

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY
BY DEPUTY K.M. WILSON OF ST. CLEMENT
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 17th JUNE 2024
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 24th JUNE 2024**

Question

“Will the Minister detail the number of people in receipt of Income Support broken down by age and gender, and include the percentage increase in payments awarded for the period 2018 to 2023 and January to April 2024, broken down by year?”

Answer

Number of participants on open Income Support claims as at 31/12 each year, and 30/04/24:

Male participants							
	End of year (2024 end of April)						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
age band							
0 - 4	540	535	527	448	378	365	372
5-11	690	705	719	689	612	587	577
12-16	401	404	421	396	353	357	361
17 - 24	261	261	308	259	253	238	230
25 - 64	1801	1759	1978	1667	1473	1454	1490
65+	807	798	835	826	809	813	797

Female participants							
	End of year (2024 end of April)						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
age band							
0 - 4	522	526	483	384	327	315	311
5-11	661	660	694	634	563	531	511
12-16	370	400	413	388	377	365	371
17 - 24	333	324	342	324	263	261	266
25 - 64	2710	2702	2838	2575	2361	2284	2286
65+	1184	1190	1246	1220	1174	1174	1168

The percentage increases within the Income Support system relate to the components that make up the overall Income Support award for a household. The percentage increases applied to most components over this period are:

- Oct 18 (approx. 3.0 %)
- Oct 19 (approx. 1.9 %)
- Oct 21 (approx. 1.1 %)
- Oct 22 (approx. 2.6 %)

Jan 23 (approx. 6.4 %)

Jan 24 (approx. 8.6 %)

In addition, specific components have received higher percentage increases in some years, and additional payments have been made to all Income Support households through non statutory schemes during this time.