

Ireland's Economic & Competitiveness Update Q1 2018



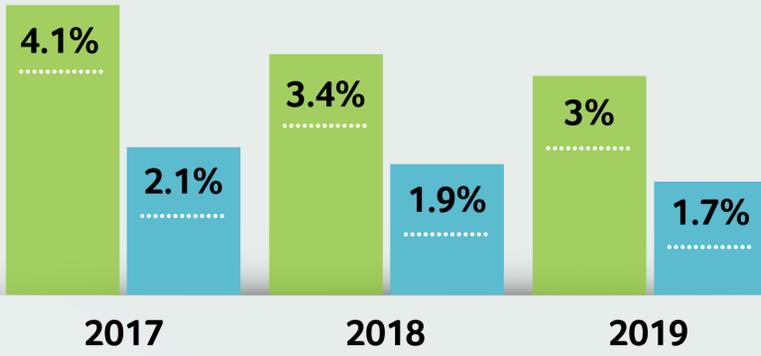
Strong Sustained Economic Growth

- + IMD ranks Ireland 6th in the world for overall competitiveness.
- + Fastest growing economy in Eurozone for past four years (2014 – 2017).
- + Ireland: "A" grade from all major credit rating agencies
- + High levels of investor confidence in Irish Economy
 - Sovereign debt ratings upgraded
 - Irish bond yields are trading below 1% and in line with core European sovereign yields.
- + Additional capital expenditure to 2021 will see capital public investment in Ireland move to among the highest in the EU.



Real GDP Growth Rate

National and International forecasts predict continued strong GDP growth into 2018.



Source: IMF World Economic Outlook, October 2017

Ireland EuroArea

FDI Continues to Grow Strongly

- + In the face of global economic & political uncertainty Ireland remains a stable, competitive, secure, pro-business economy.
- + 210,443 people directly employed by FDI Companies.
- + Multinationals make a significant contribution to the Irish Economy;

10%
of total Employment in Ireland (2016)

70%
of Exports (2016)

80%
of Corporation Tax (2016)

€17.9bn
annual spend in Irish Economy on payroll, materials and services (2016)

€4.9bn
invested annually in capital projects (2016)

Some leading investments secured include:



Labour Market Continues to Strengthen

- + Strong employment growth: over 2.2 million people now at work in Ireland.
- + Unemployment 6.1% in November 2017 at it's lowest level in 9 years. Ireland's unemployment rate below EU (7.6%) and Eurozone (9.1%) average.
- + Exporting companies created 1 in every 2.5 additional jobs in Ireland since 2012.
- + IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2017 ranks Ireland 1st for labour productivity and efficiency, and adaptability and flexibility of workforce.
- + Youngest Population in the EU: 33% under 25 (EU 28: 26.8%).
- + Irish labour productivity is 78% above the EU 28 average.

Ireland at the Heart of Europe

- + Ireland will remain a core member of the EU single market & Euro currency.
- + Only English speaking country in the Eurozone.
- + Ireland is most positive about the EU - 86% in favour of the free movement of EU citizens to live, work, study, do business in the EU (EU average 81%).
- + Proportionally Ireland has the 3rd highest international workforce in Europe. Today, 15% of Ireland's workforce is international.

