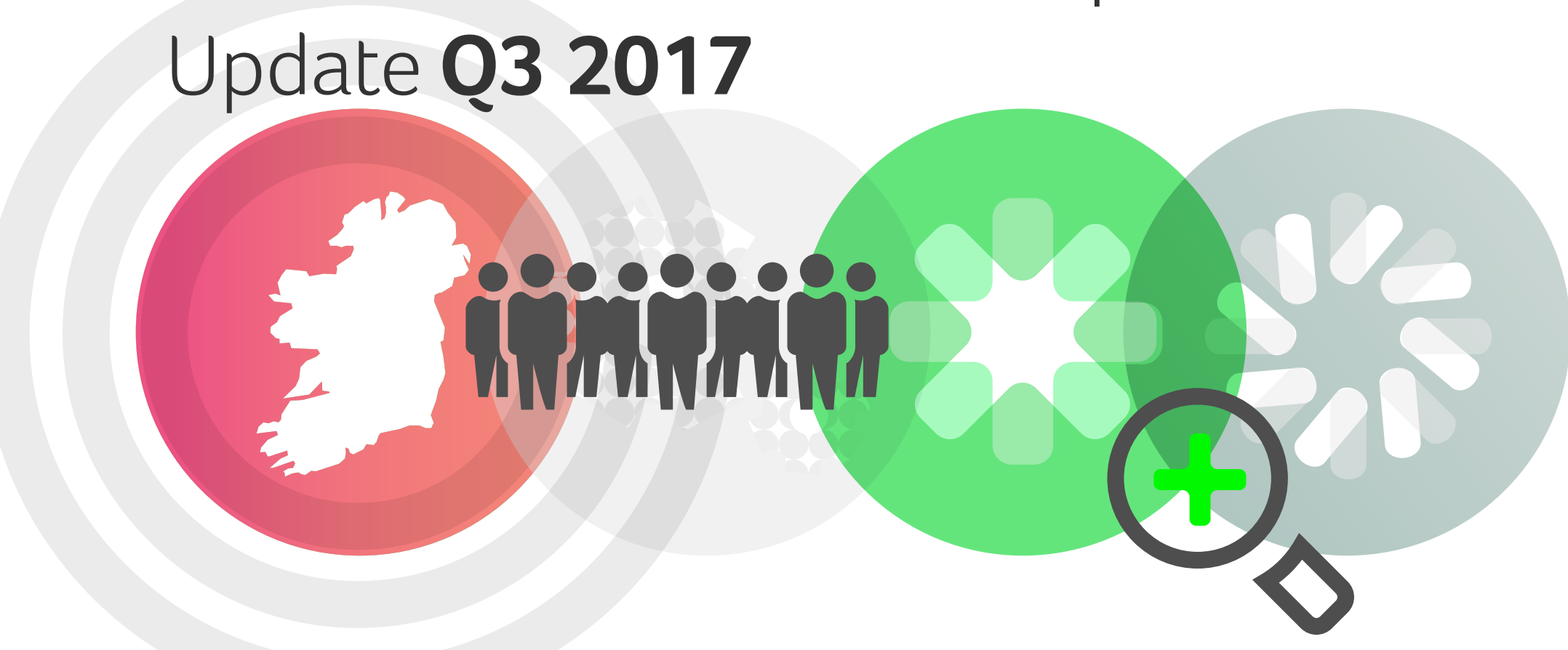
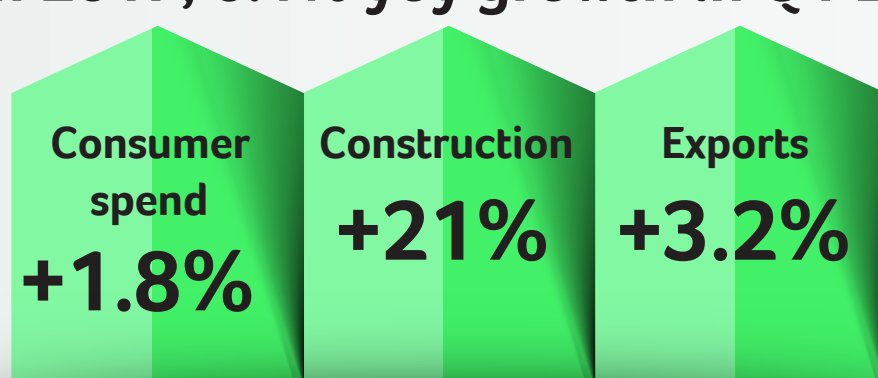


Ireland's Economic & Competitiveness Update Q3 2017



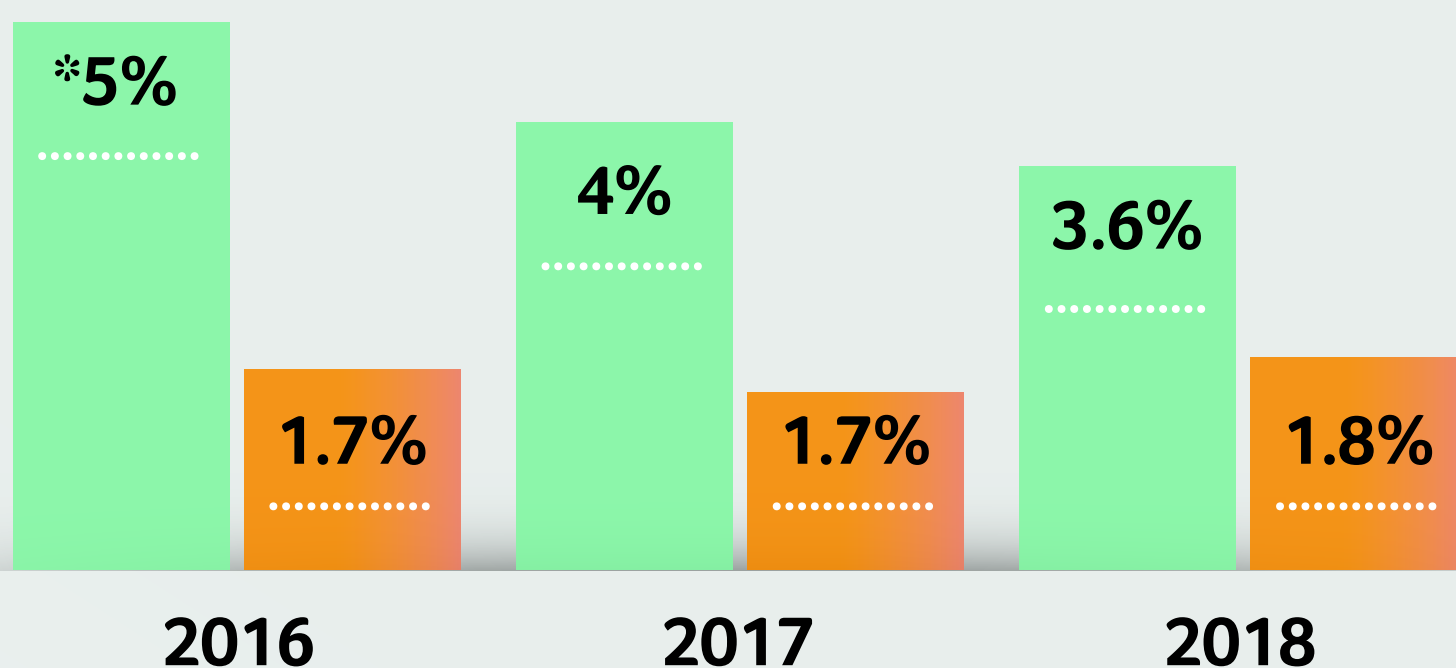
Strong Sustained Economic Growth

- IMD ranks Ireland 6th in the world for overall competitiveness.
- Fastest growing economy in Eurozone for past three years (2014 – 2016).
- Strong growth continues in 2017; 6.1% yoy growth in Q1 2017**
Broad-based growth; all contributing positively to growth.
- Inflation lowest level in EU.
- Personal debt in Ireland at lowest level since 2005.



Real GDP Growth Rate

Forecasts show that Ireland's economy will continue to grow strongly



*CSO, National Accounts.

Source: European Commission Spring Forecast 2017.

■ Ireland ■ Eurozone

FDI Continues to Grow Strongly

- In the face of global economic & political uncertainty Ireland remains a stable, competitive, secure, pro-business economy.
- IDA Performance in first half of 2017, 11,000+ job approvals compared with 9,100 this time last year.
- Same **high level of investments** secured as this time last year at 114.
- Ireland is an export base for MNCs.
- MNCs **export €149bn** from Ireland, 2/3's to the European Market.

Some of the leading companies investing in Ireland are:



Labour Market Continues to Strengthen

- Strong employment growth: over 2.05 million people now at work in Ireland.
- Unemployment 6.3% in June 2017 down from peak of 15% in 2012.
- Exporting companies created 1 in every 2.5 additional jobs in Ireland since 2012.
- Ireland's unemployment rate below EU (7.8%) and Euro area (9.3%) average.
- IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2017 ranks Ireland 1st for labour productivity and efficiency, and adaptability and flexibility of workforce.
- Youngest Population in the EU: 33% under 25 (EU 28: 26.8%).
- Irish labour productivity is 74% above the EU27 average.

Ireland at the Heart of Europe

- Ireland will remain a core member of the EU single market & Euro currency.
- Only English speaking country in the Eurozone.
- People from all over Europe can come to live and work in Ireland.
- Proportionally Ireland has the 3rd highest international workforce in Europe. Today, 15.4% of Ireland's workforce is international.

