



**Te Tari Taiwhenua  
Internal Affairs**

4 May 2021

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Tēna koe Mr McEwan

**Official Information Act (1982) request 2021-0603**

Thank you for your Official Information Act (the Act) request received on 23 April 2021.

You have asked for:

- An explanation of the statistical method used to calculate the allocation of the Public Lending Right (PLR) for the last three years, in particular:
  - How the count of each book was determined;
  - The standard deviation and/or standard error expected.

In response to your request, how New Zealand libraries are to be surveyed or sampled is prescribed by Regulation 9 of the Public Lending Right for New Zealand Authors Regulations 2008. In accordance with Regulation 9(3), the survey design uses the alternating two-year cycle option as described on page six of the attached document *2013 Public Lending Right for New Zealand Authors Survey*, prepared by Statistics New Zealand for the National Library of New Zealand. This also describes the overall sample error and methodology for calculating that sample error.

Surveys are completed by counting the number of copies held in the libraries selected by the survey design.

You have a right to seek a review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information on how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi

**Rachel Esson**  
Te Pouhuaki National Librarian  
National Library of New Zealand