



10 February 2023

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 20 December 2022 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting information about section 19 referrals, reports, and submissions. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). We have addressed each of your questions below.

I request the numbers of “section 19 referrals” made by the Court to Oranga Tamariki

- *For the year 2020, nationally and in Christchurch*
- *For the year 2021, nationally and in Christchurch*

The table below details the number of referrals under section 19 of the Oranga Tamariki Act (1989) made to the court by Oranga Tamariki for Care and Protection Family Group Conferences; we have provided the number both nationally and in Christchurch for the 2021 and 2022 calendar years.

To protect individual privacy, Oranga Tamariki has suppressed data where the count is five or less and linked to a region. This is denoted by 'S'.

Calendar Year	2020	2021
Total New Zealand	168	88
Total Canterbury region	S	12

The total number of section 19 referrals made by the Court to Oranga Tamariki in 2020 was 168. We are unable to provide the specific number for the Canterbury region in 2020 as the number is five or less and is suppressed to protect individual privacy.

I request the numbers of “section 19 reports” Oranga Tamariki has provided to the court

- *For the year 2020, nationally and in Christchurch*
- *For the year 2021, nationally and in Christchurch*

IN-CONFIDENCE

The table below details the number of Section 19 reports Oranga Tamariki has provided to the Court for Care and Protection Family Group Conferences. We have provided the number both nationally and in Christchurch for the 2021 and 2022 calendar years.

To protect individual privacy, Oranga Tamariki has suppressed data where the count is five or less and linked to a region. This is denoted by 'S'.

Calendar Year	2020	2021
Total New Zealand	74	97
Total Canterbury region	S	S

I request the numbers of “submissions” Oranga Tamariki has filed in the family court on its “section 19 reports”


- *For the year 2020, nationally and in Christchurch*
- *For the year 2021, nationally and in Christchurch*

Oranga Tamariki is not involved in every submission relating to section 19 reports, and there is a wide variation in how section 19 submissions are recorded in our electronic records. To provide you with the requested information our staff would have to manually review a significant volume of files, therefore I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(f) of the Act, in that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

Oranga Tamariki intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the public. We will do this by publishing this letter on our website. Your personal details will be deleted and we will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

I trust the information provided is useful. I encourage you to raise any concerns about this response with us directly by contacting OIA_Requests@ot.govt.nz. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman by contacting them on 0800 802 602 or www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Julie Miller
General Manager, Monitoring and External Relationships