

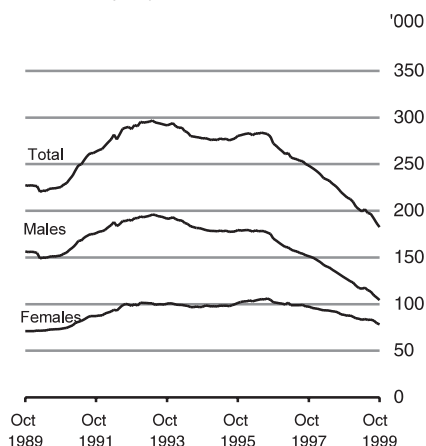


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh



5 November 1999

Live Register
Seasonally Adjusted



Live Register Statement October 1999

	Live Register Total	Seasonally Adjusted
October 1998	212,459	217,100
September 1999	186,183	186,600
October 1999	177,945	182,600
Change in month	-8,238	-4,000
Change in year	-34,514	-34,500

Live Register at lowest level in 17 years

The Live Register fell by 8,238 in October, to 177,945. This is the lowest Live Register figure since November 1982 when there were 169,938 people signing on.

The Live Register usually decreases in October, due mainly to the start of the college term. After adjusting for seasonal factors, the monthly trend in October was a fall of 4,000.

In the year to October the Live Register decreased by 34,514 persons, the second largest annual drop on record.

Other features include:

- ◆ In October, the number of men signing on fell by 5,161 and the number of women by 3,077. *See Table 1a.*
- ◆ Nearly 45% of the monthly decrease was for persons aged under 25. *See Table 1b.*
- ◆ In the year to October 1999, the number of males on the Live Register fell by 24,420 and the number of females by 10,094. *See Table 1a.*
- ◆ The Standardised Unemployment Rate in October was 5.2%. This compares with a rate of 5.7% in April 1999, based on the Quarterly National Household Survey. *See Table 8 and Background Notes.*

The Live Register is not designed to measure unemployment. It includes part-time workers (those who work up to three days a week), seasonal and casual workers entitled to Unemployment Assistance or Benefit. Unemployment is measured by the Quarterly National Household Survey and the latest figure, for March–May 1999, is 96,900 persons unemployed.

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Table 1a Total persons on the Live Register

Category	October 1998	September 1999	October 1999	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	29,221	26,953	25,900	- 1,053	- 3,321
UA Applications	93,382	76,405	72,396	- 4,009	- 20,986
Other Registrants	3,081	3,067	2,968	- 99	- 113
Total	125,684	106,425	101,264	- 5,161	- 24,420
Females					
UB Claims	35,554	34,885	34,462	- 423	- 1,092
UA Applications	38,564	32,535	30,244	- 2,291	- 8,320
Other Registrants	12,657	12,338	11,975	- 363	- 682
Total	86,775	79,758	76,681	- 3,077	- 10,094
All Persons					
UB Claims	64,775	61,838	60,362	- 1,476	- 4,413
UA Applications	131,946	108,940	102,640	- 6,300	- 29,306
Other Registrants	15,738	15,405	14,943	- 462	- 795
Total	212,459	186,183	177,945	- 8,238	- 34,514

Table 1b Persons under 25 years of age on the Live Register

Category	October 1998	September 1999	October 1999	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	5,075	4,409	3,837	- 572	- 1,238
UA Applications	18,565	14,118	12,651	- 1,467	- 5,914
Other Registrants	51	42	47	+ 5	- 4
Total	23,691	18,569	16,535	- 2,034	- 7,156
Females					
UB Claims	4,058	3,929	3,501	- 428	- 557
UA Applications	13,889	11,261	10,084	- 1,177	- 3,805
Other Registrants	207	226	194	- 32	- 13
Total	18,154	15,416	13,779	- 1,637	- 4,375
All Persons					
UB Claims	9,133	8,338	7,338	- 1,000	- 1,795
UA Applications	32,454	25,379	22,735	- 2,644	- 9,719
Other Registrants	258	268	241	- 27	- 17
Total	41,845	33,985	30,314	- 3,671	- 11,531

Table 1c Persons 25 years of age and over on the Live Register

Category	October 1998	September 1999	October 1999	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	24,146	22,544	22,063	- 481	- 2,083
UA Applications	74,817	62,287	59,745	- 2,542	- 15,072
Other Registrants	3,030	3,025	2,921	- 104	- 109
Total	101,993	87,856	84,729	- 3,127	- 17,264
Females					
UB Claims	31,496	30,956	30,961	+ 5	- 535
UA Applications	24,675	21,274	20,160	- 1,114	- 4,515
Other Registrants	12,450	12,112	11,781	- 331	- 669
Total	68,621	64,342	62,902	- 1,440	- 5,719
All Persons					
UB Claims	55,642	53,500	53,024	- 476	- 2,618
UA Applications	99,492	83,561	79,905	- 3,656	- 19,587
Other Registrants	15,480	15,137	14,702	- 435	- 778
Total	170,614	152,198	147,631	- 4,567	- 22,983

Table 2 Persons on the Live Register by Region

NUTS2 and NUTS3 Regions ¹	October 1998	September 1999	October 1999	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
Border, Midland & Western	38,116	34,286	32,959	- 1,327	- 5,157
Border	18,676	16,995	16,234	- 761	- 2,442
Midland	6,363	5,610	5,387	- 223	- 976
West	13,077	11,681	11,338	- 343	- 1,739
Eastern & Southern	87,568	72,139	68,305	- 3,834	- 19,263
Dublin	37,812	30,003	28,216	- 1,787	- 9,596
Mid-East	8,519	6,885	6,534	- 351	- 1,985
Mid-West	8,824	7,755	7,254	- 501	- 1,570
South-East	15,002	12,700	12,296	- 404	- 2,706
South-West	17,411	14,796	14,005	- 791	- 3,406
Total	125,684	106,425	101,264	- 5,161	- 24,420
Females					
Border, Midland & Western	25,465	24,922	23,995	- 927	- 1,470
Border	11,945	11,953	11,565	- 388	- 380
Midland	4,760	4,798	4,573	- 225	- 187
West	8,760	8,171	7,857	- 314	- 903
Eastern & Southern	61,310	54,836	52,686	- 2,150	- 8,624
Dublin	23,969	20,308	19,350	- 958	- 4,619
Mid-East	6,753	5,899	5,627	- 272	- 1,126
Mid-West	6,658	6,416	6,157	- 259	- 501
South-East	10,989	10,507	10,273	- 234	- 716
South-West	12,941	11,706	11,279	- 427	- 1,662
Total	86,775	79,758	76,681	- 3,077	- 10,094
All Persons					
Border, Midland & Western	63,581	59,208	56,954	- 2,254	- 6,627
Border	30,621	28,948	27,799	- 1,149	- 2,822
Midland	11,123	10,408	9,960	- 448	- 1,163
West	21,837	19,852	19,195	- 657	- 2,642
Eastern & Southern	148,878	126,975	120,991	- 5,984	- 27,887
Dublin	61,781	50,311	47,566	- 2,745	- 14,215
Mid-East	15,272	12,784	12,161	- 623	- 3,111
Mid-West	15,482	14,171	13,411	- 760	- 2,071
South-East	25,991	23,207	22,569	- 638	- 3,422
South-West	30,352	26,502	25,284	- 1,218	- 5,068
Total	212,459	186,183	177,945	- 8,238	- 34,514

¹ The composition of the regions is described in the Live Register Area Analysis release

Table 3 Persons on the Live Register classified by Province

Provinces	October 1998	September 1999	October 1999	Monthly change	Annual change
Provinces					
Leinster	110,800	93,224	88,855	- 4,369	- 21,945
Munster	57,733	51,635	49,257	- 2,378	- 8,476
Connacht	26,570	24,346	23,477	- 869	- 3,093
Ulster	17,356	16,978	16,356	- 622	- 1,000
Total	212,459	186,183	177,945	- 8,238	- 34,514

Table 4a Total persons on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted ¹

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ²		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1998	January	151,000	95,600	246,500	146,700	95,000	241,700
	February	147,700	94,100	241,800	145,000	94,200	239,100
	March	143,000	91,800	234,800	142,300	93,300	235,600
	April	139,900	91,400	231,300	140,400	93,800	234,200
	May	135,300	88,600	223,900	139,000	92,600	231,700
	June	135,500	93,400	228,900	136,900	92,200	229,100
	July	136,000	96,800	232,800	134,800	92,000	226,800
	August	134,400	96,100	230,500	132,700	91,100	223,700
	September	130,100	89,100	219,200	130,800	88,900	219,700
	October	125,700	86,800	212,500	128,700	88,400	217,100
	November	123,000	84,200	207,200	126,400	87,600	214,000
	December	126,800	89,000	215,800	124,600	87,800	212,300
1999	January	127,200	86,800	214,000	123,000	86,300	209,300
	February	122,600	85,000	207,600	119,900	85,200	205,100
	March	118,200	83,000	201,200	117,700	84,400	202,100
	April	115,800	80,800	196,500	116,300	83,200	199,500
	May	112,700	79,500	192,200	116,400	83,500	199,900
	June	111,900	83,700	195,500	113,200	82,400	195,600
	July	112,600	88,000	200,600	111,300	83,100	194,400
	August	111,200	87,400	198,700	109,400	82,300	191,700
	September	106,400	79,800	186,200	107,000	79,600	186,600
	October	101,300	76,700	177,900	104,300	78,300	182,600

¹ Table contains revised April to August seasonally adjusted figures.² Based on seasonal patterns up to June 1999 (See Background Notes).**Table 4b Persons under 25 years of age on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted ¹**

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ²		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1998	January	31,000	23,000	54,000	30,000	22,700	52,600
	February	29,900	22,100	52,100	29,300	22,200	51,500
	March	28,800	21,200	50,000	28,900	21,900	50,800
	April	27,700	20,700	48,400	28,100	21,700	49,800
	May	26,400	19,800	46,200	28,100	21,300	49,300
	June	27,600	21,600	49,300	27,400	20,800	48,200
	July	27,700	22,200	49,800	26,500	20,300	46,800
	August	27,200	21,700	49,000	26,000	19,900	45,800
	September	25,600	19,800	45,500	25,300	19,200	44,500
	October	23,700	18,200	41,800	24,800	18,800	43,500
	November	22,800	17,300	40,100	24,200	18,500	42,700
	December	23,500	17,800	41,300	23,500	18,200	41,700
1999	January	24,000	17,900	41,900	23,000	17,600	40,600
	February	23,000	17,100	40,100	22,400	17,200	39,600
	March	21,700	16,300	38,000	21,800	17,000	38,800
	April	20,900	15,600	36,500	21,400	16,600	38,000
	May	19,900	15,300	35,200	21,500	16,700	38,200
	June	20,200	16,600	36,900	19,900	15,800	35,700
	July	20,400	17,200	37,600	19,200	15,400	34,600
	August	20,000	17,000	37,100	18,800	15,100	33,900
	September	18,600	15,400	34,000	18,200	14,800	33,000
	October	16,500	13,800	30,300	17,600	14,400	32,100

¹ Table contains revised April to August seasonally adjusted figures.² Based on seasonal patterns up to June 1999 (See Background Notes).

Table 4c Persons 25 years of age or over on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted ¹

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ²		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1998	January	120,000	72,600	192,600	116,800	72,300	189,100
	February	117,800	71,900	189,700	115,600	72,000	187,600
	March	114,200	70,600	184,800	113,400	71,400	184,800
	April	112,200	70,800	182,900	112,200	72,100	184,300
	May	108,900	68,800	177,700	110,900	71,400	182,300
	June	107,900	71,800	179,700	109,500	71,400	180,900
	July	108,300	74,600	183,000	108,200	71,700	179,900
	August	107,200	74,300	181,500	106,700	71,200	177,900
	September	104,400	69,300	173,700	105,400	69,700	175,100
	October	102,000	68,600	170,600	103,900	69,600	173,500
	November	100,100	66,900	167,000	102,200	69,100	171,300
	December	103,300	71,200	174,400	101,000	69,600	170,600
1999	January	103,200	69,000	172,100	100,000	68,700	168,700
	February	99,600	67,900	167,500	97,600	68,000	165,500
	March	96,600	66,700	163,300	95,900	67,500	163,300
	April	94,800	65,200	160,100	95,000	66,600	161,600
	May	92,800	64,200	157,100	94,900	66,800	161,600
	June	91,600	67,000	158,700	93,300	66,600	159,900
	July	92,200	70,700	162,900	92,100	67,800	159,800
	August	91,200	70,400	161,600	90,600	67,200	157,800
	September	87,900	64,300	152,200	88,800	64,800	153,600
	October	84,700	62,900	147,600	86,700	63,900	150,500

¹ Table contains revised April to August seasonally adjusted figures.

² Based on seasonal patterns up to June 1999 (See Background Notes).

Table 5 **Persons working on systematic short-time basis
excluded from the Live Register**

	Month	Males	Females	Total
1998	January	1,601	2,955	4,556
	February	1,644	3,344	4,988
	March	1,435	3,314	4,749
	April	1,258	3,262	4,520
	May	1,329	3,111	4,440
	June	1,318	2,781	4,099
	July	1,249	2,593	3,842
	August	1,099	2,577	3,676
	September	1,156	3,048	4,204
	October	1,428	2,977	4,405
	November	1,605	3,288	4,893
	December	1,276	2,908	4,184
1999	January	1,250	2,961	4,211
	February	1,232	2,994	4,226
	March	1,146	2,878	4,024
	April	1,091	2,647	3,738
	May	1,150	2,690	3,840
	June	1,097	2,505	3,602
	July	1,105	2,368	3,473
	August	973	2,291	3,264
	September	1,030	2,353	3,383
	October	987	2,515	3,502

Table 6 **Smallholders and Self-Employed Persons applying for Unemployment
Assistance and Other Registrants excluded from the Live Register**

	Month	Smallholders ¹	Self-Employed	Others	Total
1998	January	7,810	3,028	736	11,574
	February	7,773	3,009	796	11,578
	March	7,563	2,988	732	11,283
	April	7,447	2,870	712	11,029
	May	7,257	2,792	635	10,684
	June	7,191	2,802	652	10,645
	July	7,012	2,743	664	10,419
	August	6,884	2,681	655	10,220
	September	6,852	2,650	652	10,154
	October	6,716	2,572	676	9,964
	November	6,643	2,553	677	9,873
	December	6,578	2,566	703	9,847
1999	January	6,616	2,545	741	9,902
	February	6,672	2,541	718	9,931
	March	6,636	2,499	718	9,853
	April	7,138	2,396	737	10,271
	May	7,534	2,357	748	10,639
	June	8,282	2,270	792	11,344
	July	8,438	2,274	872	11,584
	August	8,473	2,225	866	11,564
	September	8,418	2,184	858	11,460
	October	8,442	2,128	754	11,324

¹Including Farm Assist Scheme introduced in April 1999.

Table 7 **Persons Under 65 Years, other than Smallholders, on the Pre-Retirement Allowance Scheme (PRETA) or on the Pre-Retirement Credits Scheme (PRECS), excluded from the Live Register**

	Month	PRETA	PRECS	Total	Males	Females
1998	January	11,812	6,386	18,198	13,734	4,464
	February	11,902	6,493	18,395	13,867	4,528
	March	11,997	6,641	18,638	14,112	4,526
	April	12,185	6,740	18,925	14,189	4,736
	May	12,074	6,874	18,948	14,188	4,760
	June	12,043	6,899	18,942	14,095	4,847
	July	12,085	6,784	18,869	14,132	4,737
	August	12,021	6,878	18,899	14,083	4,816
	September	11,958	6,861	18,819	14,103	4,716
	October	11,909	6,949	18,858	14,113	4,745
	November	11,964	7,019	18,983	14,202	4,781
	December	11,982	6,995	18,977	14,240	4,737
1999	January	11,995	7,084	19,079	14,271	4,808
	February	11,674	7,167	18,841	14,072	4,769
	March	11,635	7,200	18,835	14,061	4,774
	April	11,734	7,226	18,960	14,163	4,797
	May	11,601	7,230	18,831	13,992	4,839
	June	11,589	7,200	18,789	13,951	4,838
	July	11,648	7,186	18,834	13,976	4,858
	August	11,617	7,173	18,790	13,931	4,859
	September	11,564	7,231	18,795	13,930	4,865
	October	11,530	7,228	18,758	13,879	4,879

Table 8 **Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rates¹**

Month	1995	1996 ³	1997 ^{3,4}	1998 ⁴	1999 ⁴
	%	%	%	%	%
January	12.6	12.0	10.7	8.4	6.2
February	12.5	12.0	10.6	8.2	6.0
March	12.3	11.8	10.5	8.0	5.9
April ²	12.2	11.9	10.3	7.8	5.7
May	12.1	11.8	10.1	7.6	5.8
June	12.1	11.6	9.9	7.5	5.7
July	11.9	11.5	9.7	7.3	5.6
August	11.9	11.4	9.5	7.1	5.5
September	11.9	11.2	9.3	6.9	5.4
October	12.0	11.1	9.1	6.7	5.2
November	12.0	11.0	8.9	6.5	
December	12.0	10.9	8.7	6.4	
Annual average	12.1	11.5	9.8	7.4	

¹ Table contains the revised Standardised Unemployment Rates.

² Benchmark Labour Force Survey/Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) estimates.

³ Interpolated data for May 1996 to March 1997 (see Background Notes).

⁴ The QNHS estimates of the unemployment rate (unadjusted for seasonality) are: Sep-Nov 1997, 10.4%; Dec-Feb 1997/98, 8.5%; Mar-May 1998, 7.8%; Jun-Aug 1998, 7.6%; Sep-Nov 1998, 6.4%; Dec-Feb 1998/99, 5.8%; Mar-May 1999, 5.7%.

Background Notes

Source and scope of the Live Register The Live Register is compiled from returns made directly to the Central Statistics Office by each local office of the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs. It comprises persons under 65 years of age in the following classes:

- All Claimants for Unemployment Benefit (UB) excluding systematic short-time workers (*see Table 4*);
- Applicants for Unemployment Assistance (UA) excluding smallholders and self-employed persons (*see Table 5*);
- Other registrants including applicants for credited Social Welfare contributions but excluding those directly involved in an industrial dispute (*see Table 5*).

Descriptive articles The compilation basis for the Live Register statistics from May 1992 onwards is described in the September 1992 issue of the *Statistical Bulletin*. The March 1980 issue contained a description of the basis used up to April 1992 while a more comprehensive treatment of Live Register statistics appeared in the “Report of the Inter-Departmental Study Group on Unemployment Statistics” (Stationery Office Dublin, Prl. 7925, April 1979). The results of a special study of the differences between the Labour Force Survey (LFS) Estimates of Unemployment and the Live Register are contained in the December 1996 issue of the *Statistical Bulletin*.

Unemployment statistics Unemployment is measured by the Quarterly National Household Survey (formerly the annual Labour Force Survey). The Live Register is not designed to measure unemployment. It includes part-time workers (those who work up to three days a week), seasonal and casual workers entitled to Unemployment Assistance or Unemployment Benefit.

Standardised unemployment rates The Standardised Unemployment Rate (SUR) series in Table 7 is based on the estimated number of persons unemployed expressed as a percentage of the total economically active population (i.e. the labour force), using internationally comparable definitions of employment and unemployment, as recommended by the International Labour Office. Benchmark estimates of the SUR for April of each year are calculated from the Labour Force Survey/Quarterly National Household Survey. The monthly trend in the seasonally adjusted Live Register has been traditionally used to estimate the monthly SUR between successive surveys.

This approach was temporarily suspended following the rapid decline in the Live Register after September 1996. A linear interpolation estimation approach was used between April 1996 and April 1997, as the Live Register series could not be used as an indicator of monthly trends in unemployment during that period. The traditional estimation approach has been used from April 1997 onwards.

QNHS The Quarterly National Household Survey, which began in September 1997, has now replaced the Labour Force Survey and provides quarterly estimates of the unemployment rate. The estimates (unadjusted for seasonality) are: Sep–Nov 1997, 10.4%; Dec–Feb 1997/98, 8.5%; Mar–May 1998, 7.8%; Jun–Aug 1998, 7.6%; Sep–Nov 1998, 6.4%; Dec–Feb 1998/99, 5.8% and Mar–May 1999, 5.7%.

Seasonal adjustment The seasonal adjustment of the Live Register is completed using the X-11 Variant of the US Bureau of Census Method 2 (Additive Option). The seasonally adjusted series are updated twice yearly, in January and July; pending the next updating, seasonal adjustment for intervening months is carried out using projected seasonal factors. In Tables 3a, b and c the seasonally adjusted totals are the sum of the relevant seasonally adjusted series for males and females, under and over 25 years.

Because QNHS estimates are not yet adjusted for seasonality, only the March–May unemployment rates, which are directly comparable with April LFS data, have been incorporated in the calculation of the monthly SUR.