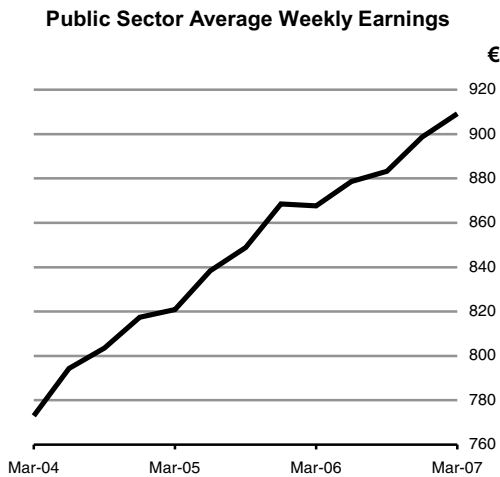




Public Sector Employment and Earnings March 2007



| | Total Employment ¹ | Average Weekly Earnings ¹ | Average Earnings Index ¹ |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | € | |
| March 2006 | 248,200 | 867.62 | 262.4 |
| December 2006 | 250,300* | 898.63 | 272.5 |
| March 2007 | 251,400 | 909.22 | 276.0 |
| Quarterly change | +1,100 | +1.2% | +1.3% |
| Annual change | +3,200 | +4.8% | +5.2% |

¹ Excluding health sector
* Revised

Average weekly earnings up 4.8% in year to March 2007

Average weekly earnings in the Public Sector (excluding Health) rose by 4.8% in the year to March 2007. The index of average earnings, which excludes some effects of changes in employment composition, rose by 5.2% for the same period.

Employment up by 3,200 in year to March 2007

A total of 251,400 people were employed in the Public Sector (excluding Health) in March 2007 compared to 248,200 in March 2006.

In the year to March 2007 employment in Education increased from 92,500 to 97,400, a rise of 4,900. Employment in the Commercial Semi State Sector fell by 3,400 over the same period. This reduction, however, includes the effects of the privatisation of Aer Lingus.

Overall employment in the Public Sector was 361,800 in March 2007, an increase of 10,500 compared with March 2006.

Employment in the Health Sector increased from 103,300 in March 2006 to 110,400 in March 2007, a rise of 7,100. This increase includes the effect of the addition, in March 2007, of certain grades and subsumed agencies not previously included, therefore a direct comparison with previous data is not possible.

For more information contact Mary Murphy at 021 453 5094 or Majella Lysaght at 021 453 5513.

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Ireland

Skehard Road
Cork
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI)
0870 8760256 (UK/NI)

Tel: +353-1 498 4000
Fax: +353-1 498 4229

Tel: +353-21 453 5000
Fax: +353-21 453 5555

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: www.cso.ie
and go to
Labour Market and Earnings: Earnings

Director General: Gerard O'Hanlon

Enquiries:

Quarterly Statistics
Queries and Sales

Quarterly Section, ext 5513
Information Section, ext 5021
information@cso.ie

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Table 1 Public Sector Employment

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| Sectors | 2003 | | | 2004 | | | | 2005 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar | Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar |
| Civil Service | 36.9 | 36.9 | 36.9 | 36.9 | 37.2 | 37.0 | 36.5 | 36.5 |
| Prison Officers | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 |
| Administrative Civil Servants | 31.3 | 31.4 | 31.7 | 31.7 | 31.7 | 31.6 | 31.5 | 31.5 |
| Industrial Civil Servants | 2.3 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| Defence | 11.4 | 11.4 | 11.4 | 11.3 | 11.3 | 11.3 | 11.4 | 11.4 |
| Garda Síochána | 11.7 | 11.7 | 12.0 | 11.9 | 11.9 | 11.9 | 12.0 | 12.1 |
| Education | 84.2 | 80.2 | 86.7 | 86.7 | 86.4 | 82.0 | 91.7 | 91.4 |
| Primary | 31.7 | 30.7 | 31.7 | 31.9 | 32.0 | 31.3 | 32.2 | 32.5 |
| Secondary (excl. VEC & ITs) | 18.7 | 18.5 | 18.8 | 18.9 | 18.9 | 18.8 | 19.1 | 19.4 |
| Third Level (excl. VEC & ITs) | 11.4 | 11.2 | 13.0 | 12.4 | 11.9 | 11.7 | 12.9 | 13.3 |
| VEC and Institutes of Technology | 22.4 | 19.7 | 23.2 | 23.4 | 23.6 | 20.3 | 27.6 | 26.3 |
| Regional Bodies | 37.7 | 37.6 | 36.6 | 36.6 | 37.7 | 37.5 | 36.8 | 36.9 |
| Local Authorities | 36.3 | 36.3 | 35.4 | 35.4 | 36.5 | 36.3 | 35.6 | 35.8 |
| Other | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Semi-State Companies | 58.2 | 57.9 | 57.7 | 57.4 | 58.1 | 57.8 | 56.6 | 56.1 |
| Commercial | 48.0 | 47.7 | 47.4 | 47.1 | 47.7 | 47.6 | 46.5 | 46.0 |
| Non-Commercial | 10.2 | 10.2 | 10.3 | 10.2 | 10.4 | 10.2 | 10.1 | 10.0 |
| Others in the Public Sector | 0.8 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.1 |
| Total (excl. Health) | 240.9 | 236.7 | 242.1 | 241.7 | 243.6 | 238.5 | 245.9 | 245.6 |
| Health | 96.6 | 96.6 | 96.5 | 96.8 | 97.7 | 98.4 | 98.7 | 99.7 |
| Total Public Sector | 337.5 | 333.3 | 338.6 | 338.6 | 341.3 | 336.9 | 344.6 | 345.3 |

¹ The category 'Others' is no longer included in the Civil Service but is separately classified as 'Others in the Public Sector'.

² Excludes the National Library and National Museum from June 2005. The National Museum and National Library are included in the Non-Commercial Semi States since June 2005.

³ Aer Lingus excluded from the Commercial Semi States from December 2006.

⁴ Data from March 2007 includes certain categories of staff not previously included.

Table 1 (contd.) Public Sector Employment

000

| 2005 | | | 2006 | | | 2007 | | Sectors |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar | Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar | |
| 36.7 | 36.7 | 36.3 | 36.6 | 37.0 | 37.3 | 37.0 | 37.3 | Civil Service¹ |
| 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | Prison Officers |
| 31.3 | 31.3 | 31.3 | 31.5 | 31.6 | 31.9 | 31.9 | 32.2 | Administrative Civil Servants ² |
| 2.2 | 2.3 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 1.9 | Industrial Civil Servants |
| 11.5 | 11.5 | 11.4 | 11.2 | 11.2 | 11.2 | 11.3 | 11.2 | Defence |
| 12.2 | 12.3 | 12.2 | 12.4 | 12.6 | 13.0 | 12.9 | 12.8 | Garda Síochána |
| 90.5 | 84.7 | 92.9 | 92.5 | 91.7 | 88.2 | 96.9 | 97.4 | Education |
| 32.6 | 32.1 | 33.8 | 33.6 | 34.1 | 33.6 | 35.0 | 35.0 | Primary |
| 19.6 | 19.5 | 19.9 | 19.7 | 19.7 | 19.7 | 20.0 | 20.0 | Secondary (excl. VEC & ITs) |
| 12.1 | 11.5 | 13.0 | 13.4 | 12.4 | 12.1 | 14.5 | 15.0 | Third Level (excl. VEC & ITs) |
| 26.2 | 21.6 | 26.1 | 25.9 | 25.6 | 22.9 | 27.4 | 27.4 | VEC and Institutes of Technology |
| 38.4 | 38.2 | 37.3 | 37.5 | 39.1 | 39.5 | 38.0 | 38.1 | Regional Bodies |
| 37.0 | 36.9 | 36.1 | 36.4 | 37.8 | 38.1 | 36.9 | 37.0 | Local Authorities |
| 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.1 | Other |
| 57.6 | 57.4 | 56.5 | 55.9 | 57.1 | 57.0 | 52.9* | 53.0 | Semi-State Companies |
| 47.2 | 46.8 | 46.1 | 45.4 | 46.4 | 46.2 | 41.9 | 42.0 | Commercial ³ |
| 10.4 | 10.5 | 10.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 | 10.7 | 11.0* | 11.0 | Non-Commercial ² |
| 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.6 | Others in the Public Sector¹ |
| 248.0 | 242.1 | 248.0 | 248.2 | 250.1 | 247.6 | 250.3* | 251.4 | Total (excl. Health) |
| 100.9 | 101.5 | 102.0 | 103.3 | 104.8 | 105.9 | 106.3 | 110.4 | Health⁴ |
| 348.9 | 343.6 | 350.0 | 351.3 | 354.9 | 353.5 | 356.6* | 361.8 | Total Public Sector |

* December 2006 revised since published on the 24 May 2007

Table 2 Public Sector Average Earnings Indices

Base year: March 1988=100

| Sectors | 2003 | | | 2004 | | | | 2005 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar | Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar |
| Civil Service | 204.3 | 207.5 | 211.3 | 220.0 | 219.5 | 223.5 | 232.1 | 233.4 |
| Prison Officers | 252.1 | 242.9 | 249.6 | 226.0 | 237.5 | 246.3 | 253.9 | 258.0 |
| Administrative Civil Servants | 195.8 | 201.2 | 204.8 | 218.9 | 217.4 | 221.1 | 228.9 | 229.8 |
| Industrial Civil Servants | 208.7 | 212.5 | 218.3 | 222.0 | 212.3 | 210.2 | 233.7 | 235.7 |
| Defence | 233.3 | 235.6 | 239.6 | 251.7 | 253.1 | 257.8 | 264.2 | 264.7 |
| Garda Síochána | 237.4 | 230.9 | 237.9 | 243.9 | 274.3 | 252.5 | 262.5 | 261.0 |
| Education | 212.9 | 209.4 | 207.7 | 221.9 | 225.3 | 230.3 | 234.9 | 233.5 |
| Primary | 195.8 | 188.1 | 186.6 | 200.8 | 201.0 | 206.5 | 208.6 | 209.9 |
| Secondary (excl. VEC & ITs) | 201.6 | 200.4 | 198.1 | 217.2 | 218.2 | 217.7 | 224.7 | 221.9 |
| Third Level (excl. VEC & ITs) | 245.7 | 243.1 | 236.0 | 246.2 | 258.3 | 270.1 | 269.5 | 264.0 |
| VEC and Institutes of Technology | 241.3 | 242.7 | 245.0 | 256.1 | 263.0 | 269.3 | 279.6 | 277.4 |
| Regional Bodies | 226.8 | 229.8 | 236.1 | 243.1 | 250.2 | 257.2 | 265.0 | 275.1 |
| Local Authorities | 225.2 | 228.4 | 235.1 | 242.1 | 249.4 | 256.4 | 264.2 | 274.5 |
| Other | 255.4 | 252.0 | 249.2 | 255.9 | 255.7 | 261.4 | 271.3 | 275.7 |
| Semi-State Companies | 234.9 | 235.3 | 244.9 | 243.9 | 253.1 | 252.5 | 258.9 | 258.9 |
| Commercial | 243.3 | 242.7 | 253.7 | 250.5 | 261.0 | 259.4 | 266.6 | 266.0 |
| Non-Commercial | 193.1 | 197.6 | 201.1 | 210.5 | 215.5 | 218.4 | 221.6 | 224.8 |
| Others in the Public Sector | 251.8 | 251.9 | 246.6 | 263.1 | 264.4 | 273.6 | 271.7 | 275.9 |
| Total Public Sector (excl. Health) | 221.1 | 220.4 | 224.1 | 232.3 | 238.5 | 240.8 | 247.3 | 248.0 |
| Selected series with overtime excluded | | | | | | | | |
| Garda Síochána | 221.9 | 221.9 | 219.5 | 223.1 | 234.9 | 239.3 | 241.4 | 243.6 |

Table 2 (contd.) Public Sector Average Earnings Indices

Base year: March 1988=100

| 2005 | | | 2006 | | | | 2007 | Sectors |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---|
| Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar | Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar | |
| 236.1 | 239.3 | 246.0 | 248.8 | 250.8 | 252.1 | 255.8 | 261.0 | Civil Service |
| 255.3 | 240.3 | 257.8 | 253.3 | 263.5 | 262.2 | 258.6 | 266.6 | Prison Officers |
| 232.9 | 239.2 | 244.3 | 248.0 | 248.6 | 250.3 | 254.6 | 260.0 | Administrative Civil Servants |
| 247.6 | 239.6 | 251.8 | 253.7 | 262.7 | 260.4 | 272.6 | 266.2 | Industrial Civil Servants |
| 266.1 | 266.8 | 269.1 | 271.4 | 283.5 | 288.1 | 285.3 | 284.8 | Defence |
| 264.6 | 266.4 | 279.6 | 271.6 | 277.0 | 281.9 | 315.2 | 296.4 | Garda Síochána |
| 245.6 | 242.6 | 249.9 | 248.6 | 252.8 | 250.8 | 252.6 | 260.6 | Education |
| 218.7 | 219.1 | 220.9 | 221.4 | 220.9 | 225.6 | 224.5 | 231.0 | Primary |
| 232.9 | 225.4 | 231.3 | 234.2 | 234.7 | 233.3 | 236.2 | 244.7 | Secondary (excl. VEC & ITs) |
| 275.9 | 277.6 | 280.4 | 282.5 | 287.1 | 282.9 | 290.7 | 299.1 | Third Level (excl. VEC & ITs) |
| 297.2 | 290.7 | 313.4 | 301.6 | 318.9 | 304.6 | 307.4 | 317.5 | VEC and Institutes of Technology |
| 270.4 | 277.5 | 279.2 | 287.4 | 286.2 | 290.5 | 294.5 | 305.4 | Regional Bodies |
| 269.7 | 277.1 | 278.7 | 286.9 | 285.6 | 290.0 | 293.9 | 305.0 | Local Authorities |
| 273.9 | 271.1 | 273.3 | 284.4 | 285.4 | 285.5 | 293.7 | 299.5 | Other |
| 262.2 | 264.0 | 276.1 | 274.0 | 278.6 | 278.4 | 288.4 | 287.0 | Semi-State |
| 269.8 | 271.1 | 284.4 | 282.8 | 288.0 | 286.2 | 300.1 | 295.3 | Commercial |
| 225.8 | 230.6 | 238.4 | 237.5 | 236.5 | 237.4 | 235.8* | 240.7 | Non-Commercial |
| 278.6 | 289.8 | 294.5 | 303.6 | 304.1 | 303.1 | 306.5 | 306.4 | Others in the Public Sector |
| 253.8 | 254.5 | 262.5 | 262.4 | 266.0 | 266.0 | 272.5 | 276.0 | Total Public Sector (excl. Health) |
| | | | | | | | | Selected series with overtime excluded |
| 241.8 | 247.4 | 253.7 | 247.9 | 249.6 | 252.1 | 256.1 | 259.3 | Garda Síochána |

* December 2006 revised since published on the 24 May 2007

Table 3 Public Sector Average Weekly Earnings

€

| Sectors | 2003 | | | 2004 | | | | 2005 |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar | Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar |
| Civil Service | 665.41 | 682.15 | 699.52 | 730.89 | 726.42 | 743.30 | 776.35 | 780.44 |
| Prison Officers | 1,119.28 | 1,077.53 | 1,106.52 | 1,001.37 | 1,053.43 | 1,091.33 | 1,124.28 | 1,142.94 |
| Administrative Civil Servants | 631.73 | 654.08 | 668.32 | 714.58 | 708.11 | 724.33 | 752.86 | 755.95 |
| Industrial Civil Servants | 514.45 | 525.04 | 552.97 | 562.20 | 545.79 | 539.76 | 602.53 | 607.53 |
| Defence | 603.22 | 611.25 | 618.75 | 651.54 | 655.66 | 671.51 | 682.47 | 682.87 |
| Garda Síochána | 973.67 | 947.19 | 974.87 | 999.74 | 1,124.74 | 1,034.91 | 1,075.61 | 1,068.79 |
| Education | 753.10 | 756.88 | 737.60 | 786.39 | 799.72 | 832.44 | 818.07 | 816.02 |
| Primary | 729.76 | 705.91 | 698.89 | 751.95 | 752.68 | 774.78 | 781.14 | 785.73 |
| Secondary (excl. VEC & ITs) | 859.70 | 854.32 | 844.87 | 926.04 | 930.30 | 928.32 | 957.66 | 945.31 |
| Third Level (excl. VEC & ITs) | 817.86 | 827.17 | 781.07 | 820.77 | 884.92 | 922.97 | 872.39 | 857.45 |
| VEC and Institutes of Technology | 664.22 | 704.65 | 679.60 | 702.30 | 716.12 | 780.17 | 739.23 | 735.66 |
| Regional Bodies | 603.73 | 610.58 | 627.22 | 635.97 | 666.64 | 661.81 | 700.95 | 735.97 |
| Local Authorities | 599.86 | 607.65 | 625.55 | 632.16 | 665.61 | 657.87 | 699.74 | 732.24 |
| Other | 803.47 | 780.78 | 777.92 | 806.09 | 803.80 | 816.58 | 852.85 | 864.65 |
| Semi-State | 809.47 | 810.33 | 842.72 | 841.82 | 871.53 | 868.71 | 888.63 | 888.18 |
| Commercial | 821.48 | 818.87 | 855.02 | 846.16 | 880.91 | 874.63 | 896.22 | 893.94 |
| Non-Commercial | 753.10 | 770.40 | 785.93 | 821.79 | 828.31 | 841.03 | 853.77 | 861.73 |
| Others in the Public Sector | 456.30 | 401.32 | 443.19 | 437.45 | 460.14 | 474.28 | 540.26 | 448.08 |
| Total Public Sector (excl. Health) | 734.02 | 737.58 | 746.91 | 773.05 | 794.34 | 803.50 | 817.47 | 820.83 |
| Selected series with overtime excluded | | | | | | | | |
| Garda Síochána | 871.08 | 863.49 | 861.15 | 875.24 | 921.94 | 939.00 | 946.84 | 954.70 |

Table 3 (contd.) Public Sector Average Weekly Earnings

€

| 2005 | | | 2006 | | | | 2007 | Sectors |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar | Jun | Sep | Dec | Mar | |
| 782.29 | 797.37 | 823.39 | 830.74 | 829.13 | 837.80 | 855.74 | 870.81 | Civil Service |
| 1,128.52 | 1,061.88 | 1,138.37 | 1,117.97 | 1,165.97 | 1,159.41 | 1,153.12 | 1,179.85 | Prison Officers |
| 759.76 | 785.37 | 803.89 | 813.86 | 808.72 | 818.51 | 836.84 | 852.56 | Administrative Civil Servants |
| 637.68 | 616.03 | 649.27 | 654.93 | 676.63 | 670.23 | 703.02 | 687.10 | Industrial Civil Servants |
| 685.77 | 691.28 | 700.70 | 705.46 | 736.72 | 748.77 | 738.10 | 740.88 | Defence |
| 1,083.37 | 1,090.62 | 1,144.30 | 1,111.74 | 1,132.75 | 1,150.51 | 1,286.01 | 1,209.20 | Garda Síochána |
| 861.17 | 872.98 | 876.46 | 869.30 | 885.48 | 888.90 | 875.90 | 901.10 | Education |
| 819.04 | 820.29 | 823.74 | 824.84 | 821.38 | 842.16 | 836.07 | 859.45 | Primary |
| 992.14 | 959.67 | 984.36 | 997.20 | 999.24 | 993.32 | 1,004.91 | 1,041.04 | Secondary (excl. VEC & ITs) |
| 918.27 | 934.63 | 921.08 | 928.81 | 961.63 | 957.34 | 949.04 | 978.18 | Third Level (excl. VEC & ITs) |
| 788.56 | 839.80 | 840.14 | 798.94 | 846.51 | 831.64 | 793.75 | 809.40 | VEC and Institutes of Technology |
| 720.92 | 739.27 | 743.30 | 767.34 | 762.20 | 774.29 | 785.17 | 814.52 | Regional Bodies |
| 717.31 | 736.62 | 740.32 | 764.03 | 758.78 | 771.46 | 781.75 | 811.57 | Local Authorities |
| 844.08 | 828.03 | 842.84 | 883.54 | 876.61 | 866.56 | 892.66 | 912.89 | Other |
| 898.01 | 902.95 | 945.36 | 946.00 | 956.65 | 956.14 | 1,000.02 | 992.30 | Semi-State |
| 904.36 | 906.22 | 950.83 | 952.26 | 967.34 | 962.59 | 1,016.50 | 1,003.55 | Commercial |
| 869.12 | 888.36 | 921.16 | 918.86 | 910.24 | 928.16 | 924.72 | 949.18 | Non-Commercial |
| 438.19 | 427.20 | 408.63 | 402.37 | 422.78 | 418.56 | 428.47 | 394.60 | Others in the Public Sector |
| 838.35 | 848.94 | 868.51 | 867.62 | 878.65 | 883.19 | 898.63 | 909.22 | Total Public Sector (excl. Health) |
| | | | | | | | | Selected series with overtime excluded |
| 947.87 | 969.62 | 993.71 | 971.65 | 977.11 | 985.17 | 1,000.46 | 1,012.91 | Garda Síochána |

Background Notes

Scope and Coverage The public sector is defined for the purposes of the series in accordance with criteria in the study “Information on public sector employment and manpower” published by the Institute of Public Administration.¹ The sectors covered are:

- Civil Service;
- Defence forces;
- Garda Síochána;
- Local authorities;
- Education (excluding private institutions);
- Semi-State bodies (excluding their subsidiary companies).

Sources Data is extracted directly, where feasible, from administrative sources (primarily government payroll systems); otherwise they are supplied on questionnaires completed by the organisations concerned. Estimates for non-respondents are included based on trends for respondents in similar sectors.

Employment Employment covers all persons engaged by public bodies in the state including:

- full-time employees (permanent and temporary);
- part-time employees;
- persons on holidays, on maternity leave or temporarily absent due to illness.

The following persons are not covered:

- persons on long-term absence without pay (e.g. career breaks, secondments);
- certain categories of part-time employee paid on a fee basis for occasional duties.

In principle the total number of persons engaged is shown. However, in a number of instances, it is necessary to use the full-time equivalents of part-time employees because this is the basis on which the organisations concerned can readily report employment and earnings. This is the case for Administrative Civil Servants, the Health Sector and some Third Level Institutions.

Earnings Earnings represents the gross amount (before deduction of tax, PRSI, superannuation) payable by the organisation to its employees. It includes:

- Normal wages, salaries and overtime;
- taxable allowances, regular bonuses and commissions;
- holiday or sick pay for the period in question.

It excludes:

- employer's PRSI;
- redundancy payments and back-pay.

Respondents are requested to provide details of aggregate earnings and employment for major categories of employees in their organisation (e.g. managerial, technical, clerical, etc.). Standard categories are not specified by the CSO; the number and delineation of categories is left to the discretion of organisations so that they can extract details already available in their records and, thereby, minimise the burden of the inquiry.

Many public sector employees are paid on the basis of incremental scales with the result that significant recruitment, which usually occurs at the lower levels, can depress the average earnings for a sector, and thereby affect the index levels (an example of this effect can be seen in the differential between the indices for Primary Education and Secondary Education). In addition, certain categories of staff (e.g. temporary, part-time) cannot be separately distinguished by some organisations and short-term changes in their numbers can also influence the index levels. Allowances should be made for these issues in interpreting the trends shown for different sectors.

The earnings are inclusive of overtime so that trends can reflect its variable impact (e.g. average earnings fall when overtime working is reduced). Some groups are characterised by high levels of overtime on a regular basis (e.g. the Garda Síochána) and earnings excluding overtime are separately provided in these cases.

In the case of Prison Officers, the Irish Prison Service introduced a system of annualised hours in early 2006. This abolished overtime and made new arrangements for the payment of additional hours, over and above the basic rostered hours.

- Averages:** Average weekly earnings reflect the mix of employees on different pay rates. Average weekly earnings are calculated by
- deriving average weekly earnings for each staff category, distinguished by each relevant organisation;
 - weighting these earnings by employment in each category to derive the average weekly earnings for each relevant organisation;
 - weighting these weekly earnings by the employment of relevant organisation to obtain the average weekly earnings for each sector;
 - weighting the sectoral average weekly earnings by the total employment of all organisations in the sector to obtain the overall quarterly average weekly earnings.

Indices: The earnings index is designed to measure the quarterly trend in average weekly earnings. It excludes the effect of changes in employment composition implicitly reflected in the corresponding absolute average earnings estimates.

The index of weekly earnings for any quarter is calculated by:

- deriving average weekly earnings for each staff category distinguished by each respondent organisation for the current and previous quarters;
- calculating the percentage quarterly change in average weekly earnings for each category;
- weighting these quarterly changes by total earnings in each category in the previous quarter to derive the quarterly change for each individual organisation;
- weighting these quarterly changes by the total earnings of each organisation in the previous quarter to obtain the estimated quarterly change for each sector;
- weighting the sectoral quarterly changes by the total earnings of each sector in the previous quarter to obtain the estimated overall quarterly change;
- updating the indices for the preceding quarter using these estimates of the quarterly change in earnings.

Civil Service (Administrative) The number employed is taken from the Civil Service Staff Information System (SIS) maintained by the Department of Finance. This primarily covers non-industrial civil servants and differs from the standard definition used for the series in the following respects:

- Full-time equivalents are used for work share employees;
- Department of Foreign Affairs staff working abroad are included;
- Civil Servants working in other parts of the public sector are included;
- Special advisors, etc. in Ministers' Offices are included;
- The earnings details are taken from the Civil Service payroll system.

December 2004 is the latest date for which SIS data is available. Figures for the number employed post December 2004 are provided by Department of Finance based on data supplied to them by the relevant Departments/Offices.

Civil Service (Industrial) Persons are included in this category on the basis of their conditions of service. They are primarily employed by the Office of Public Works and the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Primary Education Secretarial staff and caretakers are included if paid directly by Department of Education. Substitute teachers are excluded.

- Secondary Education (excluding VEC & ITs)** Part-time teachers paid through the standard Department of Education payment system are included while other part-time and substitute teachers are not. Non-teaching staff are included when paid directly by the Department.
- Third Level Education (excluding VEC & ITs)** In this sector there are some exceptions to the standard definition because some organisations could provide details on a full-time equivalent basis only.
- Regional Bodies** The Local Authorities includes Corporations, City Councils, County Councils, Urban District Councils and Town Commissioners. Included in the residual category are Regional Fisheries and Tourism Organisations, together with Traffic Wardens. Harbour Authorities (including those which have become State commercial companies) are also assigned to this category.
- Semi-State Bodies** The definition of the Public Sector used for the compilation of the series excludes subsidiaries of Semi-State Bodies. However, employees of subsidiaries are included if they cannot be readily distinguished by their parent organisation. The main operating companies (Iarnrod Éireann, Bus Éireann and Bus Átha Cliath) within CIE have been included in the series.
- Others in the Public Sector** Includes persons not elsewhere classified i.e. Dáil Éireann TDs, Garda students and CSO temporary field staff. In March 2007 there were 166 Dáil TDs, 1,300 Garda students and approximately 100 CSO temporary field staff. This category was previously included under the Civil Service sub-sector but they are now included as a sub-sector on their own.
- Health** The employment details for this sector are obtained from the quantity census conducted by the Health Service Executive and are recorded on a full-time equivalent basis. Earnings information is not available at present. From March 2007 certain grades, categories and subsumed agencies are included. A direct comparison with previous data is not possible.

¹ "Information on public sector employment and manpower," Humphreys, Peter C. and Gorman, Patricia, Institute of Public Administration, 1987.