

23 December 2020

C127759

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 21 October 2020, requesting information about people in prison receiving alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment and rehabilitation. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Public safety is Corrections' top priority and we are committed to helping people in prison to prepare for their safe return to the community. Corrections has a wide range of programmes available to address people's specific rehabilitative and reintegration needs. Each year we deliver programmes and interventions to thousands of people under our management in prison and the community.

Our research shows that people in prison have much higher rates of personality disorder, mental health and substance use disorders than the general population. Sixty two percent of people in prison had some form of mental health or substance abuse disorder in the last 12 months, and 91 percent meet the criteria for a diagnosis of a mental health disorder at some point over their lives.

For women in prison, two-thirds have suffered family violence, rape and/or sexual assault, more than 50 percent have post-traumatic stress disorder, and three-quarters have diagnosed mental health problems.

The programmes and interventions each individual undertakes, and when, will depend on their assessed risk, needs, readiness, the nature of their offending, and programme availability. The availability of some programmes and services is dependent on location. If a programme is identified as being beneficial to a person in prison but is not offered at the prison where they are housed, they may be transferred, if they consent, to a prison where this programme is available.

As you may be aware, a total of \$128.3 million over four years has been invested through Budget 2019 for Corrections and our justice sector partners to provide mental health and AOD services for people in prison and on community-based sentences. This funding allows us to support up to 2,310 additional people with AOD and mental health needs per year across Justice Sector Hāpaitia te Oranga Tangata.



More information about AOD programmes is available at page 58 of Corrections' Annual Report. The 2019/20 Annual Report is available on our website, at [www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/strategic\\_reports/annual-reports/annual\\_report\\_2019\\_2020](http://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/strategic_reports/annual-reports/annual_report_2019_2020).

You requested the following information (please note some of your questions have been re-ordered for ease of response):

- *The number of inmates who are receiving drug rehabilitation for each of the last five years.*

Please see the table below for the requested information broken down by AOD programme and financial year, in line with our usual reporting conventions. Note that gaps in the data represent a programme commencing or being discontinued within the five-year period.

Please also note that the decrease in number of new starts over this five-year period is due to the discontinuation of the brief support and intermediate treatment programmes in 2018. The funding for the brief support and intermediate treatment programmes was refocused on other programmes that were similar in content and/or had a greater efficacy. New start numbers for the medium and high intensity programmes are fairly consistent over this time period and have in fact increased from 1,172 in 2015/16 to 1,721 in 2019/20. Corrections continually assesses which treatment options deliver the best outcomes for people under our management and in recent years longer and more intensive programmes, such as the DTP 6 and DTP 12 Drug Treatment Programmes have found to be more effective.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
AOD Brief Support programme	3,839	3,182	2117	14	-
AOD Intermediate Treatment Programme	1,633	1,193	895	-	-
AOD Intensive Treatment Programme	255	280	297	274	252
AOD Treatment Programme (MoH Funded)	45	477	502	569	485
Drug Treatment Unit Programme (3 months)	511	499	57	-	-
Drug Treatment Unit Programme (6 months)	361	371	72	-	-
DTP12 Drug Treatment Programme	-	74	154	167	145
DTP3 Drug Treatment Programme	-	8	73	64	70
DTP6 Drug Treatment Programme	-	169	811	643	700
Tamaua te Koronga (a kaupapa Māori intensive AOD programme for young people)	-	-	10	49	38
Te Ira Wahine (a kaupapa Māori intensive AOD programme for women)	-	-	10	32	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,644</b>	<b>6,253</b>	<b>4,998</b>	<b>1,812</b>	<b>1,721</b>

- *I would also like to know what prisons the inmates are being held at who are receiving rehabilitation.*

Please find the requested information in the table below. This data represents new starts per financial year, broken down by prison. As above, please note that different AOD programmes are available at different prisons, and where a person in prison needs rehabilitation that is not available to them at their current location, they may be transferred for the purpose of participation in a programme.

<b>Starts by Prison</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
Arohata Prison	81	122	105	64	70
Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility	414	277	198	76	68
Auckland Prison	387	430	374	107	138
Christchurch Men's Prison	1,218	785	526	150	147
Christchurch Women's Prison	188	209	112	24	56
Hawke's Bay Regional Prison	551	530	488	263	243
Invercargill Prison	100	69	58	4	-
Manawatu Prison	374	299	158	62	61
Mt Eden Corrections Facility	14	536	545	440	360
Northland Region Corrections Facility	452	500	440	94	66
Otago Corrections Facility	378	443	312	115	103
Rimutaka Prison	606	629	392	104	96
Rolleston Prison	83	98	107	19	20
Spring Hill Corrections Facility	778	374	381	158	130
Tongariro Prison	148	128	107	-	-
Waikeria Prison	460	370	379	48	36
Whanganui Prison	412	454	316	84	127
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,644</b>	<b>6,253</b>	<b>4,998</b>	<b>1,812</b>	<b>1,721</b>

- *The inmate's sex, ethnicity and age.*

Please find the requested information in the tables below.

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
Māori	3,759	3,310	2,635	899	889
European	2,252	2,145	1,661	571	544
Other	128	191	166	137	94
Pacific	499	603	527	201	194
Not recorded	6	4	9	4	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,644</b>	<b>6,253</b>	<b>4,998</b>	<b>1,812</b>	<b>1,721</b>



Age group	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Under 20	325	433	266	79	43
20 - 24	1,349	1,086	796	268	229
25 - 29	1,484	1,348	1,008	333	304
30 - 39	1,896	1,816	1,528	551	566
40 - 49	1,085	1,004	824	290	281
50 - 59	413	397	358	137	110
60 and over	87	108	92	31	35
Not recorded	5	61	126	123	153
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,644</b>	<b>6,253</b>	<b>4,998</b>	<b>1,812</b>	<b>1,721</b>

Gender	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Female	683	608	415	164	194
Male	5,961	5,645	4,583	1,648	1,527
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,644</b>	<b>6,253</b>	<b>4,998</b>	<b>1,812</b>	<b>1,721</b>

- *Please include the drug that they are being treated for.*

This information is not held centrally, rather it is generally held on individuals' files. To provide the requested information would require a manual review of a large number of files. This part of your request is therefore withheld under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the requested information cannot be provided without substantial collation or research. In accordance with the OIA, we have considered whether to affix a charge or extend the time limit for responding. However, given the scale of the request we do not consider that this would be an appropriate use of our publicly funded resources.

- *The length of time they've been receiving treatment.*

Corrections does not centrally record the length of time people in prison spend receiving AOD treatment, rather this information is held on individuals' files. Further, not every participant who commences a programme will complete it. Therefore, we are unable to provide information regarding the length of time individual prisoners have been receiving AOD treatment without a manual review of a large number of files.

In accordance with the OIA, we have considered whether to affix a charge or extend the time limit for responding. However, given the scale of the request we do not consider that this would be an appropriate use of our publicly funded resources. Accordingly, your request as currently framed is refused pursuant to section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

However, please see the table below for the duration of each programme, which we hope you will find useful. On average, 85 percent of people who commence rehabilitation programmes in prison complete these. Please note programmes which have been discontinued in the last five years are included here for continuity of data with the tables above.



Programme	Length	Notes
AOD Brief Support programme	4 sessions of 2.5 hours	Programme discontinued 30 June 2018
AOD Intermediate Treatment Programme	8 sessions of 2.5 hours	Programme discontinued 30 June 2018
AOD Intensive Treatment Programme	8 weeks (between 12-26 hours per week)	
AOD Treatment Programme (MoH Funded)	Varies	This includes a range of services including MOH funded Community Alcohol and Drug Service (CADS)-delivered assessments and brief interventions delivered in prisons
Drug Treatment Unit Programme (3 mths)	3 months	Programme discontinued 2018
Drug Treatment Unit Programme (6 mths)	6 months	Programme discontinued 2018
DTP12 Drug Treatment Programme	12 months	
DTP3 Drug Treatment Programme	3 months	
DTP6 Drug Treatment Programme	6 months	
Tamaua te Koronga (a kaupapa Māori intensive AOD programme for young people)	8 weeks (between 18.75 – 22.5 hours per week)	
Te Ira Wahine (a kaupapa Māori intensive AOD programme for women)	8 weeks (24 hours per week)	

- *Cost per prisoner for each year.*

Please see below a breakdown of Corrections' annual spend on prison-based AOD rehabilitation programmes by financial year. There was an increase in AOD funding from 2019 to provide for funding at the market rate and to increase and strengthen AOD programmes. This included additional clinical staff, peer support workers and cultural support workers. Aftercare workers also became a permanent role following a pilot period.

Financial Year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21 (budgeted)
Cost	\$5,658,620	\$6,390,691	\$6,842,693	\$7,140,402	\$9,468,611	\$12,330,489

We are unable to provide a further breakdown of this information as it is commercially sensitive. Releasing this information could reveal the costs of contracted programmes, affecting Corrections' ability to procure services and negotiate with providers in the future. Accordingly, your request for the cost of these programmes per prisoner per year is declined pursuant to section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA, to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

As per section 9(1) of the OIA, we have also considered whether there are countervailing public interest considerations favouring the release of the requested information. We do not believe such considerations are present in this case.

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.

Please note that this response may be published on Corrections' website. Typically, responses are published monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Damian Tomic'. The signature is stylized with a large, circular initial 'D' and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Damian Tomic  
Deputy Chief Executive – Health (Acting)