



6 March 2023

P McKenna

By email: [fyi-request-21711-49575c22@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-21711-49575c22@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Ref: H2023019862

Tēnā koe P McKenna

### Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 3 February 2023. You requested:

*“1) Can you please supply separate data for the deaths among the; unvaccinated; those who have received only one dose; completed primary course; and received one or more booster doses, for the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 for the following age categories:*

*0-59*

*60-69*

*70-79*

*80-89*

*90+*

*2) Can you supply the same data as above for deaths where Covid-19 is the cause or a contributing cause.*

*3) Can you supply the same data as above for deaths where Covid-19 is the cause. In this instance please provide data for all age groups but combine all vaccinated people together.”*

The information you have requested has been collated and accompanies this response letter as Appendix 1. The information provided is from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022. The information has been broken down into three sheets:

- Sheet 1 titled ‘Deaths from COVID-19’ sets out aggregate deaths, by vaccination status, where COVID-19 is the root reason for death (**underlying**) in addition to deaths where COVID-19 is a **contributing** factor.
- Sheet 2 titled ‘Contributing’ sets out deaths, by vaccination status, where COVID-19 was a **contributing** cause of the individual’s death. For example, an individual may be hospitalised with an illness, whereupon they contract COVID-19 and subsequently pass away. The person died ‘with’ COVID-19 but did not necessarily die ‘from’ COVID-19.
- Sheet 3 titled ‘Underlying’ sets out deaths, by vaccination status, where COVID-19 was the ‘root’ or ‘main’ cause of the individual’s death, known as **underlying** cause.

In order to avoid revealing sensitive information (such as vaccination status) about potentially identifiable individuals in our data, we apply two data confidentiality methods (perturbation and suppression) to any data that is not already released as exact counts on the website.

Perturbation is adding random noise to data, and suppression is not providing data in situations where doing so could compromise confidentiality. For data that is not already provided exactly on the website:

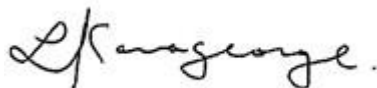
- All values between 1 and 5 are suppressed.
- Zero values are provided exactly, except for in sensitive categories where a zero value may be suppressed to protect other low values.
- Values of 6 and above are perturbed using fixed random rounding to base 3 (FRR3). This entails rounding values to neighbouring multiples of 3. For example, 11 may be rounded to 12 or 9.

FRR3 is a best-practice confidentiality method recommended by Stats NZ. For more information, visit: [www.data.govt.nz/toolkit/privacy-and-security/understanding-data-confidentiality/data-confidentiality-principles-and-methods-report/](http://www.data.govt.nz/toolkit/privacy-and-security/understanding-data-confidentiality/data-confidentiality-principles-and-methods-report/).

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 Manatū Hauora website 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



Louise Karageorge  
**Group Manager, Intelligence, Surveillance and Knowledge**  
**Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui**