



## **Summary general questions**

### **Ireland**

**October 24, 2018**

#### **Country description**

The population in Ireland is estimated at 4.8 million, with 62,000 births each year. The average life expectancy is estimated at 80 for men and 83 for women (2016). The gross national income per capita (PPP int. \$) is 76,304 (2017). The estimated total expenditure on health per capita (Intl \$, 2014) is 3,801 and the total current expenditure on health as percentage of GDP (2014) is 7.8%.

#### **General health and school systems**

Almost all children are born in the hospital or maternity ward and 99.7% of the births are attended by skilled personnel. Prematurely born children can be treated from 22 weeks. The average stay in the hospital is 2 days. The birth registration coverage is 100%. The infant mortality under the age of 5 per 1000 live births per year is 3.

The primary school starts between age 4 and 6.

#### **Existing prevention programmes and coverage**

General Preventive Child Health Care programmes are both nationally and regionally organized and are performed by public health nurses, GPs and Area Medical Officers. The care is funded by the Health Service Executive (HSE) of the government and free of charge for the parents.

## Health care contact moments in the first weeks and at 4-6 year

	Vaccination or tests	Coverage
<b>First weeks</b>		
birth	general examination	100%
birth	BCG	100%
1 week	general examination	unknown
2 weeks	general examination	unknown
6 weeks	general examination	unknown
2 months	general examination	unknown
2 months	diphtheria, Hib, Hepatitis B, Pertussis, Polio, Tetanus, PCV (pneumococcal), MenB, Rotavirus	91%
3 months	general examination	unknown
<b>4-6 year</b>		
46-48 months	general examination	unknown
primary school entry	diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Tetanus + MMR	91%

All children are invited by the HSE, but the number of children attending is unknown. No information has been provided on the monitoring of the quality of the programme or on cost-effectiveness studies.

About 91-95% of the children are vaccinated.

The total costs of general screening are unknown. The average salary costs are 47,326-55,980 euros per year (24-29 euros per hour) for a public health nurse, and 66,242-78,922 (34-41 euros per hour) for an Area Medical Officer.

## References

WHO (all accessed August 2018):

- Data on country population and economics: <http://www.who.int/countries/en/>
- Data on skilled professionals at birth: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.1630>
- Data on birth registrations: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.GSWCAH54v>
- Data on vaccinations: <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.UHCIMMUNIZATIONv>

World Bank (accessed August 2018):

- GDP per capita: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.PP.CD?view=chart>