SECTION E
ILLNESS, DISABILITY AND CARERS

Section E: Illness, Disability and Carers

Expenditure and Recipients

Expenditure on Illness Benefit and Invalidity Pension decreased by 7.1% and 5.2% respectively. Expenditure on Disability Allowance decreased by 1.8%. There are now 102,866 recipients of the scheme.

Expenditure on Carer's Allowance increased by over €5.4 million in 2011, an increase of 1.1%. There are now 51,666 recipients of the Scheme, an increase of 1,089 year on year.

Graph E1 and Table E4 show details of the numbers of Carer's Allowance recipients from 2002 to 2011.

Carer's Benefit is a payment made to insured persons who leave the workforce to care for a person(s) who require full time care and attention. The number of recipients decreased by 5 to 1,637 in 2011.

There were 21,951 recipients of a half-rate Carer's Allowance at the end of 2011.

Notes: Scheme Changes

Recipients of Blind Pension have since 2006 been transferred to State Pension (Non Contributory) upon reaching 66 years of age, resulting in decreases in recipients and expenditure on the scheme. Recipients of Invalidity Pension have been transferred to State Pension (Contributory) upon reaching 66 years of age, this change also was introduced in 2006.

A side-effect of these changes is the erosion of data comparability between 2006 and subsequent years in relation to recipients and expenditure on the affected schemes.

From September 2007 a person may receive half-rate Carer's Allowance while in receipt of another social welfare payment. This may result in some double counting.

Responsibility for Domiciliary Care Allowance was transferred to the Department of Social Protection in April, 2009.

Graph E1: Number of Recipients of Carer's Allowance by Sex, 2002 to 2011

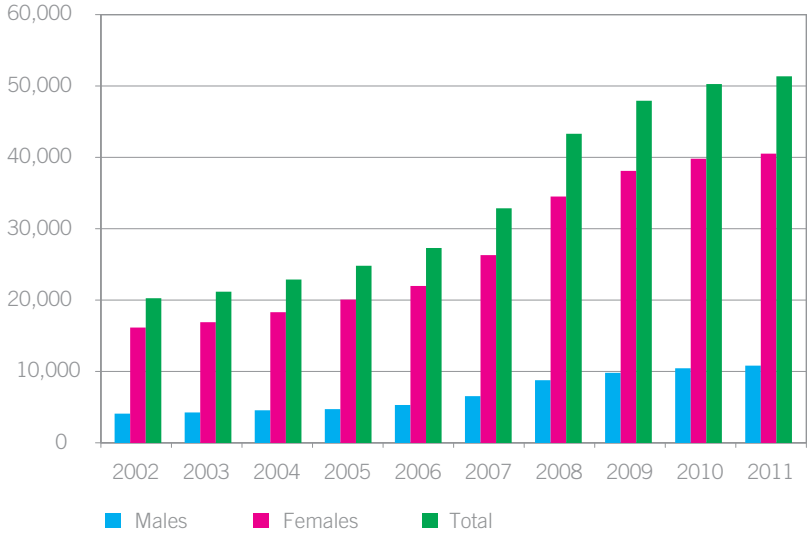

Table E1: Expenditure on Illness, Disability and Carers by Payment Type, 2010 and 2011

Type of Payment	2010	2011[1]	Change 2010 over 2011
	€000	€000	
Social Assistance			
Disability Allowance	1,109,505	1,089,178	-1.8%
Blind Pension	16,032	15,625	-2.5%
Carer's Allowance	501,789	507,193	1.1%
Domiciliary Care Allowance	95,710	99,924	4.4%
Respite Care Grant	128,097	130,392	1.8%
Social Insurance			
Illness Benefit	942,571	875,641	-7.1%
Injury Benefit	17,884	16,508	-7.7%
Invalidity Pension	639,994	606,512	-5.2%
Disablement Benefit	78,822	77,460	-1.7%
Medical Care	360	317	-11.9%
Carer's Benefit	26,288	24,474	-6.9%
Total	3,557,052	3,443,224	-3.2%

(1) Provisional

Table E2: Expenditure on Illness, Disability and Carers by Payment Type, 2002 to 2011

Year	Disability Allowance	Blind Pension(1)	Carer's Allowance	Domiciliary Care Allow-ance(5)	Respite Care Grant(4)	Illness Benefit	Injury Benefit	Invalidity Pension(1)	Disable-ment Benefit	Medical Care	Carer's Benefit(2)	Total
	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000
2002	407,585	14,221	160,042		0	385,297	11,842	403,617	59,393	225	5,807	1,448,029
2003	463,608	14,816	183,273		0	433,455	11,883	440,263	60,810	251	6,943	1,615,302
2004	544,489	15,868	210,277		0	479,611	13,598	487,375	62,599	275	7,698	1,821,790
2005	630,728	16,661	223,059		34,302	540,245	14,231	548,285	67,026	298	9,588	2,084,423
2006	738,431	16,964	284,584		50,458	627,642	16,123	602,414	72,526	292	16,688	2,426,122
2007	901,131	15,031	361,257		73,376	755,077	17,194	618,133	79,283	298	26,900	2,847,680
2008	1,052,660	16,319	450,260		98,204	852,305	19,250	685,717	84,443	282	33,666	3,293,106
2009	1,142,769	16,277	502,469	31,017	99,200	919,783	18,143	681,642	85,677	309	30,204	3,527,490
2010	1,109,505	16,032	501,789	95,710	128,097	942,571	17,884	639,994	78,822	360	26,288	3,557,052
2011(3)	1,089,178	15,625	507,193	99,924	130,392	875,641	16,508	606,512	77,460	317	24,474	3,443,224

(1) See note on scheme changes in the introduction to this section

(2) Carer's Benefit was introduced in October 2000.

(3) Provisional

(4) Respite Care Grant was introduced in June 2005.

(5) Responsibility for Domiciliary Care Allowance was transferred from the Health Service Executive to the Department of Social Protection in 2009

Table E3: Number of Recipients of Illness, Disability and Carer's Payments by Payment Type, 2010 and 2011

Type of Payment	2010	2011	Change 2011 over 2010
Disability Allowance	101,111	102,866	1.7%
Blind Pension	1,485	1,496	0.7%
Carer's Allowance	50,577	51,666	2.2%
Illness Benefit	81,253	73,397	-9.7%
Injury Benefit	835	776	-7.1%
Interim Illness Benefit	374	327	-12.6%
Invalidity Pension	50,766	49,792	-1.9%
Disablement Benefit(1) (2)(3)	13,721	13,993	2.0%
Carer's Benefit	1,642	1,637	-0.3%
Total	301,764	295,950	-1.9%

(1) Disablement Benefit is paid where a person suffers loss of physical or mental faculty as a result of an accident at work or contracting an occupational disease. It differs fundamentally from other Social Welfare income support payments in that it is a compensatory payment, rather than an income maintenance payment. Accordingly Disablement Benefit can be paid in addition to other Social Welfare payments such as Illness Benefit and Invalidity Pension and can also be paid where a person continues to work.

(2) Incapacity Supplement is paid as an increase to Disablement Benefit where a person is permanently incapable of work and does not qualify for any other Social Welfare payment. 889 persons were in receipt of an Incapacity Supplement payment at the end of 2011.

(3) Constant Attendance Allowance is paid as an increase to Disablement Pension where the degree of disablement is assessed at between 50% and 100% and the person has been certified as being in need of constant care and attention. 98 persons were in receipt of Constant Attendance Allowance at end of 2011.

Table E4: Number of Recipients of Illness, Disability and Carer's Payments, 2002 to 2011

Year	Disability Allow-ance	Blind Pension(1)	Carer's Allow-ance	Illness Benefit	Injury Benefit	Interim Illness Benefit	Invalidity Pension(1)	Disable-ment Benefit(2)	Carer's Benefit
2002	62,783	2,095	20,395	54,590	828	404	52,147	11,612	615
2003	67,720	2,061	21,316	57,464	821	295	53,414	11,898	639
2004	72,976	2,027	23,030	58,726	915	316	55,864	12,162	679
2005	79,253	1,985	24,970	61,845	908	355	58,352	12,475	867
2006	83,697	1,476	27,474	65,774	924	338	51,954	12,646	1,647
2007	89,048	1,474	33,067	70,404	900	440	53,956	12,874	2,080
2008	95,754	1,472	43,569	73,609	846	525	53,725	13,192	2,249
2009	99,576	1,467	48,223	77,665	726	318	52,922	13,520	1,917
2010	101,111	1,485	50,577	81,253	835	374	50,766	13,721	1,642
2011	102,866	1,496	51,666	73,397	776	327	49,792	13,993	1,637

(1) See note on scheme changes in the introduction to this section

(2) Disablement Benefit is paid where a person suffers loss of physical or mental faculty as a result of an accident at work or contracting an occupational disease. It differs fundamentally from other Social Welfare income support payments in that it is a compensatory payment, rather than an income maintenance payment. Accordingly Disablement Benefit can be paid in addition to other Social Welfare payments such as Illness Benefit and Invalidity Pension and can also be paid where a person continues to work.

Table E5: Number of Recipients of Living Alone and Island Allowances by Payment Type, 2011

Payment Type	Living Alone Allowance	Island Allowance
Invalidity Pension	9,064	16
Blind Pension	263	5
Total	9,327	21

Table E6: Number of Recipients of Illness Benefit by Age and Sex, 2011

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	425	659	1,084
25 to 29 Years	1,157	2,308	3,465
30 to 34 years	1,837	4,528	6,365
35 to 39 years	2,330	5,520	7,850
40 to 44 years	2,656	5,789	8,445
45 to 49 years	3,030	5,595	8,625
50 to 54 years	3,732	6,204	9,936
55 to 59 years	5,301	6,984	12,285
60 to 64 years	7,368	6,948	14,316
65 years and over	466	560	1,026
Total	28,302	45,095	73,397

Table E7: Number of Recipients of Invalidity Pension by Age and Sex, 2011

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	1	3	4
25 to 29 years	21	44	65
30 to 34 years	158	247	405
35 to 39 years	451	707	1,158
40 to 44 years	857	1,563	2,420
45 to 49 years	1,711	3,000	4,711
50 to 54 years	3,185	4,631	7,816
55 to 59 years	5,527	6,174	11,701
60 to 65 years	11,482	10,030	21,512
Total	23,393	26,399	49,792

Table E8: Number of Recipients of Carer's Allowance, Carer's Benefit and Respite Care Grant by Age and Sex, 2011

	Carer's Allowance			Carer's Benefit			Respite Care Grant(1)		
Age	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	147	508	655	0	5	5	1	12	13
25 to 29 years	196	1,368	1,564	4	50	54	3	10	13
30 to 34 years	398	2,864	3,262	17	175	192	4	32	36
35 to 39 years	753	4,560	5,313	40	291	331	6	89	95
40 to 44 years	1,158	5,756	6,914	35	245	280	15	156	171
45 to 49 years	1,502	5,632	7,134	39	205	244	51	302	353
50 to 54 years	1,544	4,789	6,333	52	183	235	67	442	509
55 to 59 years	1,418	4,204	5,622	50	139	189	85	542	627
60 to 64 years	1,211	3,921	5,132	31	66	97	117	550	667
65 to 69 years	1,034	3,220	4,254	1	9	10	147	575	722
70 to 74 years	753	2,159	2,912	0	0	0	186	479	665
75 to 79 years	534	1,312	1,846	0	0	0	200	378	578
80 years and over	249	476	725	0	0	0	162	236	398
Total	10,897	40,769	51,666	269	1,368	1,637	1,044	3,803	4,847

(1) The number of recipients of Respite Care Grant reported are those who are not in receipt of any other Carer's payment (Carer's Allowance, Carer's Benefit and Domiciliary Care Allowance). There are approximately a further 65,000 Respite Care Grant recipients who qualify for payment automatically under the terms of the relevant scheme.

Table E9: Number of Recipients of Half Rate Carer's by Payment Type, 2011

Type of Payment	2011
State Pension Non-Contributory	1,960
Qualified Adult State Pension Non-Contributory	297
State Pension (Transition/ Contributory)	3,031
Qualified Adult State Pension (Transition/Contributory)	1,813
Widow's, Widower's or Surviving Civil Partner's Contributory Pension	1,169
Jobseeker's Allowance Qualified Adult	1,318
One Parent Family Payment	4,289
Widow's, Widower's or Surviving Civil Partner's Non-Contributory Pension	80
Farm Assist	131
Qualified Adult Farm Assist	99
Pre - Retirement Allowance	106
Qualified Adult Pre-Retirement Allowance	29
Jobseeker's Benefit Qualified Adult	394
Deserted Wife's Benefit	309
Maternity Benefit	39
Adoptive Benefit	1
Health & Safety Benefit	3
Health & Safety Benefit Qualified Adult	3
Back to Work Qualified Adult	15
Back to Education	1
1/2 Rate Back to Work Self Employed	2
Disability Allowance	1,115
Qualified Adult Disability Allowance	1,422
Blind Pension	16
Qualified Adult Blind Pension	28
Illness Benefit	1,031
Qualified Adult Illness Benefit	327
Injury Benefit	17
Qualified Adult Injury Benefit	11
Invalidity Pension	1,155
Qualified Adult Invalidity Pension	1,146
Incapacity Benefit	0
Qualified Adult Incapacity Benefit	5
Others	589
Total	21,951

Table E10: Number of Recipients of Blind Pension by Age and Sex, 2011

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	27	18	45
25 to 29 years	36	45	81
30 to 34 years	59	52	111
35 to 39 years	69	70	139
40 to 44 years	107	87	194
45 to 49 years	119	84	203
50 to 54 years	106	90	196
55 to 59 years	122	114	236
60 to 64 years	121	117	238
65 years	22	31	53
Total	788	708	1,496

Table E11: Number of Recipients of Disability Allowance by Age and Sex, 2011

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	7,236	4,659	11,895
25 to 29 years	4,898	3,557	8,455
30 to 34 years	5,635	3,836	9,471
35 to 39 years	6,001	3,998	9,999
40 to 44 years	6,605	4,233	10,838
45 to 49 years	6,946	4,810	11,756
50 to 54 years	6,904	4,812	11,716
55 to 59 years	7,402	5,323	12,725
60+ years	9,410	6,601	16,011
Total	61,037	41,829	102,866

Table E12: Number of Recipients of Disablement Benefit and Incapacity Supplement by Age and Sex, 2011

Age	Disablement Benefit			Incapacity Supplement (1)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	63	12	75	3	0	3
25 to 29 years	171	50	221	9	3	12
30 to 34 years	344	123	467	21	8	29
35 to 39 years	646	232	878	25	11	36
40 to 44 years	912	338	1,250	58	29	87
45 to 49 years	1,202	413	1,615	83	32	115
50 to 54 years	1,465	459	1,924	89	42	131
55 to 59 years	1,626	450	2,076	109	51	160
60 to 64 years	1,596	403	1,999	98	34	132
65 to 69 years	1,280	264	1,544	64	32	96
70 to 74 years	853	133	986	38	11	49
75 to 79 years	491	62	553	16	7	23
80 years and over	340	65	405	9	7	16
Total	10,989	3,004	13,993	622	267	889

(1) Incapacity Supplement is paid as a supplement to Disablement Pension.

Table E13: Number of Recipients of Injury Benefit and Interim Illness Benefit by Age and Sex, 2011

Age	Injury Benefit			Interim Illness Benefit (1)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 25 years	32	22	54	13	12	25
25 to 29 years	57	33	90	32	20	52
30 to 34 years	75	43	118	40	19	59
35 to 39 years	80	30	110	25	20	45
40 to 44 years	75	28	103	16	18	34
45 to 49 years	54	21	75	22	9	31
50 to 54 years	58	43	101	23	13	36
55 to 59 years	39	31	70	14	14	28
60 to 64 years	30	22	52	6	9	15
65 years	1	2	3	1	1	2
Total	501	275	776	192	135	327

(1) Interim Illness Benefit is payable to Injury Benefit claimants who satisfy the PRSI conditions for Illness Benefit while the Injury Benefit claim is being decided.

Table E14: Number of Recipients of Disablement Benefit by Degree of Disablement and by Sex, 2011(1)

Type of Payment	Number of Recipients		
	Male	Female	Total
Disablement Benefit by Degree of Disablement (2):			
Under 20%	1,692	585	2,277
20%	2,402	894	3,296
30%	3,031	820	3,851
40%	1,730	389	2,119
50%	835	132	967
60%	526	83	609
70%	269	35	304
80%	211	37	248
90%	63	8	71
100%	230	21	251
Total	10,989	3,004	13,993

(1) Includes 889 Incapacity Supplement payments and 98 Constant Attendance Allowance payments. These payments are in addition to Disablement Benefit.

(2) The rate of Disablement Benefit depends on the degree of disablement, which is medically assessed. For assessments of up to 19% disablement, benefit will be paid as a single Gratuity, and from 20% upwards a pension is payable. In addition 1,059 Gratuities were paid.

Table E15: Number of Recipients of Illness, Disability and Carer's Payments by Payment Type and Number of Dependants, 2011

Number of Recipients	Disability Allowance	Blind Pension	Carer's Allowance	Illness Benefit	Injury Benefit	Interim Illness Benefit	Invalidity Pension	Incapacity Supplement	Carer's Benefit	Total
Personal rate only	85,255	1,224	37,713	55,321	607	271	35,321	889	664	217,265
With Qualified Adult only	4,905	127	0	4,688	35	15	5,953	161	0	15,884
With 1 full rate Qualified Children	4,161	59	455	2,276	23	12	1,504	45	25	8,560
With 2 full rate Qualified Children	2,520	43	373	1,687	30	6	724	44	11	5,438
With 3 full rate Qualified Children	1,280	19	186	818	14	3	302	24	3	2,649
With 4 full rate Qualified Children	606	9	92	280	3	3	97	8	1	1,099
With 5 full rate Qualified Children	275	4	36	71	0	0	23	5	0	414
With 6+ full rate Qualified Children	194	1	30	34	0	0	18	14	0	291
With 1 half rate Qualified Children	1,569	34	3,604	3,333	29	8	2,936	78	266	11,857
With 2 half rate Qualified Children	1,135	20	4,631	3,154	20	8	1,985	90	356	11,399
With 3 half rate Qualified Children	595	15	2,748	1,298	8	0	713	78	221	5,676
With 4 half rate Qualified Children	249	3	1,241	328	6	1	157	40	65	2,090
With 5 half rate Qualified Children	128	2	367	85	1	0	47	0	11	641
With 6+ half rate Qualified Children	69	0	190	24	0	0	12	0	14	309
Total number of recipients	102,941	1,496	51,666	73,397	776	327	49,792	1,476	1,637	283,508
Recipients with Qualified Child increases	12,781	209	13,953	13,388	134	41	8,518	426	973	50,423
Percentage of recipients with Qualified Child increases	12.4%	14.0%	27.0%	18.2%	17.3%	12.5%	17.1%	28.9%	59.4%	17.8%
Total number of Qualified Adults	8,737	127	0	7,894	95	33	7,728	161	0	24,775
Total number of children(1)	25,866	405	31,460	25,237	259	73	14,463	426	1,997	100,186

(1) Where each spouse is in receipt of a half rate increase in respect of a qualified child, some double counting of the number of qualified children may occur.

Table E16: Number of Families and Child Beneficiaries of Domiciliary Care Allowance, 2009 to 2011

Year	Families	Children
2009	24,046	26,000
2010	23,428	25,234
2011	24,101	25,914

Responsibility for Domiciliary Care Allowance was transferred from the Health Service Executive to the Department of Social Protection in 2009

Table E17: Number of Families Receiving Domiciliary Care Allowance by Number of Child Beneficiaries, 2010 and 2011

Number of Eligible Children in Family	2010	2011
1	21,774	22,434
2	1,513	1,532
3	131	124
4	9	11
5	1	0
Total	23,428	24,101
Total Number of Children in respect of whom Benefit is paid	25,234	25,914

Responsibility for Domiciliary Care Allowance was transferred from the Health Service Executive to the Department of Social Protection in 2009

Table E18: Number of Child Beneficiaries of Domiciliary Care Allowance by Age, 2010 and 2011.

Age	2010	2011
Under 1	295	292
1 under 2	708	721
2 under 3	891	870
3 under 4	1,166	1,110
4 under 5	1,336	1,401
5 under 6	1,530	1,530
6 under 7	1,721	1,702
7 under 8	1,786	1,888
8 under 9	1,991	1,901
9 under 10	2,091	2,072
10 under 11	2,037	2,183
11 under 12	2,024	2,120
12 under 13	2,012	2,093
13 under 14	1,887	2,060
14 under 15	1,826	1,952
15 under 16	1,813	1,863
16 under 17	120	156
Total	25,234	25,914

Responsibility for Domiciliary Care Allowance was transferred from the Health Service Executive to the Department of Social Protection in 2009

Table E19: Number of Recipients of Illness, Disability and Carer's Payments by Payment Type and County, 2011

County	Disability Allowance	Blind Pension	Carer's Allowance	Domiciliary Care Allowance	Respite Care Grant (2)	Illness Benefit	Injury Benefit	Interim Illness Benefit	Invalidity Pension	Disablement Benefit	Incapacity Supplement (1)	Carer's Benefit
Carlow	1,498	25	863	394	66	1,467	18	3	890	234	12	15
Cavan	1,364	16	826	323	69	1,172	12	8	593	195	12	26
Clare	2,469	24	1,351	638	198	1,517	21	5	1,023	311	23	41
Cork	12,625	129	5,944	3,488	586	9,384	83	30	6,632	1,983	112	197
Donegal	4,602	81	3,044	778	197	2,348	16	8	1,416	412	34	71
Dublin	25,721	401	9,689	5,431	1146	18,690	195	105	13,532	3,176	184	314
Galway	6,085	82	3,104	1,359	292	2,901	27	12	1,723	651	56	102
Kerry	4,018	54	2,224	962	211	1,923	20	11	1,360	368	25	92
Kildare	3,263	34	1,682	1,178	142	3,568	40	18	1,861	501	36	62
Kilkenny	1,927	41	1,037	492	83	1,238	11	4	830	276	13	35
Laois	1,635	29	813	393	96	1,099	19	6	712	195	18	30
Leitrim	733	17	489	181	33	637	5	4	398	110	8	16
Limerick	5,279	66	2,729	1,268	261	3,834	39	15	2,861	872	53	69
Longford	1,139	11	722	175	46	717	6	3	569	160	10	8
Louth	2,747	50	1,308	616	101	2,963	28	14	1,779	514	27	29
Mayo	3,548	63	2,304	627	171	2,011	31	14	1,206	372	36	78
Meath	2,449	44	1,425	942	139	3,190	32	14	1,409	553	33	78
Monaghan	1,245	15	735	239	51	1,054	8	4	522	173	11	25
Offaly	1,700	36	1,100	463	82	1,378	13	5	939	247	20	35
Roscommon	1,450	11	888	311	105	964	16	4	661	235	11	40
Sligo	1,778	49	915	324	78	1,054	7	3	705	199	19	41
Tipperary	4,681	61	2,546	906	241	2,351	37	12	1,930	629	45	48
Waterford	2,637	32	1,341	586	112	1,960	12	5	1,417	443	23	47
Westmeath	2,054	33	1,110	424	93	1,399	15	7	1,106	240	23	43
Wexford	3,537	58	2,165	845	148	2,277	42	6	1,772	419	23	58
Wicklow	2,682	34	1,312	751	99	2,011	21	6	1,277	341	14	36
Others	0	0	0	7	1	290	2	1	669	184	8	1
Total	102,866	1,496	51,666	24,101	4,847	73,397	776	327	49,792	13,993	889	1,637

(1) Incapacity Supplement is paid as a supplement to Disablement Benefit

(2) The number of recipients of Respite Care Grant reported are those who are not in receipt of any other Carer's payment (Carer's Allowance, Carer's Benefit and Domiciliary Care Allowance). There are approximately a further 65,000 Respite Care Grant recipients who qualify for payment automatically under the terms of the relevant scheme.