



16 April 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 17 March 2024, requesting information about children dependent on benefits:

- 1/ As of December 31, 2023 please provide the ages of children dependent on benefits broken into one-year age bands*
- 2/ Please provide the same data by benefit type, including non-working age benefits*
- 3/ Please provide the same data by ethnicity*
- 4/ Please provide equivalent data at December 31, 2017*

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Please see the attached **Appendix** with three tables all showing data as at the end of December in both 2017 and 2023:

- **Table 1:** Number of clients and children included on main benefit, by benefit type
- **Table 2:** Number of Children included on main benefit, by benefit type and age of child
- **Table 3:** Number of children included on a main benefit by Total Response Ethnicity of client, by benefit type and age of child

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 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