



3 April 2024

Tēnā koe

### **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of 13 March 2024, requesting information about the number of clients granted Sole Parent Support when their children were in their care for less than 40% or 25% of the time in the period 1 January 2020 to 31 August 2023. I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision set out below.

Please find eight tables set out below, providing the data you have requested.

**Table 1:** Number of working age clients granted Sole Parent Support benefit where the child or children included in the benefit were all in care for 25 percent or less of the time 1 January to 31 December 2020

Number of clients
3

**Table 2:** Number of working age clients granted Sole Parent Support benefit where the child or children included in the benefit were all in care for less than 40 percent of the time 1 January to 31 December 2020

Number of clients
15

**Table 3:** Number of working age clients granted Sole Parent Support benefit where the child or children included in the benefit were all in care for 25 percent or less of the time 1 January to 31 December 2021

Number of clients
3

**Table 4:** Number of working age clients granted Sole Parent Support benefit where the child or children included in the benefit were all in care for less than 40 percent of the time 1 January to 31 December 2021

Number of clients
24

**Table 5:** Number of working age clients granted Sole Parent Support benefit where the child or children included in the benefit were all in care for 25 percent or less of the time 1 January to 31 December 2022

Number of clients
6

**Table 6:** Number of working age clients granted Sole Parent Support benefit where the child or children included in the benefit were all in care for less than 40 percent of the time 1 January to 31 December 2022

Number of clients
21

**Table 7:** Number of working age clients granted Sole Parent Support benefit where the child or children included in the benefit were all in care for 25 percent or less of the time 1 January to 31 August 2023

Number of clients
3

**Table 8:** Number of working age clients granted Sole Parent Support benefit where the child or children included in the benefit were all in care for less than 40 percent of the time 1 January to 31 August 2023

Number of clients
12

**Notes:**

- The tables include working age only (18 to 64 years).
- The percentage of time in care is based on the number of days in care calculated for each child included in the benefit as at the benefit commencement date.
- Some cases may be excluded due to the timing of the child's inclusion in the parent benefit.
- Tables 2, 4, 6 and 8 also include number for 25 percent or less.

**Confidentiality:**

- To protect confidentiality the Ministry of Social Development 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.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

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 my decision on your request, 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 read 'Magnus O'Neill', written in a cursive style.

pp.

Magnus O'Neill  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**