



Ireland's  
**Facts & Figures**  
**2018**

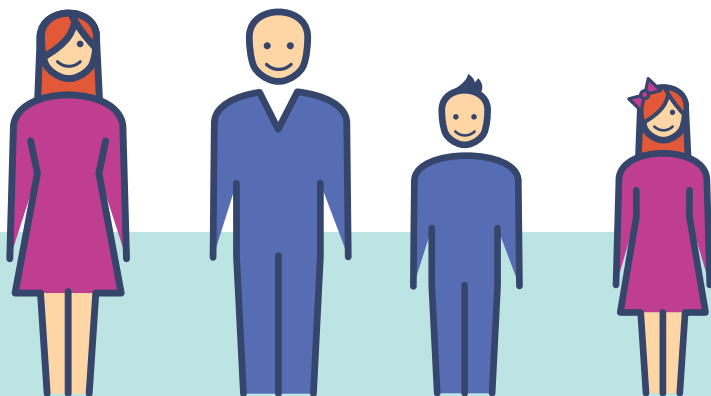
# Welcome

Ireland's Facts and Figures 2018 presents a comprehensive statistical picture of Ireland, with detailed and colourful information, tables and graphs.

There is a wide range of topics covered from data published by the Central Statistics Office throughout the year.

# Population

The population of Ireland in 2018 was 4,857,000



Total number of **females** aged 15 and over  
1,958,400



Total number of **males** aged 15 and over  
1,889,900



**Children (0-14 years)**  
1,008,700

**Male children**  
515,900

**Female children**  
492,900

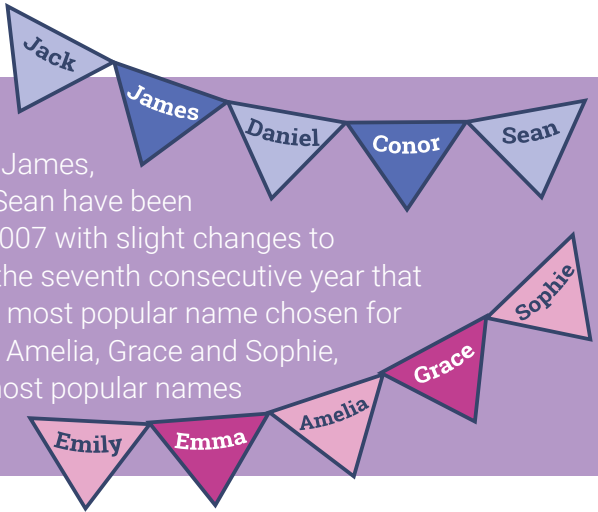
**Population change**  
**+64,500**

# Life Events

## Births

There were 62,053 births in 2017, 1,844 or 2.9% fewer births compared with 2016.

The top five boys' names Jack, James, Daniel, Conor and Sean have been the top five since 2007 with slight changes to their order. This is the seventh consecutive year that Emily has been the most popular name chosen for girls. Emily, Emma, Amelia, Grace and Sophie, were the top five most popular names for girls in 2017.



In 2016, there were...



**1,189**  
sets of twins



**24**  
sets of triplets



**2**  
sets of quadruplets

## Marriages

---

22,021 marriages in 2017,  
a decrease of 605 or  
-2.7% on 2016

There were 759 same-sex  
marriages in 2017, a decrease  
of 297 or 28.1% on 2016.



## Deaths

---

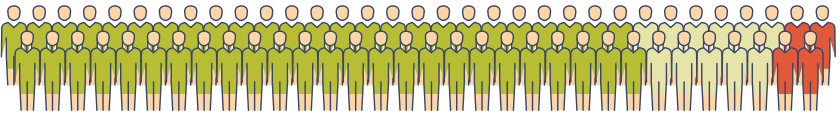
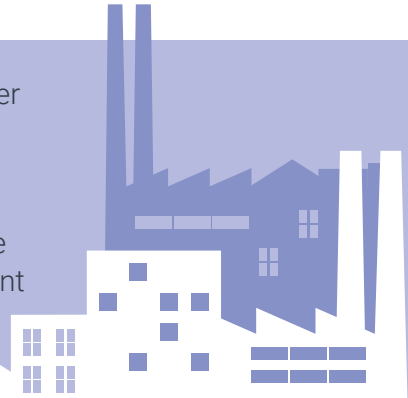
There were 30,484 deaths registered  
in 2017, an increase of 0.3% (or 94  
deaths) from 2016.

Almost three fifths of these, (18,102) were due  
to either malignant neoplasms (cancer) or  
diseases of the  
circulatory  
system.



# Employment and Unemployment

In Quarter 3 2018, the total number of people aged 15 and over was 3,860,200 an increase of 61,400 or 1.6% on the same period the previous year. Of these people, we have the key figures in employment and unemployment.



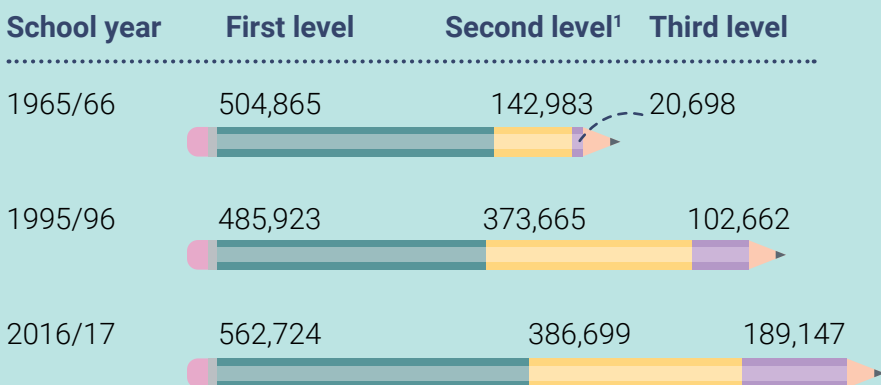
<b>In the Labour Force</b>	<b>2,417,000</b>	<b>+46,900</b>	<b>+2.0%</b>
In employment:	<b>2,273,200</b>	+66,700	+3.0%
Full-time:	<b>1,812,900</b>	+44,200	+2.5%
Part-time:	<b>460,300</b>	+22,500	+5.1%
Unemployed:	<b>143,800</b>	-19,700	-12.1%
Unemployment Rate (Persons aged 15-74)			6.0%

In Q2 2018, 11.8% of children aged 0–17 and 10.2% of persons under 60 were living in jobless households.

# Students and Schools

Here are the number of students in first, second and third level education. It is clear to see the increase in numbers in second and third level students over the last 50 years.

## Persons in full-time education by level



<sup>1</sup>Includes Post Leaving Certificate courses

## The number of schools and colleges in Ireland:



**3,276**

Primary  
Schools



**733**

Secondary  
Schools



**38**

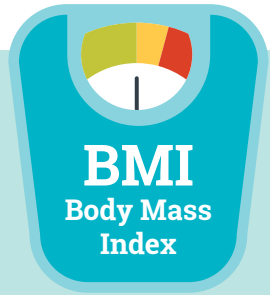
Third Level  
Institutions

Source: CSO and Department of Education & Skills

# Health

## Overweight/Obesity

A person is classified as **overweight** if their Body Mass Index (BMI) exceeds 25 and is classified as **obese** if their BMI is 30 or higher.



The percentage of people classified as overweight or obese in 2015 was 60%. This had risen to 62% in 2017.

## Binge Drinking

Binge drinking is defined by health experts, including the World Health Organisation (WHO), as consuming six or more standard drinks in one sitting, which is the equivalent of three or more pints of beer or six or more pub measures of spirits.

In 2015, 39% of those aged 15 and older binge drink on a regular basis. This fell slightly in 2016 to 37% and increased to 39% in 2017.





# Environment

In 2016, Ireland's greenhouse gas emissions were 61.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent. This was a reduction compared with the peak average annual emissions of 68.9 million tonnes in 2000–2004, but 3.6% higher than in 2015.

2000  
to 2004  
2016

## In 2017:

**Household** environment taxes were €3.1 billion and represented a 61% share of total environment taxes.

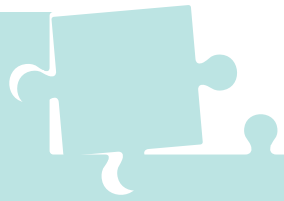
Environment taxes paid by **service industries** reached €1.5 billion, their highest level and represented a 29% share of total environment taxes.

Environment taxes levied on **industry** were €0.43 billion, a share of 8.3%.

Environment taxes levied on **agriculture** were €0.09 billion and represented a 1.7% share of total environment taxes.



# Social Inclusion



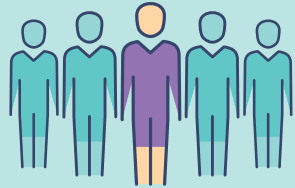
**Weekly household  
disposable income 2017**  
**+€41.59 / +4.7%**  
on previous year.



**€929.01**

Weekly household  
disposable income  
2017

**Weekly individual  
disposable income 2017**  
**+€24.94 / +5.5%**  
on previous year.



**€478.79**

Weekly equivalised  
disposable income per  
individual 2017

---

## Average weekly household and individual disposable income, 2007–2017

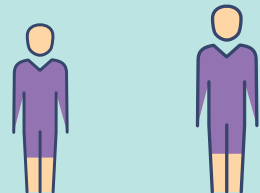
---

**Household  
disposable income**



2007	2017
€919.66	€929.01

**Equivalised disposable  
income per individual**



2007	2017
€452.47	€478.79

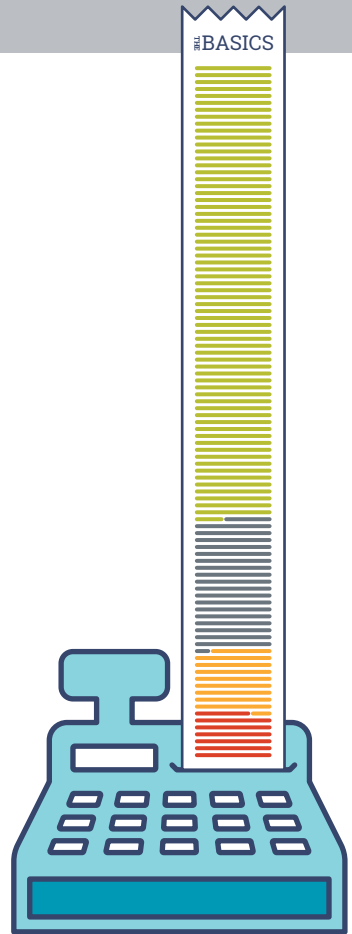
# Deprivation and Poverty

18.8% – The percentage of people considered to be experiencing ‘enforced deprivation’

The percentage of people considered to be experiencing ‘enforced deprivation’, is defined as not being able to afford two or more basics, such as going without heating in the past year, or being unable to afford items such as two pairs of strong shoes, a warm waterproof coat or a meal with meat, chicken or fish every second day.

**15.7% - The ‘at risk of poverty’ rate,** is the share of persons whose income was less than 60% of the national median income.

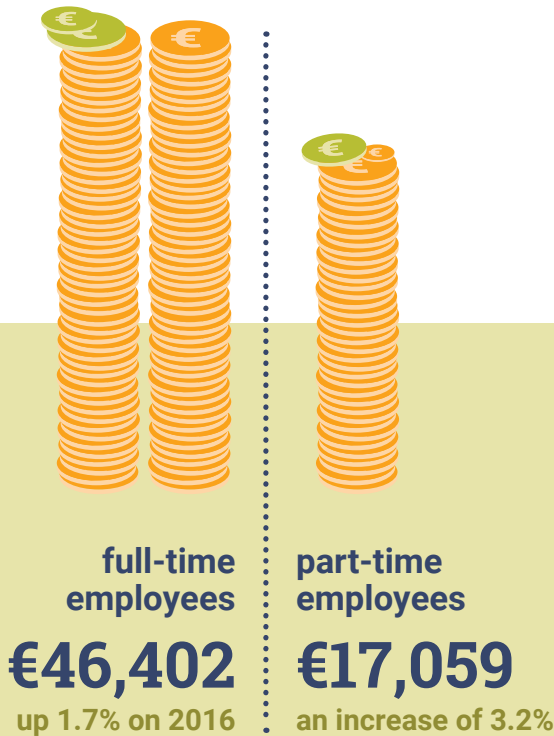
**6.7% - The ‘consistent poverty rate’** those who are both at risk of poverty and also experiencing enforced deprivation.



# Earnings

Average annual earnings increased by 2.0% to €37,646 in 2017, from €36,920 in 2016.

## Average annual earnings 2017



# Information Society

74% of all enterprises have a website or homepage.



**69%**  
use social media



**99%** of all enterprises  
use a computer

**42%**  
use the internet to facilitate  
access to catalogues or  
price lists

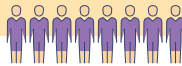


**25%**  
use the internet to facilitate  
access to online ordering or  
reservations



# Business

**Large enterprises** (250+ employees) employed **almost 32% of all persons engaged** in 2016 and accounted for 0.2% of total number of enterprises.



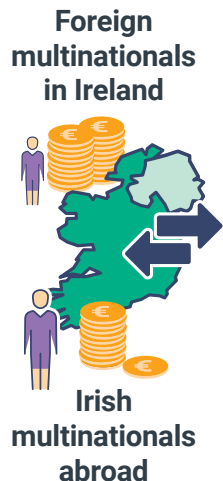
**SMEs** accounted for 99.8% of total number of enterprises in 2016 and over **68% of all persons engaged**



## SMEs generated 50.2% of total Turnover in the business economy and over 41% of Gross Value Added was attributed to these enterprises

Foreign multinationals in Ireland employed 293,147 persons and generated €345 billion in turnover. Foreign-owned enterprises accounted for 53.5% of total turnover and 58.8% of total GVA in the Irish business economy.

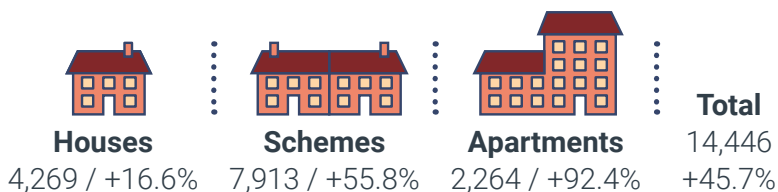
In 2016, Irish multinationals abroad had turnover in excess of €192 billion, with US and UK affiliates accounting for 58% of this. There were 856,049 persons employed in Irish multinationals abroad, 36% of whom were in the US and the UK.



# Housing

In 2017, there was a 23.7% increase in the number of new houses and a 37.0% increase in new apartments granted planning permission.

## New Dwelling Completions 2017



## Residential Property Price Index

In the year to Dec 2017, house prices increased 11.7% nationally.



In the year to Sept 2018, house prices increased 8.5% nationally.

## Irish Private Sector Credits

There was €74.8 billion in loans for house purchases in 2017 out of a total of €179 billion in credit advanced to the Irish private sector.

**Loans for house purchases:**  
**+ €1.3 billion**  
or +1.8% on 2016.

# Economy



## GDP & GNP

---

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross National Product (GNP) are closely related measures. GDP measures the total value added (or output) of the economy in a period, i.e. the value of work done by employees, companies and self-employed persons.

This work generates incomes but not all the incomes earned in the economy remain the property of residents (and residents may earn some income abroad). The total income remaining with Irish residents is GNP, and it differs from GDP by the net amount of incomes sent to, or received, from abroad.

**2017 GDP at constant market prices = €293 billion +7.2%**


Gross National Product (GNP) is the sum of GDP and net factor income from the rest of the world, which is the difference between investment income and labour income earned abroad by Irish residents and companies (inflows), and similar income earned in Ireland by non-residents (outflows).

**2017 GNP at constant market prices = €231.9 billion +4.4%**

In Ireland's case, for many years past, the amount belonging to persons abroad has exceeded the amount received from abroad, due mainly to the profits of foreign-owned companies, and our GNP is, therefore, less than our GDP.

GDP and GNP are also calculated at constant prices chain linked. This removes any changes in prices which have





occurred between years and allows us look at the volume changes (or growth rate) of the economy.

## Government Finance

---

### General Government surplus/deficit as a % of GDP

General government surplus/deficit is equal to the difference between the sum of all general government revenues, and the sum of general government expenditures and is expressed here as a percentage of GDP. A surplus means that government revenue is greater than expenditure and so this figure would be positive, whereas a deficit (where government expenditure is greater than revenue) would indicate a negative value.

**The government deficit for 2017 was €0.7 billion (-0.2% of GDP) an improvement on the 2016 deficit of €1.5 billion (-0.5% of GDP)**

### Gross General government debt as a % of annualised GDP

---

Gross General government debt is the nominal value of certain classes of liabilities, (specifically currency and deposits, securities other than shares (short-term and long-term) and loans (short-term and long-term), that is owed by government and is expressed here as a percentage of annualised GDP. This is a gross figure, i.e. only the liabilities side of the government balance sheet has been presented (not assets)).

**GG Debt stood at €201.3 billion for 2017 (68.4% of GDP), compared with the 2016 figure of €200.7 billion (73.4% of GDP)**

# Balance of Payments

The Balance of Payments data show economic flows with the rest of the world.

The current account balance is mainly driven by exports less imports, A positive current account balance usually indicates that exports are greater than imports and vice versa. For the year 2017, the current account surplus had a surplus of €24.9bn.



**Total exports of merchandise and services amounted to €352.6 billion**



**Total imports of merchandise and services amounted to €263.3 billion**

**Total merchandise and services trade surplus €89.3 billion**

UK merchandise and services trade surplus  
**€10.2 billion**

# Trade

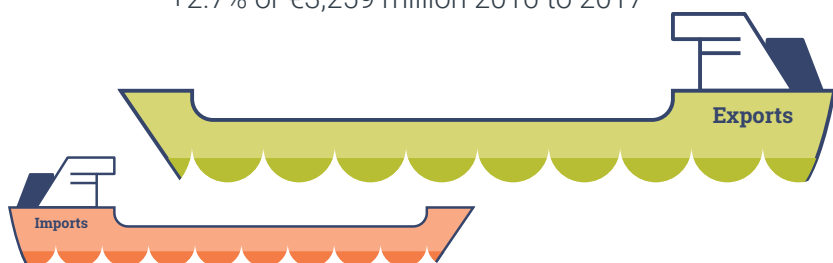
**Exports** of goods are commodities sent from one country to another country for sale. An export in the sending country is an import in the receiving country.

**Imports** of goods are commodities brought in from one country to another country for sale. An import in the receiving country is an export to the sending country.

**Value of goods exported in 2017**

**€122,551 million**

+2.7% or €3,259 million 2016 to 2017



**Value of goods imported in 2017**

**€79,063 million**

+6.7% or €4,932 million 2016 to 2017

**Trade in goods balance (exports minus imports)**

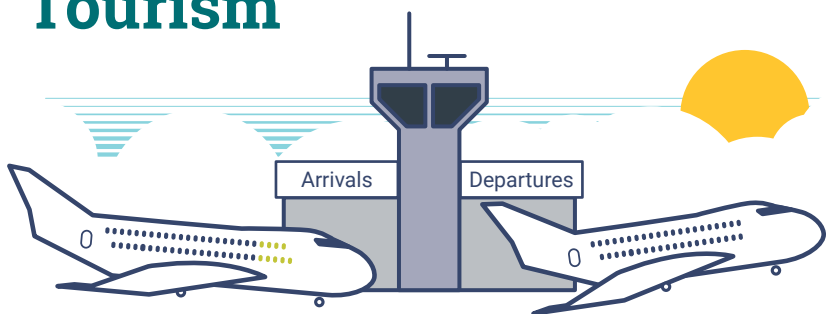
**Surplus +€43.488 million in 2017**

# National Average Prices from the Consumer Price Index

Potatoes 2.5 KG	€3.18	+0.6%	▲
Brown Sliced Pan 800g	€1.39	+2.2%	▲
Milk – full fat 2 litres	€1.69	-1.2%	▼
Stout draught – bar 1 pint	€4.43	+2.3%	▲
Petrol unleaded 1 litre	€1.36	+6.3%	▲
Diesel 1 litre	€1.25	+8.7%	▲
Roast Beef – topside/rib 1KG	€13.26	-0.2%	▼
Cod Fillets 1KG	€16.00	+0.3%	▲
Cheddar Cheese 1KG	€9.88	-3.9%	▼
Whiskey – take home bottle 70cl	€24.75	-2.1%	▼
Gent's dry haircut	€12.12	+1.5%	▲
Ladies - wash, cut & blow-dry	€38.85	+0.8%	▲
Cigarettes – filtered 20pk	€11.43	+6.1%	▲
Cinema ticket	€9.47	+2.7%	▲

Source: CSO Consumer Price Index – changes from 2016 to 2017

# Tourism



**9,932,000**

**Total overseas trips**  
to Ireland in 2017

**€4.87 billion**

**Total expenditure**  
in Ireland in 2017 (excluding fares)

Holiday/leisure/  
recreation  
was the most  
popular reason  
for the trip

**8,171,000**

**Total outbound trips by**  
Irish residents

**€6.89 billion**

**outbound expenditure**  
by Irish residents

Holiday was the  
most popular  
reason for  
outbound &  
domestic trips



**9,626,000**

**Total domestic trips**  
by Irish residents

**€1.88 billion**

**domestic expenditure**  
by Irish residents

# Transport

Number of new private cars licensed for the first time by type of fuel and CO2 emission band, 2017

Type of fuel      Total

Petrol              39,391

Diesel             82,492

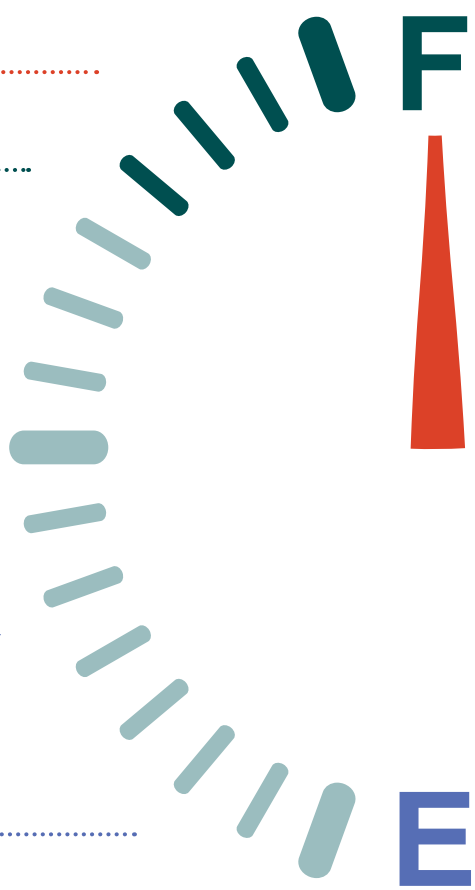
Electric            623

Petrol and electric hybrid      4,279

Diesel and electric hybrid      1

Petrol or diesel plug-in hybrid electric      259

**Total              127,045**

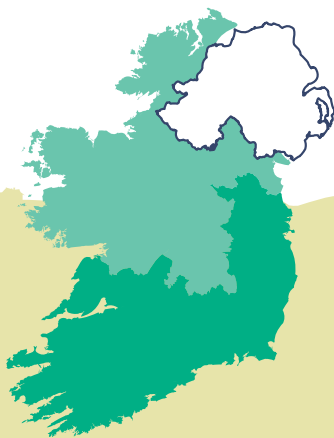


<sup>1</sup> CO2 emission bands are only available for vehicles registered under VAT category A.

# Agriculture

In 2016, there were 137,500 farms in Ireland.

More than half (52.7%) of all farms were located in the Border, Midland and Western (BMW) region. The average farm was 32.4 hectares. Farms in the Southern and Eastern (SE) region were 41.3% larger than those in the BMW region.



## Number of farms, average farm size and average standard output, by region 2016
















	State	BMW	S&E
<b>Total farms ('000s)</b>	137.5	72.5	65.0
<b>Average farm size (ha)</b>	32.4	27.1	38.3
<b>Average standard output</b>	€45,945	€28,874	€64,992

## Age of farm holders

Agriculture typically has an ageing workforce. In 2016, around a quarter of farm holders in Ireland were aged 65 years and over. Just 5% of people were aged less than 35 years.



000's

Age	2010	2013	2016
Less than 35	8.7 	8.2 	7.4 
35-44	24.6 	22.8 	21.4 
45-54	34.6 	34.8 	32.5 
55-64	35.1 	35.6 	34.7 
65 and over	36.6 	37.7 	41.2 

## Crops and Livestock

The combined area under cereals (wheat, oats and barley) in 2017 was 271,000 hectares (ha) compared to 1,017,000 hectares in 1847. In 1847, oats accounted for 61% of the area of cereals grown. However, by 2017 this had fallen to almost 9% and instead, barley made up 66% of the area under cereals. The area under potatoes in 2017 was only 9,000 ha.





## Number of livestock in June

000's

Description	2015	2016	2017
Bulls	36.5	25.0	16.9
Dairy cows	1,295.8	1,397.9	1,432.7
Other cows	1,075.8	1,103.7	1,081.0
Other cattle	4,555.5	4,694.6	4,832.9
<b>Total cattle</b>	<b>6,963.5</b>	<b>7,221.2</b>	<b>7,363.5</b>
Rams	75.8	77.8	78.4
Ewes	2,488.1	2,505.0	2,515.2
Other sheep	2,574.9	2,596.4	2,603.6
<b>Total sheep</b>	<b>5,138.7</b>	<b>5,179.2</b>	<b>5,197.1</b>
Boars	1.4	1.4	1.3
Female breeding pigs	147.8	148.5	143.4
Other pigs	1,387.6	1,444.4	1,412.2
<b>Total pigs</b>	<b>1,536.9</b>	<b>1,594.3</b>	<b>1,556.9</b>

Source: CSO and Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

# Fishing

€280.6 million –  
Value of fish landed by  
Irish vessels in **2016**.  
+15.6% on **2015**.



© **Government of Ireland 2018**

Material compiled and presented by  
the Central Statistics Office.

Reproduction is authorised, subject  
to acknowledgement of the source.

Further information is available at:  
<https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/whoweare/copyrightpolicy/>



+353 21 453 5000

[www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)

[information@cso.ie](mailto:information@cso.ie)

 [twitter.com/CSOIreland](https://twitter.com/CSOIreland)

 [facebook.com/CSOIreland](https://facebook.com/CSOIreland)

 [www.youtube.com/user/CSOIrelandMedia](https://www.youtube.com/user/CSOIrelandMedia)