

## OECD Regions at a Glance 2013 – Ireland Profile

<http://rag.oecd.org>

### Did you know?

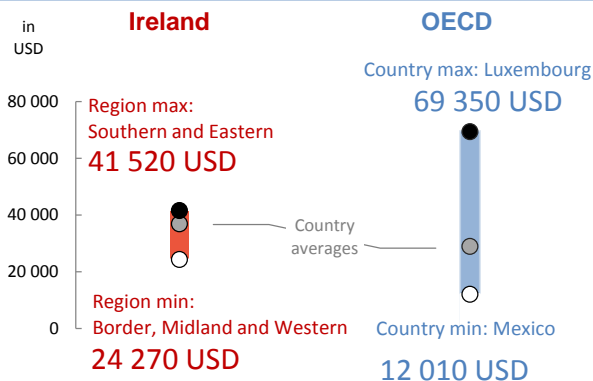
In recent years, youth unemployment soared in Irish regions, reaching 34% in Border, Midland and Western, 50% higher than OECD's average.

Among OECD countries, Ireland had the largest decrease in sub-national investment between 2007-12.

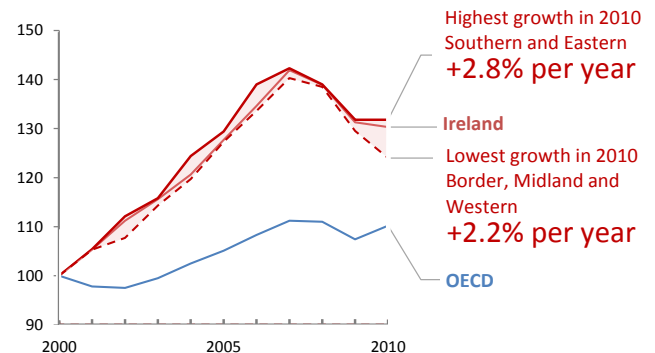
In Ireland, 56% of population lives in cities and 38% in the metropolitan area of Dublin.

### Regional dynamics

#### GDP per capita, 2010

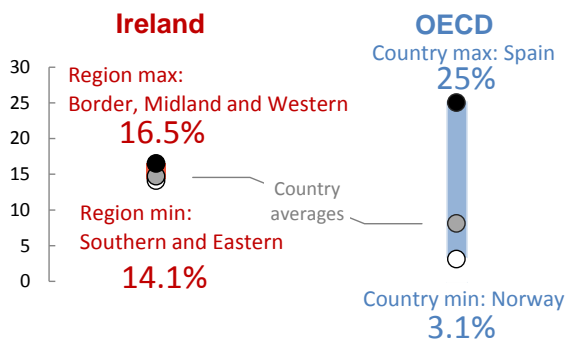


#### GDP growth (year 2000=100)

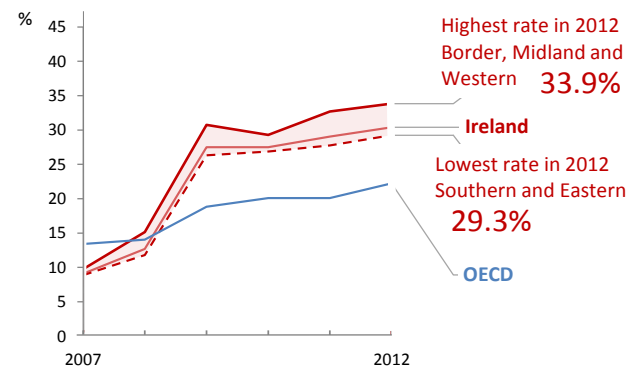


Ireland had the 10<sup>th</sup> largest regional disparities in **GDP per capita** in OECD countries in 2010. In the past decade regional growth range from **+2.8%** annually in **Southern and Eastern** to **+2.2%** in **Border, Midland and Western**.

#### Unemployment rate, 2012



#### Youth unemployment rate, 15-24 years old, 2007-12

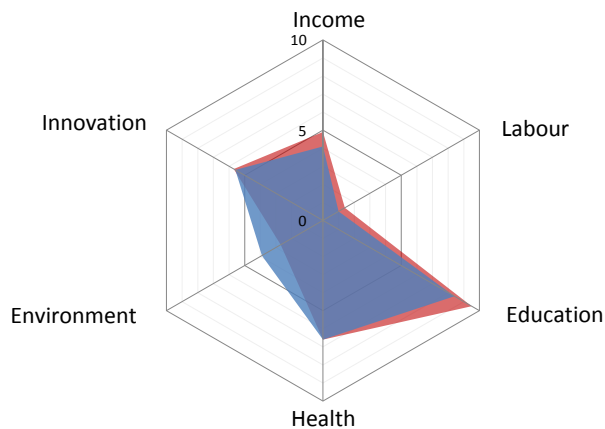


In recent years, the **unemployment rate** has soared in Irish regions such as **Border, Midland and Western (16.5%)** where the **youth unemployment rate** reached **33.9%** in 2012.

## Regional dynamics

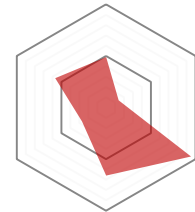


How do the richest and poorest regions fare on social and environmental dimensions?



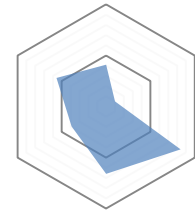
Highest GDP per capita region:

**Southern and Eastern**



Lowest GDP per capita region:

**Border, Midland and Western**



How to read the graph: For each dimension, regions have been assigned values from 0 to 10 based on their rank among all OECD regions and on the latest available data: 10 is the best performance and 0 is the lowest. The OECD median region is equal to 5. The more the radar graph is covered, the better the performance of the region among OECD regions.

Southern and Eastern fares better than OECD median region in education, health, and innovation. Border, Midland and Western, fares better than the median region in the same dimensions.

Dimensions	Indicators	Southern and Eastern	Border, Midland and Western	Ireland	OECD average
Income	Household income per capita, 2010 (USD PPP per capita)	16 666	15 024	16 224	18 775
Labour	Unemployment rate, 2012 (%)	14.1	16.5	14.7	8.1
Education	Share of work force with tertiary education, 2012 (%)	43.5	35.6	41.5	28.4
Health	Life expectancy, 2010 (years)	81.0	81.0	81.0	79.8
Environment	CO <sub>2</sub> per capita, 2008 (tonnes per person)	13.1	9.5	12.1	10.7
Innovation	No. of patents per million people, 2010	62.9	62.7	69.4	108.8

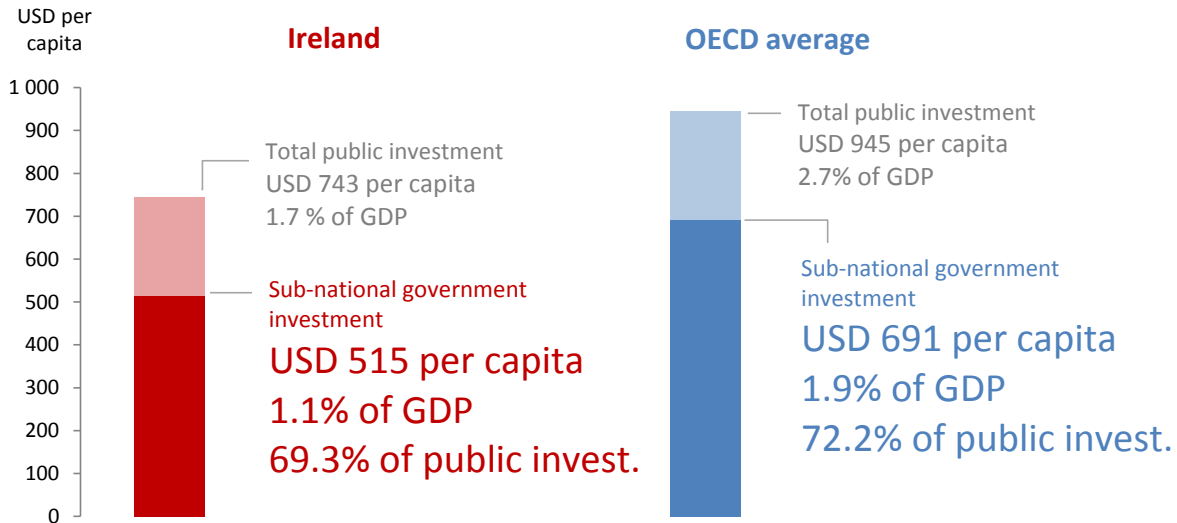
Source: OECD Regional database. Household disposable income per capita data are based on USD constant PPP, constant prices (year 2005).

Note: OECD regions refer to the first administrative tier of sub-national government; Ireland is composed by 2 regions.

# Sub-national government finance

## Sub-national governments have a key role in public investment

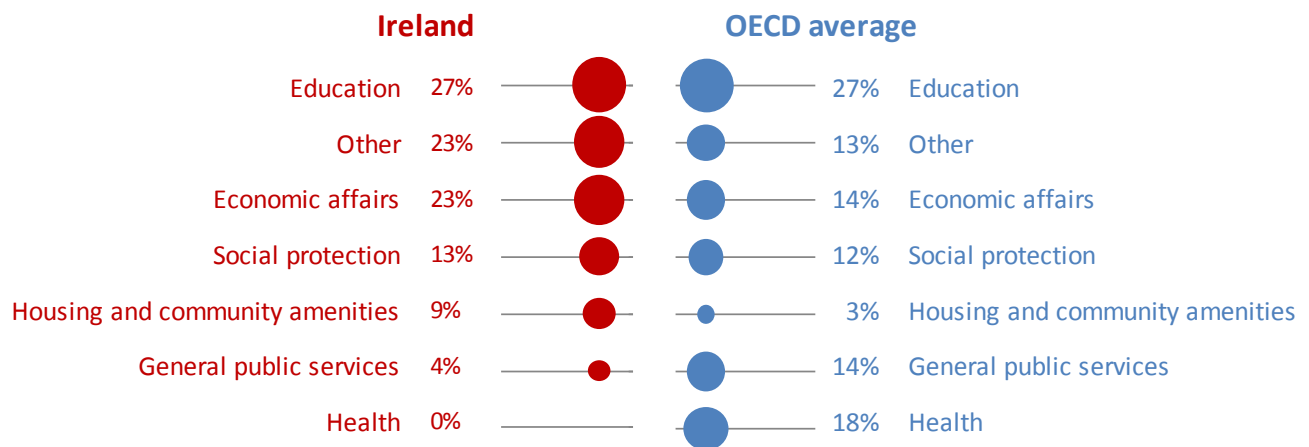
*Sub-national government public investment per capita, 2012*



In Ireland **69%** of the **total public investment** was carried out by sub-national governments (SNG) compared to **72%** in the **OECD area**. SNG investment has decreased in Ireland from **USD 1 433 per capita** in 2007 to **USD 515 per capita** in 2012.

## Sub-national government expenditure by function, 2012

*As a share of total SNG expenditure*



**Sub-national expenditure per capita: USD 2 378 (Ireland) USD 6 173 (OECD average)**

Sub-national government expenditure accounts for **13%** of the **total public expenditure** and **5%** of **GDP** in Ireland, compared to 40% and 17% respectively, in the OECD area. It corresponds to **USD 2 378 per capita** and USD 6 173 in the OECD area. Education and other are the two largest spending items for SNGs in Ireland: together they represent **50%** of sub-national expenditure compared to 40% in the OECD area.

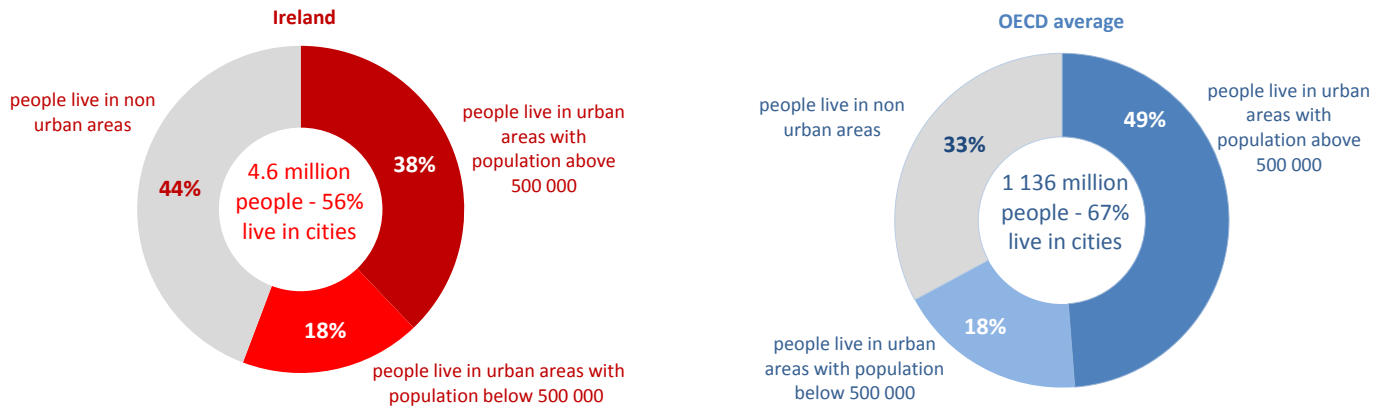
Source: OECD National Accounts database.

# Metropolitan areas in the national economy



## OECD population is increasingly concentrated in cities, 2012

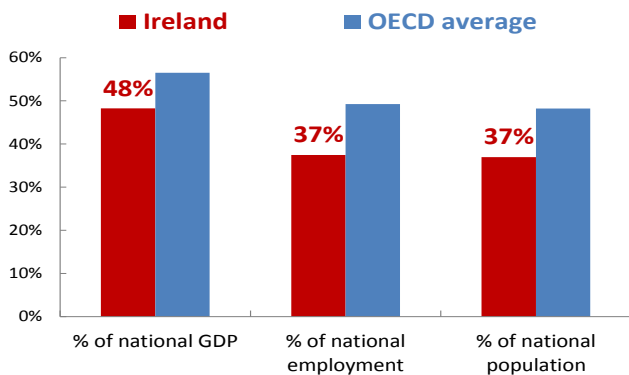
Percentage of population in cities of different sizes and in non-urban areas



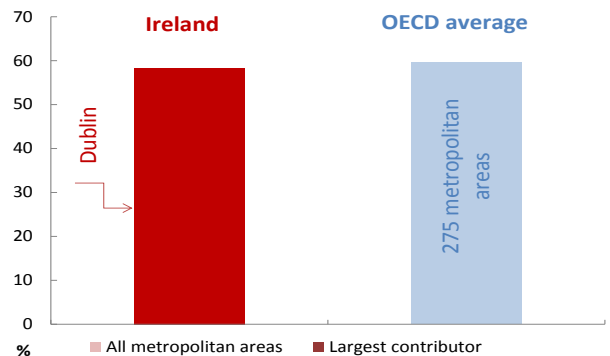
Source: OECD Metropolitan areas database. Number of urban areas: 5 in Ireland and 1 175 in the OECD.

In Ireland, **56%** of the population lives in cities of different sizes. The share of population in the metropolitan area of Dublin (the only urban area with more than 500 000 people) is **38%** compared to 49% in the OECD area.

### Concentration in metropolitan areas, 2010



### Metropolitan areas' contribution to national GDP growth, 2000-10



Source: OECD Metropolitan areas database. Number of metropolitan areas (urban areas with a population of over 500 000): 1 in Ireland compared to 275 in the OECD.

The metropolitan area of Dublin concentrates **48%** of national **GDP** and **37%** of **employment**. In 2000-10 it accounted for **58%** of **GDP growth**.

## OECD Regions at a Glance 2013

This edition of OECD Regions at a Glance shows how regions and cities contribute to national growth and the well-being of societies. It updates its regular set of region-by-region indicators, examining a wide range of policies and trends and identifying those regions that are outperforming or lagging behind in their country.

New to this edition:

- The role of OECD metropolitan areas in countries' development
- Recent trends in public investment, revenues and the debt of subnational governments

Consult this publication on line: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/reg\\_glance-2013-en](http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/reg_glance-2013-en)

