

PQ 23981 (2025) PQ 23978 (2025)

Number of hardship applications granted and declined for Food Grants and Electricity Assistance from 1 January 2024 to 30 April 2025 and number of Special Need Grants (SNG) hardship applications declined from 1 January 2021 to 30 April 2025.

by month and MSD region

Request number: BIIM-6009

Source: IAP Data Warehouse, prepared by Business Intelligence, Insights MSD Group, Ministry of Social Development

General Notes:

Included on this sheet:

PQ 23981 (2025): What is the total value and number of grants for electricity costs that Ministry of Social Development has granted, excluding the Winter Energy Payment, in each month since January 2024, by region?

PQ 23978 (2025): What is the total value and number of grants for electricity costs that Ministry of Social Development has declined, excluding the Winter Energy Payment, in each month since January 2024, by region?

PQ 23981 (2025) PQ 23978 (2025)

Table 1: Number of hardship applications granted for Food Grants and Electricity Assistance from 1 January 2024 to 30 April 2025.

by month and MSD region

General Notes:

Electricity Assistance grants are paid as Advance Payment of Benefit (ADV) and Recoverable Assistance Payment (RAP).

Food grants are paid as Special Needs Grant (SNG).

The number of grants is not the number of individuals. A client can have more than one grant in each time period.

Amount granted is not necessarily the amount spent.

The region 'Other' represents those service centres that do not represent a geographic location such as call centres and processing units.

Confidentiality Notes:

To protect confidentiality the Ministry of Social Development uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data.

These data tables have had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts in the table.

Random rounding does not round down to zero, a value of one or two will be rounded to three.

The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals.

The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.

Need type / MSD region / Month		January 2024		February 2024		March 2024		April 2024	
		Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount
Electricity Assistance	Northland	72	\$38,208	84	\$46,359	51	\$32,037	57	\$30,087
	Auckland Metro	504	\$233,334	501	\$274,934	447	\$240,741	369	\$169,815
	Waikato	129	\$72,919	120	\$90,170	90	\$55,782	66	\$37,482
	Taranaki	93	\$61,705	87	\$57,162	78	\$49,840	60	\$40,145
	Bay of Plenty	102	\$59,922	120	\$79,216	72	\$44,403	63	\$39,999
	East Coast	105	\$61,283	93	\$69,250	84	\$50,855	81	\$50,144
	Central	72	\$43,752	93	\$59,670	75	\$48,273	51	\$32,559
	Wellington	132	\$64,954	99	\$58,284	96	\$45,874	84	\$40,611
	Nelson	42	\$22,201	48	\$23,698	30	\$14,868	33	\$15,660
	Canterbury	141	\$75,719	144	\$78,316	120	\$51,881	117	\$59,602
	Southern	105	\$61,091	81	\$45,367	72	\$34,524	57	\$34,670
	Other	1,473	\$655,230	1,254	\$598,038	1,272	\$563,061	1,227	\$524,541
	Total	2,970	\$1,450,317	2,724	\$1,480,463	2,487	\$1,232,141	2,265	\$1,075,314
Food	Northland	1,722	\$195,186	1,407	\$162,370	1,203	\$134,429	1,152	\$127,187
	Auckland Metro	10,902	\$1,329,475	9,060	\$1,138,141	8,067	\$996,873	7,614	\$911,157
	Waikato	2,649	\$292,434	2,241	\$252,399	2,019	\$220,493	1,803	\$199,020
	Taranaki	1,395	\$145,854	1,068	\$114,918	930	\$95,669	900	\$96,515
	Bay of Plenty	2,526	\$277,966	2,007	\$223,672	1,764	\$200,662	1,719	\$189,772
	East Coast	2,235	\$264,477	1,890	\$226,183	1,656	\$197,086	1,539	\$182,318
	Central	1,482	\$163,759	1,269	\$142,915	972	\$107,059	858	\$96,658
	Wellington	2,205	\$254,133	1,986	\$234,376	1,986	\$229,305	1,857	\$211,603
	Nelson	807	\$83,046	759	\$81,679	630	\$68,254	603	\$65,626
	Canterbury	2,412	\$246,832	2,124	\$215,224	1,938	\$196,765	1,809	\$181,733
	Southern	1,404	\$143,667	1,158	\$119,710	993	\$105,681	1,041	\$109,369
	Other	91,566	\$9,094,783	77,979	\$7,754,073	82,173	\$8,044,375	81,078	\$7,829,143
	Total	121,305	\$12,491,612	102,951	\$10,665,659	104,340	\$10,596,650	101,970	\$10,200,101

Need type / MSD region / Month		May 2024		June 2024		July 2024		August 2024	
		Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount
Electricity Assistance	Northland	51	\$29,311	57	\$27,031	69	\$38,729	96	\$61,621
	Auckland Metro	411	\$213,004	318	\$146,212	474	\$247,366	477	\$268,383
	Waikato	69	\$33,917	66	\$41,816	114	\$61,920	141	\$92,828
	Taranaki	75	\$47,636	78	\$54,926	108	\$80,695	129	\$102,317
	Bay of Plenty	96	\$55,645	87	\$58,027	129	\$88,636	192	\$119,224
	East Coast	81	\$56,852	75	\$55,665	108	\$66,159	129	\$91,793
	Central	75	\$50,648	60	\$41,579	105	\$63,577	126	\$99,715
	Wellington	102	\$56,114	105	\$63,805	144	\$80,467	150	\$83,514
	Nelson	27	\$14,408	24	\$12,680	45	\$20,768	63	\$37,217
	Canterbury	138	\$63,224	111	\$59,632	210	\$119,336	213	\$117,118
	Southern	69	\$32,386	84	\$42,215	129	\$81,317	123	\$75,542
	Other	1,389	\$571,583	1,248	\$499,074	1,953	\$914,270	2,124	\$1,065,574
	Total	2,589	\$1,224,727	2,316	\$1,102,664	3,588	\$1,863,240	3,960	\$2,214,844
Food	Northland	1,197	\$136,779	981	\$113,702	1,227	\$138,615	1,179	\$130,601
	Auckland Metro	7,446	\$920,761	5,637	\$688,642	7,206	\$879,808	6,846	\$839,769
	Waikato	1,869	\$213,032	1,539	\$181,960	1,953	\$229,783	1,830	\$212,064
	Taranaki	837	\$91,328	651	\$72,453	843	\$92,862	774	\$85,396
	Bay of Plenty	1,695	\$190,355	1,398	\$154,687	1,773	\$198,382	1,563	\$173,271
	East Coast	1,509	\$177,864	1,278	\$149,966	1,560	\$186,095	1,527	\$180,528
	Central	918	\$102,869	762	\$86,862	972	\$106,624	948	\$107,334
	Wellington	1,764	\$203,775	1,470	\$167,853	1,761	\$204,891	1,737	\$204,187
	Nelson	648	\$70,091	489	\$50,424	702	\$78,009	603	\$67,550
	Canterbury	1,845	\$192,464	1,455	\$150,603	1,962	\$204,731	1,866	\$196,891
	Southern	1,029	\$111,280	798	\$85,852	1,107	\$121,722	1,002	\$105,006
	Other	78,888	\$7,718,269	73,419	\$7,119,404	90,459	\$8,975,011	89,892	\$8,829,748
	Total	99,645	\$10,128,868	89,880	\$9,022,409	111,525	\$11,416,532	109,764	\$11,132,346

Need type / MSD region / Month		September 2024		October 2024		November 2024		December 2024	
		Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount
Electricity Assistance	Northland	84	\$57,146	87	\$54,583	54	\$35,167	36	\$24,366
	Auckland Metro	432	\$255,356	486	\$265,805	417	\$229,142	294	\$173,073
	Waikato	153	\$111,606	150	\$103,923	111	\$82,450	81	\$60,038
	Taranaki	126	\$94,818	117	\$86,205	84	\$61,785	63	\$49,028
	Bay of Plenty	162	\$123,321	117	\$91,551	120	\$80,641	78	\$50,229
	East Coast	120	\$84,172	105	\$68,086	75	\$51,797	57	\$37,117
	Central	108	\$88,298	99	\$66,235	81	\$60,255	54	\$40,871
	Wellington	123	\$86,847	150	\$89,442	117	\$72,311	117	\$80,962
	Nelson	42	\$23,593	36	\$17,660	39	\$24,189	24	\$10,750
	Canterbury	183	\$109,638	180	\$108,517	132	\$79,046	84	\$56,822
	Southern	117	\$78,885	117	\$72,793	96	\$57,538	66	\$43,683
	Other	2,022	\$1,063,509	1,962	\$1,015,460	1,626	\$800,605	1,185	\$556,650
	Total	3,669	\$2,177,189	3,603	\$2,040,260	2,952	\$1,634,926	2,148	\$1,183,589
Food	Northland	1,047	\$115,787	1,128	\$128,283	1,017	\$110,215	1,038	\$119,037
	Auckland Metro	6,084	\$733,609	6,723	\$820,174	6,690	\$806,582	6,906	\$878,455
	Waikato	1,659	\$186,490	1,830	\$203,452	1,695	\$193,537	1,800	\$211,946
	Taranaki	708	\$79,360	777	\$84,823	852	\$94,771	858	\$98,816
	Bay of Plenty	1,500	\$167,853	1,620	\$183,798	1,482	\$162,076	1,584	\$180,074
	East Coast	1,350	\$154,996	1,431	\$162,071	1,500	\$169,144	1,368	\$159,644
	Central	834	\$94,272	957	\$103,057	822	\$90,946	861	\$99,854
	Wellington	1,488	\$175,002	1,593	\$180,998	1,518	\$177,405	1,602	\$194,837
	Nelson	516	\$54,810	561	\$60,765	531	\$59,450	552	\$63,001
	Canterbury	1,653	\$172,310	1,755	\$177,704	1,713	\$173,435	1,758	\$191,631
	Southern	894	\$91,543	972	\$101,511	1,005	\$107,740	909	\$100,137
	Other	83,367	\$8,037,025	91,017	\$8,849,708	87,903	\$8,489,049	94,965	\$9,472,095
	Total	101,103	\$10,063,058	110,367	\$11,056,345	106,731	\$10,634,350	114,204	\$11,769,527

Need type / MSD region / Month		January 2025		February 2025		March 2025		April 2025	
		Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount	Number of grants	Amount
Electricity Assistance	Northland	39	\$21,191	54	\$27,708	57	\$33,112	45	\$26,155
	Auckland Metro	372	\$185,562	387	\$223,079	423	\$215,301	300	\$166,443
	Waikato	87	\$70,863	114	\$74,814	99	\$59,657	81	\$52,840
	Taranaki	84	\$53,573	66	\$52,235	57	\$47,110	54	\$39,661
	Bay of Plenty	96	\$58,660	105	\$62,080	96	\$65,284	102	\$53,342
	East Coast	78	\$49,671	99	\$57,884	84	\$70,296	60	\$38,143
	Central	66	\$47,678	63	\$50,190	66	\$47,139	51	\$31,695
	Wellington	111	\$59,363	123	\$65,331	96	\$58,394	81	\$41,762
	Nelson	30	\$14,439	18	\$8,285	18	\$10,676	18	\$11,340
	Canterbury	102	\$49,193	120	\$64,401	117	\$61,535	78	\$45,451
	Southern	60	\$34,403	54	\$34,144	63	\$34,663	45	\$27,813
	Other	1,377	\$631,764	1,308	\$655,687	1,353	\$608,109	1,050	\$454,984
	Total	2,505	\$1,276,360	2,508	\$1,375,838	2,532	\$1,311,275	1,968	\$989,629
Food	Northland	1,071	\$117,162	1,071	\$118,341	1,083	\$121,576	1,008	\$110,792
	Auckland Metro	7,236	\$896,672	6,654	\$820,621	6,978	\$842,816	5,952	\$720,648
	Waikato	1,899	\$215,951	1,689	\$193,898	1,908	\$216,309	1,767	\$202,788
	Taranaki	900	\$98,102	765	\$83,755	783	\$85,585	762	\$81,759
	Bay of Plenty	1,863	\$208,996	1,608	\$178,270	1,761	\$194,502	1,482	\$164,613
	East Coast	1,452	\$166,937	1,440	\$164,856	1,428	\$166,342	1,326	\$153,086
	Central	834	\$95,662	741	\$82,300	792	\$85,952	723	\$77,760
	Wellington	1,662	\$194,933	1,398	\$167,191	1,434	\$167,601	1,326	\$155,375
	Nelson	540	\$56,985	477	\$51,416	480	\$52,989	429	\$47,567
	Canterbury	1,863	\$187,645	1,548	\$156,085	1,659	\$174,012	1,479	\$147,336
	Southern	900	\$93,515	777	\$82,101	783	\$80,546	708	\$75,441
	Other	97,182	\$9,472,726	82,554	\$7,981,984	93,339	\$8,913,300	85,566	\$8,215,202
	Total	117,402	\$11,805,286	100,725	\$10,080,819	112,428	\$11,101,530	102,525	\$10,152,366