



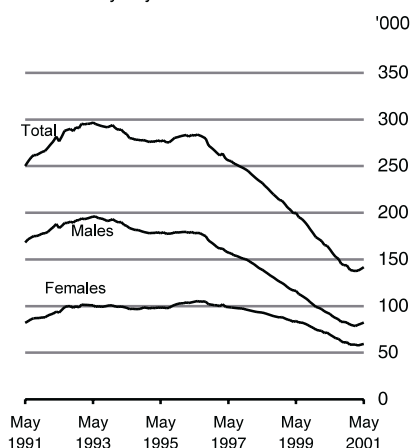
Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

1 June 2001

Live Register Statement May 2001

Live Register

Seasonally Adjusted



	Live Register Total	Seasonally Adjusted
May 2000	152,871	160,800
April 2001	136,561	139,500
May 2001	133,691	141,600
Change in month	-2,870	+2,100
Change in year	-19,180	-19,200

Upward trend of 2,100 in May

The Live Register decreased by 2,870 persons in May 2001 to 133,691. This is the lowest figure since November 1981 when there were 133,098 persons signing on.

However, after adjusting for seasonal factors, there was an underlying increase in May of 2,100 persons. The seasonally adjusted total increased from 139,500 in April to 141,600 in May. As a result the monthly Standardised Unemployment Rate is estimated to have increased from 3.6% to 3.7%.

In the year to May 2001, the Live Register decreased by 19,180 persons. *See table 1a.*

Other features include:

- ◆ The monthly decrease of 2,870 persons on the Live Register was evenly split between males (-1,444) and females (-1,426). *See table 1a.*
- ◆ The majority (90%) of the monthly decrease on the Live Register was for persons aged 25 or over. *See tables 1b and 1c.*
- ◆ After adjusting for seasonality, there was an underlying increase of 1,300 for males and 800 for females in May. *See table 4a.*
- ◆ The standardised unemployment rate in May was 3.7%. 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 December – February 2001 is 65,600 persons unemployed.

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Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

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Ref 112/2001

ISSN 0791-3222

Table 1a Total persons on the Live Register

Category	May 2000	April 2001	May 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	24,679	26,343	25,502	- 841	+ 823
UA Applications	60,689	51,449	50,858	- 591	- 9,831
Other Registrants	2,709	2,312	2,300	- 12	- 409
Total	88,077	80,104	78,660	- 1,444	- 9,417
Females					
UB Claims	30,172	28,111	27,081	- 1,030	- 3,091
UA Applications	24,110	19,452	19,233	- 219	- 4,877
Other Registrants	10,512	8,894	8,717	- 177	- 1,795
Total	64,794	56,457	55,031	- 1,426	- 9,763
All Persons					
UB Claims	54,851	54,454	52,583	- 1,871	- 2,268
UA Applications	84,799	70,901	70,091	- 810	- 14,708
Other Registrants	13,221	11,206	11,017	- 189	- 2,204
Total	152,871	136,561	133,691	- 2,870	- 19,180

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

Category	May 2000	April 2001	May 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	3,957	4,104	4,027	- 77	+ 70
UA Applications	9,915	8,876	8,780	- 96	- 1,135
Other Registrants	32	30	31	+ 1	- 1
Total	13,904	13,010	12,838	- 172	- 1,066
Females					
UB Claims	3,133	3,118	3,036	- 82	- 97
UA Applications	7,511	6,332	6,298	- 34	- 1,213
Other Registrants	143	130	131	+ 1	- 12
Total	10,787	9,580	9,465	- 115	- 1,322
All Persons					
UB Claims	7,090	7,222	7,063	- 159	- 27
UA Applications	17,426	15,208	15,078	- 130	- 2,348
Other Registrants	175	160	162	+ 2	- 13
Total	24,691	22,590	22,303	- 287	- 2,388

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

Category	May 2000	April 2001	May 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	20,722	22,239	21,475	- 764	+ 753
UA Applications	50,774	42,573	42,078	- 495	- 8,696
Other Registrants	2,677	2,282	2,269	- 13	- 408
Total	74,173	67,094	65,822	- 1,272	- 8,351
Females					
UB Claims	27,039	24,993	24,045	- 948	- 2,994
UA Applications	16,599	13,120	12,935	- 185	- 3,664
Other Registrants	10,369	8,764	8,586	- 178	- 1,783
Total	54,007	46,877	45,566	- 1,311	- 8,441
All Persons					
UB Claims	47,761	47,232	45,520	- 1,712	- 2,241
UA Applications	67,373	55,693	55,013	- 680	- 12,360
Other Registrants	13,046	11,046	10,855	- 191	- 2,191
Total	128,180	113,971	111,388	- 2,583	- 16,792

Table 2 Persons on the Live Register by Region

NUTS2 and NUTS3 Regions ¹	May 2000	April 2001	May 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
Border, Midland & Western	29,195	27,767	27,249	- 518	- 1,946
Border	14,483	14,118	13,956	- 162	- 527
Midland	4,810	4,650	4,481	- 169	- 329
West	9,902	8,999	8,812	- 187	- 1,090
Eastern & Southern	58,882	52,337	51,411	- 926	- 7,471
Dublin	24,153	19,521	19,222	- 299	- 4,931
Mid-East	5,408	4,699	4,581	- 118	- 827
Mid-West	6,599	6,334	6,322	- 12	- 277
South-East	10,645	10,366	10,072	- 294	- 573
South-West	12,077	11,417	11,214	- 203	- 863
Total	88,077	80,104	78,660	- 1,444	- 9,417
Females					
Border, Midland & Western	21,103	19,860	19,499	- 361	- 1,604
Border	10,147	9,808	9,631	- 177	- 516
Midland	4,178	3,943	3,847	- 96	- 331
West	6,778	6,109	6,021	- 88	- 757
Eastern & Southern	43,691	36,597	35,532	- 1,065	- 8,159
Dublin	15,282	12,069	11,833	- 236	- 3,449
Mid-East	4,631	3,904	3,818	- 86	- 813
Mid-West	5,400	4,729	4,661	- 68	- 739
South-East	9,170	7,980	7,799	- 181	- 1,371
South-West	9,208	7,915	7,421	- 494	- 1,787
Total	64,794	56,457	55,031	- 1,426	- 9,763
All Persons					
Border, Midland & Western	50,298	47,627	46,748	- 879	- 3,550
Border	24,630	23,926	23,587	- 339	- 1,043
Midland	8,988	8,593	8,328	- 265	- 660
West	16,680	15,108	14,833	- 275	- 1,847
Eastern & Southern	102,573	88,934	86,943	- 1,991	- 15,630
Dublin	39,435	31,590	31,055	- 535	- 8,380
Mid-East	10,039	8,603	8,399	- 204	- 1,640
Mid-West	11,999	11,063	10,983	- 80	- 1,016
South-East	19,815	18,346	17,871	- 475	- 1,944
South-West	21,285	19,332	18,635	- 697	- 2,650
Total	152,871	136,561	133,691	- 2,870	- 19,180

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	May 2000	April 2001	May 2001	Monthly change	Annual change
Provinces					
Leinster	75,046	64,834	63,287	- 1,547	- 11,759
Munster	42,852	39,091	38,193	- 898	- 4,659
Connacht	20,404	18,600	18,204	- 396	- 2,200
Ulster	14,569	14,036	14,007	- 29	- 562
Total	152,871	136,561	133,691	- 2,870	- 19,180

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
	April	80,100	56,500	136,600	80,900	58,600	139,500
	May	78,700	55,000	133,700	82,200	59,400	141,600

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
	April	13,000	9,600	22,600	13,400	10,500	23,900
	May	12,800	9,500	22,300	14,400	10,900	25,300

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
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
	April	67,100	46,900	114,000	67,600	48,100	115,600
	May	65,800	45,600	111,400	67,800	48,500	116,300

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
	April	1,094	1,724	2,818
	May	1,102	1,736	2,838

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
	April	8,439	1,637	659	10,735
	May	8,509	1,614	642	10,765

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
	April	12,496	7,756	20,252	14,617	5,635
	May	12,436	7,791	20,227	14,560	5,667

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	3.6
May	11.8	10.1	7.6	5.7	4.2	3.7
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: December-February 2001, 3.7%.

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 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%
2001	Q1: 3.7%			

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 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.