



23 January 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 6 January 2025, requesting information about Pacific participants in Youth Parliaments.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request set out below.

Please see the attached **Appendix** containing the number of Pacific participants in Youth Parliament programmes of 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019 and 2022.

The number of Pacific participants in Youth Parliament programmes prior to 2004 and the number of Pacific Youth Press Gallery members for 2004 and 2010 is refused under section 18(g) of the Act as the information you had requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is either held by or closely connected to the functions of another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation.

There are some differences in the way ethnicity information has been captured and/or recorded across the years. For example, participants may have been asked questions in different formats for different Youth Parliament programmes, so the information captured may not be directly comparable (i.e., participants may not have been able to select more than one ethnicity in the earlier Youth Parliament programmes).

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course. If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services



Appendix: The number of pacific participants in Youth Parliament programmes between 2004 and 2022.

	Total Youth MPs	Pacific Youth MPs	% Pacific Youth MPs	Total Youth Press Gallery members	Pacific Youth Press Gallery members	% Pacific Youth Press Gallery members	Total participants	Total Pacific participants	% Pacific participants
2004	120	8	6.67%	10	<i>No data</i>	<i>No data</i>	130	<i>Unable to be calculated - incomplete dataset</i>	<i>Unable to be calculated - incomplete dataset</i>
2007	121	7	5.79%	10	2	20%	131	9	6.87%
2010	121	12	9.92%	10	<i>No data</i>	<i>No data</i>	131	<i>Unable to be calculated - incomplete dataset</i>	<i>Unable to be calculated - incomplete dataset</i>
2013	121	14	11.57%	19	0	0%	140	14	10%
2016	121	8	6.65%	17	0	0%	138	8	5.8 %
2019	120	16	13.33%	20	0	0%	140	16	11.43%
2022	120 ¹	15	12.5%	19	2	10.53%	139	17	12.2%

¹ The total number of Youth Members of Parliament (Youth MPs) for 2022 includes one Youth Clerk of the House.