Quarterly Economic Facts

Summer 2012

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NERI Nevin Economic Research Institute

About NERI and this publication

The Nevin Economic Research Institute (NERI) has been established to provide information, analysis and economic policy alternatives. Further information about NERI may be obtained at our website www.NERInstitute.net

The purpose of this Quarterly Economic Facts (QEF) document is to provide regular, accessible and timely statistical information so as to equip trade unions and others in understanding economic trends and comparisons. All data are sourced from official sources with a clear link or reference to the website or publication from where they are drawn. Every care has been taken to ensure that the data were valid at the time of this release.

Each release of the QEF is complemented by another release – Quarterly Economic Observer which is available on the NERI website**.**

In the preparation of this QEF the following staff of the Institute were involved: Tom Healy, Micheál Collins, Paul MacFlynn and Rory O'Farrell. While this publication is the responsibility of the NERI the help and input of the following colleagues in various trade unions associated with NERI is acknowledged and appreciated: Lorraine Mulligan, Marie Sherlock, Paul Sweeney and Michael Taft.

The Nevin Economic Research Institute

Quarterly Economic Facts

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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 the 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
- 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.

1 People in Paid Work

Indicator 1.1a Employment and Unemployment Trends (Republic of Ireland)

Indicator defined

Share of employed, unemployed and economically inactive in population of working age in the Republic of Ireland

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2011. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 1.1a Share of employed, unemployed and 'economically inactive'

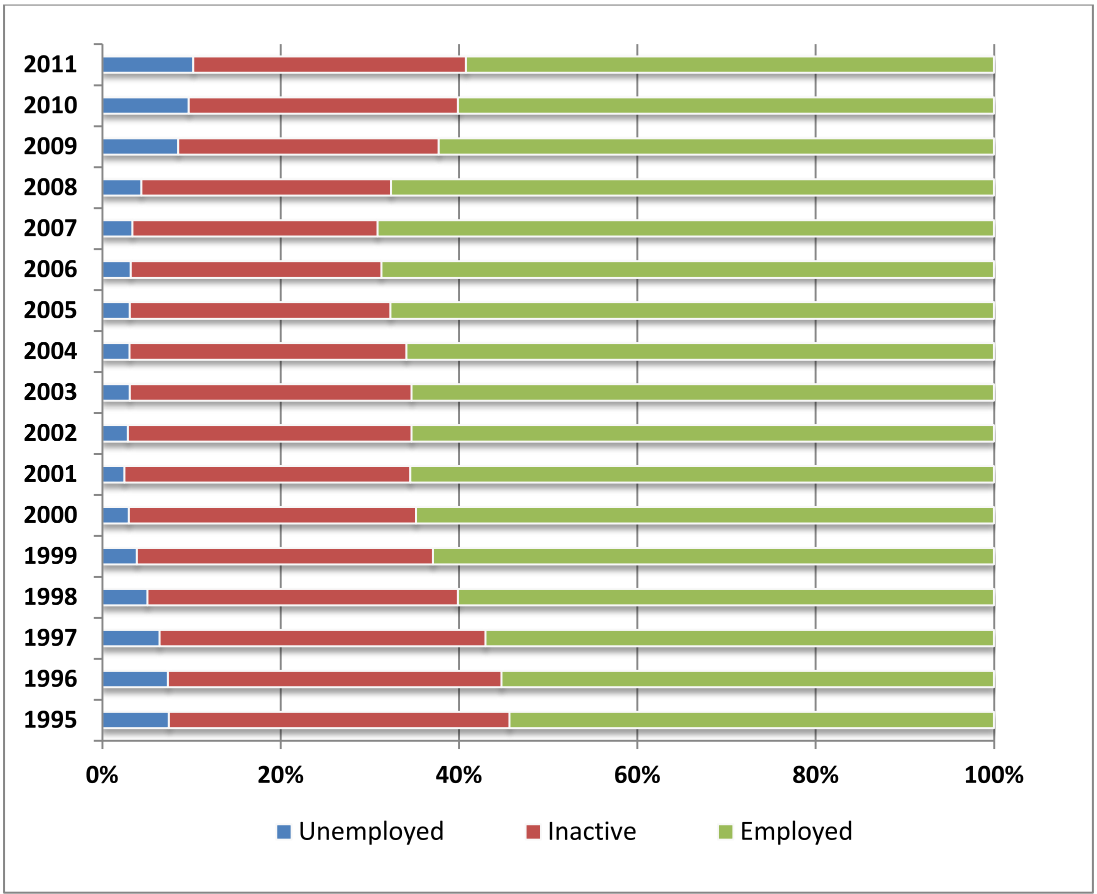


Table 1.1a Total population and share of employed, unemployed and 'economically inactive'

	Total aged 15-64 '000s	Employed	Inactive	Unemployed
1995	2,284.2	54.4%	38.2%	7.5%
1996	2,334.8	55.4%	37.5%	7.4%
1997	2,387.8	57.6%	36.9%	6.5%
1998	2,457.2	60.6%	35.1%	5.1%
1999	2,502.7	63.3%	33.4%	3.9%
2000	2,546.2	65.2%	32.4%	3.0%
2001	2,600.6	65.8%	32.2%	2.5%
2002	2,660.8	65.5%	31.9%	2.9%
2003	2,711.2	65.5%	31.7%	3.1%
2004	2,761.3	66.3%	31.2%	3.1%
2005	2,831.0	67.6%	29.2%	3.1%
2006	2,919.3	68.7%	28.1%	3.2%
2007	2,996.9	69.2%	27.5%	3.4%
2008	3,041.1	67.6%	28.0%	4.4%
2009	3,028.3	62.2%	29.2%	8.5%
2010	3,001.8	60.1%	30.2%	9.7%
2011	2979.0	59.2%	30.6%	10.2%

Note: Percentages are for the total population. The unemployment rate is calculated as a percentage of the labour force (see part 2 of this publication).

Interpretation

Since 1995 there has been a gradual decline in the proportion of 'economically inactive' people. This trend has been partially reversed by the recession. The term 'economically inactive' is used by economists and statisticians to refer to persons who are not in paid employment (for typically more than one hour in the previous week at the time of survey). It is not intended, here, to imply that persons actively engaged in activities that are not remunerated in the labour market are not contributing very significantly to economic and social well-being.

Technical Notes

There is a statistical discrepancy between total population aged 15-64 (as recorded in the Quarterly National Household Survey) and the sum of employed, unemployed and the economically inactive. The actual percentages (of population) are presented in the table, while in the graph economically inactive is treated as a residual. The discrepancy is at its largest in 1997, at 1% of the population.

Source(s)

Eurostat Labour Force Survey (variables: lfsi_emp, lfsi_act_a, lfsa_ugan, lfsa_igan)

Indicator 1.1b Employment and Unemployment Trends (Northern Ireland)

Indicator defined

Share of employed, unemployed and economically inactive in population of working age in Northern Ireland

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2012. Data extracted on 19 June 2012. Next update due Spring 2013

Chart 1.1b Share of employed, unemployed and 'economically inactive'

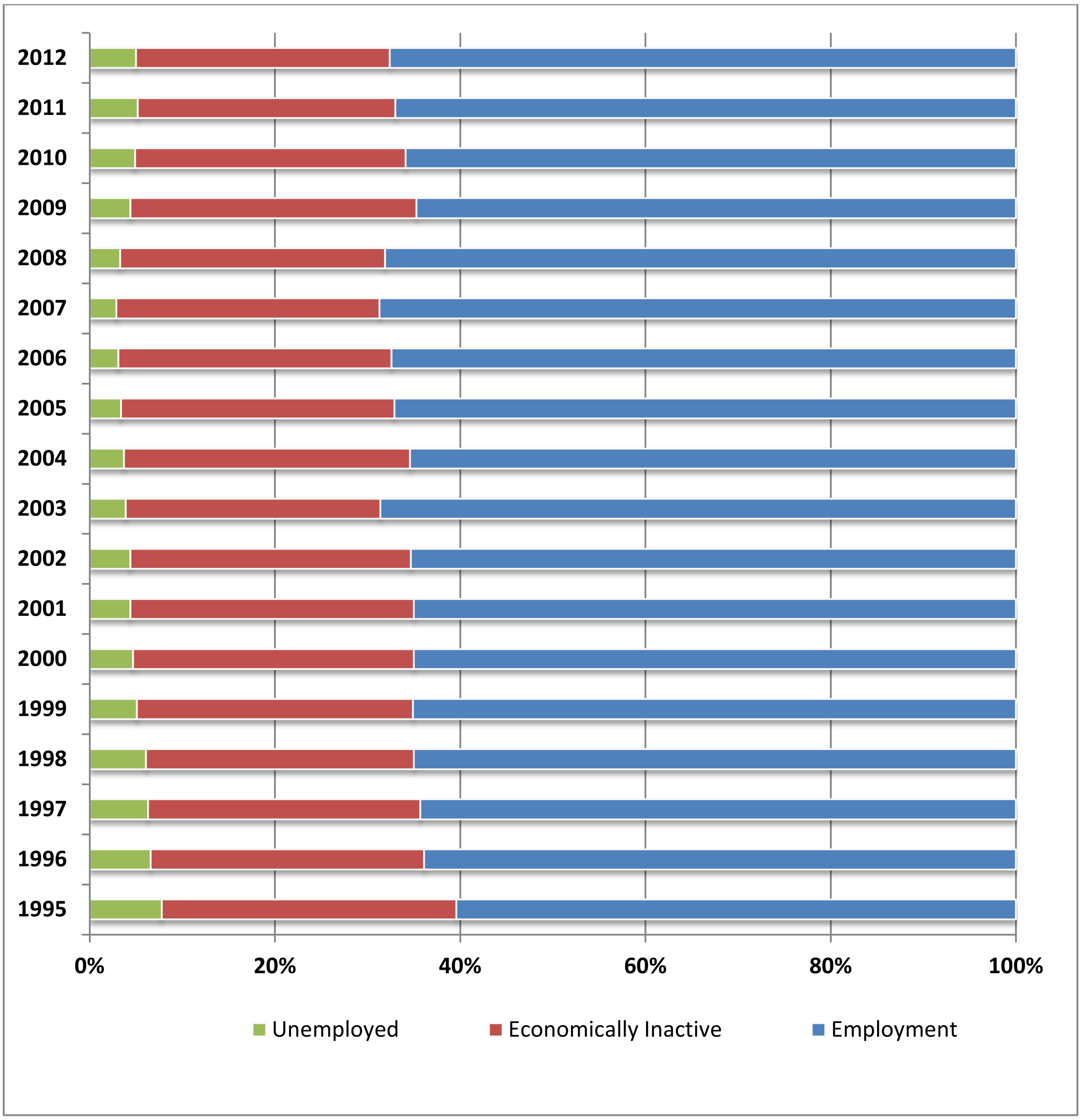


Table 1.1b Total population and share of employed, unemployed and economically inactive

	Total aged 16-64 '000s	Employed	Economically Inactive	Unemployed
1995	1,003	60.4%	31.8%	7.8%
1996	1,013	63.9%	29.5%	6.6%
1997	1,024	64.3%	29.4%	6.3%
1998	1,032	65.0%	28.9%	6.1%
1999	1,039	65.1%	29.8%	5.1%
2000	1,045	65.0%	30.3%	4.7%
2001	1,055	65.0%	30.6%	4.4%
2002	1,064	65.3%	30.3%	4.4%
2003	1,072	68.6%	27.5%	3.9%
2004	1,080	65.4%	30.9%	3.7%
2005	1,092	67.1%	29.5%	3.4%
2006	1,107	67.4%	29.5%	3.1%
2007	1,121	68.7%	28.4%	2.9%
2008	1,131	68.1%	28.6%	3.3%
2009	1,139	64.7%	30.9%	4.4%
2010	1,146	65.9%	29.2%	4.9%
2011	1,157	67.6%	27.4%	5.0%
2012	1,152	67.0%	27.8%	5.2%

Notes: Data is for the period January-March of each year. Percentages are for the total population. The unemployment rate is calculated as a percentage of the labour force (see part 2 of this publication).

Interpretation

As shown above Northern Ireland has seen increases in both unemployment and economic inactivity. While the rate of economic inactivity has returned to pre-crisis levels, the level of unemployment remains at rates not seen since 1999. Northern Ireland still has a level of economic activity that is considerably higher than that of the UK as whole and thus direct comparisons with the UK of reported unemployment can be misguided.

Technical Notes

Economic Activity, Employment and Unemployment rate are all calculated as a percentage of the working age population. The term 'working-age' refers to the 16-64 population for both males and females. Unemployment and economically inactive are calculated as residuals from employment and economically active.

Source(s)

Northern Ireland Labour Force Survey Key data Historical Series (1992-2011) here.

Indicator 1.2a Employment Change by Sector in the Republic of Ireland – Peak to Present

Indicator defined

Employment at NACE 2 sectoral level comparing the level in Q4 2007 with current employment levels (seasonally adjusted).

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is Q1 of 2012. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 1.2a Employment by sector between the peak in 2007 to the latest available data in 2012 in the Republic of Ireland, (seasonally adjusted)

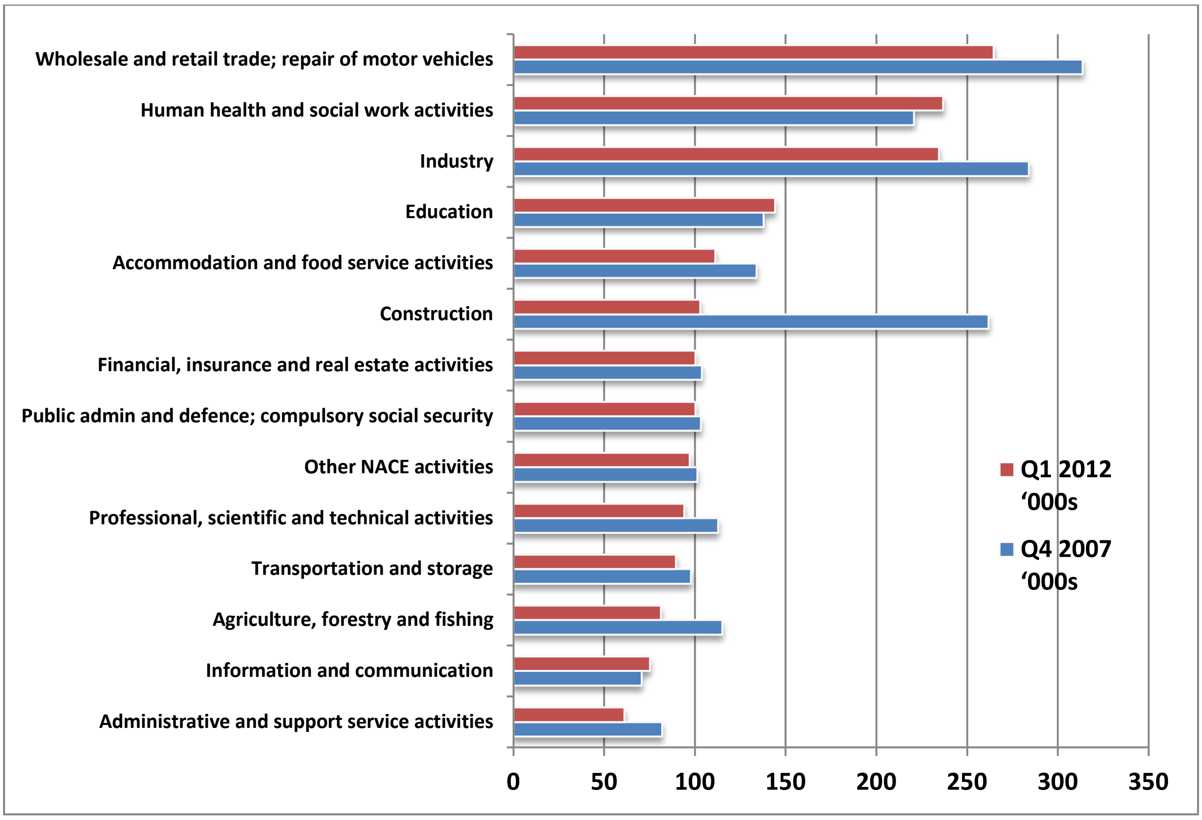


Table 1.2a Employment trends

	Q4 2007 '000s	Q1 2012 '000s
Administrative and support service activities	82.0	61.2
Information and communication	70.8	75.3
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	115.1	81.4
Transportation and storage	97.9	89.7
Professional, scientific and technical activities	112.9	94.2
Other NACE activities	101.4	97.2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	103.4	100.3
Financial, insurance and real estate activities	103.9	100.3
Construction	261.9	103.1
Accommodation and food service activities	134.0	111.3
Education	138.0	144.2
Industry	284.2	234.6
Human health and social work activities	220.9	236.9
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	313.8	264.8

Interpretation

The wholesale and retail sector has remained the largest employment sector throughout the boom and the recession, notwithstanding the loss of some 15.6% of all jobs in the sector since peaking in Q4 2007. Three out every five construction jobs have been lost during the period Q4 2007 to Q1 2012.

Technical Notes

The *CSO's Quarterly National Household Survey* is a conducted each week over a total sample of 39,000 households and is published on a quarterly basis. The households are surveyed over five consecutive quarters. The *ILO definition of the labour force* includes all those employed and unemployed over the age of 15, but excludes the inactive population. The *NACE codes* are employment sector classifications. *Seasonally adjusted data* is data that has been treated for calendar effects, seasonal variations etc. and is arrived using the X-12-ARIMA model. The seasonally adjusted factor is revised each quarter for all previous quarters.

Source(s)

CSO Quarterly National Household Survey, Q1 2012, Table 3a.

Indicator: 1.2b Employment Change by Sector in Northern Ireland – Peak to Present

Indicator defined

Employee jobs by Standard Industrial Classification (2007): all persons comparing the level in March with the most recently reported period.

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is December 2011. Data extracted on 19th June 2012. Next update due on or before the third edition of this publication (September 2012).

Chart 1.2b Employment by sector, comparisons between 2008 and the latest available data for Northern Ireland

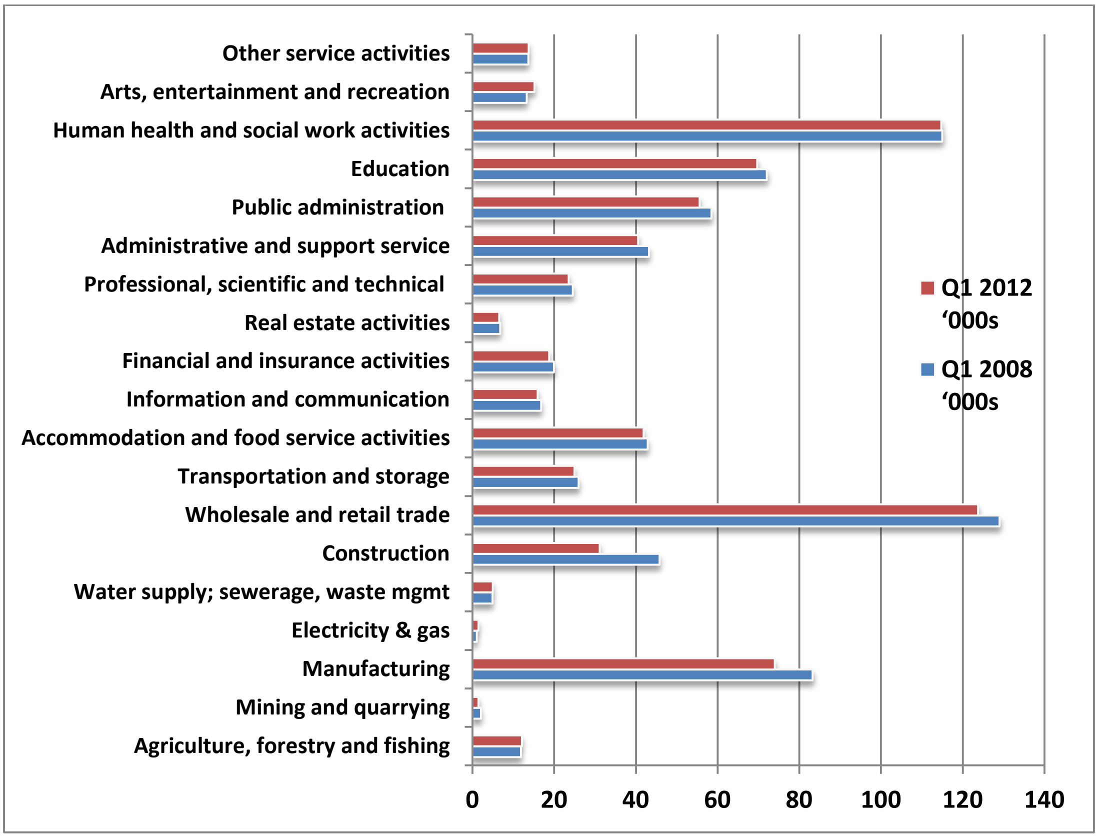


Table 1.2b Employment by sector, comparisons between 2008 and the latest available data for Northern Ireland

Industry	Q1 2008 '000s	Q1 2012 '000s
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.9	12.1
Mining and quarrying	2.1	1.5
Manufacturing	83.3	74
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1.1	1.5
Water supply; sewerage, waste management s	4.9	5
Construction	45.8	31.2
Wholesale and retail trade;	129	123.8
Transportation and storage	26	25
Accommodation and food service activities	42.9	41.9
Information and communication	16.8	16
Financial and insurance activities	20	18.8
Real estate activities	6.8	6.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	24.6	23.6
Administrative and support service activities	43.2	40.6
Public administration	58.5	55.6
Education	72.1	69.7
Human health and social work activities	115	114.8
Arts, entertainment and recreation	13.3	15.2
Other service activities	13.7	13.8
Total	**731.7**	**691.4**

Interpretation

Overall total employee jobs have fallen by 5.5% over the period from Q1 2008 to Q1 2012. The fall in construction of 46% remains the largest of all sectors. Manufacturing has seen a fall of 12.5% in the same period. Several sectors have seen small or negligible reductions including the health and education sectors.

Technical Notes

Estimates of the number of employee jobs are obtained from the Quarterly Employment Survey. Estimates of total employee jobs should be accurate to within +/- 1% of the Census of Employment total. It should be noted that the survey counts the number of jobs rather than the number of persons with jobs.

Source(s)

Quarterly Employment Survey - NI Employee Jobs June 1971 - March 2012

Indicator: 1.3 Employment Volatility since 2008 (Republic of Ireland)

Indicator defined

Seasonally adjusted quarterly movements in employment are used to demonstrate potential signs of volatility or stabilisation in the labour market

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is Q4 of 2011. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 1.3 Seasonally adjusted quarterly movements in employment Q1 2008-Q1 2012 (000s)

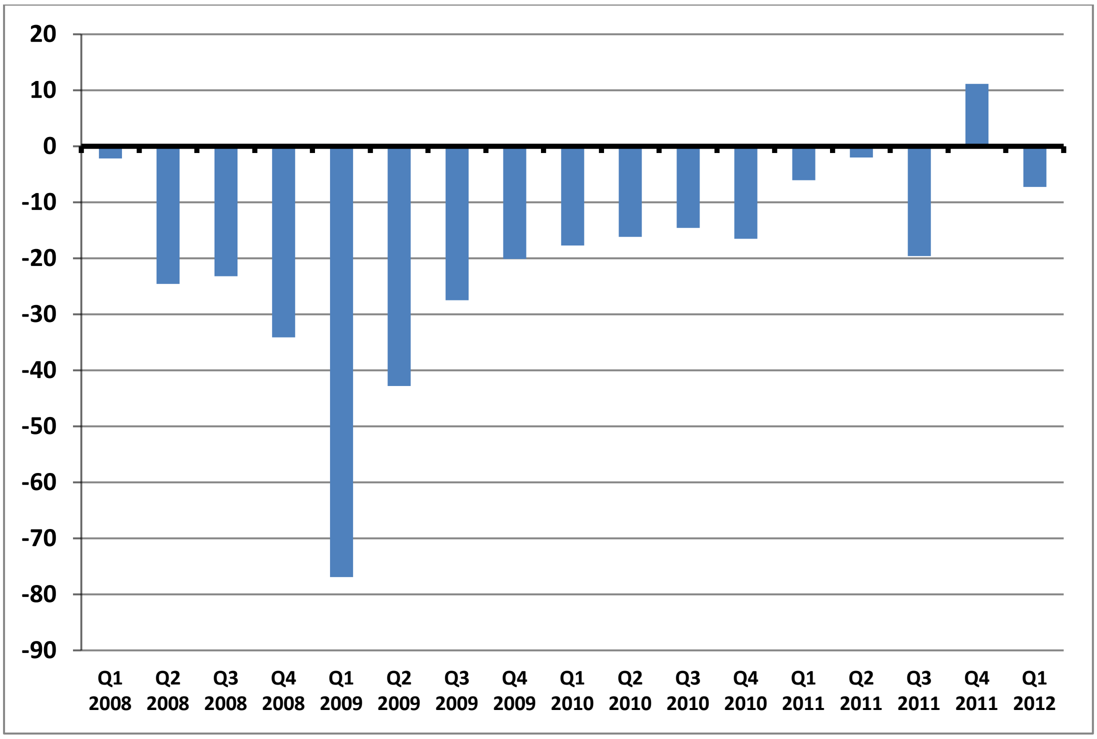


Table 1.3 Seasonally adjusted quarterly movements in employment Q1 2008-Q1 2012

Period	Change in employment '000s
Q1 2008	-2.2
Q2 2008	-24.6
Q3 2008	-23.2
Q4 2008	-34.1
Q1 2009	-76.9
Q2 2009	-42.8
Q3 2009	-27.5
Q4 2009	-20.1
Q1 2010	-17.7
Q2 2010	-16.2
Q3 2010	-14.6
Q4 2010	-16.5
Q1 2011	-6.1
Q2 2011	-2.0
Q3 2011	-19.6
Q4 2011	+11.1
Q1 2012	-7.3

Interpretation

The numbers in employment fell by 7,300 in Q1 2012 (seasonally adjusted) – a return to falls in employment following the first increase recorded after 15 consecutive quarters of losses since total employment began to fall in Q4 2007.

Technical Notes

The *CSO's Quarterly National Household Survey* is a conducted each week over a total sample of 39,000 households and is published on a quarterly basis. These households are surveyed over five consecutive quarters. The *ILO definition of the labour force* included all those employed and unemployed over the age of 15, but excludes the inactive population. The *NACE codes* are employment sector classifications. *Seasonally adjusted data* are estimated using the X-12-ARIMA model.

Source(s)

CSO Quarterly National Household survey.

Indicator: 1.4 Numbers Employed in the Wide Public Sector (OECD countries)

Indicator defined

Total numbers employed in General Government and Public Corporations as a proportion of total Labour Force.

The reference period for the latest available OECD data used in this indicator is 2008. The next update is due in mid-2013 with the next edition of Government at a Glance (OECD) and will show data for 2010.

Chart 1.4 Numbers employed in the wide public sector as % of total labour force – OECD countries (2008)

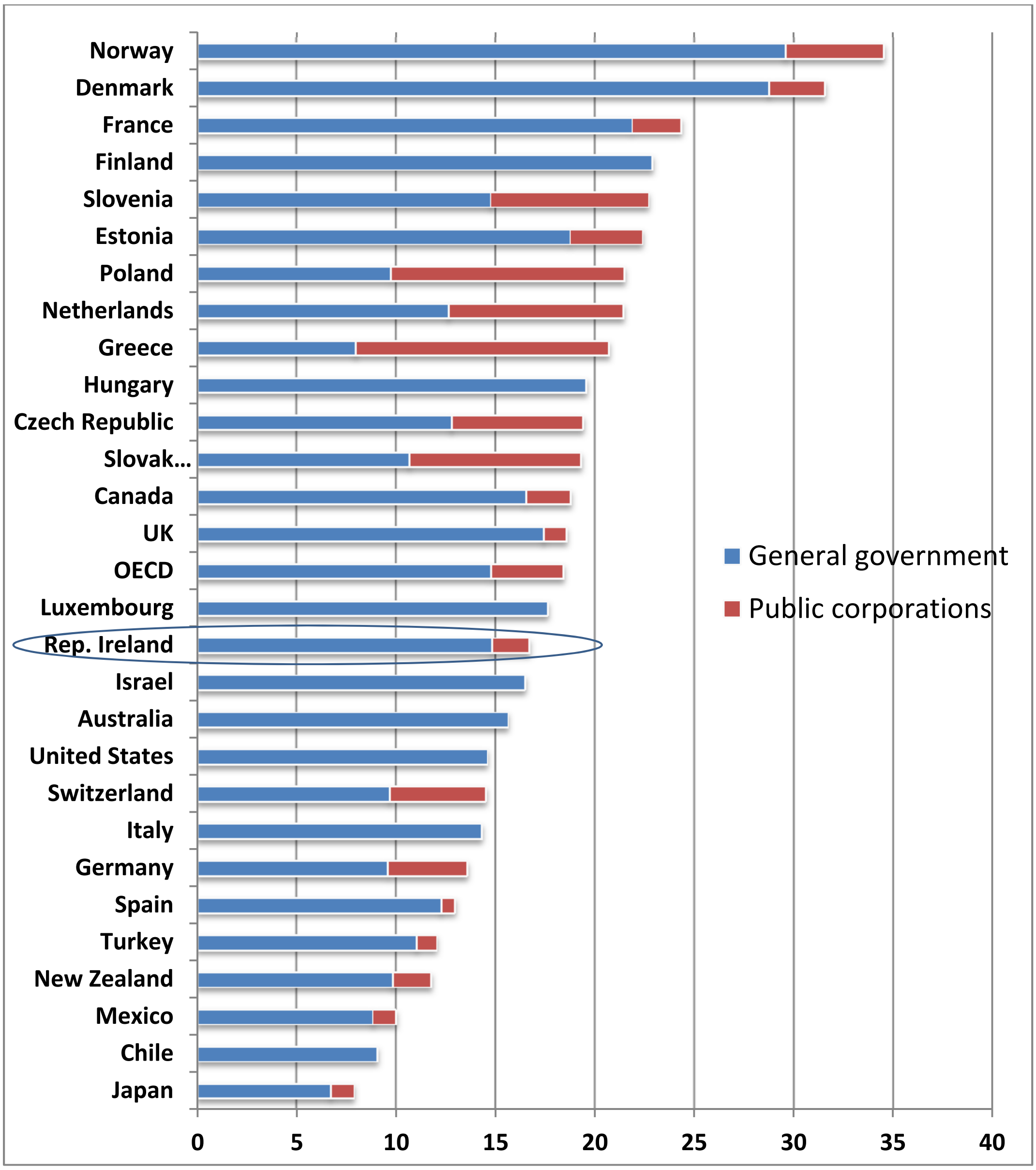


Table 1.4 Numbers employed in the wide public sector as % of total labour force – OECD countries (2008)

Country	Gen. Gov.	Pub. Corps.	Total Pub Sector	Country	Gen. Gov.	Pub. Corps.	Total Pub Sector
Norway	29.6	4.9	34.5	Luxembourg	17.6	-	17.6
Denmark	28.7	2.8	31.5	**Rep. of Ireland**	**14.8**	**1.9**	**16.7**
France	21.9	2.5	24.3	Israel	16.5	-	16.5
Finland	22.9	-	22.9	Australia	15.6	-	15.6
Slovenia	14.7	7.9	22.7	United States	14.6	-	14.6
Estonia	18.7	3.6	22.4	Switzerland	9.7	4.8	14.5
Poland	9.7	11.7	21.5	Italy	14.3	-	14.3
Netherlands	12.6	8.8	21.4	Germany	9.6	4.0	13.6
Greece	7.9	12.8	20.7	Spain	12.3	0.7	12.9
Hungary	19.5	-	19.5	Turkey	11.0	1.0	12.0
Czech Republic	12.8	6.6	19.4	New Zealand	9.8	1.9	11.7
Slovak Republic	10.7	8.6	19.3	Mexico	8.8	1.2	10.0
Canada	16.5	2.3	18.8	Chile	9.1	-	9.1
United Kingdom	17.4	1.2	18.6	Japan	6.7	1.2	7.9
OECD	14.8	3.6	18.4	Luxembourg	17.6	-	17.6

Interpretation

Ireland's 'wide public sector' share of total employment, as last published by the OECD in 2011 was 16.7% for the year 2008. This was below the OECD country average of 18.4 in 2008 for those countries reporting data. However, this proportion is estimated to have increased to 18.7% for Ireland in 2010 as the total size of the labour force contracted significantly over the same period. More recent data are not available for other OECD countries in respect of the 20009-2011 period.

Technical Notes

OECD Government at a Glance was last published by the OECD in 2011 and shows total employment in general government and public corporations in 2008 and earlier years. The next edition of Government at a Glance (due 2013) will show data for 2010. The OECD use the International Labour Organization LABORSTA database as the source for information on public sector employment (see laborsta.ilo.org). The laborsta database contains more up to date information for some OECD countries in 2009 and 2010.

General Government is defined as all levels of government (e.g. central, state, regional and local) and includes core Ministries, agencies, departments and non-profit institutions that are controlled and mainly financed by public authorities. Public corporations are defined as legal units mainly owned or controlled by the government which produce goods and services for sale in the market. Examples of public corporations in some OECD countries include post offices, railways and mining operations. Public corporations also include quasi-corporations.

Source(s)

OECD Government at a Glance (2011): Employment in general government and public corporations

Indicator: 1.5 Trends in Numbers Employed in the Public Sector in the Republic of Ireland (2008-2012)

Indicator defined

Total numbers employed in the public sector over time.

Data are based on Earnings, Hours and Employment Costs Survey (EHECS) of the Central Statistics Office. The data were extracted on 16 June 2012. The next update is due in September 2012.

Chart 1.5 Trends in numbers employed in the public sector in the Republic of Ireland (2008-2012)

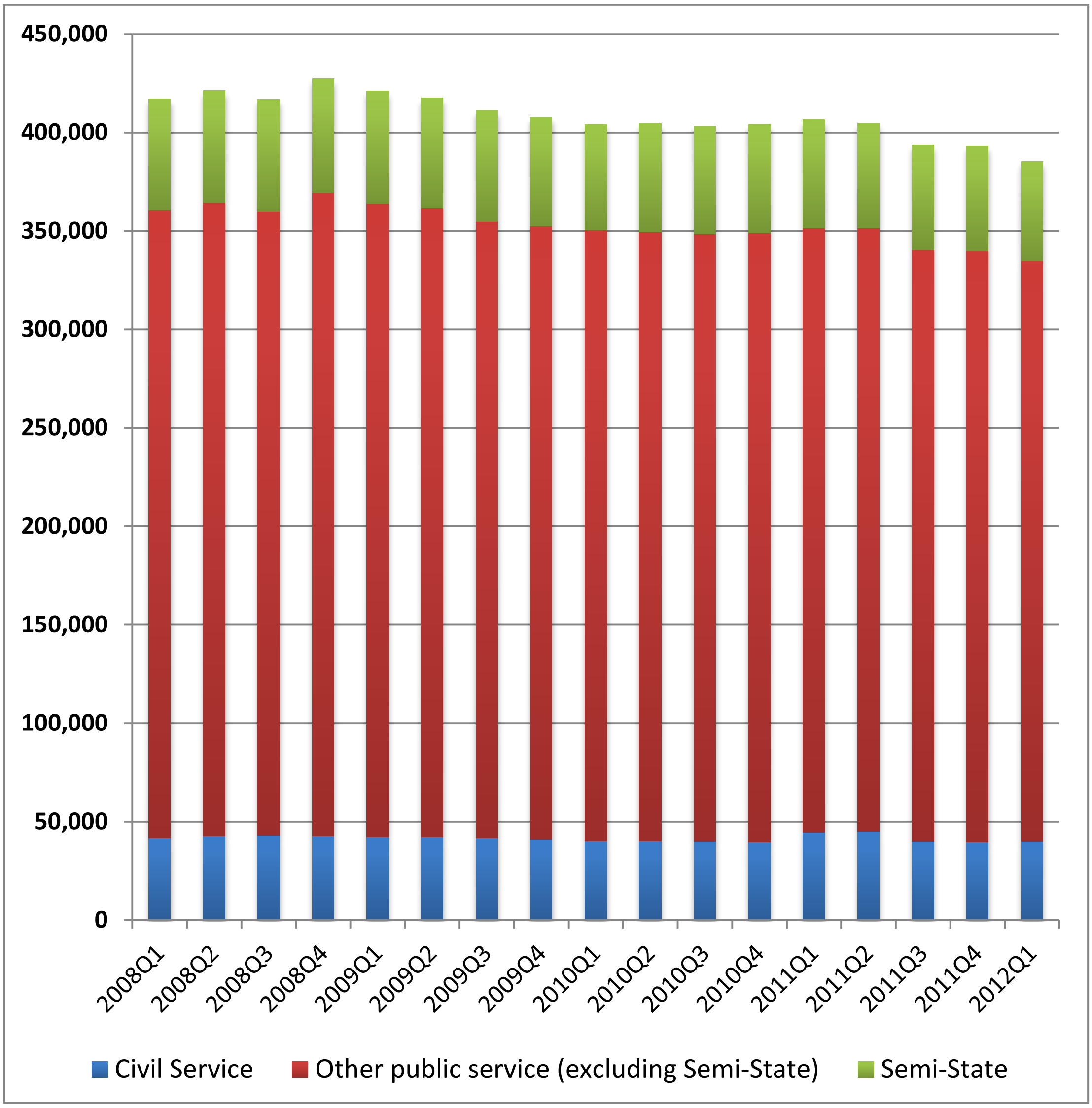


Table 1.5 Trends in numbers employed in the public sector in the Republic of Ireland (2008-2012)

	Civil Service	Other public service (excluding Semi-State)	Semi-State	Total excluding Semi-State	Overall Total Public Sector
2008Q1	41,700	318,900	56,400	360,600	417,000
2008Q2	42,700	321,800	56,900	364,500	421,400
2008Q3	43,000	316,900	57,000	359,900	416,900
2008Q4	42,700	326,800	57,800	369,500	427,300
2009Q1	42,200	321,900	56,900	364,100	421,000
2009Q2	42,100	319,400	56,100	361,500	417,600
2009Q3	41,600	313,100	56,300	352,500	408,800
2009Q4	40,900	311,600	55,200	353,900	409,100
2010Q1	40,100	310,400	53,600	352,600	406,200
2010Q2	40,100	309,400	55,100	353,800	408,900
2010Q3	40,000	308,400	55,000	348,800	403,800
2010Q4	39,600	309,300	55,300	348,000	403,300
2011Q1	44,500	306,900	55,100	353,600	408,700
2011Q2	45,000	306,400	53,500	353,100	406,600
2011Q3	39,900	300,400	53,300	340,800	394,100
2011Q4	39,700	300,100	53,300	337,600	390,900
2012Q1	39,800	295,000	50,500	334,800	386,300

Interpretation

The CSO's data on trends in numbers employed in the public services shows a decrease in total numbers since the first half of 2011. It should be noted that there was a temporary increase in numbers employed in early 2011 due to the employment of temporary Census of Population employees. Excluding these numbers means that the overall total has been trending downwards since the end of 2008.

Technical Notes

The data published by the CSO and used in this indicator refer to a headcount of all full-time and part-time workers as well as contract workers. The numbers reported by the CSO are not comparable to public sector numbers used by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform which publishes full-time equivalent numbers. The latter has estimated 292,354 full-time equivalent staff in the public service in the first quarter of 2012 (the civil service, health sector, education sector, Garda Síochána, local authorities and staff employed in non-commercial state agencies). By contrast, the CSO has published an estimate of 334,800 full-time equivalent staff in the first quarter of 2012 in the public sector excluding commercial semi-state bodies.

Source(s)

Central Statistics Office online database (refer to table EHQ10)

2 People out of Work

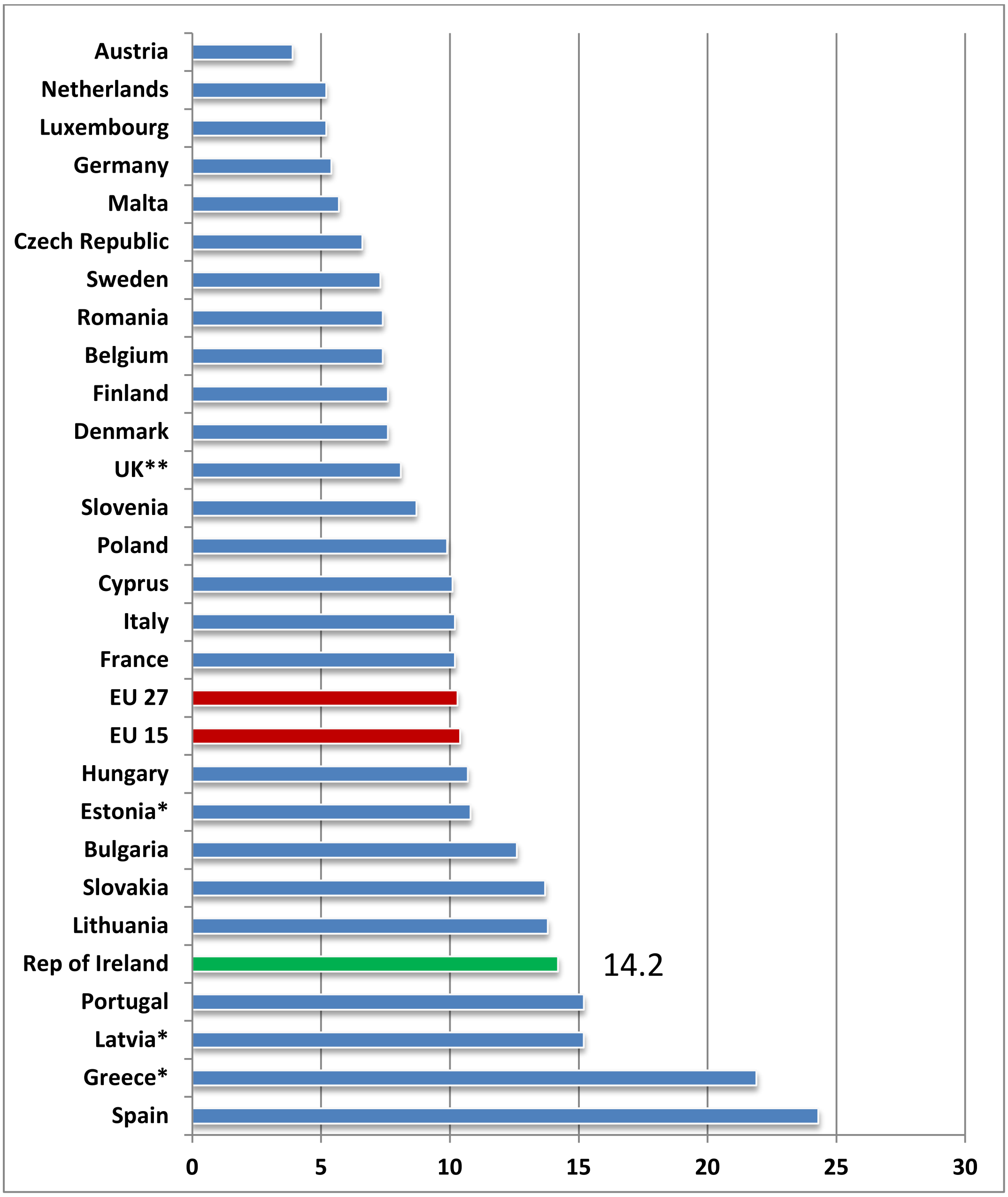
Indicator 2.1 The Rate of Unemployment across European Union Member States

Indicator defined

Seasonally adjusted total unemployed as a percentage of the Labour Force (ILO definition)

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is April 2012. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 2.1 Rates of Unemployment in the EU, April 2012



Note: Data from * Mar 2012 ** Feb 2012

Table 2.1 Rates of Unemployment in the EU, April 2012

Country	%	Country	%
Spain	23.3	Poland	9.9
Greece*	21.9	Slovenia	8.7
Latvia*	15.2	United Kingdom**	8.1
Portugal	15.2	Denmark	7.6
Republic of Ireland	**14.2**	Finland	7.6
Lithuania	13.8	Belgium	7.4
Slovakia	13.7	Romania	7.4
Bulgaria	12.6	Sweden	7.3
Estonia*	10.8	Czech Republic	6.6
Hungary	10.7	Malta	5.7
EU 15	10.4	Germany	5.4
EU 27	10.3	Luxembourg	5.2
France	10.2	Netherlands	5.2
Italy	10.2	Austria	3.9
Cyprus	10.1		

Note: Data from * Mar 2012 ** Feb 2012

Interpretation

The rate of unemployment varied considerably across EU Member States. The average across the whole Union was just in excess of 10% while in the Republic of Ireland the rate was 14.2%.

Technical Notes

The standard definitions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) are used by Eurostat to compare rates of economic activity in the labour market in European Union Member States. Data refer to all unemployed persons aged 15 to 74 who were not employed during the reference week, had actively sought work during the past four weeks and were ready to begin working immediately or within two weeks. Employed persons are all persons who worked at least one hour for pay or profit during the reference week or were temporarily absent from such work. The unemployment rate is the number of people unemployed as a percentage of the labour force. The labour force is the total number of people employed and unemployed.

Source(s)

Eurostat online database here (code une_rt_m).

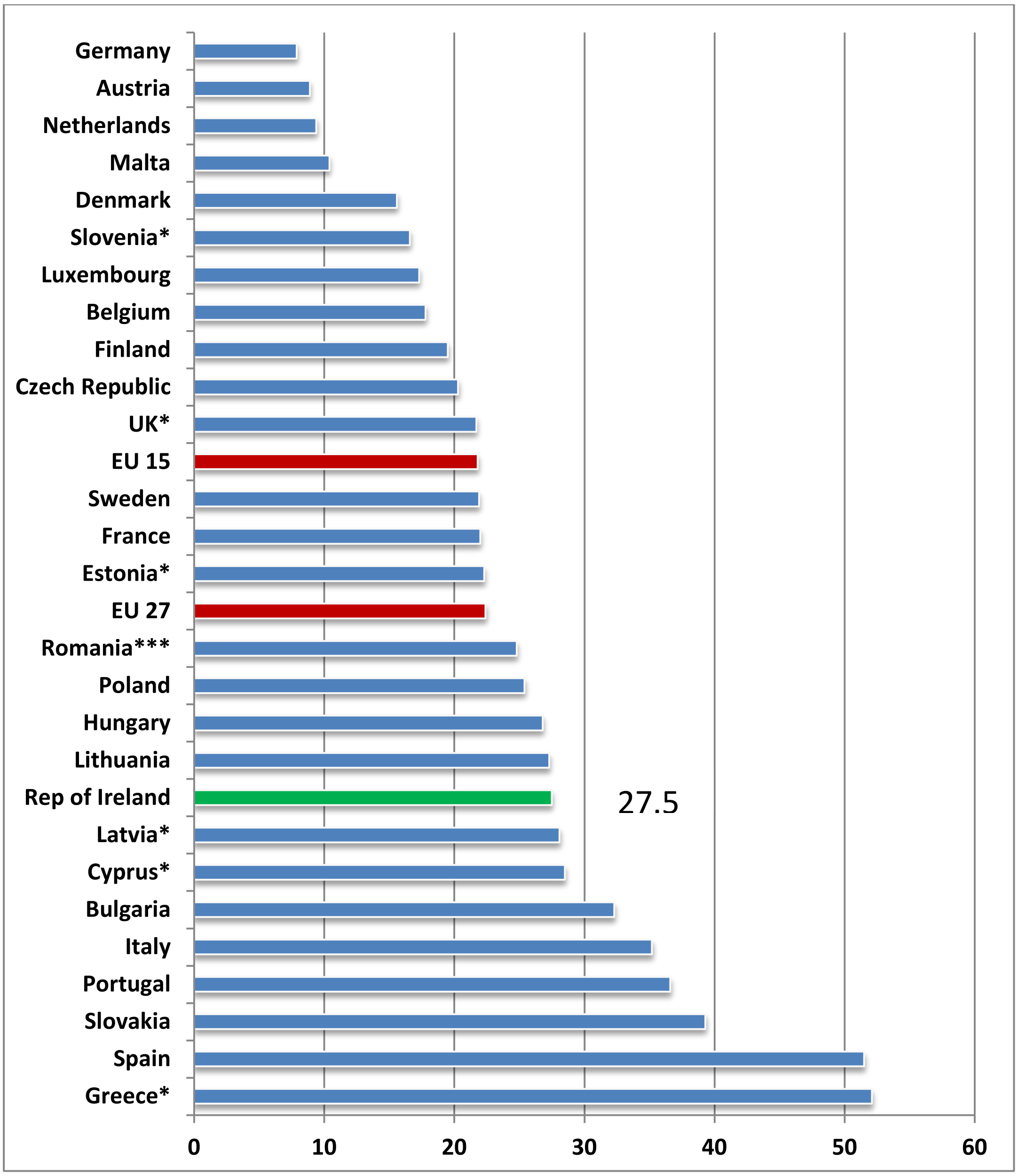
Indicator 2.2 Rates of Unemployment among Young People across European Union Member States

Indicator defined

Total unemployed under the age of 25 as a percentage of the corresponding Labour Force (ILO definition)

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is April 2012. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 2.2 Rates of Unemployment persons aged < 25 years, April 2012



Notes: Data from * Mar 2012 ** Feb 2012 ***Dec 2011

Table 2.2 Rates of Unemployment among persons aged < 25, April 2012

Country	%	Country	%
Greece*	52.1	France	22
Spain	51.5	Sweden	21.9
Slovakia	39.3	EU 15	21.8
Portugal	36.6	United Kingdom*	21.7
Italy	35.2	Czech Republic	20.3
Bulgaria	32.3	Finland	19.5
Cyprus*	28.5	Belgium	17.8
Latvia*	28.1	Luxembourg	17.3
Republic of Ireland	**27.5**	Slovenia*	16.6
Lithuania	27.3	Denmark	15.6
Hungary	26.8	Malta	10.4
Poland	25.4	Netherlands	9.4
Romania***	24.8	Austria	8.9
EU 27	22.4	Germany	7.9
Estonia*	22.3		

Notes: Data from * Mar 2012 ** Feb 2012 ***Dec 2011

Interpretation

The rate of youth unemployment (for persons under the age of 25) is, on average, over twice the rate for all persons. However, in some Member States it is currently almost one half of the entire young labour force.

Technical Notes

See notes for Indicator 2.1, above.

Source(s)

Eurostat online database here (code une_rt_m).

Indicator 2.3 Long-term Unemployment Trends (Republic of Ireland)

Indicator defined

Long-term unemployed as a percentage of all unemployed

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is Q4 of 2011. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 2.3 Rates of Long-term Unemployment (>12 months) as a % of total unemployment

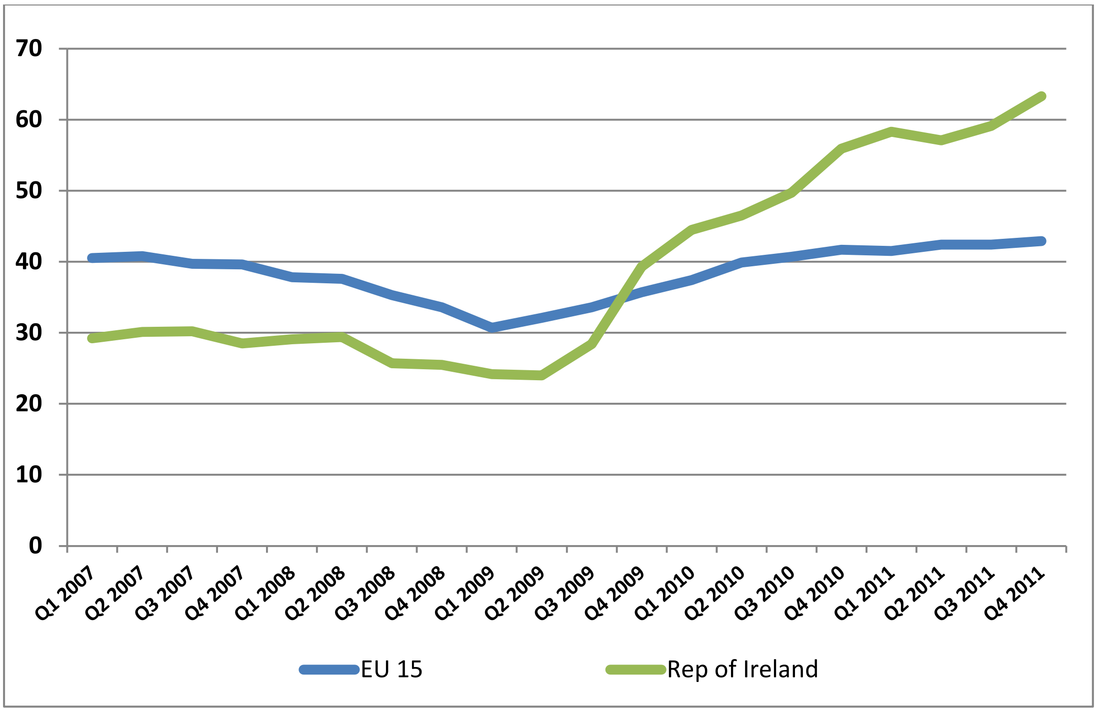


Table 2.3 Rates of Long-term Unemployment (>12 months) as a % of total unemployment

Period	Rep Ireland LT U%	EU 15 LT U%
2007 Q1	29.2	40.5
2007 Q2	30.1	40.8
2007 Q3	30.2	39.7
2007 Q4	28.5	39.6
2008 Q1	29.1	37.8
2008 Q2	29.4	37.6
2008 Q3	25.7	35.3
2008 Q4	25.5	33.6
2009 Q1	24.3	30.7
2009 Q2	24.0	32.1
2009 Q3	28.3	33.6
2009 Q4	38.7	35.7
2010 Q1	44.5	37.4
2010 Q2	46.6	39.9
2010 Q3	49.8	40.7
2010 Q4	54.7	41.7
2011 Q1	58.8	41.5
2011 Q2	57.6	42.4
2011 Q3	59.4	42.4
2011Q4	63.3	42.9

Interpretation

As total unemployment rates have increased across Europe the proportion of total unemployed who are long-term unemployed has increased especially since the first Quarter of 2009. The rate in the Republic of Ireland has risen sharply and overtook the EU 15 average in the last quarter of 2009. Currently, long-term unemployed account for almost 60% of all unemployed in the Republic compared to just under 30% in 2007.

Technical Notes

See notes for Indicator 2.1, above.

Source(s)

Eurostat online database here (code une_ltu_q).

Indicator 2.4 Under-employment across European Union Member States

Indicator defined

Rates of unemployment and under-employment as percentage of 'wide labour force'

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2011. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 2.4 Rates of Unemployment/Under-employment, 2011

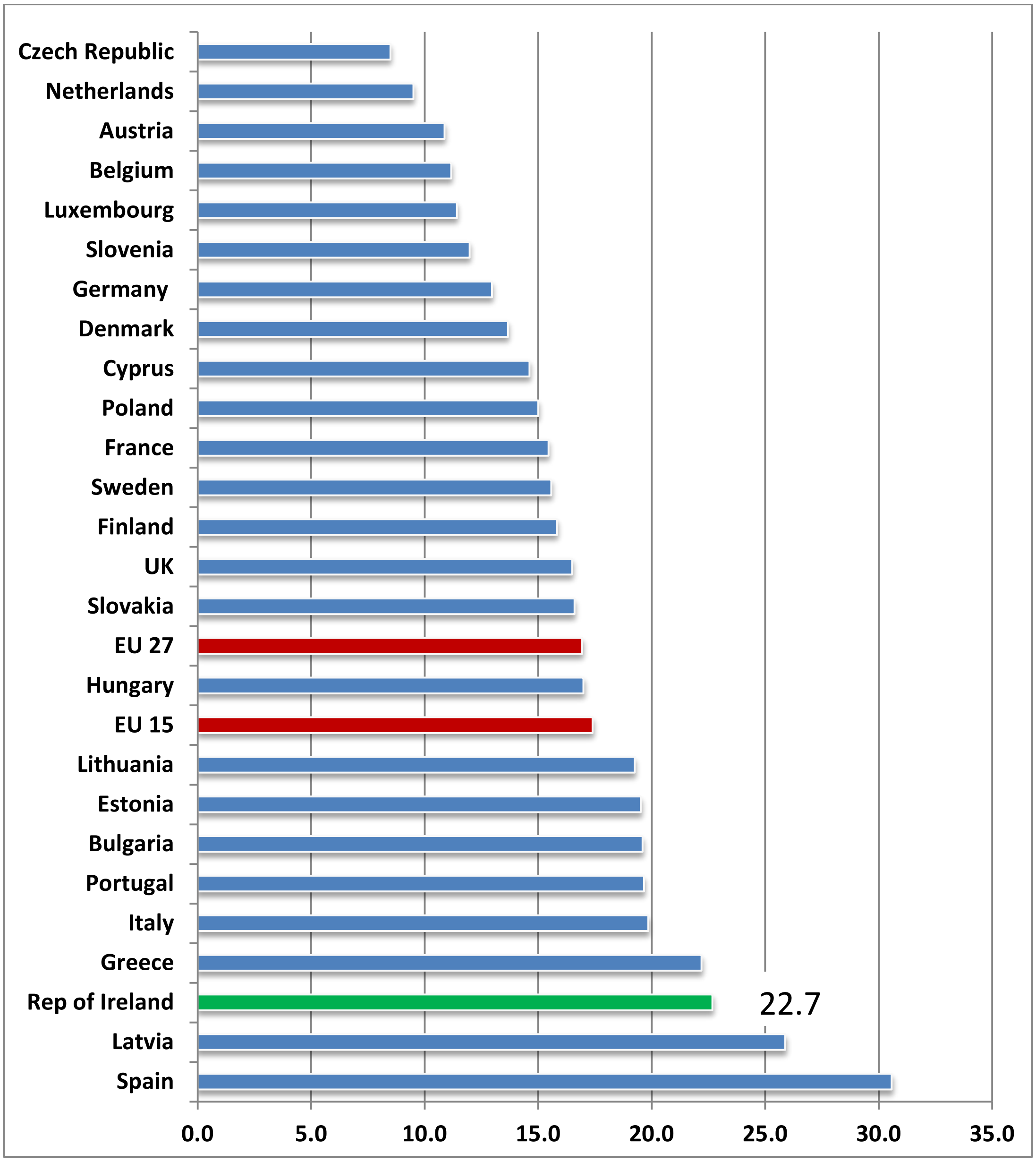


Table 2.4 Rates Unemployment/Under-employment, 2011

Country	%	Country	%
Spain	30.6	Finland	15.8
Latvia	25.9	Sweden	15.6
Republic of Ireland	**22.7**	France	15.5
Greece	22.2	Poland	15.0
Italy	19.9	Cyprus	14.6
Portugal	19.7	Denmark	13.7
Bulgaria	19.6	Germany	13.0
Estonia	19.5	Slovenia	12.0
Lithuania	19.3	Luxembourg	11.4
EU 15	17.4	Belgium	11.2
Hungary	17.0	Austria	10.9
EU 27	16.9	Netherlands	9.5
Slovakia	16.6	Czech Republic	8.5
United Kingdom	16.5		

Interpretation

As job opportunities narrow an increasing number of workers drop out of the labour market, defined as all persons at work or actively seeking, and available for, work. Adding together all persons in employment including under-employed, unemployed (ILO definition), persons available for work but not actively seeking work (discouraged workers) and persons not immediately available but seeking work it is possible to estimate the total rate of unemployment and under-employment as a proportion of the 'wide labour force'.

Technical Notes

Underemployed part-time workers are persons working part-time who wish to work additional hours and are available to do so. Part-time work is recorded as self-reported by individuals.

Persons seeking work but not immediately available are the sum of persons neither employed nor unemployed who: (a) are actively seeking work during the last 4 weeks but not available for work in the next 2 weeks; or (b)found a job to start in less than 3 months and are not available for work in the next 2 weeks; or (c) found a job to start in 3 months or more; or (d)are passively seeking work during the last 4 weeks and are available for work in the next 2 weeks.

Persons available to work but not seeking are persons neither employed nor unemployed who want to work, are available for work in the next 2 weeks but are not seeking work.

Source(s)

Eurostat online database here (codes lfsa_ugan, lfsi_act_a, lfsi_sup_age_a).

Indicator 2.5a Under-employment over Time (Republic of Ireland)

Indicator defined

Rates of unemployment (ILO definition) and total under-employment including unemployment

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is Q1 of 2012. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 2.5 Rates of Under-employment and Unemployment since 2008 – ROI

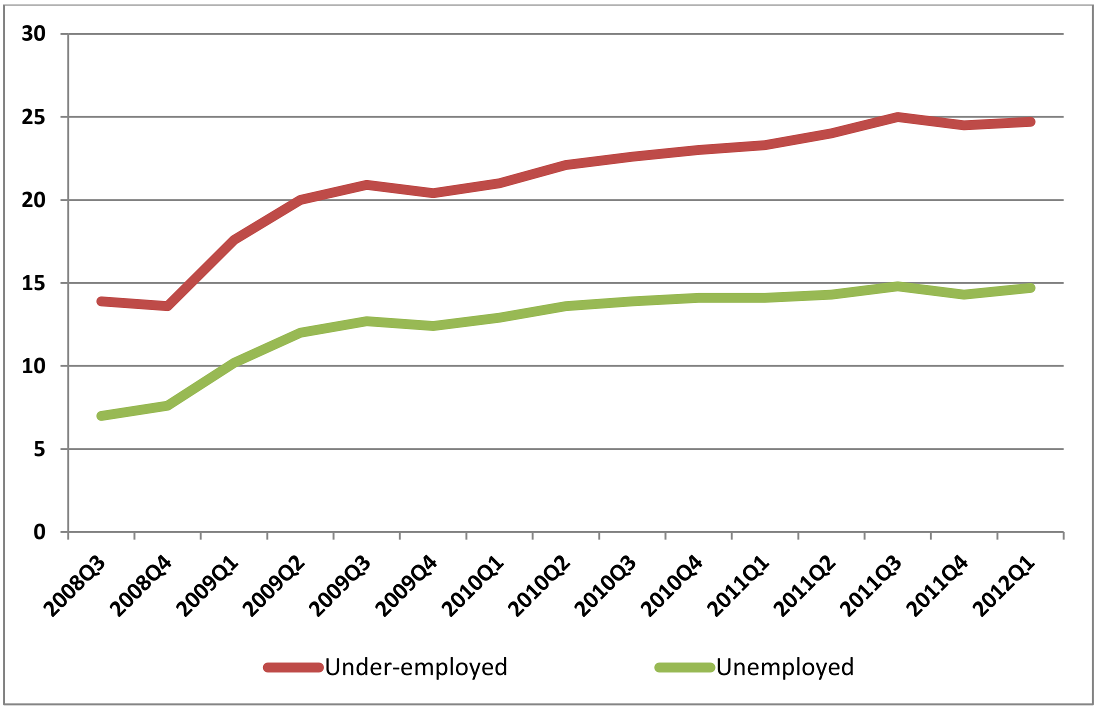


Table 2.5 Rates of Under-employment and Unemployment since 2008 - ROI

Period	Unemployed	Under-Employed S3
2008 Q3	7.0	13.9
2008 Q4	7.6	13.6
2009 Q1	10.2	17.6
2009 Q2	12.0	20.0
2009 Q3	12.7	20.9
2009 Q4	12.4	20.4
2010 Q1	12.9	21.0
2010 Q2	13.6	22.1
2010 Q3	13.9	22.6
2010 Q4	14.1	23.0
2011 Q1	14.1	23.3
2011 Q2	14.3	24.0
2011 Q3	14.8	25.0
2011 Q4	14.3	24.5
2012 Q1	14.7	24.7

Interpretation

As job opportunities narrow an increasing number of workers drop out of the labour market defined as all persons at work or actively seeking, and available for, work. Adding together all persons in employment including under-employed, unemployed (ILO definition) and persons available for work but not actively seeking work (discouraged workers) and persons not immediately available but seeking work it is possible to estimate the total rate of unemployment and under-employment as a proportion of the 'wide labour force'.

Technical Notes

S1: Unemployed plus discouraged workers as a percentage of the Labour Force plus discouraged workers

S2: Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work as a percentage of the Labour Force plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work.

S3: Unemployed plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work plus underemployed part-time workers as a percentage of the Labour Force plus marginally attached plus others not in education who want work.

Source(s)

CSO Quarterly National Household Survey March 2012 (Table 9a3 and Table S7) here**.**

Indicator 2.5b Under-employment over Time (Northern Ireland)

Indicator defined

Number of workers who work part-time because they could not find full-time work and numbers of workers who are unemployed

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is Q1 of 2012. Data extracted on 13 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 2.5b Numbers of involuntary part-time workers and unemployed workers 2008-12

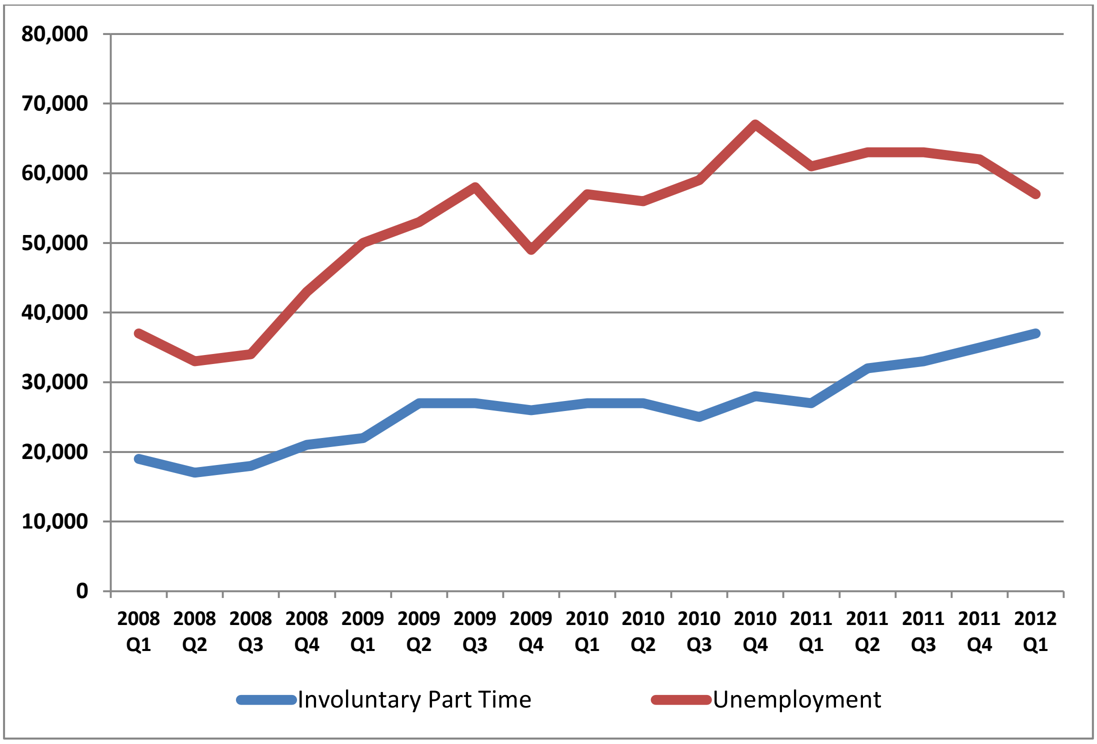


Table 2.5b Numbers of involuntary part-time workers and unemployed workers, 2008-12

Quarter	Involuntary Part Time	Unemployed
2008 Q1	19,000	37,000
2008 Q2	17,000	33,000
2008 Q3	18,000	34,000
2008 Q4	21,000	43,000
2009 Q1	22,000	50,000
2009 Q2	27,000	53,000
2009 Q3	27,000	58,000
2009 Q4	26,000	49,000
2010 Q1	27,000	57,000
2010 Q2	27,000	56,000
2010 Q3	25,000	59,000
2010 Q4	28,000	67,000
2011 Q1	27,000	61,000
2011 Q2	32,000	63,000
2011 Q3	33,000	63,000
2011 Q4	35,000	62,000
2012 Q1	37,000	57,000

Interpretation

This indicator shows the number of part-time workers who state their reason for working part-time as not being able to find full-time work. These workers will be counted as employed for national statistics but they are not employed to the level they wish to be. This is distinct from workers who chose part-time as a lifestyle choice such as a parent with young children or students in higher education. Also shown is the numbers unemployed, showing that while traditional unemployment measures may be stabilising this not the only measure of labour market health.

Technical Notes

The measure of underemployment that this indicator refers to is time related underemployment and is ILO defined as those who, during the reference period used to define employment, were willing to work additional hours, were available to work additional hours, and whose hours actually worked in all jobs during the reference period were below a threshold to be determined according to national circumstances.

Source(s)

Northern Ireland LFS Quarterly Supplement, Northern Ireland Labour Market Report May 2012.

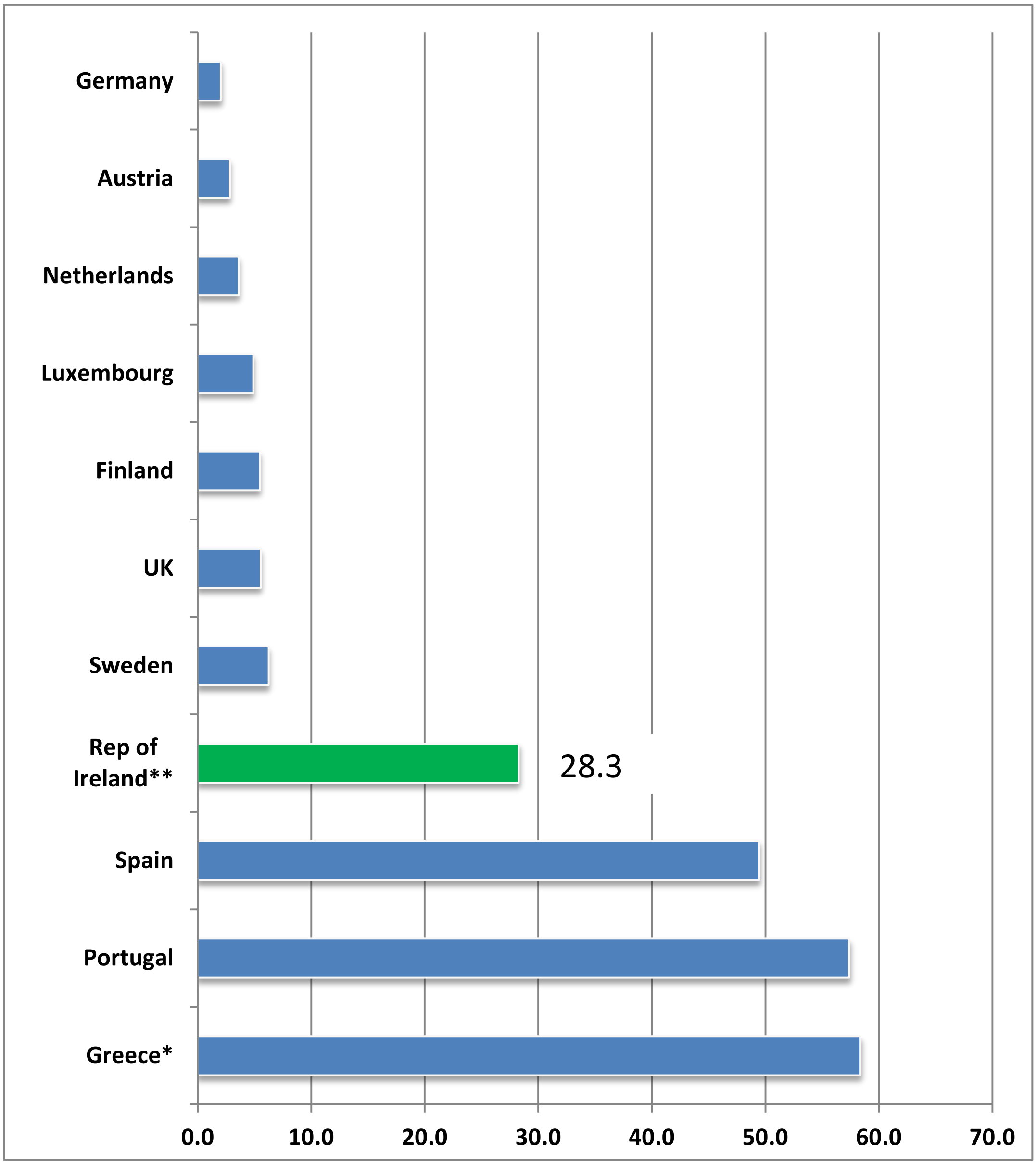
Indicator 2.6 Unemployed Persons per Job Vacancy (Republic of Ireland)

Indicator defined

Ratio of the number of unemployed to the number of job vacancies

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is Q4 of 2011. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 2.6 Ratio of unemployed to job vacancies in the fourth quarter of 2011 – EU15



Notes: *Q3 2011 is used for Greece. **Irish vacancies are inferred from the vacancy rate.

Table 2.6 Ratio of unemployed to job vacancies in the fourth quarter of 2011, EU15

Country	Ratio
Greece*	58.4
Portugal	57.4
Spain	49.5
Republic of Ireland**	**28.3**
Sweden	6.3
United Kingdom	5.6
Finland	5.5
Luxembourg	4.9
Netherlands	3.6
Austria	2.9
Germany	2.0

Notes: *Q3 2011 is used for Greece. **Irish vacancies are inferred from the vacancy rate.

Interpretation

The ratio of unemployed to job vacancies is an inverse measure of the extent of labour market tightness. The higher the ratio, the less opportunity unemployed individuals have to find employment.

Technical Notes

Data are published by the European Commission on a quarterly basis. Two sources are used for this indicator: the EU Job Vacancy survey and the Labour Force Survey (both undertaken by Eurostat).

Stock of *unemployed*: unadjusted, age 15-74. ILO definition.

Stock of *job vacancies*: number of paid posts that are newly created, unoccupied, or about to become vacant for which the employer is taking active steps and is prepared to take further steps to find a suitable candidate from outside the enterprise concerned, and which the employer intends to fill either immediately or within a specific period of time. Agriculture and the public sector are excluded from the stock of job vacancies. Data are not available for Belgium, Denmark, France, and Italy.

Source(s)

Eurostat (jvs_q_nace2 and lfsq_ugan)

3 Labour Costs

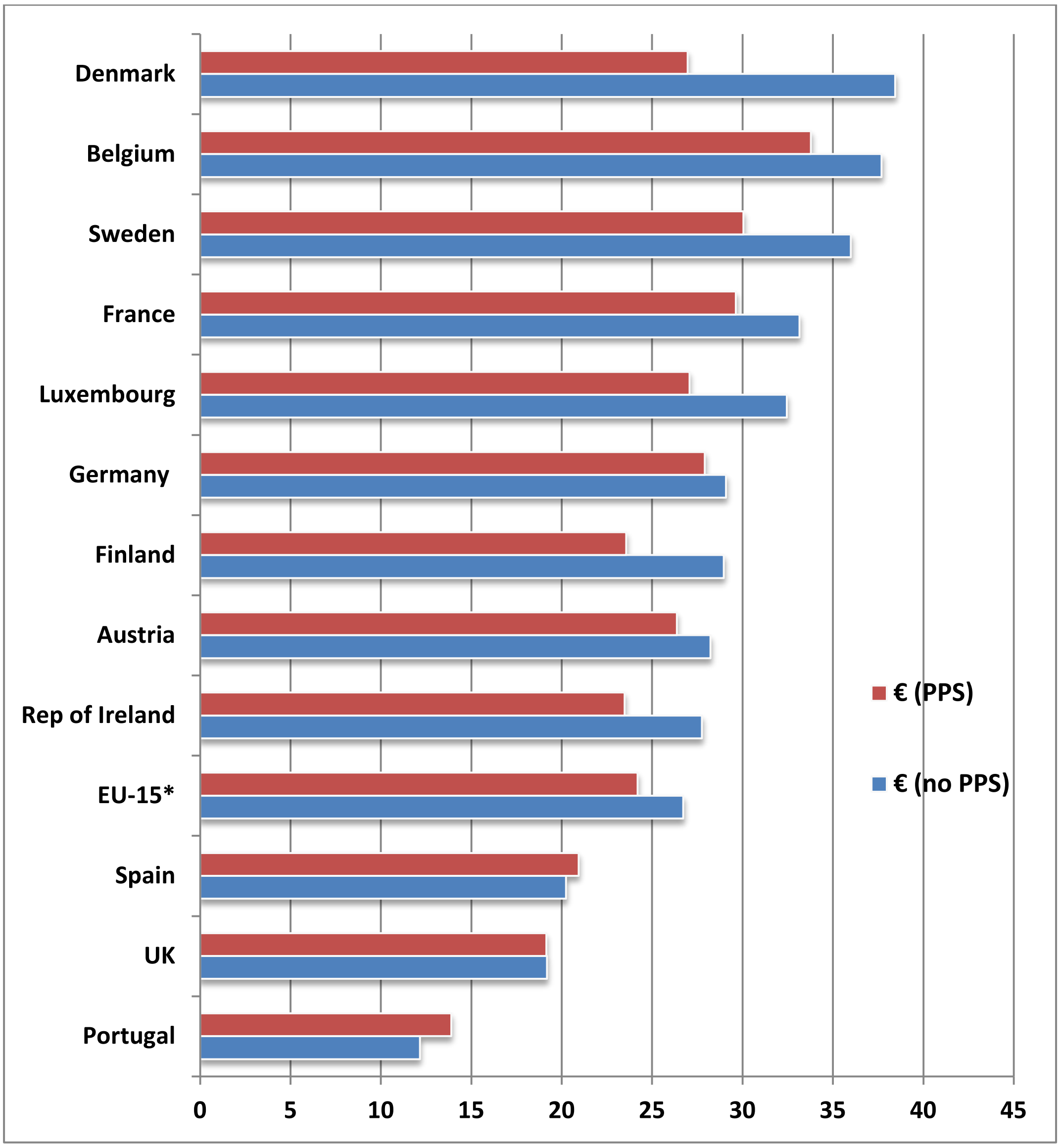
Indicator 3.1a Cost of Employing Labour across Advanced EU Economies (EU15)

Indicator defined

Hourly cost of employing labour for the Business Economy (Euro with, and without, adjustment for differences in cost of living PPS)

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2010. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 3.1a Hourly Labour Costs – Business Economy (EU15) in 2010



Note: EU-15* refers to 12 countries. Data for 2010 were not available for the following EU15 countries: Greece, Italy and Netherlands

Table 3.1a Hourly Labour Costs – Business Economy (EU15)

	€ (no PPS)	€ (PPS)
Denmark	38.44	26.97
Belgium	37.70	33.79
Sweden	35.99	30.05
France	33.15	29.64
Luxembourg	32.46	27.07
Germany	29.10	27.92
Finland	28.97	23.57
EU15 average *	**28.62**	**25.24**
Austria	28.23	26.37
Republic of Ireland	**27.76**	**23.48**
Spain	20.25	20.94
United Kingdom	19.20	19.15
Portugal	12.17	13.90

Note: * Data for 2010 were not available for the following EU15 countries: Greece, Italy and Netherlands. Therefore, average is for 12 countries only.

Interpretation

Comparative data on what it costs to employ labour may be presented in a number of ways. In this presentation the focus is on the cost per hour adjusted, and not adjusted, for differences in the cost of living in a country as measured by PPS – the purchasing power standard estimated by Eurostat. The PPS method attempts to correct for differences in prices between countries.

Technical Notes

The total business economy includes all sectors of industry and services excluding public administration. Agriculture is not included.

Data for Greece, Italy and Netherlands were not available for 2010. Greece reported €17.70 in 2009 (latest year available), Italy reported €24.41 in 2008 and Netherlands reported 29.23 in 2008.

Source(s)

Eurostat online database here (code lc_an_cost_r2).

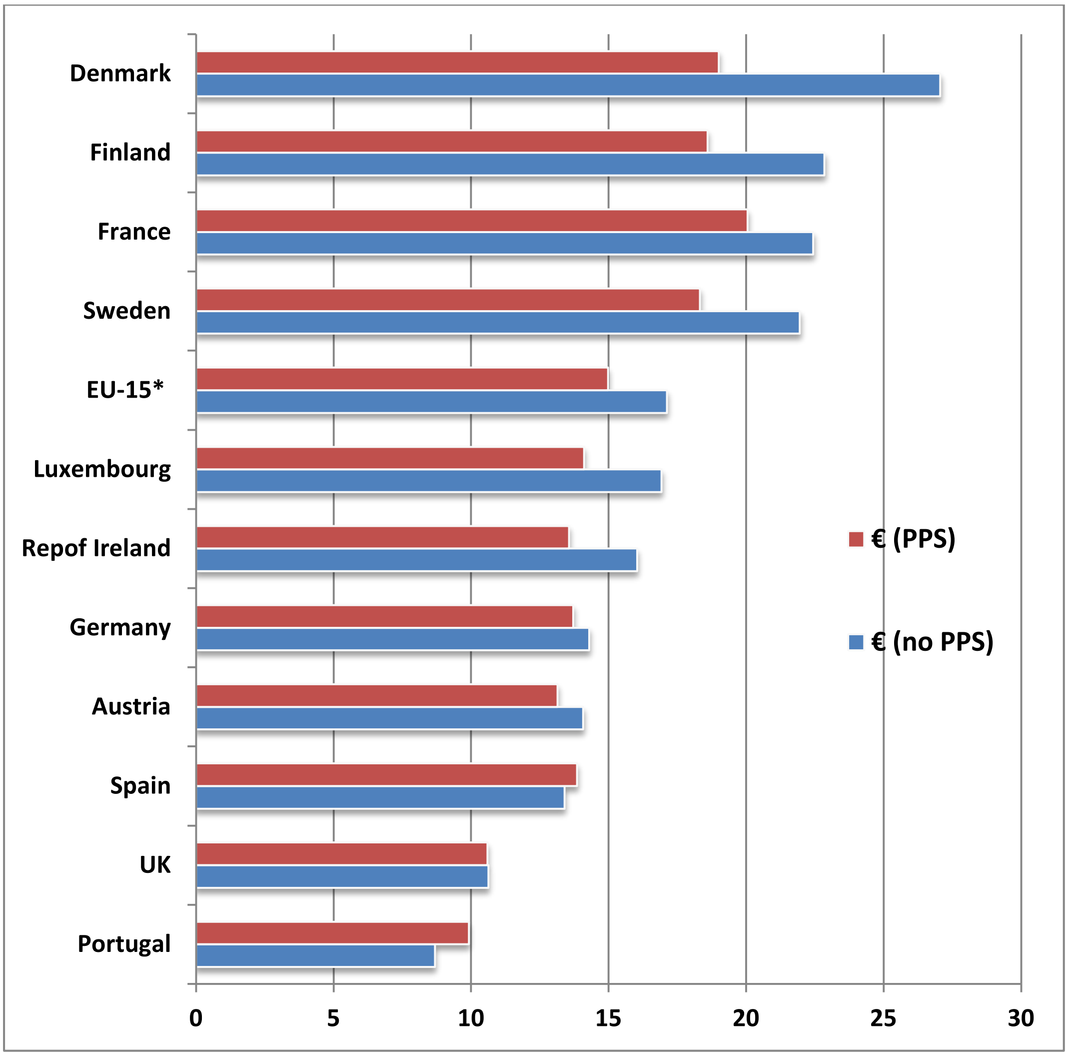
Indicator 3.1b Cost of Employing Labour in the Accommodation and Food Sectors across Advanced EU Economies (EU15)

Indicator defined

Hourly cost of employing labour for the Accommodation and Food Sector (Euro with, and without, adjustment for differences in cost of living PPS)

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2010. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 3.1b Hourly Labour Costs – Accommodation and Food sector (EU15)



Note: EU-15* refers to 11 countries. Data for 2010 were not available for the following EU15 countries: Belgium, Greece, Italy and Netherlands

Table 3.1b Hourly Labour Costs – Accommodation and Food sector (EU15)

	€ (no PPS)	€ (PPS)
Denmark	27.06	19.01
Finland	22.85	18.60
France	22.44	20.06
Sweden	21.96	18.33
EU15 average*	**17.13**	**14.99**
Luxembourg	16.93	14.11
Republic of Ireland	**16.04**	**13.57**
Germany	14.30	13.72
Austria	14.08	13.15
Spain	13.40	13.86
United Kingdom	10.63	10.60
Portugal	8.69	9.92

Note: *EU-15 refers to 11 countries. Data for 2010 were not available for the following EU15 countries: Belgium, Greece, Italy and Netherlands

Interpretation

See interpretation for indicator 3.1a, above.

Technical Notes

See notes for indicator 3.1a, above

Source(s)

Eurostat online database here (code lc_an_cost_r2).

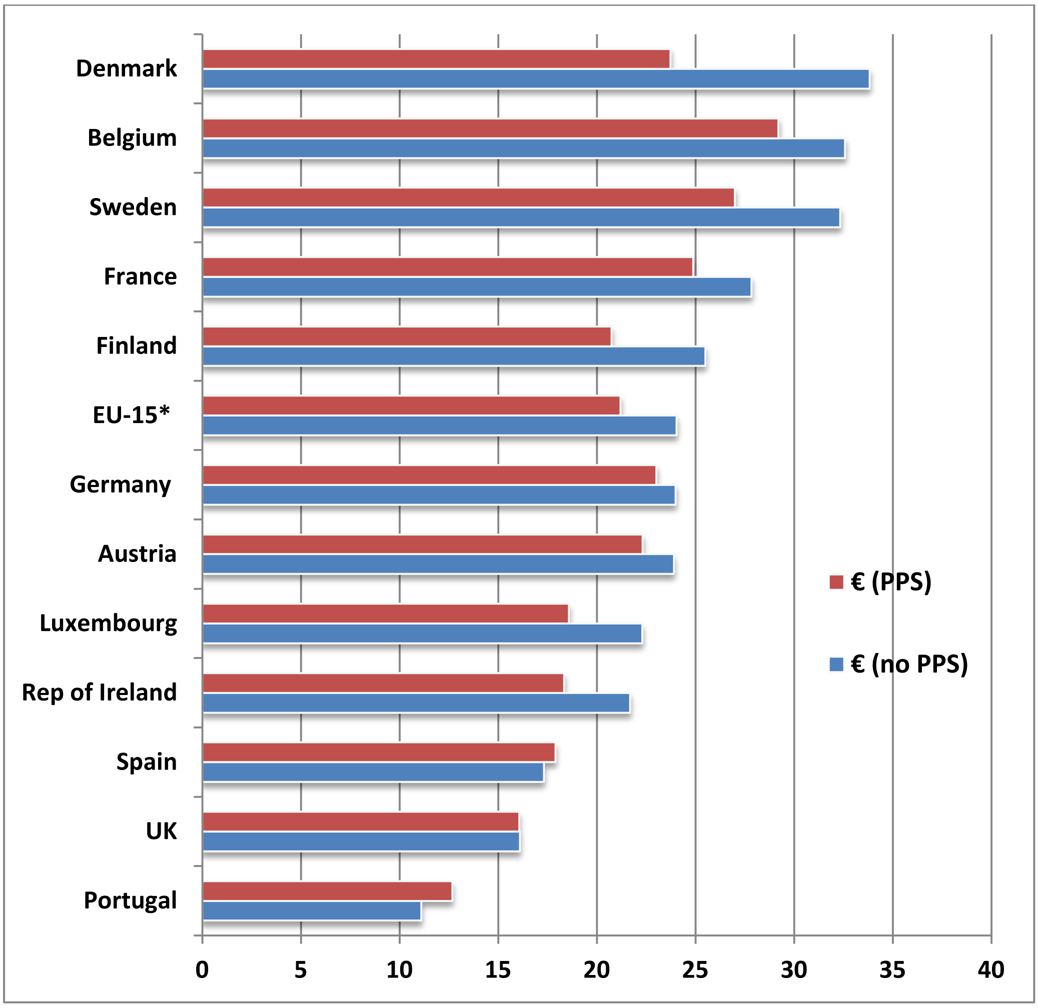
Indicator 3.1c Cost of Employing Labour in the Wholesale and Retail Trade Sectors across Advanced EU Economies (EU15)

Indicator defined

Hourly cost of employing labour in the wholesale and retail trade including the repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles sector (Euro with, and without, adjustment for differences in cost of living PPS)

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2010. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 3.1c Hourly Labour Costs – Wholesale and retail trade (EU15)



Note: EU-15* refers to 12 countries. Data for 2010 were not available for the following EU15 countries: Greece, Italy and Netherlands

Table 3.1c Hourly Labour Costs – Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (EU15)

	€ (no PPS)	€ (PPS)
Denmark	33.83	23.74
Belgium	32.59	29.21
Sweden	32.34	27.00
France	27.84	24.89
Finland	**25.50**	**20.75**
EU15 average*	24.05	21.21
Germany	24.00	23.03
Austria	23.91	22.33
Luxembourg	22.31	18.6
Republic of Ireland	**21.69**	**18.35**
Spain	17.32	17.91
United Kingdom	16.11	16.07
Portugal	11.11	12.68

Note: * Data for 2010 were not available for the following EU15 countries: Greece, Italy and Netherlands. Therefore, average is for 12 countries only.

Interpretation

See interpretation for indicator 3.1a, above.

Technical Notes

See notes for indicator 3.1a, above

Source(s)

Eurostat online database here (code lc_an_cost_r2).

Indicator 3.2a Comparing Labour Costs in the Civil Service across OECD countries (Clerical Officer)

Indicator defined

Total cost of 'Executive Staff' in Central Government in 2009 (US dollars at constant purchasing power parity)

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2009. Data were extracted on 13 March 2012. The next update is due in 2013.

Chart 3.2a Total cost of employing 'clerical officers' in the civil service US$, 2009

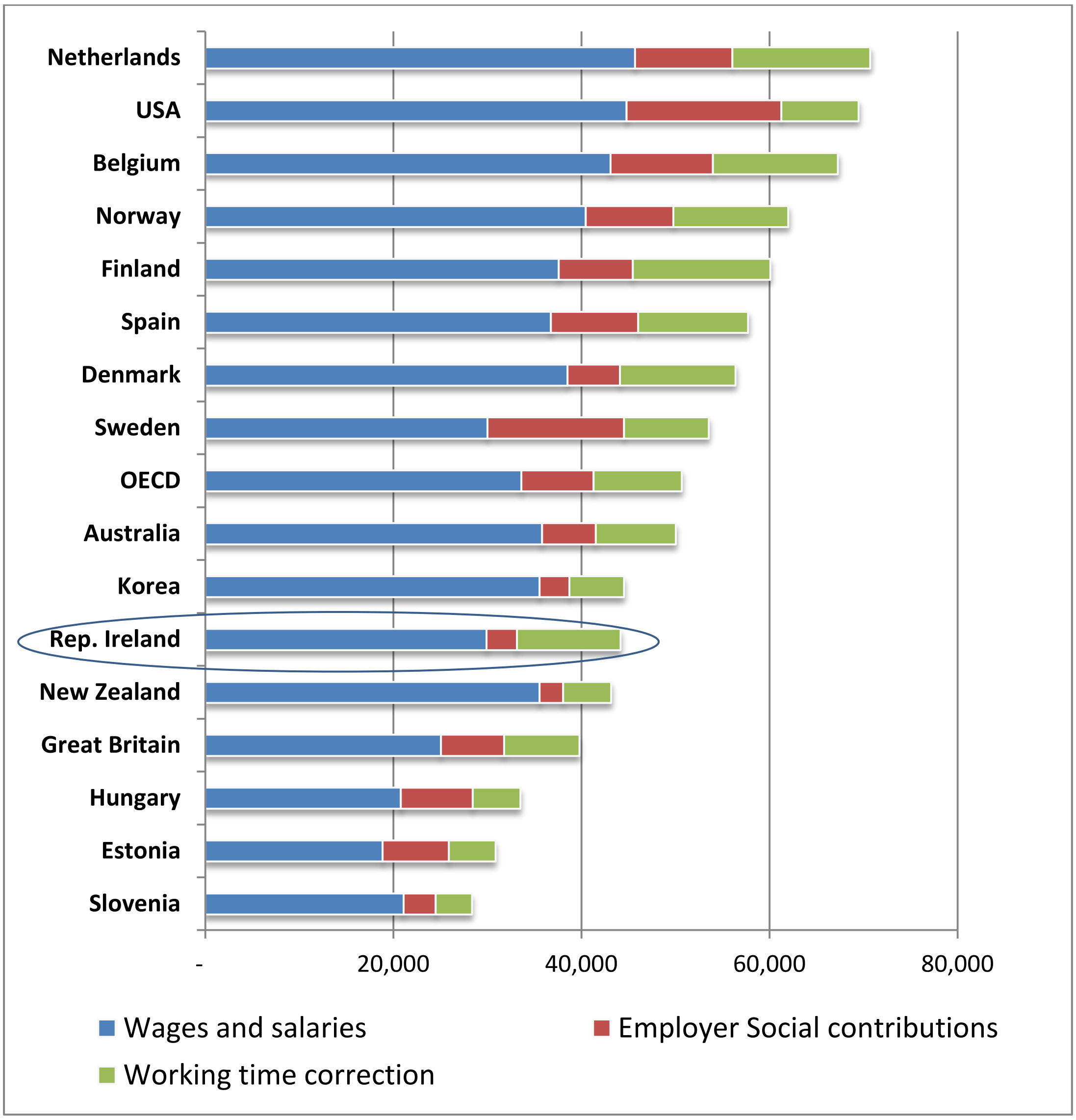


Table 3.2a Total cost of employing 'Clerical Officers' in the civil service US$- 2009 (US Dollars at constant purchasing power parity)

	Wages and salaries	Employer Social contributions	Working time correction	Total
Netherlands	45,717	10,363	14,640	70,720
USA	44,808	16,471	8,197	69,476
Belgium	43,099	10,903	13,297	67,298
Norway	40,473	9,302	12,238	62,014
Finland	37,609	7,865	14,615	60,089
Spain	36,772	9,267	11,707	57,746
Denmark	38,550	5,552	12,293	56,394
Sweden	30,034	14,511	9,011	53,556
OECD	33,631	7,678	9,369	50,678
Australia	35,831	5,701	8,529	50,062
Korea	35,575	3,151	5,808	44,534
Republic of Ireland	**29,940**	**3,219**	**11,026**	**44,184**
New Zealand	35,579	2,476	5,136	43,191
Great Britain	25,075	6,719	7,996	39,791
Hungary	20,806	7,646	5,081	33,533
Estonia	18,874	7,029	4,974	30,877
Slovenia	21,117	3,400	3,865	28,381

Interpretation

Comparisons of the cost of employing staff across countries is challenging. In its publication *Government at a Glance*, OECD provides comparative data in relation to the earnings and cost of employing certain categories of staff in the General Government sector according to an internationally agreed classification of occupations (ISCO-88). This indicator presents data for just one category – the grade of Clerical Officer or its equivalent in other countries. The comparison indicates that average cost per employee is lower in the Republic of Ireland than the average across reporting OECD countries. The data are expressed in US dollars corrected for differences in the cost of living and refer to the year 2009. The impact of pay cuts in the public service in the Republic in 2010 are not, therefore, captured in this comparison.

Source(s)

Government at a Glance, OECD, Paris. Download table here**.** It used the 2010 OECD Survey on Compensation of Employees in Central/Federal Governments, OECD STAN database. For further country-specific information as well as details on the methodology used see Annex D (available here). Further details on the calculation and composition of this indicator are available in appendix 1.

Indicator 3.2b Comparing Labour Costs in the Civil Service across OECD countries (Principal Officer)

Indicator defined

Total cost of 'Senior Manager Staff' (PO) in Central Government in 2009 (US dollars at constant purchasing power parity)

The reference period for the latest available data used in this indicator was 2009. Data were extracted on 13 March 2012. The next update is due in 2013.

Chart 3.2b Total cost of employing 'principal officers' in the civil service US$ - 2009

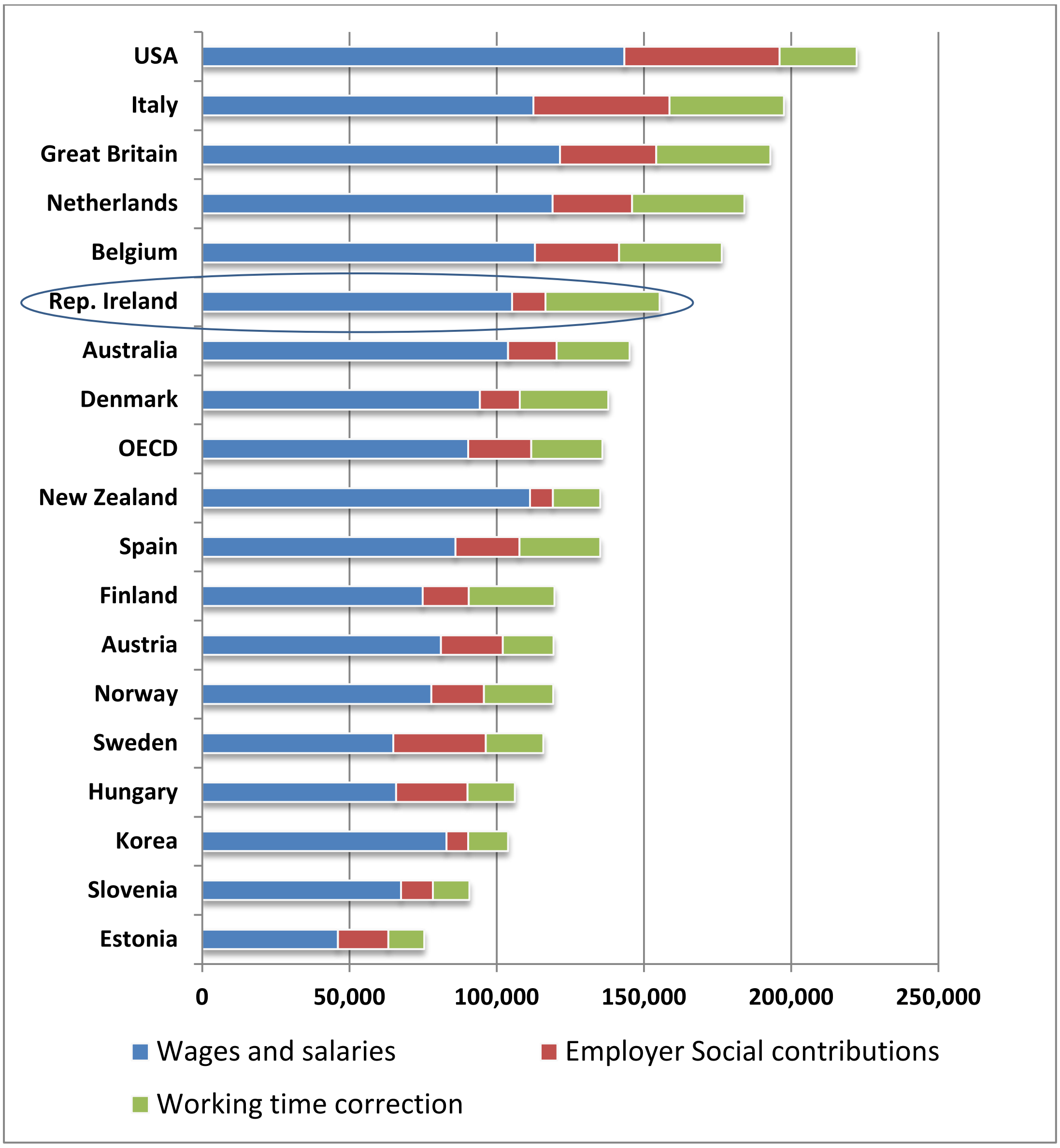


Table 3.2b Total cost of employing 'principal officers' in the civil service US$- 2009 (US Dollars at constant purchasing power parity)

	Wages and salaries	Employer Social contributions	Working time correction	Total
USA	143,369	52,702	26,228	222,299
Italy	112,471	46,219	38,847	197,538
Great Britain	121,579	32,578	38,769	192,926
Netherlands	119,043	26,983	38,121	184,148
Belgium	113,011	28,588	34,865	176,464
Republic of Ireland	105,246	11,314	38,759	155,319
Australia	103,891	16,531	24,731	145,152
Denmark	94,291	13,579	30,068	137,938
OECD	90,360	21,453	24,083	135,896
New Zealand	111,346	7,749	16,072	135,167
Spain	86,059	21,687	27,399	135,145
Finland	74,869	15,657	29,094	119,620
Austria	81,100	21,044	17,160	119,304
Norway	77,806	17,883	23,527	119,216
Sweden	64,987	31,398	19,496	115,881
Hungary	65,905	24,220	16,093	106,218
Korea	82,985	7,351	13,548	103,884
Slovenia	67,541	10,874	12,360	90,776
Estonia	46,097	17,169	12,149	75,415

Interpretation

Refer to notes for indicator 3.2a above.

Technical Notes

Principal Officers (or equivalent grades) in the civil service in Ireland are coded by OECD as upper middle managers (ISCO-08 12) or 'D3' staff. Refer to Appendix 1 for further details.

Source(s)

Government at a Glance, OECD, Paris. Download table here.

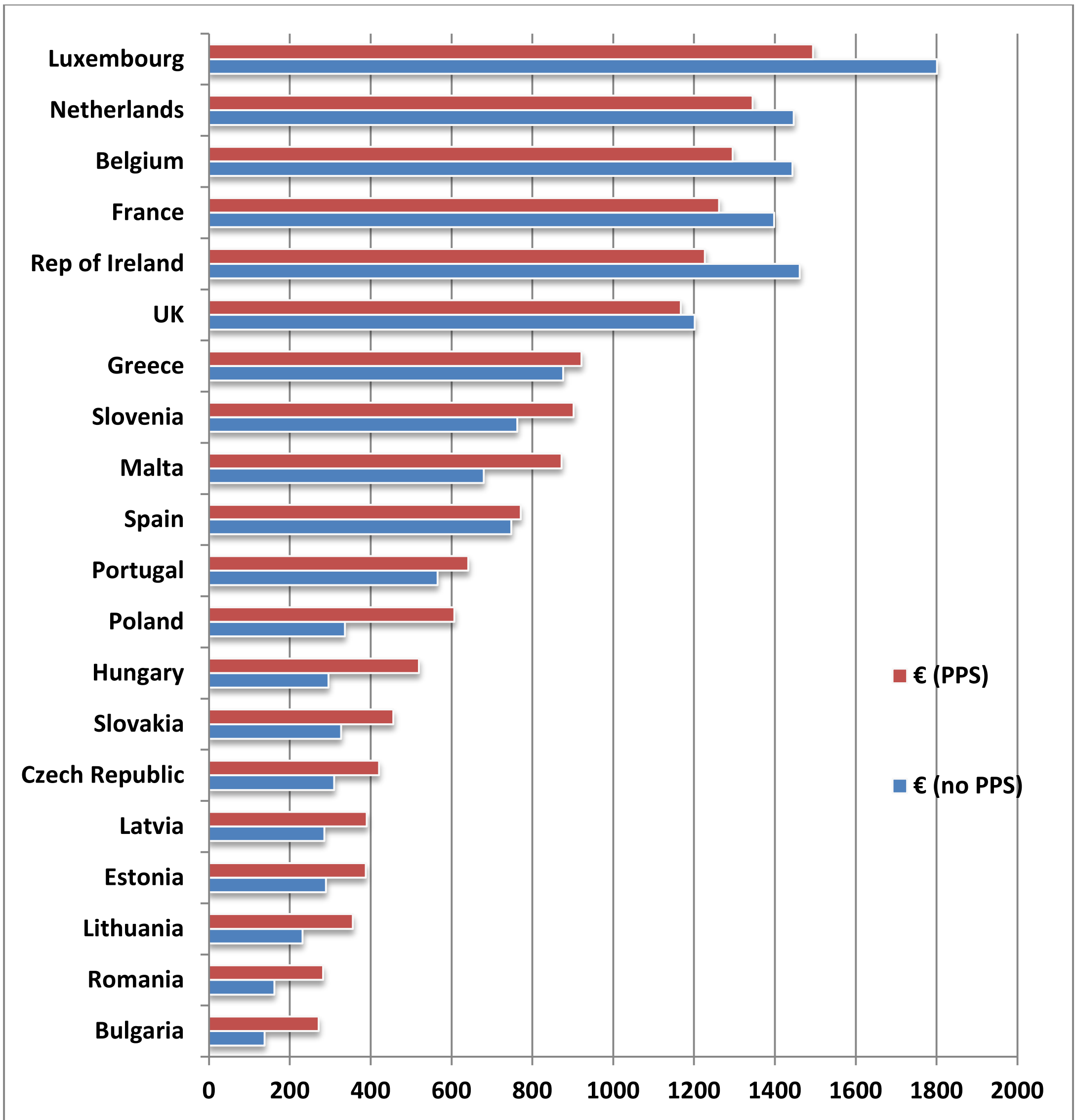
Indicator 3.3 Comparisons of National Minimum Wage across the EU

Indicator defined

Monthly national minimum wages across the EU (Euro with, and without, adjustment for differences in cost of living PPS)

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is the first half of 2012. Data extracted on 11 June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 3.3 Monthly National Minimum Wage across EU27



Note: Austria, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, and Sweden do not have a statutory national minimum wage.

Table 3.3 Monthly National Minimum Wage across EU27

	€ (no PPS)	€ (PPS)
Luxembourg	1801.49	1494.93
Netherlands	1446.6	1345
Belgium	1443.54	1296.17
France	1398.37	1262.32
Republic of Ireland	**1461.85**	**1227.38**
United Kingdom	1201.96	1167.8
Greece	876.62	921.88
Slovenia	763.06	902.47
Malta	679.87	872.26
Spain	748.3	771.25
Portugal	565.83	641.89
Poland	336.47	607.04
Hungary	295.63	520.04
Slovakia	327	456.48
Czech Republic	310.23	420.79
Latvia	285.92	390.83
Estonia	290	387.87
Lithuania	231.7	355.96
Romania	161.91	282.67
Bulgaria	138.05	271.85

Note: Austria, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, and Sweden do not have a statutory national minimum wage.

Interpretation

National monthly minimum wages, adjusted for prices, reflect the minimum standard of living that a full-time employed worker can expect. Minimum wages (adjusted or not for prices) are not a suitable measure of labour cost competitiveness. This is as: many high pay countries without statutory minimum wages have de facto minimum wages; minimum wages do not include other labour costs, such as social insurance, which are low in Ireland; monthly wages depend on hours worked which vary across countries. In general, labour costs data gives a better indication of labour cost competitiveness (see indicators 3.1a, 3.1b, 3.1c, 3.2a, 3.2b)

Technical Notes

Belgium and Greece have a national minimum wage which is set by national intersectoral agreements. Eurostat includes both countries in the data collection as the minimum wage is fairly universal in coverage. For Ireland, France, the United Kingdom the minimum wage is fixed at an hourly rate, and for Malta the minimum wage is fixed at a weekly rate. These have been converted to a monthly rate.

Source(s)

Eurostat online database here (code earn_mw_cur).

Indicator 3.4 A Profile of Economic Inactivity among those who want to work in Northern Ireland

Indicator defined

Reasons for economic inactivity in Northern Ireland among those who want to work

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is Q1 2011. Data extracted on 13 of June 2012. Next update due on or before the next edition of this publication.

Chart 3.4 Reasons for Economic Inactivity, 1995-2011

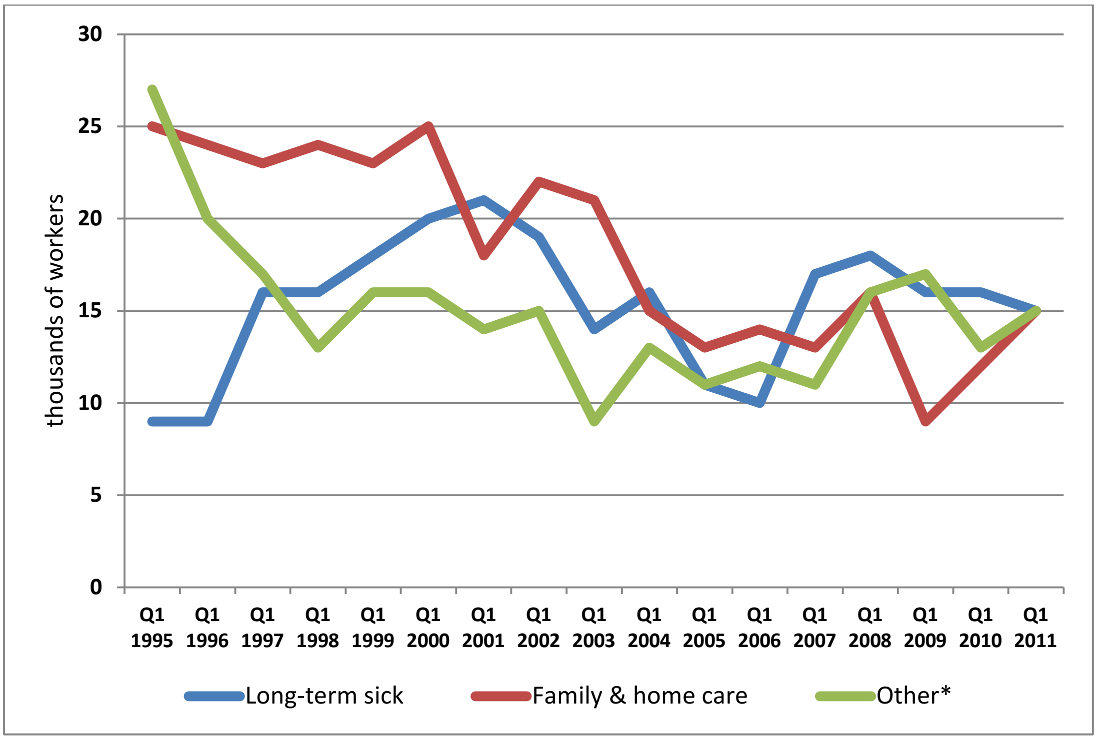


Table 3.4 Reasons for Economic Inactivity, 1995-2011 (000's of workers)

Quarter	Long-term sick	Family & home care	Other*	Total
Q1 1995	9	25	27	61
Q1 1996	9	24	20	53
Q1 1997	16	23	17	56
Q1 1998	16	24	13	53
Q1 1999	18	23	16	57
Q1 2000	20	25	16	61
Q1 2001	21	18	14	53
Q1 2002	19	22	15	56
Q1 2003	14	21	9	44
Q1 2004	16	15	13	44
Q1 2005	11	13	11	35
Q1 2006	10	14	12	36
Q1 2007	17	13	11	41
Q1 2008	18	16	16	50
Q1 2009	16	9	17	42
Q1 2010	16	12	13	41
Q1 2011	15	15	15	45

Interpretation

The indicator gives reasons for economic inactivity among those who want a job. Northern Ireland has higher levels of economic inactivity compared to the UK. What the data show is a convergence (an absolute convergence in the latest quarter) of the reasons why those who want to work remain outside the workforce.

Technical Notes

The grouping above is taken from economically inactive workers aged 16+. Of these the graph and chart are based on those who want a job but had not sought employment in the previous four weeks.

Source(s)

Northern Ireland Labour Force Survey Key data Historical Series (1992-2011) here

4 Distribution of Income and Wealth

Indicator 4.1 Income per capita in the EU

Indicator defined

National income (GDP) in per capita (per head of population) terms expressed in Euro and adjusted for differences in cost of living (PPS)

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2010. Data accessed on 20th June 2012. Next update, for 2011 in nominal and PPS terms, due in late-2012.

Chart 4.1 GDP per capita in the EU, 2010 in € and €PPS terms

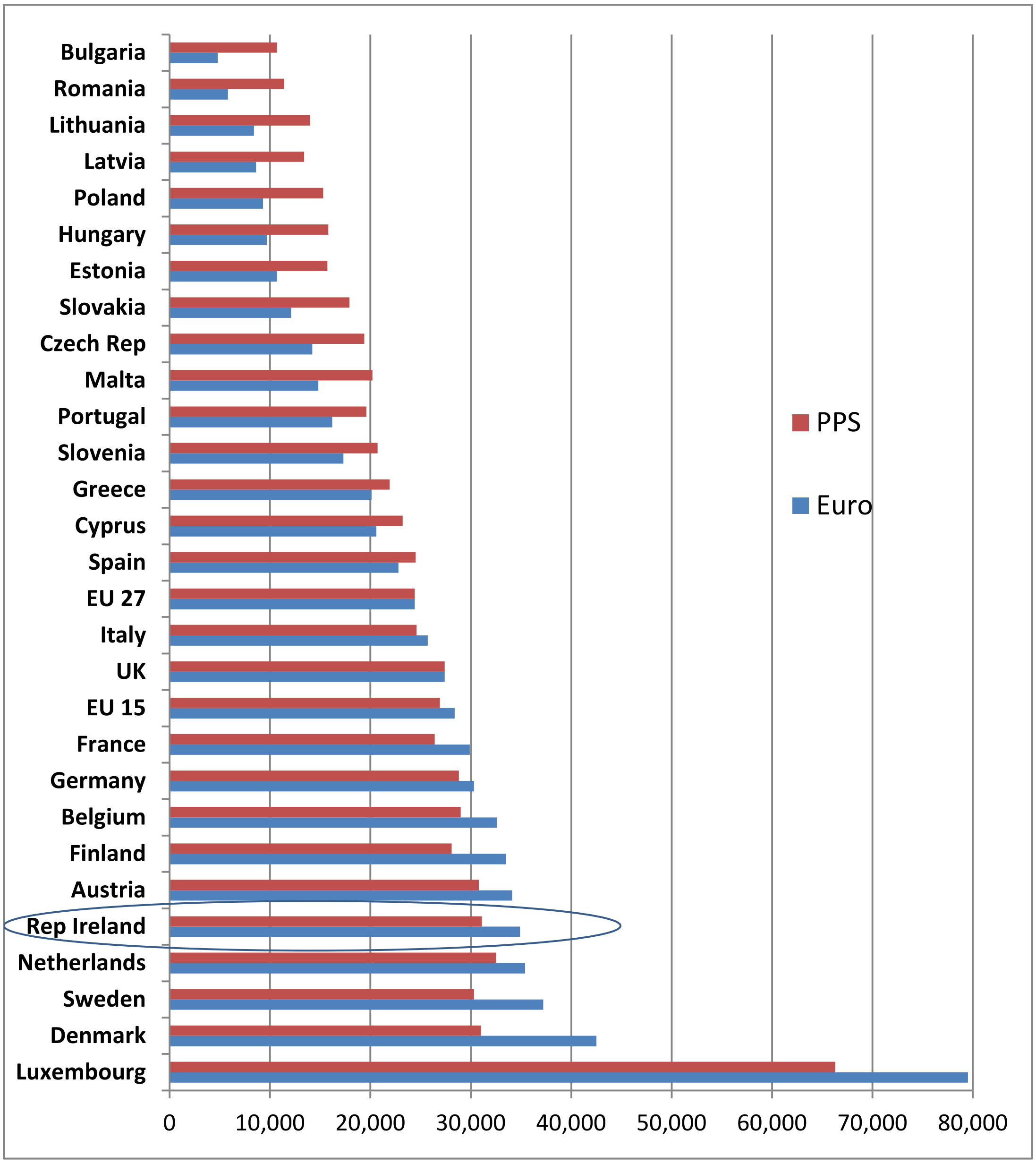


Table 4.1 GDP per capita in the EU, 2010

Country	€	€PPS	Country	€	€PPS
Luxembourg	79,500	66,300	Slovenia	17,300	20,700
Denmark	42,500	31,000	Portugal	16,200	19,600
Sweden	37,200	30,300	Malta	14,800	20,200
Netherlands	35,400	32,500	Czech Republic	14,200	19,400
Rep Ireland	**34,900**	**31,100**	Slovakia	12,100	17,900
Austria	34,100	30,800	Estonia	10,700	15,700
Finland	33,500	28,100	Hungary	9,700	15,800
Belgium	32,600	29,000	Poland	9,300	15,300
Germany	30,300	28,800	Latvia	8,600	13,400
France	29,900	26,400	Lithuania	8,400	14,000
UK	27,400	27,400	Romania	5,800	11,400
Italy	25,700	24,600	Bulgaria	4,800	10,700
Spain	22,800	24,500			
Cyprus	20,600	23,200	EU 15	28,400	26,900
Greece	20,100	21,900	EU 27	24,400	24,400

Interpretation

GDP measures the value of all activities in the economy and the table and chart above provide values for this measure in 2010 on a per capita basis (divided by the population of the country). The GDP per capita figure for the Republic of Ireland was €34,900 in 2010, the fifth highest in the EU. Using Gross National Product, a measure which somewhat takes account of the income earned in Ireland and subsequently repatriated by multinational companies, the CSO reported Ireland's GNP per capita for 2010 as €28,677. In the UK GDP per capita in 2010 was equivalent to €27,400. There are no GDP figures available for Northern Ireland.

While the above data details the average levels of income, the remainder of this section examines the distribution of income and wealth.

Technical Notes

As the real value of a Euro differs between countries, given variations in price levels, the data is also presented in PPS terms – the purchasing power standard estimated by Eurostat. The PPS method attempts to correct for differences in prices between countries and therefore gives a more comparable picture of the buying power of income.

Source(s)

Eurostat online database, GDP per capita - Annual Data [variable: nama_aux_gph]

Indicator 4.2a Income Distribution over Time (Republic of Ireland)

Indicators defined

Two measures are used to summarise the income distribution:

1. **The Gini coefficient** – an index ranging from 0 to 100 where 0 represents a perfectly equal distribution of income and 100 represents a perfectly unequal distribution (i.e. all the income is received by one individual).
2. **The income quintile ratio** – compares the % of the total disposable income received by individuals in the bottom 20% (quintile) of the income distribution to that received by the top 20%.

Simply, the greater these numbers, the greater the level of income inequality.

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator 2010. Next update, for 2011, due in late 2012.

Chart 4.2a(i) Gini coefficient

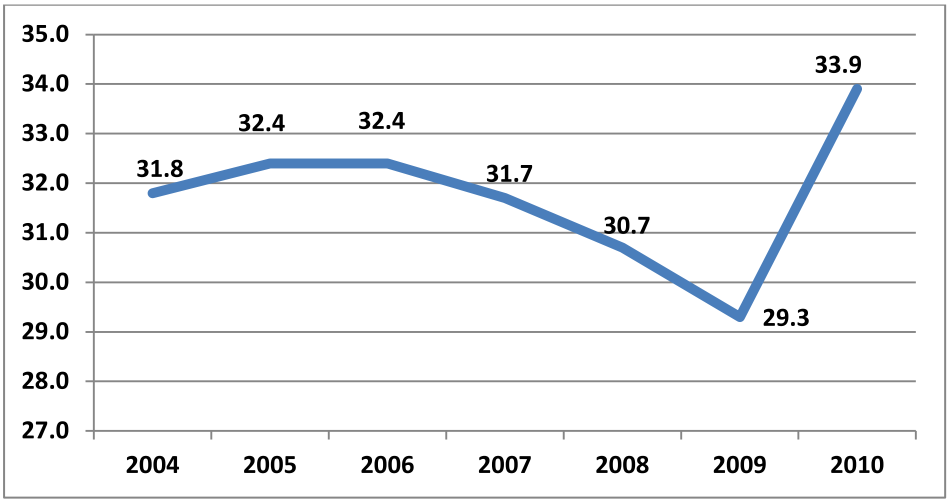


Chart 4.2a (ii) Income quintile ratio

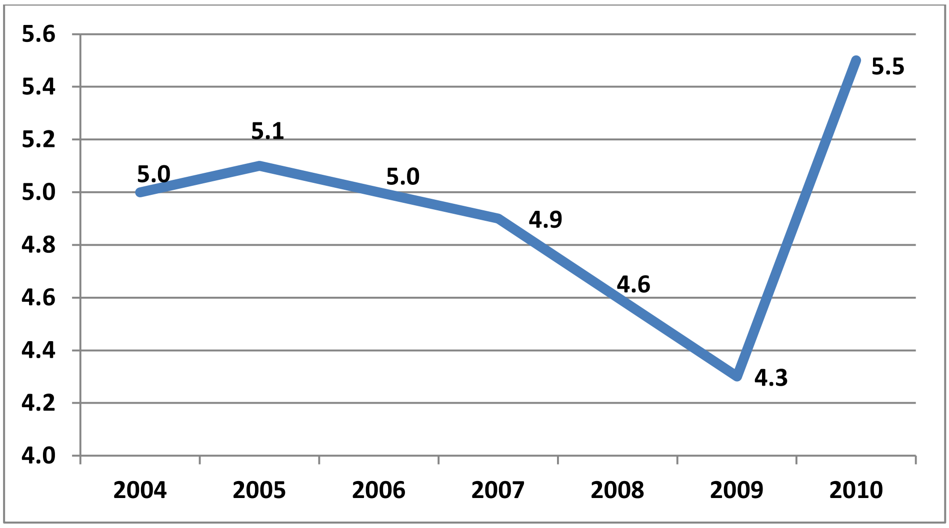


Table 4.2a Gini coefficient and income quintile ratio for Ireland's income distribution, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Gini coefficient	31.8	32.4	32.4	31.7	30.7	29.3	33.9
Income quintile ratio	5.0	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.6	4.3	5.5

Interpretation

Between 2004 and 2007 Ireland's income distribution was reasonably static with only small movements in both the measures reported above. Subsequently, during 2008 and 2009, the gap between the top and bottom quintile (20%) narrowed meaning income inequality fell to its lowest level since the introduction of the CSO's annual Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC). Between 2009 and 2010 there was a marked increase in income inequality with the income of the top quintile climbing from 4.3 to 5.5 times that of the bottom quintile while the Gini coefficient increased from 29.3 to 33.9.

Technical Notes

The data used to compile these figures comes from the CSO's Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC). This survey, which has been carried out annually since 2004, collects data on a representative sample of the national population with the latest survey in 2010 providing data on over 11,500 individuals in approximately 5,000 households. The income data used is disposable income, representing the income individuals have to spend once they have paid all their income taxes and received any welfare entitlements. This income data has also been equivalised, or weighted, to account for differences in household size and composition using the national equivalence scale. Further details on the SILC survey and its income variables are available from the CSO documents and website references below.

Source(s)

CSO (2012) Survey on Income and Living Conditions – Results, 2010. Dublin, Stationery Office.
CSO SILC website: www.cso.ie/en/silc/

Indicator 4.2b Income Distribution in Northern Ireland

Indicator defined

The distribution of total weekly household income in Northern Ireland in the period 2010-11.

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator for the period 2010-11 (published in June 2012). The next update of this data is due in mid-2013.

Chart 4.2b The Distribution of Total Weekly Income in Northern Ireland by Household Income Range, 2010-11

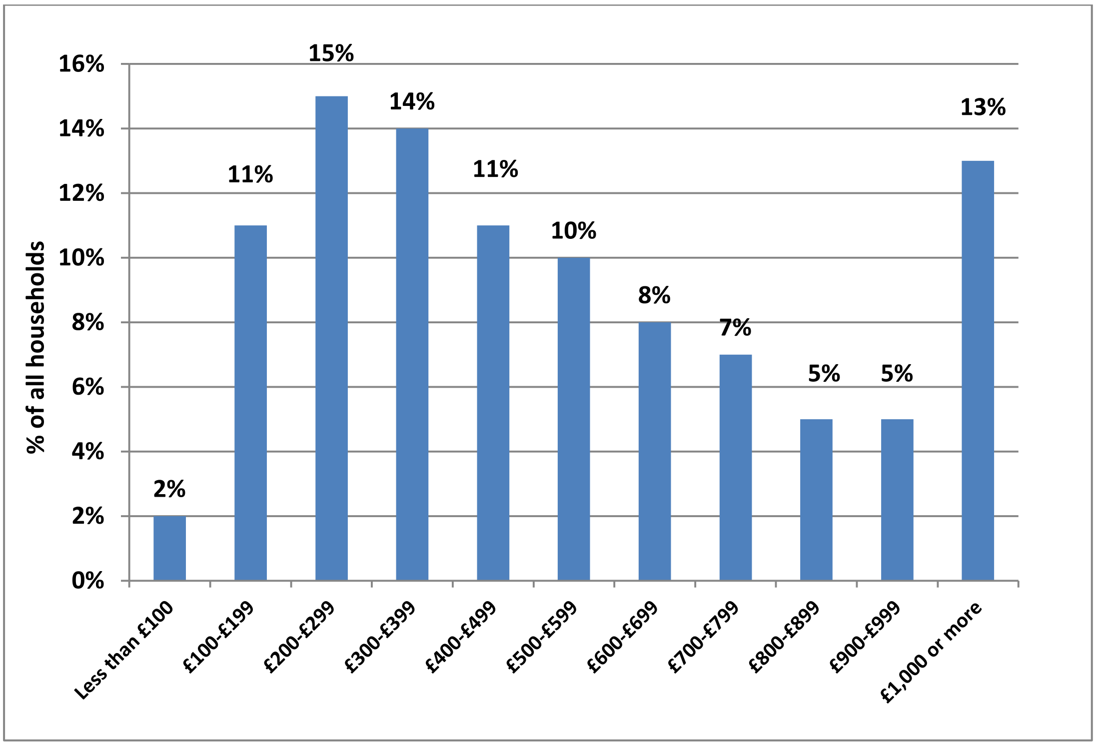


Table 4.2b The Distribution of Total Weekly Income in Northern Ireland by Household Income Range.

Weekly income range	2009-10	2010-11
Less than £100	2%	2%
£100-£199	12%	11%
£200-£299	16%	15%
£300-£399	14%	14%
£400-£499	11%	11%
£500-£599	8%	10%
£600-£699	8%	8%
£700-£799	7%	7%
£800-£899	4%	5%
£900-£999	4%	5%
£1,000 or more	14%	13%

Note: Columns may sum to more than 100% due to data rounding

Interpretation

Income distribution data comparable to that presented in indicator 4.2a is not available for Northern Ireland. However, the results of the annual UK wide Family Resources Survey provide an insight into the distribution of income across households in Northern Ireland. Using the latest data, for the financial year 2010-11, the results presented above show that 53% of households have an income of less than £500 per week (£26,000 per annum).

Technical Notes

Total weekly household income captures the income received by all household members from all sources including wages and salaries, state benefits, payable tax credits, private (occupational and personal) pension schemes and investments. The data is collected as part of the annual Family Resources Survey (FRS) by the Office of National Statistics. FRS represents the UK input into the European Union Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC). The 2010-11 survey for Northern Ireland comprises 1,896 households. The sample in 2009-10 was 2,041.

Source(s)

Family Resources Survey 2010-11 (published June 2012) and 2009-10 (published May 2011) is available at **http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/frs/**

Indicator 4.3a Average and Median Income over Time (Republic of Ireland)

Indicator defined

Average and median household disposable income (after taxes and transfers).

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator 2010. Next update, with data for 2011, due in late 2012.

Chart 4.3a Average Household Disposable Income, 2004-2010

Table 4.3a Average and Median Household Disposable Income, 2004-2010

Year	Average Household Disposable Income	Median Household Disposable Income
2004	38,631	
2005	40,497	
2006	43,646	
2007	47,988	
2008	49,043	
2009	45,959	38,255
2010	43,333	34,222

Note: Median income data only available for the years 2009 and 2010.

Interpretation

The CSO's Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) commenced in 2003 and has provided full year data from 2004 onwards for household and individual incomes in Ireland. This indicator examines household disposable income representing the income a household has to spend after it has received all its incomes from employment, self-employment, investment and social transfers and after it has paid all its income taxation.

Between 2004 and 2008 average household incomes increased from €38,631 to just over €49,000 (almost 27%) reflecting increases in earnings, enhanced welfare payments and decreases in income taxation levels. The recession has seen this trend reversed with average disposable household incomes falling back to 2006 levels by 2010.

As the level of average household disposable incomes can be biased by household with very high, or very low, incomes, data for the median household is also presented. This data, only published for 2009 and 2010, provides income data for the middle household in the Irish society. Between 2009 and 2010 this decreased by over €4,000 (10.5%) to €34,222 per annum.

Technical Notes

See indicator 4.2a.

Source(s):

See indicator 4.2a.

Indicator 4.3b Average and Median Income over time by Gender (Republic of Ireland)

Indicator defined

Average and median individual equivalised disposable income (after taxes and transfers).

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator 2010. Next update, with data for 2011, due in late 2012.

Chart 4.3b Average Income for Males and Females, 2006-2010.

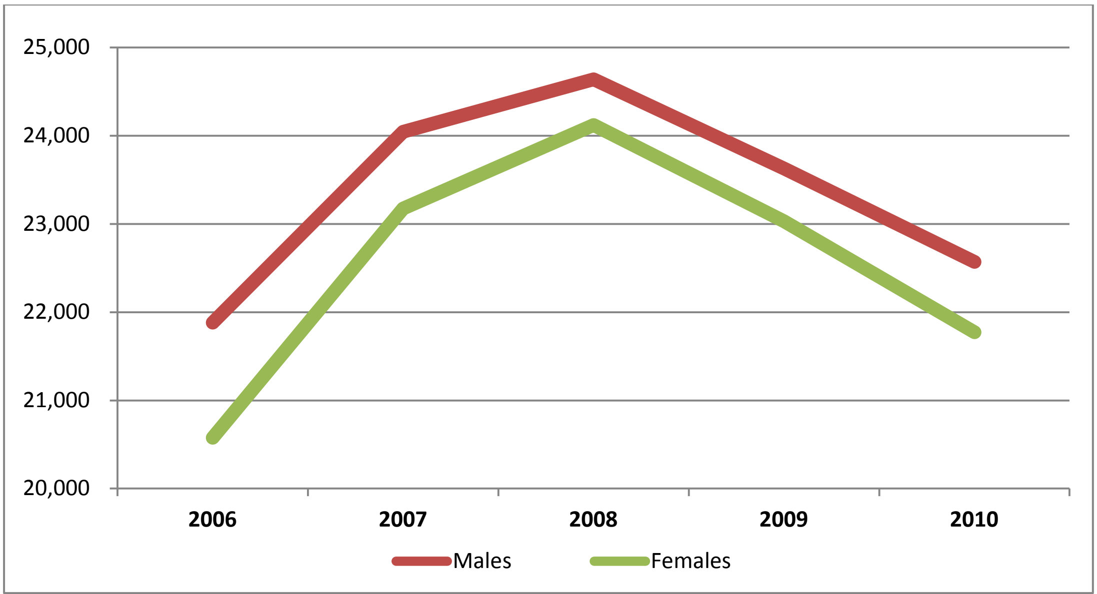


Table 4.3b Average and Median Income for Males and Females, 2006-2010 (€)

Year	Average All	Average Males	Average Females	Median All	Median Males	Median Females
2006	21,229	21,882	20,577			
2007	23,610	24,046	23,173			
2008	24,380	24,640	24,121			
2009	23,326	23,627	23,029	20,107	20,568	19,699
2010	22,168	22,569	21,773	18,051	18,554	17,739

Note: Median income data only available for the years 2009 and 2010.

Interpretation

This indicator used data from the CSO's Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) to examine the gender distribution of income in Ireland since 2006. The data is based on total household income (see indicator 4.3a) adjusted to take account of the number of adults and children in the households (see technical note below).

Throughout the period male and female incomes follow a similar trend. However, male incomes consistently exceed female incomes by between 2-6% per annum. Incomes peaked in 2008 and have since declined by 9% on average (by 8.4% for males and 9.7% for females) reflecting decreases in earnings, reduced welfare payments and increases in income taxation levels.

As the level of average individual equivalised disposable income can be biased by individuals in the income distribution with very high, or very low, incomes, data for the median person is also presented. This data, only published for 2009 and 2010, provides income data for the middle person, middle male and middle female in the Irish income distribution. On average, between 2009 and 2010 this decreased by over €2,000 (10.2%) to €18,051 per annum.

Technical Notes

The data used to compile these figures comes from the CSO's Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) as detailed in indicator 4.2a. Total household disposable income is adjusted to take account of the composition of households (number of adults and children) using the national equivalence scale. Post this adjustment, the CSO report individual income, or income per adult equivalent, which is used for this indicator.

Source(s):

See indicator 4.2a.

Indicator 4.4 Wealth per Capita across Selected EU countries

Indicator defined

Wealth per capita is measured using net financial assets per person

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator 2010. Data accessed on 22nd June 2012. Next update, for 2011 due in late-2012.

Chart 4.4 Net Financial Assets per Person

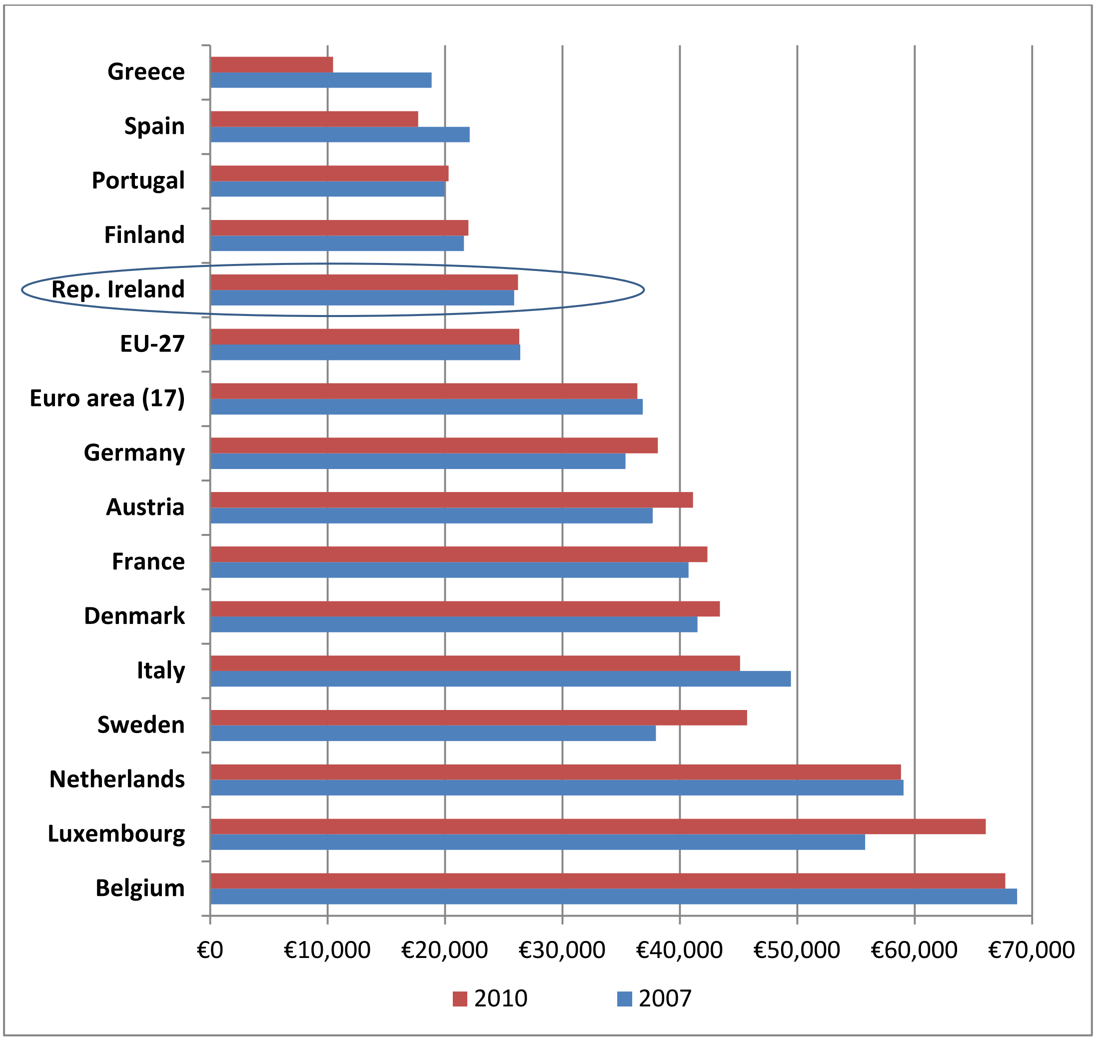


Table 4.4 Net Financial Assets per person

	2007	2010
Belgium	€68,720	€67,737
Luxembourg	€55,775	€66,048
Netherlands	€59,045	€58,836
Sweden	€37,976	€45,723
Italy	€49,469	€45,124
Denmark	€41,518	€43,423
France	€40,739	€42,351
Austria	€37,695	€41,119
Germany	€35,384	€38,120
Euro area (17)	€36,846	€36,395
EU-27	€26,410	€26,332
Rep. Ireland	**€25,896**	**€26,226**
Finland	€21,624	€21,985
Portugal	€19,950	€20,315
Spain	€22,106	€17,721
Greece	€18,865	€10,466

Interpretation

Despite the financial crisis, net financial wealth per person has been remarkably stable across Europe. In *net* terms, the per person financial wealth of Republic of Ireland residents is at the EU-27 average, though considerably less than wealthier Eurozone average. The average resident in Ireland owned €26,226 of financial wealth (such as cash, bank deposits, or shares) in 2010. This does not include non-financial wealth such as property. It should be noted that these are *net average* figures, and consequently they give no indication as to the severe financial strain under which many households are suffering.

Technical Notes

UK is omitted due to lack of data. The value of this indicator is calculated by taking Eurostat figures for a countries total consolidated net financial assets of households and non-profit institutions serving households and dividing this by the population as of 1st January of the relevant year.

Source(s)

Eurostat online database here [variables nasa_f_bs and demo_pjan].

Indicator 4.5 Share of Wages in Total Income (Selected Countries)

Indicator defined

Adjusted wage share of GDP

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator 2011.

Chart 4.5 Share of wages as a % GDP (1960-2011)

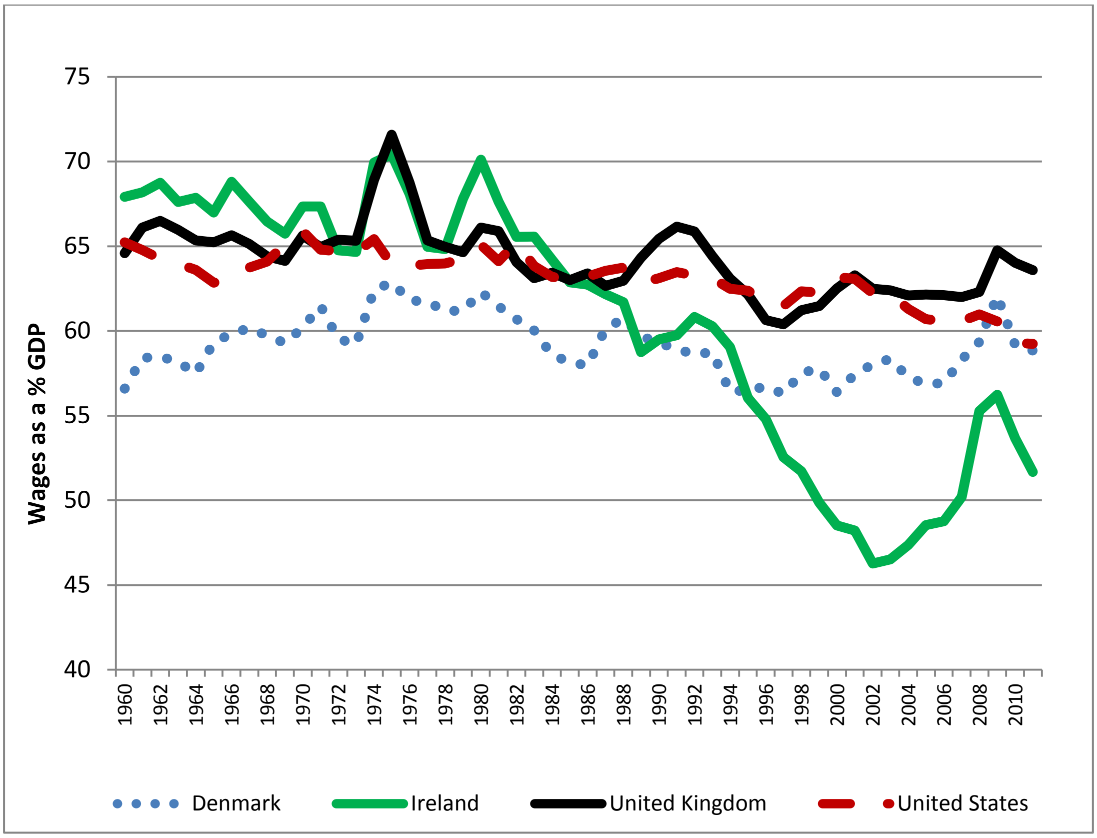


Table 4.5 Share of wages as a % GDP (1960-2011)

Year	Denmark	Ireland	UK	US	EU-27	Euro-17
1960	56.6	67.9	64.6	65.2	n/a	n/a
1970	60.2	67.4	65.6	65.9	n/a	n/a
1980	62.3	70.1	66.1	65.1	n/a	n/a
1985	58.2	62.9	63.0	63.1	n/a	n/a
1990	59.3	59.5	65.4	63.1	n/a	n/a
1991	58.9	59.8	66.2	63.5	n/a	n/a
1992	58.6	60.8	65.9	63.3	n/a	n/a
1993	58.7	60.3	64.4	63.1	n/a	n/a
1994	56.4	59.1	63.1	62.5	n/a	n/a
1995	56.5	56.0	62.1	62.4	59.6	59.6
1996	56.7	54.8	60.6	61.7	59.3	59.3
1997	56.3	52.5	60.4	61.5	58.8	58.7
1998	57.5	51.7	61.2	62.3	58.5	58.1
1999	57.8	49.9	61.5	62.3	58.5	58.1
2000	56.4	48.5	62.5	63.2	58.8	58.1
2001	57.5	48.2	63.3	63.1	58.9	57.9
2002	58.0	46.3	62.5	62.2	58.6	57.8
2003	58.3	46.5	62.4	62.2	58.4	57.7
2004	57.3	47.4	62.1	61.3	57.8	57.1
2005	56.9	48.5	62.2	60.7	57.4	56.6
2006	56.9	48.8	62.1	60.6	56.9	56.0
2007	58.3	50.2	62.0	60.6	56.5	55.4
2008	59.4	55.3	62.3	61.0	57.1	56.3
2009	62.1	56.2	64.8	60.6	58.9	58.1
2010	59.2	53.7	64.0	59.3	58.0	57.3
2011	58.8	51.7	63.6	59.2	57.7	57.0

Interpretation

The wage share is determined by capital intensity, technology and institutional factors. Globally there has been a general decline in the wage share, but Ireland's sharp decline followed by partial recovery is unique.

Technical Notes

The wage share is the total compensation of employees (wages plus social insurance) divided by GDP. The wage share is adjusted by AMECO to account for self-employed workers.

Source(s)

AMECO online database (ALCD0)

Indicator 4.6a Distribution of Earnings (Republic of Ireland)

Indicator defined

Distribution of tax cases (individuals or couples who are jointly assessed) by total gross income for the tax year 2009.

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator the tax year 2009. Next update due late 2012 for the 2010 tax year.

Chart 4.6a Distribution of Tax Cases by income range

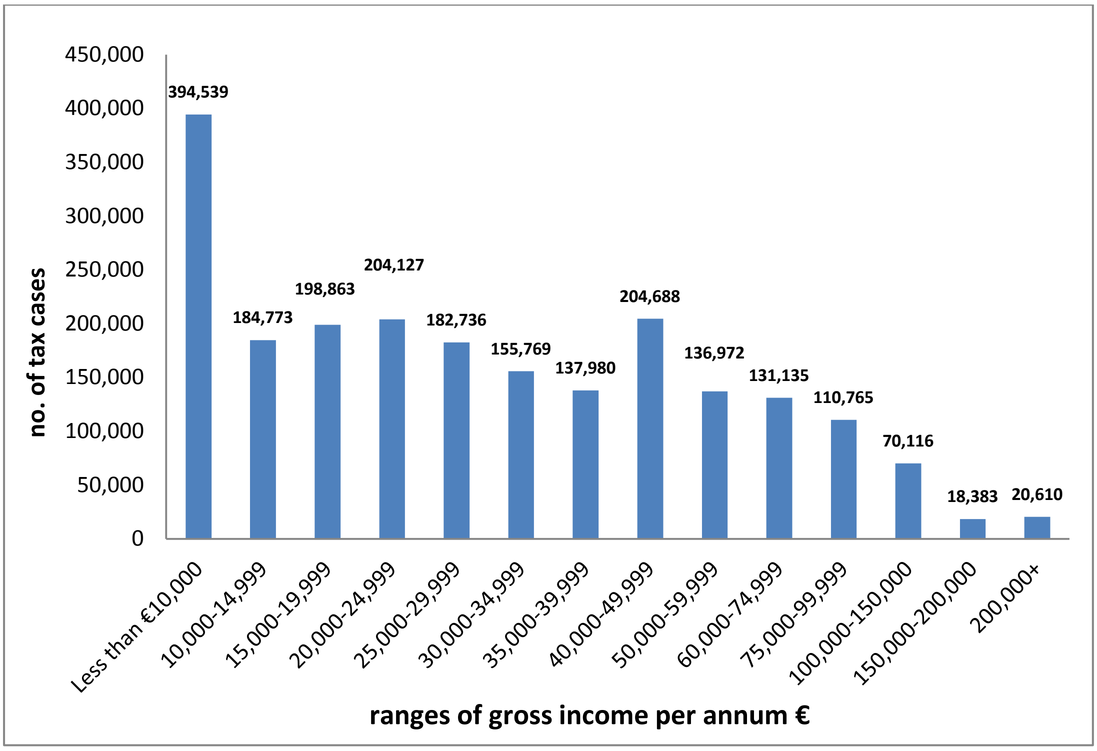


Table 4.6a Distribution of Tax Cases by income range

From €	To €	No. of cases	% total
-	10,000	394,539	18.34
10,000	12,000	71,794	3.34
12,000	15,000	112,979	5.25
15,000	17,000	74,477	3.46
17,000	20,000	124,386	5.78
20000	25,000	204,127	9.49
25,000	27,000	76,215	3.54
27,000	30,000	106,521	4.95
30,000	35,000	155,769	7.24
35,000	40,000	137,980	6.41
40,000	50,000	204,688	9.51
50,000	60,000	136,972	6.37
60,000	75,000	131,135	6.10
75,000	100,000	110,765	5.15
100,000	150,000	70,116	3.26
150,000	200,000	18,383	0.85
200,000	275,000	9,933	0.46
over	275,000	10,677	0.50
Totals		**2,151,456**	**100.00**

Interpretation

The Revenue Commissioners income tax data for 2009 gives an indication of the distribution of earnings (from all sources which are subject to income tax) in the Republic of Ireland. In that year almost 36% of tax cases reported a gross income of less than €20,000. The data show that just over 40% of tax cases are in the range from €20,000 to €50,000 per annum. At the top of the distribution, 5% of tax cases had an income in excess of €100,000 and 1% had an income in excess of €200,000.

Technical Notes

Data used in this indicator is from the Revenue Commissioners annual statistical report and from the income distribution tables within that report (Table IDS1). Revenue only supplies data on tax cases rather than individuals. Also, it does not distinguish between the different sources of earnings (employment income, self-employment, property income etc). Due to the structure of the tax year and the system of provisional tax returns for certain earners, there is at least a year delay in the figures. The final tax payments for 2009 were settled in late 2010 and the data from these returns, used above, was published in the Revenue Commissioners 2011 report for the year ending December 31st 2010.

Source(s)

Revenue Commissioners Annual Statistical Report available here

Indicator 4.6b Distribution of Earnings (Northern Ireland)

Indicator defined

Distribution of earners by total income from employment, self-employment, pension and investment in Northern Ireland for the year 2009/10

Latest data available for year 2009/10 released 29th of February 2012. Next update due December 2012/January 2013

Chart 4.6b Distribution of Earners by income range

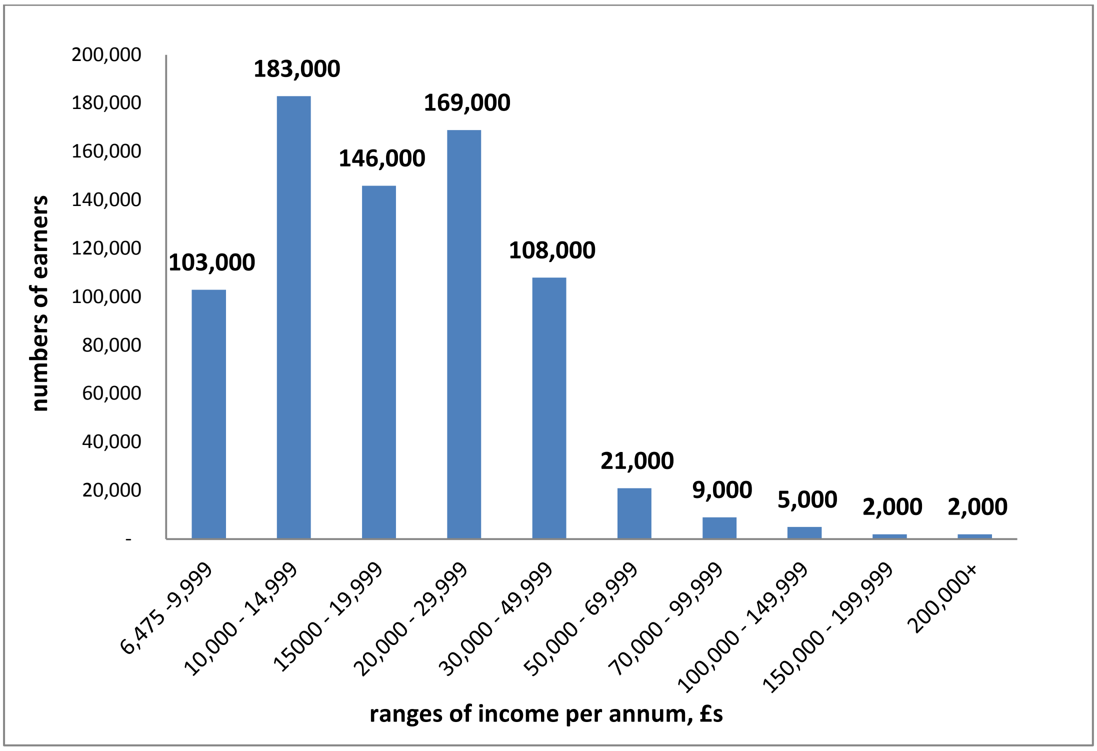


Table 4.6b Distribution of earners by income range in Northern Ireland, financial year 2009/10

Income Range	No. of earners	% of earners	Income £m	% of income
6,475 -9,999	103,000	13.77%	849	4.84%
10,000 - 14,999	183,000	24.47%	2,290	13.06%
15000 - 19,999	146,000	19.52%	2,550	14.54%
20,000 - 29,999	169,000	22.59%	4,100	23.38%
30,000 - 49,999	108,000	14.44%	4,070	23.21%
50,000 - 69,999	21,000	2.81%	1,220	6.96%
70,000 - 99,999	9,000	1.20%	710	4.05%
100,000 - 149,999	5,000	0.67%	569	3.24%
150,000 - 199,999	2,000	0.27%	258	1.47%
200,000+	2,000	0.27%	921	5.25%
Total	**747,000**	**100%**	**17,500**	**100%**

Interpretation

The data for this indicator is compiled using income tax receipts for Northern Ireland in the financial year 2009/10. The data show that just over 46% of income liable for tax is from earnings of between £20,000 and £50,000. While income of £100,000 - £150,000 and £150,000-£200,000 represent 5% of total income reported, incomes over £200,000 represent the same percentage of total income. The largest number of earners are those with incomes of £10,000 to £15,000, yet this band only represents 13% of total income in Northern Ireland.

Technical Notes

The data is from the results of the HMRC Survey of Personal Incomes 2009-10 using information held by HMRC on persons liable to UK income tax for the income tax year. It is carried out annually and covers the income assessable for tax in each tax year.

Source(s)

HMRC (2012) Personal Incomes Statistics 2009-10 Tables 3.1-3.11

5 Poverty and Social Exclusion

Indicator 5.1 Poverty and Deprivation (Republic of Ireland)

Indicators defined

At risk of poverty rate: The proportion of individuals with disposable income of less than 60% of median income.

(Enforced) Deprivation rate: The proportion of individuals who cannot afford two or more items from a list of 11.

Consistent poverty rate: The proportion of individuals who are at-risk of poverty and also experiencing enforced deprivation.

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2010. Data extracted in March 2012. Next update, for the year 2011, due in late 2012.

Chart 5.1 Trends in poverty and deprivation, 2004-2010 (%)

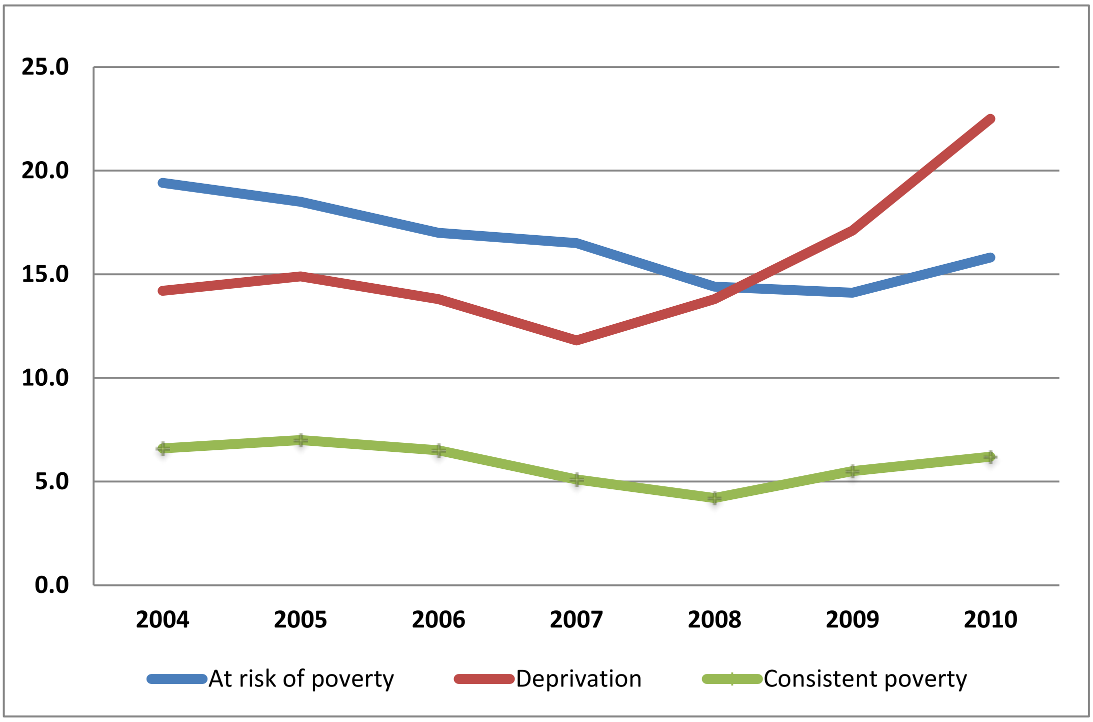


Table 5.1 Poverty and Deprivation rates for the Republic of Ireland as a % of the population, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
At risk of poverty	19.4	18.5	17.0	16.5	14.4	14.1	15.8
Deprivation	14.2	14.9	13.8	11.8	13.8	17.1	22.5
Consistent poverty	6.6	7.0	6.5	5.1	4.2	5.5	6.2

Interpretation

The at risk of poverty or 'relative income poverty' rate fell from 2004 to 2009. However, the rate increased from 14.1% in 2009 to 15.8% in 2010, despite the fact that the threshold level (60% of median disposable income) declined by 10% between 2009 and 2010 (from €12,046 to €10,831); this reflects an overall decline in incomes over that period.

Enforced deprivation, measuring the number of individuals deprived of two or more basic items (see technical notes for list) fell to as low as 11.8% in 2007. However, it has increased since as the impact of the recession hit households. By 2010 22.5% of the ROI population were experiencing deprivation. Between 2009 and 2010, the increase in deprivation was predominantly among those not at risk of poverty, up from 13.7% in 2009 to 19.3% in 2010. During 2010, the main items where people experience enforced deprivation were: 'unable to afford to replace any worn out furniture' (20.3%); 'unable to afford a morning, afternoon or evening out in the last fortnight' (19.3%); and 'unable to afford to have family or friends for a drink or meal once a month' (14.4%).

The rate of consistent poverty measures the sub-section of the population who are at risk of poverty and experiencing deprivation. This measure is the focus of the government's official poverty target which aims to reduce those experiencing consistent poverty to between 2% and 4% by 2012 with the aim of eliminating it by 2016. Between 2005 and 2008 the rate fell, but it has since increased to 6.2% in 2010.

Technical Notes

The data used to compile these figures comes from the CSO's Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) and has been described in the technical notes accompanying indicator 4.2a. The at risk of poverty threshold is calculated as 60% of median disposable income.

The eleven indicators used to measure deprivation are: Without heating at some stage in the last year; Unable to afford a morning, afternoon or evening out in the last fortnight; Unable to afford two pairs of strong shoes; Unable to afford a roast once a week; Unable to afford a meal with meat, chicken or fish every second day; Unable to afford new (not second-hand) clothes; Unable to afford a warm waterproof coat; Unable to afford to keep the home adequately warm; Unable to afford to replace any worn out furniture; Unable to afford to have family or friends for a drink or meal once a month; Unable to afford to buy presents for family or friends at least once a year.

Source(s)

CSO (2012) Survey on Income and Living Conditions – Results, 2010. Dublin, Stationery Office.

CSO SILC website: www.cso.ie/en/silc/

Indicator 5.2 Child Poverty (Republic of Ireland)

Indicators defined

Children at risk of poverty: The proportion of children living in households whose equivalised disposable income is less than 60% of median income.
Children in consistent poverty: The proportion of children living in households who are at-risk of poverty and also experiencing enforced deprivation.
Children are defined as being aged between 0-17 years.

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2010. Data extracted in March 2012.
Next update, for the year 2011, due in late 2012.

Chart 5.2 Child Poverty, 2006-2010 (%)

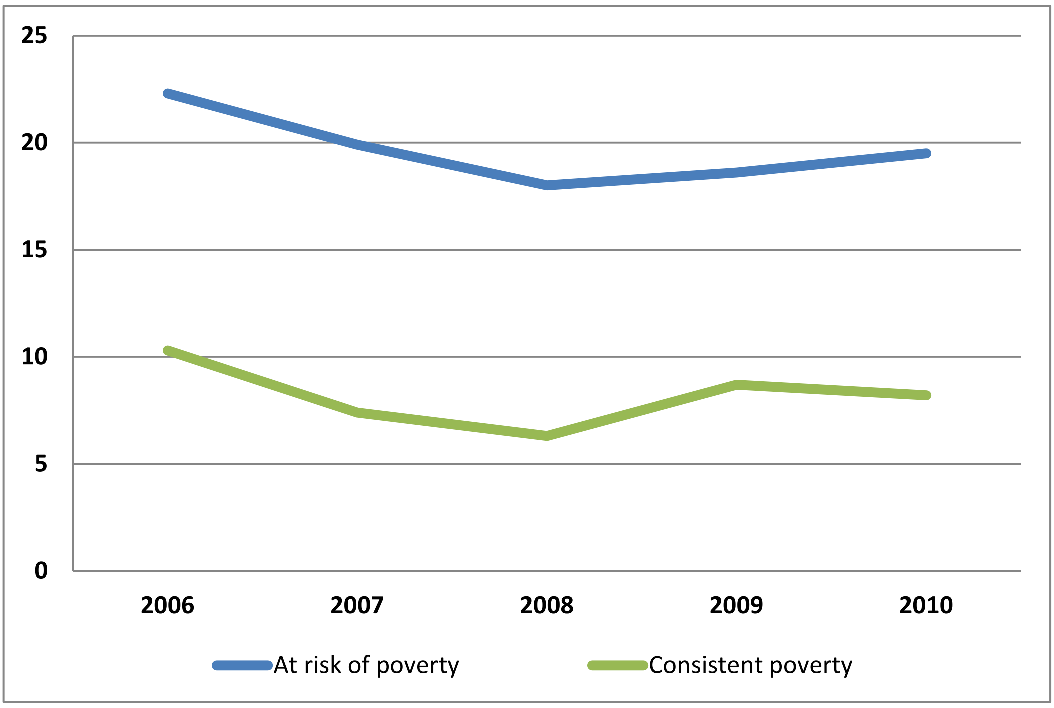


Table 5.2 Child poverty for ROI as a % of the population of children aged 0-17yrs, 2006-2010

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
At risk of poverty	22.3	19.9	18.0	18.6	19.5
Consistent poverty	10.3	7.4	6.3	8.7	8.2

Interpretation

The proportion of the ROI's children living in households whose income is below the 60% of median income poverty line has experienced limited change over the past few years. While the years 2006-07 recorded a decrease from 22.3% to 19.9%, by 2010 almost 1 in every 5 children (19.5%) lived in a household experiencing relative income poverty.

Over the period 2006-2008 the proportion of children living in households experiencing both relative income poverty and deprivation (consistent poverty) decreased from 10.3% to 6.3%. However, since then it has increased and in 2010 8.2% of the ROI's children experienced consistent poverty.

Technical Notes

The data used to compile these figures comes from the CSO's Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) and has been described in the technical notes accompanying indicator 4.2a. The at risk of poverty threshold is calculated as 60% of median disposable income. The items used to measure enforced deprivation have been described in the technical notes accompanying indicator 5.1.

Prior to 2006 the CSO measured child poverty for children aged 0-14yrs and found that in both years 21.2% of children in this age group lived in households whose income is below the 60% of median income poverty line. The consistent poverty rate for this age group was 9.5% in 2006 and 10.2% in 2007.

Source(s)

CSO (2012) Survey on Income and Living Conditions – Results, 2010. Dublin, Stationery Office.

CSO SILC website: www.cso.ie/en/silc/

Indicator 5.3 In Work-Poverty (Republic of Ireland)

Indicators defined

Workers at risk of poverty: The proportion of individuals whose principle economic status is 'at work' and whose equivalised disposable income is less than 60% of median income.
Workers in consistent poverty: The proportion of individuals whose principle economic status is 'at work' and who are at-risk of poverty and also experiencing enforced deprivation.

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2010. Data extracted in March 2012.
Next update, for the year 2011, due in late 2012.

Chart 5.3(i) In-work Poverty, 2004-2010 (%)

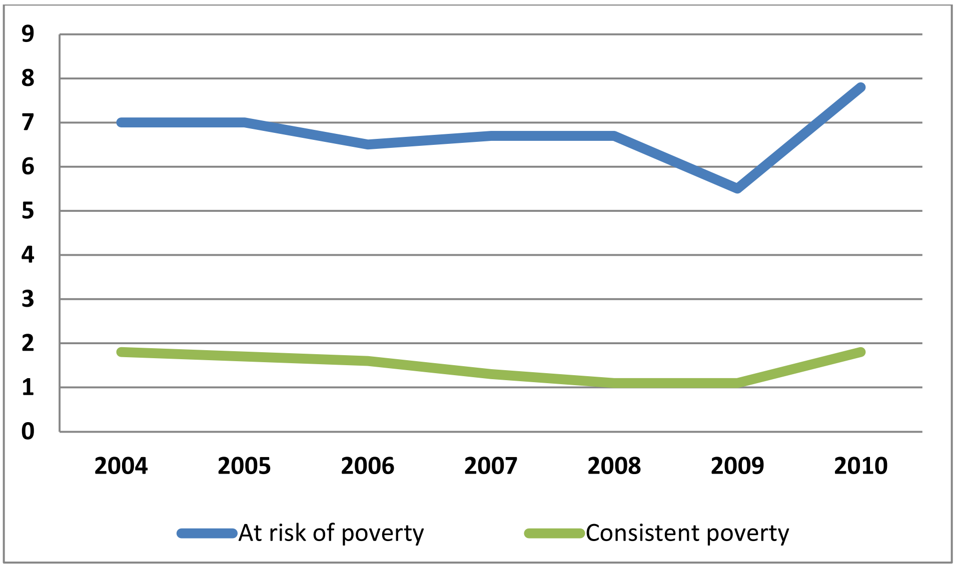


Chart 5.3(ii) Composition of those at risk of poverty 2010 (%)

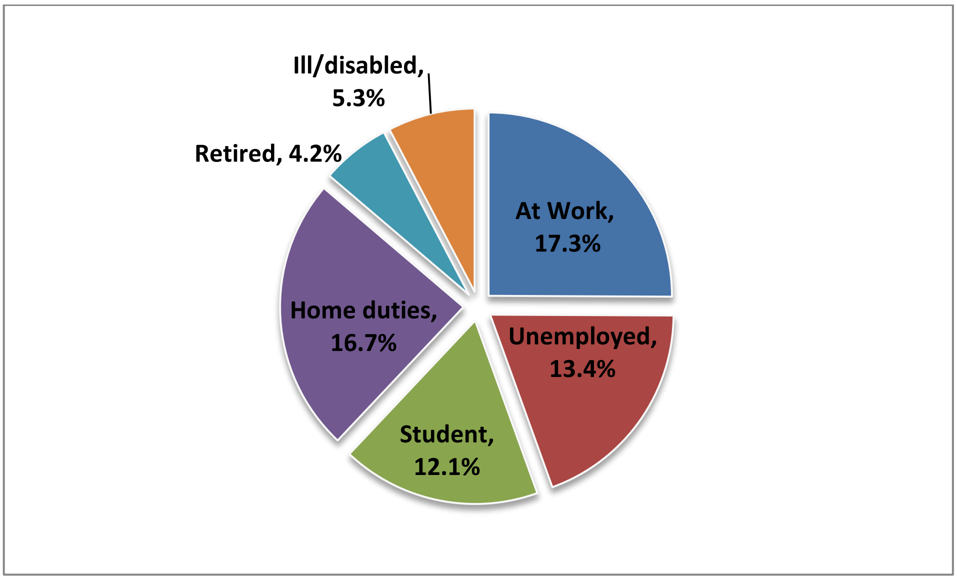


Table 5.3(i) In-work poverty in the ROI, 2004-2010

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
At risk of poverty	7.0	7.0	6.5	6.7	6.7	5.5	7.8
Consistent poverty	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.8

Table 5.3(ii) Composition of those at risk or poverty in the ROI, 2009-2010

	2009	2010
At Work	14.3%	17.3%
Unemployed	12.9%	13.4%
Student	14.6%	12.1%
Home duties	18.0%	16.7%
Retired	4.7%	4.2%
Ill/disabled	6.4%	5.3%

Interpretation

Between 2004 and 2008 there was limited change in the proportion of individuals whose principle economic status is 'at work' and who were living at risk of poverty. However, by 2009 the rate dropped to 5.5% before increasing to almost 8% in 2010. Similarly, consistent poverty levels among those at work declined over much of the period before increasing once again in 2010.

Despite the fact that the rate of relative income poverty (7.8%) and consistent poverty (1.8%) is low among those whose principle economic status is work, the fact that the working population comprises a large part of the population aged 16 years and above results in a high number of workers being in poverty. Using the 2010 data, when poverty among those aged 16 years and above is decomposed by principle economic status, those at work (the working poor) emerge as the largest group of people at risk of poverty.

Technical Notes

See notes for indicators 4.2a, 5.1 and 5.2. The composition of those at risk of poverty is decomposed by principle economic status for all those aged 16 years and above. The tables and charts above exclude figures for children under 16 years who are living in households that are at risk of poverty.

Source(s)

See all the sources listed under indicator 4.2a.

Indicator 5.4 Poverty and Deprivation by Gender (Republic of Ireland)

Indicators defined

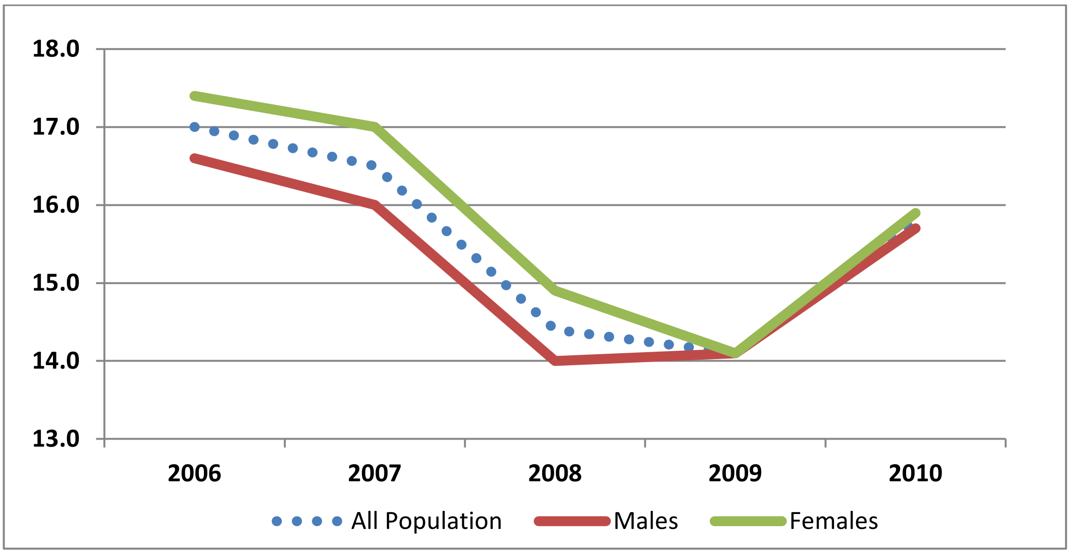
At risk of poverty rate: The proportion of individuals with disposable income of less than 60% of median income – data for all the population any by gender.

(Enforced) Deprivation rate: The proportion of individuals who cannot afford two or more items from a list of 11 – data for all the population any by gender.

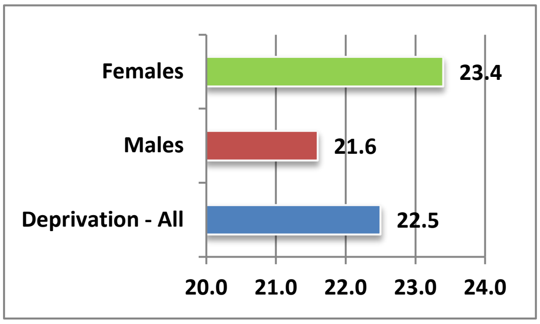
Consistent poverty rate: The proportion of individuals who are at-risk of poverty and also experiencing enforced deprivation – data for all the population any by gender.

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2010. Data extracted in March 2012. Next update, for the year 2011, due in late 2012.

Chart 5.4a Trends in poverty by gender, 2006-2010 (%)



Charts 5.4b/5.4c Deprivation and Consistent Poverty by gender, 2010 (%)



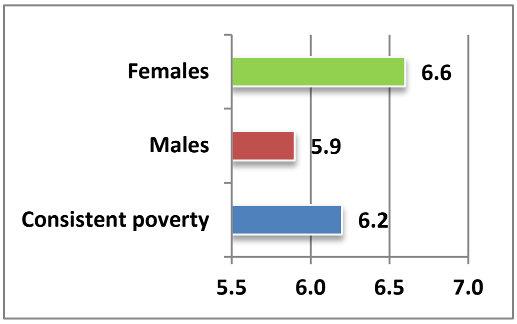


Table 5.4 Poverty and Deprivation by Gender, 2006-2010 (%)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
At risk of poverty – All*	**17.0**	**16.5**	**14.4**	**14.1**	**15.8**
Males	16.6	16.0	14.0	14.1	15.7
Females	17.4	17.0	14.9	14.1	15.9
Deprivation – All*	**13.8**	**11.8**	**13.8**	**17.1**	**22.5**
Males	n/a	n/a	13.3	16.8	21.6
Females	n/a	n/a	14.3	17.7	23.4
Consistent Poverty – All*	**6.5**	**5.1**	**4.2**	**5.5**	**6.2**
Males	6.4	5.0	4.0	5.5	5.9
Females	6.6	5.2	4.5	5.4	6.6

Note: * All refers to the rate for the population of the ROI.

Interpretation

As the tables and charts for this indicator show, females have a higher risk of poverty and experience a higher level of deprivation than males. While the differences are for the most part small they are consistent across most years of data from the CSO's Survey on Income and Livings Conditions (SILC). The overall rates for consistent poverty, those at risk of poverty and experiencing deprivation on two of eleven items (these are listed in indicator 5.1), are small and with the exception of 2008 reflect a similar trend.

Technical Notes

See indicator 5.1.

Source(s)

CSO (2012) Survey on Income and Living Conditions – Results, 2010. Dublin, Stationery Office.

CSO SILC website: www.cso.ie/en/silc/

6 Social Welfare Payments

Indicator 6.1 Unemployment Benefits Compared to Earnings (OECD countries)

Indicator defined

We compare pre and post Unemployment income using **the replacement ratio**. It refers to the level of welfare provided immediately after the individual becomes unemployed and calculates this as a proportion of previous after tax or net income.

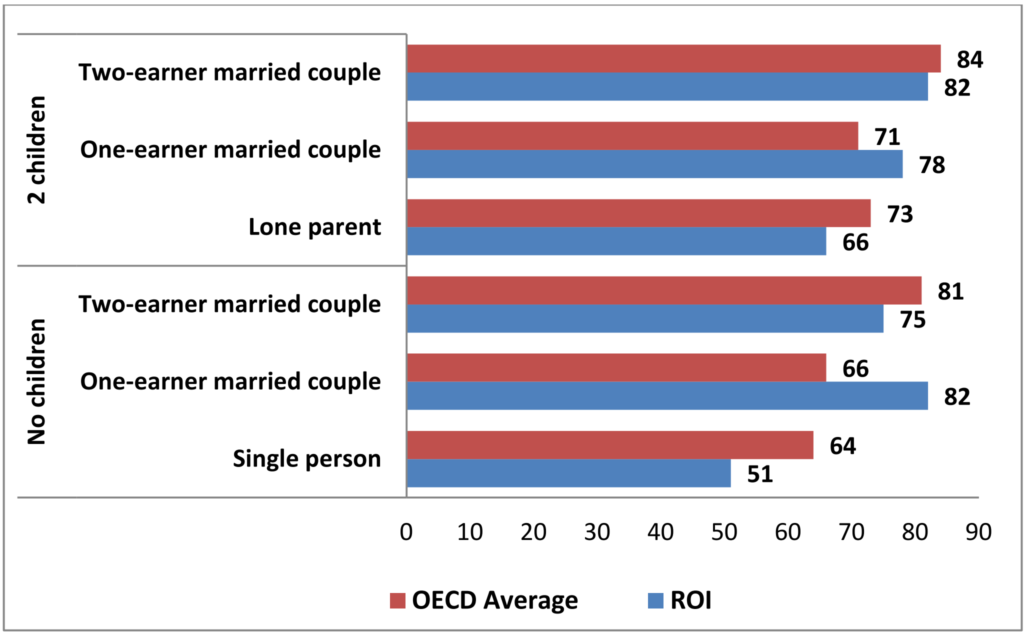
The figures in this assessment are based on an individual earning 67% of the average wage in each OECD country before becoming unemployed.

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2010. Data extracted on 20th June 2012. Next update due in mid-2013.

Table 6.1 Net Replacement Rates for six family types in initial phase of unemployment, OECD Countries 2010

	No children			2 children		
OECD countries	Single person	One-earner married couple	Two-earner married couple	Lone parent	One-earner married couple	Two-earner married couple
Australia	32	55	53	58	67	64
Austria	55	57	80	72	73	85
Belgium	89	76	85	88	77	86
Canada	61	64	81	77	76	84
Czech Republic	65	65	87	75	74	92
Denmark	83	85	91	88	87	92
Estonia	55	57	77	63	57	79
Finland	57	57	78	73	68	83
France	69	65	84	67	67	84
Germany	61	59	87	73	72	90
Greece	47	52	74	58	63	79
Hungary	75	75	88	82	81	89
Iceland	77	75	88	83	78	90
Ireland (ROI)	**51**	**82**	**75**	**66**	**78**	**82**
Israel*	84	84	92	83	85	91
Italy	69	73	85	77	74	87
Japan	68	67	85	72	68	86
Korea	55	55	78	57	55	78
Luxembourg	82	81	89	88	88	93
Netherlands	76	76	83	71	80	81
New Zealand	38	63	50	60	66	64
Norway	67	69	84	90	74	86
Poland	53	54	76	88	60	78
Portugal	75	75	91	79	77	91
Slovak Republic	61	58	83	71	57	84
Slovenia	76	73	88	77	80	92
Spain	80	75	90	77	75	89
Sweden	68	68	84	75	72	85
Switzerland	83	83	89	85	85	90
Turkey**	53	52	80	52	52	80
United Kingdom	19	30	60	45	54	66
United States	60	59	82	53	50	84
OECD Average	**64**	**66**	**81**	**73**	**71**	**84**

Chart 6.1 Republic of Ireland Net Replacement Rates for six family types in initial phase of unemployment compared to the OECD average, 2010



Interpretation

Replacement rates compare income prior to unemployment with income from welfare after unemployment. Across the OECD these rates range from 19% (UK single person) to 93% (Luxembourg two-earner married couple). Given the variation in individual country replacement rates, reflecting the nature and composition of welfare entitlements in these countries, the data shows the futility of making simple cross country comparisons based on one particular type of individual/household. The ROI possesses the third lowest replacement rate for single unemployed people with no children within the OECD (51%), only Australia and the UK have lower rates. Of the six household types examined by the OECD (see table and chart) four record replacement rates below the OECD average and two above the average.

Technical Notes

Data is from the OECD's Tax-Benefit Calculator. The OECD also examine replacement rates for individuals at 100% and 150% of average earnings. The data in the table and chart is from 2010, the latest comparable data available from the OECD, and assumes families do not qualify for cash housing assistance or social assistance top ups. Since 2010 changes to welfare rates and average earnings will have altered these replacement rates.

Source

OECD Tax-Benefit Calculator [here](#).

Indicator 6.2 Unemployment Benefits Compared to Earnings in the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom

Indicator defined

We compare pre and post Unemployment income using **the replacement ratio**. It refers to the level of welfare provided immediately after the individual becomes unemployed and calculates this as a proportion of previous after tax or net income.

The figures in this assessment are based on an individual earning 67%, 100% and 150% of the average wage in each country before becoming unemployed.

Reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2010. Data extracted on 20th June 2012. Next update due in mid-2013.

Table 6.2 Net Replacement Rates for six family types in initial phase of unemployment, ROI, UK and OECD average 2010

	No children			2 children		
	Single person	One-earner married couple	Two-earner married couple	Lone parent	One-earner married couple	Two-earner married couple
67% of the average wage						
ROI	51	82	75	66	78	82
UK	19	30	60	45	54	66
OECD average	*64*	*66*	*81*	*73*	*71*	*84*
100% of the average wage						
ROI	38	60	65	65	70	71
UK	13	21	49	37	44	55
OECD average	*55*	*58*	*73*	*66*	*64*	*77*
150% of the average wage						
ROI	29	43	52	53	55	58
UK	9	15	39	27	31	44
OECD average	*45*	*46*	*62*	*54*	*52*	*66*

Interpretation

Replacement rates compare income prior to unemployment with income from welfare after unemployment. The table above compares replacement rates for individuals/households in the initial phase of unemployment (in effect the first year of unemployment) in ROI and the UK. The OECD's calculations assume that families do not qualify for cash housing assistance or social assistance top ups.

The results show a variation in replacement rates between ROI and the UK with those in the ROI being higher than the UK for all household types. The scale of this difference varies by household type and OECD data suggests the gap reduces when account is taken of housing assistance and secondary social assistance payments.

Across all of the 18 household types examined, in five cases the replacement rates are higher than the OECD average in the ROI: one-earner married couple no children at 67% and 100% of average earnings and one-earner married couple two children at 67%, 100% and 150% of average earnings. In the UK all the replacement rates are below the OECD average.

Comparisons of net replacement rates do not take into account differences in various types of non-cash payment benefits to households such as subsidised services or exemption from various charges.

Technical Notes

See note to indicator 6.1.

Source

OECD Tax-Benefit Calculator here.

7 Public Finances

Indicator 7.1 Trends in General Government Expenditure and Revenue (EU27 and Republic of Ireland)

Indicator defined

Total General Government Expenditure and Revenue as a percentage of GDP.

Data were last updated by Eurostat on 23 April 2012. The next update by Eurostat is due on 23 July 2012.

Chart 7.1 Trends in General Government Expenditure and Revenue (EU27 compared to Republic of Ireland)

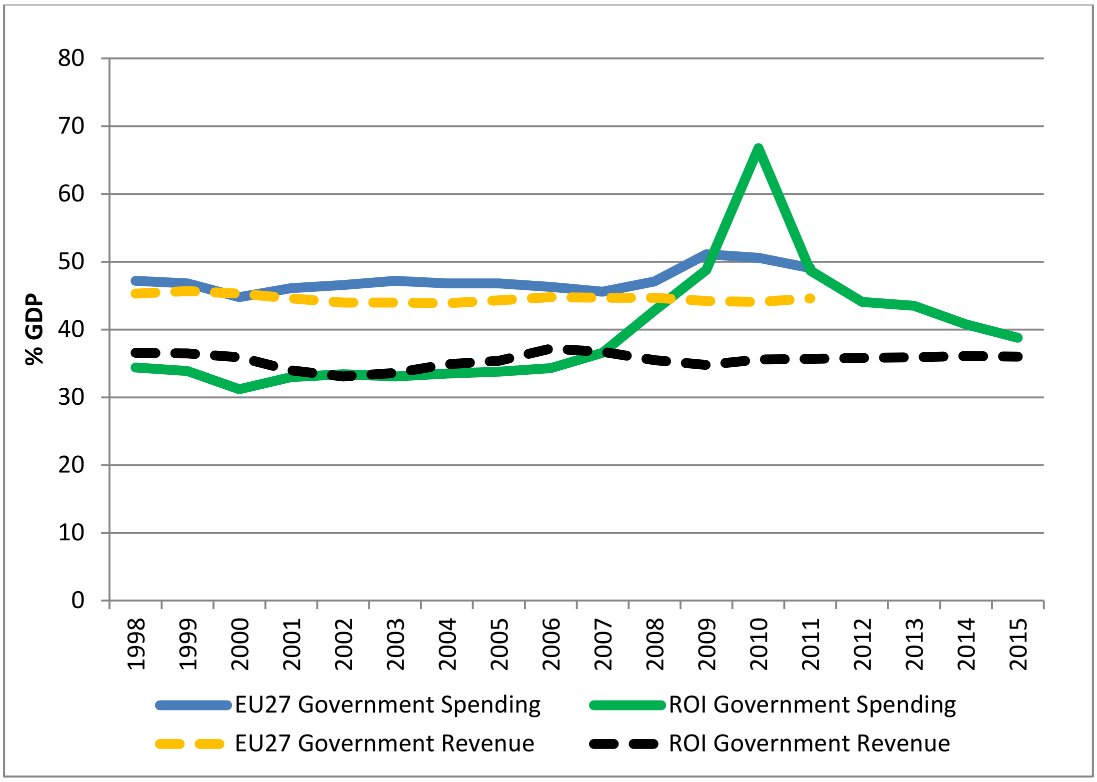


Table 7.1 Trends in General Government Expenditure and Revenue (EU27 compared to Republic of Ireland)

Year	EU27 Government Spending	ROI Government Spending	EU27 Government Revenue	ROI Government Revenue
1998	47.2	34.4	45.3	36.6
1999	46.8	33.9	45.7	36.5
2000	44.8	31.2	45.3	35.9
2001	46.1	33.0	44.6	34.0
2002	46.6	33.4	44.0	33.1
2003	47.2	33.1	44.0	33.6
2004	46.8	33.5	43.9	34.9
2005	46.8	33.8	44.3	35.4
2006	46.3	34.3	44.8	37.2
2007	45.6	36.6	44.7	36.7
2008	47.1	42.8	44.7	35.5
2009	51.1	48.8	44.2	34.8
2010	50.6	66.8	44.1	35.6
2011	49.1	48.7	44.6	35.7
2012*	-	44.1	-	35.8
2013*	-	43.5	-	35.9
2014*	-	40.8	-	36.1
2015*	-	38.8	-	36.0

Note: * = projections

Interpretation

Public expenditure relating to bank recapitalisation in each of the three years 2009, 2010 and 2011 is included in the figures for Government spending in the above table and chart.

A feature of fiscal adjustment as pursued in the Republic of Ireland, both before and after the November 2010 Troika Agreement, is that it has leaned on expenditure and not on revenue. When measured as a percentage of GDP, the entire adjustment is on the expenditure side with the share of total revenue in GDP staying roughly constant over the remainder of the adjustment period. Total revenue is projected to remain close to 36% of GDP up to 2015. On the other hand, total spending is projected to fall significantly from a projected level of 44.1% of GDP in 2012 to 38.8% in 2015.

Technical Notes

Total General Government Revenue includes taxes and other receipts of public authorities

Source(s)

Eurostat online database: Government Finance Statistics

Department of Finance Stability Programme Update (April 2012)

Indicator 7.2 Government Revenue as a % of GDP (EU27 and Republic of Ireland) 2011

Indicator defined

Total General Government Revenue as % of GDP

The data were last updated by Eurostat on 23 April 2012. The next update by Eurostat is due on 23 July 2012.

Chart 7.2 General Government Revenue % GDP 2011

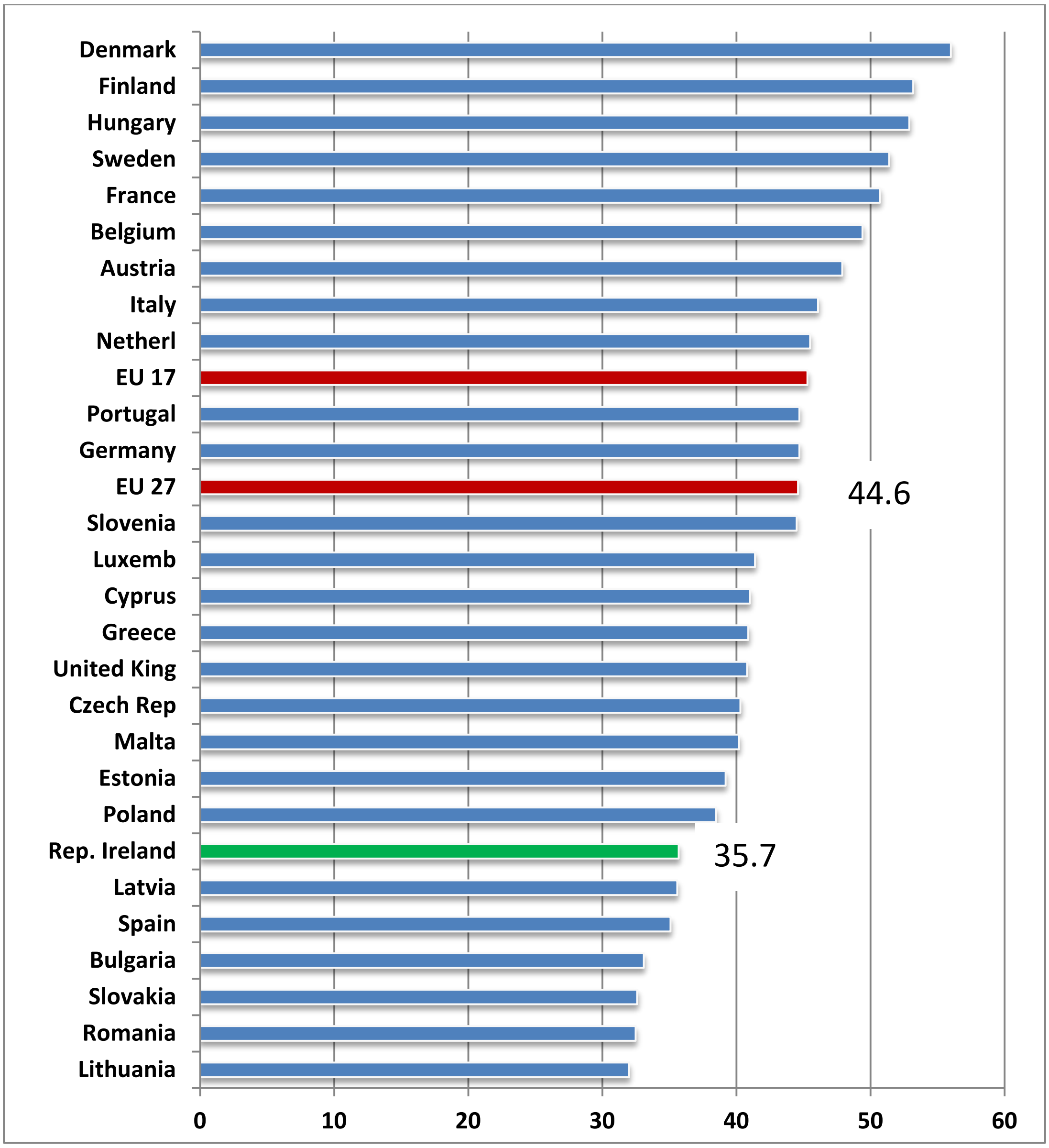


Table 7.2 General Government Revenue % GDP 2011

Country	%	Country	%
Denmark	56.0	Cyprus	41.0
Finland	53.2	Greece	40.9
Hungary	52.9	UK	40.8
Sweden	51.4	Czech Rep	40.3
France	50.7	Malta	40.2
Belgium	49.4	Estonia	39.2
Austria	47.9	Poland	38.5
Italy	46.1	**Rep. Ireland**	**35.7**
Netherlands	45.5	Latvia	35.6
EU 17	45.3	Spain	35.1
Germany	44.7	Bulgaria	33.1
Portugal	44.7	Slovakia	32.6
EU 27	44.6	Romania	32.5
Slovenia	44.5	Lithuania	32.0
Luxembourg	41.4		

Interpretation

As an alternative to comparing countries with reference to GDP Gross National Income (GNI) may be used. However, where GNI is used it is necessary to deduct an estimate for corporate taxes on repatriated profits which appears as part of GDP but not GNI.

Technical Notes

Total General Government Revenue includes taxes and other receipts of public authorities

Source(s)

Eurostat online database here.

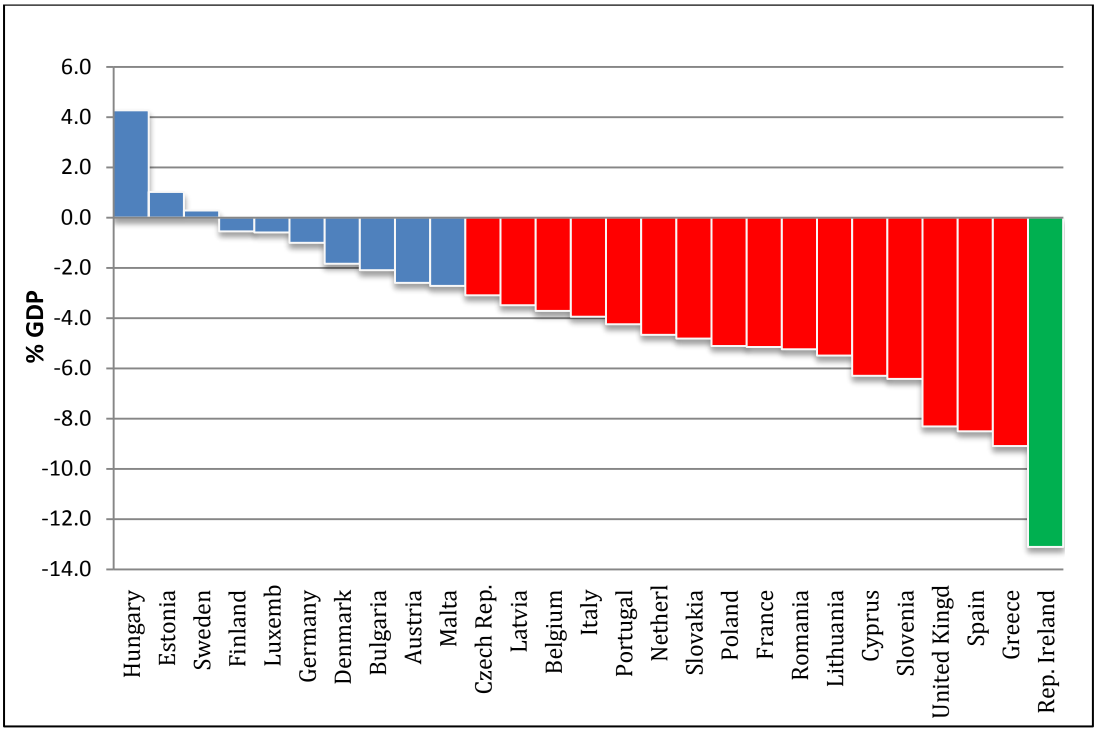
Indicator 7.3a General Government Deficit as a % of GDP (EU member states)

Indicator defined

Total General Government Deficit as % of GDP (2011).

The reference period for latest available data used in this indicator is 2011. Data were extracted from the EU Ameco database in May 2012. The next update is due in October 2012.

Chart 7.3a General Government Deficits % GDP (2011)



Note: Member states that were not compliant with the 3% target for general government balance are indicated by red bars in the chart above.

Table 7.3a General Government Deficit % GDP (2011)

Country	%	Country	%
Hungary	4.3	Portugal	-4.2
Estonia	1.0	Netherlands	-4.7
Sweden	0.3	Slovakia	-4.8
Finland	-0.5	Poland	-5.1
Luxembourg	-0.6	France	-5.2
Germany	-1.0	Romania	-5.2
Denmark	-1.8	Lithuania	-5.5
Bulgaria	-2.1	Cyprus	-6.3
Austria	-2.6	Slovenia	-6.4
Malta	-2.7	United Kingdom	-8.3
Czech Rep.	-3.1	Spain	-8.5
Latvia	-3.5	Greece	-9.1
Belgium	-3.7	**Rep. Ireland**	**-13.1**
Italy	-3.9		

Interpretation

The Maastricht rules require European member states to aim for a Government deficit of no more than 3%. The latest estimates of General Government Balance (the headline deficit) for 2011 shows that 17 out of 27 member states were in excess of this figure. In the case of the Republic of Ireland, in 2011, the 'headline' government deficit was recently estimated to be 13.1% in 2011 (which includes 'bank recapitalisation' spending by the government in 2011).

Technical Notes

The General Government Deficit (or General Government Balance) is the difference between General Government Expenditure and General Government Revenue in any given year. An excess of expenditure over revenue is expressed as a percentage of GDP and is shown as a negative value.

Source(s) European Commission (2012) AMECO online database (updated on 11 May 2012)

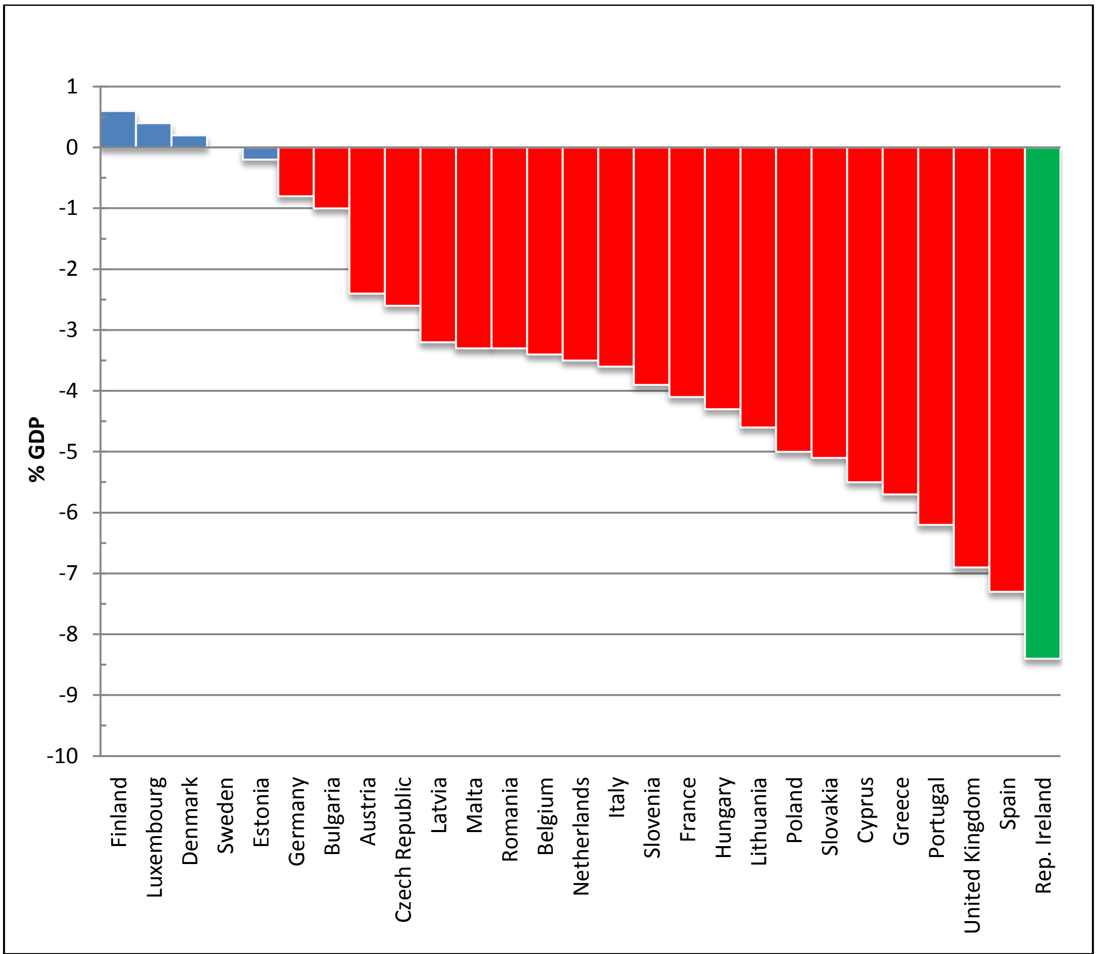
Indicator 7.3b Estimated General Government Structural Deficit as a % of GDP (EU countries)

Indicator defined

Total General Government Structural Deficit as % of GDP (2011).

The reference period for the latest available data used in this indicator is 2011. Data were extracted from the EU Ameco database in May 2012. The next update is due in October 2012.

Chart 7.3b Estimated General Government Structural Deficits % GDP (2011)



Note: Member states that were not compliant with the 0.5% target for the structural general government balance are indicated by red bars in the chart above.

Table 7.3b Estimated General Gov. Structural Deficits % GDP

Country	%	Country	%
Finland	0.6	Italy	-3.6
Luxembourg	0.4	Slovenia	-3.9
Denmark	0.2	France	-4.1
Sweden	0.0	Hungary	-4.3
Estonia	-0.2	Lithuania	-4.6
Germany	-0.8	Poland	-5.0
Bulgaria	-1.0	Slovakia	-5.1
Austria	-2.4	Cyprus	-5.5
Czech Republic	-2.6	Greece	-5.7
Latvia	-3.2	Portugal	-6.2
Malta	-3.3	United Kingdom	-6.9
Romania	-3.3	Spain	-7.3
Belgium	-3.4	**Republic of Ireland**	**-8.4**
Netherlands	-3.5		

Interpretation

One of the rules contained in the 2012 EU Fiscal Compact stipulates that a Government's 'structural deficit' should not be greater than 0.5% of GDP for countries that have a debt-to- GDP ratio of over 60%. Using estimates published by the European Commission in May 2012 for 2011 only five EU member states (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Luxembourg and Sweden) were compliant with the rule regarding the structural deficit as estimated by economists at the European Commission.

Technical Notes

The calculation of the structural deficit is based on the estimated gap between 'potential output' in the economy (if it were working at full capacity) and the actual output. Potential output is estimated with reference to such factors as the degree of spare capacity in an economy, the level of technology in a country, the total stock of capital and the potential supply of labour. The measure of the potential supply of labour, and therefore the structural deficit, depends crucially on what economists refer to as the 'non-accelerating wage rate of unemployment' (NAWRU) – the level of unemployment for which wages do not accelerate Currently, the estimate used by the European Commission for the NAWRU in the Republic of Ireland is 12.2% in 2011(European Commission, 2011). The difference between actual and potential GDP is referred to as the 'output gap'. The value of the output gap is negative when potential GDP exceeds actual GDP. Economists use the estimated output gap to derive the estimated cyclical component of the Government deficit.

Source(s)

European Commission (2012) European Economic Forecast. European Economy.

IMF (2012) World Economic Outlook Database. April 2012 Edition.

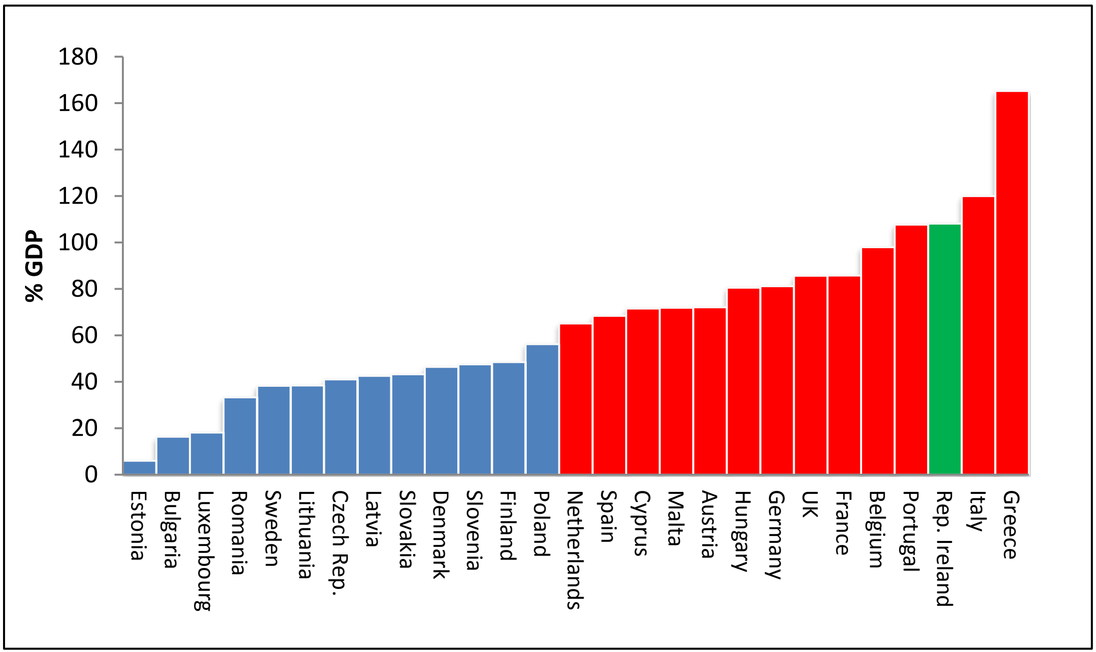
Indicator 7.4 General Government Debt as a % of GDP (EU countries)

Indicator defined

Total General Government Debt as % of GDP.

The reference period for the latest available data used in this indicator is 2011. The data were extracted in June 2012. The next update is due in October 2012.

Chart 7.4 General Government Debt % GDP (2011)



Notes: Member states that were not compliant with the 60% target for debt/GDP are indicated by red bars in the chart above.

Table 7.4 General Government Debt % GDP (2011)

Country	%	Country	%
Estonia	6.0	Spain	68.5
Bulgaria	16.3	Cyprus	71.6
Luxembourg	18.2	Malta	72.0
Romania	33.3	Austria	72.2
Sweden	38.4	Hungary	80.6
Lithuania	38.5	Germany	81.2
Czech Rep.	41.2	UK	85.7
Latvia	42.6	France	85.8
Slovakia	43.3	Belgium	98.0
Denmark	46.5	Portugal	107.8
Slovenia	47.6	**Rep. Ireland**	**108.2**
Finland	48.6	Italy	120.1
Poland	56.3	Greece	165.3
Netherlands	65.2		

Interpretation

A rule contained in the 2012 EU Fiscal Compact stipulates that where the government debt-to- GDP ratio exceeds 60% countries must reduce it by 1/20 per annum. In 2011 the Republic of Ireland was among 14 EU member states that were above the 60% threshold.

Technical Notes

Gross General Government Debt is defined as the total consolidated gross debt at nominal value at the end of the year in the following categories of government liabilities (as defined in ESA95): currency and deposits (AF.2), securities other than shares excluding financial derivatives (AF.3, excluding AF.34), and loans (AF.4).

Source(s)

European Commission (2012) AMECO online database (update 11 May 2012)

Appendix

Appendix 1 Details on the Calculation and Composition of Indicators 3.2a and 3.2b

Technical Notes

Clerical officer grade

Secretaries (general office clerks) (ISCO-08 411 and 4110) 'perform a range of clerical and administrative tasks in connection with money-handling operations, travel arrangements, requests for information and appointments. They record, prepare, sort, classify and fill information; sort, open and send mail; prepare reports and correspondence of a routine nature; record issue of equipment to staff; respond to telephone or electronic enquiries or forward to appropriate person; check figures, prepare invoices and record details of financial transactions made; transcribe information onto computers; and proofread and correct copy'. The international category of 'Secretaries' translates into 'Clerical Officer' grade staff in the Republic of Ireland.

Principal Officer grade

Principal Officers (or equivalent grades) in the civil service in Ireland are coded by OECD as upper middle managers (ISCO-08 12) or 'D3' staff. These 'plan, direct and co-ordinate the general functioning of a specific directorate/administrative unit within the Ministry with the support of other managers, usually within the guidelines established by a board of directors or a governing body. They provide leadership and management to teams of professionals within their particular area. These officials develop and manage the work programme and staff of units, divisions or policy areas. They establish and manage budgets, control expenditures and ensure the efficient use of resources. They monitor and evaluate performance of the different professional teams'. (Annex D of Government at a Glance).

Methodology and Definitions Note by OECD

> *Data refer to 2009 and were collected by the 2010 OECD survey on the Compensation of Employees in Central/Federal Governments. Officials from central Ministries and Agencies responded to the survey through the OECD Public Employment and Management Working Party.*
>
> *Total compensation includes wages and salaries, employers' social contributions to statutory social security schemes or privately funded social insurance schemes, as well as unfunded employee social benefits paid by the employer, including pension payments paid through the state budget rather than through employer social contributions (mostly for some pay-as-you-go systems). Compensation was converted to USD using PPPs for GDP from the OECD National Accounts Database. Working time adjustment compensates for differences in time worked (both weekly working time and holidays). A larger working time adjustment generally means that employees work fewer hours and/or days per year. The focus on total compensation allows a comparison of the varying degrees with which governments remunerate their employees via social contributions or via higher wages and salaries. In most cases data are for six central government Ministries/Departments only (Interior, Finance, Justice, Education, Health and Environment or their equivalents). Positions are based on the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO). The main limitations of the data are the less-than-full comparability of occupations*

across countries, the way countries have interpreted the definition of the positions, and some lack of clarity regarding the level of social contributions and the differing costs of living across countries in capital cities.

Compensation levels are calculated by averaging the compensation of the staff in place. (It is not the middle point between the minimum and maximum salary.)

The following points should also be noted in regard to data provided for the Republic of Ireland:

1. The amount shown take into account the decrease of the salaries following the Financial Emergency Measures in the Public Interest Act 2009 (the public service pension deduction).
2. The impact of pay cuts in 2010 has not been included.
3. Estimates for employer Social contributions (10.45%) refer to staff hired after 1995 (class A1). The social insurance element of future pension liabilities to the State of employing staff is therefore captured in this figure. However, the occupational element of future pension liabilities is not included. An adjustment based on National Accounts data sources has been made for other OECD countries shown in the above Table and Chart. Hence, the present value to the Exchequer of future pension liabilities is likely to be under-estimated for the Republic of Ireland compared to some other OECD countries where pensions are funded by a separate employer contribution rather than through a 'pay-as-you go' mechanism. Further analysis and survey work is planned by OECD in regard to this aspect of international comparison.

Notes

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