



22 December 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 29 August 2025, requesting statistical information regarding the Youth Payment and the Young Parent Payment.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Thank you for the refinements you have made to aspects of your request, and please accept my apologies for the delay in providing you with our response.

You have asked for a variety of information about the Youth Payment and Young Parent Payment for the last five financial years, to the most recent month or quarter, including regional breakdowns where that is available, to better understand average duration of engagement for rangatahi.

Please refer to **Appendix One** attached, which contains 11 tables setting out the information you have requested in the above questions.

The following notes will assist you to interpret the data provided:

- Data provided about current clients is reported as 'point in time' data (eg Table 1)
- Data about clients exiting services is reported as number of 'cancellations' across a specified period of time (eg tables 10 and 11)

Question 6 of your request asked for '*the overall proportion of YPP clients with a repeat spell within 12 months*'.

I am refusing this aspect of your request under section 18(f) of the Act as substantial manual collation would be required to gather this information. Ministry staff would need to manually review over a thousand client files per year to access this information. This would impair the Ministry's ability to continue standard operations and would be an inefficient use of the Ministry's resources.

The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your requests given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested.

I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

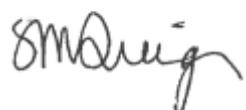
I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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

pp.



Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services