

11,970 decrease

in the number of **main benefit** recipients, when comparing March (365,934) with February 2021 (377,904).

55,938 was the yearly increase (309,996).

7,035 decrease

in the number of **Jobseeker Support** recipients, when comparing March (201,300) with February 2021 (208,335).

49,554 was the yearly increase (151,746).

11.7 percent

of the estimated New Zealand working-age population received a main benefit as at March 2021.

6.4 percent received Jobseeker Support.

1,584 increase

in the number of **main benefit cancellations due to obtaining work**, when comparing March (12,663) with February 2021 (11,079).

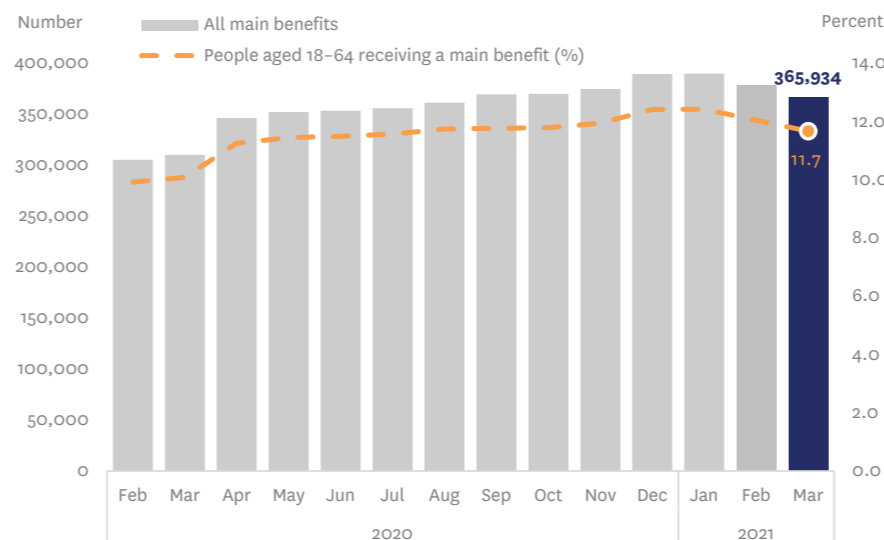
6,015 was the yearly increase (6,648).

Main benefits

Figure 1. Main benefit categories and sub-categories

	February 21	March 21	Annual trend
All main benefits	377,904	365,934	↓
Jobseeker Support (JS)	208,335	201,300	↓
Work Ready (JS – WR)	130,116	122,871	↓
Health Condition and Disability (JS – HCD)	78,222	78,432	↔
Sole Parent Support (SPS)	67,260	66,753	↓
Supported Living Payment (SLP)	94,395	94,368	↔
Health Condition and Disability (SLP – HCD)	85,284	85,317	↔
Carers (SLP – Carers)	9,108	9,051	↓
Youth Payment/Young Parent Payment	1,527	1,338	↓
Youth Payment (YP)	231	102	↓
Young Parent Payment (YPP)	1,299	1,233	↓
Other main benefits	6,390	2,172	↓
Emergency Benefit (EB)	1,647	1,410	↓
Emergency Maintenance Allowance (EMA)	720	702	↓
Jobseeker Support Student Hardship (JSSH)	4,020	63	↓

Figure 2. All main benefits, timeseries



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>

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 – Work Ready, by Regional Council and ethnicity

Figure 3. JS – WR by Regional Council (total)

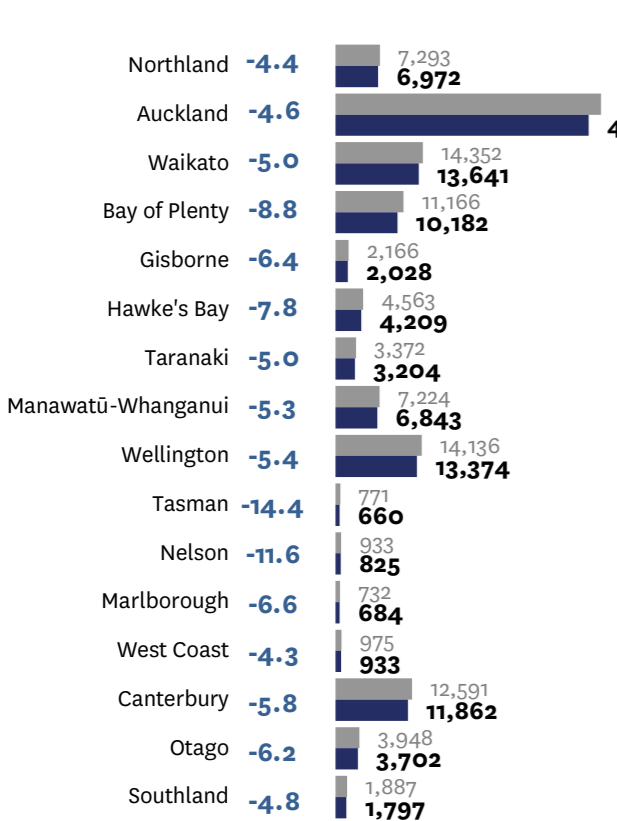


Figure 4. JS – WR by Regional Council - Māori

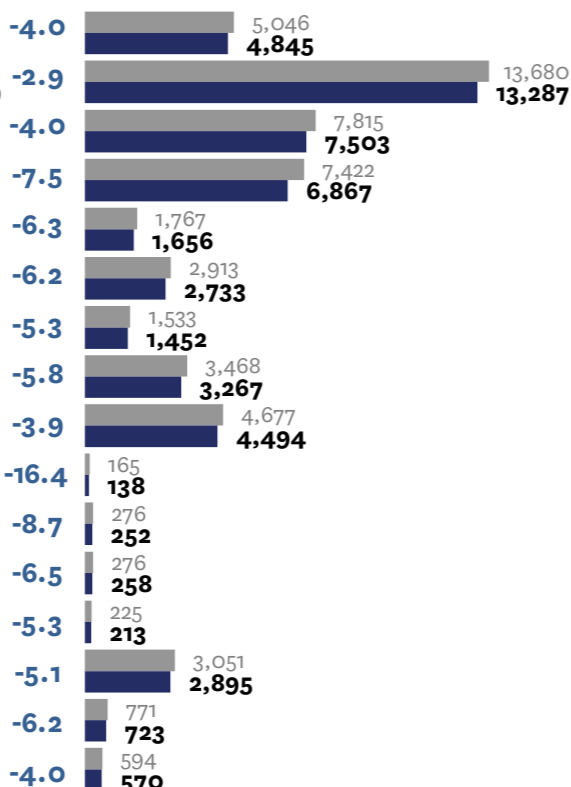


Figure 5. JS – WR by Regional Council - NZ European

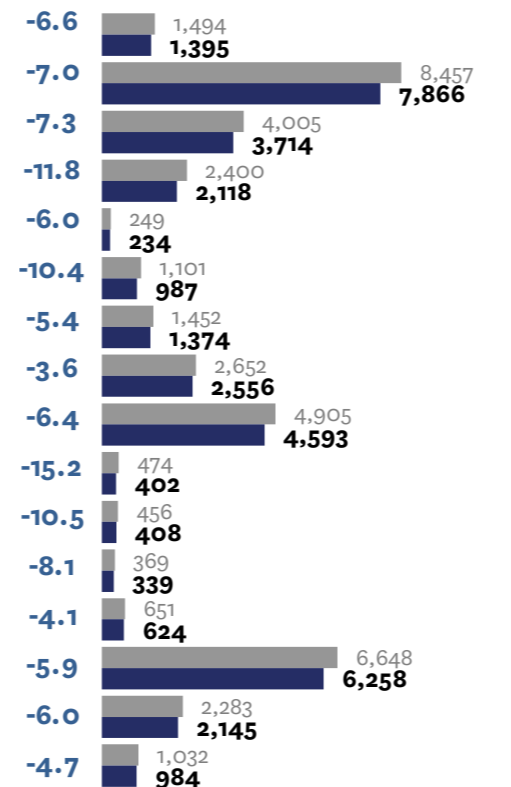


Figure 6. JS – WR by Regional Council - Pacific peoples

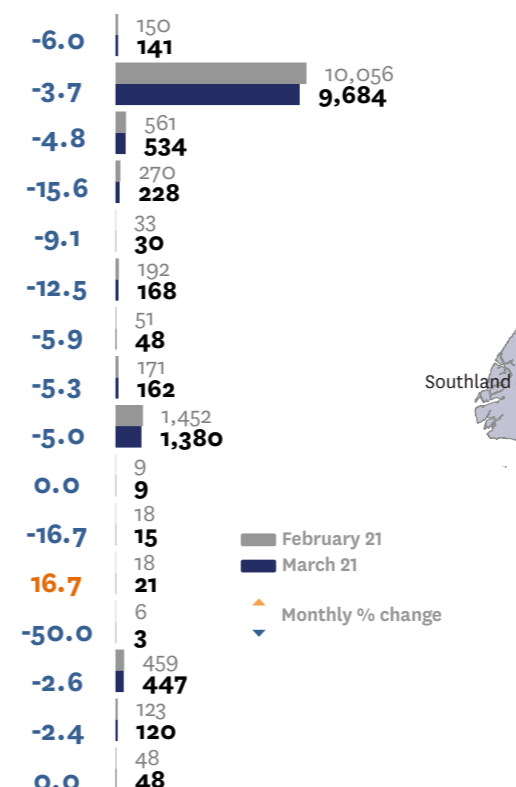


Figure 7. Population proportion of 18-64 year olds receiving Jobseeker Support, by Regional Council

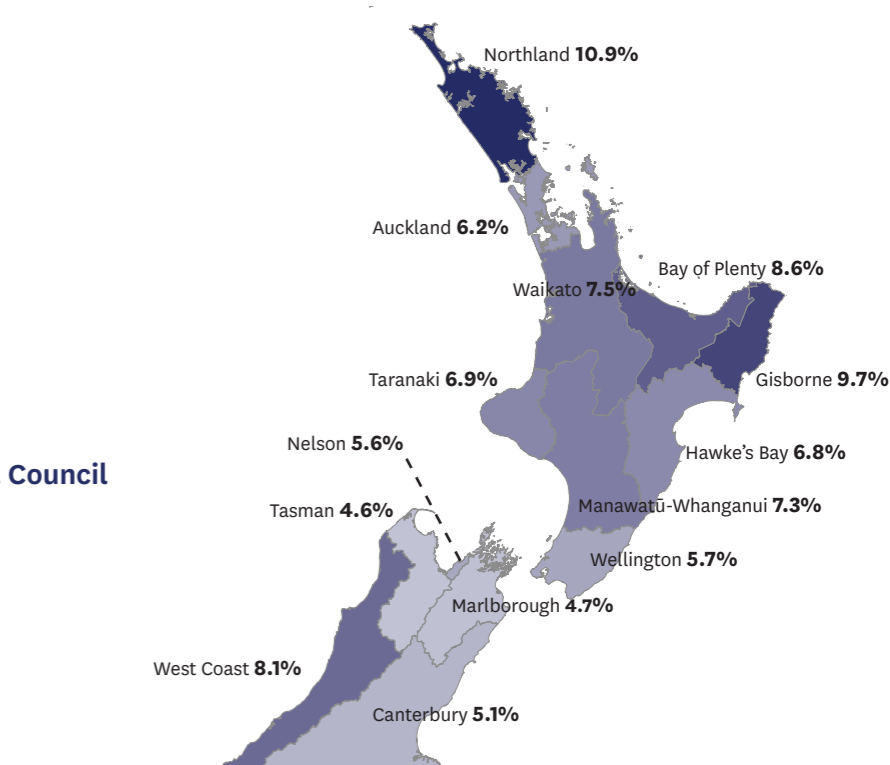
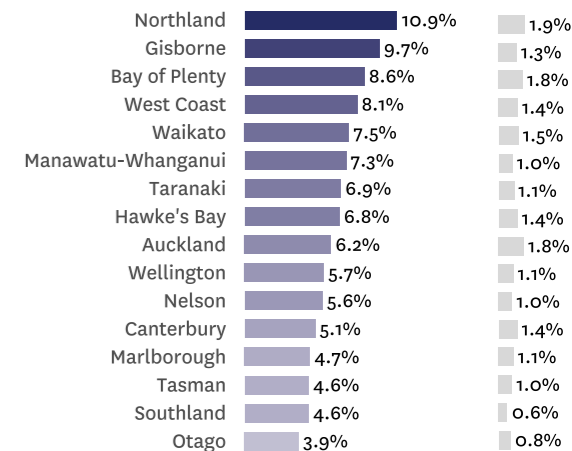


Figure 8. Population proportion, and percentage point change, compared with March 2020



Jobseeker Support and Jobseeker Support - Work Ready

Figure 9. Jobseeker Support – Work Ready, by ethnicity

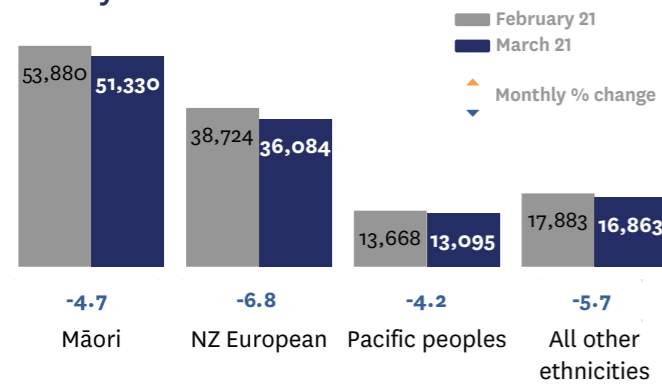


Figure 10. Jobseeker Support, by gender

From 2 December 2019, a "Gender diverse" option was made available for our clients to choose from. We expect the numbers in this category to increase over time.

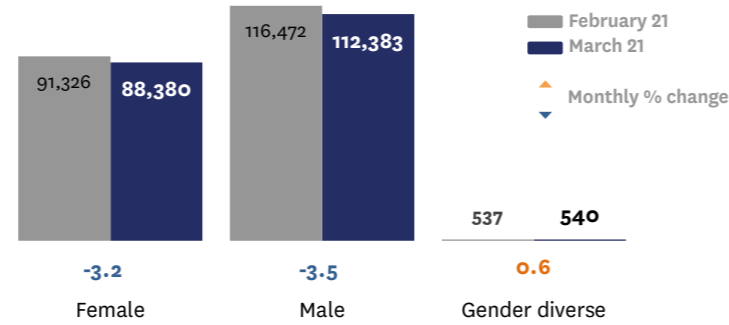
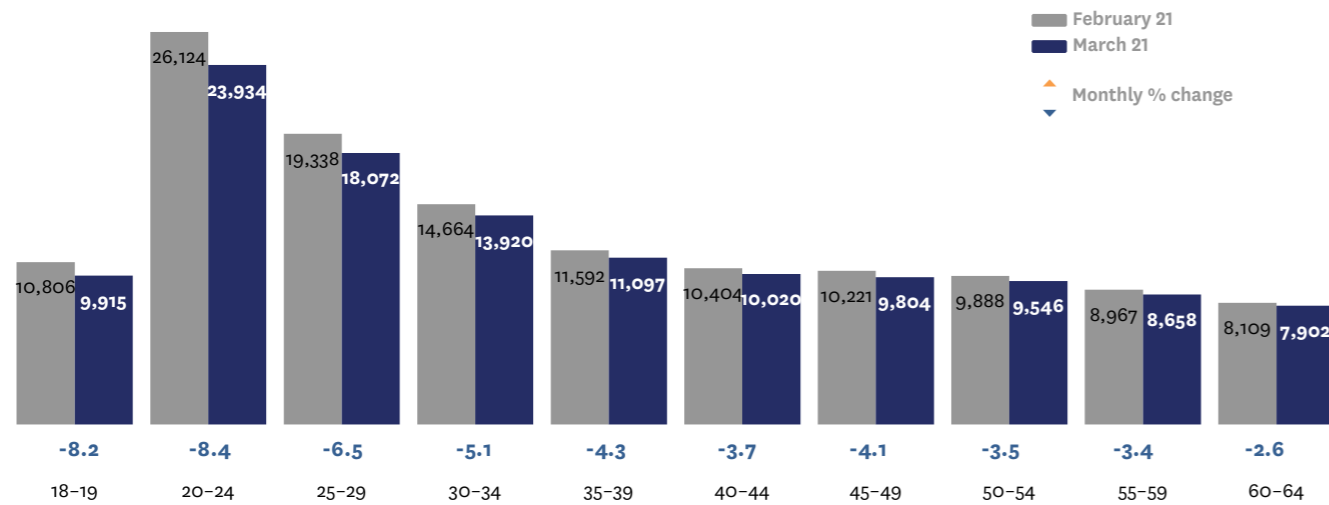
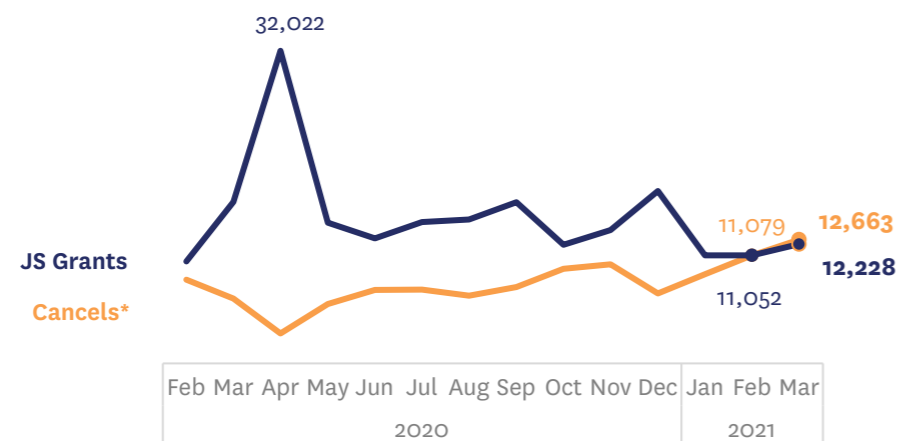


Figure 11. Jobseeker Support – Work Ready, by age groups



Grants and cancellations

Figure 12. Grants for Jobseeker Support, and cancellations due to obtaining work for all main benefits, timeseries



* This includes 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 13. Supplementary benefits

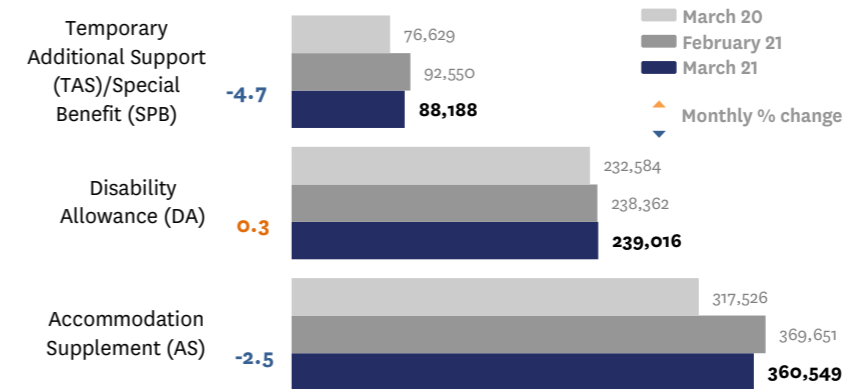


Figure 14. Hardship assistance

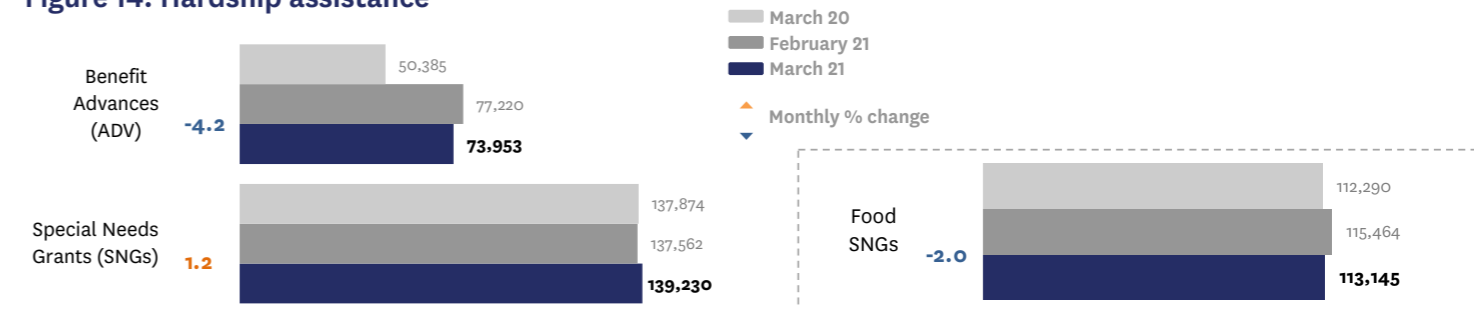


Figure 15. Special Needs Grants granted for food, by Regional Council

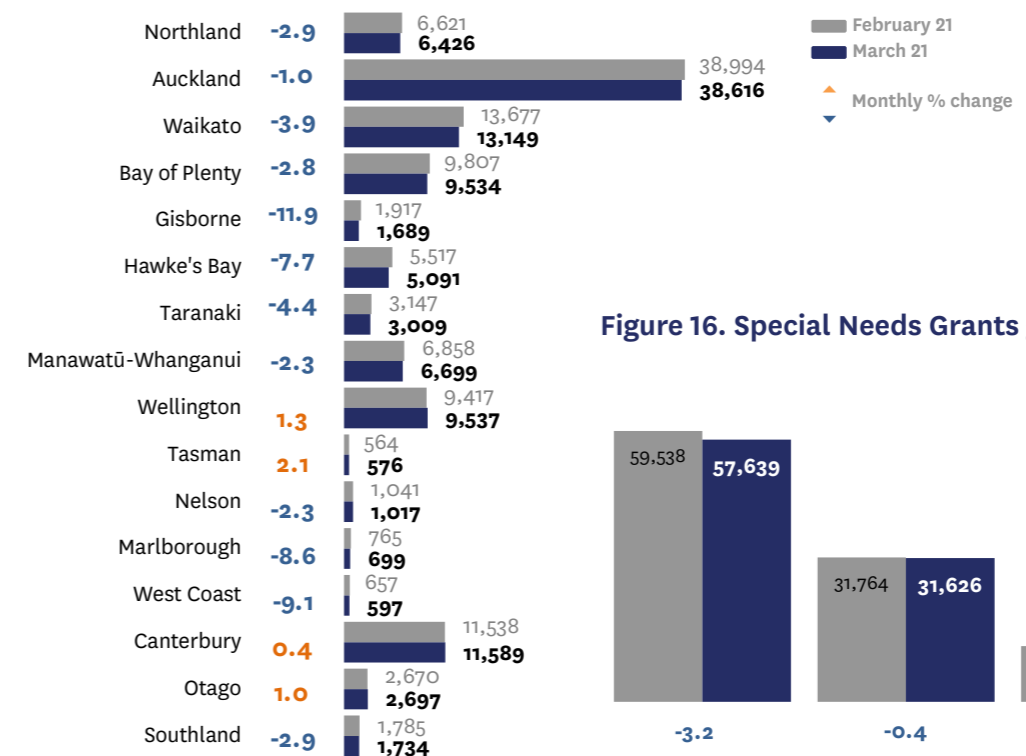


Figure 16. Special Needs Grants granted for food, by ethnicity

