

9 December 2024

Chris Johnston
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Tēnā koe Chris,

Your request for official information, reference: HN200072086

Thank you for your email of 18 November 2024, asking Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora for the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) in response to previous OIA response HN200067725:

I note this paragraph in HealthNZ's reply:

"In the output provided back in April 2024, we differentiated between small number suppression and secondary suppression by using "<5" and "N/S"

respectively, however, when the outputs were run again in September 2024, this differentiation did not occur and "<6" was used for both small number suppression and secondary suppression."

For clarity so that the public know which cells have been suppressed in which way - can the dataset please be provided again with the differentiation "<6" and "N/S". The differentiation is important and the label provided is misleading - and incorrect on its face when N/S is applicable (because the number is actually more than 5).

Please include the explanation of each suppression in the reference notes/legend provided in the spreadsheet.

Response

The data requested is attached as **Appendix One**. The data shows count of people not vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccines administered across the country, broken down by age and gender, as a snapshot at each month-end between 1 January 2020 and 30 September 2024. Because this request is for a repeat of data provided in HN200067725, data for October and November 2024 was not included although the data was extracted on 27 November 2024.

Counts fewer than six, denoted as '<6', have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect privacy. In making this decision, we have considered the public interest in release and determined that it does not outweigh the need to withhold on this occasion.

Counts high enough to potentially allow identification of vaccinated people, if compared against the overall population, have been represented as N/S.

How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can contact us at hnzOIA@tewhatuora.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 or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Health NZ 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.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Sara Freitag

**Manager, Machinery of Government Support
National Public Health Service**