



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí  
Department of Social Protection



CCCSÉ  
Cód Cleachtais  
Chóras Staidrimh  
na hÉireann

ISSCOP  
Irish Statistical  
System Code of  
Practice

# Quarterly Statistical Report

Quarter 2 2024

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Enquiries

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[statsunit@welfare.ie](mailto:statsunit@welfare.ie)



## Background

The quarterly statistical report provides summary information on Income and Expenditure as well as total recipients of the main schemes administered by the Department of Social Protection.

The quarters referenced in this report cover the following periods

	Period
Quarter 1	January 1st - March 31st
Quarter 2	April 1st - June 30th
Quarter 3	July 1st - September 30th
Quarter 4	October 1st - December 31st

These statistics may be subject to revision and should be considered as provisional.

### Classifications

The schemes in the report are grouped into programmes according to the social need they address. The programmes and their associated main schemes are set out in the table below.

Programme	Schemes	
Pensions	State Pension Contributory Widow(er)'s Contributory Pension	State Pension Non-Contributory
Working Age Income Supports	Jobseeker's Benefit Jobseeker's Benefit for the Self employed Maternity Benefit Paternity Benefit Parent's Benefit	Jobseeker's Allowance One Parent Family Payment Widow(er)'s Non-Contributory Pension Pandemic Unemployment Payment
Illness Disability and Caring	Carer's Benefit Invalidity Pension Illness Benefit	Carer's Allowance Disability Allowance
Children	Child Benefit Working Family Payment	Back to Work Family Dividend

## Table of Contents

Background.....	2
Overall Expenditure.....	3
Programme Expenditure.....	4
Pensions ..	5
Working Age Income Supports.....	6
Illness, Disability, and Caring.....	7
Children and Supplementary Payments .....	8
Addition Needs Payment (ANP) .....	9
Notes.....	16

### Other Statistics issued by the Department of Social Protection

The Department also produces additional statistical reports which can be viewed at [www.gov.ie/dsp/statistics](http://www.gov.ie/dsp/statistics)

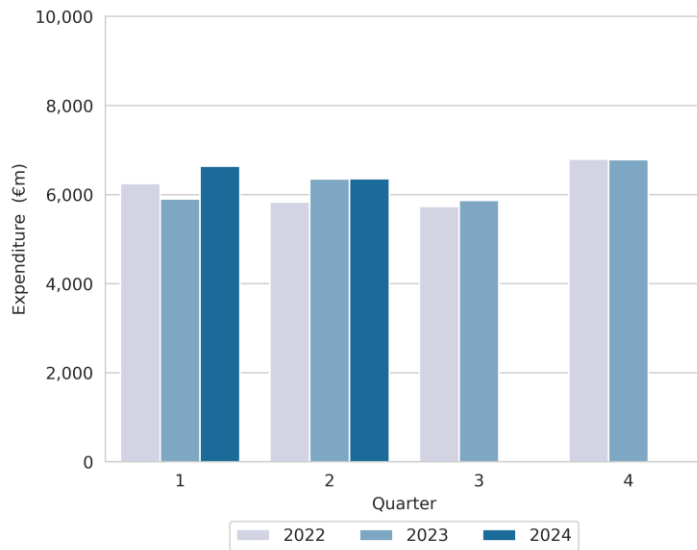
### Irish Statistical System Code of Practice (ISSCOP) certification

The quarterly statistical report has been certified as Official Statistics, for more information see here: <https://www.isscop.ie/officialstatistics/>



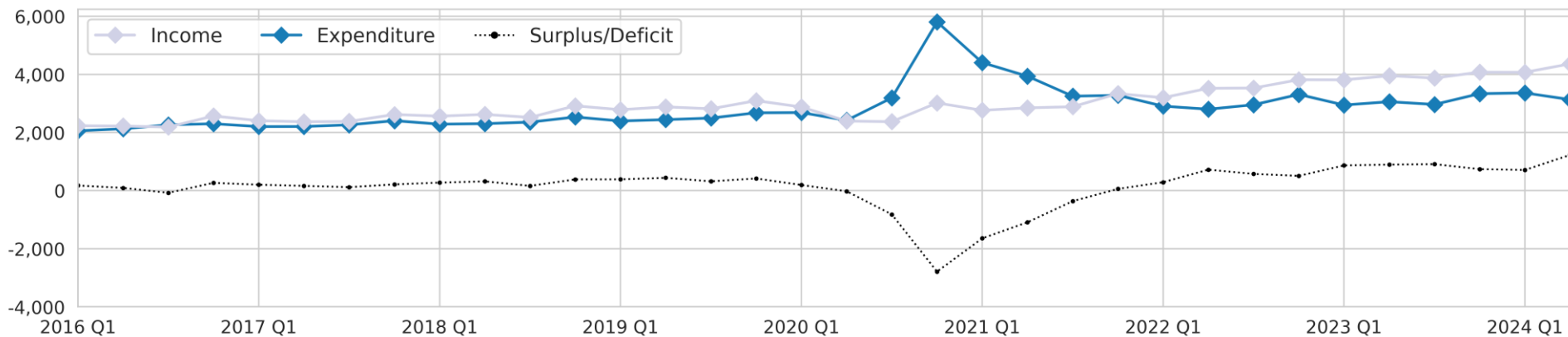
## Overall Expenditure

Figure 1: Expenditure (€m) by quarter



- The overall expenditure of the Department of Social Protection, to end of second Quarter of 2024, was €13.0 billion. This was €740 million, or 6%, more than the same period in 2023.
- Expenditure on Social Assistance schemes between April and June 2024, was an estimated €3.2 billion, a decrease of 2% or €70 million compared to the same period in 2023.
- Expenditure on schemes financed from Social Insurance in the second Quarter of 2024 was an estimated €3.1 billion, an increase of €74 million or 2%, compared to the same period in 2023.
- In the second Quarter 2024, the Social Insurance Fund recorded a surplus of €1.2 billion.

Figure 2: Quarterly Social Insurance Fund Income and Expenditure (€m)

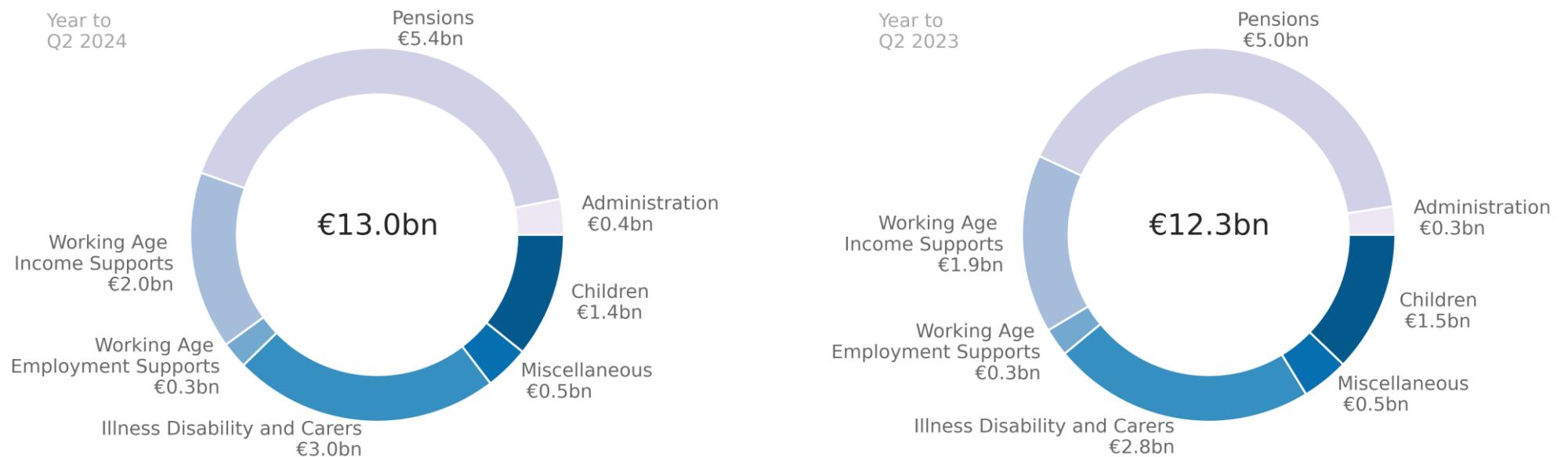




## Programme Expenditure

- Expenditure on Working Age Income Support payments in Q2 2024 was €963 million, an increase of €5 million (0.5%) compared to the same period in 2023.
- Spending on Working Age Employment Support schemes was recorded at €155 million in the second Quarter of 2024, a decrease of €1 million, or 0.6%, when compared with the second Quarter of 2023.
- Child related payments amounted to €680 million in the second quarter of 2024, resulting in a decrease of 14% or €109 million from the same period in 2023.
- Pension payments in the period April to June 2024 of €2.6 billion, showing an increase, of 2% or €59 million, from the same period last year.
- Between April and June 2024, expenditure on Illness, Disability and Carers stood at €1.6 billion. This is an increase of 2%, or €34 million, from the same period in 2023.
- Expenditure on Supplementary & Miscellaneous services stood at €147 million in Q2 2024. This is a decrease of 0.7%, or €1 million, compared with the second Quarter of 2023.

Figure 3: Expenditure to date by Social Protection Programme (€): This period and same period last year





## Pensions

- Some 752,094 people received payments across the main Pension schemes in Quarter 2 2024, a year-on-year increase of 4% (25,976) compared to Quarter 2 2023.
- The main increase in pension related payments occurred for the State Pension Contributory (SPC) scheme, which recorded a 5% year-on-year growth in recipients, from 498,681 to 522,270.
- Across the schemes the average weekly payment was €280 for SPC, €260 for SPNC, and €292 for WCP.
- 59% of people on the SPC were male, while females accounted for 59% of SPNC recipients and 84% of WCP recipients.

Figure 4: Pension recipients by year and by scheme

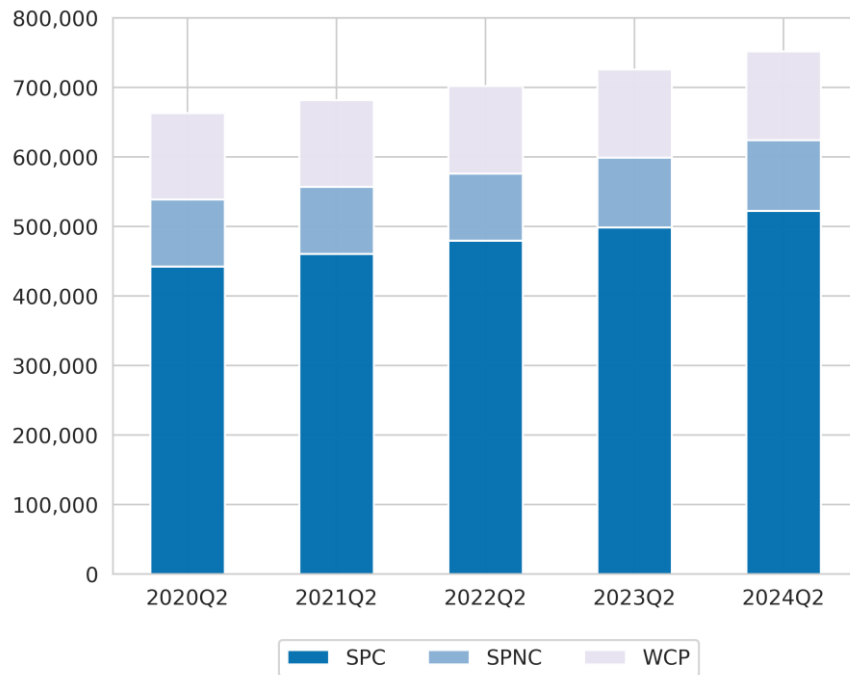
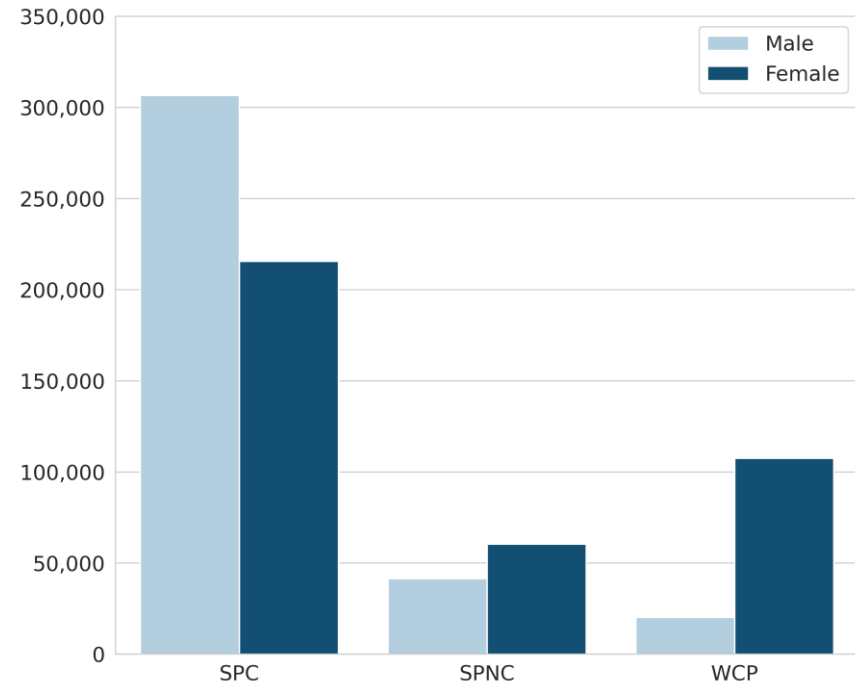


Figure 5: Pension recipients this quarter by sex and by scheme



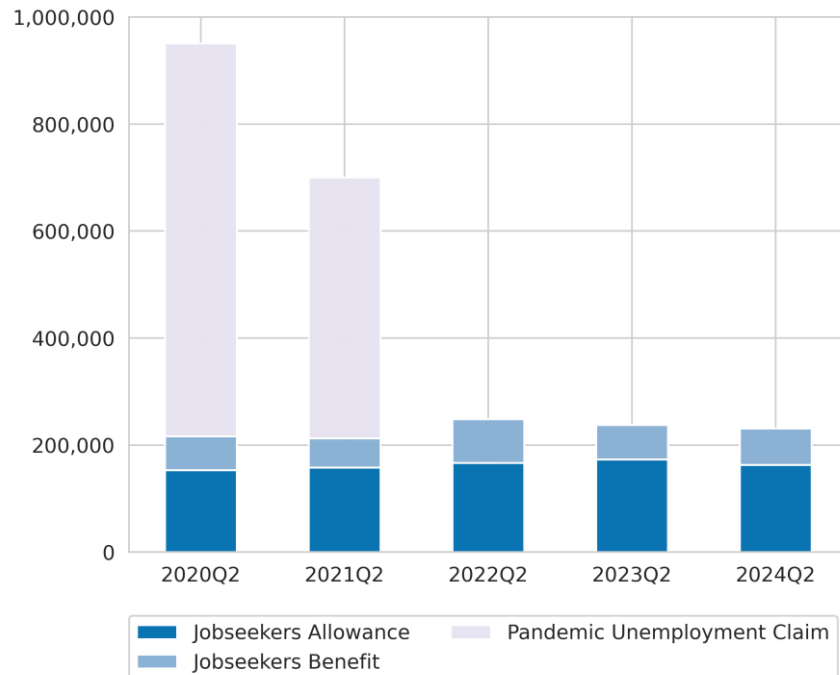


## Working Age Income Supports

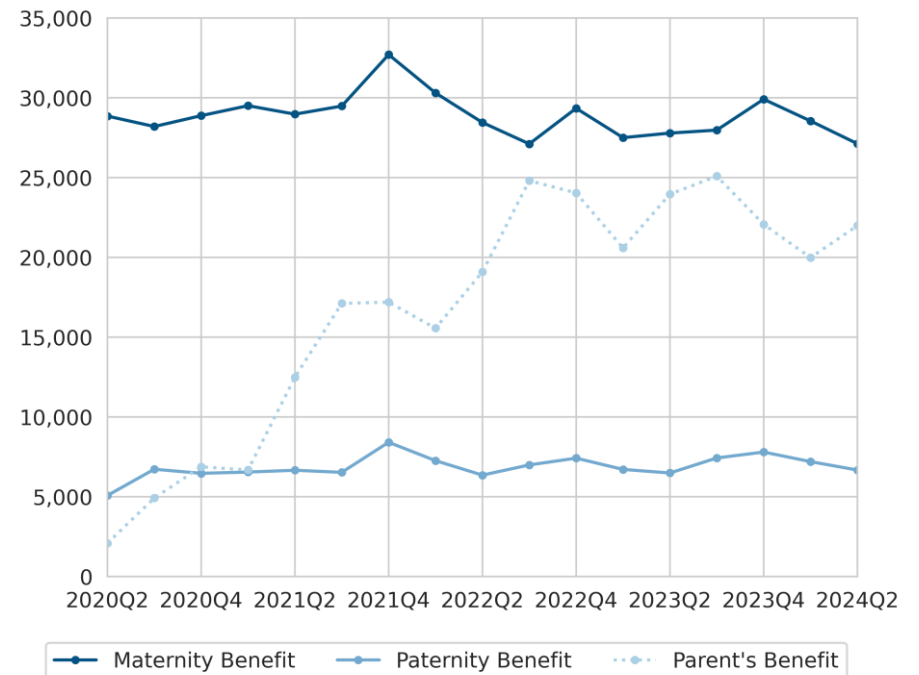
- A total of 162,719 people received Jobseeker’s Allowance in the second Quarter of 2024. This is a reduction of 10,283, or 6%, compared to Q2 2023.
- The total number of people in receipt of Jobseeker’s Benefit across Quarter 2 2024 was 68,675, an increase from 68,340 or <1%, in the first Quarter of 2024. This is also an annual increase of 6% or 3,854 on Quarter 2 2024.

- Jobseeker’s Benefit (Self-Employed) recipients stood at 1,081 in the second Quarter of 2024, which is stable when compared with the same period in 2023 with 1,085 recipients. This follows a decrease of 1% from Quarter 1 2024.
- There were 27,120 recipients of Maternity Benefit and 6,671 recipients of Paternity Benefit in the second quarter of 2024. 21,984 people received payments from the Parent’s Benefit scheme, an increase of 10% on the previous quarter, and down 8% compared to Q2 2023.

**Figure 6: Jobseeker and Pandemic Unemployment Payment recipients**



**Figure 7: Maternity, Paternity, and Parent’s Benefit recipients**

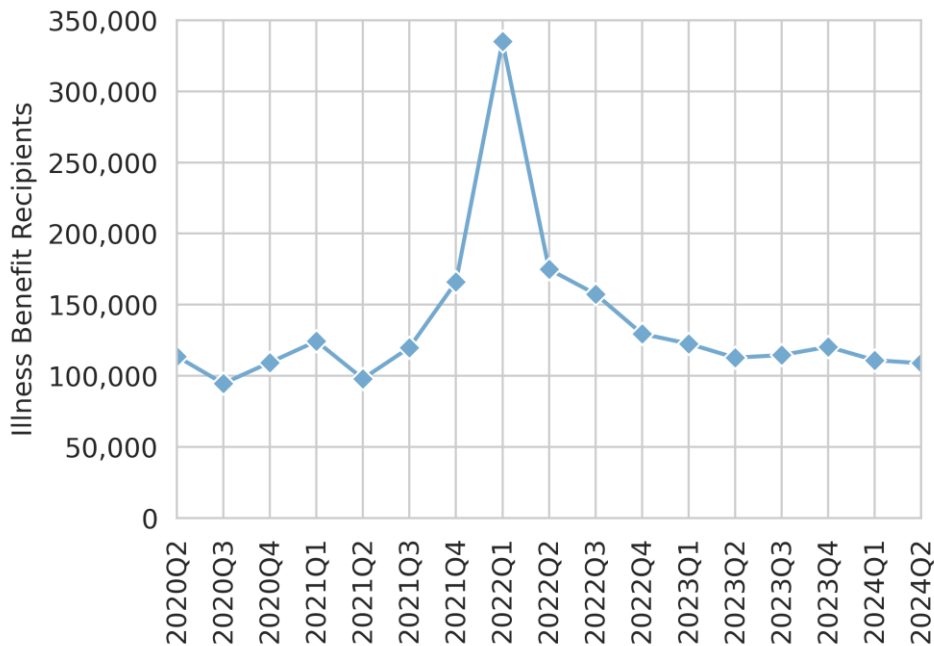




## Illness, Disability, and Caring

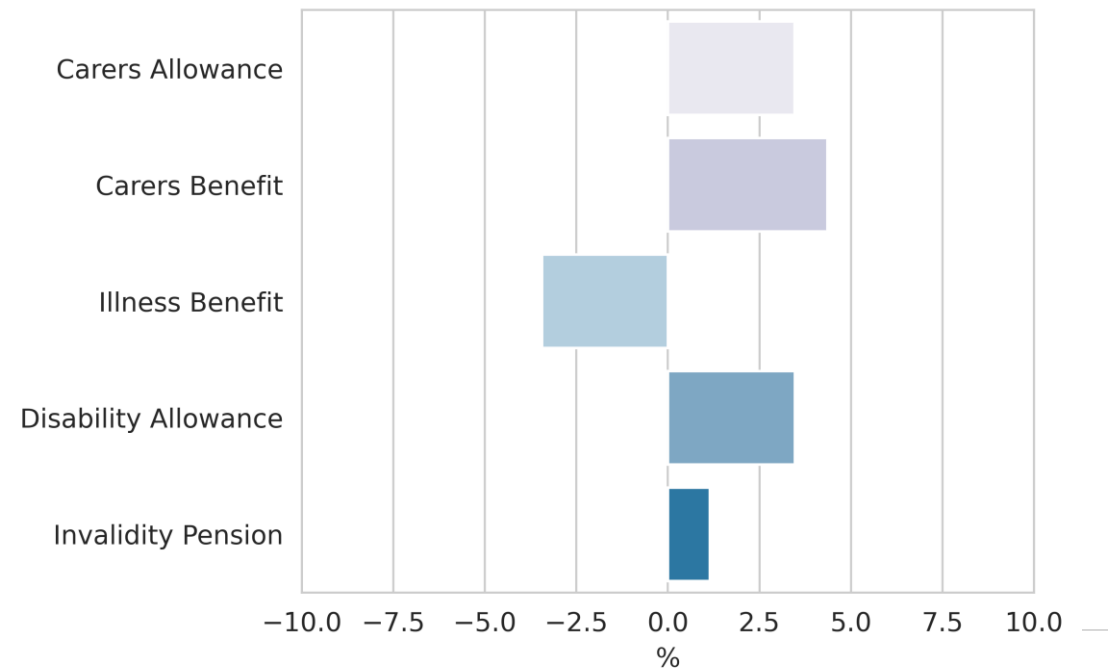
- The number of people paid Illness Benefit in Quarter 2 2024 was 108,792, a reduction of 2% from the previous Quarter, and also down by 3,878, or 3%, when compared to Quarter 2 2023.
- In the period April to June 2024, there were 58,229 recipients of Invalidity Pension, a decrease of 208, or <1% from the previous Quarter. This is also an annual increase of 654 or 1% on the same quarter in 2023.

**Figure 8: Trends in recipient numbers – Illness Benefit**



- There were 167,679 people in receipt of Disability Allowance in the second Quarter of 2024, an increase of 3% (5,604) on the year before. The average weekly payment received on this scheme was €256.
- The total number of people receiving Carer's payments in Quarter 2 2024 was 104,120, a rise of 3,516, or 3% from Quarter 2 2023. On average, Carer's Allowance recipients received a payment of €223, while Carer's Benefit recipients received a payment of €287.

**Figure 9: Annual Change (%) in recipient numbers by scheme**

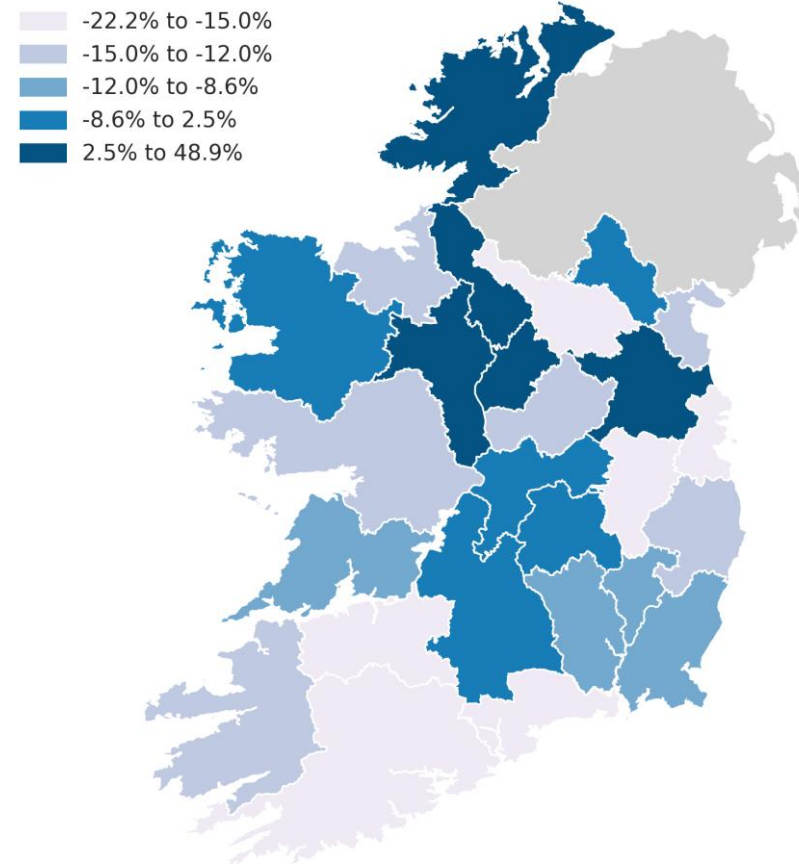




## Children and Supplementary Payments

- In the last quarter, a total of 683,114 families received Child Benefit payments, an increase of 21,393, or 3%, compared to Quarter 2 2023.
- Around 98% (672,135) of recipients of Child Benefit were female, while 2% (10,979) were male.
- The number of people in receipt of the Back to Work Family Dividend fell by 507, or 17%, from Q2 2023 and stood at 2,476 in Q2 2024. The average payment for this scheme was €76.
- The number of recipients of Rent Supplement in Quarter 2 2024 totalled 7,864, a 13% decrease (-1,200) compared to the second Quarter of 2023.
- There were 281,764 people receiving direct payments from the Household Benefits Package<sup>[1]</sup> in the quarter, representing a year-on-year increase of 20,569 or 8%.
- When recipients who had their payment directed to their utility provider and recipients of a free TV Licence only are included, there were 532,890 unique recipients of Household Benefits in Q2 2024. This is an increase of 2,257, or 0.4%, when compared with the 530,633 recipients in Q1 2024.

Figure 10: Annual change (%) in Rent Supplement recipients by county



[1] Includes recipients of cash payments only. Recipients who had payments made directly to their energy supplier as credit against their bills are not included.





## Addition Needs Payment (ANP)

- A total of 21,967 ANPs were awarded in the second Quarter of 2024. This is an increase of 1% (259) from Q1 2024, and an increase of 3% (539) compared to Q2 2023.
- Looking at broad ANP category, General recorded a quarter-on-quarter percentage increase in awarded claims, increasing by 3% from 5,841 in Q1 2024 to 5,998 in Q2 2024.

- The broad ANP category with the greatest number of awarded claims in the period April to June 2024 was Clothing (7,877), followed by General (5,998) and Housing (5,452). Combined, these three ANP groups account for 88% of all awarded ANP claims in this period.
- Year-to-date ANP expenditure amounted to €40.19 million. Housing accounted for 68% of total ANP expenditure.

Figure 11 - ANP awarded claims this quarter by broad category.

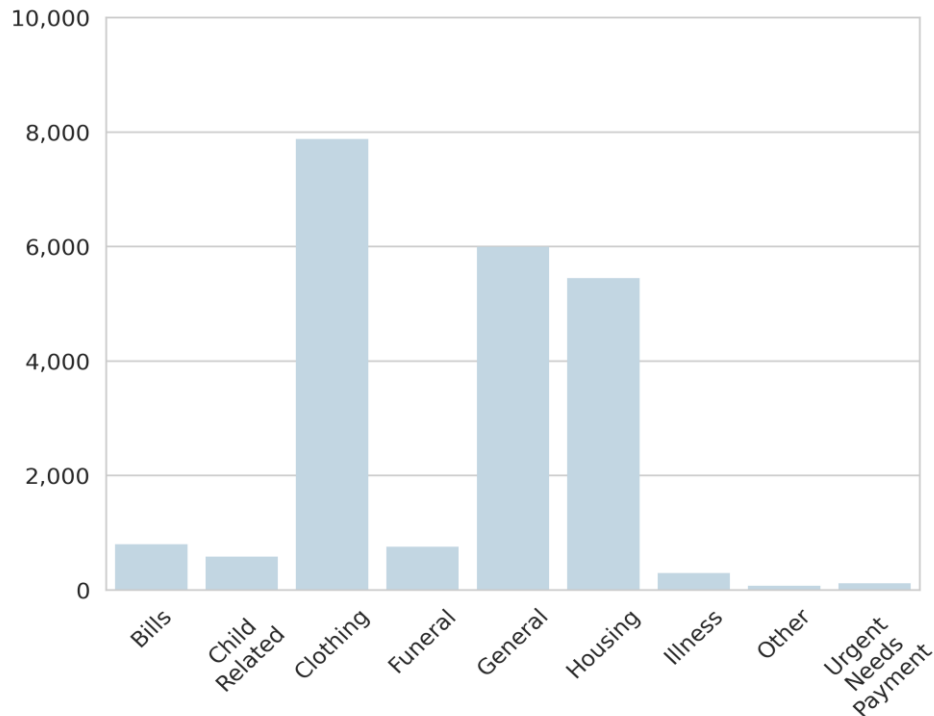
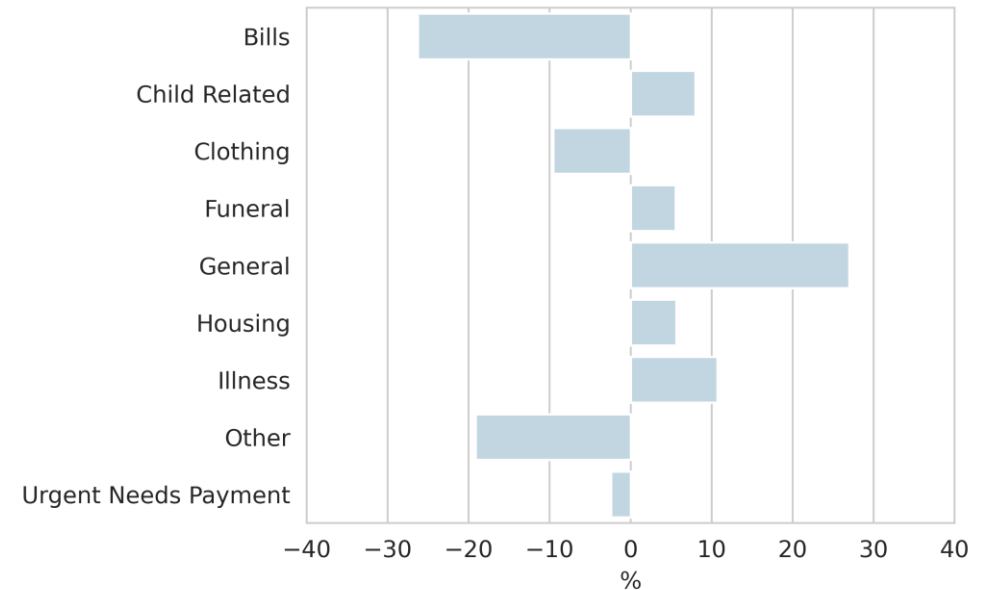


Figure 12 ANP awarded claims year-on-year percentage change.





# Quarterly Statistical Report

**Table 1 Estimated Income and Expenditure in the Department of Social Protection (€m)**

	Quarterly									Year to Date				
	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Jan-Jun 2022	Jan-Jun 2023	Jan-Jun 2024	Change (2024 v 2023)	% Change (2024 v 2023)
<b>Funding Basis</b>														
Social Assistance Expenditure (Vote 37) <sup>(a)</sup>	3,034	2,783	3,490	2,960	3,296	2,908	3,453	3,279	3,226	6,376	6,256	6,506	250	4
Social Insurance Fund Expenditure <sup>(b)</sup>	2,801	2,956	3,311	2,946	3,060	2,966	3,337	3,362	3,134	5,710	6,006	6,496	490	8
Social Insurance Fund Income <sup>(c)</sup>	3,522	3,531	3,817	3,813	3,954	3,876	4,076	4,073	4,363	6,720	7,767	8,435	668	9
Social Insurance Fund Deficit/Surplus <sup>(c-b)</sup>	721	575	507	867	894	910	739	710	1,229	1,010	1,761	1,939	178	10
Exchequer Subvention	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Social Protection Programme</b>														
Pensions	2,243	2,438	2,686	2,395	2,582	2,449	2,716	2,781	2,641	4,313	4,977	5,421	444	9
Working Age Income Supports	880	914	985	937	958	952	996	1,051	963	1,867	1,895	2,014	119	6
Working Age Employment Supports	306	144	180	158	156	145	163	172	155	1,115	314	327	13	4
Illness, Disability and Carers	1,420	1,181	1,491	1,225	1,558	1,244	1,489	1,404	1,592	2,653	2,783	2,996	213	8
Children	627	713	855	702	789	721	850	747	680	1,287	1,491	1,427	-64	-4
Supplementary & Miscellaneous	190	167	411	312	148	187	390	317	147	523	460	464	4	1
Administration	168	177	193	177	165	175	186	170	183	327	343	353	10	3
<b>Total Expenditure<sup>(a+b)</sup></b>	<b>5,835</b>	<b>5,739</b>	<b>6,801</b>	<b>5,906</b>	<b>6,356</b>	<b>5,873</b>	<b>6,790</b>	<b>6,642</b>	<b>6,360</b>	<b>12,086</b>	<b>12,262</b>	<b>13,002</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>6</b>



## Quarterly Statistical Report

**Table 2 Total Recipients per Quarter and mean payment amount**

	Quarter									Mean Payment €
	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q2 2024
<b>Pensions</b>										
State Pension Contributory	479,717	484,822	488,587	493,225	498,681	503,471	510,508	515,715	522,270	€280
State Pension Non-Contributory	96,418	98,331	99,270	99,966	100,238	100,835	101,800	101,972	101,998	€260
Widow(er)'s Contributory Pension	126,149	126,439	126,629	126,898	127,199	127,070	127,487	127,638	127,826	€292
<b>Working Age Income Supports</b>										
Jobseeker's Allowance	166,809	171,823	171,586	173,639	173,002	171,605	165,904	163,871	162,719	€251
Jobseeker's Benefit	81,776	82,229	67,414	65,871	64,821	71,879	63,445	68,340	68,675	€245
Jobseeker's Benefit (Self-Employed)	1,323	1,363	1,307	1,242	1,085	1,006	1,022	1,097	1,081	€288
Maternity Benefit	28,449	27,108	29,339	27,499	27,785	27,972	29,906	28,545	27,120	€282
Paternity Benefit	6,352	6,992	7,416	6,710	6,486	7,427	7,798	7,198	6,671	€299
Parent's Benefit	19,082	24,806	24,033	20,589	23,955	25,085	22,068	19,983	21,984	€287
One Parent Family Payment	43,897	44,683	45,164	45,625	45,985	46,104	46,325	46,248	46,107	€302
Widows Non-Contributory Pension	1,166	1,155	1,140	1,133	1,133	1,105	1,104	1,094	1,068	€221

Note: Quarterly figures do not represent the numbers and values used by the Department when calculating the Outturn/Estimate for schemes. A yearly calculation is applied to incorporate any seasonal changes and/or adjustments that occur throughout the year on various schemes.



## Quarterly Statistical Report

**Table 2 Total Recipients per Quarter and mean payment amount (continued)**

	Quarter									Mean Payment €
	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q2 2024
<b>Illness Disability and Caring</b>										
Carer's Allowance	93,185	94,000	94,409	95,284	96,071	96,982	98,065	98,765	99,390	€223
Carer's Benefit	3,964	4,165	4,121	4,342	4,533	4,669	4,550	4,589	4,730	€287
Disability Allowance	158,382	159,308	160,134	161,073	162,075	163,310	164,722	165,930	167,679	€256
Illness Benefit	174,876	157,433	129,466	122,521	112,670	114,528	120,350	110,929	108,792	€240
Invalidity Pension	59,015	58,308	57,887	57,835	57,575	57,279	57,911	58,437	58,229	€265
<b>Children</b>										
Back to Work Family Dividend	3,172	3,264	3,225	3,037	2,983	2,861	2,734	2,559	2,476	€76
Child Benefit	649,142	646,443	656,074	657,533	661,721	657,132	663,240	663,726	683,114	€273
Working Family Payment	50,103	50,991	51,186	51,336	51,044	50,396	49,569	49,466	49,596	€167
<b>Supplementary &amp; Miscellaneous</b>										
Rent Supplement	11,660	10,669	9,987	9,489	9,064	8,714	8,419	8,156	7,864	€217
Household Benefits <sup>[1]</sup>	233,884	238,279	252,233	256,928	261,195	265,663	274,512	278,100	281,764	-

Note: Quarterly figures do not represent the numbers and values used by the Department when calculating the Outturn/Estimate for schemes. A yearly calculation is applied to incorporate any seasonal changes and/or adjustments that occur throughout the year on various schemes.

[1] Includes recipients of cash payments only. Recipients who had payments made directly to their energy supplier as credit against their bills are not included.



## Quarterly Statistical Report

**Table 3 Total recipients of the main Social Protection schemes, by quarter and sex**

	Quarter									
	Q2 2023		Q3 2023		Q4 2023		Q1 2024		Q2 2024	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
<b>Pensions</b>										
State Pension Contributory	296,378	202,303	298,265	205,206	301,599	208,909	303,702	212,013	306,664	215,606
State Pension Non-Contributory	40,591	59,647	40,902	59,933	41,293	60,507	41,445	60,527	41,552	60,446
Widow(er)'s Contributory Pension	19,948	107,251	19,946	107,124	20,058	107,429	20,130	107,508	20,236	107,590
<b>Working Age Income Supports</b>										
Jobseeker's Allowance	87,071	85,931	85,478	86,127	83,691	82,213	83,306	80,565	82,405	80,314
Jobseeker's Benefit	31,915	32,906	33,020	38,859	32,753	30,692	35,376	32,964	34,378	34,297
Jobseeker's Benefit (Self-Employed)	650	435	572	434	578	444	634	463	605	476
Maternity Benefit		27,785		27,972		29,906		28,545		27,120
Paternity Benefit	6,455	31	7,387	40	7,767	31	7,168	30	6,637	34
Parent's Benefit	8,245	15,710	9,804	15,281	8,597	13,471	7,466	12,517	8,248	13,736
One Parent Family Payment	595	45,390	603	45,501	616	45,709	621	45,627	613	45,494
Widows Non-Contributory Pension	176	957	165	940	163	941	154	940	146	922



## Quarterly Statistical Report

**Table 3 Total recipients of the main Social Protection schemes, by quarter and sex (continued)**

	Quarter									
	Q2 2023		Q3 2023		Q4 2023		Q1 2024		Q2 2024	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
<b>Illness Disability and Caring</b>										
Carer's Allowance	21,748	74,323	21,854	75,128	22,092	75,973	22,259	76,506	22,471	76,919
Carer's Benefit	768	3,765	780	3,889	775	3,775	796	3,793	779	3,951
Disability Allowance	89,633	72,442	90,143	73,167	90,734	73,988	91,271	74,659	92,150	75,529
Illness Benefit	41,138	71,532	42,942	71,586	43,957	76,393	41,177	69,752	40,606	68,186
Invalidity Pension	23,213	34,362	22,969	34,310	22,860	35,051	23,034	35,403	22,900	35,329
<b>Children</b>										
Back to Work Family Dividend	735	2,248	664	2,197	578	2,156	509	2,050	461	2,015
Child Benefit	10,508	651,213	10,291	646,841	10,624	652,616	10,413	653,313	10,979	672,135
Working Family Payment	16,007	35,037	15,801	34,595	15,289	34,280	15,232	34,234	15,235	34,361
<b>Supplementary &amp; Miscellaneous</b>										
Rent Supplement	4,543	4,521	4,337	4,377	4,165	4,254	4,037	4,119	3,887	3,977
Household Benefits <sup>[1]</sup>	131,138	130,057	133,026	132,637	137,144	137,368	139,217	138,883	140,729	141,035

[1] Includes recipients of cash payments only. Recipients who had payments made directly to their energy supplier as credit against their bills are not included.



## Quarterly Statistical Report

**Table 4 Additional Needs Payments, by quarter**

	Quarter						Q2 2024
	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	
Awarded	31,079	23,751	21,428	22,956	24,202	21,708	21,967
Rejected	19,795	13,030	13,593	16,458	16,711	14,193	14,433
Withdrawn	978	737	363	1,203	1,315	1,032	1,163
Pending	8,041	6,383	8,681	8,127	5,503	5,494	5,374

**Table 5 Awarded claims by broad ANP category, by quarter**

	Quarter						Expenditure (€ million)	
	Q4 2023	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	YTD 2024
Bills	885	883	1,088	1,051	759	473	802	0.94
Child Related	511	508	539	603	533	456	582	0.24
Clothing	13,921	9,955	8,709	10,509	10,039	8,397	7,877	2.07
Funeral	686	864	717	616	680	756	759	5.19
General	7,810	5,663	4,723	4,495	5,589	5,841	5,998	3.43
Housing	6,458	5,331	5,161	5,207	5,964	5,284	5,452	27.34
Illness	280	258	271	283	254	220	300	0.09
Other	334	146	94	99	258	113	76	0.11
Urgent Needs Payment	194	141	124	91	126	168	121	0.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,079</b>	<b>23,749</b>	<b>21,426</b>	<b>22,954</b>	<b>24,202</b>	<b>21,708</b>	<b>21,967</b>	<b>40.19</b>

Note that expenditure figures are based on estimates. These figures exclude supplements awarded prior to 2022. These figures are provisional and subject to revision.

Note that the figures provided for claims awarded, disallowed or withdrawn are by the date these actions were recorded on the Department's systems and will include claims registered in previous periods.



## Notes

### Methodology and quality considerations

The expenditure details in this report are based on estimates. The finalised expenditure information can be viewed in the latest Appropriation Accounts for Vote 37<sup>1</sup>, or the latest Annual Statistics Report<sup>2</sup>. Note that the estimated expenditure figures in this report may not add up exactly due to rounding.

When comparing to a previous quarter or previous year, the comparison can sometimes be impacted by the number of pay days that fall in a particular quarter. This may account for skews in expenditure and/or recipient totals in certain quarter periods.

The recipient totals were extracted from the Department's administrative systems and include people who were issued at least one payment for a particular scheme in a given quarter. In the majority of cases the date in which the payment was made reflects the entitlement period, i.e., when the payment was issued the recipient's claim was open. However, payments can be issued in respect to different entitlement periods (arrears payments). The figures produced in this report are calculated with reference to the date the payment was issued and are therefore inclusive of arrears payments. Note that a person can be in receipt of payment for more than one scheme.

The recipient figures quoted in the Annual Statistics report are not directly comparable to the numbers shown in this publication. The Annual Statistics report counts only those awarded and in receipt of payment at a point in time (December 31<sup>st</sup>) to ensure comparability with a series of statistical reports dating back to 1983.

### Glossary of Terms

**Recipient:** A person receiving at least one Social Welfare payment in a given quarter period.

**Social Assistance:** payments funded from voted expenditure, which cover people who do not have sufficient PRSI contributions to qualify for the equivalent social insurance payments, or where entitlement to the social insurance payment has expired. These payments are typically means-tested.

**Social Insurance Fund:** a current account and an investment account managed by the Minister for Social Protection and the Minister for Finance, respectively. The current account consists of monies collected from people in employment, self-employment, and employer contributions. This money is then used to fund social insurance payments.

### Open Data

Each report in this series will be available in formats consistent with the Open Data Technical Framework<sup>3</sup>. Any open data produced by the Department will be accessed through the National Open Data portal at: <https://data.gov.ie/>

### Revisions

Revisions may occur as a result of changes in methodology, an update to a series or errors in the original data. Any significant revisions will be footnoted in the report and will describe the reason for the change and its impact on comparability (. i.e., with other schemes or over time).

1. Published by the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General at: <https://www.audit.gov.ie/en/find-report/>  
2. Available at: <https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/4be67-social-welfare-statistics/>  
3. Available at: <https://data.gov.ie/pages/opendatatechnicalframework>