

16 November 2022

Chris McCashin
[FYI request #78566 email]

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act 1982 request

Thank you for your request of 17 October 2022 seeking, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), statistics regarding active coronial cases.

Specifically, your request was for the following:

“Are you able to break down the last following years

2018 - 2022 broken down into each month

Number of active coroner investigations Also at those months can you confirm how long Coroner investigations were taking”

In response to your request, please find Tables 1 and 2 enclosed. Table 1 provides you with the number of active coronial cases as at the end of each month, between 31 January 2018 and 31 October 2022. Table 2 provides you with the average age in days of coronial cases completed in the 12 month periods ending 31 January 2018 - 31 October 2022.

If you are not satisfied with my response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phone 0800 802 602.

I trust that this information assists.

Nāku noa, nā



Jacquelyn Shannon
Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery

Ref: 100117

Encl: Table 1: The number of active coronial cases, as at the end of each month, between 31 January 2018 and 31 October 2022
Table 2: The average age in days of coronial cases completed in the 12 month periods ending 31 January 2018 - 31 October 2022

Table 1: The number of active coronial cases, as at the end of each month, between 31 January 2018 and 31 October 2022

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018	3,978	3,971	4,002	4,047	4,056	4,110	4,160	4,180	4,251	4,283	4,217	4,234
2019	4,333	4,368	4,543	4,564	4,536	4,665	4,571	4,588	4,682	4,750	4,831	4,941
2020	4,982	4,967	5,100	5,281	5,249	5,244	5,284	5,238	5,209	5,225	5,278	5,381
2021	5,410	5,444	5,462	5,488	5,558	5,520	5,527	5,564	5,557	5,517	5,510	5,544
2022	5,659	5,771	5,830	5,979	6,066	6,160	6,130	6,115	6,137	6,236	-	-

Notes for Table 1:

1. This data may differ from previously released or published data. This data was extracted from the Case Management System used by the Courts as at 05/11/2022.
2. This data includes only cases accepted into the Coronial jurisdiction. Advice cases, which are excluded from this data, are those where the Coroner declines jurisdiction and a doctor certifies the death.
3. Numbers of active cases may be affected by seasonal patterns.
4. Example interpretation: At the end of January 2018, there were 3,978 active coronial cases.

Table 2: The average age in days of coronial cases completed in the 12 month periods ending 31 January 2018 - 31 October 2022

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2018	325	335	340	344	346	346	341	341	343	348	346	349
2019	354	347	344	339	342	342	342	338	343	347	350	348
2020	352	352	353	357	357	382	400	421	435	449	457	467
2021	464	477	491	489	494	479	472	480	476	474	478	480
2022	490	493	493	494	497	499	503	501	500	489	-	-

Notes for Table 2:

1. This data may differ from previously released or published data. This data was extracted from the Case Management System used by the Courts as at 05/11/2022.
2. This data includes only cases accepted into the Coronial jurisdiction. Advice cases, which are excluded from this data, are those where the Coroner declines jurisdiction and a doctor certifies the death.
3. Average completed time represents the active days between the date the application was filed and the date the final findings were issued.
4. Example interpretation: In the 12 months ending January 2018, the average age of coronial cases at the date final findings were issued was 325 days.