

# **Update on Payments Awarded for Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment and Enhanced Illness Benefit**

From [Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection](#)

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**228,858 people receive Pandemic Unemployment Payment this week**

**An increase of 23,265 receiving PUP compared to last week**

**4,931 closed their PUP claim in past 7 days to return to work**

**€61.4 million to be paid in PUP payments tomorrow**

**PUP remains open to new entrants who should apply online at [MyWelfare.ie](#)**

**Increase in number of people receiving Enhanced Illness Benefit**

Today the Department of Social Protection issued payments valued at €61.4 million, up from €55.2 million last week, to 228,858 people for the Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP).

The number of people receiving a PUP payment this week represents an increase of 23,265 on the 205,593 people paid last week.

In the past seven days, 4,931 people have closed their claim for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment. Of these, 3,139 have reported that they were returning to work. Some 2,138 people will be receiving their final payment tomorrow, 13th October.

The sector with the highest number of people receiving a PUP payment this week is Accommodation and Food Service Activities (69,535) followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade (30,500) and Administrative and Support Service activities (22,640). The Accommodation and Food Service Activities sector has increased by 18,249 since last week.

This week's figures are in addition to the 211,492 people who were reported on the Live Register as of the end of September. All Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payments issued will be in recipients' bank accounts or at their local post office tomorrow, Tuesday, 13th October.

**Commenting on the figures, Minister for Social Protection, Heather Humphreys TD, said:**

“Some €61.4 million has been paid out in PUP this week, supporting almost 229,000 people.

“The increase in the number of recipients reflects the seriousness of the impact of the pandemic on the economic life of the country.

“I know it has been difficult for many businesses particularly in the hospitality sector who have been impacted by Level 3 restrictions.

“My priority is ensuring that we get payments to impacted workers quickly, this is the very reason Government has kept PUP open for applications. Over 95% of people who applied for PUP this week did so online. This meant that it was possible to process the claims immediately and issue payments without delay.

“This illustrates the value of applying for PUP through MyWelfare.ie and I would therefore encourage any person whose employment has been impacted by restrictions to apply online.”

**Applying for PUP**

To apply for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment, people should do so online at [MyWelfare.ie](https://www.mywelfare.ie). When applying, people should provide the name of their employer and details of their last day of employment.

In the interests of the public health advice and observing social distancing people are asked, if at all possible, not to attend their local Intreo Centre. Instead, they should avail of the online services available through [MyWelfare.ie](https://www.mywelfare.ie).

**People returning to work**

In the past week, some 4,931 people closed their claim for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment of which 3,139 reported that they were returning to work. As the Pandemic Unemployment Payment is a weekly payment paid in arrears, there is a one week lag in how closures, due to people returning to work or people making new applications for PUP, are reflected in the payment data.

This week the sector with the greatest number of employees returning to work is Accommodation and Food Service Activities (489), followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor vehicles and Motorcycles (478) and the Administrative and Support Service activities (344). A full breakdown of the sectors in this area is set out at Appendix 7 below.

Looking at the age profile, the largest number of people returning to work is in the 25-34 group, followed by those aged 35–44. Full details are available at Appendix 8.

The Department continues to remind workers who are returning to work that they must close their claim for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP).

In order to ensure that their claim is processed correctly, workers who are returning to work must close their claim for the PUP payment on the actual date that they start back at work.

The easiest way to close a claim for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment is online via [MyWelfare.ie](http://MyWelfare.ie). Any worker returning to work with an enquiry about closing their claim, can contact the Department's dedicated income support helpline at 1890 800 024 (Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 5.00pm).

### **Employment supports available to people returning to work**

Subject to satisfying the relevant eligibility criteria, employees may claim casual (i.e. part-time) jobseeker's payments or Short-Time Work Support payments for days of unemployment, even where their employer is claiming the Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme for days of employment. The normal scheme rules and application processes for casual jobseeker payments and Short-Time Work Support apply, including completion of the relevant forms by the employer to certify days of employment and unemployment.

### **Industries that remain closed**

Where, due to ongoing restrictions, a person's employer has not restarted operations or where a sector is still temporarily closed, or has had to close their business again temporarily, the Department will continue to support these workers through payment of the PUP. New applications for PUP can be made until the end of this year.

### **Occasional employment**

The Department considers occasional employment to be once-off irregular, infrequent, or isolated events and where there is a clear divergence from previous employment patterns. Where a person has any doubt, they should contact the Department directly to discuss their claim.

### **Covid-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit Payment**

Since March, 71,641 people under the age of 66 have been medically certified for receipt of the Covid-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit, which is an increase of 2,375 from last week.

Some 2,604 people are currently in receipt of an Enhanced Illness Benefit payment.

This week again, the number of people medically certified to receive the Enhanced Illness Benefit has increased in every county.

There has also been an increase in every sector. The sectors with the highest number of people medically certified for receipt of a Covid-19 Illness Benefit payment are Wholesale and Retail Trade (15,205) and Human Health and Social Work (14,063), followed by Manufacturing (9,988). Full details are at Appendices 9, 10 and 11.

## **Appendices**

**Appendix 1 - Analysis of Pandemic Unemployment Payments by County**

**Appendix 2 - Pandemic Unemployment Payments by Sector**

**Appendix 3 - Pandemic Unemployment Payments by Age Profile**

**Appendix 4 - Pandemic Unemployment Payment Rates by gender**

**Appendix 5 - Pandemic Unemployment Payment Rates by age**

**Appendix 6 - Analysis of People who Closed their PUP Claim to Return to Work**

**Appendix 7 - Analysis of Closed Pandemic Unemployment Payments by Sector**

**Appendix 8 - Analysis of Closed Pandemic Unemployment Payments Age Profile**

**Appendix 9 - Enhanced Illness Benefit Payments by County**

**Appendix 10 - Enhanced Illness Benefit Payments by Sector**

**Appendix 11 - Enhanced Illness Benefit Payments Age Profile**

**Appendix 1 - Analysis of Pandemic Unemployment Payments**

There are 228,858 people in receipt a Pandemic Unemployment Payment of which 108,153 are female and 120,705 are male.

**County Breakdown**

<b>County</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 13th October</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 6th October</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 5th May</b>
Carlow	2,234	1,961	7,800
Cavan	2,875	2,430	9,700
Clare	4,997	4,105	14,600
Cork	20,566	16,995	61,900
Donegal	8,530	7,946	22,700
Dublin	84,485	83,356	174,200
Galway	11,578	9,564	32,300
Kerry	7,630	5,769	22,200
Kildare	10,041	9,355	26,100
Kilkenny	3,338	2,669	10,600
Laois	2,871	2,463	8,600
Leitrim	1,307	1,121	4,100
Limerick	8,300	7,122	22,300
Longford	1,399	1,202	4,500
Louth	6,730	5,741	17,300
Mayo	5,125	4,052	16,400
Meath	8,659	7,827	25,000
Monaghan	2,627	2,234	8,200

Offaly	2,921	2,563	8,900
Roscommon	2,234	1,815	7,100
Sligo	2,659	2,031	7,700
Tipperary	5,775	4,910	18,800
Waterford	4,773	3,820	14,100
Westmeath	3,788	3,098	11,700
Wexford	5,846	4,676	20,500
Wicklow	6,718	5,856	18,700
County not included	852	912	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>228,858</b>	<b>205,593</b>	<b>598,000</b>

## Appendix 2 - Pandemic Unemployment Payments - Sector Breakdown

The sector with the highest number of people in receipt of the Pandemic Unemployment Payment is Accommodation and Food Service Activities (69,535) followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade (30,500) and Administrative and Support Service activities (22,640).

### Sector Breakdown

<b>Industrial Sector</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 13th October</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 6th October</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 5th May</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	2,802	2,648	8,600
Manufacturing	11,417	11,079	37,400
Electricity, gas supply; Water supply, sewerage and waste management	842	830	2,100
Construction	15,538	15,170	79,300
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	30,500	29,353	90,300
Transportation and storage	7,466	7,424	17,900
Accommodation and food service activities	69,535	51,286	128,500
Information and communication activities	6,212	5,902	11,800

Financial and insurance activities	5,275	5,137	12,500
Real Estate activities	3,567	3,237	8,100
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	10,599	10,453	24,800
Administrative and support service activities	22,640	22,129	45,800
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	3,996	3,905	14,400
Education	8,484	8,477	22,000
Human Health And Social Work activities	7,751	7,548	22,500
Arts, entertainment and recreation	7,042	6,188	14,200
Other Sectors	9,299	9,005	39,200
Unclassified or unknown	5,893	5,822	18,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>228,858</b>	<b>205,593</b>	<b>598,000</b>

### Appendix 3 – Pandemic Unemployment Payment - Age Profile

Age category	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 13th October	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 6th October
< 25	54,999	44,724
25-34	52,780	48,491
35-44	49,554	45,477
45-54	40,099	37,127
55+	31,426	29,774
<b>Total</b>	<b>228,858</b>	<b>205,593</b>

### Appendix 4 - Pandemic Unemployment Payment Rates breakdown by gender

Gender	Number of people in receipt of €300 on 13th October	Number of people in receipt of €250 on 13th October	Number of people in receipt of €203 on 13th October
Male	79,165	18,091	23,449
Female	55,256	22,952	29,945
<b>Total</b>	<b>134,421</b>	<b>41,043</b>	<b>53,394</b>

## Appendix 5 – Pandemic Unemployment Payment Rates breakdown by age

Age category	Number of people in receipt of €300 on 13th October	Number of people in receipt of €250 on 13th October	Number of people in receipt of €203 on 13th October
< 25	21,474	14,781	18,744
25-34	36,786	7,942	8,052
35-44	33,355	6,914	9,285
45-54	25,329	5,996	8,774
55+	17,477	5,410	8,539
<b>Total</b>	<b>134,421</b>	<b>41,043</b>	<b>53,394</b>

## Appendix 6 – Analysis of Closed PUP payments to return to Work

Around 3,139 people who have closed their account for return to work since 4th October will receive a Pandemic Unemployment Payment tomorrow, 13th October. Of these 1,562 are male and 1,577 are female.

### County Breakdown

County	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 13th October to return to work	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 6th October to return to work	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 29th September to return to work
Carlow	47	50	76
Cavan	36	93	129
Clare	64	114	174
Cork	339	550	771
Donegal	76	123	192
Dublin	939	1,161	1,202
Galway	189	285	393
Kerry	99	213	250
Kildare	175	286	311
Kilkenny	53	99	107
Laois	48	71	102
Leitrim	17	33	47
Limerick	138	240	268
Longford	16	33	69
Louth	118	133	195
Mayo	73	146	216
Meath	108	216	269
Monaghan	49	95	284
Offaly	58	90	120

Roscommon	37	56	109
Sligo	46	81	85
Tipperary	110	218	267
Waterford	69	138	133
Westmeath	56	105	129
Wexford	87	185	212
Wicklow	85	138	176
County not included	7	17	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,139</b>	<b>4,969</b>	<b>6,309</b>

## **Appendix 7 – Closed Pandemic Unemployment Payments - Sector Breakdown**

The top three sectors from which employees closed their Pandemic Unemployment Payment in the week ending 13h October to return to work are Accommodation and Food Service Activities (489), Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles (478) and Administrative and Support Service activities (344).

<b>Industrial Sector</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 13th October to return to work</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 6th October to return to work</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	35	51
Manufacturing	237	324
Electricity, gas supply; Water supply, sewerage and waste management	16	10
Construction	247	314
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	478	702
Transportation and storage	121	173
Accommodation and food service activities	489	1,312
Information and communication activities	107	146
Financial and insurance activities	72	113
Real Estate activities	26	60
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	232	282
Administrative and support service activities	344	417



Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	94	140
Education	236	362
Human Health And Social Work activities	142	216
Arts, entertainment and recreation	93	96
Other Sectors	124	175
Unclassified or unknown	46	76
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,139</b>	<b>4,969</b>

### Appendix 8 – Closed Pandemic Unemployment Payments – Age Profile

Age category	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 13th October to return to work	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 6th October to return to work
< 25	700	1,021
25-34	763	1,052
35-44	741	1,139
45-54	606	991
55+	329	766
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,139</b>	<b>4,969</b>

### Appendix 9 - Analysis of Covid-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit

Since March, 71,641 people have been medically certified for receipt of a Covid-19 related Illness Benefit payment, of which 39,684 are female and 31,957 are male.

Some 2,604 people are currently in receipt of an Enhanced Illness Benefit payment.

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

County	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 13th October	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 6th October	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 29th September
Carlow	1,010	990	958
Cavan	1,713	1,644	1,576
Clare	1,280	1,231	1,189
Cork	7,637	7,367	7,098
Donegal	1,858	1,726	1,533
Dublin	20,699	20,053	19,064

Galway	4,300	4,140	3,912
Kerry	1,657	1,589	1,518
Kildare	3,691	3,617	3,505
Kilkenny	1,462	1,427	1,370
Laois	1,228	1,187	1,162
Leitrim	315	302	278
Limerick	2,432	2,346	2,268
Longford	593	580	557
Louth	2,109	2,051	1,968
Mayo	1,628	1,591	1,534
Meath	2,662	2,582	2,478
Monaghan	1,279	1,205	1,076
Offaly	1,208	1,175	1,122
Roscommon	1,060	1,020	978
Sligo	576	540	521
Tipperary	2,647	2,562	2,443
Waterford	2,461	2,400	2,281
Westmeath	1,263	1,221	1,168
Wexford	2,276	2,189	2,099
Wicklow	2,229	2,168	2,079
Other (NI & Foreign Address)	368	363	349
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,641</b>	<b>69,266</b>	<b>66,084</b>

## Appendix 10 – Covid-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit - Sector Breakdown

The two sectors with the highest number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of a Covid-19 Illness Benefit payment to date are Wholesale and Retail Trade (15,205) and Human Health and Social Work (14,063), followed by Manufacturing (9,988).

### Sector Breakdown

<b>Industrial Sector</b>	<b>Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 13th October</b>	<b>Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 6th October</b>	<b>Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 29th September</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	664	640	615
Manufacturing	9,988	9,711	9,342

Electricity, gas, steam supply; Water supply; Sewerage, waste management	351	337	323
Construction	2,973	2,858	2,672
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	15,205	14,670	13,969
Transportation and storage	2,657	2,584	2,484
Accommodation and food service activities	3,966	3,707	3,386
Information and communication activities	1,198	1,169	1,114
Financial and insurance activities	2,718	2,660	2,566
Real Estate activities	580	567	536
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	2,275	2,194	2,108
Administrative and support service activities	6,620	6,444	6,220
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	2,884	2,774	2,629
Education	1,659	1,552	1,395
Human Health And Social Work activities	14,063	13,775	13,385
Arts, entertainment and recreation	613	566	512
Other Sectors	2,416	2,304	2,148
Unclassified or unknown	811	754	680
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,641</b>	<b>69,266</b>	<b>66,084</b>

### **Appendix 11 – Enhanced Illness Benefit - Age Profile**

<b>Age category</b>	<b>Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 13th October</b>	<b>Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 6th October</b>	<b>Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 29th September</b>
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< 25	9,536	9,000	8,330
25-34	17,728	17,118	16,283
35-44	20,325	19,767	18,942
45-54	14,520	14,071	13,497
55+	9,532	9,310	9,032
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,641</b>	<b>69,266</b>	<b>66,084</b>