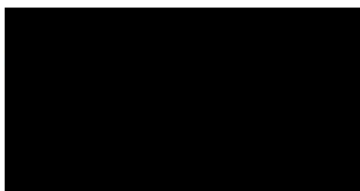




1 November 2019



The Department of Internal Affairs transferred your 3 October 2019 request for official information to the Ministry of Education to respond to. You requested the following information:

I was wanting to see the data over the past five years (2013-2019) of:

- a) How many times the Ministry of Education has received requests for learning support for those with learning disabilities such as ADHD, Autism etc*
- b) What percentage of these requests have been turned down by the Ministry of Education*
- c) What percentage of these requests were the Ministry of Education able to provide support to.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

The Ministry provides learning support on the basis of learning need, not on the basis of disability or diagnosis. As such, we are unable to provide a breakdown of the number of requests for learning support for students with learning disabilities such as ADHD and autism. This information does not exist.

In most cases, requests for support are received prior to identifying what type of service(s) they may or may not need.

The following table shows the number of requests for support that resulted in a Behaviour Service, Communication Service, Early Intervention Service or ORS request being accepted between 2013/14 and 2018/19.

Number of requests for support that resulted in a Behaviour Service, Communication Service, Early Intervention Service or ORS request being accepted between 2013/14 and 2018/19

Service	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	% change over 5 years
Behaviour Service	1,800	1,783	2,002	2,085	2,140	19%
Communication Service	2,798	2,952	3,302	3,398	3,575	28%
Early Intervention Service	6,706	7,140	7,412	7,738	8,035	20%
Ongoing Resourcing Scheme	834	828	844	846	914	10%

Over the last five years we have seen a substantial growth in demand for core learning support services.

The Government has made significant investment through recent Budgets to respond to this growing demand. Budget 19 provided an additional \$25.099m over four years to respond flexibly to growth in demand for services as it occurs in each region. An extra \$24.8 million has also been provided over the next four years to provide early intervention to pre-school children who have communication, behaviour, development or disability needs. This is in addition to the extra \$21.5 million over four years for early intervention services provided as part of Budget 2018.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Coralanne Child
Acting Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support