

Who are our users?



The people of Ireland	Government and policy makers	EU institutions and international organisations
Researchers	Media	Our respondents and data providers

Key Challenges



- ▶ An escalating public appetite for timely, relevant information across an expanding array of topics
- ▶ Accelerating demand from within the Civil and Public Service for data services and support
- ▶ Increased complexity in what we are trying to measure and the need for more detailed breakdowns
- ▶ Competition in a data saturated world
- ▶ Speed of and changes to the news cycle
- ▶ Harnessing the right technology
- ▶ Falling response rates
- ▶ Developing alternative data sources and modernising how we collect, process and publish information
- ▶ Attracting and retaining suitably skilled staff

Direction of Travel – We will...



- ▶ **Lead on how data is governed, quality assured, managed and re-used** in a secure, efficient and transparent manner across the Public Sector
- ▶ **Influence the wider Public Sector's data use** through development of the Irish Statistical System, championing the National Data Infrastructure and building our advisory role on data matters through various forums
- ▶ **Grow the use of secondary data sources** to inform new, and enrich current, outputs
- ▶ **Fill emerging data gaps** in our society, economy and environment including wellbeing, climate and emerging topics
- ▶ **Provide new statistical services** including policy-focused pathfinder projects, supporting open data initiatives and seconding staff to support capacity building across the Irish Statistical System
- ▶ **Continually modernise** the collection, processing and dissemination of Official Statistics, including minimisation of paper-based processes and providing flash and real time statistical products to supplement our legislatively based statistical work programme
- ▶ **Continue developing** our staff, systems and processes

Our Vision

Independent insight for all



Provider

Providing trusted insight for all

- ▶ The CSO is part of the European and Global statistical system. Three quarters of our outputs are prescribed under European legislation
- ▶ We are an independent and objective provider of high-quality, trusted, accessible information
- ▶ We collect, compile, extract and disseminate data for statistical purposes only
- ▶ We respect and protect the confidentiality of data shared with us
- ▶ Every year our teams produce hundreds of statistical releases and thousands of data tables are made available to describe Ireland's society, economy and environment
- ▶ We do this ethically and with integrity
- ▶ We respect our data providers and aim to collect once and reuse often
- ▶ We provide data services to our colleagues throughout the Irish Civil and Public Service



Innovator

Developing new products, processes services and tools

- ▶ The CSO is an innovator in relation to our processes, products and services
- ▶ We use all data sources, including administrative and Big Data sources, collecting, blending and integrating where appropriate and relevant
- ▶ We encourage our staff to engage nationally and internationally, to seek new opportunities for engagement and innovation and for the development of our processes and outputs
- ▶ We explore and develop tools in relation to data collection, management, analysis and dissemination



Enabler

Facilitating others to use our products and services

- ▶ The data and services the CSO provide support policy development, policy evaluation and research by others
- ▶ We build statistical literacy amongst all our users through our range of outreach programmes, including user friendly outputs and our seconded statistical staff
- ▶ We support the development of statistical and analytical capabilities
- ▶ We make our products available in a broad range of formats to support the needs of our various users
- ▶ We share our knowledge and expertise, furnishing timely, accurate and high-quality data



Leader

Within the Irish data ecosystem and internationally

- ▶ The CSO provides statistical leadership nationally within the Irish Statistical System, and advocates for the management of data as a strategic asset
- ▶ We support the national focus on developing the broader Irish data ecosystem, and on the governance and management of data:
 - We will drive the development of the Irish Statistical System and champion the expansion of the National Data Infrastructure to ensure the extraction of value from all public data holdings
 - We will promote common statistical standards, common classifications and consistent data policies to support the national data ecosystem
- ▶ We provide statistical leadership internationally and continue to build strong professional relationships with colleagues in Europe and beyond, sharing and exchanging ideas, expertise and learnings

CSO is an independent office under the Statistics Act, 1993. We provide free, independent, statistical information to support and promote understanding and debate across government, business and society. Official Statistics are a public good, and an essential input to creating an informed society for the people of Ireland.

Our Values

Independent

We are professional, objective, impartial and always act with integrity.

Trustworthy

We are transparent and honest. We comply with exacting international statistical standards and deliver high quality products and services in an ethical manner.

Confidential

We apply the highest standards of confidentiality and respect for data privacy. We comply with the terms of the Statistics Act, 1993, the Data Protection Act 2018 and the GDPR, and we legally guarantee to only ever use data provided to us for statistical purposes.

Serve the public

We are engaged with our customers and use our expertise to deliver a quality Public Service.

Continuously learning

We are ambitious, always horizon scanning and focused on innovation and collaboration.

International Standards & Legislation

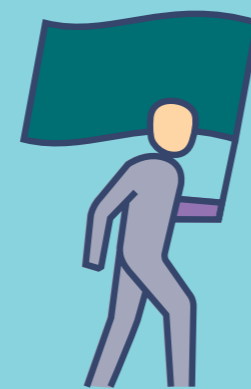
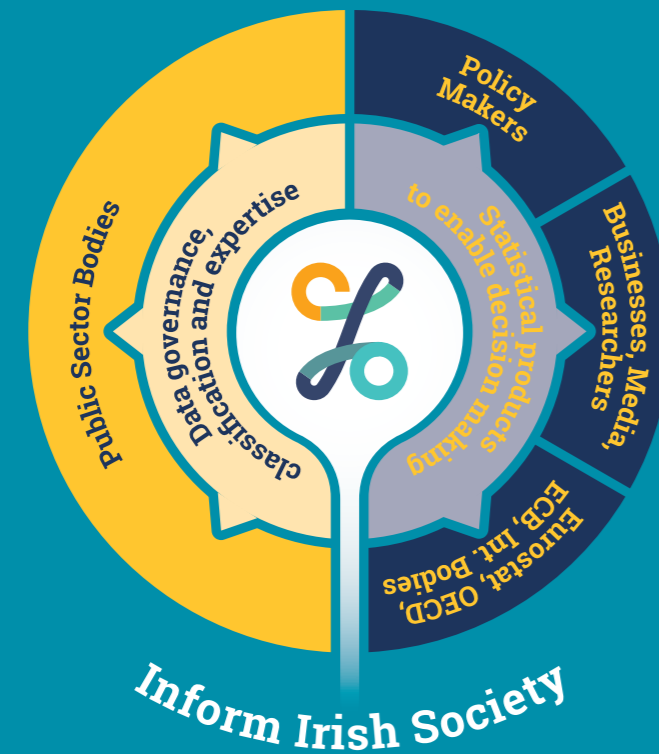
The CSO subscribes fully to the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

We are compliant with the European Statistics Code of Practice and have developed the Irish Statistical System Code of Practice

to support other Irish producers of Official Statistics

The CSO is legally required to lead and coordinate the compilation of European Statistics in Ireland.

CSO's position in the Irish Data Ecosystem



INDEPENDENT INSIGHT FOR ALL

CSO 2030

Independent insight for all

CSO last developed a long-term strategy, CSO 2020, back in 2013. That strategy laid the foundation for meeting emerging demands in Official Statistics, with an emphasis on quality management and 'getting the basics right'. Much progress has been made under CSO 2020, and as a new decade begins, there is now an opportunity to revisit this long-term vision and to set the direction of travel out to 2030.

A lot has changed since the development of the last CSO vision both in terms of the data environment we operate in and the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Data sources have proliferated, and while speed and topicality are key in the contemporary news cycle, the fundamental principles of quality, accuracy and integrity that are at the heart of Official Statistics are a distinguishing factor of great significance.

Statistical analysis services supplied by CSO informed the national response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The role of data as a strategic asset supporting the identification of issues and informing the policy response was crucial as was the real time analysis of the impact on our economy and society. CSO wants to deliver Official Statistics and high quality insight in support of public discourse and informed decision making, releasing the power of data as a strategic asset for modern Ireland. CSO 2030 underpins our response to the challenges of our changing world. Our vision, "Independent insight for all", captures the essence of our mission and what we aim to deliver. To achieve our vision we must continuously engage with society and with our stakeholders, build statistical literacy, make statistical results more accessible to all audiences, and meet the demands for insight required by our expert users.

Official Statistics are an essential part of creating an informed society for the people of Ireland. The public and our broad range of users, both national and international, will be the ultimate arbiters of our success.

The CSO has a talented team of dedicated, creative, innovative and professional staff who work hard to deliver independent insight to all of our users. This Vision document is a reflection of their ambition and is supported by the National Statistics Board.

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