

# Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights

Public Hearing – 29 July 2024

## ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

**Topic:** Inquiry into Compulsory Income Management

**Question reference number:** IQ24-000147

**Question asked by:** Josh Burns

**Type of Question:** Spoken. **Hansard Page/s:** 18-19

**Date set by the Committee for the return of answer:** 05 August 2024

### Question:

CHAIR: I'm just going to ask a couple of questions that may need to be taken on notice. Do we have the average length of time that people are on compulsory income management?

Mr Boneham: I think we may have answered that in the last questions on notice. I think the average time is around three and a quarter years.

CHAIR: What's the longest period of time that someone has been on it?

Mr Boneham: I'll just find that. So, 1,180 days is the average time.

CHAIR: Is that aggregated for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people?

Mr Boneham: It's all participants.

CHAIR: Do you have that data?

Mr Boneham: I'd have to take that on notice and see if we've got that breakdown.

CHAIR: If you could, that would be really useful. Is it possible to do that by state and territory as well, that is, the average length of time?

Mrs Hope: We can certainly try to get that for you.

CHAIR: That would be useful.

### Answer:

As at 28 June 2024, the average length of time people are on compulsory IM is shown in the table below:

State or Territory*	Average days on compulsory IM		
	All participants	First Nations	Non-indigenous
Northern Territory	1,776	2,078	917
South Australia	476	746	317
Western Australia	466	586	321
Queensland	366	502	289
Victoria	286	395	264
New South Wales	269	334	250
Tasmania	255	354	233
Australian Capital Territory	252	291	244
<b>Total average days</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>1,682</b>	<b>512</b>

\*Participant state or territory based on their known location as at 28 June 2024.