

STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES

# 2004





**2004**

**Statistical Information on Social Welfare Services**

**Staitisticí um Sheirbhísí Leasa Shóisialaigh**

## Notes

Data relating to Recipients and Beneficiaries, unless otherwise stated, refer to the numbers on the 31st December each year. See introduction for further details.

### ABBREVIATIONS

- Not Applicable

n.a. Not Available

## Contents

1.	Foreword from the Minister	iv
2.	Brollach ón Aire	v
3.	Réamhrá	vi
4.	Introduction	viii
5.	List of tables	x
6.	List of graphs	xviii
7.	Section A: summary and financial	1
8.	Section B: old age	23
9.	Section C: widows, widowers and one-parent families	29
10.	Section D: child related payments	37
11.	Section E: illness, disability and caring	45
12.	Section F: unemployment supports	57
13.	Section G: employment supports	69
14.	Section H: supplementary welfare allowance section	77
15.	Section J: miscellaneous payments and grants	91
16.	Appendix 1	98
17.	Appendix 2	99
18.	Appendix 3	100
19.	Index	101



## Foreword from the Minister

I welcome the publication of the 22nd edition of the Annual Statistical Report, which provides comprehensive statistical information on all programmes administered by the Department of Social and Family Affairs.

This Department has been to the forefront of the recent trend across Government towards evidence-based policy, with recent Departmental expenditure reviews developing a focus on more complex social outcomes. As part of this approach, reliable data on outputs and trends as contained in this Report in tandem with alternative data sources are invaluable elements in anticipating likely outcomes.

Supports administered by the Department provide for the complex and often multi-faceted needs of people over a range of contingencies and at every stage of life. Continuing to reflect the trend of recent years, social welfare programme expenditure increased to €11.3 billion in 2004 - an increase of 7.6% over the previous year. This re-affirms the Government's commitment to the welfare of all those in need of support in this modern and rapidly evolving society. The wealth of data in this report will also influence and help shape important ongoing reforms in the area of social policy.

The main features of my Department's activities in 2004 were

- Social Welfare Expenditure in 2004 was €11.3 billion, representing 28.5% of Gross Current Government Expenditure.
- Over 957,000 people were in receipt of a weekly Social Welfare payment, which was paid in respect of 1.5 million beneficiaries.
- 540,911 families received a monthly Child Benefit payment, which was paid in respect of 1,051,005 children. Expenditure on Child Benefit increased by 5.9% to €1.8 billion.
- Expenditure on Old Age has increased by 9.2% to €2.7 billion. The number of recipients in this group has increased by 5,484.
- Expenditure on Carer's Allowance and Carer's Benefit increased by 14.7% and 10.9% respectively. The numbers in receipt of a Carer's payment increased from 21,955 to 23,709, an increase of 8%.
- Family Income Supplement was paid in respect of 14,727 families, an increase of 19.6% on the previous year. Expenditure on Family Income Supplement increased by 23% to €55.8m.

This report illustrates and charts the progress being made in improving and developing services, in tandem with wider Government aims and objectives, that have at their core the delivery of improved quality of life and opportunities to people of all ages.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to the staff throughout the Department for their continuing efforts in implementing the Government's programme of social welfare protection, support and reform.

Séamus Brennan TD  
Minister for Social and Family Affairs.



## Brollach ón Aire

Cuirim fáilte roimh an foilsiú den 22 eagrán den Tuarascáil Staitistiúil Bhliantúil, a sholáthraíonn eolas staitistiúil chuimsitheach ar na cláir go léir riartha ag an Roinn Gnóthaí Sóisialacha agus Teaghlaigh.

Bhí an Roinn seo ar thús cadhnaíochta an chlaonta is déanaí trasna an Rialtas i dtreo pholasaí atá bunaithe ar fhianaise, le hathbhreithniuithe caiteachais Rannacha is déanaí ag forbairt fócas ar thorthaí sóisialta níos casta. Mar chuid den chur chuige seo, tá sonraí iontaofa ar aschur agus claontaí mar atá sa Tuarascáil seo in éineacht le foinsí sonraí eile mar dhúil fíorluachmhara agus torthaí dóchúla á réamhghabháil.

Forálann tacaíochtaí riartha ag an Roinn do na riachtanais chasta agus iltaobhach go minic de dhaoine thar réimse teagmhais agus ag gach céim den saol. Ag leanúint ag léiriú claonadh na blianta deireanacha, mhéadaigh caiteachas an chláir leasa shóisialaigh go €11.3 billiún i 2004 - méadú de 7.6 % thar an bhliain roimhe sin. Athdhearbhaíonn é seo geall an Rialtais chuig leas iad siúd go léir gur gá tacaíocht uathu sa sochaí nua-aimseartha seo agus atá ag dul in éabhlóid tapaigh.

Ba iad príomh ghnéithe gníomhaíochtaí mo Roinne i 2004 ná

- Ba é €11.3 billiún an Caiteachas Leasa Shóisialaigh i 2004, ag seasamh de 28.5 % den Chaiteachas Chomhlán Reatha an Rialtais.
- Bhí thar 957,000 duine ag fáil íocaíochta Leasa Shóisialaigh sheachtainiúil, a d'íocadh i leith 1.5 milliún tairbhíthe.
- Fuair 540,911 teaghlach íocaíocht Sochair Leanaí míosúil, a d'íocadh i leith 1,051,005 leanbh. Mhéadaigh caiteachas ar Shochar Leanaí faoi 5.9% go €1.8 billiún.
- Tá caiteachas ar an Seanaois méadaithe faoi 9.2% go €2.7 billiún. Tá uimhir na bhfaighteoírí sa ghrúpa seo méadaithe faoi 5,484.
- Mhéadaigh caiteachas ar an Liúntas Cúramóra agus Sochar Cúramóra faoi 14.7% agus 10.9% faoi seach. Mhéadaigh líon na daoine atá ag fáil íocaíochta Cúramóra ó 21,955 go 23,709, méadú de 8%
- Íocadh Forlíonadh Ioncaim Teaghlaigh i leith 14,727 teaghlach, méadú de 19.6% ar an mbliain roimhe sin. Mhéadaigh caiteachas ar Fhorlíonadh Ioncaim Teaghlaigh faoi 23% go €55.8m.

Léiríonn an tuarascáil seo agus tugann sé treoir ar an dul chun cinn atá dá dhéanamh i fheabhsú agus forbairt seirbhísí, ag obair le aidhmeanna agus spriocanna leithne rialtais, a bhfuil ina gcroí lár tréith saoil feabhsaithe agus deiseanna a sheachadadh le daoine de gach aos.

Faoi dheireadh, ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas a ghabháil ar an bhfoireann ar fud na Roinne dá n-iarrachtaí leanúnacha ag cur clár an Rialtais um chosaint leasa shóisialaigh i bhfeidhm.

*Séamus Brennan*

Séamus Brennan TD  
Aire Gnóthaí Sóisialacha agus Teaghlaigh.

## Introduction

### General

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This is the twenty second issue of the annual "Statistical Information on Social Welfare Services" prepared by the Department of Social and Family Affairs. It sets out comprehensive data relating to services provided by the Department.

The statistics set out in this report relate to 2004 and earlier years. In the case of data relating to recipients and beneficiaries, the figures, unless otherwise stated, refer to the 31st December each year. Several tables, which provide a breakdown of recipients or beneficiaries by some characteristic such as number of dependants or age, are referred to as "estimated". This means that the proportionate breakdown, which is considered to be a reliable estimate, was established at a date other than, but close to, 31st December.

Expenditure figures for 2004 are provisional pending certification by the Comptroller and Auditor General. All Expenditure figures have been converted to Euro amounts.

### Source of Data

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The source for the statistics presented, unless otherwise stated, is the Department of Social and Family Affairs.

### Time Series and Changes to Existing Payments

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Time Series data are given, where available. However, the introduction of new payments and changes to existing payments affect the comparability of different years' figures in some instances. Relevant tables are footnoted where appropriate.

### Breakdown by Section

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The report is divided into nine sections as follows:

Section A	Summary and Financial
Section B	Old Age
Section C	Widows, Widowers and One Parent Families
Section D	Child Related Payments
Section E	Illness, Disability and Caring
Section F	Unemployment Supports
Section G	Employment Supports
Section H	Supplementary Welfare Allowance
Section J	Miscellaneous Payments and Grants

**Appendix 2** (page XX) lists the payments covered by each category.

**Section A** provides details of expenditure, recipients of weekly Social Welfare Payments, insured persons and rates of payment.



**Section B** provides details of expenditure and recipients of payments relating to old age.

**Section C** provides details of expenditure and recipients of payments to widows, widowers and one parent families. It also includes some statistics on payment to deserted wives and prisoners' wives.

**Section D** provides details of expenditure and recipients of child related payments including Child Benefit, Orphan's Pensions and Maternity Benefit.

**Section E** provides details of expenditure and recipients of Disability Benefit, Invalidity Pension, Disability Allowance, Blind Person's Pension, Carers Allowance and Occupational Injury Benefits.

**Section F** provides details of unemployment payments.

**Section G** provides details of employment supports including Back to Work Allowance, Back to Work Enterprise Allowance, Back to Education Allowance, the Student's Summer Jobs Scheme, Family Income Supplement and Farm Assist.

**Section H** provides details of the range of payments available under the Supplementary Welfare Allowance scheme.

**Section J** provides details of Treatment Benefits, Free Schemes and other miscellaneous payments. In addition this section includes information on the Voluntary and Community Services as well as the Family Services administered by the Department of Social and Family Affairs.

## Summary

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A Social and Family Affairs Leaflet to complement this report has been published. It contains, in summary form, details of expenditure and recipient numbers along with the social welfare payment rates applicable from January 2005,

Readers views and comments on this report are welcome and should be addressed to :-

Statistics Unit,  
Department of Social and Family Affairs,  
Floor 5,  
Aras Mhic Dhiarmada,  
Store Street,  
Dublin 1.

Tel: 01-7043834 Fax: 01-7043765

This Report is also available on the Internet at [www.welfare.ie](http://www.welfare.ie)

The Department of Social and Family Affairs also publishes an Annual Report which provides details of all major developments during the year in question. The Report is a progress report to the Minister and the Government on the implementation of the Department's Strategy Statement. In addition, the "Guide to Social Welfare Services" provides comprehensive information on all social welfare services and is available directly from any office of the Department and on the Internet.

# Réamhrá

## Cúrsaí Ginearálta

Is é seo an dara a fiche don bhfoilsíúcháin bliantúil 'Eolas Staitistiúil ar Sheirbhísí Leasa Shóisialaigh' a ullmhaíonn An Roinn Gnóthaí Sóisialacha agus Teaghlaigh. Leagann sé amach sonraí cuimsitheach maidir leis na seirbhísí atá curtha ar fáil ag an Roinn.

Baineann na staitistic san eagra seo le 2004 agus níos luaithe. Maidir leis na sonraí i leith na n-daoine atá ag fáil íocaíochtaí no íocaíochtaí ar a son is iad na figiúirí ar 31 Nollaig gach bliain atá luaite, ach amháin nuair a deirtear a mhalairt. Tá a lan de na táblaí a leiríonn miondealaithe i leith daoine ag fáil íocaíochtaí, no íocaíochtaí ar a son, de réir treith áirithe mar an meid deithiúnaithe, nó aois luaithe mar 'measta'. Ciallaíonn sé seo gur bunaíodh na miondealaithe, ata measaithe a bheith údarásach, ar dháta seachas 31 Nollaig ach gar don dáta sin.

Is figiúirí sealadach iad na figiúirí caiteachas le haghaidh 2004 go dtí go mbeidh siad deimhnithe ag An Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste. Ta na figiúirí caiteachas ar fad athruithe go suimeanna Euro.

## Foinse na Sonraí

Is í An Roinn Gnóthaí Sóisialacha agus Teaghlaigh foinse na staitistic atá leirithe, ach amháin nuair a deirtear a mhalairt.

viii

## Amsraith agus Athraithe ar Íocaíochtaí

Tugtar sonraí ar amsraith nuair atá siad ar fáil. I gcásanna áirithe, áfach, cuireann íocaíochtaí nua, m. sh. Liuntas Cúnamh Feirme, nó athraithe ar íocaíochtaí, isteach ar chomparáid idir blianta. Tá fonóta leis na tablaí cuí nuair is gá.

## Miondealú De Réir Ranna

Tá an eolai roinnte i naoi gcuid mar leanas:

- Cuid A Coimriú agus Airgeadais
- Cuid B Seanaois
- Cuid C Baintreacha Fir & Mná agus Teaghlaigh le Tuismitheoir Amháin
- Cuid D Íocaíochtaí a bhaineann le Páistí
- Cuid E Tinneas, Míchumas agus Cúram
- Cuid F Tacáíochtaí Dífhostaíochta
- Cuid G Tacaíochtaí Fostaíochta
- Cuid H Liúntas Leasa Forlíontach
- Cuid J Íocaíochtaí Ilghnéitheach agus Deontais

Tá na h-íocaíochtaí i ngach earnáil leagtha amach in **Aguisín 2** (leath. XX)

Tugann **Cuid A** sonraí maidir le caiteachas, le faighteoirí íocaíochtaí seachtainiúil leasa shóisialaigh, le daoine inárachais agus le rátaí íocaíochtaí.

Tugann **Cuid B** eolas maidir le caiteachas agus faighteoirí íocaíochtaí a bhaineann le seanaois.

Tugann **Cuid C** eolas maidir le caiteachas ar agus faighteoirí íocaíochtaí do bhaintreacha fir agus mná agus teaghlaigh le tuismitheoir amháin. Tá roinnt staitistic maidir le h-íocaíochtaí do mhná chéile tréigthe agus do mhná chéile príosúnaigh san áireamh sa chuid seo freisin.

Tugann **Cuid D** eolas maidir le caiteachas ar agus faighteoirí íocaíochtaí a bhaineann le páistí, Sochar Leanaí, Pinsean Dílleachta agus Sochar Maithreachais san áireamh.

Tugann **Cuid E** eolas maidir le caiteachas ar agus faighteoirí Sochar Míchumais, Pinsean Easláinte, Liúntas Míchumais, Pinsean na nDall, Liúntas Cúraim agus Sochair Gortú Ceirde.

Tugann **Cuid F** eolas maidir le h-íocaíochtaí a bhaineann le dífhostaíocht.

Tugann **Cuid G** eolas maidir le tacaíochtaí fostaíochta, an Liuntas Filleadh ar Obair, Liuntas Fiontar Filleadh ar Obair, Liuntas Filleadh ar Oideachais, Forlíonadh d'Ioncam Teaghlaigh agus Liuntas Cunamh Feirme san áireamh.

Tugann **Cuid H** eolas maidir leis na h-íocaíochtaí eagsula a chuirtear ar fail faoin Scéim Liúntas Leasa Forlíontach

Tugann **Cuid J** eolas maidir le Sochar Coireála, Saorscéimeanna agus íocaíochtaí ilgnéitheach eile. Ina theannta san, tugann an chuid seo eolas maidir le Seirbhísí Deonacha agus Pobail chomh maith le Seirbhísí Teaghlaigh a riarann an Roinn Gnóthaí Sóisialacha, Pobail agus Teaghlaigh

## Achomair

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Tá achomair de Staitistic Gnóthaí Sóisialacha agus Teaghlaigh i bhfoirm Bileog foilsithe leis an tuairisc seo. Tá achomhair dos na sonraí caiteachas agus uimhreacha faighteoirí chomh maith leis na bun rátaí leasa shóisialaigh i bhfeidhm ó Eanáir 2005, ar fáil sa bhileog seo.

Beidh fáilte roimh tuairimí leitheoirí maidir leis an tuairisc seo. Ba cheart iad a sheoladh chuig:

Rannóg Staitistic,  
An Roinn Gnóthaí Sóisialacha agus Teaghlaigh,  
Urlár 5,  
Áras Mhic Dhiarmada,  
Sráid Stórais,  
Baile Átha Cliath 1

Tel: 01-7043834 Faics: 01-7043765

Tá an Tuairisc seo ar fáil freisin ar an idir-líne ag [www.welfare.ie](http://www.welfare.ie)

Foilsíonn an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail agus Teaghlaigh Tuairisc Bliantúil a thugann sonraí ar an dul chun cinn atá déanta sa bhlian atá i gceist. Is tuairisc í chuig an Aire agus an Rialtas ar dul chun cinn maidir le cur i bhfeidhm Ráiteas Straitéiseach na Roinne. Chomh maith le sin tugann an 'Treoirleabhar ar Sheirbhísí Leasa Shóisialaigh' eolas cuimsitheach ar na seirbhísí leasa shóisialaigh ar fad agus tá sé seo ar fáil ó aon oifig den Roinn agus ar an idir-líne.

## List of Tables

### Section A: Summary and Financial

### Page

		Page
Table A1	Expenditure on Social Welfare by Programme, 2003 and 2004	3
Table A2	Expenditure on Social Welfare as a Percentage of Current Government Expenditure, GNP and GDP, 1995 to 2004	3
Table A3	Expenditure on Social Welfare by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004	4
Table A4	Additional Expenditure Details, 2003 and 2004	5
Table A5	Social Insurance and Social Assistance Expenditure by Scheme, 2003 and 2004	6
Table A6	Financing of Social Welfare Expenditure, 2003 and 2004	8
Table A7	Financing of the Social Insurance Fund, 2003 and 2004	8
Table A8	Number of Recipients and Beneficiaries of Weekly Social Welfare Payments, 1995 to 2004	9
Table A9	Number of Recipients of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Payment Type and Programme, 2003 and 2004	10
Table A10	Number of Recipients of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Payment Type and Insurance or Assistance, 2003 and 2004	11
Table A11	Number of Beneficiaries of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Payment Type and Programme, 2003 and 2004	13
Table A12	Number of Beneficiaries of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Payment Type and Insurance or Assistance, 2003 and 2004	14
Table A13	Number of Recipients of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Sex, Payment Type and Insurance or Assistance, 2004	15
Table A14	Number of Recipients, Qualified Adults and Qualified Children of Weekly Social Welfare Payments, 2004	16
Table A15	Number of Persons in each Social Insurance Class, 2002 and 2003	17
Table A16	Number of Insured Persons, 1995/1996 to 2003	18
Table A17	Social Welfare Weekly Rates of Payment from January 2004	19
Table A18	Social Welfare Weekly Rates of Payment from January 2005	20
Table A19	Index of Short-Term Rates of Payment, Consumer Price Index and Average Industrial Earnings, 1995 to 2004	21
Table A20	Index of Long-Term Rates of Payment, Consumer Price Index and Average Industrial Earnings, 1995 to 2004	21
Table A21	Index of Rates of Payment for the Long-Term Unemployed, Consumer Price Index and Average Industrial Earnings, 1995 to 2004	22

Section B: Old Age		Page
Table B1	Expenditure on Old Age by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004	25
Table B2	Expenditure on Old Age by Pension Type, 1995 to 2004	25
Table B3	Number of Recipients by Type of Old Age Pension, 1995 to 2004	26
Table B4	Number of Recipients of Old Age Pensions by Type of Pension and Number of Qualified Adults and Children, 2004	26
Table B5	Number of Recipients of Old Age Pensions by Type of Pension, Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	27
Table B6	Number of Recipients of Pre-Retirement Allowance by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	27
Table B7	Number of Recipients of Living Alone Allowance, Over 80 Allowance and Island Allowance by Pension Type, 2004 (Estimated)	27
Table B8	Number of Recipients of Old Age Pensions by Type of Pension and County, 2004 (Estimated)	28

Section C: Widows, Widowers And One-Parent Families		Page
Table C1	Expenditure on Widows, Widowers and One-Parent Families by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004	31
Table C2	Expenditure on Widow/er's Pensions, 1995 to 2004	31
Table C3	Expenditure on Deserted Wife's Benefit, Deserted Wife's Allowance, Prisoners Wife's Allowance and Lone Parent's Allowance/One-Parent Family Payment, 1995 to 2004	32
Table C4	Number of Recipients of Widow/er's Pensions, 1995 to 2004	32
Table C5	Number of Recipients of Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension and Deserted Wife's Benefit by Number of Qualified Children, 2004	33
Table C6	Number of Recipients of Widow/er's Pensions by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	33
Table C7	Number of Recipients of Deserted Wife's Benefit, Deserted Wife's Allowance, Prisoner's Wife's Allowance and Lone Parent's Allowance/One-Parent Family Payment, 1995 to 2004	34
Table C8	Number of Recipients of Deserted Wife's Benefit, Deserted Wife's Allowance and Prisoner's Wife's Allowance by Age, 2004 (Estimated)	34
Table C9	Number of Recipients of One-Parent Family Payment by Status of Parent and Number of Qualified Children, 2004 (Estimated)	35
Table C10	Number of Recipients of One-Parent Family Payment by Status of Parent, Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	35
Table C11	Number of Recipients of Widow/er's Pensions, Deserted Wife's Benefit and Deserted Wife's Allowance in receipt of Living Alone and Over 80 Allowances, 2004	35
Table C12	Number of Recipients of Widow's, Widower's and One-Parent Family Payments by Payment Type and County, 2004 (Estimated)	36

Section D: Child Related Payments		Page
Table D1	Expenditure on Child Related Payments by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004	39
Table D2	Expenditure on Child Benefit, 1995 to 2004	39
Table D3	Expenditure on Orphans (Contributory) Allowance and Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension, 1995 to 2004	39
Table D4	Expenditure on Maternity, Adoptive, and Health & Safety Benefit, 1995 to 2004	40
Table D5	Number of Recipients of Orphan's Pensions, 2003 and 2004	40
Table D6	Number of Recipients of Maternity Benefit, Health & Safety Benefit and Adoptive Benefit, 2003 and 2004	40
Table D7	Number of Families and Child Beneficiaries of Child Benefit, 1995 to 2004	41
Table D8	Number of Families Receiving Child Benefit by Number of Child Beneficiaries, 1995 to 2004	41
Table D9	Number of Child Beneficiaries of Child Benefit by Age, 1995 to 2004 (Estimated)	42
Table D10	Number of Recipients of Qualified Child Increases by Payment Type, 2004 (Estimated)	43
Table D11	Number of Recipients of Orphan's Allowance/Pension, Child Benefit, Maternity Benefit, and Health & Safety Benefit by County, 2004 (Estimated)	44

Section E: Illness, Disability and Caring		Page
Table E1	Expenditure on Illness, Disability and Caring by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004	47
Table E2	Expenditure on Illness, Disability and Caring by Payment Type, 1995 to 2004	47
Table E3	Recipients of Illness, Disability and Caring Payments by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004	48
Table E4	Number of Recipients of Invalidity Pension, Disability Benefit, Disablement Pension, Disability Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Death Benefit Pension & Blind Person's Pension, 1995 to 2004	48
Table E5	Number of Living Alone and Over 80 Allowances by Payment Type, 2004	49
Table E6	Number of Recipients of Disability Benefit by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	49
Table E7	Number of Recipients of Invalidity Pension by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	49
Table E8	Number of Recipients of Carer's Benefit and Carer's Allowance by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	50
Table E9	Number of Recipients of Blind Pension by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	50
Table E10	Number of Recipients of Disability Allowance by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	51
Table E11	Number of Recipients of Death Benefit Pension, Disablement Pension and Unemployability Supplement by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	51
Table E12	Number of Recipients of Injury Benefit and Interim Disability Benefit by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)	52
Table E13	Number of Recipients of Disablement Benefit by Degree of Disablement and Sex, 2004	52
Table E14	Number of Recipients of Illness, Disability and Caring Payments by Payment Type and Number of Dependants, 2004 (Estimated)	53
Table E15	Number of Recipients of Illness, Disability and Caring Payments by Payment Type and County, 2004 (Estimated)	54
Table E16	Number of Disablement Cases Referred to Medical Assessors for Assessment or Reassessment, 1995 to 2004	55
Table E17	Number of Disability Benefit Cases Referred to Medical Assessors, 1995 to 2004	55
Table E18	Number of Disability Allowance Cases Referred to Medical Assessors, 1997 to 2004	56



## Section F: Unemployment Supports

Page

		Page
Table F1	Expenditure on Unemployment Supports by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004	59
Table F2	Expenditure on Unemployment Supports by Payment Type, 1995 to 2004	59
Table F3	Number of Recipients of Unemployment Benefit and Unemployment Assistance, 1995 to 2004	60
Table F4	Number of Recipients of Unemployment Benefit and Unemployment Assistance by Number of Dependants, 2004 (Estimated)	60
Table F5	Number of Persons on the Live Register, on the last Friday of each Month, 2004	61
Table F6	Average Number of Persons on the Live Register, 1995 to 2004	61
Table F7	Flows on and off the Live Register by Month, 2004	62
Table F8	Number of Persons on the Live Register by Age and Sex, October 2004 (Estimated)	63
Table F9	Number of Persons on the Live Register in October 2004, Classified by Age, Sex and by duration of claim.	63
Table F10	Number of Persons on the Live Register in October by Sex and Duration, 1995 to 2004	64
Table F11	Categories Excluded from the Live Register: Number of Short-Time Workers, Self-Employed and Persons aged 65 and over, in each Month during 2004	65
Table F12	Categories Excluded from the Live Register: Average Number of Short-Time Workers, Self-Employed and Persons aged 65 and over, 1995 to 2004	66
Table F13	Average Live Register, Total Labour Force and Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rate, 1995 to 2004	66
Table F14	Numbers on the Live Register by County, 1995 to 2004	67

## Section G: Employment Supports

Page

Table G1	Expenditure on Employment Supports by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004	71
Table G2	Expenditure on Family Income Supplement and Other Employment Supports, 1995 to 2004	71
Table G3	Number of recipients of Employment Supports By Payment Type, 2003 and 2004	72
Table G4	Number of Families receiving Family Income Supplement 1995 to 2004	72
Table G5	Number of Families receiving Family Income Supplement By Rate of Payment and Family Size, 2004	73
Table G6	Number of Families receiving Family Income Supplement By Age of Recipient and Family Income Group, 2004	73
Table G7	Number of Families Receiving Family Income Supplement by Family Status and Income Group, 2004	74
Table G8	Number of recipients of Back to Work Allowance By Employment Status and Sex, 2004	74
Table G9	Number of Recipients of Back to Work Enterprise Allowance, Back to Work Allowance, Back to Education Allowance and Farm Assist/Smallholders, by Age and Sex, 2004	74
Table G10	Number of recipients of Farm Assist/Smallholders, 1995 to 2004	75
Table G11	Number of Recipients of Employment Supports by County, 2004	75

xvi

## Section H: Supplementary Welfare Allowance

Table H1	Expenditure on Supplementary Welfare Allowance Scheme, 2003 and 2004	79
Table H2	Expenditure on Supplementary Welfare Allowance Scheme, 1995 to 2004	79
Table H3	Gross Expenditure on Supplementary Welfare Allowance By Health Board Region, 2004	80
Table H4	Expenditure on Exceptional Needs Payments, Other Exceptional Supplementary Welfare Allowance Payments and Urgent Needs Payments, 2004	81
Table H5	Number of Recipients of Supplementary Welfare Allowance By Health Board Region, 2004	82
Table H6	Number of Recipients of Basic SWA, Rent Supplement And Mortgage Interest Supplement, Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement and Other supplements 2003 and 2004	83
Table H7	Number of Recipients of Basic SWA, Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement and Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement and other Supplements by Age and Sex, 2004	84

		Page
Table H8	Number of Recipients of Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement and Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement by Primary Payment, 2004	85
Table H9	Number of Recipients of Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement and Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement by Claim Duration, 2004	85
Table H10	Number of Recipients of Back to School Clothing And Footwear Allowance by Health Board Region, 2004	86
Table H11	Expenditure on Back to School Clothing And Footwear Allowance by Health Board Region, 2003/2004	86
Table H12	Number of Recipients of Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance Payments by Category, 2004	87
Table H13	Number of Recipients of Rent Supplement by Duration and by Primary Payment, 2004	88
Table H14	Number of Recipients of Rent Supplement by Age and Duration 2004	89
Table H15	Number of Recipients of Basic SWA , Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement and Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement and Other Supplements by County, 2004	90

### Section J: Miscellaneous Payments and Grants

Table J1	Expenditure on Miscellaneous Payments and Grants by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004	93
Table J2	Total Expenditure on Household Benefits and Free Travel, 1995 to 2004	93
Table J3	Miscellaneous Benefits and Allowances: Number of Claims Awarded, 2003 and 2004	94
Table J4	Number of Recipients of Household Benefits and Free Travel by Type of Payment Received, 2004	94
Table J5	Number of Recipients of Social Welfare Payments by Payment Type and Method of Payment, 2004	95

## List of Graphs

		Page
Graph A1	Expenditure on Social Welfare by Programme, 2004	2
Graph A2	Expenditure on Main Social Insurance Schemes 1995 to 2004	7
Graph A3	Expenditure on Main Social Assistance Schemes 1995 to 2004	7
Graph A4	Financing of the Social Insurance Fund, 2004	8
Graph A5	Number of Recipients of Weekly Social Welfare Payments By Programme Area, 2004	9
Graph A6	Recipients of Main Social Assistance Payments 1995 to 2004	12
Graph A7	Recipients of Main Social Insurance Payments 1995 to 2004	12
Graph A8	Analysis of Insured Population, 2003	18
Graph B1	Number of Recipients of Old Age Pensions, 1995 to 2004	24
Graph C1	Number of Recipients of One-Parent Family Payment by Age and Sex, 2004	30
Graph D1	Number of Families receiving Child Benefit by Number of Child Beneficiaries, 1995 to 2004	38
Graph E1	Number of Recipients of Carer's Allowance by Sex, 1995 to 2004	46
Graph F1	Expenditure on Unemployment Benefit/Pay Related Benefit and Unemployment Assistance, 1995 to 2004	62
Graph F2	Number of Persons on the Live Register by Age and Sex, 2004	64
Graph F3	Number of Persons on the Live Register in October 2004, by Sex and Duration	65
Graph G1	Expenditure on Employment Supports, 1995 to 2004	72
Graph H1	Expenditure on Supplementary Welfare Allowance Scheme, 1995 to 2004	79
Graph J1	Expenditure on Household Benefits and Free Travel, 2004	92

**SECTION A**  
SUMMARY AND FINANCIAL

## Section A: Summary and Financial

### Expenditure

Total Social Welfare expenditure in 2004 was €11,291 million, an increase of 7.6% over 2003. Expenditure in 2004 represented 28.5 % of Gross Current Government expenditure and was equivalent to 9.2 % of GNP (Table A2). The main areas of expenditure by programme group were Old Age (24.2%), Widow's, Widower's and One Parent Families (16.2%), Illness, Disability and Caring (16.2%), Unemployment Supports (9.5%), Child Related Payments (16.9%), Supplementary Welfare Allowance (5.3%), and Employment Supports (2.1%). Administration of the social welfare system accounted for 3.9% of total expenditure (Graph A1).

Total Social Welfare expenditure was financed by the Exchequer (54%) and the Social Insurance Fund (46%). The Social Insurance Fund was financed by Pay Related Social Insurance contributions from employers (70.8%), employees (22.3%), the self-employed (6.3%) and Investment Income (0.6%). See Tables A6 and A7.

### Recipients of Weekly Social Welfare Payments

Over 957,000 people were in receipt of a weekly social welfare payment at the end of 2004. As these payments included increases in respect of over 119,000 Qualified Adults and over 357,000 Children, there were nearly 1,464,000 beneficiaries in all. The number of recipients and beneficiaries decreased by 1,700 and 47,819 respectively, year on year.

### Graph A1

Expenditure on Social Welfare by Programme, 2004

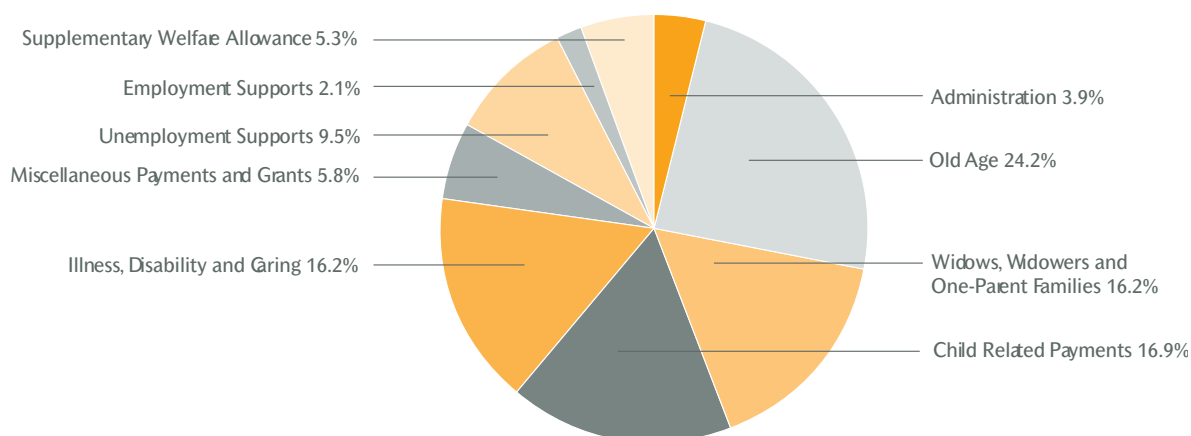


Table A1

## Expenditure on Social Welfare by Programme, 2003 and 2004

Programme	2003	2004 Provisional	Change 2004 over 2003
	€000	€000	%
Old Age	2,499,966	2,728,768	9.2%
Widows, Widowers and One Parent Families	1,706,564	1,827,707	7.1%
Child Related Payments	1,789,311	1,903,324	6.4%
Illness, Disability and Caring	1,621,115	1,827,362	12.7%
Unemployment Supports	1,043,081	1,069,361	2.5%
Employment Supports	247,573	238,111	-3.8%
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	587,813	601,582	2.3%
Miscellaneous Payments and Grants	570,667	659,971	15.6%
Administration	427,029	434,879	1.8%
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>10,493,119</b>	<b>11,291,065</b>	<b>7.6%</b>

Table A2

## Expenditure on Social Welfare as a Percentage of Current Government Expenditure, GNP and GDP, 1995 to 2004

Year	Total Social Welfare Expenditure <sup>(1)</sup> (€m)	Index of Expenditure	Consumer Price Index <sup>(2)</sup>	Social Welfare Expenditure as a percentage of: <sup>(3)</sup>		
				Gross Current Government Expenditure	Gross National Product	Gross Domestic Product
1995 <sup>(4)</sup>	5,332	100.0	100.0	28.7	11.4	10.2
1996 <sup>(4)</sup>	5,558	104.2	101.7	28.5	10.8	9.6
1997 <sup>(4)</sup>	5,744	107.7	103.1	26.7	9.7	8.6
1998 <sup>(4)</sup>	6,046	113.4	105.6	27.1	8.9	7.8
1999 <sup>(4)</sup>	6,283	117.8	107.4	26.0	8.2	7.0
2000 <sup>(4)</sup>	6,713	125.9	113.3	25.9	7.6	6.5
2001 <sup>(4)</sup>	7,842	147.1	118.9	26.2	8.1	6.8
2002 <sup>(4)</sup>	9,517	178.5	124.3	28.8	9.1	7.4
2003 <sup>(4)</sup>	10,493	196.8	128.7	28.9	9.4	7.8
2004 <sup>(4)</sup>	11,291	211.8	131.5	28.5	9.2	7.7

(1) Includes the full cost of Supplementary Welfare Allowance which is administered by the Health Boards.

(2) Re-based from Consumer Price Index data published by the Central Statistics Office.

(3) Source: Central Statistics Office and Department of Finance.

(4) Total Social Welfare expenditure for these years includes expenditure on the Redundancy and Insolvency Schemes which are administered by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

**Table A3**

Expenditure on Social Welfare by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	2003	2004	Change %
	€000	Provisional €000	
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	946,902	1,050,348	10.9%
Retirement Pension	898,981	983,706	9.4%
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	565,006	599,988	6.2%
Pre-Retirement Allowance	89,077	94,726	6.3%
<b>Total Old Age</b>	<b>2,499,966</b>	<b>2,728,768</b>	<b>9.2%</b>
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	826,135	906,450	9.7%
Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension	116,834	122,300	4.7%
Deserted Wife's Benefit	89,234	89,749	0.6%
Deserted Wife's Allowance	10,605	10,967	3.4%
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	13	15	15.4%
One Parent Family Payment	660,586	694,835	5.2%
Widowed Parent Grant (Contributory)	2,867	3,068	7.0%
Widowed Parent Grant ( Non-Contributory)	290	323	11.4%
<b>Total Widows, Widowers and One Parent Families</b>	<b>1,706,564</b>	<b>1,827,707</b>	<b>7.1%</b>
Maternity Benefit	107,336	121,572	13.3%
Health and Safety Benefit	213	144	-32.4%
Adoptive Benefit	532	609	14.5%
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	8,895	9,659	8.6%
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	5,805	6,223	7.2%
Child Benefit	1,666,530	1,765,117	5.9%
<b>Total Child Related Payments</b>	<b>1,789,311</b>	<b>1,903,324</b>	<b>6.4%</b>
Disability Benefit	433,455	478,996	10.5%
Invalidity Pension	440,263	487,376	10.7%
Injury Benefit	11,883	13,599	14.4%
Disablement Benefit	60,810	62,599	2.9%
Death Benefit	5,813	6,185	6.4%
Disability Allowance	463,608	544,489	17.4%
Medical Care	251	275	9.6%
Carer's Allowance	183,273	210,277	14.7%
Carer's Benefit	6,943	7,698	10.9%
Blind Pension	14,816	15,868	7.1%
<b>Total Illness, Disability and Caring</b>	<b>1,621,115</b>	<b>1,827,362</b>	<b>12.7%</b>
Unemployment Benefit	477,129	455,544	-4.5%
Unemployment Assistance	565,952	613,817	8.5%
<b>Total Unemployment Supports</b>	<b>1,043,081</b>	<b>1,069,361</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
Family Income Supplement	45,360	55,812	23.0%
Employment Support Services <sup>(1)</sup>	139,407	115,956	-16.8%
Farm Assist	62,806	66,343	5.6%
<b>Total Employment Supports</b>	<b>247,573</b>	<b>238,111</b>	<b>-3.8%</b>
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	587,813	601,582	2.3%
<b>Total Supplementary Welfare Allowance</b>	<b>587,813</b>	<b>601,582</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
Treatment Benefits <sup>(1)</sup>	63,348	70,455	11.2%
Rent Allowance	675	754	11.7%
Free Schemes <sup>(1)</sup>	340,514	364,272	7.0%
Miscellaneous <sup>(1)</sup>	68,489	76,767	12.1%
Equal Treatment - Insurance payments	5	1	-80.0%
Equal Treatment- Assistance payments	-	-	-
Redundancy and Insolvency <sup>(2)</sup>	97,636	147,722	51.3%
<b>Total Miscellaneous Payments and Grants</b>	<b>570,667</b>	<b>659,971</b>	<b>15.6%</b>
Administration - Insurance Schemes	184,042	191,313	4.0%
Administration - Assistance Schemes	242,987	243,566	0.2%
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>427,029</b>	<b>434,879</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10,493,119</b>	<b>11,291,065</b>	<b>7.6%</b>

(1) See Additional Expenditure Details in Table A4.

(2) These schemes are administered by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.



Table A4

## Additional Expenditure Details, 2003 and 2004

Additional Details	2003	2004	Change %
	€000	Provisional €000	
<b>EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT SERVICES</b>			
Back to Work Allowance/Back to Work Enterprise Allowance	97,396	65,712	-32.5%
Back to Education Allowance	38,276	44,160	15.4%
Part-time Job Incentive Scheme	1,056	1,243	17.7%
Other	2,679	4,841	80.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>139,407</b>	<b>115,956</b>	<b>-16.8%</b>
<b>TREATMENT BENEFITS</b>			
Dental	45,412	50,926	12.1%
Optical	14,261	15,099	5.9%
Medical and Surgical	3,675	4,430	20.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63,348</b>	<b>70,455</b>	<b>11.2%</b>
<b>HOUSEHOLD BENEFITS AND FREE TRAVEL</b>			
<b>Social Insurance</b>			
Fuel Allowances	33,109	34,059	2.9%
Free Electricity	44,924	52,356	16.5%
Free Bottled Gas	29	28	-3.4%
Free Natural Gas	3,729	4,282	14.8%
Free Television Licence	26,280	28,715	9.3%
Free Telephone Rental	50,165	52,273	4.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>158,236</b>	<b>171,713</b>	<b>8.5%</b>
<b>HOUSEHOLD BENEFITS AND FREE TRAVEL</b>			
<b>Social Assistance</b>			
Fuel Allowances	50,099	50,651	1.1%
Free Travel	49,820	52,400	5.2%
Free Electricity	30,478	35,636	16.9%
Free Bottled Gas	91	88	-3.3%
Free Natural Gas	1,176	1,216	3.4%
Free Television Licence	17,521	19,144	9.3%
Free Telephone Rental	33,093	33,424	1.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>182,278</b>	<b>192,559</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>			
Bereavement Grants	12,288	13,190	7.3%
School Meals	3,293	4,647	41.1%
Grants for Marriage & Family Counselling Services <sup>(1)</sup>	7,009	-	-
Combat Poverty Agency	5,304	3,909	-26.3%
Comhairle	17,011	17,826	4.8%
Family Support Agency	6,549	19,610	199.4%
Grants for Community & Family Support Groups <sup>(1)</sup>	2,425	-	-
Money Advice and Budgeting Services	9,405	11,397	21.2%
Other Grants/Payments	5,205	6,188	18.9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>68,489</b>	<b>76,767</b>	<b>12.1%</b>

(1) The Family Support Agency was established in May 2003 with responsibility for Grants for Marriage & Family Counselling Services and Grants for Community & Family Support Groups.

**Table A5**

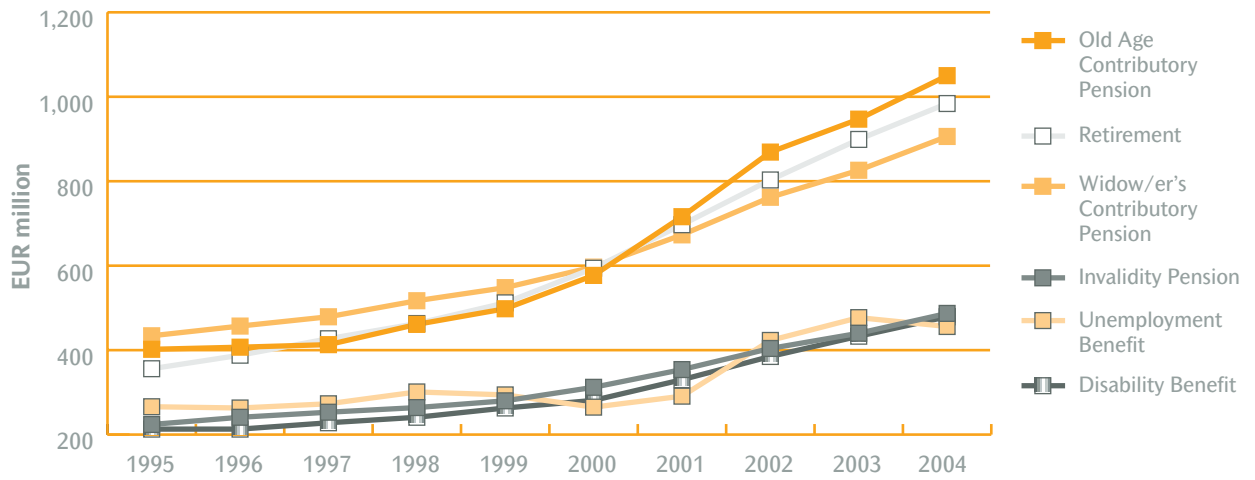
Social Insurance and Social Assistance Expenditure by Scheme, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	Expenditure		Change %
	2003	2004 Provisional	
	€000	€000	
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	946,902	1,050,348	10.9%
Retirement Pension	898,981	983,706	9.4%
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	826,135	906,450	9.7%
Widowed Parent Grant	2,867	3,068	7.0%
Deserted Wife's Benefit	89,234	89,749	0.6%
Maternity Benefit	107,336	121,572	13.3%
Health and Safety Benefit	213	144	-32.4%
Adoptive Benefit	532	609	14.5%
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	8,895	9,659	8.6%
Disability Benefit	433,455	478,996	10.5%
Invalidity Pension	440,263	487,376	10.7%
Injury Benefit	11,883	13,599	14.4%
Carer's Benefit	6,943	7,698	10.9%
Medical Care	251	275	9.6%
Disablement Pension	60,810	62,599	2.9%
Death Benefit Pension	5,813	6,185	6.4%
Unemployment Benefit	477,129	455,544	-4.5%
Treatment Benefit	63,348	70,455	11.2%
Bereavement Grant	12,288	13,190	7.3%
Free Schemes <sup>(1)</sup>	158,236	171,713	8.5%
Equal Treatment Payments	5	1	-80.0%
Redundancy and Insolvency Administration	97,636	147,722	51.3%
	184,042	191,313	4.0%
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>	<b>4,833,197</b>	<b>5,271,971</b>	<b>9.1%</b>
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	565,006	599,988	6.2%
Pre-Retirement Allowance	89,077	94,726	6.3%
Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension	116,834	122,300	4.7%
Widowed Parent Grant	290	323	11.4%
Deserted Wife's Allowance	10,605	10,967	3.4%
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	13	15	15.4%
One-Parent Family Payment	660,586	694,835	5.2%
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	5,805	6,223	7.2%
Child Benefit	1,666,530	1,765,117	5.9%
Disability Allowance	463,608	544,489	17.4%
Blind Person's Pension	14,816	15,868	7.1%
Carer's Allowance	183,273	210,277	14.7%
Unemployment Assistance	565,952	613,817	8.5%
Farm Assist	62,806	66,343	5.6%
Employment Support Services	139,407	115,956	-16.8%
Family Income Supplement	45,360	55,812	23.0%
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	587,813	601,582	2.3%
Rent Allowance	675	754	11.7%
Free Schemes <sup>(1)</sup>	182,278	192,559	5.6%
Miscellaneous <sup>(1)</sup>	56,201	63,577	13.1%
Equal Treatment Payments	-	-	-
Administration	242,987	243,566	0.2%
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>5,659,922</b>	<b>6,019,094</b>	<b>6.3%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>10,493,119</b>	<b>11,291,065</b>	<b>7.6%</b>

(1) See Additional Expenditure Details in Table A4.

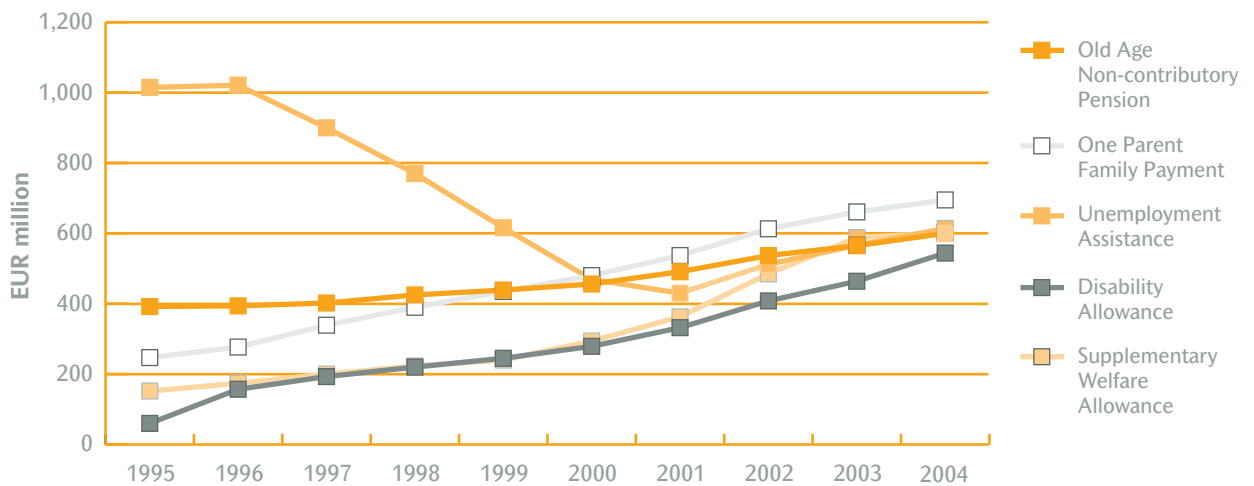
Graph A2

Expenditure on Main Social Insurance Schemes 1995 to 2004



Graph A3

Expenditure on Main Social Assistance Schemes, 1995 to 2004



**Table A6**

Financing of Social Welfare Expenditure, 2003 and 2004

Sources of Finance	2003		2004 Provisional	
	€000	%	€000	%
State	5,659,922	53.9%	6,019,094	53.3%
Social Insurance Fund	4,833,197	46.1%	5,271,971	46.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,493,119</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>11,291,065</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Table A7**

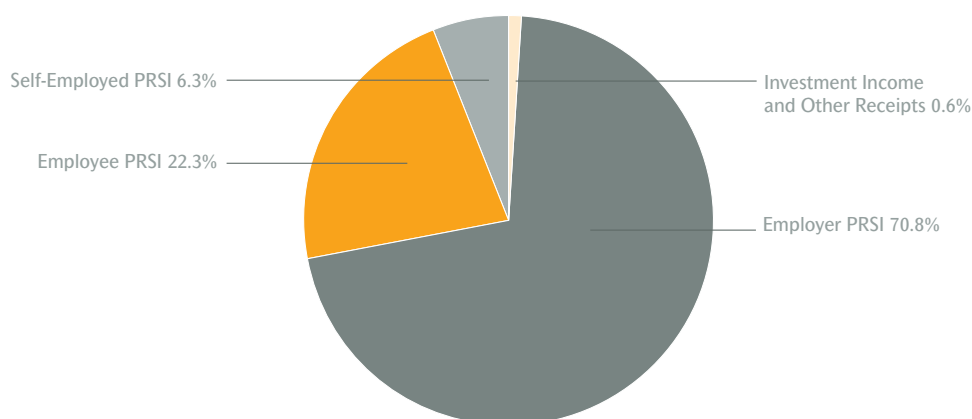
Financing of the Social Insurance Fund, 2003 and 2004

INCOME	2003		2004 Provisional	
	€000	%	€000	%
Employer PRSI	3,692,896	72.6%	4,000,313	70.8%
Employee PRSI	1,077,203	21.2%	1,257,639	22.3%
Self-Employed PRSI	277,696	5.5%	356,620	6.3%
Investment Income	40,718	0.8%	34,594	0.6%
Other Receipts	19	0.0%	454	0.0%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,088,532</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5,649,620</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Expenditure on Social Insurance Schemes</b>	<b>4,833,197</b>		<b>5,271,971</b>	
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>255,335</b>		<b>377,649</b>	

*The breakdown between employer and employee contributions requires a detailed analysis of data collected by the Revenue Commissioners. The contributions are apportioned on the basis of the most recently available information and are of necessity provisional.*

**Graph A4**

Financing of the Social Insurance Fund, 2004



**Table A8**

Number of Recipients and Beneficiaries of Weekly Social Welfare Payments, 1995 to 2004

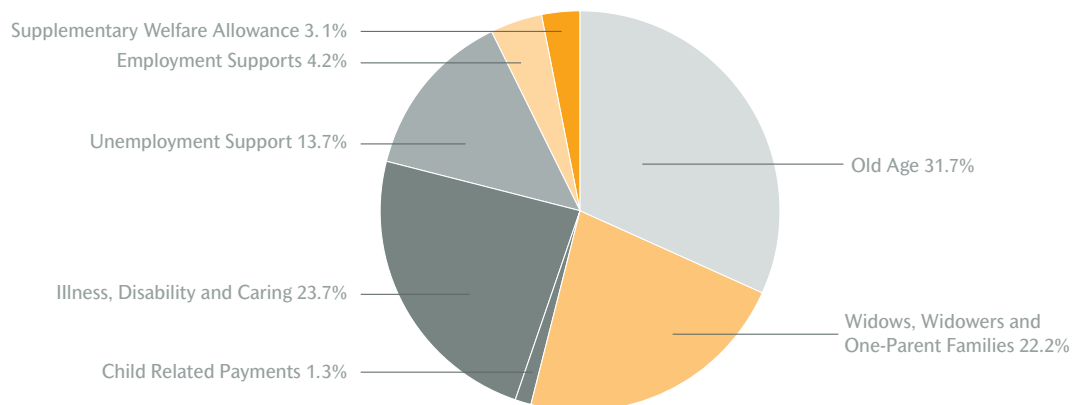
Year	Number of Recipients		Number of Beneficiaries	
1995	839,633 <sup>(1)</sup>		1,443,531 <sup>(1)</sup>	
1996	874,335 <sup>(1)</sup>		1,456,557 <sup>(1)</sup>	
1997	870,852 <sup>(1)</sup>		1,485,943 <sup>(1)</sup>	
1998	841,983 <sup>(1)</sup>	878,249 <sup>(2)</sup>	1,387,372 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,475,496 <sup>(2)</sup>
1999	838,061 <sup>(1)</sup>	880,758 <sup>(2)</sup>	1,371,730 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,476,088 <sup>(2)</sup>
2000	826,274 <sup>(1)</sup>	869,994 <sup>(2)</sup>	1,327,377 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,432,774 <sup>(2)</sup>
2001	866,743 <sup>(1)</sup>	903,375 <sup>(2)</sup>	1,372,911 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,460,574 <sup>(2)</sup>
2002	908,608 <sup>(1)</sup>	938,971 <sup>(2)</sup>	1,430,521 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,496,714 <sup>(2)</sup>
2003	936,343 <sup>(1)</sup>	959,432 <sup>(2)</sup>	1,463,046 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,511,740 <sup>(2)</sup>
2004	940,593 <sup>(1)</sup>	957,732 <sup>(2)</sup>	1,429,602 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,463,921 <sup>(2)</sup>

(1) These series are included for comparability purposes and do not include the number of recipients and beneficiaries of certain Employment Supports (Back to Work Allowance, Back to Education Allowance, Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme and earlier analogous payments). This arises as fully comprehensive data in relation to the number of recipients and beneficiaries of these schemes is not available.

(2) These series show the number of recipients and beneficiaries, as appropriate, of social welfare weekly payments, including all Employment Supports. See Tables A9 and A11.

**Graph A5**

Number of Recipients of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Programme Area, 2004



**Table A9**

Number of Recipients of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Payment Type and Programme, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	Recipients		Change %
	2003	2004	
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	113,970	118,383	3.9%
Retirement Pension	86,509	88,870	2.7%
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	86,733	85,172	-1.8%
Pre-Retirement Allowance	10,957	11,228	2.5%
<b>TOTAL OLD AGE</b>	<b>298,169</b>	<b>303,653</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	103,831	105,338	1.5%
Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension	15,783	15,284	-3.2%
Deserted Wife's Benefit	11,339	10,769	-5.0%
Deserted Wife's Allowance	1,523	1,456	-4.4%
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	2	2	0.0%
One-Parent Family Payment	79,296	80,103	1.0%
<b>TOTAL WIDOWS, WIDOWERS AND ONE PARENT FAMILIES</b>	<b>211,774</b>	<b>212,952</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
Maternity Benefit	10,594	10,356	-2.2%
Health and Safety Benefit	12	21	75.0%
Adoptive Benefit	33	26	-21.2%
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	967	992	2.6%
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	580	579	-0.2%
<b>TOTAL CHILD RELATED PAYMENTS</b>	<b>12,186</b>	<b>11,974</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>
Disability Benefit	57,464	58,726	2.2%
Invalidity Pension	53,414	55,864	4.6%
Injury Benefit	821	915	11.4%
Interim Disability Benefit	295	316	7.1%
Disablement Pension	11,898	12,162	2.2%
Death Benefit Pension	664	652	-1.8%
Carer's Benefit	639	679	6.3%
Disability Allowance	67,720	72,976	7.8%
Blind Pension	2,061	2,027	-1.6%
Carer's Allowance	21,316	23,030	8.0%
<b>TOTAL ILLNESS, DISABILITY AND CARING</b>	<b>216,292</b>	<b>227,347</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
Unemployment Benefit	70,090	57,699	-17.7%
Unemployment Assistance	75,249	73,840	-1.9%
<b>TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS</b>	<b>145,339</b>	<b>131,539</b>	<b>-9.5%</b>
Back to Work Allowance Employee	7,197	4,711	-34.5%
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance			
Self Employed First Year	1,340	1,164	-13.1%
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance			
Self Employed Years 2 - 4	8,532	5,691	-33.3%
Back to Education Allowance	5,696	5,247	-7.9%
Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme	324	326	0.6%
Family Income Supplement	12,317	14,727	19.6%
Farm Assist/Smallholders	8,707	8,350	-4.1%
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS</b>	<b>44,113</b>	<b>40,216</b>	<b>-8.8%</b>
Supplementary Welfare Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	31,217	29,748	-4.7%
<b>TOTAL SUPPLEMENTARY WELFARE ALLOWANCES</b>	<b>31,217</b>	<b>29,748</b>	<b>-4.7%</b>
Rent Allowance	342	303	-11.4%
<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>-11.4%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>959,432</b>	<b>957,732</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>

(1) Includes basic weekly payments only. See Section H for details of other Supplementary Welfare Allowance payments.

Table A10

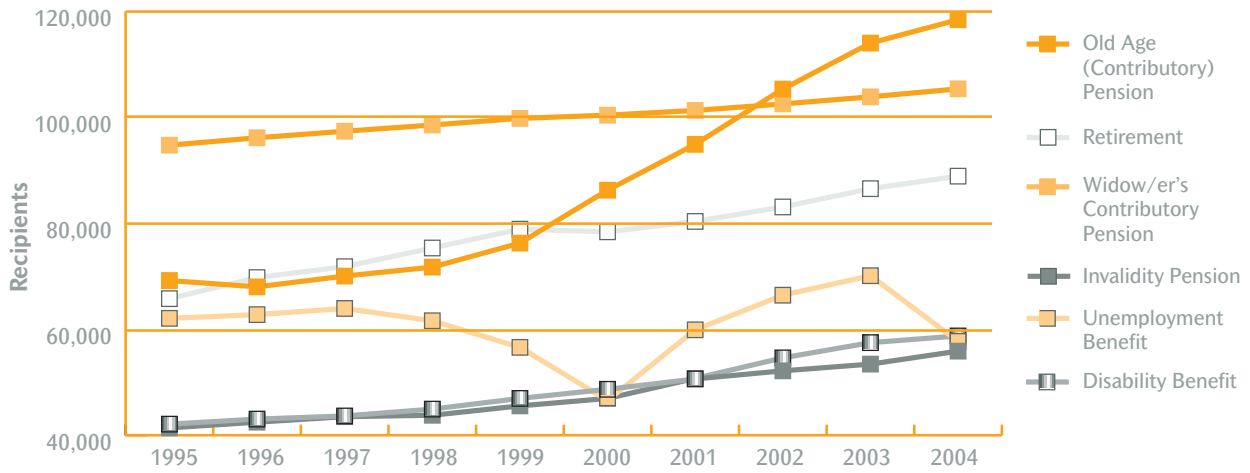
Number of Recipients of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Payment Type and Insurance or Assistance, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	Recipients		Change %
	2003	2004	
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	113,970	118,383	3.9%
Retirement Pension	86,509	88,870	2.7%
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	103,831	105,338	1.5%
Deserted Wife's Benefit	11,339	10,769	-5.0%
Maternity Benefit	10,594	10,356	-2.2%
Health and Safety Benefit	12	21	75.0%
Adoptive Benefit	33	26	-21.2%
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	967	992	2.6%
Disability Benefit	57,464	58,726	2.2%
Invalidity Pension	53,414	55,864	4.6%
Injury Benefit	821	915	11.4%
Interim Disability Benefit	295	316	7.1%
Disablement Benefit	11,898	12,162	2.2%
Death Benefit Pension	664	652	-1.8%
Carer's Benefit	639	679	6.3%
Unemployment Benefit <sup>(1)</sup>	70,090	57,699	-17.7%
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>	<b>522,540</b>	<b>521,768</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	86,733	85,172	-1.8%
Pre-Retirement Allowance	10,957	11,228	2.5%
Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension	15,783	15,284	-3.2%
Deserted Wife's Allowance	1,523	1,456	-4.4%
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	2	2	0.0%
One-Parent Family Payment	79,296	80,103	1.0%
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	580	579	-0.2%
Disability Allowance	67,720	72,976	7.8%
Blind Pension	2,061	2,027	-1.6%
Carer's Allowance	21,316	23,030	8.0%
Unemployment Assistance	75,249	73,840	-1.9%
Back to Work Allowance Employee	7,197	4,711	-34.5%
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance			
Self Employed First Year	1,340	1,164	-13.1%
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance			
Self Employed Years 2 - 4	8,532	5,691	-33.3%
Back to Education Allowance	5,696	5,247	-7.9%
Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme	324	326	0.6%
Family Income Supplement	12,317	14,727	19.6%
Farm Assist/Smallholders	8,707	8,350	-4.1%
Supplementary Welfare Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	31,217	29,748	-4.7%
Rent Allowance	342	303	-11.4%
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>436,892</b>	<b>435,964</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>959,432</b>	<b>957,732</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>

(1) Includes basic weekly payments only. See Section H for details of other Supplementary Welfare Allowance payments.

**Graph A6**

Recipients of Main Social Insurance Payments, 1995 to 2004



**Graph A7**

Recipients of Main Social Assistance Payments, 1995 to 2004

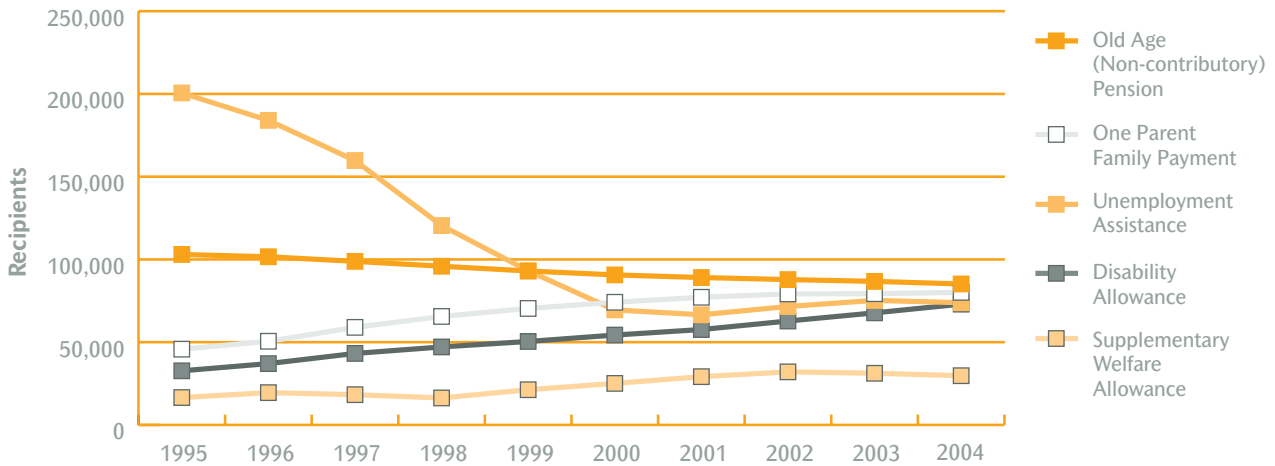




Table A11

Number of Beneficiaries of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Payment Type and Programme, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	Beneficiaries		Change %
	2003	2004	
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	141,399	146,564	3.7%
Retirement Pension	113,395	115,631	2.0%
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	91,251	89,408	-2.0%
Pre-Retirement Allowance	16,392	16,484	0.6%
<b>TOTAL OLD AGE</b>	<b>362,437</b>	<b>368,087</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	118,309	119,575	1.1%
Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension	15,783	15,284	-3.2%
Deserted Wife's Benefit	18,932	16,880	-10.8%
Deserted Wife's Allowance	1,523	1,456	-4.4%
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	2	2	0.0%
One-Parent Family Payment	207,347	210,041	1.3%
<b>TOTAL WIDOWS, WIDOWERS AND ONE PARENT FAMILIES</b>	<b>361,896</b>	<b>363,238</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
Maternity Benefit	10,594	10,356	-2.2%
Health and Safety Benefit	21	22	4.8%
Adoptive Benefit	33	26	-21.2%
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	967	992	2.6%
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	580	579	-0.2%
<b>TOTAL CHILD RELATED PAYMENTS</b>	<b>12,195</b>	<b>11,975</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>
Disability Benefit	113,454	103,427	-8.8%
Invalidity Pension	83,957	85,272	1.6%
Injury Benefit	1,450	1,388	-4.3%
Interim Disability Benefit	464	436	-6.0%
Disablement Pension	12,824	13,024	1.6%
Death Benefit Pension	851	820	-3.6%
Carer's Benefit	1,546	1,544	-0.1%
Disability Allowance	89,533	96,740	8.0%
Blind Person's Pension	2,627	2,567	-2.3%
Carer's Allowance	40,723	44,201	8.5%
<b>TOTAL ILLNESS, DISABILITY AND CARING</b>	<b>347,429</b>	<b>349,419</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
Unemployment Benefit	123,522	84,738	-31.4%
Unemployment Assistance	130,175	125,521	-3.6%
<b>TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS</b>	<b>253,697</b>	<b>210,259</b>	<b>-17.1%</b>
Back to Work Allowance Employee	16,124	10,122	-37.2%
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance			
Self Employed First Year	3,486	2,919	-16.3%
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance			
Self Employed Years 2 - 4	20,072	13,217	-34.2%
Back to Education Allowance	8,688	7,735	-11.0%
Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme	324	326	0.6%
Family Income Supplement	38,726	44,718	15.5%
Farm Assist/Smallholders	22,066	20,518	-7.0%
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS</b>	<b>109,486</b>	<b>99,555</b>	<b>-9.1%</b>
Supplementary Welfare Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	64,258	61,085	-4.9%
<b>TOTAL SUPPLEMENTARY WELFARE ALLOWANCES</b>	<b>64,258</b>	<b>61,085</b>	<b>-4.9%</b>
Rent Allowance	342	303	-11.4%
<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>-11.4%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1,511,740</b>	<b>1,463,921</b>	<b>-3.2%</b>

(1) Includes basic weekly payments only. See Section H for details of other Supplementary Welfare Allowance payments.

**Table A12**

Number of Beneficiaries of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Payment Type and Insurance or Assistance, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	Beneficiaries		Change %
	2003	2004	
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	141,399	146,564	3.7%
Retirement Pension	113,395	115,631	2.0%
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	118,309	119,575	1.1%
Deserted Wife's Benefit	18,932	16,880	-10.8%
Maternity Benefit	10,594	10,356	-2.2%
Health and Safety Benefit	21	22	4.8%
Adoptive Benefit	33	26	-21.2%
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	967	992	2.6%
Disability Benefit	113,454	103,427	-8.8%
Invalidity Pension	83,957	85,272	1.6%
Injury Benefit	1,450	1,388	-4.3%
Interim Disability Benefit	464	436	-6.0%
Disablement Pension	12,824	13,024	1.6%
Death Benefit Pension	851	820	-3.6%
Carer's Benefit	1,546	1,544	-0.1%
Unemployment Benefit	123,522	84,738	-31.4%
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>	<b>741,718</b>	<b>700,695</b>	<b>-5.5%</b>
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	91,251	89,408	-2.0%
Pre-Retirement Allowance	16,392	16,484	0.6%
Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension	15,783	15,284	-3.2%
Deserted Wife's Allowance	1,523	1,456	-4.4%
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	2	2	0.0%
One-Parent Family Payment	207,347	210,041	1.3%
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	580	579	-0.2%
Disability Allowance	89,533	96,740	8.0%
Blind Pension	2,627	2,567	-2.3%
Carer's Allowance	40,723	44,201	8.5%
Unemployment Assistance	130,175	125,521	-3.6%
Family Income Supplement	38,726	44,718	15.5%
Back to Work Allowance Employee	16,124	10,122	-37.2%
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance			
Self Employed First Year	3,486	2,919	-16.3%
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance			
Self Employed Years 2 - 4	20,072	13,217	-34.2%
Back to Education Allowance	8,688	7,735	-11.0%
Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme	324	326	0.6%
Farm Assist/Smallholders	22,066	20,518	-7.0%
Supplementary Welfare Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	64,258	61,085	-4.9%
Rent Allowance	342	303	-11.4%
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>770,022</b>	<b>763,226</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1,511,740</b>	<b>1,463,921</b>	<b>-3.2%</b>

(1) Includes basic weekly payments only. See Section H for details of other Supplementary Welfare Allowance payments.

Table A13

Number of Recipients of Weekly Social Welfare Payments by Sex, Payment Type and Insurance or Assistance, 2004

Type of Payment	2004				Total
	Male	%	Female	%	
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	74,691	63.1%	43,692	36.9%	118,383
Retirement Pension	64,536	72.6%	24,334	27.4%	88,870
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	11,868	11.3%	93,470	88.7%	105,338
Deserted Wife's Benefit	-	0.0%	10,769	100.0%	10,769
Maternity Benefit	-	0.0%	10,356	100.0%	10,356
Health and Safety Benefit	-	0.0%	21	100.0%	21
Adoptive Benefit	-	0.0%	26	100.0%	26
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	496	50.0%	496	50.0%	992
Disability Benefit	21,478	36.6%	37,248	63.4%	58,726
Invalidity Pension	28,806	51.6%	27,058	48.4%	55,864
Injury Benefit	621	67.9%	294	32.1%	915
Interim Disability Benefit	208	65.8%	108	34.2%	316
Disablement Pension	9,896	81.4%	2,266	18.6%	12,162
Death Benefit Pension	4	0.6%	648	99.4%	652
Carer's Benefit	70	10.3%	609	89.7%	679
Unemployment Benefit	27,721	48.0%	29,978	52.0%	57,699
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>	<b>240,395</b>	<b>46.1%</b>	<b>281,373</b>	<b>53.9%</b>	<b>521,768</b>
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	35,902	42.2%	49,270	57.8%	85,172
Pre-Retirement Allowance	8,893	79.2%	2,335	20.8%	11,228
Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension	307	2.0%	14,977	98.0%	15,284
Deserted Wife's Allowance	-	0.0%	1,456	100.0%	1,456
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	-	0.0%	2	100.0%	2
One-Parent Family Payment	1,804	2.3%	78,299	97.7%	80,103
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension <sup>(1)</sup>	289	49.9%	290	50.1%	579
Disability Allowance	43,727	59.9%	29,249	40.1%	72,976
Blind Pension	1,004	49.5%	1,023	50.5%	2,027
Carer's Allowance	4,604	20.0%	18,426	80.0%	23,030
Unemployment Assistance	54,198	73.4%	19,642	26.6%	73,840
Family Income Supplement <sup>(1)</sup>	5,035	34.2%	9,692	65.8%	14,727
Back to Work Allowance	2,963	62.9%	1,748	37.1%	4,711
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance	5,193	75.8%	1,662	24.2%	6,855
Back to Education Allowance	2,684	51.2%	2,563	48.8%	5,247
Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme <sup>(1)</sup>	162	49.7%	164	50.3%	326
Farm Assist/Smallholders	7,741	92.7%	609	7.3%	8,350
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	16,522	55.5%	13,226	44.5%	29,748
Rent Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	211	69.6%	92	30.4%	303
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>191,239</b>	<b>43.9%</b>	<b>244,725</b>	<b>56.1%</b>	<b>435,964</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>431,634</b>	<b>45.1%</b>	<b>526,098</b>	<b>54.9%</b>	<b>957,732</b>

(1) Gender breakdown is estimated.

**Table A14**

Number of Recipients, Qualified Adults and Qualified Children of Weekly Social Welfare Payments, 2004

Type of Payment	Recipients	Qualified Adults	Qualified Children		Other Children	Total
			Full Rate	Half Rate <sup>(1)</sup>		
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	118,383	26,228	1,158	795	-	146,564
Retirement Pension	88,870	25,222	1,034	505	-	115,631
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	85,172	3,553	541	142	-	89,408
Pre-Retirement Allowance	11,228	3,685	1,349	222	-	16,484
<b>TOTAL OLD AGE</b>	<b>303,653</b>	<b>58,688</b>	<b>4,082</b>	<b>1,664</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>368,087</b>
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	105,338	-	14,237	-	-	119,575
Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension	15,284	-	-	-	-	15,284
Deserted Wife's Benefit	10,769	-	6,111	-	-	16,880
Deserted Wife's Allowance	1,456	-	-	-	-	1,456
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	2	-	-	-	-	2
One-Parent Family Payment	80,103	-	129,938	-	-	210,041
<b>TOTAL WIDOWS, WIDOWERS AND ONE PARENT FAMILIES</b>	<b>212,952</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150,286</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>363,238</b>
Maternity Benefit	10,356	-	-	-	-	10,356
Health and Safety Benefit	21	-	1	-	-	22
Adoptive Benefit	26	-	-	-	-	26
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	992	-	-	-	-	992
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	579	-	-	-	-	579
<b>TOTAL CHILD RELATED PAYMENTS</b>	<b>11,974</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,975</b>
Disability Benefit	58,726	8,200	8,669	27,832	-	103,427
Incapacity Pension	55,864	10,196	6,196	13,016	-	85,272
Injury Benefit	915	152	213	108	-	1,388
Interim Disability Benefit	316	35	41	44	-	436
Disablement Pension	12,162	208	245	409	-	13,024
Death Benefit Pension	652	-	168	-	-	820
Carer's Benefit	679	-	26	839	-	1,544
Disability Allowance	72,976	6,142	11,507	6,115	-	96,740
Blind Pension	2,027	122	245	173	-	2,567
Carer's Allowance	23,030	-	2,876	18,295	-	44,201
<b>TOTAL ILLNESS, DISABILITY AND CARING</b>	<b>227,347</b>	<b>25,055</b>	<b>30,186</b>	<b>66,831</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>349,419</b>
Unemployment Benefit	57,699	6,356	9,473	11,210	-	84,738
Unemployment Assistance	73,840	14,692	29,769	7,220	-	125,521
<b>TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS</b>	<b>131,539</b>	<b>21,048</b>	<b>39,242</b>	<b>18,430</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>210,259</b>
Back to Work Allowance Employee	4,711	1,083	3,478	850	-	10,122
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self Employed First Year	1,164	387	1,015	353	-	2,919
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self Employed Years 2 - 4	5,691	1,763	3,827	1,936	-	13,217
Back to Education Allowance	5,247	419	976	1,093	-	7,735
Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme	326	-	-	-	-	326
Family Income Supplement	14,727	-	-	-	29,991	44,718
Farm Assist/Smallholders	8,350	3,784	6,397	1,987	-	20,518
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS</b>	<b>40,216</b>	<b>7,436</b>	<b>15,693</b>	<b>6,219</b>	<b>29,991</b>	<b>99,555</b>
Supplementary Welfare Allowance <sup>(2)</sup>	29,748	6,932	24,405	-	-	61,085
<b>TOTAL SUPPLEMENTARY WELFARE ALLOWANCES</b>	<b>29,748</b>	<b>6,932</b>	<b>24,405</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,085</b>
Rent Allowance	303	-	-	-	-	303
<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>303</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL <sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>957,732</b>	<b>119,159</b>	<b>263,895</b>	<b>93,144</b>	<b>29,991</b>	<b>1,463,921</b>

(1) A Qualified Child increase is payable at half rate where a spouse living with the recipient, is not a Qualified Adult. Each spouse may receive half the Qualified Child increase where both spouses are in receipt of a Social Welfare payment. This can result in some double counting of the actual number of Qualified Children.

(2) Includes basic weekly payments only.

(3) The total figures include a small element of double counting as some persons could be in receipt of more than one payment, the second of which might be, for example, Disablement pension, Rent Allowance or Family Income Supplement

Table A15

## Number of Persons in each Social Insurance Class, 2002 and 2003

Insurance Class	Insured for	Number Insured					
		2002 <sup>(1)</sup>			2003 <sup>(2)</sup>		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<b>A</b>	All Benefits	989,583	925,930	1,915,513	1,009,036	952,742	1,961,778
<b>B</b>	Widow/er's (Contributory) Pensions, Bereavement Grant, Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance, Carer's Benefit and limited Injuries Benefits.	19,290	12,490	31,780	20,186	12,895	33,081
<b>C</b>	Widow/er's (Contributory) Pensions, Bereavement Grant, Carer's Benefit and Orphans (Contributory) Allowance.	873	85	958	898	98	996
<b>D</b>	Widow/er's (Contributory) Pensions, Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance, Bereavement Grant, Carer's Benefit and Occupational Injuries Benefits.	43,174	49,972	93,146	45,249	53,633	98,882
<b>E</b>	All benefits except Unemployment Benefit, Bereavement Grant and Occupational Injuries Benefits.	131	17	148	137	21	158
<b>H</b>	All benefits on discharge. Treatment Benefit, Bereavement Grant, Carer's Benefit and Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension (in certain cases) during service.	8,337	380	8,717	8,215	383	8,598
<b>J<sup>(3)</sup></b>	Occupational Injuries Benefits.	7,426	10,445	17,871	7,879	9,930	17,809
<b>K</b>	No Social Insurance benefits. Class K consists of the Health Contribution.	25,017	9,525	34,542	25,191	11,063	36,254
<b>M</b>	Occupational Injuries Benefits in certain circumstances.	81,732	61,997	143,729	89,157	62,798	151,955
<b>P</b>	Treatment Benefit and limited Unemployment and Disability Benefits.	12	-	12	11	-	11
<b>S</b>	Widow/er's (Contributory) Pensions, Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance, Old Age (Contributory) Pension, Bereavement Grant, Maternity Benefit and Adoptive Benefit.	209,005	46,920	255,925	205,398	48,654	254,052
<b>Voluntary Contributors</b>	High Rate: Retirement Pension, Old Age (Contributory) Pension, Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance, Benefit and Death Grant.	1,117	213	1,330	1,033	499	1,532
	Low Rate: Widow/er's (Contributory) Pensions, Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance and Death Grant.						
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,385,697</b>	<b>1,117,974</b>	<b>2,503,671</b>	<b>1,412,390</b>	<b>1,152,716</b>	<b>2,565,106</b>

(1) Revised figures.

(2) Provisional figures.

(4) Class J includes FAS and other trainees.

**Table A16**

Number of Insured Persons, 1995/96 to 2003

Year	Insured Population	Index
1995/1996	1,858,492	100.0
1996/1997	1,925,453	103.6
1997/1998	2,037,647	109.6
1998/1999	2,200,399	118.4
1999/2000	2,310,525	124.3
2000/2001	2,417,231	130.1
2001 <sup>(1)</sup>	2,410,265	129.7
2002 <sup>(2)</sup>	2,503,671	134.7
2003 <sup>(3)</sup>	2,565,106	138.0

(1) Short-Tax Year

(2) Revised

(3) Provisional

**Graph A8**

Analysis of Insured Population, 2003

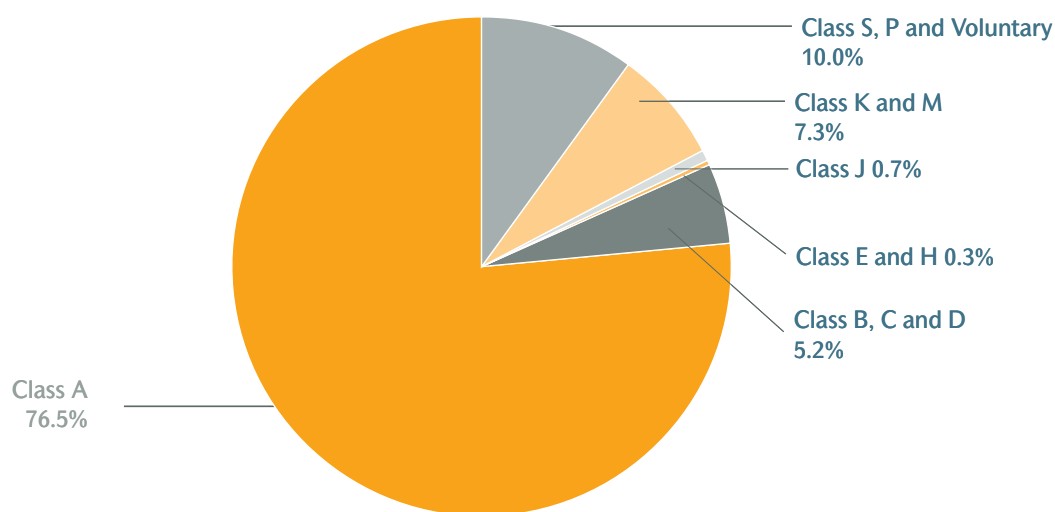


Table A17

## Social Welfare Weekly Rates of Payment from January 2004

Type of Payment	Qualified		
	Personal	Adult	Child
	€	€	€
<b>SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>			
<b>Long Term</b>			
Old Age (Contributory) Pension / Retirement Pension <sup>(1)</sup>	167.30	111.50	19.30
Invalidity Pension <sup>(2)</sup>	140.30	100.10	19.30
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension / Deserted Wife's Benefit <sup>(3)</sup>	140.30	-	21.60
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	107.00	-	-
Death Benefit Pension	163.60	-	-
Disablement Pension	165.90	-	-
<b>Short Term</b>			
Disability / Unemployment Benefit	134.80	89.40	16.80
Carer's Benefit	149.70	-	16.80
<b>SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>			
<b>Long Term</b>			
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	154.00	101.80	16.80
Widow's (Non-Contributory) Pension <sup>(4)</sup>	134.80	-	-
Deserted / Prisoner's Wife's Allowance <sup>(4)</sup>	134.80	-	-
One-Parent Family Payment <sup>(4)</sup>	134.80	-	19.30
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	107.00	-	-
Carer's Allowance <sup>(5)</sup>	139.60	-	16.80
Long Term Unemployment Assistance	134.80	89.40	16.80
Pre-Retirement Allowance	134.80	89.40	16.80
Disability Allowance	134.80	89.40	16.80
Farm Assist	134.80	89.40	16.80
<b>Short Term</b>			
Short Term Unemployment Assistance	134.80	89.40	16.80
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	134.80	89.40	16.80
<b>OTHER PAYMENTS</b>			
Island Allowance	12.70	-	-
Living Alone Allowance	7.70	-	-
Over 80 Allowance	6.40	-	-
Child Benefit <sup>(6)</sup> (monthly)			
- 1st & 2nd Child	125.60	-	-
- 3rd & other Children	157.30	-	-

(1) If Qualified Adult is 66 years or over a rate of 129.20 Euro is payable.

(2) If Invalidity Pensioner is 65 or over a rate of 167.30 Euro is payable.

(3) If Recipient is aged 66 or over a rate of 167.30 Euro is payable.

(4) If Recipient is aged 66 or over a rate of 154.00 Euro is payable.

(5) Where Recipient is aged 66 or over a rate of 157.80 Euro is payable.

(6) These rates apply from April 2004.

**Table A18**

Social Welfare Weekly Rates of Payment from January 2005

Type of Payment	Qualified		
	Personal	Adult	Child
	€	€	€
<b>SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>			
<b>Long Term</b>			
Old Age (Contributory) Pension / Retirement Pension <sup>(1)</sup>	179.30	119.50	19.30
Invalidity Pension <sup>(2)</sup>	154.30	110.10	19.30
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension / Deserted Wife's Benefit <sup>(3)</sup>	154.30	-	21.60
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	121.00	-	-
Death Benefit Pension	177.60	-	-
Disablement Pension	179.90	-	-
<b>Short Term</b>			
Disability / Unemployment Benefit	148.80	98.70	16.80
Carer's Benefit	163.70	-	-
<b>SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>			
<b>Long Term</b>			
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	166.00	109.70	16.80
Widow's (Non-Contributory) Pension <sup>(4)</sup>	148.80	-	-
Deserted / Prisoner's Wife's Allowance <sup>(4)</sup>	148.80	-	-
One-Parent Family Payment <sup>(4)</sup>	148.80	-	19.30
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	121.00	-	-
Carer's Allowance <sup>(5)</sup>	153.60	-	16.80
Long Term Unemployment Assistance	148.80	98.70	16.80
Pre-Retirement Allowance	148.80	98.70	16.80
Disability Allowance	148.80	98.70	16.80
Farm Assist			
<b>Short Term</b>			
Short Term Unemployment Assistance	148.80	98.70	16.80
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	148.80	98.70	16.80
<b>OTHER PAYMENTS</b>			
Island Allowance	12.70	-	-
Living Alone Allowance	7.70	-	-
Over 80 Allowance	6.40	-	-
Child Benefit <sup>(6)</sup> (monthly) - 1st & 2nd Child	141.60	-	-
- 3rd & other Children	177.30	-	-

(1) If Qualified Adult is 66 years or over a rate of 138.50 Euro is payable.

(2) If Invalidity Pensioner is 65 or over a rate of 179.30 Euro is payable.

(3) If Recipient is aged 66 or over a rate of 179.30 Euro is payable.

(4) If Recipient is aged 66 or over a rate of 166.00 Euro is payable.

(5) Where Recipient is aged 66 or over a rate of 169.80 Euro is payable.

(6) These rates apply from April 2005.



Table A19

Index of Short-Term Rates of Payment, Consumer Price Index and Average Industrial Earnings, 1995 to 2004

Year	Single Person	Couple	Couple with 2 children Including Child Benefit	Couple with 4 children Including Child Benefit	Consumer Price Index <sup>(1)</sup>	Gross Average Industrial Earnings <sup>(1)</sup>
1995	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1996	103.2	103.0	102.8	102.7	101.7	102.7
1997	108.0	107.5	106.4	106.7	103.1	105.4
1998	112.8	111.7	109.9	110.2	105.6	110.2
1999	117.6	116.7	114.5	114.8	107.4	122.2
2000	124.0	124.5	122.8	123.7	113.3	130.3
2001	136.8	139.5	141.9	146.2	118.9	140.6
2002	149.7	155.6	161.9	169.3	124.3	149.8
2003	157.2	163.5	169.7	177.3	128.7	160.0
2004	169.9	176.6	180.7	187.4	131.5	167.7

(1) Rebased from data published by the Central Statistics Office.

**Note:** Based on the rates of Unemployment Benefit and Disability Benefit.

Table A20

Index of Long-Term Rates of Payment, Consumer Price Index and Average Industrial Earnings, 1995 to 2004

Year	Single Person	Couple	Couple with 2 children Including Child Benefit	Couple with 4 children Including Child Benefit	Consumer Price Index <sup>(1)</sup>	Gross Average Industrial Earnings <sup>(1)</sup>
1995	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1996	103.0	103.0	102.8	102.6	101.7	102.7
1997	107.1	106.7	105.8	106.1	103.1	105.4
1998	114.0	112.1	110.2	110.2	105.6	110.2
1999	122.3	119.5	116.5	116.0	107.4	122.2
2000	131.9	129.2	125.9	125.6	113.3	130.3
2001	145.6	144.1	144.0	146.4	118.9	140.6
2002	159.4	159.9	162.7	167.7	124.3	149.8
2003	170.2	170.7	172.5	177.1	128.7	160.0
2004	181.0	181.6	181.9	185.9	131.5	167.7

(1) Rebased from data published by the Central Statistics Office.

**Note:** Based on the rates of Old Age (Contributory) Pension.

**Table A21**

Index of Rates of Payment for the Long-Term Unemployed, Consumer Price Index and Average Industrial Earnings, 1995 to 2004

Year	Single Person	Couple	Couple with 2 children Including Child Benefit	Couple with 4 children Including Child Benefit	Consumer Price Index <sup>(1)</sup>	Gross Average Industrial Earnings <sup>(1)</sup>
1995	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1996	103.2	103.0	102.8	102.7	101.7	102.7
1997	108.0	107.5	106.4	106.7	103.1	105.4
1998	112.8	111.7	109.9	110.2	105.6	110.2
1999	117.6	116.7	114.5	114.8	107.4	122.2
2000	124.0	124.5	122.8	123.7	113.3	130.3
2001	136.8	139.5	141.9	146.2	118.9	140.6
2002	149.7	155.6	161.9	169.3	124.3	149.8
2003	157.2	163.5	169.7	177.3	128.7	160.0
2004	169.9	176.6	180.7	187.4	131.5	167.7

(1) Rebased from data published by the Central Statistics Office.

**Note:** Based on the rates of Long-Term Unemployment Assistance.

**SECTION B**  
OLD AGE

## Section B: Old Age

### Expenditure and Recipients

Expenditure on Old Age payments was over €2,728 million in 2004. This represents an increase of 9.2% on 2003.

The overall number of Old Age payments rose by 5,484 in 2004, an increase of 1.8%. The number of people in receipt of a contributory pension (Old Age Contributory Pension and Retirement Pension) based on social insurance contributions rose by 6,774 while the number of people in receipt of the means tested Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension fell by 1,561. The number of persons in receipt of Pre-Retirement Allowance rose by 271 in 2004.

Over the last ten years, the number of recipients of Old Age (Contributory) Pension rose by 49,204 and the number of recipients of Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension fell by 17,812. The number of recipients of Retirement Pension increased by 23,109, and the number of recipients of Pre-Retirement Allowance has fallen by 3,795 in the same period. See Table B3 and Graph B1 for details.

### Graph B1

Number of Recipients of Old Age Pensions, 1995 to 2004

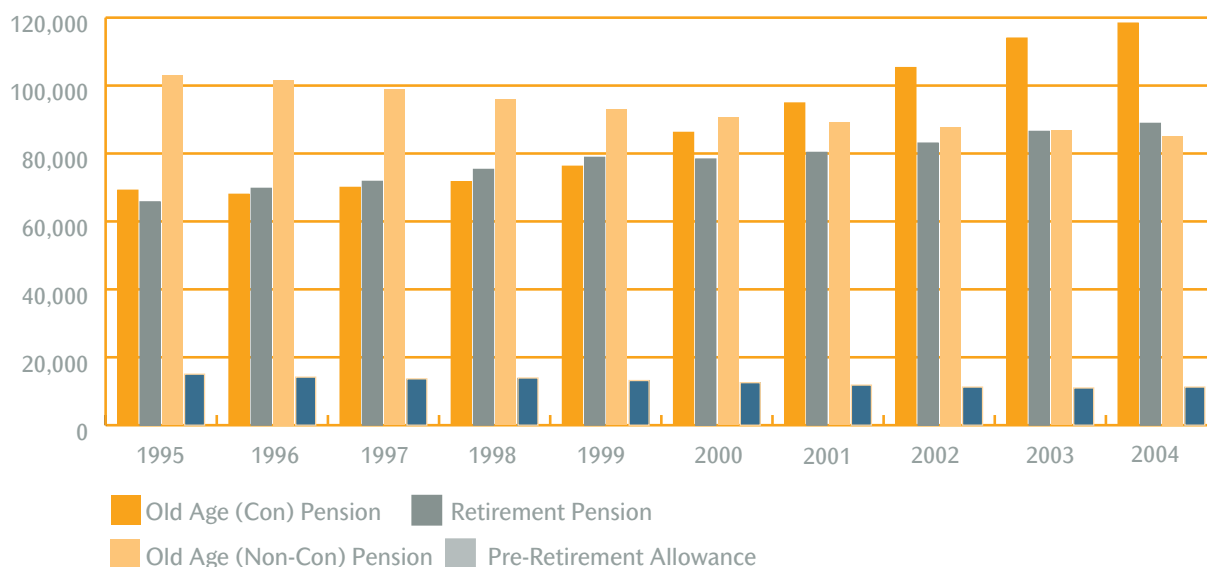


Table B1

Expenditure on Old Age by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004

Payment Type	2003	2004 Provisional	Change 2004 over 2003
	€000	€000	%
<b>SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>			
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	946,902	1,050,348	10.9%
Retirement Pension	898,981	983,706	9.4%
<b>SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>			
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	565,006	599,988	6.2%
Pre-Retirement Allowance	89,077	94,726	6.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,499,966</b>	<b>2,728,768</b>	<b>9.2%</b>

Table B2

Expenditure on Old Age by Pension Type, 1995 to 2004

Year	Old Age (Contributory) Pension	Retirement Pension	Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension <sup>(1)</sup>	Pre-Retirement Allowance	Total
	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000
1995	402,394	355,899	392,030	72,696	1,223,019
1996	406,637	388,130	393,992	73,732	1,262,492
1997	412,643	426,854	402,247	72,878	1,314,622
1998	460,995	463,489	424,586	76,428	1,425,498
1999	498,084	511,543	439,359	76,506	1,525,491
2000	577,365	594,239	456,230	79,252	1,707,086
2001	716,474	697,349	490,718	82,774	1,987,315
2002	868,529	803,413	537,308	87,028	2,296,278
2003	946,902	898,981	565,006	89,077	2,499,966
2004 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,050,348	983,706	599,988	94,726	2,728,768

(1) Provisional.

**Table B3**

Number of Recipients by Type of Old Age Pension, 1995 to 2004

Year	Old Age (Contributory) Pension	Retirement Pension	Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	Pre-Retirement Allowance	Total
1995	69,179	65,761	102,984	15,023	252,947
1996	67,988	69,740	101,624	14,151	253,503
1997	70,022	71,793	98,835	13,647	254,297
1998	71,706	75,316	95,890	13,897	256,809
1999	76,241	78,868	93,023	13,149	261,281
2000	86,217	78,370	90,652	12,521	267,760
2001	94,871	80,326	89,061	11,807	276,065
2002	105,295	83,055	87,823	11,222	287,395
2003	113,970	86,509	86,733	10,957	298,169
2004	118,383	88,870	85,172	11,228	303,653

**Table B4**

Number of Recipients of Old Age Pensions by Type of Pension, and Number of Qualified Adults and Children, 2004

Dependency Status	Old Age (Contributory) Pension	Retirement Pension	Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension <sup>(1)</sup>	Pre-Retirement Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	Total
Personal Rate only	89,852	61,942	81,339	7,337	240,470
With Qualified Adult under 66	9,917	10,546	3,553	3,685	
With Qualified Adult over 66	16,311	14,676			58,688
1 full rate Qualified Child	678	674	260	554	2,166
2 full rate Qualified Children	152	112	70	193	527
3 full rate Qualified Children	36	27	24	65	152
4 full rate Qualified Children	13	10	12	21	56
5 full rate Qualified Children	2	3	3	15	23
6+ full rate Qualified Children	1	-	1	8	10
1 half rate Qualified Child	437	300	96	124	957
2 half rate Qualified Children	118	66	20	37	241
3 half rate Qualified Children	24	15	2	5	46
4 half rate Qualified Children	8	3	-	-	11
5 half rate Qualified Children	2	2	-	-	4
6+ half rate Qualified Children	1	1	-	1	3
Recipients with Qualified Child allowances	1,472	1,213	488	1,023	4,196
Percentage of recipients with Qualified Child Allowances	1.4%	1.5%	0.6%	9.1%	1.5%
<b>Total Number of Qualified Adults</b>	<b>26,228</b>	<b>25,222</b>	<b>3,553</b>	<b>3,685</b>	<b>58,688</b>
<b>Total Number of Children<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>1,953</b>	<b>1,539</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>1,571</b>	<b>5,746</b>

(1) An age breakdown for Qualified Adults is not available.

(2) A Qualified Child increase is payable at half rate where a spouse living with the recipient is not a Qualified Adult. Each spouse may receive half the Qualified Child increase where both spouses are in receipt of a Social Welfare payment. This can result in some double counting of the actual number of Qualified Children.

Table B5

Number of Recipients of Old Age Pensions by Type of Pension, Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age Group	Old Age (Contributory) Pension		Retirement Pension		Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension		Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 70 years	21,571	10,473	23,290	8,400	6,483	8,433	51,344	27,306
70 to 74 years	24,434	12,983	20,722	7,481	8,434	11,450	53,590	31,914
75 to 79 years	14,758	9,000	12,628	4,998	8,981	11,040	36,367	25,038
80 to 84 years	8,943	6,601	5,829	2,305	7,078	9,308	21,850	18,214
85 years and over	4,985	4,635	2,067	1,150	4,926	9,039	11,978	14,824
<b>Total</b>	<b>74,691</b>	<b>43,692</b>	<b>64,536</b>	<b>24,334</b>	<b>35,902</b>	<b>49,270</b>	<b>175,129</b>	<b>117,296</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>118,383</b>		<b>88,870</b>		<b>85,172</b>		<b>292,425</b>	

Table B6

Number of Recipients of Pre-Retirement Allowance by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age	Male	Female	Total
55	127	36	163
56	556	149	705
57	699	167	866
58	697	202	899
59	792	253	1,045
60	850	262	1,112
61	1,019	268	1,287
62	947	242	1,189
63	1,072	239	1,311
64	954	246	1,200
65	1,180	271	1,451
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,893</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>11,228</b>

Table B7

Number of Recipients of Living Alone Allowance, Over 80 Allowance and Island Allowance by Pension Type, 2004

Pension Type	Living Alone Allowance	Over 80 Allowance	Island Allowance
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	27,380	25,695	52
Retirement Pension	19,524	11,481	63
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	24,898	30,613	236
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,802</b>	<b>67,789</b>	<b>351</b>

**Table B8**

Number of Recipients of Old Age Pensions by Type of Pension and County, 2004 (Estimated)

County	Old Age (Contributory) Pension	Retirement Pension	Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	Pre-Retirement Allowance
Carlow	1,080	1,043	1,049	157
Cavan	1,250	955	2,561	164
Clare	2,015	1,600	3,510	304
Cork	10,624	10,073	9,580	1,192
Donegal	2,212	2,865	5,321	1,003
Dublin	30,260	29,721	9,609	2,655
Galway	3,913	3,326	6,830	517
Kerry	2,775	2,209	4,876	459
Kildare	2,669	2,400	1,525	222
Kilkenny	1,664	1,436	2,105	221
Laois	1,272	957	1,502	159
Leitrim	611	662	1,284	71
Limerick	3,953	3,705	3,892	510
Longford	745	574	1,308	88
Louth	2,569	2,851	1,852	347
Mayo	2,214	2,486	5,255	424
Meath	2,693	2,062	2,128	281
Monaghan	1,100	960	2,015	144
Offaly	1,409	1,220	1,542	142
Roscommon	1,308	960	2,391	93
Sligo	1,283	1,230	1,957	148
Tipperary	3,775	2,731	4,497	486
Waterford	2,324	2,647	2,086	456
Westmeath	1,727	1,404	1,659	118
Wexford	2,849	2,596	3,141	614
Wicklow	2,734	2,491	1,642	253
Others	27,355	3,706	55	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>118,383</b>	<b>88,870</b>	<b>85,172</b>	<b>11,228</b>



**SECTION C**  
WIDOWS, WIDOWERS AND  
ONE-PARENT FAMILIES

## Section C: Widows, Widowers and One-Parent Families

### Expenditure and Recipients

Expenditure on Widows, Widowers and One Parent Families increased by 7.1 % overall in 2004.

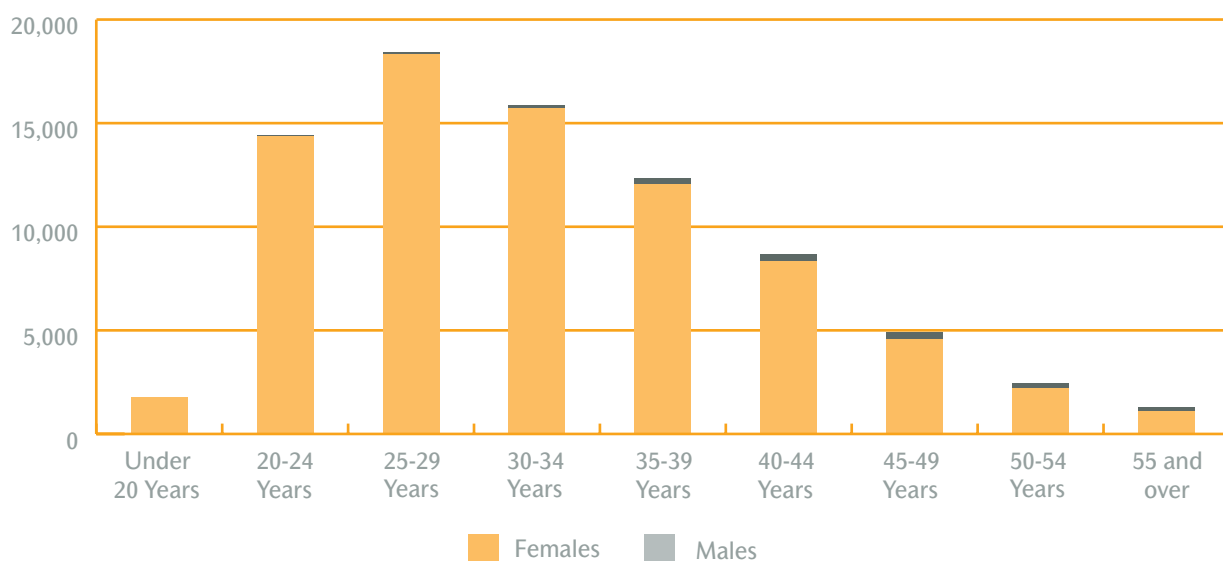
The payment in this programme group with both the largest expenditure and number of recipients is Widow's and Widower's (Contributory) Pension. At the end of 2004, there were 105,338 recipients (93,471 widows and 11,868 widowers). Expenditure in 2004 was over €906 million which represented an increase of 9.7% over 2003.

The number of recipients of Deserted Wife's Benefit and Deserted Wife's Allowance rose by 515 and 362 respectively during 2004.

Expenditure on One-Parent Family Payment increased by 5.2%, while the number of recipients rose by 807.

### Graph C1

Number of Recipients of One-Parent Family Payment by Age and Sex, 2004



**Table C1**

Expenditure on Widows, Widowers and One-Parent Families by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004

Payment Type	2003	2004 Provisional	Change 2004 over 2003
	€000	€000	%
<b>SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>			
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	826,135	906,450	9.7%
Deserted Wife's Benefit <sup>(1)</sup>	89,234	89,749	0.6%
Widowed Parent Grant (Contributory)	2,867	3,068	7.0%
<b>SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>			
Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension	116,834	122,300	4.7%
Deserted Wife's Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	10,605	10,967	3.4%
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	13	15	15.4%
One-Parent Family Payment <sup>(1)</sup>	660,586	694,835	5.2%
Widowed Parent Grant (Non-Contributory)	290	323	11.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,706,564</b>	<b>1,827,707</b>	<b>7.1%</b>

(1) Lone Parent's Allowance, Deserted Wife's Allowance, Deserted Wife's Benefit and Prisoners Wife's Allowance were discontinued for new claimants from the end of December 1996. A new unified payment, One-Parent Family Payment, was introduced in January 1997 for all parents who are bringing up children on their own.

**Table C2**

Expenditure on Widow/er's Pensions, 1995 to 2004

Year	Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension <sup>(1)</sup>	Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension <sup>(2)</sup>	Total
	€000	€000	€000
1995	434,446	73,862	508,308
1996	457,036	77,159	534,195
1997	478,894	79,418	558,313
1998	517,455	84,133	601,588
1999	547,775	88,364	636,139
2000	597,473	94,377	691,850
2001	672,959	107,164	780,123
2002	761,539	116,493	878,032
2003	826,135	116,834	942,969
2004 <sup>(3)</sup>	906,450	122,300	1,028,750

(1) Payment was extended in October 1994 to include widowed men.

(2) Payment was extended in October 1997 to include widowed men.

(3) Provisional.

**Table C3**

Expenditure on Deserted Wife's Benefit, Deserted Wife's Allowance, Prisoners Wife's Allowance and Lone Parent's Allowance/One-Parent Family Payment, 1995 to 2004

Year	Deserted Wife's Benefit	Deserted Wife's Allowance	Prisoners Wife's Allowance	Lone Parent's Allowance/One-Parent Family Payment <sup>(1)</sup>	Total
	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000
1995	88,998	8,470	33	246,663	344,165
1996	92,884	8,825	28	277,086	378,823
1997 <sup>(2)</sup>	94,336	8,848	23	338,530	441,737
1998	88,592	8,483	19	389,859	486,953
1999	85,983	8,359	19	435,177	529,538
2000	83,921	8,394	15	480,113	572,443
2001	84,877	9,179	13	537,376	631,445
2002	88,150	10,238	12	613,035	711,435
2003	89,234	10,605	13	660,586	760,438
2004 <sup>(3)</sup>	89,749	10,967	15	694,835	795,566

(1) Lone Parent's Allowance was introduced in November 1990 and discontinued in December 1996.

(2) One-Parent Family Payment was introduced in January, 1997.

(3) Provisional.

**Table C4**

Number of Recipients of Widow/er's Pensions 1995 to 2004

Year	Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension <sup>(1)</sup>	Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension <sup>(2)</sup>	Total
1995	94,713	19,108	113,821
1996	96,107	19,046	115,153
1997	97,340	18,786	116,126
1998	98,518	18,382	116,900
1999	99,771	17,978	117,749
2000	100,374	17,367	117,741
2001	101,267	16,811	118,078
2002	102,494	16,318	118,812
2003	103,831	15,783	119,614
2004	105,338	15,284	120,622

(1) Payment was extended in October 1994 to include both widowed men and women.

(2) Payment was extended, in October 1997 to include both widowed men and women.

**Table C5**

Number of Recipients of Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension and Deserted Wife's Benefit by Number of Qualified Children, 2004

Type of Recipient	Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	Deserted Wife's Benefit	Total
Without Qualified Children	96,824	7,012	103,836
With 1 child	4,770	2,158	6,928
With 2 children	2,332	1,073	3,405
With 3 children	997	357	1,354
With 4 children	309	126	435
With 5 children	77	30	107
With 6 or more children	29	13	42
<b>Total Recipients</b>	<b>105,338</b>	<b>10,769</b>	<b>116,107</b>
Total Recipients with children	8,514	3,757	12,271
% of Recipients with children	8.1%	34.9%	10.6%
<b>Total Number of children</b>	<b>14,237</b>	<b>6,111</b>	<b>20,348</b>

**Table C6**

Number of Recipients of Widow/er's Pensions by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age	Contributory Pensions			Non-Contributory Pensions			Overall Total
	Widows	Widowers	Total	Widows	Widowers	Total	
Under 25 years	3	1	4	-	-	-	4
25 to 29 years	27	10	37	2	-	2	39
30 to 34 years	206	47	253	2	-	2	255
35 to 39 years	615	157	772	10	1	11	783
40 to 44 years	1,250	447	1,697	31	8	39	1,736
45 to 49 years	2,288	777	3,065	90	20	110	3,175
50 to 54 years	3,877	1,292	5,169	210	25	235	5,404
55 to 59 years	6,520	2,110	8,630	560	65	625	9,255
60 to 64 years	9,200	2,456	11,656	965	69	1,034	12,690
65 to 69 years	12,224	1,683	13,907	1,656	63	1,719	15,626
70 to 74 years	14,604	1,047	15,651	2,502	38	2,540	18,191
75 to 79 years	16,285	852	17,137	3,172	7	3,179	20,316
80 years and over	26,371	989	27,360	5,777	11	5,788	33,148
<b>Total</b>	<b>93,470</b>	<b>11,868</b>	<b>105,338</b>	<b>14,977</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>15,284</b>	<b>120,622</b>

**Table C7**

Number of Recipients of Deserted Wife's Benefit, Deserted Wife's Allowance, Prisoner's Wife's Allowance, Lone Parent's Allowance and One-Parent Family Payment, 1995 to 2004

Year	Deserted Wife's Benefit	Deserted Wife's Allowance	Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	Lone Parent's Allowance	One-Parent Family Payment <sup>(1)</sup>	Total
1995	14,284	2,125	7	45,779	-	62,195
1996	14,738	2,138	8	50,557	-	67,441
1997	14,387	1,960	5	-	58,960	75,312
1998	13,835	1,807	4	-	65,548	81,194
1999	13,242	1,709	4	-	70,387	85,342
2000	12,654	1,613	3	-	74,119	88,389
2001	12,177	1,612	2	-	77,142	90,933
2002	11,794	1,582	2	-	79,195	92,573
2003	11,339	1,523	2	-	79,296	92,160
2004	10,769	1,456	2	-	80,103	92,330

(1) Lone Parent's Allowance, Deserted Wife's Allowance, Deserted Wife's Benefit and Prisoner's Wife's Allowance were discontinued for new claimants from the end of December 1996. A new unified payment, One-Parent Family Payment, was introduced in January 1997 for all parents who are bringing up children on their own.

**Table C8**

Number of Recipients of Deserted Wife's Benefit, Deserted Wife's Allowance and Prisoner's Wife's Allowance, by Age, 2004 (Estimated)

Age	Deserted Wife's Benefit	Deserted Wife's Allowance	Prisoner's Wife's Allowance
Under 25 years	-	-	-
25 to 29 years	5	-	-
30 to 34 years	35	-	-
35 to 39 years	427	-	-
40 to 44 years	1,430	20	-
45 to 49 years	2,207	64	-
50 to 54 years	2,454	170	1
55 to 59 years	2,062	302	1
60 to 64 years	1,219	325	-
65 years and over	930	575	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,769</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>2</b>

**Table C9**

Number of Recipients of One-Parent Family Payment by Status of Parent and Number of Children, 2004

Type of Recipient	Unmarried Parent, Separated Parent, Prisoner's Spouse	Widowed Person	Total
With 1 child	46,294	494	46,788
With 2 children	20,800	241	21,041
With 3 children	7,845	122	7,967
With 4 children	2,777	53	2,830
With 5 children	828	22	850
With 6 or more children	389	18	407
<b>Total Recipients</b>	<b>78,933</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>79,883</b>
<b>Total Number of Children</b>	<b>129,232</b>	<b>1,782</b>	<b>131,014</b>

*There are 220 recipients of One Parent Family Payment who are not in receipt of a Qualified Child Increase. This occurs where their Child now qualifies for a Social Welfare payment in their own right.*

**Table C10**

Number of Recipients of One-Parent Family Payment by Status of Parent, Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age Group	Unmarried Parent, Separated Parent, Prisoner's Spouse		Widowed Person		Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 20 years	6	1,759	-	-	6	1,759
20 to 24 years	72	14,349	-	3	72	14,352
25 to 29 years	118	18,285	-	14	118	18,299
30 to 34 years	181	15,637	9	62	190	15,699
35 to 39 years	279	11,940	13	94	292	12,034
40 to 44 years	321	8,191	23	124	344	8,315
45 to 49 years	296	4,425	33	145	329	4,570
50 to 54 years	203	2,058	44	145	247	2,203
55 to 59 years	98	719	26	155	124	874
60 to 64 years	29	97	21	70	50	167
65 years and over	15	5	17	22	32	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,618</b>	<b>77,465</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>1,804</b>	<b>78,299</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>79,083</b>		<b>1,020</b>		<b>80,103</b>	

**Table C11**

Number of Recipients of Widow/er's Pensions, Deserted Wife's Benefit and Deserted Wife's Allowance in Receipt of Living Alone Allowance, Over 80 Allowance, and Island Allowance, 2004

Pension Type	Living Alone Allowance	Over 80 Allowance	Island Allowance
Widow/er's (Con) Pension	41,480	27,480	54
Deserted Wife's Benefit	398	54	-
Widow/er's (Non-Con) Pension	6,921	5,811	34
Deserted Wife's Allowance	236	93	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,035</b>	<b>33,438</b>	<b>89</b>

# Widows, Widowers and One-Parent Families

**Table C12**

Number of Recipients of Widow's, Widower's and One-Parent Family Payments by Payment Type and County, 2004 (Estimated)

County	Widow/er's (Con) Pension	Widow/er's (Non-Con) Pension	One-Parent Family Payment	Deserted Wife's Benefit	Deserted Wife's Allowance	Prisoner's Wife's Allowance
Carlow	1,194	172	1,193	122	17	-
Cavan	1,381	594	839	66	14	-
Clare	2,191	715	1,669	188	40	-
Cork	11,705	1,609	8,201	1,017	126	-
Donegal	3,115	887	3,209	216	79	-
Dublin	28,088	1,428	27,741	4,523	443	-
Galway	4,405	1,420	3,153	331	78	-
Kerry	3,259	839	2,220	241	59	1
Kildare	3,389	275	3,026	402	43	-
Kilkenny	1,804	304	1,120	163	27	-
Laois	1,380	295	902	80	12	-
Leitrim	890	243	300	41	6	-
Limerick	4,637	706	3,648	470	57	-
Longford	906	300	709	86	9	-
Louth	2,705	245	2,953	437	36	-
Mayo	3,212	931	1,705	152	52	1
Meath	2,783	387	1,975	318	55	-
Monaghan	1,189	447	859	97	26	-
Offaly	1,649	322	1,160	114	11	-
Roscommon	1,308	477	559	69	17	-
Sligo	1,562	381	869	173	13	-
Tipperary	3,992	822	2,635	296	43	-
Waterford	2,806	279	2,276	289	39	-
Westmeath	2,023	405	1,478	184	27	-
Wexford	3,063	520	3,129	307	72	-
Wicklow	2,719	281	2,575	386	55	-
Others	7,983	-	-	1	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>105,338</b>	<b>15,284</b>	<b>80,103</b>	<b>10,769</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>2</b>



**SECTION D**  
CHILD RELATED PAYMENTS

## Section D: Child Related Payments

### Expenditure and Recipients

This section relates to payments which are made in respect of children, such as Child Benefit, Orphan's Pensions, and Maternity related payments. For ease of reference, this section also gives details of increases in respect of qualified children which are payable with social welfare payments (See Table D10). It should be noted, however, that for the purpose of apportioning expenditure between programmes, the cost of qualified child increases are included with the main payment e.g. Qualified Child increases paid with Old Age pensions are included in the 'Old Age' programme.

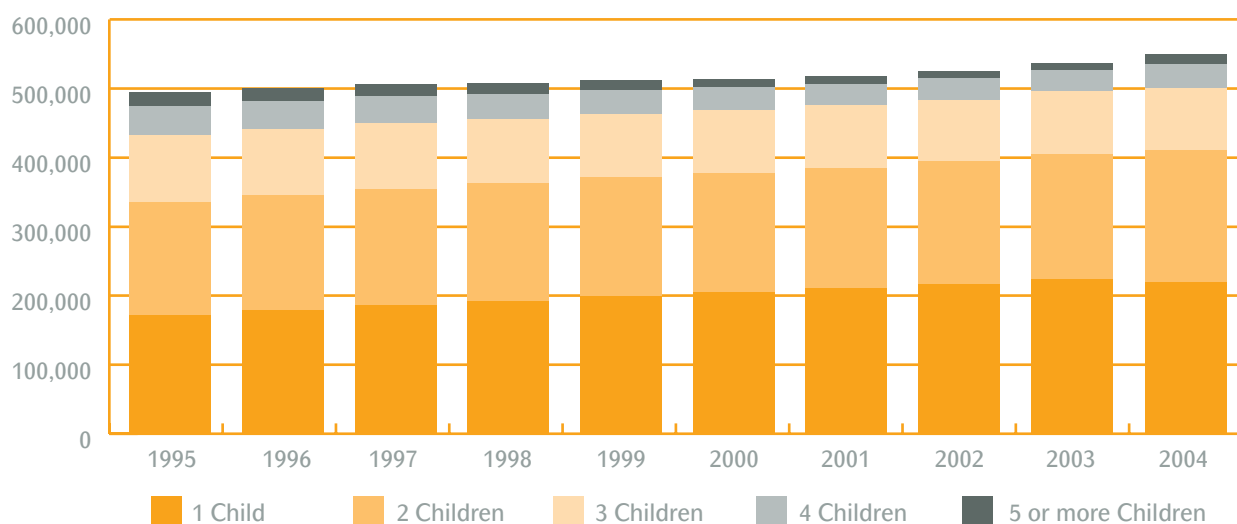
Expenditure on payments in this programme group rose by 6.4% in 2004. The breakdown of Child Benefit by family size shows that 75.3% of recipient families in 2004 have either one or two children. The equivalent percentage for 1995 was 67.7%. See Table D8 and Graph D1. The number of families receiving Child Benefit rose by 6,902 to 540,911. The total number of children in respect of whom Child Benefit is paid increased by 16,154 to 1,051,005.

38

Expenditure on Child Benefit increased by over €98 million in 2004, an increase of 5.9% while Maternity Benefit expenditure increased by over €14 million, an increase of 13.3%.

### Graph D1

Number of Families Receiving Child Benefit by Number of Child Beneficiaries, 1995 to 2004



**Table D1**

Expenditure on Child Related Payments by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004

Payment Type	2003	2004	Change 2004
	€000	Provisional €000	over 2003 %
<b>SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>			
Maternity Benefit	107,336	121,572	13.3%
Adoptive Benefit	532	609	14.5%
Health and Safety Benefit	213	144	-32.4%
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	8,895	9,659	8.6%
<b>SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>			
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	5,805	6,223	7.2%
<b>OTHER</b>			
Child Benefit	1,666,530	1,765,117	5.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,789,311</b>	<b>1,903,324</b>	<b>6.4%</b>

**Table D2**

Expenditure on Child Benefit, 1995 to 2004

Year	Expenditure
	€000
1995	382,124
1996	477,404
1997	505,787
1998	531,728
1999	565,013
2000	637,543
2001	964,847
2002	1,462,793
2003	1,666,530
2004 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,765,117

(1) Provisional.

**Table D3**

Expenditure on Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance and Orphans (Non-Contributory) Pension, 1995 to 2004

Year	Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension
	€000	€000
1995	2,203	759
1996	2,367	924
1997	2,630	1,087
1998	2,981	1,347
1999	3,765	1,804
2000	5,617	2,896
2001	9,447	4,421
2002	11,694	4,494
2003	8,895	5,805
2004 <sup>(1)</sup>	9,659	6,223

(1) Provisional.

**Table D4**

Expenditure on Maternity, Adoptive and Health & Safety Benefits, 1995 to 2004

Year	Maternity Benefit	Adoptive Benefit <sup>(1)</sup>	Health & Safety Benefit <sup>(2)</sup>
	€000	€000	€000
1995	34,630	77	67
1996	37,888	69	113
1997	43,245	103	157
1998	48,514	151	113
1999	52,733	211	164
2000	58,041	185	171
2001	78,933	260	210
2002	99,129	578	217
2003	107,336	532	213
2004 <sup>(3)</sup>	121,572	609	144

(1) Adoptive Benefit was introduced in April 1995.

(2) Health & Safety Benefit was introduced in October 1994.

(3) Provisional.

**Table D5**

Number of Recipients of Orphan's Pensions, 2003 and 2004

Payment	2003	2004	% Change 2004 over 2003
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	967	992	2.6%
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	580	579	-0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,547</b>	<b>1,571</b>	<b>1.6%</b>

**Table D6**

Number of Recipients of Maternity Benefit, Health and Safety Benefit and Adoptive Benefit, 2003 and 2004

Payment	2003	2004	% Change 2004 over 2003
<b>Recipients at 31st December:</b>			
Maternity Benefit	10,594	10,356	-2.2%
Health and Safety Benefit	12	21	75.0%
Adoptive Benefit	33	26	-21.2%
<b>Awards during the year:</b>			
Maternity Benefit	30,211	33,495	10.9%
Health and Safety Benefit	122	123	0.8%
Adoptive Benefit	183	188	2.7%

**Table D7**

Number of Families and Child Beneficiaries of Child Benefit, 1995 to 2004

Year	Families	Children
1995	491,520	1,065,471
1996	497,252	1,060,496
1997	502,318	1,053,401
1998	504,811	1,039,746
1999	508,504	1,028,877
2000	510,840	1,018,175
2001	514,919	1,014,340
2002	522,441	1,019,551
2003	534,009	1,034,851
2004	540,911	1,051,005

**Table D8**

Families Receiving Child Benefit by Number of Children

Number of Eligible Children in Family	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
1	169,625	176,126	183,271	190,083	197,457	203,342	208,712	214,916	221,515	221,837
2	163,278	166,364	168,421	169,509	170,777	171,646	173,525	176,284	181,018	185,282
3	96,811	96,218	95,450	93,671	92,172	90,667	89,564	89,397	90,512	92,379
4	41,323	39,682	37,836	35,932	33,979	32,431	31,225	30,552	29,996	30,542
5	13,464	12,557	11,652	10,592	9,651	8,795	8,257	7,884	7,732	7,619
6	4,538	4,099	3,746	3,304	2,965	2,628	2,450	2,275	2,161	2,175
7	1,521	1,385	1,201	1,071	980	869	742	712	669	679
8	556	465	433	401	324	294	287	267	264	258
9	230	201	179	145	107	89	94	95	88	91
10	104	94	83	57	56	48	39	36	34	28
11	42	31	20	22	22	20	16	15	15	16
12	20	19	17	16	11	7	6	7	4	4
13	4	7	5	6	2	3	1	-	-	-
14	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
15	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>491,520</b>	<b>497,252</b>	<b>502,318</b>	<b>504,811</b>	<b>508,504</b>	<b>510,840</b>	<b>514,919</b>	<b>522,441</b>	<b>534,009</b>	<b>540,911</b>
<b>Total Number of Children in Respect of whom Benefit is paid</b>	<b>1,055,156</b>	<b>1,065,471</b>	<b>1,060,496</b>	<b>1,053,401</b>	<b>1,039,746</b>	<b>1,028,877</b>	<b>1,018,175</b>	<b>1,019,551</b>	<b>1,034,851</b>	<b>1,051,005</b>

(1) Payment was extended in September 1995 to include 18 year olds in full-time education.

**Table D9**

**Number of Child Beneficiaries of Child Benefit by Age, 1995 to 2004**

Age (in years)	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Under 1 <sup>(1)</sup>	43,255	43,689	46,470	46,962	46,390	46,094	45,691	32,832 <sup>(3)</sup>	41,383	53,401
1 under 2	47,869	49,032	50,341	52,805	54,123	54,032	54,931	59,235	59,980	60,096
2 under 3	49,808	48,514	49,741	51,086	53,690	55,066	55,214	57,341	58,764	60,421
3 under 4	51,818	50,283	49,187	50,430	51,871	54,521	56,131	57,749	56,753	58,989
4 under 5	53,639	52,306	50,877	49,779	51,028	52,435	55,473	58,520	57,013	56,915
5 under 6	54,813	54,044	52,823	51,379	50,386	51,569	53,276	57,870	57,741	57,197
6 under 7	53,431	55,160	54,456	53,288	51,851	50,827	52,279	55,888	56,967	57,857
7 under 8	55,743	53,737	55,567	54,800	53,723	52,261	51,447	54,231	54,979	57,094
8 under 9	58,327	56,048	54,098	55,940	55,213	54,195	52,815	53,711	53,345	55,116
9 under 10	60,453	58,628	56,405	54,357	56,299	55,573	54,738	54,536	52,771	53,488
10 under 11	61,012	60,628	58,896	56,645	54,662	56,584	56,074	56,618	53,548	52,977
11 under 12	62,495	61,219	60,861	59,085	56,952	54,937	57,015	58,024	55,471	53,698
12 under 13	65,473	62,506	61,389	60,993	59,352	57,220	55,383	59,011	56,871	55,401
13 under 14	68,185	65,571	62,702	61,457	61,203	59,529	57,522	57,578	57,811	56,940
14 under 15	69,903	68,301	65,698	62,741	61,640	61,396	59,815	59,281	56,343	57,891
15 under 16	70,445	68,302	66,839	64,637	61,771	60,940	60,652	61,772	57,887	56,398
16 under 17	58,581	60,780	59,091	56,615	54,216	50,772	49,485	50,534	53,084	53,582
17 under 18	53,487	57,032	58,836	56,915	55,592	52,398	50,488	48,016	52,184	52,145
18 under 19 <sup>(2)</sup>	26,734	34,716	39,124	39,832	38,915	37,826	35,911	26,804 <sup>(3)</sup>	41,956	41,399
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,065,471</b>	<b>1,060,496</b>	<b>1,053,401</b>	<b>1,039,746</b>	<b>1,028,877</b>	<b>1,018,175</b>	<b>1,014,340</b>	<b>1,019,551</b>	<b>1,034,851</b>	<b>1,051,005</b>

(1) Underestimates the number eligible because of the time lag in applying for benefit.

(2) Payment was extended to this age group on 1 September 1995.

(3) 2002 numbers understated because of processing delays which were rectified in the early months of 2003.

**Table D10**

Number of Recipients of Qualified Child Increases by Payment Type, 2004

Payment	1 Qualified Child		2 Qualified Children		3 Qualified Children		4 Qualified Children		5 Qualified Children		6+ Qualified Children		Total Children		Total Families with Children	
	Full Rate	Half Rate	Full Rate	Half Rate	Full Rate	Half Rate	Full Rate	Half Rate	Full Rate	Half Rate	Full Rate	Half Rate	Full Rate	Half Rate	Full Rate	Half Rate
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	678	437	152	118	36	24	13	8	2	2	1	1	1,158	795	882	590
Retirement Pension	674	300	112	66	27	15	10	3	3	2	-	1	1,034	505	826	387
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	260	96	70	20	24	2	12	-	3	-	1	-	541	142	370	118
Pre-Retirement Allowance	554	124	193	37	65	5	21	-	15	-	8	1	1,349	222	856	167
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	4,770	-	2,332	-	997	-	309	-	77	-	29	-	14,237	-	8,514	-
Deserted Wife's Benefit	2,158	-	1,073	-	357	-	126	-	30	-	13	-	6,111	-	3,757	-
One-Parent Family Payment	46,898	-	21,151	-	7,967	-	2,830	-	850	-	407	-	129,938	-	80,103	-
Health and Safety Benefit	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Disability Benefit	1,965	5,073	1,421	5,399	655	2,600	279	764	89	162	52	43	8,669	27,832	4,461	14,041
Invalidity Pension	2,043	3,533	979	2,419	418	982	113	305	59	57	31	30	6,196	13,016	3,643	7,326
Injury Benefit	39	23	33	16	18	8	7	6	4	1	1	-	213	108	102	54
Interim Disability Benefit	12	6	3	11	5	2	2	1	-	-	-	1	41	44	22	21
Disablement Pension	48	77	31	72	24	40	6	12	2	2	4	1	245	409	115	204
Death Benefit Pension	48	-	31	-	14	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	168	-	97	-
Disability Allowance	2,455	1,210	1,500	858	795	452	404	224	197	75	95	82	11,507	6,115	5,446	2,901
Carer's Benefit	13	95	2	154	3	99	-	23	-	8	-	1	26	839	18	380
Blind Pension	58	26	36	20	25	16	6	11	3	2	-	-	245	173	128	75
Carer's Allowance	534	2,570	390	2,519	250	1,641	120	820	37	274	25	190	2,876	18,295	1,356	8,014
Unemployment Benefit	2,012	2,337	1,564	2,161	759	1,016	308	279	100	61	49	13	9,473	11,210	4,792	5,867
Unemployment Assistance	3,884	1,159	3,513	1,032	2,383	606	1,313	251	590	126	519	80	29,769	7,220	12,202	3,254
Farm Assist/Smallholders	814	218	699	224	512	197	344	102	140	32	86	23	6,397	1,987	2,595	796
Back to Work Allowance/Enterprise Allowance	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Back to Education Allowance	133	163	140	226	75	84	47	40	20	8	8	4	976	1,093	446	733
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	5,593	-	3,803	-	1,792	-	785	-	322	-	164	-	24,405	-	13,470	-
<b>TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>75,644</b>	<b>17,447</b>	<b>39,228</b>	<b>15,352</b>	<b>17,201</b>	<b>7,789</b>	<b>7,059</b>	<b>2,849</b>	<b>2,543</b>	<b>812</b>	<b>1,493</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>255,575</b>	<b>90,005</b>	<b>144,202</b>	<b>44,928</b>

**Table D11**

Number of Recipients of Orphan's Allowance/Pension, Child Benefit, Maternity Benefit and Health & Safety Benefit by County, 2004 (Estimated)

County	Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	Child Benefit Recipients	Child Benefit Children	Maternity Benefit	Health & Safety Benefit
Carlow	9	3	7,416	14,145	122	-
Cavan	4	3	7,715	16,217	132	-
Clare	12	10	14,323	28,517	261	-
Cork	41	15	61,484	119,951	1195	5
Donegal	26	10	19,256	39,506	310	-
Dublin	367	222	147,093	273,261	2807	6
Galway	21	18	27,694	56,182	573	1
Kerry	23	13	17,191	33,918	306	2
Kildare	20	16	26,463	50,708	548	2
Kilkenny	17	8	10,414	20,859	175	1
Laois	5	4	7,910	15,983	169	-
Leitrim	5	4	3,438	7,131	61	-
Limerick	19	17	23,958	46,063	420	1
Longford	12	2	4,502	9,331	73	-
Louth	14	7	15,918	30,251	287	-
Mayo	16	9	15,295	31,846	253	-
Meath	20	11	21,175	41,406	523	1
Monaghan	8	2	7,058	14,461	132	-
Offaly	17	8	8,983	18,087	157	-
Roscommon	4	9	6,528	13,353	115	-
Sligo	12	6	7,549	15,141	145	-
Tipperary	22	16	19,932	39,230	399	-
Waterford	22	10	14,734	28,005	255	-
Westmeath	13	9	11,028	22,069	183	1
Wexford	19	9	18,016	35,107	325	-
Wicklow	16	13	17,644	33,716	386	1
Others	8	-	528	1,098	44	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>543,245</b>	<b>1,055,542</b>	<b>10,356</b>	<b>21</b>



**SECTION E**  
ILLNESS, DISABILITY AND CARING

## Section E: Illness, Disability and Caring

### Expenditure and Recipients

Expenditure on Disability Benefit and Invalidity Pension increased by 10.5% and 10.7% respectively. Disability Allowance was introduced in October 1996 and replaced Disabled Persons Maintenance Allowance (DPMA) which was administered by the Health Boards. Expenditure on Disability Allowance increased by 17.4% to over €544 million. There are now 72,976 recipients of the scheme.

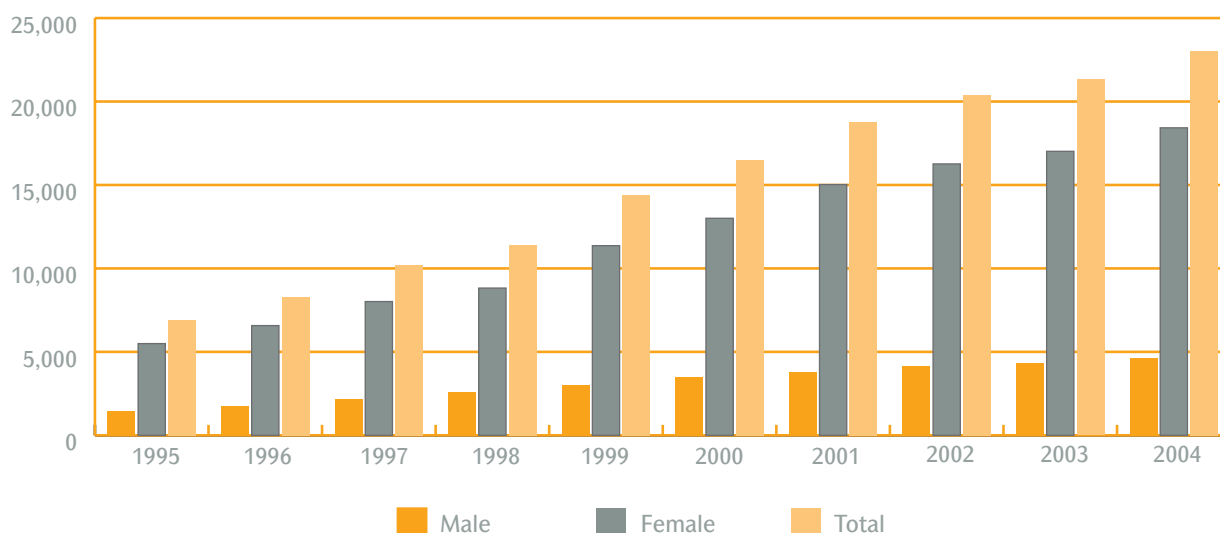
Carer's Allowance was introduced in October 1990. Expenditure on Carer's Allowance increased by over €27 million in 2004, an increase of 14.7%. There are now 23,030 recipients of the Scheme, an increase of 1,714 year on year.

Graph E1 and Table E4 show details of the numbers of Carer's Allowance recipients from 1995 to 2004.

Carer's Benefit is a payment made to insured persons who leave the workforce to care for person(s) who require full time care and attention. The number of recipients increased by 40 to 679, year on year.

### Graph E1

Number of Recipients of Carer's Allowance by Sex, 1995 to 2004



**Table E1**

Expenditure on Illness, Disability and Caring by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	2003	2004 Provisional	Change 2004 over 2003
	€000	€000	%
<b>SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>			
Disability Benefit	433,455	478,996	10.5%
Invalidity Pension	440,263	487,376	10.7%
Carer's Benefit	6,943	7,698	10.9%
<b>SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>			
Disability Allowance	463,608	544,489	17.4%
Blind Pension	14,816	15,868	7.1%
Carer's Allowance	183,273	210,277	14.7%
<b>OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES BENEFITS</b>			
Injury Benefit	11,883	13,599	14.4%
Disablement Pension	60,810	62,599	2.9%
Death Benefit	5,813	6,185	6.4%
Medical Care	251	275	9.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,621,115</b>	<b>1,827,362</b>	<b>12.7%</b>

**Table E2**

Expenditure on Illness, Disability and Caring by Payment Type, 1995 to 2004

Year	Disability Benefit	Occupational Injuries	Invalidity Pension	Carer's Benefit	Blind Pension	Disability Allowance <sup>(2)</sup>	Carer's Allowance	Total
	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000
1995	212,651	51,671	224,052	-	10,793	60,947	25,673	585,805
1996	212,596	54,501	241,034	-	11,047	157,533	34,285	710,996
1997	228,439	60,777	253,023	-	11,134	192,822	46,363	792,559
1998	241,437	61,438	264,259	-	11,655	219,550	57,264	855,603
1999	262,702	63,303	279,576	-	11,760	245,160	72,896	935,397
2000	280,828	65,353	311,511	36	12,302	279,176	99,561	1,048,767
2001	329,897	70,496	354,459	2,457	13,156	332,308	130,325	1,233,098
2002	385,297	77,018	403,617	5,807	14,221	407,585	160,042	1,453,587
2003	433,455	78,757	440,263	6,943	14,816	463,608	183,273	1,621,115
2004 <sup>(3)</sup>	478,996	82,658	487,376	7,698	15,868	544,489	210,277	1,827,362

(1) Carer's Benefit was introduced in October, 2000.

(2) Disability Allowance, formerly Disabled Person's Maintenance Allowance, was funded by the Department of Health up to August 1995.

(3) Provisional.

**Table E3**

Number of Recipients of Illness, Disability and Caring Payments by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	2003	2004	Change 2004 over 2003 %
Disability Benefit	57,464	58,726	2.2%
Invalidity Pension	53,414	55,864	4.6%
Interim Disability Benefit	295	316	7.1%
Carer's Benefit	639	679	6.3%
Disability Allowance	67,720	72,976	7.8%
Carer's Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	21,316	23,030	8.0%
Blind Pension	2,061	2,027	-1.6%
Injury Benefit	821	915	11.4%
Death Benefit Pension	664	652	-1.8%
Disablement Pension <sup>(2) (3) (4)</sup>	11,898	12,162	2.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>216,292</b>	<b>227,347</b>	<b>5.1%</b>

- (1) There were 20 persons in receipt of Prescribed Relatives Allowance at the end of December 2004. Prescribed Relatives Allowance was replaced by Carer's Allowance in 1990.
- (2) Disablement Pension is paid where a person suffers loss of physical or mental faculty as a result of an accident at work or contracting an occupational disease. It differs fundamentally from other Social Welfare income support payments in that it is a compensatory payment, rather than an income maintenance payment. Accordingly Disablement Pension can be paid in addition to other Social Welfare payments such as Disability Benefit and Invalidity Pension and can also be paid where a person continues to work.
- (3) Unemployability Supplement is paid as an increase to Disablement Pension where a person is permanently incapable of work and does not qualify for any other Social Welfare payment. 911 persons were in receipt of an Unemployability Supplement payment at the end of 2004.
- (4) Constant Attendance Allowance is paid as an increase to Disablement Pension where the degree of disablement is assessed at between 50% and 100% and the person has been certified as being in need of constant care and attention. 71 persons were in receipt of Constant Attendance Allowance at end of 2004.

**Table E4**

Number of Recipients of Invalidity Pension, Disability Benefit, Disablement Pension, Disability Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Death Benefit Pension and Blind Pension, 1995 to 2004

Year	Invalidity Pension	Disability Benefit	Disablement Pension <sup>(1)</sup>	Disability Allowance <sup>(2)</sup>	Carer's Allowance	Death Benefit Pension	Blind Pension
1995	42,092	41,830	8,977	-	6,917	500	2,476
1996	43,046	42,460	9,364	37,054	8,298	502	2,450
1997	43,633	43,500 <sup>(3)</sup>	9,748	43,192	10,196	558	2,404
1998	44,925	43,766	10,182	47,126	11,416	630	2,358
1999	46,946	45,535	10,577	50,431	14,387	662	2,304
2000	48,663	46,940	10,925	54,303	16,478	665	2,229
2001	50,615	50,715	11,230	57,655	18,785	676	2,125
2002	52,147	54,590	11,612	62,783	20,395	668	2,095
2003	53,414	57,464	11,898	67,720	21,316	664	2,061
2004	55,864	58,726	12,162	72,976	23,030	652	2,027

- (1) Disablement Pension is paid where a person suffers loss of physical or mental faculty as a result of an accident at work or contracting an occupational disease. It differs fundamentally from other Social Welfare income support payments in that it is a compensatory payment, rather than an income maintenance payment. Accordingly Disablement Pension can be paid in addition to other Social Welfare payments such as Disability Benefit and Invalidity Pension and can also be paid where a person continues to work.
- (2) Disability Allowance, formerly Disabled Person's Maintenance Allowance, was administered by the Health Boards up to October, 1996.
- (3) Estimated

**Table E5**

Number of Living Alone and Over 80 Allowances by Payment Type, 2004

Payment Type	Over 80 Allowance	Living Alone Allowance
Invalidity Pension	168	-
Death Benefit Pension	76	197
Blind Pension	157	402
<b>Total</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>599</b>

**Table E6**

Number of Recipients of Disability Benefit by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age	Males	Females	Total
Under 25 years	998	1,065	2,063
25 to 29 Years	1,170	2,449	3,619
30 to 34 years	1,498	5,005	6,503
35 to 39 years	1,726	5,980	7,706
40 to 44 years	2,244	5,462	7,706
45 to 49 years	2,608	4,991	7,599
50 to 54 years	3,276	4,999	8,275
55 to 59 years	3,825	4,488	8,313
60 to 64 years	3,813	2,557	6,370
65 years and over	320	252	572
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,478</b>	<b>37,248</b>	<b>58,726</b>

**Table E7**

Number of Recipients of Invalidity Pension by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	3	1	4
25 to 29 years	39	36	75
30 to 34 years	161	305	466
35 to 39 years	430	940	1,370
40 to 44 years	1,195	2,248	3,443
45 to 49 years	2,277	3,123	5,400
50 to 54 years	4,082	4,081	8,163
55 to 59 years	6,625	5,316	11,941
60 to 64 years	9,282	6,444	15,726
65 years and over	4,712	4,564	9,276
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,806</b>	<b>27,058</b>	<b>55,864</b>

**Table E8**

Number of Recipients of Carer's Benefit and Carer's Allowance by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age	Carer's Benefit			Carer's Allowance		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	1	2	3	49	245	294
25 to 29 years	3	38	41	80	554	634
30 to 34 years	8	89	97	202	1,216	1,418
35 to 39 years	7	142	149	365	1,995	2,360
40 to 44 years	14	112	126	633	2,413	3,046
45 to 49 years	16	65	81	779	2,392	3,171
50 to 54 years	8	82	90	806	2,564	3,370
55 to 59 years	7	55	62	706	2,626	3,332
60 to 64 years	6	24	30	522	2,013	2,535
65 years and over	-	-	-	462	2,408	2,870
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>4,604</b>	<b>18,426</b>	<b>23,030</b>

**Table E9**

Number of Recipients of Blind Pension by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	42	43	85
25 to 29 years	59	49	108
30 to 34 years	85	81	166
35 to 39 years	91	65	156
40 to 44 years	105	83	188
45 to 49 years	83	79	162
50 to 54 years	101	110	211
55 to 59 years	115	95	210
60 to 64 years	103	114	217
65 years and over	220	304	524
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,004</b>	<b>1,023</b>	<b>2,027</b>

**Table E10**

Number of Recipients of Disability Allowance by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	5,921	4,348	10,269
25 to 29 years	4,170	2,884	7,054
30 to 34 years	4,408	2,821	7,229
35 to 39 years	4,490	2,875	7,365
40 to 44 years	4,532	2,880	7,412
45 to 49 years	4,389	2,959	7,348
50 to 54 years	4,911	3,281	8,192
55 to 59 years	5,215	3,545	8,760
60 to 64 years	4,559	2,947	7,506
65 years and over	1,132	709	1,841
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,727</b>	<b>29,249</b>	<b>72,976</b>

**Table E11**

Number of Recipients of Death Benefit Pension, Disablement Pension and Unemployability Supplement by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age	Death Benefit Pension			Disablement Pension			Unemployability Supplement <sup>(1)</sup>		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	-	-	-	112	36	148	11	5	16
25 to 29 years	-	1	1	263	73	336	29	6	35
30 to 34 years	-	8	8	479	190	669	47	32	79
35 to 39 years	-	15	15	747	257	1,004	65	38	103
40 to 44 years	-	26	26	1,068	310	1,378	66	34	100
45 to 49 years	-	37	37	1,288	324	1,612	109	52	161
50 to 54 years	-	72	72	1,401	312	1,713	86	39	125
55 to 59 years	-	79	79	1,463	293	1,756	95	42	137
60 to 64 years	-	82	82	1,193	197	1,390	63	22	85
65 years and over	4	328	332	1,882	274	2,156	51	19	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>9,896</b>	<b>2,266</b>	<b>12,162</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>911</b>

(1) Unemployability Supplement is paid as a supplement to Disablement Pension.

**Table E12**

Number of Recipients of Injury Benefit and Interim Disability Benefit by Age and Sex, 2004 (Estimated)

Age	Injury Benefit			Interim Disability Benefit		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	86	28	114	35	14	49
25 to 29 years	67	35	102	25	15	40
30 to 34 years	80	49	129	31	15	46
35 to 39 years	81	26	107	37	15	52
40 to 44 years	83	36	119	22	8	30
45 to 49 years	73	36	109	19	14	33
50 to 54 years	64	42	106	15	14	29
55 to 59 years	54	26	80	18	9	27
60 to 64 years	30	15	45	4	3	7
65 years and over	3	1	4	2	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>316</b>

**Table E13**

Number of Recipients of Disablement Pension by Degree of Disablement and by sex, 2004<sup>(1)</sup> (Estimated)

Type of Payment		Number of Recipients		
		Male	Female	Total
Disablement Pension by Degree of Disablement <sup>(2)</sup> :	Under 20%	1,373	391	1,764
	20%	2,244	707	2,951
	30%	2,717	627	3,344
	40%	1,549	298	1,847
	50%	766	110	876
	60%	511	63	574
	70%	238	29	267
	80%	199	30	229
	90%	61	7	68
	100%	221	21	242
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,879</b>	<b>2,283</b>	<b>12,162</b>

(1) Includes 911 Unemployability Supplement payments and 71 Constant Attendance Allowance payments. These payments are in addition to Disablement Pension

(2) The rate of Disablement Pension depends on the degree of disablement, which is medically assessed. For assessments of up to 19% disablement, benefit will normally be a lump sum and from 20% upwards, a pension is payable. 1,254 gratuities were paid in 2004.



**Table E14**

Number of Recipients of Illness, Disability and Caring Payments by Payment Type and Number of Dependents, 2004 (Estimated)

Number of Recipients	Disability Benefit	Invalidity Pension	Carer's Benefit	Injury Benefit	Interim Disability Benefit	Death Benefit Pension	Disability Allowance	Blind Pension	Carer's Allowance	Total
Personal rate only	36,485	37,429	281	709	260	555	62,194	1,768	13,660	153,341
With Qualified Adult only	3,739	7,492	-	50	13	-	1,898	56	-	13,248
With 1 full rate child allowance	1,965	2,038	13	39	12	48	2,455	58	534	7,162
With 2 full rate child allowances	1,421	977	2	33	3	31	1,500	36	390	4,393
With 3 full rate child allowances	655	417	3	18	5	14	795	25	250	2,182
With 4 full rate child allowances	279	113	-	7	2	4	404	6	120	935
With 5 full rate child allowances	89	59	-	4	-	-	197	3	37	389
With 6+ full rate child allowances	52	31	-	1	-	-	95	-	25	204
With 1 half rate child allowance	5,073	3,524	95	23	6	-	1,210	27	2,570	12,528
With 2 half rate child allowances	5,399	2,413	154	16	11	-	858	20	2,519	11,390
With 3 half rate child allowances	2,600	980	99	8	2	-	452	16	1,641	5,798
With 4 half rate child allowances	764	304	23	6	1	-	224	12	820	2,154
With 5 half rate child allowances	162	57	8	1	-	-	75	2	274	579
With 6+ half rate child allowances	43	30	1	-	1	-	82	-	190	347
<b>Total number of recipients</b>	<b>58,726</b>	<b>55,864</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>72,976</b>	<b>2,027</b>	<b>23,030</b>	<b>215,185</b>
Recipients with Qualified Child allowances	18,502	10,943	398	156	43	97	8,347	205	9,370	48,061
Percentage of recipients with Qualified Child allowances	31.5%	19.6%	58.6%	17.0%	13.6%	14.9%	11.4%	10.1%	40.7%	22.3%
<b>Total number of Qualified Adults</b>	<b>8,200</b>	<b>10,196</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,142</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,847</b>
<b>Total number of children <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>36,501</b>	<b>19,212</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>17,622</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>21,171</b>	<b>96,363</b>

(1) An increase in respect of a Qualified Child is payable at half rate where a spouse/partner living with the recipient is not a Qualified Adult. Each spouse/partner may receive half the Qualified Child allowance where both are in receipt of a social welfare payment. This can result in some double counting of the actual number of Qualified Children.

Table E15

Number of Recipients of Illness, Disability and Caring Payments by Payment Type and County, 2004 (Estimated)

County	Disability Benefit	Invalidity Pension	Carer's Benefit	Disablement Pension	Unemployability Supplement <sup>(1)</sup>	Injury Benefit	Interim Disability Benefit	Death Benefit Pension	Disability Allowance	Blind Pension	Carer's Allowance
Carlow	1,036	893	7	194	9	21	6	11	972	27	331
Cavan	840	614	12	179	14	18	9	11	945	30	484
Clare	1,133	1,068	20	270	26	16	4	8	1,875	34	658
Cork	7,525	7,632	67	1,727	118	135	39	91	8,811	164	2,356
Donegal	2,607	1,615	26	348	34	30	8	22	3,401	131	1,645
Dublin	15,915	17,491	138	2,893	201	208	78	156	17,928	502	3,407
Galway	2,271	1,686	53	526	58	31	10	19	4,503	125	1,661
Kerry	1,546	1,335	33	305	21	22	12	22	3,170	90	1,246
Kildare	2,559	1,884	36	428	36	41	11	25	2,216	37	597
Kilkenny	836	896	11	244	13	19	3	16	1,428	48	481
Laois	695	607	6	156	15	11	6	5	1,028	29	330
Leitrim	510	416	11	99	9	10	1	7	593	33	259
Limerick	3,133	3,088	30	763	52	55	27	31	3,891	81	1,212
Longford	509	538	6	129	7	16	-	8	744	26	372
Louth	2,335	2,319	16	497	32	33	11	22	1,755	59	570
Mayo	1,588	1,254	30	331	30	24	10	11	2,858	100	1,440
Meath	2,110	1,403	31	468	35	35	16	19	1,588	49	576
Monaghan	866	593	9	162	14	13	5	9	981	25	443
Offaly	1,178	911	11	211	20	13	5	12	1,211	35	455
Roscommon	738	575	15	187	10	7	5	18	1,039	35	439
Sligo	878	740	13	181	21	12	2	7	1,264	80	416
Tipperary	1,898	1,767	24	523	50	34	21	44	3,298	67	1,188
Waterford	1,458	1,614	18	371	26	39	8	12	1,805	50	530
Westmeath	1,116	1,053	15	186	21	21	5	18	1,248	41	512
Wexford	1,662	1,736	29	332	22	34	7	20	2,501	76	869
Wicklow	1,521	1,415	12	305	17	16	7	16	1,910	52	549
Others	263	721	-	147	-	1	-	12	13	1	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,726</b>	<b>55,864</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>12,162</b>	<b>911</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>72,976</b>	<b>2,027</b>	<b>23,030</b>

(1) Unemployability Supplement is paid as a supplement to Disablement Pension

**Table E16**

Number of Disablement Cases Referred to Medical Assessors for Assessment or Reassessment, 1995 to 2004

Year	Number of Persons Called for Examination	Number of Persons Examined	Number of Persons who did not Attend for Examination
1995	5,375	4,688	687
1996	6,355	5,269	1,086
1997	6,588	5,379	1,209
1998	6,386	5,032	1,354
1999	6,604	5,080	1,524
2000	4,589	3,428	1,161
2001	4,311	2,997	1,314
2002	3,898	2,709	1,189
2003	3,234	2,296	811
2004	2,450	1,744	613

**Table E17**

Number of Disability Benefit Cases Referred to Medical Assessors, 1995 to 2004

Year	Number of Persons Called for Examination	Number of Persons Examined and found to be		Number of Persons who did not attend for Examination	
		Incapable of Work	Capable of Work	Medically Certified Unfit to Attend	Others
1995	54,226	29,131	8,029	1,264	15,802
1996	52,059	27,927	6,665	1,138	16,329
1997	55,089	30,684	7,137	566	16,702
1998	63,927	35,458	7,574	415	20,480
1999	59,224	33,254	7,410	386	18,174
2000	45,037	25,323	7,036	226	12,452
2001	41,710	22,827	6,271	190	12,422
2002	42,017	23,485	5,887	200	12,445
2003	38,670	19,958	6,406	240	12,066
2004	35,505	18,420	5,798	194	11,093

**Table E18**

Number of Disability Allowance Cases Referred to Medical Assessors, 1997 to 2004

Year	Number of Examinations Scheduled <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Persons Examined and found to be		Number of Persons who did not attend for Examination
		Qualified for Disability Allowance	Not qualified for Disability Allowance	
1997	6,423	3,001	1,806	1,616
1998	7,229	3,032	2,288	1,909
1999	8,862	3,801	2,631	2,430
2000	10,285	4,017	2,840	3,428
2001	9,663	3,577	3,016	3,070
2002	8,952	3,295	2,755	2,641
2003	8,450	2,985	2,689	2,279
2004	9,025	3,553	2,524	2,948

(1) This figure includes Disability Allowance Appeal and Disability Allowance Review examinations.

(2) 1997 data includes data relating to applications received from October 1996.

**SECTION F**  
UNEMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS

## Section F: Unemployment Supports

The statistics in this section of the report relate to the Live Register, expenditure and recipients of unemployment payments.

### Live Register and Unemployment Payments

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The Live Register is a monthly statistical count compiled by the Central Statistics Office of certain categories of persons registered with the Department of Social and Family Affairs for Unemployment Benefit, Unemployment Assistance and credited Social Insurance contributions.

The Live Register comprises of the following classes of persons under the age of 65 years:

- (i) all claimants of Unemployment Benefit excluding systematic short-time workers,
- (ii) applicants for Unemployment Assistance excluding smallholders and self-employed persons,
- (iii) other registrants including applicants for credited Social Welfare contributions but excluding those directly involved in an industrial dispute.

This means that not all persons who are in receipt of Unemployment Benefit or Assistance are on the Live Register. Some persons who are included on the Live Register e.g. applicants for credited contributions, are not in receipt of an unemployment benefit or assistance payment.

The Unemployment Recipients figure shown in Section A and tables F3 and F4 is not directly comparable with the Live Register figure, as this figure only includes those who were in receipt of a payment at the end of December.

### Time Series and Changes to Existing Payments

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Farm Assist was introduced in April 1999 and replaced the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance scheme. The new scheme provides an income supplement for low-income farmers. The great majority of existing recipients of Smallholders Unemployment Assistance transferred to Farm Assist during the course of 1999 and 2000. There were 750 recipients of Smallholders Unemployment Assistance at the end of 1999, decreasing to 17 at the end of 2004.

Data on expenditure on Farm Assist and recipients of Farm Assist/Smallholders is contained in Section G (Employment Supports). Expenditure on Unemployment Assistance shown in this Section includes expenditure on Smallholders Unemployment Assistance in 1999 and earlier years. This affects the comparability of different years' figures in this Section and in Section G.

### Trends

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Overall expenditure on Unemployment Supports increased by 2.5% over 2003.

Expenditure on Unemployment Assistance rose by over €47 million compared with 2003, an increase of 8.5%. Expenditure on Unemployment Benefit fell by over €21 million, a decrease of 4.5% on 2003.

The Live Register decreased by 11,788 during 2004, a decrease of 6.9%. Table F14 shows the numbers on the Live Register by County from 1995 to 2004 and the percentage decrease in each county.

**Table F1**

Expenditure on Unemployment Supports by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	2003	2004 Provisional	Change 2004 over 2003
	€000	€000	%
<b>SOCIAL INSURANCE</b>			
Unemployment Benefit	477,129	455,544	-4.5%
<b>SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>			
Unemployment Assistance <sup>(1)</sup>	565,952	613,817	8.5%
<b>Total<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>1,043,081</b>	<b>1,069,361</b>	<b>2.5%</b>

(1) Data on expenditure on Unemployment Assistance includes expenditure on Smallholders Unemployment Assistance. Farm Assist was introduced in 1999 and replaced the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance scheme. The great majority of recipients of the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance transferred to Farm Assist during the course of 1999 & 2000. Data on Farm Assist expenditure is included in Section G. This affects the comparability of different years' figures in this section.

**Table F2**

Expenditure on Unemployment Supports by Payment Type, 1995 to 2004

Year	Unemployment Benefit	Pay-Related Benefit with Unemployment Benefit <sup>(1)</sup>	Unemployment Assistance <sup>(2)</sup>	Total
	€000	€000	€000	€000
1995	254,857	4,779	1,014,535	1,274,171
1996	263,318	62	1,020,518	1,283,898
1997	273,297	1	899,796	1,173,095
1998	300,506	-	770,022	1,070,529
1999	293,769	-	615,624	909,393
2000	265,016	-	469,092	734,108
2001	290,689	-	429,875	720,564
2002	423,487	-	511,985	935,472
2003	477,129	-	565,952	1,043,081
2004 <sup>(3)</sup>	465,544	-	613,817	1,069,361

(1) Pay-Related Benefit with Unemployment Benefit was discontinued for new claimants from July 1994.

(2) Data on expenditure on Unemployment Assistance includes expenditure on Smallholders Unemployment Assistance. Farm Assist was introduced in 1999 and replaced the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance scheme. The great majority of recipients of the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance transferred to Farm Assist during the course of 1999 & 2000. Data on Farm Assist expenditure is included in Section G. This affects the comparability of different years' figures in this section.

(3) Provisional

**Table F3**

Number of Recipients of Unemployment Benefit and Unemployment Assistance, 1995 to 2004

Year	Unemployment Benefit	Unemployment Assistance	Total
1995	62,050	200,587	262,637
1996	62,751	184,031	246,782
1997	63,914	159,777	223,691
1998	61,591	120,496	182,087
1999	56,576	93,129	149,705
2000	46,565	69,504	116,069
2001	59,884	66,563	126,447
2002	66,416	71,566	137,982
2003	70,090	75,249	145,339
2004	57,699	73,840	131,539

**Table F4**

Number of Recipients of Unemployment Benefit and Unemployment Assistance by Number of Dependants, 2004

Number of Recipients	Unemployment Benefit	Unemployment Assistance	Total
Personal Rate only	44,226	54,309	98,535
With Qualified Adult only	2,814	4,075	6,889
1 full rate Qualified Child	2,012	3,884	5,896
2 full rate Qualified Children	1,564	3,513	5,077
3 full rate Qualified Children	759	2,383	3,142
4 full rate Qualified Children	308	1,313	1,621
5 full rate Qualified Children	100	590	690
6+full rate Qualified Children	49	519	568
1 half rate Qualified Child	2,337	1,159	3,496
2 half rate Qualified Children	2,161	1,032	3,193
3 half rate Qualified Children	1,016	606	1,622
4 half rate Qualified Children	279	251	530
5 half rate Qualified Children	61	126	187
6+ half rate Qualified Children	13	80	93
<b>Total Number of Recipients</b>	<b>57,699</b>	<b>73,840</b>	<b>131,539</b>
<b>Number of Recipients with a Qualified Adult</b>	<b>6,356</b>	<b>14,692</b>	<b>21,048</b>
Percentage of Recipients with a Qualified Adult	11.0%	19.9%	16.0%
Number of Recipients with Qualified Children	10,659	15,456	26,115
Percentage of Recipients with Qualified Children	18.5%	20.9%	19.9%
<b>Total Number of Children <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>20,683</b>	<b>36,989</b>	<b>57,672</b>

(1) A Qualified Child Increase is payable at half rate where a spouse, living with the recipient, is not a Qualified Adult. Each spouse may receive half the Qualified Child Increase where both are in receipt of a social welfare payment. This can result in some double counting of the actual number of Qualified Children.



**Table F5**

Number of Persons on the Live Register on the last Friday of each Month, 2004

Month	Unemployment Benefit	Unemployment Assistance	Credited Contributions	Total Live Register
January	79,678	83,072	11,779	174,529
February	78,772	82,909	11,446	173,127
March	75,840	81,930	11,110	168,880
April	72,074	81,341	11,245	164,660
May	69,724	81,340	10,908	161,972
June	73,324	84,423	11,205	168,952
July	78,979	86,394	12,128	177,501
August	77,026	86,522	12,268	175,816
September	65,735	83,360	11,371	160,466
October	63,826	80,309	11,341	155,476
November	61,384	79,651	10,931	151,966
December	66,249	81,067	11,500	158,816
<b>Average</b>	<b>71,884</b>	<b>82,693</b>	<b>11,436</b>	<b>166,013</b>

Source: Central Statistics Office

**Table F6**

Average Number of Persons on the Live Register, 1995 to 2004

Year	Unemployment Benefit	Unemployment Assistance	Credited Contributions	Total Live Register
1995	61,508	200,708	15,530	277,746
1996	62,597	198,927	17,707	279,231
1997	64,955	171,755	17,669	254,379
1998	68,088	142,649	16,358	227,095
1999	64,945	113,276	15,288	193,509
2000	57,198	85,013	13,187	155,398
2001	58,197	72,552	11,504	142,253
2002	73,931	78,010	11,420	163,361
2003	79,232	81,355	11,828	172,414
2004	71,884	82,693	11,436	166,013

Source: Central Statistics Office

**Table F7**

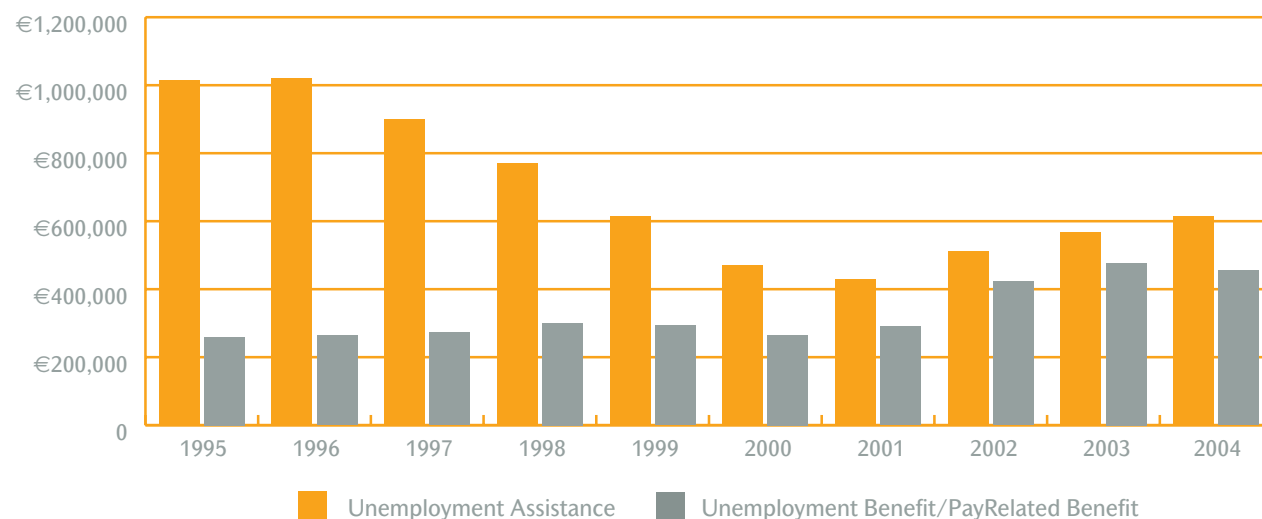
Flows On and Off the Live Register by Month, 2004

Month	New Registrations	Outflow	Live Register	Net Change
January	30,557	26,632	174,529	3,925
February	22,302	23,704	173,127	-1,402
March	18,034	22,281	168,880	-4,247
April	25,964	30,184	164,660	-4,220
May	18,609	21,297	161,972	-2,688
June	24,990	18,010	168,952	6,980
July	32,868	24,319	177,501	8,549
August	18,539	20,224	175,816	-1,685
September	19,993	35,343	160,466	-15,350
October	27,750	32,740	155,476	-4,990
November	20,265	23,775	151,966	-3,510
December	23,132	16,282	158,816	6,850
<b>Total</b>	<b>283,003</b>	<b>294,791</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-11,788</b>

Source: Central Statistics Office

**Graph F1**

Expenditure on Unemployment Benefit/Pay Related Benefit and Unemployment Assistance, 1995 to 2004



**Table F8**

Number of Persons on the Live Register by Age and Sex, October 2004

Age Group	Males		Females		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
< 20 yrs	3,597	4.0%	3,277	5.1%	6,874	4.5%
20 - 24 yrs	12,883	14.3%	9,624	15.0%	22,507	14.6%
25 - 34 yrs	23,742	26.4%	16,747	26.2%	40,489	26.3%
35 - 44 yrs	19,742	21.9%	15,611	24.4%	35,353	23.0%
45 - 54 yrs	18,027	20.0%	11,864	18.5%	29,891	19.4%
55 - 59 yrs	7,090	7.9%	4,299	6.7%	11,389	7.4%
60 - 64 yrs	4,926	5.5%	2,615	4.1%	7,541	4.9%
<b>Total Live Register</b>	<b>90,007</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>64,037</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>154,044</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Central Statistical Office

**Table F9**

Number of Persons on the Live Register in October 2004, Classified by Age and Sex and Duration of Claim

Sex/Age	Duration of Continuous Registration						Total
	< 3 mths	3 - 6 mths	6 - 12 mths	1 - 2 yrs	2 - 3 yrs	> 3 yrs	
<b>Males</b>							
< 20 yrs	1,787	669	683	458	-	-	3,597
20 - 24 yrs	5,413	2,388	2,073	1,482	837	690	12,883
25 - 34 yrs	8,844	3,643	3,972	3,063	1,537	2,683	23,742
35 - 44 yrs	6,520	2,526	3,194	2,834	1,469	3,199	19,742
45 - 54 yrs	5,313	1,993	2,769	2,327	1,204	4,421	18,027
55 - 59 yrs	2,274	879	1,222	911	354	1,450	7,090
60 - 64 yrs	1,567	691	1,058	676	224	710	4,926
<b>Total Males</b>	<b>31,718</b>	<b>12,789</b>	<b>14,971</b>	<b>11,751</b>	<b>5,625</b>	<b>13,153</b>	<b>90,007</b>
<b>Females</b>							
< 20 yrs	1,598	661	624	394	-	-	3,277
20 - 24 yrs	4,688	1,727	1,339	935	552	383	9,624
25 - 34 yrs	8,360	2,686	2,742	1,539	507	913	16,747
35 - 44 yrs	6,828	2,198	2,634	1,689	636	1,626	15,611
45 - 54 yrs	5,343	1,558	1,659	1,185	467	1,652	11,864
55 - 59 yrs	1,993	572	680	491	155	408	4,299
60 - 64 yrs	1,196	340	463	312	95	209	2,615
<b>Total Females</b>	<b>30,006</b>	<b>9,742</b>	<b>10,141</b>	<b>6,545</b>	<b>2,412</b>	<b>5,191</b>	<b>64,037</b>
<b>All Persons</b>							
< 20 yrs	3,385	1,330	1,307	852	-	-	6,874
20 - 24 yrs	10,101	4,115	3,412	2,417	1,389	1,073	22,507
25 - 34 yrs	17,204	6,329	6,714	4,602	2,044	3,596	40,489
35 - 44 yrs	13,348	4,724	5,828	4,523	2,105	4,825	35,353
45 - 54 yrs	10,656	3,551	4,428	3,512	1,671	6,073	29,891
55 - 59 yrs	4,267	1,451	1,902	1,402	509	1,858	11,389
60 - 64 yrs	2,763	1,031	1,521	988	319	919	7,541
<b>Total</b>	<b>61,724</b>	<b>22,531</b>	<b>25,112</b>	<b>18,296</b>	<b>8,037</b>	<b>18,344</b>	<b>154,044</b>

Source: Central Statistical Office

**Table F10**

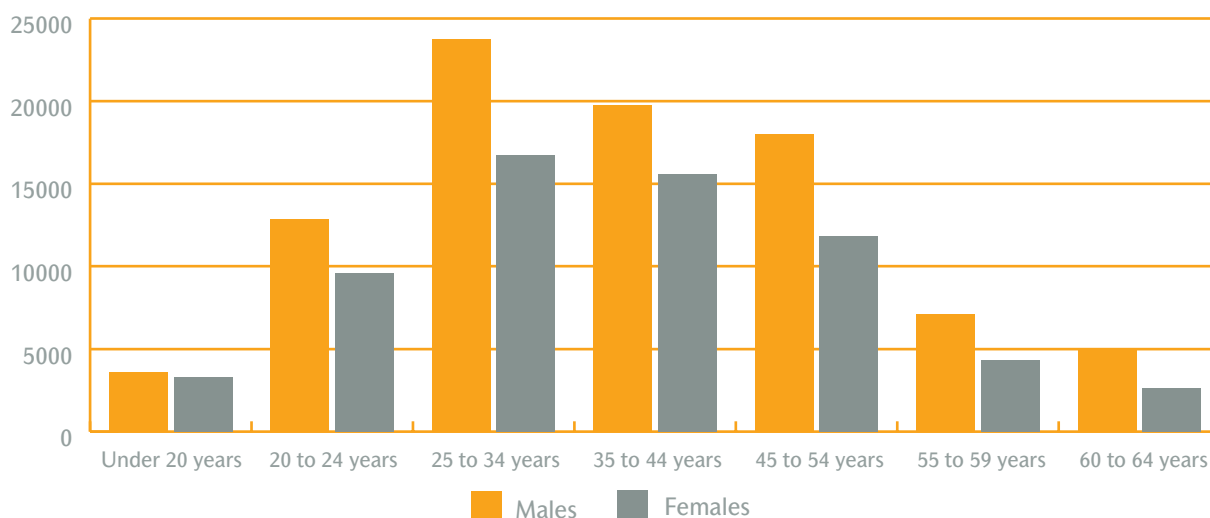
Number of Persons on the Live Register in October by Sex and Duration, 1995 to 2004.

Year	Male			Female			Overall Total
	< 1 yr	>= 1 yr	Total	< 1 yr	>= 1 yr	Total	
1995	81,675	93,766	175,441	60,117	39,976	100,093	275,534
1996	75,092	93,409	168,501	59,614	40,915	100,529	269,030
1997	70,938	78,128	149,066	57,413	37,002	94,415	243,481
1998	62,255	63,503	125,758	53,860	31,852	85,712	211,470
1999	52,032	49,522	101,554	50,151	25,587	75,738	177,292
2000	45,206	35,138	80,344	40,462	18,904	59,366	139,710
2001	53,472	30,061	83,533	42,628	15,342	57,970	141,503
2002	64,586	29,107	93,693	50,106	13,866	63,972	157,665
2003	64,449	31,489	95,938	53,354	15,283	68,637	164,575
2004	59,478	30,529	90,007	49,889	14,148	64,037	154,044

Source: Central Statistics Office.

**Graph F2**

Number of Persons on the Live Register by Age and Sex, 2004



**Table F11**

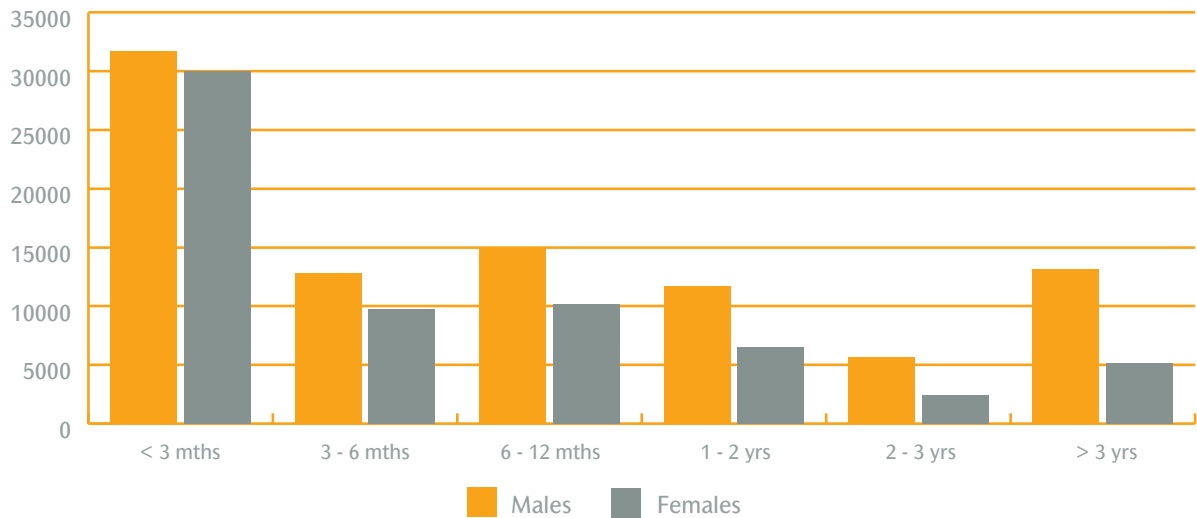
Categories excluded from the Live Register: Number of Short-Time Workers, Self-Employed and Persons aged 65 and over, in each Month during 2004

Month	Short-Time Workers	Self-Employed	Persons Aged 65 years and over
January	2,745	1,779	924
February	2,748	1,791	934
March	2,490	1,794	932
April	2,539	1,793	954
May	2,289	1,796	928
June	2,255	1,806	927
July	2,229	1,812	992
August	2,193	1,794	1,006
September	1,928	1,784	932
October	2,034	1,761	958
November	1,902	1,744	933
December	1,829	1,764	962
<b>Average</b>	<b>2,265</b>	<b>1,785</b>	<b>949</b>

Source: (January to April inclusive): Central Statistics Office

**Graph F3**

Number of persons on the Live Register in October 2004, by Sex and Duration



**Table F12**

Categories Excluded from the Live Register: Average number of Short-Time Workers, Self-Employed and Persons aged 65 and over, 1995 to 2004

Year	Short-Time Workers	Self-Employed	Persons Aged 65 years and over
1995	6,159	3,541	523
1996	6,908	3,251	651
1997	4,925	3,073	752
1998	4,380	2,771	691
1999	3,642	2,306	778
2000	2,791	1,876	741
2001	2,949	1,593	679
2002	3,131	1,547	821
2003	2,410	1,759	946
2004	1,829	1,764	962

Source: Central Statistics Office

**Table F13**

Average Live Register, Total Labour Force and Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rate, 1995 to 2004

Year	Average Live Register	Total Labour Force <sup>(1)</sup>	Average Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rate %
1995	277,746	1,459,200	12.1%
1996	279,230	1,507,500	11.5%
1997	254,379	1,539,000	10.3%
1998	227,095	1,621,100	7.4%
1999	193,509	1,688,100	5.5%
2000	155,398	1,745,600	4.2%
2001	142,253	1,781,900	4.0%
2002	163,361	1,827,000	4.5%
2003	172,414	1,859,700	4.6%
2004	166,013	1,979,700	4.4%

(1) Data refers to April from 1994 to 1997 and May thereafter.

Source: Central Statistics Office

**Table F14**

Numbers on the Live Register by County, 1995 to 2004

County <sup>(1)</sup>	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Change 1995-2004 %
Carlow	3,661	3,576	3,407	3,050	2,496	1,964	2,026	2,079	2,227	2,223	-39.3%
Cavan	2,879	2,693	2,627	2,350	2,019	1,736	1,834	2,002	2,128	2,072	-28.0%
Clare	5,684	5,338	5,059	4,245	3,602	3,003	3,473	4,058	4,219	3,851	-32.2%
Cork	31,651	30,945	27,339	22,138	17,855	14,538	16,698	17,456	17,200	15,920	-49.7%
Donegal	13,127	12,981	12,927	13,485	11,699	10,088	9,896	9,897	10,149	9,440	-28.1%
Dublin	91,569	83,549	73,318	59,120	45,483	33,186	35,596	41,455	43,562	39,361	-57.0%
Galway	15,890	14,594	13,404	11,789	9,862	8,011	8,625	9,403	9,348	8,797	-44.6%
Kerry	10,227	10,247	9,985	9,101	7,587	6,025	6,162	6,704	7,086	6,732	-34.2%
Kildare	8,387	7,864	7,022	5,839	4,347	3,268	3,697	4,362	4,752	4,350	-48.1%
Kilkenny	4,160	3,963	3,752	3,472	2,703	2,047	2,182	2,467	2,716	2,489	-40.2%
Laois	3,320	3,196	2,867	2,575	2,131	1,798	1,850	2,049	2,196	2,014	-39.3%
Leitrim	1,841	1,864	1,876	1,669	1,406	1,216	1,108	1,247	1,231	1,028	-44.2%
Limerick	12,832	11,879	10,602	8,787	7,595	6,306	6,954	8,281	8,123	7,245	-43.5%
Longford	2,356	2,409	2,230	2,166	2,054	1,715	1,674	1,810	1,820	1,736	-26.3%
Louth	10,173	10,116	9,696	8,583	7,020	6,075	7,189	7,559	7,508	6,743	-33.7%
Mayo	10,009	9,808	9,445	8,449	7,629	6,140	6,094	6,342	6,106	5,420	-45.8%
Meath	4,067	3,953	3,678	3,393	2,753	2,085	2,855	2,844	3,218	3,137	-22.9%
Monaghan	3,472	3,475	3,384	3,195	2,743	2,482	2,752	2,521	2,486	2,335	-32.7%
Offaly	3,967	3,648	3,443	3,376	2,623	2,222	2,341	2,640	2,840	2,563	-35.4%
Roscommon	1,982	2,108	2,068	1,994	1,876	1,528	1,502	1,513	1,389	1,266	-36.1%
Sligo	3,636	3,467	3,532	3,160	2,794	2,372	2,343	2,388	2,236	2,043	-43.8%
Tipperary	9,598	8,849	8,460	7,881	6,737	5,775	5,466	6,286	6,548	5,902	-38.5%
Waterford	8,773	8,105	7,693	7,257	6,573	5,699	7,043	6,074	6,098	7,164	-18.3%
Westmeath	5,212	4,785	4,379	7,842	3,283	2,618	2,960	3,305	3,628	3,658	-29.8%
Wexford	9,221	9,157	8,621	6,027	6,885	5,938	6,257	7,058	7,141	6,773	-26.5%
Wicklow	7,729	7,573	6,916	1,144	4,784	3,751	3,829	4,342	4,649	4,554	-41.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>285,423</b>	<b>270,142</b>	<b>247,730</b>	<b>212,087</b>	<b>176,539</b>	<b>141,586</b>	<b>152,406</b>	<b>166,142</b>	<b>170,604</b>	<b>158,816</b>	<b>-44.4%</b>

(1) The basis of the county classification used is the Department of Social and Family Affairs local office of Registration. The areas served by Local Offices do not correspond to specific geographic boundaries. Therefore, registrants at a given local office do not necessarily come from a particular region or area which can be precisely delineated.

Source: Central Statistics Office.





**SECTION G**  
EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS

## Section G: Employment Supports

The statistics in this section of the report relate to expenditure and recipients of a range of Employment Supports provided by the Department of Social and Family Affairs. These include:

- Family Income Supplement
- Back to Work Allowance
- Back to Work Enterprise Allowance
- Back to Education Allowance
- Part Time Job Incentive Scheme
- Farm Assist

### Time series and Existing Payments

---

Farm Assist was introduced in April 1999 and replaced the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance Scheme. The new scheme provides an income supplement for low-income farmers. The great majority of existing recipients of Smallholders Assistance transferred to Farm Assist during the course of 1999 and 2000. There were 8,350 recipients of Farm Assist/Smallholders at the end of 2004, of which 17 continued to be in receipt of Smallholders Unemployment Assistance.

Data on expenditure on Farm Assist and recipients of Farm Assist/Smallholders is contained in this Section. Expenditure on Smallholders Unemployment Assistance is contained in Section F (Unemployment Supports). This affects the comparability of different years figures in this Section and in Section F.

### Trends

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Overall expenditure on Employment Supports decreased by €9.5 million in 2004, a decrease of 3.8% over 2003. The total number of recipients of Employment Supports decreased by 3,897, a decrease of 8.8%.

Expenditure on Family Income Supplement increased by 23.0%. The number of recipients of Family Income Supplement increased by 2,410, an increase of 19.6% over 2003. Expenditure on Back to Work Allowance (including Back to Work Enterprise Allowance) decreased by over €31 million, a decrease of 32.5%. The number of recipients of Back to Work Allowance decreased by 2,486, a decrease of 34.5%. The number of recipients of Back to Work Enterprise Allowance decreased by 3,017, a decrease of 30.6%. The number of recipients of Farm Assist/Smallholders decreased by 357, a decrease of 4.1% from the previous year.

**Table G1**

Expenditure on Employment Supports by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	2003	2004 Provisional	Change 2004 over 2003
	€000	€000	%
<b>SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>			
Family Income Supplement	45,360	55,812	23.0%
Back to Work Allowance/ Back to Work Enterprise Allowance	97,396	65,712	-32.5%
Back to Education Allowance	38,276	44,160	15.4%
Part-time Job Incentive Scheme	1,056	1,243	17.7%
Farm Assist <sup>(1)</sup>	62,806	66,343	5.6%
Others <sup>(2)</sup>	2,679	4,841	80.7%
<b>TOTAL(1)</b>	<b>247,573</b>	<b>238,111</b>	<b>-3.8%</b>

(1) Farm Assist was introduced in April 1999 and replaced the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance scheme. The great majority of recipients of the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance scheme transferred to Farm Assist during the course of 1999 and 2000. Data on expenditure on Smallholders Unemployment Assistance is contained in Section F. This affects the comparability of different years' expenditure figures.

(2) Includes, Technical Assistance/Training Grants to Back to Work participants, Credit Union loan guarantee scheme for Back to Work participants, Small Project grants and continued payment for qualified children.

**Table G2**

Expenditure on Family Income Supplement and Other Employment Supports<sup>(1)</sup>, 1995 to 2004

Year	Family Income Supplement	Other Employment Supports	Total
	€000	€000	€000
1995	27,078	56,387	83,465
1996	27,792	79,143	106,935
1997	32,999	123,672	156,671
1998	36,386	163,768	200,154
1999	41,134	209,951	251,085
2000	39,386	245,898	285,284
2001	37,099	246,605	283,704
2002	42,423	226,705	269,128
2003	45,360	202,213	247,573
2004 <sup>(2)</sup>	55,812	182,299	238,111

(1) Includes expenditure on Farm Assist. Farm Assist was introduced in April 1999 and replaced the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance scheme. The great majority of recipients of the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance scheme transferred to Farm Assist during the course of 1999 and 2000. Data on expenditure on Smallholders Unemployment Assistance is contained in Section F. This affects the comparability of different years' expenditure figures.

(2) Provisional

**Table G3**

Number of Recipients of Employment Supports by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	2003	2004	Change 2004 over 2003 %
Back to Work Allowance	7,197	4,711	-34.5%
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance	9,872	6,855	-30.6%
Back to Education Allowance	5,696	5,247	-7.9%
Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme	324	326	0.6%
Family Income Supplement	12,317	14,727	19.6%
Farm Assist/Smallholders(1)	8,707	8,350	-4.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,113</b>	<b>40,216</b>	<b>-8.8%</b>

(1) Farm Assist was introduced in April 1999 and replaced the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance scheme. The great majority of recipients of the Smallholders Unemployment Assistance scheme transferred to Farm Assist during the course of 1999 and 2000.

**Table G4**

Number of Families Receiving Family Income Supplement, 1995 to 2004

Year	Number of Recipients	Number of Child Beneficiaries
1995	11,486	32,712
1996	11,898	29,754
1997	12,973	37,223
1998	13,260	33,334
1999	14,686	35,726
2000	13,181	31,274
2001	11,880	26,426
2002	12,043	26,531
2003	12,317	26,409
2004	14,727	29,991

**Graph G1**

Expenditure on Employment Supports, 1995 to 2004



**Table G5**

Number of Families Receiving Family Income Supplement by Rate of Payment and Family Size, 2004

Weekly Rate (€)	Family Size (Number of Children)								Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+	
20-25	888	396	210	90	19	8	2	-	1,613
26-50	1,920	996	420	171	50	24	4	-	3,585
51-75	2,717	1,586	638	260	80	23	7	5	5,316
76-100	513	696	462	238	106	22	5	2	2,044
101-125	163	249	337	208	63	27	8	1	1,056
126-150	122	145	107	84	67	22	6	4	557
Over 150	70	129	133	119	56	30	10	9	556
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,393</b>	<b>4,197</b>	<b>2,307</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14,727</b>
<b>Number of Children</b>	<b>6,393</b>	<b>8,394</b>	<b>6,921</b>	<b>4,680</b>	<b>2,205</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>29,991</b>

**Table G6**

Number of Families Receiving Family Income Supplement by Age of Recipient and Family Income Group, 2004

Age of Recipient	Family Income Group (Euro per week)									Total
	0-100	101-150	151-200	201-250	251-300	301-350	351-400	401-450	>450	
Under 25 years	-	3	6	19	254	524	212	12	-	1,030
25 to 29 years	-	7	33	53	433	998	524	51	2	2,101
30 to 34 years	-	18	64	92	448	1,147	709	161	11	2,650
35 to 39 years	-	34	98	125	503	1,026	735	233	47	2,801
40 to 44 years	-	45	101	145	513	949	717	270	53	2,793
45 to 49 years	1	28	79	114	379	627	433	180	39	1,879
50 to 54 years	-	24	51	83	205	316	214	66	10	969
55 to 59 years	-	15	25	28	94	152	76	24	3	417
60 to 65 years	-	4	10	21	2	28	13	6	2	86
65 years or more	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>2,831</b>	<b>5,767</b>	<b>3,633</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>14,727</b>

**Table G7**

Number of Families Receiving Family Income Supplement by Family Status and Income Group, 2004

Family Status	Family Income Group (Euro per week)									Total
	0-100	101-150	151-200	201-250	251-300	301-350	351-400	401-450	>450	
One Parent Family	1	38	118	220	1,645	4,320	2,382	413	18	9,155
Two Parent Family	-	139	344	474	1,196	1,449	1,234	590	146	5,572
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>2,841</b>	<b>5,769</b>	<b>3,616</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>14,727</b>

**Table G8**

Number of Recipients of Back to Work Allowance by Employment Status and Sex, 2004

Employment Status	Males	Females	Total
Employees	2,963	1,748	4,711
Self-Employed	5,193	1,662	6,855
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,156</b>	<b>3,410</b>	<b>11,566</b>

**Table G9**

Number of Recipients of Back To Work Enterprise Allowance, Back to Work Allowance, Back to Education Allowance and Farm Assist/Smallholders, by Age and Sex, 2004

Age of Recipient	Back to Work Enterprise Allowance		Back to Work Allowance		Back to Education Allowance		Farm Assist/Smallholders	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 25 years	36	28	56	189	383	485	17	1
25 to 29 years	312	146	294	244	903	651	75	6
30 to 34 years	721	302	425	348	557	412	193	24
35 to 39 years	812	374	397	252	304	285	420	52
40 to 44 years	922	327	543	282	196	300	734	74
45 to 49 years	942	229	430	197	141	182	1,060	91
50 to 54 years	752	149	411	132	112	135	1,429	110
55 to 59 years	462	80	247	72	54	77	1,867	129
60 to 64 years	205	25	136	27	32	33	1,519	104
65+ years	29	2	24	5	2	3	427	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,193</b>	<b>1,662</b>	<b>2,963</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>2,684</b>	<b>2,563</b>	<b>7,741</b>	<b>609</b>

**Table G10**

Number of Recipients of Farm Assist/Smallholders<sup>(1)</sup>, 1995 to 2004

Year	Recipients
1995	9,912
1996	9,004
1997	8,031
1998	6,578
1999	7,874
2000	8,051
2001	8,380
2002	8,514
2003	8,707
2004	8,350

(1) Farm Assist was introduced in April 1999. The number of recipients at the end of 2004 is the number of persons in receipt of a Farm Assist or Smallholders payment. The source of the data for the period 1995 to 1998 is the Central Statistics Office. This data is the number of persons claiming Smallholders Unemployment Assistance and includes claims awaiting decision or not otherwise in payment. From 1999 onward only claims in payment are shown

**Table G11**

Number of Recipients of Employment Supports by County, 2004

County	Family Income Supplement	Back to Work Allowance Employee	Back to Education Allowance	Back to Work Allowance Self-Employed	Farm Assist/Smallholders	Part Time Job Incentive Scheme <sup>(1)</sup>
Carlow	243	70	119	76	62	3
Cavan	264	61	19	80	307	6
Clare	309	84	128	192	439	2
Cork	1,271	553	621	716	598	22
Donegal	1,022	426	314	553	1,173	8
Dublin	3,493	1,084	1,254	1,484	12	84
Galway	570	282	504	497	894	14
Kerry	562	181	205	315	658	10
Kildare	385	143	150	174	46	9
Kilkenny	275	63	84	118	127	13
Laois	226	68	25	69	91	2
Leitrim	104	41	28	95	222	4
Limerick	649	192	324	222	208	16
Longford	181	91	36	91	108	1
Louth	624	130	179	253	64	16
Mayo	468	213	172	245	1,531	41
Meath	380	79	65	116	54	5
Monaghan	264	73	60	151	417	2
Offaly	272	63	41	93	84	9
Roscommon	156	65	44	118	327	1
Sligo	264	84	102	111	344	7
Tipperary	704	150	204	242	223	10
Waterford	597	108	200	235	46	10
Westmeath	238	93	94	150	87	7
Wexford	780	185	156	245	170	13
Wicklow	372	129	117	214	58	11
Other	54	-	2	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,727</b>	<b>4,711</b>	<b>5,247</b>	<b>6,855</b>	<b>8,350</b>	<b>326</b>

(1) Based on the number of recipients at each Social Welfare Local Office





**SECTION H**  
SUPPLEMENTARY WELFARE ALLOWANCE

## Section H: Supplementary Welfare Allowance

This section relates to payments made under the Supplementary Welfare Allowance scheme and includes:

- Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance payments
- Rent supplements and Mortgage Interest supplements
- Other supplements
- Exceptional Needs Payments and Urgent Needs Payments
- The Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance scheme

### Expenditure and Recipients

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Expenditure on Supplementary Welfare Allowance amounted to over €601 million in 2004. This represents an increase of 2.3% on 2003. Expenditure on Rent Supplements rose by over €22 million in 2004, an increase of 6.7%. The number of recipients of Rent Supplement at the end of 2004 was 57,874, a decrease of 3.5% on 2003.

Expenditure on Mortgage Interest Supplements fell to €6.3 million, a decrease of 17.4%. The number of recipients at the end of 2004 decreased to 3,318, a decrease of 15.6%.

In 2004, a Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance was paid in respect of 153,409 children, a decrease of 18,714 on 2003. Expenditure on the scheme decreased by 3.9% to €17 million.

Net expenditure on basic SWA payments in 2004 was €158.6 million, a decrease of 1.2% on 2003. Table H3 shows gross expenditure (€210.7 million) on Basic SWA payments in 2004. This represents the gross amount of expenditure on such Basic SWA payments before inter scheme adjustments and refunds have been taken into account. There were 29,748 recipients of Basic SWA payments at the end of 2004, a decrease of 1,469 on 2003.

Table H2 and Graph H1 shows expenditure on Supplementary Welfare Allowance from 1995 to 2004.

**Table H1**

Expenditure on Supplementary Welfare Allowance by Scheme, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	2003 €000	2004 <sup>(1)</sup> €000	Change 2004 over 2003
<b>SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>			
Basic SWA Payments	160,488	158,572	-1.2%
Rent Supplements	331,471	353,762	6.7%
Mortgage Interest Supplements	7,663	6,333	-17.4%
Other Supplements	15,043	14,568	-3.2%
Exceptional Needs & Urgent Needs Payments	55,431	51,319	-7.4%
Back to School Clothing and Footwear	17,717	17,028	-3.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>587,813</b>	<b>601,582</b>	<b>2.3%</b>

(1) Provisional.

**Table H2**

Expenditure on Supplementary Welfare Allowance Scheme, 1995 to 2004

Year	Expenditure €000
1995	151,783
1996	173,583
1997	200,190
1998	223,059
1999	239,721
2000	294,906
2001	363,576
2002	484,929
2003	587,813
2004 <sup>(1)</sup>	601,582

(1) Provisional.

**Graph H1**

Expenditure on Supplementary Welfare Allowance, 1995 to 2004

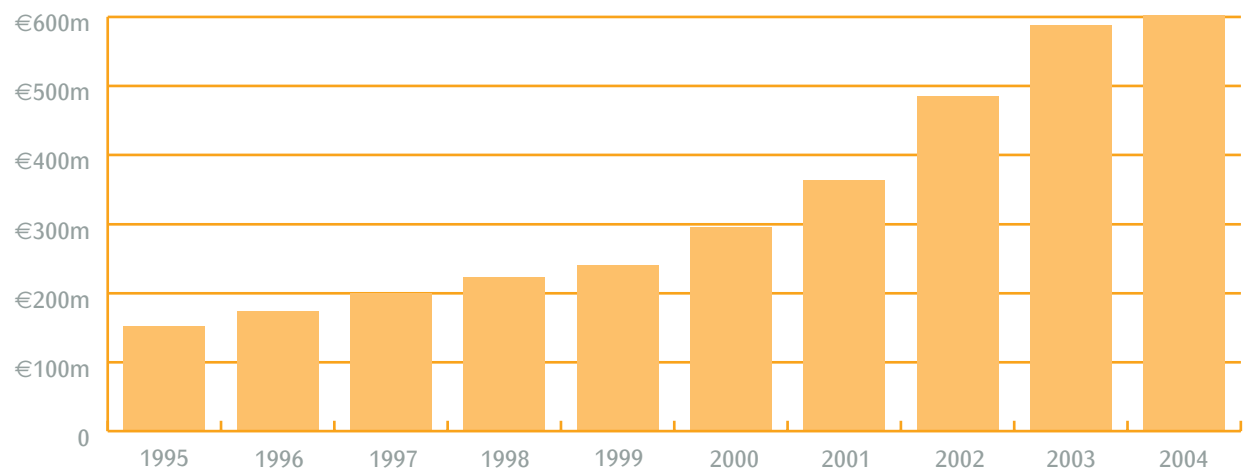


Table H3

## Gross Expenditure on Supplementary Welfare Allowance by Health Board Region, 2004

Type of Supplementary Welfare Allowance	Eastern €000	Midland €000	Mid-Western €000	North Eastern €000	North Western €000	South Eastern €000	Southern €000	Western €000	Total €000
<b>Basic Payments<sup>(1)</sup></b>	98,177	9,584	13,303	16,390	9,587	19,794	24,662	19,256	210,754
<b>Supplements</b>									
Rent	197,948	10,638	19,711	14,442	9,869	29,552	42,249	29,353	353,762
Local Authority Mortgage	308	12	36	12	14	79	85	81	628
Other Mortgage	2,668	131	355	390	171	593	1,001	396	5,705
Heating	225	91	642	27	13	153	519	47	1,718
Diet	3,110	373	521	407	171	851	1,061	386	6,879
Other	2,251	87	530	172	15	755	1,463	696	5,971
<b>Exceptional Needs Payments</b>	23,617	1,743	4,324	1,568	2,226	5,753	7,491	4,454	51,177
<b>Urgent Needs Payments</b>	46	11	14	2	7	36	15	12	142
<b>Administration Costs<sup>(2)</sup></b>	16,377	2,138	3,892	3,338	2,349	4,027	8,357	4,489	44,968
<b>Grand Total<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>344,727</b>	<b>24,808</b>	<b>43,328</b>	<b>36,748</b>	<b>24,422</b>	<b>61,593</b>	<b>86,903</b>	<b>59,170</b>	<b>681,704</b>

**Note:** It should be noted that some of the totals are not equal to the sum of the parts. This is due to rounding.

(1) This is the gross expenditure on Basic Payments before inter scheme adjustments and refunds are taken into account.

(2) Administration costs are incurred directly by the Health Boards and re-imbursed subsequently by the Department. The table shows the level of reimbursement, not the level of expenditure incurred.

(3) These totals are not the final outturn because inter scheme adjustments and refunds are not reflected.

**Table H4**

Expenditure on Exceptional Needs Payments, Other Exceptional Supplementary Welfare Allowance Payments and Urgent Needs Payments, 2004

Type of Payment	Expenditure €000	Total Expenditure €000
<b>Exceptional Needs Payments and Other Exceptional SWA Payments</b>		
<b>Housing</b>		
New Accommodation Kit	6,042	
Household Appliances	5,505	
Rent Deposit	5,124	
Furniture	2,586	
Floor Covering	1,918	
Bedding	1,456	
Repair/maintenance	943	<b>23,573</b>
<b>Clothing</b>		
Adult Clothing	6,071	
Child Clothing	2,453	<b>8,524</b>
<b>Funeral</b>		
Funeral Expenses	2,256	
Burial Expenses	351	<b>2,607</b>
<b>Child Related</b>		
Pram/Buggy	1,332	
Cot	845	<b>2,176</b>
<b>Bills</b>		
Rent/Mortgage Interest Arrears	4,044	
Household	1,108	<b>5,151</b>
<b>Illness</b>		
Confinement Costs	845	
Hospital Requirements	312	<b>1,157</b>
<b>General</b>		
Other <sup>(1)</sup>	3,736	
Travel Costs	2,157	
Insufficient Means	1,277	
Heating	569	
Lost/Stolen Money	152	
Household Budget	99	<b>7,990</b>
<b>Urgent Needs Payments</b>	142	<b>142</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>51,319</b>

(1) This includes €0.37m in payments in respect of homeless people made on behalf of local authorities and subsequently re-imbursed. It should be noted that some of the totals are not equal to the sum of the parts. This is due to rounding.

**Table H5**

Number of Recipients of Supplementary Welfare Allowance by Health Board Region, 2004

Type of Supplementary Welfare Allowance	ERHA <sup>(1)</sup>	Midland	Mid-Western	North Eastern	North Western	South Eastern	Southern	Western	Total
<b>Basic Payment</b>									
<b>Recipients</b>									
Qualified Adults	12,723	1,262	2,150	2,523	1,286	3,104	3,886	2,814	29,748
Qualified Children	3,369	318	373	589	252	564	857	610	6,932
	11,131	1,364	1,425	2,280	910	2,170	2,891	2,234	24,405
<b>Total Beneficiaries</b>	<b>27,223</b>	<b>2,944</b>	<b>3,948</b>	<b>5,392</b>	<b>2,448</b>	<b>5,838</b>	<b>7,634</b>	<b>5,658</b>	<b>61,085</b>
<b>Supplements</b>									
Rent	25,711	2,090	4,163	2,876	2,535	6,018	8,539	5,942	57,874
Local Authority Mortgage	249	13	35	16	18	75	75	74	555
Other Mortgage	1,205	65	204	216	110	304	436	223	2,763
Heating	460	183	1,242	46	19	308	850	71	3,179
Diet	5,600	752	1,032	858	308	1,633	1,811	675	12,669
Other <sup>(2)</sup>	1,613	115	250	288	16	425	854	435	3,996

(1) Refers to Eastern Regional Health Authority.

(2) Includes Creche, MABS, Other etc.

**Table H6**

Number of Recipients of Basic SWA, Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement, Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement and Other Supplements, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	2003	2004	Change 2004 over 2003
Basic Payments	31,217	29,748	-4.7%
Rent Supplements	59,976	57,874	-3.5%
L.A. Mortgage Interest Supplements <sup>(1)</sup>	772	555	-28.1%
Mortgage Interest Supplements	3,161	2,763	-12.6%
Other Supplements <sup>(2)</sup>	22,598	19,844	-12.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,724</b>	<b>110,784</b>	<b>-5.9%</b>

(1) Local Authority Mortgage

(2) Includes Diet, Other, Travel, etc.

**Table H7**

Number of Recipients of Basic SWA, Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement and Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement and Other Supplements(1) by Age and Sex, 2004

Age Group	Basic SWA			Rent Supplement			Mortgage Interest Supplement			Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement			Other Supplements <sup>(1)</sup>		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 20	1,093	1,362	2,455	230	1,028	1,258	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	92	149
20 - 24	2,610	2,551	5,161	1,900	7,512	9,412	2	8	10	1	2	3	171	389	560
25 - 29	2,941	2,658	5,599	3,535	7,358	10,893	49	55	104	5	10	15	378	845	1,223
30 - 34	3,043	2,620	5,663	4,403	5,906	10,309	183	194	377	13	18	31	522	840	1,362
35 - 39	2,269	1,497	3,766	3,759	3,699	7,458	287	245	532	17	15	32	544	740	1,284
40 - 44	1,626	893	2,519	2,932	2,278	5,210	335	230	565	42	31	73	667	697	1,364
45 - 49	1,020	592	1,612	2,252	1,446	3,698	292	180	472	65	49	114	664	650	1,314
50 - 54	871	483	1,354	1,920	1,108	3,028	212	129	341	77	34	111	869	807	1,676
55 - 59	592	323	915	1,499	825	2,324	141	84	225	56	30	86	1,094	1,006	2,100
60 - 64	278	134	412	1,026	505	1,531	68	25	93	41	22	63	1,190	1,067	2,257
65 - 69	148	88	236	643	382	1,025	15	18	33	11	10	21	1,145	1,173	2,318
70 plus	31	25	56	710	1,018	1,728	5	6	11	1	5	6	1,545	2,692	4,237
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,522</b>	<b>13,226</b>	<b>29,748</b>	<b>24,809</b>	<b>33,065</b>	<b>57,874</b>	<b>1,589</b>	<b>1,174</b>	<b>2,763</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>8,846</b>	<b>10,998</b>	<b>19,844</b>

(1) Includes Diet, Other, Travel, etc.



**Table H8**

Number of Recipients of Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement and Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement by Primary Payment, 2004

Payment Type	Rent Supplement	Mortgage Interest Supplement	Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement
Old Age Pensions	1,593	12	3
Pre-Retirement Allowance	347	7	8
Widows and Widower's Pensions	393	35	23
One-Parent Family Payment	12,946	244	55
Invalidity Pension	1,082	121	53
Disability Benefit	1,574	475	32
Disability Allowance	6,718	217	84
Long-Term Unemployment Assistance	7,326	295	129
Short-Term Unemployment Assistance	4,686	198	22
Unemployment Benefit	2,575	417	51
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	12,644	384	31
Employment Support Services <sup>(1)</sup>	3,400	163	35
DSS (UK)	370	3	1
Other	2,220	192	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>57,874</b>	<b>2,763</b>	<b>555</b>

(1) Includes Back to Work Allowance, Community Employment, Back to Education Allowance, VTOS and FÁS

**Table H9**

Number of Recipients of Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement and Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement by Claim Duration, 2004<sup>(1)</sup>

Months <sup>(2)</sup>	Rent Supplement	Mortgage Interest Supplement	Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement
0 to 3	7,653	245	17
3 to 6	8,551	322	25
6 to 9	6,139	265	21
9 to 12	5,369	274	19
12 to 24	15,093	672	87
24 to 36	6,456	374	57
36 to 48	2,731	226	55
48 to 60	1,669	133	34
60 to 72	1,696	91	54
72 plus	2,517	161	186
<b>Total<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>57,874</b>	<b>2,763</b>	<b>555</b>

(1) This represents unbroken continuous claims only. Where recipients change address, the claim at the new address may be recorded as a new claim and the duration spent at the previous address may not be taken into account in these statistics

(2) Claims with duration of precisely 3 months are recorded under the 3-6 months heading, claims with duration of precisely 6 months are recorded under the 6-9 months heading and so on.

**Table H10**

Number of Recipients of Back to School Clothing & Footwear Allowance by Health Board Region, 2004

Health Board	Age 2 to 11	Age 12 to 17	Age 18 to 22	Total
Eastern Regional Health Authority	37,823	14,696	1,357	53,876
Midland Health Board	4,131	2,322	266	6,719
Mid Western Health Board	8,004	4,651	501	13,156
North Eastern Health Board	8,236	4,629	622	13,487
North Western Health Board	7,090	4,970	818	12,878
South Eastern Health Board	8,174	5,106	644	13,924
Southern Health Board	13,351	8,120	1,469	22,940
Western Health Board	8,952	6,074	1,403	16,429
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,761</b>	<b>50,568</b>	<b>7,080</b>	<b>153,409</b>

**Table H11**

Expenditure on Back to School Clothing & Footwear Allowance by Health Board Region, 2003 and 2004

Health Board	2003 <sup>(1)</sup> €000	2004 <sup>(1)</sup> €000
Eastern Regional Health Authority Area	5,104	5,234
Midland Health Board	1,088	1,060
Mid Western Health Board	1,508	1,416
North Eastern Health Board	1,555	1,458
North Western Health Board	1,571	1,475
South Eastern Health Board	2,221	1,995
Southern Health Board	2,593	2,522
Western Health Board	2,078	1,868
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>17,717</b>	<b>17,028</b>

(1) It should be noted that some of the totals are not equal to the sum of the parts. This is due to rounding.

**Table H12**

Number of Recipients of Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance Payments by Category, 2004

Interim Basic SWA Payments	No of Payments	
Pending Unemployment Assistance	3,953	
Pending Unemployment Assistance Appeal	527	
Pending Unemployment Benefit	759	
Pending Unemployment Benefit Appeal	51	
Pending Disability Allowance	2,919	
Pending Disability Benefit	1,576	
Pending Disability Benefit Appeal	58	
Pending Old Age Pension	177	
Pending Survivors Pension	96	
Pending Carers Allowance	182	
Pending Occupational Injuries Benefit	70	
Pending One Parent Family Payment	3,612	
Pending Other Social Welfare Payments	575	
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>14,555</b>
<b>Other Basic SWA Payments</b>		
Sick No Benefit	2,573	
Other Increment to Scale	257	
Other <sup>(1)</sup>	12,363	
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>15,193</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>29,748</b>

(1) This category includes payments to persons who do not qualify for other Social Welfare payments and whose means are below the appropriate SWA rates.

Table H13

Number of Recipients of Rent Supplement by Duration<sup>(2)</sup> and by Primary Payment, 2004

Duration in Months	0 to 3 <sup>(3)</sup>	3 to 6	6 to 9	9 to 12	12 to 18	18 to 24	24 to 30	30 to 36	36 to 48	48 to 60	60 to 72	72 plus	TOTAL
<b>Payment Type<sup>(4)</sup></b>													
Old Age Pensions	77	116	98	96	166	152	123	68	142	117	141	297	1,593
Pre-Retirement Allowance	16	9	10	14	22	22	16	7	19	33	57	122	347
Widows and Widower's Pensions	29	40	23	38	48	47	27	28	32	29	18	34	393
One-Parent Family Payment	1,508	1,909	1,515	1,321	2,356	1,565	947	539	570	275	216	225	12,946
Incapacity Pension	64	104	70	67	117	85	61	60	85	79	100	190	1,082
Disability Benefit	288	258	183	144	253	146	78	49	78	29	40	28	1,574
Disability Allowance	752	838	680	559	906	609	404	314	400	271	302	683	6,718
Long-Term Unemployment Assistance	1,057	1,168	751	661	1,037	672	430	259	311	216	246	518	7,326
Short-Term Unemployment Assistance	737	773	529	498	732	478	318	166	192	103	88	72	4,686
Unemployment Benefit	465	504	330	276	406	209	112	78	87	35	32	41	2,575
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	1,791	1,866	1,349	1,201	1,974	1,639	1,159	559	469	295	243	99	12,644
Employment Support Services <sup>(1)</sup>	479	571	321	248	467	328	228	163	216	113	147	119	3,400
DSS (UK)	26	34	28	37	48	31	34	26	45	16	17	28	370
Other	364	361	252	209	367	211	134	69	85	58	49	61	2,220
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,653</b>	<b>8,551</b>	<b>6,139</b>	<b>5,369</b>	<b>8,899</b>	<b>6,194</b>	<b>4,071</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>2,731</b>	<b>1,669</b>	<b>1,696</b>	<b>2,517</b>	<b>57,874</b>

(1) Includes Back to Work Allowance, Community Employment, Back to Education Allowance, VTOS and FÁS.

(2) This represents unbroken continuous claims only. Where recipients change address, the claim at the new address may be recorded as a new claim and the duration spent at the previous address may not be taken into account in these statistics.

(3) Claims with duration of precisely 3 months are recorded under the 3-6 months heading, claims with duration of precisely 6 months are recorded under the 6-9 months heading and so on.

(4) The recipient may not necessarily have been in receipt of the same Primary Payment for the duration of the Rent Supplement claim.

**Table H14**

Number of Recipients of Rent Supplement by Age and by Duration<sup>(1)</sup>, 2004

Duration in Months	0 to 3 <sup>(2)</sup>	3 to 6	6 to 9	9 to 12	12 to 18	18 to 24	24 to 30	30 to 36	36 to 48	48 to 60	60 to 72	72 plus	TOTAL
Age Group													
Under 20	391	357	206	128	121	40	13	2	-	-	-	-	1,258
20 - 24	1,751	1,876	1,270	1,030	1,595	928	487	217	167	61	24	6	9,412
25 - 29	1,549	1,847	1,252	1,132	1,893	1,234	819	387	381	187	134	78	10,893
30 - 34	1,335	1,502	1,080	1,019	1,696	1,202	855	456	470	272	220	202	10,309
35 - 39	884	1,028	830	648	1,202	916	586	326	386	227	197	228	7,458
40 - 44	594	731	504	453	755	577	377	266	300	182	214	257	5,210
45 - 49	426	384	335	300	510	401	273	198	252	161	171	287	3,698
50 - 54	296	299	241	219	406	318	205	161	228	139	180	336	3,028
55 - 59	190	239	161	166	280	205	149	138	187	134	163	312	2,324
60 - 64	105	109	103	101	161	129	94	103	112	113	128	273	1,531
65 - 69	62	76	68	65	118	76	77	52	76	63	96	196	1,025
70 plus	70	103	89	108	162	168	136	79	172	130	169	342	1,728
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,653</b>	<b>8,551</b>	<b>6,139</b>	<b>5,369</b>	<b>8,899</b>	<b>6,194</b>	<b>4,071</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>2,731</b>	<b>1,669</b>	<b>1,696</b>	<b>2,517</b>	<b>57,874</b>

(1) This represents unbroken continuous claims only. Where recipients change address, the claim at the new address may be recorded as a new claim and the duration spent at the previous address may not be taken into account in these statistics

(2) Claims with duration of precisely 3 months are recorded under the 3-6 months heading, claims with duration of precisely 6 months are recorded under the 6-9 months heading and so on.

**Table H15**

Number of Recipients of Basic SWA, Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement and Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement and Other Supplements<sup>(1)</sup> by County, 2004

County	Basic SWA	Rent Supplement	Mortgage Interest Supplement	Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement	Other Supplements <sup>(1)</sup>
Carlow	463	849	34	8	216
Cavan	219	399	40	9	267
Clare	603	1,207	44	7	340
Cork	2,997	6,818	365	66	2,703
Donegal	964	1,915	93	9	207
Dublin	11,175	21,920	965	225	6,683
Galway	1,760	3,718	99	16	615
Kerry	889	1,721	71	9	812
Kildare	1,005	2,237	119	13	509
Kilkenny	479	732	42	26	237
Laois	314	379	13	2	283
Leitrim	125	186	6	2	55
Limerick	1,251	2,241	111	19	1,896
Longford	264	376	10	6	148
Louth	984	1,479	62	3	345
Mayo	724	1,705	89	46	369
Meath	1,102	651	79	-	441
Monaghan	218	347	35	4	139
Offaly	251	484	14	2	346
Roscommon	330	519	35	12	197
Sligo	197	434	11	7	81
Tipperary	908	1,792	103	20	1,163
Waterford	889	1,578	59	17	464
Westmeath	433	851	28	3	273
Wexford	661	1,782	115	13	574
Wicklow	543	1,554	121	11	481
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,748</b>	<b>57,874</b>	<b>2,763</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>19,844</b>

(1) Includes Diet, Other, Travel, etc.

**SECTION J**  
MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS AND GRANTS

## Section J: Miscellaneous Payments and Grants

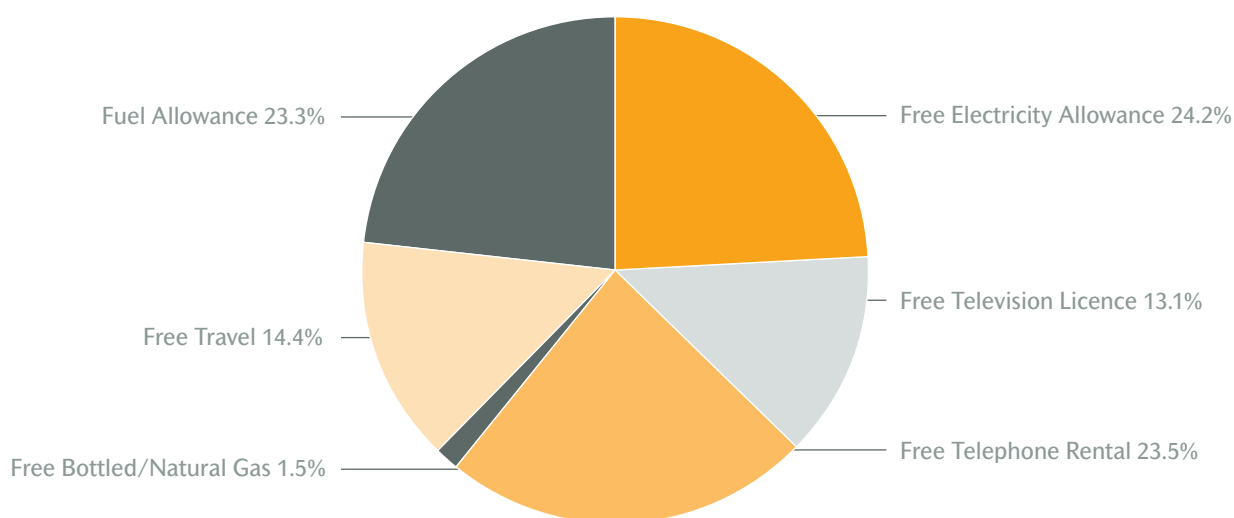
This programme group contains details of a range of payments and services provided by the Department of Social and Family Affairs, including:

- Treatment Benefits
- Household Benefits and Free Travel
- Bereavement Grants
- Redundancy and Insolvency Payments
- Money Advice and Budgeting Service
- Family Resource Centre Programme
- Grants for Marriage, Child and Bereavement Counselling Services

Also included in this Section are details of methods of payments for benefits and allowances which are processed by the Department of Social and Family Affairs on a day to day basis.

### Graph J1

Expenditure on Household Benefits and Free Travel, 2004





**Table J1**

Expenditure on Miscellaneous Payments and Grants by Payment Type, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	2003 €000	2004 <sup>(1)</sup> €000	Change %
Household Benefits and Free Travel	340,514	364,272	7.0%
Treatment Benefit	63,348	70,455	11.2%
Bereavement Grants	12,288	13,190	7.3%
Rent Allowance	675	754	11.7%
Equal Treatment Payments	5	1	-80.0%
Redundancy and Insolvency <sup>(2)</sup>	97,636	147,722	51.3%
Combat Poverty Agency	5,304	3,909	-26.3%
School Meals	3,293	4,647	41.1%
Comhairle	17,011	17,826	4.8%
Grants for Marriage & Family Counselling Services <sup>(3)</sup>	7,009	-	-
Grants for Community and Family Support Groups <sup>(3)</sup>	2,425	-	-
Money Advice and Budgeting Service	9,405	11,397	21.2%
Other Grants/Payments	5,205	6,188	18.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>564,118</b>	<b>640,361</b>	<b>13.5%</b>

(1) Provisional

(2) These schemes are administered by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

(3) The Family Support Agency was established in May 2003 with responsibility for Grants for Marriage & Family Counselling Services and Grants for Community & Family Support Groups

**Table J2**

Total Expenditure on Household Benefits and Free Travel, 1995 to 2004

Year	Free Electricity Allowance	Free Television Licence	Free Telephone Rental	Free Bottled Gas	Free Natural Gas	Free Travel	Fuel Allowance	Total
	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000
1995	33,060	13,181	29,449	88	712	39,697	54,276	170,464
1996	34,658	15,724	31,256	81	1,044	40,680	56,298	179,740
1997	36,916	18,133	34,362	84	1,122	41,085	57,070	188,772
1998	38,595	19,535	36,746	69	1,345	41,432	57,004	194,724
1999	39,443	19,093	37,991	74	1,602	42,791	55,809	196,803
2000	40,185	20,199	41,660	88	1,918	44,817	55,487	204,354
2001	51,275	24,773	55,335	99	2,517	45,860	61,136	240,995
2002	62,648	30,967	72,887	108	3,276	45,625	80,532	296,043
2003	75,402	43,801	83,258	120	4,905	49,820	83,208	340,514
2004 <sup>(1)</sup>	87,992	47,859	85,697	116	5,498	52,400	84,710	364,272

(1) Provisional.

**Table J3**

Miscellaneous Benefits and Allowances: Number of Claims Awarded, 2003 and 2004

Type of Payment	2003	2004	Change 2004 over 2003
Bereavement Grants	21,124	22,563	6.8%
<b>Treatment Benefit:</b>			
Dental	411,264	523,676	27.3%
Optical	164,277	172,199	4.8%
Medical and Surgical	5,262	5,749	9.3%
Rent Allowance	13	14	7.7%
Fuel Allowance <sup>(1)</sup>	270,000	272,000	0.7%

(1) Refers to the average number of recipients of Fuel Allowance in 2003. There was an average of 118,000 recipients of a Smokeless Fuel Allowance in 2003 and an average of 121,000 recipients in 2004.

**Table J4**

Number of Recipients of Household Benefits and Free Travel by Type of Payment Received, 2004

Type of Payment	Free Electricity Allowance	Free Television Licence <sup>(1)</sup>	Free Telephone Rental	Free Bottled Gas	Free Natural Gas	Free Travel <sup>(2)</sup>
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	52,217	52,217	56,076	29	5,802	92,097
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	43,904	43,904	42,996	91	929	83,538
Retirement Pension	51,028	51,028	54,097	38	6,095	81,296
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	49,204	49,204	53,196	6	4,943	66,298
Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension	9,609	9,609	9,659	11	222	12,976
Invalidity Pension	18,837	18,837	18,098	19	1,865	47,811
Deserted Wife's Allowance	331	331	352	-	29	537
Deserted Wife's Benefit	481	481	561	-	89	839
One Parent Family Payment	69	69	56	-	7	432
Occupation Injury Benefit	243	243	266	-	30	304
Free Fuel	1,788	1,788	1,786	1	26	1,720
Blind Pensions	681	681	651	2	32	1,916
No Active Pension	23,185	23,185	27,968	21	2,391	121,431
Garda Widow's Pension <sup>(3)</sup>	111	111	175	-	9	1,314
Carer's Allowance	9,495	9,495	10,342	25	670	21,940
Disability Allowance	19,516	19,516	16,359	109	1,101	81,969
British Pension <sup>(3)</sup>	3,294	3,294	4,316	5	133	5,203
Others	1,187	1,187	1,013	2	85	2,724
<b>Total</b>	<b>285,180</b>	<b>311,134</b>	<b>297,967</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>24,458</b>	<b>624,345</b>

(1) Refers to the number of Licences issued.

(2) Refers to the number of persons in respect of whom travel passes have been issued.

(3) These Pensions are not administered by the Department of Social and Family Affairs.

Table J5

Number of Recipients of Social Welfare Payments by Payment Type and Method of Payment, 2004

Type of Payment	Personalised Payable Order	Cheque	Post Draft	Electronic Fund Transfer	Total
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	59,258	424	-	58,701	118,383
Retirement Pension	65,586	262	-	23,022	88,870
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	75,978	41	-	9,153	85,172
Pre-Retirement Allowance	-	488	8,514	2,226	11,228
Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension	76,019	1,052	-	28,267	105,338
Widower's (Non-Contributory) Pension	14,351	-	27	906	15,284
Deserted Wife's Benefit	9,283	1	681	804	10,769
Deserted Wife's Allowance	1,366	-	38	52	1,456
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	2	-	-	-	2
One-Parent Family Payment	52,328	11	16,103	11,661	80,103
Maternity Benefit	-	1,520	-	8,836	10,356
Health and Safety Benefit	-	8	-	13	21
Adoptive Benefit	-	2	-	24	26
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	607	-	-	160	767
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	390	-	-	63	453
Child Benefit (families)	331,929	-	-	208,982	540,911
Disability Benefit	-	40,182	766	17,778	58,726
Invalidity Pension	41,698	39	539	13,588	55,864
Disability Allowance	56,243	68	1,419	15,246	72,976
Injury Benefit	-	758	-	157	915
Interim Disability Benefit	-	257	-	59	316
Disablement Pension	-	12,162	-	-	12,162
Death Benefit	557	3	-	92	652
Carer's Benefit	-	-	67	612	679
Carer's Allowance	19,757	-	-	3,273	23,030
Blind Pension	1,794	-	-	233	2,027
Unemployment Benefit	-	16,371	17,446	23,882	57,699
Unemployment Assistance	-	6,125	48,917	18,798	73,840
Back to Work Allowance-	84	118	73	11,291	11,566
Back to Education Allowance	-	15	226	5,006	5,247
Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme	249	25	51	1	326
Family Income Supplement	-	2,084	204	12,439	14,727
Farm Assist	-	96	6,007	2,247	8,350
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	-	11,951	1,140	16,657	29,748
Rent Allowance	-	303	-	-	303
<b>Total</b>	<b>807,479</b>	<b>94,366</b>	<b>102,218</b>	<b>494,229</b>	<b>1,498,292</b>



# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1: Social Insurance and Social Assistance

The Department of Social & Family Affairs provides a range of payments which can be classified as follows.

### Social Insurance

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Payments made under the social insurance system are funded, in part, by contributions from employers, employees and the self-employed. Any deficit in the fund is met by Exchequer subvention. Entitlement to social insurance benefits is conditional upon the claimants having a certain number of contributions paid or credited in a specific period of time. The contributions conditions vary according to the different insurance schemes.

Social insurance schemes comprise Old Age (Contributory) Pension, Retirement Pension, Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) Pension, Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance, Deserted Wife's Benefit, Invalidity Pension, Disability Benefit, Carer's Benefit, Unemployment Benefit, Maternity Benefit, Health and Safety Benefit, Adoptive Benefit, Treatment Benefit, Widowed Parent Grant, Bereavement Grants, Household Benefits and Free Schemes.

### Social Assistance

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Social Assistance schemes are financed entirely by the Exchequer. One of the basic requirements to qualify for payment under the social assistance schemes is that the claimant must satisfy a means test.

Social Assistance schemes comprise Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension, Widow's (Non-Contributory) Pension, Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension, Deserted Wife's Allowance, Prisoner's Wife's Allowance, One Parent Family Payment, Unemployment Assistance, Farm Assist, Pre-Retirement Allowance, Supplementary Welfare Allowance, Family Income Supplement, Disability Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Blind Pension, Rent Allowance, Household Benefits and Free Schemes.

### Child Benefit

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Child Benefit is funded entirely by the Exchequer; it is payable in respect of all children regardless of family means.

## Appendix 2: Classification of Social Welfare Schemes

### 1. Old Age

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Old Age (Contributory) Pension  
 Retirement Pension  
 Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension  
 Pre-Retirement Allowance

### 2. Widows, Widowers and One-Parent Families

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Widow/er's (Contributory) Pension  
 Deserted Wife's Benefit  
 Widow/er's (Non-Contributory) Pension  
 Deserted Wife's Allowance  
 Prisoner's Wife's Allowance  
 One Parent Family Payment  
 Widowed Parent Grant

### 3. Child Related Payments

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Maternity Benefit  
 Adoptive Benefit  
 Health and Safety Benefit  
 Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance  
 Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension  
 Child Benefit

### 4. Illness, Disability and Caring

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Disability Benefit  
 Invalidity Pension  
 Disability Allowance  
 Blind Pension  
 Carer's Benefit  
 Carer's Allowance  
 Injury Benefit  
 Disablement Pension  
 Death Benefit  
 Medical Care

### 5. Unemployment Supports

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Unemployment Benefit  
 Unemployment Assistance

### 6. Employment Supports

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Family Income Supplement  
 Back to Work Allowance  
 Back to Work Enterprise Allowance  
 Back to Education Allowance  
 Part-Time Job Incentive Scheme  
 Farm Assist

### 7. Supplementary Welfare Allowance

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Basic Payments  
 Rent and Mortgage Interest Supplements  
 Heating and Diet Supplements  
 Exceptional and Urgent Needs Payments  
 The Back to School Clothing and Footwear Scheme

### 8. Miscellaneous Payments and Grants

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Treatment Benefits  
 Household Benefits and Free Travel  
 Bereavement Grants  
 Money Advice and Budgeting Service  
 Family Resource Centre Programme  
 Grants for Marriage, Child and Bereavement  
 Counselling Services

## Appendix 3: Glossary

<b>Recipient:</b>	Person actually receiving a social welfare payment.
<b>Qualified Adult:</b>	Person in respect of whom a Qualified Adult Allowance is paid to the recipient.
<b>Qualified Child:</b>	Child in respect of whom a Qualified Child Increase is paid to the recipient. This allowance is payable at half the rate where a spouse/partner, living with the recipient, is not a Qualified Adult. Each spouse/partner may receive half the Qualified Child Increase where both are in receipt of a social welfare payment.
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>	Total of recipients, qualified adults and qualified children.
<b>Claim/Claimant:</b>	An application/ applicant for a social welfare payment.
<b>Social Insurance Payments:</b>	These comprise Old Age (Contributory) Pension, Retirement Pension, Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) Pension, Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance, Deserted Wife's Benefit, Invalidity Pension, Disability Benefit, Carer's Benefit, Unemployment Benefit, Maternity Benefit, Health and Safety Benefit, Adoptive Benefit, Treatment Benefit, Widowed Parent Grant, Bereavement Grants and Household Benefits and Free Travel.
<b>Social Assistance Payments:</b>	These comprise Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension, Widow's (Non-Contributory) Pension, Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension, Deserted Wife's Allowance, Prisoner's Wife's Allowance, One Parent Family Payment, Unemployment Assistance, Farm Assist, Pre-Retirement Allowance, Supplementary Welfare Allowance, Family Income Supplement, Disability Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Blind Pension, Rent Allowance and Household Benefits and Free Travel.





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