

19 NOV 2013

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Tēnā koe Mr O'Leary

Official Information Act request

I am replying to your email of 8 October 2013 to New Zealand Police, in which you have requested information relating to cannabis related offences. New Zealand Police transferred your request to the Ministry of Justice on 18 October 2013 because Police do not hold this information.

The table below shows the number of people convicted of cannabis-related charges per year for the past ten years.

The third column shows the number of these people convicted of a cannabis-related offence that year who went on to be convicted of a further offence at a future date. For example, of the 6,519 people convicted of a cannabis-related offence in 2003/04, 5,099 went on to be convicted of another offence in the next ten years.

These figures do not show whether these individuals had previously been charged with other crimes, or whether they were convicted of other offences at the time they received their conviction on cannabis-related charges.

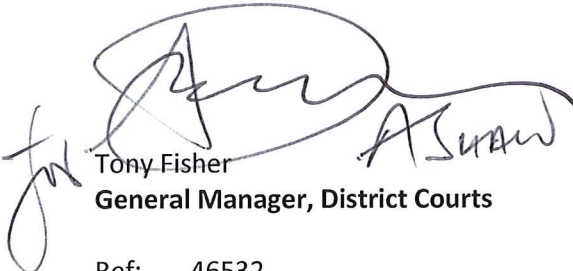
Drug convictions often go hand in hand with convictions for other offences. For example, data previously released by the Ministry of Justice showed that 95% of around 2,800 people jailed for drug offences over a five year period also received a conviction and prison sentence for other charges on the same day - most for more serious offences including acts intended to cause injury, property damage and robbery.

Year	Number of people convicted of a cannabis-related offence	Number of people convicted of another offence any time after the cannabis conviction
2003/04	6,519	5,099
2004/05	5,877	4,118
2005/06	5,669	3,631
2006/07	5,797	3,454
2007/08	6,029	3,389
2008/09	6,924	3,513
2009/10	7,488	3,376
2010/11	6,246	2,246
2011/12	5,329	1,423
2012/13	4,856	447

You have also asked for a breakdown of the subsequent offences committed after the cannabis conviction. This is displayed in the table below from 2003/04 to 2012/13.

Subsequent most serious offence (by charge group) committed after cannabis offence	Number of people
Murder	5
Attempted murder	2
Manslaughter	5
Driving causing death	2
Acts intended to cause injury	2,681
Sexual assault and related offences	75
Dangerous or negligent acts endangering persons	1,462
Abduction, harassment and other offences against the person	408
Robbery, extortion and related offences	95
Unlawful entry with intent/burglary, break and enter	816
Theft and related offences	2,895
Fraud, deception and related offences	288
Illicit drug offences	3,396
Prohibited and regulated weapons and explosives offences	523
Property damage and environmental pollution	1,116
Public order offences	2,889
Traffic and vehicle regulatory offences	6,539
Offences against justice procedures, government security and government operations	7,422
Miscellaneous offences	77

Heoi anō, nā



 Tony Fisher

 General Manager, District Courts

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