

5 March 2019

Bob McCoskrie
bob@familyfirst.org.nz

Dear Mr McCoskrie,

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your request received on 1 March 2019, transferred from the Ministry of Justice, for the below:

For each of the past 10 years, where the grounds for performing the abortion where the pregnancy is more than 20 weeks (s187A(3)) Crimes Act 1961, there are three options for why the abortion is necessary. Could you please provide the option used for why the abortion is necessary on ASC Form No 4 Could you also break each year into 20 - 30 weeks and 30 - 40 weeks.

Stats NZ does not hold the information by the breakdown you have requested – the data we hold for pregnancies after 20 weeks is not broken down into 20-30 and 30-40 week bands. Furthermore, the numbers for the options for why the abortion is necessary for ‘danger to the physical life of the woman’ and ‘danger to physical health’ are very small, and under normal circumstances would require suppression. To prevent this, we have combined those categories into ‘danger to the life or physical health of the woman’.

Given the above, please find below the numbers of induced abortions of pregnancy 20 weeks or over, by grounds for abortion. Appended to this response is an excel sheet of the same table for your convenience.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Danger to the life or physical health of the woman	6	6	8	10	10	4	9	6	6	15
Danger to mental health	95	88	88	117	86	71	76	66	82	84

If you have any questions about the above, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

You have the right, by way of complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to seek an investigation and review of this response to your request.

info@stats.govt.nz
toll-free 0508 525 525
stats.govt.nz

HP House
8 Gilmer Terrace
PO Box 2922
Wellington 6140

Stats NZ intends to publish its response to your request made under the Act on the Stats NZ website. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published in its entirety. Consistent with the Act, publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and helps promote balanced public debate.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MAB', followed by a horizontal flourish line.

Matthew Bloomer
Manager
Office of the Government Statistician and Chief Executive
Stats NZ

info@stats.govt.nz
toll-free 0508 525 525
stats.govt.nz

HP House
8 Gilmer Terrace
PO Box 2922
Wellington 6140