

Regional Snapshot: Gisborne



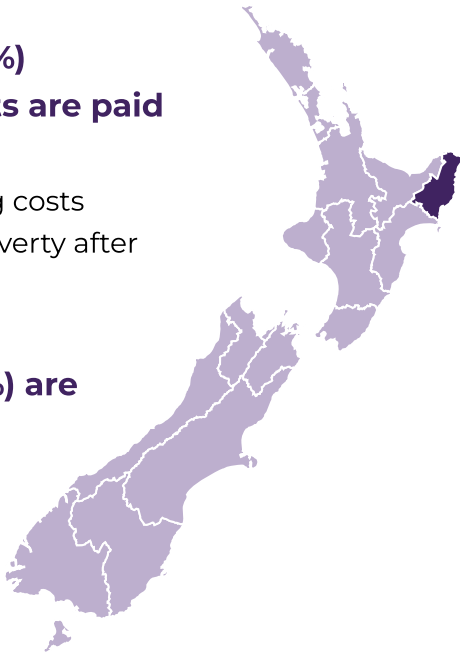
New Zealand Council Of
Christian Social Services

31,500 people in Gisborne/Hawke's Bay (13.8%) experience poverty after housing costs are paid

1,000 adults over 65 years old in Gisborne (11.79%) experience poverty after housing costs
9,900 children in Gisborne/Hawke's Bay (17.4%) live in households experiencing poverty after housing costs

22,500 people in Gisborne/Hawke's Bay (9.9%) are unable to afford essential items

7,900 children in Gisborne/Hawke's Bay (13.8%) are living in households that are unable to afford the essentials



Employment

1 in 4 (27.3%) 20-24 year olds in Gisborne/Hawke's Bay are not taking part in employment, education or training (compared to 16.2% of this age group nationally)

14.3% of working adults in Gisborne/Hawke's Bay report they would like, or are able, to work more hours than they currently were (compared to 13.8% nationally)

31% of people in Gisborne experienced food insecurity in the past year

Income adequacy

The Jobseeker support is estimated to be \$103.45/week short of covering essential living costs like food, housing and power for single adult recipients in Gisborne

In the year to June 2026 29,145 special needs grants were approved in the East Coast, for households unable to cover their everyday expenses such as food, medical costs and utilities

More than 1,000 young people in Gisborne do not have a proper home

Housing

In the year to March 2026 more than half (57%) of emergency housing applications were declined

More than 1 in 3 adults over the age of 65 in Gisborne lived in a house they did not own (35.36% compared to 17.25% nationally)

Average rent (\$615/week) makes up 45% average weekly earnings (above the 40% national average)

Health

38.5% people in Gisborne had unmet dental treatment due to costs, with this disproportionately impacting 25-34 year olds (55.2%) and 35-44 year olds (62.7%)

Visit our website for more information on steps we recommend to help free New Zealanders from poverty
nzccss.org.nz

