

VOTE Statistics

VOTE Statistics

OVERVIEW

Appropriations sought for Vote Statistics in 1999/2000 total \$57.892 million. This is intended to be spent as follows:

- \$1.015 million (1.8% of the Vote) on coordinating government statistical activities.
- \$28.280 million (48.8% of the Vote) on purchasing population, social and labour force statistics.
- \$28.597 million (49.4% of the Vote) on purchasing economic and business statistics.

Details of how the appropriations are to be spent appear in Parts B1, C and E of this Vote.

Vote Statistics does not contain any Crown revenue or Crown expenditure.

Footnotes

Note 1	<i>Not applicable as Crown revenue is not appropriated.</i>
Note 2	<i>Appropriations are stated GST inclusive (where applicable).</i>

VOTE Statistics

VOTE MINISTER: MINISTER OF STATISTICS

ADMINISTERING DEPARTMENT: STATISTICS NEW ZEALAND

The Minister of Statistics is the Responsible Minister for Statistics New Zealand

Part A - Statement of Objectives and Trends

Part A1 - Objectives for Vote Statistics

The appropriations sought for Vote Statistics will fund activities that will inform the Government and the community about the nature of the society we live in, the state of the economy, and our position in the world.

More specifically, the outputs funded by appropriations will:

- enhance planning and decision-making by both the Government and business
- facilitate electoral and political processes, and promote both the public accountability of central and local government and the effective discussion and debate of public issues
- promote the efficient operation of information, financial and other markets
- meet the information needs of international organisations and businesses, and of other nations that compare their position to that of New Zealand.

The Minister of Statistics will purchase outputs in Vote Statistics that will contribute to the Government's overarching goals and strategic priorities for 1999 to 2002 by:

- providing authoritative official statistics, independent of government influence, that measure progress towards those objectives
- informing effective public policy formulation, programme implementation, policy presentation and programme evaluation
- providing information on the nature of New Zealand society and on New Zealand's position in the world, which determines the context of the public programmes directed at the overarching goals and strategic priorities.

Links Between Output Classes and the Government's Outcomes

The links between the Department's three output classes and the Government's outcomes are as follows:

Output Class	Related Outcomes
Coordination of Government Statistical Activities	Contributes to the Government's enterprise and innovation goals by ensuring that all government statistical activities are coordinated to minimise respondent burden, avoid duplication of effort, and permit the linking of statistics from a variety of data sources. This contributes to stronger downward pressure on costs by reducing compliance costs.
Population, Social and Labour Force Statistical Information Services	<p>Contributes to the Government's education and training strategic priorities by providing essential information for educational planning purposes, and information on the relationship between educational attainment, qualifications, training and employment.</p> <p>Contributes to the Government's strategic priority of extending economic and social opportunities through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the three-yearly Household Economic Survey, which is a key data source for measuring standard of living, wellbeing, income adequacy, and the nature of behavioural changes over time, in order to monitor the effectiveness of social programmes • the projection of mortality trends, fertility trends and migration behaviour, which provides a reliable basis for developing a sustainable long-term social policy • the five-yearly Census of Population and Dwellings, which is a major source of information for the provision of social assistance

Output Class	Related Outcomes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the programme of social reporting, which provides in-depth analysis of the circumstances of major subgroups of the population. <p>Contributes to the Government's Treaty of Waitangi goal through the Census of Population and Dwellings, Household Economic Survey and Household Labour Force Survey. Those collections provide information on Māori economic opportunity and social outcomes, and permit the monitoring of progress towards the goal of social and economic parity between Māori and non-Māori.</p>
Economic and Business Statistical Information Services	<p>Contributes to the Government's goal of a strongly growing, internationally competitive enterprise economy through a wide range of statistics that provides information necessary to facilitate and monitor economic activity and growth, employment, price stability, and employment relationships.</p> <p>Contributes to the Government's enterprise and innovation goals through the provision of statistics on small business, research and development, capital investment and productivity. Other business and economic statistics enable markets to be well informed.</p> <p>Contributes to the Government's strategic priority of strengthening external linkages by measuring New Zealand's transactions with the rest of the world, and by providing international comparisons.</p>

Part A2 - Trends in Vote Statistics

The time series of departmental flows for Vote Statistics reflects the fluctuations in the level of outputs purchased by the Crown.

Output Trends: 1994/95 to 1999/2000

Appropriation trends for departmental output classes can be characterised by three major activities:

- Cycles of statistical activity that impact on appropriations, the most visible being the Census of Population and Dwellings (see the following table). The most recent population census was held in March 1996, and the 1995/96 year saw an increase in appropriations of \$20.8 million to cover this activity. The next census in March 2001 will have a similar increase. The year immediately following the census sees a major reduction to the Vote (by \$17.4 million), followed by minor reductions until the next census. With several notable exceptions, most other statistical activity has monthly, quarterly or annual cycles that do not cause significant changes to appropriations from one year to the next. The exceptions that do impact on the Vote, but to a much lesser extent than the population census, are the seven-yearly cycle of the Inter-industry Study, the six-yearly cycle of the revision to the Consumers Price Index, and the three-yearly cycle of the Household Economic Survey.

	1994/95 \$000	1995/96 \$000	1996/97 \$000	1997/98 \$000	1998/99 \$000	1999/00 \$000
Funding for the five-yearly Census of Population and Dwellings	3,789	24,597	7,127	1,877	3,278	3,789

Note: Funding for 1997/98 included a \$0.596 million expense transfer.

- Information technology upgrade. Although this commenced in 1994/95, the significant impact was in 1995/96 with an increase of \$7.7 million. Since then the appropriation requirements for the upgrade increased slightly before slowly reducing, with the overall impact being a permanent increase to Vote Statistics of \$7.6 million.
- Increases for one-off contracted statistics that are funded via third parties. This trend commenced in 1995/96 with an increase of \$1.0 million. Since then the level of appropriation required for this activity has increased to around \$2.4 million and is expected to remain about this level.

Trends in Capital Contributions and Other Expenses: 1994/95 to 1999/2000

Variations in these tend to reflect one-off rather than ongoing transactions.

Capital contributions

For Vote Statistics, capital contributions principally reflect three short-term trends:

- The first, covering 1994/95 and 1996/97, was capital to offset operating deficits owing to third-party revenue shortfalls in each of those years.

- The second trend is a two-year trend for the capital cost of upgrading the Department's computing facilities and information systems. These costs were \$13.590 million in 1994/95 and \$4.430 million in 1995/96.
- The third trend is a small additional investment required in both 1995/96 and 1996/97 for carrying out the 1996 Census of Population and Dwellings.
- A capital contribution was also received in 1994/95 for the establishment of a Retiring Leave Provision.

Other expenses

- The 1994/95 amount included both the establishment of a retirement provision, and losses from the sale of assets as the Department upgraded its computing environment.
- The 1998/99 Estimated Actual amount of \$1.754 million is the accrual of unvested long service leave and retirement leave. This is a one-off technical adjustment with any subsequent adjustments being treated as an output expense.

Analysis by Appropriation Type: 1999/2000 and 1998/99 Compared

Departmental output classes

The 1999/2000 annual appropriations for the purchase of departmental outputs are expected to total \$57.892 million, a net decrease of \$0.452 million relative to 1998/99. The output classes are generally consistent with 1998/99, except for the significant factors outlined below (see Part B2 for further details).

Changes - all output classes

- Additional statistics for third-party clients. Appropriations for output classes Population, Social and Labour Force Statistical Information Services (D2) and Economic and Business Statistical Information Services (D3) have been adjusted for costs recovered from third parties for the supply of additional, short-term, contracted statistics. Appropriations for this type of activity have decreased by a net \$0.145 million from \$2.546 million in 1998/99 to \$2.401 million in 1999/2000. Output class D2 has decreased by \$0.646 million while output class D3 has increased by \$0.501 million. Although these short-term surveys are commissioned and funded by third-party clients, the resulting outputs are publicly available.
- A reduction of \$0.166 million for the reduction to the capital charge rate.
- A decrease of \$0.221 million for the continuation of the information technology upgrade commenced in 1994/95. The funding for this upgrade has stabilised from 1999/2000 at \$7.597 million. This adjustment affects output classes D2 and D3 equally.

Changes - output class D2 Population, Social and Labour Force Statistical Information Services

- An increase of \$0.511 million for the cycle of the Census of Population and Dwellings. This five-yearly exercise, last undertaken in March 1996, provides much of the information necessary for the Government's future planning of social and economic services.
- An increase of \$0.200 million for an Innovation Survey funded via a vote transfer from Vote Research, Science and Technology. This affects 1999/2000 only.
- An increase of \$0.213 million to change the five-yearly revision of the Consumers Price Index to a six-year cycle. This change also results in decreases and increases in future years, with these changes being fiscally neutral over time.
- An increase of \$0.093 million (including a \$0.099 million expense transfer from 1998/99) for the continuation of the development only of a Longitudinal Survey of Income Dynamics. This survey covers income and the variables that affect income, and income adequacy for family or individual needs. The funding for this development work is via a vote transfer from Vote Research, Science and Technology, with 1999/2000 being the final year of the three-year development.
- An increase of \$0.180 million for the implementation of the revision to the Consumers Price Index that was deferred from 1998/99.
- A decrease of \$0.929 million for the permanent deferral by one year of the one-in-three-year Household Economic Survey so that it coincides with the six-yearly revision to the Consumers Price Index.
- A decrease of \$0.348 million for a permanent reduction to the Household Labour Force Survey as Vote Statistics' contribution to general savings in Government Administration Services.

Changes - output class D3 Economic and Business Statistical Information Services

- A decrease of \$0.395 million for developments to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) statistics. This was an expense transfer from 1997/98 to 1998/99, and these funds do not continue into 1999/2000 at that level.
- An increase of \$0.375 million for an Income Measure of GDP that was postponed from 1998/99 as Vote Statistics' contribution to general savings in Government Administration Services for that year.

Trends in Vote Statistics - Summary of Appropriations and Crown Revenue

Types of Appropriation	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99		1999/00 Appropriations to be Used				
	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Budget \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	By the Department Administering the Vote		For Non-Departmental Transactions		Total \$000
							Annual \$000	Other \$000	Annual \$000	Other \$000	
Operating Flows											
Classes of Outputs to be Supplied	46,232	75,412	59,985	57,819	58,344	56,513	57,892	-	-	-	57,892
Benefits and Other Unrequited Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-
Borrowing Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-
Other Expenses	615	-	-	-	1,754	1,754	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Flows											
Capital Contributions	15,666	4,807	4,040	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purchase or Development of Capital Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-
Repayment of Debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	-	-	-
Total Appropriations	62,513	80,219	64,025	57,819	60,098	58,267	57,892	-	-	-	57,892
Total Crown Revenue and Receipts (see note 1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-

Part B - Statement of Appropriations

Part B1 – Details of 1999/2000 Appropriations (see note 2)

	1998/99				1999/00		Description of 1999/00 Appropriations
	Vote		Estimated Actual		Vote		
Appropriations	Annual \$000	Other \$000	Annual \$000	Other \$000	Annual \$000	Other \$000	
Departmental Output Classes (Mode B Gross)							
D1 Coordination of Government Statistical Activities	1,103	-	1,103	-	1,015	-	Fulfilment of the statistical coordination requirements of the Statistics Act 1975.
D2 Population, Social and Labour Force Statistical Information Services	31,073	-	29,590	-	28,280	-	Provision of statistics on population and demography, social policy, household economics, the labour market, Census of Population and Dwellings, and the environment; publication of statistical compendia; and maintaining the <i>Streets Directory</i> .
D3 Economic and Business Statistical Information Services	26,168	-	25,820	-	28,597	-	Provision of statistics on business, on international trade and finance, and on the government sector, and publication of the National Accounts.
Total Appropriations for Departmental Output Classes (Mode B Gross)	58,344	-	56,513	-	57,892	-	Refer to Part C1 for a full description.
Other Expenses to be Incurred by the Department							

Part B1 – Details of 1999/2000 Appropriations (Continued)

Provision for Retirement and Long Service Leave	1,754	-	1,754	-	-	-	Technical adjustment for accrued unvested employee entitlements.
Total Appropriations for Other Expenses to be Incurred by the Department	1,754	-	1,754	-	-	-	
Total Appropriations	60,098	-	58,267	-	57,892	-	

Part C - Explanation of Appropriations for Output Classes

Part C1 - Departmental Output Classes

Output Class D1 - Coordination of Government Statistical Activities

Description

The Minister of Statistics will purchase outputs to fulfil the statistical coordination requirements of the Statistics Act 1975, including:

- defining and facilitating the use of standard statistical concepts, procedures, definitions and classifications
- advising government departments on statistical matters
- conducting systematic reviews of the collection, compilation, analysis, abstraction and publication of official statistics
- providing assessments for ministerial approval of survey proposals submitted by government departments for surveys of major significance to the official statistical system.

Quantity, quality, timeliness and cost

Where appropriate, comparative figures for the previous year are shown in parentheses.

Quantity

The Minister of Statistics will expect a further six (six) approved departmental standards for statistical concepts, definitions, classifications and questions to be published during the year. Ten (six) survey proposals for surveys developed by Statistics New Zealand are expected for assessment.

Quality

The Minister of Statistics will expect outputs to be peer-assessed within the Department to ensure that they meet the quality standards specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Timeliness

The Minister of Statistics will expect:

- assessments of survey proposals from within Statistics New Zealand seeking ministerial approval to be completed to the point of submitting a recommendation to the Minister of Statistics within 20 working days of receipt of the required documentation

- the six approved departmental standards to be published by 30 June 2000 in the *Directory of Concepts and Standards*.

Cost

This output class will be provided within the appropriated sum of \$1.015 million (inclusive of GST).

Year	Cost GST incl \$000	Cost GST excl \$000	Total Revenue GST excl \$000	Revenue Crown GST excl \$000	Revenue Other GST excl \$000
1999/00	1,015	902	902	885	17
1998/99	1,103	981	981	964	17

Output Class D2 - Population, Social and Labour Force Statistical Information Services

Description

The Minister of Statistics will purchase statistical and related outputs in the following categories:

Population and demography

Analysis of changes to the population base, including the preparation of population estimates and demographic projections.

Social policy

Information on the social conditions in New Zealand.

Household economics

Statistics relating to individual and household income and expenditure, and the Consumers Price Index.

Labour market

Analysis of the labour force, including labour supply, wage rates, work stoppages, earnings and hours worked, employment contracts, and Labour Cost Index statistics.

Census of Population and Dwellings

Statistics and reports from the five-yearly census.

Statistical compendia

Publication of the biennial *New Zealand Official Yearbook*, *New Zealand in Profile* and *Key Statistics*.

Environment

Maintaining an inventory of environmental statistics.

Quantity, quality, timeliness and cost

Where appropriate, comparative figures for the previous year are shown in parentheses.

Quantity

The Minister of Statistics will expect 63 (74) unique *Hot Off The Press* releases and 19 (23) publications and reports to be published during the year. Full details are specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Quality

The Minister of Statistics will expect outputs in this class to be delivered in accordance with the following quality standards:

Coverage

An achieved survey sample should faithfully represent the intended survey population. The coverage standard for a survey specifies that population. For example, the coverage standard for the Household Labour Force Survey is the civilian, usually resident, non-institutionalised New Zealand population aged 15 years and over, living in private households. Full details are specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Of the seven (six) response rate targets, five (three) will be between 90% and 100%, one (one) will be between 80% and 89%, and one (two) will be between 75% and 79%. Full details are specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Accuracy

Data will be free of computational and other processing errors, and will be able to meet reasonable independent scrutiny.

Integration

Survey information will be consistently classified to promote integration and comparison with statistics from other comparable data sources.

Presentation

Tables and graphs in *Hot Off The Press* releases and publications will meet the presentation standards set by the Office of the Government Statistician, as specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Timeliness

Monthly surveys

Food Price Index statistics will be released between 11 (11) days and 31 (27) days after the reference month, depending on the month. Migration statistics will be released three or five (three or five) weeks after the reference month, depending on the month.

Quarterly surveys

Statistics from nine (eight) quarterly surveys will be released as follows:

- For five surveys: between two weeks and fewer than 10 weeks after the reference quarter (for one survey, fewer than five weeks; for four surveys, between five weeks and fewer than 10 weeks).
- For four (three) surveys: between 10 weeks and 18 weeks after the reference quarter.

Annual surveys

Statistics from five (five) annual surveys will be released between two (four) months and seven (six) months after the reference year, depending on the survey, and personal income and income tax statistics for 1996/97 will be released by 23 December 1999.

Other surveys

Statistics from the Time Use Survey will be published by 15 December 1999.

Full details are specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Cost

This output class will be provided within the appropriated sum of \$28.280 million (inclusive of GST).

Year	Cost GST incl \$000	Cost GST excl \$000	Total Revenue GST excl \$000	Revenue Crown GST excl \$000	Revenue Other GST excl \$000
1999/00	28,280	25,138	25,138	20,291	4,847
1998/99	31,073	27,620	27,620	22,157	5,463

Output Class D3 - Economic and Business Statistical Information Services

Description

The Minister of Statistics will purchase statistical and related outputs in the following categories:

Business statistics

Statistics relating to the productive base of the economy, including (a) business price indexes, (b) retail, wholesale, manufacturing and building activity, and (c) information technology.

International trade and finance

Statistics measuring changes in the value and volume of imports and exports of merchandise trade that show the flows of resources between all New Zealand businesses, government and individuals on the one hand, and the rest of the world on the other; overseas debt statistics; and New Zealand's International Investment Position statement.

Government sector

Statistics relating to the financial activities of central and local government.

National Accounts

Statistics analysing the past and current macro-performance of the New Zealand economy according to international standards, and describing the interdependence between industries.

Quantity, quality, timeliness and cost

Where appropriate, comparative figures for the previous year are shown in parentheses.

Quantity

The Minister of Statistics will expect 127 (127) unique *Hot Off The Press* releases and three (three) publications to be published during the year. Full details are specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Quality

The Minister of Statistics will expect outputs in this class to meet the following quality standards:

Coverage

An achieved survey sample should faithfully represent the intended survey population. The coverage standard for a survey specifies that population. For example, the coverage standard for the Quarterly Balance of Payments Survey is a sample of companies and government organisations known to have overseas affiliations or transactions with non-residents. Full details are specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Of the 25 (14) response rate targets, 14 (eight) will be between 90% and 100%, six will be between 80% and 89% (three at least 85%), and five will be between 70% and 79% (three at least 75%). Full details are specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Accuracy

Data will be free of computational and other processing errors, and will be able to meet reasonable independent scrutiny.

Integration

Survey information will be consistently classified to promote integration and comparison with statistics from other comparable data sources.

Presentation

Tables and graphs in *Hot Off The Press* releases and publications will meet the presentation standards set by the Office of the Government Statistician, as specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Timeliness

Monthly surveys

Statistics from five (five) monthly surveys will be released between two (three) weeks and eight (nine) weeks after the reference month, depending on the survey.

Quarterly surveys

Statistics from 14 (14) quarterly surveys will be released as follows:

- For six (six) surveys: between seven (five) weeks and fewer than 10 weeks after the reference quarter.
- For eight (eight) surveys: between 10 weeks and 14 weeks after the reference quarter.

Six-monthly surveys

Provisional statistics from one (one) six-monthly survey will be released two (one) months after the reference period.

Annual surveys

Statistics from 10 (10) annual surveys will be released as follows:

- For seven (five) surveys: between two months and eight months after the reference year.
- For three (five) surveys: between 12 months and 18 months after the reference year.

Other releases

Statistics from the 1995/96 Inter-Industry Study will be available on request by 30 November 1999.

Full details are specified in the Purchase Agreement.

Cost

This output class will be provided within the appropriated sum of \$28.597 million (inclusive of GST).

Year	Cost GST incl \$000	Cost GST excl \$000	Total Revenue GST excl \$000	Revenue Crown GST excl \$000	Revenue Other GST excl \$000
1999/00	28,597	25,419	25,419	21,871	3,548
1998/99	26,168	23,260	23,260	20,177	3,083

Part D - Explanation of Appropriations for Other Operating Flows

Part D1 - Benefits and Other Unrequited Expenses

There is no appropriation for Part D1.

Part D2 - Borrowing Expenses

There is no appropriation for Part D2.

Part D3 - Other Expenses

There is no appropriation for Part D3.

Part E - Explanation of Appropriations for Capital Flows

Part E1 - Capital Contributions

There are no capital contributions in the 1999/2000 financial year.

Net Worth of Entities Owned

Statement of Estimated and Forecast Net Worth

Entities Owned	Balance Date	Estimated Net Worth 1999 \$ million	Forecast Net Worth 2000 \$ million
Statistics New Zealand	30 June	17.632	17.632

Part E2 - Purchase or Development of Capital Assets of the Crown

There is no appropriation for Part E2.

Part E3 - Repayment of Debt

There is no appropriation for Part E3.