

6 May 2024

Chris Milne

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Tēnā koe Chris

**Official Information Act (OIA) request: Calculation of Māori Electoral Population in Hutt City**

On 9 April 2024, you contacted Stats NZ requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

*Can you please provide the working papers, underlying calculations and formal notification to Hutt City Council that supports the Maori Electoral Population provided to the Council as at 30 June 2022 and 30 June 2023.*

*Please provide the Maori Electoral Population as at those two dates.*

*Please refer to the formula below in the Electoral Act 1993 and provide the figures used to support the figures provided to the Council.*

*Please provide each number used in the formula below and identify where that number fits in the calculation below.*

*Definition of Maori Electoral Population in the Act:*

*Māori electoral population means a figure representing both the persons registered as electors of the Māori electoral districts and a proportion of Māori persons who are not registered as electors of any electoral district and a proportion of Māori persons under the age of 18 years, which figure must be fixed—*

*(a) by ascertaining a proportion determined by dividing—*

*(i) the total number of persons, on counting day, either—*

*(A) registered as electors of Māori electoral districts; or*

*(B) named on the dormant rolls for Māori electoral districts; by*

*(ii) the total number of Māori persons, on counting day, either—*

*(A) registered as electors of Māori electoral districts or General electoral districts; or*

*(B) named on the dormant rolls for Māori electoral districts or General electoral districts; and*

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*(b) by applying the proportion ascertained under paragraph (a) to the total number of ordinarily resident Māori persons on census day*

Stats NZ has not provided and electoral population figures to Hutt City Council as at 30 June 2022 or 30 June 2023. Your request for this information is therefore refused under section 18(e) of the Act as this information does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

For further context, Stats NZ only produce these figures when requested by councils and Hutt City Council has made no such request since before 2019. For further information on how Stats NZ calculate electoral population estimates, we refer you to our response to your OIA request regarding electoral population figures for Porirua City, which was also provided through the FYI.org.nz platform.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact Stats NZ at: [OfficeoftheGSC@stats.govt.nz](mailto:OfficeoftheGSC@stats.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

It is Stats NZ's policy to proactively release its responses to official information requests where possible. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published on the Stats NZ website. Publishing responses creates greater openness and transparency of government decision-making and helps better inform public understanding of the reasons for decisions.

Nāku noa, nā



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