



**National Strategy  
for Angling Development**

# **Growth Estimates**

**2015**

# 1 Growth Estimates

In 1999, an estimated 173,000 overseas visitors to Ireland participated in angling (Fáilte Ireland); by 2003 this figure had dropped to approximately 88,000 and since then the numbers of overseas anglers travelling to Ireland each year have never fully recovered. In recent years, however, there has been evidence to suggest an increase in both overseas and domestic angler participation.

An essential aim of the NSAD is to further increase the numbers of both domestic and overseas anglers who regularly participate in angling in Ireland. Should future overseas participation figures reach the historical figures estimated for the year 1999, the increase in associated direct expenditure would approach €41 million and support an extra 1,400 Irish jobs based on Fáilte Irelands formula of 36 jobs per million of tourist expenditure. These estimates are based on current overseas angler expenditure patterns (Table 1).

<b>Table 1: Comparison of Current Overseas Angler Impact Vs Potential (based on 2014 Vs 1999 participation figures)</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Overseas Anglers</b>	<b>Direct Expenditure</b>	<b>Net Expenditure</b>
1999	173,000	€163,000,000	€221,600,000
2014	132,000	€124,345,000	€169,000,000
<b>Potential Increase in Overseas Angler Related Revenues</b>		<b>€41,345,000</b>	<b>€52,600,000</b>
<b>Potential Increase in Supported Jobs</b>		<b>1,400</b>	

In 2013, Tourism Development International (TDI) in the Inland Fisheries Ireland commissioned 'Socio Economic Study of Recreational Angling in Ireland' estimated domestic angler participation to be in the region of 252,000 individuals. Current estimates for domestic participation based on a 2015 omnibus survey give an increased figure of 273,600 based on the 7.6% of the Irish population aged 15 or more who categorise themselves as anglers. It should be mentioned that of the individuals surveyed as part of the 2015 omnibus survey a total of 9% had participated in angling in 2014; this gives a total of 324,000 Irish individuals aged 15 or more who had participated in angling in Ireland over the course of the year.

The Irish population has steadily increased every year since 1989; from 2005 to 2015 it grew by over half a million and current estimates stand at 4,610,000 individuals living in Ireland. Furthermore, there has been an increased life expectancy for Irish individuals (to over 80 years of age for those born in 2012) and this, in combination with over one million Irish individuals aged below the age of 15 (or 22% of the population as a whole), points to an overall increase in domestic participation into the future. Table 2 indicates the potential growth in domestic expenditure figures and supported jobs as a result of increases in domestic participation rates.

<b>Table 2: Estimate of Future Economic Impact Based on Increases in Domestic Participation</b>					
<b>Year</b>	<b>Participation Estimate</b>	<b>Estimated Number of Domestic Anglers (aged 15+ years)</b>	<b>Total Direct Expenditure</b>	<b>Irish Angler Tourism Related Expenditure</b>	<b>Jobs Supported</b>
<b>2012</b>	7%	252,000	€434,000,000	€161,500,000	5,780
<b>2015</b>	7.6%	273,600	€476,000,000	€176,000,000	6,336
<b>Example</b>	8.1%	291,600	€507,400,000	€187,750,000	6,768
<b>Estimated Impact for Every 0.5% Increase in Domestic Participation Rates</b>					
-	<b>+0.5%</b>	<b>+18,000</b>	<b>+€31,300,000</b>	<b>+€11,600,000</b>	<b>+420</b>

(Figures Rounded for Ease of Interpretation)