



133 Molesworth Street  
PO Box 5013  
Wellington 6140  
New Zealand  
T+64 4 496 2000

14 September 2022

§ 9(2)(a)

By email: § 9(2)(a)  
Ref: H2022010817

Tēnā koe § 9(2)(a)

### Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (Ministry of Health) on 22 August 2022 for information about abortion statistics. You requested *if available, I would like to know these statistics for each of the years 2020, 2021 and 2022, showing each year separately please.*

Please note, abortion statistics are published annually on the Manatū Hauora website. The 2020 statistics can be found in the 2021 report available at: [www.health.govt.nz/publication/abortion-services-aotearoa-new-zealand-annual-report-2021](http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/abortion-services-aotearoa-new-zealand-annual-report-2021).

The 2021 statistics will also be available in the 2022 report and published in October 2022 on the Manatū Hauora website. Information on the 2022 statistics will be published in 2023.

Please find a response to each part of your request below.

- 1. How many NZ abortions were carried out per year.  
(Or so far in 2022.)*

Year	Total number of abortion procedures reported to Manatū Hauora
2020	13,246
2021	13,257
2022*	6,480*

\* Data for 2022 is provisional and reported for the period 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2022 as at 1 September 2022.

2. The ages of the women per year.  
 (As a specific number like 10, 12, 15, 22, 34, 35, etc years old.)  
 (Not vague or a range like "under 13 years old" or "between 24-26".)

Age	2020	2021	To 1 June 2022*
11	0	<5	0
12	<5	0	0
13	5	<5	<5
14	19	26	14
15	55	60	42
16	91	121	73
17	194	229	117
18	390	317	205
19	497	505	252
20	627	608	316
21	625	605	288
22	650	709	344
23	656	694	344
24	646	687	351
25	696	681	340
26	685	664	315
27	715	695	347
28	692	679	287
29	700	620	357
30	650	693	270
31	580	602	289
32	592	585	269
33	514	494	281
34	459	455	217
35	468	414	213

36	392	435	184
37	377	371	152
38	300	302	169
39	247	270	124
40	199	228	96
41	188	191	84
42	126	140	51
43	87	78	39
44	49	44	21
45	38	25	11
46	19	18	9
47	8	<5	5
48	<5	<5	0
49	<5	<5	<5
50	<5	0	<5
Age missing	<5	0	0

\*Note data for 2022 is provisional

To avoid revealing sensitive information about potentially identifiable individuals in our data, we have provided all values between one and five as <5.

*3. The reason for abortion. (Highlighting if it's elective, emergency or medical reason, etc.)*

Manatū Hauora does not collect information on the reason for the abortion. Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) as the information requested is not held by Manatū Hauora and there are no grounds for believing it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

*4. What number of abortion it was for the woman, of any amount.  
(ie. whether the first, second, third, fourth, etc abortion...)  
(An exact number, not a range like "more than 3" if the actual number is available.)*

Number of previous abortions	2020	2021	To 1 June 2022*
0	8505	8409	4139
1	3099	3150	1504

2	1093	1090	546
3	335	381	165
4	116	137	75
5	54	57	30
6	26	18	10
7	9	6	<5
8	6	<5	<5
9	0	<5	<5
10	<5	<5	0
11	<5	0	0
12	0	0	0
13	0	0	<5
14	0	0	<5
15	<5	0	<5

\*Note data for 2022 is provisional

To avoid revealing sensitive information about potentially identifiable individuals in our data, we have provided all values between one and five as <5.

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](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Nāku noa, nā



Ruihua Gu  
**Acting Group Manager, Quality Assurance and Safety  
Regulatory Services**