

- **A breakdown of vaginal and caesarean births.**

This number is for the 2017/18 financial year (1 July 2017 – 30 June 2018):

Type of Birth	Number of births
Vaginal Births	4,865
Vaginal Instrumental Births	529
Caesarean Section Births	2,063

Table 3

2. How many hospital beds there were in the maternity ward in 2018 (Jan 1 to June 30)

- **Compared with the calendar year in 2017 and 2016.**

The number of maternity beds at Middlemore Hospital has remained unchanged for the period since 2016/17, and is at June 2018 - 45 beds.

3. What was the average length of stay for women in CMDHB maternity ward, quarterly, from Jan 1 2016 - June 30 2018, if recorded?

The average Length of Stay data is not recorded quarterly, so the numbers provided are for the financial years (16/17 and 17/18), and are for the average Length of Stay for all women (using all four birthing facilities):

Financial year	Average Length of Stay
2016/17	2.37 days
2017/18	2.34 days

Table 4

For context, each year over 7,000 women will use CM Health services and facilities to give birth.

Counties Manukau is fortunate in having three Community Birthing and Post-natal facilities (at Botany, Papakura and Pukekohe), which are often closer to home for new mothers. We use these facilities for primary birthing, but importantly we are also able to transfer women following a birth from the Middlemore Maternity Ward to the primary units for extended post-natal care.

Each year, we compile a report on our Maternity and New Born services and outcomes. Further information is currently publicly available on our website in the *Annual Women's Health and New Born Report 2017*.

<http://www.countiesmanukau.health.nz/our-services/womens-health/maternity-services/womens-health-and-newborn-annual-report/>

The 2018 report (reporting all the 2017 data you request), is currently being finalised, and we expect to be published on our website in October 2018.

I trust this information satisfactorily answers your query. If you are not satisfied with this response you are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau DHB website.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'GJ' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that tapers to the right.

Gloria Johnson
Chief Executive (Acting)