

21 June 2023

Section 9(2)(a)

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Our ref: OIA 104830

Tēnā koe Section 9(2)(a)

Official Information Act request: Drink spiking convictions

I refer to your email of 2 May 2023 to New Zealand Police (the Police) requesting information regarding drink spiking in New Zealand. On 25 May 2023, the following part of your request was transferred to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry). Specifically, you requested:

*How many drink spiking / disabling convictions there have been over the last year?
How many drink spiking / disabling convictions there have been over the last 10 years?*

*The data broken down by location
And broken down by gender of offender and victim.*

Your request has been referred to me for response, as it falls within my responsibilities as Group Manager, Courts & Tribunals and is being managed in accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I can advise that there are no specific 'drink spiking / disabling' offences but, to assist, attached is information on offences that could involve 'drink spiking / disabling'. The Ministry contacted the Police in order to provide a comparable dataset for your request. The Police advised us of the offence codes that they considered could involve 'drink spiking / disabling', and that they are using in their response and the Ministry has used the same offence codes for this response. Please note these offences do not indicate whether 'drink spiking or disabling' occurred.

In response to your request, please refer to Table 1 attached, which contains the number of drink spiking or drink disabling charges that resulted in a conviction, broken down by Justice Service Area (JSA) and gender from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2022. To clarify the location of the courts, we also attach Appendix A, which is the list of New Zealand courts in each JSA.

Please note, the Ministry does not record the gender of victims. Therefore I am refusing your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Official Information Act 1982, as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

If you require any further information, please contact Media & Social Media Manager Joe Locke at media@justice.govt.nz.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

pp 

Richard Williams

Acting Group Manager, Courts & Tribunals

Table 1: The number of drink spiking or drink disabling charges that resulted in a conviction, broken down by Justice Service Area (JSA) and gender from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2022

Offence code	Justice Service Area	Gender	Year									
			2013	2014	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
1449: Other Disabling/Stupefying	Taitokerau	Male	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	
	Auckland	Male	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
	Bay of Plenty	Male	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
	East Coast	Male	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
	Canterbury	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	
1472: Poisons with Intent to Cause Grievous Bodily Harm	South Auckland	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
	Taranaki/Whanganui	Male	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	
1473: Poisons with Intent to Inconvenience	Waitematā	Male	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
	East Coast	Male	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	
	Nelson/Marlborough/West Coast	Male	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
	Canterbury	Female	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	
		Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Notes for Table 1:

Data provided is extracted from Tier 1 Statistics (data up to December 2022).

Tier 1 statistics are the key official statistics by which New Zealand's performance as a country is measured. Tier 1 statistics are published twice a year in March and September.

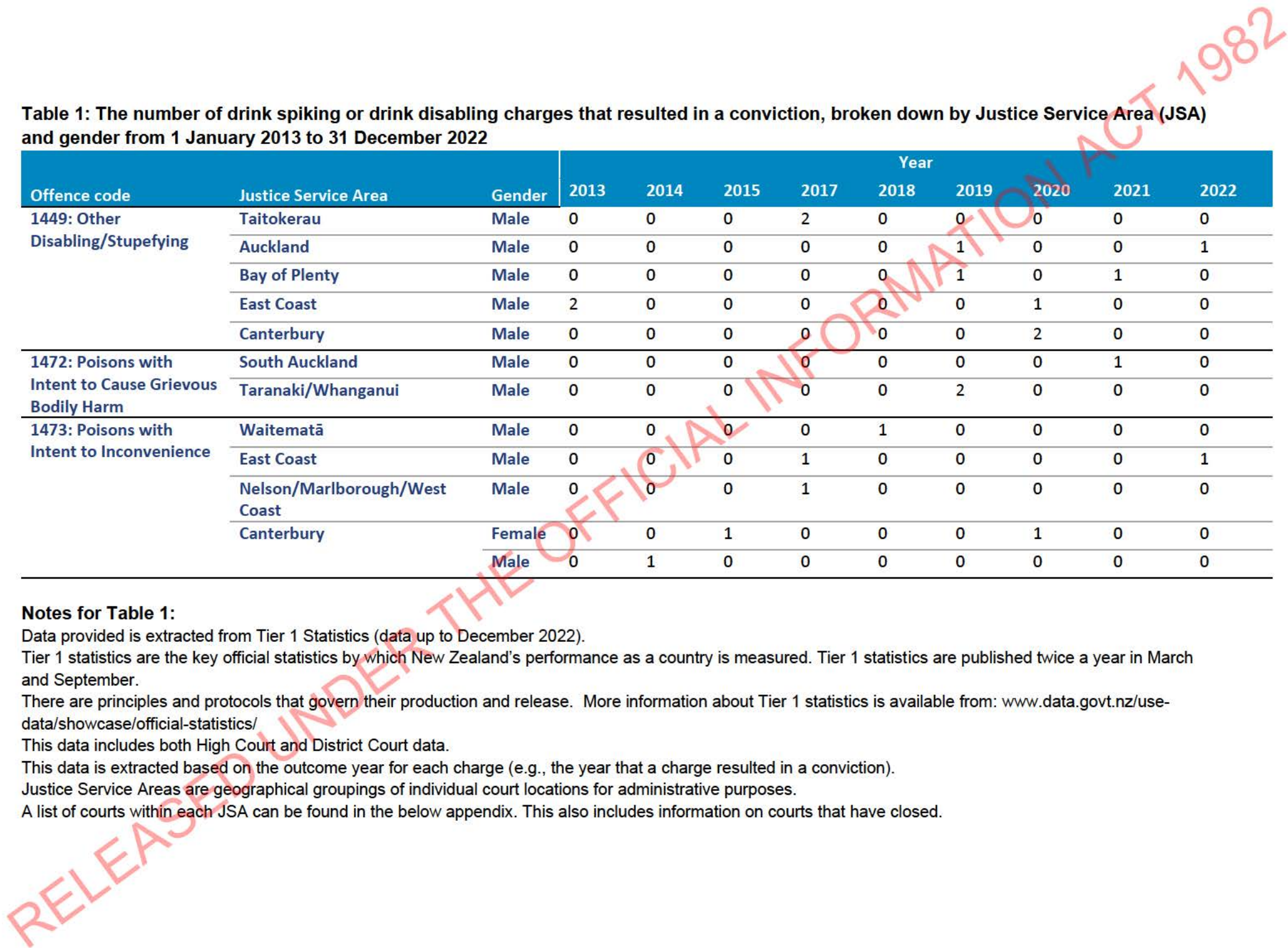
There are principles and protocols that govern their production and release. More information about Tier 1 statistics is available from: www.data.govt.nz/use-data/showcase/official-statistics/

This data includes both High Court and District Court data.

This data is extracted based on the outcome year for each charge (e.g., the year that a charge resulted in a conviction).

Justice Service Areas are geographical groupings of individual court locations for administrative purposes.

A list of courts within each JSA can be found in the below appendix. This also includes information on courts that have closed.



Appendix A: List of New Zealand courts in each JSA

Justice Service Area	Court location	District Court	High Court	Note
Taitokerau	Dargaville	✓		
	Kaikohe	✓		
	Kaitiāia	✓		
	Whangārei	✓	✓	
Waitematā	North Shore	✓		
	Waitākere	✓		
	Warkworth	✓		Closed March 2013
Auckland	Auckland	✓	✓	
South Auckland	Manukau	✓		
	Papakura	✓		
	Pukekohe	✓		
Waikato	Hamilton	✓	✓	
	Huntly	✓		
	Morrinsville	✓		
	Te Awamutu	✓		
	Te Kūiti	✓		
	Thames	✓		
Bay of Plenty	Ōpōtiki	✓		
	Tauranga	✓	✓	
	Waihi	✓		
	Whakatāne	✓		
Wairariki	Rotorua	✓	✓	
	Taumarunui	✓		
	Taupō	✓		
	Tokoroa	✓		
East Coast	Gisborne	✓		
	Hastings	✓		
	Napier	✓	✓	
	Ruatōria	✓		
	Waipukurau	✓		
	Wairoa	✓		
Taranaki/Whanganui	Hāwera	✓		
	Marton	✓		
	New Plymouth	✓	✓	
	Taihape	✓		
	Whanganui	✓	✓	
Manawatū/Wairarapa	Dannevirke	✓		
	Feilding	✓		Closed March 2013
	Levin	✓		

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	Masterton	✓	✓	
	Palmerston North	✓	✓	
Northern Wellington	Hutt Valley	✓		Opened March 2013
	Lower Hutt	✓		Closed March 2013
	Porirua	✓		
	Upper Hutt	✓		Closed March 2013
Wellington	Chatham Islands	✓		
	Wellington	✓	✓	
Nelson/Marlborough/West Coast	Blenheim	✓	✓	
	Greymouth	✓	✓	
	Kaikōura	✓		
	Nelson	✓	✓	
	Westport	✓		
	Whataroa	✓		Closed March 2013
Canterbury	Ashburton	✓		
	Christchurch	✓	✓	
	Rangiora	✓		Closed March 2014
Otago	Balclutha	✓		Closed March 2014
	Dunedin	✓	✓	
	Oamaru	✓		
	Timaru	✓	✓	
Southland	Alexandra	✓		
	Gore	✓		
	Invercargill	✓	✓	
	Queenstown	✓		

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