

Dublin Overall Score 36.2/100 | Overall Rank 25/50

Basic Facts

- 1.8 million population
- \$118.6 billion Gross Metro Product (2016)
- [Top industries by employment](#) are: wholesale and retail sector, industry, human health and social work activities

Notable Strengths

- Dublin is Ireland's largest city, and houses a number of major European corporations headquarters including Microsoft, Google, Amazon, eBay, Facebook, LinkedIn and Pfizer to name a few
- Dublin's Gross Metro Product (GMP) is estimated to be \$118.6 billion for 2016 and is expected to follow Ireland's overall GDP growth, which has trended at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 5 percent from 2010-2016, with growth [projected to continue to grow faster](#) than the European Union through 2017
- Though it ranked No. 29 for the Capital pillar, Dublin scores well above the median in Women's Capital Base, with the city's generous maternity and paternity leave policy as a major contributing factor
- The Republic of Ireland offers 26 weeks at a minimum pay of €235 euros per week paid by the state, with up to 16 additional unpaid weeks of leave available, however employers can supplement this amount at their discretion
- Dublin houses 3 top-ranked global universities including Trinity College, University College Dublin, and Dublin City University and 7 accredited business schools within the city, which boosts its Talent score in the Access to Qualified Personnel sub-indicator
- Collaborative efforts between Dublin's educational institutions and local entrepreneurship centers, such as Enterprise Ireland, have helped to boost the availability of Technology training organizations for women
- Accessibility to other technology training organizations, such as Women Who Code, [Ladies that UX](#), and [PyLadies](#) contribute to a Technology policy ranking of 25
- Dublin has been taking steps to improve the availability of entrepreneurship support

- The [Dublin Business Innovation Center](#) offers advice for entrepreneurs and connects business owners, which also includes a handful of women-focused business accelerators and networks located in Dublin, such as [Female High Fliers Accelerator](#) and [Female Founders](#)
- Additional [partnerships](#) between Enterprise Ireland, Bank of Ireland and NDRC Female Founders create support and startup investment funding for female entrepreneurs including the [Competitive Female Feasibility Fund for Women Entrepreneurs](#) and the [Female Competitive Start Fund](#)

Areas for Improvement

- Dublin's high cost of living contributes to its ranking as No. 50 in the Cost sub-indicator of the Markets pillar. This high cost of living puts added pressure on low wage workers many of whom are women. However, recent initiatives such as Dublin's Living Wage Initiative and its increase in the minimum wage have helped to mitigate this
- The high costs of childcare and dependency on family support system operates as a [barrier to women's labor force participation](#), which is slightly below the WE City index median and contributes to the lower rank in the Talent pillar (No. 35)
- Women entrepreneurs account for only one-quarter of local enterprise office grant recipients. Among Enterprise Ireland's high growth potential start-up businesses, only [15 percent were women-led](#), on average between 2012 and 2015 and Dublin ranked below median in the ease of starting a business
- Additionally, Dublin should consider improving its access to affordable internet and mobile plans to allow entrepreneurs to plow more money into operating and scaling, as it ranks No. 34 in Technology, with women's representation in social networks, such as LinkedIn, and use of mobile transaction functions scoring below the WE Cities median