



10 December 2018

C101914

Simon Eru Kaiwai
fyi-request-9007-2f998826@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Kaiwai

Thank you for your email of 6 November 2018, requesting information about prisoner ethnicity. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

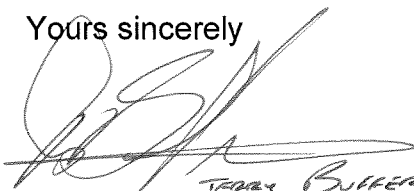
A prisoner's ethnicity, and various other details, are recorded in the Integrated Offender Management System (IOMS) when they arrive in prison. A prisoner can identify with multiple different ethnicities. Ethnicity is self-reported by the prisoner, and Corrections does not require information about prisoners' ethnicity for their day-to-day management. Therefore, when a prisoner identifies an ethnicity upon reception into custody, this information is not confirmed.

Please find the information you have requested attached as Appendices One to Six. Because prisoners can identify with multiple different ethnicities, please be aware that this may be reflected in the attached figures.

For more information on prisoner ethnicity, visit our website at the link below:
www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/research_and_statistics/quarterly_prison_statistics/prison_stats_june_2018.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



BEN CLARK

Ben Clark
Acting National Commissioner

Appendix One – Number of prisoners as at 30 June for each of the last five years, by ethnic group^{1 2}

Ethnic group	30/06/2014	30/06/2015	30/06/2016	30/06/2017	30/06/2018
Maori	4,390	4,453	4,882	5,181	5,311
European	2,817	2,896	3,039	3,288	3,239
Pacific	1,013	1,032	1,076	1,159	1,189
Other	357	407	443	495	451
Not recorded	24	40	44	103	240

1 Please note that an offender can identify with more than one ethnicity, therefore this may affect the above figures.

2 Information regarding ethnicity is based on self-reporting and is not checked or validated by Corrections.

Appendix Two – Number of offenders on remand as at 30 June for each of the last five years, by ethnic group¹

Ethnic group	30/06/2014	30/06/2015	30/06/2016	30/06/2018
Maori	961	1,141	1,415	1,816
European	562	606	723	845
Pacific	203	264	277	335
Other	99	112	117	90

1 Please note that an offender can identify with more than one ethnicity, therefore this may affect the above figures.

2 Information regarding ethnicity is based on self-reporting and is not checked or validated by Corrections.

Appendix Three – Number of offenders who started a prison sentence in each of the last five financial years following a period on remand, by ethnic group¹

Ethnicity group	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Maori	2,803	2,880	3,384	3,896	3,808
European	1,424	1,531	1,664	1,906	1,764
Pacific	405	426	556	599	578
Other	124	153	193	214	201
Not recorded	8	6	18	22	80

1 Please note that an offender can identify with more than one ethnicity, therefore this may affect the above figures.

2 Information regarding ethnicity is based on self-reporting and is not checked or validated by Corrections.

Appendix Four – Average remand period (in days) ending in each of the last five financial years, by ethnic group¹

Ethnicity	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Maori	55	57	60	66	70
European	55	58	63	65	70
Pacific	61	63	67	71	79
Other	55	60	67	62	79
Not recorded	37	44	66	44	48

1 Please note that an offender can identify with more than one ethnicity, therefore this may affect the above figures.

2 Information regarding ethnicity is based on self-reporting and is not checked or validated by Corrections.

Appendix Five – Average imposed fixed term sentence length (in months) for sentences starting in each of the last five financial years, by ethnic group¹

Ethnicity group	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Maori	15.9	15.4	14.9	15.6	15.7
European	18.8	20.3	19.7	18.8	19.9
Pacific	21.7	21.3	20.8	21.4	23.2
Other	32.2	35.0	35.5	34.6	34.7
Not recorded	25.0	25.2	47.3	35.8	37.7

1 Please note that an offender can identify with more than one ethnicity, therefore this may affect the above figures.

2 Information regarding ethnicity is based on self-reporting and is not checked or validated by Corrections.

Appendix Six – Average months served for offenders released from a fixed term or indeterminate sentence in each of the last five financial years, by ethnic group^{1 2 3}

Ethnicity group	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Maori	10.1	10.7	10.3	9.7	10.5
European	12.1	12.3	12.4	11.2	12
Pacific	16.7	15.3	14.6	12.6	14.9
Other	17.1	14	16.7	14.6	18
Not recorded	5.2	7.6	6.6	5.9	10

1 Please note that an offender can identify with more than one ethnicity, therefore this may affect the above figures.

2 Note that there can be no correlation made between the average time served and the average imposed sentence length because average imposed sentence length relates to everyone sentenced in the given year whereas average time served relates to everyone released in the given year. A proportion of offenders are sentenced and released in the same 12 month period, but many are not.

3 Information regarding ethnicity is based on self-reporting and is not checked or validated by Corrections.