

## ELIGIBILITY FOR SOCIAL WELFARE BENEFITS

The following table outlines the eligibility for the various social welfare benefits and the current amounts payable to beneficiaries (as at May, 1982). Benefits one to five as well as ten and eleven are subject to income tests and dependent child supplements are paid according to Item 6 of the table.

The income exemption and abatement provisions are:

- (a) **Unemployment Benefit** is reduced by \$1 for every \$1 of personal earnings in excess of \$10 per week.
- (b) **Domestic Purposes, Invalids, Widows and Sickness Benefits** are subject to a basic income exemption of

\$1,300 per annum (\$25 per week). Income in excess of this and up to \$2,080 per annum (\$40 per week) causes the benefit to be abated by 40 cents for each complete dollar earned, and income in excess of \$2,080 per annum causes the benefit to be abated by 80 cents for each dollar earned.

Benefit rates are subject to periodic review, which are announced by the Department of Social Welfare. In particular, the level of national superannuation payments is set after publication by the Department of Labour of the average ordinary time weekly wage (determined by the quarterly employment survey conducted in the previous November or May).

BENEFIT AND ELIGIBILITY	MAXIMUM AMOUNT (\$ PER WEEK)	NOTES
<b>1. UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT</b>		
16 years of age or over, capable of and willing to work; have taken reasonable steps to obtain work; not out of work because of strike action taken by themselves or fellow members of their union at the same place of employment. Ordinarily resident in New Zealand. Not qualified for national superannuation.	Unmarried:	In no case will the benefit be more than the loss of weekly earnings.
	20 years or over	
	Under 20 years	58.10
	Married:	Income tested. Taxable where there is no child supplement paid for dependent child.
Husband or wife separately	63.64	
Husband (wife included)	127.28	
<b>2. DOMESTIC PURPOSES BENEFIT</b>		
At least 16 years of age.	Solo parents or women alone	Income tested. Telephone and T.V. concessions available.
(a) Solo parent with one or more dependent children; or (b) woman alone who has had the care and control of one or more dependent children for not less than 15 years and ceased to have the care and control of such child or children after attaining age 50, or who was married for not less than 5 years and lost support of her husband after attaining age 50, or who had responsibility for full-time care of an incapacitated relative for not less than 5 years and ceased to have such responsibility after attaining age 50; or (c) person having responsibility for full-time care of an incapacitated relative.	Caring for sick or infirm — unmarried and 18 or over	
	— unmarried and under 18	76.37
	— married	58.10
		63.64
<b>3. INVALIDS BENEFIT</b>		
At least 15 years of age. Severely restricted in capability to work, or are totally blind.	Unmarried:	Income tested. Telephone and T.V. concessions available.
	18 or over	
	Under 18	58.10
	Married:	
Husband or wife separately	63.64	
	Spouse included	127.28
<b>4. WIDOWS BENEFIT</b>		
(a) Widow with one or more dependent children, or (b) Widow who has had one or more children and the duration of whose marriage and any subsequent period during which she had the care and control of dependent children was not less than 15 years, or (c) Widow (i) has attained 50 years and (ii) became a widow after attaining 40 years and (iii) was married not less than 10 years and (iv) not less than 15 years has elapsed since the date of her marriage.	76.37	Income tested. Telephone and T.V. concessions available.
<b>5. SICKNESS BENEFIT</b>		
15 years or over. Temporarily incapacitated for work, and has therefore suffered a loss of salary, wages or other earnings.	Unmarried:	Income tested. Telephone concession available. In no case will the benefit be more than the loss in weekly earnings.
	18 years or over	
	Under 18	58.10
	Married:	
Husband and wife separately	63.64	
	Spouse included	127.28

BENEFIT AND ELIGIBILITY	MAXIMUM AMOUNT (\$ PER WEEK)		NOTES
<b>6. ANY OF THE ABOVE BENEFITS WHERE THERE ARE DEPENDENT CHILDREN</b>			
Dependent children generally defined as those meeting the family benefit requirements as below.	Solo parent and 1 child	121.28	
	Solo parent and 2 children Increased by \$5.00 p.w. for each subsequent child	126.28	
	Married couple with one child Increased by \$5.00 p.w. for each subsequent child	132.28	
<b>7. ORPHANS BENEFIT</b>			
Under 16 years		37.35	Must be used for the benefit of the orphan.
<b>8. FAMILY BENEFIT</b>			
Under 16, or if continuing education up to 18 years.	For each dependent child	6.00	Can be capitalised to assist with housing needs under certain circumstances.
<b>9. NATIONAL SUPERANNUATION</b>			
Age 60 years	Married couple (both partners qualify)	170.48	Superannuation payments are made irrespective of financial position, except where payment is claimed for a dependent spouse who is ineligible, in which case an income test is applied. Taxable.
	Single person including married person whose spouse is ineligible	102.29	
The married couple rate of payment is set at 80 percent of the average ordinary time weekly wage and the single person's rate is set at 60 percent of the amount payable to a married couple.			
<b>10. ACCOMMODATION BENEFIT</b>			
Accommodation benefit (up to \$18 p.w.) is available to beneficiaries and superannuitants with limited income and cash assets and have accommodation costs in excess of certain amounts.			Income tested.
<b>11. EMERGENCY BENEFITS</b>			
May be granted on the grounds of hardship to people who are not qualified to receive any other cash benefit under the Social Security Act but who by reason of age, physical or mental disability, or for any other reason are unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for themselves and their dependents.			Income tested.
<b>12. BENEFIT ON DEATH</b>			
Payable on death of person under 60 years of age, and not entitled to Accident Compensation lump sum payment. Depending on the degree of dependency, the maximum amount of the benefit is:	To the widow or widower	1,000*	* Single payment
	To each dependent child	500*	
<b>13. DISABILITY ALLOWANCE</b>			
Persons incurring additional expenditure as a result of their disablement and whose income would not preclude payment of an income tested social security benefit.		11.00	
<b>14. HANDICAPPED CHILD'S ALLOWANCE</b>			
Payable in respect of a seriously handicapped child being cared for — (a) at home; (b) in a home or hostel operated by an approved voluntary agency if the child's parent contributes to the cost and cares for the child during school holidays or weekends.		8.00	

**RESERVE BANK OF NEW ZEALAND  
LIABILITIES**

(NZ\$ millions)

LIABILITIES							
Demand Deposits							
Year and Month	Note Issue	State	1			2	Total Liabilities
			Mark-eting Organ's	Banks	Other	All Other L'ibilities	
Weekly Average							
1969	173.9	74.2	4.5	36.3	60.2	40.8	389.9
1970	182.9	74.1	4.1	44.7	36.9	59.9	402.6
1971	201.8	80.1	3.4	32.3	15.9	76.4	409.9
1972	223.9	195.8	3.6	38.0	18.8	124.6	604.7
1973 <sup>4</sup>	262.3	276.4	17.9	31.5	63.8	308.9	960.7
1974 <sup>4</sup>	305.8	154.7	21.1	25.0	165.1	328.8	1,000.5
1975 <sup>4</sup>	343.5	136.3	16.8	26.6	350.3	309.4	1,182.9
1976 <sup>4</sup>	382.8	145.0	22.4	12.4	466.7	357.5	1,386.8
1977	414.9	164.9	33.4	11.4	538.1	455.6	1,618.4
1978 <sup>4</sup>	447.4	198.7	13.8	4.6	507.1	529.2	1,700.8
1979	492.5	219.6	46.7	2.4	438.3	576.4	1,775.8
1980	528.9	222.1	69.9	0.9	361.6	745.8	1,929.1
1981	588.6	226.0	25.6	1.0	150.4	1,019.0	2,010.5
As At—							
1981							
April 29	576.7	171.4	25.5	—	219.4	770.3	1,763.3
May 27	576.5	184.6	25.0	—	149.9	977.1	1,913.2
June 24	567.8	210.9	19.1	—	104.1	933.1	1,835.0
July 29	569.3	200.8	19.1	—	104.3	1,033.6	1,927.1
Aug. 26	575.6	210.2	18.7	—	83.1	953.2	1,840.8
Sept. 30	574.9	211.3	19.2	0.7	81.9	1,046.2	1,934.4
Oct. 28	592.6	184.0	16.7	0.2	112.2	1,147.6	2,053.3
Nov. 25	593.6	190.0	18.1	0.2	122.2	1,139.5	2,063.7
Dec. 30	728.1	374.0	15.8	—	166.5	1,539.0	2,823.4
1982							
Jan 27	619.0	204.2	59.9	—	163.9	1,604.5	2,651.5
Feb 24	614.6	193.4	68.6	17.7	134.8	1,638.6	2,667.7

1 Includes balances in special fund accounts and wool retention accounts.

2 Includes capital accounts, reserves, miscellaneous liabilities in New Zealand, overseas liabilities, Special Drawing Rights and trading bank time deposits at Reserve Bank.

**RESERVE BANK OF NEW ZEALAND**

(NZ\$ millions)

ASSETS

Year and Month	Overseas Assets <sup>4</sup>				Advances in N.Z.						Total Assets
	Gold	SDRs	3 Short Term	Investments	Investments in N.Z.	State	Marketing Organ's	Other Advan. & Disc.	Export Credits	All Other Assets in N.Z.	
Weekly Average											
1969	1.0	...	72.0	44.9	69.2	13.2	150.8	24.0	...	14.8	389.9
1970	0.8	16.4	57.5	51.5	74.7	7.4	148.3	28.8	0.9	16.3	402.6
1971	0.7	20.6	86.2	60.3	65.3	5.7	135.9	11.7	7.4	16.1	409.9
1972	0.7	49.7	193.4	121.3	39.6	0.2	156.0	2.0	9.5	32.4	604.7
1973 <sup>4</sup>	0.7	52.0	240.1	315.0	82.8	0.2	205.6	3.4	9.2	51.8	960.7
1974 <sup>4</sup>	0.7	27.7	72.4	258.4	256.2	54.8	248.1	9.1	10.8	62.3	1,000.5
1975 <sup>4</sup>	0.7	3.0	108.1	139.9	322.0	164.8	340.1	19.7	18.7	66.0	1,182.9
1976 <sup>4</sup>	0.7	9.9	178.8	53.4	583.3	93.9	369.6	13.8	22.7	60.7	1,386.8
1977	0.7	25.8	166.7	55.7	796.9	113.3	377.1	6.2	28.2	47.8	1,618.4
1978 <sup>4</sup>	0.7	51.2	242.9	53.3	496.8	256.5	428.7	94.9	28.5	47.2	1,700.8
1979	0.7	38.3	213.4	9.3	668.4	129.5	525.3	87.9	34.0	69.1	1,775.8
1980	0.7	30.6	160.6	9.5	571.3	302.7	630.2	102.9	45.9	74.8	1,929.1
1981	0.7	32.6	160.8	10.4	592.5	286.4	626.2	110.2	41.6	149.4	2,010.5
As At—											
1981											
Aug. 26	0.7	26.8	84.7	10.9	545.7	398.7	516.3	24.1	41.2	191.8	1,840.8
Sept. 30	0.7	26.8	56.6	10.9	659.2	220.6	432.4	194.3	46.0	287.9	1,934.4
Oct. 28	0.7	27.5	237.2	11.0	716.7	164.6	473.1	123.4	45.4	253.5	2,053.1
Nov. 25	0.7	27.6	28.0	11.0	610.2	446.4	598.1	16.6	47.7	277.4	2,063.7
Dec. 30	0.7	27.3	452.3	10.8	1,237.8	111.0	687.9	19.0	49.6	227.0	2,823.4
1982											
Jan. 27	0.7	27.5	250.4	11.0	1,204.8	12.3	799.1	18.9	48.6	278.2	2,651.5
Feb. 24	0.7	26.7	84.5	11.2	1,009.0	305.7	826.3	5.0	49.9	348.7	2,667.7

3 Current account balances and short-term bills.

4 Refer to Exchange Rates table in the Reserve Bank Bulletin.