



17 November 2021

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request dated 21 October 2021 pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982, for information regarding Waikato District Health Board (DHB) maternity services. I enclose all the information which is covered by your request.

The number of caesarean sections conducted at the DHB since 2015, broken down by year

Fiscal Year:	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Planned:	396	427	486	570	555	539	612
Emergency:	581	523	605	648	744	786	861
Total:	977	950	1091	1216	1299	1325	1473

The number of episiotomies conducted at the DHB, since 2015 broken down by year

Fiscal Year:	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number:	393	310	376	430	410	450	506

The number of epidurals conducted at the DHB, since 2015 broken down by year

Fiscal Year:	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number:	554	475	508	571	644	628	646

The number of births at DHB facilities, broken down by year since 2015

Fiscal Year:	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Planned:	3978	3756	3963	3890	4057	4094	4240

The average number of FTE core midwifery positions employed at the DHB, since 2015 broken down by year

Fiscal Year:	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number:	57.43	54.36	57.75	62.64	68.76	65.44	59.27

The average number of FTE community midwifery positions employed at the DHB per year, since 2015 broken down by year

Fiscal Year:	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number:	11.41	10.94	10.24	10.46	11.40	11.11	7.51

Data on the average number of beds within the DHB maternity unit/birthing unit/maternity service per year, broken down by year since 2015

Fiscal Year:	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number:	40.7	42.6	44.4	43.7	45.0	49.7

* Please note we were unable to extract the data for fiscal year 2015

Data on spending / cost of maternity services per year, broken down by year since 2015 (not including building maintenance and upgrades, just staffing and the costs of actually running the services). Further clarified as salary wages for clinical maternity staff (Midwifery) and the cost of clinical supplies

Fiscal Year:	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Dollar Amount:	7,197,728	7,329,685	7,625,709	7,972,561	9,327,087	9,550,401	9,504,094

Waikato DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publically 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

Yours sincerely



Christine Lowry

Executive Director - Waikato Hospital and Community Services
Waikato District Health Board