

Construction - Student Trends and Graduate Outcomes

Classes of 2017 - 2021



National Context

CSO Construction Data

- There were 160,800 people employed in the Construction sector in Q1 2023, up from 159,300 year on year.
- The volume of production in construction rose by 7.5% in Q1 2023 compared with Q4 2022 on a seasonally adjusted basis. On an annual basis there was a 2.8% increase in volume of production recorded.
- House units granted planning permission over the last 3 years:
 - 2020: 17,709
 - 2021: 16,719
 - 2022: 17,454
- 65% of all apartment units granted planning permission in 2022 were in Dublin.
- The numbers of one-off houses granted planning permission in 2022 decreased 8% over the previous year.
- The numbers of multi-development house units granted planning permission in 2022 increased by 14% over the previous year.
- The numbers of apartment units granted planning permission has fallen from 24,663 in 2020 to 16,723 in 2022.

CSO Data: <https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/buildingandconstruction/>

Student Trends

This info-byte includes student and graduate data from the following fields of study.

- Architecture, Town Planning and Other Construction
- Building and Civil Engineering

Student data is taken from the HEA Student Records System and graduate outcomes data is taken from the HEA Graduate Outcomes Survey.

The table below displays the total student number, for all modes of study, on construction programs between 2017/18 and 2021/22.

Overall student numbers have increased between 2017/18 and 2021/22 from 7,535 to 9,510, an increase of 26%.

	Architecture, town planning and other construction	Building and Civil Engineering	Total
2017/2018	3,064	4,471	7,535
2018/2019	3,290	4,947	8,237
2019/2020	3,464	5,508	8,972
2020/2021	3,788	5,655	9,443
2021/2022	3,880	5,630	9,510

Graduate Outcomes

Main Destination

87%

87% of all construction graduates are in employment nine months after graduation across the classes of 2017-2021.

7%

7% of all construction graduates are in further study.

6%

A further 6% are either unemployed or doing another activity such as travelling or engaging in home duties.



Salaries and contracts

- 43% of Construction graduates earned between €25,000 and €34,999 nine months after graduation. This figure compares with 40% for all graduates.
- 79% of Construction graduates were employed on a permanent contract.
- 14% were on fixed-term contracts of 12 months or more.
- 92% were employees, 4% were self-employed and 4% were on an internship or placement.



Reflections

- 70% of graduates said they were 'very likely' or 'likely' to study the course again.
- This is in line with the average (69%) for all graduates.



For further information:



www.graduateoutcomes.ie



[HEA Graduate Outcomes](#)



[@GradSurveyIRL](#)

If you have any further queries, suggestions or ideas for future Info-Byte topics, please contact graduatesurvey@hea.ie.

June 2023

David Reilly & Valerie Harvey
Statistics Unit