



An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency

# **MONTHLY SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT**

**JANUARY 2021**

29 March 2021  
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 – January 2021

## Child Protection & Welfare

- 3,777 cases awaiting allocation to a social worker at the end of January 2021, 462 (11%) fewer than December 2020 (4,239) and the fewest number since May 2020 (3,661)
- Cases awaiting allocation are down 29% (1,507) from January 2020 (5,284).
- Highest number of cases awaiting allocation in Dublin North (681; 18%) followed by Dublin South Central (548; 15%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (490; 13%), Midwest (300; 8%), Waterford/Wexford (290; 8%) and Cork (237; 6%). These six areas account for 67% (2,546) of cases awaiting allocation.
- 9% (323) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of January 2021 were categorised as high priority, 53 (14%) fewer than December 2020 (376) and the fewest number since September 2020 (321).

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

## Cases of Retrospective Abuse

- 675 cases awaiting allocation to a social worker at the end of January 2021; further increase (33) from December 2020 (642). Cases awaiting allocation are up eight from January 2021 (667).
- Highest number of cases awaiting in Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (110) followed by Waterford/Wexford (102), DSW/K/WW (84), Galway/Roscommon (82), Dublin South Central (65), Cork (50) and Donegal (50). These seven areas account for 80% (543) of cases awaiting allocation. Five areas (Midlands, Cavan/Monaghan, Kerry, Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan and Mayo) have no cases awaiting allocation.

## Children in Care

- 5,872 children in care at the end of January 2021; 10 fewer than December 2020 (5,882) and 99 fewer children in care than the same time last year (5,971).
- 722 (12%) children in care at the end of January 2021 were in placements with private providers, seven more than December 2020 (729) and 33 (5%) more than January 2020 (689). Third consecutive monthly decrease.
- 91% (5,371) of children in care at the end of January 2021 had an allocated social worker; down two percentage points from December 2020. 501 children were awaiting an allocated social worker, 102 more than December 2020 (399).

## Child Protection Notification System

- 934 children listed as “active” on the Child Protection Notification System at the end of January 2021, five fewer than December 2020 (939). There were 92 (11%) more children “active” at the end of January 2021 than January 2020 (842).
- All children listed as “active” at the end of January 2021 had an allocated social worker.

## Children’s Services Regulation

- 4,206 early years services on the register at the end of January 2021, four fewer than December 2020 (4,210). There were 106 (2%) fewer services on the register at the end of January 2021 than January 2020 (4,312).
- 62 inspections of early years services done in January 2021. Number of inspections impacted, due to the closure of services under the Covid-19 restrictions.
- 1,435 children awaiting assessment for registration at the end of January 2021, no change from December 2020. The increase in numbers awaiting assessment in recent months is due to an increase in applications received over the same period.

## Tusla Education Support Services

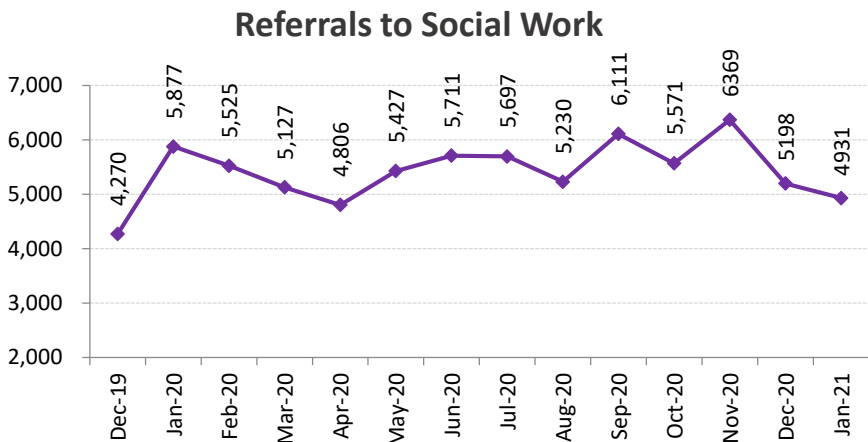
- 2,745 referrals screened by educational welfare officers for the five months Sep – Jan 2021, 21% (472) more than the same period in 2019/2020 (2,273).
- 1,909 referrals on a waiting list for educational welfare services at the end of January 2021, 233 (14%) more than December 2020 (1,676) and the fourth consecutive monthly increase. The number of referrals on a waiting list is down 75 (4%) from January 2020 (1,984).

# Child Protection & Welfare

## Referrals<sup>1</sup>

- **4,931 referrals** in January 2021, 267 (5%) fewer than December 2020 (5,198) and 946 (16%) fewer than January 2020 (5,877). Fewer referrals received due to COVID-19 restrictions and schools being closed.

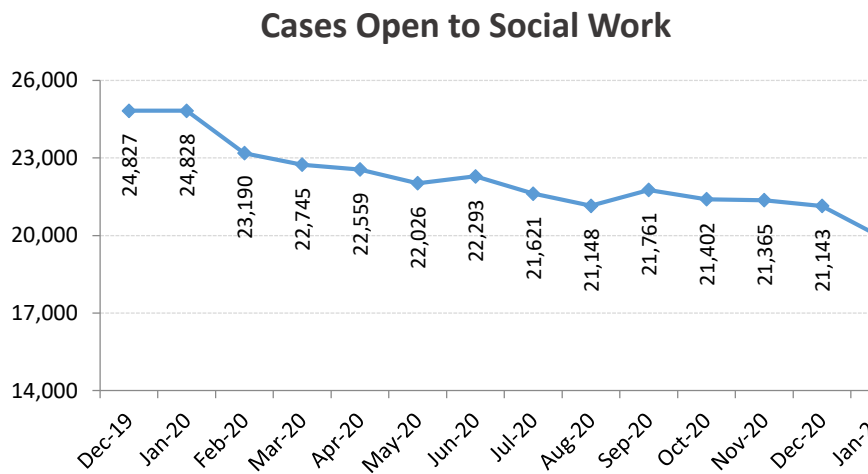
*It should be noted that the data presented is based on referrals logged on NCCIS at the time is extracted for reporting. Referrals logged after the date the data is extracted are not included, nor are figures updated retrospectively. Hence it is likely that the actual number of referrals for each of the months shown may be slightly higher.*



## Open Cases

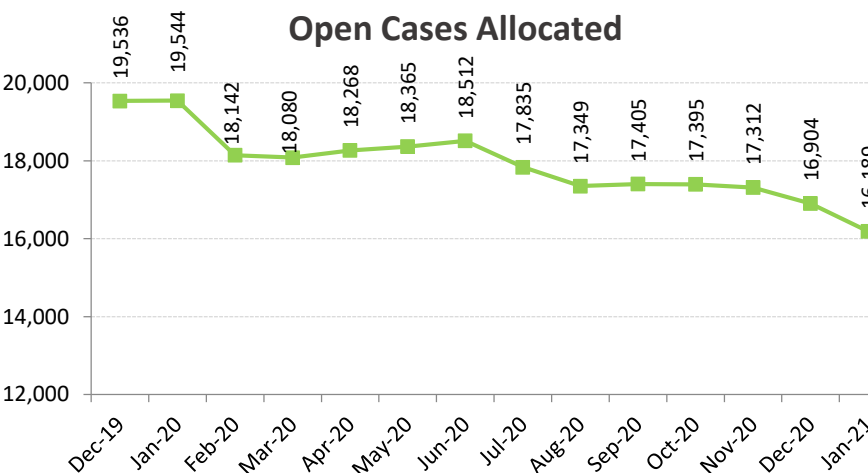
**The data on cases presented below is based on the status of cases on the National Child Care Information System (NCCIS) at month end**

- **19,966 cases open to social work** at the end of January 2021, 1,177 (6%) fewer than December 2020 (21,143) and the fewest number for the period Dec 2019 – Jan 2021. Decrease (1,177) partly explained by a large decrease (525) in one area (Dublin North), due to ongoing validation and cleansing of data following transition to NCCIS for reporting. *Note: open cases include, all cases held on duty, allocated and unallocated children protection and welfare cases including children in care*
- Open cases are down 20% (4,862) on January 2020 (24,828).



## Allocated Cases

- **16,189 open cases allocated** to a social worker at the end of January 2021, 715 (4%) fewer than December 2020 (16,904) and the fewest number for the period Dec 2019 – Jan 2021.
- Allocated cases are down 17% (3,355) from January 2020 (19,544)
- Allocated cases account for 81% of open 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). This was clarified in guidance issued to staff in October 2019. Prior to October 2019, only referrals meeting the eligibility criteria for child protection and welfare services were counted, with the exception of a small number of areas.

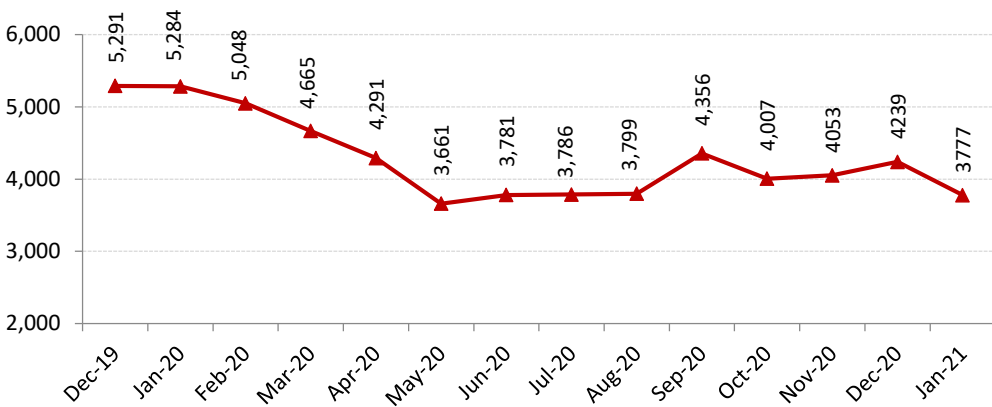
# Child Protection & Welfare

## Cases Awaiting Allocation of a Social Worker

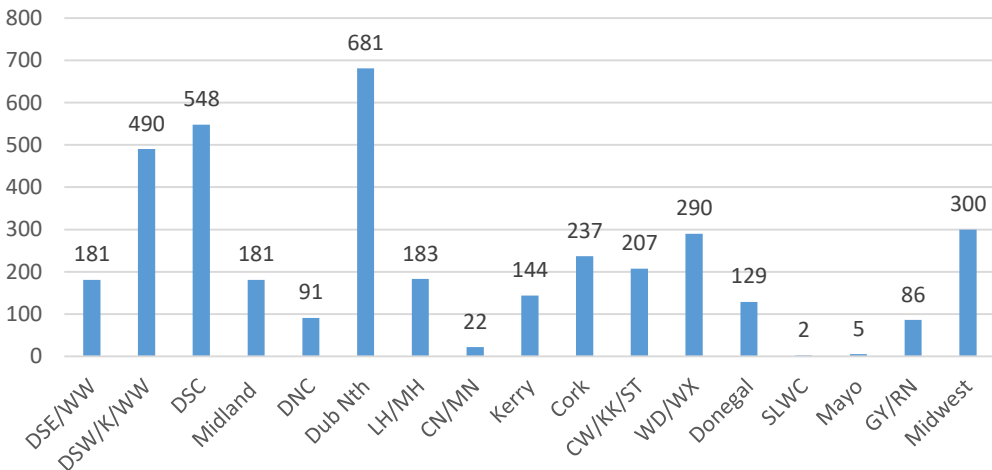
Cases awaiting allocation include cases held on duty, unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care

- **3,777 cases awaiting allocation of a social worker** at the end of January 2021, 462 (11%) fewer than December 2020 (4,239) and the fewest number since May 2020 (3,661)
- Cases awaiting allocation are down 29% (1,507) from January 2020 (5,284).
- Cases awaiting allocation account for 19% of open cases (19,966)
- 60% (2,263) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of January 2021 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 in Dublin North (681; 18%) followed by Dublin South Central (548; 15%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (490; 13%), Midwest (300; 8%), Waterford/Wexford (290; 8%) and Cork (237; 6%). These six areas account for 67% (2,546) of cases awaiting allocation.
- **323 cases** awaiting allocation at the end of January 2021 where categorised as **high priority**, 53 (14%) fewer than December 2020 (376) and the fewest number since September 2020 (321).
- High priority cases account for 9% of cases awaiting allocation.
- 54% (2,032) of cases awaiting allocation were categorised at medium priority while the remaining 38% (1,422) were low priority.
- Highest number of high priority cases reported by Waterford/Wexford (45) followed by Donegal (36), Dublin South Central (35), Cork (30), Dublin South East/Wicklow (27), Louth/Meath (27) and Midwest (27). These seven areas account for 70% (227) of high priority cases.

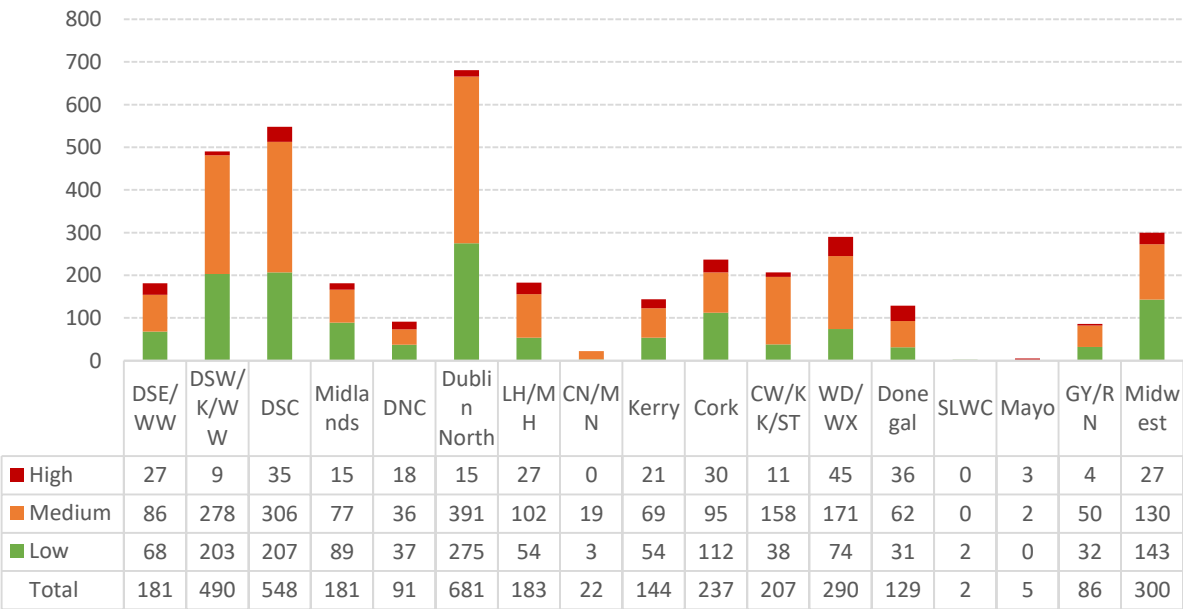
Open Cases Awaiting Allocation



Cases Awaiting Allocation by Area, January 2021



Cases Awaiting by Priority Level, January 2021



# Child Protection & Welfare

## Cases Awaiting Allocation

- 11 areas reported a decrease in unallocated cases from December 2020.
- Largest decrease reported by Louth/Meath (down 147) followed by Dublin North (down 138), Dublin South Central (down 92), Waterford/Wexford (down 86), Cork (down 76) and DSW/K/WW (down 57)
- 6 areas reported an increase in unallocated cases from December 2020.
- Largest increase reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (up 42) followed by Kerry (up 41), Galway/Roscommon (up 30), Donegal (up 26), Cavan/Monaghan (up 15) and Midwest (up 8).
- 10 areas had fewer cases awaiting at the end of January 2021 than the same period in 2020. Largest decrease reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 490; 50%) followed by Louth/Meath (down 417; 70%), Dublin North City (down 297; 77%) and Dublin South Central (down 212; 28%). Largest increase reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (up 90; 99%) followed by Kerry (up 37; 35%), Galway/Roscommon (up 36; 72%), Dublin North (up 33; 5%) and Midwest (up 18; 6%).
- Nationally 19% of open cases are unallocated. Nine areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average. Highest percentage (37%) reported by Dublin South Central followed by DSW/K/WW (29%), Dublin North (25%), Kerry (25%), CW/K/ST (25%).

Area	Jan-20 # Unallocated	Jan-20 % Unallocated	Nov-20 # Unallocated	Dec-20 # Unallocated	Jan-21 # Unallocated	Jan-21 % Unallocated	Nov - Jan	Jan-2021 v Jan- 2020	% Δ	Jan-2021 v Dec- 2020	% Δ2
DSE/WW	91	11%	171	139	181	20%		90	99%	42	30%
DSW/K/WW	980	39%	475	547	490	29%		-490	-50%	-57	-10%
DSC	760	43%	515	640	548	37%		-212	-28%	-92	-14%
Midlands	200	16%	173	185	181	15%		-19	-10%	-4	-2%
DNC	388	23%	106	104	91	6%		-297	-77%	-13	-13%
Dublin North	648	16%	982	819	681	25%		33	5%	-138	-17%
LH/MH	600	36%	217	330	183	15%		-417	-70%	-147	-45%
CN/MN	18	4%	7	7	22	5%		4	22%	15	214%
Kerry	107	19%	140	103	144	25%		37	35%	41	40%
Cork	319	12%	259	313	237	11%		-82	-26%	-76	-24%
CW/KK/ST	304	26%	214	212	207	25%		-97	-32%	-5	-2%
WD/WX	344	21%	374	376	290	19%		-54	-16%	-86	-23%
Donegal	153	18%	80	103	129	21%		-24	-16%	26	25%
SLWC	40	10%	5	4	2	1%		-38	-95%	-2	-50%
Mayo	0	0%	9	9	5	2%		5		-4	-44%
GY/RN	50	4%	26	56	86	8%		36	72%	30	54%
Midwest	282	16%	300	292	300	21%		18	6%	8	3%
TOTAL	5,284	21%	4053	4239	3777	19%		-1507	-29%	-462	-11%



# Child Protection & Welfare

## Summary Tables

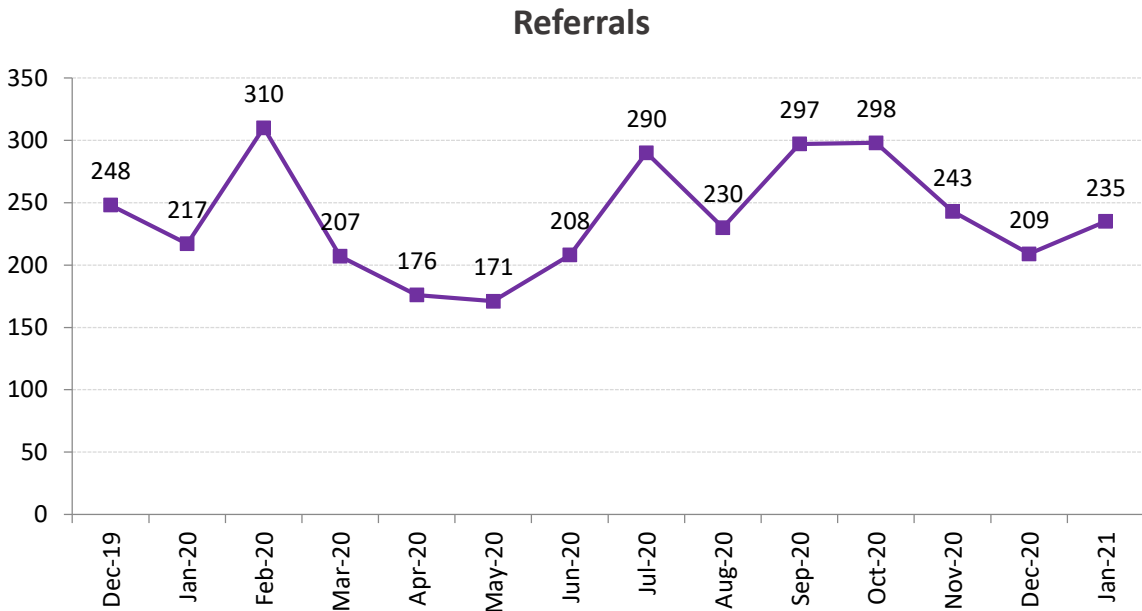
Referrals				Open Cases			Allocated Cases			Unallocated	Unallocated	
Area	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Δ Jan v Dec	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Δ Jan v Dec2	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Δ Jan v Dec3	Cases Dec 2020	Cases Jan 2021	Δ Jan v Dec4
DSE/WW	177	236	59	868	907	39	729	726	-3	139	181	42
DSW/K/WW	530	446	-84	1,836	1,705	-131	1,289	1,215	-74	547	490	-57
DSC	420	358	-62	1,518	1,472	-46	878	924	46	640	548	-92
Midlands	478	471	-7	1,264	1,215	-49	1,079	1,034	-45	185	181	-4
DNC	297	307	10	1,528	1,482	-46	1,424	1,391	-33	104	91	-13
Dublin North	429	425	-4	3,269	2,744	-525	2,450	2,063	-387	819	681	-138
LH/MH	389	303	-86	1,275	1,255	-20	945	1,072	127	330	183	-147
CN/MN	152	118	-34	457	452	-5	450	430	-20	7	22	15
Kerry	149	164	15	573	574	1	470	430	-40	103	144	41
Cork	480	439	-41	2,213	2,117	-96	1,900	1,880	-20	313	237	-76
CW/KK/ST	312	354	42	874	827	-47	662	620	-42	212	207	-5
WD/WX	408	348	-60	1,678	1,566	-112	1,302	1,276	-26	376	290	-86
Donegal	151	187	36	629	614	-15	526	485	-41	103	129	26
SLWC	84	95	11	253	238	-15	249	236	-13	4	2	-2
Mayo	119	124	5	291	274	-17	282	269	-13	9	5	-4
GY/RN	314	231	-83	1,124	1,062	-62	1,068	976	-92	56	86	30
Midwest	309	325	16	1,493	1,462	-31	1,201	1,162	-39	292	300	8
TOTAL	5198	4931	-267	21,143	19,966	-1177	16,904	16,189	-715	4239	3777	-462

High Priority				Medium Priority			Low Priority		
Area	Awaiting Dec 2020	Awaiting Jan-2021	Δ	Awaiting Dec 2020	Awaiting Jan 2021	Δ 2	Awaiting Dec 2020	Awaiting Jan 2021	Δ 3
DSE/WW	31	27	-4	62	86	24	46	68	22
DSW/K/WW	13	9	-4	307	278	-29	227	203	-24
DSC	52	35	-17	313	306	-7	275	207	-68
Midlands	26	15	-11	72	77	5	87	89	2
DNC	14	18	4	48	36	-12	42	37	-5
Dublin North	18	15	-3	505	391	-114	296	275	-21
LH/MH	18	27	9	236	102	-134	76	54	-22
CN/MN	0	0	0	2	19	17	5	3	-2
Kerry	23	21	-2	50	69	19	30	54	24
Cork	67	30	-37	121	95	-26	125	112	-13
CW/KK/ST	2	11	9	178	158	-20	32	38	6
WD/WX	47	45	-2	230	171	-59	99	74	-25
Donegal	27	36	9	41	62	21	35	31	-4
SLWC	0	0	0	3	0	-3	1	2	1
Mayo	5	3	-2	4	2	-2	0	0	0
GY/RN	2	4	2	39	50	11	15	32	17
Midwest	31	27	-4	142	130	-12	119	143	24
TOTAL	376	323	-53	2353	2032	-321	1510	1422	-88

# Retrospective Cases of Abuse

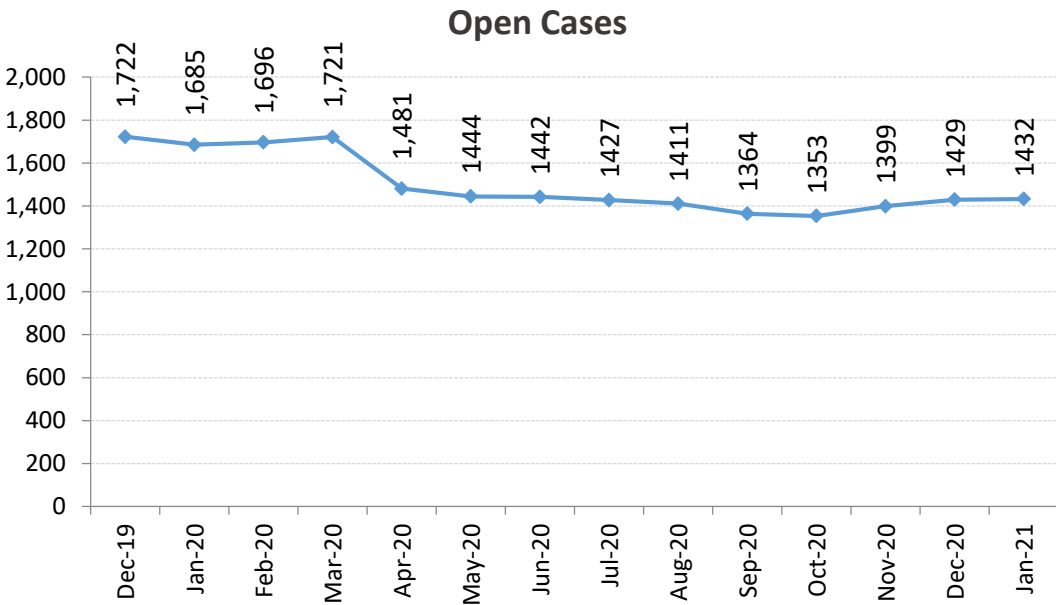
## Referrals

- **235 referrals of retrospective abuse** in January 2021, 26 more than December 2020 (209) and 18 more than January 2020 (217). *Data for Feb-May 2020 based on data from 16 areas.*



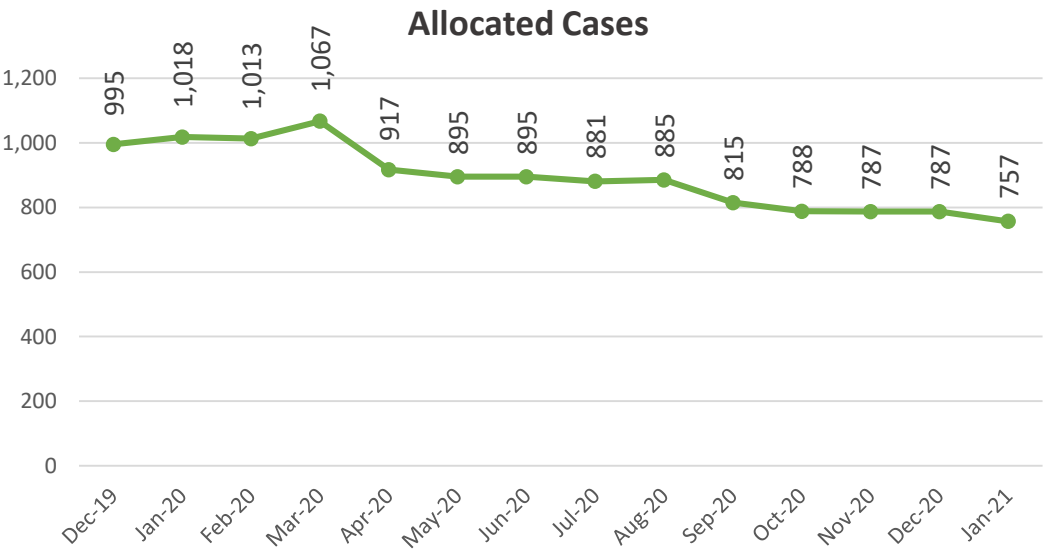
## Open Cases

- **1,432 cases open to social work** at the end of January 2021, three more than December 2020 (1,429). And 253 (15%) fewer than January 2020 (1,685). *Data for Jan-May based on data from 16 areas.*



## Allocated Cases

- **757 cases allocated to a social worker** at the end of January 2021, 30 fewer than December 2020 (787) and 261 (26%) fewer than January 2020 (1,018). Fewest number allocated for the period Dec 2019 – Jan 2021. *Data for Jan-May 2020 based on data from 16 areas.*
- Allocated cases account for 53% of open cases



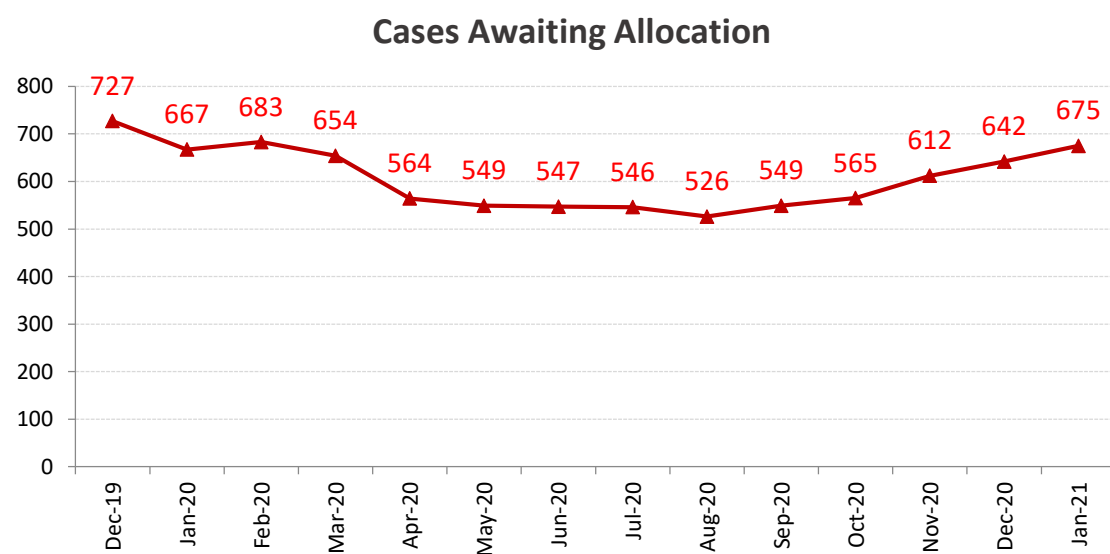
**Note: all data on cases of retrospective abuse needs to be interpreted with caution due to concerns about the consistent interpretation of definitions.**



# Retrospective Cases of Abuse

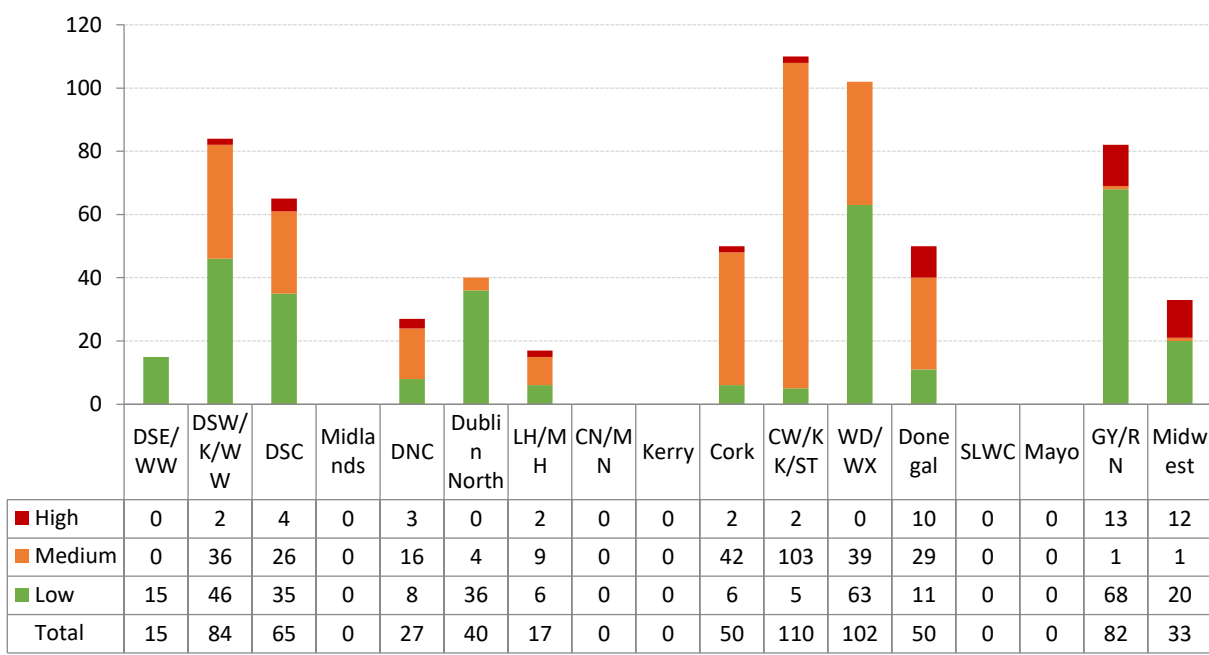
## Cases Awaiting Allocation of a Social Worker

- **675 cases awaiting allocation** at the end of January 2021, 33 more than December 2020 (642). Fifth consecutive monthly increase. *Data for Jan-May 2020 based on data from 16 areas.*
- Cases awaiting allocation are up eight on January 2020 (667)
- At the end of January 2021, cases awaiting allocation accounted for 47% of open cases, up two percentage points from December 2020 (45%).
- Highest number of cases awaiting in Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (110) followed by Waterford/Wexford (102), DSW/K/WW (84), Galway/Roscommon (82), Dublin South Central (65), Cork (50) and Donegal (50). These seven areas account for 80% (543) of cases awaiting allocation. Five areas (Midlands, Cavan/Monaghan, Kerry, Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan and Mayo) have no cases awaiting allocation.

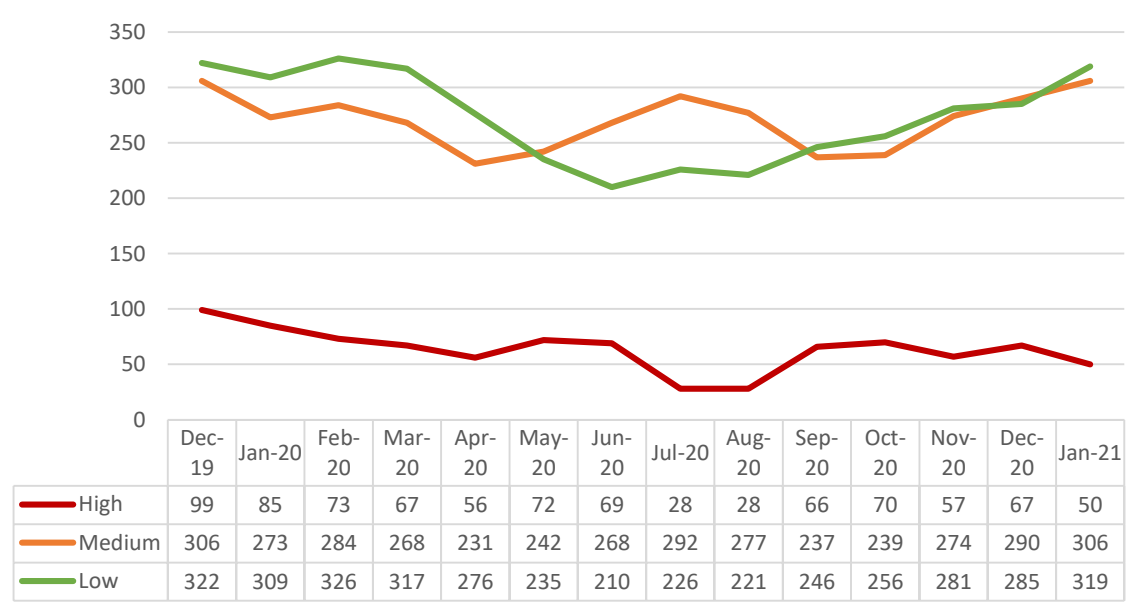


- **50 high priority cases awaiting allocation** at the end of January 2021, 17 fewer than December 2020 (67). High priority cases are down 41% (35) on January 2020 (85).
- High priority cases accounted for 7% of cases awaiting allocation at the end of January 2021 (675).
- Highest number of high priority cases reported by Galway/Roscommon (13) followed by Midwest (12) and Donegal (10). These three areas account for 70% (35) of all high priority cases awaiting allocation. Three areas with cases awaiting allocation have no high priority cases (Dublin South East/Wicklow, Dublin North and Waterford/Wexford).

Retrospective Cases of Abuse Awaiting Allocation by Priority Level, January 2021



Cases Awaiting Allocation by Priority Status



Priority not available for 2 cases Mar 2020 and 1 case Apr 2020

# Retrospective Cases of Abuse

- **8 areas reported an increase** in cases awaiting allocation from December 2020 with the largest increase reported by CW/K/ST (up 18) followed by Dublin South Central (up 13) and Louth/Meath (up 12).
- **5 areas reported a decrease** with the largest decrease reported by Donegal and Cork, both down 9 followed by Midwest (down 7), SLWC (down 3) and DSW/K/WW (down 1).
- The remaining four areas (Midlands, Cavan/Monaghan, Kerry and Mayo) reported no change.
- 47% (675) of open cases are awaiting allocation nationally, with seven areas reporting a percentage equal to or higher than the national average. Highest percentages reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (100%), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (100%), Galway/Roscommon (75%), Dublin South Central (70%), Donegal (69%), DSW/K/WW (68%) and WD/WX (61%).

- 6 areas had fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of January 2021 than January 2020, while seven areas reported an increase. Of the remaining four areas, one area (Midwest) reported no change while the remaining three (Midlands, Cavan/Monaghan and Kerry) areas had no cases awaiting allocation in either month.

Area	Jan-20 # Unallocated	Jan-20 % Unallocated	Nov-20 # Unallocated	Dec-20 # Unallocated	Jan-21 # Unallocated	Jan-21 % Unallocated	Nov - Jan	Jan-2021 v Jan- 2020	% Δ	Jan-2021 v Dec- 2020	% Δ2
DSE/WW	0	0%	18	13	15	100%		15		2	15%
DSW/K/WW	159	41%	74	85	84	68%		-75	-47%	-1	-1%
DSC	134	86%	48	52	65	70%		-69	-51%	13	25%
Midlands	0	0%	0	0	0	0%		0		0	
DNC	34	43%	26	25	27	28%		-7	-21%	2	8%
Dublin North	29	20%	33	34	40	25%		11	38%	6	18%
LH/MH	5	9%	3	5	17	24%		12	240%	12	240%
CN/MN	0	0%	0	0	0	0%		0		0	
Kerry	0		0	0	0	0%		0		0	
Cork	66	35%	61	59	50	38%		-16	-24%	-9	-15%
CW/KK/ST	23	43%	77	92	110	100%		87	378%	18	20%
WD/WX	94	57%	93	99	102	61%		8	9%	3	3%
Donegal	43	62%	57	59	50	69%		7	16%	-9	-15%
SLWC	1	8%	2	3	0	0%		-1	-100%	-3	-100%
Mayo	10	17%	0	0	0	0%		-10	-100%	0	
GY/RN	36	41%	86	76	82	75%		46	128%	6	8%
Midwest	33	38%	34	40	33	30%		0	0%	-7	-18%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>47%</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>5%</b>

# Retrospective Cases of Abuse

## Summary Tables

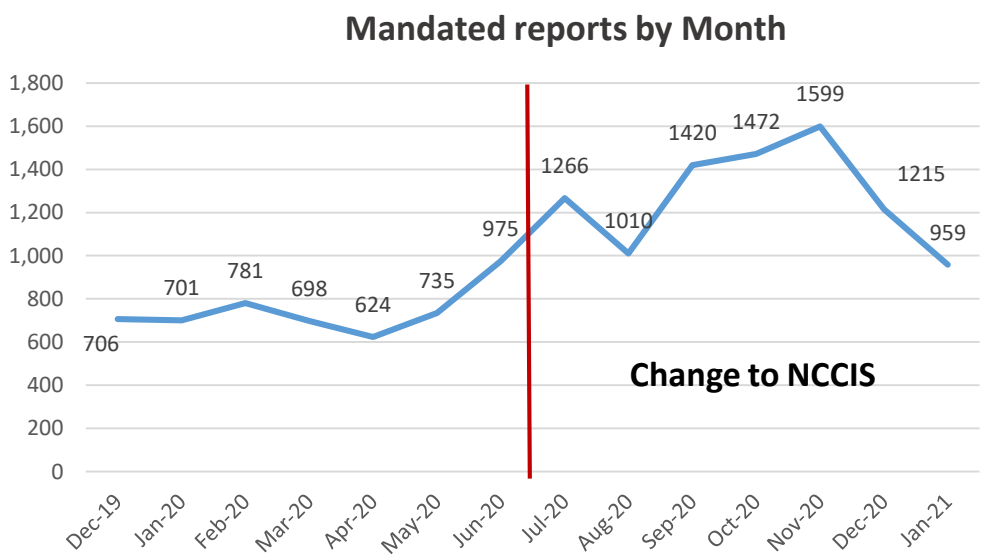
Area	Referrals			Open Cases			Allocated Cases			Unallocated Cases		
	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Δ Jan v Dec	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Δ Jan v Dec2	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Δ Jan v Dec3	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Δ Jan v Dec4
DSE/WW	13	15	2	13	15	2	0	0	0	13	15	2
DSW/K/WW	17	8	-9	146	124	-22	61	40	-21	85	84	-1
DSC	18	13	-5	97	93	-4	45	28	-17	52	65	13
Midlands	10	17	7	16	15	-1	16	15	-1	0	0	0
DNC	15	15	0	96	98	2	71	71	0	25	27	2
Dublin North	9	13	4	147	158	11	113	118	5	34	40	6
LH/MH	9	24	15	57	70	13	52	53	1	5	17	12
CN/MN	5	3	-2	53	51	-2	53	51	-2	0	0	0
Kerry	10	9	-1	49	48	-1	49	48	-1	0	0	0
Cork	31	34	3	146	130	-16	87	80	-7	59	50	-9
CW/KK/ST	15	22	7	92	110	18	0	0	0	92	110	18
WD/WX	22	28	6	161	166	5	62	64	2	99	102	3
Donegal	3	3	0	72	72	0	13	22	9	59	50	-9
SLWC	3	3	0	16	19	3	13	19	6	3	0	-3
Mayo	4	1	-3	53	44	-9	53	44	-9	0	0	0
GY/RN	16	20	4	104	110	6	28	28	0	76	82	6
Midwest	9	7	-2	111	109	-2	71	76	5	40	33	-7
TOTAL	209	235	26	1429	1432	3	787	757	-30	642	675	33

Area	High Priority Awaiting			Medium Priority Awaiting			Low Priority Awaiting		
	Dec 2020	Jan-2021	Δ	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Δ 2	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Δ 3
DSE/WW	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	15	2
DSW/K/WW	2	2	0	36	36	0	47	46	-1
DSC	3	4	1	26	26	0	23	35	12
Midlands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DNC	4	3	-1	15	16	1	6	8	2
Dublin North	0	0	0	4	4	0	30	36	6
LH/MH	0	2	2	1	9	8	4	6	2
CN/MN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kerry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cork	2	2	0	52	42	-10	5	6	1
CW/KK/ST	2	2	0	85	103	18	5	5	0
WD/WX	0	0	0	37	39	2	62	63	1
Donegal	18	10	-8	29	29	0	12	11	-1
SLWC	0	0	0	3	0	-3	0	0	0
Mayo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GY/RN	14	13	-1	1	1	0	61	68	7
Midwest	22	12	-10	1	1	0	17	20	3
TOTAL	67	50	-17	290	306	16	285	319	34

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

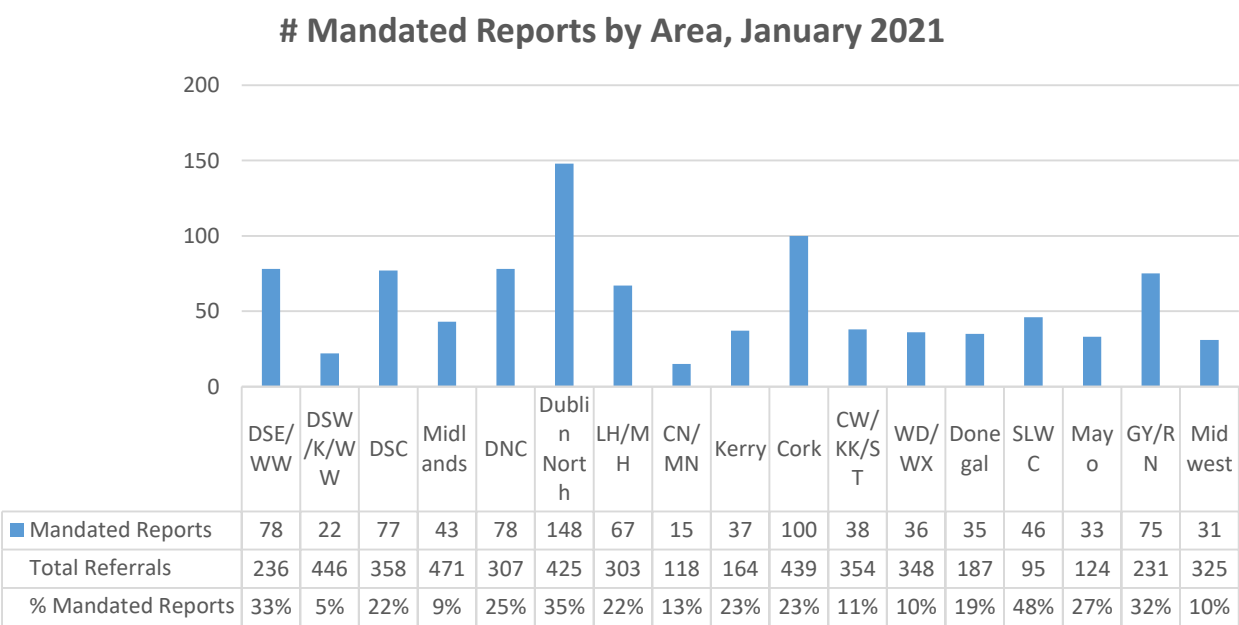
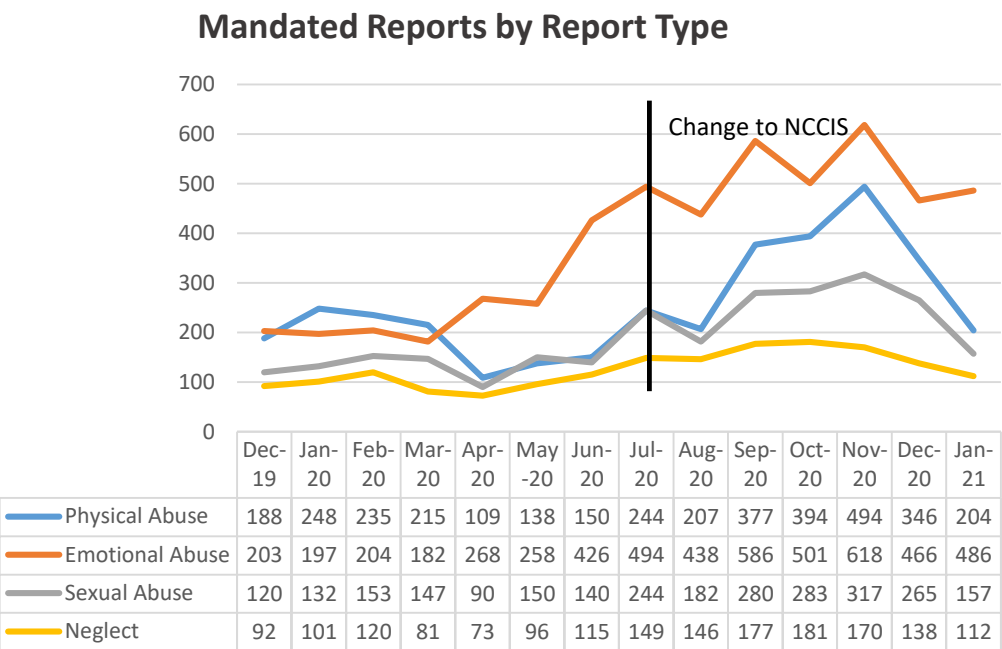
- **959 mandated reports of abuse** received in January 2021; 256 (21%) fewer than December 2020 (1,215)
- Mandated reports accounted for 19% (959) of all referrals received (4931) in December 2020.

Comparison of data from July 2020 with previous months needs to be interpreted with caution. This is due to a change made on the National Child Care Information System (NCCIS) in July 2020 to enable areas record the primary report type of mandated reports on the referral screen. This means that areas no longer have to create an intake record on NCCIS to record the primary report type. Prior to this change, if an intake record had not been created on the system at the time the data were extracted, the mandated report would not have been included in the count.



- The number of mandated reports for January 2021, by area ranged from 15 (Cavan/Monaghan) to 148 (Dublin North).
- As a percentage of referrals, the highest percentage was reported by Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (48%) followed by Dublin North (35%), Dublin South East/Wicklow (33%) and Galway/Roscommon (32%).
- The lowest percentage was reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (5%) followed by Midlands (9%), Waterford/Wexford (10%) and Midwest (10%)

- Highest number of reports for January 2021 for emotional abuse (486; 51%) followed by physical abuse (204; 21%), sexual abuse (157; 16%) and neglect (112; 12%). Category of abuse not available for, 113 reports for October 2020, 37 reports for August 2020, 135 reports for July 2020, 144 reports for June 2020, 93 reports for May 2020, 84 reports for April 2020, 73 reports for March 2020, 69 reports for Feb 2020, 23 reports for Jan 2020, 103 reports for Dec 2019 and 22 reports for Oct 2019



<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 January 2021 from An Garda Síochána (495; 52%) followed by social workers (123; 13%) social care workers (50; 5.2%), managers of domestic violence shelters (48; 5%) and medical practitioners (47; 4.9%).
- These five sources account for 80% (763) of reports for January 2021.

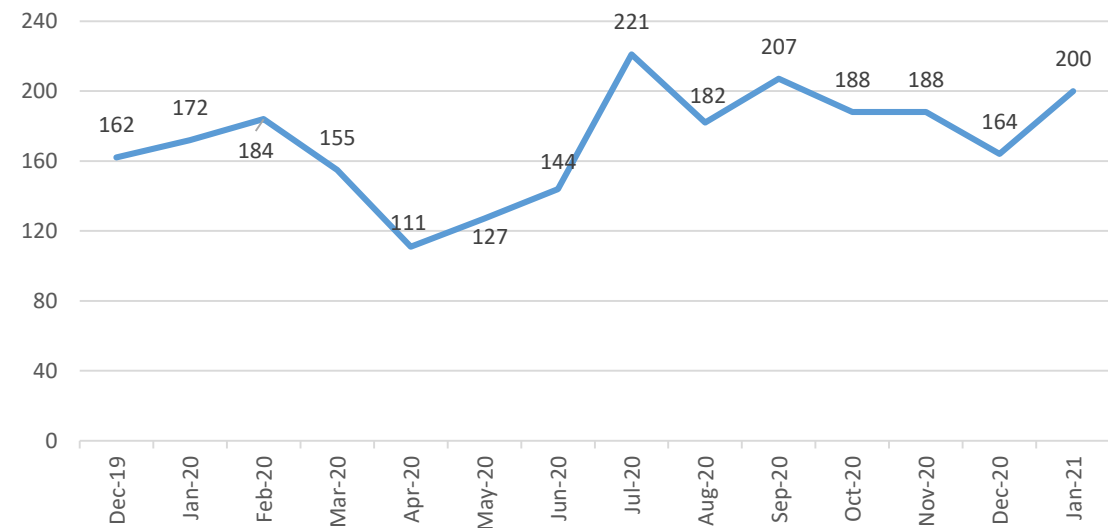
Source	# Jan 2021	% Jan 2021
Medical practitioner (Registered)	47	4.9%
Nurse or registered midwife (Registered)	21	2.2%
Physiotherapist (Registered)	19	2.0%
Speech & language therapist (Registered)	*	*
Occupational therapist (Registered)	*	*
Registered dentist	0	0.0%
Psychologist who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	10	1.0%
Social care worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	50	5.2%
Social worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	123	12.8%
EMT, paramedic and advanced paramedic registered with the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council	*	*
Probation officer within the meaning of section 1 of the Criminal Justice (Community Service) Act 1983.	*	*
Teacher registered with the Teaching Council.	42	4.4%
An Garda Síochána Member	495	51.6%
Guardian ad litem appointed in accordance with section 26 of the Child Care Act 1991	0	0.0%
Domestic violence shelter manager	48	5.0%
Homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility manager	8	0.8%
Asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre manager	8	0.8%
Addiction counsellor employed by a body funded, wholly or partly, out of moneys provided by the Oireachtas	0	0.0%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling who is registered with one of the voluntary professional bodies	17	1.8%
Language school or other recreational school where children reside away from home manager	*	*
Clergy member (howsoever described) or pastoral care worker (howsoever described) of a church or other religious community;	*	*
Institution where a child is detained by an order of a court (Director)	0	0.0%
Safeguarding officer, child protection officer or other person (howsoever described) who is employed for the purpose of performing the child welfare and protection function of religious, sporting, recreational, cultural, educational and other bodies and organisations offering services to children;	40	4.2%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991;	6	0.6%
Youth work service - person responsible for the care or management within the meaning of section 2 of the Youth Work Act 2001	7	0.7%
Youth worker holds a professional qualification and who is employed in a youth work service	*	*
Foster carer registered with the Agency.	7	0.7%
Pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991.	0	0.0%
<b>Total (includes suppressed values)</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\*Values <5 suppressed

# Mandated Reports<sup>1</sup> – Retrospective Abuse

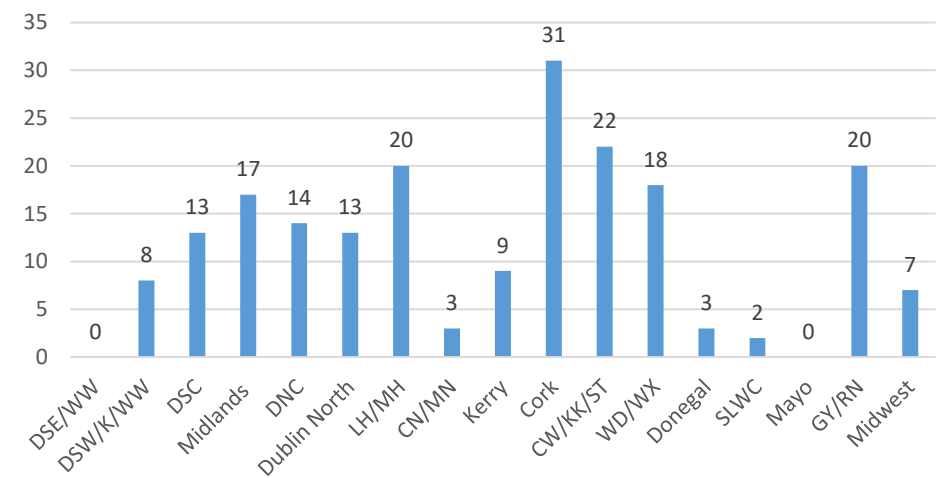
- **200 mandated reports of retrospective abuse** in January 2021, 36 more than December 2020 (164) and 28 more than January 2020 (172). *Data for Feb-May 2020 based on data from 16 areas.*
- Mandated reports accounted for 85% (200) of all reports of retrospective abuse received in January 2021 (235).
- The majority (93%; 186) of mandated reports for January 2021 were for sexual abuse..
- Highest number of mandated reports reported by Cork (31) followed by CW/K/ST (22), Louth/Meath (20) and Galway/Roscommon (20).
- Two areas (Dublin South East/Wicklow and Mayo) reported none

Mandated Reports by Month

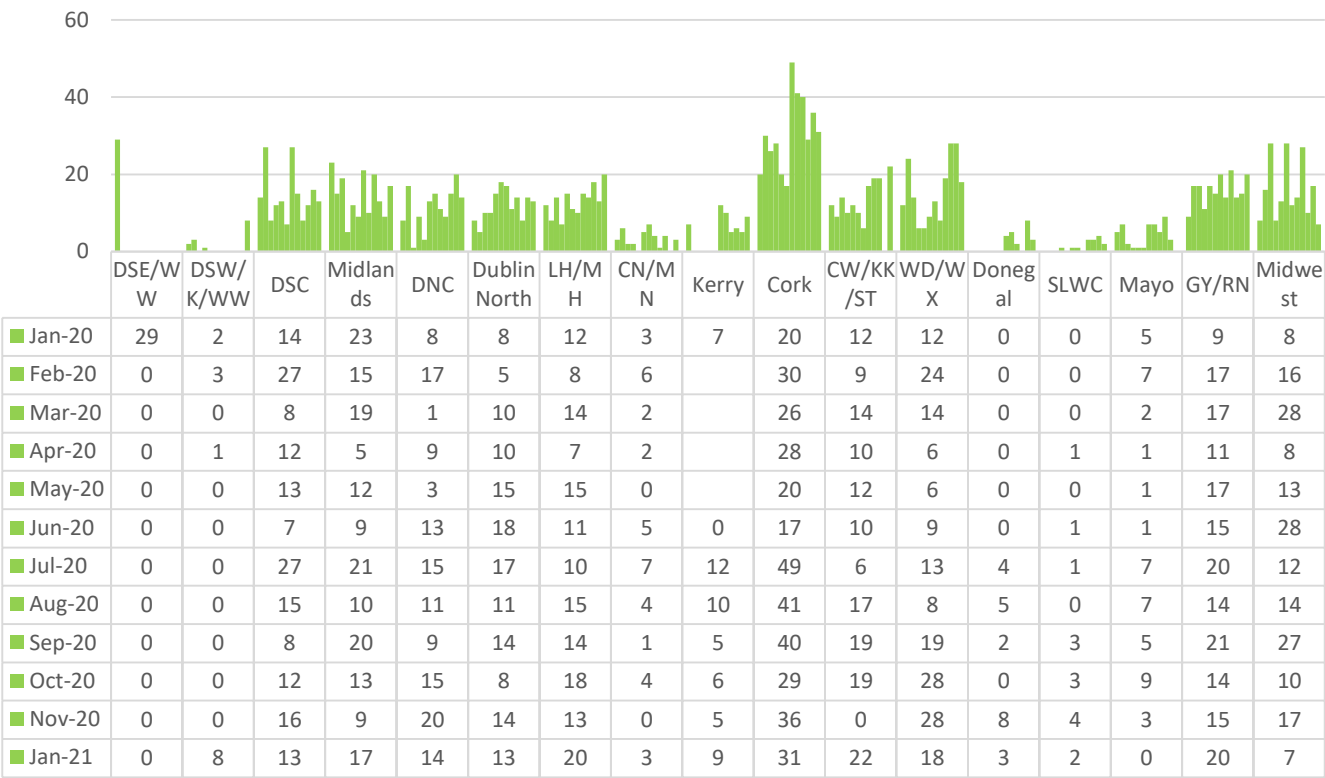


Data for Dec 2019 and Feb/Mar/Apr/May 2020 based on 16 areas.

Mandated Reports by Area - January 2021



# Mandated Reports - Retrospective Cases of Abuse



<sup>1</sup> Mandated reports are included in the data on referrals (slide 8)



# Mandated Reports – Retrospective Abuse

## Source of Reports

- Highest number of reports for January 2021 from social workers (51; 26%) followed by members of An Garda Síochána (50; 25%), psychologists (19; 10%), psychotherapists (14; 7%) and medical practitioners (13; 6.5%). These five sources account for 74%; (147) of all reports received

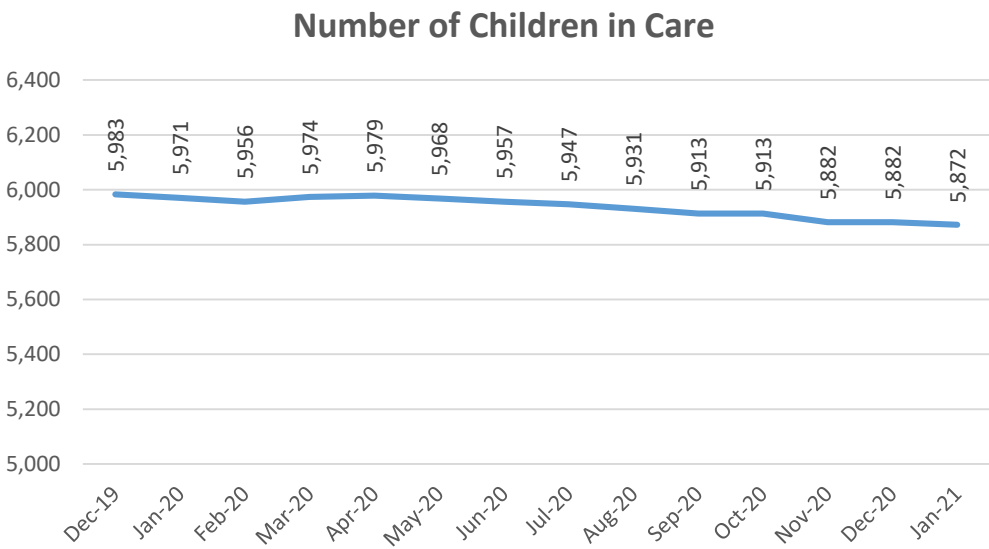
Source	# Jan 2021	% Jan 2021
Medical practitioner (Registered)	13	6.5%
Nurse or registered midwife (Registered)	13	6.5%
Physiotherapist (Registered)	*	*
Speech & language therapist (Registered)	0	0.0%
Occupational therapist (Registered)	*	*
Registered dentist	0	0.0%
Psychologist who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	19	9.5%
Social care worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	7	3.5%
Social worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	51	25.5%
EMT, paramedic and advanced paramedic registered with the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council	0	0.0%
Probation officer within the meaning of section 1 of the Criminal Justice (Community Service) Act 1983.	5	2.5%
Teacher registered with the Teaching Council.	*	*
An Garda Síochána Member	50	25.0%
Guardian ad litem appointed in accordance with section 26 of the Child Care Act 1991	*	*
Domestic violence shelter manager	0	0.0%
Homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility manager	0	0.0%
Asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre manager	0	0.0%
Addiction counsellor employed by a body funded, wholly or partly, out of moneys provided by the Oireachtas	*	*
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling who is registered with one of the voluntary professional bodies	14	7.0%
Language school or other recreational school where children reside away from home manager	0	0.0%
Clergy member (howsoever described) or pastoral care worker (howsoever described) of a church or other religious community;	11	5.5%
Institution where a child is detained by an order of a court (Director)	0	0.0%
Safeguarding officer, child protection officer or other person (howsoever described) who is employed for the purpose of performing the child welfare and protection function of religious, sporting, recreational, cultural, educational and other bodies and organisations offering services to children;	5	2.5%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991;	0	0.0%
Youth work service - person responsible for the care or management within the meaning of section 2 of the Youth Work Act 2001	*	*
Youth worker holds a professional qualification and who is employed in a youth work service	*	*
Foster carer registered with the Agency.	0	0.0%
Pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991.	*	*
<b>Total (includes suppressed values)</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\*Values <5 suppressed



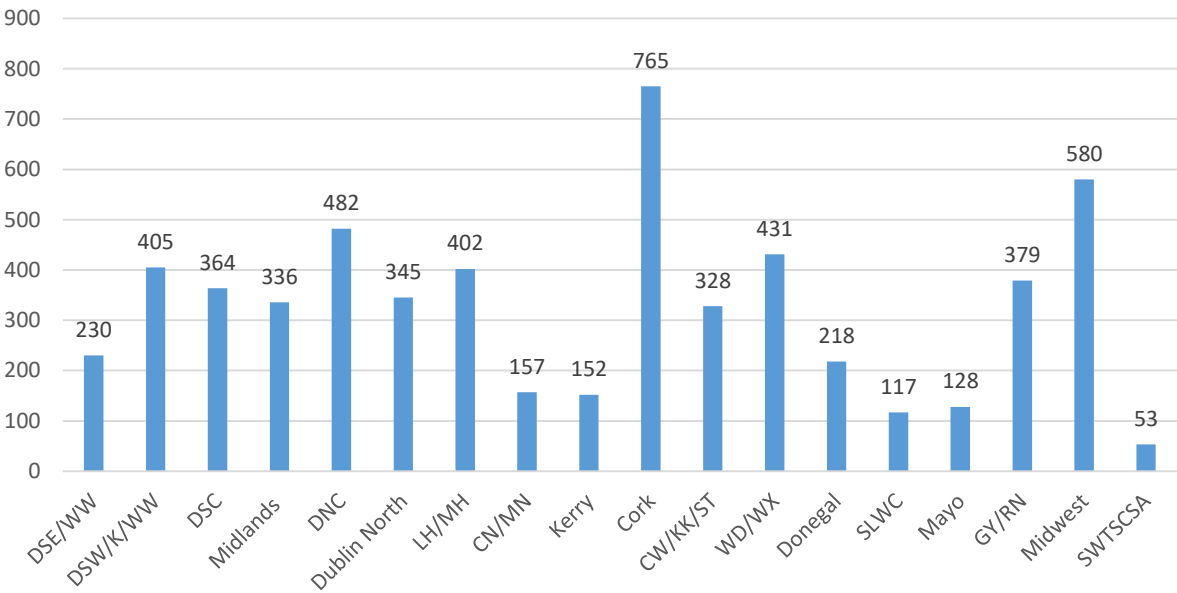
# Children in Care

- **5,872 children in care at the end of January 2021**; 10 fewer than December 2020 (5,882) and the fewest number for the period December 2019 to January 2021.
- 99 fewer children in care than the same time last year (5,971).
- 65% (3,815) of children in care are in general foster care, 26% (1,521) are in relative foster care, 7% (422) are in residential care and 2% (114) are in “other” care placements.
- 16 (4%) of the 422 children in residential placements are in special care



- Highest number of children in care reported by Cork (765) followed by Midwest (580) and Dublin North City (482).
- Fewest number reported by the Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking Asylum (53) followed by Sligo/Leitrim West Cavan (117) and Mayo (128).
- Highest rate of children in care per 1,000 children was reported by Dublin North City (10.7/1,000) followed by Waterford/Wexford (6.3/1,000) and Midwest (6.0/1,000). Lowest rate reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (2.6/1,000) followed by Dublin North (3.4/1,000) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (3.7/1,000).
- Eight areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 4.9/1,000 children.

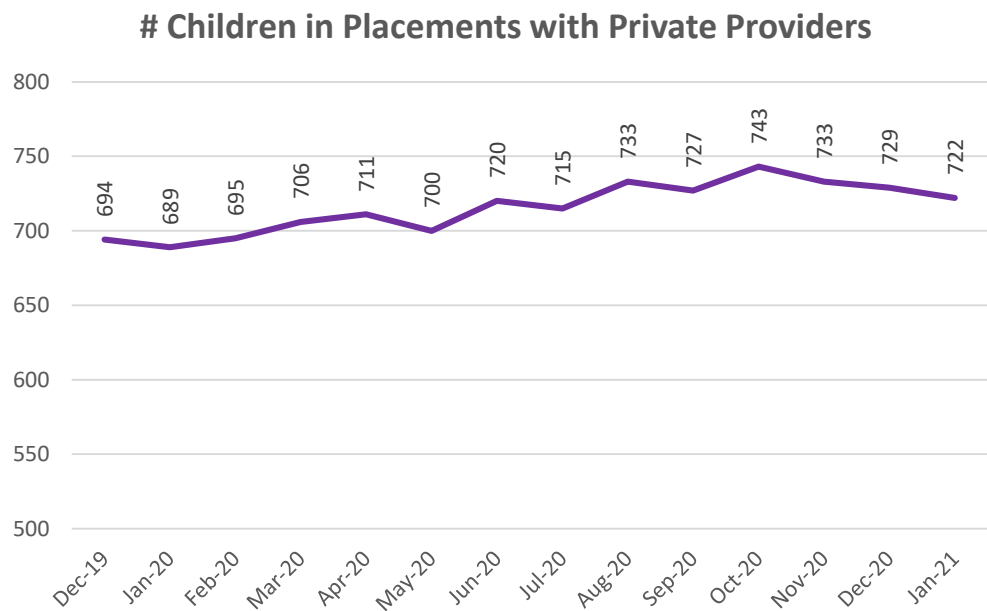
Children in Care by Area, Jan 2021



Area	Jan-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Jan-21 v Jan-20	Jan-21 v Dec-20	Population	Rate/1,000
Dublin South East/Wicklow	257	231	230	-27	-1	86,810	2.6
DSW/K/WW	425	402	405	-20	3	108,186	3.7
Dublin South Central	366	362	364	-2	2	65,564	5.6
Midlands	371	339	336	-35	-3	80,193	4.2
Dublin North City	495	486	482	-13	-4	44,927	10.7
Dublin North	327	340	345	18	5	100,654	3.4
Louth/Meath	397	397	402	5	5	93,093	4.3
Cavan/Monaghan	156	154	157	1	3	36,446	4.3
Kerry	167	153	152	-15	-1	34,527	4.4
Cork	772	772	765	-7	-7	134,015	5.7
CW/KK/ST	342	328	328	-14	0	63,009	5.2
Waterford/Wexford	440	429	431	-9	2	68,513	6.3
Donegal	211	220	218	7	-2	42,865	5.1
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	116	115	117	1	2	23,554	5.0
Mayo	129	130	128	-1	-2	31,968	4.0
Galway/Roscommon	353	378	379	26	1	79,912	4.7
Midwest	581	582	580	-1	-2	96,266	6.0
Total Areas	5905	5818	5819	-86	1	1,190,502	4.9
SWTSCSA	66	64	53	-13	-11		
National	5971	5882	5872	-99	-10		

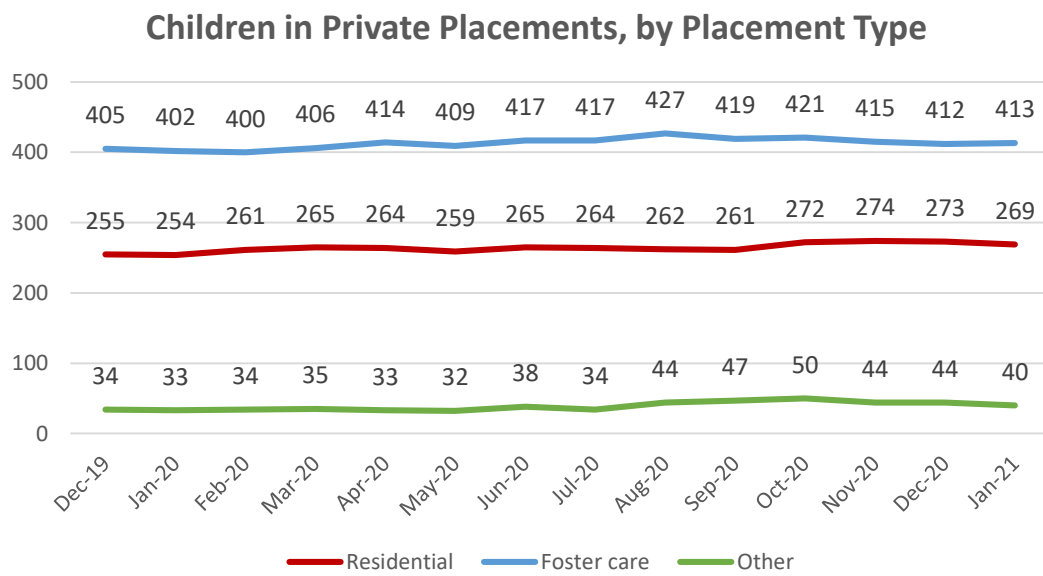
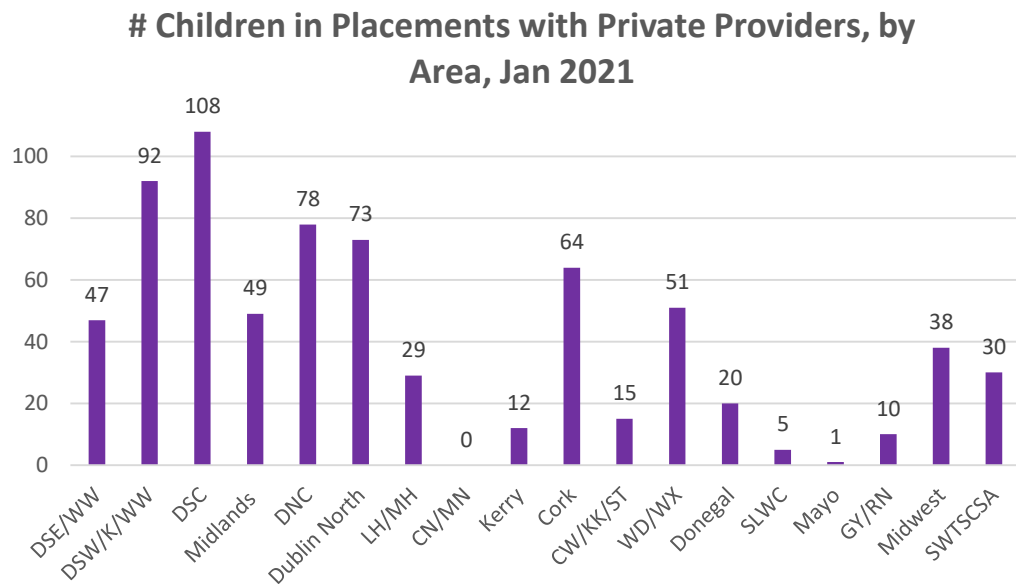
# Children in Care

- 722 (12%) children in care at the end of January 2021 were in placements with private providers; seven fewer than December 2020 (729) and 33 (5%) more than January 2020 (689). Third consecutive monthly decrease.



- 57% (413) of children in placements with private providers were in **foster care**, one more than December 2020 (412) and 11 more than January 2020 (402).
- 38% (269) of children in placements with private providers were in **residential care**, four fewer than December 2020 (273). This number (269) is up 15 on January 2020 (254).

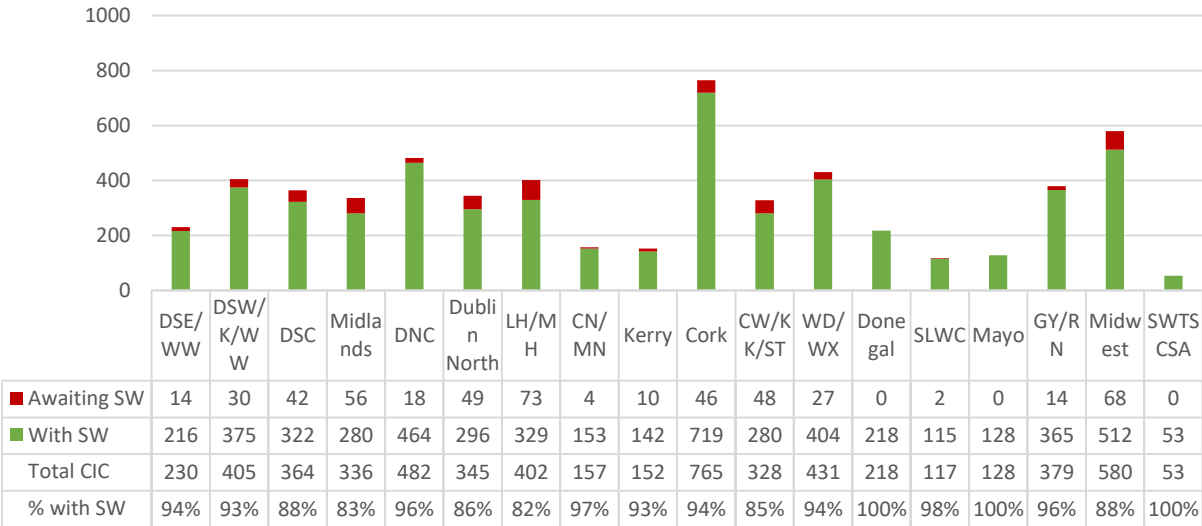
- Highest number of children in placements with private providers reported by Dublin South Central (108) followed by DSW/K/WW (92), Dublin North City (78), Dublin North (73) and Cork (64). These five areas account for 57% (415) of all children in placements with private providers.



# Children in Care

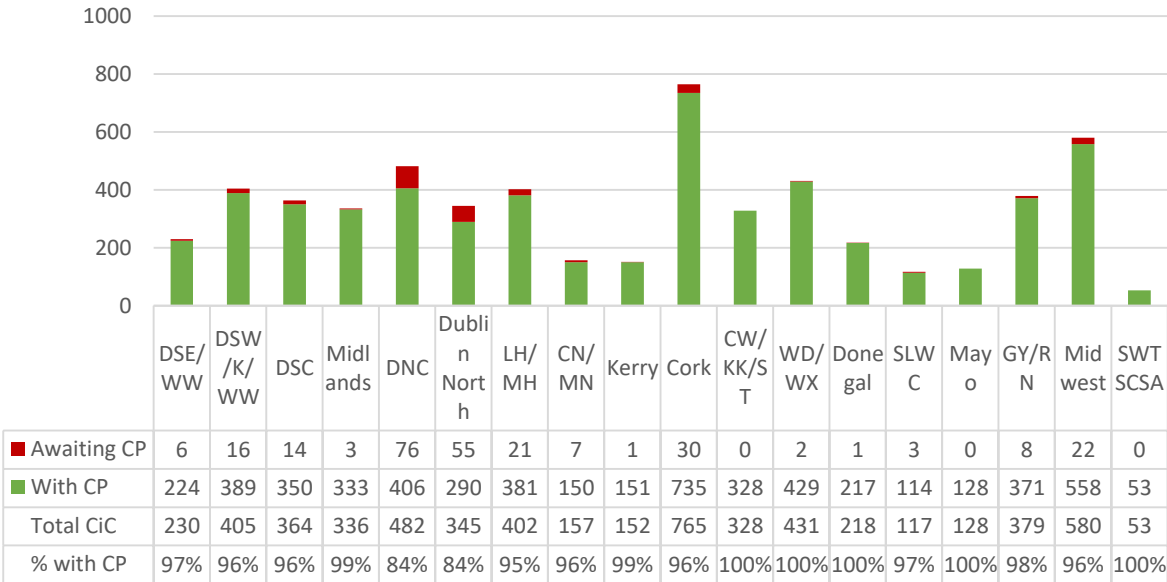
- **91% (5,371) of children in care at the end of January 2021 had an allocated social worker**; down two percentage point from December 2020
- A total of 501 children were awaiting an allocated social worker; 102 (26%) more than December 2020 (399)
- Highest number awaiting reported by Louth/Meath (73) followed by Midwest (68), Midlands (56), Dublin North (49), CW/K/ST (48), Cork (46) and Dublin South Central (42). These seven areas account for 76% (382) of cases awaiting allocation.
- Two areas (Donegal and Mayo) along with the Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking Asylum reporting 100%

Children in Care with an Allocated Social Worker, Jan 2021



- **95% (5,607) of children in care at the end of January 2021 had an up-to-date care plan**; down two percentage points from December 2020
- A total of 265 children did not have an up-to-date care plan; 65 more than December 2020 (200)
- Highest number with no up-to-date care plan reported by Dublin North City (76) followed by Dublin North (55), Cork (30), Midwest (22) and Louth/Meath (21). These five areas account for 77% (204) of all children awaiting a up-to-date care plan.
- All areas with the exception of Dublin North City and Dublin North are reporting 90% or higher

Children in Care with a Care Plan, Jan 2021



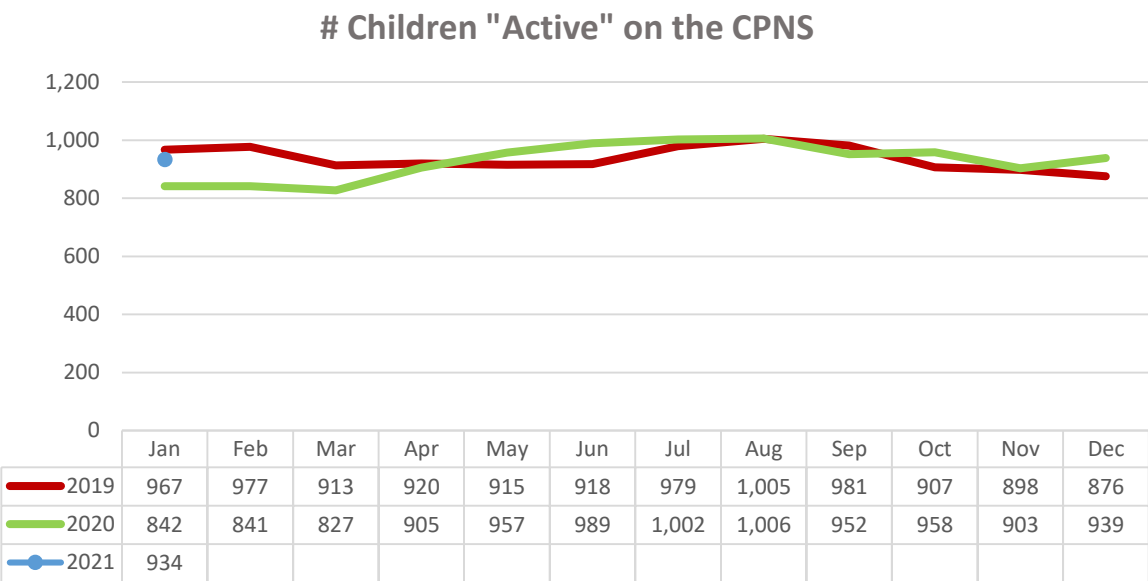
*It should be noted that variances have been identified in how data on this metric are being reported by areas. In some areas care plans that have fallen due for review and not updated are included. Also, it should be noted that where a care plan is not up-to-date, the care plan in place (albeit that it is awaiting review) is used to support the care of the child.*

# Child Protection Notification System

- **934 children listed as “active” at the end of January 2021**; five fewer than December 2020 (939). There were 92 (11%) more children “active” at the end of January 2021 than January 2020 (842).

*The number of children listed as "active" needs to be interpreted with caution, due to the deferral of some review child protection conferences (where decisions are made to remove children listed as "active") during the Covid-19 restrictions. Guidance issued by Tusla on foot of the COVID-19 restrictions advised that following discussion and evaluation of safety plans, review conferences could be deferred for a maximum of 3 months.*

- All children listed as “active” at the end of January 2021 had an **allocated social worker**.
- Highest number of children listed as “active” at the end of January 2021 reported by DSW/K/WW (87) followed by Waterford/Wexford (84), Dublin North City (82) and CW/K/ST (82).
- Fewest number listed as “active” reported by Cavan/Monaghan (16) followed by Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (17) and Louth/Meath (19).
- Highest rate per 10,000 population under 18 years reported by Dublin North City (18.3/10,000) followed by CW/K/ST (13/10,000), Kerry (12.5/10,000), Waterford/Wexford (12.3/10,000) and Donegal (12.1/10,000)
- Lowest rates reported by Louth/Meath (2/10,000) and Cavan/Monaghan (4.4/10,000).
- Nine areas reported a rate equal to or higher than the national rate of 7.8/10,000
- 6 areas had more children listed as “active” at the end of January 2021 than December 2020. Largest increase reported by DSW/K/WW (up 8) followed by Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (up 6) and Dublin North (up 6). Largest decrease reported by Dublin South Central (down 9) followed by CW/K/ST (down 6) and Midlands (down 5).
- 11 areas had more children active at the end of January 2021 than at the same period last year. Largest increase reported by Dublin North City (up 32) followed by Dublin South East/Wicklow (up 27), DSW/K/WW (up 25) and Kerry (up 24). Largest decrease reported by Cork (down 29) followed by Mayo (down 23) and Dublin South Central (down 13).



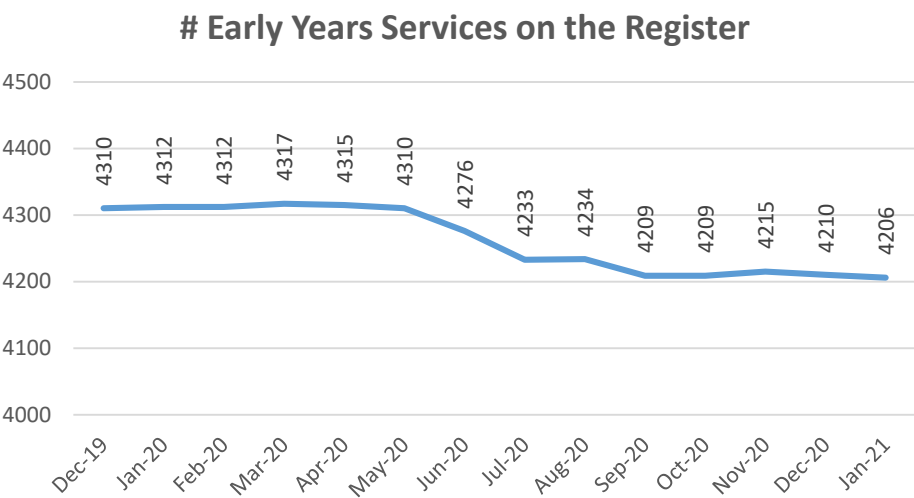
Number and rate of children “active” on the CPNS, by area (ranked by rate)

				Jan 2021 v	Δ Jan 2021 v	Rate / 10,000	
Area	Jan-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Jan 2020	Dec 2020	Population	Dec 2020
Dublin North City	50	84	82	32	-2	44927	18.3
CW/K/ST	65	88	82	17	-6	63009	13.0
Kerry	19	42	43	24	1	34527	12.5
Waterford / Wexford	65	85	84	19	-1	68513	12.3
Donegal	37	53	52	15	-1	42865	12.1
Mid West	77	74	78	1	4	96266	8.1
DSW/K/WW	62	79	87	25	8	108186	8.0
Dublin South Central	65	61	52	-13	-9	65564	7.9
Mayo	48	25	25	-23	0	31968	7.8
Midlands	57	64	59	2	-5	80193	7.4
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	17	11	17	0	6	23554	7.2
Dublin North	60	57	63	3	6	100654	6.3
Cork	108	77	79	-29	2	134015	5.9
Dublin South East / Wicklow	23	50	50	27	0	86810	5.8
Galway / Roscommon	40	49	46	6	-3	79912	5.8
Cavan / Monaghan	25	19	16	-9	-3	36446	4.4
Louth / Meath	24	21	19	-5	-2	93093	2.0
Total	842	939	934	92	-5	1190502	7.8

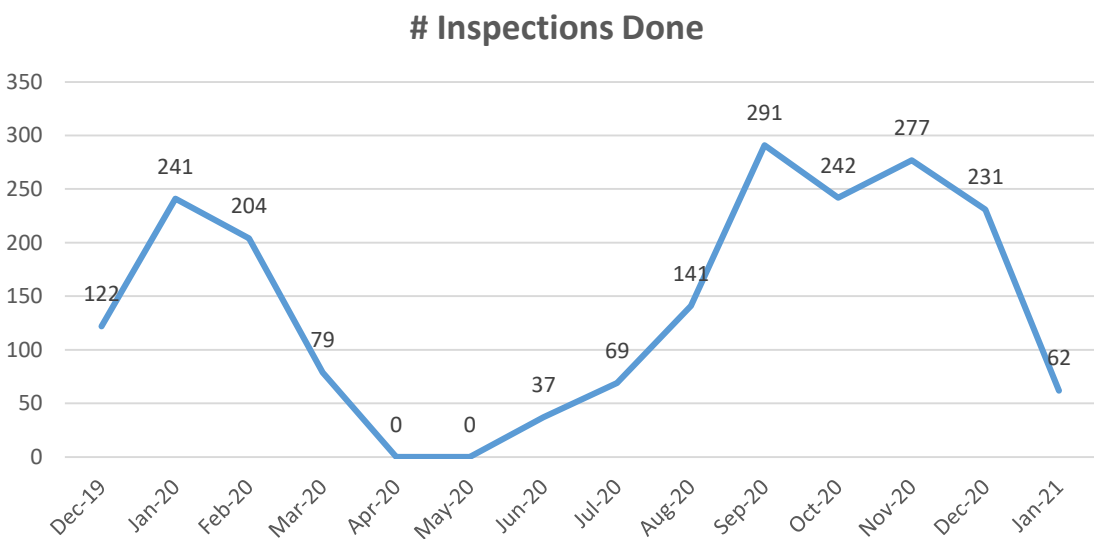
# Children’s Services Regulation

## EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

- **4,206 early years services on the register at the end of January 2021**, four fewer than December 2020 (4,210). There were 106 (2%) fewer services on the register at the end of January 2021 than January 2020 (4,312).

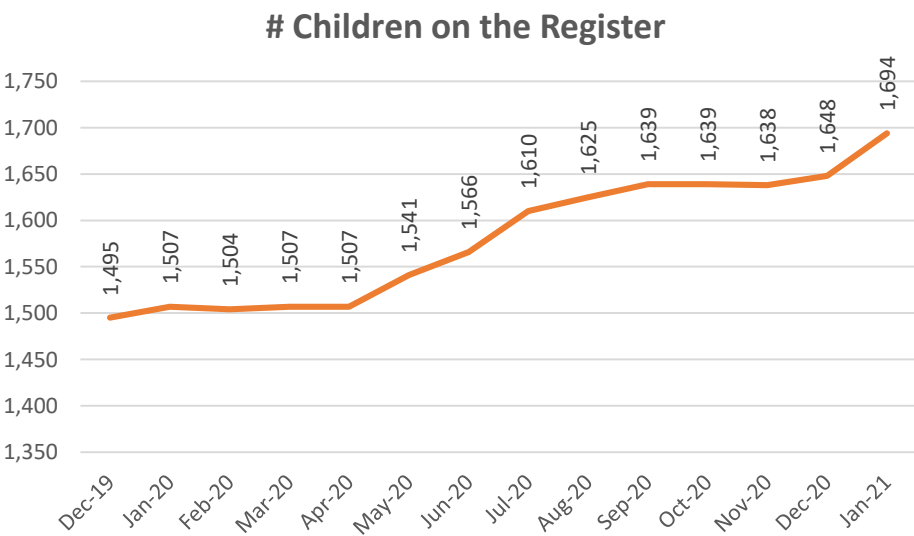


- **62 inspections of early years services done in January 2021.** Number of inspections impacted, due to the closure of services under the Covid-19 restrictions.

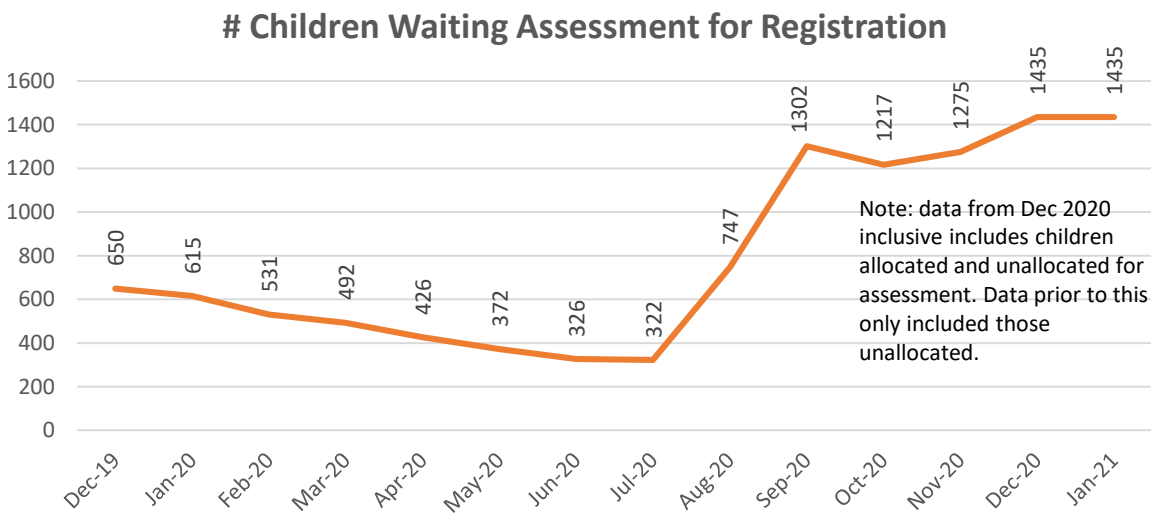


## ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION SERVICE

- **1,694 children on the register for home education at the end of January 2021**, 46 more than December 2020 (1,648). The number of children on the register is up 12% (187) on January 2020 (1,507).



- **1,435 children awaiting assessment for registration at the end of January 2021**, no change from December 2020. The increase in numbers awaiting assessment in recent months is due to an increase in applications received over the same period.



# Tusla Education Support Services

Service activity from March – June 2019 and January 2021 impacted by the closure of schools (Covid-19)

- **470 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in January 2021, bringing the number of referrals screened for the five months (Sep – Jan 2021) to 2,745.
- The number of referrals for January 2021 is down 135 (22%) on January 2020 (605) and the number of referrals for the five months (Sep – Jan) (2,745) is up 472 (21%) on the same period in 2019/2020 (2,273).

- **1,909 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of January 2021, 233 (14%) more than December 2020 (1,676) and the fourth consecutive monthly increase. The number of referrals on a waiting list is down 75 (4%) from January 2020 (1,984).

- 194 new individual children worked with in January 2021, 118 (38%) fewer than December 2020 (312) and 162 (46%) fewer than January 2020 (356).
- Brings to 1,453 the number of new individual children worked with for the five months Sep – Jan 2021, 91 (7%) more than the same period in 2019 (1,362).

