



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

-2 FEB 2017

Privacy of another: section 9(2)(a)

Dear Privacy of another: section 9(2)(a)

On 15 December 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *The latest available data providing a breakdown of beneficiaries with and without children on the various benefits by marital status.*

You will find enclosed two tables.

- Table One provides information regarding the number of working age main benefit clients with children at the end of each quarter from December 2015 to September 2016 by client marital status, age group of youngest child, and quarter.
- Table Two provides information regarding the number of working age main benefit clients without children.

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 after ten working days. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development'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 concerning beneficiaries with and without children with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, 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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Bound', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ruth Bound
Deputy Chief Executive, Service Delivery

Table One: The number of working age main benefit clients with children at the end of each quarter from December 2015 to September 2016 by client marital status, age group of youngest child, and quarter.

Quarter	Marital Status	Children aged 0-4	Children aged 5-9	Children aged 10-13	Children aged 14+	Total
December 2015	Married	5,552	2,553	1,589	1,451	11,145
	Single	43,226	24,149	13,032	9,871	90,278
March 2016	Married	4,846	2,289	1,481	1,404	10,020
	Single	41,781	23,069	12,388	9,725	86,963
June 2016	Married	4,971	2,303	1,502	1,476	10,252
	Single	41,197	23,056	12,306	10,157	86,716
September 2016	Married	5,153	2,315	1,509	1,571	10,548
	Single	40,577	23,015	12,341	10,499	86,432

Notes:

- The table includes working age only (18 to 64 years)
- Main Benefits exclude NZ Superannuation, Veteran's Pension, Non-Beneficiary assistance, Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit
- Married is client has a partner
- Single is client has no partner

Table Two: The number of working age main benefit clients without children at the end of each quarter from December 2015 to September 2016.

December 2015	March 2016	June 2016	September 2016
199,926	182,908	183,209	186,895

Notes:

- The table includes working age only (18 to 64 years)
- Main Benefits exclude NZ Superannuation, Veteran's Pension, Non-Beneficiary assistance, Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit