



24 MAR 2021

On 10 March 2021, the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) was transferred your request dated 2 March 2021 from the Office of Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development and Employment.

Under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) you requested the following information:

- *The most recent figures available for the cost of National Superannuation during the last five years.*

New Zealand Superannuation (NZS) provides a retirement income for New Zealanders who have reached 65 years of age.

On 9 November 2020, the NZS Scheme was updated after the Government agreed to change the following two aspects of the direct deduction policy:

- the amount of an overseas pension that is in excess of one partner's entitlement to NZS will no longer be deducted from their partner's NZS, and
- the amount of any overseas pension that comprises voluntary contributions made to an overseas pension scheme will also not be deducted.

More information about the number of New Zealanders receiving superannuation payments is publicly available on the Ministry's website here: [www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/benefit/index.html](http://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/benefit/index.html).

Please see enclosed **Table One** which outlines the amount of NZS paid over the last 5 years, aligned to the financial year.

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 available to the wider public. 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 regarding the most recent figures available for the cost of National Superannuation during the last five years, 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.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ranjit Singh', written over a horizontal line.

Ranjit Singh

**Group General Manager Finance and Chief Financial Officer**

**Table One: The amount of NZS paid over the last 5 years (aligned to the financial year)**

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
<b>New Zealand Superannuation (NZD billions)</b>	\$12.267	\$13.043	\$13.699	\$14.562	\$15.521

**Note:**

- Figures are in NZD billions.