

TARGET

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Fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit

50,000 fewer people on the Jobseeker Support benefit.


LEAD MINISTER

Hon Louise Upston, Minister for Social Development and Employment

LEAD AGENCY

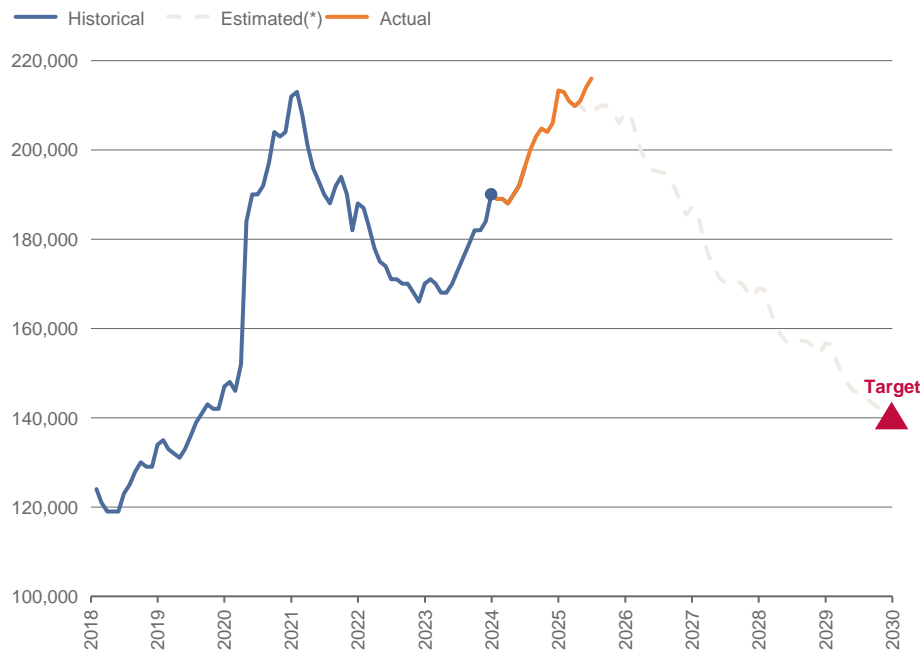
Ministry of Social Development, Secretary for Social Development, Debbie Power

TARGET DELIVERY PERFORMANCE - QUARTER ENDING JUNE 2025

Target	Baseline (December 2023)	Current (Jun 2025)	Status
50k reduction (140k people)	190,000	216,000	 At Risk

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

Total number of people on the Jobseeker Support benefit



(*) updated to take account of Budget Economic and Fiscal Update (BEFU) 2025 forecasts

TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS

The Government is focused on increasing living standards and opportunities for all New Zealanders and pursuing its approach to economic growth through Going for Growth.

The Government is committed to ensuring the welfare system is supporting people who can work into employment. Paid employment offers the best opportunity for people to achieve social and economic wellbeing.

There was an increase of 6,200 people receiving Jobseeker Support since the last quarterly report.

Flows of people onto Jobseeker Support are expected to decrease as economic conditions improve and as welfare system interventions are embedded over 2025 and 2026, which will reduce pressure on the welfare system.

The Government continues to advance a comprehensive package of reforms. Key actions include:

- **Resetting expectations and obligations of Jobseekers** including the Traffic Light System to inform people what is required of them to continue receiving a benefit. This has resulted in 13,000 sanctions this quarter, which is around 2,900 higher than the same period in 2024.
- **Moving people into work.** The number of people who exited Jobseeker Support into employment has increased by 1,800 this quarter, compared to the same period in 2024. The rollout of Individual Employment Plans continues and is planned to be extended to all 70,000 clients in Employment Case Management.
- **Supporting young people off benefit and into employment** including the introduction of a phone-based employment case management service which includes over 6,000 18-24-year-old clients, and 2,100 more places for young people to get community job coaching.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

For the Ministry of Social Development's Income Support Reporting go to www.msd.govt.nz

For information on the Government Targets go to www.dpmc.govt.nz