

# Ireland

Submitted on 12 May 2023, update submitted on 16 July 2024

## Summary of main findings

Metric	Value	Further information																																				
<b>Overall goal of the LTS</b>	To achieve climate neutrality by no later than 2050. <sup>1</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2030 and 2050 targets take account of all greenhouse gases included in the common UN reporting format tables.</li> <li>All sectors are included, although the alternative pathways for LULUCF will be subject to future reviews.<sup>2</sup> Reference is also made to international navigation and aviation.</li> <li>Decarbonisation of agriculture will take account of the latest scientific advice and the special economic and social role of agriculture, including with regard to the distinct characteristics of biogenic methane.</li> <li>A carbon budget programme determines the maximum amount of emissions in a five-year period and sets sectoral emission ceilings.<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>																																				
<b>Scenarios presented in the LTS</b>	The indicative pathways to climate neutrality align with longer-term objectives out of 2050, but it could have included more details on specific scenarios and modelling approaches.																																					
<b>GHG reductions</b>	<p><b>Modelling results:</b> Total emissions (excl. LULUCF) ~2 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq by 2050</p> <p><b>Target:</b> To reduce GHG emissions to 33.5 MtCO<sub>2</sub>-eq by 2030, (corresponding to the target of 51% emission reduction target, compared to 2018)</p>	<p><b>Emission targets by sectors:</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Mio.tCO<sub>2</sub> eq</th> <th>2030*</th> <th>2040</th> <th>2050**</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Power</b></td> <td>3</td> <td>1 to -7</td> <td>0 to -8</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Industry</b></td> <td>4</td> <td>2 - 0</td> <td>0 to -1</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Transport</b></td> <td>6</td> <td>&gt;2-2</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Buildings</b></td> <td>5</td> <td>2-1</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Agriculture***</b></td> <td>17.3</td> <td>14-12</td> <td>11-7</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Waste</b></td> <td>0.45</td> <td>-</td> <td>n.a</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>LULUCF****</b></td> <td>5</td> <td>6-4</td> <td>8-2</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Unallocated savings *****</b></td> <td>5.25</td> <td>-</td> <td>n.a</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>* Figures for MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq for 2030 have been rounded. This may lead to some discrepancies. ** Values for 2050 are indicative. *** At 14 to 18% of forest cover. **** Calculations are set based on alternative compliance pathway. ***** The Sectoral Emissions Ceilings leave an annual unallocated savings of 5.25 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq from 2026 to 2030, awaiting the identification of supplementary abatement measures.</i></p>	Mio.tCO <sub>2</sub> eq	2030*	2040	2050**	<b>Power</b>	3	1 to -7	0 to -8	<b>Industry</b>	4	2 - 0	0 to -1	<b>Transport</b>	6	>2-2	0	<b>Buildings</b>	5	2-1	0	<b>Agriculture***</b>	17.3	14-12	11-7	<b>Waste</b>	0.45	-	n.a	<b>LULUCF****</b>	5	6-4	8-2	<b>Unallocated savings *****</b>	5.25	-	n.a
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<b>Renewable Energy Sources</b>	<p><b>Modelling results:</b> n.a</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Share of renewables in electricity generation in 2030: 80% (incl. 14 GW wind, 8 GW solar) as per Climate Action Plan Further shift to 70-90% RES in 2030-2050</p>	<p><b>Main drivers and features:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The target requires a complete phase out of coal and peat fired electricity generation.</li> <li>The strategy envisages the continued roll out of competitive auctions for onshore and offshore renewables under the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS).</li> <li>A new Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (ORED II) will boost renewable energy in Ireland’s maritime area. Under the Future Framework for ORE published in May 2024, the targets are: 20GW by 2040 and 37GW by 2050.<sup>4</sup></li> <li>The strategy also includes community participation elements.<sup>5</sup></li> </ul>																																				

<sup>1</sup> Ireland’s Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 also outlines Ireland’s 2030 targets committing to a 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. The strategy also emphasizes a commitment to just transition to a low-carbon economy.

<sup>2</sup> The Climate Action Plan 2024 sets out an alternative compliance pathway for the LULUCF sector that reflects the specific characteristics of land use, accounts for bio-physical and temporal reality, is feasible, and aligns with Ireland’s longer-term climate objectives out to 2050.

<sup>3</sup> The average annual reduction over the first five years is 4.8%; for the second period 8.3%; and for the final provisional period 3.5%.

<sup>4</sup> Future Framework for Offshore Renewable Energy 2024. Available at: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/0566b-future-framework-for-offshore-renewable-energy/>

<sup>5</sup> The Climate Action Plan 2023 commits to delivering at least 500 MW of renewables through local community-based projects and to supporting the deployment of at least 1000 MW of new micro-generation and small scale-generation.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LTS outlines measures to develop a renewable gas industry.</li> </ul>
<b>Energy efficiency</b>	n.a	<p><b>Main drivers and features:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LTS does not provide any likely estimate of final energy consumption by 2050. Efficiency improvements are only described in a broad and qualitative manner, and only for few sectors.</li> <li>By 2030, the completion of the equivalent of 500 000 residential retrofits, including the installation of 400 000 heat pumps (expected savings 735 KtCO<sub>2</sub>eq)</li> <li>By 2030, delivery of up to 2.7 TWh of District Heating &amp; Cooling.</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated investment needs</b>	In a net-zero by 2050 pathway there is approx. EUR 360 bn total investment required for low carbon tech between 2021 and 2050. <sup>6</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The revised National Development Plan will underpin public investment in climate action over the next decade. It will support climate actions in areas such as renewable electricity generation, retrofit and public transport.</li> <li>From the EUR 360 bn by 2050, spending on buildings is estimated at EUR 37 bn up to 2030, EUR 40 bn in 2031-2040, EUR 46 bn in 2041-2050. For transport EUR 42, EUR 61 and EUR 42 bn respectively, and for power EUR 37-43 bn between 2021-2030, EUR 22 bn in the 30s and EUR 22 bn in the 40s.</li> </ul>
<b>Socio-economic impacts of transition</b>	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LTS considers the benefits of actions across the economy, improved health, and enhanced living conditions, financial, technological, and economic risks of inaction. Indicators for the socio-economic impacts are missing. The circular economy is projected to create 700 000 additional jobs across Europe and provide a EUR 1.8 trillion annual benefits.</li> </ul>
<b>Adaptation Policies and Measures</b>	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LTS refers to the Irish National Adaptation Policy, <a href="#">Ireland's National Adaptation Framework</a> (NAF), outlines the national strategy for climate change adaptation. It focuses on reducing vulnerability to climate impacts across 12 key sectors under the themes of natural and cultural capital; critical infrastructure; water resources and flood risk management; public health., encouraging both national and local efforts.</li> </ul>
<b>Public consultation</b>	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultations on the revised LTS have been carried out in 2023, building on earlier consultations in 2019.</li> </ul>
<b>Legal status of the LTS and targets</b>	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ireland's Climate Act 2021 sets the statutory basis to achieve carbon neutrality no later than 2050.</li> </ul>

Overall completeness of the LTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LTS defines a clear goal for Ireland, aiming to be climate neutral by 2050.</li> <li>In general, the strategy is developed in detail and trajectories have been completed up to 2050. However, only GHG reduction targets for 2030, following the carbon ceilings, have been adequately defined.</li> <li>The LTS includes most of the mandatory contents. The socio-economic impact assessment falls short on including more quantitative analysis.</li> <li>The emission reductions and removals in LULUCF area which was under development in 2023 LTS version has now been included. The approach set out an alternative compliance pathway that reflects the specific characteristics of land use. However, Ireland still needs to complete a Land-use Review expected by Q1 2025.</li> <li>The LTS includes some of the non-mandatory contents (e.g. adaptation policies and measures). However, there is no or little information on the likely estimates on the share of renewable energy, energy consumption and expected emission reductions by industrial sectors, transport types, or emission by sources from agriculture or LULUCF sectors.</li> </ul>

<sup>6</sup> EUR 124 bn of this investment is forecast to take place during 2030s and EUR 111 bn during the 2040s. Investments in the transportation sector comprise ~ 50% of total 2031-2050 investment requirements. The reminder, EUR 125 bn, has/will be invested between 2021-2030.