



Tēnā koe

On 13 September 2021, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information in relation to a published OIA response on the Ministry's website:

- *Could you please update the table on page 3 of the previous OIA request available at the link below to include the March and June quarters of 2019 and 2021?*

<https://www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/official-information-responses/2020/july/r-20200723-request-for-information-on-how-much-rent-has-been-unpaid-due-to-the-covid-crisis-and-how-much-money-has-been-paid-out-for-rental-arrea.pdf>

Please see attached in **Appendix A, Table One**, which shows the number of hardship grants approved for reason 'rent arrears' at the March and June quarters in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

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
- 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. 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 regarding rent arrears with us, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi nui

*Bridget Saunders*

Bridget Saunders  
**Manager, Issue Resolution**  
**Service Delivery**

**Table One: The number of hardship grants approved for reason 'rent arrears' in the March and June quarters in 2019, 2020 and 2021.**

Quarter ending		2019		2020		2021	
		March	June	March	June	March	June
ADV	Number of Grants	7,521	6,684	7,635	4,890	5,049	4,668
	Amount Granted	\$5,638,456.09	\$4,989,259.35	\$6,022,644.65	\$4,451,635.90	\$3,802,792.59	\$3,449,789.95
HSP	Number of Grants	0	0	489	225	1,920	1,590
	Amount Granted	\$0	\$0	\$644,591.52	\$296,769.82	\$2,431,309.20	\$2,062,796.06
RAP	Number of Grants	2,286	2,190	2,658	1,695	1,041	1,104
	Amount Granted	\$1,997,519.56	\$1,901,621.37	\$2,496,061.37	\$1,694,477.02	\$871,681.28	\$950,808.19
Total	Number of Grants	<b>9,807</b>	<b>8,874</b>	<b>10,785</b>	<b>6,810</b>	<b>8,010</b>	<b>7,359</b>
	Amount Granted	<b>\$7,635,975.65</b>	<b>\$6,890,880.72</b>	<b>\$9,163,297.54</b>	<b>\$6,442,882.74</b>	<b>\$7,105,783.07</b>	<b>\$6,463,394.20</b>

**Notes:**

- ADV is Advances of Main Benefit.
- RAP is Recoverable Assistance Payment.
- HSP is Housing Support Product paid for Rent arrears.
- The amount granted may not be the same as the amount spent.
- This is a count of grants, not clients. The same client may have been granted more than once.
- To protect confidentiality, the Ministry uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data. These data tables have had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts in the table. A value of one or two may be rounded to zero or three. The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals. The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.