



12 DEC 2016



On 4 October 2016 you emailed the Ministry of Justice requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, information about adoptions.

Part of your request was transferred to the Ministry of Social Development for response, and on 2 November 2016 the Ministry advised that you would be provided with the number of caregivers approved for inter-country or domestic adoption (excluding those approved for an identified child) as at the end of June 2016.

The table below shows the number of caregivers approved for inter-country or domestic adoption, excluding those approved for an identified child.

Number of Caregivers approved for adoption			TOTAL
Domestic Only	Domestic and Inter-country	Inter-country Only	
309	33	78	420

It is important to note that each caregiver is only counted once in this table.

Statutory adoption services in New Zealand are carried out by Child, Youth and Family, a service line of the Ministry of Social Development.

Child, Youth and Family provides advice and services about adoptions within New Zealand and from other countries. Services include counselling birth parents (if requested), preparing and assessing those wanting to become adoptive parents and preparation of reports to the Court.

Post-adoption services for birth and adoptive families are also provided when required. You can access more information about the adoption process on the Child, Youth and Family website at www.cyf.govt.nz/adoption/index.html.

Child, Youth and Family does not make adoption orders, therefore information requests relating to adoption orders granted need to be directed to the New Zealand Family Court.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

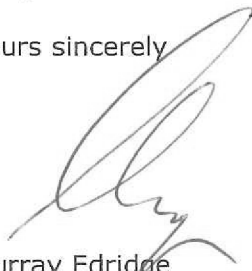
- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public after ten working days. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response about adoptions with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, 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.

Yours sincerely



Murray Edridge
**Deputy Chief Executive
Child, Youth and Family**