

19 November 2018

C100503

Louis John Day fyi-request-8734-5b800e64@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Day

Thank you for your email of 21 September 2018, requesting information about re-offending rates by prison. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Public safety is Corrections' number one priority. The vast majority of prisoners will eventually return to the community after serving their prison sentence. As such, reducing re-offending is key to improving the safety of the community.

Corrections invests heavily in services that support rehabilitation. The people that enter the corrections system typically have challenging and complex needs that must be addressed. We establish a unique pathway for each offender so they can turn their life around.

We deliver a range of rehabilitation programmes that assist to address the causes of offending and provide strategies that prevent the likelihood of reoffending. Programme outcomes are measured and reported annually in our Annual Report, which is available on our website at: www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/strategic reports/annual-reports/annual report 201718.html.

We have achieved positive results in rehabilitation outcomes, which have been improving in recent years, with significant reductions in reconvictions and reimprisonment being consistently recorded for most of our key rehabilitation programmes.

For the year ended 30 June 2018, the total expenditure on rehabilitation interventions and reintegration services to offenders serving custodial and community-based sentences was \$215.7 million. The proportion of the prison population who are successfully engaged in rehabilitation programmes has never been as high as in the last few years.

You have requested:

Statistics on the reoffending rates of prisoners by the correctional facility.

Please find the information you have requested attached as Appendix One, showing the number of people released from prison between April 2016 and March 2017, and the reconviction and reimprisonment rate after 12 months.

Please note that caution should be taken when comparing prisons based on reconviction and reimprisonment figures, as each prison manages very different types of prisoners. For example, you will note that Rolleston Prison has low rates of reconviction and reimprisonment; however it houses low-security prisoners who are usually low risk and are serving longer sentences.

More information regarding efforts to reduce re-offending is available on our website at: www.corrections.govt.nz/working_with_offenders.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 Corrections. 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

Jø Field

Deputy Chief Executive Service Development

Appendix One – Annual prisoner release cohorts from all prisons between April 2016 and March 2017, showing annual counts of releases, and 12 month follow-up recidivism rates¹

Year/Prison	Count of Releases	Reconvicted rate (12m)	Reimprisoned rate (12m)
2016/04 - 2017/03	7500	41.9%	28.3%
Arohata Prison	101	34.7%	18.8%
Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility	526	33.7%	22.8%
Auckland South Corrections Facility	430	30.9%	22.6%
Auckland Prison	256	37.1%	27.3%
Christchurch Men's Prison	675	46.1%	31.3%
Christchurch Women's Prison	169	32.0%	18.9%
Hawkes Bay Prison	553	45.2%	30.0%
Invercargill Prison	197	48.2%	28.9%
Manawatu Prison	283	54.1%	34.6%
Mount Eden Corrections Facility	623	48.2%	35.8%
Northland Region Corrections Facility	569	36.2%	22.3%
Otago Corrections Facility	390	36.7%	26.9%
Rimutaka Prison	450	41.6%	25.3%
Rolleston Prison	189	22.2%	12.2%
Spring Hill Corrections Facility	863	47.0%	32.3%
Tongariro Prison	160	33.1%	22.5%
Waikeria Prison	710	47.3%	31.5%
Whanganui Prison	356	46.3%	33.1%

¹ Please note that caution should be taken when comparing prisons based on reconviction and reimprisonment figures, as each prison manages very different types of prisoners. For example, you will note that Rolleston Prison has low rates of reconviction and reimprisonment; however it houses low-security prisoners who are usually low risk and are serving longer sentences.