



21 October 2019

C113435

Kirsten Gibson  
[fyi-request-11292-9437a6f1@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-11292-9437a6f1@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Ms Gibson

Thank you for your email of 25 September 2019, requesting information about the number of people released from prison between 2008 and 2019. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Corrections does not decide who is in prison and who is in the community, but rather manages sentences at the direction of the courts or New Zealand Parole Board (NZPB). While prisoners are in custody, Corrections aims to provide prisoners with the education and skills that will help them reintegrate, and ultimately, lead offence-free lives upon release.

A range of supports are available to people leaving prison to assist in their reintegration. Many services are delivered through contracts held between Corrections' and partner agencies in the community. These services include but are not limited to:

- Emergency accommodation - support service for high-risk and/or high-need community offenders during transition to suitable accommodation. The temporary accommodation is for a period of up to six nights. Providers ensure immediate needs are met and work with the offender to secure appropriate longer term accommodation, including a transition plan.
- Employment support service - targeted at short or long serving prisoners or offenders on a community sentence who require a high level of support to get a job and maintain it. Support is provided via active case management, job placement, and in-work support that fit with the job seeker's offender plan and conditions of release and/or Community Corrections requirements. This support is individualised and is ongoing for up to six months.
- Reintegration support services for short serving prisoners - supports high-risk, high-need short serving prisoners in the Auckland area and their transition into the community. Provides accommodation for up to four weeks and a wrap-around case management approach, with a strong emphasis on addressing long term accommodation and reintegration needs.

- Reintegration support services (PARS) - reintegration both in prison and the community. PARS work closely with prisoner families and supporting children to maintain contact with their parent in prison by administering the Child Travel Fund. PARS assist with guiding prisoners away from reoffending and confronting the issues which lead to offending.
- Supported Accommodation Service - supports high-risk, high-need long serving prisoners through their transition into the community to enable them to develop skills and strategies to lead independent and productive lives. Provides accommodation for up to 90 days and a wrap-around case management approach with a strong emphasis on addressing long term accommodation and other individual reintegration needs.
- Reintegration support for long serving prisoners - provides up to one month of support to those who are not suitable for the high intensity support programme but still present with significant reintegration needs. This is for long serving prisoners only. The intensity and nature of the support will vary depending on the needs of each offender.
- Volunteer support - volunteering assists offenders in meeting their rehabilitation needs and transition back into society upon release. Volunteers support and complement our other services for example in music, health and wellbeing, cultural and religious services, reading and writing, parenting/life skills or supporting other rehabilitation and reintegration programmes we have to offer.
- Out of Gate - supports offenders when they are released from prison. Out of Gate is designed to work with offenders both before and after release, supporting offenders through every aspect of their reintegration. This can include assistance to attend doctor's appointments, set up bank accounts, preparation for job interviews, liaising with Work and Income New Zealand, or assisting in obtaining accommodation.

You requested:

*I would like to have the total number of people released from prison annually. Can this information be separated by women's and men's prisons for the following years: 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009?*

The table below indicates the number of prisoners released from for the years 2009 to 2018 inclusive. The reasons for release include but are not limited to: release on statutory end date, release on parole, release on bail, compassionate release or release on home detention. It is important to note when reviewing the numbers that the general population of male prisoners is higher than that of female prisoners. As such, the release numbers for male and female prisoners are proportional to the overall male and female prisoner population respectively.

Year	Male Prisoner Releases	Female Prisoner Releases
2009	7,576	736
2010	7,637	836
2011	7,559	783
2012	7,071	736
2013	6,876	671
2014	6,756	669
2015	6,941	719
2016	7,548	847
2017	7,928	872
2018	7,720	910

I trust the information provided is of assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with Corrections. Alternatively you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi nui



Rachel Leota  
National Commissioner