

Freedom of Information request 2015-3391

Date received 12 August 2015

Date of response 13 October 2015

Information request

For each month from January 2011 to March 2015, please give the number of adverse, non-adverse and cancelled ESA sanctions decisions broken down by the Summary International Classifications of Diseases (i.e. Other; Mental and Behavioural Disorders; Diseases of the Nervous System; Diseases of the Circulatory or Respiratory System; Diseases of the Musculoskeletal system and Connective Tissue; and Injury, Poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes) so that the total in each month matches the adverse decisions figures given in Table 2.1 in the DWP sanctions statistics release of 12 August 2015.

DWP response

Please note that the intention of sanctions is to encourage people to engage with the support being offered by Jobcentres by making it clearer to claimants what they are expected to do in return for their benefits. Sanctions are a necessary part of the benefits system. The overwhelming majority of benefit claimants take up the jobs support we offer, with a small minority facing a sanction for not doing so.

In response to your query the information you require is shown in the attached document (FOI 2015-3391 Response.xls). This includes information on the number of adverse, non-adverse and cancelled ESA sanction decisions, by the Summary International Classifications of Diseases as requested. The data covers the period January 2011 to March 2015. Please note with respect to the data in more recently published months, care must be taken in using and interpreting this as these are subject to a high degree of revision.

Please ensure you read the notes before using and interpreting this data.

The figures supplied are derived from unpublished information and have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics publication standard. They should therefore be treated with caution.