



31 AUG 2018



Dear 

On 5 July 2018, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *Could I please get the number of people aged 0 to 18 who received the Disability Allowance in 2013 by financial quarter?*

On 11 July 2018, a Ministerial and Executive Services Advisor contacted you to clarify your request as it lacked due particularity. You confirmed your request as follows, and added two questions:

1. *The number of Disability Allowances granted to individuals under 18 years of age (so the individual under 18 years is the disabled person who qualifies for the Disability Allowance).*
2. *Data on the crossover between the Child Disability Allowance and the Disability Allowance (e.g. how many disabled children/young people under 18 receive both).*
3. *Data on the average, or median, amount paid for disabled children/young people under 18 in receipt of the Disability Allowance.*

It would be great to have it for the 2013 calendar year by quarter.

Enclosed are the following four tables:

- Table One shows the total number of Disability Allowances granted for children aged 17 years and under, as at the end of each quarter in 2013.
- Table Two shows the number of Disability Allowances and Child Disability Allowances granted for children aged 17 years and under, and the average and median rates for children receiving Disability Allowances and/or Child Disability Allowances, as at the end of each quarter in 2013.
- Table Three shows the number of current children receiving both a Disability Allowance and a Child Disability Allowance aged 17 years and under, and the average and median rates for children receiving both a Disability Allowance and a Child Disability Allowance, as at the end of each quarter in 2013.
- Table Four shows the number of young people aged 17 years and under, currently receiving a Disability Allowance, and the average and median rate for these clients receiving a Disability Allowance, as at the end of each quarter in 2013.

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.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding the Disability Allowance and Child Disability Allowance, 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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C Wise', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cassandra Wise
Manager, Issue Resolution, Service Delivery

A Child Disability Allowance is always paid to a caregiver, whereas a Disability Allowance for an individual aged 17 and under is usually paid to a caregiver. In a small number of cases however, the allowance may be paid to the young person directly, such as a 17 year old in receipt of a Supported Living Payment. Tables One to Three show the number and amount of Child Disability Allowances and Disability Allowances paid to a caregiver on behalf of an individual aged 17 years and under.

Table One: Total number of Disability Allowances granted for children aged 17 years and under, as at the end of each quarter in 2013.

Quarter ending	Total granted
March 2013	1,213
June 2013	1,236
September 2013	1,371
December 2013	1,321
Total	5,141

Table Two: Number of Disability Allowances and Child Disability Allowances granted for children aged 17 years and under, and the average and median rates for children receiving Disability Allowances and/or Child Disability Allowances, as at the end of each quarter in 2013.

Quarter ending	Disability Allowance		Child Disability Allowance			Overall Total			
	Average weekly rate	Median weekly rate	Total number of children	Average weekly rate	Median weekly rate	Total number of children	Average weekly rate	Median weekly rate	Total number of children
March 2013	\$19.65	\$11.40	9,378	\$45.58	\$45.62	35,127	\$40.12	\$45.62	44,505
June 2013	\$19.62	\$11.20	9,256	\$45.59	\$45.62	34,968	\$40.15	\$45.62	44,224
September 2013	\$19.67	\$11.30	9,118	\$45.59	\$45.62	34,673	\$40.19	\$45.62	43,791
December 2013	\$19.69	\$11.20	8,878	\$45.59	\$45.62	34,495	\$40.29	\$45.62	43,373

Table Three: Number of current children receiving both a Disability Allowance and a Child Disability Allowance aged 17 years and under, and the average and median rates for children receiving both a Disability Allowance and a Child Disability Allowance, as at the end of each quarter in 2013.

Quarter ending	Average weekly rate	Median weekly rate	Total number of children
March 2013	\$67.96	\$60.12	4,710
June 2013	\$67.92	\$59.62	4,689
September 2013	\$67.95	\$59.72	4,539
December 2013	\$68.04	\$59.72	4,442

The following table shows the number of Disability Allowances paid directly to the client aged 17 or under.

Table Four: Number of young people aged 17 years and under, currently receiving a Disability Allowance, and the average and median rate for these clients receiving a Disability Allowance, as at the end of each quarter in 2013.

Quarter ending	Average weekly rate	Median weekly rate	Total number of children
March 2013	\$12.88	\$4.00	434
June 2013	\$12.83	\$4.10	436
September 2013	\$13.33	\$4.50	386
December 2013	\$13.32	\$4.50	386

Notes for all tables:

- All data is for children aged 17 and under for the 2013 Calendar year.
- Tables One, Two and Three: All Disability Allowances counted are current for children.
- Table Four: All Disability Allowances counted are current for partners and single clients aged 17 and under.