

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

From [Department of Social Protection](#)

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352,000 receive the Pandemic Unemployment Payment this week

€104 million paid out in PUP payments this week

Over €4.3 billion paid out in PUP to date

Quickest and easiest way to apply for PUP is online at www.MyWelfare.ie

This week, the Department of Social Protection has issued payments valued at €104 million, up from €103.8 million last week, to 352,078 people in receipt of the Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP).

The number of people receiving a PUP payment this week represents an increase of just over 2,000 on the 350,072 people paid last week.

The sector with the highest number of people in receipt of the Pandemic Unemployment Payment is Accommodation and Food Service Activities (102,777) followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade (57,292) and Other Sectors e.g. hairdressers and beauty salons (31,273).

This week's figures are in addition to the 203,172 people who were reported on the Live Register as of the end of October. All Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payments issued will be in recipients' bank accounts or at their local post office tomorrow, Tuesday, 24th November.

Commenting on this week's figures, Minister for Social Protection, Heather Humphreys said:

There are now over 352,000 people in receipt of the Pandemic Unemployment Payment, representing an increase of over 145,000 since the start of October.

These past few weeks have not been easy. I know people are tired and just want life to get back to some normality.

Later this week Government hopes to be in a position to consider easing restrictions from early December which will hopefully allow some people to return to work.

In the meantime as a society, we must do everything within our power to continue to suppress this virus and to significantly reduce the rate of transmission. By working together now and in the weeks ahead, we can all play our part in ensuring that families across the country will be able to come together and celebrate this Christmas in a meaningful way.”

PUP is paid weekly in arrears with applications received up to close of business on Thursday in any week being processed for payment on the following Tuesday. Applications received after Thursday each week, are processed as part of the following week’s claims and paid in the next week after that.

Any person, including any self-employed person, who believes that their payment rate does not accurately reflect their prior earnings, can contact the Department to request a review of earnings and forward all supporting documents, which will be matched with Revenue records. They can contact the Department by:

- Emailing PUPRerate@welfare.ie; or
- Writing to Pandemic Unemployment Rerate Requests, DSP, Intreo Centre, Cork Road, Waterford or
- Calling the Helpline at **1890 800 024** which is open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

People returning to work

In the past seven days, some 4,912 people closed their PUP, with over 66% (3,251) stating that they were doing so because they are returning to work.

The Department continues to remind workers who are returning to work that they **must close their claim for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP) on the actual date that they start back at work**, in order to ensure that their claim is processed correctly.

The easiest way to close a claim for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment is online via www.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 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

Again this week, the largest cohort of people who closed their claims to return to work is in the 25-34 age group (858), followed by those aged 35-44 (773). Full details are available at Appendix 8.

Applying for PUP

To apply for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment, the easiest and quickest way is to do so online at 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 possible, not to attend their local Intreo Centre. Instead, they should avail of the online services available through www.MyWelfare.ie.

Covid-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit Payment

Since March, a cumulative total of 89,399 people under the age of 66 have been medically certified for receipt of the Covid-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit.

Today, some 2,296 people are currently in receipt of an Enhanced Illness Benefit payment.

The number of people medically certified to receive the Enhanced Illness Benefit has increased in every county again this week, the greatest number being in Dublin (24,607), followed by Cork (9,724), Galway (5,464), Kildare (4,320) and Meath (3,609).

The trend of increases in every sector affected by the Covid-19 virus continues again this week. The sectors with the greatest number of people medically certified for receipt of a Covid-19 Illness Benefit payment are Wholesale and Retail Trade (19,163) and Human Health and Social Work (16,381), followed by Manufacturing (12,356). Full details are at Appendices 9, 10 and 11.

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Appendix 1 - Analysis of Pandemic Unemployment Payments

There are 352,078 people in receipt a Pandemic Unemployment Payment of which 177,380 are female and 174,698 are male.

County Breakdown

County	Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 24th November	Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 17th November	Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 5th May
Carlow	3,682	3,676	7,800
Cavan	4,736	4,719	9,700
Clare	7,513	7,494	14,600
Cork	35,341	35,193	61,900
Donegal	12,444	12,360	22,700
Dublin	114,613	113,902	174,200
Galway	19,590	19,498	32,300
Kerry	13,970	13,864	22,200
Kildare	15,458	15,381	26,100
Kilkenny	5,550	5,546	10,600
Laois	4,642	4,637	8,600
Leitrim	2,035	2,027	4,100
Limerick	13,873	13,782	22,300
Longford	2,330	2,325	4,500
Louth	10,845	10,745	17,300
Mayo	9,507	9,356	16,400
Meath	13,138	13,111	25,000
Monaghan	4,207	4,164	8,200
Offaly	4,364	4,357	8,900
Roscommon	3,500	3,462	7,100
Sligo	4,363	4,355	7,700
Tipperary	9,423	9,379	18,800
Waterford	8,329	8,214	14,100
Westmeath	6,588	6,543	11,700
Wexford	10,721	10,679	20,500
Wicklow	10,691	10,663	18,700
County not included	625	640	2,000
Total	352,078	350,072	598,000

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 (102,777) followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade (57,292) and Other Sectors e.g. hairdressers and beauty salons (31,273).

Sector Breakdown

Industrial Sector	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 24th November	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 17th November	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 5th May
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	4,412	4,321	8,600
Manufacturing	15,593	15,465	37,400
Electricity, gas supply; Water supply, sewerage and waste management	1,139	1,134	2,100
Construction	21,267	21,061	79,300
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	57,292	57,015	90,300
Transportation and storage	9,207	9,127	17,900
Accommodation and food service activities	102,777	102,682	128,500
Information and communication activities	7,602	7,526	11,800
Financial and insurance activities	7,156	7,119	12,500
Real Estate activities	5,472	5,442	8,100
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	13,323	13,294	24,800
Administrative and support service activities	29,953	29,674	45,800
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	5,372	5,354	14,400
Education	10,312	10,340	22,000

Human Health And Social Work activities	10,285	10,271	22,500
Arts, entertainment and recreation	12,027	11,973	14,200
Other Sectors	31,273	31,048	39,200
Unclassified or unknown	7,616	7,226	18,600
Total	352,078	350,072	598,000

Appendix 3 – Pandemic Unemployment Payment - Age Profile

Age category	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 24th November	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 17th November
< 25	89,658	89,406
25-34	80,441	80,079
35-44	76,408	75,788
45-54	60,200	59,827
55+	45,371	44,972
Total	352,078	350,072

Appendix 4 – Pandemic Unemployment Payment Rates breakdown by gender

Gender	Number of people in receipt of €350 on 24th November	Number of people in receipt of €300 on 24th November	Number of people in receipt of €250 on 24th November	Number of people in receipt of €203 on 24th November
Male	92,990	28,794	25,991	26,923
Female	65,162	35,663	38,161	38,394
Total	158,152	64,457	64,152	65,317

Appendix 5 – Pandemic Unemployment Payment Rates breakdown by age

Age category	Number of people in receipt of €350 on 24th November	Number of people in receipt of €300 on 24th November	Number of people in receipt of €250 on 24th November	Number of people in receipt of €203 on 24th November
< 25	21,725	21,211	25,319	21,403
25-34	43,763	15,471	11,354	9,853
35-44	41,548	11,848	10,789	12,223
45-54	30,731	9,071	9,118	11,280
55+	20,385	6,856	7,572	10,558
Total	158,152	64,457	64,152	65,317

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

Around 3,251 people who have closed their account for return to work since 15th November will receive a Pandemic Unemployment Payment tomorrow, 24th November. Of these 1,866 are male and 1,385 are female.

County Breakdown

County	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 24th November to return to work	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 17th November to return to work	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 10th November to return to work
Carlow	40	40	25
Cavan	79	67	57
Clare	69	67	51
Cork	383	316	288
Donegal	110	98	75
Dublin	897	837	675
Galway	166	165	154
Kerry	93	80	79
Kildare	182	153	108
Kilkenny	49	46	27
Laois	48	30	26
Leitrim	12	17	12
Limerick	147	106	81
Longford	27	17	15
Louth	99	79	76
Mayo	76	61	47
Meath	154	119	80
Monaghan	39	38	32
Offaly	50	53	40
Roscommon	35	26	16
Sligo	46	34	22
Tipperary	98	88	71
Waterford	80	66	51
Westmeath	67	69	44
Wexford	110	98	68
Wicklow	88	90	92
County not included	7	8	7
Total	3,251	2,868	2,319

Appendix 7 – Closed Pandemic Unemployment Payments - Sector Breakdown

The top three sectors from which employees closed their Pandemic Unemployment Payment in the week ending 24th November to return to work are Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles (690); Accommodation and Food Service Activities (610) and Construction (339).

Industrial Sector	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 24th November to return to work	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 17th November to return to work
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	45	36
Manufacturing	292	296
Electricity, gas supply; Water supply, sewerage and waste management	17	7
Construction	339	322
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	690	532
Transportation and storage	81	96
Accommodation and food service activities	610	482
Information and communication activities	69	62
Financial and insurance activities	54	59
Real Estate activities	33	25
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	147	140
Administrative and support service activities	316	242
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	70	69
Education	127	121
Human Health And Social Work activities	159	187
Arts, entertainment and recreation	57	65
Other Sectors (e.g. hairdressers and beauty salons)	117	102
Unclassified or unknown	28	25
Total	3,251	2,868

Appendix 8 – Closed Pandemic Unemployment Payments – Age Profile

Age category	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 24th November to return to work	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 17th November to return to work
< 25	712	629
25-34	858	792
35-44	773	663
45-54	606	488
55+	302	296
Total	3,251	2,868

Appendix 9 - Analysis of Covid-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit

To date, 89,399 people have been medically certified for receipt of a Covid-19 related Illness Benefit payment, of whom 48,998 are female and 40,401 are male.

Some 2,296 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 24th November	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 17th November	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 10th November
Carlow	1,244	1,211	1,182
Cavan	2,310	2,272	2,228
Clare	1,633	1,588	1,544
Cork	9,724	9,466	9,220
Donegal	2,628	2,541	2,437
Dublin	24,607	24,072	23,495
Galway	5,464	5,345	5,197
Kerry	2,115	2,070	2,002
Kildare	4,320	4,249	4,173
Kilkenny	1,826	1,772	1,713
Laois	1,507	1,467	1,416
Leitrim	397	389	379
Limerick	3,077	2,960	2,883
Longford	746	734	697
Louth	2,581	2,523	2,465
Mayo	2,082	2,017	1,928
Meath	3,609	3,514	3,386

Monaghan	1,644	1,609	1,573
Offaly	1,407	1,377	1,349
Roscommon	1,278	1,243	1,217
Sligo	866	828	795
Tipperary	3,230	3,139	3,072
Waterford	3,212	3,079	2,982
Westmeath	1,635	1,584	1,540
Wexford	3,064	2,997	2,907
Wicklow	2,617	2,572	2,527
Other (NI & Foreign Address)	576	528	496
Total	89,399	87,146	84,803

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

The 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 (19,163), Human Health and Social Work (16,381) and Manufacturing (12,356).

Sector Breakdown

Industrial Sector	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 24th November	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 17th November	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 10th November
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	880	852	819
Manufacturing	12,356	12,018	11,707
Electricity, gas, steam supply; Water supply; Sewerage, waste management	451	433	424
Construction	4,048	3,921	3,785
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	19,163	18,689	18,178
Transportation and storage	3,263	3,177	3,093
Accommodation and food service activities	5,553	5,369	5,177

Information and communication activities	1,469	1,427	1,384
Financial and insurance activities	3,205	3,144	3,085
Real Estate activities	747	717	679
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	2,798	2,720	2,651
Administrative and support service activities	7,860	7,692	7,528
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	3,594	3,514	3,412
Education	2,410	2,313	2,221
Human Health And Social Work activities	16,381	16,104	15,772
Arts, entertainment and recreation	867	848	825
Other Sectors	3,070	2,997	2,921
Unclassified or unknown	1,284	1,211	1,142
Total	89,399	87,146	84,803

Appendix 11 – Enhanced Illness Benefit - Age Profile

Age category	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 24th November	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 17th November	Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 10th November
< 25	13,611	13,195	12,648
25-34	22,202	21,563	20,976
35-44	24,483	23,971	23,392
45-54	17,720	17,308	16,893
55+	11,383	11,109	10,894
Total	89,399	87,146	84,803