



ec.europa.eu/education/monitor

Highlights

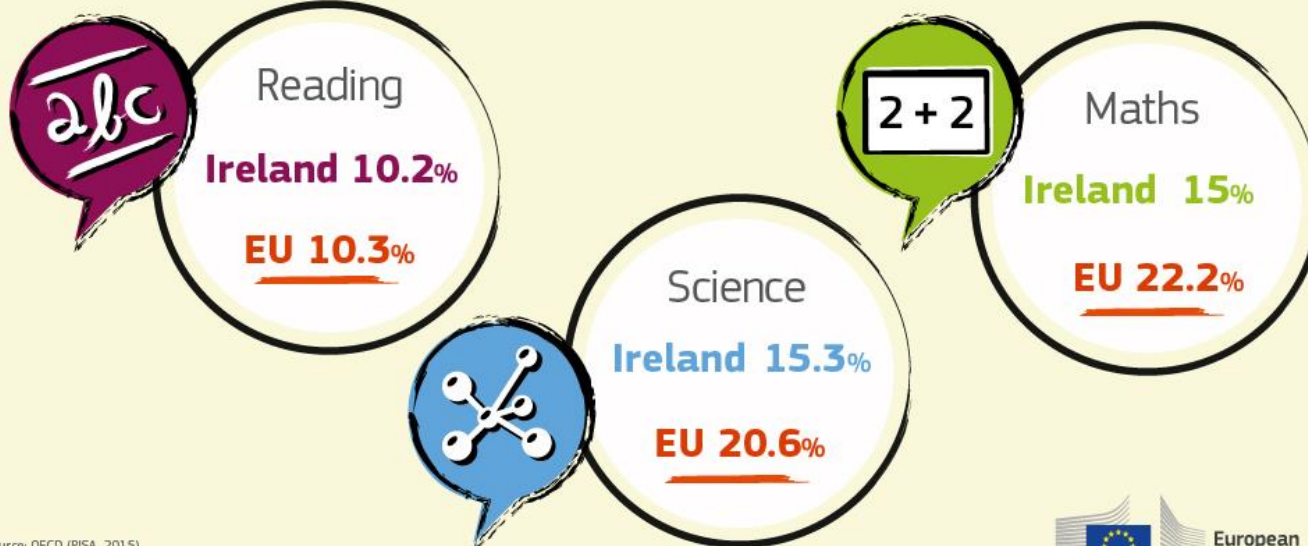
- Irish students' basic skills in reading, mathematics and science are high and relatively unaffected by socioeconomic background.
- Ireland continues to compare very well on education targets for early school leaving and tertiary education attainment. However, inequalities in participation and access are still to be addressed.
- A phased implementation of reforms at lower secondary level is set to be completed in 2019. These reforms will also inform reviews of upper secondary education.
- The major reforms of the further education and training and higher education sectors are progressing. Access to higher education remains closely linked to socioeconomic status and there is a need for alternative, more vocationally oriented pathways. Future funding of tertiary education is also a key issue.

Key indicators

| | Ireland | | EU average | | |
|---|---------|-------|------------|-------|-------|
| | 2013 | 2016 | 2013 | 2016 | |
| ET 2020 benchmarks | | | | | |
| Early leavers from education and training (age 18-24) | 8.4% | 6.3% | 11.9% | 10.7% | |
| Tertiary educational attainment (age 30-34) | 52.6% | 52.9% | 37.1% | 39.1% | |
| Early childhood education and care (ECEC) (from age 4 to starting age of compulsory education) | 99.1% | 92.7% | 93.9% | 94.8% | |
| Proportion of 15 year-olds with underachievement in: | Reading | 9.6% | 10.2% | 17.8% | 19.7% |
| | Maths | 16.9% | 15.0% | 22.1% | 22.2% |
| | Science | 11.1% | 15.3% | 16.6% | 20.6% |
| Employment rate of recent graduates by educational attainment (age 20-34 having left education 1-3 years before reference year) | 73.0% | 79.5% | 75.4% | 78.2% | |
| Adult participation in learning (age 25-64) | 7.6% | 6.4% | 10.7% | 10.8% | |

Underachievement in basic skills (15-year-olds)

Education and Training Monitor 2017

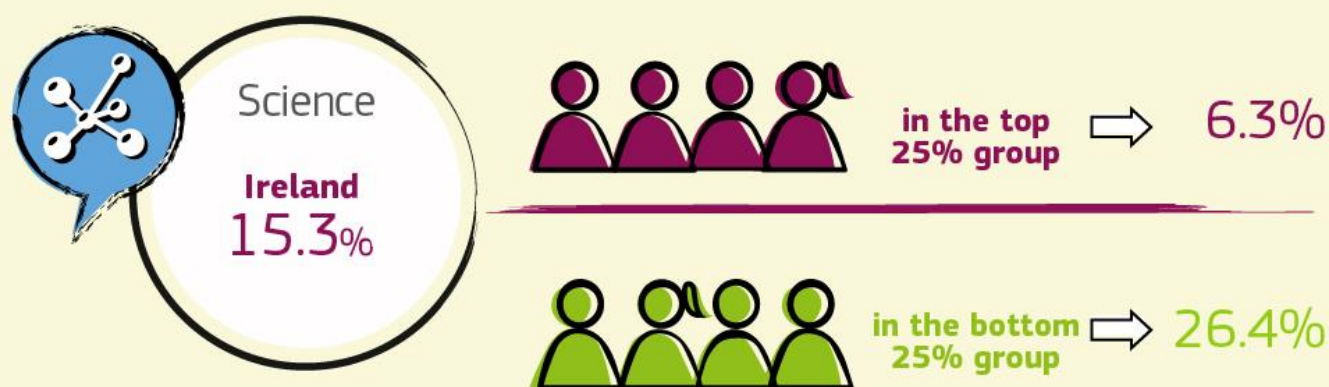


Source: OECD (PISA, 2015)
Copyright: © European Commission



Underachievement in science by socio-economic group

Education and Training Monitor 2017



Source: Eurostat (OECD, 2015)
Copyright: © European Commission

