

PQ 28235 (2025) PQ 28236 (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: Participating in work

by quarter and ethnicity

Sanction reason / Quarter / Children			Total response ethnicity							Total sanctions
			Māori	European	Pacific People	Asian	MELAA	Other	Unknown	
Participating in work	September 2024	No	540	234	246	36	3	33	66	1,044
		Yes	84	24	39	3	0	3	9	147
		Quarter total	624	261	288	39	3	33	75	1,191
	December 2024	No	459	228	213	33	3	18	75	903
		Yes	60	21	39	6	3	3	6	120
		Quarter total	516	249	249	36	9	24	78	1,023
	March 2025	No	432	189	246	27	12	30	60	876
		Yes	57	15	42	3	6	6	9	123
		Quarter total	492	204	288	30	12	36	69	1,002

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:

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.

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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: Participating in work

by quarter and age group

Sanction reason / Quarter / Children			Age group									
			18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64
Participating	September 2024	No	132	309	258	117	84	63	27	27	15	12
		Yes	0	12	27	21	39	27	18	3	3	0
		Quarter total	132	324	285	138	120	90	42	33	18	12
	December 2024	No	123	273	189	123	81	54	30	24	9	3
		Yes	0	12	15	21	27	24	12	6	3	3
		Quarter total	123	282	204	141	108	81	42	30	12	3
	March 2025	No	132	282	150	138	60	45	33	27	6	6
		Yes	0	15	12	18	24	27	18	9	3	3
		Quarter total	129	297	162	156	84	69	51	36	6	9

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.

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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: Participating in work

by quarter and gender

Sanction reason / Quarter / Children			Gender			Total sanctions
			Female	Gender Diverse	Male	
Participating in work	September 2024	No	315	3	726	1,044
		Yes	72	0	75	150
		Quarter total	390	3	801	1,191
	December 2024	No	252	3	651	903
		Yes	57	0	63	117
		Quarter total	309	3	711	1,023
	March 2025	No	285	3	591	876
		Yes	57	0	69	126
		Quarter total	339	3	657	1,002

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: Participating in 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	
Participating in work	September 2024	No	0	3	1,041	0	1,044
		Yes	3	3	129	15	147
		Quarter total	3	6	1,170	15	1,191
	December 2024	No	0	12	894	0	906
		Yes	0	3	108	9	117
		Quarter total	0	12	1,002	9	1,023
	March 2025	No	0	12	864	0	879
		Yes	0	3	108	15	126
		Quarter total	0	12	975	12	1,002

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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