

30 October 2025



Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 1 October 2025. You requested the following:

... I respectfully request the following information regarding the Family Boost rebate programme:

- 1. Application Data: The number of households that have applied for Family Boost rebates, broken down by: Quarter (from 1 March 2024 onwards) Region Household income bracket
- 2. Approval/Decline Data: The number of Family Boost rebate applications that have been approved and those that have been declined, broken down by: Quarter (from 1 March 2024 onwards) Region Household income bracket
- 3. Average Rebate Received: The average Family Boost rebate received by successful applicants, broken down by: Quarter (from 1 March 2024 onwards) Region Household income bracket
- 4. Average Invoiced Amount: The average amount invoiced by households to the Family Boost rebate scheme per application, broken down by: Quarter (from 1 March 2024 onwards) Region Household income bracket

I kindly request that this information be provided in a machine-readable format, preferably .XLS or .CSV. Given the public interest in the operation and impact of the Family Boost programme, I request that any fees for the preparation or release of this information be waived. In accordance with the Official Information Act, I anticipate a response within the statutory timeframe of 20 working days. A written acknowledgment of receipt of this request would be appreciated.

FamilyBoost was implemented from 1 July 2024, so the first quarter of FamilyBoost data covers the time between 1 July and 30 September 2024, with customers being able to submit a claim after the quarter has ended. I have decided to refuse your request for information from 1 March to 30 June 2024 under 18(e) of the OIA, as this was before FamilyBoost was available, and therefore does not exist.

The remaining data you have requested is in the attached excel spreadsheet. The table below sets out the definitions we have used in compiling this response:

No. Definitions

- 1. "Applied" has been defined as submitted a claim regardless of outcome (a claim has been received by Inland Revenue).
- 2. "Approved" has been defined as a claim has been approved and entitlement/disbursement made.
 - "Declined" has been defined as a claim that has been staged to "Declined". This does not include any other claim stages.
- 3. "Successful applicants" has been defined as a claim that has been approved and entitlement/disbursement made. The average calculation is Total paid amount/claims count.
- 4. "Amount invoiced by households" has been defined as the approved invoice amount for APPROVED claims only. It must be noted that this may not be the value of the entire invoice and will only be that which Inland Revenue bases FamilyBoost entitlement on.

Please note the following caveats:

- Data is provided as at 13 October 2025 (inclusive).
- Region information is based on the Statistics NZ Geographic Area Tables 2025 and is at the Regional Council level.
- Area Outside Region is a statistical classification used by Stats NZ for any Territory that is not part of the standard 16 regional council areas in New Zealand.
- Region Unknown includes instances where we have not been able to match a customers address, to the NZ Post information or the customer does not have a valid location/physical address.
- Because each question is at a quarterly period level, a claim equates to a household.

Some low figures are withheld and marked with a "C" in the spreadsheet. This is due to the potential to identify customers and is considered sensitive revenue information under section 18(1) of the Tax Administration Act 1994 (TAA) because it is reasonably capable of being used to identify an entity. Sensitive revenue information can only be released in certain circumstances, as set out in section 18D to 18J and schedule 7 of the TAA.

As such, I have decided to refuse the low numbers of your request under section 18(c)(i) of the OIA, as releasing this information would be contrary to section 18 of the TAA.

Right of review

If you disagree with my decision on your OIA request, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the OIA. You can contact the office of the Ombudsman by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Publishing of OIA response

We intend to publish our response to your request on Inland Revenue's website (<u>ird.govt.nz</u>) 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.

Sue Gillies

Yours sincerely

Customer Segment Leader, Families Customer Segment

