IRELAND

GEOGRAPHY

Area
Total: 70,273 sq km
Land: 68,883 sq km
Water: 1,390 sq km

Climate
temperate maritime; modified by North Atlantic Current; mild winters, cool summers; consistently humid; overcast about half the time

Natural Resources
natural gas, peat, copper, lead, zinc, silver, barite, gypsum, limestone, dolomite

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State
President Michael D. HIGGINS

Head of Government
Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Leo VARADKAR

Government Type
parliamentary republic

Capital
Dublin

Legislature
bicameral Parliament or Oireachtas consists of the Senate or Seanad Eireann (60 seats) and the House of Representatives or Dail Eireann (158 seats)

Judiciary
Supreme Court of Ireland (consists of the chief justice, 9 judges, 2 ex-officio members)

Ambassador to US
Ambassador Daniel Gerard MULHALL

US Ambassador
Ambassador Edward F. CRAWFORD

ECONOMY

Economic Overview
small, modern, trade-dependent economy continued to grow in 2017; forecast to do so through 2019, supported by a strong export sector, robust job growth, and low inflation

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$353.3 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$73,200 (2017 est.)

Exports
$219.7 billion (2017 est.)
partners: US 27.1%, UK 13.4%, Belgium 11%, Germany 8.1%, Switzerland 5.1%, Netherlands 4.9%, France 4.3% (2017)

Imports
$98.13 billion (2017 est.)
partners: UK 29%, US 18.9%, France 12.1%, Germany 9.6%, Netherlands 4.1% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population
5.1 million (July 2018 est.)

Population Growth
1.11% (2018 est.)

Ethnicity
Irish 82.2%, Irish travelers 0.7%, other white 9.5%, Asian 2.1%, black 1.4%, other 1.5%, unspecified 2.6% (2016 est.)

Language
English (official, generally used), Irish (Gaelic or Gaeilge) (official, spoken by approximately 39.8% of the population as of 2016)

Religion
Roman Catholic 78.3%, Church of Ireland 2.7%, other Christian 1.6%, Orthodox 1.3%, Muslim 1.3%, other 2.4%, none 9.8%, unspecified 2.6% (2016 est.)

Urbanization
urban population 63.4% of total population (2019)
rate of urbanization: 1.14% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

as of December 2019