



An Roinn Gnóthaí Fostaíochta
agus Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Employment Affairs
and Social Protection

Social Protection Package – Budget 2020 Issues Tax Strategy Group – 19/07

July 2019



Social Protection Package – Budget 2020 Issues

Introduction

1. At end May 2019, there were over 1.3 million persons in receipt of a weekly social welfare payment in respect of nearly 2 million beneficiaries. In addition, a further 633,700 families received a monthly child benefit payment in respect of 1.2 million children. Of the weekly welfare recipients, 634,960 were in receipt of a pension payment and 261,260 were in receipt of jobseeker's payments. Some 200,680 received a disability allowance or an invalidity pension and 84,560 were in receipt of carer's allowance or benefit. Taken as a whole, these numbers indicate that the payments and services operated by the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP) impact, either directly or indirectly, on the lives of nearly everybody in the State.

This paper begins by examining the general role of social transfers¹. Trends in poverty rates are briefly discussed, followed by an analysis of trends in the labour market.

The paper presents overall DEASP expenditure by its various programmes. Budget 2020 is discussed in the context of the 2020 expenditure ceiling and the Programme for Partnership Government commitments.

The paper concludes with presenting a range of illustrative welfare Budget measures and provides, in Appendix 1, the distributive and poverty impact of these measures, in order to demonstrate the social impact of welfare budgetary policy.

Role of Social Transfers

2. Social transfers play a pivotal role in alleviating poverty. They provide a valuable age related benefit to young families and elderly people and in addition they cushion people from the worst effects of unexpected reductions in income due to life contingencies such as unemployment, illness or disability. Welfare payments are essential in supporting well-being and reducing inequalities through the redistribution of income, therefore helping to promote social cohesion. In addition to income adequacy, social transfers are critical to the social determinants of health², crime prevention and access to education.

¹ Social transfers include unemployment-related payments, old-age social welfare payments, occupational pensions, family/child related allowances, housing allowances and other social transfers, e.g disability benefits.

² See, for example: <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-policy/health-2020-the-european-policy-for-health-and-well-being/publications/2013/review-of-social-determinants-and-the-health-divide-in-the-who-european-region.-final-report>

3. Social protection expenditure contributes, directly and indirectly, to the wider economy. People in receipt of welfare payments usually spend most if not all of their benefits and pensions each week, thereby adding to domestic and local employment and economic activity.
4. Throughout the recession social transfers performed strongly in reducing the at-risk-of-poverty rate. In 2017, social transfers (excluding pensions) reduced the at-risk of poverty rate from 32.3% to 15.7% or 16.6 percentage points in absolute terms. This represents a poverty reduction effect of 51.4%³. The impact of social transfers in reducing poverty is one of the highest in the EU. This reflects the progressive and targeted nature of social transfers. However, it also suggests that Ireland may, compared to other States, be overly dependent on monetary social transfers and that there may be issues to be addressed with regard to the level and distribution of market incomes and the availability of non-monetary social services. Other research undertaken⁴ also suggests that the level of service provision has a significant impact on the expenditure needs of people on low incomes.
5. Social transfers also provide support across the life-course, from helping to protect children from the risks of inter-generational poverty and disadvantage to ensuring an adequate standard of living across all life-cycle groups.

Poverty Trends

6. Trends in poverty rates show increases in various poverty indicators from 2009/2010, peaking in 2013/2014 and beginning to stabilise and decline thereafter.
7. Given the time lag on publication of the Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) produced by the Central Statistics Office (the latest survey results reflect 2016/2017 incomes), the full impact of the recovery is not reflected in the latest figures.
 - i. The at-risk-of-poverty was 16.2% as reported in SILC 2016, reducing to 15.7% in SILC 2017. Changes in the at-risk-of-poverty rate in the 2017 SILC reflect different dynamics: (a) the rise in the 60% median income threshold as household incomes have increased with the emerging economic recovery; and, (b) the cushioning effect (poverty reduction effectiveness) of social transfers, in reducing pre-social transfer at-risk-of-poverty rates.
 - ii. Consistent poverty, the indicator used to set the national social target for poverty reduction, fell to a low of 4.2% in the 2008 SILC, before rising to a high of 9% in SILC

³ The reduction including pensions was from 43.8% (before social transfers) to 15.7% (after social transfers), a 'poverty reduction effect' of 64.2 per cent.

⁴ Vincentian Partnership for Social Justice (2019), *Minimum Essential Standard of Living 2019 Update Report*

2013. Having fallen again to 8.2% in 2016, the consistent poverty rate estimated in SILC 2017 was 6.7%.

8. The impact of poverty has varied across different groups. While the consistent poverty rate for the population as a whole was 6.7% in 2017, the groups with the highest rates of consistent poverty (22-25%) were individuals who were unemployed and those who were not at work due to illness or disability. Those in employment, older people, and people living in owner occupier housing had the lowest consistent poverty rates. In terms of household composition, individuals in households where there was one adult and one or more children under 18 years of age had the highest consistent poverty rate (20.7%). Consistent poverty was lowest (2.1%) for individuals in households with two adults where at least one was 65 years of age or older and where there were no children present.

Labour Market Trends

9. Ireland's labour market is growing, drawing in workers from other countries and people who had previously been outside the labour force here. Unemployment is decreasing, and as employment increases, so too does the reward to work, as seen in steady increases in average earnings.
10. The pace of recovery continues and shows no sign of slowing down. At over 2.3 million, there are now more people working in Ireland than ever before, with over 400,000 jobs created in Ireland since the economic low point of 2012.
11. Employment grew by 3.7% (+81,000) in the year to Q1 2019 and has now surpassed its pre-crisis levels with job creation occurring across 12 of the 14 economic sectors in the last quarter. The largest increases were recorded in Transportation and Storage (+11.4%) and Administration and Support Services (+10.6%).
12. Unemployment is fast approaching pre-crisis levels (4.4% in May 2019, representing the lowest level of unemployment since February 2005), with long-term unemployment now representing 35% of total unemployment by the first quarter of 2019 (well below the EU average of 42%). These low levels of unemployment are showing signs of translating into labour shortages and could act as a capacity constraint on further economic growth. This suggests that welfare and employment policy should seek to incentivise and support increased labour market participation - in particular among the female population where participation and employment rates continue to lag behind EU peers.
13. The long-term unemployment rate decreased from 2.5% to 1.7% over the year to Q1 2019, with the youth unemployment rate (ages 15-24) also decreasing from 12.2% to 10.9% over this period. Long term and youth unemployment rates both lie below the EU average.

14. The number of people who work part-time but want full-time work has also decreased in the year to Q1 2019.
15. The overall Labour Market participation rate has been relatively stable at about 62% since 2012 – an on-going fall in participation among the young being offset by a recovery in participation among older males and continuing increases for older females. Participation is now above its pre-recession peak in all age-groups over 35 years.
16. Labour Market participation is in line with the EU average for men of prime working age (25-64), but slightly below average for women. However, it is important to note that when viewed over a longer time period, the participation rate for prime working age women is increasing and has moved up by close to ten percentage points since 2002 (EU-28, close to eight percentage points).
17. Based on early 2017 data, women aged 25-64 outside the measured labour force are, by and large, carers (predominantly for children) or (in the older age groups) retired/unable to work because of disability. Less than one in ten, at any given time, indicates that they would be interested in working. However, this interest appears to translate relatively quickly into more concrete action, with about 5% of inactive women re-joining the labour force each quarter.
18. The recession appears to have led to a structural change in both the Irish and European youth labour market, with greater numbers delaying entry to the labour market by remaining in education for longer periods. Ireland has the highest share of workers with a third level degree in the EU. Higher education attainment should lead to greater productivity and, in turn, economic growth. Looking at the international comparison, Ireland's participation rate for young people is above the EU average at almost 40% (versus EU 35%).
19. Of those not in the labour force, the number classified as being in the potential additional labour force was just under 110,000 in the first quarter of 2019. As the labour market tightens and labour shortages emerge, it remains a challenge to reach out to inactive groups that would benefit from closer attachment to the labour market (i.e. women with caring responsibilities, those with a low educational attainment, people with disabilities and those living in low work intensity households).
20. As poverty is strongly linked to unemployment, we can expect to see further decreases in deprivation and consistent poverty when the SILC data for 2018 becomes available.

Social Protection Budgets 2015 - 2018

21. Budgets 2009 to 2014 introduced a very wide range of cost savings measures, and contributed significantly to the fiscal consolidation effort over the crisis. Budget 2015 provided scope to make some improvements for welfare recipients. That Budget reinstated a partial Christmas Bonus (25%), introduced the Back to Work Family Dividend scheme, increased the Living Alone Allowance and Child Benefit payments, but did not include increases in the weekly rates of payment.
22. Budget 2016 included a €3 weekly rate increase for pensioners, and increases in Child Benefit, the Carer Support Grant and the Fuel Allowance as well as the introduction of a new Paternity Benefit scheme. The Christmas Bonus was increased to 75% in December 2015.
23. Budget 2017 introduced the first general increase in the weekly rates of payment since 2009 with a €5 increase in the weekly rate of all social welfare payments, with proportionate increases for qualified adults and those on reduced rates of payment. Budget 2017 also introduced a number of measures improving the social insurance coverage of the self-employed, providing access to Invalidity Pension and Treatment Benefits. Other Budget measures included improvements for lone parents and farmers, and new pre-activation supports for people with disabilities. The Christmas Bonus was increased to 85% in December 2016.
24. Budget 2018 continued the improvements in the weekly rates of payment. A further €5 increase was introduced in the weekly rate of all pension payments and all working age recipients, with proportionate increases for qualified adults and those on reduced rates of payment. Budget 2018 also provided for an increase in the weekly qualified child payments, an increase in income thresholds for the Working Family Payment, improvements for lone parent families, the introduction of a Telephone Support Allowance and the announcement of a new Youth Employment Support Scheme.

Budget 2019

25. Budget 2019 continued the trend of improving weekly rates of payment. A further €5 increase was introduced in the weekly rate of all pension payments and all working age recipients, with proportionate increases for qualified adults and those on reduced rates of payment, from March 2019. This equates to a 2.1% increase over the 2018 rates for the State Pension Contributory, and a 2.5% increase for working age jobseeker payments.
26. Budget 2019 also saw another increase in qualified child payments and a change to the structure of those payments. An increase of €2.20 for children under 12 was provided and an increase of €5.20 for children ages 12 and over. Improvements for working families included a further increase in the earnings disregard for lone parents in receipt of One-Parent Family Payment and Jobseeker's Transitional Payment, as well as the introduction

of a housing cost disregard on maintenance payments for recipients of the Working Family Payment. There was also an increase in the annual Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance. A 100% Christmas Bonus was paid in December 2018 to 1.2 million recipients.

27. There was an increase in the rate of Daily Expenses Allowance (formerly Direct Provision Allowance), bringing it in line with recommendations made by the McMahon report. The fuel season was extended by 1 week, funding for free travel and free television licenses increased by €5 million each, and a new social insurance schemes – Parental Benefit - was announced. It was also announced that research would be commissioned into the cost of disability.
28. Budget 2019 announced the introduction of a new Jobseeker's Benefit Self-Employed scheme (JBSE). The key objective of the JBSE scheme is to provide support to self-employed contributors who are no longer engaged in self-employment. Payments made under the scheme will be subject to tax on the same basis as the current jobseekers benefit scheme. It is planned to introduce this scheme from November 2019.
29. A social impact assessment carried out by the Department⁵ using the ESRI's microsimulation model (SWITCH) on the main welfare and tax measures in Budget 2019 found that average household incomes increase by 0.7 per cent (€7.40 per week) as a result of Budget 2019, with the two bottom income deciles gaining the most.

⁵ <http://www.welfare.ie/en/pdf/SocialImpact2019.pdf>

DEASP Expenditure in 2019

30. Overall, €20.498 billion was allocated to DEASP in 2019. This is equivalent to approximately 35% of Gross Current Government expenditure.

Table 1: Total Department expenditure by programme, 2016 to 2019

	2016 Outturn	2017 Outturn	2018 Outturn (provisional)	2019 REV	% of 2019 REV total
	€'m	€'m	€'m	€'m	%
Administration	582	618	637	666	3%
Pensions	7,090	7,387	7,758	8,041	39%
Working Age Income Supports	3,948	3,598	3,422	3,193	16%
Working Age Employment Supports	1,009	874	774	723	4%
Illness, Disability and Carers	3,700	4,009	4,272	4,410	21%
Children	2,594	2,621	2,632	2,657	13%
Supplementary Payments, Miscellaneous Services and agencies	879	836	817	806	4%
Total expenditure	19,802	19,942	20,313	20,498	-
Change	-102	+140	+371	+185	

31. As was the case in previous years where a Bonus was subsequently paid (2014 to 2018 inclusive), there is no provision in the Revised Estimates for the payment of a Christmas Bonus in 2019. The cost of the 100% Bonus paid in December 2018 is estimated at over €264 million and is included in the 2018 provisional outturn figure above.

Expenditure Ceiling 2020

32. The 2020 expenditure ceiling for the Department is €20.758billion, including a capital expenditure allocation of €15 million. This is €261 million greater than the ceiling for 2019. The 2020 ceiling allows for an increase in expenditure arising from demographic pressures in relation to pensions and disability and caring related payments. It also provides for a reduction of €287m for existing services which would incorporate the decline in the number of jobseeker payments and employment programme participants.

33. It should be noted that most of the measures in Budget 2019 were introduced during the year, rather than from January for the full year. The €5 weekly rate increases and changes to the One Parent Family Payment and Jobseeker's Transition disregard and the maintenance disregard for Working Family Payment commenced in March, for example, with the introduction of the new Parental Benefit Scheme and extension of Jobseeker's Benefit supports for the self-employed earmarked for later this year.

34. As outlined in previous years' papers, the Programme for Partnership Government contains a number of spending commitments in relation to social protection, such as:
- i. *We will increase the State Pension and the Living Alone Allowance above the rate of inflation;*
 - ii. *We support an increase in the Disability Benefit and Allowance, Carer's Benefit and Allowance, and Blind Person's Pension;*
 - iii. *Introduce a Working Family Payment that promotes work over welfare by supplementing, on a graduated basis, the income of a household, while at the same time incentivising more hours and full-time work;*
 - iv. *We will fully protect the Free Travel Pass for all pensioners and work with private and public operators to keep services operating on as many routes as possible; and*
 - v. *"We will seek to introduce a PRSI scheme for the self-employed".*
35. Progress on most of these commitments was achieved in Budgets 2017, 2018 and 2019 as outlined above. Given that available expenditure resources are likely to be limited in the forthcoming Budget, it should be noted that across the board increases in the weekly rates of payment are very expensive (circa €70 million for a €1 increase). In addition, payment levels on most welfare payments are currently at or above the benchmark levels proposed in various studies – notably the Social Welfare Benchmarking and Indexation Group (2001).
36. Given this background, one approach could be to focus available resources on targeted improvements to help address poverty among the most vulnerable people, and to incentivise labour market participation among inactive groups. For example, further increases in the Qualified Child Increase payments for children over 12 could positively affect child poverty. Consideration could also be given to measures that would encourage labour market participation by adult dependants of primary social welfare recipients. This would help to increase labour market participation and, if participation translates into employment, to reduce poverty. Targeted approaches such as these would also make the welfare package very progressive in its impact. Improvements made to the Working Family Payment and increases in the earnings disregard for working lone parents in recent years have helped to ensure that such measures do not negatively impact on employment incentives.
37. The Roadmap for Pensions Reform 2018-23 targeted implementation of a new Total Contributions Approach (TCA) for State Pension Contributory entitlement from Q3 2020. This is subject to the necessary legislation passing both Houses and being enacted as well as supporting structures being put in place. A period of consultation was undertaken

during 2018 and following analysis, a proposal has been drafted and Government approval is expected to be sought soon.

38. As noted above, and addressing point (v), a new Jobseeker's Benefit Self-Employed scheme announced in Budget 2019 is planned to be introduced from November 2019.
39. Finally, there has been an increase in the level of discourse surrounding the potential to benchmark and/or index the level of welfare payments. Specifically, the National Pensions Roadmap contains a commitment to benchmark the State Pension to 34% of average earnings and index future changes to earnings and prices. Given that current rates are at or above the benchmark, for illustrative purposes, the Budget options list shows the impact of increasing pensions and other welfare rates to increases in prices.

Social Impact Assessment

40. In recent years, the Department's Social Protection Package - Budget Issues⁶ papers to the Tax Strategy Group contained analysis of the distributive impact of a range of illustrative social protection budget measures.
41. The Programme for a Partnership Government commits to "develop the process of budget and policy proofing as a means of advancing equality, reducing poverty and strengthening economic and social rights". This section lists a range of illustrative welfare Budget measures and provides, in Appendix 1, the distributive and poverty impact of these measures, in order to better inform understanding of the social impact of budgetary policy.⁷
42. Welfare improvements, in general, are progressive and benefit those in the bottom half of the income distribution most given that welfare income forms a greater proportion of the total incomes of these groups. However, as demonstrated in the analysis included in this document, the impact of individual welfare measures varies with some having little impact on the bottom quintile and some measures having a broader impact across all income groups. Most changes to direct taxation have little or no impact on households in the bottom half of the income distribution (although the impact varies depending on the measures chosen).

⁶ <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/fa32fc-tax-strategy-group-0418-budget-2019-issues>

⁷ The Department has published post Budget integrated social impact assessments of the main tax and social welfare measures for Budgets 2013 to 2019 inclusive, using the ESRI SWITCH model.

Table 2: Illustrative Social Protection Budget options.

Illustrative Social Protection Budget Options		Full Year Estimated Cost €m
1.	€5 weekly rate increase for pensioners with a proportionate increase for qualified adults.	165.2
2.	Adjust rates for pensioners , with a proportionate increase for qualified adults, in line with the change in the Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP) ⁸	88.9
3.	€5 weekly rate increase for all working-age welfare recipients (including JA recipients aged 25 and under) with a proportionate increase for qualified adults.	182.1
4.	Adjust rates for working-age welfare recipients (including JA recipients aged 25 and under), with a proportionate increase for qualified adults, in line with the change in the Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP)	80.3
5.	€5 increase in the Increase for a Qualified Child for children aged 12 and over, from €37 to €42 per week.	30.1
	€3 increase for children under 12, from €34 to €37 per week.	30.6
6.	Increase the Carer's Support Grant by €300 from €1,700 to €2,000	40.0
7.	€10 increase in the Working Family Payment income threshold for families with up to 3 children	19.0
8.	€3 increase in the Living Alone Allowance	32.6

43. The Government will need, in the light of its commitment on carrying out social impact assessments, to give consideration to the overall impact of both its expenditure and taxation measures on an ex-ante basis.

44. The TSG is invited to consider this paper.

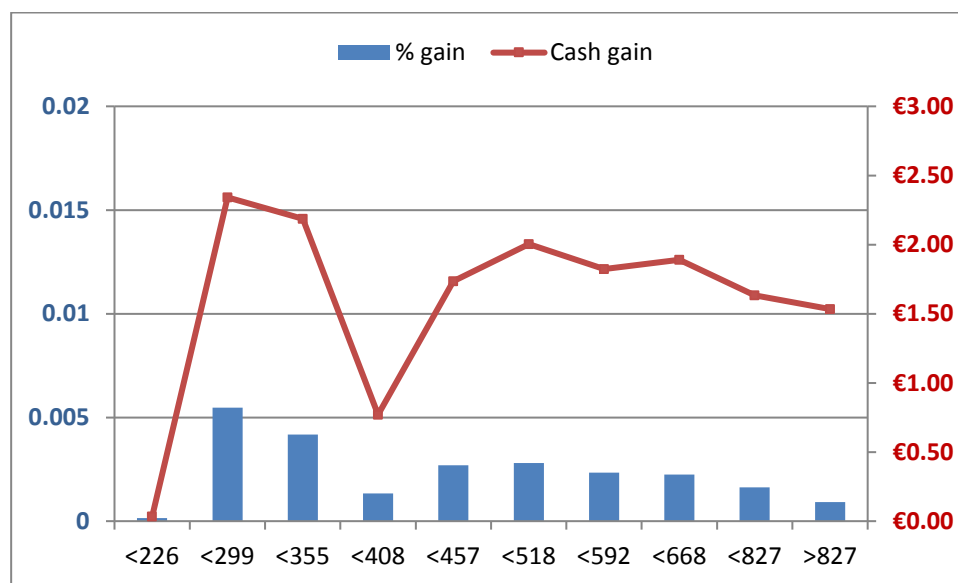
⁸ Annual change March 2018 to March 2019

Appendix 1 - Social Impact Assessment of Illustrative Welfare Measures

Option 1: €5 weekly rate increase for pensioners aged 66 and over with proportionate increases for qualified adults⁹

- The average gain in disposable income is 0.1 per cent (€0.90 per week) across all households. The second decile gains most (0.3 per cent or €1.30 per week).

Distributional impact
(% and cash change in weekly disposable income)



Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI

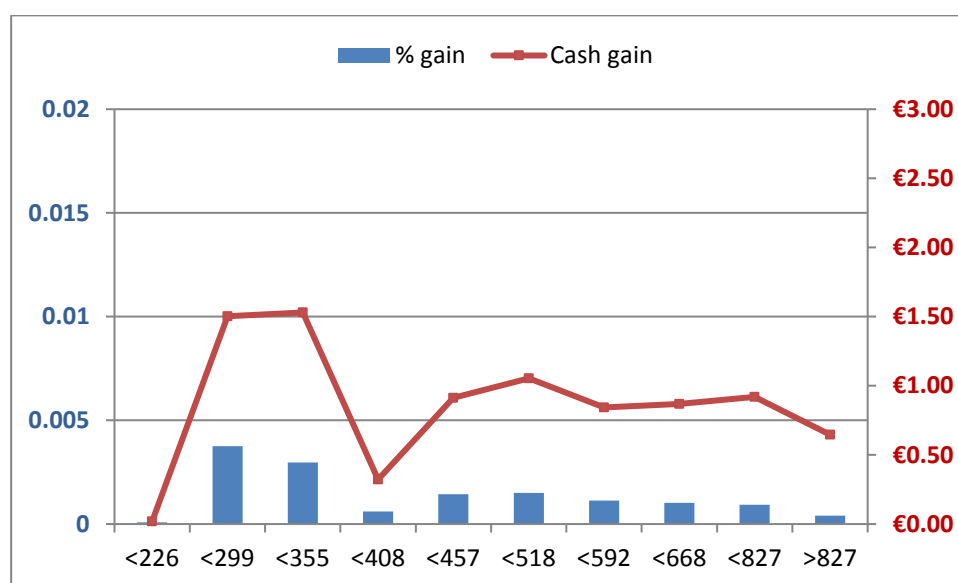
- Retired singles and couples are mainly impacted by the measure with gains of 0.5/0.6 per cent (€2.90 and €5.60 per week respectively).
- The impact on the population at-risk-of-poverty is small – there is a fall of about 0.8 percentage points in the at-risk-of-poverty rate for older people.

⁹ Qualified adult rates for those 66 years of age and over on state pension (contributory) and invalidity pension was increased by €4.50. Qualified adult rates for those under 66 years of age on state pension (contributory) were increased by €3.30.

Option 2: €2.70 weekly rate increase for pensioners aged 66 and over with proportionate increases for qualified adults¹⁰, in line with the change in Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices¹¹

- The average gain in disposable income is 0.1 per cent (€0.50 per week) across all households. The second decile gains most (0.2 per cent or €0.70 per week).

**Distributional impact
(% and cash change in weekly disposable income)**



Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI

- Retired singles and couples are mainly impacted by the measure with gains of 0.3 per cent (€1.60 and €3.00 per week respectively).
- The impact on the population at-risk-of-poverty is small – there is a fall of about 0.3 percentage points in the at-risk-of-poverty rate for older people.

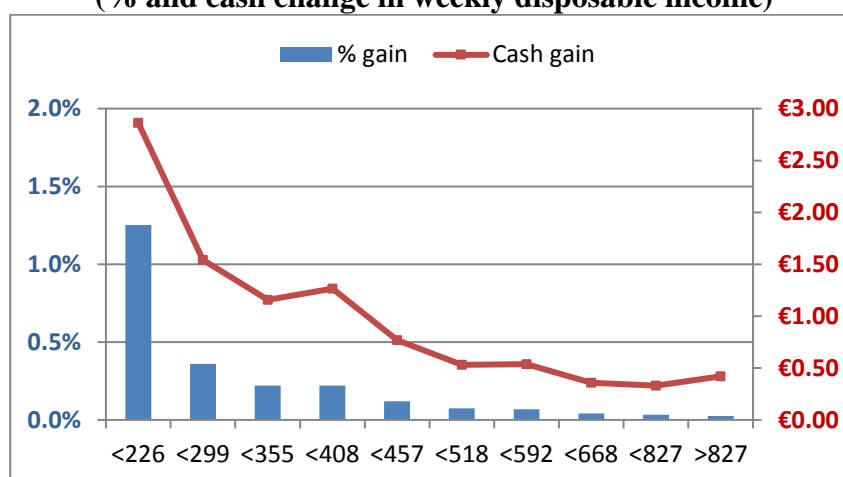
¹⁰ Qualified adult rates for those 66 years of age and over on state pension (contributory) and invalidity pension was increased by €2.40. Qualified adult rates for those under 66 years of age on state pension (contributory) were increased by €1.80.

¹¹ Annual change March 2018-March 2019

Option 3: €5 weekly rate increase for working-age welfare recipients with a proportionate increase for qualified adults¹²

- The average gain in disposable income is 0.1 per cent (€1.00 per week) across all households. The bottom two deciles gain most at 1.3 per cent and 0.4 per cent (€2.90 and €1.50 per week) respectively.

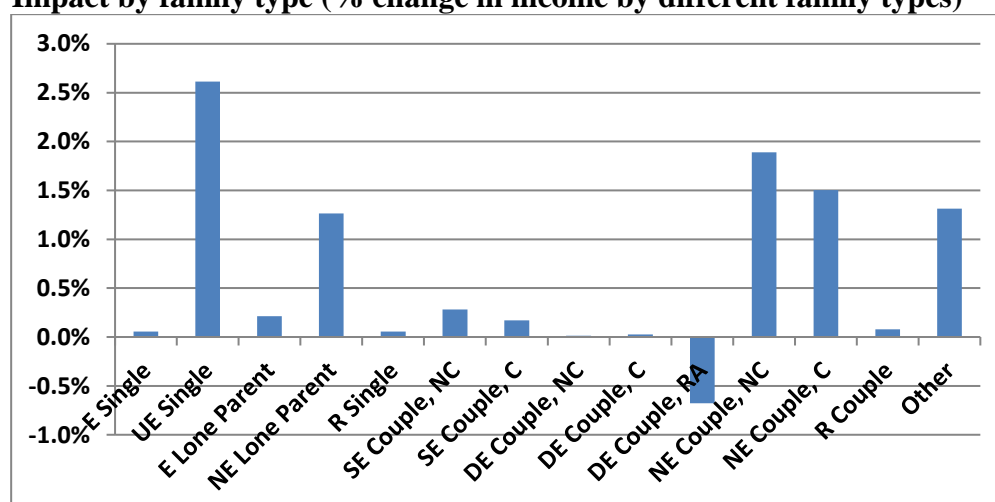
Distributional impact
(% and cash change in weekly disposable income)



Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI

- The impact on the population at-risk-of-poverty is not significant.
- Unemployed singles gain most (2.6 per cent or €4.30 per week), followed by non-earning couples with and without children (1.5/1.9 per cent or €8.50/€7.50 per week).

Impact by family type (% change in income by different family types)



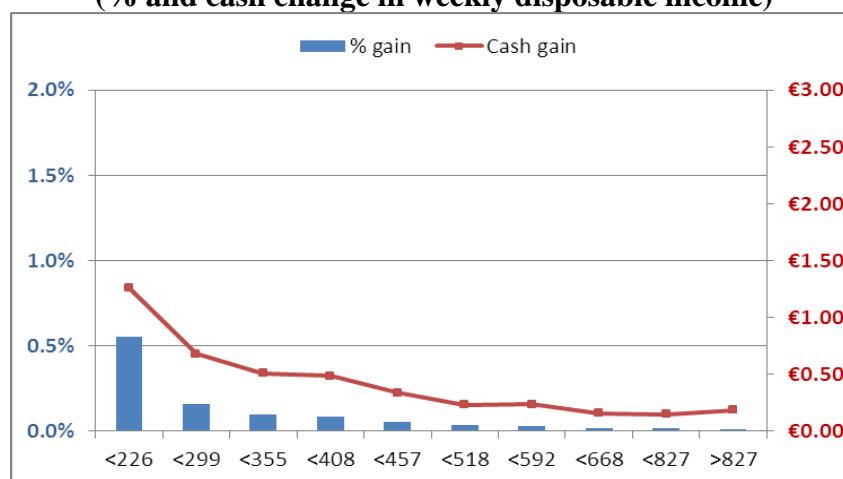
Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI

¹² €3.30 increase for QAs (incl JA recipients aged 25); €5.00 increase for QAs of JA recipients aged under 25

Option 4: €2.20 weekly rate increase for working-age welfare recipients with a proportionate increase for qualified adults¹³ in line with the change in HICP¹⁴

- The average gain in disposable income is 0.1 per cent (€0.40 per week) across all households. The bottom two deciles gain most at 0.6 per cent and 0.2 per cent (€1.30 and €0.70 per week) respectively.

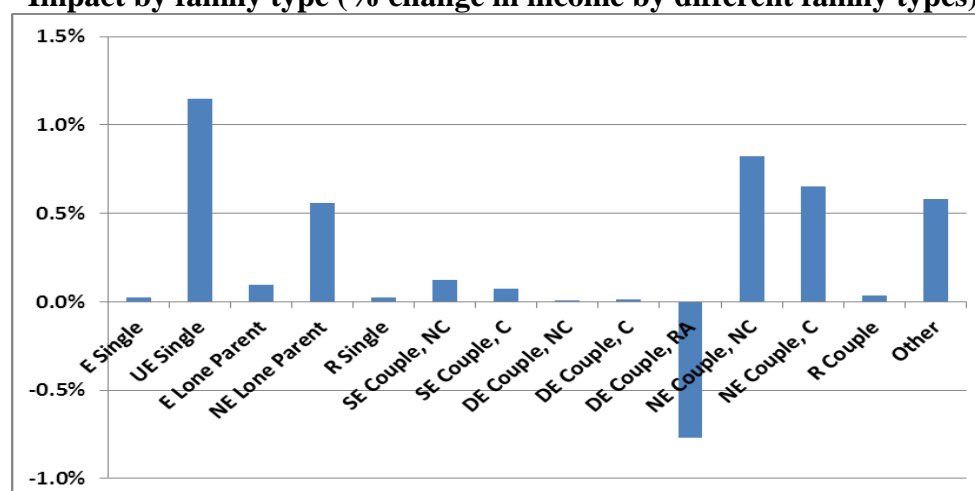
**Distributional impact
(% and cash change in weekly disposable income)**



Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI

- The impact on the population at-risk-of-poverty is not significant.
- Unemployed singles gain most (1.1 per cent or €1.90 per week), followed by non-earning couples with and without children (0.7/0.8 per cent or €3.70/€3.30 per week).

Impact by family type (% change in income by different family types)



Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI

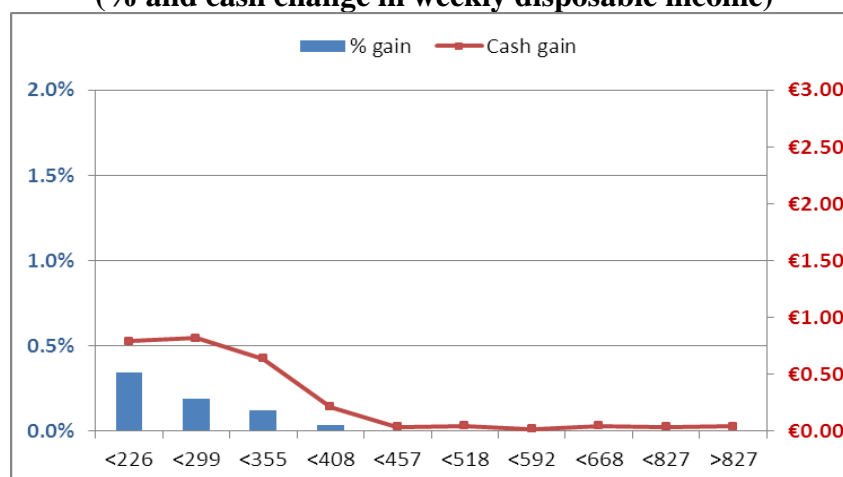
¹³ €1.40 increase for QAs (incl JA recipients aged 25); €2.20 increase for QAs of JA recipients aged under 25

¹⁴ Annual change March 2018-March 2019

Option 5: €5 weekly rate increase for a qualified child for children aged 12 years and over and a €3 weekly rate increase for a qualified children for children under 12 years

- The average gain in disposable income is 0.04 per cent (€0.30 per week) across all households. The bottom two deciles gain most at 0.3 per cent and 0.2 per cent (€0.80 per week) respectively.

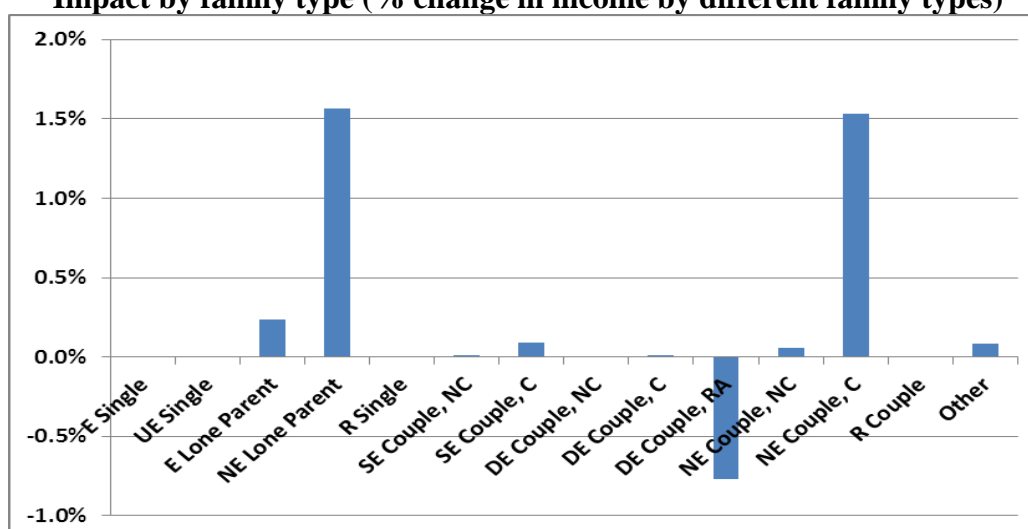
**Distributional impact
(% and cash change in weekly disposable income)**



Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI

- The impact on the at-risk-of-poverty for children is small with a fall of about 0.1 percentage points.
- Non-earning lone parents gain most (1.6 per cent or €5.90 per week), followed by non-earning couples with children (1.5 per cent or €8.70 per week).

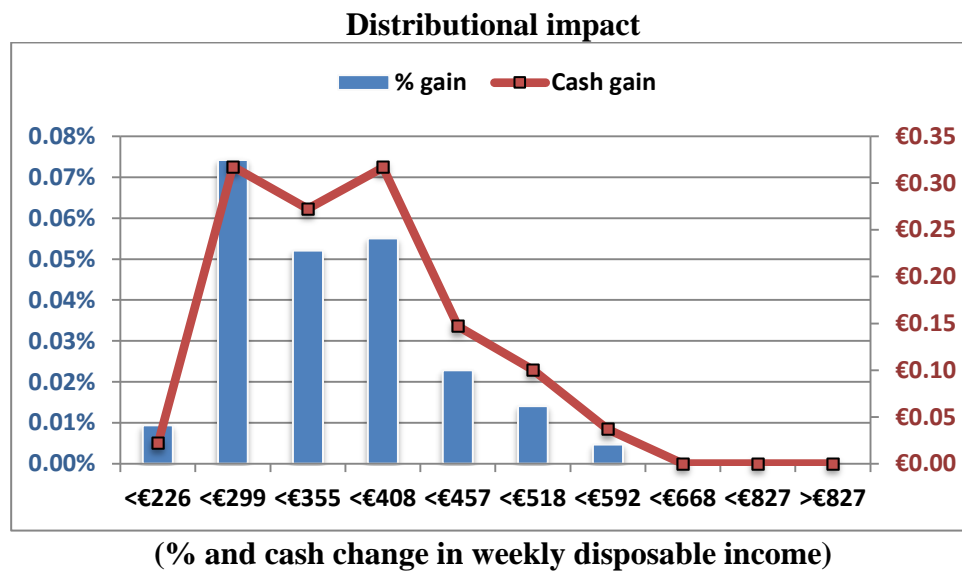
Impact by family type (% change in income by different family types)



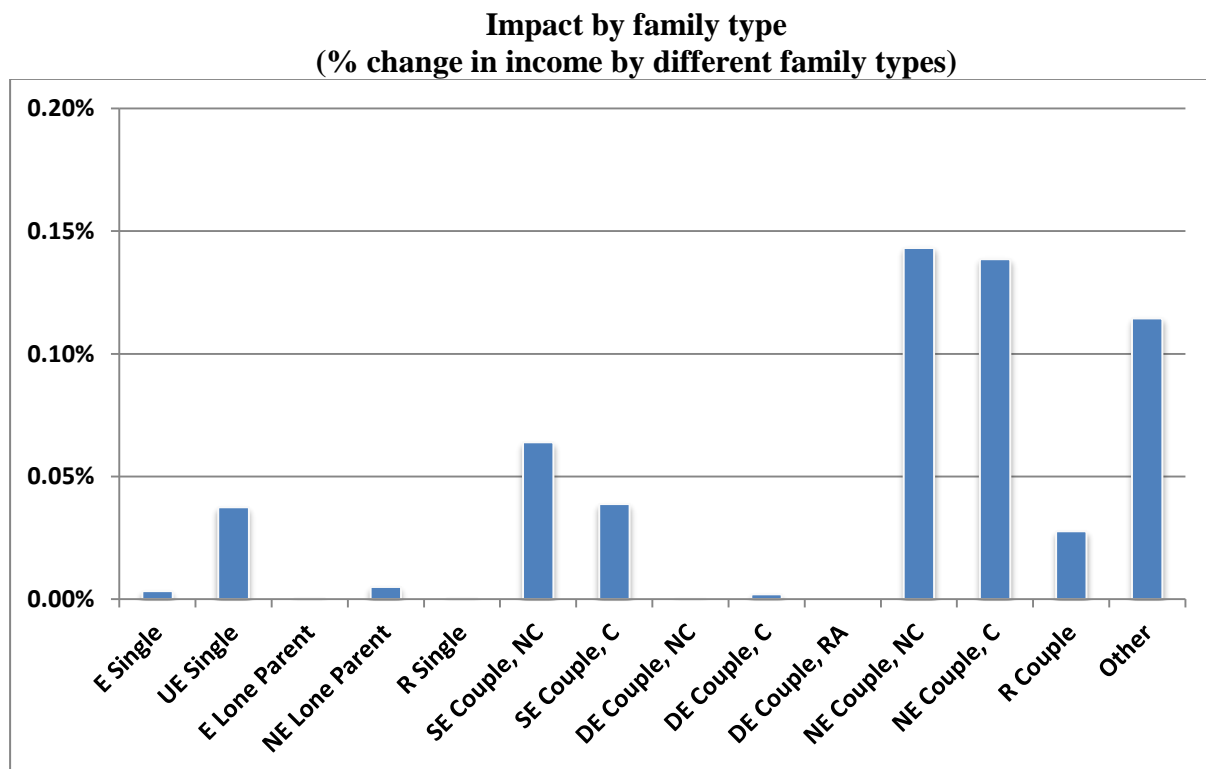
Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI

Option 6: Increase Carers Support Grant by €300, from €1,700 to €2,000

- The average gain in disposable income is 0.02 per cent (€0.12 per week).



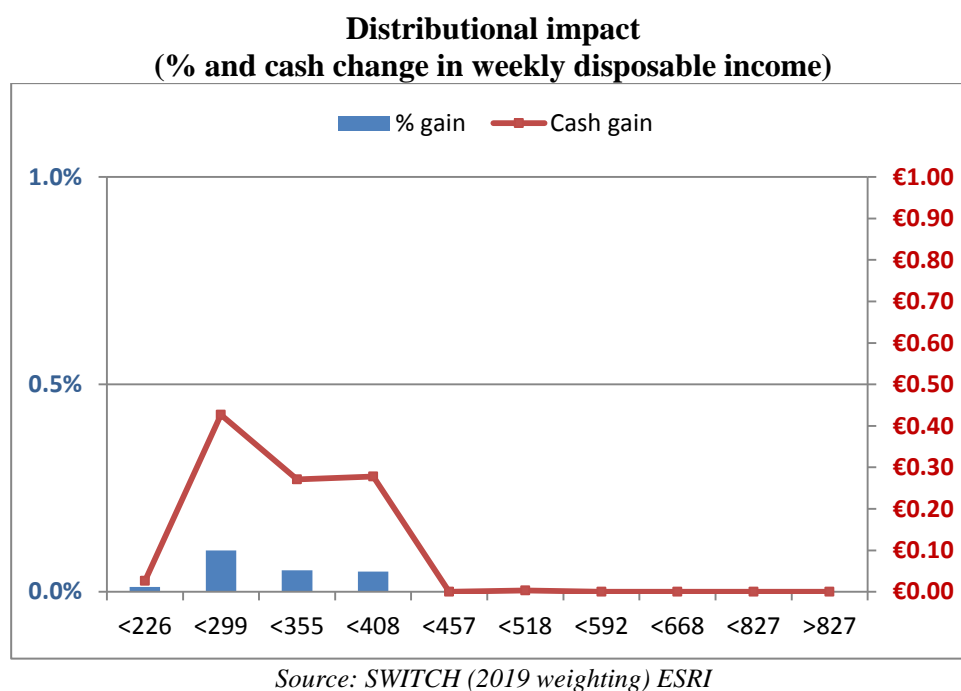
Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI



Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI

Option 7: €10 increase in the Working Family Payment threshold for families with up to three children

- The average gain in disposable income is 0.01 per cent (€0.10 per week) across all households. The second, third and fourth deciles gain most at €0.40/€0.30/€0.30 per week respectively.

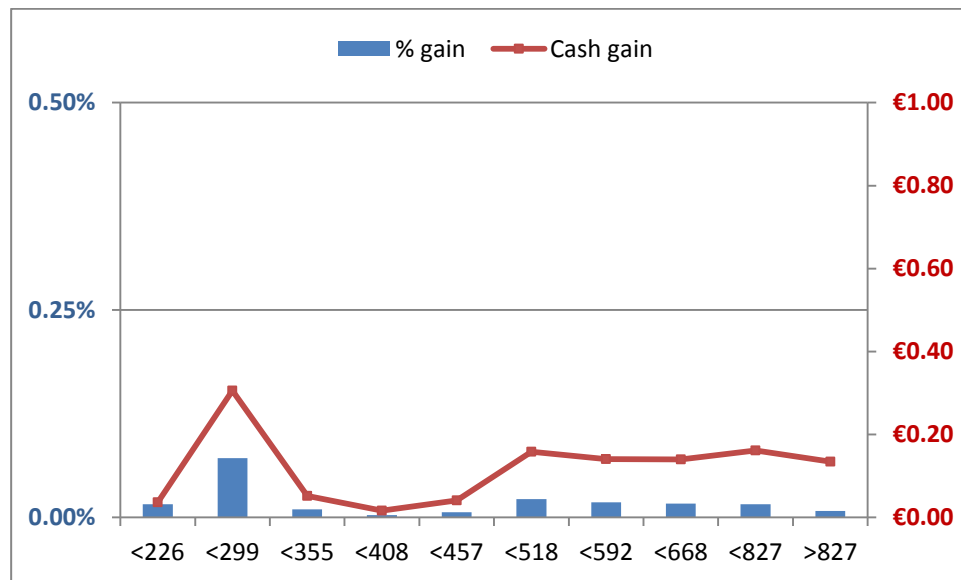


- The impact on the population at-risk-of-poverty is not significant. There is a small reduction in at risk of poverty for children of about 0.13 percentage points.
- Earning lone parents and single-earner couples with children gain most (0.1 per cent or €0.60 per week).

Option 8: €3 increase in the Living Alone Allowance, from €11 to €14 per week

- The average gain in disposable income is small at 0.02 per cent (€0.10 per week) across all households. The second decile gains most at 0.07 per cent (€0.30 per week).

Distributional impact
(% and cash change in weekly disposable income)



Source: SWITCH (2019 weighting) ESRI

- The impact on the population at-risk-of-poverty is small – there is a fall of about 0.5 percentage points in the at-risk-of-poverty rate for older people.
- The impact by family type graph is not included as this measure largely impacts retired single people (0.2 per cent or €1.10 per week).

END