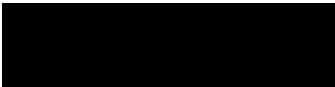




09 October 2024



Kia ora 

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-035186**

Thank you for your email of 12 September 2024 asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982:

1. *What was the total cost by year and month from and including 2020 to 2024 Year to date for clinical assessments relating to COVID 19 claims.*
2. *Of the total cost by month, what value was attributed to claims approved/declined? For example (Numbers fictitious and only for example) May 2024 - \$250,000 (Approved \$125,000 / Declined \$125,000)*
3. *In addition, what is the total number of claims by month approved, declined, and pending (Years and months) relating to COVID 19 Vaccine injury/adverse reactions and associated payments to assessed claims.*
4. *Of the claims pending each month, what is the average age by calendar days of pending claims? For example (Numbers fictitious and only for example) May 2024 - 25 claims approved, 25 declined, 50 pending (avg age 300 days). \$50,000 approved claims*

**Clinical assessments for COVID-19 claims**

Please find in the below table all payments for clinical assessment service for COVID- 19 claims between 1 January 2020 and 19 September 2024.

**Table 1: The total cost for clinical assessment service for COVID-19 claims between 1 January 2020 and 19 September 2024, broken down by payment month, year number and cover decision.**

		Payment Calendar Year				
Decision	Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (YTD)
Accept	January		\$83	\$28		
	February			\$165		
	March					
	April					
	May					
	June			\$1,672		
	July					
	August	\$27				
	September					
	October					
	November					
	December	\$110				
Decline	January					
	February					
	March					
	April					
	May					
	June					
	July			\$69		
	August			\$15		
	September					

Decision	Month	Payment Calendar Year				
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (YTD)
	October		\$55			
	November					
	December		\$27			

#### Notes about table 1

- COVID-19 claims are identified where the claim includes one of the following read code injuries: A795. - Coronavirus infection; AyuDC - [X] Coronavirus infection, unspecified.
- Claims cover decision is based on the decision of the injury, claims with a declined coronavirus infection injury but with other accepted injuries on the same claim will be counted as declined.
- If the injury status is 'approved', 'deemed' or 'provisional' and the cover decision is accepted then the injury status will be counted as accepted.
- This dataset does not include claims where injury cover has not yet been decided or where the claim is a duplicate.
- Claims managed by an accredited employer are excluded.
- Costs are based on payment date. Payment date may be different to the date of service.
- Costs provided are exclusive of GST.
- Data was extracted on 20 September 2024 and may change if extracted again later.

#### Injuries caused by treatment

A treatment injury is a personal injury caused because of seeking or receiving medical treatment from, or at the direction of, a registered health professional. To fulfil the criteria for cover, the person must have suffered a personal injury and there must be a clear causal link between the treatment and the injury, and the injury must not be a necessary part or ordinary consequence of the treatment.

#### Notes about the below tables

- The data below was extracted on 25 September for COVID-19 vaccination related claims lodged with ACC between 18 February 2021 (when New Zealand began COVID-19 vaccinations) and 25 September 2024.
- As the data is extracted from a live system, figures may differ if extracted in future.
- There were 4,265 COVID-19 vaccination related claims lodged between 18 February 2021 and 25 September 2024.
- The cover status of included claims (accepted, declined or pending) has been based on the cover decision as of 25 September.

#### Payments

To date, the total payment made on decided COVID-19 vaccination related claims was \$12,521,125. Table 2 shows a breakdown of the payments made by claim lodgement month.

**Table 2: Payment on decided COVID-19 vaccination related claims by claim lodgement month**

Claim Lodgement Month	Payment Amount	
	Accepted	Declined
2021-Mar	\$97	\$18
2021-Apr	\$587	\$61
2021-May	\$237,207	\$23,951
2021-Jun	\$123,168	\$751
2021-Jul	\$286,411	\$7,859
2021-Aug	\$399,314	\$6,894
2021-Sep	\$325,180	\$18,231

Claim Lodgement Month	Payment Amount	
	Accepted	Declined
2021-Oct	\$674,387	\$371,601
2021-Nov	\$706,870	\$104,293
2021-Dec	\$1,181,943	\$31,676
2022-Jan	\$1,114,136	\$96,507
2022-Feb	\$1,642,370	\$55,079
2022-Mar	\$591,994	\$76,427
2022-Apr	\$967,545	\$36,415
2022-May	\$561,393	\$26,436
2022-Jun	\$205,939	\$19,630
2022-Jul	\$611,447	\$13,601
2022-Aug	\$121,450	\$27,543
2022-Sep	\$360,813	\$23,484
2022-Oct	\$486,159	\$26,719
2022-Nov	\$137,977	\$18,121
2022-Dec	\$2,698	\$16,582
2023-Jan	\$19,211	\$13,328
2023-Feb	\$26,336	\$12,744
2023-Mar	\$11,528	\$6,519
2023-Apr	\$1,918	\$3,089
2023-May	\$147,659	\$2,878
2023-Jun	\$157,875	\$7,486
2023-Jul	\$82,106	\$2,333
2023-Aug	\$123,723	\$10,716
2023-Sep	\$27,159	\$4,008
2023-Oct	\$2,463	\$7,149
2023-Nov	\$58,248	\$6,874
2023-Dec	\$511	\$3,488
2024-Jan	\$798	\$1,524
2024-Feb	\$4,091	\$1,768
2024-Mar	\$3,545	\$1,737
2024-Apr	\$14,574	\$613
2024-May	\$3,272	\$861
2024-Jun	\$3,360	\$2,175
2024-Jul	\$1,867	\$365
2024-Aug	\$206	\$0
2024-Sep	\$60	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,429,594</b>	<b>\$1,091,531</b>

### Number of claims

The number of COVID-19 vaccination related claims by lodgement month are provided in table 3. The claims are broken down by the cover decision of accepted, declined and pending.

**Table 3: Number of COVID-19 vaccination related claims by claim lodgement month**

Claim Lodgement Month	Treatment Injury Claim Decision as at 25 September 2024		
	Accepted	Declined	Pending
2021-Mar	4	<4	0
2021-Apr	12	8	0
2021-May	38	24	0
2021-Jun	47	27	0
2021-Jul	30	22	0
2021-Aug	79	52	0

Claim Lodgement Month	Treatment Injury Claim Decision as at 25 September 2024		
	Accepted	Declined	Pending
2021-Sep	132	143	0
2021-Oct	151	181	0
2021-Nov	163	270	0
2021-Dec	159	237	0
2022-Jan	130	185	0
2022-Feb	143	244	0
2022-Mar	118	169	0
2022-Apr	65	106	0
2022-May	59	103	0
2022-Jun	44	72	0
2022-Jul	44	55	0
2022-Aug	41	69	0
2022-Sep	35	57	0
2022-Oct	23	44	0
2022-Nov	21	43	0
2022-Dec	7	43	0
2023-Jan	8	25	0
2023-Feb	5	33	0
2023-Mar	11	17	0
2023-Apr	13	25	0
2023-May	19	35	0
2023-Jun	15	32	0
2023-Jul	8	17	0
2023-Aug	10	21	0
2023-Sep	12	14	0
2023-Oct	8	16	0
2023-Nov	6	16	0
2023-Dec	5	19	0
2024-Jan	4	12	0
2024-Feb	12	9	<4
2024-Mar	6	8	<4
2024-Apr	7	15	4
2024-May	11	15	4
2024-Jun	7	7	4
2024-Jul	5	6	6
2024-Aug	<4	<4	11
2024-Sep	<4	0	12

### Days waiting of pending claims

Table 4 shows the average wait time of pending claims for COVID-19 vaccination related claims by the end of each month since 2021. Please note the data provided for claims with a pending cover decision has been extracted based on the claim pending rolling status at each month end retrospectively. The average days waiting is calculated based on this.

**Table 4: The number of claims and the average days waiting for pending claims by the end of each month**

Month	Claims pending at month end	Average days waiting for pending claims
2021-Mar	5	18
2021-Apr	22	14
2021-May	55	17
2021-Jun	111	29

Month	Claims pending at month end	Average days waiting for pending claims
2021-Jul	106	38
2021-Aug	160	29
2021-Sep	287	24
2021-Oct	435	31
2021-Nov	611	34
2021-Dec	651	41
2022-Jan	681	48
2022-Feb	533	45
2022-Mar	403	49
2022-Apr	334	56
2022-May	319	59
2022-Jun	293	60
2022-Jul	233	71
2022-Aug	225	71
2022-Sep	207	69
2022-Oct	203	74
2022-Nov	181	78
2022-Dec	175	81
2023-Jan	166	92
2023-Feb	158	96
2023-Mar	120	102
2023-Apr	127	108
2023-May	124	93
2023-Jun	129	76
2023-Jul	110	78
2023-Aug	98	80
2023-Sep	83	74
2023-Oct	83	73
2023-Nov	67	71
2023-Dec	67	74
2024-Jan	61	81
2024-Feb	56	71
2024-Mar	47	75
2024-Apr	53	59
2024-May	59	55
2024-Jun	46	54
2024-Jul	40	57
2024-Aug	43	67

#### Some data has been withheld

We have suppressed some claim numbers as a precaution against the possibility that individuals may be identified. In this case, we have used the value '<4' for any fields where the total count is fewer than four. This measure has been taken to protect individual privacy and is made under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. In making this decision we have determined that the public interest in the figures does not outweigh the personal privacy interests protected.

#### As this information may be of interest to other members of the public

ACC may publish a copy of this response on ACC's website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available [www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12](http://www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12)

**If you have any questions about this response, please get in touch**

You can email me at [GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz](mailto:GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz).

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Ngā mihi



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