

12 April 2022

Oscar
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Our ref: OIA 94530

Tēnā koe Oscar

Official Information Act request: Name suppression data

Thank you for your email of 20 March 2022 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information regarding name suppression. Specifically, you requested:

a breakdown from the past 5 years of the following statistics.

- *For each year, the number of permanent name suppression orders separated into convicted and discharged persons.*
- *Number of name suppression orders grouped by crime charged with.*
- *Number of permanent name suppression orders that were appealed by the crown or the media, with the appeal results and what the charged crime was.*

The information you have requested is set out in the four tables attached to this letter.

In response to part one of your request, please refer to **Table 1a** and **Table 1b** attached. Table 1a shows the number of convicted defendants that have been granted permanent name suppression, by calendar year between 2017 – 2021. Table 1b shows the number of discharged defendants that have been granted permanent name suppression, by calendar year between 2017 – 2021.

In response to part two of your request, please refer to **Table 2** attached. Table 2 shows the number of defendants that have been granted permanent name suppression, by charge type and calendar year between 2017– 2021. The data is broken down by charge using Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification (ANZSOC) group. ANZSOC is used to categorise offences into 16 divisions, within which further subdivisions and groups exist. More information on ANZSOC can be found at www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1234.0.

In response to part three of your request, please refer to **Table 3** attached. Table 3 shows the number of criminal appeals against permanent name suppression that were disposed of in the High Court and Court of Appeal, broken down by appeal outcome, for the calendar years 2017 – 2021. The Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) cannot provide you with information regarding charge type as the data is not recorded to that level of detail. I am therefore refusing that part of your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information is not held by the Ministry and is not believed to be held by another agency.

If you are not satisfied with my response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Nāku, noa nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jan Morison', with a horizontal line underneath.

Jan Morison
Acting Manager, Ministerial Relations and Services

Table 1a: Number of convicted defendants that have been granted permanent name suppression, by calendar year between 2017 - 2021

Court type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
District Court	203	165	171	180	151
High Court	2	3	5	7	2
Total	205	168	176	187	153

Notes for Table 1a:

- This data may differ from previously released or published data. This data was extracted from the Court's Case Management System as at 25 March 2022.
- A person is counted once per year. When a person is convicted of more than one offence in a year, the details of the most serious charge are included in the statistics.
- Year is the calendar year in which the direction was made. Calendar years start in January and end in December.

Table 1b: Number of discharged defendants that have been granted permanent name suppression, by calendar year between 2017 - 2021

Court type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
District Court	137	134	123	129	131
High Court	2	4	2	3	7
Total	139	138	125	132	138

Notes for Table 1b:

- This data may differ from previously released or published data. This data was extracted from the Court's Case Management System as at 25 March 2022.
- A person is counted once per year. When a person is convicted of more than one offence in a year the details of the most serious charge are included in the statistics.
- Year is the calendar year in which the direction was made. Calendar years start in January and end in December.
- 'Discharged' represents the number of people not convicted, which includes charge outcomes of withdrawn, dismissed, acquitted and discharged without conviction.

Table 2: Number of defendants that have been granted permanent name suppression, by ANZSOC group, by calendar year between 2017 – 2021.

ANZSOC group	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
01: Homicide and related offences	4	2	2	7	5
02: Acts intended to cause injury	110	80	75	66	50
03: Sexual assault and related offences	106	110	105	101	120
04: Dangerous or negligent acts endangering persons	19	12	9	21	8
05: Abduction, harassment and other offences against the person	11	13	12	13	8
06: Robbery, extortion and related offences	3	4	4	5	4
07: Unlawful entry with intent/burglary, break and enter	1	4	4	9	5
08: Theft and related offences	11	6	8	9	5
09: Fraud, deception and related offences	9	12	15	10	12
10: Illicit drug offences	13	7	13	12	11
11: Prohibited and regulated weapons and explosives offences	5	3	4	8	7
12: Property damage and environmental pollution	6	14	7	4	6
13: Public order offences	13	11	17	28	20
14: Traffic and vehicle regulatory offences	9	5	9	9	10
15: Offences against justice procedures, government security and government operations	18	17	12	10	14
16: Miscellaneous offences	6	6	5	7	6

Notes for Table 2:

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- A person is counted once per year. When a person is convicted of more than one offence in a year, the details of the most serious charge are included in the statistics.
- Year is the calendar year in which the direction was made. Calendar years start in January and end in December.

Table 3: Number of criminal appeals against permanent name suppression that were disposed in each court type, by appeal outcome, by calendar year between 2017 - 2021

Court type	Appeal outcome	Disposed in Year				
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
High Court	Abandoned	8	7	10	8	8
	Withdrawn	0	1	0	0	1
	Granted by Consent	1	0	0	0	0
	Struck out	0	0	1	0	0
	Allowed	5	7	8	11	5
	Granted	1	3	0	1	0
	Allowed in Part	0	0	2	0	3
	Dismissed	12	14	28	14	16
	Total	27	32	49	34	33
Court of Appeal	Abandoned	0	3	6	10	6
	Allowed	2	1	0	3	3
	Allowed in Part	0	1	0	0	3
	Dismissed	3	5	9	5	7
	Not classified	0	0	0	0	2
	Total	5	10	15	18	21
All court types	Total	32	42	64	52	54

Notes for Table 3:

- This data may differ from previously released or published data. This data was extracted from the Court's Case Management System as at 25 March 2022.
- A person is counted once per year. When a person is convicted of more than one offence in a year, the details of the most serious charge are included in the statistics.
- Any criminal appeals against suppressions cover the following appeal types:
 - Suppression
 - Conviction, Sentence and Suppression
 - Conviction and Suppression
 - Pre-trial ruling and Suppression
 - SG Sentence and Suppression
 - Suppression and Pre-trial ruling
 - Suppression and Bail

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