

# Student Support Update – 1 January to 30 June 2019

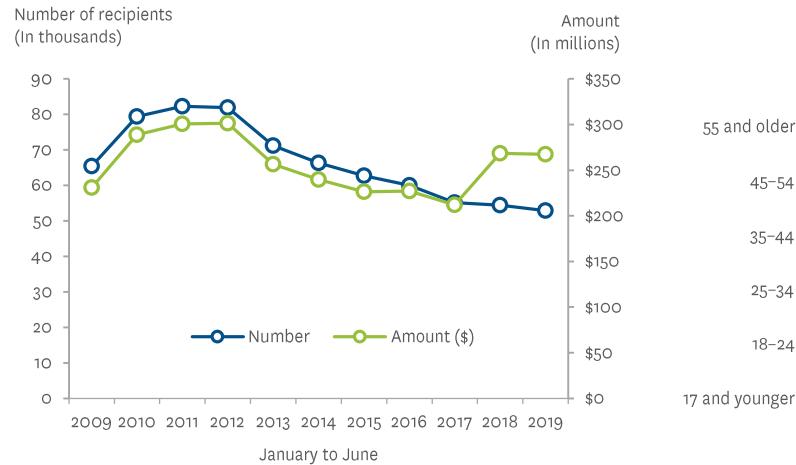


① The data presented are cumulative calendar year-to-date. All percentages are computed using actual data, and are rounded to the first decimal point. A student is defined as a person who received at least one payment from StudyLink in the calendar year, up to the end of the month specified.

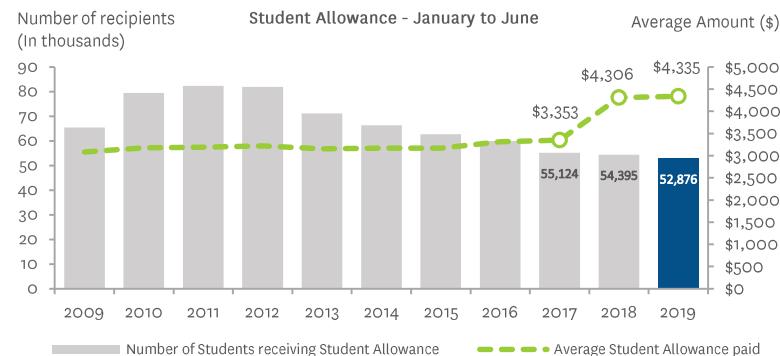
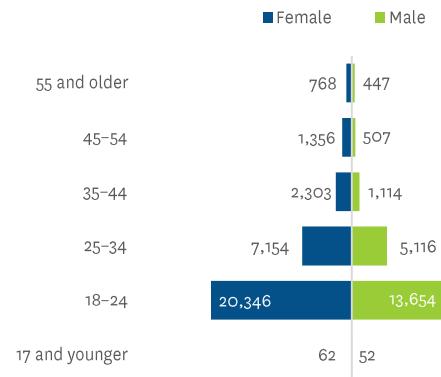
## Student Allowance

① Student Allowance is a weekly payment that can help with living expenses while studying. Students who are eligible for Student Allowance may be eligible for Accommodation Benefit and other support. From 1 January 2018, Student Allowance rates increased by \$50 per week. From 1 April 2018, the maximum rate of Accommodation Benefit increased from \$40 to \$60 per week.

There were **52,879 students** who received Student Allowance and Accommodation Benefit. The total amount paid was **\$267,416,510**.



Of the total number of recipients who received Student Allowance, most recipients were **females (20,346)** between the ages of 18 to 24 years old.



The total number of students (52,876) who received Student Allowance from 1 January to 30 June 2019, were **1,519 students fewer** (down by 2.8 percent) compared to the same time last year (1 January to 30 June 2018). Students received an **average Student Allowance of \$4,335** from 1 January to 30 June 2019.

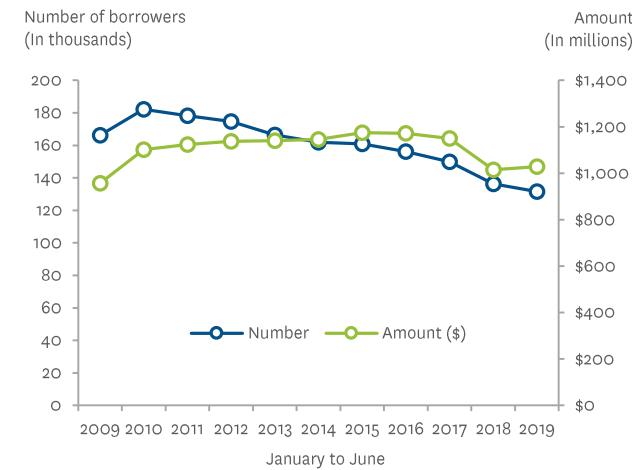


The total number of students (35,082) who received Accommodation Benefit from 1 January to 30 June 2019, were **640 students fewer** (down by 1.8 percent) compared to the same time last year (1 January to 30 June 2018). Students received an **average Accommodation Benefit of \$1,088** from 1 January to 30 June 2019.

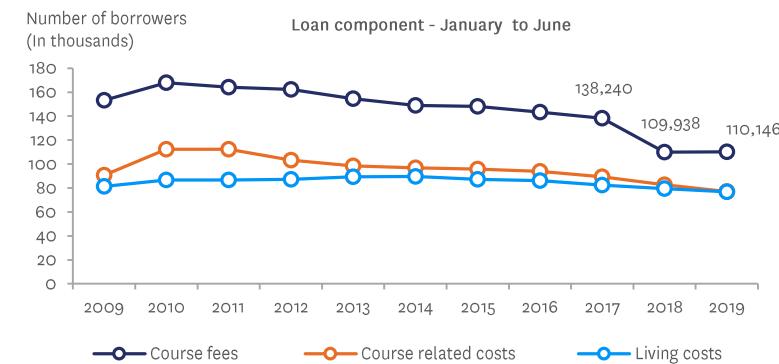
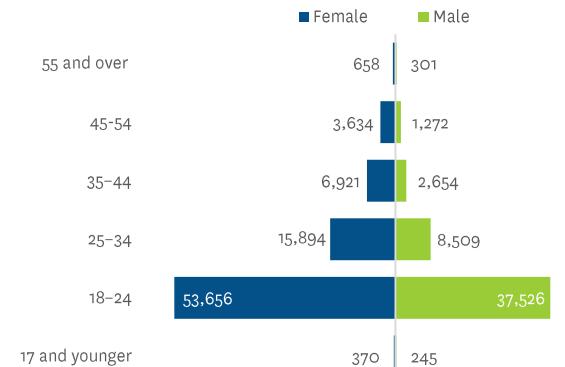
## Student Loans

① Student Loans help pay for course fees (compulsory fees charged by education providers), course related costs (e.g. books, computer, and travel), and living costs. In 2018, a fees-free policy was introduced to new students who plan to start tertiary study or training for the first time.

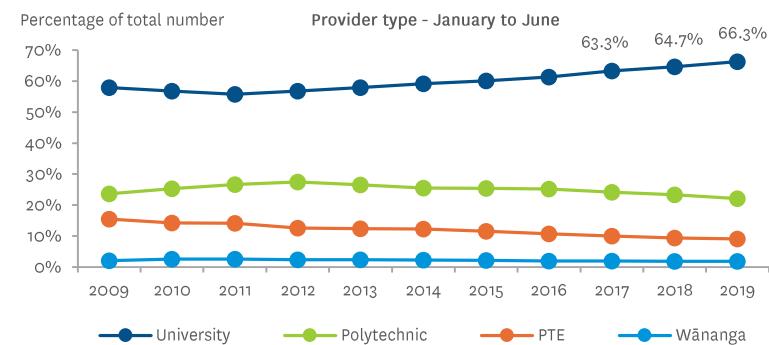
There were **131,640 students** who borrowed from the Student Loan scheme, with borrowings amounting to **\$1,028,520,209**.



Of the total number of Student Loan borrowers, most recipients were **females (53,656)** between the ages of 18 to 24 years old.



The number of student borrowers who borrowed course fees **increased by 208** when compared to the same time last year. From 1 January to 30 June 2019, borrowers for course related costs were 77,077, and for living costs were 76,778.



There were **66.3 percent** of student borrowers enrolled in Universities only, 22.0 percent in Polytechnics, 9.1 percent in Private Training Establishments (PTEs) and 1.9 percent attended Wānanga.

### Resources and websites

- The latest detailed report and downloadable data/excel files are available at the [Ministry of Social Development](#) website.
- Student Loan quarterly reports 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.
- Information on scholarships and other financial help are available at the [Ministry of Education](#) website.
- Information to support tertiary education providers is available at the [Tertiary Education Commission](#) 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.
- An online calculator to help students estimate how much allowance they are entitled to is available at the [StudyLink-Calculators](#) website.