



**An
Phríomh-Oifig
Staidrimh**

Central
Statistics
Office

Standard SIMS Report: Planning Permissions



Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS) Report

For

Planning Permissions

This documentation applies to the reporting period:
2026

Last edited: 10/06/2026



1. Table of Contents

1. Table of Contents	3
2. Introduction	5
3. Contact	5
4. Metadata Update	5
4.1. Metadata last certified	5
4.2. Metadata last posted	5
4.3. Metadata last update	5
5. Statistical Presentation	6
5.1. Data Description	6
5.2. Classification System	6
5.3. Sector Coverage	10
5.4. Statistical Concepts and definitions	10
5.5. Statistical Unit	10
5.6. Statistical Population	10
5.7. Reference Area	10
5.8. Time Coverage	11
5.9. Base period	11
6. Unit of Measure	11
7. Reference Period	11
8. Institutional Mandate	11
8.1. Legal Acts and other agreements	11
8.2. Data Sharing	11
9. Confidentiality	11
9.1. Confidentiality – policy	11
9.2. Confidentiality – data treatment	11
10. Release Policy	12
10.1. Release Calendar	12
10.2. Release calendar access	12
10.3. User access	12
11. Frequency of Dissemination	12
12. Accessibility and clarity	12
12.1. News release	12
12.2. Publications	12
12.3. On-line database	12
12.3.1. AC 1. Data tables - consultations	12
12.4. Micro-data Access	13
12.5. Other	13
12.5.1. AC2. Metadata consultations	13
12.6. Documentation on Methodology	13
12.6.1. AC3 – Metadata completeness – rate	13
12.7. Quality Documentation	13
13. Quality Management	13
13.1. Quality Assurance	13
13.2. Quality Assessment	13
14. Relevance	13
14.1. User Needs	13
14.1.1. Main National Users	14
14.1.2. Principal External Users	14
14.2. User Satisfaction	14
14.3. Data Completeness	14
14.3.1. Data Completeness rate	14
15. Accuracy and reliability	14
15.1. Overall accuracy	14
15.2. Sampling Error	14
15.2.1. A1. Sampling error indicator	14



15.3. Non-sampling Error	14
15.3.1. Coverage error	15
15.3.2. Measurement error	15
15.3.3. Non-Response Error	15
15.3.4. Processing error	15
15.3.5. Model assumption error	15
16. Timeliness and punctuality	16
16.1. Timeliness	16
16.1.1. TP1. Time lag – First results	16
16.1.2. TP2. Time lag – Final results	16
16.2. Punctuality	16
16.2.1. TP3. Punctuality – Punctuality - delivery and publication	16
17. Comparability	16
17.1. Comparability – Geographical	16
17.1.1. CC1. Asymmetry for mirror flow statistics	16
17.2. Comparability over time	16
17.2.1. Length of Comparable Time series	16
17.3. Coherence – cross domain	16
17.3.1. Coherence – Sub annual and annual statistics	17
17.3.2. Coherence with National Accounts	17
17.4. Coherence – internal	17
18. Cost and Burden	17
19. Data Revision	17
19.1. Data Revision Policy	17
19.2. Data Revision Practice	18
19.2.1. Data Revision – Average size	18
20. Statistical processing	18
20.1. Source Data	18
20.1.1. Population and sampling frame	18
20.1.2. Sampling design	18
20.1.3. Survey size	18
20.1.4. Survey technique	18
20.2. Frequency of data collection	18
20.3. Data Collection	19
20.3.1. Type of Survey/Process	19
20.3.2. Questionnaire (including explanations)	19
20.3.3. Survey Participation	19
20.3.4. Data Capture	19
20.4. Data Validation	19
20.5. Data Compilation	20
20.5.1. Imputation (for Non-Response or Incomplete Data Sets)	20
20.5.2. Grossing and Weighting	20
20.6. Adjustment	20
20.6.1. Seasonal Adjustment	20
21. Comment	20



2. Introduction

This series provides a short-term indicator on Planning Permissions granted.

The series only provides information on developments subject to the requirement to obtain Planning Permission. The Planning and Development Acts 1963-2021 imposes certain requirements on builders, developers and all other persons who propose to build or develop and specifies that a Planning Permission must be obtained from the relevant planning authority. Essentially most construction activity undertaken by non-State bodies (including individuals) comes within the scope of the Acts.

With the co-operation of the officers of the various Planning Authorities (and An Coimisiún Pleanála in respect of appeals) data is collected by the Central Statistics Office in respect of each formal Planning Permission or approval granted by the Authorities (but not for outline permissions). Local Authority building (including housing) is exempt in the case where construction takes place in the authorities' own area.

Therefore, works undertaken by a Local Authority outside its functional area come within the scope of the Acts, and need Planning Permission. Planning Permission is also needed for development by the State, except where the consultation procedures are provided for in the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 1993 (e.g. national security, public safety or order, the administration of justice, etc.).

3. Contact

Contact Organisation:	Central Statistics Office
Contact Organisation Unit:	Enterprise Statistics
Contact Name:	Shane O'Sullivan; Release & Publication, Barry Kelleher; Data Collection Unit
Contact person function:	Statistician
Contact Mail address:	Central Statistics Office, Skehard Road, Mahon, Cork T12 X00E, Ireland.
Contact email address:	enterprise_stats@csso.ie
Contact Phone Number:	(+353) 21 453 5000
Contact Fax Number:	

4. Metadata Update

4.1. Metadata last certified

10/06/2026

4.2. Metadata last posted

June 2026

4.3. Metadata last update

10/06/2026



5. Statistical Presentation

5.1. Data Description

The scope of the Planning Permission data series is governed by the application of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Acts, 1963 to 2021, which impose the requirement that the majority of construction activity obtains Planning Permission. This series provides a short-term indicator on Planning Permissions granted.

5.2. Classification System

Planning Permissions are classified by type of development, Local Authority district and by regional authority. A distinction is made between residential building, non-residential building, and civil engineering.

The Strategic Housing Development Application (SHD) process allowed housing development planning applications of more than 100 residential units and 200 plus student bed spaces to be made directly to An Coimisiún Pleanála. The new regulations underpinning this process came into effect on 3rd July 2017 and expired for new applications on 25th February 2022. The first SHD application granted planning permission were in Q1 2018.

The process was succeeded by the Large-Scale Residential Development (LRD) Scheme which returned the decision-making process to the local authority in the first instance. The LRD legislation is largely similar to the SHD scheme but with two main changes to the definition of LRDs:

- The LRD scheme allows for 30% of the gross floor space of the proposed development to be for non-residential uses compared to 15% of gross floor space allowance for SHDs.
- Mixed developments combining housing and student accommodation are to be classified as an LRD where either the planned development contains greater than 100 housing units or student accommodation with more than 200 bed spaces.

The quarterly planning permission releases distinguish between housing development applications granted under these two schemes and the traditional route. However, the CSO's release on planning permissions does not differentiate between SHDs and LRDs.

Type

1. New Development.
2. Extension.
3. Alteration & Renovation - No floor areas required (FA = 0).
4. Conversion / Change of Use - No floor areas required (FA = 0).



Category

		Floor Area Edit Limits	
Category (CAT)		New Development	Extensions
		Range Floor Area (m ²)	Range Floor Area (m ²)
101	One-Off Houses Dormer/Porch/Presbytery/Raising Roof	65 - 372	1 - 150
102	Apartments & Granny Flat Maisonettes	19 - 100	1 - 100
104	Communal Dwellings Old People's Homes/Retirement Homes/Student Accommodation	1 - 2,500	1 - 2,500
105	Multi Development Houses 2 or more houses/Housing Estate	65 - 372	1 - 150
201	Agricultural & Fisheries Forestry /Horticulture/Milking Parlour/Stables	1 - 2,000	1 - 1,000
202	Mining & Energy Extraction & Water/Power Supply Sub-Station/Oil Depots	1 - 300	1 - 300
203	Industry & Manufacturing Handicrafts/Enterprise Centre/Storage/Workshops	1 - 5,000	1 - 2,000
204	Hotels & Restaurants Guest Houses/B & Bs/Hostels/Tea Room/Coffee House	1 - 4,000	1 - 1,500
205	Transport Infrastructure Air/Rail/Bus/Petrol Stations/Bicycle Sheds/Car Showrooms	1 - 2,000	1 - 750
206	Trade & Economic Department Stores/Shops/Hairdressers/Take Aways/Warehouses	1 - 5,000	1 - 1,500
207	Public Administration Police/Fire Station/Prisons/Court Houses/Barracks/TV Studio	1 - 4,000	1 - 1,000
208	Health & Welfare Hospitals/Nursing Homes/Vet Clinics/Community Services	1 - 4,000	1 - 1,000
209	Entertainment & Recreation Amusement Arcade/Club Pavilion/Internet Cafe/Swimming Pools	1 - 4,000	1 - 1,000
210	Education & Science Art Galleries/Schools/Museums/Universities	1 - 4,000	1 - 1,000
211	Religious & Funerary Churches/Crematoria/Funeral Home/Mortuaries	1 - 2,000	1 - 500
212	Other Non-Residential Dog Kennels/Public Toilets/Trade Union Offices	1 - 250	1 - 250
213	Offices & Administration Banks/Credit Unions/Insurance	1 - 4,000	1 - 1,000
214	Crèches Childcare/Montessori	1 - 2,000	0 - 750



Category (CAT) 301-401		New Development (only) Floor Area (m ²) Always 0
301	Construction of Roads Runways/Motorways/Level Crossing	0
302	Construction of Railways Metro Lines	0
303	Civil Engineering Works – Specialised Boat Slips/Cable Cars/Bridges/Tunnels	0
304	Hydraulic Engineering Canals/Harbours/Rivers	0
305	Water & Sewerage Reservoirs/WWTPs/Sewer Systems	0
306	Land Reclamation & Drainage Cemetery/Demolition/Dump/Garden Centre/Quarries	0
307	Electrical & Telecommunication Infrastructure Cables/Overhead Lines/Satellite Dish	0
308	Pipelines Fuel/Gas/Other	0
309	Civil Engineering Works – General Car Parks (not in buildings)/Incinerator/Ready Mix Plant/Wind Farm	0
401	General & Miscellaneous Access Ramps/Driveway/Entrances/Bored Well/Fencing/Gates/Signs	0

NUTS2 & NUTS3 Regions

The regional classifications in this release are based on the NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) classification used by Eurostat. The classification was drawn up by Eurostat in order to define territorial units for the production of regional statistics across the European Union. In 2003, the EU Member States, the European Parliament and the Commission established the NUTS regions within a legal framework (Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003).

Revisions were made to the NUTS boundaries in 2016 and were given legal status under Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/2066 amending annexes to NUTS Regulation 1059/2003. Under this revision the NUTS 2 Regions comprise the Regional Assemblies established under the Local Government Act 1991 (Regional Assemblies) (Establishment) Order 2014 (SI No. 573 of 2014). The NUTS 3 Regions are groupings of 31 administrative counties, and nest into the NUTS 2 Regions.



NUTS 2	NUTS 3	
Northern and Western	Border	Cavan
		Donegal
		Leitrim
		Monaghan
		Sligo
	West	Galway City
		Galway County
		Mayo
		Roscommon
Southern	Mid-West	Clare
		Limerick
		Tipperary
	South-East	Carlow
		Kilkenny
		Waterford
		Wexford
	South-West	
		Cork City
		Cork County
		Kerry
	Dublin	Dublin
		Dun Laoghaire – Rathdown
		Fingal
		South Dublin
	Mid-East	Louth
		Kildare
		Meath
		Wicklow
	Midland	Laois
		Longford
		Offaly
		Westmeath



5.3. Sector Coverage

Planning Permissions fall under the Construction sector (F41-43), as defined by NACE Rev. 2 (Industrial Classification of Economic Activity in the European Communities).

The NACE Rev. 2 classification defines the Construction sector (i.e. Sector F) as:

“General construction and specialized construction activities for buildings and civil engineering works. It includes new work, repair, additions and alterations, the erection of prefabricated buildings or structures on the site and also construction of a temporary nature.”

5.4. Statistical Concepts and definitions

These statistics provide a short-term indicator of the trend in potential work done in Construction sector in the near future.

In each publication, the number of Planning Permissions granted and units are aggregated and presented in absolute figures; results are then classified by NUTS2 and NUTS3 regional breakdown, by county, and are also classified by type of development and functional category.

Only final grants of permission or approvals are covered, i.e. only works which involve construction. The following permissions are excluded since they do not entail construction per se:

- Changes of a technical and business nature as distinct from a building or structural nature;
- outline permission;
- retention of an existing building;
- changes to existing plan;
- bye-law permission;
- refusals

Permissions subsequently granted on appeal by An Coimisiún Pleanála are included.

Rounding

As the figures for floor area have been rounded there may be slight discrepancies between the sum of the constituent items and the totals shown.

Estimates are included where complete details of floor area size are not available.

5.5. Statistical Unit

31 Local Authorities and An Coimisiún Pleanála send details of all Planning Permissions granted for the period.

An Coimisiún Pleanála is responsible for the determination of appeals and certain other matters under the Planning and Development Acts, 1963 to 2021, and with appeals under the Building Control Act, 1990, the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 and 1990 and the Air Pollution Act, 1987.

Each Local Authority and An Coimisiún Pleanála provides each individual Planning Permission. Each permission granted details the planning registration number, the Local Authority it pertains to, a description of the permission required, the number of units required and the floor area. All variables provided are absolute figures.

5.6. Statistical Population

All local authorities in the State and An Coimisiún Pleanála.

5.7. Reference Area

Ireland.



5.8. Time Coverage

1975-2026

5.9. Base period

Not applicable.

6. Unit of Measure

Number of units for which Planning Permission has been granted and square meters (floor area).
Total floor area figures, and average floor area per unit is presented in units of 000s square metres.

7. Reference Period

2026

8. Institutional Mandate

8.1. Legal Acts and other agreements

The Planning and Development Acts 1963 - 2021, Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 1993, Provides variables 411 and 412 of Annex B (Construction) under the Short Term Statistics Regulation (EC) Number 1882/2003

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

No individual Planning Permission data is published, only data for the entire Local Authority area.



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 on www.cso.ie. This calendar is regularly updated.

10.2. Release calendar access

The release calendar can be accessed via the CSO website <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

Quarterly

12. Accessibility and clarity

12.1. News release

News releases for Planning Permissions are not produced on a regular basis. An infographic is published alongside the 4th quarter and yearly summary release.

12.2. Publications

The most current publication can be found on the CSO website <https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/buildingandconstruction/planningpermissions/>

12.3. On-line database

The Planning Permissions tables released in the online database PxStat on the CSO website are updated quarterly <https://data.cso.ie/product/PP>

12.3.1. AC 1. Data tables - consultations

Planning Permissions Q4 2022 had 6828 page views and 1971 unique page views



12.4. Micro-data Access

Microdata access is available after national publication to any approved users to apply via our RMF application process. See weblink below for details on our RMF application process

<https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/lgdp/csodatapolicies/dataforresearchers/rmfapplicationprocedure/>

12.5. Other

Data are sent to Eurostat to be used in European aggregates and/or to be released as national data.

12.5.1. AC2. Metadata consultations

Not calculated.

12.6. Documentation on Methodology

Further documentation on the methodology used for the compilation of these results can be found on the CSO's methods page

<http://www.cso.ie/en/methods/construction/planningpermissions/>

12.6.1. AC3 – Metadata completeness – rate

Not calculated.

12.7. Quality Documentation

For more documentation on the quality of this publication please refer to the CSO's methods page

<http://www.cso.ie/en/methods/construction/planningpermissions/>

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 (ESCP). 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.

Staff training: Staff meet with key people in local authorities and An Coimisiún Pleanála to discuss any quality issues and to clarify permissions reporting.

13.2. Quality Assessment

Not assessed.

14. Relevance

14.1. User Needs

Planning Permissions are a reliable indicator of activity in the Construction sector and is required as a short-term indicator by the EU. However, while it provides good estimates of quarter-on-quarter change, it is not designed to be used to examine long term or structural changes in the Construction sector.



14.1.1. Main National Users

- Government (such as Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage)
- Economists
- Media
- Construction Industry
- Financial Institutions
- Other CSO sections
- Professional Bodies
- University students and other interest groups for research purposes

14.1.2. Principal External Users

European Union/Eurostat

14.2. User Satisfaction

Not measured.

14.3. Data Completeness

Planning Permissions are fully compliant under the Short-Term Statistics Regulation (EC) No 1882/2003.

Data on all variables requested by Eurostat are collected and submitted.

14.3.1. Data Completeness rate

100% - all data is received monthly and published quarterly from 31 Local Authorities and An Coimisiún Pleanála.

15. Accuracy and reliability

15.1. Overall accuracy

This series is a reliable indicator of activity in the Construction sector. Planning Permissions reliably predict the trend in work done by one quarter and the trends are consistent on a quarterly basis regarding numbers employed and hours worked.

However, while it provides good estimates of quarter-on-quarter change, it is not designed to be used to examine long term or structural changes in the Construction sector.

15.2. Sampling Error

None – all areas in the State are covered.

15.2.1. A1. Sampling error indicator

Not applicable.

15.3. Non-sampling Error

In general, the data provided by the Local Authorities and An Coimisiún Pleanála is suitable for use by the section. It is sufficiently detailed so that the data can be coded by the CSO's Business Statistics Data Collection Unit in a consistent manner on a monthly basis. Data is manually coded by the section based on the information given in the template. Monthly data is compiled into quarterly data.



All Planning Permissions are given a unique identifier using a combination of elements that constitute a Planning Permission i.e. using the type of permission, category of construction, the planning authority it pertains to, and the Planning Registration Number.

The template used by most Local Authorities is generally the same, which means the structure of the data is consistent over time and the data is therefore comparable with previous periods.

The system used does not allow for entry of duplicate records. A number of edits are run on the data each month to check for inconsistencies or invalid entries. Any errors or inconsistencies are corrected.

15.3.1. Coverage error

Nil - All 31 Local Authority areas and An Coimisiún Pleanála are covered monthly.

15.3.1.1. A2. Over coverage rate

Not applicable.

15.3.1.2. A3. Common units – proportion

Not calculated.

15.3.2. Measurement error

Measurement errors are not formally calculated. However, the following measures have been put in place:

- Each return is checked and the relevant Local Authority / An Coimisiún Pleanála is contacted if necessary.
- There is comprehensive inter-staff checking, following manual coding of data.
- Data is then checked against a summary form lodged with the copy of permissions from each Local Authority.
- Some training has been provided to relevant personnel in the local authorities and An Coimisiún Pleanála.
- Finally, normal system edit checks uncover most errors.

15.3.3. Non-Response Error

Not applicable.

15.3.3.1. Unit non-response rate

Not relevant - data is always received from each Local Authority and An Coimisiún Pleanála.

15.3.3.2. Item non-response rate

Not relevant - data is always received from each Local Authority and An Coimisiún Pleanála.

15.3.4. Processing error

Any errors that arise are checked and rectified each month. All data received from Local Authorities and An Coimisiún Pleanála is manually coded and then are keyed manually. All characters keyed are numeric. Edits are then run on the data to highlight any errors. A combination of range and consistency checks are performed on the data, as outlined in section 4.3. Edits are then re-run after any corrections are made.

15.3.5. Model assumption error

Not relevant as all data is received from each Local Authority and An Coimisiún Pleanála.



16. Timeliness and punctuality

16.1. Timeliness

16.1.1. TP1. Time lag – First results

There are no provisional results.

16.1.2. TP2. Time lag – Final results

This series is published within 80 days of the reference date.

16.2. Punctuality

National publication is always on time.

Deliveries to Eurostat have also always been sent on time.

16.2.1. TP3. Punctuality – Punctuality - delivery and publication

0 days.

17. Comparability

17.1. Comparability – Geographical

It is possible to compare calculated Irish aggregates with those of other European countries, due to harmonised STS indices in the European Union.

17.1.1. CC1. Asymmetry for mirror flow statistics

Not applicable at national level.

17.2. Comparability over time

Data is available for this release from 1970 onwards. However, comparisons should not be made with data prior to that time, due to a break in the series. Comparisons are made between quarters going back to 2000 and there is no break in the time series. In addition, comparisons are made with the same quarter last year.

17.2.1. Length of Comparable Time series

55 years – 1970 to 2025. The template used by most Local Authorities is generally the same, which means the structure of the data is consistent over time and the data is therefore comparable with previous periods. It should be noted by users that where data is provided at the local authority level, the boundaries of some local authorities have been changed. For example, in June 2019 Cork City Council's boundary was expanded to include adjacent and nearby urban areas that were previously within the jurisdiction of Cork County Council.

17.3. Coherence – cross domain

While Planning Permission data only shows Planning Permissions granted, these figures can be compared with the publication produced by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage publication on housing statistics (which includes house commencements and completions).



The Department's House completions data series are based on the number of new dwellings connected by ESB Networks to the electricity supply. These represent the number of homes completed and available, and do not reflect any work-in-progress.

CSO now also publish quarterly data on New Dwelling Completions
<https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/buildingandconstruction/newdwellingcompletions/>

17.3.1. Coherence – Sub annual and annual statistics

Not applicable.

17.3.2. Coherence with National Accounts

Not applicable.

17.4. Coherence – internal

Planning Permissions are a reliable indicator of activity in the Construction sector.

The Planning Permissions reliably predict the trend in work done in construction by one quarter and the trends are consistent on a quarterly basis regarding numbers employed and hours worked. As a result, there are no obvious weak points.

- Labour Force Survey (LFS) - numbers employed in construction.
- Earnings and Labour Costs Survey (EHECS) - average hourly and weekly rate, hours worked
- Quarterly production in construction - trends in residential building, non-residential building, and civil engineering

An analysis quantifying the differences between the above is not published but one reason is that each data series serves a different purpose. An internal coherence exercise is undertaken on a quarterly basis as follows:

- a) LFS: when the numbers employed in construction rise or fall one would expect the volume of construction to similarly rise or fall.
- b) EHECS: when the number of hours worked in construction rise or fall one would expect the volume of construction to similarly rise or fall.
- c) Comparing trends of Planning Permissions by product (residential, non-residential, and civil engineering): Planning Permissions help predict the trend of the production in construction by one quarter.

18. Cost and Burden

Estimates of Cost and Burden can be obtained from the Response Burden Barometer
<https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/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



19.2. Data Revision Practice

There is at least one quarter advance notice given for major changes in methodology by including footnotes in the respective tables.

We also have a database called PxStat, which contains all published Planning Permissions data, and it has an audit trail of all revisions going back since the survey was first introduced.

Any revisions made nationally are transmitted to Eurostat at the same time.

Planning Permissions data is typically not revised as we do not publish until we receive data from each Local Authority.

A new planning application process called Strategic Housing Developments (SHDs) was introduced in 2018. This led to some revisions of the Q1 2018 data in Q2 2018 and again in Q3 2018. In 2022, this scheme was replaced by the Large-Scale Residential Developments Scheme (LRD).

The Quality Indicators used in the data revision practice are: MAR (Mean Absolute Revision) and MR (Mean Revision).

19.2.1. Data Revision – Average size

The computed values for the last 20 quarterly Building Permits indicators are:

Growth rates for unadjusted data series (YoY):

PNUM:F_CC11_X_CC113: MAR = 0.017 , RMAR = 0.037 , MR = -0.002.

PSQM:F_CC11_X_CC113: MAR = 0.01 , RMAR = 0.028 , MR = -0.001.

20. Statistical processing

20.1. Source Data

All data is sourced from local authorities in the State and An Coimisiún Pleanála.

20.1.1. Population and sampling frame

All local authorities and An Coimisiún Pleanála.

20.1.2. Sampling design

Not applicable.

20.1.3. Survey size

31 Local Authorities and An Coimisiún Pleanála

20.1.4. Survey technique

Mainly Electronic file transfer from the local authorities to CSO. Some provide paper documentation by post.

20.2. Frequency of data collection

Monthly



20.3. Data Collection

Returns are received electronically from each Local Authority and An Coimisiún Pleanála and are compiled and queried if necessary.

Emails and telephone calls are used to seek the prompt return of administrative data.

20.3.1. Type of Survey/Process

Returns are filed by Local Authorities and An Coimisiún Pleanála. The template used by most Local Authorities is generally the same, which means the structure of the data is consistent over time and the data is therefore comparable with previous periods.

20.3.2. Questionnaire (including explanations)

Not applicable.

20.3.3. Survey Participation

Participation is compulsory.

20.3.4. Data Capture

Each Local Authority returns their summary of Planning Permissions granted and each planning application with floor area, by e-mail or by post. Information is not collected on floor areas for alterations or conversions.

Each return is scrutinised for errors or missing data and for any discrepancy between the stated Planning Permissions granted and the numbers of planning applications returned. Any queries are followed up with the relevant Local Authority.

The data received is coded by the section and then imported into the CSO Data Management System (DMS).

20.4. Data Validation

The system used does not allow for entry of duplicate records. A number of edits are run on the data each month to check for inconsistencies or invalid entries. Any errors or inconsistencies are corrected.

Each return is scrutinised for errors or missing data and for any discrepancy between the stated Planning Permissions granted and the numbers of planning applications returned. Any queries are followed up with the relevant Local Authority. The data received is coded by the section and then imported into the CSO Data Management System (DMS).

A number of validation procedures are in place for all returned data:

- Range checking is performed on floor areas assigned to categories of construction.
- Edit checks are performed to ensure floor areas are not assigned to civil engineering works, such as the building of roads, railways and other structures which do not have floor areas.
- Checks are performed to ensure all structures are coded to the correct type of development.
- Checks are carried out to ensure that the correct number of units has been assigned to each category of construction and that no floor areas are assigned to alterations and conversions.

If differences exceed specified thresholds, an edit is raised. The system produces lists of errors for each type of edit each quarter. These are then analysed, and records are corrected as appropriate.

Data is transmitted to Eurostat using the Edamis platform. The Edamis platform allows users to pre-validate the dataset prior to the official transmission. At this stage, errors in the structure of the data



format and potential discrepancies in the data (based on past transmissions) are flagged and can also be addressed at this point.

20.5. Data Compilation

Data is collected monthly and compiled into quarterly data. All Planning Permissions are given a unique identifier using a combination of elements that constitute a Planning Permission i.e. using the type of permission, category of construction, the planning authority it pertains to, and the Planning Registration Number.

Planning Permissions are presented by NUTS2 and NUTS3 regional breakdown, and then classified by county, type of development (new construction, extension, alteration or conversion), Local Authority district and by regional authority. Total floor areas for Planning Permissions granted are also given.

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

No imputation is carried out.

20.5.1.1. A7. Imputation rate

Not applicable

20.5.2. Grossing and Weighting

Not applicable.

20.6. Adjustment

No adjustment is carried out

20.6.1. Seasonal Adjustment

Not applicable.

21. Comment