

Characteristics of working-age recipients of main benefits at quarter end

MA-2302

28215 (2025). Ricardo Menéndez March to the Minister for Social Development and Employment:
What is the number of clients receiving the Sole Parent Support for each quarter since September 2024, broken down by age, duration receiving the benefit, ethnicity, region, and gender?

28216 (2025). Ricardo Menéndez March to the Minister for Social Development and Employment:
What is the number of clients receiving the Supported Living Payment for each quarter since September 2024, broken down by age, duration receiving the benefit, ethnicity, region, and gender?

28217 (2025). Ricardo Menéndez March to the Minister for Social Development and Employment:
What is the number of clients receiving the Jobseeker (Work Ready) benefit for each quarter since September 2024, broken down by age, duration receiving the benefit, ethnicity, region, and gender?

28218 (2025). Ricardo Menéndez March to the Minister for Social Development and Employment:
What is the number of clients receiving the Jobseeker (Health Condition and Disability) benefit for each quarter since September 2024, broken down by age, duration receiving the benefit, ethnicity, region, and gender?

Explanatory notes:

Working-age	Working-age people are aged 18-64 years. This definition reflects the minimum age of eligibility for most main benefits and the age of qualification for New Zealand Superannuation.
Ethnicity	From December 2021, we introduced a new reporting approach called ‘total response’. Making this change means we recognise all aspects of someone’s ethnicity and allows us to represent the full diversity of communities, whānau, and people in Aotearoa. This reflects our clients more accurately, aligns our approach with Statistics NZ’s reporting, and reflects best practice.
Continuous duration	The length of time the person has continuously been receiving any main benefit.
Gender	From 2 December 2019, forms and online applications were updated to include three gender options for clients to choose from: “Male”, “Female”, and “Gender Diverse”. Gender Diverse is not available in datasets prior to December 2019.
Protecting client information - confidentiality	All information in this table has been randomly rounded to base 3, data found here is rounded independently from other products produced by MSD. From 12 February 2021, MSD started applying a range of new confidentiality procedures to public data releases. These procedures will continue to protect client information, while making more data available.

Recipient characteristic		30SEP2024				31DEC2024				31MAR2025			
		Jobseeker Support - Health Condition or Disability	Jobseeker Support - Work Ready	Sole Parent Support	Supported Living Payments related	Jobseeker Support - Health Condition or Disability	Jobseeker Support - Work Ready	Sole Parent Support	Supported Living Payments related	Jobseeker Support - Health Condition or Disability	Jobseeker Support - Work Ready	Sole Parent Support	Supported Living Payments related
Continuous duration	One year or less	25,530	60,129	14,214	6,279	26,640	62,058	13,983	6,342	25,152	59,739	13,560	6,261
	More than one year	62,331	56,778	63,810	97,545	66,282	58,338	65,313	98,130	67,263	57,687	65,781	98,442
Gender	Male	45,222	73,152	7,209	50,871	47,928	74,787	7,350	51,159	47,661	73,323	7,308	51,225
	Female	41,700	42,999	70,773	52,599	43,944	44,763	71,901	52,941	43,731	43,281	71,982	53,067
	Gender Diverse	942	753	42	354	1,050	849	45	372	1,026	822	51	408
Age group	18-24 years	11,637	32,652	9,747	8,379	12,357	35,094	9,786	8,556	11,688	34,695	9,729	8,715
	25-39 years	24,480	40,476	50,232	21,879	26,226	41,598	51,048	22,176	25,821	39,999	51,054	22,359
	40-54 years	26,331	27,690	17,073	32,142	27,792	27,873	17,469	32,280	27,888	27,159	17,571	32,154
	55-64 years	25,410	16,089	972	41,424	26,547	15,837	990	41,460	27,012	15,576	987	41,475
Ethnicity	European	48,030	45,447	31,416	61,353	50,610	47,181	31,914	61,620	50,100	44,952	31,614	61,524
	Māori	27,687	49,386	37,686	27,945	29,577	50,340	38,388	28,194	29,271	48,327	38,250	28,275
	Pacific Peoples	8,946	16,791	12,315	7,824	9,441	17,265	12,462	7,857	9,534	17,574	12,654	7,923
	Asian	5,703	6,396	2,727	3,843	5,838	6,603	2,697	3,870	5,847	6,573	2,769	3,867
	Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	1,761	2,058	1,107	1,041	1,881	2,175	1,110	1,053	1,857	2,112	1,137	1,041
	Other ethnicity	3,300	4,905	1,464	4,068	3,501	5,196	1,494	4,038	3,405	5,166	1,542	3,999
Total Ethnicities		83,511	108,798	74,259	96,630	88,170	111,774	75,384	97,050	87,516	108,318	75,303	96,975
Ethnicity not specified		4,347	8,106	3,765	7,194	4,752	8,625	3,915	7,422	4,899	9,108	4,035	7,725
MSD Region	Northland	5,568	6,660	4,797	4,461	5,829	6,729	4,908	4,506	5,922	6,255	4,920	4,500
	Auckland Metro	32,601	40,836	25,857	22,632	34,272	42,645	26,097	22,770	34,323	43,434	26,430	22,821
	Waikato	8,031	9,627	7,425	8,385	8,523	9,984	7,599	8,439	8,490	9,681	7,542	8,430
	Taranaki	3,291	5,850	4,056	7,659	3,636	5,700	4,128	7,728	3,615	5,412	4,104	7,740
	Bay of Plenty	7,758	12,150	8,892	8,205	8,190	12,309	9,066	8,283	8,031	11,292	9,039	8,364
	East Coast	3,396	6,243	5,031	7,050	3,543	6,225	5,127	7,122	3,513	5,691	5,043	7,146
	Central	4,293	5,034	3,897	6,726	4,614	5,283	4,041	6,684	4,566	5,238	4,032	6,672
	Wellington	6,255	11,106	5,100	8,568	6,687	12,036	5,154	8,616	6,519	11,946	5,169	8,640
	Nelson	3,516	3,153	2,307	4,203	3,627	3,069	2,310	4,215	3,531	2,925	2,259	4,260
	Canterbury	8,724	9,903	6,561	14,025	9,327	10,206	6,747	14,217	9,258	9,861	6,693	14,304
	Southern	4,365	6,204	3,957	9,270	4,614	6,081	3,984	9,294	4,572	5,472	3,963	9,249
	Other	57	132	147	2,634	57	129	138	2,595	72	222	147	2,574
Total Recipients		87,861	116,904	78,024	103,821	92,922	120,399	79,296	104,472	92,412	117,426	79,341	104,700