

31/08/2021

Paul Jones

By email: fyi-request-16489-b2375a56@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202111233

Tēnā koe Paul

Transfer of your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 24 August 2021 for:

"1) Provide a breakdown of "Confirmed Active" cases for the "Total since first NZ case" for each of the categorisations used in the definition above being;

- a) PCR validated Specimen, that was NOT weak positive,*
- b) PCR validated Specimen, that was weak positive and required second confirmed sampling,*
- c) PCR validated Specimen confirmed with SARS-CoV-2 sequencing,*
- d) Significant rise in IgG antibody level*

2) For all "Confirmed Active" cases for the "Total since first NZ case" provide a breakdown of cases into the following groups;

- a) Asymptomatic cases,*
- b) Symptomatic cases*

3) For the Symptomatic cases at (2) provide a total count of the clinical criteria symptoms, being:

- a) fever (at least 38°C)*
- b) new or worsening cough*
- c) sore throat*
- d) shortness of breath*
- e) sneezing and runny nose (coryza)*
- f) anosmia (loss of sense of smell) or dysgeusia (altered sense of taste)."*

The Ministry of Health does not hold any information relating to your request; however, I have been advised that this information is held by the Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR). For this reason, I have decided to transfer your request to their office under section 14 of the Act. You can expect a response from ESR in due course.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'N' followed by a long horizontal stroke that curves slightly upwards at the end.

Nick Allan
Manager, OIA Services
Office of the Director General

Copy of OIA request

From: Paul Jones <fyi-request-16489-b2375a56@requests.fyi.org.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 24 August 2021 12:54
To: OIA Requests <oiagr@health.govt.nz>
Subject: Official Information request - Covid-19 Case count for symptomatic and asymptomatic persons

Dear Ministry of Health,

The following URL lists Covid-19 Case count statistics, at the time of this writing there are 2698 "Confirmed Active" cases "Total since first NZ case".

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-data-and-statistics/covid-19-current-cases>

A definition for "Confirmed Active" cases is provided in the following URL.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-health-professionals/case-definition-and-clinical-testing-guidelines-covid-19>

From this page we quote the definition;

A case that has laboratory definitive evidence. Laboratory definitive evidence requires at least one of the following:

* detection of SARS-CoV-2 from a clinical specimen using a validated NAAT (PCR). Very weak positive results will only be labelled a confirmed case when the result is confirmed on a second sample.

* detection of coronavirus from a clinical specimen using pan-coronavirus NAAT (PCR) and confirmation as SARS-CoV-2 by sequencing

* significant rise in IgG antibody level to SARS-CoV-2 between paired sera.

Would you please;

1) Provide a breakdown of "Confirmed Active" cases for the "Total since first NZ case" for each of the categorisations used in the definition above being;

- a) PCR validated Specimen, that was NOT weak positive,
- b) PCR validated Specimen, that was weak positive and required second confirmed sampling,
- c) PCR validated Specimen confirmed with SARS-CoV-2 sequencing,
- d) Significant rise in IgG antibody level

2) For all "Confirmed Active" cases for the "Total since first NZ case" provide a break down of cases into the following groups;

- a) Asymptomatic cases,
- b) Symptomatic cases

3) For the Symptomatic cases at (2) provide a total count of the clinical criteria symptoms, being;

- a) fever (at least 38°C)
- b) new or worsening cough
- c) sore throat
- d) shortness of breath
- e) sneezing and runny nose (coryza)
- f) anosmia (loss of sense of smell) or dysgeusia (altered sense of taste).

Yours faithfully,

Paul Jones