

27 MAY 2016

Zane Collins
fyi-request-3946-e60aa95f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Collins

Official Information Act 1982 request

I acknowledge your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request of 30 April 2016 requesting the total number of Protection Orders granted against males at the Family Court, from 1995 to 2015.

Applications for Protection Orders can be made against multiple people at once – respondent(s) and associated respondent(s). Associated respondents may be relatives, friends or other people associated with the respondent(s). A person may be a respondent or associated respondent in any number of Protection Order applications at the same time.

Data for years prior to 2005 is not available due to changes in the way the Ministry of Justice collects data from the courts. Furthermore, the Ministry is unable to distinguish which respondent(s) or associated respondent(s) a Protection Order is granted against. Therefore I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested. Your request is declined under section 18(g)(i) of the Official Information Act on the grounds that this information is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing it is held by another department, Minister of the Crown, organisation or local authority.

I am able to provide you with the following information which is the closest proxy for the information you have requested.

In table 1 below I have provided a breakdown of the total number of Protection Orders granted each year for 2005 to 2015 by the court. This data includes Protection Order applications transferred to the Family Court from the criminal jurisdiction when a final Protection Order is made as the result of sentencing in a Domestic Violence case or following a breach of a Police Safety Order.

Table 1: Total number of Protection Order applications granted by year of filing

Application outcome	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 *
Application granted	2,563	2,520	2,631	2,506	2,641	2,751	2,737	2,747	2,995	3,336	3,098

* The number of applications granted for 2015 is lower than earlier years as cases that are still active before the court are not included.

In table 2 I have provided the number of male respondent(s) and associated male respondent(s) listed on the Protection Order application by the applicant. It is important to note that the sex of the respondent(s) and associated respondent(s) is not compulsory information to be provided by the applicant when applying for a Protection Order.

Table 2: Number of Male Respondents and Associated Male Respondents of Protection Order application by year of filing

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
3,963	3,897	3,978	3,882	4,132	4,237	3,946	3,860	4,190	4,584	4,774

Please note – the data in the table above is for the number of applications filed; these applications may not be granted by the court.

There is more information about protection orders on our website:

<http://www.justice.govt.nz/family-justice/domestic-violence/protection-order>

If you require any clarification of the information contained in this response please contact Antony Paltridge, Team Leader, Media and External Relations, at media@justice.govt.nz or call (04) 918 8980.

If you are not satisfied with my response to your request, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. The Ombudsman may be contacted by writing to PO Box 10-152, Wellington.

Yours sincerely



Heather Baggott
General Manager, District Courts

Ref: 57035