

15 October 2024



Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 23 September 2024. You requested the following:

...any figures on how many families and children broken down by region are expected/estimated to be helped by the FamilyBoost childcare payment

Information withheld or refused

Your request for how many families and children are expected/estimated to receive the FamilyBoost payment broken down by region is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA, as the information is not held by Inland Revenue, and we do not believe it is held by another agency. However, we can advise the following which we hope is of some help.

As referenced in the post-Cabinet press conference on 25 March, 2024, an estimation of approximately 100,000 families (an estimated 140,00 children) are eligible to receive the FamilyBoost payment. The full transcript can be found at beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-

 $\underline{03/Post\%20Cabinet\%20press\%20conference\%2025\%20March\%202024.pdf}.$

Additionally, the Ministry of Education's website allows users to search for the total number of children attending early childhood centres by region or territorial authorities. This can be found at educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els.

Right of review

If you disagree with my decision on your OIA request, you can ask an Inland Revenue review officer to review my decision. To ask for an internal review, please email the Commissioner of Inland Revenue at: commissionerscorrespondence@ird.govt.nz.

Alternatively, under section 28(3) of the OIA, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision. You can contact the office of the Ombudsman by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you choose to have an internal review, you can still ask the Ombudsman for a review.

Publishing of OIA response

We intend to publish our response to your request on Inland Revenue's website (<u>ird.govt.nz</u>) as this information may be of interest to other members of the public. This letter, with your personal details removed, may be published in its entirety. Publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the OIA's purpose of enabling more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies and promoting the accountability of officials.

Thank you again for your request.

Yours sincerely



Maraina Hak

Policy Lead, Families and Individual