

24 January 2018

C91381

M P Ross
fyi-request-6855-8e168d76@requests.fyi.org

Dear Mr Ross

I refer to your email of 19 November 2017 to the Ministry of Justice, requesting information about rates of re-offending under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). On 5 December 2017 the below part of your request was transferred to the Department of Corrections, in accordance with section 14 of the OIA:

What was the reoffending rate percentage of those sentenced to prison and released/paroled for the 10 years prior to the three strikes system?

What was New Zealand's reoffending rate in general for these 10 years?

Please find the requested information for the years of 1999-2000 to 2002-2003 attached as Appendix One. The figures provided represent prisoners' re-imprisonment rates, at twelve months post-release; and prisoners' total reconviction rates over the same period. Reconvictions do not always lead to re-imprisonment, so the total rates of reconviction are higher than the re-imprisonment rates as they include released prisoners who were subsequently sentenced to a community-based sentence or order. Please note that figures are recorded by financial year.

Reducing re-offending is an important objective for Corrections, and measures of recidivism, particularly re-imprisonment and reconviction rates, are key indicators of our services' performance. Corrections' Annual Reports from 2004-2005 onwards are publicly available online. Each Annual Report includes 'Recidivism Index' tables, providing annual re-imprisonment and reconviction figures for the previous year, including a breakdown by gender, ethnicity, age group, and offence type. Annual Reports also include information about wider reoffending patterns, which may be of interest to you. Annual Reports are available at: http://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/strategic_reports/annual-reports.html

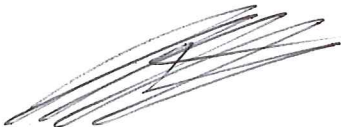
Further, a number of statistical reports are available on our website, which analyse and summarise patterns of reoffending at 36, 48 and 60 month follow-up periods, for a cohort of offenders released from sentences of imprisonment in 2002-2003, and for offenders who had commenced a community-based sentence during the same period.

The final report relating to released prisoners, *Reconviction patterns of released prisoners: A 60-months follow-up analysis*, which was published in 2009, is available at: http://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/research_and_statistics/reconviction-patterns-of-released-prisoners-a-60-months-follow-up-analysis2.html.

The equivalent report for community-based offenders, *Reconviction Patterns of offenders managed in the community: A 60-months follow-up analysis*, is available at: http://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/research_and_statistics/reconviction-patterns-of-offenders-managed-in-the-community-a-60-months-follow-up-analysis3.html.

I hope this information is helpful. 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 raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman, the contact details for which are, Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Richard Waggott
Deputy Chief Executive
Corporate Services

Appendix One – Re-imprisonment and re-conviction rates at twelve months post-release for the years between 1999/2000 and 2002/2003

Financial year	Reimprisoned (%)	Reconviction (%)
1999/2000	23.8	40.0
2000/2001	24.3	41.0
2001/2002	23.4	39.7
2002/2003	28.0	42.3