

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 SEPTEMBER 2024

Target	Baseline (December 2023)	Current (September 2024)	Status
50k reduction (140k people)	190,000	204,800	 At Risk

PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGET

Total number of people on the Jobseeker Support benefit



TARGET DELIVERY ACTIONS

The Government is committed to restoring economic stability and enhancing prosperity by implementing policies focused on promoting economic growth and employment, improving Government spending and regulation, and lowering the cost of living.

Prolonged economic conditions have continued to increase flows of people onto Jobseeker Support which has seen an increase of 8,000 since the last quarterly report. We expect these flows to decrease when economic conditions improve, which will reduce pressure on the welfare system, and when welfare system interventions are embedded.

The Government is advancing a comprehensive package of reforms to shift more people off Jobseeker Support and into employment. Key actions include:

- **Resetting expectations and obligations of Jobseekers** including a new Traffic Light System to inform people what is required of them to continue receiving a benefit. This has resulted in sanctions increasing by 14,000 across the quarter, an increase of 8,000 compared to the same period in 2023.
- **More exits** – the number of people who exited Jobseeker Support into employment has increased by ~2,500 (or 18%) compared to the same quarter last year.
- **Increased client engagement and activation** with 2,100 new places for youth Jobseeker Support clients in Year 1 of Welfare that Works, a reset of case management caseloads to ensure more Jobseekers get case management, the introduction of phone-based case management increasing overall case management capacity to 70,000 by the end of the year, and the introduction of more regular work check-in seminars.
- **Delivering an employment investment framework.**

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