

Federal office for migration (Office Federal des Migrations)
Federal Office for Migration
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14 March 2013

Request for Information on Immigration Related Detention

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to request information and documents held by you or stored in archives accessible to you regarding immigration related detention. Specifically, under the [Federal Act on the Principle of Freedom of Information in Public Administration \(2004\)](#), I am requesting the following:

1) Please indicate how many minors (anyone under the age of 18) were placed in any form of immigration-related detention (including specialized detention centers, secure shelters, secure reception centers, juvenile offender facilities) during the years 2010, 2011, and 2012.

Total number of arrest orders against minors:

2011: 176 arrest orders

2012: 177 arrest orders



Please note that according to the Swiss Federal Act on Foreign Nationals, a detention order may only be issued against a minor who has reached the 15 years of age.

Unfortunately the FOM doesn't keep the statistics before 2011. Only since 2011 the arrest orders are recorded systematically in the centralised migration information system ZEMIS.

2) Of the total number of minors placed in immigration-related detention during 2010, 2011, and 2012, how many were accompanied minors and how many were unaccompanied minors?

The FOM doesn't keep statistics which show separately arrest orders against accompanied and unaccompanied minors.

Basically, to ensure the enforcement of the removal of families, arrest is ordered against the father of a family, while the rest of the family is placed in a shelter.

I kindly request you to provide this information and these documents in electronic format if at all possible, to the email addresses @access-info.org and @graduateinstitute.ch.

For responses including datasets I would be very grateful if you could send me the requested data in an Excel or other type of spreadsheet format.

If you should require any further information, or a clarification of any part of this request, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

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