

9 December 2024

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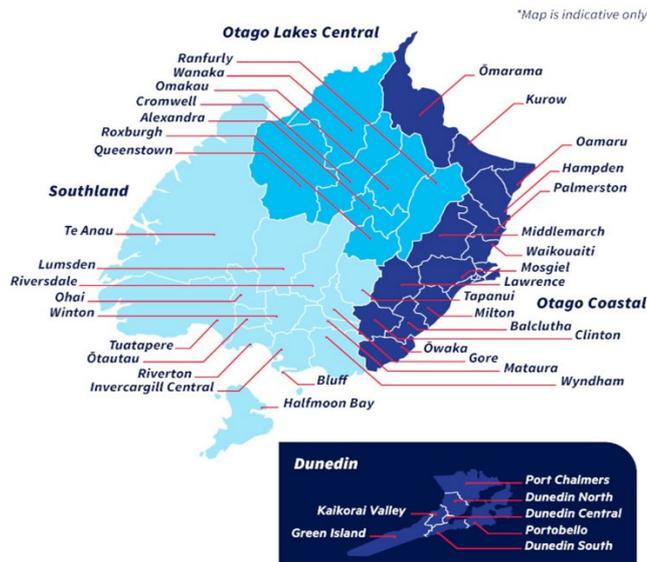
## s 9(2)(a) OIA

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a) OIA

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 21 November 2024 asking for information relating to firearms licences in Otago, Southland and nationally for the period 1 January 2024 to 22 November 2024.

New Zealand Police's districts are comprised of 12 districts, nine in the North Island and three in the South Island (refer to Police districts <https://www.police.govt.nz/about-us/structure/police-districts>). Each district is divided into areas and has a central station from which subsidiary and suburban stations are managed. Location data for firearms licence holders is allocated within these areas, therefore boundaries may differ from other location definitions.

The below map outlines the Police areas that cover Southern District, which displays the boundaries for Otago Lakes Central Area, Otago Coastal Area and Southland Area. These location boundaries should be treated as estimates only.



Police's responses to each part of your request is provided below.

*Can we please get the number of firearms licenses issued in Otago and in Southland, and Nationally.*

A total of 2,812 individual and dealer licences were issued in the Southern District, with a further 17,411 nationally, from 1 January 2024 to 22 November 2024.

Please refer to Table 1 below that shows the total number of individual and dealer firearms licences issued in the Southern District and nationally from 1 January 2024 to 22 November 2024.

**Table 1: number of individual and dealer firearms licences issued in the Southern District and nationally from 1 January to 22 November 2024**

Location	Number licences issued
Otago Coastal Area and Otago Lakes Central Area combined	1,662
Southland Area	1,150
National (excluding Southern District)	17,411
<b>Distinct count of licence number</b>	<b>20,223</b>

Source: National Intelligence Application, retrieved 28 November 2024

Note that when a firearms licence application has been approved, the “licence completed date” is updated in the National Intelligence Application (NIA) database. The data has been captured in NIA where the “licence completed date” is between 1 January 2024 and 22 November 2024<sup>1</sup>.

*Can we also get the number of total applications received from Otago, Southland, and the national figures.*

A total of 3,445 firearms licence applications were received in the Southern District, with 21,314 nationally, from 1 January 2024 to 22 November 2024.

Please refer to Table 2 below that shows the number of firearm licence applications received in Southern District and nationally, from 1 January to 22 November 2024. These numbers include licence holders whose licence had expired and had subsequently reapplied, and renewal applications for individual and dealer licences, however does not include endorsement applications received.

**Table 2: Number of firearm licence applications received in Southern District and nationally from 1 January 2024 to 22 November 2024**

Location	Number of applications received
Otago Coastal Area and Otago Lakes Central Area combined	2,116
Southland Area	1,329
National (excluding Southern District)	21,314
<b>Distinct count of licence number</b>	<b>24,759</b>

Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA) retrieved 28 November 2024.

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<sup>1</sup> Licences issued is based on a system date generated at the time a firearms licence is completed and the licence is issued. It is not indicative of the individual status of this number of licences at time of reporting. For example, licences may have subsequently been surrendered, revoked etc. This same ‘Licence completion’ date field is updated and overwritten each time an application is renewed and therefore this is a point in time data capture of licences that have a completion date during the requested period. This does not include approved endorsement applications.

*Can I please also get the number of applications rejected in Otago, Southland and nationally.*

A total of 29 firearms licence applications were “refused<sup>2</sup>” in the Southern District, with 258 refused applications nationally between 1 January 2024 and 22 November 2024.

Please refer to Table 3 below that shows the number of firearms licence applications that were refused in Southern District and nationally, between 1 January 2024 and 22 November 2024.

**Table 3: Number of firearm licence applications that were refused in Southern District and nationally from 1 January 2024 to 22 November 2024**

Location	Number of applications refused
Otago Coastal Area and Otago Lakes Central Area combined	21
Southland Area	8
National (excluding Southern District)	258
<b>Distinct count of licence applications</b>	<b>287</b>

Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA) retrieved 28 November 2024.

The data contained in this response is drawn from a dynamic operational database and is subject to change as new information is recorded or updated.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review this decision if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

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.

Nāku noa, nā



**Matthew Boddy**

Acting Director Operations  
Firearms Safety Authority

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<sup>2</sup> When a licence application is refused, a firearms event is completed where the status is ‘refused’ in NIA.