

# Ireland

## April 2024

This country fact sheet provides key trade and investment-related statistics for Ireland. Specifically, it shows Ireland's trade and investment flows in relation to both South Africa and the Western Cape, including an analysis of top markets and products. The report highlights the largest and fastest-growing products, and their sub-sectors. It also looks at tourism trends between Ireland and South Africa, and Ireland and the Western Cape.

### Trade

In 2023, South Africa's exports to Ireland were valued at ZAR2.19bn, representing a decline of 18.18% y-o-y from the ZAR2.67bn recorded in 2022. In turn, the country's imports from Ireland totalled ZAR8.26bn in 2023, amounting to an increase of 6.74% y-o-y from a cost of ZAR7.74bn incurred in 2022.

South Africa's dominant export category to Ireland in 2023 was chemical wood pulp. At a value of ZAR399.91m, this was equivalent to 18.29% of the value of the country's total exports to Ireland. South Africa's main import from Ireland was medicaments, costing ZAR1,189.51m which was equivalent to 14.41% of the cost of South Africa's total imports from the country in 2023.

The Western Cape's export receipts from trade with Ireland totalled ZAR673.75m in 2023, representing an increase of 8.15% y-o-y from the ZAR623.00m earned in 2022. In turn, the value of the Western Cape's imports from Ireland increased by 16.31% y-o-y to a cost of ZAR1,324.71m in 2023, up from ZAR1,138.99m in 2022.

The province's leading export product to Ireland in 2023 was citrus fruit which, at a value of ZAR175.72m, amounted to 26.08% of the value of the province's exports to Ireland in 2023.

### Investments

From January 2012 to February 2024, Ireland invested in 31 projects worth ZAR67.64bn in capital expenditure (capex) in South Africa. And during the same period, South Africa invested in 14 projects in Ireland, amounting to ZAR2.51bn in capex.

### Tourism

In 2022, South Africa welcomed 20 817 tourists from Ireland, reflecting a 431.0% year-on-year growth when compared to 2021 and a recovery of 68.7% over 2019 arrivals.

More than 10 000 Irish tourists visited the Western Cape in 2023, reflecting a recovery of 79.1% when compared to the same period (January – September) in 2022 and a y-o-y growth of 48.3% in relation to 2022.

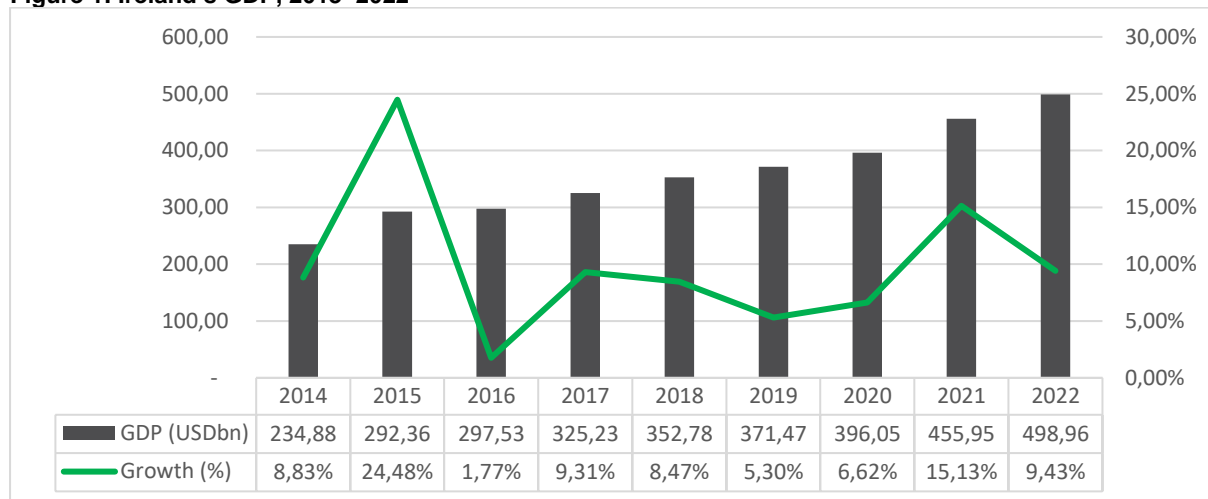
## Contents

1	Economic Overview .....	3
2	Trade .....	4
2.1	South Africa's Trade with Ireland .....	4
2.2	Western Cape's Trade with Ireland.....	6
3	Foreign Direct Investment.....	8
3.1	Global FDI in Ireland .....	8
3.2	Bilateral FDI: Global Outward Foreign Direct Investment from Ireland .....	10
3.3	Bilateral FDI: Ireland's FDI in South Africa .....	13
3.4	Bilateral FDI: South Africa's FDI in Ireland .....	14
3.5	Bilateral FDI: Ireland's FDI in the Western Cape .....	16
3.6	Bilateral FDI: Western Cape's FDI in Ireland.....	17
4	Tourism .....	19
4.1	Tourist Arrivals from Ireland in South Africa, 2018–2023.....	19
4.2	Tourist Arrivals from Ireland in the Western Cape.....	19
4.3	Irish Passenger Movement Through Cape Town International Airport .....	20

## 1 Economic Overview

Despite the obstacles posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, Ireland's economy has displayed remarkable resilience which can be attributed in part to the country's swift policy responses. Over the past decade, the nation has achieved strong economic growth, with an average annual growth rate of 9.92% – one of the highest growth rates globally. As illustrated in Figure 1, with the exception of 2016, Ireland's gross domestic product (GDP) exhibited steady growth over the 10-year-period leading up to 2022, escalating from ZAR234.88bn in 2014 to a peak of ZAR498.96bn in 2022. Ireland's economic growth can be credited to capital accumulation, especially through public infrastructure investments.

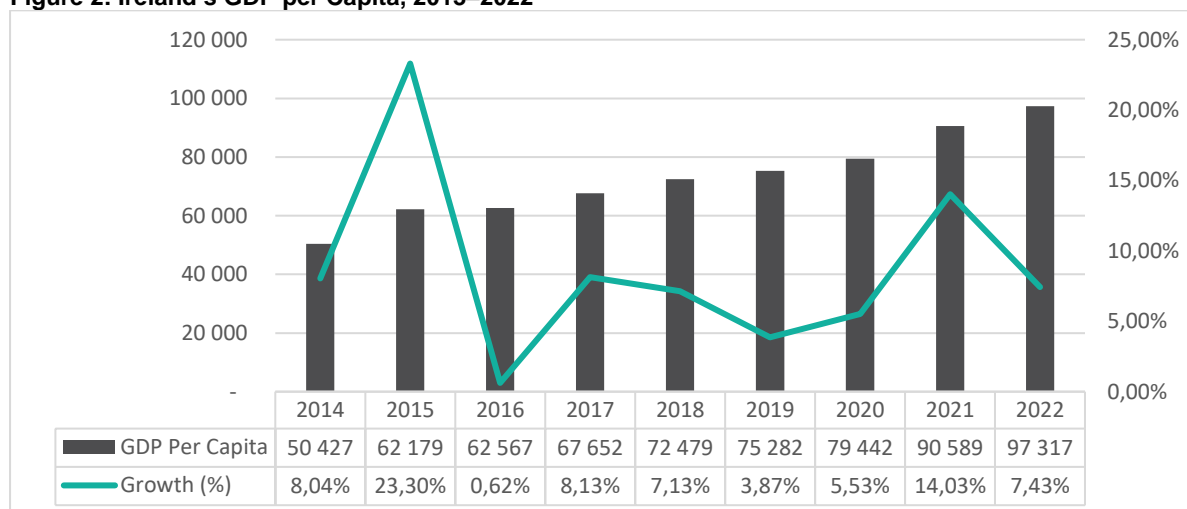
**Figure 1: Ireland's GDP, 2013–2022**



Source: World Development Indicators, 2024

Similarly, Ireland's GDP per capita grew steadily from USD50,427 in 2014 to USD97,317 in 2022. This can be seen in Figure 2. Between 2014 and 2015, Ireland recorded a substantial increase in GDP per capita, rising from \$50,427 to \$62,179, driven by heightened investment, infrastructure development and economic reforms. Although the pace of growth moderated slightly from 2016 to 2018, GDP per capita continued to climb from \$62,567 to \$72,479 in these years, indicating a sustained trend of economic development and stability. From 2019 to 2022, Ireland experienced further growth in GDP per capita, with this peaking at \$97,317 in 2022. This positive trajectory can be attributed to the country's ongoing efforts to maintain economic growth, attract investments, and implement structural reforms, all of which are indications of Ireland's dedication to economic advancement and development over the years.

**Figure 2: Ireland's GDP per Capita, 2013–2022**

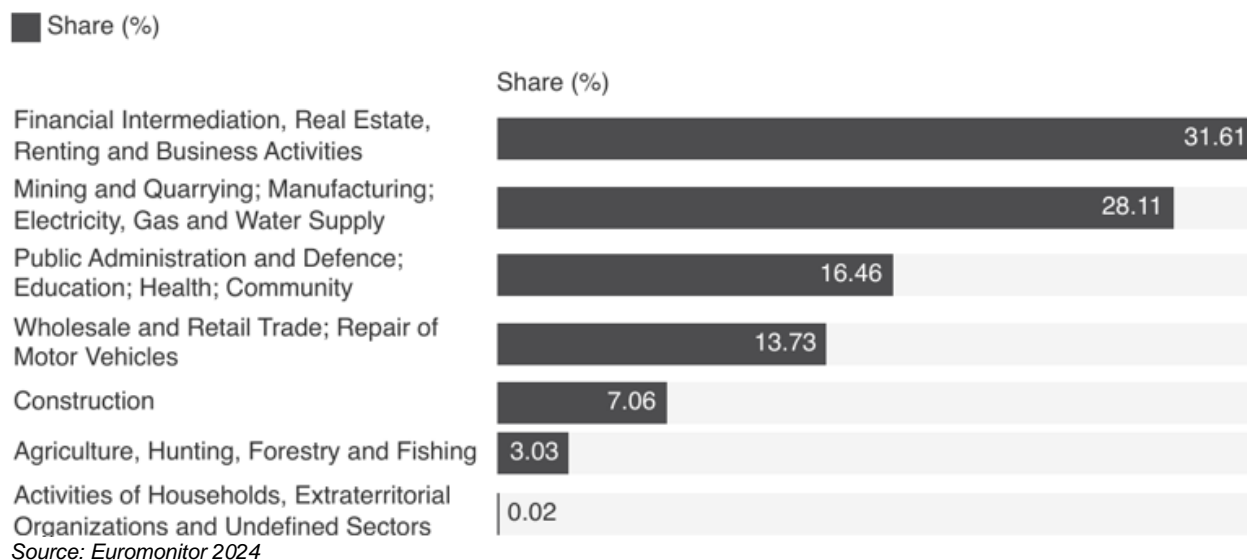


Source: World Development Indicators, 2024

Figure 3 illustrates the sectoral contributions to Ireland's gross value added (GVA) in 2023. The primary contributors to GVA were financial intermediation, real estate, renting, and business activities (with a share of 31.61%); mining and quarrying, manufacturing, electricity, gas, and water (28.11%); and public administration and defence,

education, health, and community (16.46%). The services sector is anticipated to retain its pivotal role as a driver of economic growth.

**Figure 3: Ireland’s Sector Contribution to GVA (%), 2023**



## 2 Trade

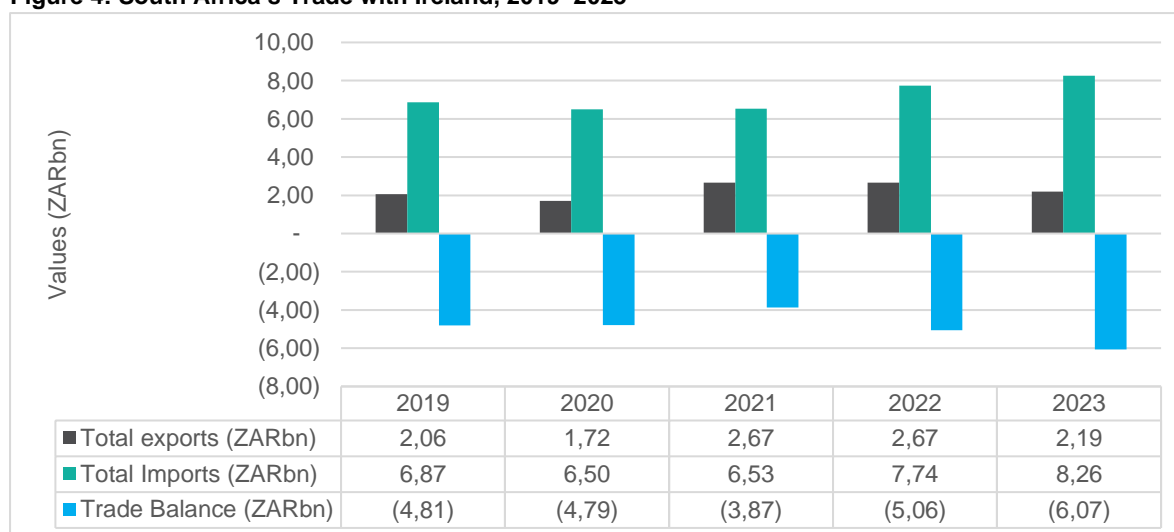
This section examines Ireland’s trade flows with South Africa and the Western Cape between 2018 and 2023.

### 2.1 South Africa’s Trade with Ireland

South Africa's exports to Ireland experienced notable fluctuations from 2019 to 2023, with earnings rising from ZAR 2.06bn in 2019 to ZAR2.67bn in 2021, where it remained in 2022, before easing to ZAR2.19bn in 2023, as can be seen in Figure 4. These fluctuations were influenced, in part, by the repercussions of Covid-19 and the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which impacted trade dynamics between the two countries. Export earnings experienced a decline of 18.18% y-o-y from 2022 to reach ZAR2.19bn in 2023.

Looking at imports, the value of South Africa’s imports from Ireland grew by 6.74% y-o-y from ZAR7.74bn in 2022 to a cost of ZAR8.26bn in 2023. South Africa’s trade balance with Ireland remained firmly in a deficit throughout the period under review.

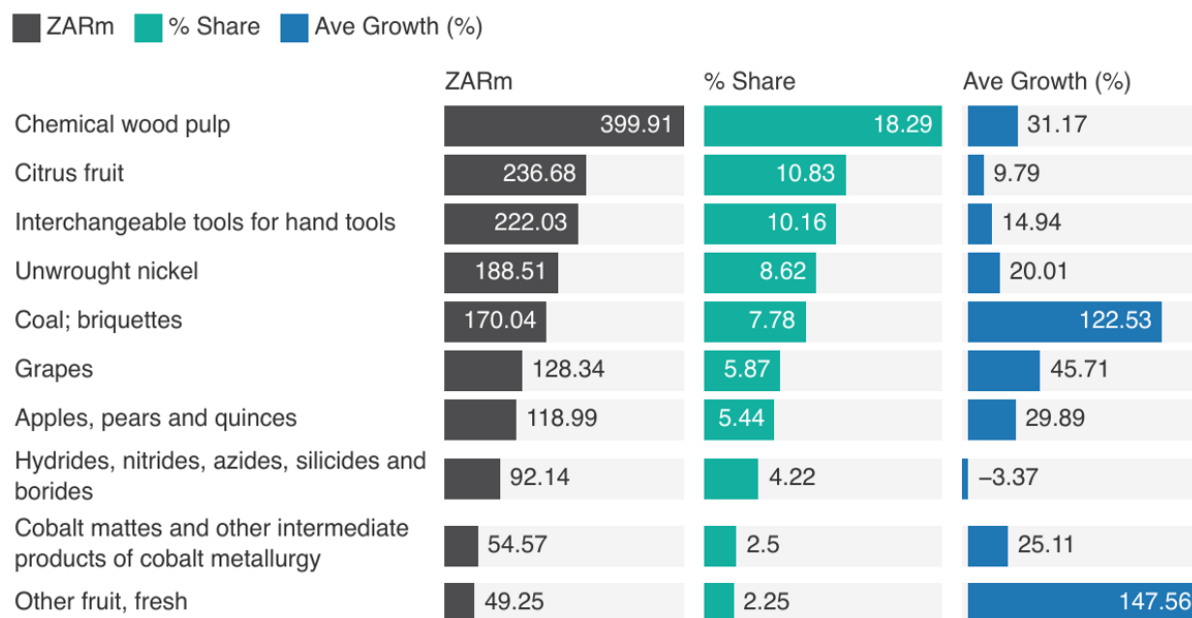
**Figure 4: South Africa’s Trade with Ireland, 2019–2023**



Source: Quantec, 2024

Chemical wood pulp was South Africa's largest export product to Ireland in 2023, as shown in Figure 5. At a value of ZAR399.91m, this accounted for 18.29% of South Africa's total export earnings from exports to Ireland. Citrus fruit was the second largest export product at a value of ZAR236.68m (10.83% of export earnings), while exports of interchangeable tools for hand tools placed third, at a value of ZAR222.03m (10.16%). The fastest-growing export product was other fruit, fresh, with a five-year average growth rate of 147.56% between 2019 and 2023. Exports of coal, briquettes followed with a five-year average growth rate of 122.53%.

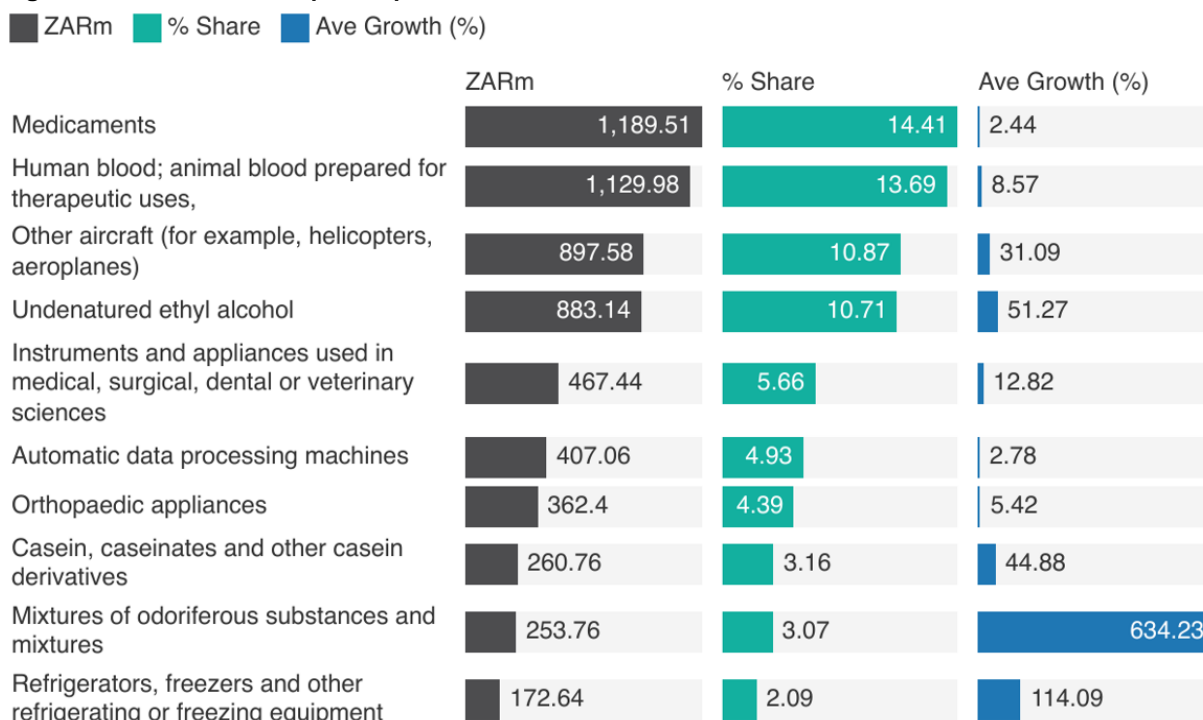
**Figure 5: South Africa's Top 10 Export Products to Ireland 2023, & Ave. Growth, 2019–2023**



Source: Quantec, 2024

Figure 6 shows that South Africa's top imported product from Ireland in 2023 was medicaments. At a value of ZAR1,189.51m, this accounted for 14.41% of the cost of total imports from Ireland to South Africa in that year. This was followed by imports of human blood; animal blood prepared for therapeutic uses which cost ZAR1,129.98m. In third place was the import category of other aircraft (for example, helicopters, aeroplanes), costing ZAR897.58m.

**Figure 6: South Africa's Top 10 Import Products from Ireland 2023, & Ave. Growth, 2019–2023**

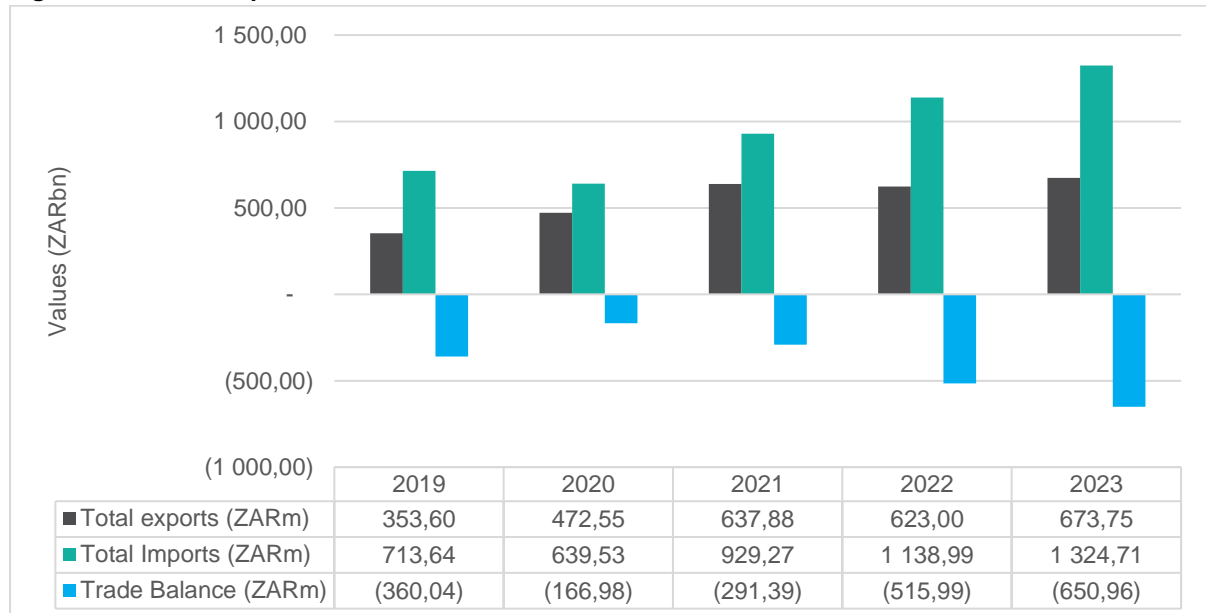


Source: Quantec, 2024

## 2.2 Western Cape's Trade with Ireland

The Western Cape's export receipts from trade with Ireland totalled ZAR673.75m in 2023, representing an increase of 8.15% y-o-y from a value of ZAR623.00m earned in 2022. This can be observed in Figure 7. In turn, the province's import costs from Ireland totalled ZAR1,324.71m in 2023, amounting to a growth of 16.31% in relation to the cost of ZAR1,138.99m recorded in 2022. The province's trade balance with Ireland remained firmly in a deficit throughout the period under consideration.

**Figure 7: Western Cape's Trade with Ireland, 2019–2023**



Source: Quantec, 2024

Figure 8 shows that the Western Cape's leading export product to Ireland in 2023 was citrus fruit. Valued at ZAR175.72m, this was equivalent to 26.08% of the value of the province's total exports to the European country in that year. Grapes placed second, with exports valued at ZAR127.51m. In third place was the export category of apples, pears and quinces, at a value of ZAR118.99m. Exports of pepper of the genus Piper was the fastest-growing export category, having recorded a five-year average growth rate of 1,192.19% from 2019 to 2023.

**Figure 8: Western Cape's Top 10 Export Products to Ireland 2023 & Ave. Growth, 2019–2023**

	ZARm	% Share	Ave Growth (%)
Citrus fruit	175.72	26.08	10.64
Grapes	127.51	18.92	45.15
Apples, pears and quinces	118.99	17.66	29.93
Other fruit, fresh	49.25	7.31	147.62
Fish fillets and other fish meat (whether or not minced)	43.48	6.45	33.19
Wine of fresh grapes, including fortified wines	36.11	5.36	3.63
Heterocyclic compounds with nitrogen hetero-atom(s) only	25.07	3.72	51.43
Salt (including table salt and denatured salt)	8.26	1.23	1,128.27
Fruit and nuts	7.47	1.11	182.15
Pepper of the genus Piper	6.91	1.03	1,192.19

Source: Quantec, 2024

The Western Cape's top import product from Ireland in 2023 was undenatured ethyl alcohol, as shown in Figure 9. At a value of ZAR810.42m, this was equivalent to 61.18% of the cost of the province's total imports from the European country in that year. Air or vacuum pumps was the second largest import category at a cost of ZAR57.19m, while casein, caseinates and other casein derivatives placed third at a value of ZAR54.85m. Boards, panels, consoles, desks, cabinets and other bases was the fastest-growing import category during the period 2019–2023, with an average growth rate of 2,786.11% per annum.

**Figure 9: Western Cape's Top 10 Import Products from Ireland, 2023 & Ave. Growth, 2019–2023**

Legend: ZARm (Dark Grey), % Share (Teal), Ave Growth (%) (Blue)

	ZARm	% Share	Ave Growth (%)
Undenatured ethyl alcohol	810.42	61.18	55.78
Air or vacuum pumps	57.19	4.32	1,048.65
Casein, caseinates and other casein derivatives	54.85	4.14	82.48
Refrigerators, freezers and other refrigerating or freezing equipment	49.47	3.73	110.51
Boards, panels, consoles, desks, cabinets and other bases	43.84	3.31	2,786.11
Peat (including peat litter)	31.41	2.37	22.86
Medicaments (excluding goods of heading 30.02, 30.05 or 30.06)	27.81	2.12	12.04
Edible offal of bovine animals	26.31	1.99	21.52
Extracts, essences and concentrates, of coffee	24.88	1.88	-3.31
Preparations of a kind used in animal feeding	18.04	1.36	10.08

Source: Quantec, 2024

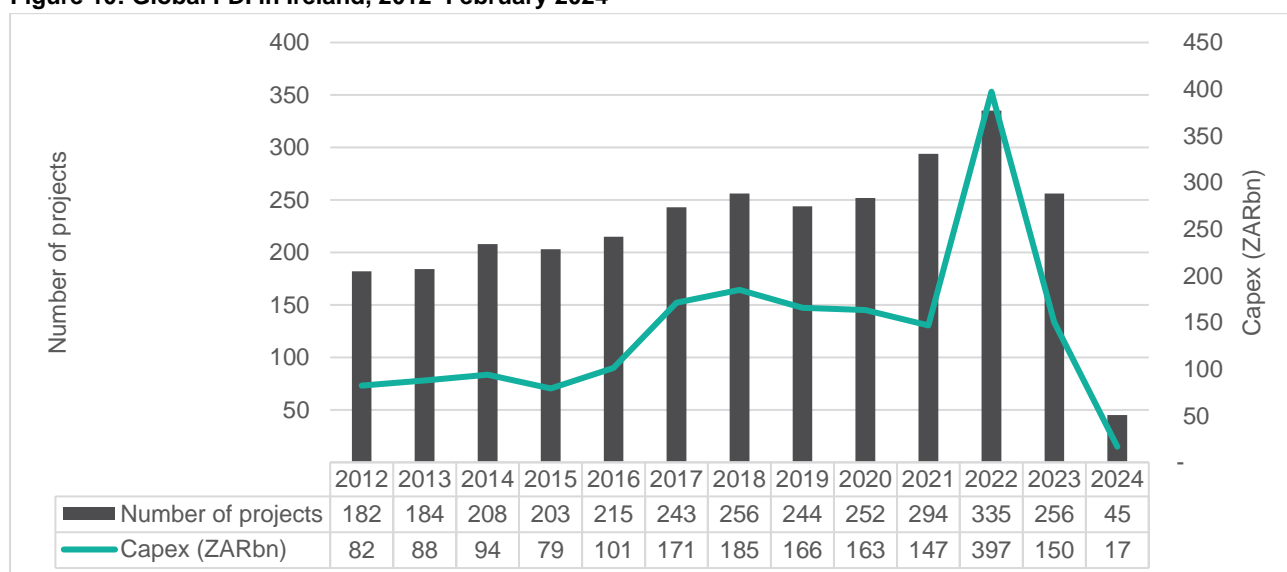
### 3 Foreign Direct Investment

This section examines foreign direct investment (FDI) flows between Ireland and South Africa, and between Ireland and the Western Cape.

#### 3.1 Global FDI in Ireland

Ireland benefited from 2,917 global FDI projects from January 2012 to February 2024, as shown in Figure 10. These projects amounted to a total capital expenditure (capex) of ZAR1,840.72bn, which equated to an average investment of ZAR0.63bn per project. The FDI projects generated 227 625 jobs. During this period, the number of FDI projects varied from 182 in 2012 to 256 projects in 2023 and an estimated 45 projects by February 2024. The capex value of these projects fluctuated between ZAR82.43bn in 2012 and an estimated ZAR16.75bn in 2024.

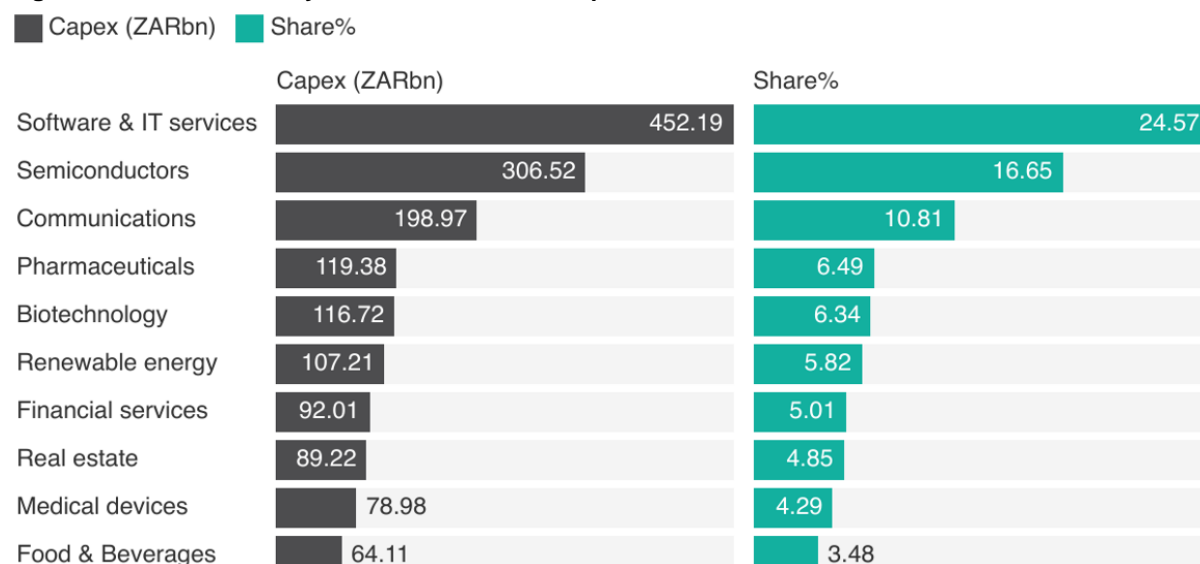
**Figure 10: Global FDI in Ireland, 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

From January 2012 to February 2024, the software and IT services sector was the largest recipient of FDI (in terms of capex) in Ireland from around the world. Investments in this sector amounted to a share of 24.57% of total investments in the country during this period. The semiconductors and communications sectors were the second and third largest recipients of FDI (in terms of capex), with these sectors having benefited from investments worth ZAR306.52bn and ZAR198.97bn respectively. These figures are presented in Figure 11.

**Figure 11: FDI in Ireland by Sector, Measured in Capex, 2012–2024**

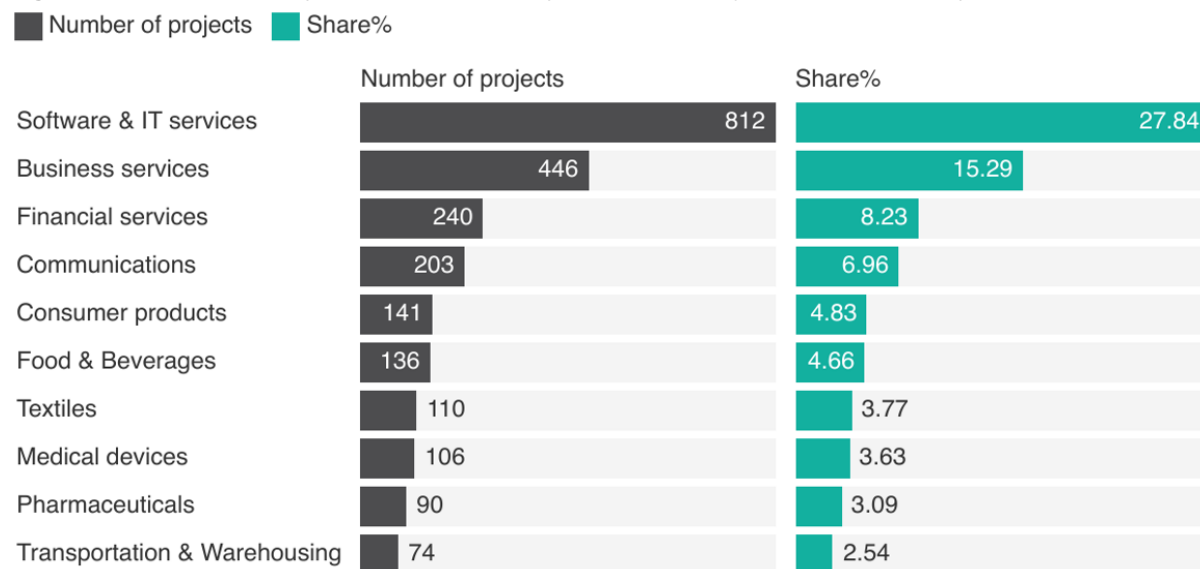


Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.



When ranked according to the number of FDI projects invested at a sectoral level, the software & IT services sector was also the top beneficiary of FDI during this period, having attracted 812 projects equivalent to 27.84% of the total number of FDI projects. This can be seen in Figure 12. The business services sector placed second with 446 projects, representing 15.29% of the total number of FDI projects. In third position was the financial services sector with 240 projects, equating to 8.23% of the total number of FDI projects.

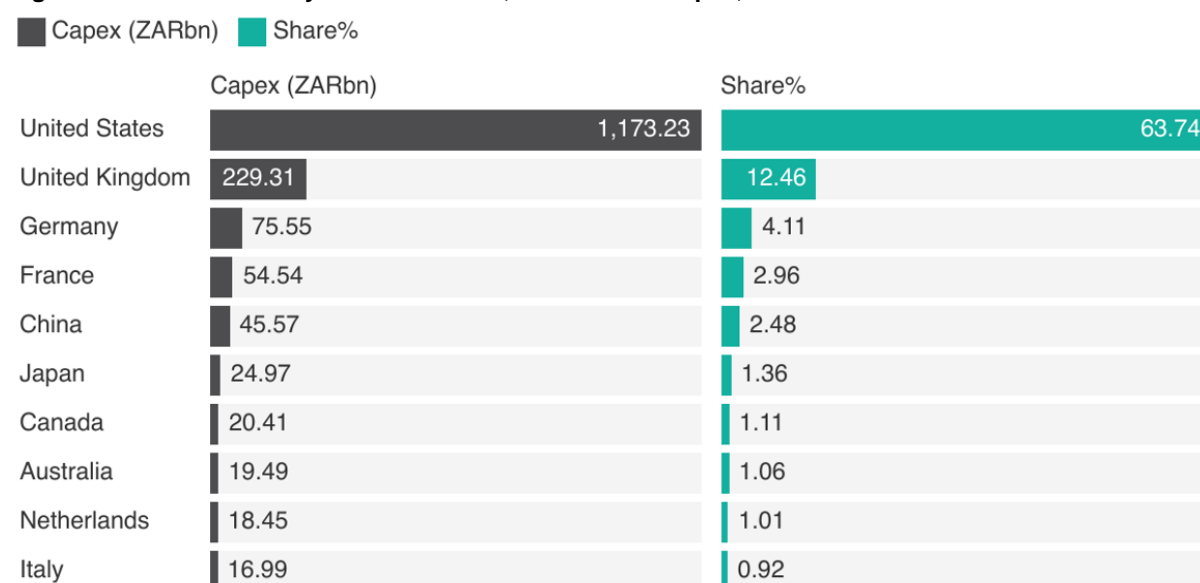
**Figure 12: FDI in Ireland by Sector, Measured by Number of Projects, 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

In terms of key source markets, the United States was the main source market for FDI in Ireland when measured by capex. The United States invested ZAR1,173.23bn in Ireland over the period January 2012 to February 2024, as illustrated in Figure 13. The United Kingdom followed with investments totalling ZAR229.31bn (representing a 12.46% share of the total capex) across 655 projects in Ireland during this period, while Germany was third with investments amounting to a capex of ZAR75.55bn, equivalent to a share of 4.11%. France placed fourth with investments worth ZAR54.54bn invested across 111 projects, and equivalent to a 3.81% share of the total capex.

**Figure 13: FDI in Ireland by Source Markets, Measured in Capex, 2012–2024**

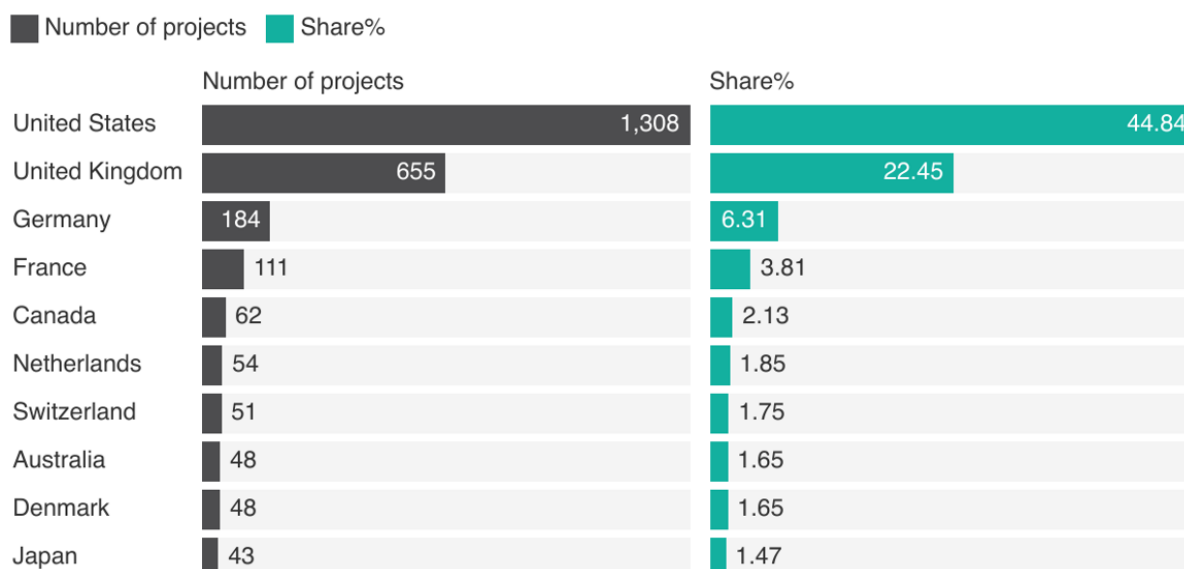


Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

In the period from January 2012 to February 2024, the United States also emerged as the leading source market for FDI projects in Ireland when ranked by the number of projects. The United States invested a total of ZAR1,173.23bn in 1,308 projects, constituting 44.84% of the total number of FDI projects during this timeframe. As depicted in Figure 14, the United Kingdom secured the second position, with investments in 655 projects,

accounting for 22.45% of Ireland's total FDI projects. In third and fourth place, Germany and France invested in 184 projects and 111 projects respectively.

**Figure 14: FDI in Ireland by Source Markets, Measured by Number of Projects, 2012–2023**

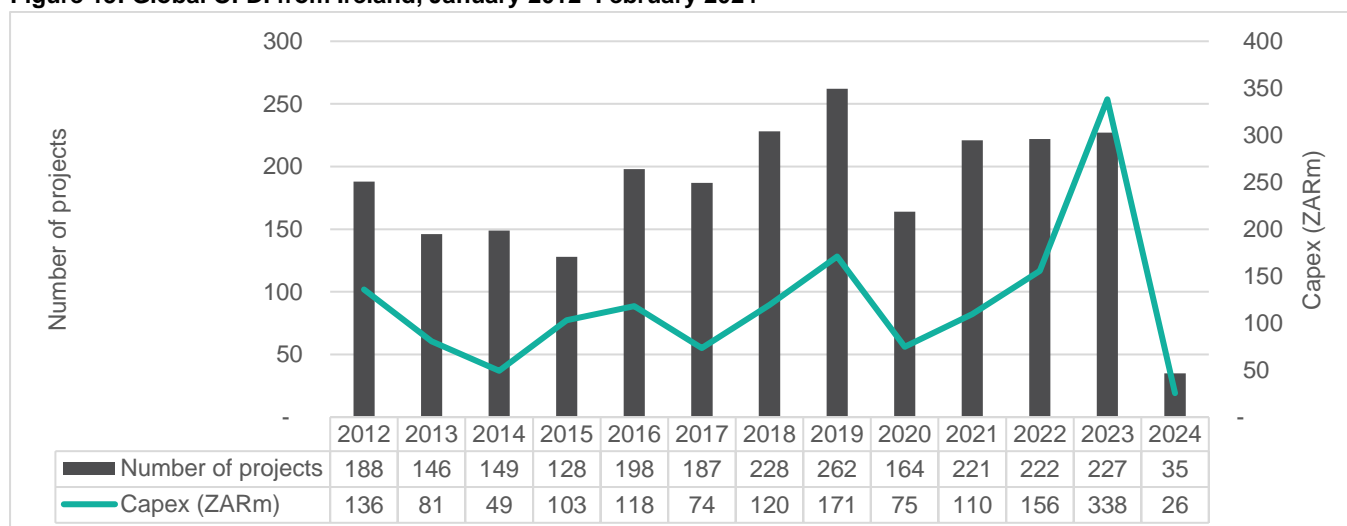


Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

### 3.2 Bilateral FDI: Global Outward Foreign Direct Investment from Ireland

Figure 15 indicates that between January 2012 and February 2024, Irish companies engaged in outward foreign direct investments (OFDI) in 2 355 projects worldwide. These investments cumulatively amounted to a capex value of ZAR1,554.56bn, translating to an average investment of ZAR659.60m per project. During this period, the OFDI projects generated 234 670 job opportunities.

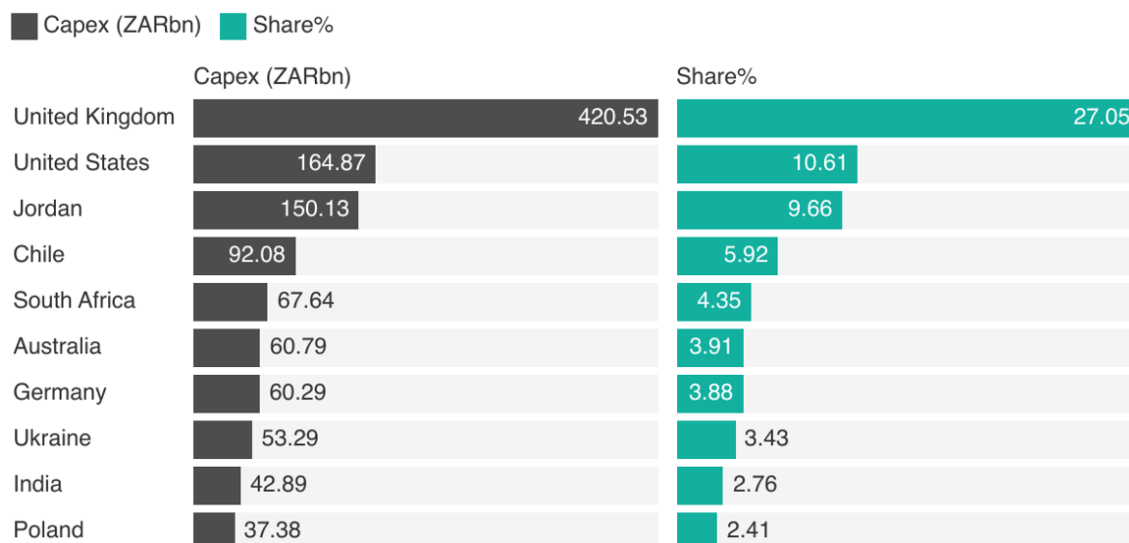
**Figure 15: Global OFDI from Ireland, January 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

In terms of destination markets for OFDI from Irish companies, Figure 16 shows that the United Kingdom was the top recipient of FDI from Ireland, having receiving investments worth ZAR420.53bn in capex from 2012 to December 2023. This was followed by the United States and Jordan with each of these markets having received ZAR164.87bn and ZAR150.13bn worth of capex, respectively.

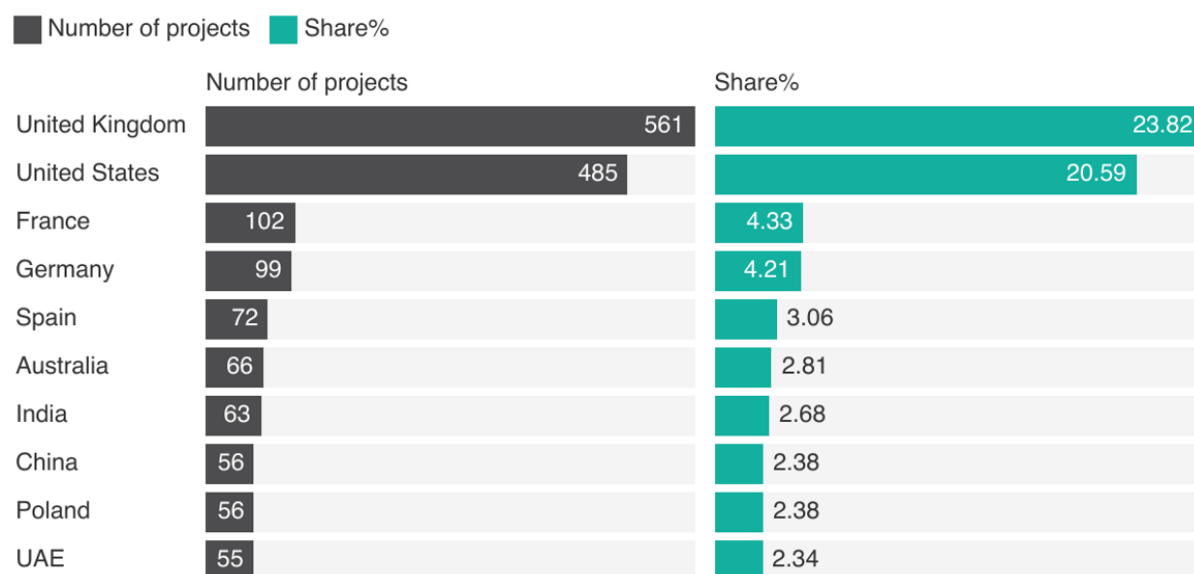
**Figure 16: Destination Markets for OFDI from Ireland in Capex, 2012–December 2023**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

With regard to the number of projects, the United Kingdom, the United States and France emerged as the top three beneficiaries of OFDI from Ireland between January 2012 and February 2024. Figure 17 demonstrates that these nations collectively attracted 1 148 projects from Ireland, which represented 48.75% of Ireland’s OFDI projects during this period.

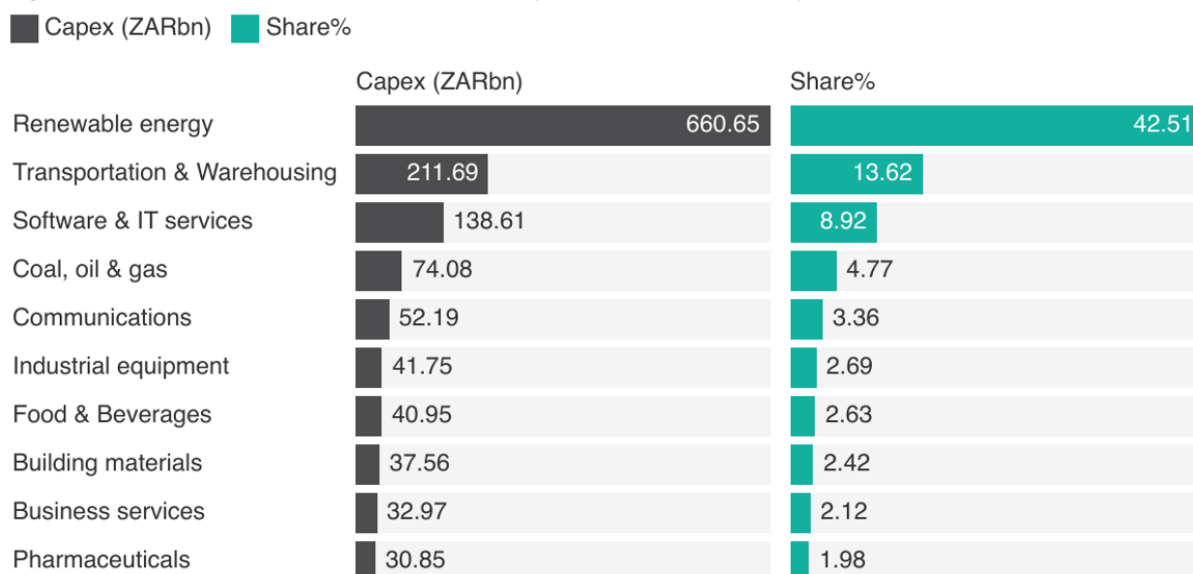
**Figure 17: Destination Markets for OFDI from Ireland by Number of Projects, 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

Figure 18 shows the top sectors that benefited from Irish OFDI between January 2012 and February 2024. The renewable energy sector was the largest recipient for OFDI from Ireland. The sector received investments valued at ZAR660.65bn in capex spread across 90 projects. This represented a 42.51% share of the total OFDI from Ireland. The transportation & warehousing sector was the second largest recipient of OFDI, with investments valued at ZAR211.69bn in capex, equating to a share of 13.62% of the total OFDI. In third place was the software & IT services sector with investments totalling ZAR138.61bn (a share of 8.92%).

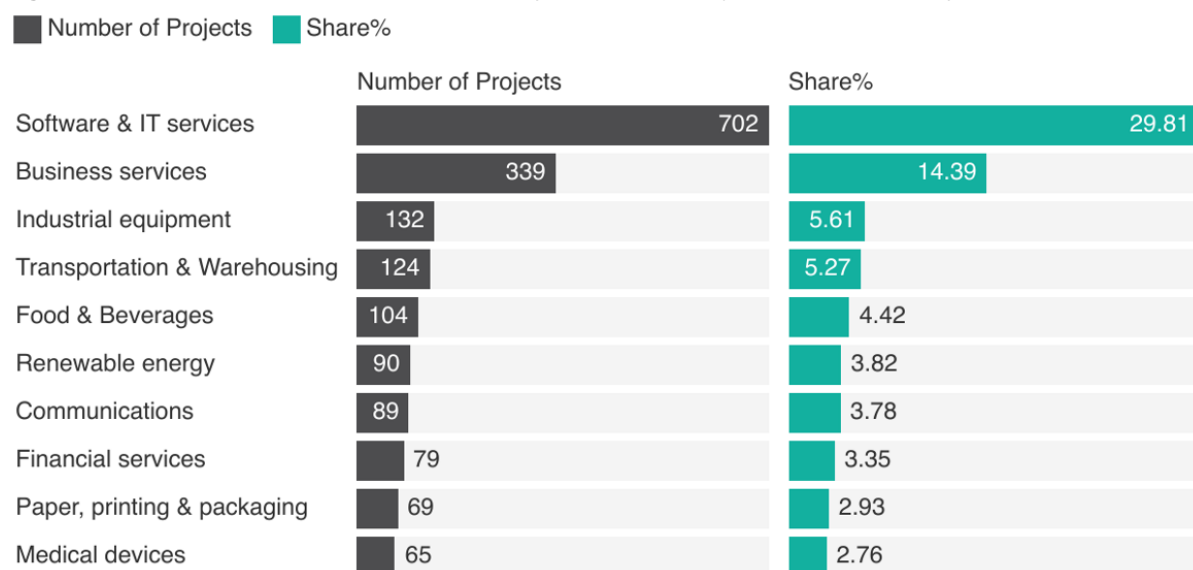
**Figure 18: Top Sectors for OFDI from Ireland by Capex, 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

When measured by the number of projects, the software & IT services sector was the top sector for OFDI from Ireland, as demonstrated in Figure 19. Between January 2012 and February 2024, Ireland directed investments into 702 projects in this sector, which amounted to 29.81% of the total number of projects benefiting from Irish OFDI. The business services sector followed in second position with 339 projects, accounting for a share of 14.39% of the total number of projects. In third place was the industrial equipment sector which benefited from 132 projects (5.61% of the total number of projects) during this period.

**Figure 19: Top Sectors for OFDI from Ireland by Number of Projects, 2012–February 2024**

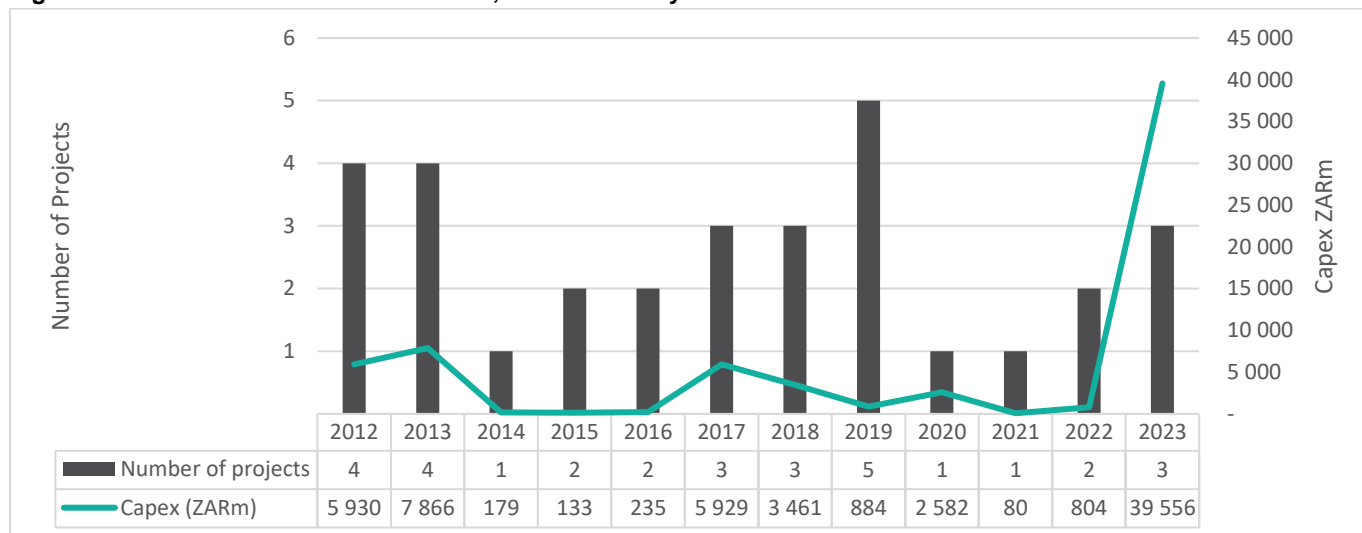


Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

### 3.3 Bilateral FDI: Ireland's FDI in South Africa

From January 2012 to February 2024, Irish companies invested in 31 projects in South Africa. This translated to ZAR67.64bn worth of capex and the generation of 1 582 jobs. Figure 20 shows that the number of FDI projects in South Africa from Ireland varied during the period 2012 to February 2024. During this time, the value (capex) fluctuated between ZAR5,930.44m in 2012 to a high-point of (an estimated) ZAR39,555.72m in 2023.

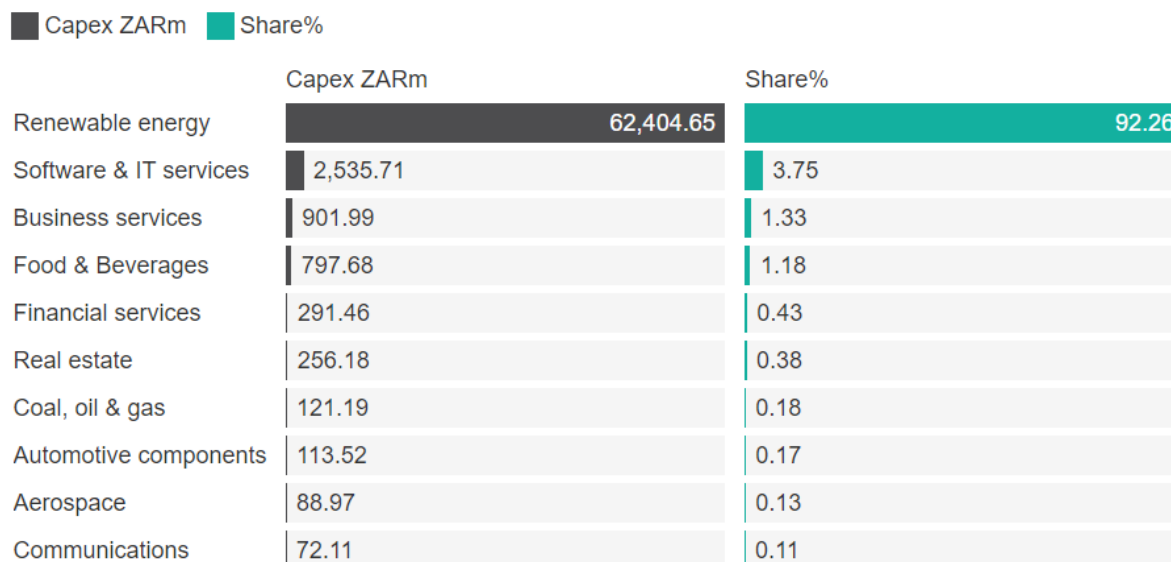
**Figure 20: FDI from Ireland in South Africa, 2012– February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

Figure 21 shows Irish FDI in South Africa from January 2012 to February 2024. The South African industry in which Ireland invested the most was the renewable energy sector which received ZAR62,404.65m in capex in 11 projects. This was followed by the software & IT services sector which benefited from ZAR2,535.71m in capex spread across six projects.

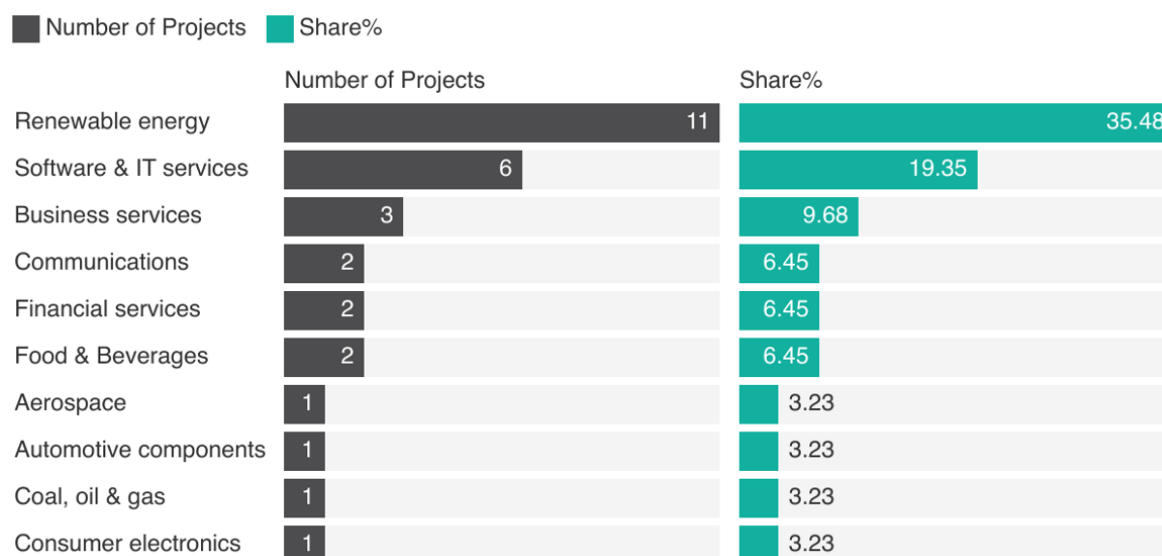
**Figure 21: FDI from Ireland in South African Sectors, Measured in Capex, January 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

Figure 22 illustrates the FDI from Ireland in South Africa based on the number of projects. The renewable energy sector was the top recipient of FDI from Ireland with 11 projects, representing a share of 35.48% of the total number of projects. This was followed by the software and IT services sector with six projects, and the business services sector which benefited from three projects.

**Figure 22: FDI from Ireland in South African Sectors, Measured by Number of Projects, January 2012–February 2024**

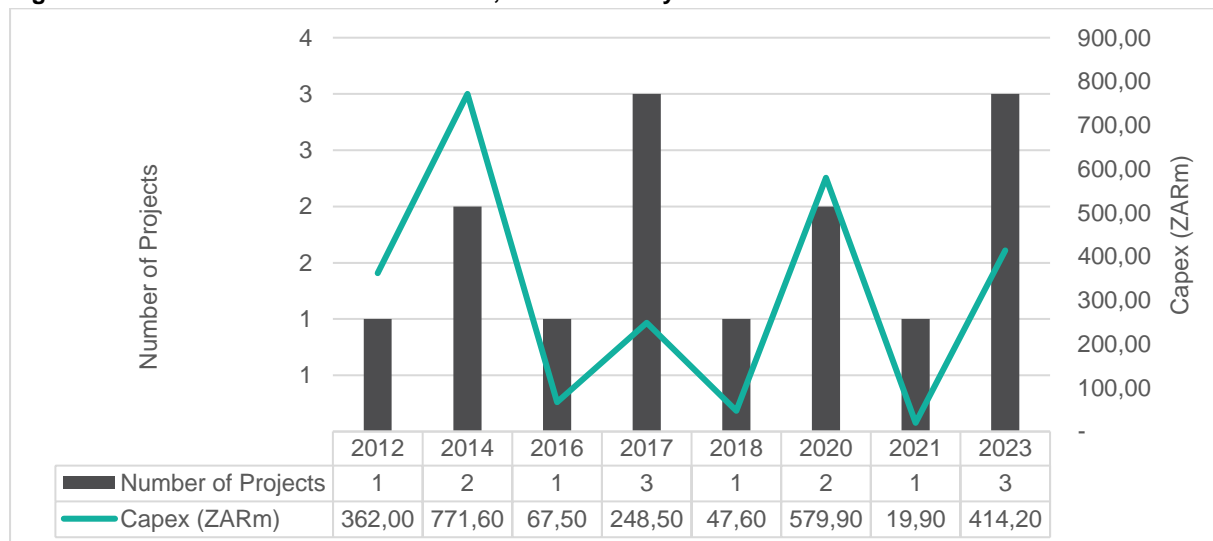


Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

### 3.4 Bilateral FDI: South Africa’s FDI in Ireland

South African companies invested in 14 FDI projects in Ireland between January 2012 and February 2024, worth a cumulative capex of ZAR2.51bn. This equated to an average investment of ZAR179.50m per project which generated an estimated 676 jobs. South African FDI (in terms of capex) in Ireland peaked in 2014 at a value of ZAR771.60m, which was invested in two projects. These figures can be observed in Figure 23.

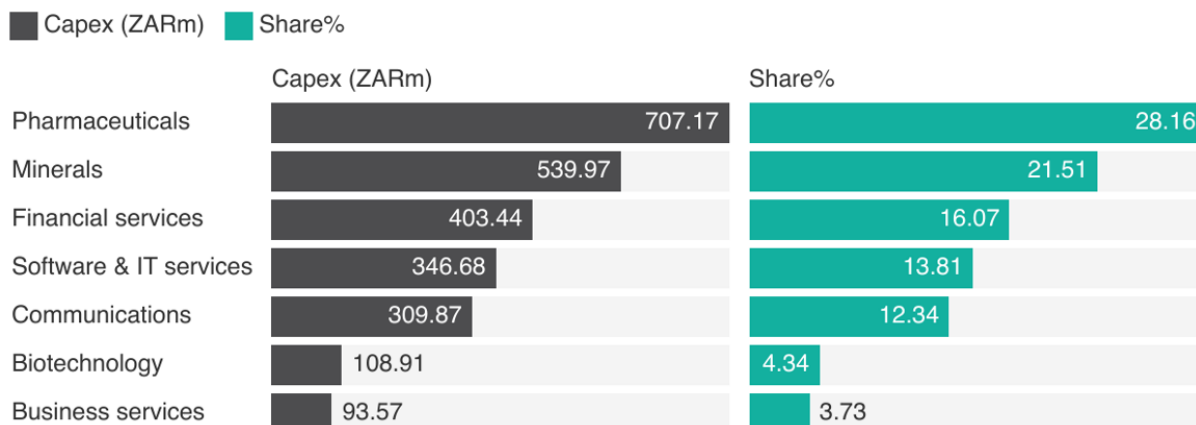
**Figure 23: FDI from South Africa in Ireland, 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

Turning to South African FDI in Ireland in different sectors and measured in capex, the pharmaceuticals sector topped the list, as seen in Figure 24. The sector attracted investments valued at ZAR707.17m in capex during the period January 2012 to February 2024. In second place was the minerals sector, which benefited from FDI worth ZAR539.97m (21.51%). The financial services sector was third, having benefited from investments worth ZAR403.44m (16.07%) .

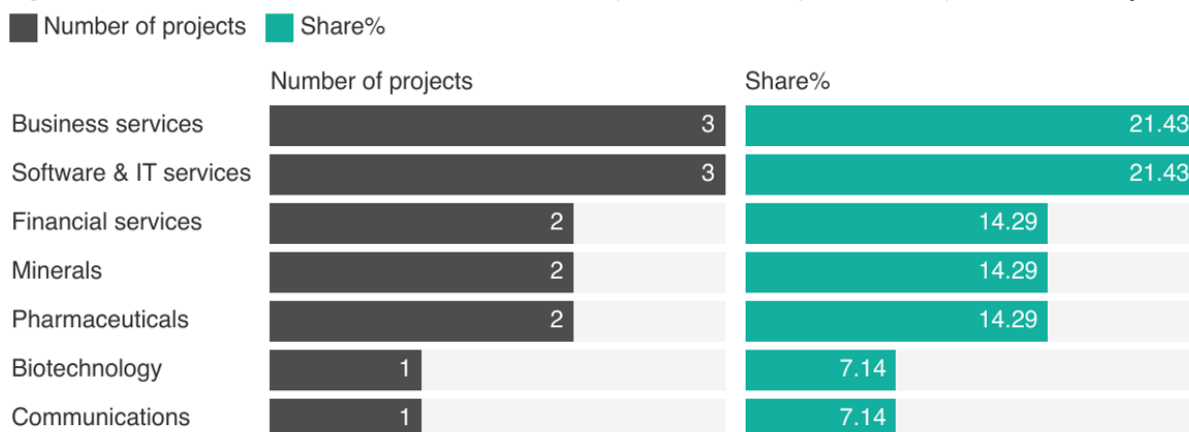
**Figure 24: FDI from South Africa in Irish Sectors, Measured in Capex, January 2012–December 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

In terms of the number of projects, the top sectors for South African FDI in Ireland between January 2012 and February 2024 were business services, and software & IT services. These sectors benefited from three projects each, representing a share of 21.43% of the total number of projects, as demonstrated in Figure 25. The financial services, minerals and pharmaceuticals sectors followed with each sector having attracted investments in two projects equivalent to a share of 14.29% of the number of projects.

**Figure 25: FDI from South Africa in Ireland Measured by Number of Projects, January 2012–February 2024**

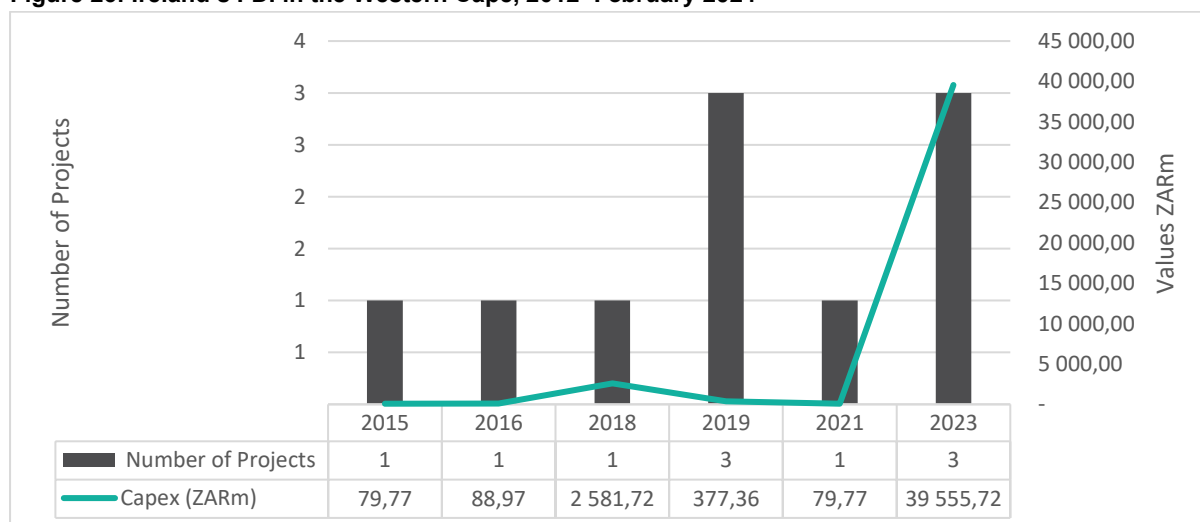


Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

### 3.5 Bilateral FDI: Ireland's FDI in the Western Cape

The Western Cape benefited from 10 FDI projects from Ireland between January 2012 and February 2024, as shown in Figure 26. These projects amounted to a total capex of ZAR42.76bn, which equated to an average investment of ZAR4.28m per project. The FDI projects generated 685 jobs.

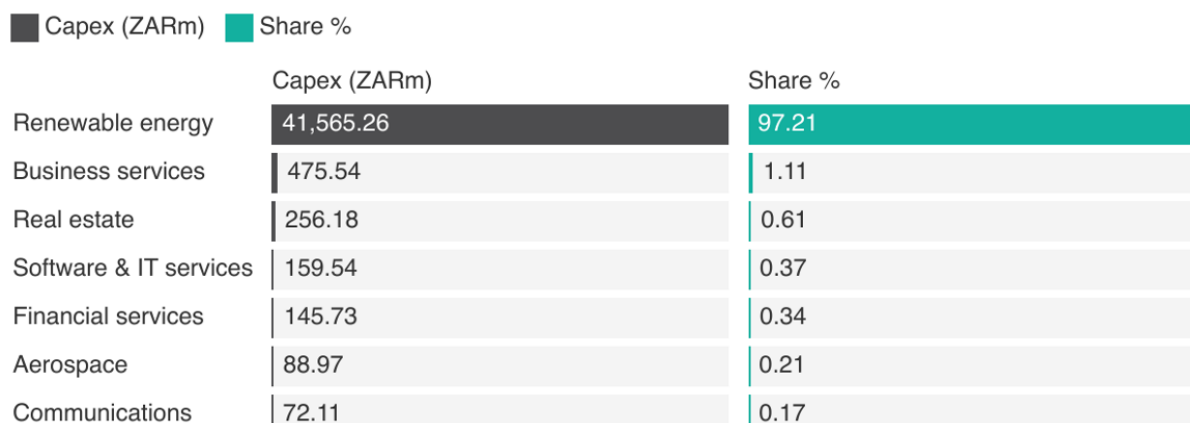
**Figure 26: Ireland's FDI in the Western Cape, 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

Between 2012 and February 2024, FDI from Ireland in the Western Cape (measured by capex) was mainly focused on the renewable energy sector, as seen in Figure 27. This sector attracted investments valued at ZAR41,565.26m in capex, accounting for 97.21% of the total capex. The business services, and the real estate sectors followed in second and third place, with each sector having benefited from Irish investments worth ZAR475.54m (1.11%) and ZAR256.18m (0.61%) respectively.

**Figure 27: Ireland's FDI in the Western Cape by Sector, Measured by Capex, 2011–February 2024**

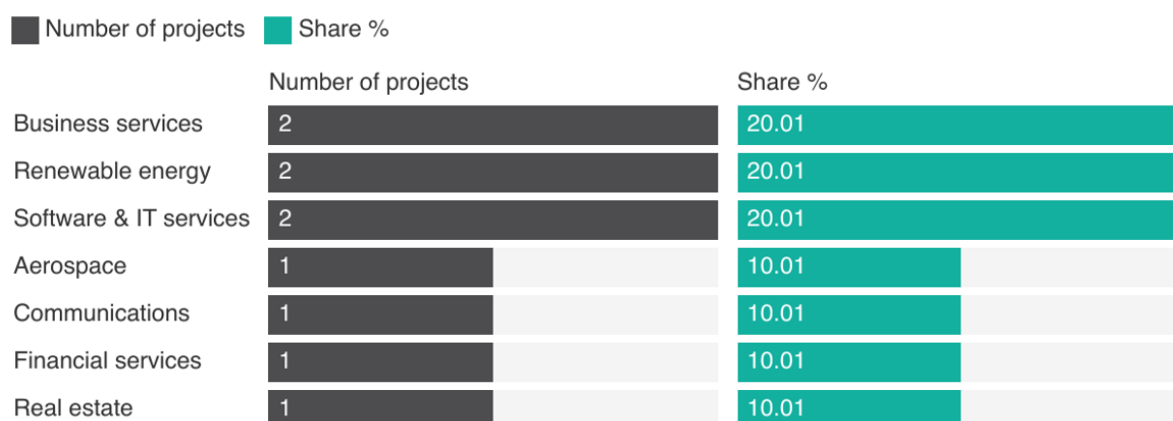


Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

As shown in Figure 28, the top three sectors for FDI in the Western Cape from Ireland were business services, renewable energy and software & IT services with each having benefited from two projects worth 20.01% of the total capex.



**Figure 28: Ireland’s FDI in the Western Cape by Sector, Measured by Number of Projects, 2012–February 2024**

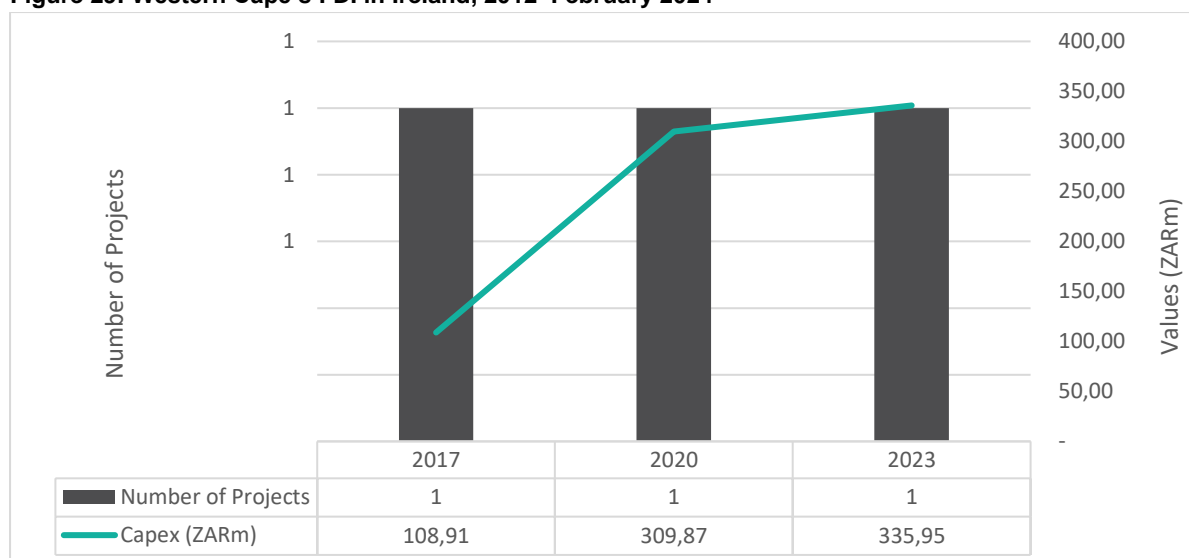


Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

### 3.6 Bilateral FDI: Western Cape’s FDI in Ireland

Three companies from the Western Cape invested in three projects in Ireland at a cumulative capex of ZAR754.73m between January 2012 and February 2024, as illustrated in Figure 29. These investments generated approximately 190 jobs. Investments by Western Cape companies in Ireland (measured by capex) peaked in 2023 when ZAR335.95m was invested in a single project.

**Figure 29: Western Cape’s FDI in Ireland, 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

The financial services sector, having attracted FDI worth ZAR335.95m (representing 44.51% of the total capex) was the top recipient of the Western Cape’s FDI in Ireland during the period under review. This can be observed in Figure 30. The communications sector followed in second place, having benefited from FDI worth ZAR2.17bn and the financial services sector was in third place with investments valued at ZAR309.87 equivalent to a (41.04% share).

**Figure 30: Western Cape's FDI in Ireland by Sector, Measured by Capex, 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

As shown in Figure 31, the three Irish sectors which benefited from FDI from the Western Cape were biotechnology, communications and financial services. Each of these sectors attracted investments in a single project, which represented 33.33% of the number of projects.

**Figure 31: Western Cape's FDI in Ireland by Sector, Measured by Number of Projects, 2012–February 2024**



Source: fDi Markets, a service from The Financial Times 2024. All Rights Reserved.

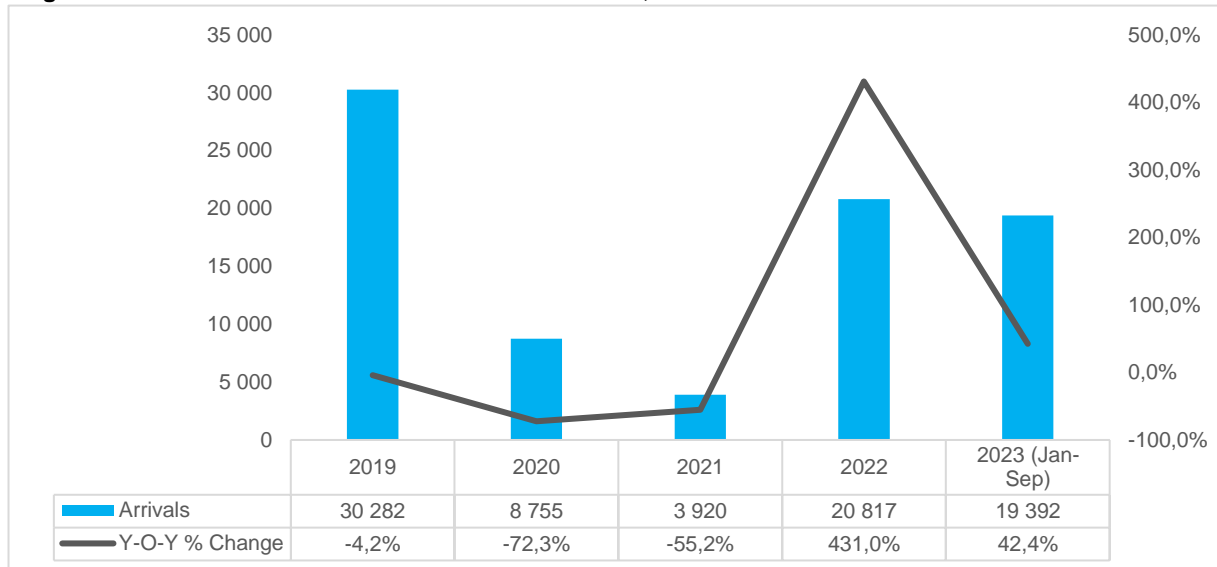
## 4 Tourism

### 4.1 Tourist Arrivals from Ireland in South Africa, 2018–2023

Figure 32 depicts total tourist arrivals from Ireland in South Africa from 2019 to 2022 and Q1–Q3 figures for 2023. In 2022, South Africa attracted 20 817 Irish tourists, reflecting a 431.0% year-on-year growth when compared to 2021 and a recovery of 68.7% over 2019 arrivals.

Between January and September 2023, a total of 19 392 Irish tourists arrived in South Africa, amounting to an increase of 42.4% when compared to the same period in 2022.

**Figure 32: Tourist Arrivals from Ireland in South Africa, 2019–2023**

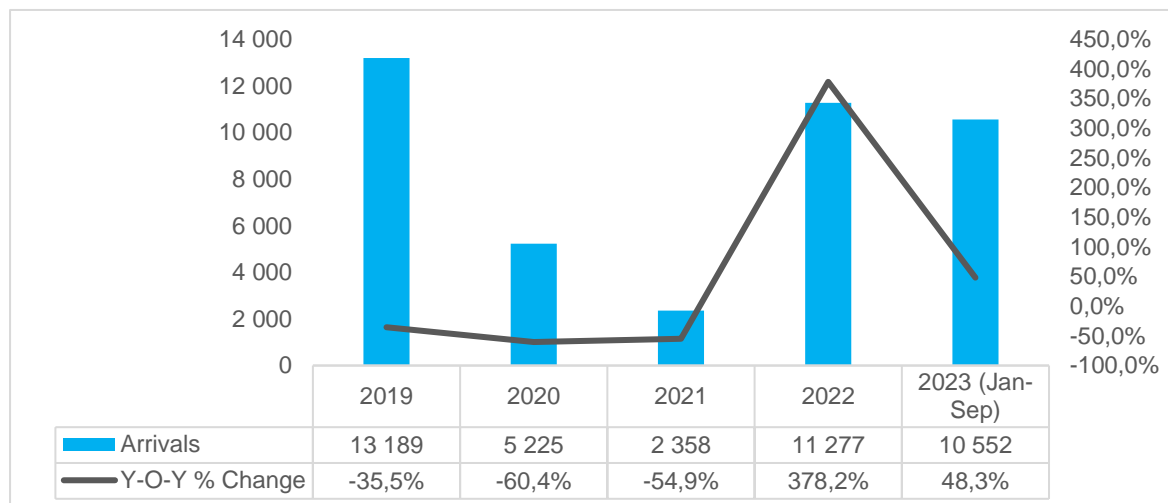


Source: SA Tourism, 2024

### 4.2 Tourist Arrivals from Ireland in the Western Cape

In 2023, the Western Cape welcomed over 10 000 tourists from Ireland, recording a recovery of 79.1% when compared to the same period (January–September) in 2022 and a y-o-y growth of 48.3% in relation to 2022. This can be seen in Figure 33.

**Figure 33: Irish Tourist Arrivals in the Western Cape, 2019–2023**

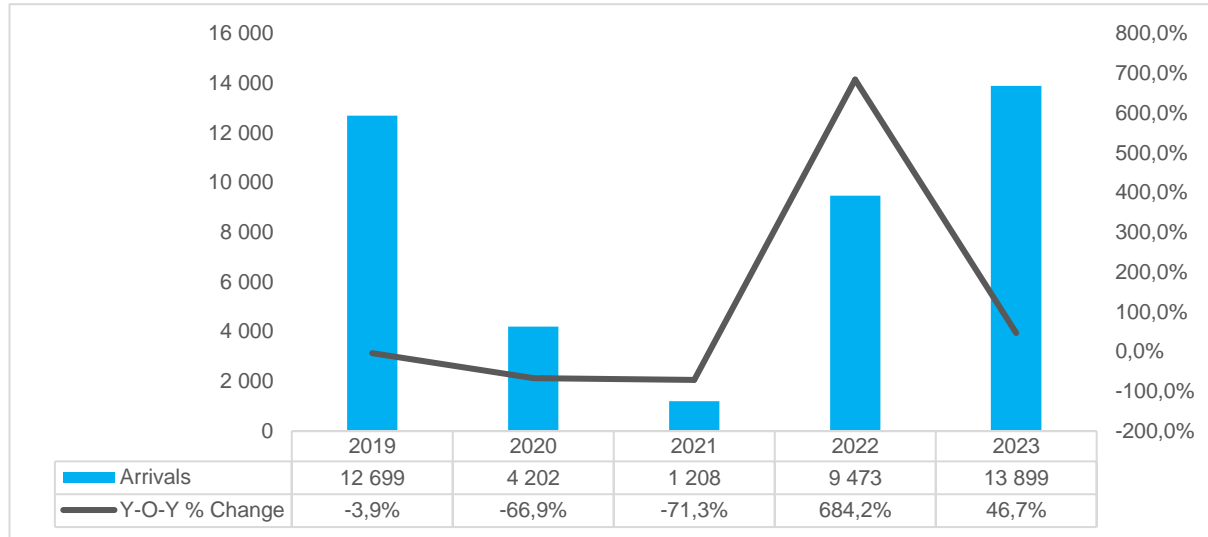


Source: SA Tourism (2023)

### 4.3 Irish Passenger Movement Through Cape Town International Airport

With respect to Irish tourist arrivals travelling to Cape Town via air, there was a significant increase in passengers travelling to Cape Town in 2023, with 13 899 air arrivals recorded for the year, as shown in Figure 34. This marks a year-on-year growth of 46.7% compared to 2022 and a recovery of 109.4% in relation to 2019.

**Figure 34: Irish Passenger Movement through Cape Town International Airport, 2018–2023**



Source: Stats SA (2023)

#### DISCLAIMER

Wesgro has taken every effort to ensure that the information in this publication is accurate. We provide said information without representation or warranty whatsoever, whether expressed or implied. It is the responsibility of users of this publication to satisfy themselves of the accuracy of information contained herein. Wesgro cannot be held responsible for the contents of the publication in any way.