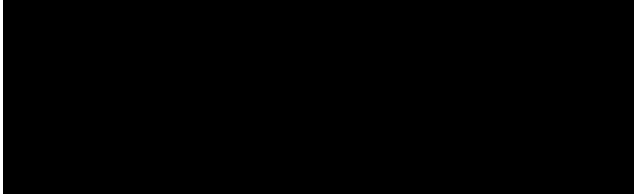



01 July 2024

C181494



Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your email of 3 May 2024 to the Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa, requesting information about assaults on staff. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested:

I am requesting the number of staff assaulted from the 4th May 2023 to the 3rd May 2024 in all prisons including privately operated prisons.

For the same period of time we also request the information below, we are happy that this further information is provided separately to the first request.

The number of days in total of lost time injuries from assaults.

The number of prisoners charged by the police for assaulting staff.

The number of prisoners charged internally for assisting staff.

The number of prisoners charged internally and externally for sexual assaults on staff.

The average national prisoner muster for the period 4th May 2023 to 3rd May 2024.

The following parts of your request were transferred to the New Zealand Police:

The number of prisoners charged by the police for assaulting staff.

The number of prisoners charged... externally for sexual assaults on staff.

As a part of the changes through Te Ara Whakamua, Corrections is committed to focussing on improving data, developing standardised data sets that allow accurate and repeatable

reporting. This involves actions such as (but not limited to) answering OIAs and completing analysis consistent with standard financial years.

This means, rather than provide a non-standard twelve-month period as requested, a complete data set has been created using standard financial years and other standardised changes to the incident data, as reported in the monthly dashboard provided to CANZ.

In regard to your request for the number of staff assaults, quarterly assault statistics are now published on Corrections' website [here](#), therefore the first part of your request relating to the number of staff assaulted is refused in accordance with section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information requested is publicly available.

Please find enclosed Appendix One, which provides you with the following information to address the remaining parts of your request:

- Table One: days lost due to injury sustained from staff being assaulted
- Table Two: the number of prisoners charged internally for assaulting staff, broken down by prison and financial year
- Table Three: the number of prisoner misconducts for "Assaults, or fights with, any other person" that are directly linked to a "assault on staff/sexual" incident, broken down by prison and financial year
- Table Four: the average daily total prison population and the average onsite prison population for each financial year.

As noted above, Corrections continuously refines and improves data collection and reporting practices. Please note that as a result, the figures in Tables One to Four may differ from data previously published elsewhere and the format of some of this information is different to its presentation in our response to your previous request (our ref C168582). For example, the data in Table Three is broken down by prisons where our previous response provided only an overall total.

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

I hope this information is helpful. I encourage you to raise any concerns about this response with Corrections. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi



Leigh Marsh
Commissioner Custodial Services

Appendix One: C181494

Table One: Days lost due to injury sustained from assaults on staff

Month	Number of days lost per month						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan	143	390	453	644	711	635	322
Feb	178	264	472	580	659	395	332
Mar	180	262	615	555	666	520	521
Apr	264	346	548	497	519	506	474
May	190	393	496	510	536	609	590
Jun	140	435	582	472	486	659	-
Jul	96	450	663	543	496	601	-
Aug	141	455	674	563	494	505	-
Sep	211	352	613	623	483	497	-
Oct	251	366	713	503	467	405	-
Nov	264	216	709	487	584	361	-
Dec	341	395	608	475	605	325	-

Notes for table:

- The OIA request is for total days lost between 1 January 2018 and 31 May 2024 from assault injuries. This has been interpreted as the number of days lost due to assault injuries between those dates, irrespective of the incident date.
- The figures provided relate to days lost by the month of incapacity (i.e., when the employee was off work) by month between January 2018 and May 2024.

- This data comes from our current injury management provider, Howden Care, and our former provider Gallagher Basset and is limited to Corrections' employees.
- The data contains total days lost per month for all assault (physical) injuries. Claims for injuries related to prisoner restraint activities are excluded.
- Only claims with an 'Accepted' cover decision are included.
- This data was extracted on the 16 June 2024 and may differ if rerun at a later date. More recent months are the most likely to change as information from new medical certificates is included in the data and pending claims are accepted.
- Days on restricted or alternative duties are not included.
- Days lost (calendar days) were calculated using dates from medical certificates and may differ from actual scheduled work days lost.
- In 2020 Gallagher Basset improved the way medical certificates were recorded meaning better data quality since then. This may mean the preceding years' figures are not directly comparable.
- There has been an increase in the number of claims over time.
- There has also been a slow steady increase in the number of long-term claims and this has a cumulative effect on the overall number of days lost.

Table Two: The number of prisoners charged internally for assaulting staff, broken down by prison and financial year

Prison	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Arohata Prison	2	5	15	5	22	23	13	10	6
Auckland Region Women’s Corrections Facility	31	21	40	45	44	20	54	49	44
Auckland South Corrections Facility	31	35	67	86	123	91	51	45	29
Auckland Prison	42	35	36	61	92	125	80	83	82
Christchurch Men’s Prison	28	39	31	70	91	89	62	64	49
Christchurch Women’s Prison	11	12	6	7	14	15	16	22	15
Hawkes’ Bay Regional Prison	32	49	45	40	31	30	34	31	23
Invercargill Prison	5	1	5	4	5	7	8	20	8
Manawatu Prison	10	18	25	24	30	21	29	24	23
Mt Eden Corrections Facility	73	70	50	77	109	98	81	121	82
Northland Region Corrections Facility	17	21	18	11	15	18	24	18	10
Otago Corrections Facility	10	9	25	17	21	21	38	48	38
Rimutaka Prison	29	25	19	21	54	34	41	43	45
Rolleston Prison	2	1	1	-	-	2	2	1	3
Spring Hill Corrections Facility	19	24	23	17	28	31	91	86	64
Tongariro Prison	1	1	5	5	1	2	2	1	1
Waikeria Prison	16	14	49	37	50	43	4	8	4
Whanganui Prison	21	7	30	34	29	25	22	37	14
National Total	380	387	490	561	759	695	652	711	540

Notes for table:

- Data for the 2023/24 year is as at 30 April 2024 and is subject to change once end of year processes are completed.
- This table contains the number of misconducts for “assaults, or fights with, any other person” that are directly linked to a “assault on staff” incident.

Table Three: The number of prisoner misconducts for “Assaults, or fights with, any other person” that are directly linked to a “assault on staff/sexual” incident, broken down by prison and financial year

Prison	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Auckland South Corrections Facility	-	-	-	4	1	-	2	4	1
Auckland Prison	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Christchurch Men’s Prison	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	1	2
Hawkes’ Bay Prison	2	2	6	2	-	2	-	3	1
Manawatu Prison	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Mt Eden Corrections Facility	2	1	-	2	1	2	2	3	4
Northland Region Corrections Facility	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Rimutaka Prison	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Spring Hill Corrections Facility	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	5	1
Tongariro Prison	-	--	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Waikeria Prison	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
Whanganui Prison	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
National Total	6	6	8	12	6	9	5	20	10

Notes for table:

- Data for the 2023/24 year is as at 30 April 2024 and is subject to change once end of year processes are completed.

Table Four: The average daily total prison population and the average onsite prison population for each financial year

Financial year	Average of Total Population	Average of Onsite/In Prison
2017/18	10,615	10,511
2018/19	10,036	9,948
2019/20	9,937	9,849
2020/21	8,796	8,706
2021/22	7,903	7,815
2022/23	8,223	8,130
2023/24	9,100	9,005

Notes for table:

- Data for the 2023/24 year is as at 30 April 2024 and is subject to change once end of year processes are completed.
- The offsite prison population (the difference between the figures in columns one and two) includes people managed in offsite facilities, such as mental health facilities and in Police cells.