

STUDENT SUPPORT UPDATE – JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2019

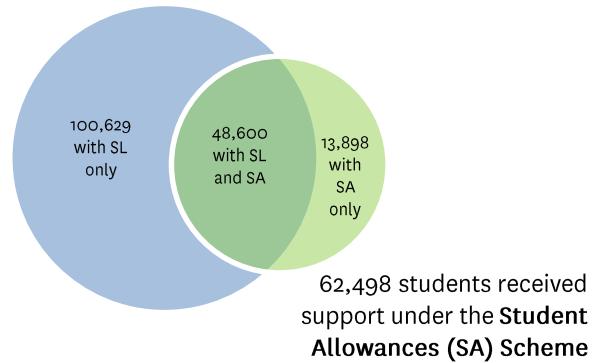
The data presented are cumulative calendar year-to-date. All percentages are computed using actual data, and are rounded off to the first decimal point. A student is defined as a person who received at least one payment from StudyLink in the calendar year, up to the end of the month specified.



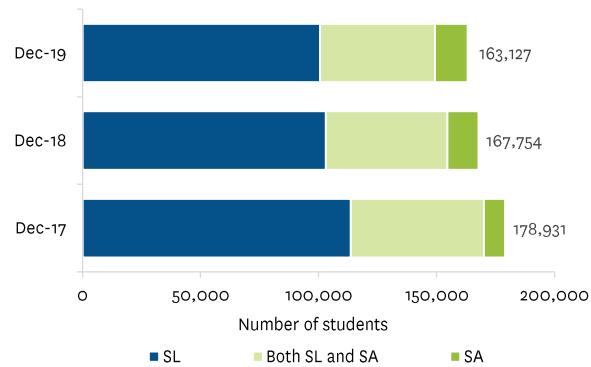
Snapshot – January to December 2019

163,127 students were provided student support from January to December 2019.

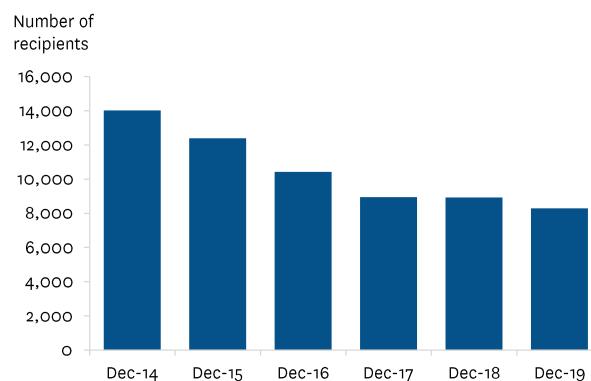
149,229 students borrowed under the Student Loan (SL) Scheme



This was 2.8 percent fewer than last year.

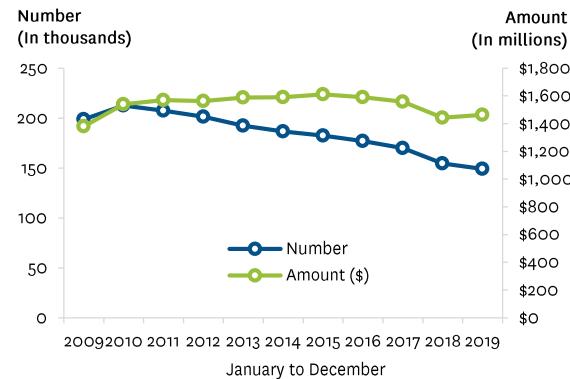


Clients in receipt of Jobseeker Support Student Hardship (JSSH) continued its decreasing trend since 2014. There were 8,286 JSSH recipients as at December 2019 or 7.3 percent fewer than 2018.



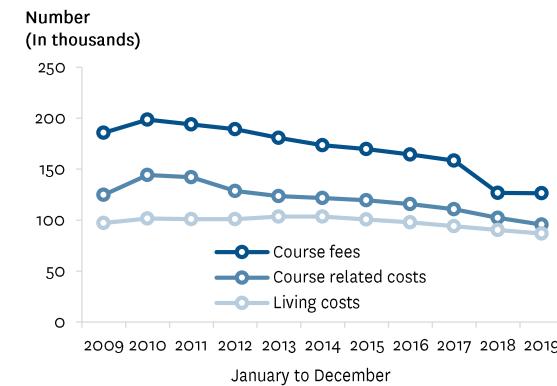
Long-term trends – January to December 2009 to 2019

Under the Student Loan Scheme —149,229 SL borrowers (down 3.5 percent compared with 2018). The total borrowings* amounted to \$1,463.7 million (up 1.4 percent).

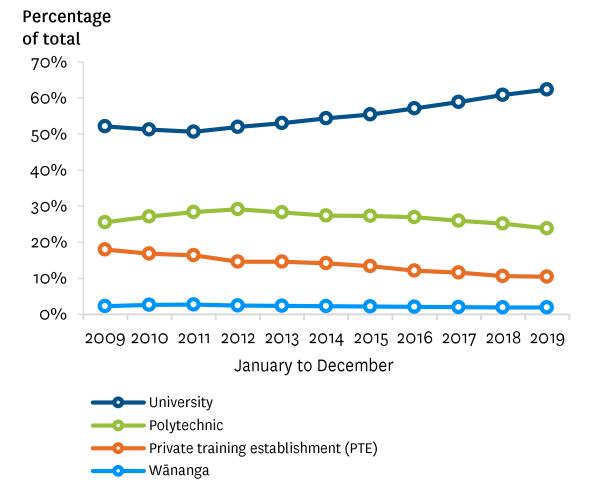


*This includes the amount borrowed for course fees, living costs, and course related costs. It does not include establishment fee and does not allow for repayments and fee refunds.

By Loan components — there were 126,388 borrowers for course fees (down 0.4 percent), 95,575 for course related costs (down 6.4 percent), and 86,907 for living costs (down 3.7 percent).

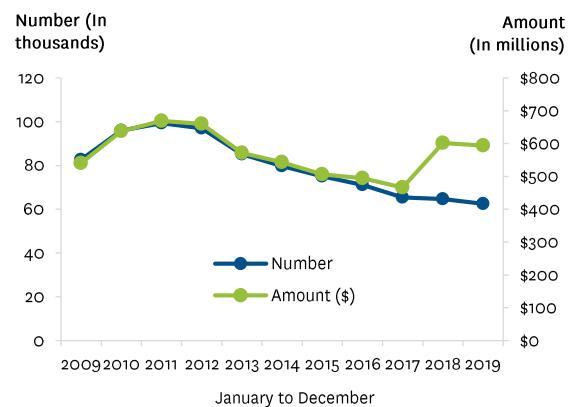


By types of education providers — 62.4 percent of the total number of borrowers were enrolled in universities. This was 1.5 percent percentage points higher than last year (60.8 percent).



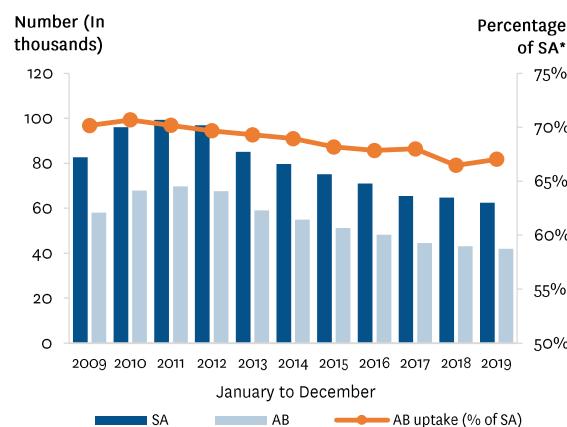
Under the Student Allowances Scheme — 62,498 students received Student Allowance and Accommodation Benefit (down 3.4 percent compared with 2018).

Total student allowances paid in 2019 amounted to \$593.5 million (down 1.4 percent).



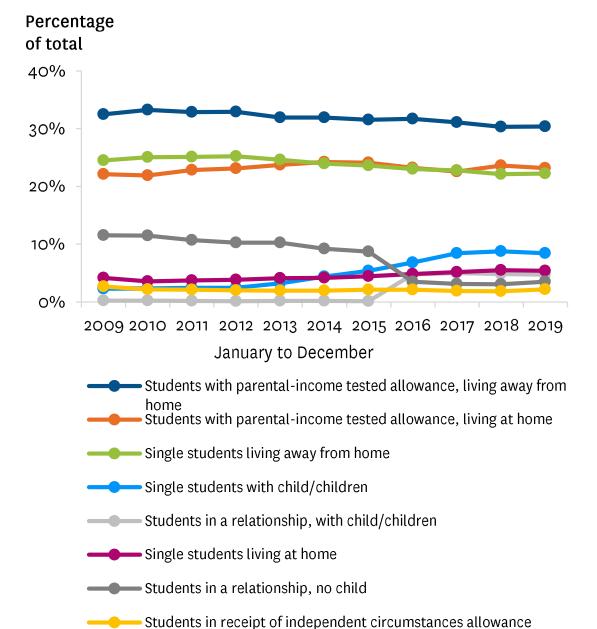
62,495 students who received Student Allowance (SA), 3.4 percent fewer than last year.

41,895 students received Accommodation Benefit (AB), 2.6 percent fewer than last year. However, the uptake of AB amongst students in receipt of SA was slightly higher (67.0 percent) compared with 2018 (66.5 percent).



Note: The minimum value of the secondary axis (Percentage of the number of students with SA) was set at 50% instead of zero.

Weekly rates of student allowances were paid to eligible students based on their personal and family circumstances. Of the total number of students who received allowances, 30.4 percent were parental-income tested students living away from home.



Other resources and websites

- The latest detailed report and downloadable data/excel files are available at the [Ministry of Social Development](#) website.
- The Student Loan quarterly reports on loan payments are available at the [Inland Revenue](#) website.
- Information and eligibility criteria for the government's Fees-free policy is available at the [Fees-free](#) government website.
- An online calculator to help students estimate how much allowance they are entitled to is available at the [StudyLink-Calculators](#) website.
- Information on extra support to help students with other costs (e.g. accommodation, childcare, or health and disability costs) is also available at the [StudyLink-Extra help](#) website.
- Information on scholarships and other financial help are available at the [Ministry of Education](#) website.
- More information to support tertiary education providers is available at the [Tertiary Education Commission](#) website.