

# Microsoft datacentres in Ireland

## Datacentres provide the physical infrastructure for the technology we depend on at work and in our personal lives

A datacentre building houses thousands of computer servers and data storage devices connected to the internet



These buildings are similar in size and appearance to a distribution warehouse.



Microsoft aims to build datacentres that are best in class in performance, reliability, safety, aesthetics, and sustainability.



Compared to many other industrial facilities, datacentres do not create significant noise pollution or have a significant impact on traffic flow or congestion.



Microsoft operates more than 300 datacentres in over 34 countries.

## Datacentres are part of everyday life

Whenever you open an app on your phone, join a virtual classroom or meeting, snap and save photos, or play a game with your friends online, you are using a datacentre.



Email



Online shopping



Mobile apps



Online banking



File storage



Streaming videos

[Take a virtual tour of a datacentre](#)





# Microsoft datacentres create local operations and construction jobs

Microsoft datacentres in Ireland currently employ **299 people**.

We estimate it will take approximately **1.9 million work hours** and more than **466 jobs** during peak construction to complete construction of the new datacentres.

By the end of 2026, we project **409 full-time employees and contractors** will work across all operational facilities.

## Datacentre operations

- Campus management
- People management
- Learning and development
- IT operations
- Mechanical engineers
- Electrical engineers
- Security contractors
- Building maintenance
- Critical environments

## Construction jobs

- Electricians
- Plumbers and pipefitters
- Carpenters
- Structural iron and steel workers
- Concrete workers
- Earth movers

[Find Microsoft jobs in your community](#) >

## Taxes from Microsoft datacentre operations represent important revenue for national, regional, and local governments

Microsoft datacentres represent a capital-intensive investment and long-term commitment to the community. This investment grows the commercial property tax base, increasing revenue for municipal services that benefit local citizens.

Examples of country, provincial, and local taxes that support cities, municipal services, schools, and colleges include:



### Property taxes

Collected annually once land is purchased.



### Indirect taxes

From construction and operation expenses. Examples include VAT, GST, and sales tax.



### Income taxes

From construction and operations workers.

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# Microsoft has invested in the greater Dublin area since 2018

Microsoft community investments support community-identified priorities across **112 partners** in the greater Dublin area.

## Investing in people of all ages through local skill-building programs

### Empowering equal access to STEM

Since 2021, Microsoft has been working with Maynooth University to deliver STEM Passport for Inclusion, an initiative aimed at addressing inequalities in accessing STEM careers among post-primary students, particularly women, in socially disadvantaged communities. Supporting and encouraging more young women to pursue STEM qualifications at third level is key to addressing such inequities and ensuring a more diverse STEM sector in the future.



[Learn more about this partnership](#) >

## Partnering with environmental sustainability programs for local impact

### West Dublin community initiative enhances native biodiversity

In partnership with One Tree Planted and Microsoft, Trees on the Land planted 8,250 trees at Peamount Hospital and surrounding areas to support a community-wide tree planting initiative that started in 2023. At each of the sites, the trees were planted to benefit landscape infrastructure and communities involved. The project continued in 2024 with a further 12,000 trees planted.



[Learn more about the West Dublin community initiative](#) >

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# Microsoft global commitments

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## CARBON

**Microsoft pledged to become carbon negative by 2030 and to remove historical carbon since its 1975 founding by 2050.**

Microsoft will reduce Scope 1 and 2 emissions to near zero through energy efficiency work and by reaching **100 percent renewable energy coverage by 2025.**

Microsoft has also committed by 2030 to:

- Be free of diesel.
- Match 100 percent of electricity consumption, 100 percent of the time, with zero-carbon energy purchases.
- Reduce our Scope 3 emissions by more than half.

## WATER

**In 2020, Microsoft pledged to be water positive for our direct operations by 2030.**

Through this commitment, we will replenish the water consumed by datacentre operations in water-stressed regions.

## WASTE

In 2020, Microsoft announced enhanced goals for waste reduction, circular supply chains, and zero-waste certification. We are working towards our goal of **90 percent reuse and recycle of servers and components by 2025** through our first-of-a-kind Microsoft Circular Centers.

Microsoft is using **circular economy** principles in our datacentres by implementing reuse and comprehensive recycling programs.

**By 2030, Microsoft datacentres will be zero waste**



## ECOSYSTEMS

Microsoft has committed to **protecting more land than we use for direct operations by 2025.**

Microsoft is committed to community investment, pollution remediation, and fair economic inclusion initiatives, as well as investment in clean energy, broadband access, and water replenishment initiatives.



# Ireland

## Datacentre operations sustainability investments

We're committed to providing a sustainable Microsoft Cloud, so we wanted to share information about how we take responsibility for our datacentre operations.

For Microsoft datacentres located in Ireland we have included local sustainability investments and datapoints in support of meeting and exceeding our commitments around carbon, water, waste, and ecosystems.

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### CARBON

We've committed to have **100% renewable energy coverage globally by 2025**.

In Ireland, we are using **renewable biofuel** to power our backup generators alongside natural gas generators for **net lower carbon emissions campus-wide**.

Microsoft's datacentres in Ireland are **ISO50001** and **LEED Gold certified**.

### WATER

Our facilities use **direct evaporative cooling (DEC)**. DEC uses water for cooling less than 5% of the year.

Datacentre cooling water is typically **not treated with any chemicals or additives**.

When quality of the available water is not adequate for use in cooling systems, water treatment is pursued in the same way municipal drinking water is treated to remove excessive hardness or to prevent harmful bacterial growth.

Water from our cooling systems is discharged back to the local wastewater utility treatment plant, following local regulations.

This system is highly efficient, using **less electricity and a fraction of water used** by other water-based cooling systems, such as cooling towers.

### WASTE

In January 2022, we opened a **Microsoft Circular Center** at the Ireland datacentre facilities to process up to **3,000 servers per month**.

Globally, Microsoft **reuses or recycles 90%+** of end-of-life assets.

[Learn more about datacentre efficiency metrics including PUE and WUE](#)

