



8 July 2022

s 9(2)(a)

By email: s 9(2)(a)
Ref: H202207945

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Response to your request for official information

On 15 June 2022, your request was partially transferred from the Far North District Council to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) for response. You specifically requested Far North oral health statistics. Please find a response to your request below.

The district health board (DHB) oral health outcome data is available for children at age five and school year 8. This data is broken down by DHB area rather than by local authority, therefore the data applicable to Far North District Council's population is for the broader Northland DHB.

The latest Northland DHB data results for the 2020 year are as follows:

- 58 percent of children had experienced tooth decay at age five (compared to national average of 43 percent)
- on average, children at age five have 3.41 decayed, missing or filled primary teeth, and at school year 8 have on average 1.15 decayed, missing or filled adult teeth (compared to the national average of 1.98 and 0.73 respectively)
- Māori and Pacific children have significantly worse outcomes than other children within Northland DHB. For example, 75 percent of Māori children had experienced decay at age five compared to 42 percent for all other (non-Māori and non-Pacific) children.

Further information about health statistics for oral health is available on the Ministry website at:

www.health.govt.nz/nz-health-statistics/health-statistics-and-data-sets/oral-health-data-and-stats/age-5-and-year-8-oral-health-data-community-oral-health-service.

The 2017-2020 Health Survey results for Far North District Council show:

- 58.6 percent of adults (15+) had one or more teeth removed in their lifetime due to decay, an abscess, infection or gum disease (compared to a national average of 46.2%).
- 11.8 percent of adults (15+) had one or more teeth removed in the last year due to decay, an abscess, infection or gum disease (compared to a national average of 46.2%).

There is more information about the Health Survey results at:

www.health.govt.nz/publication/regional-results-2017-2020-new-zealand-health-survey.

Under section 28(3) of the OIA, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Everitt', written in a cursive style.

Simon Everitt
Director
Public Health Agency