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Central
Statistics
Office

Standard SIMS Report: Forestry Scheme Payments



Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS) Report

For

Forestry Scheme Payments

This documentation applies to the reporting period:

2021

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2. Introduction

This release contains an analysis of the main forestry scheme payments made by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) during the period 2010 to 2021. Through forestry scheme payments financial support is provided for both the establishment and maintenance of new forests and woodlands. Set-up grants cover up to 100% of total costs and an annual premium per hectare is available with the rate depending on the species of trees planted.

Grants are payable in two instalments and the application for payment of the first instalment grant and first premium may be made following planting. The second instalment can be claimed four years after planting has been completed. The definitive figures on all forestry scheme payments are available in Table 35 of the annual Forestry Statistics report

<https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/138951/ff44164f-1137-4482-90ae-371994a8dd97.pdf#page=null>

For more details on the 2014-2020 scheme, see

<https://assets.gov.ie/69781/6f6dc37d067d4e7a813605acadd6b77e.pdf>

3. Contact

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4. Metadata Update

4.1. Metadata last certified

24th June 2022

4.2. Metadata last posted

27th June 2022

4.3. Metadata last update

24th June 2022



5. Statistical Presentation

5.1. Data Description

The release is based on forestry scheme payments and contributes to national and international needs on forestry statistics. The data shows the main afforestation programme payments by county, forest roads payments by county, and forest roads kilometres by county. Payments are expressed in million euro, and forest roads in kilometres.

5.2. Classification System

The data were classified into main afforestation programme payments and forest road payments.

5.3. Sector Coverage

Forestry scheme payments made by DAFM during 2010 – 2021.

5.4. Statistical Concepts and definitions

The release is on forestry scheme payments. Forestry scheme payments are provided for the establishment and maintenance of new forests and woodlands.

5.5. Statistical Unit

Data refer to forestry scheme payments made by DAFM to applicants of the afforestation and forest roads programmes.

5.6. Statistical Population

The statistical population is the applicants who have received forestry scheme payments.

5.7. Reference Area

Results are reported at State and County level.

5.8. Time Coverage

Yearly, 2010 – 2021.

5.9. Base period

Not applicable.

6. Unit of Measure

Forestry scheme payments are reported in million euro. Forest roads are reported in kilometres.

7. Reference Period

2010 – 2021.



8. Institutional Mandate

8.1. Legal Acts and other agreements

Participation in forestry schemes is voluntary. Funding for the afforestation schemes is governed under the following legal framework:

- European Union guidelines for State aid in the agriculture and forestry sector and in rural areas 2014-2020;
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 on the application of article 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid (Official Journal reference number L:2013:352).

All afforestation projects (whether availing of grant aid or not) must obtain prior written approval from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, in accordance with European Communities (Forest Consent and Assessment) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 558 of 2010), as amended by S.I. No. 442 of 2012.

Land afforested under the schemes must remain under forest cover and the felling of trees is subject to the provisions of the Forestry Act 2014.

All applications for afforestation approval under the Afforestation Grant and Premium Scheme undergo an environment assessment procedure to ensure that proposed projects are compatible with the protection and enhancement of the environment, including, inter alia, water, biodiversity, archaeology and landscape. Where an afforestation project involves an area of 50 hectares or greater, the application for approval must be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Statement.

As required under the Birds and Habitats Regulations (S.I. No. 477 of 2011), all applications submitted to the Department under the Scheme will be subject to an appropriate assessment screening process undertaken by the Department to determine if there is a possibility of the project, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, having a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, i.e. a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or a Special Protection Area (SPA).

8.2. Data Sharing

Not applicable.

9. Confidentiality

9.1. Confidentiality – policy

All information supplied to the CSO is treated as strictly confidential. The Statistics Act, 1993 sets stringent confidentiality standards: Information collected may be used only for statistical purposes, and no details that might be related to an identifiable person or business undertaking may be divulged to any other government department or body.

These national statistical confidentiality provisions are reinforced by the following EU legislation: Council Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics for data collected for EU statistical purposes. Further details are outlined in the CSO's Code of Practice on Statistical Confidentiality.

For more information on the CSO confidentiality policy please visit:
<https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/lgdp/csodatapolicies/statisticalconfidentiality/>

9.2. Confidentiality – data treatment

All confidential data are treated in accordance with Part V of the Statistics Act, 1993.



10. Release Policy

10.1. Release Calendar

The date of dissemination of all statistics released by CSO can be found in the Release Calendar published in CSO.ie. This calendar is regularly updated.

10.2. Release calendar access

The release calendar can be accessed via the CSO website, www.cso.ie, or directly from this link: <https://www.cso.ie/en/csolatestnews/releasecalendar/>

10.3. User access

In accordance with Principle 6 of the European Statistics Code of Practice all users of CSO statistics have equal access via the CSO website at the same time of 11 am. Any privileged pre-release access to any outside user is limited, controlled and publicised. In the event that leaks occur, pre-release arrangements are revised so as to ensure impartiality.

The CSO recognises that in very limited circumstances a business need for pre-release access may be substantiated. Any form of pre-release access is a privilege and a strict CSO pre-release access policy is adhered to for these special requests. The full pre-release access policy can be accessed at <https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/lgdp/csodatapolicies/csopolicyonpre-releaseaccess/>

The various results are published nationally in statistical release format as well as on the CSO website (www.cso.ie). Selected extracts from the results are posted on the CSO's data dissemination database, PxStat.

11. Frequency of Dissemination

Forestry scheme payments will be published annually by the CSO.

12. Accessibility and clarity

12.1. News release

Not applicable.

12.2. Publications

The electronic release can be found via the following link: <https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/environmentstatistics/forestryschemepayments/>

12.3. On-line database

The information is published in tabular format via the CSO's dissemination database PxStat. The tables can be accessed directly from this link: <https://data.cso.ie/table/FSPA01>

12.3.1. AC 1. Data tables -consultations

Not available. This is a new release.

12.4. Micro-data Access

Not applicable.



12.5. Other

Not applicable.

12.5.1. AC2. Metadata consultations

Not available. This is a new release.

12.6. Documentation on Methodology

Further documentation on the methodology used to compile this output can be accessed from the Methods page on cso.ie or directly from this link:

<https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/environmentstatistics/forestryschemepayments/>

12.6.1. AC3 – Metadata completeness – rate

Not calculated.

12.7. Quality Documentation

Further documentation on the quality aspects of this output can be accessed from the Methods page on cso.ie or directly from this link:

<https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/environmentstatistics/forestryschemepayments/>

13. Quality Management

13.1. Quality Assurance

Quality Management Framework

The CSO avails of an office wide Quality Management Framework (QMF). This framework allows all CSO processes and outputs to meet the required standard as set out in the European Statistics Code of Practice (ESCoP). The QMF foundations are based on establishing the UNECE's Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) as the operating statistical production model to achieve a standardised approach to Quality Management. All and any changes implemented to CSO processes and outputs require adherence to the QMF.

13.2. Quality Assessment

Not assessed.

14. Relevance

14.1. User Needs

The data from this release will be used to provide data for the European Forest Accounts.

14.1.1. Main National Users

Eurostat and the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine.

14.1.2. Principal External Users

National and international users of statistics on forestry schemes include the government, the media, and the public.



14.2. User Satisfaction

Not measured.

14.3. Data Completeness

The CSO received figures from DAFM for years 2007 to 2021. Eligibility for grant aid for forest road construction changed in 2008 focusing on private forest owners rather than public bodies and partly explains the reduction in funding over the period. Forest road construction by public bodies continued over this period without grant aid and are not included in these figures.

Main afforestation scheme payments in the years 2010 to 2021 have been included. The definitive figures on all forestry scheme payments are available in Table 35 of the annual Forestry Statistics report <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/138951/ff44164f-1137-4482-90ae-371994a8dd97.pdf#page=null>

14.3.1. Data Completeness rate

Not calculated.

15. Accuracy and reliability

15.1. Overall accuracy

The microdata were received from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The data are considered to be reliable.

15.2. Sampling Error

Not applicable.

15.2.1. A1. Sampling error indicator

Not applicable.

15.3. Non-sampling Error

Not applicable.

15.3.1. Coverage error

Not applicable.

15.3.1.1. A2. Over coverage rate

Not applicable.

15.3.1.2. A3. Common units – proportion

Not applicable.

15.3.2. Measurement error

Not applicable.



15.3.3. Non-Response Error

Not applicable.

15.3.3.1. Unit non response rate

Not applicable.

15.3.3.2. Item non response rate

Not applicable.

15.3.4. Processing error

Not applicable.

15.3.5. Model assumption error

Not applicable.

16. Timeliness and punctuality

16.1. Timeliness

The results have a target timeliness of around seven months after the end of a year.

16.1.1. TP1. Time lag – First results

Not applicable.

16.1.2. TP2. Time lag – Final results

7 months.

16.2. Punctuality

The results are published on time in line with the indications given in the CSO's release calendar.

16.2.1. TP3. Punctuality – Punctuality - delivery and publication

0 days.

17. Comparability

17.1. Comparability – Geographical

Not applicable.

17.1.1. CC1. Asymmetry for mirror flow statistics

Not calculated.

17.2. Comparability over time

There have been no breaks in the time series.



17.2.1. Length of Comparable Time series

2010 – 2021.

17.3. Coherence – cross domain

Not applicable.

17.3.1. Coherence – Sub annual and annual statistics

Not applicable.

17.3.2. Coherence with National Accounts

Not applicable.

17.4. Coherence – internal

Not applicable.

18. Cost and Burden

Estimates of Cost and Burden can be obtained from the Response Burden Barometer <https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/multisectoral/responseburdenbarometer/> Survey specific information is available via CSO's dissemination database PxStat. <https://data.cso.ie/product/RBB>

19. Data Revision

19.1.Data Revision Policy

Revisions refer to changes made to published statistical data when the information used in its production has been updated or corrected. This information includes all data used in compiling the statistic e.g. respondent data, administrative data, weights and factors, methodology, classifications, definitions, modifications to survey questionnaires, survey scope and data collection methods.

The data revision policy that CSO statistics adheres to can be found via the following link: <https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/quality/treatmentofrevisions/>

19.2. Data Revision Practice

Data for all years are subject to revision.

19.2.1. Data Revision – Average size

Not calculated.

20. Statistical processing

20.1. Source Data

The CSO received the data from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine under Section 30 of the Statistics Act, 1993.

20.1.1. Population and sampling frame

Applicants to DAFM's afforestation programme and forest roads schemes.



20.1.2. Sampling design

Not applicable.

20.1.3. Survey size

Not applicable.

20.1.4. Survey technique

Not applicable.

20.2. Frequency of data collection

Annual.

20.3. Data Collection

20.3.1. Type of Survey/Process

Administrative data.

20.3.2. Questionnaire (including explanations)

Not applicable.

20.3.3. Survey Participation

Not applicable.

20.3.4. Data Capture

The data is captured by DAFM. Applicants to DAFM's forestry schemes submit their data in an application form to DAFM.

20.4. Data Validation

The aggregated data was compared to and is in line with scheme statistics previously published by DAFM.

20.5. Data Compilation

Individual forestry scheme payments data was aggregated to county and national level for this release.

20.5.1. Imputation (for Non-Response or Incomplete Data Sets)

Not applicable.

20.5.1.1. A7. Imputation rate

Not applicable.

20.5.2. Grossing and Weighting

Not applicable.



20.6. Adjustment

Not applicable.

20.6.1. Seasonal Adjustment

Not applicable.

21. Comment