

24 February 2026

By email to: [REDACTED]

Kia ora [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2026/08

On 3 February 2026 you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

How many votes were cast in the last two weeks of the polling period in the Wairarapa electorate in 2017, 2020 and 2023 by people not enrolled? (For interpretation purposes I am referring to people who would now be ineligible to vote under the new rules during the last two weeks of the polling period in 2026 if they wanted to again vote in the last two weeks). If possible, could this also be broken down by booth?

The new enrolment rules in the Electoral Amendment Bill (EAB) mean that to be eligible to vote, an elector must be enrolled before voting starts at a general election.

Due to data limitations, we cannot calculate the precise number of voters in previous elections who would be ineligible under the new enrolment rules.

However, we do hold information on the number of electors who were newly enrolled, updated their details, or re-enrolled during the advance voting period.

Please note that for those who updated their details or re-enrolled, due to data limitations, we cannot determine if this would have made them ineligible to vote under the EAB. This is because electors can update their enrolment for a wide variety of reasons. Depending on their circumstances, only some of these electors would have been ineligible to vote under the new EAB.

General election	Voting period	Number of new electors in the Wairarapa electorate during voting period	Number of electors who updated their details or re-enrolled during voting period
14 October 2023	2 – 14 October 2023	814	3,872
17 October 2020	3 – 17 October 2020	464	3,155
23 September 2017	11 – 22 September 2017*	292	1,963

* In 2017, the rolls closed the day before election day.

Votes disallowed because the elector was not enrolled

Information on votes disallowed because the elector was not enrolled anywhere are available in the detailed election results available on the elections.nz website by navigating to [Past elections | Elections](#), Official Results, Statistics and Analysis of Special Declaration Votes Disallowed.

The information is only available by electorate, not broken down by polling place.

Election	Number of special votes disallowed in the Wairarapa electorate because the elector was not enrolled anywhere
2023	66
2020	63
2017	169

In the interests of transparency, we release responses to Official Information Act requests every 3 months. We will publish this response with your personal details redacted.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to make a complaint to the Ombudsman if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Lisa Hunkin
Manager, Data and Insights