

19 April 2017

C84453

Cody C
fyi-request-5584-25f44d82@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Cody

Thank you for your email of 19 March 2017, requesting information about prisoners, grouped by nationality and offence type. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Please note that the Department does not require that prisoners disclose their nationality as this is not necessary to facilitate their day-to-day management. If a prisoner volunteers this information, it is not checked for accuracy. Where there is no citizenship information for an individual, the database automatically defaults to record New Zealand citizenship.

You have asked for the number of prisoners grouped by nationality and by type of offence as at the end of 2016. Please find attached as Appendix One the number of sentenced prisoners as at 31 December 2016 listed by their country of citizenship and most serious offence type. Note that remandees are not included in this data.

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



Jeremy Lightfoot
National Commissioner

Appendix One – Number of sentenced prisoners listed by nationality and offence group.

Nationality	Breaches	Burglary	Dishonesty	Drugs	Property	Sexual	Traffic	Violence	Weapons	Other
New Zealand*	52	833	434	846	74	1660	216	2527	72	168
South Africa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0
Other Africa	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Afghanistan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
China	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	7	0	0
India	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Malaysia	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thailand	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vietnam	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Asia	0	0	0	8	0	6	0	6	0	0
United Kingdom	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	2	0	0
Other Europe	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
United States of America	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
Other North America	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0
Fiji	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	7	0	0
Niue Island	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0
Rarotonga	0	2	0	0	0	6	0	9	0	0
Samoa	0	4	0	3	0	29	0	31	0	0
Tonga	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	14	0	0

Nationality	Breaches	Burglary	Dishonesty	Drugs	Property	Sexual	Traffic	Violence	Weapons	Other
<i>Other Pacific Islands</i>	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
Australia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
<i>Nationality withheld**</i>	0	7	4	8	2	6	4	6	2	4

*Includes offenders whose nationality is not recorded

**Where there is only one prisoner of a given nationality sentenced to this offence-type, they are included in the category 'Nationality withheld' in order to protect their privacy.

Note that the Department of Corrections does not require prisoners to report their nationality. If this information is volunteered the Department does not validate its accuracy.

Guide to offence groups:

Breaches: Includes breaches of sentences or orders.

Burglary: Includes break and enter, being disguised or in possession of an instrument for burglary.

Dishonesty: Includes theft of property, fraud, car conversion.

Drugs: Includes possession or supply of drugs.

Property: Includes property damage and property abuse eg. trespassing.

Sexual: Includes sexual violation, indecent assault.

Traffic: Includes drink-driving, disqualified driving, driving causing injury or death.

Violence: Includes homicide, assault, robbery and threats.

Weapons: Includes unlawful possession of a firearm.

Other: Includes immigration offences.