

WORKSHEET 5: NATIONAL WAGES AND THE H.E.A.P. CHART

Instructions: Complete the following questions on your own and in class plot them onto the H.E.A.P. Chart.

What is the average industrial wage in Ireland?

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What is the per capita income in Ireland?

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What is the median annual income in Ireland?

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What is the current annual minimum wage in Ireland (calculate based on a 40-hour week)

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What is the current JLC rate for:

Catering sector.....

Hairdressing.....

Retail.....

What is the annual income for someone in receipt of:

Job seekers allowance.....

Old age pension.....

Disability pension.....

What is the current poverty threshold?.....

According to the chart, how many households are represented at each wage?.....

What is the dominant category and job at each income level (where relevant)?

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Which of these occupations do you think are unionised?

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Is there a difference between union and non-union employments?

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Why do you think this is?

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What do you think a) unions; b) government; and c) employers could do for workers who are at the bottom of this chart?

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Have any of the answers surprised you? In what way? Has it made you reassess education or your career options? Explain.

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Sources for information include: www.cso.ie