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Central
Statistics
Office

Labour Force Survey labour market estimates during COVID-19

Sam Scriven, CSO Labour Market and Earnings Division

NERI Labour Market Conference, June 2022

What is the Labour Force Survey?

- Continuous household survey carried out by the CSO
- Official source for employment and unemployment estimates in Ireland
- Official labour market classification of respondents to the LFS is based on ILO concepts and definitions
- All EU Member States are legally obliged to compile and provide these data on a quarterly basis using the LFS



ILO labour market classifications

- ILO status of respondents determined by answers given to a set of objective questions
- In employment: At least one hour worked in reference week OR has a job but temporarily absent from work (depending on reason for and length of absence)
- Unemployed: Not employed AND Available for work AND Actively seeking work
- Inactive: Everyone else

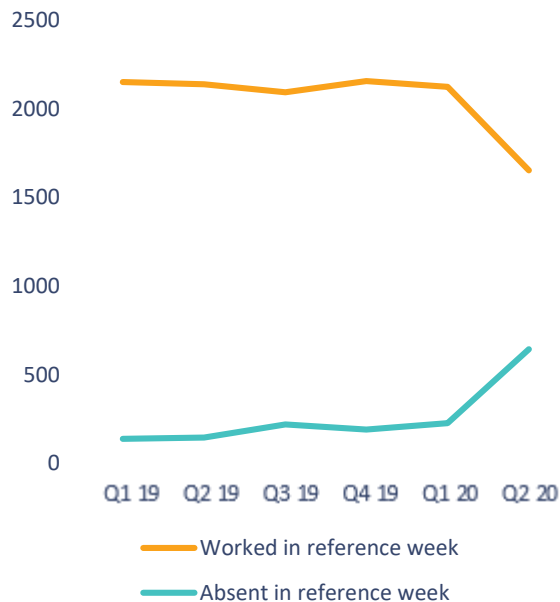


COVID-19 – March/April 2020

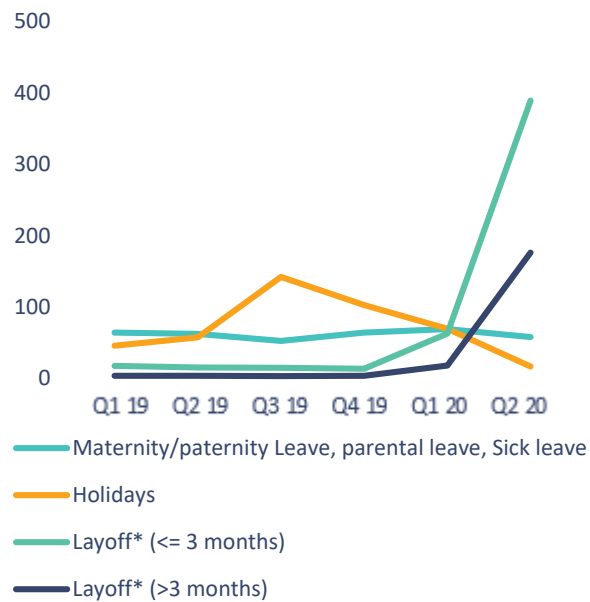
- Lockdown, businesses forced to close, people put out of work
- Under normal conditions, we would expect people who lose employment to try to find alternative work i.e. transition from employed to unemployed
- During the initial lockdown, many people put out of work were likely to have either:
 - Lost their employment, but not actively seeking work i.e. transition from employed to inactive, or
 - An expectation of returning to work (also not actively seeking alternative work), and so either continuing to be classified as employed or transition from employed to inactive (depending on nature/timing of layoff)



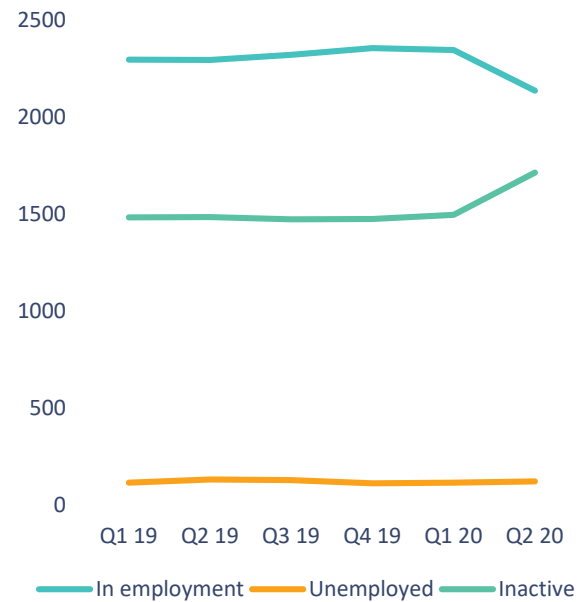
Standard ILO measures did not fully capture labour market conditions



WKSTAT



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ILOSTAT



COVID-19 income supports

- **PUP - persons who had lost employment**
- **TWSS/EWSS - payroll link with employer maintained**



	PUP recipients in Q1 2021	EWSS recipients in Q1 2021
	%	%
Employed	49.5	91.2
Unemployed	16.7	2.4
Inactive	33.8	6.4

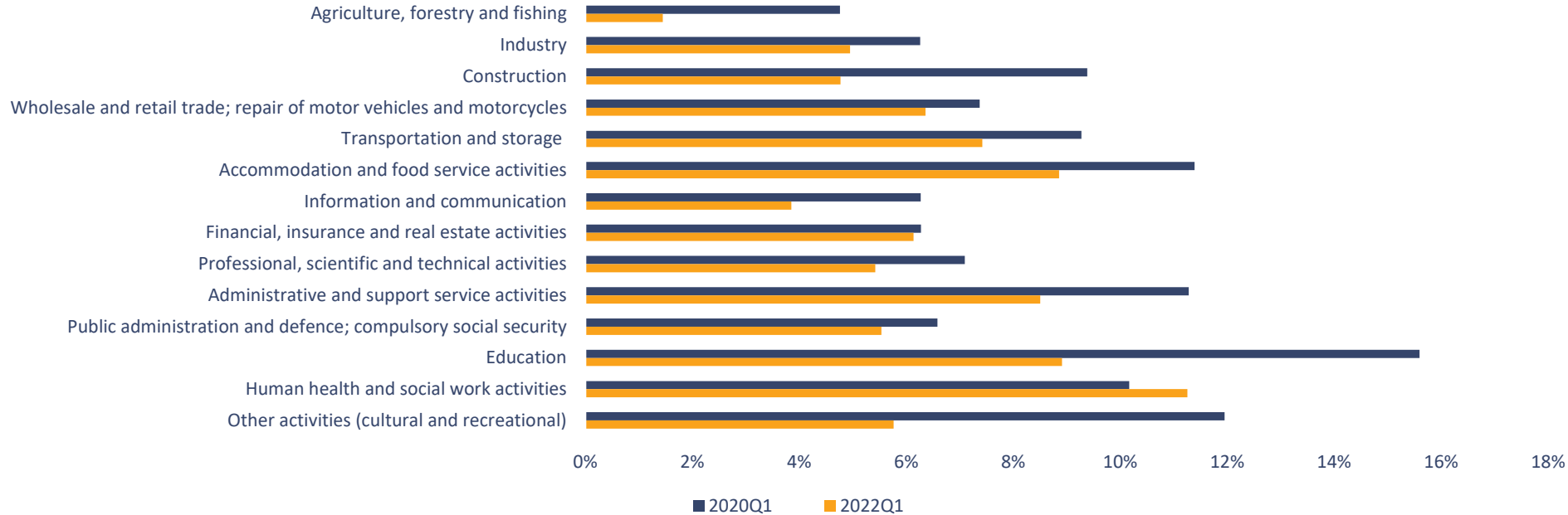


COVID-19 adjusted measures of employment and unemployment

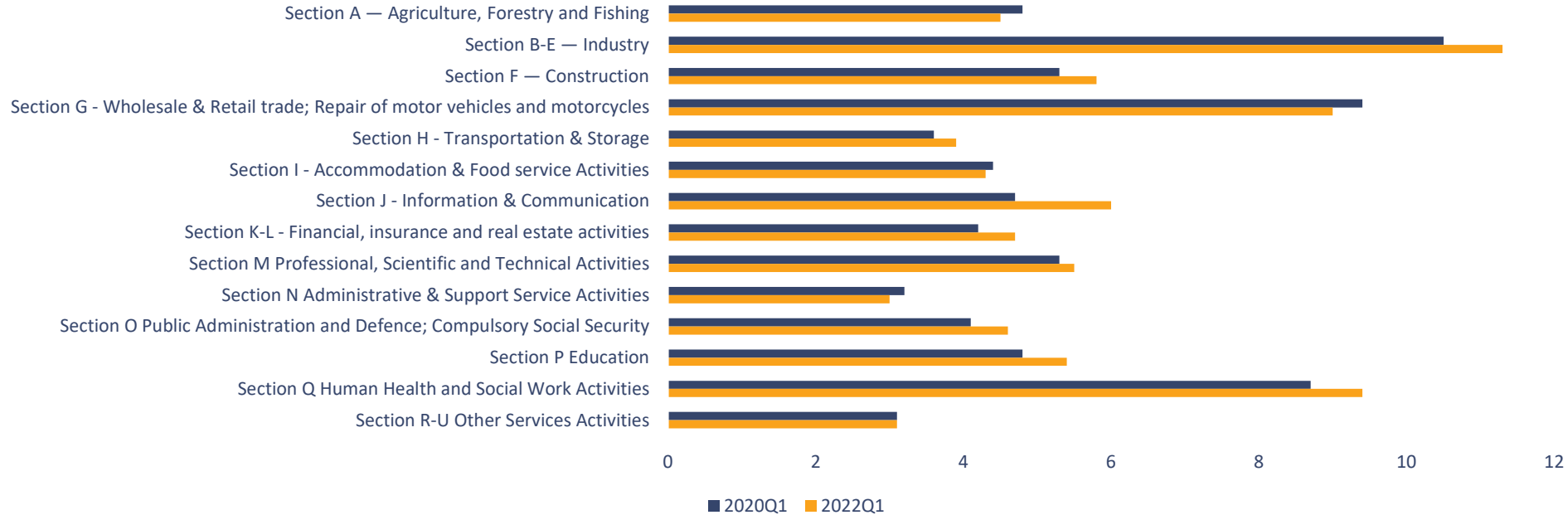
- Intended for consideration as the upper bound for the number of persons unemployed, and the lower bound for the number of persons employed



Absences from work during reference week



Actual hours worked (weekly average)





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Labour Force Survey

Quarter 1, 2022



Number employed

Q1 2020	2,347,200
Q1 2021	2,230,600
Q1 2022	2,505,800



Hours worked per week

Q1 2020	76.3 million hours
Q1 2021	68.7 million hours
Q1 2022	80.8 million hours



Number employed but absent from work

% employed but absent from work

Q1 2020

208,400

Q1 2021

309,500

Q1 2022

168,100

Q1 2020

8.9%

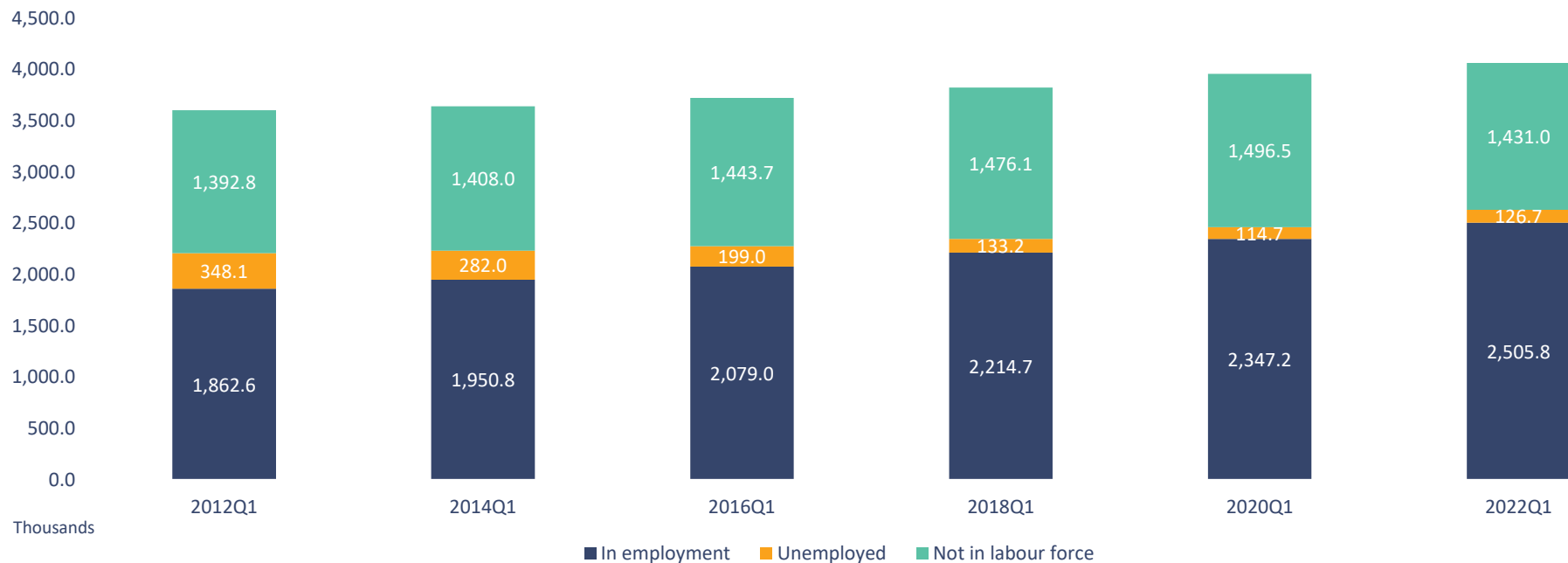
Q1 2021

13.9%

Q1 2022

6.7%

Persons (aged 15+) by ILO employment status, 2 year intervals



Monthly Estimates of Payroll Employees using Administrative Data

- **The Monthly Estimates of Payroll Employees using Administrative Data calculate the estimated number of employees, both indexed and absolute values using Revenue's PAYE Modernisation as the data source.**
- **Persons are counted if they are estimated to have worked for greater than zero pay during the reference month.**
- **This differs to the criteria used to derive International Labour Organisation (ILO) and Principal Economic Status (PES) employment; therefore, results do not align with the Labour Force Survey (LFS) due to differing methodology.**
- **Scheduled for publication in the next 1/2 weeks**





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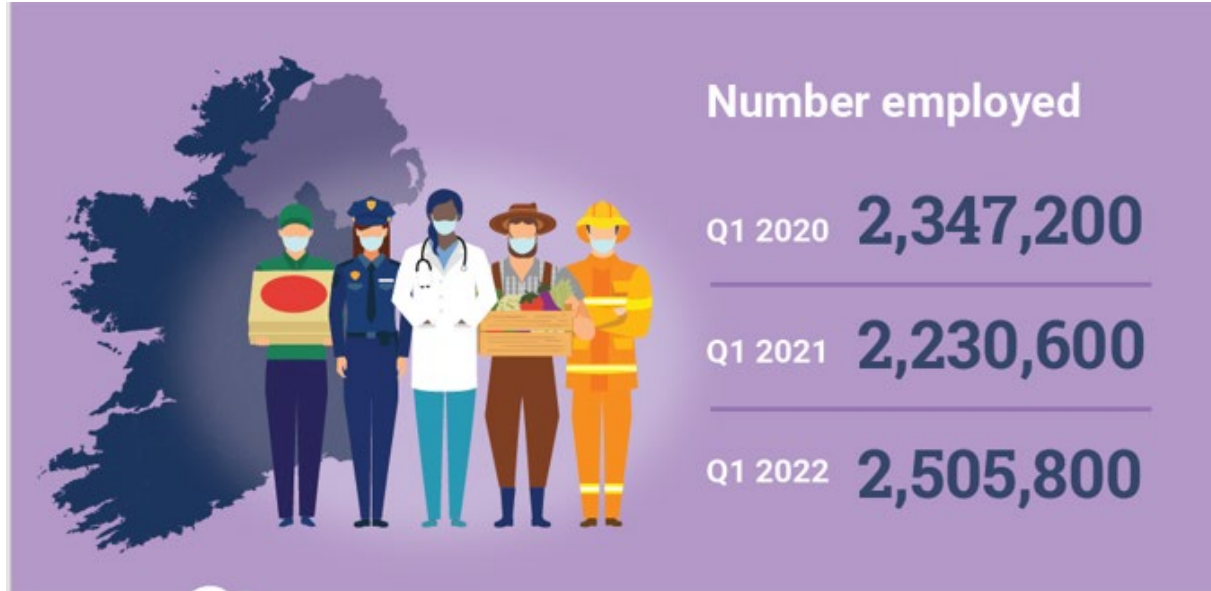
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Earnings & Labour Market supports during the pandemic

Morgan O'Donnell, CSO Labour Market and Earnings Division

NERI Labour Market Conference, June 2022

Employment during the pandemic



Employment during the pandemic

Economic Sector		Q120 - Q220	Q220 - Q320	Q320 - Q420	Q420 - Q121	Q121 - Q221	Q221 - Q321	Q321 - Q421	Q421 - Q122
B-E	Industry	-2.7	1.9	-1.3	-1.7	4.3	3.6	-0.1	0.1
F	Construction	-6.8	10.5	-5.4	-5.3	10.7	8.2	-2.2	0.6
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	-11.9	8.2	2.6	-3.9	4.2	5.8	2.9	-3.7
H	Transportation and storage	-10.6	5.3	0.1	-1.4	2.7	3.1	2.1	-3.9
I	Accommodation and food services	-61.9	108.0	-8.6	-36.1	52.6	43.5	0.9	-5.3
J	Information and communication	-4.4	3.8	1.0	0.3	6.5	5.7	-0.1	-1.9
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	-5.5	1.8	-1.6	-1.0	2.8	3.8	-0.1	-0.2
M	Professional, scientific and technical activities	-8.7	3.9	-0.5	1.7	6.1	6.0	0.2	0.3
N	Administrative and support services	-17.2	4.6	3.5	-5.2	5.5	10.3	3.8	-2.8
O	Public administration and defence	-7.6	0.0	2.8	-2.8	2.0	0.6	1.7	4.1
P	Education	-6.6	-1.7	10.3	-5.9	10.8	0.6	1.1	0.2
Q	Human health and social work	-3.9	4.6	-1.0	2.4	2.2	4.3	-0.7	-0.3
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	-40.0	49.8	-9.4	-25.1	35.4	18.2	-0.5	-3.8
All Sectors		-13.9	9.3	0.1	-5.2	8.0	7.6	0.8	-1.4

Source: Revenue's employee level tax data (PMOD) and data provided from Revenue in relation to the Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme



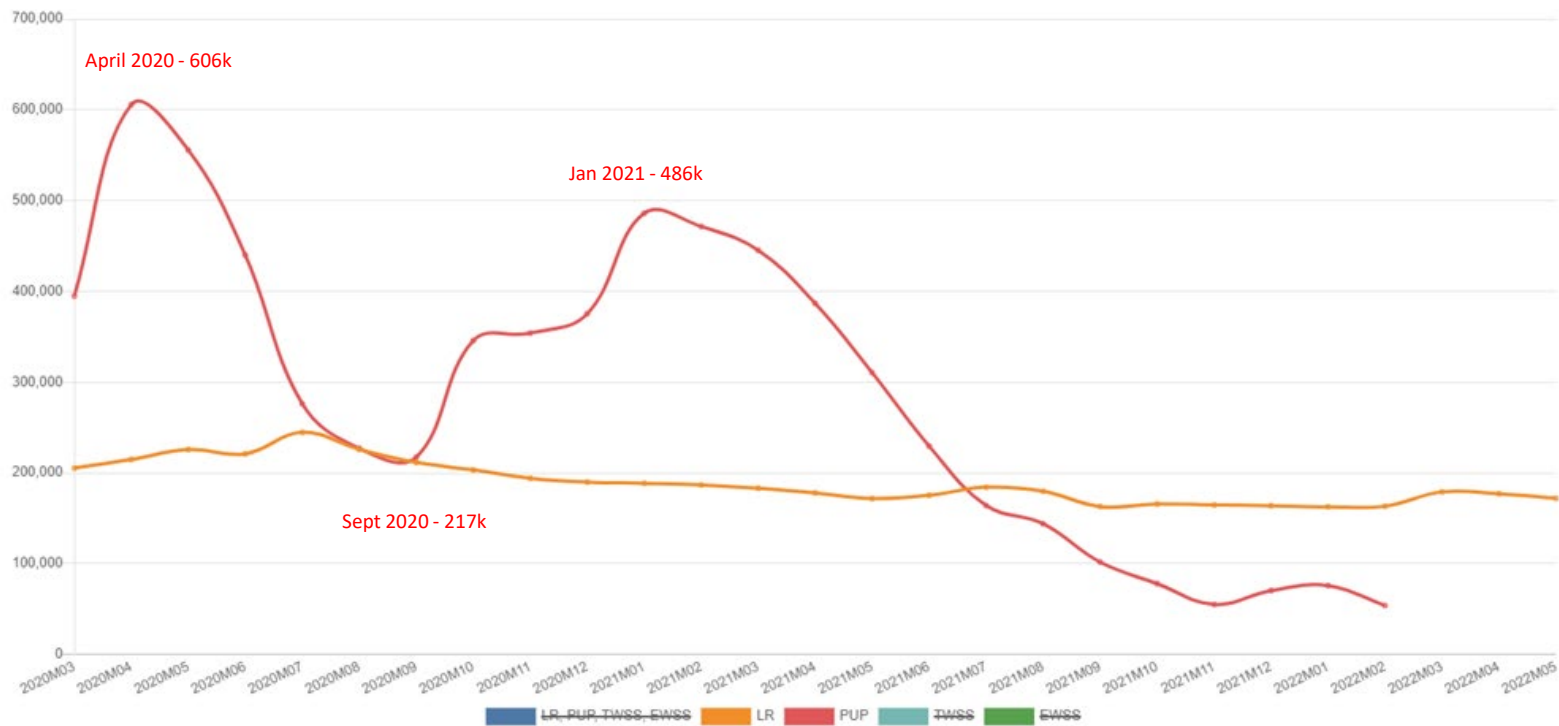
Labour Market Supports

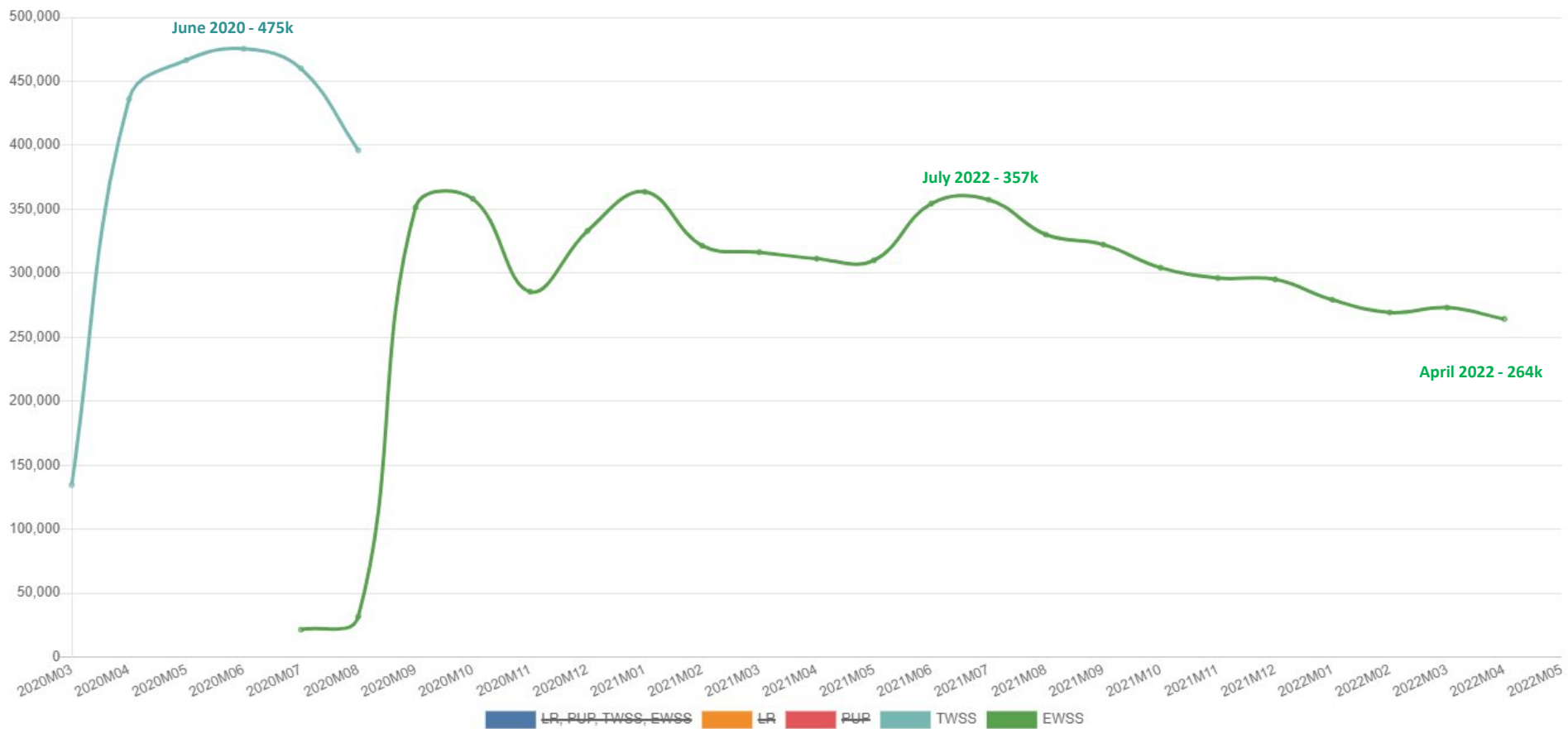
Live Register – Jobseekers Allowance, Jobseekers Benefit

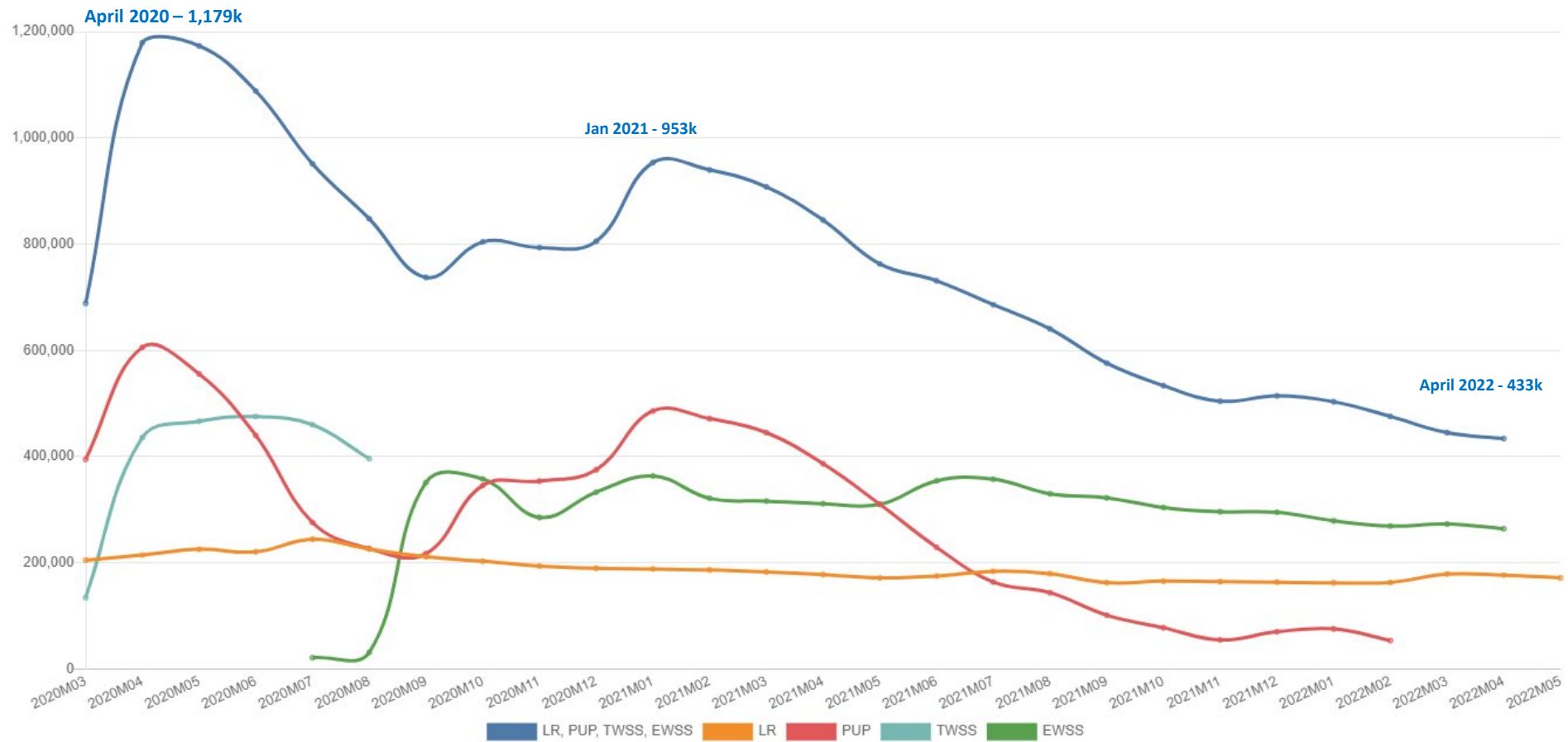
PUP - March 2020 to March 2022

Wage Subsidy Schemes – TWSS & EWSS









Percentage of employments supported by EWSS

Economic Sector	Percentage of employments that were directly supported by the EWSS					
	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022
B-E Industry	10.3	14.1	11.5	6.5	4.4	3.2
F Construction	20.6	35.1	31.5	18.4	11.2	8.4
G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	13.4	19.3	16.9	10.2	7.2	5.9
H Transportation and storage	34.9	34.9	28.9	26.2	23.3	21.8
I Accommodation and food services	72.5	70.1	74.9	74.0	65.9	65.5
J Information and communication	6.6	6.3	5.5	4.4	3.7	3.3
K-L Financial, insurance and real estate	9.2	7.7	8.0	7.7	5.7	5.8
M Professional, scientific and technical activities	13.0	13.6	11.3	8.3	6.7	5.4
N Administrative and support services	15.5	17.5	15.8	12.5	9.3	8.0
O Public administration and defence	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
P Education	5.8	5.8	5.6	6.0	5.4	5.2
Q Human health and social work	7.5	7.4	7.0	6.8	6.3	6.0
R-S Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	42.8	40.8	46.8	45.4	38.9	36.2
All Sectors	16.5	16.8	17.2	15.9	13.2	12.0

Source: Revenue's employee level tax data (PMOD)



EWSS payments as % of earnings

Economic Sector	EWSS subsidy payments as % of total earnings					
	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022
B-E Industry	2.5	3.5	2.8	1.8	1.2	0.5
F Construction	6.3	12.9	10.5	5.9	3.9	2.0
G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	4.5	7.3	5.8	3.9	2.8	1.6
H Transportation and storage	13.1	12.6	11.4	10.3	9.1	5.5
I Accommodation and food services	44.7	48.6	49.9	51.0	45.3	35.9
J Information and communication	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.4
K-L Financial, insurance and real estate	1.8	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.1	0.7
M Professional, scientific and technical activities	3.0	3.6	2.9	2.2	1.6	0.9
N Administrative and support services	5.7	6.2	5.6	5.0	3.7	1.9
O Public administration and defence	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
P Education	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.1
Q Human health and social work	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.4	1.4
R-S Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	17.7	18.0	21.4	23.4	19.8	11.8
All Sectors	4.3	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.0	2.5

Source: Revenue's employee level tax data (PMOD)

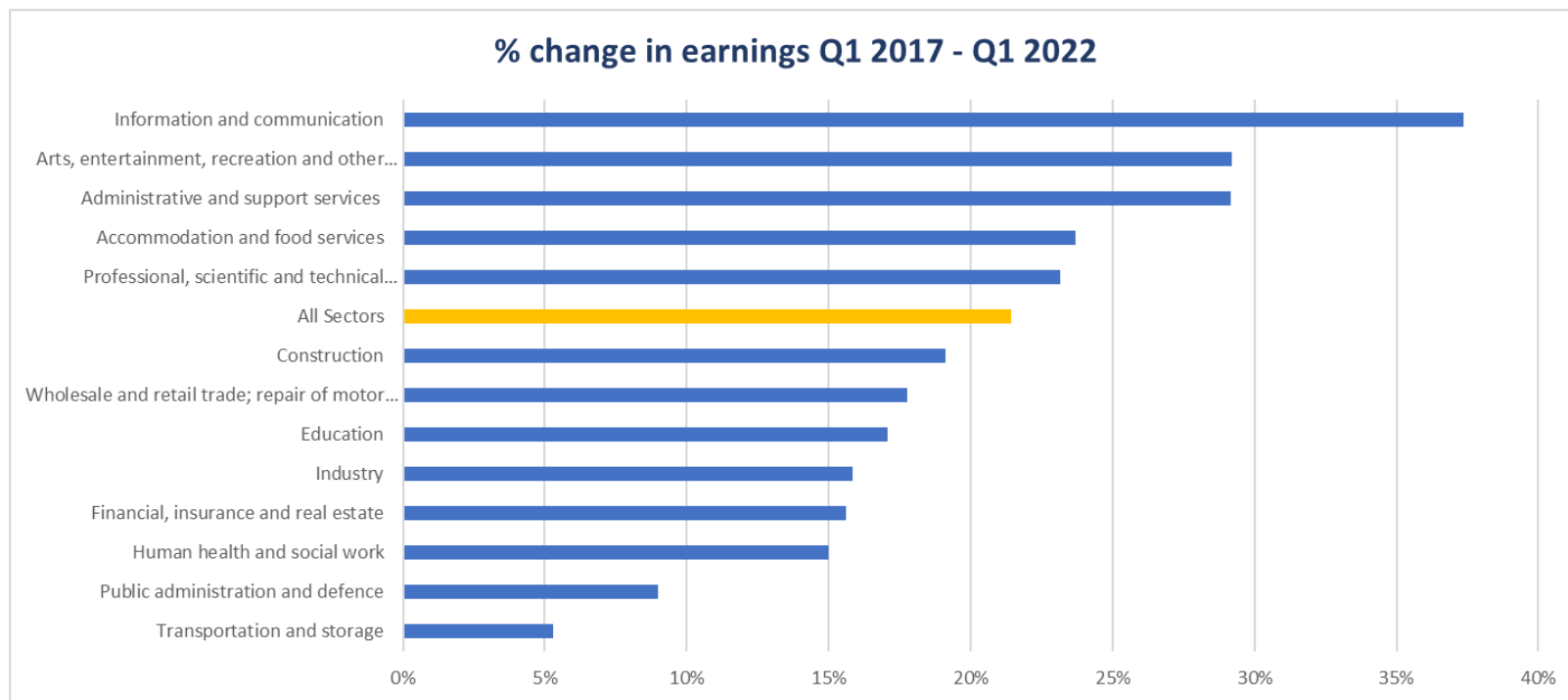


Change in median earnings – 2019/2020

Economic sector		WSS included in 2020 earnings	WSS excluded from 2020 earnings
		%	%
B-E	Industry	1.6	-3.4
F	Construction	1.2	-9.2
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	3.2	-8.5
H	Transportation and storage	-1.9	-11.2
I	Accommodation and food services	4.8	-35.8
J	Information and communication	5.7	4.3
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	6.2	4.7
M	Professional, scientific and technical activities	2.2	-3.9
N	Administrative and support services	3.1	-4.3
O	Public administration and defence	2.3	2.3
P	Education	4.0	3.8
Q	Human health and social work	4.6	3.5
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	5.8	-25.1
Total		5.2	-1.1

Source: CSO Ireland, Earnings Analysis using Administrative Data Sources





Source: CSO, Earnings & Labour Costs



What next?

Pre/post Covid 19 – Q3 2019 v Q3 2022

Understanding compositional effect – Analysis of those in continuous employment

PUP/EWSS transitions – Labour Market outcomes

Pressure on wages – Monthly earnings analysis

Arrivals from Ukraine – Unemployment/Employment





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