



20 March 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 22 February 2024, requesting data regarding youth receiving benefits and included as dependants within another person's benefit.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision set out below.

- 1. Number of Youth aged 12-24 in receipt of a main benefit or Youth Payment or Young parent payment.***
- 2. Number of Youth aged 12-17 who are included as dependent children into a main benefit or young parent payment.***

Please refer to **Table 1, 2 and 3** in the attached **Appendix**. Please note that for question 1, the table only includes youth aged 16 to 24 who are in receipt of a main benefit, Youth Payment or Young Parent Payment, as youth under the age of 16 do not qualify for these types of assistance.

- 3. Number of School leavers leaving school without qualifications.***

We have consulted with the Ministry of Education, who have advised that this information is publicly available here:

<https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/school-leavers>

Please contact the Ministry of Education directly, should you have any additional queries regarding this part of your request.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course. 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 my decision on your request, 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

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Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services