

# #WhyIreland is the Global Location of Choice for Talent and Innovation

## PEOPLE

### Where Talent Wants to Live and Stay

- Ireland is ranked 8th in the world for quality of life, according to the United Nations
- More than 53% of 25-35 year olds have university education (the EU average is 40%)
- Irish workers most productive in the world (as reported by the OECD)
- Ireland ranked 4th out of 38 countries for education (as reported by OECD)
- By 2040 1/3 of the population will be under 25 – one of the youngest populations in Europe (proportionally)
- Ireland has the 4th most international workforce in the EU

## PLACE

### A Stable, Rules-based Democracy at the Centre of Global Trade

- Ireland is the only English-speaking, common law trade & investment gateway to the EU – which is at the heart of the world's largest set of free-trade agreements
- Successive Irish administrations have implemented enterprise-friendly policies including employment laws

- Ireland has comprehensive global air connectivity and offers the only US pre-clearance facilities in Europe
- Ireland's National Development Plan will deliver €116bn in public infrastructure and capital works
- 1 out of every 6 children born in Ireland are born to non-Irish born parents
- Ireland was the first democracy globally to vote for marriage equality
- Ireland saw the largest reduction in income inequality from one generation to the next according to the OECD

## IMPACT

### A Country with a Passion for Skills and Innovation

- Ireland offers a 25% Research and Development tax credit
- Ireland is home to 17 world-class research centres
- Ireland is engaged in over 2,700 research collaborations with over 75 countries
- Ireland is ranked 1st in the world for knowledge diffusion and 5th for knowledge absorption

To find out more please contact:

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## FACTS & FIGURES

### About US-Ireland Trade and Investment

- Ireland is the 9th biggest investor in the United States
- Over 700 Irish companies have operations across all 50 States, employing 100,000 people
- US companies directly employ over 190,000 people in Ireland – and a further 152,000 indirectly
- Each year US multinationals invest the following in the Irish economy:
  - €12.4bn on payroll
  - €8.8bn on goods and services
  - €6.5b on capital expenditure
- 1 out of every 3 US multinationals in Ireland have been here for more than 20 years
- Ireland is home to 9 of the top 10 US technology companies, 9 of the top 10 pharma companies, and 14 of the top 15 med-tech companies
- Over 30 million US citizens claim Irish heritage
- 80% of the goods produced by US multinationals in Ireland are exported to markets outside North America



# #WhySouthWest Region is a Great Place to Live and Work

## PEOPLE

- Quality of life – Cork has the highest incomes outside the Greater Dublin Area (CSO)
- Cork is predicted to become the fastest-growing city in Ireland with a 50-60% increase in population by 2040 (National Planning Framework)
- Average house prices in Kerry are 61% lower than in Dublin while average house prices in Cork are 46% lower than in the capital (Geo Directory Ireland)
- Households in Kerry are more likely to own their home than the national average (45.8% compared to 36%)
- Highly educated workforce – with more than 41,000 students currently in higher education in the region

## PLACE

- Cork Airport has direct connections to almost 50 destinations; Kerry Airport has direct routes to the UK and Europe and a flight time to Dublin of less than one hour
- The Cork-Dublin rail line provides hourly services and is the top-performing intercity line in the country
- The Port of Cork is classified as a Tier 1 port of national significance and is ideally positioned for European trading
- The National Transport Authority will invest €600m in Cork as part of the BusConnects plan – including 75km of new bus lanes and 54km of new cycling and walking infrastructure
- Beautiful coastlines and rural scenery – Kerry boasts over 350 km of coastline, the Wild Atlantic Way, and is home to Ireland's

highest mountain Carrauntoohil, and 26,000 acres of Killarney National Park. Cork has the coastal beauty of Mizen Head, Schull Harbour, Kinsale, Kenmare, and the wonderful conservation projects at Fota Wildlife Park

- More than 20 Blue Flag beaches across Cork and Kerry
- Kerry has more 15-minute journeys than the national average (42.4% compared to 32.3%). Kerry also has a lower proportion of 30 to 45-minute journeys (13.5% compared to 17.3%)
- Rich cultural life – Other Voices music festival, Cork Jazz Festival, Cork Opera House and Blarney Castle

## IMPACT

- Cork is home to 7 of the top 10 pharmaceutical companies in the world
- University College Cork is ranked in the top 1.1% of universities in globally and has over 23,000 students; Munster Technological University has over 18,000 students with 6 campuses across Cork and Kerry
- In 2021, there were over 47,000 people employed in the FDI sector in Cork and Kerry (IDA)
- The South-West is a hub for technology, medical devices and biopharma companies
- There are over 190 multinationals in Cork
- Research centres including the Nimbus Research Centre – Ireland's largest dedicated Internet of Things Centre, the Tyndall National Institute Research Centre and FexCo's Research Development and Innovation Centre, backed by Kerry County Council



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