



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

MONTHLY SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT

AUGUST 2025

01 October 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 – August 2025

Child Protection & Welfare

- **7,426 referrals** in August 2025, 1,101 (13%) more than July 2025 (8,527) and 507 (7%) more than August 2024 (6,919). Brings to **68,318 the number of referrals for the first eight months** of 2025, 5,954 (10%) more than the same period in 2024 (62,364).
- **22,977 cases open to social work** at the end of August 2025, 220 (1%) fewer than July 2025 (23,197) and 2,866 (14%) more than August 2024 (20,111). *Open cases include child protection and welfare cases and children in care.*
- **80% (18,476) of cases** open to social work at the end of August 2025 had an **allocated case worker**. Of these, 82% (15,154) were allocated to a social worker and 18% (3,222) were allocated to a another professional. (Ref to note on Page 4).
- **4,501 cases awaiting allocation** at the end of August 2025, 378 (8%) fewer than July 2025 (4,879) and 82 (2%) more than August 2024 (4,419). *Data needs to be interpreted in the context of the change to the reporting of allocated cases.*
- Five areas account for account for 70% (3,162) of all cases awaiting allocation: Cork (934) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (687), Dublin South Central (675), Midlands (522) and Dublin North City (344).
- **5% (218) of cases awaiting allocation** at the end of August 2025 were categorised as **high priority**, 37 (20%) more than July 2025 (181) when the fewest number for all months January – July 2025 was reported.

Child Abuse Substantiation Procedure (CASP)

- **32 referrals assigned** to CASP Teams in August 2025. Brings to 333 the number of referrals assigned for the first eight months of 2025, 102 (23%) fewer than the same period in 2024 (435).
- **95% (394/415) of assessments open at the end of August 2025** were allocated to a social worker, no change from July 2025 and up 23 percentage points from August 2024 (72%). The remaining 5% (21) were awaiting allocation with one fewer assessment awaiting allocation at the end of August 2025 than at the end of July 2025 (22).
- 173 (89%) fewer assessments awaiting allocation at the end of August 2025 than at the end of August 2024 (194).

Children in Care

- **5,815 children (0-17 years) in care at the end of August 2025, 20** fewer than July 2025 (5,835) and 56 (1%) more than August 2024 (5,759). Figure includes 105 children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (SCSIP).
- 86.5% (5,032) of all children in care (17 Areas and SCSIP) are in foster care (3,543 general foster care, and 1,489 relative foster), 9.7% (566) are in residential care (551 general residential care and 15 special care) and 3.7% (217) are in “other” care placements.
- Across Tusla’s 17 areas **87.8% (5,018/5,710) of children in care are in foster care.**

Children in Care (contd.)

- **1,084 (19%) children in care at the end of August 2025 were in placements with private providers**, one fewer than July 2025 (1,085) and 121 (13%) more than August 2024 (963).
- **98% (5,710) of children in care at the end of August 2025 had an allocated case worker.** Of the 5,710 children allocated, 90% (5,120) were allocated to a social worker and 10% (590) were allocated to another professional.

Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)

- **1,097 children listed as ‘active’** on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) at the end of August 2025, 18 (2%) more than July 2025 (1,079).
- There were 37 (3%) more children ‘active’ at the end of August 2025 than at the end August 2024 (1,060).
- It should be noted that a small number of large sibling groups can have a significant effect on numbers reported.
- 98% (1,077) of children ‘active’ had an allocated social worker, 20 children were awaiting allocation to a social worker across three areas. Nine of the 20 children were subsequently allocated to a social worker. Ten of the remaining cases (11) are allocated to another professional.

Children’s Services Regulation

- **3,943 early years services (pre-schools) on the register at the end of August 2025**, 13 more than July 2025 (3,930) and 85 (2%) fewer than August 2024 (4,028).
- **149 inspections** of early years services (pre-schools) in August 2025. This brings to 1,642 the number of inspections for the first eight months of 2025, 172 (12%) more than the same period in 2024 (1,470).
- **2,598 children on the register** for home education at the end of August 2025, 53 (2%) more than July 2025 (2,545) and 273 (12%) more than Dec 2024 (2,325). Increasing trend continues.
- **240 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of August 2025**, 33 (12%) fewer than July 2025 (273) and 612 (72%) fewer than August 2024 (852). Decreasing trend continues.

Tusla Education Support Services

- **127 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in August 2025. This brings to 9,293 the number of referrals for the academic year 2024 – 2025, some 1,251 (16%) more than the same period in the previous academic year (8,042).
- **3,937 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of August 2025, 82 (2%) fewer than July 2025 (4,019).
- **237 new individual children worked** with in August 2025. This brings to 4,257 the number of new individual children worked with in the academic year 2024-2025, some 333 (8%) more than the previous academic year (3,924).

Child Protection and Welfare

Referrals¹

- **7,426 referrals** in August 2025, 1,101 (13%) more than July 2025 (8,527) and 507 (7%) more than August 2024 (6,919).
- This brings to 68,318 the number of referrals for the first eight months of 2025, 5,954 (10%) more than the same period in 2024 (62,364).

It should be noted that the data presented for first three months of 2025 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for the remaining months 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

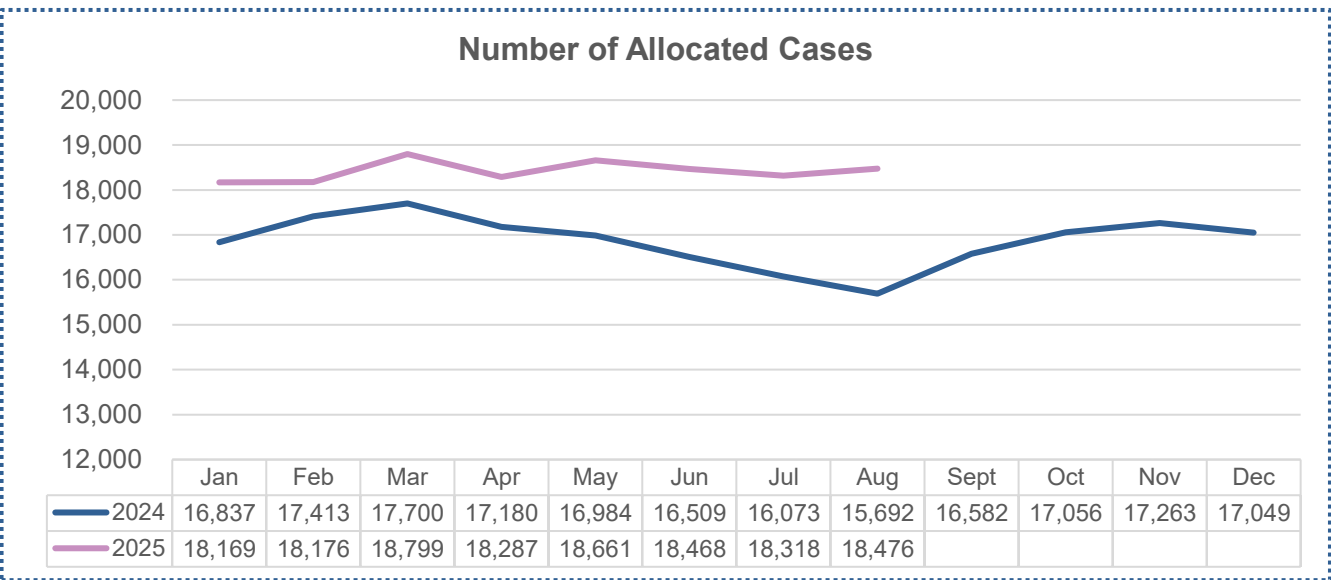
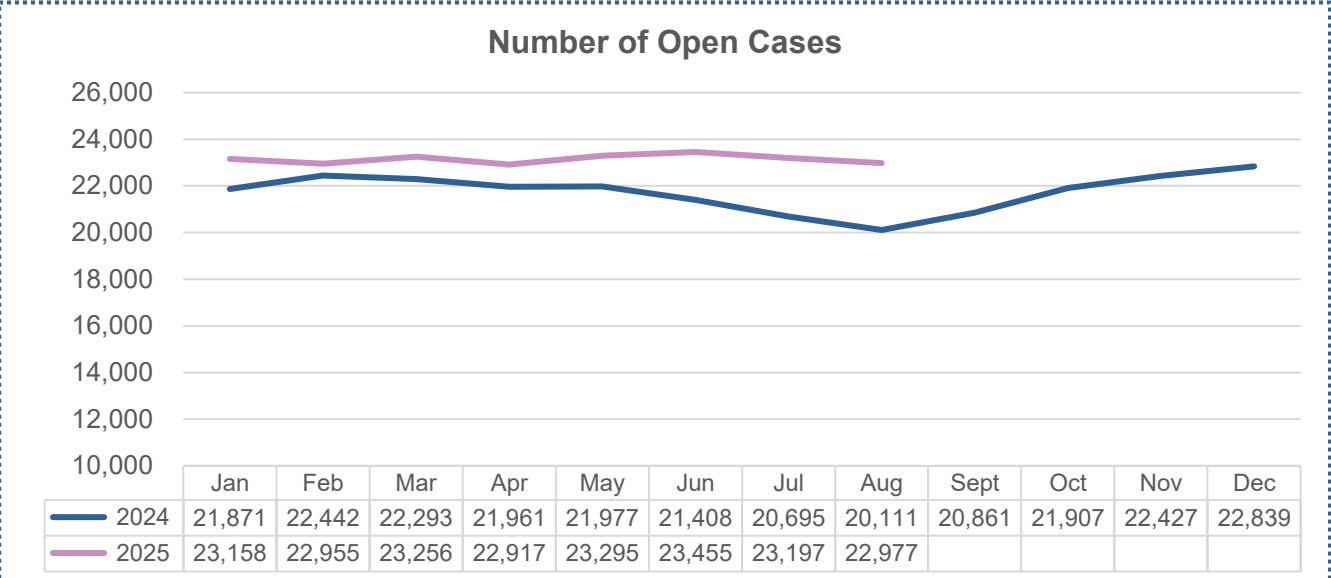
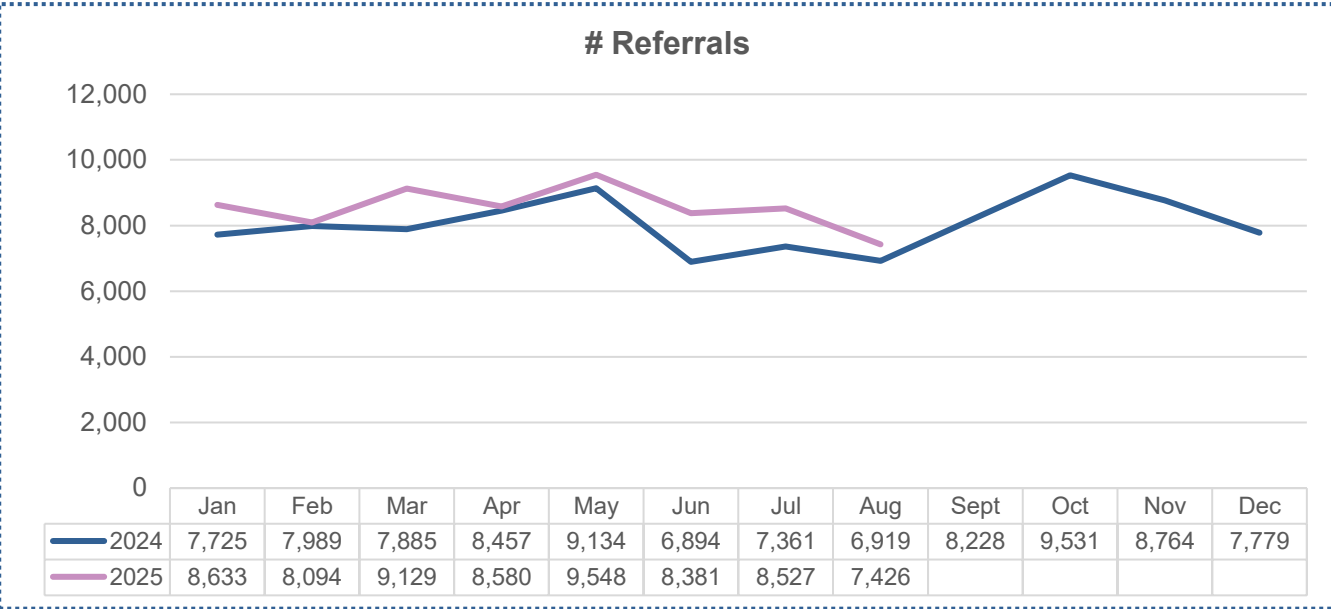
- **22,977 cases open to social work** at the end of August 2025, 220 (1%) fewer than July 2025 (23,197) and 2,866 (14%) more than August 2024 (20,111).
- 1) *Open cases include, all cases held on duty, allocated and unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care.*
 - 2) *The data presented on cases is based on the status of cases on the TCM at month end.*

Allocated Cases

- **18,476 open cases were allocated** to a case worker at the end of August 2025, 158 (1%) more than July 2025 (18,318) and 2,784 (18%) more than August 2024 (15,692).
- Allocated cases account for 80% of open cases, up one percentage point from July 2025 (79%).

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 (18,476) at the end of August 2025, 82% (15,154) were allocated to a social worker and 18% (3,322) were allocated to a another professional.

Breakdown of cases allocated by area and role of worker, August 2025

Area	Allocated Social Worker	Allocated Other Professional	Total
Dublin South East/Wicklow	725	238	963
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	963	488	1,451
Dublin South Central	839	391	1,230
Midlands	1,093	276	1,369
Dublin North City	1,166	213	1,379
Dublin North	1,573	222	1,795
Louth/Meath	1,069	244	1,313
Cavan/Monaghan	528	168	696
Kerry	365	61	426
Cork	1,961	166	2,127
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	515	248	763
Waterford/Wexford	953	232	1185
Donegal	558	59	617
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	315	28	343
Mayo	346	31	377
Galway/Roscommon	1,170	42	1,212
Midwest	1,015	215	1,230
Total	15,154	3,322	18,476

Percentage breakdown of cases allocated by area and role of worker, August 2025

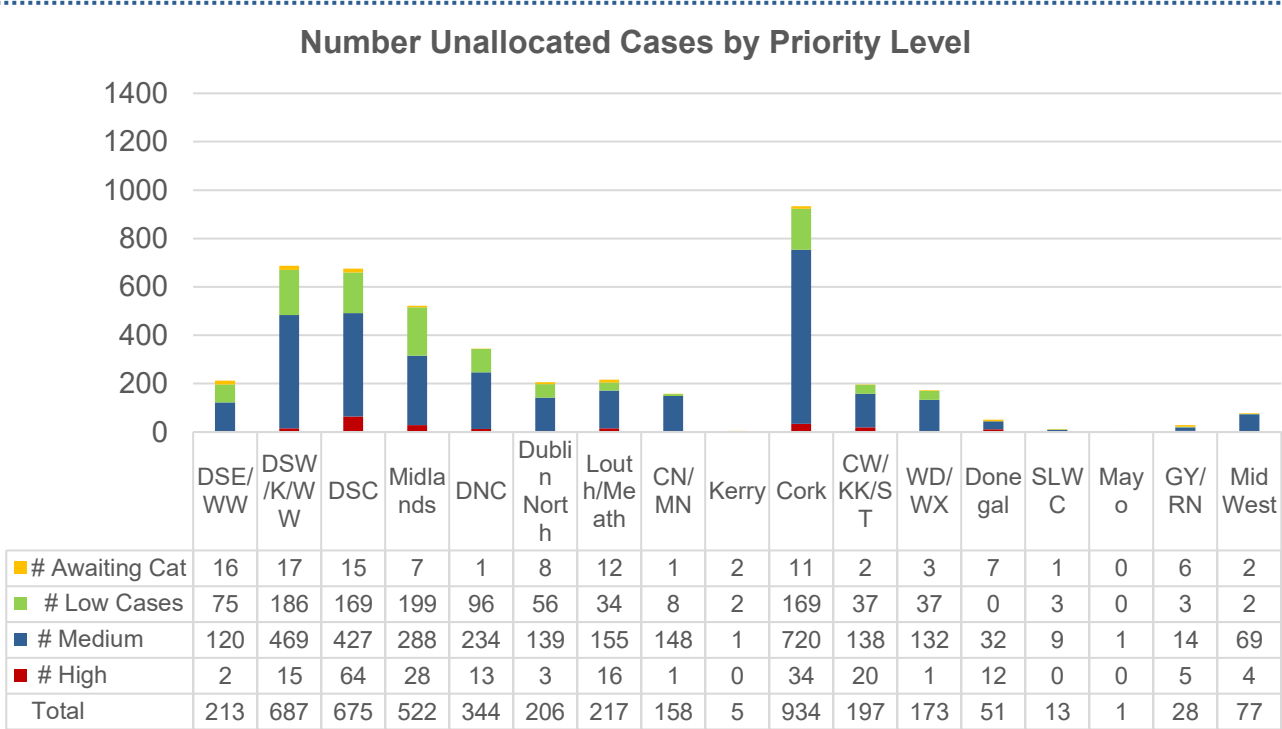
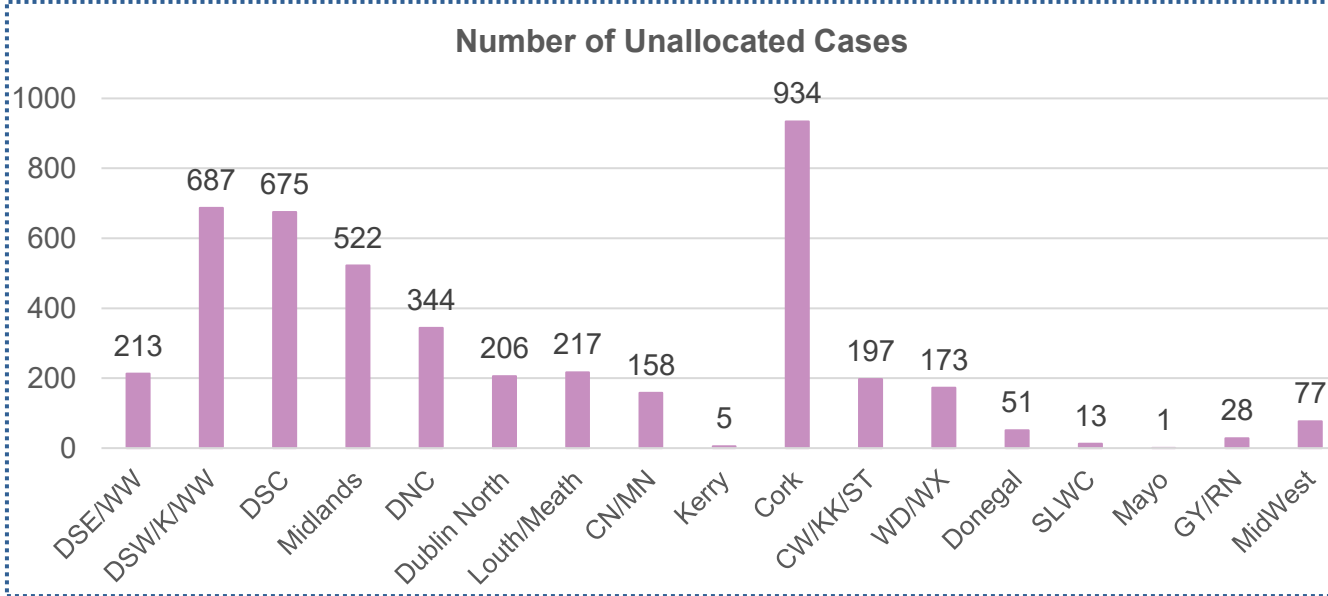
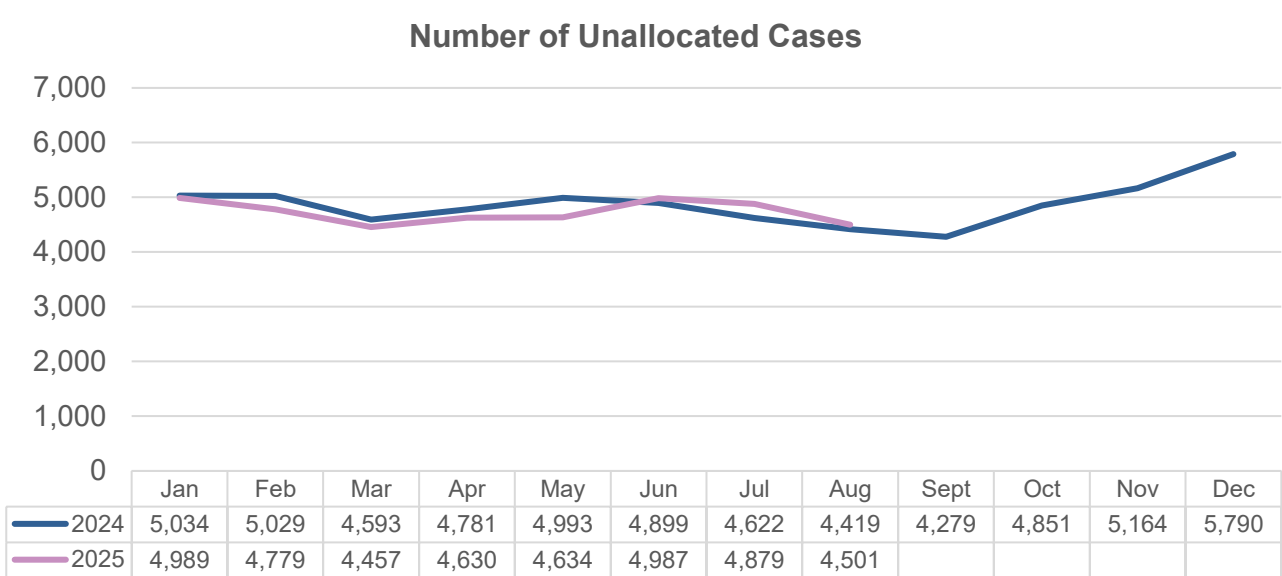
Area	% Allocated Social Worker	% Allocated Other Professional	Total
Dublin South East/Wicklow	75%	25%	100%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	66%	34%	100%
Dublin South Central	68%	32%	100%
Midlands	80%	20%	100%
Dublin North City	85%	15%	100%
Dublin North	88%	12%	100%
Louth/Meath	81%	19%	100%
Cavan/Monaghan	76%	24%	100%
Kerry	86%	14%	100%
Cork	92%	8%	100%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	67%	33%	100%
Waterford/Wexford	80%	20%	100%
Donegal	90%	10%	100%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	92%	8%	100%
Mayo	92%	8%	100%
Galway/Roscommon	97%	3%	100%
Midwest	83%	17%	100%
Total	82%	18%	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

- **4,501 cases awaiting allocation** at the end of August 2025, 378 (8%) fewer than July 2025 (4,879) and 82 (2%) more than August 2024 (4,419). *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 (22,977), down one percentage point from July 2025.
- **45% (2,075) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of August 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 Cork (934) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (687), Dublin South Central (675), Midlands (522) and Dublin North City (344). These five areas account for 70% (3,162) of all cases awaiting allocation.
- **218 cases awaiting allocation at the end of August 2025 were categorised as high priority**, 37 (20%) more than July 2025 (181) when the fewest number for all months January – July 2025 was reported.
- High priority cases account for 5% of cases awaiting allocation.
- 69% (3,096) of cases awaiting allocation were categorised at medium priority, 24% (1,076) were low priority while the remaining 2% (111) were awaiting categorisation.
- Highest number of high priority cases reported by Dublin South Central (64), Cork (34), Midlands (28), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (20) and Louth/Meath (16). These five areas account for 74% (162) of all high priority cases awaiting.

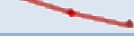


Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation

- 6 of the 17 areas reported an increase in cases awaiting allocation from July 2025.
- Largest increase reported by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (up 32) followed by Louth/Meath (21), Cavan/Monaghan (18) and Donegal (10).
- 11 of the 17 areas reported a decrease in cases awaiting allocation from July 2025.
- Largest decreases reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 175), Dublin South East/Wicklow (down 93), Cork (down 59) and Dublin North City (down 56).

- Nationally 20% of open cases were awaiting allocation at the end of August 2025. Six areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 20%. Highest percentages reported by Dublin South Central (35%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (32%), Cork (31%) and Midlands (28%).
- 7 of the 17 areas had more cases awaiting allocation at the end of August 2025 than at the end of August 2024. Largest increases reported by Cork (up 559), Midlands (up 264), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 256) and Dublin North City (up 109). *Data needs to be interpreted in the context of the change to the reporting of allocated cases introduced in January 2025.*
- 10 of the 17 areas had fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of August 2025 than at the end of August 2024. Largest decreases reported by Dublin South Central (down 395), Midwest (down 241), Louth/Meath (down 196) and Donegal (down 149).

Area	Aug-24 # Unallocated	Aug-24 % Unallocated	Jun-25 # Unallocated	Jul-25 # Unallocated	Aug-25 # Unallocated	Aug-25 % Unallocated	 Jun-Aug	Aug-25 v Aug-24	% Δ	Aug-25 v Jul-25	% Δ1
DSE/WW	301	32%	352	306	213	18%		-88	-29%	-93	-30%
DSW/K/WW	431	29%	942	862	687	32%		256	59%	-175	-20%
DSC	1,070	49%	686	699	675	35%		-395	-37%	-24	-3%
Midlands	258	17%	521	555	522	28%		264	102%	-33	-6%
DNC	235	15%	291	400	344	20%		109	46%	-56	-14%
Dublin North	165	9%	264	213	206	10%		41	25%	-7	-3%
Louth/Meath	413	27%	270	196	217	14%		-196	-47%	21	11%
CN/MN	131	19%	123	140	158	19%		27	21%	18	13%
Kerry	20	5%	13	8	5	1%		-15	-75%	-3	-38%
Cork	375	16%	990	993	934	31%		559	149%	-59	-6%
CW/KK/ST	226	35%	169	165	197	21%		-29	-13%	32	19%
WD/WX	224	18%	191	176	173	13%		-51	-23%	-3	-2%
Donegal	200	24%	54	41	51	8%		-149	-75%	10	24%
SLWC	15	6%	18	8	13	4%		-2	-13%	5	63%
Mayo	16	5%	9	2	1	0%		-15	-94%	-1	-50%
GY/RN	21	2%	18	20	28	2%		7	33%	8	40%
MidWest	318	25%	76	95	77	6%		-241	-76%	-18	-19%
TOTAL	4419	22%	4987	4879	4501	20%		82	2%	-378	-8%

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-25	Aug-25	Δ	Jul-25	Aug-25	Δ2	Jul-25	Aug-25	Δ3	Jul-25	Aug-25	Δ4
DSE/WW	302	308	6	1,171	1,176	5	865	963	98	306	213	-93
DSW/K/WW	761	663	-98	2,211	2,138	-73	1,349	1,451	102	862	687	-175
DSC	637	553	-84	1,984	1,905	-79	1,285	1,230	-55	699	675	-24
Midlands	778	703	-75	1,938	1,891	-47	1,383	1,369	-14	555	522	-33
DNC	535	463	-72	1,815	1,723	-92	1,415	1,379	-36	400	344	-56
Dublin North	743	734	-9	1,907	2,001	94	1,694	1,795	101	213	206	-7
Louth/Meath	604	578	-26	1,550	1,530	-20	1,354	1,313	-41	196	217	21
CN/MN	252	206	-46	844	854	10	704	696	-8	140	158	18
Kerry	237	142	-95	450	431	-19	442	426	-16	8	5	-3
Cork	706	734	28	3,028	3,061	33	2,035	2,127	92	993	934	-59
CW/KK/ST	534	463	-71	912	960	48	747	763	16	165	197	32
WD/WX	702	513	-189	1,360	1,358	-2	1,184	1,185	1	176	173	-3
Donegal	324	249	-75	652	668	16	611	617	6	41	51	10
SLWC	138	98	-40	357	356	-1	349	343	-6	8	13	5
Mayo	139	83	-56	383	378	-5	381	377	-4	2	1	-1
GY/RN	421	387	-34	1,261	1,240	-21	1,241	1,212	-29	20	28	8
MidWest	714	549	-165	1,374	1,307	-67	1,279	1,230	-49	95	77	-18
Total	8,527	7,426	-1101	23,197	22,977	-220	18,318	18,476	158	4,879	4,501	-378

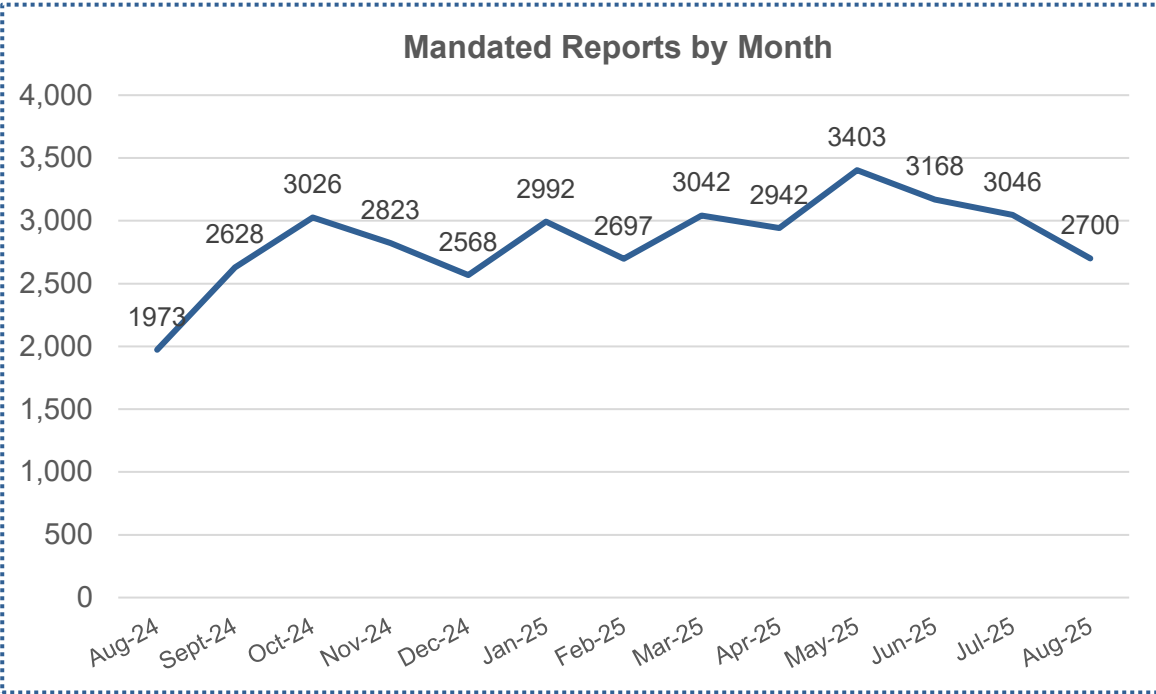
High Priority Awaiting				Medium Priority Awaiting			Low Priority Awaiting			Awaiting Categorisation		
Area	Jul-25	Aug-25	Δ	Jul-25	Aug-25	Δ 2	Jul-25	Aug-25	Δ 3	Jul-25	Aug-25	Δ 4
DSE/WW	8	2	-6	159	120	-39	129	75	-54	10	16	6
DSW/K/WW	12	15	3	576	469	-107	240	186	-54	34	17	-17
DSC	36	64	28	422	427	5	209	169	-40	32	15	-17
Midlands	29	28	-1	358	288	-70	166	199	33	2	7	5
DNC	7	13	6	263	234	-29	124	96	-28	6	1	-5
Dublin North	4	3	-1	142	139	-3	61	56	-5	6	8	2
Louth/Meath	18	16	-2	135	155	20	33	34	1	10	12	2
CN/MN	0	1	1	131	148	17	8	8	0	1	1	0
Kerry	5	0	-5	2	1	-1	0	2	2	1	2	1
Cork	33	34	1	761	720	-41	190	169	-21	9	11	2
CW/KK/ST	4	20	16	123	138	15	37	37	0	1	2	1
WD/WX	2	1	-1	134	132	-2	36	37	1	4	3	-1
Donegal	11	12	1	26	32	6	0	0	0	4	7	3
SLWC	0	0	0	3	9	6	5	3	-2	0	1	1
Mayo	1	0	-1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	-1
GY/RN	9	5	-4	6	14	8	2	3	1	3	6	3
MidWest	2	4	2	74	69	-5	9	2	-7	10	2	-8
TOTAL	181	218	37	3,315	3,096	-219	1,249	1,076	-173	134	111	-23

Mandated Reports¹ – Child Protection & Welfare

- 2,700 mandated reports of abuse received in August 2025. This brings to 23,990 the number of reports for the first eight months of 2025, 4,395 (22%) more than the same period in 2024 (19,595).

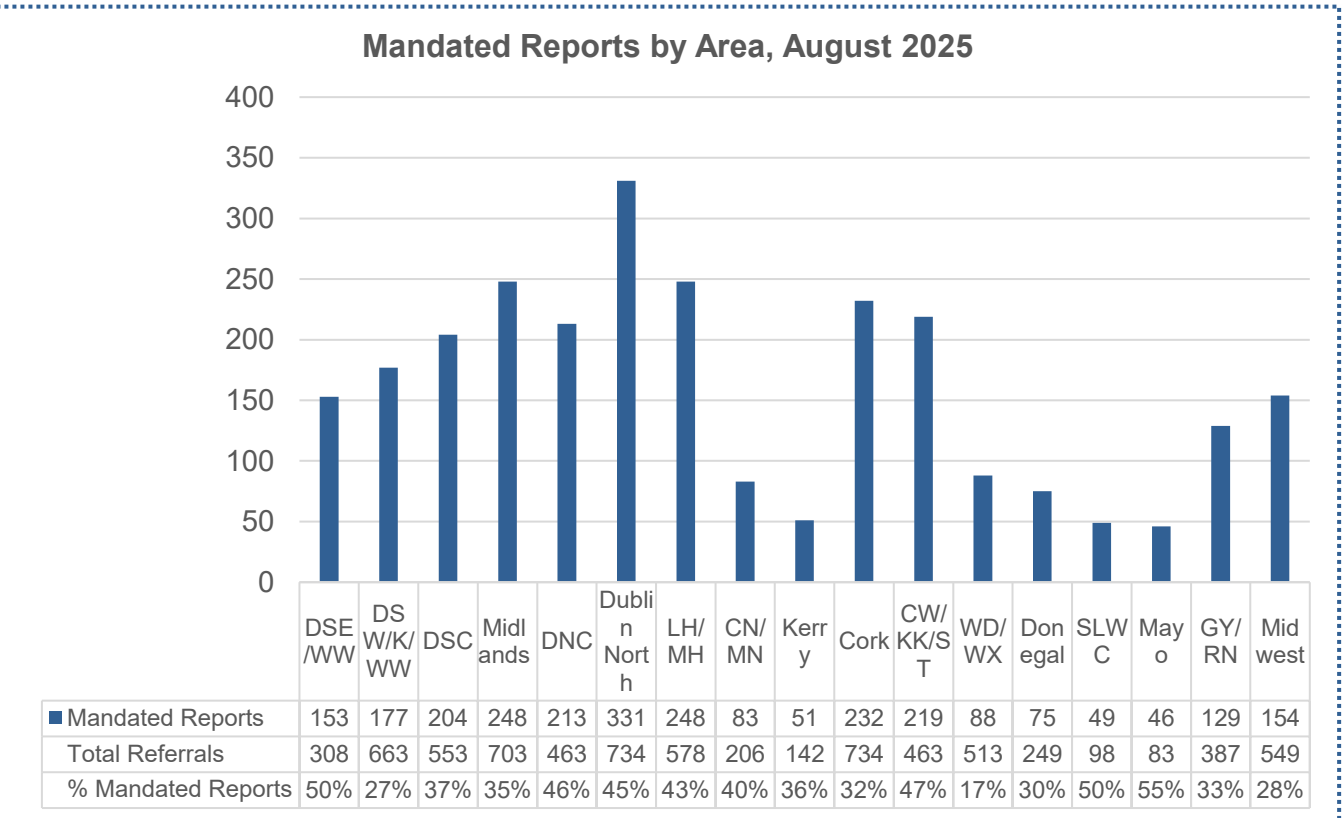
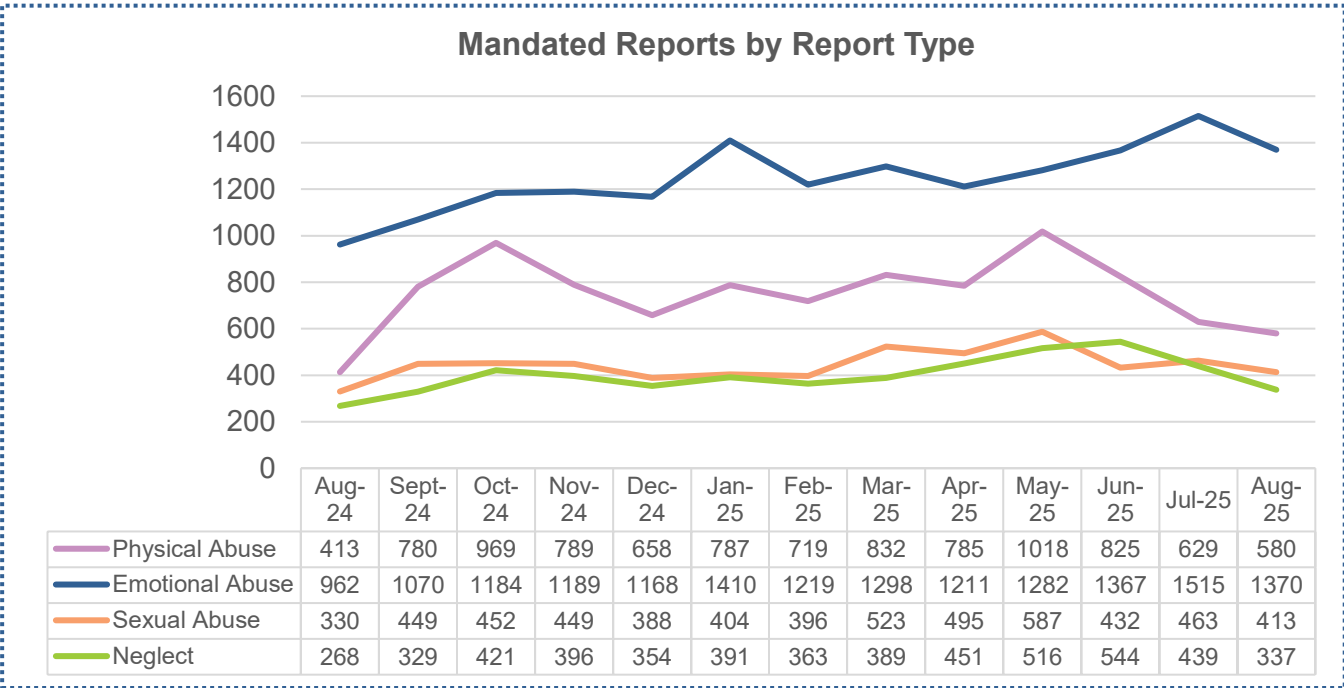
It should be noted that the data presented for the first three months of 2025 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for the remaining months is based on referrals logged on the Tusla Case Management (TCM) system at the time the data was extracted for reporting. Referrals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

- Mandated reports accounted for 36% (2,700) of all referrals received (7,426) in August 2025.



- The number of mandated reports for August 2025, by area ranged from 46 (Mayo) to 331 (Dublin North).
- As a percentage of referrals, the highest percentage (55%) was reported by Mayo
- The lowest percentage (17%) was reported by Waterford/Wexford

- Highest number of reports for August 2025 were for emotional abuse (1,370; 51%) followed by physical abuse (580; 21%), sexual abuse (413; 15%) and neglect (337; 12%).



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 August 2025 from An Garda Síochána (1,263; 47%) followed by safeguarding officer (396; 15%), social workers (322; 12%), social care workers (149; 6%). These four sources account for 79% (2,130) of reports for August 2025.
- Highest number of reports for 2025 YTD from An Garda Síochána (9,564; 40%) followed by safeguarding officer (3,038; 13%); teachers (2,879; 12%), social workers (2,417; 10%) and social care workers (1,357; 6%). These five sources account for 80% (19,300) of reports for received for the first eight months of 2025.

Source (Schedule 2 Children First 2015)	# Aug-25	% Total	# 2025 YTD	% Total
An Garda Síochána Member	1,263	46.78%	9,564	39.87%
Safeguarding officer	396	14.67%	3,083	12.85%
Teacher	48	1.78%	2,879	12.00%
Social worker	322	11.93%	2,417	10.08%
Social care worker	149	5.52%	1,357	5.66%
Medical practitioner	84	3.11%	723	3.01%
Domestic violence shelter manager	78	2.89%	703	2.93%
Psychologist	62	2.30%	605	2.52%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling	79	2.93%	595	2.48%
Nurse or registered midwife	59	2.19%	519	2.16%
Youth worker holds a professional qualification..	39	1.44%	418	1.74%
Homeless provision or emergency accommodation facilitymanager	29	1.07%	202	0.84%
Asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre manager	14	0.52%	138	0.58%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service	8	0.30%	108	0.45%
Youth work service - person responsible for the care or management	12	0.44%	104	0.43%
Speech & language therapist	4	0.15%	81	0.34%
Probation officer	6	0.22%	74	0.31%
Guardian ad litem	7	0.26%	71	0.30%
Physiotherapist	12	0.44%	66	0.28%
Pre-school service	4	0.15%	61	0.25%
Occupational therapist	9	0.33%	58	0.24%
Addiction counsellor	*	<1%	41	0.17%
Foster carer registered with the Agency.	*	<1%	37	0.15%
Not specified	*	<1%	33	0.14%
EMT, paramedic and advanced paramedic registered	*	<1%	31	0.13%
Clergy member	0	0.00%	8	0.03%
Language school or other recreational school where children reside	0	0.00%	*	<1%
Institution where a child is detained by an order of a court (Director)	0	0.00%	*	<1%
Registered dentist	0	0.00%	*	<1%
Total	2,700	100.00%	23,990	100.00%

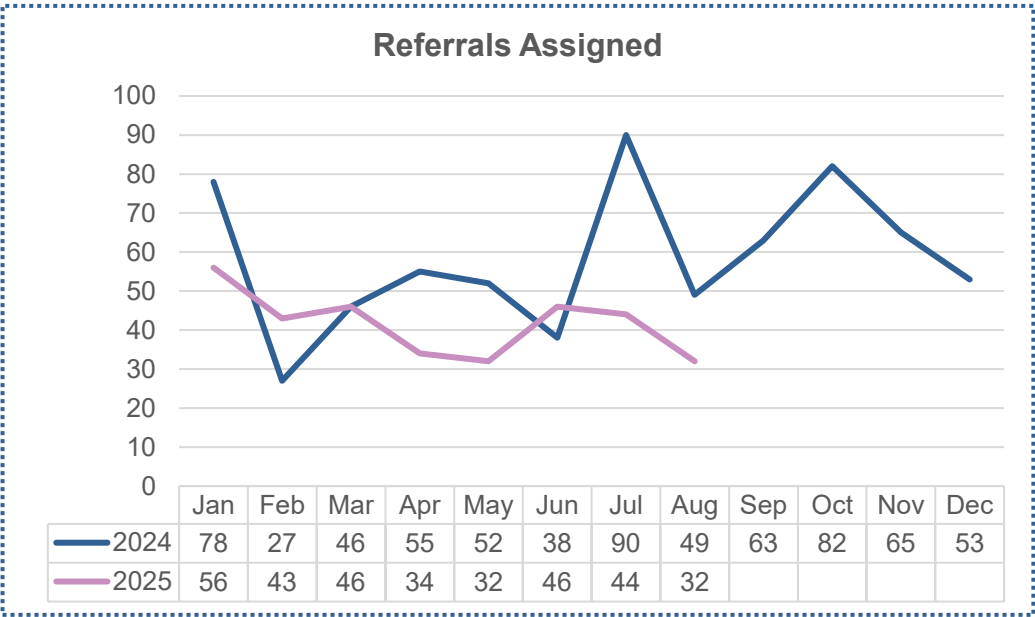
*Values suppressed for confidentiality reasons.

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

- **32 referrals assigned** to CASP Teams in August 2025.
- This brings to 333 the number of referrals assigned for the first eight months of 2025, 102 (23%) fewer than the same period in 2024 (435).

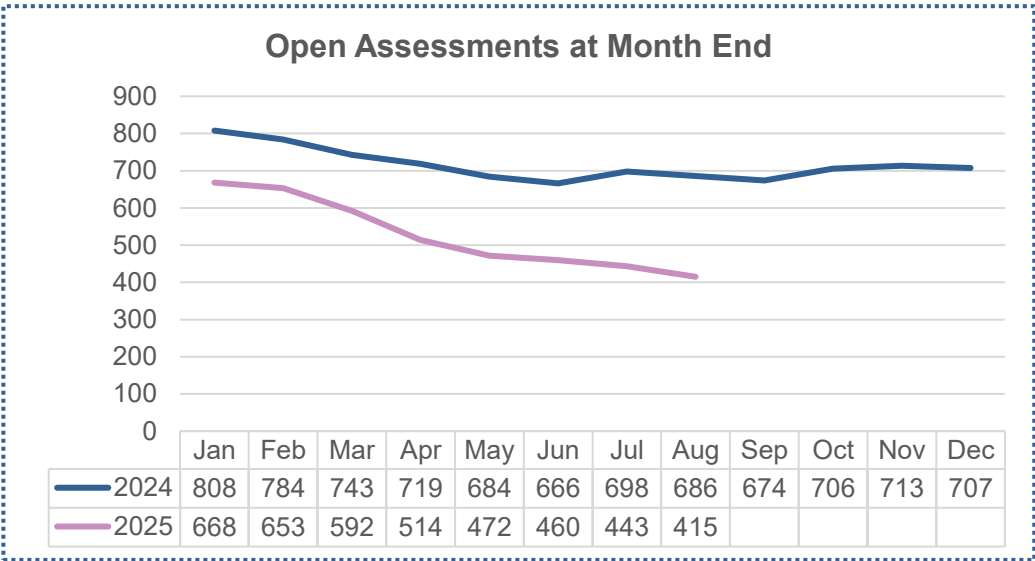
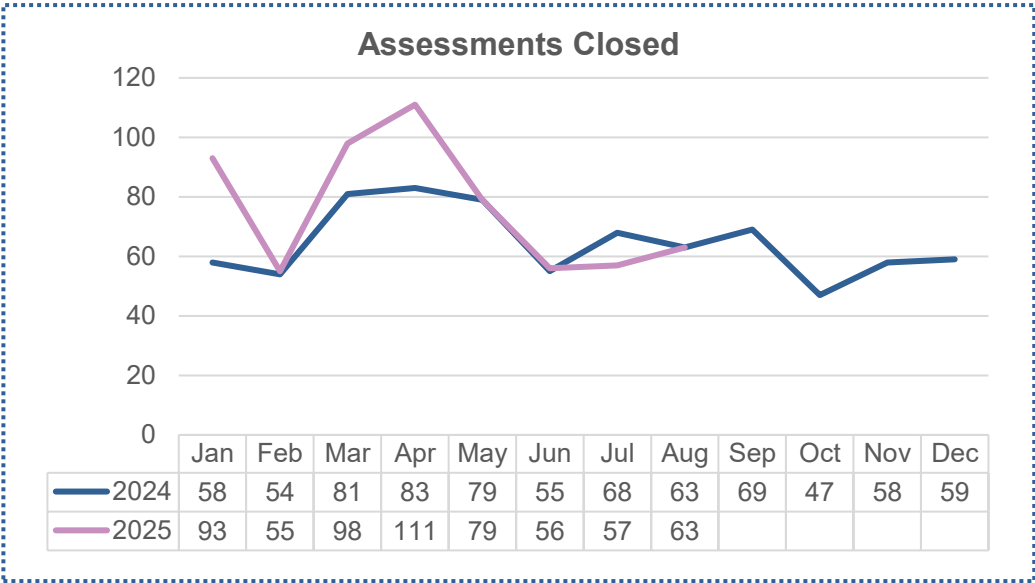


Open Assessments

- **415 assessments open at the end of August 2025**, 28 (6%) fewer than July 2025 (443) and the fewest number for the period January 2024 – August 2025.
- There were 271 (40%) fewer assessments open at the end of August 2025 than at the end of August 2024 (686).

Assessments Closed

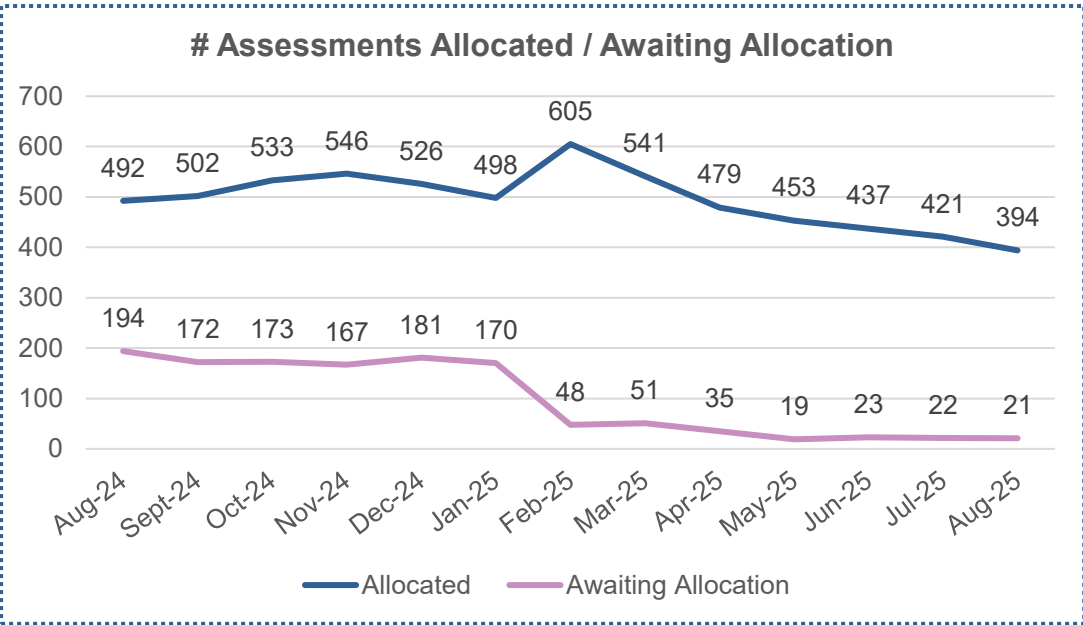
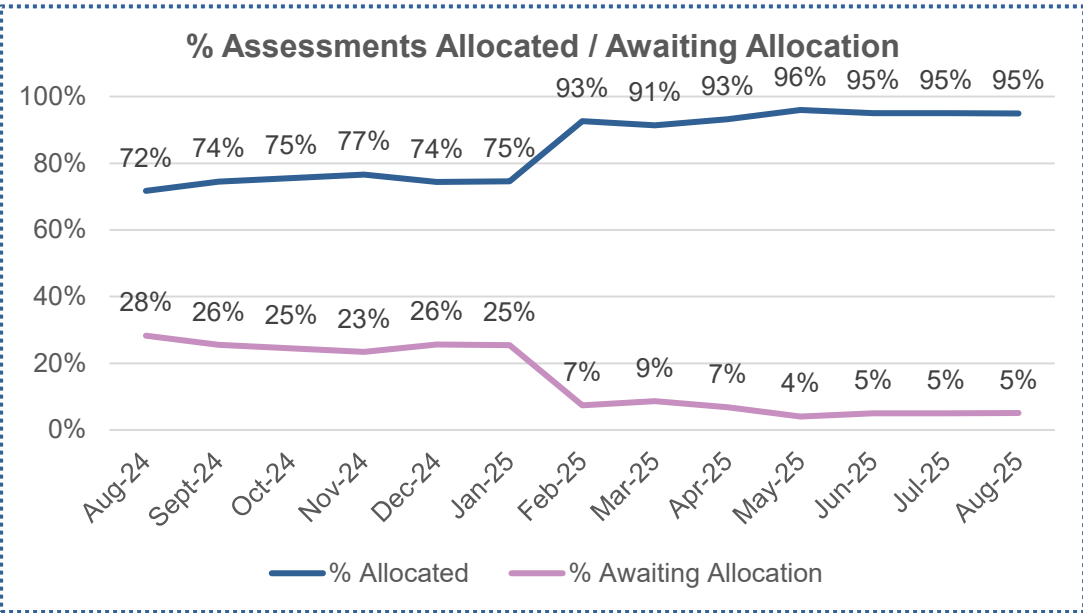
- **63 assessments closed** in August 2025.
- This brings to 612 the number of assessments closed for the first eight months of 2025, 71 (13%) more than the same period in 2024 (541).



Child Abuse Substantiation Procedure (CASP)

Allocation Status of Open Assessments

- **95% (394/415) of assessments open at the end of August 2025** were allocated to a social worker, no change from July 2025 and up 23 percentage points from August 2024 (72%).
- The remaining 5% (21) were awaiting allocation with one fewer assessment awaiting allocation at the end of August 2025 than at the end of July 2025 (22).
- 173 (89%) fewer assessments awaiting allocation at the end of August 2025 than at the end of August 2024 (194).



Children in Care

- **5,815 children (0-17 years) in care at the end of August 2025, 20 fewer** than July 2025 (5,835) and 56 (1%) more than August 2024 (5,759). Figure includes 105 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:**

	Aug-24	Jul-25	Aug-25	Aug 25 v Aug 24	Aug-25 v Jul-25
17 Tusla Areas	5,644	5,729	5,710	+66	-19
SCSIP	115	106	105	-10	-1
Total	5,759	5,835	5,815	+56	-20

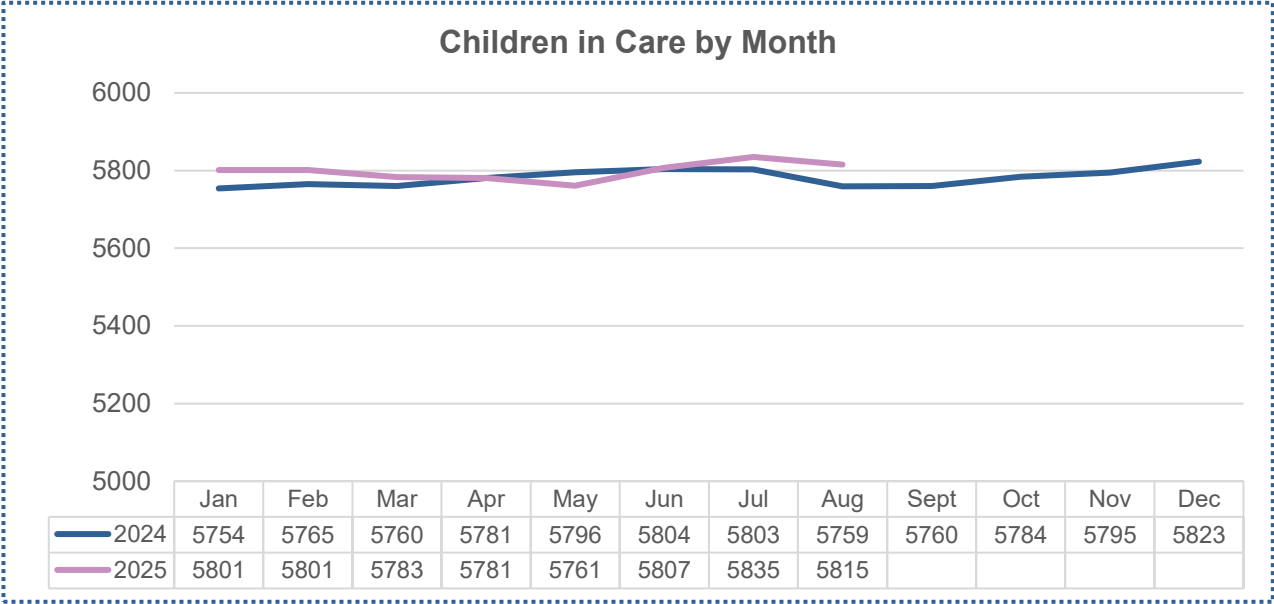
- **Breakdown of children in care by placement type as follows (Aug-25):**

Placement Type	17 areas	SCSIP	Total
Residential Care	483 (8.5%)	83 (79%)	566 (9.7%)
Foster Care	5,015 (87.8%)	17 (16%)	5,032 (86.5%)
Other*	212 (3.7%)	5 (5%)	217 (3.7%)
Total	5,710 (100%)	105 (100%)	5,815 (100.0%)

- Residential care (566) includes 15 children in special care and 551 in general residential care. Of the children in foster care (5,032), 70% (3,543) were in general foster care and 30% (1,489) were in relative foster care.
- Highest number of children in care reported by Cork (658) followed by Midwest (503) and Dublin North City (495).
- Fewest number reported by the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (105) and Sligo/Leitrim West Cavan (115).
- Across the 17 Areas the highest rate of children in care per 1,000 children was reported by Dublin North City (10.1) followed by Waterford/Wexford (5.8) and Donegal (5.8).
- 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 **423 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)

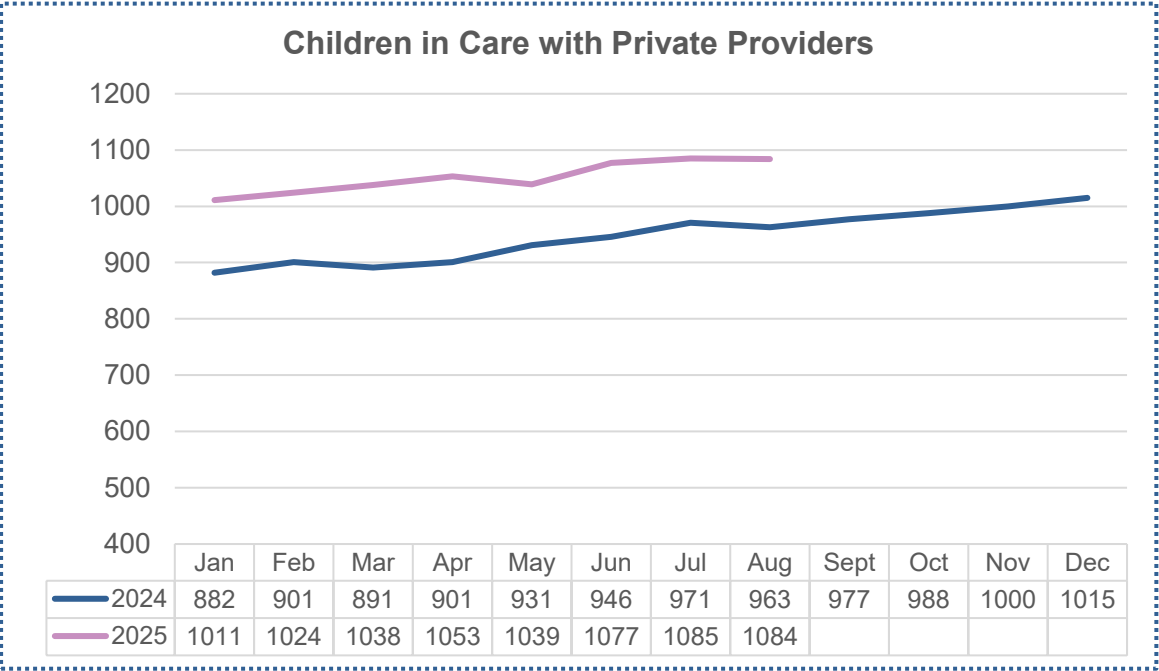
Area	Aug-24	Jul-25	Aug-25	Aug-25 v Aug-24	Aug-25 v Jul-25	Population	Rate/1,000
Dublin North City	464	489	495	31	6	48,909	10.1
Waterford/Wexford	429	406	401	-28	-5	69,239	5.8
Donegal	233	249	244	11	-5	42,144	5.8
Midwest	499	500	503	4	3	96,764	5.2
CW/KK/ST	306	320	316	10	-4	62,366	5.1
Kerry	167	175	173	6	-2	34,994	4.9
Cork	677	657	658	-19	1	136,786	4.8
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	116	116	115	-1	-1	24,312	4.7
Mayo	144	151	150	6	-1	31,911	4.7
Dublin South Central	325	331	326	1	-5	70,259	4.6
Cavan/Monaghan	161	166	169	8	3	37,336	4.5
Louth/Meath	425	433	425	0	-8	96,531	4.4
Galway/Roscommon	342	362	360	18	-2	81,799	4.4
Midlands	330	349	348	18	-1	80,962	4.3
Dublin North	423	418	416	-7	-2	104,281	4.0
DSW/K/WW	400	411	412	12	1	108,927	3.8
Dublin South East/Wicklow	203	196	199	-4	3	91,047	2.2
Total Areas	5,644	5,729	5,710	66	-19	1,218,567	4.7
SCSIP	115	106	105	-10	-1		
Total National	5,759	5,835	5,815	56	-20		

Population: CSO Census 2022

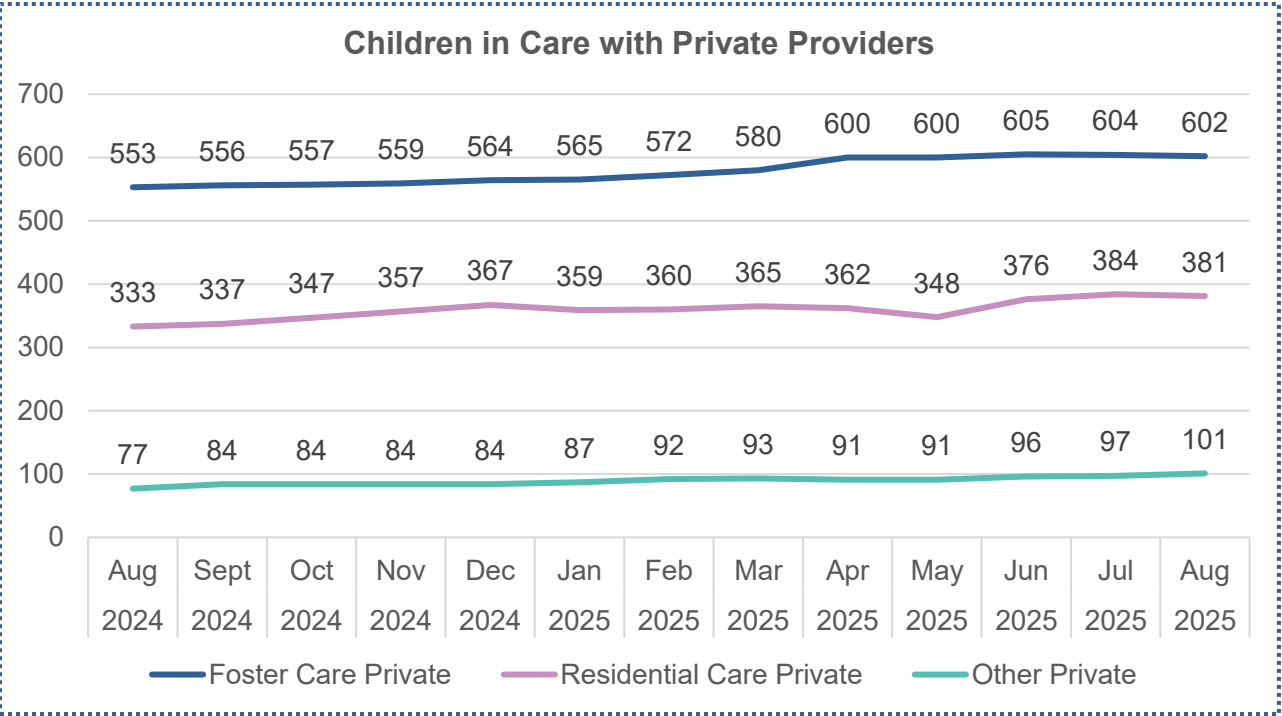
Children in Care

Private Providers

- **1,084 (19%)** children in care at the end of August 2025 were in placements with private providers, one fewer than July 2025 (1,085) and 121 (13%) more than August 2024 (963).



- **602 (56%)** children in placements with private providers were in **foster care**, two fewer than July 2025 (604) and 49 (9%) more than August 2024 (553).
- **381 (35%)** children were in **residential care**, three fewer than July 2025 (384) and 48 (14%) more than August 2024 (333).
- The remaining **101 (9%)** children were in **“Other” care placements**, **four** more than July 2025 (97) and 24 (31%) more than August 2024 (77). *“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 (147), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (123), Dublin North (123), Dublin South Central (115) and Midlands (106). These five areas account for 57% (614) of children in placements with private providers.



Children in Care with Private Providers

Children in Care (Private)	Aug-24	Jul-25	Aug-25	Aug-25 v Aug-24	Aug-25 v Aug-25
Dublin North City	122	143	147	25	4
DSW/K/WW	111	124	123	12	-1
Dublin North	116	124	123	7	-1
Dublin South Central	109	116	115	6	-1
Midlands	84	104	106	22	2
SCSIP	59	80	81	22	1
Cork	59	68	67	8	-1
Louth/Meath	52	54	54	2	0
Waterford/Wexford	49	53	54	5	1
Dublin South East/Wicklow	50	44	44	-6	0
Midwest	40	45	44	4	-1
Kerry	33	34	35	2	1
Donegal	18	31	31	13	0
CW/KK/ST	22	26	24	2	-2
Galway/Roscommon	16	16	15	-1	-1
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	12	13	11	-1	-2
Cavan/Monaghan	8	7	7	-1	0
Mayo	3	3	3	0	0
Total	963	1085	1084	121	-1

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% (5,710) of children in care at the end of August 2025 had an allocated case worker.**
- Of the 5,710 children allocated, 90% (5,120) were allocated to a social worker and 10% (590) were allocated to another professional.
- A total of 105 (2%) children were awaiting allocation, 20 (16%) fewer than August 2025 (125).
- 7 of the 17 areas report no cases awaiting allocation with a further seven areas and the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection reporting fewer than 10 cases awaiting allocation.
- Of the remaining three areas, the highest number of cases awaiting allocation was reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (34), followed by Louth/Meath (26) and Dublin South Central (19).

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

Area	Allocated SW	% Allocated SW	Allocated OP	% Allocated OP	Total Allocated	% Allocated to Case Worker	Awaiting Allocation	% Awaiting Allocation	Total in Care
Dublin South East/Wicklow	191	96%	8	4%	199	100%	0	0%	199
Midlands	324	93%	24	7%	348	100%	0	0%	348
Dublin North City	453	92%	42	8%	495	100%	0	0%	495
Kerry	171	99%	2	1%	173	100%	0	0%	173
Donegal	244	100%	0	0%	244	100%	0	0%	244
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	98	85%	17	15%	115	100%	0	0%	115
Mayo	135	90%	15	10%	150	100%	0	0%	150
Waterford/Wexford	363	91%	36	9%	399	100%	2	0%	401
Cavan/Monaghan	165	98%	3	2%	168	99%	1	1%	169
Mid West	382	77%	117	23%	499	99%	4	1%	503
Galway/Roscommon	352	99%	5	1%	357	99%	3	1%	360
Cork	652	100%	0	0%	652	99%	6	1%	658
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	172	55%	141	45%	313	99%	3	1%	316
Dublin North	380	92%	32	8%	412	99%	4	1%	416
SCSIP	102	100%	0	0%	102	97%	3	3%	105
Dublin South Central	276	90%	31	10%	307	94%	19	6%	326
Louth/Meath	358	90%	41	10%	399	94%	26	6%	425
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	302	80%	76	20%	378	92%	34	8%	412
Total	5,120	90%	590	10%	57,10	98%	105	2%	5815

Children in Care

Care Plan

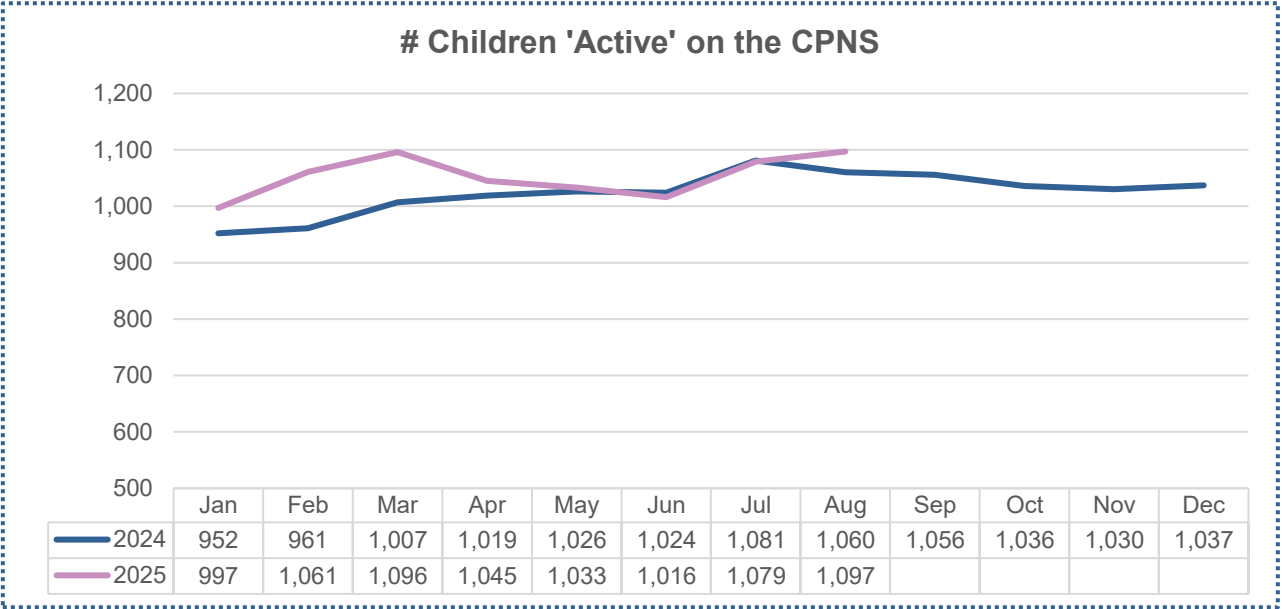
- 83% (4,798) of children in care at the end of August 2025 had an up-to-date care plan, no change from June 2025.
- A total of 1,017 (17%) children were awaiting an up-to-date care plan, 31 (3%) more than July 2025 (986).
- Highest numbers awaiting an up-to-date care plan reported by Dublin North City (150; 30%); Louth/Meath (102; 24%), Cork (101; 15%) and Dublin South Central (100; 31%)

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

Area	UTD Care Plan	Awaiting UTD Care Plan	Total	% UTD Care Plan
Dublin South East/Wicklow	152	47	199	76%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	345	67	412	84%
Dublin South Central	226	100	326	69%
Midlands	345	3	348	99%
Dublin North City	345	150	495	70%
Dublin North	324	92	416	78%
Louth/Meath	323	102	425	76%
Cavan/Monaghan	141	28	169	83%
Kerry	138	35	173	80%
Cork	557	101	658	85%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	298	18	316	94%
Waterford/Wexford	364	37	401	91%
Donegal	230	14	244	94%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	101	14	115	88%
Mayo	127	23	150	85%
Galway/Roscommon	283	77	360	79%
Mid West	426	77	503	85%
SCSIP	73	32	105	70%
Total	4,798	1,017	5,815	83%

Child Protection Notification System

- **1,097 children listed as ‘active’** on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) at the end of August 2025, 18 (2%) more than July 2025 (1,079).
- There were 37 (3%) more children ‘active’ at the end of August 2025 than at the end August 2024 (1,060).
- It should be noted that a small number of large sibling groups can have a significant effect on numbers reported.
- 98% (1,077) of children ‘active’ had an allocated social worker, 20 children were awaiting allocation to a social worker across three areas. Nine of the 20 children were subsequently allocated to a social worker. Ten of the remaining cases (11) are allocated to another professional.
- Highest numbers of children listed as ‘active’ at the end of August 2025, reported by Cork (140), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (133), Dublin North City (106) and Midlands (96).
- Fewest numbers reported by Kerry (21), Cavan/Monaghan (22) and Mayo (22)
- The number of children ‘active’ equates to 9 children per 10,000 under 18 years.
- Highest rates reported by Dublin North City (21.7), Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (16.5) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (12.2).
- Lowest rates reported by Louth/Meath (4.1) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (4.9).
- 8 of the 17 areas had more children listed as ‘active’ at the end of August 2025 than at the end of July 2025. Largest increases reported by Dublin North (up 12), Midwest (up 10) and Cork (up 9).
- 6 of the 17 areas reported fewer children ‘active’ with the largest decreases reported by Midlands (down 8), Galway/Roscommon (down 7) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 7). The remaining three areas (Dublin South Central, Donegal and Cavan/Monaghan) reported no change.
- 11 of the 17 areas had more children active at the end of August 2025 than at the end of August 2024. Largest increases reported by Galway/Roscommon (up 44), Cork (up 33) and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (up 19).
- 6 of the 17 areas reported a decrease. Largest decreases reported by Midwest (down 53), Louth/Meath (down 29) and Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (down 22).



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

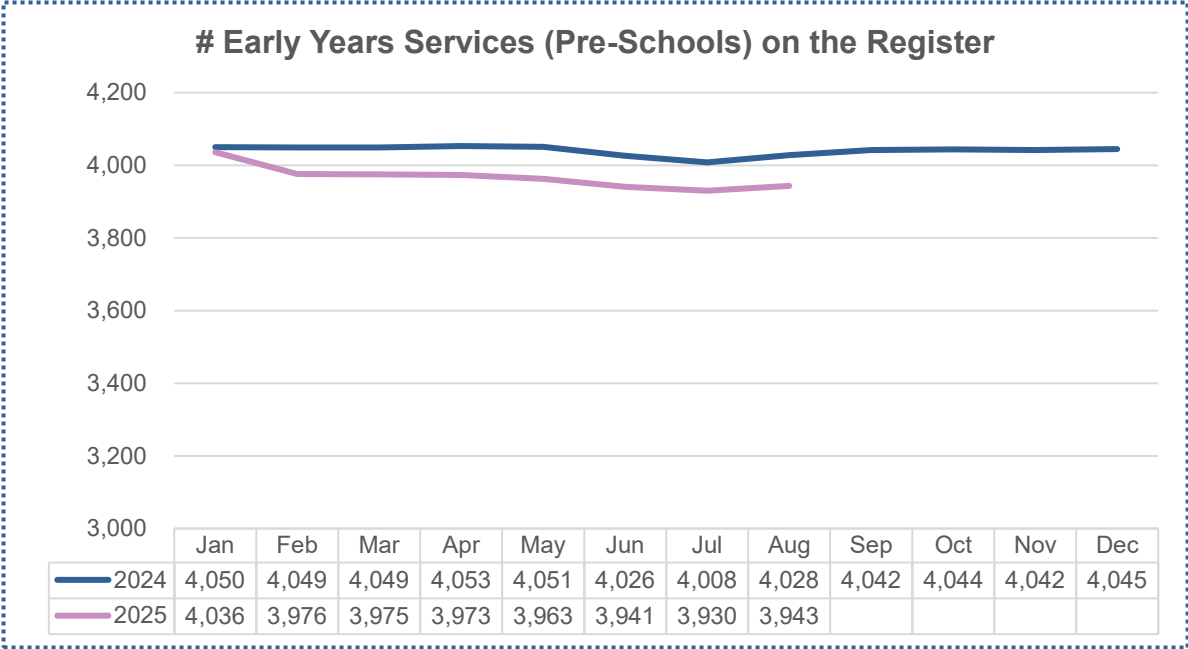
Area	Aug-24	Jul-25	Aug-25	Aug-25 v Aug-24	Aug-25 v Jul-25	Population	Rate/10,000
Dublin North City	105	104	106	1	2	48,909	21.7
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	21	36	40	19	4	24,312	16.5
DSW/K/WW	126	140	133	7	-7	108,927	12.2
Midlands	97	104	96	-1	-8	80,962	11.9
Galway / Roscommon	46	97	90	44	-7	81,799	11.0
Dublin South Central	72	73	73	1	0	70,259	10.4
Cork	107	131	140	33	9	136,786	10.2
Mid West	142	79	89	-53	10	96,764	9.2
Donegal	40	36	36	-4	0	42,144	8.5
Dublin North	54	60	72	18	12	104,281	6.9
Mayo	20	23	22	2	-1	31,911	6.9
Kerry	27	18	21	-6	3	34,994	6.0
Cavan / Monaghan	21	22	22	1	0	37,336	5.9
CW/KK/ST	58	38	36	-22	-2	62,366	5.8
Waterford / Wexford	26	35	36	10	1	69,239	5.2
Dublin South East / Wicklow	29	42	45	16	3	91,047	4.9
Louth / Meath	69	41	40	-29	-1	96,531	4.1
Total	1,060	1,079	1,097	37	18	1,218,567	9.0

Population 0-17 years – source CSO Census 2022

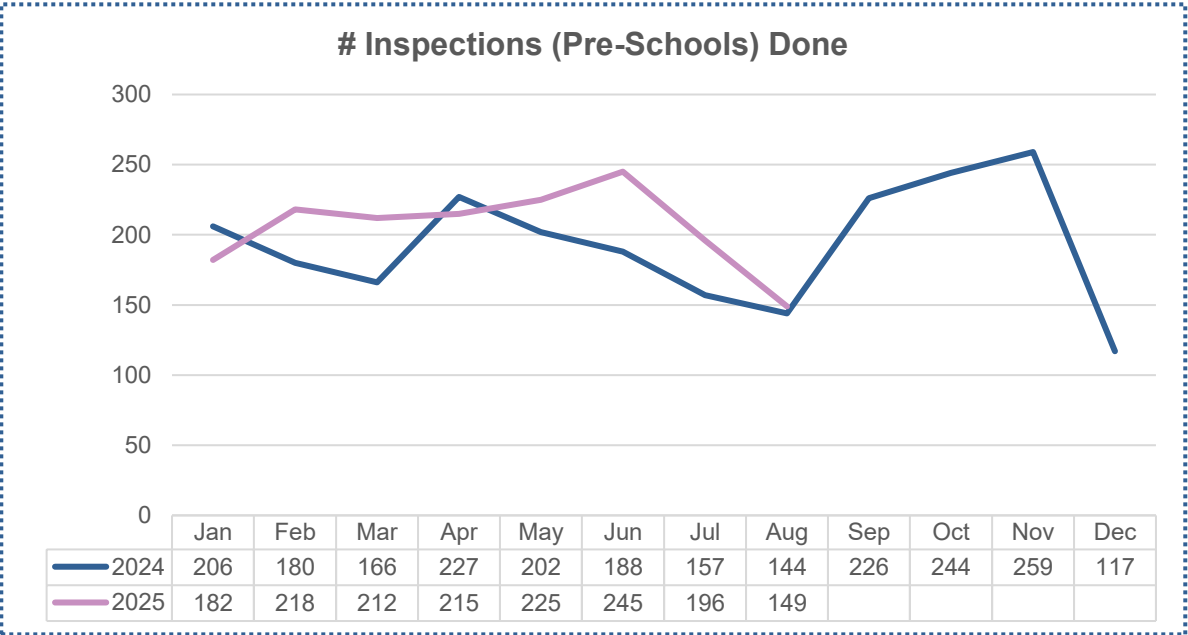
Children’s Services Regulation

EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

- **3,943 early years services (pre-schools) on the register at the end of August 2025**, 13 more than July 2025 (3,930) and 85 (2%) fewer than August 2024 (4,028). *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.*

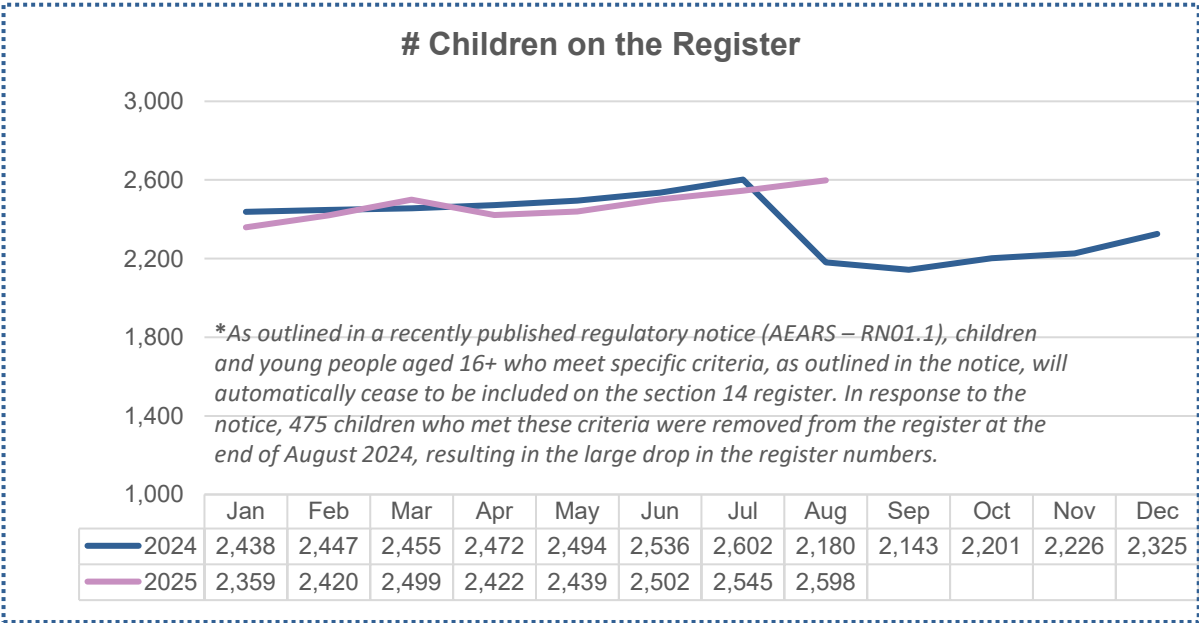


- **149 inspections** of early years services (pre-schools) in August 2025.
- This brings to 1,642 the number of inspections for the first eight months of 2025, 172 (12%) more than the same period in 2024 (1,470).

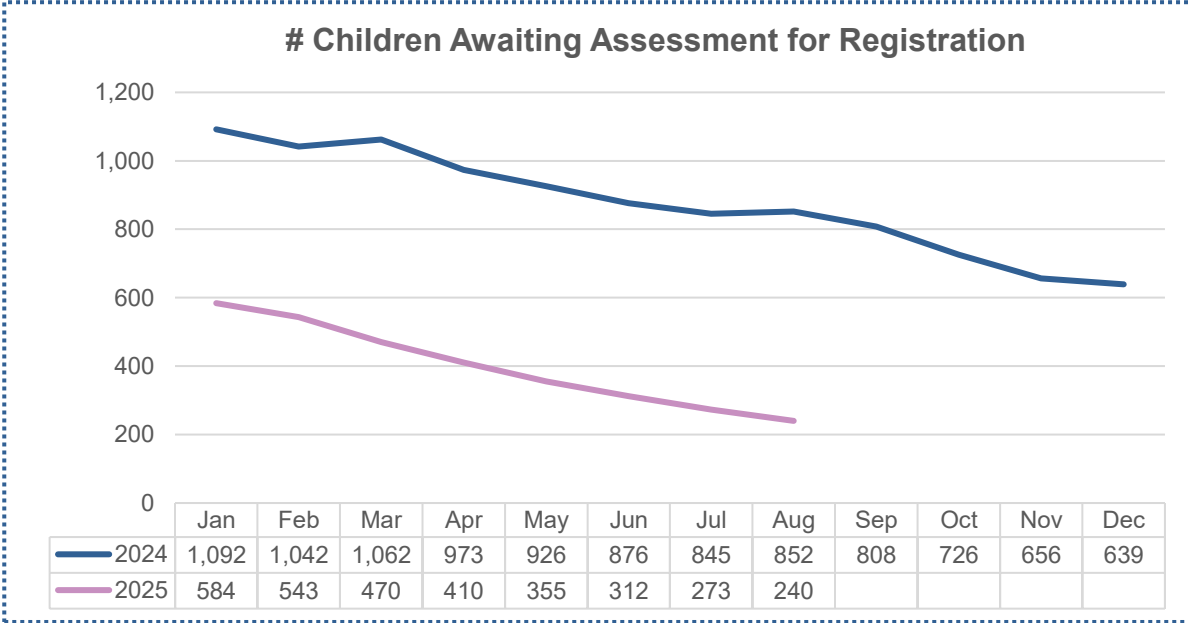


ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION SERVICE

- **2,598 children on the register** for home education at the end of August 2025, 53 (2%) more than July 2025 (2,545) and 273 (12%) more than Dec 2024 (2,325). Increasing trend continues.



- **240 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of August 2025**, 33 (12%) fewer than July 2025 (273) and 612 (72%) fewer than August 2024 (852). Decreasing trend continues.



Tusla Education Support Services

- **127 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in August 2025. This brings to 9,293 the number of referrals for the academic year 2024 – 2025, some 1,251 (16%) more than the same period in the previous academic year (8,042).

- **3,937 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of August 2025, 82 (2%) fewer than July 2025 (4,019).
- 428 (12%) more referrals on a waiting list at the end of August 2025 than at the end of August 2024 (3,509).

- **237 new individual children worked** with in August 2025. This brings to 4,257 the number of new individual children worked with in the academic year 2024-2025, some 333 (8%) more than the previous academic year (3,924).

