



Pádraig O’Sullivan, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

16<sup>th</sup> July 2024

PQ: 30101/24

**To ask the Minister for Health to provide a breakdown of the additional costs to the State's pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement system of changes to the drugs payment scheme thresholds and changes to medical card eligibility; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Pádraig O'Sullivan**

Dear Deputy O’Sullivan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 30101/24), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Please see below in relation to the Drug Payments Scheme. The following details the current annual cost and the average number of claimants /family units who have availed of the threshold changes. Included are the three most recent threshold changes and the 12 month related cost associated with each decision.

	Threshold movements		
	€99.99 to €80.00	€113.99 to €100.00	€123.99 to €114.00
Annual Cost as at April 2024	3,138,438	5,256,429	4,595,818
Average number of claimants per month	25,850	16,379	9,854

I also enclose a spreadsheet citing various information on the DPS you may find relevant.

Please note there have been no recent changes to Medical Card eligibility.

I hope this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,



Suzanne Doyle  
Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service

### Drugs Payment Scheme Annual CASH Spend

