



01 NOV 2019



Dear 

On 12 August 2019, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

*Data requested as at the quarter ending June 2019*

1. *The number of children assisted by a Child Disability Allowance (and a breakdown of whether the caregiver is on a main benefit, Superannuation/Veterans Pension, Orphan's Benefit/Unsupported Child's Benefit, a non-beneficiary, or on no benefit).*
2. *The ethnicity of caregivers assisted by a Child Disability Allowance.*
3. *The gender of children assisted by a Child Disability Allowance.*
4. *The number of caregivers who receive more than one Child Disability Allowance broken down by the number of Child Disability Allowances, for example:*
  - *29,390 recipients receive one Child Disability Allowance*
  - *3,067 recipients receive two Child Disability Allowances*
  - *431 recipients receive three Child Disability Allowances*
  - *55 recipients receive four Child Disability Allowances*
  - *11 recipients receive five or more Child Disability Allowances*
5. *The ethnicity and age of caregivers on the Supported Living Payment for carers.*
6. *The number of Disability Allowances granted to individuals under 18 years of age.*
7. *Data on the crossover between the Child Disability Allowance and the Disability Allowance (e.g. how many disabled children/young people under 18 receive both).*

Page 1 of 3

8. *Finally, the average and median payment rate for the Disability Allowance for the following groups:*

- *Children/young people under 18 by gender and ethnicity.*
- *People aged 18 to 64 by gender and ethnicity.*
- *People aged 65+ by gender and ethnicity.*

On 3 September 2019, questions five and six of your request were refined as:

5. *The ethnicity and age of caregivers of all recipients of the Supported Living Payment for carers. If it is not too difficult, it would be fantastic to also get the data for CDA caregivers who are also recipients of the Supported Living Payment for carers.*

6. *The total number of current Disability Allowances paid for children under 18 at the end of the June 2019 quarter (number of recipients).*

Please find enclosed nine tables which address your request:

- Table One shows the number of Child Disability Allowance recipients broken down by carer ethnicity and carer benefit as at 30 June 2019.
- Table Two shows the number of Child Disability Allowance Carers by the number of Child Disability Allowances as at 30 June 2019 broken down by benefit type and number of children cared for.
- Table Three shows the number of ethnic group breakdown of Supported Living Payment Carers as at 30 June 2019, broken down by the carer age and ethnicity.
- Table Four shows the number of Supported Living Payment Carers as at 30 June 2019, who also receive Child Disability Allowance, broken down by carer age and ethnicity.
- Table Five shows the number of Disability Allowances paid to clients under 18, as at 30 June 2019.
- Table Six shows the number of children that Disability Allowances is paid in respect of, as at 30 June 2019.
- Table Seven shows the number and rate of Disability Allowances as at 30 June 2019, broken down by age group and ethnicity of the primary recipient.

- Table Eight shows the number and rate of Disability Allowances as at 30 June 2019, broken down by age group and gender of the primary recipient.
- Table Nine shows the number of children where there is Disability Allowance and Child Disability Allowance in respect of that child as at 30 June 2019.

You will note that some categories of clients are withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

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 shortly. 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 with us, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding Child Disability Allowances and Supported Living Payment, 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Bridget Saunders  
**Team Manager, Issue Resolution, Service Delivery**

**Notes:**

Main Benefits exclude NZ Superannuation, Veteran's Pension, Non-Beneficiary assistance, SLP is Supported Living Payment.

SLP Carers is Supported Living Payment Carers.

CDA is Child Disability Allowance.

Child Disability Allowance is paid to the principal caregiver for a child with a serious disability and who needs constant care and attention e.g. physical, sensory, psychiatric or intellectual disability.

Child Disability Allowance is paid at a standard rate and is not income tested.

CDA can be paid to partners and primary clients in their own right.

DA is Disability Allowance.

No Bft is clients who are not receiving a main benefit or non beneficiary assistance.

Non Ben is non-beneficiary assistance.

NZS VP is NZ Superannuation or Veteran's Pension.

OB UCB is Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit.

Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit are normally included in the No benefit group.

YP/YPP is Youth Payment and Young Parent Payment.

In all cases of reporting benefit status of the caregiver we have also included partners, not just the primary recipients of benefits or pensions.

While MSD collect multiple ethnicities from clients the Ministry only reports a unique form of "prioritised" ethnicity for core benefit data (one ethnic group per person with Māori coming first, Pacific groups second followed by other groups ending with NZ European).

For Student Loans and Allowance data ethnicity is reported as sole and combination where a person is reported in the ethnic combination that applies to them, for example Māori and Pacific Island where they have both ethnicities or just Māori where this is their only reported ethnicity.

Neither method aligns with "total response" ethnicity commonly used by Stats NZ where a person is counted and represented in all the ethnic groups they have chosen to associate with.

In certain circumstances low numbers may potentially lead to individuals being identified.

Due to these privacy concerns, numbers for some categories of clients have been suppressed or aggregated.

Secondary suppression rules have also been applied when required. Suppressed numbers have been replaced by an 'S'.

**Table 1: Number of CDA Children by Carer ethnicity and child gender as at 30 June 2019  
broken down by carer ethnicity and carer benefit**

Benefit Type	Female child						Male child						Total
	Māori	NZ European	Other	Pacific peoples	Unspecified	Total	Māori	NZ European	Other	Pacific peoples	Unspecified	Total	
<b>Main Benefit</b>	1,857	1,784	457	333	52	<b>4,483</b>	3,176	3,164	912	614	125	<b>7,991</b>	<b>12,474</b>
<b>NZS VP</b>	59	72	13	13	6	<b>163</b>	95	117	29	24	8	<b>273</b>	<b>436</b>
<b>No Bft</b>	1,106	4,069	1,372	367	653	<b>7,567</b>	1,926	6,849	2,456	670	1,165	<b>13,066</b>	<b>20,633</b>
<b>Non-ben</b>	328	716	228	95	45	<b>1,412</b>	627	1,275	449	134	56	<b>2,541</b>	<b>3,953</b>
<b>OB UCB</b>	97	175	22	15	26	<b>335</b>	200	287	45	26	38	<b>596</b>	<b>931</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,447</b>	<b>6,816</b>	<b>2,092</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>13,960</b>	<b>6,024</b>	<b>11,692</b>	<b>3,891</b>	<b>1,468</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>24,467</b>	<b>38,427</b>

**Table 2: Number of CDA Carers by Number of Child Disability Allowances as at 30 June 2019  
broken down by benefit type and number of children cared for**

Benefit Type	Number of children cared for			
	2	3	4	5+
<b>Main Benefit</b>	1,348	208	37	6
<b>NZS VP TRB</b>	29	S	S	0
<b>No Bft</b>	1,489	160	11	S
<b>Non-ben</b>	362	69	7	S
<b>OB UCB</b>	91	S	S	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,319</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>13</b>

**Table 3: Ethnic Group breakdown of SLP carers as at 30 June 2019  
broken down by carer age and ethnicity**

**Notes:**

These numbers include all SLP carers.

This is the number of Carers, not the number of grants. One carer may receive multiple grants.

Carer age group	Carer ethnic Group					Total
	Māori	NZ European	Other	Pacific peoples	Unspecified	
<b>18-19</b>	S	S	S	S	S	<b>66</b>
<b>20-24</b>	148	45	26	79	47	<b>345</b>
<b>25-29</b>	277	94	41	123	22	<b>557</b>
<b>30-34</b>	322	146	70	136	17	<b>691</b>
<b>35-39</b>	341	210	103	127	S	<b>783</b>
<b>40-44</b>	411	263	114	170	6	<b>964</b>
<b>45-49</b>	516	431	153	235	21	<b>1,356</b>
<b>50-54</b>	504	479	197	231	31	<b>1,442</b>
<b>55-59</b>	447	511	201	183	49	<b>1,391</b>
<b>60-64</b>	286	414	129	118	48	<b>995</b>
<b>65+</b>	S	S	S	S	S	<b>21</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,283</b>	<b>2,604</b>	<b>1,041</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>8,611</b>

**Table 4: SLP carers as at 30 June 2019, who also receive CDA broken down by carer age and ethnicity**

**Notes:**

These numbers include all SLP carers.

This is the number of Carers, not the number of CDA. One carer may receive multiple CDA.

Carer age group	Carer ethnic group					Total
	Māori	Pacific peoples	NZ European	Other	Unspecified	
20-24	17	S	S	S	S	26
25-29	89	28	52	16	S	190
30-34	123	27	96	30	S	281
35-39	137	30	138	51	0	356
40-44	115	32	151	51	S	352
45-49	107	31	156	41	7	342
50-54	74	29	93	30	S	231
55-59	54	13	46	18	S	134
60-64	19	S	S	S	S	56
<b>Total</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1,968</b>

**Table 5: The number of Disability Allowances paid to clients under 18, as at 30 June 2019**

Benefit Type	Number of Disability Allowances
SLP	282
YP/YPP	S
Non-ben	S
<b>Total</b>	<b>297</b>

**Table 6: The number of Children that Disability Allowance is paid in respect of, as at 30 June 2019**

Number of Disability Allowances
4,893

**Table 7: The number and rate of Disability Allowances as at 30 June 2019, by age group and ethnicity of the primary recipient**

Age group	Ethnic group														
	Māori			NZ European			Pacific peoples			Other			Unspecified		
	Average Weekly rate	Median Weekly rate	Number of Disability Allowances	Average Weekly rate	Median Weekly rate	Number of Disability Allowances	Average Weekly rate	Median Weekly rate	Number of Disability Allowances	Average Weekly rate	Median Weekly rate	Number of Disability Allowances	Average Weekly rate	Median Weekly rate	Number of Disability Allowances
<b>Under 18 years</b>	\$4.78	\$4.20	7	\$15.19	\$7.68	44	\$2.20	\$2.20	S	\$19.23	\$5.75	17	\$11.77	\$4.75	227
<b>18 to 64 years</b>	\$19.42	\$9.95	25,066	\$22.79	\$13.65	52,577	\$14.68	\$6.25	5,355	\$19.56	\$9.80	16,599	\$18.99	\$9.60	2,802
<b>65+ years</b>	\$21.65	\$17.30	12,223	\$26.29	\$22.45	72,018	\$13.97	\$6.60	S	\$20.95	\$16.70	22,209	\$28.76	\$25.60	17,610
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20.15</b>	<b>\$12.10</b>	<b>37,296</b>	<b>\$24.81</b>	<b>\$19.65</b>	<b>124,639</b>	<b>\$14.33</b>	<b>\$6.40</b>	<b>10,553</b>	<b>\$20.36</b>	<b>\$13.80</b>	<b>38,825</b>	<b>\$27.25</b>	<b>\$23.55</b>	<b>20,639</b>

**Table 8: The number and rate of Disability Allowances as at 30 June 2019, by age group and gender of the primary recipient**

Age group	Gender					
	Female			Male		
	Average Weekly rate	Median Weekly rate	Number of Disability Allowances	Average Weekly rate	Median Weekly rate	Number of Disability Allowances
<b>Under 18 years</b>	\$11.75	\$4.75	119	\$12.96	\$5.40	178
<b>18 to 64 years</b>	\$22.66	\$13.35	59,564	\$18.48	\$9.45	42,835
<b>65+ years</b>	\$26.24	\$22.30	81,658	\$22.25	\$18.30	47,598
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24.72</b>	<b>\$19.50</b>	<b>141,341</b>	<b>\$20.45</b>	<b>\$14.10</b>	<b>90,611</b>

**Table 9: The number of Children where there is DA and CDA in respect of that child as at 30 June 2019**

Number of Children
3,013