

6 October 2020

IR-01-20-19940

David Farrar
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Tēnā koe David,

In your Official Information Request dated 16 July 2020, you wrote:

"story at <https://www.nz.co.nz/news/te-manu-korihī/421104/police-acknowledge-claim-against-racial-bias-was-false> reports that " the number of pre-charge warnings for first-time adult offenders ... given to Māori as just 53 percent, compared to 59 percent for non-Māori."

I am requesting a breakdown of those statistics by type of offence. Specifically the data I would find useful is the number of Maori and non-Maori first time offenders in the crime categories below, and within each category what percentage were giving a pre-charge warning.

The categories are the 16 ANZSOC categories (as listed at <https://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/publications-statistics/data-and-statistics/policedatanz/proceedings-offender-demographics>):

The purpose of the request is to see if the difference in the pre-charge warning rates can be explained by the type of offences committed and hence wish to compare the rates within the same type of offence."

We have considered your request and provided a response to your questions in the following tables in Appendix A attached.

The tables show the breakdown of the percentage of first time offenders who have been issued with a pre-charge warning for the period July 2019 to March 2020. The period covers up to the third quarter (Q3) of the year ending 30 June 2020.

The data provided does not include all 16 ANZSOC offence divisions that you requested as some offences are not eligible for pre-charge warnings. The tables are broken down by Māori and non-Māori, by offence division, and by Police District.

Police National Headquarters

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You have the right, under section 28 (3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. McLean', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael McLean
National Manager
Māori, Pacific, and Ethnic Services

Appendix A:

Percentage of Eligible Offences that are issued with Pre Charge Warning to First Time Offenders, July 2019 - March 2020

Māori

Offence Division	Northland	Waitemata	Auckland City	Counties Manukau	Waikato	Bay of Plenty	Eastern	Central	Wellington	Tasman	Canterbury	Southern	National
02 Acts intended to cause injury	25%	33%	50%	50%	29%	31%	29%	14%	0%	25%	60%	38%	32%
04 Dangerous/negligent acts	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-	-	-	-	0%
05 Abduction/harassment	0%	17%	-	0%	50%	27%	0%	0%	50%	0%	33%	0%	17%
08 Theft	9%	100%	0%	11%	100%	43%	0%	43%	0%	-	-	60%	33%
09 Fraud/deception	-	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	-	-	0%	-	0%	100%	11%
10 Illicit drug offences	50%	57%	0%	57%	85%	47%	0%	43%	38%	0%	17%	-	44%
11 Prohibited/regulated weapons	0%	-	0%	100%	100%	33%	50%	50%	100%	-	100%	-	54%
12 Property damage	33%	0%	0%	8%	0%	6%	13%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%
13 Public order offences	69%	92%	100%	96%	100%	85%	50%	88%	91%	60%	86%	100%	89%
15 Offences against justice	50%	100%	43%	100%	88%	71%	20%	42%	63%	100%	20%	67%	57%
16 Miscellaneous offences	-	-	-	-	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Overall	40%	58%	56%	54%	83%	53%	20%	47%	60%	35%	57%	62%	54%

Non-Māori

Offence Division	Northland	Waitemata	Auckland City	Counties Manukau	Waikato	Bay of Plenty	Eastern	Central	Wellington	Tasman	Canterbury	Southern	National
02 Acts intended to cause injury	33%	32%	61%	61%	73%	44%	17%	41%	58%	30%	70%	41%	49%
04 Dangerous/negligent acts	-	100%	-	-	-	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	50%
05 Abduction/harassment	0%	8%	42%	20%	40%	13%	0%	7%	14%	0%	58%	33%	23%
08 Theft	50%	46%	40%	3%	20%	50%	25%	27%	55%	15%	10%	76%	29%
09 Fraud/deception	-	-	0%	0%	-	-	0%	-	0%	-	-	0%	0%
10 Illicit drug offences	17%	43%	45%	37%	54%	34%	80%	47%	39%	30%	48%	47%	43%
11 Prohibited/regulated weapons	50%	67%	75%	67%	45%	25%	0%	0%	50%	0%	75%	63%	47%
12 Property damage	0%	18%	8%	10%	9%	35%	0%	10%	8%	15%	18%	24%	15%
13 Public order offences	78%	78%	93%	95%	92%	91%	67%	88%	94%	86%	88%	88%	90%
15 Offences against justice	0%	53%	50%	30%	86%	53%	50%	25%	62%	40%	57%	63%	53%
16 Miscellaneous offences	-	-	-	-	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100%
Overall	27%	47%	67%	51%	69%	55%	30%	42%	67%	32%	64%	59%	57%