

8 December 2025

IR-01-25-40427

s 9(2)(a) OIA

Tēnā koe **s 9(2)(a) OIA**,

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 6 November 2025. I have answered each of your questions relating to the firearms registry and transfers.

You asked:

Can the Firearms Safety Authority provide me with a monthly tally (taken on the 1st of each month) for every month since the firearms register was first activated, to October 2025 for the following:

- 1) The monthly total of the amount of the firearms that have not been successfully transferred in the register, within the regulatory deadline period. (if firearms transfers have lapsed across more than one month, include them in each applicable month)*

There was a total of 20,945 firearm transfers, of which 2,165 were not completed within the regulatory 30-day deadline between 24 June 2023 and 31 October 2025.

Please refer to table 1 that shows the number of overdue firearm transfers broken down by month and year from 24 June 2023 to 31 October 2025.

Table 1: Number of Overdue Firearm transfers broken down by month and year from 24 June 2023 to 31 October 2025.

Financial Year	Month overdue	Total
2023/24	July	0
	August	12
	September	37
	October	66
	November	106
	December	159
	January	167
	February	198
	March	262
	April	275
	May	360

	June	391
2024/25	July	443
	August	455
	September	366
	October	136
	November	126
	December	121
	January	116
	February	75
	March	98
	April	110
	May	189
	June	224
2025/26	July	291
	August	245
	September	231
	October	223
Sum		5,482
Distinct transfers		2,165

Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 6 November 2025

The data includes firearms transfers that were over 30 days and remained unresolved as of October 2025 (excluding those created in October 2025 that had not yet reached the 30-day mark).

The total count does not include transfers involving only firearm parts, nor does it include transfers that were initiated but later cancelled or those in draft form. Each transfer record is counted once, regardless of the number of individual firearms involved in that specific transfer.

A single overdue transfer is counted in the monthly totals for every month it remains unresolved, meaning the sum of monthly totals will differ from the distinct total of overdue transfers.

- 2) *Can you provide the same time period, but I want to know how many licence holders have not registered their firearms within the regulatory timeframe from month to month.*

A total of 82,989 licence holders were subject to an "activating circumstance" that legally required them to register their firearms or submit a "no arms" declaration within a 30-day deadline between 24 June 2023 and 31 October 2025. An activating circumstance (e.g., buying, selling, or importing a firearm; changing address; or applying for a licence renewal) triggers the requirement to register all arms items possessed by the licence holder.

Of this total, 40,495 licence holders did not meet this regulatory deadline.

As of 1 November 2025, of the 40,495 licence holders who had not met their obligations, 97 percent (39,458) were since resolved within a median of 48 days, with 3 percent (1,037) remained unresolved which had been open for a median of 57 days.

When licence holders become overdue, we reach out through emails, letters, and by telephone and do everything we can to assist them. Licence holders who have not filled

in the Firearms Registry after two months of an activating circumstance then receive an 'Improvement Notice', which gives them a final 14 days to act.

I refer you to table 2 below that shows the number of activating circumstances not meeting the regulatory deadline broken down by month, financial year and total from 24 June 2023 to 31 October 2025.

Table 2: Number of Activating Circumstances that did not meet the Regulatory deadline broken down by month, financial year and total from 24 June 2023 to 31 October 2025 .

Financial Year	Month overdue	Total
2023/24	July	663
	August	2,765
	September	3,648
	October	4,346
	November	4,238
	December	3,765
	January	3,492
	February	3,027
	March	2,810
	April	3,147
	May	3,609
	June	3,279
2024/25	July	3,332
	August	2,919
	September	2,581
	October	2,454
	November	2,101
	December	2,119
	January	2,040
	February	1,668
	March	1,857
	April	2,019
	May	2,296
	June	2,377
2025/26	July	2,644
	August	3,312
	September	3,269
	October	3,123
Sum		78,900
Distinct total		40,495

Source: National Intelligence Application (NIA), retrieved 6 November 2025

The data above highlights that the count of "overdue activating circumstances" is a running total; a single unresolved case appears in the overdue statistics for every month it remains unresolved.

Can you also provide details on how the firearms safety authority detects instances where transfers have been started but not completed, and if that process is automated. Does this process automatically detect when both sides of a transfer have submitted their information to the FSA, but the FSA has not finalised the transfer internally?

When a firearm is transferred between two firearms licence holders, both parties are required to notify Te Tari Pūreke of the change in possession. This process is distinct

from registering a firearm via the MyFirearms portal and must be completed by calling Te Tari Pūreke directly.

A provisional record (or “shell”) of the transfer is created in the Registry system when one party contacts Te Tari Pūreke to initiate the transfer. The transfer is only finalised once the second party also contacts Te Tari Pūreke to confirm their side of the transaction. At that point, the Registry immediately completes the transfer.

Although the detection of incomplete transfers is not currently automated, internal workflows and Registry monitoring tools allow staff to identify when one side of a transfer has been initiated but not completed. These tools flag records where one party has submitted transfer information but the corresponding confirmation from the other party is missing beyond expected timeframes.

Follow-up processes are in place to contact the non-responding party and ensure compliance with the legal obligation to notify the Registry. These follow-ups are managed by Registry staff.

Where a licence holder mistakenly registers an arms item via MyFirearms instead of initiating a transfer, there is a process in place to identify and correct these instances to ensure the Registry accurately reflects possession and ownership.

In addition, an automated process to detect incomplete firearm transfers is being developed to enable the system to automatically identify and escalate incomplete transfers, improving efficiency and compliance oversight.

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.

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
Director - Service Delivery
Firearms Safety Authority