

KEY Reliefs and Supports Summary Budget 2024

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/df18e-budget-2024-expenditure-reports/>

Families and Children

- €400 for the Working Family Payment
- €100 Qualified Child Bonus
- Qualified Child Increase up by €4 to €46 per week for under 12s and to €54 per week for over 12s.
- Double child benefit payment of €280 per child, paid before Christmas.
- Child benefit will be paid to parents of 18-year-olds still in full time education
- Double payment of the Foster Care allowance will be made this year.
- And increase by the end of 2024 by €75 per week for children under 12 and €73 per week for children over 12, bringing it to €400 and €425 a week, respectively.

Education

- Free schoolbooks at junior cycle in secondary school
- Families earning less than €100,000 annually will see college fees (undergraduates) reduced from €3,000 to €1,500 this year (2024).
- Families earning more than €100,000 annually -undergraduate full-time student fees cut by €1,000.
- No fees for school transport services for a further year or for students sitting State exams.
- 25% reduction in the cost of childcare (from September of 2024).

Social Welfare supports

- Weekly social protection payments will increase by €12.
- €200 for the Living Alone Allowance
- €400 for the Carers' Support Grant
- €400 for the Disability Support Grant
- €300 for the Fuel Allowance payment

- ❑ Christmas Bonus for those on regular Social Protection payments to be paid in early December.
- ❑ Special 'once-off payments' of €400 Carer's Support Grant, Disability Allowance, Blind Pension, Invalidity Pension and Domiciliary Care Allowance, before Christmas
- ❑ A once-off double week "Cost of Living Support" payment to all qualifying Social Protection recipients will be paid in January.

Energy credits

- ❑ Three energy credits for households of €150 each to be paid up to April 2024

Tax credit Increases

- ❑ up by €100 - home carer and single person child carer tax credit
- ❑ up by €200 incapacitated child tax credit
- ❑ The USC concession (for those on medical card earning less than €60,000 per year) extended by two years to the end of 2025

Low Paid Workers

- ❑ Minimum wage increased to €12.70, from January 2024.

Housing and Accommodation Reliefs

- ❑ The Help-to-Buy scheme extended to the end of 2025 and reformed to ensure applicants for local authority affordable purchases can avail of Help-to-Buy.

Traveller Accommodation Budget

- ❑ €21 million to deliver Traveller-Specific Accommodation
- ❑ €9 million- Increased capital funding for Traveller accommodation, adaptation works for the homes of older people and people with a disability.

The Revised Estimates Volume for the Public Service (also called 'the REV') is published in mid-December every year. It provides more detail on the allocations that were announced in the Budget.

Departmental Allocation

€7.4 billion Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Inclusion and Youth

€10.5 billion Department of Education

€3.5 billion Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science,

€3.9 billion Department of Housing

No target indicated yet for Travellers under **Housing for All** allocation which is €1.9 billion to deliver 9,300 new-build social homes and €265 million to support the delivery of 6,400 affordable homes next year.

Traveller Sectoral Funding

Fund services to Traveller and Roma communities and to implement the successor strategy to the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy.

Support implementation of the National Action Plan Against Racism 2023-2027. This will include grant support for national and local/regional anti-racism initiatives and funding for the office of a Special Rapporteur on Racial Equality and Racism