



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

# **Monitoring the Families Package and other changes to income support from 2019 to 2022**

**Supplementary information on selected payments**

**March 2023**

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## **Acknowledgements**

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## **Disclaimer**

The views and interpretations in this report are those of the Research and Evaluation team and are not the official position of the Ministry of Social Development. The views and interpretations in this report are based on the data provided to us (at a specific point of time) from MSD, Oranga Tamariki, and Inland Revenue, and therefore may be subject to change due to revisions or new data becoming available.

MSD data since October 2020 in this report has been aggregated and randomly rounded to protect the privacy of participants. Further information about how we keep data private can be found at: <https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/tools/how-we-keep-data-private.html>

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# Introduction

This report is a supplement to the main report *Monitoring the Families Package and other Changes to Income Support from 2019 to 2022 – Final report on trends in receipt of payments* and contains additional information for selected payments. For further detail on the payments, what changes have occurred, and overall trends in receipt and expenditure please see the [2022 main report](#). Payments included in this supplementary report are:

- Minimum Family Tax Credit (not included in the main report)
- Orphan’s Benefit and Unsupported Child’s Benefit
- Foster Care Allowance
- Winter Energy Payment
- Accommodation Supplement
- Accommodation Benefit

Receipt and expenditure for Parental Tax Credit is covered in the [2021 supplementary report](#).

**Table 1: Abbreviations used in graphs in this report**

| Abbreviation | Full meaning                       |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| FP           | Families Package                   |
| C19          | Covid-19                           |
| C19R         | Covid-19 response                  |
| ISP          | Income support package(s)          |
| B21          | Budget 2021 income support changes |

**Table 2: Benefit groupings used in this report before and after the 2013 Welfare Reform.<sup>1</sup>**

| Benefit grouping   | Pre-Welfare Reform   | Post Welfare Reform   |
|--|--|---|
| Non-health condition, disability, or youth related main benefits | Unemployment Benefit, Emergency Benefit, Domestic Purposes Benefit: Emergency Maintenance Allowance/Sole Parent/Woman Alone, Widow’s Benefit | Jobseeker Support (Work Ready), Emergency Benefit, Emergency Maintenance Allowance, Sole Parent Support |
| Health condition and disability related main benefits            | Invalid’s Benefit, Domestic Purposes Benefit – Caring for Sick and Infirm, Sickness Benefit  | Supported Living Payment, Jobseeker Support (Health Condition or Disability)                            |
| Superannuitants  | New Zealand Superannuation, Veteran’s Pension  | New Zealand Superannuation, Veteran’s Pension   |
| Youth and students   | Youth Payment/Young Parent Payment, Unemployment Hardship Students, Independent Youth Benefit  | Youth Payment/Young Parent Payment, Jobseeker Support Student Hardship                                  |
| Not on a main benefit  | Non-beneficiary  | Non-beneficiary   |

<sup>1</sup> Different groupings are used for the Orphan’s Benefit and Unsupported Child’s Benefit section of this report. Benefits related to youth and students are grouped together with non-health condition or disability related main benefits. This is done to protect the confidentiality of recipients of benefits targeted at youth or students.

# Minimum Family Tax Credit<sup>2</sup>

The Minimum Family Tax Credit is a payment from Inland Revenue (IR) available to parents who are not on a benefit but are on a low income, provided they work a minimum number of hours each week. Single parents must work at least 20 hours a week, while couples with children must work at least 30 hours a week combined. The Minimum Family Tax Credit tops up a family's income, ensuring they receive a minimum of \$632.00 gross per week as at 1 April 2022.

## What changed?

From 1 April 2018, the Minimum Family Tax Credit threshold amount increased from \$23,816 to \$26,156, alongside the introduction of the Winter Energy Payment. It was further increased alongside the 2020, 2021, and 2022 main benefit increases, to ensure people were better off working and receiving Minimum Family Tax Credit than receiving a main benefit. As of 1 April 2022, the Minimum Family Tax Credit income threshold amount was \$32,864.

## Overall receipt

Figure 1 shows that the number of people receiving the Minimum Family Tax Credit has been decreasing since 2019.

**Figure 1: Number of Minimum Family Tax Credit recipients paid weekly or fortnightly by IR, end of the last six June months.**



Over the tax year ended 31 March 2021, around 3,200 families received the Minimum Family Tax Credit, either weekly, fortnightly or as a lump sum payment at the end of the year.

<sup>2</sup> Some figures from Inland Revenue in this section have been revised from last year's report. These revisions are minor, and due to data timing. They do not affect the conclusions we come to about these data series.

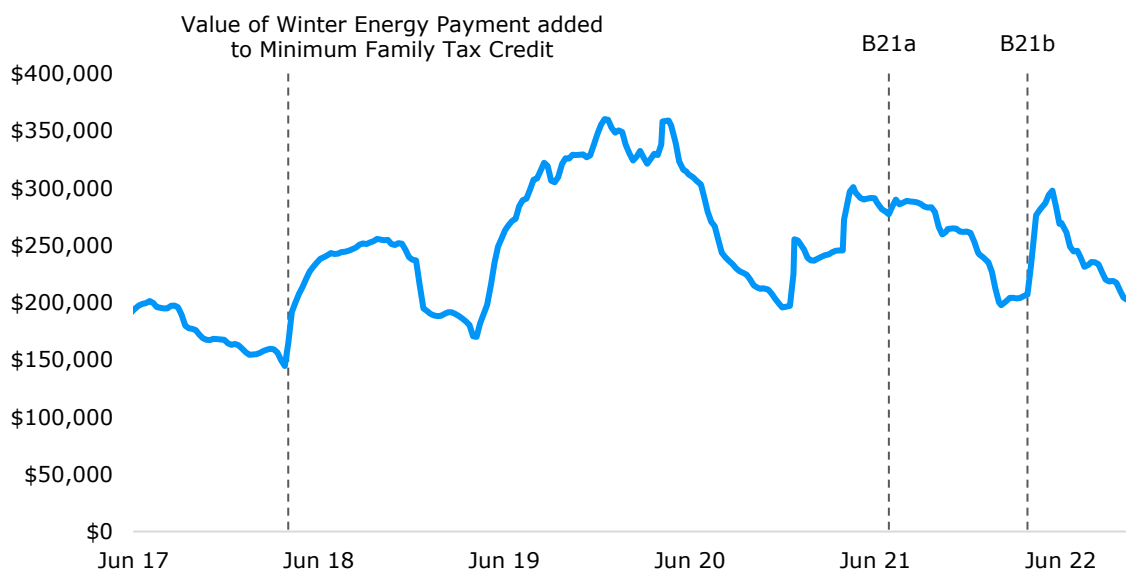
## Overall expenditure

Figures 2 and 3 show that expenditure on Minimum Family Tax Credit increased from June 2017 and June 2018, largely due to the increase in the Minimum Family Tax Credit threshold in April 2018. There was a further increase from June 2018 to June 2019, corresponding to an increase in recipients. The slight increase in weekly average expenditure between June 2019 to June 2020 was due to the higher rate of Minimum Family Tax Credit from 1 April 2020 offsetting the fall in recipient numbers. Overall expenditure decreased from June 2020 to June 2022, reflecting the decrease in recipient numbers. There was an increase in expenditure following the April 2022 increase to the Minimum Family Tax Credit income threshold amount.

**Figure 2: Average weekly expenditure on Minimum Family Tax Credits in the last fortnight of June, last five years.**



**Figure 3: Weekly expenditure on Minimum Family Tax Credits, averaged across fortnights, from June 2017.**



The average amount of Minimum Family Tax Credit a family received per week increased from \$89 in June 2017 to \$123 per week at the end of June 2022.

Across the tax year ended 31 March 2018, around \$10 million was spent on Minimum Family Tax Credits by IR, this increased to around \$13 million across the tax year ended 31 March 2021.

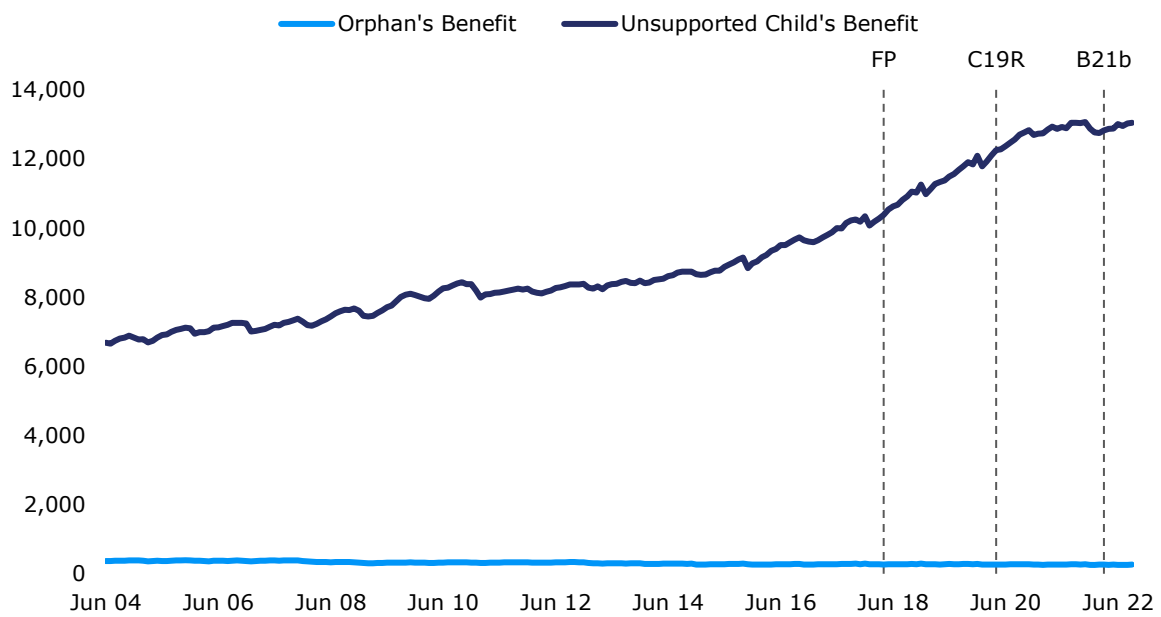
# Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit

This section provides supplementary breakdowns of receipt for the Orphan's Benefit and the Unsupported Child's Benefit by the:

- main benefit received by the carer
- receipt of a health condition, disability, or caring related payment by the carer
- family type of the carer
- age group of the carer
- ethnicity of the carer
- gender of the carer
- region that the carer lives in.

For ease of interpretation, overall trends in receipt are included here (Figure 4).

**Figure 4: Number of carers receiving an Orphan's Benefit or an Unsupported Child's Benefit, monthly since June 2004.**



## Receipt by main benefit received<sup>3</sup>

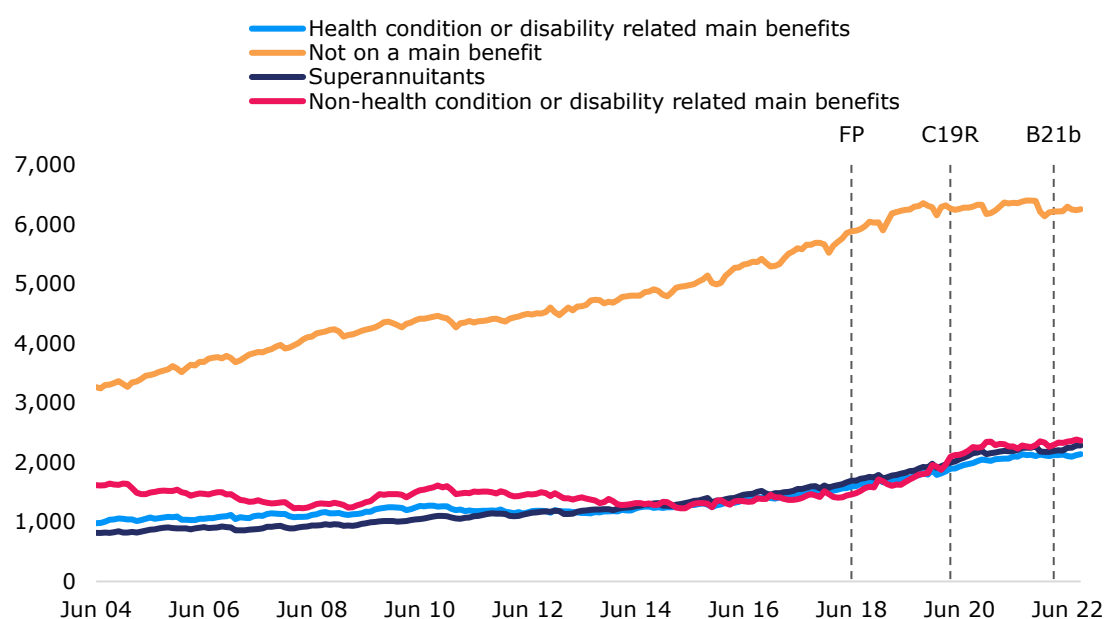
Since 2004, carers receiving an Unsupported Child's Benefit who were not receiving a main benefit have accounted for most of the growth in receipt (Figure 4). Since 2018, the number of carers who are Superannuitants or main benefit recipients has also increased.

**Table 3: Number of carers receiving an Orphan's Benefit or an Unsupported Child's Benefit as at the end of June 2022, by benefit grouping.**

| Benefit grouping   | Orphan's Benefit  | Unsupported Child's Benefit |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Not on a main benefit                                    | 126 (48.3%)       | 6,300 (48.4%)               |
| Non-health condition or disability related main benefits | 48 (18.4%)        | 2,349 (18.1%)               |
| Superannuitants  | 51 (19.5%)        | 2,250 (17.3%)               |
| Health condition or disability related main benefits     | 36 (13.8%)        | 2,106 (16.2%)               |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>261 (100%)</b> | <b>13,005 (100%)</b>        |

Note: Totals may not add to 100 percent due to rounding and random rounding effects.

**Figure 4: Number of carers receiving an Unsupported Child's Benefit, monthly since June 2004, by benefit grouping.**



<sup>3</sup> Benefit groupings used in this section differ compared to other sections in this report. This is because the number of youth and students receiving either an Orphan's Benefit or Unsupported Child's Benefit is very low, and so these recipients have been merged into the non-health condition related main benefits group in order to protect their confidentiality.



## Receipt by payments for health conditions, disabilities, or caring responsibilities<sup>4,5</sup>

As at the end of June 2022, most Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit recipients do not receive a payment from MSD relating to having, or caring for someone with, health conditions or disabilities (Table 4).

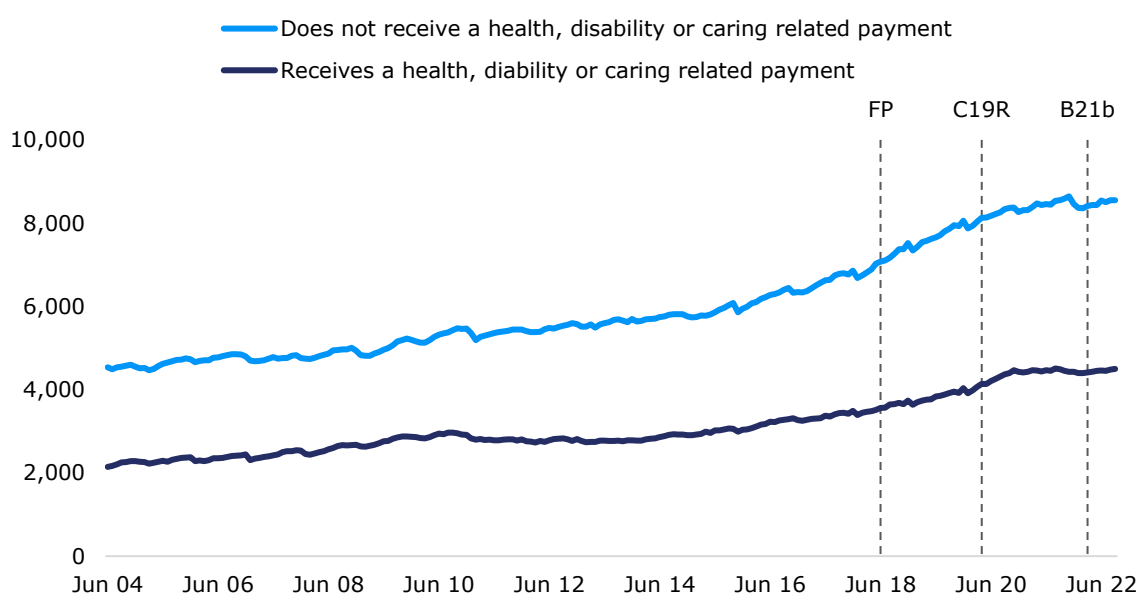
**Table 4: Number of carers receiving an Orphan's Benefit or an Unsupported Child's Benefit as at the end of June 2022, by payments for health conditions, disabilities, or caring responsibilities.**

| Benefit grouping  | Orphan's Benefit  | Unsupported Child's Benefit |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Receives a health, disability or caring related payment         | 72 (27.6%)        | 4,458 (34.3%)               |
| Does not receive a health, disability or caring related payment | 189 (72.4%)       | 8,547 (65.7%)               |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>261 (100%)</b> | <b>13,005 (100%)</b>        |

Note: Totals may not add to 100 percent due to rounding and random rounding effects.

Since 2018, most of the growth in the number of Unsupported Child's Benefit recipients has come from carers that do not receive a health, disability or caring related payment from MSD (Figure 5).

**Figure 5: Number of carers receiving an Unsupported Child's Benefit, monthly since June 2004, by payments for health conditions, disabilities, or caring responsibilities.**



<sup>4</sup> In this section payments are grouped based on if the recipient receives another payment from MSD relating to health conditions, disabilities or caring responsibilities for someone with a health condition or disability (i.e. by whether or not they receive Supported Living Payment, Jobseeker Support (Health Condition or Disability), a Disability Allowance or a Child Disability Allowance).

<sup>5</sup> Carers who have a health condition, disability, or care for someone but do not receive assistance from MSD in relation to this are counted in the 'does not receive a health condition, disability or caring related payment' category. Therefore, figures presented in this section are an undercount of this population.

## Receipt by family type<sup>6</sup>

As at the end of June 2022, 46 percent of carers who receive an Orphan's Benefit and just over 40 percent of carers who receive an Unsupported Child's Benefit are not partnered (single), with one dependent child (Table 5).

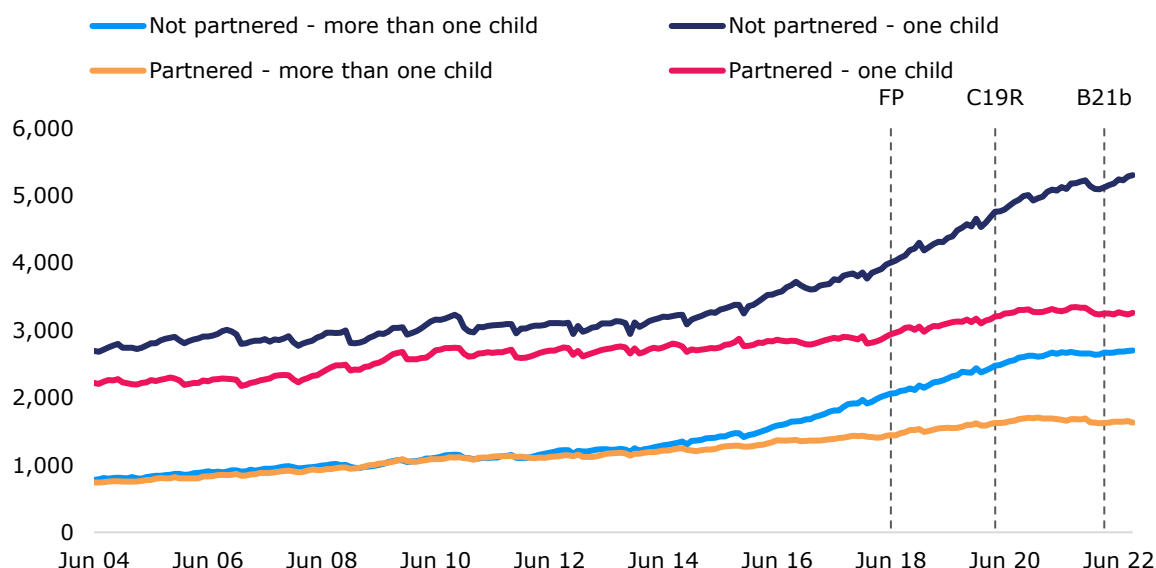
**Table 5: Number of carers receiving an Orphan's Benefit or an Unsupported Child's Benefit as at the end of June 2022, by family type.**

| Family type                         | Orphan's Benefit  | Unsupported Child's Benefit |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Not partnered – one child           | 120 (46.0%)       | 5,247 (40.3%)               |
| Not partnered – more than one child | 45 (17.2%)        | 2,685 (20.6%)               |
| Partnered – one child               | 72 (27.6)         | 3270 (25.1%)                |
| Partnered – more than one child     | 21 (8.0%)         | 1,644 (12.6%)               |
| Unknown family type                 | 3 (1.1%)          | 159 (1.2%)                  |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>261 (100%)</b> | <b>13,005 (100%)</b>        |

Note: Totals may not add to 100 percent due to rounding and random rounding effects.

Over time, carers who are single with one dependent child have been the largest group of Unsupported Child's Benefit recipients and have driven growth in receipt. Since 2016 there has also been noticeable growth in the number of carers classified as not partnered with more than one dependent child (Figure 6).

**Figure 6: Number of carers receiving an Unsupported Child's Benefit, monthly since 2004, by family type.**



<sup>6</sup> The family types and calculations used in this section slightly differ from in other sections. For recipients of the Orphan's Benefit or Unsupported Child's Benefit the benefit rate is not impacted by their relationship status. This is therefore not information they are required to provide if they do not receive other assistance from MSD. This can lead to situations where the family type of the recipient is not recorded, or where information is out of date. Therefore, the figures in this section should be treated as approximations.

## Receipt by age of recipient

As at the end of June 2022, the largest age group of carers who receive an Orphan's Benefit or an Unsupported Child's Benefit was 40 – 54 years (Table 6).

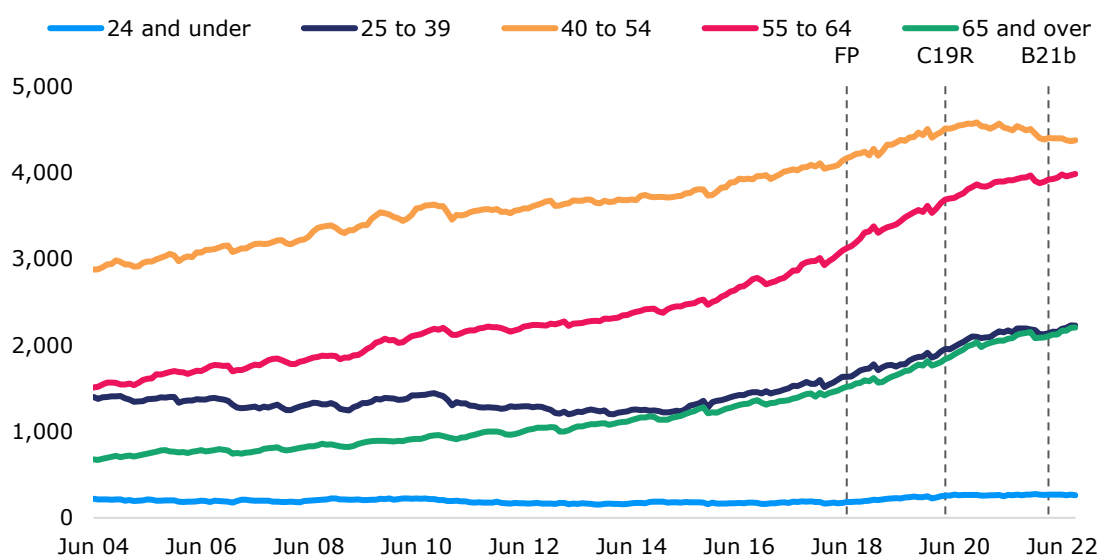
**Table 6: Number of carers receiving an Orphan's Benefit or an Unsupported Child's Benefit as at the end of June 2022, by age group.**

| Age group    | Orphan's Benefit  | Unsupported Child's Benefit |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 24 and under | 15 (5.7%)         | 270 (2.1%)                  |
| 25 to 39     | 66 (25.3%)        | 2,190 (16.8%)               |
| 40 to 54     | 75 (28.7%)        | 4,398 (33.8%)               |
| 55 to 64     | 54 (20.7%)        | 3,981 (30.6%)               |
| 65 and older | 51 (19.5%)        | 2,166 (16.7%)               |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>261 (100%)</b> | <b>13,005 (100%)</b>        |

Note: Totals may not add to 100 percent due to rounding and random rounding effects.

Figure 7 shows that from 2016 onwards, the increase in Unsupported Child's Benefit recipient numbers has been steepest for recipients aged 55 to 64.

**Figure 7: Number of carers receiving an Unsupported Child's Benefit, monthly since 2004, by age group.**



## Receipt by total response ethnic group<sup>7</sup>

As at the end of June 2022, carers who identify as Māori made up around half of the carers who received Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit (Table 7).

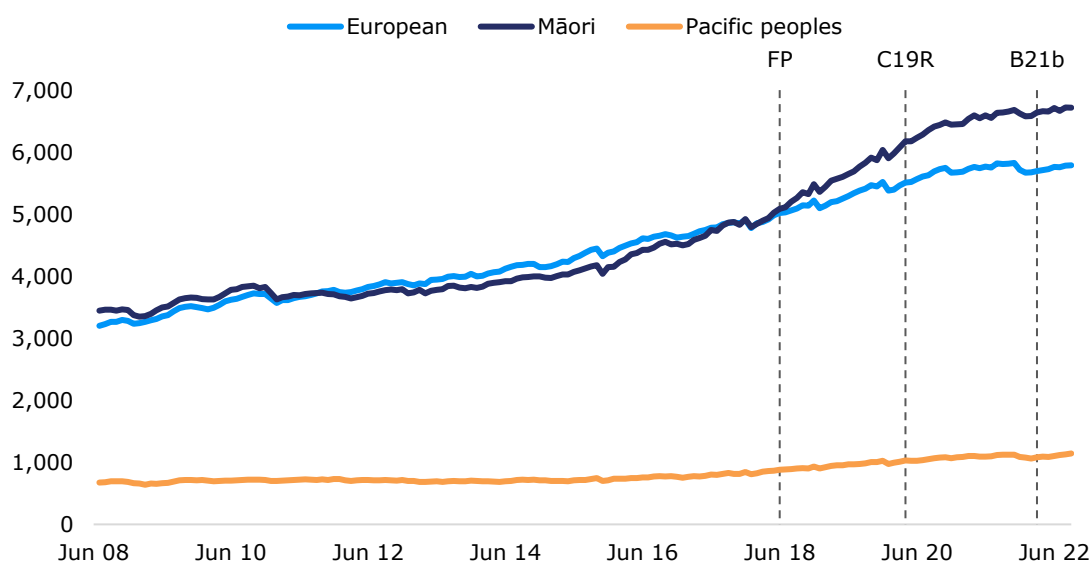
**Table 7: Number of carers who receive an Orphan's Benefit or an Unsupported Child's Benefit as at the end of June 2022, by total response ethnic group.**

| Ethnicity group                                 | Orphan's Benefit  | Unsupported Child's Benefit |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Māori   | 114 (46.9%)       | 6,711 (54.4%)               |
| European  | 87 (35.8%)        | 5,760 (46.7%)               |
| Pacific peoples                                 | 48 (19.8%)        | 1,104 (8.9%)                |
| Asian   | 12 (4.9%)         | 126 (1.0%)                  |
| Middle Eastern/Latin American/African           | 0                 | 39 (0.3%)                   |
| Other ethnicities                               | 3 (1.2%)          | 183 (1.5%)                  |
| <b>Total recipients with recorded ethnicity</b> | <b>243 (100%)</b> | <b>12,342 (100%)</b>        |
| Not specified                                   | 18 (6.9%)         | 660 (5.1%)                  |
| <b>Total recipients</b>                         | <b>261</b>        | <b>13,005</b>               |

Note: Totals may not add to 100 percent due to rounding and random rounding effects.

Over time, people who identify as European or Māori have made up the largest groups of carers receiving an Unsupported Child's Benefit. Growth in recipient numbers since 2016 has been predominately driven by Māori (Figure 8).

**Figure 8: Number of carers receiving an Unsupported Child's Benefit, monthly since June 2008, by selected total response ethnic group.**



<sup>7</sup> Total response ethnicity means that if a person identifies with more than one ethnic group, they are counted in each applicable group.

## Receipt by gender

As at the end of June 2022, most carers who received an Orphan's Benefit or an Unsupported Child's Benefit were female (Table 8).

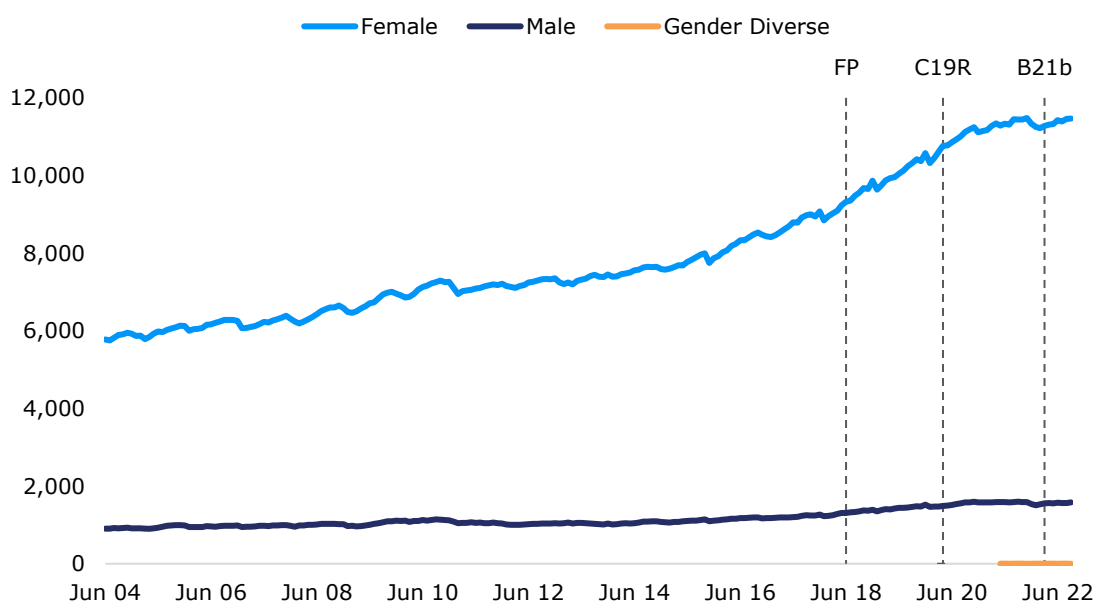
**Table 8: Number of carers who receive an Orphan's Benefit or an Unsupported Child's Benefit as at the end of June 2022, by gender.**

| Gender         | Orphan's Benefit  | Unsupported Child's Benefit |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Female         | 210 (80.5%)       | 11,424 (87.7%)              |
| Male           | 51 (19.5%)        | 1,578 (12.1%)               |
| Gender diverse | 0 (0.0%)          | 3 (0.0%)                    |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>261 (100%)</b> | <b>13,005 (100%)</b>        |

Note: Totals may not add to 100 percent due to rounding and random rounding effects.

Over time, the increase in Unsupported Child's Benefit receipt has been most rapid for female recipients (Figure 9: Number of carers receiving an Unsupported Child's Benefit, monthly since June 2004, by gender. Figure 9).

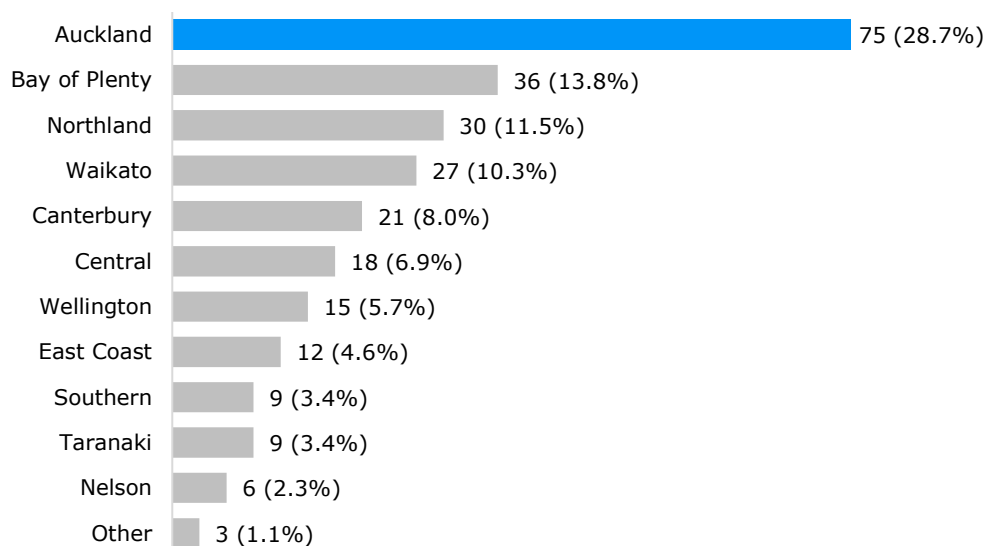
**Figure 9: Number of carers receiving an Unsupported Child's Benefit, monthly since June 2004, by gender.**



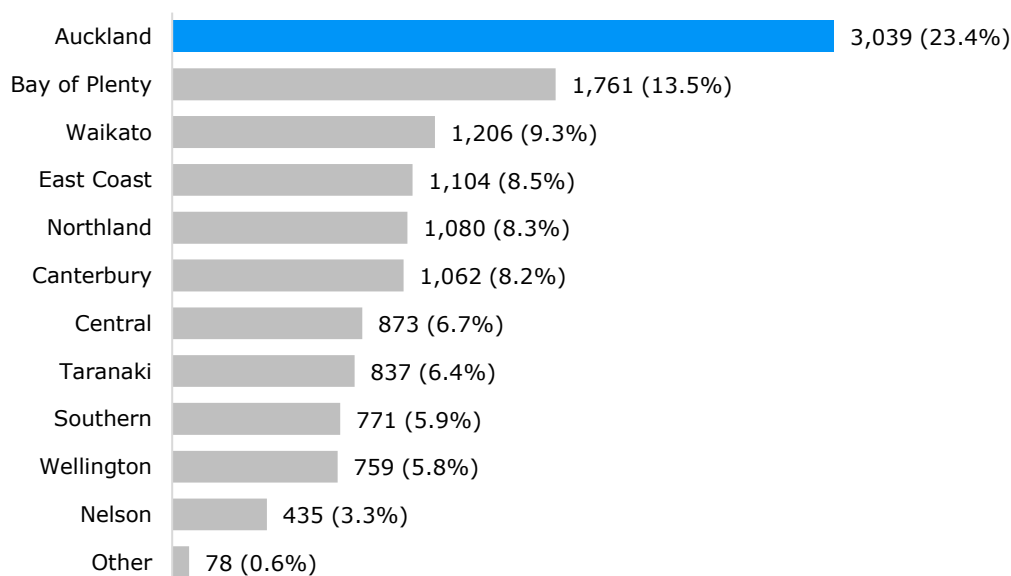
## Receipt by MSD region<sup>8</sup>

As illustrated by Figure 10 and Figure 11, the Auckland region has the highest number of Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit recipients, followed by the Bay of Plenty.

**Figure 10: Carers receiving an Orphan's Benefit by region, as at the end of June 2022**



**Figure 11: Carers receiving an Unsupported Child's Benefit by region, as at the end of June 2022**



<sup>8</sup> This region is based on the MSD administrative region at which the carers home MSD office is assigned to.

## Foster Care Allowance

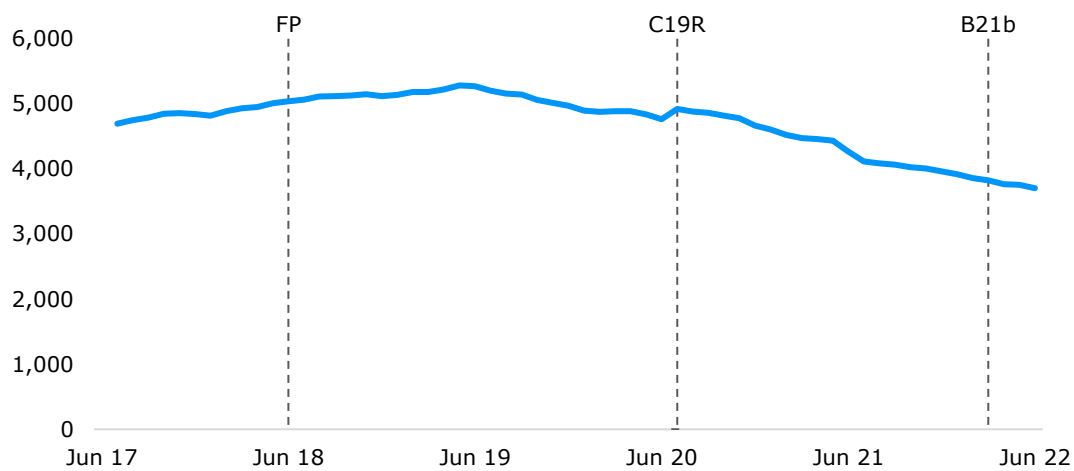
This section provides supplementary breakdowns of the number of children and young people that a carer received the Foster Care Allowance on behalf of by the following:

- placement type
- gender
- ethnicity.

Note that these splits are available for those either in a family/whānau placement, or a non-family/whānau placement only. Data for those in residential placements, Child and Family Support services, family home placements, and other placement types is not available.

For ease of interpretation, overall trends in receipt are included here (Figure 13).

**Figure 13: Number of children and young people that a carer received a Foster Care Allowance on behalf of, monthly since July 2017.**



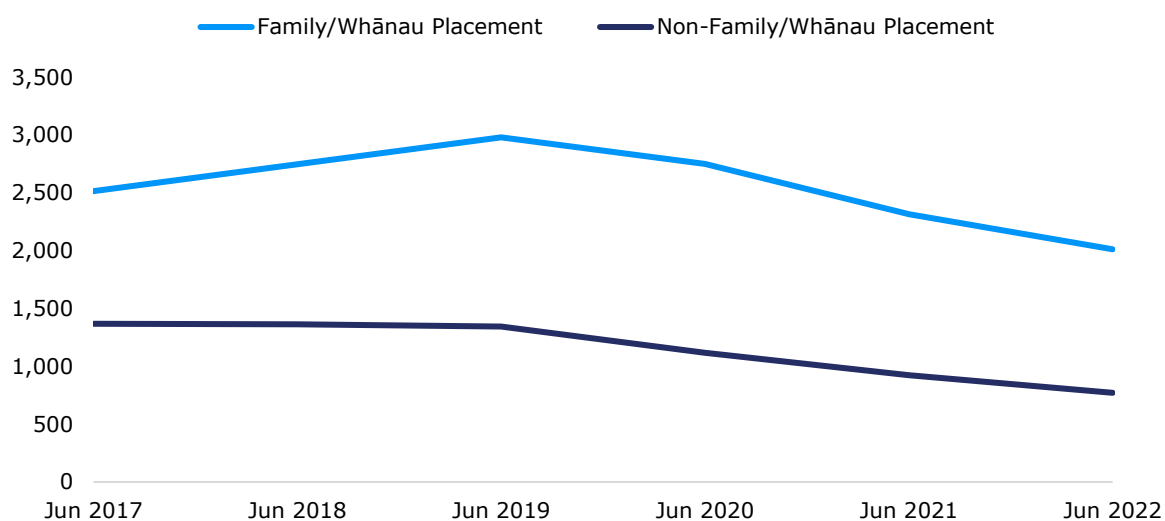
## Receipt by placement type

At the end of June 2022:

- **2,012** children and young people were in a family/whānau placement (72.3 percent of total recipients)
- **771** were in a non-family/whānau placement (27.7 percent of total recipients).

Figure 14 shows that the number of children and young people that a carer received a Foster Care Allowance on behalf of increased for those in family/whānau placements between the end of June 2018 and June 2019, before declining.

**Figure 14: Number of children and young people that a carer received a Foster Care Allowance on behalf of, by placement type, as at the end of June, last five years.**





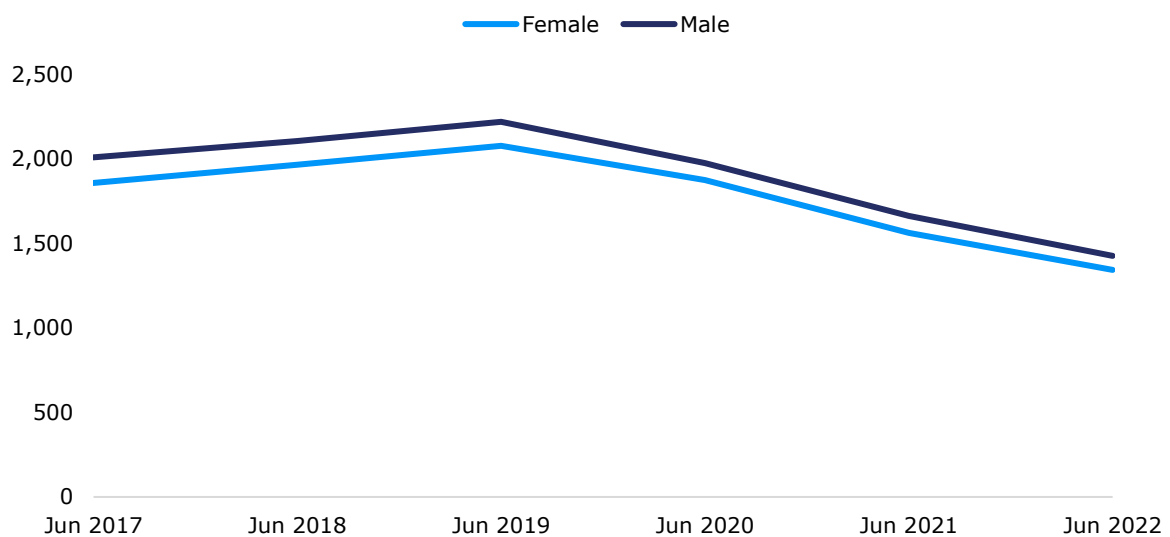
## Receipt by gender<sup>9</sup>

As at the end of June 2022:

- **1,343** children and young people that a Foster Care Allowance was paid for were female (48.3 percent)
- **1,426** were male (51.2 percent).

Figure 15 shows that there are slightly more male than female children and young people that a carer received a Foster Care Allowance for, across the last six years.

**Figure 15: Number of children and young people that a carer received a Foster Care Allowance on behalf of, by gender, as at the end of June, last six years.**



<sup>9</sup> Numbers for children and young people that are either gender diverse, or have an unknown gender are suppressed due to small numbers in this section. This is in order to protect their personal information.

## Receipt by prioritised ethnic group<sup>10</sup>

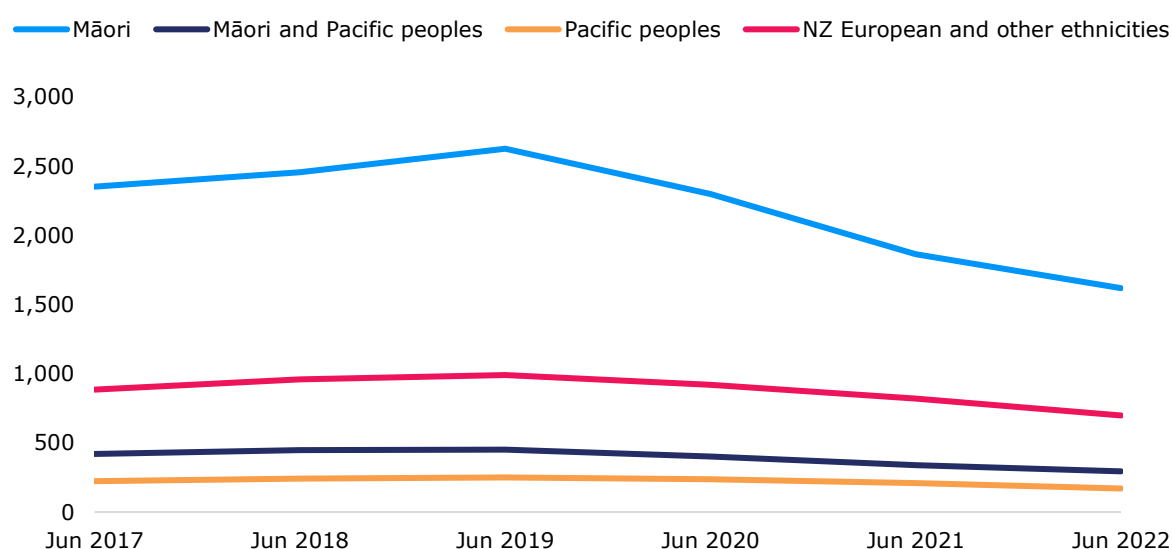
At the end of June 2022, Māori were the largest ethnic group for Foster Care allowance recipients.

**Table 9: Foster Care Allowance recipients by prioritised ethnic group, as at the end of June 2022.<sup>11</sup>**

| Ethnicity group                            | Number of recipients  |
|--|-----------------------|
| Māori                                      | 1,618 (58.1%)         |
| Māori and Pacific peoples                  | 294 (10.6%)           |
| Pacific peoples                            | 170 (6.1%)            |
| New Zealand European and other ethnicities | 698 (25.1%)           |
| <b>Total recipients</b>                    | <b>344,742 (100%)</b> |

Figure 16 shows that most of the fall in the number of children and young people that a carer received a Foster Care on behalf of since June 2019 was for Māori.

**Figure 16: Number of children and young people that a carer received a Foster Care Allowance on behalf of, by ethnicity, as at the end of June, last six years.**



<sup>10</sup> In the data supplied by Oranga Tamariki, ethnicity data is self-identified and multiple ethnicities may be chosen by an individual as fits their preference or self-concept. Multiple selected ethnicities are then prioritised into a hierarchy. This is to ensure that smaller ethnic groups do not get overwhelmed by the larger ethnic groups. A single ethnicity is assigned to an individual based on this hierarchy. Ethnic groups do not currently align with Statistics New Zealand ethnicity groupings. The hierarchy used here is: Māori/Pacific peoples, Māori, Pacific peoples, NZ European + other ethnicities.

<sup>11</sup> Totals in this figure do not add to 100% due to a small number of recipients with unspecified ethnicity

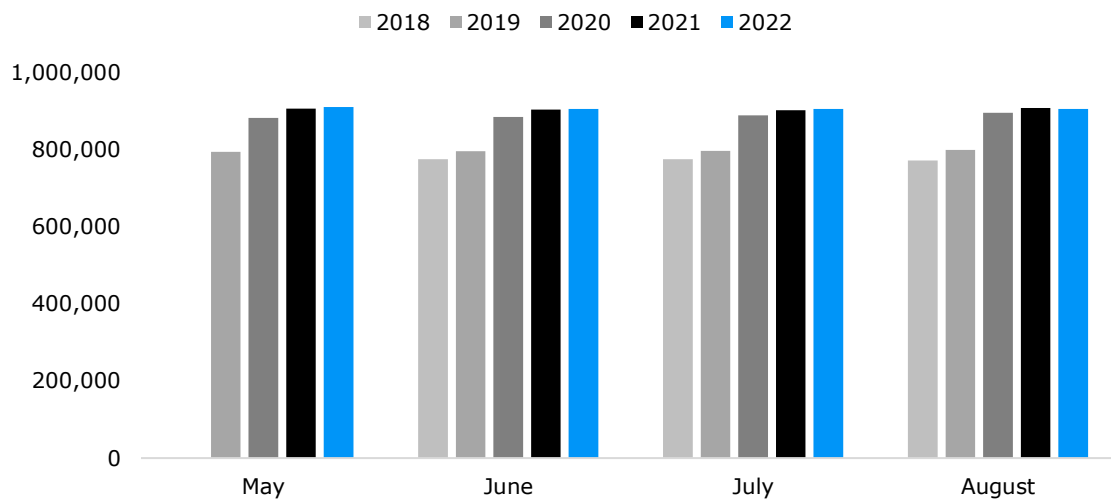
# Winter Energy Payment

Supplementary breakdowns of receipt for the Winter Energy Payment are provided by the following:

- benefit type
- receipt of a health condition, disability or caring related payment
- family type
- age group
- ethnicity
- gender
- region.

For ease of interpretation, overall trends in receipt are included below.

**Figure 17: Winter Energy Payment receipt, 2018 to 2022**



## Receipt by benefit grouping

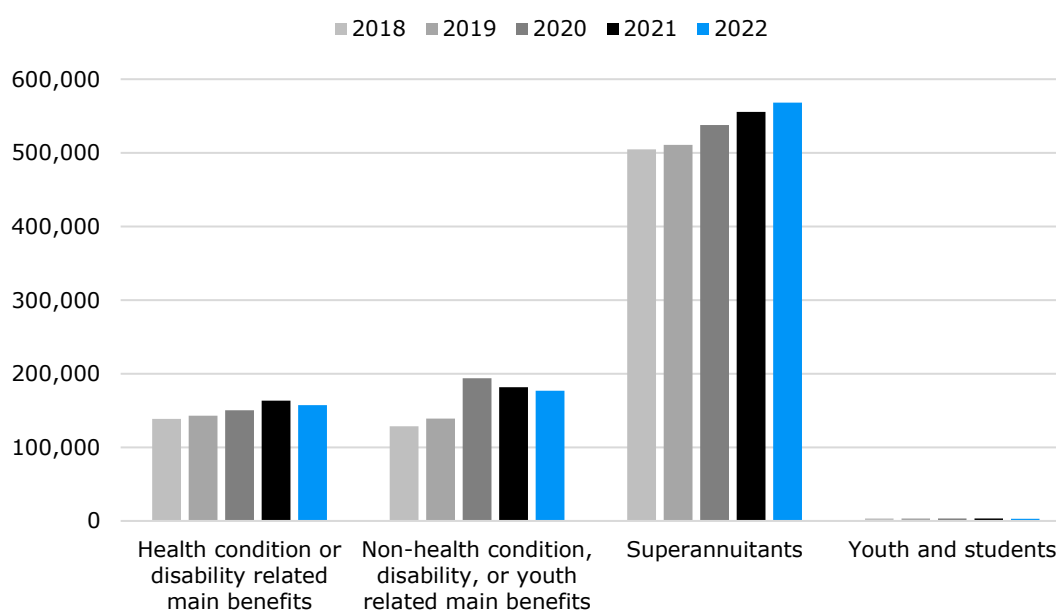
As at the end of June 2022, most Winter Energy Payment recipients were superannuitants (Table 10).

**Table 10: Winter Energy Payment recipients by benefit type as at the end of June 2022**

| Benefit group  | Number of recipients  |
|--|-----------------------|
| Superannuitants  | 568,401 (62.8%)       |
| Recipients of non-health condition, disability, or youth related main benefits | 176,850 (19.5%)       |
| Recipients of health condition or disability related main benefits             | 157,086 (17.4%)       |
| Youth and students   | 2,844 (0.3%)          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>905,178 (100%)</b> |

Figure 18 shows that the number of superannuitants receiving the Winter Energy Payment has increased from 2018 to 2022. In contrast, the number of Winter Energy Payment recipients receiving health condition related main benefits decreased from 2021 to 2022 and the number of Winter Energy Payment recipients receiving non-health condition or youth related main benefits decreased from 2020-2022.

**Figure 18: Winter Energy Payment recipients as at the end of June 2018-2022, by benefit group**



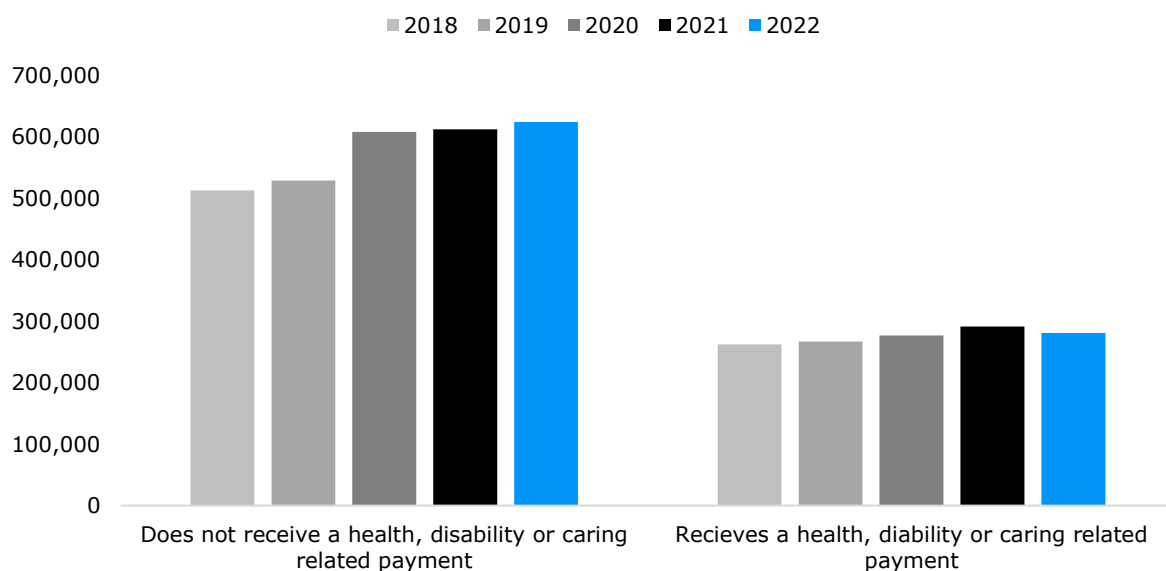
## Receipt by payments for health conditions, disabilities, or caring responsibilities<sup>12,13</sup>

As at the end of June 2022:

- **624,390** Winter Energy Payment recipients do not receive a payment related to having a health condition, disability, or caring for someone (69.0 percent of total recipients)
- **280,788** Winter Energy Payment recipients do receive a payment related to having a health condition, disability, or caring for someone (31.0 percent of total recipients).

Figure 19 below shows that the number of Winter Energy Payment recipients who did not receive a health, disability, or caring related payment increased from 2019 to 2020 and has since remained stable. The number of Winter Energy Payment recipients that receive a health, disability, or caring related payment increased steadily from 2018-2021 and then decreased from 2021 to 2022.

**Figure 19: Winter Energy Payment receipt as at the end of June 2018-2022, by receipt of payments that indicate health conditions, disabilities, or caring responsibilities.**



<sup>12</sup> In this section payments are grouped based on if the recipient receives another payment from MSD relating to health conditions, disabilities or caring responsibilities for someone with a health condition or disability (i.e. by whether or not they receive Supported Living Payment, Jobseeker Support (Health Condition or Disability), a Disability Allowance or a Child Disability Allowance).

<sup>13</sup> Recipients who have a health condition, disability, or care for someone but do not receive assistance from MSD in relation to this are counted in the 'does not receive a health condition, disability or caring related payment' category. Therefore, figures presented in this section are an undercount of this population.

## Receipt by family type

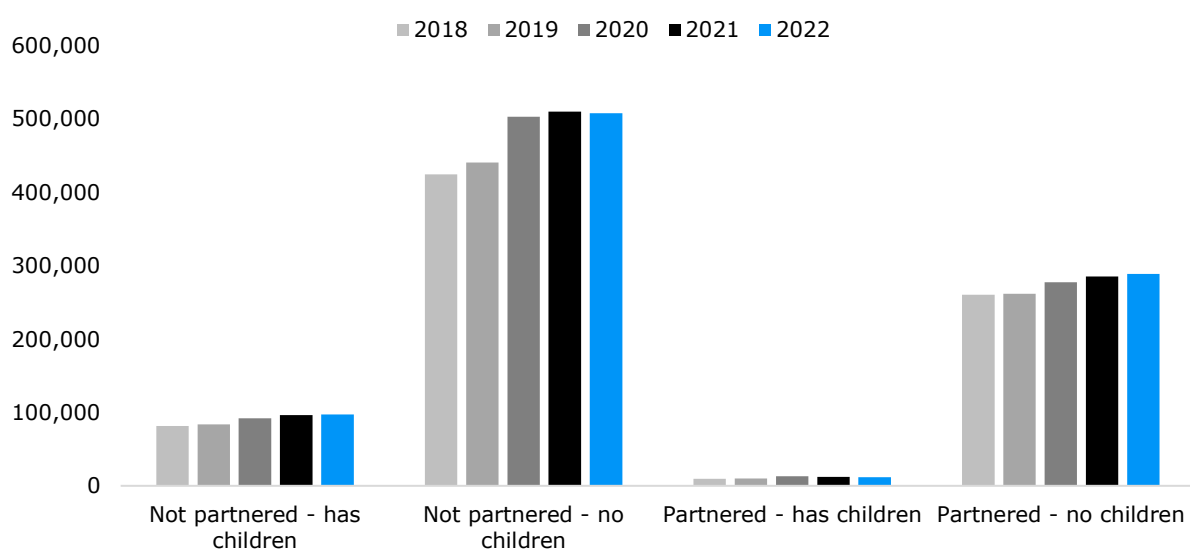
As at the end of June 2022, over half of Winter Energy Payment recipients were not partnered and had no children (Table 11).

**Table 11: Winter Energy Payment recipients by family type as at the end of June 2022**

| Family type                    | Number of recipients |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Not partnered without children | 507,819 (56.1%)      |
| Partnered without children     | 288,591 (31.9%)      |
| Not partnered with children    | 97,245 (10.7%)       |
| Partnered with children        | 11,523 (1.3%)        |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>905,178</b>       |

Figure 20 shows that receipt increased for all groups from 2018 to 2022. However, there was a slight decrease in the number of recipients who were not partnered and had no children from 2021 to 2022.

**Figure 20: Winter Energy Payment receipt as at the end of June 2018-2022, by family type**



## Receipt by age group

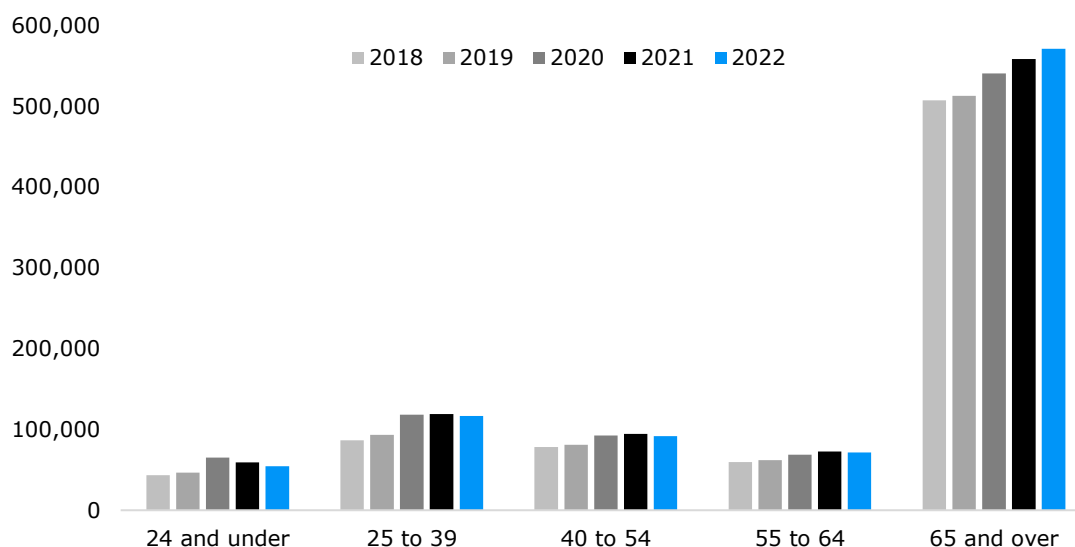
As at the end of June 2022, just under two thirds of Winter Energy Payment recipients were aged 65 years and over (Table 12).

**Table 12: Winter Energy Payment recipients by age, as at the end of June 2022**

| Age group    | Number of recipients |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 24 and under | 54,354 (6.0%)        |
| 25 to 39     | 116,679 (12.9%)      |
| 40 to 54     | 91,545 (10.1%)       |
| 55 to 64     | 71,562 (7.9%)        |
| 65 and over  | 571,038 (63.1%)      |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>905,178</b>       |

Figure 21 below shows that the growth in receipt since 2018 has been largely driven by increases in the 65 and over age group and 25 to 39 age group.

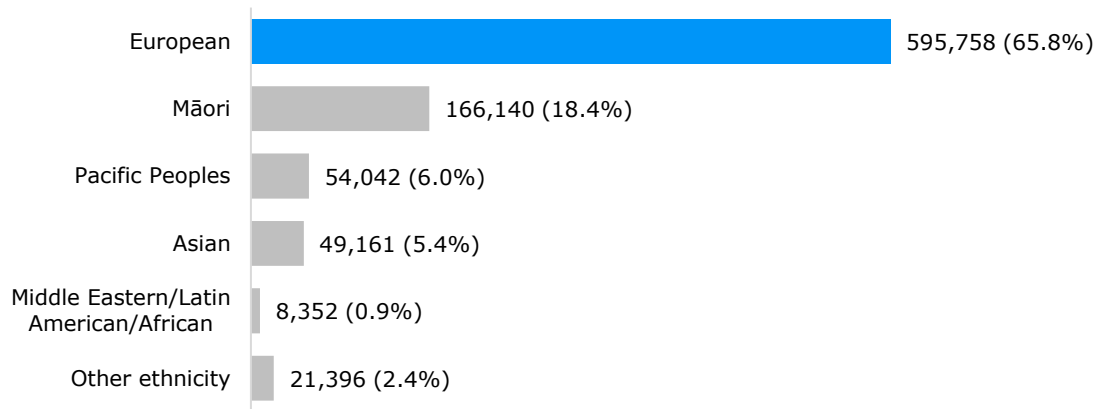
**Figure 21: Winter Energy Payment receipt as at the end of June 2018-2022, by age**



## Receipt by total response ethnic group<sup>14</sup>

As at the end of June 2022, most Winter Energy Payment recipients with a recorded ethnicity identified as European, followed by Māori, and Pacific peoples.

**Figure 22: Winter Energy Payment receipt at the end of June 2022, by total response ethnic group**



Note: There were 835,611 recipients with a recorded ethnicity and 69,567 recipients with no ethnicity specified.

<sup>14</sup> Total response ethnicity means that if a person identifies with more than one ethnic group, they are counted in each applicable group.



## Receipt by gender

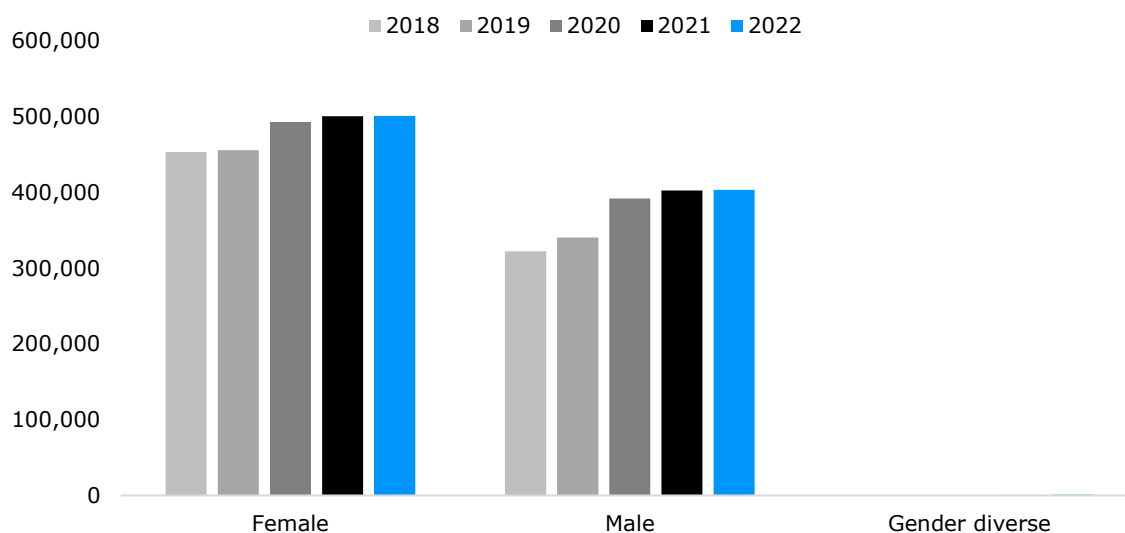
As at the end of June 2022, over half of the people receiving the Winter Energy Payment were female (Table 13)

**Table 13: Winter Energy Payment recipients by gender, as at the end of June 2022**

| Gender         | Number of recipients  |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Female         | 500,820 (55.3%)       |
| Male           | 403,206 (44.5%)       |
| Gender diverse | 1,155 (0.1%)          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>905,178 (100%)</b> |

Figure 23 shows that over time, most Winter Energy Payment recipients have been female.

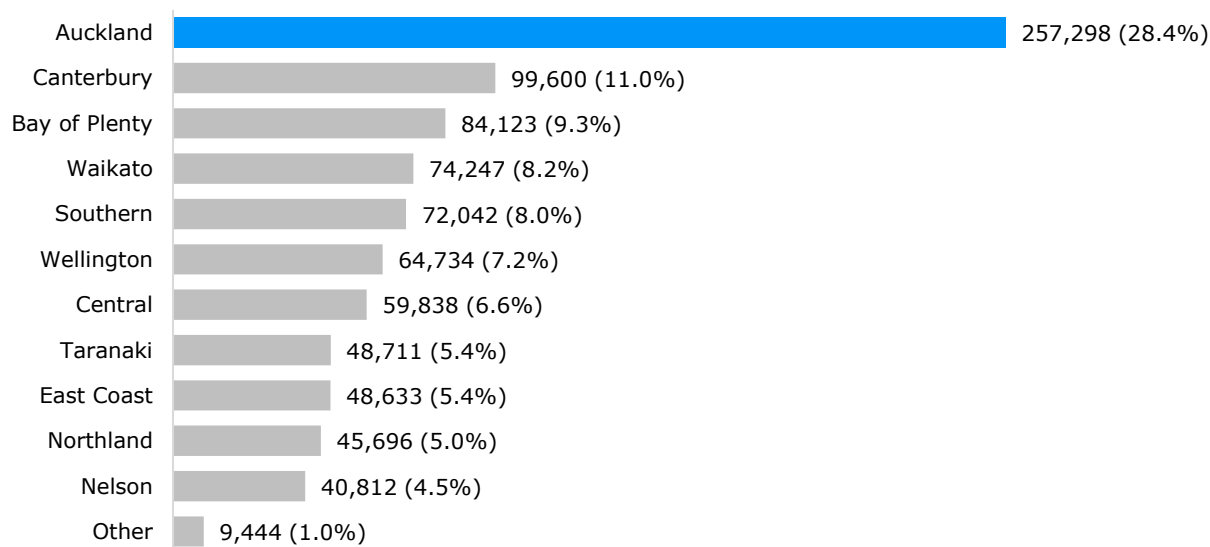
**Figure 23: Winter Energy Payment receipt as at the end of June 2018-2022, by gender**



## Receipt by MSD region

As at the end of June 2022, the region with the most Winter Energy Payment recipients was Auckland, followed by Canterbury (Figure 24). The geographical distribution of recipients broadly follows the pattern seen in main benefit and New Zealand Superannuation receipt<sup>15</sup>.

**Figure 24: Winter Energy Payment recipients as at June 2022, by region.**



<sup>15</sup> Regional distribution information for main benefit recipients and superannuitants can be found here: <https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/index.html>

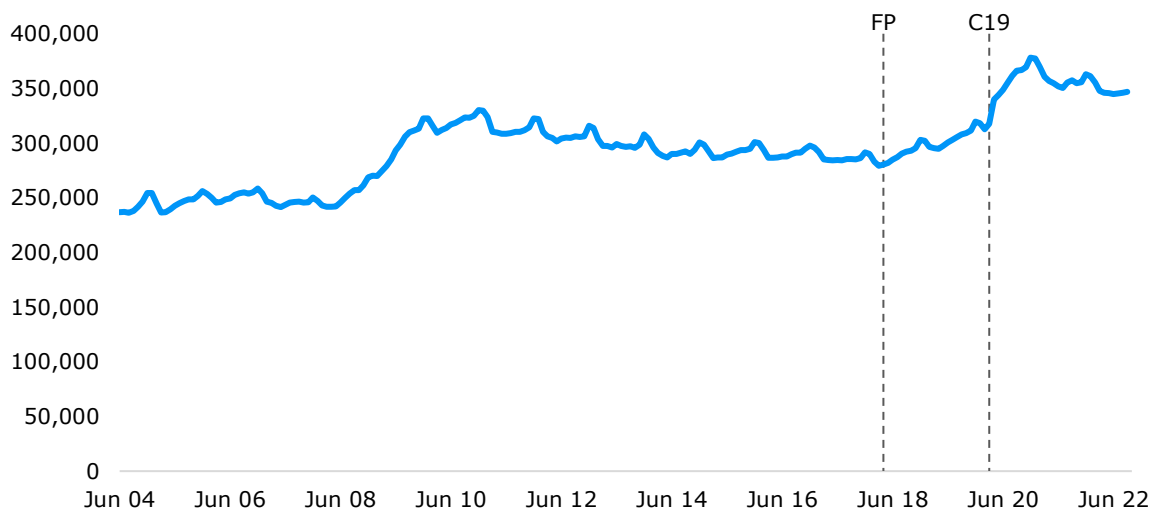
# Accommodation Supplement

This section provides supplementary breakdowns of receipt for Accommodation Supplement by the following:

- main benefit received
- receipt of a health condition, disability, or caring related payment
- family type
- age group
- ethnicity
- gender
- whether the recipient is receiving other income
- region.

For ease of interpretation, overall trends in receipt are included here (Figure 25).

**Figure 25: Number of Accommodation Supplement recipients, monthly since June 2004**



## Receipt by main benefit received

As at the end of June 2022, the largest benefit group for Accommodation Supplement recipients was those receiving a non-health condition or youth related main benefit (Table 14).

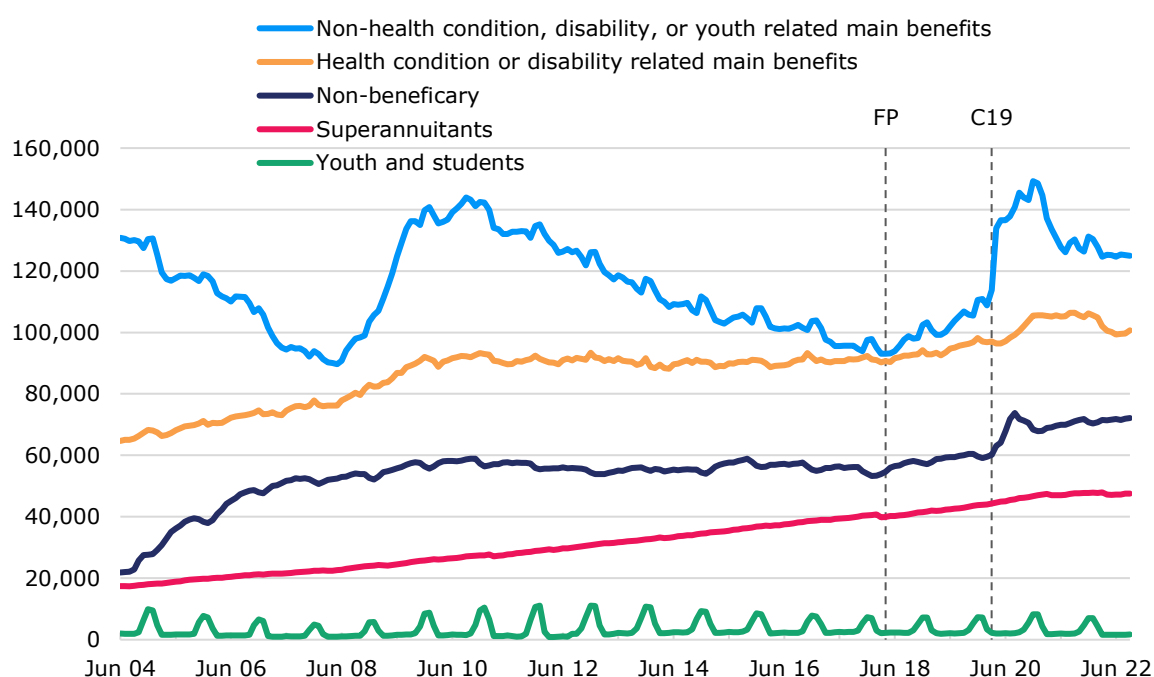
**Table 14: Accommodation Supplement recipients by main benefit received, as at the end of June 2022**

| Benefit group  | Number of recipients  |
|--|-----------------------|
| Received a non-health condition, disability, or youth related main benefit | 124,695 (36.2%)       |
| Received a health condition or disability related main benefit             | 99,306 (28.8%)        |
| Non-beneficiary  | 71,844 (20.8%)        |
| Superannuitants  | 47,247 (13.7%)        |
| Youth and students   | 1,650 (0.5%)          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>344,742 (100%)</b> |

Recipients who were receiving a non-health condition or youth related main benefit have been the largest group of recipients. Over time, the proportion of Accommodation Supplement recipients who receive a benefit for a health condition or disability, are non-beneficiaries, or are superannuitants has steadily increased (Figure 26).

Most of the growth from March 2020 to January 2021 is accounted for by recipients receiving non-health condition or youth related main benefits and non-beneficiaries.

**Figure 26: Number of Accommodation Supplement recipients, monthly since 2004, by benefit grouping.**



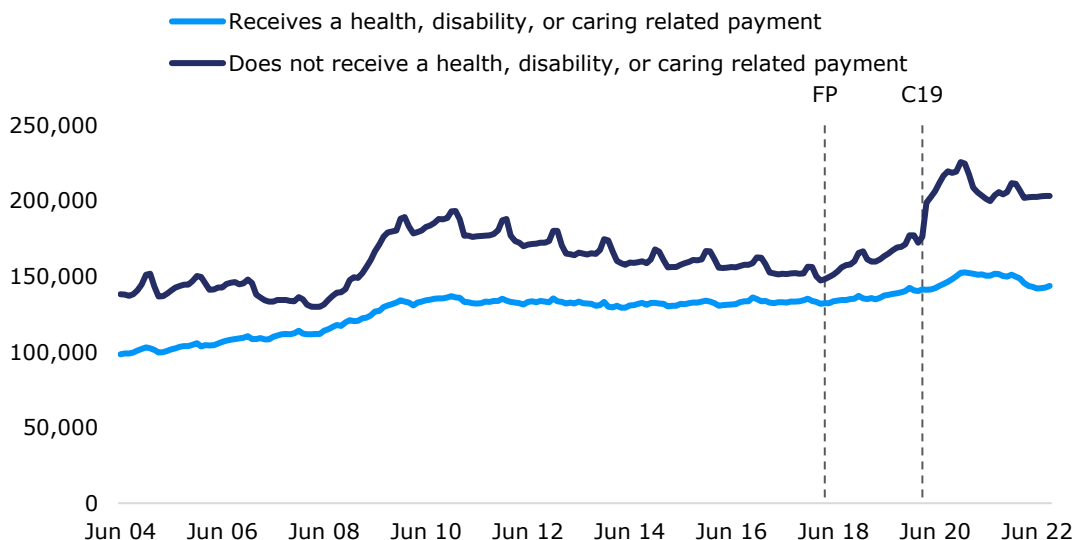
## Receipt by payments for health conditions, disabilities, or caring responsibilities<sup>1617</sup>

As at the end of June 2022:

- **202,587** Accommodation Supplement recipients were not receiving a health, disability, or caring related payment from MSD (58.8 percent of total recipients).
- **142,155** Accommodation Supplement recipients were receiving a health, disability, or caring related payment from MSD (41.2 percent of total recipients).

Since the Families Package was introduced, there has been more growth in receipt for recipients who do not also receive a health, disability or caring related payment, than for those who do not, particularly following the COVID-19 pandemic. From January 2021 the number of recipients who do not also receive a health, disability, or caring related payment has declined (Figure 27).

**Figure 27: Number of Accommodation Supplement recipients, monthly since 2004, by health conditions, disabilities, or caring responsibilities.**



<sup>16</sup> In this section payments are grouped based on whether the recipient receives another payment from MSD relating to health conditions, disabilities, or caring responsibilities for someone with a health condition or disability (i.e. by whether or not they receive Supported Living Payment, Jobseeker Support (Health Condition or Disability), a Disability Allowance or a Child Disability Allowance).

<sup>17</sup> Recipients who have a health condition, disability, or care for someone but do not receive assistance from MSD in relation to this are counted in the 'does not receive a health condition, disability or caring related payment' category. Therefore, figures presented in this section are an undercount of this population.

## Receipt by family type

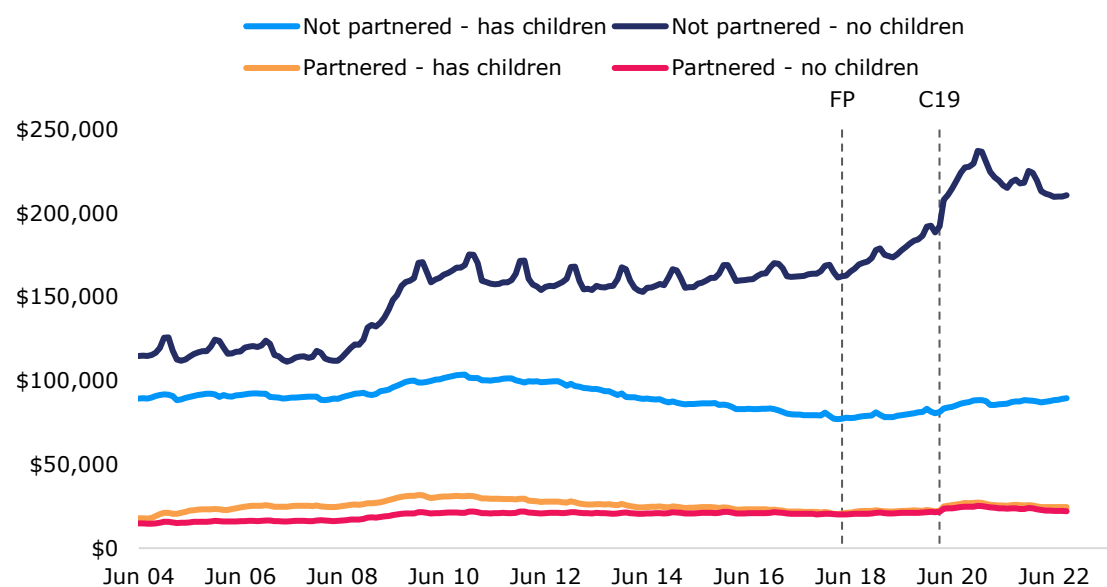
At the end of June 2022, most Accommodation Supplement recipients were not partnered and did not have children (Table 15).

**Table 15: Accommodation Supplement recipients by family type, as at the end of June 2022.**

| Family type                    | Number of recipients  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Not partnered without children | 209,721 (60.8%)       |
| Not partnered with children    | 88,302 (25.6%)        |
| Partnered with children        | 24,483 (7.1%)         |
| Partnered without children     | 22,236 (6.5%)         |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>344,742 (100%)</b> |

Over time, recipients who are not partnered and do not have dependent children have driven growth in Accommodation Supplement receipt. In comparison, the other groups have had smaller changes in numbers (Figure 28).

**Figure 28: Number of Accommodation Supplement recipients, monthly since 2004, by family type.**



## Receipt by age group

At the end of June 2022, the largest age group for Accommodation Supplement recipients was 25 to 39 years (Table 16).

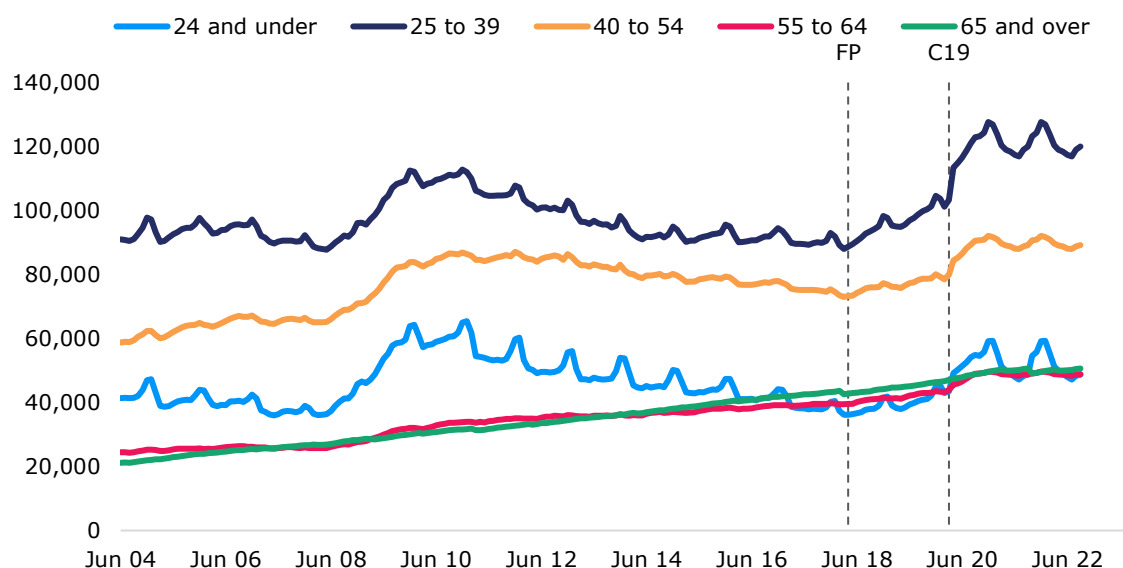
**Table 16: Accommodation Supplement recipients by age group, as at the end of June 2022.**

| Age group    | Number of recipients  |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 24 and under | 44,712 (13.0%)        |
| 25 to 39     | 116,202 (33.7%)       |
| 40 to 54     | 86,085 (25.0%)        |
| 55 to 64     | 71,562 (13.8%)        |
| 65 and over  | 50,046 (14.5%)        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>344,742 (100%)</b> |

As shown by Figure 29, the number of recipients aged 55 to 64 and over 65 has been steadily growing over time.

The 24 and under, 25 to 39, and 40 to 54 years age groups increased in 2008 to 2010 corresponding to the Global Financial Crisis. The number of recipients in these age groups then declined until 2018. After the introduction of the Families Package, receipt started to increase again, noticeably following the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020.

**Figure 29: Accommodation Supplement recipients by age group, monthly since June 2004.**



## Receipt by total response ethnic group<sup>18</sup>

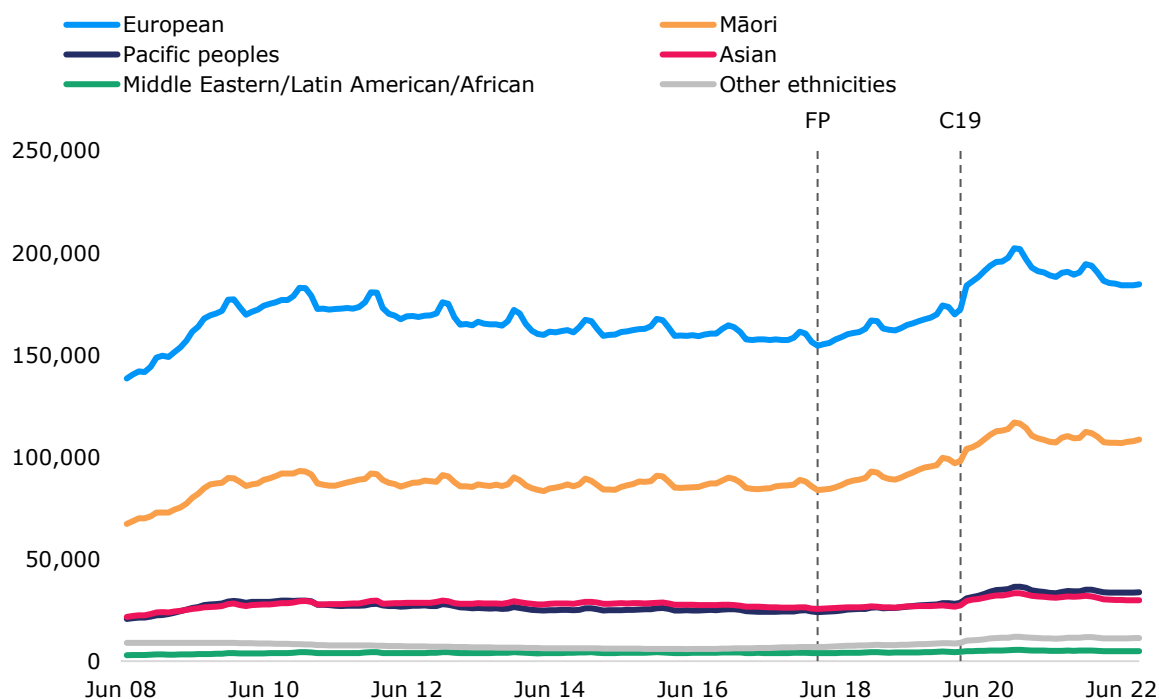
At the end of June 2022, the largest ethnic group for Accommodation Supplement recipients was European, followed by Māori.

**Table 17: Accommodation Supplement recipients by total response ethnic group.**

| Ethnicity group                                 | Number of recipients  |
|---|-----------------------|
| Māori   | 106,791 (31.0%)       |
| European  | 184,233 (53.4%)       |
| Pacific peoples                                 | 33,570 (9.7%)         |
| Asian   | 29,919 (8.7%)         |
| Middle Eastern/Latin American/African           | 4,884 (1.4%)          |
| Other ethnicities                               | 11,154 (3.2%)         |
| <b>Total recipients with recorded ethnicity</b> | <b>328,563 (100%)</b> |
| Not specified                                   | 16,179                |
| <b>Total recipients</b>                         | <b>344,742</b>        |

Figure 30 shows that from after the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 to January 2021 the number of recipients of all ethnicities increased, before declining again from January onwards.

**Figure 30: Number of Accommodation Supplement recipients, monthly since the end of June 2004, by total response ethnic group.**



<sup>18</sup> Total response ethnicity means that if a person identifies with more than one ethnic group, they are counted in each applicable group.



## Receipt by gender

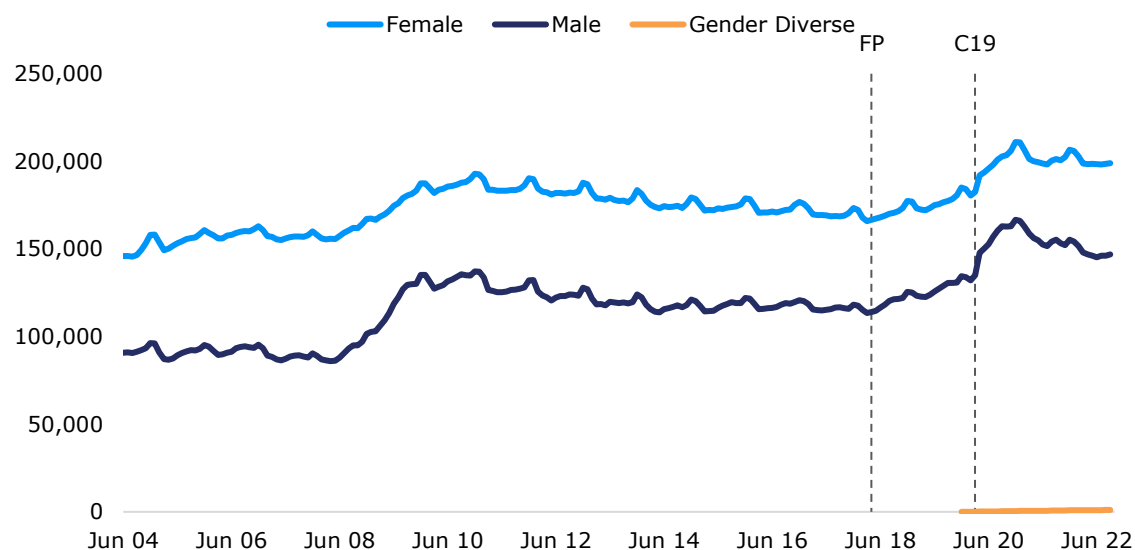
As at the end of June 2022, most Accommodation Supplement recipients were female.

**Table 18: Accommodation Supplement recipients by gender, as at the end of June 2022**

| Gender         | Number of recipients  |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Female         | 198,441 (57.6%)       |
| Male           | 145,320 (42.2%)       |
| Gender diverse | 978 (0.3%)            |
| Total          | <b>344,742 (100%)</b> |

Figure 31 shows that trends over time have been similar for female and male recipients, although receipt has been consistently higher for females.

**Figure 31: Number of Accommodation Supplement recipients, monthly since 2004, by gender.**



## Receipt by other income<sup>19</sup>

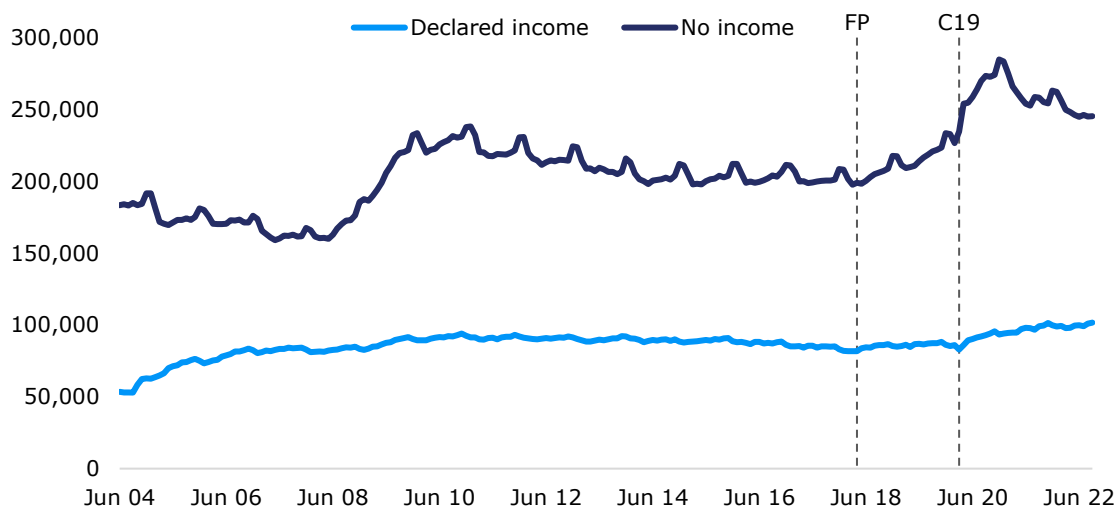
As at the end of June 2022,

- **244,905** Accommodation Supplement recipients had no declared income (71.0 percent of total recipients)
- **99,837** Accommodation Supplement recipients had declared income (29.0 percent of total recipients).

Most people who report having other income have over \$300 in other income.

Figure 32 shows that changes in receipt over time has been driven by recipients with no declared income.

**Figure 32: Number of Accommodation Supplement recipients, monthly since 2004, by whether they receive other income.**

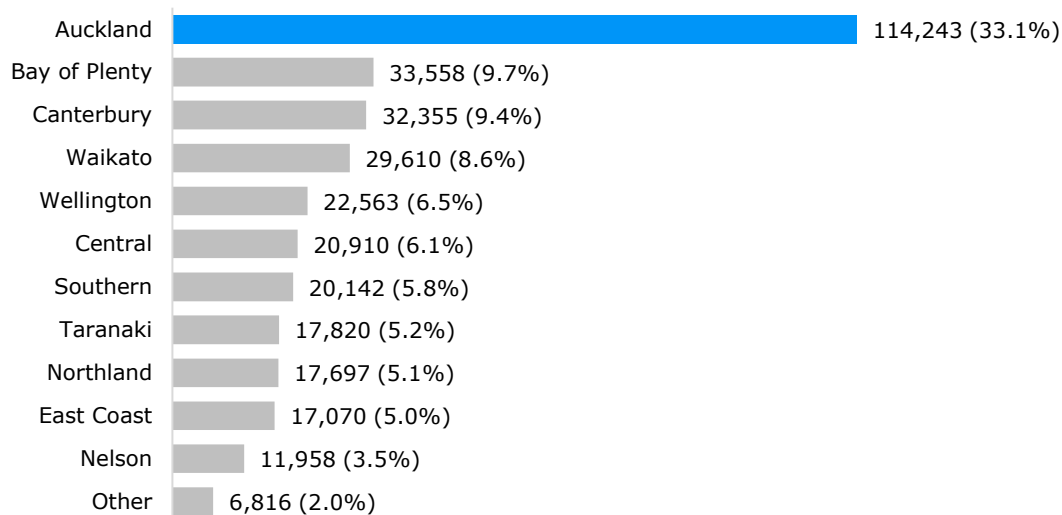


<sup>19</sup> This means an income not derived from a benefit payment or tax credit.

## Receipt by MSD region

Figure 33 shows that as at the end of June 2022, Auckland had the largest proportion of Accommodation Supplement recipients.

**Figure 33: Accommodation Supplement receipt as at June 2022 by MSD region.**



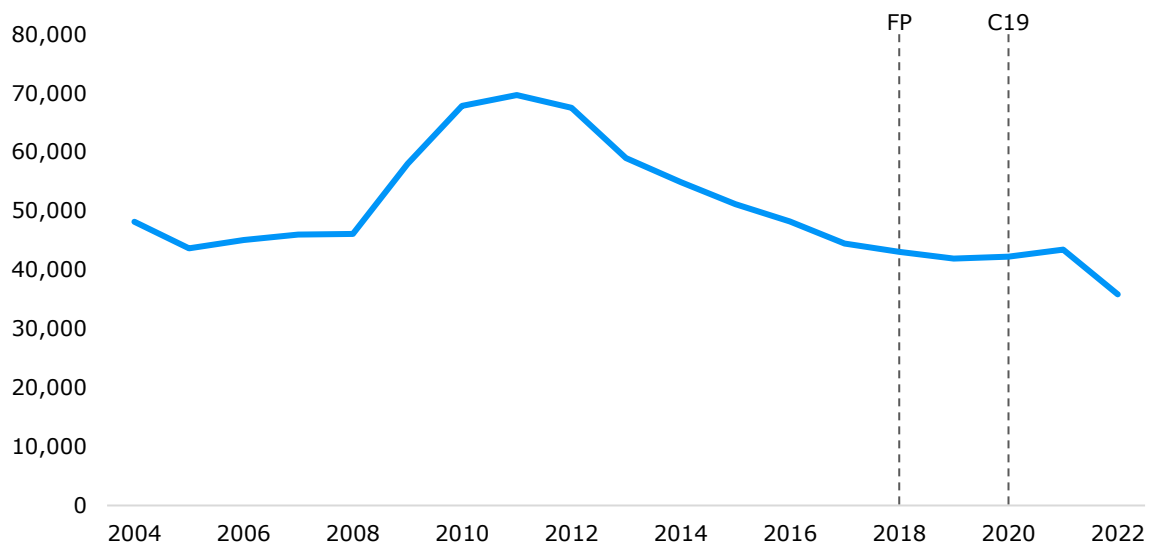
# Accommodation Benefit

This section provides supplementary breakdowns of receipt for Accommodation Benefit by the following:

- partnership status
- age group
- ethnicity
- gender
- provider type.

For ease of interpretation, overall trends in receipt are included here (Figure 34).

**Figure 34: Total number of people receiving an Accommodation Benefit each year, since 2004.**



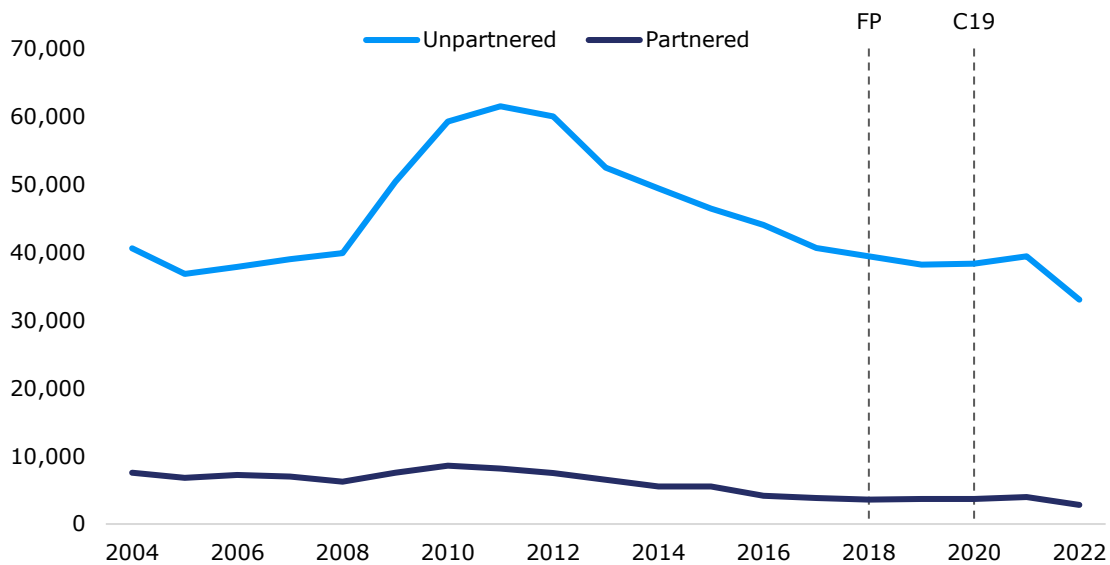
## Receipt by partnership status

In 2022:

- **33,028** Accommodation Benefit recipients did not have a partner (92.2 percent of total recipients)
- **2,811** Accommodation Benefit recipients had a partner (7.8 percent of total recipients).

Figure 35 shows that changes in Accommodation Benefit receipt over time have been driven by students without a partner.

**Figure 35: Total number of students receiving an Accommodation Benefit in each year since 2004, by partnership status.**



## Receipt by age group

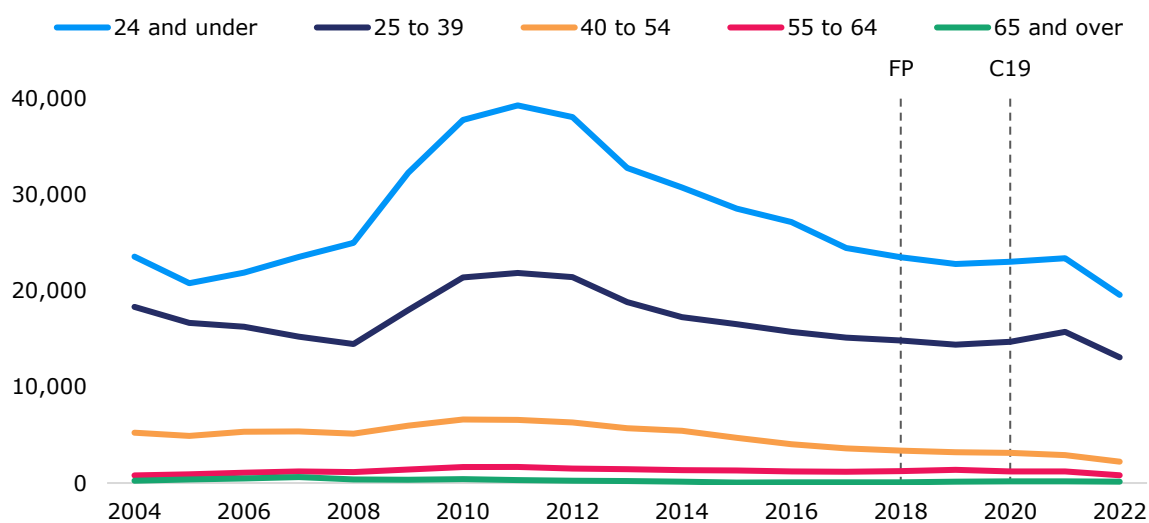
In 2022, over half of the students receiving an Accommodation Benefit were under 24 years old.

**Table 19: Accommodation benefit receipt by age, in the year to December 2022**

| Age group    | Number of recipients |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 24 and under | 19,575 (54.6%)       |
| 25 to 39     | 13,077 (36.5%)       |
| 40 to 54     | 2,223 (6.2%)         |
| 55 to 64     | 807 (2.3%)           |
| 65 and over  | 153 (0.4%)           |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>35,841 (100%)</b> |

Over time, most students receiving an Accommodation Benefit have been under the age of 40. This group also had the largest change in numbers during the Global Financial Crisis and are responsible for the growth in Accommodation Benefit recipients following the COVID-19 pandemic (Figure 36).

**Figure 36: Total number of students receiving an Accommodation Benefit each year, since 2004, by age group.**



## Receipt by total response ethnic group<sup>20,21</sup>

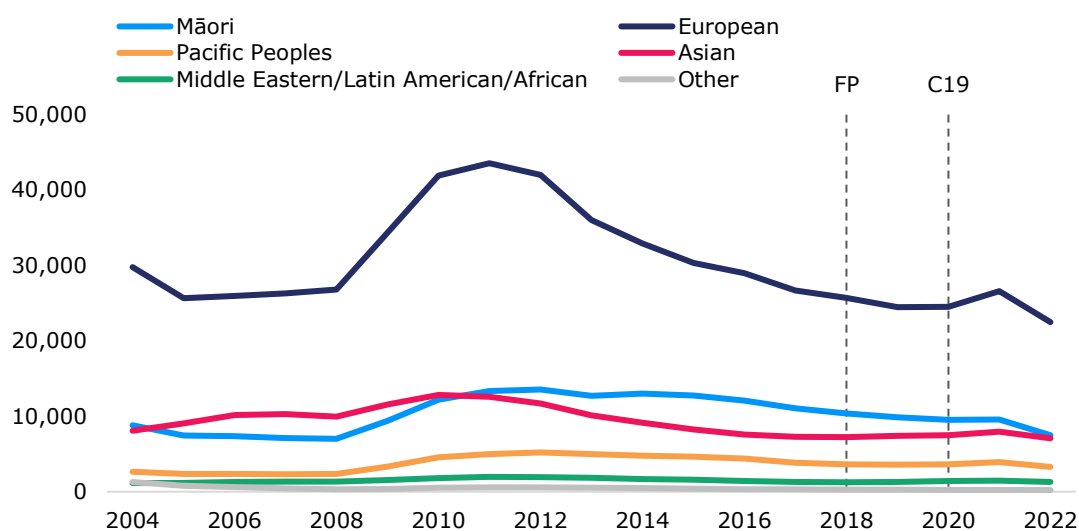
In 2022, most Accommodation Benefit recipients were European.

**Table 20: Accommodation Benefit recipients by ethnicity in 2022.**

| Ethnic group                                    | Number of recipients |
|---|----------------------|
| Māori   | 7,473 (21.3%)        |
| European  | 22,479 (63.9%)       |
| Pacific peoples                                 | 3,300 (9.4%)         |
| Asian   | 7,083 (20.2%)        |
| Middle Eastern/Latin American/African           | 1,275 (3.6%)         |
| Other ethnicities                               | 216 (0.6%)           |
| <b>Total recipients with recorded ethnicity</b> | <b>35,151 (100%)</b> |
| Not specified                                   | 690                  |
| <b>Total recipients</b>                         | <b>35,841</b>        |

As shown by Figure 37, the changes in the number of students receiving an Accommodation Benefit over time have been driven largely driven by students who identified as European.

**Figure 12: Number of students receiving an Accommodation Benefit each year, since 2004, by total response ethnic group.**



<sup>20</sup> Total response ethnicity means that if a person identifies with more than one ethnic group, they are counted in each applicable group.

<sup>21</sup> It is not mandatory for students to disclose their ethnicity.

## Receipt by gender

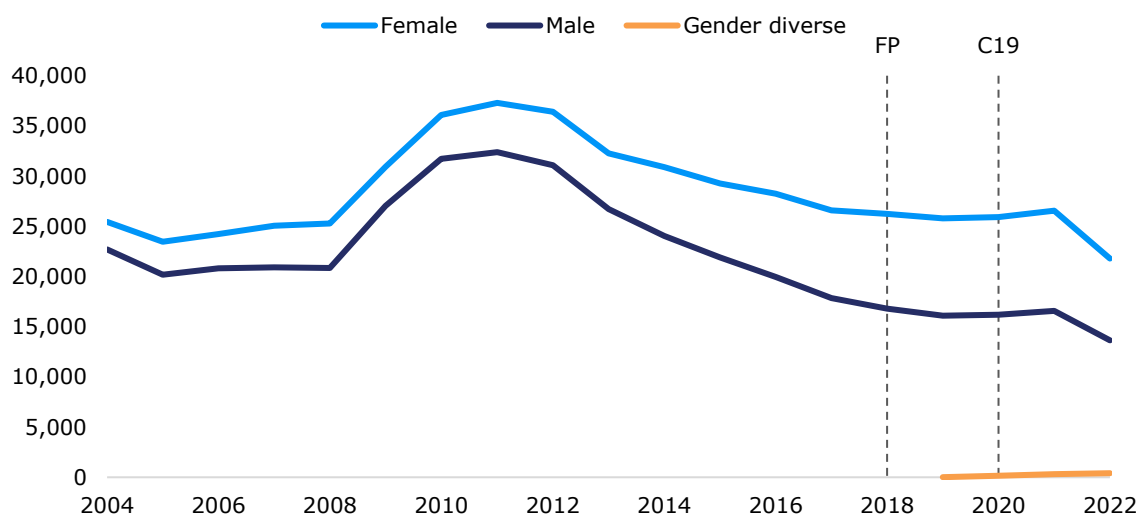
In 2022, most Accommodation Benefit recipients were female.

**Table 21: Accommodation Benefit recipients by gender, in 2022.**

| Gender         | Number of recipients |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Female         | 21,789 (60.8%)       |
| Male           | 13,641 (38.1%)       |
| Gender diverse | 405 (1.1%)           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>35,838</b>        |

Figure 38 shows that over time, the number of female students receiving an Accommodation Benefit payment has remained higher than the number of male recipients. Trends over time have been similar for both groups, although from 2012 to 2020 the fall in numbers was larger for male recipients than female recipients.

**Figure 38: Number of students receiving an Accommodation Benefit each year, since 2004, by gender.**





## Receipt by provider type<sup>22</sup>

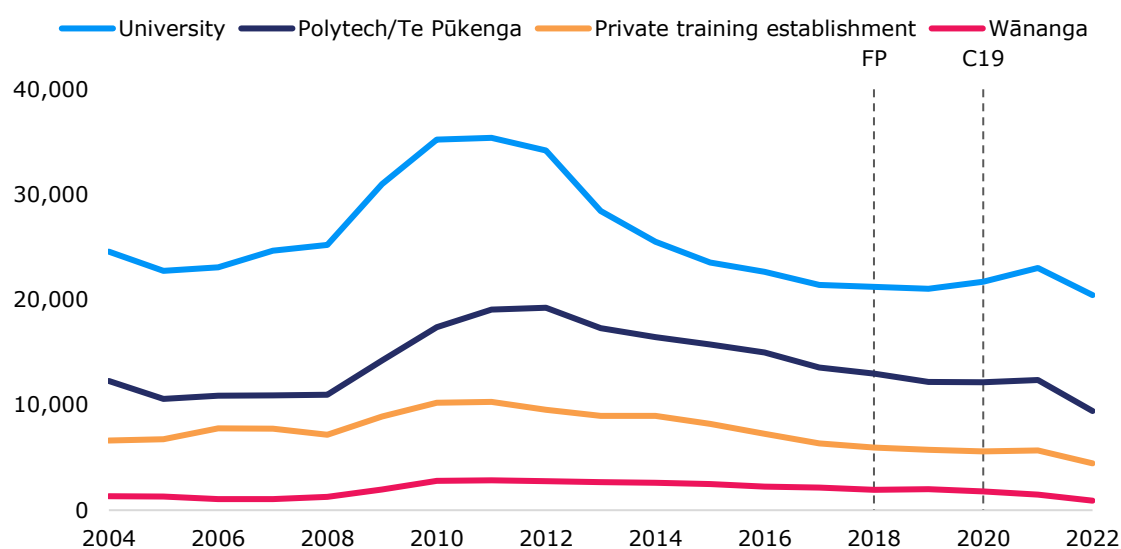
In 2022, most Accommodation Benefit recipients were enrolled at a university.

**Table 22: Accommodation benefit recipients by provider type, in 2022.**

| Provider type                  | Number of recipients |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| University                     | 20,442 (57.0%)       |
| Polytech/Te Pūkenga            | 9,423 (26.3%)        |
| Private training establishment | 4,452 (12.4%)        |
| Wānanga                        | 906 (2.5%)           |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>30,561</b>        |

Over time, most students receiving an Accommodation Benefit have been enrolled at a university. In 2021, after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of recipients at a university or Polytech/Te Pūkenga increased, driving the overall increase in Accommodation Benefit recipients in that year (Figure 39).

**Figure 39: Number of students receiving an Accommodation Benefit in the year to 30 June, since 2004, by selected provider types.**



<sup>22</sup> This section does not report on providers that fall outside the university, Polytech/Te Pūkenga, private training establishment, or wānanga categories.