



19 October 2022

Tēnā koe

On 22 September 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *How many clients have their NZ Super reduced because they also receive a Canadian government pension (CPP and/or OAS)?*

Most countries have social security legislation that provides pensions for old age, disability, or death of a spouse. A client getting an overseas pension will have their pension directly deducted from their New Zealand benefit or pension if that overseas pension is:

- part of a programme that provides benefits, pensions and periodical allowances for the same circumstances for which a New Zealand benefit or pension would be made, and
- administered by or on behalf of the government of the overseas country. Overseas pensions are treated as income for other income tested assistance.

The portion of an overseas pension that comes from voluntary contributions to a country's pension scheme is not deducted from New Zealand Superannuation, Veteran's Pension or other benefits.

You can find more information regarding overseas pensions at the following link: [www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/to-or-from-overseas/payments-from-overseas/overseas-pensions.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/to-or-from-overseas/payments-from-overseas/overseas-pensions.html).

There are currently 3,837 clients on the New Zealand Superannuation who are also receiving a Canadian Government pension, as at the end of September 2022.

Please note, to protect confidentiality, the Ministry uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data. As such,

the figure has had random rounding to a multiple of three applied. The published figure will never differ by more than two counts.

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. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry'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 the number of clients receiving the New Zealand Superannuation and Canadian Government pension, 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.

Ngā mihi nui

*Bridget Saunders*

Bridget Saunders  
**Manager Issues Resolution  
Service Delivery**