

Revenue Statistics

Publication and Dissemination Policy

September 2017

Statistics & Economic Research Branch

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Overview

The purpose of this document is to provide an outline of Revenue's approach to the Dissemination and Publication of its statistics.

This document should be read in conjunction with the 'Quality Statement' and other relevant documents, which are also published on the Statistics section of the Revenue website: <http://www.revenue.ie/en/corporate/information-about-revenue/statistics/index.aspx>.

In case of queries in relation to Revenue statistics, please contact statistics@revenue.ie. Please note that media queries should be directed to Revenue's Press Office in the first instance revpress@revenue.ie.

Publication

The Statistics section of the Revenue website is the principal channel through which Revenue publishes statistics: <http://www.revenue.ie/en/corporate/information-about-revenue/statistics/index.aspx>.

Revenue Transport Statistics, Income Tax and Corporation Tax Distribution Statistics and VAT Statistics are hosted on the Central Statistics Office's StatBank platform: http://www.cso.ie/px/pxeirestat/pssn/rv01/homepagefiles/rv01_statbank.asp.

Revenue statistical releases will only be available in electronic format and will, where appropriate, also be delivered in Open Data formats. Revenue Open Data statistics may also be accessed through the National Open Data Portal: <https://data.gov.ie/data>.

Revenue statistical releases and updates will be published by 5.00 p.m. on the date of the release.

A calendar schedule of release dates for regular statistical releases and publications is available on the Revenue website. This calendar is also available on request from statistics@revenue.ie. The calendar is updated on a monthly basis recording which releases in the previous month were published on time.

Dissemination

A mailing list bulletin is circulated by email, at least on a quarterly basis (more frequently if the need arises). This bulletin summarises any new releases or updates to existing statistics since the previous issue. Requests to be added to the mailing list should be sent to statistics@revenue.ie.

In most cases, new statistical releases or updates will be notified also on Revenue's Twitter account.

In addition Revenue may also issue press releases for some more detailed publications, for example Revenue's Annual Report, highlighting the principal features of the results.

Revisions

Where the format, content or methodology of a Revenue statistical dataset is altered or revised, notice of such revisions will be communicated to customers on release.

Where statistical figures are revised, the updated data will be uploaded to the relevant platform(s) at the earliest opportunity.

Relevant 'Method' Statements will also be updated.

Notice of any revision will be communicated through the Revenue Statistics bulletin.

Professional Independence

Revenue is committed to the Irish Statistical System Code of Practice for Official Statistics (ISSCoP) and, in the context of publication and dissemination, in particular acknowledges Principle 1 of the ISSCoP: Professional Independence.

Indicators of this are that statistics are compiled free from external interference and that statistical units within public bodies are independent in terms of methodology, content and timing of publication.

Revenue signed the 'Statement of the Commitment' to the ISSCoP in September 2015. Furthermore, Revenue's National Office Network (a senior management group within Revenue chaired by the Revenue Chairman) reaffirmed the Office's commitment to the principles of the ISSCoP in June 2017.

Externally, since the establishment of the Revenue Commissioners in 1923, successive Governments and the Oireachtas have reaffirmed the principle of the independence of the Revenue Commissioners. This independence forms a key pillar of Revenue's Governance framework. Legal effect in this matter is provided under Section 101 of the Ministers and Secretaries (Amendment) Act, 2011.

Internally, Revenue's Statistics & Economic Research Branch is the statistical unit within the organisation responsible for publication of Official Statistics and Open Data of the organisation. The Branch is also the business owner of most of the datasets produced under these headings.

The Statistics & Economic Research Branch is a professional analytical team within Revenue. It is aided in this function by the secondment of staff from the Central Statistics Office and Irish Government Economic & Evaluation Service into the Branch. Revenue has committed that this Branch will operate independently in respect of the publication of Statistics and will be free from interference as regards the operation of the ISSCoP in Revenue. The head of the Branch will be responsible and accountable for final decisions in relation to methodology, content and timing of statistical publications.

This commitment to professional independence is also evidenced by Revenue's signature of the Statement of Commitment to ISSCoP and the early engagement in the ISSCoP audit process that was proactively sought by Revenue.

Transparency is key to demonstrating independence. A 'Revenue Statistics – Publication Calendar', a schedule of updates with success or failure to meet publication timelines for all statistics releases, is published and updated monthly on our website. Any failures to meet publication timelines will be highlighted in the calendar, as well as acknowledged in mailing list bulletins.