

1 June 2022



Response to a request for official information



Thank you for your request for official information as transferred from the Ministry of Health and received 29 April 2022 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, where you seek the following information.

1. *"A yearly breakdown of how many people were treated from 2012-2022 (to date) for alcohol related harm"*
2. *"A yearly breakdown of age groups of those treated in your DHB between 2012-2022 for alcohol related harm."*
3. *"A yearly breakdown of the ethnicity of those treated in your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol related harm."*

NMH response for Parts 1 – 3:

The number of people "treated for Alcohol-related harm" is not clinically coded or held in our reporting systems and, as such, NMH refuses this part of your request under section 18(g) of the Act in *'that the information requested is not held'* by us.

Alcohol-related presentations to the Emergency Department (ED) for stays less than 3 hours have alcohol related flags *"Alcohol ingested"* or *"Alcohol contributed to the ED event"*, based on a clinical observation, recorded in patient files.

4. *"A yearly breakdown of age groups of those admitted to your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol related harm."*

NMH response for Parts 4 – 6:

Data for Tables One and Two on the following page has been electronically captured on hospital admission clinical coding where testing and clinical evidence indicate *"Hospitalisations wholly attributable to alcohol"* (Alcohol-related harm).

Data is provided from July 2014 when a new reporting system was implemented; data from previous years is not comparable with data collected in the new system, and 2022 data is to date.

Please note ED admission (and discharge) data is excluded from Tables One and Two, and included in Table Three.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

TABLE ONE

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0 to 20	4	8	1	2	5	3	2	2	0
21 to 40	9	9	17	10	12	8	15	25	11
41 to 60	19	33	41	37	34	17	32	57	10
61 to 80	9	17	14	7	14	28	16	16	11
81+	0	0	2	0	1	2	4	5	1
Total	41	67	75	56	66	58	69	105	33

NOTE: Admission following a *primary* diagnosis of a condition wholly attributable to alcohol

5. “A yearly breakdown of ethnicity of those admitted to your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol related harm.”

NMH response:

TABLE TWO

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Asian	0	2	3	0	1	0	0	1	1
European	35	47	65	41	57	52	61	82	27
Maori	6	13	1	9	5	4	7	16	4
Middle Eastern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other Ethnicity	0	5	6	4	3	2	1	5	1
Pacific Peoples	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Total	41	67	75	56	66	58	69	105	33

NOTE: Admission following a *primary* diagnosis of a condition wholly attributable to alcohol

6. “A yearly breakdown of age groups of those admitted to your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol related harm.”

NMH response:

Please see our response to Q4.

7. “A yearly breakdown of the cost for each person treated / admitted in your DHB for alcohol related casues.”

NMH response:

We do not track costs by diagnosis that would enable us to provide costs for any particular treatment and, as such, NMH refuses this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act in ‘that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist’.

8. “A breakdown of how many patients were admitted to Emergency Departments where alcohol was determined to be a factor in their admission from 2012-2022.”

NMH response:

Data for Table Three on the following page has been electronically captured for Alcohol-related presentations to ED, where people are admitted after 3 hours and later discharged (as an inpatient) from ED, based on clinical observation and coding to indicate the alcohol component of the ED admission.

Data is provided from July 2014 when a new reporting system was implemented; data from previous years is not comparable with data collected in the new system, and 2022 data is to date.

TABLE THREE

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
41	81	96	101	105	111	72	122	49

NOTE: ED presentation, admitted after 3 hours and discharged from ED, with alcohol component

This response has been provided under the Official Information Act 1982. You have the right to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or free phone 0800 802 602. If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz

I trust this information meets your requirements. NMH, like other agencies across the state sector, supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public's understanding of how we are delivering publicly-funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released. If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider.

Yours sincerely



Lexie O'Shea
Chief Executive