

Eliana Darroch
fyi-request-9535-b72f5410@requests.fyi.org.nz

12 MAR 2019

Dear Ms Darroch

Official Information Act 1982 request

On 18 February 2019, the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) transferred your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry). You have requested a statistical breakdown of people who are no longer receiving a benefit from MSD due to them committing suicide, the benefit they were receiving, including the locale and demographic.

The Ministry's Case Management System does not record whether the deceased was a client with MSD due to the way information is presented to the Coroner. Therefore, pursuant to section 18(g)(i) of the OIA I am refusing your request as there are no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department, Minister of the Crown, organisation, or local authority.

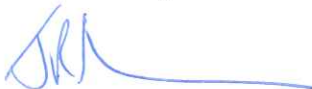
With that being said, you might be interested to know that the Chief Coroner releases national provisional suicide statistics each year. They are publicly available and contain a breakdown of the provisional suicide statistics from July 2007 to August 2018. Table 9, '*Provisional Suicide deaths by Employment Status between July 2007 and June 2018*', includes the categories 'Retired/Pensioner' and 'unemployed'. This and more information about the provisional statistics can be found at coronialservices.justice.govt.nz/suicide/annual-suicide-statistics-since-2011

Please note that whilst every effort is made to ensure that all instances of suicide that occurred in New Zealand from 1 July 2007 and 30 June 2018 have been captured, due to the manner in which information has been recorded by or presented to the Coroner, the statistics provided should not be taken as representing every such instance.

If you require any clarification on the information contained in this response please contact Julia Goode, Team Leader, Media and External Relations, by calling (04) 918 8836; or emailing media@justice.govt.nz

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA. You can contact the Office of the Ombudsman by writing to PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143; calling 0800 802 602; or emailing info@ombudsman.parliament.nz

Yours sincerely



Jacquelyn Shannon
Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery

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