



**Based on the 1996 Census of Population figures.
For figures based on the 2002 Census of Population
see the revised module figures.**

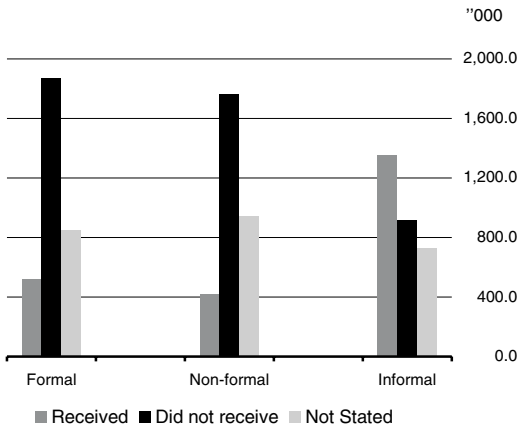
29 January 2004

Quarterly National Household Survey

Life Long Learning

Second Quarter 2003

Life long learning by type of learning



Less than 10% of those at work pursuing formal education

In the second quarter of 2003 just under 10% of all persons in employment had received formal education (i.e. regular education through schools, colleges and universities) in the 12 months prior to the survey. Excluding students in employment from the analysis shows that just under 7% of persons in employment received formal education in the same 12 month period. These figures are based on the life long learning module which was asked of all persons aged 15 and over in the second quarter of 2003 and related to learning in the previous 12 months. See table 1b.

Students accounted for nearly three-quarters (381,000) of all persons in receipt of formal education in the twelve months preceding the survey. In line with this, the persons most likely to have received formal education were persons in the younger age groups, and single persons with no children. The proportion of persons in receipt of formal education varied across the regions from 14.3% in the Midland region to 19.4% in the West region. Excluding students from the analysis makes little difference to the patterns outlined above. Persons most likely to have received formal education were still those in the younger age groups, specifically 15-24, and single persons with no children. On a regional basis the proportions show little variation ranging from 6.6% in the Dublin region to 4.2% in the Border region. See table 1a.

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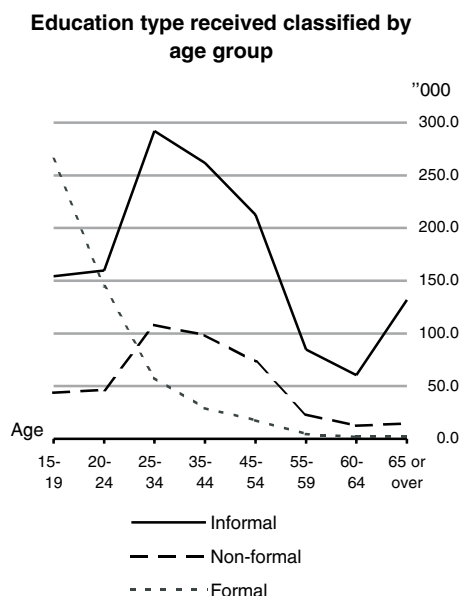
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	Received	Did not receive	Not Stated	'000 Total
Formal	523.4	1,873.1	727.3	3,123.8
Non-formal	419.9	1,760.6	943.3	3,123.8
Informal	1,357.3	917.5	849.1	3,123.8

Almost 44% (1,357,300) of all persons aged 15 and over reported that they had received informal education (i.e. non-taught learning including self-learning with the purpose of improving skills/knowledge) in the twelve months prior to the survey. Just under 17% (523,400) indicated that they had received formal education with non-formal education (i.e. organised learning activities outside the regular education system) accounting for 13.4% (419,900). See table above and tables 1a, 4a & 6a.

Participation in formal education highest in Construction and Education sectors

Excluding students, almost 10% of all persons engaged in the *Construction* and *Education* sectors participated in formal education in the twelve months prior to the survey. Similar proportions were also reported for the *Health* (9.7%) and *Financial and other business services* (8.1%) sectors. The *Transport, storage and communication* (3.5%) sector along with the *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* (1.5%) sector reported the lowest levels of participation in formal education. See table 1b.



Of the 142,400 non-students that received formal education a little over 82% of them were in employment, the vast majority in full-time employment, almost 5% were unemployed with the remaining 13% not economically active. Only 4% of those in formal education were self-employed while employees accounted for 77% of the total. See table 1b.

Workers more likely to participate in non-formal education

In contrast to formal education, fewer than 3% (or 10,100) of persons in receipt of non-formal education (i.e. organised learning activities outside regular education) in the 12 months preceding the survey described themselves as students. The vast majority (73.5%) of those in receipt of non-formal education described their usual situation as at work. Persons aged 25 to 44 were more likely to have received non-formal education than persons in other age groups, as were persons who were members of couples with children. See table 4a.

An examination of those in employment (on an ILO basis) shows a higher share of persons working full-time participated in non-formal education than those working part-time. From a sectoral perspective, persons engaged in the *Education* (32.8%), *Public administration and defence* (26.9%) and *Health* (26.5%) sectors followed by those in the *Financial and other business services* (22.3%) sectors were most likely to receive non-formal education. See tables 4a & 4b.

Of those in employment that indicated receiving non-formal education approximately 70% (297,500) participated in just one taught activity in the year to the second quarter of 2003. A little over 10% (42,900) participated in two taught activities, 3.6% (15,100) in three taught activities and 3.8% (15,800) participated in more than three taught activities. See table 5.

Two thirds of persons in employment, in receipt of non-formal education, cited “job related” as the main reason for participating in their most recent taught activity. However, only four in ten participated in this activity ‘only/mostly during paid hours’. The most common fields of activity were *Health and welfare* followed by *Computer science*. See table 5.

Informal education to the fore for older generation

Almost a third of all persons over the age of 60 received informal education in the twelve months prior to the survey. The most common form of informal education for this group was ‘professional books and magazines’ while ‘online internet based learning’ played a limited role for this group. Participation in non-formal and formal education was far less pronounced with only 4.5% involved in non-formal education and less than 1% involved in formal education. See tables 1a, 4a, 6a & 7a.

Informal education activity linked to level of education

Just under 63% of persons with a third level degree or above received informal education in the twelve months prior to the survey compared to just 27% of those who reported their highest level of education attained as ‘no formal education or primary’. Persons in employment, particularly those in part-time employment were more likely to have received informal education – of these the *Professional* and *Associate professional and technical* occupations were the occupations with the highest take up rates.

In sectoral terms, persons in the *Education* sector followed by those in the *Financial and other business services* sector were the biggest users of informal education. The highest take up of informal education was in the guise of professional books, followed by educational broadcasting.

See tables 6a, 6b, 7a & 7b.

Table 1a Persons aged 15 and over, classified by whether they received formal¹ education in the past 12 months, March-May 2003

	'000				
Demographic profile	Received	<i>of which students</i>	Not received	Not stated	Total
State	523.4	381.0	1,873.1	727.3	3,123.8
Region					
Border	47.1	34.9	175.4	106.0	328.5
Midland	23.9	17.2	127.8	15.1	166.9
West	65.1	50.1	205.2	64.5	334.8
Dublin	164.4	111.1	551.6	203.8	919.8
Mid-East	50.6	36.1	226.3	45.9	322.8
Mid-West	48.6	38.3	132.0	90.7	271.3
South-East	50.0	37.1	199.5	77.2	326.7
South-West	73.7	56.3	255.3	124.1	453.1
Sex					
Male	252.1	181.7	904.5	380.7	1,537.3
Female	271.4	199.4	968.6	346.6	1,586.5
Age Group					
15-19	265.5	247.3	25.2	18.5	309.1
20-24	144.4	104.4	137.1	69.9	351.5
25-34	57.9	20.3	417.7	160.6	636.2
35-44	29.1	5.5	388.5	124.1	541.7
45-54	17.6	2.7	341.8	123.3	482.8
55-59	4.6	0.5	146.4	53.5	204.4
60-64	1.9	*	113.7	42.1	157.7
65 +	2.5	*	302.6	135.3	440.4
Family Composition					
Member of a couple, no children	21.4	5.1	388.1	127.2	536.7
Member of a couple, at least one child under 5	15.3	2.6	257.0	78.4	350.7
Member of a couple, all children aged 5 or over	25.9	3.7	527.1	185.5	738.5
Lone parent, at least one child under 5	4.3	2.3	30.1	10.6	45.0
Lone parent, all children aged 5 or over	6.2	1.3	88.9	33.4	128.5
Never married person living with one or both parents	339.7	286.7	229.7	124.7	694.1
Not in a family unit	110.7	79.3	352.1	167.6	630.3
Highest Education Level Attained					
No formal education/primary	73.5	68.2	460.4	222.5	756.4
Lower secondary	152.6	134.2	333.4	126.9	612.9
Higher secondary	175.5	131.8	419.0	161.1	755.6
Post leaving cert	21.7	7.8	206.3	58.9	286.9
Third level non degree	37.5	15.3	161.5	50.7	249.7
Third level degree or above	56.7	19.8	266.6	83.9	407.3
Other	6.0	3.9	25.7	23.4	55.1
Principal Economic Status					
At work	117.5	<i>n/a</i>	1,159.8	424.4	1,701.6
Unemployed	8.7	<i>n/a</i>	70.7	33.4	112.7
Student	381.0	381.0	2.8	5.2	389.0
Home duties	10.9	<i>n/a</i>	392.5	148.3	551.7
Retired	2.2	<i>n/a</i>	186.6	77.1	265.8
Other	3.2	<i>n/a</i>	60.7	39.0	102.9
When formal education was received					
Within the last four weeks	478.3	378.1	² <i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	478.3
Outside the last four weeks	45.2	2.9	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	45.2
Not applicable	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	1,873.1	727.3	2,600.4

¹ See Background Notes.

² *n/a* refers to 'not applicable'.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 1b Persons aged 15 and over in employment (ILO), classified by whether they received formal¹ education in the past 12 months, March-May 2003

	'000				
Employment characteristics	Received	<i>of which students</i>	Not received	Not stated	Total
State	523.4	381.0	1,873.1	727.3	3,123.8
ILO Economic Status					
In employment:	177.5	60.6	1,172.7	428.1	1,778.3
<i>of which</i> : full-time	105.6	3.6	995.9	374.8	1,476.3
part-time	71.9	57.0	176.8	53.4	302.0
Unemployed	10.4	3.4	51.1	20.0	81.4
Not economically active	335.6	317.0	649.3	279.2	1,264.1
Total in employment	177.5	60.6	1,172.7	428.1	1,778.3
Employment Status					
Self employed (with paid employees)	1.8	*	74.7	24.4	100.9
Self employed (with no paid employees)	4.4	0.6	135.0	51.6	191.0
Employee (including schemes)	167.6	57.1	951.9	349.2	1,468.8
Assisting relatives	3.6	2.9	11.0	2.9	17.6
Occupational Group					
1. Managers and administrators	13.0	1.1	219.3	78.9	311.1
2. Professional	23.5	2.1	134.5	41.4	199.4
3. Associate professional and technical	18.6	2.2	109.6	35.7	163.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	18.3	5.1	146.2	50.8	215.3
5. Craft and related	28.7	1.5	150.8	61.1	240.5
6. Personal and protective service	29.0	16.5	114.0	40.1	183.1
7. Sales	28.6	22.1	85.5	32.2	146.3
8. Plant and machine operatives	4.4	1.2	119.3	48.0	171.6
9. Other	13.5	8.8	93.6	40.0	147.0
NACE Economic Sector					
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3.7	2.0	76.8	32.7	113.2
C-E Other production industries	18.9	2.4	202.8	80.4	302.1
F Construction	20.0	1.2	120.8	49.7	190.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	36.6	25.4	156.5	57.7	250.8
H Hotels and restaurants	22.1	16.7	66.7	26.4	115.3
I Transport, storage and communication	4.8	1.0	76.8	29.1	110.8
J-K Financial and other business services	21.5	3.5	153.4	52.0	226.9
L Public administration and defence	6.9	*	65.1	18.7	90.7
M Education	12.7	1.5	78.0	24.1	114.8
N Health	18.5	2.4	112.6	36.9	167.9
O Other services	11.7	4.5	63.2	20.6	95.4
Usual hours worked					
1-9 hours	16.5	15.5	10.5	3.5	30.5
10-19	29.3	25.4	48.4	15.2	92.9
20-29	21.6	10.1	121.6	34.4	177.6
30-34	5.4	0.6	39.9	14.1	59.3
35-39	56.2	1.9	442.5	159.4	658.2
40-44	25.0	0.8	204.6	96.3	326.0
45 & over	9.5	0.3	154.2	57.6	221.2
Variable hours ²	14.0	6.1	151.0	47.5	212.5
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>29.6</i>	<i>14.7</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>38.6</i>	<i>37.2</i>

¹ See Background Notes.

² Includes 'not stated'.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 2a Persons aged 15 and over, in receipt of formal¹ education in the past 12 months, classified by the level of the formal education received, March-May 2003

Demographic profile							'000
	Lower secondary or below	Higher secondary	Post leaving cert	Third Level		Other ²	Total
				non degree	degree & above		
State	97.0	126.9	55.2	74.3	132.5	37.5	523.4
Sex							
Male	49.8	61.4	31.0	34.4	58.0	17.6	252.1
Female	47.2	65.5	24.3	39.9	74.6	19.9	271.4
Age Group							
15-19	95.4	112.8	16.3	14.4	22.9	3.7	265.5
20-24	0.4	9.8	20.8	36.6	69.6	7.3	144.4
25-34	*	1.7	8.3	12.5	26.0	9.3	57.9
35-44	0.3	1.3	5.6	6.5	7.9	7.4	29.1
45-54	0.4	0.6	3.1	3.2	4.6	5.7	17.6
55-59	*	*	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.9	4.6
60-64	*	0.3	0.3	*	*	0.8	1.9
65 +	*	*	0.3	*	0.3	1.4	2.5
Family Composition							
Member of a couple, no children	*	0.7	3.2	5.1	7.7	4.5	21.4
Member of a couple, at least one child under 5	*	0.7	2.6	2.8	4.6	4.4	15.3
Member of a couple, all children aged 5 or over	*	1.1	5.2	5.2	6.3	7.8	25.9
Lone parent, at least one child under 5	*	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.9	4.3
Lone parent, all children aged 5 or over	0.3	0.4	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.4	6.2
Never married person living with one or both parents	94.8	113.7	34.1	35.8	53.0	8.3	339.7
Not in a family unit	1.2	9.3	7.9	23.0	59.1	10.2	110.7
Highest Education Level Attained							
No formal education/primary	61.1	7.3	2.0	*	*	2.7	73.5
Lower secondary	35.8	94.7	10.3	4.9	1.7	5.1	152.6
Higher secondary	*	22.0	28.7	40.9	74.6	9.4	175.5
Post leaving cert	*	1.2	7.5	6.0	3.2	3.8	21.7
Third level non degree	*	0.7	3.4	15.9	12.5	4.9	37.5
Third level degree or above	*	0.7	2.7	5.8	38.5	8.9	56.7
Other	*	*	0.6	0.6	1.9	2.7	6.0
Principal Economic Status							
At work	1.5	6.0	30.2	25.9	30.7	23.1	117.5
Unemployed	0.5	1.5	2.2	1.1	2.0	1.4	8.7
Student	94.2	117.6	19.1	45.7	97.9	6.5	381.0
Home duties	0.4	1.4	2.7	1.4	1.2	3.8	10.9
Retired	*	*	0.3	*	0.3	1.3	2.2
Other	*	0.3	0.7	*	0.4	1.4	3.2

¹ See Background Notes.

² Includes 'not stated'.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 2b Persons aged 15 and over in employment, in receipt of formal¹ education in the past 12 months, classified by the level of the formal education received, March-May 2003

Employment characteristics	Lower secondary or below	Higher secondary	Post leaving cert	Third Level		Other ²	Total
				non degree	degree & above		
State	97.0	126.9	55.2	74.3	132.5	37.5	523.4
ILO Economic Status							
In employment	5.9	19.4	33.9	36.7	56.9	24.6	177.5
<i>of which</i> : full-time	1.0	4.9	27.3	23.1	30.1	19.4	105.6
part-time	4.9	14.5	6.7	13.7	26.8	5.2	71.9
Unemployed	0.4	2.4	2.4	1.9	1.8	1.5	10.4
Not economically active	90.6	105.1	18.9	35.7	73.8	11.4	335.6
Total in employment	5.9	19.4	33.9	36.7	56.9	24.6	177.5
Occupational Group							
1. Managers and administrators	*	0.5	2.2	3.4	4.3	2.5	13.0
2. Professional	*	0.3	1.3	2.7	14.8	4.3	23.5
3. Associate professional and technical	*	0.4	1.9	4.8	8.4	3.0	18.6
4. Clerical and secretarial	0.3	1.2	2.3	5.3	6.2	3.1	18.3
5. Craft and related	0.6	1.9	16.5	4.0	1.2	4.4	28.7
6. Personal and protective service	1.1	4.6	5.0	7.0	8.0	3.3	29.0
7. Sales	1.8	6.4	2.8	5.5	10.2	1.9	28.6
8. Plant and machine operatives	*	0.8	0.7	1.3	0.7	0.7	4.4
9. Other	1.7	3.4	1.3	2.6	3.1	1.5	13.5
NACE Economic Sector							
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.3	3.7
C-E Other production industries	0.3	1.4	5.1	4.5	5.2	2.4	18.9
F Construction	0.4	1.7	10.7	2.6	1.1	3.5	20.0
G Wholesale and retail trade	2.4	7.2	5.4	6.7	11.8	3.0	36.6
H Hotels and restaurants	1.3	4.6	2.2	4.6	7.5	1.8	22.1
I Transport, storage and communication	*	*	0.9	1.3	1.4	0.9	4.8
J-K Financial and other business services	*	0.8	1.0	4.9	11.2	3.5	21.5
L Public administration and defence	*	*	0.9	2.4	1.6	1.7	6.9
M Education	*	0.3	1.4	1.9	6.2	2.7	12.7
N Health	*	0.5	2.5	5.2	7.5	2.7	18.5
O Other services	0.5	1.6	2.8	2.0	2.8	2.0	11.7
Usual hours worked							
1-9 hours	1.8	5.5	0.9	2.3	5.8	0.3	16.5
10-19	1.8	6.5	2.7	5.0	11.9	1.5	29.3
20-29	0.3	1.8	3.0	5.0	7.7	3.7	21.6
30-34	*	*	0.8	1.1	1.9	1.2	5.4
35-39	0.5	2.6	15.6	12.9	15.5	9.0	56.2
40-44	*	1.2	7.4	5.9	6.3	4.1	25.0
45 & over	*	*	1.7	1.9	2.8	2.9	9.5
Variable hours ²	1.1	1.5	1.9	2.7	5.0	1.8	14.0
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>15.4</i>	<i>18.1</i>	<i>35.1</i>	<i>31.2</i>	<i>27.9</i>	<i>35.6</i>	<i>29.6</i>

¹ See Background Notes.

² Includes 'not stated'.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 3a Persons aged 15 and over, in receipt of formal¹ education in the past 12 months, classified by the field² of the education received, March-May 2003

	'000					
Demographic profile	General programmes	Teacher training & education science	Humanities, languages & arts	Social sciences, business & law	Computer science	Science mathematics and computing
State	19.0	8.7	36.1	50.9	32.4	21.9
Sex						
Male	8.2	1.8	12.4	20.0	16.4	8.7
Female	10.7	6.9	23.7	30.9	16.0	13.2
Age Group						
15-19	4.9	0.9	6.5	8.1	3.9	4.3
20-24	7.1	3.3	15.1	24.3	10.2	10.5
25-34	3.2	1.8	7.2	11.3	6.8	4.5
35-44	1.7	1.8	2.8	4.0	5.5	1.5
45-54	1.4	0.7	2.9	2.5	3.6	0.9
55-59	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.5	1.0	*
60-64	*	*	0.3	*	0.6	*
65 +	*	*	0.6	*	0.7	*
Family Composition						
Member of a couple, no children	1.3	0.5	2.9	4.2	3.9	1.2
Member of a couple, at least one child under 5	0.8	0.4	1.9	2.0	2.6	1.1
Member of a couple, all children aged 5 or over	1.8	1.7	3.2	3.5	5.3	1.3
Lone parent, at least one child under 5	0.3	*	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.3
Lone parent, all children aged 5 or over	0.3	*	0.6	1.4	0.9	*
Never married person living with parent/s	10.7	3.7	10.5	21.1	11.4	8.7
Not in a family unit	3.8	2.1	16.6	18.4	7.8	9.0
Highest Education Level Attained						
No formal education/primary	0.9	*	0.3	*	1.1	*
Lower secondary	2.5	0.3	1.1	0.9	3.4	0.5
Higher secondary	9.6	3.5	19.6	26.0	13.4	11.5
Post leaving cert	1.9	0.5	2.2	2.7	3.8	0.9
Third level non degree	1.7	1.3	3.8	7.7	4.9	2.4
Third level degree or above	2.2	3.1	8.1	12.7	5.3	6.3
Other	0.3	*	0.9	0.8	0.4	*
Principal Economic Status						
At work	6.2	4.0	9.0	18.4	11.8	6.3
Unemployed	0.5	*	0.6	1.2	1.5	0.5
Student	11.1	4.2	23.9	30.3	14.3	14.7
Home duties	0.6	0.3	1.7	0.5	3.4	0.3
Retired	*	*	0.5	*	0.7	*
Other	0.3	*	0.5	*	0.7	*

¹ See Background Notes.

² Field of education refers to post secondary course only.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 3a - continued Persons aged 15 and over, in receipt of formal¹ education in the past 12 months, classified by the field² of the education received, March-May 2003

Demographic profile	Engineering, manufacturing & construction	Agriculture & veterinary	Health & welfare	Services	Unknown/ Not applicable	Total ²
State	28.8	2.9	19.9	18.2	60.7	299.6
Sex						
Male	25.8	2.1	4.0	9.2	32.2	140.9
Female	3.0	0.8	15.9	9.0	28.5	158.7
Age Group						
15-19	8.1	0.5	2.0	4.9	13.2	57.2
20-24	15.5	1.5	6.5	7.9	32.6	134.2
25-34	3.8	0.5	5.0	2.5	9.6	56.1
35-44	1.2	0.3	4.1	1.9	2.7	27.4
45-54	*	*	1.8	0.7	1.7	16.6
55-59	*	*	0.3	*	0.6	4.3
60-64	*	*	*	*	*	1.5
65 +	*	*	*	*	*	2.2
Family Composition						
Member of a couple, no children	0.9	*	2.0	0.7	2.7	20.5
Member of a couple, at least one child under 5	1.0	*	1.8	1.2	1.6	14.5
Member of a couple, all children aged 5 or over	0.7	*	3.2	1.6	2.0	24.5
Lone parent, at least one child under 5	*	*	0.3	0.3	0.6	3.3
Lone parent, all children aged 5 or over	*	*	1.0	0.3	0.5	5.5
Never married person living with parent/s	18.2	1.5	5.2	11.6	28.5	131.1
Not in a family unit	8.1	0.9	6.4	2.5	24.8	100.2
Highest Education Level Attained						
No formal education/primary	*	*	0.5	0.5	1.3	5.1
Lower secondary	4.2	*	1.1	3.6	4.3	22.1
Higher secondary	16.2	1.6	7.7	8.3	36.1	153.5
Post leaving cert	1.6	0.5	1.9	1.9	2.7	20.5
Third level non degree	3.6	0.3	3.6	2.1	5.3	36.7
Third level degree or above	2.8	0.3	4.7	1.7	8.8	56.0
Other	0.3	*	0.5	*	2.2	5.7
Principal Economic Status						
At work	16.1	1.4	10.6	11.8	14.4	109.9
Unemployed	0.5	*	0.3	0.6	0.5	6.7
Student	12.0	1.4	8.3	5.2	43.9	169.2
Home duties	*	*	0.7	0.4	1.1	9.0
Retired	*	*	*	*	*	2.0
Other	*	*	*	*	0.6	2.7

¹ See Background Notes.

² Field of education refers to post secondary course only.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 3b Persons aged 15 and over in employment (ILO), in receipt of formal¹ education in the past 12 months classified by the field² of the education received, March-May 2003

	'000					
Employment characteristics	General programmes	Teacher training & education science	Humanities, languages & arts	Social sciences, business & law	Computer science	Science mathematics and computing
State	19.0	8.7	36.1	50.9	32.4	21.9
ILO Economic Status						
In employment:	8.3	5.0	15.1	27.4	15.3	9.9
of which: full-time	4.9	3.3	7.4	17.4	10.1	6.2
part-time	3.5	1.7	7.7	9.9	5.3	3.6
Unemployed	0.6	*	0.8	1.3	1.7	0.4
Not economically active	10.0	3.6	20.2	22.2	15.4	11.7
Total in employment	8.3	5.0	15.1	27.4	15.3	9.9
Occupational Group						
1. Managers and administrators	0.9	*	1.2	3.7	2.0	0.7
2. Professional	0.8	2.7	2.6	4.9	2.1	2.7
3. Associate professional and technical	0.4	0.5	1.4	2.8	2.3	1.7
4. Clerical and secretarial	1.1	*	2.4	5.6	2.3	1.0
5. Craft and related	1.4	*	0.5	*	1.0	0.5
6. Personal and protective service	1.3	0.9	3.1	3.8	1.7	1.1
7. Sales	1.7	0.4	2.7	4.8	2.1	1.4
8. Plant and machine operatives	0.4	*	*	0.3	0.6	*
9. Other	0.5	*	0.9	1.3	1.4	0.5
NACE Economic Sector						
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	*	*	*	*	0.4	*
C-E Other production industries	1.3	*	0.7	2.0	2.5	1.4
F Construction	0.9	*	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	1.6	0.5	3.5	5.6	2.8	1.8
H Hotels and restaurants	1.0	*	2.6	2.9	1.3	1.1
I Transport, storage and communication	0.4	*	0.5	1.0	0.8	0.3
J-K Financial and other business services	0.8	*	1.4	8.7	2.7	1.7
L Public administration and defence	0.5	*	0.7	1.7	1.0	0.5
M Education	0.7	3.1	2.3	1.3	1.5	0.6
N Health	0.5	0.7	1.2	2.5	0.9	1.4
O Other services	0.6	*	1.6	1.2	1.1	0.6
Usual hours worked						
1-9 hours	0.5	0.4	1.1	2.0	0.5	1.3
10-19	1.4	0.5	2.7	4.2	1.9	1.2
20-29	1.4	1.7	3.0	2.6	2.6	0.8
30-34	*	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	*
35-39	3.0	0.9	3.2	10.1	4.8	3.4
40-44	0.8	0.4	1.8	4.0	2.4	1.5
45 & over	0.4	*	0.7	1.6	1.3	0.8
Variable hours ³	0.6	*	1.9	2.2	1.2	0.8
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>30.1</i>	<i>26.3</i>	<i>28.1</i>	<i>31.4</i>	<i>32.2</i>	<i>30.6</i>

¹ See Background Notes.

² Field of education refers to post secondary course only.

³ Includes 'not stated'.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 3b - continued Persons aged 15 and over in employment (ILO), in receipt of formal¹ education in the past 12 months, classified by the field² of education received, March-May 2003

Employment characteristics	Engineering, manufacturing & construction	Agriculture & veterinary	Health & welfare	Services	Unknown/ Not applicable	Total ²
State	28.8	2.9	19.9	18.2	60.7	299.6
ILO Economic Status						
In employment:	18.5	1.7	12.7	13.2	25.1	152.1
<i>of which</i> : full-time	16.2	1.3	9.0	10.7	13.2	99.7
part-time	2.3	0.4	3.7	2.5	11.8	52.4
Unemployed	0.7	*	0.4	0.7	0.8	7.6
Not economically active	9.7	1.1	6.8	4.4	34.8	139.9
Total in employment	18.5	1.7	12.7	13.2	25.1	152.1
Occupational Group						
1. Managers and administrators	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.9	12.4
2. Professional	1.7	*	1.9	0.6	3.0	23.1
3. Associate professional and technical	0.6	*	5.6	0.7	2.1	18.2
4. Clerical and secretarial	0.4	*	0.6	1.1	2.3	16.8
5. Craft and related	12.2	*	0.4	4.3	5.5	26.1
6. Personal and protective service	0.9	*	2.0	3.5	4.7	23.2
7. Sales	0.7	*	1.0	1.5	4.1	20.5
8. Plant and machine operatives	0.5	*	*	0.3	0.6	3.4
9. Other	0.8	0.3	0.5	*	1.9	8.4
NACE Economic Sector						
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	*	0.9	*	*	*	2.4
C-E Other production industries	5.1	*	0.4	1.1	2.4	17.3
F Construction	9.1	*	0.4	2.4	3.4	17.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	1.5	*	1.3	2.4	5.7	26.9
H Hotels and restaurants	0.9	*	0.4	1.6	4.1	16.2
I Transport, storage and communication	0.3	*	*	0.5	0.6	4.6
J-K Financial and other business services	0.6	*	0.4	1.2	3.0	20.6
L Public administration and defence	*	*	*	0.9	0.7	6.6
M Education	*	*	0.8	0.6	1.2	12.2
N Health	*	*	7.8	0.6	1.9	17.8
O Other services	0.4	*	0.5	1.6	2.0	9.6
Usual hours worked						
1-9 hours	0.6	*	0.6	0.4	1.7	9.2
10-19	0.8	*	1.4	1.0	5.8	21.0
20-29	0.5	*	1.7	0.9	4.1	19.5
30-34	*	*	0.6	0.5	0.6	4.9
35-39	9.5	0.3	5.3	6.2	6.4	53.1
40-44	4.4	0.3	1.5	2.6	3.8	23.7
45 & over	1.7	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.4	9.3
Variable hours ³	0.9	0.4	1.1	1.0	1.3	11.5
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>41.3</i>	<i>31.7</i>	<i>34.8</i>	<i>28.4</i>	<i>31.6</i>

¹ See Background Notes.

² Field of education refers to post secondary course only.

³ Includes 'not stated'.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 4a Persons aged 15 and over, classified by whether they participated in organised non-formal¹ education in the past 12 months, March-May 2003

Demographic profile	Participated in	Not participated in	Not stated	Total
				'000
State	419.9	1,760.6	943.3	3,123.8
Region				
Border	35.1	173.4	120.0	328.5
Midland	25.7	123.4	17.8	166.9
West	50.9	194.0	89.8	334.8
Dublin	136.5	503.7	279.6	919.8
Mid-East	43.6	196.6	82.5	322.8
Mid-West	32.3	121.3	117.6	271.3
South-East	38.4	197.5	90.8	326.7
South-West	57.3	250.7	145.1	453.1
Sex				
Male	195.3	854.1	487.9	1,537.3
Female	224.6	906.6	455.4	1,586.5
Age Group				
15-19	43.6	170.8	94.8	309.1
20-24	46.4	190.6	114.4	351.5
25-34	108.1	336.1	192.0	636.2
35-44	98.4	302.7	140.7	541.7
45-54	73.3	270.9	138.5	482.8
55-59	23.0	120.6	60.8	204.4
60-64	12.5	97.4	47.9	157.7
65 +	14.5	271.7	154.2	440.4
Family Composition				
Member of a couple, no children	65.5	322.7	148.5	536.7
Member of a couple, at least one child under 5	63.2	198.2	89.4	350.7
Member of a couple, all children aged 5 or over	106.8	421.4	210.3	738.5
Lone parent, at least one child under 5	4.4	27.1	13.5	45.0
Lone parent, all children aged 5 or over	13.8	76.5	38.3	128.5
Never married person living with one or both parents	91.9	376.1	226.1	694.1
Not in a family unit	74.3	338.7	217.3	630.3
Highest Education Level Attained				
No formal education/primary	34.3	450.8	271.3	756.4
Lower secondary	67.2	358.9	186.8	612.9
Higher secondary	97.5	436.2	221.9	755.6
Post leaving cert	48.6	168.1	70.2	286.9
Third level non degree	60.2	128.2	61.3	249.7
Third level degree or above	106.4	196.0	104.8	407.3
Other	5.7	22.5	26.9	55.1
Principal Economic Status				
At work	308.8	908.7	484.2	1,701.6
Unemployed	4.4	55.0	43.4	102.9
Student	10.1	167.4	88.3	265.8
Home duties	10.3	65.1	37.3	112.7
Retired	35.2	344.4	172.2	551.7
Other	51.1	220.0	118.0	389.0
When non-formal education was participated in				
Within the last four weeks	194.5	² n/a	n/a	194.5
Outside the last four weeks	225.4	n/a	n/a	225.4
Not applicable	*	1,760.6	943.3	2,704.0

¹ See Background Notes.

² n/a refers to 'not applicable'.

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

Table 4b Persons aged 15 and over in employment (ILO), classified by whether they participated in organised non-formal¹ education in the past 12 months, March-May 2003

Employment characteristics	Participated	Not participated in	Not stated	Total
				'000
State	419.9	1,760.6	943.3	3,123.8
ILO Economic Status				
In employment	320.0	954.8	503.5	1,778.3
<i>of which</i> : full-time	269.5	778.5	428.3	1,476.3
part-time	50.5	176.3	75.2	302.0
Unemployed	9.9	48.5	23.0	81.4
Not economically active	90.0	757.3	416.8	1,264.1
Total in employment	320.0	954.8	503.5	1,778.3
Employment Status				
Self employed (with paid employees)	16.2	56.8	28.0	100.9
Self employed (with no paid employees)	21.4	113.0	56.6	191.0
Employee (including schemes)	280.1	773.3	415.4	1,468.8
Assisting relatives	2.3	11.7	3.5	17.6
Occupational Group				
1. Managers and administrators	53.9	169.3	87.9	311.1
2. Professional	63.3	87.7	48.5	199.4
3. Associate professional and technical	44.9	76.4	42.6	163.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	39.6	118.6	57.1	215.3
5. Craft and related	33.8	133.8	72.9	240.5
6. Personal and protective service	32.5	98.7	51.8	183.1
7. Sales	17.8	87.2	41.3	146.3
8. Plant and machine operatives	18.5	99.0	54.2	171.6
9. Other	15.7	84.0	47.3	147.0
NACE Economic Sector				
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	10.7	66.7	35.8	113.2
C-E Other production industries	46.3	164.3	91.5	302.1
F Construction	27.7	103.9	58.9	190.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	31.8	148.2	70.7	250.8
H Hotels and restaurants	13.8	66.1	35.4	115.3
I Transport, storage and communication	15.8	62.4	32.6	110.8
J-K Financial and other business services	50.6	115.4	60.9	226.9
L Public administration and defence	24.4	44.7	21.6	90.7
M Education	37.6	49.9	27.2	114.8
N Health	44.5	79.8	43.6	167.9
O Other services	16.9	53.4	25.2	95.4
Usual hours worked				
1-9 hours	4.9	18.2	7.4	30.5
10-19	15.0	53.5	24.4	92.9
20-29	36.3	98.5	42.9	177.6
30-34	14.4	28.7	16.3	59.3
35-39	123.8	347.9	186.4	658.2
40-44	52.2	165.5	108.3	326.0
45 & over	38.9	117.6	64.7	221.2
Variable hours ²	34.4	124.9	53.2	212.5
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>36.7</i>	<i>36.9</i>	<i>37.9</i>	<i>37.2</i>

¹ See Background Notes.

² Includes 'not stated'.

Table 5 Persons aged 15 and over in employment (ILO), in receipt of non-formal¹ education in the past 12 months, classified by the characteristics of the most recent taught activity participated in, March-May 2003

'000

State	419.9
Hours spent at taught activity in past 12 months	
1-49	306.2
50-99	35.1
100-199	19.3
200-299	8.4
300 & over	2.4
Not stated	48.5
Main reason for taught activity	
Mainly job related activities	260.0
Mainly personal/social activities	96.6
Not applicable/Not stated	63.3
Field of taught activity	
General programmes	42.5
Teacher training and education science	19.0
Humanities, languages and arts	34.6
Social sciences, business and law	35.1
Computer science	67.8
Science, mathematics and computing	22.0
Engineering, manufacturing and construction	18.8
Agriculture and veterinary	7.8
Health and welfare	78.4
Services	32.9
Other/Not applicable	60.9
Whether taught activity took place during paid working hours	
Only during paid hours	153.8
Mostly during paid hours	17.0
Mostly outside paid hours	19.3
Only outside paid hours	91.5
No job at that time	59.5
Not applicable/not stated	78.9
Number of non-formal activities participated in	
Participated in one taught activity	297.5
Participated in two taught activities	42.9
Participated in three taught activities	15.1
Participated in more than three taught activities	15.8
Not stated	48.5

¹ See Background Notes.

Table 6a Persons aged 15 and over, classified by whether they received informal¹ education in the past 12 months, March-May 2003

	'000			
Demographic profile	Received	Not received	Not stated	Total
State	1,357.3	917.5	849.1	3,123.8
Region				
Border	114.9	96.9	116.6	328.5
Midland	64.5	85.7	16.8	166.9
West	141.9	112.2	80.8	334.8
Dublin	480.3	199.5	240.0	919.8
Mid-East	158.7	111.7	52.3	322.8
Mid-West	95.5	64.4	111.4	271.3
South-East	131.0	107.6	88.1	326.7
South-West	170.6	139.5	143.1	453.1
Sex				
Male	608.9	485.2	443.2	1,537.3
Female	748.4	432.3	405.9	1,586.5
Age Group				
15-19	154.4	66.8	87.9	309.1
20-24	159.6	85.5	106.4	351.5
25-34	292.2	172.9	171.1	636.2
35-44	261.8	153.3	126.6	541.7
45-54	212.4	145.4	124.9	482.8
55-59	84.7	65.7	54.0	204.4
60-64	60.4	54.8	42.6	157.7
65 +	131.9	173.0	135.6	440.4
Family Composition				
Member of a couple, no children	239.3	167.7	129.6	536.7
Member of a couple, at least one child under 5	170.6	100.4	79.7	350.7
Member of a couple, all children aged 5 or over	325.6	225.3	187.6	738.5
Lone parent, at least one child under 5	18.5	15.2	11.3	45.0
Lone parent, all children aged 5 or over	49.6	45.1	33.9	128.5
Never married person living with one or both parents	303.7	181.6	208.8	694.1
Not in a family unit	250.0	182.2	198.1	630.3
Highest Education Level Attained				
No formal education/primary	202.2	311.0	243.2	756.4
Lower secondary	244.8	202.7	165.4	612.9
Higher secondary	350.2	201.4	203.9	755.6
Post leaving cert	143.9	81.3	61.7	286.9
Third level non degree	143.7	50.1	55.8	249.7
Third level degree or above	255.3	58.6	93.4	407.3
Other	17.2	12.3	25.6	55.1
Principal Economic Status				
At work	764.5	496.7	440.4	1,701.6
Unemployed	37.8	40.7	34.2	112.7
Student	226.4	54.3	108.4	389.0
Home duties	215.8	186.5	149.4	551.7
Retired	87.4	101.2	77.3	265.8
Other	25.5	38.0	39.4	102.9

¹ See Background Notes.

Table 6b Persons aged 15 and over in employment (ILO), classified by whether they received informal¹ education in the past 12 months, March-May 2003

Employment characteristics	Received	Not received	Not stated	Total
State	1,357.3	917.5	849.1	3,123.8
ILO Economic Status				
In employment:	811.3	508.0	459.1	1,778.3
<i>of which</i> : full-time	656.7	429.8	389.7	1,476.3
part-time	154.5	78.2	69.3	302.0
Unemployed	32.9	27.6	20.9	81.4
Not economically active	513.2	381.8	369.1	1,264.1
Total in employment	811.3	508.0	459.1	1,778.3
Employment Status				
Self employed (with paid employees)	46.3	29.8	24.8	100.9
Self employed (with no paid employees)	73.5	65.4	52.1	191.0
Employee (including schemes)	682.5	407.3	378.9	1,468.8
Assisting relatives	8.9	5.5	3.2	17.6
Occupational Group				
1. Managers and administrators	142.3	88.5	80.3	311.1
2. Professional	130.2	24.7	44.5	199.4
3. Associate professional and technical	97.8	28.1	38.0	163.9
4. Clerical and secretarial	108.3	53.5	53.4	215.3
5. Craft and related	83.4	90.4	66.6	240.5
6. Personal and protective service	81.7	55.0	46.4	183.1
7. Sales	67.4	40.9	38.1	146.3
8. Plant and machine operatives	54.2	68.6	48.8	171.6
9. Other	45.9	58.3	42.9	147.0
NACE Economic Sector				
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	34.1	46.1	33.0	113.2
C-E Other production industries	124.4	94.5	83.2	302.1
F Construction	61.4	75.5	53.5	190.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	110.9	74.9	65.0	250.8
H Hotels and restaurants	47.3	35.6	32.5	115.3
I Transport, storage and communication	46.1	34.8	29.9	110.8
J-K Financial and other business services	126.6	44.5	55.7	226.9
L Public administration and defence	48.5	23.0	19.1	90.7
M Education	73.9	15.5	25.4	114.8
N Health	91.1	37.9	38.9	167.9
O Other services	47.0	25.6	22.8	95.4
Usual hours worked				
1-9 hours	16.9	6.9	6.7	30.5
10-19	47.9	22.0	23.0	92.9
20-29	96.1	42.8	38.7	177.6
30-34	31.4	13.2	14.7	59.3
35-39	289.4	201.7	167.0	658.2
40-44	138.5	86.9	100.6	326.0
45 & over	96.1	66.1	59.0	221.2
Variable hours ²	94.9	68.3	49.4	212.5
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>36.1</i>	<i>38.3</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>37.2</i>

¹ See Background Notes.

² Includes 'not stated'.

Table 7a Persons aged 15 and over, in receipt of informal¹ education in the past 12 months, classified by the type of informal education received, March-May 2003

'000

Demographic profile	Professional books & magazines	Online internet based	Educational broadcasting	Visited libraries or other centres	*Total
State	982.3	618.1	868.0	670.4	1,357.3
Sex					
Male	419.0	302.8	405.3	272.9	608.9
Female	563.2	315.4	462.7	397.5	748.4
Age Group					
15-19	85.2	112.8	111.8	111.8	154.4
20-24	104.8	110.0	106.8	99.1	159.6
25-34	219.0	156.1	188.1	130.2	292.2
35-44	201.7	116.5	165.5	120.4	261.8
45-54	165.8	76.9	133.0	92.8	212.4
55-59	66.3	23.1	52.1	36.4	84.7
60-64	46.6	11.6	35.4	25.2	60.4
65 +	92.7	11.2	75.4	54.5	131.9
Family Composition					
Member of a couple, no children	188.0	83.6	146.6	103.1	239.3
Member of a couple, at least one child under 5	132.5	75.5	107.4	73.0	170.6
Member of a couple, all children aged 5 or over	251.9	116.8	199.8	138.0	325.6
Lone parent, at least one child under 5	13.0	5.3	10.8	8.1	18.5
Lone parent, all children aged 5 or over	36.3	11.8	28.7	23.1	49.6
Never married person living with one or both parents	186.6	208.5	214.0	184.7	303.7
Not in a family unit	173.9	116.6	160.7	140.3	250.0
Highest Education Level Attained					
No formal education/primary	130.1	33.0	122.9	73.5	202.2
Lower secondary	162.6	90.7	153.3	113.7	244.8
Higher secondary	252.3	172.3	224.3	183.1	350.2
Post leaving cert	107.6	59.6	89.0	55.7	143.9
Third level non degree	111.4	83.8	92.1	74.4	143.7
Third level degree or above	205.6	170.6	175.5	160.6	255.3
Other	12.6	8.2	11.0	9.5	17.2
Principal Economic Status					
At work	582.3	371.4	485.9	326.3	764.5
Unemployed	15.5	5.6	17.0	10.5	25.5
Student	61.5	12.3	52.6	39.6	87.4
Home duties	25.4	15.8	24.8	18.4	37.8
Retired	166.2	31.9	120.5	89.8	215.8
Other	131.5	181.1	167.2	185.9	226.4

¹ See Background Notes.

* This table allows for multiple responses. Consequently the total does not equal the sum of the education types, but rather relates to total number of persons in receipt of informal education.

Table 7b Persons aged 15 and over in employment (ILO), in receipt of informal¹ education in the past 12 months, classified by the type of informal education received, March-May 2003

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Employment characteristics	Professional books & magazines	Online internet based	Educational broadcasting	Visited libraries or other centres	*Total
State	982.3	618.1	868.0	670.4	1,357.3
ILO Economic Status					
In employment:	612.4	406.2	518.0	362.3	811.3
of which: full-time	497.2	334.1	422.0	275.0	656.7
part-time	115.2	72.1	96.0	87.3	154.5
Unemployed	23.1	14.7	21.3	17.2	32.9
Not economically active	346.8	197.3	328.7	290.9	513.2
Total in employment	612.4	406.2	518.0	362.3	811.3
Occupational Group					
1. Managers and administrators	109.4	71.8	92.3	53.6	142.3
2. Professional	106.8	90.8	91.2	84.4	130.2
3. Associate professional and technical	77.4	59.8	64.9	51.7	97.8
4. Clerical and secretarial	81.0	56.1	65.8	48.8	108.3
5. Craft and related	61.6	30.2	49.4	21.4	83.4
6. Personal and protective service	61.4	33.1	50.4	37.4	81.7
7. Sales	47.5	32.2	42.0	31.6	67.4
8. Plant and machine operatives	36.8	17.7	34.5	16.4	54.2
9. Other	30.6	14.4	27.4	16.9	45.9
NACE Economic Sector					
A-B Agriculture, forestry and fishing	25.8	8.7	21.6	9.1	34.1
C-E Other production industries	89.7	61.8	78.3	42.8	124.4
F Construction	43.9	21.0	36.3	15.5	61.4
G Wholesale and retail trade	81.3	49.9	68.7	45.7	110.9
H Hotels and restaurants	33.9	22.0	28.9	20.9	47.3
I Transport, storage and communication	32.0	20.8	29.2	17.5	46.1
J-K Financial and other business services	97.5	79.7	80.3	59.1	126.6
L Public administration and defence	36.9	25.9	30.7	24.8	48.5
M Education	61.1	49.6	55.6	55.1	73.9
N Health	73.0	44.3	57.7	48.0	91.1
O Other services	37.3	22.7	30.7	23.8	47.0
Usual hours worked					
1-9 hours	11.7	11.1	11.5	11.9	16.9
10-19	35.4	25.1	30.1	30.1	47.9
20-29	74.7	43.3	60.6	53.4	96.1
30-34	25.4	16.2	21.5	18.5	31.4
35-39	213.9	150.2	180.7	122.7	289.4
40-44	103.7	70.9	92.2	53.1	138.5
45 & over	75.5	46.9	60.2	37.2	96.1
Variable hours ²	72.0	42.5	61.3	35.4	94.9
<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>36.2</i>	<i>35.9</i>	<i>36.0</i>	<i>34.1</i>	<i>36.1</i>

¹ See Background Notes.

² Includes 'not stated'.

* This table allows for multiple responses. Consequently the total does not equal the sum of the education types, but rather relates to total number of persons in receipt of informal education.

Background Notes

Reference period	The questions on life long learning were included in the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) in the three months from March to May 2003.
Purpose of survey	While the primary purpose of the QNHS is to collect information on employment and unemployment, it also includes different modules on social topics of interest on a quarterly basis.
Questionnaire	The life long learning module was asked to all persons aged 15 and over.
Highest level of education attained	<p>This classification is derived from a single question and refers to educational standards that have been attained and can be compared in some measurable way. Therefore ‘successfully’ means that any tests, exams, dissertations, theses etc. must be taken or submitted, and passed.</p> <p>For example, to have completed the leaving certificate syllabus but not to have actually sat and passed the leaving certificate exams is not considered for our purposes to be ‘successfully completed’.</p> <p>The category primary includes persons with no formal education attainment, or whose highest educational attainment is pre-primary. The category others includes a small number of not stated to the educational attainment question.</p>
Formal education	<p>This refers to the regular education system (formal education, including schools, colleges and universities) which the respondent had attended sometime during the previous 12 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • purpose and format are predetermined. • provided in the system of schools, colleges, universities and other educational institutions. • it normally constitutes a continuous ladder of education. • it is structured in terms of learning objectives, learning time and learning support. • it is normally intended to lead to a certification recognised by national authorities qualifying for a specific education/programme).
Non-formal education	<p>This refers to all organised learning activities outside regular education. This is what may be called non-formal education and training.</p> <p>Normally you have to register for each activity. This means that if you attend a series of courses (modular) each module is considered a separate activity if you can join each of them independently and have to register (apply) for each in order attend them. If on the contrary you can only attend all of the modules as a whole and only have to register (apply) once for the whole series of modules they are all considered as one activity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending a course or a seminar to get or to improve skills, knowledge and/or competence. This includes both courses leading to certificates and courses not leading to certificates. The courses can be attended to improve job-related knowledge or improve skills for social and personal purposes. • Attending a correspondence course, a tele-teaching or a comparable measure of teacher-supported distance learning to improve skills, knowledge and/or competence. <p>Examples: Grinds, music lessons, night classes, art courses, piano lessons, courses in Tai Chi, riding lessons etc. (courses for personal/social reasons)</p>
Informal education	<p>This refers to informal learning and measured whether the respondent used each of the 4 methods as per table x for non-taught learning (including self-learning), with the purpose to improve his/her skills during the last 12 months, which wasn’t part of a taught activity or program of studies.</p> <p>It is supposed to be ‘beyond institutionalised education’ which means that the activity is performed by the respondent only and that there is no teacher, school or institution directly involved in this learning. The purpose is to register types of methods used, not the volume or number of activities. In essence this is self-taught learning.</p> <p>There was no lower time limit, no minimum requirement of for instance 1 day. The respondent decides if he/she has used the method irrespective of the length.</p>

Field of education

The classification presented in this release is based on the following list of fields as per the International Standard classification 1997 (Fields of Education). Field of education only applies to post secondary courses and above.

1. General programmes
2. Teacher training and education science
3. Foreign languages
4. Humanities, languages and arts
5. Social sciences, business and law
6. Computer science
7. Computer use
8. Mathematics and statistics
9. Physical science (including physics, chemistry and earth science)
10. Life science (including biology and environmental science)
11. Science, mathematics and computing (no distinction possible)
12. Engineering, manufacturing and construction
13. Agriculture and veterinary
14. Health and welfare
15. Services
16. Unknown
17. Not applicable

ILO Economic Status

The ILO Economic Status used in these results distinguishes the following main subgroups of the population aged 15 and over:

In Employment:

Persons who worked in the week before the survey for one hour or more for payment or profit, including work on the family farm or business and all persons who had a job but were not at work because of illness, holidays etc. in the week.

Unemployed:

Persons who, in the week before the survey, were without work and available for work within the next two weeks, and had taken specific steps, in the preceding four weeks, to find work.

**Inactive Population
(not in labour force)**

All other persons.

The labour force comprises persons employed plus unemployed.

**Principal Economic
Status classification**

The Principal Economic Status (PES) classification used in these results is based on a single question in which respondents are asked what is their usual situation with regard to employment and given the following response categories:

- At work
- Unemployed
- Student
- Engaged on home duties
- Retired
- Other

Regions The regional classifications in this release are based on the NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units) classification used by Eurostat. The NUTS3 regions correspond to the eight Regional Authorities established under the Local Government Act, 1991 (Regional Authorities) (Establishment) Order, 1993, which came into operation on 1 January 1994. The NUTS2 regions, which were proposed by Government and agreed by Eurostat in 1999, are groupings of the NUTS3 regions. The composition of the regions is set out below.

**Border, Midlands and
Western NUTS2 Region**

Border	Cavan Donegal Leitrim Louth Monaghan Sligo
Midland	Laoighis Longford Offaly Westmeath
West	Galway City Galway County Mayo Roscommon

**Southern and Eastern
NUTS2 Region**

Dublin	Dublin Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Fingal South Dublin
Mid-East	Kildare Meath Wicklow
Mid-West	Clare Limerick City Limerick County North Tipperary
South-East	Carlow Kilkenny South Tipperary Waterford City Waterford County Wexford
South-West	Cork City Cork County Kerry