



Student Loan

January to June 2023

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 are 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 information in this document has 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 downloadable Excel files.

1

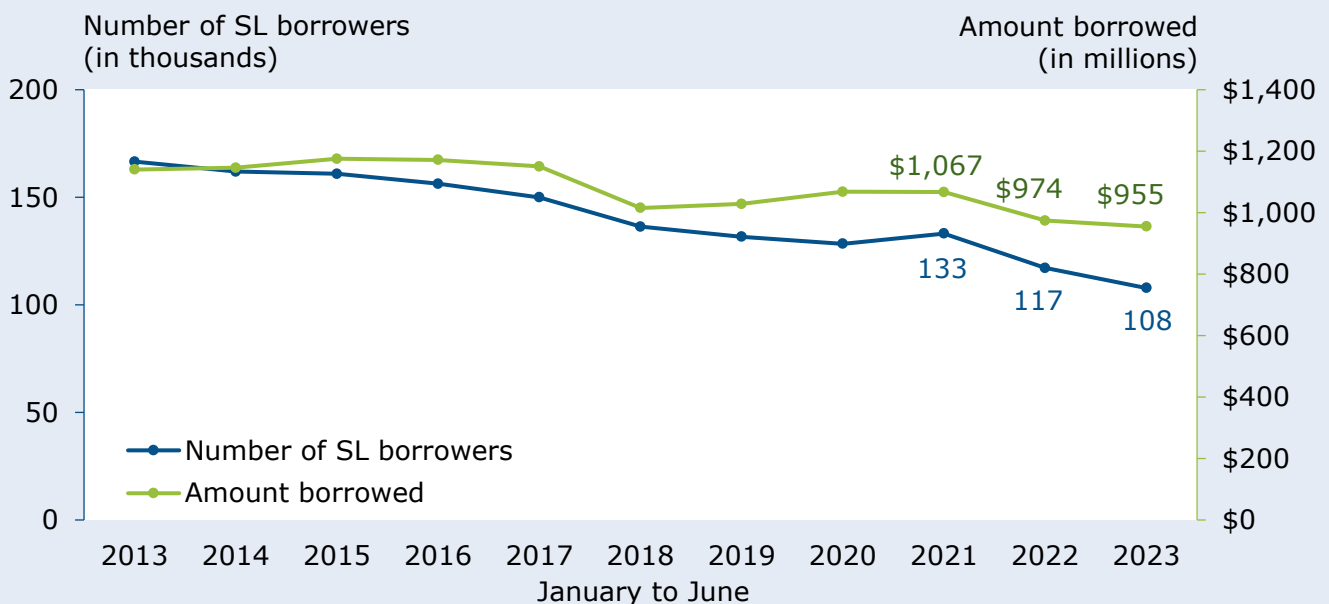
Number of borrowers and amount paid

The number of SL recipients reduced across all education provider types.

From January to June 2023, 107,799 students borrowed under the Student Loan (SL) Scheme. This was 9,297 fewer students (down 7.9 percent) when compared with the same period last year.

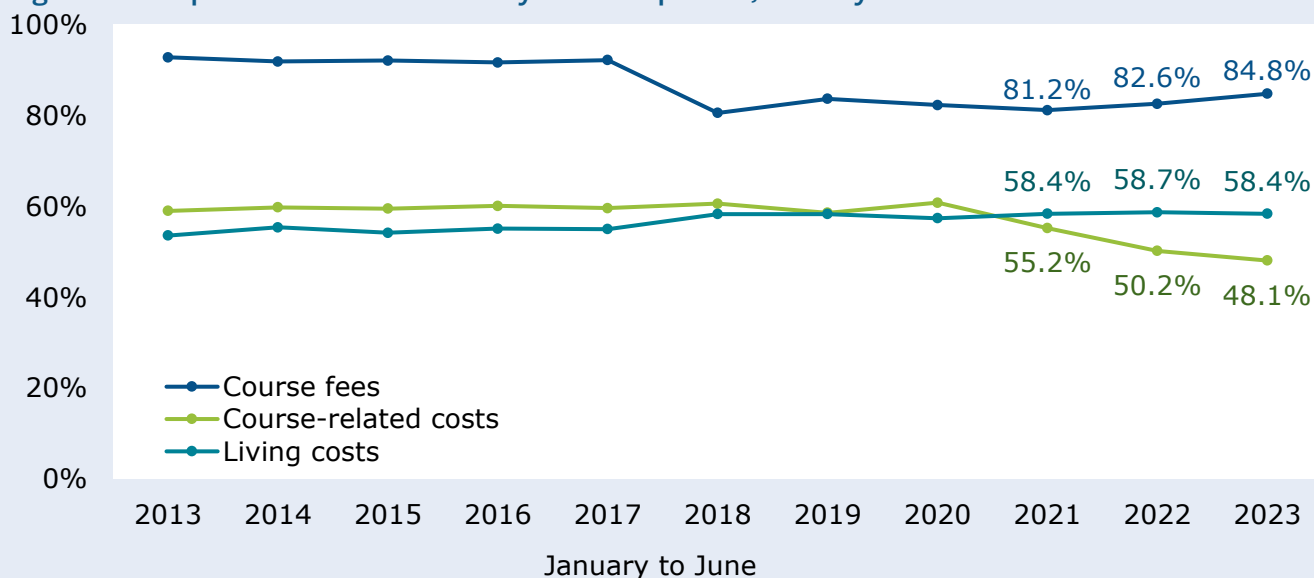
The total amount borrowed for course fees, course-related costs, and living costs was \$954.7 million, a decrease of 2.0 percent when compared with the same period last year.

Figure 1.1: Number of SL borrowers and amount borrowed, January to June 2013–2023



From January to June 2023, 84.8 percent of SL borrowers borrowed to pay for course fees.

Figure 1.2: Proportion of SL borrowers by loan component, January to June 2013–2023



Note: Course-related costs entitlement was temporarily increased in 2020 as part of the COVID-19 tertiary support package.

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

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

Loan component	January to June			Annual change	
	2021	2022	2023	2021–22	2022–23
Course fees	108,030	96,768	91,464	-10.4%	-5.5%
Course-related costs	73,410	58,800	51,882	-19.9%	-11.8%
Living costs	77,781	68,730	62,901	-11.6%	-8.5%
Total number of Student Loan borrowers	133,101	117,096	107,799	-12.0%	-7.9%
Amount borrowed for course fees	\$747,552,027	\$681,877,969	\$661,872,424	-8.8%	-2.9%
Amount borrowed for course-related costs	\$68,115,497	\$54,014,614	\$48,000,993	-20.7%	-11.1%
Amount borrowed for living costs	\$251,340,069	\$238,226,642	\$244,861,518	-5.2%	2.8%
Total amount borrowed	\$1,067,007,592	\$974,119,225	\$954,734,935	-8.7%	-2.0%
Average course fees	\$6,920	\$7,047	\$7,236	1.8%	2.7%
Average course-related costs	\$928	\$919	\$925	-1.0%	0.7%
Average living costs	\$3,231	\$3,466	\$3,893	7.3%	12.3%

Note 1: Loan establishment fees charged to borrowers and fees refunds from education providers are not included in the above summary, 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), which will have had an impact on the amounts borrowed in the January to June 2023 period.



2

Education providers

The number of SL borrowers reduced across all education provider types.

Across all types of education providers, there were fewer Student Loan (SL) borrowers between January and June 2023 than there were in the same period in 2022.

The largest reductions in SL borrowers were in University and Te Pūkenga (New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology, formerly Polytechnics and Institutes of Technology).

From January to June 2023, the number of students who borrowed SL for study at only Te Pūkenga was 18,960. This was 1,986 fewer students (down 9.5 percent) when compared to the same period in 2022 (20,946).

There were 78,789 students who borrowed SL for study at University only. This was a decrease of 6,381 students (down 7.5 percent) when compared with the same period last year (85,170).

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

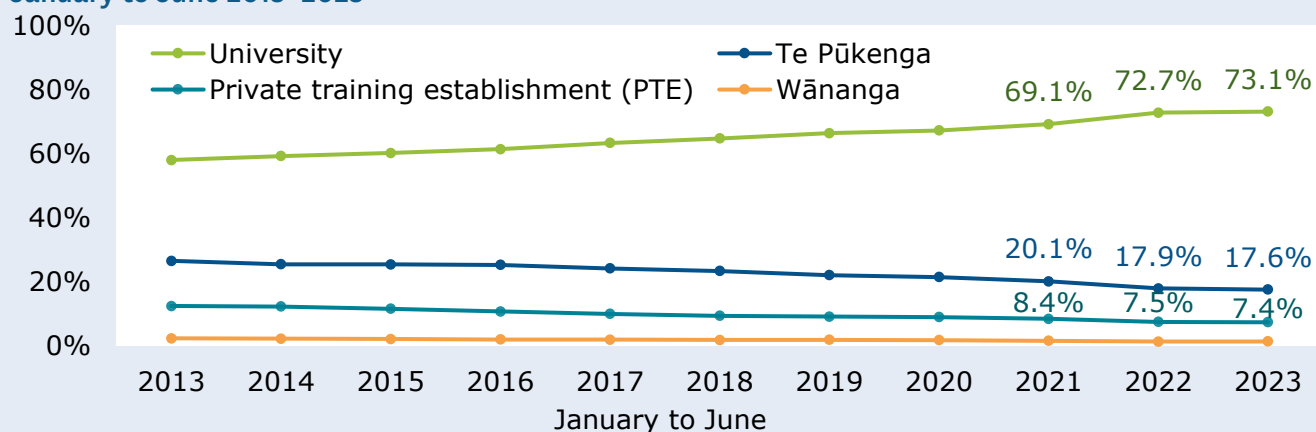
Table 2.1: Number of SL borrowers by type of education provider

Type of provider	January to June			Annual change	
	2021	2022	2023	2021-22	2022-23
University	92,016	85,170	78,789	-7.4%	-7.5%
Te Pūkenga	26,799	20,946	18,960	-21.8%	-9.5%
Private training establishment (PTE)	11,202	8,739	7,956	-22.0%	-9.0%
Wānanga	2,133	1,557	1,500	-27.0%	-3.7%
Multiple and other providers	945	687	597	-27.3%	-13.1%
Total number of Student Loan borrowers	133,101	117,096	107,799	-12.0%	-7.9%

Note: "Multiple and other providers" includes combinations of two or more provider types (e.g. University and Te Pūkenga, PTE and University) that some students attended during the specified reporting period.

Proportionately, students attending only University accounted for 73.1 percent of SL recipients, followed by students attending only Te Pūkenga at 17.6 percent.

Figure 2.1: Distribution of SL borrowers by type of education provider, January to June 2013-2023



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 June			Annual change	
	2021	2022	2023	2021-22	2022-23
University	\$564,171,916	\$529,831,785	\$507,626,533	-6.1%	-4.2%
Te Pūkenga	\$111,492,670	\$93,679,384	\$95,229,184	-16.0%	1.7%
Private training establishment (PTE)	\$61,016,428	\$49,338,367	\$50,790,959	-19.1%	2.9%
Wānanga	\$4,446,946	\$3,967,165	\$3,619,003	-10.8%	-8.8%
Multiple and other providers	\$6,424,068	\$5,061,268	\$4,606,745	-21.2%	-9.0%
Total amount borrowed for course fees	\$747,552,027	\$681,877,969	\$661,872,424	-8.8%	-2.9%

Note: “Multiple and other providers” includes combinations of two or more provider types (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 June 2023, for the last three years. Detailed data series are available in the SL data file.

Table 3.1: SL borrowers by age group

Age group	January to June			Annual change	
	2021	2022	2023	2021-22	2022-23
16-17 years	528	351	285	-33.5%	-18.8%
18-24 years	90,624	81,096	74,577	-10.5%	-8.0%
25-34 years	26,436	22,692	20,289	-14.2%	-10.6%
35-44 years	10,074	8,520	8,262	-15.4%	-3.0%
45-54 years	4,572	3,678	3,555	-19.6%	-3.3%
55 years and older	870	756	831	-13.1%	9.9%
Total number of Student Loan borrowers	133,101	117,096	107,799	-12.0%	-7.9%

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

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



Table 3.2: SL borrowers by gender

Gender	January to June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
Female	84,126	74,451	67,644	-11.5%	-9.1%
Male	48,441	41,850	39,138	-13.6%	-6.5%
Gender Diverse	534	798	1,014	49.4%	27.1%
Total number of Student Loan borrowers	133,101	117,096	107,799	-12.0%	-7.9%

Note: In December 2019, forms and online applications were updated to include Gender Diverse, which was not available previously.

Table 3.3: SL borrowers by residential status

Residential status	January to June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
Citizen by birth	99,426	87,417	80,454	-12.1%	-8.0%
Citizen	20,781	18,438	17,295	-11.3%	-6.2%
Permanent resident	12,537	10,950	9,789	-12.7%	-10.6%
Other	354	294	264	-16.9%	-10.2%
Total number of Student Loan borrowers	133,101	117,096	107,799	-12.0%	-7.9%

Note: “Other” includes students who have refugee status, and those classified as protected person/s. Details of “Other” are included in the downloadable Excel 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 June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
European	84,828	76,707	71,526	-9.6%	-6.8%
Māori	22,947	19,548	18,006	-14.8%	-7.9%
Pacific Peoples	12,966	11,118	10,110	-14.3%	-9.1%
Asian	21,819	20,358	19,950	-6.7%	-2.0%
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	4,011	3,660	3,456	-8.8%	-5.6%
Other	603	477	429	-20.9%	-10.1%
Total borrowers with recorded ethnicity	126,693	113,133	105,588	-10.7%	-6.7%
Not specified	6,408	3,963	2,214	-38.2%	-44.1%
Total number of Student Loan borrowers	133,101	117,096	107,799	-12.0%	-7.9%

Note: A detailed breakdown of ethnic groups is included in the SL data file.