

FOI DOF/2022-0261

I can confirm that the Department of Finance holds information in relation to your request. Our response follows the points raised in your request for information.

Request

- Can you please confirm how many people have retired EARLY from the Northern Ireland Civil Service in the following years (or left EARLY with a pension or pay out for any reason);
 - 2017/18
 - 2018/19
 - 2019/20
 - 2020/21
 - 2021/22
- Can you please group the information by reason for leaving early, medically unfit, redundancy, etc.

Response

The information is included in the table below.

Year	Actuarially Reduced*	Partial Retirement	Ill Health	Serious Ill Health	Voluntary Exit / Redundancy	Inefficiency	Total
2017/18	87	111	73	0	0	57	328
2018/19	84	165	77	1	8	78	413
2019/20	69	144	77	1	0	62	353
2020/21	67	95	39	1	0	7	209
2021/22	85	78	65	3	0	47	278

Request

- Can you please confirm the annual cost in each year relating to lump sum payments for staff leaving EARLY.

Response

The information is included in the table below.

Year	Annual Cost in each year (£)
2017/18	16,826,968.81
2018/19	20,927,929.77
2019/20	19,233,660.10
2020/21	12,350,428.41

2021/22	16,271,265.77
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* Actuarial reduction: A civil servant who leaves with a preserved pension and lump sum can have these put into payment early on a reduced basis at any time after reaching age 50 (55 if they joined on or after 6 April 2006). The pension will be reduced permanently by around 5% for each year before scheme pension age. This reduction does not end when they reach scheme pension age.