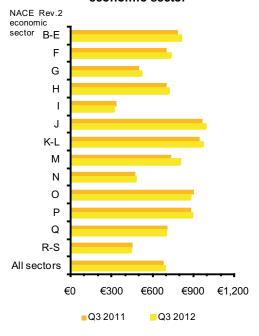


# Average weekly earnings by economic sector



Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Ardee Road Dublin 6 Ireland

Skehard Road Cork Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI) 0870 876 0256 (UK/NI)

Tel: +353 1 498 4000 Fax: +353 1 498 4229 Tel: +353 21 453 5000 Fax: +353 21 453 5553

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: Pádraig Dalton

Enquiries:

EHECS statistics
General queries

Direct Dial 021 453 5513 Email: earnings@cso.ie Information Section, ext 5021 Email: information@cso.ie

© Central Statistics Office

The contents of this release may be quoted provided the source is given clearly and accurately. Reproduction for own or internal use is permitted.

# Earnings and Labour Costs

Q2 2012 (Final)

Q3 2012 (Preliminary Estimates)

Quarter	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Hours
	€	€	Hours
Q3 2011	687.67	21.58	31.9
Q2 2012	691.87	22.00	31.4
Q3 2012*	694.96	22.00	31.6
Quarterly change %	+0.4	_	+0.6
Annual change %	+1.1	+1.9	-0.9

<sup>\*</sup>Preliminary Estimates

It should be noted that compositional changes in employment can affect average earnings in individual sectors.

# Average weekly earnings up by 1.1% in year to Q3 2012

Preliminary estimates for Q3 2012 show that average weekly earnings rose to  $\epsilon$ 694.96, up from  $\epsilon$ 687.67 a year earlier. This increase of 1.1% compares with a revised increase of 0.5% for the year to Q2 2012. See table 1 and graph opposite.

Other features of the preliminary results for the year to Q3 2012 include:

- Average hourly earnings were €22.00 in Q3 2012 compared with €21.58 in Q3 2011, representing an increase of 1.9% in the year. *See table 2*.
- Average weekly paid hours fell to 31.6 in Q3 2012, a slight decrease of 0.9% when compared with Q3 2011, when the weekly paid hours were 31.9. See table 3.
- Estimated public sector numbers stood at 377,900 in Q3 2012, a fall of 16,200 (-4.1%) from Q3 2011 when the total number employed was recorded as 394,100. See Annex table A1.

This release presents a set of final earnings results up to and including Q2 2012. Preliminary results are included for Q3 2012 but caution continues to be 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.

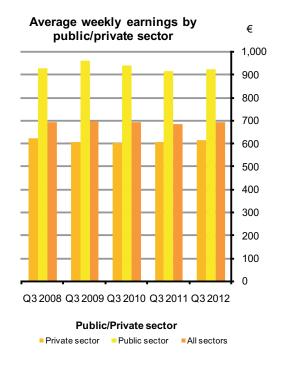
For more information contact Majella Lysaght at 021 453 5513, Margaret O'Mahony at 021 453 5216 or Brendan Curtin 021 453 5577.

# Average weekly earnings rise in 8 of the 13 sectors in year to Q3 2012

Across the economic sectors average weekly earnings increased in 8 of the 13 sectors in the year to Q3 2012, with the largest percentage increase in the *Professional, scientific and technical* sector (+8.4%). The largest percentage sectoral decrease in weekly earnings was recorded in the *Accommodation and food services* sector (-5.1%). *See table 1*.

Q3 2012 marks the third successive quarter in which a slight increase in average weekly earnings has been recorded when compared with the same quarter in 2011 - average weekly earnings increased by 1.3% in the year to Q1 2012, by 0.5% in the year to Q2 2012 and by 1.1% in the year to Q3 2012.

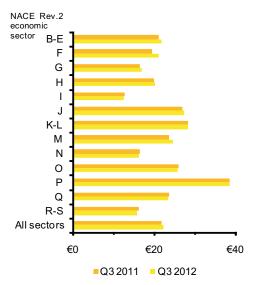
In the four years to Q3 2012 average weekly earnings across individual sectors show changes ranging between -12.2% for the *Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities* sector and +5.1% for the *Financial, insurance and real estate* sector. The next largest percentage decreases were in the *Accommodation and food services* (-8.2%) and *Public administration and defence* (-7.9%) sectors. The second largest percentage increase in average weekly earnings over the four year period was in the *Industry* sector (+4.7%). *See table 1 and text table 1 below.* 



Q3 2008	Q3 2012	Four-year change
€	€	%
977.01	994.77	+1.8
922.35	969.14	+5.1
892.86	897.22	+0.5
953.73	878.19	-7.9
777.33	813.96	+4.7
799.01	804.65	+0.7
754.72	732.34	-3.0
759.89	721.23	-5.1
726.50	702.71	-3.3
508.24	518.34	+2.0
485.25	477.23	-1.7
507.69	445.60	-12.2
350.47	321.76	-8.2
	€ 977.01 922.35 892.86 953.73 777.33 799.01 754.72 759.89 726.50 508.24 485.25 507.69	€ € 977.01 994.77 922.35 969.14 892.86 897.22 953.73 878.19 777.33 813.96 799.01 804.65 754.72 732.34 759.89 721.23 726.50 702.71 508.24 518.34 485.25 477.23 507.69 445.60

Weekly earnings in the private sector rose by 1.6% annually, compared with an increase of 0.9% in the public sector (including semi-state organisations) over the year, bringing, average weekly earnings in Q3 2012 to €617.94 and €925.51 respectively. In the three years to Q3 2012 public sector earnings have fallen by €38.25 (-4.0%), and this compares with an increase of €8.56 (+1.4%) in private sector average weekly earnings in the same period. See table 1 and graph opposite.

# Average hourly earnings by economic sector



Key

B-E Industry

- F Construction
- G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
- H Transportation and storage
- I Accommodation and food services
- J Information and communication
- K-L Financial, insurance and real estate
- M Professional, scientific and technical
- N Administrative and support services
- O Public administration and defence
- P Education
- Q Human health and social work
- R-S Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities

# Hourly earnings increase in year to Q3 2012

Average hourly earnings increased to &epsilon 22.00 in Q3 2012 from &epsilon 21.58 per hour in Q3 2011, a rise of &epsilon 0.42 (+1.9%). Revised figures show a slight increase of 0.5% in hourly earnings for the year to Q2 2012 (&epsilon 22.00 per hour) compared with &epsilon 22.00 per hour in the year to Q2 2011. Overall average hourly earnings in Q3 2012 remained 0.5% above their level recorded three years earlier in Q3 2009 (&epsilon 20.00). See table 2.

Average hourly earnings rose in 7 of the 13 economic sectors. The largest percentage increase was in *Construction* (+8.8%), followed by the *Professional*, scientific and technical sector (+4.6%). The largest sectoral percentage decrease was recorded in the *Arts*, entertainment, recreation and other service activities sector (-2.9%). See table 2 and graph opposite.

In the four years to Q3 2012 average hourly earnings have increased by 3.7%, with the largest percentage increase in the *Industry* sector (+7.5%). The largest percentage decrease in average hourly earnings over the same period was recorded in the *Public administration and defence* sector (-4.0%).

All of the three enterprise size groups showed an annual percentage increase in average hourly earnings in Q3 2012. Enterprises with greater than 250 employees showed an increase of 0.6% in average hourly earnings in the year to Q3 2012, while enterprises with between 50 and 250 employees recorded an increase of 0.1% in average hourly earnings over the same period. The largest annual percentage increase in average hourly earnings was recorded in enterprises with less than 50 employees (+4.0%).

# Paid hours per week at 31.6 in Q3 2012

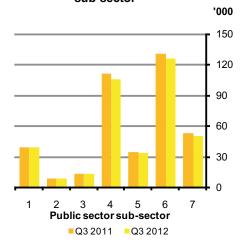
Average weekly paid hours were 31.6 in Q3 2012, which represents a slight decrease of 0.9% over the year. Revised average weekly paid hours remained at 31.4 in Q2 2012 which reveals no change on the same period in 2011. In the four years to Q3 2012 average weekly paid hours are down 4.0%, or 1.3 hours. *See table 3*.

The largest annual percentage increase in average weekly paid hours in Q3 2012 was recorded in the *Professional, scientific and technical* sector (+3.8%), while the largest percentage decrease over the same period was seen in the *Construction* sector (-5.1%).

In the public sector average weekly paid hours fell by 0.6% over the year to Q3 2012, from 31.4 hours to 31.2 hours. Private sector average weekly paid hours decreased over the same period by 0.9% bringing paid hours to 31.7 in Q3 2012. Since Q3 2008 weekly paid hours in the private sector have fallen by 1.4 hours (-4.2%), compared with a fall of 0.8 hours (-2.5%) in the public sector over the same four-year period.

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. 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 the hourly pay rates were unchanged. Also, 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.

# Public sector employment by sub-sector



#### KEY

- 1- Civil service
- 2- Defence
- 3- Garda Síochána
- 4- Education
- 5- Regional bodies
- 6- Health
- 7- Semi-state

# Annual drop of 4.1% in public sector numbers in Q3 2012

The estimated number of persons employed in the public sector showed a decline of 4.1% over the year to Q3 2012 bringing the total to 377,900. The reduction in numbers in the public sector over the four years from Q3 2008 to Q3 2012 now stands at 39,000 (-9.4%). In the year to Q3 2012 numbers fell in all areas across the public sector with the largest percentage decrease recorded in the Defence (-7.4%) sub-sector. 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 Q3 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 Q2 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.



Table 1 Average weekly earnings by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter<sup>1</sup>

	<u>_</u>	2008	2009	2010	2011	201	2	Quarterly %	Annual %
	NACE Principal Activity	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q2	Q3*	change	change
		€	€	€	€	€	€	%	%
B-E	Industry	777.33	774.25	812.18	792.99	817.86	813.96	-0.5	+2.6
F	Construction	754.72	739.80	661.65	708.60	655.99	732.34	+11.6	+3.4
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	508.24	498.91	498.75	507.70	521.03	518.34	-0.5	+2.1
Н	Transportation and storage	759.89	710.12	693.93	704.11	709.09	721.23	+1.7	+2.4
I	Accommodation and food services	350.47	340.04	330.13	339.18	312.35	321.76	+3.0	-5.1
J	Information and communication	977.01	915.43	986.87	969.62	979.05	994.77	+1.6	+2.6
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	922.35	897.19	950.56	948.90	982.02	969.14	-1.3	+2.1
M	Professional, scientific and technical	799.01	791.62	776.30	742.54	812.79	804.65	-1.0	+8.4
N	Administrative and support services	485.25	488.39	464.86	481.88	484.18	477.23	-1.4	-1.0
0	Public administration and defence	953.73	980.02	919.57	910.01	889.56	878.19	-1.3	-3.5
Р	Education	892.86	942.42	889.91	890.94	847.01	897.22	+5.9	+0.7
Q	Human health and social work	726.50	759.00	752.59	713.37	710.82	702.71	-1.1	-1.5
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	507.69	462.72	483.79	459.94	469.27	445.60	-5.0	-3.1
Total		696.72	699.10	693.70	687.67	691.87	694.96	+0.4	+1.1
Public	c/Private Sector								
Privat	e sector	624.10	609.38	604.22	608.29	616.56	617.94	+0.2	+1.6
Public	sector	930.14	963.76	940.35	916.83	916.26	925.51	+1.0	+0.9
Size o	of Enterprise								
Less t	than 50 employees	560.25	534.68	521.42	536.08	533.52	547.19	+2.6	+2.1
50-25	0 employees	654.69	648.14	624.40	629.19	639.48	622.02	-2.7	-1.1
Greate	er than 250 employees	816.02	841.53	834.31	820.22	823.85	823.98	-	+0.5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S. \* Preliminary Estimates

Table 2 Average hourly earnings by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter<sup>1</sup>

ACE Principal Activity							Quarterly %	Annual %
	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q2	Q3*	change	change
	€	€	€	€	€	€	%	%
try	20.19	21.14	21.37	20.89	21.95	21.71	-1.1	+3.9
ruction	20.15	20.75	19.09	19.21	18.70	20.91	+11.8	+8.8
esale and retail trade; repair of vehicles and motorcycles	16.13	16.24	16.07	16.35	16.88	16.70	-1.1	+2.1
portation and storage	20.20	19.57	19.45	19.77	19.79	19.91	+0.6	+0.7
nmodation and food services	12.45	12.51	12.36	12.58	12.38	12.34	-0.3	-1.9
nation and communication	26.77	25.16	26.45	26.72	27.33	27.30	-0.1	+2.2
cial, insurance and real estate	27.27	26.75	27.66	28.07	28.93	28.18	-2.6	+0.4
ssional, scientific and technical	24.46	24.45	24.29	23.39	24.95	24.46	-2.0	+4.6
nistrative and support services	15.66	16.38	15.35	16.25	16.01	16.05	+0.2	-1.2
administration and defence	26.57	27.45	25.96	25.86	25.88	25.50	-1.5	-1.4
ation	36.36	39.08	37.62	38.40	36.79	38.37	+4.3	-0.1
n health and social work	23.81	24.80	23.73	23.41	23.34	23.26	-0.3	-0.6
entertainment, recreation and other e activities	16.20	15.62	16.42	16.13	16.38	15.66	-4.4	-2.9
	21.21	21.89	21.64	21.58	22.00	22.00	-	+1.9
e Sector								
	18.84	19.07	18.89	19.00	19.53	19.48	-0.3	+2.5
	29.10	30.24	29.16	29.21	29.47	29.66	+0.6	+1.5
prise								
employees	17.34	17.29	17.16	17.33	17.63	18.02	+2.2	+4.0
vees	19.20	19.68	19.06	19.25	19.90	19.26	-3.2	+0.1
50 employees	24.89	26.00	25.33	25.44	25.71	25.59	-0.5	+0.6
er er en	ntertainment, recreation and other activities  Sector  ise  nployees ses	tertainment, recreation and other activities  21.21  Sector  18.84 29.10  ise  nployees 17.34 19.20	15.62   15.62	tertainment, recreation and other activities    16.20				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S. \* Preliminary Estimates

Table 3 Average weekly paid hours by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter<sup>1</sup>

	_	2008	2009	2010	2011	201	2	Quarterly %	Annual %
	NACE Principal Activity	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q2	Q3*	change	change
		hours	hours	hours	hours	hours	hours	%	%
В-Е	Industry	38.5	36.6	38.0	38.0	37.3	37.5	+0.5	-1.3
F	Construction	37.5	35.7	34.7	36.9	35.1	35.0	-0.3	-5.1
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	31.5	30.7	31.0	31.0	30.9	31.0	+0.3	-
Н	Transportation and storage	37.6	36.3	35.7	35.6	35.8	36.2	+1.1	+1.7
I	Accommodation and food services	28.2	27.2	26.7	27.0	25.2	26.1	+3.6	-3.3
J	Information and communication	36.5	36.4	37.3	36.3	35.8	36.4	+1.7	+0.3
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	33.8	33.5	34.4	33.8	33.9	34.4	+1.5	+1.8
М	Professional, scientific and technical	32.7	32.4	32.0	31.7	32.6	32.9	+0.9	+3.8
N	Administrative and support services	31.0	29.8	30.3	29.7	30.2	29.7	-1.7	-
0	Public administration and defence	35.9	35.7	35.4	35.2	34.4	34.4	-	-2.3
Р	Education	24.6	24.1	23.7	23.2	23.0	23.4	+1.7	+0.9
Q	Human health and social work	30.5	30.6	31.7	30.5	30.4	30.2	-0.7	-1.0
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	31.3	29.6	29.5	28.5	28.7	28.5	-0.7	-
Total		32.9	31.9	32.1	31.9	31.4	31.6	+0.6	-0.9
Public	c/Private Sector								
Privat	e sector	33.1	32.0	32.0	32.0	31.6	31.7	+0.3	-0.9
Public	sector	32.0	31.9	32.2	31.4	31.1	31.2	+0.3	-0.6
Size o	of Enterprise								
Less t	than 50 employees	32.3	30.9	30.4	30.9	30.3	30.4	+0.3	-1.6
50-25	0 employees	34.1	32.9	32.8	32.7	32.1	32.3	+0.6	-1.2
Great	er than 250 employees	32.8	32.4	32.9	32.2	32.0	32.2	+0.6	-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S. \* Preliminary Estimates

Table 4a Average hourly earnings excluding irregular earnings by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter<sup>12</sup>

	_	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012		One out on the O/	A 1 0/
	NACE Principal Activity	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q2	Q3*	Quarterly % change	Annual % change
		€	€	€	€	€	€	%	%
B-E	Industry	19.43	20.36	20.34	20.09	20.77	20.86	+0.4	+3.8
F	Construction	19.71	20.27	18.65	19.03	18.45	19.96	+8.2	+4.9
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	15.64	15.85	15.69	15.87	16.09	16.17	+0.5	+1.9
Н	Transportation and storage	19.34	18.81	18.66	18.76	18.60	18.93	+1.8	+0.9
I	Accommodation and food services	12.34	12.37	12.23	12.45	12.23	12.20	-0.2	-2.0
J	Information and communication	24.20	23.52	24.42	24.84	25.28	24.96	-1.3	+0.5
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	26.07	25.89	26.48	26.89	27.19	27.10	-0.3	+0.8
M	Professional, scientific and technical	23.41	23.88	23.54	22.33	23.88	23.34	-2.3	+4.5
N	Administrative and support services	15.11	15.91	14.89	15.77	15.41	15.40	-0.1	-2.3
0	Public administration and defence	25.27	26.30	24.78	24.75	24.65	24.54	-0.4	-0.8
Р	Education	34.31	37.14	35.35	35.95	36.42	36.08	-0.9	+0.4
Q	Human health and social work	22.74	23.55	22.55	22.33	22.16	22.20	+0.2	-0.6
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	15.84	15.38	16.15	15.84	16.06	15.31	-4.7	-3.3
Total		20.34	21.09	20.72	20.70	21.03	21.04	-	+1.6
Public	c/Private Sector								
Privat	e sector	18.20	18.55	18.28	18.37	18.70	18.74	+0.2	+2.0
Public	sector	27.47	28.59	27.38	27.56	28.08	28.03	-0.2	+1.7
Size o	of Enterprise								
Less t	han 50 employees	17.04	17.02	16.84	16.92	17.16	17.48	+1.9	+3.3
	0 employees	18.59	19.17	18.57	18.69	19.01	18.69	-1.7	-
	er than 250 employees	23.49	24.71	23.89	24.10	24.36	24.23	-0.5	+0.5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary Estimates

Table 4b Average hourly irregular earnings by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter<sup>12</sup>

	_	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012		Quarterly	Annual
	NACE Principal Activity	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q2	Q3*	absolute change	absolute change
		€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
В-Е	Industry	0.76	0.78	1.04	0.79	1.18	0.85	-0.33	0.06
F	Construction	0.43	0.48	0.44	0.18	0.24	0.96	0.72	0.78
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	0.49	0.39	0.38	0.48	0.79	0.53	-0.26	0.05
Н	Transportation and storage	0.86	0.76	0.79	1.01	1.19	0.98	-0.21	-0.03
I	Accommodation and food services	0.11	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.15	0.14	-0.01	0.02
J	Information and communication	2.57	1.64	2.03	1.88	2.05	2.34	0.29	0.46
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	1.21	0.85	1.18	1.19	1.74	1.08	-0.66	-0.11
М	Professional, scientific and technical	1.04	0.57	0.75	1.06	1.07	1.12	0.05	0.06
N	Administrative and support services	0.55	0.47	0.46	0.47	0.60	0.66	0.06	0.19
0	Public administration and defence	1.30	1.14	1.18	1.12	1.23	0.96	-0.27	-0.16
Р	Education	2.05	1.95	2.27	2.46	0.36	2.29	1.93	-0.17
Q	Human health and social work	1.07	1.25	1.18	1.07	1.19	1.06	-0.13	-0.01
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	0.36	0.25	0.28	0.29	0.32	0.34	0.02	0.05
Total		0.87	0.80	0.92	0.88	0.97	0.96	-0.01	0.08
Public	c/Private Sector								
Privat	e sector	0.65	0.52	0.60	0.62	0.83	0.74	-0.09	0.12
Public	sector	1.62	1.64	1.78	1.65	1.38	1.63	0.25	-0.02
Size	of Enterprise								
Less t	han 50 employees	0.30	0.27	0.33	0.41	0.46	0.54	0.08	0.13
50-25	0 employees	0.62	0.52	0.49	0.56	0.88	0.57	-0.31	0.01
Great	er than 250 employees	1.40	1.29	1.44	1.34	1.34	1.37	0.03	0.03

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary Estimates

Table 5a Average hourly other labour costs by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter<sup>1</sup>

	_	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	}	Quarterly %	Annual %
	NACE Principal Activity	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q2	Q3*	change	change
		€	€	€	€	€	€	%	%
B-E	Industry	4.21	4.80	4.68	4.09	4.56	4.86	+6.6	+18.8
F	Construction	3.69	3.67	2.49	2.63	2.19	3.00	+37.0	+14.1
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	2.63	2.54	2.47	2.45	2.76	2.49	-9.8	+1.6
Н	Transportation and storage	3.80	3.73	3.49	3.60	3.84	3.93	+2.3	+9.2
I	Accommodation and food services	1.48	1.48	1.31	1.19	1.12	1.10	-1.8	-7.6
J	Information and communication	4.92	5.07	5.06	6.59	5.39	5.74	+6.5	-12.9
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	7.09	8.40	6.50	6.26	6.89	6.73	-2.3	+7.5
M	Professional, scientific and technical	6.75	4.16	3.93	3.54	4.06	4.00	-1.5	+13.0
N	Administrative and support services	2.41	2.35	2.00	1.95	2.29	2.17	-5.2	+11.3
0	Public administration and defence	2.07	2.08	1.89	1.82	1.98	2.00	+1.0	+9.9
Р	Education	3.07	3.04	3.04	3.29	3.52	3.81	+8.2	+15.8
Q	Human health and social work	2.43	2.78	2.12	2.24	2.42	2.37	-2.1	+5.8
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	2.38	2.42	2.01	1.96	2.08	1.86	-10.6	-5.1
Total		3.42	3.49	3.08	3.05	3.27	3.31	+1.2	+8.5
Public	c/Private Sector								
Private	e sector	3.58	3.64	3.23	3.14	3.34	3.39	+1.5	+8.0
Public	sector	2.87	3.05	2.70	2.80	3.05	3.08	+1.0	+10.0
Size c	of Enterprise								
Less t	han 50 employees	2.64	2.51	2.13	2.16	2.36	2.64	+11.9	+22.2
	0 employees	4.10	4.35	3.51	3.05	3.20	3.06	-4.4	+0.3
Greate	er than 250 employees	3.73	3.90	3.53	3.68	3.91	3.84	-1.8	+4.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary Estimates

Table 5b Average hourly total labour costs by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter<sup>12</sup>

	_	2008	2009	2010	2011	201	2	Quarterly %	Annual %
	NACE Principal Activity	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q2	Q3*	change	change
		€	€	€	€	€	€	%	%
B-E	Industry	24.40	25.94	26.05	24.98	26.51	26.57	+0.2	+6.4
F	Construction	23.84	24.41	21.58	21.84	20.88	23.92	+14.6	+9.5
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	18.76	18.78	18.53	18.80	19.64	19.20	-2.2	+2.1
Н	Transportation and storage	24.00	23.31	22.94	23.37	23.63	23.84	+0.9	+2.0
I	Accommodation and food services	13.93	13.99	13.67	13.77	13.50	13.44	-0.4	-2.4
J	Information and communication	31.69	30.22	31.51	33.31	32.71	33.04	+1.0	-0.8
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	34.36	35.15	34.16	34.34	35.82	34.91	-2.5	+1.7
M	Professional, scientific and technical	31.21	28.61	28.22	26.93	29.01	28.46	-1.9	+5.7
N	Administrative and support services	18.07	18.72	17.35	18.20	18.31	18.22	-0.5	+0.1
0	Public administration and defence	28.64	29.52	27.85	27.68	27.85	27.49	-1.3	-0.7
Р	Education	39.43	42.12	40.66	41.70	40.31	42.18	+4.6	+1.2
Q	Human health and social work	26.24	27.59	25.85	25.65	25.76	25.64	-0.5	-
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	18.59	18.05	18.43	18.09	18.45	17.52	-5.0	-3.2
Total		24.63	25.38	24.72	24.63	25.27	25.31	+0.2	+2.8
Publi	c/Private Sector								
Privat	e sector	22.42	22.71	22.11	22.13	22.88	22.86	-0.1	+3.3
Public	esector	31.96	33.29	31.86	32.00	32.52	32.74	+0.7	+2.3
Size	of Enterprise								
Less t	than 50 employees	19.98	19.80	19.29	19.49	19.98	20.66	+3.4	+6.0
50-25	0 employees	23.31	24.03	22.57	22.30	23.10	22.32	-3.4	+0.1
Great	er than 250 employees	28.62	29.90	28.86	29.12	29.62	29.43	-0.6	+1.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Average hourly total labour costs equal the average hourly earnings in Table 2 plus the average hourly other labour costs as set out in Table 5a.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Coillte is excluded from the results with effect from Q1 2012 as it is no longer classified under NACE B-S. \* Preliminary Estimates

Table 5c Employment by economic sector and other characteristics and quarter<sup>1</sup>

		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
	NACE Principal Activity						
		Q3	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q2	Q3 <sup>2</sup>
		'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
B-E	Industry	229.1	206.2	201.5	195.0	191.2	
F	Construction	135.1	92.7	68.4	67.6	59.5	
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	313.3	283.9	280.3	280.3	270.4	
Н	Transportation and storage	69.2	65.0	63.6	66.6	62.8	
I	Accommodation and food services	149.6	130.7	132.1	120.5	121.8	
J	Information and communication	59.6	54.0	53.3	51.8	56.9	
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	95.8	97.6	88.0	86.5	84.9	
M	Professional, scientific and technical	82.8	73.2	67.5	66.5	68.6	
N	Administrative and support services	90.0	79.6	73.0	79.7	71.9	
0	Public administration and defence	120.5	117.7	117.4	112.6	111.0	
Р	Education	128.9	126.3	133.4	122.9	130.5	
Q	Human health and social work	208.1	213.4	218.3	219.7	216.9	
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	53.2	49.9	48.3	46.6	47.3	
Total		1,735.3	1,590.2	1,545.0	1,516.4	1493.7	
Public	c/Private Sector						
Privat	e sector	1,318.4	1,181.4	1,141.2	1,122.3	1,111.0	
Public	sector	416.9	408.8	403.8	394.1	382.7	
Size o	of Enterprise						
Less t	than 50 employees	614.9	581.3	553.2	536.3	521.8	
	0 employees	306.0	263.8	259.8	255.1	254.4	
Greate	er than 250 employees	814.4	745.1	732.0	725.0	717.5	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Data for Q3 2012 is currently unavailable - see text on page 4.



16

Table A1 Public sector numbers by sub-sector and quarter<sup>1</sup>

	2008		2010	2011	201	2	Annual	Annual %
Public Sector Sub-sector	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q3	Q2	Q3*	absolute change	change
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
Civil service	43.0	41.6	40.0	39.9	39.3	39.2	-0.7	-1.8
Defence	11.0	10.2	9.7	9.5	8.8	8.8	-0.7	-7.4
Garda Siochana	14.2	15.1	14.6	14.1	13.5	13.4	-0.7	-5.0
Education	113.2	109.1	111.3	111.1	109.4	105.8	-5.3	-4.8
Regional bodies	40.7	38.3	37.3	35.1	34.1	34.2	-0.9	-2.6
Health	137.8	138.2	135.9	131.1	126.1	125.7	-5.4	-4.1
Total public sector excluding semi-state bodies	359.9	352.5	348.8	340.8	331.2	327.1	-13.7	-4.0
Semi-state	57.0	56.3	55.0	53.3	51.5	50.8	-2.5	-4.7
Total public sector including semi-state bodies	416.9	408.8	403.8	394.1	382.7	377.9	-16.2	-4.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary Estimates

Table A2 Estimates of average weekly earnings by broad occupational catergories<sup>1</sup>

	2010 2011		20	12	Quarterly % change	Annual % change
Occupation with certain	00	00	04	00	onunge	onange
NACE groups	Q2	Q2	Q1	Q2		
Managers, professionals and associated professionals	€	€	€	€	%	%
and associated professionals						
B-E	1,312.61	1,386.60	1,430.55	1,445.57	+1.1	+4.3
B-N,R-S	1,113.74	1,177.79	1,208.11	1,203.76	-0.4	+2.2
O-Q	1,007.71	1,009.78	1,034.71	1,023.95	-1.0	+1.4
Total (B-S)	1,041.41	1,096.67	1,124.84	1,120.12	-0.4	+2.1
Clerical, sales					%	%
and service employees B-E	695.94	748.50	752.91	773.99	+2.8	+3.4
B-N,R-S	437.24	453.68	444.25	450.78	+1.5	-0.6
0-Q	581.03	558.93	538.24	542.71	+0.8	-2.9
	0000	000.00		0.2	0.0	
Total (B-S)	469.43	484.22	473.04	479.85	+1.4	-0.9
Production, transport, craft and other manual workers					%	%
B-E	609.92	592.74	609.58	617.93	+1.4	+4.2
B-N,R-S	518.03	511.86	528.94	556.50	+5.2	+8.7
O-Q	501.65	436.29	459.80	447.84	-2.6	+2.6
Total (B-S)	512.85	521.45	540.30	562.93	+4.2	+8.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See background notes.

Table A3 Response rates in selected sectors by quarter<sup>1</sup>

			Response ate		Response ate	Total number of respondent	
	NACE Principal Activity	9	<u>/</u>	0	6		
	,	Q2 2012	Q3 2012*	Q2 2012	Q3 2012*	enterprises in Q3 2012	
B-E	Industry	58.9	53.6	77.0	69.9	563	
F	Construction	35.7	31.5	55.8	51.5	94	
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	60.4	48.2	82.2	65.1	620	
Н	Transportation and storage	58.4	53.0	89.1	78.2	131	
1	Accommodation and food services	45.0	38.9	63.0	52.4	292	
J	Information and communication	71.9	58.7	85.4	77.9	158	
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	72.7	62.9	95.9	88.4	168	
М	Professional, scientific and technical	68.8	55.2	83.2	74.4	211	
N	Administrative and support services	59.4	50.8	74.6	67.5	165	
0	Public administration and defence	90.5	89.2	90.1	85.5	141	
Р	Education	71.4	62.1	94.6	87.1	139	
Q	Human health and social work	80.5	71.0	93.7	83.2	408	
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	61.4	49.7	83.4	66.8	178	
Total		61.3	52.8	85.0	75.5	3,269	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary Estimates

Table A4 Preliminary data versus final data<sup>1</sup>

	_	Prel	iminary Q2 201	2	F	inal Q2 2012		Pei	rcentage Chang	je
	NACE 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	%	%	%
В-Е	Industry	803.98	21.73	37.0	817.86	21.95	37.3	+1.7	+1.0	+0.8
F	Construction	658.12	18.57	35.4	655.99	18.70	35.1	-0.3	+0.7	-0.8
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	521.04	16.93	30.8	521.03	16.88	30.9	-	-0.3	+0.3
Н	Transportation and storage	722.38	19.99	36.1	709.09	19.79	35.8	-1.8	-1.0	-0.8
1	Accommodation and food services	310.40	12.45	24.9	312.35	12.38	25.2	+0.6	-0.6	+1.2
J	Information and communication	962.06	26.98	35.7	979.05	27.33	35.8	+1.8	+1.3	+0.3
K-L	Financial, insurance and real estate	983.24	28.90	34.0	982.02	28.93	33.9	-0.1	+0.1	-0.3
M	Professional, scientific and technical	801.19	24.60	32.6	812.79	24.95	32.6	+1.4	+1.4	-
N	Administrative and support services	486.82	15.90	30.6	484.18	16.01	30.2	-0.5	+0.7	-1.3
0	Public administration and defence	891.44	25.94	34.4	889.56	25.88	34.4	-0.2	-0.2	-
Р	Education	824.36	35.97	22.9	847.01	36.79	23.0	+2.7	+2.3	+0.4
Q	Human health and social work	711.08	23.33	30.5	710.82	23.34	30.4	-	-	-0.3
R-S	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other service activities	465.47	16.46	28.3	469.27	16.38	28.7	+0.8	-0.5	+1.4
Total		687.84	21.91	31.4	691.87	22.00	31.4	+0.6	+0.4	-
Public	c/Private Sector									
Private	e sector	611.66	19.42	31.5	616.56	19.53	31.6	+0.8	+0.6	+0.3
Public	sector	918.99	29.55	31.1	916.26	29.47	31.1	-0.3	-0.3	-
Size o	of Enterprise									_
Less t	han 50 employees	532.77	17.56	30.3	533.52	17.63	30.3	+0.1	+0.4	-
50-250 employees		634.96	19.89	31.9	639.48	19.90	32.1	+0.7	+0.1	+0.6
Greater than 250 employees		820.24	25.65	32.0	823.85	25.71	32.0	+0.4	+0.2	-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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** Classification

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 discontinued 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:**

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 occupation

For some enterprises information was collected separately for three occupational groups. The three groups are:

- 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 Refunds

These 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 <a href="https://www.djei.ie">www.djei.ie</a>. 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).

# **Annual Data**

Annualised results for years 2008 - 2011 are available as a separate release, details of which are available on the CSO website.

### 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 Employment

There 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 estimates

From Q2 2010 a sub-sample of EHECS respondents has been used to generate earnings and hours estimates by three broad occupational categories.

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:-

•	В-Е	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

Public sector organisations consist of the following:

- Civil Service
- Defence
- Garda Síochána
- Education
- Regional bodies
- Health
- Semi State, both 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 type of employee up to Q1 2010 and Industry Sector
- Employment Hours and Earnings by Private and Public Sector
- Employment Hours and Earnings by size of employees per enterprise and Industry Sector
- Estimates of Earnings by type of employee and Industry Sector (from Q2 2010)
- 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
- Average Annual 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 earnings@cso.ie