

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Overview	3
1. People in Paid Work	5
<i>Indicator 1.1a</i> Employment and Unemployment Trends (Republic of Ireland)	7
<i>Indicator 1.1b</i> Employment and Unemployment Trends (Northern Ireland)	9
<i>Indicator 1.2a</i> Employment Change by Sector in the Republic of Ireland – Peak to Present	11
<i>Indicator 1.2b</i> Employment Change by Sector in Northern Ireland – Peak to Present	13
<i>Indicator 1.3</i> Numbers Employed in the Wide Public Sector (Republic of Ireland)	15
<i>Indicator 1.4</i> Trends in Numbers Employed in the Public Sector in the Republic of Ireland (2008-2012)	17
2. People Out of Work	19
<i>Indicator 2.1</i> The Rate of Unemployment across European Union Member States	21
<i>Indicator 2.2</i> Rates of Unemployment among Young People across European Union Member States	23
<i>Indicator 2.3</i> Long-term Unemployment Trends (Republic of Ireland)	25
<i>Indicator 2.4</i> Under-employment across European Union Member States	27
<i>Indicator 2.5a</i> Under-employment over Time (Republic of Ireland)	29
<i>Indicator 2.5b</i> Under-employment over Time (Northern Ireland)	31
<i>Indicator 2.6</i> Unemployed Persons per Job Vacancy (Republic of Ireland)	33
<i>Indicator 2.7</i> Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs), ROI and NI	35
3. Labour Costs	37
<i>Indicator 3.1a</i> Cost of Employing Labour Across Advanced EU Economies (EU15)	39
<i>Indicator 3.1b</i> Cost of Employing Labour in the Accommodation and Food Sectors Across Advanced EU Economies (EU15)	41
<i>Indicator 3.1c</i> Cost of Employing Labour in the Wholesale and Retail Trade Sectors Across Advanced EU Economies (EU15)	43
<i>Indicator 3.2a</i> Comparing Labour Costs in the Civil Service across OECD Countries (Clerical Officer)	45
<i>Indicator 3.2b</i> Comparing Labour Costs in the Civil Service across OECD Countries (Principal Officer)	47
<i>Indicator 3.3</i> Comparisons of National Minimum Wage across the EU	49
<i>Indicator 3.4</i> A Profile of Economic Inactivity among those who want to work in Northern Ireland	51
4. Distribution of Income and Wealth	53
<i>Indicator 4.1</i> Income per capita in the EU	55
<i>Indicator 4.2a</i> Income Distribution over Time (Republic of Ireland)	57

Indicator 4.2b Income Distribution in Northern Ireland	59
Indicator 4.3a Average and Median Income over Time (Republic of Ireland)	61
Indicator 4.3b Average and Median Income over Time by Gender (Republic of Ireland)	63
Indicator 4.4 Wealth per Capita across Selected EU countries	65
Indicator 4.5 Share of Wages in Total Income (Selected Countries)	67
Indicator 4.6a Distribution of Earnings (Republic of Ireland)	69
Indicator 4.6b Distribution of Earnings (Northern Ireland)	71
5. Poverty and Social Exclusion	73
Indicator 5.1 Poverty and Deprivation (Republic of Ireland)	75
Indicator 5.2 Child Poverty (Republic of Ireland)	77
Indicator 5.3 In Work-Poverty (Republic of Ireland)	79
Indicator 5.4 Poverty and Deprivation by Gender (Republic of Ireland)	81
Indicator 5.5 Poverty in Northern Ireland	83
6. Social Welfare Payments	85
Indicator 6.1 Unemployment Benefits Compared to Earnings (OECD countries)	87
Indicator 6.2 Unemployment Benefits Compared to Earnings in the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom	89
7. Public Finances	91
Indicator 7.1 Trends in General Government Expenditure and Revenue (EU27 and Republic of Ireland)	93
Indicator 7.2 Government Revenue as % of GDP (EU27 and Republic of Ireland), 2011	95
Indicator 7.3a General Government Deficit as % of GDP (EU member states)	97
Indicator 7.3b Estimated General Government Structural Deficit as % of GDP (EU countries)	99
Indicator 7.4 General Government Debt as % of GDP (EU countries)	101
Appendix	103
Appendix 1 Details on the calculation and composition of indicators 3.2a and 3.2b	105

Overview

Recent years have seen a huge growth in the supply, range and timeliness of data from a variety of official agencies including the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA), Eurostat, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as well as other agencies. Much of the data are publicly and readily available online together with detailed notes about the data. The QEF is not intended to provide an alternative to these sources. It provides a signpost to available sources of data. It selects a few indicators from key areas of concern: employment, unemployment, earnings and labour cost, inequality in income, poverty and public finances.

It is intended to expand and change a selection of indicators over time to cover a somewhat broader range of topics under each heading. However, to avoid information over-load (a not infrequent feature of many of the major statistical sources) it is planned to keep the overall number of indicators shown in this and subsequent editions within a reasonable and manageable size. Comments, queries and suggestions are welcome both in relation to the content as well as the overall scope of this publication.

Each indicator is laid out as follows:

- Definition
- Chart
- Data Table
- Interpretation
- Technical Notes and Sources.

For the purposes of comparisons across European States typically two averages are used where possible: EU 27 for all Member States and EU 15 for those Member States that were in the Union prior to 2004. The latter constitute a more homogeneous group in terms of GDP per capita. Unless otherwise stated, averages at the level of EU 27 or EU 15 are unweighted means.

Please note that, unless otherwise specified, all references to 'Ireland' in this edition of QEF refers to the Republic of Ireland only.