



# IRELAND

DEMOGRAPHIC & SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS		2012	2013	2014
A1	<u>Mid-year population</u>	4,585,407	4,593,125	4,675,164
A2	<u>Area (square km)</u>	70,280	70,280	70,280
A3	<u>Average population density per square km</u>	65	65	66
A4	<u>Live births per 1,000 population</u>	15.8	15.0	14.6
A5	<u>Crude death rate per 1,000 population</u>	6.4	6.4	n.a.
A6	<u>Estimated life expectancy</u>	80.5	81.0	81.2
A6a	<u>Estimated life expectancy, female</u>	82.7	83.1	83.3
A6b	<u>Estimated life expectancy, males</u>	78.3	78.8	79.1
A7	<u>Gross domestic product (GDP) US\$ per capita</u>	48,977.0	51,815.0	54,321.0

HEALTHCARE SYSTEM		2012	2013	2014
B1	Healthcare coverage of population			
				Eligibility for healthcare in Ireland is based on residency and not on payment of social and/or private health insurance contributions. Any person, regardless of nationality, who is accepted by the Health Service Executive (HSE) as being ordinarily a resident in Ireland is entitled to either full eligibility (Category 1) or limited eligibility (Category 2) for health services.
B2	Gate keeping system			
				Persons in <b>Category 1</b> are medical card holders and they are entitled to a full range of services without charge, including general practitioner services, prescribed drugs and medicines (prescription charges apply), all in-patient public hospital services in public wards including consultant services, all out-patient public hospital services including consultant services, dental, ophthalmic and aural services and appliances and a maternity and infant care service. Eligibility for medical cards is generally determined by reference to the means of the individual or family, and a medical card is awarded where income is below a certain level. Persons in <b>Category 2</b> (non-medical card holders) are entitled, subject to certain charges, to all inpatient public hospital services in public wards including consultant services and to out-patient public hospital services including consultant services. Persons in this category, but with an income below a certain threshold, may be entitled to a GP visit card. A GP visit card entitles the holder to free GP services. Where the patient does not have a medical card or a GP visit card, the full charge for the GP consultation is paid by the patient as a private arrangement with the GP. In addition, a number of schemes exist which provide assistance towards the cost of medication.
B3	<u>Total health expenditure, PPP\$ per capita, WHO estimates</u>	3,814.0	3,762.0	3,801.0
B4	Public sector health expenditure as % of total health expenditure	67.6	66.6	66.1
B5	<u>Total health expenditure as % of GDP, WHO estimates</u>	8.3	8.0	7.8
B5a	<u>Public-sector expenditure on health as % of GDP, WHO estimates</u>	5.6	5.3	5.1
B5b	<u>Private-sector expenditure on health as % of GDP, WHO estimates</u>	2.7	2.7	2.6
B6	<u>Expenditure on inpatient care, PPP\$ per capita</u>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
B7	<u>Public inpatient expenditure as % of total inpatient expenditure</u>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
B8	<u>Total inpatient expenditure as % of total health expenditure</u>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
B9	Public funding	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

HOSPITAL GOVERNANCE		2012	2013	2014
C1	Administration and management			
				The HSE was established by Ministerial order on 1 January 2005 in accordance with the provisions of the Health Act 2004, as amended by the Health Service Executive (Governance) Act, 2013 as the single body with statutory responsibility for the management and delivery of health and personal social services to the population of Ireland.
C2	Surveillance authority		n.a.	

HOSPITAL FINANCING		2012	2013	2014
D1	Hospital financiers		n.a.	
D2	Modes of payment			
				Since January 2014, it has been rolled Activity-Based Funding (ABF) out in the 38 largest public hospitals initially for inpatient and day case activity. It replaces the previous arrangement of block grant allocation. ABF means that hospitals are paid for the actual quantity and quality of care they deliver to patients, thereby enabling the hospitals to see clearly the link between money and the work they do. Targets for hospital activity are set centrally by the HSE and prices are set by the Healthcare Pricing Office.
D3	Use of DRGs		n.a.	
D4	Hospital investments		n.a.	

TOTAL HOSPITAL CARE PROVISION		2012	2013	2014
E1	Public/private ownership			
There are three different types of hospital provision in Ireland: Health Service Executive (HSE) hospitals, owned and funded by the HSE, Voluntary public hospitals, most of whose income comes from State funds. Voluntary public hospitals are sometimes owned by private bodies, for example, religious orders. Other voluntary public hospitals are incorporated by charter or statute and are run by boards often appointed by the Minister for Health. Private hospitals, which receive no State funding.				
E1a	% of hospitals private for profit	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
E1b	% of hospitals private not for profit	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
E2	Categories	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
E3	Total number of hospitals	98	95	n.a.
E4	Hospitals per 100,000	2.1	n.a.	n.a.
E5	Total number of hospital beds	11,692	11,837	11,989
E5a	Number of public inpatient hospital beds	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
	Public inpatient hospital beds as % of all hospital beds	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
E5b	Number of private inpatient hospital beds	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
	Private inpatient hospital beds as % of all beds	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
E6	Hospital beds per 100,000	255.0	258.0	260.0
E7	Number of all hospital discharges	616,206	649,105	655,747
E8	Inpatient care discharges per 100	13.4	14.1	14.2
E9	Average length of stay, all hospitals	6.2	6.0	6.0

ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL PROVISION		2012	2013	2014
F1	Number of acute (short-stay) hospitals	55	n.a.	n.a.
F2	Acute (short-stay) hospitals per 100,000	1.2	n.a.	n.a.
F3	Number of acute care hospital beds	10,885	11,005	11,241
F3a	Acute care hospital beds as % of all hospital beds	93.1	93.0	93.8
F4	Acute care hospital beds per 100,000	237	240	244
F5	Number of acute care hospital discharges	609,666	641,736	648,660
F6	Acute care hospital discharges per 100	13.3	14.0	14.1
F7	Average length of stay, acute care hospitals only	5.9	5.7	5.6
F8	Bed occupancy rate (%), acute care hospitals only	93.0	94.0	93.0

HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE		2012	2013	2014
G1	Number of general practitioners	3,318	3,361	3,585
G1a	General practitioners per 100,000	72.0	73.0	78.0
G1b	Population per one GP	1,382.0	1,366.6	1,304.1
G2	Number of physicians	12,450	12,367	12,982
G2a	Physicians per 100,000	272.0	269.0	282.0
G3	% of physicians working in hospitals	54.1	54.8	55.1
G4	Number of nurses	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
G4a	Nurses per 100,000	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
G5	% of nurses working in hospitals	n.a.	n.a.	40.4
G6	Number of nurses per physician	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

\* Quantitative information has been extracted in January 2018

\*\* Last updated qualitative information has been provided by HOPE LO in 2018