



# Ireland

Joined the OECD: 1961

Prime Minister:

(Taoiseach) Enda Kenny

Ambassador to the OECD:

Michael Forbes

Parliament website: [www.oireachtas.ie](http://www.oireachtas.ie)

Capital city: Dublin



## Highlights

- The economy grew by 4.8% in volume in 2001, but only by 0.7% in 2011.
- GDP per head came to almost \$40,500 in 2010, above the OECD average of \$35,000.
- Unemployment rates more than tripled in the past decade, from 3.9% to 14.4%, with long-term unemployment over 59% of the total.
- All-in taxes on the average worker were at 26.8% of labour cost, below the OECD average of 35.2%.
- Renewable energy accounted for 5.9% of Ireland's energy supply, compared with 8.2% for the OECD.
- Development aid came to 0.52% of GNI, above the OECD-DAC figure of 0.31% and below the UN recommended target of 0.7%.

ECONOMY	2001	2011 <sup>3</sup>	GLOBALISATION	2001	2011 <sup>3</sup>
Gross domestic product (US\$ bln, PPPs)	118.9	186.4	Imports of goods and services (% of GDP)	83.7	..
GDP per capita (US\$)	30 776	40 478 <sup>2</sup>	Exports of goods and services (% of GDP)	99.1	..
Real GDP growth (annual %)	4.8	0.7	Net official development assistance (% of GNI)	..	0.52
Household disposable income (annual growth %)	..	-2.2 <sup>2</sup>	Foreign-born population (% of population)	..	15.5 <sup>2</sup>
Budget balance (% of GDP)	0.9	-13.0	Migration for work (% of total migration)	..	16.3 <sup>2</sup>
Public debt (% of GDP)	37.4	..	Outward FDI stocks (US\$ bln)	..	314
Current account balance (% of GDP)	-0.6	1.1	Inward FDI stocks (US\$ bln)	..	252
Inflation rate: all items (annual %)	4.9	2.6			
Unit labour cost (annual growth %)	5.1	..	<b>SOCIETY</b>		
Long-term interest rates (%)	5.02	9.58	Population (thousands)	3 866	4 474 <sup>2</sup>
Public expenditure on health (% of GDP)	5.1	6.4 <sup>2</sup>	Life expectancy at birth (years)	77.2	81.0 <sup>2</sup>
Private expenditure on health (% of GDP)	1.6	2.8 <sup>2</sup>	Population, 65 and over (% of population)	11.2	12.1
Public expenditure on education (% of GDP)	..	6.0 <sup>4</sup>	Employment rates: men (%)	76.7	63.3
Private expenditure on education (% of GDP)	..	0.4 <sup>4</sup>	Employment rates: women (%)	54.6	56.0
			Self-employment rates (% of employed)	8.0	7.5
<b>NEW SOURCES OF GROWTH</b>			Unemployment rates (%)	3.9	14.4
Renewable energy (% of energy supply)	1.6	5.9	Long-term unemployment (% of unemployed)	33.1	59.4
Primary energy supply (Mtoe)	14.5	13.5	Income inequality, rank out of 34 (1: least unequal)	..	13 <sup>1</sup>
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion (mln tonnes)	43	39 <sup>2</sup>	Average hours actually worked (per year)	1 713	1 543
R&D expenditure (US\$ mln, 2005 prices, PPPs)	1 449	2 844 <sup>2</sup>	Taxes on average worker (all-in, % of labour cost)	25.9	26.8
Tertiary graduation rates (% of population)	..	37.3 <sup>2</sup>	Road fatalities (per mln inhabitants)	107	47 <sup>2</sup>
Households with internet access (%)	..	78.1			

1. Late 2000s data, based on Gini coefficient 2. 2010 data 3. Unless otherwise indicated 4. 2009 data