

11 April 2023

Richard  
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Tēnā koe Richard

**Your request for Official information, reference: HNZ00013696**

Thank you for your email on 15 March 2023, asking for the following which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have specifically requested:

*“Could I have the total number of influenza cases each month, for the last 10 years (not including any covid19 cases)”*

Te Whatu Ora (Health New Zealand) does not receive national level data about diagnoses made by primary care providers, for example GPs. As influenza is usually diagnosed in a primary care setting, we do not hold data on all influenza diagnoses made in New Zealand.

Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by Te Whatu Ora.

We can provide you with data on publicly funded hospital influenza discharges by year and month of admission. Please note that this is not data on all influenza cases in New Zealand, as many people do not require hospital treatment for influenza. People hospitalised multiple times (e.g., transfers, readmissions, multiple incidents) are counted each time.

Please see attached as **Appendix 1**.

The Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR) provides reports on influenza monitoring online at the following link:

<https://www.esr.cri.nz/our-research/nga-kete/infectious-disease-intelligence/influenza-and-respiratory-surveillance/>

Their online dashboard contains information about influenza-like-illness monitoring in the community, and their annual influenza reports.

**How to get in touch**

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [hnzOIA@health.govt.nz](mailto:hnzOIA@health.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, Te Whatu Ora 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. The released response will be made available on our website.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Wendy Lawn  
**Manager (Acting)**  
**Office of the Chief Data and Digital**