



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

Corporate Office
High Street, Greymouth

Telephone 03 768 0499
Fax 03 768 2791

10 June 2020

9(2)(a)

RE Official information request WCDHB 9427

We refer to your email dated 14 May 2020 requesting the following information from West Coast DHB under the Official Information Act. Specifically:

1. I wish to receive information relating to the number of births at West Coast District Health Board facilities and home births during the nationwide coronavirus lockdown from March 25 to April 27.
2. Can this information be broken down by location: at Grey Base Hospital, other West Coast DHB facilities, or a home birth, and by date and sex.
3. Can figures also be provided for the same period in 2019.

Please refer to **Table one** (below) for births at West Coast DHB hospitals or facilities 25 March to 27 April and for the same time frame in 2019. **Tables 2-6** provide weekly breakdowns for both calendar years.

Table one: Births at West Coast DHB hospital or facility

Births by location	25 March – 27 April 2020			25 March – 27 April 2019		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Grey Base Hospital	12	7	19	14	10	24
Kawatiri Birthing Unit (Westport)	0	0	0	0	2	2
Total	12	7	19	14	12	26

Table two

Births by location	25 – 31 March 2020			25 – 31 March 2019		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Grey Base Hospital	4	1	5	3	2	5
Kawatiri Birthing Unit (Westport)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4	1	5	2	3	5

Table three

Births by location	1 - 7 April 2020			1 - 7 April 2019		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Grey Base Hospital	3	2	5	2	1	3
Kawatiri Birthing Unit (Westport)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3	2	5	2	1	3

Table four

Births by location	8 - 14 April 2020			8 - 14 April 2019		
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Grey Base Hospital	2	1	3	3	4	7
Kawatiri Birthing Unit (Westport)	0	0	0	0	2	2
Total	2	1	3	3	4	9

Table five

Births by location	15 - 21 April 2020			15 - 21 April 2019		
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Grey Base Hospital	3	1	4	4	1	5
Kawatiri Birthing Unit (Westport)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3	1	4	4	1	5

Table six

Births by location	22 - 27 April 2020			22 - 27 April 2019		
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Grey Base Hospital	0	2	2	2	2	4
Kawatiri Birthing Unit (Westport)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	2	2	2	2	4

West Coast DHB does not hold the data for home births and we are therefore declining this part of your request pursuant to 18(g) of the Official Information Act. Home births for women domiciled on the West Coast are reported by the Lead Maternity Carer (usually an LMC Midwife) directly to the Ministry of Health.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

You may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek a review of our decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz; or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the West Coast DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely



Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support