

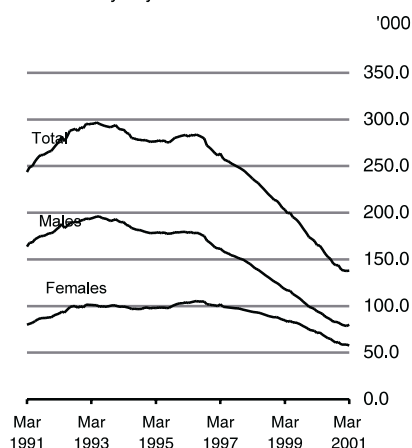


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

6 April 2001

Live Register Statement March 2001

Live Register
Seasonally Adjusted



	Live Register Total	Seasonally Adjusted
March 2000	163,489	165,300
February 2001	139,515	137,500
March 2001	135,885	137,800
Change in month	-3,630	300
Change in year	-27,604	-27,500

Fall of 3,600 before seasonal adjustment

The Live Register fell by 3,630 persons in March, to 135,885. This is the lowest Live Register figure since November 1981 when there were 133,098 persons signing on.

However, after adjusting for seasonal factors, the Live Register showed an increase of 300 last month. The seasonally adjusted total increased from 137,500 in February to 137,800 in March.

Other features include:

- ◆ During March, the Live Register decreased in all regions, except for the Midlands where it increased slightly. *See table 2.*
- ◆ The seasonally adjusted figure for males increased by 1,300 in the month, while the number of females fell by 1,000. *See Table 4a.*
- ◆ The standardised unemployment rate in March 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.

For more information contact Nicola Tickner at 021-4535420, Noel Ryan at 021-4535490 or Margot O'Reilly at 021-4535491.

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Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Ireland

Skehard Road
Cork
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414

Tel: +353-1 497 7144
Fax: +353-1 497 2360

Tel: +353-21 453 5000
Fax: +353-21 453 5492

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: <http://www.cso.ie>

Director General: Donal Garvey

Enquiries:

Live Register Statistics
Queries and Sales

Live Register Section, ext 5490
Information Section, ext 5032
information@cso.ie

Diskette Service

Databank, ext 5650/5499
databank@cso.ie

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Table 1a Total persons on the Live Register

Category	March 2000	February 2001	March 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	26,853	25,856	25,994	+ 138	- 859
UA Applications	64,805	52,976	51,683	- 1,293	- 13,122
Other Registrants	2,778	2,340	2,266	- 74	- 512
Total	94,436	81,172	79,943	- 1,229	- 14,493
Females					
UB Claims	32,760	28,831	27,527	- 1,304	- 5,233
UA Applications	25,624	20,436	19,602	- 834	- 6,022
Other Registrants	10,669	9,076	8,813	- 263	- 1,856
Total	69,053	58,343	55,942	- 2,401	- 13,111
All Persons					
UB Claims	59,613	54,687	53,521	- 1,166	- 6,092
UA Applications	90,429	73,412	71,285	- 2,127	- 19,144
Other Registrants	13,447	11,416	11,079	- 337	- 2,368
Total	163,489	139,515	135,885	- 3,630	- 27,604

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

Category	March 2000	February 2001	March 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	4,243	4,119	4,086	- 33	- 157
UA Applications	10,921	9,121	8,806	- 315	- 2,115
Other Registrants	37	27	30	+ 3	- 7
Total	15,201	13,267	12,922	- 345	- 2,279
Females					
UB Claims	3,503	3,088	3,018	- 70	- 485
UA Applications	8,134	6,745	6,393	- 352	- 1,741
Other Registrants	144	139	140	+ 1	- 4
Total	11,781	9,972	9,551	- 421	- 2,230
All Persons					
UB Claims	7,746	7,207	7,104	- 103	- 642
UA Applications	19,055	15,866	15,199	- 667	- 3,856
Other Registrants	181	166	170	+ 4	- 11
Total	26,982	23,239	22,473	- 766	- 4,509

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

Category	March 2000	February 2001	March 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	22,610	21,737	21,908	+ 171	- 702
UA Applications	53,884	43,855	42,877	- 978	- 11,007
Other Registrants	2,741	2,313	2,236	- 77	- 505
Total	79,235	67,905	67,021	- 884	- 12,214
Females					
UB Claims	29,257	25,743	24,509	- 1,234	- 4,748
UA Applications	17,490	13,691	13,209	- 482	- 4,281
Other Registrants	10,525	8,937	8,673	- 264	- 1,852
Total	57,272	48,371	46,391	- 1,980	- 10,881
All Persons					
UB Claims	51,867	47,480	46,417	- 1,063	- 5,450
UA Applications	71,374	57,546	56,086	- 1,460	- 15,288
Other Registrants	13,266	11,250	10,909	- 341	- 2,357
Total	136,507	116,276	113,412	- 2,864	- 23,095

Table 2 Persons on the Live Register by Region

NUTS2 and NUTS3 Regions ¹	March 2000	February 2001	March 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
Border, Midland & Western	31,151	27,522	27,540	+ 18	- 3,611
Border	15,276	14,014	13,983	- 31	- 1,293
Midland	5,245	4,526	4,658	+ 132	- 587
West	10,630	8,982	8,899	- 83	- 1,731
Eastern & Southern	63,285	53,650	52,403	- 1,247	- 10,882
Dublin	25,836	19,874	19,443	- 431	- 6,393
Mid-East	5,932	4,879	4,713	- 166	- 1,219
Mid-West	7,112	6,453	6,361	- 92	- 751
South-East	11,325	10,651	10,422	- 229	- 903
South-West	13,080	11,793	11,464	- 329	- 1,616
Total	94,436	81,172	79,943	- 1,229	- 14,493
Females					
Border, Midland & Western	22,361	20,161	19,753	- 408	- 2,608
Border	10,730	10,028	9,817	- 211	- 913
Midland	4,406	3,905	3,869	- 36	- 537
West	7,225	6,228	6,067	- 161	- 1,158
Eastern & Southern	46,692	38,182	36,189	- 1,993	- 10,503
Dublin	16,195	12,617	11,838	- 779	- 4,357
Mid-East	4,938	4,023	3,857	- 166	- 1,081
Mid-West	5,612	4,950	4,746	- 204	- 866
South-East	9,603	8,429	7,972	- 457	- 1,631
South-West	10,344	8,163	7,776	- 387	- 2,568
Total	69,053	58,343	55,942	- 2,401	- 13,111
All Persons					
Border, Midland & Western	53,512	47,683	47,293	- 390	- 6,219
Border	26,006	24,042	23,800	- 242	- 2,206
Midland	9,651	8,431	8,527	+ 96	- 1,124
West	17,855	15,210	14,966	- 244	- 2,889
Eastern & Southern	109,977	91,832	88,592	- 3,240	- 21,385
Dublin	42,031	32,491	31,281	- 1,210	- 10,750
Mid-East	10,870	8,902	8,570	- 332	- 2,300
Mid-West	12,724	11,403	11,107	- 296	- 1,617
South-East	20,928	19,080	18,394	- 686	- 2,534
South-West	23,424	19,956	19,240	- 716	- 4,184
Total	163,489	139,515	135,885	- 3,630	- 27,604

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	March 2000	February 2001	March 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Provinces					
Leinster	80,272	65,910	64,099	- 1,811	- 16,173
Munster	46,059	40,461	39,134	- 1,327	- 6,925
Connacht	21,692	18,805	18,472	- 333	- 3,220
Ulster	15,466	14,339	14,180	- 159	- 1,286
Total	163,489	139,515	135,885	- 3,630	- 27,604

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
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
	March	79,900	55,900	135,900	80,000	57,800	137,800

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
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
	March	12,900	9,600	22,500	13,000	10,200	23,200

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

		Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
	Month	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
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
	March	67,000	46,400	113,400	67,000	47,600	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
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
	March	1,103	1,751	2,854

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
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
	March	8,212	1,669	661	10,542

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
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
	March	12,527	7,845	20,372	14,739	5,633

Table 8 Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rates

Month	1996 ²	1997 ²	1998	1999	2000 ³	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	3.6
April ¹	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 Benchmark Labour Force Survey/Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) estimates.

² Interpolated data for May 1996 to March 1997 (see Background Notes).

³ 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.