

#WhyMidWest Region is a great place to live and work

PEOPLE

- **Quality of Life** – 92% of people who relocated to the Mid-West said they were very happy with their decision to move; 72% of people who relocated to the Mid-West said they now have a better work-life balance (Collins McNicholas Mid-West Relocation survey)
- **Growing Population** – Almost half a million people now live in the Mid-West (CSO 2020); 73% of Limerick's population is of working age (Limerick.ie)
- **Higher Disposable Incomes** – Limerick has the highest disposable income per person outside of the capital (CSO 2020)
- **Highly Educated Workforce** – Over 35,000 students in third level education in the region

PLACE

- **Shannon Airport** – 20-minute drive from Limerick; provides direct links to the UK, mainland Europe and the US; Total passengers through Shannon Airport in 2023 was 1.96 million; Faster airport security times – US pre-clearance; in 2021, the airport deployed CT scanners at passenger security checkpoints, enabling it to lift the restrictions on liquids
- **Rich Culture** – Limerick shortlisted for European Capital of Culture 2020; Irish Chamber Orchestra is based in UL; Lime Tree Theatre; Belltable; the Hunt Museum (featuring work by Pablo Picasso, Jack B. Yeats, and Sybil Connolly); University Concert Hall; Doonbeg Jazz Festival; Doolin Writers' Weekend
- **Sporting Tradition & Excellence** – GAA formed in Thurles in 1884; Limerick is home to Munster rugby; Adare will host 2027 Ryder Cup
- **Gorgeous Locations** – The Wild Atlantic Way; the Cliffs of Moher; The Burren National Park; Bunratty Castle; Lough Derg (Ireland's third-largest lake); Galtee Mountains; Silvermine

Mountains; Adare, Ennis; Shannon Estuary; Limerick Greenway

- Clare is a renowned surfing location and has 13 Blue and Green Flag recreational areas including Lahinch, Spanish Point and Kilkee
- **Road and Rail Connections to all Other Cities** – Limerick/North Tipperary rail line provides direct link to Dublin within 2.5 hours, Clare connection to this line through Limerick; M7 motorway connects Limerick to Dublin within 2 hours; M18 motorway connects Limerick, Ennis, and Galway in less than 1.5 hours

IMPACT

- **Education** – University of Limerick (over 17,500 students); UL campus has 409 laboratories encompassing teaching, research, specialist and high-tech facilities; Technological University of the Shannon (over 13,000 students); Mary Immaculate College, which has a student retention rate of 94%
- Ireland's first master's degree in artificial intelligence (AI) is in UL in response to demand by industry for AI skills
- **Large Multinational Presence** – MedTech, Technology and Advanced Manufacturing hub
- FDI companies employed over 26,000 people in the Mid-West region in 2022
- Global Centres of Excellence including:
 - Digital Manufacturing Ireland
 - Lero, the SFI Research Centre for Software
 - Shannon Applied Biotechnology Centre
 - CONFIRM, the SFI Research Centre for Smart Manufacturing
- Wind from the Atlantic can now provide 70,000 MW of energy, over 10 times current Irish peak demand (Shannon Estuary Taskforce)

AMCHAM BOARD MEMBERS IN THE MIDWEST REGION



Dr. Orlaith Lawler

AmCham Mid-West Region Chair
VP Operations EMEA1, Beckman Coulter

2024 AmCham Events

Global Business Conference

20 March, Croke Park, Dublin

Annual Dinner & US-Ireland Business Awards

24 May, Clayton Burlington Hotel, Dublin

West-North-West Conference

13 June, Medtronic, Galway

West-North-West Dinner

13 June, Galmont Hotel, Galway

Independence Day Lunch

4 July, Clayton Burlington Hotel, Dublin

Southern Conference & Dinner

26 September, Maryborough Hotel, Cork

Mid-West Conference

10 October, ADI Catalyst, Limerick

Mid-West Dinner

10 October, The Strand Hotel, Limerick

Thanksgiving Day Lunch

28 November, Clayton Burlington Hotel, Dublin



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

PEOPLE

Where Talent Wants to Live and Stay

- Irish workers are the most productive in the world and twice as productive as the OECD average (OECD)
- Ireland ranked 4th out of 44 countries for education (OECD)
- Ireland is ranked 8th in the world for quality of life (United Nations)
- 63% of 25-34 year olds have attained third level education (the EU average is 41%) (CSO)
- Ireland has the highest share of under-20s in the EU, at 26% (Eurostat)
- Ireland currently ranks 1st globally for attracting and retaining international talent (DETE)

PLACE

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

- Ireland is the 2nd most competitive country in the world (IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook)
- Ireland is the only English-speaking, common-law trade and 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 €165bn in public infrastructure and capital works
- Almost 1 in 4 children in Ireland are born to a non-Irish mother (CSO)
- 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 (OECD)

IMPACT

A Country with a Passion for Skills and Innovation

- Ireland offers a 30% Research & Development tax credit
- Ireland is home to 42 state funded research organisations such as universities, institutes of technology and research centres of scale (Knowledge Transfer Ireland)
- Ireland is engaged in 5,815 international academic collaborations in 87 countries (SFI)
- Ireland is ranked 1st in the world for knowledge diffusion and 1st 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 500 Irish companies have operations across all 50 US states, employing almost 100,000 people
- US companies employ 210,000 people in Ireland and a further 168,000 indirectly
- Spend of US multinationals in the Irish economy in 2022:
 - €16bn on payroll
 - €14.2bn on capital expenditure
 - €10.8bn on goods and services
- 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 MedTech companies (IDA)
- Over 30 million US citizens claim Irish heritage
- Irish exports to the US increased by 14% from 2021 to 2022

