**STATISTICAL ANNEX**

to the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports submitted by Ireland under article 44 of the Convention pursuant to the simplified reporting procedure  
  
2022

February 2022

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, EQUALITY, DISABILITY, INTEGRATION AND YOUTH

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**STATISTICAL INFORMATION AND DATA**

Ireland has taken account of paragraphs 33 and 34 of the list of issues and incorporated them into all tables

# A**. General measures of implementation (arts. 4, 42 and 44 (6))**

**Paragraph 35 of the list of issues**

Please provide information on the budget lines regarding children and the social sectors, indicating the amount allocated to each budget line and its proportion in terms of the total national budget.

**Reply to paragraph 35 of the list of issues**

Table 1: Public expenditure on children by programme type, 2016-2021

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Budget estimate** | | | | | |
| **Programme expenditure** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** |
| A. Children and Family Support Programme | 701,643 | 742,688 | 786,298 | 819,347 | 848,431 | 912,479 |
| B. Sectoral Programmes for Children and Young People | 411,656 | 539,916 | 568,649 | 660,978 | 720,572 | 736,651 |
| C. Policy and Legislation Programmes | 24,512 | 28,752 | 28,664 | 30,238 | 34,592 | 36,511 |
| D. An Equal and Inclusive Society | 4,943 | 21,707 | 26,316 | 28,255 | 55,681 | 30,481 |
| E. A Fair and Efficient Support System for International Protection Seekers | 145,323 | 149,192 | 149,829 | 158,217 | 3,638 | 234,802 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sub-total programme areas | 1,288,077 | 1,482,255 | 1,559,756 | 1,697,035 | 1,662,914 | 1,950,924 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC) | 6,306 | 6,631 | 6,703 | 6,751 | 6,814 | 7,095 |
| *Source: Government Expenditure Reports* | | | | | | |

The budget of the Ombudsman for Children’s Office for 2016 to 2021 is as follows:   
2016 - €2.154m; 2017 - €2.36m; 2018 - €2.733m; 2019 - €2.747m; 2020 - €2.87m; 2021 - €3m.

A comprehensive analysis of public expenditure on children is currently being undertaken within the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

# B. General principles (arts. 2–3, 6 and 12)

**Paragraph 36 of the list of issues**

Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 33 above, on cases of:

(a) Discrimination affecting children, prosecutions brought before the courts under legislation governing non-discrimination and the sanctions imposed on perpetrators;

(b) Child deaths caused by child abuse and neglect, suicide and accident, including road accidents and drownings.

**Reply to paragraph 36 of the list of issues**

**(a)** **Discrimination affecting children, prosecutions brought before the courts under legislation governing non-discrimination and the sanctions imposed on perpetrators**

* The Central Statistics Office (CSO) Quarterly National Household Survey and its successor the Labour Force Survey collected data on discrimination in 2004, 2010, 2014 and 2019. In 2004, it was reported that 18% of persons aged 18-24 experienced some form of discrimination in the previous two years. The figures for 2010, 2014 and 2019 were 13%, 13% and 22% respectively. Of those surveyed in 2019, only 2% of this age group pursued an official complaint or legal action, while 84% of this group took no further action. Note that the 2019 data is not strictly comparable with data from earlier years due to the change of survey vehicle. Also note that in the 2019 questionnaire an additional category of discrimination experienced in contact with An Garda Síochána was included. When this is included in the 2019 figure increases to 24%.
* The Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children study found that in 2018, 11.1% of all children aged 12-17 had experienced discrimination.
* While there are some known cases of adolescent discrimination, the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC) does not produce data on discrimination cases by age.

**(b) Child deaths caused by child abuse and neglect, suicides and accidents, including road accidents and drownings**

The CSO’s Vital Statistics report for 2020 includes data on all child deaths throughout the State caused by suicides and accidents, and suicide/self-harm. The total number of child deaths has increased from 177 in 2016 to 253 in 2020[[1]](#footnote-2) . The highest number of mortalities occurred in the 15-24 age group each year, with suicide and/or intentional self-harm being the most common cause of death in this age group.

* The National Review Panel (NRP) is an independent body established to examine serious incidents (including the deaths of children in care or otherwise known to child protection services).
* The total number of child deaths reported by the NRP decreased from 22 in 2017 to 13 in 2018, before increasing again to 21 in 2019 and increasing again to 30 in 2020.
* There was a higher number of deaths recorded amongst boys compared to girls in each year between 2017 and 2020. Natural causes was the most common cause of death each year for both males and females.

Table 2: Child deaths by sex and cause of death examined by the National Review Panel, 2017-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Cause of death** | **2017** | | | **2018** | | | **2019** | | | **2020** | | |
|  | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** | **Male** | **Female** | **Total** |
| Natural Causes | 4 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| Suicide | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Homicide | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Road traffic accident | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Other accidental | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Drug overdose | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| **Total** | **13** | **9** | **22** | **3** | **10** | **13** | **12** | **9** | **21** | **19** | **11** | **30** |
| *Source: National Review Panel* | | | | | | | | | | | | |

# C. Civil rights and freedoms (arts. 7, 8 and 13–17)

**Paragraph 37 of the list of issues**

Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 33 above, on information and communications technology-related violations of children’s rights and the number of such cases that have been investigated and prosecuted.

**Reply to paragraph 37 of the list of issues**

Data on ICT-related violations of children’s right is not currently produced.

# D. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24 (3), 28 (2), 34, 37 (a) and 39)

**Paragraph 38 of the list of issues**

Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 33 above, on:

(a) Children who are victims of violence and neglect, including physical abuse, domestic violence and sexual exploitation and abuse, that have been reported to the authorities, the number of cases investigated and prosecuted and the sanctions imposed on perpetrators, further disaggregated by type of offence;

(b) Children who have received protective measures and multidisciplinary remedies as victims and/or witnesses of violence and neglect, in particular physical and sexual abuse and exploitation;

(c) Intersex children who have received non-urgent and irreversible surgical or other procedures.

**Reply to paragraph 38 of the list of issues**

1. **Children who are victims of violence and neglect, including physical abuse, domestic violence and sexual exploitation and abuse, that have been reported to the authorities, the number of cases investigated and prosecuted and the sanctions imposed on perpetrators, further disaggregated by type of offence;**

Table 3: Breakdown of child protection referrals by year, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | |  |
| *No. of referrals* | | | | | |
| **Year** | **Physical** | **Emotional** | **Sexual** | **Neglect** | **Total** |
| 2016 | 4,450 | 6,871 | 3,042 | 4,724 | 19,087 |
| 2017 | 4,942 | 7,615 | 3,170 | 4,810 | 20,537 |
| 2018 | 6,137 | 10,130 | 3,548 | 5,000 | 24,815 |
| 2019 | 6,488 | 10,722 | 3,909 | 4,308 | 25,427 |
| 2020\* | 5,511 | 9,546 | 3,653 | 3,340 | 22,050 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Source: Tusla* | | | | | |
| *\* Note 2020 data not directly comparable with early years due to methodological changes* | | | | | |

Table 4: Suspected cases of minors being trafficked for sexual or labour exploitation

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Female** | **Male** |
| 2015 | 6 | 1 |
| 2016 | 1 | 0 |
| 2017 | 3 | 0 |
| 2018 | 3 | 2 |
| 2019 | 7 | 2 |
| **Total** | **20** | **5** |
| *\* Note 2020 data is not available* | | |

* The Recorded Crime Statistics report publised by the CSO do not provide information disagregated in the requested manner.
* The number of child protection referrals are published quarterly and annually by Tusla, the Child and Family Agency and can be found at https://data.tusla.ie/. The table above shows the number of child referrals disaggregated by abuse type.
* Excluding neglect, there has been an increase in referrals for all forms of child abuse recorded between 2018 and 2019.
* In 2015, there were 7 suspected cases of minors being trafficked for sexual or labour exploitation (11.3% of all suspected trafficking cases). This decreased to just 1 case in 2016 (1.3%), before increasing again to 9 cases (21.4%) by 2019.

1. **Children who have received protective measures and multidisciplinary remedies as victims and/or witnesses of violence and neglect, in particular physical and sexual abuse and exploitation;**

Table 5: Outcome of Initial assessments 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | |
|  | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| # Preliminary enquiries | 46,448 | 52,703 | 50,251 | 53,858 | 43,295 |
| # Requiring initial assessment | 20,117 | 18,392 | 10,318 | 9,181 | 9,997 |
| % Requiring initial assessment | 43% | 36% | 24%\* | 17%\* | 23% |
| *Source: Tusla Review of Adequacy Annual Reports, 2016-2020*  *\*% for 2018 and 2019 adjusted to account for missing/incomplete data* | | | | | |

Table 6: Age of children active on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) by age group, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | | |
| **Age group** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **General population\*\*** |
| 0-4 years | 430 | 505 | 391 | 312 | 358 | 331,515 |
| 5-9 years | 376 | 371 | 303 | 264 | 257 | 355,561 |
| 10-14 years | 331 | 297 | 255 | 218 | 231 | 319,476 |
| 15-17 years | 135 | 131 | 80 | 82 | 93 | 183,950 |
| **Total** | **1,272** | **1,304** | **1,029** | **876** | **939** | **1,190,502** |
| *Source: Tusla Review of Adequacy Annual Reports, 2016-2020*  *\*\* Population data from 2016 Census* | | | | | | |

Table 7: Children who attended Children at Risk in Ireland (CARI) therapy services by age group, 2018

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | |
| **Age group** | **No. of referrals** |
| 3-6 years | 3 |
| 7-12 years | 21 |
| 13-16 years | 15 |
| 17+ years | 19 |
| **Total** | **58** |
| *Source: CARI Annual Report, 2018* | |

* The Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) is a secure database that contains a record of all children who are deemed to be at ongoing risk of significant harm and continue to live at home with their parent(s) / carer(s). The decision is reached at a multidisciplinary child protection conference where a child protection plan is agreed that details a range of measures to ensure the child safety and meeting their needs. The number of children who are currently listed as “active” on CPNS has decreased significantly for all age groups, from 1,272 total cases in 2016 to 876 total cases in 2019 (a decrease of 31.1%).
* The Children at Risk in Ireland (CARI) Foundation provides counselling and therapy services to children and families affected by child sexual abuse and rape. In 2018, there were 58 referrals to CARI therapy sevices. The most referrals occurred in the 7-12 years age group, with 21 cases (or 36.2%).
* CARI also provides court accompaniment services including support pre-, during and after trials, and it supported 90 children in 2018. There were a number of alleged crimes where children gave witness testimony to in 2018, including: rape, sexual assault, false imprisonment, sexual exploitation, defilement of a child, physical assault, robbery, kidnapping, neglect, outraging public decency, cruelty, domestic violence, and careless driving.
* Figures from the National Sexual Assault Treatment Unit Services 2020 Annual Report record seeing 12 children under the age of 14, 77 children between the ages of 14 and 15 and 87 young people aged 16 and 17 years of age.

1. **Intersex children who have received non-urgent and irreversible surgical or other procedures.**

Approximately 2-3 children per year are born in Ireland with ambiguous genitalia and are referred to Children’s Health Ireland (CHI) at Crumlin as the centre with a full range of specialists to assist with diagnosis of the cause of the ambiguity. See further response in 19a of Ireland’s State Report.

# E. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9–11, 18 (1) and (2), 20, 21, 25 and 27 (4))

**Paragraph 39 of the list of issues**

Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 33 above, on:

1. Families and children receiving economic and other types of support services;
2. Children in residential care and the number of institutions and group homes, their median size and the average length of stay therein;
3. Children in family-based and community-based care;
4. Children in alternative care institutions outside the State party;
5. Children who have been placed in single isolation rooms in special care units;
6. Children adopted domestically and internationally

**Reply to paragraph 39 of the list of issues**

**(a) Families and children receiving economic and other types of support services**

Table 8: Number of child beneficiaries of Children Benefits by type, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Number* | | | | | |
| **Scheme** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| Child Benefit | 1,194,869 | 1,197,866 | 1,202,925 | 1,216,475 | 1,206,848 |
| Working Family Payment | 127,408 | 129,274 | 122,056 | 119,471 | 108,503 |
| Back to Work Family Dividend | :\* | :\* | 14,694 | 11,048 | 6,842 |
| Guardian's Payment (non-contributory) | 659 | 674 | 727 | 717 | 734 |
| Guardian's Payment (contributory) | 1,312 | 1,297 | 1,413 | 1,456 | 1,472 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total child beneficiaries** | **1,324,248** | **1,329,111** | **1,341,815** | **1,349,167** | **1,324,399** |
| *Source: Department of Social Protection, Annual Statistical Report (2016-2020)*  *\*Figures not available* | | | | | |

Table 9: Young persons aged under 20 on the live register by sex, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *No. of persons* | | | | | |
|  | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| Males | 3,850 | 3,062 | 2,420 | 2,390 | 2,689 |
| Females | 2,863 | 2,255 | 1,799 | 1,741 | 2,126 |
| **Total** | **6,713** | **5,317** | **4,219** | **4,131** | **4,815** |
| *Source: CSO* | | | | | |

* The total number of child beneficiaries of child-related payments has ranged from 1.32 million in 2016 to 1.35 million in 2019.
* The largest number of child beneficiaries were for Child Benefit payments, accounting for just over 90% of all child-related payments in 2020.
* Non-contributory Guardian’s Payments had the least number of child beneficiaries for each year between 2016 and 2020.
* Between 2016 and 2020, males under 20 were more likely to be on the live register than females in the same age group. However, the number of young people under 20 on the live register has decreased for both sexes between 2016 and 2019.
* Both sexes saw an increase of young people under 20 on the live register in 2020, most likely due to the economic impact of Covid-19.

**(b) Children in residential care and the number of institutions and group homes, their median size and the average length of stay therein; AND**

**(c) Children in family-based and community-based care**

* As of 2020, there were 371 children in general residential care, and 18 children in special residential care, accounting for 6.1% and 0.2% of all children in care respectively. The highest percentage of children in care were in general foster care, at 3822 (or 66%), followed by relative foster care (26%). A relative foster carer is a person with whom the child or the child’s family has had a relationship prior to the child’s admission to care (family member, family friend or a neighbour). Altogether, the vast majority of children in care are looked after by foster carer (92%).
* The overall number of children in care has decreased, from 6,267 in 2016 to 5,818 in 2020, a decrease of 7.1%.

Table 10: Children in care by placement type, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Placement Type** | **2016** | | **2017** | | **2018** | | **2019** | | **2020** | |
|  | **(n)** | **%** | **(n)** | **%** | **(n)** | **%** | **(n)** | **%** | **(n)** | **%** |
| General foster care | 4,111 | 66 | 4,023 | 66 | 3,957 | 66 | 3,924 | 66 | 3,822 | 66 |
| Relative foster care | 1,715 | 27 | 1,667 | 27 | 1,594 | 27 | 1,558 | 26 | 1,516 | 26 |
| General residential | 307 | 5 | 311 | 5 | 332 | 5.6 | 363 | 6.1 | 371 | 6 |
| Special care | 12 | 0.2 | 12 | 0.2 | 14 | 0.2 | 14 | 0.2 | 18 | 0.3 |
| Other | 122 | 2 | 103 | 2 | 77 | 1.3 | 92 | 1.6 | 91 | 2 |
| **Total** | **6,267** | **100** | **6,116** | **100** | **5,974** | **100** | **5,951** | **100** | **5,818** | **100** |
| *Source: Tusla* | | | | | | | | | | |

Table 11: Number of Children’s Residential Care Centres, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Provision Type** |  | **2016** | |  | **2017** | | **2018** | | **2019** | | **2020\*** | |
|  |  | |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tusla Operated Services | | | 41 | 37 | | | 38 | | 38 | | 39 | |
| Voluntary Services |  | | 25 |  | | 25 | 25 | | 26 | | 25 | |
| Private Services |  | | 120 |  | | 118 | 124 | | 134 | | 120 | |
| **Total** |  | | **186** |  | | **180** | **187** | | **198** | | **184** | |
| *\*2020 data correct as at 31 March 2020*  *Source: Spending Review 2020 Tusla Residential Care Costs* | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Table 12: Average duration of Stay in Years as at 31 March 2020 by Residential Service Type

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | |
| **Provision Type** | **Average Duration of Stay in Years** |
| Tusla Operated Services |  |
| Mainstream | 1.13 |
| SCSIP/IRPP\* | 0.75 |
| Special Care | 0.46 |
| Voluntary Services |  |
| Mainstream | 1.01 |
| SCSIP/IRPP\* | 0.7 |
| Disability\*\* | 6.0 |
| Private Services |  |
| Mainstream | 1.34 |
| SCSIP/IRPP\* | 0.29 |
| Disability\*\* | 6.04 |
| Out of State | 2.35 |

|  |
| --- |
| *Source: Spending Review 2020 Tusla Residential Care Costs*  *\*Separated Children Seeking International Protection/International Refugee Protection Programme*  *\*\* Disability data provided as at 31/07/2020*  *Note: Data is provided in respect of current placements only and does not illustrate the total time spent in residential care e.g. where there have been two or more placements* |

**(d) Children in alternative care institutions outside the State party**

Table 13: Children in care in an out-of-state placement, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Placement** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| General residential | 6 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 2 |
| General foster care | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Relative foster care | 5 | 5 | 10 | 6 | 8 |
| Other | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| **Total** | **17** | **16** | **22** | **20** | **16** |
| *Source: Tusla* | | | | | |

* As of December 2020, there were 16 children placed in alternative care outside of Ireland, accounting for 0.3% if the total children in care.
* The majority (13) of these children were placed in foster care, of which 8 were in foster care with relatives.

**(e) Children who have been placed in single isolation rooms in special care units**

Single separation is an approved restrictive practice in Special Care and is defined as follows:

Single Separation refers to confining of a young person without his/her agreement in a safe and secure (locked) area as a means of control and as a response to an assessed extreme and immediate risk of physical harm being presented by the young person without a member of staff present.

Data on single separation is not published.

Table 14: Referrals to Special Care, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| No. of referrals | 42 | 45 | 34 | 37 | 39 |
| No. of re-referrals | 10 | 11 | 5 | 6 | 8 |
| Total referrals | 52 | 56 | 39 | 43 | 47 |
| Referrals approved | 26 | 33 | 20 | 25 | 29 |
| Children admitted | 19 | 17 | 19 | 27 | 28 |
| *Source: Tusla* | | | | | |

Table 15: Referrals to Special Care by age, 2020

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| **Age at time  of referral** | **Number of referrals** |
| 13 years | 4 |
| 14 years | 9 |
| 15 years | 19 |
| 16 years | 11 |
| 17 years | 4 |
| **Total** | **47** |
| *Source: Tusla* | |

* There are currently three Special Care Units in Ireland (two based in Dublin and one in Limerick).
* Total approved referrals to Special Care Units have increased from 26 in 2016 to 29 in 2020. Males were twice as likely to be referred to these units as females in this period.
* The most common age of those referred was 15 (19 referrals), followed by 16 (11 referrals).

**(f) Children adopted domestically and internationally**

Table 16: Children referred for adoption by type, 2017-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | |
| **Referrals** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2020-2019** |
| Step-parent adoption | 79 | 136 | 109 | 98 | -11 |
| Fostering to adoption | 76 | 45 | 48 | 76 | 28 |
| Domestic adoption | 22 | 16 | 22 | 22 | 0 |
| **Total** | **177** | **197** | **179** | **196** | **17** |
| *Source: Tusla* | | | | | |

* In Ireland, there were 196 referrals for adoption in 2020, an increase of 17 referrals on 2019. Of these, 22 were for domestic adoption.
* In 2020, applications for inter-country adoption fell for the third consecutive year.

# F. Children with disabilities (art. 23)

**Paragraph 40 of the list of issues**

Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 33 above, on children with disabilities who:

(a) Receive economic and other types of support services;

(b) Live with their families;

(c) Live in residential care and the number of institutions and group homes, their median size and the average length of stay therein;

(d) Live in family-based and community-based care;

(e) Attend regular schools and separate schools;

(f) Have reported violence and abuse.

**Reply to paragraph 40 of the list of issues**

**(a) Receive economic and other types of support services**

In 2016, there were 9,950 children in receipt of a disability allowance of whom 4,616 were in receipt of Domiciliary Care Allowance.

**(b) Live with their families**

Table 17: Population Enumerated as Children with disabilities in Family Units in Private Households, 2016

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | |
| **Age Group** | **Both sexes** | **Male** | **Female** |
| 0-4 years | 9,426 | 5,712 | 3,714 |
| 5-9 years | 22,035 | 14,465 | 7,570 |
| 10-14 years | 25,118 | 15,757 | 9,361 |
| 15-19 years | 24,697 | 13,734 | 10,963 |
| **Total** | **81,276** | **49,668** | **31,608** |
| *Source: CSO Census 2016* | | | |

* In 2016, there were 81,276 children with disabilities resident in Family Units in private households. Males accounted for 61.1% (49,668) while females accounted for 38.9% (31,608).
* The majority of children with disabilities in Family Units in private households in 2016 is in the 10-14 years age group followed by the 15-19 years age group.

**(c) Live in residential care and the number of institutions and group homes, their median size and the average length of stay therein; AND**

**(d) Live in family-based and community-based care**

* Figures from HIQA state that by the end of 2019, there were a total of 121 care centres for children with disabilities. Of this, 80 centres cared exclusively for children, while the remaining 41 were mixed centres for both adults and children. There were 347 children with disabilities resident in these designated centres. Of this, 260 were mixed centres. Most of the mixed centres were respite services which provided breaks to adults and children separately.

**(e) Attend regular schools and separate schools**

Table 18: Children with disabilities in mainstream and special schools, 2020

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Day service** | **Pre-school** | **Primary/Secondary** |
| Mainstream school | 319 | 2,272 |
| Special school | 408 | 2,843 |
| Special class/unit within mainstream school | N/A | 924 |
| *Source: Health Research Board* | | |

**(f) Have reported violence and abuse.**

By the end of 2015, HIQA were informed of 176 notifications of potential risks to the health, safety and wellbeing of child residents of care centres. Abuse was the most common, with 72 notifications.

# G. Basic health and welfare (arts. 6, 18 (3), 24, 26, 27 (1)–(3) and 33)

**Paragraph 41 of the list of issues**

Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 33 above, on:

1. Children who do not have access to child benefit payments due to the Habitual Residence Condition;
2. Adolescent mothers;
3. Sexual and reproductive health services available to adolescents;
4. Children suffering from drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse;
5. Children diagnosed with depression;
6. Children living below the poverty line and in extreme poverty;
7. Children living in social housing and emergency housing and the average length of stay.

**Reply to paragraph 40 of the list of issues**

1. **Children who do not have access to Child Benefit payments due to the Habitual Residence Condition**

The Habitual Residence Condition is part of Irish social welfare legislation and is in accordance with EU legislation and with European Court of Justice Jurisprudence. Being habitually resident in the state is a requirement, amongst others, for receipt of most means-tested social assistance payments and Child Benefit. The requirements apply equally to all applicants and beneficiaries, regardless of nationality or ethnic background. The data requested is unavailable.

**(b) Adolescent mothers**

Table 19: Adolescent mothers, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | |
| **Age of mother** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| 15 years and younger | 24 | 19 | 19 | 21 | 16 |
| 16 years | 50 | 53 | 57 | 53 | 39 |
| 17 years | 139 | 143 | 133 | 96 | 113 |
| 18 years | 342 | 294 | 249 | 257 | 237 |
| 19 years | 546 | 529 | 498 | 437 | 425 |
| **Total** | **1,101** | **1,038** | **956** | **864** | **830** |
| *Source: CSO, Vital Statistics* | | | | | |

The total number of adolescent mothers in Ireland has decreased each year, from 1,101 in 2016 to 830 in 2020.

**(c) Sexual and reproductive health services available to adolescents**

Table 20: Percentage of 15 to 17 year-olds who report having used birth control at last intercourse by gender and social class group, 2014 and 2018

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | |
| **Indicator** | | **2014** | | **2018** | |
|  |  | **Male** | **Female** | **Male** | **Female** |
| **Having used birth control pill at last intercourse** | | | | | |
|  | SC1-2 | 28% | 35% | 23% | 36% |
|  | SC3-4 | 32% | 34% | 22% | 30% |
|  | SC5-6 | 25% | 48% | 24% | 47% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Having used a condom at last intercourse** | | | | | |
|  | SC1-2 | 75% | 65% | 74% | 66% |
|  | SC3-4 | 72% | 60% | 80% | 59% |
|  | SC5-6 | 90% | 71% | 65% | 69% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Source: Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children, 2018* | | | | | |
| *SC1-2: Professional workers; Managerial and technical; SC2-4: Non-manual; Skilled manual; SC5-6: Semi-skilled; Unskilled.* | | | | | |

* Overall, 23% of boys and 35% of girls aged 15 to 17 years old report in 2018 that they used the birth control pill as a form of contraception at last intercourse. “There is a statistically significant gender difference but no statistically significant differences across social class groups.”[[2]](#footnote-3)
* Overall, 64% of 15 to 17 year old boys and girls report that they used a condom at last intercourse. “There are no statistically significant differences by gender and social class.”[[3]](#footnote-4)

Table 21: Percentage of adolescents who received Relationship and Sex Education (RSE), 2018

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | | |
| **Source of RSE** | **Percentage of adolescents** | |
| **Age 13** | **Age 17** |
| Parents/family | 45.5% | 17.7% |
| Friends | 23.1% | 46.3% |
| Teacher | 10.8% | 9.3% |
| Internet/books/TV | 4.3% | 19.5% |
| Did not receive any RSE | 13.8% | 4.6% |
| *Source: Growing up in Ireland, '98 cohort, wave 2 (aged 13) and wave 3 (aged 17)* | | |

Table 22: Uptake of HPV vaccine by academic year among first year of second level schools (and home school equivalent), 2015/2016-2019/2020[[4]](#footnote-5)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | | |
| **Stage** |  | **2015/2016** | **2016/2017** | **2017/2018** | **2018/2019** | **2019/2020** |
| At least stage 1 |  | 82.4% | 55.8% | 66.6% | 74.9% | 81.6% |
| At least stage 2 |  | 72.3% | 51.0% | 64.1% | 69.6% | 65.5% |
| *Source: Health Protection Surveillance Centre* | | | | | | |

As of September 2019, the HPV vaccine is now available to adolescent boys as well as girls in their first year of secondary school. Data on immunisation uptake of boys in secondary schools is not yet available.

**(d) Children suffering from drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse**

Table 23: Children treated for problem alcohol and drug use, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | |
| **Cases** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| **Alcohol use** | *No. of cases* | | | | |
| All cases | 124 | 112 | 114 | 107 | 99 |
| New cases | 87 | 90 | 87 | 83 | 82 |
| Previously treated | 20 | 17 | 20 | 15 | 13 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Drug use** | *No. of cases* | | | | |
| All cases | 629 | 591 | 732 | 822 | 674 |
| New cases | 469 | 413 | 537 | 618 | 546 |
| Previously treated | 141 | 154 | 170 | 155 | 111 |
| *Source: Health Research Board* | | | | | |

* The number of children treated for problem alcohol use decreased from 124 in 2016 to 99 by 2020. The number of children treated for alcohol abuse who were previously treated was relatively small, ranging between 13 and 20 children per year.
* The number of children treated for problem drug use increased between 2016 (629) and 2020 (674).
* In 2020, there were 111 children treated for problem drug use who had been treated previously.

**(e) Children diagnosed with depression**

According to the CSO’s Irish Health Survey (2019):

* 84% of 15-24 year-olds experienced none to minimal depression within the previous two weeks of surveying
* 7% experienced mild depression
* 2% experienced moderate depression; and
* 2% experienced moderately severe or severe depression.

**(f) Children living below the poverty line and in extreme poverty**

Table 24: Poverty rates of 0-17 year-olds (before social transfers), 2015-2020

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *%* | | |
| **Year** | **60% of median equivalised\* income** | **50% of median equivalised\* income** |
| 2015 | 18.4 | 9.0 |
| 2016 | 19.1 | 11.0 |
| 2017 | 18.4 | 9.2 |
| 2018 | 15.9 | 7.0 |
| 2019 | 15.3 | 2.1 |
| 2020\*\* | 39.1 | 33.2 |
| *Source: Eurostat*  *\*Equivalised income is a measure of household income that takes account of the differences in a household's size and composition, and thus is equivalised or made equivalent for all household sizes and compositions.*  *\*\*The 2020 Eurostat results are not directly comparable with earlier years due to break in time-series* | | |

* + At-risk of poverty rate for children (before social transfers) at 60% of median equivalised income has decreased from 18.4% in 2015 to 15.3% in 2019. In 2020, the at-risk of poverty rate for children at 60% of median equivalised income was 16.9% (note 2020 data is not comparable with earlier years)
  + The same rate at 50% of median equivalised income increased from 9.0% in 2015 to 11.0% in 2016, before decreasing each year to 2.1% by 2019. The figure for 2020 was 33.2% (note 2020 data is not comparable with earlier years)

Table 25: Poverty and deprivation rates of 0-17 year-olds (after social transfers), 2015-2020

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *%* | | | |
| **Year** | **At risk of poverty rate (60% of median equivalised\* income)** | **Deprivation rate** | **Consistent poverty rate** |
| 2015 | 18.4 | 31.1 | 10.9 |
| 2016 | 19.1 | 25.0 | 10.9 |
| 2017 | 18.4 | 23.0 | 8.8 |
| 2018 | 15.9 | 19.7 | 7.7 |
| 2019 | 15.3 | 23.3 | 8.1 |
| 2020\*\* | 16.9 | 20.3 | 8.0 |
| *Source: CSO Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC)*  *\*Equivalised income is a measure of household income that takes account of the differences in a household's size and composition, and thus is equivalised or made equivalent for all household sizes and compositions.*  *\*\** *The 2020 SILC results are not directly comparable with earlier years due to break in time-series* | | | |

**(g) Children living in social housing and emergency housing and the average length of stay**

Table 26: Children who are homeless and relying on emergency homeless accommodation at year-end by region, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *No. of dependents* | | | | | |
| **Region** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| Dublin | 2,096 | 2,385 | 2,686 | 2,553 | 1,864 |
| Mid-East | 75 | 91 | 95 | 169 | 127 |
| Midlands | 22 | 40 | 97 | 53 | 34 |
| Mid-West | 86 | 127 | 104 | 126 | 51 |
| North-East | 36 | 84 | 43 | 24 | 9 |
| North-West | 1 | 7 | 15 | 18 | 12 |
| South-East | 36 | 67 | 58 | 19 | 21 |
| South-West | 91 | 148 | 282 | 263 | 119 |
| West | 62 | 130 | 179 | 197 | 90 |
| **Total** | **2,505** | **3,079** | **3,559** | **3,422** | **2,327** |
| *Source: Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government* | | | | | |

* The number of homeless children increased from 2,505 in December 2016, to 3,559 in December 2018 (an increase of over 42%). This then decreased to 2,327 by the end of 2020.
* The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) is a form of social housing support provided by all local authorities. HAP means that local authorities can provide housing assistance for households who qualify for social housing support, including many long-term Rent Supplement recipients. At the end of 2019, 39,310 families with children were availing of HAP.

Table 27: Number of Families with children in receipt of HAP at end of the year 2016-2019

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Number* | |
| **Year** |  |
| 2016 | 10,950 |
| 2017 | 21,960 |
| 2018 | 31,980 |
| 2019 | 39,310 |
| *Source: CSO* | |

# H. Education, leisure and cultural activities (arts. 28–31)

**Paragraph 42 of the list of issues**

Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 33 above, on:

1. School dropout among children, including children with disabilities and Traveller and Roma children;
2. Children on reduced timetables in schools;
3. Cases of bullying and harassment in schools;
4. Children attending early childhood education, including children with disabilities and Traveller and Roma children, and the average duration of attendance.

**Reply to paragraph 42 of the list of issues**

1. **School dropout rate among children, including children with disabilities and Traveller and Roma children.**

Table 28: Early schools leavers, by milestones and gender, 2014 entry cohort

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | | |
|  | **Cohort progression (n)** | | | **Leaving rates (%)** | | |
| **Milestone** | **Female** | **Male** | **Total** | **Female** | **Male** | **Total** |
| Junior Cycle Year 2 | 186 | 239 | 425 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.7 |
| Junior Cycle Year 3 | 131 | 231 | 362 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 1.3 |
| Junior Certificate | 329 | 381 | 710 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 2.4 |
| Senior Cycle Year 1 | 600 | 634 | 1,234 | 4.1 | 4.8 | 4.5 |
| Senior Cycle Year 2 | 858 | 1,207 | 2,065 | 7 | 8.7 | 7.8 |
| Leaving Certificate | -190 | 563 | 373 | 6.4 | 10.5 | 8.5 |
| *Source: Department of Education and Skills, Retention Rates (2014 entry cohort)* | | | | | | |

The Department of Education provides data on early school leavers by milestones, with the 2014 entry cohort being the most recent. In total, 5,169 students did not sit their leaving certificate in 2019 or 2020 or receive a calculated grade in 2020. When broken down by gender, dropout rates were higher amongst males (3,255) compared to females (1,914). This data is sourced from an annual retention report which does not currently include disaggregated data at the level requested.

**(b) Children on reduced timetables in schools**

The Department of Education does not report data on children on reduced timetables in schools.

**(c) Cases of bullying and harassment in schools**

Table 29: Children who reported bulling over the last couple of months, 2014 and 2018

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *%* | | | |
| **Type of bullying** | **2014** | **2018** | **% change 2014-2018** |
| Physical fight | 29 | 31 | 2 |
| Bullied others | 13 | 13 | 0 |
| Being bullied | 25 | 30 | 5 |
| Cyberbullying others | \* | 8 | \* |
| Being cyberbullied | \* | 16 | \* |
| *Source: HBSC Survey, 2018* | | | |
| *\* Questions relating to cyberbullying different in both reports.* | | | |

* The total number of children being bullied has increased by 5% between 2014 and 2018.
* According to the Health Behaviour in School Aged Children survey (HBSC), boys were more likely to report bullying others or being in a physical fight.
* There were no significant gender differences for children who reported being bullied, however younger children were most likely to report having been bullied.
* Overall, 16% of children reported ever being cyberbullied, and girls and older children were more likely to report being cyberbullied.
* Children from lower social classes were more likely to report each form of bulling above (including bulling others). Boys were also more likely to be involved in bullying others (including physical fights and cyberbullying others).

**(d) Children attending early childhood education, including children with disabilities and Traveller and Roma children, and the average duration of attendance.**

The Early Childhood Care and Education Programme (ECCE) programme is a universal two-year pre-school programme available to all children within the eligible age range. It provides children with their first formal experience of early learning prior to commencing primary school. The programme is provided for three hours per day, five days per week over 38 weeks per year and the programme year runs from September to June each year.

Table 30: Children of all ages in early childhood education, 2016-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Number of children* | | | | | | |
| **Indicator** |  | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| Total children in early childhood education |  | 16,628 | 156,747 | 173,197 | 177,970 | 180,149 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Age range** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 1 year |  | 742 | 2,982 | 3,109 | 2,991 | \*1 |
| 1-2 years |  | 133 | 9,138 | 10,275 | 10,895 | \*1 |
| 2-3 years |  | 2,184 | 16,169 | 18,049 | 19,515 | \*1 |
| 3-4 years |  | \* | 52,573 | 54,837 | 49,957 | \*1 |
| 4-5 years |  | \* | 43,561 | 47,454 | 48,234 | \*1 |
| 5-6 years |  | \* | 11,986 | 14,183 | 16,037 | \*1 |
| 6-8 years |  | 1,807 | 11,007 | 13,036 | 15,315 | \*1 |
| 8 years or older |  | 1,109 | 9,331 | 12,254 | 15,026 | \*1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Traveller and Roma children** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Services with traveller children attending |  | 480 | 611 | 642 | 650 | 547 |
| Traveller children attending early childhood education |  | 1,899 | 2,399 | 2,633 | 2,601 | 2,831 |
| Services with Roma children attending |  | 197 | 285 | 276 | 268 | 266 |
| Roma children attending early childhood education |  | 475 | 853 | 688 | 681 | 1,208 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Children with disabilities** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Physical disability |  | 593 | 650 | 1,105 | 999 | 711 |
| Sensory impairment |  | 652 | 975 | 1,538 | 1,282 | 1,010 |
| Learning disability |  | 1,626 | 3,295 | 4,673 | 3,389 | 2,991 |
| Other disability |  | 111 | 1,222 | 2,482 | 1,349 | 1,085 |
| More than one need |  | : | 855 | 3,023 | 2,349 | 2,349 |
| *Source: Pobal Early Years* | | | | | | |
| *\* indicates data unavailable*  *: indicates data unavailable*  *1 no age data reported for 2019/2020 due to COVID-19 -related disruption in reporting* | | | | | | |

# I. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37 (b)–(d) and 38–40)

**Paragraph 43 of the list of issues**

Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 33 above, and further disaggregated by accompanied or unaccompanied status, on:

(a) Asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children;

(b) Asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children who are in detention;

(c) Asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children attending school and with access to health care;

(d) Children with an irregular migration status.

**Reply to paragraph 43 of the list of issues**

**(a) Asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children**

Table 31: Number of RIA residents at year-end by age group and sex, 2015-2021

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | | | | | |
| **Age group** | **2015** | | **2016** | | **2017** | | **20181** | | **20212** |
| **Males** | **Females** | **Males** | **Females** | **Males** | **Females** | **Males** | **Females** | **Males and Females** |
| 0-4 years | 212 | 173 | 238 | 197 | 290 | 245 | 396 | 372 | 551 |
| 5-12 years | 326 | 326 | 266 | 268 | 339 | 320 | 392 | 367 | 882 |
| 13-17 years | 91 | 84 | 85 | 77 | 126 | 100 | 135 | 116 | 361 |
| 18-25 years | 476 | 192 | 420 | 231 | 495 | 267 | 586 | 297 | 879 |
| **Total** | **1,105** | **775** | **1,009** | **773** | **1,250** | **932** | **1,509** | **1,152** | **2,673** |
| *Source: Reception and Integration Agency* | | | | | | | | | |
| *1 October data used for 2018 due to a break in series.*  *2 October data used for 2021* | | | | | | | | | |

* The International Protection Accommodation Service (which replaced the Reception and Integration Agency) provides asylum seeker residents with full board accommodation under the Direct Provision system.
* The total number of children and young people in Direct Provision has increased from 1,880 in 2015 to 2,673 in 2021. This represents children living with their families.
* More males under 25 are in Direct Provision than females between 2015 and 2018, with the largest differential occurring in 2018 (of 357 persons).
* Separated children seeking international protection are taken into care by Tusla. In the third quarter of 2020, there were 79 separated children seeking international protection in care.

**(b) Asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children who are in detention**

There is currently no evidence of asylum-seeking/refugee/migrant children in detention, and there is no data recorded on any IPAS residents in detention (due to the very small number of cases each year).

**(c) Asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children attending school and with access to health care**

Health care access to RIA residents is ‘mainstreamed’ (i.e. is available on the same basis as ordinarily resident Irish citizens). In addition to this, most RIA residents are eligible for medical cards (which also entitles them to free GP access and prescriptions free of charge). In the same vein, asylum seeker children are entitled for school education the same way as any citizen. Where necessary, a bridging programme may be put in place to prepare them to join mainstream education.

**(d) Children with an irregular migration status.**

Table 32: Children with an irregular migration status, 2015-2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | | |
| **Year** | **Total** | | **Males** | | **Females** | |
| **< 14** | **14-17** | **< 14** | **14-17** | **< 14** | **14-17** |
| 2015 | 435 | 40 | 220 | 20 | 215 | 25 |
| 2016 | 245 | 40 | 120 | 20 | 125 | 20 |
| 2017 | 290 | 50 | 155 | 25 | 140 | 25 |
| 2018 | 155 | 45 | 75 | 25 | 75 | 20 |
| 2019 | 185 | 40 | 95 | 20 | 85 | 15 |
| *Source: Eurostat, Population and Social Conditions* | | | | | | |

* The number of children under 14 with an irregular migration status has decreased significantly between 2015 and 2019.
* Children under 14 are significantly more likely to have an irregular migration status than those aged between 14 and 17, with 185 children under 14 having an irregular migration status in 2019 (compared to only 40 children aged 14-17).
* There is no major disparity between males and females when it comes to irregular migration status.

**Paragraph 44 of the list of issues**

Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 33 above, further disaggregated by type of crime, on:

1. Children in detention, including in pretrial detention, in facilities such as police cells and prisons and the average length of stay;
2. Children referred to diversion and non-custodial sentencing programmes ~~options~~;
3. Children detained together with adults and the average length of stay;
4. Children who have been provided with access to rehabilitation and reintegration support.

**Reply to paragraph 44 of the list of issues**

**(a) Children in detention, including in pretrial detention, in facilities such as police cells and prisons and the average length of stay.**

Table 33: Children in detention, 2017-2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | |  |
| **Statistic** |  | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020\*** |
| **Total children in detention** |  | **69** | **92** | **75** | **123** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Detention type** | | | | |  |
| Committal |  | 36 | 52 | 44 | : |
| Remand |  | 33 | 40 | 31 | 67 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sex** | | | | |  |
| Male |  | 69 | : | 72 | 119 |
| Female |  | 0 | : | 3 | 3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Area** | | | | |  |
| Dublin |  | 24 | 28 | 20 | 45 |
| Cork |  | 6 | 15 | 10 | : |
| Limerick |  | 9 | 6 | 9 | : |
| Louth |  | : | 6 | 7 | : |
| Meath |  | : | 7 | 5 | : |
| Other |  | 39 | 24 | 24 | : |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Age upon admission** | | | | |  |
| 18 years |  | 0 | 0 | 8 | : |
| 17 years |  | 28 | 36 | 33 | ; |
| 16 years |  | 31 | 38 | 17 | ; |
| 15 years |  | 7 | 16 | 13 | ; |
| 14 years |  | 3 | 2 | 4 | ; |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Age when first detained** | | | | |  |
| 17 years |  | 8 | 16 | 14 | 46 |
| 16 years |  | 15 | 30 | 30 | 38 |
| 15 years |  | 17 | 31 | 19 | 24 |
| 14 years |  | 14 | 11 | 8 | 13 |
| 13 years |  | 5 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Ethnicity** | | | | |  |
| Irish |  | 46 | 65 | 53 | : |
| Irish Traveller |  | 16 | 20 | 14 | 32 |
| EU national |  | 4 | 5 | 4 | : |
| African |  | 2 | 2 | 3 | : |
| Other |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | ; |
| *Source: Oberstown Campus Statistics.*  *\*Full data for 2020 is not available* | | | | | |

* The total number of children in detention increased from 69 in 2017 to 92 in 2018, before decreasing to 75 by 2019 but increasing to 123 in 2020.
* Young males were significantly more likely to be detained, with only a maximum of three cases per year of females in detention between 2017 and 2020.
* Of the young people in detention in Oberstown during quarter 1 of 2019, 41 had a sentence of up to 20 months, while 3 had a sentence of 2 years or more.
* Out of the 31 young people on remand, 13 were on remand for 7 days or less; 16 were on remand for up to 83 days, and 2 were on remand for more than 100 days.

**(b) Children referred to diversion and non-custodial sentencing programmes.**

Table 34: Children referred to Garda Diversion Programmes, 2014-2019

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | | |
| **Year** | **No. of child referrals** | **No. of children deemed unsuitable for services** |
| 2014 | 9,991 | 1,582 |
| 2015 | 9,807 | 1,479 |
| 2016 | 9,451 | 1,250 |
| 2017 | 10,607 | 1,402 |
| 2018 | 8,561 | 1,249 |
| 2019 | 9,842 | 1,605 |
| *Source: Department of Justice: Annual Report of the Committee Appointed to*  *Monitor the Effectiveness of the Diversion Programme (2019)* | | |

Table 35: Result of child referrals to the Garda Diversion Programme, 2019

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | | |
| **Referral result** | **Number of referrals** | **%** |
| Informal caution | 5,605 | 57% |
| Formal caution | 2,056 | 21% |
| Deemed unsuitable for Garda Diversion Programme | 1,605 | 16% |
| No further action | 116 | 1% |
| Other | 460 | 5% |
|  |  |  |
| **Total** | **9,842** | **100%** |
| *Source: Department of Justice: Annual Report of the Committee Appointed to Monitor the Effectiveness of the Diversion Programme (2019)* | | |

* Between 2018 and 2019, the total number of child referrals increased from 8,561 to 9,842, an increase of 15%.
* In 2019, 57% of child referrals were dealt with via informal caution, 21% by formal caution, and 16% of cases resulted in the child being deemed unsuitable for the Garda Diversion Programme.
* In 2018 and 2019, the vast majority of children and young people referred were male (71% in 2018 and 72% in 2019), though a significant proportion (37% in 2019) of those receiving an informal caution are female.

**(c) Children detained together with adults and the average length of stay**

There are no cases of children detained together with adults between 2016 and 2020. Oberstown campus is a specific detention centre for persons aged 18 and under.

**(d) Children who have been provided with access to rehabilitation and reintegration support.**

On admission to Oberstown Children Detention Campus, each young person is assessed to determine an individual programme, considering their age, offence, education and care. This approach provides young people with opportunities to learn practical skills to reduce the likelihood of relapse and to address the offending behaviour through delivery of risk-reducing programmes.

Throughout a young person’s detention placement, there is awareness of the importance of preparing them for return to their families and communities.

Table 36: Young people in Oberstown Campus provided with support, 2017-2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *No. of young people* | | | | | |
|  |  |  | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** |
| **Total young people on campus** | |  | **69** | **92** | **75** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Of which*** | | | | | |
|  | Had substance misuse problems |  | 54 | 66 | 53 |
|  | Were identified as having a mental health need |  | 38 | 48 | 31 |
|  | Were referred to ACTS1 while on campus |  | 24 | 43 | 46 |
|  | Involved with CAMHS2 at some stage in their lives |  | 32 | 35 | 23 |
| *Source: Oberstown Campus Statistics* | | | | | |
| *1 ACTS: Assessment Consultation Therapy Services.* | | | | | |
| *2 CAMHS: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.* | | | | | |

# J. Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict

**Paragraph 45 of the list of issues**

Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 33 above, on:

(a) Asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children entering the State party from areas where children may have been recruited or used in hostilities;

(b) Children within its jurisdiction who have been recruited or used in hostilities abroad;

(c) Children who may have been recruited or used in hostilities abroad who benefit from physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration measures.

**Reply to paragraph 45 of the list of issues**

* Information is not recorded on the number of asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children entering the State party from areas where children may have been recruited or used in hostilities.
* Information is not recorded on the number of children within its jurisdiction who have been recruited or used in hostilities abroad.
* Information is not recorded on the number of children who may have been recruited or used in hostilities abroad who benefit from physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration measures.
* Tusla’s Separated Children Seeking International Protection team does record the country of origin of children when they are received into the care of Tusla.

The following table provides the country of origin of such children from 2016 to 2020. This data only refers to children received into Tusla’s care and does not include children who are in the care of their parents or guardians.

Table 37: SCSIP Duty and Intake Referrals by Country of Origin per year 2016-2021

|  | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** | **Total 2016-2021** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Afghanistan | 13 | 34 | 6 | 16 | 26 | 55 | 150 |
| Albania | 19 | 12 | 22 | 33 | 0 | <5 | 87 |
| Albania / Irish | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Algeria | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | 7 |
| Angola | <5 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Bangladesh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 |
| Benin | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Botswana | <5 | <5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Central African Republic | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Brazil | <5 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Cameroon | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Congo1 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Côte d’Ivoire2 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| China | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Democratic People’s Republic of Korea3 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | 9 | 11 | 10 | 5 | <5 | 7 | 43 |
| Egypt | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 |
| Eritrea | 0 | 11 | 11 | <5 | 6 | <5 | 35 |
| Eswatini4 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 8 |
| Ethiopia | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 5 |
| Gambia (Republic of The) | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Georgia | <5 | <5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Ghana | <5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Guinea | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 5 |
| India | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | <5 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Iraq | <5 | 6 | 5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| Iraq Kurd | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Ireland | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Ireland / Zimbabwe | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Jordan | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Kenya | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Kurdish Iran | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Kuwait | 0 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | 6 |
| Liberia | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Libya | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Malawi | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 |
| Malaysia | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Mauritius | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Morocco | <5 | <5 | 0 | 5 | <5 | <5 | 14 |
| Nigeria | 16 | 21 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | 46 |
| North Macedonia5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Other or Unknown | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Palestine | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 6 |
| Pakistan | <5 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 6 |
| Pakistan / Ireland | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Romania | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Sierra Leone | <5 | <5 | <5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 13 |
| Somalia | 5 | 7 | 5 | 18 | 21 | 40 | 96 |
| South Africa | 0 | <5 | <5 | 7 | <5 | <5 | 20 |
| South Africa / Tanzania | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| South Africa / Zimbabwe | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Spain | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Sudan | 0 | 7 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | 14 |
| South Sudan | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Syrian Arab Republic6 | 0 | 5 | <5 | 9 | <5 | 7 | 25 |
| Thailand | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Turkey | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| UK | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| USA | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Vietnam | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Zambia | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| Zimbabwe | 0 | 21 | 26 | 30 | <5 | 0 | 80 |
| **Year Total** | **86** | **175** | **129** | **181** | **75** | **134** | **780** |
| *Source: Tusla* | | | | | | | |
| ***1****Also referred to as Republic of Congo in responses*  *2 Also referred to as Ivory Coast in responses*  ***3****Also referred to as North Korea in responses*  ***4****Also referred to as Swaziland in responses*  ***5****Also referred to as Macedonia in responses*  ***6****Also referred to as Syria in responses* | | | | | | | |

1. 2020 data is provisional and subject to change [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children, 2018 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children, 2018 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Academic year [↑](#footnote-ref-5)