

# 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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**205,593 people receive Pandemic Unemployment Payment this week**

**4,969 closed their PUP claim in past 7 days to return to work**

**€55.2 million to be paid in PUP payments tomorrow**

**PUP remains open to new entrants who should apply online at [www.MyWelfare.ie](http://www.MyWelfare.ie)**

Today the Department of Social Protection issued payments valued at €55.2 million to 205,593 people for the Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP).

The number of people receiving a PUP payment this week represents a drop of 11,549 on the 217,142 people paid last week.

In the past seven days, 7,298 people have closed their claim for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment. Of these, 4,969 have reported that they were returning to work. Some 3,378 people will be receiving their final payment tomorrow, 6th October. In addition, payments have ceased for some 4,645 individuals who had been receiving PUP but have failed to confirm their eligibility to continue to receive the payment. Anybody impacted by this who wishes to clarify their position should contact the Department's Helpline 1890 800 024 for assistance.

The sector with the greatest drop in the numbers receiving PUP payments this week is construction which stands at 15,170, down 1,743 on last week.

The sector with the highest number of people receiving a PUP payment this week is Accommodation and Food Service Activities (51,286) followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade (29,353) and Administrative and Support Service activities (22,129).

These 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, 6th October.

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

“Some €55.2 million has been paid out in PUP this week, supporting almost 206,000 people.

“For the very reason that additional restrictions was a possibility, the Government kept PUP open for new entrants.

“I really want to emphasise that anyone who is impacted by these new restrictions can avail of PUP via [MyWelfare.ie](http://MyWelfare.ie).”

## **Applying for PUP**

To apply for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment, people should do so online at [www.MyWelfare.ie](http://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 [www.MyWelfare.ie](http://www.MyWelfare.ie).

## **People returning to work**

In the past week, some 7,298 people closed their claim for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment of which 4,969 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 largest number of employees returning to work is Accommodation and Food Service Activities (1,312), followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor vehicles and Motorcycles (702) and the Administrative and Support Service activities (417). 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 35-44 group, followed by those aged 25–34. 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 [www.MyWelfare.ie](http://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 (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 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 the workers concerned 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**

To date 69,266 people under the age of 66 have been medically certified for receipt of the Covid-19 Enhanced Illness Benefit.

For the second week in a row, 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 two sectors with the highest number of people medically certified for receipt of a Covid-19 Illness Benefit payment are Wholesale and Retail Trade (14,670) and Human Health and Social Work (13,775), followed by Manufacturing (9,711). 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 205,593 people in receipt a Pandemic Unemployment Payment of which 94,961 are female and 110,632 are male.

## County Breakdown

County	Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 6th October	Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 29th September	Number of people in receipt of a Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 5th May
Carlow	1,961	2,182	7,800
Cavan	2,430	2,688	9,700
Clare	4,105	4,512	14,600
Cork	16,995	18,745	61,900
Donegal	7,946	5,949	22,700
Dublin	83,356	85,892	174,200
Galway	9,564	10,469	32,300
Kerry	5,769	6,301	22,200
Kildare	9,355	10,061	26,100
Kilkenny	2,669	2,941	10,600
Laois	2,463	2,701	8,600
Leitrim	1,121	1,185	4,100
Limerick	7,122	7,756	22,300
Longford	1,202	1,343	4,500
Louth	5,741	6,249	17,300
Mayo	4,052	4,538	16,400
Meath	7,827	8,455	25,000
Monaghan	2,234	2,635	8,200
Offaly	2,563	2,800	8,900
Roscommon	1,815	2,038	7,100
Sligo	2,031	2,233	7,700
Tipperary	4,910	5,491	18,800
Waterford	3,820	4,166	14,100
Westmeath	3,098	3,401	11,700
Wexford	4,676	5,127	20,500
Wicklow	5,856	6,301	18,700
County not included	912	983	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>205,593</b>	<b>217,142</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 (51,286) followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade (29,353) and Administrative and Support Service activities (22,129).

## Sector Breakdown

<b>Industrial Sector</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 29th September</b>	<b>Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 5th May</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	2,648	2,943	8,600
Manufacturing	11,079	11,768	37,400
Electricity, gas supply; Water supply, sewerage and waste management	830	889	2,100
Construction	15,170	16,913	79,300
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	29,353	30,950	90,300
Transportation and storage	7,424	7,901	17,900
Accommodation and food service activities	51,286	51,840	128,500
Information and communication activities	5,902	6,093	11,800
Financial and insurance activities	5,137	5,470	12,500
Real Estate activities	3,237	3,340	8,100
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	10,453	11,271	24,800
Administrative and support service activities	22,129	23,111	45,800
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	3,905	4,314	14,400
Education	8,477	9,394	22,000

Human Health And Social Work activities	7,548	7,972	22,500
Arts, entertainment and recreation 6,188	6,341	14,200	
Other Sectors	9,005	9,938	39,200
Unclassified or unknown	5,822	6,694	18,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>205,593</b>	<b>217,142</b>	<b>598,000</b>

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

Age category	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 6th October	Number of people in receipt of Pandemic Unemployment Payment on 29th September
< 25	44,724	45,461
25-34	48,491	50,500
35-44	45,477	48,533
45-54	37,127	40,158
55+	29,774	32,490
<b>Total</b>	<b>205,593</b>	<b>217,142</b>

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

Gender	Number of people in receipt of €300 on 6th October	Number of people in receipt of €250 on 6th October	Number of people in receipt of €203 on 6th October
Male	72,257	16,453	21,922
Female	49,364	19,619	25,978
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,621</b>	<b>36,072</b>	<b>47,900</b>

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

Age category	Number of people in receipt of €300 on 6th October	Number of people in receipt of €250 on 6th October	Number of people in receipt of €203 on 6th October
< 25	18,750	11,625	14,349
25-34	33,420	7,317	7,754
35-44	30,192	6,378	8,907
45-54	23,003	5,584	8,540
55+	16,256	5,168	8,350
<b>Total</b>	<b>121,621</b>	<b>36,072</b>	<b>47,900</b>

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

Around 4,969 people who have closed their account for return to work since 27th September will receive a Pandemic Unemployment Payment tomorrow, 6th October. Of these, 2,500 are male and 2,469 are female.

### County Breakdown

County	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	Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 22nd September to return to work
Carlow	50	76	47
Cavan	93	129	82
Clare	114	174	94
Cork	550	771	529
Donegal	123	192	150
Dublin	1,161	1,202	1,216
Galway	285	393	266
Kerry	213	250	139
Kildare	286	311	305
Kilkenny	99	107	68
Laois	71	102	85
Leitrim	33	47	19
Limerick	240	268	216
Longford	33	69	41
Louth	133	195	145
Mayo	146	216	107
Meath	216	269	188
Monaghan	95	284	68
Offaly	90	120	115
Roscommon	56	109	57
Sligo	81	85	61
Tipperary	218	267	173
Waterford	138	133	117
Westmeath	105	129	113
Wexford	185	212	144
Wicklow	138	176	150
County not included	17	23	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,969</b>	<b>6,309</b>	<b>4,707</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 6th October to return to work are Accommodation and Food Service Activities (1,312), Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles (702) and Administrative and Support Service activities (417).

<b>Industrial Sector</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 6th October to return to work</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 29th September to return to work</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	51	91
Manufacturing	324	314
Electricity, gas supply; Water supply, sewerage and waste management	10	22
Construction	314	389
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	702	764
Transportation and storage	173	264
Accommodation and food service activities	1,312	1,864
Information and communication activities	146	137
Financial and insurance activities	113	130
Real Estate activities	60	71
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	282	469
Administrative and support service activities	417	457
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	140	167
Education	362	486
Human Health And Social Work activities	216	258
Arts, entertainment and recreation	96	127
Other Sectors	175	192
Unclassified or unknown	76	107
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,969</b>	<b>6,309</b>

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



<b>Age category</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 6th October to return to work</b>	<b>Number of people who closed their PUP payment from 29th September to return to work</b>
< 25	1,021	1,186
25-34	1,052	1,255
35-44	1,139	1,493
45-54	991	1,277
55+	766	1,098
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,969</b>	<b>6,309</b>

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

To date, 69,266 people have been medically certified for receipt of a Covid-19 related Illness Benefit payment, of whom 38,374 are female and 30,892 are male.

Some 2,028 people are currently in receipt of an Enhanced Illness Benefit payment.

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

<b>County</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>	<b>Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 22nd September</b>
Carlow	990	958	927
Cavan	1,644	1,576	1,544
Clare	1,231	1,189	1,159
Cork	7,367	7,098	6,952
Donegal	1,726	1,533	1,434
Dublin	20,053	19,064	18,353
Galway	4,140	3,912	3,761
Kerry	1,589	1,518	1,463
Kildare	3,617	3,505	3,432
Kilkenny	1,427	1,370	1,335
Laois	1,187	1,162	1,130
Leitrim	302	278	267
Limerick	2,346	2,268	2,224
Longford	580	557	542
Louth	2,051	1,968	1,910
Mayo	1,591	1,534	1,501
Meath	2,582	2,478	2,411
Monaghan	1,205	1,076	1,029

Offaly	1,175	1,122	1,088
Roscommon	1,020	978	960
Sligo	540	521	513
Tipperary	2,562	2,443	2,389
Waterford	2,400	2,281	2,164
Westmeath	1,221	1,168	1,146
Wexford	2,189	2,099	2,047
Wicklow	2,168	2,079	2,005
Other (NI & Foreign Address)	363	349	343
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,266</b>	<b>66,084</b>	<b>64,029</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 (14,670) and Human Health and Social Work (13,775), followed by Manufacturing (9,711).

### Sector Breakdown

<b>Industrial Sector</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>	<b>Number of people who have been medically certified for receipt of Enhanced Illness Benefit to 22nd September</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing; Mining and Quarrying	640	615	602
Manufacturing	9,711	9,342	9,095
Electricity, gas, steam supply; Water supply; Sewerage, waste management	337	323	315
Construction	2,858	2,672	2,555
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and motorcycles	14,670	13,969	13,495
Transportation and storage	2,584	2,484	2,421
Accommodation and food service activities	3,707	3,386	3,158

Information and communication activities	1,169	1,114	1,090
Financial and insurance activities	2,660	2,566	2,507
Real Estate activities	567	536	526
Professional, Scientific and Technical activities	2,194	2,108	2,049
Administrative and support service activities	6,444	6,220	6,080
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	2,774	2,629	2,542
Education	1,552	1,395	1,289
Human Health And Social Work activities	13,775	13,385	13,151
Arts, entertainment and recreation	566	512	483
Other Sectors	2,304	2,148	2,041
Unclassified or unknown	754	680	630
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,266</b>	<b>66,084</b>	<b>64,029</b>

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

Age category	Number of people medically certified to receive Enhanced Illness Benefit to 6th October	Number of people medically certified to receive Enhanced Illness Benefit to 29th September	Number of people medically certified to receive Enhanced Illness Benefit to 22nd September
< 25	9,000	8,330	7,925
25-34	17,118	16,283	15,744
35-44	19,767	18,942	18,360
45-54	14,071	13,497	13,160
55+	9,310	9,032	8,840
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,266</b>	<b>66,084</b>	<b>64,029</b>