



# Student Loan

## January to September 2024

The [Student Loan Scheme](#) helps students to pay for course fees (compulsory fees charged by education providers), course-related costs (e.g. books, computer, travel) and living costs.

For this report, a student is defined as a person who received at least one payment under this scheme from [StudyLink](#) in the calendar year, up to the end of the specified reporting month. The data in this report is cumulative calendar year-to-date figures. Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar and all percentages are computed using randomly rounded numbers, and then rounded to one decimal point. Total percentages may not add up to exactly 100 percent because of rounding effects. In line with the Ministry of Social Development’s confidentiality policy, all numbers of people in this document have been randomly rounded to base three. The last three years of data and annual comparisons are presented in summary tables. Earlier figures are included in the Student Loan data file.

### 1

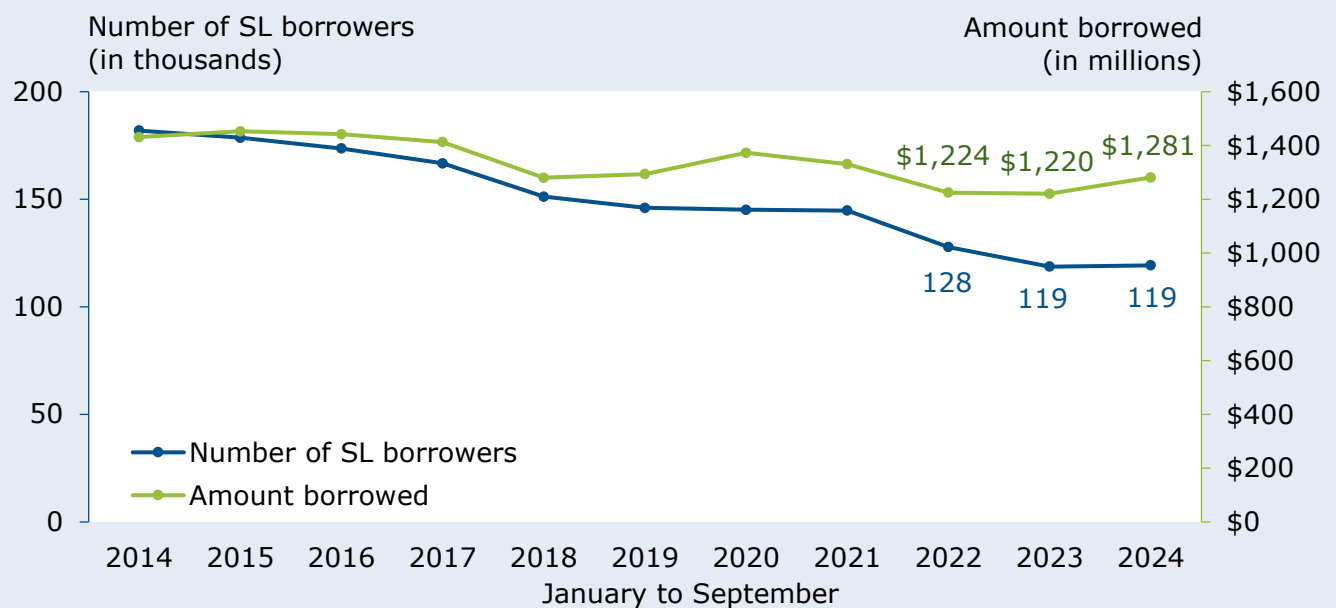
#### Number of borrowers and amount paid

**More students drew down a student loan from January to September 2024 than in the same period in 2023.**

From January to September 2024, 119,289 students borrowed under the Student Loan (SL) Scheme. This was 594 more students (up 0.5 percent) when compared with the same period in 2023.

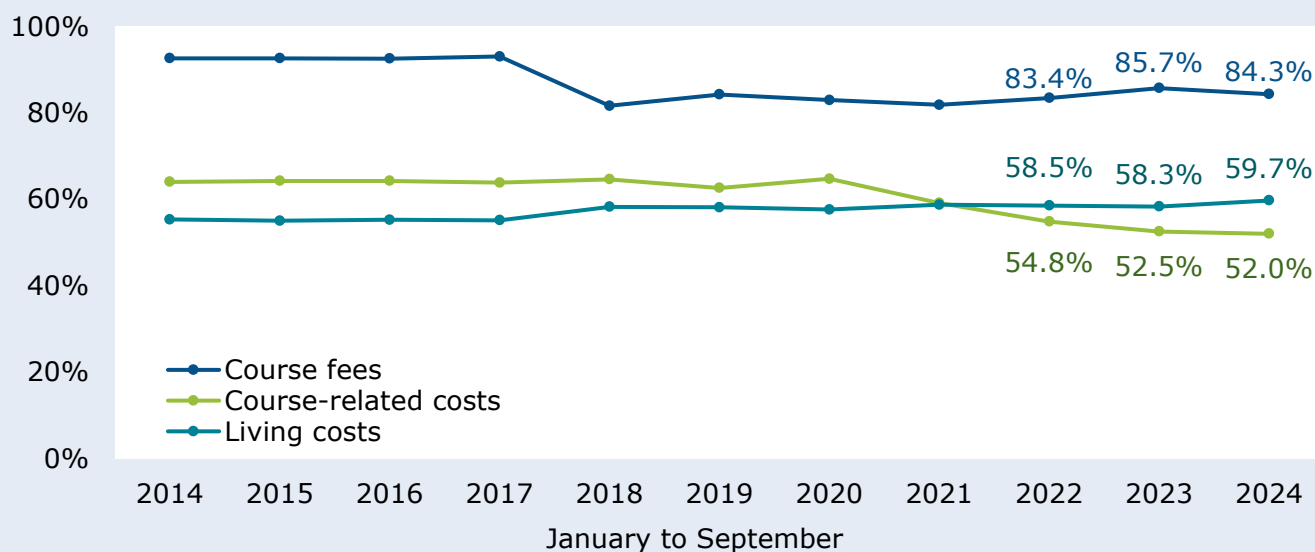
From January to September 2024, the total amount borrowed for course fees, course-related costs, and living costs was \$1,281.0 million. This was an increase of 5.0 percent when compared with the same period in 2023.

**Figure 1.1: Number of SL borrowers and amount borrowed, January to September 2014–2024**



From January to September 2024, 84.3 percent of SL borrowers borrowed to pay for course fees.

**Figure 1.2: Proportion of SL borrowers by loan component, January to September 2014–2024**



**Note:** From April 2020, course-related costs entitlement was increased for study in 2020 as part of the COVID-19 tertiary support package.

Below is a summary table with year-on-year comparisons over the previous three years.

**Table 1.1: Number of SL borrowers, amount borrowed, and average amount borrowed, by loan component**

Loan component	January to September			Annual change	
	2022	2023	2024	2022–23	2023–24
Course fees	106,515	101,697	100,584	-4.5%	-1.1%
Course-related costs	69,990	62,274	62,031	-11.0%	-0.4%
Living costs	74,652	69,201	71,184	-7.3%	2.9%
<b>Total number of Student Loan borrowers</b>	<b>127,713</b>	<b>118,695</b>	<b>119,289</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
Amount borrowed for course fees	\$759,252,253	\$747,359,485	\$765,668,716	-1.6%	2.4%
Amount borrowed for course-related costs	\$66,415,275	\$59,381,921	\$59,377,404	-10.6%	0.0%
Amount borrowed for living costs	\$398,706,232	\$413,486,799	\$455,950,815	3.7%	10.3%
<b>Total amount borrowed</b>	<b>\$1,224,373,760</b>	<b>\$1,220,228,205</b>	<b>\$1,280,996,934</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
Average course fees	\$7,128	\$7,349	\$7,612	3.1%	3.6%
Average course-related costs	\$949	\$954	\$957	0.5%	0.3%
Average living costs	\$5,341	\$5,975	\$6,405	11.9%	7.2%

**Note 1:** Note: Establishment fees and repayments/refunds are not included in the above summary table but are available in the downloadable Excel file.

**Note 2:** From 1 April 2022, the student loan living cost maxima increased by \$25 per week (in addition to the annual inflation adjustment).



## 2

### Education providers

From January to September 2024, there were 83,055 students who drew down SL for study at University only. This was a decrease of 414 students (down 0.5 percent) when compared with the same period in 2023 (83,469).

The number of students who drew down SL for study at only Te Pūkenga was 23,010. This was 366 more students (up 1.6 percent) when compared with the same period in 2023 (22,644).

Below is a summary table with year-on-year comparisons over the last three years.

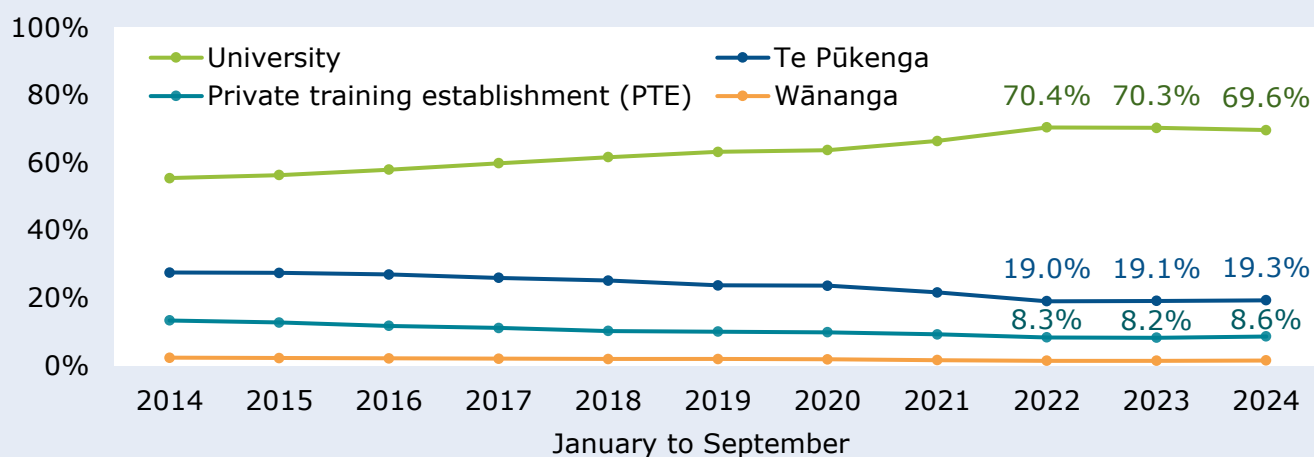
**Table 2.1: Number of SL borrowers by type of education provider**

Type of provider	January to September			Annual change	
	2022	2023	2024	2022–23	2023–24
University	89,859	83,469	83,055	-7.1%	-0.5%
Te Pūkenga	24,291	22,644	23,010	-6.8%	1.6%
Private training establishment (PTE)	10,563	9,789	10,299	-7.3%	5.2%
Wānanga	1,746	1,665	1,794	-4.6%	7.7%
Multiple and other providers	1,251	1,122	1,131	-10.3%	0.8%
<b>Total number of Student Loan borrowers</b>	<b>127,713</b>	<b>118,695</b>	<b>119,289</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>

**Note:** “Multiple and other providers” includes combinations of providers (e.g. University and Te Pūkenga, PTE and University) that some students attended during the specified reporting period.

Students attending only University made up 69.6 percent of SL recipients, followed by students attending only Te Pūkenga at 19.3 percent.

**Figure 2.1: Distribution of SL borrowers by type of education provider, January to September 2014–2024**



**Note:** To avoid double counting, the figure above excludes a small number of students attending more than one provider type.



**Table 2.2: Amount borrowed for course fees by type of education provider**

Type of provider	January to September			Annual change	
	2022	2023	2024	2022-23	2023-24
University	\$575,418,487	\$557,571,005	\$568,437,673	-3.1%	1.9%
Te Pūkenga	\$107,301,184	\$111,618,452	\$113,965,956	4.0%	2.1%
Private training establishment (PTE)	\$62,166,330	\$64,864,668	\$69,427,613	4.3%	7.0%
Wānanga	\$4,348,936	\$3,954,194	\$4,552,692	-9.1%	15.1%
Multiple and other providers	\$10,017,316	\$9,351,165	\$9,284,782	-6.6%	-0.7%
<b>Total amount borrowed for course fees</b>	<b>\$759,252,253</b>	<b>\$747,359,485</b>	<b>\$765,668,716</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>

**Note:** “Multiple and other providers” includes combinations of providers (e.g. University and Te Pūkenga, PTE and University) that some students attended during the specified reporting period.

## 3

### Demographics of Student Loan borrowers

The following tables provide a summary profile of SL borrowers from January to September, for the previous three years. Detailed data series are available in the SL data file.

**Table 3.1: SL borrowers by age group**

Age group	January to September			Annual change	
	2022	2023	2024	2022-23	2023-24
16-17 years	315	309	435	-1.9%	40.8%
18-24 years	84,900	78,684	79,638	-7.3%	1.2%
25-34 years	27,057	24,420	23,607	-9.7%	-3.3%
35-44 years	10,137	9,942	10,170	-1.9%	2.3%
45-54 years	4,377	4,296	4,392	-1.9%	2.2%
55 years and older	930	1,044	1,041	12.3%	-0.3%
<b>Total number of Student Loan borrowers</b>	<b>127,713</b>	<b>118,695</b>	<b>119,289</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>

**Note 1:** Age is calculated as at the end of the period.

**Note 2:** A breakdown of “55 and older” is available in the Student Loan data file.



**Table 3.2: SL borrowers by gender**

Gender	January to September			Annual change	
	2022	2023	2024	2022-23	2023-24
Female	81,324	74,517	73,899	-8.4%	-0.8%
Male	45,474	43,020	43,935	-5.4%	2.1%
Gender Diverse	918	1,158	1,458	26.1%	25.9%
<b>Total number of Student Loan borrowers</b>	<b>127,713</b>	<b>118,695</b>	<b>119,289</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>

**Table 3.3: SL borrowers by residential status**

Residential status	January to September			Annual change	
	2022	2023	2024	2022-23	2023-24
Citizen by birth	95,148	88,311	89,127	-7.2%	0.9%
Citizen	20,007	18,975	18,957	-5.2%	-0.1%
Permanent resident	12,213	11,088	10,821	-9.2%	-2.4%
Other	345	318	381	-7.8%	19.8%
<b>Total number of Student Loan borrowers</b>	<b>127,713</b>	<b>118,695</b>	<b>119,289</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>

**Note:** “Other” includes students who have refugee status, and those classified as protected person/s. Details of “Other” are included in the downloadable data file.

It is not mandatory for students to disclose their ethnicity and students may report more than one ethnicity.

The numbers presented in this table are total responses – students who reported more than one ethnic group were counted in each group they identified with. The total number of responses therefore does not add up to the total number of SL borrowers.

**Table 3.4: SL responses by ethnic group**

Ethnic group (total response)	January to September			Annual change	
	2022	2023	2024	2022-23	2023-24
European	83,019	77,757	77,556	-6.3%	-0.3%
Māori	21,981	20,493	21,594	-6.8%	5.4%
Pacific Peoples	12,630	11,670	12,225	-7.6%	4.8%
Asian	22,128	21,927	22,986	-0.9%	4.8%
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	4,047	3,846	4,044	-5.0%	5.1%
Other	531	477	459	-10.2%	-3.8%
<b>Total borrowers with recorded ethnicity</b>	<b>123,657</b>	<b>116,397</b>	<b>117,825</b>	<b>-5.9%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
Not specified	4,059	2,298	1,467	-43.4%	-36.2%
<b>Total number of Student Loan borrowers</b>	<b>127,713</b>	<b>118,695</b>	<b>119,289</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>

**Note:** A detailed breakdown of ethnic groups is included in the Student Loan data file.