



25 January 2023



Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your requests made under the Official Information Act 1982, received on 9 December 2022. You requested the following:

Could I please request the following information about Working for Families:

- *An update to the attached table (previously received from IRD) to cover the period 2015-2022 (or the most recent year available).*
- *An Excel table showing the most recent available figures for the number of people receiving Working for Families by electorate, or if this is not possible, by territorial authority.*

Information being released

Working for Families tax credits include Family tax credit, Minimum Family tax credit, In Work tax credit, a tail¹ of historic Child tax credit claims, Parental tax credit to June 2018, and Best Start from July 2018.

Appendix One provides an update of the regional Working for Families information previously supplied. Information has been updated for the 2015 to 2021 income tax years. Information for the 2022 income tax year has not been provided as customers have until March 2023 to finish filing their income tax returns, which enable Working for Families entitlements to be calculated.

The information provided includes all:

- Working for Families customers with an annual entitlement calculated by Inland Revenue, including square ups of Work and Income customers, where the annual entitlement is non-zero; and
- Working for Families payments made by Work and Income to its customers where their customers have not been squared up by Inland Revenue. In this case the entitlement is assumed to be the sum of payments made.

The data in the updated table will differ from previously provided data which did not include the second group of Work and Income (only) customers.

The information provided does not include:

- Customers that received Working for Families payments by Inland Revenue who were not entitled to the payment once squared up at year end; nor
- Customers that received Working for Families payments from Inland Revenue that have not yet filed a return.

Customers have been mapped to a region based on their post code recorded in the system at the time their Working for Families return was filed or at the time of the Work and

¹ Child tax credit was not available to new claims from 2007, but a tail of past claimants remained.

Income payments. Where a post code straddles more than one region customers have been randomly allocated between the adjoining regions. Customers with no post code recorded have been included in the tables as 'unknown'.

Information for the 2015 to 2017 years has been created from sample data and as a result has been rounded to the nearest 10th digit. Full population data has been used to create information for the 2018 to 2021 years.

Appendix Two provides information on Working for Families recipients by territorial authority. Minor variations may occur between Appendices One and Two based on minor differences in the methodology to assign customers between regions and territorial authority e.g. the random approach to assigning customers where a post code straddles more than one region or territorial authority.

Publishing of OIA response

Please note that Inland Revenue regularly publishes responses to requests that may be of interest to the wider public on its website. We consider this response is of public interest and will publish this response in due course. Your personal details or any information that would identify you will be removed prior to it being published.

Thank you again for your request.

Yours sincerely



Sandra Watson
Policy Lead, Forecasting and Analysis

Appendix One**Number of Working for Family customers by region 2015 to 2021**

Region	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Auckland	111,160	104,410	99,530	104,450	108,290	114,070	113,190
Bay of Plenty	26,480	26,240	24,830	25,320	26,010	26,950	26,590
Canterbury	36,830	35,870	34,310	35,890	38,470	40,930	40,850
Gisborne	5,300	5,290	5,270	5,230	5,230	5,290	5,160
Hawkes Bay	15,670	15,350	15,560	14,520	14,630	14,800	14,270
Manawatu-Wanganui	20,300	21,000	19,420	20,110	20,760	21,200	20,760
Marlborough	3,660	3,220	2,940	2,960	3,130	3,190	3,170
Nelson	4,660	4,700	4,460	4,250	4,360	4,340	4,150
Northland	17,590	16,230	17,080	15,780	16,240	16,600	16,600
Otago	10,050	9,650	9,210	10,620	11,130	11,800	11,680
Southland	7,930	7,050	6,910	6,810	7,090	7,270	7,230
Taranaki	10,260	9,470	9,230	9,020	9,480	9,850	9,660
Tasman	2,990	2,690	2,360	3,030	3,210	3,250	3,180
Waikato	36,530	37,120	35,890	33,840	34,970	36,220	35,770
Wellington	30,880	30,160	28,310	28,300	29,530	31,000	30,350
West Coast	2,490	2,180	2,050	2,150	2,160	2,230	2,230
Unknown	7,020	8,070	8,740	610	2,710	1,610	440
Total	349,800	338,700	326,100	322,890	337,400	350,600	345,280

Appendix Two**Number of Working for Family customers by territorial authority for the 2020/21 tax year**

North Island	
Territorial Authority	Number of customers
Far North	6,636
Whangarei	7,905
Kaipara	2,064
Auckland	113,192
Thames Coromandel	1,944
Hauraki	1,536
Waikato	4,303
Matamata Piako	2,630
Hamilton City	12,805
Waipa	5,400
Otorohanga	886
South Waikato	2,544
Waitomo	869
Taupo	2,898
Western Bay of Plenty	3,491
Tauranga City	10,896
Rotorua	6,963
Whakatane	3,383
Kawerau	871
Opotiki	980
Gisborne	5,156
Wairoa	941
Hastings	6,866
Napier City	5,195
Central Hawkes Bay	1,276
New Plymouth	6,434
Stratford	830
South Taranaki	2,405
Ruapehu	1,289
Wanganui	4,408
Rangitikei	1,328
Manawatu	4,769
Palmerston North City	4,439
Tararua	1,649
Horowhenua	2,941
Kapiti Coast	3,343
Porirua City	4,835
Upper Hutt City	2,157
Lower Hutt City	8,717
Wellington City	7,687
Masterton	2,163
Carterton	620
South Wairarapa	805
Total	272,449

South Island	
Territorial Authority	Number of customers
Tasman	3,156
Nelson City	4,181
Buller	740
Grey	971
Westland	528
Marlborough	3,169
Kaikoura	245
Hurunui	972
Waimakariri	3,661
Christchurch City	22,170
Selwyn	6,347
Ashburton	2,163
Timaru	3,040
Mackenzie	211
Waimate	510
Waitaki	1,553
Central Otago	1,230
Queenstown Lakes	1,742
Dunedin City	7,457
Clutha	1,258
Southland	2,032
Gore	984
Invercargill City	4,243
Unknown	288
Total	72,851