



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

MONTHLY SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT

APRIL 2024

07 June 2024
Version 1.0

Note: Data presented are latest available and can change from data previously published due to ongoing validation

Table of Contents

<u>Headline Data – April 2024</u>	3
<u>Child Protection & Welfare</u>	4
<u>Mandated Reports – Child Protection & Welfare</u>	8
<u>Children in Care</u>	10
<u>Child Protection Notification System</u>	13
<u>Children’s Services Regulation</u>	14
<u>Tusla Education Support Services</u>	15

Headline Data – April 2024

Child Protection & Welfare

- **8,375 referrals in April 2024**, 626 (8%) more than March 2024 (7,749) and 1,685 (25%) more than April 2023 (6,690). This brings to 31,601 the number of referrals for the first four months of 2024, 1,096 (4%) more than the same period in 2023 (30,505).
- **21,961 cases open to social work at the end of April 2024**, 332 (1%) fewer than March 2024 (22,293) and 907 (4%) fewer than April 2023 (22,868). Open cases include child protection and welfare cases including children in care.
- 78% (17,180) of cases open to social work at the end of April 2024 had an allocated social worker, down from 79% at the end of March 2024.
- **4,781 cases awaiting allocation of a social worker at the end of April 2024**, 188 (4%) more than March 2024 (4,593). First increase after three consecutive monthly decreases. Cases awaiting allocation are down 1,004 (17%) from April 2023 (5,785).
- Five areas account for 59% (2,827) of cases awaiting allocation: Dublin South Central (1,156), Louth/Meath (527), Cork (462), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (351) and Midwest (331).
- **10% (500) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of April 2024 were categorised as high priority**, 131 (36%) more than March 2024 (369) and 43 (9%) more than April 2023 (457).

Children in Care

- **5,781 children in care at the end of April 2024**, 21 (<1%) more than March 2024 (5,760). This figure includes 135 children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (SCSIP).
- **87.6% (5,063)* of all children in care are in foster care** (3,593 general foster care, and 1,470 relative foster), 8% (468) are in residential care (453 general residential care and 15 special care) and 4% (250) are in “other” care placements.
- Across Tusla’s 17 areas 89.2% (5,035/5,646) of children in care are in foster care.
- **901 (16%) children in care at the end of April 2024 were in placements with private providers**, 10 (1%) more than March 2024 (891).
- **82% (4,718) of children in care at the end of April 2024 had an allocated social worker**. A total of 1,063 children were awaiting an allocated social worker, 80 (8%) fewer than March 2024 (983).
- **82% (4,741) of children in care at the end of April 2024 had an up-to-date care plan**. A total of 1,040 children were awaiting an up-to-date care plan, 93 (8%) fewer than March 2024 (1,133).

**Decrease from previous months in the overall percentage of children in care in foster care is due to the inclusion of SCSIP as the majority of these children are placed in residential care.*

Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)

- **1,019 children listed as “active”** at the end of April 2024, 12 (1%) more than March 2024 (1,007) and the third consecutive monthly increase.
- There were 174 (21%) more children “active” at the end of April 2024 than at the end of April 2023 (845).
- **All children** listed as “active” at the end of April 2024 had an **allocated social worker**.

Children’s Services Regulation

- **4,053 early years services on the register** at the end of April 2024, four more than March 2024 (4,049) and 11 fewer than April 2023 (4,064).
- **227 inspections of early years services done in April 2024**. This brings to 779 the number of inspections for the first four months of 2024, one fewer than the same period in 2023 (780).
- **2,472 children on the register for home education** at the end of April 2024, 17 (<1%) more than March 2024 (2,455) and 388 (19%) more than April 2023 (2,084).
- **973 children on a waiting list for assessment** at the end of April 2024, 89 (8%) fewer than March 2024 (1,062) and 467 (32%) fewer than April 2023 (1,440).

Tusla Education Support Services

- **1,271 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in April 2024. This brings to 6,321 the number of referrals for the first eight months of the academic year 2023-2024, 1,330 (27%) more than the same period in 2022-2023 (4,991).
- **4,021 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of April 2024, 592 (17%) more than March 2024 (3,429) and the sixth consecutive monthly increase.
- **426 new individual children worked with in April 2024**. This brings to 3,012 the number of new individual children worked with for the first eight months of the academic year 2023-2024, 442 (17%) more than the same period in 2022-2023 (2,570).

Child Protection and Welfare

Referrals¹

- **8,375 referrals** in April 2024, 626 (8%) more than March 2024 (7,749) and 1,685 (25%) more than April 2023 (6,690).
- This brings to 31,601 the number of referrals for the first four months of 2024, 1,096 (4%) more than the same period in 2023 (30,505).

It should be noted that the data presented for 2023 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for 2024 is based on referrals logged on the Tusla Case Management (TCM) system at the time the data was extracted for reporting. Referrals logged after the date the data was extracted are not included, nor are figures updated until quarterly validation is complete.

Open Cases

- **21,961 cases open to social work** at the end of April 2024, 332 (1%) fewer than March 2024 (22,293) and 907 (4%) fewer than April 2023 (22,868). *Open cases from September 2023 include cases awaiting categorisation. See note below.*

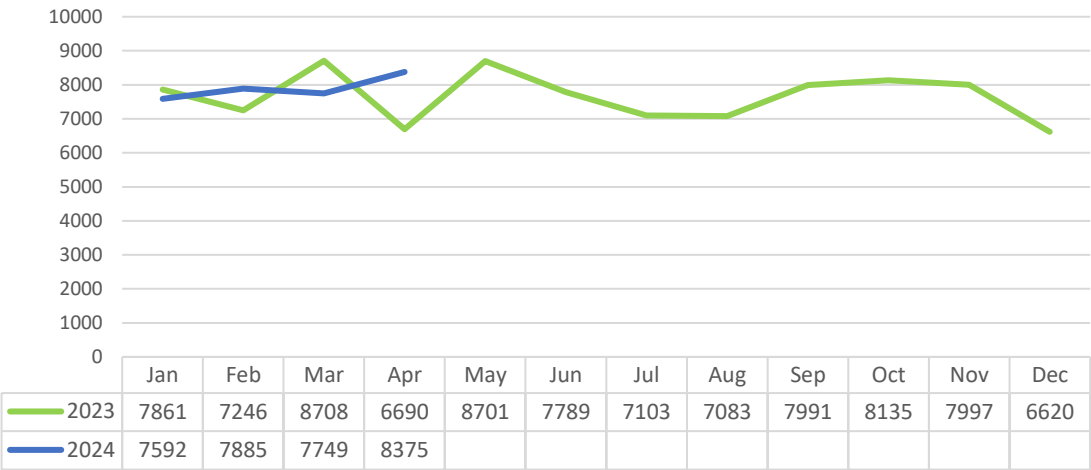
Notes:

- 1) *From September 2023, open cases (allocated/unallocated) include cases “awaiting categorisation” at month end. This is in addition to cases categorised as high, medium and low. The category “awaiting categorisation” was introduced this year to reflect better questions being asked at screening and awaiting information for slightly longer.*
- 2) *Open cases include, all cases held on duty, allocated and unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care.*
- 3) *The data presented on cases is based on the status of cases on the TCM at month end.*

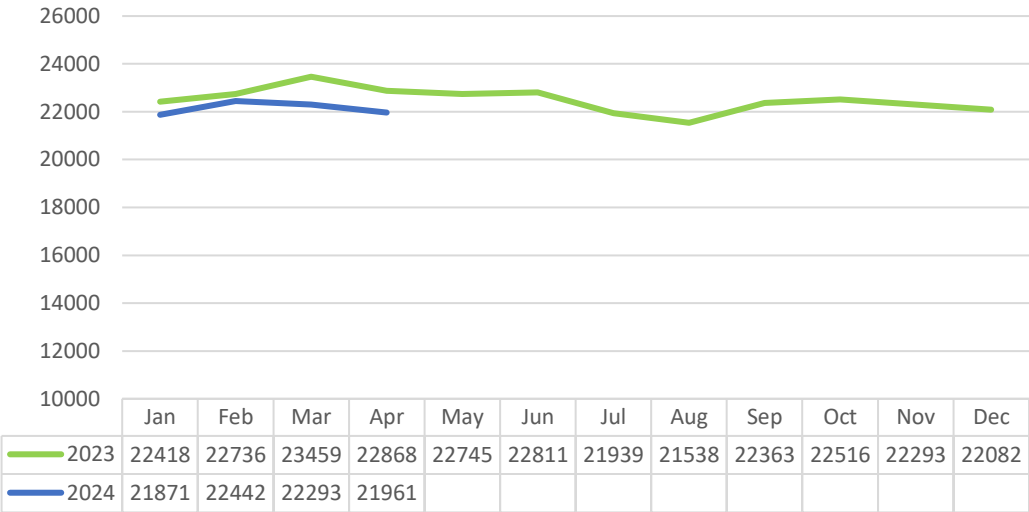
Allocated Cases

- **17,180 open cases were allocated** to a social worker at the end of April 2024, 520 (3%) fewer than March 2024 (17,700) and 97 (<1%) more than April 2023 (17,083). *Note: comparison of data from September 2023 with previous months needs to be interpreted with caution due to the inclusion of cases awaiting categorisation from September 2023. Refer to notes above.*
- Allocated cases account for 78% of open cases, down one percentage point from March 2024 (79%) and up three percentage points from April 2023 (75%).

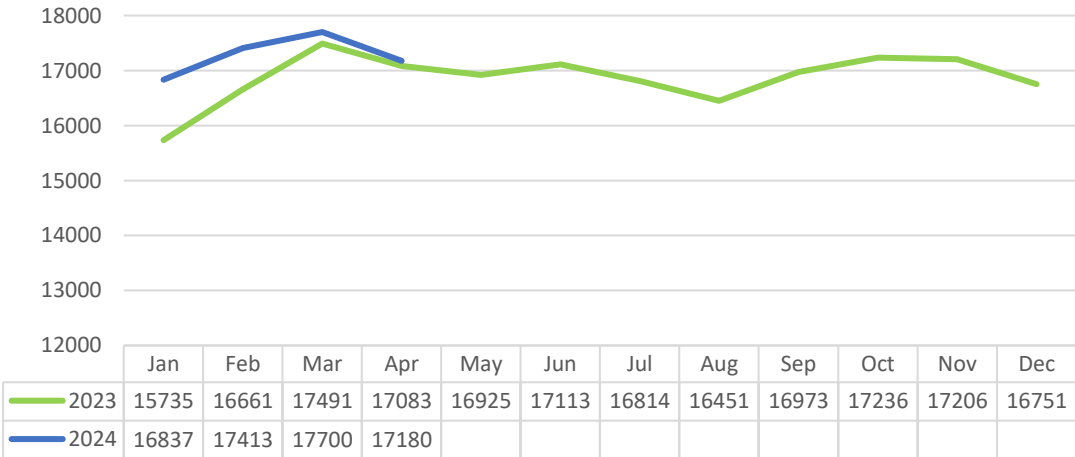
Referrals



Number of Open Cases



Number of Allocated Cases



¹ Referrals include referrals meeting the eligibility criteria for child protection and welfare services, multiple reports of the same concern and referrals not meeting the eligibility criteria for child protection and welfare services. Referrals not meeting the eligibility criteria for child protection and welfare include: a request for diversion to another agency; a report in which there are no reasonable grounds for concern or no harm identified to a child indicated; a report that does not warrant a Tusla child protection and welfare led intervention (these could be children who need additional supports to stop problems or difficulties worsening but social work led intervention is not required and diversion to Prevention Partnership and Family Support is considered).

Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation of a Social Worker

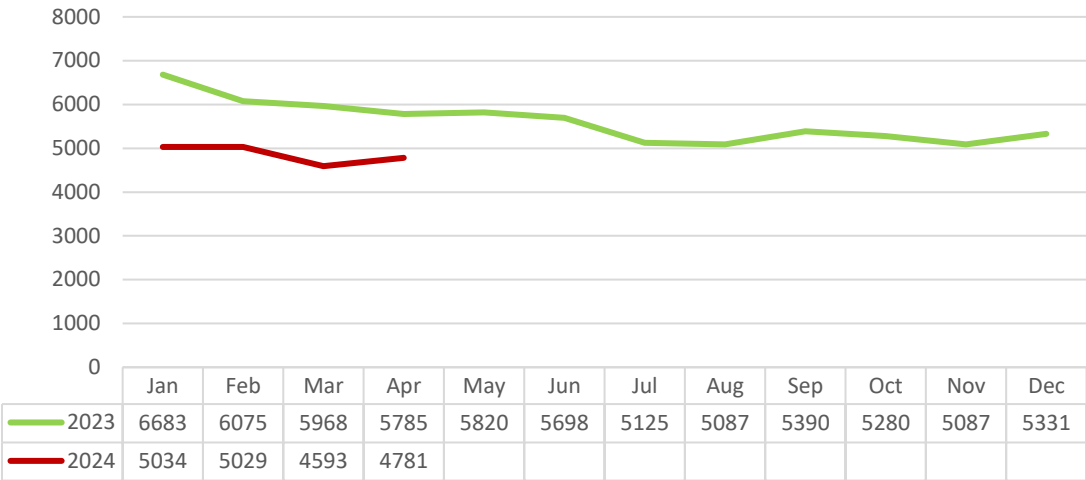
Cases awaiting allocation include cases held on duty, unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care

- **4,781 cases awaiting allocation of a social worker** at the end of April 2024, 188 (4%) more than March 2024 (4,593). First increase after three consecutive monthly decreases.
- Cases awaiting allocation are down 1,004 (17%) from April 2023 (5,785).

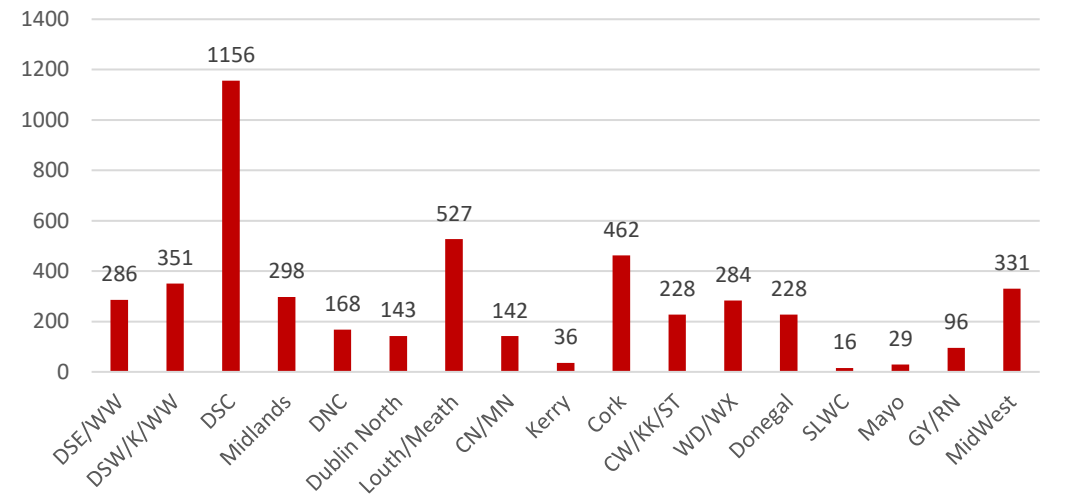
Note: comparison of data from September 2023 with August 2023 and previous months needs to be interpreted with caution due to the inclusion of cases awaiting categorisation from September 2023. Refer to notes on previous page.

- Cases awaiting allocation account for 22% of open cases (21,961), up one percentage point from March 2024 (21%).
- **38% (1,819) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of April 2024 were “active on duty”.** This means that actions were undertaken by dedicated duty teams or rotating social workers on a duty roster to progress the protection and welfare of the cases. Examples of actions undertaken include telephone calls relating to the concern, visits to see children, completing initial assessments and child in care reviews or care plans.
- Highest number of cases awaiting allocation reported by Dublin South Central (1,156) followed by Louth/Meath (527), Cork (462), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (351) and Midwest (331). These five areas account for 59% (2,827) of all cases awaiting allocation.
- **500 cases awaiting allocation at the end of April 2024 were categorised as high priority**, 131 (36%) more than March 2024 (369) and 43 (9%) more than April 2023 (457).
- High priority cases account for 10% of cases awaiting allocation.
- 53% (2,555) of cases awaiting allocation were categorised at medium priority, 33% (1,595) were low priority while the remaining 3% (131) were awaiting categorisation.
- Highest number of high priority cases reported by Midlands (124) followed by Midwest (94), Dublin South Central (72) and Donegal (39). These four areas account for 66% (329) of all high priority cases awaiting.

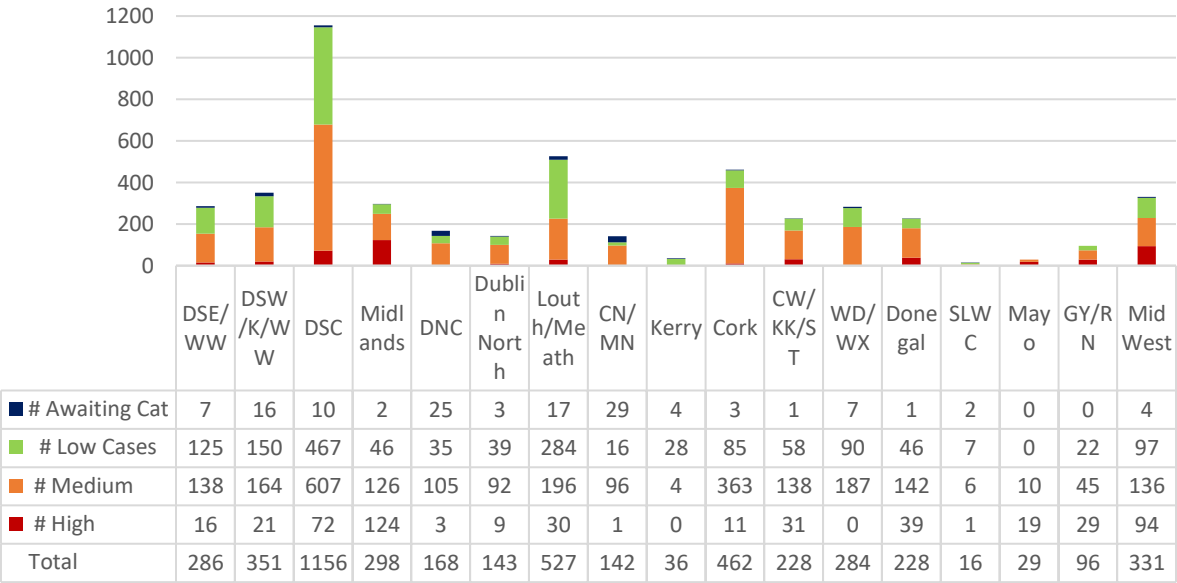
Number of Unallocated Cases



Number of Unallocated Cases



Number Unallocated Cases by Priority Level



Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation

- 6/17 areas reported a decrease in unallocated cases from March 2024.
- Largest decreases reported by Louth/Meath (down 97) Cork (down 32), and Dublin North City (down 30).
- 11/17 areas reported an increase in unallocated cases from March 2024. Largest increases reported by Dublin South Central (116), Donegal (76), Cavan/Monaghan (46) and Waterford/Wexford (40).
- Nationally 22% of open cases were unallocated at the end of April 2024. Seven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 22%, Dublin South Central (49%), Louth/Meath (32%), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (31%), Dublin South East/Wicklow (28%), Donegal (26%), Midwest (24%) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (22%).
- 9/17 areas had fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of April 2024 than at the end of April 2023. Largest decreases reported by Waterford/Wexford (down 427), Cork (down 411), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 284) and Dublin North (down 209).
- 8/17 areas had more cases awaiting allocation at the end of April 2024 than at the end of April 2023. Largest increases reported by Louth/Meath (up 301), Midwest (up 168) and Dublin South Central (up 155).

Area	Apr-23 # Unallocated	Apr-23 % Unallocated	Feb-24 # Unallocated	Mar-24 # Unallocated	Apr-24 # Unallocated	Apr-24 % Unallocated	Feb-Apr	Apr-24 v Apr-23	% Δ	Apr-24 v Mar-24	% Δ1
DSE/WW	225	23%	313	251	286	28%		61	27%	35	14%
DSW/K/WW	635	38%	359	364	351	22%		-284	-45%	-13	-4%
DSC	1,001	51%	1149	1040	1156	49%		155	15%	116	11%
Midlands	217	11%	243	267	298	16%		81	37%	31	12%
DNC	352	20%	359	198	168	10%		-184	-52%	-30	-15%
Dublin North	352	12%	108	130	143	7%		-209	-59%	13	10%
Louth/Meath	226	17%	573	624	527	32%		301	133%	-97	-16%
CN/MN	93	15%	100	96	142	19%		49	53%	46	48%
Kerry	68	18%	24	34	36	10%		-32	-47%	2	6%
Cork	873	31%	658	494	462	19%		-411	-47%	-32	-6%
CW/KK/ST	342	35%	257	245	228	31%		-114	-33%	-17	-7%
WD/WX	711	40%	274	244	284	21%		-427	-60%	40	16%
Donegal	363	42%	149	152	228	26%		-135	-37%	76	50%
SLWC	89	25%	15	14	16	5%		-73	-82%	2	14%
Mayo	7	2%	9	7	29	8%		22	314%	22	314%
GY/RN	68	6%	94	115	96	8%		28	41%	-19	-17%
MidWest	163	14%	345	318	331	24%		168	103%	13	4%
TOTAL	5785	25%	5029	4593	4781	22%		-1004	-17%	188	4.1%

Cases awaiting allocation include cases held on duty, unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care

Child Protection & Welfare

Summary Tables

Referrals				Open Cases			Allocated Cases			Unallocated Cases		
Area	Mar-24	Apr-24	Δ	Mar-24	Apr-24	Δ2	Mar-24	Apr-24	Δ3	Mar-24	Apr-24	Δ4
DSE/WW	274	310	36	1,119	1,006	-113	868	720	-148	251	286	35
DSW/K/WW	745	850	105	1,568	1,575	7	1,204	1,224	20	364	351	-13
DSC	739	646	-93	2,397	2,349	-48	1,357	1,193	-164	1040	1,156	116
Midlands	710	917	207	1,969	1,913	-56	1,702	1,615	-87	267	298	31
DNC	442	488	46	1,735	1,653	-82	1,537	1,485	-52	198	168	-30
Dublin North	687	800	113	2,087	2,026	-61	1,957	1,883	-74	130	143	13
Louth/Meath	638	757	119	1,703	1,655	-48	1,079	1,128	49	624	527	-97
CN/MN	226	235	9	704	748	44	608	606	-2	96	142	46
Kerry	169	161	-8	382	376	-6	348	340	-8	34	36	2
Cork	836	738	-98	2,538	2,389	-149	2,044	1,927	-117	494	462	-32
CW/KK/ST	345	373	28	738	730	-8	493	502	9	245	228	-17
WD/WX	479	592	113	1,298	1,349	51	1,054	1,065	11	244	284	40
Donegal	222	244	22	850	887	37	698	659	-39	152	228	76
SLWC	135	117	-18	346	305	-41	332	289	-43	14	16	2
Mayo	146	148	2	371	385	14	364	356	-8	7	29	22
GY/RN	343	406	63	1,127	1,252	125	1,012	1,156	144	115	96	-19
MidWest	613	593	-20	1,361	1,363	2	1,043	1,032	-11	318	331	13
Total	7,749	8,375	626	22,293	21,961	-332	17,700	17,180	-520	4,593	4,781	188

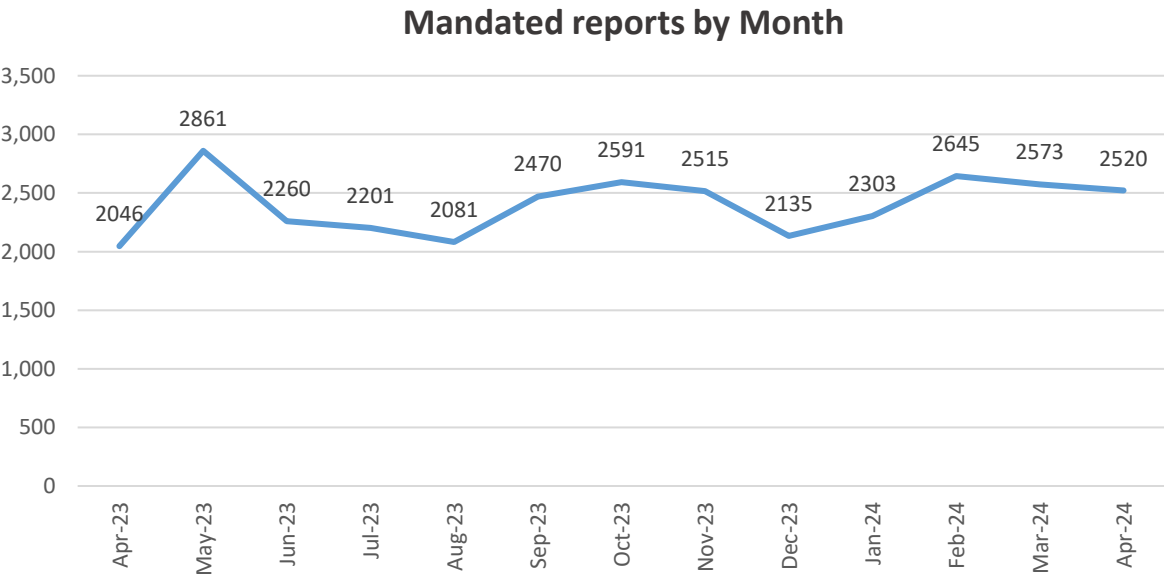
High Priority Awaiting				Medium Priority Awaiting			Low Priority Awaiting			Awaiting Categorisation		
Area	Mar-24	Apr-24	Δ	Mar-24	Apr-24	Δ 2	Mar-24	Apr-24	Δ 3	Mar-24	Apr-24	Δ 4
DSE/WW	9	16	7	114	138	24	111	125	14	17	7	-10
DSW/K/WW	19	21	2	156	164	8	175	150	-25	14	16	2
DSC	39	72	33	573	607	34	401	467	66	27	10	-17
Midlands	81	124	43	155	126	-29	28	46	18	3	2	-1
DNC	2	3	1	137	105	-32	35	35	0	24	25	1
Dublin North	5	9	4	96	92	-4	28	39	11	1	3	2
Louth/Meath	35	30	-5	194	196	2	385	284	-101	10	17	7
CN/MN	10	1	-9	70	96	26	15	16	1	1	29	28
Kerry	0	0	0	3	4	1	31	28	-3	0	4	4
Cork	4	11	7	405	363	-42	83	85	2	2	3	1
CW/KK/ST	22	31	9	132	138	6	88	58	-30	3	1	-2
WD/WX	2	0	-2	168	187	19	73	90	17	1	7	6
Donegal	20	39	19	99	142	43	33	46	13	0	1	1
SLWC	1	1	0	5	6	1	7	7	0	1	2	1
Mayo	4	19	15	3	10	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
GY/RN	32	29	-3	60	45	-15	23	22	-1	0	0	0
MidWest	84	94	10	138	136	-2	91	97	6	5	4	-1
TOTAL	369	500	131	2,508	2,555	47	1,607	1,595	-12	109	131	22

Mandated Reports¹ – Child Protection & Welfare

- **2,520 mandated reports of abuse** received in April 2024, 53 (2%) fewer than March 2024 (2,573) and 474 (23%) more than April 2023 (2,046). This brings to 10,041 the number of reports for the first three months of 2024, 496 (5%) more than the same period in 2023 (9,545).

It should be noted that the data presented for 2023 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for 2024 is based on referrals logged on the Tusla Case Management (TCM) system at the time the data was extracted for reporting. Referrals logged after the date the data was extracted are not included, nor are figures updated until quarterly validation is complete.

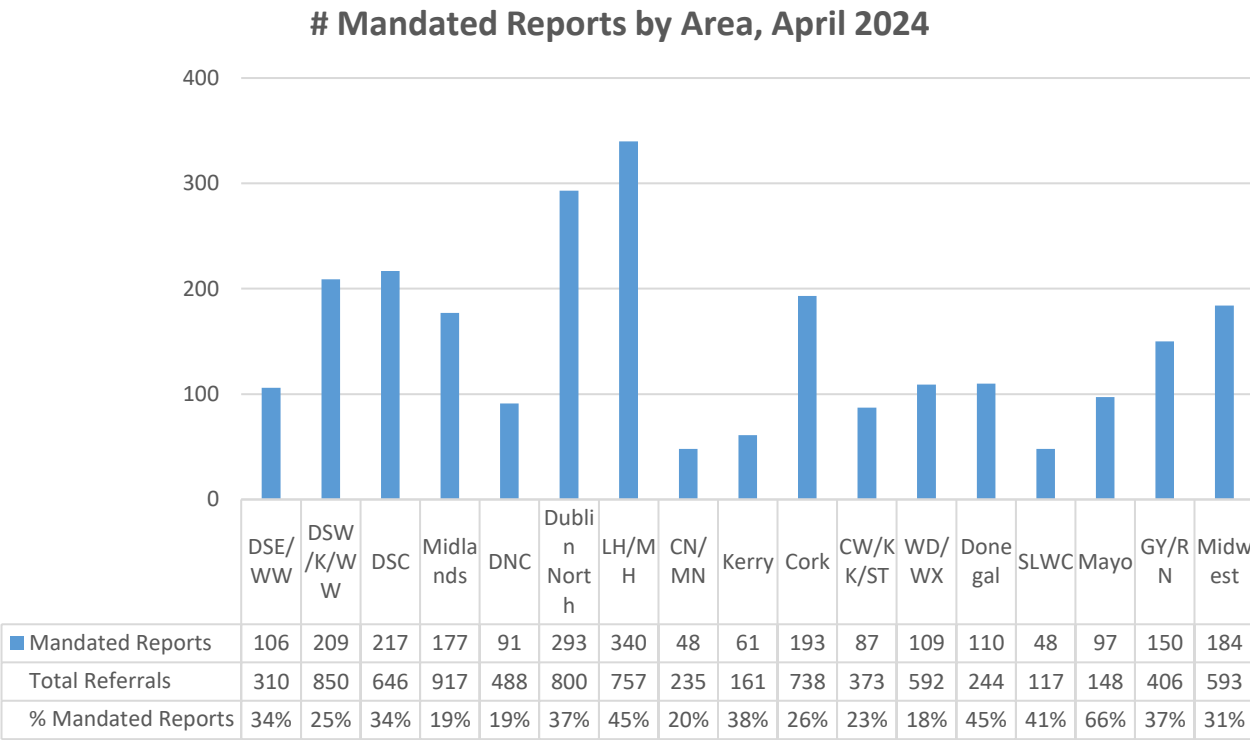
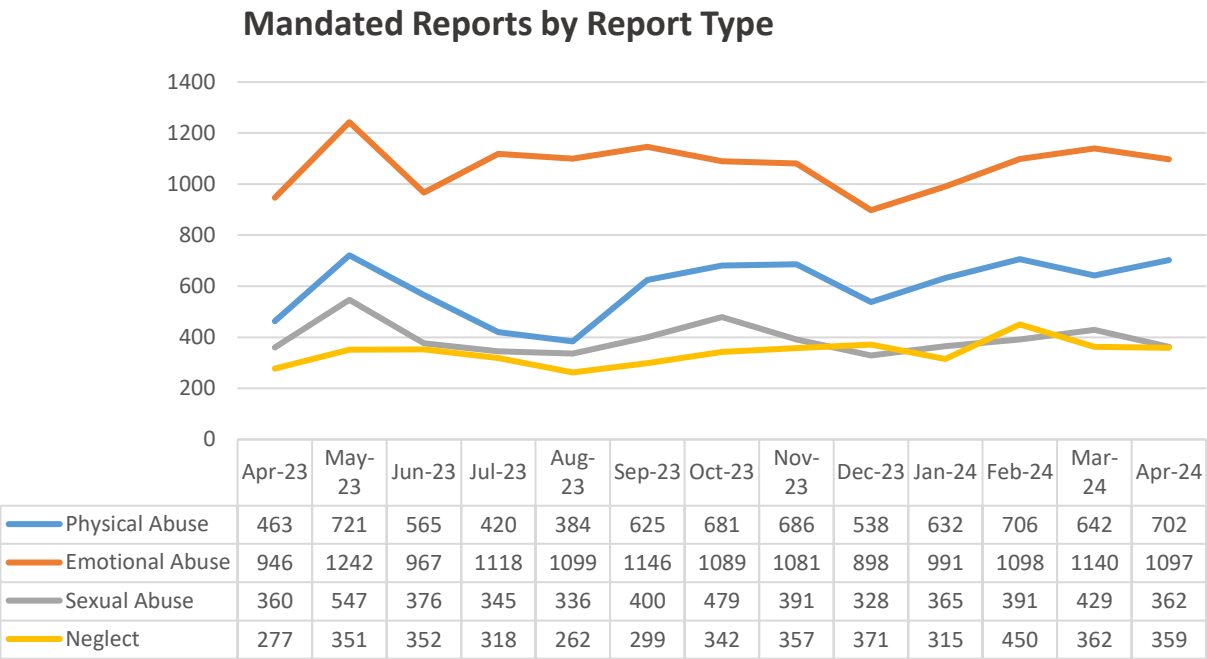
- Mandated reports accounted for 30% (2,520) of all referrals received (8,375) in April 2024.



- The number of mandated reports for April 2024, by area ranged from 48 (Cavan/Monaghan and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan) to 340 (Louth/Meath).
- As a percentage of referrals, the highest percentage (66%) was reported by Mayo.
- The lowest percentage was reported by Waterford/Wexford (18%).

¹ Mandated reports are included in the data on referrals (slide 4)

- Highest number of reports for April 2024 were for emotional abuse (1,097; 44%) followed by physical abuse (702; 28%), sexual abuse (362; 14%) and neglect (359; 14%)



Mandated Reports – Child Protection & Welfare

Source of Reports

- Highest number of reports for April 2024 from An Garda Síochána (1,048; 42%) followed by teachers (370; 15%), safeguarding officers (306; 12%); social workers (221; 9%) and social care workers (121; 5%). These five sources account for 82%% (2,066) of reports for April 2024.
- Highest number of reports for 2024 YTD from An Garda Síochána (3,870; 39%) followed by teachers (1,558; 16%), safeguarding officers (1,252; 12%), social workers (1,109; 11%), social care workers (455; 5%) and medical practitioners (349; 3%). These six sources account for 86% (8,593) of reports for 2024 YTD.

Source (Schedule 2 Children First 2015)	# Apr 2024	% Apr 2024	Total 2024 YTD	% Total 2024
Medical practitioner (Registered)	83	3.3%	349	3.5%
Nurse or registered midwife (Registered)	56	2.2%	200	2.0%
Physiotherapist (Registered)	6	0.2%	13	0.1%
Speech & language therapist (Registered)	*	0.1%	12	0.1%
Occupational therapist (Registered)	6	0.2%	18	0.2%
Registered dentist	0	0.0%	*	<1%
Psychologist who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	48	1.9%	212	2.1%
Social care worker	121	4.8%	455	4.5%
Social worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	221	8.8%	1,109	11.0%
EMT, paramedic and advanced paramedic	*	0.1%	9	0.1%
Probation officer	*	0.2%	16	0.2%
Teacher registered with the Teaching Council.	370	14.7%	1,558	15.5%
An Garda Síochána Member	1048	41.6%	3,870	38.5%
Guardian ad litem	*	0.1%	15	0.1%
Domestic violence shelter manager	84	3.3%	251	2.5%
Homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility manager	24	1.0%	86	0.9%
Asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre manager	*	0.2%	19	0.2%
Addiction counsellor	*	0.2%	19	0.2%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling	50	2.0%	249	2.5%
Language school or other recreational school where children reside	0	0.0%	*	<1%
Clergy member	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Institution where a child is detained by an order of a court (Director)	*	0.1%	5	<1%
Safeguarding officer, child protection officer	306	12.1%	1252	12.5%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service	12	0.5%	38	0.4%
Youth work service - person responsible for the care or management	6	0.2%	45	0.4%
Youth worker employed in a youth work service	44	1.7%	189	1.9%
Foster carer registered with the Agency.	*	0.1%	9	0.1%
Pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act	10	0.4%	40	0.4%
Total (includes suppressed values)	2,520	100.0%	10,041	100.0%

*Values suppressed for confidentiality purposes

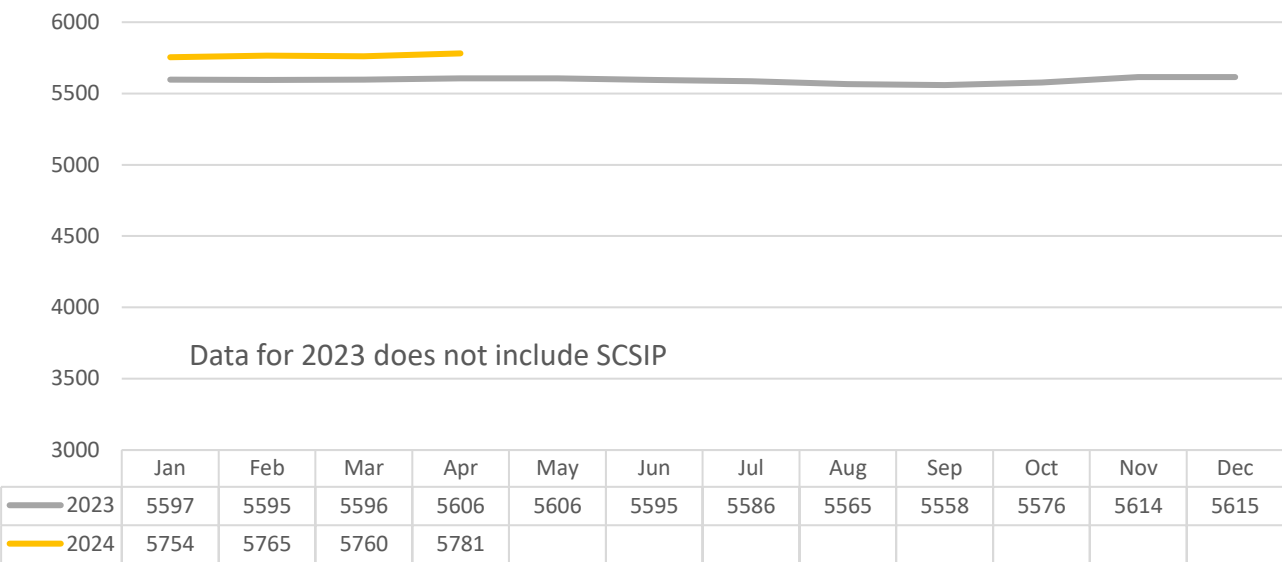
Children in Care

- **5,781 children in care at the end of April 2024, 21 (<1%) more than March 2024 (5,760).**
- Of these, 5,646 were reported by Tusla’s 17 areas and 135 were reported by the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (SCSIP).
- Across Tusla’s 17 areas there were 30 (<1%) more children in care at the end of April 2024 (5,646) than at the end of March 2024 (5,616) and 40 (<1%) more than at the end April 2023 (5,606).
- 87.6% (5,063)* of all children in care are in foster care (3,593 general foster care, and 1,470 relative foster), 8% (468) are in residential care (453 general residential care and 15 special care) and 4% (250) are in “other” care placements².
- Across Tusla’s 17 areas 89.2% (5,035/5,646) of children in care are in foster care.

**Decrease from previous months in the overall percentage of children in care in foster care is due to the inclusion of SCSIP; the majority of these children are placed in residential care.*

- Highest number of children in care reported by Cork (692) followed by Midwest (494) and Dublin North City (474).
- Fewest number reported by Sligo/Leitrim West Cavan (112) followed by the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (135) and Mayo (144).
- Across the 17 Areas the highest rate of children in care per 1,000 children was reported by Dublin North City (9.5) followed by Waterford/Wexford (6.2).
- Lowest rate reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (2.3) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (3.6) and Dublin North (4.0).
- Nine areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 4.6/1,000 children.

Children in Care by Month



Rate of Children in Care / 1,000 population 0-17 years (ranked by rate/1,000)

Area	Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr-24	Apr-24 v Apr-23	Apr-24 v Mar-24	Population	Rate/1,000
Dublin North City	472	470	474	2	4	49,682	9.5
Waterford/Wexford	405	425	426	21	1	69,239	6.2
Donegal	216	217	219	3	2	42,144	5.2
Midwest	515	492	494	-21	2	96,764	5.1
Cork	702	690	692	-10	2	136,786	5.1
CW/KK/ST	308	313	312	4	-1	62,366	5.0
Dublin South Central	355	326	333	-22	7	70,259	4.7
Kerry	151	163	163	12	0	34,994	4.7
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	121	112	112	-9	0	24,312	4.6
Mayo	142	143	144	2	1	31,911	4.5
Cavan/Monaghan	156	159	162	6	3	37,336	4.3
Galway/Roscommon	352	354	354	2	0	81,799	4.3
Louth/Meath	412	413	416	4	3	96,531	4.3
Midlands	322	331	332	10	1	80,962	4.1
Dublin North	371	401	412	41	11	103,508	4.0
DSW/K/WW	399	397	395	-4	-2	108,927	3.6
Dublin South East/Wicklow	207	210	206	-1	-4	91,047	2.3
Total Areas	5,606	5,616	5,646	40	30	1,218,567	4.6
SCSIP	NA	144	135	-	-	-	-
Total National	5,606	5,760	5,781	NA	21	-	-

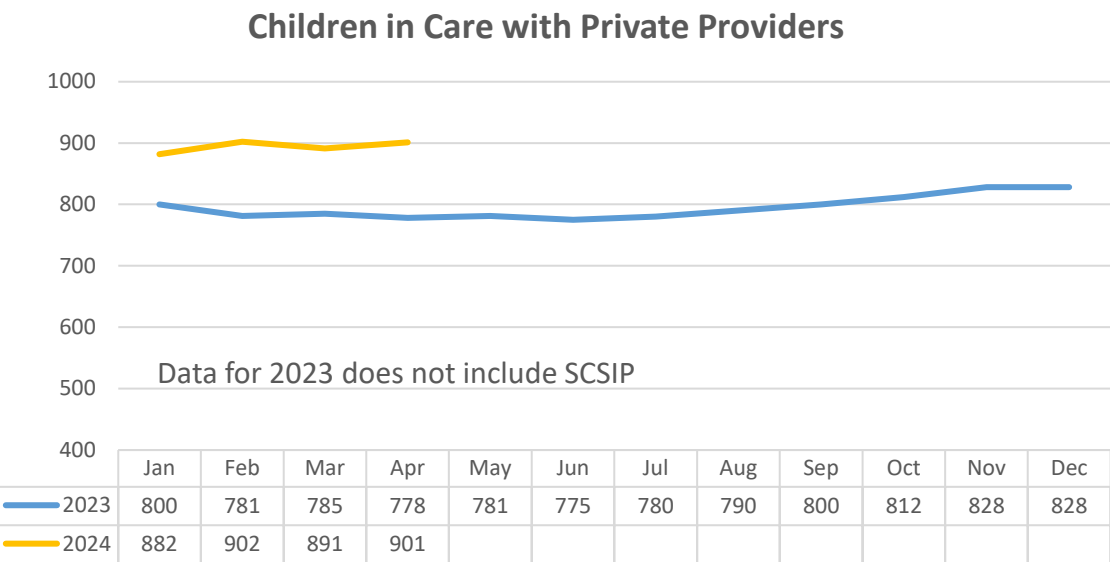
Population: CSO Census 2022

Notes:

1. The Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection has an additional **222 children accommodated under Section 5 Child Care Act 1991.**
2. “Other” Care Placements includes children at home under a care order, in a detention centre, a disability unit, mental health unit, drugs/alcohol rehabilitation unit, hospital, special emergency arrangement, supported lodgings

Children in Care

- **901 (16%) children in care at the end of April 2024 were in placements with private providers**, 10 (1%) more than March 2024 (891).

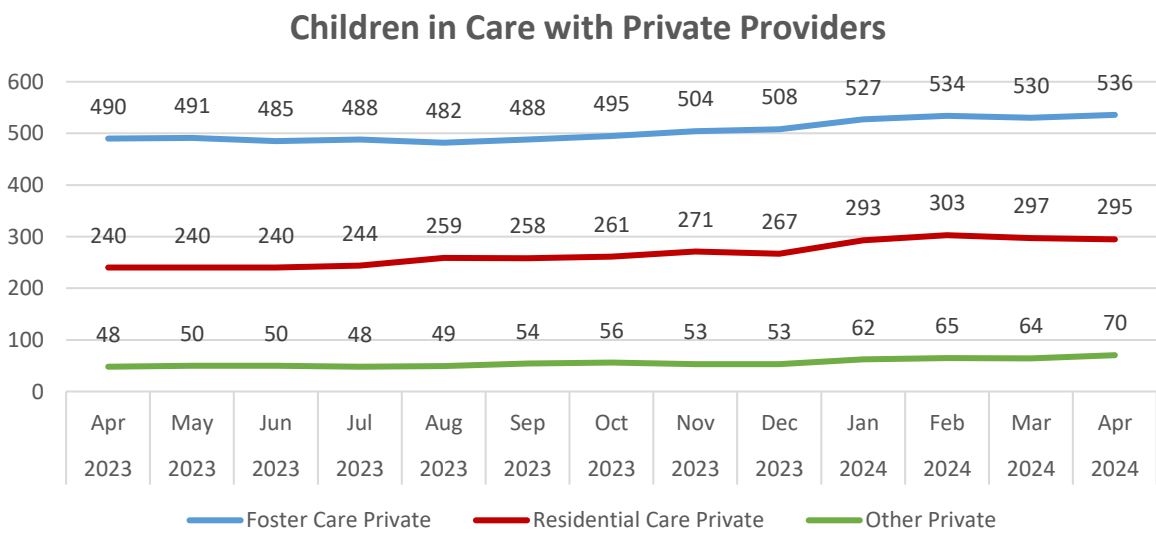


- **536 (59%) children in placements with private providers were in foster care**, 6 (1%) more than March 2024 (530).
- 295 (33%) children were in **residential care**, 2 (<1%) fewer than March 2024 (297).
- The remaining 70 (8%) children were in **“Other” care placements**, 6 (9%) more than March 2024 (64). “Other” care placements include, disability units, mental health units, drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres etc.

- Highest number of children in placements with private providers reported by Dublin North City (115) followed by Dublin South Central (108), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (106), Dublin North (102) and Midlands (75). These five areas account for 56% (506) of children in placements with private providers,

Children in Care with Private Providers

Children in Care (Private)	Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr-24	Apr-24 v Apr-23	Apr-24 v Mar-24
Dublin North City	96	112	115	19	3
Dublin South Central	103	107	108	5	1
DSW/K/WW	104	107	106	2	-1
Dublin North	97	98	102	5	4
Midlands	58	70	75	17	5
Cork	63	58	59	-4	1
Dublin South East/Wicklow	43	52	53	10	1
Louth/Meath	42	47	48	6	1
SCSIP	NA	55	48	NA	-7
Waterford/Wexford	42	47	46	4	-1
Midwest	35	34	36	1	2
Kerry	22	32	32	10	0
CW/KK/ST	17	22	21	4	-1
Donegal	19	21	21	2	0
Galway/Roscommon	18	12	13	-5	1
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	10	11	12	2	1
Cavan/Monaghan	7	5	5	-2	0
Mayo	2	1	1	-1	0
Total	778	891	901	NA	10



Note: data for 2023 does not include data for the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection.

Children in Care

- **82% (4,718) of children in care at the end of April 2024 had an allocated social worker.**
- A total of 1,063 children were awaiting an allocated social worker, 80 (8%) fewer than March 2024 (983).
- Highest number awaiting reported by Midwest (222; 45%) followed by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (193; 62%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (163; 41%), Dublin South Central (102; 31%) and the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (60; 44%). These five services account for 70% (740) of all cases awaiting allocation.

- **82% (4,741) of children in care at the end of April 2024 had an up-to-date care plan.**
- A total of 1,040 children were awaiting an up-to-date care plan, 93 (8%) fewer than March 2024 (1,133).
- Highest numbers awaiting an up-to-date care plan reported by Dublin North City (161; 34%), Midwest (129; 26%), Cork (111; 16%) and Dublin South Central (93; 28%).

Note:
Tusla has moved to reporting on children in care with an up-to-date care plan and not just children having a care plan, hence this data is not comparable with data previously reported. An up-to-date care plan is a care plan that has been updated following a statutory child in care review.

Area breakdown of children in care with an allocated social worker –April 2024

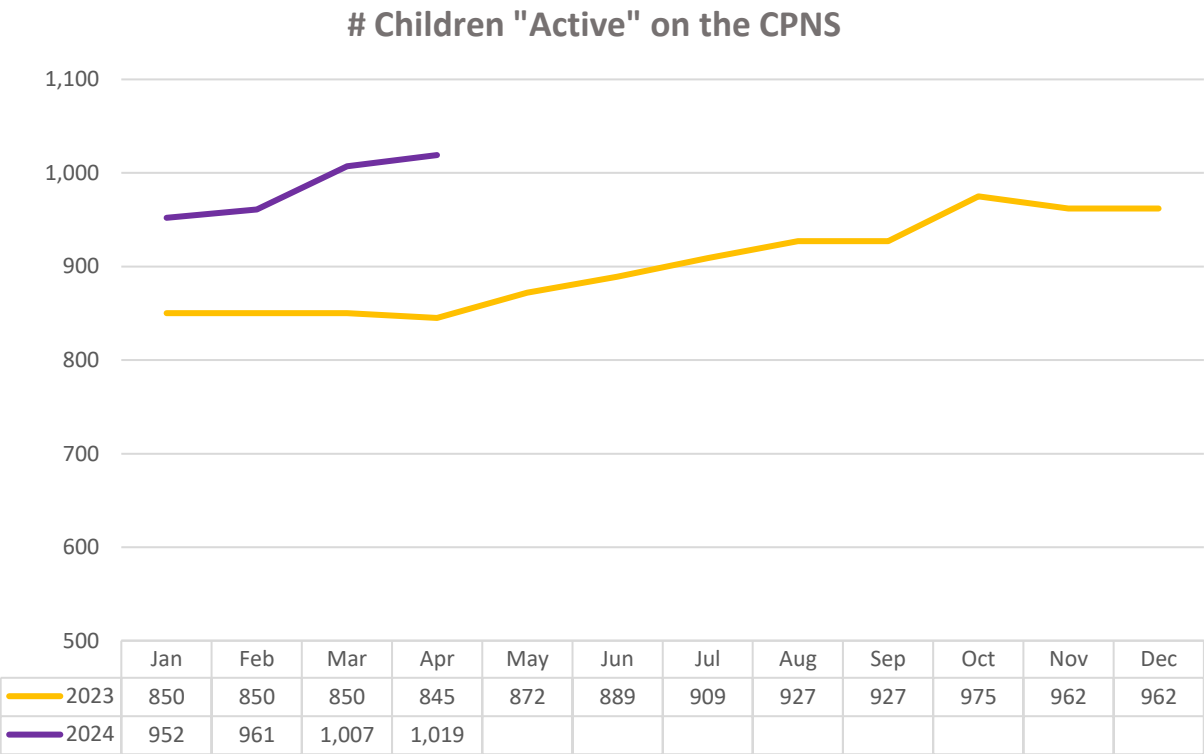
Area	Allocated	Awaiting Allocation	Total	% Allocated
Dublin South East/Wicklow	185	21	206	90%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	232	163	395	59%
Dublin South Central	231	102	333	69%
Midlands	275	57	332	83%
Dublin North City	474	0	474	100%
Dublin North	384	28	412	93%
Louth/Meath	360	56	416	87%
Cavan/Monaghan	138	24	162	85%
Kerry	145	18	163	89%
Cork	664	28	692	96%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	119	193	312	38%
Waterford/Wexford	372	54	426	87%
Donegal	218	1	219	100%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	101	11	112	90%
Mayo	144	0	144	100%
Galway/Roscommon	329	25	354	93%
Midwest	272	222	494	55%
SCSIP	75	60	135	56%
Total	4,718	1,063	5,781	82%

Area breakdown of children in care with an up-to-date care plan– April 2024

Area	UTD Care Plan	Awaiting UTD Care Plan	Total	% UTD Care Plan
Dublin South East/Wicklow	167	39	206	81%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	337	58	395	85%
Dublin South Central	240	93	333	72%
Midlands	316	16	332	95%
Dublin North City	313	161	474	66%
Dublin North	352	60	412	85%
Louth/Meath	329	87	416	79%
Cavan/Monaghan	143	19	162	88%
Kerry	128	35	163	79%
Cork	581	111	692	84%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	293	19	312	94%
Waterford/Wexford	397	29	426	93%
Donegal	202	17	219	92%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	85	27	112	76%
Mayo	133	11	144	92%
Galway/Roscommon	286	68	354	81%
Midwest	365	129	494	74%
SCSIP*	74	61	135	55%
Total	4,741	1,040	5,760	82%

Child Protection Notification System

- **1,019 children listed as “active”** at the end of April 2024, 12 (1%) more than March 2024 (1,007) and the third consecutive monthly increase.
- There were 174 (21%) more children “active” at the end of April 2024 than at the end of April 2023 (845).
- All children listed as “active” at the end of April 2024 had an **allocated social worker**.
- Highest number of children listed as “active” at the end of April 2024 was reported by Midwest (121) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (117), Cork (108) and Dublin North City (100).
- Fewest number listed as “active” reported by Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (15) followed by Mayo (17), Kerry (19) and Cavan/Monaghan (23).
- The number of children “active” equates to about 8 children per 10,000 under 18 years.
- Highest rate per 10,000 population under 18 years reported by Dublin North City (20.1) followed by Donegal (13.8) and Midwest (12.5).
- Lowest rates reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (3.8), Mayo (5.3) and Kerry (5.4).
- Five areas reported a rate equal to or higher than the national rate of 8.4/10,000
- 8/17 areas had more children listed as “active” at the end of April 2024 than at the end of March 2024. Largest increases reported by Dublin North City (up 17), Dublin South Central (up 6) and Waterford/Wexford (up 6).
- 7/17 areas reported a decrease. Largest decreases reported by Dublin North (down 6), Midlands (down 6) and Donegal (down 5).
- The remaining two areas (Cork and Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary) reported no change.
- 12/17 areas had more children active at the end of April 2024 than at the end of April 2023. Largest increases reported by Midwest (up 60), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 34), Louth/Meath (up 30) and Cork (up 21).
- 4/17 areas reported a decrease. Largest decreases reported by Dublin south Central (down19), Dublin South East/Wicklow (down 11), Waterford/Wexford (down 8) and Cavan/Monaghan (down 4). The remaining area (Mayo) reported no change.



Number and rate of children “active” on the CPNS, by area (ranked by rate)

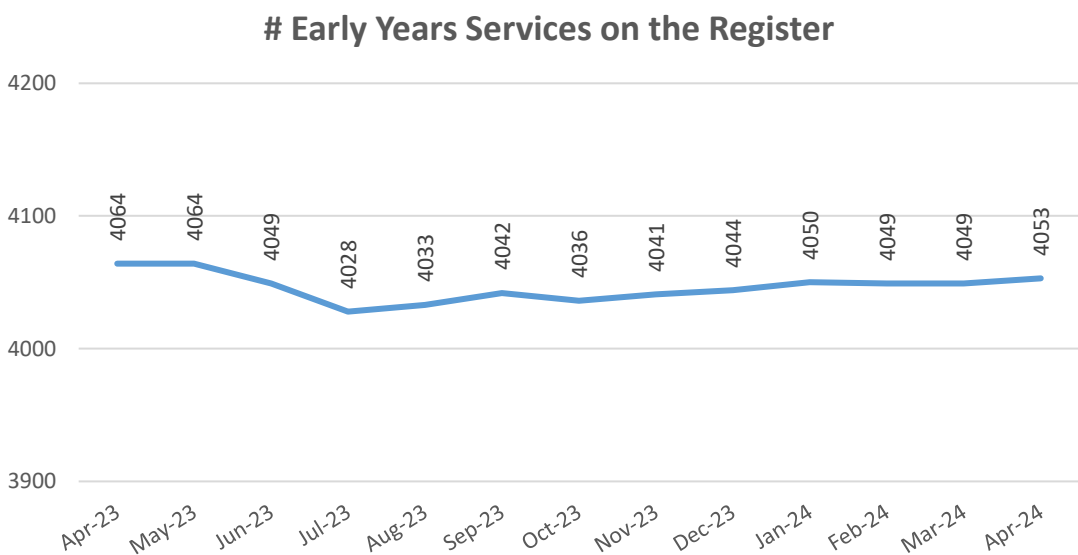
Area	Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr-24	Apr-24 v Apr-23	Apr-24 v Mar-24	Population	Rate/10,000
Dublin North City	93	83	100	7	17.0	49,682	20.1
Donegal	45	63	58	13	-5.0	42,144	13.8
Midwest	61	118	121	60	3.0	96,764	12.5
DSW/K/WW	83	119	117	34	-2.0	108,927	10.7
CW/K/ST	51	63	63	12	0.0	62,366	10.1
Midlands	58	70	64	6	-6.0	80,962	7.9
Cork	87	108	108	21	0.0	136,786	7.9
Dublin North	79	87	81	2	-6.0	103,508	7.8
Dublin South Central	65	40	46	-19	6.0	70,259	6.5
Louth / Meath	33	64	63	30	-1.0	96,531	6.5
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	5	13	15	10	2.0	24,312	6.2
Cavan / Monaghan	27	21	23	-4	2.0	37,336	6.2
Waterford / Wexford	50	36	42	-8	6.0	69,239	6.1
Galway / Roscommon	28	46	47	19	1.0	81,799	5.7
Kerry	17	17	19	2	2.0	34,994	5.4
Mayo	17	21	17	0	-4.0	31,911	5.3
Dublin South East / Wicklow	46	38	35	-11	-3.0	91,047	3.8
Total	845	1,007	1,019	174	12.0	1,218,567	8.4

Population – source CSO Census 2022

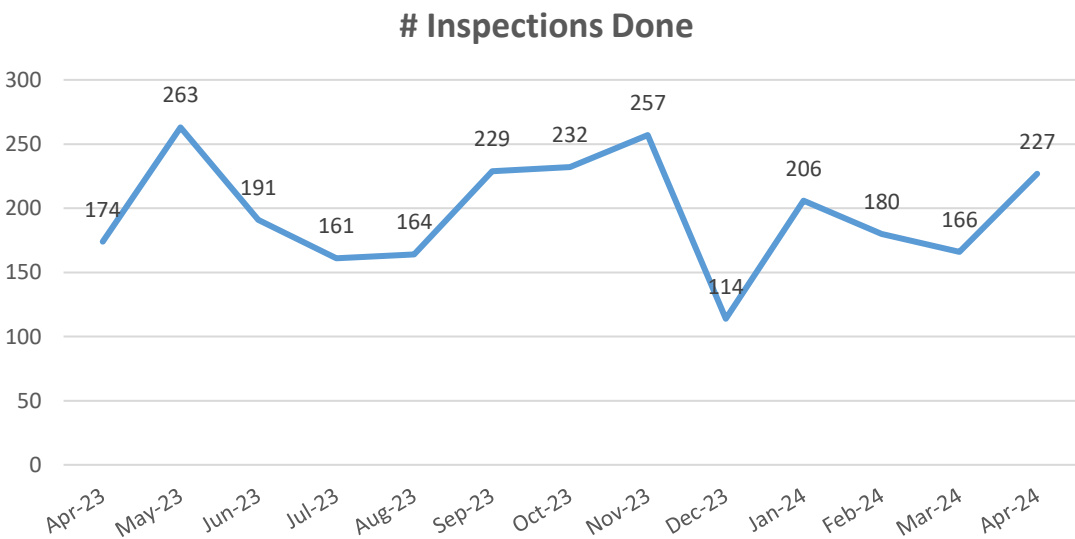
Children’s Services Regulation

EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

- **4,053 early years services on the register at the end of April 2024**, four more than March 2024 (4,049) and 11 fewer than April 2023 (4,064).

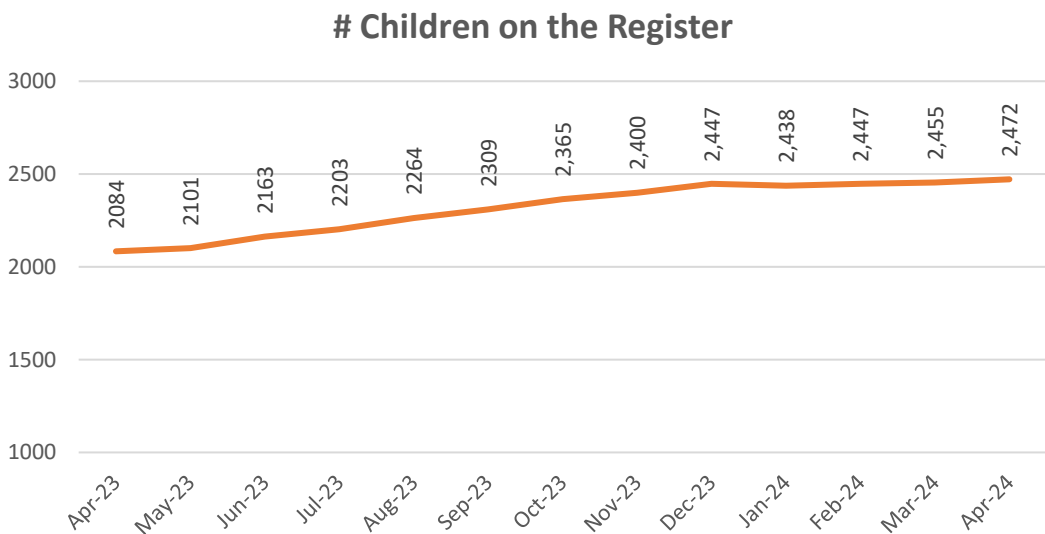


- **227 inspections** of early years services done in April 2024. This brings to 779 the number of inspections for the first four months of 2024, one fewer than the same period in 2023 (780).

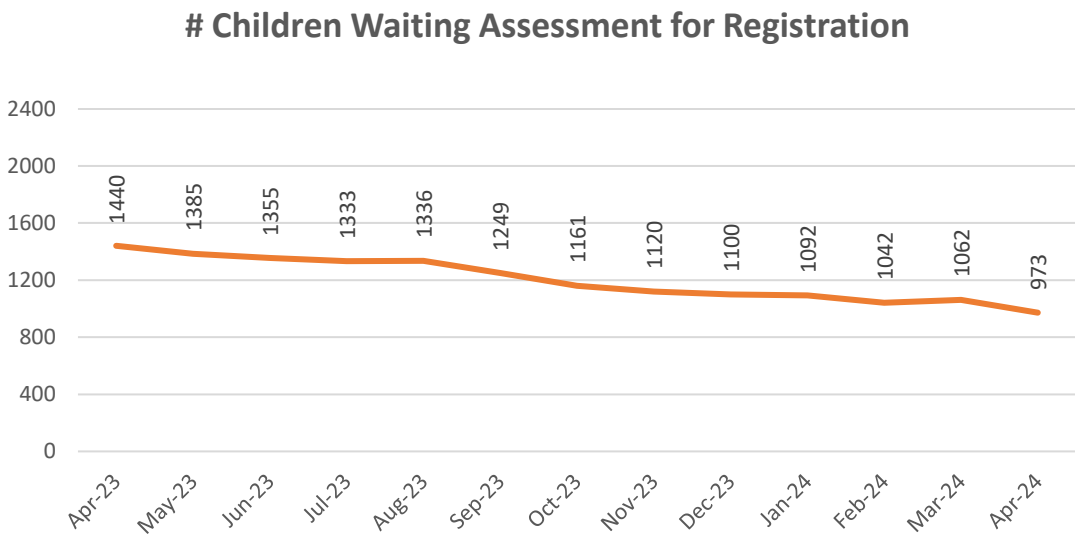


ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION SERVICE

- **2,472 children on the register for home education at the end of April 2024**, 17 (<1%) more than March 2024 (2,455) and 388 (19%) more than April 2023 (2,084).



- **973 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of April 2024**, 89 (8%) fewer than March 2024 (1,062) and 467 (32%) fewer than April 2023 (1,440).



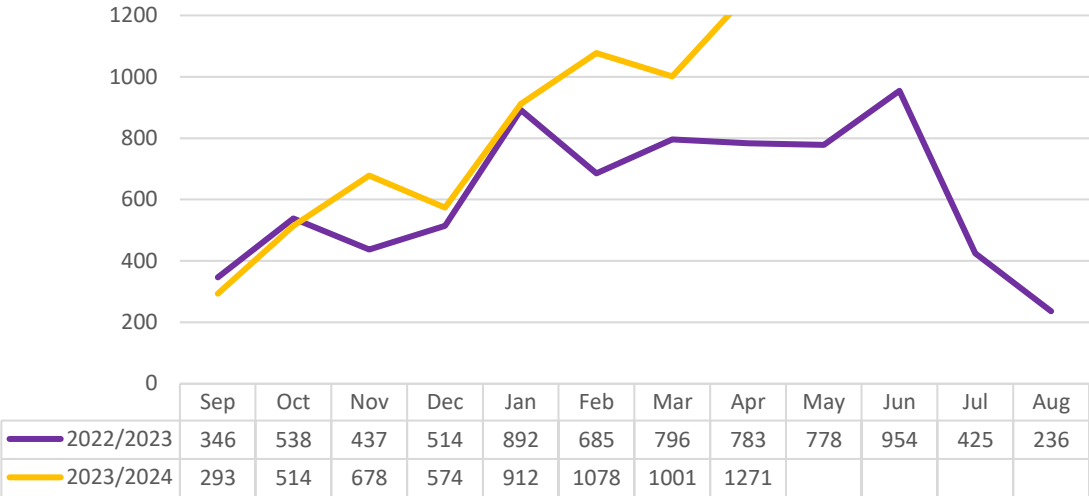
Tusla Education Support Services

- **1,271 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in April 2024. This brings to 6,321 the number of referrals for the first eight months of the academic year 2023-2024, 1,330 (27%) more than the same period in 2022-2023 (4,991).

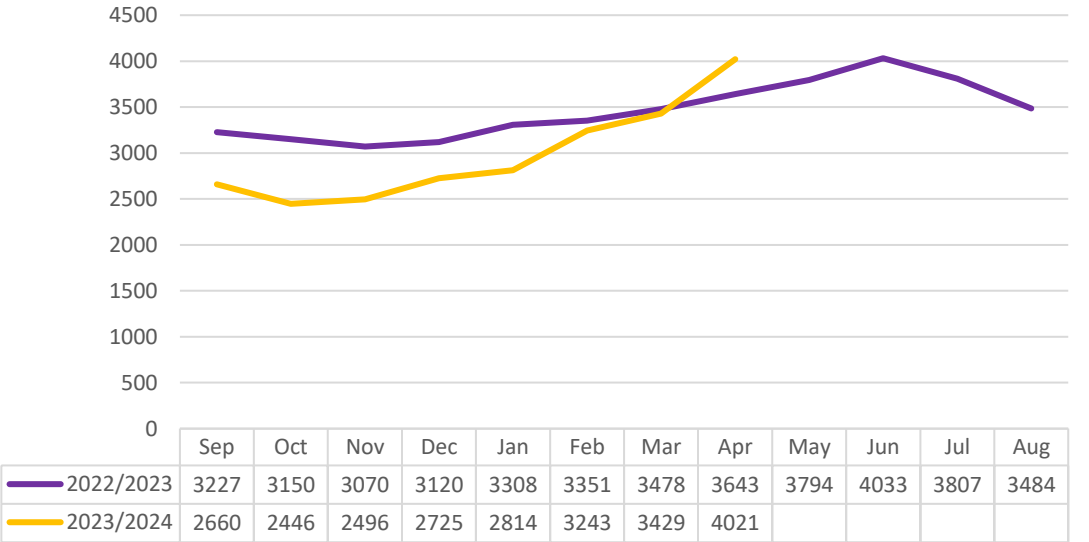
- **4,021 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of April 2024, 592 (17%) more than March 2024 (3,429) and the sixth consecutive monthly increase.
- 378 (10%) more referrals on a waiting list at the end of April 2024 compared to April 2023 (3,643).

- **426 new individual children worked with** in April 2024. This brings to 3,012 the number of new individual children worked with for the first eight months of the academic year 2023-2024, 442 (17%) more than the same period in 2022-2023 (2,570).

Referrals for Educational Welfare Service



Referrals on a Waiting List at Month End



Number of New Individual Children Worked with in the Month

