



31 May 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 9 May 2024, requesting information on Community Services Card (CSC) holders.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). In respect of your request for information relating to the number of CSC holders, please refer to **Table One** in the attached Appendix.

The Ministry does not record data on household dependents for CSC holders. As such, your request for this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, under the basis that the information requested does not exist.

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

pp. 
Magnus O'Neill

General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services

Appendix

Table One: Number of Community Services Cards (CSC) as at end of April 2024, broken down by total response ethnicity

Ethnicity	Super Gold plus Community Services Card	Community Services Card Only - No Super Gold Card	Total
Māori	31,572	200,409	231,978
European	238,332	302,316	540,648
Pacific Peoples	16,557	82,257	98,814
Asian	31,788	55,047	86,838
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	2,544	12,150	14,694
Other Ethnicity	8,823	25,020	33,843
Total recipients with recorded ethnicity	316,350	594,660	911,010
Not Specified	22,209	123,549	145,758
Total recipients	338,559	718,209	1,056,768

Notes:

- These are all CSCs on issue and reissue, including CSC only and Super Gold Card with a CSC.
- Ethnicity data is self-identified and multiple ethnicities may be chosen by an individual as fits their preference or self-concept.
- Total response ethnicity means that if a person identifies with more than one ethnic group, they are counted in each applicable group.
- Because a client can choose more than one ethnic response, the total number of ethnic responses will be greater than the number of clients.
- 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.
- Random rounding does not round down to zero, a value of one or two will be rounded to 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.