

15 August 2024

Chris McCashin  
fyi-request-27316-f1da3c1a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Chris

### Your request for official information, reference: HNZ00053761

Thank you for your email on 20 June 2024, asking Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora for the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*The vaccination data for New Zealanders including total number of vaccinations given, total number of people that have died after receiving a vaccination, date of death, age, and gender for the period after December 13, 2023.*

*- Any analysis completed by the Ministry of Health on the data released by Steve Kirsch or your own internal databases. Please let me know what teams, epidemiologists consultants did the analysis. If no analysis was done, please explain why.*

*- All internal communications, including emails, texts, instant messages, WhatsApp messages, formal and informal memos between Health NZ staff notified by Steve Kirsch discussing excess deaths, Barry Young and Steve Kirsch. Please ensure the executive team members who received these communications are signatories to this response.*

*- Please also publish vaccinations given and total number of people who have sadly passed included on the letterhead response as well as in excel format.*

*- Any memos, formal / informal, communications discussing excess deaths and potentially taking the Pfizer vaccine out of circulation (note Astrazeneca is no longer available) which functions the same as the Pfizer vaccine*

*I also submitted a previous OIA requesting the total spend on lawyers / consultants to erase the data. Can you please update this request to provide the total spend on these consultants.*

### Response

*The vaccination data for New Zealanders including total number of vaccinations given, total number of people that have died after receiving a vaccination, date of death, age, and gender for the period after December 13, 2023.*

*Please also publish vaccinations given and total number of people who have sadly passed included on the letterhead response as well as in excel format.*

Please see the following data and the attached excel spreadsheet (**Appendix 1**). Please note:

- Data is at 1 July 2024
- Data is subject to data quality issues in the Aotearoa Immunisation Register (AIR)
- Deaths are recorded only for individuals who have passed away since 13 December 2023 and who had previously received a COVID-19 vaccine at any point. Note that the majority of New Zealand's population have received a COVID-19 vaccine (>95%) and the data does not distinguish the time period between vaccination and the death. The data provided on

deaths also cannot be used to determine whether a death was linked to or associated with vaccination.

- Age has been grouped into 10-year age bands
- Age has been taken as age at death
- Total vaccine data is only COVID-19 vaccines given in NZ
- Total deaths include individuals that had COVID-19 vaccines given in NZ and/or overseas

#### Total Vaccines for time period requested

Event Month	Doses given
2023-12-01	71019
2024-01-01	60194
2024-02-01	26385
2024-03-01	40489
2024-04-01	111116
2024-05-01	115451
2024-06-01	86513
<b>Total</b>	<b>511167</b>

#### Total Deaths for time period requested (vaccinated individuals– deaths from all causes)

Death Month	Total deaths
2023-12-01	1812
2024-01-01	2728
2024-02-01	2518
2024-03-01	2698
2024-04-01	2721
2024-05-01	3062
2024-06-01	2590
<b>Total</b>	<b>18129</b>

#### Deaths by Gender for time period requested

Gender	Total deaths
Female	8805
Male	9290
Unknown/Other	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>18129</b>

#### Deaths by Age for time period requested

Age	Total deaths
<20	74
20-29	152
30-39	216
40-49	458
50-59	1058
60-69	2209
70-79	4093
80-89	6092

90-99	3585
>100+	192
<b>Total</b>	<b>18129</b>

*Any analysis completed by the Ministry of Health on the data released by Steve Kirsch or your own internal databases. Please let me know what teams, epidemiologists consultants did the analysis. If no analysis was done, please explain why.*

Health NZ has not completed any analysis on the data released by Steve Kirsch. It has no obligation to verify misinformation. However, to provide you with reasonable assistance under the Act, on 18 July 2024 we advised you that the information you requested is more closely connected with the functions of the Ministry of Health, and transferred this part of your request to the Ministry in accordance with 14(b)(ii) of the Act. You can expect a response from the Ministry in due course. If you need to get in touch with the Ministry of Health you can contact them at [oiagr@health.govt.nz](mailto:oiagr@health.govt.nz).

Additionally, you may be interested in information regarding analysis for the safety of the COVID-19 vaccine. These are available on the websites listed below:

- Medsafe COVID-19 monitoring: <https://medsafe.govt.nz/COVID-19/covid-landing.asp>
- Final Report of the COVID-19 Vaccine Independent Safety Monitoring Board (CV-ISMB) available at: <https://www.tewhātuora.govt.nz/publications/final-report-of-the-covid-19-vaccine-independent-safety-monitoring-board-cv-ismb/>
- Sources for vaccine safety information: <https://www.tewhātuora.govt.nz/health-services-and-programmes/vaccine-information/vaccine-service-delivery/vaccine-safety-monitoring/sources-for-vaccine-safety-information/>

*All internal communications, including emails, texts, instant messages, WhatsApp messages, formal and informal memos between Health NZ staff notified by Steve Kirsch discussing excess deaths, Barry Young and Steve Kirsch.*

Please see the documents enclosed in Appendix 2. Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of individuals. The need to protect their privacy is not outweighed by the public interest in the release of the information

Some names and email addresses have also been withheld under section 6(d) of the Act, on the basis that making available the information would be likely to endanger the safety of any person.

*Any memos, formal / informal, communications discussing excess deaths and potentially taking the Pfizer vaccine out of circulation (note Astrazeneca is no longer available) which functions the same as the Pfizer vaccine*

Health NZ does not hold any memos, formal/informal, communications discussing excess deaths and potentially taking the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine out of circulation. However, this part of your request asks for information which may be more closely aligned with the functions of Pharmac and the Ministry of Health. Accordingly, to provide you with reasonable assistance under the Act, on 18 July 2024 we advised you that Health NZ had decided to transfer this part of your request to Pharmac and the Ministry of Health under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act. You can expect a response from Pharmac and the Ministry of Health in due course. If you need to get in touch with these

organizations you can contact the Ministry at [oiagr@health.govt.nz](mailto:oiagr@health.govt.nz) and Pharmac at [enquiry@Pharmac.govt.nz](mailto:enquiry@Pharmac.govt.nz).

*I also submitted a previous OIA requesting the total spend on lawyers / consultants to erase the data. Can you please update this request to provide the total spend on these consultants.*

The previous figure (NZ\$42,730 excluding GST) was an approximation as noted in our earlier response. Our latest total calculated for Simpson Grierson's and Clyde & Co's fees for work on this aspect is a total of \$31,693.24 excluding GST. As explained in our previous response, they have provided a range of services, including taking steps to remove Health NZ confidential data from the internet and prevent further unauthorised access or disclosure of it.

### **How to get in touch**

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [hnzOIA@tewhatuora.govt.nz](mailto:hnzOIA@tewhatuora.govt.nz).

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Health NZ may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release.

Nāku iti noa, nā



### **Danielle Coe**

**Manager (OIA) Government Services**  
Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora