

Corporate Services



27 May 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT (1982) REQUEST HBDHB REF: OIA2022039

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 6 April 2022 where you requested information from Hawke's Bay District Health Board (HBDHB). Your questions and HBDHB's response is provided below.

-The number of assaults on staff for years 2018,2019,2020,2021,2022 (to current date)

Year	Number of assaults on staff
2018	128
2019	138
2020	178
2021 *to 30 Nov	125
1 Dec 2021 to 13 April 2022	54

- Could I please have this broken down into minor, moderate, and serious assaults

Year	Minor	Moderate	Serious
2018	35	25	3
2019	41	29	1
2020	53	32	1
2021 *to 30 Nov	33	43	1
Dec 2021 to 13 April 2022	41	1	0

- Could I please have this broken down into physical and sexual assaults

* sexual assaults are coded as "inappropriate sexual behaviour" – i.e. sexually suggestive remarks or threats, patients physically touching staff or patients exposing themselves to staff.

Year	Physical	Sexual
2018	55	2
2019	69	4
2020	101	5
2021 to 30 Nov	61	4
Dec 2021 to 13 April 2022	24	0

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

Hawke's Bay District Health Board

Telephone 06 878 8109 Fax 06 878 1648 Email: ceo@hbdhb.govt.nz; www.hawkesbay.health.nz
Corporate Office, Cnr Omaha Road and McLeod Street, Private Bag 9014, Hastings 4156, New Zealand

- For the assaults deemed moderate and serious, could I please have further details about what role the staff member holds (e.g. nurse, orderly etc), their gender, where they work, if the assault involved a weapon (please specify what the weapon was), what injuries were sustained, and what action was taken as a result (e.g. charges laid, etc).

There has been an assault recorded as moderate, on a clinical staff member within the last 6 months in the Mental Health and Addiction Service. This incident was reported to WorkSafe New Zealand and remains an active incident under review. The gender of the staff member involved is withheld under s9 (2)(a) of the Official Information Act to protect the privacy of natural persons. Other details requested of the assault are withheld under s9 (2)(a) of the Official Information Act to protect the privacy of natural persons as this is still under investigation.

Please see the table below regarding the moderate assaults:

Year	Moderate	Job Role	M	F
2018	25	Admin/Secretarial, Care Associates, District Nurse, Lab techs, Midwife, Nurse, other, Phlebotomist, Radiographer, Social Worker	1	24
2019	29	Admin/Secretarial, Care Associates, Dental Assistant, Doctor, Hospital Aid, Nurse EN and RN, other, Radiographer, Registrar, Security Guard	6	23
2020	32	Addiction Services Worker, Admin/Secretarial, Care Associate, District Nurse, Hospital Aid, Nurse RN, Nurse practitioner, Radiology Nurse, Security Guard	7	25
2021 *to 30 Nov	43	Admin/Secretarial, Anaesthetist, Care Associate, District Nurse, Doctor, Hospital Aid, Midwife, Nurse RN, Security Guard, Student.	9	34
Dec 2021 to 13 April 2022	1	*please refer to text above question		0

Serious Assaults

The DHB reported serious assaults as follows:

- three in 2018
- one in 2019
- one in 2020
- one in 2021
- zero – December 2021 to 13 April 2022.

*Please note due to the small numbers recorded per calendar year, the DHB is withholding job title, location of work and gender under s 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy (identity) of these individuals.

Could I also please have a copy of any reports or documents relating to assaults and violence towards staff published in 2020 or 2021.

The DHB has not published any reports or documents pertaining to your request during this time period.

I trust this information meets your needs. If you would like any further information or clarification please contact us via email. If you are not satisfied with this response you may contact the Office of the Ombudsman, phone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Hawke's Bay DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Chris Ash', written in a cursive style.

Chris Ash
Chief Operating Officer

cc: *Ministry of Health via email: SectorOIAs@moh.govt.nz*
oia@hbdhb.govt.nz