



15 November 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), transferred to Inland Revenue from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment on 20 October 2023. You requested the following:

Data relating to current Student Loan borrowers:

- 1) *How many people currently carrying a loan are aged 75 years or older?*
- 2) *How much are they owing?*
- 3) *When did their loans originate?*

Question 1 and 2

As at 1 November 2023, there were 7,376 student loan borrowers aged 75 or over.

The total loan balance for these customers is \$216,208,645.28, of which \$86.8 million is overdue.

Question 3

Loans for student loan borrowers aged 75 or over were taken out between 1993 and 2020. The below table shows the year the loan was transferred to Inland Revenue and the number of borrowers who took out a student loan each year as at 1 November 2023.

Due to confidentiality requirements and the small number of borrowers taking out a loan between 2014 and 2020, borrower numbers have been grouped together.

The *student Loan created date* column shows the calendar year in which the Student Loan account was created in Inland Revenue's system. Since 2012 student loans have been transferred from Studylink daily. Before that loans were transferred annually. For example, someone borrowing in 2008 would have their loan transferred to Inland Revenue in 2009.

Table 1 - Student loan transfer to Inland Revenue and the loans taken out per year

Student Loan created date	Total
1992	15
1993	297
1994	133
1995	144
1996	124
1997	173
1998	267
1999	336
2000	351
2001	447
2002	699
2003	452
2004	308

Student Loan created date	Total
2005	326
2006	795
2007	887
2008	572
2009	477
2010	354
2011	149
2012	36
2013	14
2014-2020	20
Total	7,376

Please note the following policy changes that have had an impact on the number of older people borrowing:

- 2007: Students who undertook qualifications that did not receive student achievement component funding were no longer eligible for student loans.
- 2011: A lifetime limit of 7 equivalent full-time student (EFTS) units was introduced with possible exceptions up to an overall maximum of 10EFTS (plus any study required to complete a course that goes over the 7 EFTS limits) to support higher level study.
- 2013: Student loan access for people aged 55 years and over was restricted to compulsory fees only.

Publishing of OIA response

Please note that Inland Revenue regularly publishes responses to requests that may be of interest to the wider public on its website. We consider this response is of public interest so will publish this response in due course. Your personal details or any information that would identify you will be removed prior to it being published.

Thank you for your request.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Robertson
Segment Management Lead