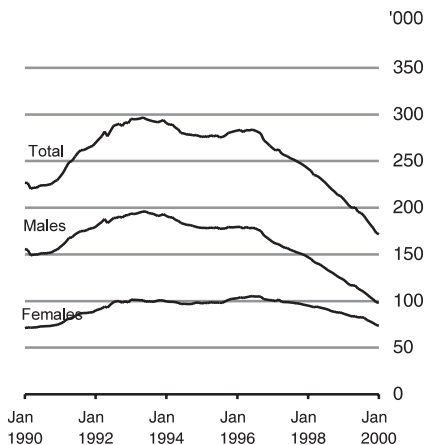




Live Register Statement January 2000

Live Register
Seasonally Adjusted



	Live Register Total	Seasonally Adjusted
January 1999	214,014	209,500
December 1999	176,539	173,400
January 2000	176,162	171,700
Change in month	-377	-1,700
Change in year	-37,852	-37,800

Underlying fall of 1,700 in Live Register

The Live Register fell to 176,162 persons in January, a decrease of 377 in the month. When seasonal factors are taken into account, the underlying fall in the month was greater, at 1,700 persons.

The seasonally adjusted Live Register figure of 171,700 was the lowest since October 1982 (169,500).

In the year to January 2000, the Live Register fell by 37,852 persons.

Other features of this month's results include:

- ◆ In January, there was a decrease of 2,029 in the number of female claimants aged 25 or over; while the number of males aged under 25 on the Live Register fell by 1,035. *See Tables 1b and 1c.*
- ◆ Overall, the number of females signing on fell by 1,730 while the number of males increased by 1,353 in the month. *See Table 1a.*
- ◆ Against the overall decrease in the month, the Live Register increased in the Midlands, Mid-East and Mid-West regions. *See Table 2.*
- ◆ The standardised unemployment rate for January was 4.9%. This compares with a rate of 5.7% in April 1999, based on the Quarterly National Household Survey. *See Table 8 and Background Notes.*

The Live Register is not designed to measure unemployment. It includes part-time workers (those who work up to three days a week), seasonal and casual workers entitled to Unemployment Assistance or Benefit. Unemployment is measured by the Quarterly National Household Survey and the latest figure, for June–August 1999, is 101,100 persons unemployed.

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Table 1a Total persons on the Live Register

Category	January 1999	December 1999	January 2000	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	32,758	27,508	29,332	+ 1,824	- 3,426
UA Applications	91,161	70,533	70,183	- 350	- 20,978
Other Registrants	3,247	2,988	2,867	- 121	- 380
Total	127,166	101,029	102,382	+ 1,353	- 24,784
Females					
UB Claims	37,535	35,068	34,352	- 716	- 3,183
UA Applications	36,959	28,568	28,193	- 375	- 8,766
Other Registrants	12,354	11,874	11,235	- 639	- 1,119
Total	86,848	75,510	73,780	- 1,730	- 13,068
All Persons					
UB Claims	70,293	62,576	63,684	+ 1,108	- 6,609
UA Applications	128,120	99,101	98,376	- 725	- 29,744
Other Registrants	15,601	14,862	14,102	- 760	- 1,499
Total	214,014	176,539	176,162	- 377	- 37,852

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

Category	January 1999	December 1999	January 2000	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	5,871	3,864	4,711	+ 847	- 1,160
UA Applications	18,086	12,005	12,206	+ 201	- 5,880
Other Registrants	53	51	38	- 13	- 15
Total	24,010	15,920	16,955	+ 1,035	- 7,055
Females					
UB Claims	4,554	3,345	3,688	+ 343	- 866
UA Applications	13,107	9,169	9,138	- 31	- 3,969
Other Registrants	213	179	166	- 13	- 47
Total	17,874	12,693	12,992	+ 299	- 4,882
All Persons					
UB Claims	10,425	7,209	8,399	+ 1,190	- 2,026
UA Applications	31,193	21,174	21,344	+ 170	- 9,849
Other Registrants	266	230	204	- 26	- 62
Total	41,884	28,613	29,947	+ 1,334	- 11,937

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

Category	January 1999	December 1999	January 2000	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
UB Claims	26,887	23,644	24,621	+ 977	- 2,266
UA Applications	73,075	58,528	57,977	- 551	- 15,098
Other Registrants	3,194	2,937	2,829	- 108	- 365
Total	103,156	85,109	85,427	+ 318	- 17,729
Females					
UB Claims	32,981	31,723	30,664	- 1,059	- 2,317
UA Applications	23,852	19,399	19,055	- 344	- 4,797
Other Registrants	12,141	11,695	11,069	- 626	- 1,072
Total	68,974	62,817	60,788	- 2,029	- 8,186
All Persons					
UB Claims	59,868	55,367	55,285	- 82	- 4,583
UA Applications	96,927	77,927	77,032	- 895	- 19,895
Other Registrants	15,335	14,632	13,898	- 734	- 1,437
Total	172,130	147,926	146,215	- 1,711	- 25,915

Table 2 Persons on the Live Register by Region

NUTS2 and NUTS3 Regions ¹	January 1999	December 1999	January 2000	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
Border, Midland & Western	39,419	33,125	33,548	+ 423	- 5,871
Border	19,066	16,289	16,404	+ 115	- 2,662
Midland	6,915	5,466	5,755	+ 289	- 1,160
West	13,438	11,370	11,389	+ 19	- 2,049
Eastern & Southern	87,747	67,904	68,834	+ 930	- 18,913
Dublin	37,020	27,235	27,576	+ 341	- 9,444
Mid-East	8,646	6,430	6,629	+ 199	- 2,017
Mid-West	9,048	7,493	7,739	+ 246	- 1,309
South-East	15,062	12,548	12,582	+ 34	- 2,480
South-West	17,971	14,198	14,308	+ 110	- 3,663
Total	127,166	101,029	102,382	+ 1,353	- 24,784
Females					
Border, Midland & Western	26,096	24,014	23,733	- 281	- 2,363
Border	12,133	11,392	11,277	- 115	- 856
Midland	4,992	4,625	4,592	- 33	- 400
West	8,971	7,997	7,864	- 133	- 1,107
Eastern & Southern	60,752	51,496	50,047	- 1,449	- 10,705
Dublin	22,768	18,248	17,512	- 736	- 5,256
Mid-East	6,670	5,454	5,320	- 134	- 1,350
Mid-West	6,888	6,123	5,951	- 172	- 937
South-East	11,061	10,427	10,169	- 258	- 892
South-West	13,365	11,244	11,095	- 149	- 2,270
Total	86,848	75,510	73,780	- 1,730	- 13,068
All Persons					
Border, Midland & Western	65,515	57,139	57,281	+ 142	- 8,234
Border	31,199	27,681	27,681	0	- 3,518
Midland	11,907	10,091	10,347	+ 256	- 1,560
West	22,409	19,367	19,253	- 114	- 3,156
Eastern & Southern	148,499	119,400	118,881	- 519	- 29,618
Dublin	59,788	45,483	45,088	- 395	- 14,700
Mid-East	15,316	11,884	11,949	+ 65	- 3,367
Mid-West	15,936	13,616	13,690	+ 74	- 2,246
South-East	26,123	22,975	22,751	- 224	- 3,372
South-West	31,336	25,442	25,403	- 39	- 5,933
Total	214,014	176,539	176,162	- 377	- 37,852

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	January 1999	December 1999	January 2000	Monthly change	Annual change
Provinces					
Leinster	109,882	86,562	86,631	+ 69	- 23,251
Munster	59,161	49,949	49,695	- 254	- 9,466
Connacht	27,210	23,567	23,375	- 192	- 3,835
Ulster	17,761	16,461	16,461	0	- 1,300
Total	214,014	176,539	176,162	- 377	- 37,852

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

Year	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1998	December	126,800	89,000	215,800	124,700	87,900	212,600
1999	January	127,200	86,800	214,000	123,100	86,400	209,500
	February	122,600	85,000	207,600	120,200	85,300	205,500
	March	118,200	83,000	201,200	117,200	84,400	201,600
	April	115,800	80,800	196,500	116,500	83,300	199,800
	May	112,700	79,500	192,200	116,500	83,800	200,300
	June	111,900	83,700	195,500	113,100	82,400	195,600
	July	112,600	88,000	200,600	111,400	82,800	194,100
	August	111,200	87,400	198,700	109,300	81,900	191,200
	September	106,400	79,800	186,200	106,900	79,700	186,600
	October	101,300	76,700	177,900	104,300	78,300	182,600
	November	98,700	73,100	171,800	102,000	76,600	178,600
	December	101,000	75,500	176,500	98,900	74,400	173,400
2000	January	102,400	73,800	176,200	98,300	73,400	171,700

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 1999 (See Background Notes).

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

Year	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1998	December	23,500	17,800	41,300	23,700	18,300	42,000
1999	January	24,000	17,900	41,900	23,000	17,600	40,600
	February	23,000	17,100	40,100	22,400	17,200	39,600
	March	21,700	16,300	38,000	21,800	17,000	38,800
	April	20,900	15,600	36,500	21,400	16,600	37,900
	May	19,900	15,300	35,200	21,600	16,900	38,400
	June	20,200	16,600	36,900	19,900	15,700	35,600
	July	20,400	17,200	37,600	19,200	15,300	34,500
	August	20,000	17,000	37,100	18,700	15,100	33,700
	September	18,600	15,400	34,000	18,200	14,700	32,900
	October	16,500	13,800	30,300	17,600	14,400	32,100
	November	15,800	12,900	28,700	17,200	14,100	31,300
	December	15,900	12,700	28,600	16,100	13,200	29,400
2000	January	17,000	13,000	29,900	16,000	12,700	28,700

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 1999 (See Background Notes).

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

Year	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1998	December	103,300	71,200	174,400	101,000	69,600	170,600
1999	January	103,200	69,000	172,100	100,100	68,800	168,900
	February	99,600	67,900	167,500	97,800	68,000	165,800
	March	96,600	66,700	163,300	95,400	67,400	162,800
	April	94,800	65,200	160,100	95,200	66,700	161,900
	May	92,800	64,200	157,100	95,000	66,900	161,900
	June	91,600	67,000	158,700	93,300	66,700	160,000
	July	92,200	70,700	162,900	92,200	67,400	159,600
	August	91,200	70,400	161,600	90,700	66,800	157,500
	September	87,900	64,300	152,200	88,700	65,000	153,700
	October	84,700	62,900	147,600	86,700	63,800	150,500
	November	82,900	60,200	143,000	84,800	62,500	147,300
	December	85,100	62,800	147,900	82,800	61,200	144,000
2000	January	85,400	60,800	146,200	82,400	60,600	143,000

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 1999 (See Background Notes).

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

	Month	Males	Females	Total
1999	January	1,250	2,961	4,211
	February	1,232	2,994	4,226
	March	1,146	2,878	4,024
	April	1,091	2,647	3,738
	May	1,150	2,690	3,840
	June	1,097	2,505	3,602
	July	1,105	2,368	3,473
	August	973	2,291	3,264
	September	1,030	2,353	3,383
	October	987	2,515	3,502
	November	968	2,324	3,292
	December	916	2,235	3,151
2000	January	948	2,197	3,145

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

	Month	Smallholders ¹	Self-Employed	Others	Total
1999	January	6,616	2,545	741	9,902
	February	6,672	2,541	718	9,931
	March	6,636	2,499	718	9,853
	April	7,138	2,396	737	10,271
	May	7,534	2,357	748	10,639
	June	8,282	2,270	792	11,344
	July	8,438	2,274	872	11,584
	August	8,473	2,225	866	11,564
	September	8,418	2,184	858	11,460
	October	8,442	2,128	754	11,324
	November	8,257	2,129	739	11,125
	December	8,446	2,122	789	11,357
2000	January	8,456	2,102	771	11,329

¹Including Farm Assist Scheme introduced in April 1999.

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

	Month	PRETA	PRECS	Total	Males	Females
1999	January	11,995	7,084	19,079	14,271	4,808
	February	11,674	7,167	18,841	14,072	4,769
	March	11,635	7,200	18,835	14,061	4,774
	April	11,734	7,226	18,960	14,163	4,797
	May	11,601	7,230	18,831	13,992	4,839
	June	11,589	7,200	18,789	13,951	4,838
	July	11,648	7,186	18,834	13,976	4,858
	August	11,617	7,173	18,790	13,931	4,859
	September	11,564	7,231	18,795	13,930	4,865
	October	11,530	7,228	18,758	13,879	4,879
	November	11,565	7,242	18,807	13,876	4,931
	December	11,581	7,331	18,912	13,934	4,978
2000	January	11,548	7,347	19,895	13,943	4,952

Table 8 Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rates¹

Month	1996 ³	1997 ³	1998	1999 ⁴	2000
	%	%	%	%	%
January	12.0	10.7	8.4	6.2	4.9
February	12.0	10.6	8.2	6.0	
March	11.8	10.5	8.0	5.9	
April ²	11.9	10.3	7.8	5.7	
May	11.8	10.1	7.6	5.8	
June	11.6	9.9	7.5	5.7	
July	11.5	9.7	7.3	5.6	
August	11.4	9.5	7.1	5.5	
September	11.2	9.3	6.9	5.4	
October	11.1	9.1	6.7	5.2	
November	11.0	8.9	6.5	5.1	
December	10.9	8.7	6.4	5.0	
Annual average	11.5	9.8	7.4	5.6	

¹ Table contains the revised Standardised Unemployment Rates.

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

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

⁴ The latest QNHS estimate of the unemployment rate (unadjusted for seasonality) is: Jun-Aug 1999, 5.7%.

Background Notes

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

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

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

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

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

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

QNHS The Quarterly National Household Survey, which began in September 1997, has now replaced the Labour Force Survey and provides quarterly estimates of the unemployment rate. The estimates (unadjusted for seasonality) are:

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%	

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

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