



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

MONTHLY SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT

March 2021

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

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Headline Data – March 2021

Child Protection & Welfare

- 83% (16,266) of cases open to social work (19,632) had an allocated social worker at the end of March 2021
- 3,366 cases awaiting allocation to a social worker at the end of March 2021, 91 more than February 2021 (3,275) when the fewest number for the period Jan 2020 – Feb 2021 was reported.
- Cases awaiting allocation are down 28% (1,299) from March 2020 (4,665) and 21% (873) from December 2020 (4,239).
- Six areas account for 64% (2,148) of cases awaiting allocation: Dublin South Central (525; 16%), Dublin North (505; 15%), Midwest (316; 9%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (289; 9%), Waterford/Wexford (274; 8%) and Cork (239; 7%).
- 10% (353) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of March 2021 were categorised as high priority, 93 (36%) more than February 2021 (260).

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

Cases of Retrospective Abuse

- 58% (847) of cases of retrospective abuse open to social work (1,458) had an allocated social worker at the end of March 2021.
- 611 cases were awaiting allocation to a social worker, 86 (12%) fewer than February 2021 (697). Cases awaiting allocation are down 7% (43) from March 2020 (654) and 5% (31) from December 2020 (642).
- Five areas account for 62% (380) of cases awaiting allocation: Cork (85), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (79), Galway/Roscommon (78), Waterford/Wexford (77) and Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (61). Three areas (Cavan/Monaghan, Mayo and Midwest) have no cases awaiting allocation.

Children in Care

- 5,884 children in care at the end of March 2021; 11 more than February 2021 (5,873) and 90 fewer children in care than the same time last year (5,974).
- 745 (13%) children in care at the end of March 2021 were in placements with private providers, five more than February 2021 (740) and 39 (6%) more than March 2020 (706).
- 92% (5,390) of children in care at the end of March 2021 had an allocated social worker; no change from February 2021. 494 children were awaiting an allocated social worker, 22 more than February 2021 (472).

Child Protection Notification System

- 923 children listed as “active” on the Child Protection Notification System at the end of March 2021, 16 fewer than February 2021 (939). There were 96 (12%) more children “active” at the end of March 2021 than March 2020 (827).
- All children listed as “active” at the end of March 2021 had an allocated social worker.

Children’s Services Regulation

- 4,195 early years services on the register at the end of March 2021, five fewer than February 2021 (4,200) and the fourth consecutive monthly decrease. There were 122 (3%) fewer services on the register at the end of March 2021 than March 2020 (4,317).
- 184 inspections of early years services done in March 2021. Brings to 396 the number of inspections for 2021. Number of inspections impacted, due to the closure of services under the Covid-19 restrictions.
- 1,772 children on the register for home education at the end of March 2021, 31 more than February 2021 (1,741). The number of children on the register is up 18% (265) on March 2020 (1,507).
- 1,477 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of March 2021, 60 (4%) more than February 2021 (1,417). 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 impacted by the closure of schools (Covid-19)

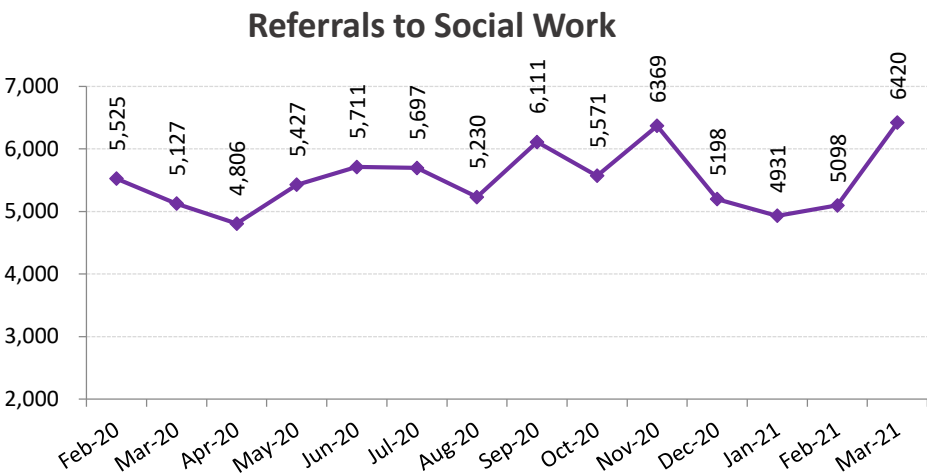
- 3,306 referrals screened by educational welfare officers for the seven months September – March 2021, 406 (11%) fewer than the same period in 2019/2020 (3,712).
- 1,872 referrals on a waiting list for educational welfare services at the end of March 2021, 46 (2%) fewer than February 2021 (1,918) and the first decrease after five consecutive monthly increases. The number of referrals on a waiting list is down 463 (20%) from March 2020 (2,335).

Child Protection & Welfare

Referrals¹

- **6,420 referrals** in March 2021, 1,322 (26%) more than February 2021 (5,098) and highest number for the period February 2020 – March 2021. Referrals up 25% (1,293) on March 2020 (5,127).

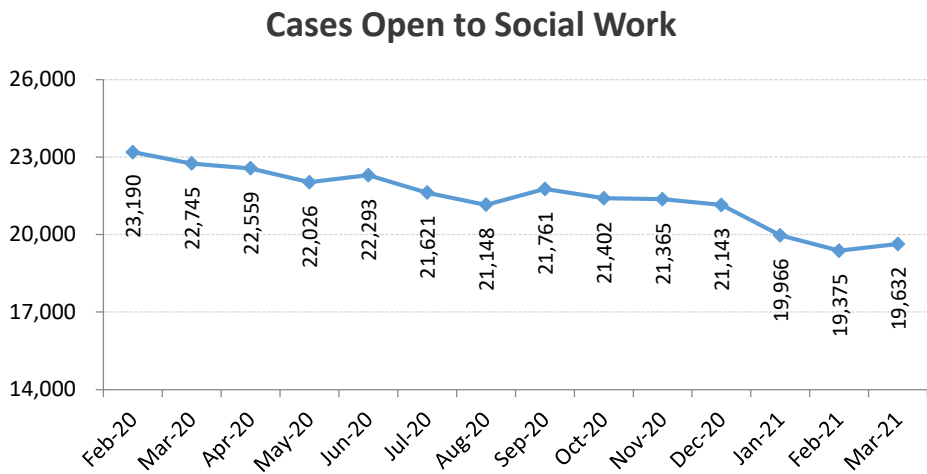
It should be noted that the data presented is based on referrals logged on NCCIS at the time is extracted for reporting. Referrals logged after the date the data is extracted are not included, nor are figures updated retrospectively. Hence it is likely that the actual number of referrals for each of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



Open Cases

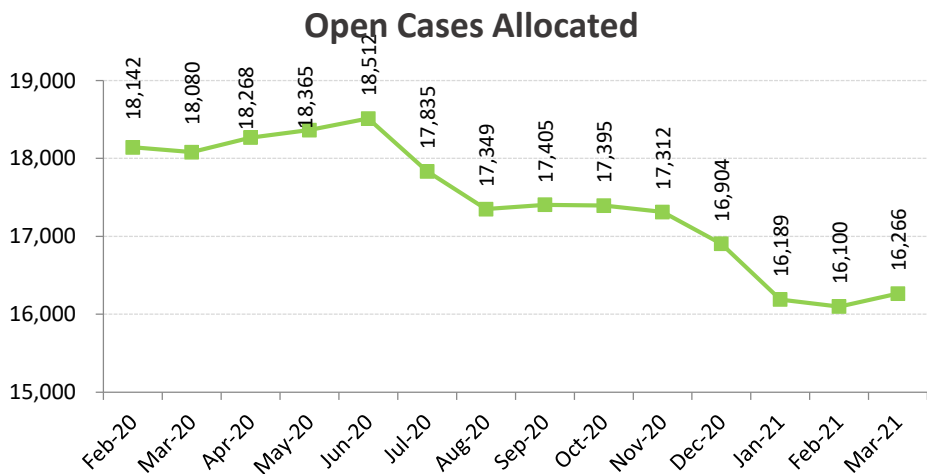
The data on cases presented below is based on the status of cases on the National Child Care Information System (NCCIS) at month end.

- **19,632 cases open to social work** at the end of March 2021, 257 (1%) more than February 2021 (19,375) when the fewest number for the period January 2020– February 2021 was reported. *Note: open cases include, all cases held on duty, allocated and unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care*
- Open cases are down 14% (3,113) on March 2020 (22,745).



Allocated Cases

- **16,266 open cases allocated** to a social worker at the end of March 2021, 166 (1%) more than February 2021 (16,100) when the fewest number for the period January 2020– February 2021 was reported.
- Allocated cases are down 10% (1,814) from March 2020 (18,080)
- Allocated cases account for 83% of open cases.



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

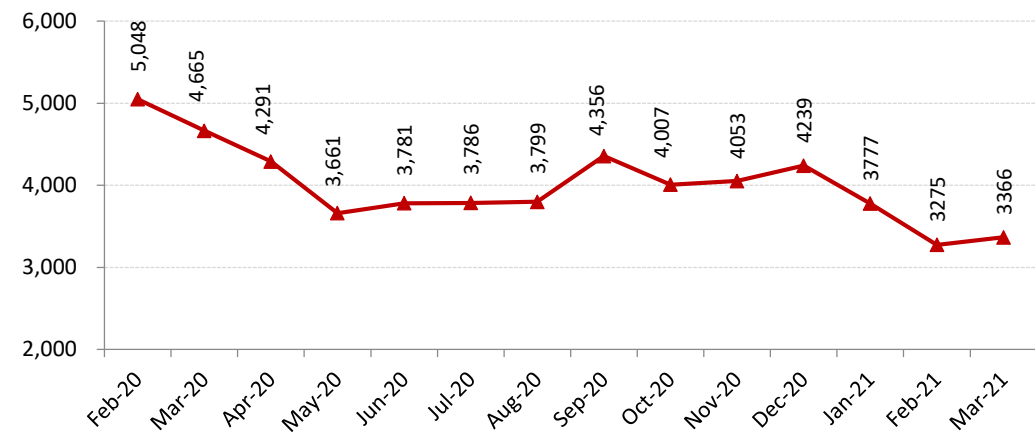
Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation of a Social Worker

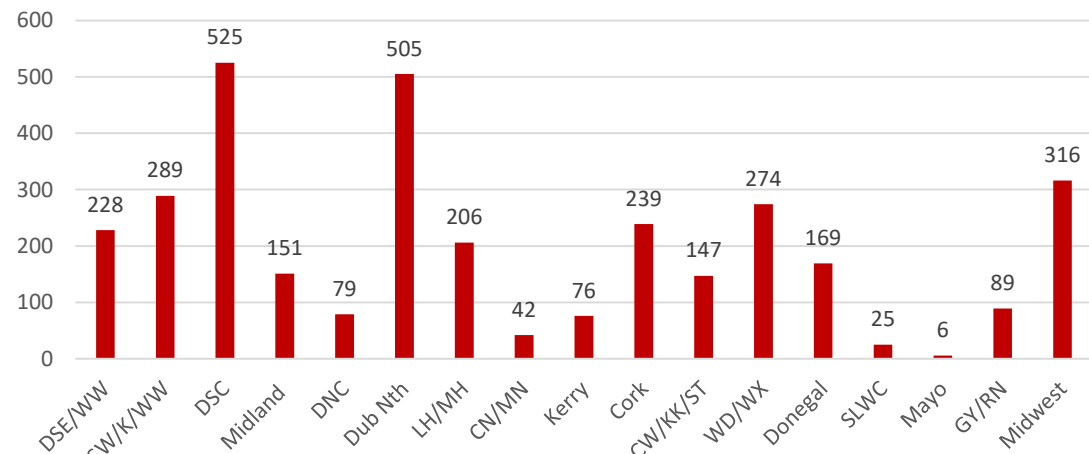
Cases awaiting allocation include cases held on duty, unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care

- **3,366 cases awaiting allocation of a social worker** at the end of March 2021, 91 (3%) more than February 2021 (3,275) when the fewest number for the period January 2020 – February 2021 was reported.
- Cases awaiting allocation are down 28% (1,299) from March 2020 (4,665) and 21% (873) from December 2020 (4,239).
- Cases awaiting allocation account for 17% of open cases (19,632)
- 68% (2,302) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of March 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 reported by Dublin South Central (525; 16%) followed by Dublin North (505; 15%), Midwest (316; 9%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (289; 9%), Waterford/Wexford (274; 8%) and Cork (239; 7%). These six areas account for 64% (2,148) of cases awaiting allocation.
- 353 cases awaiting allocation at the end of March 2021 where categorised as high priority, 93 (36%) more than Feb 2021 (260).
- High priority cases account for 10% of cases awaiting allocation.
- 56% (1,874) of cases awaiting allocation were categorised at medium priority while the remaining 34% (1,139) were low priority.
- Highest number of high priority cases reported by Midwest (53), followed by Donegal (47), Dublin South East/Wicklow (39), Louth/Meath (38), Dublin South Central (35), and Waterford/Wexford (31). These six areas account for 69% (243) of all high priority cases awaiting.

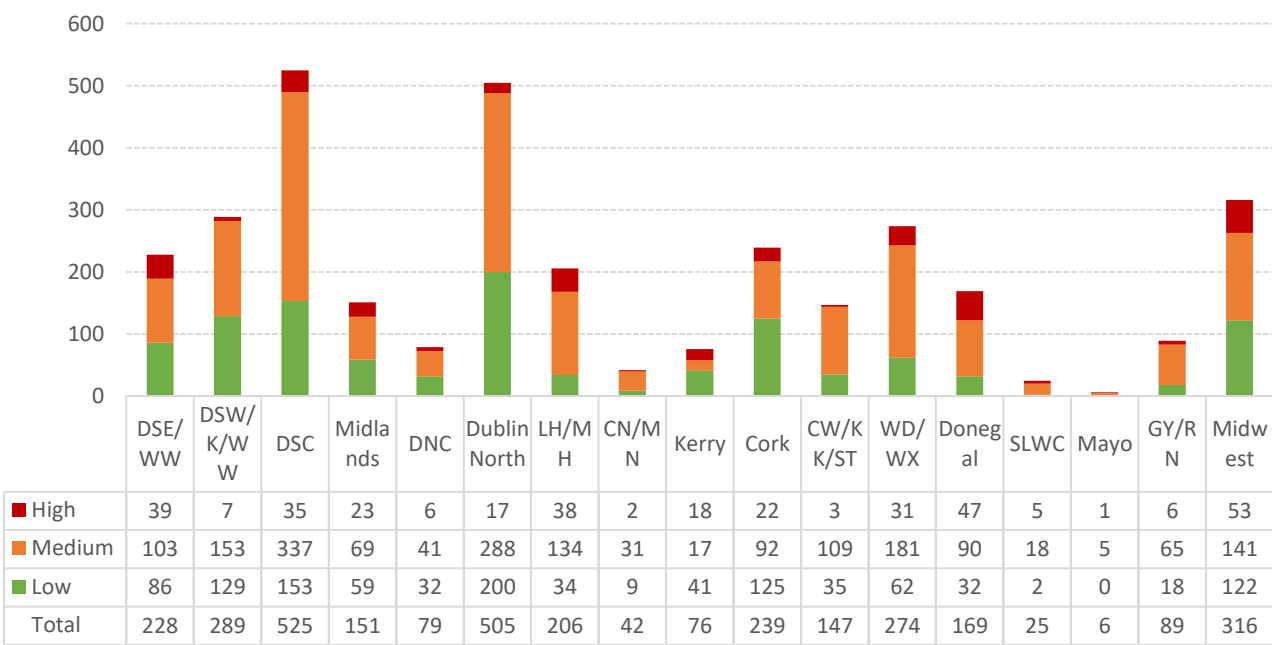
Open Cases Awaiting Allocation



Cases Awaiting Allocation by Area



Cases Awaiting by Priority Level, March 2021



Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation

- 11 areas reported an increase in unallocated cases from February 2021.
- Largest increase reported by Dublin North (up 77) followed by Donegal (up 40) and Midwest (up 34).
- 6 areas reported a decrease in unallocated cases from February 2021.
- Largest decrease reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 73) followed by Louth/Meath (down 54), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (down 33), Mayo (down 5), Dublin South Central (down 3) and Cork (down 1).

- 9 areas had fewer cases awaiting at the end of March 2021 than the same period in 2020. Largest decrease reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 841; 74%) followed by Waterford/Wexford (down 270; 50%), Dublin North City (down 220; 74%), Louth/Meath (down 144; 41%), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (down 141; 49%) and Cork (down 117; 33%). Largest increases reported by Midwest (up 194; 159%) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (up 100; 78%).
- Nationally 17% of open cases were unallocated at the end of March 2021. Eight areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average. Highest percentage (36%) reported by Dublin South Central followed by Dublin South East/Wicklow (26%), Donegal (26%), Midwest (24%) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (21%).

Area	Mar-20 # Unallocated	Mar-20 % Unallocated	Jan-21 # Unallocated	Feb-21 # Unallocated	Mar-21 # Unallocated	Mar-21 % Unallocated	Jan - Mar	Mar-2021 v Mar-2020	% Δ	Mar-2021 v Feb- 2021	% Δ2
DSE/WW	128	17%	181	203	228	26%		100	78%	25	12%
DSW/K/WW	1,130	56%	490	362	289	21%		-841	-74%	-73	-20%
DSC	529	37%	548	528	525	36%		-4	-1%	-3	-1%
Midlands	178	15%	181	133	151	11%		-27	-15%	18	14%
DNC	299	20%	91	70	79	5%		-220	-74%	9	13%
Dublin North	488	12%	681	428	505	20%		17	3%	77	18%
LH/MH	350	25%	183	260	206	16%		-144	-41%	-54	-21%
CN/MN	4	1%	22	31	42	9%		38	950%	11	35%
Kerry	93	18%	144	66	76	15%		-17	-18%	10	15%
Cork	356	14%	237	240	239	11%		-117	-33%	-1	0%
CW/KK/ST	288	27%	207	180	147	19%		-141	-49%	-33	-18%
WD/WX	544	32%	290	260	274	17%		-270	-50%	14	5%
Donegal	99	12%	129	129	169	26%		70	71%	40	31%
SLWC	18	6%	2	9	25	10%		7	39%	16	178%
Mayo	0	0%	5	11	6	2%		6	#DIV/0!	-5	-45%
GY/RN	39	4%	86	83	89	8%		50	128%	6	7%
Midwest	122	8%	300	282	316	24%		194	159%	34	12%
TOTAL	4,665	21%	3777	3275	3366	17%		-1299	-28%	91	3%

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

Child Protection & Welfare

Summary Tables

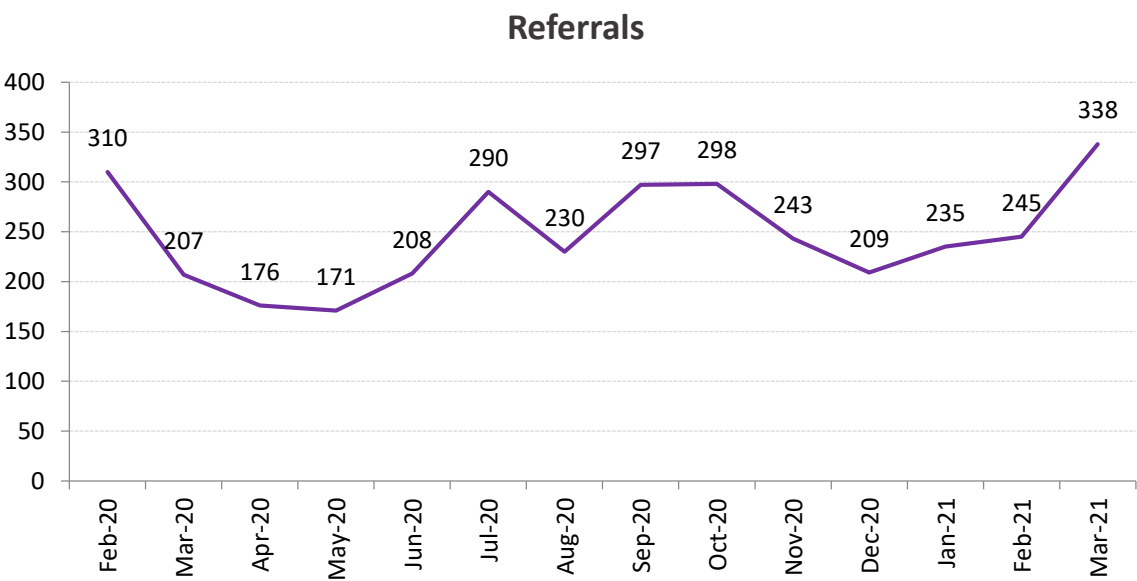
Referrals				Open Cases			Allocated Cases			Unallocated	Unallocated	
Area	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Δ Mar v Feb	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Δ Mar v Feb2	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Δ Mar v Feb3	Cases Feb 2021	Cases Mar 2021	Δ Mar v Feb4
DSE/WW	205	269	64	894	879	-15	691	651	-40	203	228	25
DSW/K/WW	448	582	134	1,548	1,405	-143	1,186	1,116	-70	362	289	-73
DSC	399	487	88	1,467	1,463	-4	939	938	-1	528	525	-3
Midlands	535	685	150	1,234	1,385	151	1,101	1,234	133	133	151	18
DNC	345	463	118	1,478	1,541	63	1,408	1,462	54	70	79	9
Dublin North	520	660	140	2,507	2,531	24	2,079	2,026	-53	428	505	77
LH/MH	380	379	-1	1,301	1,277	-24	1,041	1,071	30	260	206	-54
CN/MN	144	183	39	477	474	-3	446	432	-14	31	42	11
Kerry	133	186	53	516	493	-23	450	417	-33	66	76	10
Cork	399	576	177	2,119	2,167	48	1,879	1,928	49	240	239	-1
CW/KK/ST	270	389	119	773	785	12	593	638	45	180	147	-33
WD/WX	350	392	42	1,531	1,589	58	1,271	1,315	44	260	274	14
Donegal	167	189	22	615	643	28	486	474	-12	129	169	40
SLWC	97	123	26	253	263	10	244	238	-6	9	25	16
Mayo	113	127	14	308	322	14	297	316	19	11	6	-5
GY/RN	260	305	45	1,036	1,084	48	953	995	42	83	89	6
Midwest	333	425	92	1,318	1,331	13	1,036	1,015	-21	282	316	34
TOTAL	5098	6420	1322	19,375	19,632	257	16,100	16,266	166	3275	3366	91

		High Priority		High Priority		Medium Priority			Medium Priority			Low Priority			Low Priority								
		Awaiting		Awaiting																			
Area		Feb 2021		Mar 2021		Δ		Feb 2021			Mar 2021			Δ 2		Feb2021			Mar 2021			Δ 3	
DSE/WW		30		39		9		93			103			10		80			86			6	
DSW/K/WW		13		7		-6		203			153			-50		146			129			-17	
DSC		23		35		12		308			337			29		197			153			-44	
Midlands		13		23		10		59			69			10		61			59			-2	
DNC		5		6		1		40			41			1		25			32			7	
Dublin North		16		17		1		258			288			30		154			200			46	
LH/MH		30		38		8		140			134			-6		90			34			-56	
CN/MN		0		2		2		24			31			7		7			9			2	
Kerry		1		18		17		33			17			-16		32			41			9	
Cork		25		22		-3		86			92			6		129			125			-4	
CW/KK/ST		1		3		2		134			109			-25		45			35			-10	
WD/WX		31		31		0		164			181			17		65			62			-3	
Donegal		28		47		19		73			90			17		28			32			4	
SLWC		3		5		2		5			18			13		1			2			1	
Mayo		5		1		-4		6			5			-1		0			0			0	
GY/RN		8		6		-2		55			65			10		20			18			-2	
Midwest		28		53		25		117			141			24		137			122			-15	
TOTAL		260		353		93		1798			1874			76		1217			1139			-78	

Retrospective Cases of Abuse

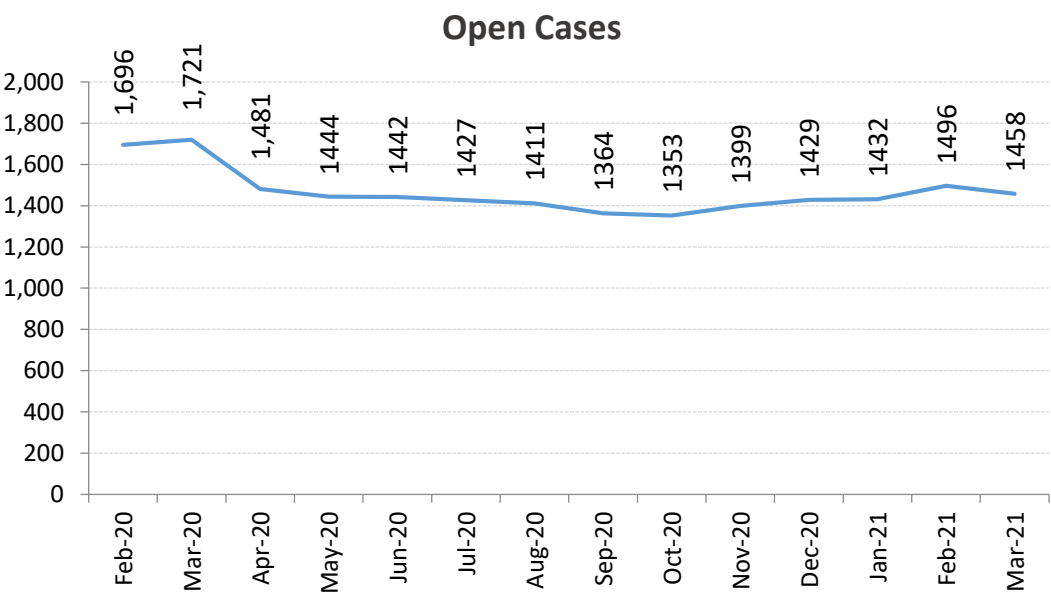
Referrals

- **338 referrals of retrospective abuse** in March 2021, 93 (38%) more than February 2021 (245) and the highest number for all months February 2020 – March 2021. *Data for Feb-May 2020 based on data from 16 areas.*
- Brings to 818 the number of referrals for 2021.



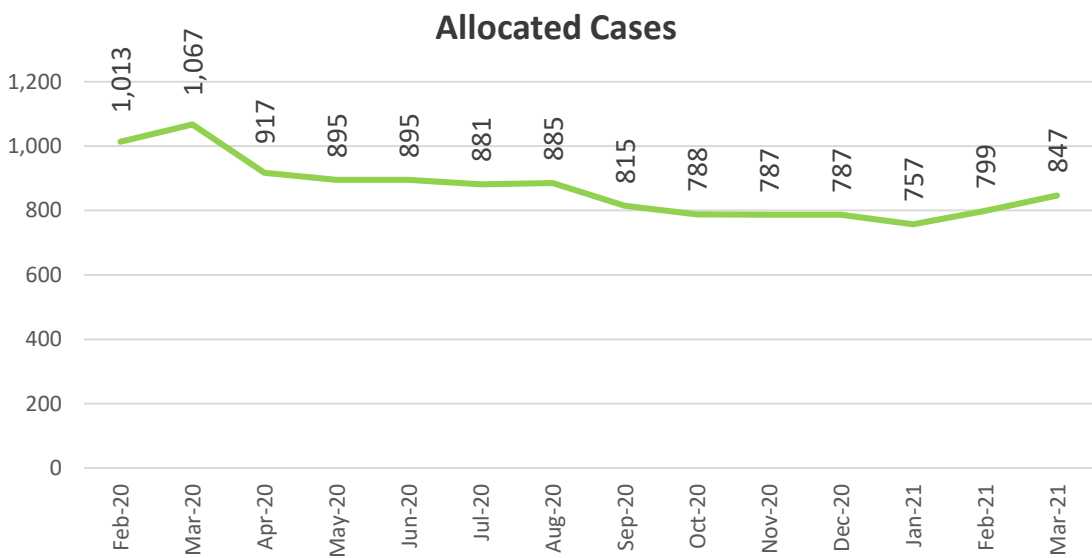
Open Cases

- **1,458 cases open to social work** at the end of March 2021, 38 fewer than February 2021 (1,496). Open cases are down 263 (15%) on March 2020 (1,721). *Data for Feb-May 2020 based on data from 16 areas.*



Allocated Cases

- **847 cases allocated to a social worker** at the end of March 2021, 48 more than February 2021 (799) and 220 (21%) fewer than March 2020 (1,067). *Data for Feb-May 2020 based on data from 16 areas.*
- Allocated cases account for 58% of open cases, up five percentage points for February 2021 (53%).



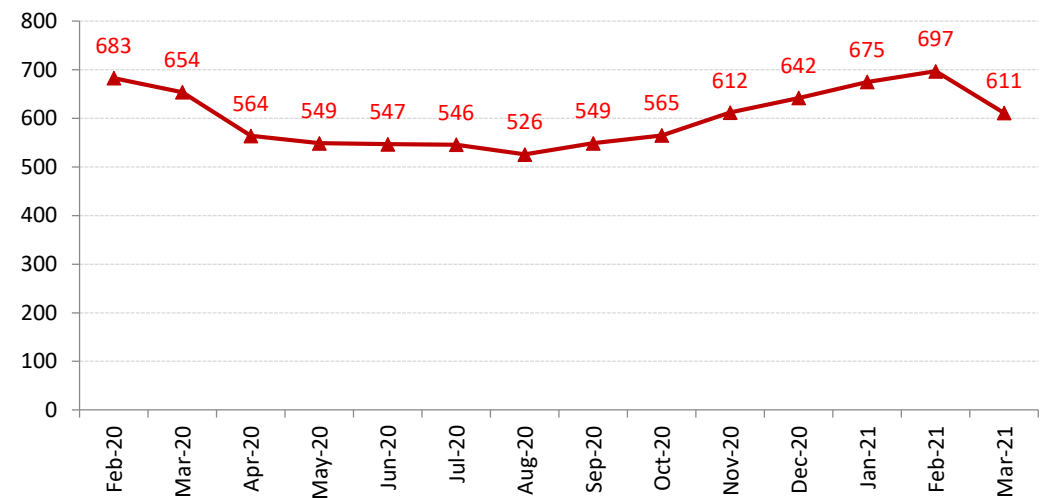
Note: all data on cases of retrospective abuse needs to be interpreted with caution due to concerns about the consistent interpretation of definitions.

Retrospective Cases of Abuse

Cases Awaiting Allocation of a Social Worker

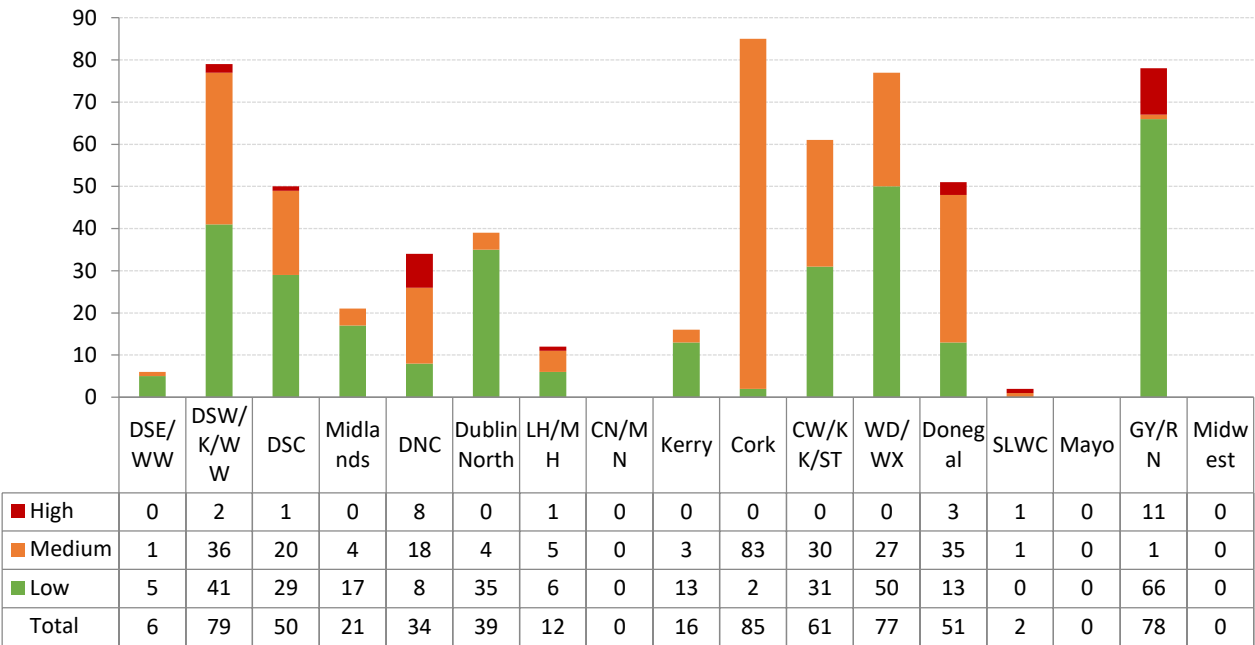
- **611 cases awaiting allocation** at the end of March 2021, 86 (12%) fewer than February 2021 (697). First decrease after six consecutive monthly increases. *Data for Feb-May 2020 based on data from 16 areas.*
- Cases awaiting allocation are down 7% (43) from March 2020 (654) and 5% (31) from December 2020 (642).
- At the end of March 2021, cases awaiting allocation accounted for 42% of open cases, down from 47% at the end of February 2021.
- Highest number of cases awaiting in Cork (85) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (79), Galway/Roscommon (78), Waterford/Wexford (77) and Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (61). These five areas account for 62% (380) of cases awaiting allocation. Three areas (Cavan/Monaghan, Mayo and Midwest) have no cases awaiting allocation.

Cases Awaiting Allocation

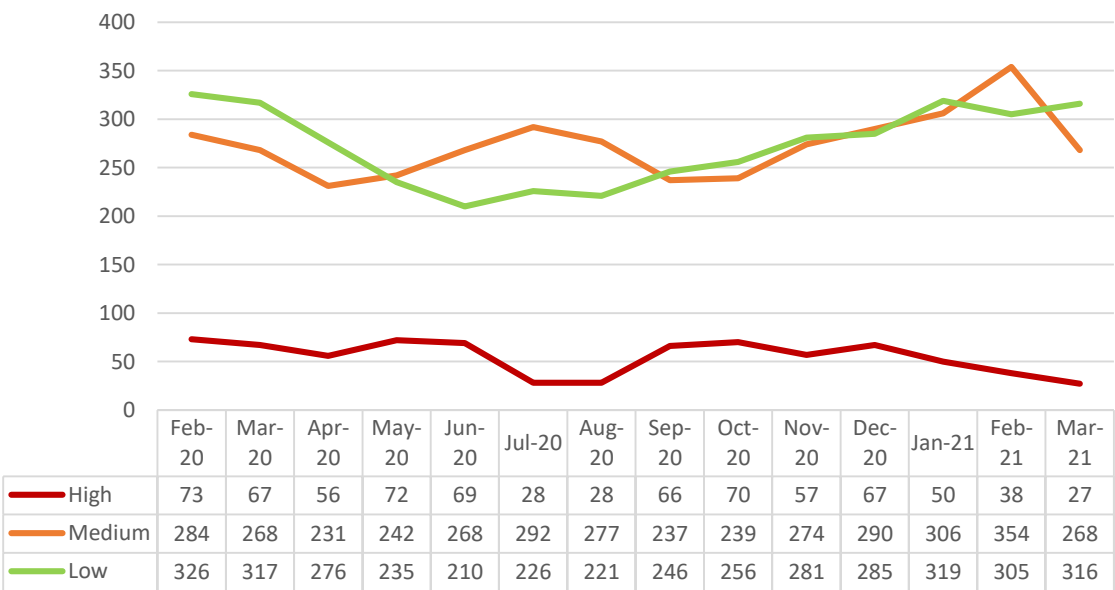


- **27 high priority cases awaiting allocation** at the end of March 2021, 11 fewer than February 2021 (38) and the fewest number since August 2020 (28). High priority cases are down 60% (40) on March 2020 (67).
- High priority cases accounted for 4% of cases awaiting allocation at the end of March 2021 (611).
- Highest number of high priority cases reported by Galway/Roscommon (11) followed by Dublin North City (8). Seven of the 14 areas areas with cases awaiting allocation have no high priority cases.

Retrospective Cases of Abuse Awaiting Allocation by Priority Level, March 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 a decrease** in cases awaiting allocation from February 2021 with the largest decrease reported by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (down 83) followed by Midwest (down 34) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (down 28).
- **7 areas reported an increase** with the largest increase reported by Cork (up 29) followed by Kerry (up 16) and Galway/Roscommon (up 13).
- The remaining two areas (Cavan/Monaghan and Mayo) reported no change.
- 42% (611) of open cases are awaiting allocation nationally, with nine areas reporting a percentage equal to or higher than the national average. Highest percentages reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (86%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (85%), Galway/Roscommon (75%), Midlands (72%) and Donegal (72%).

- 4 areas had fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of March 2021 than March 2020, while 10 areas reported an increase. The remaining three areas (Cavan/Monaghan, Mayo and Midwest) has no cases awaiting allocation at the end of either month.

Area	Mar-20 # Unallocated	Mar-20 % Unallocated	Jan-21 # Unallocated	Feb-21 # Unallocated	Mar-21 # Unallocated	Mar-21 % Unallocated	Jan - Mar	Mar-2021 v Mar-2020	% Δ	Mar-2021 v Feb- 2021	% Δ2
DSE/WW	12	36%	15	34	6	86%		-6	-50%	-28	-82%
DSW/K/WW	175	47%	84	75	79	85%		-96	-55%	4	5%
DSC	47	41%	65	51	50	51%		3	6%	-1	-2%
Midlands	2	4%	0	25	21	72%		19	950%	-4	-16%
DNC	42	48%	27	26	34	31%		-8	-19%	8	31%
Dublin North	32	22%	40	40	39	24%		7	22%	-1	-3%
LH/MH	7	12%	17	19	12	22%		5	71%	-7	-37%
CN/MN	0	0%	0	0	0	0%		0		0	
Kerry	0		0	0	16	19%		16		16	
Cork	82	43%	50	56	85	53%		3	4%	29	52%
CW/KK/ST	28	50%	110	144	61	66%		33	118%	-83	-58%
WD/WX	126	58%	102	78	77	49%		-49	-39%	-1	-1%
Donegal	41	59%	50	50	51	72%		10	24%	1	2%
SLWC	1	8%	0	0	2	9%		1	100%	2	
Mayo	0	0%	0	0	0	0%		0		0	
GY/RN	59	57%	82	65	78	75%		19	32%	13	20%
Midwest	0	0%	33	34	0	0%		0		-34	-100%
TOTAL	654	38%	675	697	611	42%		-43	-7%	-86	-12%

Retrospective Cases of Abuse

Summary Tables

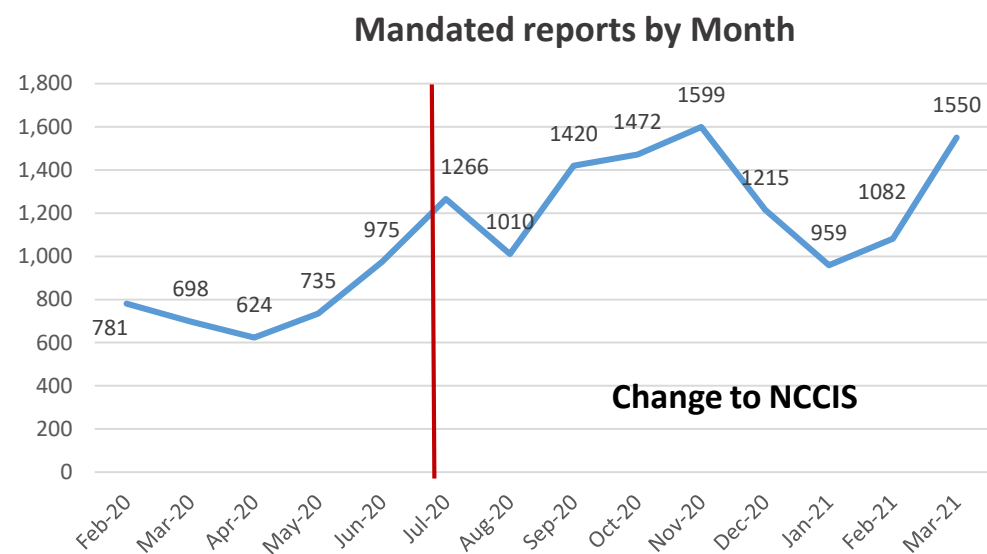
Referrals				Open Cases			Allocated Cases			Unallocated Cases		
Area	Feb 2021	Referrals Mar 2021	Δ Mar v Feb	Feb 2021	Open Cases Mar 2021	Δ Mar v Feb2	Feb 2021	Allocated Cases Mar 2021	Δ Mar v Feb3	Feb 2021	Unallocated Cases Mar 2021	Δ Mar v Feb4
DSE/WW	8	4	-4	34	7	-27	0	1	1	34	6	-28
DSW/K/WW	6	15	9	108	93	-15	33	14	-19	75	79	4
DSC	8	21	13	91	98	7	40	48	8	51	50	-1
Midlands	13	18	5	31	29	-2	6	8	2	25	21	-4
DNC	12	33	21	102	109	7	76	75	-1	26	34	8
Dublin North	9	29	20	162	165	3	122	126	4	40	39	-1
LH/MH	25	35	10	69	55	-14	50	43	-7	19	12	-7
CN/MN	9	6	-3	53	47	-6	53	47	-6	0	0	0
Kerry	9	20	11	69	86	17	69	70	1	0	16	16
Cork	37	49	12	136	159	23	80	74	-6	56	85	29
CW/KK/ST	21	18	-3	144	92	-52	0	31	31	144	61	-83
WD/WX	47	32	-15	158	156	-2	80	79	-1	78	77	-1
Donegal	2	2	0	71	71	0	21	20	-1	50	51	1
SLWC	2	4	2	19	22	3	19	20	1	0	2	2
Mayo	9	8	-1	47	52	5	47	52	5	0	0	0
GY/RN	18	30	12	92	104	12	27	26	-1	65	78	13
Midwest	10	14	4	110	113	3	76	113	37	34	0	-34
TOTAL	245	338	93	1496	1458	-38	799	847	48	697	611	-86

High Priority				Medium Priority			Low Priority		
Area	High Priority Awaiting Feb 2021	High Priority Awaiting Mar 2021	Δ	Medium Priority Awaiting Feb 2021	Medium Priority Awaiting Mar 2021	Δ 2	Low Priority Awaiting Feb 2021	Low Priority Awaiting Mar 2021	Δ 3
DSE/WW	0	0	0	28	1	-27	6	5	-1
DSW/K/WW	0	2	2	36	36	0	39	41	2
DSC	1	1	0	13	20	7	37	29	-8
Midlands	0	0	0	1	4	3	24	17	-7
DNC	3	8	5	15	18	3	8	8	0
Dublin North	0	0	0	8	4	-4	32	35	3
LH/MH	3	1	-2	7	5	-2	9	6	-3
CN/MN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kerry	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	13	13
Cork	1	0	-1	49	83	34	6	2	-4
CW/KK/ST	2	0	-2	137	30	-107	5	31	26
WD/WX	0	0	0	25	27	2	53	50	-3
Donegal	4	3	-1	33	35	2	13	13	0
SLWC	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Mayo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GY/RN	11	11	0	1	1	0	53	66	13
Midwest	13	0	-13	1	0	-1	20	0	-20
TOTAL	38	27	-11	354	268	-86	305	316	11

Mandated Reports¹ – Child Protection & Welfare

- **1,550 mandated reports of abuse** received in March 2021; 468 (43%) more than February 2021 (1,082). Brings to 3,591 the number of reports for 2021.
- Mandated reports accounted for 24% (1,550) of all referrals received (6,420) in March 2021.

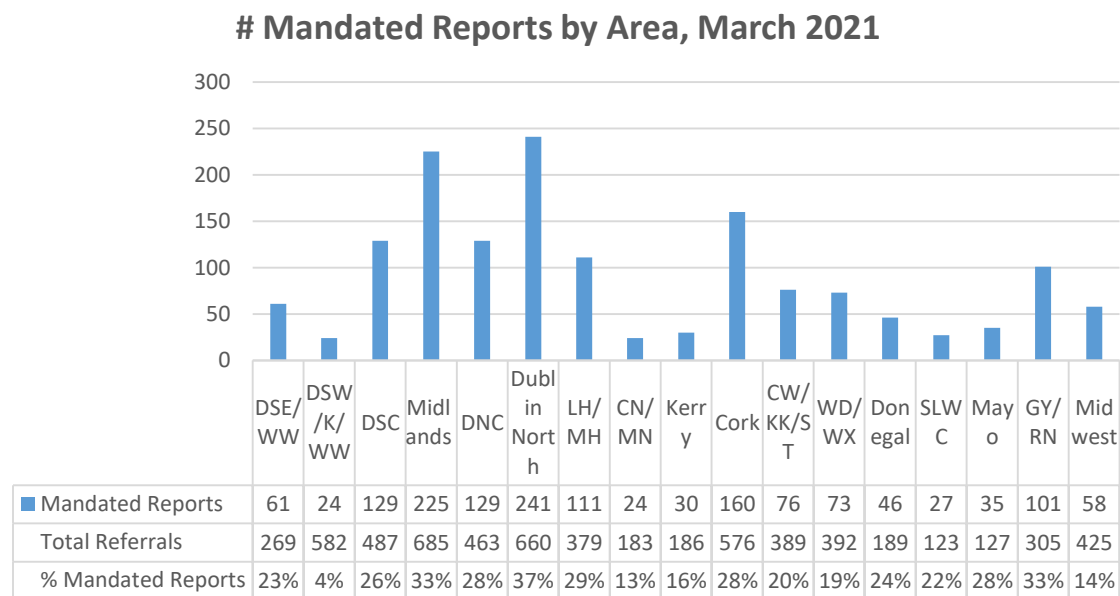
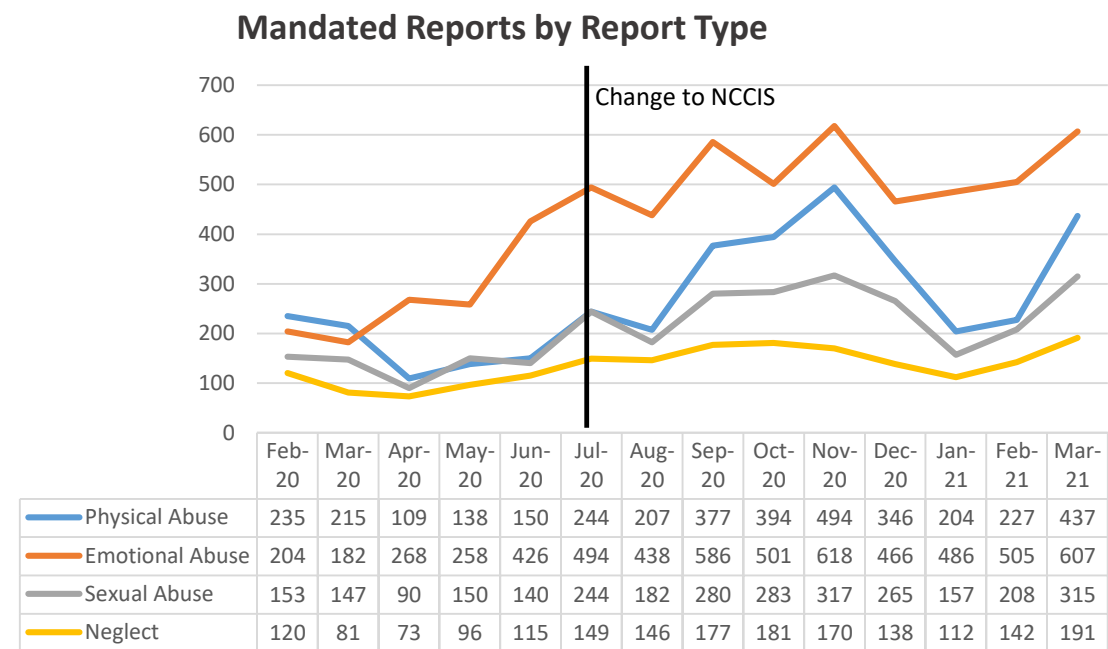
Comparison of data from July 2020 with previous months needs to be interpreted with caution. This is due to a change made on the National Child Care Information System (NCCIS) in July 2020 to enable areas record the primary report type of mandated reports on the referral screen. This means that areas 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 March 2021, by area ranged from 24 (Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow and Cavan/Monaghan) to 241 (Dublin North).
- As a percentage of referrals, the highest percentage was reported by Dublin North (37%) followed by Midlands (33%) and Galway/Roscommon (33%).
- The lowest percentage was reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (4%) followed by Cavan/Monaghan (13%) and Midwest (14%).

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

- Highest number of reports for March 2021 for emotional abuse (607; 39%) followed by physical abuse (437; 28%), sexual abuse (315; 20%) and neglect (191; 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



Mandated Reports – Child Protection & Welfare

Source of Reports

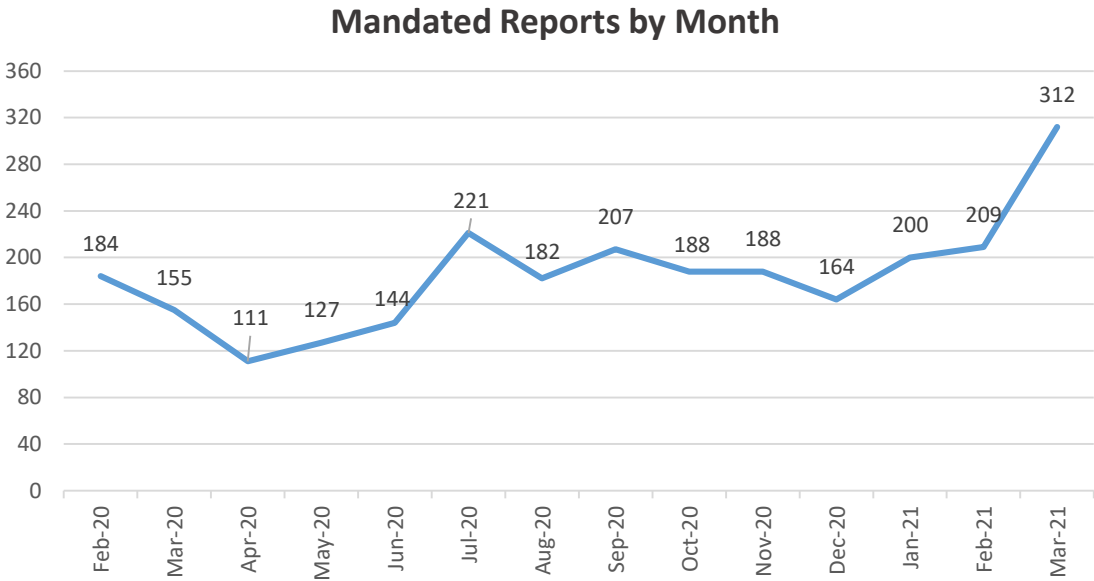
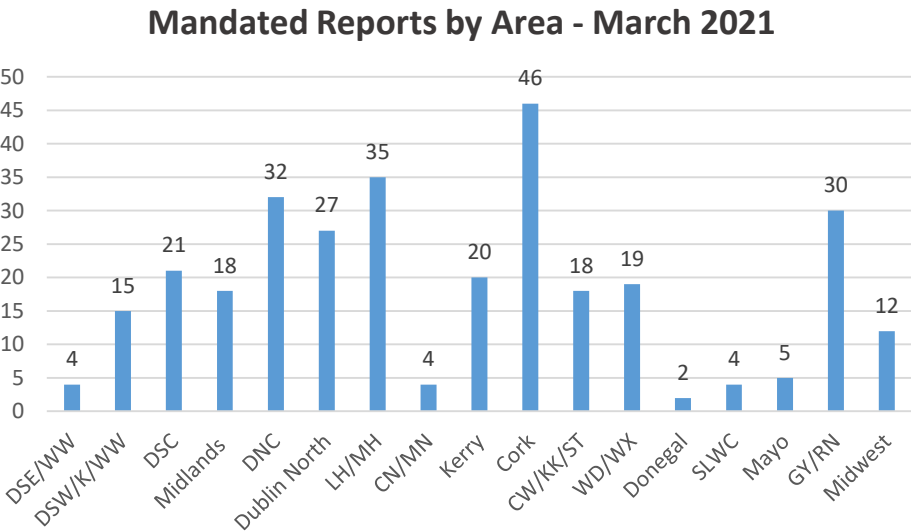
- Highest number of reports for March 2021 from An Garda Síochána (640; 41%) followed by teachers (255; 17%), social workers (211; 14%), social care workers (83; 5%), medical practitioners (79; 5%) and managers of domestic violence shelters (50; 3%).
- These five sources account for 85% (1,318) of reports for March 2021.
- The highest number of reports year to date has been from An Garda Síochána (1,651; 46%) followed by social workers (481; 13%), teachers (348; 10%), social care workers (206; 6%), medical practitioners (180; 5%), safeguarding officers (142; 4%) and managers of domestic violence shelters (141; 4%).
- These seven sources account for 88% (3,149) of all reports.

*Values <5 suppressed

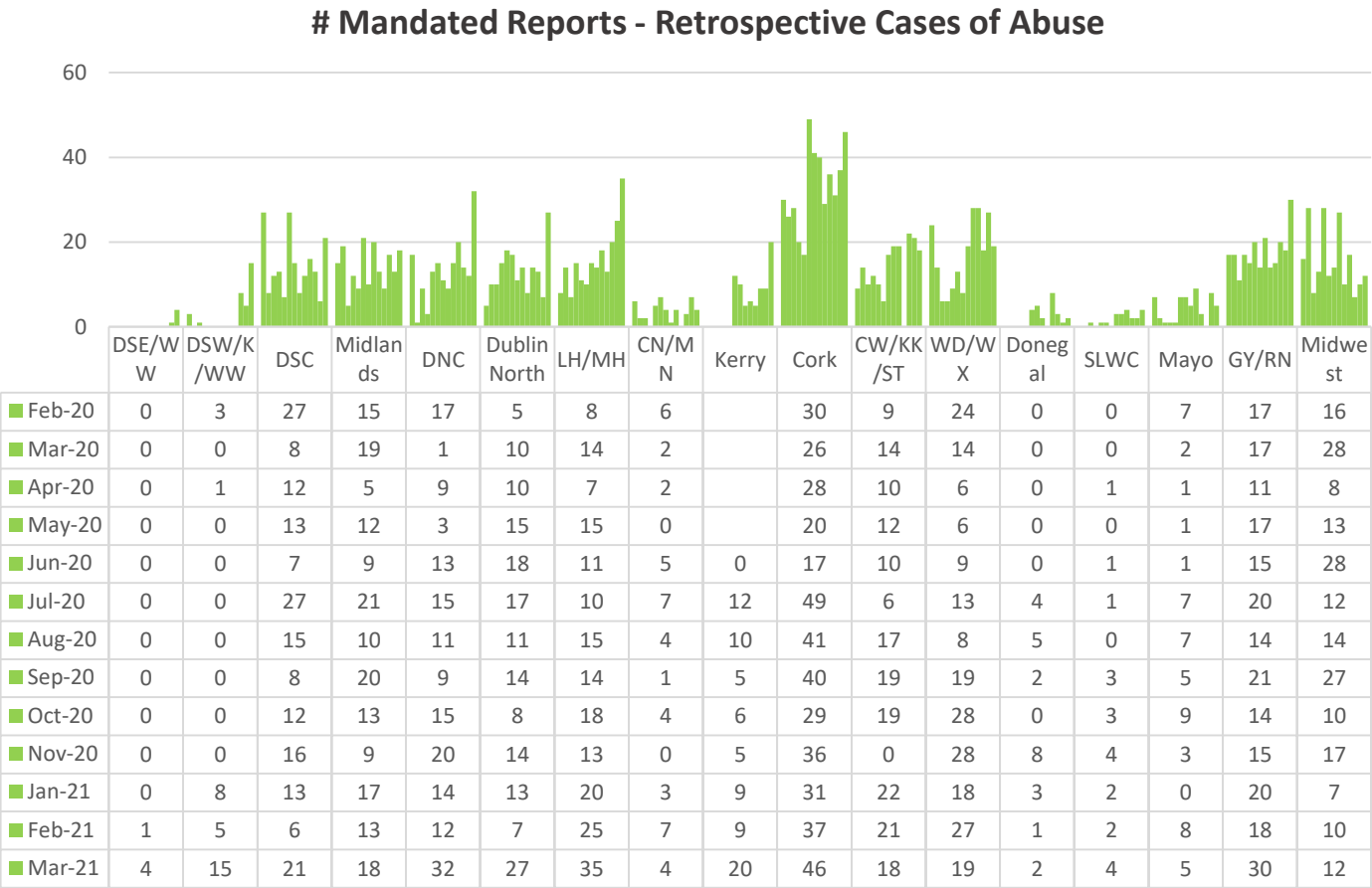
Source	# Mar 2021	% Mar 2021	Total 2021 YTD	% Total 2021 YTD
Medical practitioner (Registered)	79	5.1%	180	5.0%
Nurse or registered midwife (Registered)	26	1.7%	70	1.9%
Physiotherapist (Registered)	6	0.4%	28	0.8%
Speech & language therapist (Registered)	7	0.5%	11	0.3%
Occupational therapist (Registered)	*	*	6	0.2%
Registered dentist	0	0.0%	*	*
Psychologist who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	43	2.8%	87	2.4%
Social care worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	83	5.4%	206	5.7%
Social worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	211	13.6%	481	13.4%
EMT, paramedic and advanced paramedic registered with the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council	0	0.0%	5	0.1%
Probation officer within the meaning of section 1 of the Criminal Justice (Community Service) Act 1983.	*	*	5	0.1%
Teacher registered with the Teaching Council.	255	16.5%	348	9.7%
An Garda Síochána Member	640	41.3%	1651	46.0%
Guardian ad litem appointed in accordance with section 26 of the Child Care Act 1991	*	*	*	*
Domestic violence shelter manager	50	3.2%	141	3.9%
Homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility manager	10	0.6%	24	0.7%
Asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre manager	0	0.0%	13	0.4%
Addiction counsellor employed by a body funded, wholly or partly, out of moneys provided by the Oireachtas	9	0.6%	9	0.3%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling who is registered with one of the voluntary professional bodies	35	2.3%	78	2.2%
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;	0	0.0%	*	*
Institution where a child is detained by an order of a court (Director)	*	*	*	*
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;	47	3.0%	142	4.0%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991;	9	0.6%	20	0.6%
Youth work service - person responsible for the care or management within the meaning of section 2 of the Youth Work Act 2001	8	0.5%	27	0.8%
Youth worker holds a professional qualification and who is employed in a youth work service	17	1.1%	27	0.8%
Foster carer registered with the Agency.	*	*	19	0.5%
Pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991.	*	*	*	*
Total (includes suppressed values)	1550	100.0%	3591	100.0%

Mandated Reports¹ – Retrospective Abuse

- **312 mandated reports of retrospective abuse** in March 2021, 103 (49%) more than February 2021 (209) and 157 (101%) more than March 2020 (155). *Data for Feb-May 2020 based on data from 16 areas.*
 - Mandated reports accounted for 92% (312) of all reports of retrospective abuse received in March 2021 (338).
 - The majority (95%; 295) of mandated reports for March 2021 were for sexual abuse.
-
- Highest number of mandated reports reported by Cork (46) followed by Louth/Meath (35), Dublin North City (32) and Galway/Roscommon (30).



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



¹ Mandated reports are included in the data on referrals (slide 8)

Mandated Reports – Retrospective Abuse

Source of Reports

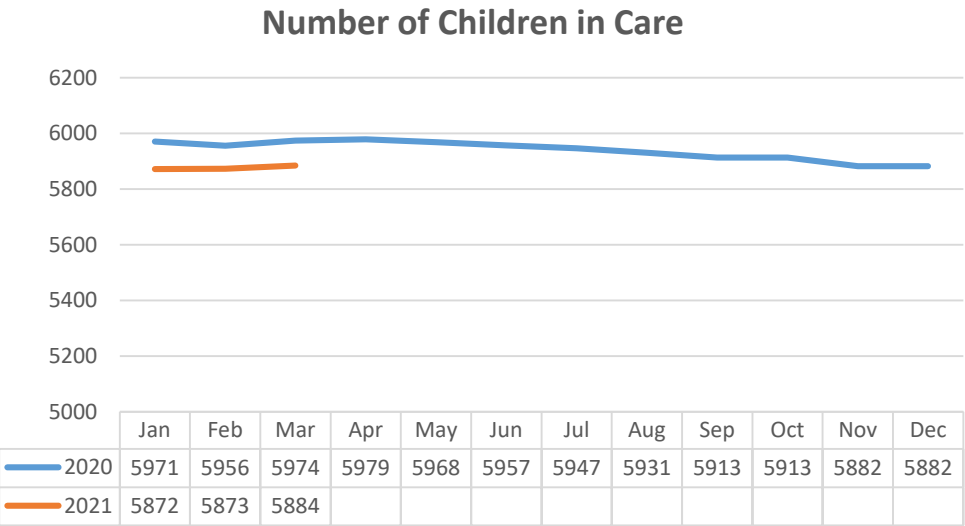
- Highest number of reports for March 2021 from An Garda Síochána (80; 26%) followed by psychotherapists (58; 19%), social workers (53; 17%), psychologists (29; 9%), medical practitioners (26; 8%) and safeguarding officers (25; 8%). These six sources account for 87%; (271) of all reports received.
- The highest number of reports year to date has been from An Garda Síochána (185; 26%) followed by social workers (131; 18%), psychotherapists (118; 16%), psychologists (73; 10%), medical practitioners (59; 8%) and safeguarding officers (40; 6%). These six sources account for 84% (606) of all reports received.

*Values <5 suppressed

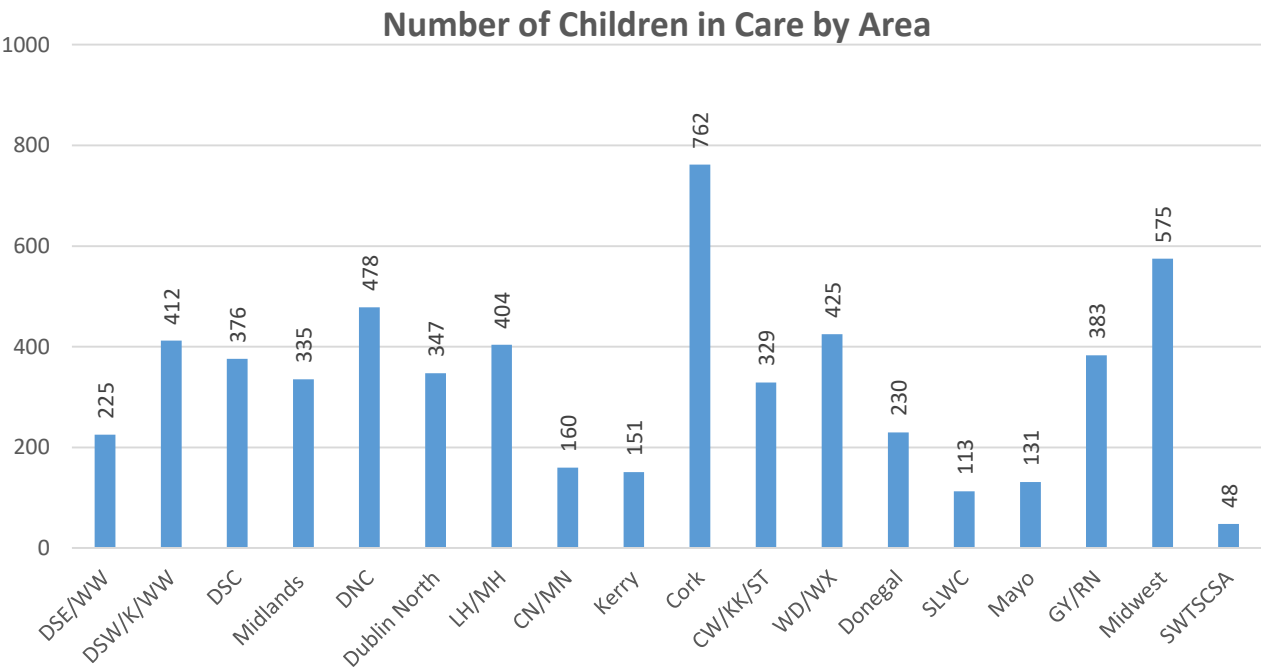
Source	# Mar 2021	% Mar 2021	Total 2021 YTD	% Total 2021 YTD
Medical practitioner (Registered)	26	8.3%	59	8.2%
Nurse or registered midwife (Registered)	18	5.8%	38	5.3%
Physiotherapist (Registered)	*	*	9	1.2%
Speech & language therapist (Registered)	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Occupational therapist (Registered)	*	*	5	0.7%
Registered dentist	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Psychologist who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	29	9.3%	73	10.1%
Social care worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	*	*	14	1.9%
Social worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	53	17.0%	131	18.2%
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.	*	*	11	1.5%
Teacher registered with the Teaching Council.	*	*	7	1.0%
An Garda Síochána Member	80	25.6%	185	25.7%
Guardian ad litem appointed in accordance with section 26 of the Child Care Act 1991	*	*	*	*
Domestic violence shelter manager	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility manager	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre manager	*	*	*	*
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	58	18.6%	118	16.4%
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;	*	*	15	2.1%
Institution where a child is detained by an order of a court (Director)	0	0.0%	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;	25	8.0%	40	5.5%
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%	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	0	0.0%	*	*
Foster carer registered with the Agency.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991.	0	0.0%	*	*
Total (includes suppressed values)	312	100.0%	721	100.0%

Children in Care

- **5,884 children in care at the end of March 2021**; 11 more than February 2021 (5,873)
- 90 fewer children in care than the same time last year (5,974).
- 65% (3,821) of children in care are in general foster care, 26% (1,517) are in relative foster care, 7% (425) are in residential care and 2% (121) are in “other” care placements.
- 16 (4%) of the 425 children in residential placements are in special care



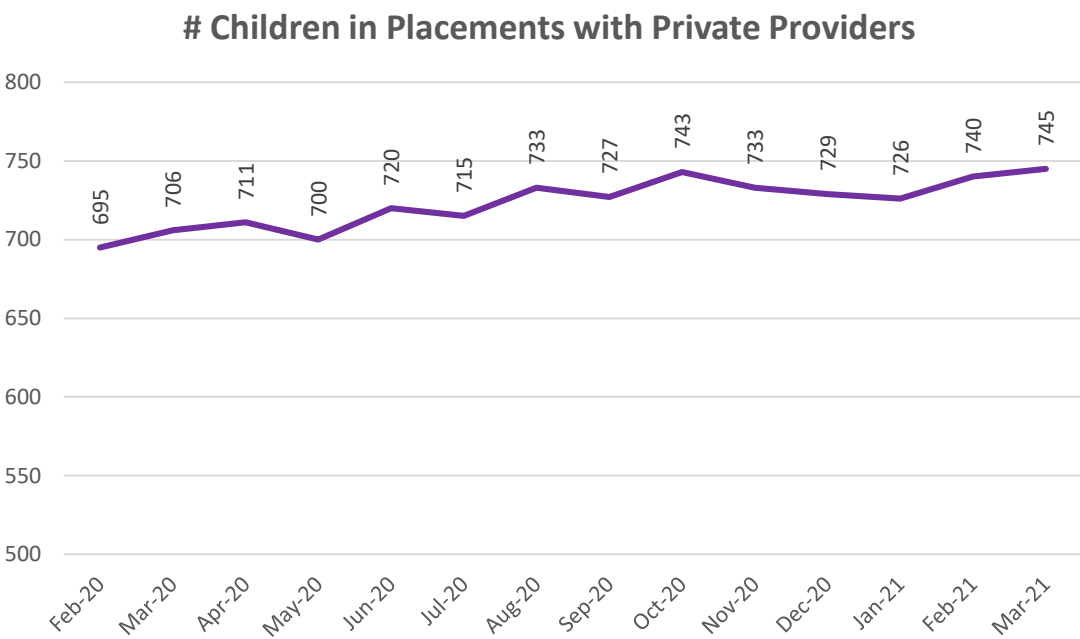
- Highest number of children in care reported by Cork (762) followed by Midwest (575) and Dublin North City (478).
- Fewest number reported by the Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking Asylum (48) followed by Sligo/Leitrim West Cavan (113) and Mayo (131).
- Highest rate of children in care per 1,000 children was reported by Dublin North City (10.6/1,000) followed by Waterford/Wexford (6.2/1,000) and Midwest (6.0/1,000). Lowest rate reported by Dublin North (3.4/1,000) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (3.8/1,000).
- Seven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 4.9/1,000 children.



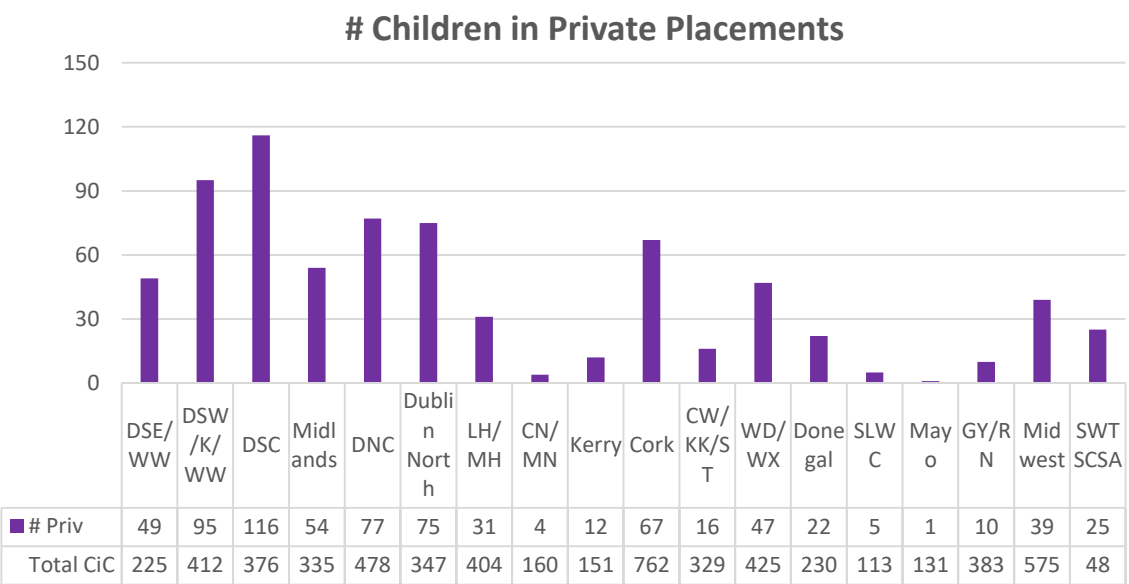
Area	Mar-20	Feb-21	Mar-21	Mar-21 v Mar-20	Mar-21 v Feb-21	Population 0-17	Rate/1,000
DSE/WW	256	225	225	-31	0	86810	2.6
DSW/K/WW	420	408	412	-8	4	108186	3.8
DSC	364	365	376	12	11	65564	5.7
Midlands	376	337	335	-41	-2	80193	4.2
DNC	489	482	478	-11	-4	44927	10.6
Dublin North	333	345	347	14	2	100654	3.4
LH/MH	406	399	404	-2	5	93093	4.3
CN/MN	156	159	160	4	1	36446	4.4
Kerry	167	150	151	-16	1	34527	4.4
Cork	770	762	762	-8	0	134015	5.7
CW/KK/ST	344	330	329	-15	-1	63009	5.2
WD/WX	436	428	425	-11	-3	68513	6.2
Donegal	212	230	230	18	0	42865	5.4
SLWC	114	112	113	-1	1	23554	4.8
Mayo	130	130	131	1	1	31968	4.1
GY/RN	364	382	383	19	1	79912	4.8
Midwest	576	578	575	-1	-3	96266	6.0
Area Total	5913	5822	5836	-77	14	1190502	4.9
SWTSCA	61	51	48	-13	-3		
National	5974	5873	5884	-90	11		

Children in Care

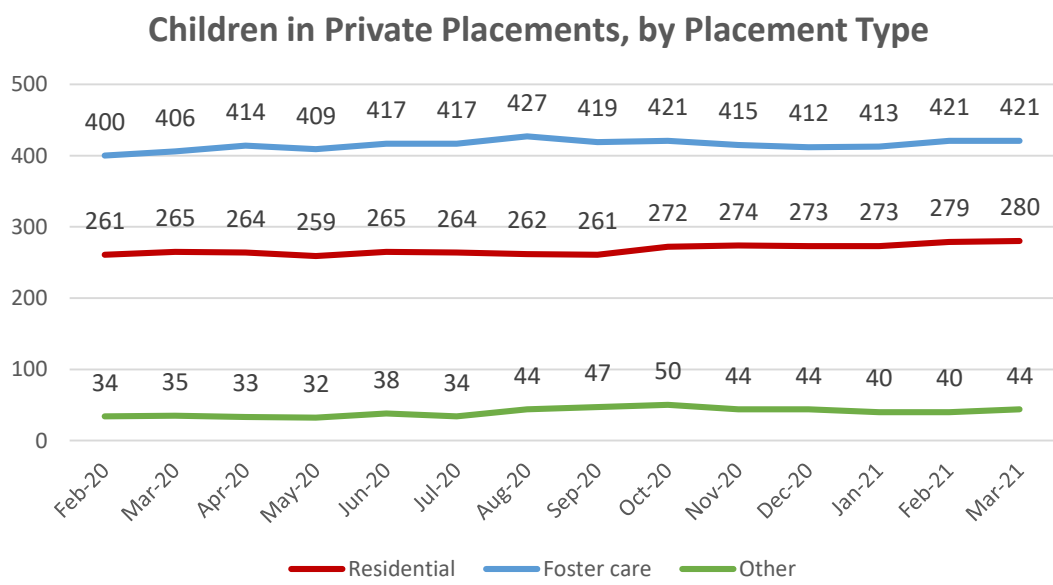
- 745 (13%) children in care at the end of March 2021 were in placements with private providers; five more than February 2021 (740) and 39 (6%) more than March 2020 (706).



- Highest number of children in placements with private providers reported by Dublin South Central (116) followed by DSW/K/WW (95), Dublin North City (77), Dublin North (75) and Cork (67). These five areas account for 58% (430) of all children in placements with private providers.



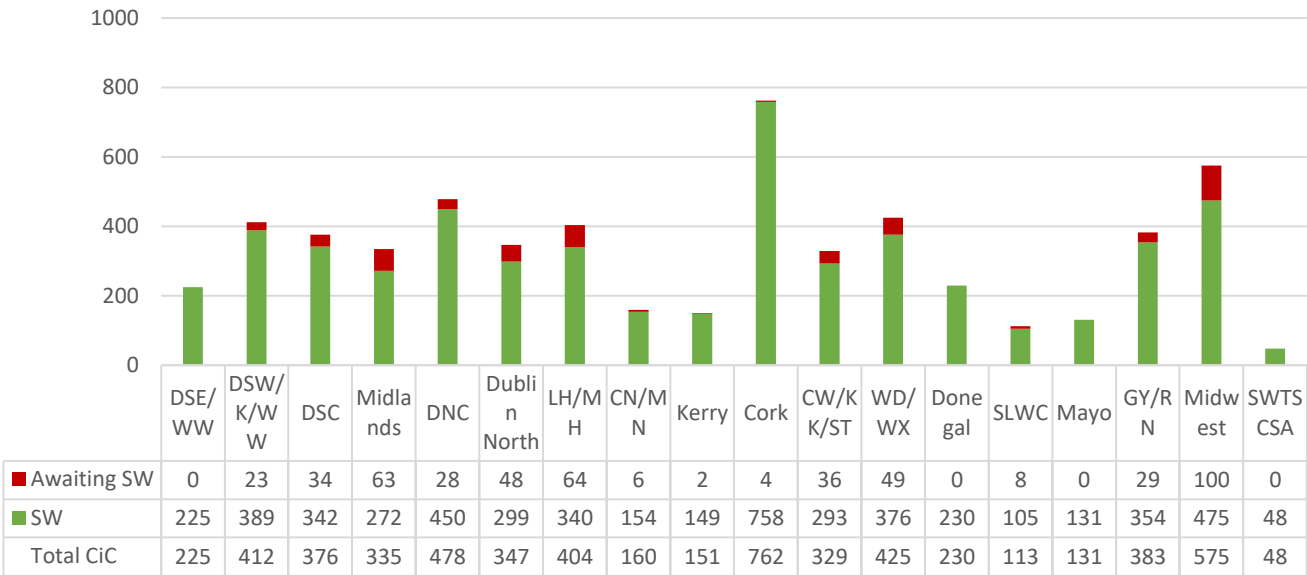
- 57% (421) of children in placements with private providers were in **foster care**, no change from February 2021. This number (421) is up 15 (4%) on March 2020 (406)
- 38% (280) of children in placements with private providers were in **residential care**, one more than February 2021 (279). This number (280) is up 15 (6%) on March 2020 (265).



Children in Care

- **92% (5,390) of children in care at the end of March 2021 had an allocated social worker**; no change from February 2021
- A total of 494 children were awaiting an allocated social worker; 22 more than February 2021 (472).
- Highest number awaiting reported by Midwest (100) followed by Louth/Meath (64), Midlands (63), Waterford/Wexford (49) and Dublin North (48). These five areas account for 66% (324) of all cases awaiting allocation.
- Three areas (Dublin South East/Wicklow, Donegal and Mayo) along with the Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking Asylum reporting 100%

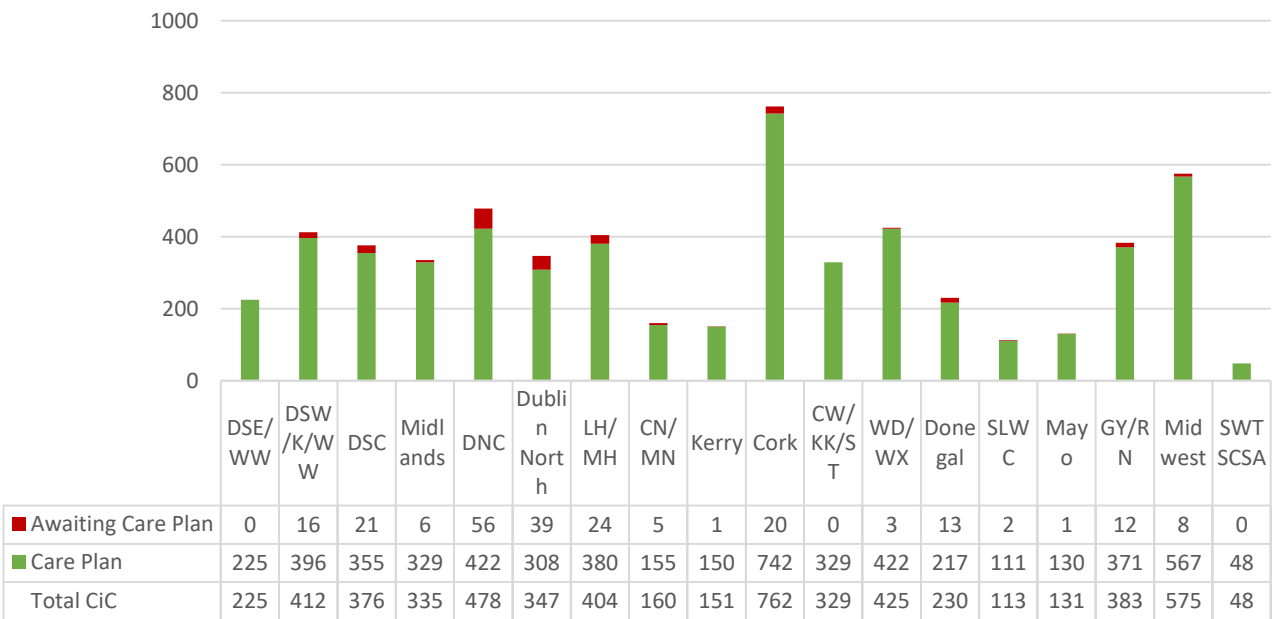
Children in Care with a Social Worker



- **96% (5,657) of children in care at the end of March 2021 had an up-to-date care plan**; no change from March 2021.
- A total of 227 children did not have an up-to-date care plan; 30 fewer than February (257). Highest number with no up-to-date care plan reported by Dublin North City (56), followed by Dublin North (39), Louth/Meath (24), Dublin South Central (21) and Cork (20). These five areas account for 70% (160) of all cases awaiting an up-to-date care plan.

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.

Children in Care with a Care Plan

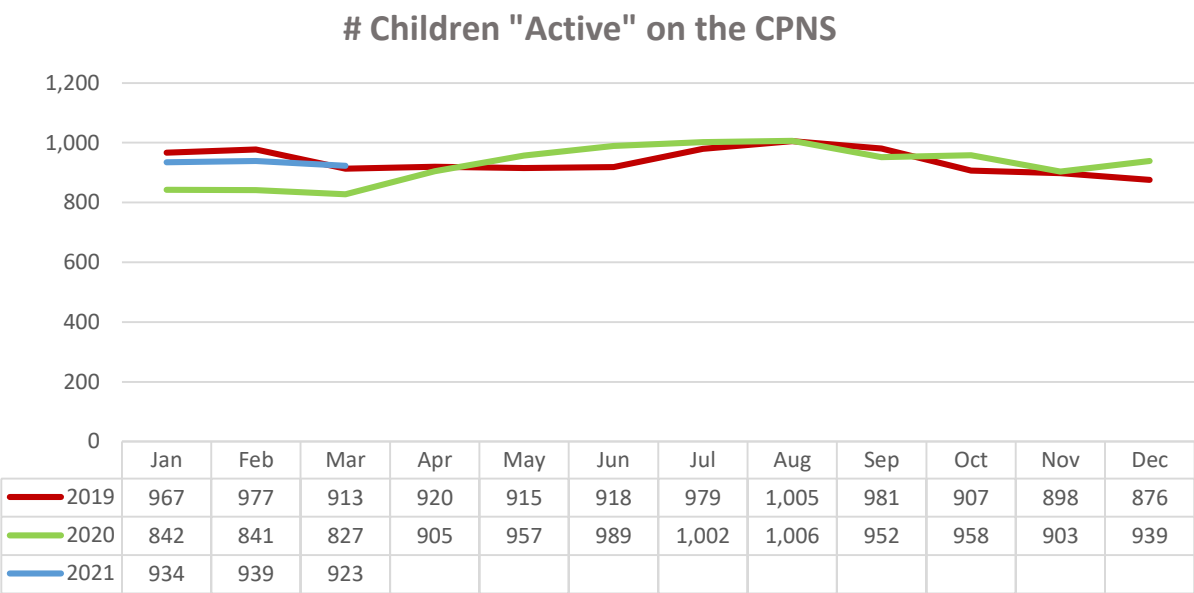


Child Protection Notification System

- **923 children listed as “active” at the end of March 2021;** 16 (2%) fewer than February 2021 (939). There were 96 (12%) more children “active” at the end of March 2021 than March 2020 (827).

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 March 2021 had an **allocated social worker**.
- Highest number of children listed as “active” at the end of March 2021 reported by Midwest (87) followed by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (85), Cork (81) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (81).
- Fewest number listed as “active” reported by Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (11) followed by Louth/Meath (18) and Cavan/Monaghan (18).
- Highest rate per 10,000 population under 18 years reported by Dublin North City (16.7/10,000) followed by Kerry (13.9/10,000), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (13.5/10,000) and Donegal (11/10,000).
- Lowest rates reported by Louth/Meath (1.9/10,000), Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (4.7/10,000), Galway/Roscommon (4.8/10,000) and Cavan/Monaghan (4.9/10,000). Nine areas reported a rate equal to or higher than the national rate of 7.8/10,000
- 8 areas had more children listed as “active” at the end of March 2021 than February 2021. Largest increase reported by Kerry (up 5) followed by Dublin South Central (up 4) and Cork (up 3). Largest decreases reported by Waterford/Wexford (down 10), Donegal (down 4), Midlands (down 4) and Dublin North City (down 4).
- 9 areas had more children active at the end of March 2021 than at the same period last year. Largest increases reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (up 30), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 23), Kerry (up 21), Midlands (up 17) and Dublin North City (up 16). Largest decreases reported by Waterford/Wexford (down 13), Louth/Meath (down 11) and Cork (down 10).



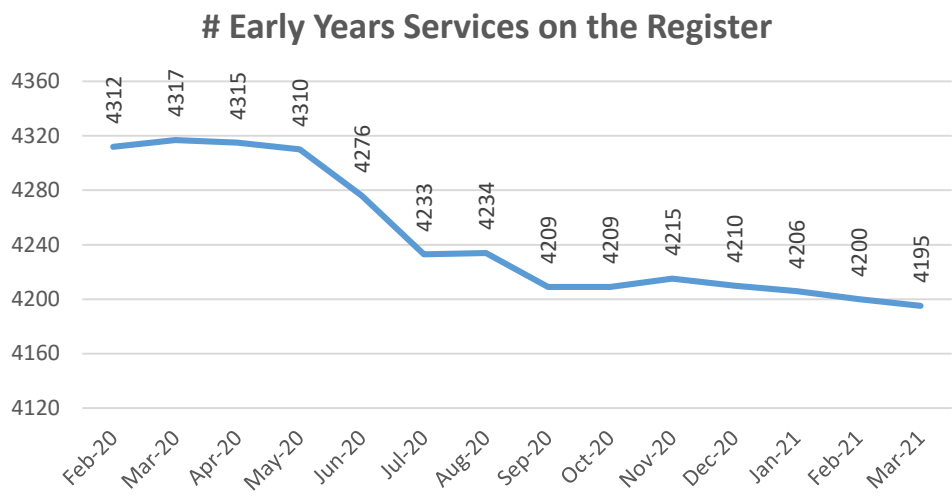
Number and rate of children “active” on the CPNS, by area (ranked by rate)

Area	Mar-20	Feb-21	Mar-21	Mar-21 v Mar-20	Mar-21 v Feb-21	Population	Rate/10,000
Dublin North City	59	79	75	16	-4	44927	16.7
Kerry	27	43	48	21	5	34527	13.9
Carlow / Kilkenny / South Tipperary	75	87	85	10	-2	63009	13.5
Donegal	36	51	47	11	-4	42865	11.0
Waterford / Wexford	79	76	66	-13	-10	68513	9.6
Mid West	94	85	87	-7	2	96266	9.0
Dublin South Central	61	54	58	-3	4	65564	8.8
Mayo	29	25	27	-2	2	31968	8.4
Midlands	46	67	63	17	-4	80193	7.9
Dublin South West / Kildare / West Wicklow	58	80	81	23	1	108186	7.5
Dublin North	54	72	69	15	-3	100654	6.9
Cork	91	78	81	-10	3	134015	6.0
Dublin South East / Wicklow	21	53	51	30	-2	86810	5.9
Cavan / Monaghan	15	17	18	3	1	36446	4.9
Galway / Roscommon	41	41	38	-3	-3	79912	4.8
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	12	14	11	-1	-3	23554	4.7
Louth / Meath	29	17	18	-11	1	93093	1.9
Total	827	939	923	96	-16	1190502	7.8

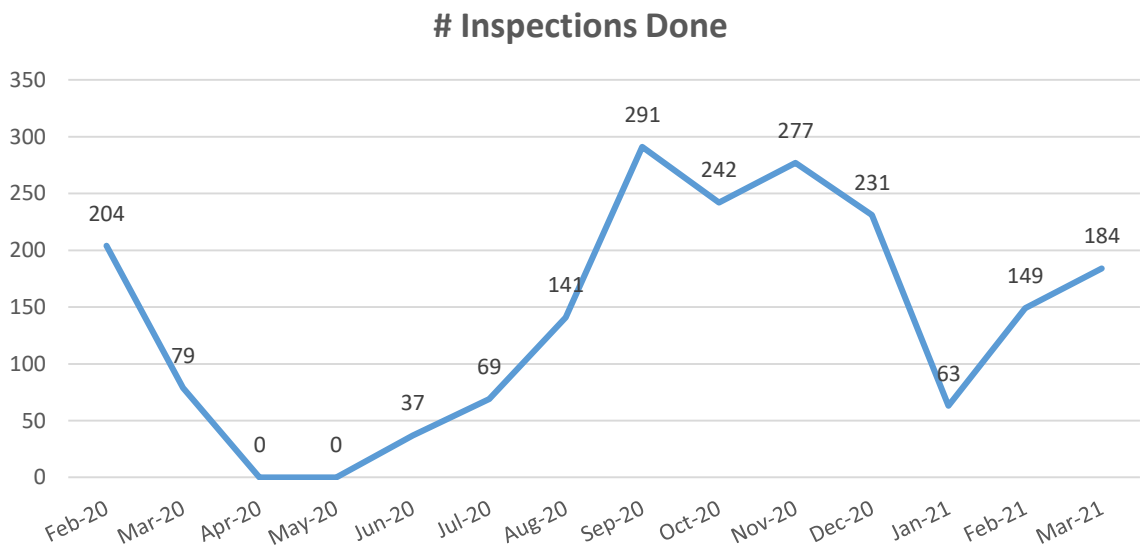
Children's Services Regulation

EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

- **4,195 early years services on the register at the end of March 2021**, five fewer than February 2021 (4,200) and the fourth consecutive monthly decrease. There were 122 (3%) fewer services on the register at the end of March 2021 than March 2020 (4,317).

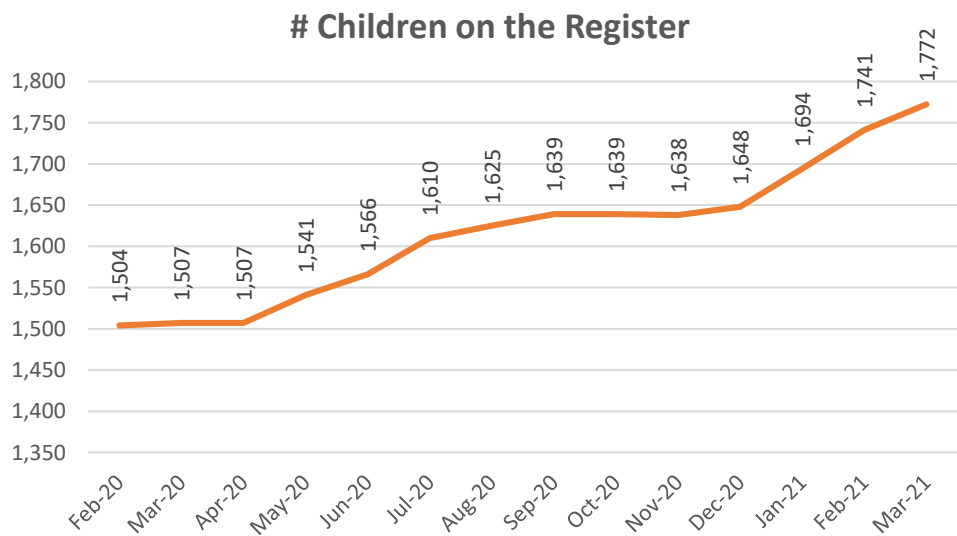


- **184 inspections of early years services done in March 2021.** Brings to 396 the number of inspections for 2021. Number of inspections impacted, due to the closure of services under the Covid-19 restrictions.

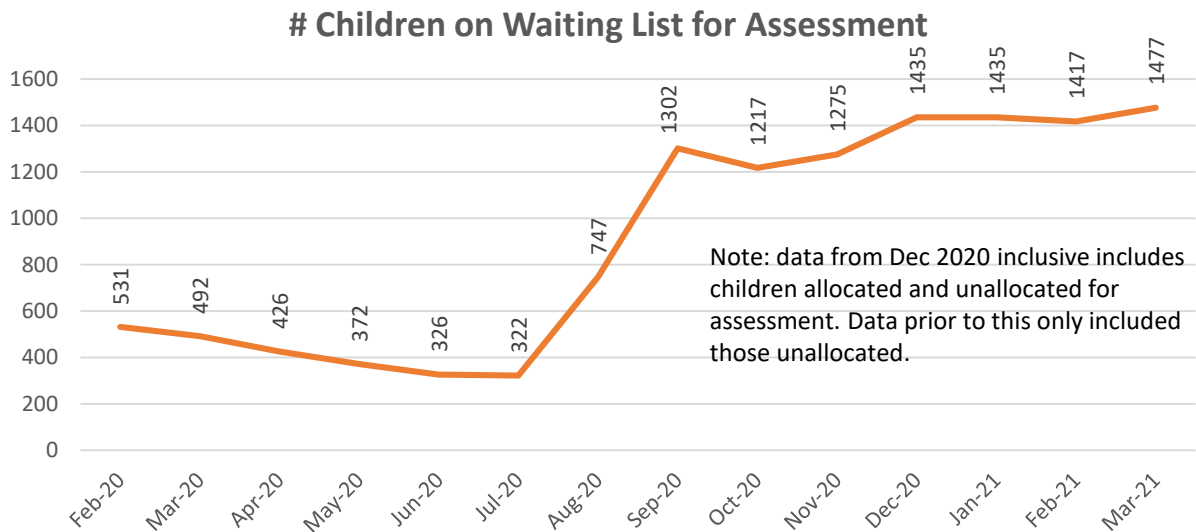


ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION SERVICE

- **1,772 children on the register for home education at the end of March 2021**, 31 more than February 2021 (1,741). The number of children on the register is up 18% (265) on March 2020 (1,507).



- **1,477 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of March 2021**, 60 (4%) more than February 2021 (1,417). 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 2020 and January –March 2021 impacted by the closure of schools (Covid-19)

- **360 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in March 2021, bringing the number of referrals screened for the seven months (September – March 2021) to 3,306.
- The number of referrals for March 2021 is down 123 (25%) on March 2020 (483) and the number of referrals for the seven months (September –March) (3,306) is down 406 (11%) on the same period in 2019/2020 (3,712).

- **1,872 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of March 2021, 46 (2%) fewer than February 2021 (1,918) and the first decrease after five consecutive monthly increases. The number of referrals on a waiting list is down 463 (20%) from March 2020 (2,335).

- **182 new individual children worked with** in March 2021, 41 (29%) more than February 2021 (141) and 98 (35%) fewer than March 2020 (280).
- Brings to 1,776 the number of new individual children worked with for the seven months September – March 2021, 286 (14%) fewer than the same period in 2019/2020 (2,062).

