



29 September 2023

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 27 September 2023. You requested the following:

Could you please supply the total number of income earners, that are 65 years of age and above (i.e. 65 - 100 years old), that earn \$280,000 (gross) per year or above that amount. I only require the aggregate number of individuals that are in that age range, and that earn that amount or more, with no breakdown of income bands.

Coverage

The total number of people aged 65+ with taxable incomes exceeding \$280,000 for the 2021-22 tax year was 4,328.

This number is based on personal taxpayer information for the most recent, complete tax year: 2021-22. Included in the figure are people aged 65+ with personal taxable income exceeding \$280,000 who received at least one of the following:

- A 2021-22 personal income tax assessment from Inland Revenue
- PAYE earnings
- Interest income where this information was provided by a third party (e.g., a bank or other payer of interest)

People who filed a non-resident tax return are excluded.

Some people have invalid or missing dates of birth in Inland Revenue systems. We have included these individuals if they received a non-zero amount of New Zealand Superannuation in 2021-22.

Limitations of using personal taxable incomes as a measure

Please note, analysis of personal taxable incomes only provides a partial picture for overall incomes. Significant income is earned in entities such as closely held companies, and some of that income is subsequently distributed from the company via trusts with the trust owning shares in the company. Income earned in these entities does not directly affect personal taxable incomes.

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 so 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 for your request. I trust that the information provided is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Sandra Watson
Manager, Forecasting and Analysis