

04/04/24

By email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2024/17

On Wednesday 6 March 2024 you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

I request statistics on the number of persons who voted in the 2023 General Election who did so while imprisoned or while on remand in prison. I seek those numbers per electorate, as relevant. I acknowledge that not all NZ electorates contain a prison facility.

To the extent they can be provided, I request statistics detailing the number of votes cast per party and per candidate by persons who did so while imprisoned or while on remand in prison. I seek those numbers per electorate, as relevant.

We have attached a spreadsheet to this response containing the total number of votes cast by prisoners. This spreadsheet details in which electorate the votes were cast, whether they were ordinary or special votes, and for which electorate each vote was cast. These counts are for all votes cast, and may include disallowed and informal votes.

We have attached a second spreadsheet that details the number of ordinary votes cast per party and per candidate, in each electorate, from votes issued by prison teams. This information has been collated from our website, and can be found here: [Votes Recorded at each Voting Place \(electionresults.govt.nz\)](https://electionresults.govt.nz)

Please note that we cannot provide this same data for special votes. Special vote results are not recorded by voting place, therefore it is not possible to provide votes per party and per candidate for special votes taken by prison teams. Most votes taken in prisons are special votes, due to restrictions to internet access and therefore E-roll within prisons.

Please also note that voting places that issued less than six ordinary votes are not recorded on our website. This is why some electorates that have issued ordinary votes to prisoners do not appear in the second spreadsheet.

In the interests of transparency, we release responses to Official Information Act requests every 3 months. We will publish this response with your personal details redacted.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to make a complaint to the Ombudsman if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Beth Kreitzer
Principal Advisor Data and Insights