



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

MONTHLY SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT

OCTOBER 2023

05 December 2023
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 – October 2023

Child Protection & Welfare

- 7,947 referrals in October 2023, 70 (1%) more than September 2023 (7,877) and 796 (11%) more than October 2022 (7,151). This brings to 76,716 the number of referrals for the first 10 months of 2023, 8,147 (12%) more than the same period in 2022 (68,569).
- 22,516 cases open to social work at the end of October 2023, 153 (1%) more than September 2023 (22,363) and 356 (2%) more than October 2022 (22,160). *Note: comparison of data from September 2023 with previous months needs to be interpreted with caution due to the inclusion of cases awaiting categorisation from September 2023. Refer to note on page 4.*
- 77% (17,236) of cases open to social work at the end of October 2023 had an allocated social worker.
- 5,280 cases awaiting allocation of a social worker at the end of October 2023, 110 (2%) fewer than September 2023 (5,390) and 1,403 (21%) fewer than January 2023 when a high of 6,683 was reported.
- Six areas account for 68% (3,602) of cases awaiting allocation: Dublin South Central (1,038), Cork (834), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (589), (Louth/Meath (426), Waterford/Wexford (426) and Midwest (289).
- 9% (484) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of October 2023 were categorised as high priority, two more than September 2023 (482) and 97 (25%) more than October 2022 (387).

Children in Care

- 5,576 children in care at the end of October 2023. *Note: this data does not include children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection*
- Across the 17 Tusla areas there were 18 more children in care at the end of October 2023 than at the end of September 2023 (5,558) and 88 (2%) fewer than the same period in 2022 (5,664).
- 812 (15%) children in care at the end of October 2023 were in placements with private providers..
- Across the 17 Tusla areas there were 12 (2%) more children in care with private providers at the end of October 2023 than at the end of September 2023 (800).
- 80% (4,475) of children in care at the end of October 2023 had an allocated social worker, up one percentage point from September 2023 (79%).
- Across the 17 areas, a total of 1,101 children were awaiting an allocated social worker, 76 (6%) fewer than September 2023 (1,177).

Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)

- 975 children listed as “active” at the end of October 2023, 48 (5%) more than September 2023.
- There were 111 (13%) more children “active” at the end of October 2023 than at the end of October 2022 (864).
- All children listed as “active” at the end of October 2023 had an allocated social worker.

Children’s Services Regulation

- 4,036 early years services on the register at the end of October 2023, six fewer than September 2023 (4,042) and 38 (<1%) fewer than October 2022 (4,074).
- 232 inspections of early years services done in October 2023. This brings to 2,020 the number of inspections for the first 10 months of 2023, 106 (5%) fewer than the same period in 2022 (2,126).
- 2,365 children on the register for home education at the end of October 2023, 56 (2%) more than September 2023 (2,309) and 441 (23%) more than October 2022 (1,924).
- 1,161 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of October 2023, 88 (7%) fewer than September 2023 (1,249) and 354 (23%) fewer than October 2022 (1,515).

Tusla Education Support Services

- 514 referrals screened by senior educational welfare services in October 2023, 221 (75%) more than September 2023 (293). This brings to 807 the number of referrals for the first two months of the academic year 2023-2024, 77 (9%) fewer than the same period in 2022-2023 (884).
- 2,446 referrals on a waiting list for educational welfare services at the end of October 2023, 214 (8%) fewer than September 2023 (2,660). Fourth consecutive decrease after seventh consecutive increases.
- 401 new individual children worked with in October 2023, 76 (23%) more than September 2023 (325). This brings to 726 the number of new individual children worked with for the first two months of the academic year 2023-2024, 74 (11%) fewer than the same period in 2022-2023 (652).

Child Protection and Welfare

Referrals¹

- **7,947 referrals** in October 2023, 70 (1%) more than September 2023 (7,877) and 796 (11%) more than October 2022 (7,151). This brings to 76,716 the number of referrals for the first 10 months of 2023, 8,147 (12%) more than the same period in 2022 (68,569).

It should be noted that the data presented for January – June 2023 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for remainder of 2023 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

- **22,516 cases open to social work** at the end of October 2023, 153 (1%) more than September 2023 (22,363) and 356 (2%) more than October 2022 (22,160). *Open cases from September 2023 include cases awaiting categorisation. See note below.*

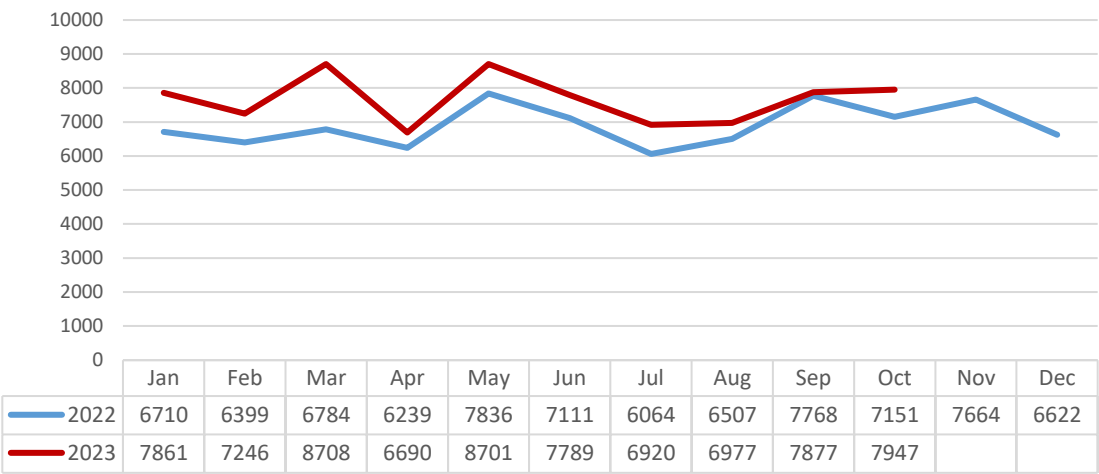
Notes:

- 1) *From September 2023, open cases (allocated/unallocated) include cases “awaiting categorisation” at month end. This is in addition to cases categorised as high, medium and low. The category “awaiting categorisation” was introduced this year to reflect better questions being asked at screening and awaiting information for slightly longer.*
- 2) *Open cases include, all cases held on duty, allocated and unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care.*
- 3) *The data presented on cases is based on the status of cases on the TCM at month end.*

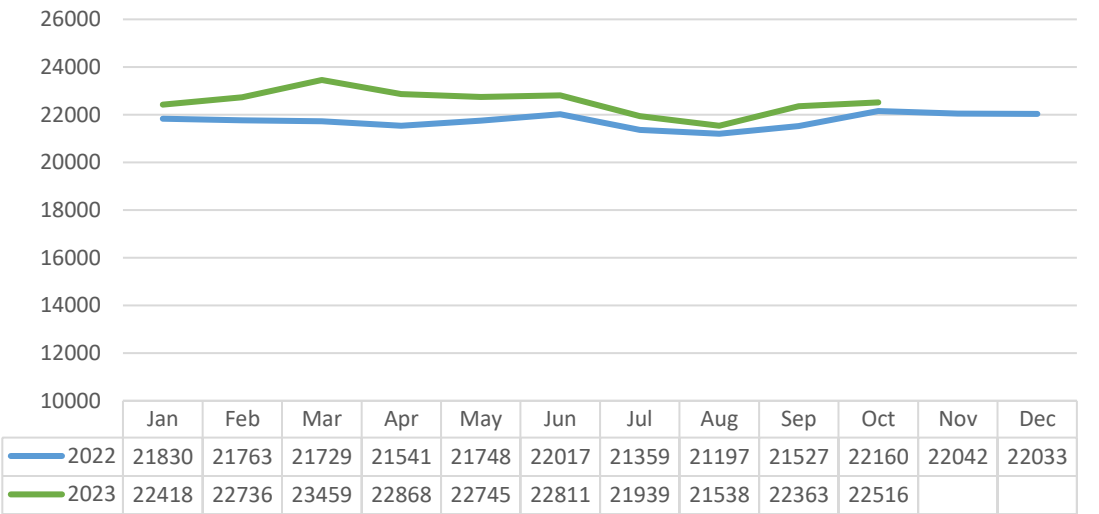
Allocated Cases

- **17,236 open cases were allocated** to a social worker at the end of October 2023, 263 (2%) more than September 2023 (16,973) and 1,045 (6%) more than October 2022 (16,191). *Note: comparison of data from September 2023 with previous months needs to be interpreted with caution due to the inclusion of cases awaiting categorisation from September 2023. Refer to notes above.*
- Allocated cases account for 77% of open cases, up one percentage point from September 2023 (76%) and four percentage points from October 2022 (73%).

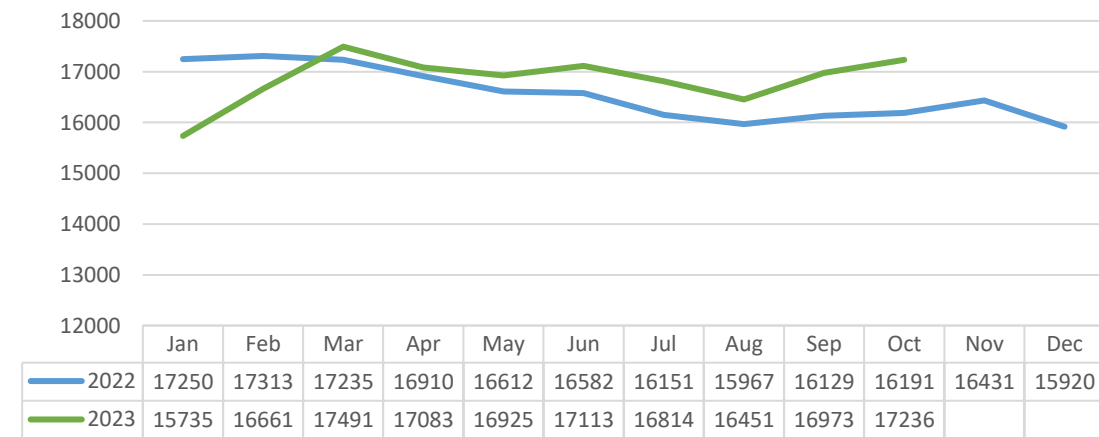
Number of Referrals



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).

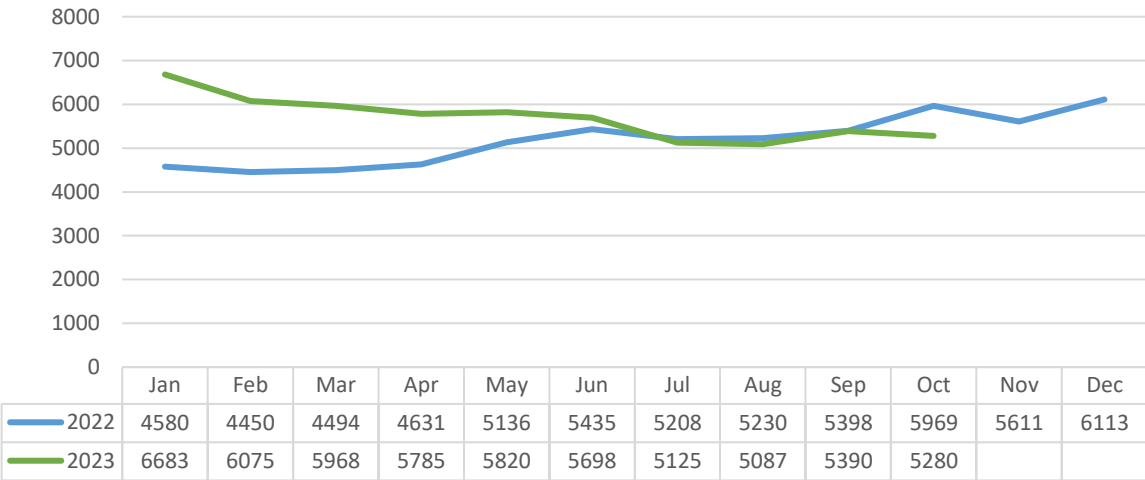
Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation of a Social Worker

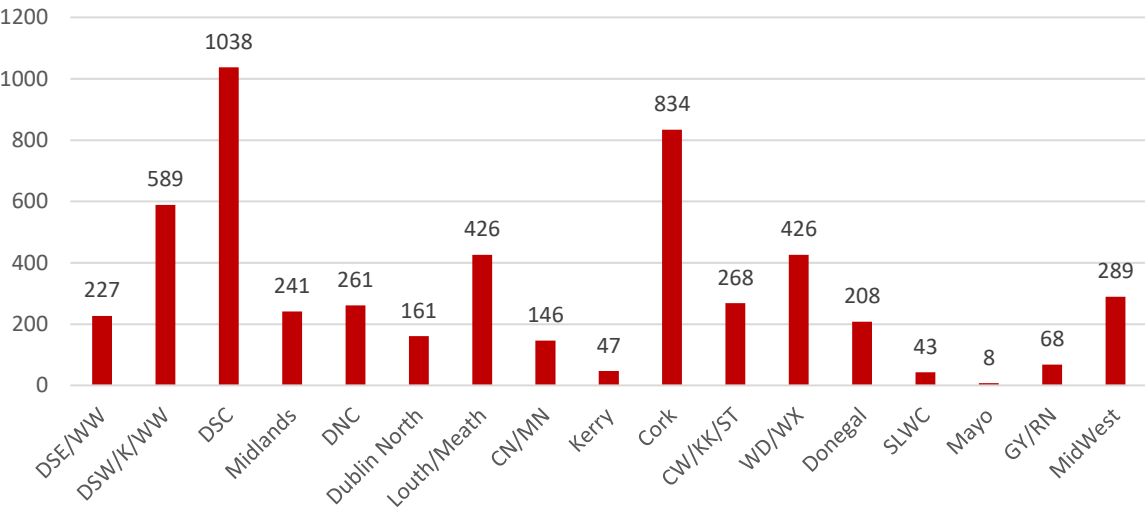
Cases awaiting allocation include cases held on duty, unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care

- **5,280 cases awaiting allocation of a social worker** at the end of October 2023, 110 (2%) fewer than September 2023 (5,390). *Note: comparison of data from September 2023 with August 2023 and previous months needs to be interpreted with caution due to the inclusion of cases awaiting categorisation from September 2023. Refer to notes on previous page.*
- There were 689 (12%) fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of October 2023 than at the end of October 2022 (5,969) and 1,403 (21%) fewer than January 2023 when a high of 6,683 was reported.
- Cases awaiting allocation account for 23% of open cases (22,516), down one percentage point from September 2023 (24%).
- 60% (3,170) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of October 2023 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 (1,038) followed by Cork (834), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (589), (Louth/Meath (426), Waterford/Wexford (426) and Midwest (289). These six areas account for 68% (3,602) of all cases awaiting allocation.
- 484 cases awaiting allocation at the end of October 2023 were categorised as high priority, two more than September 2023 (482) and 97 (25%) more than October 2022 (387).
- High priority cases account for 9% of cases awaiting allocation.
- 56% (2,949) of cases awaiting allocation were categorised at medium priority, 33% (1,737) were low priority while the remaining 2% (110) were awaiting categorisation.
- Highest number of high priority cases reported by Dublin South Central (71), Louth/Meath (63). DSW/K/WW (51), Midlands (49), WD/WX (43) and CW/K/ST (42). These six areas account for 66% (319) of all high priority cases awaiting.

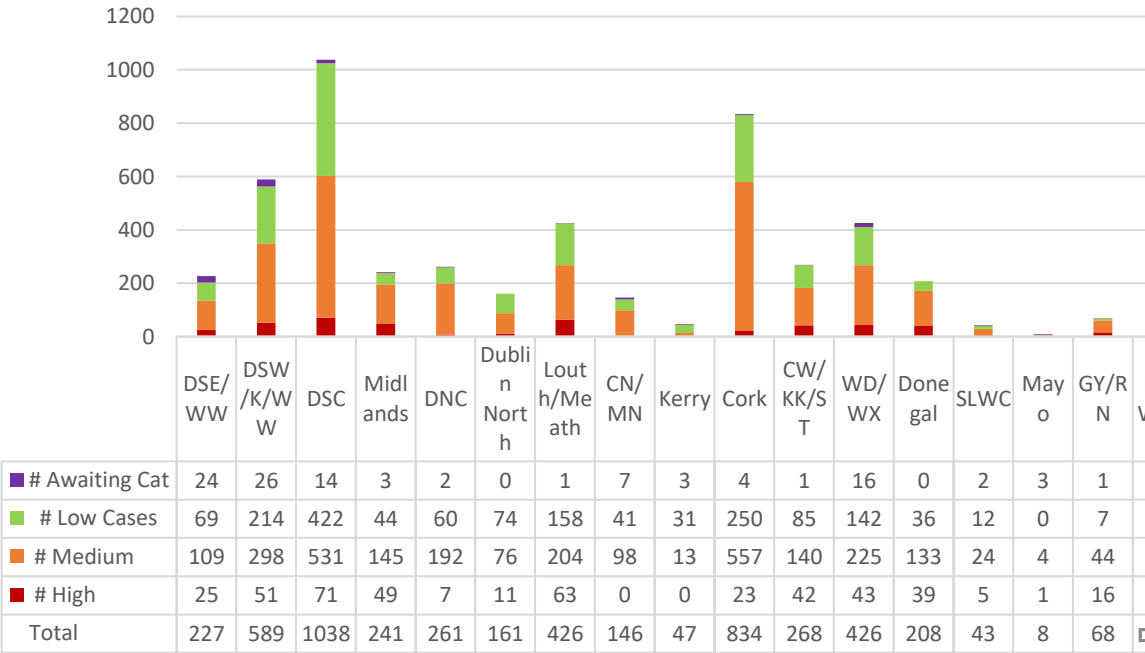
Number of Unallocated Cases



Number of Unallocated Cases



Number Unallocated Cases by Priority Level



Child Protection & Welfare

Cases Awaiting Allocation

- 8/17 areas reported a decrease in unallocated cases from September 2023.
- Largest decreases reported by Donegal (down 111; 35%), Waterford/Wexford (down 105; 20%), Dublin North (down 66; 29%) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 41; 7%).
- 8/17 areas reported an increase, in unallocated cases from September 2023. The largest increases were reported by Louth/Meath (up 106; 33%), Cork (51; 7%), Midlands (40; 20%) and Dublin South Central (29; 3%).
- The remaining area (Dublin South East/Wicklow) reported no change, from September 2023.
- Nationally 23% of open cases were unallocated at the end of October 2023. Seven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 23%, Dublin South Central (49%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (35%), Louth/Meath (31%), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (31%), Cork (30%), Waterford/Wexford (28%) and Donegal (24%).
- 11/17 areas had fewer cases awaiting allocation at the end of October 2023 than at the end of October 2022. Largest decreases reported by Dublin North City (down 438; 63%), Dublin North (down 255; 61%), Waterford/Wexford (down 231; 35%), Dublin South East/Wicklow (down 210; 48%), DSW/K/WW (down 140; 19%) and CW/K/ST (down 118; 31%).
- Of the six areas that reported an increase, the largest increase was reported by Dublin South Central (up 275; 36%), Cork (up 217; 35%), Midwest (up 183; 173%) and Louth/Meath (up 118; 38%).

Area	Oct-22 # Unallocated	Oct-22 % Unallocated	Aug-23 # Unallocated	Sep-23 # Unallocated	Oct-23 # Unallocated	Oct-23 % Unallocated	Aug-Oct	Oct-23 v Oct-22	% Δ	Oct-23 v Sep- 23	% Δ1
DSE/WW	437	41%	219	227	227	20%		-210	-48%	0	0%
DSW/K/WW	729	39%	625	630	589	35%		-140	-19%	-41	-7%
DSC	763	52%	950	1009	1038	49%		275	36%	29	3%
Midlands	223	12%	219	201	241	14%		18	8%	40	20%
DNC	699	36%	229	285	261	15%		-438	-63%	-24	-8%
Dublin North	416	18%	272	227	161	7%		-255	-61%	-66	-29%
Louth/Meath	308	23%	299	320	426	31%		118	38%	106	33%
CN/MN	102	17%	134	126	146	21%		44	43%	20	16%
Kerry	97	16%	29	46	47	12%		-50	-52%	1	2%
Cork	617	25%	802	783	834	30%		217	35%	51	7%
CW/KK/ST	386	42%	248	282	268	31%		-118	-31%	-14	-5%
WD/WX	657	32%	476	531	426	28%		-231	-35%	-105	-20%
Donegal	263	34%	211	319	208	24%		-55	-21%	-111	-35%
SLWC	44	13%	66	56	43	11%		-1	-2%	-13	-23%
Mayo	29	7%	14	14	8	2%		-21	-72%	-6	-43%
GY/RN	93	10%	53	62	68	6%		-25	-27%	6	10%
MidWest	106	9%	241	272	289	22%		183	173%	17	6%
TOTAL	5969	27%	5087	5390	5280	23%		-689	-12%	-110	-2%

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

Child Protection & Welfare

Summary Tables

Referrals				Open Cases			Allocated Cases			Unallocated Cases		
Area	Sep-23	Oct-23	Δ	Sep-23	Oct-23	Δ2	Sep-23	Oct-23	Δ3	Sep-23	Oct-23	Δ4
DSE/WW	311	290	-21	1,050	1,119	69	823	892	69	227	227	0
DSW/K/WW	824	832	8	1,684	1,668	-16	1,054	1,079	25	630	589	-41
DSC	570	672	102	2,049	2,125	76	1,040	1,087	47	1009	1,038	29
Midlands	703	785	82	1,830	1,743	-87	1,629	1,502	-127	201	241	40
DNC	516	435	-81	1,725	1,794	69	1,440	1,533	93	285	261	-24
Dublin North	764	673	-91	2,368	2,339	-29	2,141	2,178	37	227	161	-66
Louth/Meath	662	733	71	1,257	1,382	125	937	956	19	320	426	106
CN/MN	225	247	22	682	692	10	556	546	-10	126	146	20
Kerry	237	220	-17	424	385	-39	378	338	-40	46	47	1
Cork	689	809	120	2,753	2,819	66	1,970	1,985	15	783	834	51
CW/KK/ST	345	361	16	927	872	-55	645	604	-41	282	268	-14
WD/WX	539	464	-75	1,568	1,514	-54	1,037	1,088	51	531	426	-105
Donegal	283	233	-50	868	870	2	549	662	113	319	208	-111
SLWC	148	154	6	350	384	34	294	341	47	56	43	-13
Mayo	105	104	-1	394	405	11	380	397	17	14	8	-6
GY/RN	355	360	5	1,140	1,096	-44	1,078	1,028	-50	62	68	6
MidWest	601	575	-26	1,294	1,309	15	1,022	1,020	-2	272	289	17
Total	7,877	7,947	70	22,363	22,516	153	16,973	17,236	263	5,390	5,280	-110

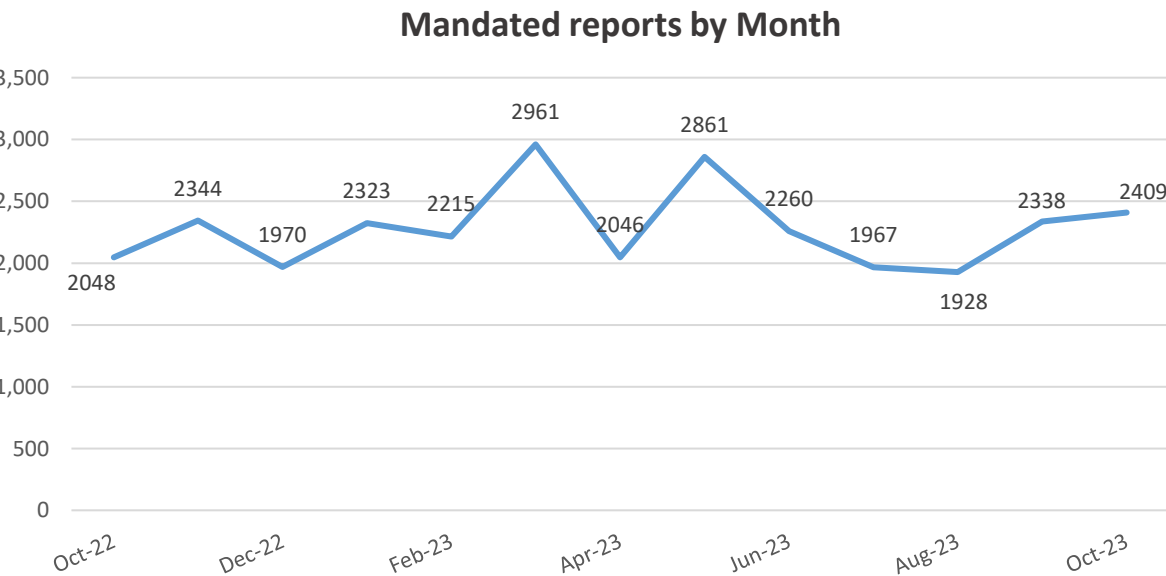
High Priority Awaiting				Medium Priority Awaiting			Low Priority Awaiting			Awaiting Categorisation		
Area	Sep-23	Oct-23	Δ	Sep-23	Oct-23	Δ 2	Sep-23	Oct-23	Δ 3	Sep-23	Oct-23	Δ 4
DSE/WW	24	25	1	114	109	-5	83	69	-14	6	24	18
DSW/K/WW	33	51	18	327	298	-29	245	214	-31	25	26	1
DSC	69	71	2	561	531	-30	355	422	67	24	14	-10
Midlands	51	49	-2	115	145	30	33	44	11	2	3	1
DNC	1	7	6	203	192	-11	76	60	-16	5	2	-3
Dublin North	13	11	-2	107	76	-31	107	74	-33	0	0	0
Louth/Meath	69	63	-6	182	204	22	67	158	91	2	1	-1
CN/MN	1	0	-1	98	98	0	23	41	18	4	7	3
Kerry	6	0	-6	9	13	4	31	31	0	0	3	3
Cork	30	23	-7	516	557	41	235	250	15	2	4	2
CW/KK/ST	31	42	11	156	140	-16	93	85	-8	2	1	-1
WD/WX	33	43	10	343	225	-118	146	142	-4	9	16	7
Donegal	72	39	-33	192	133	-59	53	36	-17	2	0	-2
SLWC	6	5	-1	35	24	-11	14	12	-2	1	2	1
Mayo	4	1	-3	5	4	-1	0	0	0	5	3	-2
GY/RN	16	16	0	42	44	2	4	7	3	0	1	1
MidWest	23	38	15	157	156	-1	90	92	2	2	3	1
TOTAL	482	484	2	3,162	2,949	-213	1,655	1,737	82	91	110	19

Mandated Reports¹ – Child Protection & Welfare

- **2,409 mandated reports of abuse** received in October 2023, 71 (3%) more than September 2023 (2,338). This brings to 23,308 the number of reports for the first 10 months of 2023, 4,549 (24%) more than the same period in 2022 (18,759).

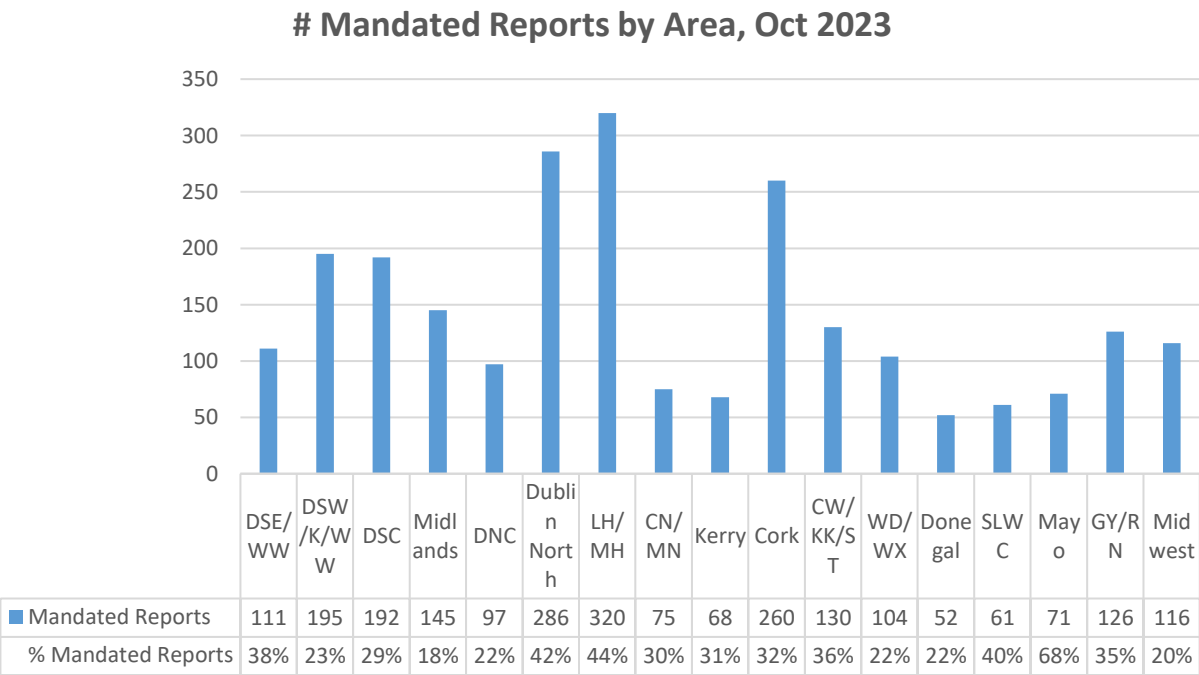
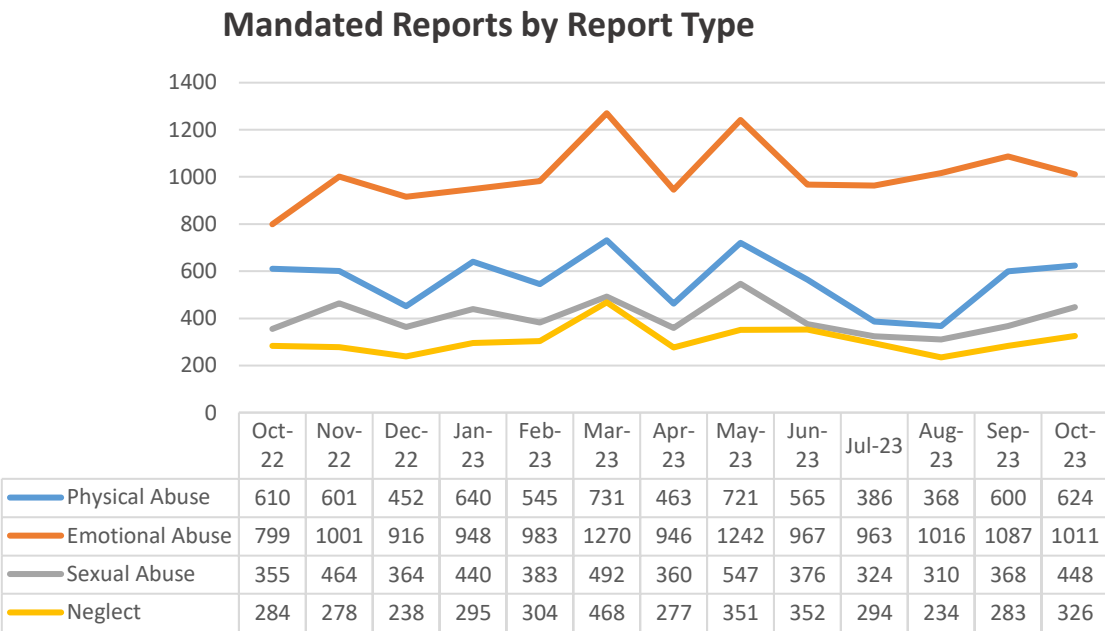
It should be noted that the data presented for Jan-Jun 2023 has been updated to reflect final validated figures for this period. Data for the remaining months of 2023 is based on referrals logged on the Tusla Case Management (TCM) system at the time the data was extracted for reporting. Referrals logged after the date the data was extracted are not included, nor are figures updated until quarterly validation is complete.

- Mandated reports accounted for 30% (2,409) of all referrals received (7,947) in October 2023.



- The number of mandated reports for October 2023, by area ranged from 52 (Donegal) to 320 (Louth/Meath).
- As a percentage of referrals, the highest percentage (68%) was reported by Mayo followed by Louth/Meath (44%).
- The lowest percentages were reported by Midlands (18%) and Midwest (20%),

- Highest number of reports for October 2023 were for emotional abuse (1,011; 42%) followed by physical abuse (624; 26%), sexual abuse (448; 19%) and neglect (326; 14%).



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

Mandated Reports – Child Protection & Welfare

Source of Reports

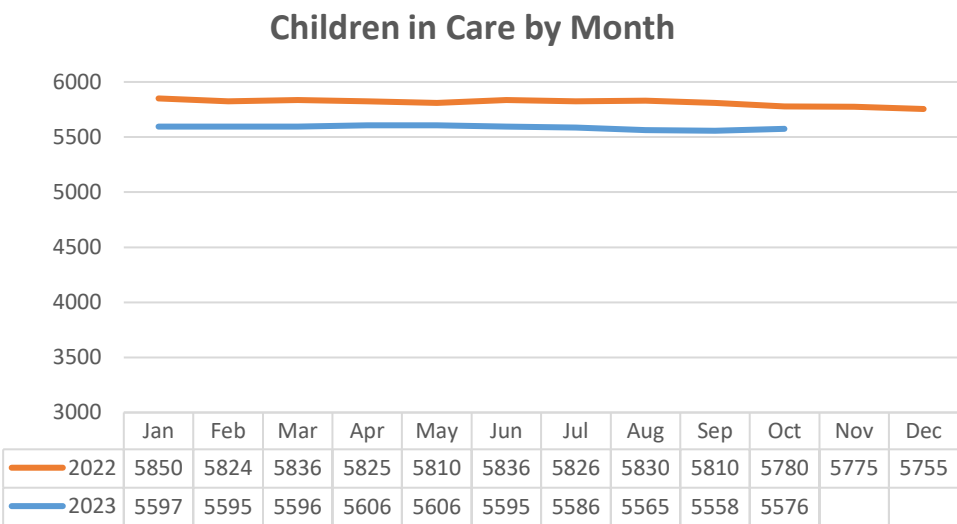
- Highest number of reports for October 2023 from An Garda Síochána (877; 36%) followed by teachers (483; 20%), social workers (277; 12%), safeguarding officers (248; 10%), social care workers (86; 4%), medical practitioners (82; 3%), psychologists (61; 2.5%) and managers of domestic violence shelters (60; 2.5%). These eight sources account for 90% (2,174) of reports for October 2023.
- Highest number of reports for 2023 YTD from An Garda Síochána (9,414; 40%) followed by teachers (3,442; 15%), social workers (2,713; 12%), safeguarding officers (2,237; 10%), social care workers (1,082; 5%), medical practitioners (860; 4%) and psychotherapists (681; 3%). These seven sources account for 88% (20,429) of reports or 2023 YTD.

*Values suppressed for confidentiality purposes

Source	# Oct 2023	% Oct 2023	Total YTD 2023	Total YTD 2023
Medical practitioner (Registered)	82	3.4%	860	3.7%
Nurse or registered midwife (Registered)	51	2.1%	466	2.0%
Physiotherapist (Registered)	7	0.3%	59	0.3%
Speech & language therapist (Registered)	7	0.3%	47	0.2%
Occupational therapist (Registered)	8	0.3%	74	0.3%
Registered dentist	*	*	7	0.0%
Psychologist who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	61	2.5%	535	2.3%
Social care worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	86	3.6%	1,082	4.6%
Social worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration	277	11.5%	2,713	11.6%
EMT, paramedic and advanced paramedic registered with the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council	*	*	31	0.1%
Probation officer within the meaning of section 1 of the Criminal Justice (Community Service) Act 1983.	15	0.6%	59	0.3%
Teacher registered with the Teaching Council.	483	20.0%	3,442	14.8%
An Garda Síochána Member	877	36.4%	9,414	40.4%
Guardian ad litem appointed in accordance with section 26 of the Child Care Act 1991	*	*	44	0.2%
Domestic violence shelter manager	60	2.5%	494	2.1%
Homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility manager	5	0.2%	190	0.8%
Asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre manager	5	0.2%	68	0.3%
Addiction counsellor employed by a body funded, wholly or partly, out of moneys provided by the Oireachtas	*	*	43	0.2%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling who is registered with one of the voluntary professional bodies	53	2.2%	681	2.9%
Language school or other recreational school where children reside away from home manager	0	0.0%	10	0.0%
Clergy member (howsoever described) or pastoral care worker (howsoever described) of a church or other religious community;	0	0.0%	4	0.0%
Institution where a child is detained by an order of a court (Director)	0	0.0%	17	0.1%
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;	248	10.3%	2,237	9.6%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991;	21	0.9%	84	0.4%
Youth work service - person responsible for the care or management within the meaning of section 2 of the Youth Work Act 2001	12	0.5%	189	0.8%
Youth worker holds a professional qualification and who is employed in a youth work service	42	1.7%	351	1.5%
Foster carer registered with the Agency.	*	*	16	0.1%
Pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991.	0	0.0%	91	0.4%
Total (includes suppressed values)	2,409	100.00%	23,308	100.0%

Children in Care

- **5,576 children in care at the end of October 2023.** *Note this data does not include children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection –data not available at this time.*
- Across the 17 Tusla areas there were 18 more children in care at the end of October 2023 than at the end of September 2023 (5,558) and 88 (2%) fewer than the same period in 2022 (5,664).
- 90% (5,021) of children in care are in foster care (3,528 general foster care, 1,482 relative foster care and 11 in supported lodgings¹), 7% (403) in residential care (389 general residential care and 14 special care) and 152 (3%) are in “other” care placements².

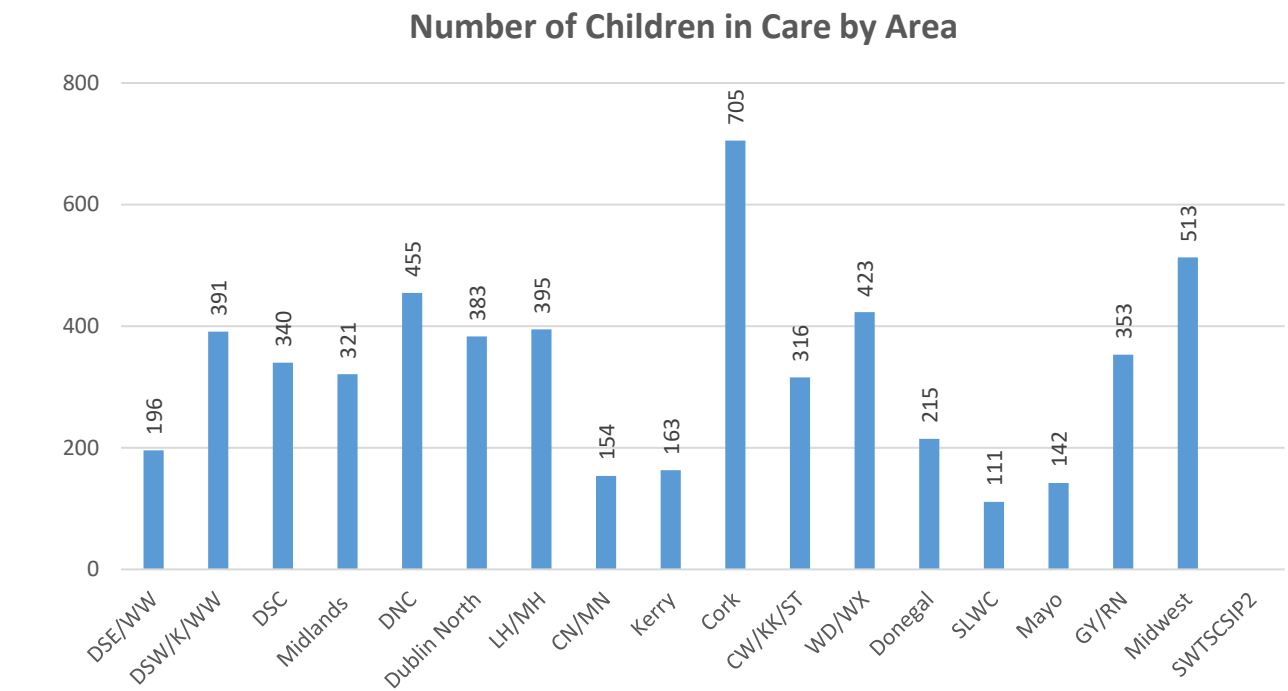


Note: data for 2023 does not include children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection.

- Highest number of children in care reported by Cork (705) followed by Midwest (513), Dublin North City (455) and Waterford/Wexford (423)
- Fewest number reported by Sligo/Leitrim West Cavan (111) followed by Mayo (142) and Cavan/Monaghan (154).
- Highest rate of children in care per 1,000 children was reported by Dublin North City (10.1) followed by Waterford/Wexford (6.2). Lowest rate reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (2.3) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (3.6).
- Nine areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 4.7/1,000 children.

¹ Supported lodgings included with foster care, previously reported under “Other” care placements. ² Other includes at home under a care order, detention centre, disability unit, mental health unit, hospital, special emergency arrangement etc.

²Other includes at home under a care order, detention centre, disability unit, mental health unit, drugs/alcohol rehabilitation unit, hospital, special emergency arrangement etc.

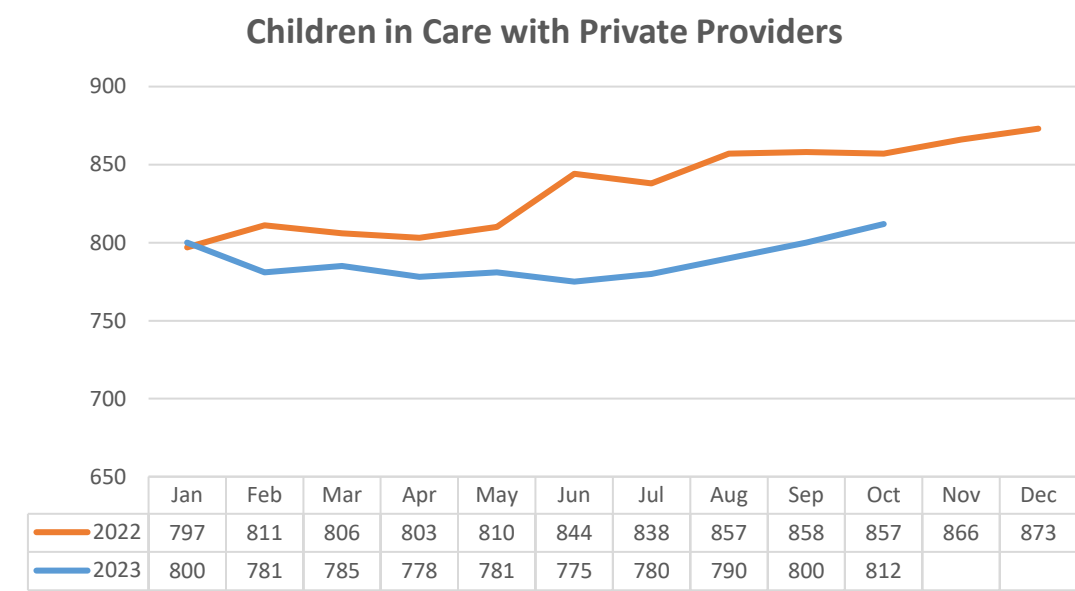


Rate of Children in Care / 1,000 population 0-17 years

Area	Oct-22	Sep-23	Oct-23	Oct-23 v Oct-22	Oct-23 v Sep-23	Population	Rate/1,000
Dublin North City	468	463	455	-13	-8	44,927	10.1
Waterford/Wexford	415	416	423	8	7	68,513	6.2
Midwest	528	501	513	-15	12	96,266	5.3
Cork	717	707	705	-12	-2	134,015	5.3
Dublin South Central	362	345	340	-22	-5	65,564	5.2
Donegal	220	214	215	-5	1	42,865	5.0
CW/KK/ST	315	308	316	1	8	63,009	5.0
Kerry	156	153	163	7	10	34,527	4.7
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	112	114	111	-1	-3	23,554	4.7
Mayo	138	144	142	4	-2	31,968	4.4
Galway/Roscommon	351	362	353	2	-9	79,912	4.4
Louth/Meath	425	399	395	-30	-4	93,093	4.2
Cavan/Monaghan	152	152	154	2	2	36,446	4.2
Midlands	323	316	321	-2	5	80,193	4.0
Dublin North	365	380	383	18	3	100,654	3.8
DSW/K/WW	410	394	391	-19	-3	108,186	3.6
Dublin South East/Wicklow	207	190	196	-11	6	86,810	2.3
Total Areas	5,664	5,558	5,576	-88	18	1,190,502	4.7

Children in Care

- **812 (15%) children in care at the end of October 2023 were in placements with private providers.** *Note: data for 2023 does not include children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection – data not available at this time.*
- Across the 17 Tusla areas there were 12 (2%) more children in care with private providers at the end of October 2023 than at the end of September 2023 (800). *Note: comparison of data from February 2023 with data for previous months needs to be interpreted with caution due to validation of the data on implementation of the Tusla Case Management System (TCM) in February 2023.*



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

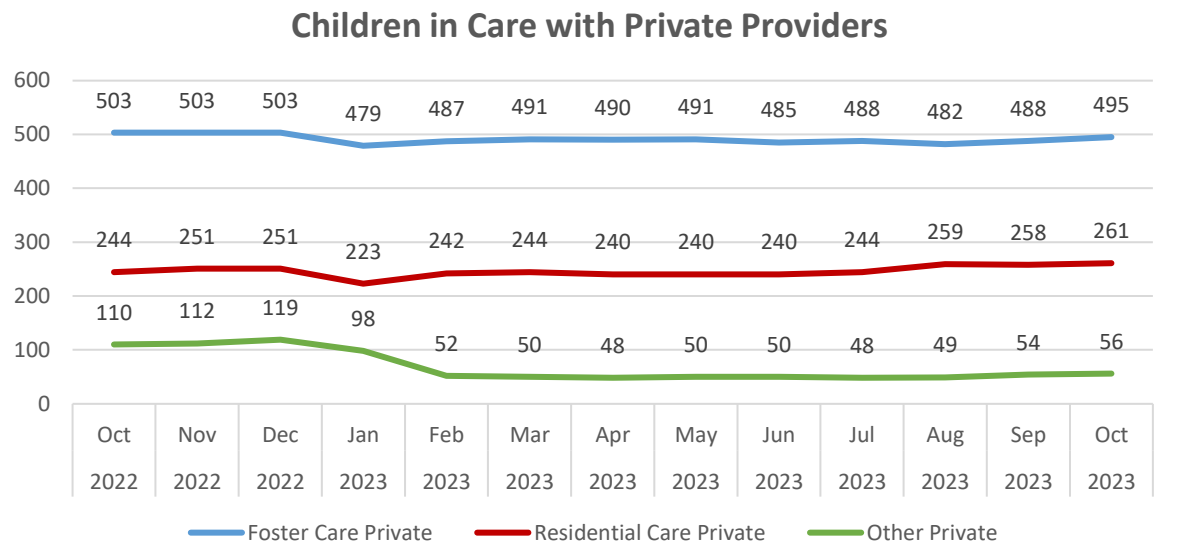
- 495 (61%) children in placements with private providers were in **foster care**, 7 (1%) more than September 2023 (488).
- 261 (32%) children were in **residential care**, three more than September 2023 (258).
- The remaining 56 (7%) children were in **“Other” care placements**, up two (4%) from September 2023 (54). “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 South Central (106) followed by DSW/K/WW (104), Dublin North City (102) and Dublin North (96). These four areas account for 50% (408) of children in placements with private providers,

Children in Care with Private Providers

Children in Care (Private)	Oct-22	Sep-23	Oct-23	Oct-23 v Oct-22	Oct-23 v Sept 23
Dublin South East/Wicklow	46	47	49	3	2
DSW/K/WW	111	108	104	-7	-4
Dublin South Central	102	103	106	4	3
Midlands	66	57	61	-5	4
Dublin North City	108	107	102	-6	-5
Dublin North	90	97	96	6	-1
Louth/Meath	40	43	44	4	1
Cavan/Monaghan	6	6	6	0	0
Kerry	24	23	30	6	7
Cork	64	61	61	-3	0
CW/KK/ST	13	22	22	9	0
Waterford/Wexford	24	44	47	23	3
Donegal	23	21	23	0	2
SLWC	12	11	12	0	1
Mayo	4	2	2	-2	0
Galway/Roscommon	18	15	15	-3	0
Midwest	40	33	32	-8	-1
SWTSCSIP	66	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	857	800	812	NA	12

Note: Data for 2023 does not include children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection.



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

Children in Care

- **80% (4,475) of children in care at the end of October 2023 had an allocated social worker**, up one percentage point from September 2023 (79%). *Note this data does not include children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection – data not available at this time.*
- Across the 17 areas, a total of 1,101 children were awaiting an allocated social worker, 76 (6%) fewer than September 2023 (1,177).
- Highest number awaiting reported by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (191; 60%) followed by Midwest (161; 31%), Waterford/Wexford (124; 29%), Louth/Meath (120; 30%), DSW/K/WW (118; 30%) and Dublin South Central (96; 28%). These six areas account for 74% (810) of all cases awaiting allocation.

- **75% (4,185) of children in care at the end of October 2023 had an up-to-date care plan.**

Note:

1. *Tusla has moved to reporting on children in care with an up-to-date care plan and not just children having a care plan, hence this data is not comparable with data previously reported. An up-to-date care plan is a care plan that has been updated following a statutory child in care review.*
 2. *Note this data does not include children under the Service for Separated Children Seeking International Protection –data not available at this time.*
- Across the 17 areas a total of 1,391 (25%) of children were awaiting an up-to-date care plan.
 - Highest numbers awaiting an up-to-date care plan reported by Dublin North City (161; 35%), Cork (160; 23%), Louth/Meath (152; 38%), Dublin South Central (137; 40%), Waterford/Wexford (124; 29%) and DSW/K/WW (121; 31%). These six areas account for 61% (855) of children awaiting an up-to-date care plan.

Area breakdown of children in care with an allocated social worker – Oct 2023

Area	SW	Awaiting SW	Total CiC	% Allocated
Dublin South East/Wicklow	180	16	196	92%
DSW/K/WW	273	118	391	70%
Dublin South Central	244	96	340	72%
Midlands	269	52	321	84%
Dublin North City	453	2	455	100%
Dublin North	339	44	383	89%
Louth/Meath	275	120	395	70%
Cavan/Monaghan	126	28	154	82%
Kerry	142	21	163	87%
Cork	678	27	705	96%
CW/KK/ST	125	191	316	40%
Waterford/Wexford	299	124	423	71%
Donegal	173	42	215	80%
Sligo/Leitrim//West Cavan	90	21	111	81%
Mayo	142	0	142	100%
Galway/Roscommon	315	38	353	89%
Midwest	352	161	513	69%
Total	4,475	1,101	5,576	80%

Area breakdown of children in care with an up-to-date care plan– Oct 2023

Area	UTD Care Plan	Awaiting UTD Care Plan	Total CiC	% With UTD Care Plan
Dublin South East/Wicklow	151	45	196	77%
DSW/K/WW	270	121	391	69%
Dublin South Central	203	137	340	60%
Midlands	239	82	321	74%
Dublin North City	294	161	455	65%
Dublin North	315	68	383	82%
Louth/Meath	243	152	395	62%
Cavan/Monaghan	115	39	154	75%
Kerry	124	39	163	76%
Cork	545	160	705	77%
CW/KK/ST	285	31	316	90%
Waterford/Wexford	299	124	423	71%
Donegal	198	17	215	92%
Sligo/Leitrim//West Cavan	87	24	111	78%
Mayo	129	13	142	91%
Galway/Roscommon	272	81	353	77%
Midwest	416	97	513	81%
Total	4,185	1,391	5,576	75%

Child Protection Notification System

- **975 children listed as “active”** at the end of October 2023, 48 (5%) more than September 2023.
- There were 111 (13%) more children “active” at the end of October 2023 than at the end of October 2022 (864).
- All children listed as “active” at the end of October 2023 had an **allocated social worker**.

• Highest number of children listed as “active” at the end of October 2023 was reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (113) followed by Cork (111) and Dublin North (100).

• Fewest number listed as “active” reported by Cavan/Monaghan (15) followed by Mayo (20) and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (28).

• Highest rate per 10,000 population under 18 years reported by Dublin North City (18.0) followed by Donegal (14.9) and Kerry (12.2).

• Lowest rate per 10,000 population under 18 years reported by Galway/Roscommon (3.8) followed by Cavan/Monaghan (4.1) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (5.0).

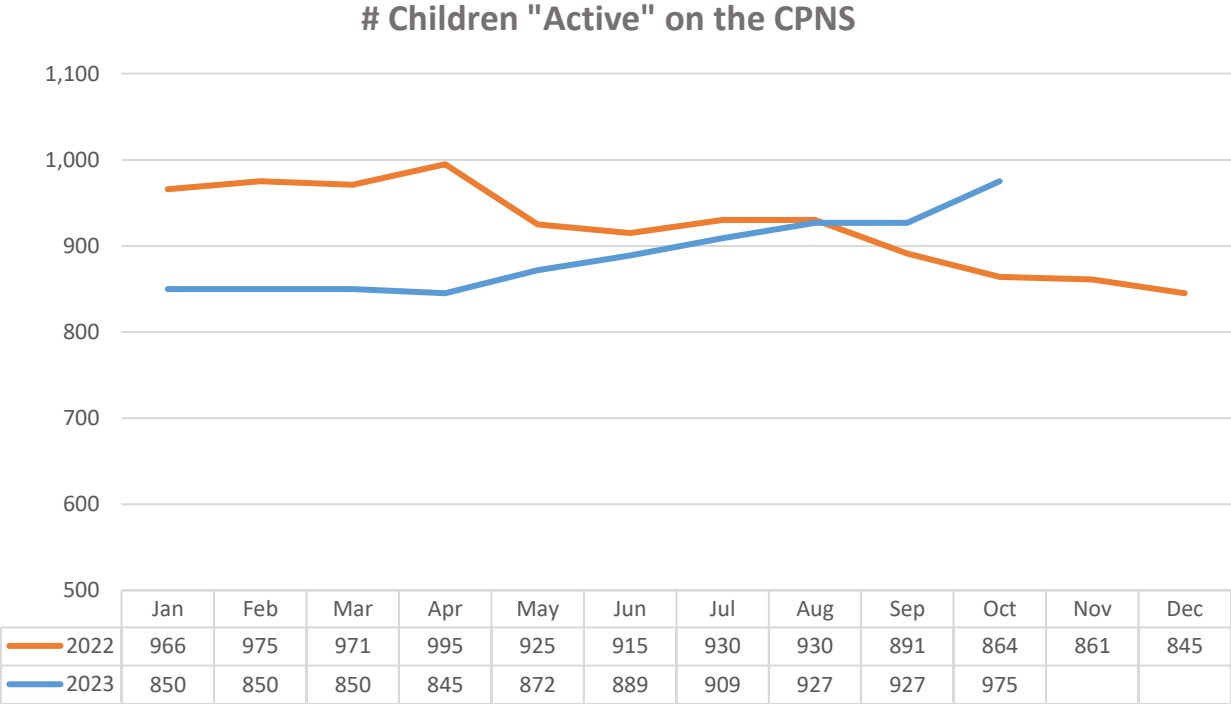
• Eight areas reported a rate equal to or higher than the national rate of 8.2/10,000

• 10/17 areas had more children listed as “active” at the end of October 2023 than at the end of September 2023. Largest increases reported by Midwest (up 24), Louth/Meath (up 12), Cork (up 9) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (9).

• 7/17 areas reported a decrease. Largest decreases reported by Waterford/Wexford (down 9), Dublin South central (down 7) and Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (down 6).

• 10/17 areas had more children active at the end of October 2023 than at the end of the same period last year. Largest increases reported by Donegal (up 39), Louth/Meath (up 29), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 26), Kerry (up 25) and Dublin North (up 20).

• 6/17 areas reported a decrease. Largest decreases reported by Cavan/Monaghan (down 18), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (down 16), Dublin South Central (down 15) and Waterford/Wexford (down 13).



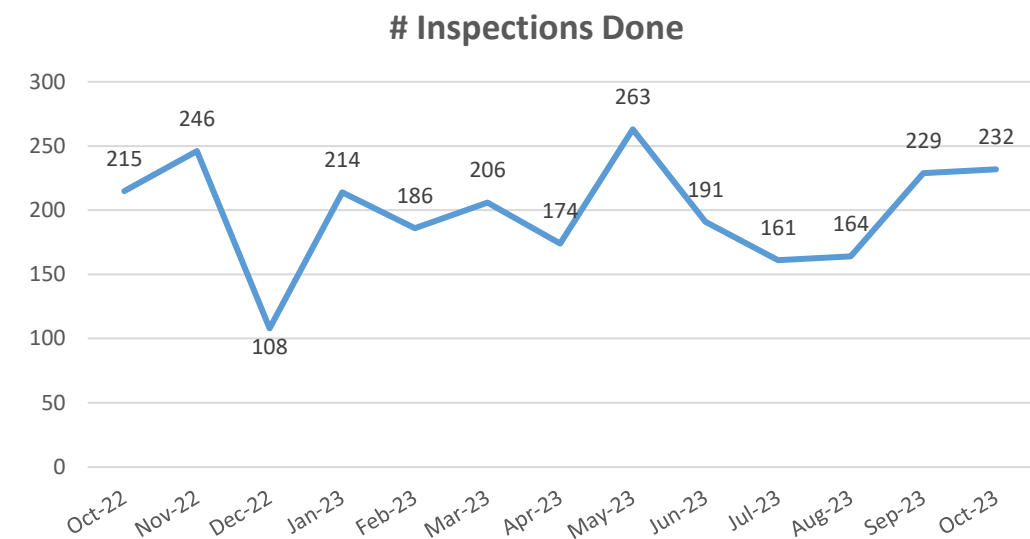
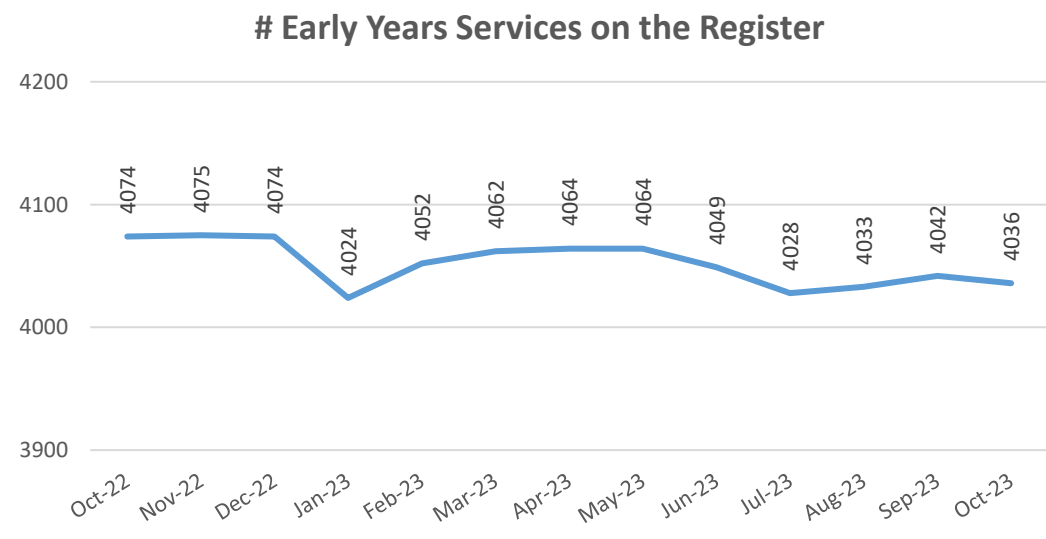
Number and rate of children “active” on the CPNS, by area (ranked by rate)

Area	Oct-22	Sep-23	Oct-23	Oct-23 v Oct-22	Oct-23 v Sep-23	Population	Rate/10,000
Dublin North City	87	79	81	-6	2	44,927	18.0
Donegal	25	59	64	39	5	42,865	14.9
Kerry	17	43	42	25	-1	34,527	12.2
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	25	31	28	3	-3	23,554	11.9
Dublin South West / Kildare / West Wicklow	87	114	113	26	-1	108,186	10.4
Dublin North	80	94	100	20	6	100,654	9.9
Mid West	84	60	84	0	24	96,266	8.7
Cork	95	102	111	16	9	134,015	8.3
Midlands	62	60	65	3	5	80,193	8.1
Waterford / Wexford	59	55	46	-13	-9	68,513	6.7
Carlow / Kilkenny / South Tipperary	56	46	40	-16	-6	63,009	6.3
Mayo	27	15	20	-7	5	31,968	6.3
Dublin South Central	55	47	40	-15	-7	65,564	6.1
Louth / Meath	24	41	53	29	12	93,093	5.7
Dublin South East / Wicklow	31	34	43	12	9	86,810	5.0
Cavan / Monaghan	33	13	15	-18	2	36,446	4.1
Galway / Roscommon	17	34	30	13	-4	79,912	3.8
Total	864	927	975	111	48	1,190,502	8.2

Children’s Services Regulation

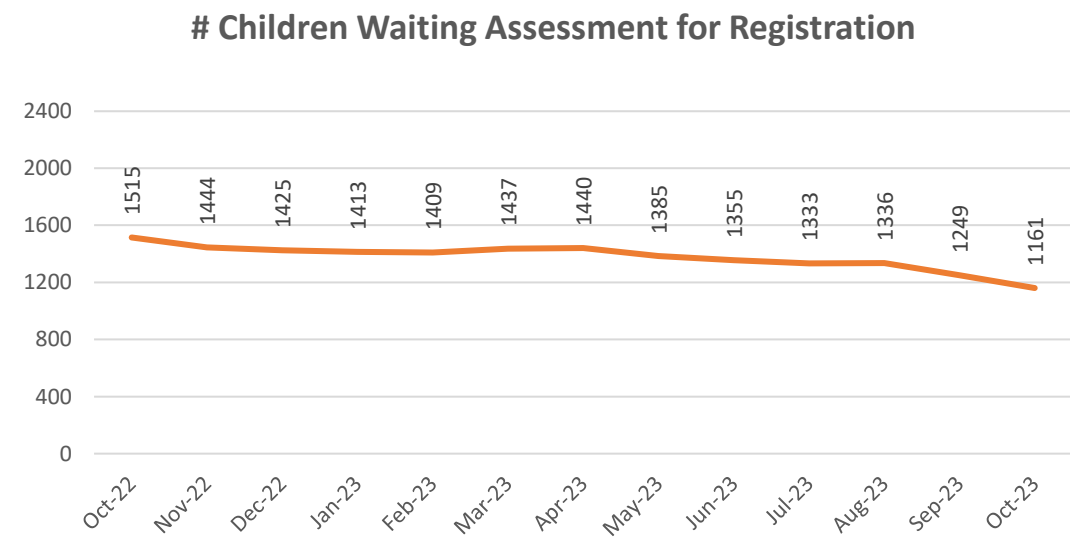
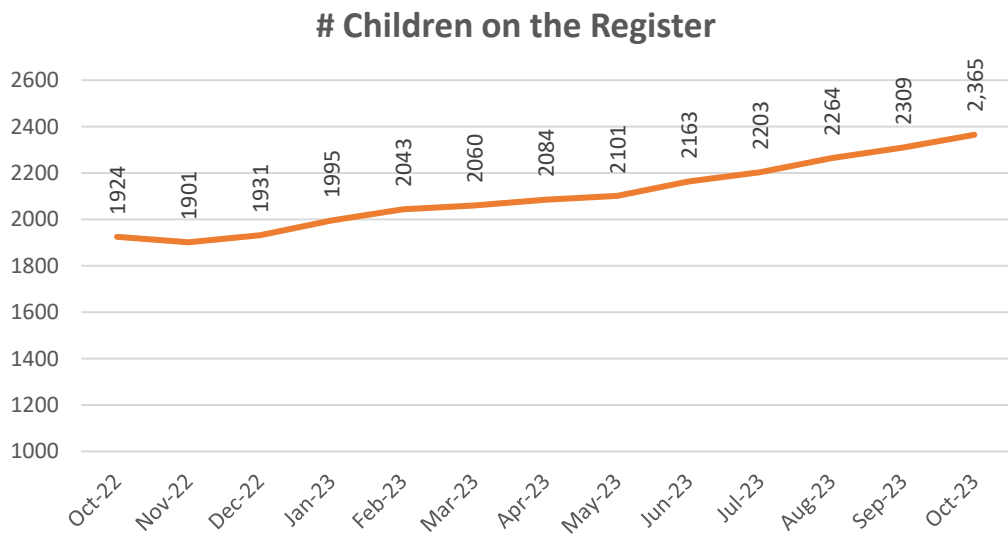
EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

- **4,036 early years services on the register at the end of October 2023**, six fewer than September 2023 (4,042) and 38 (<1%) fewer than October 2022 (4,074).
- **232 inspections** of early years services done in October 2023. This brings to 2,020 the number of inspections for the first 10 months of 2023, 106 (5%) fewer than the same period in 2022 (2,126).



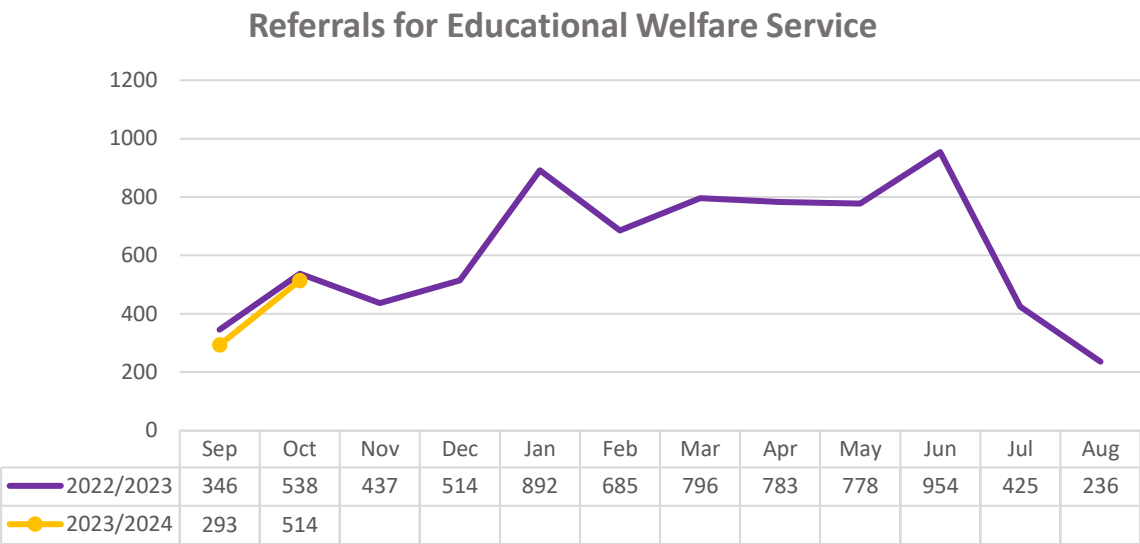
ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION SERVICE

- **2,365 children on the register for home education at the end of October 2023**, 56 (2%) more than September 2023 (2,309) and 441 (23%) more than October 2022 (1,924).
- **1,161 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of October 2023**, 88 (7%) fewer than September 2023 (1,249) and 354 (23%) fewer than October 2022 (1,515).

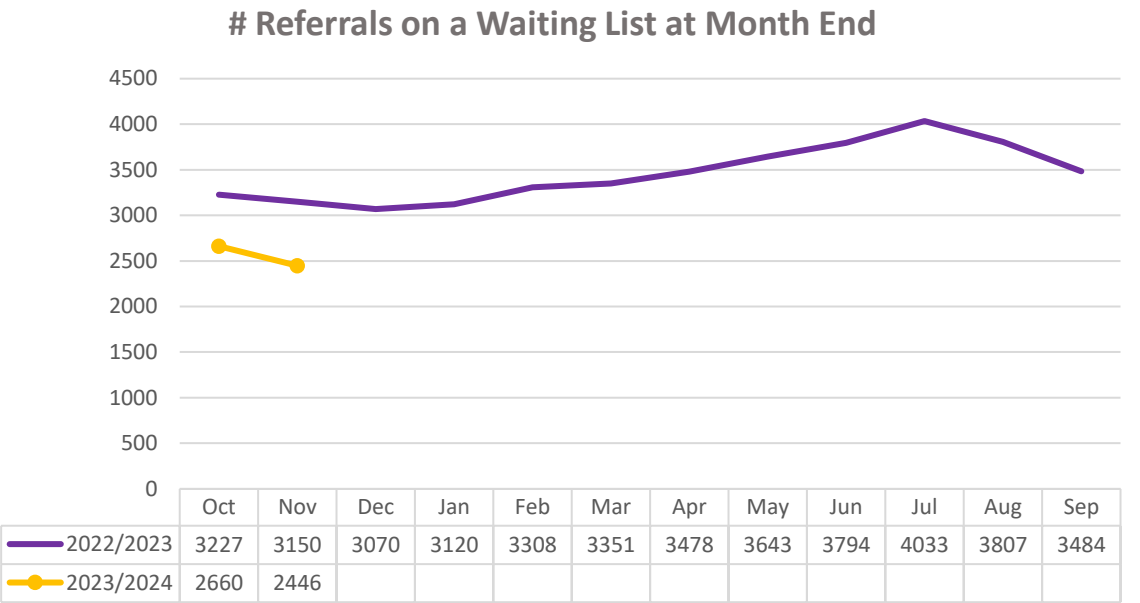


Tusla Education Support Services

- **514 referrals screened** by senior educational welfare services in October 2023, 221 (75%) more than September 2023 (293). This brings to 807 the number of referrals for the first two months of the academic year 2023-2024, 77 (9%) fewer than the same period in 2022-2023 (884).



- **2,446 referrals on a waiting list** for educational welfare services at the end of October 2023, 214 (8%) fewer than September 2023 (2,660). Fourth consecutive decrease after seventh consecutive increases.



- **401 new individual children worked with** in October 2023, 76 (23%) more than September 2023 (325). This brings to 726 the number of new individual children worked with for the first two months of the academic year 2023-2024, 74 (11%) fewer than the same period in 2022-2023 (652).

