



19 September 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 24 August 2022. You requested the following (numbered for ease of answering):

1. *The proportion of outstanding IR tax debt that relates to GST (preferably with any penalties separated but, if this is not possible, including penalties is also fine). Could you please provide that for the three most recent years available, as at the end of March?*
2. *The proportion of outstanding IR tax debt that relates to PAYE and ESCT deductions (preferably with any penalties separated but, if this is not possible, including penalties is also fine). Could you please provide that for the three most recent years available, as at the end of March?*
3. *The proportion of debt written off that is GST related debt, again for the three most recent years available.*
4. *The proportion of debt written off that relates to PAYE and ESCT deductions, also for the three most recent years available.*

The information provided in the tables below are as at 30 June each year rather than 31 March, as this aligns with our financial year reporting, and was readily available. Gathering the required information as at 31 March would have required a custom dataset which would require significant effort.

Question 1

GST debt Balances				
Date	Assessment	Penalties	Interest	Total
30 June 2020	1,176,938,808.65	222,018,804.23	151,060,031.94	1,550,017,644.82
30 June 2021	1,148,345,036.32	215,828,418.77	158,829,071.32	1,523,002,526.41
30 June 2022	1,412,018,176.46	231,874,096.92	180,562,196.43	1,824,454,469.81

The balances shown are cumulative and is the total balance of overdue GST at the date specified. The assessment portion includes money owing due to overpayments found as a result of a reassessment.

Question 2

PAYE and related debt balances				
Date	Assessment	Penalties	Interest	Total
30 June 2020	437,154,194.28	254,023,889.19	50,089,642.27	741,267,725.74
30 June 2021	625,797,317.59	236,620,406.77	57,131,795.80	919,549,520.16
30 June 2022	528,204,719.17	222,408,223.02	71,733,060.44	822,346,002.63

PAYE and related debt balances includes assessment, penalties and interest that has arisen from the different liabilities that come under PAYE. This includes KiwiSaver Employee Contributions, KiwiSaver Employer Contributions, Employer Contribution Superannuation Tax, Student Loan Employer Deductions, and Child Support Employer Deductions. As with the GST balances in Question 1, the balances shown are cumulative and is the total balance of overdue amounts as at the date specified. Assessments include overpayments that resulted from a reassessment.

Questions 3 and 4

Product	Financial Year (year ending 30 June)		
	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
GST write-offs	139,803,195.50	239,384,449.90	235,986,460.52
PAYE and associated write-offs	76,096,848.65	160,426,064.62	160,494,126.13

PAYE includes write-off amounts relating to the associated liability types that come under PAYE – as per the explanation in Question 2.

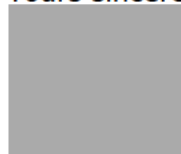
Unlike the debt balances, these are the amounts that were written off during the financial year specified, and not a cumulative balance as at the date shown. Amounts written off include all penalty and interest remissions and write-offs allowed under legislation. The significant increase shown from 2021 onwards is largely attributed to the extra relief provided to customers who were affected by business disruptions caused by COVID-19.

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 again for your request.

Yours sincerely



Richard Philp
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