



The Sustainable Progress Index 2024

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**A TRADITION OF
INDEPENDENT
THINKING**



UCC

University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

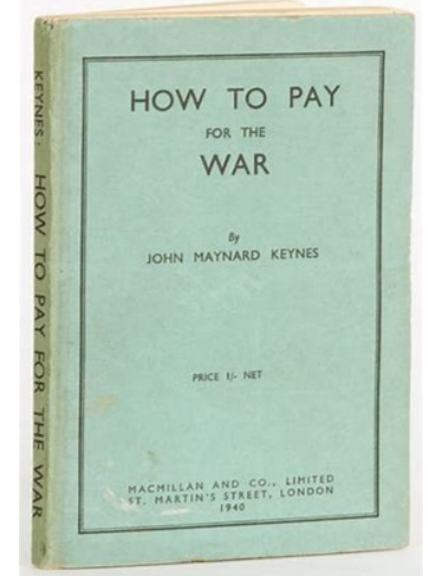
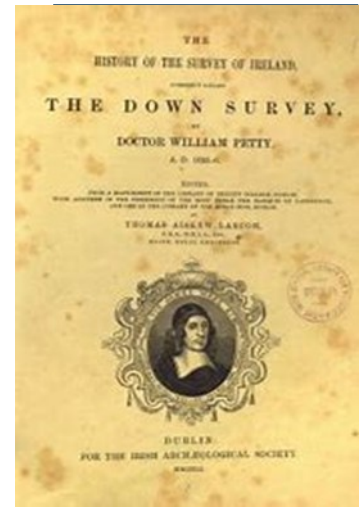
Overview

- Introduction
- Measuring Progress
- Progress as Production and Consumption
- Measuring Well-Being
- The Sustainable Progress Index 2024
- Conclusions and Policy Considerations

Measuring Progress

GDP has been the Main Indicator for Measuring Progress

- First attempts at measuring the economy were to support taxation and confiscation
- National Income Accounts (including GDP) were developed to assist war production planning in WWII
- Since 1950s, most economic policy consisted in adjusting growth in GDP (expand to reduce unemployment, reduce to combat inflation)
- Adam Smith - Economic growth means more consumption, which improves well-being
- Keynesians - Economic growth means more employment, which leads to more consumption, which improves well-being



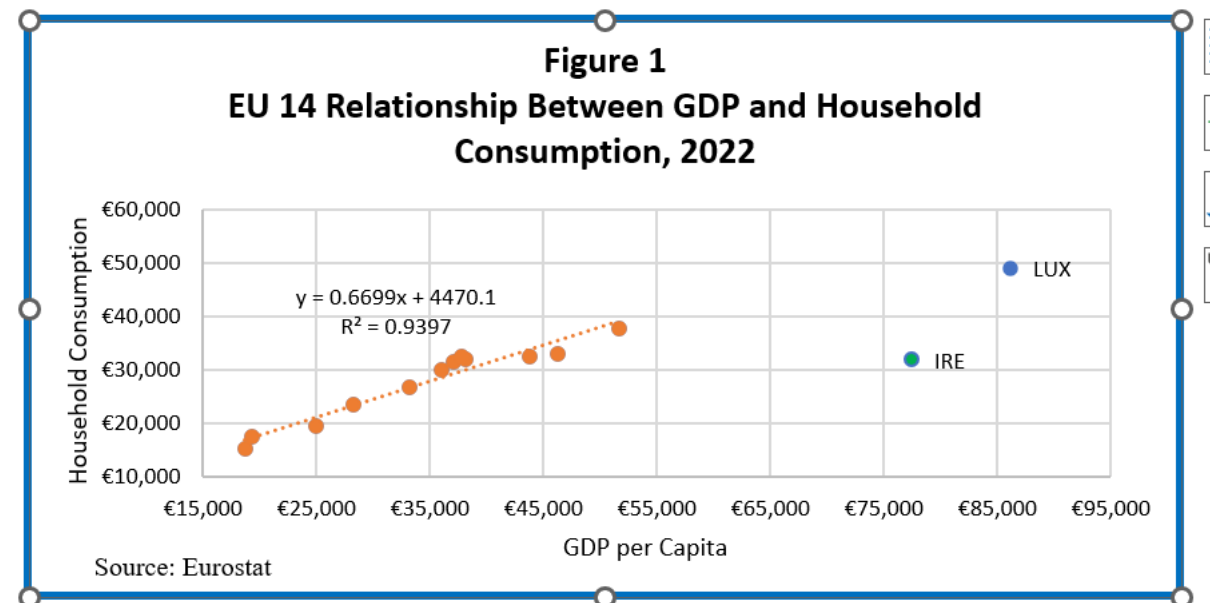
GDP is not a good indicator of progress for Ireland



Table 2
EU 14 GDP per capita and Household Consumption, 2022

GDP per Capita		Household Consumption	
Country	2022	Country	2022
Luxembourg	€86,130	Luxembourg	€49,040
Ireland	€77,430	Denmark	€37,740
Denmark	€51,660	Sweden	€32,980
Sweden	€46,250	Finland	€32,540
Netherlands	€43,800	Netherlands	€32,450
<i>EU 14 average</i>	<i>€41,322</i>	Austria	€31,970
Austria	€38,080	Ireland	€31,820
Finland	€37,780	Belgium	€31,420
Belgium	€37,040	Germany	€30,080
Germany	€36,010	<i>EU 14 AVG</i>	<i>€29,461</i>
France	€33,180	France	€26,660
Italy	€28,220	Italy	€23,410
Spain	€24,910	Spain	€19,560
Portugal	€19,310	Portugal	€17,480
Greece	€18,710	Greece	€15,310
<i>Irl % of AVG</i>	<i>187.4%</i>	<i>Irl % of AVG</i>	<i>108.0%</i>

Source: Eurostat



Problems with GDP as Measure of Welfare (from *Systems of National Accounts 2008*)

1. GDP measures spending and not all spending adds to welfare
2. Much economic activity takes place out of market relations, and thus is not included in GDP (household production);
3. Many non-economic events (like natural disasters) have a negative impact on welfare but often can have a positive effect on GDP;
4. Many consumption or production expenditures have a positive effect on the welfare of the individuals undertaking them, but a negative effect on non-market participants (economists call these externalities)
5. An individual's wellbeing is greatly affected by many non-economic factors, such as their health, family relations, friendships, factors that GDP does not measure.

World Bank Wealth Accounts Measure Sustainable Consumption/Well-being

Table 3
EU 14 Countries Total Wealth Per Capita, 1995 and 2018

Country	1995 (\$2018)	Country	2018 (\$2018)	% Growth 1995-2018
Luxembourg	\$785,458	Luxembourg	\$898,547	14.4%
Denmark	\$605,986	Denmark	\$842,148	39.0%
Sweden	\$519,660	Sweden	\$748,540	44.0%
Netherlands	\$490,908	Netherlands	\$690,432	40.6%
Austria	\$487,853	Germany	\$672,408	41.1%
Germany	\$476,436	Austria	\$633,748	29.9%
France	\$449,640	Finland	\$614,630	50.1%
EU 14	\$433,175	Belgium	\$571,179	32.6%
Belgium	\$430,838	France	\$565,959	25.9%
Finland	\$409,557	EU 14	\$561,394	29.6%
Ireland	\$372,948	Ireland	\$472,814	26.8%
Italy	\$334,049	Italy	\$375,541	12.4%
Spain	\$277,976	Spain	\$328,253	18.1%
Portugal	\$237,464	Portugal	\$251,045	5.7%
Greece	\$185,679	Greece	\$194,266	4.6%

Source: World Bank

- Income determines current consumption/well-being
- Wealth accounts show how levels of consumption can be maintained into the future
- Includes broader measure of natural capital, how much environment contributes to economy



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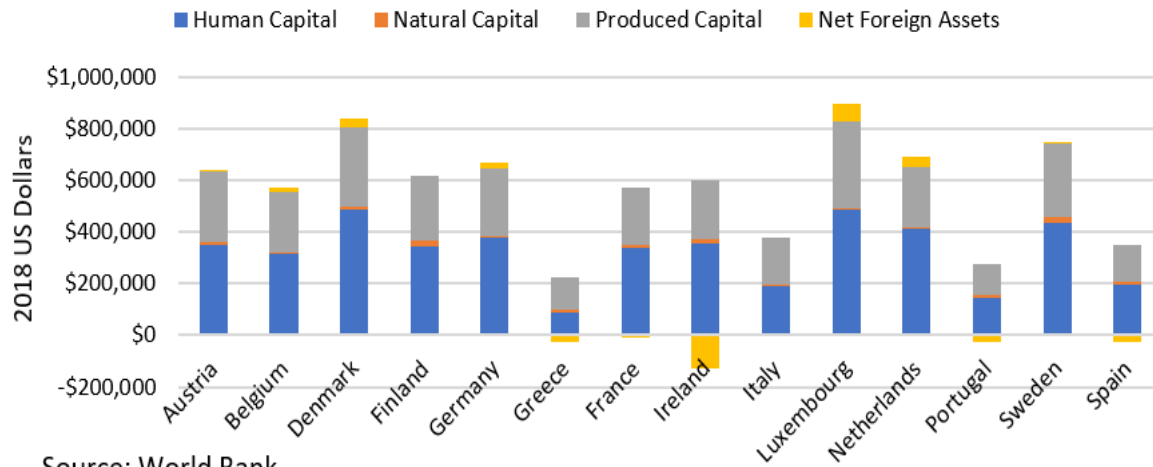


Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Total Wealth = Produced + Natural + Human + Net Foreign Assets

Figure 3

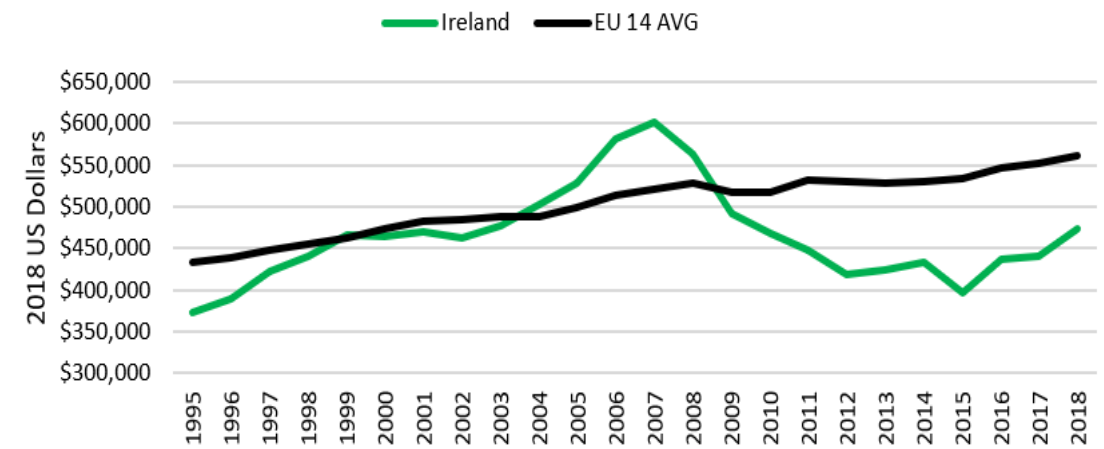
Elements of Per Capita Wealth for EU 14, 2018



Source: World Bank

Figure 4

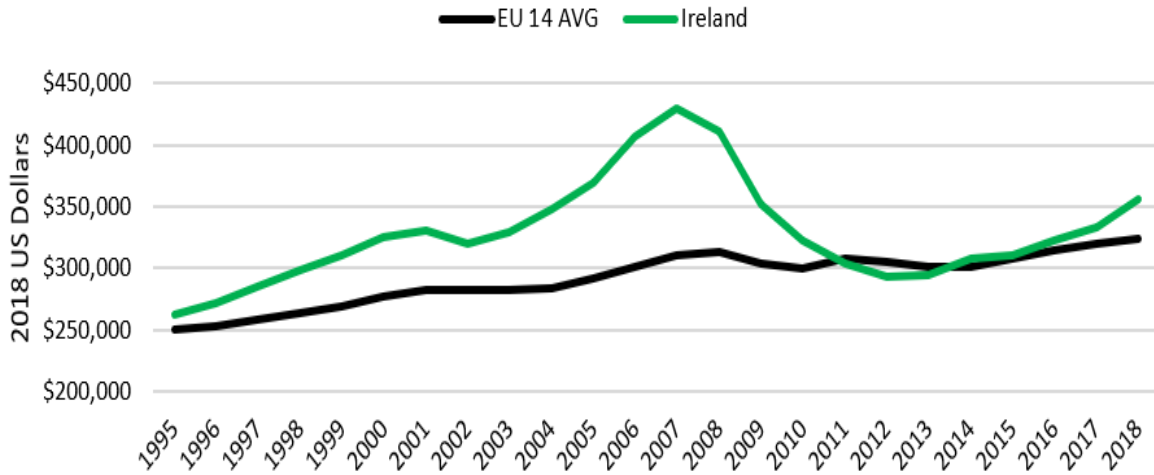
Ireland and EU 14 AVG Total Wealth Per Capita, 1995-2018



Source: World Bank

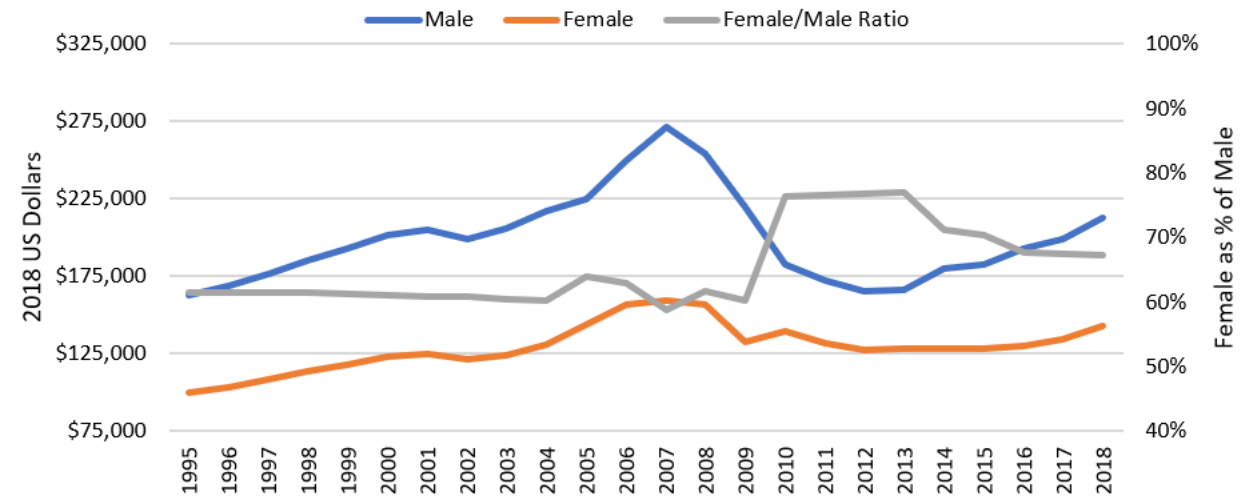
Ireland and EU 14 Human Capital Per Capita

Figure 5
Ireland and EU 14 AVG Human Capital Per Capita, 1995-2018



Source: World Bank

Figure 6
Human Capital per capita by Gender in Ireland, 1995-2018



Source: World Bank



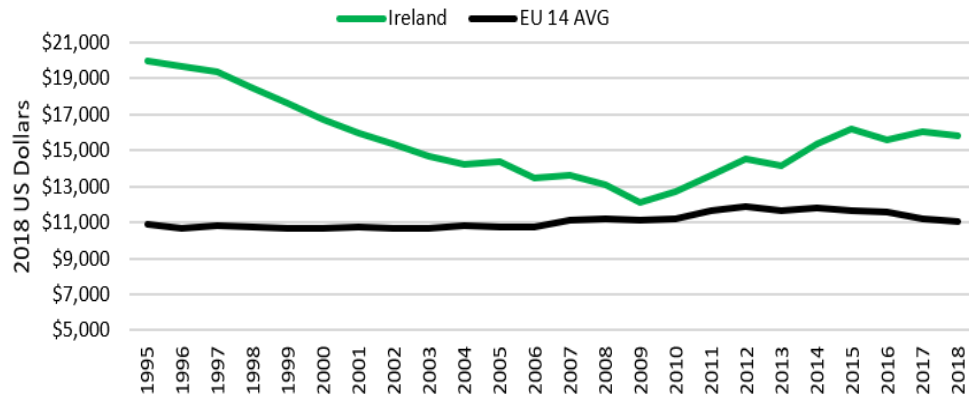
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Ireland and EU 14 Natural Capital Per Capita

Figure 7

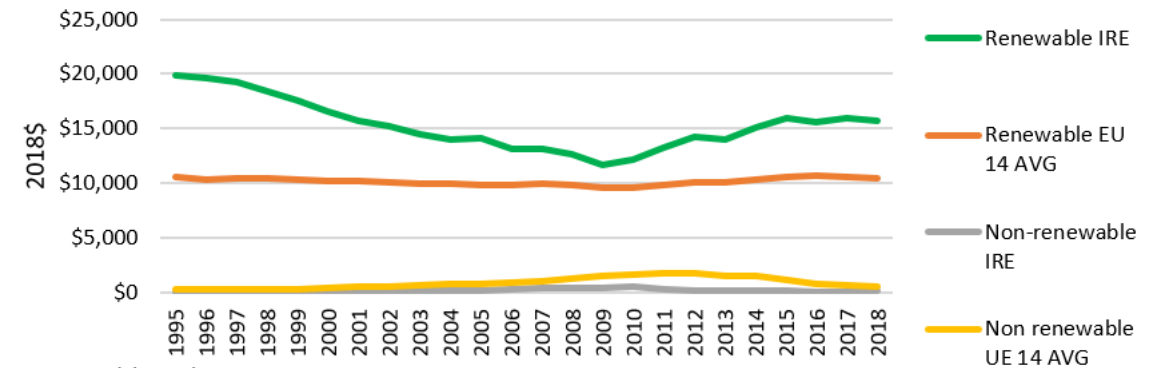
Ireland and EU 14 AVG Natural Capital Per Capita, 1995-2018



Source: World Bank

Figure 8

Ireland and EU 14 AVG Renewable and Nonrenewable Natural Capital, 1995-2018



Source: World Bank

Ireland and EU 14 Produced Capital Per Capita

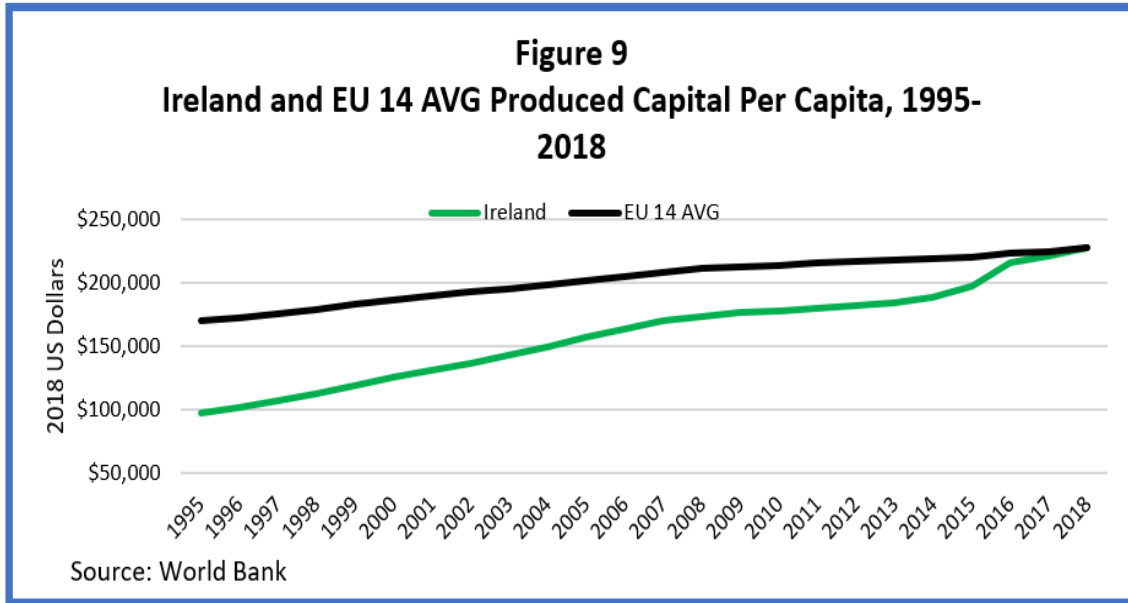
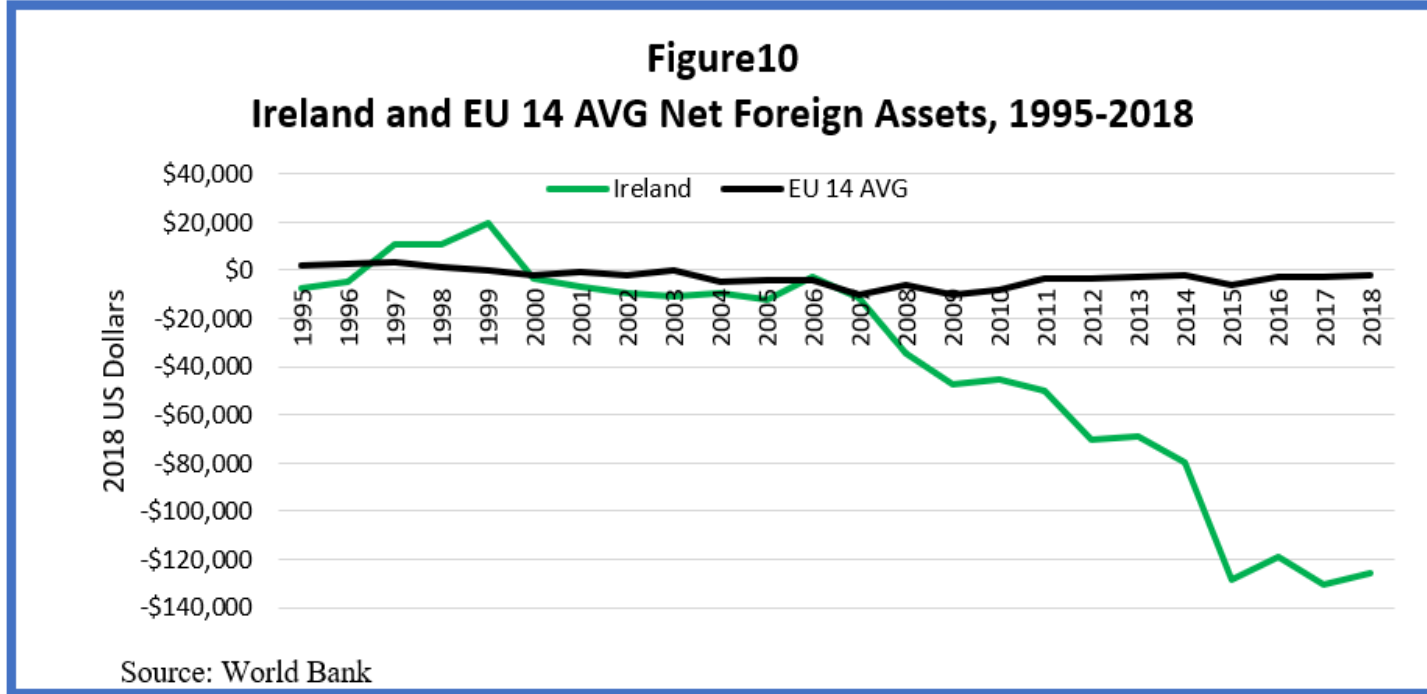


Table 4
EU 14 Countries Gross Capital Formation as a % of GDP, 2010-2019

Category	Intellectual property products	Other machinery and equipment and weapons systems	IT equipment	Transport equipment	Other buildings and structures	Dwellings	Total GFCF, 2010-2019
Ireland	12.53	1.37	0.83	4.89	4.40	1.97	26.01
Sweden	6.45	4.57	1.12	1.57	5.39	4.45	23.60
Austria	4.72	4.34	1.19	2.05	6.33	4.38	23.05
Belgium	4.25	4.26	1.28	2.10	5.27	5.86	23.05
Finland	4.55	3.35	0.55	1.03	6.61	6.56	22.67
France	5.19	2.93	0.45	1.53	5.97	6.20	22.32
Germany	3.54	4.23	0.68	1.99	4.01	5.92	20.37
Denmark	5.10	2.67	0.97	2.17	4.80	4.22	19.93
Netherlands	4.76	3.35	0.79	1.42	5.42	4.05	19.82
Spain	3.21	3.23	0.67	1.82	4.92	4.90	18.95
Luxembourg	1.47	2.00	0.86	4.08	6.59	3.51	18.52
Italy	2.85	4.56	0.70	1.11	4.18	4.50	17.94
Portugal	2.64	2.91	0.89	1.19	5.90	2.87	16.81
Greece	1.79	2.42	0.91	0.87	3.75	2.03	11.83
AVG	4.50	3.30	0.85	1.99	5.25	4.39	20.35

Source: OECD
* Includes Cultivated Biological Resources which we did not include as a separate column.

Ireland and EU 14 Net Foreign Accounts per capita



Measuring Well-Being

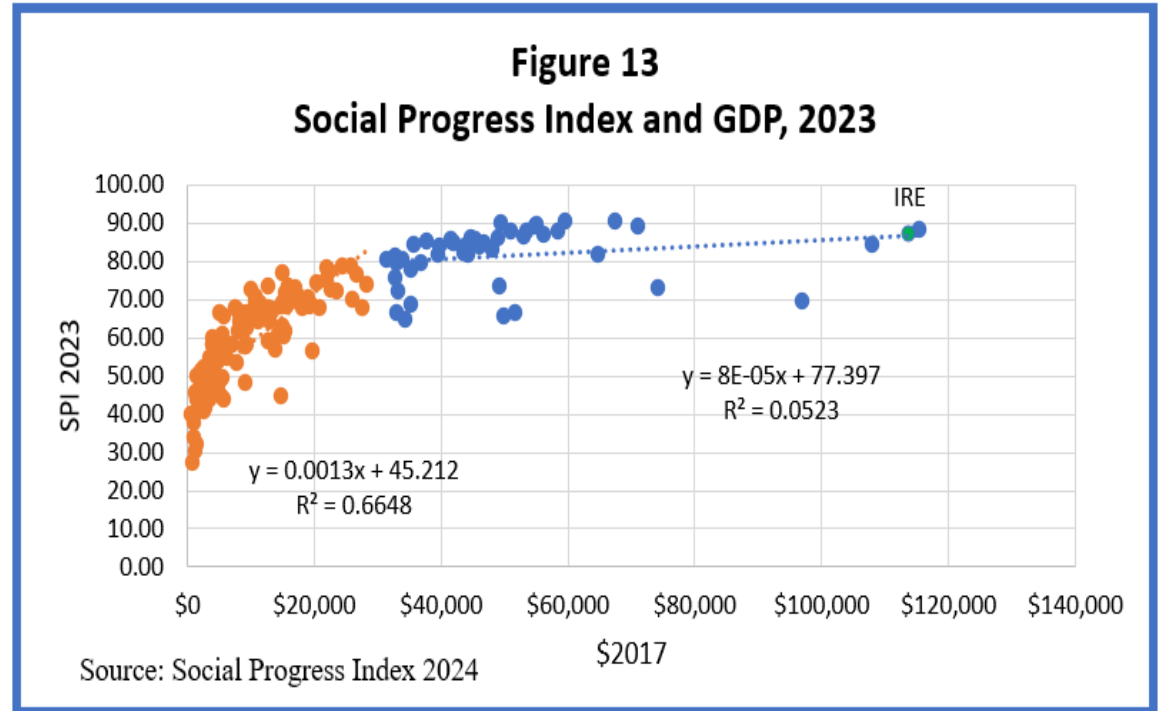
Measuring Progress

Table 6
Various Measures of Progress EU 14, 2023

Gross Domestic Product*		Social Progress Index*		Sustainable Development Goals Index**		World Happiness Index***	
Country	GDP 2023 (\$2017)	Country	SPI 2023	Country	SDG Index 2023	Country	WHI 2023
LUX	\$115,542	DNK	90.38	FIN	86.8	FIN	7.804
IRL	\$113,871	FIN	89.96	SWE	86.0	DNK	7.586
DNK	\$59,704	SWE	89.09	DNK	85.7	NLD	7.403
NLD	\$58,585	LUX	87.86	DEU	83.4	SWE	7.395
AVG	\$58,001	NLD	87.73	AUT	82.3	LUX	7.228
AUT	\$56,281	DEU	87.64	FRA	82.0	AUT	7.097
SWE	\$54,818	AUT	86.73	AVG	81.5	IRL	6.911
DEU	\$53,560	IRL	86.57	ESP	80.4	AVG	6.898
BEL	\$53,156	AVG	86.26	IRL	80.1	DEU	6.892
FIN	\$49,586	BEL	86.13	PRT	80.0	BEL	6.859
FRA	\$46,020	PRT	84.10	BEL	79.5	FRA	6.661
ITA	\$43,788	FRA	83.88	NLD	79.4	ESP	6.436
ESP	\$39,834	ESP	83.87	ITA	78.8	ITA	6.405
PRT	\$35,746	ITA	83.61	GRC	78.4	PRT	5.968
GRC	\$31,517	GRC	80.09	LUX	77.6	GRC	5.931
IRL as % of AVG	196.3%	IRL as % of AVG	100.4%	IRL as % of AVG	98.3%	IRL as % of AVG	100.2%

Social Progress Index

- Social Progress Index is produced by Social Progress Imperative, founded by Michael Porter in 2012
- Composed of three categories of variables:
 - Basic Needs
 - Foundations for Well-being
 - Opportunity



Detailed Comparison of Ireland and EU 14 using Social Progress Index



Table 7
Three Categories of Social Progress Index

Basic Needs	Foundations of Wellbeing	Opportunity
Nutrition and Medical Care	Basic Education	Rights and Voice
Water and Sanitation	Information and Communications	Freedom and Choice
Housing	Health	Inclusive Society
Safety	Environmental Quality	Advanced Education
19 variables	19 variables	19 Variables

Table 9
Three Major Categories of SPI for EU 14, 2023

Country	Basic Needs	Country	Foundations of Wellbeing	Country	Opportunity
DNK	93.19	DNK	87.93	FIN	90.56
FIN	92.60	LUX	87.93	DNK	90.02
AUT	91.81	FIN	86.71	SWE	89.23
LUX	91.68	DEU	86.68	NLD	87.18
SWE	91.58	SWE	86.45	IRL	85.89
DEU	91.06	NLD	85.89	BEL	85.40
ESP	91.01	AUT	85.64	DEU	85.18
PRT	90.93	IRL	84.80	LUX	83.96
<i>EU 14 AVG</i>	<i>90.80</i>	<i>EU 14 AVG</i>	<i>84.30</i>	<i>EU 14 AVG</i>	<i>83.68</i>
ITA	90.34	BEL	83.27	AUT	82.73
NLD	90.13	FRA	83.07	PRT	80.37
BEL	89.72	ITA	82.21	FRA	79.42
FRA	89.16	ESP	82.07	ESP	78.52
IRL	89.02	PRT	81.00	ITA	78.27
GRC	88.94	GRC	76.61	GRC	74.73

Source: Social Progress Index 2024



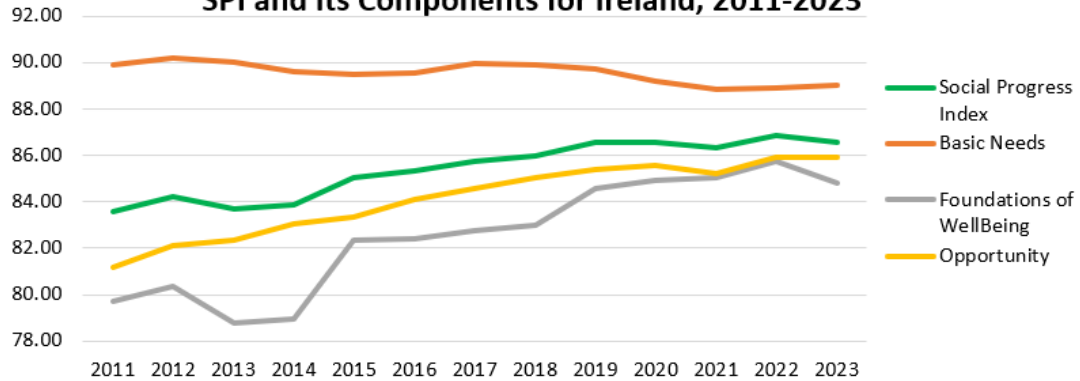
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Ireland's progress as measured by SPI

Figure 14

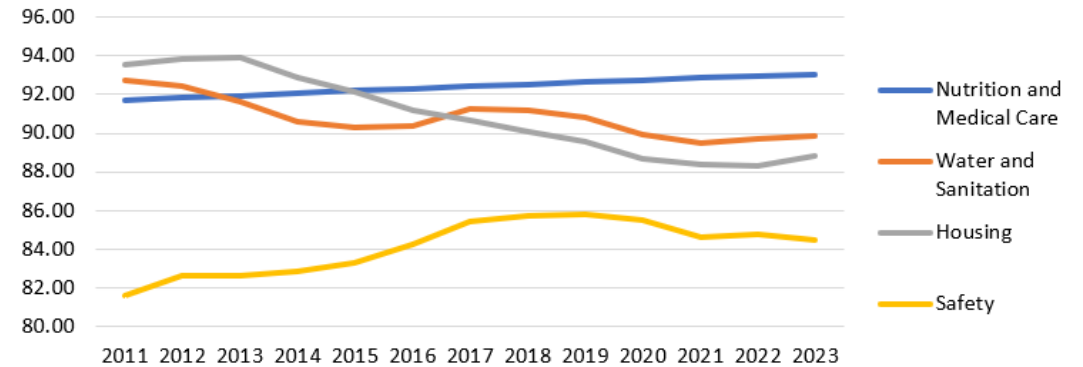
SPI and Its Components for Ireland, 2011-2023



Source: Social Progress Index 2024

Figure 15

Ireland's Basic Needs Components, 2011-2023



Source: Social Progress Index 2024

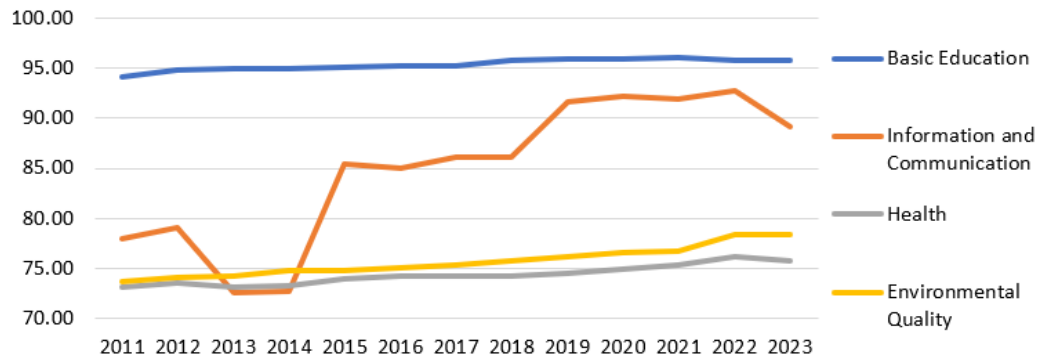


Ireland's progress as measured by SPI (continued)



Figure 16

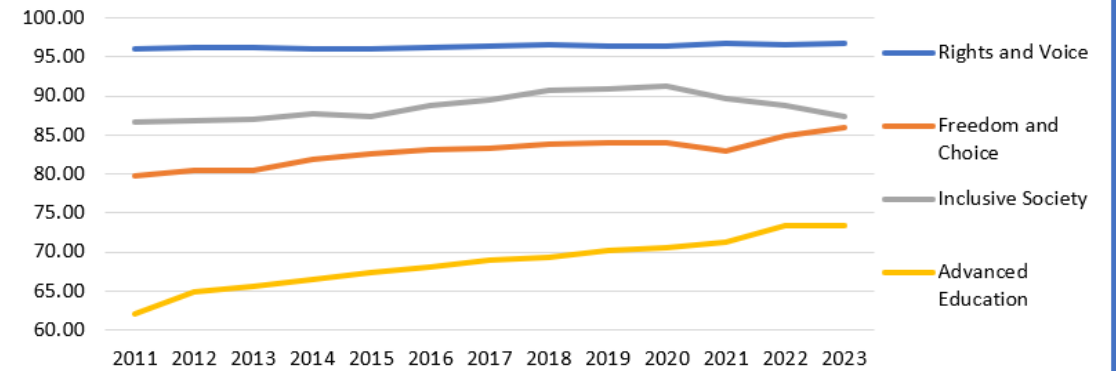
Ireland's Foundations of Wellbeing Components, 2011-2023



Source: Social Progress Index 2024

Figure 17

Ireland's Opportunity Components, 2011-2023



Source: Social Progress Index 2024

Summary of EU 14 SPI from 2011 to 2023

- **Basic Needs**
 - Ireland had 2nd lowest score in 2023
 - Ireland declined .86%, EU 14 AVG went up .31%
- **Foundations**
 - Ireland's improvement better than EU 14 AVG, improves from 11th to 9th
- **Opportunity**
 - Ireland goes from 8th to 5th

Table 10
Change in EU 14 SPI Categories from 2011 to 2023

	Basic Needs			Foundations			Opportunity		
	2011	2023	Change	2011	2023	Change	2011	2023	Change
AUT	92.70	91.81	-0.89	82.00	85.64	3.64	80.11	82.73	2.62
BEL	89.98	89.72	-0.26	81.20	83.27	2.07	82.50	85.40	2.90
DNK	92.91	93.19	0.28	84.54	87.93	3.39	86.87	90.02	3.15
FIN	91.39	92.60	1.21	81.33	86.71	5.38	87.04	90.56	3.52
FRA	89.15	89.16	0.01	81.21	83.07	1.86	78.46	79.42	0.96
DEU	92.66	91.06	-1.60	85.21	86.68	1.47	82.82	85.18	2.36
GRC	87.94	88.94	1.00	71.62	76.61	4.99	70.83	74.73	3.90
IRL	89.88	89.02	-0.86	79.72	84.80	5.08	81.17	85.89	4.72
ITA	89.10	90.34	1.24	74.79	82.21	7.42	72.92	78.27	5.35
LUX	91.38	91.68	0.30	83.04	87.93	4.89	78.80	83.96	5.16
NLD	91.11	90.13	-0.98	83.35	85.89	2.54	84.89	87.18	2.29
PRT	89.49	90.93	1.44	74.41	81.00	6.59	75.25	80.37	5.12
ESP	89.05	91.01	1.96	79.62	82.07	2.45	77.39	78.52	1.13
SWE	90.77	91.58	0.81	84.35	86.45	2.10	87.39	89.23	1.84
CHE	91.47	92.48	1.01	82.40	87.03	4.63	84.73	82.73	2.39
EU 14 AVG	90.60	90.91	0.31	80.59	84.49	3.90	80.11	85.40	2.62

Source: Social Progress Index 2024

To Sum Up.....

- Early economic policy consisted of the State helping elites. Democracy implies that government policy promotes what citizens want
- Economic progress contributes to well-being, but it does not encompass every aspect of human flourishing
- We have presented 2 new metrics on measuring progress. Each gives valuable insights and perspectives
- World Bank Wealth Accounts have a very helpful view of natural capital. It will be interesting how they eventually include Social Capital
- Social Progress Index gives a wide range of indicators. It is similar to the SDG index

The Sustainable Progress Index 2024



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The 17 Sustainable Development Goals



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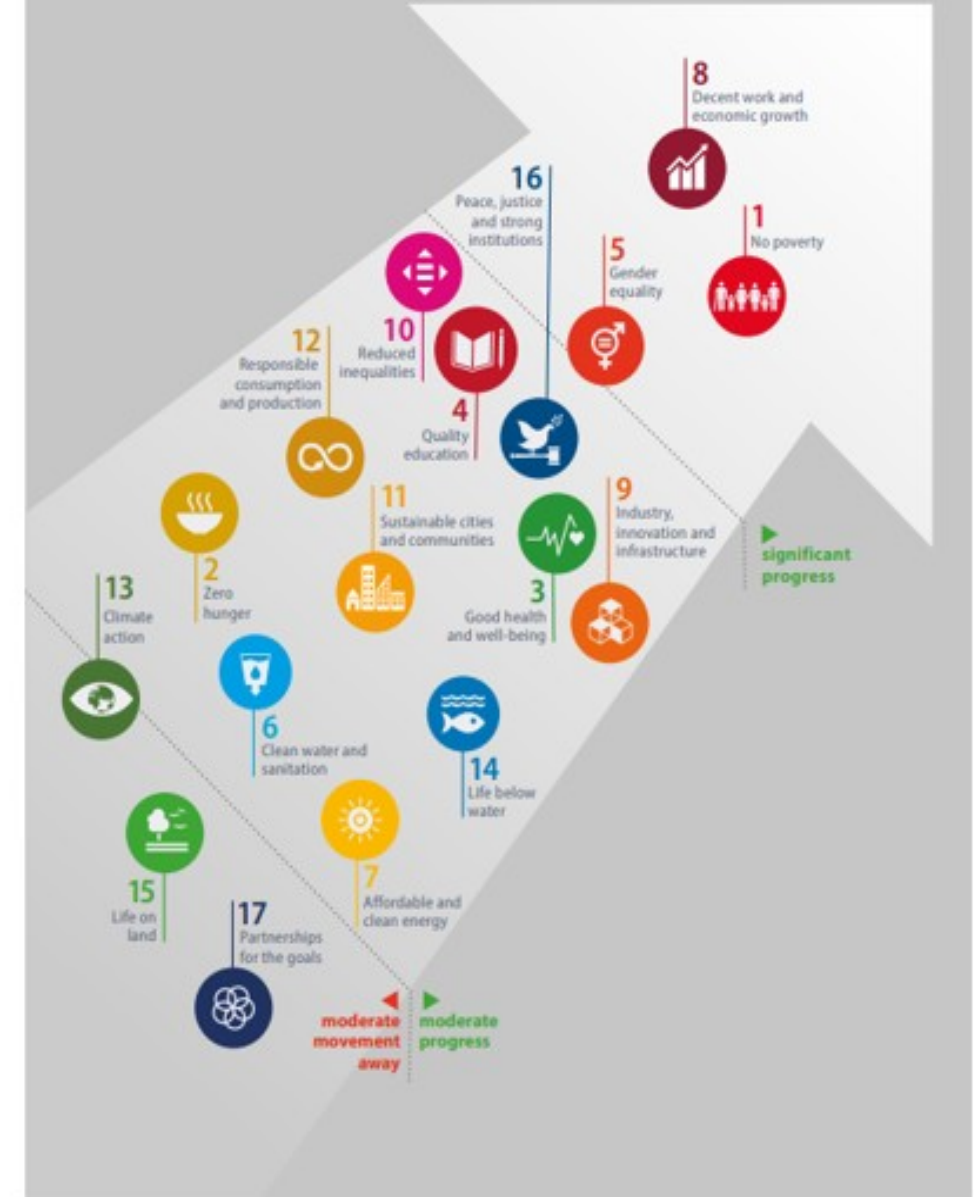


Eurostat 2022: EU Progress Towards the SDGs

Key Results

- Strong Progress:** SDG 1, SDG8, SDG5
Moderate Progress: SDG10, SDG4, less so for other SDGs
- Movement AWAY:** SDG15 and SDG17

Overview of EU progress towards the SDGs over the past 5 years, 2023
(Data mainly refer to 2016–2021 or 2017–2022)



Jeffrey Sachs et al, SDSN



Source: Sachs et al (2023, p. 2824)

Our Starting Point

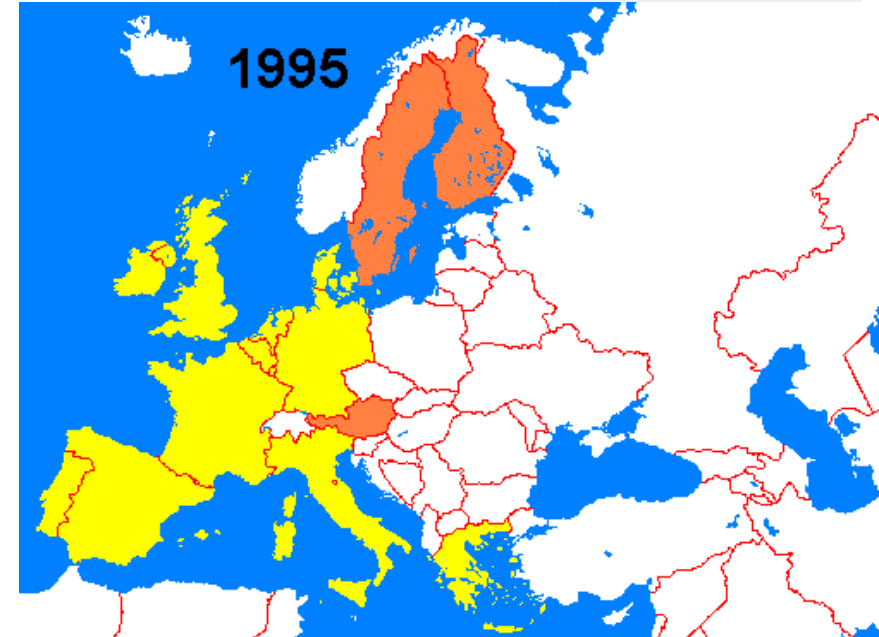
Data Selection

- UN Global Indicator Framework for the SDGs (2017; 2022)
- EU SDG Indicator Set (2023)



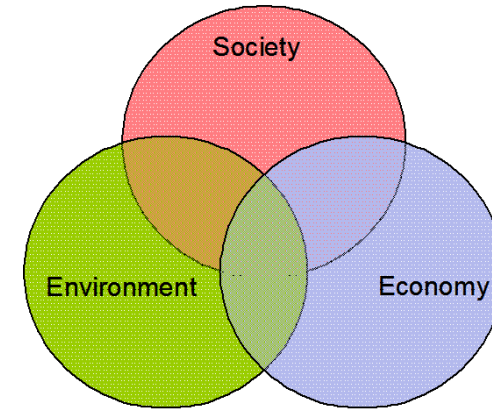
The Data

- **Our Focus?**
 - the **EU14 countries** aim to compare Ireland relative to its peers
- **Our Criteria for Data Selection?**
 - *Relevance and applicability*
 - *Quality*
 - *Coverage:*
 - *Most recent available*
- **Our Final Dataset?**
 - **83 indicators** across the 17 goals
 - Minimum of 4 or more indicators per SDG
 - Exception is SDG 13 (2 indicators) and SDG 14 (3 indicators)



Our Method

- **Method involves assigning percentile rank to each indicator**
 - Normalise the data – 100 is best, 0 is worst
 - Better performance always means higher scores
- **First, examine SDGs by three 3 dimensions – 3 Indexes**
 - Economy, Society, Environment
- **Aggregate across all 17 SDGs to arrive at Sustainable Progress Index**
 - all data from latest year available
- **Each indicator weighted equally in the SDG (UN, 2015)**



“These are universal goals and targets which involve the entire world, developed and developing countries alike. They are **integrated and indivisible** and balance the **three dimensions of sustainable development**”. (UN, 2015, paragraph 5)



The Economy Index - Country Ranking

Table 11
The Economy SDG Index – Ranking by Country

Country	Index Score	Country Rank
Sweden	0.7693	1
Denmark	0.7693	2
Netherlands	0.7435	3
Finland	0.6538	4
Luxembourg	0.6346	5
Germany	0.5576	6
Austria	0.5191	7
Belgium	0.5063	8
Ireland	0.4871	9
France	0.3523	10
Portugal	0.3396	11
Spain	0.3203	12
Italy	0.1920	13
Greece	0.1728	14



The Society Index - Country Ranking

Table 12
The Society SDG Index – Ranking by Country

Country	Index Score	Country Rank
Denmark	0.6614	1
Sweden	0.6486	2
Finland	0.6304	3
Netherlands	0.5654	4
Belgium	0.5394	5
Austria	0.5274	6
Ireland	0.5120	7
Luxembourg	0.4745	8
Portugal	0.4651	9
France	0.4589	10
Germany	0.4478	11
Italy	0.4371	12
Spain	0.4126	13
Greece	0.3275	14

SDG 1 No Poverty (8)
 SDG 2 No Hunger (13)
 SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being (6)
 SDG 4 Quality Education (1)
 SDG 5 Gender Equality (10)
 SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities (6)
 SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (5)
 SDG 17 Partnership for the Goals (14)

Source: Authors' analysis

The Environment- Country Ranking

Table 13		
The Environment SDG Index – Ranking by Country		
Country	Index Score	Country Rank
Sweden	0.5899	1
Netherlands	0.5781	2
Denmark	0.5527	3
Germany	0.5525	4
Austria	0.5423	5
Greece	0.4929	6
Italy	0.4918	7
Luxembourg	0.4898	8
Finland	0.4750	9
France	0.4681	10
Ireland	0.4627	11
Spain	0.4584	12
Portugal	0.4500	13
Belgium	0.4227	14

SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation (11)
 SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy (14)
 SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities (2)
 SDG 12 Reasonable Consumption and Production (10)
 SDG 13 Climate Action (9)
 SDG 14 Life below Water (8)
 SDG 15 Life on Land (7)

Source: Authors' analysis

Ireland's Ranking: Dimension and SDG

Table 14
Ireland's Rank by Dimension and by SDG

Economy		9
SDG 8:	Good Jobs and Economic Growth	7
SDG 9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	10
Society		7
SDG 1	No Poverty	8
SDG 2	Zero Hunger	13
SDG 3	Good Health and Wellbeing	6
SDG 4	Quality Education	1
SDG 5	Gender Equality	10
SDG 10	Reduced Inequality	6
SDG 16	Peace and Justice	5
SDG 17	Partnerships for the Goals	14
Environment		11
SDG 6	Clean Water and Sanitation	11
SDG 7	Affordable and Clean Energy	14
SDG 11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	2
SDG 12	Responsible Consumption and Production	10
SDG 13	Climate Action	9
SDG 14	Life Below Water	8
SDG 15	Life on Land	7

The Sustainable Progress Index Country Ranking

Table 15
The Sustainable Progress Index
Ranking by Country

Country	Index Score	Country Rank
Sweden	0.6329	1
Denmark	0.6270	2
Netherlands	0.6006	3
Finland	0.5692	4
Austria	0.5288	5
Germany	0.5049	6
Luxembourg	0.5026	7
Ireland	0.4922	8
Belgium	0.4875	9
France	0.4467	10
Portugal	0.4441	11
Italy	0.4319	12
Spain	0.4183	13
Greece	0.3740	14

SO: where do we stand?

Ireland is ranked **8th** overall



Conclusions & Policy Considerations

Ireland's Well-Being Framework

Overarching Vision and Goals

- Enable people to have purposeful lives that support good physical and mental health, enabling the development of skills across the life cycle and providing a good standard of living;
- Ensure a sustainable sense of place, including an appropriate and safe place to live and protection of Ireland's environment, climate and biodiversity;
- Preserve balance, inclusivity and equality of opportunities across society with open and effective government, empowering families, friends and communities to grow, connect and meaningfully engage.

(Government of Ireland, 2022, p. 14)



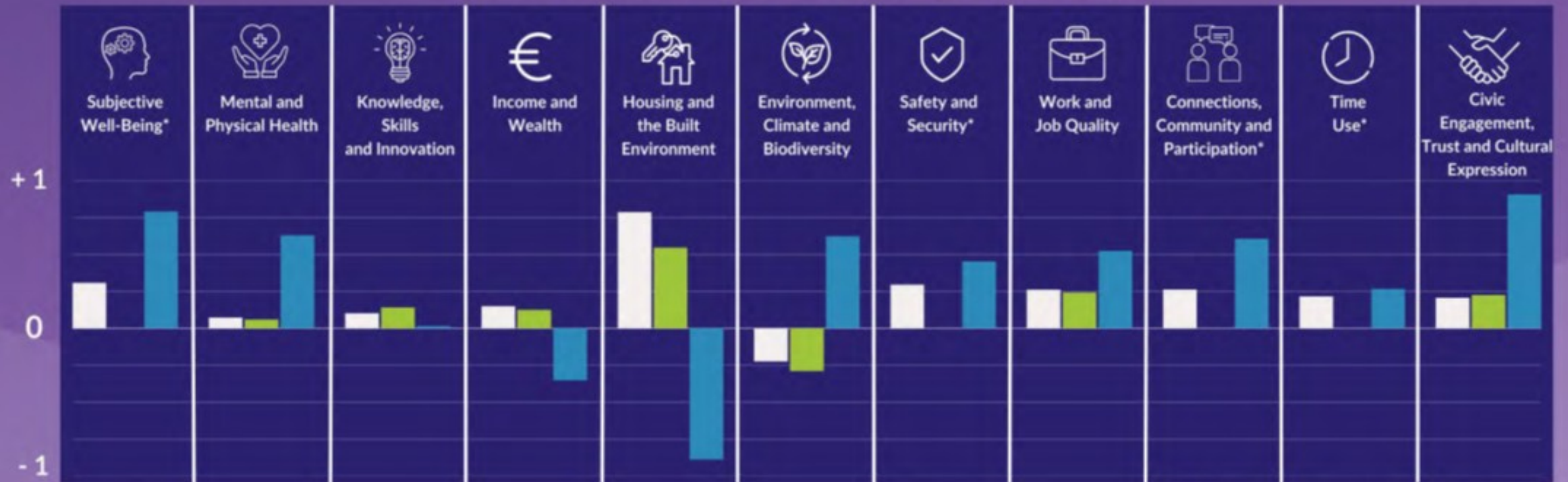
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11 Dimensions of Well-Being

Understanding Life in Ireland | A Well-being Perspective 2023

Trend over 5 years - International comparisons - Differences between groups



*Not all areas have sustainability indicators

Performance Sustainability Equality

gov.ie/wellbeing-framework

A Renewed Social Contract

Social Justice Ireland's Five Policy Outcomes:

- A Vibrant Economy
- Decent Services and Infrastructure
- Just Taxation
- Good Governance
- Sustainability

A New Social Contract and the Well-Being Framework

Vibrant Economy	Decent Services and Infrastructure	Just Taxation	Good Governance	Sustainability
 <p>Work and Job Quality</p>	 <p>Subjective Wellbeing</p>	 <p>Income and Wealth</p>	 <p>Safety and Security</p>	 <p>Environment, Climate and Biodiversity</p>
 <p>Knowledge, Skills and Innovation</p>	 <p>Mental and Physical Health</p>		 <p>Civic Engagement, Trust, and Cultural Expression</p>	 <p>Time Use</p>
	 <p>Housing and the Built Environment</p>			
	 <p>Connections, Community and Participation</p>			

What's to be done? A Policy Agenda


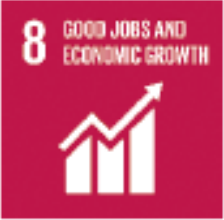
Implementing a New Social Contract:

- Integrate the SDGs, the Well-being Framework and policy outcomes for a Social Contract across all of Government.
- Progress towards all goals must be implemented simultaneously.
- Introduce local social dialogue mechanisms to ensure that all communities have a say in their own Wellbeing.

Policy Agenda – A Vibrant Economy

A Vibrant Economy

Wellbeing Indicator 8: Work and Job Quality

SDG Number	National Level
 <p>1 NO POVERTY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a Refundable Tax Credit System to support the working poor. • Recognise the challenges of long-term unemployment and of precarious employment and adopt targeted policies to address these.
SDG Number	National Level
 <p>8 GOOD JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch a major investment programme focused on prioritising initiatives that strengthen social infrastructure, including a comprehensive school building programme and a much larger social housing programme. • Support the widespread adoption of a Living Wage so that low paid workers receive an adequate income and can afford a minimum, but decent, standard of living
	Local Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the sustainability of jobs created through LEOs and develop plans to ensure the security of decent work.

Policy Agenda – A Vibrant Economy

Wellbeing Indicator 4: Knowledge and Skills

SDG Number

National Level



- Make the improvement of educational outcomes for pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds and disadvantaged communities a policy priority, with additional resources focused on addressing the persistence of educational disadvantage.
- Commit to increasing investment in Early Childhood Care and Education by 0.1 per cent of GDP annually to reach 1 per cent of GDP.
- Commit to reducing class sizes and pupil teacher ratios at primary and post primary level by 1 point per annum to 2030.
- Revise our lifelong learning target to reach 20 per cent by 2026, ensuring sufficient resources are made available.
- To meet the digital and green transition challenges develop an integrated skills development, digital transition, vocational training, apprenticeship and reskilling strategy.
- Fully resource 'Adult Literacy for Life' by increasing the adult literacy budget to €100 million by 2030, including €25 million to improve ancillary and support services.

Local Level

- Enhance community education programmes and life-long learning through the library network.
- Ensure full implementation of the 'Our Public Libraries 2022' strategy and ensure that its implementation is inclusive and supportive of smaller branch libraries as a hub for local communities.

Policy Agenda – Decent Services and Infrastructure

Decent Services and Infrastructure	
Wellbeing Indicator 1: Subjective Wellbeing	
SDG Number	National Level
 <p>1 NO POVERTY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support policies that enhance the standard of living of people who are most marginalised, including people with disabilities. • Specifically, address poverty among people with disabilities, starting with the introduction of a cost of disability payment.
SDG Number	National Level
 <p>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase educational campaigns promoting health, targeting particularly people who are poor, acknowledging that a preventative approach saves money in the long run. • Properly resource and develop mental health services and facilitate campaigns giving greater attention to the issue of suicide.
SDG Number	National Level
 <p>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to eliminate the barriers faced by people with disabilities in accessing basic services such as housing, healthcare, and education.

Policy Agenda – Decent Services and Infrastructure

Wellbeing Indicator 2: Mental and Physical Health

SDG Number

National Level




- Fund research on food poverty through stakeholder groups such as the Vincentian Partnership for Social Justice, St. Vincent de Paul and MABS.
- Expand the 'hot school meals' programme, particularly for schools and pre-schools in disadvantaged areas and those with a high concentration of homeless children / children living in Direct Provision who do not have own cooking facilities.


Local Level

- Provide funding for research on local initiatives on sustainable food production.
- Support 'farm to fork' and short supply chains in food production.


Policy Agenda – Decent Services and Infrastructure

SDG Number	National Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure that announced budgetary allocations are valid, realistic and transparent and that they take existing commitments into account.• Complete the roll-out of the Community Health Networks and increase the availability and quality of Primary Care and Social Care services.• Ensure medical card-coverage for all people who are vulnerable.• Act effectively to end the current hospital waiting list crisis.• Create a statutory entitlement to Home Care Services. This will require increased funding, but will save the State money long-term, as home support allows people to remain living in their own homes, rather than entering residential nursing care.• Implement all aspects of the dementia strategy.• Adopt a target to reduce the body mass index (BMI) of the population by 5 per cent.• Work towards full universal healthcare for all. Ensure new system structures are fit for purpose and publish detailed evidence of how new decisions taken will meet healthcare goals.• Enhance the process of planning and investment so that the healthcare system can cope with the increase and diversity in population and the ageing of the population projected for the next few decades.
	Local Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support the integration of primary care networks and GP led community healthcare services.• Support the roll-out of ‘Smile agus Sláinte’ as part of primary care provision.

Policy Agenda – Decent Services and Infrastructure

Wellbeing Indicator 5: Housing and the Built Environment	
SDG Number	National Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduce an Equity Scheme for Borrowers in Long Term Mortgage Arrears.• Increase the provision of ‘Housing First’ accommodation for families in emergency accommodation, with wraparound supports.• Introduce legislation to limit the length of time families can spend in Family Hubs and other emergency accommodation.
SDG Number	National Level

Policy Agenda – Decent Services and Infrastructure

SDG Number	National Level
 <p>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set a target of 20 per cent of all housing stock to be social housing and achieve this through building more social housing. • Ensure that no State land suitable for housing is sold by a Local Authority or State agency. • Address affordability through supply-side initiatives such as new methodologies and procurement processes, rather than demand-side subsidies. • Develop a spectrum of housing supports for people with disabilities. • Resource the enforcement of legislation targeting short-term lettings. • Begin the process of reducing the reliance of the rental sector on Housing Subsidies. • Allow local authorities and Approved Housing Bodies pool resources to finance this increased supply in a sustainable way.
	<p data-bbox="802 921 1911 978">Local Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expedite the roll-out of the National Broadband Plan, commencing with those with the largest proportion of premises dependent on it. • Improve the primary road network across the country to support the increased provision of public transport. • Invest in a deep retrofitting programme for community spaces. • Ringfence continued funding to encourage sports participation and active lifestyle programmes. • Invest in the provision and maintenance of community spaces, playgrounds, and youth centres.

Policy Agenda – Decent Services and Infrastructure

Wellbeing Indicator 10: Connections, Community and Participation

SDG Number

National Level

16
PEACE AND
JUSTICE




- National Economic and Social Dialogue / Partnership to include all five pillars.
- Ensure that all voices are heard and include all stakeholders.
- Restore funding to the Community and Voluntary Pillar.
- Broaden discussion beyond pay and taxation
- Review planning legislation to ensure that its terms are consistent with the objectives of the Goals and democratic engagement.
- Introduce impact assessment and poverty proofing on all Government initiatives.
- Ensure that Budgetary allocations are valid, realistic and transparent, and take account of existing levels of service.
- Legislate for enforcement mechanisms where Local Authorities do not use their full allocation for Traveller Specific Accommodation.
- Ensure adequate funding for civil legal aid.
- Greater transparency of lobbying activities.
- Establish a Dialogue Forum in every Local Authority involving Local Authorities and the Public Participation Networks (PPNs). Fully implement recommendations of the Commission for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination within a reasonable timeframe.
- Introduce an ex-ante social impact assessment of all policy proposals to be discussed at Oireachtas Committees.
- Review building regulations to ensure good ventilation, heating and fire safety standards across all building.

Policy Agenda – Just Taxation

Just Taxation

Wellbeing Indicator 3: Income and Wealth

SDG Number	National Level
 <p>1 NO POVERTY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately increase core social welfare rates by €13, and move towards benchmarking welfare rates to average weekly earnings. • Adopt targets aimed at reducing poverty among particular vulnerable groups such as children, lone parents, jobless households and those in social rented housing. • Acknowledge that Ireland has an ongoing poverty problem. • Commit sufficient resources to achieve policy targets on poverty reduction.
	<p>Local Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development of social and affordable housing on State lands. • Seek to replace the Local Property Tax with a Site Value Tax and increase the tax-take, while including hardship measures for those who cannot afford to pay it in full.
SDG Number	National Level
 <p>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt and implement a national financial literacy strategy.
SDG Number	National Level
 <p>5 GENDER EQUALITY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a Universal State Social Welfare Pension.
	<p>Local Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support high-quality community childcare, particularly in disadvantaged areas.

Policy Agenda – Good Governance

Good Governance

Wellbeing Indicator 7: Safety and Security

SDG Number

National Level



- Following our ratification of the Istanbul Convention, Ireland is obligated to have 472 places for victims of DSGBV, however we are falling far short of this target.
- The Programme for Government referred to an “epidemic” of domestic abuse. But as like any epidemic, adequate resources are needed to combat it. Government must meet their commitments under the Istanbul Convention and provide further refuge spaces for victims of Domestic Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

SDG Number

National Level




- Fully implement the recommendations of the Commission for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination within a reasonable timeframe.
- Fully implement the recommendations of the 2019 Trafficking in Persons Report.
- As more and more make the move to online and digital money services, especially those who may be unused to using these services, effective education and fraud prevention measure must be enhanced.

Local Level

- Utilise the full allocation for Traveller specific accommodation and support the development of sites for this purpose.
- Fully implement the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy.


Policy Agenda – Good Governance


Wellbeing Indicator 11: Civic Engagement and Cultural Expression	
SDG Number	National Level
 <p>17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase ODA as percentage of GNI, with a move towards the UN Target of 0.7 per cent of GNI by 2028. • Adopt targets and a reporting system for the Sustainable Development Goals • Tag all Government policies and policy proposals with the relevant Goal(s). • Adopt targets and a reporting system for each of the Sustainable Development Goals. • Develop a new National Index of Progress, ensuring social and environmental issues are incorporated into our national accounts. • Include, in the Commission for Regulating Lobbying's Annual Reports, policy areas with the greatest lobbying activity, the lobbying organisations and the designated public officials engaged to highlight to the general public those influencing the political decision-making process.
	Local Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop strategic partnerships with Local Authorities and local government organisations, in Europe and Internationally, to support the implementation of the Goals. • Ensure coherence between national and local government policies.

Policy Agenda – Sustainability

Sustainability


Wellbeing Indicator 6: Environment, Climate and Biodiversity

SDG Number	National Level
 <p>6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to provide support and advice to farmers to improve water quality under the Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advice Programme. • Invest in Ireland's wastewater system.
	<p>Local Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a Drinking Water Safety Plan, following EPA Guidelines, for each public water supply, identifying all potential risks and detailing mitigation and control measures.



SDG Number	National Level
 <p>7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade the national grid and invest in infrastructure necessary to support a transition to renewable energy. • Invest in research and development for the use of renewable energy in our public transport systems.
	<p>Local Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in renewable energy transition programmes for Local Authority offices and community spaces.

Policy Agenda – Sustainability

SDG Number	National Level
 <p>12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a circular economy package for Ireland across all areas of economic activity. • Research cradle-to-cradle development. • Place a levy on single-use plastics. • Invest in the development of short supply chains. • Clarify and enforce the Vacant Site Levy legislation to ensure it achieves its original purpose. • Introduce an aviation fuel tax. • Reintroduce the Windfall Gains Tax at 80per cent. • Explore new initiatives to promote behavioural change through the tax system.


SDG Number	National Level
 <p>13 CLIMATE ACTION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a Just Transition and Adaptation Dialogue to ensure rural areas are not disproportionately impacted by low carbon policies and are supported to meet the challenges posed by the future of work. • Develop a comprehensive mitigation and transition programme to transition to a low carbon economy. • Increase carbon taxes in line with IPCC recommendations. • Ensure that all people are treated fairly in the creation of policies and projects that address climate change as well as in the systems that create climate change. • Develop a comprehensive mitigation and transition programme to support communities and people in the transition to a low carbon society. • Set ambitious emissions reduction targets for 2030 and ensure sufficient resources to support implementation of these targets.

Policy Agenda – Sustainability

SDG Number	National Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully implement the National Integrated Maritime Plan. • Regulate harvesting and end over-fishing. • Implement policies to restore fishing stocks to sustainable levels.
	<p>Local Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put a plan in place to tackle pesticides in drinking water. • Implement the 'Nature' programmes set out in the Climate Action Plan published by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment.
SDG Number	National Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase afforestation of native trees and reduce planting of Sitka spruce. • Ensure that sustainable agriculture policy, sustainable land management, and short supply chains for farmers and consumers form the basis of future agricultural policy.
	<p>Local Level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in programmes to rewet the boglands. • Implement the 'Nature' programmes set out in the Climate Action Plan published by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment.

Policy Agenda – Sustainability

Wellbeing Indicator 9: Time Use

SDG Number	National Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recognise that the term “work” is not synonymous with the concept of “paid employment”. Everybody has a right to work, i.e. to contribute to his or her own development and that of the community and the wider society. This, however, should not be confined to job creation. Work and a job are not the same thing.• Give greater recognition to the work carried out by carers in Ireland and introduce policy reforms to reduce the financial and emotional pressures on carers. These should focus on addressing the poverty experienced by many carers and their families and on increasing the provision of respite opportunities to carers and to those for whom they care.• Request the CSO to conduct an annual survey to discover the value of all unpaid work in the country.