



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

23 November 2023

Tēnā koe

On 26 October 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

I would like do an OIA request on two elements of Historic Claims.

- 1) *What is the breakdown of claims of abused in State Care by Iwi? I know this is captured in the registration form*
- 2) *What is the break down of claims by current location? I know this is also captured by the person's address on the registration form*

Your request for a breakdown of claims of abuse in State Care by Iwi is refused in full under section 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(ba)(i) and 9(2)(ba)(ii) of the Act.

This information is 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.

This information is withheld under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act as it is subject to an obligation of confidence, and if released, could prejudice the supply of similar information in the future. The greater public interest is in ensuring that such information can continue to be supplied.

This information is withheld under section 9(2)(ba)(ii) of the Act, as the release would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest in maintaining good working relationships between the Ministry and individual Iwi.

The Ministry has interpreted your request for 'current location' as being at a regional level. Please find enclosed in the **Appendix, Table One** which shows the count of claims by region.

Historic Claims has recorded 6,416 individuals who have contacted Historic Claims to make an enquiry about the process. Of these 6,416 individuals, 6,216 lodged a claim (claimants) with Historic Claims alleging abuse or neglect while under the care, custody, guardianship or coming to the notice of the Child, Youth and Family or its predecessor agencies before 1 April 2017.

Of these 6,216 claimants there are a small number who have lodged multiple claims. This means the number of claimants may not match the total number of claims lodged with Historic Claims.

The 6,216 claimants have claims at three main stages: yet to confirm eligibility, open or closed. The regional location of the claimant can be updated up until the claim is closed. The date the 6,216 claimants made their claim ranges from 2004 to 2023.

There are 2,184 claimants who are legally represented, meaning the location of the claimant is not known as the contact information relates to the claimant's legal representative. There are also 215 claimants that do not have a known region, there are multiple reasons for this including that they have no fixed address, or they do not wish to provide their address to the Ministry. These have been included on the table below.

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

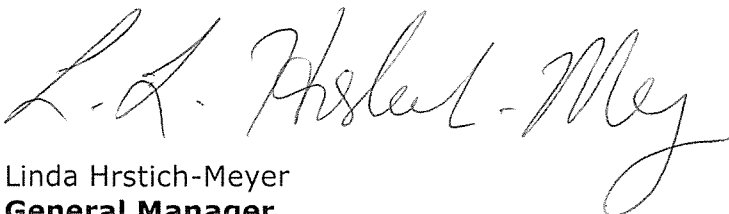
- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

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.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding a breakdown in claims of abuse in State Care, 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



Linda Hrstich-Meyer
General Manager
Historic Claims

Appendix

Table One: Count of Abuse in State Care Claims by Region since 2004.

Region	Count of Claims
Auckland	977
Bay of Plenty	190
Canterbury	465
Gisborne	53
Hauraki	S
Hawke's Bay	211
Horowhenua	14
Legally Represented	2184
Manawatu-Whanganui	274
Marlborough	20
Nelson	93
Northland	197
Otago	139
Overseas	164
Southland	93
Taranaki	75
Tasman	7
Taupo	22
Tauranga	23
Thames/Coromandel	S
Waikato	421
Wairarapa	11
Wellington	319
West Coast	42
Unknown/blank	215
Total	6216

Notes:

- One person can make more than one claim.
- 'Legally Represented' are claims where the claimant is legally represented, and the region is not known.
- To protect confidentiality the Ministry uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data.
- 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.
- Suppressed numbers have been replaced by an 'S'.