



OSH BAROMETER

Ireland

Country Report

Ireland Country Report Index

This document contains the OSH Barometer Country Report Summary of Ireland

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Introduction **General information**

The **development and provision of the OSH BAROMETER — Status of Occupational Safety and Health in Europe** is a long-term activity of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (**DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion**) and the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (**EU-OSHA**). It aims to provide up-to-date online information for all interested parties and stakeholders about the status of OSH in the European Union.

The overall objective of this activity is to design and develop a reliable and stable information system on OSH in Europe, based on data from the relevant national and European data providers. From 2016 to 2018, two contractors of DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (Kooperationsstelle Hamburg IFE and Eurogip) developed the structure of the system, collected data for a selected number of indicators and assessed their reliability.

EU-OSHA will contribute to the establishment and maintenance of the **OSH BAROMETER** by designing and running the data visualisation tool, ensuring data quality in cooperation with key data providers and stakeholders, and feeding in the quantitative and qualitative data in close collaboration with EU institutions and Member State Contact Points. As part of its activity '**EU OSH INFO System**', EU-OSHA will publish an analytical report, based on the collected data, every 3 years.

The **OSH BAROMETER** uses the following data sources:

- Eurostat: data on economy, sectors, population, and employment
- Eurostat: Labour Force Survey (LFS), particularly the ad hoc module from 2013: 'Accidents at work and other work-related health problems'
- Eurostat: European Union Survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC)
- Eurofound: European Working Conditions Survey (EWCS)
- EU-OSHA: European Survey of Enterprises' New and Emerging Risks (ESENER) 2014
- European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion: several reports and studies
- Senior Labour Inspectors Committee (SLIC): non-confidential country evaluations
- National contact points in Member States: national data and descriptions
- EU-OSHA focal points/EU-OSHA: descriptions of the national OSH Systems in OSHwiki
- comprehensive reports from national or European sources

This methodology contains a compilation of all references and data sources that were used to provide texts, diagrams and tables, and in some cases additional explanations.

In most cases we provide the following data:

- the indicator and diagram/table/description title
- a short description of the data evaluation and visualisation approach
- exact source with name and link
- the period of reference (year/period) and the last update
- the coverage of Member States and other countries
- filter options or selection criteria of the source
- the measuring unit
- any calculation that EU-OSHA performed based on the original data
- visualisation basics
- other useful explanations and additional comments

Generic information OSH authorities

This indicator is an overview of OSH authorities and relevant OSH institutions in the different Member States and at EU level.

For further information refer to Methodology



OSH authority

Health and Safety Authority (HSA)

See more in its website and in OSHwiki

The HSA is the national statutory body responsible for enforcing OSH law, promoting and encouraging accident prevention, and providing information and advice to all companies, organisations and individuals. The aim of the HSA is to make occupational safety, health and welfare an integral part of doing business in every Irish workplace.

To ensure compliance with legislation, the HSA seeks, primarily, to reduce workplace accidents by providing guidance and support to employers and employees. Inspectors of the HSA carry out reactive and proactive inspections of workplaces. Reactive inspections may arise following an accident, incident or complaint. Proactive inspections may be routine or targeted. The purpose of an inspection is to assist the HSA with carrying out some of the general functions assigned by Section 34 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005. These functions include:

- monitoring the implementation of and compliance with statutory health, and welfare requirements;
- enforcing any relevant statutory provisions set out in health, safety and welfare legislation;
- promoting, encouraging and advising employers and employees in relation to health and safety training;
- promoting and encouraging measures aimed at the prevention of accidents, dangerous occurrences and personal injury at work;
- providing information and advice on matters relating to health, safety and welfare;
- promoting and encouraging the implementation of best practice methodologies and processes.

Compensation and insurance body

Personal Injuries Assessment Board

See more in its website and in OSHwiki

Under the Personal Injuries Assessment Board Act 2003, anyone intending to seek compensation for a personal injury (other than a personal injury arising from medical negligence) must make an application through InjuriesBoard.ie. InjuriesBoard.ie is the statutory body that provides an independent assessment of personal injury compensation for victims of accidents, including workplace accidents. InjuriesBoard.ie is staffed with public servants that have the relevant legal, insurance and medical expertise to assess OSH compensation claims, and has established an independent panel made up of medical experts from across Ireland. Employees use their employer's public liability insurance to claim for injuries and ill health from work-related accidents and illnesses through the courts for civil compensation. The state also has a system of occupational injury and illness benefits that are paid to those out of work. These are paid from the budget of the Department of Social and Family Protection.

Prevention institute

Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH)

See more in its website and in OSHwiki

IOSH was founded in 1945 and is the chartered body for health and safety professionals. With more than 40,000 individual members, it is the biggest professional health and safety organisation in the world. The Ireland branch of IOSH was founded in 1982. There are currently five districts and five specialist sections in the Ireland branch. The Ireland branch committee consists of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, a treasurer, a secretary, a development officer, some non-officer members, and a representative from each of the districts and specialist sections.

National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO)

See more in its website and in OSHwiki

NISO provides information and services to help improve safety and the workplace. Its services include:

- providing leading information, and advisory and training services;
- promoting a culture of excellence in workplace health and safety;
- playing a leading role in advancing the national health and safety agenda.

Occupational Health Nurses Association of Ireland (OHNAI)

See more in its website and in OSHwiki

OHNAI is the national body for occupational health nurses who work as either individual practitioners or team members in a workplace setting. The association supports its members in their role in:

- preventing accidents and ill health at work;
- providing care to employees through health promotion, health surveillance, rehabilitation, and the management of health and safety;
- working to ensure professionalism, quality and legal compliance in occupational health practice.

Standardisation body

National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI)

See more in its website and in OSHwiki

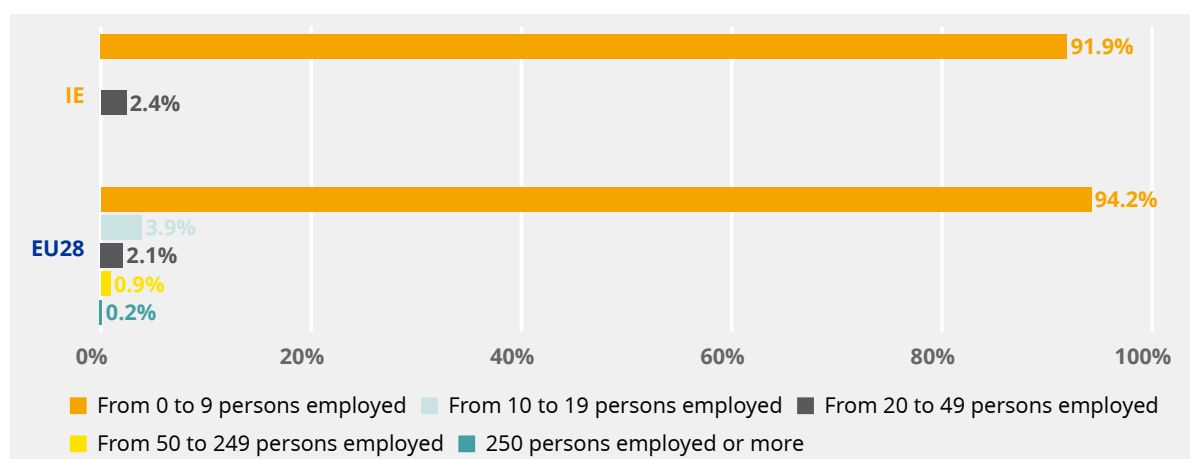
The NSAI is Ireland's official standards body. It operates under the National Standards Authority of Ireland Act (1996) and is accountable to the Minister for Business, Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation . The NSAI is the national certification authority for CE marking, and it provides a certification service to enable businesses to demonstrate that Irish goods and services conform to the applicable standards. As Ireland's official standards body, the NSAI aims to inspire consumer confidence and create the infrastructure needed for products and services to be recognised and relied upon all over the world.

Generic information **Economic and sector profile**

The indicator 'Economic and sector profile' displays relevant data on the economy and sectoral structure of the EU and its Member States, e.g. percentages of company size, employment per sector and information on gross domestic product. Note: Not all data is available for every country.

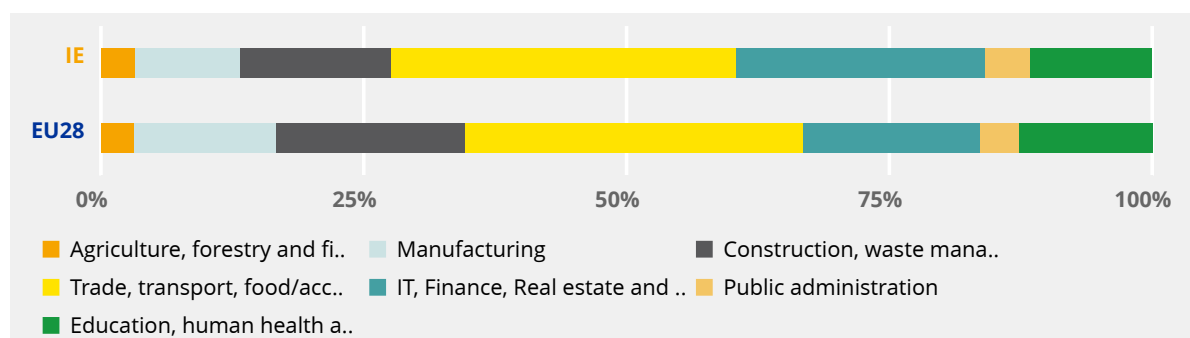
Source: EUROSTAT. For further information refer to Methodology

Company size



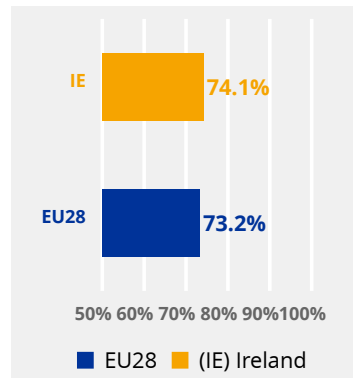
Sector	Country	Value (%)	Country	Value (%)
From 0 to 9 persons employed	IE	91.9	EU28	94.2
From 10 to 19 persons employed	IE		EU28	3.9
From 20 to 49 persons employed	IE	2.4	EU28	2.1
From 50 to 249 persons employed	IE		EU28	0.9
250 persons employed or more	IE		EU28	0.2

Employment per sector



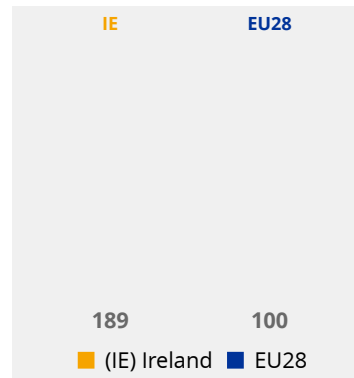
Sector	Country	Value (%)	Country	Value (%)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	IE	3.2	EU28	3.2
Manufacturing	IE	10.1	EU28	13.5
Construction, waste management, water and electricity supply	IE	14.3	EU28	18
Trade, transport, food/accommodation and recreation activities	IE	32.8	EU28	32.1
IT, Finance, Real estate and other technical scientific or personal service activities	IE	23.7	EU28	16.9
Public administration	IE	4.3	EU28	3.7
Education, human health and social work activities	IE	11.6	EU28	12.7

Employment rate



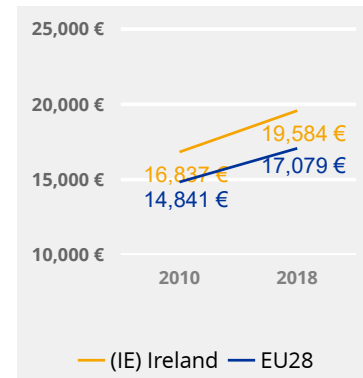
Country	Value (%)
EU28	73.2
(IE) Ireland	74.1

GDP per capita in relation to EU28 average



Country	Value (%)
(IE) Ireland	189.3
EU28	100

Income per capita





Country	Year	Income
(IE) Ireland	2010	16837
(IE) Ireland	2018	19584
EU28	2010	14841
EU28	2018	17079

Generic information Workforce profile

This indicator includes a few key data on ageing workers and the workforce: median age, employment rate of different age groups, total and sex.

Source: EUROSTAT. For further information refer to Methodology

	Median age of population:	Employment rate (55 - 64):	Employment rate (female):	Employment rate (male):	Employment rate (total):	Unemployment rate:
EU28	43.3 years	58.7 %	67.4 %	79 %	73.2 %	6.8 %
	Median age of population:	Employment rate (55 - 64):	Employment rate (female):	Employment rate (male):	Employment rate (total):	Unemployment rate:
IE	37.7 years	60.4 %	68.1 %	80.3 %	74.1 %	5.8 %

Steering of OSH **National strategies**

National strategies are well known as a policy instrument to enhance the effectiveness of an OSH system through the collaborative and smart use of resources. They include approaches such as priority setting, prior action defining and action plans. You will find here a short harmonised description of current national strategies based on the full mapping report of EU-OSHA on national strategies (December 2017) plus later updates as received from Member States.

For further information refer to Methodology



Structure of each National strategy

Basic information

Strategy document: **Health and Safety Authority (2019), Statement of Strategy 2019 – 2021**

Former strategies: **Health and Safety Authority (2016), Statement of Strategy 2016-2018**

Health and Safety Authority (2012), Statement of Strategy 2013-2015

Health and Safety Authority (2010), Statement of Strategy 2010-2012

Background

Following problems are perceived:

- A fast-changing environment
- UK's exit from European Union
- New business models where service and products are exchanged in a global market
- Increasing pressure on workers to perform insecure contracts
- Increasing deliverables and vulnerabilities (e.g. age)

Challenges:

- Safety in agriculture
- Long-term occupational health risks (stress, manual handling, cancer)
- Protecting vulnerable workers
- A review of the strategy 2016-2018 is included in the new strategy 2019-2021

Statistics report 2017: Summary of workplace injury, illness and fatality statistics 2016-2017

Statistics report 2015: Summary of workplace injury, illness and fatality statistics 2014-2015

Health and Safety Authority (2015), Summary of Workplace Injury, Illness and Fatality Statistics 2013-2014.

Report from May 2015 "Trends and Patterns in Occupational Health and Safety in Ireland"

Characteristics and objectives

The Authority's Strategy Statement 2019-2021 was developed in the context of a fast-changing economy and workforce as well as the evolving political and social environment in Ireland and within the EU.

Vision

Healthy, safe and productive lives and enterprises.

The Authority's vision looks further than the three-year period of the strategy. They want in longer term to realise a safe and healthy working life for people in Ireland and to foster environment where businesses can grow and prosper. The Authority wants to see human health protected by the safe use of chemicals in and

out of work and wants to ensure that providers of services and products are accredited thereby enhancing confidence of their customers and clients.

Mission

The Authority works to ensure that duty holders meet their legal obligations in relation to workplace health and safety, market surveillance and chemicals. They strive to motivate and inform through a combination of promotion, information, education, inspection and enforcement activities. The Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB) provides a market-led service to accredit organisations for quality and standards in service provision.

Values

- The Authority: consults and collaborates treats people with dignity and respect
- acts with integrity and impartiality
- holds itself accountable for what they do
- drives innovation and continuous improvement
- responds and adapt to changing circumstances

Expected outcomes of the strategy:

- Reduced rates of work-related deaths, injuries and ill health.
- Employers actively engaged in managing occupational health, safety and welfare.
- Workers actively engaged in protecting themselves and their colleagues at work.
- Increased public awareness of how to avoid and manage the risks to health arising from applicable products and chemicals.
- An increased awareness and use of INAB accreditation services to promote business excellence and sustainability and to support regulation in essential areas.
- People and organisations proactively engaged and satisfied with Authority programmes, tools and services.
- National interests represented during proposals for and transposition of EU directives and regulations.
- The Authority to be a high-performing organisation evidenced by a high levels of staff engagement and motivation, an ability to adapt to the changing environment, an optimal use of state resources and positive stakeholder relationships.
- Effective holding to account of those who fall in their duties under legislation enforced by the Authority.

Details and activity

Priorities

Five strategic priorities will direct the activity for the period 2019–2021:

1. **Regulate:** Increase focus on compliance through risk based inspection and enforcement
2. **Promote:** Support, educate and raise awareness to prevent accidents, injuries and ill health
3. **Accredit:** Grow the national accreditation service to enable and support enterprises and public services
4. **Influence:** Partner and collaborate in support of healthy, safe and productive lives and enterprises
5. **How HSA works:** Improve the way HSA work through people, processes & technology

Goals

1. **Priority 1. Regulate: Increase focus on compliance through risk based inspection and enforcement**
 - Drive increased focus on work-related health and safety.
 - Increase and broaden the inspection programme, focusing on higher risks, less compliant organisations and vulnerable workers.

- Act as the lead national competent authority on chemicals and market surveillance.
 - Enforce market surveillance requirements of products sold on the Irish market, including those sold to consumers.
 - Take proportionate enforcement action to encourage and ensure compliance.
 - Advise and make regulatory and policy proposals to the Minister.
- 2. Priority 2. Promote: Support, educate and raise awareness to prevent accidents, injuries and ill health**
- Increase knowledge and understanding of how to manage work-related health and welfare.
 - Increase visibility and encourage uptake of the Authority's online tools and services, including BeSMART.ie, hsalearning.ie and Work Positive.
 - Provide information and guidance to enable duty holders to understand the benefits of proactively managing safety, health and chemicals to the highest standards.
 - Provide educational resources to the formal education system and for the workplace.
 - Increase knowledge and awareness of the dangers from applicable products and hazardous chemicals.
- 3. Priority 3. Accredit: Grow the national accreditation service to enable and support enterprises and public services.**
- Develop and implement a national accreditation strategy.
 - Promote the value of independent accreditation in building confidence in the quality and integrity of public and private services.
 - Prepare and accredit clients operating in evolving areas, including security, data protection and robotics.
 - Monitor, anticipate and respond to increasing demand arising from the UK's withdrawal from the EU and other regulatory changes.
 - Maintain the international recognition and reputation of INAB and the IE accreditation services
- 4. Priority 4. Influence: Partner and collaborate in support of healthy, safe and productive lives and enterprises**
- Co-operate and proactively engage with stakeholders and regulatory bodies to achieve shared aims.
 - Present objective research-based proposals to government to achieve increased funding for the Authority.
 - Collaborate and influence the need for better reporting and recording of occupational illness and ill health and develop mechanisms to ensure data is shared.
 - Engage actively and constructively in the EU agenda and discussions on occupational safety and health, chemicals, market surveillance and accreditation.
 - Partner with government to provide support to businesses in preparing for and dealing with the UK withdrawal from the EU
- 5. Priority 5. Improve the way HSA works through people, processes & technology**
- Value, engage and develop staff to strengthen organisational capacity and capability.
 - Adapt HSAs structure, operating model and allocation of resources to target key areas based on evidence, research, analysis and evaluation.
 - Apply the highest standards of governance to the running of the Authority.
 - Optimise technology and research to improve efficiencies and services.
 - Challenge HSAs mandate and strategy annually to ensure they adapt to the changing environment.

Actors and stakeholders

Occupational safety and health policy at national level is determined by a twelve-member, tripartite Board, with nominees from the social partners and other interests concerned with safety and health in the workplace.

The main actor is the HSA (Health and Safety Authority) reporting to the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation. Because safety is everybody's responsibility there is always wide consultation with employers, employees and their respective organisations. The HSA conducted a public consultation and had positive and supportive comments of other authorities, social partners and professional organisations and individuals that have been reflected in the strategy. The submissions and the Authority's response to consultation are published under the Public Consultation area of www.hsa.ie.

HSA has in place more than 20 memoranda of understanding bilateral arrangements or protocols with other state bodies. HSA also leads or participates in a number of advisory groups (agriculture, construction, healthcare, workplace transport, technical and scientific, regional) that bring together representatives from industry, unions, other state agencies, local authorities and third-level institutions to meet their strategic goals and their vision of healthy, safe and productive lives.

Resources and timeframe

Annual grant provided by the Department of Business.

Enterprise and Innovation.

The Authority will deliver this strategy through the development and implementation of annual programmes of work, which will be submitted to the Minister for approval. These programmes will specify the actions and key performance indicators that will support the achievement of their strategic goals. They will focus resources to deliver on our outcomes and make the most impact.

They will improve the way HSA works through people, processes & technology (see Priority 5).

Evaluation

A review of the strategy 2016-2018 is included in the new strategy 2019-2020.

Progress on the annual programmes of work that implement this strategy will be monitored using a range of qualitative and quantitative measures.

Quarterly and annual reports to the Board of the Authority and the Department of Businesses, Enterprise and Innovation (DBEI). A service level agreement (SLA) with the DBEI will form the basis of periodic reports on progress to the Minister.

The Authority will adapt its structure, operating model and allocation of resources to target key areas based on evidence, research, analysis and evaluation.

Expected Outcomes (Strategic Outcomes)

Quote:

- Reduced rates of work-related deaths, injuries and ill health.
- Employers are actively engaged in managing occupational health and well-being.
- Workers are actively engaged in protecting themselves and their colleagues at work.
- Increased awareness among the general public on how to avoid and manage the risks to health arising from applicable products and chemicals.
- Increased awareness and use of INAB accreditation services to promote business excellence and sustainability and to support regulation in essential areas
- People and organisations are proactively engaged and satisfied with Authority programmes, tools and services.
- National interests are represented during proposals for and transposition of EU directives and regulations.
- The Authority is a high-performing organisation evidenced by our high level of staff engagement and motivation, our ability to adapt to the changing environment, our optimal use of State resources and

our positive stakeholder relationships.

- Active engagement by other organisations in supporting the work of the Authority through memoranda of understanding and service-level agreements.
- Effective holding to account of those who fail in their duties under legislation enforced by the Authority.

Relation to EU Strategic Framework

The key strategic objectives of the Framework are broadly in line with the strategic policy being adopted by the Authority in its Strategy Statement 2019-2021. HSA particularly welcome the focus on providing practical support to small and micro enterprises to help them to comply with safety and health requirements. To support SMEs HSA has developed in the last few years online tools for interactive risk assessments. HSA will continue to put in place supports and tools and social networks to facilitate companies in achieving high levels of compliance in occupational safety, health, welfare and the safe use of chemicals.

The priorities are related to challenge 1 of the EU-OSH Strategy (*Improving the implementation record of Member States, in particular by enhancing the capacity of micro and small enterprises to put in place effective and efficient risk prevention measures.*)

There is a strong focus on effective performance of the public OSH institutions.

Strategic Priority 1 has a strong relation to the strategic objective Nr. 3 of the EU-OSH Strategy “Better enforcement of OSH legislation by Member States”.

Strategic Priority 2 is related to challenge 2 and 3 and several strategic objectives of the EU-OSH Strategy. Strategic Priority 1 has a particularly strong relation to the safe use of chemicals (mentioned on p6 of the EU-strategy)

Response of national strategies to EU challenges

Implementation record

Priority:

- Increase the focus on work-related health risks.

Other priorities:

- Maintain and develop the advances achieved in the management of work-related safety risks.
- Continue to change and transform the way we work.

Prevention of work-related diseases

Strategic theme:

- Increase the focus on work-related health risks.

Strategic theme:

- Maintain and develop the advances achieved in the management of work-related safety risks.

Priority:

- Focus on the risks to human safety and health arising from chemicals used at work and by the general public.

Tackling demographic change

Strategic theme:

- Changing world of work.

Steering of OSH Social dialogue

This indicator consists of text-based descriptions of the social dialogue plus quantitative data, e.g. responses to ESENER 2019 questions. Note: When no data is available for the indicator displayed, '-' will appear.

For further information refer to Methodology



41 % Joint consultative, employment forum or similar	18 % Trade union representation
70 % Health and safety representative	35 % Health and safety committee



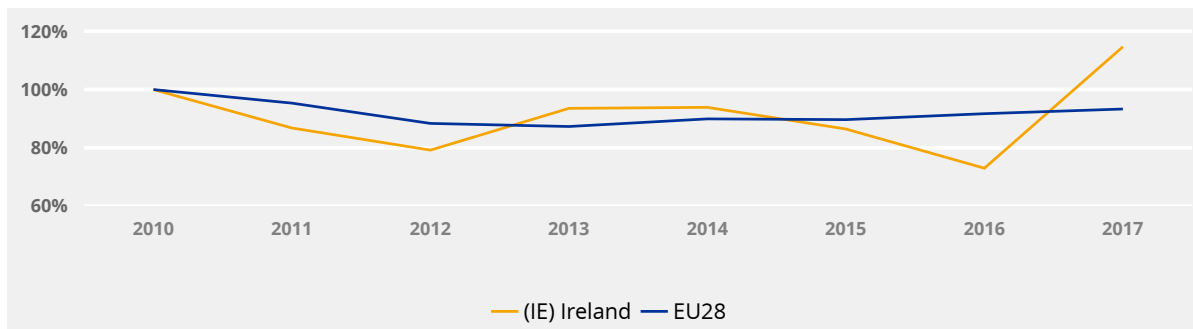
24 % Joint consultative, employment forum or similar	19 % Trade union representation
57 % Health and safety representative	23 % Health and safety committee

OSH outcomes and working conditions **Work accidents**

This indicator consists of two data sets: trends in non-fatal work accidents from 2010, and fatal work accidents (Eurostat data).

For further information refer to Methodology

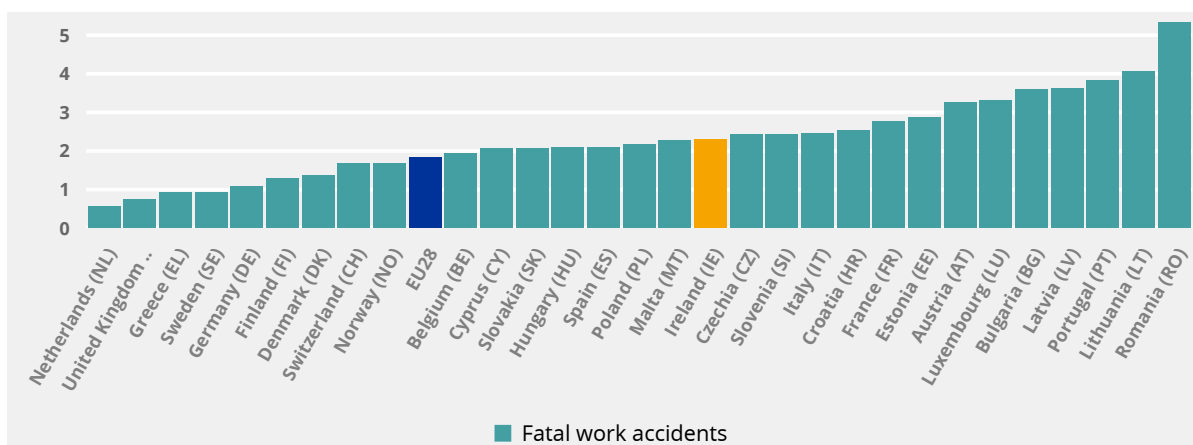
Non-fatal work accidents



The diagram shows the development of non-fatal work accidents between 2010 until the latest available year. The year 2010 has been set as baseline (2010 = 100). The country lines and the EU line (dark blue) show the trend as percentage of the value of this base year.

Country	Year	Value (%)	Country	Year	Value (%)
(IE) Ireland	2010	100	EU28	2010	100
(IE) Ireland	2011	86.8	EU28	2011	95.3
(IE) Ireland	2012	79.2	EU28	2012	88.4
(IE) Ireland	2013	93.5	EU28	2013	87.3
(IE) Ireland	2014	93.9	EU28	2014	89.9
(IE) Ireland	2015	86.5	EU28	2015	89.7
(IE) Ireland	2016	73	EU28	2016	91.7
(IE) Ireland	2017	114.7	EU28	2017	93.3

Fatal work accidents



This diagram shows the number of fatal accidents for every Member State per 100,000 employees. The EU average was 1,85 accidents per 100,000 employees in the period 2010-2017. The source of the data is the incidence rate as published by Eurostat.

Country	Value (accidents)
EU28	1.9
Ireland (IE)	2.3

OSH outcomes and working conditions

Health perception of the workers

This indicator contains six data sets based on responses in the European Working Conditions Survey (EWCS) 2015 from Eurofound and the Labour Force Survey 2013 from Eurostat. Every 8 years this survey has an ad hoc module on OSH-related questions. All data are from the latest OSH ad hoc module. Note: When no data is available for the indicator displayed, '-' will appear.

For further information refer to Methodology



EU28

86 %

Satisfaction with
working conditions

8 %

Health problem in
the last 12 months

42 %

Sick but at work

25 %

Health affected by
work

8 %

More than 15 days of
absence

73 %

Likelihood of staying
in current job until 60
years old



Ireland

89 %

Satisfaction with
working conditions

2 %

Health problem in
the last 12 months

52 %

Sick but at work

18 %

Health affected by
work

5 %

More than 15 days of
absence

81 %

Likelihood of staying
in current job until 60
years old

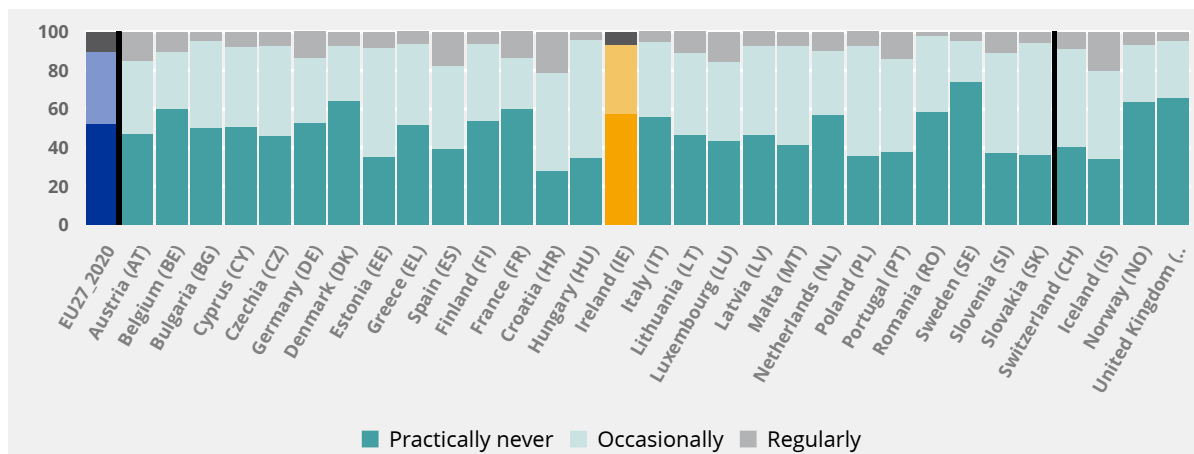
OSH outcomes and working conditions

OSH culture and health awareness

This indicator provides data on typical aspects of OSH culture and health awareness such as sickness absence analysis, existence of prevention plans, or the implementation of measures for better safety and health. Note: Percentages might not total 100% because of rounding.

Sources: ESENER 2019 Survey and European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS). For further information refer to Methodology

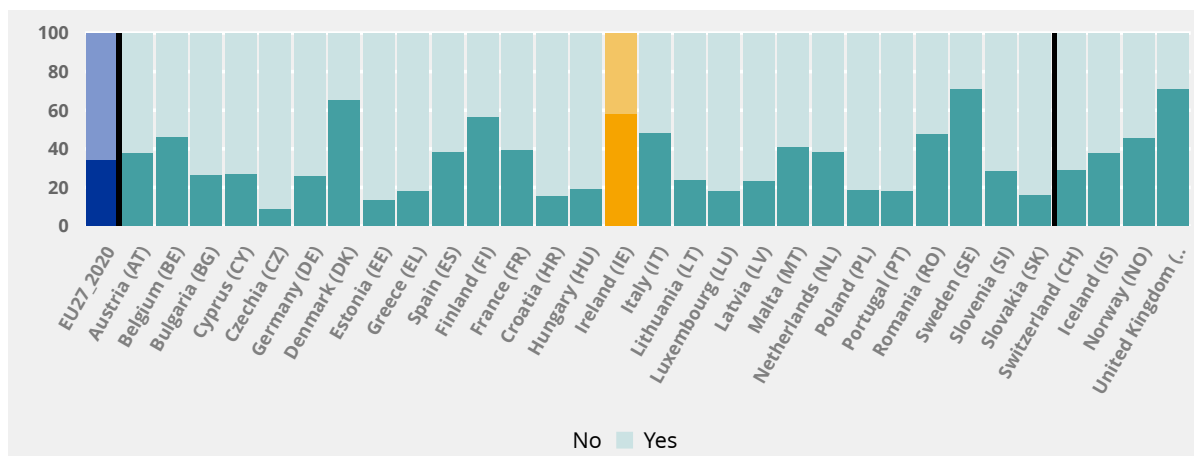
Health and safety discussed



The diagram presents the responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey to the question: “How often is health and safety discussed between employee representatives and the management? Do such discussions take place regularly, only when particular health and safety issues arise or not at all?”

Country	Practically never (%)	Occasionally (%)	Regularly (%)
EU27_2020	10	37.5	52.4
Ireland (IE)	6.7	35.5	57.8

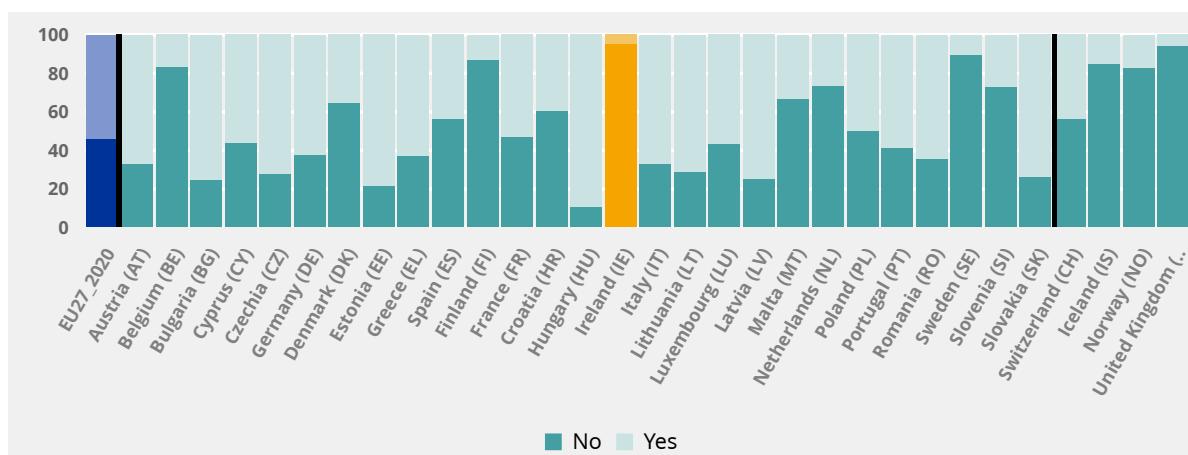
Action plan to prevent stress



The diagram presents the responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey to the question: “Does your establishment have an action plan to prevent work-related stress?”

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU27_2020	34.6	65.4
Ireland (IE)	58.3	41.7

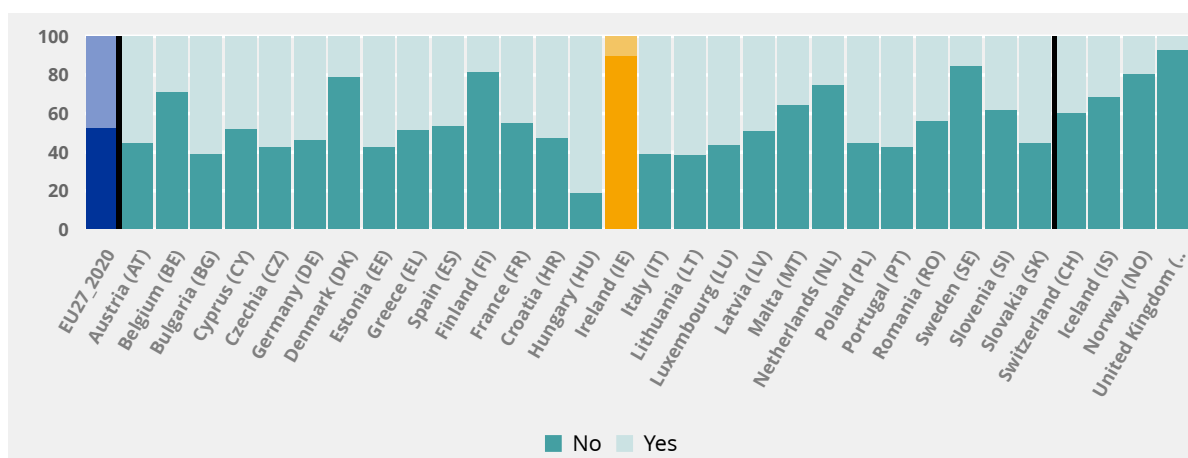
Procedure against bullying



The diagram presents the responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey to the question: “Does your establishment have an action plan to prevent work-related stress?”

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU27_2020	46.3	53.7
Ireland (IE)	95.1	4.9

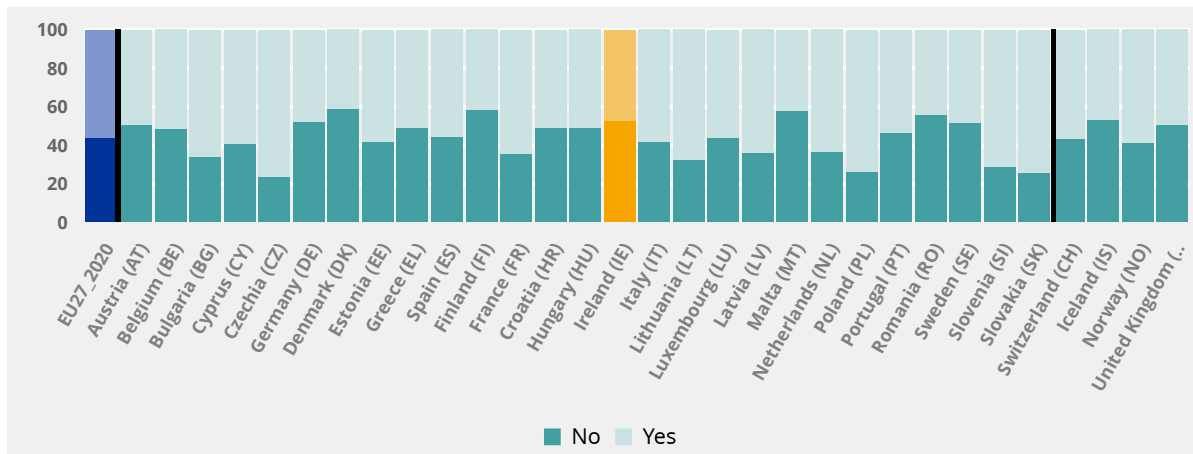
Procedures to deal with threats



The diagram presents the responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey to the question: “Is there a procedure in place to deal with possible cases of bullying or harassment?”

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU27_2020	52.6	47.4
Ireland (IE)	89.9	10.1

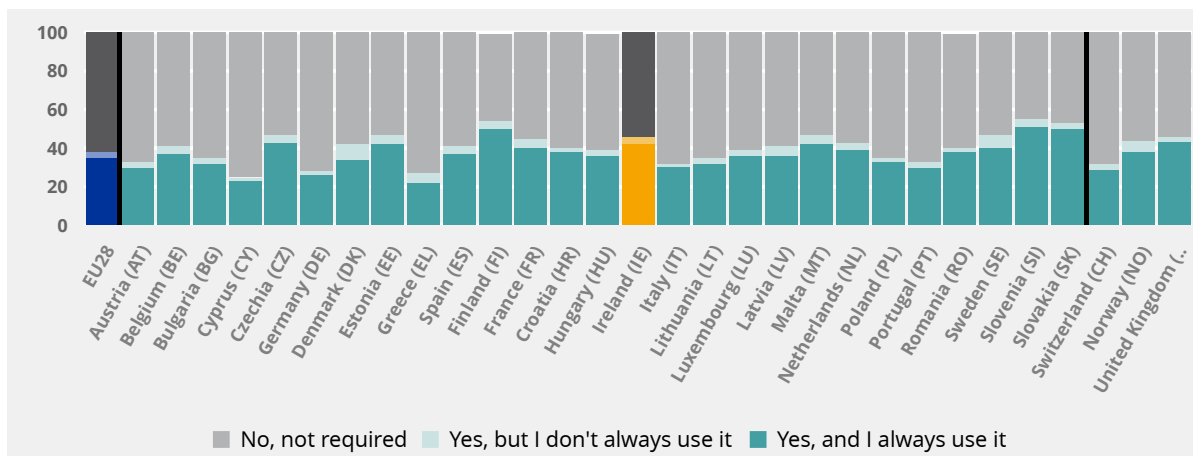
Measures to reduce work pressure



The diagram presents the responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey to the question: “Is there a procedure to deal with possible cases of threats, abuse or assaults by clients, patients pupils or members in public?”

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU27_2020	44.1	55.9
Ireland (IE)	52.9	47.1

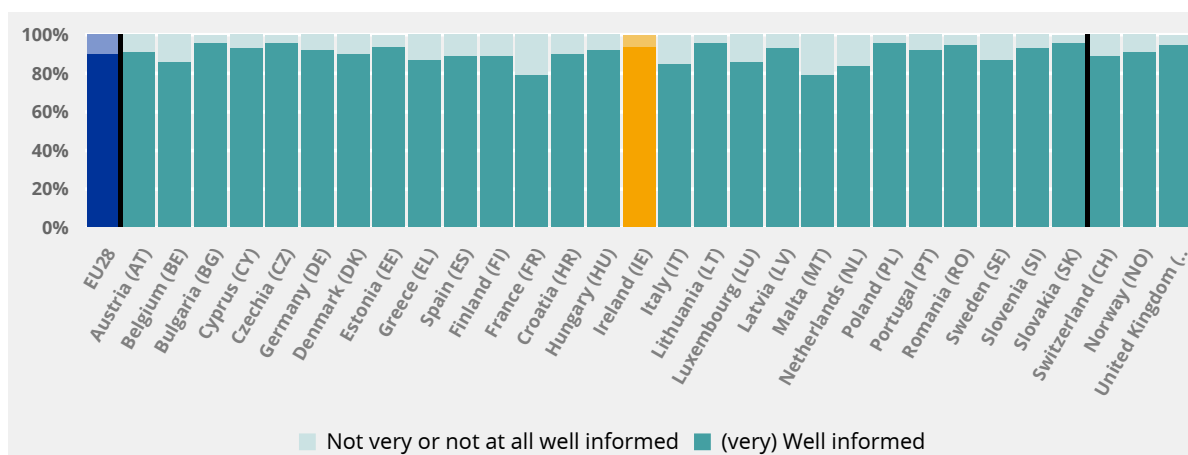
Use of personal protective equipment



The diagram is based on the ESENER 2019 Survey. It presents one of the possible responses to the question: “In the last 3 years, has your establishment used any of the following measures to prevent psychosocial risks?” The diagram shows the response to the following answer option: “Reorganisation of work in order to reduce job demands and work pressure”

Country	No, not required (%)	Yes, but not required (%)	Yes and always (%)
EU28	62	3	35
Ireland (IE)	54	4	42

Information about risks



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question : "Does your job ever require that you wear personal protective equipment and do you use it?"

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU28	90	10
Ireland (IE)	94	6

OSH outcomes and working conditions

Working conditions

This indicator provides data on typical aspects of OSH culture and health awareness such as sickness absence analysis, existence of prevention plans, or the implementation of measures for better safety and health. Note: Percentages might not total 100% because of rounding.

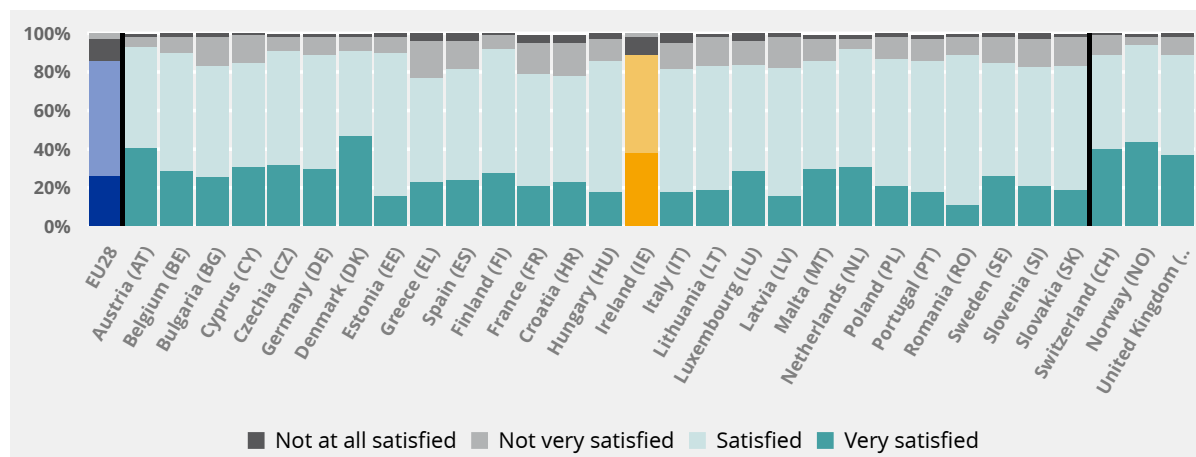
Sources: ESENER 2019 Survey and European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS). For further information refer to Methodology

Overall opinion

This topic displays data on the workers' overall general assessment of risks and their overall satisfaction with working conditions. Note: Percentages might not total 100% because of rounding.

Source: European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS). For further information refer to Methodology

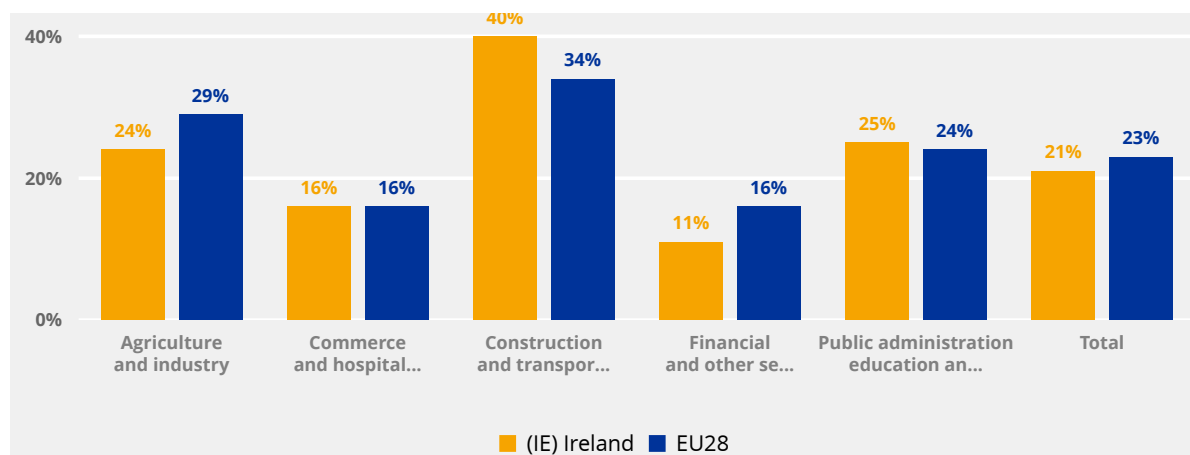
How satisfied are you with working conditions in your main paid job?



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: "How satisfied are you with working conditions in your main paid job?"

Country	Not at all satisfied (%)	Not very satisfied (%)	Satisfied (%)	Very satisfied (%)
EU28	3	11	60	26
Ireland (IE)	2	9	51	38

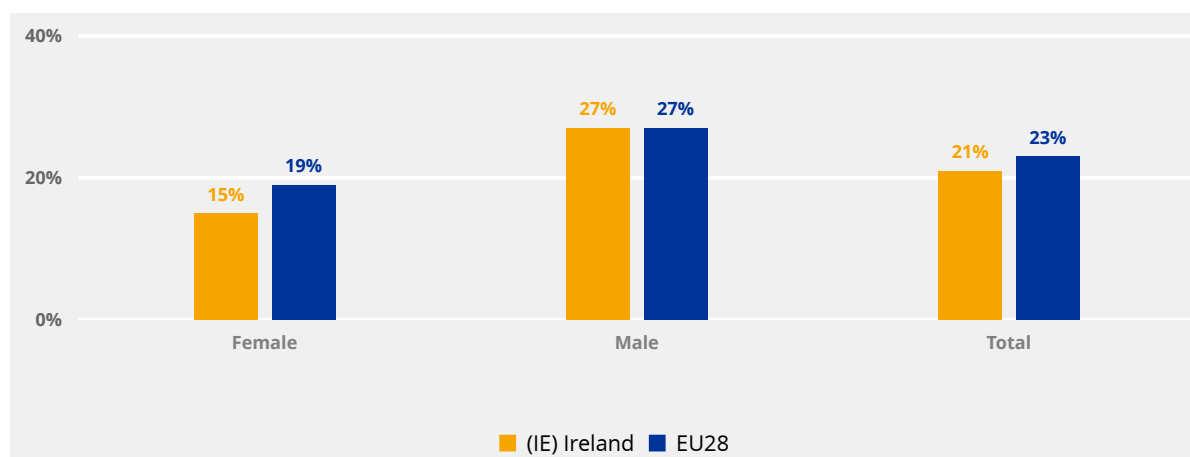
Do you think your health or safety is at risk because of your work?



The diagram presents the 'yes' responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) - by Member State and sector - to the question : "Do you think your health or safety is at risk because of your work?"

Sector	Country	Value (%)	Country	Value (%)
Agriculture and industry	(IE) Ireland	24	EU28	29
Commerce and hospitality	(IE) Ireland	16	EU28	16
Construction and transport	(IE) Ireland	40	EU28	34
Financial and other services	(IE) Ireland	11	EU28	16
Public administration education and health	(IE) Ireland	25	EU28	24
Total	(IE) Ireland	21	EU28	23

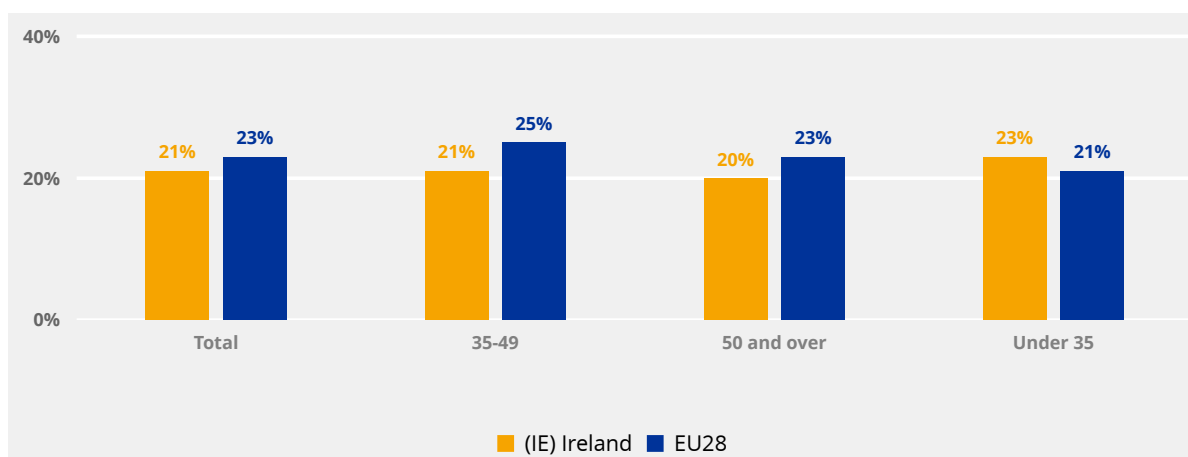
Do you think your health or safety is at risk because of your work?



The diagram presents the 'yes' responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) - by Member State and gender- to the question: "Do you think your health or safety is at risk because of your work?"

Gender	Country	Value (%)	Country	Value (%)
Female	(IE) Ireland	15	EU28	19
Male	(IE) Ireland	27	EU28	27
Total	(IE) Ireland	21	EU28	23

Do you think your health or safety is at risk because of your work?



The diagram presents the 'yes' responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) - by Member State and age - to the question : “Do you think your health or safety is at risk because of your work?”

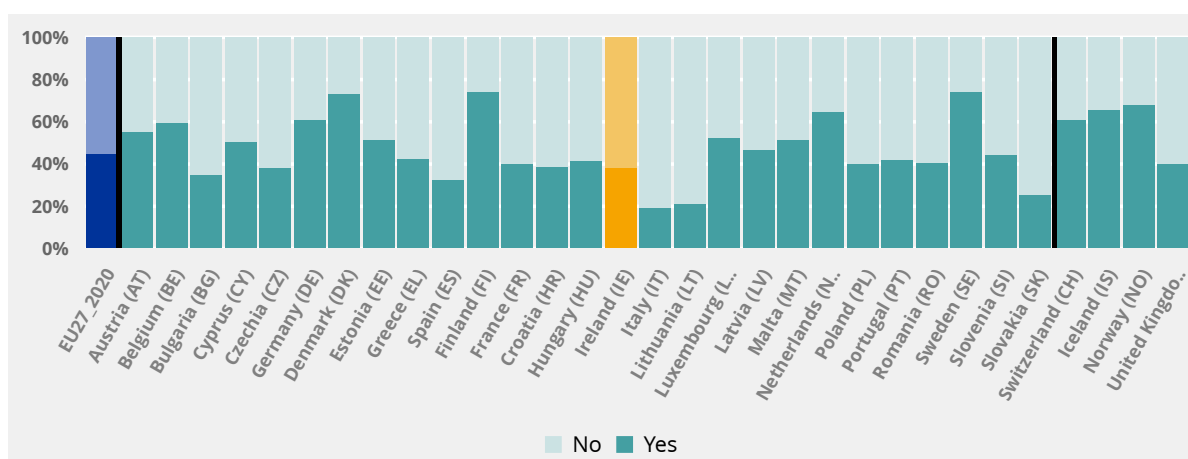
Age	Country	Value (%)	Country	Value (%)
Total	(IE) Ireland	21	EU28	23
35-49	(IE) Ireland	21	EU28	25
50 and over	(IE) Ireland	20	EU28	23
Under 35	(IE) Ireland	23	EU28	21

Mental risk

This topic displays data from surveys on certain important aspects of mental risks such as time pressure, poor communication or cooperation, employees' lack of influence, job insecurity, difficult customers or clients, long or irregular working hours and discrimination. Note: Percentages might not total 100% because of rounding.

Sources: ESENER 2019 Survey and European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS). For further information refer to Methodology

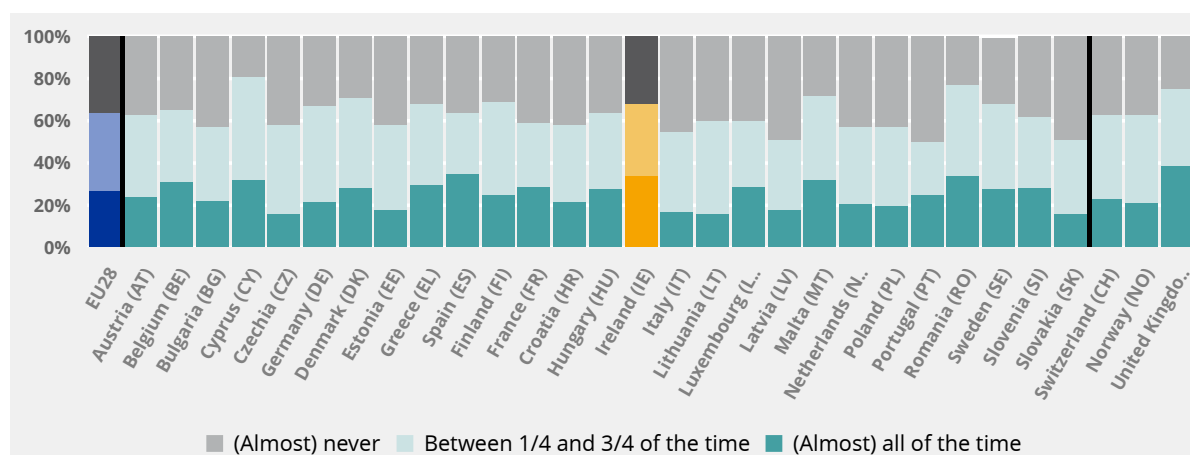
Please tell me for each of the following risks whether or not it is present in the establishment? Time pressure



The diagram is based on the ESENER 2019 Survey. It presents one of the possible responses to the question: "Please tell me for each of the following risks whether or not it is present in the establishment?" The diagram shows the response to the following answer option: "Time pressure".

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU27_2020	45.1	54.9
Ireland (IE)	38	62

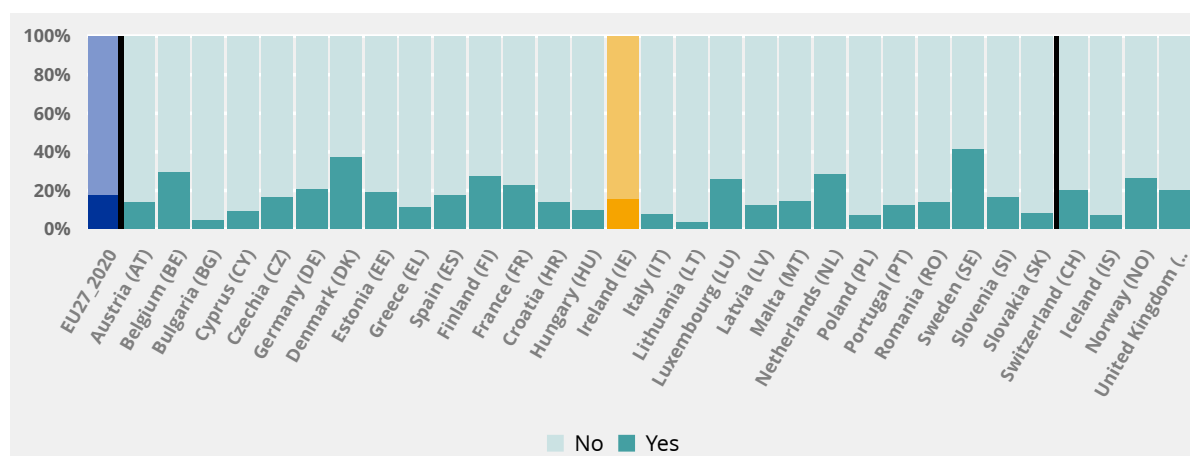
Does your job involve working to tight deadlines?



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: "Does your job involve working to tight deadlines?"

Country	Never (%)	¼ and ¾ of the time (%)	All the time (%)
EU28	36	37	27
Ireland (IE)	32	34	34

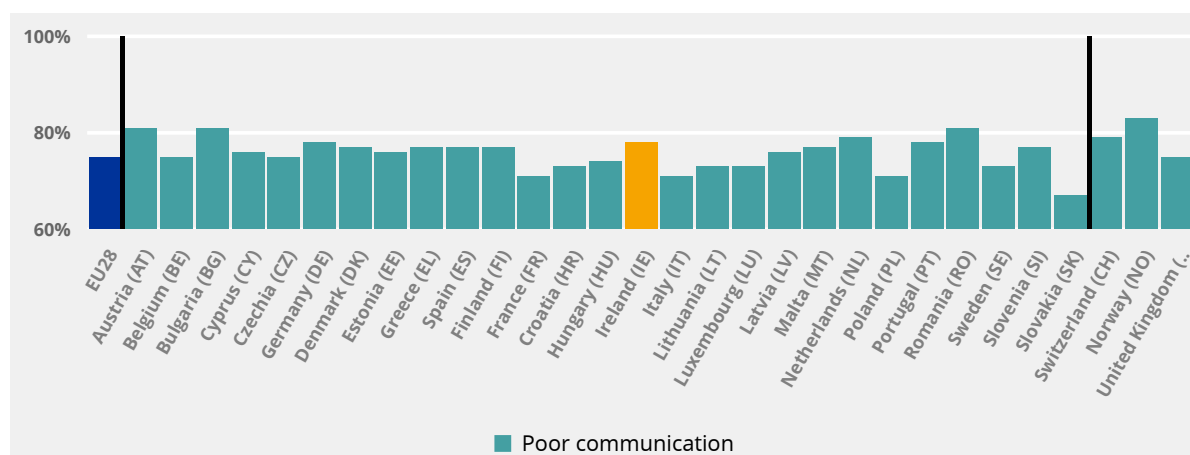
Please tell me for each of the following risks whether or not it is present in the establishment? Poor communication



The diagram is based on the ESENER 2019 Survey. It presents one of the possible responses to the question: "Please tell me for each of the following risks whether or not it is present in the establishment?" The diagram shows the response to the following answer option: "Poor communication or cooperation."

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU27_2020	17.9	82.1
Ireland (IE)	15.7	84.3

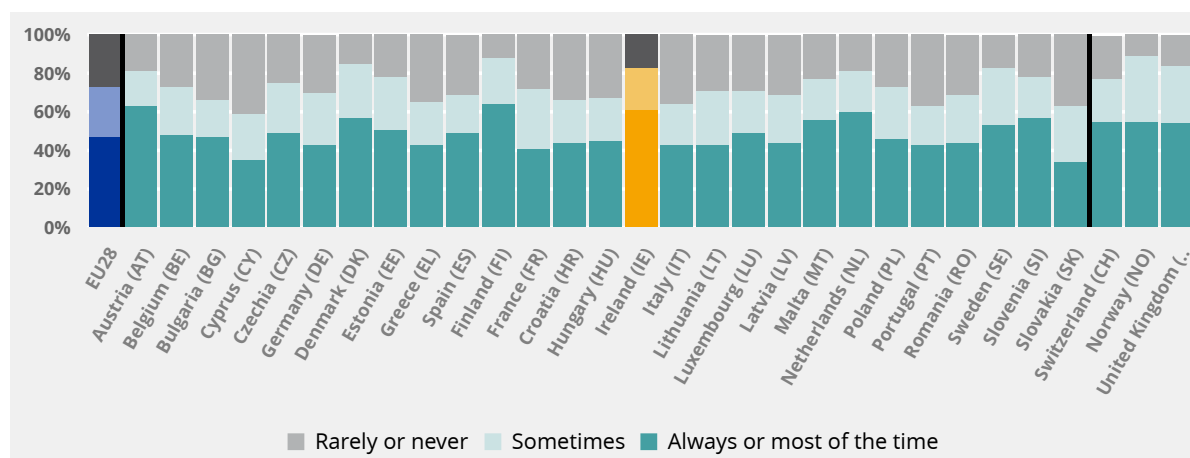
Level of fairness, cooperation and trust



The diagram presents a composite indicator “Level of fairness, cooperation and trust” based on responses to a number of questions in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS).

Country	Value (%)
EU28	75
Ireland (IE)	78

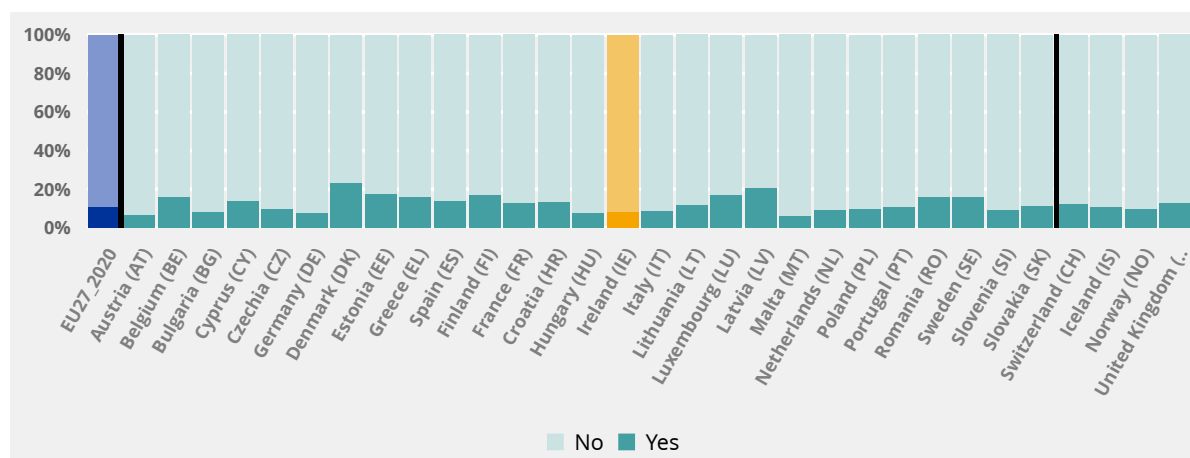
Can you influence decisions that are important for your work?



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: “Can you influence decisions that are important for your work?”

Country	Rarely or never (%)	Sometimes (%)	Always or most of the time (%)
EU28	27	26	47
Ireland (IE)	18	22	61

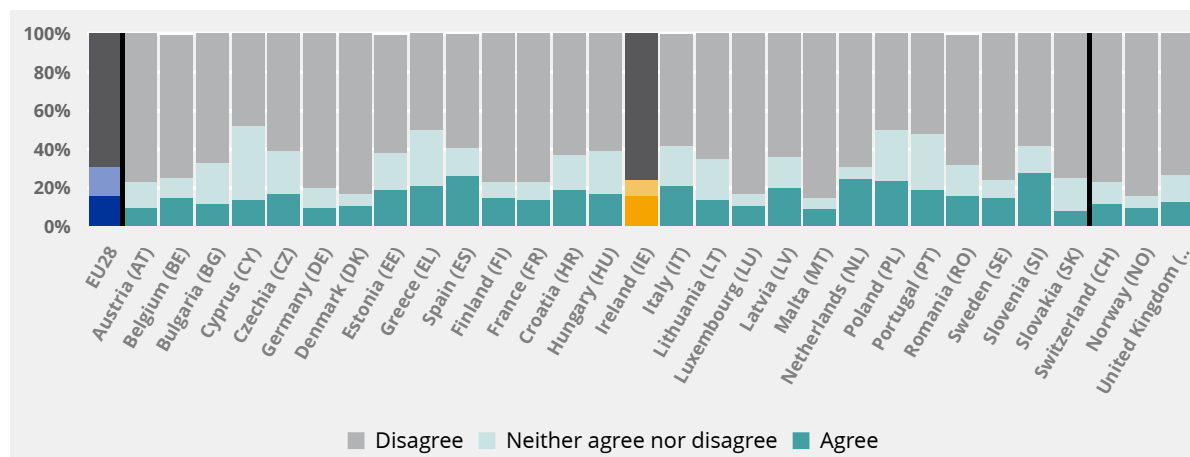
Please tell me for each of the following risks whether or not it is present in the establishment? Fear of job loss



The diagram is based on the ESENER 2019 Survey. It presents one of the possible responses to the question: "Please tell me for each of the following risks whether or not it is present in the establishment?" The diagram shows the response to the following answer option: "Fear of job loss."

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU27_2020	11.1	88.9
Ireland (IE)	8.3	91.7

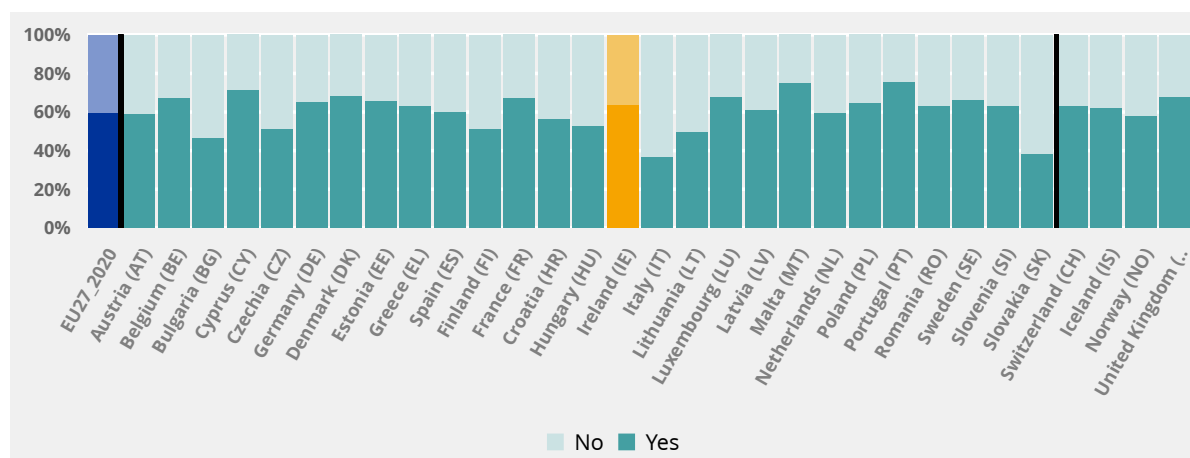
I might lose my job in the next 6 months



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: "I might lose my job in the next 6 months"

Country	Disagree (%)	Neither agree or disagree (%)	Agree (%)
EU28	69	15	16
Ireland (IE)	76	8	16

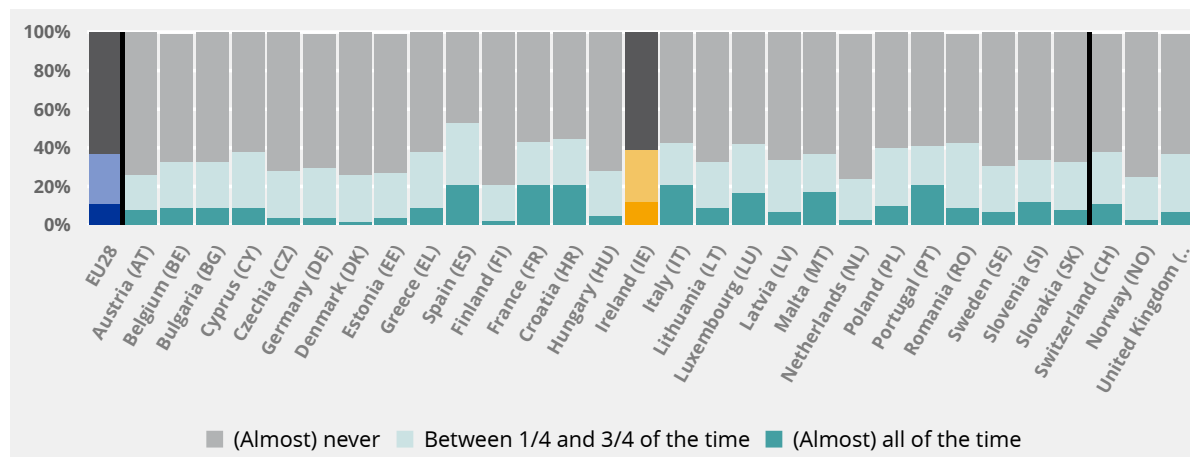
Please tell me for each of the following risks whether or not it is present in the establishment? Difficult clients



The diagram is based on the ESENER 2019 Survey. It presents one of the possible responses to the question: "Please tell me for each of the following risks whether or not it is present in the establishment?" The diagram shows the response to the following answer option: "Having to deal with difficult customers, patients, pupils etc".

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU27_2020	59.7	40.3
Ireland (IE)	63.9	36.1

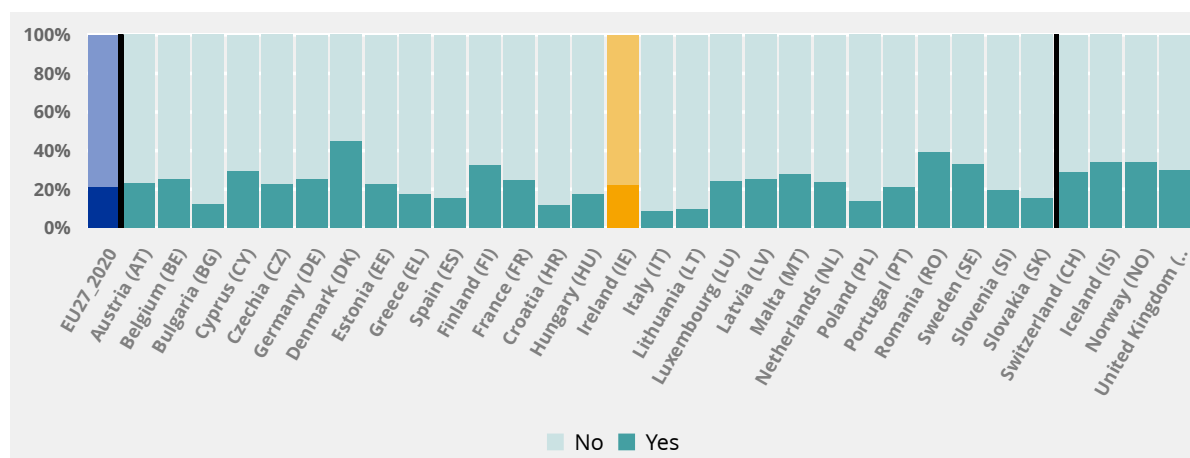
Does your work involve handling angry clients?



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: "Does your work involve handling angry clients?"

Country	Never (%)	1/4 and 3/4 of the time (%)	All the time (%)
EU28	63	26	11
Ireland (IE)	61	27	12

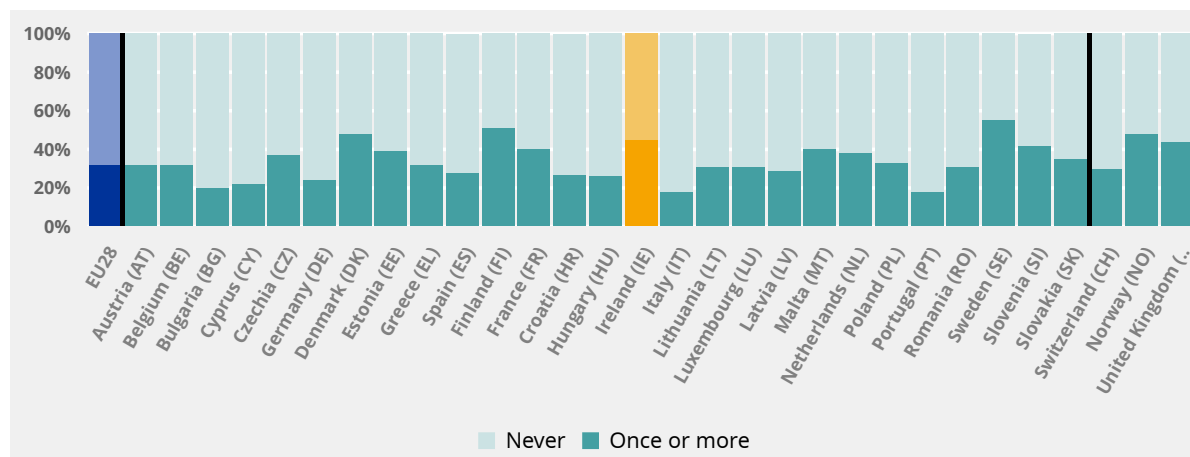
Please tell me for each of the following risks whether or not it is present in the establishment? Working hours



The diagram is based on the ESENER 2019 Survey. It presents one of the possible responses to the question: “Please tell me for each of the following risks whether or not it is present in the establishment?” The diagram shows the response to the following answer option: “Long or irregular working hours.”

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU27_2020	21.5	78.5
Ireland (IE)	22.5	77.5

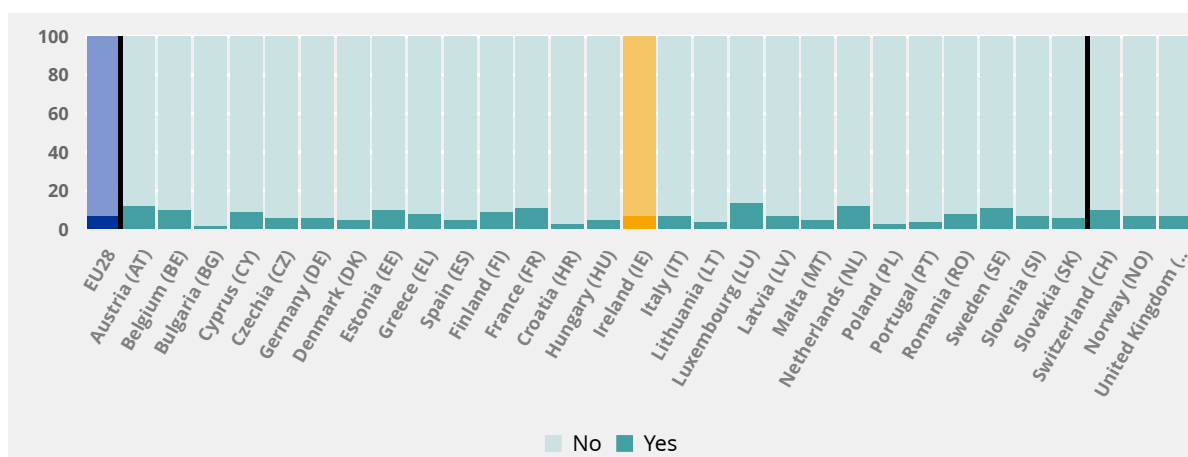
How many times a month do you work more than 10 hours a day?



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: “How many times a month do you work more than 10 hours a day?”

Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU28	32	68
Ireland (IE)	45	55

Have you been subjected to discrimination at work in the last 12 months?



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: "Have you been subjected to discrimination at work in the last 12 months?"

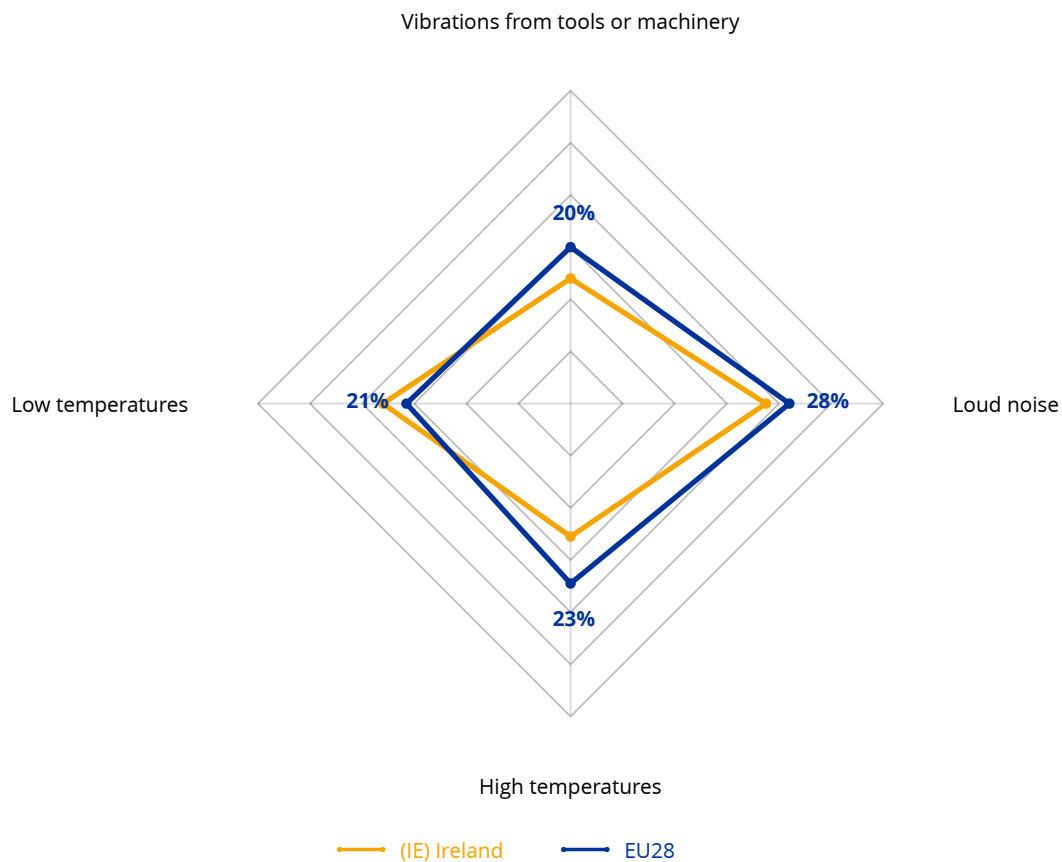
Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
EU28	7	93
Ireland (IE)	7	93

Physical risk

This topic displays data on exposure to chemical and biological substances, exposure to noise, vibrations and high or low temperatures, and working tasks involving carrying, lifting or work in tiring or painful positions.

Sources: ESENER 2019 Survey and European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS). For further information refer to Methodology

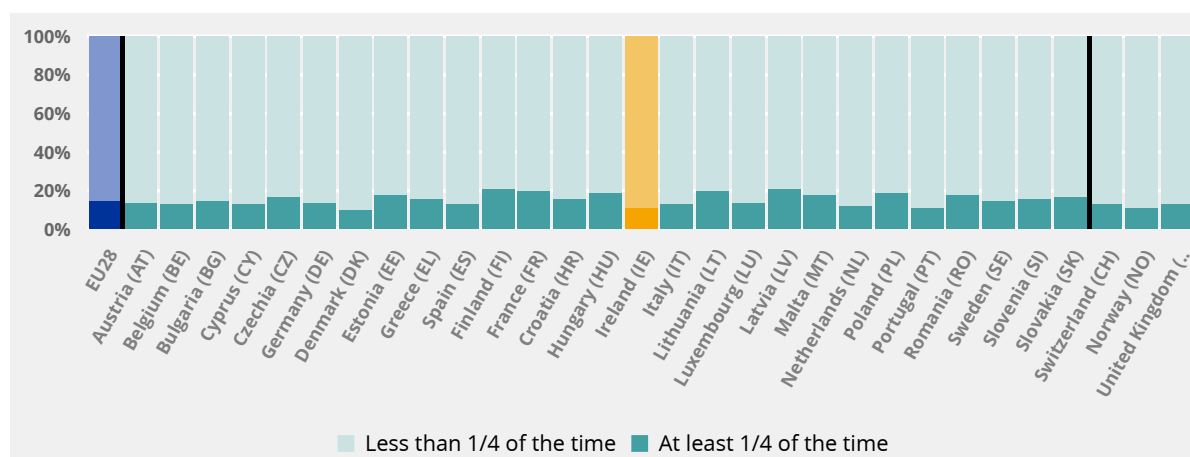
Vibrations, loud noise and temperature



Indicator	Country	Value (%)
Vibrations from tools or machinery	EU28	20
Loud noise	EU28	28
High temperatures	EU28	23
Low temperatures	EU28	21
Vibrations from tools or machinery	(IE) Ireland	16
Loud noise	(IE) Ireland	25
High temperatures	(IE) Ireland	17
Low temperatures	(IE) Ireland	24

Exposure to dangerous substances

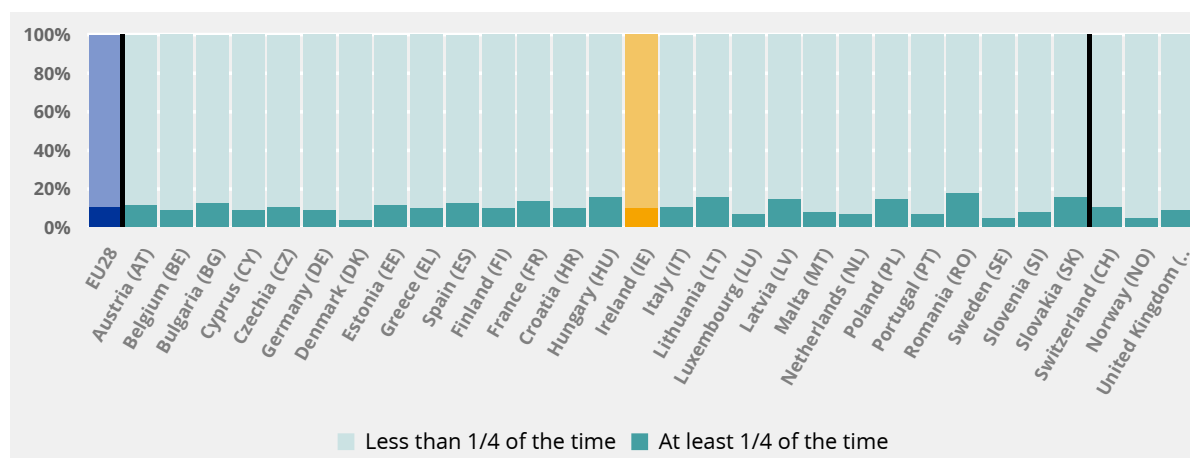
Are you exposed to breathing in smoke, fumes, powder or dust?



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: “Are you exposed to breathing in smoke, fumes, powder or dust?”

Country	Lees than ¼ of the time (%)	At least ¼ of the time (%)
EU28	85	15
Ireland (IE)	89	11

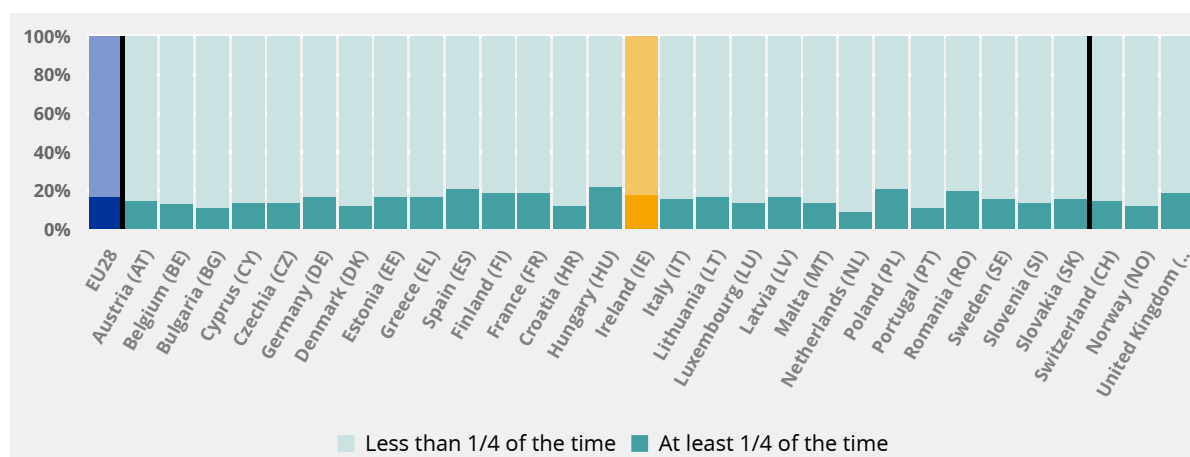
Are you exposed to breathing in vapours?



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: “Are you exposed to breathing in vapours?”

Country	Lees than ¼ of the time (%)	At least ¼ of the time (%)
EU28	89	11
Ireland (IE)	90	10

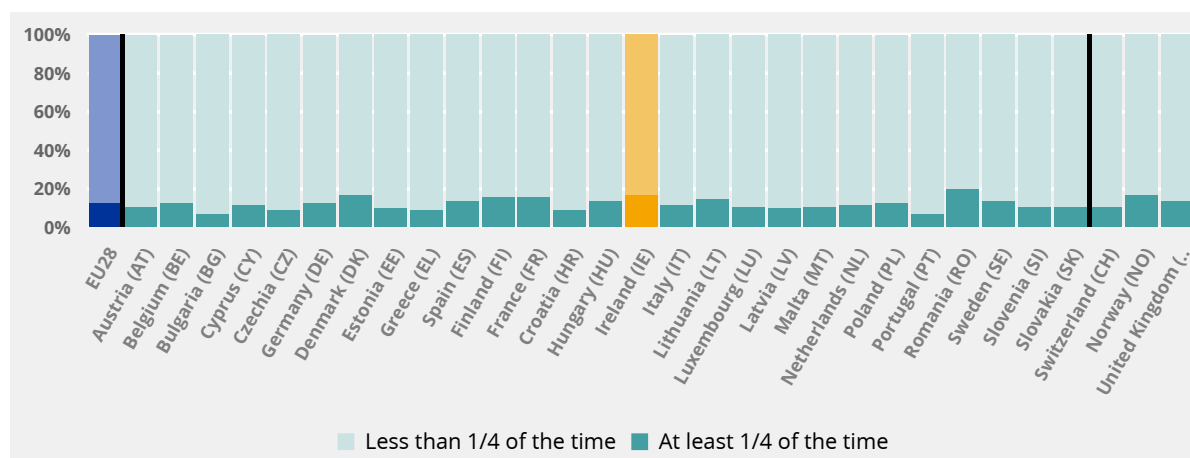
Are you exposed to chemical products or substances?



The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: "Are you exposed to chemical products or substances?"

Country	Less than 1/4 of the time (%)	At least 1/4 of the time (%)
EU28	83	17
Ireland (IE)	82	18

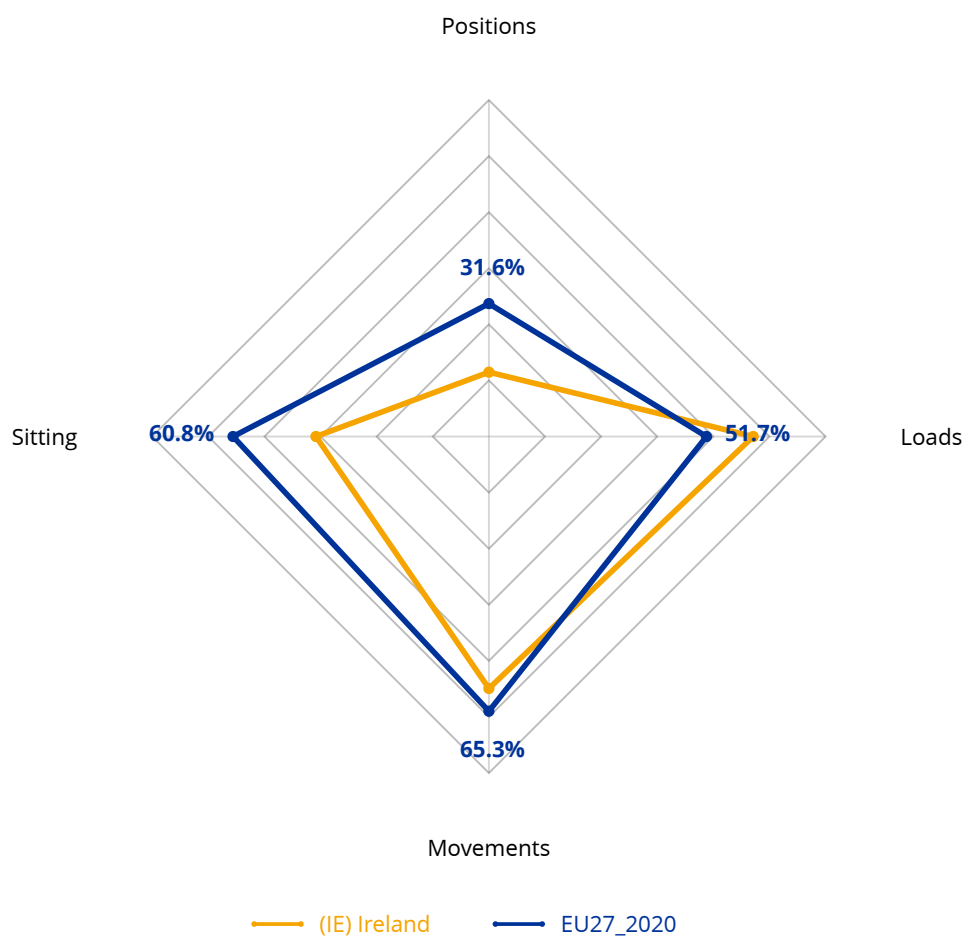
Are you exposed to materials which can be infectious?



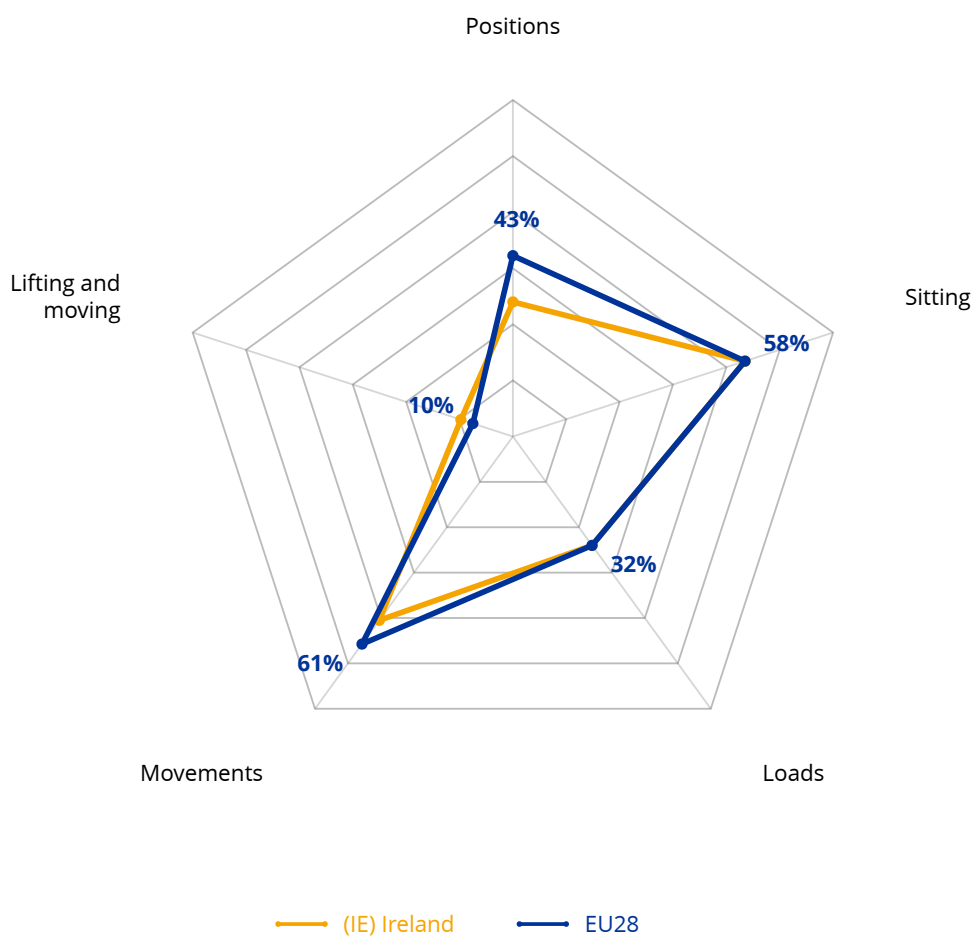
The diagram presents the responses in the European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS) to the question: "Are you exposed to materials which can be infectious?"

Country	Less than 1/4 of the time (%)	At least 1/4 of the time (%)
EU28	87	13
Ireland (IE)	83	17

Ergonomic risks - ESENER



Indicator	Country	Value (%)
Positions	(IE) Ireland	15.3
Loads	(IE) Ireland	62.8
Movements	(IE) Ireland	59.9
Sitting	(IE) Ireland	41.1
Positions	EU27_2020	31.6
Loads	EU27_2020	51.7
Movements	EU27_2020	65.3
Sitting	EU27_2020	60.8



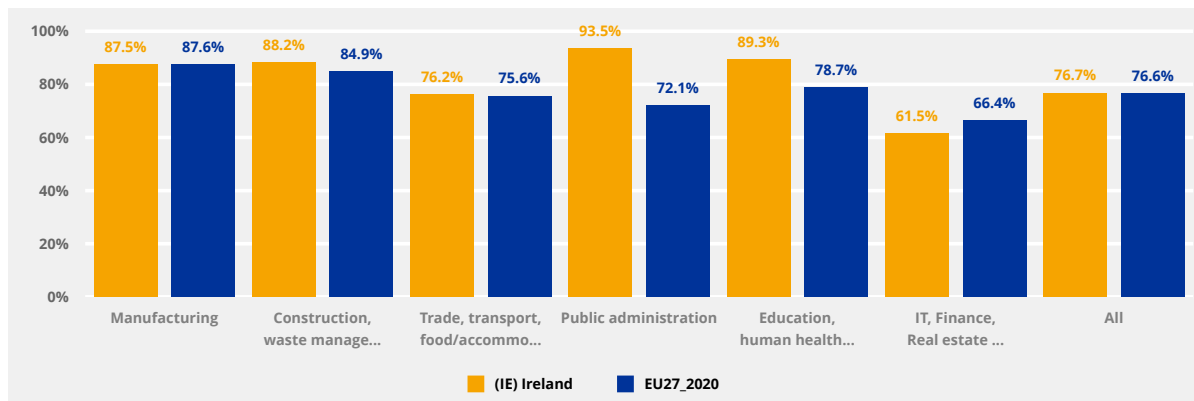
Indicator	Country	Value (%)
Positions	EU28	43
Sitting	EU28	58
Loads	EU28	32
Movements	EU28	61
Lifting and moving	EU28	10
Positions	(IE) Ireland	32
Sitting	(IE) Ireland	58
Loads	(IE) Ireland	32
Movements	(IE) Ireland	54
Lifting and moving	(IE) Ireland	13

OSH outcomes and working conditions **Prevention in companies**

This indicator visualises data on how OSH is implemented on company/enterprise level, mainly focusing on risk assessment, related questions and OSH training for workers.

Source: ESENER 2019 Survey. For further information refer to Methodology

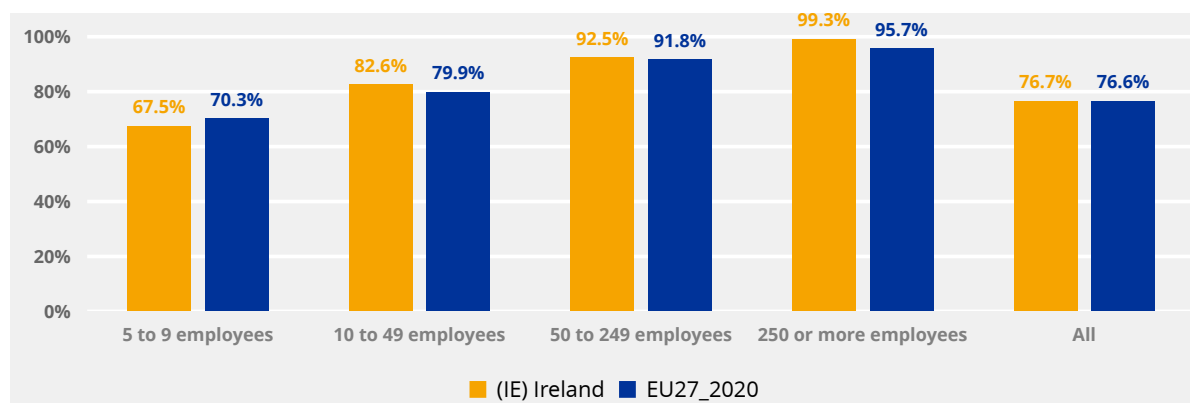
Does your establishment regularly carry out workplace risk assessments?



The diagram displays 'yes' the responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey - by Member State and sector - to the question : "Does your establishment regularly carry out workplace risk assessments?"

Sector	Country	Value (%)	Country	Value (%)
Manufacturing	(IE) Ireland	87.5	EU27_2020	87.6
Construction, waste management, water and electricity supply	(IE) Ireland	88.2	EU27_2020	84.9
Trade, transport, food/accommodation and recreation activities	(IE) Ireland	76.2	EU27_2020	75.6
Public administration	(IE) Ireland	93.5	EU27_2020	72.1
Education, human health and social work activities	(IE) Ireland	89.3	EU27_2020	78.7
IT, Finance, Real estate and other technical scientific or personal service activities	(IE) Ireland	61.5	EU27_2020	66.4
All	(IE) Ireland	76.7	EU27_2020	76.6

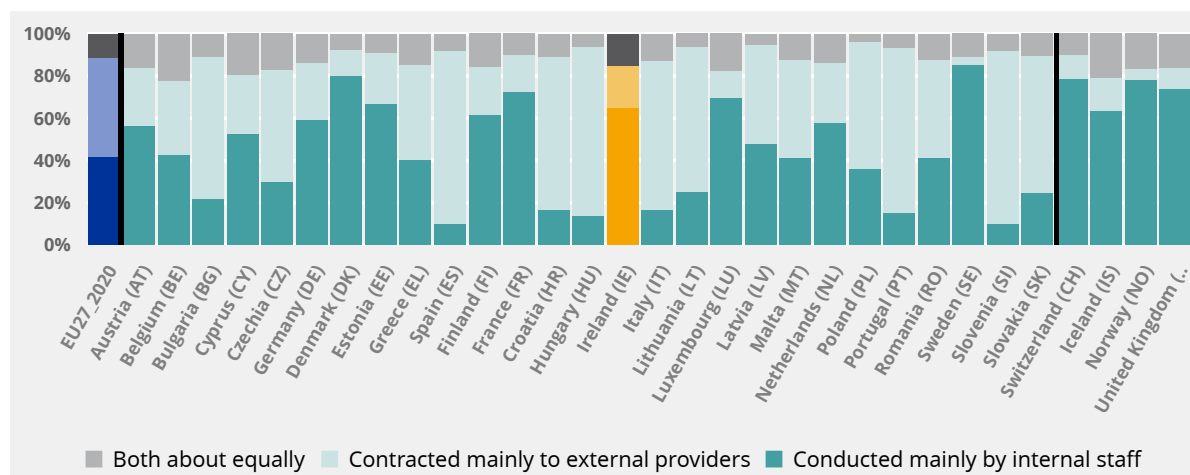
Does your establishment regularly carry out workplace risk assessments?



The diagram presents the 'yes' responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey - by Member State and company size - to the question : “Does your establishment regularly carry out workplace risk assessments?”

Sector	Country	Value (%)	Country	Value (%)
5 to 9 employees	(IE) Ireland	67.5	EU27_2020	70.3
10 to 49 employees	(IE) Ireland	82.6	EU27_2020	79.9
50 to 249 employees	(IE) Ireland	92.5	EU27_2020	91.8
250 or more employees	(IE) Ireland	99.3	EU27_2020	95.7
All	(IE) Ireland	76.7	EU27_2020	76.6

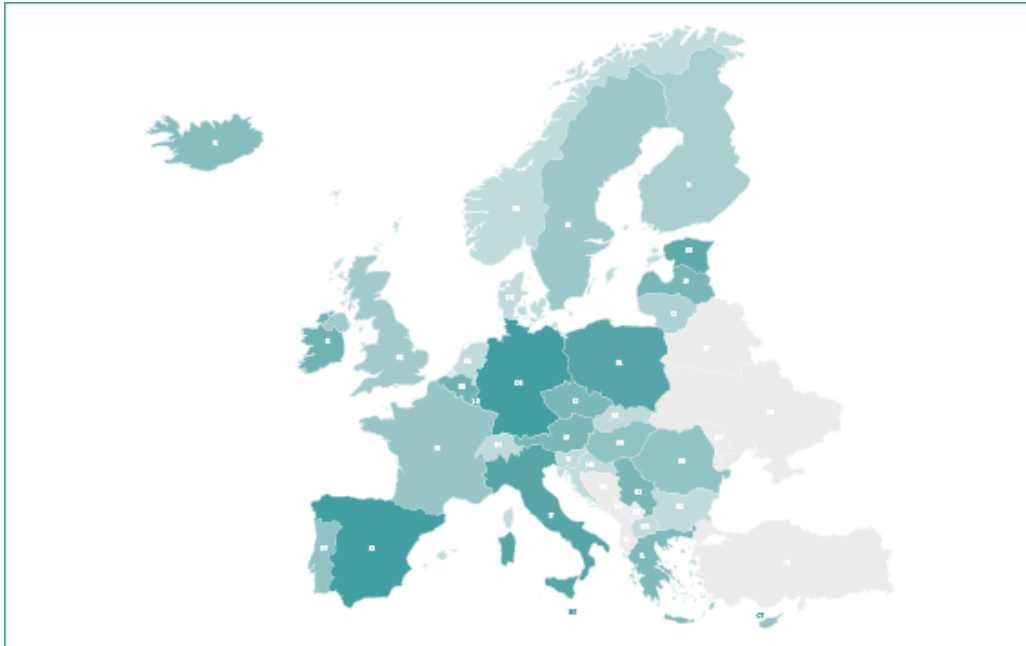
Are workplace risk assessments mainly conducted by internal staff or are they contracted to external service providers?



The diagram displays the responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey to the question: “Are workplace risk assessments mainly conducted by internal staff or are they contracted to external service providers?”

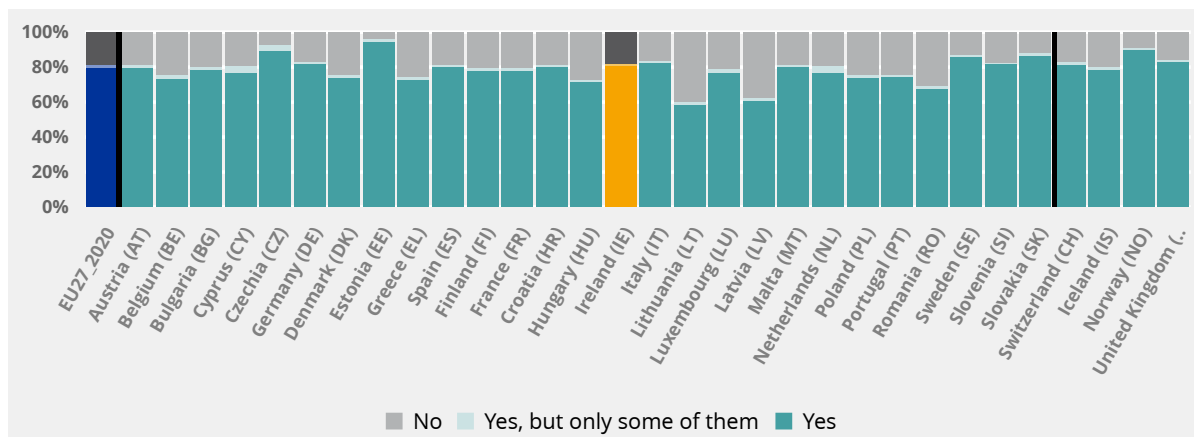
Country	Both about equal (%)	External (%)	Internal (%)
EU27_2020	11.2	47.1	41.7
Ireland (IE)	15.1	20	64.9

Evaluated aspects in risk assessments



Responses to Evaluated aspects can be found in ESENER 2019 Survey in the section OSH Management – Aspects evaluated in the workplace risk assessment. For further information please, check the ESENER methodology.

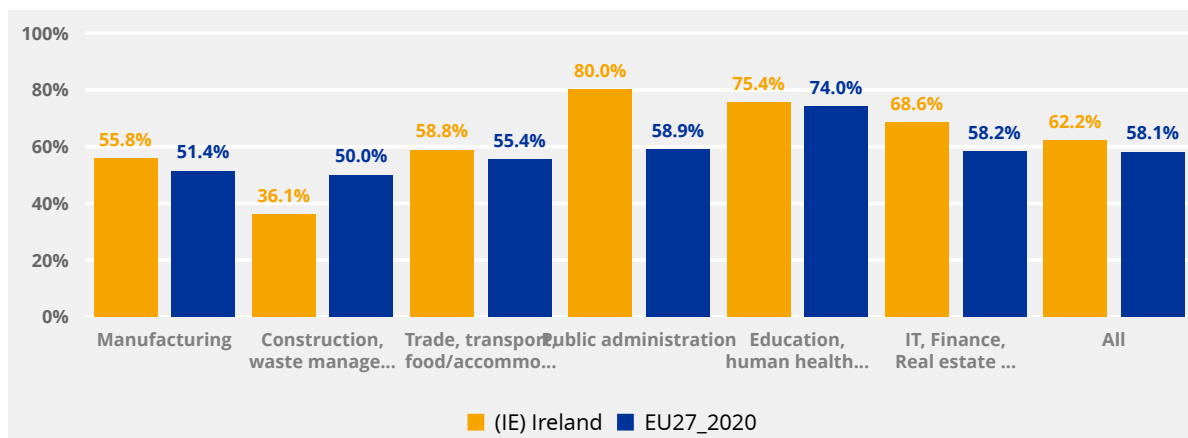
Are the health and safety representatives provided with any training during work time?



The diagram displays the responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey to the question: “Are the health and safety representatives provided with any training during work time?”. additional information about this indicator can be obtained in ESENER 2019 Survey in the section OSH Management – Lack of information or adequate tools to deal with the risk effectively

Country	No (%)	Yes, but only some of them (%)	Yes (%)
EU27_2020	18.7	1	80.3
Ireland (IE)	17.9	0.5	81.6

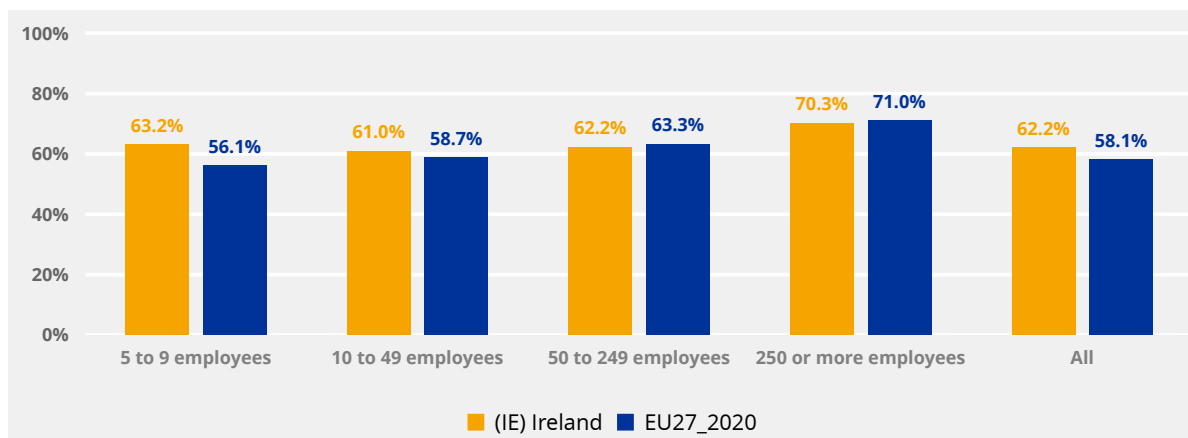
Did the employees have a role in the design and set-up of measures to address psychosocial risks?



The diagram displays the 'yes' responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey - by Member State and sector - to the question : "Did the employees have a role in the design and set-up of measures to address psychosocial risks?"

Sector	Country	Value (%)	Country	Value (%)
Manufacturing	(IE) Ireland	55.8	EU27_2020	51.4
Construction, waste management, water and electricity supply	(IE) Ireland	36.1	EU27_2020	50
Trade, transport, food/accommodation and recreation activities	(IE) Ireland	58.8	EU27_2020	55.4
Public administration	(IE) Ireland	80	EU27_2020	58.9
Education, human health and social work activities	(IE) Ireland	75.4	EU27_2020	74
IT, Finance, Real estate and other technical scientific or personal service activities	(IE) Ireland	68.6	EU27_2020	58.2
All	(IE) Ireland	62.2	EU27_2020	58.1

Did the employees have a role in the design and set-up of measures to address psychosocial risks?



The diagram displays the 'yes' responses in the ESENER 2019 Survey - by Member State and company size - to the question : "Did the employees have a role in the design and set-up of measures to address psychosocial risks?"

Sector	Country	Value (%)	Country	Value (%)
5 to 9 employees	(IE) Ireland	63.2	EU27_2020	56.1
10 to 49 employees	(IE) Ireland	61	EU27_2020	58.7
50 to 249 employees	(IE) Ireland	62.2	EU27_2020	63.3
250 or more employees	(IE) Ireland	70.3	EU27_2020	71
All	(IE) Ireland	62.2	EU27_2020	58.1

OSH outcomes and working conditions

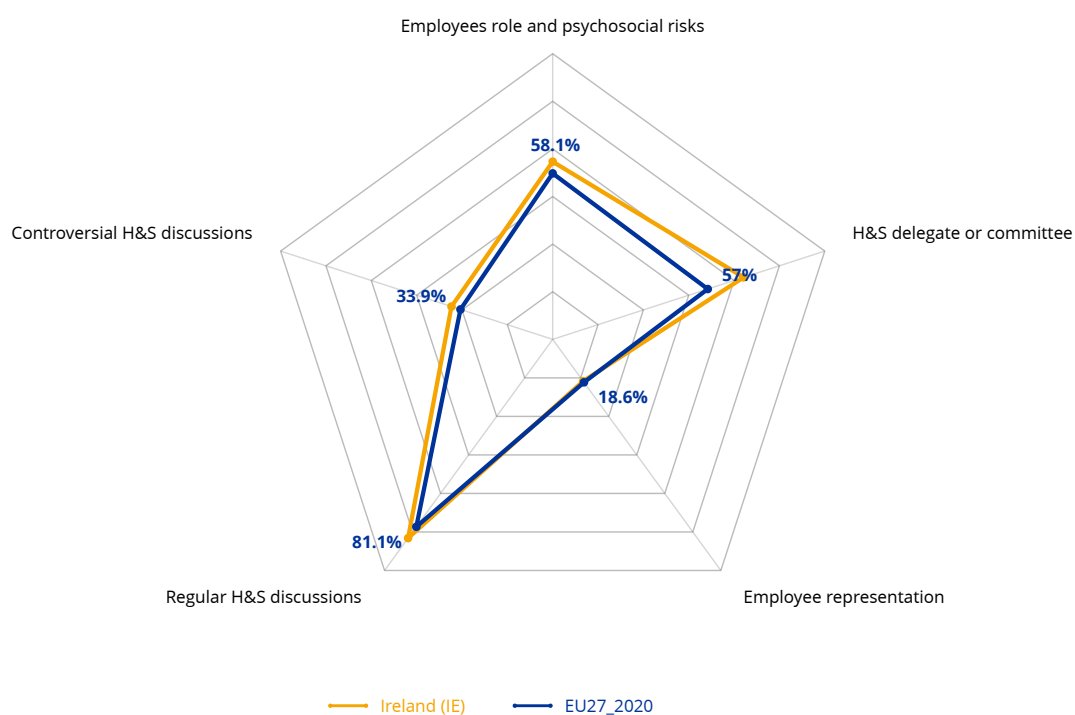
Worker involvement

This section displays mainly quantitative data that show how workers are represented at company level and how they are involved in the prevention policy of the companies.

Sources: ESENER 2019 Survey and European Working Conditions Survey 2015 (EWCS). For further information refer to Methodology

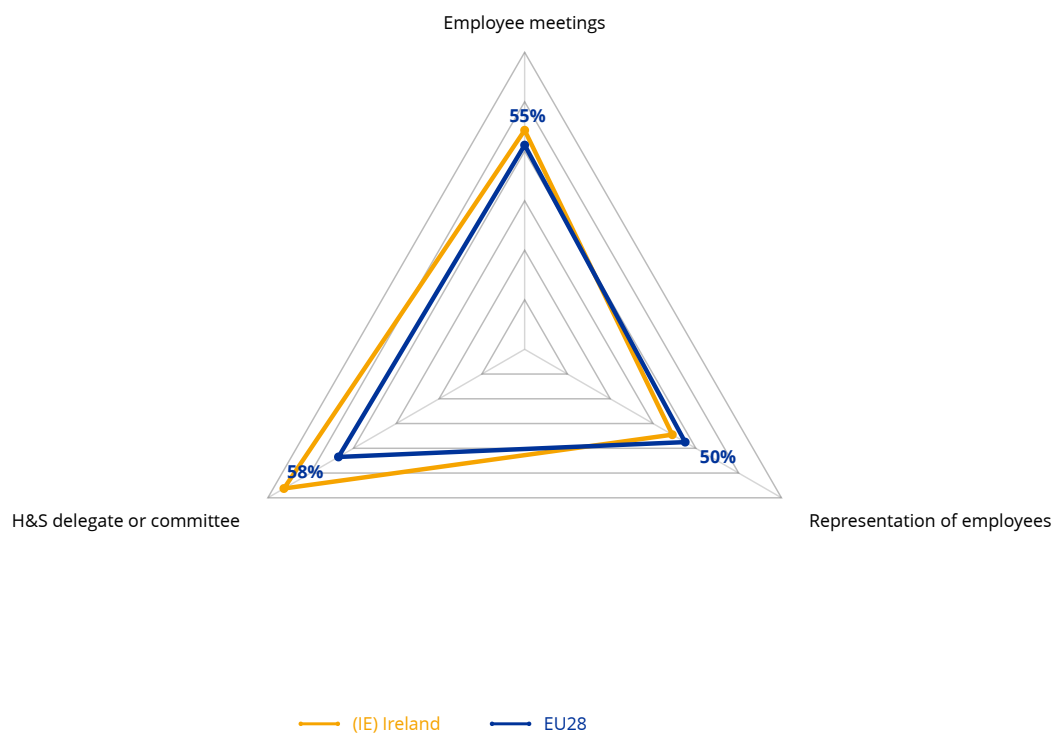
Worker involvement

ESENER



Sector	Country	Value (%)
Employees role and psychosocial risks	Ireland (IE)	62.2
H&S delegate or committee	Ireland (IE)	70.2
Employee representation	Ireland (IE)	18.1
Regular H&S discussions	Ireland (IE)	86
Controversial H&S discussions	Ireland (IE)	37.2
Employees role and psychosocial risks	EU27_2020	58.1
H&S delegate or committee	EU27_2020	57
Employee representation	EU27_2020	18.6
Regular H&S discussions	EU27_2020	81.1
Controversial H&S discussions	EU27_2020	33.9

EWCS



Sector	Country	Value (%)
Employee meetings	EU28	55
Representation of employees	EU28	50
H&S delegate or committee	EU28	58
Employee meetings	(IE) Ireland	59
Representation of employees	(IE) Ireland	46
H&S delegate or committee	(IE) Ireland	75

OSH infrastructure **Enforcement capacity**

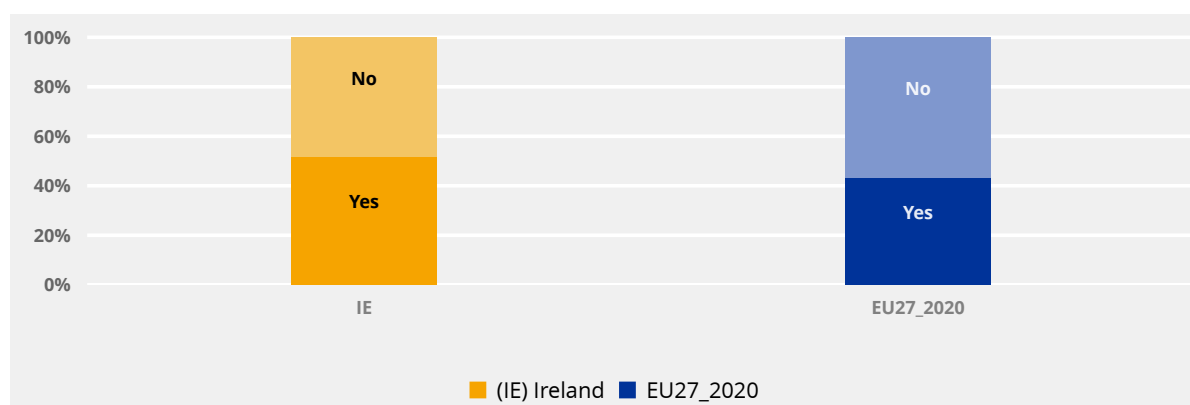
This indicator mainly contains the non-confidential parts of Senior Labour Inspectors Committee reports about enforcement in Member States

Sources: ESENER 2019 Survey and Senior Labour Inspectors' Committee.

For further information refer to Methodology

% of establishments inspected

Have you been visited by the labour inspectorate in the last 3 years?



Country	Yes (%)	No (%)
(IE) Ireland	51.6	48.4
EU27_2020	43.2	56.8

Authority

No information available

Scope of the Labor Inspection

No information available

Inspector powers

No information available

Strategy/Plan

No information available

OSH infrastructure OSH statistics, surveys and research

Here you will find a comprehensive overview of availability of OSH statistics and surveys on working conditions and research capacities in the different Member States and the EU.

For further information refer to Methodology



OSH statistics

Accident reporting system

Data holder:

Health and Safety Authority

Functionalities:

- Monitoring of work accidents - annually (2005-2014)

Quarterly National Household Survey

Data holder:

Central Statistics Office

Functionalities:

- Monitoring of work accidents - annually (1998-2014)

Quarterly National Household Survey

Data holder:

Central Statistics Office

Functionalities:

- Monitoring of work-related illness - (1998-present)

Statistical information on social welfare

Data holder:

Department of Social Protection

Functionalities:

- Monitoring of work accidents - annually (start date not clear (need to look at annual reports separately))

THOR: The Health and Occupational Research

Data holder:

University of Manchester

Functionalities:

- Monitoring of occupational diseases - annually (since 2005)

Research Institutes

Work Research Centre (WRC)

[Link to the institute](#)

Short abstract

The WRC specialises in research and consultancy on key social issues, organisational change and technological developments. Established in 1988, the WRC has established a strong national and international track record in state-of-the-art assignments for a wide range of clients by undertaking leading research; developing useful and effective services and products; consulting and training; and supporting policy-making.

[See more in OSHWiki](#)