

5 October 2021

Jessica Patterson

By email: [fyi-request-16796-cbd73df8@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-16796-cbd73df8@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H202112742

Tēnā koe Jessica

### **Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 19 September 2021 for information regarding COVID-19 cases. Please find a response to each part of your request below.

*"I would like to request the number of children, who have been recorded as COVID cases, that were asymptomatic and if they were not asymptomatic how many had previous underlying health conditions in New Zealand."*

As of 19 September 2021, New Zealand has had 489 cases of COVID-19 in children aged 12 and under. Please note, symptomaticity information is not always recorded in the data sources available.

Of the 489 cases, 179 have been classified as asymptomatic, 270 have been classified symptomatic and 40 are missing information on symptomaticity. Of the 270 symptomatic children, 24 had underlying health conditions.

You may be interested in details of confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 in New Zealand on the Ministry's website here: [www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-data-and-statistics/covid-19-case-demographics](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-data-and-statistics/covid-19-case-demographics).

*"I would also like to know how many of the COVID cases in New Zealand since August the 1st 2021, have been asymptomatic."*

There have been 1213 COVID-19 cases (community and border) reported between 1 August 2021 and 9 am 19 September 2021. Of the 1213 cases, 259 have been classified as asymptomatic, 835 have been classified as symptomatic, and 119 are missing information on symptomaticity.

I trust this information fulfils your request. 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 on the Ministry of Health website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gill Hall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gill Hall  
**Group Manager, COVID-19 Science and Insights**  
**COVID-19 Health System Response**