

# Direct Provision Awareness



By Alexa, Aoibheann, Aria &  
Maisie

# What We Set Out To Do

We chose to do our project on Direct Provision because it can be overlooked. So we set out to find out how much people knew about it and what some people are doing to help.

We decided to come up with a survey and write emails to the Taoiseach, someone who helped people from Direct Provision to cook, and Greta Keegan who is an employment officer for the Irish Refugee Council.



## What Is Direct Provision?

Direct Provision was set up in 2000 by the Irish government to house asylum seekers waiting for their international protection applications to be approved.



## Alexa's Email Pt2

The conditions are awful people have very little money to live on (€38.80), cramped, unsanitary living spaces, they didn't have the right to work until February 2018, why did that only happen in 2018? DP had been going on for 18 years at that stage, and basic needs like toiletries (period products) were not included the list goes on and on. So Michael can you tell me what the government is doing about this, or what the plan is for the future?

Also the government stopped releasing deaths in direct provision in 2017, can you provide me with information on why that was decided? According to my research most of the DP centres are run privately and they are making **huge** profits, do you have any thoughts on this?

Are all the direct provision centres close to schools and amenities, if not how do you transport kids to school or adults to work?

It would be great if you could get back to us before the 23rd of June,

Kind regards Alexa, Aoibheann, Aria and Maisie.

# Maisie's Email

Hi Greta,

My name is Maisie and I am from D7ET in 6th class. Our class is working with Erasmus to empower children's voices. My group is doing our project on direct provision awareness. We have done a survey on some parents at our school, and one of the questions we asked was "how many people do you think get a job in Direct Provision?" and most people think over 60% of people in direct provision get jobs. It is actually only 15%. We just have a few questions to ask you if that's alright.

Firstly, how come it was only 2018 when people in direct provision were allowed to have jobs? We have done some research and found out you have to have been in direct provision for at least six months before you are allowed to work. Why is this?

Next, why does the process of applying for a job as a person in direct provision take so long?

Also, what are you doing to help/train people in direct provision get jobs?

Finally, what do you do to support people in direct provision who aren't able to get jobs?

Thank you so much for your time. It would be great if you could get back to us by the 23rd of June.

Kind regards, Maisie, aged 12, and my group - Alexa, Aria and Aoibheann.











## Our Pie Charts

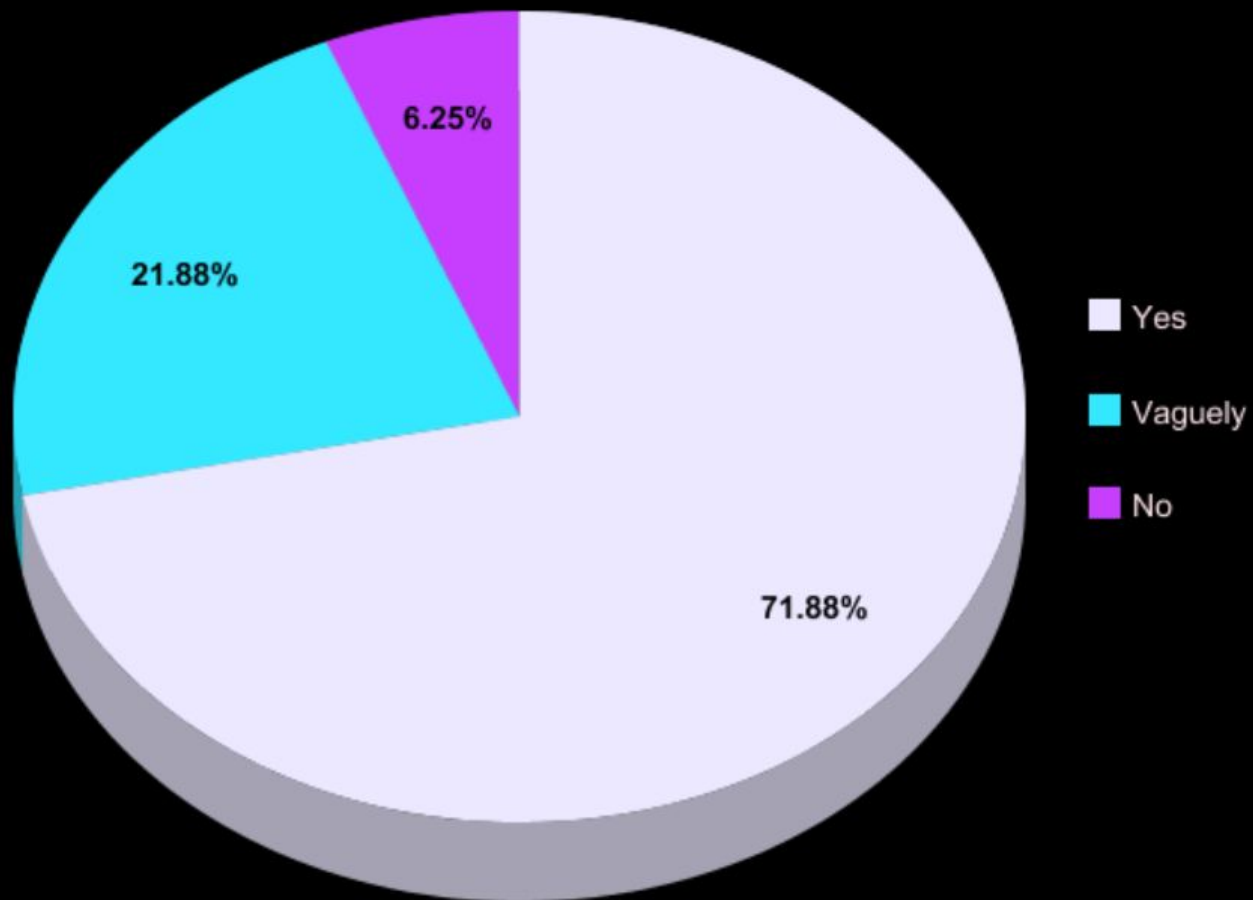
We came up with three simple questions to ask our class and some parents of the Jr and Sr infant classes. In total we asked 32 people.

Q1. Do you know what Direct Provision is? Yes, Vaguely or No.

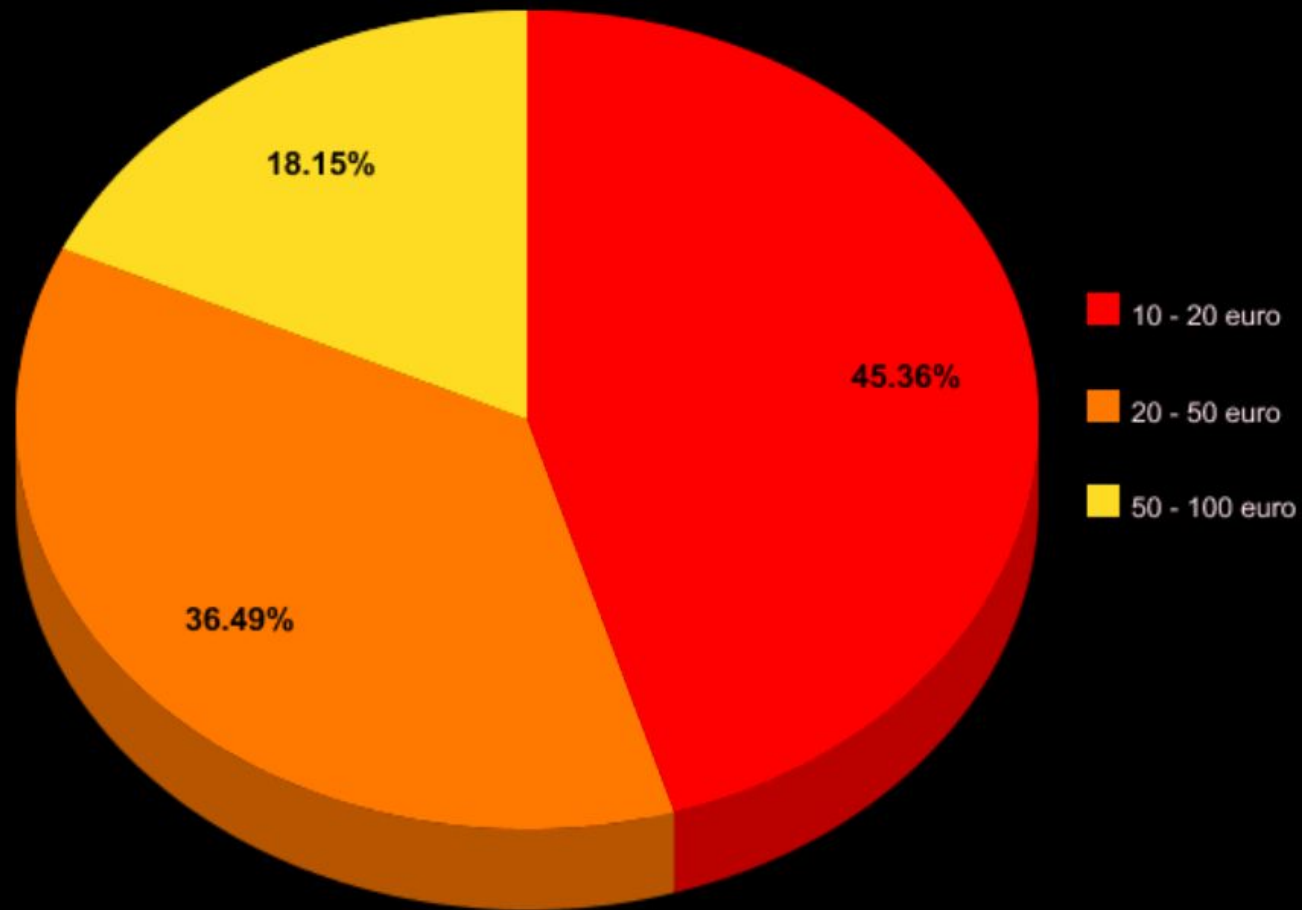
Q2. How much money do you think an adult in Direct Provision has to live on for a week? €10-€20, €20-€50 or €50-€100.

Q3. How many people in Direct Provision have a job in Ireland? 60%, 15%, 20% or 72%.

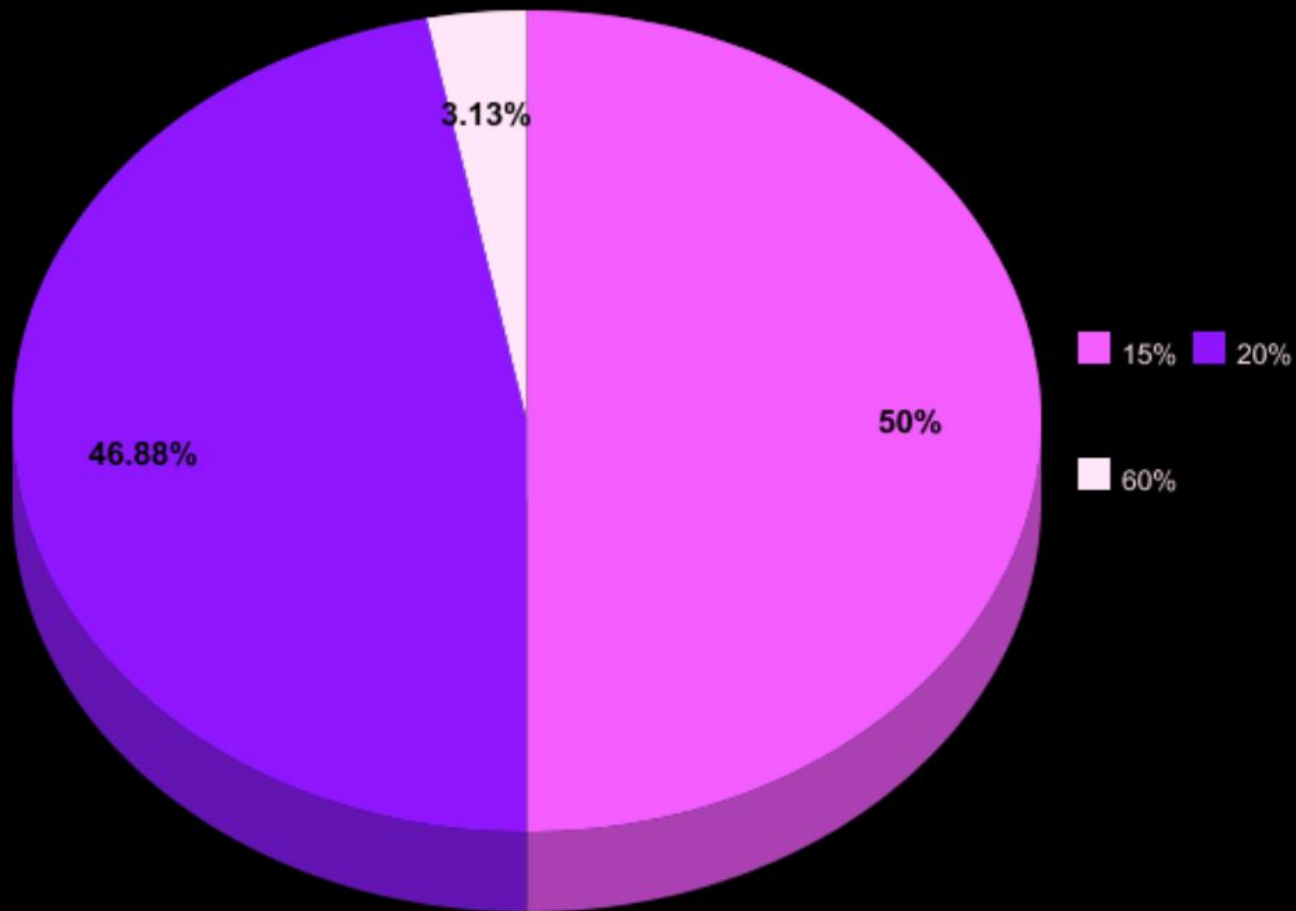
Do you know what Direct Provision is?



How much money do you think an adult in Direct Provision has to live on for a week?



How many people in Direct Provision get a job in Ireland?







## Credits!

- Alexa Bauer
- Aoibheann McAuley
- Aria Flanagan
- Maisie Smith

And a special thanks to  
Paul Butler.