

FEPS-TASC Report Launch

“Cherishing All Equally – Inequality and the Care Economy”

Inequality & Care Economy

The case of Ireland

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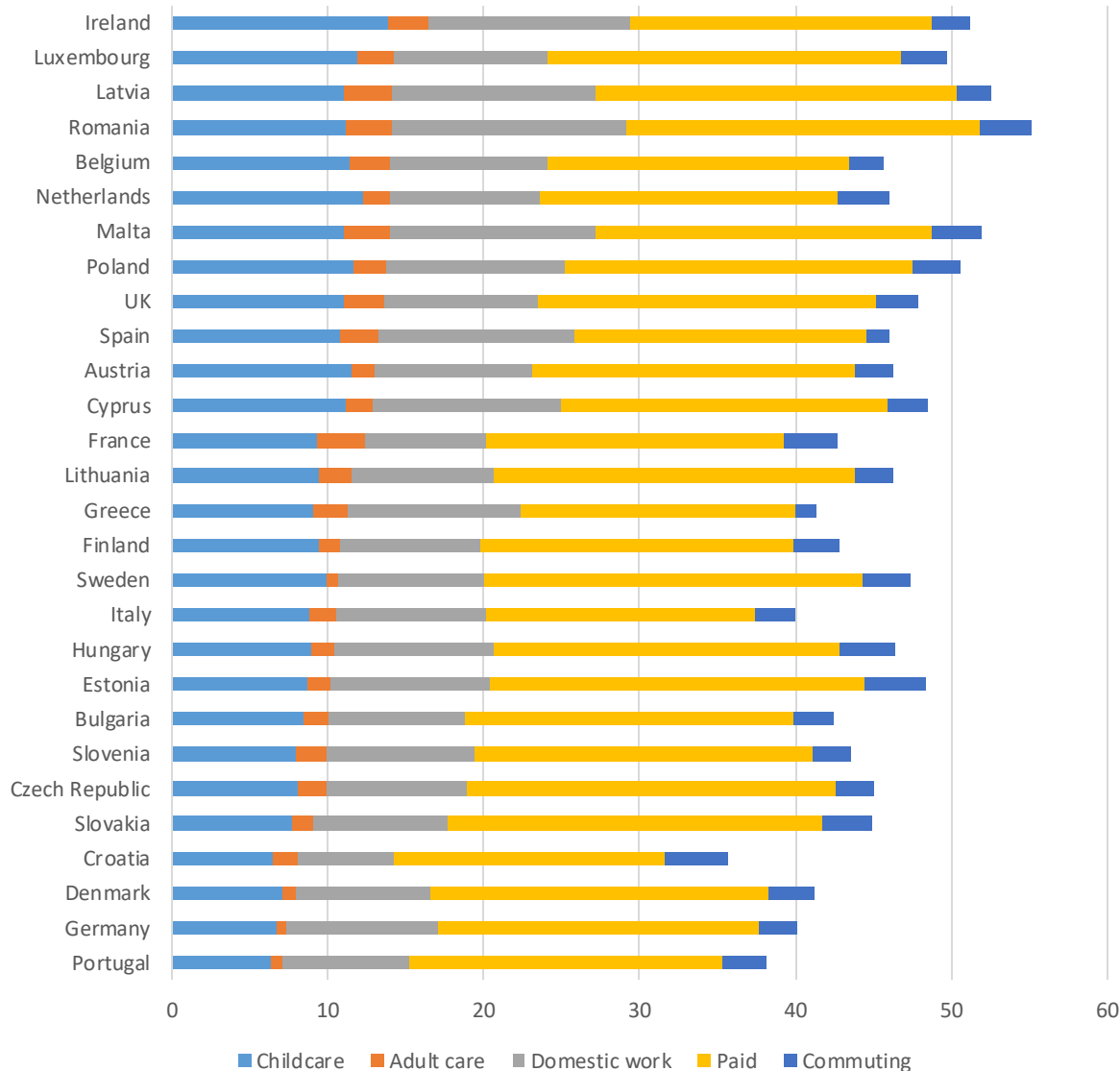
Outline

- Unpaid work in Ireland and the EU
- The distribution of unpaid work
- Irish and EU welfare and care
- Early years policy and workers
- Adult care policy and workers

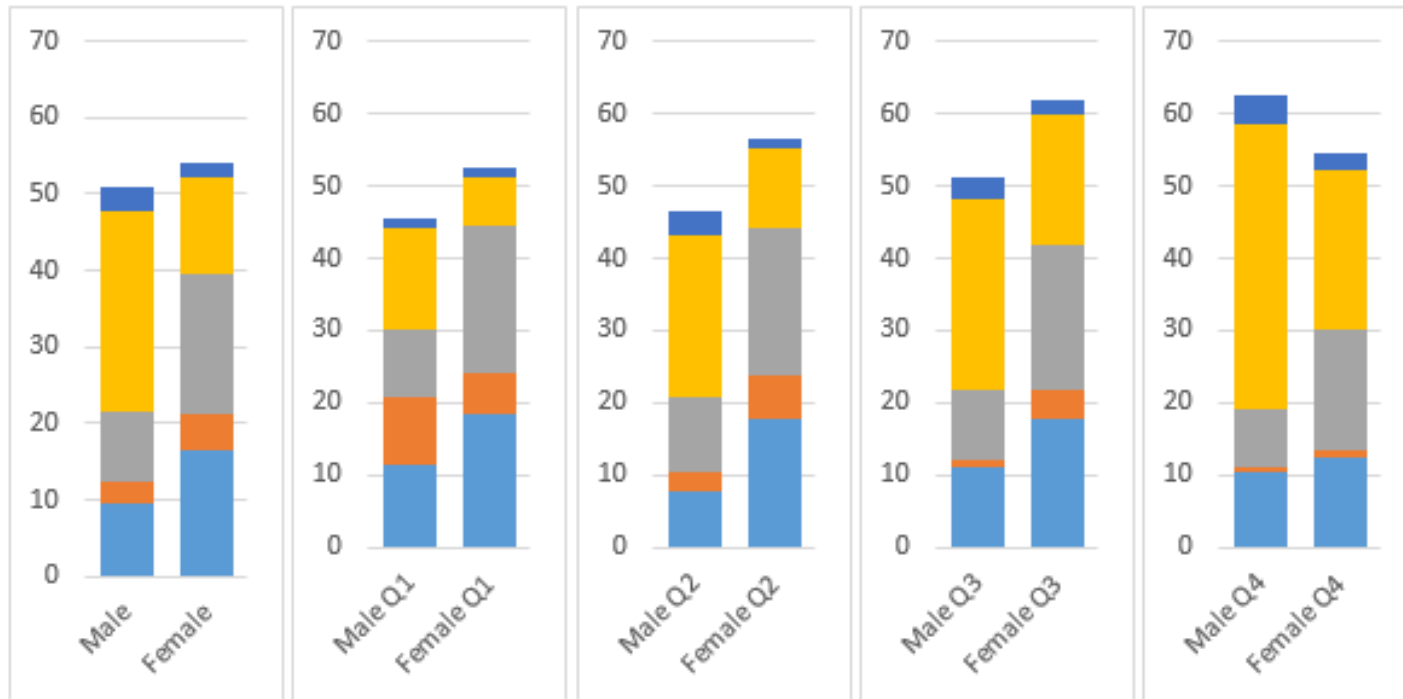


Unpaid care in Ireland

Allocation of work time (hours per week)



Unpaid care, domestic work, and paid work

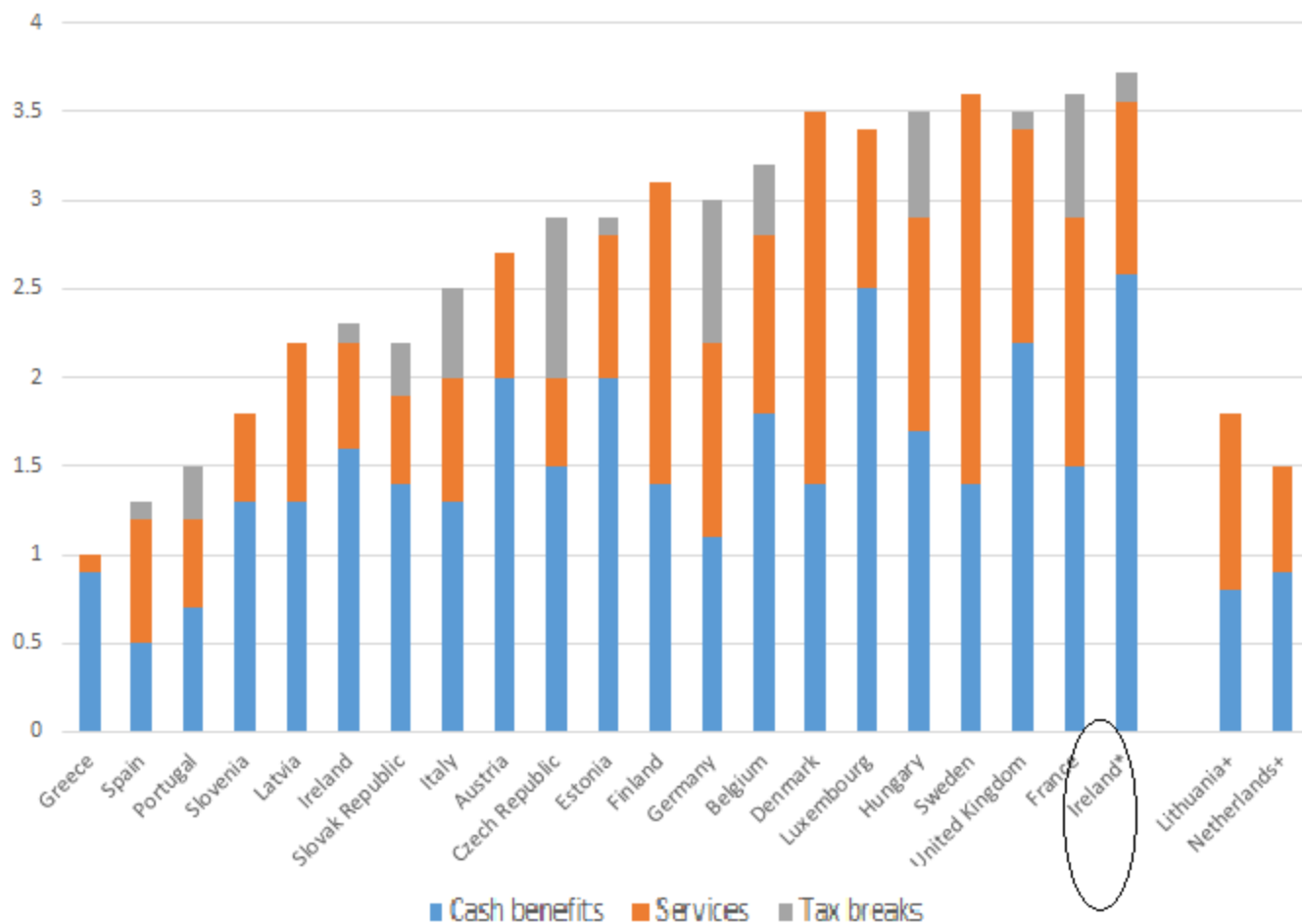


■ Childcare
 ■ Adult care
 ■ Domestic work
 ■ Paid
 ■ Commuting



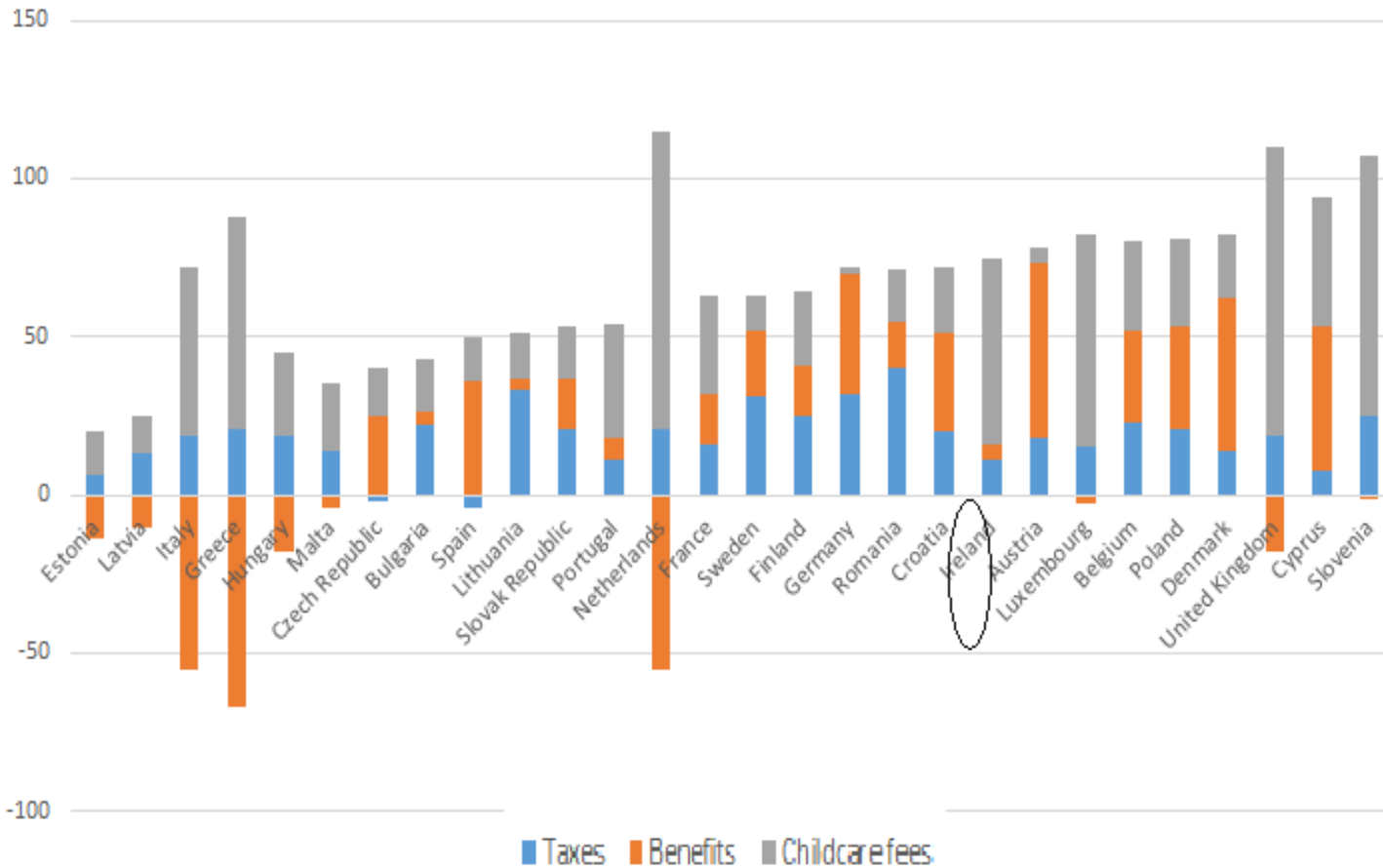
The Irish welfare state in comparative perspective

Spending on family and children (% GDP)



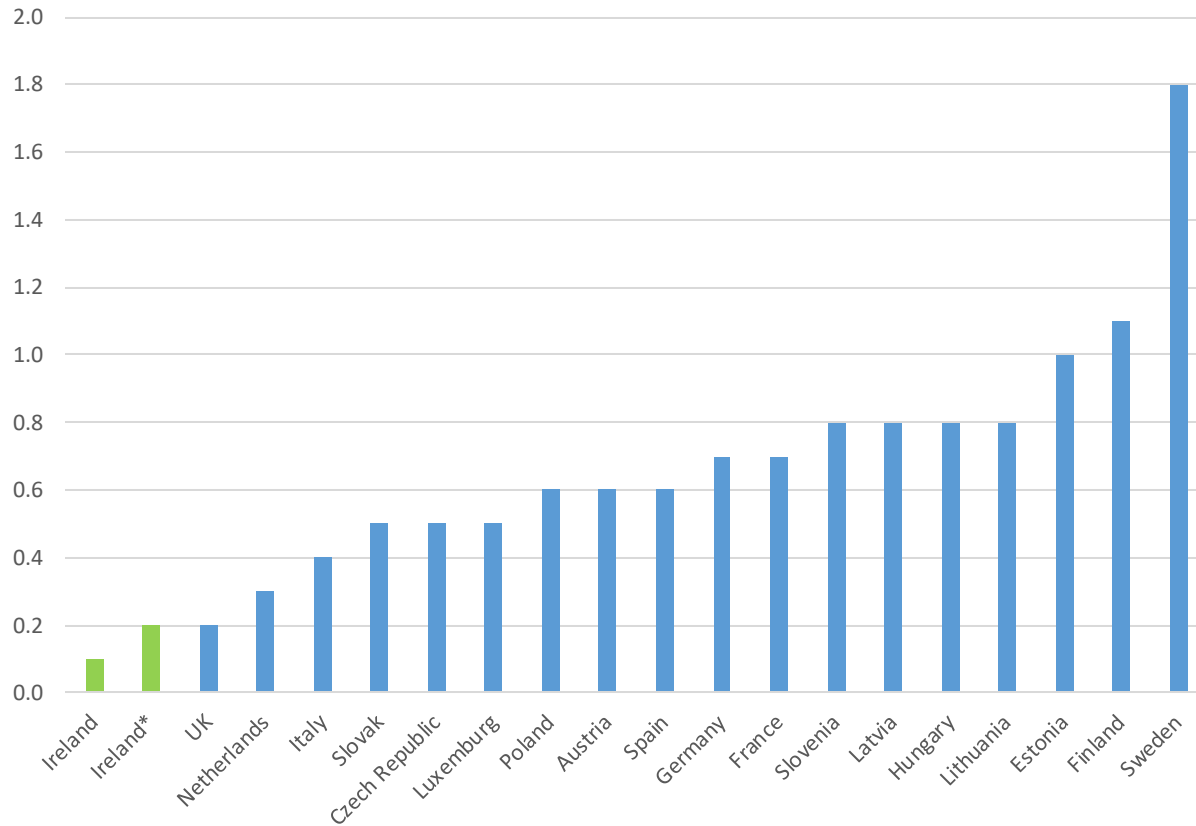
Paid versus unpaid work incentives

Effective tax rate for single person with two children

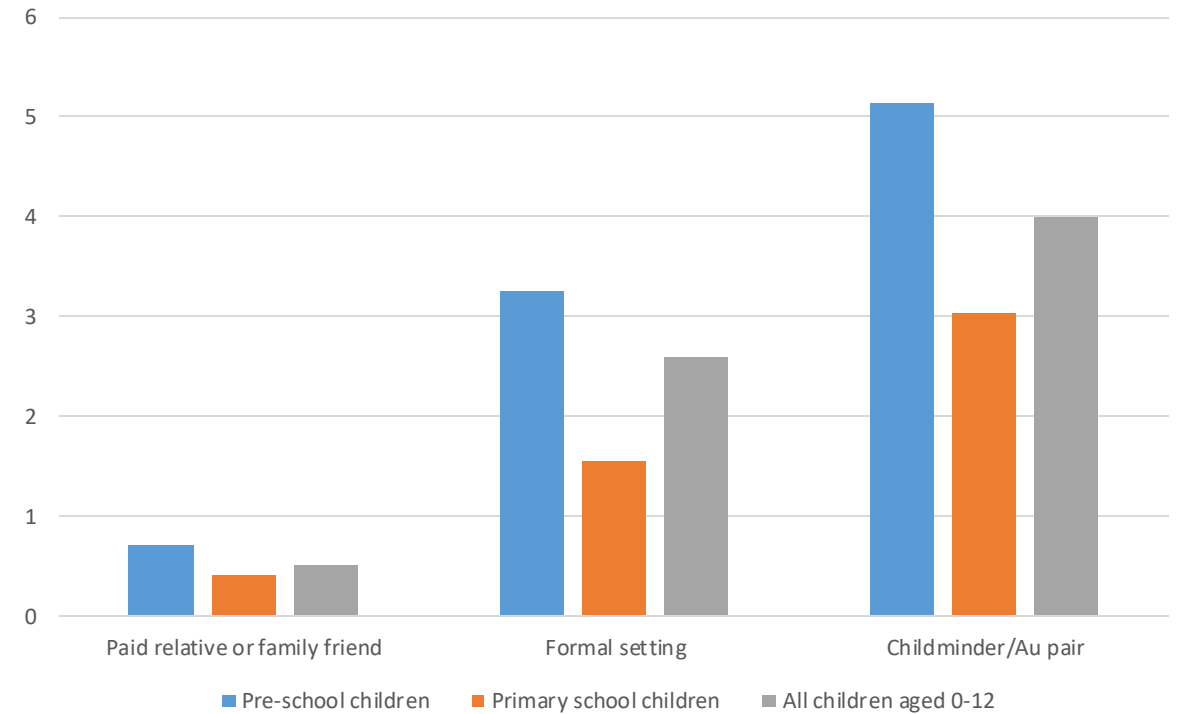


Spending on early years in comparative perspective

Public spending on early years (% GDP)



Time spent in paid care (hours)



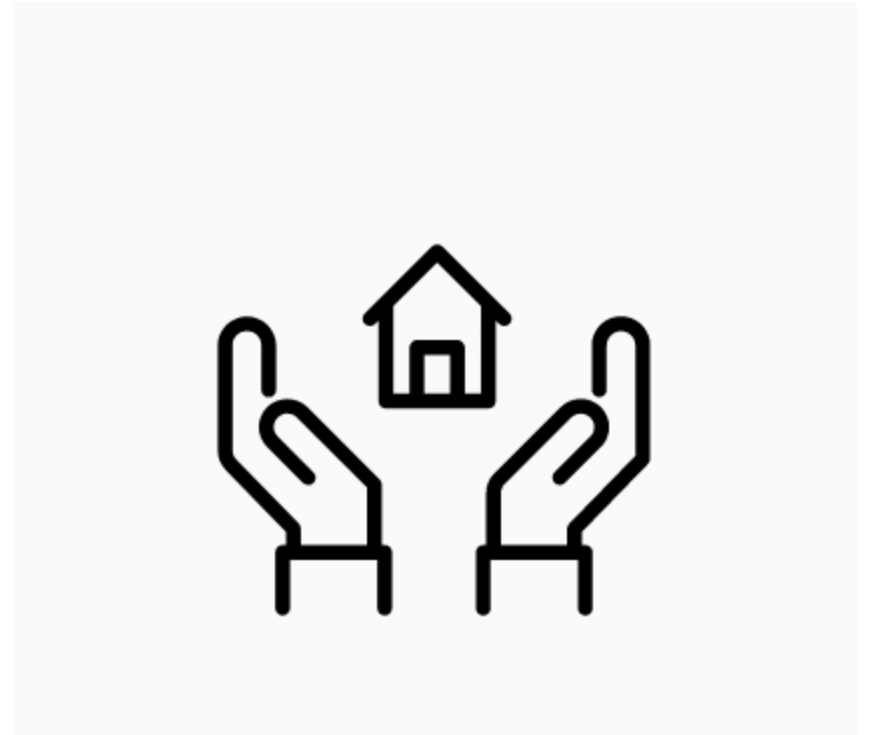
Early years work

- 98% female
- Average wage €12.55 per hour
- Only half have permanent jobs
- ~Fifth are unionised



Adult care workers

- 92% female
- Mostly nursing home and home care
- ~€12.79 per hour
- High levels of precariousness
- ~fifth are unionised



Conclusion

- Ireland relies on unpaid care work
- Facilitated by welfare transfers
- Low investment in services
- Reliance on informal paid care
- Barriers to employment
- Early years work low pay and unattractive
- Adult care also low pay and unattractive

