

Stats NZ

Annual Report

Tatauranga Aotearoa
Pūrongo Ā-Tau

2023/2024





Crown copyright ©

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 New Zealand license. You are free to copy, distribute, and adapt the work, as long as you attribute the work to Stats NZ and abide by the other license terms. Please note you may not use any departmental or governmental emblem, logo, or coat of arms in any way that infringes any provision of the Flags, Emblems, and Names Protection Act 1981. Use the wording 'Stats NZ' in your attribution, not the Stats NZ logo.

Liability

While all care and diligence has been used in processing, analysing, and extracting data and information in this publication, Stats NZ gives no warranty it is error free and will not be liable for any loss or damage suffered by the use directly, or indirectly, of the information in this publication.

Citation

Stats NZ's Annual Report 2023/2024
Wellington: Statistics New Zealand

Published in October 2024 by
Stats NZ
Tatauranga Aotearoa
Wellington, New Zealand

Contact

Stats NZ Information Centre:
info@stats.govt.nz
Phone toll-free 0508 525 525
Phone international +64 4 931 4600
www.stats.govt.nz

This document is presented to the House of Representatives pursuant to section 44 of the Public Finance Act 1989 and in accordance with section 94 of the Data and Statistics Act 2022

Contents

Ngā ihirangi

●	Contents	
	Ngā ihirangi	3
●	Foreword	6
●	Kupu tuatahi	8
●	Who we are and what we do	
	Ko wai mātou, he aha tā mātou mahi	10
	Our functions	
	Ā mātou mahi	12
	Our services	
	Ā mātou ratonga	13
	Our structure	
	Tō mātou anga	14
●	Our operating environment	
	Tō mātou horopaki whakahaere	15
	Supporting government targets	
	Te tautoko i ngā ūnga kāwanatanga	17
●	Our place in the system	
	Tō mātou wāhi i te pūnaha	18
	How we are funded	
	He pēhea mātou e whāngaia nei ki te pūtea	18
●	Our year at a glance	
	Te tiro ki te tau	20
●	Our strategic direction	
	Tā mātou ahunga rautaki	22
●	How we assess our performance	
	He pēhea mātou e aromatawai nei i tā mātou mahi	28
●	Our long- and medium-term performance: Strategic outcomes and priorities	
	Ā mātou whakatutukitanga wā roa, wā-waenga hoki: Ngā putanga me ngā whakaarotau rautaki	31
	Stewardship: New Zealand's data ecosystem is strengthened	
	Te tautiaki: E whakapakaritia ana te pūnaha hauropi raraunga o Aotearoa	32
	Protection: Trust and confidence in statistics is high and maintained	
	Te wawao: Kei runga te whakapono me te whirinaki o te iwi ki ngā tatauranga	32
	Wellbeing: Wellbeing of people, economy, and environment is enhanced	
	Te toiora: Ka whakareia te toiora o te tangata, o te ōhanga me te taiao	33

Proactively improve the health of Aotearoa New Zealand's data system	
Ka āta whakapikia te hauora o te pūnaha raraunga o Aotearoa	33
Measure what matters and proactively manage risks around core systems	
Te ine i ngā mea nunui me te āta whakahaere tūraru i te taha o ngā pūnaha taketake	38
Deliver for and with Māori, iwi, and hapū	
Te hora painga mā ngāi Māori, mā ngā iwi, mā ngā hapū, mā te mahi tahi	47
Budget significant initiative: Iwi-led data collection for 2023 Census	47
Treaty settlement commitments	50
Become an organisation that uses admin data first	
Te huri hei whakahaere ka whakamahi raraunga whakahaere i te tuatahi	51

Our short-term performance: Products and services

Tā mātou whakatutukitanga wā poto: Ngā hua me ngā ratonga.....	54
Official statistics	
Ngā tauanga whai mana	55
New Zealand's 2023 Census of Population and Dwellings	
Te Tatauranga o te Taupori me ngā Whare Noho o Aotearoa 2023	68
Participation and coverage.....	68
Data releases	69
2023 Census Māori descent data on Te Whata.....	69
Census products and services	70
Lessons learned.....	70
Stats NZ Performance measurement framework detail	
Taipitopito inenga tutukinga o Tatauranga Aotearoa	70
Disclosure of significant judgements under PBE FRS 48	
Whakapuakanga whakataunga hira i raro i PBE FRS 48	74
Statement of performance 2023/2024	
Tauākī tutukinga mō 2023/2024	74

Organisational health and capability

Te hauora me ngā pūmanawa o te whakahaere	88
Our people	
Ā mātou tāngata.....	89
Encouraging a culture of diversity and inclusion	
Te poipoi i tētahi ahurea kanorau me te ōrite o te katoa.....	91
Commitment to health, safety, and wellbeing	
Te ū ki te hauora, ki te haumaruru me te toiora	95
Our stakeholders and partners	
Te hunga pupuru pānga me ō mātou hoa kōtui.....	96
Our resources	
Ā mātou rauemi.....	96

Our systems and processes	
Ā mātou pūnaha, hātepe hoki	98
Carbon Neutral Government Programme.....	99
Governance, risk management	
Te whakaruruhau, te whakahaere tūraru	102

Statement of responsibility

Te tauākī noho haepapa	104
------------------------------	-----

Independent Auditor's Report

Te Pūrongo a te Kaitātari Kaute Motuhake	106
--	-----

Financial statements

Ngā tauākī whakahaere pūtea.....	111
----------------------------------	-----

List of figures

Figure 1. Our functions under the Act	12
Figure 2. Our core services under the Act.....	13
Figure 3. Our place in the system	19
Figure 4. Stats NZ's Strategic Framework.....	24
Figure 5. Stats NZ's performance measurement framework.....	30
Figure 6. Number of people who agreed or disagreed they trusted Stats NZ to keep information about them safe, 2024	52
Figure 7. Diagram of the generic statistical business process model.....	56
Figure 8. Phases of the 2023 Census	68
Figure 9. Stats NZ's emission profile by operations, selected dates.....	100
Figure 10. Stats NZ emissions actual against 1.5C reduction requirements, selected dates	101

List of tables

Table 1. Delivering the Minister of Statistics' focus areas for the statistics portfolio	17
Table 2. Actual and budget revenue, from the Crown and others, 2019/2020–2023/2024.....	18
Table 3. How our strategic priorities guide how we deliver our core business.....	26
Table 4. Source, frequency, and desired direction of Performance measurement framework measures	71
Table 5 . Workforce profile as at 30 June each year	93
Table 6 . Gender profile of our workforce as at 30 June each year.....	93
Table 7. Ethnicity profile of our workforce as at 30 June each year compared to 2023 Census data for the New Zealand population..	94
Table 8 . Ethnicity profile of our tier 2 and 3 leaders as at 30 June each year	94
Table 9. Targets and trends for measures of travel online adoption and capability 2022/2023 and 2023/2024	96
Table 10. Trends for measures of Stats NZ's share of office space and spend 2023 and 2024	97
Table 11 . Progress towards simplified, flexible, sustainable IT environment, by measure and target, for 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 ...	98
Table 12. Overall Stats NZ's emissions profile, by scope and total annual emissions (tCO ₂ e), base year 2018/2019; 2021-2024	99
Table 13. 2023/2024 Stats NZ's total provisional gross emissions, by source in tCO ₂ e.....	100
Table 14. Our governance arrangements, as at 30 June 2024.....	101

Foreword

I am pleased to present our Annual Report for the 2023/2024 financial year – one that in many respects focused on positioning ourselves for the future so we continue to deliver on our purpose ‘About Aotearoa, For Aotearoa’.



As the official data agency, our role is to collect information from people and organisations so that we can produce data and insights to support New Zealand.

With these data and insights underpinning decision-making at a local and national level, and therefore directly impacting people’s lives, comes considerable responsibility. Every day, communities, businesses, iwi, Government, and individuals throughout our country need and rely on quality data and statistics to make informed decisions.

This need for information is growing exponentially and coupled with that is a need to change how we collect, process, and publish data and insights in response to customer demand. Equally, like many agencies, we need to operate within a reduced baseline and adapt to external cost pressures. Those widespread cost pressures aside, it is important that as a government agency we not only operate effectively, but also sustainably.

These factors contribute to the future direction Stats NZ must take, and the activities undertaken in the past financial year were done so within this context.

We are particularly proud of our system leadership in data ethics and standing up the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation, focused on leading the public sector in safe and ethical data use and data-driven innovation.

As an organisation, we also continue to prioritise the privacy and security of data – maintaining the trust of New Zealanders is core to our role. Our robust privacy frameworks ensure data protection, while physical security measures safeguard our facilities and systems. These measures include secure data storage, controlled access to sensitive information, and regular audits to maintain high security standards.

We released the Aotearoa Data Explorer – and although still in its infancy, it means our customers have easy access to a modern tool providing the data they need.

Stats NZ was awarded a New Zealand Spatial Excellence Award for trial population grids, which we saw the benefit of during 2023’s Cyclone Gabrielle when they were used as the basis for highlighting the populations of isolated communities so they could receive support.

And with our commitment to accessibility, we were equally delighted to be a 2024 New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) award recipient for the work undertaken to ensure the 2023 Census and the 2023 Disability Survey were accessible in NZSL.

The 2023 Census campaign, centred on the tag line ‘Tatau tatou: All of us count,’ was highly recognisable and – combined with a concerted effort to reach our priority response groups, especially Māori and Pacific peoples – resulted in coverage of approximately 99 percent of New Zealand’s total population. On reflection, we know there is still room for improvement. We need to keep our focus on strong response rates, meeting the needs of minority groups and building trusting relationships with them – and we need to achieve good results but in a fiscally responsible way. The 2023 Census results did come at high cost to taxpayers.

Yet, this census provided us with valuable insights. The first results from the 2023 Census released in May 2024 showed New Zealand to have an older and more diverse population, with an extra 300,000 people between censuses, likely tipping our population over the 5 million mark. At the same time, census data with a focus on Māori descent was released for and by iwi on the Te Whata platform administered by Te Kāhui Raraunga and the Data Iwi Leaders Group. I am proud of the enduring and meaningful relationships Stats NZ has, which ensure Māori data needs and aspirations are front and centre of the work we do at Stats NZ.

The ‘Modernising our approach to the 2028 Census’ consultation sought widespread public feedback on what the census could look like in New Zealand from 2028 and beyond. We asked people how they felt about changing how we do the census, including reusing existing data or admin data, supported by surveys. (Note, administrative data or ‘admin data’ refers to information routinely collected by organisations during their everyday operations, rather than for statistical purposes.) We wanted to hear about the things that are most important to them, and we encouraged them to share what data needs are important to them.

We have responded to calls from our customers and have updated some key products. Equally, we have put considerable effort into maintaining and enhancing the quality of our core products and services.

With an increased interest in our economic datasets, it was timely that in March of this year, our quarterly income measure of gross domestic product (referred to as GDPI) became an official statistic and released as part of GDP. This addition to the official GDP suite provides customers with a timely and comprehensive view of the economy.

We further added the release of an additional quarter to the greenhouse gas emissions statistics release. This improvement means that we have information about emissions just one month after releasing data about economic activity. This move benefits both decision-makers and anyone interested in Aotearoa’s environment.

In October 2023, our new selected price indexes (SPI) replaced and expanded upon our previous indexes, and now offers essential price data at more regular intervals. This supports people to better understand market dynamics.

Positioning the organisation for the future meant using multiple levers, including streamlining our operations and making savings where we can, such as sharing office space with other government agencies. Another lever has been realigning our organisational structure to better fit our future production model, focusing on efficiency and modernisation.

While I am confident that the changes to our organisational structure are positioning us to deliver into the future sustainably and effectively, it is important that we recognise it is a challenging process. Regarding the past financial year’s achievements, the people we have farewelled played a significant role in those achievements. I am deeply grateful to them for both this and the dignity and professionalism in which they conducted themselves.

It has been a full and diverse year for Stats NZ, and it is heartening to see people’s growing recognition of the value of data. For that, I express my thanks to the people of Stats NZ, both past and present.



Mark Sowden

Chief Executive and Government Statistician
Kaiwhakahaere Matua, Kaitatau Kāwanatanga hoki

Kupu tuatahi

Ka nui te hari ki te tāpae atu i tā mātou Pūrongo ā-Tau mō te tau ahumoni 2023/2024 – he pūrongo tēnei, me kī, e aro nui ana ki ngā rā kei mua, kia pai ai tā mātou hora i tā mātou kaupapa ‘Mō Aotearoa, Mā Aotearoa’.



Ko mātou te hinonga raraunga whai mana, ā, i takea mai i tō mātou kawenga kia kōhi mōhiotanga mai i ngā tāngata me ngā whakahaere, kia pai ai tā mātou hanga raraunga, māramatanga hoki, hei tautoko i Aotearoa.

E noho ēnei raraunga, me ngā māramatanga hei pūtake mō ngā whakataunga take, ahakoa i ngā rohe, ahakoa mō te motu katoa, me te pānga anō o ēnei whakatau ki te noho a te tangata, me te nui i ngā haepapa mā mātou i roto. E hiahia ana, e whakawhirinaki ana hoki ngā hapori, ngā umanga, ngā iwi me te Kāwanatanga ki ngā raraunga, tauanga whai kounga ia rā, kia pai ai ā rātou whakatau i runga i te mōhio.

Kāore e mutu te tupu hohoro o te hiahia mō ēnei mōhiotanga, ā, i te taha o tērā me panoni te āhua o tā mātou kohikohi, tukatuka, me tā mātou whakaputa raraunga me ngā māramatanga, hei whakatutuki i ngā hiahia o ngā kiritaki. Waihoki, me haere ā mātou mahi i roto i ngā whakahekenga pūtea ā-tau, rite tonu ki te tini o ngā hinonga, hei whakaurutau ki ngā pēhanga utu o waho. Ahakoa ēnei pēhanga utu torowhānui, he mea hira kia whai painga tā mātou whakahaere, hei hinonga kāwanatanga, me te toitū o ngā mahi.

Hei pūtake ēnei mō te ahunga hei whai mā Tatauranga Aotearoa mō ngā tau kei mua, ā, i kawea ngā mahi o te tau ka hipa ake nei i roto i tēnei horopaki.

E tino hari ana mātou mō tā mātou hautū pūnaha mō ngā matatika raraunga, me tā mātou whakatū i te Pūtahi mō ngā Matatika Raraunga me te Auahatanga, e aro nei ki te ārahi i te rāngai tūmatanui kia hāpai tikanga whakamahi raraunga haumarū, i runga i ngā matatika, me te auahatanga nā ngā raraunga i ārahi.

E haere ana tā mātou whakatāhuhu ki mua te tūmataititanga me te haumarū o ngā raraunga – me te mōhio ko te pupuru tonu i te whakapono o te hunga o Aotearoa tētahi wāhi nui o tō mātou kaupapa. E whakaū ana ō mātou anga tūmataititanga pakari i te tautiaki raraunga, waihoki, e tautiaki ana ā mātou pūnaha ōkiko i ō mātou pūtahi mahi, pūnaha anō hoki. Ka uru ki ēnei whakaritenga te rokiroki raraunga haumarū, te urutanga e wawaotia ana ki ngā mōhiotanga matatapu, me ngā arotake auau kia mau tonu ai ngā paerewa haumarū mārō.

I whakaputaina e mātou te Pūtūhura Raraunga o Aotearoa – ahakoa kei ōna tau tuatahi, te tikanga o tēnei ka wātea tētahi taputapu hou e hora nei i ngā raraunga e hiahia ana e rātou, ki ō mātou kiritaki.

I whakawhiwhia a Stats NZ ki tētahi New Zealand Spatial Excellence Award mō ana māiti taupori whakamātautau, i kitea rā ōna painga i roto i te Huripari Gabrielle i 2023, i te whakamahinga o aua māiti hei take whakatairanga i ngā taupori o ngā hapori mamao, i tautokona ai rātou i roto i te raruraru nui.

Nā runga i tā mātou ū ki te tomopai, i tino harikoa mātou kia whakawhiwhia ki Te Tohu o Te Reo Rotarota o Aotearoa 2024 [New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL)] mō ngā mahi i kawea kia wātea katoa ai a Tatauranga 2023 me te Uiuinga Hauātanga 2023 i roto i Te Reo Rotarota.

I mōhio nuitia, otirā, i hāngai tonu te kōkiri a Tatauranga 2023, ki runga tonu i te rārangi whakaingoa o 'Tatau tatou: All of us count,' – ā, i haere hoki ngā mahi katoa i runga i te whai kia tae atu mātou ki ō mātou rōpū urupare takenui katoa. I tino arongia te iwi Māori me ngā tāngata o Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa – me te aha, i kapi tōna 99 ōrau o te taupori katoa o Aotearoa. I a mātou e whiriwhiri ana i ēnei āhuatanga, e mōhio ana mātou arā anō ngā āhuatanga hei whakapiki. Me aro tonu mātou ki te whakapakari i ngā pāpātanga urupare, te whakatutuki i ngā hiahia o ngā rōpū moroiti, me te whakapakari i te whirinakitanga me rātou – ā, me whakatutuki hua papai, me te whakatutuki i ngā herenga ā-pūtea e kawea ana e mātou. He tiketike tonu te utu o ngā hua o Tatauranga 2023 mō te hunga utu tāke.

Ahakoā tērā, i hua ake ētahi māramatanga tino pai i tēnei Tatauranga. I roto i ngā kitenga tuatahi mai i Tatauranga 2023, i whakaputaina rā i te marama o Haratua 2024, ka kitea he pakeke kē atu, he matahuhua kē atu te taupori o Aotearoa, me tōna 300,000 tāngata i waenga i ngā tatauranga, me te whakaaro, kua eke pea te tapeke o tō tātou taupori ki runga ake i te 5 miriona Waihoki i whakaputaina he raraunga tatauranga e aro ana ki ngā uri Māori mā ngā iwi, nā ngā iwi hoki i te pūhara o Te Whata, e whakahaeretia ana e Te Kāhui Raraunga me te Rōpū Raraunga o ngā Kaihautū o ngā Iwi. Ka nui taku hari mō ngā hononga mauroa, whai tikanga hoki o Tatauranga Aotearoa. e tutuki nei ngā hiahia me ngā wawata raraunga Māori, me te whakaaro, kei mua tonu ngā hiahia me ngā moemoeā i ngā mahi e mahia nei e mātou i Tatauranga Aotearoa.

I rapua e tō mātou toronga whakaaro 'Modernising our approach to the 2028 Census' he urupare tūmatanui torowhānui mō te āhua ka taea pea mō te tatauranga i Aotearoa atu i 2028, ki tua atu hoki. I uiui mātou i te tangata mō te āhua o tā mātou mahi i te tatauranga, tae atu ki te whakamahinga anō o ngā raraunga o nāianei, ngā raraunga whakahaere rānei, me te tautoko mai o ngā uiuinga. (Kia mārama, ka pā te 'raraunga whakahaere,' te 'administrative data' te 'admin data' rānei ki ngā mōhiotanga ka kohia noatia iho e ngā whakahaere i roto i ā rātou mahi o ia rā, kaua mō ngā kaupapa tauanga.) I hiahia mātou ki te whakarongo ki ō rātou tino whakaaro mō ngā mea nunui ki a rātou, me te akiaki i a rātou kia kōrerotia mai ngā hiahia raraunga hira, e ai ki a rātou.

Kua urupare mātou ki ngā karanga mai a ā mātou kiritaki, ā, kua whakahoutia ētahi o ā mātou hua taketake. Waihoki, he nui ā mātou mahi tautiaki, whakarei hoki i te kounga o ā mātou hua me ā mātou ratonga taketake.

Nā te pikinga ake o te aronga o te iwi ki ā mātou huinga raraunga ōhanga, he mea tika i te marama o Poutūterangi i tēnei tau kia noho tō mātou inenga whiwhinga pūtea ā-hauwhā tau o te tapeke wāriu hokonga (e mōhiotia nei ko te GDP) hei tauanga whai mana, kia whakaputaina hoki hei wāhi o te GDP. Nā tēnei tāpiritanga ki te kāpuinga GDP whai mana, kua horaina he tirohanga kakama, matawhānui hoki ki te ōhanga.

I tāpiritia hoki e mātou tētahi whakaputanga o tētahi hauwhā atu anō ki te putanga mō ngā tukunga haurehu kati mahana. Te tikanga o tēnei whakapikinga, kua whai mōhiotanga tātou mō ngā tukunga kotahi marama noa iho i muri i te whakaputanga raraunga mō ngā mahi ōhanga. Hei painga tēnei kōkiri mā ngā kaiwhakatau take nui, me te hunga katoa e aro nui ana ki te taiao o Aotearoa.

I te marama o Whiringa-ā-rangi 2023, i whakakapi, i whakawhānui hoki ā mātou tauine utuhoko hou i ā mātou tauine o mua, ā, ka tāpaetia pūpututia he raraunga utuhoko taketake ināianei, kia auau kē atu, i muri i tēnei whakakapinga. Hei tautoko tēnei i te iwi kia mārama kē atu ki ngā taineke o te mākete.

I roto i tēnei whakatakoto hou i te whakahaere mō ngā rā kei mua, he maha ngā ara i whāia, tae atu ki te whakangāwari i ā mātou whakahaere, te tiaki moni i ngā wāhi ka taea, pēnei i te noho tahi me ētahi atu hinonga kāwanatanga i ō rātou tari. Tētahi atu ara ko te whakahāngai anō i tō mātou anga whakahaere kia tino hāngai ki tā mātou tauira whakaputanga mō āpōpō, me te arotahi ki te whāomo me te whakahounga.

Ahakoā e māia ana taku tū me taku kī, nā ēnei panonitanga o tō mātou anga whakahaere i tika ai tā mātou anganga atu mō te whakaputa hua, i runga i te toitū me te whāinga hua, he mea hira kia mārama tātou, he mahi uaua. Mō te āhua o ngā ekenga taumata ahumoni o te tau ka hipa ake nei, i tino whai wāhanga te hunga kua wehe atu i te tari, i roto i aua mahi kua tutuki. Kei te tino whakamoemiti taku ngākau ki a rātou mō tēnei āhua, mō te rangatira o te tū, te ngaio hoki o tō rātou kawae i a rātou.

He tau mahi nui, mahi matahuhua tēnei mō Tatauranga Aotearoa, ā, ka nui te hari kia kite i te māramatanga o te tangata e tupu nei mō te uara o te raraunga. E whakamoemiti ana au ki ngā tāngata o Tatauranga Aotearoa, o nāianei, o mua atu, mō tēnei āhua.



Mark Sowden

Chief Executive and Government Statistician
Kaiwhakahaere Matua, Kaitatau Kāwanatanga hoki

Who we are and what we do

Ko wai mātou, he aha tā mātou mahi



Who we are and what we do

Ko wai mātou, he aha tā mātou

Tatauranga Aotearoa, Statistics New Zealand (Stats NZ), is the national statistical office (NSO) and the primary producer of official statistics for Aotearoa New Zealand. Our purpose is to deliver and communicate statistics that show how we are performing as a country. Led by the Government Statistician and Chief Executive, who holds statutory independence, we determine how data is collected, analysed, and presented, enabling public trust in the integrity of our data.

We collect information from individuals and organisations to provide insights and data about New Zealand and its people. This data supports decision-making by the government, Māori and iwi organisations, businesses, NGOs, and the public, aiding the development of effective policies and resource allocation on social, economic, environmental, and wellbeing matters.

The independence of the Government Statistician, protected under the Data and Statistics Act 2022 (the Act), is crucial for maintaining a well-functioning democracy. Our legislation also acknowledges the Crown's responsibility to consider Māori interests in data and statistics and ensures robust safeguards and protections for public trust.

In addition to our statistical role, Stats NZ's Chief Executive serves as the Government Chief Data Steward (GCDS). The GCDS works to build a more integrated and inclusive government data system while maintaining public trust and confidence in how people's information is used. This involves advising on data investment planning, raising data management capability, implementing data standards, and embedding ethical tools across the data system.

Figures 1 and 2 outline our functions and core services under the Act.

Our functions Ā mātou mahi

Our legislated functions under the Data and Statistics Act 2022 are to:

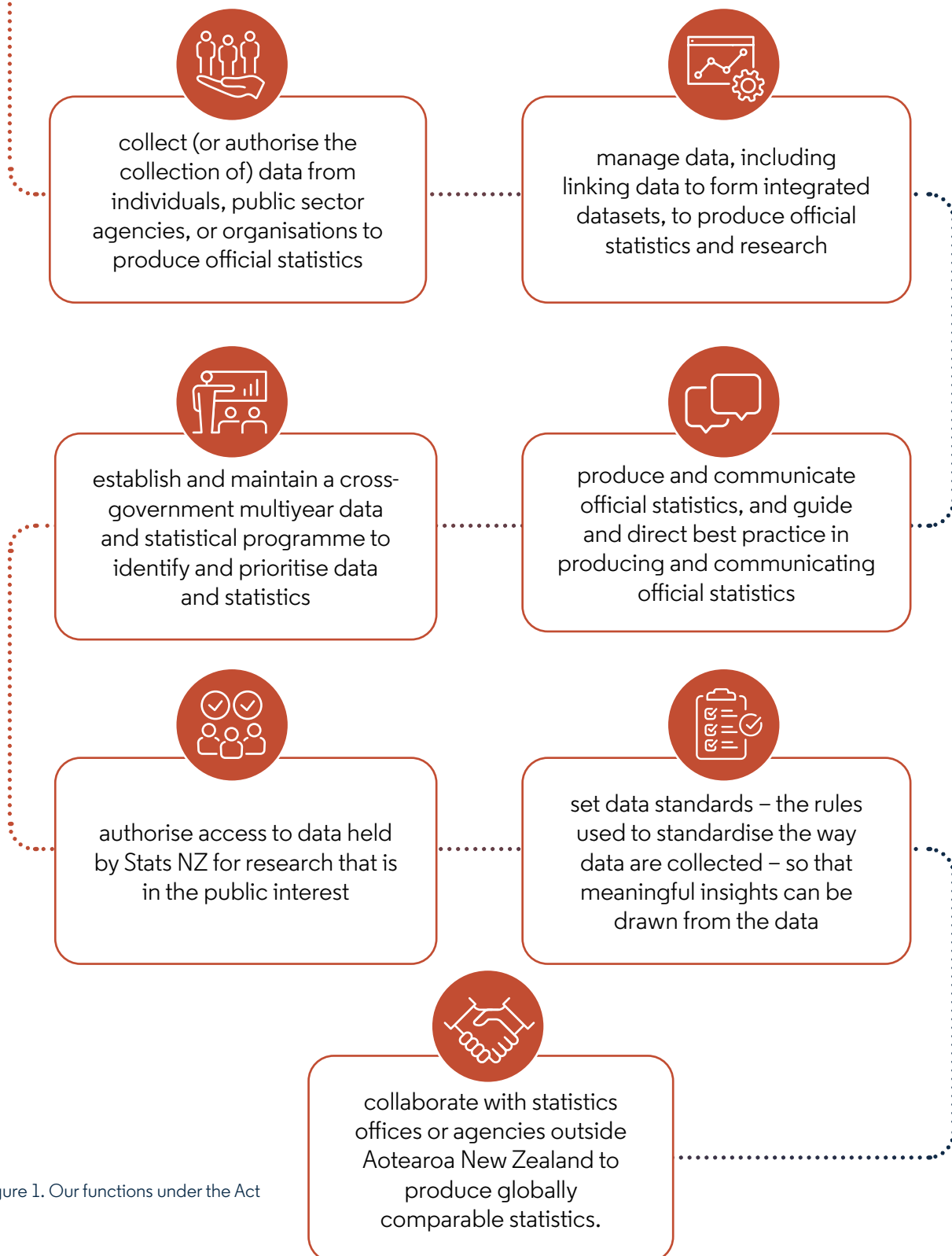


Figure 1. Our functions under the Act

Our services

Ā mātou ratonga

Our core services derive from our legislated functions set out in the Data and Statistics Act 2022, and Government Chief Data Steward mandate assigned by the Public Services Commissioner. They include:

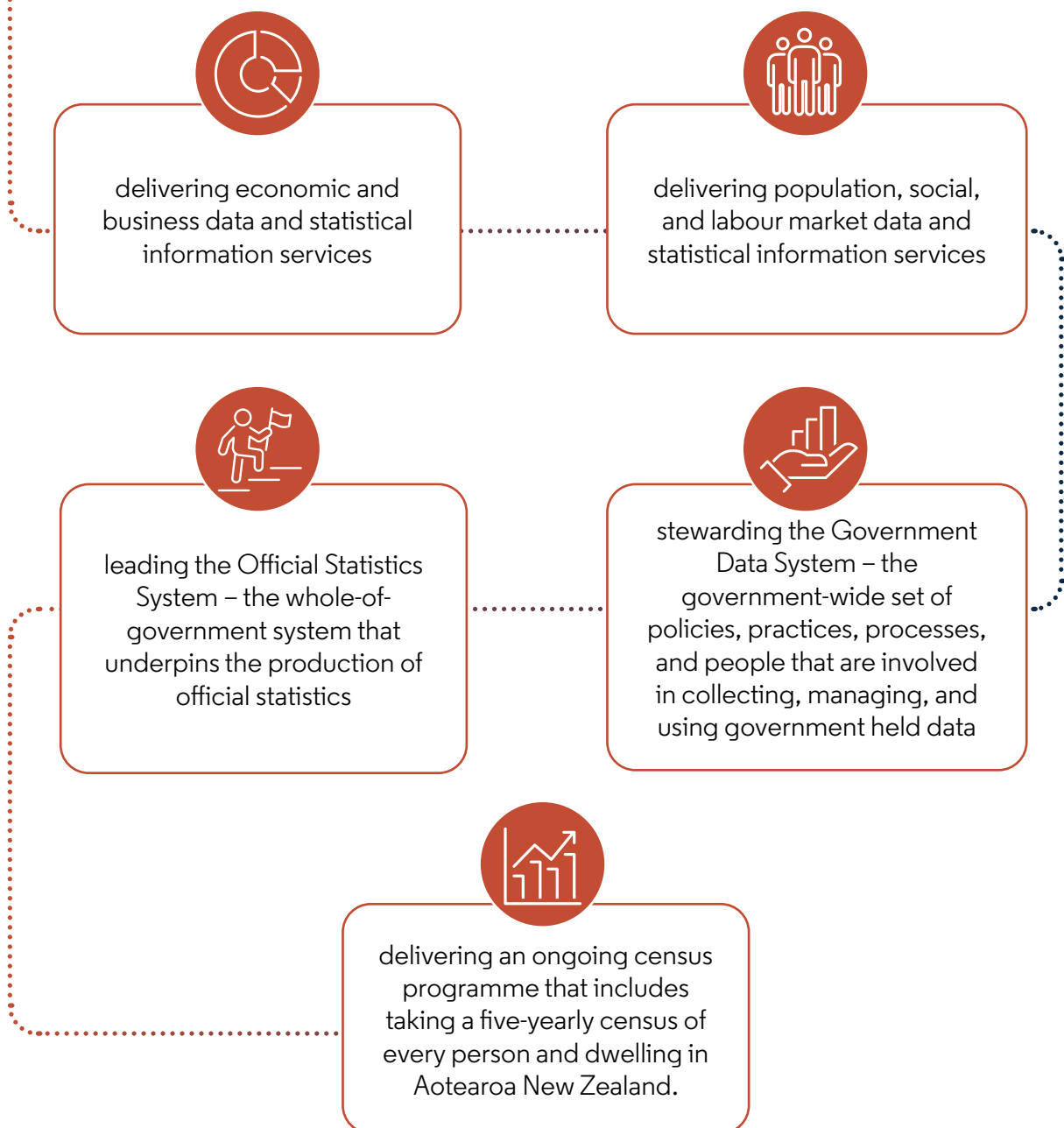


Figure 2. Our core services under the Act

Our structure

Tō mātou anga

Stats NZ is accountable to the Minister of Statistics, and is led by Government Statistician and Chief Executive, Mark Sowden. As of September 2024, Stats NZ is organised into six business groups. Collectively, the Chief Executive, three Deputy Government Statisticians, Chief Methodologist, Chief of Staff and Kaihautū form Stats NZ's Executive Leadership Team.



Mark Sowden

Government Statistician
Government Chief Data Steward
Chief Executive of Stats NZ



Vince Galvin

Chief Methodologist
Head of Statistical
Methods and Design



Emma Jones

Deputy Government Statistician
Deputy Chief Executive for
Technology, Operations, Commercial
and Collections



Rachael Milicich

Deputy Government Statistician
Deputy Chief Executive for Insights
and Statistics



Rhonda Paku

Kaihautū Tangata Tiriti
Learning and Capability



Kate Satterthwaite

Deputy Chief Executive
and Chief of Staff
Office of the Chief Executive



Tia Warbrick

Deputy Government Statistician
Deputy Chief Executive for Strategic
Engagement, Māori Partnerships and
Data Capability

Our operating environment

Tō mātou horopaki whakahaere



Our operating environment

Tō mātou horopaki whakahaere

Data has the power to change lives by illustrating how we live, care for each other, improve government services, and shape our environment. It supports economic growth by informing the design and development of new products, services, and business models, and aiding the creation of new industries.

The value of timely and relevant data has been highlighted by recent events, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and extreme weather events like Cyclone Gabrielle, showcasing data's critical role in crisis response and recovery. Additionally, data underpins key economic indicators that support decision-making at household, community, and government level, in times of economic volatility.

We are on a journey to modernise our data collection methods to ensure sustainability and resilience. The traditional survey-based model is becoming less viable due to increasing costs and societal changes. We are

exploring more sustainable approaches to deliver high-quality data and statistics that provide maximum value for New Zealand. This includes better meeting the data needs of Māori, iwi, hapū, and our most vulnerable communities, who often lack the data necessary to achieve their aspirations and deliver services.

We aim to become more responsive to the needs of customers and partners, including communities, and work with them to deliver the data New Zealand needs to inform our most important decisions. To maintain public trust, we must continue to keep people's data safe and secure.

Supporting government targets

Te tautoko i ngā ūnga kāwanatanga

The Government's priorities for the Statistics portfolio are captured in the [Data System Vision and Roadmap](#), which sets out the Minister of Statistics' vision for Stats NZ and key focus areas for action.

The Minister's vision for Stats NZ is to grow New Zealand's economy through data that:

- boosts innovation and productivity through better decision-making by businesses
- supports more efficient delivery of government services through digitisation and social investment, and
- reduces the burden on businesses and households from collections and surveys

Activities that align with the roadmap's five focus areas for action are highlighted throughout this annual report, and signposted in table 1 below.

Focus area	Refer to section
Strategically improve access to data to grow the economy and support NZ households and businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We operate in a simplified, flexible, and sustainable IT environment - page 38 • Our data and statistics are timely, relevant and meet customer needs - page 39
Support digitising government and improve collection approaches to cut costs and reduce compliance burden on New Zealanders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modernising digital public services - page 33 • Advice on data investment is strategic and co-ordinated - page 37 • There is effective data sharing within legislative and regulatory settings - page 36 • We prioritise high-demand data and statistics and discontinue low demand output - page 43
Foundation work for the 2028 Census	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become an organisation that uses admin data first - page 51 • Future census - page 52 • Integrated statistical data system - page 53
Investing in the IDI to support delivery of the social investment approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Data Infrastructure - page 44 • Integrated Data Commons - page 45
Expand and improve economic datasets to grow the economy and support New Zealand households and businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our data and statistics are relevant, timely and meet customer needs - page 39 • Data sharing agreements to improve statistical production - page 53

Table 1. Delivering the Minister of Statistics' focus areas for the statistics portfolio

Our place in the system

Tō mātou wāhi i te pūnaha

We interact with a wide range of organisations and individuals across New Zealand for a range of reasons, and in many ways. Additionally, we support Pacific data capability through the Pacific programme.

Figure 3 shows how we:

- provide high quality data and statistics to our stakeholders and partners, to inform their evidence-based decisions
- partner with iwi-Māori to grow Māori data capability and work with other government agencies to help meet the expectations of Māori regarding data availability and access
- partner with others to provide access to integrated data that supports evidence-based insights
- work with other system leads to support the safe use of data as a resource.

How we are funded

He pēhea mātou e whāngaia nei ki te pūtea

We deliver our services through funding received from the Crown, plus revenue from:

- the sale of customised data/subscriptions
- contract surveys
- the fees we charge other agencies for running the Wellington and Christchurch buildings where we have co-location agreements in place.

Stats NZ's revenue sources:

- Crown revenue (\$m)
- Revenue from others (\$m)

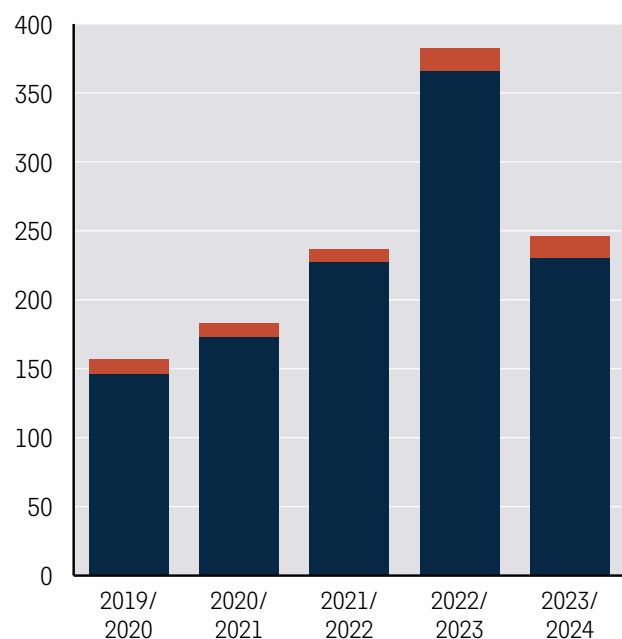


Table 2. Actual revenue, from the Crown and others, 2019/2020–2023/2024

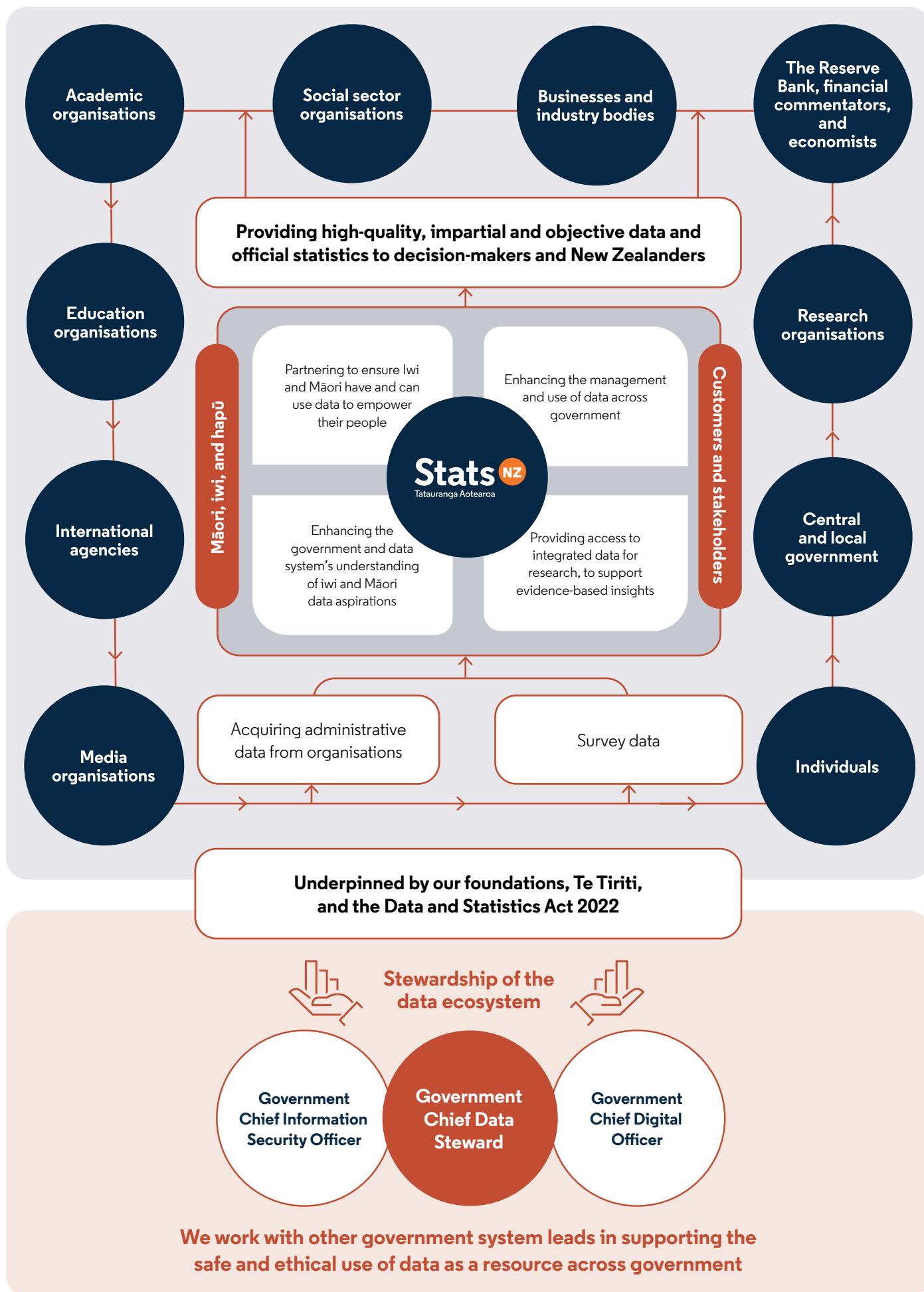


Figure 3. Our place in the system

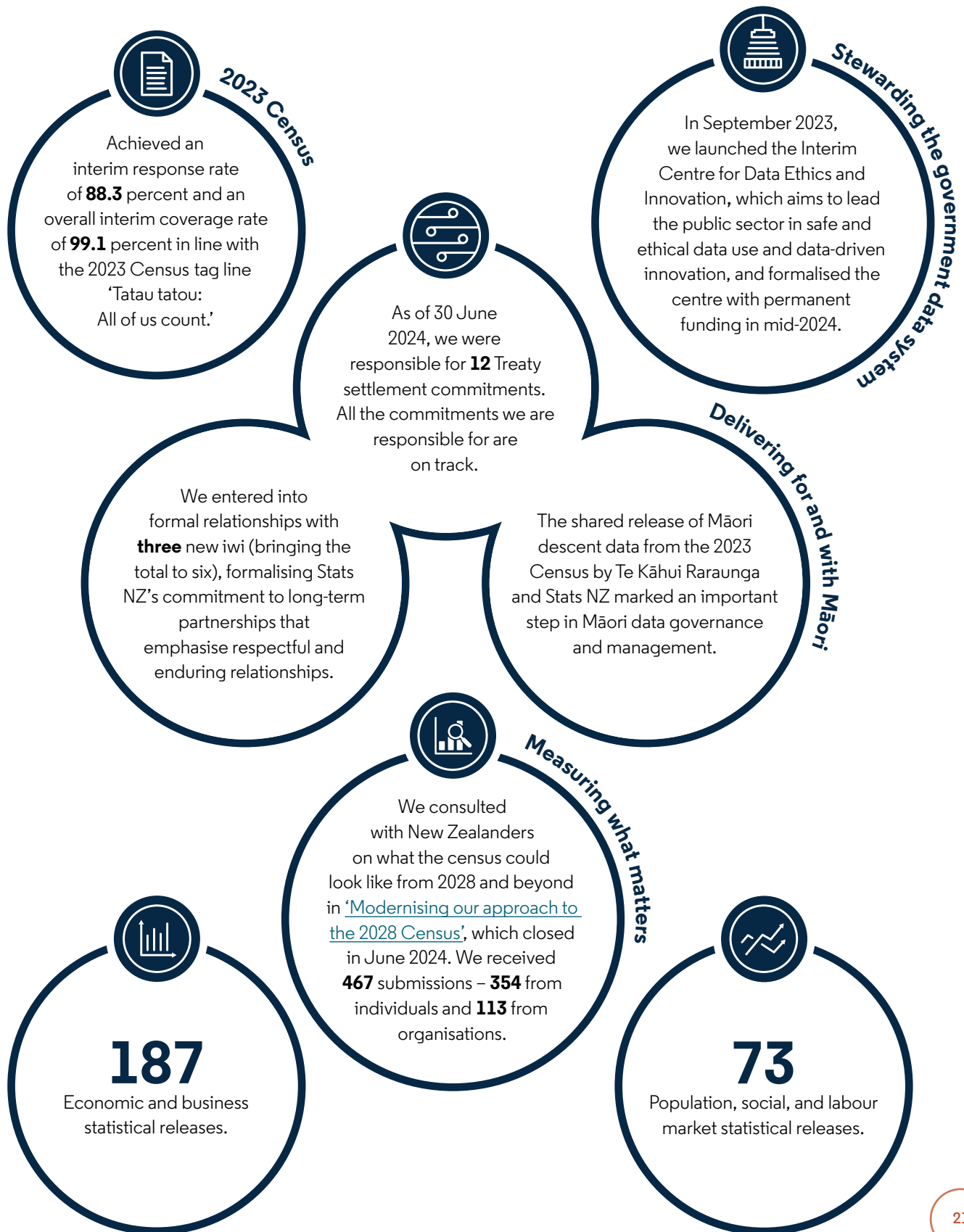
Our year at a glance

Te tiro ki te tau



Our year at a glance

Te tiro ki te tau



Our strategic direction

Tā mātou ahunga rautaki



Our strategic direction

Tā mātou ahunga rautaki

Grounded by our purpose – About Aotearoa, for Aotearoa – our vision is to improve lives today and for generations to come.

We achieve this by ensuring high-quality, impartial, and objective data and statistics that relate to New Zealand are available to inform the public and inform decision-making.

Figure 4 sets out our Strategic Framework, which summarises the commitments we have made in [Stats NZ's statement of strategic intentions 2023–2028](#).

Our foundations, underpinned by Te Tiriti o Waitangi, are what enable us to deliver on our core services and make progress towards our outcomes, through our priorities.

Our principles, developed by our people, guide the way we work, helping us to focus on the right things to achieve our vision.

Stats NZ's Strategic Framework

Te anga putanga hua o Tatauranga Aotearoa



About Aotearoa, for Aotearoa | Mō Aotearoa, mā Aotearoa hoki

We're here to ensure that high-quality, impartial, and objective data and official statistics are produced relating to New Zealand to inform the public and inform decision-making

Anei mātou e whai nei ki te whakarite tikanga e puta ai he tauanga kounga tiketike, tōkeke, tōtika hoki, waihoki ngā tauanga whai mana, e pā ana ki Aotearoa, hei whakamārama i te iwi tūmatanui, hei arataki hoki i ngā whakataunga take tūmatanui



Our strategic intentions | Ā mātou whāinga rautaki

Our vision: Data and statistics that improve lives today and for generations to come

Tō mātou matakite: He raraunga e whakarerekē ana i te noho o te tangata mō tātou i ēnei rā, mō ngā whakatupuranga hoki kei mua

Proactively improve the health of Aotearoa New Zealand's data system

Ka āta whakapikia te hauora o te pūnaha raraunga o Aotearoa

Measure what matters and proactively manage risks around core systems

Te ine i ngā mea nunui me te āta whakahaere tūraru i te taha o ngā pūnaha taketake

Deliver for and with Māori, iwi, and hapū

Te hora painga mā ngāi Māori, mā ngā iwi, mā ngā hapū, mā te mahi tahi

Become an organisation that uses admin data first

Te huri hei whakahaere ka whakamahi raraunga whakahaere i te tuatahi



Our core business | Tā mātou pakihi taketake

Statistical production of our data and statistics

Te whakaputanga o ā mātou raraunga hei tauanga me ngā tauanga

Stewardship of government data and statistical leadership

Te tautiakitanga o ngā raraunga kāwanatanga me te mahi hautū mō ngā tatauranga

Figure 4. Stats NZ's Strategic Framework



The way we work | He pēwhea ā tātou tikanga mahi



We bring the outside in

Ko tā mātou he tō mai i te ao o waho kia noho ki roto



We are part of something bigger

Hei wāhanga mātou nō te ao whānui



We are all leaders

He kaihautū katoa mātou



We put people at the heart

Ki a mātou, ko te tangata te mea nui



We are curious

He kaha mātou ki te rapu whakautu

Our foundations | Ō mātou pūtake



Our people

Ō mātou tāngata



Our stakeholders and partners

Ō mātou kaipupuru pānga, hoa kōtui hoki



Our resources

Ā mātou rauemi



Our systems and processes

Ā mātou pūnaha, pūnaha hoki



Underpinned by our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

E herea ana mā te ngākau ū ki Te Tiriti o Waitangi



Our priorities inform how we deliver our core business

In August 2023, we set out four priorities in [Stats NZ’s statement of strategic intentions 2023–2028](#) that sets the path to achieve our three outcomes. By focusing on our priorities as we deliver our core business as shown in table 3 below, we will work towards our outcomes. The two roles delivering on our core business are:

- Government Statistician
- Government Chief Data Steward

		<div>  Strategic priorities </div>			
		Improve data system health	Measure what matters	Deliver for and with Māori, iwi, and hapū	Admin data first
<div>  Core business </div>	Statistical production (Government Statistician role)	Our contribution to the data system health is accurate, timely official statistics for decision-makers that support the wellbeing of people, economy, and the environment (See case studies on how people use our data and statistics to make decisions on p 58 onward)	We focus on understanding customer needs when making decisions about the data and statistics we produce (see ‘our data and statistics are relevant, timely and responsive and meet customer needs’ p 39)	We do statistical production in a way that supports Māori aspirations by partnering at each stage – needs, design, collection, dissemination (see case study p 48)	We are moving toward producing data and statistics using admin data first to meet customer needs, reduce survey burden on New Zealanders, and build a more sustainable and resilient organisation (see Target Operating Model for Statistical Production p 51)

Table 3. How our strategic priorities guide how we deliver our core business

		 Strategic priorities			
		Improve data system health	Measure what matters	Deliver for and with Māori, iwi, and hapū	Admin data first
 Core business	Stewardship of the data system (Government Chief Data Steward role)	Our stewardship of the data system includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing tools, advice, and guidance on data best practice • Aligning investment advice on New Zealand's data infrastructure • Building data capability across government and in partnership with Māori, iwi, and hapū (See our Data System Health priority p 33)	We look after the Data Lab, Integrated Data Infrastructure, and Longitudinal Business Database so researchers can generate evidence-based insights that inform decision-making (see IDI p 44)	We steward the data ecosystem in a way that recognises Māori aspirations and builds Māori data capability and capacity (see The availability and quality of data and statistics for Maori, iwi, and hapu has improved, and Stats NZ and the wider government data system has developed mechanisms and channels to support iwi data needs section, both on p 50)	We develop and maintain the Integrated Statistical Data System, integrating data on Population, Places, and Businesses. This system supports the use of administrative data, ensuring high-quality statistics for decision-makers and enhancing data integration across Aotearoa (see Integrated Statistical Data System p 53)

How we assess our performance

He pēhea mātou e aromatawai nei i tā mātou mahi



How we assess our performance

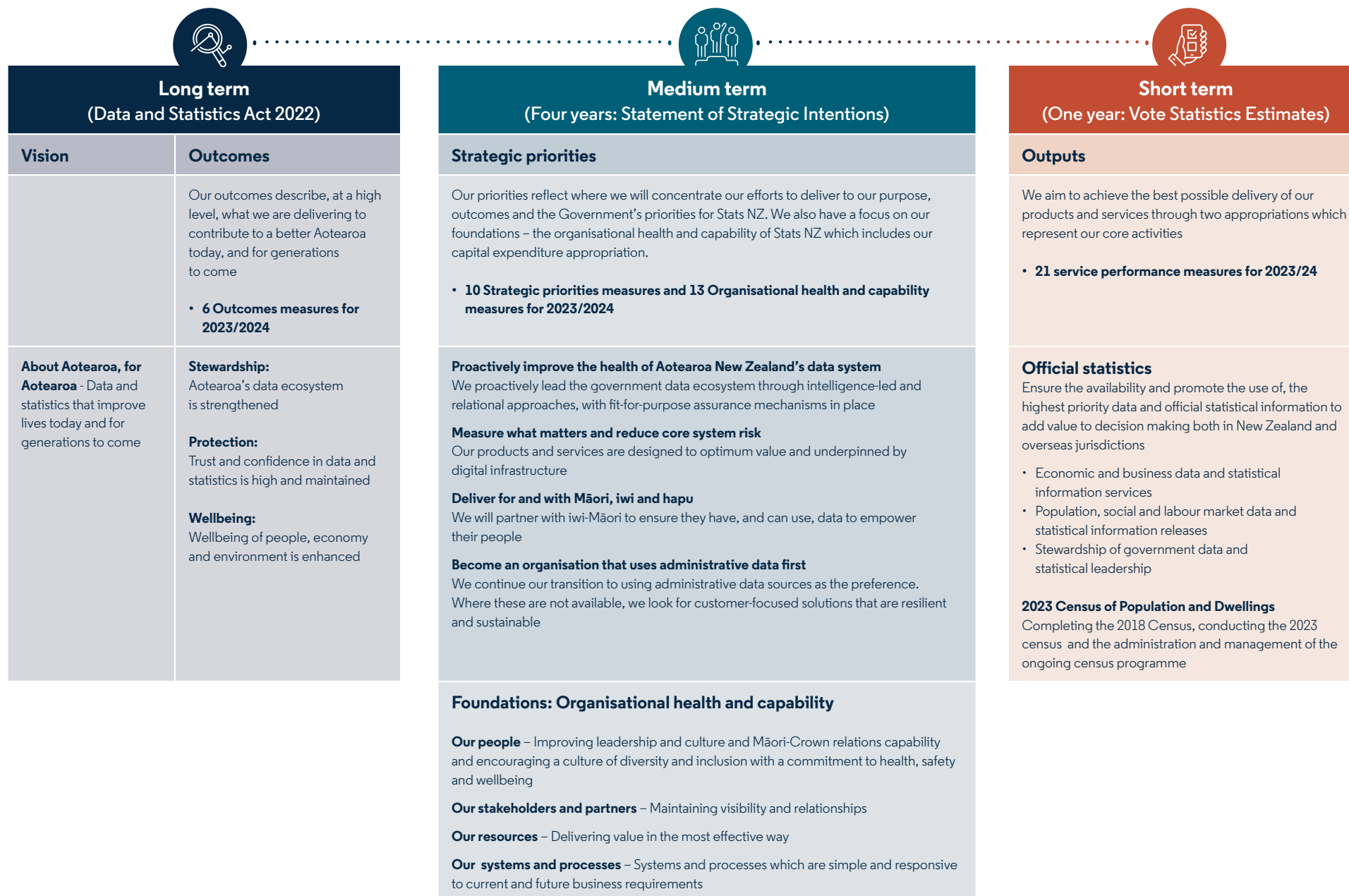
He pēhea mātou e aromatawai nei i tā mātou mahi

We have an ongoing work programme to ensure our internal systems, processes, and controls support both qualitative and quantitative performance reporting.

A key objective of this work is to ensure we demonstrate clear progress to New Zealanders through our new performance measurement framework (PMF) in figure 5 (see detail of PMF measures on page 71).

We updated the Vote Statistics service performance measures for the 2023/2024 financial year and incorporated them into the PMF. These describe the work that we are doing to deliver on our Statement of strategic intentions 2023–2028 and core business, and reported in our Statement of performance 2023/2024. Our disclosure of significant judgements has detailed information on how we chose these measures.

Figure 5: Stats NZ's performance measurement framework



Our long- and
medium-term performance:
Strategic outcomes and priorities

**Ā mātou whakatutukitanga wā roa, wā-waenga
hoki: Ngā putanga me ngā whakaarotau rautaki**



Our long- and medium-term performance: Strategic outcomes and priorities

Ā mātou whakatutukitanga wā roa, wā-waenga hoki: Ngā putanga me ngā whakaarotau rautaki

The following section outlines our long-term outcomes and the key activities we undertake to deliver on them.

Stewardship: New Zealand's data ecosystem is strengthened

Te tautiaki: E whakapakaritia ana te pūnaha hauropi raraunga o Aotearoa

Stats NZ's CE, as the Government Chief Data Steward, leads the government data system. We build system capability, align data investment, and support iwi-Māori data aspirations.

Protection: Trust and confidence in statistics is high and maintained

Te wawao: Kei runga te whakapono me te whirinaki o te iwi ki ngā tatauranga

The trust and confidence of the public, our customers, and partners underpins everything we do. At Stats NZ, we take measures to safeguard the privacy and physical security of data so that New Zealanders can feel confident we are taking care of their data and information.

Safe and secure data collection

To keep data and statistics physically safe, we follow the directions of the Government Chief Digital Officer to certify and accredit all new information systems.

We do privacy impact assessments for surveys and other projects involving the collection and storage of personal information such as the 2023 Census. These assessments are initiated early in the design phase of a new survey or project to ensure privacy considerations are integrated into the design. We are doing ongoing work on our key programmes to ensure they are 'secure by design' so we can continue to produce data and statistics sustainably.

In the Data Lab environment, where researchers interact with New Zealand's data, we use the [Five Safes framework](#) and [Ngā Tikanga Paihere framework](#) to manage data responsibly.

External oversight and advice

Like all public service departments, Stats NZ must also comply with the Privacy Act 2020 and the Protective Security Requirements, a policy framework that sets out best practice for managing personnel, physical, and information security.

We also receive oversight and advice on specific initiatives from the Data Ethics Advisory Group (DEAG).

Trusted data outputs

We adhere to international quality and consistency standards and support other NSOs to do the same through our Pacific programme. In our case studies, you can read about how different organisations trust our data and statistics to inform their own work. We also contribute to supporting best practice statistical methods through our methods, standards and research papers, and reports.

Trusted partner

Trust is a crucial aspect of the partnerships we are developing with Māori and iwi organisations, with our data sharing partners, and delivery partners such as Figure.NZ who create visualisations of our data.

Wellbeing: Wellbeing of people, economy, and environment is enhanced Te toiora: Ka whakareia te toiora o te tangata, o te ōhanga me te taiao

Stats NZ's contribution to wellbeing of people, economy, and the environment is to provide accurate, timely, and relevant data and statistics for decision-making. We continue to build our people capability, improve our

systems and processes, and measure what matters so we can provide data and statistics 'About Aotearoa, for Aotearoa' for decision-makers.

Our strategic priorities guide how we deliver on our outcomes in the medium-term. The following section shows how we have delivered on our strategic priorities in 2023/2024. Within each priority, subheadings show what success looks like, and the activities we have undertaken to achieve success.

Proactively improve the health of Aotearoa New Zealand's data system Ka āta whakapikia te hauora o te pūnaha raraunga o Aotearoa

Stats NZ is leading efforts to enhance New Zealand's data infrastructure through strategic partnerships, collaboration, and modernisation. By fostering a cohesive approach across government agencies, we aim to ensure the integrity, quality, and ethical use of data. Our initiatives support data capability uplift and alignment, enable government agencies to act on their Te Tiriti data responsibilities, and provide integrated investment advice.

These efforts are building a resilient and effective data ecosystem that supports decision-making to improve the lives of all New Zealanders.

Agencies and system leads are actively collaborating to build shared systems for data collection, management, and use

Modernising digital public services

This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priority, 'Support digitising government and improve collection approaches to cut costs and reduce compliance burden on New Zealanders.'

Participation in the Digital Executive Board allows the Government Chief Data Steward (GCDS) to work collectively with other system leads to support common system transformation goals and ensure data and statistical priorities, such as data quality, data ethics, and reducing respondent burden, are reflected in the Board's work programme. The Board leads and drives a whole-of-system approach to joining-up and modernising digital public services.

As an ongoing member of the Board, the Stats NZ Chief Executive as the GCDS has been an active participant in the 2023/2024 financial year. The Board discuss progress, issues, and opportunities, to link-up work across agencies, and to help shape advice to Ministers through input into The Treasury's Investment Management.

Agencies are actively enhancing the range of capabilities they need to make effective use of data

Building future data professionals – Analytics and Research in Government Internship programme

The Analytics and Research in Government (ARG) programme is a cross-agency initiative designed to build capability in data, analytics, and research so the public service has a skilled workforce capable of leveraging data to improve public services. Stats NZ led this programme in 2023/2024, focusing on future data professionals.

The latest intake for the internships programme accepted 33 interns and ran from November 2023 to February 2024. This 12-week programme included a tailored learning and development schedule designed to develop interns in three key areas:

- Individual development: Enhancing personal skills and professional growth.
- Public service orientation: Understanding the role and responsibilities of being a public servant.
- Technical skills in data and research: Building expertise in data analysis and research methodologies.

Prosple NZ, in its annual survey to rate graduate employers across both public and private sectors, ranked the ARG programme first in the 'Government and Public Service' category and 14th overall in 2023.



Public sector data capability assessment

The GCDS has developed a Data Maturity Assessment (DMA) toolkit to assist agencies to understand their current data maturity across eight dimensions and to prioritise their data investment to those elements of their data practices that are in most need of remediation.

The DMA was piloted with eight public service agencies between October 2022 and October 2023. All agencies stated the assessment findings were valuable and enabled some to update their data strategy and work programmes. The next step will be to publish the DMA toolkit and guidance as a self-service product.

Stats NZ's contribution to international data stewardship

In April 2024, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) published [Data Stewardship and the Role of National Statistical Offices \(NSO\) in the New Data Ecosystem](#) to help NSOs:

- understand data stewardship and related roles and functions
- understand how they can contribute to better governance of data in the public sector and beyond
- decide whether they should extend their role as government data stewards.

The guide will also help public data holders to better understand the advantages and services provided by NSOs in the data ecosystem.

Stats NZ led the development of two chapters in the guide:

- Data governance models and data stewardship
- Data stewardship maturity models.

Government agencies understand and are taking steps to act on their Te Tiriti responsibilities in relation to the data system

Supporting the Māori data governance model

In May 2023, Data Iwi Leaders Group of the National Iwi Chairs Forum (Data ILG), released the [Māori data governance model](#). Stats NZ's role is to ready the government data system by supporting key work in the development of a Māori data classification framework to better understand the level and types of Māori and Crown interests within a dataset.

In alignment with our priority to ‘Deliver for and with Māori, iwi, and hapū’, during the 2023/2024 financial year we have provided ongoing support to government agencies, local governments, and international bodies to raise awareness and gain support for Māori data governance. This work will increasingly focus on preparing these entities to test a Māori data classification framework from 2025.

Data practices are ethical, legal, and culturally appropriate across the government data system

System leadership in data ethics

In December 2023, we published the [Algorithm Impact Assessment toolkit](#) on Data.govt.nz. This toolkit helps government agencies make informed decisions about the benefits and risks of using algorithms. It includes tools to assess risks, explore impacts, and provide clear guidelines for ethical algorithm use. The Algorithm Charter Community of Practice, established in June 2023, continued to meet quarterly and publishes a post-event blogpost on Data.govt.nz.

The Algorithm Charter Community of Practice delivers against Commitment 8 of New Zealand’s Fourth National Action Plan under the Open Government Partnership, ‘Improved transparency and accountability of algorithm use across government’.

Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation

In July 2023, Cabinet approved the establishment of the Interim Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation within Stats NZ and it was launched in September 2023. By mid-2024, recognising the ongoing need to support government agencies in building trust in data use, we formalised the Centre with permanent funding.

The Centre connects portfolios and agencies, supporting digital government, AI, emerging data-driven technologies, social investment, and an admin data-led approach to the census. Its primary goals are to increase the visibility of data ethics, create a network for sharing knowledge and expertise, and provide a central hub to engage with the public on relevant issues and to coordinate across relevant government work programmes.

In its first year, the Centre’s key activities included curating a repository of relevant guidance, administering the Algorithm Impact Assessment tool, linking our Data Ethics Advisory Group to international counterparts, and developing guidance for the public sector’s use of generative AI.

Data Ethics Advisory Group

The Data Ethics Advisory Group (DEAG) sits within the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation and provides expert advice on new data projects, maximising benefits while managing risks to ensure that data innovations are both ethical and effective. Set up in 2019, this group consists of experts in privacy, human rights law, ethics, te ao Māori, disability, data analytics, and technology.

While the Centre provides general guidance and assistance to government agencies on data ethics issues, DEAG provides bespoke support on specific data projects. Following the recommendations of a review undertaken in 2020, we increased the number of DEAG members in 2022/2023 and increased the frequency of meetings to monthly in 2023/2024.

Across the 2023/2024 financial year, the DEAG considered topics as wide as consumer data rights, how to consider sex and gender concepts in data collection, ethnicity and housing demand modelling, data issues in the roll-out of safety cameras, and the MBIE-led work on Artificial Intelligence (AI).



Ethnicity data standard

Stats NZ and Ministry for Ethnic Communities are leading the Government response to Kāpuia¹, which provided feedback at a meeting on 6 July 2023 to discuss improving ethnicity data.

Stats NZ has since been working with the Ethnicity Expert Group to review the standard and classification and develop recommendations. The group consists of government representatives, iwi-Māori, academics, and researchers and was set up in March 2022 to guide the review's recommendations. The review aims to:

- revisit the definition of ethnicity to ensure it reflects New Zealand's increasingly diverse population
- provide better representation of ethnicities in methods for collecting and outputting ethnicity data
- revisit how ethnicities are grouped – particularly Middle Eastern, Latin American, and African ethnicities.

Engagement with key government agencies and community groups and public consultation is planned to occur later in 2024, with the release of a revised Standard and classification planned for late 2025.

This review of the ethnicity standard responds to Recommendation 32 of the Royal Commission's Report, 'Require Public sector agencies to prioritise the collection of data on ethnic and religious demographics to support analysis and advice on the implications of New Zealand's rapidly changing society, inform better policy making and enhance policy evaluation.'

There is effective data sharing within legislative and regulatory settings

This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priority, 'Support digitising government and improve collection approaches to cut costs and reduce compliance burden on New Zealanders.'

Standardising admin data collection

In early 2024, we developed and tested a standardised approach for managing admin data collections and the agreements that record them to make data sharing smoother for our partners and improving data safety and security.

We are updating these agreements and collections as needed, aiming to create a structured internal operational register. This register will help us reliably and efficiently manage and report on our data collections.

Improving data supply quality

During the 2023/2024 financial year, we undertook a 12-month supply quality improvement pilot, where we worked collaboratively with five agencies to understand data supply processes and challenges, design improvements, and test new initiatives.

Each participating agency worked on designated supply quality improvements at the agency level, while Stats NZ rolled them out and sought feedback at the system-level. Key activities included:

- conducting environmental scans
- administering questionnaires about data supply processes
- developing a data quality requirement specification
- bringing data suppliers into the Integrated Data Commons online community
- providing detailed information to suppliers about the applications and use of their data in the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI).

1 The Ministerial Advisory Group for the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the terrorist attack on Christchurch masjidain

Investment in data, digital, and cyber is more strategic and co-ordinated

Advice on integrated data investments

This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priority, ‘Support digitising government and improve collection approaches to cut costs and reduce compliance burden on New Zealanders.’

The GCDS plays a key role in guiding government investment in data systems along with other government system leads². System leads assess initiatives in the capital investment pipeline quarterly, providing advice that assists Cabinet to make key decisions about initiatives throughout their lifecycle.

This year, we continued to focus on delivering long-term, integrated advice to ensure smart investment decisions reflect data system priorities outlined in the [Government Data Investment Plan](#) and the [Government Data Strategy and Roadmap 2021](#), and encouraging data reuse to support social investment and reduce costs.

During the Budget 2024 process, our contributions included:

- reviewing existing investments to identify better use of resources
- evaluating cost pressures to maintain and improve essential services
- assessing new initiatives to align with strategic priorities.

Our advice was included in the Treasury’s recommendations to the Minister of Finance and Cabinet.

Agencies seek out the advice and guidance of the GCDS

This impact is a service performance measure, and is reported in our Statement of performance.



Measure what matters and proactively manage risks around core systems

Te ine i ngā mea nunui me te āta whakahaere tūraru i te taha o ngā pūnaha taketake

Data is a powerful driver of economic growth and innovation. The government holds extensive data, which we are working towards leveraging more effectively, for example through strengthening the IDI. By modernising operations, transforming data collection, and collaborating with partners we will continue to provide decision-makers in the public and private sector with the data and insights they need, when and how they need it.

We also contribute as a member of the international statistical community and use international frameworks and standards to enable our inclusion and visibility in the global context.

This financial year we've undertaken several initiatives to reduce the number of risks around our core systems and ensure data about New Zealanders stays safe and secure.

We operate in a simplified, flexible, and sustainable IT environment

This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priority to 'strategically improve access to data to grow the economy and support New Zealand households and businesses'.

Stats NZ is committed to modernising our tools for better user access and data security through our Digital programme, with the aim of a smaller system footprint that will lower our maintenance costs and support capabilities that can be reused for a wider range of needs. The Digital programme is currently remediating or updating 20 systems – approximately 25 percent of all our systems – and we have an ongoing prioritised remediation roadmap for the remainder.

We have two quantitative measures of reduced system risk, which are reported in our Systems and processes section.

Better meeting customer needs – launching Aotearoa Data Explorer

In the 2023/2024 financial year, Stats NZ introduced Aotearoa Data Explorer, replacing NZ.Stat as the primary source for large datasets, including census, population, and some business data. This tool improves findability and access and includes an application programming interface (API) for automatic data export.

To ensure we create the best user experience, we put customers at the heart of this development through:

- Beta launch: On 31 July 2023, we launched Aotearoa Data Explorer to a select group of customers for beta testing.
- Community engagement: We engaged 179 active members from 93 organisations and recorded 1080 user visits.

The feedback from our Beta testing focus group helped us refine the tool for the full rollout at the end of July 2024. We are managing the transition carefully and will retire old tools once we ensure minimal customer impact. The next phase will replace our time series tool, Infoshare, and consolidate all Stats NZ data into one platform.



Improving system performance

In 2023/2024, we updated our IT systems for more consistent and reliable performance. Customers, including Bloomberg, Reuters, and Macrobond (who use our data to provide financial news), have reported better reliability when accessing critical releases.

Key achievements include:

- Infoshare upgrade: Moved Infoshare to a supported environment, boosting security and performance. Infoshare lets users browse and search statistics by category or keyword.
- Enhanced monitoring and security: Implemented innovative performance monitoring and better security controls.
- Increased capacity: Improved our services to handle 52,000 requests per minute, up from 12,000.
- Faster data retrieval: Achieved 40 percent faster data retrieval and reduced server errors during critical releases.

Our data and statistics are relevant, timely, and responsive and meet customer needs

This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priorities ‘Strategically improve access to data to grow the economy and support NZ households and businesses’ and ‘Expand and improve economic datasets to grow the economy and support New Zealand households and businesses.’

We continued to produce high quality data and statistics during a time of increased interest and increased volatility (read about how other agencies, communities, and businesses use our data in the Official Statistics section). In the 2023/2024 year, we produced 187 economic and business statistical releases and 73 population, social, and labour market statistical releases.

[Measuring an inclusive and sustainable economy: Report on feedback](#), published in February 2023, has informed our priority initiatives for the next several years. Key themes from the engagement included:

- an emphasis on maintaining high standards in current statistical work while focusing on updates
- a strong interest in environmental statistics and their connection to other domains
- interest in measures that go beyond GDP for example the interrelationships between the economy, environment, sustainability, and Māori
- greater geographic granularity in statistics.

Improved economic data

We have enhanced economic data by making quarterly gross domestic product income (GDPI) an official statistic and expanding monthly price index releases. These improvements support better-informed policy and economic analysis.

Quarterly gross domestic product income (GDPI)

From March 2024, GDPI became an official statistic. Now, our quarterly GDP reports include all three GDP measures: production, income, and expenditure. This complete approach improves the precision and usefulness of our economic data for analysts and policymakers.

We published the quarterly gross domestic product income (GDPI) as an experimental statistic on the Stats NZ website on 22 July 2021 as part of our experimental release, [National accounts \(income, saving, assets, and liabilities\): March 2021 quarter](#). GDPI calculates the total income generated in the economy, including wages, profits, mixed income, and taxes on products and imports after removing subsidies.

Since then, we have continued to make significant methodological enhancements that have improved the accuracy of GDPI’s components and aligned it more closely with other GDP measures.

New monthly price index releases

In response to demand by customers, including Reserve Bank of New Zealand and the Treasury, for more frequent data to inform forecasting, we increased the number of price indexes published monthly from November 2023.

As well as publishing data from food and rental price indexes, we now publish data on alcoholic beverages and tobacco, petrol and diesel, domestic and international airfares, and accommodation services.

We combined this new data with data available from the food price index (FPI) and rental price index (RPI) into a single monthly release called Selected price indexes (SPI). The SPI directly feeds into the quarterly publication Consumers price index (CPI), which measures inflation for all New Zealand households. With the new data, 44 percent of the CPI is now published monthly, up from about 30 percent. We will look to continue adding new variables as resources and data availability allow.



CPI reweight

The CPI is crucial for key stakeholders like the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, which utilises it to inform monetary policy decisions, including potential adjustments to the official cash rate.

The CPI relies on a representative basket of goods and services. Regular updates ensure this basket accurately reflects current household purchasing patterns, which is especially critical during periods of high inflation when consumer spending habits can shift significantly. The reweighting uses data from the Household Economic Survey and other household spending data, including admin data, to capture changes in consumer preferences and spending. The most recent reweight was in 2020.

Since early 2024, we have focused on finalising the items in the CPI basket to inform the update which is planned for April 2025. This involves reviewing items that have increased in expenditure and need to be added, or items that are no longer representative of what households are currently purchasing.

Aligning with international best practices, the reweighting will ensure that the CPI remains a robust tool for economic analysis and policy-making, supporting informed decision-making amid economic volatility.

Improved environmental data

From October 2023 we reduced the publication time for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions statistics from seven months to four months after the reference period. Stats NZ's quarterly GHG emissions statistics are now the most up-to-date economy-wide official emissions statistics available in New Zealand. The faster publication of GHG emissions data is valuable for stakeholders such as the Climate Change Interdepartmental Executive Board (IEB) and the Ministry for the Environment. It enables these bodies to include more recent data in their Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) reports, providing better insights for decision-making.

Stats NZ is one of only three NSOs globally that routinely produce quarterly emissions statistics under the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) framework. This framework allows environmental data to be compared directly with economic data, like GDP. Aligning the publication schedule of our quarterly emissions statistics with our economic statistics improves the coherency of our environmental and economic data and supports more comprehensive analysis and insights.

Improved social and population data

In 2023/2024, we made improvements to social and population data by changing our approach to child poverty statistics. Additionally, we expanded the Administrative Population Census (APC) to provide more detailed demographic insights, aiding research and policy-making.

Delivering quality child poverty statistics

Between November 2023 and February 2024, we reviewed how we collect and produce child poverty statistics to meet the requirements of the Child Poverty Reduction Act 2018. The Living in Aotearoa survey, started in 2022, aimed to gather data for the 10 child poverty measures required by the Act. However, this survey faced challenges such as data collection issues, participant retention problems, and rising costs. The original model required annual interviews with participants over six years.

To address these issues, we now use the Household Income and Living Survey (HILS), a survey that requires participants to be interviewed only once. This approach reduced the burden on respondents and lowered costs. HILS, developed from March to June 2024, will collect data from July 2024 to June 2025.

The survey information will be combined with admin data routinely collected by government organisations. This will allow us to report on all 10 measures specified in the Child Poverty Reduction Act 2018, including persistent poverty. This combined approach will improve the quality of our statistics, reduce costs, and create efficiencies.

Persistent child poverty measure

We are developing the definition and measure of persistent child poverty through a combination of admin and survey data. This work comprises three different workstreams:

- develop a definition of persistent child poverty
- develop a measure of persistent child poverty
- ongoing engagement with key stakeholders.

Since the work started in January 2024, we are on track to produce an interim baseline measure by the end of October 2024 that is fit-for-use to enable the Minister for Child Poverty Reduction to set the first long-term targets and intermediate persistent child poverty targets by the end of 2024, and to enable Stats NZ to report under the requirements of the Child Poverty Reduction Act 2018 from 2025/2026 onwards.

Household Disability Survey

The 2023 Household Disability Survey, New Zealand's source of data on disability prevalence and the experiences of disabled people, was collected in late 2023. Statistics from the survey are scheduled to be published on 4 December 2024, in *Disability statistics: 2023*. Data and insights from the 2023 Census and Household Disability Survey will inform important decisions for disabled communities for years to come.

The survey collected data from more than 20,000 disabled and non-disabled individuals. The survey is collected over the phone, directly from a respondent. To enable Deaf people to participate in the survey, trained Deaf interviewers used New Zealand Sign Language over a video call to collect answers from the participants.

Stats NZ received the NZSL in Government Agencies award at the [New Zealand Sign Language \(NZSL\) Awards](#). This award goes to a government agency that shows commitment to NZSL accessibility and including the NZSL community in their work and was in recognition of the work Stats NZ has undertaken in the 2023 Census and Household Disability Survey.



Administrative Population Census

In 2023/2024, we expanded the publicly released Administrative Population Census (APC) data to include detailed ethnicity data, individual attributes, household information, years at usual residence, internal migration flows, and improved methodologies for education, income, and work statistics.

The APC:

- explores using admin data to produce census information within the IDI, highlighting the potential and challenges of transitioning to an administrative-data-based census, providing a foundation for further development and refinement.
- has been used as the basis for research in the IDI where it enables researchers to use common baselines and denominators and allows them to focus on the area of research rather than on deriving demographic information themselves
- can provide timely data and flows not available from our current products in custom data requests.

APC data contributes to the development of child poverty statistics and is increasingly used in academia and public sector. However, the APC does not capture all census information, such as languages spoken or religious affiliation, since this data is not available in administrative records.

Geographic boundary changes

We have made changes to make it simpler for customers to access and use geographic data, aligning meshblocks (geographic areas) to the Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) official register of land ownership and geographic features.

Geographic boundaries divide New Zealand into geographic areas, such as statistical areas, territorial authorities, and regional councils. The process for the geographic boundaries annual release has been improved – from 2024, geographies are only created and published when they change, rather than every year.

Award-winning population grids

On 22 November 2023, Stats NZ was awarded a New Zealand Spatial Excellence Award for trial population grids. The Spatial Excellence Awards, hosted by the Geospatial Council of Australia and delivered by Survey and Spatial New Zealand, celebrate the highest achievements in the New Zealand geospatial community.

Official population grids are a geospatial data format designed to analyse and visualise population data in innovative ways. The response to the trial was overwhelmingly positive and sets the platform for more gridded data products.

We saw the benefit of the population grids during Cyclone Gabrielle when they were used as the basis for highlighting the populations of isolated communities so they could receive support.



Karl Majorhazi accepted the award on behalf of Stats NZ for their Population Grids for New Zealand

We prioritise high-demand data and statistics and discontinue low demand output

This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priority, ‘Support digitising government and improve collection approaches to cut costs and reduce compliance burden on New Zealanders.’

By decommissioning and archiving redundant systems, Stats NZ is ensuring our digital infrastructure is prepared for the future. These efforts simplify our technology landscape, focus on high-value offerings, and improve the overall user experience. As part of our Statistics portfolio priority to ‘Support digitising government and improve collection approaches to cut costs and reduce compliance burden on New Zealanders,’ we also have a focus on reducing the survey burden on businesses. Reviewing our business data collection activity enables us to focus on high demand data.

Reducing survey burden on businesses

In response to feedback that businesses receive a large number of surveys and repeated requests for the same information from multiple government agencies, we are implementing a joint plan to reduce the survey burden on businesses with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). In 2023/2024, we reviewed all our business data collection activity and identified opportunities to consolidate and reduce the volume of direct data collection. Next steps include improving the use of admin data to reduce the survey burden on businesses and supporting the streamlining of data collection activity across government.

Optimising resources by decommissioning tools and channels

In December 2023, we decommissioned many tools and channels provided by our exploratory Data Ventures unit. This ensures Stats NZ continues to deliver quality and value in a fiscally prudent environment. While these tools helped other agencies with data challenges, they operated outside our standard model, leading us to reallocate resources to core deliverables.

Retiring low value data visualisations

In 2023/2024, we identified that many of our interactive data visualisations had few users – both the front-end and back-end systems were difficult to navigate, use, and maintain. We considered customer needs in our decision-making process based on feedback and retired a significant number of visualisations progressively from June 2023.

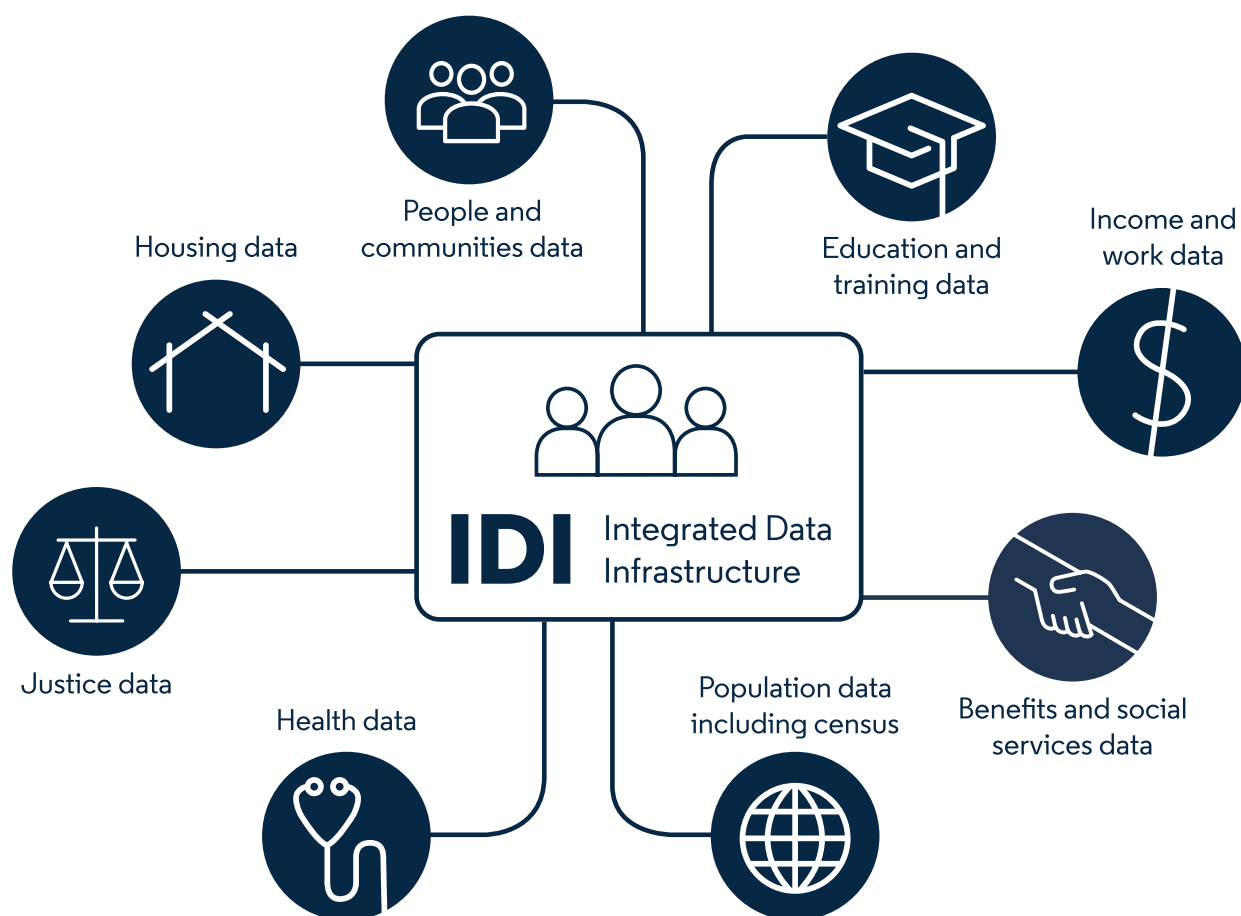
By retiring these low-value visualisations, we can concentrate on delivering higher-value products and services. This ‘back-to-basics’ approach ensures we have a robust core offering that better serves our customers. Our strategy aims to minimise the number of customer channels we support and reduce duplication in our technology landscape.

We have a vibrant community of users who can easily access and use our data to create their own products and services

We are facilitating appropriate data sharing and improving safe data access through the IDI. By leveraging this integrated data, the IDI helps to drive evidence-based decision-making and develop solutions that improve the wellbeing and prosperity of New Zealand communities, and supports the social investment approach.

The Integrated Data Commons supports researchers in overcoming barriers to data analysis, fostering collaboration, and enhancing the overall quality of research. These efforts benefit New Zealanders by promoting informed decision-making and innovative solutions.

Integrated Data Infrastructure



This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priority 'Investing in the IDI to support delivery of the social investment approach'.

The IDI is a comprehensive research database managed by Stats NZ. It contains detailed but anonymised information on individuals and households, covering areas like education, income, benefits, migration, justice, and health. This data is linked together and made available in de-identified form to researchers from across government, non-government, and academic sectors.

The data comes from various government agencies, Stats NZ surveys, and non-government organisations (NGOs) and is accessed through our secure Data Lab infrastructure under strict access conditions, to ensure the data is used safely and ethically.

The IDI supports over 350 active projects and more than 1,200 government and academic researchers. The integrated data allows for cross-sector research, providing valuable insights into the connections between different areas of our society and economy. Researchers can explore complex issues affecting

New Zealanders, uncovering trends, patterns, and correlations that enhance our understanding of social, economic, and demographic dynamics.

In the 2023/2024 year, we continued to make functionality and efficiency improvements to the IDI including:

- Expanding the breadth of available data: We have added more data about more topics into the IDI to produce more comprehensive research and insights.
- Fast-tracking applications to use the IDI: We have fast-tracked several applications for faster access to the IDI.
- Developing code modules: Our ongoing development of standardised analytic codes will enable multiple users to analyse microdata more easily.
- Developing an output checking tool: This tool will streamline the review process so insights to be made available outside the secure Data Lab environment more quickly.

Data safety and security, ethics and privacy

Within the Data Lab environment, researchers accessing New Zealand's data are guided by the ['Five Safes'](#) and ['Ngā Tikanga Paihere' frameworks](#) to maintain responsible data management practices.

Before adding data to the IDI or Longitudinal Business Database we perform a Data Ethics and Privacy Assessment to evaluate ethical and privacy risks, ensuring benefits outweigh risks and are managed appropriately.

By adhering to these practices, Stats NZ maintains high standards of data security and ethical use, ensuring data serves New Zealand's interests while protecting individual privacy.

Integrated Data Commons – connecting and supporting researchers

This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priority 'Investing in the IDI to support delivery of the social investment approach'.

The Integrated Data Commons is a secure online community for integrated data researchers, research commissioners, data suppliers, and stakeholders. The secure environment and complexity of working with raw data from multiple different sectors can make data analysis challenging. To address these issues and support a healthy data system, we launched the Integrated Data Commons in March 2023.

The Commons helps researchers connect, share skills, and support each other through discussions and networking opportunities. Stats NZ provides cross-functional support to enable effective platform administration and moderation.

Throughout this financial year, the Commons has provided a secure online forum for IDI researchers and the wider integrated data community.

Users can access tools like the Code Modules, which offer high-quality code and documentation for commonly used research measures. These resources help simplify data analysis and improve research quality, consistency, and comparability. On the Commons, members can create and reply to discussion topics, tag other users with similar interests, find collaborators, and browse the forum for helpful information.

During the 2023/2024 financial year, the Integrated Data Commons achieved:

- over 520 active community members from 85 organisations
- 8,700 user visits, with an 85 percent visitor return rate
- 322 new topics, with over 12,700 topic views.

With registration initially limited to active Data Lab users, the Commons is now broadening its usership to welcome prospective integrated data researchers and data suppliers who contribute data to the IDI. Plans are underway to expand access to other integrated data stakeholders. The vision is for the Commons to become a community-led forum, with Stats NZ facilitating its growth to meet the needs of integrated data researchers across New Zealand.



Deliver for and with Māori, iwi, and hapū

Te hora painga mā ngāi Māori, mā ngā iwi, mā ngā hapū, mā te mahi tahi

For Māori, iwi, and hapū, data is taonga. We are dedicated to advancing Māori data aspirations and supporting their self-determination in the collection, ownership, interpretation, and use of Māori data. We are partnering with Māori to ensure the government data system generates a greater amount of high-quality data about Māori, which can be used to inform decisions affecting Māori social, economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing.

Under our Mana Ōrite Relationship Agreement (MŌRA) with the Data Iwi Leaders Group (Data ILG) of the National Iwi Chairs Forum, we are enhancing the government and data system's understanding of iwi and Māori data

aspirations. This commitment involves embracing diverse perspectives, understanding long-term intergenerational wellbeing for Māori, and having a clear vision for how data can support achieving that future.

Data gathering and analysis capability enhanced for Māori, iwi, and hapū

In the 2023/2024 financial year, \$9.2 million in funding from Budget 2021 was allocated to support the Te Mana Whakatipu programme. This initiative, led by Te Kāhui Raraunga, the operational arm of the Data ILG, piloted iwi-led data collection for the 2023 Census, and aims to enhance iwi data analytics capabilities and capacity.

Budget significant initiative: Iwi-led data collection for 2023 Census

He kōkiri hira ā-Pūtea: Te kohinga raraunga nā te iwi i ārahi mō Tātauranga 2023

A programme evaluation of the iwi-led data collection initiative, commissioned by Te Kāhui Raraunga, was delivered in April 2024. This reflected the significance of this pilot opportunity for Māori. The evaluation found that the programme effectively met participating iwi needs and maintained high activity quality.

Interim response rates for Māori descent showed improvements compared with the 2018 Census:

- Toitū Tairāwhiti iwi collective in Gisborne: from 70.6 to 80.1 percent
- Te Whānau-ā-Apanui in Eastern Bay of Plenty and East Coast: from 63.5 to 79.0 percent
- Ōhau iwi collective in the Far North: from 69.1 to 69.6 percent.

What we learned

The highly structured nature of the census, with its many dependencies, limited the programme's flexibility. To that point, the pilot highlighted future census efforts should involve early and meaningful engagement with iwi in the design and support processes to foster genuine partnerships and capability for iwi. Overall, Te Mana

Whakatipu demonstrated the potential of iwi-led data collection, providing valuable insights for future projects, including the 2028 Census.

Partnership and co-design

The 2023 Census made efforts but did not achieve the level of partnership and co-design expected by iwi and Māori. This requires increased capability within Stats NZ and potentially alternative governance arrangements with iwi and Māori. Future data practices should align with Māori rights and interests, recognising Māori data sovereignty aspirations.

Scalability

The pilot, as designed, is not likely scalable nationwide. Early involvement of iwi in planning stages could improve efficiency and resource use but there are other factors requiring consideration in relation to scalability.

While there are challenges, these initiatives lay a strong foundation for future work. Stats NZ is committed to ensuring future census design includes a partnership approach that respects the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The focus of the programme has now shifted to iwi-led data capability and capacity building initiatives – these are still underway.



Case study:

Raukawa iwi partnership



Caption: Photo of members of Raukawa iwi and Stats NZ after signing the Kawenata

Māori, iwi, and hapū are extracting better insights from data to support their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing and aspirations

Establishment and commitment Treaty settlement accord responsibilities

Stats NZ is actively contributing to Treaty settlement accord responsibilities with five iwi, among which the Raukawa iwi well-being project is included.

Emergence of the project

The two-year project, 'Data-driven approach to enhancing Raukawa well-being' emerged from the Raukawa Settlement Accord Ministerial Forum held on 12 July 2022. This project is being delivered through an Iwi-Crown partnership with Raukawa, Stats NZ, and Te Puni Kōkiri (TPK).

Key deliverables

Co-leadership Agreement (20 September 2022)

Stats NZ agreed to co-lead a data-driven project alongside Raukawa and TPK, starting on 1 February 2023 and scheduled to be completed by 28 February 2025. This agreement marks the initiation of the project, underscoring a collaborative effort to support Raukawa's wellbeing through data-driven insights.

Development of census data tables (July 2023)

Stats NZ developed census data tables showing Raukawa iwi distribution from the 2013 and 2018 Censuses. The data includes those who speak Te Reo Māori and maps of distribution by region, which helped create a data framework for the wellbeing project.

Signing of Kawenata, Relationship Agreement (August 2023)

A Kawenata was signed, formalising Stats NZ's commitment to a long-term partnership with Te Poari Matua o Raukawa, emphasising a respectful and enduring relationship.

Establishment of Project Governance (March 2024)

Stats NZ helped Raukawa establish the project's governance structure, with staff participating in ongoing meetings to ensure progress and collaboration.

Baseline Data needs and wellbeing indicators (May 2024)

Stats NZ conducted a workshop with Raukawa leadership to establish baseline data needs and identify gaps in four wellbeing pillars: social, cultural, environmental, and economic. This ensures that the collected data is relevant and meaningful to the Raukawa community.

Enduring partnership

Long-term Raukawa wellbeing

The partnership between Raukawa and Stats NZ through the Kawenata demonstrates a commitment to sustainable engagement over a two-year data project. This collaboration aims to foster long-term community wellbeing and development by supporting Raukawa's priorities, such as their vision of Raukawa, Kia Mau, Kia Ora.

The project focuses on building iwi data capability and access to achieve lasting positive impacts for the Raukawa iwi.

Future initiatives

Plans for future census and transformation engagements are in place to further strengthen the partnership and explore new opportunities. These initiatives will expand on the current project's foundation, aiming to enhance the wellbeing of the Raukawa iwi through data-driven approaches and robust, respectful partnerships.

Māori, iwi, and hapū recognise Stats NZ's progress towards being a capable and confident Te Tiriti partner

At Stats NZ, we are committed to meeting our Te Tiriti settlement commitments and enhancing Māori data capability both internally and across the public sector. This commitment ensures that Māori perspectives and needs are integrated into our data practices and governance.

Treaty settlement commitments

Ngā Whakaūnga Whakatau Tiriti

He Korowai Whakamana, a Cabinet agreed framework, enhances the Crown's accountability for its Treaty settlement commitments and gives iwi visibility and assurance that their settlement commitments have been upheld.

He Korowai Whakamana requires core Crown agencies to record and track the status, and report annually on, their settlement commitments. Te Arawhiti is the lead agency and is responsible for tracking the Crown's overall progress with delivering on Treaty settlement commitments.

In 2023, core Crown agencies used the Settlement Portal, Te Haeata, to record whether each of their commitments is either complete, on track, yet to be triggered, or has delivery issues. As part of He Korowai Whakamana, we are reporting on the status of our settlement commitments from this financial year.

The status of Stats NZ's Treaty settlement commitments

As the agency responsible for data and statistics, we manage a variety of settlement commitments, primarily focused on relationship redress and other related obligations. These commitments provide Stats NZ with an opportunity to understand the aspirations of a settled group and for the settlement parties to reposition their relationship for the future, as well as to meet any immediate data needs.

Formal relationship arrangements and associated work programmes, either formally stipulated in relationship redress or collaboratively agreed upon, are often used to facilitate this. These arrangements aim to focus the future relationship beyond settlement implementation and the discharge of settlement obligations, embodying the broader spirit and intent of the settlement.

As of 30 June 2024, we were responsible for 12 Treaty settlement commitments. All the commitments we are responsible for are on track (100 percent).

Improved availability and quality of data and statistics for Māori, iwi, and hapū

This financial year, we continued to release data and information about [Māori](#), including statistics about:

- Ahurea – Māori culture
- Mātauranga – Māori knowledge and education
- Ōhanga – Māori economic wellbeing and Māori businesses
- Tāngata – Māori population
- Ngā reo – Te Reo Māori and language
- Toiora pāpori – Health, wellbeing, environment and whanaungatanga.

The shared release of Māori descent data from the 2023 Census marked an important step in the implementation of the Māori data governance model.

Mechanisms and channels to support iwi data needs developed by Stats NZ and wider government data system

Building public sector capability for Māori data

The Iwi and Māori data needs working group is a cross-agency group that discusses the responsibility of Government agencies under Te Tiriti to ensure we have the capability and right skills to understand the value of, need for, and use of iwi and Māori data. We set up and chaired this working group from 2021. As of 2024, it is chaired by the Ministry for the Environment.

On 13 June 2024, we provided an out-of-session hui to target discussion on our Transformation work programme and specifically answer Māori data questions on the Future Census. This working group will provide an ongoing opportunity to test technical components of the Future Census work with key experts.

Become an organisation that uses admin data first

Te huri hei whakahaere ka whakamahi raraunga whakahaere i te tuatahi

This work delivers into the Statistics portfolio priority 'Foundation work for the 2028 Census'. It will also position us well support delivery of the social investment approach.

We are committed to modernising our data practices to better serve New Zealand today and in the future. A key aspect of this is making the shift to using admin data first due to the declining effectiveness and increasing costs of traditional data collection methods such as surveys and in-person collection.

This transition aligns with trends observed in other national statistics offices. Admin data, combined with survey data, is a proven solution that will help us continue to provide quality statistics.

Administrative data or 'admin data' refers to information routinely collected by organisations during their everyday operations, rather than for statistical purposes. We have a long-standing practice of using admin data to create statistics, particularly in areas like population estimates and trade.

When compared with survey data, using greater use of admin data will enable us to:

- maintain and evolve our portfolio of products and services more rapidly - admin data can support currently unmet information needs, including enhancements to granularity, timeliness, and cross-domain insights.
- maintain data supply to sustain our core business - a general trend in declining survey response-rates highlights a need for admin data gathering mechanisms that are more cost-effective and place minimal burden on respondents.

- support mitigation of financial sustainability challenges from increased survey collection costs. As the costs of surveying increase due to greater effort required to reach response rate targets, we regularly increase the funds allocated to undertake direct (survey) collection activities. This is not a sustainable solution long term. Increased access to, and use of admin data, will reduce the need to undertake direct collection.

The Data and Statistics Act 2022 supports this shift by allowing us to require admin data from organisations. This modernisation will take time, investment, and stakeholder engagement to maintain trust and confidence in the new practices.

Redesigned business processes enable us to be responsive to customers' information requirements

Target operating model for statistical production

In November 2023, we developed a target operating model for statistical production, which shows how we will produce data and statistics differently in the future and informs how we deliver on our strategic intentions.

Our new approach will depend on accessing high-quality data from diverse sources. As we increasingly rely on admin data, maintaining a steady and high-quality supply is crucial. Our relationships with data suppliers will shift from transactional to partnerships based on trust and mutual benefit.

Building long-term, equitable relationships with Māori, iwi, and hapū is essential to ensure our services are relevant and responsive to their needs. Strong connections with commercial and community data partners and users are also vital.

Data needs for Māori, government, and other customers are understood and met

Our engagements with customers and partners through channels ranging from our specialised data teams, engagement specialists, consultation, and partnership agreements, to our website and call centre, inform how we adapt our products and services.

Future census

This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priority 'Foundation work for the 2028 Census'.

We are exploring options for how we deliver the 2028 Census and beyond. This initiative aims to evolve our data collection methods and how we use data to meet the changing needs and expectations of New Zealand's diverse communities.

We are looking at options to provide greater value to New Zealand, reduce survey burden on New Zealanders, and increase the use of admin data. By modernising our approach, we aim to deliver more accurate, timely, and efficient statistics.

Consultation and engagement

From November 2023, our engagement with key stakeholders, including iwi and Māori, community groups, government and non-government agencies, customers, and data partners focused on Future Census. Engagement is ongoing this financial year and will continue into the next financial year.

Between 8 May and 19 June 2024, we consulted people in New Zealand, inviting their views on a future approach to census that uses a combination of reusing admin data, supported by surveying and tailored approaches. This consultation will help shape the future of our census approach.

We received 380 responses to a key question in the consultation 'How much do you agree with this statement: I trust Stats NZ to keep my information safe?' Of these, 54 percent broadly agreed (94 strongly agreed, 110 agreed), 28 percent broadly disagreed (30 disagreed, 78 strongly disagreed), and 18 percent were neutral (48) or unsure (20). Figure 6 shows the responses by submitters.

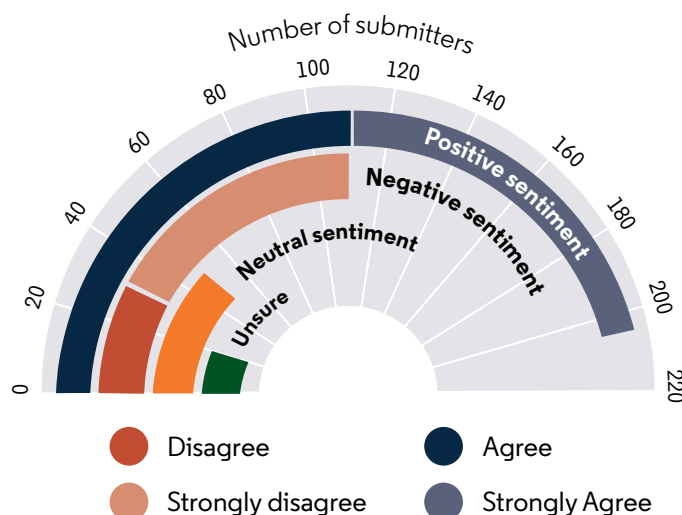


Figure 6. Number of people who agreed or disagreed they trusted Stats NZ to keep information about them safe, 2024

Our online engagement programme, 'Your Data. Your Views,' helped us understand public sentiment and identify areas where we need to build trust within our communities. We are now providing informative and educational content that responds to the feedback and questions received.

Following the public consultation, the Government Statistician convened an Independent Evaluation Panel to report recommendations on the approach to 2028 Census and beyond. The Independent Evaluation Panel members represent a diverse range of perspectives, bringing together expertise from academia, commerce and technology, central government, disability, international perspectives, Rainbow, Pacific, and iwi Māori.

Members will assess and evaluate conceptual census design work developed by Stats NZ and related reviews and reports, such as the Independent Review of the 2023 Census. In addition, the panel will consider the themes from feedback submitted to Stats NZ during the public consultation period, as well as feedback themes from ongoing engagement with iwi and Māori, stakeholders, partners, and customers.

The panel will provide its recommendations to the Government Statistician before he makes his in-principle decision on an approach to the next census in the first quarter of the new financial year. The preferred approach will be presented to Cabinet in early 2025 for consideration, followed by detailed design and a second round of public consultation.

New and existing data is sourced through an effective process for brokering, sourcing, and managing the supply of data

Data sharing agreements to improve statistical production

This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priority ‘Strategically improve access to data to grow the economy and support NZ households and businesses’.

We collaborate with other data suppliers, Te Tiriti partners, and customers to ensure the needs and supply of admin data are aligned.

At the end of July 2023, Stats NZ signed a Data Sharing Agreement with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) to regularly obtain data from the New Zealand Business Number (NZBN) register.

The NZBN register data helps us to better identify and locate individual businesses, enabling us to produce accurate statistics. A key benefit is identifying businesses that identify as Māori. Traditionally, Māori businesses have had limited opportunities to self-identify. For the past two years, we have been working with MBIE on identifying Māori businesses through the NZBN. A Māori business is defined as one that has some Māori ownership and chooses to identify as Māori.

Using admin data from the NZBN register aligns with our commitment to reduce the survey burden on businesses while enhancing the quality and accuracy of our statistics. This partnership with MBIE is an important step in ensuring that the data needs of our customers and Te Tiriti partners are met efficiently and effectively.

Statistical registers are linked and maintained, enabling effective and efficient data integration across the government data ecosystem

Integrated Statistical Data System (ISDS)

This work delivers to the Statistics portfolio priority ‘Foundation work for the 2028 Census’.

The Integrated Statistical Data System (ISDS) lays the foundation for using admin data, including for 2028 Census. The ISDS integrates admin data through use of up-to-date lists of data about population, places, and businesses, enabling us to source and ingest data more effectively and efficiently.

By enhancing our digital infrastructure through the development of the ISDS, we ensure our data collection methods are robust and capable of handling the increasing reliance on admin data, so Stats NZ is well-positioned to sustainably deliver high-quality, integrated statistics.

For the 2023/2024 financial year, we have undertaken considerable work on design, research, and development of the ISDS, which will allow us to move into implementing the ISDS during the 2024/2025 financial year. This includes:

- agreements with data suppliers to access and use data for design and research
- developing and testing high level design concepts across all three data domains (people, places, and business)
- working on security, privacy, and ethical considerations of data stewardship for the ISDS
- undertaking data quality reviews
- developing an underlying statistical-units model to support greater integration of data.

Our short-term performance: Products and services

**Tā mātou whakatutukitanga wā poto:
Ngā hua me ngā ratonga**



Our short-term performance: Products and services

Tā mātou whakatutukitanga wā poto: Ngā hua me ngā ratonga

Official statistics

Ngā tauanga whai mana

Stats NZ produces data and statistics releases across a wide range of topic areas including population, society, business, the labour market, the economy, and the environment.

We publish hundreds of releases a year at different frequencies, for example, employment indicators are published monthly, statistics on Māori businesses are published quarterly, and we publish some topics annually or less frequently.

The process to produce data and statistics can vary but figure 7 provides an overview of the key steps we go through to publish a release.

As we move from focusing on products to focusing on customers, we place greater emphasis on the value customers gain when they use our data to make informed decisions. The following case studies show how a wide range of organisations and businesses use our economic, social, population, and environmental data in their work and how this impacts New Zealanders.



Statistical Business Process Model

Process						
Need 1	Develop and design 2	Build 3	Collect 4	Process 5	Analyse 6	Disseminate 7
Determine need for information 1.1	Research, develop & design Outputs / Products 2.1	Build and test collection instrument 3.1	Identify and validate sample 4.1 Manage	Classify & code responses 5.1	Acquire domain intelligence 6.1	Manage repositories 7.1
Consult and confirm need 1.2	Research, develop & design population and sample methodology 2.2	Build new and enhance existing application components 3.2	Manage providers 4.2	Perform micro editing 5.2	Produce Statistics 6.2	Produce products 7.2
Establish output objectives 1.3	Research, develop & design collection instrument and methodology 2.3	Configure Workflows and transformations 3.3	Set up collection 4.3	Impute missing data 5.3	Check quality of Statistics 6.3	Manage release of products 7.3
Check data availability 1.4	Research, develop & design statistical processing methodology 2.4	Test E2E application 3.4	Run collection 4.4	Derive new variables 5.4	Interpret and explain statistics 6.4	Manage customer queries 7.4
Manage project 1.5	Design To Be and operational processes 2.5	Manage field test / pilot 3.5	Load data into electronic form 4.5	Calculate & apply weights 5.5	Prepare Statistics for dissemination 6.5	Promote Products 7.5
	Design application components to complete E2E application 2.6	Put application components into production 3.6		Integrate data 5.6	Finalise content 6.6	
		Initialise workflows for new collection cycle 3.7		Finalise Unit records 5.7		

Figure 7. Diagram of the generic statistical business process model





Case study:

How the Reserve Bank of New Zealand uses Stats NZ data to make decisions on the Official Cash Rate



Caption: Governor of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, Adrian Orr answers journalists' questions on the OCR with his team

The Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) is responsible for maintaining a stable and efficient monetary and financial system. This role includes targeting inflation, regulating financial institutions, producing banknotes and coins, and operating wholesale payment systems. The RBNZ's Monetary Policy Committee has statutory independence from the government, allowing it to operate autonomously to achieve its economic objectives.

Using Stats NZ data for informed Official Cash Rate decisions

The RBNZ relies heavily on data from Stats NZ to make informed decisions about the appropriate level and outlook for the Official Cash Rate (OCR). The OCR is a critical tool used to achieve and maintain price stability, with a target inflation rate set between 1 percent and 3 percent, focusing on the 2 percent midpoint. By adjusting the OCR, the RBNZ can influence interest rates in the economy more generally, which in turn affect inflation.

The manager of the Forecasting team at Reserve Bank, Rebecca Williams, says that her team uses Stats NZ data and statistics because it is one of the most comprehensive and reliable economic and business datasets available in New Zealand – and that as the national statistics agency, Stats NZ is expected to adhere to international quality and consistency standards.

The RBNZ relies heavily on several key datasets from Stats NZ:

- Consumers price index (CPI) – which is also the measure used as the Reserve Bank's inflation target
- Gross domestic product (GDP)
- Labour market data.

The RBNZ also uses a wide range of Stats NZ data that help to support the assessment of the economy, including trade data, balance of payments and net international position, international migration, and building consents. In addition to the key datasets listed, these help the RBNZ to 'nowcast' current economic conditions and forecast how the economy may evolve over the next three years, which helps to inform OCR decisions.

Challenges and improvements

While the RBNZ generally finds Stats NZ data accessible and useful, RBNZ has raised the issue of the benefits of more frequent data updates. We have responded by introducing the monthly Selected price index (SPI). This has been a positive step, enhancing the RBNZ's forecasting by providing more timely data. The combined SPI data now covers 44 percent (by weight) of the consumers price index (CPI) basket.

Data revisions have positive and negative effects; they improve accuracy but are received later than initial estimates and changes can be significant. This delay can impact the timing, accuracy, and effectiveness of policy decisions. Similarly, maintaining data quality is also critical given the importance of these data in setting policy. Examples include the reweighting of the CPI and measurement of travel expenditure (within and outside New Zealand).

Outcomes for New Zealand

Using Stats NZ data, the RBNZ influences the economy through several key channels, impacting various groups differently:

- Savings and investments
- Cash flow
- House prices and housing wealth
- Exchange rate
- Inflation expectations

By adjusting the OCR and influencing the economy through these channels, the RBNZ aims to maintain price stability and in doing so support a stable economic environment for all New Zealanders. The use of robust, accurate, and timely data from Stats NZ is essential in making these policy decisions effective.



Case study:

Building sustainable and
affordable homes
in Marlborough

Caption: Nadine Taylor, Marlborough mayor and Dr Bev James of Marlborough Sustainable Housing Trust visit a home under construction

Marlborough Sustainable Housing Trust is a not-for-profit charitable trust and registered community housing provider. Their primary mission is to promote and provide affordable housing for people in housing need, particularly those facing age-, health-, or disability-related housing challenges. The Trust focuses on building energy-efficient, accessible homes that can support residents throughout their lives.

Project overview

The Trust needed robust, region- and sub-region-specific data to support funding applications for building social and affordable housing. This was crucial for addressing the housing needs of vulnerable populations in Marlborough.

The Trust used census data and Household Economic Survey data from Stats NZ to perform housing needs analyses, which were essential in securing funding for two major housing projects. This data helped the Trust understand how various factors such as population projections, changing household composition, migration patterns, and household incomes combined to create housing need. For example, the Trust specifically examined the number of households in key worker industries in the region experiencing housing stress, including those paying more than 30 percent and 50 percent of their gross household income on rent.

Projects and outcomes

2017 project: A housing needs analysis was done in 2017 to help the Trust with future planning. In 2021 this analysis contributed to securing funding to develop three rental homes for families on the housing register through the Income-related Rent Subsidy programme. The homes were completed, and tenants moved in by October 2023.

2023 project: A more detailed housing needs analysis was completed in 2023 to underpin a funding application under the Affordable Housing Fund to build five rental houses for low-income key workers ineligible for public housing. The construction of these homes is underway, with completion expected in late 2024.

Accessing data

The Trust worked with a data analyst with housing-specific expertise authorised to access the IDI. This ensured the Trust could incorporate relevant and timely data into their funding applications.

Organisational benefits

Evidence-based proposals: The data from Stats NZ enabled the Trust to create strong, evidence-based proposals that were crucial for securing funding.

Quality housing: When the current build is completed, eight four-bedroom homes will have been built, with three being fully accessible and five having some accessibility features. Three homes meet Homestar 7 certification for sustainability, ensuring they are energy-efficient, warm, and dry.

Broader impact

Enhanced living conditions: These homes have significantly improved the living conditions of their residents, providing safe, affordable, and sustainable housing solutions for low-income people in Marlborough, including those who were previously living in transitional housing.

Marlborough Sustainable Housing Trust's strategic use of Stats NZ data highlights the importance of robust, region-specific data in addressing housing needs. This case study demonstrates how data-driven decision-making can lead to successful outcomes in community housing projects, ultimately benefiting both the organisation and the wider Marlborough community.



Case study:

Enhancing home comfort
and health with warmer
Kiwi homes



Caption: A family enjoy their warm home (photo from EECA)

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) aims to promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources across New Zealand. Established under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act 2000, EECA mobilises New Zealanders to be leaders in clean and clever energy use through expertise, research, regulation, co-investment, and public engagement.

Using Stats NZ data to determine eligibility for the programme

Many low-income homeowners in New Zealand struggle with cold, damp houses, leading to high energy bills and health issues. Warmer Kiwi Homes is a programme that subsidises 80–90 percent of the costs for purchasing and installing insulation and efficient heaters. The goal is to help homeowners who either have a community services card or live in a low-income area save on power bills and enjoy warmer, healthier homes. Approved contractors carry out the installations, with the subsidy covering most costs and homeowners paying the remainder. Following installation, homes meet similar standards to Healthy Homes, which apply to tenanted homes.

EECA relies on Stats NZ's census data to determine eligibility for the programme. The census data underpins Otago University's socioeconomic deprivation indexes, which identify households in need.

Outcomes for New Zealand

Over 150,000 installations of insulation and heaters have been completed across New Zealand. Households report increased warmth, comfort, and satisfaction with their homes, alongside reduced condensation and dampness. Key findings from a 2022 evaluation include:

- Increased living area temperatures: Significant warmth gains, especially during cold weather and peak times like breakfast and dinner.
- Reduced electricity use: Overall household electricity use decreased by 16 percent during winter, with notable reductions during peak demand periods.

Health and wellbeing

The cost benefit analysis showed a wellbeing and energy benefit-cost ratio of 4.4 and health and energy benefit-cost ratio of 1.9.

Prior evaluations highlighted the programme's health benefits, such as reduced hospital admission rates for respiratory diseases, asthma, and ischaemic heart disease in people aged over 65 years. Additionally, retrofitted insulation was shown to lessen the incidence and severity of chronic respiratory diseases.

The Stats NZ General Social Survey (run every two years) provides information on the wellbeing of New Zealanders aged 15 years and over. It covers a wide range of social and economic outcomes and shows how people in different groups within the New Zealand population are faring. The most recent results of the survey published in 2022 further support these findings by documenting the negative wellbeing impacts of cold housing, reinforcing the importance of initiatives like Warmer Kiwi Homes.

The Warmer Kiwi Homes programme exemplifies how data-driven decisions can significantly improve the quality of life for New Zealanders. By using census data to target interventions, EECA has successfully enhanced home comfort, reduced energy consumption, and improved public health outcomes. This initiative demonstrates the powerful role of data in fostering sustainable and healthy communities across New Zealand.



Case study:

Supporting Pacific data capability



Caption: The Chief Executive of Stats NZ Mark Sowden and Leota Aliielua Salani, Samoa's Government Statistician at Stats NZ in Wellington

NSOs in fulfilling their core functions, enhancing their capabilities, and embracing statistical innovation. This commitment is driven by a \$4.25 million investment through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

As part of our commitment to helping maintain a healthy Pacific data system and supporting evidence-based policy development and evaluation in the region, Stats NZ chairs the Pacific Statistics Methods Board, which was established in 2017 and meets twice a year. The board ensures that national statistical agencies in Pacific Island countries and territories use best practice methods and standards.

Supporting population data skills in Tonga Statistics Department

In late August 2023, representatives from the Tonga Statistics Department visited our Christchurch office to develop skills in population estimates and projections. They worked on collating Tongan census, births, deaths, and migration data to produce annual population estimates, which underpin decisions by agencies such as Tonga's Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health.

Strengthening Samoa's statistical capabilities through collaborative initiatives

Stats NZ undertook several initiatives to support and enhance the statistical capabilities of the Samoa Bureau of Statistics across the year. In mid-August 2023, the Government Statistician and CEO of the Samoa Bureau of Statistics, along with the Assistant CEO, visited New Zealand to discuss the introduction of a national identity number in Samoa and explore future support from Stats NZ. This visit reinforced our collaborative efforts to enhance statistical capabilities in Samoa.

In October 2023, Stats NZ provided training on the Principles of Official Statistics (POS) and the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) at the Samoa Bureau of Statistics, building the capability of 35 staff members.

In April 2024, Stats NZ welcomed the Deputy Government Statistician of Samoa to peer review the Samoa Bureau of Statistics' Induction Program, which now includes a summary of POS and GSBPM from the 2023 training. During the same month, the Assistant CEO of the Samoan Bureau of Statistics visited Stats NZ offices in Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch to understand staff onboarding processes, aiming to improve practices in Samoa and strengthen our relationship.

Establishing a Community of Practice for Cook Islands public service analysts

In March 2024, Stats NZ set up a Community of Practice for public service analysts in the Cook Islands Government. Over 30 staff from various government agencies took part, learning about data governance and data quality, building understanding of the importance of these practices. Some participants have already started implementing review processes to ensure their analysis work is properly checked. This initiative has strengthened data capability within the Cook Islands Government, enhancing the quality and reliability of their data analysis.



Case study:

How Beef + Lamb New Zealand utilises Stats NZ data to support farmers



Caption: Image of cows and sheep grazing with mountains in the background

Beef + Lamb New Zealand is a farmer-owned industry organisation representing New Zealand's sheep and beef farmers. The organisation provides tools, information, and advocacy for its members to support their farming operations and enhance industry performance.

Beef + Lamb New Zealand uses Stats NZ data to inform various tools and information provided to, and on behalf of, their farmers. This includes economic reports, benchmarking, farm data, industry production, and export statistics. A key area of focus is land use. Additionally, agricultural production census data helps target their in-depth annual survey of sheep and beef farms, which has been running for over 70 years. Information is disseminated through the organisation's publications for a wide audience from farmers to meat and wool exporters; those providing other services to the industry; local, regional, and central government; and via regional engagement and their website.

Stats NZ data underwrites a comprehensive picture of the industry and forms a base to forecast meat and wool production.

Key areas of data utilised include:

- Farm expenses price index, which is similar to the consumers price index (CPI), that tracks the costs of farm inputs on sheep and beef farms.
- Land use data, which is used in analysis and development of policy positions and submissions on land use.
- Export data that is used to put the red meat sector in context for New Zealanders.

Beef + Lamb New Zealand uses a combination of self-service and customised data from Stats NZ. Automated systems process this data into reports, ensuring timely and accurate information is available for decision-making.

Outcomes and benefits

The reports generated using Stats NZ data inform business decisions across the entire sector, including farmers, vets, meat processors, contractors, and local and central government policy. For example, changes in carbon credit prices influence land use decisions by affecting farmland purchase prices.

- **Economic impact:** With 90–95 percent of New Zealand-raised beef and lamb being exported, the sector significantly contributes to New Zealand's foreign exchange earnings that underpin the country's ability to purchase goods and services from overseas via the foreign exchange market.
- **Informed decision-making:** Farmers and related businesses have access to essential information for making evidence-based decisions.
- **Policy and advocacy:** Beef + Lamb New Zealand uses the data to support evidence-based policy positions and submissions, ensuring the industry's voice is heard in policy discussions.

By leveraging Stats NZ data, Beef + Lamb New Zealand ensures farmers and others are well-informed and the sector remains competitive and resilient, benefiting both the organisation and the whole New Zealand economy.

New Zealand’s 2023 Census of Population and Dwellings

Te Tatauranga o te Taupori me ngā Whare Noho o Aotearoa 2023

The census is the only nationwide survey in New Zealand that requires participation from everyone. It provides an official count of the population and the dwellings where people live and stay, offering a detailed snapshot of life in our communities every five years.

Understanding how people are doing and how our communities are evolving over time helps government agencies, councils, iwi, community groups, and businesses to plan effectively to meet the changing needs of New Zealanders and communities.

For the 2023 Census, we adopted a Privacy by Design approach, which involved frequent review with workstreams on their progress on privacy recommendations. This process was applied alongside the existing privacy impact assessment process to raise privacy issues during design and implementation phases. We also used our Ngā Tikanga Paihere framework to guide our community engagement.

The 2023 Census programme, spanning from 2019 to 2025, has completed Phase 7, which focused on processing and disseminating the data collected.

Participation and coverage

The 2023 Census was designed to address barriers to participation and improve response rates among priority groups. Tailored strategies were employed for Māori, Pacific Peoples, ethnic communities, young people, older individuals, disabled people, and Rainbow communities.

Strategies included increasing the number of census collectors, providing better assistance options, and enhancing engagement and promotion efforts. Iwi-led collections in specific regions contributed to participation and data accuracy for Māori communities.

Official response and coverage rates are confirmed following each census by the Post-Enumeration Survey (PES). The 2023 PES will be published on 9 December 2024.

2023 Census programme phases

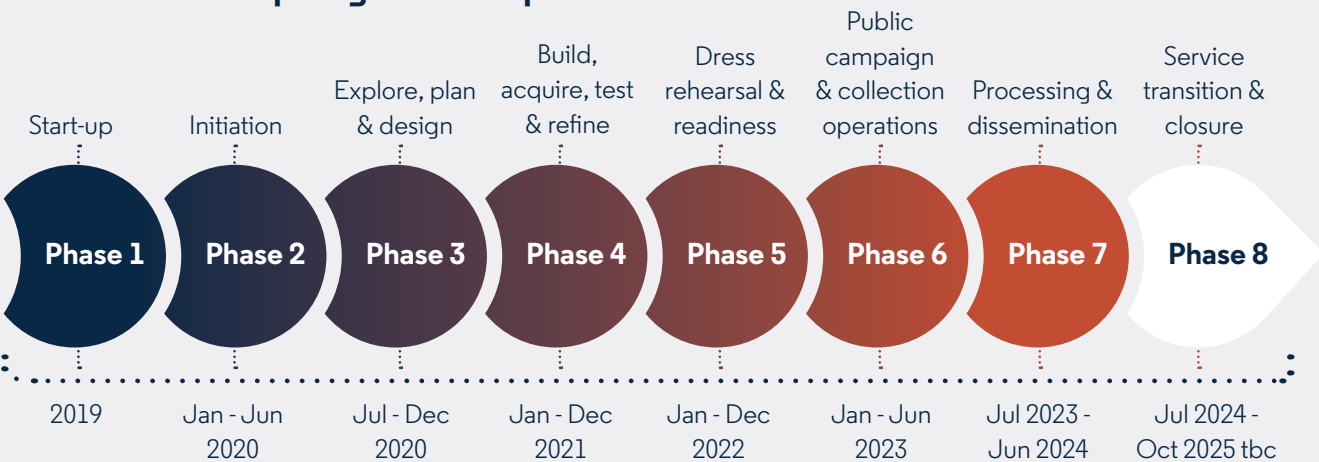


Figure 8. Phases of the 2023 Census

The 2023 Census achieved an overall interim coverage rate of 99.1 percent (up from 97.4 percent) in 2018, and an interim response rate of 88.3 percent, an improvement of 2.5 percentage points from the 2018 Census.

Coverage compares the number of people who were counted in the census with the number who should have been counted. For a response to be counted, we need to have received two or more of the following information fields about an individual on census forms: name, date of birth, meshblock (geographic area).

77.9 percent of individual and household forms from private dwellings were completed online. Despite challenges such as adverse weather events and the ongoing impact of COVID-19, participation and interim coverage rates were strong across various groups (see Statement of service performance for response and coverage rates for different groups).

Data releases

Processing and preparing the 2023 Census dataset for publishing involves combining data from census forms with other sources, such as government admin data, to ensure high-quality results. 2023 Census data is being published by Stats NZ in a series of key releases between May 2024 through to August 2025.

On 29 May 2024, the first release of 2023 Census data, which included population, dwelling, Māori descent, age, and ethnicity, was published. This data provides valuable insights for decision-making that impacts every person, iwi, and community in New Zealand.

2023 Census Māori descent data on Te Whata

The 2023 Census is providing a significant opportunity to better deliver for and with Māori, iwi, and hapū. 2023 Census Māori descent data was released by Stats NZ and Te Kāhui Raraunga³ in unison. As well as being available on the Stats NZ website, the data was also available on Te Whata, an iwi-designed and operated platform. This is the first census data released on a non-government-owned platform, enabled by the Mana Ōrite Relationship agreement between the Data ILG and Stats NZ.

This collaboration highlights the benefits of iwi-Crown partnerships and marks significant progress in Māori data governance. Te Whata, developed with Stats NZ's support, is designed to help iwi access and use their data meaningfully. It allows iwi Māori to narrate their own stories and make informed decisions based on relevant insights.

Although Te Whata is designed for iwi, the 2023 Census data on the platform is open to all New Zealanders. This release is a key part of the improvements for the 2023 Census, aiming to meet the needs of iwi Māori and other data users across communities.

Further releases of iwi data including iwi affiliation are planned for release on Te Whata later in 2024.

³ The operational arm of Data Iwi Leaders Group (Data ILG). Data ILG is a group of iwi governance representatives who advocate for iwi access and control over data. The group was established by National Iwi Chairs Forum in 2016 to harness the potential of data for iwi development and to advance the data kaupapa with the Crown.

Census products and services

We consulted with various customers to understand their information needs, resulting in planned improvement to products and services for the 2023 Census data releases. Enhancements include iwi Māori data on Te Whata, upgraded table products, and upgrades to popular products such as place and ethnic group summaries.

As 2023 Census data is published, we provide products for users with a range of data capability to access and use it, including:

- highlighting key insights through news stories, infographics, digital and printable posters, and regular social media updates
- offering interactive tools to explore census data through interactive maps and visualisations
- providing simple graphs and tables of data for local communities and ethnic groups about topics including work, housing, and population
- customisable data tables and analytical reports
- geographic information system (GIS) files and access to detailed census datasets for authorised researchers.

We provide a range of services alongside these to support access, which include:

- our information centre
- guides about the data and how to use it
- support from our engagement teams
- Te Ara Takatū, a customised data service for iwi and iwi-related organisations provided free of charge
- customised data requests
- metadata products such as definitions, data sources, and quality
- methods, standards, and research papers and reports.

Lessons learned

The independently conducted [Statutory Review of New Zealand's 2023 Census](#) assessed the effectiveness of the 2023 Census operations from design through to the completion of field operations, data delivery plans, and initial progress. The report highlighted the progress made in the 2023 Census while identifying areas for improvement and consideration for future census planning and implementation.

The findings in the review emphasised the importance of robust governance, early and sustained engagement with Māori, and the need for reliable technology and data processing systems. It also discussed the benefits of integrating admin data and the necessity of thorough testing and planning to mitigate risks and improve efficiency.

Recommendations for future censuses included:

- continue using a board structure with independent members for oversight
- enhance programme and project management capabilities within Stats NZ
- strengthen partnerships and co-design efforts with Māori
- improve technology management and integration processes
- consider a longer field operations period to accommodate unexpected events
- explore an admin data-first census model for 2028, ensuring adequate contingency planning and public trust.

Stats NZ Performance measurement framework detail

Taipitopito inenga tutukinga o Tatauranga Aotearoa

Table 4 contains measures of the impact of Stats NZ's work and provides the next layer of detail for the Stats NZ Performance measurement framework. The measures are drawn from internal and external sources.

The table includes information about the relevant measures, the outcomes, priorities or product/service they are indicative of, and the trend we hope to see as a result of our efforts.

Outcome/priority/product or service	Measure or indicator	Source	Frequency	Desired direction
Stewardship Aotearoa's data ecosystem is strengthened Proactively improve the health of Aotearoa New Zealand's data system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Data Lab project applications completed within 6 working weeks of receipt Number of simple or medium complexity Data Lab output checks completed within 5 working days Percentage of IDI releases published by the target date Build visibility of the GCDS: Percentage change in pageviews/visitors to data.govt.nz Number of customised data requests delivered on or before customer agreed date 	Stats NZ service performance measures	Quarterly	↑
Protection Trust and confidence in data and statistics is high and maintained	Positive responses to the question 'I trust Stats NZ to keep my information safe'	Stats NZ 'Modernising our approach to the 2028 Census' consultation		↑
Wellbeing Wellbeing of people, economy, and environment is enhanced	Case studies on how others use economic/business, social/population, environmental data	Stats NZ and partners	Annual	N/A
Measure what matters and reduce core\system risk Official statistics Ensure the availability of, and promote the use of, the highest priority data and official statistical information to add value to decision-making both in New Zealand and overseas jurisdictions Economic and business data and statistical information services Population, social, and labour market data and statistical information releases Stewardship of government data and statistical leadership	Timeliness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of critical economic and business data releases published on the advertised date Percentage of critical population, social, and labour market releases published on the advertised date Accuracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statistical releases are free from errors classified as high for economic and business data Statistical releases free from errors classified as high for population, social, and labour market and environment data Customer experience and satisfaction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website accessibility and quality: The overall satisfaction with the experience on stats.govt.nz 	Stats NZ service performance measures	Quarterly	↑ ↑ ↑

Table 4. Source, frequency, and desired direction of Performance measurement framework measures

Key: Outcomes Strategic priorities Products and services

Outcome/priority/product or service	Measure or indicator	Source	Frequency	Desired direction
Deliver for and with Māori, iwi, and hapū	Partner outcomes case studies	Stats NZ and iwi partners	Annual	N/A
Become an organisation that uses administrative data first	Under development			
2023 Census	Independent Quality Assurance New Zealand (IQANZ) rates Stats NZ's ability to deliver a successful census project as feasible or better	IQANZ as part of Stats NZ service performance measures	Annual during Census phases 1-6	Likely
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of Māori who have medium to very high trust and confidence in a 2023 Census by census day Improved trust and confidence of Tagata Moana in 2023 Census: Percentage of Pacific Peoples who have medium to very high trust and confidence in a 2023 Census by census day 	Stats NZ service performance measures	Once during Census implementation	↑

Table 4. Source, frequency, and desired direction of Performance measurement framework measures

Key: Outcomes Strategic priorities Products and services

Organisational health and capability measure	Measure or indicator	Source	Frequency	Desired direction
Our people Improving leadership and culture and Māori-Crown relations capability and encouraging a culture of diversity and inclusion with a commitment to health, safety, and wellbeing	Number of participants and assessment of learning in our Māori-Crown relations capability programme	Stats NZ	Annual	↑
	Workforce profile, gender profile, ethnicity profile of workforce and senior leaders		Annual	Reflective of the diversity of New Zealand
	HSW events, high severity events, lost time injuries		Monthly	↓
Our stakeholders and partners Maintaining visibility and relationships	Under development			
Our resources Delivering value in the most effective way	Travel, internal vs external capability spend, and property spend measures	Stats NZ	Annual	↓
Our systems and processes Systems and processes that are simple and responsive to current and future business requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of serious IT incidents Number of privacy incidents caused by issues in the IT environment 	Stats NZ	Quarterly	↓

Disclosure of significant judgements under PBE FRS 48

Whakapuakanga whakataunga hira i raro i PBE FRS 48

Stats NZ made key decisions about the performance information we have included based on what would be most relevant and meaningful for users to assess our performance against our goals. These decisions were made in consultation with the Minister of Statistics.

For our capital expenditure appropriation, contextual qualitative information provides a better assessment of performance than quantitative indicators.

Statement of performance 2023/2024

Tauākī tutukinga mō 2023/2024

Vote Statistics

The appropriations reported in this annual report are:

Multi-category expenses and capital expenditure:

- Official statistics multi-category appropriation

Departmental output expenses

- Economic and business data and statistical information services
- Population, social, and labour market data and statistical information services
- Stewardship of government data and statistical leadership

Departmental output expenses:

- Services to other agencies

Departmental capital expenditure:

- Statistics New Zealand – capital expenditure permanent legislative authority

Multi-year appropriations:

Departmental output expenses

- 2023 Census of Population and Dwellings

Multi-category expenses and capital expenditure

Official statistics multi-category appropriation

The single overarching purpose of this appropriation is to ensure availability, and promote the use, of the highest priority data and official statistical information to add value to decision making.

2022/2023 Actuals \$000	Financial performance	2023/2024 Actuals \$000	2023/2024 Budget \$000
34,831	Stewardship of government data and statistical services	27,169	38,285
79,978	Population, social, and labour market data and statistical information services	81,560	84,792
75,540	Economic and business data and statistical information services	82,137	68,949
190,349	Official statistics multi-category appropriation	190,866	192,026

This is the key we use to show our performance against the performance measure:



We achieved the standard



We did not achieve the standard

Official statistics

This appropriation is intended to achieve the outcome of ensuring decision-makers have the right data to make the right decisions by adding value to Aotearoa New Zealand’s most important data.

These performance measures reflect our overarching purpose to ensure decision-makers have high quality

data to make well-informed decisions by adding value to New Zealand’s most important data. We do this by engaging with our customers and partnering with iwi and Māori to ensure we meet their data needs. We are also working to build New Zealanders’ trust that the data they share with government is collected, managed, and used safely and responsibly through operating in an open and transparent manner.

Performance information:

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
80%	Website accessibility and quality: The overall satisfaction with the experience on stats.govt.nz	60%	82%	60%

Commentary

During the 2023/2024 reporting period, a total of 610 visitors started the stats.govt.nz pop-up satisfaction survey, over a combined survey period of 50 days. Of the 400 visitors that completed the question “Overall, how satisfied were you with your experience of the website?”

- 328 reported they were satisfied (86 extremely satisfied, 143 very satisfied, and 99 somewhat satisfied).
- 72 reported they were not satisfied (41 not so satisfied, and 31 not at all satisfied).

This surveying took place in two periods, during Q2 and Q3. Both were closed automatically after receiving 200 completed responses.

Planned Q1 and Q4 surveys were not completed in the appropriate time periods and have therefore not been included in this year’s results.

A breakdown of website satisfaction results by survey participants by financial quarter is as follows:

- Q2: 293 visitors began the survey. Of these, 200 completed it, of which 78.5 percent reported they were satisfied with their experience of the website.
- Q3: 317 visitors began the survey. Of these, 200 completed it, of which 85.5 percent reported they were satisfied with their experience of the website.

Economic and business data and statistical information services

This category is limited to the delivery of data and statistical information services relating to business and the economy.

These performance measures reflect the volume of statistical releases, the level of statistical releases that are free of significant errors, and the timeliness of statistical releases based on the importance of the release to our customers. We have also included a performance measure that reflects our shift towards enabling New Zealand businesses to supply us with their data using digital technologies.

Performance information:

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
201	Number of statistical releases	156–190 releases	187	Replaced measure
100%	Statistical releases are free from errors classified as high for economic and business data	99%	99%	100%
100%	Percentage of critical economic and business data releases published on the advertised date	99%	100%	100%
96%	Percentage of other economic and business data releases published on the advertised date	95%	95%	95%
72%	The percentage of business survey responses provided to Stats NZ in digital format	60%	59.1%	60%
24%	The percentage of Stats NZ business surveys that have digital-questionnaires available	30%	22.2%	30% or above

Commentary on not achieving standard

This year we invested in our systems/tools to ensure they can operate effectively. We completed our planned proof of value exercise on modern survey platform products. We are now entering negotiations with the preferred supplier.

The primary focus for the coming year will be to implement, configure, and integrate the new survey tool with our workforce management tool and other Stats NZ systems. Alongside that activity, the first use case being explored for the new survey tool is to meet the needs of the 2028 Census.

A plan will be created to determine how many business surveys can be moved online during the coming year. This will be balanced and prioritised against the need to progress our future census survey needs on the same product.

Replaced or retired performance measures:

In 2024/2025 the number of economic and business data releases measure will be replaced with the new measure: Delivery of x topics relating to New Zealand's economy and business. These are informed by a) monthly, b) quarterly, c) annual, and d) other frequency releases.

This may include topics temporary in nature and releases that cut across the Official Statistics output categories. This new measure demonstrates delivery of products and services that customers have identified as being of high value or demand.

Population, social, and labour market data and statistical information services

This category is limited to delivering data and statistical information services relating to the population, household economics, social conditions (including child poverty), the labour market, and the environment.

These performance measures reflect the volume of statistical releases, the level of statistical releases that are free of significant errors, and the timeliness of statistical releases based on the importance of the release to our customers.

Performance information:

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
76	Number of statistical releases	68–84 releases	73 releases	Replaced measure
100%	Statistical releases are free from errors classified as high for population, social, labour market, and environment data	99%	100%	100%
86%	Percentage of critical population, social, and labour market releases published on the advertised date	99%	100%	100%
99%	Percentage of other population, social, and labour market releases published on the advertised date	95%	97%	95%

Replaced or retired performance measures:

In 2024/2025 the number of population, social, and labour market releases measure will be replaced with the new measure: Delivery of x topics relating to New Zealand's population, social and labour market data. These are informed by a) monthly, b) quarterly, c) annual and d) other frequency releases. This may include topics temporary in nature and releases that cut across the Official Statistics output categories. This new measure demonstrates delivery of products and services that customers have identified as being of high value or demand.

Stewardship of government data and statistical leadership

This category is limited to coordinating statistical and data services for government, through System Leadership of the Official Statistics System (OSS) and Stewardship of the Government Data System; statistical and data management advice; providing access to official statistics; oversight of the IDI; and providing ministerial services.

The purpose of these measures is to demonstrate stakeholder trust and confidence in our role as steward of the government data system, and government agency awareness of our role as the Government Chief Data Steward. The performance measures also cover our provision of statistical information to researchers and government agencies; and our delivery of effective and efficient ministerial services that enable Ministers to discharge their statistics portfolio responsibilities.

Performance information:

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
75%	Number of Data Lab project applications completed within 6 working weeks of receipt	80%	73%	80%

Commentary on not achieving standard

The measure tracked well until the third quarter, which was particularly busy due to the holiday season, making researchers less available for engagement. Despite this, we processed and approved all 63 applications, ensuring adherence to our Five Safes and Ngā Tikanga Paihere frameworks to maintain the safety of the data and its users at this time standard.

Our process relies heavily on prompt responses from researchers, particularly those new to the system or with complex projects. On average, it took 23 days to complete an application, with the shortest completion time being just 4 days. Some complex applications required additional time to ensure proper execution of our frameworks.

There were no confidentiality or privacy breaches to report.

40%	Number of simple or medium complexity Data Lab output checks completed within 5 working days	75%	95%	75%
-----	--	-----	------------	-----

Commentary on exceeding standard

The output checking service has returned to the high service levels of two years ago. We introduced a new checking tool, which is now used by both researchers and our team. This addition has improved turnaround times. In response to this increase in productivity, for the 2024/2025 financial year this metric has been updated to a target of 75% of simple or medium complexity Data Lab output checks completed within 5 working days.

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
100%	Percentage of IDI releases published by the target date	100%	100%	100%
New measure	Build visibility of the Government Chief Data Steward (GCDS): pageviews to data.govt.nz	Increase from 820,000	910,877	Increase from 820,000
Commentary on exceeding standard				
<p>New measure 2023/2024, replaces the Build visibility of the GCDS measure.</p> <p>While it is difficult to demonstrate causal effect, steady growth in visitation to the Data.Govt.NZ site (65k) alongside the catalogue (23.5k) indicates the value the system (and public) place in the site's ability to provide ready access to data system information, guidance and tools.</p>				
89%	Number of customised data requests delivered on or before customer agreed date	90%	94%	90%

Replaced or retired performance measures: Access to official statistics

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
85%	Social licence: Stats NZ maintains the support of its stakeholders as a trusted steward of New Zealand's data and information	Withdrawn measure	N/A	N/A
Both the Data Lab and access to microdata measures were replaced in 2022/2023. These former measures do not reflect the customer experience, nor provide context for the type of services we offer to our customers. We implemented new customer experience and expectation measures in 2022/2023.				
Achieved	Build visibility of the GCDS	Replaced measure	N/A	N/A
<p>This measure has been redesigned with pageviews on the data.govt.nz website as a proxy for information being sought and used across the data system.</p> <p>The data.govt.nz website, administered by the Government Chief Data Steward (GCDS), is the primary information website across the data system and provides other agencies and the public the latest information and tools and provides a vehicle for agencies to interact with the system and upload their datasets.</p>				

Performance information: Ministerial servicing

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
100%	Percentage of draft written Parliamentary questions, Ministerial briefings, and Official Information Act replies provided to Ministers that meet agreed quality and timeliness standards be no less than 95%	95%	99.7%	95%

Departmental output expenses

Services to other agencies

This appropriation is limited to the provision of services by Stats NZ to other agencies, where those services are not within the scope of another departmental output expense appropriation in Vote Statistics.

We share our Christchurch and Wellington offices with other agencies. As lead agency, we are responsible for ensuring shared services within each of these buildings are met to an agreed standard. In 2023/2024, we will be reviewing the current measure with the aim of replacing it with a more informative metric.

2022/2023 Actuals \$000	Financial performance	2023/2024 Actuals \$000	2023/2024 Budget \$000
7,423	Services to other agencies	8,014	14,489

Performance information:

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
Achieved	The provision of shared services with other government agencies	Provision of shared services to agreed standard	Achieved	Provision of shared services to agreed standard
Commentary on achieving standard				
Services to other agencies in our shared building environment in Christchurch and Wellington are maintained to an agreed standard.				

Departmental capital expenditure

Statistics New Zealand – capital expenditure permanent legislative authority

This appropriation is limited to the purchase or development of assets by and for the use of Statistics New Zealand, as authorised by section 24(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989.

Stats NZ's capital investment will deliver technology to:

- enable a transition to an administration data-first organisation
- upgrade and replace existing technology, fleet, and hardware
- improve our premises.

2022/2023 Actuals \$000	Financial performance	2023/2024 Actuals \$000	2023/2024 Budget \$000
14,171	Stats NZ – Capital injection	13,050	13,050

Performance information:

Objective	Spend \$000	Output
Enable a transition to an administration data-first organisation	8, 579	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modernised our collections and workforce management platforms to reduce the need for respondent interactions, while maintaining effective and efficient data collection processes • Developing and testing high level design concepts across all three data domains (people, places, and business) • Developing an underlying statistical-units model to support greater integration of data
Upgrade and replace existing technology, fleet, and hardware	5,264	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modernising our tools for better user access and data security with the ultimate aim of a smaller system footprint that will lower our maintenance costs and support capabilities that can be reused for a wider range of needs. • Enhanced Information Technology (IT) security and more consistent and reliable performance. • Systematically identifying and mitigating vulnerabilities across networks, servers, applications, databases, and operating systems.
Improve our premises	912	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping our assets fit for purpose by maintaining and replacing assets where applicable, for the safety and wellbeing of our staff.

Withdrawn performance measure: capital expenditure

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
Achieved	Infrastructure projects support Stats NZ's strategic vision and business processes	Withdrawn measure	N/A	N/A
Commentary				
This measure has been withdrawn as a quantitative measure as it did not meet the service performance standard. Instead, the wording above the table specifies how the funding from this appropriation will be used. Contextual qualitative information will provide a more meaningful assessment of performance than quantitative capital indicators in this instance.				



Multi-year appropriations

Departmental output expenses

2023 Census of Population and Dwellings

This appropriation is limited to completing the 2018 Census, conducting the 2023 Census, and the

administration and management of the ongoing census programme, as required under the Statistics Act 1975.

2022/2023 Actuals \$000	Financial performance	2023/2024 Actuals \$000	2023/2024 Budget \$000
184,132	2023 Census of Population and Dwellings	46,361	47,118

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
Likely	Independent Quality Assurance New Zealand rates Stats NZ's ability to deliver a successful census project as feasible or better	Feasible or better	Highly likely	Completed measure

Commentary on the measure and on achieving the standard

This is the last of the six independent annual assessments conducted by Independent Quality Assurance New Zealand (IQANZ), an external assurance company, on the likelihood of the 2023 Census programme meeting its objectives and benefits within time, budget, and agreed quality levels, using a 5-point rating scale: highly unlikely, in doubt, feasible, likely, highly likely. There are no more assessments scheduled as 2023 Census has completed the planning and collection phase of 2023 Census.

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
Result expected 2023/2024	Percentage of Māori who have medium to very high trust and confidence in a 2023 Census by census day	90%+	77%	Completed measure
Result expected 2023/2024	Improved trust and confidence of Tagata Moana in 2023 Census: Percentage of Pacific Peoples who have medium to very high trust and confidence in a 2023 Census by census day	90%+	75%	Completed measure

Commentary on not achieving the standard

While we have not met our targets for the trust and confidence measures above, the reported levels of trust in the 2023 Census and Stats NZ exceed trust in government departments generally. The results also reflect a more general degree of mistrust. This has been explained on our website: [2023 Census trust and confidence measures](#)

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
Result expected 2024/2025	National response rate total population	Result expected 2024/2025	Result expected 2024/2025	90%+
Result expected 2024/2025	National response rate for people of Māori descent	Result expected 2024/2025	Result expected 2024/2025	90%+
Result expected 2024/2025	National net coverage rate total population	Result expected 2024/2025	Result expected 2024/2025	98%+
Result expected 2024/2025	National net coverage rate for people of Māori descent	Result expected 2024/2025	Result expected 2024/2025	98%+
Result expected 2024/2025	Improve the quality of iwi affiliation data: iwi affiliation quality metric 1 score improves from 0.71 (very poor) to 0.90+ (moderate or above)	Result expected 2024/2025	Result expected 2024/2025	0.90+
Result expected 2024/2025	Improved trust and confidence of Tagata Moana in 2023 Census: National response rate for Pacific	Result expected 2024/2025	Result expected 2024/2025	90%+

Commentary on when we expect results against these measures

The above six measures produce one-off results in a six-year Census programme cycle. While most of the results from the 2023 Census were expected in 2023/2024, measure results have been delayed to 2024/2025. These measures are dependent on the completion of the Post-Enumeration Survey (PES). This survey was delayed going into the field because the 2023 Census collection period was extended to 30 June 2023 for areas impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle.

The PES is a survey of a sample of households conducted to measure the completeness of the census count. The survey is carried out every five years after the Census of Population and Dwellings. The nationwide survey identifies how many people were missed in the recent census, counted more than once, or counted in error. The results of the PES enable New Zealand's population data collected from the census to be accurately updated.

Completed measures: 2023 Census

2022/2023 Actual	Performance measure	2023/2024		2024/2025 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
Priority level 1	Improve the quality of iwi affiliation data: priority level for iwi affiliation increases from 2 to 1	Completed measure	N/A	N/A
Amber/Green	Gateway Review Team annual Delivery Confidence assessment of the Census project for a successful delivery appears feasible or better	Completed measure	N/A	N/A

Commentary

These measures were completed in 2022/2023 and have been removed either by Vote Statistics Estimates 2023/2024 or Vote Statistics Supplementary Estimates 2023/2024.

Organisational health and capability

Te hauora me ngā pūmanawa o te whakahaere



Organisational health and capability

Te hauora me ngā pūmanawa o te whakahaere

Our people, resources, stakeholders and partners, and systems and processes enable us to deliver on our purpose while mitigating our impact on the environment in line with the Carbon Neutral Government Programme.

Our people

Ā mātou tāngata

We are committed to developing the skills and abilities needed to adapt to new ways of working to reach our goals. In 2023/2024, Stats NZ implemented several initiatives to uplift leadership, culture, and capability.

Leadership and culture initiatives

We launched the Mahi-tahi Initiative in February 2024, which promotes shared leadership between technical experts and people leaders in our statistical and analytical job families. Alongside this, we established a People Leader Essentials Curriculum to equip our people leaders with fundamental skills to support management of work and people.

The Capability Enhancement Model highlights the varying types of leadership required in our business and the core capabilities that sit across all job families. This capability framework was designed in March 2024 and is being integrated into our business capability model that will be launched in late 2024.

In February 2024 we initiated our tuakana-teina modelled mentorship programme, which encourages knowledge sharing between senior and junior staff. Cohorts of 12–15 mentees and mentors participate in a 9-month programme, with new cohorts starting every quarter.

Ongoing continuous learning opportunities were provided through the Leaders Learning Lab and Kete, which offers various leadership development resources and forums.

Māori-Crown relations capability

In February 2023, we launched Te Amokapua, a learning journey to develop Māori-Crown relations (MCR) capability. This programme covers the six competencies in Te Arawhiti's MCR framework and uses a variety of learning methods, including workshops and expert facilitators.

Te Amokapua is a key component of our Whāinga Amorangi phase one plan, which outlines our goals to develop MCR capability at Stats NZ. This plan aligns with public service expectations under the Public Service Act 2020, aiming to elevate our staff's MCR capability from 'unfamiliar' to 'comfortable' and our leaders' capability to 'confident' in key areas like Aotearoa history, Te Tiriti o Waitangi literacy, and understanding equity and institutional racism.

Our goal at launch was for 80 percent of staff to complete Te Amokapua by 2025, lifting capability to required levels to support organisational capability change in the next phase. Recent organisational changes and cost reductions will mean we are likely to meet this goal at a later date, however we remain strongly committed to the programme. In 2023/2024, we spent \$1.4m excluding staff time on implementing our phase one plan.

Te Reo Māori Language Plan

To support the Crown's Maihi Karauna strategy, we implemented our Mahere Reo plan to enhance the use of te reo Māori within Stats NZ. This year, we introduced more bilingual signage, updated resources on our Pātaka App, and provided online lessons through our learning management system, Ako.

Our te reo Māori classes, part of the Te Amokapua programme, offered 10 hours of language immersion, helping staff use te reo Māori in their work and everyday conversations. We also supported significant events like pōwhiri, Matariki, and Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori to promote the use of te reo Māori.

We contribute to public sector-wide events to support the public service to realise its Maihi Karauna goals. In December 2023, we hosted 'Uhia te Amo', a forum to discuss the challenges and opportunities for te reo Māori in the changing authorising environment.

Measuring success

Since February 2023, 11 groups with a total of 520 people joined the Te Amokapua programme with two rōpū and 96 people currently participating. All participants who completed the assessment of learning showed a lift in capability, with an average score increase of 33.7 percent to 56.7 percent across all six competencies. Note that a number of rōpū participate at various stages of the nine-month programme simultaneously.

Participants provided positive feedback, highlighting the programme's impact on their understanding of colonisation, te reo Māori, and our role as a Te Tiriti partner. They appreciated the safe and encouraging learning environment, noting that it significantly improved their confidence and skills.

The capability to apply Te Tiriti o Waitangi analysis to our work has increased, indicating the success of Te Amokapua. Te Tiriti analysis is a critical process where we examine our policies, practices, and decisions through the lens of Te Tiriti o Waitangi to ensure they align with its principles. This analysis helps us identify areas where we can better support Māori interests and uphold our obligations as a Te Tiriti partner.

Te Amokapua participants' assessment showed a lift in both capability (accuracy of answers to assessment questions) and a lift in confidence (level of certainty reported by participants in the accuracy of their answers) pre- and post-participation in the programme.



Encouraging a culture of diversity and inclusion

Te poipoi i tētahi ahurea kanorau me te ōrite o te katoa

As a statistical organisation, we recognise the intrinsic value an inclusive environment can provide. When we support and grow a workforce that reflects the diversity of our country, we deepen the understanding of the communities we serve. This strengthens our ability to provide Aotearoa with quality data to make a difference.

To enable an inclusive workplace culture we have ongoing programmes of work to promote inclusivity and address gender and ethnic pay gaps. These include:

- aligning with the Public Service Commission's Papa Pounamu Diversity and Inclusion Work Programme
- addressing gender and ethnic pay gaps through the Kia Toipoto Public Service Pay Gap Action Plan 2021–2024
- continuing to support employee-led networks to promote inclusivity within the organisation.

Our [Diversity and Inclusion Road Map and Pay Gaps Actions Plans](#) is available to view on the Stats NZ website.

Workforce diversity

Our diversity and inclusion initiatives have positively impacted representation within Stats NZ by addressing bias and enhancing cultural competence.

Over the last year-and-a-half since the initiatives started, more than 85 percent of our people leaders have participated in cultural competency and unconscious bias training workshops, enhancing their ability to manage their biases and become better Te Tiriti partners. Our Te Tiriti o Waitangi Community of Practice group provides ongoing support, allowing staff to integrate this learning into their roles.

Our centralised recruitment function has oversight of hiring processes. This system promotes consistency in bias mitigation and supports our broader diversity and inclusion goals.

Addressing pay gaps

Under the Kia Toipoto Public Service Pay Gap Action Plan, Stats NZ has taken several steps to reduce gender pay gaps. We have:

- implemented a single organisation-wide pay grade structure
- conducted two rounds of like-for-like salary analysis, leading to necessary salary corrections
- established a mentoring programme for Te Aka Wāhine o Tatauranga Aotearoa | Stats NZ Women's Network
- centralised our recruitment process to ensure consistency and bias mitigation.

We maintain transparency about pay grades and levels by making them visible to leadership through our internal reporting, uploading them onto our intranet, and by publicly publishing pay gap and representation data annually.

Our salary-setting process is rigid, with salary ranges agreed upon by hiring managers and People and Culture Advisors, ensuring fair and consistent practices.

Flexible working and capability development

We are committed to flexible working options through our flexible working policy. As part of our transformation to deliver official statistics using admin data first, we developed a target operating model to identify what new business capabilities we need. This model is mapped across technology, people, and processes to develop an organisation-wide capability framework, a component of our strategic workforce plan developed in 2022/2023.

Supporting employee-led networks

Our employee networks continue to flourish and proactively support the business in creating a positive and inclusive workplace. Our Diversity & Inclusion Council, which includes key corporate services partners and employee network leads, meet monthly to ensure the partnership between the organisation and employee networks stays strong. Stats NZ has six employee-led networks that organise and provide support for a range of events including language weeks, speaker events, culturally significant celebrations, and sports challenges:

- Tangata Moana / Pacific Peoples Network
- Ranga Āniwaniwa / Stats NZ's Rainbow Employee Led Network
- Pan-Asian Public Sector Network
- Neurodiversity/Kanorau ā-roto Network
- Te Kāhui Māori
- Te Aka Wāhine o Tatauranga Aotearoa | Stats NZ Women's Network.

Te Aka Wāhine launched a mentoring programme in April 2024 for network members. This programme provides guidance and resources to participants to support their 9-month mentoring journey. The network also provided many opportunities over the past year to address current challenges faced by members, including budgeting and financial advice sessions, CV writing and job searching advice, women's health sessions, and women in leadership sessions.



Workplace profile

Measure	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Headcount	1,155	1,410	1,524	1,729	1,323
Full-time equivalents (FTEs)	1,129.50	1,385.12	1,496.12	1,700.13	1,295.80
Average age (years)	44.4	44.4	44.6	44.8	45.8
Permanent	92%	89%	86%	86%	95%
Fixed term	8%	11%	14%	14%	5%
New hires	285	482	454	635	114
Exits	166	224	335	419	517
Unplanned turnover	12.0%	11.1%	18.3%	17.9%	13.9%
Total turnover (annual)	15.2%	17.5%	22.8%	25.8%	33.9%
Average length of service (years)	8.3	7.5	7.3	6.7	7.5
Note: we do not provide a workforce breakdown by disability because not all employees who identify as disabled choose to disclose this					

Table 5 . Workforce profile as at 30 June each year

The gender pay gap indicates the average difference between women and men's earnings. It is calculated as the difference between the average base salary for females and the average base salary for males. In 2023/2024, the difference between women to men's earnings was 6.8 percent, compared with 12.3 percent five years ago.

Gender pay gap

Measure	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Female staff overall	55%	57%	58%	57%	57%
Female all people leaders	54%	57%	60%	60%	54%
Female senior (tier 2 and 3) managers	48%	52%	52%	55%	59%
Male staff overall	44%	43%	42%	39%	42%
Male all people leaders	46%	43%	39%	36%	46%
Male senior (tier 2 and 3) managers	52%	48%	48%	35%	41%
Note: we do not report on Another gender in the above table to protect people's identity as the numbers are fewer than five people across certain staff categories. Also, not all people choose to disclose their gender.					

Table 6 . Gender profile of our workforce as at 30 June each year

Ethnicity profile

Ethnicity	Stats NZ 2022/2023	Stats NZ 2023/2024	2023 Census data all New Zealand
European	63.1%	63.9%	67.8%
Asian	22.3%	24.2%	17.3%
Māori	11.0%	9.5%	17.8%
Pacific peoples	7.0%	5.9%	8.9%
Middle Eastern, Latin American, African	2.8%	2.4%	1.9%
Other ethnicity	4.2%	4.5%	1.1%
Note: We have excluded 10.4% employees that have not disclosed their ethnicity			

Table 7. Ethnicity profile of our workforce as at 30 June each year compared to 2023 Census data for the New Zealand population

Ethnicity for senior leaders

Ethnicity for Senior Leaders (Tiers 2 and 3)	2022/2023	2023/2024
European	75%	81%
Māori	25%	22%
Pacific peoples	*	0%
Asian	*	*
Middle Eastern, Latin American, African	0%	0%
Other ethnicity	*	*
<p>* Note: Tier 2 on duty Senior Leaders report directly to the Chief Executive, Tier 3 on duty Senior Leaders report to Tier 2 Senior Leaders. We do not provide a full leadership breakdown by ethnicity in the above table to protect people's identity as the numbers are fewer than five people. We have excluded 15.7% Senior Leaders that have not disclosed their ethnicity.</p>		

Table 8 . Ethnicity profile of our tier 2 and 3 leaders as at 30 June each year

Commitment to health, safety, and wellbeing

Te ū ki te hauora, ki te haumaru me te toiora

Stats NZ is committed to the health, safety, and wellbeing (HSW) of our people. Our policies and procedures drive consistent and quality practices while complying with legislative obligations. Additionally, we strive to build a culture that promotes a healthy and safe working environment. Alongside health and safety representatives, we maintain a network of volunteers/ kaiawhina trained in mental health first aid to support our staff's mental wellbeing.

Our approach

Our continuous listening approach to employee engagement includes pulse surveys, life-cycle surveys, and an all-employee annual survey. These surveys provide feedback on the employee experience and culture at Stats NZ, helping us manage culture risks and identify opportunities for improvement. Insights from these surveys are communicated to leadership, and actions are agreed upon to address areas of low engagement.

Our People & Culture business partners follow up directly on individual feedback from life-cycle surveys, ensuring concerns are addressed promptly.

Improvements to health safety and wellbeing

We had 1,476 health and safety events reported in 2023/2024, of which 1,429 were in our Collections Operations area that engages directly with the public. These events included incidents involving dogs and aggressive interactions with the public. While this was a reduction from 2022/2023 where we had 2,623 events, it is difficult to make a meaningful comparison as the numbers for the previous year include 2023 Census collections when increased numbers of staff were in the field.

We also saw zero high-severity incidents, which indicates we have good controls in place and staff are undertaking good risk assessments in the field. There were 14 lost time injuries, a reduction of 26 percent from 2022/2023.

Stats NZ has been recognised by other government agencies in a shared HSW community of practice, as a leader in induction, training, support, and health and safety culture for staff working on calls, remotely, and in the field.

Key achievements that were recognised in 2023/2024 include:

- Risk profile review: We completed a comprehensive review of our current risk profile to ensure that appropriate controls are in place, effective, and monitored.
- Safety management system audit: We conducted a full audit against 13 Health & Safety (H&S) Standards, confirming an effective framework is in place.
- Process mapping: We created process maps to help our people understand how to use relevant risk controls and know when and what to report for a HSW event.
- H&S documentation: We developed new H&S documentation to support team leaders and managers in managing their H&S responsibilities, providing clear guidance and instructions.
- HSW scorecard: We introduced a scorecard to benchmark each team's approach to their H&S responsibilities and support improvements.
- H&W training: We achieved an average completion rate of 94 percent across our key six H&S training sessions, covering over 400 staff.

Our stakeholders and partners

Te hunga pupuru pānga me ō mātou hoa kōtui

The Strategic Engagement and Māori Partnerships (SEMP) business group was established in January 2024. It brought together a number of existing engagement functions from across the organisation to support delivery of our core business and the government’s objectives through embracing system leadership and the increased focus on future census and admin data.

Creating SEMP also established a strategic engagement function. The vision of this function is to transform the way we undertake public engagement. This integrated engagement function will enable engagement by engaging with the public in a new and inclusive way, leveraging lessons learned from the implementation of the Māori Partnerships approach.

Our resources

Ā mātou rauemi

It’s our aim to deliver value in the most effective way. Table 9 and 10 demonstrate our areas of biggest spend

– travel, capability, and property – and the change since our baseline year 2022/2023.

Measure	Target	2022/2023	2023/2024
Travel – online adoption based on book date (a)	90%	84%	82%
\$ contractors and consultants/ total workforce (b)	8%	13.4%	5.7%

(a) This is an All of Government (AoG) target. It indicates the proportion of people who have chosen the online booking option which is cheaper.

(b) An indicator of building internal capability. The target is based on our forecast for 2023/2024 and Public Service Commission’s letter to public service CEs to reduce contractor/consultant operating spend to reduce to 11 percent or lower.

Table 9. Targets and trends for measures of travel online adoption and capability 2022/2023 and 2023/2024

		1 July 2023		1 July 2024	
	Total size of building	Share of building	Metres squared	Share of building	Metres squared
Auckland	2,190	100%	2,190	66%	1,445
Wellington	13,209	60%	7,925	44.82%	5,920
Christchurch	6,071	49.24%	2,989	35.87%	2,178
	21,470		13,105		9,543

Organisation-wide headcount	All people	June 26 2023	2,220	July 1 2024	1,420
m2 per person			5.9		6.7

Property reduction	3,561 metres squared
	27%

Table 10. Trends for measures of Stats NZ’s share of office space and spend 2023 and 2024

Our systems and processes

Ā mātou pūnaha, hātepe hoki

We aim to have systems and processes that are simple and responsive to current and future business requirements.

In 2023/2024, we enhanced the integration of our annual budgeting, financial, and business planning processes. This improvement focuses on optimising budgeting and reporting performance, while also elevating the quality of our performance reporting and accountability

Our new Performance measurement framework aligns our service performance measures with our short-, medium- and long-term performance and sets the frame for ongoing improvement of our quantitative measures.

Table 11 shows progress towards a simplified, flexible, and sustainable IT environment. The target for the P1 IT incidents was exceeded significantly, however, it is difficult to make a meaningful comparison between the two years as 2023 Census field collection contributed to the higher number of incidents recorded. Similarly, the higher number of privacy/security incidents in 2022/2023 reflects the large field collection operations for 2023 Census.

Measure	Target	2022/2023	2023/2024
P1 IT incidents (a)	10% reduction per annum from 2022/2023 baseline	31	39% reduction from 2022/23
Number of privacy/ security incidents (b)	-	548	350
(c) P1 incidents are the most serious category of incident and a reduction indicates progress towards a simplified, flexible, and sustainable IT environment.			
(d) Fewer incidents indicate fewer privacy incidents are caused by issues in the IT environment.			

Table 11 . Progress towards simplified, flexible, sustainable IT environment, by measure and target, for 2022/2023 and 2023/2024

Carbon Neutral Government Programme

We are committed to meeting the requirements of the Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP), which has been set up to accelerate the reduction of emissions within the public sector. We are also committed to environmental sustainability. Managing our emissions is an important component of our overall environmental and sustainability objectives.

Stats NZ emission profile

During 2023/2024, we provisionally emitted 1,357.18 tCO₂e (tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent), a 54 percent decrease on the 2018/2019 base year⁴ (2,926.46 tCO₂e). The main reductions have occurred in business travel with emissions down 60 percent on the base year

of 2,522.85 tCO₂e to 1,012.47 tCO₂e. By component, our highest emission source in 2023/2024 is air travel at 46.1 percent of total emissions. Surveyor private vehicles mileage claims is second at 25.6 percent and purchased electricity is third at 7.2 percent.

Toitū Envirocare (Enviro-Mark Solutions Limited) will undertake an ISO#14064-1:2018 verification audit of our 2023/2024 emissions in September 2024. The following information relating to our emissions is provisional and unverified at the time of printing this annual report.

Since the 2023 annual report, the 2022/2023 emissions have been revised from the provisional 10,578.06 tCO₂e to an independently verified 10,595.26 tCO₂e. Main movement occurred in Scope 3 with adjustments within the 2023 Census related costs for census forms, materials, and envelopes emissions.

Scope	Description	2018/2019 (base year) tCO ₂ e	2021/2022 tCO ₂ e	2022/2023 tCO ₂ e	2023/2024 tCO ₂ e
1	Direct emissions	86.63	62.93	94.26	80.24
2	Indirect emissions from imported energy	101.99	143.3	110.32	97.34
3	Indirect emissions from transportation, products an organisation uses or supplies, or other sources	2,737.84	1,087.27	10,390.68	1,179.60
Total gross emissions in tCO ₂ e		2,926.46	1,293.49	10,595.26	1,357.18
Change in gross emissions (all scopes) since base year			-56%	+262%	-54%

Table 12. Overall Stats NZ's emissions profile, by scope and total annual emissions (tCO₂e), base year 2018/2019; 2021-2024

Our 2023/2024 emissions have been broken down by 'Stats NZ regular activity' and census operations. In 2023/2024, Census made up 15.4 percent of the total 2023/2024 emission profile.

This is a reduction on 2022/2023's 87.2 percent as the 2023 Census transitions from the data collection phase of 2022/2023 to releasing 2023 Census statistical outputs.

⁴ We selected 2018/2019 as the base year because as the last full financial year pre-COVID it reflects near-normal carbon emissions for the purpose of target setting reduction under the CNGP requirements.

Emission source	Stats NZ regular activities		Census Operations		Total Stats NZ	
	tCO ₂ e	Percent	tCO ₂ e	Percent	tCO ₂ e	Percent
Business travel	889.89	65.6	122.58	9.0	1012.47	74.6
Purchased electricity	86.32	6.4	11.02	0.8	97.34	7.2
Fuel consumption	63.75	4.7	16.49	1.2	80.24	5.9
Employee working from home	53.06	3.9	4.53	0.3	57.59	4.2
Courier	33.51	2.5	0.18	0.0	33.69	2.5
Other (Census material and value chain)	0.00	0.0	29.92	2.2	29.92	2.2
Waste disposal	6.52	0.5	22.18	1.6	28.71	2.1
Wastewater services	8.26	0.6	1.05	0.1	9.30	0.7
Transmission and distribution losses	6.31	0.5	0.81	0.1	7.12	0.5
Total provisional gross emissions	1,148.33	84.6	208.85	15.4	1,357.18	100.0

Table 13. 2023/2024 Stats NZ's total provisional gross emissions, by source in tCO₂e

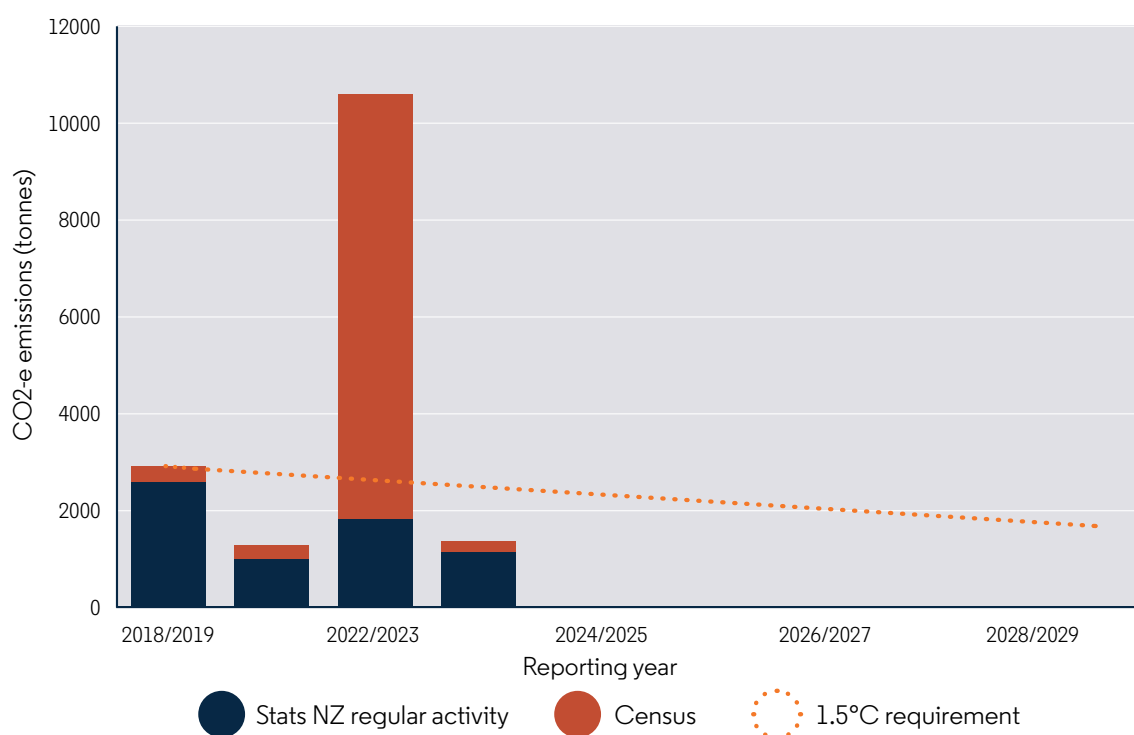


Figure 9. Stats NZ's emission profile by operations, selected dates

Our 2025 and 2030 gross carbon emissions reduction targets

Under the CNGP, we are committed to reducing gross emissions to support the New Zealand Government's commitment to the Paris Agreement aimed at limiting global average temperature increases to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. We are committed to reducing our 2018/2019 base year emissions of 2,926.46 tCO₂e by:

- 21 percent reduction by 2025 (2,311.90 tCO₂e); and
- 42 percent by 2030 (1,697.35 tCO₂e).

Progress towards our emissions reduction targets

Our base year of 2018/2019 is at the same stage Census cycle as our 2023/2024 provisional emission profile. Both reflect the emissions one year after the data collection phase of the Census programme and we are in the process of releasing statistical outputs of the recent Census. This is a like with like reflection of the emissions reductions we have achieved.

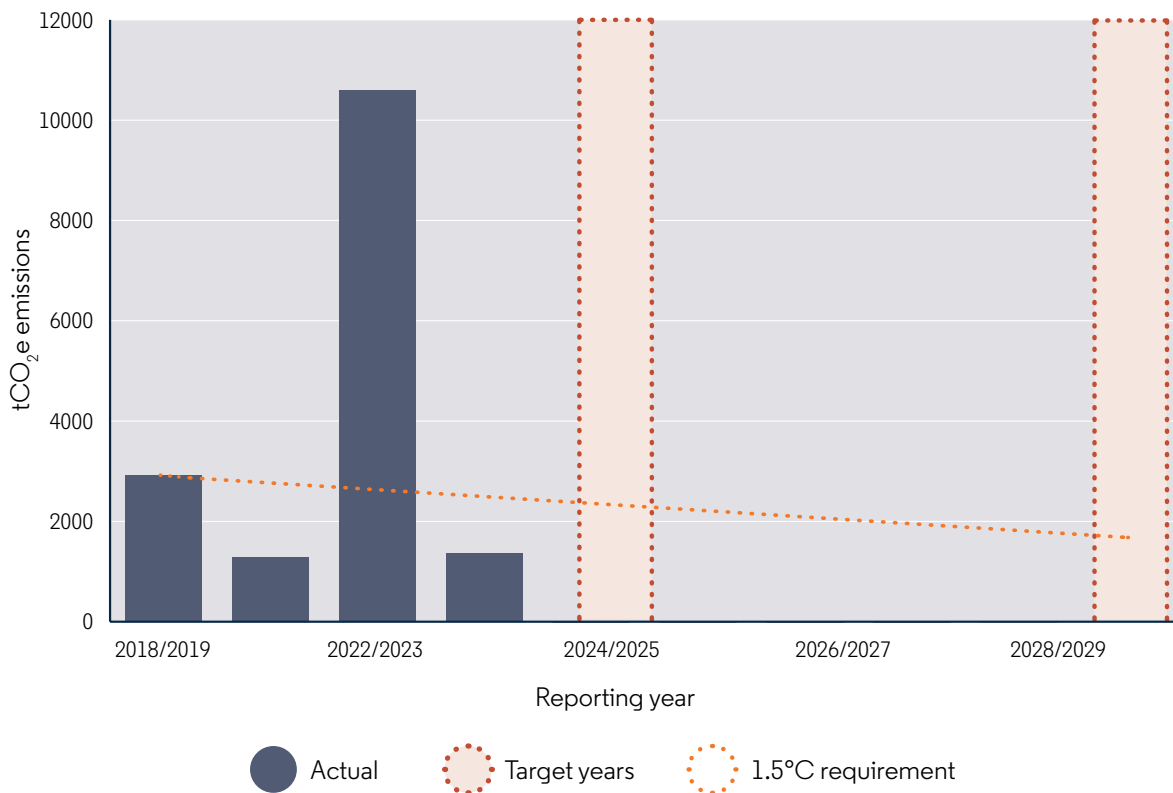


Figure 10. Stats NZ emissions actual against 1.5C reduction requirements, selected dates

We have achieved our 2030 emission reduction targets when we are in a census non-data collection phase of the existing census five-year project cycle. Our emission profile indicates that during the data collection phase of the existing census five-year cycle, our emissions had experienced a 262 percent increase in emissions due to the impact of 2023 Census against the base year. This is primarily due to the increased operations needed for collection of the 2023 Census. Under the current census full-field enumeration delivery model, this spike would continue to occur once in every five years.

We are consulting with New Zealand about modernising the census data collection approach. In May-June 2024

we sought public input on what delivery model the 2028 Census and beyond could look like for New Zealand. As we progress through the designing phase of the new census model with New Zealand, the carbon emissions modelling will be incorporated into the design process.

Our 2024 emission reduction plan will be finalised in October where we will be focusing on maintaining our reductions in business travel, continue to assess and replace vehicles with the most suitable energy efficient fleet vehicles to meet our workforce requirements and exploring a higher energy efficiency office building for our Auckland site when the current contract ends.

Governance, risk management

Te whakaruruhau, te whakahaere tūraru

We continue to make progress in improving our risk management capability by adopting an enterprise risk management framework and policy. We have identified, and are actively monitoring, all strategic and high-level enterprise risks.

We have also started work on improving our practice of assurance around risks in our policies, processes, and procedures in our operational policy management systems.

The new executive governance framework and policy was embedded during the year and will be reviewed early in the 2024/2025 year to ensure it is functioning well and remains fit for purpose to deliver on our strategic priorities.

Government Statistician and Chief Executive of Stats NZ	The Government Statistician and Chief Executive is both governor and manager. The role is responsible for the stewardship of the long-term sustainability, organisational health and capability, and financial management and performance of Stats NZ and the legislation we administer.
Strategic Governance Board	The Strategic Governance Board, chaired by the Chief Executive, is made up of all executive leader team members and governs Stats NZ's strategic direction, ensuring it is fit for purpose and driving overall accountability for delivery against that strategy.
Risk and Assurance Committee	The Risk and Assurance Committee (RAC) provides independent strategic and operational advice and assurance to the Chief Executive on the external environment, risk management, and Stats NZ's system of internal controls. In 2023/2024, members of RAC were: Wendy Venter (Chair), Michael Ahie (retired December 2023), Te Rau Kupenga (joined September 2023), and Kari Jones.
Core Business Committee	The Core Business Committee provides oversight, monitoring, guidance, and direction of operational performance and enhancing enterprise-wide effectiveness and efficiency.
Transformation Board	The Transformation Board governs the delivery of Stats NZ's transformation programme within the parameters set by the Strategic Governance Board.
Systems and Standards Committee	The Systems and Standards Committee governs matters relating to mandatory standards across statistical business processes and the strategic choices in the enterprise architecture design that need to be considered and aligned.

Table 14. Our governance arrangements, as at 30 June 2024

Statement of responsibility

Te tauākī noho haepapa



Statement of responsibility

Te tauākī noho haepapa

I am responsible, as Chief Executive of Stats NZ, for:

- preparing Stats NZ's financial statements, and statements of expenses and capital expenditure, and for the judgements expressed in them
- having in place a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of financial reporting
- ensuring that end-of-year performance information on each appropriation administered by Stats NZ is provided in accordance with sections 19A to 19C of the Public Finance Act 1989, whether or not that information is included in this annual report
- the accuracy of any end-of-year performance information prepared by Stats NZ whether or not that information is included in the annual report.

In my opinion:

- the annual report fairly reflects the operations, progress, and the organisational health and capability of Stats NZ
- the financial statements fairly reflect the financial position of Stats NZ as at 30 June 2024 and its operations for the year ended on that date
- the forecast financial statements fairly reflect the forecast financial position of Stats NZ as at 30 June 2025 and its operations for the year ending on that date.



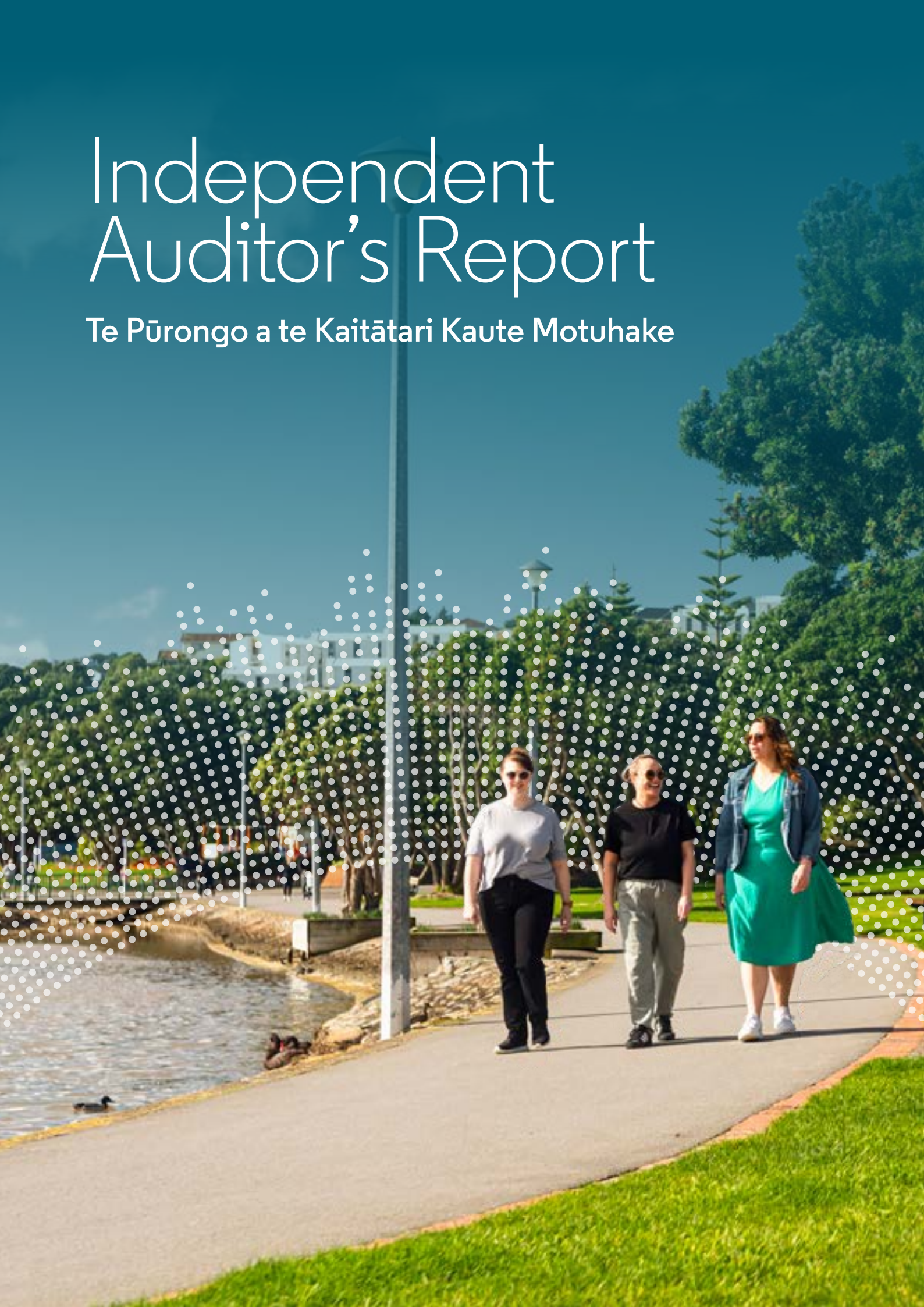
Mark Sowden

Chief Executive and Government Statistician

30 September 2024

Independent Auditor's Report

Te Pūrongo a te Kaitātari Kaute Motuhake



Independent Auditor's Report

To the readers of Statistics New Zealand's Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Statistics New Zealand, Tatauranga Aotearoa (the Department). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Sonia Isaac, using the staff and resources of KPMG New Zealand, to carry out, on his behalf, the audit of:

- the financial statements of the Department on pages 112 to 141, that comprise the statement of financial position, as at 30 June 2024, the statement of comprehensive revenue and expenses, statement of changes in equity, and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information,
- the performance information for the appropriations administered by the Department for the year ended 30 June 2024 on pages 74 to 87, and
- the statements of expenses and capital expenditure of the Department for the year ended 30 June 2024 on pages 142 to 147.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the financial statements of the Department:
 - present fairly, in all material respects:
 - its financial position as at 30 June 2024; and
 - its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards.
- the performance information for the appropriations administered by the Department for the year ended 30 June 2024:
 - presents fairly, in all material respects:
 - what has been achieved with the appropriation; and
 - the actual expenses or capital expenditure incurred as compared with the expenses or capital expenditure that were appropriated or forecast to be incurred; and
 - complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.
- the statements of expenses and capital expenditure of the Department are presented, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of section 45A of the Public Finance Act 1989.

Our audit was completed on 30 September 2024. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.



The basis for our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Government Statistician and our responsibilities relating to the information to be audited, we comment on other information, and we explain our independence.

Basis for our opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the auditor section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of the Government Statistician for the information to be audited

The Government Statistician is responsible on behalf of the Department for preparing:

- financial statements that present fairly the Department's financial position, financial performance, and its cash flows, and that comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.
- performance information that presents fairly what has been achieved with each appropriation, the expenditure incurred as compared with expenditure expected to be incurred, and that complies with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.
- statements of expenses and capital expenditure of the Department, that are presented fairly, in accordance with the requirements of the Public Finance Act 1989.

The Government Statistician is responsible for such internal control as is determined is necessary to enable the preparation of the information to be audited that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the information to be audited, the Government Statistician is responsible on behalf of the Department for assessing the Department's ability to continue as a going concern. The Government Statistician is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless there is an intention to merge or to terminate the activities of the Department, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Government Statistician's responsibilities arise from the Public Finance Act 1989.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the information to be audited

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the information we audited, as a whole, is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers, taken on the basis of the information we audited.

For the budget information reported in the information we audited, our procedures were limited to checking that the information agreed to the Department's information on strategic intentions 2023-2028, Estimates and Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations 2023/24.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the information we audited.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the information we audited, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Government Statistician.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of the reported performance information for the appropriations administered by the Department.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Government Statistician and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Department's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the information we audited or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Department to cease to continue as a going concern.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the information we audited, including the disclosures, and whether the information we audited represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Government Statistician regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other information

The Government Statistician is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included on pages 1 to 73 and 88 to 105 but does not include the information we audited, and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the information we audited does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the information we audited or our knowledge obtained in



the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independence

We are independent of the Department in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand) (PES 1)* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than in our capacity as auditor, we have no relationship with, or interests, in the Department.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonia Isaac'.

Sonia Isaac
KPMG
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Wellington, New Zealand

Financial statements

Ngā tauākī whakahaere pūtea



Financial statements

Ngā tauākī whakahaere pūtea

In this section

This section reports on the financial performance of Stats NZ for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

Statement of financial position

Statement of changes in equity

Statement of cash flows

Statement of commitments

Statement of contingent liabilities and contingent assets

Notes to the financial statements

Appropriation statements

Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

For the year ended 30 June 2024

2023			2024	2024	2025
Actual			Actual	Unaudited	Unaudited
				budget	forecast
\$000	Note		\$000	\$000	\$000
Revenue					
366,209	Revenue Crown	[2]	230,131	226,866	212,864
16,116	Other revenue	[2]	15,226	21,990	25,248
382,325	Total revenue		245,357	248,856	238,112
Expenses					
245,345	Personnel	[3]	169,805	133,224	151,334
122,898	Operating	[4]	63,948	99,528	73,485
9,345	Depreciation and amortisation	[13-14]	7,213	11,902	9,403
4,265	Capital charge	[5]	4,028	4,202	3,890
52	Loss on disposal of non-current assets	[15]	327	-	-
381,905	Total expenses		245,321	248,856	238,112
420	Net operating surplus/(deficit)		36	-	-
Remeasurements					
-	Movement in discount rate for retirement and long-service leave		80	-	-
420	Net surplus/(deficit)		116	-	-
420	Total comprehensive revenue and expense		116	-	-

Explanation of significant variances against the original budget 2023/24 are detailed in Note 20.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2024

2023 Actual			2024 Actual	2024 Unaudited budget	2025 Unaudited forecast
\$000	Note		\$000	\$000	\$000
Assets					
Current assets					
15,541	Cash and cash equivalents	[19]	16,047	21,250	14,396
60,026	Debtor Crown	[19]	44,159	56,762	28,075
1,220	Debtors and other receivables	[6], [19]	502	861	861
5,098	Advances and prepayments		4,847	3,693	3,693
-	Non-current assets held for sale	[12]	414	-	-
81,885	Total current assets		65,969	82,566	47,025
Non-current assets					
28,867	Property, plant, and equipment	[13]	24,722	20,996	21,363
14,011	Intangible assets	[14]	24,907	30,939	42,742
42,878	Total non-current assets		49,629	51,935	64,105
124,763	Total assets		115,598	134,501	111,130
Liabilities					
Current liabilities					
13,946	Creditors and other payables	[7], [19]	6,993	10,253	13,598
420	Return of operating surplus to the Crown	[8]	36	-	-
181	Provisions	[9]	5,404	5,973	-
17,009	Employee entitlements	[10]	13,793	10,607	12,390
1,528	Goods and services tax payable		2,879	2,706	1,626
880	Deferred revenue	[11]	1,177	1,805	815
33,964	Total current liabilities		30,282	31,344	28,429
Non-current liabilities					
6,755	Employee entitlements	[10]	8,222	6,063	4,207
6,755	Total non-current liabilities		8,222	6,063	4,207
40,719	Total liabilities		38,504	37,407	32,636
84,044	Net assets		77,094	97,094	78,494
Equity					
84,044	Taxpayers' funds		77,094	97,094	78,494
84,044	Total equity	[16]	77,094	97,094	78,494

Explanation of significant variances against the original budget 2023/24 are detailed in Note 20.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2024

2023			2024	2024	2025
Actual			Actual	Unaudited	Unaudited
				budget	forecast
\$000	Note		\$000	\$000	\$000
85,308	Equity as at 1 July		84,044	84,044	77,094
420	Total comprehensive revenue and expense		36	-	-
	<i>Owner transactions</i>				
9,236	Capital injections		13,050	13,050	1,400
(10,500)	Capital withdrawals		(20,000)	-	-
(420)	Return of operating surplus to the Crown	[8]	(36)	-	-
84,044	Equity as at 30 June	[16]	77,094	97,094	78,494

Explanation of significant variances against the original budget 2023/24 are detailed in Note 20.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 30 June 2024

2023		2024	2024	2025
Actual		Actual	Unaudited	Unaudited
			budget	forecast
\$000	Note	\$000	\$000	\$000
Cash flows from operating activities				
351,836	Receipts from Revenue Crown	243,928	206,966	223,278
18,091	Receipts from other revenue	16,241	21,990	25,313
(376,836)	Payments to suppliers and employees	(236,981)	(265,378)	(228,230)
(3,336)	Goods and services tax (net)	3,421	-	1,463
(6,241)	Payments for capital charge	(4,028)	(4,202)	(3,890)
(16,486)	Net cash flow from operating activities	22,581	(40,624)	17,934
Cash flows from investing activities				
-	Receipts from sale of property, plant, and equipment	50	-	-
(6,467)	Purchase of property, plant, and equipment	(912)	(500)	(2,000)
(7,703)	Purchase of intangible assets	(13,843)	(16,550)	(18,000)
(14,170)	Net cash flow from investing activities	(14,705)	(17,050)	(20,000)
Cash flows from financing activities				
-	Capital contribution	13,050	13,050	1,400
-	Capital withdrawals	(20,000)	-	-
(8,416)	Payment of operating surplus to the Crown	(420)	-	-
(8,416)	Net cash flow from financing activities	(7,370)	13,050	1,400
(39,072)	Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	506	(44,624)	(666)
54,613	Cash and cash equivalents as at 1 July	15,541	65,874	15,062
15,541	Cash and cash equivalents as at 30 June	16,047	21,250	14,396

Explanation of significant variances against the original budget 2023/24 are detailed in Note 20.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Reconciliation of net surplus/(deficit) to net cash from operating activities

2023	2024
Actual	Actual
\$000	\$000
420 Net surplus / (deficit)	36
<i>Non-cash items</i>	
9,345 Depreciation and amortisation	7,213
132 Movements in non-current employee entitlements	1,467
9,477 Total non-cash items	8,680
<i>Items classified as investing or financing activities</i>	
52 (Gain)/loss on disposal of non-financial assets	327
52 Total items classified as investing or financing activities	327
<i>Working capital movements</i>	
(16,529) (Increase)/decrease in debtor Crown	15,867
2,899 (Increase)/decrease in debtors and other receivables	718
(1,868) (Increase)/decrease in advances and prepayments	251
(3,343) Increase/(decrease) in creditors and other payables	(6,953)
(1,179) Increase/(decrease) in goods and services tax payable	1,351
(1,976) Increase/(decrease) in capital charge payable	-
(5,792) Increase/(decrease) in current provisions	5,223
2,278 Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements	(3,216)
(925) Increase/(decrease) in deferred revenue	297
(26,435) Net working capital movements	13,538
(16,486) Net cash flows from operating activities	22,581

Explanation of significant variances against the original budget 2023/24 are detailed in Note 20.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of commitments

As at 30 June 2024

Capital commitments

The department has no capital commitments as at 30 June 2024 (2023: Nil)

Non-cancellable operating lease commitments

Stats NZ leases property, plant, and equipment in the normal course of its business. The majority of these leases are for premises which have a non-cancellable leasing period ranging from three to 15 years.

Stats NZ's non-cancellable operating leases have varying terms, escalation clauses, and renewal rights. No restrictions are placed on Stats NZ by any of its leasing arrangements.

2023		2024
Actual		Actual
\$000		\$000
Non-cancellable operating lease commitments		
10,904	Not later than one year	10,711
40,983	Later than one year and not later than five years	38,304
77,545	Later than five years	69,514
129,432	Total non-cancellable operating lease commitments	118,529

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of contingent liabilities and contingent assets

As at 30 June 2024

Unquantifiable contingent liabilities

The department has no known unquantifiable contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2024 (2023: Nil).

Quantifiable contingent liabilities

2023 Actual \$000	2024 Actual \$000
Contingent liabilities	
70 Employment disputes	-
70 Total contingent liabilities	-

Contingent assets

Stats NZ had no contingent assets as at 30 June 2024 (2023: Nil)

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

Ngā tuhipoka mō ngā tauākī pūtea



Notes to the financial statements

Ngā tuhipoka mō ngā tauākī pūtea

1. Statement of accounting policies for the year ended 30 June 2024

Reporting entity

Statistics New Zealand (abbreviated to Stats NZ) is a government department as defined by section 2 of the Public Finance Act 1989 (PFA) and is domiciled and operates in New Zealand. The relevant legislation governing Stats NZ's operations include the PFA and the Data and Statistics Act 2022. It is a wholly-owned entity of the Crown whose primary objective is to provide services to the public rather than to make a financial return. Accordingly, Stats NZ has designated itself as a public benefit entity (PBE) for financial reporting purposes. The financial statements of Stats NZ are for the year ended 30 June 2024 and were approved for issue by the Government Statistician on 30 September 2024.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going-concern basis, and the accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Public Finance Act 1989, which include the requirement to comply with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (NZ GAAP) and Treasury Instructions. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with and comply with Public Sector PBE Accounting Standards.

Presentation currency and rounding

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000) unless otherwise stated.

New or amended standards adopted

PBE IPSAS 41 Financial Instruments

PBE IPSAS 41 Financial Instruments replaces PBE IFRS 9 Financial Instruments and PBE IPSAS 29 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. Stats NZ has adopted PBE IPSAS 41 for the first time this year. There has been little change as a result of adopting the new standard, because the requirements are similar to those contained in PBE IFRS 9.

PBE FRS 48 Service Performance Reporting

This standard establishes new requirements for the selection and presentation of service performance information. Stats NZ has adopted PBE FRS 48. The main change between PBE FRS 48 and PBE IPSAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements is that PBE FRS 48 requires additional information to be disclosed on the judgements that have the most significant effect on the selection, measurement, aggregation, and presentation of service performance information. This is disclosed on page 74 of the service performance information.

Changes in accounting policies

There have been no other changes in accounting policies since the date of the last audited financial statements.

Summary of significant accounting policies

Significant accounting policies are included in the notes to which they relate. Significant accounting policies that do not relate to a specific note are outlined below.

Foreign currency translation

Foreign currency transactions (including those for which forward foreign-exchange contracts are held) are translated into NZ\$ (the functional currency) using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions.

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions, and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies, are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, and funds on deposit with banks with a maturity period of 90 days or less and are measured at carrying value.

Stats NZ is only permitted to expend its cash and cash equivalents within the scope and limits of its appropriations.

Goods and services tax (GST)

All items in the financial statements, including appropriation statements, are stated exclusive of GST except for receivables and payables, which are stated on a GST-inclusive basis. Where GST is not recoverable as input tax, it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, Inland Revenue is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

The net GST paid to, or received from, Inland Revenue, including the GST relating to investing and financing activities, is classified as an operating cash flow in the statement of cash flows.

Income tax

Stats NZ is a government department and consequently is exempt from income tax. Accordingly, no provision has been made for income tax.

Statement of cost accounting policies

Stats NZ has determined the cost of outputs by using the cost allocation system outlined below.

Direct costs are those costs directly attributed to an output. Indirect costs are those costs that cannot be identified with a specific output in an economically feasible manner.

Direct costs are charged directly to outputs. Indirect costs are charged to outputs based on cost drivers and related activity. Personnel costs are either charged on the basis of actual time incurred using a time recording system or assigned with other indirect costs to outputs based on the proportion of direct expenditure.

There have been no material changes to the cost allocation methodology since the date of the last audited financial statements.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

In preparing these financial statements, Stats NZ has made estimates and assumptions concerning the future. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent actual results. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated. They are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are disclosed in Note 14 (assessing the useful life of software) and Note 10 (measuring long-service and retirement leave).

Budget and forecast figures

Basis of the budget and forecast figures

The 2024 budget figures are for the year ended 30 June 2024 and were published in the 2022/23 annual report. They are consistent with Stats NZ's best-estimate financial forecast information submitted to Treasury for the Budget Economic and Fiscal Update (BEFU) for the year ending 2023/24.

The 2025 forecast figures are for the year ended 30 June 2025, which are consistent with the best-estimate financial forecast information submitted to Treasury for the BEFU for the year ending 2024/25.

The forecast financial statements were prepared as required by the Public Finance Act 1989 to communicate forecast financial information for accountability purposes. The forecast financial statements may not be appropriate for other purposes.

The budget and forecast figures are unaudited and were prepared using the accounting policies adopted in preparing these financial statements.

The 30 June 2025 forecast figures were prepared in accordance with PBE FRS 42 Prospective Financial Statements.

The forecast financial statements were approved for issue by the Government Statistician in April 2024. The Government Statistician is responsible for the forecast financial statements, including the appropriateness of the assumptions underlying them and all other required disclosures. While Stats NZ regularly updates its forecasts, updated forecast financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025 will not be published.

Significant assumptions used in preparing the forecast financials

In preparing the forecast figures, estimates and assumptions were made about the future – based on the best information available to Stats NZ. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent actual results. The main assumptions are as follows:

- The forecasts were compiled on the basis of existing government policies and ministerial expectations. The 2024/25 actual financial statements may include changes to the baseline budget through new initiatives or technical adjustments. Any such changes will affect Revenue from the Crown and Output Expenditure.
- Forecast sales to customers ('Other revenue' in the Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense) is based on the best available estimates but the actual financial result for 2024/25 is subject to demand fluctuations.
- The forecast personnel assumptions are based on the current salary costs, adjusted for any anticipated remuneration increases for the forecast year.
- Forecast expenditure is based on the assumption that Stats NZ will continue to realise efficiency and effectiveness savings in 2024/25. Stats NZ is focused on improved oversight of expenditure through enhanced planning, budgeting, and prioritisation processes.

2. Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received, or receivable, as follows.

Revenue Crown

The fair value of revenue from the Crown is measured based on Stats NZ's funding entitlement for the accounting period. Revenue from the Crown is treated as a non-exchange transaction. The funding entitlement is established by Parliament when it passes the Appropriation Acts for the financial year. The amount of revenue recognised takes into account any amendments to appropriations approved in the Appropriation (Supplementary Estimates) Act for the year, and certain other unconditional funding adjustments formally approved before the balance date.

There are no conditions attached to the funding from the Crown. However, Stats NZ can incur expenses only within the scope and limits of its appropriations. The fair value of Revenue Crown has been determined to be equivalent to the funding entitlement.

Other revenue

The sale of customised data/subscriptions is recognised when the product is sold to the customer. The recorded revenue is the gross amount of the sale. Revenue from contract surveys is recognised to the extent that the service has been completed by Stats NZ. Office rental revenue under an operating sub-lease is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Other sources of income are recognised when earned and are reported in the financial periods to which they relate.

The breakdown of other revenue is:

2023	2024
Actual	Actual
\$000	\$000
4,363 Contract surveys	3,907
1,825 Customised data/subscriptions	1,284
4,415 Office rental income	4,971
3,008 Recoveries revenue	3,034
2,506 Other	2,030
16,116 Total other revenue	15,226

3. Personnel

Salaries and wages

Salaries and wages are recognised as an expense as employees provide services.

Superannuation schemes

Obligations for contributions to the State Sector Retirement Savings Scheme, KiwiSaver, and the Government Superannuation Fund are accounted for as defined contribution schemes and are expensed in the surplus or deficit as incurred.

2023		2024
Actual		Actual
\$000		\$000
231,055	Salaries and wages	153,162
4,590	Employer contributions to defined contribution plans	4,540
1,095	Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements	(710)
2,453	Recruitment	779
1,063	Training	843
1,892	Staff health and safety	987
3,197	Other	10,204
245,345	Total personnel	169,805

4. Operating

Operating expenses

Operating expenses are recognised in the period to which they relate.

Operating leases

An operating lease is a lease that does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset. Lease payments under an operating lease are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

2023	2024
Actual	Actual
\$000	\$000
15,225	6,359
IT outsourced services	
11,930	11,221
Operating lease and other rentals	
22,067	21,106
Software licences and maintenance	
14,493	5,069
Consultancy	
2,459	1,987
Telecommunications	
6,200	6,077
Contracted and professional services	
5,126	1,770
Domestic and Australia travel	
1,460	1,366
Interviewer travel	
8,633	1,266
Grants — external	
1,862	1,327
Building services	
9,788	702
Printing and photocopying	
6,175	652
Postage, courier, & freight	
378	164
Corporate training	
748	1,020
Facilities — repairs and maintenance	
8,894	9
Publicity and advertising	
382	55
Minor IT Purchases	
156	142
Audit and assurance services	
6,922	3,656
Other operating expenses	
122,898	63,948
Total operating	

5. Capital charge

The capital charge is recognised as an expense in the financial year to which the charge relates. Capital charge for 2023/24 was \$4,028,450 (2023: \$4,265,000).

Stats NZ pays a capital charge to the Crown based on equity as at 31 December and 30 June each year. The capital charge rate for the year ended 30 June 2024 was 5 percent (2023: 5 percent).

6. Debtors and other receivables

Short-term receivables are recorded at the amount due, less an allowance for credit losses. Stats NZ applies the simplified expected credit loss model of recognising lifetime expected credit losses for receivables.

In measuring expected credit losses, short-term receivables have been assessed on a collective basis as they possess shared credit risk characteristics. They have been grouped based on the days past due.

Short-term receivables are written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery. Indicators that there is no reasonable expectation of recovery include the debtor being in liquidation.

2023	2024
Actual	Actual
\$000	\$000
1,222 Debtors and other receivables (gross)	503
(2) Less: Allowance for credit losses	(1)
1,220 Debtors and other receivables (net)	502
Debtors and other receivables comprise	
1,220 Debtors and other receivables (exchange transactions)	502

The expected credit loss rates for receivables at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023 are based on the payment profile of revenue on credit at the measurement date and the corresponding historical credit losses experienced for that period. The historical loss rates are adjusted for current and forward-looking macroeconomic factors that might affect the recoverability of receivables. Given the short period of credit risk exposure, the impact of macroeconomic factors is not considered significant.

Estimation techniques used in measuring the loss allowance have been adjusted to meet requirements under PBE IPSAS 41 *Financial Instruments*.

The allowance for credit losses at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023 are determined as follows.

30 June 2024	Receivables days past due				Total
	Current	More than 30 days	More than 60 days	More than 90 days	
Expected credit loss rate	0.1%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Gross carrying amount (\$000)	502	1	-	-	503
Lifetime expected credit loss (\$000)	1	-	-	-	1

30 June 2023	Receivables days past due				Total
	Current	More than 30 days	More than 60 days	More than 90 days	
Expected credit loss rate	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.9%	
Gross carrying amount (\$000)	1,139	34	9	40	1,222
Lifetime expected credit loss (\$000)	-	-	-	2	2

The movements in the allowance for credit losses are as follows.

2023		2024
Actual		Actual
\$000		\$000
5	Opening allowance for credit losses as at 1 July	2
-	Receivables written off during the year	(1)
(3)	Increase/(decrease) in loss allowance made during the year	(0)
2	Balance at 30 June	1

7. Creditors and other payables

Short-term creditors and other payables are recorded at the amount payable.

2023	2024
Actual	Actual
\$000	\$000
136 Creditors (exchange transactions)	(38)
13,810 Accrued expenses and other payables (exchange transactions)	7,031
13,946 Total creditors and other payables	6,993

Creditors and other payables are normally settled on 30-day terms so the carrying value of creditors and other payables approximates their fair value.

8. Return of operating surplus to the Crown

Under Section 22 of the Public Finance Act 1989: except as agreed between the Minister and the responsible Minister for a department, the department must not retain any operating surplus that results from its activities. Under this section, the return of surplus to the Crown is required to be paid by 31 October each year.

The provision of \$36,000 is the total net surplus for the 2023/24 financial year, to be returned to the Crown (2023: \$420,000).

2023	2024
Actual	Actual
\$000	\$000
420 Net operating surplus/(deficit)	36
420 Net repayment of surplus to the Crown	36

9. Provisions

Stats NZ recognises a provision for future expenditure of uncertain amount or timing when (a) there is a present obligation (either legal or constructive) as a result of a past event and (b) it is probable that expenditure will be required to settle the obligation, and (c) a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Provisions are recorded at the best estimate of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation, using a discount rate based on market yields on government bonds at balance date with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated timing of the future cash outflows. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as a finance cost.

	Total \$000
2023	
Opening balance at 1 July 2022	5,973
Additional provisions recognised	19
Amounts used	(2,740)
Unused amounts reversed	(3,071)
Closing balance at 30 June 2023	181
Analysed as:	
Current	181
Non-current	-
2024	
Opening balance at 1 July 2023	181
Additional provisions recognised	6,317
Amounts used	(928)
Unused amounts reversed	(166)
Closing balance at 30 June 2024	5,404
Analysed as:	
Current	5,404
Non-current	-

10. Employee entitlements

Short-term employee entitlements

Employee entitlements that Stats NZ expects to be settled within 12 months of balance date are measured at nominal values, based on accrued entitlements at current rates of pay. These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date, annual leave earned but not yet taken at balance date, retirement and long-service leave entitlements expected to be settled within 12 months, and sick leave.

Stats NZ recognises a liability for sick leave to the extent that absences in the coming year are expected to be greater than the sick leave entitlements earned in the coming year. The amount is calculated based on the unused sick leave entitlement that can be carried forward at balance date, to the extent that Stats NZ anticipates it will be used by staff to cover those future absences.

Stats NZ recognises a liability and an expense for bonuses where it is contractually obliged to pay them, or where there is a past practice that has created a constructive obligation.

Long-term employee entitlements

Employee entitlements that are due to be settled beyond 12 months, such as retirement and long-service leave, have been calculated on an actuarial basis.

The calculations are based on:

- likely future entitlements based on years of service, years to entitlement, the likelihood that staff will reach the point of entitlement, and contractual entitlements information; and
- the present value of the estimated future cash flows using risk-free discount rates and a salary inflation factor.

2023	2024
Actual	Actual
\$000	\$000
<i>Current employee entitlements</i>	
9,921 Annual leave	7,436
650 Sick leave	600
1,979 Retirement and long-service leave	2,336
4,459 Accrued payroll expenses	3,421
17,009 Total current portion	13,793
<i>Non-current employee entitlements</i>	
6,755 Retirement and long-service leave	8,222
6,755 Total non-current portion	8,222
23,764 Total employee entitlements	22,015

The present value of the retirement and long-service leave obligations depends on several factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a number of assumptions. Two key assumptions used in calculating this liability include the risk-free discount rates and the salary inflation factor. Any changes in these assumptions will affect the carrying amount of the liability.

Stats NZ has used the actuarial valuations provided by Aon. Aon has applied the applicable risk-free discount rates and salary inflation factor taken from the Treasury website. Risk-free discount rates of 5.30 percent in year 1, 4.49 percent in year 2, 4.25 percent in year 3, and year-on-year rates from year 4 onwards were used. An annual salary increase assumption of 1.83 percent was also used.

The risk-free discount rates were taken from the published table of discount rates as at 30 June 2024. The salary increase assumption is Stats NZ's best estimate of future salary inflation, excluding promotional increases, over the long term. Aon has prepared the below sensitivity analysis of the liability for all employees with these assumptions.

If the risk-free discount rates were to differ by 1 percent from Stats NZ's estimates, with all other factors held constant, the carrying amount of the liability would be an estimated \$679,489 lower (1 percent increase) or \$792,491 higher (1 percent decrease).

If the salary increase rate was to differ by 1 percent from Stats NZ's estimates, with all other factors held constant, the carrying amount of the liability would be an estimated \$809,955 higher (1 percent increase) or \$704,821 lower (1 percent decrease).

11. Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue under exchange transactions of \$1,177,000 (2023: \$880,000) is income in advance that relates to a subsequent financial year. It is recognised as income when the services are provided or performed.

12. Non-current assets held for sale

Non-current assets are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. Non-current assets held for sale are measured at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

Any impairment losses for write-downs of non-current assets held for sale are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Any increases in fair value (less costs to sell) are recognised up to the level of any impairment losses that have been previously recognised.

Non-current assets held for sale are not depreciated or amortised while they are classified as held for sale.

2023	2024
Actual	Actual
\$000	\$000
Non-current assets held for sale comprise	
- Computer hardware	271
- Furniture and fixtures	143
- Total non-current assets held for sale	414

Surplus furniture and computer hardware have been presented as held for sale during the year following the approval to sell these assets, because they provide no future use to Stats NZ. The sale is expected to be completed by 30 June 2025.

13. Property, plant, and equipment

Property, plant, and equipment consists of computer equipment, leasehold improvements, furniture and fixtures, and equipment.

Additions

The cost of an item of property, plant, and equipment is recognised as an asset only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to Stats NZ and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Work in progress is recognised at cost less impairment and is not depreciated.

Individual assets, or groups of assets, are capitalised if their cost is greater than \$1,500. The value of an individual asset that is less than \$1,500 and is part of a group of similar assets is capitalised.

Subsequent costs

Costs incurred subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to Stats NZ, and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

The costs of day-to-day servicing of property, plant, and equipment are recognised in the surplus or deficit as they are incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis on all property, plant, and equipment, at rates that will write off the cost of the assets to their estimated residual values over their useful lives. In determining an asset's useful life, consideration is given to its expected usage, its expected wear and tear, technical obsolescence, and legal or similar limits on its use.

The useful lives and associated depreciation rates of major classes of assets were estimated as follows.

Furniture and office equipment	5 to 10 years
Motor vehicles	4 to 6 years
Computer equipment	3 to 5 years
Leasehold improvements	remaining term of the lease or the estimated remaining useful lives of the improvements, but not to exceed 15 years – whichever is the shorter.

The residual value and useful life of an asset is reviewed, and adjusted if applicable, at each financial year end.

Disposals

Gains and losses are determined by comparing the carrying amount of the asset with the disposal proceeds received (if any). Realised gains and losses are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Impairment

Stats NZ does not hold any cash-generating assets. Assets are considered cash generating where their primary objective is to generate a commercial return.

Property, plant, and equipment is tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable service amount. The recoverable service amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

Value in use is the present value of the asset's remaining service potential. Value in use is determined as being the depreciated replacement cost or the restoration cost, depending on the nature of the impairment and the availability of information.

If an asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable service amount, the asset is impaired and the carrying amount is written down to the recoverable service amount. The impairment loss is recognised in the surplus or deficit. The reversal of an impairment loss is also recognised in the surplus or deficit.

2023	Furniture, fixtures, & equipment	Leasehold improvements	Computer hardware	Motor vehicle	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Cost					
Balance at 1 July 2022	4,965	28,958	10,223	222	44,368
Additions	4,245	16,546	6,895	-	27,686
Disposals	-	(1,287)	(4,021)	-	(5,308)
Work-in-progress movement	(235)	(21,015)	-	-	(21,250)
Transfers from reclassifications	161	(161)	31	-	31
Balance at 30 June 2023	9,136	23,041	13,128	222	45,527

Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses					
Balance at 1 July 2022	4,013	4,904	7,216	73	16,206
Depreciation expense	1,111	1,809	2,745	45	5,710
Eliminate on disposal	-	(1,240)	(4,016)	-	(5,256)
Transfers from reclassifications	8	(8)	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2023	5,132	5,465	5,945	118	16,660

Carrying amount as at 30 June 2023	4,004	17,576	7,183	104	28,867
---	--------------	---------------	--------------	------------	---------------

2024	Furniture, fixtures, & equipment	Leasehold improvements	Computer hardware	Motor vehicle	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Cost					
Balance at 1 July 2023	9,136	23,041	13,128	222	45,527
Additions	283	22	193	-	498
Disposals	(146)	-	(1,090)	-	(1,236)
Work-in-progress movement	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from reclassifications	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2024	9,273	23,063	12,231	222	44,789

Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses					
Balance at 1 July 2023	5,132	5,465	5,945	118	16,660
Depreciation expense	268	1,709	2,421	44	4,442
Eliminate on disposal	(32)	-	(1,003)	-	(1,035)
Transfers from reclassifications	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2024	5,368	7,174	7,363	162	20,067

Carrying amount as at 30 June 2024	3,905	15,889	4,868	60	24,722
---	--------------	---------------	--------------	-----------	---------------

There are no restrictions over the title of Stats NZ's property, plant, and equipment. No items of property, plant, and equipment are pledged as security for liabilities.

At year end, the useful life of some of Stats NZ's computer hardware and furniture, fixtures, & equipment was reviewed and adjusted as follows:

- laptops from 3 years to 4 years
- 8 Willis Street technology hardware from 3 years to 5 years
- 8 Willis Street furniture, fixtures, & equipment from 5 years to 10 years

14. Intangible assets

Stats NZ has intangible assets in the form of software and internally generated assets.

Software acquisition and development

Acquired computer software licences are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software. Costs that are directly associated with the development of software for internal use by Stats NZ are recognised as an intangible asset. Costs that are directly associated include software development, labour, and directly applicable operating costs. Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Amortisation

The carrying value of an intangible asset with a finite life is amortised on a straight-line basis over its useful life.

Amortisation begins when the asset is available for use and ceases at the date that the asset is derecognised. The amortisation charge for each period is recognised in the surplus or deficit. The useful lives and associated amortisation rates of major classes of intangible assets have been estimated as follows.

Software – acquired and developed	3 to 8 years
-----------------------------------	--------------

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The useful lives of intangible assets are based on management's view of the expected period over which Stats NZ will receive benefits, historical experience with similar systems, and anticipation of future events that may affect useful lives, such as changes in technology.

Impairment

Intangible assets that have a finite useful life are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. Intangible assets are also reviewed annually for indicators of impairment at each balance date. Assets under construction are tested for impairment at each balance date. For further details refer to the policy for impairment of property, plant, and equipment in Note 13. The same approach applies to the impairment of intangible assets.

2023	Software	Internally generated software	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Cost			
Balance at 1 July 2022	2,859	67,621	70,480
Additions	-	3,586	3,586
Disposals	-	-	-
Work-in-progress movement	-	4,117	4,117
Transfers from reclassifications	400	(400)	-
Balance at 30 June 2023	3,259	74,924	78,183
Accumulated amortisation and impairment losses			
Balance at 1 July 2022	2,859	57,678	60,537
Depreciation expense	-	3,635	3,635
Eliminate on disposal	-	-	-
Transfers from reclassifications	400	(400)	-
Balance at 30 June 2023	3,259	60,913	64,172
Carrying amount as at 30 June 2023	-	14,011	14,011
2024	Software	Internally generated software	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Cost			
Balance at 1 July 2023	3,259	74,924	78,183
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	(777)	(13,022)	(13,799)
Work-in-progress movement	-	13,843	13,843
Transfers from reclassifications	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2024	2,482	75,745	78,227
Accumulated amortisation and impairment losses			
Balance at 1 July 2023	3,259	60,913	64,172
Depreciation expense	-	2,771	2,771
Eliminate on disposal	(777)	(12,846)	(13,623)
Transfers from reclassifications	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2024	2,482	50,838	53,320
Carrying amount as at 30 June 2024	-	24,907	24,907

Carrying amounts at year-end are stated at cost less accumulated amortisation and include work in progress relating to internally generated software of \$22,256,585 (2023: \$8,413,649) and software of Nil (2023: Nil).

There are no restrictions over the title of Stats NZ's intangible assets. No intangible assets are pledged as security for liabilities.

15. Loss / (gain) on disposal of non-current assets

During the period there was a loss on the sale and disposal of property, plant, and equipment, and intangible assets of \$327,392 (2023: Loss of \$51,701).

16. Equity

Equity is the Crown's investment in Stats NZ and is measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities.

The provision for the balance of \$36,000, the net operating surplus for the 2023/24 financial year, is to be returned to the Crown (2023: \$420,269).

Capital management

Stats NZ's capital is its equity. Stats NZ manages its revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, and general financial dealings prudently. Stats NZ's equity is largely managed as a by-product of managing income, expenses, assets, liabilities, and compliance with the Government budget processes, Treasury instructions, and the Public Finance Act 1989.

The objective of managing Stats NZ's equity is to ensure that Stats NZ effectively achieves its strategic direction, while remaining a going concern.

17. Related party transactions and key management personnel

Related party transactions

Stats NZ is a wholly owned entity of the Crown.

Related party disclosures have not been made for transactions with related parties that are within a normal supplier or client/recipient relationship on terms and conditions no more or less favourable than those that it is reasonable to expect Stats NZ would have adopted in dealing with the party at arm's length in the same circumstances. Transactions with other government departments and Crown entities are not disclosed as related party transactions when they are consistent with the normal operating arrangements between government agencies and undertaken on the normal terms and conditions for such transactions.

There were no related party transactions that were not within a normal arm's length supplier or client/recipient relationship disclosed in 2024 (2023: Nil).

Key management personnel compensation

2023		2024
Actual		Actual
<i>Executive leadership team¹</i>		
3,458	Remuneration (\$'000)	3,229
9.5	Full-time equivalent members	9.2

^{1.} Executive leadership team includes the Government Statistician.

The above key management personnel disclosure excludes the Minister of Statistics. The Minister's remuneration and other benefits are not received only for his role as a member of key management personnel of Stats NZ. The Minister's remuneration and other benefits are set by the Remuneration Authority under the Members of Parliament (Remuneration and Services) Act 2013 and are paid under Permanent Legislative Authority, and not paid by Stats NZ.

18. Events after the balance sheet date

After balance date, Stats NZ announced restructuring plans for some of its business groups to support its transformation and business plans. The financial impact of the proposed restructuring plans cannot be estimated until decision documents have been finalised.

19. Financial instruments

Financial instrument categories

The carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities in each of the PBE IPSAS 41 financial instrument categories are as follows.

2023		2024
Actual		Actual
\$'000		\$'000
<i>Financial assets measured at amortised cost</i>		
15,541	Cash and cash equivalents	16,047
60,026	Debtor Crown	44,159
1,220	Receivables (excluding taxes receivable)	502
76,787	Financial assets measured at amortised cost	60,708
<i>Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost</i>		
13,946	Payables (excluding deferred revenue and taxes payable)	6,993
13,946	Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	6,993

Financial instrument risks

Stats NZ's activities expose it to a variety of financial instrument risks, including market risk, credit risk, and liquidity risk. Stats NZ has policies to manage these risks and seeks to minimise exposure from financial instruments. These policies do not allow transactions that are speculative in nature to be entered into.

Market risk

Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates.

Stats NZ makes purchases of goods and services overseas that require it to enter into transactions denominated in foreign currencies. As a result, exposure to currency risk arises.

Stats NZ manages foreign currency risks arising from contractual commitments and liabilities by entering into forward foreign exchange contracts to manage the foreign currency risk exposure.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a third party will default on its obligation to Stats NZ, causing it to incur a loss.

In the normal course of its business, credit risk arises from deposits with banks and receivables.

Stats NZ's maximum credit exposure for each class of financial instrument is represented by the total carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents and receivables. There is no collateral held as security against these financial instruments.

Stats NZ is permitted to deposit funds only with Westpac (Standard & Poor's credit rating of AA-), a registered bank, and enter into foreign exchange forward contracts with them and the New Zealand Debt Management Office (Standard & Poor's credit rating of AA+). The credit rating of Westpac is monitored for credit deterioration. For its other financial instruments, Stats NZ does not have significant concentrations of credit risk.

For receivables, Stats NZ reviews the credit quality of customers before granting credit. It regularly monitors and manages receivables based on their ageing and adjusts the expected credit loss allowance accordingly.

Although cash and cash equivalents as at 30 June 2024 are subject to the expected credit loss requirements of PBE IPSAS 41, no loss allowance has been recognised because the estimated loss allowance for credit loss is trivial.

Liquidity risk

Management of liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that Stats NZ will encounter difficulty raising liquid funds to meet commitments as they fall due.

As part of meeting its liquidity requirements, Stats NZ closely monitors its forecast cash requirements with expected cash drawdowns from the New Zealand Debt Management Office. Stats NZ maintains a target level of available cash to meet liquidity requirements.

Contractual maturity analysis of financial liabilities

The table below analyses Stats NZ's financial liabilities into their relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at balance date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts disclosed are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

	Carrying amount	Contractual cash flows	Less than 6 months	Between 6 months and 1 year	Between 1 year and 5 years	More than 5 years
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
2024 Payables ⁽¹⁾	6,993	6,993	6,993	-	-	-
2023 Payables ⁽¹⁾	13,946	13,946	13,946	-	-	-

¹ Payables exclude taxation liabilities owing to IRD (GST and PAYE).

20. Explanations of major variances against budget

The following major budget variances occurred between the 2023/24 actuals and the 2023/24 budget. The budget for 2023/24 are those included in the Estimates of Appropriations for the year ending 30 June 2024.

Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

Other revenue

Other revenue was \$6.764 million less than budgeted mainly due to lower cost recoveries from the provision of shared services with other government agencies in Wellington and Christchurch. A decrease in the number of staff occupying each office site and an overall decrease in operating expenditure have driven the recoverable expenditure lower.

Total expenses

Total expenses were lower than budget by \$3.535 million. This was mainly due to the cost of transformation offset by a reduction in back-office functions (contractors and consultants), a freeze in domestic and international travel, and other work programmes to achieve our savings target.

Statement of financial position

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents were \$5.203 million less than budgeted as Stats NZ reduced drawdowns to better reflect its cash requirements at year-end.

Debtor Crown

Debtor Crown was \$12.603 million less than budgeted mainly due to increased cash drawdowns for Stats NZ to make a \$20 million voluntary return of capital back to the Crown.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets were \$6.032 million less than budgeted mainly due to slower capital spend from under-resourced programmes and projects with higher than anticipated complexity.

Employee entitlements

Employee entitlements were \$5.345 million more than budgeted mainly due to retirement and long-service leave valuations being higher than anticipated as a result of changes to actuarial assumptions.

Statement of changes in equity

Capital injections and withdrawals

Capital withdrawals were \$20 million more than budgeted due to a voluntary return of capital back to the Crown following a review of Stats NZ's capital intentions.

Appropriation statements

The following statements report information about the expenses and capital expenditure incurred against each appropriation administered by Stats NZ for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Statement of departmental budgeted and actual expenses and capital expenditure incurred against appropriations

For the year ended 30 June 2024

2023		2024	2024	2024	2024
Expenditure after re-measurement		Expenditure before re-measurement	Re-measurement	Expenditure after re-measurement	Approved appropriation ⁽¹⁾
\$000		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Vote Statistics					
Departmental output expenses					
7,423	Services to Other Agencies RDA	8,014	-	8,014	14,489
7,423	Total departmental output expenses	8,014	-	8,014	14,489
Departmental capital expenditure					
14,171	Stats NZ capital expenditure - Permanent Legislative Authority (PLA) under section 24(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989	14,755	-	14,755	20,000
14,171	Total departmental capital expenditure	14,755	-	14,755	20,000
Multi-category appropriation					
34,831	Stewardship of government data and statistical services	27,192	(23)	27,169	38,285
79,978	Population, social, and labour market data and statistical information services	81,583	(23)	81,560	84,792
75,540	Economic and business data and statistical information services	82,160	(23)	82,137	68,949
190,349	Total multi-category appropriation	190,935	(69)	190,866	192,026
Multi-year appropriation					
184,132	2023 Census of Population and Dwellings	46,372	(11)	46,361	47,118
184,132	Total multi-year appropriation	46,372	(11)	46,361	47,118
396,075	Total annual, multi-year and permanent appropriations	260,076	(80)	259,996	273,633

¹ These are the appropriations from the Supplementary Estimates, adjusted for any transfers under section 26A of the Public Finance Act 1989.

End-of-year performance information on these appropriations has been reported on [pages 74-87](#).

Reconciliation of multi-year appropriations

For the year ended 30 June 2024

The 2023 Census appropriation was established from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2024, to provide for flexibility in planning for the 2023 Census of Population and Dwellings as a single programme over a five-year period.

	2023 Census of Population and Dwellings
Appropriation, adjustment, and use	\$000
Original appropriation	16,120
Adjustments to 2019/20	199,500
Adjustments to 2020/21	14,080
Adjustments to 2021/22	15,400
Adjustments to 2022/23	80,920
Adjustments to 2023/24	-
Total adjusted appropriation	326,020
Actual expenses in 2019/20	(13,987)
Actual expenses in 2020/21	(26,615)
Actual expenses in 2021/22	(54,168)
Actual expenses in 2022/23	(184,132)
Actual expenses in 2023/24	(46,361)
Total actual expenses	(325,263)
Balance of appropriation	757

Statement of departmental unappropriated expenditure and capital expenditure

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Stats NZ had no unappropriated expenses or capital expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2024 (2023: Nil).

Statement of departmental capital injections

For the year ended 30 June 2024

2023	2024	2024
Actual	Actual	Approved appropriation ⁽¹⁾
\$000	\$000	\$000
Vote Statistics		
9,236 Stats NZ - Capital injection	13,050	13,050

¹ These are the appropriations from the Supplementary Estimates, adjusted for any transfers under section 26A of the Public Finance Act 1989.

Statement of departmental capital injections without, or in excess of, authority

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Stats NZ had not received any capital injections during the year without, or in excess of, authority.

Statements of revenue and output expenses

The overarching purpose of the official statistics multi-category appropriation is to ensure the availability and promoting the use of the highest priority data and official statistical information to add value to decision-making.

The appropriation comprises the following output categories:

- stewardship of government data and statistical leadership
- population, social, and labour market data and statistical information services
- economic and business data and statistical information services.

Stewardship of government data and statistical leadership

The scope of this output category is limited to coordination of statistical and data services for government, through System Leadership of the Official Statistics System (OSS) and Stewardship of the Government Data System; statistical and data management advice; provision of access to official statistics; oversight of the IDI; and the provision of ministerial services.

For the year ended 30 June 2024

2023		2024	2024
Actual		Actual	Approved appropriation⁽¹⁾
\$000		\$000	\$000
40,115	Revenue from the Crown	37,125	37,125
2,123	Other revenue	1,735	1,160
42,238	Total operating revenue	38,860	38,285
34,831	Total output expenditure	27,169	38,285
7,407	Net operating surplus/(deficit)	11,691	-

¹ These are the appropriations from the Supplementary Estimates, adjusted for any transfers under section 26A of the Public Finance Act 1989. End-of-year performance information on these appropriations has been reported on [pages 74-87](#).

Population, social, and labour market data, and statistical information services

The scope of this output category is limited to delivery of data and statistical information services relating to the population, household economics, social conditions (including child poverty), the labour market, and the environment for New Zealand and overseas jurisdictions.

For the year ended 30 June 2024

2023		2024	2024
Actual		Actual	Approved Appropriation⁽¹⁾
\$000		\$000	\$000
79,540	Revenue from the Crown	81,848	81,848
2,745	Other revenue	2,101	2,944
82,285	Total operating revenue	83,949	84,792
79,978	Total output expenditure	81,560	84,792
2,307	Net operating surplus/(deficit)	2,389	-

¹ These are the appropriations from the Supplementary Estimates, adjusted for any transfers under section 26A of the Public Finance Act 1989. End-of-year performance information on these appropriations has been reported on [pages 74-87](#).

Economic and business data and statistical information services

The scope of this output category is limited to the delivery of data and statistical information services relating to business, the economy, and overseas jurisdictions.

For the year ended 30 June 2024

2023 Actual		2024 Actual	2024 Approved appropriation ⁽¹⁾
\$000		\$000	\$000
62,422	Revenue from the Crown	64,040	64,040
3,824	Other revenue	3,376	4,909
66,246	Total operating revenue	67,416	68,949
75,540	Total output expenditure	82,137	68,949
(9,294)	Net operating surplus/(deficit)	(14,721)	-

¹ These are the appropriations from the Supplementary Estimates, adjusted for any transfers under section 26A of the Public Finance Act 1989.

End-of-year performance information on these appropriations has been reported on pages 74-87.

2023 Census of Population and Dwellings

This appropriation is limited to completing the 2018 Census, conducting the 2023 Census, and the administration and management of the ongoing census programme, as required under the Statistics Act 1975.

For the year ended 30 June 2024

2023 Actual		2024 Actual	2024 Approved appropriation ⁽¹⁾
\$000		\$000	\$000
184,132	Revenue from the Crown	47,118	47,118
-	Other revenue	-	-
184,132	Total operating revenue	47,118	47,118
184,132	Total output expenditure	46,361	47,118
-	Net operating surplus/(deficit)	757	-

¹ These are the appropriations from the Supplementary Estimates, adjusted for any transfers under section 26A of the Public Finance Act 1989. End-of-year performance information on these appropriations has been reported on [pages 74-87](#).

Services to other agencies RDA

This appropriation is limited to the provision of services by Stats NZ to other agencies, where those services are not within the scope of another departmental output expense appropriation in Vote Statistics. This appropriation is intended to achieve the provision of shared services with other government agencies for the efficient and effective management of the Crown estate, such as the provision of shared accommodation in Christchurch and Wellington.

For the year ended 30 June 2024

2023		2024	2024
Actual		Actual	Approved
			appropriation ⁽¹⁾
\$000		\$000	\$000
-	Revenue from the Crown	-	-
7,423	Other revenue	8,014	14,489
7,423	Total operating revenue	8,014	14,489
7,423	Total output expenditure	8,014	14,489
-	Net operating surplus/(deficit)	-	-

¹ These are the appropriations from the Supplementary Estimates, adjusted for any transfers under section 26A of the Public Finance Act 1989.

End-of-year performance information on these appropriations is reported on [pages 74-87](#).







Stats **NZ**
Tatauranga Aotearoa



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Contact us

Stats NZ

Information Centre:

info@stats.govt.nz

Phone toll-free 0508 525 525

Phone international +64 4 931 4600

www.stats.govt.nz