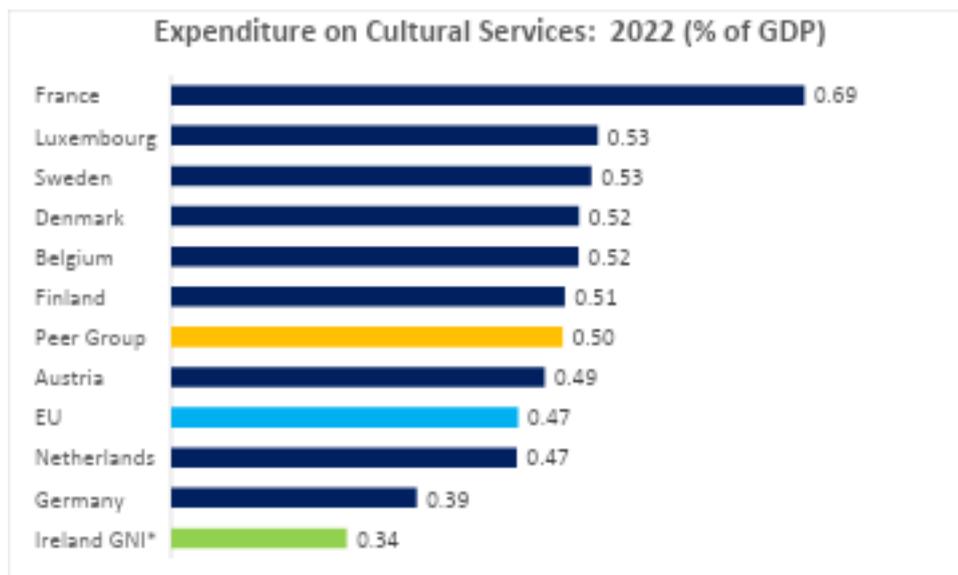


Comparative Spending on Cultural Services in the EU

The following compares government spending on Cultural Services in 2022 – the last year we have data for. The areas covered by Cultural Services is listed at the end of this note.

There are two ways to measure comparative spending: (a) spending as a percentage of national income (GDP, and GNI* for Ireland); and (b) spending per capita, factoring in living costs (GDP Purchasing Power Standard).

1. National Income Approach



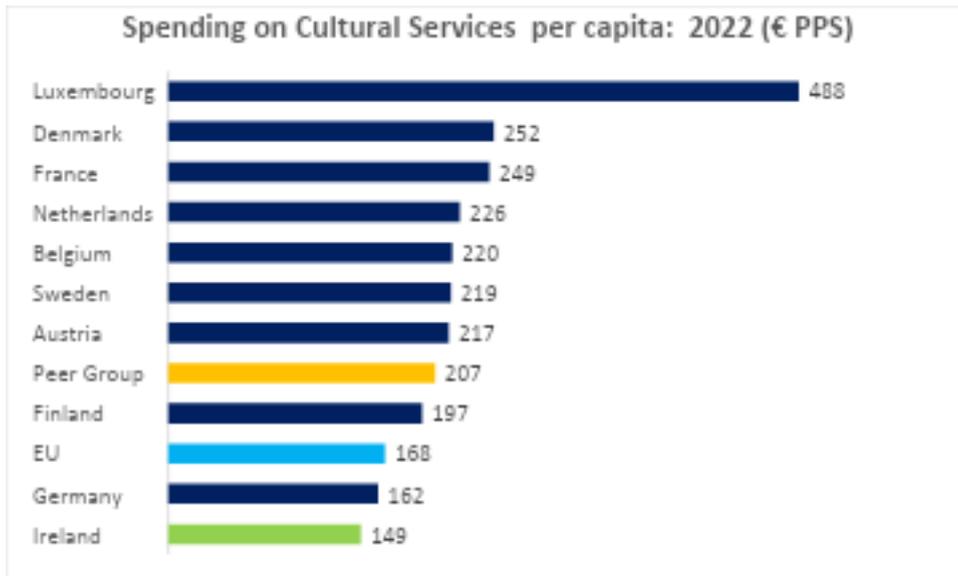
Irish spending on Cultural Services is below average EU expenditure. It is also below the spending of our peer-group – other high-income countries (peer group comparisons are used by a range of bodies, including the Government).

- If Irish spending were to rise to the average of our peer group, it would require an increase of €477 million, or 49.8 per cent.
- If Irish spending were to rise the EU average, it would require an increase of €355 million, or 39.5 per cent.

It should be noted that Ireland spent €897.3 million on Cultural Services in 2022.

2. Per Capital Approach

Living costs and currency exchange have been factored in through GDP Purchasing Power Standard, a standard measurement used to ensure like-for-like comparisons.



Again, Irish spending – measured in per capita terms – comes in at the bottom of the table, below the EU average (which is notable given that some much of the EU is made up of larger low-income countries) and below all our peer group countries.

- If Irish spending were to rise to the average of our peer group, it would require an increase of €345 million, or 38.5 per cent.
- If Irish spending were to rise the EU average, it would require an increase of €112 million, or 12.5 per cent.

3. Conclusion

Using the national income approach is the more straightforward. Therefore, Irish spending on Cultural Services would have to rise (in 2022) **between €350 million and €450 million** to reach EU average and Peer Group averages respectively.

NOTE: Cultural Services cover the following areas:

- Provision of cultural services; administration of cultural affairs; supervision and regulation of cultural facilities;
- Operation or support of facilities for cultural pursuits (libraries, museums, art galleries, theatres, exhibition halls, monuments, historic houses and sites, zoological and botanical gardens, aquaria, arboreta, etc.); production, operation or support of cultural events (concerts, stage and film productions, art shows, etc.);
- Grants, loans or subsidies to support individual artists, writers, designers, composers and others working in the arts or to organizations engaged in promoting cultural activities.

It further includes: national, regional or local celebrations provided they are not intended chiefly to attract tourists.

END.