



**An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí**  
Department of Social Protection

**Update on Payments Awarded for Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment And  
Enhanced Illness Benefit - Statistics**

**Published on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 – these statistics are provisional and are  
subject to revision.**

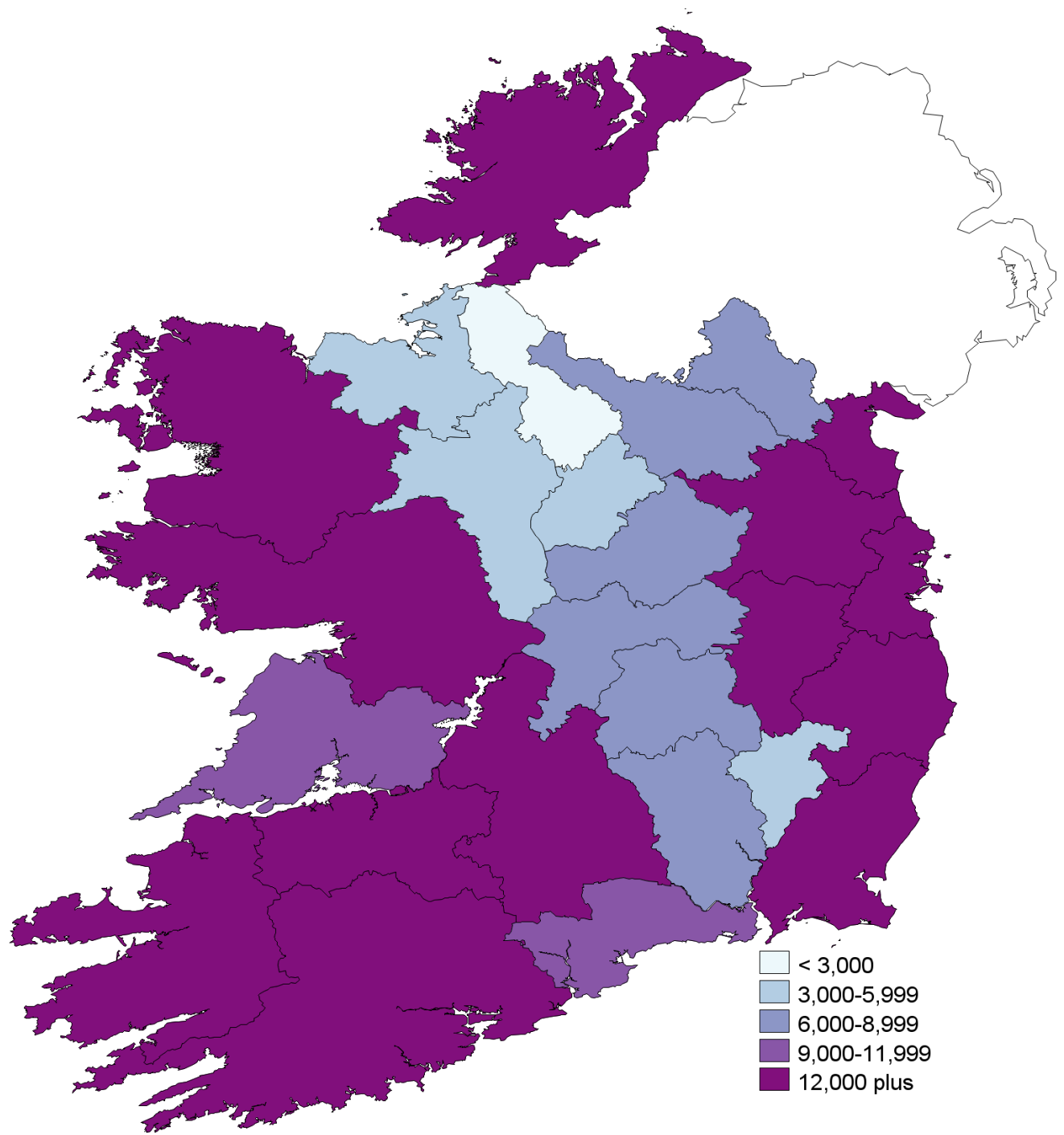
**Analysis of Pandemic Unemployment Payments**

There are 473,413 people in receipt a Pandemic Unemployment Payment of which 212,381 are female and 261,032 are male.

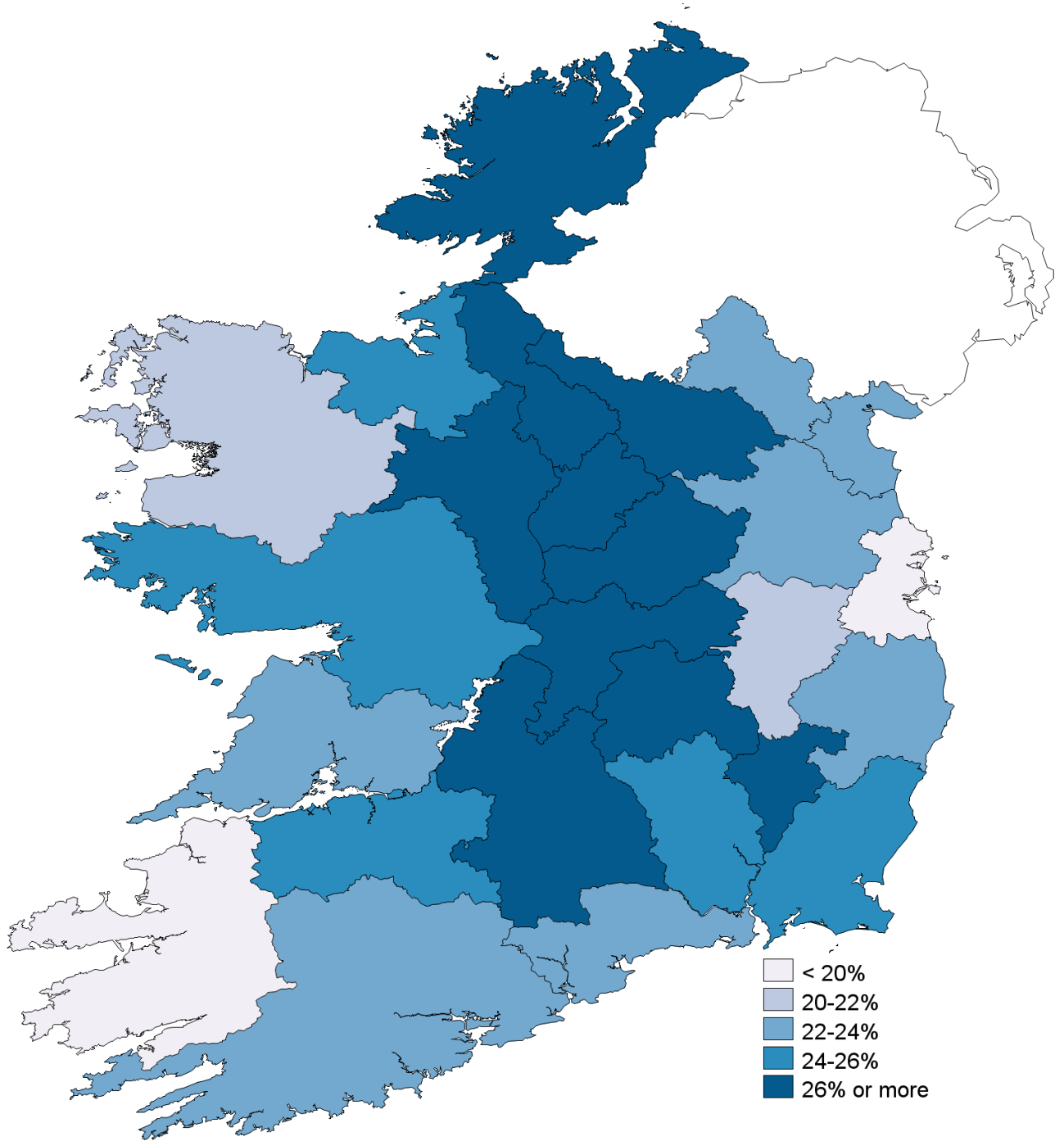
**County Breakdown**

<b>County</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020</b>
Carlow	4,871	4,933	7,800
Cavan	6,960	7,100	9,700
Clare	11,202	11,241	14,600
Cork	48,101	48,658	61,900
Donegal	16,178	16,355	22,700
Dublin	148,028	148,879	174,200
Galway	25,304	25,496	32,300
Kerry	18,243	18,343	22,200
Kildare	21,057	21,284	26,100
Kilkenny	8,736	8,864	10,600
Laois	7,194	7,299	8,600
Leitrim	2,949	2,957	4,100
Limerick	16,602	17,175	22,300
Longford	3,197	3,210	4,500
Louth	13,304	13,859	17,300
Mayo	12,844	12,995	16,400
Meath	19,998	20,062	25,000
Monaghan	6,458	6,605	8,200
Offaly	6,592	6,609	8,900
Roscommon	5,559	5,586	7,100
Sligo	5,891	5,957	7,700
Tipperary	12,867	12,961	18,800
Waterford	10,503	10,589	14,100
Westmeath	8,221	8,284	11,700
Wexford	15,486	15,732	20,500
Wicklow	14,359	14,505	18,700
County not included	2,709	2,127	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>473,413</b>	<b>477,665</b>	<b>598,000</b>

# Total pandemic unemployment payments by county



**% decrease in number of recipients of PUP payments since peak, by county**



## Pandemic Unemployment Payment Sector breakdowns

The sector with the highest number of people in receipt of the Pandemic Unemployment Payment is Accommodation and Food Service Activities (110,697) followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade (75,196) and Construction (61,077).

### Sector Breakdown

Sector Breakdown	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2020
<b>Industrial Sector</b>			
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	6,918	7,018	8,600
Manufacturing	26,618	27,212	37,400
Electricity, gas supply; Water supply, sewerage and waste management	1,631	1,625	2,100
Construction	61,077	62,197	79,300
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	75,196	75,927	90,300
Transportation and storage	13,350	13,537	17,900
Accommodation and food service activities	110,697	111,280	128,500
Information and communication activities	8,513	8,538	11,800
Financial and insurance activities	8,731	8,765	12,500
Real Estate activities	6,320	6,344	8,100
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	16,558	16,741	24,800
Administrative and support service activities	41,210	41,378	45,800
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	7,824	7,896	14,400
Education	14,662	14,685	22,000
Human Health And Social Work activities	14,488	14,877	22,500
Arts, entertainment and recreation	13,005	13,078	14,200
Other Sectors e.g. hairdressing and beauty salons	35,618	35,666	39,200
Unclassified or unknown	10,997	10,901	18,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>473,413</b>	<b>477,665</b>	<b>598,000</b>

**Note: The sector breakdowns are estimated from the NACE code of the last known employer.**

## Pandemic Unemployment Payment Rates breakdown by sector

<b>Industrial Sector</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of €350 on 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of €300 on 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of €250 on 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of €203 on 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	3,462	1,216	1,066	1,174
Manufacturing	17,313	3,500	2,759	3,046
Electricity, gas supply; Water supply, sewerage and waste management	1,140	180	141	170
Construction	44,011	6,574	5,046	5,446
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	32,039	14,512	14,690	13,955
Transportation and storage	7,771	2,045	1,807	1,727
Accommodation and food service activities	46,487	23,042	21,967	19,201
Information and communication activities	4,655	1,122	1,201	1,535
Financial and insurance activities	4,482	1,196	1,307	1,746
Real Estate activities	2,924	1,105	1,088	1,203
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	9,487	2,386	2,121	2,564
Administrative and support service activities	22,271	6,357	5,889	6,693
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	3,680	1,059	1,273	1,812
Education	5,998	2,424	2,845	3,395
Human Health And Social Work activities	6,275	2,661	2,721	2,831
Arts, entertainment and recreation	5,202	2,210	2,506	3,087
Other Sectors	14,702	7,079	6,676	7,161
Unclassified or unknown	2,431	1,050	1,505	6,011
<b>Total</b>	<b>234,330</b>	<b>79,718</b>	<b>76,608</b>	<b>82,757</b>

**Note: The sector breakdowns are estimated from the NACE code of the last known employer.**

## Pandemic Unemployment Payment Age Profile

Age category	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 16 <sup>th</sup> February
< 25	111,938	112,940
25-34	104,802	105,870
35-44	108,236	109,363
45-54	84,808	85,534
55+	63,629	63,958
<b>Total</b>	<b>473,413</b>	<b>477,665</b>

## Pandemic Unemployment Payment Rates breakdown by gender

Gender	Number of people in receipt of €350 on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people in receipt of €300 on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people in receipt of €250 on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people in receipt of €203 on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February
Male	154,495	38,050	32,558	35,929
Female	79,835	41,668	44,050	46,828
<b>Total</b>	<b>234,330</b>	<b>79,718</b>	<b>76,608</b>	<b>82,757</b>

## Pandemic Unemployment Payment Rates breakdown by age

Age category	Number of people in receipt of €350 on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people in receipt of €300 on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people in receipt of €250 on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people in receipt of €203 on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February
< 25	29,843	25,381	29,303	27,411
25-34	61,127	18,215	12,877	12,583
35-44	64,366	15,032	13,197	15,641
45-54	47,421	11,877	11,452	14,058
55+	31,573	9,213	9,779	13,064
<b>Total</b>	<b>234,330</b>	<b>79,718</b>	<b>76,608</b>	<b>82,757</b>

## Analysis of People who Closed their PUP Claim to Return to Work

Around 9,862 people have closed their account to return to work since 12<sup>th</sup> February. Of these 6,930 are male and 2,932 are female.

<b>County</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment to return to work in week up to 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment to return to work in week up to 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment to return to work in week up to 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>
Carlow	131	147	111
Cavan	199	229	179
Clare	238	248	102
Cork	1,060	1,047	942
Donegal	313	351	246
Dublin	2,378	2,526	2,132
Galway	510	493	392
Kerry	324	281	275
Kildare	429	510	407
Kilkenny	203	244	173
Laois	196	221	138
Leitrim	47	62	33
Limerick	363	404	439
Longford	66	88	54
Louth	303	351	299
Mayo	268	307	240
Meath	476	480	281
Monaghan	230	259	182
Offaly	198	183	173
Roscommon	130	130	103
Sligo	105	114	100
Tipperary	315	319	218
Waterford	212	229	148
Westmeath	144	204	252
Wexford	619	430	384
Wicklow	317	261	214
County not included	88	83	56
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,862</b>	<b>10,201</b>	<b>8,273</b>

## **Closed Pandemic Unemployment Payments - Sector Breakdown**

The top three sectors from which employees closed their Pandemic Unemployment Payment to return to work are Construction (2,369), Wholesale and Retail Trade (1,461), and Manufacturing (1,388).

### **Sector Breakdown**

	Number of people who closed their PUP payment to return to work in week up to 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people who closed their PUP payment to return to work in week up to 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Number of people who closed their PUP payment to return to work in week up to 9 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>Industrial Sector</b>			
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	211	207	139
Manufacturing	1,388	1,308	1,003
Electricity, gas supply; Water supply, sewerage and waste management	46	40	47
Construction	2,369	2,167	1,657
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	1,461	1,785	1,554
Transportation and storage	374	317	237
Accommodation and food service activities	1,050	1,148	937
Information and communication activities	172	131	133
Financial and insurance activities	107	122	112
Real Estate activities	69	74	72
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	391	428	343
Administrative and support service activities	875	922	787
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	192	191	133
Education	190	215	187
Human Health And Social Work activities	554	709	594
Arts, entertainment and recreation	112	101	104
Other Sectors e.g. hairdressing and beauty salons	229	256	176
Unclassified or unknown	72	80	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,862</b>	<b>10,201</b>	<b>8,273</b>

**Note: The sector breakdowns are estimated from the NACE code of the last known employer.**



## **Closed Pandemic Unemployment Payments – Age Profile**

<b>Age category</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment to return to work in week up to 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment to return to work in week up to 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment to return to work in week up to 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>
< 25	1,849	2,053	1,941
25-34	2,438	2,535	2,111
35-44	2,514	2,666	2,008
45-54	1,898	1,938	1,414
55+	1,163	1,009	799
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,862</b>	<b>10,201</b>	<b>8,273</b>

## Analysis of COVID-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit

To date, 136,283 people have been medically certified for receipt of a Covid-19 related Illness Benefit payment, of whom 73,623 are female and 62,660 are male.

Some 3,999 people are currently in receipt of an Enhanced Illness Benefit payment.

### County Breakdown (based on the county recorded on the Illness Benefit certificate)

County	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 9 <sup>th</sup> February
Carlow	1,944	1,881	1,836
Cavan	3,339	3,297	3,242
Clare	2,767	2,732	2,661
Cork	14,733	14,481	14,129
Donegal	4,106	4,054	3,973
Dublin	37,397	36,541	35,701
Galway	7,981	7,833	7,655
Kerry	3,156	3,102	3,057
Kildare	5,910	5,795	5,645
Kilkenny	3,051	3,046	3,007
Laois	2,363	2,341	2,282
Leitrim	588	579	562
Limerick	5,228	5,133	5,020
Longford	1,113	1,078	1,044
Louth	4,187	4,073	3,967
Mayo	3,563	3,484	3,380
Meath	5,575	5,453	5,300
Monaghan	2,925	2,859	2,783
Offaly	2,043	2,019	1,979
Roscommon	1,746	1,722	1,689
Sligo	1,423	1,391	1,353
Tipperary	4,603	4,504	4,420
Waterford	4,716	4,609	4,524
Westmeath	2,120	2,057	2,012
Wexford	5,111	4,999	4,871
Wicklow	3,522	3,470	3,416
Other (NI & Foreign Address)	1,073	952	926
<b>Total</b>	<b>136,283</b>	<b>133,485</b>	<b>130,434</b>

## Covid-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit - Sector Breakdown

The two sectors with the highest number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of a Covid-19 Illness Benefit payment to date are Wholesale and Retail Trade (29,861) and Human Health and Social Work (25,166), followed by Manufacturing (18,665).

Sector Breakdown	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 9 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>Industrial Sector</b>			
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	1,715	1,648	1,579
Manufacturing	18,665	18,289	17,888
Electricity, gas, steam supply; Water supply; Sewerage, waste management	740	722	704
Construction	6,809	6,659	6,500
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	29,861	29,282	28,636
Transportation and storage	5,322	5,198	5,078
Accommodation and food service activities	7,847	7,718	7,555
Information and communication activities	2,358	2,297	2,243
Financial and insurance activities	5,009	4,900	4,774
Real Estate activities	1,071	1,039	1,016
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	4,722	4,584	4,455
Administrative and support service activities	11,648	11,382	11,095
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	5,381	5,280	5,200
Education	3,785	3,735	3,674
Human Health And Social Work activities	25,166	24,639	24,018
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1,163	1,154	1,140
Other Sectors e.g. hairdressing and beauty salons	4,195	4,137	4,074
Unclassified or unknown	826	822	805
<b>Total</b>	<b>136,283</b>	<b>133,485</b>	<b>130,434</b>

**Note: The sector breakdowns are estimated from the NACE code of the last known employer.**

## Enhanced Illness Benefit Age Profile

Age category	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 9 <sup>th</sup> February
< 25	22,234	21,779	21,329
25-34	34,562	33,843	33,027
35-44	35,451	34,743	33,990
45-54	26,764	26,183	25,567
55+	17,272	16,937	16,521
<b>Total</b>	<b>136,283</b>	<b>133,485</b>	<b>130,434</b>