



21 July 2016

C78580

Emmy Rākete
fyi-request-4166-65349d9b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Rākete

Thank you for your email dated 22 June 2016, requesting information about the number of prisoner visits. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Please find attached as Appendix One, tables of the number of prisoner visits broken down by month, from July 2005 – June 2016.

The Department's procedures for prisoner visits continue to be updated to ensure the safety and security of the prison is maintained. We understand that an encouraging environment for prisoners and visitors is vital in order to build and maintain family connections for prisoners and support rehabilitation and reintegration. Prisoner visits are carefully managed to ensure these objectives are achieved. Prisoner visitors must be approved before they can visit a prisoner. The system for approving visitors includes conducting criminal checks and providing photographic identification that can be verified by prison staff on the day of the visit. Further information on visits to prisons is publically available on our website at www.corrections.govt.nz/working_with_offenders/prison_sentences/staying_connected_with_friends_and_family/visits.html.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Department. Alternatively you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Leota
Deputy Chief Executive (Acting)
Corporate Services

Appendix One – Total Number of Prisoner Visits from July 2005 – June 2016

Month	Total Number of Prison Visits	Month	Total Number of Prison Visits
Jul 2005	12,001	Feb 2007	8,017
Aug 2005	11,894	Mar 2007	10,148
Sep 2005	11,932	Apr 2007	9,512
Oct 2005	14,059	May 2007	9,954
Nov 2005	12,620	Jun 2007	10,436
Dec 2005	14,484	Jul 2007	10,990
Jan 2006	12,626	Aug 2007	10,654
Feb 2006	11,635	Sep 2007	12,101
Mar 2006	12,432	Oct 2007	10,044
Apr 2006	13,617	Nov 2007	9,628
May 2006	12,374	Dec 2007	12,031
Jun 2006	11,794	Jan 2008	9,466
Jul 2006	14,106	Feb 2008	9,668
Aug 2006	12,557	Mar 2008	12,149
Sep 2006	14,128	Apr 2008	10,374
Oct 2006	13,132	May 2008	11,081
Nov 2006	12,725	Jun 2008	10,940
Dec 2006	8,624	Jul 2008	10,206
Jan 2007	6,896	Aug 2008	11,435

Month	Total Number of Prison Visits	Month	Total Number of Prison Visits
Sep 2008	10,065	Mar 2010	8,838
Oct 2008	10,442	Apr 2010	8,372
Nov 2008	11,741	May 2010	10,375
Dec 2008	11,467	Jun 2010	9,573
Jan 2009	11,695	Jul 2010	11,141
Feb 2009	9,970	Aug 2010	10,601
Mar 2009	12,463	Sep 2010	7,992
Apr 2009	10,902	Oct 2010	10,055
May 2009	12,633	Nov 2010	8,149
Jun 2009	9,979	Dec 2010	8,892
Jul 2009	10,567	Jan 2011	9,137
Aug 2009	11,308	Feb 2011	8,190
Sep 2009	9,498	Mar 2011	8,309
Oct 2009	10,212	Apr 2011	9,125
Nov 2009	9,567	May 2011	8,703
Dec 2009	9,501	Jun 2011	7,415
Jan 2010	9,877	Jul 2011	9,568
Feb 2010	8,289	Aug 2011	8,333

Month	Total Number of Prison Visits	Month	Total Number of Prison Visits
Sep 2011	9,541	Mar 2013	9,981
Oct 2011	9,874	Jun 2013	9,317
Nov 2011	8,888	Jul 2013	9,476
Dec 2011	9,593	Aug 2013	10,489
Jan 2012	8,581	Sep 2013	10,169
Feb 2012	8,636	Oct 2013	9,092
Mar 2012	10,348	Nov 2013	8,311
Apr 2012	9,033	Dec 2013	9,699
May 2012	8,866	Jan 2014	8,280
Jun 2012	8,494	Feb 2014	7,765
Jul 2012	9,331	Mar 2014	9,611
Aug 2012	9,388	Apr 2014	8,509
Sep 2012	10,297	May 2014	8,972
Oct 2012	8,452	Jun 2014	8,595
Nov 2012	8,914	Jul 2014	7,971
Dec 2012	9,657	Aug 2014	9,656
Jan 2013	8,663	Sep 2014	8,365
Feb 2013	8,350	Oct 2014	8,906

Month	Total Number of Prison Visits	Month	Total Number of Prison Visits
Nov 2014	10,194	Apr 2016	9,666
Dec 2014	10,422	May 2016	9,347
Jan 2015	10,186	Jun 2016	8,963
Feb 2015	8,802		
Mar 2015	9,765		
Apr 2015	9,109		
May 2015	11,017		
Jun 2015	8,754		
Jul 2015	8,121		
Aug 2015	9,759		
Sep 2015	9,038		
Oct 2015	9,125		
Nov 2015	9,235		
Dec 2015	8,647		
Jan 2016	9,588		
Feb 2016	8,090		
Mar 2016	8,365		