



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

21 MAR 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

On 28 February 2019, you emailed the Ministry requesting under the Official Information Act 1982, information regarding Kiribati people in New Zealand. On 6 March 2019, you refined your request to the number of Kiribati people in receipt of financial assistance.

The Ministry of Social Development provides income assistance and services to more than one million New Zealanders each year. Information about the different assistance, including eligibility is available at: www.workandincome.govt.nz/eligibility/index.html.

To identify assistance provided to Kiribati people, the Ministry has reported on those people in receipt of a main benefit (this excludes Veteran's Pension, non-beneficiary assistance, Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit) or in receipt of New Zealand Superannuation who have a country of birth or ethnicity of Kiribati recorded. Please note that ethnicity is self-identified by an individual.

The following table shows the number of people of Kiribati in receipt of a main benefit or New Zealand Superannuation, broken down by the type of assistance they received, as at the end of December 2018.

Type of Assistance	Total
New Zealand Superannuation	63
Jobseeker related	65
Supported Living Payments related	12
Sole Parent Support	48
Emergency Maintenance Allowance	2
Emergency Benefit	12
Jobseeker Student Hardship	6
Total	208

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 and attachments 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 concerning financial assistance provided to Kiribati people, 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 black ink, appearing to read 'PP Wise', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Cassandra Wise
Manager, Issue Resolution, Service Delivery