

Any other questions?

The field representative who visits your home will be able to answer questions you may have about this study. You may also call the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies LoCall number 1890 252 293 or visit the study web site www.piaac.ie



Thank you in advance for participating in this important study

Central Statistics Office

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) is responsible for the collection and publication of most official statistics in Ireland. The CSO guarantees the confidentiality of the individual details it collects.

If you would like more information about the CSO or about the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, please contact:

Central Statistics Office
PIAAC Section
Skehard Road
Cork.

Tel: LoCall 1890 313 414

Office hours: Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm
or

E-mail: piaac@cs0.ie

CSO PIAAC on the Web: www.piaac.ie

Supporting Organisations

The following organisations endorse PIAAC and encourage your household's participation in this survey.



An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh
Central Statistics Office



Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC)



Statistics for a Modern Ireland

What is the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC)?

This survey has been designed to find out what activities adults do in their daily lives, such as reading, finding information, and using computers and technology, and to learn about their education and work experience. This information will help get a clear picture of the challenges we face as a country to develop a more skilled work force in the 21st century.

The Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies is being conducted by the Central Statistics Office (CSO).

Why is the CSO conducting this study?

In this digital age, adults increasingly use information and technology in their work and daily activities. We use computers to communicate with others and to search for information. The more skilled we are in using information and tools, the more effectively we can participate in the workplace, in political processes, in our communities, and at home, both now and in the future.

This survey will provide valuable information to educators, policymakers and educational researchers on the current skills and experiences of Ireland's adults. This information will be used to develop programmes to improve the skills adults in this country need in order to participate most successfully in the economy and society of the 21st century.

How was our household chosen?

Since interviewing every adult in Ireland would be very expensive and difficult, we use scientific statistical methods to randomly select individual adults to represent others like them.

What do I have to do?

A field representative will come to your home to conduct the interview. The first part is a questionnaire that asks about your education, work experiences, use of technology and other information. The remaining time is spent completing computer-based or written activities that you may do in everyday life. These might include following instructions on a prescription label, reading a flight schedule at the airport, using a map to give directions to someone, or determining the expiration date on a food product.

Why should I do this?



Your participation is vital because you represent thousands of other adults throughout the country. Participation is voluntary; however, because of the statistical methods used to select you, we cannot substitute another individual for you if you do not participate.

Please help us learn more about your community in order to paint an accurate picture of Ireland. This information about our country will also be compared with other countries to assess economic and social progress worldwide. Your participation in this study is appreciated as it will ensure that policymakers use the most complete information when making decisions that will affect us all.

I haven't been in school in years, and I don't work. I don't think I can help.

Yes, you can! It is very important that adults in Ireland be represented in this study. We need information from:

- Persons aged between 16 and 65
- Persons currently in the workforce and those who are retired or who work at home
- Persons currently in school and those who attended school many years ago, and
- Persons who went to school for a few years and those who have gone to school for many years.

How do I know my answers will be kept confidential?



The study is being conducted under the provisions of the Statistics Act, 1993. In strict conformity with the Act, the CSO guarantees that the confidentiality of individual data will be fully protected at all times. Everyone working on the study has signed a confidentiality agreement pledging to keep all information provided by respondents confidential. Furthermore, no information that would permit the identification of an individual will be released or published.

How will I recognise the field representative?

The field representative who contacts you will be carrying a study photo identification badge authorised by the CSO.