The Role of Women in the Irish Economy Trends and Beyond

Women’s Voices - is the Trade Union Movement listening?,
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Trends in employment %

- Male
- Female


Employment percentages for males show a general decrease from 1983 to 2011. Females, on the other hand, show an increase from 1983 to 2011 with some fluctuations.
Female employment rates – European comparison

% of females aged 15-64

- 2010 target
- 2005 target
- EU
- Ireland

CSO Women and Men in Ireland 2011
% Women by occupation, 2011

CSO Women and Men in Ireland 2011

- Total
- Caring, leisure and other service
- Administrative and secretarial
- Sales and customer service
- Professional
- Elementary
- Associate professional and technical
- Managers, directors and senior
- Process, plant and machine operatives
- Skilled trades
% women by sector 2011

- Human health and social work
- Education
- Other
- Accommodation and food service
- Financial, insurance and real estate
- Administrative and support service
- Wholesale and retail trade
- Public administration and defence
- Professional, scientific and technical
- Information and communication
- Industry
- Transportation and storage
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- Construction

% of employees in sector
Hours of work per week 2011

Men | Women
---|---
1-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40 and over | Varied & not stated

CSO Women and Men in Ireland 2011
Employment Rate – family size 2011

- Men
- Women

No children: Men > Women
Youngest child 0-3: Men > Women
Youngest child 4-5: Men > Women
Youngest child 6 or over: Men > Women

CSO Women and Men in Ireland 2011
## Pension cover

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pension coverage</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational pension</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal pension</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both occupational &amp; personal pension</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>No pension</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CSO QNHS
Chart 4.3b Average Income for Males and Females, 2006-2010.
Charts 5.4b/5.4c Deprivation and Consistent Poverty by gender, 2010 (%)
At risk of poverty 2010

Men ● Women

at risk of poverty rate

0-17 18-24 25-49 50-64 65 & over
% women civil service 2010

- Total
- Secretary General
- Deputy & Assistant Secretary
- Principal Officer
- Assistant Principal
- Administrative Officer
- Higher Executive Officer
- Executive Officer
- Staff Officer
- Clerical Officer
- Services Officer
- Services Attendant

Men | Women
---|---

% of grade
Two questions to consider

1. In politics, media, civil service, industry, civil society, trade unions - where in the hallways of power, debate and decision-making are the voices of:
   - Women
   - Children
   - The young
   - The unemployed
   - The low-skilled
   - Migrants ???

2. Who frames/shapes/determines what questions can be asked and what set of options and answers are possible???
Two other questions to consider

1. How do we value ‘work’ and all types of economic activity?
2. Is ‘growth’ the only answer to everything?