

# IRELAND

Update: July 2nd 2024



## Geography

**Area:** 70,280 km<sup>2</sup>  
**Borders:** 360 km (with United Kingdom)  
**Coastline:** 1,448 km  
**Capital:** Dublin  
**Official languages:** Gaelic, English



## Population

**Population:** 5,271,395 inhabitants (2023)  
**Natural change rate:** 3.8‰ (2022)  
**Population repartition:** 19.3% of under 15 years old, 15.2% of over 65 years old (2023)  
**Life expectancy:** men 80.5 years, women 84.1 years (2023 est.)  
**Migration rate for 1 000 inhabitants:** 6.8 (2023 est.)  
**Foreign residents:** 7% EU nationals, non-EU nationals 6% (2021)  
**First time asylum applicants:** 13,275 (2023)  
**Confessions:** Roman Catholics 68.3%, Church of Ireland 3.8%, Orthodox 2%, Other Christians 0.9%, Muslims 1.4%, Other 1.6%, No religion 15.4%, unspecified 6.6% (est. 2022)

Source : Eurostat, CIA World Factbook



## Economy

**Currency:** Euro  
**GDP:** € 504,619.7 million (2023)  
**GDP per capita (PPP):** € 72,390 (2023)  
**GDP growth:** -3.2% (2023)  
**Unemployment:** 4% (May 2024)  
**Inflation:** 1.5% (June 2024)  
**Public debt:** 43.7% of GDP (Q4 2023)  
**Budget balance:** 4.6% of GDP (Q4 2023)  
**Stock of foreign direct investments:** 380.6% of GDP (2022)

Source : Eurostat, The World Bank, Trading Economics



## Political System

**Democratic republic, bicameral parliamentary regime**  
**Head of State:** Michael D. Higgins (Labour Party) since November, 2011 (re-elected for a second mandate of 7 years after the elections on October 26th 2018).  
**Prime Minister (Taoiseach):** Simon Harris (Fine Gael) since April 9th 2024, following the announcement of Leo Varadkar's resignation on March 20th 2024. Following a political three-party agreement from June 27th 2020, the Irish government is composed of the Green Party, Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael.  
**Bi-cameral legislative system:**  
**the Dáil Éireann** (House of Representatives), made up of 160 members who are elected for five years by direct universal suffrage  
**the Seanad Éireann** (Senate), of which 60 members are either elected by indirect universal suffrage or are appointed by the Taoiseach (Prime Minister)



## Political Representation

### Composition of the House of Representatives (in January 2024):

- 37 seats Fianna Fail
- 36 seats Sinn Féin
- 34 seats Fine Gael
- 22 seats Independant
- 12 seats Green Party
- 7 seats Labour Party
- 6 seats Social Democrats
- 5 seats People Before Profit Alliance (PBPA)
- 1 seat Aontú

### Composition of the Senate (43 members elected by professional panels, 11 members nominated by the Prime minister, 6 members elected by the universities):

- 21 seats Fianna Fáil
- 16 seats Fine Gael
- 11 seats Independent
- 5 seats Labour Party
- 4 seats Green Party
- 4 seats Sinn Féin

### Female members:

in government: 4/15  
 in the Dáil Éireann : 36/160  
 the Seanad Éireann : 24/60

**Next elections:** legislative and presidential in 2025