



25 November 2024

Sarah Allison  
fyi-request-28986-da949f3c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Sarah Allison

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 30 October 2024. You requested the following:

*How many New Zealand residents aged 65 or older held a student loan balance in 2024, and how big are their student loan balances (broken down in 5k bands e.g. \$0-5000, 5001-9999) etc.*

### **Information being released**

Inland Revenue does not hold information about an individual's residency status in New Zealand. Further, because tax residency is self-determined, it is not a comprehensive indicator for grouping individuals in data collection.

As such, we have interpreted your request for "New Zealand residents" to refer to individuals who are deemed to be New Zealand based borrowers.

The information requested is outlined in **Table 1**. This data was extracted from Inland Revenue systems on 2 November 2024 and is current as of 31 October 2024.

The data also includes individuals with unknown addresses, assuming that they are still present in New Zealand. Individuals recorded as being overseas based borrowers have been excluded.

Individuals with balances over \$100,000 have been grouped into brackets of \$25,000 to protect their privacy. Individuals with balances under \$20 have been excluded.

### **Publishing of OIA response**

We intend to publish our response to your request on Inland Revenue's website ([ird.govt.nz](http://ird.govt.nz)) as this information may be of interest to other members of the public. This letter, with your personal details removed, may be published in its entirety.

Publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the OIA's purpose of enabling more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies and promoting the accountability of officials.

Thank you again for your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TJ', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tanja Jonson

**Group Lead – Individuals**

**Table 1 – Individuals over 65 years of age with a student loan balance**

<b>Student loan balance</b>	<b>Number of NZ based borrowers</b>
<b>\$0-\$5,000</b>	4,117
<b>\$5,001-\$10,000</b>	3,323
<b>\$10,001-\$15,000</b>	2,173
<b>\$15,001-\$20,000</b>	1,606
<b>\$20,001-\$25,000</b>	1,273
<b>\$25,001-\$30,000</b>	1,067
<b>\$30,001-\$35,000</b>	816
<b>\$35,001-\$40,000</b>	598
<b>\$40,001-\$45,000</b>	404
<b>\$45,001-\$50,000</b>	279
<b>\$50,001-\$55,000</b>	225
<b>\$55,001-\$60,000</b>	142
<b>\$60,001-\$65,000</b>	120
<b>\$65,001-\$70,000</b>	83
<b>\$70,001-\$75,000</b>	49
<b>\$75,001-\$80,000</b>	36
<b>\$80,001-\$85,000</b>	32
<b>\$85,001-\$90,000</b>	26
<b>\$90,001-\$95,000</b>	24
<b>\$95,001-\$100,000</b>	14
<b>\$100,001-\$125,000</b>	40
<b>\$125,001-\$150,000</b>	25
<b>\$150,000+</b>	16
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>16,488</b>