



13 June 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 15 May 2024, requesting a breakdown of current continuous duration benefit receipt for four main benefit types.

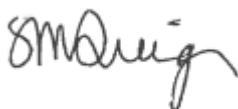
I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find the data requested in **Appendix A** below.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, 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

pp. 

Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services

Appendix A

Table One: Average continuous duration on a benefit for current working age clients receiving selected main benefits with continuous duration of more than one year as at the end of March 2024, by benefit type

Benefit type	Average continuous duration (days)	Average continuous duration
Jobseeker Support Health Condition and Disability	2,218	>5-10 years
Jobseeker Support Work Ready	1,596	>4-5 years
Sole Parent Support	2,067	>5-10 years
Supported Living Payment related	4,858	Over 10 years

Table Two: Number of current working age clients receiving selected main benefits with continuous duration of more than one year as at the end of March 2024, by benefit type, continuous duration and age group:

Benefit type / Continuous duration		Age group				Total
		18-24	25-39	40-54	55-64	
Jobseeker Support Health Condition and Disability	Between 1 and 2 years	2,448	3,786	3,444	3,333	13,008
	Between 2 and 3 years	1,158	2,106	2,148	2,145	7,557
	Between 3 and 4 years	816	1,728	1,959	1,953	6,456
	Between 4 and 5 years	591	1,857	2,103	1,806	6,363
	Between 5 and 10 years	399	4,137	5,016	4,569	14,124
	Over 10 years	0	1,143	3,933	4,113	9,186
	Total	5,412	14,754	18,606	17,922	56,691
Jobseeker Support Work Ready	Between 1 and 2 years	5,112	7,290	4,323	2,505	19,230
	Between 2 and 3 years	1,800	3,354	2,394	1,494	9,042
	Between 3 and 4 years	834	2,175	1,872	1,236	6,117
	Between 4 and 5 years	597	1,968	1,701	921	5,184
	Between 5 and 10 years	318	3,114	3,483	2,205	9,120
	Over 10 years	0	777	2,310	1,413	4,503
	Total	8,661	18,681	16,086	9,768	53,196
Sole Parent Support	Between 1 and 2 years	2,097	7,170	2,043	105	11,418
	Between 2 and 3 years	1,764	5,376	1,587	69	8,799
	Between 3 and 4 years	1,452	4,695	1,437	87	7,671
	Between 4 and 5 years	1,176	4,785	1,479	96	7,536
	Between 5 and 10 years	1,155	12,333	3,918	231	17,643
	Over 10 years	0	5,277	3,069	225	8,565
	Total	7,647	39,633	13,533	816	61,632
Supported Living Payment related	Between 1 and 2 years	1,302	1,185	1,662	2,691	6,840
	Between 2 and 3 years	1,302	1,050	1,551	2,253	6,156
	Between 3 and 4 years	1,149	1,029	1,467	2,193	5,844
	Between 4 and 5 years	1,110	1,191	1,653	2,061	6,012
	Between 5 and 10 years	2,271	5,787	6,090	7,479	21,627
	Over 10 years	0	9,774	18,018	21,657	49,449
	Total	7,134	20,019	30,441	38,334	95,925

Table Three: Number of current working age clients receiving selected main benefits with continuous duration of more than one year as at the end of March 2024, by benefit type, continuous duration and gender:

Benefit type / Continuous duration		Gender			Total
		Gender Diverse	Female	Male	
Jobseeker Support Health Condition and Disability	Between 1 and 2 years	204	5,991	6,813	13,008
	Between 2 and 3 years	105	3,654	3,801	7,557
	Between 3 and 4 years	69	3,069	3,318	6,456
	Between 4 and 5 years	27	2,910	3,423	6,363
	Between 5 and 10 years	21	6,672	7,431	14,124
	Over 10 years	9	5,319	3,861	9,186
	Total	435	27,612	28,644	56,691
Jobseeker Support Work Ready	Between 1 and 2 years	159	6,882	12,189	19,230
	Between 2 and 3 years	60	3,507	5,478	9,042
	Between 3 and 4 years	36	2,301	3,780	6,117
	Between 4 and 5 years	9	1,983	3,192	5,184
	Between 5 and 10 years	12	4,146	4,965	9,120
	Over 10 years	3	2,979	1,524	4,503
	Total	273	21,795	31,125	53,196
Sole Parent Support	Between 1 and 2 years	9	10,251	1,155	11,418
	Between 2 and 3 years	9	7,935	852	8,799
	Between 3 and 4 years	3	6,942	726	7,671
	Between 4 and 5 years	3	6,825	711	7,536
	Between 5 and 10 years	6	16,302	1,335	17,643
	Over 10 years	0	8,196	369	8,565
	Total	30	56,451	5,148	61,632
Supported Living Payment related	Between 1 and 2 years	57	3,585	3,195	6,840
	Between 2 and 3 years	63	3,189	2,907	6,156
	Between 3 and 4 years	51	2,988	2,805	5,844
	Between 4 and 5 years	24	3,009	2,979	6,012
	Between 5 and 10 years	39	11,028	10,563	21,627
	Over 10 years	27	24,750	24,669	49,449
	Total	258	48,549	47,121	95,925

Table Four: Number of current working age clients receiving selected main benefits with continuous duration of more than one year as at the end of March 2024, by benefit type, continuous duration and total response ethnicity:

Benefit type / Continuous duration		European	Māori	Pacific Peoples	Asian	MELAA	Other	Unknown	Total recipients
Jobseeker Support Health Condition and Disability	Between 1 and 2 years	7,047	4,062	1,296	819	273	546	780	13,008
	Between 2 and 3 years	4,323	2,424	717	441	105	279	333	7,557
	Between 3 and 4 years	3,660	1,989	657	414	111	234	216	6,456
	Between 4 and 5 years	3,474	2,088	660	369	141	207	285	6,363
	Between 5 and 10 years	7,869	4,596	1,398	906	345	399	429	14,124
	Over 10 years	5,088	3,054	870	639	249	231	69	9,186
	Total	31,461	18,213	5,595	3,588	1,227	1,896	2,109	56,691
Jobseeker Support Work Ready	Between 1 and 2 years	7,308	8,898	2,619	924	384	750	1,221	19,230
	Between 2 and 3 years	3,666	4,230	1,131	477	135	303	426	9,042
	Between 3 and 4 years	2,646	2,724	771	312	87	198	225	6,117
	Between 4 and 5 years	2,157	2,487	642	219	102	123	207	5,184
	Between 5 and 10 years	4,008	4,440	915	360	168	174	231	9,120
	Over 10 years	2,004	2,214	435	189	51	60	33	4,503
	Total	21,792	24,996	6,516	2,484	918	1,614	2,337	53,196
Sole Parent Support	Between 1 and 2 years	4,629	5,103	2,013	411	186	273	654	11,418
	Between 2 and 3 years	3,696	4,212	1,323	306	96	150	414	8,799
	Between 3 and 4 years	3,144	3,720	1,185	255	96	153	351	7,671
	Between 4 and 5 years	3,075	3,717	1,170	246	102	114	336	7,536
	Between 5 and 10 years	7,164	9,069	2,481	573	261	207	627	17,643
	Over 10 years	3,333	4,941	1,245	195	78	69	90	8,565
	Total	25,041	30,768	9,414	1,983	819	966	2,469	61,632
Supported Living Payment related	Between 1 and 2 years	3,519	1,920	663	294	66	177	891	6,840
	Between 2 and 3 years	3,303	1,629	510	225	57	171	855	6,156
	Between 3 and 4 years	3,240	1,638	435	219	48	138	696	5,844
	Between 4 and 5 years	3,228	1,680	480	219	78	132	819	6,012
	Between 5 and 10 years	12,432	6,081	1,677	906	309	414	1,974	21,627
	Over 10 years	31,902	12,651	3,165	1,608	375	2,931	699	49,449
	Total	57,624	25,602	6,933	3,468	933	3,957	5,934	95,925

Notes:

- The tables include working age only (18 to 64 years).
- Jobseeker Support Work Ready related includes Jobseeker Support Work Ready and Jobseeker Support Work Ready Hardship.
- Jobseeker Support Health Condition and Disability related includes Jobseeker Support Health Condition, Injury or Disability and Jobseeker Support Health Condition, Injury or Disability Hardship.
- Continuous duration is how long the current recipients of a benefit (or benefit group) have been continuously receiving a benefit in the wider benefit system, including time on all benefits except Unsupported Child's Benefit, Orphan's Benefit, New Zealand Superannuation, Veteran's Pension and non-beneficiary assistance.
- Jobseeker Support was introduced from July 2013 with the new welfare reform provisions provided for consolidation of benefit categories with new benefit name changes and an increased focus on work expectations for some categories.
- Ethnicity data is self-identified and multiple ethnicities may be chosen by an individual as fits their preference or self-concept.
- Total response ethnicity means that if a person identifies with more than one ethnic group, they are counted in each applicable group.
- Because a client can choose more than one ethnic response, the total number of ethnic responses will be greater than the number of clients.
- MELAA refers to Middle Eastern, Latin American, and African.
- 'Unknown' is where ethnicity is not recorded. 'Other' is where ethnicities fall outside the reported ethnicities.
- To protect confidentiality the Ministry 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.