



Dear [REDACTED]

On 13 February 2019, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

*Could I please request the following information for the 2017/18 financial year ending in June?*

- 1. The number of children assisted by a Child Disability Allowance (and a breakdown of whether the caregivers were on main benefits, superannuation or neither).*
- 2. The number of children for whom a Child Disability Allowance was granted (and a breakdown of whether the caregivers were on main benefits, superannuation or neither).*
- 3. Could I also request the ethnicity breakdown for the Child Disability Allowance from 2000/01 to 2017/18 (just the data from June of each year would be great)?*
- 4. Is it possible to get data on whether recipients (carers/parents) receive more than one Child Disability Allowance? So for example (numbers made up):*

*25,000 recipients (carers/parents) receive one Child Disability Allowance*

*5,000 recipients (carers/parents) receive two Child Disability Allowance*

*500 recipients (carers/parents) receive three Child Disability Allowance*

*200 recipients (carers/parents) receive four or more Child Disability Allowance*

- 5. Can I also get the ethnicity breakdown of the Supported Living Payment for carers from 2015/16 to 2017/18 (just the data from June of each year would be great).*

The Ministry works with clients to understand their circumstances, and the circumstances of their families to ensure that every individual is receiving their full and correct entitlements.

The online eligibility guide, launched in July 2018 helps individuals identify the types of financial assistance they may qualify for, then choose if they want to apply. This guide can be found on the Work and Income website here: [www.workandincome.govt.nz/online-services/eligibility/index.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/online-services/eligibility/index.html).

Enclosed are the following five tables which address your request:

- Table One shows the number of Child Disability Allowance recipients broken down by benefit received by the caregiver as at June 2018.
- Table Two shows the number of Child Disability Allowances granted, broken down by benefit received by the caregiver at the time of the grant, as at the end of June 2001 to 2018.
- Table Three shows the number of current Child Disability Allowance recipients, broken down by ethnicity of the caregiver, as at the end of June 2001 to June 2018.
- Table Four shows the number of current Child Disability Allowance caregivers that receive more than one Child Disability Allowance, broken down by the number of children as at the end of June 2001 to 2018.

- Table Five shows the number of current working age Supported Living Payment caregivers broken down by ethnicity, as at the end of June 2015 to 2018.

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, 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



Cassandra Wise

**Team Manager, Issues Resolution, Service Delivery**

**Table One: Number of Child Disability Allowance recipients broken down by benefit received by the caregiver as at June 2018.**

Month ending	Benefit status				Total
	Main Benefits	New Zealand Superannuation/ Veterans Pension	Non-beneficiary	No benefit	
<b>June 2018</b>	11,832	405	3,680	21,178	<b>37,095</b>

**Table Two: Number of Child Disability Allowances granted, broken down by benefit received by the caregiver at the time of the grant, as at the end of June 2001 to 2018.**

Month ending	Benefit status				Total
	Main Benefits	New Zealand Superannuation/ Veterans Pension	Non-beneficiary	No benefit	
<b>July 2017</b>	239	5	50	274	<b>568</b>
<b>August 2017</b>	314	4	64	346	<b>728</b>
<b>September 2017</b>	312	4	54	315	<b>685</b>
<b>October 2017</b>	294	5	57	326	<b>682</b>
<b>November 2017</b>	281	8	71	341	<b>701</b>
<b>December 2017</b>	291	5	65	307	<b>668</b>
<b>January 2018</b>	185	3	39	231	<b>458</b>
<b>February 2018</b>	241	6	47	285	<b>579</b>
<b>March 2018</b>	264	4	68	357	<b>693</b>
<b>April 2018</b>	212	6	50	294	<b>562</b>
<b>May 2018</b>	262	3	71	402	<b>738</b>
<b>June 2018</b>	205	6	63	335	<b>609</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>3,813</b>	<b>7,671</b>

**Table Three: Number of current Child Disability Allowance recipients, broken down by ethnicity of the caregiver, as at the end of June 2001 to June 2018.**

Month ending	Ethnicity					Total
	Māori	Pacific People	NZ European	Other	Unspecified	
<b>June 2001</b>	2,892	877	11,924	1,508	4,523	<b>21,724</b>
<b>June 2002</b>	3,767	961	14,292	2,965	1,763	<b>23,748</b>
<b>June 2003</b>	4,660	1,166	16,322	4,041	1,153	<b>27,342</b>
<b>June 2004</b>	5,784	1,348	18,517	4,413	1,409	<b>31,471</b>
<b>June 2005</b>	6,263	1,403	19,355	4,501	1,528	<b>33,050</b>
<b>June 2006</b>	7,172	1,602	20,973	4,754	1,706	<b>36,207</b>
<b>June 2007</b>	8,110	1,822	22,392	5,041	1,780	<b>39,145</b>
<b>June 2008</b>	9,227	2,115	24,410	5,476	1,957	<b>43,185</b>
<b>June 2009</b>	10,129	2,370	25,603	5,676	1,989	<b>45,767</b>
<b>June 2010</b>	9,898	2,445	24,186	5,494	1,860	<b>43,883</b>
<b>June 2011</b>	8,940	2,280	21,462	4,958	1,613	<b>39,253</b>
<b>June 2012</b>	8,331	2,134	20,175	4,748	1,506	<b>36,894</b>
<b>June 2013</b>	7,863	1,992	19,144	4,615	1,354	<b>34,968</b>
<b>June 2014</b>	7,928	1,907	18,697	4,700	1,269	<b>34,501</b>
<b>June 2015</b>	8,002	1,908	18,527	4,901	1,251	<b>34,589</b>
<b>June 2016</b>	8,275	2,155	17,938	5,441	1,296	<b>35,105</b>
<b>June 2017</b>	8,602	2,177	17,973	5,594	1,589	<b>35,935</b>
<b>June 2018</b>	9,060	2,200	18,211	5,765	1,859	<b>37,095</b>

**Table Four: Number of current Child Disability Allowance caregivers that receive more than one Child Disability Allowance, broken down by the number of children as at the end of June 2001 to 2018.**

Month ending	Number of children					Total
	1	2	3	4	5 or more	
June 2001	18,140	1,482	168	21	6	<b>19,817</b>
June 2002	19,543	1,700	214	31	7	<b>21,495</b>
June 2003	21,990	2,112	297	40	14	<b>24,453</b>
June 2004	24,826	2,594	376	65	13	<b>27,874</b>
June 2005	25,473	2,946	422	87	13	<b>28,941</b>
June 2006	27,358	3,419	504	95	21	<b>31,397</b>
June 2007	29,195	3,825	570	112	26	<b>33,728</b>
June 2008	31,929	4,326	634	133	32	<b>37,054</b>
June 2009	33,842	4,518	729	135	31	<b>39,255</b>
June 2010	33,216	4,138	635	93	22	<b>38,104</b>
June 2011	30,625	3,425	473	69	16	<b>34,608</b>
June 2012	29,307	3,073	372	64	13	<b>32,829</b>
June 2013	28,052	2,826	340	52	7	<b>31,277</b>
June 2014	27,729	2,783	326	48	7	<b>30,893</b>
June 2015	27,734	2,852	320	40	6	<b>30,952</b>
June 2016	28,068	2,880	350	48	7	<b>31,353</b>
June 2017	28,607	2,951	397	52	5	<b>32,012</b>
June 2018	29,390	3,067	431	55	11	<b>32,954</b>

**Notes for Tables One to Four:**

- A CDA is paid to the principal caregiver for a child with a serious disability who needs constant care and attention, such as a child with physical, sensory, psychiatric or intellectual disability.
- A CDA is paid at a standard rate and is not income tested.
- A CDA can be paid to partners and primary clients in their own right.
- A client with a 'Non-beneficiary' benefit status is paid to an individual who is not currently in receipt of a main benefit, however is paid supplementary assistance.
- A client with a 'No benefit' status is not in receipt of a benefit, or receiving supplementary assistance, however may be in receipt of a CDA.
- Table Two: This represents a count of grants not individuals, as the same person may have been granted a CDA more than once. One caregiver may also be counted more than once if more than one child is granted a CDA.
- Tables Three and Five: It cannot be assumed that the ethnicity classification used to construct this table necessarily aligns neatly with the current Statistics New Zealand classification of ethnicity. Ethnicity details recorded in the Ministry's systems have been gathered under a variety of classification schemes as clients came into contact with the Ministry.
- Main Benefits exclude New Zealand Superannuation, Veterans Pension, Non-Beneficiary assistance, Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit.
- In all cases of reporting benefit status of the caregiver, partners are included, not just the primary recipients of benefits or pensions.
- Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit are included in the 'No benefit' group.

**Table Five: Number of current working age Supported Living Payment Caregivers broken down by ethnicity, as at the end of June 2015 to 2018.**

<b>Month ending</b>	<b>Ethnicity</b>					<b>Total</b>
	<b>Māori</b>	<b>Pacific People</b>	<b>New Zealand European</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Unspecified</b>	
<b>June 2015</b>	3,246	1,496	2,760	964	171	<b>8,637</b>
<b>June 2016</b>	3,234	1,545	2,633	1,041	181	<b>8,634</b>
<b>June 2017</b>	3,296	1,474	2,617	1,060	213	<b>8,660</b>
<b>June 2018</b>	3,272	1,425	2,597	1,080	242	<b>8,616</b>