

3 February 2020

Jonathan Brewer  
[fyi-request-11985-612c22f5@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-11985-612c22f5@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Jonathan,

**Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request dated 6 January 2020. In your request, you asked for the information below:

- *Has the department considered adding Ashkenazi Jewish as an ethnic group profile (European or otherwise) collected by the Census? Please release any briefing papers or correspondence related to the issue.*

Stats NZ has not given consideration to adding Ashkenazi Jewish as an ethnic group to its Census collection at this point. For this reason, there are no briefing or discussion papers related to this subject currently available and therefore, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act.

It is worth noting, however, that for practical reasons it is not possible to list all ethnicities on a form when asking people a question regarding their ethnicity. In the situation where a person may want to record an ethnicity not listed, they can choose 'other' and record the ethnicity there.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right, by way of complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this response to your request.

Stats NZ intends to publish its response to your request made under the Act on the Stats NZ website. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published in its entirety. Consistent with the Act, publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and helps promote balanced public debate.

Yours sincerely,



Jarrod Williams  
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