Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Economic Report 2023

IRELAND

June 2023

Executive Summary

The Irish economy has largely recovered from the economic consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic and is responding comparatively well to the repercussions of Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine. GDP growth in 2022 is estimated at 12.2% and was high by European comparisons, though challenges remain as economic growth has slowed considerably amidst high uncertainty in the global economy and domestic price pressures linked to the energy and housing crises. Ireland's domestic economic policy priorities are focused on the green energy and digital transition as well as mitigating the effects of the cost-of-living crisis. Ireland's foreign economic policy priorities focus on securing Ireland's position in global value and supply chains, encouraging Irish exporters to take full advantage of the EU single market, investing in Ireland's economic and investment ecosystem, and to maximizing their returns from EU free trade agreements. The latter in particular creates time sensitive opportunities for Swiss businesses. Potential priority sectors for Swiss businesses include the bio-pharmaceutical and MedTech industry, the ICT sector, financial and business services, and R&D services. On a bilateral level, Switzerland and Ireland share core political interests and values, which underpin and support a stable economic relationship between the two. As a small and open economy and strong advocate of free trade, Ireland is a natural economic partner for Switzerland. While total bilateral trade with Ireland increased in 2022, bilateral trade with Ireland as a share of Switzerland's total external trade declined to 1.0%. Switzerland's trade deficit with Ireland also increased marginally in 2022. However, there are ample opportunities to rejuvenate the economic relationship between the two.

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1 ECONOMIC OUTLOOK AND ECONOMIC POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

Ireland's economy has largely recovered from the Covid-19 pandemic and is responding comparatively well to the repercussions of Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine. During the pandemic, the Irish government intervened with strict lockdowns and cost of living supports to protect its citizens and stimulate the economy. Ireland now has one of the highest vaccination rates in the OECD and reopened its economy fully in February 2022, leading to a bounce back in economic activity. Strong growth in the manufacturing sector backed by reliable external demand for medical and pharmaceutical goods during and after the pandemic supported a comparatively high overall GDP growth in 2022 estimated at 12.2%.[1] As in other European economies, inflation continues to be high and rose by 7.2% between April 2022 and April 2023, down from 9.2% in October 2022.[2] Unemployment has continued to fall and is estimated to reach 4.5% in 2023. Nevertheless, challenges remain as Ireland's economic growth slowed considerably in 2022 amidst high uncertainty in the global economy and domestic price pressures linked to the energy and housing crisis. The government has forecasted real GNI*[3] growth of 0.4% in 2023 and a slight increase to 3% in 2024 and 2025.

The direct economic **impact of Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine** on Ireland has been limited. Trade links between Ireland and Russia are modest and made up 0.4% of total exports and 0.3% of total imports in 2021, according to data by Ireland's Central Statistics Office. Ireland also sourced just 6% of its oil imports and 0% of its gas imports from Russia. Nevertheless, the secondary impacts of the war in Ukraine have included supply side shortages for businesses and high energy prices, which have exacerbated an already pressing cost-of-living crisis. The government provided temporary energy cost subsidies in the winter months of 2022 and 2023 to alleviate the cost of living for households. A White Paper on Enterprise 2022-2030 also outlined the government's support for SMEs, who reported to be struggling with inflationary pressures and retaining skilled labour. With the 2022-2030 Housing for All strategy, which is backed by a €20bn investment by the Exchequer, the government aims to ramp up the provision of affordable and social housing in Ireland.

A further focus of Ireland's economic policy in 2022 was the **green energy transition and climate change**. As Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine has motivated countries to increase their own energy production and diversify their energy imports, the Irish government has made significant advances in the promotion of offshore and onshore wind energy, with the goal of producing 80% of their electricity from renewable energy sources by 2030 and export energy abroad by 2050. The total target for offshore wind energy rises to at least 37GW by 2050. The construction of the Celtic Interconnector, to begin in June 2023, will also connect Ireland to the European energy grid for the first time and make energy exports to the mainland possible. A new North-South interconnector will also create a link between Ireland and Northern Ireland (NI). However, Ireland's inefficient planning system poses risks for the timely completion of these goals, which the government seeks to address with a new Planning and Development Bill. Moreover, the government is developing a National Industrial Strategy for Offshore Wind to outline how the public and private sector will coordinate to achieve Ireland's wind energy goals. Further environmental policy developments have set emission reduction targets for 2030 and 2050, with carbon budgets and sectorial emission ceilings under the Climate Action Plan 2023 (revised form 2019). The National Sustainable Mobility Policy 2022 seeks to improve Ireland's limited public transport system and reduce travel related emissions.

Over the past years, **Ireland's fiscal health has improved significantly** on the back of strong increases in corporate tax receipts from its large multinational sector. A new 5% spending rule introduced in 2022 will ensure that annual increases in public expenditure are kept at a sustainable level. Whilst this was suspended for 2023 to allow for a spending increase of 6.8% to provide a range of targeted cost-of-living supports for low-income households, a return

[1] https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpi/consumerpriceindexapril2023/
[2] https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpi/consumerpriceindexapril2023/
[3] GNI*, or modified gross national income, measures the size of the domestic economy excluding globalization effects that distort other economic indicators such as GDP.

to the rule is expected in 2024. In addition to the 5% spending rule, the National Reserve Fund (NRF) functions as a counter-cyclical fiscal tool as well as an emergency fund in the event of external shocks. The government has committed to transfer an additional €6bn to the NRF in 2022 and 2023. Whilst the government predicts a budget deficit of 1.4% of GNI* for this year, it expects a surplus of 1.2% of GNI* by 2025 under the condition that the 5% spending rule is upheld. This will allow the government to further reduce their debt ratio, which stood at 82.3% of GNI* at the end of 2022 and thus represented an improvement on the previous years but remains high by European comparisons.[4] Challenges for Ireland's fiscal sustainability arise from their high reliance on excess corporate tax receipts from the multinational sector, which are projected to account for €9bn of the 2023 budget but are strongly exposed to volatilities in the global economy. In combination with government's decision in 2022 to retain the pension age at 66, policy decisions will have to be made to mitigate the pressures of Ireland's ageing population.

2 PRIORITY SECTORS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SWISS COMPANIES

Ireland's largest sectors of economic activity are the manufacturing industry, the ICT sector, and professional & financial services. The manufacturing sector, which includes the pharmaceutical industry, accounted for 41% of Ireland's GDP in 2022. Pharmaceutical products were also the largest export product and account for 38% of all total exports in 2022. The ICT sector is a growing sector of the Irish economy and accounted for 16% of GDP in 2022 while services accounted for 17% of GDP. R&D is an emerging field of economic relevance in Ireland and represented a large share of Irish exports in services to Switzerland last year. As Ireland's political landscape is highly stable and fosters a business-friendly environment, these fields can all be considered priority sectors offering a range of opportunities for Swiss companies. Across all sectors, Swiss businesses can profit from the English native speaking population, a dense network of companies with accumulated know-how for collaborations, a pipeline of domestic talent, and unrestricted access to the EU labour market. Ireland is also at the forefront of the digital transition and is placed 5th in the Digital Economy and Society Index 2022, thereby offering Swiss companies a well-developed digital infrastructure.[5]

The **Irish bio-pharmaceutical sector** has grown rapidly since the 1960s and developed Ireland into a home for major pharmaceutical companies and the third-largest exporter of pharmaceutical goods.[6] Similarly, Ireland hosts 14 out of the top 15 MedTech companies.[7] Ireland's life science sector now boasts a global reputation and hosts globally leading companies. A range of domestic and multinational companies in Ireland provide Swiss businesses with opportunities for collaboration. Moreover, Ireland also offers a network of life sciences sub-supply providers and has established a range of research centres focused on this particular industry. IDA Ireland also reports a strong compliance history with authorities like the FDA and EMA. An increase in public expenditure on Ireland's pricing and reimbursement system and additional funding for the approval of new and innovative drugs also make the Irish market more attractive for Swiss businesses.

In recent years, Ireland has become the **home of major multinational ICT companies** including Meta, Google, Microsoft, and PayPal. Correspondingly, it is now considered the heart of the European ICT sector, which has also given rise to a substantial cluster of companies focused on innovation on payments and financial technology with companies like Stripe. Consequently, Swiss businesses are provided with a dense network of potential collaboration partners across a range of subindustries in the ICT and financial services sector. For the budding Swiss Fintech industry in particular, Ireland may be an attractive destination for business activities.

[4] https://www.ntma.ie/business-areas/funding-and-debt-management/investor-relations/irish-economy#:~:text=Ireland%E2%80%99s%20annual%20interest%20costs%20have%20fallen%20by%20c.,in%202021.%20This%20fell%20to%2083.3%25%20in%202022.
[5] https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/desi.
[6] https://www.idaireland.com/explore-your-sector/business-sectors/biopharma.
[7] https://www.idaireland.com/explore-your-sector/business-sectors/medtech.

Ireland has made strong commitments to reduce its carbon footprint and promote a rapid development of its capacity to produce renewable energies by 2030 and 2050. This raises potential demand for technology and the development of infrastructure which Swiss companies may be well-positioned to provide.

3 FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY

Ireland's 2022/23 foreign economic policy priorities are set against the backdrop of supply chain changes following Covid-19 and Brexit as well as a global increase in nationalism and protectionism superseding the advancement of free trade. Ireland promotes foreign trade and inwards investment on a governmental level and with its network of Embassies and consulates abroad. The semi-governmental organisation Enterprise Ireland (EI) supports Ireland's export activities while IDA attracts inward foreign direct investment. Annual trade mission weeks send delegations headed by Ministers to target countries in collaboration with EI, IDA, and the relevant Irish representations. Target countries in 2022/23 were Germany, the USA and China.[8]

3.1 Host country's policy and priorities

The "Trade and Investment Strategy 2022-2026", published in February 2022, outlines a "value-based" foreign economic policy agenda that aims to combine the protection of open and free trade with the promotion of Irish and EU values abroad.[9] This involves upholding EU export controls and UN and EU economic sanctions, including those applied against Russia. Other key policy priorities focus on positioning Ireland securely in global value and supply chains, to maximise Ireland's return from EU free trade agreements, and to encourage Irish indigenous exporters to take advantage of the full benefits of the EU single market.

Historically, Irish exporters have focused strongly on UK and US markets. However, the departure of the UK from the EU and the Single Market has led to a structural shift in trading patterns and a reorientation of supply chains in Ireland; Post Brexit, imports from the UK have fallen and total trade with the UK continues to decline despite an increase in trade with NI.[10] While the Windsor Framework reached between the UK and EU in 2023 has crucially secured existing all-island supply chains, the economic policy priority of realising the full export potential of the EU single market also suggests a stronger economic orientation towards Europe.

In October 2021, Ireland joined the OECD agreement on a 12.5% corporate tax rate. To complement this development, the Irish government intends to implement a range of measures to promote and enhance Ireland's economic and investment ecosystem.[11] Furthermore, the Irish Green Party has delayed the ratification of the EU Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (CETA) with Canada by challenging it before the Irish Supreme Court. In November 2022, the Court ruled that a ratification would be unconstitutional without legislative changes to the 2010 Arbitration Act.[12] The government intends to make these required changes.

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[8] 2023 Trade mission to USA led by Simon Coveney and focused on FDI and trade. 2023 Trade mission to China headed by McConalogue and focused on agricultural trade. 2022 St. Patrick's Day mission sent Paschal Donohoe to Germany: https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/86a63-minister-simon-coveney-leads-us-trade-mission-to-new-york-and-boston-to-meet-with-key-fdi-clients/ and https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/aeffc-minister-mcconalogue-completes-successful-trade-mission-to-china/.

[9] https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/eb1fe-trade-and-investment-strategy-2022-2026-value-for-ireland-values-for-the-world/.

[10] https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/eb1fe-trade-and-investment-strategy-2022-2026-value-for-ireland-values-for-the-world/.

[11] https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/eb1fe-trade-and-investment-strategy-2022-2026-value-for-ireland-values-for-the-world/.

[12] https://www.courts.ie/search/judgments/%22Patrick%20Costello%20CETA%20type%3AJudgment%22%20AND%20%22filter%3Aalfresco_radio.text%22.

3.2 Outlook for Switzerland (potential for discrimination or comparative advantage)

Ireland is a strong advocate of free trade and a liberalised economic world order that shares key core values with Switzerland. As such, there is little potential for economic discrimination against Switzerland or Swiss companies. The most important economic treaties between Ireland and Switzerland include the 1972 free trade agreement between the European community and Switzerland as well as the bilateral agreements I and II. Ireland has yet to ratify a cooperation agreement between the European community and Switzerland from 2004 to combat fraud and illegal activities to the detriment of either party's financial interests.

4 FOREIGN TRADE

4.1 Developments and general outlook

In Ireland, the presence of large foreign multinational corporations distorts common economic indicators such as GDP, which complicates assessments of the growth rate of the economy. Prevailing practices in the balance sheet movements of a number of such corporations have led economists to develop alternative economic indicators such as GNI* to capture Ireland's internal economic activity more accurately. Balance sheet movements by large pharmaceutical companies also impact export and import numbers, whose growth rates reached a further record high in 2022.

4.1.1 Trade in goods

In 2022, Ireland's exports of goods reached a record level of €208.2bn, an increase of more than €42bn compared with 2021. Imports also reached a record level of €240bn in 2022, up 35% compared with 2021. This amounted to a trade surplus of €68bn in 2022.[13]

Ireland's exports are dominated by goods from the medical and pharmaceutical sector. They represented 38.4% of all exported goods in 2022 and were thus the single largest exported commodity type. Chemical products more widely considered made up 64.2% of Ireland's exports. Further notable commodity types are machinery and transport equipment as well as food and live animals. Ireland mainly imports Machinery and transport equipment, chemicals and related products, as well as mineral fuels, oils, fats and waxes.[14]

Although Ireland's largest trading partner is the EU27,[15] a country level analysis of Ireland's largest trading partners indicates that an Anglophone focus continues to persist. Ireland's largest export location was the USA with a share of 30% of all exports. Similarly, Ireland imported most of their goods from the USA and UK. Together, they accounted for 36.4% of all imports. By contrast, Ireland's most important trading partner within the EU was Germany, with a share of 12.2% of all exports and 7.4% of all imports.[16] This orientation towards the UK and USA could be explained by their close historical and cultural ties and the familiarity of their shared language.

4.1.2 Trade in services (if data available)

4.2 Bilateral trade

4.2.1 Trade in goods

[13] https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-gei/goodsexportsandimportsdecember2022/#:~:text=Key%20Findings%201%20The%20first%20estimates%20for%202022,higher%20than%20imports%20in%20December%202021.%20Weitere%20Elemente.

[14] Ibid. Data by commodity type and year available on: https://data.cso.ie/.

[15] When excluding the USA and the UK from Ireland's total non-EU trade.

[16] See Data in Annex 3.

Bilateral trade in goods (excluding gold bars and precious minerals) between Switzerland and Ireland reached a total volume of CHF 5.4bn in 2022.[17] This was a 6.4% increase in trade compared with 2021 and the first increase in bilateral trade since 2018.[18] Nevertheless, Swiss-Irish trade as a share of Switzerland's general external trade has declined since 2018 and continued to drop from 1.1% to 1.0% in 2022.[19] This indicates that trade with Ireland is not keeping pace with Switzerland's trade with other countries. In terms of value, Ireland was Switzerland's 16th largest trade partner in 2022.

Provisional Swiss-Impex data for 2022 suggests that Switzerland's exports to Ireland increased by 11.4% to a total of CHF 1.3bn in 2022. Imports from Ireland increased by 4.4% and reached CHF 4.0bn in the same period. This would imply that the historic Swiss trade deficit with Ireland increased marginally in 2022 after having decreased annually since 2017.

Trade in both directions is dominated by goods in the pharmaceutical sector. They accounted for 80.5% of Swiss imports from Ireland and 39.5% of Swiss exports to Ireland. In 2022, Ireland was Switzerland's 8th largest supplier of chemical and pharmaceutical goods (2nd in 2018 and 2019, since then notably overtaken by Spain and Italy). A smaller notable category consists of jewellery, precision instruments, clocks and watches. They accounted for 36.7% of Swiss exports to Ireland and 7.4% of Swiss imports from Ireland.

4.2.2 Trade in services

The Swiss National Bank (SNB) indicates that Switzerland collected CHF 3.3bn in receipts from services to Ireland in 2022 and received services from Ireland to a value of CHF 2.4bn. Services in both directions reduced compared to 2021. The three most important (by value) types of services provided by Switzerland to Ireland were consulting (CHF 615mio), financial (CHF 594mio), business (CHF 540mio), and ICT (CHF 543mio). The most important (by value) types of services provided to Switzerland by Ireland were ICT (CHF 763mio), consulting (CHF 615.mio), and R&D (CHF 361mio).[20]

5 DIRECT INVESTMENTS

5.1 Developments and general outlook

Ireland's Central Statistics Office (CSO) reported that inwards foreign direct investment increased by €109bn to €1,208bn in 2021.[21] This increase can largely be attributed to a significant increase in investment from the USA that was slightly offset by a decrease in investment from European countries, most notably Luxembourg and the United Kingdom. A breakdown of inwards investment shows that the service sector is the largest sector for inward investment, having increased by €115bn compared to 2020 and now comprising 61% of all inwards investment. The investment position in financial intermediation increased from €225bn in 2020 to €317bn in 2021.

Outwards investment increased by €296bn to €1,288bn in 2021, leaving Ireland's net end of the year position at a positive €80bn. The largest locations of Irish investment were Luxemburg (€494bn), the USA (€282bn) and the UK (€101bn) and the largest sector of investment was services.

[17] https://www.gate.ezv.admin.ch/swissimpex/index.xhtml, 08.05.2023. Data for 2022 still provisional.
[18] Ibid.
[19] Ibid.
[20] https://data.snb.ch/en/topics/aube/cube/bopserva?fromDate=2013&toDate=2022&dimSel=D1(DT,T0,T1,V,F,L,TCI,FE,B,THG,UD),D2(E,A,S),D0(I0)
[21] Statistics for 2022 have not yet been published. https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-fdia/foreigndirectinvestmentannual2021/

According IDA, the semi-governmental organisation responsible for attracting inwards investment into Ireland, FDI growth in Ireland was substantial in 2022 despite the difficult global economic environment this year.[22] They estimate that 301,475 jobs were supported by FDI in 2022, up 9% compared with 2021. Although Dublin remains the main target for investments, 51% of all new investments won have gone to regional locations and employment growth was recorded in every region of the country.

5.2 Bilateral investment

According to the Swiss National Bank (SNB), Swiss direct investments in Ireland have been declining since 2018 and fell by CHF 19bn to 48bn in 2021. Correspondingly, Ireland's share of Swiss direct investments abroad declined again in 2021 and Ireland moved from being the 7th largest country of destination to the 9th largest country of destination for Swiss investments.23

According to Ireland's Central Statistics Office, Swiss investments in Ireland grew from €85bn in 2020 €91bn in 2021, making Switzerland the 4th largest investor in Ireland for the second year in a row.24 Non-resident subsidiaries of Swiss companies in Ireland employed 8,869 people in Ireland in 2022, a number that has been increasing since 2017.25

According to the SNB, Irish investments in Switzerland dropped from CHF 106bn in 2020 to CHF 34bn in 2021. The CSO reports that Irish investments in Switzerland stood at € -42bn at the end of 2021.26 Upon previous inquiries concerning these differences in statistics, the CSO suggested that they may be due to their differing publication dates.

6 ECONOMIC AND TOURISM PROMOTION

6.1 Swiss foreign economic promotion instruments

The Swiss Business Hub United Kingdom and Ireland (SBH UK + I) is based in London and consists of a team of 3. They are responsible for promoting Switzerland's economic relations with Ireland, including exports, imports and FDI. Where needed, the team travels to Ireland with the assistance of the Swiss Embassy in Ireland. Their last visit to Dublin was in November 2022. There is no Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Ireland. SIBA (Swiss Irish Business Association) is a network of Irish business people with connections to Switzerland.

6.2 The host country's interest in Switzerland

Switzerland is the 4th largest investor in Ireland and has contributed significantly to the country's economic growth since the 1990s. Ireland continues to show an interest in attracting Swiss companies and talent, particularly in the insurance and banking sectors, and to create optimal conditions for Swiss direct investments and projects in Ireland. Swiss companies wishing to invest in Ireland can approach IDA Ireland (Industrial Development Agency Ireland), a semi-state body responsible for attracting and managing foreign direct investment into Ireland. Additionally, Ireland continues to show positive interest in Switzerland as a financial centre.

[22] https://www.idaireland.com/latest-news/press-release/highest-increase-in-fdi-employment-ever
[23] https://data.snb.ch/en/topics/aube/cube/fdiausbla?fromDate=2017&toDate=2021&dimSel=d0(T0,T1,EE,LV,LT,BE,BA,BG,DK,DE,FI,FR,GR,IE,IT,HR,LU,NL,NO,AT,PL,PT,RO,RU,SE,RS,SK,ES,CZ,TR,UA,HU,GB,CY,S21,B3,G9,T2,CA,US,T3,AR,BO,BR,CL,CR,EC,GT,CO,MX,PE,UY,VE,PA,T4,BD,CN,HK,IN,ID,IL,JP,JO,QA,KR,LB,MY,PK,PH,SA,SG,LK,TW,TH,AE,VN,&dimSel=d0(T0,EE,LV,LT,BE,BA,BG,DK,DE,FI,FR,GR,IE,IT,HR,LU,NL,NO,AT,PL,PT,RO,RU,SE,RS,SK,ES,CZ,TR,UA,HU,GB,CY,S21,B3,G9,CA,US,AR,BO,BR,CL,CR,EC,GT,CO,MX,PE,UY,VE,S19,PA,BD,CN,HK,IN,ID,IL,JP,JO,QA,KR,LB,MY,PK,PH,SA,SG,LK,TW,TH,AE,VN,EG,CI,CM,KE,MA,MU,NG,ZA,TZ,TN,T6,AU,NZ)
[24] https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-fdia/foreigndirectinvestmentannual2021/
[25] https://data.snb.ch/en/topics/aube/cube/opanmuauspland?fromDate=2008&toDate=2021&dimSel=d0(IE)
[26] https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-fdia/foreigndirectinvestmentannual2021/

The Irish government reacted positively to the takeover of Credit Suisse by UBS, with Finance Minister Michael McGrath praising the “decisive action by [Swiss] authorities in relation to the acquisition of the bank by UBS,” which he believed has “helped to restore calm to the markets.”

Tourism in both directions appears to have rebounded after Covid-19 restrictions suppressed arrivals in both countries in 2020 and 2021. The CSO reports that Ireland recorded 220 thousands arrivals from Switzerland in 2022, which was almost as high as the 251 thousand pre-pandemic arrivals in 2019.[27] Irish tourism in Switzerland decreased by 35% in 2022 compared to pre-pandemic levels in 2020/2019. In total, Switzerland’s Federal Office for Statistics recorded 4,146 arrivals and 10’751 overnight stays by Irish visitors. This asymmetric decrease in tourism numbers could be explained by a combined effect of the strong Swiss franc and comparatively high inflation in Ireland, which has made travelling to Switzerland more expensive for Irish tourists compared to the period before the Covid-19 pandemic.

Overall, Switzerland is a popular tourism destination for Irish people and is renowned for its natural beauty in the heart of Europe. The Swiss tourism office in London is responsible for promoting Switzerland as a holiday destination in Ireland. Flights to Switzerland depart from airports in Dublin and Cork.

[27] https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-ast/airandseatravelstatisticsdecember2022/

ANNEX 1 – Economic structure

Economic structure of the host country

	2017	2022
Distribution of GDP*		
Primary sector	**1.18%**	**1.08%**
Manufacturing sector (Industry & Construction)	**65.31%**	**41.05%**
ICT Sector	**10.54%**	**16.09%**
Services	**20.86%**	**17.28%**
- of which public services	**50.97%**	**47.10%**

Distribution of employment**	**2017 Q4**	**2022 Q4**
Primary sector	**5.02%**	**3.92%**
Manufacturing sector (Industry & Construction)	**18.68%**	**18.89%**
ICT Sector	**5.22%**	**6.39%**
Services	**75.93%**	**76.85%**
- of which public services	**32.39%**	**34.32%**

Sources:

* CSO > National Accounts 2022 > Quarterly National Accounts 2022

** CSO > Labour Market > Labour Force Survey Quarterly Series > YLF03 – Persons aged 15-89 years in Employment

ANNEX 2 – Main economic data

Host country's main economic data

	2021	2022	2023 (projected)
GDP (USD bn)*	**504.517**	**529.661**	**594.095**
GDP per capita (USD)*	**100,144.757**	**103,175.698**	**114,581.381**
Growth rate (% of GDP)***	**13.4**	**10.1**	**3.8**
Inflation rate (%)*	**2.438**	**8.065**	**5.000**
Unemployment rate (%)*	**6.250**	**4.500**	**4.476**
Fiscal balance (% of GDP)*	**0.431**	**2.741**	**2.250**
Current account balance (% of GDP)*	**14.230**	**8.801**	**8.192**
Total external debt (% of GDP)**	**225.0**	**220.9**	**201.1**
Debt-service ratio (% of exports)**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**
Reserves (months of imports)**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**

* Source: IMF, World Economic Outlook April 2023
www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo

** Source: IMF, Article IV Consultation Ireland, June 2022
www.imf.org/external/country/index.htm

*** Source: OECD GDP Forecasts, accessed May 2023

https://data.oecd.org/gdp/real-gdp-forecast.htm

ANNEX 3 – Trade partners

Trade partners of the host country **Year: 2022**[28]

Rank	Country	Exports *from the host country* (EUR million)	Share	Change[29]	Rank	Country	Imports *to the host country* (EUR million)	Share	Change[10]
1	USA	63’032	30.27 %	+20.0%	1	United Kingdom	29’395	21.00%	50.7%
2	Germany	25’223	12.11 %	+42.1%	2	USA	21’721	15.49%	19.8%
3	United Kingdom	22’109	10.62 %	+22.1%	3	China	14’541	10.37%	70.0%
4	Belgium	17’594	8.45%	+30.2%	4	France	12’183	8.69%	24.2%
5	Netherlands	14’219	6.83%	+52.3%	5	Germany	10’435	7.44%	43.0%
6	China	13’789	6.62%	+16.0%	*6*	*Switzerland*	*6’410*	*4.57%*	*24.7%*
7	France	7’156	3.43%	+34.9%	7	Netherlands	4’756	3.39%	5.7%
8	Italy	4’543	2.18%	+5.1%	8	Japan	3’174	2.26%	121.8%
9	Japan	4’100	1.97%	+52.5	9	Spain	2’667	1.90%	50.9%
10	Canada	3’379	1.62%	+155.6%	10	Belgium	2’366	1.69%	6.4%
11	*Switzerland*	3’275	*1.52%*	+16.4%%	11	Italy	2’348	1.67%	7.1%
	EU27	80’369	38.60 %	+30.8%		EU27	42’447	30.28%	22.5%
	Total	208’208	100%	25.6%		Total	140’199	100%	35.1%

Source:

Central Statistics Office > Home > Statistics > Goods Exports and Imports December 2022

[28] https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-gei/goodsexportsandimportsdecember2022/
[29] Change from the previous year in %

ANNEX 4 – Bilateral trade

Bilateral trade between Switzerland and the host country

	Export (CHF million)	*Change (%)*	**Import** (CHF million)	*Change (%)*	**Balance** (in million)	**Volume** (in million)
2018	1'381	40.1	8'605	11.3	-7'224	9'986
2019	1'054	-23.7	7'544	-12.3	-6'490	8'598
2020	1'273	20.6	4'579	-39.3	-3'306	5'852
2021	1'193	-6.3	3'852	-15.9	-2'659	5'045
2022	1'338	12.2	4'022	4.4	-2'684	5'360
(Total 1)*	1'333	11.9	4'018	4.4	-2'685	5'351
2023 (I-VI)**						

*) 'Economic' total (total 1): not including gold bars and other precious metals, currencies, previous stones and gems, works of art and antiques

**) Data for 2023 not yet available

Exports	**2021** (% of total)	**2022***** (% of total)
1. Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industry	46.6	38.0
2. Precision Instruments, Clocks and Jewellery	31.9	36.5
3. Machines, Appliances, Electronics	10.7	13.3
4. Forestry and Agricultural Products, Fisheries	4.3	3.9

Imports	**2021** (% of total)	**2022***** (% of total)
1. Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industry	80.6	80.4
2. Machines, Appliances, Electronics	7.6	7.4
3. Precision Instruments, Clocks, and Jewellery	6.1	7.3
4. Forestry and Agricultural Products, Fishieries	3.2	3.0

*** Data for 2022 are estimated provisionals

Source: Federal Office for Customs and Border Security

ANNEX 5 – Main investing countries

Main investing countries in the host country **Year: 2021**

Rank	Country	Direct investment (EUR, stock)	Share	Variation (stock)	Inflows over past year (EUR)
1	United States	423’340	35.0%	+73.4%	-48’022
2	Luxembourg	132’376	11.0%	+12.3%	-24’464
3	The Netherlands	123’002	10.2%	+7.1%	17’591
4	***Switzerland***	***91’955***	***7.6%***	***+6.9%***	*
5	United Kingdom	33’246	2.8%	-9.6%	-2’714
6	France	26’493	2.2%	+18.1%	269
7	Japan	20’793	1.7%	*	1’684
8	China	9’198	0.8%	+12.0%	188
9	Singapore	6’515	0.5%	+442.9%	**
10	Italy	6’006	0.5%	-38.4%	-1’9742
	EU27	293’875	24.3%	+4.3%	-18’242
	Total	1’208’216	100%	+9.9%	-5’284

Source: CSO > Home > Statistics > Foreign Direct Investment Annual 2021

* No country level data available

** No country level data available. Singapore is included in the list of 40 ‘offshore centres’ which contributed to a combined inflow into Ireland of €54’984 in 2021.