

23 August 2023

ASE

fyi-request-23240-8bbe57e5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe ASE

Official Information Act (OIA) request: Number of deaths by single year of age

On 27 July 2023, Stats NZ provided you with a response to your OIA request for death statistics (ref: OIA0732). Following receipt of this response, on 27 July 2023 you requested, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

I would like to think that anonymized raw data would be readily available, eg just listing the number of deaths by age per year. From such a table/spreadsheet-file, the analyses I've requested can be easily derived without compromising any personally identifying information.

At this time, I would like to request such a table/spreadsheet-file, i.e. one that lists the number of deaths by age per year.

As noted in our response to your previous OIA request (ref: OIA0732), data on number of deaths by age per year is publicly available on [Infoshare](#) under "Population" > "Deaths – VSD" > "Deaths by age and sex (Annual-Dec)". However, in this Infoshare series, the number of deaths for those aged 100 years and over are aggregated for the purposes of reporting. Because the disaggregated data you have requested is not regularly produced by Stats NZ, it would usually require a customised data request be made. We have, however, investigated whether this data could be provided without a customised data request.

In this case, the disaggregated data has been produced for internal use. This data is therefore held by Stats NZ and is able to be provided to you under the Act. Please find attached two Excel spreadsheets containing the requested data, including the number of deaths for those aged 100 years and over by single year age groups.

- *OIA0743 JOB-12557 Deaths by SYOA.xlsx* contains information on total deaths by single year of age between 1948 and 2022.
- *OIA0743 JOB-12557 metadata.xlsx* contains important information regarding the information provided – specifically the conditions of supply, notes on data quality, definitions, and metadata.

In regard to the data provided in *OIA0743 JOB-122557 Deaths by SYOA.xlsx*, please note:

- Deaths data is based on deaths registered in New Zealand by date of registration
- New Zealand resident deaths is the official measure from 1991
- Table 1 (Total deaths) is sourced from historical publications
- These tables have been randomly rounded to base 3 for confidentiality reasons.

Should you have any questions about how to interpret the data provided, please contact Stats NZ's Information Centre through one of the following methods:

- By phone – 0508 525 525
- By email – info@stats.govt.nz
- [Online form](#)

We note that Stats NZ's Information Centre is often the best place to start seeking statistical information, as the Information Centre exists to help users find the statistical information they are looking for. Stats NZ's Information Centre can let you know what data Stats NZ can provide and show you how to find it. This includes assistance with navigating and retrieving data from Infoshare, such as those outlined above. This service is free and often results in a same day response.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact Stats NZ at: OfficeoftheGSC@stats.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, please feel free to contact us or you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

It is Stats NZ's policy to proactively release its responses to official information requests where possible. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published on the Stats NZ website. Publishing responses creates greater openness and transparency of government decision-making and helps better inform public understanding of the reasons for decisions.

Nāku noa, nā



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