



File: 292-30/PSS-2022-23241

January 5, 2023

**Re: Request for Access to Records  
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA)**

I am writing further to your request received by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. Your request is for:

*The following data, in machine-sortable format: A breakdown of bail decisions by race, offence and presence or absence of a mental illness; the number of person-days in segregation by race and presence or absence of a mental illness. (Date Range for Record Search: From 1/1/2016 To 12/1/2022)*

Please note the data you requested pertaining to a breakdown of data for all race/ethnicities and presence/absence of mental illness cannot be created from a machine-readable record in the custody or under the control of the Ministry using its normal computer hardware and software and technical expertise. The creation of this record would require significant resources on the part of the Ministry. Pursuant to [section 6\(2\) of FOIPPA](#), the Ministry has fulfilled its duty to assist and is not required to create a record in response to this portion of your request. However, the Ministry can advise on the following statistics listed below.

In 2020, BC Corrections implemented new tracking measures for individuals that are housed in segregation/separate confinement that include how many individuals self-identify as Indigenous and those who have mental health needs. As such, BC Corrections can provide the following statistics for the period of January 1, 2020, to Jan 1, 2022:

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- There has been a 54% reduction in the use of segregation/separate confinement (178 individuals on January 1, 2020, to 82 individuals in January 2022)<sup>1</sup>.
- There has been a 47% reduction in the use of segregation/separate confinement for Indigenous people (42 individuals on January 1, 2020, to 22 individuals on January 1, 2022).
- There has been a 47% reduction for those with mental health needs (57 individuals on January 1, 2020, to 30 individuals on January 1, 2022).
- In January 2020, the average length of time an individual spent in segregation/separate confinement was 56.7 days. In January 2022, the average length of time an individual spent in segregation/separate confinement was 18.7 days. This represents a 67% reduction in length of placement in segregation/separate confinement from January 2020 to January 2022.

Please note BC Corrections does not have data on bail decisions. You may wish to contact the Court Services Branch at [CSBDataenquiry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:CSBDataenquiry@gov.bc.ca) as they may hold this information.

Your file is now closed.

This response will be published on the BC Government's Open Information website a minimum of ten business days after release. To find out more about Open Information, please access the Open Information website at: [www.gov.bc.ca/openinformation](http://www.gov.bc.ca/openinformation)

If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Taylor Thow, the analyst assigned to your request, at 250 952-2608. This number can also be reached toll-free at 1 833 283-8200. Please provide the FOI request number, found at the top right of the first page of this letter, in any communications.

You have the right to ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review this decision. I have enclosed information on the review and complaint process.

Sincerely,



Taylor Thow, FOI Analyst  
Information Access Operations

Enclosures

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<sup>1</sup> On January 1, 2020, there were approximately 2,100 individuals in custody while on January 1, 2022, there were 1,556. Thus, as a proportion, the number of individuals in segregation dropped from 8.5% to 5.2%.

<p>How to Request a Review with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner</p>
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If you have any questions regarding your request please contact the analyst assigned to your file. The analyst's name and telephone number are listed in the attached letter.

Pursuant to section 52 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA), you may ask the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review any decision, act, or failure to act with regard to your request under FOIPPA.

**Please note that you have 30 business days to file your review with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. In order to request a review please write to:**

Information and Privacy Commissioner  
PO Box 9038 Stn Prov Govt  
4th Floor, 947 Fort Street  
Victoria BC V8W 9A4  
Telephone 250 387-5629      Fax 250 387-1696

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's Office with:

1. A copy of your original request;
2. A copy of our response; and
3. The reasons or grounds upon which you are requesting the review.