



Post-Pandemic Unemployment

An Analysis of Estimated Additional Unemployment post-Covid-19

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CSO Labour Force Survey Q4 2020

Table 1: Percentage of persons aged 15-64 years whose employment was affected by Covid-19 (self-reported) by expectation of return to the same job and separately for those benefitting from the PUP or the EWSS, 2020

	PUP recipients	EWSS recipients	All
Yes, expect to return to the same job	64.4%	41.3%	33.3%
Yes, have already returned to the same job	14.3%	51.6%	45.7%
No	21.3%	7.1%	21.0%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Source: CSO Labour Market Insight Bulletin, Series 5 Q4 2020 (Feb 2021).

Notes: Data is for the final three months of 2020. 'All' refers to all persons who reported their employment as being affected by Covid-19, including those on PUP, EWSS and others.

Sectors

Table 2: Expectation to return to same job for persons aged 15-64 whose employment was affected by Covid-19, % by NACE sector - LFS Q4 2020

Economic Sector	Yes, expect to return to the same job	Yes, have already returned to the same job	No	Total
Section A – Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	[20.4%]	[54.5%]	[25.2%]	[100%]
Section B-E – Industry	16.4%	65.6%	17.9%	100%
Section F – Construction	19.4%	73.4%	7.1%	100%
Section G – Wholesale & Retail Trade; Repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	32.8%	47.7%	19.5%	100%
Section H – Transportation and Storage	48.4%	39.0%	12.6%	100%
Section I – Accommodation and Food service activities	53.7%	29.8%	16.4%	100%
Section J – Information and Communication	25.9%	23.1%	51.1%	100%
Section K-L – Financial, Insurance and Real Estate Activities	[15.0%]	[36.2%]	[48.8%]	[100%]
Section M – Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	19.4%	49.6%	31.0%	100%
Section N – Administrative & Support Service Activities	26.4%	43.9%	29.7%	100%
Section O – Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	*	*	*	*
Section P – Education	23.9%	60.4%	15.7%	100%
Section Q – Human Health and Social Work Activities	25.7%	50.3%	24.1%	100%
Section R-U – Other Services Activities	51.5%	31.9%	16.6%	100%
No Answer	19.4%	1.0%	79.6%	100%
Total	33.4%	45.8%	20.8%	100%

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS), Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Notes: * Estimates for numbers of persons or averages where there are less than 30 persons in a cell are not produced as estimates are too small to be considered reliable. Parentheses [] indicate where there are 30-50 persons in a cell, estimates are considered to have a wider margin of error and should be treated with caution. Data may be subject to future revision. Data may be subject to sampling or other survey errors, which are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change. Reference period: Q4=Oct-Dec.

Sectors

Table 3: Expectation to return to same job for persons aged 15-64 whose employment was affected by Covid-19, where response was "No", % by NACE sector - LFS Q4 2020

Economic Sector	% of persons whose employment was affected by Covid-19 by sector	Number of Persons	% who do not expect to return to the same job	Number of Persons
Section A – Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1.1%	13,484	[25.2%]	[3,398]
Section B-E – Industry	10.6%	129,935	17.9%	23,258
Section F – Construction	6.4%	78,451	7.1%	5,570
Section G – Wholesale & Retail Trade; Repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	12.3%	150,773	19.5%	29,401
Section H – Transportation and Storage	4.1%	50,258	12.6%	6,332
Section I – Accommodation and Food service activities	9.3%	113,999	16.4%	18,696
Section J – Information and Communication	7.0%	85,806	51.1%	43,847
Section K-L – Financial, Insurance and Real Estate Activities	5.8%	71,096	[48.8%]	[34,695]
Section M – Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	6.5%	79,677	31.0%	24,700
Section N – Administrative & Support Service Activities	4.0%	49,032	29.7%	14,563
Section O – Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	5.6%	68,645	*	*
Section P – Education	10.4%	127,483	15.7%	20,015
Section Q – Human Health and Social Work Activities	10.4%	127,483	24.1%	30,723
Section R-U – Other Services Activities	5.7%	69,871	16.6%	11,599
No Answer	0.8%	9,806	79.6%	7,806
Total	100%	1,225,800	20.8%	

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS), Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Notes: The data presented shows the impact of COVID-19 on the employment status of all persons aged 15-64 years who answered the questions on COVID-19 in the survey. This included persons who were either employed, unemployed or inactive at the time of interview. The Economic sector includes the sector that those who were employed in Q4 2020 worked in and the previous sector of employment for those who were unemployed or inactive. Therefore, the percentages presented are of all persons in that age group interviewed rather than just those in the Labour Force.

* Estimates for numbers of persons or averages where there are less than 30 persons in a cell are not produced as estimates are too small to be considered reliable.

Parentheses [] indicate where there are 30-50 persons in a cell, estimates are

Sectors

Table 4: Expectation to return to same job for persons aged 15-64 whose employment was affected by Covid-19, % by NACE sector – Q4 2020

Economic Sector	No. Employed	No. Not expecting to Return to Work	%
Section A – Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	106,400	[3,398]	[3.2%]
Section B-E – Industry	298,200	23,258	7.8%
Section F – Construction	136,400	5,570	4.1%
Section G – Wholesale & Retail Trade; Repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	316,100	29,401	9.3%
Section H – Transportation and Storage	107,800	6,332	5.9%
Section I – Accommodation and Food service activities	133,100	18,696	14.0%
Section J – Information and Communication	139,400	43,847	31.5%
Section K-L – Financial, Insurance and Real Estate Activities	124,500	[34,695]	[27.9%]
Section M – Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	145,700	24,700	17.0%
Section N – Administrative & Support Service Activities	82,100	14,563	17.7%
Section O – Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	122,400	*	*
Section P – Education	196,400	20,015	10.2%
Section Q – Human Health and Social Work Activities	293,000	30,723	10.5%
Section R-U – Other Services Activities	100,500	11,599	11.5%
No Answer	-	7,806	-
Total	2,306,200	254,966	11.0%

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS), Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Notes: The data presented shows the impact of COVID-19 on the employment status of all persons aged 15-64 years who answered the questions on COVID-19 in the survey. This included persons who were either employed, unemployed or inactive at the time of interview. The Economic sector includes the sector that those who were employed in Q4 2020 worked in and the previous sector of employment for those who were unemployed or inactive. Therefore, the percentages presented are of all persons in that age group interviewed rather than just those in the Labour Force.

* Estimates for numbers of persons or averages where there are less than 30 persons in a cell are not produced as estimates are too small to be considered reliable. Parentheses [] indicate where there are 30-50 persons in a cell, estimates are considered to have a wider margin of error and should be treated with caution. This may explain why the total in the 'Number of Persons' column exceeds the estimated total of 254,966 people.

Data may be subject to future revision.

Data may be subject to sampling or other survey errors, which are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

Reference period: Q4=Oct-Dec.

Gender

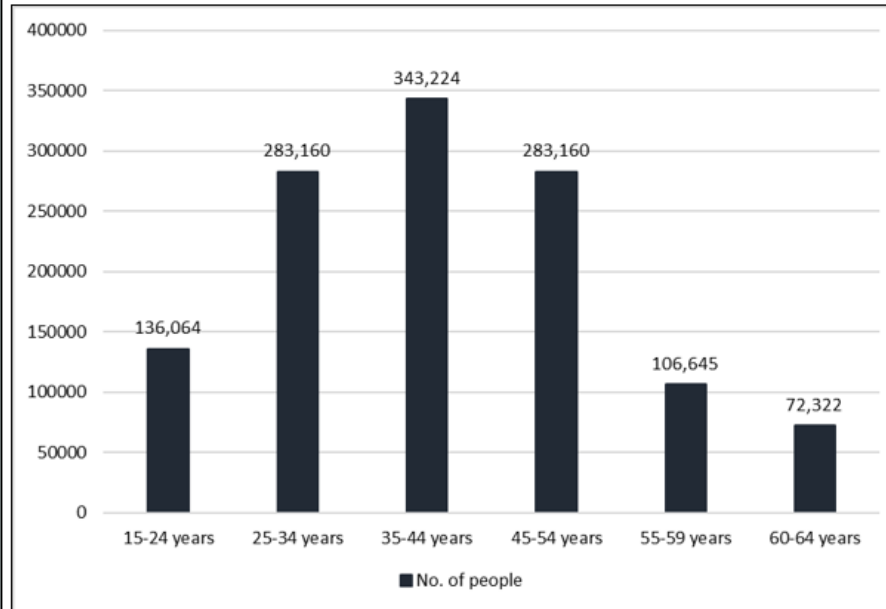
Table 5: Percentage of persons aged 15-64 years whose employment was affected by Covid-19 (self-reported) by expectation of return to the same job by Gender, Q4 2020

	Male	Female	All
Yes, expect to return to the same job	30.5%	36.6%	33.4%
Yes, have already returned to the same job	52.7%	38.0%	45.8%
No	16.8%	25.3%	20.8%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS), Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Age Groups

Chart 1: Number of persons aged 15-64 years whose employment was affected by Covid-19 (self-reported) by Age Group, Q4 2020

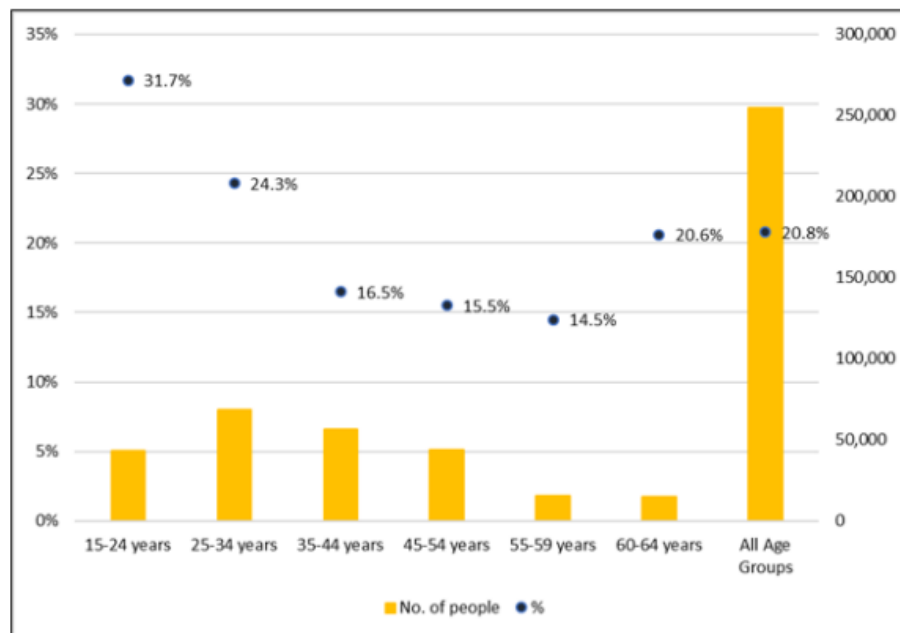


Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS), Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Note: The data presented shows the impact of COVID-19 on the employment status of all persons aged 15-64 years who answered the questions on COVID-19 in the survey. This included persons who were either employed, unemployed or inactive at the time of interview. The Economic sector includes the sector that those who were employed in Q4 2020 worked in and the previous sector of employment for those who were unemployed or inactive. Therefore, the percentages presented are of all persons in that age group interviewed rather than just those in the Labour Force.
Data may be subject to future revision.
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Reference period: Q4=Oct-Dec.

Age Groups

Chart 2: Number and Percentage of persons aged 15-64 years whose employment was affected by Covid-19 (self-reported) by expectation of return to the same job, "No", by Age Group, Q4 2020



Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS), Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Note: The data presented shows the impact of COVID-19 on the employment status of all persons aged 15-64 years who answered the questions on COVID-19 in the survey. This included persons who were either employed, unemployed or inactive at the time of interview. The Economic sector includes the sector that those who were employed in Q4 2020 worked in and the previous sector of employment for those who were unemployed or inactive. Therefore, the percentages presented are of all persons in that age group interviewed rather than just those in the Labour Force. Data may be subject to future revision. Data may be subject to sampling or other survey errors, which are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change. Reference period: Q4=Oct-Dec.

Regions

Table 6: Percentage and number of persons aged 15-64 years whose employment was affected by Covid-19 (self-reported) by expectation of return to the same job by NUTS 3 Region, Q4 2020

NUTS 3 Region	All		Yes, expect to return to the same job		Yes, have already returned to the same job		No	
	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Border	7.2%	88,258	30.6%	27,007	55.9%	49,336	13.5%	11,915
West	8.7%	106,645	34.0%	36,259	47.7%	50,869	18.3%	19,516
Mid-West	8.6%	105,419	36.3%	38,267	44.8%	47,228	18.9%	19,924
South-East	8.4%	102,967	32.0%	32,950	46.6%	47,983	21.4%	22,035
South-West	14.1%	172,838	33.1%	57,209	48.5%	83,826	18.4%	31,802
Dublin	33.8%	414,320	36.7%	152,056	37.0%	153,299	26.3%	108,966
Mid-East	14.2%	174,064	29.1%	50,653	50.2%	87,380	20.7%	36,031
Midland	5.2%	63,742	29.7%	18,931	52.0%	33,146	18.2%	11,601
State	100%	1,225,800	33.4%	409,417	45.8%	561,416	20.8%	254,966

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS), Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Notes: The data presented shows the impact of COVID-19 on the employment status of all persons aged 15-64 years who answered the questions on COVID-19 in the survey. This included persons who were either employed, unemployed or inactive at the time of interview. The Economic sector includes the sector that those who were employed in Q4 2020 worked in and the previous sector of employment for those who were unemployed or inactive. Therefore, the percentages presented are of all persons in that age group interviewed rather than just those in the Labour Force. Data may be subject to future revision. Data may be subject to sampling or other survey errors, which are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change. Reference period: Q4=Oct-Dec. NUTS 3 Regions: Border (Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan, and Monaghan); West (Galway, Mayo, Roscommon); Mid-West (Clare, Tipperary, Limerick); South East (Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford); South-West (Cork, Kerry); Dublin; Mid-East (Wicklow, Kildare, Meath, Louth); Midland (Longford, Westmeath, Offaly, Laois)

Regions

Table 7: Labour Force, Unemployed Persons and Unemployment Rate - LFS Q4 2020, Estimated Unemployed Persons and Unemployment Rate post-Pandemic 2019

NUTS 3 Region	In Labour Force	No. Unemployed	Unemployment Rate	Estimated No. Unemployed post-Pandemic	Estimated Unemployment Rate post-Pandemic
Border	186,800	[7,900]	4.2%	[19,815]	10.6%
West	228,800	[8,000]	3.6%	[27,516]	12.0%
Mid-West	230,900	16,500	7.2%	36,424	15.8%
South-East	202,600	11,700	5.8%	33,735	16.7%
South-West	350,400	21,800	6.3%	53,602	15.3%
Dublin	739,000	45,800	6.2%	154,766	21.0%
Mid-East	357,600	18,300	5.1%	54,331	15.2%
Midland	149,000	[8,800]	6.0%	[20,401]	13.7%
State	2,445,100	138,900	5.7%	393,866	16.1%

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS) and Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) 2019, Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Notes: NUTS 3 Regions: Border (Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan, and Monaghan); West (Galway, Mayo, Roscommon); Mid-West (Clare, Tipperary, Limerick); South East (Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford); South-West (Cork, Kerry); Dublin; Mid-East (Wicklow, Kildare, Meath, Louth); Midland (Longford, Westmeath, Offaly, Laois)

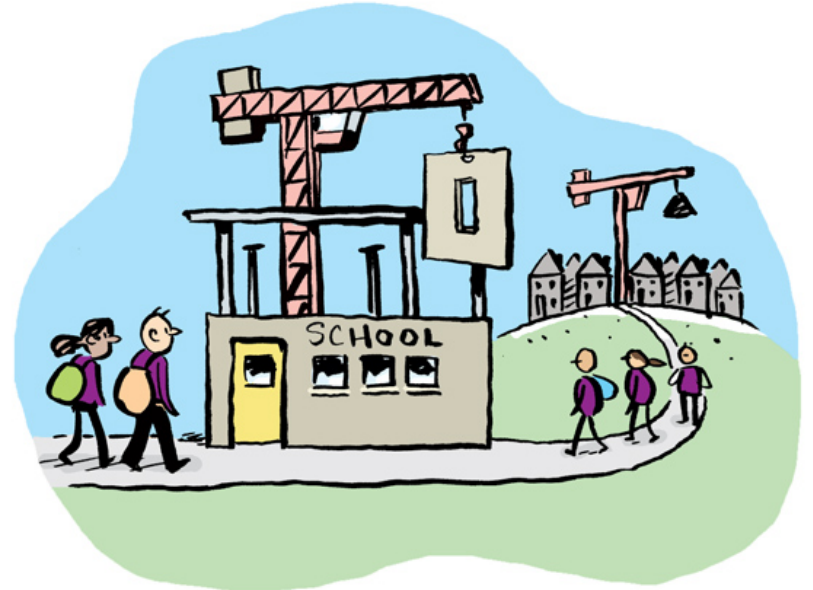
According to the CSO Background Notes to the LFS, where there are 30-49 persons in a cell, estimates are considered to have a wider margin of error and should be treated with caution. These cells are presented with parentheses []. This may explain why the total in the 'Estimated No. Unemployed post-Pandemic' column exceeds the estimated total of 393,866 people.

Unemployment rate is for persons aged 15-74 years, data relating to the estimated number of persons unemployed post-pandemic refers to persons aged 15-64 years.

Policy Responses

Sectors

- Resource the up-skilling of those who are unemployed and at risk of becoming unemployed through integrating training and labour market programmes.
- Launch a major investment programme focused on prioritising initiatives that strengthen social infrastructure, including a comprehensive school building programme and a much larger social housing programme.



Policy Responses

Gender

- Adopt policies to address the obstacles facing women when they return to the labour force. These should focus on care initiatives, employment flexibility and the provision of information and training.



Policy Responses

Age Groups

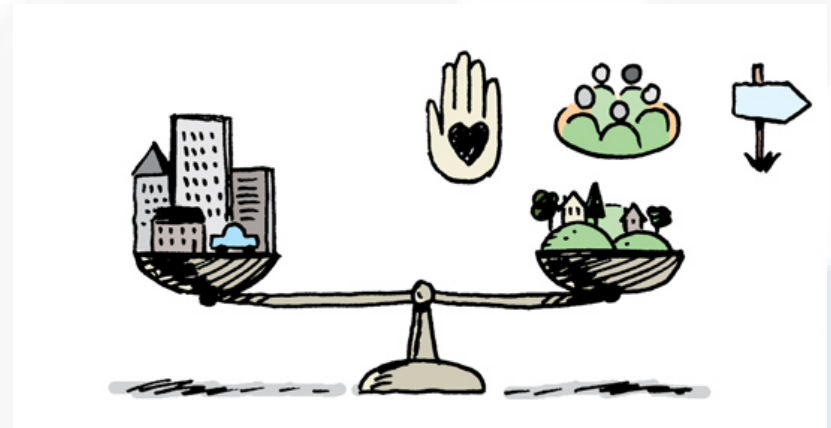
- Adopt policies to address the worrying issue of youth unemployment. These should include education and literacy initiatives as well as retraining schemes.
- Invest in human capital through targeted education and training programmes, especially for older workers and those in vulnerable employment.
- Including older workers in traineeships and other active labour market programmes is an important policy tool. In this regard it is important that the age profile in the Action Plan for Apprenticeship 2021-2025, launched in May 2021 is expanded and open to all age groups.



Policy Responses

Regional

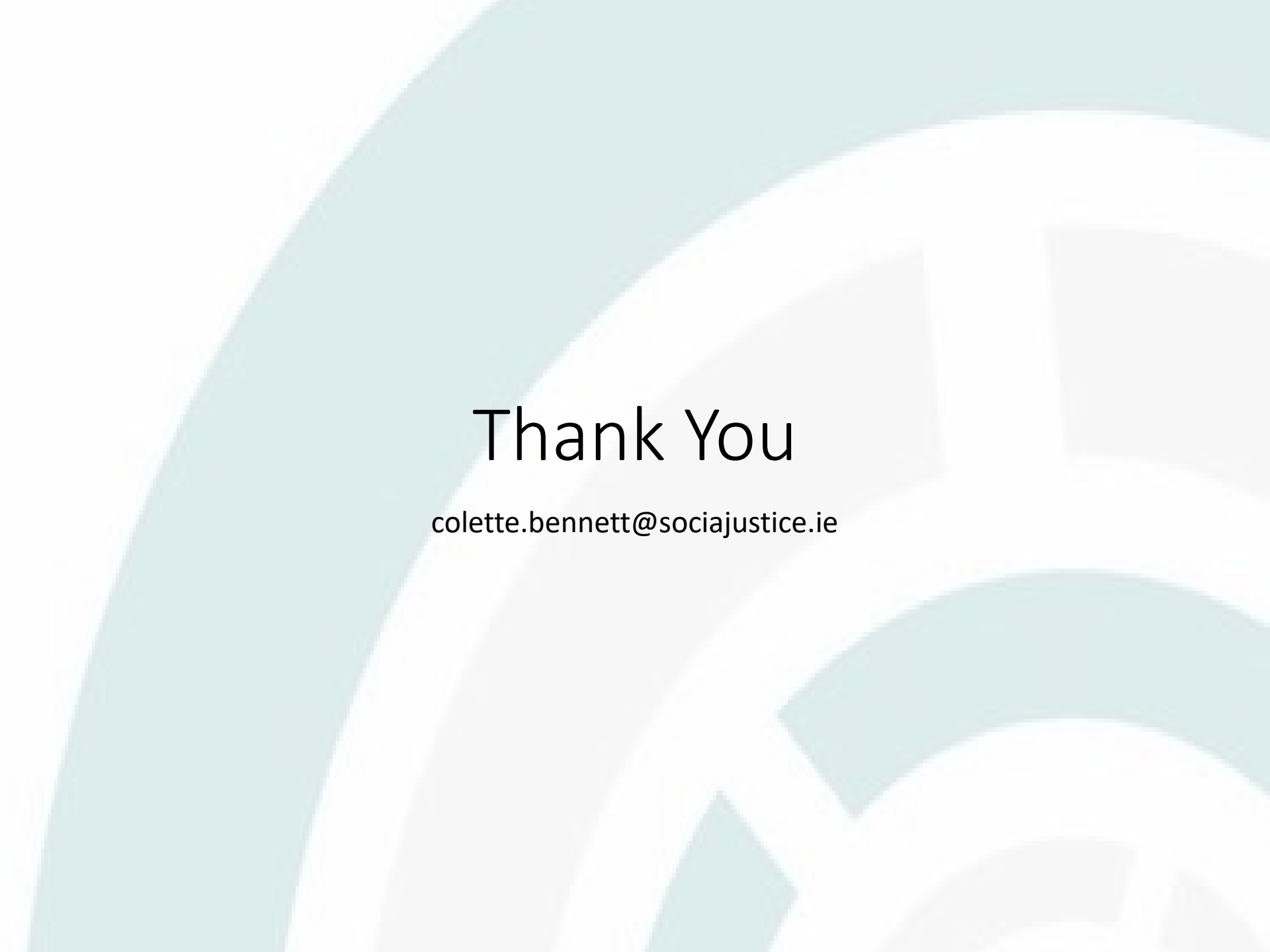
- Invest in up-skilling lower-skilled workers in rural regions, which has a greater impact on regional economic development than investing in increasing the number of highly skilled workers there.
- Focus investment on education and training for people in low skilled jobs or those unemployed in rural areas as part of an overall regional employment strategy aimed at generating sustainable jobs.
- Invest in the roll-out of decent broadband and transport systems to enable rural dwellers, particularly those on low incomes, to access education and skills development opportunities.



Policy Responses - General

- Recognise the challenges of long-term unemployment.
- Expand funded programmes supporting the community.
- Establish a new programme targeting those who are very long-term unemployed (that is, 5+ years).
- Ensure that at all times policy seeks to ensure that new jobs have reasonable pay rates, and adequate resource are provided for the labour inspectorate.
- Address the working poor issue.
- Develop employment-friendly income tax policies.
- Reduce the impediments faced by people with a disability in achieving employment.





Thank You

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