



10 APR 2015

B Johnston  
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Dear Mr Johnston

I am writing in response to your request of 25 January 2015 for statistical information regarding overseas travel of New Zealand Superannuitants. The Chief Executive has asked me to reply on his behalf, and I apologise for the delay.

Your questions and our answers follow.

- (1) Please advise when the below item was first added to the following MSD website:  
"intend to have more than one overseas trip in a 12 month period"  
<http://www.msd.govt.nz/what-we-can-do/seniorcitizens/news-updates/2014/telling-us-about-your-overseas-travel-plans.html>**

In 2014, the Ministry reviewed the NZ Superannuation (NZS) application form, and one question raised by both staff and clients was the need to tell us every time clients planned to travel overseas. That requirement resulted in large numbers of face to face inquiries, telephone calls and emails. In the majority of cases, the client's NZS or Veteran's Pension was not affected as the trips taken were of short duration.

Following consultation it was recommended that client obligations to notify us about their travel plans be changed as they are now notified on the Ministry's website. The change was made in May 2014.

- (2) Please advise how many cancellations of NZ National Superannuation have been made in each of the last ten years, because of overseas travel of more than 26 weeks.**

Please note that data is available only to the end of December 2014. Also note that this is a record of suspended/stopped payments and there may be more than one suspension action per superannuitant.

Financial Year									
2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014 Jul to Dec
581	714	940	875	864	911	983	1,210	1,193	706

**(3) Please advise the number of National Superannuation Beneficiary debts which have been established in each of the last ten years, because of clients' overseas travel of more than 26 weeks**

Please note that this data is not available from prior to 2006

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Number of People Overpaid</b>
2006	11
2007	77
2008	182
2009	138
2010	126
2011	379
2012	239
2013	362
2014	360

I hope this information is useful to you.

Yours sincerely



Rob Brown  
General Manager  
Office of Corporate and Governance