

2 August 2023

Section 9(2)(a)

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Our ref: OIA 105830

Tēnā koe Section 9(2)(a)

Official Information Act request: Crimes Act

Thank you for your email of 6 July 2023 to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information regarding charges under the Crimes Act 1961. Specifically, you requested:

Please can you provide me with information setting out the number of charges laid under section 98A of the Crimes Act 1961 (including any that may subsequently be withdrawn) for each year from 2017 to 2022 (inclusive) and the corresponding percentage of successful convictions.

In response to your request, please refer to Table 1, attached. This provides the number of charges and percentage of convictions in relation to section 98A of the Crimes Act 1961, for the calendar years 2017 to 2022.

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 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



Richard Williams

Acting Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery

Table 1: Number of charges and percentage of convictions related to section 98A of the Crimes Act 1961, between 2017 and 2022, broken down by year

Offence Description	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Charges	Conviction Percentage	Charges	Conviction Percentage	Charges	Conviction Percentage	Charges	Conviction Percentage	Charges	Conviction Percentage	Charges	Conviction Percentage
Other Participation & Associations	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%
Participates In Organised Criminal Group	65	31%	106	33%	68	34%	85	22%	131	15%	189	25%
Other Participation & Associations	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	65		106		68		85		131		190	

Notes for Table 1:

- The table contains data at charge level, including all charges relating to section 98A of the Crimes Act 1961, which includes the three following offences:
 - 1851: Participates in Criminal Group
 - 1853: Participates in Organised Criminal Group
 - 1859: Other Participation & Associations
- The table contains data from High Court, District Court and Youth Court. However, charge outcomes for youth offenders in the Youth Court are different to adult offenders in the High and District Court. Therefore, the conviction percentage does not relate to the Youth Court.
- This data is based on our latest Tier 1 statistics, released March 2023. Therefore, data for earlier years may have been updated since any previous publications. 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 data.govt.nz/use-data/showcase/official-statistics/