

6 April 2017

Ti Lamusse
Fyi-request-4788-954f6649@request.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ti Lamusse

I refer to your email request dated 18 October 2016, in which you requested:

1. *Please provide the total number of people who have died in police custody broken down by year since 1991, or even further back if records permit*
2. *Please break down this data according to the ethnicity of the deceased person*
3. *Please break down this data according to the gender of the deceased person*
4. *Please break down this data for cause of death of the deceased person*
5. *Please provide the total number of people who have died from suicide in police custody broken down by year since 1991, or even further back if records permit.*

On 4 January 2017 a reply was provided to your request and you subsequently made a complaint to the Ombudsman.

As a result of your complaint, Police has reconsidered your request and I am now replying afresh.

In late 2010 the Independent Police Conduct Authority (IPCA) began a review of 27 deaths which occurred in the custody of the NZ Police during the proceedings 10 years. The main purpose of the review was to examine the circumstances of each death and identify any recurring issues or developing trends. The research and detailed analysis by the IPCA took almost 18 months. NZ Police have not undertaken equivalent research, and for this reason are unable to produce similar data. The IPCA's review is publically available on their website.

The information you have requested is provided in three separate periods:

- Part 1: Information held up to the IPCA review i.e. prior to 2000
- Part 2: IPCA review 2000 – 2010
- Part 3: Information held beyond 2010

Part 1: Information from this time period is of a poor quality and has not been maintained. Our database shows the following information that is relevant to your request. To the extent that other information may exist in files or records, your request is refused in reliance upon section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as research would be required to generate fresh information in a form different from that in which the base information is held.

Year	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Number	2	1	3	1	5	4	3
Gender	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Male	Male
Ethnicity	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded
Cause of death	Suicide	Suicide	2 x Suicide 1x Unknown	Suicide	2 x Suicide 1 x Medical 2x Not recorded	Suicide	Suicide

Part 2: I have enclosed a copy of the IPCA's Thematic Report: Deaths in Custody a Ten Year Review, for this period of your request. This aspect of your request is refused in reliance upon section 18(d) of the Official Information Act as the information is publically available.

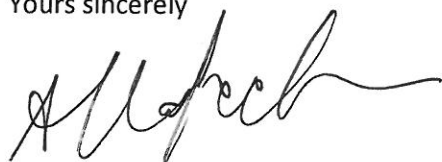
Part 3:

Year	2012	2014	2015
Number of deaths	2	1	4
Gender	Male & Female	Male	Male
Ethnicity	Male – European Female – not recorded	Maori	2 x European 2 x Maori
Cause of death	1 x Medical 1 x Assault	Medical	1 x Suicide 3 x Medical

To the extent that other information may exist in files or records, your request is refused in reliance upon section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as research would be required to generate fresh information in a form different from that in which the base information is held.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely



Superintendent Anna Jackson
National Manager Police Professional Conduct
Police National Headquarters