

Figure 1. Number of STRs received at FIU Ireland per annum (1995 – 2022)

		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022*
STR **	Accountant	21	17	11	33	9
	Auctioneer	2	4	2	5	0
	Auditor	20	21	25	4	1
	Bank	14,544	15,031	19,322	23,323	18,785
	Bookmakers	87	164	276	299	1,039
	Bureau de Change	203	189	50	46	108
	Car Dealer	132	118	61	86	49
	Casino	137	87	72	259	178
	Credit Union	5,489	6,047	5,829	4,993	4,246
	DHVG	19	35	56	59	130
	eMoney Institution	26	28	351	1,382	931
	Fund	17	13	17	41	26
	Fund Administrator	50	43	35	45	35
	Fund Manager	78	77	48	28	10
	Investment Firm	16	26	17	21	57
	Investment Intermediary	1	1	1	2	2
	Life Assurance Company	608	356	279	123	52
	Money Lender	5	19	4	4	1
	Money Remitter	83	94	91	58	41
	Notary Public	0	0	0	1	1
	Other Financial Services Provider	294	324	316	417	555
	Othe Fund Service Provider	8	7	9	9	18
	Payment Institution	2,017	1,685	2,637	3,247	2,338
	Private Members Club	17	4	1	1	7
	Property Service Provider	0	1	1	0	0
	Retail Credit Firm	28	99	92	428	480
	Solicitor	13	8	8	12	13
	Tax Advisor	0	0	0	1	1
	TCSP	15	19	6	12	12
	VASP	0	0	0	300	6,625
	Other	9	4	4	0	1
		23,939	24,521	29,621	35,239	35,751
STReu ***	eMoney Institution	0	0	0	1,944	4,881
	Fund Manager	0	0	0	51	70
	Investment Firm	0	0	0	0	54
	Life Assurance Company	0	0	0	286	407
	Payment Institution	0	0	0	476	1,120
	VASP	0	0	0	716	5,138
		0	0	0	3,473	11,670
Total		23,939	24,521	29,621	38,712	47,421
% Change		-	<b>2</b> %	<b>21</b> %	31%	22%

<sup>\*</sup> Provisional Figures as of 10 January 2023

<sup>\*\*</sup> Designation is selected by entity at registration

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> STReu is a specific report, usually submitted by entities located in Ireland and passporting their services to other EU countries, where there is no nexus to Ireland.

The Irish Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) was established in May 1995 following the transposition of Council Directive of 10 June 1991 on the prevention of the use of the financial system for the purpose of money laundering (91/308/EEC). Subsequent EU Directives, influenced by the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), have defined the roles and functions of FIUs.

FATF is a global intergovernmental body, which sets standards and promotes effective implementation of legal, regulatory and operational measures for combating money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats. The Irish FIU is subject to monitoring and inspections by the FATF, the EU and other international bodies to ensure compliance with established standards.

FIU Ireland is a police-based FIU located within the Garda National Economic Crime Bureau (GNECB). It was put on a statutory footing in 2018 with the enactment of the Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) (Amendment) Act 2018. It is headed by Detective Chief Superintendent, GNECB, and staffed by employees of An Garda Síochána; however, it has its autonomy and operational independence in carrying out its functions, thus enhancing the FIU's compliance with FATF's Recommendation 29.

FIU Ireland carries out all of the 4th EU Anti-Money Laundering Directive (4AMLD) FIU functions on behalf of the Irish State. The FIU operates according to and makes all decisions in accordance with the Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) Acts 2010 to 2021.

Staff at the FIU contribute to the development of National and European policy and also sit on the Anti-Money Laundering Steering Committee (AMLSC) and represent Ireland at various international fora including the EU, FATF and Egmont Plenaries, EU FIU Platform meetings, etc.

FIU Ireland is the central reception point for all Suspicious Transaction Reports (STRs) from 'Designated Persons' under Section 42 of the Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and

Terrorist Financing) Acts 2010 to 2021. It is important to note that the Revenue Commissioners also receive a copy of every STR submitted as there is a system of dual-reporting in Ireland.

FIU Ireland analyses all STRs and other information relating to money laundering (ML) & terrorist financing (TF) for the purpose of preventing, detecting and investigating possible ML/TF. Its analysis function consists of conducting operational analysis of individual cases, targets and other appropriately selected information, and strategic analysis addressing wider ML/TF trends and patterns. If a suspicion appears to be substantiated, i.e. it appears that an STR contains a criminal indicator, FIU Ireland is obliged to send that information to the competent investigative authority, usually An Garda Síochána but also the Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB), Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection, etc.

## STRs are confidential.

Given the cross-jurisdictional nature of ML & TF, FIU Ireland complies with its obligations under Article 52 & 53 of the 4AMLD through its strong cooperation with other EU FIUs and works closely with other worldwide FIUs. In performance of this function, FIU Ireland complies with requests for information from other FIUs and sends requests for information when analysing STRs and other reports.

FIU Ireland uses a secure decentralised system called FIU.Net to securely share STR-related intelligence with other EU FIUs and the Egmont Secure Web (ESW) when communicating with non-EU FIUs. FIU Ireland uses specialised software (GoAML) to meet its data collection, management, analytical, document management, workflow and statistical needs.