



01 December 2022

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Kia ora Anthony

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-021875**

Thank you for your request of 10 November 2022, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1. Amount of claimants granted loss of potential earnings during the Covid-19 lockdowns whether Nationwide or Provincial etc lockdowns*
- 2. How many of those claims received 80% of the earnings based on the government assistance wage package*
- 3. How many of those claims received 80% of the earnings based on their usual employee wage or salary package*
- 4. The ACC Policy used for granting Loss of Potential earnings during the Covid-19 Lockdowns for those receiving only a government-assisted 'benefit' who would otherwise have received their full wage or Note well: If the Policy varied for wage earners and salary, please provide both policies respectively*

**The data requested is attached**

We have interpreted your request as referring to claims that received their first Loss of Potential Earning payment (LOPE) during Level 4 COVID lockdowns in New Zealand. Please refer to the 'Notes' tab when interpreting the data provided.

To limit the potential for individuals, or matters specific to certain individuals, from being identified, some of the values in the tables only indicate the claims count is fewer than 4 (denoted as <4). This decision has been made under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of our clients. In doing so, we have considered the public interest in making the information available and have determined that it does not outweigh the need to protect our clients' privacy.

**LOPE payments are based on 80% of the minimum wage**

As such, there were no claims that received 80% of the government assistance wage package or their usual employee wage.

**There were no specific policies used to determine LOPE payments during COVID-19 lockdowns**

Therefore, we are refusing this part of your request as the information does not exist. This decision has been made under section 18(e) of the Act.

**If you have any questions about this response, please get in touch**

You can email me at [GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz](mailto:GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz). You can also complain to the Ombudsman via [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Ngā mihi

Sara Freitag  
**Acting Manager Official Information Act Services**  
Government Engagement