



# MIDCENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD

*Te Pae Hauora o Ruahine o Tararua*

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4 May 2021

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Gate 2  
Hereāunga Street  
Palmerston North  
New Zealand

Dear Ms Green

We are in receipt of your Official Information Request submitted on 6 April 2021.

You advised that you would like the following information on the performance and services of the MidCentral District Health Board (MDBH) for their provision of mental health services.

1. For all Mental Health Services including Child and Adolescent Mental Health; Adult Mental Health, Emergency, Acute, Crisis Response and Elderly; you would like the following:

a. Number of new entries/cases per month, by age group (five year bands if possible\*), 2015 – 2020 calendar year.

Please see attached report: New Cases by Month.

b. Number of cases open at month end, by age group (five year bands), 2015 – 2020 calendar year

Please see attached report: Number of Open Cases.

c. Number of people exiting per month, by age group (five year bands if possible\*), 2015 – 2020 calendar year

Please see attached report: Discharges By Month.

2. For the DHB:

a. Number of hospitalisations for mental health per year, emergency and non-emergency, by age group (five year bands), 2015 – 2020 calendar year.

MidCentral DHB admissions are relevant only to the Acute Ward (Ward 21) and Elderly Adult Mental Health (Star 1), both of which are captured in the data provided for question 1a.

- b. Number of people waitlisted to see a psychologist per year, by age group (five year bands), 2015 – 2020 calendar year.

MDHB does not have a waiting list for patients referred for mental health services. Referrals for services of patients over the age of 18 years can be made by GP, health professional, guidance councillor or self-referral. The referral will be assessed and allocated to one of the Mental Health Service teams as appropriate.

Patients under the age of 18 can be referred by GP, health professional or guidance councillor, however they will only be referred to Child Adolescent and Family Services.

A client assessed as requiring the services of the Mental Health and Addiction Service will be assigned a psychologist and/or support worker upon acceptance to the relevant service.

- c. Number of people seeing a psychologist, per year, by age group (five year bands), 2015 – 2020 calendar year.

MidCentral DHB is unable to provide information based on caseload by profession by year.

- d. Number of psychologists employed by the DHB at year end (split by part time, full time, contracted) by year, 2015 – 2020 calendar year.

The table below identifies the number of psychologists employed by MDHB over the period requested. Unfortunately are unable to provide information regarding contracted personnel over this period.

Year	Total	Full time	Part time
2015	20	12	8
2016	18	11	7
2017	19	12	7
2018	21	14	7
2019	18	11	7
2020	19	12	7

I trust the information provided satisfies your request. If you are dissatisfied with the information provided you have the right to seek a review through an investigation and review by the Ombudsman.

Information about how to initiate this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of the same, may be published on the MidCentral DHB website ten working days after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Ambridge', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Scott Ambridge  
**Operations Executive**  
**Mental Health & Addictions Services**

*Encl:      New Cases By Month*  
*Number of Open Cases*  
*Discharges By Month*