

**11,694 decrease**  
in the number of **main benefit** recipients, when comparing February 2021 (377,907) with January 2021 (389,601).  
**72,780** was the yearly increase (305,127).

**4,671 decrease**  
in the number of **Jobseeker Support** recipients, when comparing February 2021 (208,335) with January 2021 (213,006).  
**62,355** was the yearly increase (145,980).

**12.0 percent**  
of the estimated New Zealand working-age population received a main benefit as at February 2021.  
**6.6 percent** received Jobseeker Support.

**1,935 increase**  
in the number of **main benefit cancellations due to obtaining work**, when comparing February 2021 (11,076) with January 2021 (9,141).  
**2,508** was the yearly increase (8,568).

## Main benefits

Figure 1. Main benefit categories and sub-categories

	January 21	February 21	Annual trend
<b>All main benefits</b>	<b>389,601</b>	<b>377,907</b>	↓
<b>Jobseeker Support (JS)</b>	<b>213,006</b>	<b>208,335</b>	↓
Work Ready (JS – WR)	134,838	130,113	↓
Health Condition and Disability (JS – HCD)	78,165	78,219	↑
<b>Sole Parent Support (SPS)</b>	<b>67,629</b>	<b>67,260</b>	↓
<b>Supported Living Payment (SLP)</b>	<b>94,329</b>	<b>94,392</b>	↑
Health Condition and Disability (SLP – HCD)	85,218	85,284	↑
Carers (SLP – Carers)	9,111	9,108	↓
<b>Youth Payment/Young Parent Payment</b>	<b>1,581</b>	<b>1,530</b>	↓
Youth Payment (YP)	267	231	↓
Young Parent Payment (YPP)	1,314	1,296	↓
<b>Other main benefits</b>	<b>13,059</b>	<b>6,390</b>	↓

Figure 2. All main benefits, timeseries

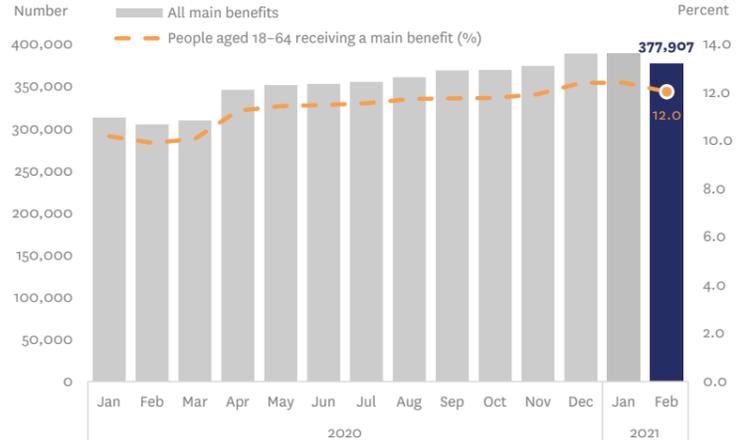
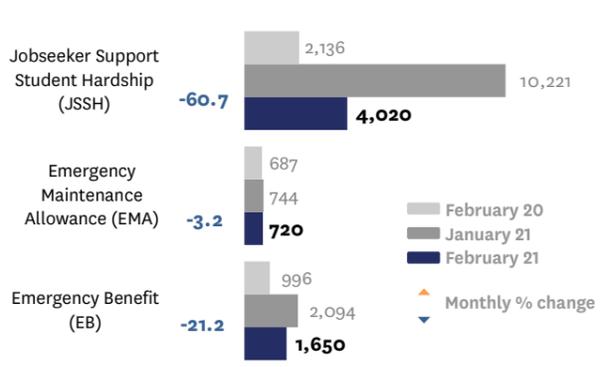


Figure 3. Other main benefits



From 12 February 2021, the Ministry of Social Development is applying a range of new confidentiality procedures to public data releases. These procedures will continue to protect client information, while making more data available. To find out how we have changed the way we work with client information visit: <https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/tools/how-we-keep-data-private.html>

## Jobseeker Support and Jobseeker Support - Work Ready, by selected data cuts (month-on-month)

### Jobseeker Support – Work Ready, by Regional Council and ethnicity

Figure 6. JS – WR by Regional Council (total)

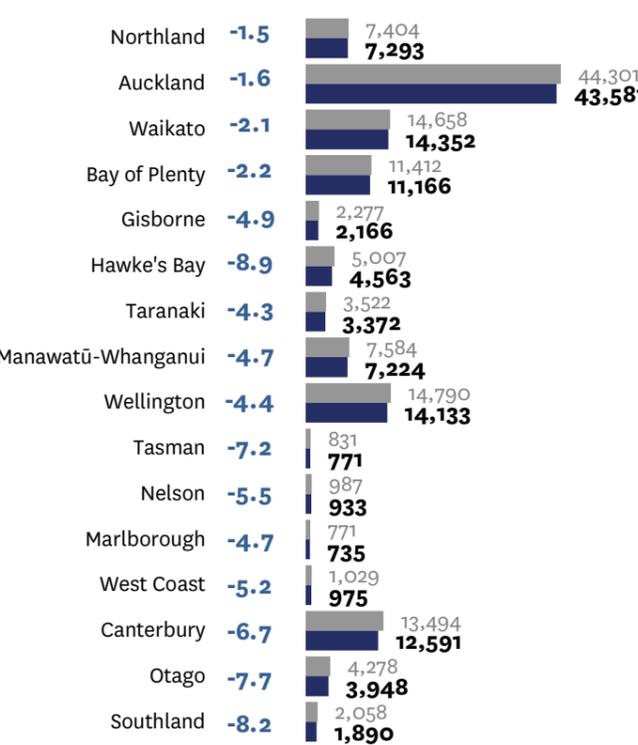


Figure 7. JS – WR by Regional Council - Māori

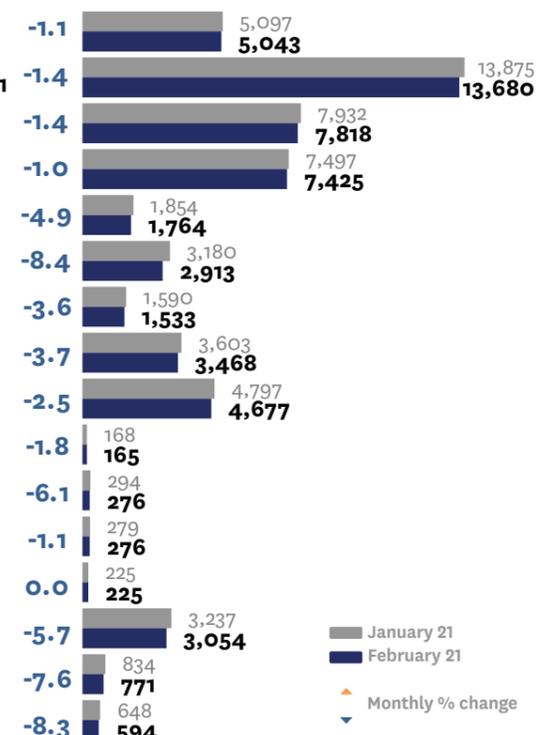


Figure 8. JS – WR by Regional Council - NZ European

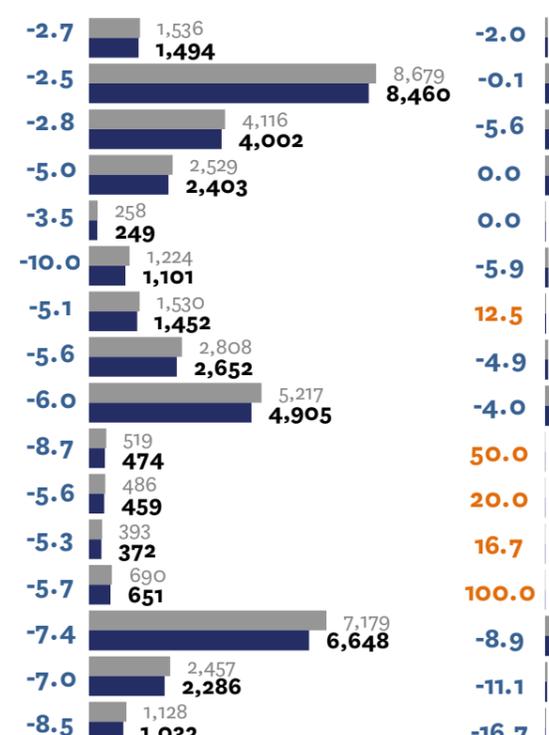


Figure 9. JS – WR by Regional Council - Pacific peoples

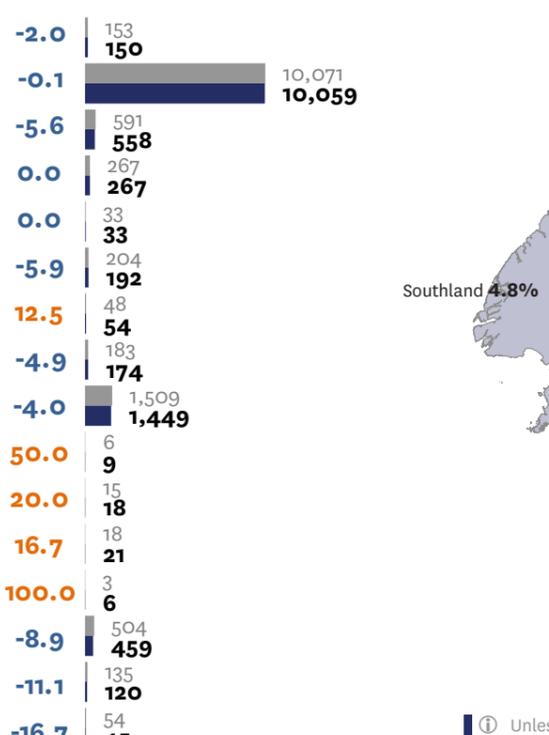


Figure 4. Population proportion of 18–64 year olds receiving Jobseeker Support, by Regional Council

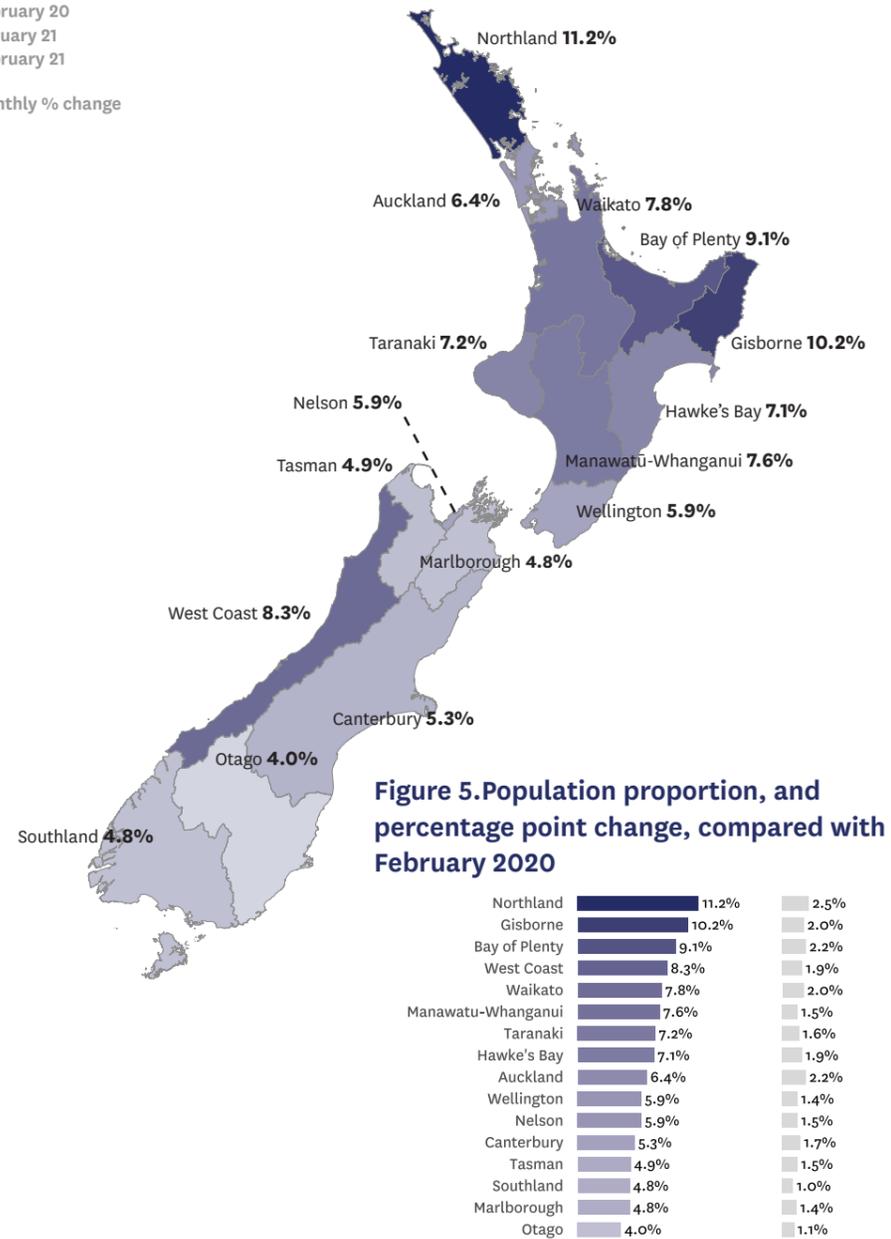
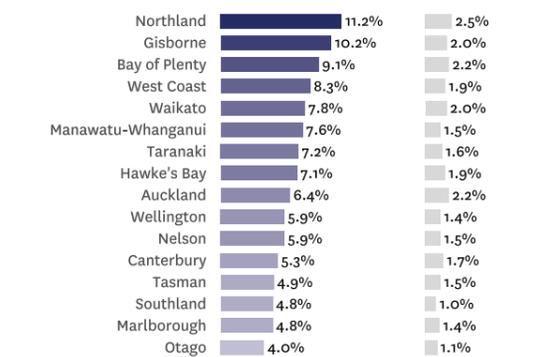


Figure 5. Population proportion, and percentage point change, compared with February 2020



Unless otherwise noted, monthly numbers presented in this document are as at the end of the month and clients reported on are working age (i.e. aged 18-64).

# Jobseeker Support and Jobseeker Support - Work Ready, by selected data cuts (month-on-month), continued

Figure 10. Jobseeker Support – Work Ready, by ethnicity

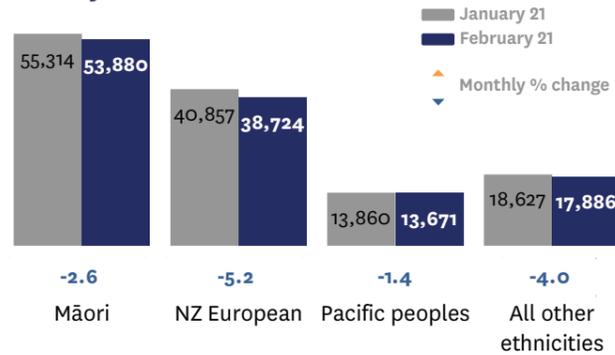


Figure 11. Jobseeker Support, by gender

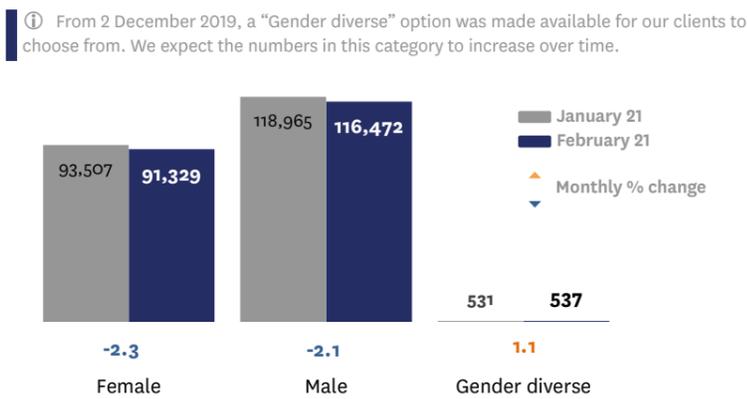
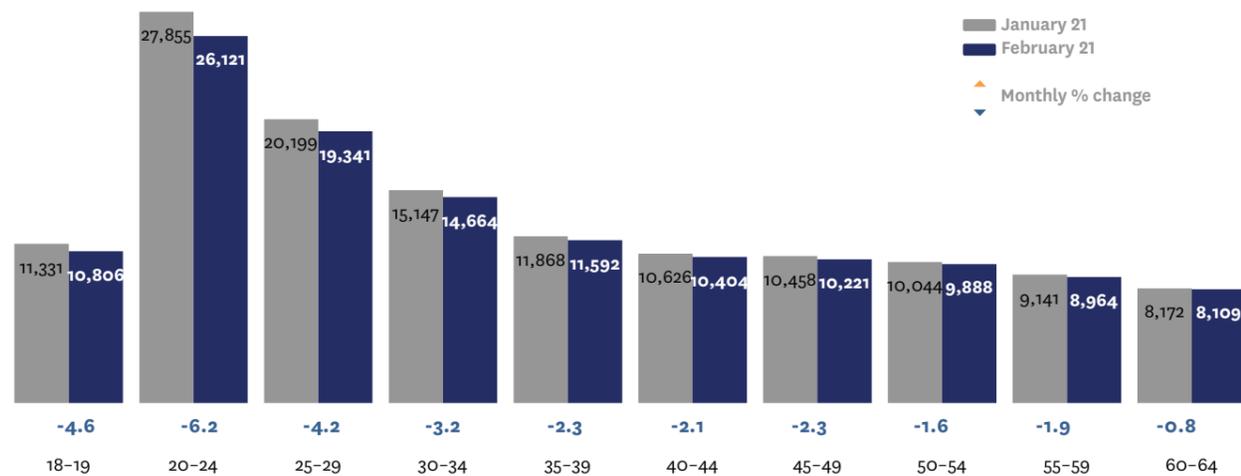
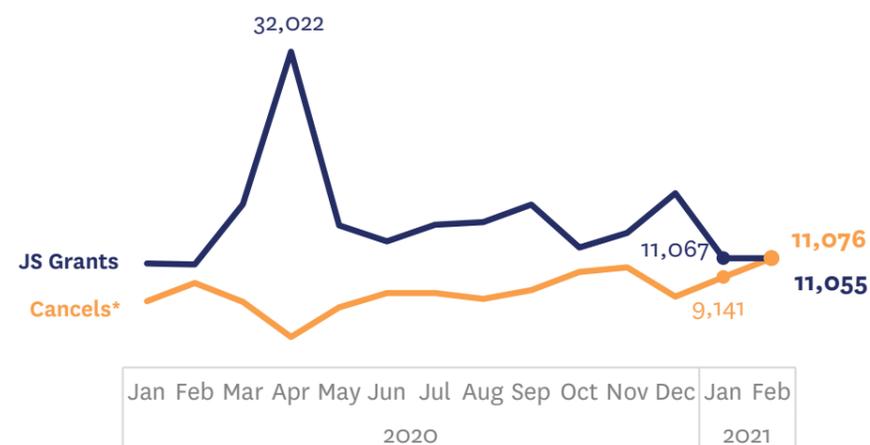


Figure 12. Jobseeker Support – Work Ready, by age groups



## Grants and cancellations

Figure 13. Grants for Jobseeker Support, and cancellations due to obtaining work for all main benefits, timeseries



\* These include cancellations of any main benefit due to obtaining work.

# Supplementary benefits and hardship assistance

Supplementary benefits and hardship assistance numbers include all clients, not only working-age clients. Benefit Advances and Special Needs Grants (SNGs) are the sum of grants in the month. The sum of Special Needs Grants also includes Food SNGs.

Figure 14. Supplementary benefits

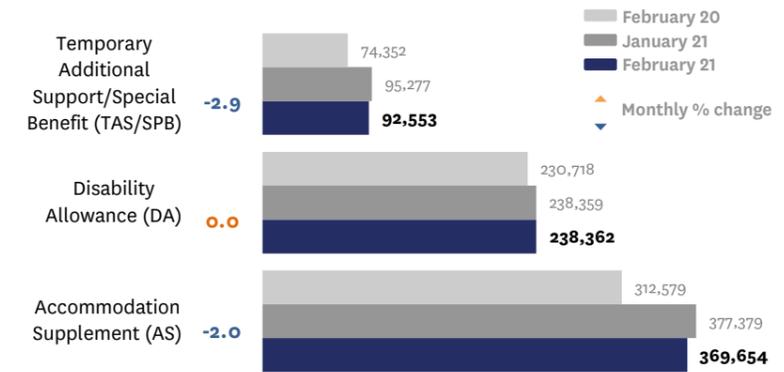


Figure 15. Hardship assistance

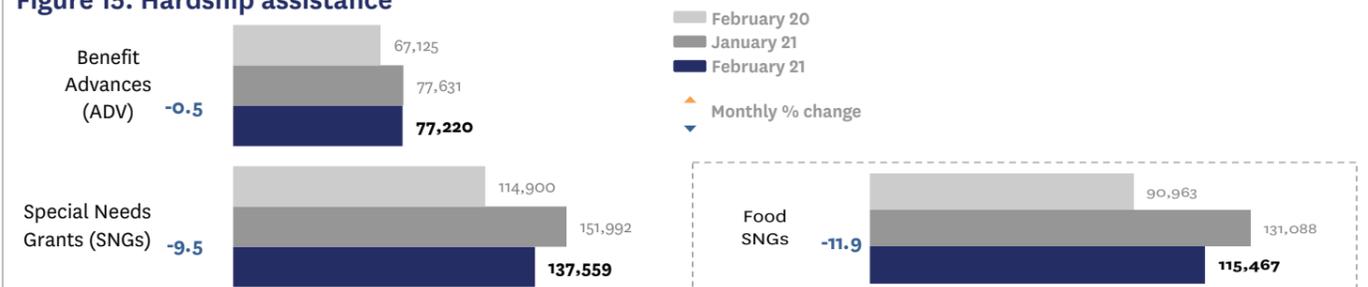


Figure 16. Special Needs Grants granted for food, by Regional Council

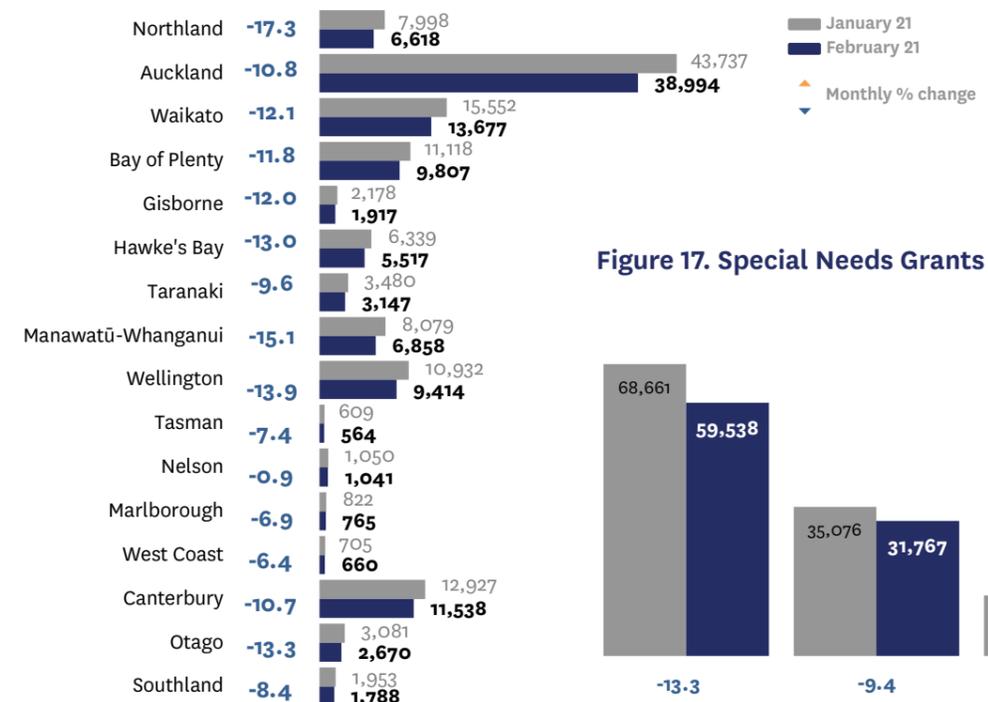


Figure 17. Special Needs Grants granted for food, by ethnicity

