

Ireland

North Ireland



Ireland

Short data:

- Capital – Belfast
- The area – 13 843 км²
- The population – 1 million 759,1 thousand people
- Form board – parliamentary democracy
- Economy – industrial
- Official languages – English, Irish
- Currencies – Irish pound





Ireland - the small curved island in the Atlantic Ocean which borders on the western coast of Britain – 80 km through the Irish Sea. It has the extent of 500 km from the North to the south and 300 km from the East to the west; here only two completely independent more or less large cities and everywhere are located a lonely massif or bogs.

Northern Ireland is administrative and political part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It is located in northeast part of the island of Ireland, in 21 km from the coast of Scotland. The area of the territory of Northern Ireland makes 13843 km².





The capital of North Ireland – Belfast

Belfast is on east coast of Ireland, at the river Logan. In Belfast the Assembly of Northern Ireland settled down. The main square of the city – Donegall Square – is surrounded with the most interesting monuments of the Victorian era. The population – 579 554. The second city of the island of Ireland on population after Dublin.





Currency

Currency in Northern Ireland is the Pound sterling (GBP)





Population

The population of Northern Ireland makes about 1 million 759,1 thousand people.

The ethnic structure of the population of Northern Ireland is non-uniform: there live about 500 thousand aboriginals of the island of Ireland — Catholic Irish and about 1 million English-Irish and shotlando-Irish. The majority — Protestants who are British on culture and traditions.





Languages and religions

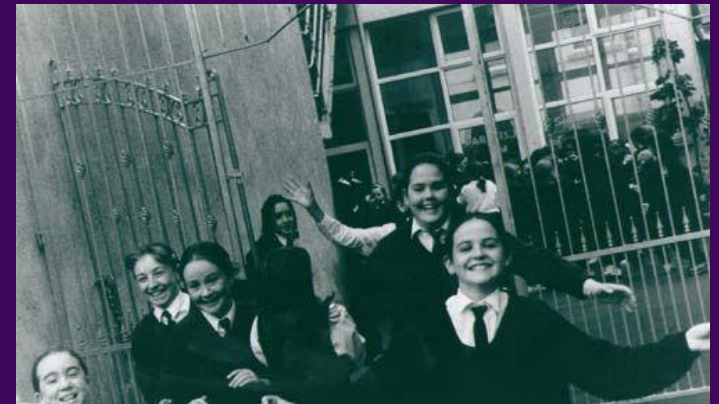


In Northern Ireland the only official language is English.

The majority of inhabitants of the Republic of Ireland (95%) are parishioners of Catholic church, 2,8% belong to Anglican church, 0,4% - presviterianets, 0,2% - methodologists, 0,1% - Jews. In the Republic the freedom of worship is observed.

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Form of government

Political system - parliamentary democracy (constitutional monarchy with the unwritten constitution). The head of state is the queen of Great Britain. The government of Northern Ireland head: prime minister of Great Britain, prime minister of Northern Ireland and deputy prime minister. They are elected by National Assembly.

The parliament represents National assembly which consists of 108 deputies



State system

- Legislature — Assembly of Northern Ireland, consisting of 108 members of Legislative Assembly elected by the population of Northern Ireland.



Executive body — the Executive Committee of Northern Ireland consisting of the First minister of Northern Ireland, the Deputy First minister of Northern Ireland and 11 ministers of Northern Ireland.

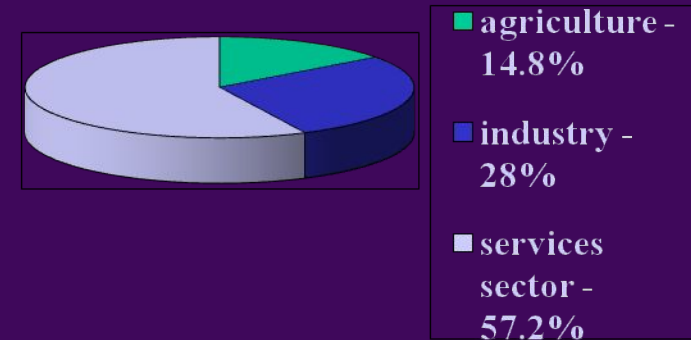


Symbols of Northern Ireland

From 1953 to 1972 the government and the governmental organizations of Northern Ireland used the special flag known as "An Ulster banner". It consisted of a St George's Cross in which the white six-finned star and a red hand (a symbol of ancient Ulster) were located. From above over a star there was a crown.

Informally inhabitants of Northern Ireland hang out that flag which corresponds to their political addictions for holidays: flag of Great Britain, Northern Ireland or Irish Republic.





On gross domestic product volume the economy of Northern Ireland takes the last place among the provinces of the United Kingdom. Traditionally here industrial production, in particular shipbuilding was developed, production of ropes and the textile industry, but over time the heavy industry the services sector, mainly, replaced public sector.

Tourism also plays large role in economy of Northern Ireland. Recently the province received considerable investments of large multinational corporations into high-tech industries of the industry. They are attracted by the state grants and highly skilled labor of Northern Ireland. Though rural life still is one of the most considerable cultural factors of Northern Ireland, on a share of agriculture, forest and fishing industries only 4% of gross domestic product are necessary.

On a share of the processing industries supported by internal investors, and such developing branches as computer programming and telecommunication and network systems, is necessary about 20% of gross domestic product.