



16 DEC 2020

Tēnā koe

On 18 November 2020, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *How many Porirua people received Jobseeker at as the end of the March, June, Sept and Dec quarters 2019 and the March, June, Sept quarters 2020?*
- *How many Porirua people received TAS/Special benefit at the end of the Sept quarter 2019 and Sept quarter 2020?*
- *How many Porirua people received SNG for food at the end of the Sept quarter 2019 and Sept quarter 2020?*
- *How many Porirua people received Hardship Assistance (SNG, ADV and RAPs) at the end of the Sept quarter 2019 and Sept quarter 2020?*

Also, on 26 November 2020, you emailed the Ministry requesting the following additional information under the Act:

- *How many people aged 18-24 years received Jobseeker benefit in Porirua for the quarters ending March, June, September and December 2019, and March, June and September 2020?*

All of your requests will be addressed in this single response.

Please find **Appendix One** attached, including the following tables:

- **Table One:** Number of working age clients in Porirua City Territorial Local Authority (TLA) receiving Jobseeker Support for the period of 1 January 2019 to 30 September 2020, broken down by quarter end.
- **Table Two:** Number of working age clients in Porirua City TLA receiving Temporary Additional Support and Special Benefit as at the end of September 2019 and September 2020.
- **Table Three:** Number of clients in Porirua City TLA that received Special Needs Grant (SNG) for food in the quarters of September 2019 and September 2020, broken down by SNG type.
- **Table Four:** Number of clients in Porirua City TLA that received SNGs, Advances and Recoverable Assistance Payments in the quarters of September 2019 and September 2020.
- **Table Five:** Number of clients aged 18-24 years old in Porirua TLA, receiving Jobseeker Support for the period of 1 January 2019 to 30 September 2020, broken down by quarter end.

Please note that the year 2020 has seen a significant increase in demand for Government assistance as the Ministry has supported people through the COVID-19 pandemic period. This should be taken into account when comparing it with data from previous quarters.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response regarding beneficiaries in the Porirua region with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui



Bridget Saunders
Manager, Issue Resolution, Service Delivery

Appendix One.

Table One: Number of working age clients in Porirua City Territorial Local Authority receiving Jobseeker (JS) Support for the period of 1 January 2019 to 30 September 2020, broken down by quarter end.

	Quarter Ending						
	March 2019	June 2019	September 2019	December 2019	March 2020	June 2020	September 2020
Jobseeker Support	1,984	1,995	2,017	2,116	2,201	2,646	2,717

Table Two: Number of working age clients in Porirua City Territorial Local Authority receiving Temporary Additional Support (TAS) and Special Benefit (SPB) as at the end of September 2019 and September 2020.

	Quarter Ending	
	September 2019	September 2020
Temporary Additional Support	490	673
Special Benefit	9	8

Notes for Table One and Table Two:

- These tables include working age (18 to 64 years) clients only.
- Territorial Local Authority is defined under the Local Government Act 2002 as a city council or district council.

Table Three: Number of clients in Porirua City Territorial Local Authority that received a type of Special Needs Grant (SNG) in the quarters of September 2019 and September 2020, broken down by SNG type.

SNG Reason	Quarter Ending	
	September 2019	September 2020
Food	3,709	4,592
Other	821	983
All SNGs	4,530	5,575

Table Four: Number of clients in Porirua City Territorial Local Authority that received Special Needs Grant (SNG), Advances (ADV), and Recoverable Assistance Payments (RAP) in the quarters of September 2019 and September 2020.

Hardship Assistance Type	Quarter Ending	
	September 2019	September 2020
SNG	4,530	5,575
ADV	2,600	2,806
RAP	360	281

Notes for Table Three and Table Four:

- This table includes all clients, not only working age clients.
- Territorial Local Authority is defined under the Local Government Act 2002 as a city council or district council.
- Clients could be receiving one or more grant.

Table Five: Number of clients aged 18-24 years old in Porirua Territorial Local Authority, receiving Jobseeker Support for the period of 1 January 2019 to 30 September 2020, broken down by quarter end.

Age of client	Quarter Ending						
	March 2019	June 2019	September 2019	December 2019	March 2020	June 2020	September 2020
18-19 years	141	135	111	123	148	191	199
20-24 years	290	307	303	317	318	435	458
Total	431	442	414	440	466	626	657

Notes for Table Five:

- Territorial Local Authority is defined under the Local Government Act 2002 as a city council or district council.