



15 June 2026

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 15 May 2026, requesting information about Job Seeker beneficiaries.

You requested:

- *How many 18-25 year olds applied for the Job Seeker benefit in the last 3 years?*
- *What is the highest reason for this age group being declined the benefit?*
- *What are the percentages of 18-25 year olds who get their application accepted, versus declined?*

On 19 May 2026 and 21 May 2026, we emailed you to seek seeking clarification on:

- Whether the term "last 3 years" refers to financial years or calendar years
- whether you wished to refine the age range to 18 – 24 years, which aligns with how the Ministry defines youth clients and related support programmes.

As we have not received a response, we have proceeded on the basis of calendar years. To provide a comprehensive view, we have also included both age ranges (18 – 24 and 18 – 25 years) in our data.

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

Please find attached the **Appendix** containing two tables:

- **Table One:** The number and percentage of youth Jobseeker Support grants and declines for youth from 1 January 2023 to 30 April 2026.
- **Table Two:** The number of Jobseeker Support declines for youth from 1 January 2023 to 30 April 2026, broken down by the reasons for decline.

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

pp.



Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services