



Student Allowance

January to June 2022

The [Student Allowance Scheme](#) provides financial assistance for full-time students who are enrolled in a recognised course of study or programme, at an approved education provider. It is paid weekly to help students with their living expenses.

For this report, a student is defined as a person who received at least one payment 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 actual data and rounded to the nearest one decimal point. Total percentages may not add up to exactly 100 percent because of rounding effects. The last three years of data and annual comparisons are presented in summary tables. Earlier figures are included in the Student Allowance datafile.

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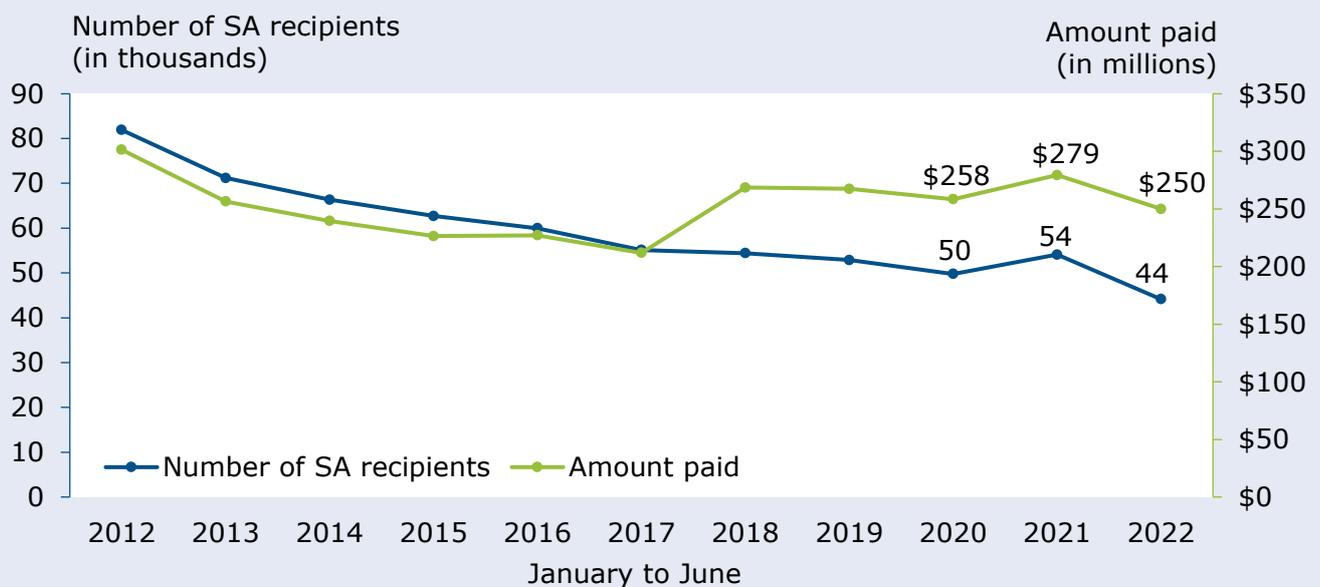
Number of recipients and amount paid

The number of Student Allowance recipients decreased when compared to the same time last year.

From January to June 2022, 44,145 students received financial assistance under the Student Allowances (SA) Scheme. This was 9,960 fewer students (down 18.4 percent) when compared with the same period last year.

A total of \$249,960,456 was paid for SA and Accommodation Benefit (AB) from January to June 2022, a decrease of 10.5 percent compared with the same period in 2021.

Figure 1.1: Number of recipients and amount paid for SA and AB, January to June 2012–2022





On average, students received \$4,918 in SA payments from January to June 2022. This was 11.3 percent more than students received, on average, in January to June 2021.

From January to June 2022, students who were also entitled to AB received \$1,073 on average, down 0.8 percent when compared with the same period last year.

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

Table 1.1: Number of recipients, amounts paid, and average amount paid

Student Allowances	January to June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020-21	2021-22
Student Allowance	49,803	54,105	44,145	8.6%	-18.4%
Accommodation Benefit	33,681	37,089	30,651	10.1%	-17.4%
Total number of recipients	49,806	54,105	44,145	8.6%	-18.4%
Amount paid for Student Allowance	\$221,072,698	\$239,154,365	\$217,084,408	8.2%	-9.2%
Amount paid for Accommodation Benefit	\$37,362,659	\$40,135,291	\$32,876,048	7.4%	-18.1%
Total amount paid	\$258,435,357	\$279,289,656	\$249,960,456	8.1%	-10.5%
Average Student Allowance	\$4,439	\$4,420	\$4,918	-0.4%	11.3%
Average Accommodation Benefit	\$1,109	\$1,082	\$1,073	-2.4%	-0.8%

Note: Not every SA recipient is eligible for AB.



2

Education providers

The number of SA recipients enrolled across all types of providers decreased in comparison to the same time last year.

The decrease across all types of education providers was mainly driven by fewer Student Allowance (SA) recipients enrolled in University and Te Pūkenga (New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology, formerly Polytechnics and Institutes of Technology).

From January to June 2022, 26,385 students received SA for study at University only. This was 4,110 fewer students (down 13.5 percent) when compared with the same period in 2021.

The number of students who received SA for study at only Te Pūkenga decreased by 3,468 (down 23.9 percent), when compared to the same period last year.

Table 2.1 provides a summary of the number of SA recipients by the type of provider they were enrolled in over the last three years. The SA datafile includes breakdowns for the small number of students who received SA for more than one provider type during the year.

Table 2.1: Number of SA recipients by type of education provider

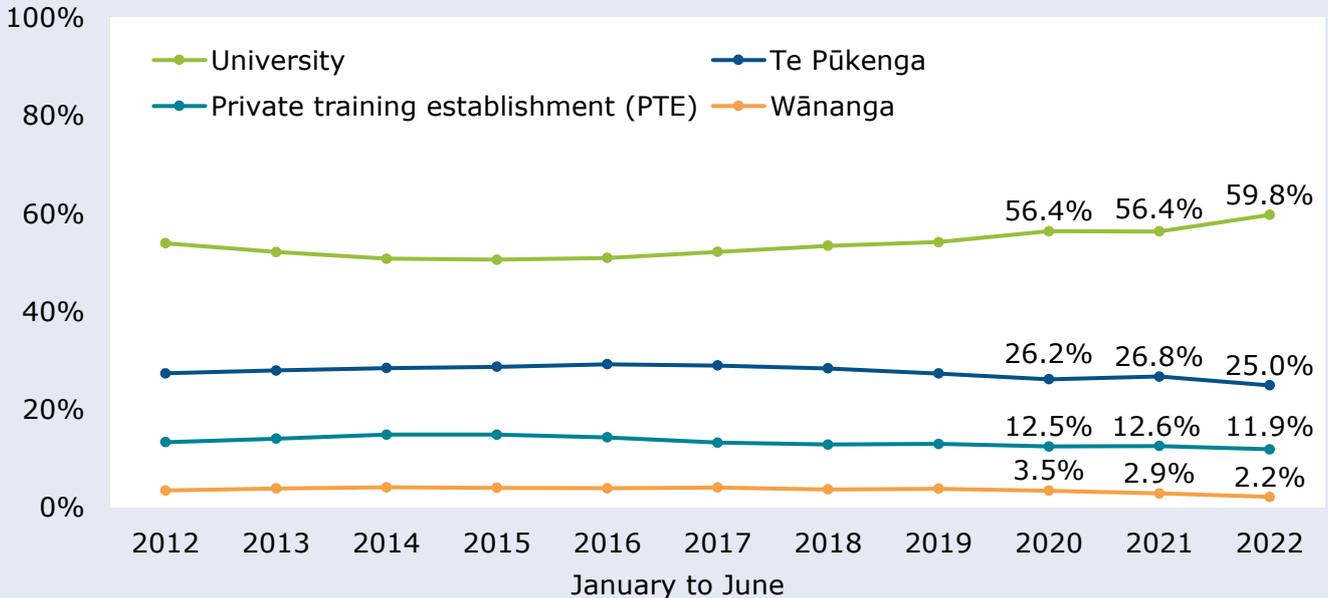
Type of provider	January to June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
University	28,101	30,495	26,385	8.5%	-13.5%
Te Pūkenga	13,056	14,487	11,019	11.0%	-23.9%
Private training establishment (PTE)	6,213	6,807	5,259	9.6%	-22.7%
Wānanga	1,731	1,572	972	-9.2%	-38.2%
Multiple and Other providers	702	750	507	6.8%	-32.4%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	49,806	54,105	44,145	8.6%	-18.4%

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, as well as 'other' types of education providers such as high schools.



Proportionately, students attending only University accounted for 59.8 percent of SA recipients, followed by students attending only Te Pūkenga at 25.0 percent.

Figure 2.1: Distribution of SA recipients by type of education provider, January to June 2012–2022



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

Table 2.2: SA paid to students by type of education provider

Type of provider	January to June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
University	\$113,808,545	\$125,400,944	\$122,296,118	10.2%	-2.5%
Te Pūkenga	\$64,095,899	\$69,559,505	\$58,765,611	8.5%	-15.5%
Private training establishment (PTE)	\$28,428,755	\$30,854,203	\$26,495,293	8.5%	-14.1%
Wānanga	\$10,273,565	\$8,842,075	\$6,109,228	-13.9%	-30.9%
Multiple and Other providers	\$4,465,934	\$4,497,638	\$3,418,158	0.7%	-24.0%
Total amount paid for Student Allowance	\$221,072,698	\$239,154,365	\$217,084,408	8.2%	-9.2%

Note 1: Data does not include payments for AB.

Note 2: "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, as well as 'other' types of education providers such as high schools.



3

Allowances paid based on personal and family circumstances.

The proportion of single students living away from home increased when compared to the same time last year.

The weekly rates for Student Allowance (SA) are based on the personal and family circumstances of students, e.g. age, income of the student (and their partner if they have one), parent/s income for students aged under 24 years, relationship status, and other circumstances.

From January to June 2022, 25.5 percent of SA recipients were single students who were living away from home. This proportion was 1.8 percentage points higher when compared with January to June 2021.

Figure 3.1: Proportion of SA recipients based on personal and family circumstances

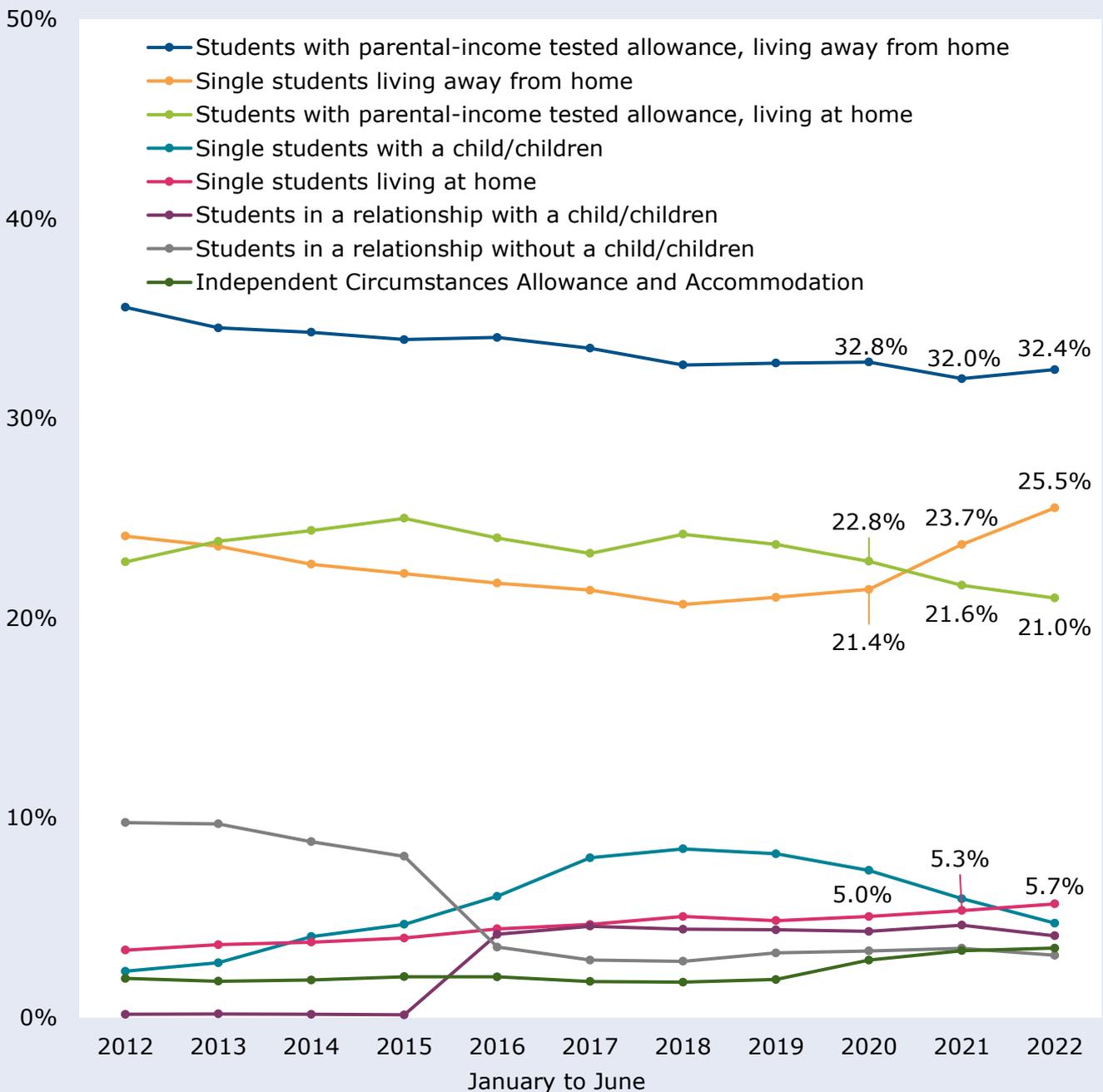




Table 3.1: Number of recipients based on personal and family circumstances

Personal and family circumstances	January to June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
Students with parental-income tested allowance, living at home	11,376	11,709	9,270	2.9%	-20.8%
Students with parental-income tested allowance, living away from home	16,347	17,307	14,322	5.9%	-17.2%
Single students living at home	2,514	2,892	2,508	15.0%	-13.3%
Single students living away from home	10,674	12,813	11,262	20.0%	-12.1%
Single students with child/children	3,666	3,213	2,082	-12.4%	-35.2%
Students in a relationship without a child/children	1,656	1,872	1,371	13.0%	-26.8%
Students in a relationship with a child/children	2,142	2,496	1,803	16.5%	-27.8%
Independent Circumstances Allowance and Accommodation	1,428	1,806	1,530	26.5%	-15.3%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	49,806	54,105	44,145	8.6%	-18.4%

4

Demographics of Student Allowance recipients

The following tables provide a summary profile of Student Allowance (SA) recipients for January to June, in the last three years. Detailed data series are available in the SA datafile.

Table 4.1: Number of SA recipients by age group

Age group	January to June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
16-17 years	132	137	97	3.8%	-29.2%
18–24 years	32,084	34,112	27,935	6.3%	-18.1%
25–34 years	11,641	13,475	11,298	15.8%	-16.2%
35–44 years	3,195	3,529	2,774	10.5%	-21.4%
45–54 years	1,618	1,632	1,198	0.9%	-26.6%
55 years and older	1,135	1,222	843	7.7%	-31.0%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	49,806	54,105	44,145	8.6%	-18.4%

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

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



Table 4.2: Number of SA recipients by gender

Gender	January to June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
Female	30,123	32,610	26,475	8.3%	-18.8%
Male	19,590	21,195	17,277	8.2%	-18.5%
Gender Diverse	96	303	390	215.6%	28.7%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	49,806	54,105	44,145	8.6%	-18.4%

Note: In December 2019, forms and online applications were updated to include Gender Diverse.

Table 4.3: Number of SA recipients by residential status

Residential status	January to June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
Citizen by birth	35,451	38,682	31,527	9.1%	-18.5%
Citizen	7,551	8,193	6,669	8.5%	-18.6%
Permanent resident	6,288	6,696	5,523	6.5%	-17.5%
Other	516	537	429	4.1%	-20.1%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	49,806	54,105	44,145	8.6%	-18.4%

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

Table 4.4: Number of SA recipients by relationship status

Relationship status	January to June			Annual change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
Single	45,267	48,993	40,446	8.2%	-17.4%
Married/Civil Union	2,898	3,249	2,361	12.1%	-27.3%
Defacto	1,638	1,863	1,338	13.7%	-28.2%
Unknown	0	3	3	N/A	0.0%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	49,806	54,105	44,145	8.6%	-18.4%

Note: Students with unknown marital/relationship status refer to clients who have had a change in circumstances, and their marital/relationship status has not been confirmed at the end of the period. These students would not be receiving payments while their marital/relationship status is not confirmed.



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

The numbers presented in table 4.5 are total response – 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 SA recipients.

Table 4.5: Number of SA responses by ethnic group

Ethnic group (Total response)	January to June			Annual Change	
	2020	2021	2022	2020–21	2021–22
European	25,896	29,703	24,882	14.7%	-16.2%
Māori	9,534	10,497	8,076	10.1%	-23.1%
Pacific Peoples	5,208	6,045	4,845	16.1%	-19.9%
Asian	11,280	12,462	10,956	10.5%	-12.1%
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	1,980	2,127	1,857	7.4%	-12.7%
Other	300	294	234	-2.0%	-20.4%
Total recipients with recorded ethnicity	46,422	52,077	43,209	12.2%	-17.0%
Not specified	3,384	2,031	936	-40.0%	-53.9%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	49,806	54,105	44,145	8.6%	-18.4%

Note: A detailed breakdown of ethnic groups is included in the SA datafile.

