



22 AUG 2018



Dear 

Thank you for your email of 2 July 2018 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

- *A breakdown of the number of primary school children who have transferred schools since 2008 – a yearly breakdown of the figures.*
- *A breakdown of the number of high school students who have transferred schools since 2008 – a yearly breakdown of the figures*
- *A regional breakdown of those figures.*

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

The Ministry did not routinely collect information on school transfers between 2008 and 2009. Therefore, I am unable to provide this information, as a full data set does not exist, and am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act.

I am providing you with two tables in **Appendix One** which show the number of students who have transferred school at least once within the school year from 2010 to 2017. The data is grouped by the location (Education Region) of the first school the student transferred from. The regional origin of any subsequent transfers is not represented in the data. Table 1 details the number of first school transfers made by students aged 4 to 12 years. Table 2 details the number of first school transfers made by students aged 13 to 19 years. In both tables, the age of the student is taken at 1 March of the year they transferred.

Students in the 'Unknown' category were previously home schooled. Students in Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu (correspondence school) are counted in the Wellington Education Region.

Note that this data differs from published transient data, as transient students are those who have changed school two or more times between 1 March and 1 November each year. The provided data includes all students who changed school one or more times between 1 March and 1 November each year.

For more information on student transience please see the Transient Student Indicator:

<http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/indicators/main/student-engagement-participation/transient-students>

The response to your question shows that in general, more students transferred in the Canterbury and Chatham Islands Education Region in 2011 than in other years. This is largely attributable to the impact of the Christchurch earthquake.

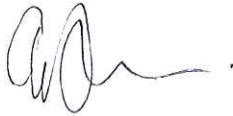
This response is a high level snapshot of individual student movement and is drawn only from the student enrolment data that the Ministry holds. The data does not identify the underlying reasons a student changes schools. Incidents of student movement are not generally under a school's control but may be connected to wide-ranging social, individual and community factors.

Please also note that these tables do not take account of any changes in the population of students in these regions over time. To determine whether transience is increasing or decreasing over time, you would need to account for changes in population over time as well.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA 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. If you have further questions please feel free to contact our media team in the first instance at media@education.govt.nz. If you are unsatisfied with my response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review it. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Dr Craig Jones
Deputy Secretary
Evidence, Data and Knowledge

Appendix One

Table 1: The number of first transfers by students, aged 4 to 12 years, from 2010 to 2017 grouped by Education Region.

Region	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Auckland	7152	7538	7402	7842	7355	8082	8630	8370
Bay of Plenty, Waiariki	2471	2644	2472	2468	2312	2443	2648	2624
Canterbury and Chatham Islands	2551	4220	2712	2579	2875	2571	2700	2651
Hawke's Bay, Tairāwhiti	1501	1594	1566	1519	1381	1496	1601	1611
Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast	889	1263	1020	968	976	966	933	917
Otago, Southland	1524	1883	1648	1528	1509	1443	1532	1468
Tai Tokerau	1529	1570	1583	1627	1676	1634	1719	1784
Taranaki, Whanganui, Manawatu	1925	2027	2016	2018	1878	1888	1979	2040
Waikato	2987	3063	2977	3040	3077	3047	3333	3449
Wellington	2455	2600	2538	2434	2373	2286	2400	2477
Unknown	226	195	185	193	146	170	183	197
Total	25210	28597	26119	26216	2558	26026	27658	27588

* Student's age is calculated as of 1 March each year

Table 2: The number of first transfers by students, aged 13 to 19 years, from 2010 to 2017 grouped by Education Region.

Region	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Auckland	2504	2609	2376	2513	2364	2369	2580	2203
Bay of Plenty, Waiariki	851	818	755	793	689	712	759	741
Canterbury and Chatham Islands	830	1642	850	725	715	760	764	771
Hawke's Bay, Tairāwhiti	606	613	528	530	517	498	564	582
Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast	317	414	333	309	304	283	286	293
Otago, Southland	484	583	549	451	435	441	450	476
Tai Tokerau	536	549	477	464	468	413	465	450
Taranaki, Whanganui, Manawatu	685	843	650	686	670	673	686	653
Waikato	977	915	865	859	832	789	834	869
Wellington	1136	1154	1015	1025	906	889	877	910
Unknown	169	167	144	160	130	142	130	140
Total	9095	10307	8542	8515	8030	7969	8395	8088

* Student's age is calculated as of 1 March each year