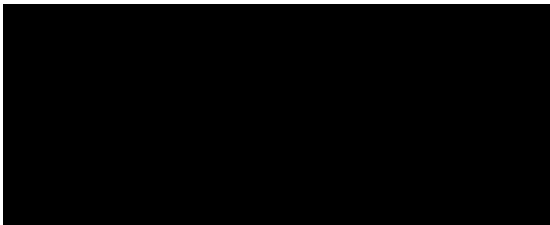


11 February 2021



By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request - Demographic Information on Judges
Our Ref: OIA353/1

1. Thank you for your email of 11 January 2021 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, information relating to the demographics of Judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal, and High Court of New Zealand. Specifically, you request the:
- 1.1 ethnicity breakdown;
 - 1.2 gender split;
 - 1.3 high school attended; and
 - 1.4 current suburb of domicile

for judges of the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal, and the High Court.

Ethnicity breakdown

2. The ethnicity of judges in the three courts is outlined in the table below.

	High Court	Court of Appeal	Supreme Court	Total
NZ Maori	2	1	1	4
Indian	1			1
NZ European/Pakehā	42	9	4	55
Information not held	1		1	2
Total	46	10	6	62¹

¹ These figures relate to permanent appointments only and do not include acting judges in any of the three courts. There is currently one retired judge holding an acting warrant in the Supreme Court and four retired judges holding acting warrants in the High Court.

Gender split

3. The table below sets out the numbers of male and female judges in the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal and the High Court.

	High Court	Court of Appeal	Supreme Court	Total
Female	19	2	3	24
Male	27	8	3	38
Total	46	10	6	62²

High school attended

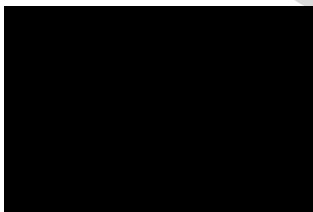
4. Judicial appointments to the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court are usually (but not always) appointed from the High Court. Whilst the expression of interest forms for appointment to the High Court request information relating to academic qualifications and attainments, the names of schools attended are not requested or required information from those seeking appointment as judges, and Crown Law does not collect this information.

Current suburb of domicile

5. The expression of interest forms for appointment to the High Court bench do not request or require information on the suburbs where judges are currently domiciled, and Crown Law does not collect this information.
6. In accordance with s 19 of the OIA we advise you have a right, by way of complaint under s 28(3) of the OIA, to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Ombudsman.

Nāku noa, nā

Crown Law



Team Manager
Constitutional & Human Rights Team

² As noted above, these figures relate to permanent appointments only and do not include acting judges of any of the three courts. There is currently one retired judge holding an acting warrant in the Supreme Court and four retired judges holding acting warrants in the High Court.