



1 November 2022



Thank you for your email of 21 September 2022, requesting the following information:

- *As at 31 August 2022 how many schools have failed to file audited financial statements for the 31 December 2021 school year?*
- *Which schools are they?*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

As of 31 August 2022, there are 584 schools and kura that have not had their 2021 audits completed. A list of these schools and kura is provided in **Appendix One**.

We have consolidated our audit records with reports provided from the Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) when preparing a response to your request, so this list includes schools and kura that have completed their audit but not yet notified the Ministry.

It should be noted that 86% of schools and kura provided their financial statements for audit by 31 March 2022, but the 2021 audit season has been heavily impacted by ongoing auditor shortages and delays resulting from COVID isolation requirements during 2022, which has impacted their ability to submit completed 2021 audits.

There are 86 audits due to be signed by schools and kura where the recent board election process has delayed the completion of these accounts.

Please note that the Ministry now proactively publishes official information responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review my decision on your request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or to Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā

Helen Hurst
Chief Operating Officer
Te Mahau | Te Pae Aronui (Operations and Integration)