



20 February 2026

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 3 December 2025, requesting a breakdown of unclaimed Superannuation payments, and the number of individuals eligible for New Zealand Superannuation.

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

If you don't have information for the time periods requested, please provide the most recent data available.

Question 1: Approximately how many people are eligible to receive New Zealand superannuation?

I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(g) of the Act as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry and I 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.

Question 2: The New Zealand Budget 2024 allocated a total of \$23.3 billion for superannuation payments. How much of this money was paid out?

This information is publicly available on the Ministry's website in our Annual Report 2025. Please refer to page 189 under the Appropriation Title *New Zealand Superannuation*: www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/corporate/annual-report/2025/msd-annual-report-2025.pdf

On this page, you will see that final expenditure on New Zealand Superannuation in the 2024/25 Financial Year was \$23.19 Billion, compared to an approved appropriation of \$23.23 Billion.

Question 3: In the year ending March 30 2025, approximately how many people who were eligible for superannuation did not claim it?

I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(g) of the Act as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry and I 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.

To be helpful, we are providing you with a link to our New Zealand Superannuation and Veteran's Pension data tables – September 2025 which are included in our

Benefit Fact Sheets. This information is publicly available on the Ministry website here: msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/benefit/index.html

Question 4: For the year ending March 30 2025, how much in unclaimed superannuation payments was transferred to the Treasury?

In answering this part of your request, we have interpreted unclaimed superannuation payments as the difference between the budget amount and the actual payments made.

For the year ended 30 June 2025, there are no unclaimed payments. NZ Superannuation is funded as non-departmental expenditure, and cash is drawn from the Treasury only to meet actual payment obligations. Where payments are lower than forecast, the cash is simply not drawn. As a result, any unclaimed NZ Superannuation expenditure remains with the Crown and there is no transfer or repayment to Treasury.

Question 5: What is unclaimed superannuation spent on?

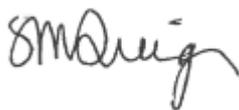
Any unused appropriation is not spent on other activities. Therefore, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(g) of the Act as the information you had requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is either held by or closely connected to the functions of another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation.

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. 

Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services