

FLASH EUROBAROMETER NO: EB 160 'L'Esprit d'entreprise'

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Good morning/afternoon/evening. I am from Millward Brown IMS Limited. We are conducting a survey in the 15 countries of the European Union, the 10 acceding countries and in some other countries including the United States, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein concerning entrepreneurial activity. The survey will take about five minutes. May I have this time with you now?

We are conducting a survey in the 15 countries of the European Union, the 10 acceding countries and in some other countries including the United States, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein concerning entrepreneurial activity.

Q1. Suppose you could choose between different kinds of jobs, which one would you prefer:...

[READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY]

- being an employee 1
- or being self-employed ? 2
- (none of these) 3
- [DK/NA] 4

[TO THOSE WHO ANSWERED "EMPLOYEE" IN Q1 (Q1=1)]

Q2. Why would you prefer to be an employee rather than self-employed?

[DO NOT READ OUT – SPONTANEOUS – CODE THE ANSWERS BELOW]

- a) Regular, fixed income versus irregular, variable income 1
- b) Stability of employment 1
- c) Social security and/or insurances 1
- d) Lack of entrepreneurial idea 1
- e) Lack of time 1
- f) Lack of interest to become self-employed 1
- g) Lack of finances for self-employment 1
- h) Lack of skills for self-employment 1
- i) Lack of knowledge/familiarity with regards
to self-employment 1
- j) Severity of decision – difficult to reverse decision
/ being tied to business 1
- k) It is the normal/expected thing to do / never thought
of being self-employed before 1
- l) Because it is not as risky /Unfavourable economic climate 1
- m) Red tape / Administrative barriers 1
- n) Other Specify 1
- o) DK/NA 1

[TO THOSE WHO ANSWERED “SELF-EMPLOYED” IN Q1 (Q1=2)]

Q3. Why would you prefer to be self-employed rather than an employee?

[DO NOT READ OUT – SPONTANEOUS – CODE THE ANSWERS BELOW]

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| a) | Personal independence/self-fulfilment/interesting tasks | 1 |
| b) | A business opportunity | 1 |
| c) | No need to adapt to an environment / the possibility to create own environment | 1 |
| d) | Better income prospects | 1 |
| e) | Lack of attractive employment opportunities generally | 1 |
| f) | Lack of attractive employment opportunities in my region specifically | 1 |
| g) | Members of family / friends are self-employed | 1 |
| h) | Favourable economic climate | 1 |
| i) | To avoid uncertainties related to employment | 1 |
| j) | Other Specify | 1 |
| k) | DK/NA | 1 |

[TO THOSE WHO ANSWERED “SELF-EMPLOYED” IN Q1 (Q1=2)]

Q4. Would you prefer to own your own company and invest in it or rather to work for yourself **but not necessarily own your own company**?

[READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY]

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| - | You would prefer to own your own company | 1 |
| - | You would prefer to work for yourself but not necessarily own your own company | 2 |
| - | [DK/NA] | 3 |

[TO THOSE WHO DID NOT ANSWER “SELF-EMPLOYED” IN D4]

Q5. Personally, how **desirable** is it for you to become self-employed within the next 5 years?
[READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY]

- Very desirable 1
- Rather desirable 2
- Rather undesirable 3
- Not desirable at all 4
- [DK/NA] 5

[TO THOSE WHO DID NOT ANSWER “SELF-EMPLOYED” IN D4]

Q6. Regardless of whether or not you would like to become self-employed would it be feasible for you to be self-employed within the next 5 years

[READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY]

- Very feasible 1
- Rather feasible 2
- Rather unfeasible 3
- Not feasible at all 4
- [DK/NA] 5

[TO ALL]

Q7. Have you started a business recently or are you taking steps to start one ?

[READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY]

- It never came to your mind..... 1
- No, but you are thinking about it 2
- No, you thought of it or you had already taken steps to start a business but gave up..... 3
- Yes, you are currently taking steps to start a new business 4
- Yes, you have started or taken over a business in the last three years which is still active today 5
- Yes, you started or took over a business more than three years ago and it's still active 6
- No, you once started a business, but currently you are no longer an entrepreneur (business has failed, business was sold or the interviewee has retired)..... 7
- (DK/NA)..... 8

[TO THOSE WHO ANSWERED ITEMS 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 IN Q8]

Q8. For each of the following elements, please tell me if it was very important, rather important, rather not important or not important at all for making you take steps to start a new business or take over one.

[READ OUT – ROTATE -ONE ANSWER PER LINE]

- Very important 1
- Rather important 2
- Rather not important 3
- Not important at all 4
- [DK/NA] 5

- a)- Dissatisfaction with regard to your previous situation 1 2 3 4 5
- b)- An appropriate business idea 1 2 3 4 5
- c)- Contact with an appropriate business partner 1 2 3 4 5
- d)- Receiving the necessary financial means 1 2 3 4 5
- e)- Changes in family circumstances 1 2 3 4 5
- f)- It was the best or the only possible alternative at
that time 1 2 3 4 5

[TO THOSE WHO ANSWERED ITEMS 4, 5, 6 or 7 IN Q7]

Q9 All in all, would you say you started, or are starting, your business because you saw an opportunity or you started it out of necessity?

[READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY]

- You started it because you came across an opportunity 1
- You started it because it was a necessity 2
- [Both – SPONTANOUS] 3
- [DK/NA] 4

[TO ALL]

Q10. If you currently had the means to start your own business, would you rather set up a new one or take over an existing one?

[READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY]

- Set up a new one..... 1
- Take over an existing business..... 2
- [None of these, not interested] 3
- [DK/NA]..... 4

Q11. If you were to set up a business today, which are the two risks you would be most afraid of? Is it:..

[READ OUT – ROTATE - MAXIMUM TWO ANSWERS]

- The uncertainty of your income..... 1
- Job insecurity..... 2
- The risk of losing your property 3
- The need to devote too much energy or time to it..... 4
- The possibility of suffering a personal failure..... 5
- The possibility of going bankrupt..... 6
- [DK/NA]..... 7

Q12. Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following opinions?

[READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER ONLY FOR EACH ITEM]

- strongly agree 1
- agree 2
- disagree..... 3
- strongly disagree..... 4
- [DK/NA]..... 5

- a) It is difficult to start one’s own business due to a lack of available financial support..... 1 2 3 4 5
- b) It is difficult to start one’s own business due to the complex administrative procedures..... 1 2 3 4 5
- c) It is difficult to obtain sufficient information on how to start a business..... 1 2 3 4 5
- d) One should not start a business if there is a risk it might fail..... 1 2 3 4 5
- e) The current economic climate is not favourable for people who want to start their own business..... 1 2 3 4 5

Q13. When one runs a business, what do you think most determines its success?

[READ OUT – ROTATE Items 1-4 – MAXIMUM TWO ANSWERS]

- The director’s personality 1
- The general management of the business 1
- The overall economy 1
- The political context..... 1
- Outside entities 1
- [None of these but this one: SPECIFY] 1
- [DK/NA]..... 1

D7. Could you tell me the occupation of your mother and father? Are they or were they self-employed, employees, civil servants, manual workers or without a professional activity?

[READ OUT – ONLY ONE ANSWER]

- a) Father: - self-employed 1
- employee..... 2
- civil servant 3
- manual worker 4
- without a professional activity..... 5
- (DK/NA)..... 6

- b) Mother:- self-employed 1
- employee..... 2
- civil servant..... 3
- manual worker 4
- without a professional activity..... 5
- (DK/NA)..... 6

Classification Details

<p>SEX: Male1 Female2</p> <p>AGE: (Record Exact Age) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>Use code '00' if respondent refuses to answer</p> <p>EDUCATION: How old were you when you finished your full-time education? (Record Exact Age)</p> <p>Use code '99' if respondent still at full-time school Use code '00' if respondent refuses to answer Use code '01' if never went to full-time school</p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <p>REGION: Dublin 1 Rest of Leinster 2 Munster 3 Conn/Ulster 4</p> <p>TYPE OF LOCALITY: Metropolitan zone 1 Other town/urban centre 2 Rural zone 3</p>	<p>WHAT IS YOUR OCCUPATION? As far as your current occupation is concerned, would you say you are self-employed, employee, manual worker or would you say that you are without a professional activity?</p> <p>[READ OUT LEFT ITEMS – THEN ASK TO SPECIFY (“that is to say”)] - ONLY ONE ANSWER]</p> <p>- Self-employed → i.e. : - farmer, forester, fisherman 11 - owner of a shop, craftsman 12 - professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, architect...) 13 - manager of a company 14 - other (SPECIFY) 15</p> <p>- Employee → i.e. : - professional (employed doctor, lawyer, accountant, architect) 21 - general management, director or top management 22 - middle management 23 - civil servant 24 - office clerk 25 - other employee (salesman, nurse, etc) .. 26 - other (SPECIFY) 27</p> <p>- Manual worker → i.e. : - supervisor/foreman (team manager, etc ...) 31 - manual worker 32 - unskilled manual worker 33 - other (SPECIFY) 34</p> <p>Without a professional activity → i.e. : - looking after the home 41 - student (full time) 42 - retired 43 - seeking a job 44 - other (SPECIFY) 45</p> <p>- (Refusal) 99</p> <p>[IF SELF-EMPLOYED (CODES 11-15), ASK] As a self-employed person, do you own a business?</p> <p>Yes 1 No 2 (DK/NA) 3</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>Length of Interview Mins</p>
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