



5 July 2021

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Tēnā koe

Official Information Act 1982 request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 26 May 2021 to the New Zealand Police seeking information regarding drug offences. On 26 May 2021, part of your request was transferred to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) for response. Your request was for the following:

I request a breakdown of the following statistics for the past 5 year period of 2016-2020.
Number of peopleconvictedwith the following
Possession of a class C drug.
Possession of a class B drug.
Possession of a class A drug.
Possession for supply of a class C drug.
Possession for supply of a class B drug.
Possession for supply of a class A drug.

On 4 June 2021, the Ministry sought clarification from you to identify what ANZSOC divisions may be relevant to your request. On 4 June you responded, noting the following ANZSOC divisions should be considered for this response:

102: Deal or traffic in illicit drugs
103: Manufacture or cultivate illicit drugs
104: Possess and/or use illicit drugs
109: Other illicit drug offences

In response to your clarified request, please find attached Table 1 and Table 2. Table 1 provides the number of people convicted of possession and/or use of classified drugs by class and drug type, between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2020. Table 2 provides the number of people convicted of cultivating, selling or distributing classified drugs by class and drug type, between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2020.

If you require any clarification of the information contained in this response please contact Alison Horwood, Media Manager, Media and External Relations, by calling (04) 918 8836; or emailing media@justice.govt.nz

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA. You can contact the Office of the Ombudsman by writing to PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143; calling 0800 802 602; or emailing info@ombudsman.parliament.nz

I trust that this information assists.

Nāku noa, nā

pp 

Jacquelyn Shannon

Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery

Ref: 88391

Table 1: Number of people convicted of possession and/or use of classified drugs as their most serious offence, by class and drug type, between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2020

ANZSOC Group	Class	Drug Type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
104/109: Possess and/or use illicit drugs (including utensils)	Class A	Cocaine	3	5	6	10	6
		Heroin	4	2	1	1	1
		LSD	18	22	18	20	18
		Methamphetamine	1,591	1,900	2,042	2,249	2,186
	Classes B and C, and 'Unspecified'	BZP	3	1	3	0	1
		Cannabis	1,626	1,549	1,440	1,242	1,013
		Ecstasy	11	15	28	36	46
		Fantasy	14	18	26	14	15
		Morphine	6	14	7	6	5
		Opium	0	0	0	0	1
		Other opiates	8	6	3	5	2
		Stimulants and Depressants	19	21	14	13	11
		Other or unspecified drug	252	339	229	139	102
		Total		3,555	3,892	3,817	3,735

Notes:

- This data counts a person once per calendar year for their most serious possession and/or use offence each year
- A calendar year is from 1 January to 31 December
- The drug associated with their most serious offence is counted.
- Year is based on the charge outcome date.

Table 2: Number of people convicted of cultivating, selling or distributing classified drugs as their most serious offence, by class and drug type, between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2020

ANZSOC Group	Class	Drug Type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
102: Deal or traffic in illicit drugs	Class A	Cocaine	0	13	5	14	12
		Heroin	0	1	1	0	1
		LSD	6	9	10	6	10
		Methamphetamine	440	524	512	438	590
		Other or unspecified drug	1	0	0	2	0
	Classes B and C, and 'Unspecified'	BZP	5	1	1	0	1
		Cannabis	549	473	421	384	348
		Ecstasy	10	4	10	18	26
		Fantasy	12	9	5	6	2
		Morphine	3	4	0	2	1
		Other opiates	2	5	2	0	1
		Stimulants and Depressants	23	9	15	3	1
		Other or unspecified drug	87	108	106	81	52
		103: Manufacture or cultivate illicit drugs	Class A	Cocaine	0	0	1
Heroin	1			0	0	0	1
Methamphetamine	21			26	30	23	18
Classes B and C, and 'Unspecified'	Cannabis		857	747	710	574	468
	Fantasy		7	0	1	0	1
	Morphine		0	0	0	0	1
	Other opiates		0	0	0	0	1
	Stimulants and Depressants		0	0	0	0	1
	Other or unspecified drug		28	22	27	19	21
	Total			2,052	1,955	1,857	1,570

Notes:

- This data counts a person once per calendar year for their most serious cultivation, supply and/or distribution offence each year.
- A calendar year is from 1 January to 31 December
- Year is based on the charge outcome date.