

24 June 2016

Sarah Thompson  
fyi-request-4094-1d8ad3b9@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Thompson

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), which we received on 2 June 2016. You requested the following information:

1. A yearly breakdown (for the years 1980 to 2016) of the number of people paying child support towards a child or children whose main caregiver is receiving a Work and Income benefit.
2. Any information or research that has been conducted on whether the introduction of Section 70A of the Social Security Act has had an impact on the number of people paying child support.

On 2 June 2016 you also asked the Ministry of Social Development, for the same period, as to the number of sole parents (receiving any benefit covered by the Social Security Act) with children in their care for whom child support payments are being paid to the Inland Revenue Department, as well as your question about research. These were transferred to Inland Revenue for response on 20 June 2016.

**Information to be released**

The data you requested for the years 1 July 1992 to 31 March 2016 are in the following table.

Year	Liabe Parents	Sole Parent Receiving Carers
31/03/1993	91,458	82,389
31/03/1994	103,333	92,328
31/03/1995	107,303	94,569
31/03/1996	110,734	97,410
31/03/1997	113,571	99,875
31/03/1998	116,159	102,217
31/03/1999	116,890	102,596
31/03/2000	114,246	99,708
31/03/2001	112,709	97,829
31/03/2002	110,825	96,081
31/03/2003	110,561	95,290
31/03/2004	110,523	95,568
31/03/2005	110,245	95,238
31/03/2006	108,530	93,586
31/03/2007	106,660	90,178
31/03/2008	102,417	85,067
31/03/2009	101,282	84,027
31/03/2010	105,310	87,625
31/03/2011	108,402	90,310
31/03/2012	108,345	89,976
31/03/2013	106,026	87,293
31/03/2014	101,759	87,398
31/03/2015	95,951	81,788
31/03/2016	92,524	76,588

## **Information withheld**

The Child Support Act came into effect on 1 July 1992. Accordingly, data for prior periods does not exist and your request is declined under Section 18 (c) of The Act.

Inland Revenue has not conducted research into any impacts on the number of people paying child support following the introduction of Section 70A of the Social Security Act. Your request for this information is also declined under Section 18 (c) of The Act.

If you disagree with my decision, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the Act, to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision. The office of the Ombudsmen can be contacted at PO Box 10152, The Terrace, Wellington 6143.

Alternatively, you may have the decision reviewed by an Inland Revenue review officer. This does not preclude you from subsequently seeking a review by the Ombudsman if you are not satisfied with the department's internal review. If you would like an internal review, please write to the Commissioner of Inland Revenue, PO Box 2198, Wellington 6140, setting out the details of your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Loren Theobald".

Loren Theobald  
**Business Owner, Service Delivery**