

National Office

Graduate Achievement, Vocations
and Careers
45-47 Pipitea Street
Thorndon
PO Box 1666
Wellington
New Zealand

Phone: 0-4-463 8000
Fax: 0-4-463 8001
www.minedu.govt.nz

OIA: 908978

Liam Stoneley
[fyi-request-2430-
d93dc3d1@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-2430-d93dc3d1@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Stoneley

Thank you for your email of 26 January 2015 requesting:

1. *For the past 12 years (2003-2014) please provide the total student debt to the Government, including the most recent data available. Please break down the amount per year in a table, if possible; and*
2. *any reports, articles, surveys or form of information on the predictions for the debt over the coming decade. I am looking for predictions on whether this amount will increase, at what rate and when it will peak; and*
3. *a graph with both of the above information on it, showing the past 12 years data, plus any predicted analysis.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Each year the Ministry of Education prepares *The Student Loan Scheme Annual Report*. These annual reports are tabled in Parliament and subsequently published on the Education Counts website (www.educationcounts.govt.nz). The reports help to uphold the democratic principles of transparency, accountability and public participation in government affairs.

The *Student Loan Scheme Annual Report 2014* contains the loan scheme's nominal value (the total student debt to the Government) for the years 2005 to 2014. As this information is publicly available, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act. The 2014 report can be accessed through the link below and is found in Table 21 on page 42. <http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/80898/2555/student-loan-scheme-annual-report-2014>.

The nominal value for the years 2003 and 2004 were not reported in those years. As the Ministry does not hold the information in the form you have requested, we are refusing this part of your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act.

The 2014 report also contains predictions regarding the balance of the Student Loan Scheme up to 2018. The Long Term Fiscal Model (LTFM) produced by Treasury contains predictions for the Loan Scheme out to 2061 and can be accessed at

<http://www.treasury.govt.nz/government/longterm/fiscalmodel>. This part of your request is also refused under section 18(d) of the Act as this information is publicly available.

The information held by the Ministry that falls within scope of your request is not collated in graph form. I am therefore refusing part 3 of your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the Ministry.

Thank you again for your request. If you are unhappy with my response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review it. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claire Douglas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Claire Douglas
Deputy Secretary
Graduate Achievement, Vocations and Careers