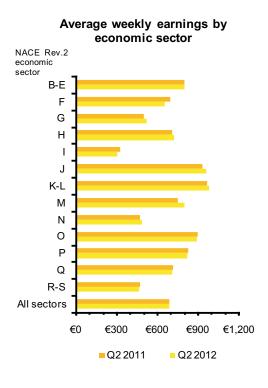


An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh Central Statistics Office

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Earnings and Labour Costs Q1 2012 (Final) Q2 2012 (Broliminan Estimator)

Q2 2012 (Preliminary Estimates)

Quarter	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Hours
	€	€	Hours
Q2 2011	688.11	21.90	31.4
Q1 2012	695.75	22.18	31.4
Q2 2012*	687.84	21.91	31.4
Quarterly change %	-1.1	-1.2	_
Annual change %	_	_	_

*Preliminary Estimates

Average weekly earnings at €687.84 in Q2 2012

Preliminary estimates for Q2 2012 show that average weekly earnings fell slightly to ϵ 687.84, down from ϵ 688.11 a year earlier. This compares with a revised increase of 1.3% in the final results for the year to Q1 2012. *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

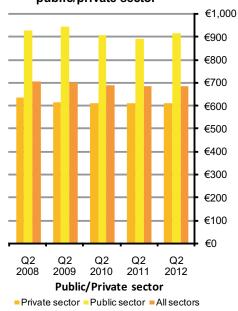
Other features of the preliminary results for the year to Q2 2012 include:

- Average hourly earnings were €21.91 in Q2 2012 compared with €21.90 in Q1 2011, representing no real change over the year. *See table 2*.
- Average weekly paid hours were 31.4 in Q2 2012, which was the same as those recorded in Q2 2011. *See table 3*.
- Public sector numbers were 380,800 in Q2 2012, a fall of 25,800 (-6.3%) from Q2 2011 when the total was 406,600 (including temporary Census field staff). *See Annex table A1*.

This release presents a set of final earnings results up to and including Q1 2012. Preliminary results are included for Q2 2012 but caution is advised in the interpretation of trends due to the low level of response in some sectors. *See Annex tables A3 and A4 for information on response levels and an analysis of preliminary versus final results.*

For more information contact Majella Lysaght at 021 453 5513, Margaret O'Mahony at 021 453 5216 or Brendan Curtin 021 453 5577.

Average weekly earnings by public/private sector



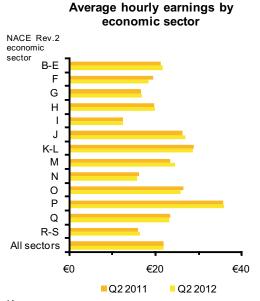
Average weekly earnings rise in 7 of the 13 sectors in year to Q2 2012

Across the economic sectors average weekly earnings increased in 7 of the 13 sectors in the year to Q2 2012, with the largest percentage increase in the *Professional, scientific and technical* (+5.9%) sector. The largest sectoral decrease in weekly earnings was recorded in the *Accommodation and food service* (-5.7%) sector. Over the four years to Q2 2012 the order of average weekly earnings across all individual sectors has revealed little change. However, the range in changes over the four years when comparing the sectors shows a difference of between -11.5% and +4.6%. *See table 1 and text table 1 below.*

	Q2 2008	Q2 2012	Four-yea chanç
NACE Principal Activity	€	€	
K-L	1,076.67	983.24	-8.
J	920.10	962.06	+4.
0	980.74	891.44	-9.
Р	849.71	824.36	-3.
B-E	783.37	803.98	+2.
М	812.94	801.19	-1.
н	779.85	722.38	-7.
Q	748.05	711.08	-4.
F	743.61	658.12	-11.
G	512.62	521.04	+1.
N	485.73	486.82	+0.
R-S	488.70	465.47	-4.
I	346.15	310.40	-10.

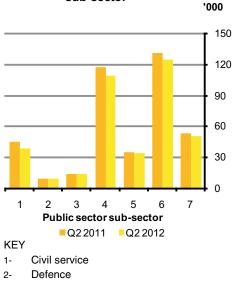
Weekly earnings in the private sector fell by 0.5% annually, compared with an increase of 2.8% in the public sector (including semi-state organisations) over the year, bringing, average weekly earnings in Q2 2012 to €611.66 and €918.99 respectively. In the three years to Q2 2012 public sector earnings have fallen by €27.10 (-2.9%). This compares with a decrease of €24.95 (-3.9%) in private sector average weekly earnings in the four years since Q2 2008. *See table 1 and graph opposite.*

It should be noted that earnings are gross amounts before deductions for PRSI, tax and other levies such as the pension levy in the public sector introduced in March 2009. Estimated averages do not reflect differences in characteristics of the job or the employees, and since EHECS collects aggregate data from each enterprise it is not possible to correct for such differences using EHECS data.



Key

- **B-E** Industry
- F Construction
- G Wholesale and retail trade: repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
- н Transportation and storage
- Accommodation and food services L
- J Information and communication
- K-L Financial, insurance and real estate
- Professional, scientific and technical М
- Ν Administrative and support services
- Public administration and defence 0
- Ρ Education
- Q Human health and social work
- R-S Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities



Public sector employment by sub-sector

- Garda Síochána 3-
- Education 4-
- **Regional bodies** 5-
- Health 6-
- 7-Semi-state

Hourly earnings unchanged in year to Q2 2012

Average hourly earnings revealed no real change over the year from €21.90 per hour in Q2 2011 to €21.91 in Q2 2012. This compares with a decrease of 0.2% in average hourly earning in the year to Q1 2012. Overall average hourly earnings in Q2 2012 remained 0.5% below their level recorded three years earlier in Q2 2009 (€22.02). *See table 2*.

Across the economic sectors average hourly earnings fell in 6 of the 13 sectors, with the largest percentage decrease in *Construction* (-4.6%), followed by *Administrative* and support services (-2.5%) and Public administration and defence (-2.2%) sectors. The largest sectoral percentage increase was recorded in the *Professional, scientific* and technical (+4.2%) sector. See table 2 and graph opposite.

One of the three enterprise size groups showed an annual percentage decrease in average hourly earnings in Q2 2012. Enterprises with greater than 250 employees showed a decrease of 0.5% in average hourly earnings in the year to Q2 2012, while enterprises with between 50 and 250 employees increased average hourly earnings by 0.8% over the same period.

Paid hours per week remain at 31.4 in Q2 2012

Average weekly paid hours were 31.4 in Q2 2012, which represented no change over the year. Revised average weekly paid hours were 31.4 in Q1 2012 which was an increase of 1.6% on the same period in 2011. See table 3.

The largest annual percentage increase in average weekly paid hours in Q2 2012 was recorded in the Administrative and support services (+5.5%) sector, while the largest percentage decrease over the same period was seen in the Accommodation and food services (-5.3%) sector.

In the public sector average weekly paid hours rose by 1.3% over the year to Q2 2012 from 30.7 hours to 31.1 hours. Private sector average weekly paid hours decreased over the same period by 0.6% bringing paid hours to 31.5 in Q2 2012. Since Q2 2008 weekly paid hours in the private sector have fallen by 1.6 hours or 4.8%, compared with a fall of 0.8 hours (-2.5%) in the public sector over the same four-year period.

Annual drop of 6.3% in public sector numbers in Q2 2012

Persons employed in the public sector showed a decline of 6.3% over the year to Q2 2012 bringing the total to 380,800. The total reduction in numbers in the public sector over the three years from Q2 2009 to Q2 2012 was 36,800 (-8.8%). In the year to Q2 2012 numbers fell in all areas across the public sector with the largest percentage decreases seen in the Civil service (-13.1%) and Defence (-8.3%) sub-sectors. See Annex table A1 and graph opposite.

It should be noted that public sector employment is spread across a number of NACE economic sectors and includes semi-state organisations in sectors such as Transportation and storage and Information and communications. Furthermore while employment in the Public administration and defence, Education and Human health and social work sectors is mainly in public sector organisations, there is some element of private sector employment too. Annex table A1 contains estimates of public sector numbers by high level area within the overall public sector.

Sectoral employment estimates in EHECS use data from the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) in the derivation of sectoral weights. As the QNHS estimates of employment for Q2 2012 are not yet published sectoral employment estimates are not contained in this release.

This release contains estimated average weekly earnings by broad occupational categories up to Q1 2012 in Annex table A2. Actual earnings should be interpreted with caution as determining the trend over time is the main aim of this table. See background notes for more information.

Tables

		2008	2009	2010	2011 ²	201	2	Quarterly %	Annual %
	NACE Principal Activity	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q1	Q2*	change	change ³
		€	€	€	€	€	€	%	%
B-E	Industry	783.37	795.04	812.67	803.29	831.18	803.98	-3.3	+0.1
F	Construction	743.61	740.08	699.37	695.72	655.13	658.12	+0.5	-5.4
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	512.62	496.53	504.68	505.57	518.08	521.04	+0.6	+3.1
н	Transportation and storage	779.85	760.99	705.22	708.50	708.73	722.38	+1.9	+2.0
I	Accommodation and food services	346.15	342.78	328.96	329.10	297.22	310.40	+4.4	-5.7
J	Information and communication	920.10	917.83	915.25	937.31	1,042.34	962.06	-7.7	+2.6
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	1,076.67	932.11	963.63	970.31	1,021.97	983.24	-3.8	+1.3
М	Professional, scientific and technical	812.94	807.24	813.45	756.32	856.81	801.19	-6.5	+5.9
Ν	Administrative and support services	485.73	493.81	488.55	473.28	491.10	486.82	-0.9	+2.9
0	Public administration and defence	980.74	991.81	953.02	902.54	900.32	891.44	-1.0	-1.2
Р	Education	849.71	862.29	800.10	830.84	852.79	824.36	-3.3	-0.8
Q	Human health and social work	748.05	753.63	727.17	718.21	709.67	711.08	+0.2	-1.0
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	488.70	473.52	471.77	473.79	468.45	465.47	-0.6	-1.8
Total		706.03	701.73	693.08	688.11	695.75	687.84	-1.1	
Publi	c/Private Sector								
Privat	e sector	636.61	618.08	614.87	614.67	623.53	611.66	-1.9	-0.5
Public	sector	930.51	946.09	907.84	893.70	916.48	918.99	+0.3	+2.8
Size o	of Enterprise								
Less t	than 50 employees	571.44	542.43	538.49	535.02	535.08	532.77	-0.4	-0.4
50-25	0 employees	654.56	654.23	640.03	639.76	653.09	634.96	-2.8	-0.8
Greate	er than 250 employees	826.58	833.31	828.21	816.76	824.26	820.24	-0.5	+0.4

Table 1 Average weekly earnings by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter¹

¹ Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S.

² Quarterly data for 2011 has been revised based on additional data received.

³ The effect of temporary Census field staff in Q2 2011 should be considered when analysing the annual % change in the Public sector. * Preliminary Estimates

	2008	2009	2010	2011 ²	2012	2	Our and a rile of 0/	Annual %
MACE Principal Activity	Q2	Q2			Q1	Q2*	Quarterly % change	change ³
		-					9/.	9/
	-			-				
Industry	20.32	21.38	21.84		22.27		-2.4	+1.6
Construction								-4.6
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	16.40	16.39	16.64	16.66	17.07	16.93	-0.8	+1.6
Transportation and storage	20.72	20.34	19.48	19.87	19.96	19.99	+0.2	+0.6
Accommodation and food services	12.45	12.49	12.40	12.52	12.10	12.45	+2.9	-0.6
Information and communication	25.65	25.91	25.59	26.37	28.82	26.98	-6.4	+2.3
Financial, insurance and real estate	31.63	27.87	28.72	29.05	30.17	28.90	-4.2	-0.5
Professional, scientific and technical	24.88	24.63	25.19	23.61	26.17	24.60	-6.0	+4.2
Administrative and support services	15.80	16.39	15.99	16.30	15.94	15.90	-0.3	-2.5
Public administration and defence	27.93	28.15	26.55	26.52	25.79	25.94	+0.6	-2.2
Education	33.80	35.24	34.33	35.90	37.33	35.97	-3.6	+0.2
Human health and social work	23.97	24.91	23.81	23.57	23.27	23.33	+0.3	-1.0
Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	16.02	16.14	16.24	16.09	16.64	16.46	-1.1	+2.3
	21.51	22.02	21.95	21.90	22.18	21.91	-1.2	
/Private Sector								
sector	19.23	19.31	19.42	19.42	19.88	19.42	-2.3	
sector	29.16	30.07	28.97	29.07	29.21	29.55	+1.2	+1.7
f Enterprise								
an 50 employees	17.66	17.54	17.66	17.50	17.72	17.56	-0.9	+0.3
employees	19.20	19.81	19.79	19.73	20.50	19.89	-3.0	+0.8
r than 250 employees	25.28	25.90	25.76	25.77	25.73	25.65	-0.3	-0.5
))	Industry Construction Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles Transportation and storage Accommodation and food services Information and communication Financial, insurance and real estate Professional, scientific and technical Administrative and support services Public administration and defence Education Human health and social work Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	Q2Industry20.32Construction19.78Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles Transportation and storage20.72Accommodation and food services12.45Information and communication25.65Financial, insurance and real estate31.63Professional, scientific and technical24.88Administrative and support services15.80Public administration and defence27.93Education33.80Human health and social work23.97Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities16.0221.51Frivate Sectora sector29.16f Enterprise man 50 employees17.66o employees19.20	Q2 Q2 € € Industry 20.32 21.38 Construction 19.78 20.83 Wholesale and retail trade; repair of notor vehicles and motorcycles 16.40 16.39 Transportation and storage 20.72 20.34 Accommodation and food services 12.45 12.49 Information and communication 25.65 25.91 Financial, insurance and real estate 31.63 27.87 Professional, scientific and technical 24.88 24.63 Administrative and support services 15.80 16.39 Public administration and defence 27.93 28.15 Education 33.80 35.24 Human health and social work 23.97 24.91 Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities 16.02 16.14 Sector 19.23 19.31 sector 29.16 30.07 f Enterprise 17.66 17.54 and 50 employees 19.20 19.81	Q2 Q2 Q2 € € € € Industry 20.32 21.38 21.84 Construction 19.78 20.83 20.25 Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles 16.40 16.39 16.64 Transportation and storage 20.72 20.34 19.48 Accommodation and food services 12.45 12.49 12.40 Information and communication 25.65 25.91 25.59 Financial, insurance and real estate 31.63 27.87 28.72 Professional, scientific and technical 24.88 24.63 25.19 Administrative and support services 15.80 16.39 15.99 Public administration and defence 27.93 28.15 26.55 Education 33.80 35.24 34.33 Human health and social work 23.97 24.91 23.81 Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities 16.02 16.14 16.24 esector 29.16 30.07	Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 € <td>Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q1 €<</td> <td>Q2Q2Q2Q2Q1Q2*$\epsilon$$\epsilon$$\epsilon$$\epsilon$$\epsilon$$\epsilon$$\epsilon$Industry20.3221.3821.8421.3922.2721.73Construction19.7820.8320.2519.4618.5518.57Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles16.4016.3916.6416.6617.0716.93Transportation and storage20.7220.3419.4819.8719.9619.99Accommodation and food services12.4512.4912.4012.5212.1012.45Information and communication25.6525.9125.5926.3728.8226.98Financial, insurance and real estate31.6327.8728.7229.0530.1724.80Professional, scientific and technical24.8824.6325.1923.6126.1724.60Administrative and support services15.8016.3915.9916.3015.9415.90Public administration and defence27.9328.1526.5526.5225.7923.33Arts, entertainment, recreation and other16.0216.1416.2416.0916.6416.46service activities21.5122.0221.9521.9022.1821.91Information and social workarts, entertainment, recreation and other16.0216.1416.2416.0916.6416.46service activities29.1630.0728</td> <td>$\mathbf{c}$$c$</td>	Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q1 €<	Q2Q2Q2Q2Q1Q2* ϵ ϵ ϵ ϵ ϵ ϵ ϵ Industry20.3221.3821.8421.3922.2721.73Construction19.7820.8320.2519.4618.5518.57Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles16.4016.3916.6416.6617.0716.93Transportation and storage20.7220.3419.4819.8719.9619.99Accommodation and food services12.4512.4912.4012.5212.1012.45Information and communication25.6525.9125.5926.3728.8226.98Financial, insurance and real estate31.6327.8728.7229.0530.1724.80Professional, scientific and technical24.8824.6325.1923.6126.1724.60Administrative and support services15.8016.3915.9916.3015.9415.90Public administration and defence27.9328.1526.5526.5225.7923.33Arts, entertainment, recreation and other16.0216.1416.2416.0916.6416.46service activities21.5122.0221.9521.9022.1821.91Information and social workarts, entertainment, recreation and other16.0216.1416.2416.0916.6416.46service activities29.1630.0728	\mathbf{c} c

Table 2 Average hourly earnings by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter¹

¹ Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S. ² Quarterly data for 2011 has been revised based on additional data received.

³ The effect of temporary Census field staff in Q2 2011 should be considered when analysing the annual % change in the Public sector.

		2008	2009	2010	2011 ²	201	2		Annual %
	NACE Principal Activity	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q1	Q2*	Quarterly % change	change ³
		hours	hours	hours	hours	hours	hours	%	%
B-E	Industry	38.6	37.2	37.2	37.6	37.3	37.0	-0.8	-1.6
F	Construction	37.6	35.5	34.5	35.8	35.3	35.4	+0.3	-1.1
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	31.3	30.3	30.3	30.3	30.3	30.8	+1.7	+1.7
Н	Transportation and storage	37.6	37.4	36.2	35.7	35.5	36.1	+1.7	+1.1
I	Accommodation and food services	27.8	27.4	26.5	26.3	24.6	24.9	+1.2	-5.3
J	Information and communication	35.9	35.4	35.8	35.5	36.2	35.7	-1.4	+0.6
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	34.0	33.4	33.6	33.4	33.9	34.0	+0.3	+1.8
Μ	Professional, scientific and technical	32.7	32.8	32.3	32.0	32.7	32.6	-0.3	+1.9
Ν	Administrative and support services	30.7	30.1	30.6	29.0	30.8	30.6	-0.6	+5.5
0	Public administration and defence	35.1	35.2	35.9	34.0	34.9	34.4	-1.4	+1.2
Р	Education	25.1	24.5	23.3	23.1	22.8	22.9	+0.4	-0.9
Q	Human health and social work	31.2	30.3	30.5	30.5	30.5	30.5	-	-
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	30.5	29.3	29.0	29.5	28.2	28.3	+0.4	-4.1
Total		32.8	31.9	31.6	31.4	31.4	31.4	-	-
Public	c/Private Sector								
Private	e sector	33.1	32.0	31.7	31.7	31.4	31.5	+0.3	-0.6
Public	sector	31.9	31.5	31.3	30.7	31.4	31.1	-1.0	+1.3
Size c	of Enterprise								
Less t	han 50 employees	32.3	30.9	30.5	30.6	30.2	30.3	+0.3	-1.0
50-25	0 employees	34.1	33.0	32.3	32.4	31.9	31.9	-	-1.5
Greate	er than 250 employees	32.7	32.2	32.2	31.7	32.0	32.0	-	+0.9

Table 3 Average weekly paid hours by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter¹

¹ Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S. ² Quarterly data for 2011 has been revised based on additional data received.

³ The effect of temporary Census field staff in Q2 2011 should be considered when analysing the annual % change in the Public sector.

		2008	2009	2010	2011 ³	2012		• • • • •	A
	- NACE Principal Activity	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q1	Q2*	Quarterly % change	Annual % change ⁴
		€	€	€	€	€	€	%	%
B-E	Industry	19.34	20.41	20.66	20.42	20.46	20.69	+1.1	+1.3
F	Construction	19.37	20.58	19.91	19.20	18.43	18.35	-0.4	-4.4
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	15.72	15.81	15.91	15.95	16.08	16.13	+0.3	+1.1
Н	Transportation and storage	19.70	19.30	18.55	18.63	18.78	18.81	+0.2	+1.0
I	Accommodation and food services	12.36	12.35	12.26	12.37	11.86	12.30	+3.7	-0.6
J	Information and communication	24.04	24.41	24.16	24.76	25.25	25.28	+0.1	+2.1
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	26.32	25.99	26.69	27.00	27.00	27.12	+0.4	+0.4
М	Professional, scientific and technical	23.86	23.98	23.89	22.72	23.58	23.47	-0.5	+3.3
Ν	Administrative and support services	15.28	15.99	15.42	15.52	14.90	15.42	+3.5	-0.6
0	Public administration and defence	25.42	26.58	25.18	24.95	24.64	24.71	+0.3	-1.0
Р	Education	33.50	34.98	34.03	35.56	36.77	35.61	-3.2	+0.1
Q	Human health and social work	22.64	23.53	22.56	22.35	22.19	22.17	-0.1	-0.8
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	15.68	15.68	15.95	15.77	15.96	16.15	+1.2	+2.4
Total		20.35	21.14	20.99	20.95	20.84	20.98	+0.7	+0.1
Publi	c/Private Sector								
Privat	e sector	18.26	18.64	18.62	18.60	18.51	18.64	+0.7	+0.2
Public	sector	27.39	28.59	27.57	27.72	27.98	28.18	+0.7	+1.7
Size c	of Enterprise								
Less t	han 50 employees	17.20	17.25	17.20	17.09	17.05	17.13	+0.5	+0.2
	0 employees	18.50	19.06	19.09	18.91	18.94	19.00	+0.3	+0.5
	er than 250 employees	23.43	24.58	24.35	24.38	24.02	24.37	+1.5	-

Table 4a Average hourly earnings excluding irregular earnings by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter¹²

¹ Average hourly earnings excluding irregular earnings plus the average hourly irregular earnings in Table 4b equal average hourly earnings as set out in Table 2.

² Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S.

³ Quarterly data for 2011 has been revised based on additional data received.

⁴ The effect of temporary Census field staff in Q2 2011 should be considered when analysing the annual % change in the Public sector.

		2008	2009	2010	2011 ³	2012	2			
	NACE Principal Activity	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q1	Q2*	Quarterly % change	Annual % change ⁴	
		€	€	€	€	€	€	%	%	
B-E	Industry	0.98	0.97	1.17	0.97	1.81	1.04	-42.5	+7.2	
F	Construction	0.41	0.25	0.34	0.26	0.12	0.21	+75.0	-19.2	
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	0.67	0.58	0.73	0.71	1.00	0.79	-21.0	+11.3	
н	Transportation and storage	1.02	1.03	0.94	1.24	1.19	1.19	-	-4.0	
I	Accommodation and food services	0.10	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.23	0.15	-34.8	-	
J	Information and communication	1.61	1.50	1.43	1.61	3.56	1.70	-52.2	+5.6	
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	5.31	1.88	2.02	2.05	3.17	1.78	-43.8	-13.2	
Μ	Professional, scientific and technical	1.02	0.65	1.30	0.89	2.58	1.14	-55.8	+28.1	
Ν	Administrative and support services	0.52	0.41	0.56	0.78	1.04	0.48	-53.8	-38.5	
0	Public administration and defence	2.52	1.56	1.37	1.58	1.15	1.23	+7.0	-22.2	
Р	Education	0.30	0.26	0.31	0.34	0.56	0.35	-37.5	+2.9	
Q	Human health and social work	1.33	1.38	1.25	1.22	1.08	1.16	+7.4	-4.9	
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	0.34	0.46	0.29	0.32	0.68	0.30	-55.9	-6.3	
Total		1.15	0.87	0.96	0.96	1.34	0.92	-31.3	-4.2	
Publi	c/Private Sector									
Privat	e sector	0.97	0.66	0.80	0.82	1.37	0.78	-43.1	-4.9	
Public	sector	1.76	1.49	1.40	1.35	1.23	1.37	+11.4	+1.5	
Size o	of Enterprise									
Less t	than 50 employees	0.46	0.29	0.47	0.41	0.67	0.43	-35.8	+4.9	
50-25	0 employees	0.70	0.75	0.70	0.82	1.57	0.90	-42.7	+9.8	
Great	er than 250 employees	1.85	1.32	1.40	1.39	1.71	1.27	-25.7	-8.6	

Table 4b Average hourly irregular earnings by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter¹²

¹ Average hourly irregular earnings plus the average hourly earnings excluding irregular earnings in Table 4a equal average hourly earnings as set out in Table 2.

² Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S.

³ Quarterly data for 2011 has been revised based on additional data received.

⁴ The effect of temporary Census field staff in Q2 2011 should be considered when analysing the annual % change in the Public sector.

		2008	2009	2010	2011 ²	2012		Quarterly %	Annual %
	NACE Principal Activity	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q1	Q2*	change	change ³
		€	€	€	€	€	€	%	%
B-E	Industry	4.19	5.63	4.64	4.26	5.45	4.41	-19.1	+3.5
F	Construction	3.50	4.00	3.12	2.69	2.24	2.19	-2.2	-18.6
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	2.53	2.72	2.61	2.49	2.50	2.76	+10.4	+10.8
Н	Transportation and storage	3.56	4.22	3.36	3.52	4.43	3.94	-11.1	+11.9
I	Accommodation and food services	1.49	1.41	1.34	1.36	1.12	1.13	+0.9	-16.9
J	Information and communication	6.00	6.26	6.38	4.85	6.02	5.33	-11.5	+9.9
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	7.50	7.46	7.54	6.62	6.61	6.77	+2.4	+2.3
Μ	Professional, scientific and technical	4.31	4.73	3.76	3.77	4.04	3.92	-3.0	+4.0
Ν	Administrative and support services	2.87	2.30	2.15	1.88	2.19	2.31	+5.5	+22.9
0	Public administration and defence	2.13	1.99	1.87	1.99	1.98	2.00	+1.0	+0.5
Р	Education	2.92	2.75	2.88	3.13	3.53	3.41	-3.4	+8.9
Q	Human health and social work	2.98	2.61	2.07	2.26	2.33	2.40	+3.0	+6.2
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	2.20	2.29	1.98	2.49	3.01	2.03	-32.6	-18.5
Total		3.40	3.65	3.24	3.11	3.39	3.23	-4.7	+3.9
Publi	c/Private Sector								
Privat	e sector	3.51	3.88	3.45	3.20	3.53	3.29	-6.8	+2.8
Public	sector	3.04	2.95	2.64	2.85	2.95	3.05	+3.4	+7.0
Size o	of Enterprise								
Less t	han 50 employees	2.69	2.85	2.40	2.27	2.39	2.38	-0.4	+4.8
50-25	0 employees	3.38	3.61	3.13	3.24	4.30	3.12	-27.4	-3.7
Great	er than 250 employees	3.94	4.21	3.88	3.66	3.74	3.86	+3.2	+5.5

Table 5a Average hourly other labour costs by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter¹

¹ Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S.

² Quarterly data for 2011 has been revised based on additional data received.

³ The effect of temporary Census field staff in Q2 2011 should be considered when analysing the annual % change in the Public sector.

		2008	2009	2010	2011 ²	201	2	Quarterly %	Annual %
	NACE Principal Activity	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q1	Q2*	change	change ³
		€	€	€	€	€	€	%	%
B-E	Industry	24.51	27.02	26.48	25.64	27.72	26.14	-5.7	+2.0
F	Construction	23.28	24.83	23.37	22.15	20.79	20.76	-0.1	-6.3
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	18.93	19.11	19.26	19.15	19.57	19.69	+0.6	+2.8
н	Transportation and storage	24.28	24.56	22.84	23.39	24.40	23.93	-1.9	+2.3
I	Accommodation and food services	13.94	13.90	13.74	13.88	13.22	13.58	+2.7	-2.2
J	Information and communication	31.65	32.17	31.97	31.22	34.84	32.31	-7.3	+3.5
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	39.13	35.33	36.25	35.68	36.79	35.66	-3.1	-0.1
Μ	Professional, scientific and technical	29.20	29.36	28.95	27.38	30.20	28.53	-5.5	+4.2
Ν	Administrative and support services	18.67	18.69	18.14	18.18	18.13	18.21	+0.4	+0.2
0	Public administration and defence	30.07	30.14	28.42	28.51	27.77	27.94	+0.6	-2.0
Р	Education	36.72	37.98	37.21	39.03	40.86	39.37	-3.6	+0.9
Q	Human health and social work	26.95	27.51	25.89	25.83	25.60	25.73	+0.5	-0.4
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	18.22	18.44	18.22	18.58	19.65	18.49	-5.9	-0.5
Total		24.91	25.66	25.19	25.01	25.57	25.14	-1.7	+0.5
Public	c/Private Sector								
Private	e sector	22.74	23.19	22.87	22.62	23.41	22.71	-3.0	+0.4
Public	sector	32.20	33.02	31.61	31.92	32.16	32.60	+1.4	+2.1
Size c	of Enterprise								
Less t	han 50 employees	20.36	20.39	20.07	19.78	20.12	19.94	-0.9	+0.8
50-25	0 employees	22.57	23.42	22.92	22.97	24.81	23.02	-7.2	+0.2
Greate	er than 250 employees	29.23	30.11	29.63	29.42	29.47	29.51	+0.1	+0.3

 Table 5b
 Average hourly total labour costs by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter¹

¹ Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S.

² Quarterly data for 2011 has been revised based on additional data received.

³ The effect of temporary Census field staff in Q2 2011 should be considered when analysing the annual % change in the Public sector.

	_	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
	NACE Principal Activity						
		Q2	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q1 ³	Q2 ⁴
		'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
B-E	Industry	234.5	211.7	198.7	196.0	192.7	
F	Construction	144.1	96.2	73.5	65.6	63.5	
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	317.6	289.5	279.9	276.6	275.8	
Н	Transportation and storage	70.0	64.0	61.8	65.7	61.0	
I	Accommodation and food services	155.2	130.5	126.0	113.6	119.2	
J	Information and communication	64.0	54.9	54.9	53.4	54.1	
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	97.7	96.4	92.1	91.0	86.6	
М	Professional, scientific and technical	83.6	74.0	73.1	72.1	67.6	
N	Administrative and support services	91.5	79.4	74.0	79.2	72.2	
0	Public administration and defence	121.6	120.1	120.2	112.0	111.5	
Р	Education	134.8	135.0	134.4	131.3	131.5	
Q	Human health and social work	206.7	208.7	215.1	219.5	212.9	
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	54.6	47.7	46.7	46.5	47.4	
Total		1,775.9	1,608.0	1,550.2	1522.5	1,496.1	
Publi	c/Private Sector						
Privat	e sector	1,354.5	1,190.4	1,141.3	1,115.9	1,107.6	
Public	sector	421.4	417.6	408.9	406.6	388.5	
Size o	of Enterprise						
Less t	han 50 employees	621.5	568.0	572.8	541.8	528.7	
	0 employees	321.2	263.9	251.4	247.2	254.1	
Greate	er than 250 employees	833.2	776.1	726.1	733.5	713.3	

Table 5c Employment by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter¹²

¹ Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S.

² It should be noted that the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) is the official source of estimates of employment. The estimated trend in the number of employees refers to QHNS employee estimates, but differs in coverage in certain ways, such as the fact that a person with two jobs could be counted twice in the table and the exclusion of the Agriculture, forestry and fishing sector which is covered by the QNHS.

³ The effect of temporary Census field staff in Q1 2011 should be considered when analysing the annual % change in the Public sector.

⁴ Data for Q2 2012 is not available - see text on page 3.

Annex Tables

Table A1 Public sector numbers by sub-sector and quarter¹²³

	2008	2009	2010	2011	201	2	Annual absolute	Annual %
	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q2	Q1	Q2*	change	change
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
Including Census 2011 Temporary Field staff								
Civil service	42.7	42.1	40.1	45.0	39.7	39.1	-5.9	-13.1
Defence	11.2	10.9	9.9	9.6	9.1	8.8	-0.8	-8.3
Garda Siochana	15.1	14.7	14.6	14.2	13.7	13.5	-0.7	-4.9
Education	117.4	118.3	115.8	117.5	111.9	109.4	-8.1	-6.9
Regional bodies	40.1	38.4	36.5	34.8	33.9	33.8	-1.0	-2.9
Health	138.0	137.1	136.9	132.0	128.8	125.6	-6.4	-4.8
Total public sector excluding semi-state bodies	364.5	361.5	353.8	353.1	337.1	330.2	-22.9	-6.5
Semi-state	56.9	56.1	55.1	53.5	51.4	50.6	-2.9	-5.4
Total public sector including semi-state bodies	421.4	417.6	408.9	406.6	388.5	380.8	-25.8	-6.3
Excluding Census 2011 Temporary Field staff								
Civil Service	42.7	42.1	40.1	39.7	39.7	39.1	-0.6	-1.5
Total Public Sector excluding semi-state bodies	364.5	361.5	353.8	347.8	337.1	330.2	-17.6	-5.1
Total Public Sector including semi-state bodies	421.4	417.6	408.9	401.3	388.5	380.8	-20.5	-5.1

¹ Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S.

² The effect of temporary Census field staff in Q2 2011 should be considered when analysing Public sector data.

³ Source: Earnings, Hours and Employment Costs Survey. Public Sector numbers include all those who received a payment which would include both full-time and part-time employees as well as contract workers. Total public sector numbers are also published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform on a quarterly basis. Those differ in coverage from the estimates in Table A1 as Department of Public Expenditure and Reform estimates are based on full-time equivalents which will change over time based on both changes in working hours and number of persons employed.

	2010	20	2011		Quarterly % change	Annual % change
Occupation with certain NACE groups	Q1	Q1	Q4	Q1		
NACE groups	Q1	Q I	64	QI		
Managers, professionals	€	€	€	€	%	%
and associated professionals						
B-E	1,288.26	1,338.15	1,404.71	1,430.55	+1.8	+6.9
B-N,R-S	1,161.84	1,143.71	1,221.42	1,208.11	-1.1	+5.6
0-Q	981.22	967.88	1,050.15	1,034.71	-1.5	+6.9
Total (B-S)	1,080.86	1,063.39	1,137.70	1,124.84	-1.1	+5.8
Clerical, sales	€	€	€	€	%	%
and service employees						
B-E	724.86	680.33	767.57	752.91	-1.9	
B-N,R-S	437.45	432.61	458.27	444.25	-3.1	+2.7
0-Q	574.88	537.33	561.13	538.24	-4.1	+0.2
Total (B-S)	469.20	461.78	488.48	473.04	-3.2	+2.4
Production, transport, craft and other manual workers	€	€	€	€	%	%
B-E	616.45	560.57	628.43	609.58	-3.0	+8.7
B-N,R-S	522.21	489.68	564.27	528.94	-6.3	+8.0
O-Q	491.62	470.09	447.36	459.80	+2.8	-2.2
Total (B-S)	516.47	504.70	569.87	540.30	-5.2	+7.1

Table A2 Estimates of average weekly earnings by broad occupational catergories¹

¹ See background notes.

Table A3	Response rates in selected sectors by quarter	1
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		Employer Ra	Response ate	• •	Response ite	Total number of respondent	
	NACE Principal Activity	9	6	9	6		
		Q1 2012	Q2 2012*	Q1 2012	Q2 2012*	enterprises in Q2 2012	
B-E	Industry	62.1	50.4	80.2	67.5	559	
F	Construction	35.0	30.3	49.8	46.1	115	
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	58.6	53.8	79.7	73.7	758	
Н	Transportation and storage	54.1	50.0	88.1	78.6	131	
I	Accommodation and food services	46.4	36.7	61.2	48.6	303	
J	Information and communication	65.5	58.5	82.0	75.0	168	
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	69.2	61.6	91.0	90.1	183	
М	Professional, scientific and technical	68.9	61.6	75.9	76.4	265	
Ν	Administrative and support services	58.4	48.8	79.7	63.8	176	
0	Public administration and defence	91.8	86.7	89.6	87.6	137	
Р	Education	77.0	62.3	95.6	89.4	142	
Q	Human health and social work	77.3	71.7	92.5	88.3	430	
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	61.7	52.0	82.7	76.9	209	
Total		60.9	53.0	84.3	77.5	3,576	

¹ This table presents the response rates achieved by sector. Greater caution should be taken in the interpretation of estimates for sectors with lower response rates as these sectors could be subject to greater revisions if response levels are increased for final estimates.

		Prelimary Q1 2012			F	Final Q1 2012			Percentage Change		
ACE Principal Activity		Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Hours	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Hours	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Hours	
		€	€	hours	€	€	hours	%	%	%	
B-E	Industry	826.39	22.22	37.2	831.18	22.27	37.3	+0.6	+0.2	+0.3	
F	Construction	640.13	17.99	35.6	655.13	18.55	35.3	+2.3	+3.1	-0.8	
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	517.69	17.10	30.3	518.08	17.07	30.3	+0.1	-0.2		
н	Transportation and storage	694.03	19.75	35.1	708.73	19.96	35.5	+2.1	+1.1	+1.1	
I	Accommodation and food services	305.30	12.19	25.0	297.22	12.10	24.6	-2.6	-0.7	-1.6	
J	Information and communication	990.22	27.39	36.2	1,042.34	28.82	36.2	+5.3	+5.2		
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	1,018.88	30.00	34.0	1,021.97	30.17	33.9	+0.3	+0.6	-0.3	
М	Professional, scientific and technical	823.88	25.85	31.9	856.81	26.17	32.7	+4.0	+1.2	+2.5	
N	Administrative and support services	500.63	16.26	30.8	491.10	15.94	30.8	-1.9	-2.0		
0	Public administration and defence	892.68	25.78	34.6	900.32	25.79	34.9	+0.9	-	+0.9	
Р	Education	837.79	37.44	22.4	852.79	37.33	22.8	+1.8	-0.3	+1.8	
Q	Human health and social work	701.69	23.20	30.2	709.67	23.27	30.5	+1.1	+0.3	+1.(
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	442.54	16.22	27.3	468.45	16.64	28.2	+5.9	+2.6	+3.3	
Total		691.29	22.16	31.2	695.75	22.18	31.4	+0.6	+0.1	+0.6	
Public	/Private Sector										
Private	esector	619.74	19.84	31.2	623.53	19.88	31.4	+0.6	+0.2	+0.6	
Public	sector	911.63	29.36	31.1	916.48	29.21	31.4	+0.5	-0.5	+1.(
Size o	f Enterprise										
Less than 50 employees		523.10	17.46	30.0	535.08	17.72	30.2	+2.3	+1.5	+0.7	
50-250 employees		642.33	20.27	31.7	653.09	20.50	31.9	+1.7	+1.1	+0.6	
Greater than 250 employees 834			26.14	31.9				-1.2		+0.3	

Table A4 Prelimary data versus final data¹

¹ See background notes for information on the annual review of preliminary and final data.

Background Notes

- Introduction The Earnings, Hours and Employment Costs Survey (EHECS) replaced the four-yearly Labour Cost Survey, and also replaced all other CSO short-term earnings inquiries. The EHECS results are comparable across sectors and include more detail on components of earnings and labour costs than was previously available.
- **Legislation** The survey information was collected by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) under the S.I. No 314 of 2008 Statistics (Labour Costs Surveys) Order 2008. The information collected is treated as strictly confidential in accordance with the Statistics Act 1993. The survey results meet the requirements for Labour Costs statistics set out in Council Regulation (EC) 530/1999.
- **Business Register** The CSO's Business Register provides the register of relevant enterprises for the survey. An enterprise is defined as the smallest legally independent unit.
 - **Business** The business classification used for the EHECS is based on the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE Rev.2). The NACE code of each enterprise included in the survey was determined from the predominant activity of the enterprise, based on information provided in this or other CSO inquiries.
- **Nace Classification** NACE Rev.2 is the latest classification system for economic activities, updated from NACE Rev 1.1. A major revision of NACE was conducted between 2000 and 2007, in order to ensure that the NACE classification system remained relevant for the economy. The main changes that affected the release was the reclassification of some industrial enterprises from industry to services (principally in the software and publishing sectors) and the inclusion of air conditioning supply, sewerage, water management and remediation activities in industry.
 - **Coverage** The survey results relate to enterprises in the Nace Rev 2 Sections B E (Industry), F (Construction), G (Wholesale & retail trade: repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles), H (Transportation & storage), I (Accommodation & food services activities), J (Information & communication), K-L (Financial, insurance & real estate activities), M (Professional, scientific & technical activities), N (Administrative & support services activities), O (Public administration & defence), P (Education), Q (Human health & social work activities) and R-S (Arts, entertainment, recreation & other service activities) with 3 or more employees. The data was collected at the enterprise level.

All enterprises with 50 or more employees and a sample of those with 3 to 49 employees are surveyed each quarter. The sample is based on the proportion of companies in each NACE 2 digit economic sectors in the 3 to 49 size classes (3 to 9, 10 to 19 and 20 to 49).

Earnings in the public sector are calculated before the deduction of the pension levy that was introduced in March 2009.

For Q1 and Q2 2011 temporary census field staff are included in all tables due to the large numbers involved. Table A1 in the Annex provides employment details exclusive of these staff.

- **Data Collection** The survey is conducted by post and questionnaires are issued in the last week of the relevant quarter. Some returns are received electronically. All returns are scrutinised for accuracy. Where appropriate, firms are queried by post or telephone regarding incompleteness, apparent inconsistencies, etc. Information about the survey is on the CSO website and all questionnaires and instructions are available electronically there.
- **Differences with existing sources** The EHECS is not directly comparable with other discontinued short-term earnings surveys such as the Quarterly Industrial Inquiry (QII), the Quarterly Services Inquiry (QSI) and the Quarterly Earnings and Hours worked in Construction (QEC). The main differences are:

The EHECS collects data on the entire reference quarter while the QII, QSI and QEC only collected data for a reference week in the quarter.

- Data on earnings and labour costs per hour is generally presented on the basis of hours paid and worked in the EHECS. Data on earnings per hour was presented on the basis of hours paid (including paid leave) in the QII.
- The EHECS uses a standardised form for all NACE sectors with a standard occupational classification for all enterprises while the QII, QSI and QEC surveys had their own occupational classifications. However the EHECS category "Production, Craft and other Manual workers" corresponds broadly to the "Industrial" category in the QII; the EHECS category "Clerical, Sales and Service Workers" also corresponds broadly to the QII category "Clerical and other office staff"; the QII category "Managerial and technical staff" is largely equivalent to the EHECS category "Managers, Professional and Associated Professionals".
- There is an occupational breakdown for full-time and part-time staff in the EHECS that did not exist at all for the QII or QEC and was only used by some of the enterprises in the QSI.
- The EHECS collects data for enterprises while the QII collected data for local units.
- Data on hours is collected for all categories of employees in the EHECS, while such data was limited to the industrial workers in the QII, non-managerial employees in the QEC and not collected at all in the QSI.
- The earnings data collected for the EHECS includes irregular earnings, irregular bonuses etc while these items were excluded from the QII, QSI and QEC which only collected data on regular earnings (including regular bonuses) and overtime.
- Non-labour costs such as employers PRSI, other social costs, benefit in kind etc., are collected for the EHECS but were not collected for the QII, QSI and QEC surveys.
- Data on employees in the QII, QSI and QEC was collected with regard to the reference week. In the EHECS employment data is collected with regard to the first and last day of the quarter.

Definitions Employees:

occupation

All full-time or part-time workers paid a specific wage or salary or who had a contract of employment are defined as employees. Persons not working for salary e.g. family members, directors, partners, outside pieceworker's etc., are not considered employees but other persons engaged. These workers are included separately but not used in the calculation of derived variables. All employment figures are rounded to the nearest hundred.

Part-time Employees:

Part-time employees are defined as those who normally worked less than around 30 hours per week. These included persons who worked for some whole days per week as well as those who worked for part of the day each day.

Apprentices Apprentices are defined as those whose wages/salaries are governed by the fact that they work either under an apprenticeship contract or as part of a training program. They are included in the calculation of earnings and hours data. They were also combined with full-time and part-time employees in determining the size group to which enterprises were classified.

Category of employees by groups are: For some enterprises information was collected separately for three occupational groups. The three

- 1. Managers, Administrators, Professionals and Associate Professionals.
- 2. Clerical, Sales and Service workers.
 - 3. Production, Transport workers, Craft & Tradespersons and other Manual workers.

Wages and Salaries All wages and salaries payments are gross (i.e. before deduction of income tax and employees' PRSI contributions and levies such as the public sector pension levy). In the analysis, the total wages and salaries are divided into:

- Regular earnings i.e. pay and allowances paid at each pay period, even if the amount may vary.
- Overtime, i.e. payments for working in excess of normal hours, usually paid at a premium.
- Irregular bonuses and premiums, pay and allowances not paid at each pay period, i.e. annual or quarterly bonuses etc.

Hours – Weekly paid hours include total contracted hours plus overtime hours.

- **Other Costs** The following are the other categories of labour costs:
 - Statutory employers' PRSI including the social security contributions for apprentices.
 - Other social costs; which encompass pension fund contributions, life assurance premiums, income continuance insurance as well as other employee-related payments paid by the employer.
 - Benefits in kind; which include private use of company cars, stock options & share purchase schemes, voluntary sickness insurance, staff housing and other free or subsidised benefits (e.g. canteen facilities, childcare provision, health costs).
 - Other labour costs.
 - Redundancy payments.

Subsidies and
RefundsThese are amounts received by firms under the various state schemes (IDA employment incentive
scheme, grants etc.) as well as refunds from the Department of Social Protection (DSP) for sick and
maternity leave. These are deducted from the firms' labour costs in the analysis.

National Minimum Wage (NMW)
The National Minimum Wage Act 2000 became law on the 1st April 2000. Enterprises are asked to indicate the number of employees in receipt of the NMW at the end of each quarter. A detailed guide to the Act is available from the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation at <u>www.djei.ie</u>. Employees earning less than the minimum wage due to age or training status are also included. These rates do not apply to close relatives of the employer or apprentices other than apprentice hairdressers.

Derived Variables Persons Employed

The sum of full-time employees and part-time employees on the last day of the quarter plus the average number of apprentices engaged during the quarter.

Average Hourly Earnings

The sum of regular earnings, irregular earnings, overtime earnings and payment for days not worked for the quarter divided by total paid hours for the quarter.

Average Irregular Earnings

Total irregular earnings in the quarter divided by total paid hours for the quarter.

Average Weekly Paid Hours

Total paid hours for the quarter divided by the average number of persons employed during the quarter divided by 13 (number of weeks in a quarter). Unpaid hours worked (including unpaid overtime) and unpaid leave are excluded.

Other Labour Costs

The sum of other labour costs divided by total paid hours for the quarter. Other labour costs include redundancy payments, employers' contributions to social security, other social costs, benefit in kind and other labour costs. Subsidies and refunds received were deducted.

Hourly Labour Costs

Hourly labour costs are total labour costs divided by the total number of hours paid during the quarter.

Earnings Per Week

Total earnings for the quarter divided by the average number of persons employed during the quarter divided by 13 (number of weeks in a quarter).

Methodology for production of final results All enterprises with 50 or more employees are surveyed as well as a sample of enterprises which have between 3 and 49 employees inclusive. The classifications by size of enterprise are based on total persons engaged on the first day of the quarter.

- Weighting For enterprises with 3 to 49 employees inclusive, a weighting factor (the reciprocal of the sampling fraction) is used to weight the estimates to the total population for both employees and enterprises. The CSO Business Register forms the basis of the sampling frame used for weighting the sample data to the population. Decay factors are calculated for each size class and sector to adjust the non-sampled element of the register for the respondent non-relevant enterprises.
- **Imputation** Imputation is carried out for non-respondents in the greater than 50 employees' categories. Where an enterprise responded in the previous quarter ratio-imputation is used to estimate figures for the current quarter while for enterprises that did not respond in the previous quarter a stratum average imputation method is used to estimate the missing variables. These estimates are based on respondent enterprises of a similar size and activity.
- **Final Estimates** After imputation, all enterprises with 50 or more employees are accounted for and included in the final dataset. For those cells where a sample survey of enterprises is used (enterprises employing between 3 and 49 employees), the results are expanded using the grossing factors to cover the entire population for the relevant industries in the quarter. Macro edits are carried out at this stage and any outliers are investigated and corrected. Coherence of the data is ensured by scrutinising quarter on quarter changes.

Interpretation of results The series presented in this release and all estimates deriving from the EHECS survey are primarily of use as an indicator of trends in average earnings and paid hours of employees across different classifications. However, in interpreting the trends and in undertaking direct comparison of the average level of earnings of different groups of employees or sectors some caution in interpretation is warranted.

In the case of trends, changes in the composition of employees in a given sector or group has an effect on the average levels of earnings and paid hours over time. For example if the proportion of part time employees increases within a sector then it would be expected that the average weekly earnings and paid hours would fall in that sector even if hourly pay rates were unchanged.

In the case of direct comparison of earnings levels estimates are based on raw earnings levels. To get a true picture of differences in earnings levels of different employees comparisons should take account of differences in the characteristics of employees such as length of service, educational attainment level, nature of work etc., none of which are available via EHECS. The additional information available from the annual National Employment Survey (NES) allows for a more detailed analysis of differences in earnings levels and should be referred to by users seeking more detailed information on earnings determinants than is available from EHECS.

Public Sector
EmploymentThere are two CSO surveys which can potentially provide information on public sector
employment. The Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) can provide estimates based on
all respondents who are in employment being asked whether they work in the public sector or not.
The EHECS, which is the source of the quarterly Earnings and Labour Costs data, provides
estimates based on responses from the employer. Specifically in the case of EHECS there is a
response level of close to 80% for public sector employers over time.

Based on the higher response levels and lower levels of subjectivity associated with EHECS the CSO believes it offers a more reliable source for public sector number estimates over time and the CSO publishes data from EHECS as the primary series on public sector numbers. Annex table A1 contains the estimates of public sector numbers broken down by the different high level areas within the public sector.

Methodology for production of broad occupational category	From Q2 2010 a sub-sample of EHECS respondents has been used to generate earnings and hours estimates by three broad occupational categories.						
estimates	Results are derived by utilising a matched sample of enterprises between consecutive quarters to generate quarterly changes. An estimated series is included in Annex table A2. The analysis conducted on these estimates revealed that volatility in the quarterly changes at individual NACE sectors means that it is only possible to produce reliable estimates when the sectors are grouped. Earnings for the broad occupational groups are therefore presented by the following amalgamations:-						
	• B-E	Industry					
	• B-N/R-S	All NACE sectors from Industry to Administrative and support service activities inclusive, plus Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities					
	• O-Q	All NACE sectors from Public administration and defence to Human health and social work activities, inclusive					
	• B-S	All NACE sectors					
Review of preliminary versus final data	An annual review of preliminary estimates and final data has been undertaken to ascertain the extent of change between both sets of results. The review focused on response rates, scale of revision at NACE sectoral level and significant changes in trends. The findings of the review indicate that the preliminary figures can be accepted as a suitable indicator for quarterly trends. Analysis of the results for individual NACE sectors highlighted that the change from preliminary to final data was broadly in the range of plus or minus 5%. However, as response rates can impact on the quality of data at the sectoral level, it is advisable to be aware of this when interpreting preliminary results.						
	Annex table A4 contains the differences between preliminary and final data for the most recent reported quarter, while Annex table A3 highlights response rates. A review of the continued validity of preliminary estimates in this survey will be undertaken annually.						
Public Sector Organisations	6 6						
	Civil ServiceDefence						
	 Garda Síochána Education Regional bodies 						
	• Health						
	• Semi State, b	oth commercial and non-commercial					

CSO Statbank Updated earnings and hours worked tables are available on the CSO Statbank. To access the CSO website go to:

http://www.cso.ie

- ⇒ Database
- ⇒ Statbank (CSO Main Dissemination Service)
- ⇒ Labour Market and Earnings
- ⇒ Earnings
- ➡ EHECS Earnings Hours and Employment Costs Survey (All NACE Rev2 unless otherwise stated)

O EHECS Earnings Hours and Employment Costs Survey- Quarterly Tables

- Earnings and Indices excluding irregular bonuses by Industry
- Employment Hours and Earnings by Private and Public Sector
- Employment Hours and Earnings by size
- Employment Hours and Earnings by type of employee and Industry Sector
- Public Sector Employment by Subsector
- Updated Weekly Indices excluding irregular bonuses for enterprises with greater than 10 employees

O EHECS Earnings Hours and Employment Costs Survey- Annual Tables

- Annual Earnings and other Labour Costs by Type of Employee and Industry Sector
- Annual Average Earnings and other Labour Costs by Type of Employee and Industry Sector

O EHECS Earnings Hours and Employment Costs Survey- Historical Tables

• Earnings and Indices excluding irregular bonuses by type of employee, Industry, NACE Rev 1

For further information or assistance use the contact details on the front page of the release or email <u>earnings@cso.ie</u>