



13 August 2021

Mr Alistair Kendrick

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Tēnā koe Mr Kendrick

Thank you for your emails of 19 July 2021 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *How many adoptions has there been in each of the last 10 years (2011 to 2020) in New Zealand, broken down by type (e.g., overseas, within family, stranger, surrogacy).*
- *How many requests have been made under the Adult Adoption Act 1985, broken down by type (e.g., original birth certificate, section 8, section 9) and year.*

Please find below a response to both of your requests through the FYI website below.

- *How many adoptions has there been in each of the last 10 years (2011 to 2020) in New Zealand, broken down by type (e.g., overseas, within family, stranger, surrogacy).*

Oranga Tamariki does not hold information regarding adoption orders made each year by the Family Court. This information is held by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) who publish this information on their website.

Please see at the link below publications on the MoJ website regarding adoptions, as well as the number of adoption applications filed and granted, the court locations, and the age and gender of the children adopted.

<https://www.justice.govt.nz/about/publication-finder/?Keywords=adoption&start=0>

This data includes adoption orders made on stepparent applications, in-family applications, non-kin applications, surrogacy applications as well as some

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intercountry applications. However, the Ministry of Justice data does not differentiate between these types of adoption orders granted.

Should you wish to request further information regarding adoption data, please make a request to Ministry of Justice at [OIA@justice.govt.nz](mailto:OIA@justice.govt.nz).

In addition, information about intercountry adoptions completed under the Adoption Intercountry Act and the Hague Convention, can be found at the link below.

<https://assets.hcch.net/docs/a4590986-a162-4191-9032-09433ac30782.pdf>

Oranga Tamariki does hold some information on the provision of social work reports to the Court on adoption applications. Please see at the link below, a response that Oranga Tamariki has made publicly available.

[20181114-statistics-on-adoptions-via-surrogacy.pdf \(orangatamariki.govt.nz\)](#)

- *How many requests have been made under the Adult Adoption Act 1985, broken down by type (e.g., original birth certificate, section 8, section 9) and year.*

Adopted adults must apply to Birth Deaths and Marriages (BDM) for their Original Birth Certificate (OBC).

If the adopted adult is born after 1986, they can receive their OBC directly in the mail. If they are born before 1986, they can nominate to receive their OBC either through an independent counsellor or through Oranga Tamariki. The OBC's issued by Oranga Tamariki are only a proportion of OBC issued to adopted adults by BDM each year.

Please see at the table below the number applications under the Adult Adoption Information Act to Oranga Tamariki, for the previous 5 years, broken down by:

- Original Birth Certificate - Birth certificate that is issued upon birth and sealed after an adoption order has been made through Family Court.
- Section 8 - Birth parent applications for identifying information about their birth child.
- section 9 - Applications from adopted adults seeking current identifying information on birth parent.

Type	F2016	F2017	F2018	F2019	F2020
OBC (OT only)	161	177	179	131	176
Section 8	75	64	69	55	72
Section 9	223	221	257	217	177

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Should you wish to request further information regarding the requests made to BDM, please make a request to Births, Deaths and Marriages at [bdm.nz@dia.govt.nz](mailto:bdm.nz@dia.govt.nz).

Oranga Tamariki intends to make the information contained in this letter to the wider public shortly. We will do this by publishing this letter on our website. Your personal details will be deleted, and we will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@ot.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@ot.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. Information about this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Steve Groom, **General Manager Public, Ministerial and Executive Services**