



Cafcass National Office
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21 Bloomsbury Street
London
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Your ref: CAF 15-74
Our ref: Gov/CAF 15-74

Tel 0300 456 4000

8 May 2015

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email of 29 April 2015. You made the following requests for information:

[I] should be grateful if you would provide me with your statistics on the number of UK Parental Orders granted following surrogacy from the period 1985 to 2014.

Please see below for our response.

Unfortunately Cafcass is unable to provide statistics on the number of Parental Orders *granted*, as we do not record outcome data on private law cases as these can outlast our involvement in the case. They are therefore often closed on our system before there is a legal output, so there is no requirement for Cafcass to log outputs on these cases.

Following the granting of a parental order, children can be registered with a registry office; the [General Register Office](#) holds this data and you may therefore find it useful to request the information from them.

However, please see the table below for the number of parental order *applications* recorded by the Cafcass case management systems which were received by Cafcass in England.

Please note the following points about the data:

- Parental Order applications listed here are based on the following application types received in England: Parental Order (s54 HF&E), Parental Order (s30 HF&E) and Human Fertilisation and Embriology Act.
- Totals are based on the date the application was received (by year from April - March).
- The data sources are:

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- ECMS: ECMS is a live system, continually updated and is subject to change when further updates are made; it was introduced on 11 July 2014.
- CMS: Prior to July 2014, information is taken from CMS (Case Management System) which was introduced national in 2007-08; data from CMS is a static snapshot on the day it ceased to be a live database, 11th July 2014.
- Legacy: Data prior to 2007-08 is from manual recording and legacy databases.

Number of Parental Order Applications	
Year	Total
1999-00	3
2000-01	9
2001-02	41
2002-03	49
2003-04	34
2004-05	42
2005-06	44
2006-07	64
2007-08	56
2008-09	63
2009-10	58
2010-11	109
2011-12	138
2012-13	152
2013-14	202
2014-15	241

We hope that you feel your question has been answered effectively. If you are unhappy with the decisions made in relation to your request, you may ask for an internal review to be undertaken. If you are dissatisfied with the way the internal review is handled or with the final decision made at that review about the information released, you are free to contact the Information Commissioner's office (www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk):

Post
 Information Commissioner's Office
 Wycliffe House, Water Lane,

Fax
 01625 524 510
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Baroness Tyler of Enfield Chair
 Anthony Douglas CBE Chief Executive





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Yours sincerely,

Governance Team

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Cafcass, the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service, is a non-departmental body of the Ministry of Justice
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