G28

Stats NZ
Tatauranga Aotearoa

Stats NZ
Annual report

Tatauranga Aotearoa
Pūrongo ā-tau

2024/2025

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

**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 Annual report 2024/2025
Wellington: Statistics New Zealand

Published in October 2025 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

Chief Executive's foreword 6

Kupu tuatahi 9

Statement of responsibility
Te tauākī noho haepapa 12

Progress on strategic intentions
Te kokenga whakamua mō ngā whāinga rautaki 13

Delivery highlights 13

Areas for improvement 13

Our strategic intentions 14

Proactively improve the health of New Zealand's data system
Ka āta whakapikia te hauora o te pūnaha raraunga o Aotearoa 14

Measure what matters and reduce core-system risk
Te ine i ngā mea nunui me te āta whakahaere tūraru i te taha o ngā pūnaha taketake 18

Deliver for and with Māori, iwi, and hapū
Te hora painga mā ngāi Māori, mā ngā iwi, mā ngā hapū, mā te mahi tahi 20

Become an organisation that uses admin data first
Te huri hei whakahaere ka whakamahi raraunga whakahaere i te tuatahi 22

Assessment of operations
Te aromatawai o ngā mahi 26

Implementing Government priorities
Te whakatinana i ngā whakaarotau Kāwanatanga 26

Baseline savings 26

Major spending decisions 27

Government targets 27

Other Government and ministerial priorities 27

Significant budget decisions 29

Budget 2025 29

Summary of core operations and work programmes
Te whakarāpopototanga o ngā mahi taketake me ngā kaupapa mahi 31

Official statistics
Ngā tauanga whai mana 31

Delivery of population and social statistics (census) 36

Year-end performance information on appropriations
Ngā mōhiotanga mutunga tau mō ngā tāpaetanga pūtea 39

Statement of performance 2024/2025 39

Disclosure of significant judgements under PBE FRS 48 52

Organisational health and capability
Te hauora me ngā pūmanawa o te whakahaere 54

Our people
Ā mātou tāngata 54

Leadership and culture 54

Workforce capability and development 54

Workforce diversity 54

Institutional knowledge and succession planning 55

Gender and ethnic pay and representation 55

Māori–Crown relations capability (Whāinga Amorangi) 57

Māori language planning 57

Health, safety, and wellbeing 57

Our stakeholders and partners
Te hunga pupuru pānga me ō mātou hoa kōtui 59

Treaty-settlement commitments 59

Overview of Stats NZ commitments 59

Delivery and oversight 59

Forward outlook 60

Our resources
Ā mātou rauemi 60

Carbon Neutral Government Programme 61

Our systems and processes
Ā mātou pūnaha, hātepe hoki 65

Asset performance indicators (service critical assets) 65

Methodological process improvements 66

Governance and risk management 67

Financial statements
Ngā tauākī whakahaere pūtea 71

List of tables

Table 1: Workforce profile as at 30 June each year 55
Table 2: Gender profile of our workforce as at 30 June each year 55
Table 3: Ethnicity profile of our workforce, as at 30 June each year, compared with 2023 Census data for the New Zealand population 56
Table 4: Ethnicity profile of our tier 2 and 3 leaders, as at 30 June each year 56
Table 5: Health-and-safety events, as at 30 June each year 58
Table 6: Lost-time injuries, as at 30 June each year 58
Table 7: Targets and trends for measures of travel online adoption and capability 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 60
Table 8: Building area and occupation density in 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 61
Table 9: Overall Stats NZ's emissions profile, by scope and total annual emissions (tCO_2e), 2018/2019; 2021–2025* 62
Table 10: 2024/2025 Stats NZ's total provisional gross emissions, by source in tCO_2e 63
Table 11: Progress towards a simplified, flexible, sustainable IT environment, by measure and target, for 2022/2023–2024/2025 65
Table 12: Service-critical asset performance in 2024/2025 66

List of figures

Figure 1: Summary of Te Haeata dashboard 60
Figure 2: Stats NZ's emissions profile by operations, total annual emissions (tCO_2e), 2018/2019; 2021–2025 63
Figure 3: Stats NZ emissions, actual, against 1.5°C reduction requirements 64

Chief Executive's foreword

I am pleased to present Stats NZ's annual report for the 2024/2025 financial year.

Stats NZ has focused on making data more useful and accessible for our customers, partners, and communities and laying the groundwork for a multi-year work programme, effectively setting a new direction for the organisation.

Over the past year we've delivered more up-to-date information about our economy and society. We've continued to evolve our ways of working, embracing new and different technology and methodology. We're evolving how we produce and deliver population and social statistics, including census, using more efficient and sustainable administrative (admin)-data-first models.

In my role as Government Chief Data Steward, I am encouraged by our efforts to proactively improve the health of New Zealand's data system – it has been a focus of the past year and one that is integral to delivering for the future. A key to improving the health of our data system is beyond our agency walls – it is also about how Stats NZ and the wider data system work together. We recognise this is an area where we can continue to improve.

We've responded to customers' and partners' increasing need for more relevant and responsive social and economic data. Highlights were reweighting the consumers price index (CPI) and expanding the selected price indexes to provide more timely insights into inflation pressures. These are important precursors as we work toward delivering a monthly CPI in 2027 and begin work on measuring a modern economy to align with new international standards. Both are part of Stats NZ's multi-year programme to modernise official statistics production.

This was also a year to learn from some mistakes.

In February 2025, Stats NZ issued an apology for failing to keep safe some New Zealanders' personal information provided for the 2023 Census.

The apology and an associated remediation plan followed lengthy external investigations into allegations that census data collected by Manurewa Marae staff had been misused. The investigations found that, in this instance, we had failed to implement the safeguards and rules for ensuring privacy is protected and data secured.

In response to this failing, it has been my priority as Acting Chief Executive to rebuild New Zealand's trust and confidence in Stats NZ through the Misuse of 2023 Census Data Remediation Programme.

I am pleased to report that all 33 actions were completed, on schedule, by 30 June 2025. The programme has seen Stats NZ make improvements to policies, systems, processes, practice, training, and organisational culture. We will continue to ensure these improvements are effectively embedded into the organisation so that New Zealanders can have trust and confidence in how we securely manage sensitive data and uphold legal and ethical standards.

Another learning was in response to a reported CPI error in March 2025. As a result, internal processes have been strengthened to reduce the risk of this happening again in the future.

On a positive note, from July 2024 the Household Income and Living Survey (HILS) replaced the Household Economic Survey and the Living in Aotearoa survey as the main collection source for

child poverty statistics, reducing respondent burden and improving future sustainability. We are also pleased to have released updated disability statistics, which are now being used to inform policy and research to improve outcomes for New Zealand's disabled community.

Improvements were made across our environmental reporting, one example being a collaboration with Earth Sciences New Zealand and the Ministry for the Environment. This resulted in Stats NZ publishing improved and updated groundwater data. This responded to calls for a clearer view of where groundwater quality is good, particularly important given the vital role groundwater plays in New Zealand's environment.

Making data and insights accessible has also been a focus. In July 2024 we launched Aotearoa Data Explorer – a user-friendly platform for all – that makes data more accessible and digestible. This included 15 key 2023 Census releases.

We've also made improvements to the research database which holds de-identified information about our life events – the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) – to provide more timely data, ease of access, and an increased capacity for researchers to support social investment.

A milestone of the past year was Cabinet's approval of the Government Statistician's decision to progress a new way of producing census data. In future, New Zealand's census data will be produced using significantly more admin data (the information already collected by government), combined with an annual survey completed by a small percentage of the population each year, and other tailored solutions to meet the needs of smaller population groups.

This means that from 2030, key New Zealand census data and statistics will be produced every year, in a cost-effective and sustainable way.

A considerable effort across the board took place in the lead up to Cabinet's endorsement and I want to thank our customers and partners for their engagement with this process.

In 2024/2025 we continued to work with Māori, iwi, and hapu to support iwi-led data aspirations. These relationships will continue to inform how we adapt our own systems and practices as we continually explore how to deliver better to customer and partner need.

Building on this year's progress and taking valuable lessons learned forward with us, our strategic priorities for 2025–2029 are focused on:

- driving better decisions and services with admin data
- powering social investment with integrated data
- better delivering to customer and partner need
- measuring what matters in a modern economy.

These priorities and the multi-year programme of work underway contribute to the Government's goals to build a stronger, more productive economy and deliver more efficient, effective, and responsive public services to all who need and use them.

It has been a pleasure to lead the organisation as we turn toward a new direction, and I extend my thanks to the people at Stats NZ who dedicate themselves to the vision ‘data that improves lives today and for generations to come.’



Mary Craig
Acting Chief Executive Government Statistician

Kupu tuatahi

Tēnei au te tāpae atu nei i te pūrongo ā-tau a Tatauranga Aotearoa mō te tau ahumoni 2024/2025.

Kua aro nui a Tatauranga Aotearoa ki ngā ara e nui ake ai ngā painga o ngā raraunga, e wātea ake hoki, mō ā matou kiritaki, ō mātou hoa pātui, hapori hoki, me te aro anō ki te hora i te kahupapa mō tētahi hōtaka mahi tautini, e kawea kētia ai te ihu o te waka mō te whakahaere katoa.

I roto i te tau ka hipa ake nei kua horaina e mātou ētahi mōhiotanga hou rawa mō tō tātou ōhanga, pāpori hoki. Kua haere whakamua hoki ā mātou tikanga mahi, me te hāpai i ētahi hangarau hou, rerekē, tikanga mahi hou hoki. Kei te tāreia e mātou ētahi tikanga hou mō te whakaputa me te hora tauanga taupori, pāpori hoki, tae atu ki te tatauranga, mā te whakamahi i ngā tauira raraunga whakahaere i te tuatahi kakama kē atu, toitū kē atu.

I taku tūranga hei Kaitiaki Raraunga Mātāmua o te Kāwanatanga, ka nui rā taku pai ki ngā mahi whakapakari i te pūnaha raraunga o Aotearoa – koinei tētahi o ngā whāinga o te tau kua hipa ake, ā, ka noho hei kaupapa taketake mō ngā rā kei mua. Tētahi mea nui mō te whakapiki i te ora o tō tātou pūnaha raraunga, kei waho tonu i ngā pātū o tēnei tari – me kōrero rā te āhua o te mahi tahi a Tatauranga Aotearoa me te pūnaha raraunga whānui kē atu. E mōhio ana mātou he wāhanga tēnei ka taea e mātou te kimi tikanga e pai ake ai ā mātou mahi.

Kua urupare mātou ki te hiahia e piki haere nei, o ngā kiritaki me ngā hoa pātui mō ētahi raraunga pāpori, ōhanga hāngai kē atu, kakama kē atu hoki. Ko ngā mahi hira ko te whakanoho anō i te tauine utuhoko (consumers price index, CPI) me te whakamakoha i ngā tauine tauhoko i tīpakona hei hora i ētahi kitenga kakama kē atu mō ngā pēhanga pikiutu tukipū. He mahi tuatahi hira ēnei i a mātou e hora nei i tētahi tauine utuhoko ā-marama i 2027, me te tīmata mahi mō te ine i tētahi ōhanga ao hou kia hāngai ki ngā paerewa ā-ao. He wāhanga ēnei kaupapa e rua nō te hōtaka mahi tautini a Tatauranga Aotearoa ki te whakahou i te whakaputa tauanga whai mana.

He tau hoki tēnei e ako ai mātou, i muri i ētahi hapa.

I te marama o Pēpuere 2025, ka whakaputaina e Tatauranga Aotearoa tā mātou whakapāha mō tā mātou kore tautiaki i ngā mōhiotanga whaiaro o ētahi tāngata o Aotearoa kia haumauru, arā, ētahi kōrero i horaina mō te Tatauranga o 2023.

I whai tēnei whakapāha me ngā whakatikanga i te taha i ētahi tūhuratanga roa mō ētahi whakapae, i hē te whakamahinga o ngā raraunga tatauranga kua kohia e ngā kaimahi o Manurewa Marae. Nā ēnei tūhuratanga i kī, kīhai mātou i whakaū i ngā tikanga tautiaki me ngā whakaritenga hei kaupare i te tūmataitinga, hei whakahaumaru hoki i ngā raraunga.

Hei urupare ki tēnei raru, ko taku mahi nui he whakapiki anō i te whakapono me te whirinaki o Aotearoa ki Tatauranga Aotearoa mā te kaupapa e kīa nei te Kaupapa Whakatika i te Whakamahi Hē i ngā Raraunga o Te Tatauranga 2023.

Ka nui taku hari ki te tāpae i kī, kua tutuki ngā mahi 33 katoa, ki tā te wātaka, i mua i te 30 o Hune 2025. Nā tēnei kaupapa kua whakaurua e Tatauranga Aotearoa ētahi whakapikinga ki ngā kaupapa here, ki ngā pūnaha, ki ngā tikanga mahi, ki ngā whakangungu me te ahurea o te whakahaere. Ka kawe haere tonu mātou i te tāmautanga tōtika o ēnei whakapikinga ki te whakahaere, kia mōhio ai te hunga katoa o Aotearoa ka taea te whakapono, te whakawhirinaki

hoki ki te āhua o tā mātou whakahaere raraunga whaiaro, me te whakatairanga i ngā paerewa ā-ture, ā-matatika hoki e hāngai ana.

Ko tētahi akoranga anō, he urupare ki tētahi hapa mō te tauine utuhoko i Māehe 2025. Nā konei, kua whakapakaritia ngā whakahaere o roto hei whakaheke i te tūraru pā anō o ēnei āhuatanga ā ngā rā e tū mai nei.

Ka tahuri nei ki ngā rongo papai, mai i te marama o Hūrae 2024 ka whakakapia Te Uiuinga Ōhanga ā-Kainga me te Uiuinga mō Te Āhua o Te Noho i Aotearoa e Te Uiuinga Whiwhinga Moni, Āhuatanga Noho ā-Kāinga (HILS) hei puna kohinga raraunga matua mō ngā tauanga rawakore tamariki matua, e heke ai te taumahatanga o te mahi mā te hunga whakautu, e piki ai hoki te toitū mō ngā rā kei mua. E hari ana anō hoki mātou kua whakaputaina e mātou ētahi tauanga mō te hunga whaikaha e whakamahia ana ināianei hei whakapiki i ngā kaupapa here me ngā rangahau hei whakapiki i ngā putanga hua mō te hapori whaikaha o Aotearoa.

I haere ngā painga ake puta noa i tā mātou whakapūrongo mō te taiao, ko tētahi tauira ko te mahi paheko ki Earth Sciences New Zealand me Te Manatū mō Te Taiao. Nā konei ka puta i a Tatauranga Aotearoa ētahi raraunga wainuku pai ake, hou ake hoki. Hei urupare tēnei ki ngā reo e hiahia ana kia kitea ngā takiwā he pai te wainuku, he mea hira tēnei, inā hoki he mea taketake te pai o te wainuku mō te taiao o Aotearoa.

He aronga hira hoki te whakawātea i ngā raraunga me ngā māramatanga ki te ao. I te marama o Hūrae 2024 ka whakarewaina e mātou te Aotearoa Data Explorer – tētahi pūhara ngāwari ki te whakamahi mā te katoa – ko tāna he whakawātea, he whakamāmā hoki i ngā raraunga i reira. Ka uru ki konei ētahi putanga 15 matua mō Tatauranga 2023.

Kua mahia hoki e mātou ētahi whakapainga ki te pātengi raraunga rangahau e pupuru nei i ngā mōhiotanga kua mukua nei ngā tohu tautohu mō ngā āhuatanga kua pā ki a tātou – e Puna Hanganga Pāhekoheko (IDI) – kia kakama ake te hora mai o ngā raraunga, kia ngāwari te tomo atu, kia piki hoki te āhei o ngā kairangahau ki te tautoko i ngā haumitanga pāpori.

Ko tētahi tohu huarahi o te tau kua heke mai nei ko te whakaaetanga o te Rūnanga Matua o te Kāwanatanga ki te whakatau a te Kaitatau Kāwanatanga kia kawea whakamua he momo ara hou mō te waihanga raraunga tatauranga. Hei ngā tau e tū mai nei ka hangaia ngā raraunga o Aotearoa mā te whakamahi i ngā raraunga whakahaere, kia rahi atu hoki te whakamahinga (o ngā mōhiotanga kua oti noa atu te kohi e te kāwanatanga) me te whakahanumi i ēnei ki tētahi tirohanga whāiti ka mahia e tētahi ōrau iti o te taupori ia tau, me ētahi atu ara ka āta tāreia hei whakatutuki i ngā hiahia o ngā rōpū taupori iti iho.

Te tikanga o tēnei, atu i 2030, ka pēnei te whakaputa i ia tau i ngā raraunga tatauranga taketake me ngā tauanga o Aotearoa, me te pai o te utu, te toitū hoki o aua tikanga mahi.

I haere ētahi mahi tino nui i mua i te whakaaetanga a te Rūnanga Matua, ā, e hiahia ana au ki te whakamoemiti ki ō mātou kiritaki me ō mātou hoa pātui mō tō rātou whāinga wāhi mai ki tēnei hātepe.

I te tau 2024/2025 i haere tonu tā mātou mahi me ngāi Māori, ngā iwi me ngā hapū hei tautoko i ngā moemoeā kia hua ake he raraunga nā te iwi i ārahi. Ka haere tonu ēnei hononga, hei whakaahua i tā mātou whakaurutau i ā mātou pūnaha, tikanga mahi hoki, i a mātou e tūhura haere nei me pēhea te hora i ngā āhuatanga hei whakatutuki i ngā hiahia kiritaki, hoa pātui hoki.

I runga i te hiahia kia whakapakaritia anō ngā kokenga whakamua o tēnei tau, me te kawe haere tonu i ōna akoranga, inā te aronga o ā mātou whakaarotau rautaki mō 2025–2029:

- te kōkiri whakatau, ratonga pai ake mā ngā rararunga whakahaere
- te whakamanawa i ngā haumitanga pāpori mā ngā raraunga pāhekoheko
- te whakatutuki pai i ngā hiahia kiritaki, hoa pātui anō hoki
- te ine i ngā mea taketake mō tētahi ōhanga o ēnei rā.

Hei āwhina ēnei whakaarotau me te kaupapa mahi tautini i ngā whāinga a te Kāwanatanga kia hangaia he ōhanga pakari kē atu, whai hua kē atu, kia horaina hoki he ratonga tūmatanui kakama kē atu, whai pānga kē atu, tahuri wawe hoki ki ngā hiahia o te katoa e hiahia ana, e whakamahi ana i aua ratonga.

Ka nui taku hari ki te ārahi i te whakahaere i a mātou e anga nei ki ngā ara hou nei, ā, ka nui rā aku mihi ki ngā tāngata i Tatauranga Aotearoa e mahi nei i raro i te tauākī ‘he raraunga e whakapikingia ai te noho o te tangata i ēnei rā, me ngā reanga e whai ake nei.’



Mary Craig
Acting Chief Executive Government Statistician

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
- the accuracy of any end-of-year performance information prepared by Stats NZ.

In my opinion:

- the annual report fairly reflects the operations, progress, and organisational health and capability of Stats NZ
- the financial statements fairly reflect Stats NZ's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and operations for the year ended on that date
- the forecast financial statements fairly reflect Stats NZ's forecast financial position as at 30 June 2026 and operations for the year ending on that date.



Mary Craig
Acting Chief Executive Government Statistician
30 September 2025

Progress on strategic intentions
Te kokenga whakamua mō ngā whāinga rautaki

This section reports on Stats NZ's progress during 2024/2025 against the strategic priorities and outcomes in our *Statement of Strategic Intentions 2023–2028*. Each priority – and the functions and services described in our 'Summary of core operations and work programmes' section – contribute to one or more outcomes. While this annual report reflects performance against that framework, the results also provide a foundation for our new strategic intentions, which will guide our direction from 2025/2026 onwards.

Our work programme was aligned with the Government's priorities for 2024/2025 (for more information, see Implementing Government priorities).

This year we focused on:

- delivering more frequent and responsive economic and social measures
- supporting the social investment approach through greater use of integrated data
- foundational work to modernise the census producing better evidence and improved efficiency through admin data
- strengthening core systems and infrastructure to improve data access and sustainability.

Delivery highlights

Highlights for 2024/2025 were:

- expanding selected price indexes, delivering more timely inflation insights
- publishing updated child poverty statistics and the first persistent child poverty measure using linked admin and survey data
- improving the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI), with more timely data, enhanced access tools, and increased capacity for researchers
- launching the Aotearoa Data Explorer (ADE) platform in July 2024, with key datasets migrated and application programming interface (API) access provided
- releasing the new National Occupation List (NOL), enabling more accurate and responsive labour market data
- releasing updated disability statistics (2023) now being used to inform policy and research to improve outcomes for disabled people
- the public consultation on and preparation for the next census, including Cabinet's agreement on the approach
- the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation (CDEI) completing its first full year of operation as a permanent function, strengthening system leadership in responsible data use and innovation.

Areas for improvement

Alongside these achievements, there were areas where performance fell short of expectations. Independent investigations found that privacy and security requirements were not fully implemented for data collected by a subcontractor in the 2023 Census, reducing public trust in our ability to manage personal information. In response, Stats NZ issued a formal apology and delivered a 33-action remediation programme, completed by June 2025.

In March 2025, at a time of heightened interest in inflation, a CPI process error led to the exclusion of a $25 vehicle relicensing fee. This error highlighted the need to strengthen quality assurance.

Under new leadership, these incidents have been treated as a turning point. Policies, systems, training, and oversight have been strengthened, and a stronger focus has been placed on accountability and organisational culture. This represents a fresh start for Stats NZ as we work to rebuild trust and confidence in how we manage data and deliver core statistics.

Progress during this financial year builds on earlier work and contributes to the foundations of a more interoperable and trusted data system under our four strategic priorities. In 2025/2026, this multi-year work programme will continue, with a stronger focus on the sustainable use of data to support economic and social outcomes, reflecting the transition to our new set of strategic priorities.

Our reporting here and in our Organisational health and capability section captures how we are fulfilling our duties relating to Te Tiriti o Waitangi under section 14 of the Data and Statistics Act 2022.

Our strategic intentions

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

Stats NZ leads the government data system through the Government Chief Data Steward (GCDS) function. Our strategic objective is to lift the system's overall performance by improving how government collects, manages, shares, and reuses data. The intended future state is a system that is better coordinated, more efficient, increasingly reliant on high-quality admin data, and underpinned by consistent standards.

The 2024/2025 financial year continued to be fiscally constrained, requiring careful choices about where to focus effort. The disestablishment of the Data System Leadership business group in the previous financial year required us to narrow our scope and concentrate on the core building blocks of a healthy data system.

Progress this year included more coordinated data collection, improved guidelines and standards, and infrastructure upgrades to support integrated data use. We also built on earlier work to improve the reusability of admin data and deepen cross-agency collaboration. These choices reflect a deliberate focus on the key elements needed to lift system performance while living within our means.

Strengthening system coordination and efficiency

Stats NZ continued to strengthen cross-agency coordination by contributing to the Digital Executive Board and Service Modernisation Roadmap. This supports our long-term aim of reducing duplication in data collection and improving interoperability across the public sector.

A notable step this year was leading a cross-agency business survey working group with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC), the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), and Inland Revenue, focused on improving respondent experience and reducing survey burden. This is a continuation of work begun in

2023/2024 and reflects a shift towards more consistent and streamlined engagement with businesses.

We piloted a new online survey tool that will reduce response barriers and enable reuse of data. We also updated A guide to good survey design with international best practice. These changes are intended to support a future operating model where statistical needs are increasingly met using streamlined, standardised digital methods.

Improving data quality and classification

Modernised classification systems are a key enabler of long-term data-system health. In November 2024, Stats NZ launched the National Occupation List (NOL), delivering on work begun in 2023/2024 to modernise New Zealand's occupation classification system.

The NOL enables more accurate and responsive labour market data and allows new and emerging occupations to be added in response to user needs. It was shaped through public consultation, with over 100 submissions received from individuals, businesses, and government agencies.

While Australia has issued a new classification, Occupation Standard Classification for Australia (OSCA), both countries have agreed to maintain alignment to support comparison across the New Zealand, Australian, and international labour markets.

One example of how the updated classification is being applied is through the work of Scaffolding, Access and Rigging New Zealand (SARNZ).

Case study: New occupation classifications support better workforce planning

SARNZ is the national industry body representing scaffolders, riggers, and rope-access professionals. It supports members through training, safety standards, licensing, and advocacy, and works closely with government and education providers to lift capability across the sector.

Until recently, changes to the Accredited Employer Work Visa meant migrant workers in the scaffolding and rigging sector were limited to a three-year stay. This short timeframe offered little incentive for skilled workers to relocate without a long-term residency pathway and made workforce planning difficult for the sector.

However, with the recent recognition of scaffolding as a 'highly skilled' occupation under the updated Stats NZ occupation classification, visa durations have been extended to five years. This provides workers with greater certainty and enables SARNZ to actively engage with Immigration New Zealand. Stats NZ has made several skill-level changes across occupations in response to clear signals from industries that a higher level of training/qualification is needed.

The early signs of impact are already visible: vocational training providers are showing greater interest in offering scaffolding programmes, and visa settings have shifted to better match licensing timelines. Importantly, the classification update has opened new pathways and strengthened the case for investment in training in this field of work.

Lessons learned

An insight from the process was the importance of joined-up communication across government – SARNZ says greater coordination would help streamline engagement and amplify the benefits of classification work. Stats NZ is taking this feedback on board and working more closely with Immigration New Zealand on their implementation and ongoing NOL processes.

As custodian of the NOL, Stats NZ plays a quiet but critical role in improving the information that underpins education, employment, and immigration decisions. While the benefits may not be immediately visible, the long-term impact is better outcomes for industries, kaimahi, and the wider economy.

Embedding good data practices

To maintain trust and strengthen safeguards, Stats NZ continued to embed ethical data practices across the system. In its first full year of operation, the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation (CDEI) supported delivery of the Algorithm Charter and Algorithm Impact Assessment, provided privacy and ethics training, and advised on government use of generative AI. The CDEI also developed guidance on Māori data and AI, data collection and sharing, and key sections of the GCDO's (Government Chief Digital Officer) Responsible AI Guidance for the Public Service on generative AI.

In parallel, the Data Ethics Advisory Group (DEAG), which sits within the CDEI, provided independent advice on data initiatives across government, including next census design, social investment, and AI pilots.

Improving the ethnicity data standard to enable more consistent government data

In early 2025, Stats NZ engaged with 20 government agencies to assess the practical implications of future changes to modernise the ethnicity data standard. This included identifying barriers to implementation and understanding collection practices, system constraints, and agency-specific needs. Our goal is a more consistent and representative approach to ethnicity data across the public sector, especially as use of admin data increases.

Building on foundational work from 2021–2024, the focus in 2024/2025 shifted from reviewing the content of the standard to understanding how to implement the standard across the public service to support an increased reliance on admin data in statistical production. A planned public consultation on changes to the standard and classification was postponed, allowing for further evidence gathering and to inform a coordinated, cost-effective approach to implementation and alternative ways to address community needs.

Feedback has reinforced the importance of putting in place systems for Māori to lead and decide how their data is handled, and ongoing coordination with the next census programme.

Insights gathered to date are informing further agency engagement in 2025, to test change readiness for implementation, risks, and the balance between modernising the standard and maintaining long-term time series. This will be integrated with agency engagement that underpins work to modernise census. Targeted engagement with iwi/Māori and community groups will also occur.

Final decisions on next steps will be shaped by the findings of this engagement and broader system priorities.

Strengthening access to and use of the IDI to support social investment

The Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) is a large, linked dataset managed by Stats NZ that combines de-identified data from across government to support research, policy, and service delivery. It is a system asset that plays a key role in enabling data-driven decision-making, particularly in areas like social investment.

Enabling safe and responsible access to integrated data is a long-standing system goal. With funding from Budget 2024, we delivered short-term improvements that support social investment priorities and the development of an Indicative Business Case for further investment in integrated data.

These short-term improvements include:

1. **Bringing more data into the IDI**: We have made significant progress in this area, with data added through a refresh of the IDI and additional ad-hoc data loads, as well as working with the Social Investment Agency (SIA) to improve the timeliness (frequency of collection) and currency (how quickly data is available) of key datasets for social investment. Collaboration with SIA to identify the most critical data for social investment research and plans to bring this data into the IDI are ongoing.

2. **Improved access to the IDI**: Improved access makes it easier for users to analyse data in the IDI, speeding up and simplifying their research so they can derive insights more quickly. This has been achieved through the development of code modules, which are pre-packaged code and documentation about common concepts. The topics of code modules are selected and prioritised by social sector agencies, with input from Stats NZ and SIA. This year, Stats NZ has taken code modules from pilot to mainstream, with six modules deployed and an additional seven in development. We are also developing training on how to use and develop code modules, with significant interest from researchers from core government agencies. This training will allow for further development and greater use of modules and is an investment in lifting data capability across government, with benefits for social investment and more broadly.

3. **Improving IDI capacity for SIA**: We have deployed additional capacity for SIA researchers to use the IDI, by increasing the amount of storage space available for their research.

These improvements contribute directly to the measures of success outlined in SIA's Strategic Intentions, specifically the number of new and updated datasets added to the IDI, and the number of cohorts of social investment interest added to the IDI.

Expanding access to integrated data through the Commons

Access to integrated data was further expanded through the Integrated Data Commons, a collaborative online space supporting 653 researchers across 106 organisations, an increase of 25.6 percent from 2023/2024. Visits to the platform rose 12.2 percent from the previous year, reflecting growing demand for shared tools and research-ready resources.

Maintaining trust and safe use of data

Trust in the government data system depends on robust protections. Throughout this financial year, Stats NZ continued to apply Ngā Tikanga Paihere and Five Safes frameworks to guide safe, ethical, responsible use of data in the IDI. These frameworks are also being applied to the design of the Integrated Statistical Data System (ISDS) (for more information, see Building a future-ready statistical system to integrate admin and survey data).

Stats NZ actively monitors the practice of researchers to ensure compliance with our policy and follow up on any instances where it's not being met. Privacy Impact Assessments were completed for all new data sources – there were no data or privacy breaches by users of the IDI during the 2024/2025 year.

Partnering to improve Pacific data equity in New Zealand

Improving the quality and visibility of Pacific data in New Zealand's data system is a shared priority across agencies. In September 2024, Stats NZ and the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (MPP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The partnership will support joint work to improve Pacific data equity. The MoU formalised a partnership that began during the 2023 Census and reflects shared priorities identified in MPP's 2023 long-term insights briefing, Improving Pacific Data Equity: Opportunities to Enhance the Future of Pacific Wellbeing.

Pacific participation has been below the national average historically and in the last two censuses. Improving participation and quality of Pacific data is a key focus of our partnership with MPP, particularly in light of the anticipated shift to greater use of admin data. At present, Pacific admin data is not sufficiently robust to support quality outputs. Stats NZ is working with MPP to ensure Pacific data needs are considered in data-system changes and the design of the next census (for more information on the next census approach, see Become an organisation that uses admin data first).

To support this, MPP now participates in key Stats NZ-led cross-agency groups, including the Information Group and the Ethnicity Standard Expert Group, and contributes to the Pacific workstream of the next census.

Measure what matters and reduce core-system risk
Te ine i ngā mea nunui me te āta whakahaere tūraru i te taha o ngā pūnaha taketake

This year, Stats NZ continued its multi-year modernisation of official statistics production and the systems that support it. This work contributes to our long-term goal of a responsive, sustainable, and customer-focused statistical system. Activities this year built on progress made in 2023/2024 and further shifted our system toward this future state.

To deliver within our resources, we targeted investments toward infrastructure, new statistical methods, and improved tools for customers that enable more timely delivery of information in areas of demand such as inflation and population statistics.

Reweighting the consumers price index and expanding selected price indexes for improved inflation information

On 17 April 2025, Stats NZ published the reweighted consumers price index (CPI). This was the first update since 2020 and reflected changing spending patterns, including the addition of streaming services and meal kits and the removal of DVDs and home phone lines. This milestone completed a key update that had been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 15 May 2025, Stats NZ expanded the selected price indexes (SPI) release to include new monthly indexes for electricity and gas. This increased coverage of the CPI basket from 44 percent to 46.5 percent, providing more timely insights into inflation pressures. The SPI was first introduced in late 2023 to meet demand from key users, such as the Reserve Bank of New Zealand and Treasury, for more frequent price data. The inclusion of energy costs is particularly relevant during the winter months for households and decision-makers.

The current monthly coverage of New Zealand's CPI is broadly comparable with that of Australia, where the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) monthly CPI indicator covers around 43 percent of

its full CPI basket. A key difference is that ABS aggregates this into a monthly CPI measure, while Stats NZ publishes monthly results for individual components only (such as food, rent, and fuel).

Like the ABS, which is developing a full monthly CPI for release in November 2025, Stats NZ is progressively expanding monthly coverage to support more responsive economic analysis, and working towards full coverage in 2027, with funding from Budget 2025 (for more information, see Budget 2025).

Updating infrastructure and systems to deliver core data and statistics

The launch of Aotearoa Data Explorer (ADE) in July 2024 marked a major shift toward more accessible official statistics. ADE replaced NZ.Stat (retired 13 September 2024) and now hosts core datasets such as business demography, income, justice, population estimates, and 2018 and 2023 Census data. More datasets are scheduled for migration in 2025/2026.

New features, such as improved filtering and application programming interfaces (API) access, were developed based on user feedback. APIs let people or computer programmes get data directly from a website or database so they can use it in their own tools without needing to download it manually. Supporting materials, including training guides, were made available by August 2024. These improvements reflect an ongoing programme of system upgrades to improve accessibility, reduce costs, and deliver higher value to users. Next steps include retiring Infoshare and continuing improvements to ADE's performance and accessibility.

Alongside this, Stats NZ piloted automation of Household Labour Force Survey ingestion and expanded the use of admin data for population estimates. These changes reduced processing time and helped maintain quality under fiscal constraints, progressing our longer-term transition to sustainable production methods.

Refreshing environmental and economic indicators

Throughout the year, Stats NZ refreshed priority indicators to reflect New Zealand's evolving context. This included the introduction of more recent training data for the model used to produce international migration estimates, to better reflect international migration dynamics after COVID-19.

We also refreshed environmental reporting indicators and published updated wellbeing statistics in September 2024. For more information on releases, see Official statistics.

Refocusing effort on high-impact data products

In 2024/2025, Stats NZ retired or consolidated lower-value data products. This included the closure of the COVID-19 Data Portal, pausing quarterly property transfer statistics, and embedding Information and Communication Technology Supply Survey content into other collections.

These decisions responded to lower demand and allowed us to shift effort to higher-priority work, supporting our goal of improving the efficiency of statistical production over time.

Improving local insights through 2023 Census data and engagement

To improve subnational data accessibility, Stats NZ released detailed 2023 Census information at the community level. A new interactive tool, Place and ethnic group summaries, which includes maps, went live on 26 November 2024. This improved usability for councils, service providers, and communities. For more information on data releases and quality assurance, see Delivering 2023 Census data.

Between February and April 2025, Stats NZ delivered 41 events through the *Your Place, Your Data* roadshow, held in towns and cities across New Zealand. These sessions promoted the use of 2023 Census data, demonstrated the new tools, and gathered feedback from a wide range of users.

In October 2024, new self-led training modules were launched online, providing guidance on metadata, data quality, and navigating key tools. Customised data services continued to be available for iwi and community users. This work builds on earlier capability-building efforts and reflects our commitment to customer-centred service delivery.

Advancing child poverty statistics

From July 2024, the Household Income and Living Survey (HILS) replaced the Household Economic Survey (HES) as the main collection source for child poverty statistics, reducing respondent burden and improving future sustainability.

In November 2024, we published the Government Statistician's definition of persistent child poverty, including methodology and baseline estimates. This represents a step-change in our ability to support long-term child wellbeing monitoring, and is a product of multi-year development work. Rather than fielding a dedicated survey, we developed a new method – which was rigorously examined by external experts – that fused admin and survey data in a way that met both statistical and policy needs. Persistent child poverty will be reported annually from February 2027.

Official statistics has information on how these statistics are being used to improve outcomes for New Zealanders in the Nest case study.

Deliver for and with Māori, iwi, and hapū
Te hora painga mā ngāi Māori, mā ngā iwi, mā ngā hapū, mā te mahi tahi

In 2024/2025, Stats NZ continued to strengthen its relationships with Māori, iwi, and hapū through ongoing strategic engagement. This mahi focused on supporting iwi-led data aspirations and improving the relevance and accessibility of data, while also informing how we adapt our own systems and practices.

These engagements have highlighted the value of sustained relationships and mutual learning. They continue to shape how we prioritise support, develop capability, and contribute to a data system that better reflects the needs and context of Māori.

Case study: Partnering to build data capability with Te Kaahui o Rauru

Te Kaahui o Rauru is the post-settlement governance entity representing the iwi Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi in South Taranaki. Te Kaahui o Rauru oversees various initiatives aimed at the social, cultural, environmental, and economic development of their people.

Between March and September 2024, Stats NZ seconded two data analysts to work alongside Te Kaahui o Rauru to support their aspiration to strengthen internal data capability, laying the groundwork for effective data management.

The mahi took place under the terms of Te Takapou Tupua, a formal relationship agreement between Stats NZ and Te Kaahui o Rauru, which sets out shared commitments to Tiriti-centric

outcomes, mutual trust, and co-development. The secondees had a total of six on-site visits with Te Kaahui o Rauru over the course of the secondment. This small team worked closely with Te Kaahui o Rauru's senior leaders to identify what was most needed to progress the iwi's data priorities.

Refocusing to better meet needs

The initial aim was to develop data analysis guidelines aligned with Stats NZ standards and international best practice. As the project progressed, it became clear that effective analysis required better data foundations. The focus then shifted to improving data organisation, collection, and management to support future analysis.

This shift in focus mid-secondment was enabled by the partnership approach taken, where the relationship and iwi needs and aspirations formed the foundation driving the outcomes of the mahi. A change in focus enabled meaningful mahi for both partners and stronger alignment for Te Kaahui o Rauru with their emerging needs. As a result, the secondees worked with Te Kaahui o Rauru to:

- review existing datasets and practices
- develop a data catalogue
- co-develop guidelines and policies for information management
- clean large datasets used for events and education grants
- build Power BI dashboards
- support kaimahi training in data concepts, tools, and practices.

All activity was grounded in Te Kaahui o Rauru's strategic direction, tikanga, and mātauranga.

Enabling long-term capability

A strong emphasis was placed on shared knowledge. Te Kaahui o Rauru kaimahi across the organisation gained confidence in handling data, and the secondment helped dispel the view that data mahi is purely technical. The secondees worked with Te Kaahui o Rauru kaimahi in finance, research, and development to build practical skills, share good practice, and embed capability that would remain after the secondment ended.

Te Kaahui o Rauru kaimahi note that data management has since become a strategic priority. They have developed their own information policies, improved access to data for iwi members, and are now exploring further opportunities, including internships and deeper connections with iwi data networks.

Lessons for Stats NZ

Through the secondment, the value of a whakawhanaungatanga approach – prioritising genuine, respectful relationships built on trust and shared values – and the importance of being physically present to support genuine partnership was emphasised for Stats NZ. The experience reinforced that capability building must be iwi led and grounded in tikanga and mātauranga. It also highlighted the need to build confidence alongside technical skills, enable iwi partners in project design, and provide sustained support to embed progress beyond the term of the secondment.

Next steps

Te Kaahui o Rauru's priorities include maintaining the new data catalogue and dashboards, embedding data-management policies across the organisation, and expanding kaimahi training. As noted above, they are also focused on establishing internships as a future goal, ongoing efforts

to strengthen participation in iwi data networks, and securing funding to grow their internal data capability.

At a meeting in December 2024 to conclude the secondment, Te Kaahui o Rauru and Stats NZ agreed to follow up on the progress of this mahi and continue to explore data capability opportunities as part of the enduring relationship.

This secondment demonstrated how a whakawhanaungatanga approach and collective leadership can enable lasting improvements in data capability that reflect and advance iwi aspirations and build capability on both sides of a partnership.

Expanding Māori data and geographic capability

In 2024/2025, Stats NZ and Land Information New Zealand continued delivering the Ngā Poutama Matawhenua programme to build Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capability among Māori organisations. The programme supported iwi, Māori trusts, and environmental groups to use geospatial tools for land planning and storytelling.

Hundreds of hours of support were delivered through in-person workshops and dozens of recorded tutorials, covering skills such as 3D mapping, spatial analysis, and access to government geospatial datasets. Participants reported greater confidence in applying spatial data to local priorities. The programme is continuing to develop new content to meet emerging needs and expand access across more regions.

Become an organisation that uses admin data first
Te huri hei whakahaere ka whakamahi raraunga whakahaere i te tuatahi

We took a significant step this year in our shift toward becoming an organisation that uses admin data first. The way we produce census data and statistics is shifting to a new approach that prioritises the use of admin data, supported by a new annual sample survey, and tailored solutions (such as targeted surveys) that help meet the needs of smaller population groups.

The new approach is more responsive, flexible, and sustainable. And, from 2030, census data and statistics will be released every year, giving communities and decision-makers more frequent, up-to-date information.

The decision involves trade-offs including initial reduction in data quality, accuracy, and coverage for some topics and for smaller populations, which we acknowledge has raised concern among users who rely on census data. There are also some aspects where there will be a permanent reduction in data granularity, compared with the 2023 Census.

However, the reduction in data granularity is offset by the immediate improvements the new approach offers in terms of data frequency, flexibility, and responsiveness. Improvements to data quality will continue over the next 5 to 10 years as the new approach is embedded. Work is ongoing with data experts and users to ensure data needs for critical decision-making – at national and subnational levels – can be met and grow with time.

It’s important to note that the redesigned census is an investment in producing enduring public value from a range of existing information sources, rather than relying on increasingly costly and less effective methods to compel responses from every household.

The decision is grounded in a strong technical foundation, built over more than a decade of investment in developing and validating methods that combine admin and survey data. Work continues on improving the data and methods that underpin this transition, and Stats NZ will be reporting on this periodically.

Cabinet's endorsement this year of the redesigned model was a key milestone in our broader shift to an admin-data-first statistical system. Throughout this year, we started strengthening the infrastructure, partnerships, and standards needed to support the safe and scalable use of admin data (for more information, see Proactively improving the health of New Zealand's data system).

An admin-data-first approach reduces duplication of collection, improves timeliness, lowers respondent burden, and supports a more sustainable data system. As implementation progresses, we will focus on managing delivery risks transparently and maintaining trust in the quality and utility of census outputs.

Modernising how we manage and share admin data

This year, Stats NZ advanced the modernisation of admin data supply and governance processes. We formalised 14 new or updated data agreements with agencies, continuing the system coordination work initiated in previous years.

We made efficiencies that support consistent agreements, reviewing and merging four existing agreements. We also upgraded our file-transfer systems to improve reliability and introduced automated data-sharing through APIs. These improvements reduce manual handling, increase accuracy, and support faster data access, contributing to a system that is more scalable and fit for purpose.

Building a future-ready statistical system to integrate admin and survey data

We continued discovery work on the Integrated Statistical Data System (ISDS) in 2024/2025, building on design concepts piloted during the 2023 Census. The ISDS links registers about people, places, and businesses, which are only connected as needed for official statistics or approved research, improving flexibility while maintaining privacy.

The ISDS will evolve how Stats NZ produces social, environmental, economic, and population statistics, including by playing a greater role in the next census. It further aligns us with international best practice around register-based statistical systems and will enhance responsiveness to policy needs. It also contributes to our future-state goal of an integrated production model.

Using admin data to identify dwellings

As part of this work, we continued building the Places Index. This year, we worked on a proof of concept (see Transitioning to an admin-data-first census) to show that we can identify dwellings using admin data and location-based systems. A production version, including a dwelling register, is being developed alongside the research.

Creating a population view from admin data

Stats NZ also progressed a system to process and link admin data in smaller parts, forming the basis for the social domain of the ISDS. This new environment builds on design concepts used in the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI), using the Admin Population Model (APC) to link anonymised admin and survey data.

This work supports a shift towards producing more population-level statistics directly from admin data sources. To maintain public trust, design and governance were developed in consultation with the Privacy Commissioner and the Data Ethics Advisory Group, supported by relevant legislation.

Expanding the Statistical Business Register

We also advanced improvements to the Statistical Business Register. These focused on better linkages with people and jobs data and incorporating micro-businesses to provide more complete economic insights. This supports our long-term aim to reduce gaps and strengthen coherence in economic statistics through admin-data integration.

Transitioning to an admin-data-first census

In May 2025, Cabinet endorsed a modernised model for the next census, following an in-principle decision by the Government Statistician in late 2024. This marked the beginning of a cross-organisational programme to design and deliver a census built on the new model (for more information, see Become an organisation that uses admin data first).

Laying the groundwork to use admin data for census variables

As part of laying the technical groundwork, Stats NZ published Assessing the quality of partnership status attributes from admin data in March 2025. This was preceded in September 2024 by Technical feasibility: Measuring population and dwellings using administrative data, which assessed the viability of using linked admin sources for key census variables. Both papers found strong potential for replacing or supplementing survey questions with admin data, particularly when linked to past census collections.

These findings support the broader system shift towards a model where official statistics are increasingly derived from high-quality integrated data assets.

Strategic engagement informing census approach

The decision was underpinned by a broad range of input from partners, customers, communities, and the wider public, and the advice of independent experts.

More than 110 public sessions were held between January and June 2025, which built on the 467 submissions received in the 2023/2024 year through a public consultation process, which was promoted widely to help build awareness and understanding of the use of admin data.

Ahead of the in-principle decision by the Government Statistician, in August 2024 Stats NZ received expert advice from the Future Census Independent Evaluation Panel about the methodology and strategy we could use. The panel represented a range of diverse perspectives, and its recommendations continue to inform our work.

Our strategic engagement model, which emphasises long-term, inclusive relationships with communities, agencies, and sector partners, guided our approach to gathering insights and feedback through a series of targeted engagements.

In February and March 2025 ahead of Cabinet's endorsement, Stats NZ hosted targeted engagements with iwi partners and Pacific, disabled, rainbow, and ethnic community groups.

Engagements have provided a platform for participants to articulate their data needs and share their insights about the shift to the new census approach. This continues to inform design

decisions, identify equity and delivery risks early, and clarify where targeted methods would be needed. Despite the valid concerns, through the targeted engagements we saw an overwhelming willingness to work with us for the new approach to yield the best possible results over the long term.

Assessment of operations
Te aromatawai o ngā mahi

This section outlines Stats NZ's operational delivery in this reporting year. It brings together performance information across three areas:

- how we have implemented the Government's priorities
- the work we have delivered through our core operations and work programmes
- audited performance information on what was achieved with appropriated funding.

Implementing Government priorities
Te whakatinana i ngā whakaarotau Kāwanatanga

In line with new reporting expectations introduced for this financial year, this section provides a structured assessment of how Stats NZ's operations have contributed to delivering the Government's commitments during the 2024/2025 financial year.

Baseline savings

All departments are required to set out the amount saved in their Budget 2024 Initial Baseline Exercise (IBE) and how they achieved these savings, including contractor and consultant savings.

Stats NZ's baseline was reduced by $15.4 million in 2024/2025 because of the Budget 2024 Initial Baseline Savings Exercise. We achieved these savings by:

- consolidating accommodation in Wellington and Christchurch
- reducing the use of contractors and consultants, particularly in back-office functions
- rationalising low-demand statistical products and streamlining our digital channels
- discontinuing the Living in Aotearoa (LIA) survey and integrating reporting needs into the Household Living and Income Survey (HILS), combined with admin data.

To support ongoing financial discipline, Stats NZ developed a cost model that combines anonymised payroll and financial data to improve understanding of the full cost of services. This model, developed with staff union input, supports identification of opportunities for consolidation, automation, and greater use of admin data.

Reduction in back office functions (administration and contractors and consultants)

Stats NZ achieved a reduction of $5.5 million in 2024/2025, which represents 4 percent of total departmental workforce expenditure in 2024/2025.

This compares with expenditure of $28.3 million and $13.8 million for 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 respectively, which represents 12 percent and 8 percent of total departmental workforce expenditure in these years respectively.

Major spending decisions

Cabinet has established an enduring system for monitoring and Reporting on major spending decisions. Eleven major spending decisions will be subject to additional reporting requirements.

Stats NZ is not subject to this reporting requirement in 2024/2025.

Government targets

Nine Government Targets have been approved by Cabinet, focusing on the public sector achieving improved results in health, education, law and order, work, housing, and the environment.

Stats NZ does not have lead accountability for any of the nine government targets. However, our official statistics, infrastructure, and stewardship functions underpin monitoring and reporting across several domains, including:

- population and housing statistics, which inform employment targets and emergency housing
- greenhouse gas emissions data, which support emissions reduction reporting.

Stats NZ also supports public-sector data access through the IDI and targeted advisory services.

Other Government and ministerial priorities

Stats NZ's work contributes to ministerial priorities for the statistics portfolio, including enabling better public services through improved data access, sharing, and quality. In 2024/2025, we made progress in the following areas:

Strategically improve access to data to grow the economy and support New Zealand households and businesses

What was delivered

Stats NZ released a suite of updated population, social, and environmental statistics, including 2023 Census data (see Delivery of population and social statistics (census)), disability, child poverty, and environmental-economic indicators (see Official statistics). These releases used new and improved methods, improved accessibility, and offered more detailed local and demographic breakdowns (see Measure what matters and reduce core-system risk).

How this supports the objective

By improving the relevance of official statistics, these releases and improvements enable more responsive and targeted decision-making. Improved access to consistent, high-quality data supports better planning, service delivery, and investment.

Digitise government and improve collection approaches to cut costs and reduce compliance burden on New Zealanders

What was delivered

- We initiated automating Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS) ingestion and expanded admin data use in population estimates breakdowns (see Measure what matters and reduce core-system risk).

- We released updated survey-design guidance and modernised classifications (see Proactively improve the health of New Zealand's data system).
- We strengthened system coordination and efficiency (see Proactively improve the health of New Zealand's data system).
- We piloted an online business-survey tool and enabled data reuse, which will reduce survey burden on businesses (see Proactively improve the health of New Zealand's data system).

How this supports the objective

These changes reduce collection burden and system costs while supporting a shift to a digital-first, lower-friction data acquisition model. They enable reuse of existing data and lay the groundwork for scalable, efficient statistical production.

Foundation work for the next census

What was delivered

- We prepared for Cabinet agreement to the Government Statistician's approach to a modernised census.
- We established a design and delivery programme, and conducted over 110 public engagement sessions and seven targeted engagement sessions for iwi, community and technical groups.
- We published research showing admin data can effectively replace key census questions (for example, partnership status).

Become an organisation that uses admin data first has more information**.**

How this supports the objective

Moving to an admin-data-first model will allow for more sustainable delivery of data and statistics. Engagement has contributed to more responsive design.

Invest in the IDI to support delivery of the social investment approach

What was delivered

- We refreshed and expanded key datasets and improved access for social investment researchers.
- We scaled code modules from pilot to operational use, with six deployed and seven in development.
- We increased IDI storage capacity for SIA researchers and launched training on code-module development and use.

Proactively improve the health of New Zealand's data system has more information.

How this supports the objective

These investments improve the timeliness, usability, and relevance of integrated data for social investment analysis. The changes are aligned with SIA's outcomes and support more responsive service design.

Expand and improve economic datasets to grow the economy and support New Zealand households and business

What was delivered

- We reweighted the CPI to reflect current household spending.
- We expanded the SPI to include monthly energy data, increasing monthly CPI coverage to 46.5 percent.
- We updated the Statistical Business Register for better coherence and fewer data gaps (see Become an organisation that uses admin data first).

Measure what matters and reduce core-system risk has more information.

How this supports the objective

These updates improve the relevance and frequency of key economic statistics, enabling better macroeconomic management and local decision-making. The new indicators respond to user demand and international comparability needs.

Significant budget decisions

We consider the following budget decisions 'significant' as they are either important to the delivery of the Government's priorities, important to Parliament and the public, or are material decisions for our department:

- We completed delivering 2023 Census products and services and closed the programme as scheduled; preparatory work for the next census commenced ($8 million).
- We invested in the digital programme to modernise Stats NZ's IT systems. Funded through the departmental capital expenditure appropriation ($14.5 million), this programme:
    - replaced NZ.Stat with ADE, improving customer access
    - transitioned legacy systems to cloud or Linux environments to improve resilience and flexibility
    - decommissioned three obsolete systems
    - implemented 10 minor 'triage' improvements to improve internal systems
    - initiated delivery planning for the next suite of legacy transitions.
- We established the Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation as a permanent entity with baseline funding ($0.44 million), strengthening cross-government capability in safe and ethical data use (Embedding good data practices has more information).
- We received $2 million to strengthen the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI), supporting cross-agency priorities under the social investment approach. For more information, see Strengthening access to and use of the IDI to support social investment.
- We shifted production of persistent child poverty statistics to a combined admin and survey model (HILS), replacing the Living in Aotearoa longitudinal survey.
- New capital injections of $1.4 million support the development of a persistent child poverty measure and next census readiness.

Budget 2025

A Budget 2025 investment was received to support two new initiatives.

Measuring a modern economy – new international standards

This funding held in tagged contingency is intended to deliver eight updated macroeconomic measures by the end of 2030 to meet new international standards and better measure changes in the economy. Funding will also deliver new monthly indicators by 2027 to provide timely updates on economic activity.

Monthly CPI and more regular reporting of inflation

This funding is intended to deliver a more frequent, reliable measure of inflation by moving from quarterly to monthly consumers price index (CPI) reporting. Data will be collected on a monthly rather than quarterly basis, with regular monthly CPI reporting delivered in 2027.

Summary of core operations and work programmes
Te whakarāpopototanga o ngā mahi taketake me ngā kaupapa mahi

The 2024/2025 financial year continued a demanding schedule of releases delivered with fewer staff, highlighting both the resilience of core operations and indications of pressure that signal the limits of sustaining this level of output without further investment.

This section outlines the key activities and outputs delivered through Vote Statistics funding this year. It complements the 'Progress on strategic intentions' section by highlighting delivery under our two core appropriations:

- the Official Statistics multi-category appropriation
- the multi-year appropriation for Delivery of Population and Social Statistics (census).

The Pacific Programme, under the Official Statistics appropriation, is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Where additional detail is included under the strategic intentions section, this is noted with references.

Official statistics
Ngā tauanga whai mana

This appropriation funds the production and use of highest-priority data and official statistics to add value to decision-making, and supports the efficient, effective, and safe operation of the government data system. This includes:

- 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.

The full Release calendar can be found on the Stats NZ website, and measures of accuracy and timeliness can be found under Year-end performance information on appropriations. Key outputs delivered under this appropriation are described in this section.

International engagement and leadership

In 2024/2025, Stats NZ contributed to multiple international initiatives to improve statistical methods, data governance, and capability development. Key areas included economic statistics, artificial intelligence, and data governance.

Economic statistics standards

Stats NZ contributed to the development of new international standards for economic statistics, which were passed at the UN Statistical Commission in March 2025. We worked with UK, US, Canadian, and Australian statistical agencies on planning for implementation, through direct engagement with heads of agencies and a general managers group with the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

International methods and leadership

Stats NZ contributed to several other global initiatives, including co-authoring The Future of National Statistics Offices – A Call to Action, contributing to UN Statistical Commission Handbooks, participating in the UNECE Generative AI for Official Statistics project, and providing input to the Uruguay Census Task Force and the International Strategic Advisory Committee for the Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi. In 2024/2025, Stats NZ's Interim Chief Methodologist, Gary Dunnet, became President-Elect of the International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS) – this role is usually held by a Chief Statistician from a major European country.

Data governance and ethics

Stats NZ also contributed to international discussions on data governance. The Deputy Chief Executive – Insights and Statistics was invited and funded by Statistics Korea to attend a regional conference in Seoul in December 2024. The Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation and Stats NZ more widely continue to contribute to thinking in this area. The Deputy Chief Executive – Insights and Statistics is also a member of the UN Network of Economic Statisticians.

These contributions help maintain and develop capability within the official statistics system and provide opportunities for Stats NZ to contribute to and benefit from international practice and innovation.

Key releases and lessons learned

In 2024/2025, Stats NZ delivered a wide range of official statistics to support government, business, and community decision-making. Continued integration of admin data and investment in core systems supported more timely, relevant, and efficient statistical production.

Release of Our Environment 2025

In April 2025, Stats NZ and the Ministry for the Environment released *Our Environment 2025*, the latest three-yearly update under the Environmental Reporting Act 2015 (the Act). This independent statutory report provides information on New Zealand's environment across the domains of land, freshwater, marine, air, and atmosphere and climate.

As required by the Act, *Our Environment 2025* describes:

- the current state of the environment
- the pressures that have influenced that state
- the impacts on the economy, public health, ecological integrity, te ao Māori, and culture and recreation.

Improving groundwater statistics

Groundwater plays a vital role in New Zealand's environment. It supports rivers, lakes, and wetlands, and provides drinking water for nearly half the population. Stats NZ reports on groundwater quality as part of the environmental reporting programme with the Ministry for the Environment.

On 24 June 2025, we published an updated indicator, *Groundwater quality: Data to 2024*, following a technical review of the 2020 release. The review recommended improvements to site selection, data coverage, and statistical methods.

We worked with Earth Sciences New Zealand (previously known as GNS Science) and the Ministry for the Environment to implement these improvements. Key changes included:

- **improved coverage** – we expanded regional state-of-environment monitoring data, combining it with national groundwater-programme data to provide a more complete picture of monitored aquifers across New Zealand
- **more measures** – the indicator now includes 30 groundwater quality measures and national pesticide data
- **refined methodology** – we revised the criteria for assessing state and trend, improved how we handle censored data, and improved the use of reference values to provide context.

These changes respond to user needs for more robust and transparent information. The updated indicator gives a clearer view of where groundwater quality is good, and where there may be risks, without making assumptions about drinking-water safety.

Environmental-economic accounts: Data to 2023

On 6 March 2025, Stats NZ released *Environmental-economic accounts: Data to 2023*. These accounts show how the environment contributes to the economy, the impacts of economic activity on the environment, and how New Zealand responds to environmental issues.

This release continues Stats NZ's use of the United Nations' System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) framework, which integrates environmental data with economic data from the System of National Accounts.

Delivering updated disability statistics

In February 2025, Stats NZ released the results of the 2023 Household Disability Survey, providing updated national data on disability prevalence and the lived experiences of disabled people across areas such as education, health, housing, employment, and support needs.

The release delivered on work completed in 2023/2024 to extensively redesign the survey and report on disability for the first time in over a decade. By introducing question sets developed by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, the updated survey has improved alignment with international best practice and enabled a more contemporary and useful understanding of disability. Technical guidance was published to help users understand the implications of the new approach, including breaks in time series with earlier surveys.

To improve accessibility, the release was made available in Easy Read, Braille, Audio, Large Print, and New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL), setting a new benchmark for inclusive dissemination and improving reach to key users.

This was a significant step towards meeting growing demand for relevant and high-quality disability data. The results are being used to inform future research and policy development.

CPI production process error – March 2025 quarter

An error was identified in the March 2025 consumers price index (CPI), released on 17 April 2025. A $25 increase to vehicle relicensing fees (effective 1 January 2025) was collected but excluded from the CPI calculation. The published quarterly CPI was 0.9 percent, and annual CPI was 2.5 percent. Inclusion of the fee change would have resulted in 1.0 percent and 2.6 percent, respectively.

We acknowledge the impact on customers when we make errors and make every effort to meet our standard of 100 percent of critical releases free of errors. In line with our error policy, we prepared an internal report and engaged with key customers. The figures were not revised, as doing so can have unintended impacts for users. The correction was included in the June 2025 quarter CPI.

The error in the CPI occurred during a period of high workload and system strain, as teams managed concurrent demands including the reweighting of the CPI basket and ongoing system modernisation efforts.

We have strengthened our internal procedures to reduce the risk of recurrence, and work is underway on implementing a new IT system to modernise and improve CPI production.

Delivering trusted child poverty statistics to inform service delivery

On 20 February 2025, Stats NZ published its sixth annual report of official child poverty statistics, as required under the Child Poverty Reduction Act 2018. These statistics are used across government to monitor progress on legislated targets and inform policy decisions aimed at improving outcomes for children (see more information on methodological improvements in Advancing child poverty statistics).

The case study below illustrates how the data is being applied to support system-wide investment and planning.

Case study: Stats NZ data helps Nest support new parents with baby essentials

The Nest Collective is a charity, registered in 2020, supporting families and whānau with free baby essentials for the first year of life and beyond. Their vision is that every baby in New Zealand has the best start in life, enabling them to flourish.

To do this, the charity provides packs of new, pre-loved, handcrafted, and repurposed baby clothing, toys, nappies, bedding, books, and more. Focusing on the critical first 1,000 days of life, these packs provide the physical resources that nurture the health, development, and wellbeing of babies and their whānau, while alleviating material hardship.

Each pack is gifted via social workers, kaiāwhina, midwives, nurses, and other local community partners in Auckland, Waikato, Gisborne, Kāpiti, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, and beyond.

Using Stats NZ's child poverty statistics to support funding applications

The Nest Collective accesses self-serve Stats NZ data via the public website as the source for New Zealand-specific child poverty statistics.

A key statistic is the increase in material hardship over time, which they use in funding applications to tell the story of the need for the work they do. They use breakdowns of regional and ethnic data to tailor applications to the provisions of the funder – for example, grants that are offered in specific geographic areas or for particular ethnic groups.

Feedback included a comment that overall self-service data is convenient to access but can present challenges for non-technical users – for example, where figures need converting before use.

Outcomes for families

Packs are provided as a demand-based service, and demand for them has increased year on year – 2024 saw a 24 percent increase on 2023, which saw a 19 percent increase in packs on 2022, which saw a 47 percent increase on 2021.

Using Stats NZ data has enabled the Nest Collective to clearly demonstrate the need for their work in funding applications, contributing to their continued ability to meet demand.

Community partners that deliver the packs have commented on the positive impact on families, including reduced stress knowing that parents can focus on welcoming their baby with the items they need.

Pacific Programme

The Pacific Programme is primarily funded through a five-year $4.25 million investment under a Memorandum of Understanding between Stats NZ and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). This funding supports core Pacific national statistics office (NSO) functions, capability building, and statistical innovation across the region. The programme works closely with NSOs in Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, Tonga, Samoa, and Fiji.

In 2025, Stats NZ strengthened partnerships and built Pacific data capability through targeted technical statistical support, training, governance leadership, and enhanced data quality initiatives. These activities built on 2024 commitments to grow skills in Pacific NSOs and improve regional data governance. Through sustained engagement, the programme supported more robust decision-making across the Pacific.

Capability development for staff at Pacific NSOs

Through attachment programmes, staff from Pacific countries work alongside Stats NZ kaimahi to learn about areas such as data analysis, statistical report writing, and population estimates and projections. For example, in November 2024, Stats NZ delivered data analysis training to 44 analysts from 14 Cook Islands government agencies. This built on the February 2024 launch of the Cook Islands ‘Working with data’ community of practice, which had been identified as a key development need in a 2023 capability review. The training focused on data analysis and dissemination, addressing capability gaps noted in the review. By 2025, the community of practice had adopted development priorities that included creating an online forum for ongoing peer support and reviewing governance documents.

Providing targeted support

Stats NZ provides remote and, where needed, onsite technical support to help meet local priorities. For example, staff were seconded to Niue’s national statistics office to support work on environmental statistics, economic statistics, and national accounts, and onsite training was delivered in Tonga to help embed new statistical structures in a culturally appropriate way.

Pacific statistical leadership

Stats NZ provides leadership and technical advice across a range of regional governance and partnership forums to strengthen statistical capability in the Pacific. This includes ongoing involvement in the Pacific Statistics Methods Board (PSMB) and the Pacific Statistics Standing Committee (PSSC), helping shape fit-for-purpose statistical methods, standards, and systems. The PSMB is chaired by Stats NZ’s chief methodologist, who also co-facilitated the Pacific Leadership Forum in May 2025.

At the May 2025 PSMB meeting, agreement was reached to adapt Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) methods to better suit Pacific Island contexts. This was followed by a meeting with government statisticians from realm countries (Cook Islands, Tokelau, and Niue) to develop their upcoming HIES using methods tailored to small island states.

The 2025 Pacific Leadership Forum focused on the theme 'bringing the statistical system to the centre of government', with discussion topics including communications, census preparation, implementation of new economic standards, access frameworks for unit record data, disability data collection, and measuring climate impacts on households.

In November 2024, Stats NZ took part in regional meetings in Vanuatu alongside leaders from 14 Pacific national statistics offices and 10 development organisations. These engagements reflected New Zealand's role in Pacific statistical governance and its contribution to shaping regional statistical standards and methods.

Stats NZ is also a member of the Donor and Development Partner Group (DDPG), a mechanism for information-sharing and coordination among donors and development partners to support collaboration and reduce duplication of effort and resources.

Delivery of population and social statistics (census)

This multi-year appropriation funds the delivery of the 2023 Census of Population and Dwellings and related outputs and services. The census is a critical data source for government, iwi, councils, and community organisations, and it underpins electoral boundaries, service planning, and funding allocation.

In 2024/2025, Stats NZ delivered the final major data products from the 2023 Census on schedule, improved data accessibility, and progressed planning for the next census.

Key outputs delivered under this appropriation are described in this section.

Delivering 2023 Census data

Between September 2024 and June 2025, Stats NZ completed 15 key releases on 2023 Census data. These releases included data products covering:

- population and dwellings
- electoral
- severe housing deprivation
- Māori descent and iwi affiliation
- ethnicity, culture, and identity
- families and households
- housing
- disability and activity limitations
- work and income
- travel
- education and location.

In October 2024, Māori descent and iwi affiliation data was jointly released with Te Kāhui Raraunga under the Mana Ōrite Relationship Agreement.

Census data was delivered through new platforms, tools, and ways to visualise (such as maps and infographics) via a roadshow and in a range of formats including Braille, te reo Māori, Audio, Large Print, and New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL). Updates and improvements were also made to 2018 Census products with a refresh of the Commuter Waka tool.

On 16 April 2025, Stats NZ released the Estimated Resident Population (2023-base ERP), which incorporates data from the 2023 Census and Post-enumeration Survey (PES). The PES was a large, independent survey of approximately 16,500 dwellings and 37,000 people, and it played a critical role in assessing the quality of census coverage.

This release updated estimates back to 2018 and now underpins all official population estimates and projections. Supporting methodology papers and PES technical reports were published in April 2025.

In May and June 2025, additional releases focusing on sexual and gender diversity provided new insights from both survey and census collections. These data products responded to long-standing demand for more inclusive official statistics.

Lessons and forward planning

Work also progressed to capture lessons learned from the 2023 Census, including approaches to collection, data quality, and partnership models. These lessons informed the early design of the next census, as described in Transitioning to an admin-data-first census.

Enabling electoral requirements through trusted population data

A core part of Stats NZ's role is to provide official statistics that support the delivery of key public functions. The example below shows how we contributed required data and calculations to support the 2025 Boundary Review.

Case study: Providing official data to support the 2025 Boundary Review

Every five years, New Zealand's parliamentary electorate boundaries are reviewed to reflect changes in population. Stats NZ plays a key role in this process by providing the population data and calculations required under the Electoral Act 1993.

On 23 October 2024, the Government Statistician released the population quotas and number of electorates for use by the Representation Commission when determining the electorate boundaries for the next general election. These were based on 2023 Census data and electoral roll counts as of 1 April 2024. The figures showed that the number of general electorates in the North Island would reduce from 49 to 48, while the number of Māori electorates remained unchanged, at 7. The number of general electorates in the South Island is fixed by legislation at 16.

This information enabled the Representation Commission to begin the 2025 Boundary Review. Proposed changes to electorate boundaries and names were released for public consultation in March 2025. To support the review, Stats NZ also provided meshblock-level census data and population projections, which were incorporated into geospatial analysis tools. These allowed the Commission to propose boundaries in accordance with the Electoral Act.

The outcome of the Representation Commission's review is supported by the quality and availability of the data and information provided by Stats NZ to the Commission under the Electoral Act 1993.

Enabling regional investment decisions with better population data

Updated population estimates produced by Stats NZ in 2024 incorporated new methods to improve subnational accuracy. This enabled more robust modelling and forecasting by regional councils, public agencies, and private consultancies.

Case study: Supporting evidence-based investment with better population data

Infometrics, a private economics consultancy, used the revised subnational population estimates in its regional economic models to support investment planning across New Zealand. These models rely on accurate, granular population data, which the updated estimates provided.

The organisation works across business and central and local government, offering analysis and forecasting to inform decisions on economic development, infrastructure, and service delivery.

In the past year, they used Stats NZ data to:

- support Local Government New Zealand and multiple councils to explain the role of infrastructure-cost inflation in local rates increases, clarifying how these differ from household cost pressures
- update a longitudinal community profile for the Toi Foundation in Taranaki; this used 2023 Census data alongside specialist datasets to help target funding and interventions
- provide insights into the regional labour market impacts of timber mill closures in the central North Island, supporting coordinated planning for financial and social services.

Infometrics obtains Stats NZ data through multiple channels, including ADE, Infoshare, bespoke data requests, and direct engagement with subject matter experts. They value the accessibility and transparency of Stats NZ's metadata, assumptions, and trend commentary, which support confidence in data quality.

A key challenge they face is revisions to data. While these improve accuracy, they can complicate public messaging and make it harder to maintain consistent narratives about economic trends. Infometrics works closely with Stats NZ to understand the drivers of change and help their clients interpret these updates.

"As a data-hungry organisation, we rely heavily on access to high-quality data. Stats NZ has been responsive to feedback and open to advice on evolving customer needs. The relationship is two-way – we encourage other data users to reach out, particularly when seeking guidance on emerging trends or data gaps," Infometrics Chief Executive Brad Olsen said.

Supporting the delivery of NZ Deprivation Index research

Stats NZ partnered with the University of Otago to deliver the 2023 New Zealand Deprivation Index (NZDep2023), released in November 2024. NZDep is widely used across government, research, and community sectors to understand local socio-economic deprivation and identify areas of greatest need.

Stats NZ kaimahi worked with the Otago research team to provide input and assurance. The figures from the index were made available on the Stats NZ website and ADE to support local and national decision-making.

Year-end performance information on appropriations
Ngā mōhiotanga mutunga tau mō ngā tāpaetanga pūtea

We report our service performance against the measures and standards set in The Estimates of Appropriations for the Government of New Zealand for the Year Ending 30 June 2025 and in Supplementary Estimates of Appropriation. This audited information is prepared in accordance with the reporting standard *PBE FRS 48 Service Performance Reporting*.

Statement of performance 2024/2025

This Statement covers the following Vote Statistics appropriations:

- Delivery of population and social statistics (census) (multi-year appropriation).
- Services to other agencies (departmental output expense).
- Capital expenditure – Statistics New Zealand (permanent legislative authority).
- Official statistics (multi-category appropriation)
    - 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.

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

	We achieved the standard
	We did not achieve the standard

2024/2025 at a glance:

	We achieved 28 of 35 audited service performance measures overall (80%)
	The remaining seven were not achieved

Delivery of population and social statistics

This appropriation is intended to achieve the management and conduct of New Zealand's Future Census of Population and Dwellings and the completion of the 2023 Census.

	We achieved five of eight service performance measures in this appropriation (63%)
	The remaining three were not achieved.

2023/2024 Actuals $000	Financial performance	2024/2025 Actuals $000	2025/2026 Budget $000
46,361	Delivery of population and social statistics	21,885	45,424

Completed measures: 2023 Census

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
Result expected 2024/2025	National response rate total population	90%+	**87.6%**	Completed measure
Result expected 2024/2025	National response rate for people of Māori descent	90%+	**77.6%**	Completed measure
Result expected 2024/2025	National net coverage rate total population	98%+	**98.9%**	Completed measure
Result expected 2024/2025	National net coverage rate for people of Māori descent	98%+	**98.5%**	Completed measure
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)	0.90+	**0.90**	Completed measure
Result expected 2024/2025	Improved trust and confidence of Tagata Moana in 2023 Census: national response rate for Pacific	90%+	**79.2%**	Completed measure

Commentary on measures

Stats NZ has now reported against all ten Key performance indicators used to measure delivery of the 2023 Census Strategy. The final six measures on national response rates and net coverage rates for 'total population, people of Māori and Pacific descent' produce one-off results in a six-year census programme cycle and are measured post census day by the Post-enumeration Survey (PES). PES is a survey of a sample of households conducted to measure the completeness of the census count. For more details about these results, see Post-enumeration survey: 2023.

Census response rates measure the percentage of the population living in New Zealand who were counted on census forms. These are lower than the census coverage rates, which also include people counted in administrative data collected by other agencies. Worldwide, it is becoming harder to get people to respond to the census, which impacts data quality – particularly for smaller and hard-to-reach communities.

On 18 June 2025, the Minister of Statistics, Hon Dr Shane Reti, announced wide-ranging changes to the data system, with Stats NZ transitioning to an admin-data-first census. From 2030 (subject to legislative amendments), key New Zealand census data and statistics will be produced each year by using information already collected by government (known as administrative or admin data), and a new approach to surveys will help confirm the accuracy of admin data and collect information not held within admin data.

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
New measure	Data on individuals and dwellings is available from: date	3 October 2024	**3 October 2024**	Completed measure
New measure	Data on families and households is available from: date	7 November 2024	**7 November 2024**	Completed measure

Commentary on measures

We added two new measures covering the publication of census in 2024/2025. These measures demonstrate adherence to the 2023 Census public release schedule, ensuring customers have timely access to data for informed decision-making.

2023 Census population, dwelling, and housing highlights was released on 3 October 2024. This release provides numbers and percentages of people and dwellings – covering topics such as population growth, diversity, unpaid activities, travel to work, education, smoking, and housing – for New Zealand and its geographic areas.

2023 Census household, family, and extended family highlights was released on 7 November 2024. This release provides information about people, households, families, and extended families – covering topics such as household composition, household size, family type, extended family type, household and family income, and household crowding.

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 achieved one of one service performance measures in this appropriation (100%)

2023/2024 Actuals $000	Financial performance	2024/2025 Actuals $000	2025/2026 Budget $000
8,014	Services to other agencies	10,131	16,364

Performance information

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 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.

Capital expenditure

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 admin-data-first organisation; upgrade and replace existing technology, fleet, and hardware; and improve our premises.

2023/2024 Actuals $000	Financial performance	2024/2025 Actuals $000	2025/2026 Budget $000
14,755	Stats NZ – capital expenditure	14,478	22,000

Performance information on what was achieved with this appropriation for 2024/2025

Objective	Spend $000	Output
Enable a transition to an admin-data-first organisation	3,479	We advanced the transition to an admin-data-first model by increasing our capacity to collect data online, store it, and integrate it across domains, strengthening the foundations for more efficient and less resource-intensive statistical production.
Upgrade and replace existing technology, fleet, and hardware	10,836	We reduced risks from legacy systems and progressed enterprise platform development by replacing NZ.Stat with ADE to improve customer access, transitioning key systems to cloud or Linux environments for greater resilience and flexibility, and decommissioning obsolete systems. We delivered targeted improvements to internal platforms and initiated planning for the next phase of legacy transitions, supporting a smaller, more secure, and cost-efficient system footprint.
Improve our premises	163	We maintained and upgraded premises to keep them fit for purpose and support the safety and wellbeing of our people, while enabling the transition to a predominantly office-based working environment.

Official statistics

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, both in New Zealand and in overseas jurisdictions.

These performance measures reflect our overarching purpose to collect information from individuals and organisations to provide data and insights about New Zealand and its people. This data supports decision-making across government, Māori and iwi organisations, businesses, non-government organisations, and the public – enabling more effective policy development and resource allocations across social, economic, and environmental matters.

	We achieved 22 of 26 service performance measures in this appropriation (85%)
	The remaining four were not achieved.

2023/2024 Actuals $000	Financial performance	2024/2025 Actuals $000	2025/2026 Budget $000
27,169	Stewardship of government data and statistical services	34,837	36,959
81,560	Population, social, and labour market data and statistical information services	71,832	75,111
82,137	Economic and business data and statistical information services	66,480	72,586
190,866	**Official statistics multi-category appropriation**	**173,149**	**184,656**

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 New Zealand's most important data.

Performance information

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
82%	**Website accessibility and quality:** The overall satisfaction with the experience on stats.govt.nz	60%	**84.7%**	60%

Commentary

During the 2024/2025 reporting period, a total of 1,147 visitors started the stats.govt.nz pop-up satisfaction survey, over a combined survey period of 75 days split across the four financial quarters. Of the 800 visitors that completed the question 'Overall, how satisfied were you with your experience of the website?':

- 677 reported they were satisfied (148 extremely satisfied, 315 very satisfied, and 214 somewhat satisfied)
- 123 reported they were not satisfied (41 not so satisfied and 31 not at all satisfied).

This surveying took place over four periods, one in each financial quarter. All four surveys were closed automatically after receiving 200 completed responses.

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

- Q1: 286 visitors began the survey. Of these, 200 completed it, of which 81 percent reported they were satisfied with their experience of the website.
- Q2: 290 visitors began the survey. Of these, 200 completed it, of which 86 percent reported they were satisfied with their experience of the website.
- Q3: 301 visitors began the survey. Of these, 200 completed it, of which 82.5 percent reported they were satisfied with their experience of the website.
- Q4: 270 visitors began the survey. Of these, 200 completed it, of which 89 percent reported they were satisfied with their experience of the website.

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
New measure[1]	Increase the number of views of each Stats NZ data tool (as an average across each tool)	Increase from baseline of 1.36 million	**3,317,185**	Increase from baseline of 1.36 million
New measure[1]	Increase the number of total users of each data tool (as an average across each tool)	Increase from baseline of 260,000	**662,418**	Increase from baseline of 260,000
Commentary on exceeding standard				
During 2024/2025 Stats NZ data tools on our website experienced a significant increase in traffic from bots and artificial intelligence (AI) crawlers. This has led to a significant increase in number of users compared with our original baseline. We have completed significant work to block/filter non-genuine (bot) traffic to the website. We are still working towards improving our ability to filter out non-genuine (bot) traffic to our data tools.				

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
New measure[2]	Number of promoters is high for services provided by Customised Data Requests and the Information Centre	75% or above	**89.6%**	75% or above
New measure[2]	Number of detractors is low for services provided by Customised Data Requests and the Information Centre	15% or below	**7.6%**	15% or below

[1] New measures in 2024/2025. These were selected to demonstrate a change in use of data and tools delivered by Stats NZ. Increased access supports customers to make more informed decisions. Data tools refer to Stats NZ's main data tools: Infoshare, Stat.NZ, and Aotearoa Data Explorer (ADE).

[2] New measures in 2024/2025, which were selected to demonstrate customer satisfaction. Promoters are typically satisfied customers while detractors are unhappy customers. Customised Data Requests and Information Centre provide services to customers where the self-service tools don't meet their needs.

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

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
New measure[3]	Improve the relevance of economic and business official statistics by increasing the frequency, quality, accessibility, timeliness, and/or coverage of at least [X number] of releases	2	**4**	2

Commentary on exceeding standard

Initially two significant improvements were scheduled for 2024/25: updating the weights for the consumers price index (CPI) basket and improving annual national accounts:

- Weights for the CPI basket were successfully updated for *Consumers price index: March 2025 quarter*, published on 17 April 2025. The items in the CPI basket represent how New Zealand households spend their money. The CPI basket and weights are typically reviewed every three years to ensure they reflect current household spending patterns.
- Each year in November, Stats NZ improves annual national accounts as a result of new and updated data and information becoming available after the previous year's annual release. The most notable changes to the national accounts and nominal gross domestic product (GDP) statistics this year were:
    - the update of industry output and expenditure item benchmarks
    - the implementation of an updated Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) taxes methodology
    - the incorporation of balance of payments and trade data updates
    - improvements to the timing of interest payments and receipts of the banking sector.

Two further improvements were made in response to ministerial priority and customer demand:

- In response to a ministerial priority 'to make data about and for business more accessible' we made a series of updates to the Stats NZ website, including refreshing the Data for business page and providing data and support to MBIE with their GoBusiness and GoManufacturing portals.
- In response to a ministerial priority and customer demand, we improved the data quality and coverage of the selected price indexes (SPI) by adding two additional indexes: electricity and gas. The inclusion of electricity and gas increased the SPI's coverage to 46.5 percent.

[3] New measure in 2024/2025 replacing the number of statistical releases measure. This new measure reflects Stats NZ commitment to improve the relevance of official statistics by increasing the frequency, quality, accessibility, timeliness, and/or coverage of at least [x number] of releases.

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
99%	Statistical releases are free from errors classified as high for economic and business data	100%	**99.5%**	100%
Commentary on not achieving standard				
On 1 January 2025, vehicle relicensing fees increased by $25. While these prices were collected by Stats NZ, an error meant these increases did not show in our system, so they were not included in our CPI calculations for *Consumers price index: March 2025 quarter*. We have reviewed our processes and added additional quality-assurance steps to improve our ability to pick up this type of error. We are in the process of building a new system for the prices indexes environment (PIE), which will be more robust in capturing this data in the future.				

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
100%	Percentage of critical economic and business data releases published on the advertised date	100%	**100%**	100%
95%	Percentage of other economic and business data releases published on the advertised date	95%	**97.7%**	95%
59.1%	The percentage of business survey responses provided to Stats NZ in digital format	60%	**85.8%**	60%
Commentary on exceeding standard				
As part of our ongoing efforts to ease respondent burden and improve the survey experience, we've prioritised the use of editable PDFs as a response mode for our business surveys. This has helped reduce reliance on paper-based responses while we continue the transition to our new online survey platform. Offering digital options such as ePDFs has been a practical interim solution that supports both respondent convenience and operational efficiency.				

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
22.2%	The percentage of Stats NZ business surveys that have digital questionnaires available	30%	**22.2%**	30% or above
Commentary on not achieving standard				
We launched Quarterly Building Activity Survey (QBAS) in June 2025 as the pilot on our new online survey platform, Forsta. The platform's initial performance and enhanced reporting capabilities are exceeding expectations. We have received positive feedback from respondents. In 2025/2026 we will be progressively rolling out more surveys on this new tool and will continue to reduce the current survey burden on businesses.				

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
New measure[4]	Improvement in overall customer satisfaction in Stats NZ's information releases and our data tools	Increase from 5.70	**7.01**	5.70 or above
New measure[4]	Improvement in the customer experience of data findability	Increase from 5.30	**6.07**	5.30 or above
New measure[5]	Increase in the total users of Stats NZ information releases	Increase from 186,261	**186,816**	180,000 or above

Replaced or retired performance measures: Economic and business data and statistical information services

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
187	Number of statistical releases	Replaced measure	N/A	N/A
The number of statistical releases for economic and business data was replaced in 2024/2025 with the new measure 'improve the relevance of economic and business official statistics'. This new measure demonstrates Stats NZ's commitment to improving the relevance of official statistics.				

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

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
New measure[6]	Improve the relevance of population, labour market, environment, or society official statistics by increasing the	2	**4**	2

[4] New measures in 2024/2025 demonstrate satisfaction and experience of economic and business data and statistical information services customers who use our self-service offerings – that is, information releases and our data tools: Infoshare, NZ.Stat, and Aotearoa Data Explorer.

[5] New measure in 2024/2025 demonstrates a change in use of economic and business data and tools delivered by Stats NZ. Increased access supports customers to make more informed decisions.

[6] New measure in 2024/2025 replacing the 'number of statistical releases' measure. This new measure reflects Stats NZ's commitment to improving the relevance of official statistics by increasing the frequency, quality, accessibility, timeliness, and/or coverage of at least [x number] of releases.

	frequency, quality, accessibility, timeliness, and/or coverage of at least [X number] of releases			

Commentary on exceeding standard

Stats NZ made four relevance improvements during 2024/25:

- Stats NZ improved the accessibility of a range of population, labour market, environment, or society official statistics through the launch of Aotearoa Data Explorer (ADE). On 13 September 2024, NZ.Stat was disconnected and replaced by ADE. ADE offers a fresh, modern interface and new features not seen in our data tools before. The improved performance made more, and larger, datasets accessible from Census 2023. The application programming interface (API) feature is also improved to meet modern data-application demands.
- Stats NZ expanded the coverage of child poverty statistics by introducing a new measure. On 8 November 2024, the Government Statistician provided a definition for 'persistent child poverty' and released baseline estimates for 2023. This enabled the Minister for Child Poverty Reduction to set child poverty reduction targets by 31 December 2024.
- Stats NZ improved the relevance of disability statistics by providing the 2023 Household Disability Survey outputs in a range of additional formats, including Easy Read, NZSL, Audio, Braille, and Large Print. This improved the accessibility for the release.
- Stats NZ improved the relevance of disability statistics by making process improvements and integrating the labour market statistics (disability) release into the national and income labour market releases from the June 2024 quarter onwards. This improvement enabled the labour data for disabled people to be released two weeks earlier and be alongside the national employment figures.

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
100%	Statistical releases are free from errors classified as high for population, social, labour market, and environment data	100%	**100%**	100%
100%	Percentage of critical population, social, and labour market releases published on the advertised date	100%	**100%**	100%
97%	Percentage of other population, social, and labour market releases published on the advertised date	95%	**97%**	95%
New measure[7]	Timely delivery of all child poverty measures required under the Child Poverty Reduction Act 2018	100%	**100%**	100%
New measure[8]	Improvement in overall customer satisfaction in Stats NZ's information releases and our data tools	Increase from 5.78	**6.59**	5.78 or better

[7] New measure in 2024/2025 demonstrates timely and complete delivery of the child poverty measures that the Government Statistician is required to produce under The Child Poverty Reduction Act 2018 each financial year as soon as is reasonably practicable, and in any case within the next financial year.

[8] New measures in 2024/2025 demonstrate satisfaction and experience of population, social, and labour market data and statistical information services customers who use our self-service offerings – that is, information releases and our data tools: Infoshare, NZ.Stat, and Aotearoa Data Explorer.

New measure[8]	Improvement in the customer experience of data findability	Increase from 5.17	**6.93**	5.17 or better
New measure[9]	Increase in the total users of Stats NZ information releases	Increase from 201,480	**156,023**	200,000 or better
Commentary on not achieving standard				
In the period since the measure was developed and a baseline was set, there has been a significant change, implemented by a third party, to the tool used to capture the number of users accessing published statistical releases. Stats NZ also undertook work to identify and block significant volumes of non-genuine (bot) traffic from our website to improve website performance and customer experience. These changes collectively have resulted in a more accurate count of genuine users but have also contributed to lower reported figures than the original target, which was originally set based on data that included some non-genuine traffic. Unfortunately, we are unable to reconcile the two different methods due to system limitations.				

Replaced or retired performance measures: Population, social, and labour market data and statistical information services

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
73	Number of statistical releases	Replaced measure	N/A	N/A
The number of statistical releases for population, social, and labour market data was replaced in 2024/2025 with the new measure 'improve the relevance of economic and business official statistics'. This new measure demonstrates Stats NZ's commitment to improving the relevance of official statistics.				

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; overseeing 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 the role of 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

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
73%	Number of Data Lab project applications completed within six working weeks of receipt	80%	**73%**	80%

[9] New measure in 2024/2025 demonstrates a change in use of population, social, and labour market data and tools delivered by Stats NZ. Increased access supports customers to make more informed decisions.

Commentary on not achieving standard

There were 58 projects approved during 2024/25, and the average time to complete an application was 21 days. While the measure was on track during the first half of the 2024/25 financial year and finished with a strong final quarter at 86 percent against measure, the measure was negatively impacted by reduced responsiveness of external parties involved in the process (that is, the researchers submitting applications) during the December–January holiday period.

Following initial submission of an application, Stats NZ will often need to work with researchers to clarify their research intent or amend applications. This process supports the appropriate use of IDI data and helps maintain public trust in the system. This is more likely to happen if a researcher is new to the system or managing complex projects. While timely engagement remains important, our priority is ensuring the safety, security, and integrity of the IDI.

The time it takes for researchers to respond to our queries is included in the six working weeks. Stats NZ is currently reviewing this performance measure to develop an indicator that more accurately reflects the nature and quality of IDI service delivery.

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
New measure[10]	High-priority simple- or medium-complexity Data Lab output checks completed within five working days	75%	**96%**	85%

Commentary on exceeding standard

The output-checking service, which plays a critical role in ensuring the safe and appropriate release of research results prior to publication, processed 2,975 requests during the reporting period. Of these, 1,400 were identified as high priority and were completed within the five-working-day service standard.

Researchers' awareness and their ability to more efficiently use our output-checking tools have contributed to improved process efficiency and a reduction in avoidable delays.

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
100%	Percentage of IDI releases published by the target date	100%	**100%**	100%
New measure[11]	Enhancing the government data system by building and strengthening partnerships and relationships to foster improved stewardship, sharing, accessibility, and utilisation of government data	Case studies reported in 2024/2025 annual report	See below for commentary on achievement during 2024/2025	Case studies reported in 2025/2026 annual report

[10] New measure in 2024/2025. This measure was updated to reflect the 'high priority' category within the number of simple- or medium-complexity Data Lab output checks services.

[11] New measure in 2024/2025 that replaces data.govt.nz measure to reflect the engagement focus undertaken by Stats NZ with our stakeholders in the government data system. Case studies will be produced to demonstrate strengthening of the government data system for 2024/2025 year.

Commentary on achieving standard

Scaffolding sector sees early wins from new occupation classifications

As part of Stats NZ's ongoing work to strengthen the government data system, recent updates to the National Occupation List (NOL) are beginning to deliver tangible benefits for the scaffolding and rigging sector. These changes, made in close collaboration with Scaffolding, Access and Rigging New Zealand (SARNZ), show how targeted classification updates can unlock better workforce and immigration outcomes.

What's changed

- Scaffolding has been reclassified as a Level 3 trade, allowing migrant workers to stay for up to five years and giving employers greater certainty.
- Rope access technicians now have their own occupation code, increasing visibility in national data and enabling more responsive policy and planning.
- These updates are already supporting improved visa settings, training programme uptake, and long-term workforce planning.

Why it matters

This case highlights the importance of building strong partnerships between government and industry to ensure classifications reflect real-world work and needs. SARNZ's role in advocating for change and mobilising industry input was critical, and their experience also underscored the need for more joined-up, streamlined engagement across government agencies.

Enhancing the data system

Strengthening relationships like this contributes directly to a more connected and effective government data system. By fostering trust, collaboration, and shared understanding, we improve:

- **data stewardship** – ensuring data reflects what matters to New Zealanders
- **data sharing and accessibility** – so it can inform the right decisions at the right time
- **utilisation** – enabling industries, agencies, and communities to act on insights.

Looking ahead

Stats NZ is working closely with Immigration New Zealand and other partners to ensure smooth implementation of the new classification system and to respond to further sector needs. Future updates will focus on keeping classifications current, strengthening data capability, and continuing to build partnerships that support better decision-making across the system.

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
99.7%	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%**	**99.4%**	**95%**

Replaced or retired performance measures: Stewardship of government data and statistical leadership

2023/2024 Actual	Performance measure	2024/2025		2025/2026 Standard
		Standard	Actual	
910,877	Build visibility of the Government Chief Data Steward (GCDS): pageviews to data.govt.nz	Replaced measure	Replaced measure	N/A
This measure has been replaced with 'enhancing the government data system by building and strengthening partnerships and relationships to foster improved stewardship, sharing, accessibility, and utilisation of government data' to reflect the engagement focus undertaken by Stats NZ with our stakeholders in the government data system.				
94%	Number of customised data requests delivered on or before customer agreed date	Replaced measure	Replaced measure	N/A
This measure was replaced by two new measures, the number of promoters and number of detractors. These two measures are located under Official statistics.				

Disclosure of significant judgements under PBE FRS 48

We exercised judgement in selecting, measuring, aggregating, and presenting the indicators reported for each Vote Statistics appropriation/category. We selected indicators we consider most relevant and meaningful for users to assess performance against the purposes of the appropriations. We disclose these judgements at appropriation/category level to keep the audited set readable and useful. Results are presented with standards and prior-year comparatives where applicable, with short explanations for material variances.

Changes to what we have reported since 2023/2024 and effects on comparability

Official statistics appropriation (Economic and business; Population, social, and labour market)

'Relevance improvements' measures replace 'number of releases' measures from previous years – this focuses on material improvements to frequency, quality, accessibility, timeliness, or coverage and are not comparable with 2023/2024 volume counts.

Census measures – estimation uncertainty and use of the Post-enumeration Survey

For the five 2023 Census national response rate and net coverage rate measures, we report the results from the Post-enumeration Survey (PES). The PES provides an independent check on the accuracy (or completeness) of the 2023 Census count. Census counts are not adjusted with the results of the PES.

Judgements applied this year

The PES provides the official measure of response and coverage for each Census of Population and Dwellings. We present the median (point estimate) and disclose the 95 percent credible interval

(lower and upper bounds) for each coverage measure to describe the uncertainty that the PES results, being sample-based estimates, are subject to.

The median estimate is selected as the basis for assessing performance against the target. This provides a single, clear reference point for reporting. Credible intervals are presented to give readers important context about the possible range of values. Reporting against both the median and the lower/upper bounds would risk confusion and reduce comparability.

What the intervals mean

The true value is expected to lie within a range close to the median, referred to as the credible interval. The commonly used 95 percent credible interval used in the 2023 PES means there is a 95 percent chance that the true value lies within that range. Users should consider the intervals alongside the median values when interpreting the results.

Measures reported

- Total population: Census usually resident population count 4,993,923; PES estimated population 5,051,200 (credible interval: 5,039,500 to 5,062,800).
  Net coverage rate: 98.9 percent (credible interval: 98.6 to 99.1 percent).
  Response rate: 87.6 percent.
- People of Māori descent: Net coverage rate 98.5% (credible interval: 97.9 to 99.0 percent).
  Response rate: 77.6 percent.
- Pacific peoples response rate: 79.2 percent.

Sensitivity: For total population, the credible interval provides a net undercount range of 45,500 to 68,900 people (about ±0.2 percentage points around the 1.13 percent rate). Māori-descent coverage uncertainty is about ±0.5 percentage points around 98.5 percent.

One-off nature: These measures are one-off results in the five-year census programme cycle. Direct trend comparisons across cycles may be limited by changes in methodology.

Response rates are calculated separately from coverage rates, using the coverage estimates as an input. Credible intervals for response rates are not routinely published.

Definitions used

- **Response rate** is the proportion of the population counted from responses on census forms, compared with the number who should have been counted (as estimated by the PES).
- **Coverage rate (net coverage rate)** is the number of people who were counted in the census compared with the number who should have been counted (as estimated by the PES).
- **Net undercount** is the difference between gross undercount and gross overcount, that is expressed as a number and percentage of the PES estimated population.
- **Credible intervals** are a probability-based range within which the true value is likely to fall. For example, a 95 percent credible interval means there is a 95 percent chance that the true value lies within that range.

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

Leadership and culture

In 2024/2025, Stats NZ continued to invest in leadership capability and culture. Regular leader learning labs, peer-to-peer leadership sessions, and 360 feedback processes supported ongoing development. A new *Leaders' kete* newsletter and updated people leaders' induction were also delivered to help leaders navigate key people-leadership topics.

The year also saw a significant culture shift in flexible working, as Stats NZ implemented new Public Service Commission guidance, moving from 'flexible by default' to a 'predominantly office-based' model. We developed people leader briefings, guidance packs, and a resource hub to support our managers and kaimahi in agreeing to flexible arrangements that enable performance and strengthen team culture. This work is supported by an ongoing campaign promoting our modern office facilities.

As part of our Misuse of Data Remediation Action Plan we promoted a strong 'speak up' culture, with ongoing campaigns to encourage kaimahi to raise risks and concerns. Business areas strengthened local reporting and risk-management processes to further support an organisational culture of integrity.

Workforce capability and development

We introduced new learning modules on ethical data use and public-service integrity. Refreshed online training was provided to all kaimahi, with further workshops under development for engagement and external-facing roles.

A new organisational forum was established to better coordinate learning activity and improve evaluation of development initiatives across business areas.

Workforce diversity

We continued to monitor and report on pay gaps, with quarterly reporting to senior leadership. Like-for-like gender pay gaps have been reduced to zero in some areas, though broader gender and ethnic gaps remain due to representation differences across pay bands.

Employee-led networks remained active, supported by a newly established diversity, equity, and inclusion council, which contributes to planning and promotes diverse perspectives.

New initiatives also supported neurodivergent employees, including kaimahi training, improved workspace design, updated guidance on flexible working, and clearer communication standards to support accessibility.

Institutional knowledge and succession planning

A new skills framework was developed to clarify role expectations and support long-term workforce planning. The framework is now being tested to inform wider identification of capability gaps across the organisation.

Table 1: Workforce profile as at 30 June each year

Measure	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Headcount	1,410	1,524	1,729	1,323	1,290
Full-time equivalents (FTEs)	1,385.12	1,496.12	1,700.13	1,295.80	1,264.30
Average age (years)	44.4	44.6	44.8	45.8	46.0
Permanent	89%	86%	86%	95%	95%
Fixed term	11%	14%	14%	5%	5%
Sick/domestic leave taken (days)	7.3	8.4	9.2	11.5	10.9
Annual leave balance (days)	15.4	17.2	14.2	13.1	11.6
New hires	482	454	635	114	161
Exits	224	335	419	517	202
Unplanned turnover	11.1%	18.3%	17.9%	13.9%	8.7%
Total turnover (annual)	17.5%	22.8%	25.8%	33.9%	15.5%
Average length of service (years)	7.5	7.3	6.7	7.5	7.8
Note: We do not provide a workforce breakdown by disability because not all employees who identify as disabled choose to disclose this.					

Gender and ethnic pay and representation

Table 2: Gender profile of our workforce as at 30 June each year

Measure	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Female staff overall	57%	58%	57%	57%	59%
Female people leaders	57%	60%	60%	54%	59%
Female senior (tier 2 and 3) leaders	52%	52%	55%	59%	66%
Male staff overall	43%	42%	39%	42%	40%
Male people leaders	43%	39%	36%	46%	40%

Male senior (tier 2 and 3) leaders	48%	48%	35%	41%	34%
Note: We do not report on 'another gender' in the above table to protect people's identities, as the numbers are fewer than five people across certain staff categories. Also, not all people choose to disclose their gender.					

The gender pay gap indicates the average difference between women's and men's earnings. It is calculated as the difference between the average base salary for women and the average base salary for men.

In 2024/2025, the difference between women's and men's earnings was 5.7 percent (compared with 8.8 percent five years ago).

Table 3: Ethnicity profile of our workforce, as at 30 June each year, compared with 2023 Census data for the New Zealand population

Ethnicity	Stats NZ 2022/2023	Stats NZ 2023/2024	Stats NZ 2024/2025	2023 Census data all New Zealand
European	63.1%	63.9%	61.7%	67.8%
Asian	22.3%	24.2%	25.8%	17.3%
Māori	11.0%	9.5%	9.1%	17.8%
Pacific peoples	7.0%	5.9%	6.3%	8.9%
Middle Eastern, Latin American, African	2.8%	2.4%	2.7%	1.9%
Other ethnicity	4.2%	4.5%	5.6%	1.1%
Note: We have excluded 4.6 percent of employees who have not disclosed their ethnicity. The totals add up to above 100 percent as employees can disclose more than other one ethnicity.				

Table 4: Ethnicity profile of our tier 2 and 3 leaders, as at 30 June each year

Ethnicity for senior leaders (tiers 2 and 3)	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
European	75%	81%	83%
Māori	25%	22%	17%
Pacific peoples	*	0%	*
Asian	*	*	*
Middle Eastern, Latin American, African	0%	0%	0%
Other ethnicity	*	*	*
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 identities, as the numbers are fewer than five people.			

Māori–Crown relations capability (Whāinga Amorangi)

The Public Service Act 2020 explicitly recognises the role of the Public Service to support the Crown in its relationships with Māori under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The Act places specific responsibilities on Public Service leaders to develop and maintain the capability of the Public Service to engage with Māori and to understand Māori perspectives. Stats NZ is committed to incorporating Te Tiriti o Waitangi into our daily work, and to increasing Māori–Crown relations capability across our organisation.

Te Amokapua, our core learning programme launched in early 2023, continued to develop knowledge and understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the Māori–Crown relationship through workshops and e-learning. In the 2024/2025 financial year, 306 kaimahi participated in Te Amokapua with 120 completing the full programme. This builds on the 520 participants in 2023/2024.

Internal delivery capability increased over the year, reducing reliance on external providers. The programme was also adapted to provide a tailored learning experience for Māori kaimahi.

Our November 2024 Māori–Crown relations survey showed favourable responses rising to 56 percent, up from 48 percent in 2022, with kaimahi completing Te Amokapua reporting a 24 percent increase in capability. Pre- and post-programme assessments showed an average uplift of 20 percent in knowledge and 22.5 percent in confidence.

Te Amokapua is contributing to strengthened leadership capability, growing confidence in Te Tiriti analysis, and wider use of Māori–Crown relations frameworks across the organisation.

Māori language planning

We continued to implement our Mahere Reo plan in 2024/2025, building on progress reported in 2023/2024. Our mahi supports the Crown's Maihi Karauna strategy for te reo Māori revitalisation.

This year, Level 2 te reo Māori lessons were introduced for the first time, alongside continued delivery of Level 1 classes. A total of 185 kaimahi enrolled in te reo Māori classes in 2024/2025. This year, 197 kaimahi passed Te Amokapua Reo assessments, with 62 kaimahi still progressing towards completion. In total, 911.5 teaching hours were delivered.

Our November 2024 Māori–Crown relations capability survey showed a continued positive shift on the ZePA framework (which measures attitudes and use of te reo Māori), with more kaimahi actively using or supporting te reo Māori, building on the strong results reported in 2023/2024.

Some planned actions from our Mahere Reo plan, such as new signage and additional bilingual resources, were paused this year due to resourcing constraints. Our kaiako continued to contribute to national Māori language planning through cross-agency roles and participation in the Maihi Karauna Summative Evaluation delivered in October 2024.

Health, safety, and wellbeing

Stats NZ supports a healthy, safe, and inclusive working environment. We maintain policies and practices that meet our obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and reflect our commitment to being a good employer under the Public Service Act 2020.

Our approach continues to combine risk management, kaimahi engagement, and cultural change. Alongside a network of trained health and safety representatives, we support kaiawhina volunteers across the organisation who are trained in mental health first aid. These roles help foster a supportive environment for mental wellbeing and promote early intervention and peer-based support.

We also continued to invest in safe systems of work, kaimahi wellbeing initiatives, and leadership capability to support a culture of care and accountability. These work programmes are expected to reduce both physical and psychosocial risks over time.

In 2024/2025, Stats NZ:

- transitioned health-and-safety reporting to a purpose-built tool to allow improvements in data capture and reduce costs (resulting in a $45k year-on-year saving)
- undertook an external audit of health-and-safety systems; recommendations will be considered when the report is received.

This year, the number and type of health-and-safety incidents remained consistent with previous years. The focus for the period was on improving reporting and automation of the health-and-safety system to reduce burden on staff and increase efficiency.

Table 5: Health-and-safety events, as at 30 June each year

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Total health-and-safety events	2623#	1476	738
Low-severity events	*	*	716
Medium-severity events	*	*	20
High-severity events	*	0	2

Note: Improvements in our health-and-safety reporting system has allowed more detailed reporting over time.

* In previous reporting years, denotes where data is not available.
# It is difficult to make a meaningful comparison between years as the numbers for the 2022/2023 year include 2023 Census collections when increased numbers of staff were in the field.

Table 6: Lost-time injuries, as at 30 June each year

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Number of lost-time injuries	19	14	12

Our stakeholders and partners
Te hunga pupuru pānga me ō mātou hoa kōtui

Treaty-settlement commitments

As the agency responsible for data and statistics, Stats NZ manages a variety of Treaty-settlement commitments, primarily focused on relationship redress. These commitments provide an opportunity to understand the aspirations of settled groups, reposition the Crown–iwi relationship for the future, and respond to immediate and long-term data needs. We are committed to supporting the Crown's obligations through enduring, iwi-led partnerships.

These responsibilities are tracked and updated in Te Haeata, the Crown's Treaty-settlement-commitments portal, and support the broader goals of the He Korowai Whakamana framework.

Overview of Stats NZ commitments

As of 30 June 2025, Stats NZ is responsible for 13 Treaty-settlement commitments, an increase of 1 from 12 in the previous reporting year. Most of these commitments fall under the category of relationship redress.

Many of these commitments are supported through formal relationship agreements and associated work programmes, either formally set out in redress or collaboratively agreed upon with iwi partners. These arrangements help give effect to the broader spirit and intent of settlements, looking beyond implementation to support long-term relationships grounded in shared aspirations and practical outcomes.

Delivery and oversight

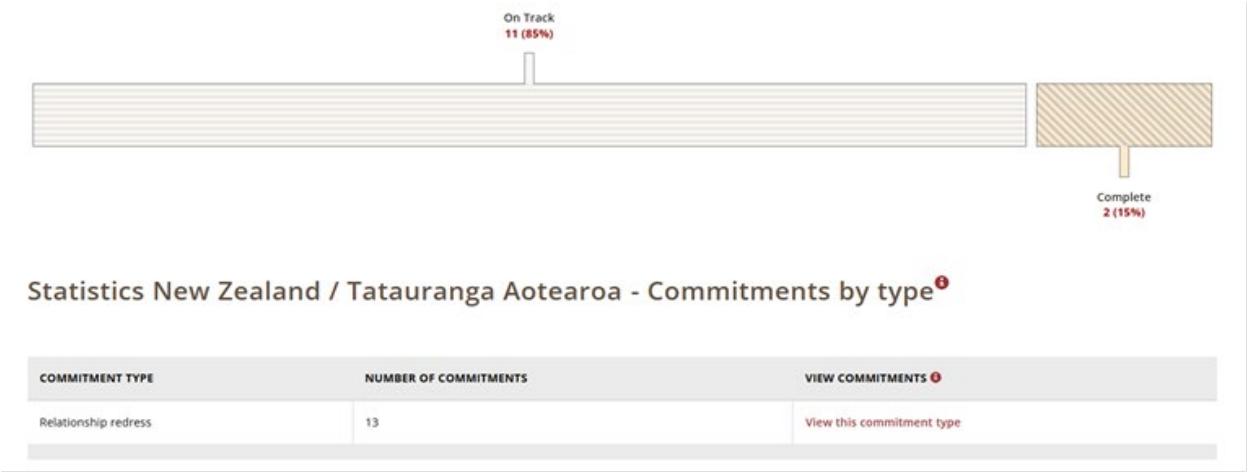
There are currently no delivery issues to report.

Two commitments with Te Whakatōhea and Ngāti Maniapoto/Te Nehenehenui are recorded in Te Haeata as complete. This status reflects the completion of the formal redress commitment, specifically the inclusion of agreed relationship instruments (for example, relationship agreements) within the settlement. However, this does not signify an end to engagement.

In the case of Maniapoto, a broader and active work programme continues under the Crown–iwi Accord, centred on shared priorities and iwi-led planning. Stats NZ remains actively involved in supporting this relationship beyond the redress milestone.

Elsewhere, commitments across the system, such as those associated with the Te Hiku o te Ika Social Development Accord remain active. These continue to progress through cross-agency coordination, and while Stats NZ is not the lead agency, we contribute to shared data and capability goals as part of wider Crown delivery.

Figure 1: Summary of Te Haeata dashboard



Forward outlook

Stats NZ anticipates its responsibilities will continue to evolve as new settlements progress. We are currently preparing to support the anticipated redress relationship with Mōkai Pātea and have also begun discussions with Taranaki Whānui regarding their whole-of-government Crown Accord and the support we can provide.

Our focus remains on:

- supporting iwi to access and apply data to advance their strategic priorities
- upholding our commitments transparently through Te Haeata
- strengthening enduring relationships that reflect the intent of the Treaty settlements.

Our resources
Ā mātou rauemi

It's our aim to deliver value in the most efficient way. Tables 7 and 8 demonstrate our areas of biggest spend – travel, capability, and property – and the change since our baseline years.

Table 7: Targets and trends for measures of travel online adoption and capability 2022/2023 and 2023/2024

	Target	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Travel – online adoption based on book date (a)	90%	84%	82%	89%
Contractors and consultants/total workforce (b)	8%	40%	8%	3%

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 the Public Service Commission's letter to public-service CEs to reduce contractor/consultant operating spend to 11 percent or lower.

Table 8: Building area and occupation density in 2023/2024 and 2024/2025

	Total size of lease	2023/2024		2024/2025	
		Share of lease	Metres squared	Share of building	Metres squared
Auckland – previous office*	2,190	100%	1,445	---	---
Auckland – new office*	686	---	---	100.00%	686
Wellington	13,209	44.82%	5,920	45.00%	5,920
Christchurch	6,071	35.87%	2,178	35.02%	2,126
Total area	22,156	---	9,543	---	8,732
Headcount (as per GPO definition)			1,171		1,178
Occupancy density (metres squared per person)			**8.1**		**7.4**
Property reduction			3,561		811
			27%		8%

Note: For the purposes of occupancy-density calculation, the headcount definition by Government Property Office was applied. Headcount for occupancy density shows all personnel accommodated in the office, which includes casuals, contractors, and seconded-in staff. The definition excludes seconded-out, long-term leavers, and remote or field staff.

* The new Auckland office location was opened on 18 November 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's emissions profile

During 2024/2025, we provisionally emitted 927.17 tCO_2e (tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent), a 68 percent decrease on the 2018/2019 base year[12] (2,926.46 tCO_2e). The main reductions have occurred in business travel, with emissions down 74 percent on the base year of 2,522.85 tCO_2e, to 654.91 tCO_2e.

Toitū Envirocare (Enviro-Mark Solutions Limited) will undertake an ISO#14064-1:2018 verification audit of our 2024/2025 emissions in September 2025. The following information relating to our emissions is provisional and unverified at the time of printing this annual report.

[12] 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.

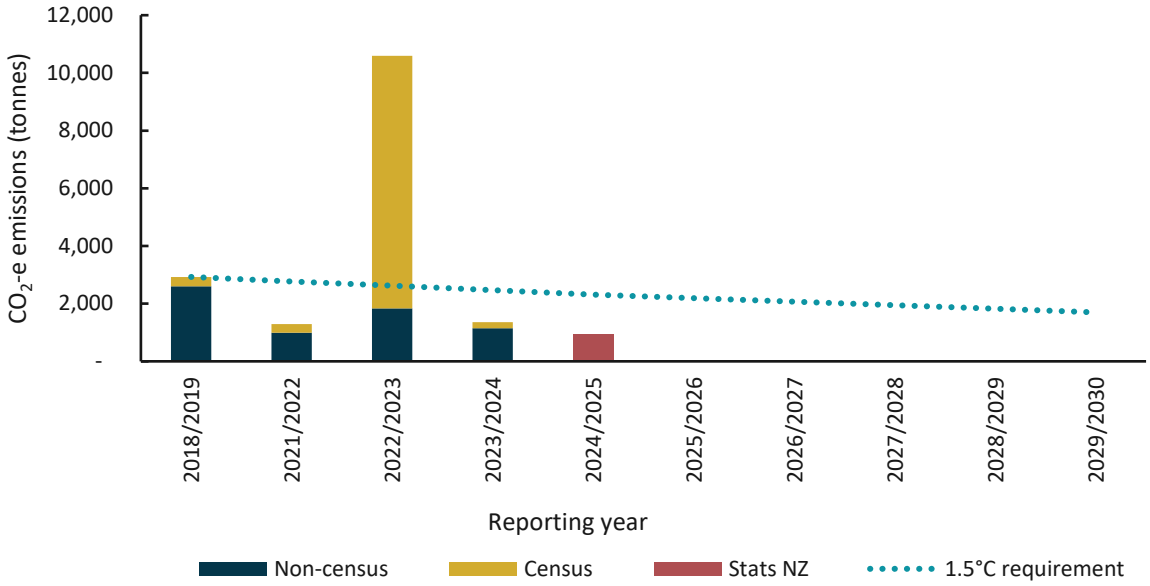
Table 9: Overall Stats NZ's emissions profile, by scope and total annual emissions (tCO_2e), 2018/2019; 2021–2025*

Scope	Description	2018/2019 (base year) tCO_2e	2021/2022 tCO_2e	2022/2023 tCO_2e	2023/2024 tCO_2e	2024/2025 tCO_2e (provisional)
1	**Direct emissions**	86.63	62.93	94.26	80.24	79.60
2	**Indirect emissions from imported energy**	101.99	143.3	110.32	97.34	84.43
3	**Indirect emissions from transportation, products, and organisation uses or supplies, or other sources**	2,737.84	1,087.27	10,390.68	1,179.60	763.14
Total gross emissions in tCO_2e		2,926.46	1,293.49	10,595.26	1,357.18	927.17
Change in gross emissions (all scopes) since base year			-56%	+262%	-54%	-68%

* We did not collect or report on emissions for 2019/2020 or 2020/2021. Verified tCO_2e figures: 2018/2019, 2021–2024. Pending verification: 2024/2025

In previous years, we categorised our emissions as either 'census' or 'non-census' to reflect the distinct impact census operations had on Stats NZ's overall gross emissions. From 2024/2025, as census moves to an admin-data-first approach to deliver census data, the emissions for the 2023 Census for 2024/2025 are included within the total Stats NZ profile.

Figure 2: Stats NZ's emissions profile by operations, total annual emissions (tCO_2e), 2018/2019; 2021–2025



By component, the major emission source in 2024/2025 was business travel at 70.6 percent – of which air travel was the largest, at 41.6 percent of total emissions. Surveyor private-vehicles mileage claims were second, at 25.4 percent. The third-largest emission source was purchased electricity, at 9.1 percent.

Table 10: 2024/2025 Stats NZ's total provisional gross emissions, by source in tCO_2e

Emission source	tCO_2e	%
Business travel	654.91	70.6%
Purchased electricity	84.43	9.1%
Fuel consumption	79.60	8.6%
Employee working from home	71.97	7.8%
Courier	18.73	2.0%
Wastewater services	6.97	0.8%
Transmission and distribution losses	6.42	0.7%
Waste disposal	3.38	0.4%
Water supply	0.77	0.1%
Total provisional gross emissions	**927.17**	**100.0%**

Our 2025 and 2030 gross carbon emissions reduction targets

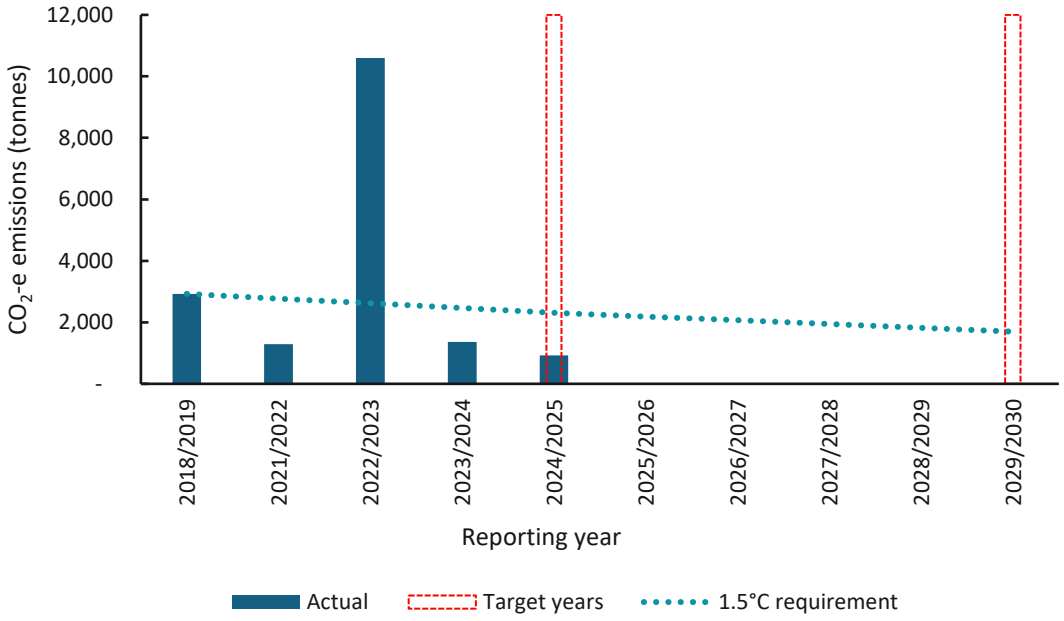
Under the CNGP, we are committed to reducing gross emissions to support the New Zealand Government's commitment to the Paris Agreement aimed at limiting global average temperature increases to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. We are committed to reducing our 2018/2019 base-year emissions of 2,926.46 tCO_2e by:

- 21 percent by 2025 (2,311.90 tCO_2e)

- 42 percent by 2030 (1,697.45 tCO_2e).

Progress towards our emissions reduction targets

Figure 3: Stats NZ emissions, actual, against 1.5°C reduction requirements



We have achieved our 2030 emissions reduction targets during a non-data-collection phase of the current five-year census cycle. Our emissions profile shows that during the data-collection phase of the 2023 Census, emissions increased by 262 percent, compared with the base year. This spike was primarily driven by the operational scale required to deliver the full-field enumeration model. Under the current model, such an increase in emissions would be expected to recur once every five years in line with each census cycle.

On 18 June 2025, the Minister of Statistics, Hon Dr Shane Reti, announced a significant shift in New Zealand's data system, with Stats NZ transitioning to an admin-data-first census model. From an emissions perspective, this change means Stats NZ will no longer experience the recurring five-year emissions spike associated with traditional full-enumeration census operations.

From 2030 (subject to legislative change), New Zealand's core census data and statistics will be produced annually using admin data already collected by government, supplemented by targeted surveys to validate accuracy and collect information not available through admin sources.

While it is too early to assess the full impact this transition will have on Stats NZ's annual emissions profile, we remain committed to reducing our environmental footprint. As we modernise and future-proof the production of New Zealand's economic and population statistics, we will continue to apply emissions-minimising practices across our operational environment.

Our systems and processes
Ā mātou pūnaha, hātepe hoki

We aim to have simple systems and processes that are responsive to current and future business requirements. Table 11 shows progress towards a simplified, flexible, and sustainable IT environment.

In 2024/2025, we saw a significant reduction in both P1 IT incidents and privacy/security incidents in comparison with previous years due to the impacts of collection activity underpinning the 2023 Census in those years.

Table 11: Progress towards a simplified, flexible, sustainable IT environment, by measure and target, for 2022/2023–2024/2025

	Target	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
P1 IT incidents (a)	10% reduction per annum from 2022/2023 baseline	31	39% reduction from 2022/2023	71% reduction from 2022/2023
Number of privacy/security incidents (b)	-	548	350	147
(a) P1 incidents are the most serious category of incident, and a reduction indicates progress towards a simplified, flexible, and sustainable IT environment. (b) Fewer incidents indicate fewer privacy incidents are caused by issues in the IT environment.				

Asset performance indicators (service critical assets)

Stats NZ's service-critical assets are the core digital systems used to collect, ingest, process, and disseminate official statistics. These systems are essential to delivering our core functions and maintaining trust in the official statistics system.

Our legacy IT architecture is composed of many bespoke platforms tied to individual statistical outputs. This limits reuse and creates operational inefficiencies. Our future state is a consolidated digital environment where shared foundational platforms support the production and delivery of multiple data products.

Migration of data is in most cases a separate activity following initial deployment of platforms. The volume of migration work impacts how quickly old systems can be decommissioned.

Performance information on critical systems is set out below, where suitable indicators are available. These systems have been selected because they play a central role in the dissemination of official statistics and are part of our transition plan towards a modern digital platform model. This approach enables us to track the shift from our current bespoke systems to a future digital environment that improves efficiency, reduces risk, and supports delivery of high-quality data and statistics.

Table 12: Service-critical asset performance in 2024/2025

System	Function	2024/2025 commentary	System uptime (%) (1)
Stats NZ website	Primary official communication channel for Stats NZ	Continued operating in a supported environment	99.93%
Aotearoa Data Explorer	Dissemination of official statistics	Final development completed following user feedback from over 1,000 visits during a pilot phase in 2023/2024 – full rollout scheduled for July 2025	99.2%
Infoshare	Dissemination of time-series data	Continued operating in a supported environment following technical upgrades in 2023/2024; retained to support ongoing dissemination needs while transitioning to Aotearoa Data Explorer	99.96%
(1) Percentage of time the asset was operational, since January 2025 when this measure was introduced			

We will continue to mature our asset performance reporting in future years by integrating system-level indicators with capital and operational planning, and by aligning our reporting with Treasury expectations under CO(23)9.

Methodological process improvements

Over the past year, we introduced a range of methodological improvements to boost the reliability of key statistics and streamline our processes. These included:

- improving the quality of critical outputs like the balance of payments by applying methods to reduce bias resulting from low response rates and other disruptions
- reducing manual work through automation, including in-record linking for the 2023 Census Coverage Survey and outlier detection in seasonally adjusted data
- upgrading how we define and organise core information about businesses, places, and people in our statistical systems – these improvements will help us better meet emerging data needs and support analysis across different sectors (see Building a future-ready statistical system to integrate admin and survey data).
- replacing outdated flowcharting and questionnaire tools to improve usability and reduce maintenance and exploration of options for upgrading our linking tools

- expanding the use of AI and machine learning to produce faster, more accurate migration estimates, improve address data in the 2023 Census, and strengthen modelling of household and population structures.

Governance and risk management

Remediating misuse of 2023 Census data

The Misuse of 2023 Census Data Remediation Programme was established in 2024/2025 in response to concerns raised about the handling and potential misuse of personal information collected during the 2023 Census. Allegations included inappropriate retention, use, and sharing of sensitive data by third-party service providers, particularly during electoral activities.

The programme addressed the findings of the Stats NZ-commissioned *Independent Investigation and Assurance Review of Allegations of Misuse of 2023 Census Information* (the Review) led by Doug Craig and the Public Service Commission (PSC) *Inquiry into the protection of personal information* (the PSC Inquiry). Its primary goal was to restore public trust in Stats NZ's ability to securely manage sensitive data and uphold legal and ethical standards.

While the integrity of census data was not affected, the findings highlighted important areas where Stats NZ's internal policies, oversight, and escalation processes needed to be strengthened. In response, Stats NZ publicly accepted all recommendations and issued a formal apology.

A 33-point action plan was established and focused on ensuring compliance with the Privacy Act 2020 and Data and Statistics Act 2022, strengthening governance frameworks, and enhancing privacy and risk-management capabilities to safeguard sensitive information. By embedding systemic improvements into core operations, the programme resolved gaps identified in the reviews, including issues with data governance, contract oversight, conflict-of-interest management, and complaint-handling processes.

All actions were successfully completed by 30 June 2025 as planned. Ongoing work is planned to ensure action items are embedded effectively and create enduring change.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE READERS OF STATISTICS NEW ZEALAND'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

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 annual financial statements of the Department that comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2025, the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses, Statement of Changes in Equity, and Statement of cashflows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information on pages 72 to 99.
- The end-of-year performance information for appropriations of the Department for the year ended 30 June 2025 on pages 39 to 53.
- The statements of expenses and capital expenditure of the Department for the year ended 30 June 2025 on pages 100 to 104.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- The annual financial statements of the Department:
  - fairly present, in all material respects:
    - its financial position as at 30 June 2025; 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 end-of-year performance information for appropriations:
  - provides an appropriate and meaningful basis to enable readers to assess what has been achieved with the appropriation; determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; and
  - fairly presents, in all material respects:
    - what has been achieved with the appropriation; and
    - the actual expenses or capital expenditure incurred in relation to the appropriation 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 in accordance with Public Sector PBE Accounting Standards.
- The statements of expenses and capital expenditure have been prepared, 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 2025. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

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, the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand), and New Zealand Auditing Standard 1 (Revised): *The Audit of Service Performance Information* 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:

- Annual financial statements that fairly present the Department's financial position, financial performance, and its cash flows, and that comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.
- End-of-year performance information for appropriations that:
    - provides an appropriate and meaningful basis to enable readers to assess what has been achieved with the appropriation; determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand;
    - fairly presents what has been achieved with the appropriation;
    - fairly presents the actual expenses or capital expenditure incurred in relation to the appropriation 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.
- Statements of expenses and capital expenditure of the Department, that are prepared in accordance with section 45A 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'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 Estimates of Appropriations for the Government of New Zealand for the Year Ending 30 June 2025. For the forecast financial information for the year ending 30 June 2026, our procedures were limited to checking to the best estimate financial forecast information based on the Budget Economic Fiscal Update for the year ending 30 June 2026.

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 whether the end-of-year performance information for appropriations:
    - provides an appropriate and meaningful basis to enable readers to assess what has been achieved with the appropriation. We make our evaluation by reference to generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; and
    - fairly presents what has been achieved with the appropriation.
- We evaluate whether the statements of expenses and capital expenditure have been prepared in accordance with legislative requirements.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Government Statistician.
- 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 all of the information included in the annual report other than 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)* 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.



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

Financial statements
Ngā tauākī whakahaere pūtea

This section reports on the financial performance of Stats NZ for the year ended 30 June 2025.

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 2025

2024 Actual $000		Note	2025 Actual $000	2025 Unaudited budget $000	2026 Unaudited forecast $000
	Revenue				
230,131	Revenue Crown	[2]	191,315	212,864	221,067
15,226	Other revenue	[2]	16,154	25,248	25,377
245,357	**Total revenue**		**207,469**	**238,112**	**246,444**
	Expenses				
169,805	Personnel	[3]	133,975	151,334	165,156
63,948	Operating	[4]	52,303	73,485	66,674
7,213	Depreciation, amortisation, and impairment	[13, 14]	12,993	9,403	10,689
4,028	Capital charge	[5]	3,855	3,890	3,925
327	Loss on disposal of non-current assets	[15]	1,940	-	-
245,321	**Total expenses**		**205,066**	**238,112**	**246,444**
36	**Net operating surplus/(deficit)**		**2,403**	**-**	**-**
	Remeasurements				
80	Movement in discount rate for retirement and long-service leave		33	-	-
116	**Net surplus/(deficit)**		**2,436**	**-**	**-**
116	**Total comprehensive revenue and expense**		**2,436**	**-**	**-**

Explanation of significant variances against the original budget 2024/25 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 2025

2024 Actual $000		Note	2025 Actual $000	2025 Unaudited budget $000	2026 Unaudited forecast $000
	Assets				
	Current assets				
16,047	Cash and cash equivalents	[19]	15,426	14,396	12,000
44,159	Debtor Crown	[19]	40,461	28,075	23,671
502	Debtors and other receivables	[6, 19]	666	861	861
4,847	Advances and prepayments		3,430	3,693	2,809
414	Non-current assets held for sale	[12]	70	-	-
65,969	**Total current assets**		**60,053**	**47,025**	**39,341**
	Non-current assets				
24,722	Property, plant, and equipment	[13]	20,349	21,363	16,784
24,907	Intangible assets	[14]	28,921	42,742	57,074
49,629	**Total non-current assets**		**49,270**	**64,105**	**73,858**
115,598	**Total assets**		**109,323**	**111,130**	**113,199**
	Liabilities				
	Current liabilities				
6,993	Creditors and other payables	[7, 19]	6,928	13,598	6,364
36	Return of operating surplus to the Crown	[8]	2,403	-	-
5,404	Provisions	[9]	20	-	-
13,793	Employee entitlements	[10]	13,243	12,390	14,838
2,879	Goods and services tax payable		(1,487)	1,626	2,259
1,177	Deferred revenue	[11]	789	815	1,115
30,282	**Total current liabilities**		**21,896**	**28,429**	**24,576**
	Non-current liabilities				
8,222	Employee entitlements	[10]	8,933	4,207	8,709
8,222	**Total non-current liabilities**		**8,933**	**4,207**	**8,709**
38,504	**Total liabilities**		**30,829**	**32,636**	**33,285**
77,094	**Net assets**		**78,494**	**78,494**	**79,914**
	Equity				
77,094	Taxpayers' funds		78,494	78,494	79,914
77,094	**Total equity**	[16]	**78,494**	**78,494**	**79,914**

Explanation of significant variances against the original budget 2024/25 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 2025

2024 Actual $000		Note	2025 Actual $000	2025 Unaudited budget $000	2026 Unaudited forecast $000
84,044	Equity as at 1 July		77,094	77,094	78,494
36	Total comprehensive revenue and expense		2,403	-	-
	Owner transactions				
13,050	Capital injections		1,400	1,400	1,420
(20,000)	Capital withdrawals		-	-	-
(36)	Return of operating surplus to the Crown	[8]	(2,403)	-	-
77,094	**Equity as at 30 June**	[16]	**78,494**	**78,494**	**79,914**

Explanation of significant variances against the original budget 2024/25 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 2025

2024 Actual $000		Note	2025 Actual $000	2025 Unaudited budget $000	2026 Unaudited forecast $000
	Cash flows from operating activities				
243,928	Receipts from Revenue Crown		194,531	223,278	229,990
16,241	Receipts from other revenue		15,602	25,313	25,205
(236,981)	Payments to suppliers and employees		(190,149)	(228,230)	(229,916)
3,421	Goods and services tax (net)		(3,884)	1,463	1,226
(4,028)	Payments for capital charge		(3,855)	(3,890)	(3,925)
22,581	**Net cash flow from operating activities**		**12,245**	**17,934**	**22,580**
	Cash flows from investing activities				
50	Receipts from sale of property, plant, and equipment		264	-	-
(912)	Purchase of property, plant, and equipment		(193)	(2,000)	-
(13,843)	Purchase of intangible assets		(14,301)	(18,000)	(22,000)
(14,705)	**Net cash flow from investing activities**		**(14,230)**	**(20,000)**	**(22,000)**
	Cash flows from financing activities				
13,050	Capital contribution		1,400	1,400	1,420
(20,000)	Capital withdrawals		-	-	-
(420)	Payment of operating surplus to the Crown		(36)	-	-
(7,370)	**Net cash flow from financing activities**		**1,364**	**1,400**	**1,420**
506	Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(621)	(666)	2,000
15,541	Cash and cash equivalents as at 1 July		16,047	15,062	10,000
16,047	**Cash and cash equivalents as at 30 June**		**15,426**	**14,396**	**12,000**

Explanation of significant variances against the original budget 2024/25 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

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
36	**Net surplus/(deficit)**	**2,403**
	Non-cash items	
7,213	Depreciation and amortisation	12,993
1,467	Movements in non-current employee entitlements	711
8,680	**Total non-cash items**	**13,704**
	Items classified as investing or financing activities	
327	(Gain)/loss on disposal of non-financial assets	1,940
327	**Total items classified as investing or financing activities**	**1,940**
	Working capital movements	
15,867	(Increase)/decrease in debtor Crown	3,698
718	(Increase)/decrease in debtors and other receivables	(164)
251	(Increase)/decrease in advances and prepayments	1,417
(6,953)	Increase/(decrease) in creditors and other payables	(65)
1,351	Increase/(decrease) in goods and services tax payable	(4,366)
-	Increase/(decrease) in capital charge payable	-
5,223	Increase/(decrease) in current provisions	(5,384)
(3,216)	Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements	(550)
297	Increase/(decrease) in deferred revenue	(388)
13,538	**Net working capital movements**	**(5,802)**
22,581	**Net cash flows from operating activities**	**12,245**

Explanation of significant variances against the original budget 2024/25 are detailed in Note 20.

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

Statement of commitments

As at 30 June 2025

Capital commitments

The department has no capital commitments as at 30 June 2025 (2024: $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.

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
	Non-cancellable operating lease commitments	
10,711	Not later than one year	10,763
38,304	Later than one year and not later than five years	37,071
69,514	Later than five years	62,679
118,529	**Total non-cancellable operating lease commitments**	**110,513**

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

Statement of contingent liabilities and contingent assets

As at 30 June 2025

Unquantifiable contingent liabilities

Stats NZ has no known unquantifiable contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2025 (2024: $Nil).

Quantifiable contingent liabilities

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
	Contingent liabilities	
-	Employment disputes	28
-	**Total contingent liabilities**	**28**

Contingent assets

Stats NZ has no contingent assets as at 30 June 2025 (2024: $Nil).

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

Notes to the financial statements
Ngā tuhipoka mō ngā tauākī pūtea

1. Statement of accounting policies for the year ended 30 June 2025

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 2025 and were approved for issue by the Government Statistician on 30 September 2025.

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

Disclosure of Fees for Audit Firms' Services – Amendments to PBE IPSAS 1

Stats NZ is required to disclose the fees incurred for services received from its audit or review firms, and a description of each service. The effect of this change will require Stats NZ to specify categories of audit fees paid to audit and review firms. For the year ended 30 June 2025, no additional disclosures are required because no non-audit services have been provided by KPMG to Stats NZ.

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 charged either 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 2025 budget figures are for the year ended 30 June 2025 and were published in the 2023/24 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 2024/25.

The 2026 forecast figures are for the year ended 30 June 2026, which are consistent with the best-estimate financial forecast information submitted to Treasury for the BEFU for the year ending 2025/26.

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 2026 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 2025. 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 2026 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 2025/26 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 2025/26 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 2025/26. 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:

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
3,907	Contract surveys	3,720
1,284	Customised data/subscriptions	1,124
4,971	Office rental income	6,239
3,034	Recoveries revenue	3,892
2,030	Other	1,179
15,226	**Total other revenue**	**16,154**

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.

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
153,162	Salaries and wages	123,624
4,540	Employer contributions to defined contribution plans	4,041
(710)	Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements	(297)
779	Recruitment	455
843	Training	996
987	Staff health and safety	558
10,204	Other	4,598
169,805	**Total personnel**	**133,975**

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.

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
6,359	IT outsourced services	4,415
11,221	Operating lease and other rentals	11,093
21,106	Software licences and maintenance	17,063
5,069	Consultancy	6,278
1,987	Telecommunications	1,578
6,077	Contracted and professional services	1,247
1,770	Domestic and Australia travel	1,074
1,366	Interviewer travel	1,012
1,266	Grants – external	1,738
1,327	Building services	2,028
702	Printing and photocopying	651
652	Postage, courier, and freight	388
164	Corporate training	127
1,020	Facilities – repairs and maintenance	412
9	Publicity and advertising	131
55	Minor IT purchases	121
142	Audit and assurance services	158
3,656	Other operating expenses	2,789
63,948	**Total operating**	**52,303**

5. Capital charge

The capital charge is recognised as an expense in the financial year to which the charge relates. Capital charge for 2024/25 is $3,854,700 (2024: $4,028,450).

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 2025 was 5 percent (2024: 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.

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
503	Debtors and other receivables (gross)	667
(1)	Less: Allowance for credit losses	(1)
502	**Debtors and other receivables (net)**	**666**
	Debtors and other receivables comprise	
502	**Debtors and other receivables (exchange transactions)**	**666**

The expected credit loss rates for receivables at 30 June 2025 and 30 June 2024 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.

The allowance for credit losses at 30 June 2025 and 30 June 2024 are determined as follows.

30 June 2025	Receivables days past due				
	Current	More than 30 days	More than 60 days	More than 90 days	Total
Expected credit loss rate (%)	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Gross carrying amount ($000)	648	10	-	9	667
Lifetime expected credit loss ($000)	1	-	-	-	1

30 June 2024	Receivables days past due				
	Current	More than 30 days	More than 60 days	More than 90 days	Total
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

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

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
2	Opening allowance for credit losses as at 1 July	1
(1)	Receivables written off during the year	-
-	Increase/(decrease) in loss allowance made during the year	-
1	**Balance at 30 June**	**1**

7. Creditors and other payables

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

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
(38)	Creditors (exchange transactions)	44
7,031	Accrued expenses and other payables (exchange transactions)	6,884
6,993	**Total creditors and other payables**	**6,928**

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 $2,403,000 is the total net surplus for the 2024/25 financial year, to be returned to the Crown (2024: $36,000).

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
36	Net operating surplus/(deficit)	2,403
36	**Net repayment of surplus to the Crown**	**2,403**

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
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	-
2025	
Opening balance at 1 July 2024	5,404
Additional provisions recognised	3,501
Amounts used	(6,867)
Unused amounts reversed	(2,018)
Closing balance at 30 June 2025	**20**
Analysed as:	
Current	20
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.

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
	Current employee entitlements	
7,436	Annual leave	6,760
600	Sick leave	424
2,336	Retirement and long-service leave	2,181
3,421	Accrued payroll expenses	3,878
13,793	**Total current portion**	**13,243**
	Non-current employee entitlements	
8,222	Retirement and long-service leave	8,933
8,222	**Total non-current portion**	**8,933**
22,015	**Total employee entitlements**	**22,176**

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 3.14 percent in year 1, 3.47 percent in year 2, 3.96 percent in year 3, and year-on-year rates from year 4 onwards were used. A salary increase assumption of 3.64 percent was also used.

The risk-free discount rates were taken from the published table of discount rates as at 30 June 2025. The salary increase assumption is Stats NZ's best estimate of future salary inflation, including promotional increases, over the long term. Aon has prepared the sensitivity analysis of the liability (below) 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 $817,512 lower (1 percent increase) or $962,093 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 $965,367 higher (1 percent increase) or $834,012 lower (1 percent decrease).

11. Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue under exchange transactions of $789,000 (2024: $1,177,000) 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.

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
	Non-current assets held for sale comprise	
271	Computer hardware	-
143	Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	70
414	**Total non-current assets held for sale**	**70**

Surplus equipment has been presented as held for sale during the year because it provides no future use to Stats NZ. The sale is expected to be completed by 30 June 2026. The impairment loss recognised for the initial write-down of the assets to fair value less costs to sell was $88,588. This loss is included as part of 'Depreciation, amortisation, and impairment' in the Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense.

13. Property, plant, and equipment

Property, plant, and equipment consists of the following asset classes: furniture, fixtures, and equipment, leasehold improvements, computer hardware, and motor vehicles. These asset classes are measured at cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

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.

	Furniture, fixtures, and equipment $000	Leasehold improvements $000	Computer hardware $000	Motor vehicle $000	Assets under construction $000	Total $000
Cost						
Balance as at 1 July 2023	9,136	23,041	13,128	222	-	45,527
Additions	283	22	193	-	-	498
Transfers from assets under construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer to held for sale	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(146)	-	(1,090)	-	-	(1,236)
Balance as at 30 June 2024	**9,273**	**23,063**	**12,231**	**222**	**-**	**44,789**
Additions	113	25	97	-	40	275
Transfers from assets under construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer to held for sale	(357)	-	-	-	-	(357)
Disposals	(898)	(464)	(873)	-	-	(2,235)
Balance as at 30 June 2025	**8,131**	**22,624**	**11,455**	**222**	**40**	**42,472**
Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses						
Balance as at 1 July 2023	5,132	5,465	5,945	118	-	16,660
Depreciation expense	268	1,709	2,421	44	-	4,442
Elimination on disposal	(32)	-	(1,003)	-	-	(1,035)
Elimination on transfer to held for sale	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment losses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June 2024	**5,368**	**7,174**	**7,363**	**162**	**-**	**20,067**
Depreciation expense	613	1,619	1,999	44	-	4,275
Elimination on disposal	(715)	(455)	(851)	-	-	(2,021)
Elimination on transfer to held for sale	(198)	-	-	-	-	(198)
Impairment losses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June 2025	**5,068**	**8,338**	**8,511**	**206**	**-**	**22,123**
Carrying amounts						
As at 1 July 2023	4,004	17,576	7,183	104	-	28,867
As at 30 June 2024	3,905	15,889	4,868	60	-	24,722
As at 30 June 2025	3,063	14,286	2,944	16	40	20,349

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.

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 the specific software and bring it to use.

Costs that are directly associated with the development of software for internal use by Stats NZ are recognised as an intangible asset. Direct costs include software development, labour, and directly applicable operating costs.

Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Staff training costs are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Costs of software updates or upgrades are capitalised only when they increase the usefulness of or value of the software.

Costs associated with development and maintenance of Stats NZ's website 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.

	Software	Internally generated software	Assets under construction	Total
	$000	$000	$000	$000
Cost				
Balance as at 1 July 2023	3,259	66,510	8,414	78,183
Additions	-	-	13,843	13,843
Transfers from assets under construction	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(777)	(13,022)	-	(13,799)
Balance as at 30 June 2024	**2,482**	**53,488**	**22,257**	**78,227**
Additions	-	-	14,301	14,301
Transfers from assets under construction	-	16,711	(16,711)	-
Disposals	(677)	(3,955)	-	(4,632)
Balance as at 30 June 2025	**1,805**	**66,244**	**19,847**	**87,896**
Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses				
Balance as at 1 July 2023	3,259	60,913	-	64,172
Depreciation expense	-	2,771	-	2,771
Elimination on disposal	(777)	(12,846)	-	(13,623)
Impairment losses	-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June 2024	**2,482**	**50,838**	**-**	**53,320**
Depreciation expense	-	2,696	-	2,696
Elimination on disposal	(677)	(2,244)	-	(2,921)
Impairment losses	-	-	5,880	5,880
Balance as at 30 June 2025	**1,805**	**51,290**	**5,880**	**58,975**
Carrying amounts				
As at 1 July 2023	-	5,597	8,414	14,011
As at 30 June 2024	-	2,650	22,257	24,907
As at 30 June 2025	-	14,954	13,967	28,921

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

Stats NZ has recognised an impairment loss totalling $5.880 million (2024: $Nil) for internally developed software under construction. The early closure of a project resulted in an impairment loss of $4.254 million as the product-in-development was unlikely to deliver the intended functionality. Another impairment loss of $1.626 million was due to the inability to reliably measure and attribute the capital expenditure to various software in development. The impairment losses were estimated based on invoices and staff timesheets. The impairment losses have been recognised in the Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense in the line item 'Depreciation, amortisation, and impairment'.

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 $1,940,607 (2024: Loss of $327,392).

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 $2,403,000, the net surplus for the 2024/25 financial year, is to be returned to the Crown (2024: $36,000).

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 achieves its strategic direction effectively, 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 2025 (2024: $Nil).

Key management personnel compensation

2024 Actual		2025 Actual
	Executive leadership team [1]	
3,229	Remuneration ($000)	2,644
9.2	Full-time equivalent members	7.2

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

There have been no material events after balance date.

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.

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000
	Financial assets measured at amortised cost	
16,047	Cash and cash equivalents	15,426
44,159	Debtor Crown	40,461
502	Receivables (excluding taxes receivable)	666
60,708	**Financial assets measured at amortised cost**	**56,553**
	Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	
6,993	Payables (excluding deferred revenue and taxes payable)	6,928
6,993	**Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost**	**6,928**

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 2025 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 separates 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 $000	Contractual cash flows $000	Less than 6 months $000	Between 6 months and 1 year $000	Between 1 year and 5 years $000	More than 5 years $000
2025 Payables[1]	6,928	6,928	6,928	-	-	-
2024 Payables[1]	6,993	6,993	6,993	-	-	-

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 2024/25 actuals and the 2024/25 budget. The budget for financial year 2024/25 is included in the Estimates of appropriations for the year ending 30 June 2025.

Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

Revenue Crown

Revenue Crown was $21.549 million less than budgeted mainly due to a timing delay in the recognition of $23.549 million of revenue in the 5-year multi-year appropriation to deliver population and social statistics. This was offset by an increase of $2 million from the drawdown of a tagged contingency to support the better use of data for social investment.

Other revenue

Other revenue was $9.094 million less than budgeted mainly due to lower cost recoveries from the provision of shared services with other government agencies in Wellington and Christchurch. An overall decrease in operating expenditure has driven the recoverable expenditure lower.

Personnel expense

Personnel expense was $17.359 million less than budgeted mainly due to restructuring, delays in recruitment activity, and further savings in contractor spend.

Operating expense

Operating expense was $21.182 million less than budgeted mainly due to delays in timing of work programmes, cost savings in contractors and consultants, a freeze in domestic and international travel, and other cost-saving initiatives.

Statement of financial position

Debtor Crown

Debtor Crown was $12.386 million more than budgeted mainly due to lower cash drawdowns needed to fund the capital expenditure for the year.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets were $13.821 million less than budgeted due to delays in work programmes and impairments of work-in-progress assets.

Creditors and other payables

Creditors and other payables were $6.670 million less than budgeted due to lower overall expenditure and faster payment processing times.

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 2025.

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

For the year ended 30 June 2025

2024 Expenditure after re-measurement $000		2025 Expenditure before re-measurement $000	2025 Re-measurement $000	2025 Expenditure after re-measurement $000	2025 Approved appropriation[1] $000
Vote Statistics					
Departmental output expenses					
8,014	Services to Other Agencies RDA	10,131	-	10,131	16,235
8,014	**Total departmental output expenses**	**10,131**	**-**	**10,131**	**16,235**
Departmental capital expenditure					
14,755	Stats NZ capital expenditure - Permanent Legislative Authority (PLA) under section 24(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989	14,494	-	14,494	22,000
14,755	**Total departmental capital expenditure**	**14,494**	**-**	**14,494**	**22,000**
Multi-category appropriation					
27,169	Stewardship of government data and statistical services	34,825	(11)	34,814	40,385
81,560	Population, social, and labour market data and statistical information services	71,791	(11)	71,780	74,551
82,137	Economic and business data and statistical information services	66,443	(11)	66,432	63,517
190,866	**Total multi-category appropriation**	**173,059**	**(33)**	**173,026**	**178,453**
Multi-year appropriation					
46,361	2023 Census of Population and Dwellings	-	-	-	-
-	Delivery of population and social statistics	21,875	-	21,875	45,424
46,361	**Total multi-year appropriation**	**21,875**	**-**	**21,875**	**45,424**
259,996	**Total annual, multi-year and permanent appropriations**	**219,559**	**(33)**	**219,526**	**262,112**

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 39–53.

Reconciliation of multi-year appropriations

For the year ended 30 June 2025

The Delivery of population and social statistics multi-year appropriation was established from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2029. This appropriation is limited to the delivery of population and social statistics in accordance with the requirement for the delivery of a census in line with New Zealand and international obligations.

Appropriation, adjustment, and use	**Delivery of population and social statistics $000**
Original appropriation	227,120
Adjustments to 2024/25	-
Total adjusted appropriation	**227,120**
Actual expenses in 2024/25	(21,875)
Total actual expenses	**(21,875)**
Balance of appropriation	**205,245**

Statement of departmental unappropriated expenditure and capital expenditure

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Stats NZ had no unappropriated expenses or capital expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2025 (2024: $Nil).

Statement of departmental capital injections

For the year ended 30 June 2025

2024 Actual $000		**2025 Actual $000**	**2025 Approved appropriation[1] $000**
	Vote Statistics		
13,050	Stats NZ – Capital injection	1,400	1,400

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 2025

Stats NZ had no capital injections for the year ended 30 June 2025 without, or in excess of, authority (2024: $Nil).

Statements of revenue and output expenses

The overarching purpose of the official statistics multi-category appropriation is to ensure the availability and to promote 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 2025

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000	2025 Approved appropriation[1] $000
37,125	Revenue from the Crown	37,623	37,623
1,735	Other revenue	1,650	2,762
38,860	Total operating revenue	39,273	40,385
27,169	Total output expenditure	34,814	40,385
11,691	**Net operating surplus/(deficit)**	**4,459**	**-**

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 39–53.

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 2025

2024 Actual		2025 Actual	2025 Approved Appropriation [1]
$000		$000	$000
81,848	Revenue from the Crown	71,077	71,077
2,101	Other revenue	2,548	3,474
83,949	Total operating revenue	73,625	74,551
81,560	Total output expenditure	71,780	74,551
2,389	Net operating surplus/(deficit)	1,845	-

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 39–53.

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 2025

2024 Actual		2025 Actual	2025 Approved appropriation[1]
$000		$000	$000
64,040	Revenue from the Crown	60,740	60,740
3,376	Other revenue	1,824	2,777
67,416	Total operating revenue	62,564	63,517
82,137	Total output expenditure	66,432	63,517
(14,721)	**Net operating surplus/(deficit)**	**(3,868)**	**-**

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 39–53.

Delivery of population and social statistics

This appropriation is limited to the delivery of population and social statistics in accordance with the requirement for the delivery of a census in line with New Zealand and international obligations.

For the year ended 30 June 2025

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000	2025 Approved appropriation[1] $000
-	Revenue from the Crown	21,875	45,424
-	Other revenue	-	-
-	Total operating revenue	21,875	45,424
-	Total output expenditure	21,875	45,424
-	**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 has been reported on pages 39–53.

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 2025

2024 Actual $000		2025 Actual $000	2025 Approved appropriation[1] $000
-	Revenue from the Crown	-	-
8,014	Other revenue	10,131	16,235
8,014	Total operating revenue	10,131	16,235
8,014	Total output expenditure	10,131	16,235
-	**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 39–53.