

Regional Snapshot: West Coast



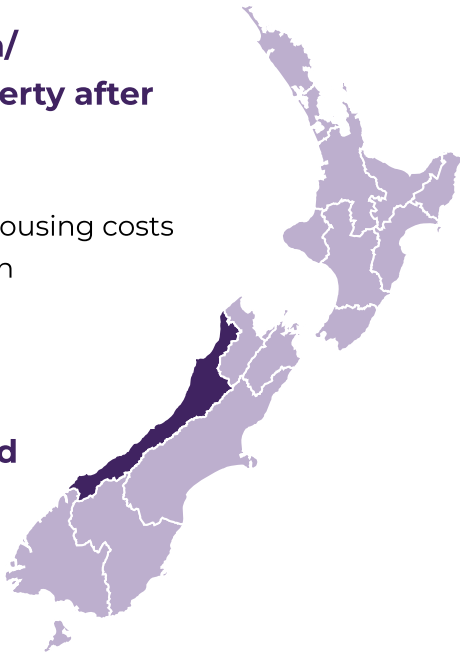
New Zealand Council Of
Christian Social Services

29,400 people in the West Coast/Marlborough/
Tasman/Nelson (15.2%) experience poverty after
housing costs are paid

1,000 adults over 65 years old in the West Coast (13.23%) experience poverty after housing costs
9,000 children in the West Coast/Marlborough/Tasman/Nelson region (21.7%) live in
households experiencing poverty after housing costs

15,600 people in West Coast/Marlborough/
Tasman/Nelson (8.1%) are unable to afford
essential items

6,200 children in the West Coast/Marlborough/Tasman/Nelson region (15%) are
living in households that are unable to afford the essentials



Employment

West Coast had the highest proportion of adults
aged 55-64 receiving the Jobseeker Support
benefit, representing roughly a third (32.25%) of
people receiving this support

14.1% of working adults reported they would like, or
are able, to work more hours than they currently
were (compared to 13.8% nationally)
for West Coast/Marlborough/Tasman/Nelson

**34% of people in West Coast experienced
food insecurity in the past year**

Housing

The median time to be housed for applicants on
the housing register is almost double the national
average at 290 days in West Coast and Tasman

Income adequacy

The Jobseeker support is estimated to be
\$107.61/week short of covering essential living costs
like food, housing and power for single adult
recipients in Westland

Average monthly power prices were \$38 higher in
May 2026 compared to May 2025 in West Coast

Health

1 in 4 people in West Coast (25%) had unmet dental
treatment due to costs

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