

COUNTRY PROFILE

IRELAND



WORLD COMPETITIVENESS RANKING **2019**

All data are available from the
World Competitiveness Online.

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IRELAND

OVERALL PERFORMANCE (63 countries)



CHALLENGES IN 2019

- Slowdown in global economic growth.
- The nature and timing of Brexit.
- An escalation of trade protectionism.
- Tightening of financial market conditions.
- Exchange rate volatility.

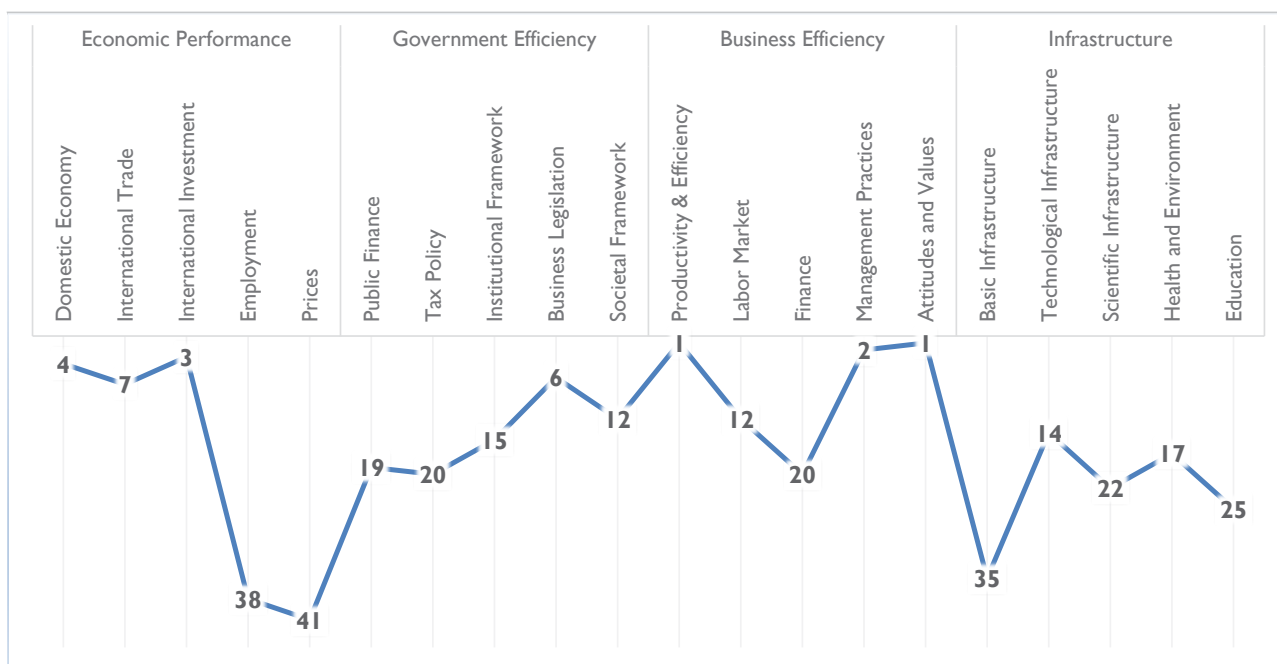
Provided by:

IDA Ireland, Investment and Development Agency, Dublin

BASIC FACTS

		Rank
Capital	Dublin	
Land area (square km '000)	70	2018
Exchange Rate (per \$)	0.847	2018
Population - market size (millions)	4.86	53
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (US\$ billions)	375.9	30
GDP (PPP) per capita (US\$)	79,442	4
Real GDP growth (%)	6.7	3
Consumer price inflation (%)	0.72	4
Unemployment rate (%)	5.70	37
Labor force (millions)	2.41	52
Current account balance (% of GDP)	7.71	10
Direct investment stocks inward (\$bn)	880.2	10
Direct investment flows inward (% of GDP)	5.68	7

COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE



PEER GROUPS RANKINGS

EUROPE - MIDDLE EAST - AFRICA (40 countries)



POPULATIONS < 20 MILLION (34 countries)



IRELAND

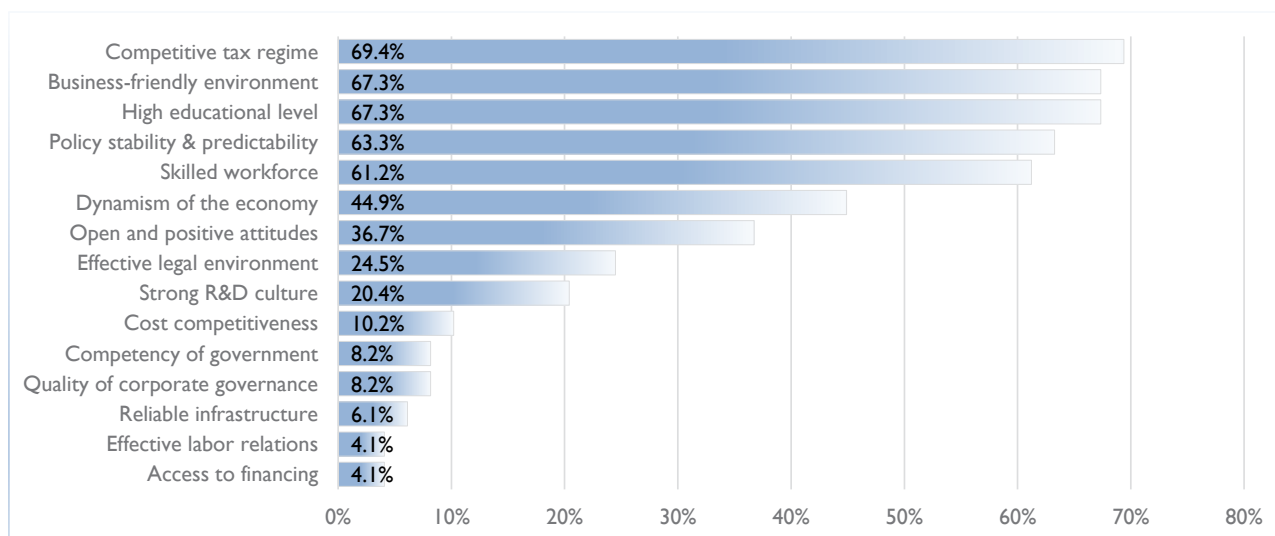
COMPETITIVENESS EVOLUTION

The criteria below highlight the 15 biggest Improvements and the 15 biggest Declines in the overall performance of the economy. They are determined by the largest percentage changes in the value of each criterion from one yearbook to the next.

IMPROVEMENTS	WCY 2018	WCY 2019	DECLINES	WCY 2018	WCY 2019
1.1.18 Gross fixed capital formation - real growth	-22.26	9.75	1.5.01 Consumer price inflation	0.26	0.72
2.1.02 Government budget surplus/deficit (%)	-0.34	0.01	2.3.08 Exchange rate stability	0.025	0.046
2.3.12 Bureaucracy	4.72	6.17	1.2.02 Current account balance	12.55	7.71
1.2.12 Exports of commercial services (\$bn)	146.21	186.08	4.2.16 High-tech exports (%)	29.77	21.45
3.3.07 Regulatory compliance (banking laws)	6.20	7.88	4.3.10 Researchers in R&D per capita	5.5	4.1
4.5.19 Language skills	4.80	5.92	2.5.02 Homicide	0.6	0.8
4.2.18 Cyber security	5.22	6.41	1.1.15 Real GDP growth per capita	6.62	5.24
2.1.11 Pension funding	3.39	4.13	4.3.07 Total R&D personnel per capita	7.61	6.14
4.1.07 Population - growth	1.12	1.35	3.3.10 Stock market capitalization (%)	41.31	34.25
3.3.06 Banking and financial services	5.52	6.65	1.5.02 Cost-of-living index	77.50	88.90
1.2.08 Exports of goods (\$bn)	136.76	164.64	1.1.14 Real GDP growth	7.8	6.7
3.2.21 Brain drain	5.88	7.04	2.1.09 Public finances	6.36	5.63
2.3.05 Central bank policy	6.16	7.35	2.2.07 Effective personal income tax rate	21.20	23.61
1.2.13 Exports of commercial services (%)	47.96	56.14	4.3.05 Business expenditure on R&D (%)	0.83	0.74
2.3.07 Foreign currency reserves per capita	921	1,075	4.3.02 Total expenditure on R&D (%)	1.18	1.05

KEY ATTRACTIVENESS INDICATORS

From a list of 15 indicators, respondents of the Executive Opinion Survey were asked to select 5 that they perceived as the key attractiveness factors of their economy. The chart shows the percentage of responses per indicator from the highest number of responses to the lowest.



2019 release: 24th September

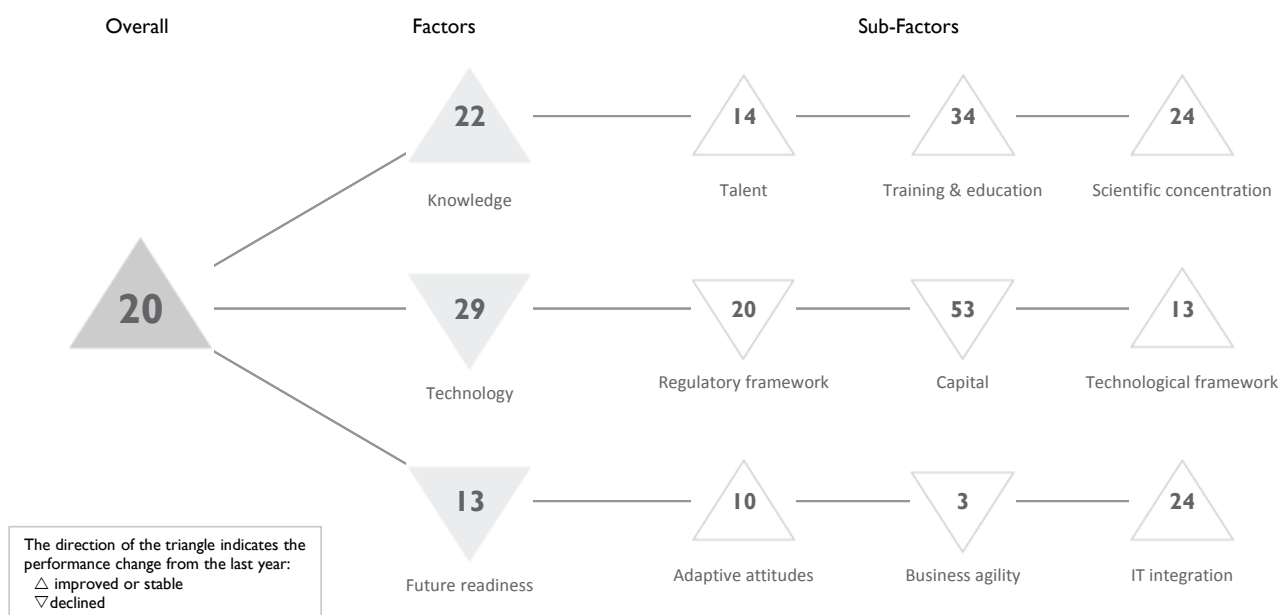
WORLD COMPETITIVENESS DIGITAL RANKING **2018**

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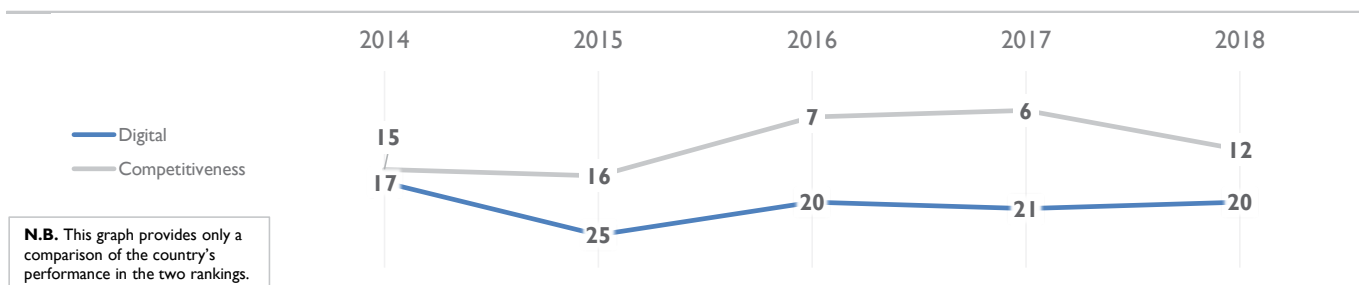
OVERALL PERFORMANCE (63 countries)



OVERALL & FACTORS - 5 years

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
OVERALL	17	25	20	21	20
Knowledge	21	26	25	25	22
Technology	22	27	27	25	29
Future readiness	11	12	12	10	13

COMPETITIVENESS & DIGITAL RANKINGS



PEER GROUPS RANKINGS

EUROPE - MIDDLE EAST - AFRICA (40 countries)



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► Overall top strengths

▷ Overall top weaknesses

KNOWLEDGE

Subfactors	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Talent	9	21	18	15	14
Training & education	17	29	25	34	34
Scientific concentration	36	34	32	31	24

Talent	Rank
Educational assessment PISA - Math	17
International experience	13
Foreign highly-skilled personnel	8
Management of cities	31
Digital/Technological skills	22
Net flow of international students	28

Training & education	Rank
Employee training	29
▷ Total public expenditure on education	55
Higher education achievement	12
▷ Pupil-teacher ratio (tertiary education)	50
Graduates in Sciences	27
Women with degrees	17

Scientific concentration	Rank
Total expenditure on R&D (%)	32
Total R&D personnel per capita	16
Female researchers	30
R&D productivity by publication	42
Scientific and technical employment	15
High-tech patent grants	19

TECHNOLOGY

Subfactors	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Regulatory framework	2	13	18	14	20
Capital	44	51	49	49	53
Technological framework	23	21	18	13	13

Regulatory framework	Rank
Starting a business	6
Enforcing contracts	49
Immigration laws	11
Development and app. of technology	20
Scientific research legislation	16
Intellectual property rights	16

Capital	Rank
▷ IT & media stock market capitalization	49
Funding for technological development	13
Banking and financial services	46
Investment risk	30
Venture capital	18
▷ Investment in Telecommunications	61

Technological framework	Rank
▷ Communications technology	50
Mobile Broadband subscribers	7
Wireless broadband	15
Internet users	20
Internet bandwidth speed	21
High-tech exports (%)	6

FUTURE READINESS

Subfactors	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Adaptive attitudes	18	14	13	12	10
Business agility	4	6	8	2	3
IT integration	20	24	22	24	24

Adaptive attitudes	Rank
E-Participation	34
Internet retailing	8
Tablet possession	11
► Smartphone possession	3
► Attitudes toward globalization	5

Business agility	Rank
► Opportunities and threats	2
► Innovative firms	6
► Agility of companies	5
Use of big data and analytics	28
Knowledge transfer	12

IT integration	Rank
E-Government	25
Public-private partnerships	18
Cyber security	43
Software piracy	19

2019 release: 19th November

WORLD TALENT RANKING **2018**

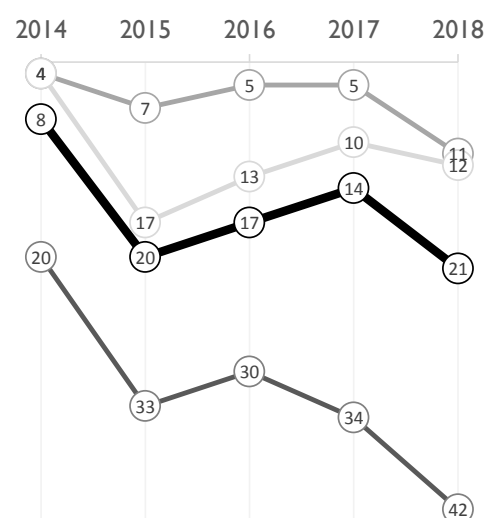
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OVERALL PERFORMANCE (63 countries)

The direction of the triangle indicates the performance change from the last year:
 △ improved or stable
 ▽ declined



Investment & Development

		Value	2018 Rank
▶ Total public expenditure on education	Percentage of GDP	3.3 %	55
Government expenditure on education per student	Percentage of GDP per capita (secondary education)	21.6 %	29
Pupil-teacher ratio (primary education)	Ratio of students to teaching staff	16.20 ratio	34
Pupil-teacher ratio (secondary education)	Ratio of students to teaching staff	13.87 ratio	43
▶ Apprenticeships	are sufficiently implemented	4.48 Survey [0..10]	38
Employee training	is a high priority in companies	5.96 Survey [0..10]	29
Female labor force	Percentage of total labor force	45.69 %	33
▶ Health infrastructure	meets the needs of society	4.28 Survey [0..10]	46

Appeal

		Value	2018 Rank
Cost-of-living index	Index of a basket of goods & services in the main city, including housing (New York City = 100)	77.50 index	38
▶ Attracting and retaining talents	is a priority in companies	7.80 Survey [0..10]	5
▶ Worker motivation	in companies is high	7.56 Survey [0..10]	3
Brain drain	(well-educated and skilled people) does not hinder competitiveness in your economy	5.88 Survey [0..10]	20
Quality of life	is high	8.68 Survey [0..10]	17
▶ Foreign highly-skilled personnel	are attracted to your country's business environment	7.48 Survey [0..10]	8
Remuneration in services professions	Gross annual income including supplements such as bonuses, US\$	43,862 US\$	13
Remuneration of management	Total base salary plus bonuses and long-term incentives, US\$	205,126 US\$	17
▶ Effective personal income tax rate	Percentage of an income equal to GDP per capita	21.20 %	43
Personal security and private property rights	are adequately protected	8.20 Survey [0..10]	17

Readiness

		Value	2018 Rank
Labor force growth	Percentage change	1.87 %	19
Skilled labor	is readily available	6.12 Survey [0..10]	20
▶ Finance skills	are readily available	7.52 Survey [0..10]	7
International experience	of senior managers is generally significant	6.56 Survey [0..10]	13
Competent senior managers	are readily available	6.40 Survey [0..10]	16
Educational system	The educational system meets the needs of a competitive economy	7.55 Survey [0..10]	10
Science in schools	is sufficiently emphasized	6.80 Survey [0..10]	10
▶ University education	meets the needs of a competitive economy	7.92 Survey [0..10]	9
Management education	meets the needs of the business community	7.12 Survey [0..10]	14
▶ Language skills	are meeting the needs of enterprises	4.80 Survey [0..10]	46
Student mobility inbound	Foreign tertiary-level students per 1000 inhabitants	3.77 number	22
Educational assessment - PISA	PISA survey of 15-year olds	503 Average	17



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