



5 April 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 6 March 2024, requesting information about the number of women receiving Jobseeker Support and are on the wait list for gynaecology surgery.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision set out below.

While the Ministry holds information about Jobseeker Support recipients (see: www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/benefit/index.html), it does not hold data about surgery waiting lists that would allow us to provide the data set you have requested. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry and we have no grounds to believe that the information is either held by or closely connected to the functions of another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation.


We would encourage you to contact Statistics NZ as you may be eligible to apply to use their microdata for research. I have provided a publicly available link to the relevant page of the Statistics NZ website: www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/apply-to-use-microdata-for-research. In addition, Statistics NZ's Information Centre may be able to assist you in your search for statistical information by letting you know what data Statistics NZ can provide and showing you how to find it. This includes assistance with navigating and retrieving data from Infoshare (a free web-based tool that allows users to access a wide range of time series data, the link to Infoshare is provided here: infoshare.stats.govt.nz/). This service is free and often results in a same day response.

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.

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 or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

p.p. 

Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services