

PQ 28237 (2025) PQ 28238 (2025)

**Table 1: The number of sanctions for failing work obligations for working age main benefit clients with or without children during the period 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2025**

**For reason: Preparing for work**

*by quarter and ethnicity*

| Sanction reason / Quarter / Children |                |               | Total response ethnicity |          |                 |       |       |       |         |                 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-----------------|
|                                      |                |               | Māori                    | European | Pacific Peoples | Asian | MELAA | Other | Unknown | Total sanctions |
| Preparing for Work                   | September 2024 | No            | 1,509                    | 987      | 711             | 99    | 39    | 114   | 276     | 3,282           |
|                                      |                | Yes           | 180                      | 105      | 111             | 15    | 3     | 6     | 30      | 396             |
|                                      |                | Quarter total | 1,689                    | 1,092    | 822             | 114   | 42    | 120   | 306     | 3,678           |
|                                      | December 2024  | No            | 1,425                    | 876      | 570             | 81    | 33    | 111   | 249     | 2,964           |
|                                      |                | Yes           | 177                      | 84       | 93              | 9     | 3     | 6     | 24      | 342             |
|                                      |                | Quarter total | 1,602                    | 960      | 660             | 90    | 33    | 114   | 273     | 3,306           |
|                                      | March 2025     | No            | 1,503                    | 867      | 504             | 78    | 24    | 90    | 315     | 2,994           |
|                                      |                | Yes           | 159                      | 81       | 66              | 9     | 3     | 6     | 15      | 300             |
|                                      |                | Quarter total | 1,662                    | 948      | 567             | 87    | 27    | 99    | 333     | 3,294           |

**Notes:**

The table includes working age only (18 to 64 years).

Main Benefits exclude NZ Superannuation, Veteran's Pension, Non-Beneficiary assistance, Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit.

This is a count of sanctions, not clients. A client can have more than one sanction within the time period.

Children in care is assessed at the time of sanction.

Ethnicity data is self-identified and multiple ethnicities may be chosen by an individual as fits their preference or self-concept.

Total response ethnicity means that if a person identifies with more than one ethnic group, they are counted in each applicable group.

Because a client can choose more than one ethnic response, the total number of ethnic responses will be greater than the number of clients.

MELAA refers to Middle Eastern, Latin American, and African.

'Unknown' is where ethnicity is not recorded. 'Other ethnicity' is where ethnicities fall outside the reported ethnicities.

**Confidentiality Notes:**

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These data tables have had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts in the table.

Random rounding does not round down to zero, a value of one or two will be rounded to three.

The impact of applying random rounding is that columns and rows may not add exactly to the given column or row totals.

The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.

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**Table 2: The number of sanctions for failing work obligations for working age main benefit clients with or without children during the period 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2025**

**For reason: Preparing for work**

*by quarter and age group*

| Sanction reason / Quarter / Children |                |               | Age group |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | Total sanctions |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|
|                                      |                |               | 18-19     | 20-24 | 25-29 | 30-34 | 35-39 | 40-44 | 45-49 | 50-54 | 55-59 | 60-64 |                 |
| Preparing for Work                   | September 2024 | No            | 585       | 1,071 | 561   | 366   | 210   | 162   | 129   | 102   | 63    | 39    | 3,282           |
|                                      |                | Yes           | 33        | 36    | 57    | 57    | 78    | 63    | 42    | 21    | 9     | 3     | 396             |
|                                      |                | Quarter total | 621       | 1,107 | 615   | 420   | 285   | 225   | 171   | 120   | 72    | 39    | 3,678           |
|                                      | December 2024  | No            | 519       | 1,053 | 480   | 294   | 192   | 153   | 108   | 81    | 57    | 24    | 2,964           |
|                                      |                | Yes           | 27        | 54    | 42    | 48    | 54    | 45    | 33    | 27    | 6     | 3     | 342             |
|                                      |                | Quarter total | 549       | 1,107 | 522   | 342   | 246   | 198   | 141   | 111   | 63    | 27    | 3,309           |
|                                      | March 2025     | No            | 666       | 1,089 | 417   | 258   | 195   | 123   | 96    | 66    | 54    | 30    | 2,994           |
|                                      |                | Yes           | 42        | 54    | 24    | 30    | 57    | 45    | 24    | 18    | 3     | 3     | 300             |
|                                      |                | Quarter total | 708       | 1,146 | 441   | 288   | 252   | 165   | 120   | 84    | 54    | 33    | 3,294           |

**Notes:**

The table includes working age only (18 to 64 years).

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This is a count of sanctions, not clients. A client can have more than one sanction within the time period.

Children in care is assessed at the time of sanction.

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**Table 3: The number of sanctions for failing work obligations for working age main benefit clients with or without children during the period 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2025**

**For reason: Preparing for work**

*by quarter and gender*

| Sanction reason / Quarter / Children |                |                      | Gender       |                |              | Total sanctions |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
|                                      |                |                      | Female       | Gender Diverse | Male         |                 |
| Preparing for Work                   | September 2024 | No                   | 975          | 15             | 2,295        | 3,282           |
|                                      |                | Yes                  | 198          | 0              | 195          | 396             |
|                                      |                | <b>Quarter total</b> | <b>1,173</b> | <b>15</b>      | <b>2,493</b> | <b>3,681</b>    |
|                                      | December 2024  | No                   | 933          | 9              | 2,019        | 2,964           |
|                                      |                | Yes                  | 174          | 0              | 168          | 342             |
|                                      |                | <b>Quarter total</b> | <b>1,107</b> | <b>9</b>       | <b>2,190</b> | <b>3,306</b>    |
|                                      | March 2025     | No                   | 903          | 12             | 2,076        | 2,991           |
|                                      |                | Yes                  | 162          | 0              | 138          | 300             |
|                                      |                | <b>Quarter total</b> | <b>1,065</b> | <b>12</b>      | <b>2,214</b> | <b>3,291</b>    |

**Notes:**

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Children in care is assessed at the time of sanction.

From 2 December 2019, The Ministry of Social Development has three options to record a client's or child's gender: Male, Female or Gender Diverse.

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**Table 4: The number of sanctions for failing work obligations for working age main benefit clients with or without children during the period 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2025**

**For reason: Preparing for work**

*by quarter and benefit type*

| Sanction reason / Quarter / Children |                |                      | Benefit type      |                                                    |                                |                     |                                   |                                        | Total sanctions |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                      |                |                      | Emergency Benefit | Jobseeker Support - Health Condition or Disability | Jobseeker Support - Work Ready | Sole Parent Support | Supported Living Payments related | Youth Payment and Young Parent Payment |                 |
| Preparing for Work                   | September 2024 | No                   | 3                 | 90                                                 | 3,177                          | 0                   | 3                                 | 15                                     | 3,282           |
|                                      |                | Yes                  | 0                 | 24                                                 | 285                            | 57                  | 3                                 | 27                                     | 396             |
|                                      |                | <b>Quarter total</b> | <b>3</b>          | <b>111</b>                                         | <b>3,462</b>                   | <b>57</b>           | <b>3</b>                          | <b>45</b>                              | <b>3,678</b>    |
|                                      | December 2024  | No                   | 0                 | 96                                                 | 2,865                          | 0                   | 3                                 | 3                                      | 2,964           |
|                                      |                | Yes                  | 0                 | 9                                                  | 249                            | 63                  | 0                                 | 21                                     | 342             |
|                                      |                | <b>Quarter total</b> | <b>0</b>          | <b>105</b>                                         | <b>3,111</b>                   | <b>63</b>           | <b>3</b>                          | <b>24</b>                              | <b>3,306</b>    |
|                                      | March 2025     | No                   | 0                 | 135                                                | 2,847                          | 0                   | 3                                 | 9                                      | 2,991           |
|                                      |                | Yes                  | 0                 | 18                                                 | 192                            | 45                  | 3                                 | 42                                     | 300             |
|                                      |                | <b>Quarter total</b> | <b>0</b>          | <b>153</b>                                         | <b>3,039</b>                   | <b>48</b>           | <b>3</b>                          | <b>51</b>                              | <b>3,294</b>    |

**Notes:**

The table includes working age only (18 to 64 years).

Main Benefits exclude NZ Superannuation, Veteran's Pension, Non-Beneficiary assistance, Orphan's Benefit and Unsupported Child's Benefit.

This is a count of sanctions, not clients. A client can have more than one sanction within the time period.

Children in care is assessed at the time of sanction.

Jobseeker Support - Health Condition or Disability includes Jobseeker Support Health Condition, Injury or Disability and Jobseeker Support Health Condition, Injury or Disability Hardship.

Jobseeker Support - Work ready includes Jobseeker Support Work Ready, Jobseeker Support Work Ready Hardship, Jobseeker Support Work Ready Training and Jobseeker Support Work Ready Training Hardship

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