

5 October 2022

Section (9) (2) (a)

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Our ref: 99500

Tēnā koe Section (9) (2) (a)

Official Information Act 1982 request: Adoption court statistics

Thank you for your email requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information on adoption court statistics. On 20 September 2022, your request was transferred to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry), under the provisions of section 14 of the Act, as the information requested is more closely connected with the Ministry's functions.

Your specific questions and my responses are provided below:

Under section 8 of the Adoption Act 1955, how many times has the Court been satisfied that the parent or guardian has abandoned, neglected, persistently failed to maintain or persistently ill-treated a child or failed to exercise the normal duty and care of parenthood so that their consent to adoption was be dispensed with?

The Ministry does not hold the information that has been requested. This information may be held on the court file; however, courts are excluded from the operation of the Act under section 2(6)(a). I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the information is not held by the Ministry of Justice, or any other agency subject to the Act.

More information about accessing court information can be found here:
courtsofnz.govt.nz/going-to-court/media/finding-out-about-a-case/

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 Ombudsman may be contacted by phone on 0800 802 602 or by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Bruce Findlay
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