



**Work and Income**  
Te Hiranga Tangata

*A service of the Ministry of Social Development*

# **Happy Docs – Doctors and Documents!**

**GP Presentation - 2013**  
**Dr David Bratt**  
**Principal Health Advisor**  
**Ministry of Social Development**



# Today's Challenge

---

- What do you want to know?
- What do you need to know!
- What's the problem? - and how big is it?
- What happens now
- Health Benefits of Work – a clinical imperative
- Welfare Reform – what's that about?
- Making the right thing the easy thing to do

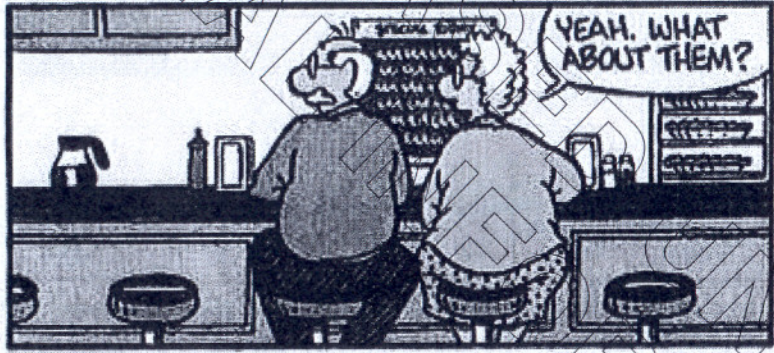


Work and Income  
Te Hiranga Tangata

*A service of the Ministry of Social Development*



ARE WE THERE YET?





# Children and Families in NZ

---

- **How many New Zealand children live in a household where there is no-one in paid work?**
- (a) 1 in 3 ? (33%)
- (b) 1 in 5 ? (20%)
- (c) 1 in 8 ? (12%)
- (d) 1 in 20 ? (5%)



**Work and Income**  
Te Hiranga Tangata

*A service of the Ministry of Social Development*

# Children and Families in NZ

---

- **How many New Zealand children live in a household where there is no-one in paid work?**
- (a) 1 in 3 (33%) – in Northland
- **(b) 1 in 5 (20%) – in NZ**
- (c) 1 in 8 (12%) – adults out of work
- (d) 1 in 2 (50%) – Maori children in Northland



Work and Income  
Te Hiranga Tangata

A service of the Ministry of Social Development



**How many working-age (18 to 64yr) adults and their families in NZ depend on a tax-payer funded Benefit for income?**

---

- (a) 50,000 ?
- (b) 150,000 ?
- (c) 250,000 ?
- (d) 350,000 ?



**Work and Income**  
Te Hiranga Tangata

*A service of the Ministry of Social Development*

**How many working-age (18 to 64yr) adults and their families in NZ depend on a tax-payer funded Benefit for income?**

---

- (a) 50,000 ?
- (b) 150,000 ?
- (c) 250,000 ?
- **(d) 350,000 – 13% = 1 in 8**



**Work and Income**  
Te Hiranga Tangata

*A service of the Ministry of Social Development*



# The numbers are people too!

---

1 March 2013

|                |   |                |
|----------------|---|----------------|
| • UB           | - | 51,031         |
| • (UBY         | - | 15,178)        |
| • DPB          | - | 107,418        |
| • SB           | - | 59,128         |
| • IB           | - | 89,128         |
| • Other        | - | <u>13,691</u>  |
| • <b>Total</b> | - | <b>320,396</b> |

31 July 2008

|         |   |        |
|---------|---|--------|
| • UB    | - | 20,712 |
| • UBY   | - |        |
| • DPB   | - | 98,099 |
| • SB    | - | 46,964 |
| • IB    | - | 85,745 |
| • Other | - | 22,304 |

Total - 273,824



Work and Income  
Te Hiranga Tangata

A service of the Ministry of Social Development



# Close to Home – The Bay

1 March 2013

|                |   |                |
|----------------|---|----------------|
| • UB           | - | 51,031         |
| • (UBY         | - | 15,178)        |
| • DPB          | - | 107,418        |
| • SB           | - | 59,128         |
| • IB           | - | 89,128         |
| • Other        | - | <u>13,691</u>  |
| • <b>Total</b> | - | <b>320,396</b> |

BoP numbers

|         |   |              |
|---------|---|--------------|
| • UB    | - | 5,694        |
| • (UBY  | - | 1,765)       |
| • DPB   | - | 11,595       |
| • SB    | - | 5,408        |
| • IB    | - | 5,556        |
| • Other | - | <u>1,212</u> |

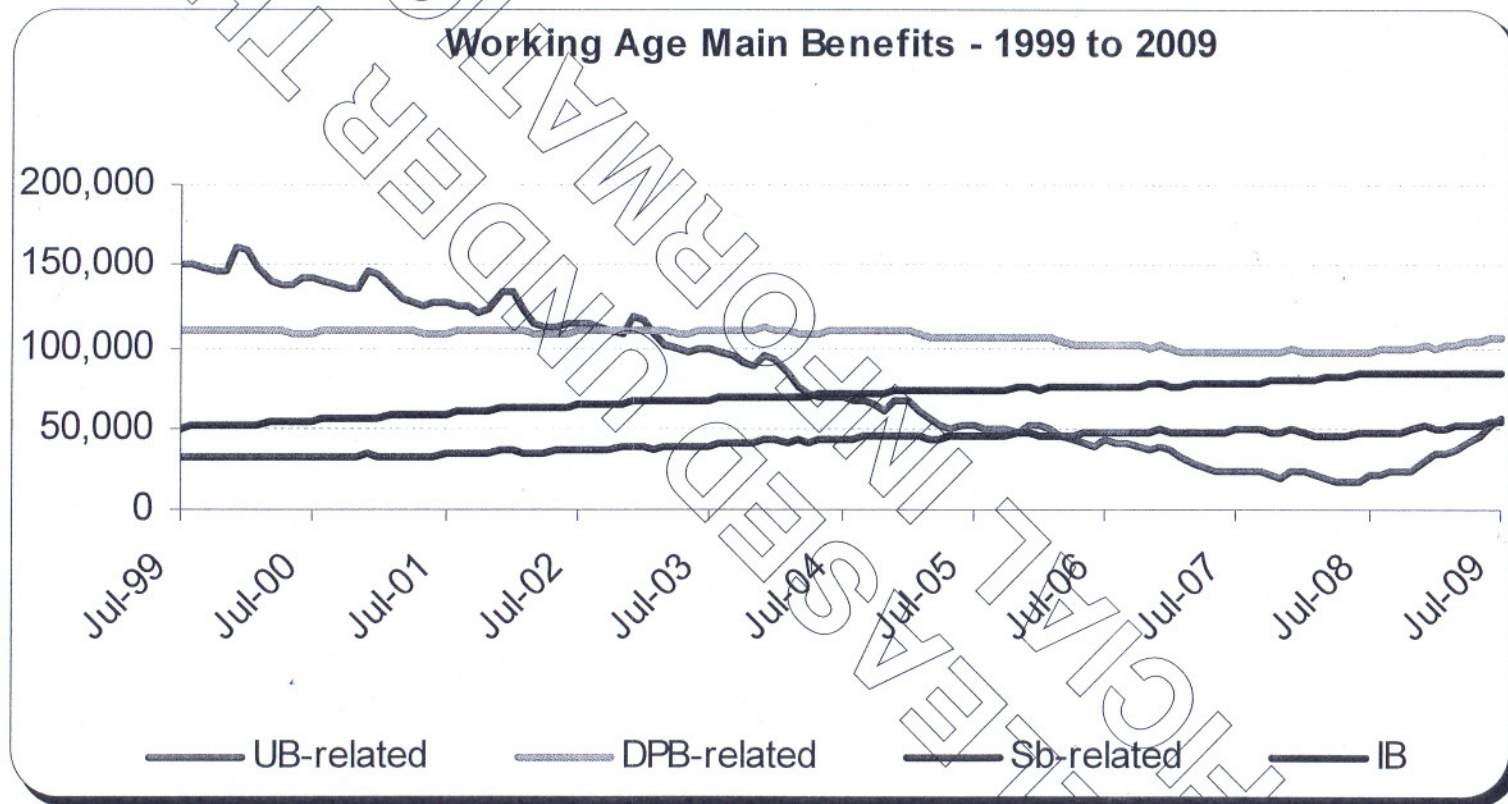
Total - 29,209



Work and Income  
Te Hiranga Tangata

A service of the Ministry of Social Development

# Main Benefits – 1999 to 2009





# A Life of Ease – Yeah Right!

---

- **How much does a Solo-parent get on the DPB to support themselves and their family?**
- (a) \$250 a week ?
- (b) \$300 a week ?
- (c) \$350 a week ?
- (d) \$400 a week ?



**Work and Income**  
Te Hiranga Tangata

A service of the Ministry of Social Development

# The Financial Reality

---

## Benefit rates (May 2012)

|                  | Net per week | Gross per year |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| • UB & SB < 25yr | \$170.80     | \$9,923        |
| • UB & SB > 25yr | \$204.96     | \$11,908       |
| • UB & SB couple | \$341.60     | \$19,847       |
| • IB – single    | \$256.19     | \$14,959       |
| • IB – couple    | \$426.98     | \$24,808       |
| • DPB            | \$293.58     | \$17,316       |



Work and Income  
Te Hiranga Tangata

A service of the Ministry of Social Development



# Context

---

- NZ average wage - \$855 a week net
- Average earnings before tax \$49,875 a year
- NZ Minimum wage \$13.50 an hour
- Minimum wage equals \$28,080 Gross a year
- Remember Solo parent gets \$16,950 Gross



**Work and Income**  
Te Hiranga Tangata

*A service of the Ministry of Social Development*

# Determinants of health

---

- What are some of the things which you think contribute to a person's "Health"?



**Work and Income**  
Te Hiranga Tangata

*A service of the Ministry of Social Development*



# Determinants of health

---

- education
- employment
- income
- housing
- access to medical and related services



# A Challenge

---

- If the patient sitting in front of you currently requesting a Medical Certificate for a Sickness Benefit was a worker with a job to go back to – how long would you expect to certify them for as “incapable of any suitable work”?



# Prescribing Considerations?

---

- What am I treating?
- Is the treatment based on evidence?
- Is it effective?
- What are the possible side-effects?
- What are the adverse effects?
- Interactions?



**Work and Income**  
Te Hiranga Tangata

A service of the Ministry of Social Development

# What do we know being out of work?

---

- Loss of Income
- Destructive on self-respect
- Risks of ill-health
- The “psychological scar” persists
- Trans-generational effects
- All up unemployment is bad for your patients



**Work and Income**  
Te Hiranga Tangata

*A service of the Ministry of Social Development*