

Market Pulse

Analysis of the key trends in the SME sector,
prepared by Fitzgerald Power on a quarterly basis.

Q2 2023

Summary Q2 2023

Irish economy

The number of mortgages drawn down has decreased by almost 20% in Q2. According to the Banking and Payments Federation Ireland there were 9,896 mortgages valued at €2.8 billion drawdown.

Global economic trends

The OECD has projected global GDP growth to be 2.7% in 2023, which is the lowest annual rate since the global financial crisis and the pandemic in 2020. Inflation remains high at 6.6% but is projected to fall to 4.3% by 2024.

Inflation

Inflation in the eurozone was 5.5% in June 2023, a decrease from 6.9% at the end of the previous quarter. Energy prices have continued to drive the decline.

Irish house prices

According to Daft.ie there was a 0.5% decrease in house prices when compared to the same period for 2022. However, there has been an increase of 2.4% from March to June 2023.

Household expenditure

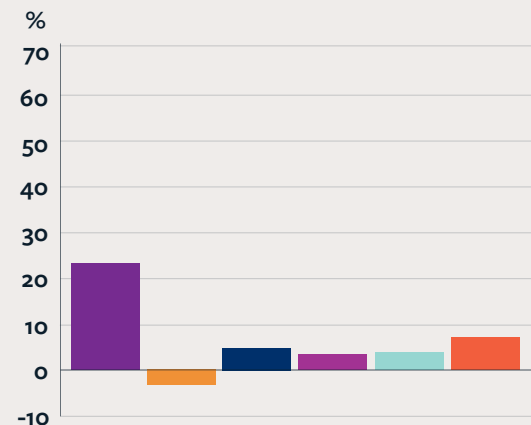
New figures published by the European Commission confirm Ireland was the most expensive country in the EU for household expenditure on goods and services last year with prices 46% above the EU average.

Revenue Pulse

The total value of seasonally adjusted annual sales increased by 11% when compared to the same period last year.

Sales Growth

Annual change to June 2023



Sector

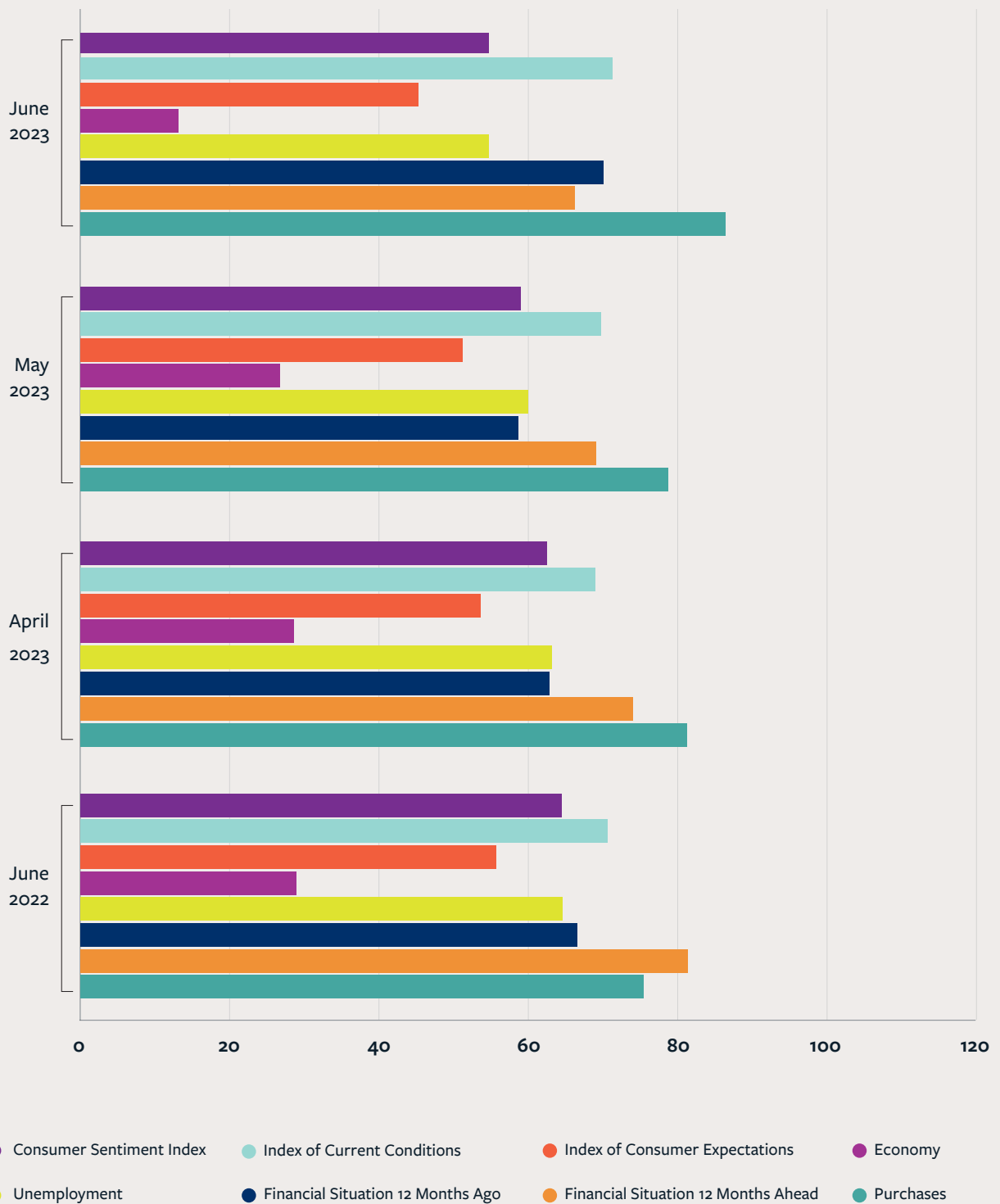
- Motor Trades 23.7%
- Department Stores -3.8%
- Food, Beverage & Tobacco 5.1%
- Clothing, Footwear & Textiles 3.6%
- Hardware, Paints & Glass 4.8%
- Bars 7.2%

SOURCE: CSO

Consumer Pulse

According to the Credit Union, consumer confidence has decreased in June 2023 vs the same period last year.

Credit Union Consumer Sentiment Index



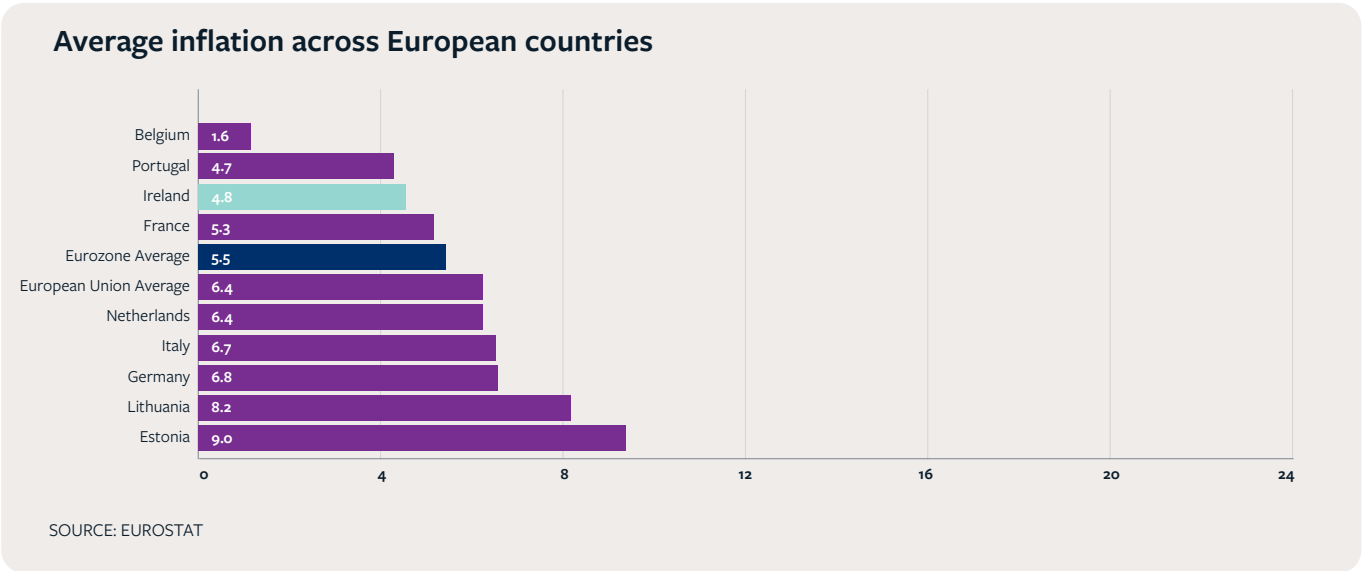
SOURCE: CREDIT UNION

Inflation Pulse

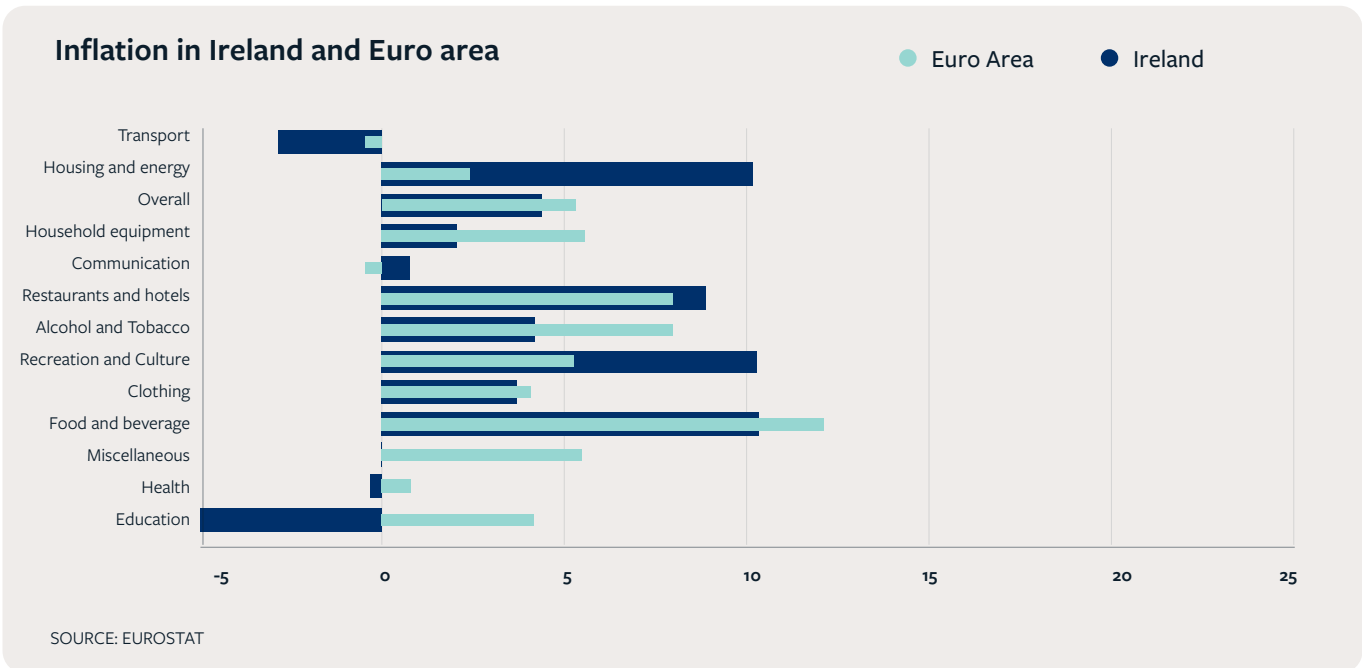
Inflation in the Eurozone in June 2023 is 5.5%, a decline from 6.9% last quarter.



Ireland's level of inflation, 4.8%, is below the Eurozone average of 5.5%.

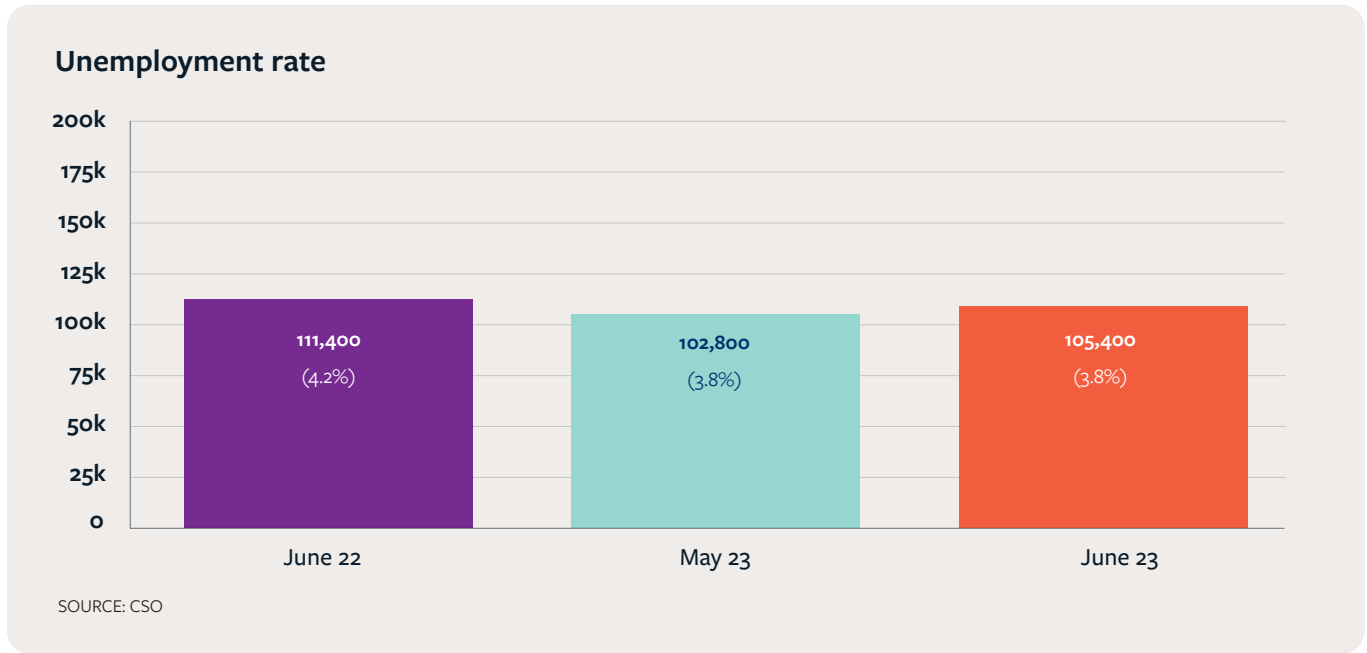


Housing and energy inflation remains significantly higher in Ireland than the Euro area.



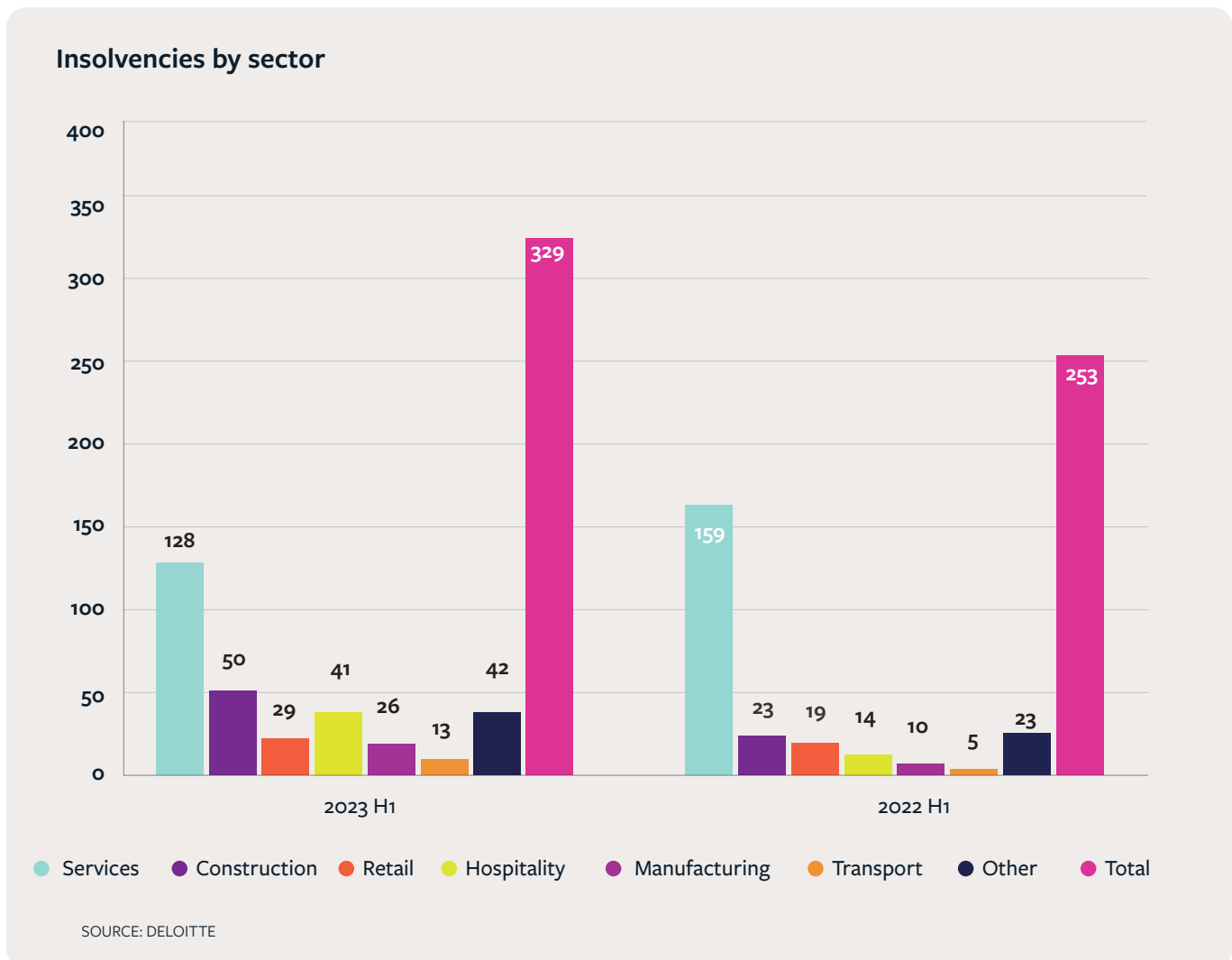
Employment Pulse

The number of people unemployed continued to decline, falling by 6,000 in June 2023 when compared to the same period in 2022.



Insolvency Pulse

Insolvencies increased by 30% in the first half of 2023 vs the same period last year.



Fitzgerald Power is a leading financial advisor to the Irish SME sector.

We provide accountancy, corporate finance and taxation advice to businesses across the country.

We'd love to hear from you so please get in touch if you think we can help.

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