

Source: Earnings, Hours and Employment Costs Survey. Total public sector numbers are also published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) on a quarterly basis. CSO estimates differ in coverage from estimates published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform as DPER estimates are based on full-time equivalents which will change over time based on both changes in working hours and number of persons employed. CSO estimates represent the estimated total number of employees within the public sector. Department of Public Expenditure and Reform estimates also exclude commercial semi-state bodies so for comparability purposes a figure excluding semi-state bodies is included in these estimates. Differences in the level of the two sets of estimates primarily reflect part-time employment within the different sectors which would generally cause estimates on a full-time equivalent basis (i.e. those produced by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform) to be lower. Differences in trend could be caused by changes in the proportion of part-time staff within the public sector and/or other changes in average working hours.