



22 June 2022

Tēnā koe

On 27 May 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Please provide the number of people who were not in receipt of a main benefit, and were receiving Disability Allowance for each of the years April 2008- April 2022.*

Disability Allowance (DA) provides non-taxable assistance to people who have on-going, additional costs because of a disability. A client must be receiving an income-tested benefit or meet the appropriate income limit to receive DA. The client's dependent partner or dependent child may also qualify for DA if the client is receiving an income tested benefit or meets the appropriate income limit.

Please find attached **Appendix One** containing **Table One**, which shows the number of clients who were in receipt of Orphan's and Unsupported Child's Benefit, and Non Beneficiary, and receiving DA as at each end of April from 2008 to 2022.

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. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachments on the Ministry'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 people who were not in receipt of a main benefit and were receiving DA for each of the years April 2008 to April 2022 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

*Bridget Saunders*

Bridget Saunders  
**Manager Issue Resolution  
Service Delivery**

## Appendix One

**Table One: The number of clients who were in receipt of Orphans Benefit, Unsupported Child's Benefit, and Non Beneficiary receiving Disability Allowance, as at each end of April from 2008 to 2022.**

As at End of	Orphan's and Unsupported Child's benefits	Non Beneficiary	Total
April 2008	189	6,864	7,050
April 2009	243	7,287	7,533
April 2010	249	7,854	8,100
April 2011	222	7,779	8,001
April 2012	225	7,554	7,779
April 2013	204	7,269	7,473
April 2014	213	7,914	8,127
April 2015	240	8,250	8,487
April 2016	246	8,094	8,340
April 2017	273	7,722	7,995
April 2018	267	7,359	7,623
April 2019	267	7,269	7,536
April 2020	270	6,909	7,179
April 2021	285	7,149	7,431
April 2022	261	5,610	5,874

Notes:

- Orphans Benefit (OB) and Unsupported Child's Benefit (UCB) provide income support to the caregiver of a child whose parents can't support them. These are not considered as main benefits which is why data for OB and UCB have been included. Those who are under the age of 18 are eligible for Child Disability Allowance as well as DA.
- 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. 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