

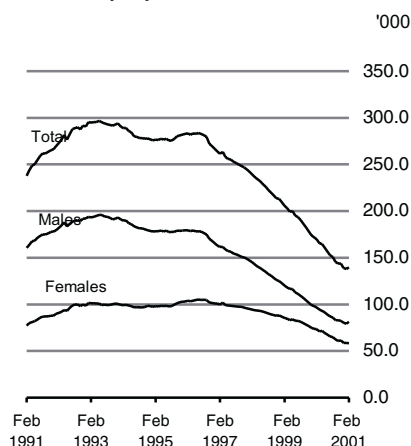


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

2 March 2001

Live Register Statement February 2001

Live Register
Seasonally Adjusted



	Live Register Total	Seasonally Adjusted
February 2000	172,093	170,000
January 2001	142,071	137,800
February 2001	139,515	137,500
Change in month	-2,556	-300
Change in year	-32,578	-32,500

Live Register decreases in February

The Live Register fell by 2,556 persons in February to 139,515. When seasonal factors are taken into account, the Register fell by 300 in the month to 137,500. This is the lowest seasonally adjusted figure since December 1981 (137,100).

In the year to February 2001, the Live Register fell by 32,578 persons.

Other features include:

- ◆ The number of male registrants fell by 2,088 in the month. The number of female registrants fell by 468. *See Table 1a.*
- ◆ The number of UB claimants rose very slightly during the month. The number of UA applicants decreased by 2,233 and the number of other registrants decreased by 332. *See Table 1a.*
- ◆ The standardised unemployment rate in February was 3.6%. This compares with 4.3% in April 2000, 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 September - November 2000 is 68,800 persons unemployed.

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Table 1a Total persons on the Live Register

Category	February 2000	January 2001	February 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	28,543	26,230	25,856	- 374	- 2,687
UA Applications	67,756	54,644	52,976	- 1,668	- 14,780
Other Registrants	2,815	2,386	2,340	- 46	- 475
Total	99,114	83,260	81,172	- 2,088	- 17,942
Females					
UB Claims	34,981	28,448	28,831	+ 383	- 6,150
UA Applications	27,039	21,001	20,436	- 565	- 6,603
Other Registrants	10,959	9,362	9,076	- 286	- 1,883
Total	72,979	58,811	58,343	- 468	- 14,636
All Persons					
UB Claims	63,524	54,678	54,687	+ 9	- 8,837
UA Applications	94,795	75,645	73,412	- 2,233	- 21,383
Other Registrants	13,774	11,748	11,416	- 332	- 2,358
Total	172,093	142,071	139,515	- 2,556	- 32,578

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

Category	February 2000	January 2001	February 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	4,508	4,097	4,119	+ 22	- 389
UA Applications	11,664	9,437	9,121	- 316	- 2,543
Other Registrants	37	31	27	- 4	- 10
Total	16,209	13,565	13,267	- 298	- 2,942
Females					
UB Claims	3,814	2,992	3,088	+ 96	- 726
UA Applications	8,709	6,877	6,745	- 132	- 1,964
Other Registrants	151	135	139	+ 4	- 12
Total	12,674	10,004	9,972	- 32	- 2,702
All Persons					
UB Claims	8,322	7,089	7,207	+ 118	- 1,115
UA Applications	20,373	16,314	15,866	- 448	- 4,507
Other Registrants	188	166	166	0	- 22
Total	28,883	23,569	23,239	- 330	- 5,644

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

Category	February 2000	January 2001	February 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	24,035	22,133	21,737	- 396	- 2,298
UA Applications	56,092	45,207	43,855	- 1,352	- 12,237
Other Registrants	2,778	2,355	2,313	- 42	- 465
Total	82,905	69,695	67,905	- 1,790	- 15,000
Females					
UB Claims	31,167	25,456	25,743	+ 287	- 5,424
UA Applications	18,330	14,124	13,691	- 433	- 4,639
Other Registrants	10,808	9,227	8,937	- 290	- 1,871
Total	60,305	48,807	48,371	- 436	- 11,934
All Persons					
UB Claims	55,202	47,589	47,480	- 109	- 7,722
UA Applications	74,422	59,331	57,546	- 1,785	- 16,876
Other Registrants	13,586	11,582	11,250	- 332	- 2,336
Total	143,210	118,502	116,276	- 2,226	- 26,934

Table 2 Persons on the Live Register by Region

NUTS2 and NUTS3 Regions ¹	February 2000	January 2001	February 2001		Monthly change	Annual change
Males						
Border, Midland & Western	32,690	28,296	27,522	-	774	- 5,168
Border	15,967	14,352	14,014	-	338	- 1,953
Midland	5,603	4,592	4,526	-	66	- 1,077
West	11,120	9,352	8,982	-	370	- 2,138
Eastern & Southern	66,424	54,964	53,650	-	1,314	- 12,774
Dublin	26,938	20,341	19,874	-	467	- 7,064
Mid-East	6,299	5,084	4,879	-	205	- 1,420
Mid-West	7,482	6,635	6,453	-	182	- 1,029
South-East	12,005	10,831	10,651	-	180	- 1,354
South-West	13,700	12,073	11,793	-	280	- 1,907
Total	99,114	83,260	81,172	-	2,088	- 17,942
Females						
Border, Midland & Western	23,311	20,378	20,161	-	217	- 3,150
Border	11,201	10,084	10,028	-	56	- 1,173
Midland	4,528	3,911	3,905	-	6	- 623
West	7,582	6,383	6,228	-	155	- 1,354
Eastern & Southern	49,668	38,433	38,182	-	251	- 11,486
Dublin	17,418	12,385	12,617	+	232	- 4,801
Mid-East	5,296	4,068	4,023	-	45	- 1,273
Mid-West	5,956	4,996	4,950	-	46	- 1,006
South-East	10,052	8,551	8,429	-	122	- 1,623
South-West	10,946	8,433	8,163	-	270	- 2,783
Total	72,979	58,811	58,343	-	468	- 14,636
All Persons						
Border, Midland & Western	56,001	48,674	47,683	-	991	- 8,318
Border	27,168	24,436	24,042	-	394	- 3,126
Midland	10,131	8,503	8,431	-	72	- 1,700
West	18,702	15,735	15,210	-	525	- 3,492
Eastern & Southern	116,092	93,397	91,832	-	1,565	- 24,260
Dublin	44,356	32,726	32,491	-	235	- 11,865
Mid-East	11,595	9,152	8,902	-	250	- 2,693
Mid-West	13,438	11,631	11,403	-	228	- 2,035
South-East	22,057	19,382	19,080	-	302	- 2,977
South-West	24,646	20,506	19,956	-	550	- 4,690
Total	172,093	142,071	139,515	-	2,556	- 32,578

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	February 2000	January 2001	February 2001		Monthly change	Annual change
Provinces						
Leinster	84,875	66,644	65,910	-	734	- 18,965
Munster	48,400	41,508	40,461	-	1,047	- 7,939
Connacht	22,723	19,424	18,805	-	619	- 3,918
Ulster	16,095	14,495	14,339	-	156	- 1,756
Total	172,093	142,071	139,515	-	2,556	- 32,578

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

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1999	December	101,000	75,500	176,500	99,200	74,700	174,000
2000	January	102,400	73,800	176,200	98,200	73,700	171,900
	February	99,100	73,000	172,100	96,600	73,400	170,000
	March	94,400	69,100	163,500	94,500	70,900	165,300
	April	92,100	69,700	161,800	92,900	71,800	164,700
	May	88,100	64,800	152,900	91,600	69,200	160,800
	June	87,900	68,800	156,800	89,000	67,500	156,600
	July	88,500	71,500	159,900	87,000	65,700	152,700
	August	87,900	71,100	159,000	85,700	65,000	150,700
	September	82,700	62,200	144,900	83,200	62,300	145,600
	October	80,000	59,200	139,200	82,900	60,700	143,700
	November	79,300	57,700	137,000	82,500	61,300	143,700
	December	82,000	59,600	141,600	80,300	58,800	139,100
2001	January	83,300	58,800	142,100	79,100	58,700	137,800
	February	81,200	58,300	139,500	78,700	58,800	137,500

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2000 (See Background Notes).

Table 4b Persons under 25 years of age on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1999	December	15,900	12,700	28,600	16,200	13,300	29,400
2000	January	17,000	13,000	29,900	16,000	12,900	28,900
	February	16,200	12,700	28,900	15,700	12,800	28,500
	March	15,200	11,800	27,000	15,300	12,400	27,700
	April	14,700	11,400	26,100	15,100	12,300	27,400
	May	13,900	10,800	24,700	15,500	12,300	27,700
	June	14,400	12,000	26,300	14,100	11,100	25,200
	July	14,900	12,500	27,400	13,700	10,700	24,400
	August	14,800	12,600	27,400	13,400	10,600	24,000
	September	13,400	11,000	24,400	13,000	10,400	23,500
	October	12,500	10,200	22,700	13,600	10,800	24,300
	November	12,400	9,700	22,000	13,600	10,800	24,400
	December	12,900	9,500	22,400	13,200	10,100	23,300
2001	January	13,600	10,000	23,600	12,600	9,900	22,500
	February	13,300	10,000	23,200	12,700	10,100	22,900

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2000 (See Background Notes).

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

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1999	December	85,100	62,800	147,900	83,100	61,500	144,600
2000	January	85,400	60,800	146,200	82,200	60,800	143,000
	February	82,900	60,300	143,200	81,000	60,500	141,500
	March	79,200	57,300	136,500	79,200	58,500	137,600
	April	77,400	58,300	135,700	77,800	59,500	137,300
	May	74,200	54,000	128,200	76,200	56,900	133,100
	June	73,600	56,900	130,400	75,000	56,400	131,400
	July	73,600	58,900	132,500	73,300	55,000	128,300
	August	73,200	58,500	131,700	72,200	54,400	126,700
	September	69,300	51,200	120,500	70,200	51,900	122,100
	October	67,500	49,000	116,500	69,400	50,000	119,400
	November	66,900	48,000	114,900	68,800	50,500	119,300
	December	69,100	50,000	119,100	67,100	48,700	115,800
2001	January	69,700	48,800	118,500	66,400	48,800	115,300
	February	67,900	48,400	116,300	66,000	48,600	114,600

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2000 (See Background Notes).

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

	Month	Males	Females	Total
1999	December	916	2,235	3,151
2000	January	948	2,197	3,145
	February	954	2,247	3,201
	March	1,210	2,127	3,337
	April	961	2,079	3,040
	May	771	2,023	2,794
	June	909	1,883	2,792
	July	909	1,823	2,732
	August	894	1,741	2,635
	September	722	1,635	2,357
	October	778	1,585	2,363
	November	849	1,618	2,467
	December	1,027	1,599	2,626
2001	January	1,262	1,711	2,973
	February	1,263	1,816	3,079

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

	Month	Smallholders/ Farm Assists ¹	Self-Employed	Others	Total
1999	December	8,446	2,122	789	11,357
2000	January	8,456	2,102	771	11,329
	February	8,332	2,049	754	11,135
	March	8,262	2,020	738	11,020
	April	8,211	1,944	761	10,916
	May	8,143	1,890	735	10,768
	June	8,093	1,842	738	10,673
	July	8,096	1,811	762	10,669
	August	8,047	1,787	759	10,593
	September	8,018	1,771	759	10,548
	October	8,031	1,758	700	10,489
	November	8,058	1,767	689	10,514
	December	8,094	1,765	726	10,585
2001	January	8,112	1,717	683	10,512
	February	8,127	1,691	659	10,477

¹Farm Assist Scheme was introduced in April 1999.

Table 7 Persons Under 65 Years, other than Smallholders/Farm Assists, 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
1999	December	11,581	7,331	18,912	13,934	4,978
2000	January	11,548	7,347	18,895	13,943	4,952
	February	11,608	7,461	19,069	14,033	5,036
	March	11,622	7,389	19,011	13,951	5,060
	April	11,645	7,367	19,012	13,894	5,118
	May	11,636	7,328	18,964	13,818	5,146
	June	11,741	7,273	19,014	13,860	5,154
	July	11,723	7,432	19,155	13,944	5,211
	August	11,745	7,454	19,199	13,928	5,271
	September	11,536	7,475	19,011	13,765	5,246
	October	12,677	7,575	20,252	14,746	5,506
	November	12,652	7,624	20,276	14,777	5,499
	December	12,521	7,660	20,181	14,682	5,499
2001	January	12,470	7,736	20,206	14,654	5,552
	February	12,496	7,925	20,421	14,714	5,707

Table 8 Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rates¹

Month	1996 ³	1997 ³	1998	1999	2000 ⁴	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%
January	12.0	10.7	8.5	6.3	4.6	3.6
February	12.0	10.6	8.2	6.1	4.5	3.6
March	11.8	10.5	8.0	5.9	4.3	
April ²	11.9	10.3	7.8	5.7	4.3	
May	11.8	10.1	7.6	5.7	4.2	
June	11.6	9.9	7.5	5.5	4.1	
July	11.5	9.7	7.3	5.4	4.0	
August	11.4	9.5	7.1	5.3	3.9	
September	11.2	9.3	6.9	5.2	3.8	
October	11.1	9.1	6.7	5.0	3.7	
November	11.0	8.9	6.6	4.9	3.7	
December	10.9	8.7	6.4	4.7	3.6	
Annual average	11.5	9.8	7.4	5.5	4.1	

¹ Table contains 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 latest QNHS estimate of the unemployment rate (unadjusted for seasonality) is: September-November 2000, 3.9%..

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 5*);
- Applicants for Unemployment Assistance (UA) excluding smallholders/farm assists and self-employed persons (*see Table 6*);
- Other registrants including applicants for credited Social Welfare contributions but excluding those directly involved in an industrial dispute (*see Table 6*).

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 8 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:

1997				Q4: 10.4%
1998	Q1: 8.5%	Q2: 7.8%	Q3: 7.6%	Q4: 6.4%
1999	Q1: 5.8%	Q2: 5.7%	Q3: 5.7%	Q4: 5.1%
2000	Q1: 4.7%	Q2: 4.3%	Q3: 4.3%	Q4: 3.9%

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 4a, 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.