



Employment

The West accounts for 9% of employment in Ireland (237,200 persons)

Top 5 Sectors	Total employed Q3 2022	Q3 2019 Q3 202	4
Industry	39,500	+11%	
Health & social work	36,000	+11%	
Wholesale & retail	30,600	+1%	
Education	18,500	+10%	
Accommodation & food	17,300	-10%	





* Excludes not stated

Occupational group*	West	Q3 2019 - Q3 2022	
Professionals	49,700	+11%	
Skilled trades	35,900	+21%	
Operatives	26,500	+30%	
Administrative	22,200	+12%	
Associate professionals	22,000	+12%	
Elementary	20,600	-12%	
Caring & personal services	20,400	+4%	
Sales	19,500	+6%	
Managers	17,800	-21%	

Companies with recent job announcements in the West region

Company	No. of Jobs
Boston Scientific	300
Medtronic	200
Fidelity investments	200
Globalization Partners	160
Signify Health	125
Planet	100















Key Labour Market Trends

(Q3 2019 - Q3 2022)

Employment



1 8%

Employment in the West region increased by **17,800 persons (or 8%)**.

Participation rate



63.4%

At 63.4%, in Q3 2022, the participation rate in the West region was below the participation rate for the State (64.8%), although the rate increased by 1.1 percentage points between Q3 2019 and Q3 2022.

Gender



Employment increased for both females and males (at or close to 9,000 each); the percentage increase for females was 9% compared to 7% for males.

Occupation



Employment grew in all occupations, except elementary and manager occupations, which fell by 12% and 21% respectively. The largest absolute increase was for skilled trades occupations, with 6,300 extra workers, although operatives had the largest % increase (30%, or 6,100 extra workers).

Public administration & defence



Accommodation & food service activities



-10%

- Industry employed the highest number of persons in the West region (39,500 persons).
- Between Q3 2019 and Q3 2022, public administration & defence (PAD) had the largest absolute and % increase in employment (4,800 more persons, or +58%).
- Accommodation & food had the largest absolute and % decline in persons employed (2,000 fewer persons, or a 10% decrease).

Selected employers

Western Brand Group

Kepak Green Isle Foods

Aviva Direct Ireland DILIGENT Coffey Group

Hewlett Packard Globalization Partners

Ashford Castle

Cregana Medical

HID Global Medtronic Connaught Hospitality Group
Ward & Burke Construction Lake Region Medical / Integer Palling Poyorages

Vard & Burke Construction
Cisco Systems

cientific Thermo King

JJ Rhatigan

Secure All Security

Chanelle Group Elverys Sports

Cambus Medical

C & F Tooling Group

Business Demography (2020)¹

There were approximately 113,500 persons engaged in the business economy in the West region in 2020.

Persons engaged by firm size	Galway	Мауо	Roscommon	Total
<50 persons (small)	39,034	19,700	6,511	65,245
	54%	64%	61%	58%
50-249 persons (medium)	15,215	5,619	2,546	23,380
	21%	18%	24%	21%
>250 persons (large)	17,894	5,255	*	23,149
	25%	17%	*	20%
Total	72,143	30,574	10,752	113,469
	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data has been suppressed to protect the confidentiality of individual enterprises. As a result, not all columns add to 100%.



¹ Business economy includes NACE Rev 2 sectors B - N excluding K6420 (the activities of holding companies); sectors such as agriculture, education, health/welfare and public administration and defence are excluded.

Education attainment & lifelong learning in the West region

(Q2 2022)



	West	State
Share of adults (20 yrs+) with FET (NFQ 4-6) qualifications	11%	13%
Share of adults (20 yrs+) with 3rd level (NFQ 6-10) qualifications	41%	44%
Lifelong learning rate (previous 4 weeks)	14.7%	13%

Overall comments

- Although the number of persons employed in the West region rose between Q3 2019 and Q3 2022, the growth rate, at 8%, was below the national average (10%), and was the second lowest across all regions (after Dublin, at 7%).
- Approximately 70% of employment growth in the West region was in public administration & defence, industry or health & social work (adding 12,400 persons, to the workforce).
- The West region accounted for nearly three quarters of the additional operatives employed in Ireland over the period Q3 2019-Q3 2022.
- Over one half (58%) of persons engaged in the region's business economy worked in small firms, one of the smallest shares nationally.
- In Q3 2022, at 4.5%, the unemployment rate in the West was on par with the national average rate, while its participation rate (at 63.4%) was below the national average rate (64.8%).
- At nearly 15%, the West had the second highest lifelong learning participation rate (after Dublin).

