



21 July 2022

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

**Re: Adverse events by clinical area**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

You asked:

*Can you provide the number of reported adverse events for the most recent year data is available, broken down by department or health care setting, for example hospital ward, ED, GP practice, urgent care practice, mental health care unit, ambulance, etc.*

Our answer:

Appendix one has a break down of all adverse events reported to the Health Quality & Safety Commission (the Commission) between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, which is the most recent period that we have finalised data for.

The [National Adverse Events Reporting Policy 2017](#) requires health and disability service providers to report adverse events that have been classified using the [severity assessment code \(SAC\) rating and triage tool](#) as SAC 1 and SAC 2 events, and all events on the [always report and review list](#), regardless of severity.

The event numbers in appendix one are based on the initial notification to the Commission using the above criteria. The Commission's database is edited constantly as new information comes to hand, and published figures are by necessity a snapshot of a point in time. Event totals continue to fluctuate after publication because some events are reclassified more accurately after reviews and are either 'elevated' to reportable status or are 'downgraded' and therefore fall outside criteria. This means our current totals for any period may not match the published figures.

Please note, the Commission publishes some of its OIA responses on its website, after the response is sent to the requester. The responses published are those that are considered to have a high level of public interest. We will not publish your name, address, or contact details.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku, nā

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## Appendix one

Clinical area	Number of events
Ambulance	16
Aged residential care	22
Cancer	9
Cardiothoracic	12
Community	1
Community mental health	192
Dental	15
Disability	2
Emergency department	60
General practice	2
Gynaecology	5
ICU	28
Inpatient mental health	30
Laboratory	2
Maternity	121
Medical	158
Neonatal	10
Oncology	1
Ophthalmology	17
Orthopaedic	40
Other (unspecified)	125
Outpatient	11
Paediatrics	18
Perioperative	10
Physiotherapy	1
Radiology	112
Rehabilitation	98
Surgical	101
Urology	15
Women's health	14
Not reported	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>1280</b>

Number of events by clinical area reported to the Health Quality & Safety Commission between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021.