



15 September 2022

Tēnā koe

On 4 September 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *What is the total amount of New Zealand superannuation (NZ super) paid on a monthly basis to residents/ citizens living outside NZ.*
- *Please provide individual stats for the last 3 months.*
- *Please provide a list of all the countries (excluding NZ) where the recipients of NZ super reside along with the number of recipients in each country (for Aug 2022).*

Please find attached **Appendix One** containing **Table One** showing the number of residents or citizens outside of New Zealand receiving the New Zealand Superannuation (NZS) and Veteran's Pension, and amounts paid, broken down by residing country for the last three months.

New Zealand has bilateral social security agreements with several countries. Each agreement enables New Zealanders access to certain benefits or pensions when moving to these countries and allows for similar entitlements to people who move to New Zealand from these countries

General portability is the term used to describe the payments made to people receiving NZS overseas but not under the provisions of a social security agreement that New Zealand has with another country. Payment overseas under these provisions requires that a person be entitled to domestic NZS in his or her own right, and then applying for general portability to reside overseas before departing from New Zealand.

Currently, New Zealand has social security agreements with Australia, Canada, Denmark, Greece, Jersey and Guernsey, Ireland, Malta, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. You can find more information on NZS portability and social security agreements on the Work and Income website, here: www.workandincome.govt.nz/pensions/travelling-or-moving/social-security-agreements/index.html.

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 and attachment 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.

If you are not satisfied with this response on NZS payments made overseas, 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.

Ngā mihi nui

Bridget Saunders

Bridget Saunders
**Manager Issue Resolution
Service Delivery**