



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

MONTHLY SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT

APRIL 2025

12 June 2025
Version 1.0

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

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Headline Data – April 2025

Child Protection & Welfare

- **8,580 referrals** in April 2025, 443 (5%) fewer than March 2025 (9,023) and 123 (1%) more than April 2024 (8,457). Brings to 34,136 the number of referrals for the first four months of 2025, 2,080 (6%) more than the same period in 2024 (32,056).
- **22,917 cases open to social work** at the end of April 2025, 339 (1%) fewer than March 2025 (23,256) and 956 (4%) more than April 2024 (21,961). *Open cases include child protection and welfare cases including children in care.*
- **80% (18,287) of cases** open to social work at the end of April 2025 had an **allocated case worker**. Of these, 81% (14,734) were allocated to a social worker and 19% (3,553) were allocated to a another professional. . (Ref to note on Page 4).
- **4,630 cases awaiting allocation** at the end of April 2025, 173 (4%) more than March 2025 (4,457) and 151 (3%) fewer than April 2024 (4,781). *Data needs to be interpreted in the context of the change to the reporting of allocated cases.*
- Five areas account for 71% (3,306) of cases awaiting allocation: Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (825), Cork (798), Midlands (645), Dublin South Central (610) and Louth/Meath (428).
- **4% (194) of cases awaiting allocation** at the end of April 2025 were categorised as **high priority**, 49 (20%) fewer than March 2025 (243) and the fewest number for all months April 2024 – April 2025.

Child Abuse Substantiation Procedure (CASP)

- **34 referrals assigned** to CASP Teams in April 2025. This brings to 177 the number of referrals assigned for the first four months of 2025, 29 (14%) fewer than the same period in 2024 (206).
- **93% (479 / 514) of assessments open at the end of April 2025** were allocated to a social worker, up two percentage points from March 2025 (91%) and up 27 percentage points from April 2024 (66%). The remaining 7% (35) were awaiting allocation with 16 (31%) fewer assessments awaiting allocation at the end of April 2025 than at the end of March 2025 (51).
- 213 (86%) fewer assessments awaiting allocation at the end of April 2025 than at the end of April 2024 (248).

Children in Care

- **5,781 children (0-17 years) in care at the end of April 2025**, two fewer than March 2025 (5,783) and the same number as April 2024. Figure includes 106 children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (SCSIP)
- 87.3% (5,046) of all children in care (17 Areas and SCSIP) are in foster care (3,566 general foster care, and 1,480 relative foster), 9.4% (546) are in residential care (533 general residential care and 13 special care) and 3.3% (189) are in “other” care placements.
- Across Tusla’s 17 areas **88.6% (5,027/5,675) of children in care are in foster care.**

Children in Care (contd.)

- **1,053 (18%) children in care at the end of April 2025 were in placements with private providers**, 15 (1%) more than March 2025 (1,038) and 152 (17%) more than April 2024 (901).
- **98% (5,666) of children in care at the end of April 2025 had an allocated worker**. Of those allocated, 89% (5,028) were allocated to a social worker and 11% (638) were allocated to another professional.

Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)

- **1,045 children listed as ‘active’** on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) at the end of April 2025, 51 (5%) fewer than March 2025 (1,096) when the highest number for the period January 2024 – March 2025 was reported.
- There were 26 (3%) more children ‘active’ at the end of April 2025 than at the end April 2024 (1,019).
- It should be noted that a small number of large sibling groups can have a significant effect on numbers reported.
- All but one child ‘active’ at the end of April 2025 were allocated to a social worker. This child was subsequently allocated.

Children’s Services Regulation

- **3,972 early years services (pre-schools) on the register** at the end of April 2025, three fewer than March 2025 (3,975) and 81 (2%) fewer than April 2024 (4,053).
- **215 inspections** of early years services (pre-schools) in April 2025. This brings to 827 the number of inspections for the first four months of 2025, 48 (6%) more than the same period in 2024 (779)
- **2,422 children on the register** for home education at the end of April 2025, 77 (3%) fewer than March 2025 (2,499). First decrease after six consecutive increases.
- **410 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of April 2025**, 60 (13%) fewer than March 2025 (470) and 563 (58%) fewer than April 2024 (973). Decreasing trend continues.

Tusla Education Support Services

- **942 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in April 2025. This brings to 7,207 the number of referrals for the first eight months of the academic year 2024 – 2025, some 886 (14%) more than the same period in the previous academic year (6,321).
- **4,890 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of April 2025, 263 (6%) more than March 2025 (4,627).
- 869 2%) more referrals on a waiting list at the end of April 2025 than at the end of April 2024 (4,021).

Child Protection and Welfare

Referrals¹

- **8,580 referrals** in April 2025, 443 (5%) fewer than March 2025 (9,023) and 123 (1%) more than April 2024 (8,457).
- This brings to 34,136 the number of referrals for the first four months of 2025, 2,080 (6%) more than the same period in 2024 (32,056).

It should be noted that the data presented for 2024 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for 2025 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.

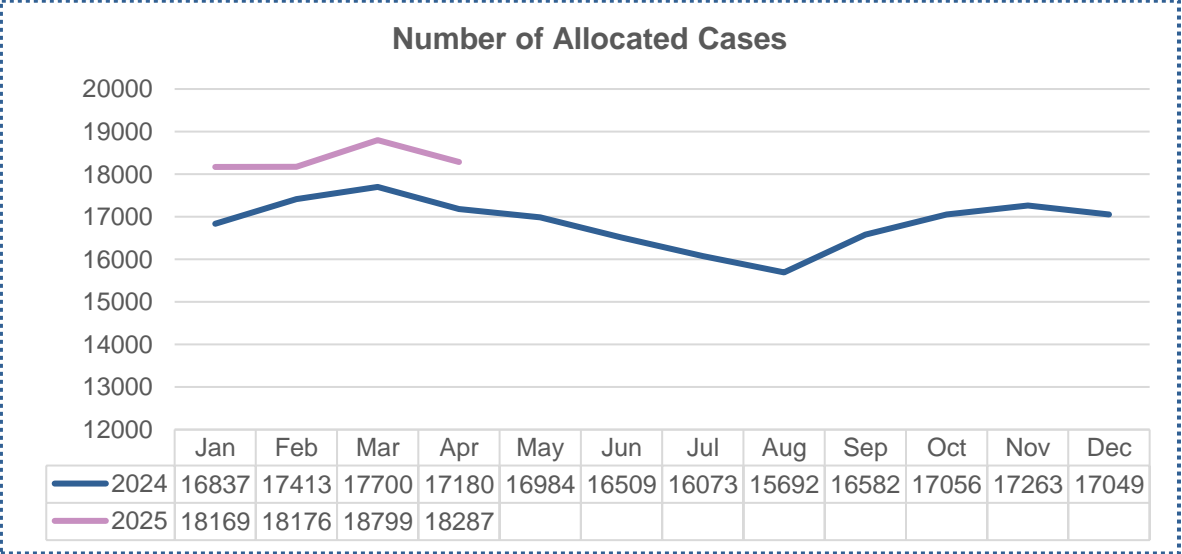
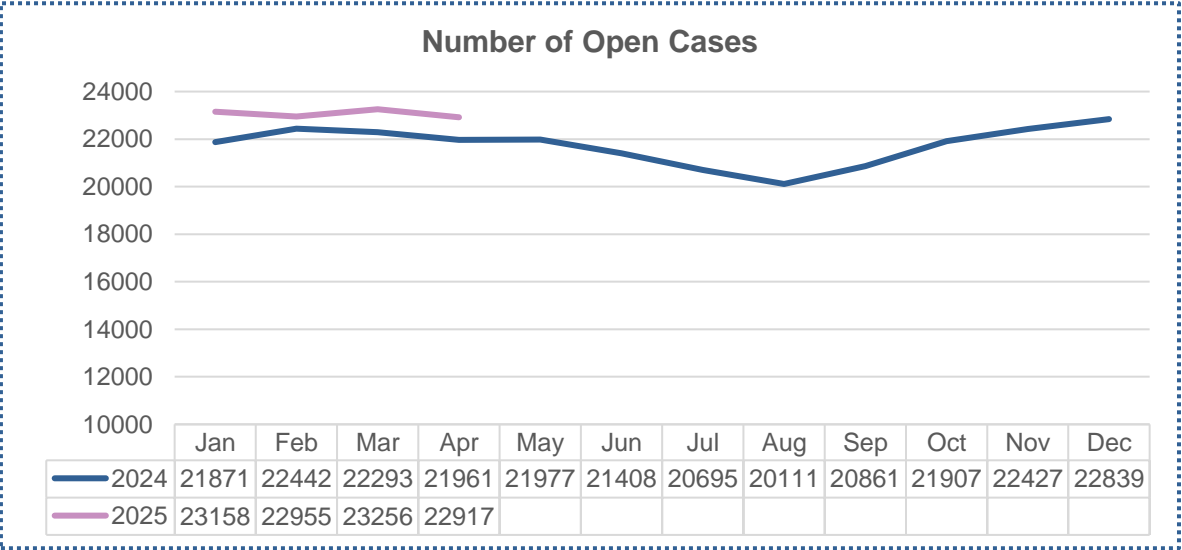
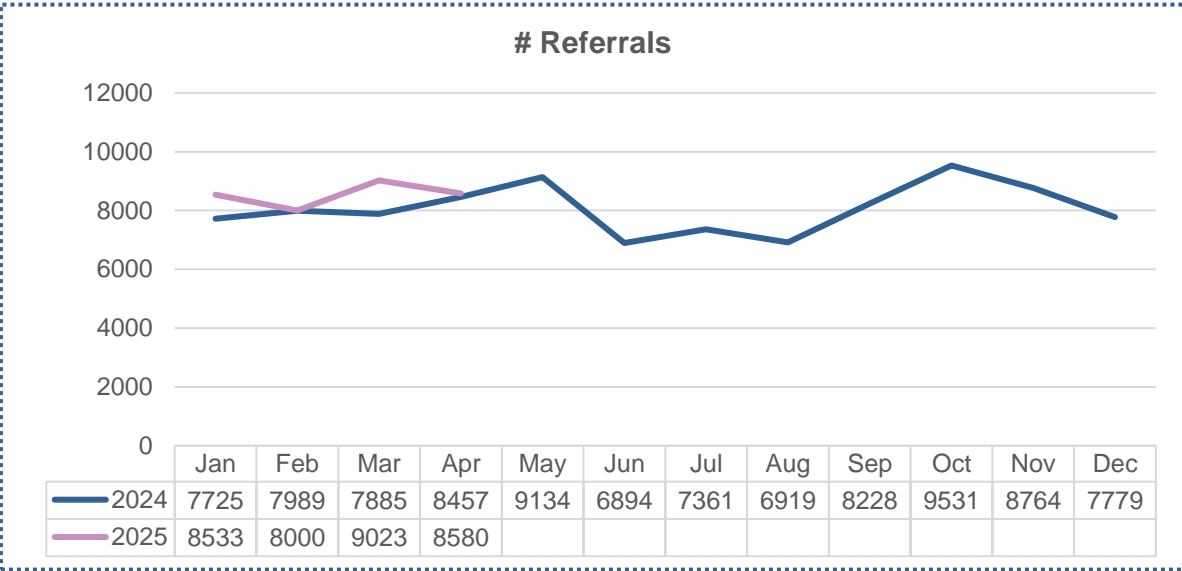
Open Cases

- **22,917 cases open to social work** at the end of April 2025, 339 (1%) fewer than March 2025 (23,256) and 956 (4%) more than April 2024 (21,961).
- 1) *Open cases include, all cases held on duty, allocated and unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care.*
 - 2) *The data presented on cases is based on the status of cases on the TCM at month end.*

Allocated Cases

- **18,287 open cases were allocated** to a case worker at the end of April 2025, 512 (3%) fewer than March 2025 (18,799) and 1,107 (6%) more than April 2024 (17,180).
- Allocated cases account for 80% of open cases.

Reflecting an ongoing changing environment and significant social work vacancies, Tusla has moved to a more multi-disciplinary way of working with children now allocated to social workers and other professional grades where necessary and appropriate to ensure they have the support of a key worker. All children continue to be overseen by social work management.



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 and Welfare

Allocated Cases

To improve transparency and ensure the data reported reflects our practice change, reports (from January 2025) now reflect where a child is allocated a social worker and where they are allocated to another professional. Other professionals include professionally qualified social care leaders, social care workers, family support workers, therapists etc..

- Of the cases allocated (18,287) at the end of April 2025, 81% (14,734) were allocated to a social worker and 19% (3,553) were allocated to a another professional.

Breakdown of cases allocated by area and role of worker, April 2025			
Area	Allocated Social Worker	Allocated Other Professional	Total
Dublin South East/Wicklow	620	193	813
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	828	472	1,300
Dublin South Central	861	364	1,225
Midlands	1,183	228	1,411
Dublin North City	1,375	338	1,713
Dublin North	1,453	237	1,690
Louth/Meath	1,001	397	1398
Cavan/Monaghan	529	162	691
Kerry	302	94	396
Cork	1,840	173	2,013
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	499	279	778
Waterford/Wexford	926	229	1,155
Donegal	568	49	617
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	299	18	317
Mayo	338	29	367
Galway/Roscommon	1,094	26	1,120
Midwest	1,018	265	1,283
Total	14,734	3,553	18,287

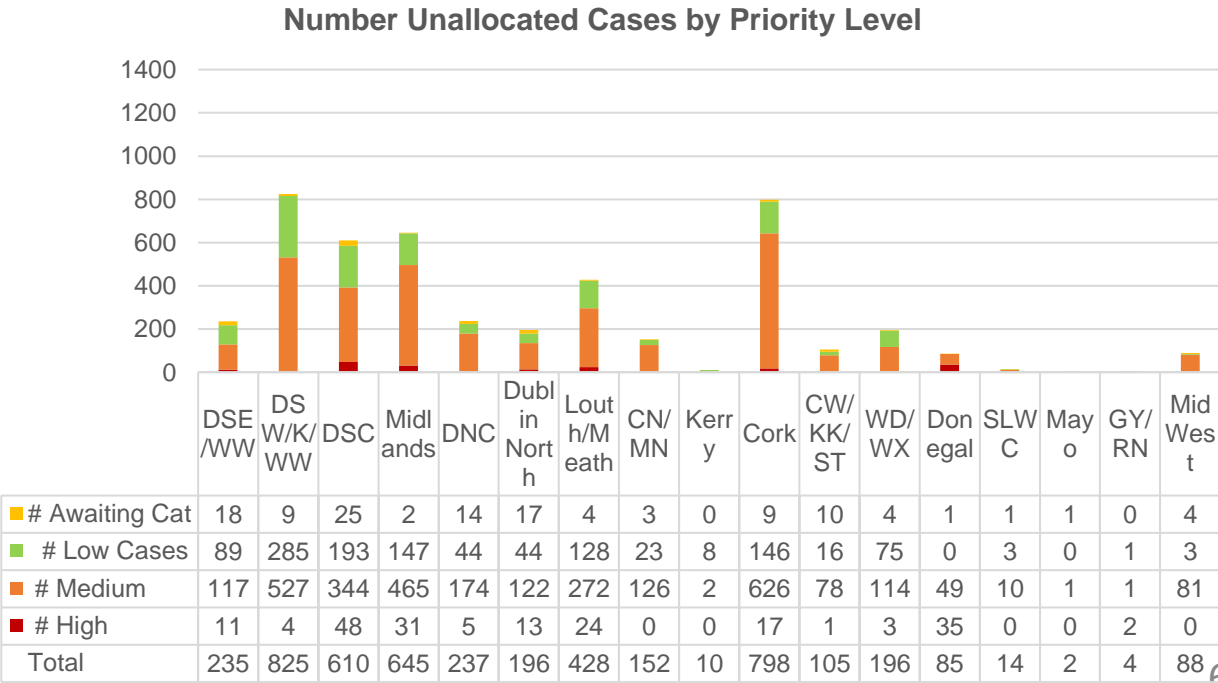
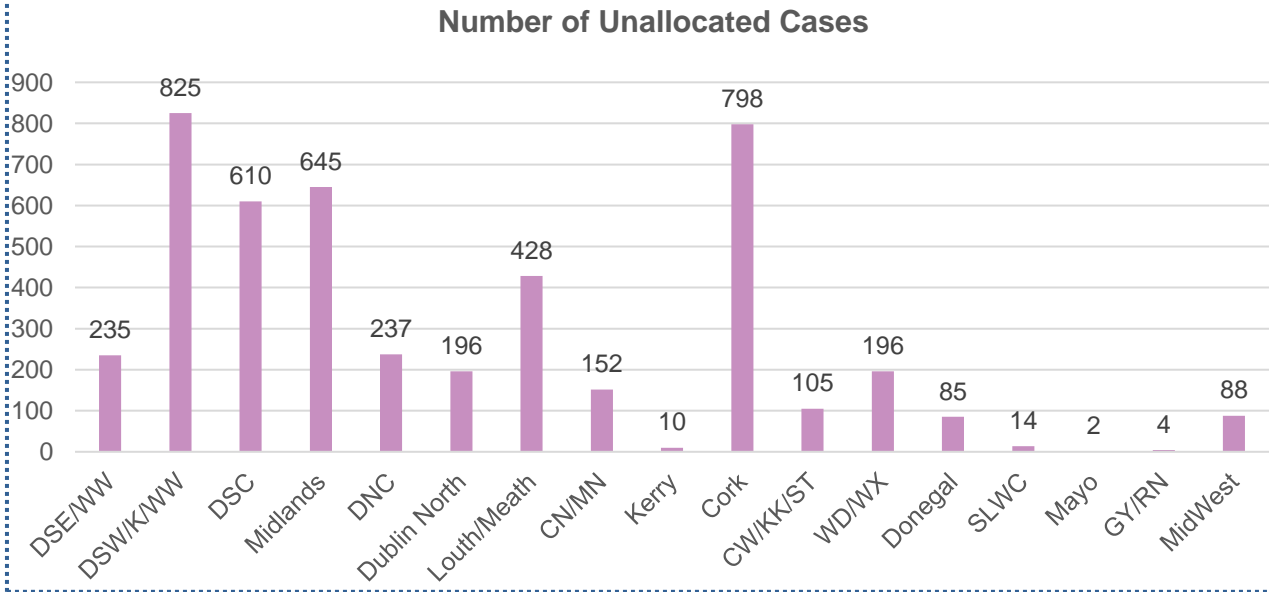
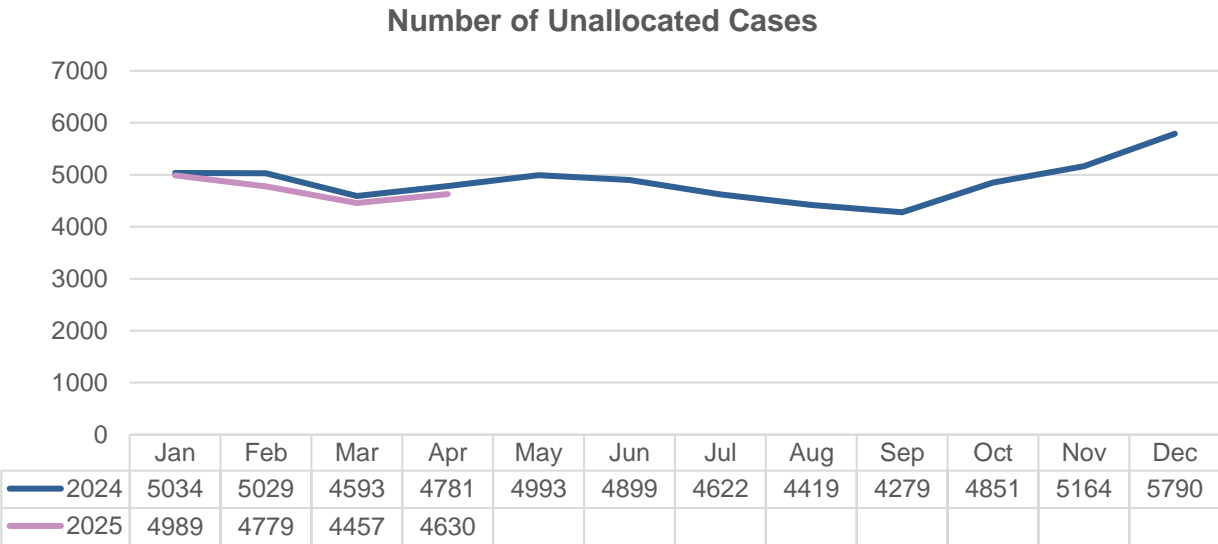
Percentage breakdown of cases allocated by area and role of worker, April 2025			
Area	% Allocated Social Worker	% Allocated Other Professional	Total
Dublin South East/Wicklow	76%	24%	100%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	64%	36%	100%
Dublin South Central	70%	30%	100%
Midlands	84%	16%	100%
Dublin North City	80%	20%	100%
Dublin North	86%	14%	100%
Louth/Meath	72%	28%	100%
Cavan/Monaghan	77%	23%	100%
Kerry	76%	24%	100%
Cork	91%	9%	100%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	64%	36%	100%
Waterford/Wexford	80%	20%	100%
Donegal	92%	8%	100%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	94%	6%	100%
Mayo	92%	8%	100%
Galway/Roscommon	98%	2%	100%
Midwest	79%	21%	100%
Total	81%	19%	100%

Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation

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

- **4,630 cases awaiting allocation** at the end of April 2025, 173 (4%) more than March 2025 (4,457) and 151 (3%) fewer than April 2024 (4,781). *Data needs to be interpreted in the context of the change to the reporting of allocated cases introduced in January 2025.*
- Cases awaiting allocation account for 20% of open cases (22,917), up one percentage point from March 2025 (19%).
- **57% (2,629) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of April 2025 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 West/Kildare/West Wicklow (825) followed by Cork (798), Midlands (645), Dublin South Central (610) and Louth/Meath (428). These five areas account for 71% (3,306) of all cases awaiting allocation.
- **194 cases awaiting allocation at the end of April 2025 were categorised as high priority**, 49 (20%) fewer than March 2025 (243) and the fewest number for all months April 2024 – April 2025.
- High priority cases account for 4% of cases awaiting allocation.
- 67% (3,109) of cases awaiting allocation were categorised at medium priority, 26% (1,205) were low priority while the remaining 3% (122) were awaiting categorisation.
- Highest number of high priority cases reported by Dublin South Central (48), Donegal (35), Midlands (31) and Louth/Meath (24). These four areas account for 71% (138) of all high priority cases awaiting.



Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation

- 8 of the 17 areas reported a decrease in cases awaiting allocation from March 2025.
- Largest decreases reported by Louth/Meath (down 134), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 56) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (down 47).
- 8 of the 17 areas reported an increase in cases awaiting allocation from March 2025. Largest increase reported by Cork (up 236) followed to a lesser extent by Midlands (up 90), Cavan/Monaghan (up 39) and Donegal (up 36).
- The remaining area (Galway/Roscommon) reported no change.
- Nationally 20% of open cases were awaiting allocation at the end of April 2025. Six areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 20%. Highest percentages reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (39%), Dublin South Central (33%), Midlands (31%), Cork (28%), Louth/Meath (23%) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (22%).
- 11 of the 17 areas had fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of April 2025 than at the end of April 2024. Largest decreases reported by Dublin South Central (down 546), Midwest (down 243), Donegal (down 143) and Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (down 123). *Data needs to be interpreted in the context of the change to the reporting of allocated cases introduced in January 2025.*
- 6 of the 17 areas had more cases awaiting allocation at the end of April 2025 than at the end of April 2024. Largest increases reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 474), Midlands (up 347) and Cork (up 336).

Area	Apr-24 # Unallocated	Apr-24 % Unallocated	Feb-25 # Unallocated	Mar-25 # Unallocated	Apr-25 # Unallocated	Apr-25 % Unallocated	Feb-Apr	Apr-25 v Apr-24	% Δ	Apr-25 v Mar-25	% Δ1
DSE/WW	286	28%	285	282	235	22%		-51	-18%	-47	-17%
DSW/K/WW	351	22%	756	881	825	39%		474	135%	-56	-6%
DSC	1,156	49%	710	601	610	33%		-546	-47%	9	1%
Midlands	298	16%	655	555	645	31%		347	116%	90	16%
DNC	168	10%	186	217	237	12%		69	41%	20	9%
Dublin North	143	7%	179	171	196	10%		53	37%	25	15%
Louth/Meath	527	32%	597	562	428	23%		-99	-19%	-134	-24%
CN/MN	142	19%	112	113	152	18%		10	7%	39	35%
Kerry	36	10%	5	13	10	2%		-26	-72%	-3	-23%
Cork	462	19%	779	562	798	28%		336	73%	236	42%
CW/KK/ST	228	31%	128	133	105	12%		-123	-54%	-28	-21%
WD/WX	284	21%	244	199	196	15%		-88	-31%	-3	-2%
Donegal	228	26%	48	49	85	12%		-143	-63%	36	73%
SLWC	16	5%	16	17	14	4%		-2	-13%	-3	-18%
Mayo	29	8%	3	1	2	1%		-27	-93%	1	100%
GY/RN	96	8%	5	4	4	0%		-92	-96%	0	0%
MidWest	331	24%	71	97	88	6%		-243	-73%	-9	-9%
TOTAL	4781	22%	4779	4457	4630	20%		-151	-3%	173	4%

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

Child Protection & Welfare

Summary Tables

Area	Referrals Mar-25	Referrals Apr-25	Δ	Open Cases Mar-25	Open Cases Apr-25	Δ2	Allocated Cases Mar-25	Allocated Cases Apr-25	Δ3	Unallocate d Cases Mar-25	Unallocated Cases Apr-25	Δ4
DSE/WW	353	379	26	1,093	1,048	-45	811	813	2	282	235	-47
DSW/K/WW	872	866	-6	2,175	2,125	-50	1,294	1,300	6	881	825	-56
DSC	670	601	-69	1,921	1,835	-86	1,320	1,225	-95	601	610	9
Midlands	914	876	-38	2,019	2,056	37	1,464	1,411	-53	555	645	90
DNC	522	560	38	1,895	1,950	55	1,678	1,713	35	217	237	20
Dublin North	825	816	-9	1,927	1,886	-41	1,756	1,690	-66	171	196	25
Louth/Meath	767	685	-82	1,875	1,826	-49	1,313	1,398	85	562	428	-134
CN/MN	283	273	-10	869	843	-26	756	691	-65	113	152	39
Kerry	232	152	-80	435	406	-29	422	396	-26	13	10	-3
Cork	733	860	127	2,758	2,811	53	2,196	2,013	-183	562	798	236
CW/KK/ST	521	404	-117	827	883	56	694	778	84	133	105	-28
WD/WX	669	587	-82	1,410	1,351	-59	1,211	1,155	-56	199	196	-3
Donegal	232	245	13	682	702	20	633	617	-16	49	85	36
SLWC	112	139	27	322	331	9	305	317	12	17	14	-3
Mayo	163	141	-22	359	369	10	358	367	9	1	2	1
GY/RN	427	375	-52	1,192	1,124	-68	1,188	1,120	-68	4	4	0
MidWest	728	621	-107	1,497	1,371	-126	1,400	1,283	-117	97	88	-9
Total	9,023	8,580	-443	23,256	22,917	-339	18,799	18,287	-512	4,457	4,630	173

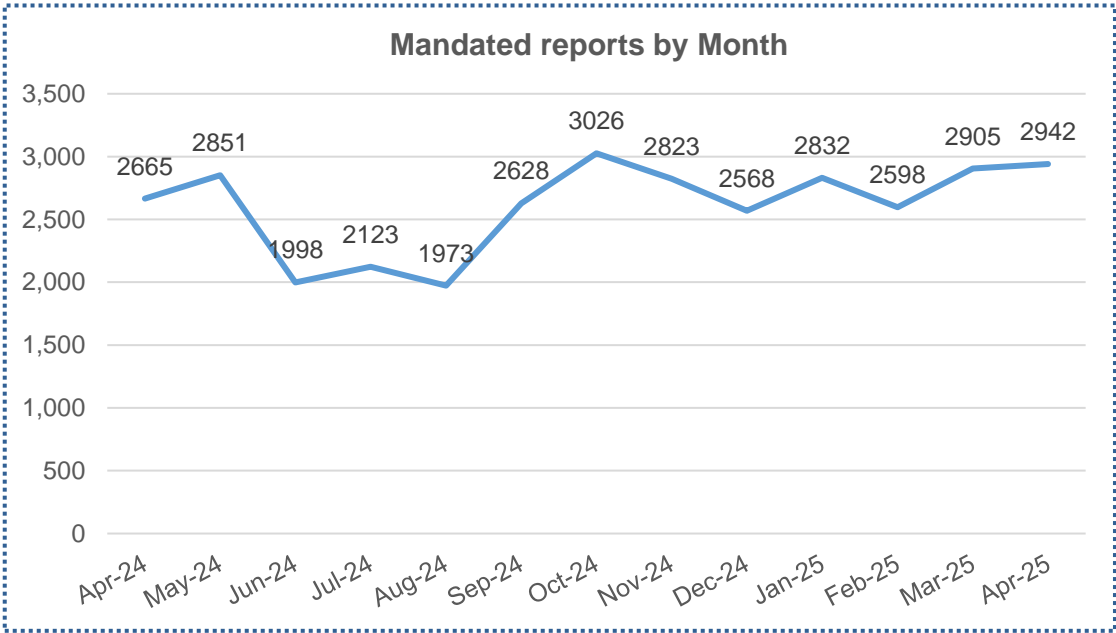
Area	High Priority Awaiting Mar-25	High Priority Awaiting Apr-25	Δ	Medium Priority Awaiting Mar-25	Medium Priority Awaiting Apr-25	Δ 2	Low Priority Awaiting Mar-25	Low Priority Awaiting Apr-25	Δ 3	Awaiting Categorisa tion Mar-25	Awaiting Categorisation Apr-25	Δ 4
DSE/WW	3	11	8	168	117	-51	100	89	-11	11	18	7
DSW/K/WW	18	4	-14	514	527	13	323	285	-38	26	9	-17
DSC	48	48	0	339	344	5	191	193	2	23	25	2
Midlands	54	31	-23	388	465	77	113	147	34	0	2	2
DNC	2	5	3	147	174	27	51	44	-7	17	14	-3
Dublin North	18	13	-5	96	122	26	48	44	-4	9	17	8
Louth/Meath	44	24	-20	323	272	-51	181	128	-53	14	4	-10
CN/MN	5	0	-5	86	126	40	22	23	1	0	3	3
Kerry	0	0	0	4	2	-2	0	8	8	9	0	-9
Cork	15	17	2	438	626	188	109	146	37	0	9	9
CW/KK/ST	12	1	-11	64	78	14	50	16	-34	7	10	3
WD/WX	2	3	1	109	114	5	84	75	-9	4	4	0
Donegal	21	35	14	26	49	23	1	0	-1	1	1	0
SLWC	1	0	-1	8	10	2	7	3	-4	1	1	0
Mayo	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
GY/RN	0	2	2	1	1	0	3	1	-2	0	0	0
MidWest	0	0	0	79	81	2	14	3	-11	4	4	0
TOTAL	243	194	-49	2,791	3,109	318	1,297	1,205	-92	126	122	-4

Mandated Reports¹ – Child Protection & Welfare

- **2,942 mandated reports of abuse** received in April 2025. This brings to 11,277 the number of reports for the first four months of 2025, 627 (6%) more than the same period in 2024 (10,650).

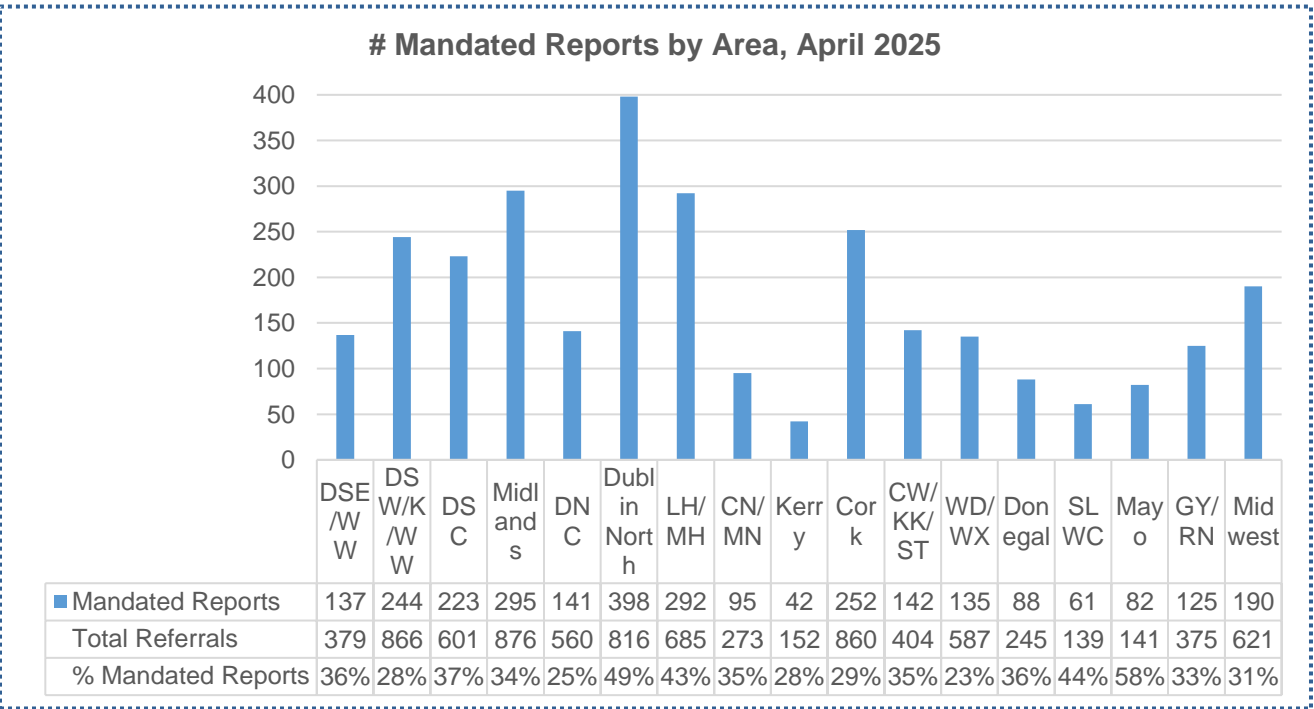
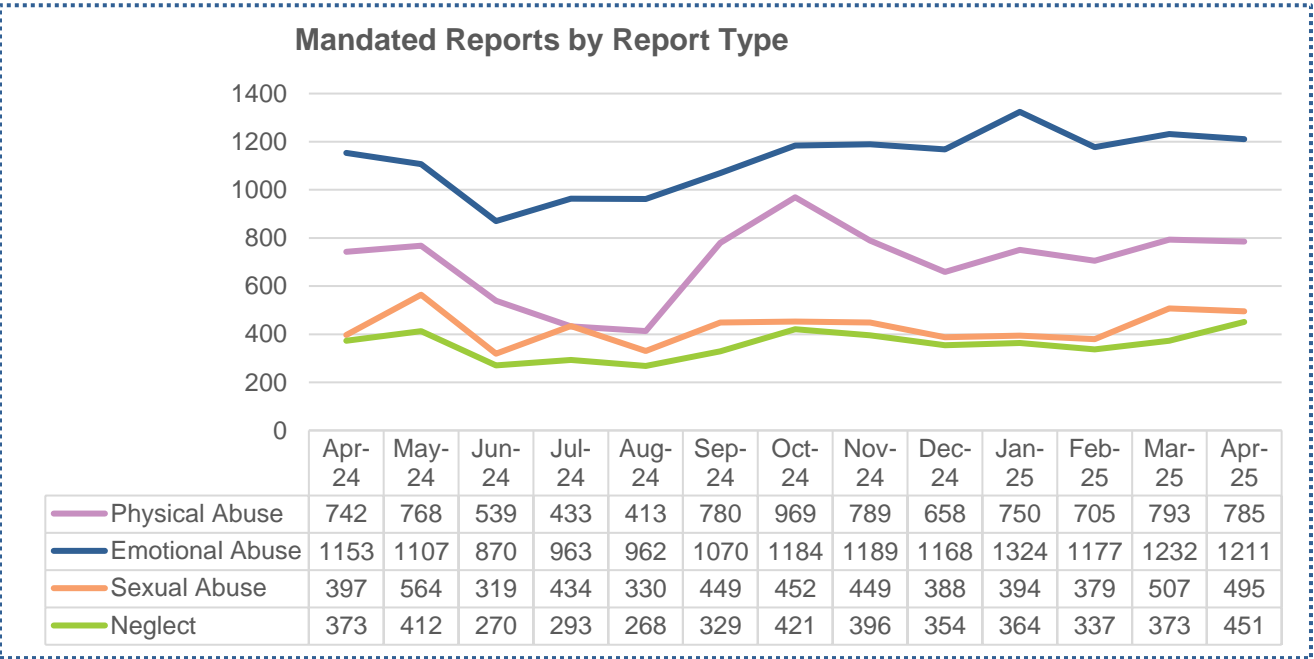
It should be noted that the data presented for 2024 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for 2025 is based on referrals logged on the Tusla Case Management (TCM) system at the time the data was extracted for reporting. Referrals logged after the date the data was extracted are not included, nor are figures updated until quarterly validation is complete.

- Mandated reports accounted for 34% (2,942) of all referrals received (8,850) in April 2025.



- The number of mandated reports for April 2025, by area ranged from 42 (Kerry) to 398 (Dublin North).
- As a percentage of referrals, the highest percentage (58%) was reported by Mayo
- The lowest percentage (23%) was reported by Waterford/Wexford.

- Highest number of reports for April 2025 were for emotional abuse (1,211; 41%) followed by physical abuse (785; 27%), sexual abuse (495; 17%) and neglect (451; 15%).



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

Mandated Reports – Child Protection & Welfare

Source of Reports

- Highest number of reports for April 2025 from An Garda Síochána (1,117; 38.0%) followed by teachers (412; 14.0%), safeguarding officer (361; 12.3%); social workers (288; 9.8%) and social care workers (160; 5.4%). These five sources account for 79% (2,338) of reports for April 2025.
- Highest number of reports for 2025 YTD from An Garda Síochána (4,405; 39.1%) followed by teachers (1,812; 16.1%), safeguarding officer (1,307; 11.6%); social workers (1,070; 9.5%) and social care workers (565; 5.0%). These five sources account for 81% (9,159) of reports for received for the first four months of 2025.

Source (Schedule 2 Children First 2015)	# Apr-25	% Total	# 2025 YTD	% Total
An Garda Síochána Member	1117	38.0%	4405	39.1%
Teacher	412	14.0%	1812	16.1%
Safeguarding officer, child protection officer	361	12.3%	1307	11.6%
Social worker	288	9.8%	1070	9.5%
Social care worker	160	5.4%	565	5.0%
Domestic violence shelter manager	92	3.1%	336	3.0%
Medical practitioner (Registered)	102	3.5%	334	3.0%
Psychologist	86	2.9%	288	2.6%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling	74	2.5%	264	2.3%
Nurse or registered midwife (Registered)	57	1.9%	214	1.9%
Youth worker holds a professional qualification	55	1.9%	190	1.7%
Homeless provision or emergency accommodation facilitymanager	21	0.7%	81	0.7%
Asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre manager	11	0.4%	53	0.5%
Youth work service - person responsible for the care or management	8	0.3%	52	0.5%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service	12	0.4%	49	0.4%
Probation officer	16	0.5%	40	0.4%
Speech & language therapist (Registered)	10	0.3%	37	0.3%
Occupational therapist (Registered)	7	0.2%	31	0.3%
Guardian ad litem	11	0.4%	31	0.3%
Physiotherapist (Registered)	5	0.2%	29	0.3%
Pre-school service	10	0.3%	19	0.2%
Addiction counsellor	6	0.2%	18	0.2%
EMT, paramedic and advanced paramedic	*	0.1%	17	0.2%
Foster carer registered with the Agency.	*	0.1%	12	0.1%
Not specified	9	0.3%	9	0.1%
Institution where a child is detained by an order of a court (Director)	*	0.1%	5	0.0%
Language school or other recreational school where children reside	*	0.1%	*	0.0%
Clergy member	*	0.1%	*	0.0%
Registered dentist	*	0.0%	*	0.0%
Total	2,942	100.0%	11,277	100.0%

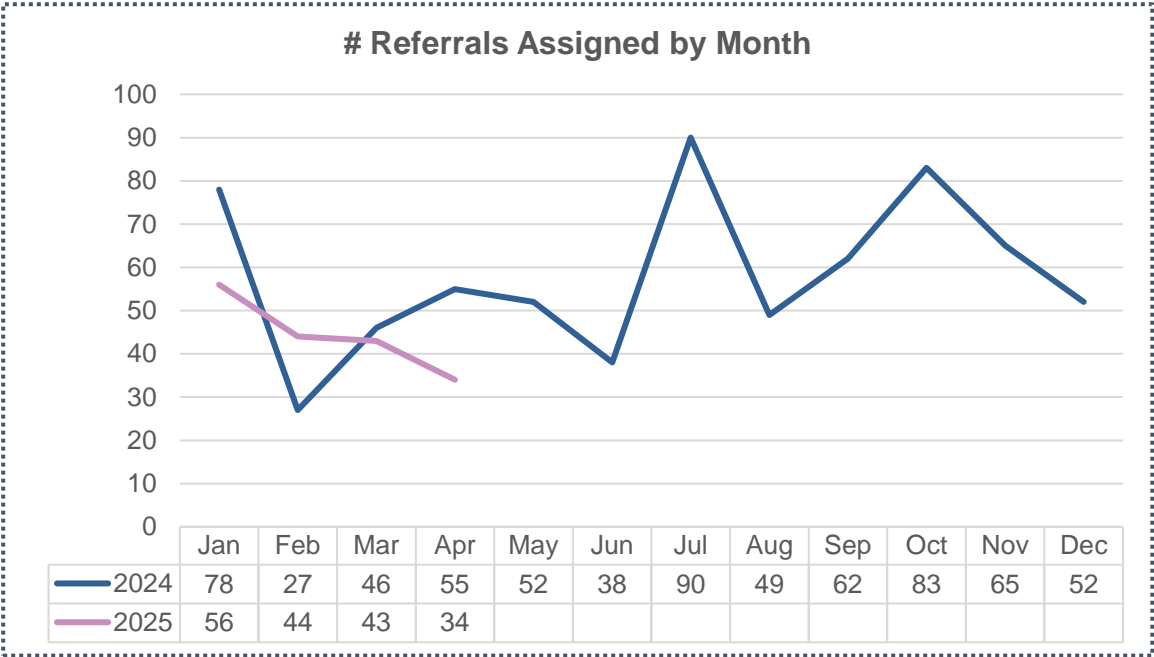
*Values suppressed for confidentiality purposes.

Child Abuse Substantiation Procedure (CASP)

It is Tusla's statutory obligation and responsibility to promote the welfare of children under Section 3 of the Child Care Act 1991 and under Section 8 (1)(b) of the Child and Family Agency Act 2013. In meeting this obligation and responsibility, where there is a need to share information with a relevant third party to protect an identified child or yet to be identified child or children from harm, Tusla must carry out an assessment of allegations of child abuse in line with fair procedures. This is called a 'substantiation assessment' – an assessment that examines and weighs up all the evidence and decides if the allegation is founded or unfounded on the balance of probabilities. If the allegation is founded a determination is made that the person who is the subject of the abuse allegations poses a potential risk to a child or children. Tusla calls this process the CASP – Child Abuse Substantiation Procedure.

Referrals

- **34 referrals assigned** to CASP Teams in April 2025.
- This brings to 177 the number of referrals assigned for the first four months of 2025, 29 (14%) fewer than the same period in 2024 (206).
- Month on month decrease in referrals from January 2025.

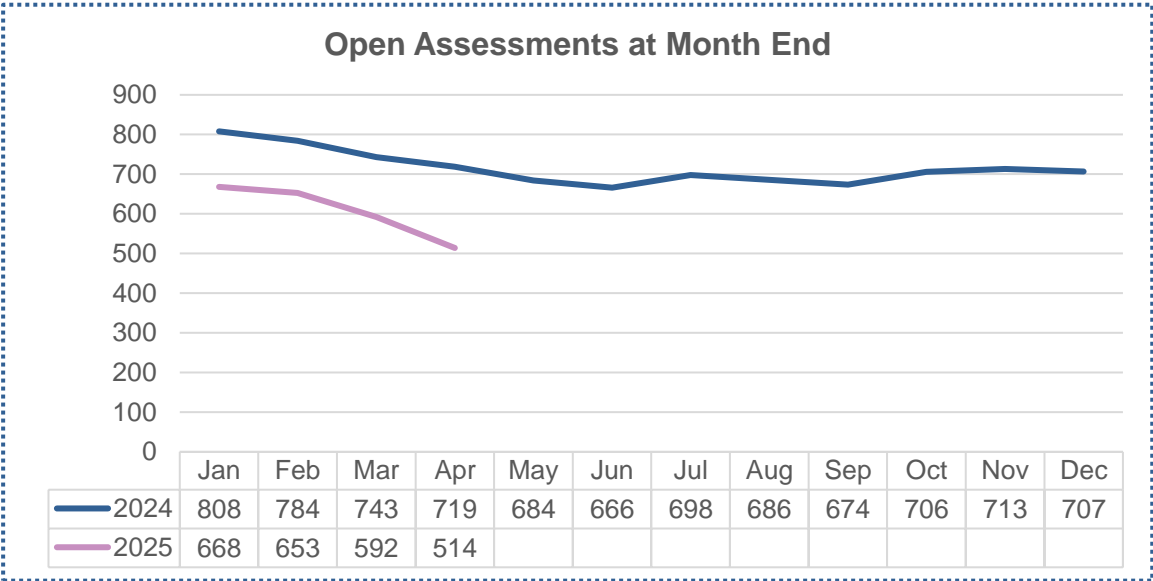
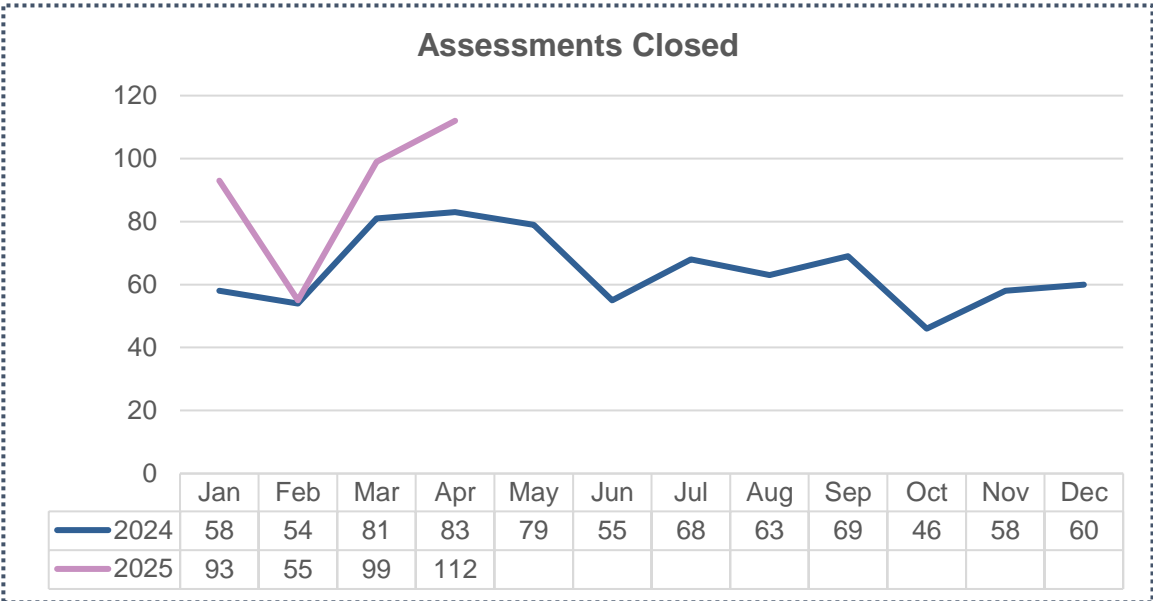


Open Assessments

- **514 assessments open at the end of April 2025**, 78 (13%) fewer than March 2025 (592) and the fewest number for the period January 2024 – April 2025.
- There were 205 (29%) fewer assessments open at the end of April 2025 than at the April 2024 (719).

Assessments Closed

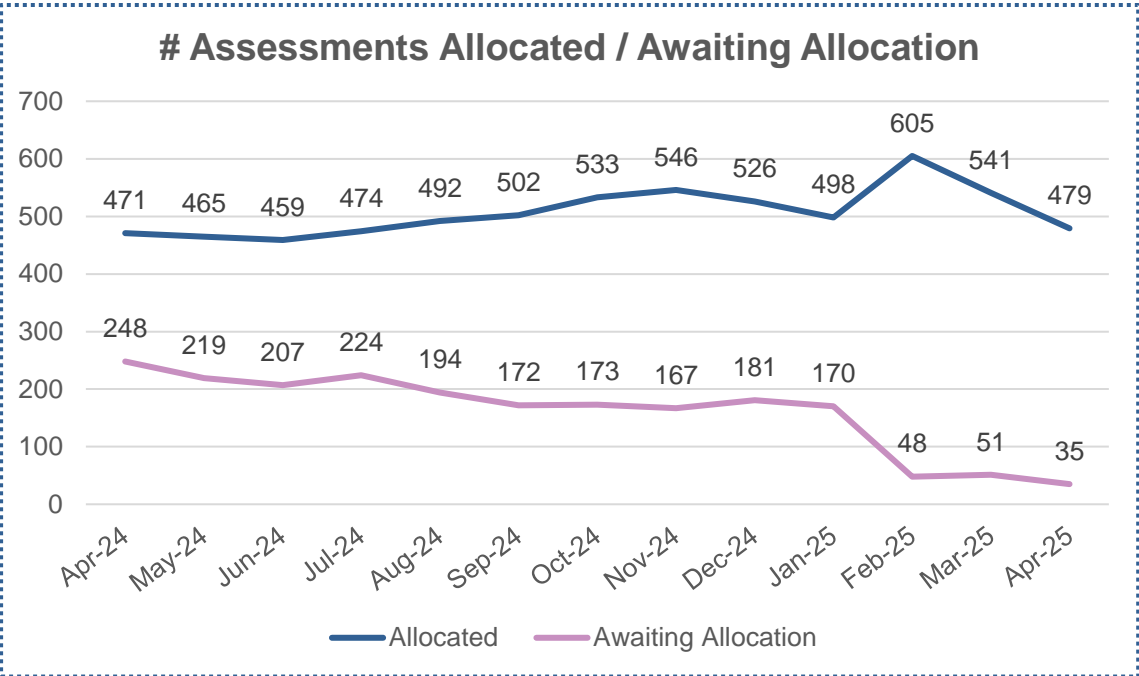
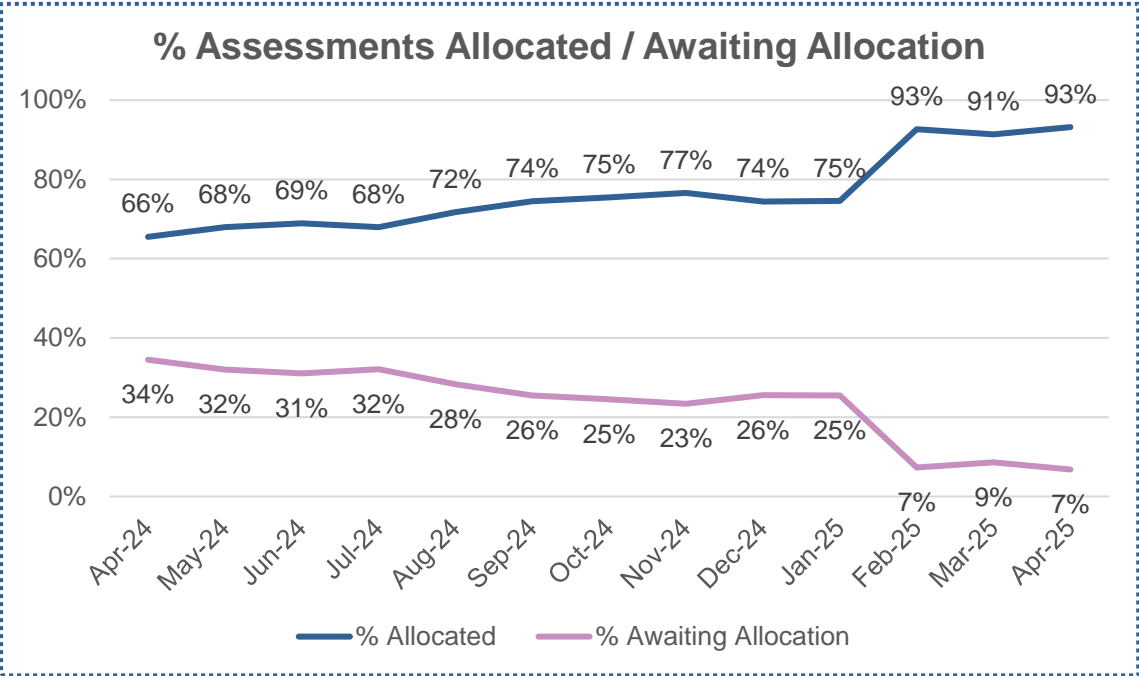
- **112 assessments closed** in April 2025.
- This brings to 359 the number of assessments closed for the first four months of 2025, 83 (30%) more than the same period in 2024 (276).



Child Abuse Substantiation Procedure (CASP)

Allocation Status of Open Assessments

- **93% (479 / 514) of assessments open at the end of April 2025** were allocated to a social worker, up two percentage points from March 2025 (91%) and up 27 percentage points from April 2024 (66%).
- The remaining 7% (35) were awaiting allocation with 16 (31%) fewer assessments awaiting allocation at the end of April 2025 than at the end of March 2025 (51).
- 213 (86%) fewer assessments awaiting allocation at the end of April 2025 than at the end of April 2024 (248).



Children in Care

- **5,781 children (0-17 years) in care at the end of April 2025**, two fewer than March 2025 (5,783) and the same number as April 2024. Figure includes 106 children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (SCSIP)¹.

- **Breakdown of children in care by Tusla’s 17 areas and SCSIP as follows:**

	Apr-24	Mar-25	Apr-25	Apr-25 v Apr-2024	Apr 25 v Mar-25
17 Tusla Areas	5,646	5,679	5,675	+29	-4
SCSIP	135	104	106	-29	+2
Total	5,781	5,783	5,781	0	-2

- **Breakdown of children in care by placement type as follows (Apr-25):**

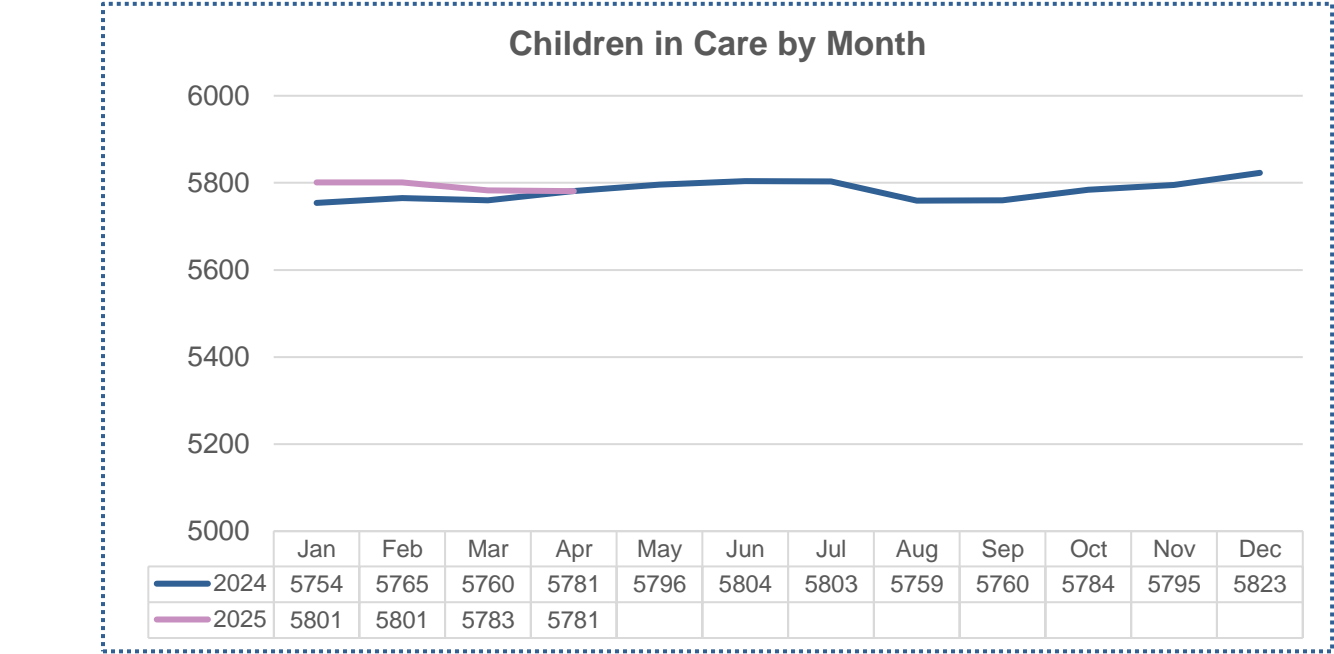
Placement Type	17 areas	SCSIP	Total
Residential Care	466 (8.2%)	80 (75.5%)	546 (9.4%)
Foster Care	5,027 (88.6%)	19 (17.9%)	5,046 (87.3%)
Other*	182 (3.2%)	7 (6.6%)	189 (3.3%)
Total	5,675 (100%)	106 (100%)	5,781 (100%)

- Residential care (546) includes 13 children in special care. Of the children in foster care (5,046), 71% (3,566) were in general foster care and 29% (1,480) were in relative foster care.
- Highest number of children in care reported by Cork (657) followed by Midwest (493) and Dublin North City (471).
- Fewest number reported by the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (106) and Sligo/Leitrim West Cavan (119).
- Across the 17 Areas the highest rate of children in care per 1,000 children was reported by Dublin North City (9.6) followed by Waterford/Wexford (6.0) and Donegal (5.7).
- Lowest rate reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (2.2) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (3.8).
- Nine areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 4.7/1,000 children.

Notes:

1. The Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection has an additional **369 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, disability unit, mental health unit, drugs/alcohol rehabilitation unit, hospital, special emergency arrangement, supported lodgings etc.



Rate of children in care / 1,000 child population 0-17 years (ranked by rate/1,000)

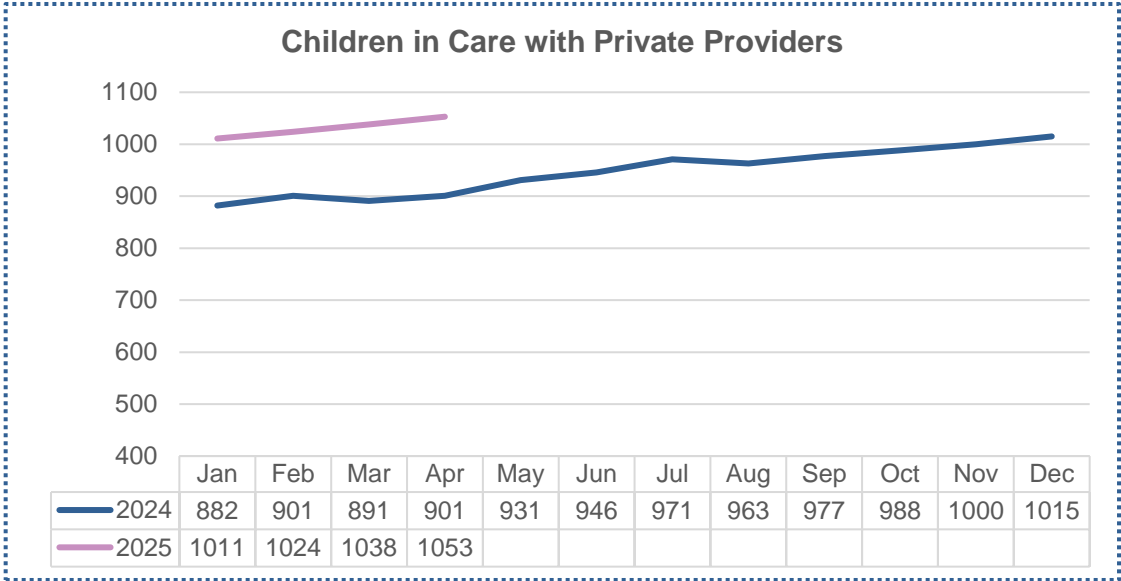
Area	Apr-24	Mar-25	Apr-25	Apr-25 v Apr-24	Apr-25 v Mar-25	Population	Rate/1,000
Dublin North City	474	466	471	-3	5	48,909	9.6
Waterford/Wexford	426	412	412	-14	0	69,239	6.0
Donegal	219	246	242	23	-4	42,144	5.7
Midwest	494	497	493	-1	-4	96,764	5.1
CW/KK/ST	312	314	314	2	0	62,366	5
Kerry	163	173	173	10	0	34,994	4.9
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	112	119	119	7	0	24,312	4.9
Cork	692	656	657	-35	1	136,786	4.8
Dublin South Central	333	334	331	-2	-3	70,259	4.7
Mayo	144	146	148	4	2	31,911	4.6
Midlands	332	356	354	22	-2	80,962	4.4
Louth/Meath	416	420	423	7	3	96,531	4.4
Cavan/Monaghan	162	165	162	0	-3	37,336	4.3
Galway/Roscommon	354	345	348	-6	3	81,799	4.3
Dublin North	412	416	418	6	2	104,281	4.0
DSW/K/WW	395	412	410	15	-2	108,927	3.8
Dublin South East/Wicklow	206	202	200	-6	-2	91,047	2.2
Total Areas	5646	5679	5675	29	-4	1,218,567	4.7
SCSIP	135	104	106	-29	2		
Total National	5,781	5,783	5,781	0	-2		

Population: CSO Census 2022

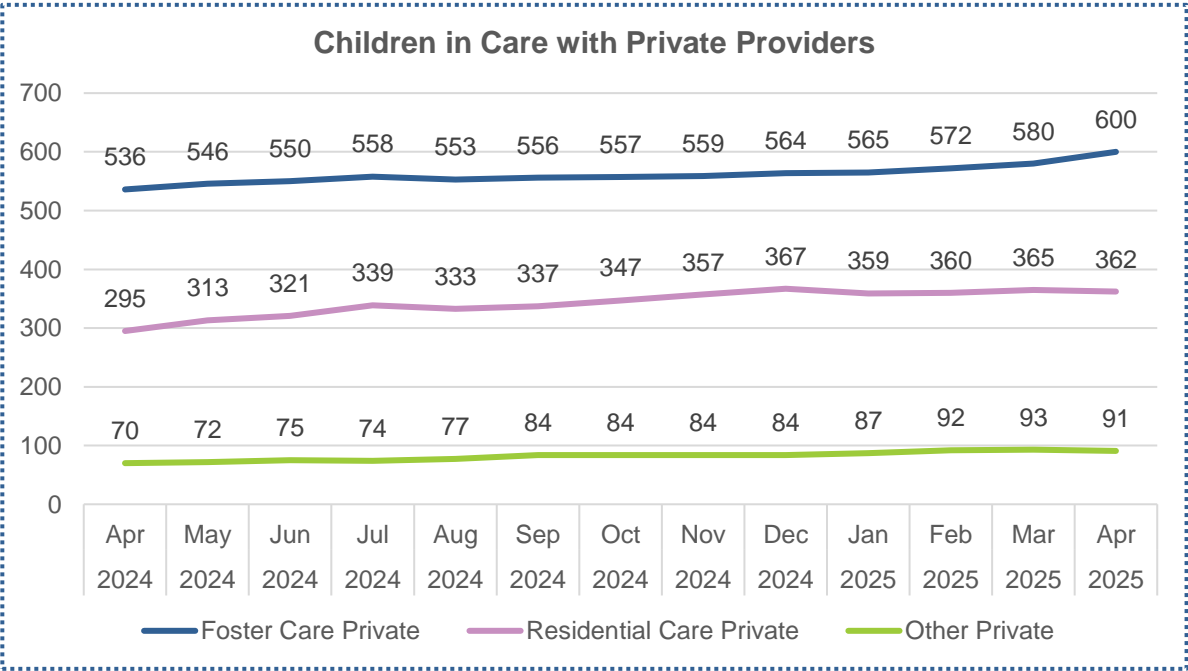
Children in Care

Private Providers

- 1,053 (18%) children in care at the end of April 2025 were in placements with private providers, 15 (1%) more than March 2025 (1,038) and 152 (17%) more than April 2024 (901).



- 600 (57%) children in placements with private providers were in **foster care**, 20 (3%) more than March 2025 (580) and 64 (12%) more than April 2024 (536).
- 362 (34%) children were in **residential care**, three fewer than March 2025 (365) and 67 (23%) more than April 2024 (295).
- The remaining **91 (9%)** children were in **“Other” care placements**, two fewer than March 2025 (93) and 21 (30%) more than April 2024 (70). *“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 (144) followed by Dublin South Central (120), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (119), Dublin North (119) and Midlands (104). These five areas account for 58% (606) of children in placements with private providers.



Children in Care with Private Providers

	Apr-24	Mar-25	Apr-25	Apr-25 v Apr-24	Apr-25 v Mar-25
Children in Care (Private)					
Dublin North City	115	138	144	29	6
Dublin South Central	108	118	120	12	2
DSW/K/WW	106	112	119	13	7
Dublin North	102	122	119	17	-3
Midlands	75	97	104	29	7
SCSIP	48	67	70	22	3
Cork	59	60	62	3	2
Louth/Meath	48	52	51	3	-1
Waterford/Wexford	46	51	51	5	0
Dublin South East/Wicklow	53	50	47	-6	-3
Midwest	36	40	40	4	0
Kerry	32	32	33	1	1
CW/KK/ST	21	27	26	5	-1
Donegal	21	28	25	4	-3
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	12	15	16	4	1
Galway/Roscommon	13	19	16	3	-3
Cavan/Monaghan	5	8	8	3	0
Mayo	1	2	2	1	0
Total	901	1,038	1,053	152	15

Children in Care

Allocated Cases

Reflecting an ongoing changing environment and significant social work vacancies, Tusla has moved to a more multi-disciplinary way of working with children now allocated to social workers and other professional grades where necessary and appropriate to ensure they have the support of a key worker. All children continue to be overseen by social work management.

To improve transparency and ensure the data reported reflects our practice change, reports (from January 2025) now reflect where a child is allocated a social worker and where they are allocated to another professional. Other professionals include professionally qualified social care leaders, social care workers, family support workers, therapists etc.

- **98% (5,666) of children in care at the end of April 2025 had an allocated worker.**
- Of the 5,666 children allocated, 89% (5,028) were allocated to a social worker and 11% (638) were allocated to another professional.
- A total of 115 (2%) children were awaiting allocation, 23 (25%) more than March 2025 (92).
- 8 of the 17 areas report no cases awaiting allocation with a further five areas and the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection reporting fewer than 10 cases awaiting allocation.
- Of the remaining four areas, the highest number of cases awaiting allocation was reported by Dublin South Central (37) followed by Louth/Meath (28), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (22) and Cork (12).

Breakdown of allocation status by area and role of worker, April 2025. Ranked by % Allocated

Area	Allocated SW	% Allocated SW	Allocated OP	% Allocated OP	Total Allocated	% Allocated	Awaiting Allocation	% Awaiting Allocation	Total in Care
Donegal	242	100%	0	0%	242	100%	0	0%	242
Mayo	148	100%	0	0%	148	100%	0	0%	148
Cavan/Monaghan	160	99%	2	1%	162	100%	0	0%	162
Galway/Roscommon	343	99%	5	1%	348	100%	0	0%	348
Midlands	345	97%	9	3%	354	100%	0	0%	354
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	113	95%	6	5%	119	100%	0	0%	119
Kerry	164	95%	9	5%	173	100%	0	0%	173
Dublin North City	433	92%	38	8%	471	100%	0	0%	471
Mid West	343	70%	149	30%	492	99.8%	1	0%	493
Dublin North	380	91%	37	9%	417	99.8%	1	0%	418
Waterford/Wexford	388	94%	23	6%	411	99.8%	1	0%	412
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	151	48%	161	52%	312	99%	2	1%	314
Cork	637	99%	8	1%	645	98%	12	2%	657
Dublin South East/Wicklow	181	93%	13	7%	194	97%	6	3%	200
SCSIP	101	100%	0	0%	101	95%	5	5%	106
DSW/K/WW	294	76%	94	24%	388	95%	22	5%	410
Louth/Meath	359	91%	36	9%	395	93%	28	7%	423
Dublin South Central	246	84%	48	16%	294	89%	37	11%	331
Total	5028	89%	638	11%	5666	98%	115	2%	5781

Children in Care

Care Plan

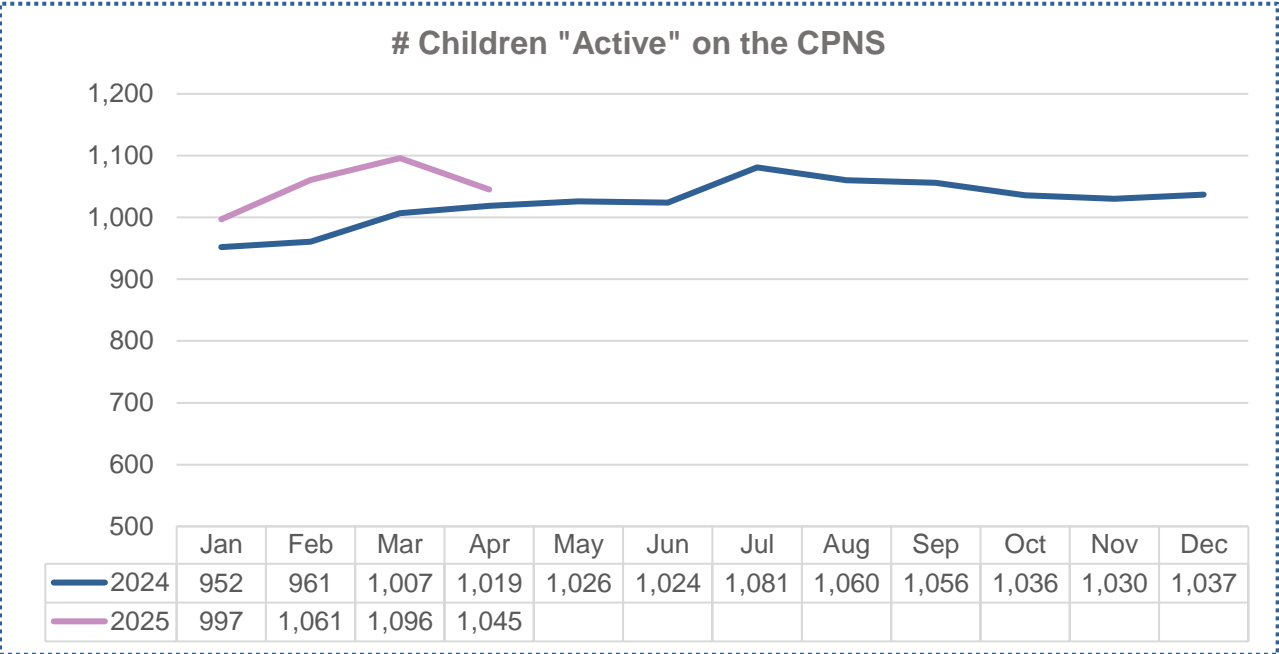
- 83% (4,788) of children in care at the end of April 2025 had an up-to-date care plan, no change from March 2025.
- A total of 993 (17%) children were awaiting an up-to-date care plan, 27 (3%) more than March 2025 (966).
- Highest numbers awaiting an up-to-date care plan reported by Dublin North City (145; 31%); Dublin South Central (115; 35%), Louth/Meath (112; 26%) and Midwest (110; 22%)

Area breakdown of children in care with an up-to-date care plan– April 2025

Area	UTD Care Plan	Awaiting UTD Care Plan	Total	% UTD Care Plan
Dublin South East/Wicklow	146	54	200	73%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	356	54	410	87%
Dublin South Central	216	115	331	65%
Midlands	349	5	354	99%
Dublin North City	326	145	471	69%
Dublin North	326	92	418	78%
Louth/Meath	311	112	423	74%
Cavan/Monaghan	136	26	162	84%
Kerry	143	30	173	83%
Cork	581	76	657	88%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	300	14	314	96%
Waterford/Wexford	385	27	412	93%
Donegal	223	19	242	92%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	105	14	119	88%
Mayo	124	24	148	84%
Galway/Roscommon	299	49	348	86%
Midwest	383	110	493	78%
SCSIP	79	27	106	75%
Total	4,788	993	5,781	83%

Child Protection Notification System

- **1,045 children listed as ‘active’** on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) at the end of April 2025, 51 (5%) fewer than March 2025 (1,096) when the highest number for the period January 2024 – March 2025 was reported.
- There were 26 (3%) more children ‘active’ at the end of April 2025 than at the end April 2024 (1,019).
- It should be noted that a small number of large sibling groups can have a significant effect on numbers reported.
- All but one child ‘active’ at the end of April 2025 were allocated to a social worker. This child was subsequently allocated.
- Highest numbers of children listed as ‘active’ at the end of April 2025, reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (132), Dublin North City (123), Cork (114) and Midlands (108).
- Fewest numbers reported by Kerry (14) and Cavan/Monaghan (16)
- The number of children ‘active’ equates to 9 children per 10,000 under 18 years.
- Highest rates reported by Dublin North City (25.1), Midlands (13.3) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (12.1)
- Lowest rates reported Dublin South East/Wicklow (3.8) and Kerry (4.0).
- 4 of the 17 areas had more children listed as ‘active’ at the end of April 2025 than at the end of March 2025. Largest increases reported by Galway/Roscommon (up 7) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 6) and Donegal (up 5).
- 13 of the 17 areas reported fewer children ‘active’ with the largest decrease reported by Midlands (down 10), Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (down 9) and Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (down 8).
- 8 of the 17 areas had more children active at the end of April 2025 than at the end of April 2024. Largest increases reported by Midlands (up 44), Galway/Roscommon (up 35), Dublin South Central (up 24) and Dublin North City (up 23).
- 8 of the 17 areas reported a decrease. Largest decreases reported by Midwest (down 50), Donegal (down 22) and Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (down 20).
- The remaining area (Dublin south east/Wicklow) reported no change.



Number and rate of children ‘active’ on the CPNS, by area (ranked by rate)

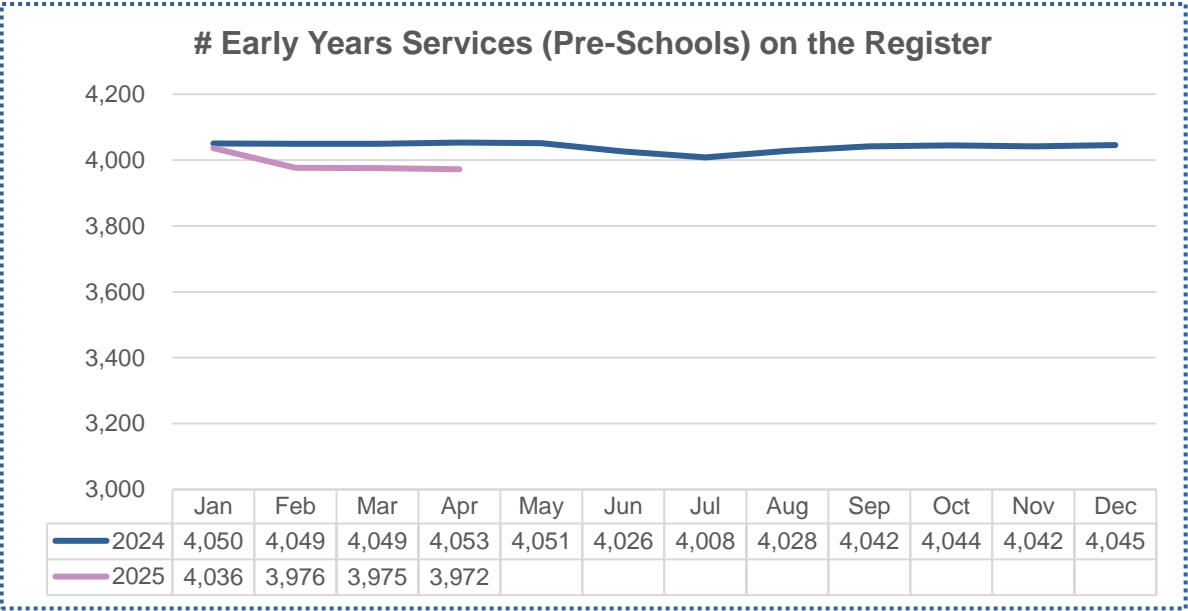
Area	Apr-24	Mar-25	Apr-25	Apr-25 v Apr-24	Apr-25 v Mar-25	Population	Rate/10,000
Dublin North City	100	128	123	23	-5	48,909	25.1
Midlands	64	118	108	44	-10	80,962	13.3
DSW/K/WW	117	126	132	15	6	108,927	12.1
Galway / Roscommon	47	75	82	35	7	81,799	10.0
Dublin South Central	46	71	70	24	-1	70,259	10.0
SLWC	15	32	23	8	-9	24,312	9.5
Mayo	17	33	28	11	-5	31,911	8.8
Donegal	58	31	36	-22	5	42,144	8.5
Cork	108	119	114	6	-5	136,786	8.3
Mid West	121	77	71	-50	-6	96,764	7.3
CW/K/ST	63	51	43	-20	-8	62,366	6.9
Dublin North	81	71	65	-16	-6	104,281	6.2
Louth / Meath	63	55	51	-12	-4	96,531	5.3
Waterford / Wexford	42	39	34	-8	-5	69,239	4.9
Cavan / Monaghan	23	18	16	-7	-2	37,336	4.3
Kerry	19	18	14	-5	-4	34,994	4.0
DSE/WW	35	34	35	0	1	91,047	3.8
Total	1,019	1,096	1,045	26	-51	1,218,567	8.6

Population 0-17 years – source CSO Census 2022

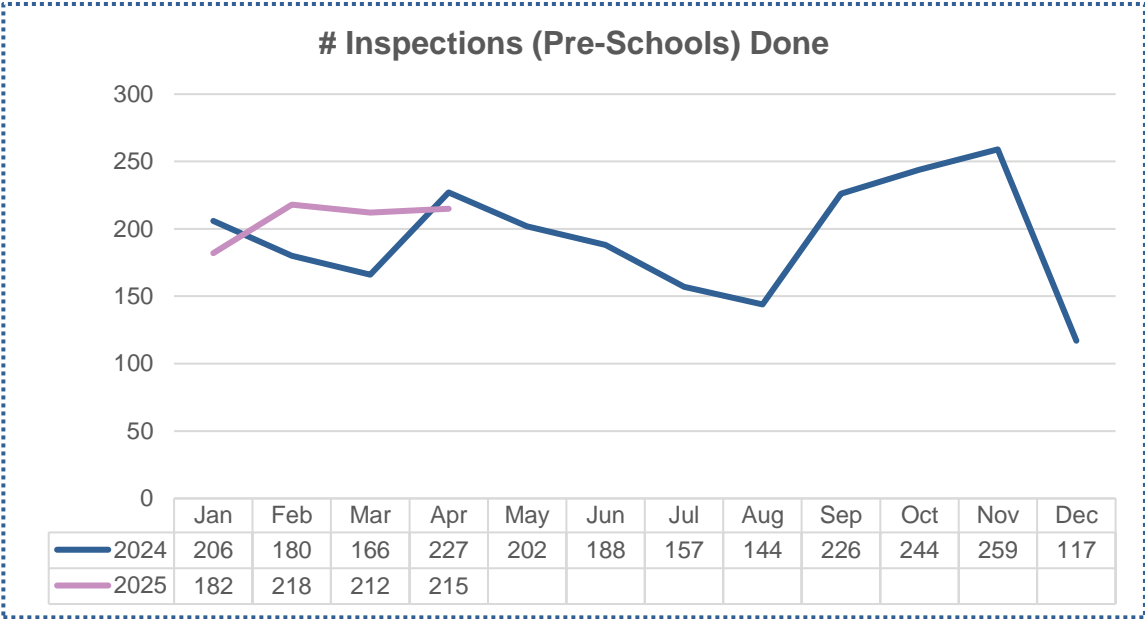
Children’s Services Regulation

EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

- **3,972 early years services (pre-schools) on the register at the end of April 2025**, three fewer than March 2025 (3,975) and 81 (2%) fewer than April 2024 (4,053). *The reduction between January and February 2025 is partly explained by the transfer of a number of registered childminders from the Pre-School Register to the new Childminder Register of Services.*

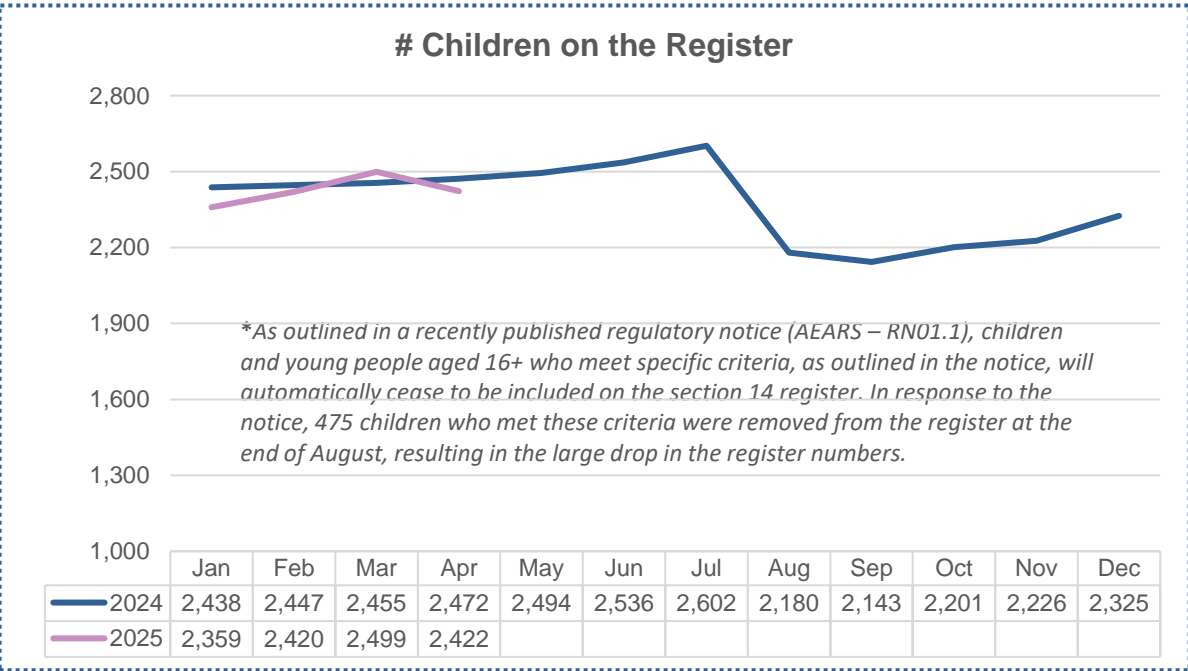


- **215 inspections** of early years services (pre-schools) in April 2025.
- This brings to 827 the number of inspections for the first four months of 2025, 48 (6%) more than the same period in 2024 (779)

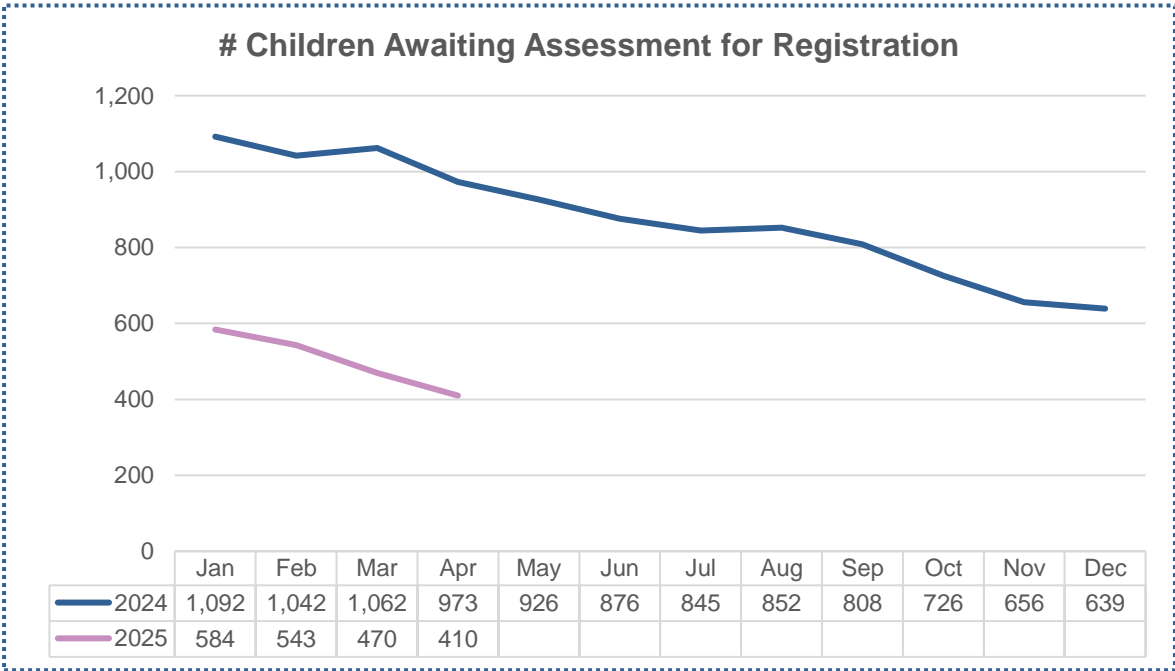


ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION SERVICE

- **2,422 children on the register** for home education at the end of April 2025, 77 (3%) fewer than March 2025 (2,499). First decrease after six consecutive increases.



- **410 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of April 2025**, 60 (13%) fewer than March 2025 (470) and 563 (58%) fewer than April 2024 (973). Decreasing trend continues.



Tusla Education Support Services

- **942 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in April 2025. This brings to 7,207 the number of referrals for the first eight months of the academic year 2024 – 2025, some 886 (14%) more than the same period in the previous academic year (6,321).

- **4,890 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of April 2025, 263 (6%) more than March 2025 (4,627).
- 869 2%) more referrals on a waiting list at the end of April 2025 than at the end of April 2024 (4,021).

- **325 new individual children worked** with in April 2025. This brings to 3,086 the number of new individual children worked with in the eight months of the academic year 2024-2025, some 74 (2%) more than the previous academic year (3,012).

