



An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency

# **MONTHLY SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT**

**AUGUST 2024**

03 October 2024  
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 – August 2024

## Child Protection & Welfare

- **6,879 referrals** in August 2024, 415 (6%) fewer than July 2024 (7,294) and 204 (3%) fewer than August 2023 (7,083). This brings to **61,981 the number of referrals for the first eight months of 2024**, 800 (1%) more than the same period in 2023 (61,181).
- **20,111 cases open to social work** at the end of August 2024, 584 (3%) fewer than July 2024 (20,695) and 1,427 (7%) fewer than August 2023 (21,538). *Open cases include child protection and welfare cases including children in care.*
- **78% (15,692) of cases open to social work at the end of August 2024 had an allocated worker**, no change from July 2024. (Ref note on Page 4).
- **4,419 cases awaiting allocation** at the end of August 2024, 203 (4%) fewer than July 2024 (4,622). Third consecutive monthly decrease. Cases awaiting allocation are down 668 (13%) from August 2023 (5,087).
- Six areas account for 66% (2,908) of cases awaiting allocation: Dublin South Central (1,070), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (431), Louth/Meath (413), Cork (375), Midwest (318) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (301).
- **12% (514) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of August 2024 were categorised as high priority**, 23 (5%) more than July 2024 (491) and 114 (29%) more than August 2023 (400).

## Children in Care

- **5,759 children (0-17 years) in care at the end of August 2024, 44 (<1%) fewer than July 2024 (5,803).** Figure includes 115 children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (SCSIP).
- **87.5% (5,040)\* of all children in care (17 Areas and SCSIP) are in foster care** (3,584 general foster care, and 1,456 relative foster), **8.7% (500) are in residential care** (486 general residential care and 14 special care) and **3.8% (219) are in “other” care placements.**
- Across Tusla’s 17 areas 89% (5,016/5,644) of children in care are in foster care.
- **963 (17%) children in care at the end of August 2024 were in placements with private providers**, 8 (<1%) fewer than July 2024 (971) and the first decrease after four consecutive monthly increases.
- **82% (4,750)** of children in care at the end of August 2024 had **an allocated worker** with three areas reporting 100%. A total of 1,009 children were awaiting allocation, 84 (8%) fewer than July 2024 (1,093).
- **85% (4,921) of children in care at the end of August 2024 had an up-to-date care plan.** A total of 838 children were awaiting an up-to-date care plan, 43 (5%) fewer than July 2024 (881).

*\*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)

- **1,060 children listed as “active”** on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) at the end of August 2024, 21 (2%) fewer than July 2024 (1,081).
- There were 133 (14%) more children “active” at the end of August 2024 than at the end of August 2023 (927).
- All children listed as “active” at the end of August 2024 had an **allocated social worker**.

## Children’s Services Regulation

- **4,028 early years services on the register at the end of August 2024**, 20 (<1%) more than July 2024 (4,008) and 5 (<1%) fewer than August 2023 (4,033).
- **144 inspections** of early years services in August 2024. This brings to 1,470 the number of inspections for the first eight months of 2024, 89 (6%) fewer than the same period in 2023 (1,559).
- **2,180 children on the register** for home education at the end of August 2024.
- **852 children on a waiting list for assessment** at the end of August 2024, 7 (<1%) more than July 2024 (845) and 484 (36%) fewer than August 2023 (1,336).

## Tusla Education Support Services

- **188 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in August 2024. This brings to 8,042 the number of referrals for the academic year 2023-2024, 658 (9%) more than the same period in 2022-2023 (7,384).
- **3,509 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of August 2024, 161 (4%) fewer than July 2024 (3,670).
- 25 (<1%) more referrals on a waiting list at the end of August 2024 (3,509) than at the end of August 2023 (3,484).
- **175 new individual children worked with** in August 2024. This brings to 3,924 the number of new individual children worked with for the academic year 2023-2024, 523 (15%) more than the same period in 2022-2023 (3,401).

# Child Protection and Welfare

## Referrals<sup>1</sup>

- **6,879 referrals** in August 2024, 415 (6%) fewer than July 2024 (7,294) and 204 (3%) fewer than August 2023 (7,083).
- This brings to 61,981 the number of referrals for the first eight months of 2024, 800 (1%) more than the same period in 2023 (61,181).

*It should be noted that the data presented for the first three months of 2024 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for Apr-Aug 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

- **20,111 cases open to social work** at the end of August 2024, 584 (3%) fewer than July 2024 (20,695) and 1,427 (7%) fewer than August 2023 (21,538). *Open cases from September 2023 include cases awaiting categorisation. See note below.*

Notes:

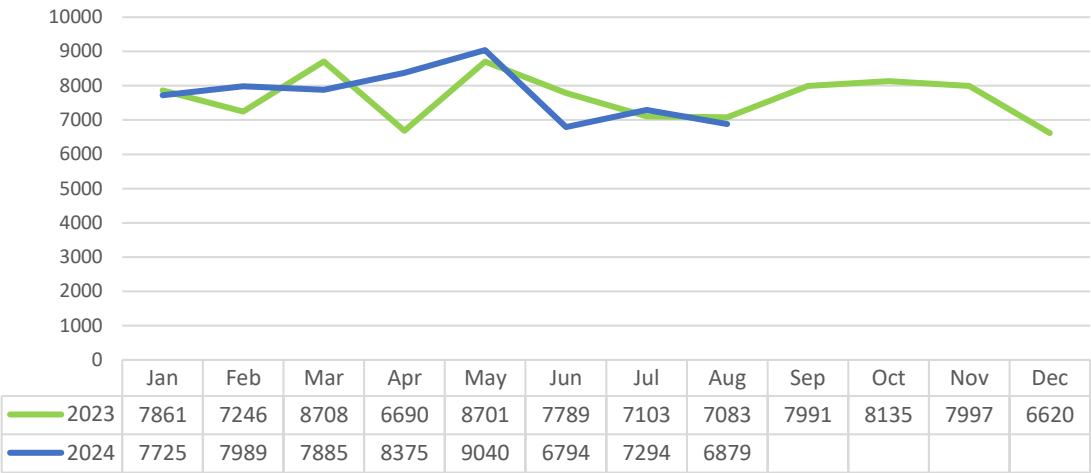
- 1) *From September 2023, open cases (allocated/unallocated) include cases “awaiting categorisation” at month end. This is in addition to cases categorised as high, medium and low. The category “awaiting categorisation” was introduced this year to reflect better questions being asked at screening and 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

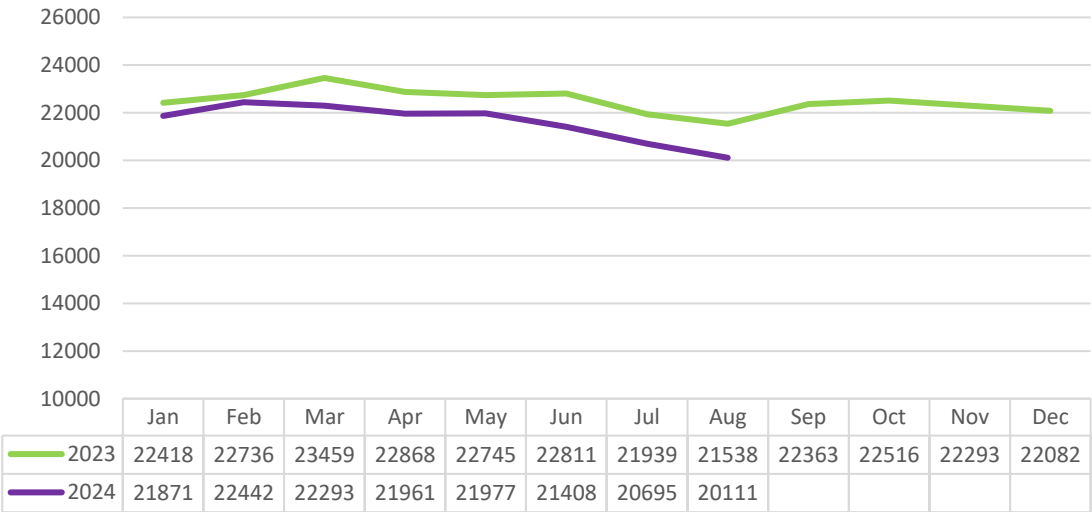
- **15,692 open cases were allocated** at the end of August 2024, 381 (2%) fewer than July 2024 (16,073) and 759 (5%) fewer than August 2023 (16,451).
- Allocated cases account for 78% of open cases, no change from July 2024.

*These numbers of allocated cases reflect a changing environment in Tusla where allocation of cases to a social worker has become more difficult with reduced availability of social workers nationally. Many cases are now allocated to other professionals also reflecting the changing nature of social work teams. In many instances where cases are unallocated to a social worker there is a social care worker or leader allocated to the case.*

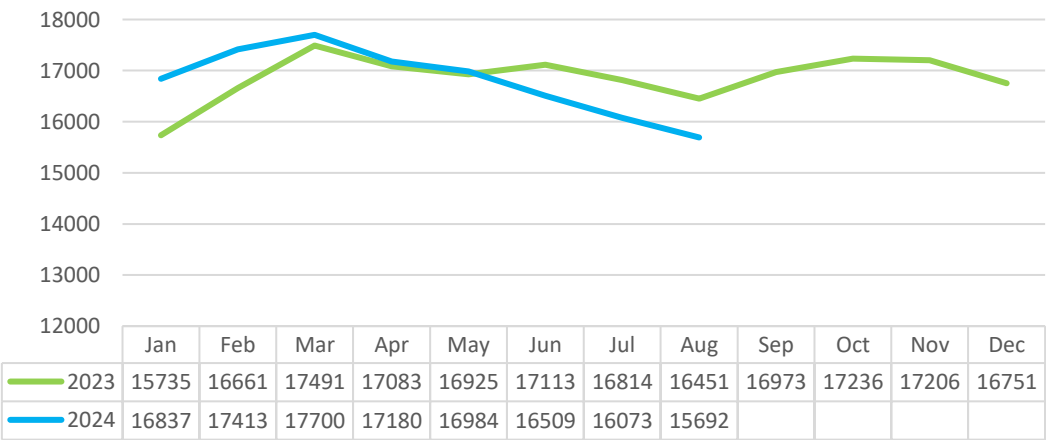
# Referrals



Number of Open Cases



Number of Allocated Cases



<sup>1</sup> 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).

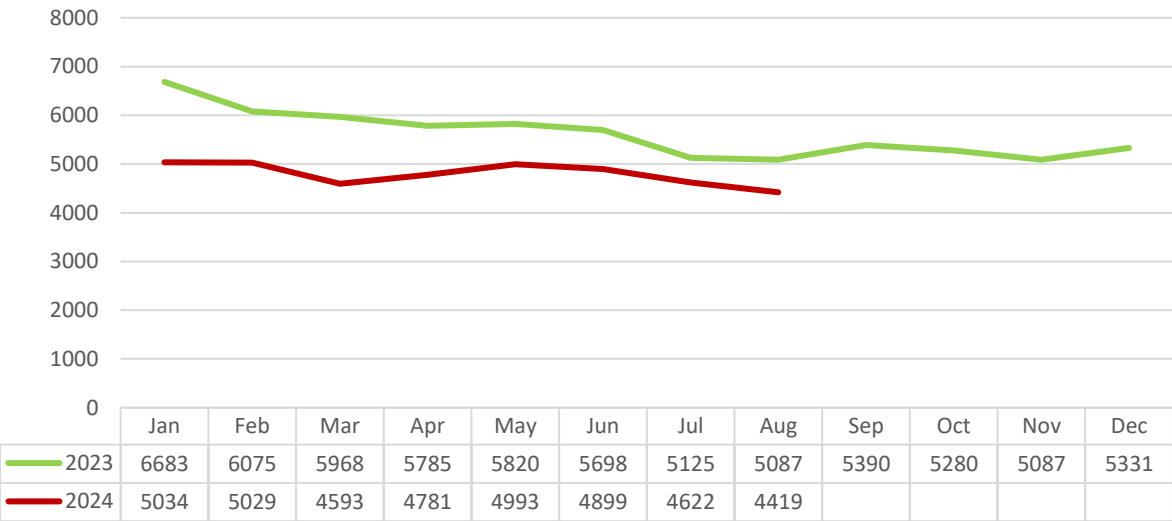
# Child Protection & Welfare

## Cases Awaiting Allocation

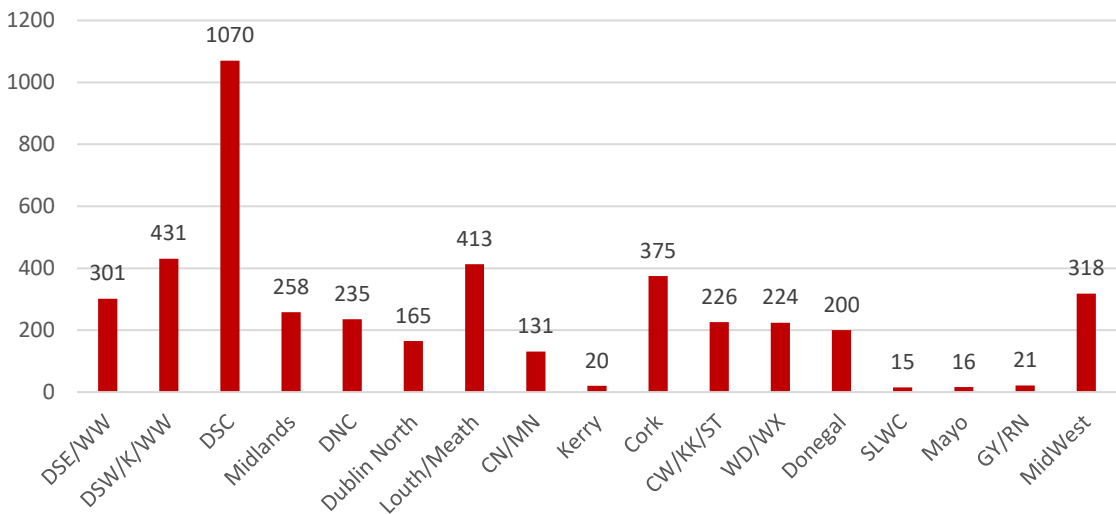
Cases awaiting allocation include cases held on duty, unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care

- **4,419 cases awaiting allocation** at the end of August 2024, 203 (4%) fewer than July 2024 (4,622). Third consecutive monthly decrease.
- Cases awaiting allocation are down 668 (13%) from August 2023 (5,087).
- Cases awaiting allocation account for 22% of open cases (20,111), no change from July 2024,
- **36% (1,591) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of August 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 (1,070) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (431), Louth/Meath (413), Cork (375), Midwest (318) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (301). These six areas account for 66% (2,908) of all cases awaiting allocation.
- **514 cases awaiting allocation at the end of August 2024 were categorised as high priority**, 23 (5%) more than July 2024 (491) and 114 (29%) more than August 2023 (400).
- High priority cases account for 12% of cases awaiting allocation.
- 58% (2,546) of cases awaiting allocation were categorised at medium priority, 29% (1,296) were low priority while the remaining 1% (63) were awaiting categorisation.
- Highest number of high priority cases reported by Midwest (97), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (75), Dublin South Central (64), Midlands (54), Louth/Meath (53) and Donegal (47). These six areas account for 76% (390) of all high priority cases awaiting.

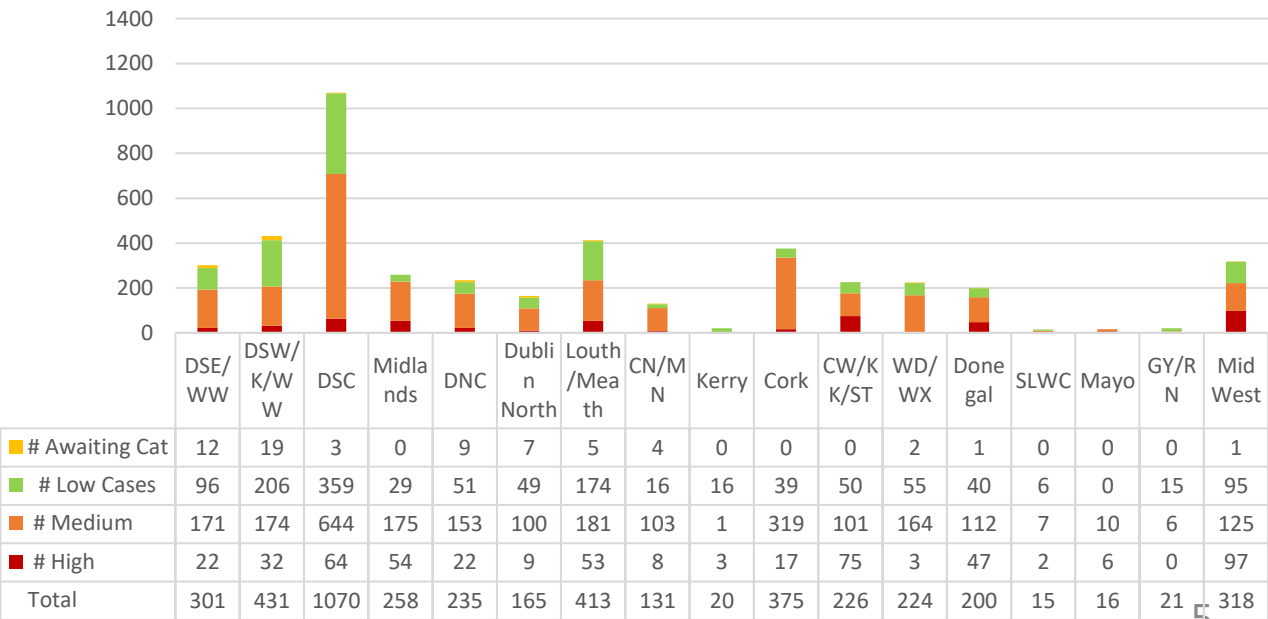
Number of Unallocated Cases



Number of Unallocated Cases











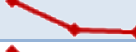








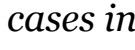

Number Unallocated Cases by Priority Level



# Child Protection & Welfare

## Cases Awaiting Allocation

- 13/17 areas reported a decrease in cases awaiting allocation from July 2024.
- Largest decreases reported by Dublin North City (down 45), Dublin North (down 43) and Cork (down 41).
- 4/17 areas reported an increase in cases awaiting allocation from July 2024. Largest increases reported by Louth/Meath (up 14) and Waterford/Wexford (up 12).
- Nationally 22% of open cases were awaiting allocation at the end of August 2024. Seven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 22%. Highest percentages reported by Dublin South Central (49%), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (35%), Dublin South East/Wicklow (32%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (29%), Louth/Meath (27%), Midwest (25%) and Donegal (24%).
- 10/17 areas had fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of August 2024 than at the end of August 2023. Largest decreases reported by Cork (down 427), Waterford/Wexford (down 252) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 194).
- 7/17 areas had more cases awaiting allocation at the end of August 2024 than at the end of August 2023. Largest increases reported by Dublin South Central (up 120), Louth/Meath (up 114) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (up 82).

Area	Aug-23 # Unallocated	Aug-23 % Unallocated	Jun-24 # Unallocated	Jul-24 # Unallocated	Aug-24 # Unallocated	Aug-24 % Unallocated		Aug-24 v Aug-23	% Δ	Aug-24 v Jul-24	% Δ1
DSE/WW	219	23%	340	334	301	32%		82	37%	-33	-10%
DSW/K/WW	625	40%	462	432	431	29%		-194	-31%	-1	0%
DSC	950	48%	1194	1066	1070	49%		120	13%	4	0%
Midlands	219	12%	262	261	258	17%		39	18%	-3	-1%
DNC	229	14%	229	280	235	15%		6	3%	-45	-16%
Dublin North	272	11%	147	208	165	9%		-107	-39%	-43	-21%
Louth/Meath	299	24%	450	399	413	27%		114	38%	14	4%
CN/MN	134	21%	140	125	131	19%		-3	-2%	6	5%
Kerry	29	7%	31	21	20	5%		-9	-31%	-1	-5%
Cork	802	30%	482	416	375	16%		-427	-53%	-41	-10%
CW/KK/ST	248	29%	227	232	226	35%		-22	-9%	-6	-3%
WD/WX	476	31%	271	212	224	18%		-252	-53%	12	6%
Donegal	211	25%	213	232	200	24%		-11	-5%	-32	-14%
SLWC	66	20%	11	16	15	6%		-51	-77%	-1	-6%
Mayo	14	4%	19	18	16	5%		2	14%	-2	-11%
GY/RN	53	5%	84	22	21	2%		-32	-60%	-1	-5%
MidWest	241	20%	337	348	318	25%		77	32%	-30	-9%
TOTAL	5087	24%	4899	4622	4419	22%		-668	-13%	-203	-4.4%

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	Jul-24	Aug-24	Δ	Jul-24	Aug-24	Δ2	Jul-24	Aug-24	Δ3	Jul-24	Aug-24	Δ4
DSE/WW	248	245	-3	911	940	29	577	639	62	334	301	-33
DSW/K/WW	727	628	-99	1,487	1,471	-16	1,055	1,040	-15	432	431	-1
DSC	509	517	8	2,199	2,206	7	1,133	1,136	3	1066	1,070	4
Midlands	820	677	-143	1,739	1,536	-203	1,478	1,278	-200	261	258	-3
DNC	422	368	-54	1,663	1,578	-85	1,383	1,343	-40	280	235	-45
Dublin North	677	705	28	1,822	1,753	-69	1,614	1,588	-26	208	165	-43
Louth/Meath	523	551	28	1,513	1,535	22	1,114	1,122	8	399	413	14
CN/MN	232	214	-18	708	693	-15	583	562	-21	125	131	6
Kerry	230	270	40	377	379	2	356	359	3	21	20	-1
Cork	679	614	-65	2,343	2,310	-33	1,927	1,935	8	416	375	-41
CW/KK/ST	357	332	-25	652	655	3	420	429	9	232	226	-6
WD/WX	503	514	11	1,221	1,253	32	1,009	1,029	20	212	224	12
Donegal	227	235	8	858	831	-27	626	631	5	232	200	-32
SLWC	117	110	-7	264	270	6	248	255	7	16	15	-1
Mayo	113	72	-41	341	329	-12	323	313	-10	18	16	-2
GY/RN	375	323	-52	1,275	1,100	-175	1,253	1,079	-174	22	21	-1
MidWest	535	504	-31	1,322	1,272	-50	974	954	-20	348	318	-30
Total	7,294	6,879	-415	20,695	20,111	-584	16,073	15,692	-381	4,622	4,419	-203

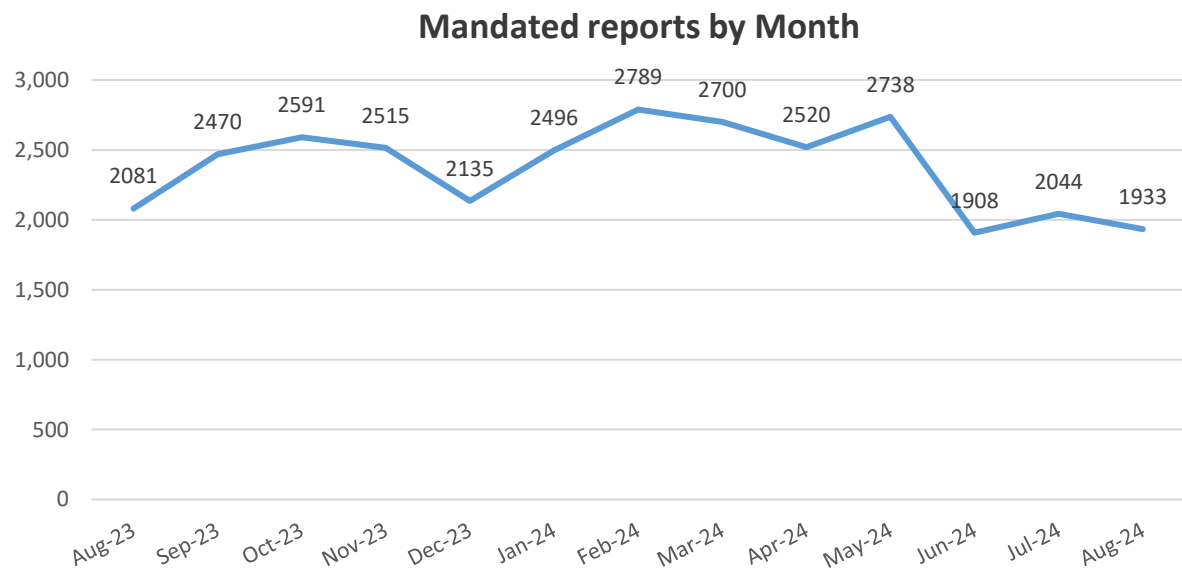
High Priority Awaiting				Medium Priority Awaiting			Low Priority Awaiting			Awaiting Categorisation		
Area	Jul-24	Aug-24	Δ	Jul-24	Aug-24	Δ 2	Jul-24	Aug-24	Δ 3	Jul-24	Aug-24	Δ 4
DSE/WW	19	22	3	195	171	-24	110	96	-14	10	12	2
DSW/K/WW	35	32	-3	203	174	-29	177	206	29	17	19	2
DSC	52	64	12	629	644	15	367	359	-8	18	3	-15
Midlands	49	54	5	165	175	10	47	29	-18	0	0	0
DNC	23	22	-1	163	153	-10	74	51	-23	20	9	-11
Dublin North	16	9	-7	125	100	-25	61	49	-12	6	7	1
Louth/Meath	49	53	4	159	181	22	175	174	-1	16	5	-11
CN/MN	4	8	4	103	103	0	18	16	-2	0	4	4
Kerry	1	3	2	3	1	-2	15	16	1	2	0	-2
Cork	10	17	7	340	319	-21	64	39	-25	2	0	-2
CW/KK/ST	63	75	12	107	101	-6	60	50	-10	2	0	-2
WD/WX	3	3	0	146	164	18	58	55	-3	5	2	-3
Donegal	61	47	-14	139	112	-27	30	40	10	2	1	-1
SLWC	0	2	2	9	7	-2	5	6	1	2	0	-2
Mayo	8	6	-2	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GY/RN	1	0	-1	9	6	-3	11	15	4	1	0	-1
MidWest	97	97	0	137	125	-12	111	95	-16	3	1	-2
TOTAL	491	514	23	2,642	2,546	-96	1,383	1,296	-87	106	63	-43

# Mandated Reports<sup>1</sup> – Child Protection & Welfare

- **1,933 mandated reports of abuse** received in August 2024, 111 (5%) fewer than July 2024 (2,044) and 148 (7%) fewer than August 2024 (2,081). This brings to 19,128 the number of reports for the first eight months of 2024, 180 (1%) more than the same period in 2023 (18,948).

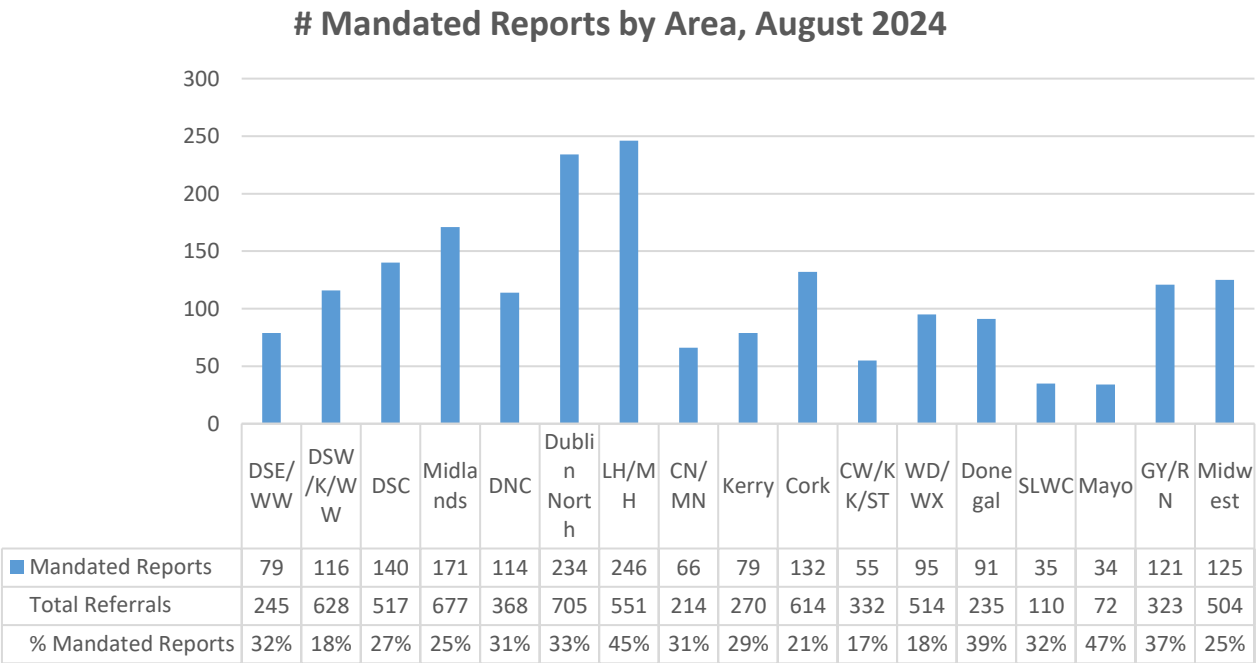
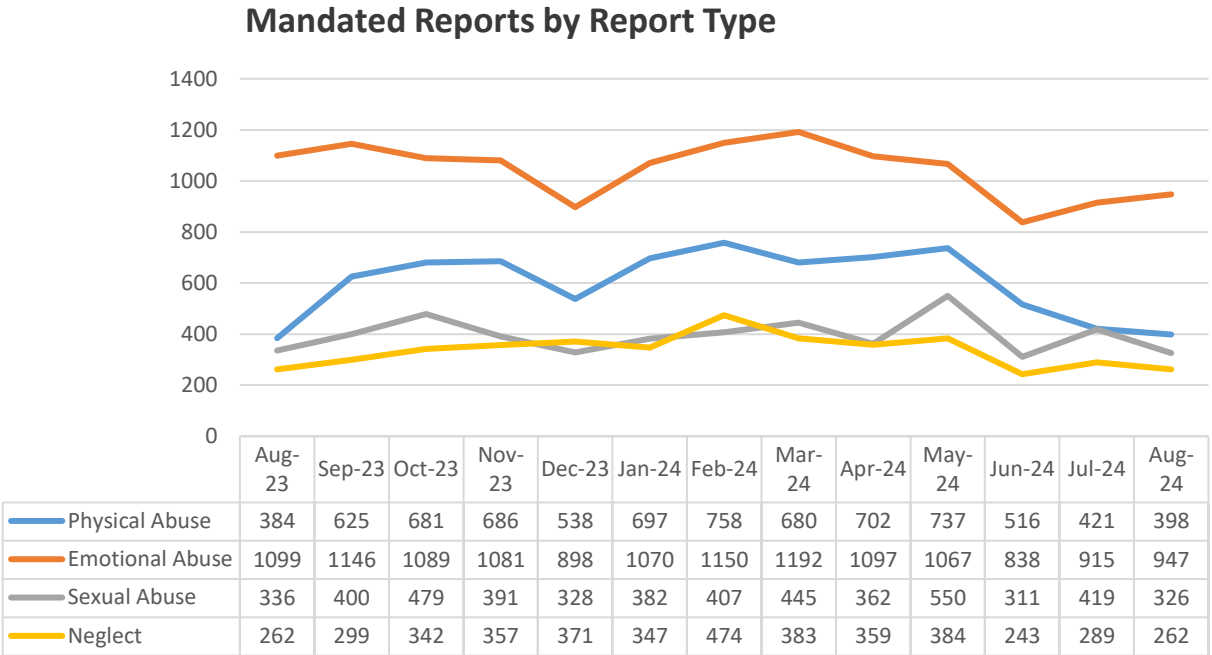
*It should be noted that the data presented for the first three months of 2024 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for Apr-Aug 2024 is based on referrals logged on the Tusla Case Management (TCM) system at the time the data was extracted for reporting. Referrals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

- Mandated reports accounted for 28% (1,933) of all referrals received (6,879) in August 2024.



- The number of mandated reports for August 2024, by area ranged from 34 (Mayo) to 246 (Louth/Meath).
- As a percentage of referrals, the highest percentage (47%) was reported by Mayo.
- The lowest percentage (17%) was reported by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary.

- Highest number of reports for August 2024 were for emotional abuse (947; 49%) followed by physical abuse (398; 21%), sexual abuse (326; 17%) and neglect (262; 14%).



<sup>1</sup> Mandated reports are included in the data on referrals (slide 4)



# Mandated Reports – Child Protection & Welfare

## Source of Reports

- Highest number of reports for August 2024 from An Garda Síochána (890; 46%) followed safeguarding officer (289; 15%); social workers (205; 11%), social care workers (108; 6%), managers of domestic violence shelters (89; 5%) and medical practitioners (69; 4%). These six sources account for 85%% (1,650) of reports for August 2024.
- Highest number of reports for 2024 YTD from An Garda Síochána (7,416; 39% followed by safeguarding officers (2,548; 13%), teachers (2,391; 13%), social workers (2,207; 12%), social care workers (893; 5%) and medical practitioners (677; 4%). These six sources account for 84% (16,132) of reports for 2024 YTD.

Source (Schedule 2 Children First 2015)	# August 2024	% August 2024	Total 2024 YTD	% Total 2024
Medical practitioner (Registered)	69	3.6%	677	3.5%
Nurse or registered midwife (Registered)	51	2.6%	407	2.1%
Physiotherapist (Registered)	*	0.1%	36	0.2%
Speech & language therapist (Registered)	*	0.2%	25	0.1%
Occupational therapist (Registered)	*	0.2%	39	0.2%
Registered dentist	0	0.0%	10	0.1%
Psychologist who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	40	2.1%	444	2.3%
Social care worker	108	5.6%	893	4.7%
Social worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	205	10.6%	2,207	11.5%
EMT, paramedic and advanced paramedic	*	0.1%	16	0.1%
Probation officer	*	0.2%	24	0.1%
Teacher registered with the Teaching Council.	19	1.0%	2,391	12.5%
An Garda Síochána Member	890	46.0%	7,416	38.8%
Guardian ad litem	*	0.1%	39	0.2%
Domestic violence shelter manager	89	4.6%	585	3.1%
Homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility manager	24	1.2%	182	1.0%
Asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre manager	20	1.0%	57	0.3%
Addiction counsellor	*	0.1%	27	0.1%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling	50	2.6%	486	2.5%
Language school or other recreational school where children reside	*	0.2%	*	0.0%
Clergy member	*	0.1%	*	0.0%
Institution where a child is detained by an order of a court (Director)	*	0.2%	17	0.1%
Safeguarding officer, child protection officer	289	15.0%	2,548	13.3%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service	6	0.3%	77	0.4%
Youth work service - person responsible for the care or management	9	0.5%	73	0.4%
Youth worker employed in a youth work service	33	1.7%	352	1.8%
Foster carer registered with the Agency.	*	0.2%	23	0.1%
Pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act	*	0.1%	68	0.4%
Total (includes suppressed values)	1,933	100.0%	19,128	100.0%

\*Values suppressed for confidentiality purposes. Suppressed figures included in totals.

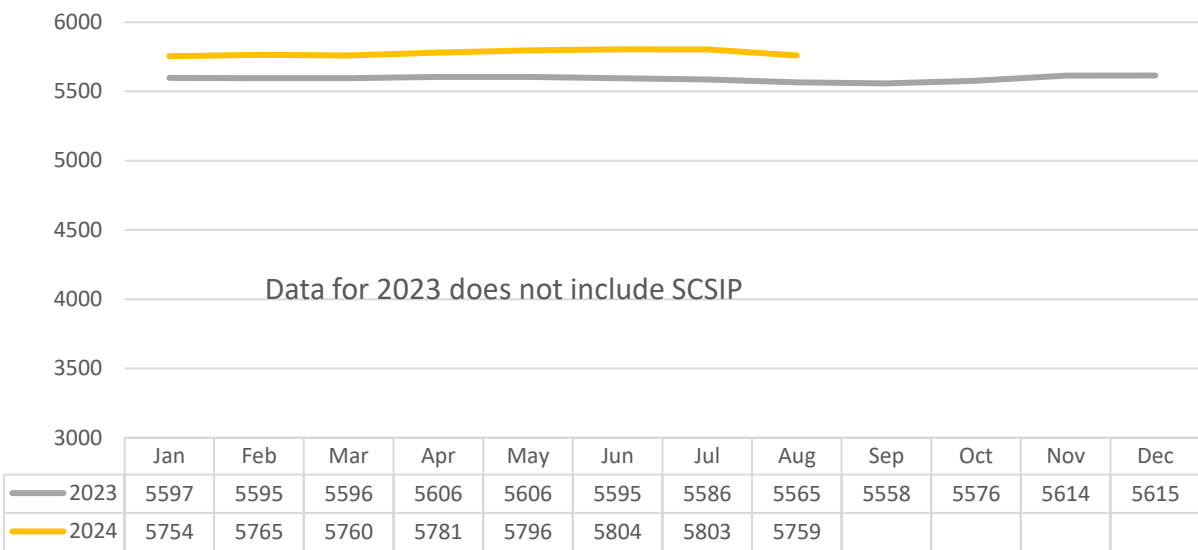
# Children in Care

- **5,759 children (0-17 years) in care at the end of August 2024, 44 (<1%) fewer than July 2024 (5,803).** Figure includes 115 children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (SCSIP)<sup>1</sup>.
- Breakdown of children in care by Tusla’s 17 areas and SCSIP as follows:

	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Aug-24 v Aug-23	Aug-24 v Jul-24
17 Areas	5,565	5,659	<b>5,644</b>	+79	-15
SCSIP	NA	144	<b>115</b>	NA	-29
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,565</b>	<b>5,803</b>	<b>5,759</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-44</b>
- Breakdown of children in care by placement type as follows (August 2024):

Placement Type	17 areas	SCSIP	Total
Residential Care	433 (7.7%)	67 (58.3%)	<b>500 (8.7%)</b>
Foster Care	5,016 (88.9%)	24 (20.9%)	<b>5,040 (87.5%)</b>
Other*	195 (3.5%)	24 (20.9%)	<b>219 (3.8%)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,644 (100%)</b>	<b>115 (100%)</b>	<b>5,759 (100%)</b>
- Residential care includes 14 children in special care. Of the children in foster care (5,040), 71% (3,584) were in general foster care and 29% (1,456) were in relative foster care.
- Highest number of children in care reported by Cork (677) followed by Midwest (499) and Dublin North City (464).
- Fewest number reported by the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (115) followed by Sligo/Leitrim West Cavan (116) and Mayo (144).
- Across the 17 Areas the highest rate of children in care per 1,000 children was reported by Dublin North City (9.3) followed by Waterford/Wexford (6.2).
- Lowest rate reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (2.2) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (3.7).
- 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	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Aug-24 v Aug-23	Aug-24 v Jul-24	Population	Rate/1,000
Dublin North City	468	464	464	-4	0	49,682	9.3
Waterford/Wexford	411	436	429	18	-7	69,239	6.2
Donegal	211	228	233	22	5	42,144	5.5
Midwest	502	501	499	-3	-2	96,764	5.2
Cork	712	683	677	-35	-6	136,786	4.9
CW/KK/ST	313	309	306	-7	-3	62,366	4.9
Kerry	150	163	167	17	4	34,994	4.8
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	115	115	116	1	1	24,312	4.8
Dublin South Central	346	328	325	-21	-3	70,259	4.6
Mayo	145	145	144	-1	-1	31,911	4.5
Louth/Meath	402	419	425	23	6	96,531	4.4
Cavan/Monaghan	152	163	161	9	-2	37,336	4.3
Galway/Roscommon	357	348	342	-15	-6	81,799	4.2
Dublin North	373	423	423	50	0	103,508	4.1
Midlands	318	331	330	12	-1	80,962	4.1
DSW/K/WW	394	396	400	6	4	108,927	3.7
Dublin South East/Wicklow	196	207	203	7	-4	91,047	2.2
Total Areas	5,565	5,659	5,644	79	-15	1,218,567	4.6
SCSIP	NA	144	115		-29		
Total National	5,565	5,803	5,759		-44		

Population: CSO Census 2022

Notes:

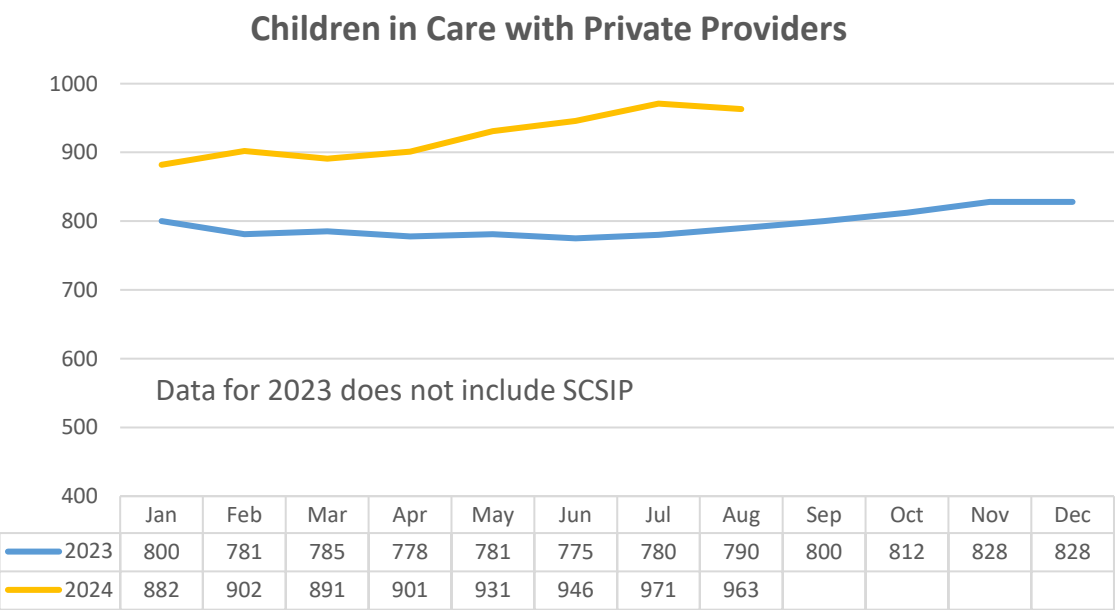
1. The Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection has an additional **282 children accommodated under Section 5 Child Care Act 1991.**

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.

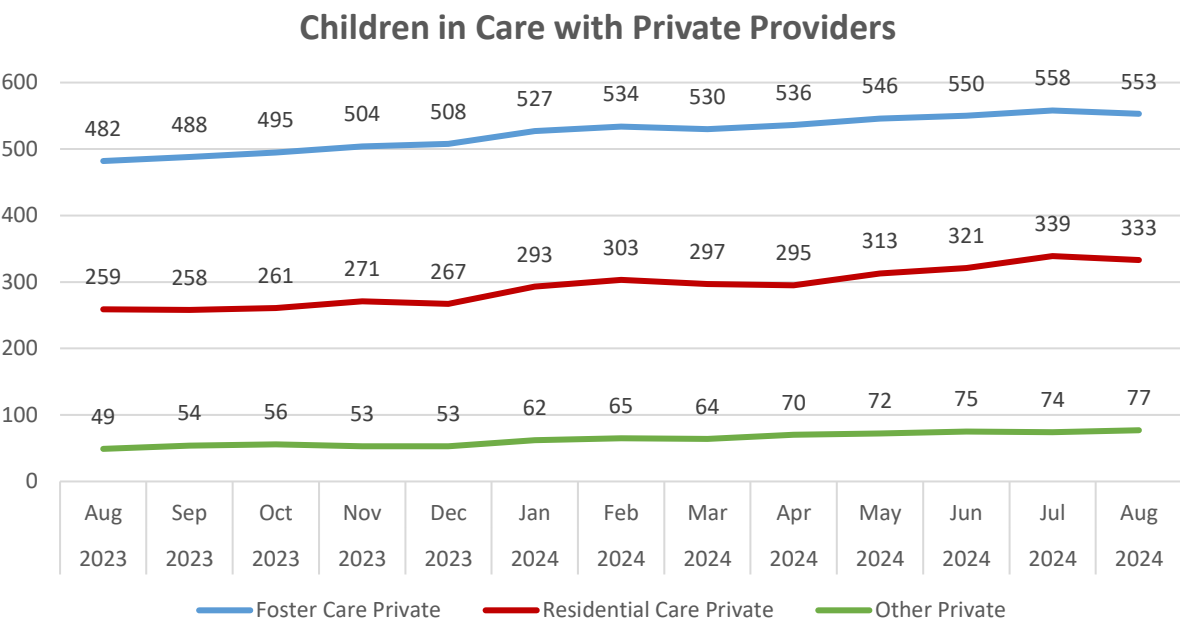
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# Children in Care

- **963 (17%) children in care at the end of August 2024 were in placements with private providers**, 8 (<1%) fewer than July 2024 (971). First decrease after four consecutive monthly increases.



- **553 (57%) children in placements with private providers were in foster care**, 5 (<1%) fewer than July 2024 (558). First decrease after four consecutive monthly increases.
- **333 (35%) children were in residential care**, 6 (2%) fewer than July 2024 (339). First decrease after three consecutive increases.
- The remaining 77 (8%) children were in **“Other” care placements**, three more than July 2024 (74). *“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 (122) followed by Dublin North (116), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (111), Dublin South Central (109), and Midlands (84). These five areas account for 56% (542) of children in placements with private providers.



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

Children in Care with Private Providers					
Children in Care (Private)	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Aug-24 v Aug-23	Aug-24 v Jul-24
Dublin North City	103	119	122	19	3
Dublin North	93	113	116	23	3
DSW/K/WW	105	111	111	6	0
Dublin South Central	102	112	109	7	-3
Midlands	59	79	84	25	5
Cork	64	60	59	-5	-1
SCSIP	NA	73	59	-	-14
Louth/Meath	43	51	52	9	1
Dublin South East/Wicklow	48	50	50	2	0
Waterford/Wexford	43	52	49	6	-3
Midwest	31	38	40	9	2
Kerry	22	33	33	11	0
CW/KK/ST	22	23	22	0	-1
Donegal	19	19	18	-1	-1
Galway/Roscommon	17	15	16	-1	1
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	11	12	12	1	0
Cavan/Monaghan	6	8	8	2	0
Mayo	2	3	3	1	0
Total	790	971	963	-	-8

\*Data for August 2023 does not include data for the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection.

# Children in Care

- **82% (4,750) of children in care at the end of August 2024 had an allocated worker with three areas reporting 100% (Donegal, Mayo and Galway/Roscommon), up one percentage point from July 2024 (81%).**

*These numbers of allocated cases reflect a changing environment in Tusla where allocation of cases to a social worker has become more difficult with reduced availability of social workers nationally. Many cases are now allocated to other professionals also reflecting the changing nature of social work teams. In many instances where cases are unallocated to a social worker there is a social care worker or leader allocated to the case.*

- A total of 1,009 children were awaiting allocation, 84 (8%) fewer than July 2024 (1,093).
- Highest number awaiting allocation reported by Midwest (228; 46%) followed by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (202; 66%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (142; 36%), Dublin South Central (83; 26%) and Louth/Meath (73; 17%). These five services account for 72% (728) of all cases awaiting allocation.

- **85% (4,921) of children in care at the end of August 2024 had an up-to-date care plan, no change from July 2024.**
- A total of 838 children were awaiting an up-to-date care plan, 43 (5%) fewer than July 2024 (881).
- Highest numbers awaiting an up-to-date care plan reported by Dublin North City (127; 27%), Midwest (106; 21%), Dublin South Central (89; 27%) and Louth/Meath (83; 20%).

*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 worker –August 2024

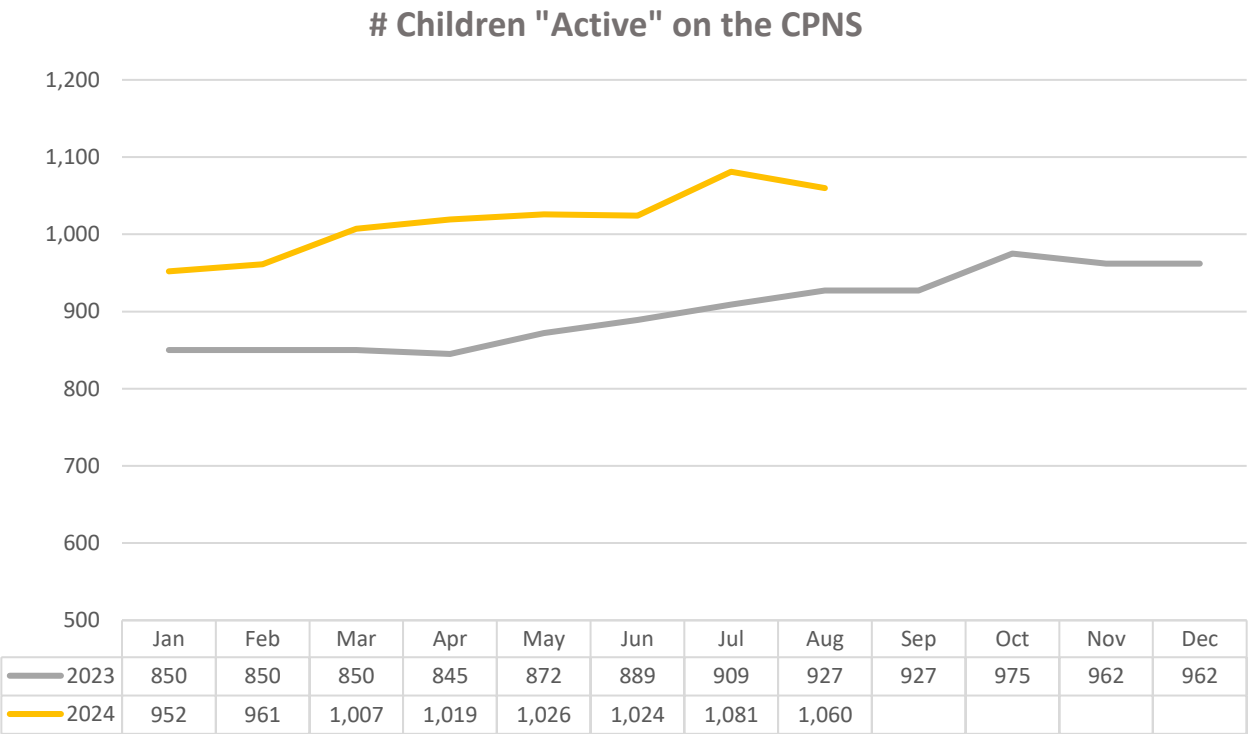
Area	Allocated	Awaiting Allocation	Total	% Allocated
Dublin South East/Wicklow	195	8	203	96%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	258	142	400	65%
Dublin South Central	242	83	325	74%
Midlands	270	60	330	82%
Dublin North City	412	52	464	89%
Dublin North	375	48	423	89%
Louth/Meath	352	73	425	83%
Cavan/Monaghan	133	28	161	83%
Kerry	155	12	167	93%
Cork	667	10	677	99%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	104	202	306	34%
Waterford/Wexford	395	34	429	92%
Donegal	233	0	233	100%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	103	13	116	89%
Mayo	144	0	144	100%
Galway/Roscommon	342	0	342	100%
Midwest	271	228	499	54%
SCSIP	99	16	115	86%
Total	4,750	1,009	5,759	82%

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

Area	UTD Care Plan	Awaiting UTD Care Plan	Total	% UTD Care Plan
Dublin South East/Wicklow	156	47	203	77%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	332	68	400	83%
Dublin South Central	236	89	325	73%
Midlands	329	1	330	100%
Dublin North City	337	127	464	73%
Dublin North	367	56	423	87%
Louth/Meath	342	83	425	80%
Cavan/Monaghan	145	16	161	90%
Kerry	144	23	167	86%
Cork	602	75	677	89%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	300	6	306	98%
Waterford/Wexford	400	29	429	93%
Donegal	208	25	233	89%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	104	12	116	90%
Mayo	131	13	144	91%
Galway/Roscommon	315	27	342	92%
Midwest	393	106	499	79%
SCSIP	80	35	115	70%
Total	4,921	838	5,759	85%

# Child Protection Notification System

- **1,060 children listed as “active”** on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) at the end of August 2024, 21 (2%) fewer than July 2024 (1,081).
- There were 133 (14%) more children “active” at the end of August 2024 than at the end of August 2023 (927).
- All children listed as “active” at the end of August 2024 had an **allocated social worker**.
- Highest number of children listed as “active” at the end of August 2024 was reported by Midwest (142) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (126), Cork (107) and Dublin North City (105).
- Fewest number listed as “active” reported by Mayo (20) followed by Cavan/Monaghan (21) and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (21).
- The number of children “active” equates to about 9 children per 10,000 under 18 years.
- Highest rate per 10,000 population under 18 years reported by Dublin North City (21.1) followed by Midwest (14.7), Midlands (12.0) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (11.6).
- Lowest rates reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (3.2), Waterford/Wexford (3.8) and Dublin North (5.2).
- Seven areas reported a rate equal to or higher than the national rate of 8.7/10,000
- 5/17 areas had more children listed as “active” at the end of August 2024 than at the end of July 2024. Largest increases reported by Midlands (up 6) and Mayo (up 3).
- 8/17 areas reported a decrease with the largest decreases reported by Dublin North (down 11), Waterford/Wexford (down 6) and Dublin North City (down 5). The remaining four areas, Midwest, Cavan/Monaghan, Galway/Roscommon and Dublin South East/Wicklow reported no change.
- 12/17 areas had more children active at the end of August 2024 than at the end of August 2023. Largest increases reported by Midwest (up 84), Louth/Meath (up 37) and Midlands (up 34).
- 5/17 areas reported a decrease. Largest decreases reported by Dublin North (down 49), Waterford/Wexford (down 32) and Donegal (down 18).



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

Area	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Aug-24 v Aug-23	Aug-24 v Jul-24	Population	Rate/10,000
Dublin North City	76	110	105	29	-5	49,682	21.1
Mid West	58	142	142	84	0	96,764	14.7
Midlands	63	91	97	34	6	80,962	12.0
Dublin South West / Kildare / West Wicklow	117	127	126	9	-1	108,927	11.6
Dublin South Central	60	71	72	12	1	70,259	10.2
Donegal	58	42	40	-18	-2	42,144	9.5
Carlow / Kilkenny / South Tipperary	41	61	58	17	-3	62,366	9.3
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	20	20	21	1	1	24,312	8.6
Cork	90	110	107	17	-3	136,786	7.8
Kerry	44	29	27	-17	-2	34,994	7.7
Louth / Meath	32	68	69	37	1	96,531	7.1
Mayo	18	17	20	2	3	31,911	6.3
Cavan / Monaghan	16	21	21	5	0	37,336	5.6
Galway / Roscommon	33	46	46	13	0	81,799	5.6
Dublin North	103	65	54	-49	-11	103,508	5.2
Waterford / Wexford	58	32	26	-32	-6	69,239	3.8
Dublin South East / Wicklow	40	29	29	-11	0	91,047	3.2
Total	927	1,081	1,060	133	-21	1,21,8567	8.7

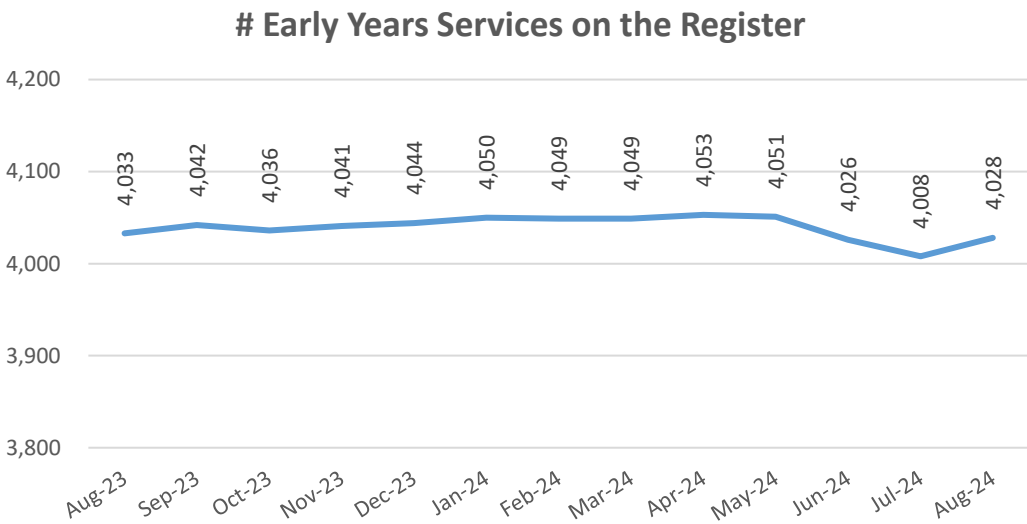
Population – source CSO Census 2022



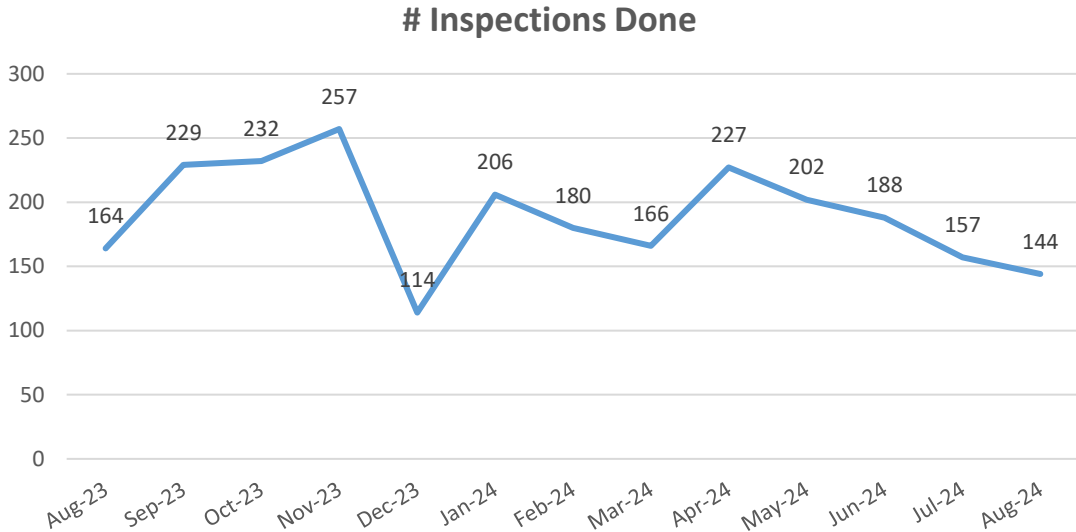
# Children’s Services Regulation

## EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

- **4,028 early years services on the register at the end of August 2024**, 20 (<1%) more than July 2024 (4,008) and 5 (<1%) fewer than August 2023 (4,033).

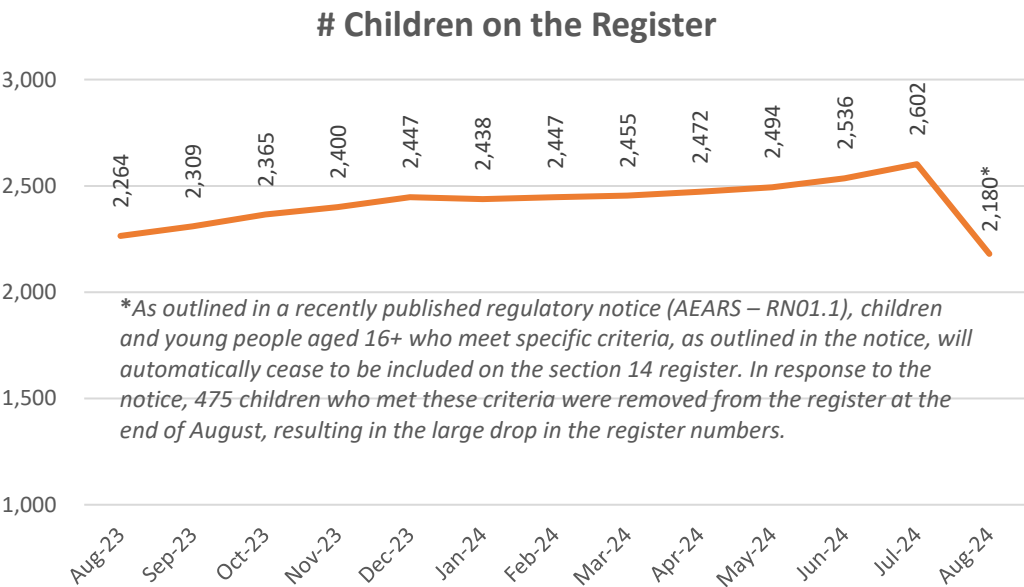


- **144 inspections** of early years services in August 2024. This brings to 1,470 the number of inspections for the first eight months of 2024, 89 (6%) fewer than the same period in 2023 (1,559).

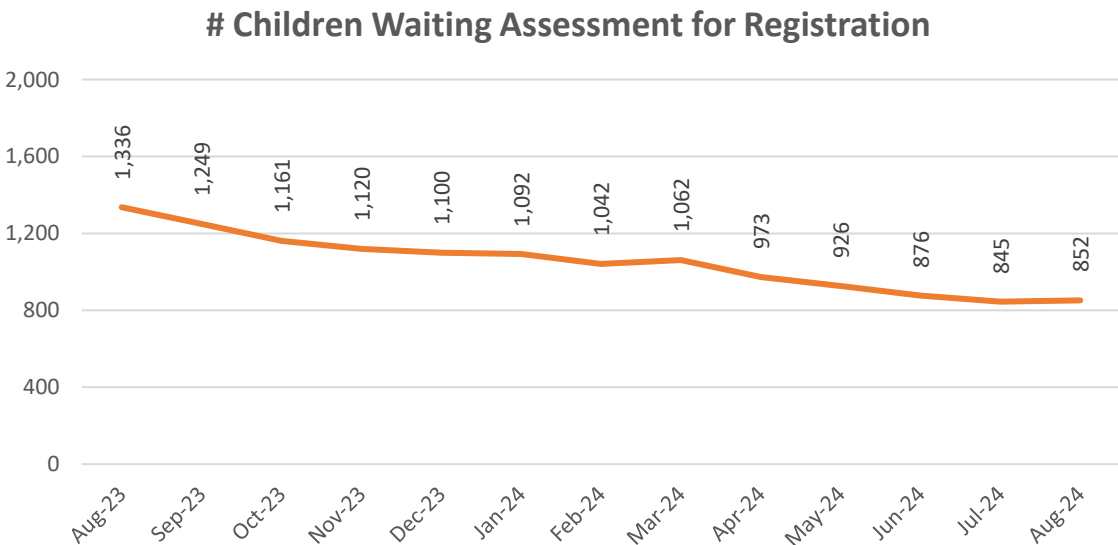


## ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION SERVICE

- **2,180\* children on the register** for home education at the end of August 2024.



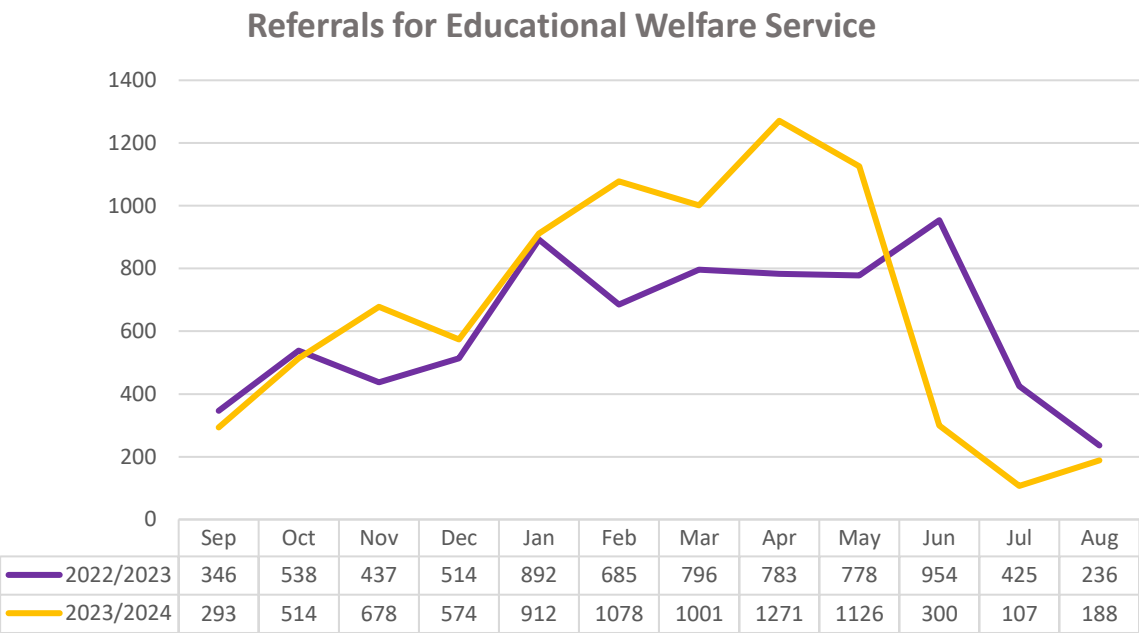
- **852 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of August 2024**, 7 (<1%) more than July 2024 (845) and 484 (36%) fewer than August 2023 (1,336).



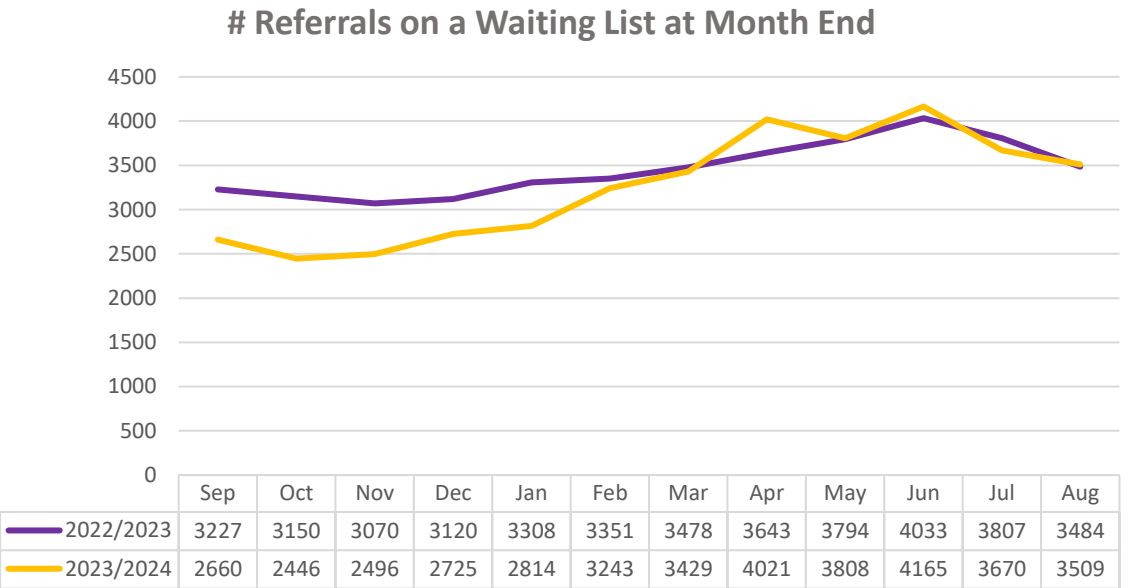


# Tusla Education Support Services

- **188 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in August 2024. This brings to 8,042 the number of referrals for the academic year 2023-2024, 658 (9%) more than the same period in 2022-2023 (7,384).



- **3,509 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of August 2024, 161 (4%) fewer than July 2024 (3,670).
- 25 (<1%) more referrals on a waiting list at the end of August 2024 (3,509) than at the end of August 2023 (3,484).



- **175 new individual children worked with** in August 2024. This brings to 3,924 the number of new individual children worked with for the academic year 2023-2024, 523 (15%) more than the same period in 2022-2023 (3,401).

