



19 January 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) received on 14 December 2021. You requested the following:

For ALL individual taxpayers in New Zealand what is the gross income which 10 percent of individual taxpayers in the 18/19 and the 19/20 financial years (to 31 March) received less than? And then the same question for each of the 20, 30, 40, 50(median), 60, 70, 80 and 90 percent of taxpayers. (i.e. the gross income for each decile of New Zealand's individual taxpayers).

Table 1 below shows the maximum income (the boundary) of each taxable income decile for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 financial years. For example, people with taxable incomes above \$90,857 in 2018-19 will have been in the top decile, i.e., the top 10%. The bottom decile includes people with nil incomes. The Count (N) is the number of taxpayers in each decile.

Table 1 also provides the total taxable income for all taxpayers in each decile. The data was extracted from Inland Revenue systems on 15 December 2021.

Table 1. Taxable Income by deciles

Decile	2018-19			2019-20		
	Upper income limit (\$)	Total taxable income (\$m)	Count (N)	Upper income limit (\$)	Total taxable income (\$m)	Count (N)
10%	160	6	425,629	109	4	435,597
20%	9,109	1,658	425,629	9,475	1,709	435,597
30%	17,250	5,700	425,629	18,085	6,050	435,597
40%	22,218	8,288	425,630	23,585	8,941	435,598
50%	30,000	10,890	425,629	31,406	11,723	435,597
60%	41,687	15,265	425,629	43,622	16,362	435,597
70%	52,933	20,109	425,630	55,185	21,461	435,598
80%	67,941	25,533	425,629	70,000	27,154	435,597
90%	90,857	33,054	425,629	94,394	35,033	435,597
100%		66,462	425,630		70,454	435,598
Total		186,963	4,256,293		198,890	4,355,973

The data used to provide the distributions in Table 1 includes all individuals who either declared their taxable income on an IR3 tax return, received an automatic square up at the end of the tax year, or earned income through the PAYE system.

This population includes some individuals who filed and declared zero taxable income, often due to current or carried-forward losses. Since 2018-19, the square up process is more encompassing than it used to be. It now includes more people on lower incomes, whose only source of income is often in the form of interest, which can include children.

Excluded from the distributions are:

- other people with no taxable income (as there was nothing to square up);
- people without an automatic square up whose only income was from a bank account or portfolio investment entity such as KiwiSaver earnings; and
- taxpayers who filed a non-resident return.

Thank you for your request.

Yours sincerely



Sandra Watson
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