      |       |       |       |         |        |                |           |
|-----------------------|--------|------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|----------------|-----------|
| Asian                 | Female | Male | Maori | MELAA | Other | Pacific | Pakeha | previous years | this year |
| 407                   | 1032   | 1044 | 289   | 87    | 39    | 321     | 1373   | 1901           | 175       |

Junior assessment scale scores are continuous normally-distributed variables. Does a higher scale score increase the likelihood of a higher NCEA Qualification?  
Demographic memberships are binary variables. Does being in a particular demographic (1) or not (0) increase the likelihood of a higher NCEA L3 Qualification?

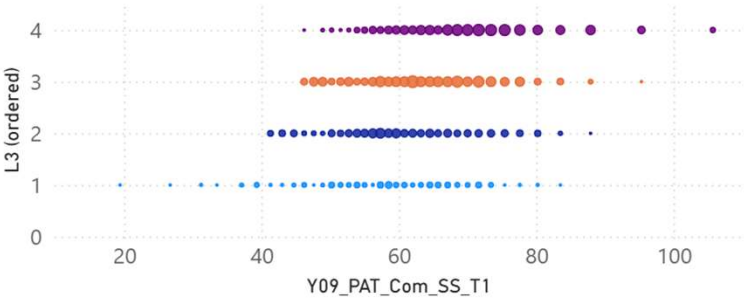
# Correlations with ordinal variables:

As the scale score increases, the **probability** of gaining a higher grade increases

Correlations between NCEA Qualification Ordinal Variables and Year 9 Scale Scores for Term 1

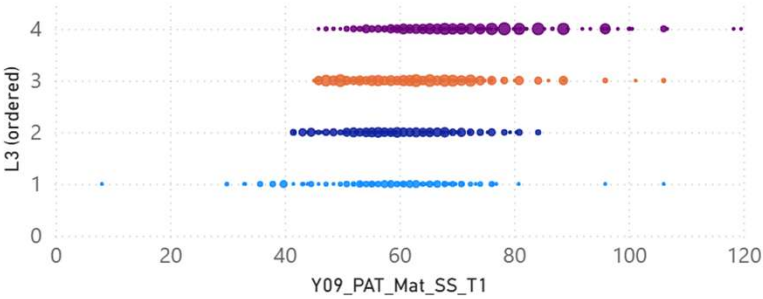
NCEA Level 3 and Junior Assessment

● N = 1 ● A = 2 ● M = 3 ● E = 4



NCEA Level 3 and Junior Assessment

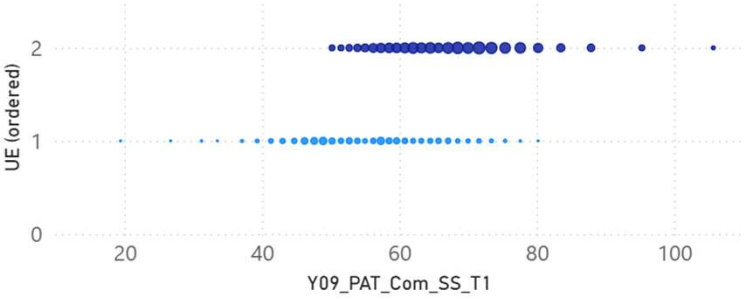
● N = 1 ● A = 2 ● M = 3 ● E = 4



| Spearman Correlations between NCEA Qualifications and Junior Assessments |                   |                         |      |      |       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------|------|-------|
| Dep Var                                                                  | Ind Var           | Statement               | N    | R    | p     |
| L3_Endorsement_Ord                                                       | Y09_PAT_Com_SS_T1 | significant correlation | 2040 | 0.37 | 0.000 |
| L3_Endorsement_Ord                                                       | Y09_PAT_Mat_SS_T1 | significant correlation | 2054 | 0.39 | 0.000 |

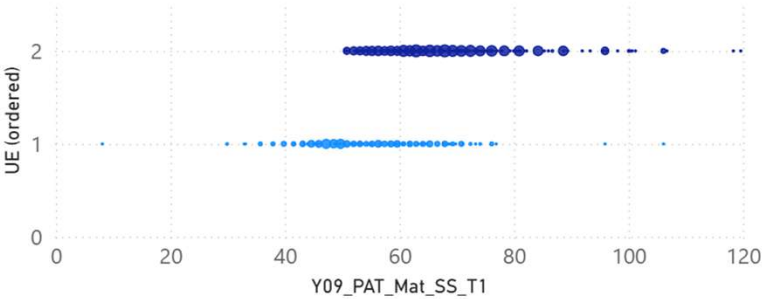
University Entrance and Junior Assessment

● N = 1 ● Y = 2



University Entrance and Junior Assessment

● N = 1 ● Y = 2



| Spearman Correlations between University Entrance and Junior Assessments |                   |                         |      |      |       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------|------|-------|
| Dep                                                                      | Ind Var           | Statement               | N    | R    | p     |
| UE_Ord                                                                   | Y09_PAT_Com_SS_T1 | significant correlation | 2040 | 0.47 | 0.000 |
| UE_Ord                                                                   | Y09_PAT_Mat_SS_T1 | significant correlation | 2054 | 0.50 | 0.000 |



# Logistic ordinal regression

- Logistic ordinal regressions investigate the relationship between ordered responses and a set of explanatory variables.
  - Ordinal outcome variables: NCEA Level 3 and University Entrance Qualifications
  - A range of predictor variable types: parametric (PAT and e-asTTle scale scores), ordinal (effort scores) and binary (cohort, gender, ethnic heritages, ...)
- Increase in or presence of independents cause increase in the probability of higher ordinal outcomes (n levels)

$$\hat{Y}_i = \frac{e^u}{1+e^u} \text{ where } \hat{Y}_i \text{ is the cumulative probability of } Y \text{ greater than or equal to an ordinal category } (i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1)$$

where  $u = B_{i0} + B_1X_1 + B_2X_2 + \dots + B_kX_k$  with constant  $B_0$ , coefficients  $B_j$ , and predictors  $X_j$ , for  $k$  predictors ( $j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, k$ ).

The linear regression equation is the natural logarithm of the odds ratio to the predictors

$$\ln \left( \frac{\hat{Y}_i}{1-\hat{Y}_i} \right) = B_{i0} + \sum B_j X_{ij}$$

where the goal is to find the *best* linear combination of predictors to maximise the likelihood of obtaining the observed outcome frequencies of the ordinal variable.

(Tabachnick & Fidell, 2014)

# Assumptions and conditions

- **Absence of Multicollinearity:** independent variables not too strongly correlated ( $R < 0.9$ )
- **Optimisation technique:** Fisher's Scoring (backwards selection,  $p \leq 0.2$ )
- **Model Convergence Status (relative gradient convergence criterion):** the maximum likelihood algorithm has converged
- **Score Test for the Proportional Odds Assumption:** the same coefficients for all ordinal contrasts
- **Model Fit Statistics (Akaike Information Criterion)** i.e., the backwards selection significantly improves the model
- **Likelihood ratio:** i.e., at least one coefficient is not equal to 0.
- **Adjusted / Pseudo  $R^2$  (Nagelkerke):** describes the goodness of fit of the model to the data (weak  $\leq 0.2$ ,  $0.2 \leq$  moderate  $< 0.4$ ,  $0.4 \leq$  strong)

# Key features for teachers

Model name, dependent variable,  
number of students, p-value of model

First independent variable name, p-value, Odds ratio  
average, lower confidence limit, upper confidence limit

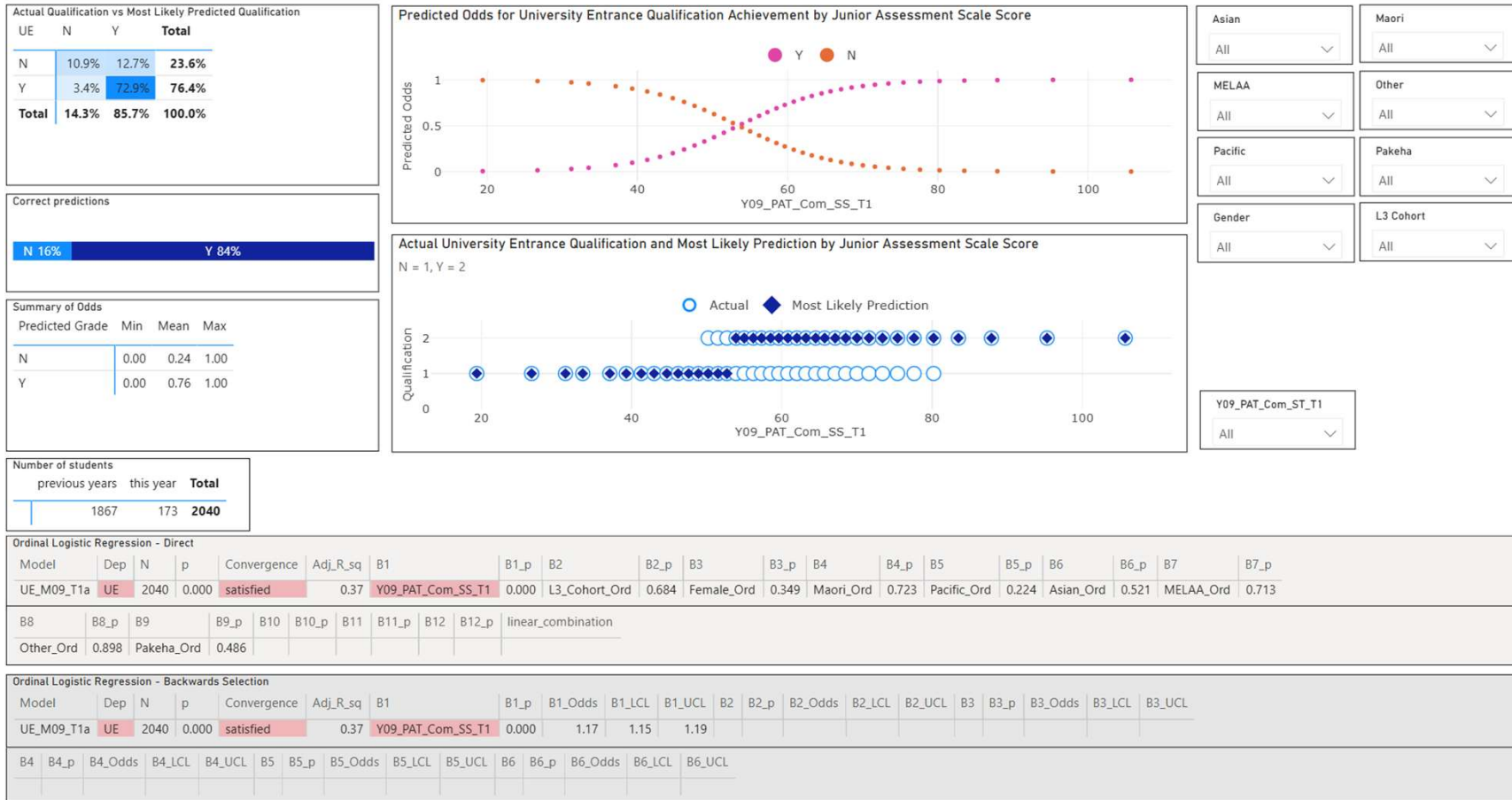
| Ordinal Logistic Regression - Backwards Selection |     |      |       |             |          |                   |       |         |        |        |            |       |         |        |        |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----|------|-------|-------------|----------|-------------------|-------|---------|--------|--------|------------|-------|---------|--------|--------|
| Model                                             | Dep | N    | p     | Convergence | Adj_R_sq | B1                | B1_p  | B1_Odds | B1_LCL | B1_UCL | B2         | B2_p  | B2_Odds | B2_LCL | B2_UCL |
| UE_M09_T1b                                        | UE  | 2054 | 0.000 | satisfied   | 0.41     | Y09_PAT_Mat_SS_T1 | 0.000 | 1.18    | 1.16   | 1.20   | Female_Ord | 0.030 | 1.35    | 1.03   | 1.77   |

Convergence of model,  
Adjusted R<sup>2</sup> (goodness of fit)

Second independent variable name, p-value,  
Odds ratio average, lower confidence limit,  
upper confidence limit

The Odds Ratio is most important. For each one-unit increase in a scale score predictor, the **odds** of gaining a higher qualification (versus lower ones) change by a factor of the Odds Ratio, assuming all other variables remain constant. For categorical predictors, the odds ratio represents the ratio of the odds for a specific group compared to a reference group. It describes how much more (or less) likely members of that group are to reach a higher outcome level compared to the baseline group.

## The Ordinal Logistic Regression Model linking **University Entrance** to Year 9 Term 1 assessments and demographics (version a)



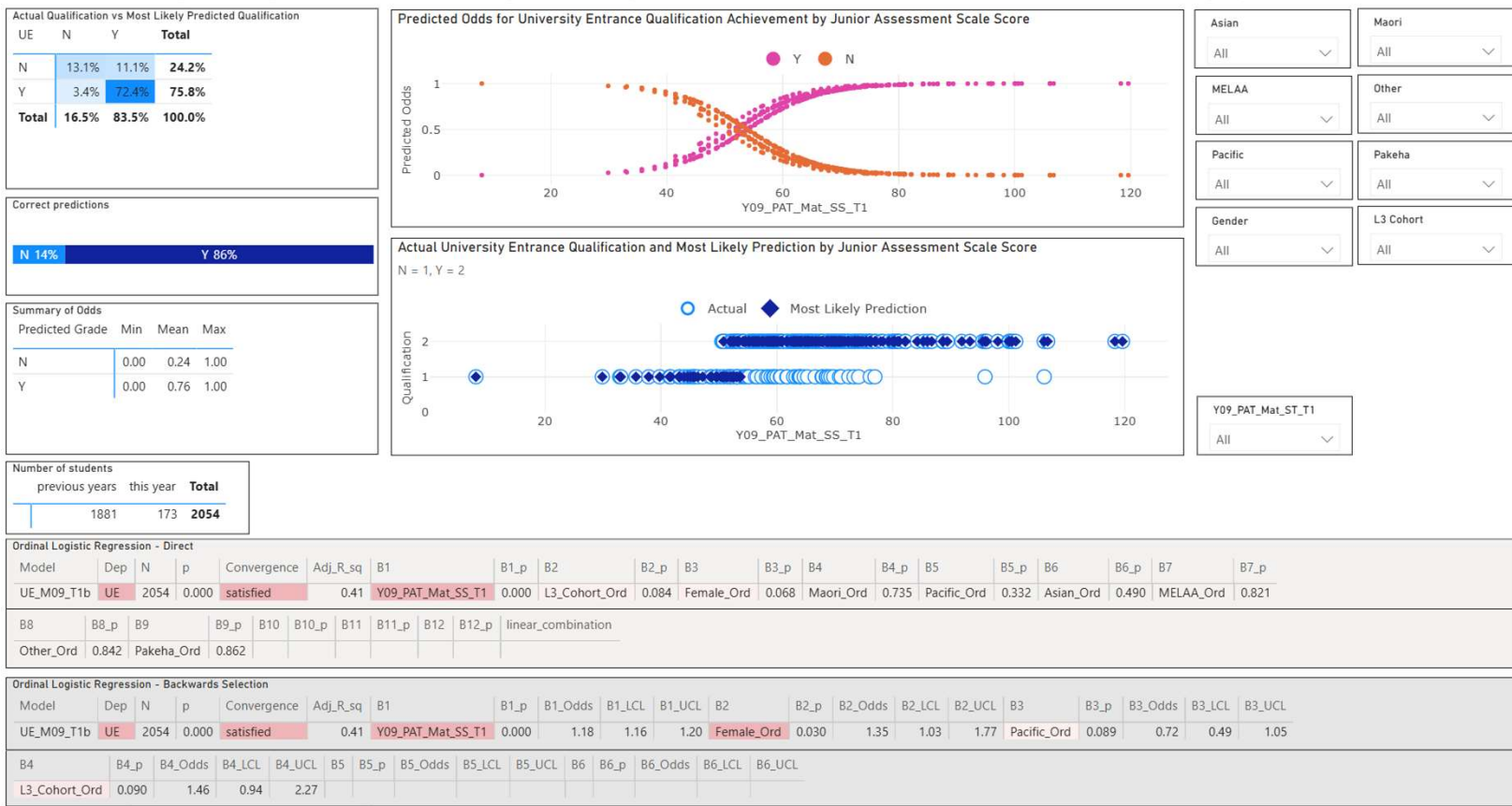
The Odds Ratio is the most important feature!

For every 1 increase in Com scale scores, there is a \_\_\_\_\_ increase in the chances of gaining University Entrance

This model is making correct predictions of N \_\_\_\_\_% of the time and Y \_\_\_\_\_% of the time, for a total of \_\_\_\_\_% correct predictions

At what scale score does it become more likely to gain UE than not ?

## The Ordinal Logistic Regression Model linking **University Entrance** to Year 9 Term 1 assessments and demographics (version b)



| Model      | Dep   | N          | p     | Convergence | Adj_R_sq | B1                | B1_p  | B2            | B2_p  | B3                 | B3_p  | B4        | B4_p  | B5          | B5_p  | B6        | B6_p  | B7        | B7_p  |
|------------|-------|------------|-------|-------------|----------|-------------------|-------|---------------|-------|--------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| UE_M09_T1b | UE    | 2054       | 0.000 | satisfied   | 0.41     | Y09_PAT_Mat_SS_T1 | 0.000 | L3_Cohort_Ord | 0.084 | Female_Ord         | 0.068 | Maori_Ord | 0.735 | Pacific_Ord | 0.332 | Asian_Ord | 0.490 | MELAA_Ord | 0.821 |
| B8         | B8_p  | B9         | B9_p  | B10         | B10_p    | B11               | B11_p | B12           | B12_p | linear_combination |       |           |       |             |       |           |       |           |       |
| Other_Ord  | 0.842 | Pakeha_Ord | 0.862 |             |          |                   |       |               |       |                    |       |           |       |             |       |           |       |           |       |

| Model         | Dep   | N       | p      | Convergence | Adj_R_sq | B1                | B1_p    | B1_Odds | B1_LCL | B1_UCL | B2         | B2_p    | B2_Odds | B2_LCL | B2_UCL | B3          | B3_p  | B3_Odds | B3_LCL | B3_UCL |
|---------------|-------|---------|--------|-------------|----------|-------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------------|-------|---------|--------|--------|
| UE_M09_T1b    | UE    | 2054    | 0.000  | satisfied   | 0.41     | Y09_PAT_Mat_SS_T1 | 0.000   | 1.18    | 1.16   | 1.20   | Female_Ord | 0.030   | 1.35    | 1.03   | 1.77   | Pacific_Ord | 0.089 | 0.72    | 0.49   | 1.05   |
| B4            | B4_p  | B4_Odds | B4_LCL | B4_UCL      | B5       | B5_p              | B5_Odds | B5_LCL  | B5_UCL | B6     | B6_p       | B6_Odds | B6_LCL  | B6_UCL |        |             |       |         |        |        |
| L3_Cohort_Ord | 0.090 | 1.46    | 0.94   | 2.27        |          |                   |         |         |        |        |            |         |         |        |        |             |       |         |        |        |

For every 1 increase in Mat scale scores, there is a \_\_\_\_\_ increase in the chances of gaining University Entrance

If female, these odds go up by a factor of \_\_\_\_\_, for a total odds of \_\_\_\_\_

The odds ratios for the Cohort\_ord variable range between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_? How is this related to the p-value of \_\_\_\_\_? Did this year's students really gain UE at a higher rate when their Mat Scale scores are taken into account?

Why are their 4 lines of Excellence in the "Predicted Odds for University Entrance ..."?

## The Ordinal Logistic Regression Model linking **University Entrance** to Year 9 Term 1 assessments and demographics (version c)

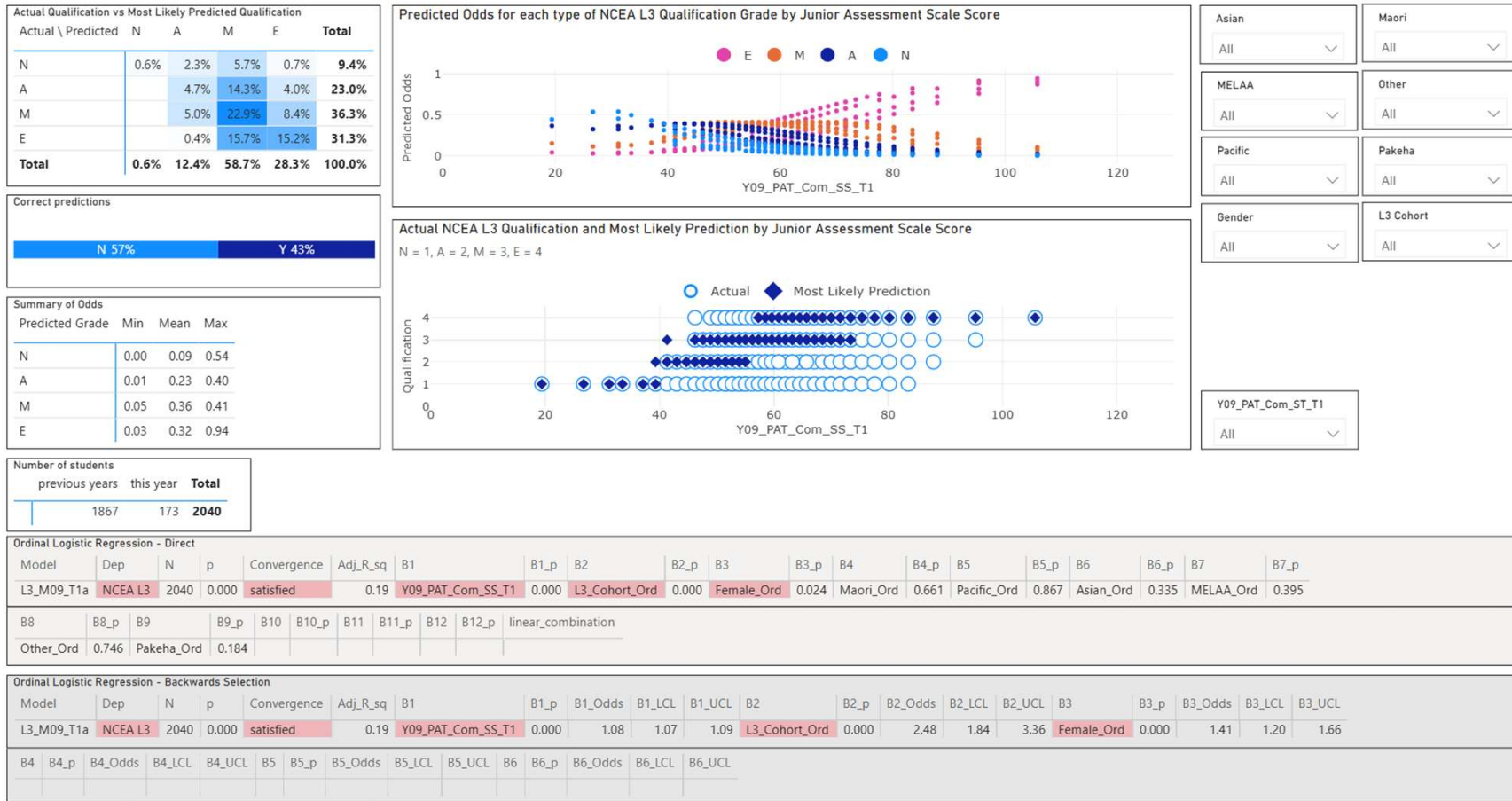


For every 1 increase in Com scale scores, there is a \_\_\_\_\_ increase in the chances of gaining University Entrance

For every 1 increase in Mat scale scores, there is a \_\_\_\_\_ increase in the chances of gaining University Entrance.

To what extent is this model *better* than the previous two models? Justify your answer in terms of correct predictions and the goodness of fit (adjusted  $R^2$ ). Describe the differences in the two types of graphs.

## The Ordinal Logistic Regression Model linking NCEA Level 3 to Year 9 Term 1 assessments and demographics (version a)



For every 1 increase in Com scale scores, there is a \_\_\_\_\_ increase in the chances of gaining a higher Level 3 Qualification

If in this cohort and a girl, these odds go up by a factor of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, for a total predicted odds ratio of \_\_\_\_\_

If in Stanine 9, the chance of getting an Excellence are between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

This goodness of fit of the model is weak/moderate/strong.



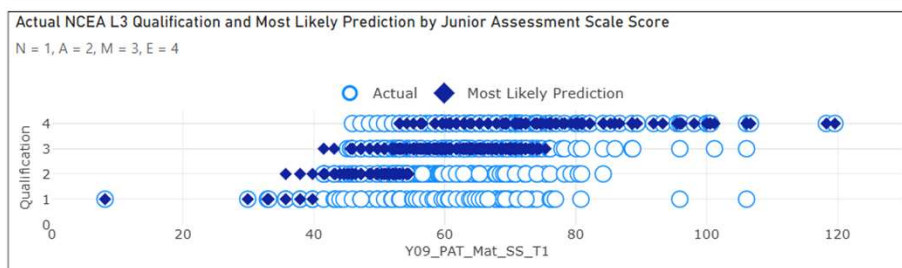
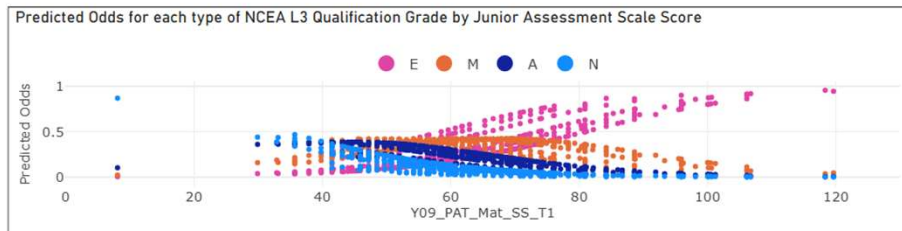
## The Ordinal Logistic Regression Model linking NCEA Level 3 to Year 9 Term 1 assessments and demographics (version b)

| Actual Qualification vs Most Likely Predicted Qualification |             |              |              |              |               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Actual \ Predicted                                          | N           | A            | M            | E            | Total         |
| N                                                           | 0.8%        | 2.2%         | 6.3%         | 0.7%         | 10.0%         |
| A                                                           |             | 5.2%         | 14.6%        | 3.0%         | 22.8%         |
| M                                                           |             | 5.5%         | 22.6%        | 8.0%         | 36.1%         |
| E                                                           |             |              | 0.7%         | 14.9%        | 15.4%         |
| <b>Total</b>                                                | <b>0.8%</b> | <b>13.6%</b> | <b>58.4%</b> | <b>27.2%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

| Correct predictions |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| N 56%               | Y 44% |

| Summary of Odds |      |      |      |
|-----------------|------|------|------|
| Predicted Grade | Min  | Mean | Max  |
| N               | 0.00 | 0.10 | 0.87 |
| A               | 0.01 | 0.22 | 0.39 |
| M               | 0.02 | 0.36 | 0.42 |
| E               | 0.00 | 0.31 | 0.95 |

| Number of students |           |       |
|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| previous years     | this year | Total |
| 1881               | 173       | 2054  |



Asian  
All

Maori  
All

MELAA  
All

Other  
All

Pacific  
All

Pakeha  
All

Gender  
All

L3 Cohort  
All

Y09\_PAT\_Mat\_SS\_T1  
All

| Ordinal Logistic Regression - Direct |         |      |       |             |          |                   |       |                    |       |            |       |           |       |             |       |           |       |           |       |
|--------------------------------------|---------|------|-------|-------------|----------|-------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| Model                                | Dep     | N    | p     | Convergence | Adj_R_sq | B1                | B1_p  | B2                 | B2_p  | B3         | B3_p  | B4        | B4_p  | B5          | B5_p  | B6        | B6_p  | B7        | B7_p  |
| L3_M09_T1b                           | NCEA L3 | 2054 | 0.000 | satisfied   | 0.22     | Y09_PAT_Mat_SS_T1 | 0.000 | L3_Cohort_Ord      | 0.000 | Female_Ord | 0.002 | Maori_Ord | 0.355 | Pacific_Ord | 0.663 | Asian_Ord | 0.081 | MELAA_Ord | 0.108 |
| B9                                   | B9_p    | B10  | B10_p | B11         | B11_p    | B12               | B12_p | linear_combination |       |            |       |           |       |             |       |           |       |           |       |
| Pakeha_Ord                           | 0.147   |      |       |             |          |                   |       |                    |       |            |       |           |       |             |       |           |       |           |       |

| Ordinal Logistic Regression - Backwards Selection |         |         |        |             |           |                   |         |         |        |        |               |         |         |        |        |            |       |         |        |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|-------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|------------|-------|---------|--------|
| Model                                             | Dep     | N       | p      | Convergence | Adj_R_sq  | B1                | B1_p    | B1_Odds | B1_LCL | B1_UCL | B2            | B2_p    | B2_Odds | B2_LCL | B2_UCL | B3         | B3_p  | B3_Odds | B3_LCL |
| L3_M09_T1b                                        | NCEA L3 | 2054    | 0.000  | satisfied   | 0.22      | Y09_PAT_Mat_SS_T1 | 0.000   | 1.08    | 1.07   | 1.08   | L3_Cohort_Ord | 0.000   | 3.00    | 2.21   | 4.07   | Female_Ord | 0.000 | 1.71    | 1.40   |
| B4                                                | B4_p    | B4_Odds | B4_LCL | B4_UCL      | B5        | B5_p              | B5_Odds | B5_LCL  | B5_UCL | B6     | B6_p          | B6_Odds | B6_LCL  | B6_UCL |        |            |       |         |        |
| Asian_Ord                                         | 0.086   | 0.81    | 0.63   | 1.03        | MELAA_Ord | 0.096             | 0.70    | 0.45    | 1.07   |        |               |         |         |        |        |            |       |         |        |

For every 1 increase in Mat scale scores, there is a \_\_\_\_\_ increase in the chances of gaining a higher Level 3 Qualification

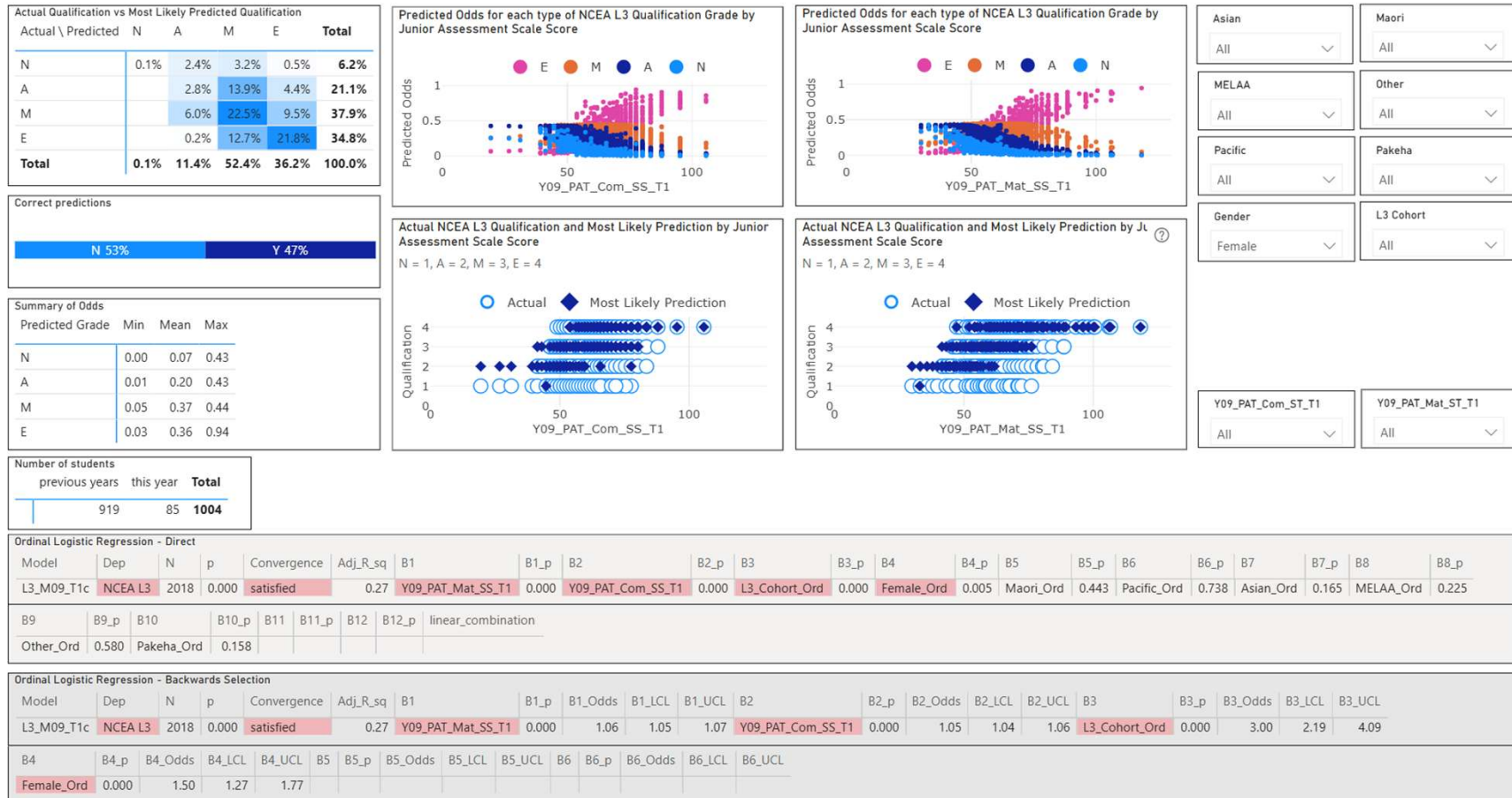
If in this cohort and a girl, these odds go up by a factor of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, for a total predicted odds ratio of \_\_\_\_\_

If in Stanine 5 and above, your chances of getting an Excellence are between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

This goodness of fit of the model is weak/moderate/strong.



## The Ordinal Logistic Regression Model linking NCEA Level 3 to Year 9 Term 1 assessments and demographics (version c)



To what extent has the teaching initiative experienced by this year's cohort enhanced their learning? Were these gains, if any, experienced the same by all demographics?

Feedback data collected from 23 middle leaders

## Dashboards are useful and easy to use!

|                                                                           |                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| How confident are you in your ability to use and interpret the DASHBOARD: | Confident or very confident |
| Independently?                                                            | 61%                         |
| With coaching?                                                            | 100%                        |

|                                                 |                       |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| How useful is the data in the DASHBOARD for:    | Useful or very useful |
| understanding student achievement and progress? | 91%                   |
| evaluating teaching/learning initiatives?       | 78%                   |
| informing future actions?                       | 83%                   |

## QUESTION: Does a Wānanga day enhance student outcomes?

### HERES WHAT HAPPENED IN 2019:

**Wānanga Day and the MCAT**  
91027 Apply algebraic procedures in solving problems

#### Wānanga?

In essence students were given a day of supervised preparation for the 2019 MCAT. The MCAT has had a lot of media coverage over its difficulty through students and teachers being underprepared for the external.

Teachers and NCEA students outraged over difficult Level 1 MCAT algebra exam – *Stuff, 2016*

7 hacks for surviving NZ's toughest NCEA exam – *Scoop, 2017*

#### Methodology

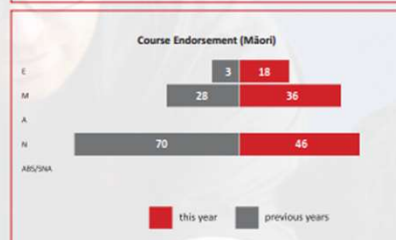
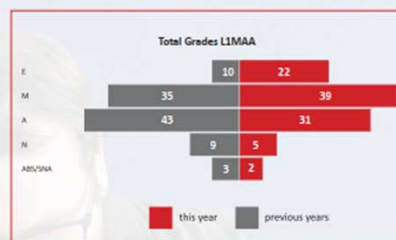
After hearing positive results from the Art and Māori departments in instituting Wānanga days for 2019 the Mathematics department decided for all students sitting the external MCAT to have a day of organised preparation.

- Used the library and ran various presentations and activities for students the day prior to the external.

- Students were supplied lunch during a break.

#### Results Summary

- L1MAA students gained better overall grades in all topics. This difference was highly significant ( $p = <0.0001$ ).
- Course endorsement improved overall and this improvement was due to Māori students. This was large and significant ( $p = 0.002$ ,  $G = 0.475$ ).
- MCAT showed significant improvement of grades earned including double the percentage of students gaining excellence ( $p = 0.016$ ).



#### Conclusion

- Using a Wānanga day has enhanced student outcomes. It is an opportunity to establish a learning focused relationship between students, and teachers. It is a time to fully focus on a standard without external distractions. Although a significant advantage was established it was only for one standard, the results indicate that this practice should be promoted within the department and school. It would require a major change to the timetable.

## GOAL: Was to significantly lift the rate of higher grades and endorsements at Level 1.

### HERES WHAT HAPPENED IN 2019:

#### Highlights

- 90914 (IN) - Historically 19% Non achieved. 2019 - Large, highly significant improvement.
- 90916 (EX) - Historically 23% - SNA, 9% NA. 2019 - Similar to previous years.

#### What did we do?

- The Wānanga day was a huge success. 100% of the students achieved their internal allowing us to move as a majority onto the external submissions (closure/peace of mind/admin done).
- Proposition had a clear direction. *Unpack Arrival*
- Collaboration - Two classes - SM/WO

#### Work on ...

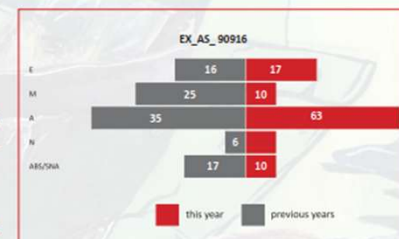
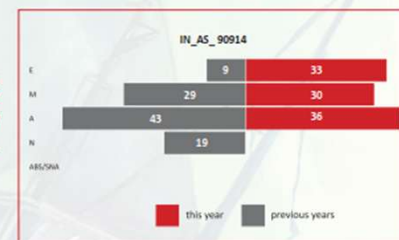
- We achieved our goal from 2019 for the internals by significantly improving both earned and quality of grade. However there was a shift in the externals both up and down.

#### Externals

SNA - DOWN 7%, N/A - DOWN 6%,  
Achieved - UP 28%, Merit - DOWN 15%  
Excellence - UP 1%

- As with the internals from 2019, the externals show a **large portion** of students gaining achievement. We have not yet fixed this issue!

- Externals are a **school concern** and our subject is no different.



# Data presentations are useful and have an impact!

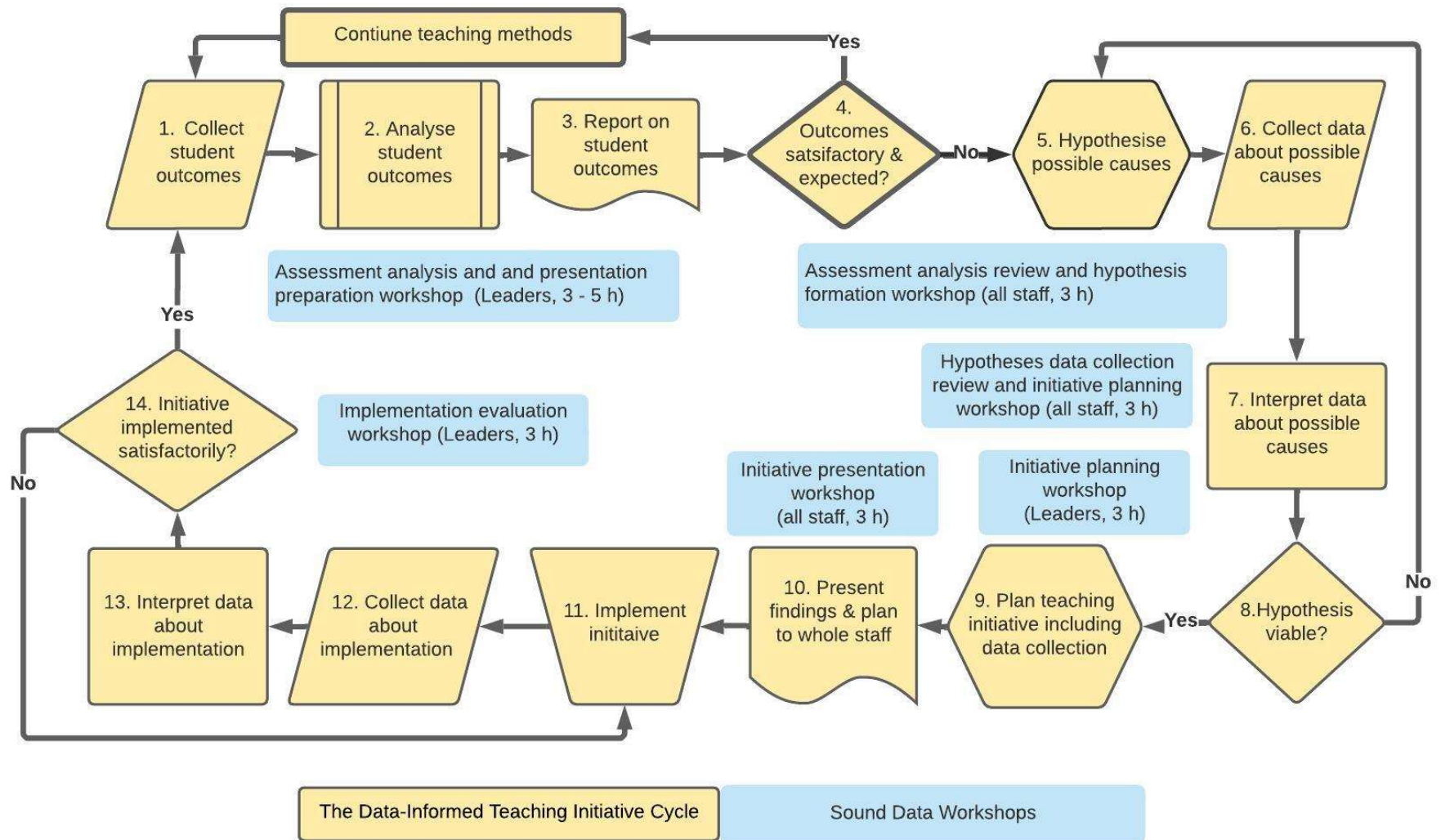
| How useful were the poster and presentations for:                       | Useful or very useful |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Clarifying your departmental challenges, goals and plans?               | 78%                   |
| Sharing your departmental challenges, goals and plans?                  | 83%                   |
| Understanding the challenges, goals and plans of the other departments? | 83%                   |

| Survey question                                                                  | Impact or large impact |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Do you think your POSTER PRESENTATION had an impact on your teaching colleagues? | 61%                    |

# Leaders are confident and value data-informed teaching initiatives

| Survey Question                                                                            | x or very x |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| How <b>confident</b> are you that your evidence-based initiative will lead to improvement? | 78%         |
| Were the outcomes of this process <b>worth</b> the effort you had to put in?               | 78%         |
| How <b>likely</b> are you to recommend this process to colleagues at other schools?        | 78%         |
| How <b>keen</b> are you to engage in this process again next year?                         | 78%         |





(Lai & Schildkamp 2013, Mandinach & Gummer, 2015, Schildkamp et al 2018)

# Data Driven Decision Making (DDDM)

- DDDM is a cyclic process of purposeful knowledge construction and decision/action (Lai & Schildkamp, 2013).
- *Evaluation* data use: positive or negative implications for user (King & Pechman, 1984);
- How teachers make sense of, respond to, and use *evaluation data* depends upon:
  - the data:
    - high/low stakes (Lewis & Holloway, 2019);
    - the data use technology (Fjørtoft & Lai, 2020);
  - the individual user:
    - beliefs and attitudes (Prenger & Schildkamp, 2018);
    - data literacy (Mandinach et al., 2015);
    - implications of data for teacher identity (Lasater, Bengtson, et al., 2020);
      - attribute the causes of the data:
        - to instruction, student understanding, nature of the test, student characteristics (Bertrand & Marsh, 2015);
        - to factors outside the school, school policy, students/classroom, teacher functioning (Schildkamp, Poortman, Handelzalts, 2016);
  - social interactions:
    - leaders (Datnow & Park, 2019);
    - the depth, formality and transparency of data use (Vanlommel & Schildkamp, 2019);
    - the school data culture (Lasater, Albiladi, et al., 2020);
    - the external accountability system (Hargreaves et al., 2013).



# Using data to improve teaching, learning and accountability

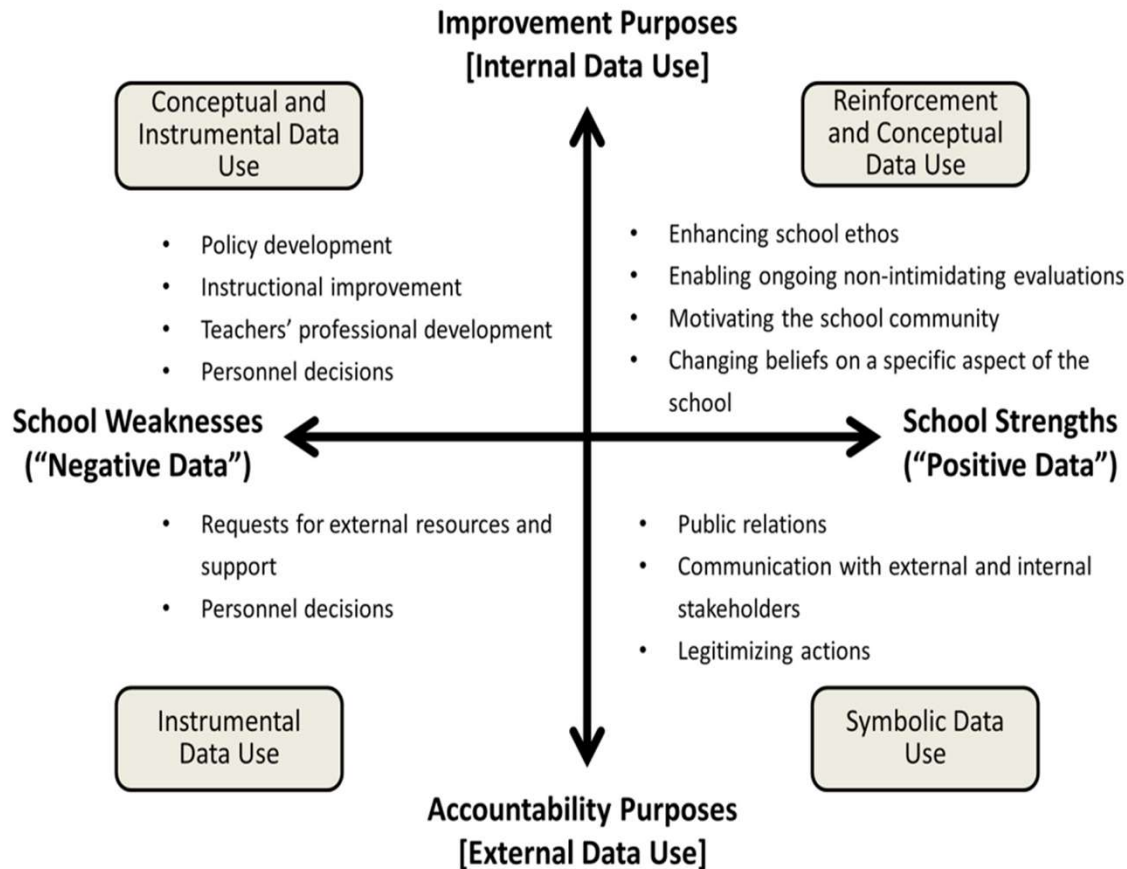
Data-informed teaching initiatives can improve teaching, learning *and* accountability when:

- They use a wide variety of *valid* data (input/process/output);
- They use positive data to celebrate *strengths* and successes as well as negative data to indicate *weakness* for improvement;
- Leaders and teachers are coached and resourced for *collaborative* data use;
- Leaders and teachers having *agency* in their data use in a *safe data-culture*.

(Marsh, Bertrand et al., 2015; Schildkamp & Poortman, 2015; Poortman & Schildkamp, 2016; Aderet-German & Ben-Peretz, 2020; Lai, McNaughton et al 2020, Lasater, Albiladi, et al., 2020)

“Accountability without improvement is empty rhetoric, and improvement without accountability is whimsical action without direction” (Earl and Katz, 2006).

# The desirable uses of data in schools



- instrumental use – to directly influence actions and practice;
- conceptual use – to influence mental models and activity over time;
- persuasive or symbolic use – for a predetermined agenda
- reinforcement – to consciously highlight individual and school strengths.

(Aderet-German & Ben-Peretz, 2020)

# The undesirable uses of data in schools

- non-use – ignoring or cursory data use i.e., ticking the box;
- interpreting data incorrectly – e.g., insufficient data literacy leading to inappropriate decisions or actions;
- narrowing the curriculum or teaching to the test;
- falsifying data – e.g., giving inappropriate assistance before or during assessments;
- educational triage and reshaping the data pool – focusing only on those on the threshold of passing and transferring less able students to non-examined classes;
- bullying or shaming teachers, leaders and schools

## Data is misused when:

- Data use misrepresents reality to stakeholders;
- Data use has negative consequences for students;
- Data use removes the opportunity for the improvement of teaching.

(Booher-Jennings, 2005; Buly & Valencia, 2002; Ehren & Swanborn, 2012; Schildkamp & Ehren, 2013; Ford, 2018; Hardy & Lewis, 2017; Susan, 2016; Datnow & Park, 2018; Volante et al., 2020; Lockton et al., 2020; Bertrand & Marsh, 2021)

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