

# Unemployment Protections in an Uncertain Future

Charting the Way Forward

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# To Chart the Future Learning the Lessons from our Recent Past

Response to the Covid  
19 Pandemic

Response to Refugees  
arriving from Ukraine

Cost of Living Crisis

# Pandemic Unemployment Payment

Analysis of Operational Stats, March 2020 to March 2022



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí  
Department of Social Protection



**1.82 Million**

Total number of applications received



**73%**

Online applications

**27%**

Paper applications



**528,299**

Highest number of applications



**5,272**

Lowest number of applications



**29.7 Million**

Total number of payments made

# Pandemic Unemployment Payment

Analysis of Recipients, March 2020 to March 2022



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí  
Department of Social Protection



**879,772**

Recipients of the PUP



**44%**

Female

**56%**

Male



**643,716**

Peak number of recipients recorded



**53,824**

Recipients recorded in March 2022



**258,967**

Recipients recorded in Dublin



**174,870**

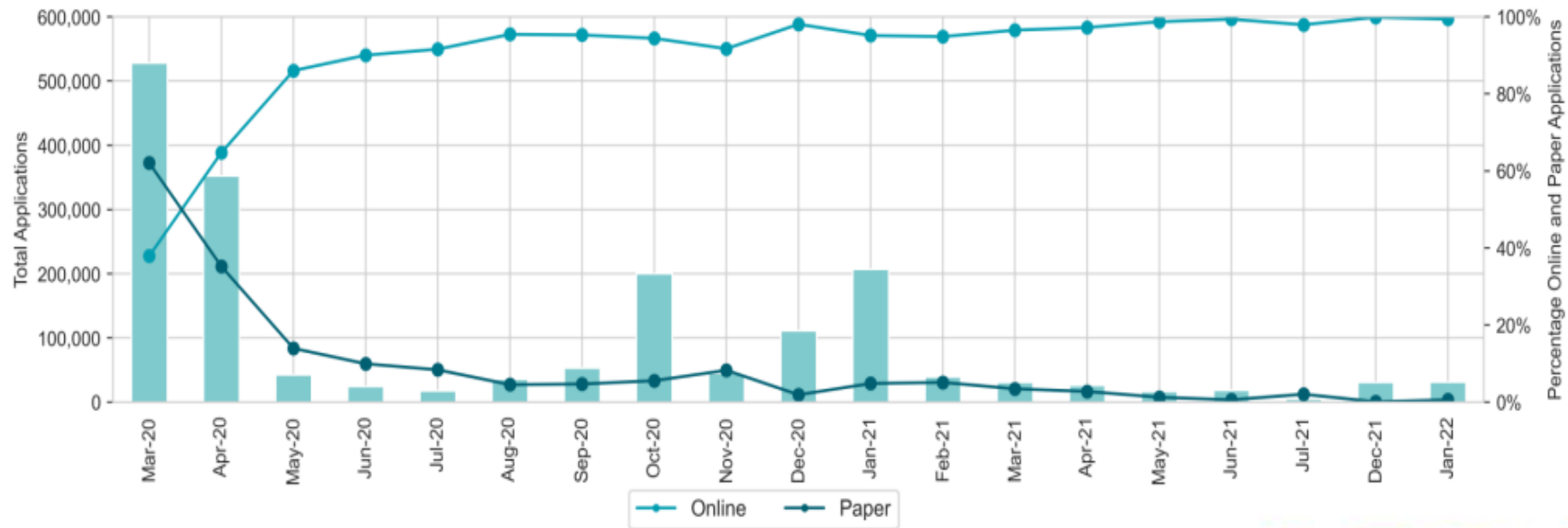
Recipients recorded in hospitality

# Employment Types

- Casual employments
- Self-employment
- Gig Economy & Platform
- Mixed employment types
- Remote working – International Contracts
- Migrant workers – increased mobility
- Vulnerable Employments

# Pandemic Unemployment Payment

Figure 1 - Total applications received (LHS) and percentage of online and paper applications (RHS), by month



Note: applications for PUP were closed from August to November 2021 inclusive



# Key Learnings & Outcomes

Highlighted deficiencies  
in Social Protection  
system

Coverage gaps

Citizens who continue  
to rely on employment  
income while in receipt  
of retirement payments

Raised expectations in  
what the state and the  
civil service are capable  
of delivering

Increased numbers  
using Online Service

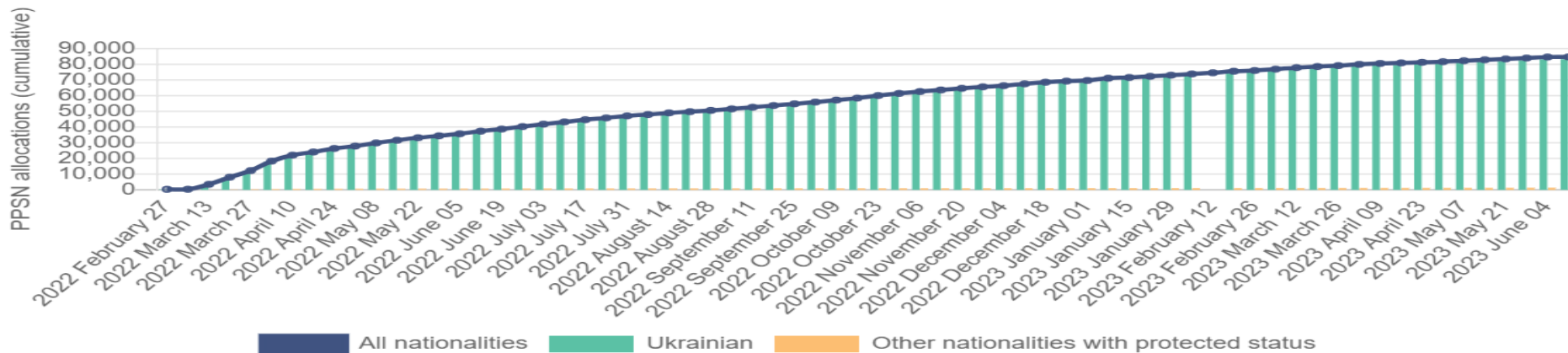
Adequate payment  
rates, protection from  
income loss shock -  
policy on Pay Related  
Benefit (PRB)

Higher Payments lead  
to benefit across the  
economy = faster  
recovery

Basic Income for the  
Arts Pilot

# Response to Refugees arriving from Ukraine

**Figure 1: PPSN allocations (cumulative) to arrivals from Ukraine**

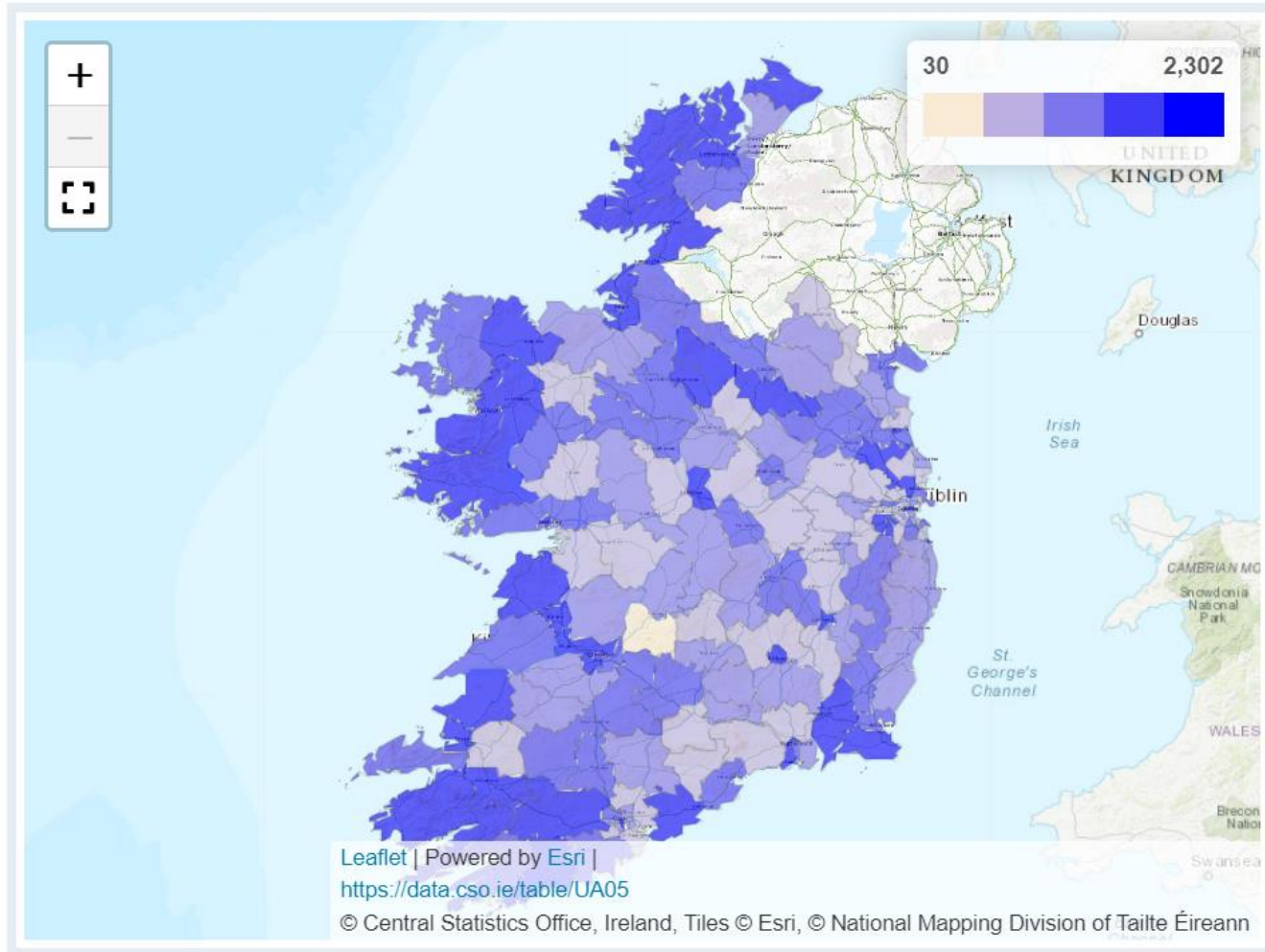


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<https://data.cso.ie/table/UA07>

\* Note that PPSN allocations are to the 06 June 2023. A breakdown of nationality is not available for the 12 February 2023 due to statistical disclosure controls in place.



**Map 1: Number of arrivals from Ukraine in Ireland based on PPSN allocations as of 06 June 2023**



# Key Learnings & Outcomes

International cooperation – multilateral/bilateral social insurance agreements

Barriers for Foreign Nationals to Social Insurance Protections – Language, Cultural Differences, Coverage, Legislation

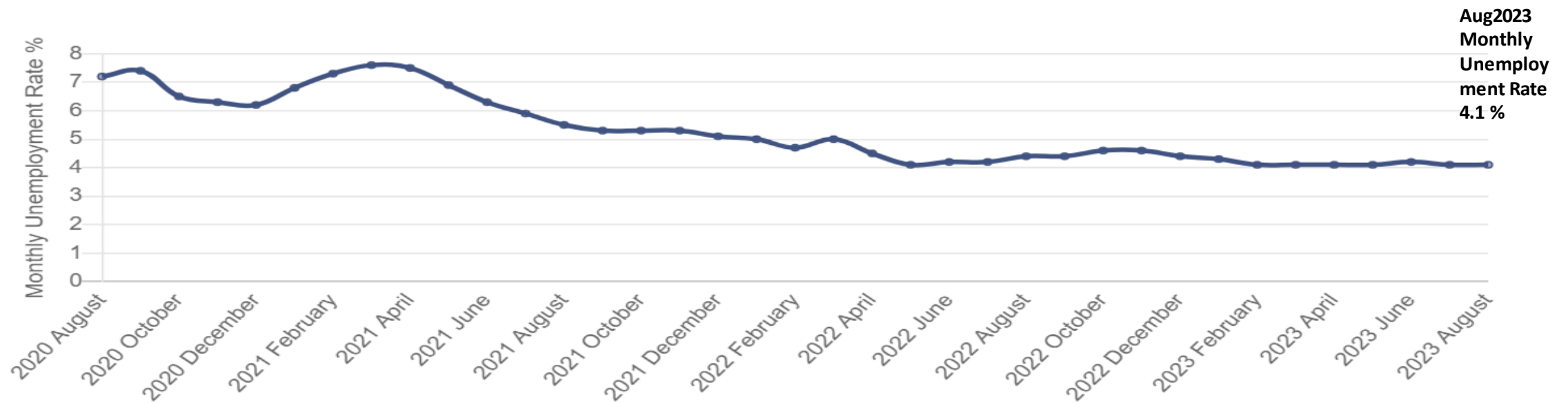
Social Insurance Norms – Definition of Family Unit, Means Assessment, inability to access info/resources

Equality of treatment – Refugees, International Protection Applicants

Control of schemes where usual eligibility criteria is difficult to apply

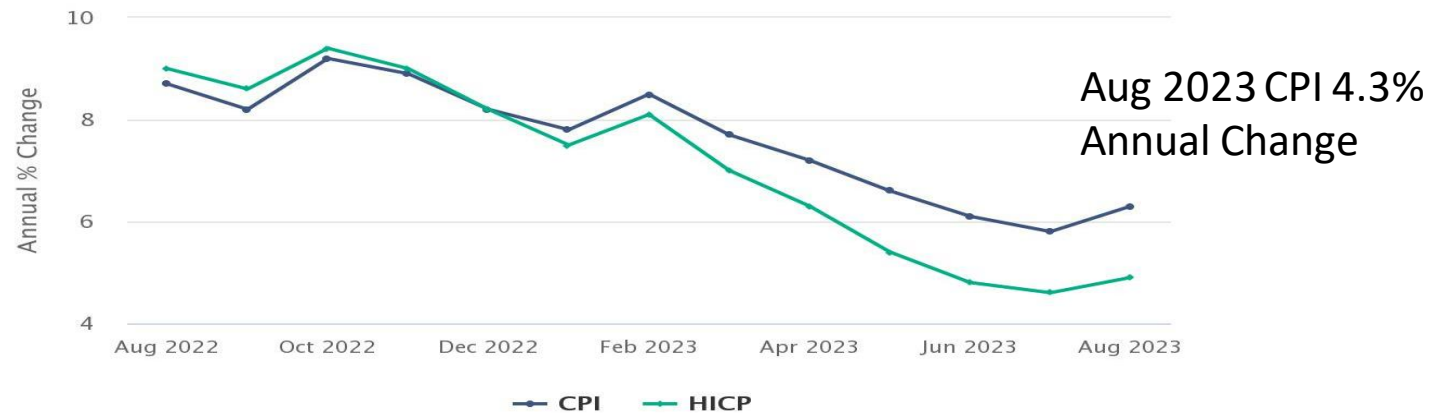
# Unemployment Rate

**Figure 1: Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Unemployment Rate (ILO), August 2020 to August 2023**



# Cost of Living - Consumer Price Index Inflation

**Figure 1: CPI/HICP - ALL ITEMS Annual Percentage Change**



Source: CSO Ireland  
Hincharte.com

Figure 1 shows the development of the CPI and HICP over recent months. It also shows the recent divergence of the CPI and HICP. This divergence is primarily due to the fact that the CPI includes mortgage interest whereas the HICP does not include mortgage interest.

# Key Learnings & Outcomes



A focus by Public Employment Services on upskilling and ensuring adequate human capital in key industries



Increasing potential workforce  
Supports & Policies for those Distanced from Labour Market



Need for potential supports for those in Employment



Universal v Targeted supports



Prevent Income Shock  
Pay Related Benefits  
Graduated income supports



Intervention before Redundancy and additional supports

# An uncertain Future – Charting our way forward

Addressing coverage gaps and proactively integrating different employment types into our social protection systems

Need to ensure appropriate controls and prevention of fraud

Protecting against income shock & maintaining social protection floors

New Policy Development – Pay Related Benefit, Basic Income for the Arts, Pension Changes





**LEAVE NO ONE  
BEHIND**



**An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí**  
Department of Social Protection

**IPEEF** 2023  
INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT FORUM