Te Tāhuhu o
te Mātauranga
Ministry of Education

Report: Student Loan Quarterly Report for January to March 2026

To:	Hon Penny Simmonds, Minister for Tertiary Education		
Cc:	Hon Nicola Willis, Minister of Finance Hon Louise Upston, Minister for Social Development and Employment Hon Simon Watts, Minister for Revenue		
Date:	10/06/2026	Deadline:	24/06/2026
Priority:	Medium		
From:	9(2)(a) Senior Policy Manager	Phone:	9(2)(a)
Drafter:	9(2)(a)	METIS No:	1355910
Title ok for release?		Yes	

Why are we sending this to you?

- The Government requires agencies to monitor and make information about student loan borrowing and repayments publicly available at quarterly intervals.
- This paper provides you with a copy of the Student Loan Scheme (the Scheme) quarterly report for January to March 2026, covering its financial performance for the quarter.
- The paper also contains an overview of compliance initiatives underway and notifies you of agencies' forthcoming release of key statistics related to the Scheme.

What action do we need, by when?

- We are seeking your agreement to release this paper.
- Note that the student loan statistics in the Annexes will be published on the Inland Revenue and the Ministry of Social Development's respective websites on 15 June.

Key facts, issues and questions

- When compared to the same quarter last year there has been:
  - an increase in the number of students borrowing and the total amount borrowed,
  - an increase in direct repayments from New Zealand-based borrowers (NZBBs) and overseas-based borrowers (OBBs), and
  - a decrease in the number of NZBBs and OBBs with overdue repayments.

Alignment with Government priorities

1. This report aligns with Government priorities by ensuring the impact of student loan policies and processes are monitored in a timely and effective manner.

Background

2. The Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) and Inland Revenue (IR) have joint responsibility for the Student Loan Scheme (the Scheme):
3. The Ministry of Education advises Ministers on student loan policy and manages the valuation of the Scheme.
4. MSD operates StudyLink which administers student loan payments.
5. IR oversees the repayment of these loans.

Key messages

6. Since April 2024, there has been an increase in borrowers. This continued increase is likely to have been strongly influenced by the performance of the economy, and subsequent slowing of the labour market.
7. Repayments received directly from borrowers are up 15.1% on last year. This increase is due mainly to an increase in repayments from OBBs following IR campaigns and other interventions.

Borrowing: January to March 2026

8. Typically, the January to March quarter has the highest number of active borrowers and the highest borrowings. This is because more fees and course-related costs payments are made at the start of the academic year. Living costs are lowest for this quarter, as most students start study during February or March.
9. The number of active borrowers[1] continues to show significant increases compared to the same quarter in the previous year.

Figure 1: Borrowing through January to March 2026

126,690

ACTIVE BORROWERS THIS QUARTER

↑ 13,308 (11.7%) from same quarter last year

Fees	Course-Related Costs	Living Costs
↑ 13,452	↑ 5,043	↑ 6,999
(13.3%)	(11.0%)	(10.4%)

[1] Borrowing refers to the amount students borrow using their student loan. A borrower is anyone who has borrowed from the Scheme and who has not yet repaid this borrowing in full. This includes the amount borrowed for fees, course related costs, and living costs. These figures do not include the $60 establishment fee and do not allow for repayments and fee refunds.

10. This increase in borrowers began during the April to June 2024 quarter and goes against a previous long-term trend of declining active borrower numbers.

11. The continued increase in borrower numbers is likely to have been strongly influenced by the performance of the economy, and subsequent slowing of the labour market. Generally, we expect more people to choose to enter or remain in study when there are fewer employment options available to them.

12. There has been an increase in the amount borrowed compared to the same quarter last year, shown in *Figure 2* below.

Figure 2: Changes in amounts borrowed through January to March 2026

$1.145 billion

TOTAL AMOUNT BORROWED THIS QUARTER

↑ $184.1 million (19.2%) from same quarter last year

Fees	Course-Related Costs	Living Costs
↑ $161.9m (19.6%)	↑ $4.6m (11.1%)	↑ $17.6m (19.1%)

AVERAGE AMOUNT BORROWED PER STUDENT

$9,037

↑ $563 (6.6%) from same quarter last year

13. The increases in amounts borrowed can be also attributed to increases in fees charged by education providers.[2]

14. Further information on borrowing can be found in the MSD Student Loan Statistics (**Annex 1**).

Repayments: January to March 2026

15. Payments received through the PAYE system make up the majority of repayments to student loans. The value of these repayments decreased 0.2% last quarter compared to the same period last year ($260m, down from $261m). These repayments accounted for 63% of the value of repayments received.

16. Repayments received directly from borrowers are up 15.1% on last year, due mainly to an increase in repayments from OBBs Their repayments increased by $14m (20.5%) following IR campaigns and other interventions. Repayments directly from NZBBs increased by $5m (9.2%) when compared to last year.

[2] The Annual Maximum Fee Movement for the 2026 calendar year is 6.0%. The Fee Maxima was raised to 6.0% for 2025 from 2.8% in 2024.

17. Borrowers who meet certain criteria can apply to reduce their repayment rate from salary and wages. The number of approved applications for these special deduction rates fell by 25.2% compared to the same period last year.

18. Approved hardship applications (excluding those for special deduction rates) also declined by 30.5%. This included a 15.3% decrease among NZBBs and a larger 38.1% decrease among OBBs.

Figure 3: Applications for special deduction rates from salary and wages

Special deduction rates	Jan - Mar 25	Jan - Mar 26	% change
Hardship	1,583	1,162	-26.6%
Unused repayment threshold	111	105	-5.4
Total	**1,694**	**1,267**	**-25.2%**

Figure 4: Applications for hardship (excl. special deduction rates in the above table)

Hardship	Jan - Mar 25	Jan - Mar 26	% change
New Zealand-based borrowers	339	287	-15.3%
Overseas-based borrowers	683	423	-38.1%
Total	**1,022**	**710**	**-30.5%**

19. IR's performance target for 2026 is that at least 95% of NZBBs and 31-35% of OBBs are meeting their repayment obligations. As of 31 March 2026, 94.7% of NZBBs are meeting their repayment obligations. At the end of last quarter OBB compliance was 31.1%. At the end of March OBBs faced a new repayment obligation, and as a result compliance fell to 26.5%. However, it is important to note that this is 1.6% higher compared with the same time last year.

Overdue repayments as at 31 March 2026

20. The number of borrowers with overdue repayments decreased by 3.8% compared with the same time last year, with decreases in both NZBBs and OBBs. As at March 31, the total overdue amount is $2.7b. Over 46% ($1.2b) of the total debt is penalties and interest, with $1.1b of those penalties owed by OBBs.

21. OBBs represent 75.4% of borrowers with overdue repayments and account for 93.1% of the total overdue amounts.

22. This quarter saw the following:
    a. 3,984 cases that were sent to our overseas collection agencies closed during the quarter, resulting in repayments of $3.3m. Following a six-month collection period, agencies return cases to IR for further collection activity.
    b. IR received information from the New Zealand Customs Service on borrowers with serious default entering New Zealand. IR used the data to attempt contact with 4,399 borrowers and of these cases:
        - 543 (12.3%) of the borrowers are no longer in default
        - 124 borrowers applied for hardship
        - 1,296 (29.5%) borrowers made payments
        - $2.8m in total payments were received.

23. The remaining cases will be subject to ongoing collection activities (campaigns, third-party collection agencies etc.).

24. Significant challenges remain with aged debt. 82% of OBBs with overdue debt have been outside New Zealand for 5 or more years and these borrowers are less likely to repay and

stay in touch with IR. Over $1.9b of OBB debt is more than 5 years old. This represents 77.4% of all overdue student loan debt.

25. The following areas are the basis for planned activities in Q4 2025/26 to improve collection from both NZBBs and OBBs, which includes the extra activity funded through Budget 2024:

    a. Conduct an outbound calling campaign to engage OBBs who have entered into repayment arrangements but have not complied with them.

    b. Continued focus on outbound contact using NZ Traveller Declaration information.

    c. Legal enforcement will continue for those borrowers who refuse to engage with IR regarding their overdue repayment obligations.

    d. Outbound calling campaign for NZBBs who are in default.

    e. Use passport application from the Department of Internal Affairs and contact data received from the Australian Tax Office to engage OBBs and discuss resolution of their default.

    f. Conduct an outbound calling campaign to engage OBBs with high levels of interest.

Annexes

26. Annex 1:MSD Student Loan Statistics

27. Annex 2:IR Student Loan Statistics

Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

a. **agree** that the Ministry of Education release this paper once it has been considered by you in consultation with the Ministry of Social Development and Inland Revenue, with any information needing to be withheld done so in line with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982.

Agree / Disagree

9(2)(a) [redacted]

Senior Policy Manager
Te Pou Kaupapahere | Policy
10/06/2026

Hon Penny Simmonds
Minister for Tertiary Education
18/6/26

Annex 1: MSD Student Loan Statistics

(Attached separately)

Student Allowance
January to March 2026

The Student Allowance Scheme provides financial assistance for eligible 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 is cumulative calendar year-to-date figures. Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar and all percentages are computed using actual data and rounded to one decimal point. Total percentages may not add up to exactly 100 percent because of rounding effects. In line with the Ministry of Social Development's confidentiality policy, all numbers of people in this document have been randomly rounded to base three. The last three years of data and annual comparisons are presented in summary tables. Earlier figures are included in the Student Allowance data file.

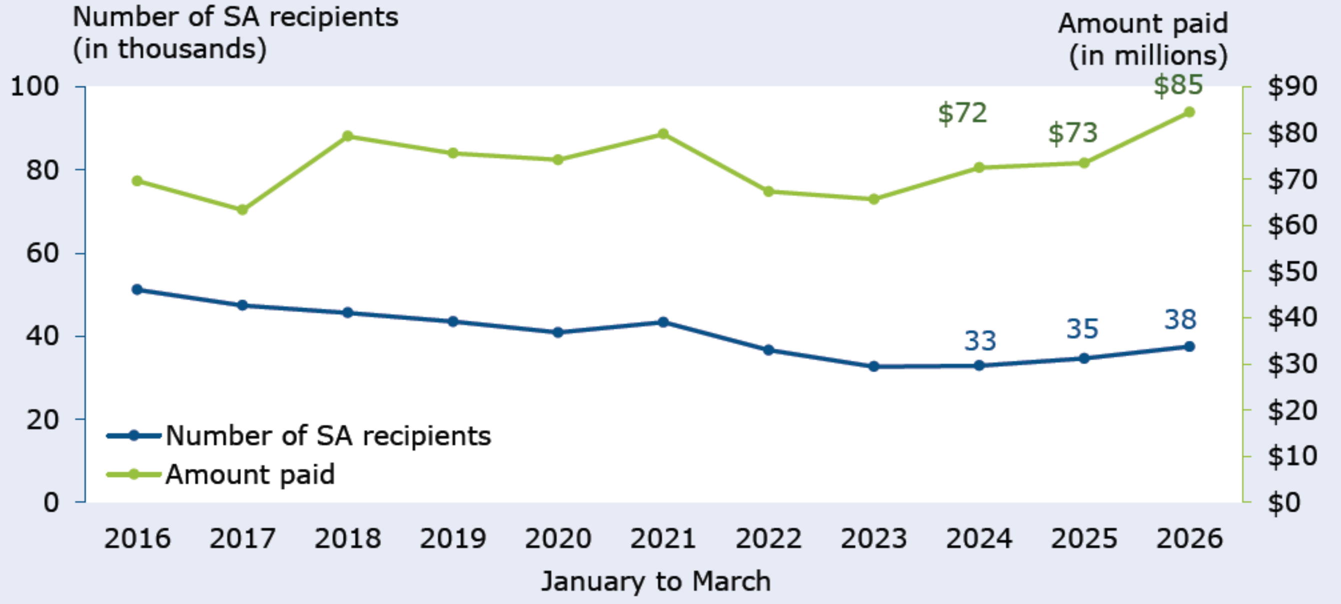
1 Number of recipients and amount paid

There were more Student Allowance recipients from January to March 2026 than in the same period in 2025.

From January to March 2026, 37,500 students received financial assistance under the Student Allowances (SA) Scheme. This was a rise of 2,868 students (up 8.3 percent) when compared with the same period in 2025.

A total of $84.5 million was paid for SA and Accommodation Benefit (AB) from January to March 2026, a rise of 15.0 percent when compared with the same period in 2025.

Figure 1.1: Number of recipients and amount paid for SA and AB, January to March 2016–2026



On average, students received $2,011 in SA payments from January to March 2026. This was 6.9 percent more than students received, on average, in the same period in 2025.

From January to March 2026, students who were also entitled to AB received $375 in AB on average. This was up 4.2 percent from the same period in 2025.

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 March			Annual change	
	2024	2025	2026	2024–25	2025–26
Student Allowance	32,907	34,629	37,497	5.2%	8.3%
Accommodation Benefit	22,554	23,052	24,249	2.2%	5.2%
Total number of recipients	**32,904**	**34,632**	**37,500**	**5.3%**	**8.3%**
Amount paid for Student Allowance	$63,856,153	$65,176,209	$75,412,355	2.1%	15.7%
Amount paid for Accommodation Benefit	$8,633,802	$8,297,391	$9,099,885	-3.9%	9.7%
Total amount paid	**$72,489,955**	**$73,473,601**	**$84,512,240**	**1.4%**	**15.0%**
Average Student Allowance	$1,941	$1,882	$2,011	-3.0%	6.9%
Average Accommodation Benefit	$383	$360	$375	-6.0%	4.2%

Note: Not every SA recipient is eligible for Accommodation Benefit.

2 Education providers

From January to March 2026, 22,347 students received SA for study at University only. This was 1,410 more students (up 6.7 percent) when compared with the same period in 2025 (20,937).

There were 9,396 students who received SA for study at only the New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (NZIST)/ Polytechnic. This was 885 more students (up 10.4 percent) when compared with the same period in 2025 (8,511).

Table 2.1 provides a summary of the number of SA recipients by the type of provider that they were enrolled in over the last three years. The SA data file 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

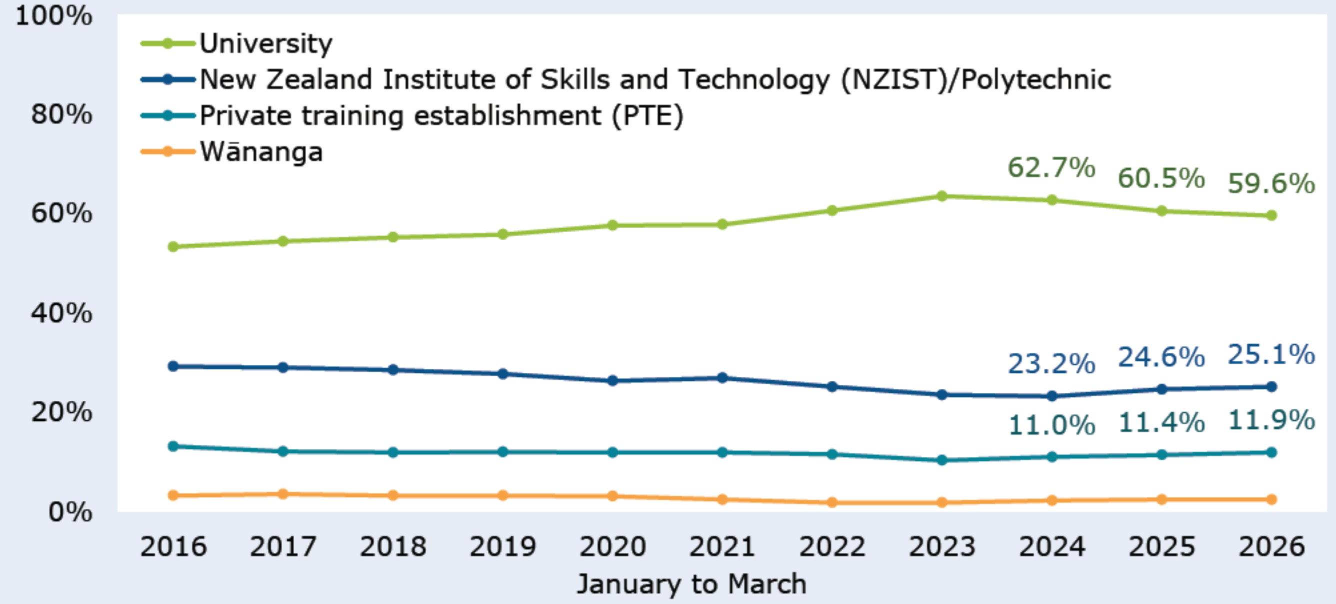
Type of provider	January to March			Annual change	
	2024	2025	2026	2024–25	2025–26
University	20,625	20,937	22,347	1.5%	6.7%
New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (NZIST)/Polytechnic	7,635	8,511	9,396	11.5%	10.4%
Private training establishment (PTE)	3,603	3,960	4,464	9.9%	12.7%
Wānanga	720	834	888	15.8%	6.5%
Multiple and other providers	321	384	402	19.6%	4.7%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	**32,904**	**34,632**	**37,500**	**5.3%**	**8.3%**

Note 1: From 1 January 2026 NZIST began its disestablishment and returned to regional governance.

Note 2: “Multiple and other providers” includes combinations of providers (e.g. University and NZIST, PTE and University) that some students attended during the specified reporting period, as well as ‘other’ types of education providers such as high schools.

Students attending only University made up 59.6 percent of SA recipients, followed by students attending only the New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (NZIST)/Polytechnic at 25.1 percent.

Figure 2.1: Distribution of SA recipients by type of education provider, January to March 2016–2026



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 March			Annual change	
	2024	2025	2026	2024–25	2025–26
University	$35,999,606	$34,177,912	$39,300,092	-5.1%	15.0%
New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (NZIST)/Polytechnic	$16,195,634	$18,093,661	$21,343,324	11.7%	18.0%
Private training establishment (PTE)	$9,076,198	$9,935,605	$11,401,588	9.5%	14.8%
Wānanga	$1,553,092	$1,794,763	$2,122,663	15.6%	18.3%
Multiple and other providers	$1,031,623	$1,174,269	$1,244,688	13.8%	6.0%
Total amount paid for Student Allowance	**$63,856,153**	**$65,176,209**	**$75,412,355**	**2.1%**	**15.7%**

Note 1: Data does not include payments for AB.

Note 2: "Multiple and other providers" includes combinations of providers (e.g. University and NZIST, 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 weekly rates for Student Allowance are based on the personal and family circumstances of students, e.g., age, income of the student (and their partner if they have one), parental income for most students aged under 24 years, relationship status, and other circumstances.

From January to March 2026, 25.2 percent of SA recipients were single students who were living away from home. This proportion was 0.7 percentage points higher than it was in the same period in 2025.

Figure 3.1: Proportion of SA recipients based on personal and family circumstances, January to March 2016–2026

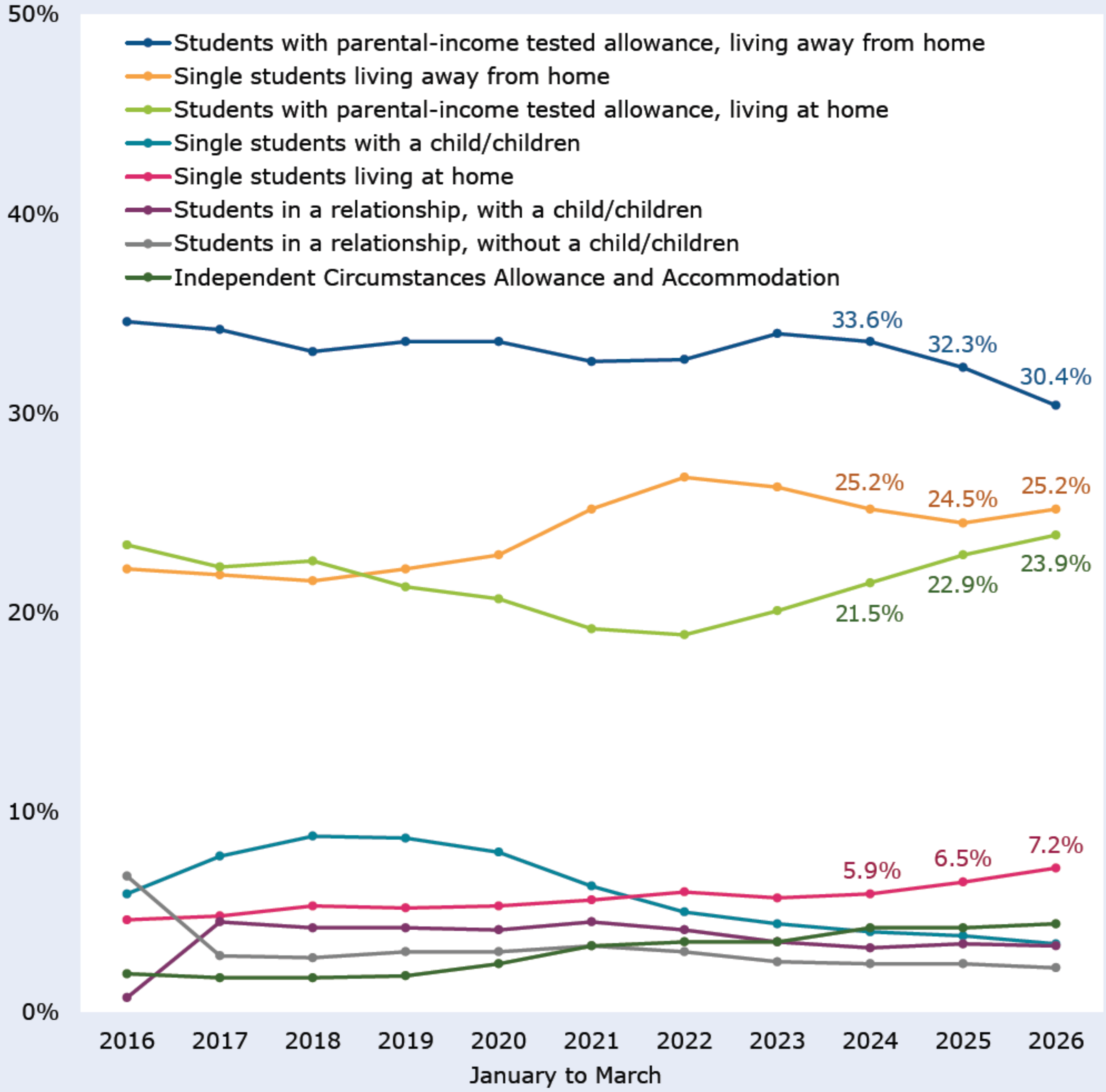


Table 3.1: Number of recipients based on personal and family circumstances

Personal and family circumstances	January to March			Annual change	
	2024	2025	2026	2024–25	2025–26
Students with parental-income tested allowance, living at home	7,086	7,944	8,955	12.1%	12.7%
Students with parental-income tested allowance, living away from home	11,070	11,199	11,388	1.2%	1.7%
Single students living at home	1,953	2,235	2,700	14.4%	20.8%
Single students living away from home	8,286	8,484	9,462	2.4%	11.5%
Single students with child/children	1,320	1,320	1,281	0.0%	-3.0%
Students in a relationship, without a child/children	777	816	843	5.0%	3.3%
Students in a relationship, with a child/children	1,041	1,179	1,233	13.3%	4.6%
Independent Circumstances Allowance and Accommodation	1,374	1,458	1,632	6.1%	11.9%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	**32,904**	**34,632**	**37,500**	**5.3%**	**8.3%**

Note: In this document, 'single' generally refers to students aged 24 years or older who are single. Under the SA scheme, a relationship is not recognised if either party is under 24 years old. Students who are under 24 are usually subject to a parental income test for SA. For more information, please see here.

4 Demographics of Student Allowance recipients

The following tables provide a summary profile of SA recipients for each of the last three years, up to the month specified. As demographics may change during the year, the profile is as recorded at the end of the period. Detailed data series are available in the SA data file.

Table 4.1: SA recipients by age group

Age group	January to March			Annual change	
	2024	2025	2026	2024–25	2025–26
16–17 years	339	441	414	30.1%	-6.1%
18–24 years	21,534	22,482	24,306	4.4%	8.1%
25–34 years	7,851	8,265	9,009	5.3%	9.0%
35–44 years	1,890	2,025	2,250	7.1%	11.1%
45–54 years	843	927	1,023	10.0%	10.4%
55 years and older	450	489	492	8.7%	0.6%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	**32,904**	**34,632**	**37,500**	**5.3%**	**8.3%**

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

Note 2: A breakdown of "55 and older" is available in the SA data file.

Table 4.2: SA recipients by gender

Gender	January to March			Annual change	
	2024	2025	2026	2024–25	2025–26
Female	19,599	20,316	22,155	3.7%	9.1%
Male	12,810	13,701	14,712	7.0%	7.4%
Gender Diverse	495	615	636	24.2%	3.4%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	**32,904**	**34,632**	**37,500**	**5.3%**	**8.3%**

Table 4.3: SA recipients by residential status

Residential status	January to March			Annual change	
	2024	2025	2026	2024–25	2025–26
Citizen by birth	24,093	25,110	26,595	4.2%	5.9%
Citizen	4,857	5,193	5,598	6.9%	7.8%
Permanent resident	3,558	3,777	4,662	6.2%	23.4%
Other	396	552	645	39.4%	16.8%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	**32,904**	**34,632**	**37,500**	**5.3%**	**8.3%**

Note: "Other" includes students who have refugee status, and those classified as protected person/s.
Details of "Other" are included in the downloadable data file.

Table 4.4: SA recipients by relationship status

Relationship status	January to March			Annual change	
	2024	2025	2026	2024–25	2025–26
Single	30,768	32,262	35,037	4.9%	8.6%
Married/Civil Union	1,350	1,443	1,494	6.9%	3.5%
Defacto	789	927	966	17.5%	4.2%
Unknown	0	3	3	N/A	0.0%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	**32,904**	**34,632**	**37,500**	**5.3%**	**8.3%**

Note: 'Unknown' refers to students who have had a change in relationship status which needs to be confirmed.
These students will not receive further payments until their relationship status is 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: SA responses by ethnic group

Ethnic group (Total response)	January to March			Annual Change	
	2024	2025	2026	2024–25	2025–26
European	18,711	19,287	20,019	3.1%	3.8%
Māori	6,354	6,735	7,626	6.0%	13.2%
Pacific Peoples	3,555	3,948	4,641	11.1%	17.6%
Asian	8,571	9,072	10,260	5.8%	13.1%
Middle Eastern/Latin American/African	1,500	1,722	1,929	14.8%	12.0%
Other	171	168	171	-1.8%	1.8%
Total recipients with recorded ethnicity	**32,559**	**34,242**	**37,089**	**5.2%**	**8.3%**
Not specified	345	390	414	13.0%	6.2%
Total number of Student Allowance recipients	**32,904**	**34,632**	**37,500**	**5.3%**	**8.3%**

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

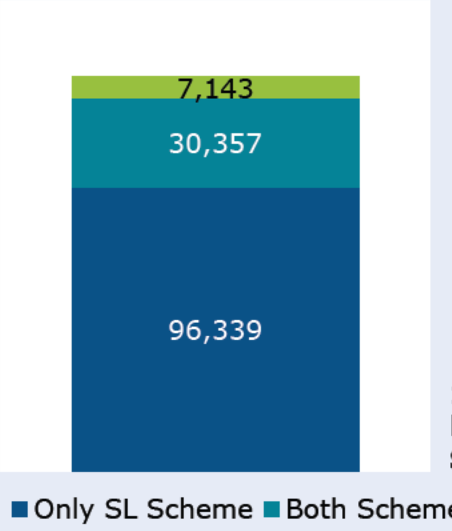
Student support update | January to March 2026

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

1 Snapshot | January to March 2026

1.1 Number of students under Student Loan (SL) and Student Allowance (SA) Schemes 2026

133,839 students received student support.

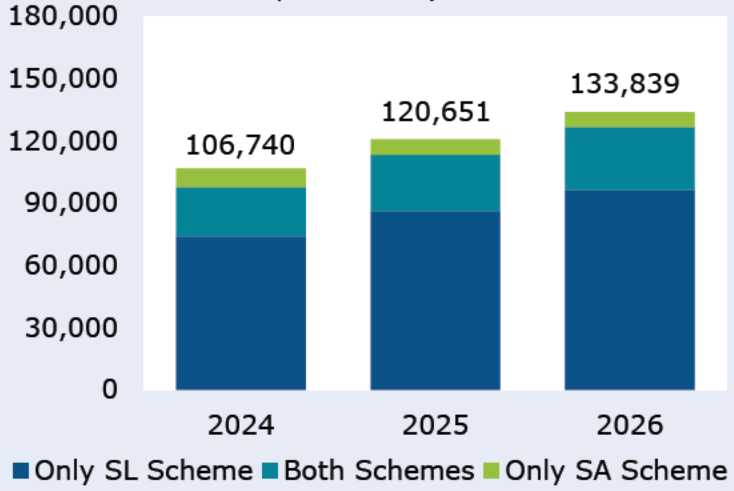


37,500 students received support under the **SA Scheme**.

126,696 students borrowed under the **SL Scheme**.

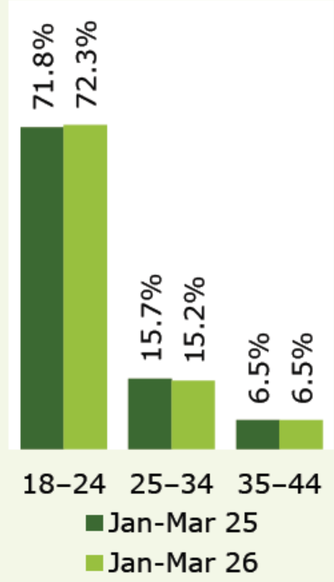
1.2 Number of students under SL and SA Schemes 2024 to 2026

13,188 more students (up 10.9 percent) received student support compared with the same period last year.

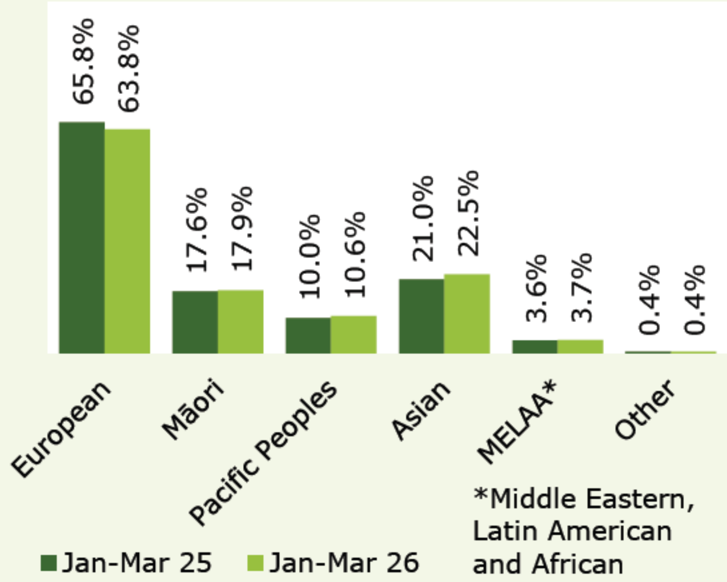


2 Students' profile | January to March 2026

2.1 Selected age groups

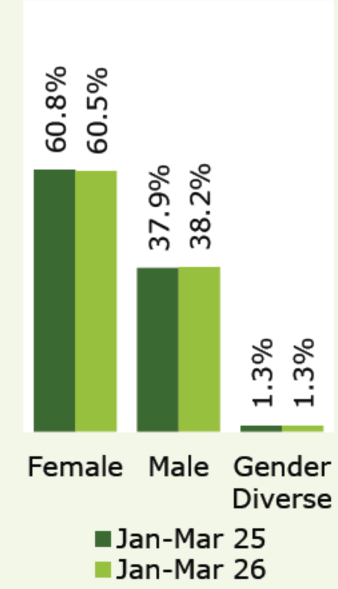


2.2 Total Response Ethnicity



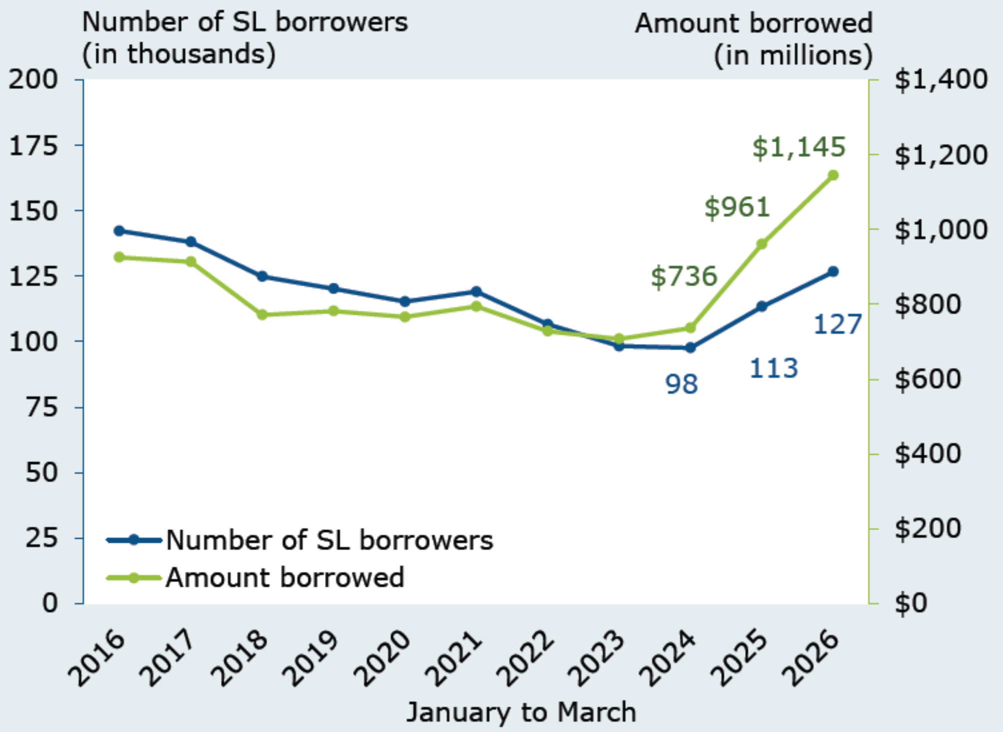
*Middle Eastern, Latin American and African

2.3 Gender

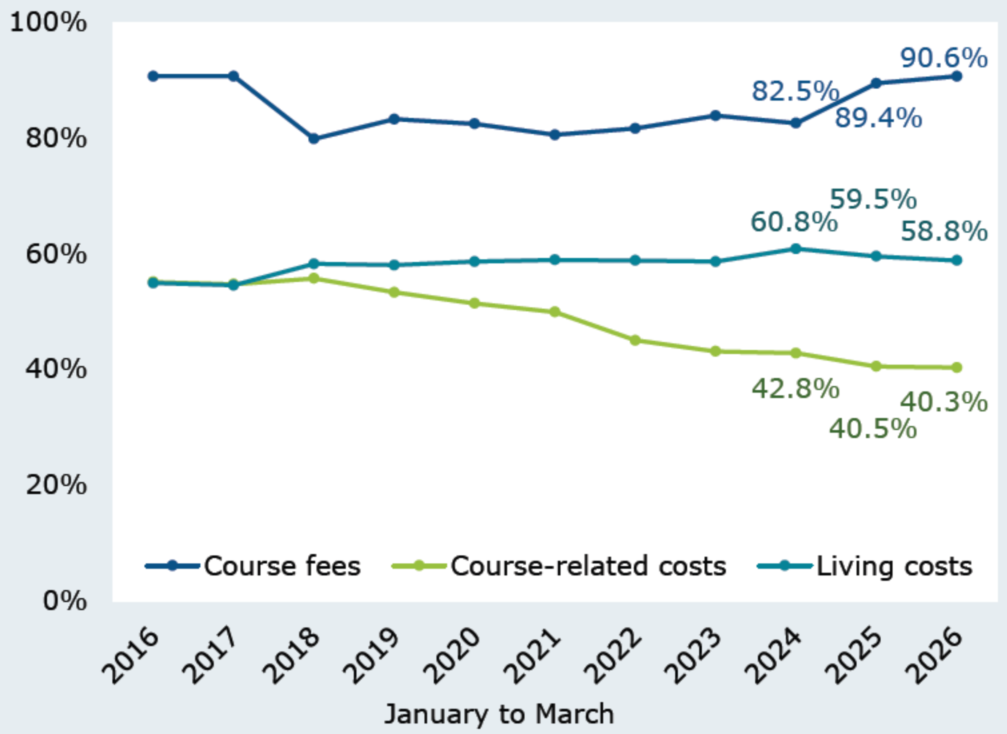


3 Long-term trends – Student Loan | January to March 2016–2026

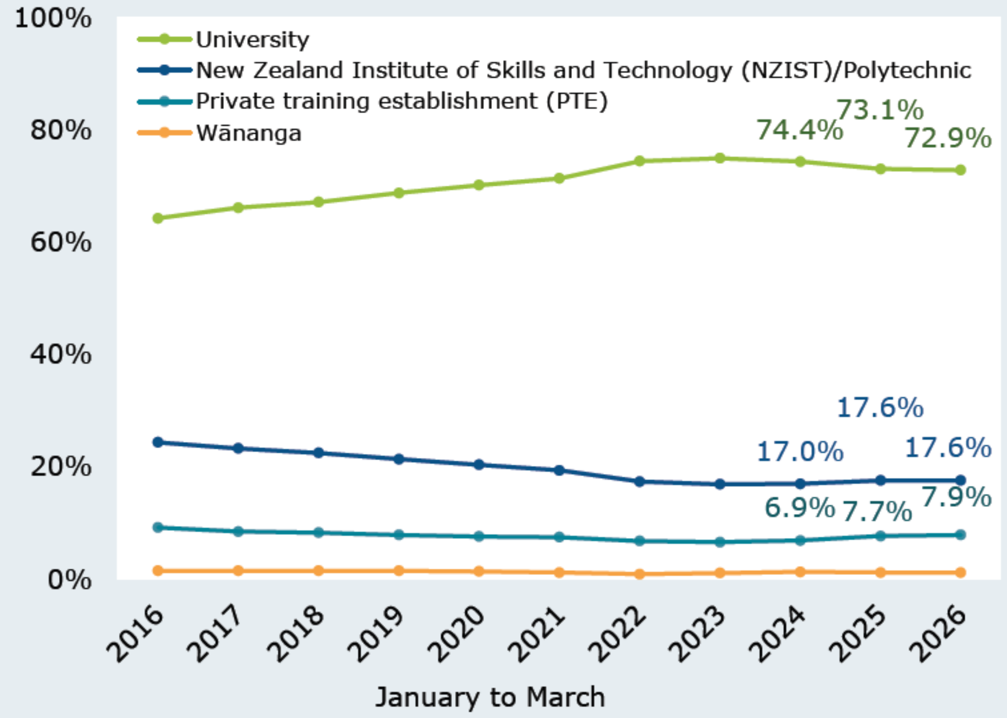
3.1 Number of SL borrowers and amount borrowed



3.2 Proportion of SL borrowers by SL component



3.3 Proportion of SL borrowers by type of education provider



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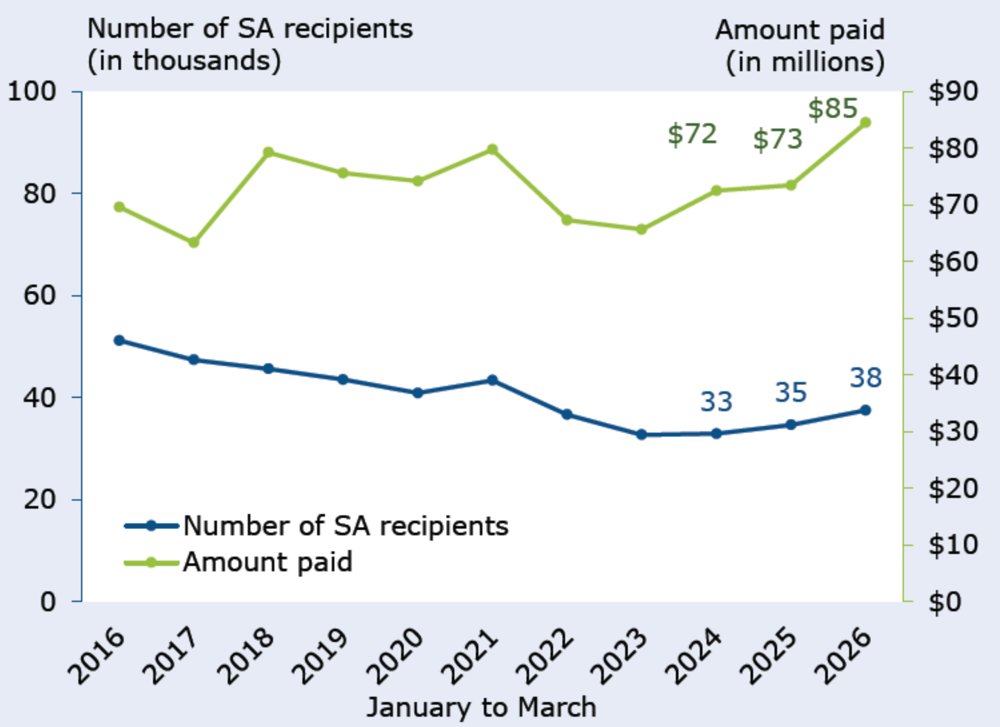
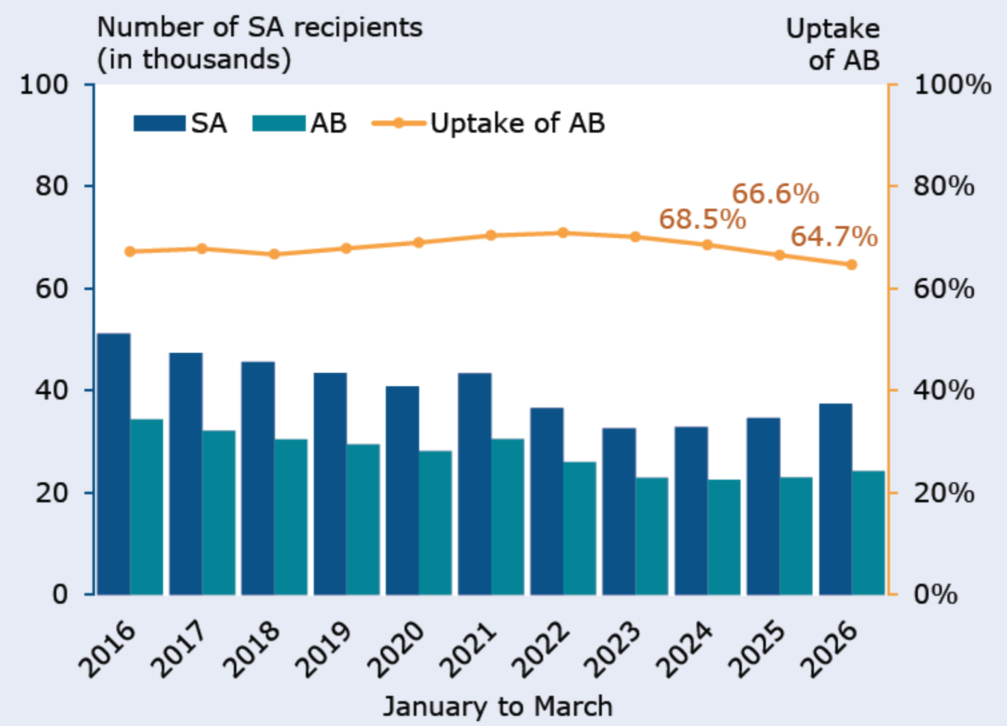
4 Long-term trends – Student Allowance | January to March 2016–2026

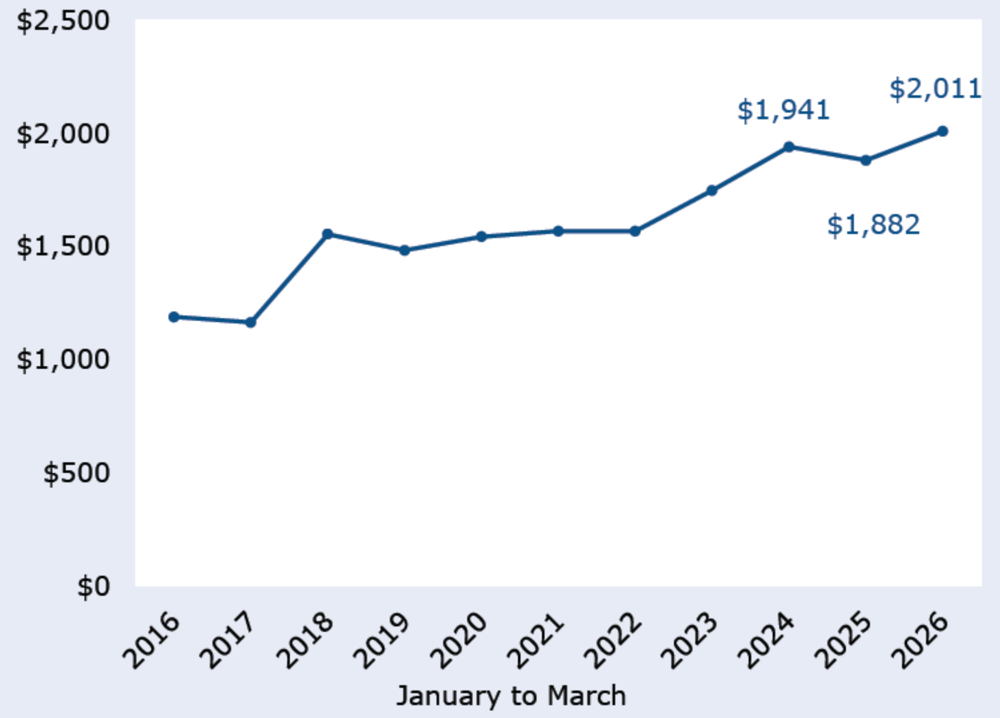
4.1 Number of SA recipients and amount paid



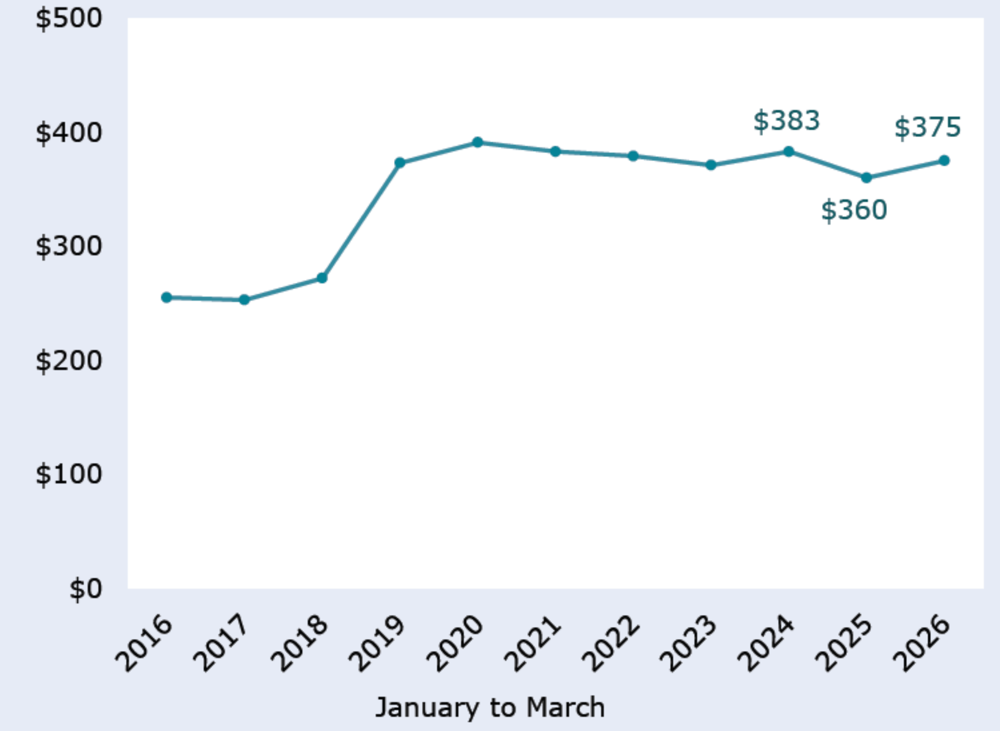
4.2 Number of SA recipients and uptake of Accommodation Benefit (AB)



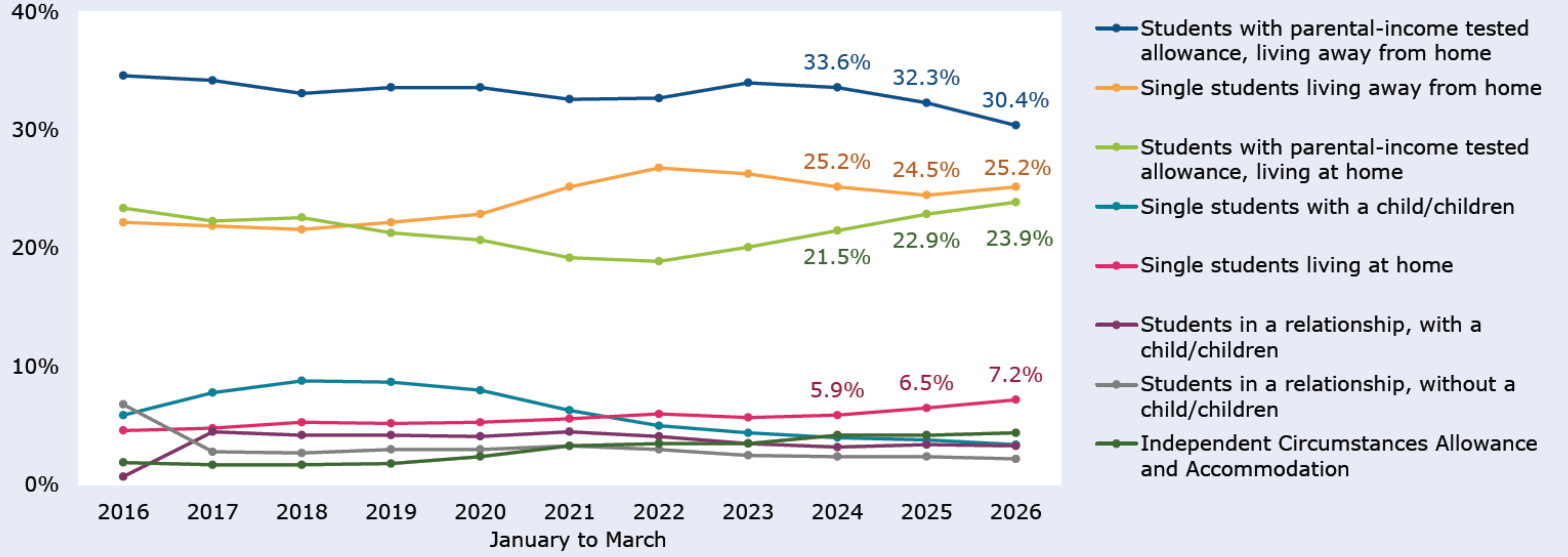
4.3 Average SA amount paid to SA recipients



4.4 Average AB amount paid to SA recipients



4.5 Proportion of SA recipients based on personal and family circumstances



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Other resources and websites

Detailed reports and downloadable Excel files are available at the Ministry of Social Development website (www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/studylink/index.html).

Inland Revenue's **Student Loan Scheme quarterly reports** on loan repayments are available at the Inland Revenue website (www.ird.govt.nz/about-us/tax-statistics/statistics-on-the-student-loan-scheme).

Information on how we report **Total Response Ethnicity** is available at the Ministry of Social Development website (www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/tools/how-we-report-ethnicity.html).

Information and eligibility criteria for the government's **Fees Free policy** are available at the Fees Free government website (www.feesfree.govt.nz).

An **online calculator** and information on **extra support to help students** are available at the StudyLink website (www.studylink.govt.nz/products/rates/calculators/index.html and www.studylink.govt.nz/starting-study/whats-available/extra-help.html).

Information on **scholarships and other financial help** is available at the Ministry of Education website (www.education.govt.nz/parents-and-caregivers/school-leavers/available-assistance/scholarships-study-and-training).

More information to **support tertiary education providers** is available at the Tertiary Education Commission website (www.tec.govt.nz).

Annex 2: IRD student loan statistics

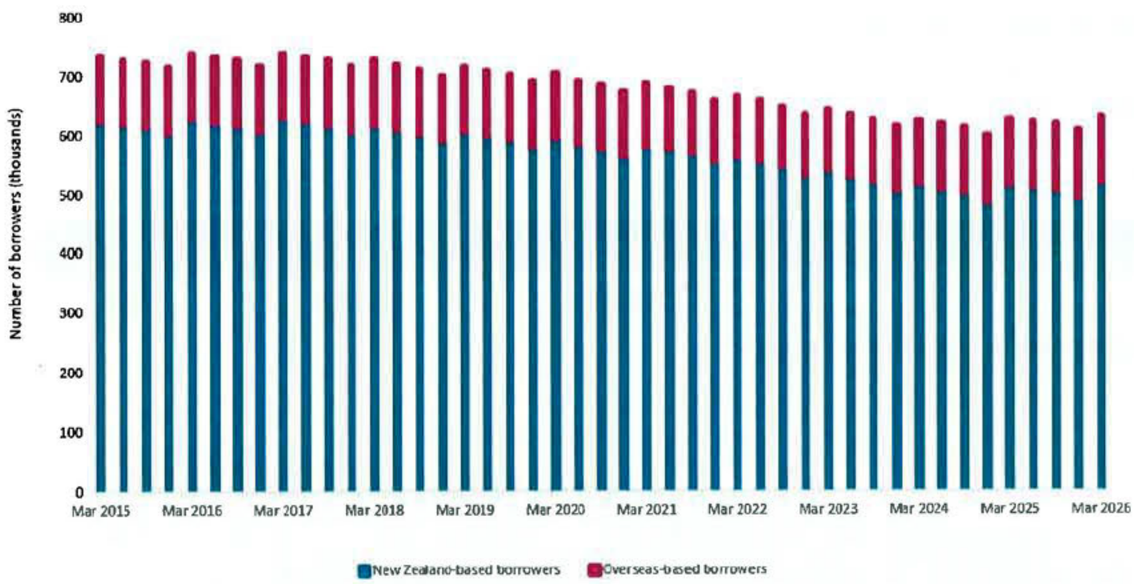
Webstats

This data is published on IR's website with other tax and social policy statistics. The website includes technical notes that provide context for interpreting data.

Number of student loan borrowers

Number of borrowers	31-Mar-2025	31-Mar-2026	% change
New Zealand-based borrowers	512,381	516,586	0.8%
Overseas-based borrowers	114,347	114,724	0.7%
Total	**626,728**	**631,310**	**0.7%**

Number of student loan borrowers by quarter



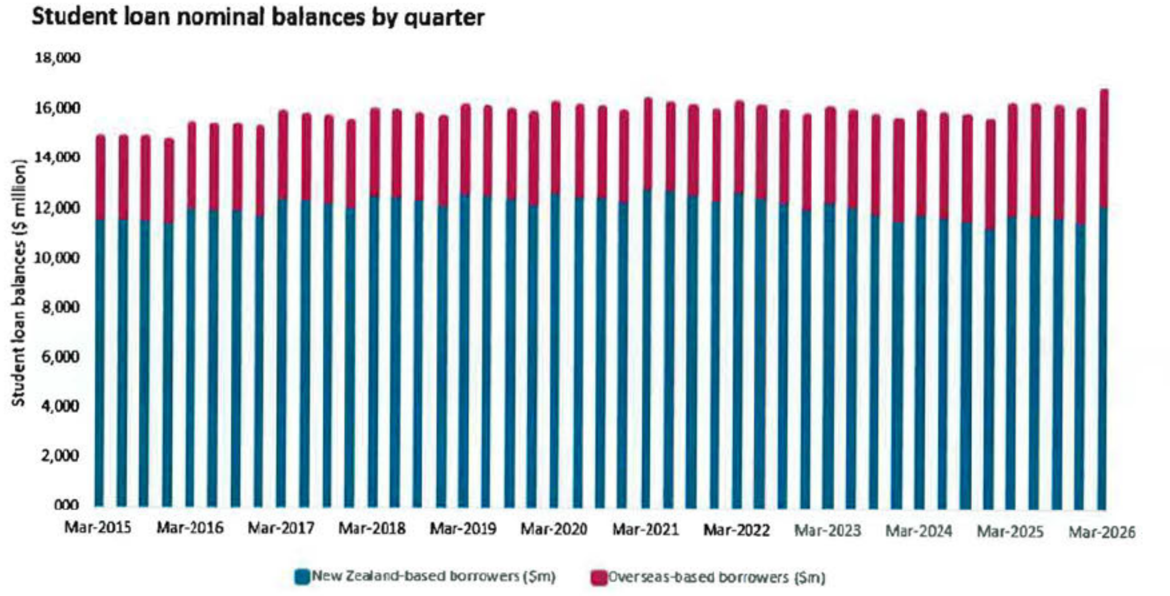
Student loan balances

Student loan nominal balances

Nominal balance is the loan balance held by IR as at the end of the quarter. The balance includes:

- all outstanding loans
- any penalties, interest or fees.

Nominal loan balance	31-Mar-2025	31-Mar-2026	% change
New Zealand-based borrowers	$11,976m	$12,383m	3.4%
Overseas-based borrowers	$4,246m	$4,459m	5.0%
Total	**$16,222m**	**$16,842m**	**3.8%**

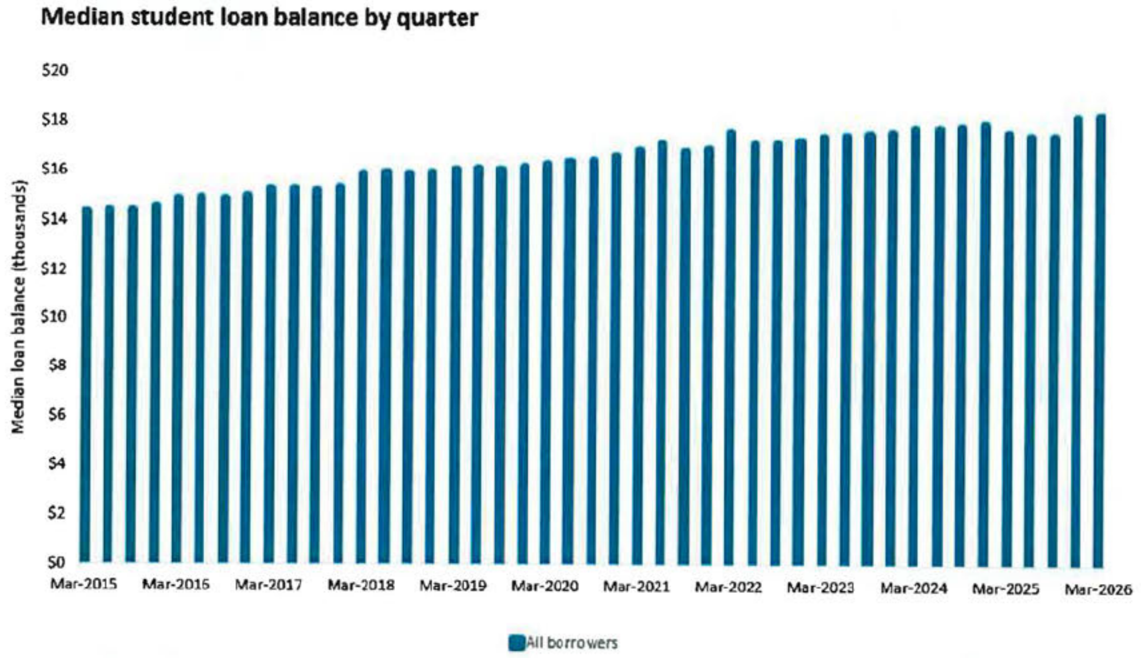


Median student loan balance

Median loan balance is the loan balance held by IR as at the end of the quarter. The balance includes:

- all loan principle not repaid (both not yet due and overdue)
- any penalties, interest, or fees.

Median loan balance	31-Mar-2025	31-Mar-2026	% change
All	$17,611	$18,302	3.9%



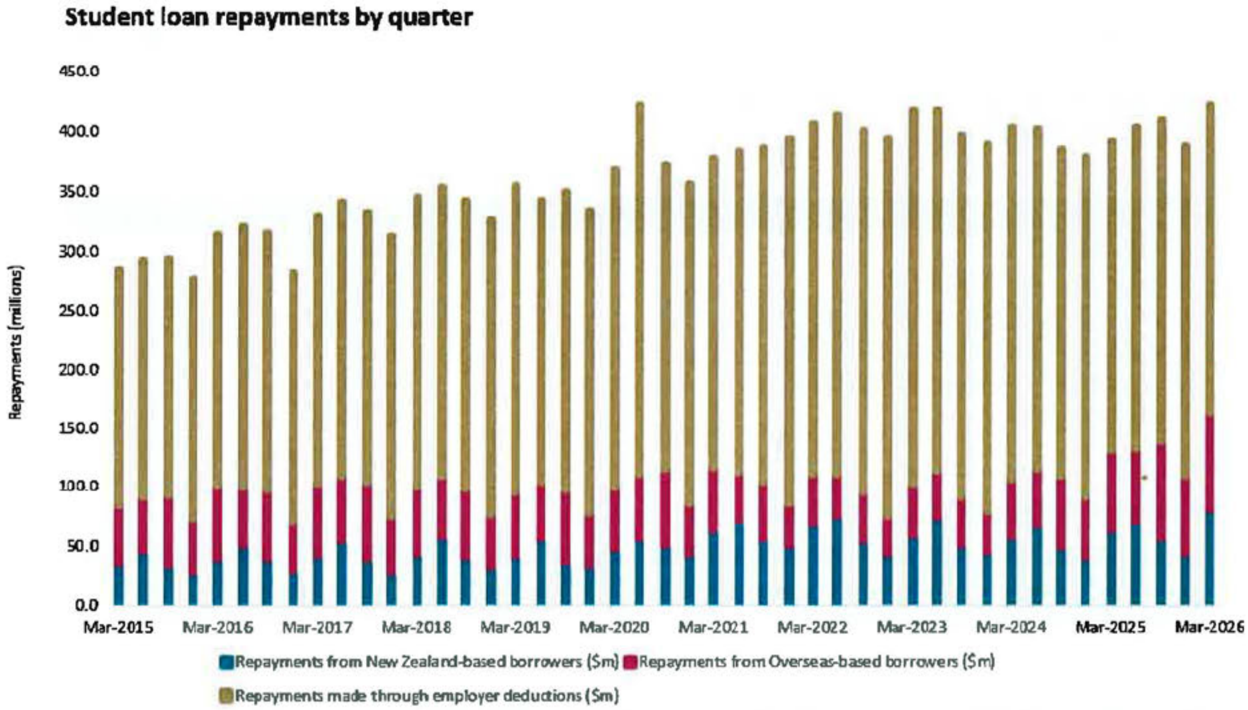
Student loan repayments

The amount repaid includes all money received:

- directly from borrowers (voluntary payments, payments from borrowers with income other than salary and wages, and OBBs), or

- from employers through deductions from salary or wage earners.

Repayment types	Jan – Mar 2025	Jan – Mar 2026	% change
Repayments via employers	$261m	$260m	-0.2%
Repayments via borrowers	$131m	$151m	15.1%
New Zealand-based borrowers	$63m	$68m	9.2%
Overseas-based borrowers	$69m	$83m	20.5%
Total	**$392m**	**$411m**	**5.0%**



Percent of student loan borrowers that meet their obligations

This table shows the percent of student loan borrowers who have met their obligations against IR's performance target of 95% for NZB's and 31% for OBB's as at the end of each quarter. There is an increase in compliance for OBBs, when compared to the same time last year, following good results from marketing and campaign activities.

Borrowers meeting obligations	31-Mar-2025	31-Mar-2026	% change
New Zealand-based borrowers	94.1%	94.7%	0.6%
Overseas-based borrowers	24.9%	26.5%	1.6%
Total	**81.4%**	**82.3%**	**0.9%**

Repayment thresholds - New Zealand-based borrowers

NZBBs receiving salary or wages are required to repay 12 cents of every dollar earned over the pay period repayment threshold (e.g., $464 per week from 1 April 2025). The deductions are considered sufficient and do not result in additional repayments provided they are within a determined threshold. If significant under-deductions occur, the employer is required to make compulsory extra deductions.

Borrowers who earn $500 or more of adjusted net income (income that is not salary and wages and adjustments), and whose total income including salary or wages is $500 or more than the annual repayment threshold, are required to make payments on this income. The table below shows the repayment threshold for the year ending 31 March (the tax year).

Tax year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Threshold	$20,020	$20,280	$21,268	$22,828	$24,128

Repayment thresholds – Overseas-based borrowers

OBB's repayment obligations were set to a fixed minimum based on their loan balance as at 31 March 2014 or, if they left New Zealand after this date, their departure date. The overseas-based repayment obligation will not decrease as the loan balance decreases but can increase if the loan balance increases.

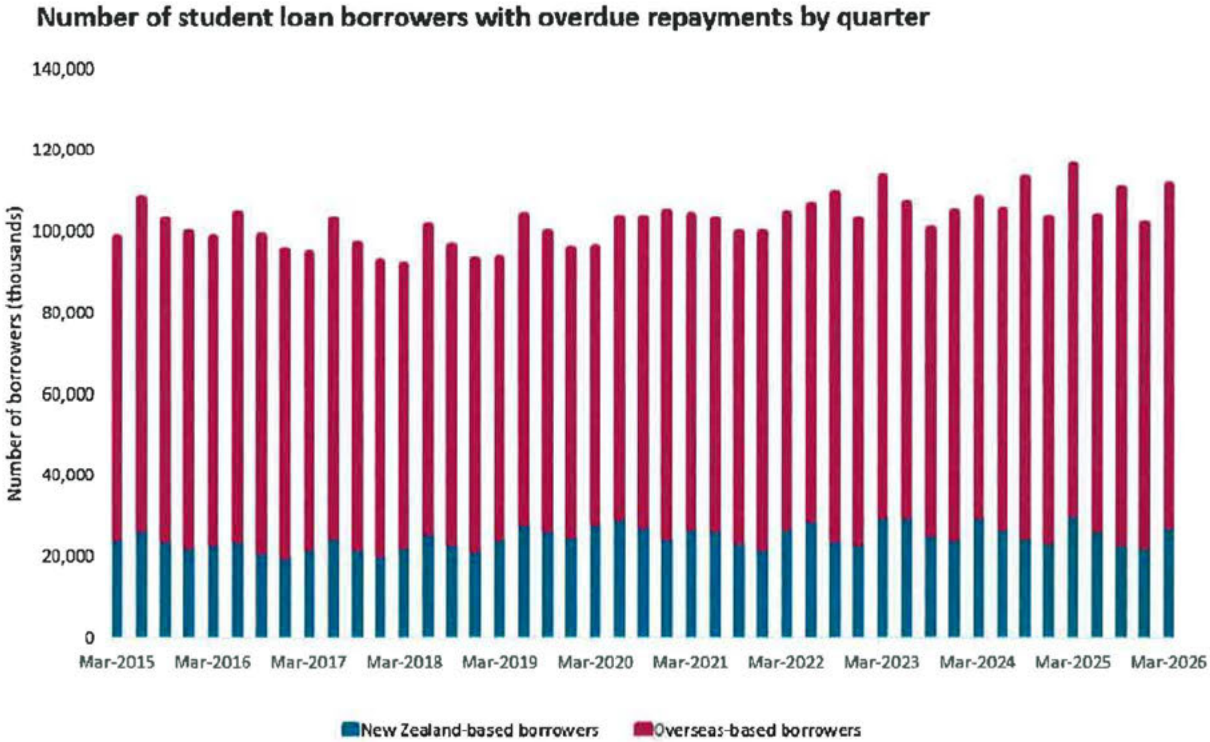
Total loan balance	Repayment obligation
Under $1000	Whole loan balance
$1,000 and up to $15,000	$1,000
Over $15,000 and up to $30,000	$2,000
Over $30,000 and up to $45,000	$3,000
Over $45,000 and up to $60,000	$4,000
Over $60,000	$5,000

Overdue repayments

If a borrower does not meet some or all of their repayment obligations by the due date, the amount that is due but not paid becomes an overdue repayment. Late payment interest is charged on the overdue amount.

Number of student loan borrowers with overdue repayments

Borrowers with overdue repayments	31-Mar-2025	31-Mar-2026	% change
New Zealand-based borrowers	30,375	27,538	-9.3%
Overseas-based borrowers	85,911	84,272	-1.9%
Total	**116,286**	**111,810**	**-3.8%**



Amount of overdue student loan repayments

Amount overdue	31-Mar-2025	31-Mar-2026	% change
New Zealand-based borrowers	$184m	$185m	0.6%
Overseas-based borrowers	$2,331m	$2,478m	6.3%
Total	**$2,515m**	**$2,663m**	**5.9%**