



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

Delivering the Welfare Overhaul Milestones



19/08/2021

2018 Families Package

Monitoring by MSD in 2020 showed:



\$60 a week
Best Start payment for new-born babies.



Around **330,000 families with children** benefitted from the Families package in its first year.



1.2m adults and their children helped by the winter energy payment (introduced in 2018) in 2020, where it was doubled.

2019: Wellbeing Budget



263 new frontline staff to focus on helping more people into meaningful and sustainable work.



24,000 children will be better off as a result of the repeal to Section 192, with many sole parents' incomes increasing by an average of **\$34 a week**.



73,000 individuals and their families will be better off by the Government raising abatement thresholds for those on benefits who work.

2020: Response to COVID-19



\$25 increase in main benefits.



Removing the hours test from the In Work Tax Credit to assist those who may face variable hours.



Expansion of Flexi-wage subsidy, which supports up to **40,000** New Zealanders get the skills they need to meet the requirements of a job.



The indexation of Childcare Assistance income thresholds to increases in the average wage will benefit **1,000** families, or around **1,500** children.

2021: Wellbeing Budget



Weekly benefit rates lifted by between **\$32 and \$55 per adult**, in line with a key recommendation from the Welfare Expert Advisory Group (WEAG).



109,000 families and whānau with children will be, on average, **\$175 a week** better off as a result of changes made by the Government since 2017.



263,000 individuals and couples without children better off by **\$42 a week**, including 134,000 Māori and 33,000 Pacific peoples.



19,000-33,000 children are projected to be lifted out of poverty on the after-housing-costs measure in 2022/23 as a result of increases to benefit levels in Budget 2021.



372,000 individuals and families and whānau on benefits will be better off, on average, **\$114 a week** by April 2022 due to the Government's changes since 2017.



Training Incentive Allowance to support **16,000** New Zealanders into jobs.

