

11 July 2019

Our Reference: IR-01-19-10515

██████████
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Dear ██████████

I am writing to you in response to your request that we received on 9 April 2019. You asked:

- *I would like to learn of the number of offences recorded nationwide against the following sections of the Arms Act (1983) for the most recent decade. The year, be it calendar, fiscal or financial doesn't matter, which ever is easiest for you.*
- *I am aware that the current registration system contains details of 4% of the national firearm pool, these being MSSAs, handguns and registered weapons of the 'C' category. However, anecdotally, I am also aware of errors principally arising from problems with data collection and capture. Can you provide me with an officially sanctioned indication of the approximate error rate discovered from your operation of the current registration system?*
- *In your reference IR-01-18-15985 of 18DEC2018, mention is made of the number of .410 calibre or gauge shotguns in the Police computer system, derived from "... an import or procure permit". Given that these firearms would all have been imported subject to a permit to import issued by your office, and that the supply of an individual firearm serial number is required before the issue of such a permit, do these records remain for you to compile a reference listing of the serial numbers of all such firearms imported into New Zealand?*

On 7 June 2019, you spoke by phone with ██████████ and subsequently sent ██████ an email withdrawing the latter two questions.

To add more clarification in relation to the third question, if a firearm has a serial number entered in the Police computer system through a permit, then that serial number remains available in other parts of the same computer system. The specific details of the firearms are entered when the permit is used, not when it is issued (which can be prior to any firearms being sourced).

Police National Headquarters

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The response to your first question is provided below.

Offence Code	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
6851 - Unlawfully Carry/ Possess Firearm/ Restricted Weapon/ Explosives	1,238	1,088	1,079	1,120	1,106	1,075	1,332	1,619	1,688	1,760
6852 - Unlawfully Carry Imitation Firearm	275	212	168	166	108	105	129	137	144	142
6853 - Intoxicated in Charge of Firearm/ Restricted Weapon	66	60	36	39	31	37	24	29	27	16
6855 - Uses/Discharges/ Carry Other Firearm Type	52	52	41	42	33	29	38	26	42	25
6856 - Unlawfully Possess Pistol/ Restricted Weapon/ MSSA	156	202	143	172	156	173	185	208	271	293
6857 - Unlawfully Carry/ Possess Firearm/ Ammunition/ Explosives Public Place	218	171	174	139	116	156	217	302	253	333

For your information, Police has developed a process for proactive release of information, so the anonymised response to your request may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website.

Yours sincerely



Mike McIlraith
Acting Superintendent
Arms Act Service Delivery Group