

Table 1: The number of Voluntary Unemployment Stand Downs imposed on working age main benefit clients, with or without children during the period 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2025, by quarter and ethnicity

Quarter / Children		Total response ethnicity							
		Māori	European	Pacific Peoples	Asian	MELAA	Other	Unknown	Total stand downs
September 2024	No	39	54	15	6	3	3	12	120
	Unknown	177	183	87	24	3	24	36	477
	Yes	3	3	3	0	0	0	3	9
	Quarter total	222	237	105	27	3	27	51	603
December 2024	No	45	63	21	3	3	6	6	132
	Unknown	162	144	75	18	3	30	27	393
	Yes	3	3	3	3	0	0	3	9
	Quarter total	210	213	96	24	6	36	33	534
March 2025	No	48	60	18	12	3	12	9	138
	Unknown	174	159	78	15	3	18	33	441
	Yes	6	3	3	3	0	0	3	18
	Quarter total	231	222	99	30	6	30	42	591

Notes:

- The table includes working age only (18 to 64 years)
- This is a count of stand downs, not clients. A client can have more than one stand down within the time period.
- Children in care is assessed at the time of stand down.
- In cases of a benefit stand down, children in care may not always be recorded, so this could be an under count of clients with children.
- 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.
- To protect confidentiality the Ministry of Social Development uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data.
- 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.

Table 2: The number of Voluntary Unemployment Stand Downs imposed on working age main benefit clients, with or without children during the period 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2025, by quarter and age group

Quarter / Children		Age group										Total stand downs
		18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	
September 2024	No	12	30	27	18	12	6	6	3	3	3	120
	Unknown	51	129	93	51	36	42	24	24	9	12	477
	Yes	0	3	0	3	3	3	0	3	0	0	9
	Quarter total	63	162	123	72	48	54	27	27	15	12	603
December 2024	No	15	51	18	12	6	3	6	3	3	3	132
	Unknown	36	93	72	57	36	24	24	21	15	18	393
	Yes	0	0	0	3	6	3	0	0	0	0	9
	Quarter total	51	147	93	72	48	33	30	21	21	21	534
March 2025	No	9	36	24	30	12	9	3	6	3	3	138
	Unknown	48	114	99	51	33	27	27	18	15	15	441
	Yes	0	0	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	3	18
	Quarter total	60	150	126	81	48	36	27	27	18	18	591

Notes:

- The table includes working age only (18 to 64 years).
- This is a count of stand downs, not clients. A client can have more than one stand down within the time period.
- Children in care is assessed at the time of stand down.
- In cases of a benefit stand down, children in care may not always be recorded, so this could be an under count of clients with children.

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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.

Table 3: The number of Voluntary Unemployment Stand Downs imposed on working age main benefit clients, with or without children during the period 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2025, by quarter and gender

Quarter / Children		Gender			Total stand downs
		Gender Diverse	Female	Male	
September 2024	No	3	21	96	120
	Unknown	3	114	360	477
	Yes	0	3	9	9
	Quarter total	3	138	462	603
December 2024	No	3	24	105	132
	Unknown	3	90	303	393
	Yes	0	3	9	9
	Quarter total	3	117	417	534
March 2025	No	0	27	108	138
	Unknown	3	114	324	441
	Yes	0	9	9	18
	Quarter total	3	147	441	591

Notes:

- The table includes working age only (18 to 64 years).
- This is a count of stand downs, not clients. A client can have more than one stand down within the time period.
- Children in care is assessed at the time of stand down.
- In cases of a benefit stand down, children in care may not always be recorded, so this could be an under count of clients with children.
- 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.
- To protect confidentiality the Ministry of Social Development uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data.

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- 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

Table 4: The number of Voluntary Unemployment Stand Downs imposed on working age main benefit clients, with or without children during the period 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2025, by quarter and stand down reason

Quarter / Children		Reason for stand down						Total stand downs
		Did not comply with Community Task Force requirement	Left of your own accord	Not available for work	VU penalty waived - transferring to a non work test benefit	VU penalty waived - undertake n clean slate employment activity	Were dismissed from employment	
September 2024	No	0	3	0	0	111	6	120
	Unknown	0	12	3	0	459	6	477
	Yes	0	3	0	0	9	0	9
	Quarter total	0	15	3	0	579	12	603
December 2024	No	0	9	3	0	120	3	132
	Unknown	0	12	0	3	372	6	393
	Yes	0	3	0	0	12	0	9
	Quarter total	0	21	3	3	501	9	534
March 2025	No	0	9	0	0	123	6	138
	Unknown	3	9	3	3	420	6	441
	Yes	0	3	0	0	12	3	18
	Quarter total	3	18	3	3	555	15	591

Notes:

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- The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.
- The reason reported is the last to be entered for that stand down. When the stand down was subsequently waived, the reason returned is the waiver reason, and we cannot determine the initial reason for the stand down being imposed without individually reviewing each client file.

Table 5: The number of Voluntary Unemployment Stand Downs imposed on working age main benefit clients, with or without children during the period 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2025, by quarter and benefit type

Quarter / Children		Benefit type			Total stand downs
		Jobseeker Support - Health Condition or Disability	Jobseeker Support - Work Ready	Sole Parent Support	
September 2024	No	9	111	0	120
	Unknown	18	450	9	477
	Yes	3	9	0	9
	Quarter total	27	570	9	603
December 2024	No	6	123	0	132
	Unknown	27	363	3	393
	Yes	3	6	3	9
	Quarter total	36	492	9	534
March 2025	No	6	132	0	138
	Unknown	12	426	3	441
	Yes	3	12	6	18
	Quarter total	18	567	9	591

Notes:

- The table includes working age only (18 to 64 years).
- This is a count of stand downs, not clients. A client can have more than one stand down within the time period.
- Children in care is assessed at the time of stand down.
- In cases of a benefit stand down, children in care may not always be recorded, so this could be an under count of clients with children.
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