



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

MONTHLY SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT

NOVEMBER 2024

22 January 2024
Version 1.0

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

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Headline Data – November 2024

Child Protection & Welfare

- **8664 referrals** in November 2024, 759 (8%) fewer than October 2024 (9,423) and 667 (8%) more than November 2023 (7,997). Brings to 88,500 the number of referrals for the first 11 months of 2024, 3,196 (4%) more than the same period in 2023 (85,304).
- **22,427 cases open to social work** at the end of November 2024, 520 (2%) more than October 2024 (21,907) and 134 (1%) more than November 2023 (22,293). *Open cases include child protection and welfare cases including children in care.*
- **77% (17,263) of cases open to social work at the end of November 2024 had an allocated worker**, down one percentage point from October 2024. (Ref note on Page 4).
- **5,164 cases awaiting allocation** at the end of November 2024, 313 (6%) more than October 2024 (4,851). Second consecutive monthly increase. Cases awaiting allocation are up 77 (2%) from November 2023 (5,087).
- Six areas account for 73% (3,772) of cases awaiting allocation: Dublin South Central (1,030), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (780), Midlands (674), Cork (580), Louth/Meath (420) and Waterford/Wexford (288).
- **9% (442) of cases awaiting allocation** at the end of November 2024 were **categorised as high priority**, 14 (3%) more than October 2024 (428) and 9 (2%) more than November 2023 (433).

Child Abuse Substantiation Procedure (CASP)

- **66 referrals assigned to CASP Teams in November 2024.** Brings to 655 the number of referrals assigned for the first 11 months of 2024, 272 (29%) fewer than the same period in 2023 (927).
- **713 assessments open at the end of November 2024**, 7 (1%) more than October 2024 (706) and 61 (8%) fewer than November 2023 (774).
- **77% (546/713) of assessments open at the end of November 2024 were allocated to a social worker**, up two percentage point from October 2024 (75%), fourth consecutive monthly increase.
- Remaining 23% (167) were awaiting allocation with six fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of November 2024 than at the end of October 2024 (173). Some 90 (35%) fewer assessments awaiting allocation at the end of November 2024 than at the end of November 2023 (257).

Children in Care

- **5,795 children (0-17 years) in care at the end of November 2024, 11 (<1%) more than October 2024 (5,784).** Figure includes 118 children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (SCSIP)
- **87.3% (5,058)** of all children in care (17 Areas and SCSIP) are in **foster care** (3,588 general foster care, and 1,470 relative foster), **9% (524) are in residential care** (512 general residential care and 12 special care) and **3.7% (213) are in “other” care placements.**

Children in Care (contd.)

- Across Tusla’s 17 areas 88.7% (5,038/5,677) of children in care are in foster care.
- **1,000 (17%) children in care at the end of November 2024 were in placements with private providers**, 12 (1%) more than October 2024 (988).
- **86% (4,957) of children in care at the end of November 2024 had an allocated worker.** A total of 838 children were awaiting allocation, 37 (4%) fewer than October 2024 (875).
- **84% (4,880) of children in care at the end of November 2024 had an up-to-date care plan.** A total of 915 children were awaiting an up-to-date care plan, 41 (5%) more than October 2024 (874).

Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)

- **1,030 children listed as “active”** on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) at the end of November 2024, 6 (<1%) fewer than October 2024 (1,036), fourth consecutive monthly decrease.
- There were 68 (7%) more children “active” at the end of November 2024 than at the end of November 2023 (962).
- All children listed as “active” at the end of November 2024 had an **allocated social worker.**

Children’s Services Regulation

- **4,042 early years services on the register at the end of November 2024**, two fewer than October 2024 (4,044) and one more than November 2023 (4,041).
- **259 inspections** of early years services in November 2024. This brings to 2,199 the number of inspections for the first 11 months of 2024, 78 (3%) fewer than the same period in 2023 (2,277).
- **2,226 children on the register** for home education at the end of November 2024, 25 (1%) more than October 2024 (2,201).
- **656 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of November 2024**, 70 (10%) fewer than October 2024 (726) and 464 (41%) fewer than November 2023 (1,120).

Tusla Education Support Services

- **859 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in November 2024. This brings to 1,924 the number of referrals for the first three months of the academic year 2024 – 2025, some 439 (30%) more than the same period in the previous academic year (1,485).
- **3,300 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of November 2024, 82 (3%) more than October 2024 (3,218).
- 804 (32%) more referrals on a waiting list at the end of November 2024 (3,300) than at the end of November 2023 (2,496).

Child Protection and Welfare

Referrals¹

- **8664 referrals** in November 2024, 759 (8%) fewer than October 2024 (9,423) and 667 (8%) more than November 2023 (7,997).
- This brings to 88,500 the number of referrals for the first 11 months of 2024, 3,196 (4%) more than the same period in 2023 (85,304).

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

Open Cases

- **22,427 cases open to social work** at the end of November 2024, 520 (2%) more than October 2024 (21,907) and 134 (1%) more than November 2023 (22,293).

Notes:

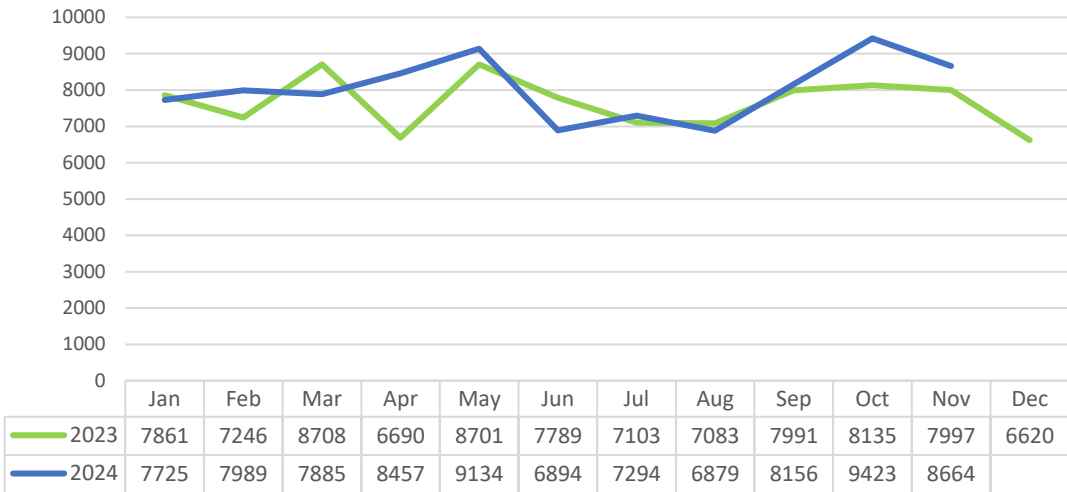
- 1) Open cases include, all cases held on duty, allocated and unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care.
- 2) The data presented on cases is based on the status of cases on the TCM at month end.

Allocated Cases

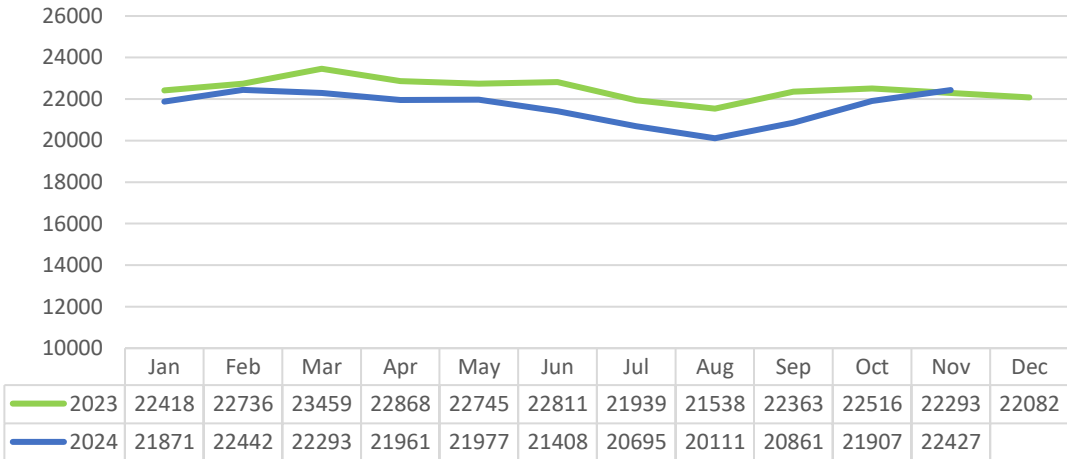
- **17,263 open cases were allocated to a worker** at the end of November 2024, 207 (1%) more than October 2024 (17,056) and 57 (<1%) more than November 2023 (17,206).
- Allocated cases account for 77% of open cases, down one percentage point from October 2024 (78%).

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

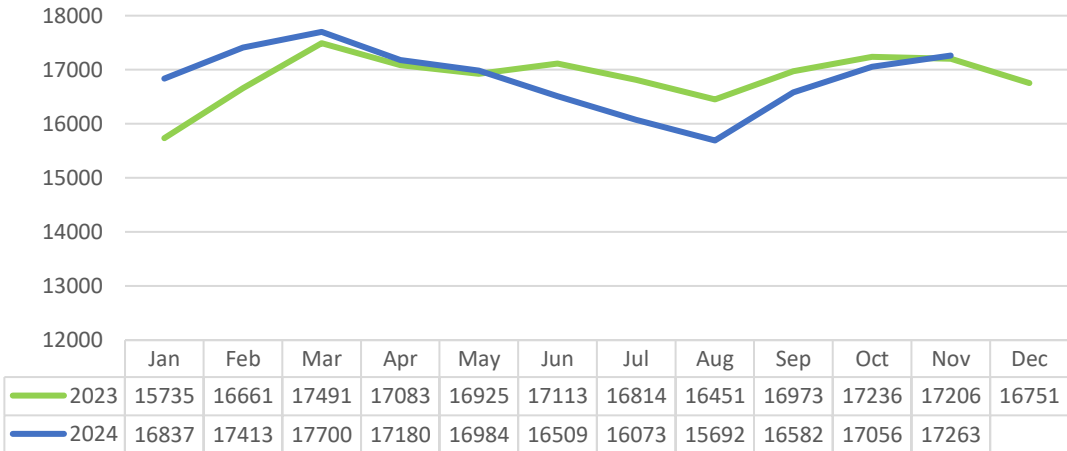
Referrals



Number of Open Cases



Number of Allocated Cases



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).

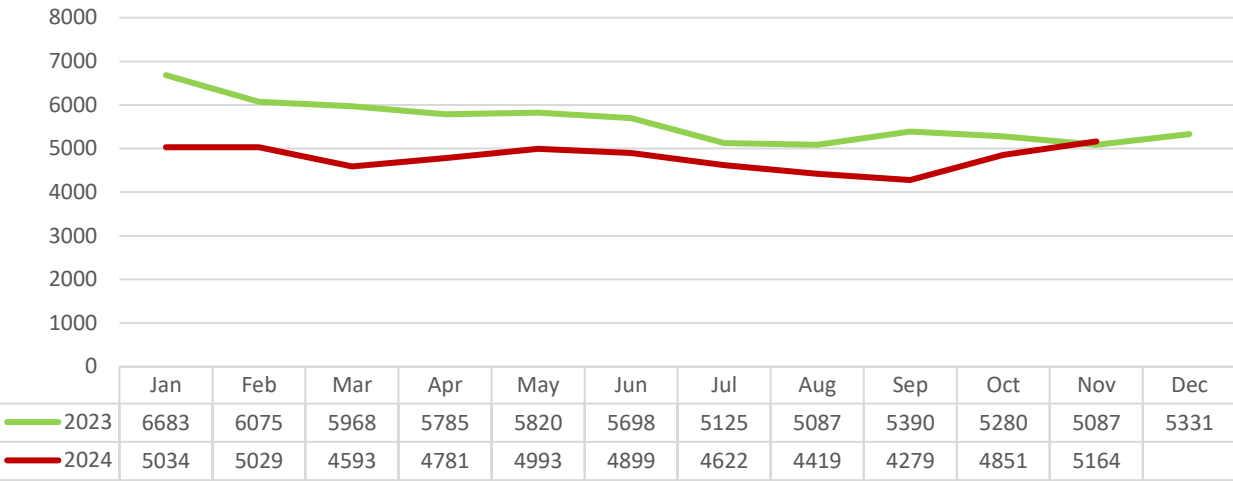
Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation

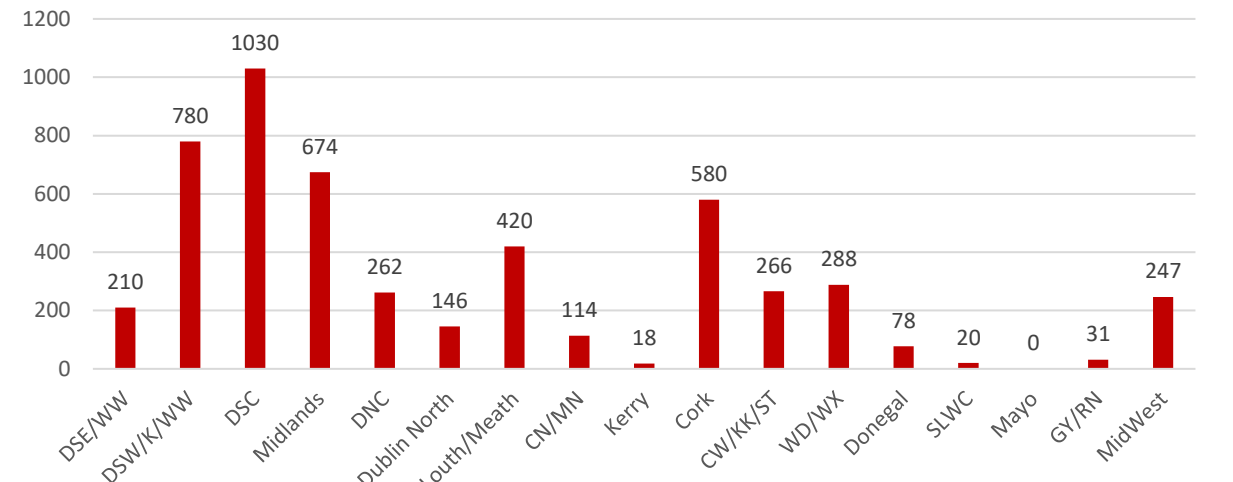
Cases awaiting allocation include cases held on duty, unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care

- **5,164 cases awaiting allocation** at the end of November 2024, 313 (6%) more than October 2024 (4,851). Second consecutive monthly increase.
- Cases awaiting allocation are up 77 (2%) from November 2023 (5,087).
- Cases awaiting allocation account for 23% of open cases (22,427), up one percentage point from October 2024 (22%).
- **34% (1,766) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of November 2024 were “active on duty”.** *This means that actions were undertaken by dedicated duty teams or rotating social workers on a duty roster to progress the protection and welfare of the cases. Examples of actions undertaken include telephone calls relating to the concern, visits to see children, completing initial assessments and child in care reviews or care plans.*
- Highest number of cases awaiting allocation reported by Dublin South Central (1,030) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (780), Midlands (674), Cork (580), Louth/Meath (420) and Waterford/Wexford (288). These six areas account for 73% (3,772) of all cases awaiting allocation.
- **442 cases awaiting allocation at the end of November 2024 were categorised as high priority**, 14 (3%) more than October 2024 (428) and 9 (2%) more than November 2023 (433).
- High priority cases account for 9% of cases awaiting allocation.
- 61% (3,147) of cases awaiting allocation were categorised at medium priority, 29% (1,488) were low priority while the remaining 2% (87) were awaiting categorisation.
- Highest number of high priority cases reported by Dublin South Central (69), Midlands (65), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (61), Louth/Meath (58), Midwest (47) and Donegal (32). These six areas account for 75% (332) of all high priority cases awaiting.

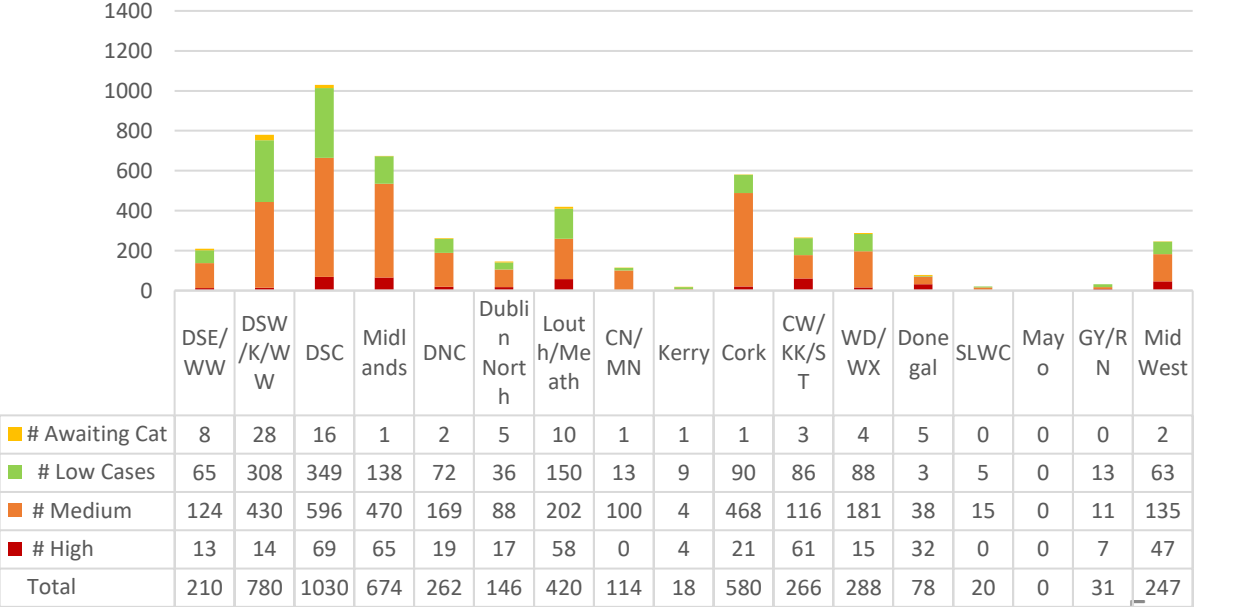
Number of Unallocated Cases



Number of Unallocated Cases













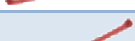




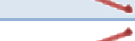


Number Unallocated Cases by Priority Level



Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation

- 7/17 areas reported a decrease in cases awaiting allocation from October 2024.
- Largest decreases reported by Midwest (down 71), Cavan/Monaghan (down 20) and Waterford/Wexford (down 19).
- 10/17 areas reported an increase in cases awaiting allocation from October 2024. Largest increases reported by Cork (up 114), Midlands (up 107) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 93).
- Nationally 23% of open cases were awaiting allocation at the end of November 2024. Six areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 23%. Highest percentages reported by Dublin South Central (45%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (40%), Midlands (35%), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (33%), Louth/Meath (25%) and Cork (23%).
- 13/17 areas had fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of November 2024 than at the end of November 2023. Largest decreases reported by Cork (down 218), Donegal (down 107) and Dublin North City (down 97)
- 4/17 areas had more cases awaiting allocation at the end of November 2024 than at the end of November 2023. Increases reported by Midlands (up 437), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 235), Dublin South Central (up 64) and Louth/Meath (up 54).

Area	Nov-23		Nov-23		Sep-24		Oct-24		Nov-24		Nov-24		Sep-Nov		Nov-24 v		Nov-24 v		Nov-24 v		Nov-24 v	
	# Unallocated	% Unallocated	# Unallocated	% Unallocated	# Unallocated	% Unallocated	# Unallocated	% Unallocated	# Unallocated	% Unallocated	# Unallocated	% Unallocated				% Δ		% Δ		% Δ		% Δ
DSE/WW	238	22%	198		212		210	21%							-28	-12%	-2	-1%				
DSW/K/WW	545	34%	538		687		780	40%							235	43%	93	14%				
DSC	966	44%	980		981		1030	45%							64	7%	49	5%				
Midlands	237	13%	422		567		674	35%							437	184%	107	19%				
DNC	359	19%	229		269		262	15%							-97	-27%	-7	-3%				
Dublin North	163	7%	143		123		146	8%							-17	-10%	23	19%				
Louth/Meath	366	27%	369		405		420	25%							54	15%	15	4%				
CN/MN	162	23%	110		134		114	15%							-48	-30%	-20	-15%				
Kerry	44	12%	19		11		18	4%							-26	-59%	7	64%				
Cork	798	29%	398		466		580	23%							-218	-27%	114	24%				
CW/KK/ST	278	32%	240		238		266	33%							-12	-4%	28	12%				
WD/WX	319	22%	205		307		288	21%							-31	-10%	-19	-6%				
Donegal	185	22%	95		84		78	10%							-107	-58%	-6	-7%				
SLWC	43	13%	18		19		20	7%							-23	-53%	1	5%				
Mayo	8	2%	4		3		0	0%							-8	-100%	-3	-100%				
GY/RN	72	7%	25		27		31	3%							-41	-57%	4	15%				
MidWest	304	23%	286		318		247	18%							-57	-19%	-71	-22%				
TOTAL	5087	23%	4279		4851		5164	23%							77	2%	313	6.5%				

Child Protection & Welfare

Summary Tables

Referrals				Open Cases			Allocated Cases			Unallocated Cases		
Area	Oct-24	Nov-24	Δ	Oct-24	Nov-24	Δ2	Oct-24	Nov-24	Δ3	Oct-24	Nov-24	Δ4
DSE/WW	421	361	-60	1,010	1,013	3	798	803	5	212	210	-2
DSW/K/WW	913	896	-17	1,818	1,945	127	1,131	1,165	34	687	780	93
DSC	720	697	-23	2,231	2,299	68	1,250	1,269	19	981	1,030	49
Midlands	1003	784	-219	1,869	1,930	61	1,302	1,256	-46	567	674	107
DNC	506	465	-41	1,724	1,780	56	1,455	1,518	63	269	262	-7
Dublin North	980	775	-205	1,800	1,881	81	1,677	1,735	58	123	146	23
Louth/Meath	710	690	-20	1,678	1,712	34	1,273	1,292	19	405	420	15
CN/MN	282	290	8	719	755	36	585	641	56	134	114	-20
Kerry	258	217	-41	457	405	-52	446	387	-59	11	18	7
Cork	897	750	-147	2,538	2,531	-7	2,072	1,951	-121	466	580	114
CW/KK/ST	451	378	-73	773	801	28	535	535	0	238	266	28
WD/WX	604	717	113	1,331	1,359	28	1,024	1,071	47	307	288	-19
Donegal	282	315	33	736	765	29	652	687	35	84	78	-6
SLWC	141	148	7	300	306	6	281	286	5	19	20	1
Mayo	113	97	-16	366	314	-52	363	314	-49	3	0	-3
GY/RN	436	448	12	1,193	1,237	44	1,166	1,206	40	27	31	4
MidWest	706	636	-70	1,364	1,394	30	1,046	1,147	101	318	247	-71
Total	9,423	8,664	-759	21,907	22,427	520	17,056	17,263	207	4,851	5,164	313

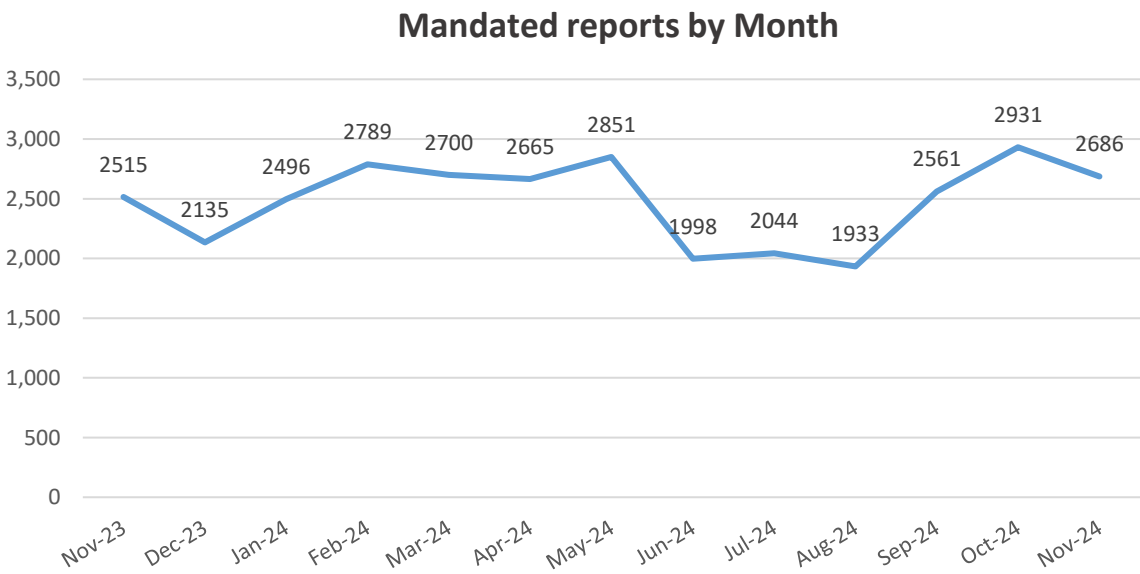
High Priority				Medium Priority			Low Priority			Awaiting Categorisation		
Area	Oct-24	Nov-24	Δ	Oct-24	Nov-24	Δ 2	Oct-24	Nov-24	Δ 3	Oct-24	Nov-24	Δ 4
DSE/WW	20	13	-7	143	124	-19	43	65	22	6	8	2
DSW/K/WW	16	14	-2	349	430	81	284	308	24	38	28	-10
DSC	41	69	28	622	596	-26	313	349	36	5	16	11
Midlands	88	65	-23	384	470	86	95	138	43	0	1	1
DNC	12	19	7	169	169	0	69	72	3	19	2	-17
Dublin North	4	17	13	78	88	10	35	36	1	6	5	-1
Louth/Meath	42	58	16	177	202	25	173	150	-23	13	10	-3
CN/MN	2	0	-2	111	100	-11	21	13	-8	0	1	1
Kerry	0	4	4	1	4	3	10	9	-1	0	1	1
Cork	15	21	6	385	468	83	66	90	24	0	1	1
CW/KK/ST	55	61	6	102	116	14	79	86	7	2	3	1
WD/WX	13	15	2	188	181	-7	99	88	-11	7	4	-3
Donegal	44	32	-12	37	38	1	3	3	0	0	5	5
SLWC	2	0	-2	11	15	4	6	5	-1	0	0	0
Mayo	1	0	-1	2	0	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0
GY/RN	3	7	4	6	11	5	12	13	1	6	0	-6
MidWest	70	47	-23	149	135	-14	99	63	-36	0	2	2
TOTAL	428	442	14	2,914	3,147	233	1,407	1,488	81	102	87	-15

Mandated Reports¹ – Child Protection & Welfare

- **2,686 mandated reports of abuse** received in November 2024, 245 (8%) fewer than October 2024 (2,931) and 171 (7%) more than November 2023 (2,515). This brings to 27,654 the number of reports for the first 11 months of 2024, 1,130 (4%) more than the same period in 2023 (26,524).

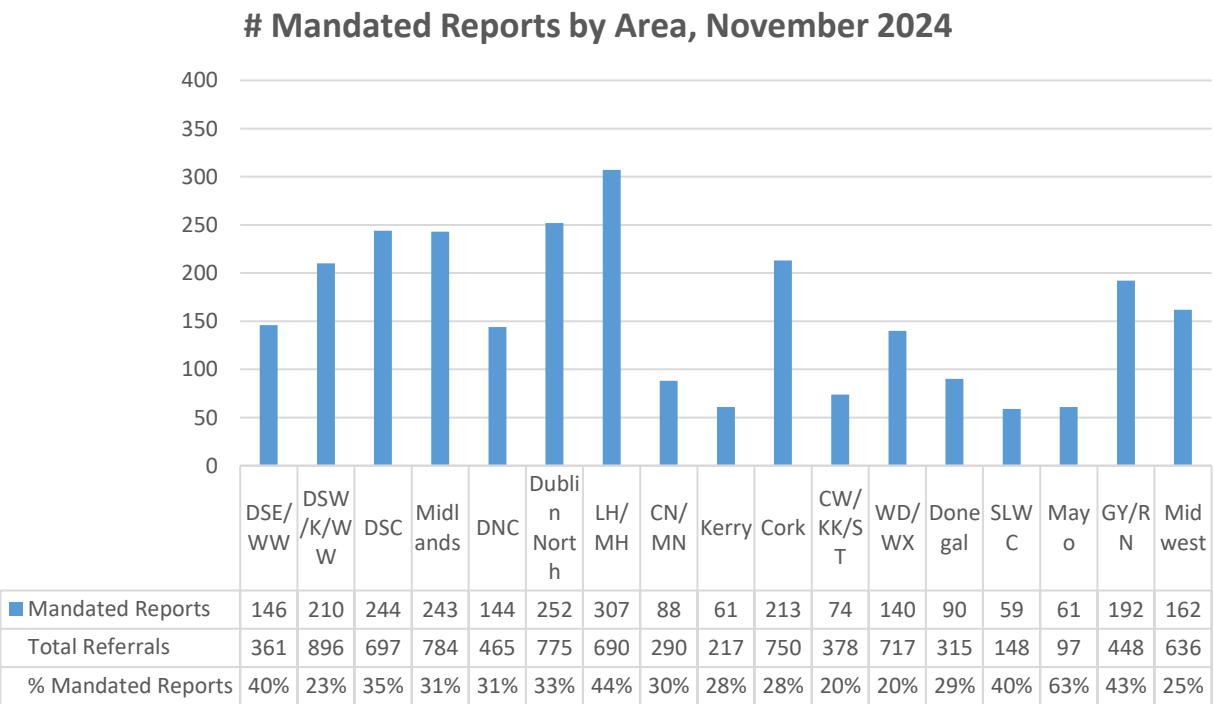
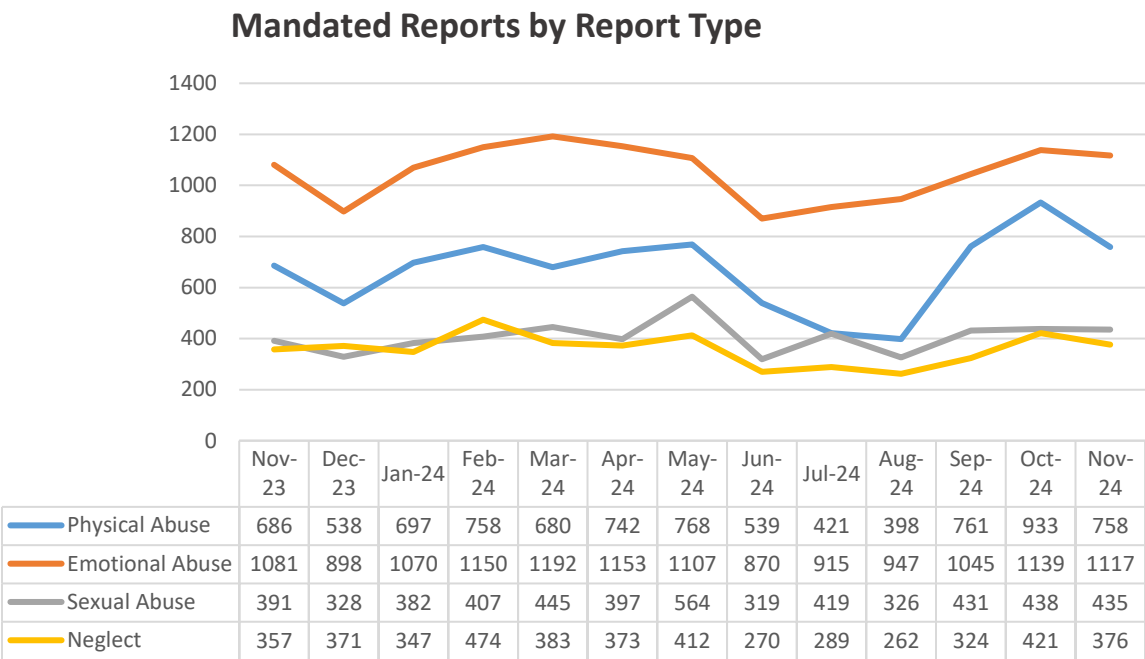
It should be noted that the data presented for the first six months of 2024 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for Jul-Nov 2024 is based on referrals logged on the Tusla Case Management (TCM) system at the time the data was extracted for reporting. Referrals logged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

- Mandated reports accounted for 31% (2,686) of all referrals received (8,664) in November 2024.



- The number of mandated reports for November 2024, by area ranged from 59 (Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan) to 307 (Louth/Meath).
- As a percentage of referrals, the highest percentage (63%) was reported by Mayo.
- The lowest percentage (20%) was reported by Waterford/Wexford.

- Highest number of reports for November 2024 were for emotional abuse (1,117; 42%) followed by physical abuse (758; 28%), sexual abuse (435; 16%) and neglect (376; 14%).



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 November 2024 from An Garda Síochána (988; 37%) followed by teachers (487; 18%), safeguarding officer (361; 13%); social workers (269; 10%), social care workers (114; 4%), medical practitioners (78; 3%) and psychotherapists (70; 3%). These seven sources account for 88%% (2,367) of reports for November 2024.
- Highest number of reports for 2024 YTD from An Garda Síochána (10,452; 37.8%) followed by teachers (3,896; 14%), safeguarding officers (3,724; 14%), social workers (3,082; 11%), social care workers (1,296; 5%) and medical practitioners (936; 3%). These six sources account for 85% (23,386) of reports for 2024 YTD.

Source (Schedule 2 Children First 2015)	# Nov 2024	% Nov 2024	2024 YTD	% Total 2024
Medical practitioner (Registered)	78	2.9%	936	3.4%
Nurse or registered midwife (Registered)	65	2.4%	582	2.1%
Physiotherapist (Registered)	*	0.1%	49	0.2%
Speech & language therapist (Registered)	12	0.4%	50	0.2%
Occupational therapist (Registered)	6	0.2%	61	0.2%
Registered dentist	0	0.0%	*	0.0%
Psychologist	44	1.6%	615	2.2%
Social care worker	114	4.2%	1296	4.7%
Social worker	269	10.0%	3082	11.1%
EMT, paramedic and advanced paramedic	*	0.1%	22	0.1%
Probation officer	13	0.5%	48	0.2%
Teacher registered with the Teaching Council.	487	18.1%	3896	14.1%
An Garda Síochána Member	988	36.8%	10452	37.8%
Guardian ad litem	*	0.1%	59	0.2%
Domestic violence shelter manager	60	2.2%	809	2.9%
Homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility manager	25	0.9%	253	0.9%
Asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre manager	14	0.5%	86	0.3%
Addiction counsellor	5	0.2%	42	0.2%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling	70	2.6%	694	2.5%
Language school or other recreational school where children reside	*	0.0%	15	0.1%
Clergy member	0	0.0%	*	0.0%
Institution where a child is detained by an order of a court	*	0.0%	23	0.1%
Safeguarding officer, child protection officer	361	13.4%	3724	13.5%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service	6	0.2%	107	0.4%
Youth work service - person responsible	8	0.3%	114	0.4%
Youth worker employed in a youth work service	46	1.7%	493	1.8%
Foster carer registered with the Agency.	*	0.1%	43	0.2%
Pre-school service within the meaning of the Child Care Act	*	0.1%	89	0.3%
Total (includes suppressed values)	2686	100.0%	27,654	100.0%

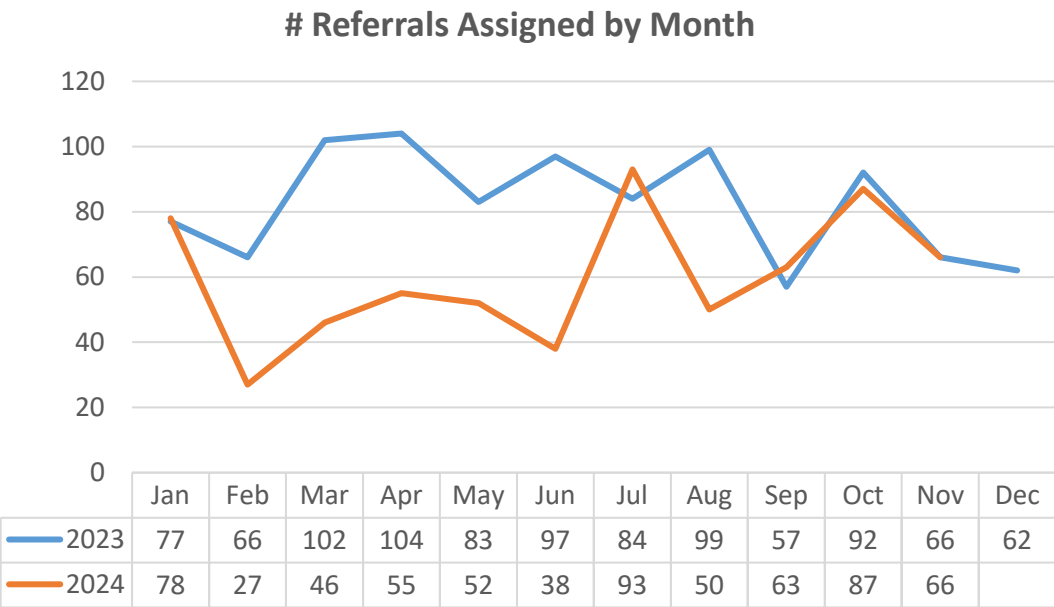
*Values suppressed for confidentiality purposes. Suppressed figures included in totals.

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

- 66 referrals assigned to CASP Teams in November 2024. This brings to 655 the number of referrals assigned for the first 11 months of 2024, 272 (29%) fewer than the same period in 2023 (927).

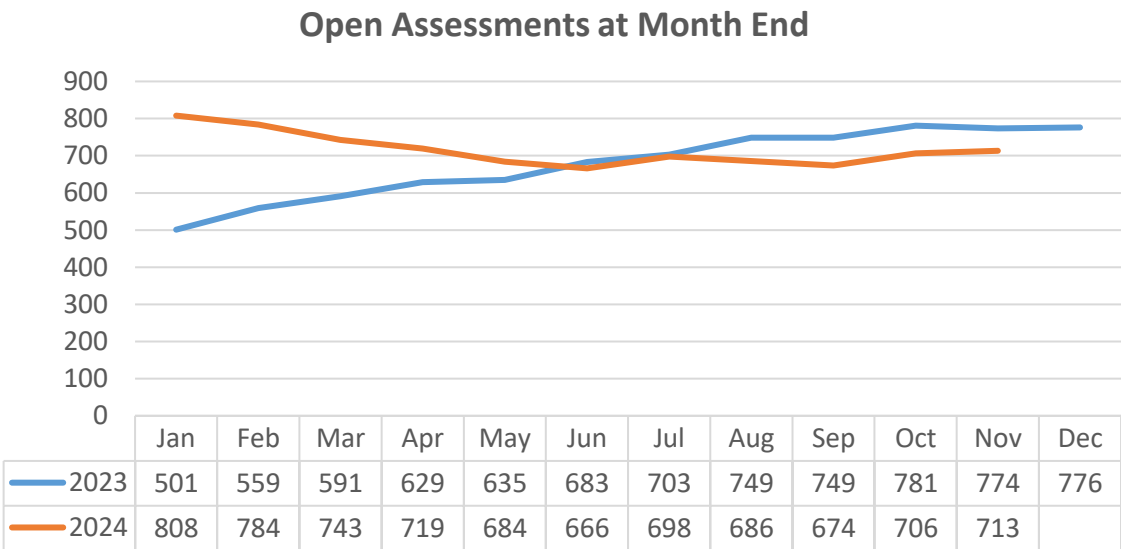
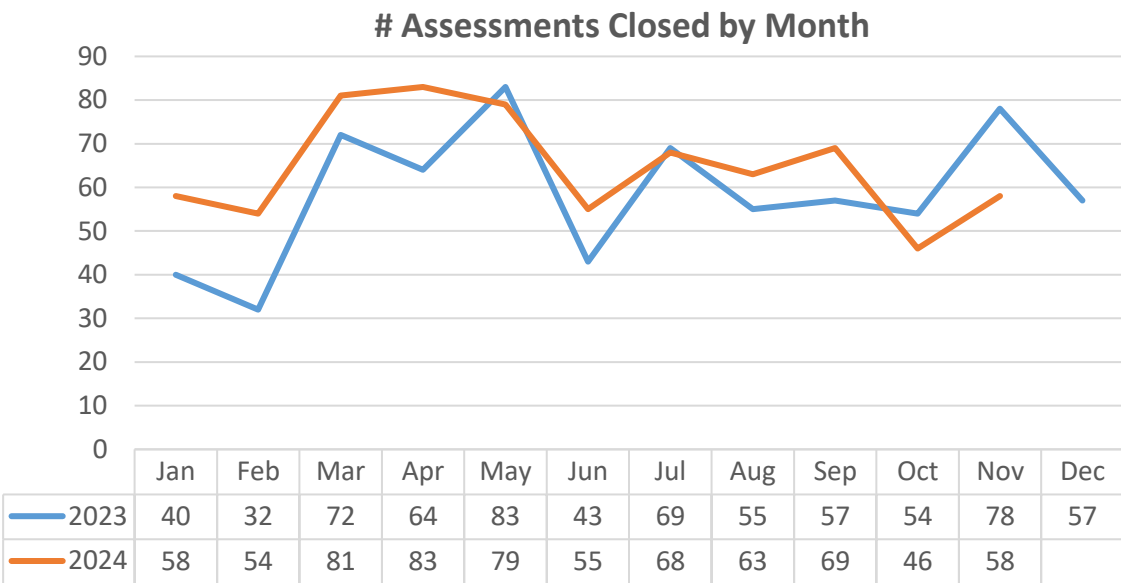


Open Assessments

- 713 assessments open at the end of November 2024, 7 (1%) more than October 2024 (706) and 61 (8%) fewer than November 2023 (774).

Assessments Closed

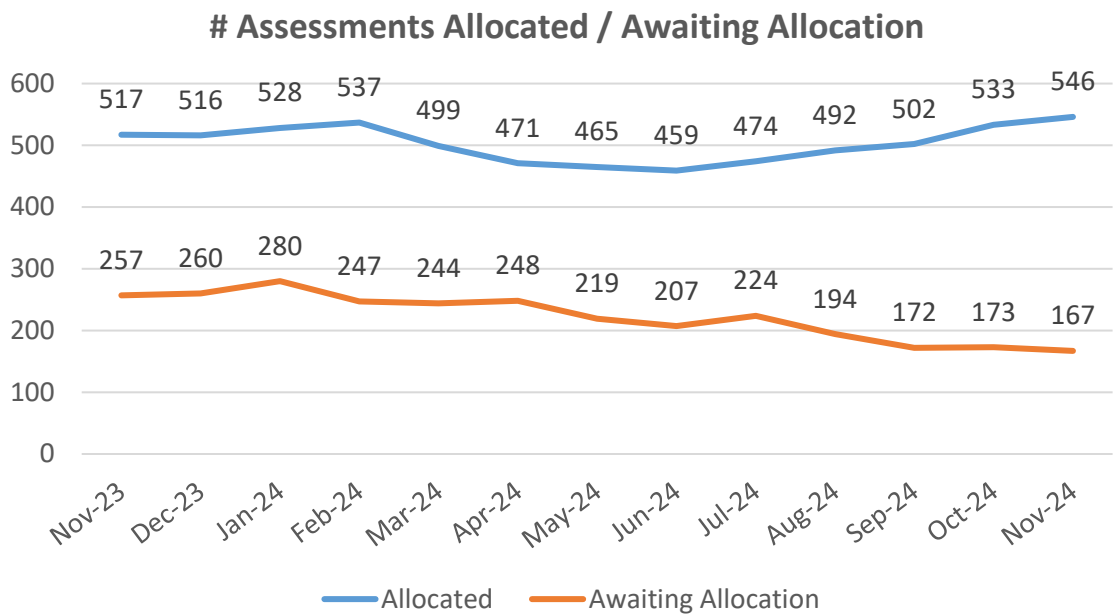
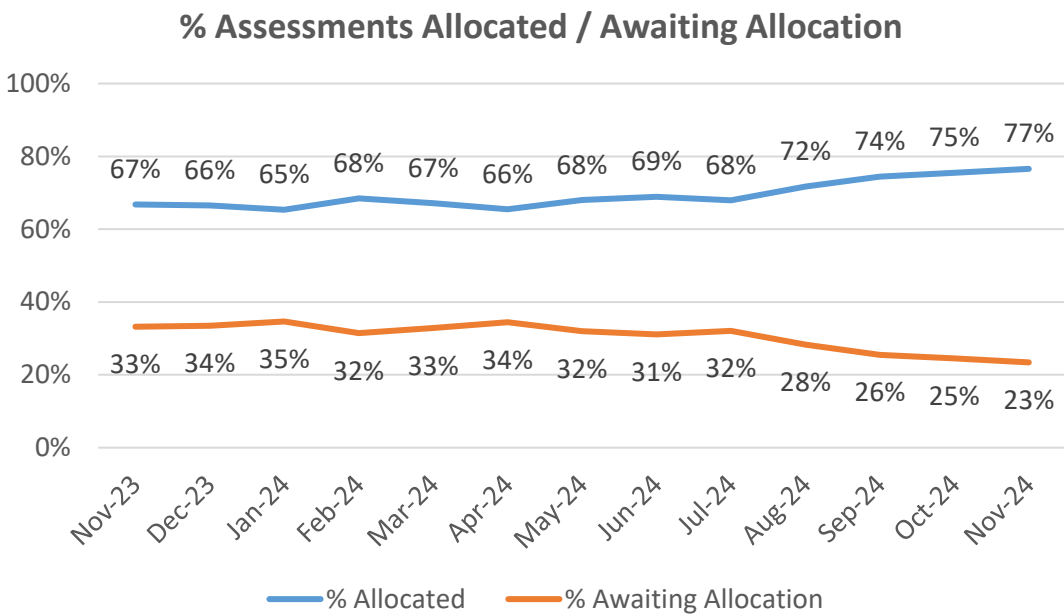
- 58 assessments closed in November 2024. This brings to 714 the number of assessments closed for the first 11 months of 2024, 67 (10%) more than the same period in 2023 (647).



Child Abuse Substantiation Procedure (CASP)

Allocation Status of Open Assessments

- 77% (546/713) of assessments open at the end of November 2024 were allocated to a social worker, up two percentage point from October 2024 (75%), fourth consecutive monthly increase.
- The remaining 23% (167) were awaiting allocation with six fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of November 2024 than at the end of October 2024 (173).
- 90 (35%) fewer assessments awaiting allocation at the end of November 2024 than at the end of November 2023 (257).



Children in Care

- **5,795 children (0-17 years) in care at the end of November 2024, 11 (<1%) more than October 2024 (5,784).** Figure includes 118 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:

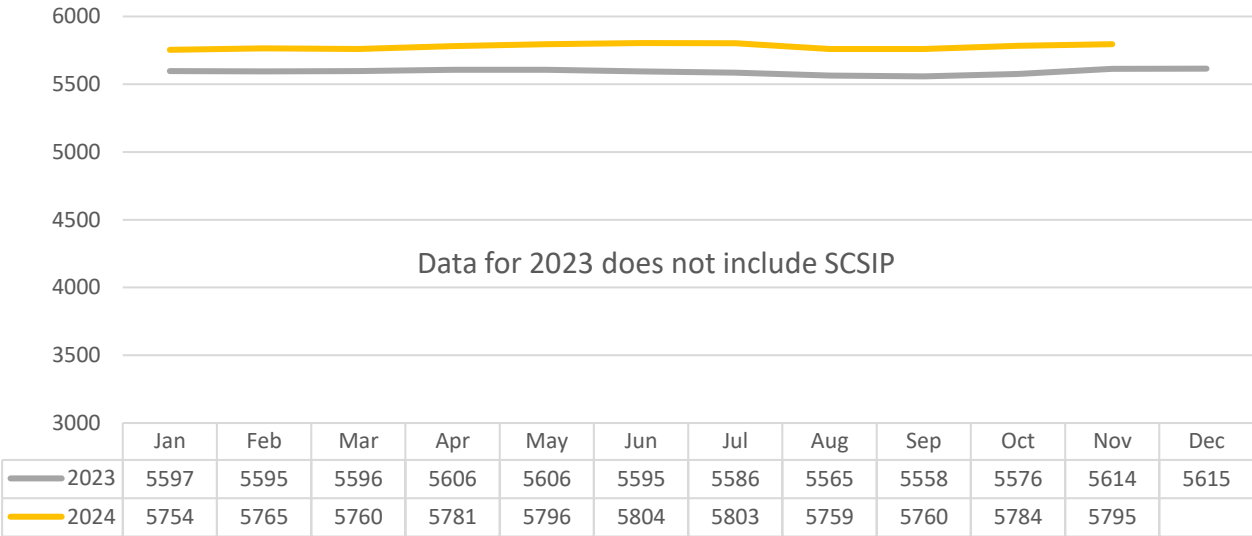
	Nov-23	Oct-24	Nov-24	Nov-24 v Nov-23	Nov-24 v Oct-24
17 Tusla Areas	5614	5674	5677	+63	+3
SCSIP	NA	110	118	NA	+8
Total	5614	5784	5795	-	+11

- Breakdown of children in care by placement type as follows (Nov 2024):

Placement Type	17 areas	SCSIP	Total
Residential Care	445 (7.8%)	79 (66.9%)	524 (9.0%)
Foster Care	5,038 (88.7%)	20 (16.9%)	5,058 (87.3%)
Other*	194 (3.4%)	19 (16.1%)	213 (3.7%)
Total	5,677 (100%)	118 (100%)	5,795 (100%)

- Residential care (524) includes 12 children in special care. Of the children in foster care (5,058), 71% (3,588) were in general foster care and 29% (1,470) were in relative foster care.
- Highest number of children in care reported by Cork (660) followed by Midwest (493) and Dublin North City (463).
- Fewest number reported by the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (118) and Sligo/Leitrim West Cavan (120).
- Across the 17 Areas the highest rate of children in care per 1,000 children was reported by Dublin North City (9.5) followed by Waterford/Wexford (6.3) and Donegal (5.6).
- Lowest rate reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (2.3) 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.

Children in Care by Month



Rate of Children in Care / 1,000 population 0-17 years (ranked by rate/1,000)

Area	Nov-23	Oct-24	Nov-24	Nov-24 v Nov-23	Nov-24 v Oct-24	Population	Rate/1,000
Dublin North City	451	465	463	12	-2	48,909	9.5
Waterford/Wexford	430	431	434	4	3	69,239	6.3
Donegal	214	235	237	23	2	42,144	5.6
Midwest	509	496	493	-16	-3	96,764	5.1
CW/KK/ST	317	305	310	-7	5	62,366	5.0
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	109	117	120	11	3	24,312	4.9
Kerry	163	168	172	9	4	34,994	4.9
Cork	706	661	660	-46	-1	136,786	4.8
Dublin South Central	345	331	327	-18	-4	70,259	4.7
Mayo	142	145	145	3	0	31,911	4.5
Cavan/Monaghan	159	167	164	5	-3	37,336	4.4
Louth/Meath	422	423	418	-4	-5	96,531	4.3
Midlands	321	340	344	23	4	80,962	4.2
Galway/Roscommon	355	349	344	-11	-5	81,799	4.2
Dublin North	385	415	417	32	2	104,281	4.0
DSW/K/WW	391	419	419	28	0	108,927	3.8
Dublin South East/Wicklow	195	207	210	15	3	91,047	2.3
Total Areas	5,614	5,674	5,677	63	3	1,218,567	4.7
SCSIP	NA	110	118		8		
Total National	5,614	5,784	5,795		11		

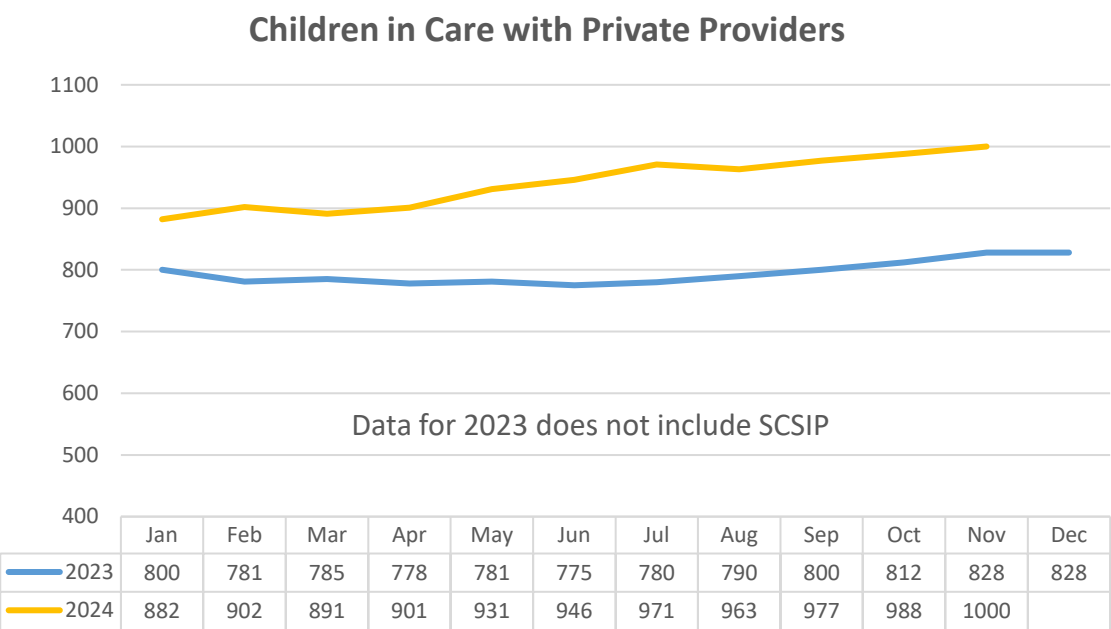
Population: CSO Census 2022

Notes:

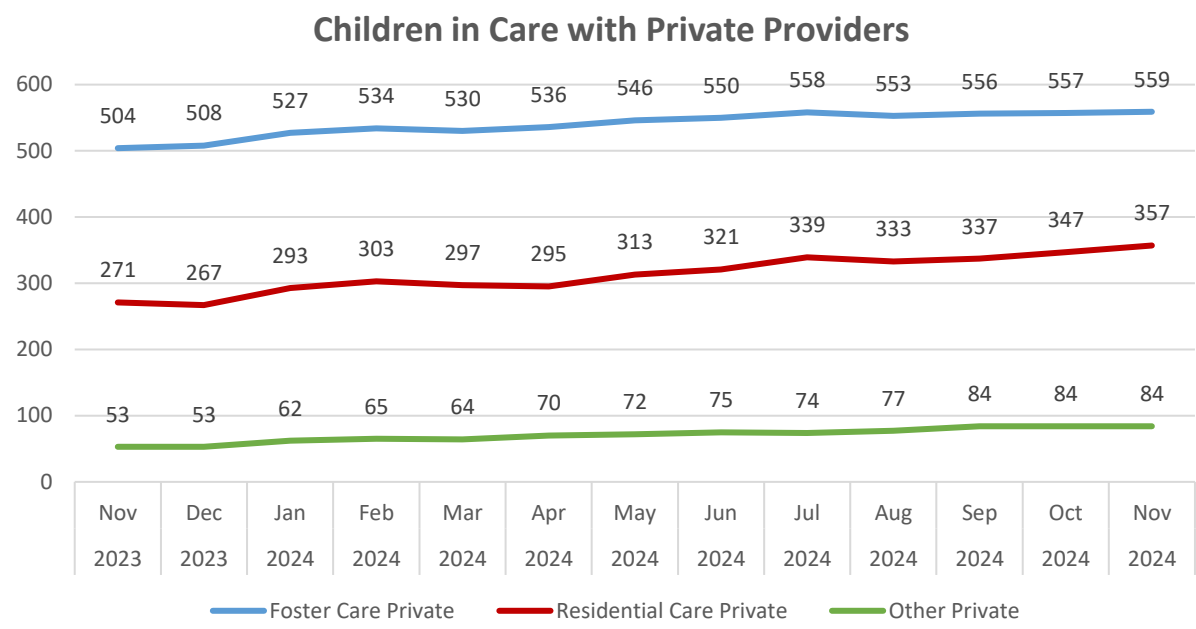
1. The Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection has an additional **312 children accommodated under Section 5 Child Care Act 1991**.
2. ***Other care placements** includes children at home under a care order, in a detention centre, disability unit, mental health unit, drugs/alcohol rehabilitation unit, hospital, special emergency arrangement, supported lodgings etc.

Children in Care

- 1,000 (17%) children in care at the end of November 2024 were in placements with private providers, 12 (1%) more than October 2024 (988).



- 559 (56%) children in placements with private providers were in **foster care**, two more than October 2024 (557).
- 357 (36%) children were in **residential care**, 10 (3%) more than October 2024 (347).
- The remaining **84 (8.4%)** children were in **“Other” care placements**, no change from November 2024. *“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 (127) followed by Dublin North (118), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (116), Dublin South Central (114) and Midlands (86). These five areas account for 56% (561) of children in placements with private providers.



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

Children in Care with Private Providers

Children in Care (Private)	Nov-23	Oct-24	Nov-24	Nov-24 v Nov-23	Nov-24 v Oct-24
Dublin North City	100	123	127	27	4
Dublin North	95	115	118	23	3
DSW/K/WW	104	120	116	12	-4
Dublin South Central	111	116	114	3	-2
Midlands	65	83	86	21	3
SCSIP	NA	62	66	-	4
Cork	63	55	57	-6	2
Dublin South East/Wicklow	50	54	54	4	0
Louth/Meath	49	54	54	5	0
Waterford/Wexford	48	50	51	3	1
Midwest	34	41	40	6	-1
Kerry	29	33	32	3	-1
CW/KK/ST	22	22	23	1	1
Donegal	23	21	22	-1	1
Galway/Roscommon	15	18	17	2	-1
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	12	12	14	2	2
Cavan/Monaghan	6	8	8	2	0
Mayo	2	1	1	-1	0
Total	828	988	1000	-	12

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

Children in Care

- **86% (4,957) of children in care at the end of November 2024 had an allocated worker** with two areas reporting 100% (Donegal and Mayo), up one percentage point from October 2024 (85%).

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

- A total of 838 children were awaiting allocation, 37 (4%) fewer than October 2024 (875).
- Highest number awaiting allocation reported by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (205; 66%) followed by Midwest (161; 33%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (119; 28%), Louth/Meath (66 ; 16%) and Dublin South Central (64; 20%). These five areas account for 73% (615) of all cases awaiting allocation.

- **84% (4,880) of children in care at the end of November 2024 had an up-to-date care plan, down one percentage point from October 2024 (85%).**
- A total of 915 children were awaiting an up-to-date care plan, 41 (5%) more than October 2024 (874).
- Highest numbers awaiting an up-to-date care plan reported by Dublin South Central (116; 35%), Midwest (101; 20%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (96; 23%), Dublin North City (92; 20%) and Cork (92; 14%).

Area breakdown of children in care with an allocated worker –November 2024

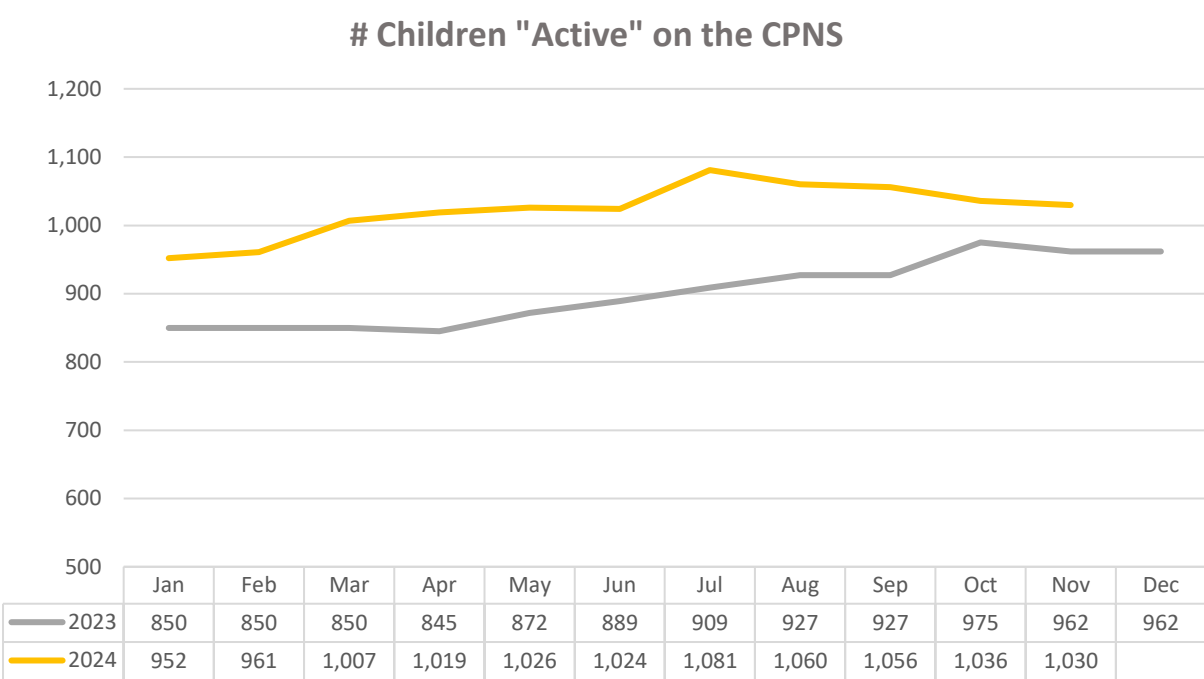
Area	Allocated	Awaiting Allocation	Total	% Allocated
Dublin South East/Wicklow	209	1	210	99.9%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	300	119	419	72%
Dublin South Central	263	64	327	80%
Midlands	285	59	344	83%
Dublin North City	429	34	463	93%
Dublin North	387	30	417	93%
Louth/Meath	352	66	418	84%
Cavan/Monaghan	153	11	164	93%
Kerry	162	10	172	94%
Cork	649	11	660	98%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	105	205	310	34%
Waterford/Wexford	387	47	434	89%
Donegal	237	0	237	100%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	113	7	120	94%
Mayo	145	0	145	100%
Galway/Roscommon	338	6	344	98%
Midwest	332	161	493	67%
SCSIP	111	7	118	94%
Total	4957	838	5795	86%

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

Area	UTD Care Plan	Awaiting UTD Care Plan	Total	% UTD Care Plan
Dublin South East/Wicklow	171	39	210	81%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	323	96	419	77%
Dublin South Central	211	116	327	65%
Midlands	341	3	344	99%
Dublin North City	371	92	463	80%
Dublin North	354	63	417	85%
Louth/Meath	330	88	418	79%
Cavan/Monaghan	145	19	164	88%
Kerry	153	19	172	89%
Cork	568	92	660	86%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	291	19	310	94%
Waterford/Wexford	406	28	434	94%
Donegal	217	20	237	92%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	107	13	120	89%
Mayo	133	12	145	92%
Galway/Roscommon	299	45	344	87%
Midwest	392	101	493	80%
SCSIP	68	50	118	58%
Total	4880	915	5795	84%

Child Protection Notification System

- **1,030 children listed as “active”** on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) at the end of November 2024, 6 (<1%) fewer than October 2024 (1,036), fourth consecutive monthly decrease.
- There were 68 (7%) more children “active” at the end of November 2024 than at the end of November 2023 (962).
- All children listed as “active” at the end of November 2024 had an **allocated social worker**.
- Highest number of children listed as “active” at the end of November 2024 was reported by Midlands (118) followed by Dublin North City (113), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (106), Midwest (97) and Dublin South Central (107).
- Fewest number listed as “active” reported by Cavan/Monaghan (15) followed by Mayo (20) and Kerry (24).
- The number of children “active” equates to about 9 children per 10,000 under 18 years.
- Highest rate per 10,000 population under 18 years reported by Dublin North City (23.1) followed by Midlands (14.6) and Dublin South Central (13.0).
- Lowest rates reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (3.6) and Cavan/Monaghan (4.0)
- Seven areas reported a rate equal to or higher than the national rate of 8.5/10,000
- 9/17 areas had more children listed as “active” at the end of November 2024 than at the end of October 2024. Largest increases reported by Donegal (up 8), Dublin North (up 7) and Dublin North City (up 6).
- 7/17 areas reported a decrease with the largest decreases reported by Midwest (down 14), Galway/Roscommon (down 10) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 7). The remaining area (Waterford/Wexford) reported no change.
- 10/17 areas had more children active at the end of November 2024 than at the end of November 2023. Largest increases reported by Midlands (up 59), Dublin South Central (up 47), Midwest (up 26), Galway/Roscommon (up 25).
- 7/17 areas reported a decrease. Largest decreases reported by Dublin North (down 43), Cork (down 33) and Donegal (down 32).



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

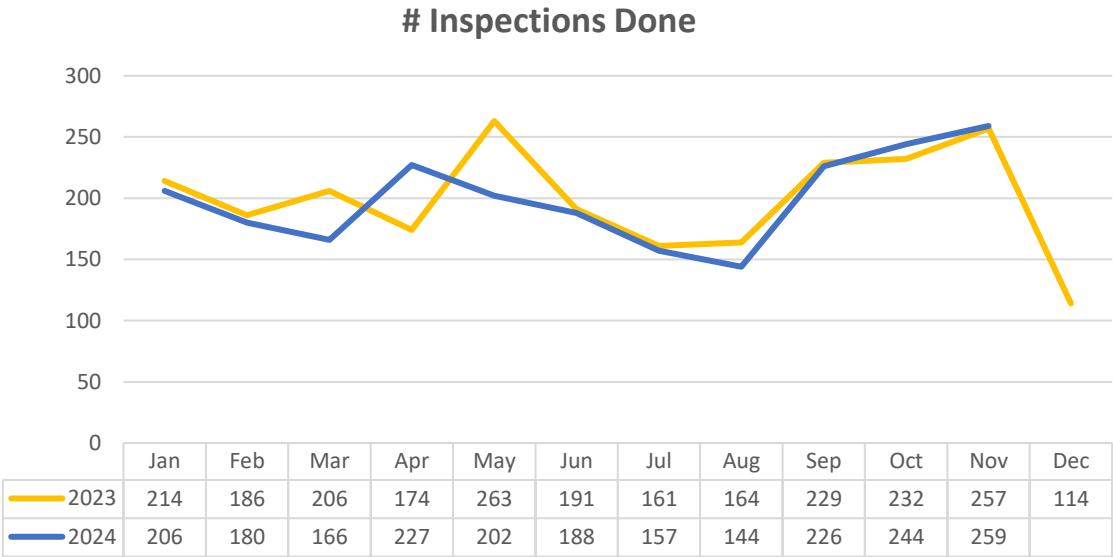
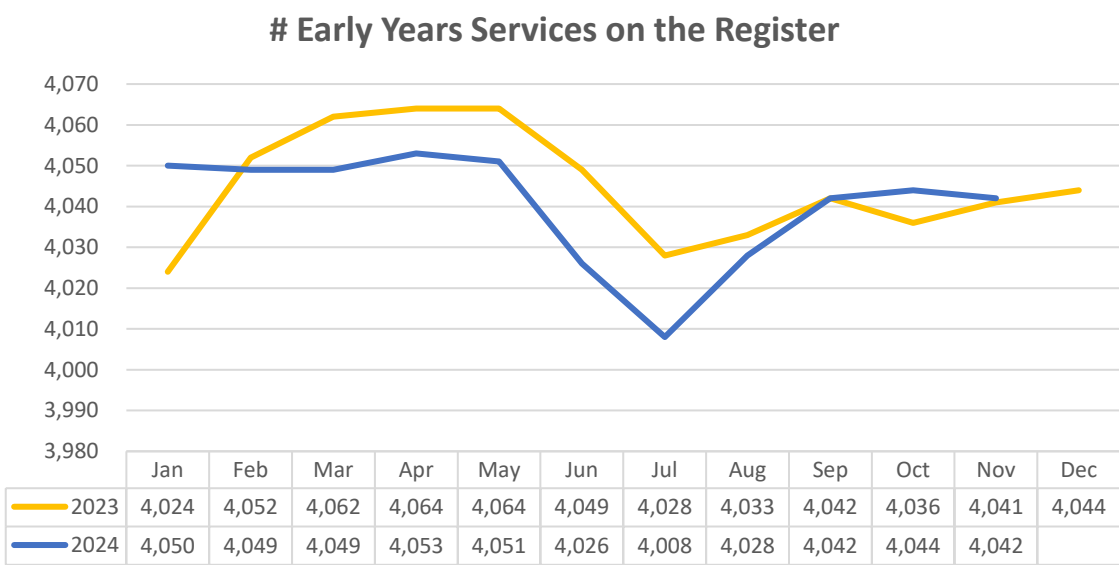
Area	Nov-23	Oct-24	Nov-24	Nov-24 v Nov-23	Nov-24 v Oct-24	Pop	Rate / 10,000
Dublin North City	91	107	113	22	6	48,909	23.1
Midlands	59	114	118	59	4	80,962	14.6
Dublin South Central	44	93	91	47	-2	70,259	13.0
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	24	24	27	3	3	24,312	11.1
Mid West	71	111	97	26	-14	96,764	10.0
DSW/K/WW	100	113	106	6	-7	108,927	9.7
Carlow / Kilkenny / South Tipperary	45	59	58	13	-1	62,366	9.3
Donegal	65	25	33	-32	8	42,144	7.8
Kerry	28	22	24	-4	2	34,994	6.9
Galway / Roscommon	30	65	55	25	-10	81,799	6.7
Cork	121	94	88	-33	-6	136,786	6.4
Mayo	24	17	20	-4	3	31,911	6.3
Louth / Meath	55	58	59	4	1	96,531	6.1
Dublin North	105	55	62	-43	7	104,281	5.9
Waterford / Wexford	48	31	31	-17	0	69,239	4.5
Cavan / Monaghan	9	20	15	6	-5	37,336	4.0
Dublin South East / Wicklow	43	28	33	-10	5	91,047	3.6
Total	962	1,036	1,030	68	-6	1,218,567	8.5

Children’s Services Regulation

EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

- **4,042 early years services on the register at the end of November 2024**, two fewer than October 2024 (4,044) and one more than November 2023 (4,041).

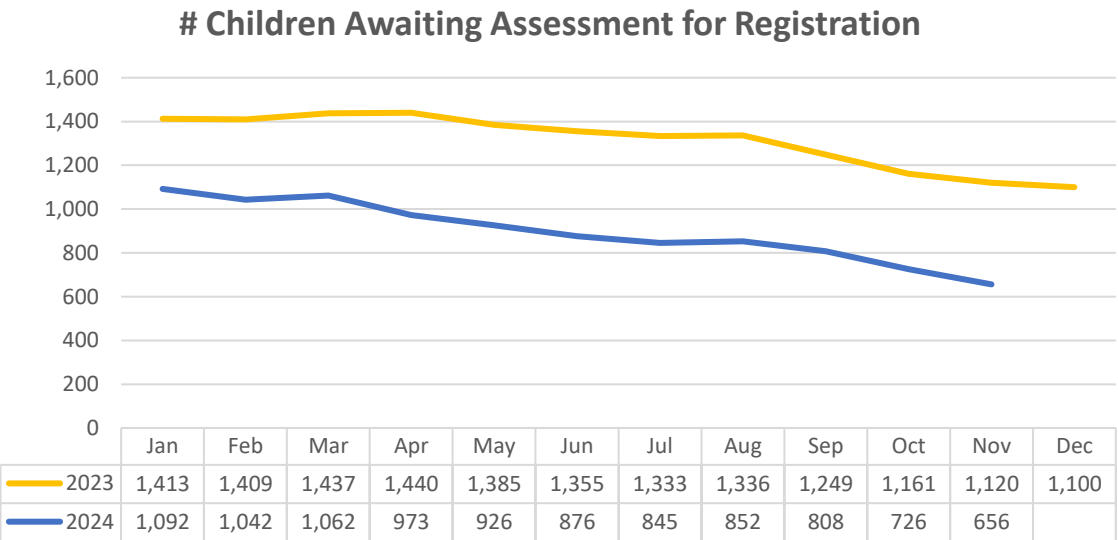
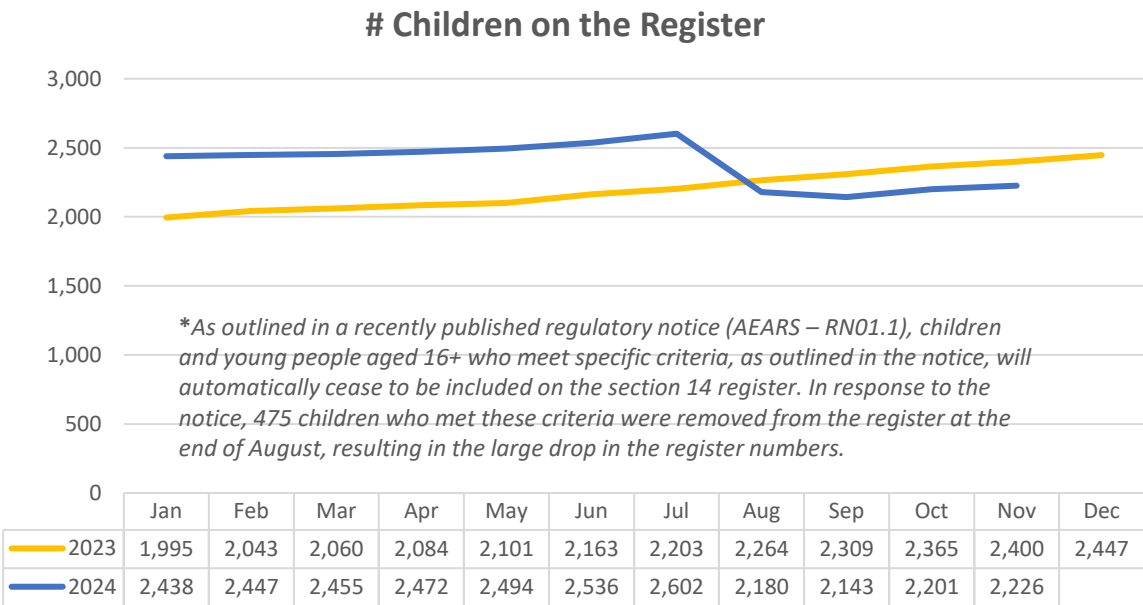
- **259 inspections** of early years services in November 2024. This brings to 2,199 the number of inspections for the first 11 months of 2024, 78 (3%) fewer than the same period in 2023 (2,277).



ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION SERVICE

- **2,226 children on the register** for home education at the end of November 2024, 25 (1%) more than October 2024 (2,201).

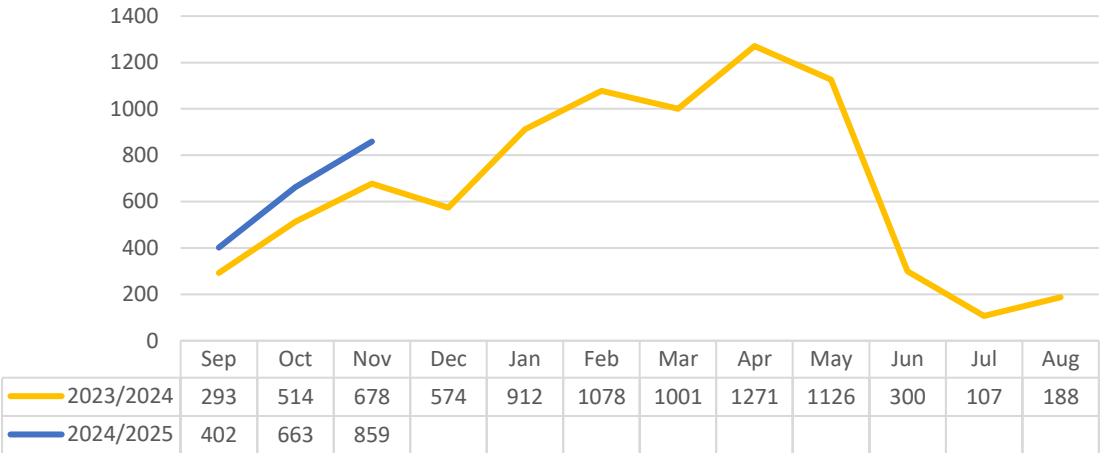
- **656 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of November 2024**, 70 (10%) fewer than October 2024 (726) and 464 (41%) fewer than November 2023 (1,120).



Tusla Education Support Services

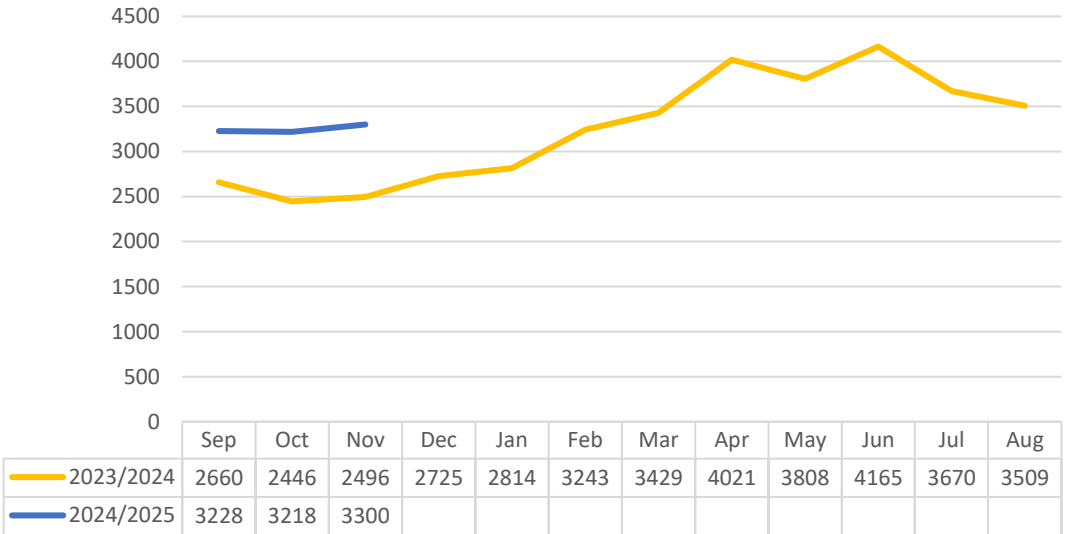
- **859 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in November 2024. This brings to 1,924 the number of referrals for the first three months of the academic year 2024 – 2025, some 439 (30%) more than the same period in the previous academic year (1,485).

Referrals for Educational Welfare Service



- **3,300 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of November 2024, 82 (3%) more than October 2024 (3,218).
- 804 (32%) more referrals on a waiting list at the end of November 2024 (3,300) than at the end of November 2023 (2,496).

Referrals on a Waiting List at Month End



- **387 new individual children worked with** in November 2024. This brings to 1,205 the number of new individual children worked with in the first three months of the academic year 2024-2025, some 29 (2%) more than the previous academic year (1,176).

Number of New Individual Children Worked with in the Month

