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Analysis of Jobseekers and Related Expenditure

Irish Government Economic and Evaluation Service

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Summary

2016

➢ The **2016 REV allocation** for Jobseekers Allowance/Benefit was **€2.822bn.**

➢ The **2016 projected outturn** for JA/JB is expected to be under profile at **€2.811bn**. This represents a reduction of €319m (10%) on the 2015 outturn.

➢ Total Jobseekers Expenditure was just under profile by €31m at end-September (JA €25m & JB €6m).

➢ The average LR is expected to be c. **304,200** by end 2016, as compared to 305,250 as projected at the time of the REV. This estimate takes account of LR exits attributable to the JobPath scheme in 2016 (approximately 3,300 exits). Excluding the impact of JobPath in 2016 the projected average weekly LR (end 2016) would be **305,900.**

➢ The profiled average cost per thousand for 2016 was €9.25m. By end-August the average cost per 1000 was €9.18m versus a profile of €9.21m for this stage of the year. Following an analysis of the average weekly cost per thousand over the last 4 quarters, DPER estimate the **average cost per thousand in 2016 will be closer to €9.24m.**

2017

➢ The average LR is projected to be approximately **267,800** for 2017. This estimate takes account of the additional JobPath exits expected in 2017 (approximately 9,100 exits).

➢ The **funding requirement** for 2017 is estimated to be c. **€2.450bn.** This represents a reduction of **€360m** (13%) on the projected 2016 outturn. This is based on an average cost of **€9.15m** per 1000 in 2017.

➢ Based on these estimates a further c. **€22m would be saved on supplementary benefits**, bringing total LR related savings to **€382m** in 2017.

➢ Costs associated with the JobPath initiative in 2017 are estimated to be €63m, equating to an additional provision of €26m over the 2016 allocation.

Chapter 1 - Methodology

This chapter outlines the methodology used to estimate the two important variables which are necessary when calculating the cost and savings associated with the Live Register (LR) in any given year. These include:

(1) The average weekly LR outturns for 2016 and 2017;
(2) The average cost of the LR.

(1) *Estimating the LR Outturn:*

There are two possible approaches to estimating the LR in any given year:

1. Estimate LR from QNHS Unemployment estimates using the conversion rate
2. Trend analysis

Method 1 – The Conversion Rate

The conversion rate is a ratio of the average LR / Unemployment rate for the previous 12 months. The current conversion ratio is 37,208 reduction in the LR for every 1% drop in unemployment (see Appendix 1 for further details).

The Department of Finance published unemployment projections on a QNHS basis in the Macroeconomic Projections for Budget 2017 in September 2016. For 2017, the projected unemployment rate is 7.75%.

Table 1: LR Weekly Average Projections using the Conversion Rate, 2016 - 2017

	2016	*2017*
QNHS Unemployment Rate*	8.5%	7.75%
Estimated LR using the Conversion Rate	**316,267**	**288,361**

Source: DPER/DSP - Budget figures; Department of Finance – Macroeconomic Projections for Budget 2017 (Memorandum for Government). Latest available at the time of writing this paper.

Using the conversion rate, the average weekly LR for 2017 is estimated to be 288,361.

However, it must be noted that this a purely an academic exercise and **linking the QHNS and LR is difficult as both measure different things**. While the LR does not represent the true level of unemployment in Ireland, it includes those who are officially declared unemployed or underemployed with the Department of Social Protection. The QNHS, on the other hand, is the method through which the estimated numbers of unemployed in Ireland are measured. To illustrate, a person in part-time employment may qualify for an LR payment and therefore be captured in the LR data but as they are considered to be in employment, they will not appear in the QNHS data.

For this reason, DPER estimate the annual LR position using a trend analysis methodology.

Method 2 – Trend Analysis

The methodology used to estimate the end year projection for LR numbers and costs is an Excel based, historic trend analysis.

In previous years, the approach taken used Excel analysis to calculate the weekly net reduction/increase in the LR for the year to date. These weekly variances were then compared against the same week in the previous year. The annual difference in the weekly LR variances was then averaged over the year and extrapolated forward to end year and into the following year. Using this approach for 2016/ 17, it was found that:

- In 2016, for the period of weeks 1 – 41, the LR numbers fell on average each week by 50 more than that observed during the same period in 2015.

- Under this methodology and assuming this average weekly improvement continues throughout 2016 and into 2017, the LR is estimated to fall by c. 12% between 2015 and 2016 and by 14% between 2016 and 2017.

- Table 2 below summarises the results.

Table 2: LR Outcomes Using Trend Analysis

	2015	2016	*Y-o-Y Change*	*% Change*	2017	*Y-o-Y Change*	*% Change*
Average Weekly LR	345k	304k	*-41k*	*-12%*	261k	*-43k*	*-14%*
Total LR cost	€3.13bn	€2.809bn	*-€0.321bn*	*-10%*	€2.390bn	*€0.418bn*	*-15%*

Table 2 shows that using this approach for 2016/ 17 results in a further 43k reduction in the LR in 2017 with associated savings of **€418 million**, representing a 14% fall in numbers and a 15% reduction in costs. These outcomes would seem overly optimistic and unrealistic in light of current economic conditions.

To take account of these concerns, the methodology has been revised slightly to reflect the fact that since September 2012 the LR has been falling rapidly as the economy has continued to improve, and that this is a level of reduction that cannot be maintained indefinitely. The rate of reduction should therefore be adjusted to incorporate:

1. The potential impacts of a slowdown in the economy as a result of Brexit.

2. The diminishing numbers of people exiting the LR to take up BTEA over recent years

3. The fact that c. 46% of the remaining stock of LR claimants are categorised as long-term unemployed (i.e. have been unemployed for over 12 months) and therefore leave the LR at a slower pace than those who have been unemployed for under 12 months.

A scenario/sensitivity analysis was conducted to take account of these factors, during which three scenarios were examined. In each case, the weekly change of the LR was adjusted by a specific percentage and varied over the period. We applied the following factors to the number of profiled LR exits over end-year 2016 and full-year 2017:

Table 3: Scenario Assumptions

Scenario	End 2016	Q1 2017	Q2 2017	Q3 2017	Q4 2017
One:	13%	13%	14%	15%	16%
Two:	**10.0%**	**10.0%**	**11.0%**	**12.5%**	**14.0%**
Three:	7.0%	7.0%	8.0%	10.0%	12.0%

For the purposes of arriving at estimates for the average Live Register for 2016 and 2017, the mid-point, or scenario 2, has been selected.

The trend-based approach outlined above has been compared against an independent projections model (ARIMA) to verify methodological consistency. The results of this exercise may be found in Appendix 2.

The estimates of LR numbers and costs for 2016 and 2017 are dealt with in Chapter 3.

(2) *Estimating the Average LR cost per Thousand:*

A key element when estimating the cost of Jobseekers Allowance (JA) and Jobseekers Benefit (JB), is the average value of the payment[1]. If LR numbers decrease but the average payment value increases then savings might not be realised. The average value of the payment may also be affected by the proportion of claimants receiving a full Jobseeker's payment. If the numbers in receipt of a full JA/JB payment are greater than expected the average payment value will be higher.

Table 4 below shows the average payment values for JA and JB in 2015 and 2016 and against profile for the year to date. It can be seen that while the JA value has fallen over the course of the year and remains under profile, the JB value has increased by c. 2% between 2015 and 2016.

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[1] It should be noted that in addition to LR recipients of JA and JB payments, other groups are also funded through these scheme payments. However these other groups are not included in the LR numbers. Appendix 3 provides further details of these other groups.

Table 4: Average Payment Values

	End July 2015	End July 2016	Profile End July 2016	Difference
Jobseeker's Allowance	196.30	196.79	197.10	-€0.31
Jobseeker's Benefit	183.81	187.10	186.47	€0.63
Source: Department of Social Protection data.				

Table 5 shows the historic cost of the LR for 2013 – 2016. Figures for 2016 reflect the original estimates based on the assumptions made at the time of REV 2016 (i.e. average weekly LR outturn figure of 305,250 and average cost per 1,000 of €9.25m) and the revised DPER estimate as at September 2016.

Table 5: Average Cost per Person on the LR 2013-2016

	Total Cost of JA/ JB	*Weekly average on LR*	*Average Cost per 1,000*
	€'000	**#**	**€000**
2013	3,667,557	420,000	8,737
2014	3,276,600	390,000	8,660
2015	3,130,000	345,000	9,080
2016	2,822,000	305,120	9,250
2016 (DPER Revised Estimate)	2,811,000	304,200	9,240

While the DPER analysis shows that the expected outcome for 2016 does not vary significantly from the original estimate, the updated figures take account of the weekly cost per thousand in 2016 to end-August. The average cost per thousand for the remaining weeks of the year has then been estimated using the observed weekly trend in 2015. Table 6 outlines the average cost per thousand as calculated for each quarter of 2015 and 2016.

Table 6: Average Cost per Thousand, Quarterly

	2015	2016
Q1	8.89	9.28
Q2	8.72	9.01
Q3	9.15	9.13*
Q4	9.54	9.54*
Average	**9.07**	**9.24***

*Projected

The average cost per thousand in Q4 2015 and 2016 is roughly the same. This is due to the fact that as at end-August the weekly cost per thousand for the corresponding weeks in both years was the same (at end-August 2015 the weekly cost per thousand was €9.17m, for the corresponding week in 2016 the cost was €9.18m). Therefore applying the 2015 weekly trend to 2016 results in very similar weekly average cost estimates.

DPER also calculated the average cost per thousand for the last four quarters observed i.e. Q3-4 2015 and Q1-2 2016. The results showed the same outcome of €9.24m per thousand for the last 52 weeks.

Chapter 2 – Results

As outlined in Chapter 1, the updated DPER estimates for the LR outturns in 2016 and 2017 are based on an analysis of three separate scenarios. The results of this scenario analysis are outlined in sections (2) and (3) below.

(1) *REV 2016 Allocations – Numbers and Costs*

At the time of REV 2016, the estimated LR average weekly outturn for 2016 was 305,250. The corresponding expenditure allocation for Jobseeker's Allowance (JA) and Jobseeker's Benefit (JB) was set at €2.822 billion.

However, as at the end of September expenditure on JA/JB was €31m under profile and the average weekly LR outturn was c. 312,000. As a result of this performance to date, the average weekly LR outturn and associated costs for 2016 has been revisited.

(2) *Estimation of 2016 LR Outturn*

For 2016, three scenarios have been analysed:

- Scenario 1 takes account of the actual trend observed to date (weeks 1 – 41). For weeks 42 – 52, it is assumed that the average weekly LR variance is **13%** worse than the variance observed in 2015 i.e. the improvement in the LR is happening at a slower rate in 2016.
- Scenario 2 follows the same approach but adjusts the weekly LR variance by 10**%** for the remaining weeks of 2016.
- Scenario 3 adjusts the weekly LR variance by 7**%** for the remaining weeks of 2016.

Table 7 below shows the results of the 2016 scenario analysis in terms of annual average weekly LR numbers, costs and associated year-on-year savings.

Table 7: 2016 Scenario Analysis Results

	Average weekly LR	YoY change	LR Cost	YoY change (savings)	Supplementary savings	Total Savings
Scenario 1	304,239	-40k (-12%)	€2.811bn	-€318m (-10%)	-€24m	-€342m
Scenario 2	304,194	-40k (-12%)	€2.811bn	-€319m (-10%)	-€24m	-€343m
Scenario 3	304,149	-41k (-12%)	€2.810bn	-€319m (-10%)	-€24m	-€344m

Due to the limited number of weeks left in 2016, the three scenarios provide very similar outcomes in terms of numbers reductions and cost savings. The mid-point, i.e. Scenario 2 has been chosen as the final 2016 outcome and starting point for the 2017 analysis.

Accordingly, the average weekly outturn for end-2016 is now estimated to be 304,200 with an associated cost of €2.811bn. This represents a year on year reduction in the LR of 40k (12%) and a cash saving of c. €319m (10%) or €343m when supplementary savings of €24m are included.

(3) *Estimation of 2017 LR Outturn*

In 2017, the improvement in the LR is expected to continue however this is expected to happen at a slower rate than that observed in 2016. To do this, the 2016 weekly variance has been proportionately adjusted and applied to the 2017 numbers.

Note: **The end 2016 position, as estimated under Scenario 2 in the previous section, is used as a starting point for projecting the LR in 2017. In addition the average cost per thousand for 2017 is assumed to be €9.15m. This average cost excludes the impact of the Christmas Bonus (75%) included in 2015 and 2016.**

2017 Scenario Analysis:

Three scenarios have been looked at for 2017. Table 8 below sets out the proportionate adjustments that have been applied to the weekly variance for each quarter in 2017 for the three scenarios.

Table 8: 2017 Scenario Assumptions

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Scenario 1	13%	14%	15%	16%
Scenario 2	**10%**	**11%**	**12.5%**	**14%**
Scenario 3	7%	8%	10%	12%

2017 Results of Scenario Analysis

Table 9 below shows the results of the 2017 scenario analysis in terms of annual average weekly LR numbers, costs and associated year-on-year savings.

Table 9: 2017 Scenario Analysis Results

	Average weekly LR	*YoY change*	*LR Cost*	*YoY change (savings)*	*Supplementary savings*	*Total Savings*
Scenario 1	269,317	*-35k (-11%)*	€2.464bn	*-€347m (-12%)*	-€21m	-€368m
Scenario 2	267,789	*-36k (-12%)*	€2.450bn	*-€360m (-13%)*	-€22m	-€382m
Scenario 3	266,261	*-38k (-12%)*	€2.436bn	*-€374m (-13%)*	-€23m	-€397m

Table 9 shows that even marginal changes in the expected performance of the LR over the course of 2017 can have significant implications for costs and savings. Under the scenario analysis, the average weekly LR outcomes capture a range of c. 3,000 people. This corresponds to a cost variance of c. €28m (c. 1%) and a total savings range of €29m (c. 8%).

Given that the average weekly LR is expected to fall by c. 40k between 2015 and 2016 with a corresponding saving of €319m in 2016, the mid-point scenario for 2017 (Scenario 2) seems to be the most prudent and realistic outcome.

Based on these assumptions, the LR in 2017 is expected to finish with an average weekly outturn of **267,800** and an associated cost of **€2.450bn** for the year. This represents a year-on-year reduction of 36k (12%) from the LR and a cash saving of **€360m** (13%) or €382m when supplementary savings of €22m are included.

Chapter 3 - Impact of the JobPath

As detailed in Section 1, the methodology used to estimate the end year projection for LR numbers and costs is an Excel based, historic trend analysis. Given that the LR exits through JobPath form a part of this trend, the 2016 and 2017 end year LR average estimates outlined in the paper take account of these additional exits. However, it is important to isolate the additional impact that the JobPath project is having on the Live Register and the savings that are accruing to the State as a result.

Methodology

In order to identify the impact of JobPath on the LR it is first necessary to isolate the additional LR exits JobPath is expected to generate each year. The total JobPath exit rates for 2016 and 2017 have been estimated using trend analysis based on performance data received for the first 12 months since roll-out (July 2015 to June 2016). Additional JobPath exits are then calculated by comparing total LR exits through JobPath with the counterfactual exit rate expected for the year. The counterfactual rate refers to the number of LR exits expected in the absence of any intervention.

The second step, in order to understand the impact of these additional exits on the average LR outturn for each year and subsequent savings, is to strip out the additional JobPath exits so that the average LR outturn in the absence of the scheme can be estimated.

Finally, the LR costs are calculated for both the average LR including the JobPath exits and the LR costs when the additional JobPath exits have been stripped out. By comparing these two cost estimates, the JobPath savings amount can be calculated.

Costs and Savings attributable to JobPath in 2016

In order to estimate the costs and savings attributable to JobPath in 2016, DPER have constructed three scenarios. The first Scenario assumes referrals of 60k in the first year of JobPath, this was the lower limit of the original JobPath estimates. The second scenario assumes that referrals continue to increase to the end of 2016 in line with the trend observed from the actual data to date. The third scenario assumes the mid-point of Scenario 1 and 2.

Table 10 below sets out the assumptions underpinning the three scenarios and shows the associated costs and savings associated with each.

Table 10: JobPath 2016, Scenario Analysis

	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
	2016	**2016**	**2016**
Referrals	60,000	92,100	76,000
Registrations	50,000	76,700	63,500
Job starts	9,800	13,800	11,800
Counterfactual Exits	6,700	10,400	8,600
Additional exits	3,100	3,400	3,300
Costs	**€23m**	**€34m**	**€28m**
Savings	**€15m**	**€16m**	**€16m**

The DPER estimate for JobPath in 2016 is based on Scenario 3 and assumes additional JobPath exits in 2016 of c. 3,300. This estimate is c. 10% higher than the original assumed for the 2016 LR position calculated at the time of Budget 2016. This is largely due to the fact that performance to date has been higher than expected for the priority group of JobPath clients (i.e. those unemployed for over three years).

The total cost of JobPath is estimated to be c. €28m in 2016. This is based on annual referrals of 76k and a registration rate of 83%. Assumptions regarding job sustainments have been made in line with the targets set in the provider tender offer bids.

The LR average in 2016 is expected to be 304,200 with a corresponding cost of €2.811bn. When JobPath exits are removed, the LR average in 2016 is estimated to be 305,900 with an associated cost of c. €2.826bn. This implies a cost saving of c. €16m in 2016 due to the additional LR exits through JobPath[2].

Table 11: LR Numbers and Costs end-2016, including and excluding JobPath Exits

	Including JobPath Exits	Excluding JobPath exits
Average LR end-2016	304,200	305,900
LR cost 2016	€2.811bn	€2.826bn
JobPath Savings 2016	€16m	

Costs and Savings attributable to JobPath in 2017

JobPath costs and savings for 2017 have been estimated using the same methodology used for 2016. Three scenarios are used to estimate the additional exits through JobPath and their subsequent implications for costs and savings. Table 12 below sets out the

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[2] The estimated saving does not take account of those JobPath participants who exit the LR but subsequently return. It assumes, in line with the approach taken to estimating the general reduction in the LR that those who exit the LR are taken out of the base entirely. Any returns to the LR are assumed to be captured in the weekly trend.

assumptions and results of this scenario analysis.

Table 12: JobPath 2017, Scenario Analysis

	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
	2016	**2016**	**2016**
Referrals	60,000	105,000	82,500
Registrations	54,000	87,000	70,700
Job starts	14,000	22,400	18,800
Job start Rate	26%	26%	27%
Counterfactual Exits	7,300	12,000	9,600
Additional exits	6,800	10,400	9,100
Costs	**€54m**	**€71m**	**€63m**
Savings	**€29m**	**€33m**	**€31m**

The DPER estimate for JobPath in 2017 is based on Scenario 3 and assumes additional JobPath exits of 9,100 in 2017. This results in a cost requirement of €63m in 2017 with an associated saving of c. €31m.

The 2017 cost of €63m assumes referrals ramp up to 82,500 in 2017 with a registration rate of 86%. Assumptions regarding job sustainments and their associated costs have been made in line with the targets set out in the provider offer bids for year 2 of the contract.

The average LR outturn for 2017 is estimated to be 267,800 with an associated cost of €2.450bn. When the additional JobPath estimates are stripped out, the 2017 average LR outturn is 271,200 with associated costs of €2.481bn. This implies a cost saving of c. €31m in 2017 due to the additional LR exits through JobPath.

Table 13: LR Numbers and Costs end-2017, including and excluding JobPath Exits

	Including JobPath Exits	Excluding JobPath exits
Average LR end-2017	267,800	271,200
LR cost 2017	€2.450bn	€2.481bn
JobPath Savings 2017	€31m	

It should be noted that these estimates are based on a blend of actual data where available, and assumptions around performance (e.g. in relation to Job Sustainments) where at the time of writing insufficient actual data exists.

Chapter 4 – Conclusion and Total LR Savings 2016 / 2017

The trend on the LR has been positive throughout 2015 and 2016, and the Department of Finance's most recent macro-economic forecasts estimate that the labour market will continue to improve in 2017. However, while the labour market can be expected to continue to improve, the rate at which the LR has been declining week on week for the last number of years cannot be expected to continue indefinitely.

Given the recent decision by the UK to exit the European Union, with the impact on the Irish economy still to be observed, and with the remaining stock of long-term unemployed individuals constituting almost 50% of all LR claimants, the LR projections for 2016 and 2017, as described in this paper, have taken account of an estimated slowdown in the LR.

With this in mind, the average LR weekly outturn for 2016 is projected to be 304k falling to 268k by end 2017 (these figures take account of the additional LR exits expected through JobPath).

Based on these estimates, the projected outturn for JA/JB in 2016 is €2.811bn. This is calculated using the average cost per thousand assumption of €9.24m and is €11m less than the original 2016 profile. This equates to a saving of **€319 million** over 2015. When supplementary savings of c. €24m are included, total LR savings in 2016 are estimated to be **€343m**

For 2017, assuming an average cost per thousand of €9.15m, the estimated cost of the LR is expected to be €2.450bn. This gives savings of **c. €360m** in 2017. Including additional savings from supplementary payments as the LR burden reduces, the total savings amount for 2017 is estimated to be **c. €382m.**

APPENDIX 1

The average conversion rate over the last year was 37,208 (i.e. each 1% on the QNHS unemployment equals 37,208 on the LR).

Month	LR (Month End)	QNHS Unemployment Rate	Conversion Rate (LR ÷ QNHS rate)
2015M09	355,690	9.1	39,087
2015M10	320,794	9.1	35,252
2015M11	316,586	9.1	34,790
2015M12	321,616	8.9	36,137
2016M01	321,802	8.5	37,859
2016M02	319,723	8.4	38,062
2016M03	316,520	8.3	38,135
2016M04	305,785	8.3	36,842
2016M05	307,059	8.4	36,555
2016M06	312,475	8.4	37,199
2016M07	319,294	8.3	38,469
2016M08	316,296	8.3	38,108
Average	319,470	8.59	37,208
Summer Economic Statement Conversion			
2016	**316,267**	**8.5**	**37,208**
2017	**288,361**	**7.75**	**37,208**

*Transfers of BTEA recipients and temporary workers from the Educational sector have a negative impact on the summer months of the LR. This would help explain the seasonal change.

APPENDIX 2

Methodological Consistency

The X-12 ARIMA package, devised by the U.S. Census Bureau, provides an alternative method for projecting future LR trends and outturns. The package's primary function is to provide seasonally adjusted figures to counter seasonal variations in time-series data, however it can also provide future projections based on the data input.

To provide a meaningful comparison between the ARIMA and DPER methodologies, the data inputted to the ARIMA model was modified to include any impact from changes to the OFP (One Parent Family Payment) during July 2015.[3] Based upon this revised data, and assuming that no "slow-down" factors are applied, the software projected a year-end 2016 LR outturn of **279,100.** In comparison, if the methodology used in this paper was applied excluding the impact of the "slow-down" effect, the 2016 year-end LR outturn is estimated to be **279,500** (0.1%) above the ARIMA estimate and within an acceptable margin of error.

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[3] In July 2015, the age limit for the youngest child of OFP recipients was reduced to 7 years. This resulted in a number of people moving from OFP to the Jobseekers Allowance Transitional payment (JST) until the youngest child reaches 14 years, and then the mainstream Jobseekers Allowance until their youngest child reaches 18 years.

APPENDIX 3

Numbers in receipt of JA/JB not included on the LR

It should be noted that in addition to LR recipients of JA/JB payments, other groups are funded from JA/JB even though they are not included in the LR figures. These groups include systematic short-time workers[4], self-employed persons[5], over 65's[6], Momentum participants and JST recipients.

As at end August 2016, c. 33,100 individuals were in receipt of JA/JB payments but not included in the LR numbers. Therefore, for this period the JA/JB claim load was c. 349,400 as opposed to the c. 316,300 LR figure.

JA/JB recipients on and off the LR

	End August 2015	End August 2016 (Estimated)	Difference
Live Register	**359,076**	**316,296**	**-42,780**
Systematic short-time workers	904	560	-344
Self-employed	9,917	8,849	-1,068
Short-Term Enterprise Allowance	460	401	-59
Work Placement Programme Open	5	5	0
Work Placement Programme Graduate	33	25	-8
Over 65s	7850	8,343	493
Labour Market Education Fulltime (Momentum)^	389	41	-348
Jobseekers Transition ^^	15,941	14,923	-1,.18
Total JA + JB claim load	**394,575**	**349,443**	**-45,132**
Total on JA or JB but not on LR	35,499	33,147	-2,352
Not on LR as % of total JA+JB claim load	**9%**	**9.5**	**0.5%**

Source: Department of Social Protection

It is estimated that as at end August 2016, the number of claimants on JA/JB participating in other schemes will be 2,352 less than in August 2015, at 33,147.

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[4] Systematic Short-time employment refers to employment in which, on a temporary basis, the number of days is systematically worked in a working week is less than the number of days normally worked by the person in a working week in the employment concerned. Short-time working must also be systematic, i.e. there must be a clear repetitive pattern of employment with the employer each week, e.g. 1, 2 or 3 days per week every week or 2 days in the first week and 3 days in the second week, with this pattern repeated every two weeks. Persons in part-time or casual work are not classified as systematic short-time workers. This is a JB payment.

[5] Self-Employed people are not treated as employees, therefore they are not included on the LR. This is a means-tested JA payment.

[6] They are not of Working Age and are therefore not included in the LR.