



10 September 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 13 August 2024, requesting information about historic benefit rates.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision set out below.

1. *Please supply the Gross and net benefit rates for the following benefits and dates listed below, for a person aged over 18 but under 25 years of age at the following time periods.*
 - *EUB-ST (Emergency Unemployment Benefit Student) 01/04/1991 – 31/03/92*
 - *EUB-ST (Emergency Unemployment Benefit Student) 01/04/1992 – 31/03/93*
 - *UB (Unemployment Benefit) 01/04/1993 – 31/03/94*
 - *UB (Unemployment Benefit) 01/04/1994 – 31-03-95*

The below **Appendix** provides the historic Unemployment benefit rates as at 1 April 1991 to 1 April 1995. The Historical rates for the Unemployment Student Benefit is the same historic rates for the Unemployment Benefit. The Ministry is unable to provide the Gross rates for the years 1991, 1992, 1994 and 1995 as such your request for the Gross historic rates for the years mentioned above is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as despite reasonable efforts to locate this information, it cannot be found.

2. *Please also supply the information on what team at the Ministry of Social Development is responsible for obtaining information which is not available on Work and Income Manuals and procedures.*

The Ministry's Manuals and Procedures (MAP) provides operational policy guidelines to Ministry staff based on the legislation administered by The Ministry of Social Development. These guidelines help Ministry staff make accurate and sound decisions, when assessing correct entitlements for individuals seeking financial assistance. The external site is an exact copy of the Ministry's internal version, however any links in the external version linking to the Ministry's internal sites will not work as there is no direct access to the Ministry's internal sites from the external MAP.

Requests for specific information that cannot be found, or the link to information is not working when accessing the external MAP can be requested under the Official Information Act, by email to: uia_requests@msd.govt.nz

- 3. Please advise which unit at the Ministry is responsible for: helpline_workandincome@msd.govt.nz and whether there is a phone number to contact this team.*

The Service Delivery group is the Ministry's operational arm, which delivers employment, housing, financial and support services in sites and online throughout New Zealand/Aotearoa.

Helpline is part of Service Delivery and supports Ministry staff by providing expert and supportive advice on the Ministry's processes, policies, systems, legislation and business practices, this service is not intended for external use. Any individual who is seeking financial assistance or advice on assistance the Ministry could provide, can contact the Contact Centre on 0800 559 009, visit the Work and Income website on www.workandincome.govt.nz/ or Visit your closest Work and Income Service Centre.

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

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Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services

Appendix

Table One: Historical Unemployment Benefit rates as of 1 April 1991 to 1 April 1995.

YEAR	AGE GROUP	GROSS	NETT
1-Apr-95	Single 18-24 years		\$115.37
	Single 25 years & over		\$138.46
	Married Couple (no children)		\$230.74
	Single + 1 child		\$198.31
	Single + 2 children (or more)		\$216.34
	Married + 1 child		\$245.20
	Married + 2 children (or more)		\$245.20
1-Apr-94	Single 18-24 years		\$112.23
	Single 25 years & over		\$134.69
	Married Couple (no children)		\$224.46
	Single + 1 child		\$192.91
	Single + 2 children (or more)		\$210.45
	Married + 1 child		\$238.52
	Married + 2 children (or more)		\$238.52
1-Apr-93	Single 18-24 years	\$130.22	\$110.69
	Single 25 years & over	\$156.28	\$132.84
	Married Couple (no children)	\$274.49	\$221.38
	Single + 1 child	\$231.28	\$190.27
	Single + 2 children (or more)	\$255.29	\$207.56
	Married + 1 child	\$293.74	\$235.24
	Married + 2 children (or more)	\$293.74	\$235.24
1-Apr-92	Single 18-24 years		\$109.25
	Single 25 years & over		\$131.11
	Married Couple (no children)		\$218.50
	Single + 1 child		\$187.79
	Single + 2 children (or more)		\$204.86
	Married + 1 child		\$232.18
	Married + 2 children (or more)		\$232.18
1-Apr-91	Single 18-19 years		\$108.17
	Single 20-24 years		\$108.17
	Single 25 years & over		\$129.81
	Married Couple (no children)		\$216.34
	Single + 1 child		\$185.93
	Single + 2 children (or more)		\$202.83
	Married + 1 child		\$229.88
	Married + 2 children (or more)		\$229.88