

# Shorter wait times for elective treatment

95% of people wait less than four months for elective treatment.

**LEAD MINISTER**


**Hon Simeon Brown**, Minister of Health

**LEAD AGENCIES**

**Ministry of Health**, Director-General of Health, Audrey Sonerson

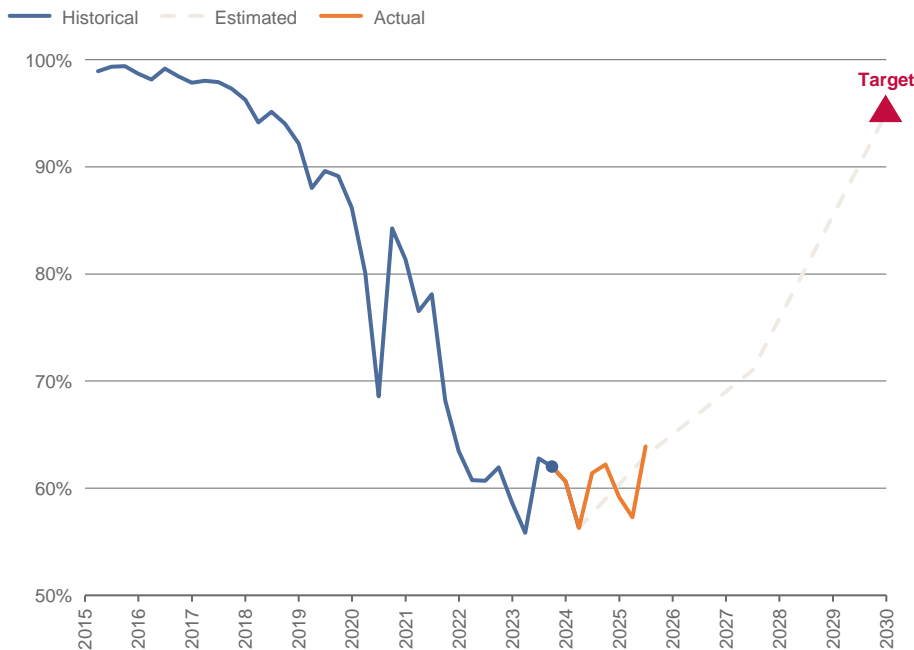
**Health New Zealand**, Chief Executive, Dr Dale Bramley

**TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 2025**

| Target | Baseline<br>(September 2023) | Current<br>(June 2025) | Status                                                                                        |
|--------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 95%    | 62.0%                        | 63.9%                  | <br>Feasible |

**PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET**

Percent of patients waiting less than four months for elective treatment



**TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS**

**The Government is committed to providing timely access to quality healthcare for all New Zealanders.** Results have improved compared to the previous quarter, and compared with the same quarter in the prior year.

**The Minister of Health** is focused on driving action to ensure that all New Zealanders have access to timely high-quality healthcare. This includes lifting the volume of surgeries to reduce the elective surgery backlog. The quarter to 30 June 2025 has seen the highest number of patients treated in the last ten years, when compared to other quarters.

**Initiatives to help improve results for this target include:**

- The Government delivered a total of 16,005 elective procedures (as of 30 June) through the electives boost to reduce waitlists for elective treatments - this is 5,426 more procedures than what was planned before the boost commenced in February 2025.
- The Government has increased the use of private capacity, with 18% of elective treatments for the 2025/26 year planned to be delivered by private providers.
- Health NZ will continue to partner with the private sector to deliver the Electives Boost through 2025/26 – this includes an additional 21,000 hips, knees, cataracts and other procedures to be provided.
- Improving internal hospital theatre productivity and developing national benchmarks for improvement to be delivered in 2025/26.
- A focus on improving operational processes – standardised waitlist management guidance, booking patients in the right order by clinical priority and time waiting.
- A focus on reducing long-waiting patients. By the end of June 2025, there were no patients waiting longer than two years that didn't have a plan in place.

**HOW TO FIND OUT MORE**

Health agencies will report on progress each quarter. National and regional results will be published so New Zealanders will be able to see how their local hospital is performing. Performance information about the health system is available at the Health New Zealand and Ministry of Health websites [www.tewhatauora.govt.nz](http://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz) and [www.health.govt.nz](http://www.health.govt.nz). For more information on the Government Targets go to [www.dpmc.govt.nz](http://www.dpmc.govt.nz)

\* Where data is sourced from National Collections, previous results may differ depending on the date of extraction as data is revised and updated live. Due to a new patient management system in Auckland District, results published may show slight variations in future reports.