THE CULTURAL AND CREATIVE CITIES MONITOR

Country fact sheet: IRELAND

#EUCreativeCities

https://composite-indicators.jrc.ec.europa.eu/cultural-creative-cities-monitor

The **Cultural and Creative Cities Monitor** is a new tool to **benchmark the performance** of European cities compared to their peers using both quantitative and qualitative data. It provides a common evidence base at city level that helps decision-makers learn from each other and inspires fit-for-purpose policies to boost economic growth and job creation, foster social development and citizens' well-being, and strengthen resilience. This year's first edition covers **168 cities in 30 countries**, **selected from about 1000 cities** in Eurostat's Urban Audit on the basis of their **verifiable engagement** in promoting **culture** and **creativity**. Being included in the Monitor is thus in itself an acknowledgement of the importance these cities attach to culture and creativity.

TOP 168

From Eurostat's
Urban Audit
(1000 cities)

The Monitor's quantitative information is captured in **29 indicators**. These are grouped into **9 dimensions** reflecting **3 major facets** of cities' cultural, social and economic vitality: **'Cultural Vibrancy'**, **'Creative Economy'** and **'Enabling Environment'**. In addition, qualitative evidence helps illustrate what cities are good at.

Selected cities

- Five European Capitals of Culture Winners: Cork, Dublin and Galway – shortlisted: Limerick and Waterford

Key findings

Dublin achieves its best result on **'Cultural Vibrancy'**, coming 3rd in the XL group of 34 ranked cities thanks to its notable performance on Cultural Venues & Facilities (2nd). The Temple Bar district underwent an important regeneration process in the 1990s, becoming a major creative quarter in the city and attracting artists, businesses and tourists. Dublin was a European Capital of Culture in 1991. Later on it was shortlisted to become World Design Capital 2014. In 2010, Dublin became a UNESCO Creative City of Literature.

Cork excels on **'Cultural Vibrancy'** where it holds the top spot in the S-M group of 64 ranked cities thanks to its remarkable position on Cultural Venues & Facilities (1st). In 2005, when the city was a European Capital of Culture, over one million people – seven times the city's population - attended the official Cork 2005 events. The Lewis Glucksman Gallery, opened in 2004, right before Cork 2005, was nominated for the Stirling Prize, a British prize for excellence in architecture.

Population group	Sub-indices		
	1. Cultural Vibrancy	2. Creative Economy	3. Enabling Environment
XL Dublin	Top 33%	Top 33%	Top 33%
S-M Cork	Top 33%	Top 33%	Top 33%
Galway	Top 33%	Bottom 33%	Top 33%
Limerick	Top 33%	Bottom 33%	Top 33%
Waterford	Top 33%	Bottom 33%	Top 33%
Scores	Top 33%	Middle 33%	Bottom 33%

Did you know that…?

Galway is known as the country's cultural centre for its vibrant lifestyle and numerous festivals, celebrations and events, such as the Galway International Arts Festival. Galway is a UNESCO Creative City of Film and will be a European Capital of Culture in 2020.

Limerick became Ireland's inaugural National City of Culture in 2014, offering a wide variety of artistic and cultural events, such as EVA International – Ireland's biennial of contemporary art. Limerick was also shortlisted to be a European Capital of Culture in 2020.

Galway Arts Festival. Credit: Peter Clarke under CC BY-SA 4.0-3.0-2.5-2.0-1.0 via Wikimedia Commons

Waterford is home to the Waterford Museum of Treasures which gathers three different museums that tell the 1100 year old story of Waterford. In 2014, the Museum was shortlisted as the European Museum of the Year and received the UK Civic Trust award. Soon after, the city of Waterford was shortlisted to become a European Capital of Culture in 2020.