

20 October 2022

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Our ref: OIA 98977

Tēnā koe Zane

Official Information Act request- Parenting order applications

Thank you for your email of 2 September 2022 requesting, under the Official information Act 1982 (the Act), information regarding parenting order applications. Your request was as follows:

I request the following statistics by Application type

- Parenting Order
- Variation of Parenting Order
- Discharge of Parenting Order

Also the filing method:

- Without notice (ex-parte)
- On notice

Also each application outcome:

- Application granted
- Dismissed or struck out
- Lapsed, withdrawn or discontinued
- Application still active

The above stats required for the above application types filed between 2010 until 2022 grouped by year / and by gender

On 3 October 2022, we advised you that the information had not yet been finalised for release. Please accept my apologies for the delay in getting this information to you.

In response to your request, please refer to the following tables:

- **Table 1:** Number of s47 and s56 Parenting Order applications filed, by application type, filing method, and gender, filed between 1 January 2010 and 31 August 2022.
- **Table 2:** Number of s47 and s56 Parenting Order applications filed, by application type, outcome, and gender, filed between 1 January 2010 and 31 August 2022.

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



Shelley Hemi

Manager Operations Support, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery

Table 1: Number of s47 and s56 Parenting Order applications filed, by application type, filing method, and gender, filed between 1 January 2010 and 31 August 2022

Application Type	Filing Method	Gender	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
s47 Consented Parenting Order	Ex Parte/Without Notice	Female	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	3	4	5	3	2	0
		Male	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	3	4	2	1	2	0
		Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	On Notice	Female	0	0	0	0	23	66	94	100	100	125	89	115	84
		Male	0	0	0	0	24	37	64	66	61	70	70	76	58
		Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	1	1
s47 Parenting Order	Ex Parte/Without Notice	Female	2,787	2,382	2,232	2,424	3,333	3,720	3,968	3,898	3,768	3,917	3,715	2,964	1,871
		Male	1,081	941	923	922	1,429	1,577	1,696	1,586	1,610	1,577	1,425	1,233	727
		Unknown	49	35	39	46	61	62	71	70	71	78	88	73	44
	On Notice	Female	5,301	4,989	4,471	4,129	2,074	1,167	1,130	1,202	1,147	1,200	1,239	1,243	780
		Male	3,775	3,548	3,163	2,945	1,503	885	857	881	858	895	893	950	591
		Unknown	127	130	119	97	58	36	33	24	32	29	22	30	25
s56 Discharge of Parenting/Other Orders	Ex Parte/Without Notice	Female	84	89	98	112	164	178	211	158	184	203	162	140	88
		Male	59	65	66	79	100	97	145	115	119	107	87	86	46
		Unknown	2	0	2	5	5	4	3	2	1	2	1	2	0
	On Notice	Female	296	305	316	316	187	114	120	130	106	133	124	128	64
		Male	156	179	176	204	108	49	50	58	46	58	61	54	42
		Unknown	11	4	5	10	7	2	4	4	1	1	3	1	3
s56 Variation of Parenting/Other Orders	Ex Parte/Without Notice	Female	371	419	405	457	698	774	802	720	651	708	670	615	355
		Male	244	251	228	252	421	567	549	464	486	403	436	439	225
		Unknown	12	5	11	11	10	19	7	16	13	11	15	11	4
	On Notice	Female	1,060	1,072	1,059	1,051	596	330	300	325	336	295	337	367	219
		Male	940	964	931	900	503	333	308	309	310	299	271	321	222
		Unknown	33	29	21	22	12	8	9	9	7	8	6	10	9
Total		16,388	15,407	14,265	13,982	11,316	10,032	10,427	10,145	9,916	10,126	9,719	8,863	5,458	

Notes for table 1:

- This data may differ from previously released or published data. This data was extracted from the case management system on 12 September 2022.
- This data counts the number of applicants who have filed s47 Parenting Orders and s56 Parenting Order applications each calendar year.
- A person may have filed more than one application per year, therefore the total numbers cannot be interpreted as the number of individuals who made applications.
- Gender is that listed by the applicant at the time the application is filed. 'Unknown' is recorded as the gender of a respondent when their gender is not found in the case management system.
- Organisation has been removed from the gender count, and therefore applications filed by organisations are not included in this data.
- Parenting Order application data is extracted from a live dataset that is used for operational purposes, meaning the data will be updated with late data entry and active applications progressing through the court process. Therefore, this data may differ from data reported elsewhere with a different extraction date.
- The data for s47 Consented Parenting Order applications filed Ex Parte/Without Notice could be the result of data entry error. Rule 416H sets out the situations where an application is to be made without notice, it does not include applications by consent.
- Application types included in this data:
 - s47 Consented Parenting Order
 - s47 Parenting Order
 - s56 Discharge of Parenting/Other Orders
 - s56 Variation of Parenting/Other Orders

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Table 2: Number of s47 and s56 Parenting Order applications filed, by application type, outcome, and gender, filed between 1 January 2010 and 31 August 2022

Application Type	Application Outcome	Gender	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
s47 Consented Parenting Order	Application granted	Female	0	0	0	0	20	65	84	96	94	116	81	103	50	
		Male	0	0	0	0	22	36	54	66	62	62	68	66	28	
		Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	
	Application still active	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	32
		Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	28
		Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Dismissed or struck out	Female	0	0	0	0	0	2	11	5	2	4	5	3	1	
		Male	0	0	0	0	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	3	1	
		Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Lapsed, withdrawn or discontinued	Female	0	0	0	0	3	2	3	2	8	10	4	3	1	
		Male	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	1	1	6	0	4	1	
		Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
s47 Parenting Order	Application granted	Female	5,681	5,411	4,932	4,869	4,101	3,609	3,836	3,815	3,689	3,675	3,329	2,070	417	
		Male	3,310	3,190	2,942	2,827	2,172	1,803	1,900	1,821	1,805	1,694	1,464	984	167	
		Unknown	117	115	110	102	81	64	70	64	72	72	72	51	11	
	Application still active	Female	0	0	0	0	2	1	6	32	81	238	626	1,453	2,085	
		Male	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	19	44	137	355	883	1,082	
		Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	8	36	54	
	Dismissed or struck out	Female	1,105	851	754	806	635	612	598	599	471	511	393	228	40	
		Male	726	565	487	475	341	320	302	297	278	268	197	107	22	
		Unknown	27	23	31	18	14	14	12	18	11	17	15	12	1	
	Lapsed, withdrawn or discontinued	Female	1,302	1,109	1,017	878	669	665	658	654	674	693	606	456	109	
		Male	820	734	657	565	419	336	348	330	341	373	302	209	47	
		Unknown	32	27	17	23	24	20	22	12	19	11	15	4	3	
s56 Discharge of Parenting/Other Orders	Application granted	Female	252	273	303	305	265	211	242	214	214	222	193	157	45	
		Male	151	171	174	208	152	106	140	125	118	109	96	80	36	
		Unknown	9	3	5	10	6	4	4	5	2	1	1	3	1	
	Application still active	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	13	65	93	
		Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	3	11	31	50	
		Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	
	Dismissed or struck out	Female	51	48	56	59	50	44	45	36	43	48	42	26	10	
		Male	34	33	36	37	30	23	31	26	24	31	20	11	0	
		Unknown	1	1	1	2	4	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	
	Lapsed, withdrawn or discontinued	Female	77	73	55	64	36	37	44	38	32	55	38	20	4	
		Male	30	40	32	38	26	17	23	22	21	22	21	18	2	
		Unknown	3	0	1	3	2	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	
s56 Variation of Parenting/Other Orders	Application granted	Female	1,059	1,122	1,138	1,152	1,019	833	834	729	683	698	626	440	92	
		Male	875	899	902	890	708	638	634	544	558	485	420	334	73	
		Unknown	34	23	25	18	17	17	14	20	14	18	13	9	3	
	Application still active	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	23	63	138	377	445	
		Male	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	16	29	101	289	342	
		Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	9	
	Dismissed or struck out	Female	173	158	154	160	131	140	144	151	161	110	115	71	15	
		Male	149	158	105	127	112	147	124	126	121	88	93	61	15	
		Unknown	8	6	0	6	3	7	1	3	0	0	3	0	1	
	Lapsed, withdrawn or discontinued	Female	199	211	172	196	144	131	122	161	120	132	128	94	22	
		Male	160	158	152	135	104	114	99	99	101	100	93	76	17	
		Unknown	3	5	7	9	2	3	1	2	5	1	5	2	0	
Total			16,388	15,407	14,265	13,982	11,316	10,032	10,427	10,145	9,916	10,126	9,719	8,863	5,458	

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- A person may have filed more than one application per year, therefore the total numbers cannot be interpreted as the number of individuals who made applications.
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- Organisation has been removed from the gender count, and therefore applications filed by organisations are not included in this data extract.
- Application types included in this data:
 - s47 Consented Parenting Order
 - s47 Parenting Order
 - s56 Discharge of Parenting/Other Orders
 - s56 Variation of Parenting/Other Orders
- There are a number of potential outcomes for applications:
 - the application may be granted
 - the application may be dismissed or struck out – that occurs when the judge determines there is insufficient grounds to grant an order
 - the application could lapse, be withdrawn or discontinued:
 - an applicant can withdraw their application at any point (with the permission of the Court)
 - if the application cannot be served (given to the respondent) then it may be discontinued
 - the application may still be active – meaning a final outcome is yet to be determined.
- Parenting Order application data is extracted from a live dataset that is used for operational purposes, meaning the data will be updated with late data entry and active applications progressing through the court process. Therefore, this data may differ to data reported elsewhere with a different extraction date.

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