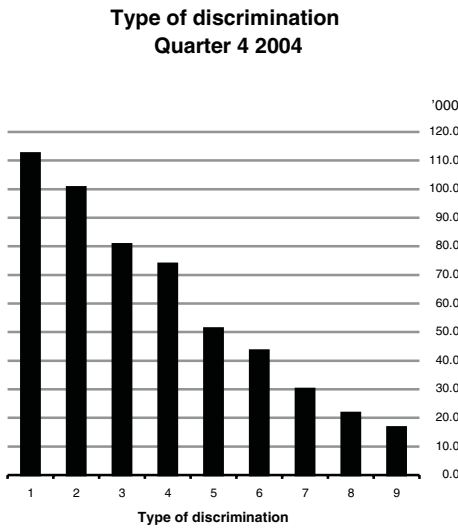


Using services of banks, insurance companies or financial institutions was the most common type of discrimination reported

The most common type of discrimination reported related to using the services of banks, insurance companies or financial institutions. Of the 112,500 persons who reported this type of discrimination, 60% were males and almost a quarter were in the 18-24 year age group. *See table 4a and graph opposite.*

Over 100,500 persons reported that they felt discriminated against in the workplace. Over a quarter (25.4%) of those persons stated that the main focus of this discrimination was 'Bullying or harassment', while one in five (19.4%) indicated that the main focus was 'Working conditions'. *See tables 3b and 4a.*

Discrimination in shops, pubs or restaurants (80,700) and discrimination when looking for work (73,900) also ranked amongst the top four most frequently reported types of discrimination. *See table 4a.*



Type of Discrimination

- 1 Banks, insurance companies or financial institutions
- 2 In the workplace
- 3 In shops, pubs or restaurants
- 4 Looking for work
- 5 Accessing health services
- 6 Obtaining housing or accommodation
- 7 Accessing public services
- 8 Using transport services
- 9 Education

Age and gender perceived to be main grounds for discrimination

While the focus of the Equality survey was on the nine grounds listed by the Equality legislation, respondents were also allowed to indicate a category *Other* in all questions relating to grounds. Of the 381,600 persons who felt that they had been discriminated against in the last two years, over 150,000 have been classified in the *Other* category. It should be noted however that this category does include a small number of persons who reported discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, religious belief and membership of the traveller community. Due to the small number of respondents in these categories reliable estimates could not be derived and hence have been incorporated into the *Other* category. *See table 4a.*

Looking across the nine grounds, age and gender were the most widely reported grounds for discrimination. Over 25% of those that experienced discrimination reported age as the basis for that discrimination while almost 16% attributed the discrimination to gender. Age was the most frequently cited ground in relation to both work-related discrimination (36,400) and discrimination accessing services (64,000). *See tables 3a & 4a.*

Discrimination types and grounds different for men and women

The overall rates of discrimination reported by men and women were very similar, 12.4% and 12.5% respectively. However, there were more significant differences between men and women in their experiences of individual types of discrimination. While using the services of banks, insurance companies or financial institutions was the discrimination type most commonly reported by men (4.4%), the most common type of discrimination reported by women (3.4%) was discrimination in the workplace. There were also variations in the grounds for discrimination experienced by men and women. The main ground indicated by men was age (4%), while the main ground indicated by women was family status (2.5%). *See tables 1 & 4a.*

One quarter of persons who felt discriminated against report 'serious effect' on their lives

Of those people who felt discriminated against in the last two years, almost 48% reported that the discrimination they experienced had 'Some effect' on their lives, while just under 27% reported 'Little or no effect'. The remaining 25% reported that the discrimination they experienced had a 'Serious effect' on their lives.

Over one third of unemployed persons and persons with a disability who experienced discrimination stated that the discrimination they experienced had a 'Serious effect' on their lives. This contrasts with the experience of students and non-na-

tionals where 12.9% of students reported the discrimination they experienced had a ‘Serious effect’ on their lives and 19.7% of non-nationals. *See table 5.*

Almost 60% of persons who felt discriminated against took no action

Nearly 228,000 people, or 59.6% of people, who felt discriminated against in the last two years, did not take any action regarding the discrimination they experienced. Verbal action was taken by almost 30%, just over 9% made an official complaint or took legal action and over 7% took written action. *See table 6.*

Of those persons who experienced discrimination, persons from ‘Other ethnic backgrounds’ (75.2%) and students (75.1%) were least likely to take action. Verbal action was most common amongst the 65 plus age group (37.2%). The highest rate of written action was amongst the 45-64 age group (10.7%). This group also had one of the highest rates of official complaints or legal action (12.2%), with the highest rate (12.3%) reported by persons with a disability. *See table 6.*

Almost one in five persons do not know their rights under Irish equality law

Almost 20% of all persons stated that they had no understanding of their rights under Irish equality law, over half (52.7%) stated that they understood a little while a further 27.6% stated that they understood a lot. The number of persons from ‘Other ethnic backgrounds’ (42.1%) and persons with a disability (32.1%) reporting that they had no understanding of their rights under Irish equality law was significantly higher than the average. Persons at work (32.7%) and those from the age groups 25-44 (30.1%) and 45-64 (30.6%) were most likely to report that they understood a lot about their rights under Irish equality law. *See table 7.*

Table 1 All Persons aged 18 years and over classified by their reported experience of discrimination in the past two years

	Experienced discrimination ¹				All persons	
	Yes		No		'000	%
	'000	%	'000	%		
State	381.6	12.5	2,679.4	87.5	3,061.1	100.0
Region						
Border, Midland and Western	89.5	11.1	716.0	88.9	805.5	100.0
Southern and Eastern	292.2	13.0	1,963.4	87.0	2,255.6	100.0
Sex						
Male	187.5	12.4	1,320.3	87.6	1,507.8	100.0
Female	194.2	12.5	1,359.1	87.5	1,553.3	100.0
Age group						
18-24	80.8	17.6	378.9	82.4	459.7	100.0
25-44	181.1	14.4	1,074.6	85.6	1,255.7	100.0
45-64	90.7	10.2	798.0	89.8	888.7	100.0
65+	29.0	6.3	428.0	93.7	457.0	100.0
Principal Economic Status						
At work	205.9	11.7	1,554.9	88.3	1,760.8	100.0
Unemployed	32.3	28.8	79.7	71.2	112.0	100.0
Student	32.5	18.5	143.4	81.5	175.9	100.0
Home duties	65.7	10.8	541.9	89.2	607.6	100.0
Retired	20.0	6.8	275.3	93.2	295.3	100.0
Others	25.2	23.0	84.1	76.9	109.4	100.0
Nationality						
Irish	323.6	11.5	2,499.7	88.5	2,823.3	100.0
Non-Irish	58.0	24.4	179.7	75.6	237.7	100.0
Disability						
Yes	70.2	19.6	288.7	80.4	358.9	100.0
No	311.5	11.5	2,390.7	88.5	2,702.2	100.0
Religion						
Catholic	289.9	11.0	2,346.1	89.0	2,636.0	100.0
Others ²	91.7	21.6	333.3	78.4	425.0	100.0
Ethnicity						
White ethnic backgrounds	357.1	12.0	2,626.0	88.0	2,983.0	100.0
Other ethnic backgrounds	24.6	31.5	53.5	68.6	78.0	100.0

¹ Persons in this category reported feeling discriminated against in at least one of the following areas: 'In the Workplace', 'Looking for Work', 'In shops, pubs or restaurants', 'Using the services of banks, insurance companies or financial institutions', 'Education', 'Obtaining housing or accommodation', 'Accessing health services', 'Using transport services', 'Accessing public services'.

² Includes not stated.

Table 2 All Persons aged 18 years and over classified by how often they experienced discrimination

	Once		More than once		All persons	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
State	110.3	3.6	271.3	8.9	3,061.1	100.0
Region						
Border, Midland and Western	25.5	3.2	63.9	7.9	805.5	100.0
Southern and Eastern	84.7	3.8	207.4	9.2	2,255.6	100.0
Sex						
Male	48.5	3.2	139.0	9.2	1,507.8	100.0
Female	61.8	4.0	132.4	8.5	1,553.3	100.0
Age group						
18-24	22.1	4.8	58.7	12.8	459.7	100.0
25-44	52.4	4.2	128.7	10.2	1,255.7	100.0
45-64	26.3	3.0	64.4	7.2	888.7	100.0
65+	9.4	2.1	19.6	4.3	457.0	100.0
Principal Economic Status						
At work	63.7	3.6	142.2	8.1	1,760.8	100.0
Unemployed	6.3	5.6	26.0	23.2	112.0	100.0
Student	9.3	5.3	23.2	13.2	175.9	100.0
Home duties	19.9	3.3	45.8	7.5	607.6	100.0
Retired	6.9	2.3	13.1	4.4	295.3	100.0
Others	4.2	3.8	21.0	19.2	109.4	100.0
Nationality						
Irish	94.9	3.4	228.7	8.1	2,823.3	100.0
Non-Irish	15.4	6.5	42.6	17.9	237.7	100.0
Disability						
Yes	16.7	4.7	53.5	14.9	358.9	100.0
No	93.6	3.5	217.9	8.1	2,702.2	100.0
Religion						
Catholic	87.2	3.3	202.6	7.7	2,636.0	100.0
Others ¹	23.0	5.4	68.7	16.2	425.0	100.0
Ethnicity						
White ethnic backgrounds	104.4	3.5	252.6	8.5	2,983.0	100.0
Other ethnic backgrounds	5.9	7.6	18.7	24.0	78.0	100.0

Small cell values (i.e. under 5,000) should be interpreted with caution.

¹ Includes not stated.

Table 3a All persons aged 18 years and over classified by type of discrimination experienced in the past two years

	Work-related discrimination ^{1,3}		Discrimination accessing services ^{2,3}		All persons	
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
State	156.9	5.1	276.7	9.0	3,061.1	100.0
Region						
Border, Midland and Western	39.9	5.0	62.9	7.8	805.5	100.0
Southern and Eastern	117.0	5.2	213.8	9.5	2,255.6	100.0
Sex						
Male	81.1	5.4	135.9	9.0	1,507.8	100.0
Female	75.8	4.9	140.8	9.1	1,553.3	100.0
Age group						
18-24	32.4	7.0	62.7	13.6	459.7	100.0
25-44	82.1	6.5	128.3	10.2	1,255.7	100.0
45-64	41.1	4.6	57.9	6.5	888.7	100.0
65+	1.4	0.3	27.8	6.1	457.0	100.0
Principal Economic Status						
At work	100.2	5.7	137.3	7.8	1,760.8	100.0
Unemployed	25.9	23.1	14.2	12.7	112.0	100.0
Student	8.2	4.7	29.1	16.5	175.9	100.0
Home duties	13.4	2.2	56.3	9.3	607.6	100.0
Retired	2.0	0.7	18.0	6.1	295.3	100.0
Others	7.3	6.7	21.8	19.9	109.4	100.0
Nationality						
Irish	126.8	4.5	236.2	8.4	2,823.3	100.0
Non-Irish	30.1	12.7	40.5	17.0	237.7	100.0
Disability						
Yes	18.4	5.1	60.0	16.7	358.9	100.0
No	138.5	5.1	216.7	8.0	2,702.2	100.0
Religion						
Catholic	114.2	4.3	209.5	7.9	2,636.0	100.0
Others ⁴	42.7	10.0	67.2	15.8	425.0	100.0
Ethnicity						
White ethnic background	144.9	4.9	257.6	8.6	2,983.0	100.0
Other ethnic background	12.0	15.4	19.1	24.5	78.0	100.0
Ground						
Gender	21.9	37.0	39.0	65.9	59.2	100.0
Marital status	3.6	17.3	17.8	85.6	20.8	100.0
Family status	14.9	32.3	34.6	74.9	46.2	100.0
Age	36.4	37.6	64.0	66.1	96.8	100.0
Disability	7.5	34.9	16.9	78.6	21.5	100.0
Race/Skin colour/Ethnic group/Nationality	29.2	50.9	40.5	70.6	57.4	100.0
Other ⁵	57.1	38.0	107.5	71.6	150.2	100.0

Small cell values (i.e. under 5,000) should be interpreted with caution.

¹ Includes categories: 'In the workplace' and 'Looking for work'.

² Includes categories: 'In places like shops, pubs or restaurants', 'Using services of banks, insurance companies or other financial institutions', 'Education', 'Obtaining housing/accommodation', 'Accessing health services', 'Using transport services' and 'Accessing other public services at local or national level'.

³ This table allows for multiple responses for type of discrimination and grounds for discrimination. Consequently the columns are not additive.

⁴ Includes not stated.

⁵ Includes categories 'Sexual orientation', 'Religious belief', 'Membership of the Traveller Community' and 'Other'.

Table 3b All Persons aged 18 years and over who reported experiencing discrimination in the workplace in the past two years, classified by perceived focus of discrimination

	Focus of workplace discrimination	
	'000	%
State	100.6	100.0
Focus of workplace discrimination		
Pay	13.9	13.8
Promotion	16.3	16.2
Work conditions	19.5	19.4
Bullying or harrassment	25.6	25.4
Other	25.3	25.1

Table 4a All Persons aged 18 years and over who reported experiencing discrimination in the past two years, classified by sex, type of discrimination and perceived grounds for discrimination

	Males			Females			Total persons who experienced discrimination		
	'000	%	Rank	'000	%	Rank	'000	%	Rank
State	187.5	49.1		194.2	50.9		381.6	100.0	
Type of discrimination¹									
In the workplace	47.4	47.1	2	53.1	52.8	1	100.6	100.0	2
Looking for work	44.3	59.9	3	29.6	40.1	5	73.9	100.0	4
In shops, pubs or restaurants	40.3	49.9	4	40.5	50.2	3	80.7	100.0	3
Banks, insurance companies or financial institutions	67.0	59.6	1	45.5	40.4	2	112.5	100.0	1
Education	6.3	37.7	9	10.5	62.9	9	16.7	100.0	9
Obtaining housing or accommodation	17.8	40.8	6	25.8	59.2	6	43.6	100.0	6
Accessing health services	19.8	38.6	5	31.5	61.4	4	51.3	100.0	5
Using transport services	9.3	42.9	8	12.3	56.7	8	21.7	100.0	8
Accessing public services	14.1	46.8	7	16.0	53.2	7	30.1	100.0	7
Grounds for discrimination²									
Gender	26.0	43.9	4	33.2	56.1	4	59.2	100.0	3
Marital status	4.9	23.6	7	15.8	76.0	6	20.8	100.0	7
Family status	7.3	15.8	6	38.9	84.2	2	46.2	100.0	5
Age	60.9	62.9	2	35.9	37.1	3	96.8	100.0	2
Disability	13.1	60.9	5	8.4	39.1	7	21.5	100.0	6
Race/Skin colour/Ethnic group/Nationality	35.8	62.4	3	21.6	37.6	5	57.4	100.0	4
Other ³	75.8	50.5	1	74.4	49.5	1	150.2	100.0	1

Small cell values (i.e. under 5,000) should be interpreted with caution.

^{1,2} This table allows for multiple responses for type of discrimination and grounds for discrimination. Consequently the columns are not additive.

³ Includes categories 'Sexual orientation', 'Religious belief', 'Membership of the Traveller Community' and 'Other'.

Table 4b Persons aged 18 years and over who reported experiencing discrimination in the past two years, classified by type of discrimination and perceived grounds for discrimination¹

	Banks, insurance companies, and other financial institutions	In the workplace	Looking for work	In shops, pubs or restaurants	Education	Obtaining housing accommodation	Accessing health services	Using transport services	Accessing other public services	Total persons who experienced discrimination	%
Grounds for discrimination											
Gender	24.1	18.3	5.5	10.7	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.1	6.6	15.5	
Marital status	6.6	2.2	2.3	1.7	1.8	17.2	3.1	0.9	7.6	5.5	
Family status	4.9	8.2	10.1	10.0	11.4	32.3	9.7	13.8	11.6	12.1	
Age	31.5	15.9	31.8	20.3	13.8	11.2	14.4	10.6	8.3	25.4	
Disability	6.0	4.2	7.3	5.3	5.4	2.3	7.8	23.0	13.3	5.6	
Race/Skin colour/Ethnic group/Nationality	10.0	17.4	23.1	26.5	14.4	20.4	5.5	28.1	18.6	15.0	
Sexual orientation	*	0.8	0.3	*	*	*	0.8	4.1	*	0.6	
Religious belief	*	1.4	0.7	0.6	3.0	*	*	0.9	*	0.8	
Membership of the Traveller Community	0.6	*	0.8	1.7	0.6	1.4	0.4	0.9	0.3	0.6	
Other	29.2	37.5	26.4	26.3	48.5	21.8	57.7	19.8	40.2	37.6	

* Sample occurrence too small for estimation.

¹ This table allows for multiple responses for type of discrimination and grounds for discrimination.

Table 5 All Persons aged 18 years and over who reported experiencing discrimination in the past two years, classified by effect of discrimination on their lives

%

	Little or no effect	Some effect	Serious effect	Total persons who experienced discrimination
State	26.9	47.6	25.5	100.0
Region				
Border, Midland and Western	23.8	49.6	26.6	100.0
Southern and Eastern	27.9	47.0	25.1	100.0
Sex				
Male	27.6	47.4	25.0	100.0
Female	26.3	47.8	26.0	100.0
Age group				
18-24	32.9	47.6	19.4	100.0
25-44	25.2	48.6	26.2	100.0
45-64	25.7	43.6	30.9	100.0
65+	25.5	53.4	21.0	100.0
Principal Economic Status				
At work	29.3	46.8	23.9	100.0
Unemployed	21.1	41.8	37.2	100.0
Student	35.7	51.1	12.9	100.0
Home duties	22.8	51.6	25.6	100.0
Retired	26.0	53.0	21.0	100.0
Others	15.1	42.5	42.5	100.0
Nationality				
Irish	25.9	47.6	26.5	100.0
Non-Irish	32.8	47.6	19.7	100.0
Disability				
Yes	18.8	46.0	35.0	100.0
No	28.7	47.9	23.3	100.0
Religion				
Catholic	25.9	47.3	26.8	100.0
Others ¹	30.1	48.6	21.3	100.0
Ethnicity				
White ethnic backgrounds	26.9	47.4	25.7	100.0
Other ethnic backgrounds	28.0	50.0	22.0	100.0

¹ Includes not stated.

Table 6 All Persons aged 18 years and over who reported experiencing discrimination in the past two years, classified by action taken¹

	Verbal action	Written action	Official complaint or legal action	No action taken	Total persons who experienced discrimination	
	%	%	%	%	%	'000
State	29.9	7.2	9.2	59.6	100.0	381.6
Region						
Border, Midland and Western	31.2	4.4	8.8	60.7	100.0	89.5
Southern and Eastern	29.4	8.0	9.3	59.2	100.0	292.2
Sex						
Male	26.9	6.6	9.0	62.6	100.0	187.5
Female	32.7	7.8	9.3	56.7	100.0	194.2
Age group						
18-24	20.8	3.6	5.0	73.5	100.0	80.8
25-44	31.9	7.0	9.3	57.6	100.0	181.1
45-64	31.6	10.7	12.2	53.6	100.0	90.7
65+	37.2	7.6	10.3	52.4	100.0	29.0
Principal Economic Status						
At work	30.9	7.5	8.7	58.4	100.0	205.9
Unemployed	23.8	5.6	7.7	67.8	100.0	32.3
Student	17.2	1.8	7.1	75.1	100.0	32.5
Home duties	32.4	7.5	10.5	57.5	100.0	65.7
Retired	36.0	10.0	11.5	48.0	100.0	20.0
Others	33.7	10.3	12.3	53.2	100.0	25.2
Nationality						
Irish	31.4	7.8	9.8	57.1	100.0	323.6
Non-Irish	21.4	3.8	5.9	73.4	100.0	58.0
Disability						
Yes	35.0	9.1	12.3	51.9	100.0	70.2
No	28.7	6.7	8.5	61.3	100.0	311.5
Religion						
Catholic	30.7	7.6	9.8	58.2	100.0	289.9
Others ²	27.2	6.0	7.1	63.9	100.0	91.7
Ethnicity						
White ethnic backgrounds	30.6	7.5	9.3	58.5	100.0	357.1
Other ethnic backgrounds	19.5	2.0	6.9	75.2	100.0	24.6

¹ This table allows for multiple responses for type of discrimination and grounds for discrimination. Consequently the columns are not additive.

² Includes not stated.

Table 7 All Persons aged 18 years and over classified by knowledge of their rights under Irish equality law

	No understanding	Understands a little	Understands a lot	% All persons
State	19.8	52.7	27.6	100.0
Discrimination				
Reported experiencing discrimination	24.7	49.1	26.2	100.0
Reported no experience of discrimination	19.1	53.2	27.8	100.0
Region				
Border, Midland and Western	23.1	52.6	24.3	100.0
Southern & Eastern	18.6	52.7	28.7	100.0
Sex				
Male	18.5	52.1	29.4	100.0
Female	21.0	53.2	25.8	100.0
Age group				
18-24	24.1	52.5	23.4	100.0
25-44	17.5	52.4	30.1	100.0
45-64	16.8	52.7	30.6	100.0
65+	27.5	53.7	18.9	100.0
Principal Economic Status				
At work	15.5	51.8	32.7	100.0
Unemployed	28.4	50.3	21.4	100.0
Student	19.7	55.9	24.4	100.0
Home duties	27.4	54.8	17.8	100.0
Retired	21.4	53.8	24.8	100.0
Others	32.8	49.9	17.2	100.0
Nationality				
Irish	18.2	53.4	28.4	100.0
Non-Irish	37.9	44.4	17.8	100.0
Disability				
Yes	32.1	50.1	17.8	100.0
No	18.1	53.0	28.9	100.0
Religion				
Catholic	18.9	53.8	27.3	100.0
Others ¹	24.9	45.8	29.3	100.0
Ethnicity				
White ethnic backgrounds	19.2	52.9	27.9	100.0
Other ethnic backgrounds	42.1	45.4	12.7	100.0

¹ Includes not stated.

Background Notes

Reference period	A module on Equality was included in the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) in the three months from September to November 2004. The questions referred to discrimination experienced in the two years previous to that time period.
Purpose of survey	While the primary purpose of the QNHS is to collect information on employment and unemployment and the production of quarterly labour force estimates, it also includes modules on social topics of interest. The survey meets the requirements of Council Regulation (EC) No. 577/98, adopted in March 1998, which requires the introduction of quarterly labour force surveys in EU Member States.
Questionnaire	<p>The questionnaire focused on discrimination based on the nine grounds defined in Irish Equality legislation. However, it is clear from the survey results that respondents gave a wider interpretation of discrimination.</p> <p>Respondents were allowed to indicate the category <i>Other</i> in all questions relating to grounds.</p> <p>Respondents were asked to indicate grounds from the following list:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. gender 2. marital status 3. family status 4. age 5. disability 6. race/ skin colour/ ethnic group/ nationality 7. sexual orientation 8. religious belief 9. membership of the Traveller community 10. other <p>The nine types of discrimination examined in the survey were ‘In the Workplace’, ‘Looking for Work’, ‘In places like shops, pubs or restaurants’, ‘Using services of banks, insurance companies or financial institutions’, ‘Education’, ‘Obtaining housing or accommodation’, ‘Accessing health services’, ‘Using transport services’, and ‘Accessing public services’.</p> <p>A copy of the questionnaire is available on the CSO website: www.cso.ie</p>
Principal Economic Status Classification	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At work Unemployed Student Engaged on home duties Retired Other
Grossing factors	The QNHS grossing procedure aligns the distribution of persons covered in the sample with independently determined population estimates at the level of sex, five-year age group and region. As the Equality questions were asked to a sub-sample of the overall QNHS sample, the grossing factors applied in the derivation of the Equality results differ from those that were used in the preparation of the main QNHS estimates. Therefore, the overall populations in this publication do not necessarily match those presented in the main QNHS release.
Nationality	The figures presented on nationality are based on a self perception question, in which the respondent could choose from a list of seventeen nationalities. It should be noted that as the QNHS is a household survey some nationalities may be under-represented in the figures.
Ethnicity and Disability Questions	The questions relating to ethnicity and disability are the same as those used in the 2004 Census Pilot for the 2006 Census.

NUTS2 and NUTS3 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, Midland 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

QNHS Social Modules

While the main purpose of the QNHS is the production of quarterly labour force estimates, there is also a provision for the collection of data on social topics through the inclusion of special survey modules. The selection of the major national modules undertaken to date has been largely based on the results of a canvas of users (over 100 organisations) that was conducted by the CSO in 1996 and most recently 2002. The results of the canvas are presented to the National Statistics Board and they are asked to indicate their priorities for the years ahead.

The schedule for social modules in any given year is based on the following structure:

Quarter 1	Annual modules update (Disability, Pensions, Childcare, Accidents and Illness)
Quarter 2	EU module (always covered under EU legislation)
Quarter 3	National module and Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Survey
Quarter 4	National module

The table below outlines the social modules published to date in the QNHS

Reference Quarter	Social Module
Q4 2004	Equality
Q3 2004	ICT household survey
Q4 2003	Crime and Victimisation
Q3 2003	Housing
Q3 2003	ICT household survey
Q2 2003	Life long learning
Q4 2002	Childcare
Q3 2002	Teleworking
Q3 2002	Voter registration and participation
Q2 2002	Disability in the labour force (Annual update Q1 2004)
Q1 2002	Pension provision (Annual update Q1 2004)
Q3 2001	Health
Q2 2001	Length and pattern of working time
Q4 2000	Home computing
Q2 2000	Transition from school to working life
Q1 2000	Travel to work
Q1 1999	Recycling and energy conservation
Q4 1998	Crime and Victimisation
Q3 1998	Home computing
Q3 1998	Housing and households

Planned future modules are as follows:

Reference Quarter	Social Module
Q2 2004	Length and pattern of working time
Q3 2004	Travel to work
Q1 2005	Annual update module
Q2 2005	Reconciliation between work and family life
Q3 2005	ICT household survey
Q3 2005	Recycling and energy
Q4 2005	Pension provision
Q1 2006	Annual update module
Q2 2006	Transition from work into retirement
Q3 2006	ICT household survey
Q3 2006	Social capital and sport
Q4 2006	Health