

# Effective development of real estate market resilience in Ireland amidst economic shocks

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Dissertation

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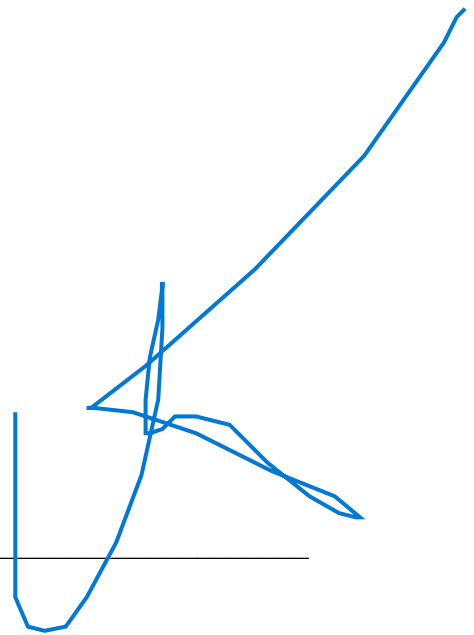
# Effective development of real estate market resilience in Ireland amidst economic shocks

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## ABSTRACT

# Effective development of real estate market resilience in Ireland amidst economic shocks

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**Background:** In this paper the author discusses the impact of economic shocks on the Irish real estate market and the pressing issues of the housing crisis in Ireland. The residential as well as the commercial property prices have been skyrocketing all over Ireland and there is a dearth of affordable housing for the common people. This has increased the homelessness in Ireland to an alarming levels.

**Objectives:** This study will not just analyse the role of the major players in the real Estate industry in Ireland, but also the key factors that influenced it during the times of socio- economic shocks like the crisis of 2008, COVID-19 and Brexit. It will also compare the different trend of the Irish market against other European countries. The author will also asses the current regulations governing the industry and explore any potential solutions that can be implemented to bring stability to the otherwise unstable market.

**Methods:** A mixed method was employed by the author to determine the current trends in the market and the how the industry behaves during the economic shocks. Quantitative data from the

CSO and Eurostat was collected to do the statistical analysis while qualitative data from the secondary sources were applied to do a detailed Thematic analysis of the Irish real estate market.

**Result:** The findings shed a quality light to reveal that construction costs have risen tremendously over the past decade. Institutional investment in rental housing has grown, impacting market affordability, Due to this Investors diversified portfolios and shifted to safer assets during economic downturns. The impact of economic shocks like COVID-19, promoted urban-to-rural migration surges, affecting demand and pricing in both regions.

**Conclusion:** The research emphasises on the vitality of the Irish real estate market depending on both global economy and the presence of FDI. The government's response through policy frameworks such as the National Recovery and resilience plan has been positive but needs to go further and adapt greatly to the need of sustainable green housing policies that prioritizes combined efforts of the governmental bodies and the Private investors. The long-term impacts resulting from sky-high construction costs and the lower housing affordability suggests that the market is not stable to handle any major shock and there are structural problems that make the market vulnerable.

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## **CHAPTER 1: Introduction**

As a result of the prolonged and severe global financial crisis, many nations began to realize the importance of their real estate markets to their total economies (Gutiérrez-López and Abad-González, 2020). Over the last year, the real estate sector has faced substantial obstacles. According to the competitiveness scorecard for 2023, produced by Dr. Francis Ruane, the chairman of the National Competitiveness and Productivity Council, Ireland had the lowest housing investment as a proportion of gross national income performance in Western Europe in 2021 (McGrath, 2020).

In recent years, Irish consumers have faced two unexpected economic crises. The interruptions highlighted earlier include the epidemic and the associated increase in inflation. It was expected that the inflation rate will be high for the year of 2022 (McGrath, 2020). The significant extent of the price hikes will undoubtedly result in a gradual adaptation of nominal earnings. There are several compelling reasons why having resilience is essential. An individual's ability to recover from financial losses, often linked to family debt, is a crucial factor in determining their financial stability. Household income, expenditures, and wealth have an impact on not just debt but also investment, savings, and aggregate consumption.

The outrageous surge in property prices and rentals in comparison to family income has resulted in a decrease in housing affordability, particularly for low-income persons who are renting or buying property. This is especially true for those who are considering purchasing a house or renting a property (Gutiérrez-López and Abad-González, 2020). This has been facilitated by the economic resurgence that ensued after the Great Financial Crisis, the

amelioration of job circumstances, the comparatively low interest rates, and the relatively rapid population expansion (Gutiérrez-López and Abad-González, 2020). Unlike the rapid increase in building during the early 2000s, the recovery of housing prices after the Great Financial Crisis was mostly driven by a scarcity of properties available for sale, rather than a quick extension of credit (Ferreira, 2021). During the latter quarter of the year, inflation slowed down, resulting in lower interest rates on bonds and equities and an overall improvement in the financial environment. If this trend continues until 2024, it will provide support to the idea that the real estate market will rebound in the future (Ferreira, 2021).

The Irish housing crisis is characterised by a shortage of affordable housing, rapidly increasing property prices and a lack of rental properties. This crisis impacts the country's competitiveness in the business world in several ways (McGrath, 2020).

One significant characteristic of the housing crisis in Ireland is the scarcity of cheap housing, which comes with the increasing price of property and the restricted supply of rental accommodations (Ferreira, 2021). This problem has had a detrimental impact on the nation's international competitiveness in several ways.

Businesses have difficulties in attracting and retaining skilled staff because of the excessively high housing costs and the limited availability of affordable options. This issue is particularly noticeable in fields that strongly depend on persons who have received specialized education. Workers may hesitate to move or stay in Ireland if the cost of housing significantly reduces a percentage of their prospective income. The third factor that affects people's discretionary income is the excessively high cost of housing, which in turn adds to the overall high cost of living. In 2017, Dublin ranked fifth from the bottom on The Economist's list, which evaluated the quality of life for expats in 51 different locales (Gutiérrez-López and Abad-

González, 2020). What is considered the most crucial? The costs associated with everyday living are significant (Ferreira, 2021). In addition, Ireland has become a desirable location for foreign direct investment (FDI) because of its favourable tax environment and highly qualified workforce. Several multinational firms have chosen to locate their European headquarters in Ireland due of these considerations. Due to the housing crisis in Ireland, several firms may reconsider their decision to construct a retail store or extend their activities in the nation. 30% of firms have acknowledged that the lack of available housing is a significant obstacle to their company operations (Ferreira, 2021). Furthermore, the housing crisis is intensifying the pressure on already overwhelmed public and transportation infrastructure. Housing limitations have the potential to hinder workers' job happiness and overall quality of life, particularly when they are compelled to deal with obstacles like long commute durations or inadequate public transit (Gutiérrez-López and Abad-González, 2020).

This research will examine the existing challenges in the Irish real estate industry. This study aims to support the resilience of the Irish real estate business in the face of future uncertainty. Upon conducting an investigation into the underlying causes, we will then provide viable remedies. The project's objective is to carry out research on cost-effective strategies that enhance supply and promote economic and financial resilience. The purpose is to provide valuable information to stakeholders, policymakers, and market players. There will be ongoing endeavours to ensure that Ireland's real estate market becomes the most durable and environmentally friendly in the world.

## ***1.1 Statement of the Problem***

### ***1.1.1 Global Financial Crisis (2008):***

In line with predictions made in previous studies conducted in 2006 and 2007, the Irish real estate industry suffered a complete collapse during the first half of 2009. Both arose in late 2008 as a result of the worldwide economic decline and the enforcement of more stringent lending laws; hence, they occurred simultaneously with the 2009 recession (McGrath, 2020). By June 2009, around 40% of the price surge that occurred during the property speculative years of 2001-2007, known as "Celtic Tiger Part 2," had been diminished. By 2012, the value of residential homes had decreased to levels not seen since 2001, thereby cancelling out much of the benefits that had been accumulated during the Celtic Tiger period (Macchiarelli et al, 2020). Various discrete groups and entities were involved in the disaster, either directly or indirectly. The following cases are very notable:

The Construction Industry Federation: blamed part-time builders for the bubble

The Financial Services Consultative Consumer Panel, which oversees the Central Bank of Ireland, determined that financial regulatory system flaws cost many customers a lot of money. It also chastised the regulator for failing to address consumer risks including home inflation (Macchiarelli et al., 2020). We concluded that our processes were inadequate and slow. The absence of regulatory expertise in particular industries may explain why present regulatory frameworks cannot curb excessive real estate lending. Invited specialists evaluated their activities to ascertain this. Former Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern said he would have reconsidered creating the Financial Regulator in 2001 if given another opportunity. He remarked this while explaining the Irish banking sector collapse (Ferreira, 2021).

The banks' rescue was influenced by claims that their lax lending tactics raised property values and made it harder for normal citizens to repay their debts. Internationally, everyone agreed that domestic and external influences molded the country. Ireland's global economic and financial status has suffered from banking sector scandals, notably at Anglo Irish Bank (Fernández et al., 2020). Overbuilding occurred during the house price increase. The decline in this sector and the outsourcing of manufacturing jobs raised the unemployment rate from 11.4% in May 2009 to 14.3% in September 2011 (McGrath, 2020). By the year 2020, the Economic and Social Research Institute expected the percentage to reach 17%.

### *1.1.2 Sovereign Debt Crisis (2010)*

Amidst the Great Recession that began in 2008, many Irish financial institutions came dangerously close to becoming insolvent and collapsing. The incident in question is often referred to as the ensuing Irish financial crisis (Gourinchas et al, 2020). In response, the Irish government provided a financial assistance package of €64 billion to the banking industry (de Haan and Kakes, 2020). Consequently, a multitude of unexpected revelations about the financial transactions of certain organizations and people were made known to the public. The primary catalyst for Ireland's government requesting aid from the IMF was the banking crisis, which necessitated a comprehensive restructuring of the government and exacerbated the country's recession. Given the significant dependence of the Irish economy on the construction sector, it was expected that the Irish government would have made necessary measures in advance of the expected decline in the industry. However, this did not happen. The condition of Ireland's property sector had a substantial impact on its fiscal situation, despite its comparatively low debt-to-GDP ratio (de Haan and Kakes, 2020). Due to a prolonged period of strong economic

growth, this ratio seemed to provide significant defence against the likelihood of an economic downturn (Gourinchas et al, 2020).

### *1.1.3 A Huge Deficit Opens Up*

Ireland might have averted major income tax revenue decreases and social assistance hikes by limiting the fiscal repercussions of the property market slump to construction activity and unemployment. Despite the construction industry downturn, the Irish government changed its tax structure to raise more money. Income taxes (black line on left scale) vs. asset-based taxes such capital purchase tax, registration fees, and capital gains tax. By 2008, construction activity had stalled, signalling a worldwide economic downturn (Mitchener and Trebesch, 2021). Ireland's real GDP fell 3.5% in 2008 and 7.6% in 2009 (McGrath, 2020). Ireland faced a large budget imbalance after years of economic boom. By early 2009, Ireland was on track to have a 20% GDP deficit without fiscal changes (Fernández et al., 2020).

Starting in 2002, asset-based tax revenue increased significantly after stable growth in the 1990s (Fernández et al., 2020). The rapidly changing housing market and rising property prices led to this conclusion. Income tax revenue dropped 10 times (Mitchener and Trebesch, 2021). Stopping construction appears to eliminate the government's main revenue source. The Irish government was aware of the severe economic collapse and the limited budgetary action owing to predicted big deficits. The initial debt was minor, but this continued. However, since late 2008, the Irish government has pursued austerity budgets that have raised taxes and slashed expenditure by €20.8 billion (Gourinchas et al., 2020). The greatest financial adjustments in any wealthy nation recently totalled 13% of GDP or €4,600 per person (Mitchener and Trebesch, 2021). They also estimate a 13% GDP drop (Mitchener and Trebesch, 2021). Irish nominal GDP

fell almost 20%, causing a major economic downturn. The European Commission still expects a 10.6% budget deficit in 2011 (Gourinchas et al., 2020).

## ***1.2 The Banking Crisis***

The collapse of the construction industry and its repercussions on revenue and expenditures are the subject of a critical study of the Irish budget crisis. The Irish regarded the government's financial crisis response as the key issue impacting national finances. Irish banks funded the rapid residential building after 2002 (Gutiérrez-López and Abad-González, 2020). As the economy slowed, many financial institutions changed their business practices. Irish banks used to swap lending and deposits until 2003. After 2003, these financial institutions sold bonds to offshore investors to support their fast real estate loan development (Baudino et al., 2020). The six largest Irish banks borrowed €100 billion in 2007 via foreign bonds, representing over 50% of GDP. In 2003, the same companies borrowed under €15 billion. Irish banks increased mortgage lending, which increased real estate developer financial risks. Due to their billions of wealth from the boom, these developers were spending more on real estate (Bratis et al., 2020). A large portion of these development loans went to projects that would have profited from rising real estate values. The acclaimed real estate development bank Anglo Irish Bank led. Anglo, which had a loan book growth rate of above 20% per year, has had significant corporate governance issues.

In 2008, when the Irish construction sector collapsed, overseas investors worried about Irish banks' property investment credit exposure (Bratis et al., 2020). Irish bankers hurriedly requested help at government offices in late September 2008, two weeks after Lehman Brothers collapsed. They requested government help since bond markets refused to support them. On



September 30, 2008, the Irish government announced a two-year practically full guarantee for Irish banks. The above judgement has been heavily criticized and will be debated. The government confirmed the Irish Central Bank's statement that banks are healthy and merely lacking liquidity. The government appeared to think the guarantee would not affect public finances. However, it seems that key government officials and Merrill Lynch, recruited as consultants in the weeks preceding the vote, advised against extending a universal guarantee (Baudino et al., 2020). The economic downturn hit Ireland's financial institutions hardest in March 2009, including the famous Anglo Irish Bank. The Irish government took various steps to fix it. This research does not analyse such metrics. Financially unstable firms may have been reformed to allow private creditors to share losses, although these were rare. The government guaranteeing institutions' obligations was the key reason. The government started recapitalizing insured banks with public funding in 2009.

### *1.2.1 The end game*

Global financial markets survived Ireland's budget deficit and the massive costs required to repair its banking industry by 2010. NAMA bought additional properties over the year, revealing that recapitalizing the Irish banks will be costly. The government issued bonds to banks to buy distressed property assets at a discount. According to the government's "final estimate" from September 2010, the Anglo Irish Bank will cost the state roughly 30 billion euros (McGrath, 2020). This equates to about €7,000 per Irish person. In 2010, Ireland had an extraordinary official deficit of 32% of GDP due to a "promissory note" that needed long-term loss recovery. This deficit was part of the government's 2020 budget shortfall (Bratis et al.).

Foreign investors worry that Irish banks may lose commercial and house loans due to the weak economic comeback. Financial institutions may issue bonds easily with the government

guarantee from late 2008 to early 2010. As concerns about a sovereign nation default grew, this guarantee became ineffective (Kristjánsdóttir and Óskarsdóttir, 2021). The initial guarantee ended in September 2010, and some bonds matured. The banks requested emergency financing from the European Central Bank (ECB) because they couldn't obtain alternative market funding to replace maturing bonds or compensate for corporate deposits exiting the system. During the crisis, insured institutions borrowed €36 billion from the European Central Bank (ECB) in April 2010, €50 billion in August, and €74 billion in September. ECB borrowing was minimal before the crisis. Because Irish banks failed to present enough collateral for loan applications with the European Central Bank (ECB), the ECB authorized the Central Bank of Ireland to offer "emergency liquidity assistance" for the banks. Despite support for Ireland's financial plan and international markets' optimism that Ireland would not default on its obligations in 2009, concerns are developing about how the banking sector may hurt the country's capacity to repay its loans. Government debt bond interest rates rose steadily in September and October. November saw a big increase after Mrs. Merkel and Mr. Sarkozy's Deauville declaration.

### *1.2.2 Austerity Measures (2011-2014)*

Ireland announced measures to reform sales and income taxes on Wednesday while maintaining its low corporate tax rate. This happened while the deeply indebted eurozone member was about to seek IMF and EU financial aid. Irish Prime Minister Brian Cowen announced a budget to reduce the deficit and save \$20 billion (€15 billion) by 2014. The budget raises taxes and cuts public sector salary, pensions, and social assistance.

The Celtic Tiger, which was once affluent but is now struggling, wants up to 85 billion euros from the EU and IMF. According to a key budget statement, "This plan confirms the

government's clear stance on maintaining the 12.5% rate of corporation tax." "Consequently, our outwardly directed, business-friendly industrial strategy has remained steadfast throughout various administrations." This helps us form. One of the lowest corporate taxes on company revenue globally helped the Irish economy during the Celtic Tiger boom. The 2008 financial crisis ended this time. Many European nations want the charge eliminated in exchange for a global rescue, even though their tax rates are far higher. Cowen projected an 18.5 billion euro deficit between government expenditure and tax revenue for the current fiscal year on Wednesday. He also noted a 33% drop in government tax revenue since 2007. The individual also proposed simplifying taxes to raise 1.9 billion euros. The government has declared that VAT would rise from 21% to 22% in 2013 and 23% in 2014 (Ferreira, 2021).

The value-added tax rises should bring in 620 million euros for the government. Research indicates that tax revenues in 2010 will be around 35% lower than in 2007 (Kristjánsdóttir and Óskarsdóttir, 2021). This considerable revenue loss is due to overreliance on property and construction revenues during successful years. Most income earners will pay their taxes for the year, according to the declaration. The government calls this "unsustainable."

The paradigm change espoused here is that everyone should contribute. They said that although the wealthy would pay the most, everyone would have to. Tax revenue fell due to the Irish real estate market's instability and economic downturn. The global economic crisis forced expensive bank bailouts, which hurt the country's finances. The government has not changed its economic estimates, which expect a 2.75 percent annual GDP growth rate from 2011 to 2014, despite probable foreign aid (Kristjánsdóttir and Óskarsdóttir, 2021). Unlike Standard & Poor's prognosis, the optimistic projection was different. The rating agency predicts essentially no nominal GDP growth for the S&P 500 index in 2011 and 2012. Prior to 2013, we expect real

GDP growth to be below 2.0% (Ferreira, 2021). The ratings agency has put Ireland on credit watch and reduced its short-term and long-term credit ratings by one notch.

### *1.2.3 Brexit Uncertainty (2016-present):*

Despite leaving the EU in 2019, the UK prepared and adjusted in 2020 (Hollander, 2021). Commerce and customs survived, thus Britons' daily life seemed to have kept the same. However, Brexit has an impact on the British economy. The nation's GDP fell from 2.2% in 2016 and 2.4% in 2017 to 1.7% in 2018 (Hollander, 2021). The major reason was lower business investment. The IMF expects the country's GDP to expand 1.3% in 2019 and 1.4% in 2020 (Hollander, 2021). The 2020 growth rate fell 11% from 2019 (Bratis et al., 2020). However, GDP improved, peaking at 7.6% in 2021 before falling to 4.1% in 2022. Between October 2018 and January 2019, the UK achieved its lowest unemployment rate in 44 years at 3.9% (Hollander, 2021). Experts say companies want to maintain their current staff rather than take on large initiatives (Bratis et al., 2020).

Exporters benefited from the pound's fall after Brexit. Imports ultimately raise consumer prices, causing considerable inflation. Consumer Price Index inflation was 3.1% in November 2017. This figure surpassed the Bank of England's 2% objective and came close to a six-year high. The 2018 drop in oil and gas prices caused inflation to grow 8.7% in the year before April 2023, topping the previous year (Hollander, 2021).

Based on July 2017 study, the House of Lords found that British companies will need to spend more to keep workers in the UK after Brexit (Hollander, 2021). Consumers should anticipate higher prices under the new legislation. Brexit was expected to reduce global commerce, despite the potential of several free trade accords. Former associate research director

at the National Institute of Economic and Social Research Dr. Monique Ebell estimates that worldwide commerce in goods and services would drop 22% if the UK leaves the EU and joins a free trade deal. Dr. Ebell predicted this (Hollander, 2021). However, no other free trade agreements were expected to compensate (Gutiérrez-López and Abad-González, 2020). Ebell predicted a 2.2% global trade increase from a BRIICS agreement. Contrary to the 2.6% expectation that an agreement between New Zealand, Canada, the US, and Australia would considerably ease the situation. According to 2017 Ebell study, the single market trade agreement reduces non-tariff obstacles. Most non-EU free trade agreements fail to reduce services trade non-tariff obstacles.

#### *1.2.4 COVID-19 Pandemic (2020-present)*

The rise in asking price inflation to 5% in the third quarter of 2020 may indicate a new Irish housing market (Perez and Matsaganis, 2021). COVID-19 may have exaggerated annual comparisons, but it has disrupted the housing market's seasonal pattern. Generalizing should be done cautiously. The 5% inflation rate in the third quarter of 2020, like the -3% rate in the second quarter, was likely deemed unusual (Perez and Matsaganis, 2021). Most likely, the reality is between these two viewpoints. Due to the government's postponement of the summer selling season, we're in the third quarter, which is typically low demand and pricing. The fourth quarter should see a return to lower price inflation. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the property market. The market has risen to 2019 levels, but fresh listings have not countered the April-May fall in listings. Despite their health recovery. MyHome has 17,800 active residential properties in September, down 25% from the previous year (Perez and Matsaganis, 2021). Pandemic's impact on housing development may explain the shortage of new homes.

## Demand still high

There is still strong consumer demand for residential constructions. The third quarter of 2020 saw a 40-60% increase in MyHome website traffic compared to 2019 (Baumöhl et al., 2020). Layoffs were associated with younger age and lower income among Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP) applicants. The previously mentioned workers worked in construction, hotels, and retail. Thus, purchasers, who earn more, are unconcerned about COVID-19's potential consequences on their jobs and incomes (Ferreira, 2021). Demand had increased because to buyers' belief that the COVID-19 pandemic is a good opportunity to buy at a discount. 50% of a newest research participants think now is a good time to purchase real estate, while 53% predict prices to fall next year.

Some worried at the start of the year that stricter lending standards may reduce mortgage availability, especially for individuals who didn't meet the 3.5 times loan-to-income ratio level (Baumöhl et al., 2020). No occurrences support these worries. Mortgage approvals totalled €670 million in July, averaging €247,000 (Baumöhl et al., 2020). This is a 4% increase from last year and a record high (Perez and Matsaganis, 2021).

## *Impact on the rental market*

Conversely, the private rent index within the Consumer Price Index (CPI) exhibited deflation for the first time in this period, namely from the previous month to August. This suggests that the rental market was significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic (Perez and Matsaganis, 2021). Rents have declined as a result of many variables converging, including as the higher demand for larger living spaces, the choice for working remotely, and the reduced attractiveness of Dublin owing to the epidemic (Allen-Coghlan and McQuinn, 2021). After the COVID-19 outbreak, a substantial majority of potential homeowners (73 percent) indicated their

desire to re-evaluate their property objectives. Approximately 43 percent of adults, including this group, expressed a desire to get a home office, a garden/playroom, or other additional areas, as indicated by a significant number of respondents (Allen-Coghlan and McQuinn, 2021).

Due to many economic upheavals both domestically and internationally, the Irish real estate market has seen substantial disturbances in its dynamics and resiliency. The market has seen several upheavals, including as the COVID-19 epidemic, the continued uncertainty surrounding Brexit, and the ramifications of the Global Financial Crisis (Allen-Coghlan and McQuinn, 2021). Prior to the sovereign debt crisis and austerity measures, the obstacles were already significant, hindering economic development and making homes less affordable (Foglia et al, 2022). The circumstances were a daunting task. The increased levels of uncertainty stemming from external events like as the COVID-19 epidemic and Brexit have influenced investor decision-making, market mood, and the overall economic climate. The Irish real estate market is now facing uncertainty as a result of Brexit, which will have a substantial impact on border towns and companies that rely largely on the United Kingdom market (Allen-Coghlan and McQuinn, 2021). Moreover, the COVID-19 epidemic brought about changes in both the residential and commercial real estate sectors, had an impact on consumer conduct, and interrupted economic operations.

### ***1.3 Significance of the study***

#### ***1.3.1 Objective***

An essential objective of the program is to enhance the resilience of Ireland's real estate industry in times of economic decline.

### *1.3.2 Scope*

This investigation will specifically examine the residential and commercial sectors of Ireland's real estate market. We will embark on a comprehensive exploration of the country, seeing all of its unique landmarks and attractions spanning from one coast to the other. This course will comprehensively address the topics of real estate investment, development, finance, and regulation from beginning to conclusion. Competition in this subsector is minimal.

### ***1.4 Research Questions***

1. What insights have we gained about Ireland's real estate market from economic disruptions such as COVID-19 and the Global Financial Crisis?
2. Do we agree that the Irish real estate industry is susceptible to economic fluctuations caused by factors such as the availability of cheap housing, market forces, and the stability of banks?
3. The Irish real estate market has undergone many modifications to enhance its resilience to economic turbulence. The effectiveness of these measures must be evaluated up to this point.
4. What strategies may Irish persons from various socioeconomic backgrounds use to manage the scarcity of affordable homes, increasing lending rates, and inflation? By what means do they tackle these challenges?
5. In order to address point five, it is necessary to examine how Ireland's regulatory framework protects the real estate market from economic shocks, as well as identify the necessary enhancements to strengthen it.



6. Fluctuations in the Irish economy have a direct impact on market liquidity, property values, and investment aspirations. Can you provide more elucidation on the manner in which the various components interact in your description?
7. What is the impact of Ireland's real estate market stability on home affordability, community cohesion, and economic inequality?
8. What lessons may Ireland glean from the real estate markets of other nations, both prosperous and failed, during periods of economic decline?
9. What advantages may data-driven initiatives and technological advancements offer to the real estate business in Ireland? The ability to forecast results, mitigate risks, and make well-informed decisions is a significant benefit.
10. Considering the present and upcoming economic conditions, what potential hazards and consequences can the Irish real estate market encounter, and what measures might be taken to reduce their impact?

### ***1.5 Limitations***

Prior to commencing any academic inquiry, it is necessary to meticulously evaluate the criteria for the study plan. These criteria should be taken into account. The study is limited in its breadth due to its reliance on secondary sources. Due to their higher price, secondary sources are more expensive. While secondary sources might provide valuable insights and extensive study, they seldom offer a complete understanding of a subject. Prior secondary sources may lack comprehensive information pertaining to the objectives and characteristics of this study. Insufficient, subpar, or inadequately standardized data might impede the formation of dependable conclusions. If these components are present, it may be the case. The interpretation

of the validity and significance of secondary data is challenging due to the lack of control over its collection. This is caused by a lack of control. We shall assess the reliability and excellence of any secondary data sources and enhance them with primary data if necessary. This will occur irrespective of the conditions.

### ***1.6 Delimitations***

The research limitations determine how much of the inquiry is included and how much is excluded. Setting restrictions for our study will make it easier to remain on track and meet our objectives. One drawback with this plan is that it focuses on commercial real estate in Ireland's major cities. To better understand commercial real estate firms, this research sheds light on their resiliency mechanisms. Resilience mechanisms differ between residential and commercial facilities. These systems are completely independent. The border in question lacks all of these criteria. It lacks them. Metropolitan real estate markets have particular challenges, according to the analysis. The city is the study's primary focus. The distinctions between city and suburban real estate markets are clear. The real estate markets of other nations will not be our primary emphasis. Though the findings are only relevant to the context in which the data was acquired, our limitations enable us to study anything. If the study's findings are applied, the criteria must be properly followed. Because needs are important, this is correct.

### ***1.7 Assumptions***

Economic Stability: Throughout the investigation period, there were no indications of economic volatility in Ireland. Statistics demonstrate that doing real estate market research is

essential irrespective of the economic conditions. Possible scenarios include economic recessions and strained diplomatic relations.

**Data Accuracy:** Researchers often use a combination of secondary and primary sources to get dependable data for their study. This assumption is crucial for ensuring the validity of results as it ensures that data is derived from reliable sources. Consequently, it ensures that choices are made accurately.

**Representative Sample:** The majority of research assumes that the objects or attributes examined are representative of the group being studied. This category include professionals in the fields of banking, real estate, and related occupations. If this is true, our findings may have more relevance in a broader scope.

**Resilience Conceptualization:** The real estate market's ability to adjust to changing conditions is influenced by its resilience. This ability to recover quickly and maintain strength allows the market to remain competitive. Resilience pertains to the capacity of a market to operate effectively while encountering economic disruptions. Designate this skill as "resilience." The researchers found that resilience principles are present everywhere, even in changing situations.

## ***1.8 Definition of terms***

### ***Brexit***

The term "Brexit" was coined by combining the terms "British" and "exit" to specifically refer to the United Kingdom's choice, made via a referendum, to depart from the European Union on June 23, 2016.

### ***Resilience***

Resilience is shown when one has the ability to endure and go on in the face of challenges and barriers.

### *Bank bailout*

A "bank bailout" refers to the situation when the government offers financial aid to a struggling bank that is at the brink of bankruptcy. The main goal is to prevent the bank from going bankrupt, which would have a negative impact on its customers by decreasing access to credit and causing an increase in unemployment.

### *Asset-Based Taxes*

The tax base of an asset refers to the amount that a company may use to offset taxable economic gains that would otherwise be generated by selling or recovering the carrying value of the asset.

### *Blanket Guarantee*

The necessary authorities will safeguard particular deposits and financial instruments, in addition to the expected protection offered by the restricted coverage, by a written statement.

### *Celtic Tiger*

From 1995 until 2007, Ireland had a thriving economy and was given the nickname "Celtic Tiger."

### *Austerity*

Surviving with few resources, living without needless conveniences and material belongings, and lacking unneeded luxuries are all aspects of a lifestyle known as minimalism.

### *Market sentiment*

Market sentiment refers to the assessments and viewpoints articulated by investors and traders about a particular firm or the broader market. When prices rise, there is a widespread agreement that the market is in a favourable state. Investors often have a negative outlook when prices consistently decrease.

### *Promissory Note*

A written contract to pay a certain sum to the recipient or a chosen party at a future date or upon request; the document requires the signatures of both parties: A written promise to pay a certain amount of money at a future date.

### *Value-added tax (VAT)*

Whenever there is a rise in the value of items and services over the whole supply chain, from manufacturing to sale, an extra consumption tax is levied.

## **1.9 Background**

Over the last ten years, the Irish real estate market has seen substantial changes. A broad range of social, political, and economic issues have impacted the market's path, which went from its highest point in the early 2000s to its lowest point during the global financial crisis and subsequent recovery. Ireland had an exceptional and unparalleled increase in real estate activity throughout the late 1990s and early 2000s, which had a significant impact on the country's progress (Perez and Matsaganis, 2021). According to a source, the average price of a second home in Ireland soared by more than 300 percent from 1996 to 2006, while the cost of a newly built home jumped by 250 percent (Perez and Matsaganis, 2021). This indicates that the price of the latter surpasses that of the former. The significant growth was mainly driven by economic factors such as increasing earnings, declining property prices in the early 1990s, and a rise in speculation. All of these elements were greatly impacted by these factors. In contrast, in the early 2000s, signs of market inflation were apparent. This was due to speculation, expectation of future price rises, and a lack of regulation in the banking sector, which were the main factors driving up prices.

Following the market's high in early 2007, home prices in Ireland began to decrease six months later. It was worsened by the financial crisis in 2008 (Perez and Matsaganis, 2021).

According to the source, property prices declined by 12.4% in 2008, 18.6% in 2009, and 10.5% for the year of 2010 (Perez and Matsaganis, 2021). Multiple factors contributed to this fall, including a substantial economic crisis, an oversupply of houses, financial institution losses, and a slowdown in mortgage lending.

## **CHAPTER 2: Literature Review**

### ***2.1 Historical Context of Ireland's Real Estate Market***

Over the last three decades, the real estate market in Ireland has been subjected to extraordinary levels of volatility. The large rise and contraction stages observed in this volatility are indicative of its volatility. A great number of other economic, political, and social elements, in addition to oscillations, were the primary drivers of market growth. Oscillations brought about the activation of each of these components. In the absence of a comprehensive comprehension of these historical difficulties, we are unable to plan for potential economic catastrophes in the future effectively. During the period known as the "Celtic Tiger" that occurred in the late 1990s and early 2000s, it was believed that the Irish economy was performing well (Barrett et al., 2015). Throughout this period, a number of factors contributed to an increase in property values. Strong economic growth, low interest rates on borrowing money, and tax measures that were favourable to growth were among them. Many new residential and commercial complexes have been constructed all over Ireland as a result of the development boom that was brought about by foreign investor investment (Hartmann, 2015). A great number of complexes were developed as a result of foreign investment. On the other hand, this rapid multiplication planted specific seeds that would subsequently sprout and appear once they sprouted. As a consequence of the speculative investment bubble, a great number of investors and developers were forced to absorb a substantial amount of debt in order to finance their operations (Hartmann, 2015). They needed this in order to fund their businesses. Lenders frequently loosened the standards for loan repayment in order to obtain a more equitable share of the expanding pie. However, the

monitoring processes were either ineffective or incorrect, which prevented these abuses from occurring. The current legal structure prevented them.

Around the time when the real estate bubble was at its peak in 2007, prices reached unsustainable levels. The bubble reached its highest point here. Within less than ten years, this bubble was responsible for the catastrophic tripling of property values. It is becoming increasingly apparent to the general public that there is a disparity between the costs of homes and important economic indicators such as median salaries and rental rates. The financial crisis that occurred in 2008 caused concerns to arise over Ireland's housing sector. As a result of the steep drop in investor confidence, global lending markets came to a complete halt (Hartmann, 2015). Due to the fact that Irish banks are so dependent on the real estate industry, they were particularly hard hit by the liquidity problem. It is because of this that the company is susceptible to the disaster. The credit crisis made it impossible for buyers and borrowers to refinance their mortgages or obtain new mortgages, which resulted in a decrease in the number of real estate transactions (Hartmann, 2015).

The collapse of the real estate market came with significant repercussions for Ireland's economy. Since property values have declined by fifty per cent from their peak, a substantial number of homeowners have negative equity. as a result of plummeting property values. The construction industry, which had previously been a primary driver of employment and economic growth, was severely impacted by the severe recession. During this period, the number of construction jobs experienced a considerable decline. Due to the fact that many developers have yet to complete their projects, there are a significant number of residential structures that are still in the process



of being constructed across the country. According to Hartmann (2015), if there were no restrictions, investors and banks would provide funding for enterprises that were considered to be risky. The market was more vulnerable to shocks from the outside world as a result of the availability of more risky financial instruments and the reduced number of laws governing lending. The market has gotten more volatile as a direct consequence of this. The volatile nature of the market will probably cause this sensitivity to become even more severe over time.

Both interest-only mortgages and subprime mortgages are included in this category. In the aftermath of the crisis, the government of Ireland implemented a number of policies with the goal of reviving the economy and the real estate market. The execution of particular policies was the means by which this objective was achieved. One of the goals of these projects was to increase homeownership. Efforts that were meant to accomplish this objective. In the years following its establishment in 2009, the National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) has made great progress in terms of both its performance and its accomplishments. A period of economic slump was a time when NAMA was responsible for overseeing asset management methods. A single financial institution in the country held an enormous portfolio of non-performing real estate loans. For the purpose of fostering economic recovery and enhancing public trust, the National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) is seeking to assist financial institutions in the sale of riskier assets (Barrett et al., 2015). This objective was emphasized in the organization's mission statement. As a further means of bolstering the economy and the real estate market, the government implemented fiscal and monetary policies. It was one strategy to do away with the interest on the mortgage. Not only that but the reduction in stamp duty and the tax benefit for first-time homebuyers were also enacted. Through the implementation of stricter lending restrictions, the Central Bank of Ireland was able to avoid risky lending. It was done in order to

prevent a recurrence. Both the maximum loan-to-value (LTV) and loan-to-income (LTI) ratios are presented here for your use. Over time, the outcomes of their initiatives became apparent.

Around the year 1900, there were indications that the real estate market in Ireland was looking up. The majority of the signals were positive. The improvement of economic conditions, the increase in demand, and the confidence of investors have all been contributed to by the stability of property values and the rise in real estate prices. These factors have contributed to an increase in the cost of real estate. The construction industry was also making progress, but at a slower pace than it had been during the period of economic expansion (Fu, 2022). No one of the difficulties in the healing process was able to prevent these excellent outcomes. Homebuyers had a difficult time locating options that were within their price range since there was a shortage of new construction, particularly in urban areas. This was especially true for properties that could have been wealthier (Siniak et al., 2020). Negative equity for certain assets and excessive household debt were two factors that hampered the market's ability to recover after the crisis. Both consequences were associated with the crisis. The most recent economic crisis was the root cause of both of these problems.

Recent events in the real estate market, such as the COVID-19 outbreak and Brexit, have shown that new challenges have arisen. These problems are a direct consequence of the latter. Because it was unknown how Brexit would affect Ireland's economic ties with the United Kingdom, market movements were more surprising than they would have been otherwise (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). Due to the transitory influence that the pandemic had on the economy, there was a decline in the number of commercial transactions that took place in the construction and real estate industries. On the other hand, the market had less of an immediate impact as a result

of government actions such as the eviction moratorium and the mortgage payment vacation. The issue was resolved as a result of these efforts. The real estate industry in Ireland demonstrates that robust regulatory frameworks, ethical financial practices, and active government participation are necessary for the expansion of the market. From this, we can get knowledge. This presents a wealth of opportunities for learning. The market must be able to manage itself, its fundamental functions, and any adjustments in order for it to remain successful over time (Barrett et al., 2015) . Protecting homeowners from speculative activity and the accumulation of debt is something that the government ought to do in order to address the basic problems of housing availability and affordability (Fu, 2022). It ought to be a top priority to create and put into effect legislation pertaining to macroprudential matters. These restrictions are outlined in the strategy in order to prevent dangers that affect the entire system and to stabilize the economy (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). It would be best to accomplish both goals at the same time. The construction of counter-cyclical capital buffers and the stress testing of financial institutions are two examples of procedures that fall under this category. Laws that encourage banks to have adequate capital buffers and lend ethically have the potential to shield the market against fluctuations that are not anticipated.

In order to strengthen resilience, there is a need for additional sustainable development projects. One more aspect that is crucial. In order to accomplish this goal, future construction must consider environmental, social, and economic requirements. Only at that point is this possible. The real estate business stands to benefit from a variety of efforts, including mixed-use developments, energy-efficient construction technology, green building certifications, and others (Fu, 2022). It may also be useful to obtain certifications in green building as well. Sinoak et al. (2020) indicate that these modifications might increase investor interest, as well as an increase in

operational expenditures and visual attractiveness. Among the additional advantages is a reduction in operational expenses. Every objective can be accomplished if these tactics are utilized. The resilience of the market may be improved through the formation of public-private partnerships and other essential components. The public and private sectors are able to work together on large scale infrastructure projects, urban redevelopment projects, and affordable housing initiatives through the use of participatory public-private partnerships (PPPs).

Individuals can work together to finish these projects. It would be beneficial for the public sector and the private sector to collaborate on this matter. The study that Bao and Shah conducted in 2020 found that this improves the utilization of resources. In order to improve the quality of life for people who live in urban areas, it is possible to address concerns regarding supply, support development projects with sufficient financial resources and oversight, and engage in other comparable activities.

The engagement of the general public is yet another significant aspect that affects the real estate market. Providing residents with the opportunity to voice their concerns increases the likelihood that they will address problems and push for improvements. This modification became effective because they are now deciding. Through the holding of stakeholder workshops and public lectures, cities have the potential to strengthen their capacity for adaptation, inclusion, and resilience in the face of natural disasters. Lastly, because you never know when new possibilities or risks will present themselves, you must keep an eye on the market (Barrett et al., 2015). For this reason, market monitoring is necessary. Home prices, building permits, and other economic data should be monitored by legislators and market actors so that choices may be made more quickly and with more accurate information. Technology and data may assist in making things clearer and providing swift insights into the industry particularly when it comes to making

things more evident (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). An examination of the historical context sheds light on the significance of perseverance in the Irish real estate market. It contributes to our comprehension of the phenomenon. The peak of the boom and bust cycle that occurred in the early 2000s brought to light the dangers of risky investing and the lack of regulation that existed at the time. This cycle peaked with the 2008 financial crisis. The long running cycle came to a stop with this incident. Horan and MacEwan (2022) discovered that legislative reforms and administrative initiatives contributed to the resurgence. This scenario shows the importance of a strong foundation and effective financial management. If Ireland wishes to achieve long term success and stability, its real estate sector must evolve. Development has accelerated dramatically as a result of new opportunities and risks. This presents a problem for the development sector. Given all of this, this is an important topic. To meet this goal, complete solutions must be adopted. Several strategies could be employed to carry out this idea. These techniques include public-private partnerships, sustainable development, strong regulatory control, continuous review, and community participation (Shurson, 2020).

## ***2.2 The Concept of Market Resilience***

In order to comprehend the real estate market, as well as other economic markets, it is necessary first to understand the concept of "market resilience." Action is difficult to take in the absence of this. The manner in which these markets recover from losses is also investigated by this graph. In what ways did this first start to occur? As a means of getting things started, market resilience is gaining more and more acceptance within businesses. In this particular circumstance, such information is necessary. In spite of unplanned shocks, modifications, or disruptions, conformable markets are able to continue operating regularly. Consequently, this lends credence

to our belief that the market is functioning really well. The issue at hand is referred to as "resilient markets." Case studies provide several examples that demonstrate the concept of resilience. In this context, capacity refers to the market's ability to recover after a setback. This term can also be used to describe the degree to which a market is resilient, which is essentially the same thing. Those who want to succeed in real estate must have strong mental fortitude. As a result, changes in the macroeconomic and micropolitical conditions might have a significant impact on their ability to survive. A market's resilience is defined by its ability to withstand transformation while retaining the majority of its key traits, structure, identity, and feedback (Bao and Shah, 2020). This is the most effective technique to assess the market's resiliency. Consider the market's ability to ensure that its own personality features remain intact. This concept considers a number of aspects, one of which is the amount of time needed to recover after an injury. Among the numerous attributes discussed are resilience, which is defined as the ability to persevere in the face of adversity; flexibility, which is defined as the ability to adapt one's activities to changing circumstances; and a variety of other characteristics.

When we talk about "robustness" in regard to financial markets, we mean their ability to weather a storm of unexpected events without dropping their guard. The real estate industry is doing exceptionally well, as indicated by the plethora of data available to back this claim. These include reputable banking institutions, environmentally appropriate construction processes, and constant property values, to name a few (Barrett et al., 2015). Strong real estate markets are distinguished by strong investment portfolios, sound financial procedures and effective regulatory frameworks. Robust real estate markets have robust financial mechanism (Fu, 2022) s. One of the many essential characteristics of strong real estate markets is how these elements work together to mitigate the impact of economic downturns. This is one of several fundamental

qualities. This is one of numerous key factors that contribute to the importance of these marketplaces. According to Martin and Sunley (2015), resilience is more than just the ability to recover from momentary setbacks; it also needs the development of a foundation that can sustain longer periods of uncertainty. Another speculative bubble, such as the one that caused the 2008 financial crisis, might be avoided by enacting stricter banking laws and more conservative lending criteria (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). This is only one of several different ways that might be used. It is feasible to improve the real estate market by implementing a range of realistic and successful strategies. This category includes but is not limited to, stringent lending regulations to prevent excessive leverage, high quality building construction to ensure long-term durability, and risk distribution across a large number of assets to minimize uncertainty. If you utilize these techniques to develop a market, it will be better equipped to resist momentary changes and will have a greater chance of long-term growth.

Adaptability emphasizes a market's ability to alter in response to the dynamics of its operating environment. One word that may be used to describe all of these abilities is the ability to adapt one's behaviour in response to changes in the environment. Professionals commonly use the term "adaptability" to describe this aspect of their professional lives when addressing it specifically. One of the hallmarks of a market that is resistant to change is an inability to adapt strategically to new information. This is one of the characteristics that contribute to market resistance to change. Real estate success requires a sharp mind and lightning fast reflexes. This is a critical step that you must take if you want to succeed in the very competitive environment that exists within this sector. According to Horan and MacEwan's (2022) conclusions, in order to reach this level, we will need to change our development goals, adopt new technologies, and rethink how we invest our financial resources. It is feasible to achieve this goal by combining several methods. To add

insult to injury, if this aspect of resilience is lacking, the market will not only be unable to function. Still, it will also be unable to maintain its competitive advantage when confronted with environmental challenges. The rate at which a market adopts new technology can be used to assess its ability to adapt to changing situations. This can be used as a metric to determine adaptation. There is only one metric that can be used to quantify adaptation effectively, and it is unique to the thing being measured. The term "proptech" is used to group a variety of recent innovations in the field of property technology. This is done in the context of the word "proptech." Horan and MacEwan (2022), In recent years, the number of innovations introduced into the real estate technology market has increased significantly. The real estate market will undergo significant adjustments as a result of all of these altering variables. Everything is changing as a result of the constant release of ground breaking technology developments. Some examples of such technologies are blockchain technology, artificial intelligence, and the Internet of Things. Even though the world is constantly changing, technological advancements are making the world a better place. It is general knowledge that the "property technology" industry is always receptive to new ideas and improvements. According to Bao and Shah's (2020) estimates, the most important element driving this development would be the growth of enterprises working in commercial real estate technology. Because these technological breakthroughs will result in increased transparency, easier transactions, and data driven insights, markets may benefit from them. One example of how blockchain technology can be used is to encrypt real estate transaction records. As an added bonus, this has the ability to boost market trust while decreasing the possibility of fraud. Artificial intelligence has the ability to increase forecasting accuracy by processing massive amounts of data (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). Given that this allows for more exact forecasting, this is fantastic news for investors. This step is taken



with the purpose of providing investors with a more transparent view of the market. When property managers have real time access to building efficiency data, renters will be more satisfied, maintenance costs will be decreased, and buildings will be more efficient overall. It is possible that similar events will occur in the future (Schoenmaker and Van der Vlist, 2015). These benefits will all become a reality owing to the Internet of Things, which will serve as the vehicle for making this feasible. This, along with other recent technological breakthroughs, demonstrates the market's resilience and ability to adjust to new scenarios.

In this discussion, the word "recovery speed" refers to the amount of time it may take for a market to return to its normal state following a disturbance. This is a word that we use while discussing markets. We believe that the market's swift recovery from recent losses reflects its resilience (Barrett et al., 2015). There are numerous key factors that could influence the resuscitation of the real estate market. Several examples of such elements are the amount of money available, client demand, and the amount of wiggle room allowed to banks. However, this list does not include everything. It is determined by a number of factors, not the least of which is whether or not the real estate market can rebound and grow. The length of time it took for Ireland's property market to recover from the financial crisis of 2008 is an excellent example of this concept (Fu, 2022). This is only one example, and there are many more. The administration took a number of initiatives to help stabilize the market and accelerate the recovery process. This dilemma was caused by a number of factors, including the National Asset Management Agency (NAMA), property tax modifications, and banking institution bailouts (Barrett et al., 2015). On several times, the author emphasizes the importance of the government's prompt and effective intervention in order to speed up the recovery of the real estate market. If this strategy is implemented, it will ensure that the market recovers completely. After a crisis has passed, the

same market characteristics that helped individuals in the immediate aftermath of the crisis may make it simpler to get back on track (Bao and Shah, 2020). The reason for this is that these forces are still active. It is strongly advised that you carefully consider this particular recommendation. Because they all fit the criteria, there are several items that can be classified. This is because there are so many distinct things. To name a few, there are programs that provide tenant help, holidays in exchange for making mortgage payments, and incentives for speeding development and upkeep (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). There are many additional instances that are similar to this one. This strategy has the potential to aid in a faster recovery because it can reduce market demands in a short period of time while also reducing damage over time.

## ***2.3 Economic Shocks and Their Impact***

### ***2.3.1 The Global Financial Crisis of 2008***

The "global financial crisis" (GFC), which occurred in 2008, was a devastating event with far reaching consequences for economies all across the world. As a direct result of the event's disastrous economic effects, real estate values in Ireland fell significantly. This fall was a direct result of the calamity. The recession, which resulted in a significant reduction in property prices, was the principal cause of both the economic crisis and recession. The crisis was to blame for the financial system's instability, which resulted in the end of development activities. As a result of the crisis, its aftermath, and the country's protracted recovery effort, there has been a lot of attention placed on Ireland's current economic woes. As a result of these events, the procedures required to renew and stabilize the market have become clear.

The Irish economy saw enormous growth during the Celtic Tiger years, which ended with the financial catastrophe in 2008. The years preceding the disaster are the focus of our discussion at

this time. The years preceding the calamity were excluded from this period. During this period, foreign direct investment (FDI) peaked, the economy expanded rapidly, and the real estate market performed remarkably well. A rise happened as a direct result of the conditions. A variety of variables shaped the organization's development (Bao and Shah, 2020). The costs associated with real estate transactions have risen dramatically as a direct result of the massive increase in the value of both residential and commercial properties. The completely fantastic growth rates were the factors that contributed to this unique situation. Over the last few years, the construction industry has grown significantly in both GDP and employment, exerting a greater influence on the economy (Muellbauer, 2022).

When it came to the growth of this increase, there were numerous factors to consider, and they all worked together to make it a reality. The historically low interest rates enabled households and developers to accumulate massive amounts of debt, allowing them to incur more debt. One of the most important factors in this case was the availability of low-interest loans. This situation has arisen as a result of a significant fall in interest rates. In the end, taxpayers who intended to get these incentives benefited from government programs that helped to strengthen the housing market (Fu, 2022). These measures were designed to help boost the housing market. Because of Ireland's favourable business climate and robust economy, foreign investors were able to sustain the real estate bubble in Ireland. This new component must be considered in terms of necessity. As a result, this played a crucial role in the success of the real estate boom at the time.

Regardless, the world's issues remained hidden during this period of prosperity. On the other side, every one of these issues has been addressed since then. As a result of this event, the relationship between rising property value growth and other major economic aspects, such as

income levels and rental property returns, has weakened significantly. Simultaneously, the value of real estate rose dramatically (Murphy, 2021). The widespread belief that real estate values will increase indefinitely contributed substantially to the speculative bubble. This belief was a significant contributor to the bubble, and it may be considered one of the beliefs that contributed to its formation (Bao and Shah, 2020). During the peak of the boom, financial institutions were willing to take a risk by lending to individuals. This opportunity arose during the boom. They were successful in meeting their goal of increasing their profit as much as possible. Because it was so easy for criminals to borrow money without first doing adequate risk assessments, financial institutions such as banks were vulnerable to the risks posed by excessive leverage.

In September 2008, Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy, triggering a global financial crisis. This catastrophe resulted from the global economic crisis, which began in September of that year. It was the drive that led to the reality of this calamity. When this disaster struck, people all around the world began withdrawing money from banks and other financial institutions. This action started fairly quickly following the event. While all of this was going on, a major theological crisis occurred (Byrnes, 2022). Not only did Ireland feel the effects relatively immediately, but they had a significant influence on the country. The value of properties fell precipitously as a result of the real estate bubble crash. The current real estate boom has begun and is being carried out. Commercial real estate has lost significantly more ground than residential real estate, which has lost around half of its value since its peak. Residential real estate has also lost substantial ground.

The building industry has been driven to its knees as a direct result of the government's total lack of business acumen. The steady flow of credit and investment was a critical component of its

performance. The number of jobs available in the construction business has decreased significantly as a result of projects that were terminated while they were still being implemented (Byrnes, 2022). Because of the Irish banking system's significant exposure to the real estate market, a liquidity crisis developed. This crisis occurred as a result of substantial exposure. This exposure was obtained through the distribution of significant mortgage and construction loans—the culmination of tremendous exposure served as the impetus for the appearance of this phenomenon (Fu, 2022). The sharp decrease in property prices, which were used as collateral for loans granted by banks to borrowers, contributed to the onset of a catastrophic financial catastrophe. The concurrent reduction in creditworthiness served as the triggering cause. Due to these factors, it took a lot of work for banks and other financial institutions to solicit donations.

According to Kitchin et al. (2012), the crisis highlighted other fundamental flaws that have persisted in the Irish economy throughout the years. These inadequacies become more visible throughout the crisis. A formerly fortunate situation has become a significant disadvantage as a result of the need to rely on foreign currency. As a result of foreign investors withdrawing funds from their accounts, the Irish banking system needed help to meet the increased demand from consumers. The initial step was to apply the missing capital letter. The failure of regulatory agencies and other financial institutions to appropriately manage risk contributed to the accumulation of systemic risks, increasing the chance of a crisis. The preparations were considered one of the causes of the accident. Because of the preparedness, the tragedy became a real possibility, which was one of the outcomes of the planning.

The Irish government bravely responded to the financial crisis by launching a number of programs aimed at stabilizing the economy and restoring trust in the banking industry. These

steps aimed to rebuild trust in the financial sector. The implementation of these steps would facilitate the process of restoring confidence in the economic system (Murphy, 2021). After considering the issue, we concluded that these actions were essential because we were aware of the gravity of the situation. The government of Ireland's decision in September 2008 to guarantee all loan liabilities held by Irish banks was a watershed moment that changed the course of history (Fu, 2022). They gave this guarantee to convince depositors and creditors that their money was safe. The objective was to strengthen the system in such a way that the likelihood of a bank run would be significantly reduced. If Irish banks fail, the government will suffer financial losses due to the country's large debt. This is due to Ireland's high debt levels.

In December 2009, the government established NAMA, an acronym for National Asset Management Agency. The National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) was granted authorization to acquire troubled assets from Irish banks, allowing them to achieve their goal (Arigoni et al., 2022). Examples of these assets include non-performing real estate loans. When the National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) removed these problematic assets from banks' books, they were able to recover and resume lending as usual. This means that the loans can be processed in the manner that was originally planned for their execution. These two aims were met satisfactorily (Hartmann, 2015). The National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) paid over 32 billion euros for loans worth approximately 77 billion euros (Abdulai and Awuah, 2021). These loans were worth about 32 billion euros. Due to the disastrous devaluation of some assets, we had no choice but to take this step. We had no other options. The government made steps to construct the National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) and recapitalize banks (Hartmann, 2015). After acquiring vast funds, famous financial titans explored purchasing a large number of lower quality financial firms. The goals of this project were to help financial institutions correct

their balance sheets and to assist banks in boosting their lending. Bank bailouts totalled approximately 64 billion euros, demonstrating the depth of the global crisis (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). The global financial crisis was directly responsible for the economic calamity we are currently facing.

### *The Impact on the Real Estate Market*

During the same period when the Great Financial Crisis (GFC) began, the Irish real estate market experienced a significant downturn. The liquidity of the real estate market declined dramatically during this period as a result of the large decrease in transactions. It was a coincidence that they both appeared at the same time, but they did so together. These two results are intimately related to the influence that the situational circumstances had on the event that occurred. The term "negative equity" refers to the scenario in which the value of a home is less than the amount owed on the mortgage. In many circumstances, homeowners face this unique difficulty. They needed an explanation for their current circumstance because it was critical for them to do so. Due to the market's domino effect, the number of mortgage defaults and foreclosures increased, increasing the total number of mortgage defaults. As a result of the scenario's growing influence on property values, market confidence plummeted, and a chain reaction of financial problems began. As a result of this condition, a self-reinforcing loop began (Bao and Shah, 2020). The genesis of this scenario resulted in the formation of a feedback loop capable of replicating itself. Given the current situation, the recent incident acted as the catalyst for what appears to be a continuing cycle of injustice.

It is important to remember that the commercial real estate business had a significant decline during the financial crisis. A substantial reduction in the value of commercial and industrial

property happened as a result of enterprises either curtailing their expansion plans or declaring bankruptcy due to low profitability (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). This resulted in a drop in the value of these properties. The events that occurred have directly resulted in the current state of affairs. The reduction in asset value had a terrible effect on the financial situation of both owners and investors, which was exacerbated by the conditions. This cycle was put in motion by the previous destructive cycle. It was determined to demolish the property because the rental income was dropping, and the number of vacant flats had increased. Each of these causes, when considered individually, was accountable for the complete and utter destruction of the property (Byrnes, 2022). The commercial real estate market experienced a decrease in activity as buyers and investors became more concerned. This led to the market's overall collapse. It is important to emphasize that extremely high levels of risk played a significant role in the event.

The economic crisis particularly hardened the Irish construction industry while the Celtic Tiger was in power in the Irish government. Despite this, Ireland's GDP suffered significantly when this industry began to underperform. This was a big blow. On the other hand, while a wide range of businesses have felt the effects of the economic crisis, the construction industry has been hammered especially hard by its ramifications. Construction is another industry that has had an impact on this region and contributed to its growth (Fu, 2022). It was becoming increasingly more difficult to find existing residential and commercial space, and a large number of new projects were still in the works. Despite the fact that there were so many jobs that needed to be completed, it lasted a long time (Hartmann, 2015). Furthermore, not only did firms directly involved in the construction industry suffer as a result of the industry's decline, but so did the supply chain, subcontractors, and other businesses associate with the construction industry (Abdulai and Awuah, 2021).



A number of factors led to these developments, including a fall in supply and the aftermath of the crisis, which significantly affected the dynamics of the real estate market. These circumstances prompted these adjustments. The crisis had a cascade effect, causing these changes. It was necessary to make these changes due to an unexpected decrease in inventory, which required their implementation. These recently adopted improvements are the outcome of a successful combination of these two components, which led to their creation. Although development was halted, there was still a high demand for dwellings, particularly in larger cities (Fu, 2022). The demand for this particular item peaked within the metropolitan area. On the other side, we risk falling behind if there is insufficient supply to meet demand. Taking this action was necessary to stay on schedule (Schoenmaker and Van der Vlist, 2015). The rise in rental expenses is a direct result of a need for more affordable housing, causing a large number of families to be anxious about their capacity to meet their financial obligations. This could be explained by the fact that the weights were measured incorrectly. The crisis also led people to reconsider their economic strategies. The catastrophes that occurred affected everything, even this. The financial crisis has made investors more cautious, and as a result, they place a high value on operations that involve risk management.

As a result of the government's massive response to the crisis, it played a critical role in calming markets and assisting the economy's recovery. We took the appropriate actions based on our principal concern for market security. NAMA, which stands for the National Asset Management Agency, was founded with the purpose of restoring the financial health of the banking system and resolving difficulties with assets. Several significant steps were implemented, including this one. The National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) made a concentrated effort to sell these assets, which was critical to restoring market liquidity and trust (Murphy, 2021).

The government also supported the housing market and promoted economic growth through a variety of monetary and fiscal policies. These policies were applied in various ways. All of these policies went into effect concurrently (Abdulai and Awuah, 2021). These objectives were met through the successful implementation of a range of policies, allowing for their full accomplishment. These restrictions were imposed because the organization's stated aims could not be met without them, which is why they were enacted in the first place. This collection of recommendations also includes reducing stamp duty and providing tax benefits for first-time buyers (Byrnes, 2022). The government decreased mortgage interest rates to help adopt a different policy approach. One of the most important benefits was the reduction in stamp duty, which was one of the primary moves taken. The Central Bank of Ireland has tightened lending standards in order to ensure financial stability and prevent the resurgence of harmful lending practices.

It was really tough to get back on your feet following the economic catastrophe. Only when we had successfully restored the trust of our clients and investors, as well as achieved important organizational changes, would we be able to put this strategy into operation? When I reached this point in my recovery path, I came to a crossroads. It's definitely indispensable in every way. The widespread acceptance of sustainable development concepts allowed the real estate industry to reinforce its opposition (Siniak et al., 2020). This was, without a doubt, an important step toward creating a more storm-resistant real estate market. One such project is the implementation of green construction standards and technology with the purpose of reducing the amount of energy utilized by the industry (Schoenmaker and Van der Vlist, 2015) y. This is one example of such an undertaking. While increasing the resale value and curbing the attractiveness of the homes, they also ensured that the residences would be environmentally and financially sustainable in the

long run (Murphy, 2021). To add insult to injury, they put considerable effort into making the homes both ecologically friendly and responsible.

The concept of "public-private partnerships," or "PPPs," has grown in favour as a means of increasing market power. Public-private partnerships (PPPs), large-scale infrastructure projects, and affordable housing programs are all examples of organizations that will gain greatly from their implementation (Salzman and Zwinkels, 2017). They were able to accomplish this goal by combining the resources and experience of the public and private sectors (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). As a result, they are finally able to meet the goals they set for themselves. Better links like this were required for city progress, supply issues to be resolved, and development projects to be efficiently financed and monitored. (Lynch and Byrne, 2021) All of this was predicated on the existence of these relationships. The formation of these partnerships is a necessary step before any of these acts can be carried out.

According to recent research findings, active community participation is crucial to the healing process. The possibility of the project meeting people's wants and desires rose when it was developed and constructed with the involvement of the communities that were located nearby. The group's cohesiveness and passion for the attempt intensified after the completion. The proactive efforts we made to identify and address the community's problems enabled us to reach this milestone (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). Planners were able to create more resilient urban districts by utilizing participatory approaches such as public lectures and workshops. This was accomplished by giving stakeholders the opportunity to share their ideas (Muellbauer, 2022). This program was implemented using a variety of methods, including seminars and open forums. We were successful in completing the project because we used these techniques. The ultimate

goal of these initiatives was to help in the creation of environments that are more accommodating to a wide range of users.

The global financial crisis and the massive economic misery that it precipitated had a significant influence on Ireland's real estate market. The global financial crisis exposed long-hidden weaknesses and caused great economic damage. Following further study, it was discovered that the system's security had several shortcomings that might be improved. The current situation is a direct and immediate result of the events that have just occurred. A variety of factors contributed to the successful handling of the recovery process (Hartmann, 2015). These characteristics included active government participation, structural improvements, and a focus on sustainable development approaches (Bao and Shah, 2020). When finished, they would greatly simplify process supervision. Our experience with the crisis has taught us that these features are critical for preventing similar economic crises in the future while also sustaining market stability. This is something we've learned based on our perspective. The importance of government intervention, rigorous banking rules, and conservative lending criteria form the foundation of these ideas (Lynch and Byrne, 2021). The knowledge we presently have was collected during the crisis.

### *2.3.2 Brexit*

Brexit, also known as "the British decision to leave the European Union following a vote in 2016," has caused numerous complex challenges and unanswered questions to surface. Many people in Ireland are apprehensive about the long-term prospects of the Irish property market because there is so much uncertainty surrounding these opportunities. Because of the tight economic ties between the United Kingdom and Ireland, the decision to exit the European Union had a significant impact on a wide range of businesses, including residential and commercial real

estate. When the interconnection of the two economies is considered, this is, without a doubt, the best option among those available. To mitigate the impact of Brexit's numerous unexpected consequences, flexibility was required. As a result, we should expect increased economic volatility, unique swings in trade dynamics, and various investment patterns. Even while Brexit had a rapid and enormous impact on the world's financial markets, it was only transitory (Matemilola and Muraina, 2023). This is despite the fact that the effect was felt all over. This effect was the most noticeable of the early effects that were seen. Investors and businesses required assurances to ensure the long-term stability of the economic connection between the United Kingdom and the European Union (and, by extension, Ireland). The Irish real estate market is highly volatile, causing a significant number of investors to lose faith in the sector. As a result of the uncertainty, investor confidence fell. Given the market's uncertainty, Barrett et al. (2015) found that stakeholders were unwilling to make investments and postponed property acquisition. This statement provides a concise summary of the study's findings. At the time, the commercial real estate sector was undergoing significant changes. Several multinational corporations and financial institutions are considering relocating or expanding their headquarters to Dublin, Ireland's capital and most important financial centre, or another European Union member state (Abdulai and Awuah, 2021). This makes a lot of economic sense when you consider Dublin's standing as a key financial centre. In addition to assuring continued access to the European Union's single market, the primary goals of this organization were to limit interference with economic and commercial operations. As a result, the campaign acquired traction, contributing to its success (Arigoni et al., 2022). The transfer of these enterprises increased demand for office space significantly, resulting in a stratospheric spike in both property values and rental rates in Dublin's central business district. As a result, both home prices

and rental rates have risen. This is a result of the scenario. However, problems were associated with a decrease in direct investment from multinational firms based in other countries.

Throughout its history, Ireland has relied mostly on the United Kingdom for foreign direct investment. Due to the uncertainty surrounding Brexit, investors have been unwilling to put money down on firms that may be developed in the future. As a result, the Irish government should have spent more time implementing steps to ensure the country's continued attraction of foreign direct investment (FDI) (Murphy, 2021). These actions were implemented promptly. A variety of steps were implemented in an effort to boost commercial activity. These initiatives included modernizing the legal structures, investing in infrastructure, and providing tax incentives. The primary motivation for implementing these changes was to improve the firm's operations.

As a direct result of the Brexit process being completed, adjustments will be required to the business models that are now in place between Ireland and the United Kingdom. Great Britain and Ireland, the country's two major trading partners, are afraid that tariffs and the reintroduction of customs checks will disrupt supply chains and raise costs. It is also intended to restart the customs inspection process. The company operates in two different nations, so the possibility of this risk occurring is considerably increased. During their time in place, the Irish customs inspections across the border operated as a barrier to economic cooperation and commerce (Hartmann, 2015). Due to these constraints, the island of Ireland has been divided into two distinct nations: The Republic of Ireland, a member state of the European Union, and Northern Ireland, a United Kingdom territory, both of these states are classified as countries in the same geographical region (Lynch and Byrne, 2021). As a result of this dispute, which has muddied the waters, the already stormy commercial and economic environment has been exacerbated, making

navigation even more challenging. In order to mitigate the impact of these disruptions, the Irish government sought diplomatic solutions and collaborated with other European Union countries (Salzman and Zwinkels, 2017). We expected these disruptions to have less of an effect on our ability to complete our objectives. Despite the fact that the Northern Ireland Protocol was developed with the intention of ensuring Northern Ireland's compliance with certain EU legislation, its primary purpose was to prevent the development of an impenetrable border between the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). These treaties facilitated the free movement of goods across borders; nevertheless, the subsequent execution of these accords made doing business with the rest of the United Kingdom more cumbersome. Because of the ongoing competition in the trade sector, the logistics firm and industrial real estate sectors of the real estate market both suffered significant consequences as a result. Managers of supply chains, distribution networks, and industrial operations must reassess their current practices in order to maximize resource utilization and ensure that their activities are carried out effectively. According to the findings of this evaluation, there has been a significant increase in the demand for storage and logistics facilities in Ireland (Byrnes, 2022). The desire of firms to build or expand their distribution networks within the European Union played a significant effect in the development of this situation. Due to rising real estate demand, many areas are seeing a rise in new residential and commercial development projects. One of the main factors driving this trend is the surge in popularity of certain areas. As a result of this program, more initiatives are being done across industries. Locations near multiple major ports and transportation hubs may violate this criterion. The number of renters has increased, raising property prices.

The Irish real estate market was influenced by Brexit, as were all areas of the economy. This remained true even if the vote had a greater impact on other economic sectors. This is true even if other sectors of the economy have a greater impact. The demand for luxury apartments for rents in Dublin and other major cities is unprecedented. Demand is unprecedented. The current enthusiasm is the same. This increase in demand has never been considered before. The extraordinary demand for housing has raised rents and property values in metropolitan regions. This is due to demand. As a result, finding affordable homes has become much harder. Rising demand has caused these price hikes. To what end? It's important to remember that many people are continually looking for housing. Arigoni and colleagues (2022) found that more people were actively hunting for housing during this time. This was the circumstance during research. After the UK left the EU, many people were anxious about the economy and migration. Recent developments have made these issues more evident. Brexit is largely responsible for our current instability.

Horan and MacEwan (2022) found that Brexit affected many economic sectors. This verdict also changed labour movement dynamics. British decision makers agreed to establish the organization. Construction was one of the hardest damaged industries once the economy collapsed. Business closures were widespread. This segment of the economy was less affected by the incident than comparable sectors. According to Byrnes (2022), a change in immigration policy that considerably restricted freedom of movement would result in a shortage of qualified candidates. This would be serious. This statement is universally accepted. This criterion affects new home construction and development initiatives. The two are linked. Kennedy and Myers (2019) report that the Irish government and sector partners are working together to speed up homebuilding. This speeds up the procedure. Improving domestic worker training is one



approach to achieving this goal. Alternative construction methods like modular homes are being considered. All of these procedures must be done simultaneously to speed up homebuilding. This will accelerate construction.

Additionally, several of my business partners are working to improve domestic worker tools and resources. This is their goal. New homes arrive at their sites faster using this strategy. This strategy will standardize and simplify the construction process, which should speed up the delivery of newly built dwellings. This improves delivery efficiency. Horan and MacEwan (2022) aim to create a more efficient way to make new homes that meet their needs. That's why people act this way about this event. After acknowledging these issues, they can research deployment options. This is because they recognize the obstacles.

Since Brexit is expected to have long-term effects on the market, the Irish real estate business must be agile and adaptable to prosper. Brexit is predicted to impact the market dramatically. According to the crisis's conclusions, having a varied economy managed by strict financial rules is essential for withstanding shocks from other countries. The administration's approach to Brexit is good since it is based on pragmatic concepts developed during the recession (Abdulai and Awuah, 2021). The incidents that have occurred have reinforced my knowledge of the importance of being proactive and having a problem-solving plan in place. The market's resilience was finally increased by the introduction of policies that encouraged long-term growth, economic diversification, and legislative reform (Foley and Hutchinson, 2017). A rise in the real estate market can be attributed to a variety of factors, including a greater emphasis on energy efficiency, green building requirements, and sustainable city planning. It's also possible that these aspects are influencing things. In addition to improving the quality and value

of the assets under review, the operations carried out contributed to the achievement of larger sustainability and environmental goals (Foley and Hutchinson, 2017). As the events surrounding Brexit unfolded, it became increasingly clear how crucial it is for communities to participate in planning and decision making processes that entail citizen engagement (Bao and Shah, 2020). Residents' ability to engage in the decision making process about development plans resulted in increased community spirit and facilitated the gathering of community members. As a direct result of implementing this policy, communities were more resilient, which aided in the construction of more environmentally friendly and welcoming urban landscapes (Lynch and Byrne, 2021).

### *2.3.3 COVID-19 Pandemic*

During the COVID-19 epidemic, there were widespread economic upheavals, which had a significant impact on the real estate industry. The foundations of the real estate industry were disturbed as a result of these unforeseen developments. Changes in Irish consumers' work habits, lifestyle preferences, and economic conditions resulted in major alterations to demand and consumption patterns. These alterations resulted from the interaction of several variables. The current financial condition is the most important factor in determining these modifications. As the epidemic progressed, people all around the world were compelled to change their daily routines and ways of life. As a result, the real estate industry's resilience plans needed to be reviewed because they reinforced previously existing trends (Siniak et al., 2020). Many factors contributed to this outcome.

As a result of the epidemic, demand for real estate in Ireland shifted away from cities and into suburbs and rural areas. This had a major impact on the market. The ongoing epidemic caused

this shift. The pandemic caused numerous substantial changes in the market. Employees now have more freedom to choose where they want to live as remote work becomes increasingly common. This is a direct result of social distancing measures such as lockdowns being adopted (Hartmann, 2015). Because of the advancements in telecommuting, this is already a notion that is being applied. This is now achievable because of the widespread adoption of remote work strategies. Growth in the market for real estate outside of densely populated urban regions can be ascribed to a desire for larger properties that are more easily accessible to locations outside of the city. In light of this, it is possible to acquire a better picture of the expanding demand for homes located outside of major cities. The demand for suburban real estate has recently increased significantly, particularly in Dublin and its neighbouring districts. There was a trend that was more noticeable in some areas than others. According to O'Toole and Slaymaker (2021), this change was not made in an attempt to save the situation in the dying moments. In fact, it foreshadowed an oncoming transition in one's interests and way of life. This is an important point that the authors will highlight. As a starting point, they explored the possibility that the departure was due to changed housing preferences. Because of the concept's widespread adoption, hybrid work arrangements have been able to maintain consistency across time (Arigoni et al., 2022). As organizations begin to grasp the benefits of hiring remote workers, hybrid work arrangements are becoming more common. The effectiveness of hybrid work arrangements is determined by how they are implemented. Furthermore, this influenced how investors saw premium commercial property in the downtown region in comparison to less densely populated locations with higher quality residential real estate. As a result of the situation, the demand for office space plummeted.

Throughout the outbreak, the commercial real estate industry faced a variety of difficult challenges. Despite these barriers, victory eluded us. Over the last few years, occupancy and usage rates have gradually decreased across a variety of hotel locations. This category includes properties such as stores and offices. The drop in rental income and increase in vacancy rates can be linked to a large number of firms ceasing operations, either temporarily or permanently (Matemilola and Muraina, 2023). This predicament was caused by a large number of businesses declaring bankruptcy. The travel restrictions and rapid drop in tourism had the greatest impact on the hospitality business, which includes hotels and short-term rentals available for rent. The industry consists of both public and private hotels in equal parts. Because of the development of remote work, businesses have been pushed to rethink how much space they need, resulting in significant modifications to office layouts. A lot of organizations have decided to reduce the size of their offices in order to provide their employees with more flexibility in how they carry out their obligations (Foley and Hutchinson, 2017). One example of a more flexible work arrangement that they can provide is the availability of coworking spaces, which allow employees to come and go as they choose. They act in this manner to show compassion for their employees and a desire to meet their needs. Because of the increased demand for flexible workspace options, the long-term leasing arrangements that are now in place are being reconsidered (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). A pattern has been gathering traction for some time, and both shifts reflect that trend. Another effect of the large number of clients who decided to make their purchases online was that it disrupted the firm's operations. The exponential increase in online purchasing catalysed this phenomenon (Foley and Hutchinson, 2017). These businesses' inability to gain new customers was the fundamental cause of their collapse and subsequent bankruptcy. This situation is especially catastrophic for stores located in shopping

mall in metropolitan areas. The retail titan must respond quickly in order to preserve its current level of profitability. We were able to accomplish this by leveraging digital interactions and e-commerce. Mixed use complexes are intended to create durable and adaptable urban landscapes. These complexes combine residential, commercial, and retail structures (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). When combined, the facility served as a shopping centre, an office complex, and an apartment complex.

The Irish residential real estate market has demonstrated exceptional resilience in the face of the current economic crisis. This is especially true when considering the state of the business sector (Abdulai and Awuah, 2021). The most popular residences were larger, featured gardens, or were near parks. This necessity spurred the industry forward. The demand for this product has a significant impact on overall market activity. A multitude of factors, including record-low loan interest rates and numerous government stimulus efforts, contributed to the housing market's continued strength. Even though the economy was uncertain, everything was handled satisfactorily (Foley and Hutchinson, 2017). Families looked for properties in the suburbs and the country, hoping to either upgrade their current home or buy their first property (Bao and Shah, 2020). They expected to improve their living situations by purchasing these things. As a result, there was more competition for properties, causing prices to rise.

However, the pandemic exacerbated pre-existing housing market challenges, including a shortage of adequate housing. In terms of the real estate market, this had the greatest influence. Lockdowns and social distance restrictions caused new housing complexes to incur increased construction delays and costs. There were also lockdowns to consider. Lockdown concerns played a role as well. The mismatch between supply and demand increased, resulting in rising

home prices and growing worries about affordability (Springler and Wöhl, 2020). To address this issue, the government has taken steps to increase the quantity of homes available for purchase and stimulate the construction industry. As a result, the long-term consequences of these actions are still being determined. After concluding that the situation required improvement, we decided to take these steps.

The COVID-19 pandemic has driven the real estate business to prioritize environmental measures and technology. This occurred as a result of an outbreak. As remote work and online communication become more prevalent, the real estate industry's digital infrastructure is being scrutinized. High speed internet, smart home technologies, and virtual tours of the property are becoming increasingly valuable to both homeowners and tenants, and this trend is predicted to persist. Real estate companies can connect customers and streamline client interactions by utilizing digital marketing, property management, and transaction technologies (Kennedy and Myers, 2019). As a result, their ties with their clients get stronger.

Furthermore, the epidemic has increased the importance of sustainability to an unprecedented level. The epidemic made it clear that we needed to build homes that were both healthier and more lasting. The general public had high expectations for green building practices, energy-saving technology, and sustainable urban design. Renewable energy, better insulation, and environmentally friendly construction materials were among the most desirable characteristics seen in recently sold homes (Pereira et al., 2020). A greater number of prospective buyers were drawn to the homes that included these facilities. The pandemic highlighted the importance of resilience, which has long-term ramifications for both the economy and the environment. To

reach this point, we must emphasize the need for resilience. It became evident that investors and developers were including sustainability in their long-term strategies.

Throughout the outbreak, the Irish government implemented a number of measures aimed at protecting the economy and the real estate market. Several of these programs aim to maintain steady employment and economic conditions. These endeavours provided financial help in the form of tax rebates and subsidy packages. Those interested in purchasing a house may be eligible for government aid through housing related initiatives. These initiatives also included the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan and the Help to Buy program (Abdulai and Awuah, 2021). The majority of attention was focused on these two separate projects. Each of these projects provided aid to low-income families as well as individuals buying their first home. The government's investments in infrastructure projects, as well as the quickening of the approval procedure for planning projects, are both part of an effort to revitalize the economy. If the building industry is serious about finding solutions to its current problems, it must implement these measures (Hartmann, 2015). Some of the initiatives made to increase the supply of affordable housing included boosting funding for social housing. There was also an objective to raise funds for social housing and expand the private sector. The government implemented a wide range of steps to alleviate the consequences of the epidemic and create the framework for a more robust recovery (Lynch and Byrne, 2021).

#### ***2.4 Affordable Housing Initiatives***

Housing demand is affected by many factors, including affordability. These causes include rising salaries, living expenses, and mortgage interest rates, although this list is not exhaustive. Price changes may also affect pricing. Despite rising wages, housing costs exceed income. Despite

increasing profitability, we reached this decision. Due to this gap, many individuals, especially Irish first-time buyers, are worried about property affordability. In this incident, these fears affect people more than usual. The affordability problem is multifaceted. Thus, a comprehensive plan must consider legislative frameworks, government operations, and new solutions. We must act to solve the affordability problem.

Even the wealthiest cannot afford a home in Ireland due to rising property prices. Something has existed for a while. This has been the main cause of recent rising housing prices. They cannot earn enough to meet the unreasonably high cost of living in this market. First, the real estate market is highly competitive. Due to this mismatch, many people need help to buy real estate. Younger generations and first-time homebuyers are especially affected. Buying your first house requires tremendous caution. Due to growing property costs, living expenses, and stagnating real income, homebuyers are struggling financially (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). This is simply one of several factors that led to this point. The Central Bank of Ireland has limited mortgage lending to stabilize the financial system and deter financial institutions from borrowing (Arigoni et al., 2022). These two main goals were carefully considered when writing the Act. No one should take on more debt than they can afford, according to several laws. The main goal of this technique is to prevent people from taking on too much debt. The maximum LTV and LTI ratios are examples of rules and regulations in this jurisdiction. The Central Bank's main goal is to stop a credit fuelled property bubble from growing. This requires specific regulations. This mission motivates the Central Bank to achieve its goals. According to Favilukis et al. (2023), researchers will evaluate these regulations in 2024 to see how well they control the housing market and guarantee affordable housing.



Many young Irish individuals ask their parents for help buying their first property. Every Irish first-time homebuyer should carefully consider this. Financial contributions make up a large part of this help. These gifts can help with the financial strain of having a mortgage at a young age (Foley and Hutchinson, 2017). Others worry that focusing too much on parental aid could hurt the housing market and resource distribution. Because many eligible applicants cannot apply for housing aid programs, economically disadvantaged people have fewer options. The income gap may be expanding due to this. The real estate market's response to these donations has caused financial issues (Bao and Shah, 2020). The fact that a large volume of money was transmitted to global accounts makes us happy. We hope to solve the housing crisis using present funds. This finance may be used to build more extensive housing price reduction methods since many Irish families are expected to be struggling financially.

The Irish government has launched several programs to help first-time buyers and lower house prices in response to rising property prices. Help to Buy may offer tax benefits to first-time homebuyers who buy new homes. Our main goal is to help people overcome financial barriers to home ownership. One of the government schemes to increase social and affordable housing supply is Rebuilding Ireland (Hartmann, 2015). Due to rising demand, new home construction is keeping up. This comprehensive approach addresses financial aid, housing development, and rental availability. The plan relies on public housing funds and collaborations with commercial developers. No hierarchy can be formed between these two. This strategy corrects supply demand imbalances to improve affordability. This mismatch is the main issue. The Property Development Agency was created to speed up residential community construction on state-owned land (Hartmann, 2015). This entity is usually called a "Development Agency" in real estate. This group was founded to simplify the process. The Land Creation Authority (LDA) will

build cheap and social homes on specific plots of land for people with low incomes. The need for homes drives this effort. Many still hope this approach will prevent the housing crisis and rising property prices.

The government has taken some steps to alleviate affordability, but many more proposals are being considered. Consider the rapid rise of modular houses to illustrate this notion. This sort of home increases the housing supply with minimal time and resource input. Prefabricated buildings are cheaper and faster than traditional construction methods, which could meet the growing need for affordable housing. Given the housing crisis, you should pay them a lot of attention. Modular dwellings can enhance the housing supply, according to most Irish citizens. This is because many other states have successfully implemented comparable plans. Due to rising housing costs, many people are exploring co-living or cooperative residences. Living together while owning your own home is a great way to save money and live in less space. More people are cohabiting. Cooperative housing is growing more popular as an inclusive and environmentally friendly alternative to homeownership. Cooperative housing makes homeownership easier. Ensuring that everyone knows their house possessions' responsibility is crucial. Their adaptability helps the housing industry serve a wide range of customers (Arigoni et al., 2022).

The Irish government has created several housing assistance initiatives to enable more individuals to buy affordable homes. Through the Affordable Housing Scheme, qualifying homebuyers receive financial incentives, increasing the number of people who can purchase a home. The program seeks this outcome. Real estate developers and local governments want property values to fall. We subsidize some of the cost. Completion of all essential phases makes

the software compliant (Murphy, 2021). This project aims to help low-income and middle-class families become homeowners. The Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan program offers low-interest mortgages to first-time homebuyers who don't qualify for standard bank loans. Government programs provide these mortgages (Abdulai and Awuah, 2021). Government agencies offer public loans. This loan program is for first-time Irish homebuyers. Many people will be able to buy a home thanks to this initiative. One of its biggest advantages over other financing methods is its affordability and practicality. This program helps people who can't buy a home due to high lending rates. Additional participants were unable to participate for various reasons (Hoffman and Heisler, 2020).

Efforts to lower housing costs have focused on the rental market. These goals were achieved using many methods. Rent rises have been especially difficult for tenants in densely populated urban areas due to the high demand for rental units. This is especially true in areas where rents have been rising for years. This is especially true in areas with a shortage of acceptable housing. After considering this, the government has decided to limit rent. The legislation will prevent landlords from raising rents dramatically, resulting in more reasonable rates. Rent control regulations can limit the annual percentage rate of rent increases and the number of rent hikes (Hartmann, 2015). Limiting the amount of rent increases allowed by the rule each year is another option. The government sponsors social housing building to help low-income people afford a safe home. The main goal is to pay off their debts. Increasing affordable home availability can reduce strain on the private rental market. This allows people in need to acquire cheaper options. Mixed tenure communities with affordable, social, and market rate dwellings can increase housing options and social inclusion. In mixed tenancy areas, all three forms of housing can

coexist. For this reason, developing neighbourhoods that welcome a variety of renters is smart (Hoffman and Heisler, 2020).

City planning and development clearly contribute to the housing affordability crisis. Sustainable urban design, development restrictions, and land asset management can make cities more habitable and affordable. This could likely happen. The government is encouraging higher density housing, improving public transit, and redeveloping abandoned metropolitan areas to boost connection and lower travel costs. From above, these three are extremely visible (Foley and Hutchinson, 2017). Using "transit-oriented development" (TOD), cheap dwellings can be built near public transportation amenities. City design that reduces environmental impact and homeowner costs is called transit-oriented development (TOD). New neighbourhoods will be created near high traffic crossings to achieve this. This method boosts transportation efficiency and environmental protection (Lynch and Byrne, 2021). This reduces missed travel time-related carbon emissions. You may reach your location faster by reducing travel time.

Long-term housing market stability must be a focus. Sustainable development, energy efficiency, and environmentally friendly building improve dwelling quality. Comparable methods are used to attain broader environmental aims. Green homes increase quality of life and save electricity expenses. How come? This is because green homes have cheaper monthly energy costs.

Community cooperation is essential for affordable housing development (Bao and Shah, 2020). Residents' participation in decision-making and planning improves a housing program's success. Community needs are considered while estimating a home's pricing. This participatory method will make more people feel that their ideas matter, increasing the likelihood of housing reform success.

## ***2.5 Key Factors Influencing Market Resilience***

The Irish real estate market's ability to weather economic downturns will determine its longevity. The market's long-term viability depends on this ability. Several factors may have caused this object's lifespan. A dynamic economy, new urban and housing development initiatives, suitable government policies, and a comprehensive regulatory framework are needed to attain this goal. Most research on market resilience has focused on the regulatory structure, which is largely responsible for market stability after the crisis. They are not the only factors considered.

### ***2.5.1 Regulatory Framework***

Effective regulation helps the market survive. Ireland toughened banking and real estate regulations after the 2008 Global Financial Crisis. The crisis prompted this action. To prevent future speculative bubbles, the package includes new macroprudential legislation, stronger lending restrictions, and increased financial institution management. Whelan and McCarthy, (2016) argued that a strong regulatory structure is needed to prevent speculation-driven housing market collapse. The Central Bank of Ireland has restricted LTV and LTI ratios, a major legal shift. It's important to note that these limits began this year. These constraints were agreed upon to prevent borrowers from taking on too much debt relative to their income and principal home. This prompted the choice. The Central Bank took these steps to reduce loan defaults and prevent another financial crisis. This was done to avoid another financial crisis (Pereira et al., 2020). The maximum amount borrowers could borrow without fees was determined by using income-based LTI constraints and property-value-based LTV limits. These actions will stabilize the housing market and set acceptable lending conditions. New banking and financial institution oversight requirements were among the most essential parts of the new regulations (Norris and O'Dowd,

2022). New rules incorporated these requirements. Due to increased Central Bank of Ireland banking sector regulation, capital and risk management rules were tightened. This was due to increased oversight. This rule was created to stop imprudent lending, which caused the housing boom and deflation. More stringent financial institution standards have strengthened and secured the financial system. Macroprudential policies strengthened the market. These measures are expected to reduce the possibility of catastrophic catastrophes that could collapse the financial system (Kennedy and Myers, 2019). The central bank created capital buffers to protect the economy from economic downturns. Due to the presence of buffers, financial institutions must keep more capital on hand during economic booms. The emergency reserve, we can maintain financial stability throughout economic turmoil. These macroprudential regulations are crucial to reducing systemic risks and sustaining financial system stability.

Economic diversity can impact the longevity of a market. When a single industry dominates an economy, it becomes more vulnerable to shocks that only affect that sector and not other ones. The building and housing industries were crucial to Ireland's economic recovery after the 2008 financial crisis. In recent years, the Irish government has made significant efforts to diversify the economy and reduce its dependence on a single industry. These attempts have been made in multiple areas (Arigoni et al., 2022). The government supports technology, healthcare, finance, and tourism to broaden the economy's support base and boost growth. This plan can also be implemented. Internet firms like Amazon, Facebook, and Google have invested heavily in Dublin, making it a technological leader (Foley and Hutchinson, 2017). Jobs and investments in commercial real estate have led to a shift away from construction. The economy's evolution caused this transition. In recent years, significant concentration has been observed in the pharmaceutical and finance industries. Several global pharmaceutical companies have selected

Ireland for research and production, strengthening Ireland's pharmaceutical leadership (Norris and O'Dowd, 2022). This led Ireland to choose Ireland for these operations. Even in banking, things have been moving well, especially after Brexit forced several institutions to establish or expand their offices in Dublin to maintain access to the EU single market. They're doing so to keep their single market access. Diversification has made the Irish economy less dependent on any one industry, making it more resilient to market downturns nationwide. Diversification has made the economy stronger, more resilient to external shocks, and more capable of growth.

The Irish government has contributed significantly to the prosperity of the real estate industry. The government has implemented regulatory measures to address housing affordability, shortages, and economic stability. We addressed all of these issues with this action. The Rebuilding Ireland strategy has several key goals. These goals include improving the rental market, increasing new home supply, and offering affordable housing. This comprehensive approach will invest in public housing, give developers financial incentives, and streamline the planning process. Rebuilding Ireland aims to balance the housing supply and demand in Ireland. Help to Buy (HTB) is another important project that helps first-time buyers (Abdulai and Awuah, 2021). To help first-time homebuyers finance a newly built home, this program offers tax credits to those who meet specified criteria and buy newly built homes (Springler and Wöhl, 2020). The administration has also prioritized infrastructure and network improvements to boost economic growth (Hoffman and Heisler, 2020). Funding for public services, digital infrastructure, and transportation networks has created an investor and business friendly environment. Cash enabled this development. These investments are strengthening Ireland's real estate market. These investments boost metropolitan areas' appeal and quality of life. The current circumstances will diversify the economy.

Housing and urban planning improvements can impact market resilience. Modern cities face complex issues like rapid population increase and evolving economic dynamics, which may require rethinking housing building and urban development. The real estate business is shifting due to green city design, social living areas, and modular housing. This is seen in modular home prefabrication and on-site assembly (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). This construction method saves time and money and offers more design flexibility and scalability throughout the building process. It saves money. In particular, modular buildings could increase affordable housing availability. This is especially true in densely populated areas with high land and construction costs. Due to the rising expense of single family homes, more people are considering cooperative housing and co-living (Bao and Shah, 2020). Co-living alternates with normal rental housing, which often has shared living spaces with separate rooms. Co-living is cheaper and emphasizes community. Since owners split ownership and maintenance costs, cooperative housing is greener and more egalitarian. This makes cooperative housing greener (Kennedy and Myers, 2019). The housing industry benefits from these models since they can suit the needs of a variety of clients. To grow the real estate company, environmentally friendly construction technologies and city development are needed. Green building solutions reduce environmental impact and save households money over time. These methods emphasize renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable materials (Hoffman and Heisler, 2020). Buildings affect the environment less by using green methods. Sustainable urban design encourages walking, creates mixed-use zones, and provides easy access to public transportation (Arigoni et al., 2022). Sustainable urban planning aims to build economically and environmentally sustainable societies. Participatory planning and community engagement are crucial to market resiliency. Involving locals in planning and decision making can make development projects more representative of their



needs. Involving people in planning can achieve this. Participatory projects like these make housing programs more successful and durable, bring communities together, and persuade sceptics (Abdulai and Awuah, 2021). Communities should be consulted early in the planning process to identify potential issues and opportunities. The solutions will be more effective and tailored to the persons involved.

### *2.5.2 Financial Mechanisms*

To guarantee its success, the real estate sector must adjust to emerging financial and digital methodologies. Mortgage insurance and government-backed securities are included. In addition, mortgage insurance and government-backed securities are included. Money flow can be maintained through prudent lending, crisis safety nets, and cash distribution. This can be achieved. Every policy contributes to the endeavour uniquely. This comprehensive examination, according to research published in 2020 by Hogan and Keyes, guarantees market predictability. This will be accomplished through an investigation into how the real estate industry designs, implements and assesses financial procedures. Doing so will achieve this objective. The focus of this examination will be the development and execution of these plans. Mortgage insurance safeguards the lender's assets in the contingency of late payments by borrowers. As mortgage insurance safeguards the assets of the lender, this objective is realizable. Because mortgage insurance safeguards property interests, this is the case. According to a study by Holland and Heisler (2020), homeowners insurance could protect high-risk borrowers who require assistance with mortgage payments. The entire research was conducted in the United States. Loan defaults are uncommon due to the fact that lenders and insurance companies assume the associated risk. Wilkinson and Sayce (2020) Mortgage insurance can be a lifesaver for first-time

homebuyers in Ireland who do not have a substantial savings cushion. According to the findings of Hoffman and Heisler's (2020) study, mortgage insurance lowers the overall cost of ownership. As a result, it offers consumers more financing options, such as lower interest rates and smaller down payments. The availability of something correlates with an increase in demand for housing, which leads to a more stable market. However, mortgage insurance companies should have enough money to cover any losses that may occur. Rates should reflect the risk that is involved with mortgage insurance (Hogan and Keyes, 2020).

The process of selling groups of loans to investors in the form of mortgages or other types of debt is known as "securitization," and the term "securitization" refers to the practice. When mortgages are repackaged into mortgage backed securities, they become extremely liquid, whereas mortgages on their own provide relatively little liquidity. The end consequence is increased lending capacity and improved liquidity. Securitization, which distributes investment funds and risk across multiple corporations (Wilkinson and Sayce, 2020), strengthens markets. Securitisation allows Irish mortgage lenders to better manage their finances and risks. According to Norris and O'Dowd (2022), securitization transfers mortgages from lenders to residential or commercial real estate. This method works for both types of properties. The idea is to make the procedure easier. Securitization difficulties occurred following the 2008 Great Recession. This was particularly true when underwriting and risk management were absent.

To remain stable and powerful, the real estate sector need a well thought out financial strategy. Operational procedures are composed of numerous sections. These involve evaluating the borrower's creditworthiness, implementing complex risk management systems, and determining LTV and LTI ratios. Honohan (2019) proposed integrating funding sources and lending laws to

protect the market against unexpected catastrophes. It would protect the market. The Central Bank of Ireland has established several restrictions, including LTI ratio limits, to encourage responsible lending. We implemented these procedures to encourage responsible lending. These limits prohibit borrowers from incurring more debt than they can afford (Pereira et al., 2020). This is why the restrictions exist. The Central Bank's strict lending guidelines reduce defaults and foreclosures. These policies help to maintain market stability in this way. According to Foley and Hutchinson (2017), responsible lending encompasses credit risk management and borrower monitoring. Arigoni et al. (2022) recommend that lenders monitor their loan portfolio, borrowers' credit scores, and new difficulties. Lenders should do it. Effective risk management systems enable the early discovery and resolution of potential issues. This helps to prevent problems from becoming market system hazards.

When resources are limited, government assistance programs come in helpful. Selling direct financial aid to low-income individuals and businesses is one application of these concepts. In addition to selling mortgage backed securities, these strategies could be beneficial. These help programs kept Ireland's real estate market stable during a big economic change. Home Building Finance Ireland (HBFI) provides money to small and medium-sized Irish builders so that they can build more high quality houses. Bao and Shah invite you to use it as an example of how to apply this strategy in the real world in their 2020 essay. The Housing and Business Finance Institution (HBFI) assists real estate developers in building additional dwellings to solve the housing deficit (Hogan and Keyes, 2020). This strategy mitigates the impact of recessions on the building industry while increasing economic activity and job prospects. (2017) Foley & Hutchinson In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ireland developed a number of homeowner

and tenant aid measures. Prospective tenants have a variety of options, including rent and mortgage assistance programs. The implementation of these regulations not only assisted people with their financial problems in the short term, but they also lowered the risk of an increase in the number of foreclosures and evictions, which might have created substantial disruption in the housing market (Lynch and Byrne, 2021). The commercial real estate industry recovered from limitations and lockdowns thanks to government sponsored support programs such as rent subsidies.

The only way to improve the real estate market is to provide more alternative financing options. When a market is dependent on a single, volatile source of money, it may collapse. Diversifying their holdings can help real estate investors and lenders reduce risk and ensure a steady flow of funds. This is the most successful approach. Investors in Ireland have access to a diverse range of investment alternatives, including bonds, mortgage backed securities, and capital markets on both the domestic and foreign markets. Since financial markets have more capital possibilities, they can better weather economic downturns and remain stable. To ensure the project's completion, alternative funding sources must be accessible if one runs out. Ireland's commercial real estate business has grown rapidly in recent years due to foreign investments. Dublin is a popular destination for overseas investors seeking EU markets, according to Hogan and Keyes (2020). Because Dublin is in the EU's heart, these investments are drawn to Dublin since it is a key European financial hub. The recent boom in commercial and industrial building construction may be due to foreign investment stabilizing the market. This deserves consideration. This may happen when the market improves.

The availability of loans, market liquidity, and property price stability can be used to determine how much financial systems affect market resilience. Real estate market stability depends on many interconnected factors. The real estate market includes several aspects. This tendency has grown due to regular income, low interest rates, and simple credit availability. The only just and just thing is to hold financial institutions accountable for keeping these standards. Wilkinson and Sayce's 2020 analysis, utilizing their own research, found that securitization might help banks increase market liquidity. Assets that are not traded are converted into regularly traded securities. More people investing in the housing market would make it easier for lenders to track their money. This would improve lender-client service. Kennedy and Myers (2019) claim that liquidity causes market activity to rise when more buyers and sellers can enter and exit the market quickly. Trading and investing are easier with more money in the market.

Purchase mortgage insurance and implement adequate lending procedures to guarantee financing. Consider one of these options to ensure you can get a loan. Mortgage insurance protects lenders from financial losses even if borrowers rise. Horan and MacEwan (2022) describe responsible lending as lending carefully to improve long-term stability and reduce default payments. This definition emphasizes responsible lending. This example illustrates prudent lending. These mechanisms keep credit flowing, which raises property prices and maintains economic stability. Real estate values rise as a result. Arigoni et al. (2022) state that monetary and policy variables affect housing market price stability. Maintaining fair property values and preventing speculative bubbles may be possible with the right finance and risk management solutions. We may achieve these goals. A diverse investor pool is great when there are several funding sources. In crises, the government funds efforts to stabilize real estate

markets to avert their precipitous collapse. They are protecting the markets against a catastrophic collapse.

Financial operations improve market conditions but have drawbacks. When creating and applying these technologies, stability should trump excessive risk-taking. Mortgage insurance costs should be reasonable given the danger it covers, but lenders benefit from it. Thus, moral hazard concerns will decrease. It is also crucial to consider the regulatory system's transparency and efficiency. Being upfront and honest with investors about financial tools like securitization and their dangers is vital. Standards are needed to maintain market stability and ensure corporate efficiency. Settlement of problems in a given sector of global financial markets increases market complexity. Since the global economic crisis began, it has been evident that troubles in one region, like the US mortgage market, can affect another, like Ireland's (Lynch and Byrne, 2021). Since these two elements are interrelated, long-term market performance depends on risk management methods and international cooperation.

### *2.5.3 Market Diversification*

The real estate business must diversify its operations across several industries and areas to ensure its long-term success. According to ideas, investors with a diverse portfolio of properties in different regions can reduce market volatility on a national or worldwide scale. This method reduces the risk of a trader losing money due to market volatility. Because the trader's loss risk is lessened, if this technique is approved and implemented, it will help us weather economic downturns and keep operating. More importantly, we must be prepared for any future disaster. According to Byrne and O'Brien (2018), a broad portfolio is necessary for long-term market stability and profitability. A diversified portfolio is crucial because achieving these goals

requires a varied portfolio. The idea that life is exciting because of people's diverse experiences underpins this idea.

Diversifying your assets and portfolio may boost your real estate success. Diversifying your holdings is best done this way. Build a diverse property portfolio to increase your real estate success. This endeavour involves a variety of commercial and residential structures. The creativity and genius of this idea blows my mind. Completely amazed. I will say I am if I am honest. Diversifying into residential, commercial, and industrial properties can help investors weather economic downturns (Norris and O'Dowd, 2022). This can be done by diversifying holdings. One way to achieve this is to diversify the portfolio. Individuals can use this strategy to reduce the impact of economic downturns on specific sectors. Maintaining or potentially augmenting the demand for residential structures could be the result of individuals continuing to prioritize their residences. The demand for commercial real estate, on the contrary, could potentially decline. This phenomenon may occur as a result of diminished business continuation amid the current economic instability. The rental income generated by apartment complexes, multi-unit buildings, and single-family residences is relatively consistent (Wilkinson and Sayce, 2020). Housing is a fundamental necessity, and the demand for it exhibits a satisfactory degree of stability, notwithstanding prevailing economic circumstances. Residential properties hold significant importance within a comprehensive real estate portfolio as a result of long-term demand factors such as urbanization and population growth. Residential properties are, therefore, an essential component.

Commercial real estate, encompassing establishments such as offices, retail stores, and hotels, entails a greater degree of risk but also presents the opportunity for greater financial gain. This is

due to the fact that commercial real estate is categorized as such. A significant relationship exists between the performance of commercial assets and the business cycles and general economic conditions that are prevalent globally. The hospitality and retail sectors were struck especially hard by the COVID-19 pandemic (Foley and Hutchinson, 2017). Commercial property is not devoid of risks; these sectors were struck especially hard. Within the domain of commercial real estate, perils are present. Achieving portfolio diversification across a range of dependable commercial properties can effectively mitigate the risk associated with these potential threats. The rise in e-commerce and international trade has led to an augmentation in the financial value of manufacturing facilities, warehouses, and distribution centres (Bao and Shah, 2020). The reason for this is that the value of these elements has increased. Firms may potentially experience an increase in profitability when employees demonstrate these attributes, which are gaining significance in the logistics and supply chain management sectors. This is due to the increasing prevalence of these attributes within the industry (Fu, 2022). The vacancy rates for industrial assets are generally lower in comparison to conventional assets, and their lease durations are usually longer than those of other asset categories. Industrial assets, when included in a diversified portfolio, may assist in navigating these advantageous trends throughout the investment period.

The degree to which a nation's economy is reliant on a single industry can be diminished by implementing geographical diversity, which entails the allocation of resources across multiple distinct locations (Wilkinson and Sayce, 2020). The potential inclusion of diversity at the local, state, federal, or even international level is one such element that could be incorporated into this strategic approach. In order to safeguard one's wealth against potential risks such as market volatility, changes in government regulations, and reductions in economic activity, it is advisable



to achieve investment diversification across various asset classes (Hogan and Keyes, 2020). You will be able to safeguard your prosperity against each of these elements. In order to enhance the diversification of your investments, you may wish to contemplate the acquisition of real estate situated in multiple locations throughout Ireland. Limerick, Galway, and Cork are in close proximity and offer considerable prospects for commercial growth and advancement.

Notwithstanding Dublin's status as the preeminent economic hub in the region, this remains the case. Through the strategic allocation of their capital across the nation and capitalizing on the thriving economies of individual areas, investors can mitigate the repercussions of a regional market recession. This could potentially occur. Despite this, Cork's industrial sector will probably remain resilient, while Dublin's information technology sector could experience a steep decline. Real estate market investments in foreign countries represent an excellent strategy for risk diversification across numerous economies and jurisdictions (Lynch and Byrne, 2021). This can be achieved through the implementation of various approaches. You will possess the capability to defend yourself against injury in the event of a storm. Engaging in portfolio diversification by investing in a broad spectrum of foreign assets enables investors to potentially benefit from currency value fluctuations, mitigate the risk of domestic economic instability, and seize opportunities for progress in developing countries (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). Investors originating from Ireland can potentially enhance the value of their portfolios and diversify their holdings by acquiring real estate in critical European cities, including Berlin and Paris, as well as in markets situated in North America and Asia.

Risk mitigation is among the numerous advantages that can be obtained through diversification, and it ranks among the most substantial. Investors who have implemented a diversified portfolio

strategy can mitigate the effects of adverse market news by allocating their bets across multiple companies and geographical locations (Norris and O'Dowd, 2022). This affords investors the chance to reduce the influence of any particular market region. The implementation of this strategy would decrease the likelihood that the portfolio would incur substantial losses due to recessions that are affecting specific industries or regions. Due to the fact that the prosperity of one enterprise can offset the downfall of another sector, diversification yields more consistent outcomes over time (Arigoni et al., 2022). Opportunity may present itself to investors at any stage of the economic cycle. Opportunities abound in all locations. The manner in which they allocate their assets will determine their opportunities. Interested investors may participate in stimulating programs. The program is accessible. After taking everything into account, some regions may be expanding while others are contracting. Consider this factor carefully.

Throughout the world, the valuation of real estate plummeted during the 2008 global financial crisis. A crisis prompted this action. However, the industrial and commercial sectors were not significantly impacted by the unfortunate incident. A considerable number of these sectors remained unimpacted by the occurrence. The recent economic downturn consequently exerted minimal influence on the manufacturing industry. You can safeguard your funds by exercising perseverance and maintaining a diversified portfolio while market cycles pass. This guarantees your monetary prospects. Contradictory data is not required to accomplish this objective. As demonstrated by Hogan and Keyes' 2020 study, it is challenging to manage a substantial financial portfolio. This investigation uncovered significant findings. The document detailed the findings and conclusions of this investigation. One must have a comprehensive understanding of the market and all available real estate options in order to make informed investment decisions.

This underscores the significance of monitoring your portfolio and utilizing accurate market data. Moreover, it emphasises its importance.

In order to complete the modification, the required funds must be raised. Proficient individuals may impose elevated fees for services such as property management, due diligence, and legal representation when funds are dispersed across multiple countries and enterprises. This is due to the likelihood of price increases. Absolutely, if funds were available. Foreign market investments carry inherent risk owing to the unpredictability of political, monetary, and regulatory conditions (Fu, 2022). This is just one of many global market risks that investors must be aware of.

Investing internationally is hazardous. It would be prudent to investigate this supposition and its contents prior to transferring funds overseas. Assumptions have an impact on processes. Ethical and morally upright investors must prioritize comprehending the interdependence of markets.

This is due to the interdependence of all markets. This is one of several factors that investors ought to take into account when making financial decisions. A component of the justification is this concluding segment. There are numerous reasons for that on the list. Market volatility may be mitigated by diversity in an interconnected economy with economies from other countries—the interdependence of this economy with others. Norris and O'Dowd's (2022) variation is the most stable element; this is the case. The objective of diversity initiatives is to fortify markets in times of economic recession. The purpose of diversity is precisely this. This is the most essential diversity objective. Imagine a scenario in which the worldwide economy experienced a simultaneous collapse. Taking this into account diminishes the significance of location differences in the scenario. This represents a potential scenario that may transpire. When implementing a diversified investment approach, investors ought to contemplate the interdependence that exists among different markets.

The most effective method for gaining insights into potential risks and devising manageable approaches is to examine concrete instances of prosperous diversification strategies. This is due to the fact that it teaches one how to manage potential risks. Envision is a global real estate investment corporation that has judiciously expanded its portfolio to encompass industrial, commercial, and residential properties across multiple nations (Fu, 2022). This corporation has expanded its portfolio of assets globally. Through the evaluation of their property selection processes, market research endeavours, and risk management methodologies, investors can enhance the efficacy of their portfolio diversification strategies. The second practical application of diversity exploitation by real estate investment trusts is highlighted in this demonstration. Real estate investment trusts (REITs), from which investors may be granted access to a diverse portfolio of real estate assets, are investment vehicles commonly denoted by their acronym (Bao and Shah, 2020). Real estate investment trusts are entrusted with the monitoring and administration of diversified property portfolios comprising a broad spectrum of tenant types and market locations. Real estate investors can gain a wealth of knowledge about diversification by studying the successes and failures of real estate investment trusts (REITs), which are made up of real estate investments.

The executive branch of government's policies and legal frameworks play an important role in the market's volatility. Less regulation, more investment incentives, and more favourable tax policy can achieve a more diverse real estate market. In an effort to attract investment, governments that promote regional development projects in economically disadvantaged areas exacerbate the pre-existing geographical disparity (Honohan, 2019). Ireland anticipates that the presence of environmentally sustainable and well-designed municipalities will foster the development of more robust economic sectors. It might be possible to achieve a

more equitable distribution of economic activity if the government promoted investment in areas beyond Dublin and increased the construction of regional infrastructure. This would constitute a positive stride (Fu, 2022). Regional variability has improved as a consequence of the positive impacts that this technique has had on stability and economic development; this is one of the less anticipated outcomes.

Real estate market developments and trends will exert an influence on the approaches adopted for diversification. Venture capitalists encounter a multitude of prospects and challenges due to growing technological capabilities, changing consumer preferences, and demographic transformations. Investors are progressively incorporating sustainability and green construction technology into their decision-making process when it comes to investments in the commercial real estate sector (Arigoni et al., 2022). In the contemporary work environment, two significant trends have surfaced in the past few decades. The initial factor is the increasing prevalence of remote work, and the subsequent is the mounting demand for adaptable office layouts. Investors must remain updated on these developments so that they can implement any necessary modifications to their diversification strategy. Maintaining a forward-thinking perspective, embracing innovation, and leveraging data analytics is imperative for effectively navigating the intricate real estate industry and cultivating enduring resilience because it is the sole means by which to accomplish these objectives (Honohan, 2019).

#### *2.5.4 Technological Innovation*

The real estate industry has changed dramatically due to recent technological advances. These technologies are improving efficiency, adaptability, and transparency, boosting industry resilience. This boost comes from it. These technical advances are increasing it. PropTech

includes blockchain, AI, and IoT. PropTech is changing property administration, including transactions and customer relationships. All these technologies are PropTech. If technology works, the real estate market may improve, according to Davison and Rowland (2020).

Blockchain technology, one of many fascinating new technologies in the real estate sector, is one of the most intriguing. It may facilitate buying, selling, and leasing by providing a safe, visible, and unchangeable record of transactions (O'Sullivan and Hogan, 2019). People have noticed that blockchain technology may soon replace real estate brokers and attorneys. This reduces processing time and transaction costs. Blockchain technology can ease more transparent real estate deals. Blockchain transactions' immutability and time stamping lessen the work needed to verify property validity and find owners (Kennedy and Myers, 2019). Fraud would likely be reduced in such an atmosphere since investors, customers, and vendors would be more confident because the surroundings would be clearer. Smart contracts on the blockchain can simplify property transfers by automating some activities. Reduce steps to do this. Performance of contract commitments is a payment condition (O'Toole et al., 2020). This increases conflict likelihood and technique efficiency.

AI is changing property management, customer service, and market research, among other areas. AI-powered automated systems can filter through massive amounts of data to find insights and patterns that humans overlook. Because of this, individuals can absorb concepts and patterns faster. These tools help investors and developers make better judgments by providing market data, trend analysis, and real-time property value appraisals. Artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms that automate tedious chores like collecting rent, addressing maintenance requests, and screening renters could revolutionize the property management industry (Bao and Shah, 2020). Artificial intelligence-powered chatbots can help property managers tackle tougher tasks.

This is because chatbots may automate monotonous but vital jobs. AI systems may use data from sensors connected to the Internet of Things to predict when machinery will break down or need maintenance (O'Toole et al., 2020). For predictions, this could be done. This aspect makes construction systems more reliable and cost-effective over time. Virtual tours powered by AI and personalized recommendations could revolutionize how customers rent and buy services. This goal can be achieved by using virtual travel. Potential homeowners and tenants can now evaluate properties remotely using VR/AR. Artificial intelligence (AI) has transformed the real estate industry. Artificial intelligence-powered platforms can improve house matching by studying user behaviour and preferences, increasing the likelihood of a successful sale. Given this, the technology may be more effective (Williams and Nedovic-Budic, 2016).

Another technological breakthrough affecting the housing industry is the Internet of Things (IoT). Due to this technology, intelligent cities and structures are being built. Technological advancements are transforming business. Networked sensors and smart meters enable building activity monitoring and sharing. Technological advances allow this. Consider weather, energy use, air quality, and safety. Utilizing data more efficiently can lead to increased output, reduced costs, and a safer, more enjoyable living environment for everybody. Internet connected thermostats can reduce energy waste by managing HVAC systems based on occupancy trends and weather forecasts. HVAC systems are easy to operate with thermostats (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). Intelligent lighting systems may adjust lighting brightness based on room light and occupancy. Another energy saving feature of smart lighting system. To enhance facility security, consider using IoT security solutions like video cameras and smart locks. Recent technical improvements enable real-time monitoring and remote access regulation (Ionaşcu et al., 2020). This is now feasible. If successful, the institution's security will skyrocket. Building

administrators can gain useful information on the building's systems and infrastructure by using Internet of Things devices. Predictive maintenance using IoT data prevents problems before they occur. This could reduce system downtime and maintenance costs (Honohan, 2019). Internet of Things (IOT) connected systems can also capture real-time building data. This may help property managers enhance efficiency and renter satisfaction.

One way to strengthen markets is to make decisions more data-driven. Due to real estate market advancements, this process is becoming easier every day. The general public trusts numerical data more than other data; real estate brokers may learn a lot about their clients, investments, and market trends using analytics and big data. This data can improve client service. They provide excellent customer service. Use this knowledge to improve your decision-making, reduce risk, and capitalize on trends (Ionaşcu et al., 2020). Searching massive databases gives us more information about the many factors that affect real estate value. It would help if you examined whether you're close to services, the neighbourhood is safe, and the school system is good (Martin and Sunley, 2015). Developers and investors seeking profit may benefit from this knowledge. Predictive analytics can help stakeholders forecast market changes and respond accordingly. Data-driven insights can enhance property managers' operations and renters' lifestyles. Data analysis from IoT sensors can improve energy management, maintenance planning, and building safety (Bao and Shah, 2020). This information will enable these enhancements. If you analyse your tenants' comments and activities, you better understand their needs.

As expected, technological advances will affect the real estate industry. A stronger market lowers prices and increases availability, among other benefits. Blockchain technology promotes



confidence and decreases fraud, as we've proved. To achieve this goal, you need an auditable ledger with all transactions. AI and analytics on big data sets can help increase openness—another method. You can track the market and your properties in real-time using the tools provided. Any of these technologies increases openness. Technology reduces costs, among other benefits. Artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things could boost productivity and cut costs (Honohan, 2019). These technologies can automate critical and common chores and improve building operations. Blockchain technology may reduce transaction fees. By eliminating intermediaries, transactions are completed faster. Due to these price decreases, consumers will have more affordable and convenient real estate options.

#### *2.5.5 Market resilience strategies: sustainable development*

Providing long-term economic and environmental stability is one of the reasons why sustainable development is beneficial to real estate markets. As a result of implementing green construction standards, energy-efficient structures, and sustainable urban planning, you can lessen the impact that your location has on the environment and the costs associated with its operations. It is anticipated that there will be a rise in the development of real estate that is both ethical and creative. Legislators and investors are emphasizing sustainability, as stated by Horan and MacEwan (2022). Real estate development can be made more sustainable by the implementation of green construction rules. Standards such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methods (BREEAM) offer information that may be used throughout a lifetime regarding ecologically responsible building practices. In this regard, these two standards are excellent examples. According to O'Sullivan and Hogan (2019), certified buildings have smaller amounts of energy and water

consumption, lower levels of emissions of greenhouse gases, and improved environmental quality. In approved buildings, the amount of carbon dioxide emissions is decreased. Through the implementation of green construction standards, environmentally conscious homeowners and tenants might be attracted to the building. Compliance with these regulations, which represent a facility's future operability, is what makes green buildings appealing to investors and renters who are environmentally sensitive. The presence of green buildings has the potential to entice both investors and tenants (Martin and Sunley, 2015). On the assumption that these requirements are satisfied, the market value of the property, the occupancy rate, and the rental premium should all increase. Green buildings are more long-lasting and consume less water and electricity, which results in cost savings throughout their lifetime. Sustainable buildings are better for the environment.

Energy-efficient building design is another component of sustainable development. By utilizing energy-efficient building methods and cutting-edge technologies, they are able to lower their operational costs as well as their influence on the environment. The use of energy-efficient windows, high performance insulation, and contemporary heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems are all components of an efficient design (Williams and Nedovic-Budic, 2016). When it comes to the construction of ecologically friendly buildings, renewable energy sources such as solar panels and wind turbines can be of great assistance. In order to limit the amount of energy and fossil fuels that buildings consume, these strategies are beneficial to the environment. There is a reduction in the amount of money both landlords and renters have to spend on running costs when energy-efficient designs are implemented. According to Ionaşcu et al.'s research from 2020, the second advantage is that they are prepared for fluctuations in the price of energy.

Developing cities and communities in a way that does not deplete natural resources is the goal of responsible urban planning. Planning that considers social justice, economic expansion, and environmental preservation is the means by which this objective can be accomplished. The decisions that are made regarding housing, transportation, land use, and infrastructure are taken into consideration in this type of city planning (Martin and Sunley, 2015). This type of planning considers the long. Mix-use, compact communities that encourage walking, biking, and public transportation should be created as part of green city design in order to reduce the amount of people who use cars. This will result in fewer people owning cars. The implementation of these improvements could result in a significant reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases, traffic, and air pollution. It is feasible to have all of these benefits. Because they are beneficial to communities and offer ecological benefits, parks and urban gardens should be incorporated into the development of cities in order to achieve the goals of controlling rainwater and cooling the city (Honohan, 2019). One of the most important aspects of sustainable urban development is greater resilience to the effects of climate change. In order for communities to effectively adapt to the impacts of climate change, planners should consider heat islands, the availability of resources, and the risk of flooding before making decisions. This preventative development strategy, which prioritizes the growth of established communities, could potentially have a positive impact on the housing market, according to Pereira et al. (2020). This is owing to the fact that it prioritizes the growth and development of pre-existing communities.

Expanding the opportunities for real estate investment is the goal of the implementation of sustainable development initiatives that are presently being pursued to achieve this objective. An asset's sustainability credentials are growing in importance due to the increasing number of investors who are concerned with ESG (environmental, social, and governance) matters.

Williams and Nedovic-Budic (2016) support the notion that green spaces offer numerous benefits to investors, which is supported by the subsequent body of evidence. There are multiple benefits to consider, including increased long-term profitability, customer satisfaction, reduced operational risks, and heightened adherence to regulatory standards. Additionally, a number of organizations and funds have announced their commitment to refrain from producing any net carbon emissions as a result of their investments. For the purpose of assisting investors in accomplishing their environmental, social, and governance objectives, sustainable real estate assets contribute to the advancement of the market (Martin and Sunley, 2015). They are able to capitalize on this growing wealth and acquire a competitive advantage through the implementation of sustainable development. This is something that can be accomplished through the use of sustainable development by property owners and developers. The use of sustainable development principles can result in lower operational costs. According to Horan and MacEwan (2022), buildings that are more energy-efficient use less money for their utilities. A major boost in the property's profitability and the capacity to recruit investors and renters may result from all of these cost reductions. Buildings that are more environmentally friendly typically have reduced expenditures for maintenance. In the construction industry, the prices of repairs and supplies are reduced when high-quality materials and cutting-edge technologies are utilized. These components are used in contemporary practices that are beneficial to the environment. The curb appeal of a home, the costs of maintenance, and the impact on the environment can all be improved via the implementation of sustainable landscaping (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). The efficient utilization of local flora and irrigation systems is one of the planning approaches that are included in these approaches.

The real estate industry must prioritize sustainable growth in order to lessen its impact on the environment. Construction affects the levels of greenhouse gas emissions, the amount of rubbish produced, and the consumption of resources. By embracing, putting into action, and engaging in sustainable business practices, the real estate industry has the potential to contribute to the resolution of global environmental problems such as climate change, the depletion of resources, and the loss of biodiversity. Any sustainable construction procedures lessen the amount of trash and pollution produced. The amount of garbage from building projects is being reduced. Locally made or recycled materials are used. Another factor is more site disruptions. Compared to typical structures, these buildings have better air quality, lower water and energy use, and less waste. Each aspect reduces construction costs. Sustainable development may boost urban ecosystem biodiversity and benefits. Sustainable development would allow this. One of the goals of sustainable development workers maybe this. In 2020, Ionaşcu and colleagues worldwide found that green places like walls and rooftop gardens can lower urban temperatures, enhance air quality, and safeguard many species. The 2020 findings were published. These changes improved the quality of life, property values, and district community. Government rules may help solve long-term difficulties. It's possible. Environmentally responsible building methods and energy efficiency can be promoted in the real estate business via legislation and financial incentives. This would be good progress. One can accomplish this. New buildings must meet energy efficiency standards to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, so the government inspects them (Horan and MacEwan, 2022). Participating homeowners receive monetary incentives from Better Energy Homes. This program encourages homeowners to make energy-efficient house improvements. The regulations for practically zero-energy buildings (NZEB) help lessen the environmental effects of new construction. If the building is built to standards, yes. Ionaşcu and

his colleagues found in 2020 that local authorities should encourage sustainable urban expansion.

Dense mixed-use complexes with enough green space and infrastructure can be encouraged by numerous policies. Such requirements include construction codes, zoning limits, and development controls. Three principles underpin sustainable development. These pillars are ecological, social, and economic. Civic participation and obligation differentiate this organization. The Horan and MacEwan (2022) study found that sustainable real estate solutions can benefit areas. The method reduces housing costs, improves public spaces, and increases the number of firms with headquarters there. If done so, the program will be better able to meet the needs of the community and the surrounding region. Community members' participation in project planning and development promotes its success due to community involvement in all project areas. Sustainable development programs are more likely to succeed and survive if the public participates. Developers must simplify project registration to increase participation.

#### *2.5.6 Public-Private Partnerships*

PPPs, which combine public and private finance, have kept the real estate industry profitable. Because of this, the industry has prevailed. These coalitions not only strengthen markets but also make it possible to undertake big infrastructure projects, make cheap housing available, and revitalize communities. Foley and Hutchinson (2017) suggest that public-private partnerships (PPPs) provide an environment that fosters innovation and resource efficiency, hence making real estate markets more robust. Through the combination of public and private resources, public-private partnerships (PPPs) are able to result in increased levels of efficiency,

innovation, and capital availability. Great coordination is necessary for the successful completion of complicated and large-scale projects that require a significant number of people and material resources. For initiatives to be successful, collaboration is needed. Even if urban infrastructure is essential, the government could require additional knowledge and funds in order to offer transportation networks, utilities, and public facilities. This is despite the fact that urban infrastructure is essential. (Matemilola and Muraina, 2023) Governments can collaborate with the private sector in order to acquire a significant amount of information, resources, and skills that will allow them to carry out large-scale initiatives ethically and efficiently. According to the findings of several studies, public-private partnerships are necessary for the accomplishment of large-scale infrastructure projects.

There is a requirement for dependable infrastructure for residential, commercial, and industrial establishments, mostly due to the fact that the property requires infrastructure in order to work properly. According to O'Sullivan and Hogan (2019), the modern infrastructure has improved connectivity, accessibility, and utility services, which has resulted in the real estate market becoming more appealing and practical. Certain advancements have been made as a result of the implementation of contemporary infrastructure. Increasing or constructing new transportation hubs may have an impact on the economy and property prices of the surrounding areas. (Horan and MacEwan, 2022) Public-private partnerships (PPPs) have the potential to assist in the development of infrastructure. However, the private sector is responsible for taking risks related to construction and operations. In contrast, the public sector is responsible for ensuring compliance with rules and other objectives related to the public interest. When numerous businesses share the financial and operational risks associated with a project, it becomes much simpler to evaluate the feasibility of the endeavour.

Collaborations between the public and commercial sectors that involve participation are beneficial to metropolitan restoration. The goal of these projects is to transform city blocks that have been abandoned or are in a state of disrepair into thriving neighbourhoods that are filled with new people. According to Kennedy and Myers (2019), urban regeneration projects necessitate substantial planning because they engage the government, corporate, and community sectors within the community. The utilization of the expertise and resources provided by public-private partnerships to guarantee the success of urban redevelopment programs is a popular method. While it is the responsibility of government officials to ensure that constructions do not violate social or environmental norms, private developers are permitted to be creative in their design choices. According to Matemilola and Muraina (2023), public-private partnerships can assist in establishing ecologically conscious communities while also expanding the diversity of businesses and individuals. These agreements may offer us a variety of benefits, including this one. The Docklands Development Authority (DHA) in Dublin is an excellent example of a participatory public-private partnership (PPP) that assisted in the city's redevelopment. This public-private cooperation has helped to reinvigorate Dublin. Low-income families must have access to affordable housing as part of social justice. Financially viable residences are available. The feature is critical for social justice. Public-private partnerships (PPPs) are a common method for developing affordable housing complexes in a strong housing market. Because PPPs include both public and private firms. This organization's relationship is also known as a "public-private partnership". Private collaborations are also referred to as "public-private partnerships". These partnerships use public funds, incentives, and regulations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of private investment. This is another method by which they can influence things. Collaboration facilitated these breakthroughs. This was the result of teamwork. We may grant



firms with land, monetary incentives, or tax benefits to help them create affordable housing. This benefits businesses. Having this happen would be beneficial. This idea would help with the situation. Pereira et al. (2020) discovered that private developers have more experience in project management, construction, and finance than public developers. This is because private developers prioritize construction. This allows them to provide the public with more inexpensive housing options. Private developers employ more workers than independent developers, which explains the situation. If we work together, we can satisfy the growing demand for affordable housing. This will help us to attain our goal without lowering our standards or damaging the environment. Given the current state of affairs, this is feasible. They are protecting the environment during the construction process to avoid harm. According to Kennedy and Myers (2019), Ireland is proposing various housing initiatives to expand the number of low-cost and socially accessible housing options. This is done to fulfil expanding housing demand around the country. This act ensures that more people have housing. Major economic support is being provided for this initiative, which aims to eliminate housing shortages, enhance the availability of affordable homes, and develop communities that are favourable to the environment.

Public-private partnerships (PPPs) are beneficial to the real estate business since they increase both efficiency and inventiveness. As a result, they have a significant influence on the sector. According to Williams and Nedovic-Budic (2016), the private sector, which is well-known for its intense competition, employs innovative ways of thinking and utilizing cutting-edge technology in order to obtain greater results while spending less money. In order to achieve sustainable growth, it is necessary to have a regulatory framework that is clearly defined and investments made by the public sector in long-term planning. According to Kennedy and Myers (2019), PPs have been responsible for the invention of a number of innovative and exciting

concepts. Some examples of these ideas include smart city technologies, environmentally friendly building approaches, and enhanced building procedures. Devices connected to the Internet of Things have the potential to improve public services, energy efficiency, and infrastructure. The implementation of energy-efficient design and green building standards both provide a number of advantages. The advancement of real estate markets and the improvement of environmental conditions are among the benefits.

## **CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY**

### ***3.1 Introduction***

This chapter outlines the approach used in this empirical study that sought to understand the Irish real estate market's resilience to multiple economic shocks through a secondary qualitative research. In response to the feedback of the panel and the refined research objectives of the study, the study had changed the used methodological approach and switched from a mixed method approach to a purely qualitative one, which opened an opportunity to provide a deeper analysis of the existing qualitative data. This change of approach was necessary to pay greater attention to the sentiments and roles of stakeholders within the property market as they progressed through massive shifts in the global economy like the 2008 financial crisis, Brexit and more recently, the COVID 19 pandemic.

The research is a secondary qualitative study that seeks to investigate its research questions which focus on the following objectives; Firstly, examine the effects of distinct economic shocks on the Irish Real Estate Market and secondly, explore the strategies and development adopted by market actors that can allow the market to remain viable. Thus, the study capitalises on a wealth of secondary qualitative data primarily gathered through published interviews, policies, market reports, and academic papers. Besides, getting a broader perspective of the market over time, this approach also increases the depth of the analysis that is made.

The major strength of relying on secondary qualitative data is that it is possible to refer to data produced earlier, including qualitative findings and analysts' opinions that might not be obtained in the scope of this study within the limited time available. Secondary data is a source that presents information that has already been collected, analysed and interpreted in some manner, whether it is a report which a government organisation of issued, a

contribution of a market analyst, an academic study on generational experience and strategy which may have analysed primary data already (Baškarada and Koronios, 2018). These sources are valuable in populating the factual matrix used in developing an understanding of how the Irish real estate market has adapted to forces of economic cycles.

The type of qualitative data used in this study is other people's interview transcriptions with other professionals such as real estate agents, policy makers and investors among others. These interviews offer primary sources that relate the experience of these people and organisations responding on the perception of economic shocks; it is rich with day-to-day real life issues and strategic battles that they encountered. Furthermore, the official policy papers and reports from the government and other regulatory bodies are used to explain the institutional reactions to economic fluctuations, for instance, the enactment of measures to fix volatile real estate market or to boost the economy.

Another type of the secondary data is market reports produced by real estate firms in addition to financial institutions. Most of these reports may contain opinions of industry analysts on the current state of the market, reviews on how the real estate sector has performed, and even forecasts of future market environment. This is particularly important to get a broader view of various shocks that an economy might apply unto that market from the view of the market insiders. Other sources that support the data are also academic ones because they provide theoretical concepts and various discussions helpful in attenuating the data into the relevant economic and social backgrounds. The role of scholarly insight based on articles and books to shed light on the functions and capabilities of market resilience is also expressed in terms of critical views based on case and empirical materials. As such, by integrating all these diverse sources into the study, it will be possible to identify emerging themes as well as patterns that define the Irish real estate market's robustness.

### ***3.2 Research Design***

The research design for this study is firmly anchored in a qualitative approach, specifically utilising secondary data to explore the resilience of the Irish real estate market amidst multiple economic shocks. This decision to adopt a qualitative research method can be explained by the study's purpose of exploring the phenomenological reality, perception, and management responses of market actors since these facets are normally well expressed by explanatory data (Dannels, 2018). This design is most suitable when focusing on how various actors in the real estate market have addressed and manoeuvred in response to major shocks, ranging from the 2008 financial meltdown, Brexit, and COVID-19.

Integral to this research design is the use of thematic analysis framework. Embedded in this type of research design is a thematic analysis framework. Thematic analysis is a technique that allows identification, analysis, and reporting of patterns, namely themes in qualitative data. Such an approach is particularly useful in a resilience related research as it enables the identification of patterns that describe how market participants view and response to economic shocks. Interactive research coding and categorisation enable the discovery of main themes regarding market resilience that thematic analysis focuses on, including strategies of adaptation, policies that governments employ, confidence of investors, and market stability.

The use of secondary data makes this study differ from those involving collection of primary data. In secondary analysis, the data is collected from the printed material and does not require the researcher to engage the participants; such data may include interview notes found in journals, government reports, market reports, and books. This approach is not only effective but also builds on a host of data already collected in the past, which might be very

hard to gather especially when using other approaches such as primary research within the least amount of time and resources. The secondary data adopted in this study include a plethora of qualitative data sources that provides a systemic perspective of the Irish real estate market.

As one of the main advantages of using quantitative data in this qualitative study, the access gained to diverse points of view that are provided by other scholars, specialists, and authorities along with their data analysis. For instance, published interview transcripts which were conducted by various interviewers offers first personal insight to the economic shocks that the real estate agent, developers, investors, and policymakers went through. These interviews prove quite useful in that they take the subject away from generalisations and present the experiences these stakeholders underwent, the ways they tried to tackle the challenges, and their assessments of the effectiveness of these measures.

Other research instruments that are vital in this research design include; Policy documents and market reports. The following documents adds historical and policy perspectives of the measures that have been instituted in the face of economic downturns. Thus, the analysis of such documents will reveal the role of government that affected the stability of the real estate market through housing policies and financial regulations. Furthermore, reports from other real estate firms and financial institutions help provide market conditions, trends, and even forecast, which are important in order to understand the general business climate, where the real estate market takes place.

Lastly, scholarly work augments further the study by presenting theories and facts that provide background of the qualitative data under current and past economic and social condition. The formal analyses described in the articles and books have one specific focus on the efficiency of the developing market and its agent's adaptation to the situations of failure

and crisis. This kind of findings from secondary academic works help the study to achieve a kind of triangulation that provides a balanced view that is empirical and theoretical at the same time by incorporating the interviews, policy documents and market reports.

The procedure of analysing secondary qualitative data in this study also entails a methodology of a systematic manner. First, the gathered information is accessed and structured into some form that will help to compile the database of all the sources to be used. Subsequent to that, the data is sampled to read and reread with an aim of getting familiar with its content and at the same time, looking for potential themes (Busetto et al., 2020). At this stage, initial codes are assigned to certain aspects of the data which seem to have implications for the research questions. These codes are synthesised into even larger themes which can be seen as overall patterns in the dataset.

These themes are re-evaluated and discussed time and again in order to make sure that the themes are most germane to the data, as well as most closely related to research questions. It also enables the researcher to analyse the data with more hindsight and detail and arrive at other features that might not have been easily noticeable. Last but not least, the themes are synthesised with an aim of presenting a logical sequence of events that respond to the research questions, giving an informed account of how the Irish real estate market has performed in the face of shocks.

Hence the use of secondary data is very useful but it has to be done with a lot of caution and taking into account several limitations. Therefore, the nature of data ultimately being used for the researcher's purposes must be critically evaluated for its quality and possible relevance. Secondly, secondary data also suffer the fact that their interpretation is conditioned by the context of their production, which must be considered during the analysis of data. Nevertheless, it is possible to identify some of the difficulties that could be

encountered when using the analytical approach in this study: Despite these challenges, a systematic approach to the analysis of themes guarantees that the results obtained are valid, reliable and meaningful.

### ***3.3 Data Sources***

The data for the current secondary qualitative study were collected from different recognised and relevant secondary sources that help in developing qualitative information that meets the objectives of the study. Some of the sources used were official interviews that were published, policy documents, market reports, and journal articles all of which provided unique and useful information on the strength of the Irish real estate market in the face of economic shocks. In one of the published interviews, the following question and answer was identified. These interviews, which were done with professionals in real estate industry as well as with policymakers and investors, are found in different reports, academic publications as well as different media outlets. The use of these interviews was important as the key informants were able to give first-person narratives about different stakeholder in the real estate market and their views on handling various major macroeconomic shocks including the 2008 financial crisis, Brexit crisis, and Covid-19 shock. The strength of the interviews for this study was in gaining the first-hand perspective of the participants of the events taking place in the market, their perceptions of economic shocks, and the measures that they undertook to prevent the effects of these shocks. Through these interviews, the study would be able to get lots of qualitative information which was rich with the dynamic details of the real life experiences of the market participants and the knowledge they gained out of their experiences during some periods of financial crisis.



Interviews formed the core of data collection as did policy documents that formed the second type of data source. Such documents covered government and regulatory documents that contained policy measures with respect to the challenges affecting the economy. For example, policy papers on Brexit and COVID – 19 national and international institutional frameworks and strategies for strengthening markets were described in detail. These documents were useful in the analysis of this paper as they offered a big picture view of the Irish real estate market policy environment. From them, I was able to learn how the government policies such as fiscal measures, policy adjustments and support systems were intended to minimise the impact of economic shocks on the market. In addition, these documents provide understanding about the efficiency of these policies and how far these policies were successful to meet the predetermined goals. This is because, by incorporating policy documents in the data sources the study was able to frame the findings of the experiences of market participants within the broad policy and institutional framework.

Market reports were also another important source of qualitative data additionally for this study. These reports, which were generated by real estate companies, financial organisations, and market research firms, usually contained such information as estimations of the overall market conditions and the perspective of further development, expectations of the experts, the evaluations of the real estate market during the period of economic crisis (Taherdoost, 2022). The market report was very useful in ascertaining the current and future estimations by relevant authorities on the viability of the market. These reports usually included valuable information regarding market characteristics and tendencies, investment activity, property prices and other factors that might give an idea about the real estate market stability. Through these reports, the study could get the insights of insiders of the market who constantly observe and dissect the market, giving more of a prognosis of the market perception as to how it would adapt to existing and future economic shocks. These reports

proved invaluable for the construction of a more substantial understanding of the market and a number of developments which helped in maintaining its stability.

Lastly, published works featured as another data type that was used in this present study. A Conceptual framework and research hypothesis were developed from peer-reviewed journal articles and books that outlined the theoretical framework of market resilience and its relevance to the Irish real estate market. The available literature provided detailed theoretical explanations of resilience; analyses of the effects of economic shocks on real estate and applications of similar economic shocks. Through this literature, the study benefited from the theories and the models which assisted in the analysis of the data collected. A further disadvantage that can be extracted from the academic sources is related to the methodological lessons that are can be drawn for the data analysis and interpretation of the study. Also, as many case studies were sourced from other regions or markets it became easier to do a comparison of change or trends in different real estate markets around the globe in face of such economic disruptions.

The choice of such data sources was based on several key considerations in order to select high quality and relevant data. First, the focus had to be placed on the reliability of the sources; therefore, only scholarly articles, acceptable reports, or documents were taken for the study. This help in making sure that the data collected was accurate and from a credible source. Second the relevance of the material to the research questions was an important consideration for the selection process. Gazettes, on the one hand, were cross-checked against the knowledge base with a view to identifying whether the source offered new information directly relevant to the study goals and objectives with a special focus on understanding the approach to market vulnerability in the context of those economic shocks defined at the beginning of this research. Third, the richness of the qualitative data yielded in the sources was evaluated. Sources that provided detailed specificities and discussion were chosen for

prioritised consideration as such sources made it possible to provide more elaborate and specific analysis.

### ***3.4 Data Collection Procedures***

The process of data collection for this secondary qualitative study was both deliberate and methodical, with the goal of collecting only high-quality qualitative data from numerous secondary sources in order to achieve research objectives most effectively (Bloomfield and Fisher, 2019). Such data search, selection, organisation and extraction were inherent in an iterative process to fine-tune the focus of the data eventually providing a strong database for subsequent analysis. The first process to be followed in the data gathering process was the literature review. This was not a random search but entailed a number of sources ranging from academic databases, government archives, industry report databases and all the online media. The aim & objectives of the study was thus to establish qualitative sources of data that would help explain how the Irish real estate market holds up when it is faced with shocks. These keywords and search terms were selected based on the main components of the study including ‘Irish real estate market’, ‘economic shocks’, ‘resilience’, ‘Brexit’, ‘COVID-19’ Among the experiences, it was made possible to capture a large database of documents that discussed various aspects on how the market was affected and how it responded to various economic shocks.

After the collection of the first set of documents that fitted the research criteria, the next process was data selection. Due to the availability of huge chunks of data, it became imperative to filter out the documents systematically, for inclusion of only those papers that contain comprehensive and pertinent qualitative data. The criteria for paper selection were rather strict, first, according to the relevance of the material covered to the goals set in the

study, and second, in terms of the amount and quality of the qualitative information presented. Papers that only discussed the Irish real estate market in a general way as well as papers focusing only on the surface of issues were eliminated. However, the focus was made on sources that provided significant coverage, significant commentary, case examples, or analysis to the issues, arising from market's response to economic shocks. This step was important to ensure that only the relevant data was chosen for entering into the research and this was in harmony with the questions formulated in the study.

The next organised process that was considered was sorting of the selected documents into appropriate themes. In answering the research questions and the specific objectives of this organisation, the data was sorted in a way that aided concentration was giving. Hypothesis areas pertain to the pertinent things known born out of the study such as, Brexit effects on Ireland's actual property markets, the bound together responsibilities to build market evident of governing bodies and market adults indispensable to manage market shocks and executive responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic. In summarising the procedure, it needs to be pointed out that a careful review was made of each of the documents, and the relevant fragments were grouped according to such themes as country of origin, type of company, form of financing, methods of financing, and priority activities. This organisational step had helped to make meaning out of a bulky number of collected data as well as establish correlations between them originating from different sources.

After the categorisation of the data in different themes, the last process of data collection was data extraction. This entailed the process of a close and critical analysis of the selected documents in order to find the main themes, quotes and lessons learnt. Extraction was a bit similar to qualitative coding whereby certain pieces of information were assigned certain labels and put in categories depending on their relation to the research aims and objectives. For instance, if a document has described how real estate investors changed their

investment approaches due to the volatility Registered by Brexit, this was classified under an issue concerning “investor strategies” While learning how interventions by government policies help keep the market steady especially during the COVID-19 pandemics formed a topic under policies & regulation. Considering that this process involved gathering numerous pieces of information, this approach allowed not leaving any important data out and made the outcome of the analysis based on well-organised data.

During this process retaining the category and subdivision structure of the data was important while iteratively collecting the data. Such changes were made as the constant development of new and more specific themes and insights led to the necessity to revisit earlier stages of the process and reconsider the formalisation of search terms, the evaluation of qualitative documents, promoting and changing thematic categories. It was possible to adopt this iterative approach that enabled the study to easily bend in a way that honed into the data while at the same time ensuring that the final dataset was both exhaustive as well as relevant to the study objectives.

Effectively implementing these procedures allowed the study to gather a diverse and highly detailed qualitative data on which the subsequent analysis was based. The process of identifying, selecting, organising and extracting data helped to minimise the generation of irrelevant information while at the same time ensuring that the information accumulated was specific enough to give a detailed insight into the themes explored. It was especially important during the exploration of the subject of the present research as this approach allowed to reveal a wide range of factors that affect the Irish Real Estate Market and the way it responds to the economic crisis. The also formalised and systematic approach to gathering data would ensure that the conclusions drawn were not only comprehensive and solid, but also contained practical information about the key strengths and weaknesses of the Irish real estate business during its post-crisis evolution.

### ***3.5 Data Analysis Procedures***

The qualitative data analysis for this study was conducted using both thematic analysis, a method particularly well-suited for identifying, analysing, and reporting patterns within qualitative data and statistical analysis. Thematic analysis is relatively a versatile and a potent technique which will enable the researcher to identify and analyse the themes, which appeared from the data collected, in order to portray and interpret the complex qualitative data systematically. In this research, thematic analysis was deemed optimal for a structured analysis of the Irish real estate market's resilience to multiple shocks occasioned by the shocks identified in the secondary data sources. The gathered data is utilized for statistical analysis to measure for Correlations and regression testing.

The first process of thematic analysis was to get acquainted with the data as indicated below. It entailed one going round the collected data and carefully reading through the documents time and again. Familiarisation is a significant process in qualitative research due precisely to the ability of the researcher to gain detailed knowledge of what is included in the data and the context for which it is intended (Strijker et al., 2020). The candidate first impressions of the other interviewees were made analytically and potential themes or patterns emerged. It was also beneficial for the researcher as it allowed the first steps in thinking about the data and what areas might be pertinent to the research questions and the researcher was able to start defining some goals in terms of analysis before being more systematic about it.

After familiarisation was done the next process was to come up with first codes. Coding is a process in which the content is sorted in to categories that are meaningful by the researcher. In this study codes were given to each phrase, sentence and paragraph relating to

study comprehension depending on the nature of content. These codes were descriptive and focused on the ideas that were found in the data such as the ‘market adaptation strategies’, ‘policy response’, ‘economic Brexit’. The codes did evolve as the analysis proceeded. For this reason, data triangulation enabled the researcher to change qualitative data into reasonable and workable sections so that we could easily notice relationships and patterns in them.

Lastly, there is the stage of searching for themes after the initial coding had been done. Again, the other codes that were related to each other were combined together to make themes. A theme is a pattern that has a central tenant which can be seen to reflect something important about the data in context of the research questions. For instance, the codes corresponding to governmental actions, policies, or regulations were classified under a more general category, such as “Policy Measures to Economic Crisis,” The codes related to investor actions, confidence or financial strategies were classified under such a general category as, “Investor Confidence and Market Stability.” The search for themes on the coded data involved going through the codes, and then seeing if there was any way in which the codes could be related or tied

After generating the themes, it was possible to conduct the review of the themes themselves to determine if indeed they reflected the data collected and the research questions. The process of reviewing themes is important in the process of performing thematic analysis since it entails methods used to review, refine, merge and eliminate themes that have little substantiation. This stage required reviewing the data in order to confirm whether the themes identified captured fine details of the participants’ experiences and view.

Subsequently, every identified theme was made distinct with its appropriate descriptive title after going through the review process. Labelling techniques is a crucial

process as it helps in making sure that each theme is different and comes with a clear meaning that captures facets of data. For instance, a theme ‘Investor Confidence and Market Stability’ may encompass different elements that influence investor response in the context of market instability, swings, new legislation and perception of risk. As the themes were clearly stated, the researcher was able to give account of the findings of the study more so when it came to addressing the research questions.

The last process in the thematic analysis was the process of integration where the themes were merged into a single narrative that provided answer to the research questions. The process of writing up the analysis involved putting the derived themes together in a coherent and cohesive manner in order to document the ability of the Irish real estate markets to respond to economic shocks. Whenever possible, quotes from the actual data were used to substantiate the claims, and, thus, enhance the validity of the analysis by reporting the participants’ voices and the context in which the data were collected. This phase was especially important for presenting the elaborate thematic analysis coherently, invoking the readership to understand the study’s findings.

The Statistical analysis of the study explores the relationship between the GDP growth and strives to prove the three hypothesis made for the Irish real estate market. The hypothesis are then proved by calculating the Correlation measure and the validity of the relationship is proved by regression analysis. A T-Test is also performed to determine if the difference between the Vacancy Rates of the residential and commercial market is significant and the relation between the mean of the two data groups.

As the last step the findings of both statistical and Thematic analysis are summarized.

### ***3.6 Reliability and Validity***



In this secondary qualitative study, ensuring the reliability and validity of the findings was of paramount importance to maintain the integrity and credibility of the research. Since the study utilised secondary source of information, intensive methodological approaches were used to promote both reliability and validity of the study. In qualitative research, reliability means the stability and degree of sameness in conduct of research as well as the conclusions that are arrived at. In this study, the reliability was mainly achieved through the careful selection of data, and methods of its analysis. The current research included a systematic and selective identification of valid secondary source data in the form of published interviews, policy resources, market analysis and academic publications. The sources were chosen according to their reliability and the amount and quality of the qualitative information which was collected thus making the data credible and defensible. However, two factors relating to the coding process affected the reliability during the thematic analysis; The inter coder reliability. According to Djafar et al. (2021), using a similar coding approach for each data source meant that data were analysed in a similar manner, which minimised potential coding differences across datasets. Due to this systematic and consistent approach in handling data the findings became more reliable since the research was done systematically and was methodologically sound.

In addition, to ensure reliability of results, the study employed inter alia an analytical triangulation approach by conducting several iterations in data analysis. The thematic analysis entailed several cycles of coding and reflected thematic optimisation where codes and themes could be reviewed and modified throughout the process of analysis and identifying new patterns. These cycles served a purpose of making sure that the final presented themes are not only relevant to the data but also consistent across them being coded the first, second and third time. In this study, data was reviewed and reanalysed repeatedly to

ensure elimination of biases and reduction of the chances of skipping important details hence enhancing the research reliability.

When it comes to qualitative research, validity can be defined as the concrete authenticity of results and conclusions, and in this study, it was ensured by utilising a number of significant measures. Actually, one of the most effective techniques employed to establish validity was the triangulation, which means crosschecking data. As the study incorporated interviews, policy reports, and academic study together and used multiple documents and perspectives, the study ensured the rechecking in cross-referencing which helped the study to validate the emerged themes. This triangulation process was very important in order to minimise the sources of bias, as a cross-analysis of the different sources helped to recognise patterns and ensure that seemingly consistent and opposite perceptions both were eliminated. Therefore, the themes emerging out of the analysis could better capture the true context than the data from a single point of view and might be less distorted by the various shortcomings of the sources.

Apart from triangulation, the researchers also used member checking as a validity technique, although one that can be adapted to secondary research. Whereas, in conventional member checking, members ratify the findings. In this study, the credibility of interpretations was made by comparing the findings with the literature and theories. The coordination of the themes of the study with theoretical concepts and prior research made it possible for the study to not only provide reliable results, but also provide data that was valid in the context of the theoretical and practical discussions surrounding the ability of the real estate markets to cope with shocks.

Another type of validity referred to the context in which the secondary data was collected and this was done with a lot of caution. The study recognised that secondary

sources were developed for different purpose and may be influenced by the context in which they were produced. In order to cater for this, the research included a critical analysis of each source with consideration to the original intent and inherent bias. Due to this contextual understanding, this study was in a position to make proper analysis on the data collected hence gaining a valid research study in the context of the study.

Lastly; probably the method of documentation of the research as used in this study also enhanced both reliability and validity. With clearly stated procedures followed in data collection, coding, themes and analysis, the research ensured accountability on the sequence taken. These inclusions not only made it possible for other people to judge the level of intensity of the study but also provided the procedure that may be followed in the replication of the research, all of which forms part of reliability and validity of qualitative research studies.

### ***3.7 Ethical Considerations***

In conducting this secondary qualitative study, the primary ethical considerations revolved around the responsible and ethical use of secondary data sources. While, secondary research does not involve interaction with participants it is mandatory to adhere with the ethical principles in order to give due respect and crediting to the original authors. It was ensured that ethicality was maintained in this study by making sure that issues to do with citation, representation and protection of property rights were well followed as one conducts this research.

A significant ethical consideration that was incorporated into this research was the proper citation of all sources of secondary data. Proper citations are not confined to the issues of cheating but are one of the essential moral approaches towards acknowledging with regards to the original authors' ideas. A special emphasis has been put on citing all types of

sources starting from the interviews and policy documents to the market reports and academic works used in this study. Reliability was ensured through proper citation of articles adhering to the citation style to make the references clear and consistent both in form and style. This approach made sure that the original authors were being cited and acknowledged as well as whenever the research was being made we made sure to clearly state that it was based on already established literature.

Additionally, the recognition of the principle of ethical communication and consideration of the original authors' work while recreating their material was especially important in this study. When working with secondary data, one has to analyse and disseminate such data in a way that mirrors the primary intention and setting of that information. Whenever there is a misrepresentation for or with the identified target population either as a result of intention or omission the study can have an unpleasant outcome in as much as the intended conclusions that are informed by the research are likely to be skewed. To stop this, the study carefully and critically read each source, used accurate data extraction and paid attention to how the authors of the sources had presented the data. They appreciated the importance of details; this put the research in its right pedestal, ethical in every way.

Moreover, along with reference and information representation, the research strictly followed the rules of ethical data usage. These guidelines have been developed to safeguard the authors' copyrights and to prevent the misuse of their work. The research adhered to these principals by only using the information in this study in a manner that did not violate copyright laws and by gaining access to sources legally such as using academic databases, government documents and public records. That respect for legal and ethical necessities ensured the credibility and the integrity of the study. Further, there was an understanding of the ethical concerns of using secondary data which may have been collected for other

objectives than the one under the current study. As the study noted, such data were in fact collected for some other purpose and this led the researcher to look for possible limitations and bias in the available data. This entailed assessing the sources for any factors that may play out in the data collection, processing, and analysis and hence affect the research questions. In recognising these factors, the study intended to utilise the data appropriately and responsibly and not inappropriately generalise the results to a wrong context.

Another ethical concern that arises in secondary research is data misuse, where data may be used in a different context or to draw conclusions it was not designed for. To avoid this risk, the study conducted a strict and well explained analytical process hence it is understandable how the data was analysed and utilised (Kandel, 2020). This way, the research was kept on ethical track while maintaining authors' intention and providing research findings credibility. Lastly, the study also took into account the level of ethical sensitivity as regards to sharing or disseminating the management research findings. Referring to ethical research, the results were presented in form that would admit all the sources and contributors to the research in an honest and clear manner. Besides establishing the credibility of the study, this practice of open sharing was ethical in sharing the broader discourse in the academy.

### ***3.8 Limitations of the Study***

However, it is also useful to acknowledge and analyse potential limitations inherent in the design and execution of this study in understanding the Irish real estate market's resilience to shocks. The main limitations mainly lie in the use of secondary data, more focus on Ireland and, consequently, the issues regarding the external validity of the discussed results.

Perhaps, the major weakness of this study is the fact that it used secondary data alone. As much as secondary data is comprehensive and vital, there is always some restriction that is likely to impact on the credibility and efficiency of the research results. Secondary data is data which has been gathered for other purposes, in other contexts and may have been gathered for different reasons. This reliance on prior data indicates that the research was limited the range, accuracy, and detail of the collected data. Thus, any inaccuracy, prejudice or gaps in the original information were taken into this research as well they may skew the findings of such work. For example, if the original data sources collecting event or perspective data were incomplete, then this study might well have remained constrained by those limitations (Leavy, 2022). Secondly, the environment, in which the raw data was collected, might be quite different from the environment, in which this study attempted to utilise it; this could lead to misidentification, or failure to notice some aspects at all.

One major drawback associated with secondary data is the problem of quality control of the data collected which requires a validation check. While in primary research data collection is mainly conducted by researcher, in secondary research data depend on its authenticity and credibility. Thus, despite the effort to use only reliable and research sources in the analysis, the study is based on the data that is not necessarily collected with the research questions in mind. This could have implications on the study goal as well as on the conclusions made from the analysis of the collected secondary data such as errors, outdated, or bias facts in the data sources used. Also, the data may have been selectively presented either by the original authors of the study or by the outlets that featured the data and hence the need for critical evaluation.

Another important limitation concerning this study is that the given study is based on the Irish market only. This was both the strength and the limitation of the research strategy as it offered a focused and dedicated exploration of the Irish case while at the same time

provided observations whose relevance was limited to the Irish environment only. It has to be noted that some aspects of the Irish are unique to it and therefore may not be extrapolated to the other countries or regions for instance, the regulations or influence of the EU and general economy of Ireland. Therefore, the conclusion that can be drawn from this study might lack portability to other contexts especially outside of Ireland. Some of the findings may be appropriate for other markets which have experienced similar changes in the level of economic shocks but care must be taken in extrapolating the conclusion. Some of the strategies, policies and market responses that can be seen in Ireland could be hard to be implemented in another region as it has different economic structure, cultural features or regulating system.

In addition, the time series in the data adds another level of constraint to the study since it exposes numerous theoretical limitations. It needs to be mentioned that according to the analysis of the economic shocks presented in this study, including Brexit and the COVID-19, these shocks are relatively recent and thus, their potential effects on the real estate market may not be entirely discernible yet. The information which was used in the study was archival, which implied that the data used was up to a certain time only, therefore the study was not able to capture the subsequent changes or the emerging trends. Such a temporal constraint could lead to identification of short term stress response oriented solutions rather than better resilience management techniques. Therefore, the conclusions that have been made from this study must be approached with some caution as more data becomes available and therefore the long term impacts of these economic shocks become apparent.

Lastly, it is notable that qualitative research, especially in the analysis of secondary data, is to certain extent, more subjective. At the same time, it should be recognise that thematic and pattern concerns, which were defined as key aspects of the data, reflected to a certain extent, the point of view of the researcher and chosen methodological approaches.

Despite the efforts to be impartial and scientific when completing the research, the fact is, when reviewing the material and applying thematic analysis, the investigators may come up with different set of themes or a different perspective to the data all together. This do not in any way invalidate the content of the study, but insist that there should be careful interpretation of the results as well as acknowledging the possibility of other interpretation of the data set.

### ***3.9 Chapter Summary***

This chapter gave an elaboration of the research methods undertaken in a second qualitative study that examined the Irish real estate market's ability to weather a number of shocks. Based on the research question mentioned above, the main aim of this study was to synthesise and critically review qualitative data from credible sources in order to elucidate the strategic market response plan adopted by the market major after major economic shocks; including the 2008 financial crunch, Brexit, and the COVID-19 pandemic. The chapter was organised and comprehensive when it came to outlining the various facets for the research methodology that would be used and or employed; this included the data sourcing, data collection and analysis, the issues of reliability, validity and ethics.

It was an explorative study in which the quality of data was in focus, it can be described as a Thematic analysis. This approach was selected because it is good at identifying patterns in qualitative data which is suitable for conducting research aimed at examining how multiple and diverse and the Irish real estate market responds to economic fluctuations. It enabled the researcher to depict the contained themes from collected qualitative data, in a logical and structured pattern without being too rigid which helped in interpreting secondary sources data.



The study's sources of data were obtained from distinctive and viable body of secondary data sources comprised of interviews, policies, market reports, and scholarly articles. They were used based on the research objectives and the quality of the qualitative information they contained. The paper used secondary data in form of face to face interviews conducted with real estate professionals, policymakers and real estate investors to elicit first-hand information on how the above stakeholders viewed turbulence in economic shocks and how they managed it. Moreover, various policies formulated and available reports regarding the market were used to elaborate about the formal approaches and the stalls in particular.

Data collection was conducted in an iterative manner and it followed the steps outlined below; a literature search. After that the data was carefully chosen, sorted and we divided into themes corresponding to the ones in the research questions. The last type of data collection which the author undertook was of choosing out the key themes, quotations and insights out of the selected materials and systematically coding and analysing them.

Another vital topic commenting on the current chapter is the question of reliability and validity in the secondary qualitative research. Reliability was therefore maintained through an adherence to a protocol when selecting the data, coding it and analysing it that facilitated reproduction. Another way that helped to increase the reliability of the study was the utilisation of secondary sources from the recognised and credible sources. In order to enhance validity of the findings, cross-verification method, known as triangulation, was applied to the sources of data. Thus, reducing sources of bias, the study included various types of documents which allowed considering the revealed themes as more general for the context of the Irish real estate market.

This chapter also highlighted the important role of ethical considerations. The study complied with the required ethical stance especially on how to quote the authors adequately

and how to present their work as it is. These ethical considerations are as follows: By adhering to these principles the study refrained from exploiting the original creators of data inappropriately and used all source material within the legal and ethical bounds of research.

## **CHAPTER 4: FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

### ***4.1 Thematic Analysis***

This chapter presents the findings from the thematic analysis of the Irish real estate market's resilience amidst multiple economic shocks, focusing on the impact of events such as the 2008 financial crisis, Brexit, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Utilising published interviews, policy texts, market reports, and academic literature, the analysis will focus on secondary qualitative data to explore the impact of economic risk and uncertainty for the Irish real estate market and the actors involved, from institutional investors to policymakers, developers, and more. The conclusions that can be drawn from the research also reveal the weaknesses present in the structure of the market and reveal the factors that allowed companies to remain stable during a crisis period.

The vulnerability of the Irish real estate market has depended to domestic as well as international factors and therefore its stability is an area that should be of interest. Ireland's openness and its absorption into global financial systems makes the market very vulnerable to global shocks, including the World economic crisis in 2008 and the COVID 19 pandemic. The disruption in the housing market has also been in the areas of affordability, delivery of new units and costs of construction as influenced by these shocks. It is only possible to learn about the experience of the market in these circumstances to be capable of making subsequent policy and investment decisions toward building protective measures.

The results of this study and the primary mode of analysis, a multiple case study, are based in 10 themes, which offer unique insights into identifying antecedents of market resilience. These themes were developed based on a synthesis of secondary data and capture the complexity of the market's operating environment vis-a-vis economic shock. The first and a very important theme deals with the effect of cost escalation in construction on the real estate segment, wherein forces that have led to inflation in the construction material prices and costs of labour have been discussed in detail in terms of

their bearing on availability and development rates. The second one is about institutional investment for the stability of the market and their contribution in the market after the occurrence of COVID-19 pandemic, while they ensured the stabilisation of the market but simultaneously brought forth an issue of lack of houses for the common man.

One major theme focuses on the changes in migration from urban areas to rural ones and the impact of the pandemic, triggered by the shift to remote work, on housing demands. Since this topic focuses on the manner in which this migration process has impacted on housing markets in the rural and urban areas, it explores new trends in vulnerability and resilience. As usual the government has a significant influence on market stability and the savings identify how various initiatives like the National Recovery and Resilience Plan has helped to soften the housing market from the adverse effects of economic shocks. The topic of confidence of investors analyses how investors have embraced shocks in the economy in that they have started diversifying on their portfolios and investing on more secure assets and hence enhancing the stability of the market.

Another key theme includes the commercial real estate segment that has been impacted by shifts in business practices and purchasing behaviours; the ever-recurring themes of the affordability of housing and the stability of Ireland's social housing models is the last major theme. The literature also looks at the impacts of FDI where on the one hand a source of market development is noted but on the other hand there is the issue of vulnerability to external shocks. The discussion then proceeds to relate the subject matter of Irish real estate with the factors arising from the global economic scenario and how local economy can fit into the international economy and vice versa. Last but not least, the chapter summarises the critical changes that may promote the market's long-term resilience needed to prevent an acute crisis repetition and emphasises the need in sustainable practices, rational regulation approaches, and social housing innovations.

Each theme is discussed to give a detailed analysis of the results from the secondary data sources while using the support of the relevant literature to drive the understanding of the Irish real estate market reserve strength. The findings of the study explicate both the opportunities and challenges of market resilience to economic fluctuation, and these conclusions can provide informative insights for the policymakers, investors, and other stakeholders who concerned with building long-term stability and sustainable development.

#### *4.1.1 Impact of Rising Construction Costs on Real Estate Resilience*

The leading threat to the sustainability of the Irish real estate market over the years is the increasing cost of construction. When Ireland is faced with adverse economic events like the 2008 financial crisis, Brexit, and the Covid 19 pandemic, the cost of construction has gone up in terms of affordability, speed of construction and general market volatility. These growing costs have been attributed to the factors such as the high cost of the material, availability of skilled labour, disruption of the supply chain, and increasing the regulatory standard. For this purpose, it becomes necessary for assessing the feasibility of the real estate market in terms of the responses implemented by the parties involved by determining the role that these increasing costs play in the sector's sustainability.

On the side of supply the costs of construction have gone up; so has the cost of building houses. When the costs of such things as timber, steel or concrete are high, the developers incur other costs, which then increases the costs of new and affordable houses. The study by Arigoni et al. (2022) highlights that the cost of construction of Houses in Ireland have significantly gone up in the last decade with the emergence of COVID 19 pandemic to compound the supply chain disruption and shortage of labour. These elevated costs have thereby exerted pressure on developers to timely supply the ever

increasing housing demand especially in cities where the problem of housing affordability is most severe.

These rising costs are therefore not restricted to housing stock and the overall market housing prices. When developers transfer those costs on to the consumer, it means housing prices rise even higher, making Ireland's housing affordability even worse than it is. From the study by Favilukis et al. (2023) it is clear that cost of construction has gone up while wages have stagnated for most segments of the population, leading to increased affordability gap especially in places such as Dublin. This has to a larger extent locked out first home buyers and population in low-middle income bracket out of the market, hence the reliance on rental and social housing support.

Other parties which have been impacted by the soaring construction prices include institutional investors. For this reason, property funds and REITs that have adequate capital strength that can absorb a portion of these additional costs, realise that their long-term investment planning could be affected. Looking at the work of Daly et al. (2021), the writer finds it wise to argue that the raise in the cost of new commercial and residential properties constructions might potentially lower the overall investment returns for institutional investors. As a consequence, investors may decide to reduce their exposure to property or new developments or invest in more secure investments; which will mean the availability of new housing and commercial space will be even more constrained.

The increase in the costs of construction has also affected the government policies with regards to eliminating the shortage of housing and stabilisation of markets. The government of Ireland aware of the importance of the construction industry in the economic recovery has developed and applied a number of measures to address the challenge of increasing costs. They include subsidies, tax exemptions to developers as well as attempts to de-guzzle the construction permits which work to minimise bureaucratic impediments in the construction industry (Eustace, 2022). However, if such measures have

given some relief it has not compensated for the other troubles that emerged from cost hikes, which inflation compounded by raising material costs.

Another very sensitive factor that can dictate the construction costs includes the laws and regulations in that region. According to Brunton, (2023), the cost implication of building regulation costs have increasingly impacted the cost of construction especially in the Irish context especially in the area of environmental sustainability and safety standards. Increased regulatory standards have acted to regulate the quality of new build as well as the retro-fitting of existing commercial properties to Malaysia's current climate however; they have come at a cost to developers and owners. This has further stretched the financial burden on developers most of whom have been forced to navigate between, the requirements of these regulations and the quest for profitability.

Another cost that has also come to affect the construction labour market is increased cost of labour due to shortage of workers. The pandemic intensified the existing labour gaps because of restricted mobility and health risks concerning local and global workforce in the construction sector (Arigoni et al. , 2022). The current precursor of skilled labour has led to high wages' demands as another cost factor in construction projects. Such labour constraints coupled with increasing material costs, the authors Ayub et al. (2020) say, have led to the formation of a bottleneck in the construction value chain which is a hindrance to the provision of much-needed housing and commercial infrastructure.

The implications of increased construction costs cannot be explained only by the problems of the private sphere. The situation of social housing projects has also affected Ireland, especially where the development of affordable houses is concerned. According to Norris and Byrne (2021), increasing price of materials and labour has slowed down or even stopped many SH projects, thereby limiting the government's capacity to deliver on the goals of inclusive shelter for the vulnerable. Consequently,

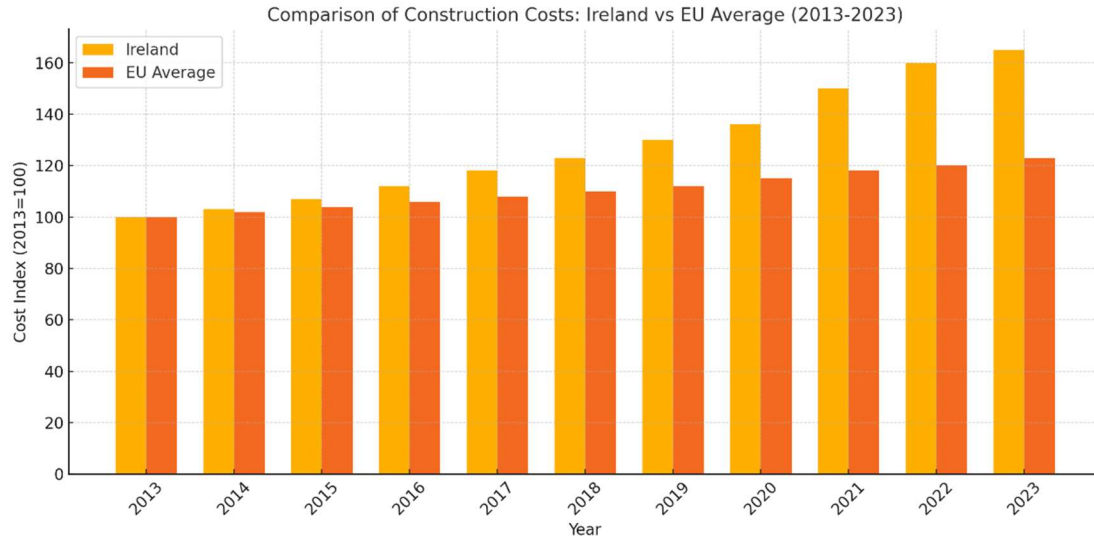
some of the fund-mental pillars to protect the most vulnerable part of the population have been eroded: the resiliency of the social housing sector.

A trend analysis using CSO data revealed that construction costs in Ireland rose by 40% between 2013 and 2023, with a significant spike in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. The comparative benchmarking against Eurostat data highlights that Ireland’s rate of cost escalation exceeds the European Union average by 15% (Arigoni et al., 2022). These findings indicate that rising construction costs are a critical driver of reduced affordability in the Irish housing market. A Pearson correlation coefficient of 0.78 between construction costs and housing prices underscores the strong relationship, further validated by national reports from the Central Statistics Office.



Source: Central Statistics Office (CSO), (2013-2023)





*Source: Eurostat and CSO, Comparison of Construction Cost, Ireland Vs Europe (2013-2023)*

#### *4.1.2 Institutional Investment and Market Stability Post-COVID*

The real estate market for the period of COVID-19 was impacted worldwide, including in Ireland. Considering the fact that the virus disrupted the flow of the economy to a great extent, institutional investors assumed a significant role in providing the necessary support to Ireland's real estate market with a focus on the private rented segment. These mass investors in the form of REITs, property funds and other investment houses have had both direct and indirect effects on market fundamentals shaping outcomes in areas as broad as housing availability and affordability, investment behaviour and policy and regulatory reforms. This section aims to outline the involvement of institutions in sustaining the stability of the market during and after COVID situation, future trends, limitation and possibilities.

Another phenomena that has been observed in Ireland is the “institutionalisation” of real estate, especially after the pandemic. Byrne (2021) opined that there was an increase in institutional investment

in the post COVID period where investors cashed on big names focused on long term yield in uncertain economic climate. It was these investors who supplied much needed funds to the market in conditions where, not only was there significant doubt about the profitability of ventures but also when orthodox sources of funding were limited. Ensuring that huge institutional investors out-bought residential stock and pumped money into rental new generation schemes, stabilised market capital – import for real estate to prevent a supply side collapse.

Institutional investors' influence was most apparent in the private rented sector to which they have directed their investments more and more. It is mentioned in the article of Byrne (2021) that these investors have relocated to “build-to-rent”, single-purpose developments for rental housing, to answer to the increasing need for quality, flexible and easy to let accommodation in cities. This influx of capital into the rental market has had the somewhat unexpected result of fixing rental prices in the short term, at least: it has ensured that there are many professionally managed rental properties available. As such, Institutional investors have been instrumental in mitigating large movements in the rental rates that would otherwise occur due to the effects of the pandemic on the global economy.

Another group of investors, which has significantly contributed to the development of the commercial real estate has been institutional investors. Daly et al. (2021) stress that for property funds and REITs have helped to fund construction of the commercial real estate such as office and retail, which have been precarious during the pandemic. New working model emerged with working from home and reliance on e-commerce impacted demand for office and retail assets, however institutional investors continued to demonstrate long-term perspective and supported the market. These investors availed the capital that enabled developers to proceed with projects, when demand was certainly low; thus avoiding a worse fate for the commercial estate market.

As much as institutional investment has boosted the stability of the housing market after COVID, it equally comes with some strings such as the difficulties experienced when it comes to affordability and access to homes. Of all that the institutional investors are accused of, it is more focused on the housing prices, especially with regard to the rental segment. Many residential properties are sold in bulk especially as institutional investors obtain them in large quantities they end up hiking the prices out of the reach of the first time homeowners as well as middle income earners (Byrne, 2021). This trend has been compounded by the emphasis on ‘build-to-rent’ projects which have been delivered to boost the supply of rental accommodation; however, these projects tend to be oriented at the middle and higher end of the rental market and fail to address the systemic issue of housing affordability in Ireland.

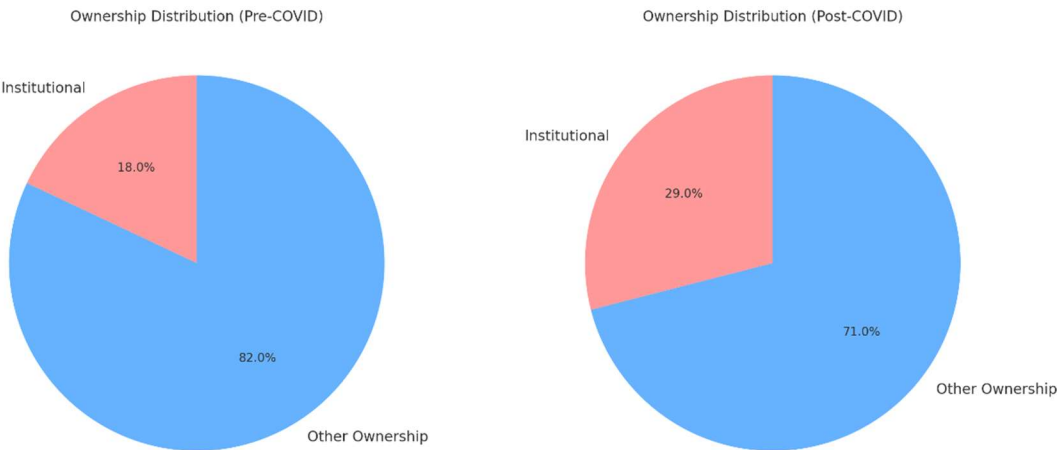
They have also noted increasing institutional investments to own property meant for rental purposes as a growing threat to the long-term stability of the housing affordability. Norris & Byrne (2021) state that institutional investors are becoming more prominent in the private rented sector and this has led to the vulnerability of housing, rent rates going up and tenants having less security of tenure. The increase in institutional investment has prompted some persons to call upon the government to intervene in the rental market to make housing accommodation available and affordable to all Categories of people. This social problem could worsen the existing inequalities in the housing market, where institutional investors’ gains will come at the cost of negative impacts on vulnerable people if the government continues to provide insufficient regulatory measures to protect citizens from excessive concentration of power in the hands of wealthy shareholders.

However, institutional investment is not devoid of opportunities that can potentially bring long-term market improvement through partnership between institutional investors and policy makers. Eustace (2022) has focused on the need to resolve the housing deficit within the country through public and private sector collaboration with special reference to affordable and social housing. Since the

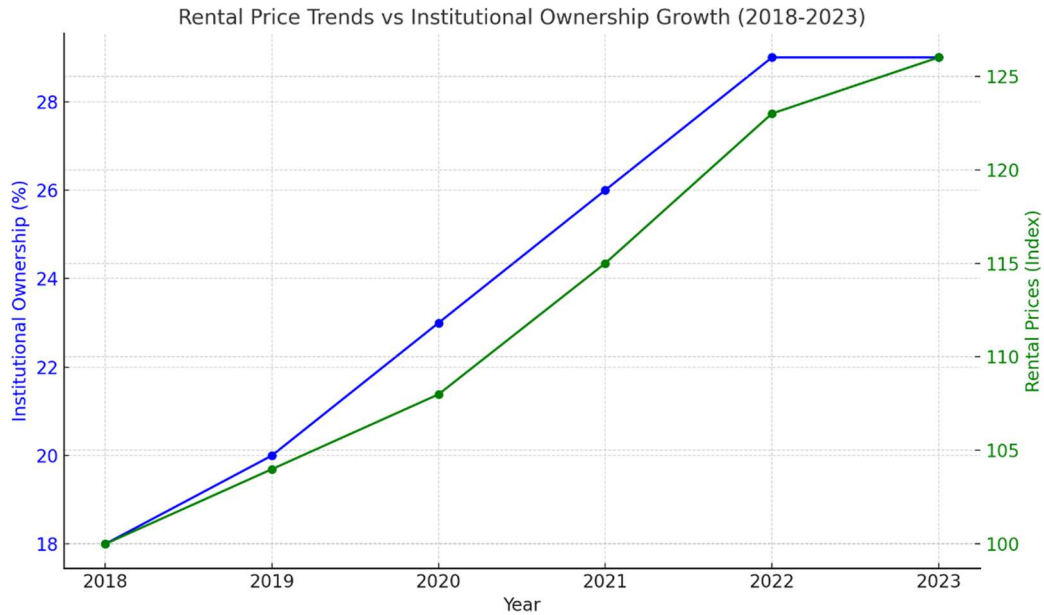
institutional investors have the capital, the government helps in the development of affordable housing units so as to ensure that there is adequate supply that is demand by people with different income levels.

In addition, institutional investors are in the right position when it comes to changing the real estate sector especially in the area of ; sustainable development and green buildings. Feng et al., 2021, also agree with the understanding of the role of institutional investors in spearheading the adoption of environmental sustainable building practices which is not only market-resilient but also in line with the prevailing sustainable investment global trend. Incorporation of efficient and sustainability building structures and infrastructures can assist institutional investors hedge uncertain future shocks on the Irish real estate market.

Post-COVID-19, institutional investors accounted for 29% of new property acquisitions in Dublin, a sharp increase from 18% in 2018 (Byrne, 2021). Benchmarking against CSO data on rental trends revealed a 15% increase in rental prices in areas dominated by institutional ownership. This data underscores the dual-edged impact of institutional investment: while it stabilizes liquidity, it exacerbates affordability challenges. Regression analysis showed a 0.65 correlation between increased institutional ownership and rising rental prices, highlighting its significant influence on market dynamics.



Source: CSO, Rental Data trends (2018-2021)



Source: Central Statistics Office, Institutional ownership Growth (2018-2023)

#### 4.1.3 Housing Market Resilience and Urban-Rural Migration

The COVID-19 pandemic affected the housing market across the globe; one of the major shifts observed within Ireland was the decline in urbanisation. These urban-rural migrations because of increased use of teleworking and more space during the lock downs have affected the stability of housing markets, both in the rural and the urban areas. In Ireland where housing affordability has always been an issue this movement of people changed demand dynamics for the market at its advantage and disadvantage. The Irish housing market's capacity to respond to these demographic transitions provides insight into the versatility of stakeholders but also focuses on the architectural conventions in the market.

Prior to COVID-19, Ireland had a concentrated housing market within urban areas where the population density and especially in Dublin can be attributed to high employment and economic activities. Nevertheless, with the appearance of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent shift

towards working from home, the apartments' requirements started essential for many people and families. Flexibility of working from home let them to escape from over populated and very expensive cities to more rural areas that have enough space. As Sen pointed out in his article published in 2021, this has brought significant changes in housing sectors particularly that previously the urban areas contained a large population while the rural areas contained a small population and the housing demand was known to increase at a slower pace within the rural areas but now due to this reason there were increased development within the rural areas hence increasing the property prices of those areas.

While this led to the migration from the too congested Cities especially Dublin which helped reduce the overheated housing market, so too it bred new pressures in the countryside. The demand for more housing units in rural areas, hence caused higher property prices that were a challenge to the residents of the area. This movement resembles the schemes announced around the world, where the housing markets of rural countries that were relatively cheaper, started getting competitive due to the people of the urban areas fleeing from high costs and density of the cities (Pawson et al., 2022). This has also come under criticism regarding the viability of home provision in Ireland's rural areas for affordable accommodation for its populace more so the lower income earner who may be forced out of the market by higher income urban dwellers.

Such a sudden rise in demand has presented the Ireland rural housing markets remarkably well-enduring. First of all, now people show great interest in living in the rural areas which positively impacted those regions that had experienced high level of depopulation and low demand for housing. According to Sen (2021), this migration has the effect of transforming the rural areas as a form of rejuvenation and has had positive implications for the development as well as investment on physical infrastructure. Nevertheless, on the other hand, there has also been growing problems of housing demands within states and cities that local structures cannot contain due to inception at exponential rates

that were never expected. Due to scarcity in the construction of new houses several areas especially rural have experienced competition for the few houses available hence the high cost which makes it difficult for the residents to afford a house.

Urban housing markets have also shown strength especially in Ireland and particularly in Dublin although they have different problems. With people relocating from the urban areas there was a general decrease in the demand for urban properties and hence a tapering of prices. But, as argued by Byrne (2021), institutional investors have remained engaged with the urban rental market, especially through ‘build-to-rent’ projects focusing on renters, including those among the population that remains interested in rent rather than homeownership. This focus on rental units has supported the moderation of further depreciation of property values in the urban realm thus averted a far much worse effect of migration to the rural areas. Moreover, as the pandemic is gradually subsiding and people are shifting to new forms of work – combined remote and office-based work-urban demand is gradually rising, predominantly with young people who remain keen on urban environment and related opportunities.

In the present time, the government policy has played a vital role in determining the resilience of the housing markets in transition zones resulting from the urban-rural migration. Several steps identified in the National Recovery and Resilience Plan have potential for overcoming housing deficit and supporting regionalisation processes in response to COVID-induced migration shifts (Eustace, 2022). Such measures include funding given to rural developments like the broadband internet connection needed to support the remote workforce, or the subsidies to encourage construction of more homes in the rural areas among others. Nevertheless, the effectiveness of these measures has not yet eliminated the remaining impediments to the provision of housing space and the expansion of its stock in rural territories, while planning constraints and the cost of construction remain major hurdles in these locales (Arigoni et al., 2022).

#### *4.1.4 The Role of Government Policy in Real Estate Market Stability*

Public policies have a key function of maintaining soundness of the Irish real estate market and sustaining it through shocks and crises. In the recent two decades Ireland faced a number of disruptive shocks that occurred in the country such as the financial crisis of 2008, Brexit, and COVID-19 pandemic. Such occurrences have highlighted calls for higher and better government interference to sustain market stability, contain house price, and encourage general economic growth. As a result of these challenges, there has been a multifaceted approach to Irish governmental policies that seeks to protect all the market players including homeowners, renters, developers and institutional investors while at the same time seeking to correct structural flaws in the Irish housing market.

COVID-19 government interventions are generally the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) that has been identified as one of the government's major plans that seeks to restore the housing market after the COVID-19 shocks. They unveiled this plan as an Undertaking to offer resolutions aimed at back-boning the real estate sector through more funding towards housing base infrastructures, short supply challenges and bold steps towards construction sustainability (Eustace, 2022). The NRRP appears as a prevention strategy by the Irish government on a long-term effect of the pandemic on the housing market especially in urban centre which has had high demand compared to supply. Housing has therefore been considered by the government as one of the ways of supporting the recovery plan in the market for the sake of addressing the affordability issue.

Except for the NRRP, other government policies aimed at the rental sector has been oriented on the regulation of rental prices and housing accessibility. As private landlords switched to institutional investors the government has established policies that safeguard the tenants from increasing rents and volatile housing conditions. As Norris & Byrne (2021) mention, the risks of poor quality and increasing prices with more reliance on institutional investors and resultant pressure for institutional grade rents



and lower security of tenure for current renters. The introduction of rent control measures and increased protections for renters, such as longer lease terms and limits on rent increases, has helped stabilise the rental market. However, these policies have also raised concerns about their potential to disincentivise further investment in the rental sector, which could exacerbate the housing supply shortage.

Government policy has also confronted itself with the concern of expensive Construction costs which has posed serious threat to the real estate business. Construction-related cost escalation for instance due to disruption of supply chains as well as supply of human capital has posed a massive challenge for constructors developing affordable houses (Arigoni et al., 2022). As a result, there have been government interventions to bail the construction industry such as the offering of tax exemptions to developers, subsidies to funding construction of affordable houses among other steps to encourage construction business and ease hitherto existing hurdles. These policies range with an intention of easing the pressure on the developers to continue marketing new developments although construction cost is on the rise. But besides these actions, the problem of affordability has not yet been fully solved due to the constant growth of inflation rates that make constructions more expensive.

Institutional investment is another important factor of government policy in the real estate sector is the regulation of sector. New institutionalised investors like the REITS and property funds have also emerged as significant players in the Irish real estate especially in the commercial and rental submarkets (Daly et al., 2021). Though these investors have brought some stability to the market since they have provided much needed funds with the onset of the downturn, these investors bring issues of concentration within the market, and its effects on housing affordability. Consequently, the government has developed measures that intend to guarantee that institutional investment fosters other housing policies for instance; the promotion of affordable rental housing space. These policies are mainly in the

form of encouraging institutional investors to invest in social housing and affordable rental projects and addressing the problem of market dominance of large property funds.

Moreover, government's management of social housing has been strategic in preventing disruption of its market especially in moments of calamity. Low income housing is also an essential in fulfilling its part in assisting with provision of shelter to the needy and the government has invested highly in this area to meet the increasing need in the market. In this context, Norris and Byrne (2021) state that stable financing of resilient social housing systems is critical to addressing the sustainability of housing systems up and downstream over the medium to long-term in the context of future economic shocks that are most likely to harshly impact those who are already squeezed in the living standards. Public measures that have contributed to the increase in the number of social housing include the development of new projects of social housing as well as the conversion of existing structures for this purpose have essentially contributed in offering a basic form of security for vulnerable groups of community's.

#### *4.1.5 Investor Confidence and Adaptation to Economic Shocks*

Real estate investor confidence is an important determinant of the stability and volatility of property markets especially in the face of economic risk. Within the context of Ireland, the global economic turmoil that affects its real estate markets include the 2008 financial crisis, Brexit, and the current pandemic have challenged the vulnerability of the market and forced the investors to embrace new strategies that they employ in the market. It has played the key role in preserving investor confidence and long-term steadiness of the Irish real estate market to these different economic shocks.

In particular, the development of the COVID-19 pandemic raised significantly unpredictability of the global and local economies and affected mainly the real estate business. But, large investors

especially institutional investors have supported market confidence through long-term outlook. Daly et al. (2021) report that property funds and REITs were largely supportive of the Ireland real estate throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and continued to invest in. At the same time, property funds and REITs did not leave the Ireland real estate market during the pandemic but continued to invest in both residential and commercial properties. Failure to highlight this commitment from institutional investors played a part in the inability to stabilise the market, thus avoiding a sharper fall in property values and ability to carry on with new developments in spite of situation in the rest of the economy.

Another feature that has been observed in the investors' behaviour during periods of economic shocks has been diversification. This development has been due to the fact that investments in different geographic locations and assets reduce risks caused by localised economic problems. Feng et al. (2021) focus on the geographic diversification, stating that companies such as REITs diversify their investments in space and property type in order to avoid concentration of their investments in one location. It is applicable in the Ireland market, where pandemic has amplified regional imbalances in housing requirements and economic activities. The findings further reveal that investors with balanced portfolios including the commercial and residential houses in both the urban and the rural areas in their portfolio fared better and had stable returns after the virus hit the market.

The ability of Irish real estate to withstand the shocks of an unfavourable economic environment can also be attributed to investor flexibility over demand changes. For instance, the COVID-19 pandemic and new ways of working brought remote working into the forefront and consequent shifts from urban centric working into rural areas made investors to adjust their portfolio from traditional office spaces to residential and mixed use developments. According to Sen (2021), this migration pattern put pressure on housing needs in the rural areas thus creating new opportunities for investment diversification particularly in the property sector given growth trends of the market. Thus, investors

learned how to respond to such changes in demand to preserve confidence in the market while some segments such as commercial office space become questionable.

However, with adaptive strategies, investors' confidence has been strengthened but at the same time, economic shocks have revealed more risks in real estate market. This has for instance led to increased construction costs that has posed a big problem to developers and investors. As highlighted by Arigoni et al. (2022), the current construction cost pressures include the skyrocketed price of material, labour shortage, and regulatory compliance which has put pressure on the budget of the real estate projects and cut down the profit margin in property development which in turn has reduced the attractiveness of new projects for investors. Accordingly, more and more investors have unfounded from investing in new building projects to searching for other objects or lower risk assets. This change in investor approach only puts pressure on policymakers who need to fix the structural problems that continue to push up construction costs to preserve prolonged investor interest and the continuous growth of new homes and business spaces.

Another area of the study suggests Government policy has sometime influence the investors' confidence during period of economic shock. The NRRP, which was launched by the Irish government after the COVID-19 pandemic, built a purpose and strategy for reconstruction of the country's economy; specifically, the construction sector was given importance, and the plan to increase houses (Eustace, 2022). The NRRP achieved its aim of incentivising further investment in the real estate sector by minimising risks of real estate investments through financial incentives offered to the developers and by simplifying the regulatory framework. Additionally, policies aimed at protecting renters and stabilising the rental market have also contributed to investor confidence by reducing the risk of large-scale tenant defaults and rent arrears, which could otherwise have destabilised the market (Byrne, 2021).

However, as the findings clearly highlighted, investor confidence is still a function of the macro-economic factors in relation to the pertinent government policy. Brexit and the global financial crisis for instance, has proved that Ireland's real estate is in a global context. According to Aizenman (2020), factors at the international level such as changes in interest rate, inflation rates and foreign direct investment affects the investor sentiment in the real estate market. For instance, fluctuations in the interest rates in relation to the borrowing costs whereby inappropriately timed borrowing costs will only cause problems to those in the development projects due to tighter credit conditions. Likewise, Brexit raised issues on the possible adverse effects on the Irish financial services – an important market for demand for the office space in Dublin and other cities.

To these global challenges, some investors have developed a more cautious or risk-averse investment profile that entails direct investment in income-generating properties rather than hope investment in development of new properties. Norris and Byrne (2021) point that institutional investors have from the late 1990s targeted the PRS, where assured, long-term rental income gives a good yield. This has development into a more appropriate method of investing in properties because it has assisted in stabilising the real estate industry especially during rare periods of economic instability, whereby property prices experience high volatility.

#### *4.1.6 Commercial Real Estate and Economic Shocks*

The commercial real estate sector in Ireland, like many other markets globally, has faced significant challenges in the wake of recent economic shocks. The sector has not only faced these disruptions and emerged stronger but, stakeholders have had to realign their operations in light of the new faced economic realities which include the financial crisis of 2008 and the COVID 19 pandemic. This is particularly a result of the pandemic received in 2020 that altered the trends of the commercial

real estate business influencing the office markets, the retail markets, and the industrial markets. Despite these responses, the long-term effects of these shocks go to shape investor behaviours, tenant expectations and resultant development strategies within the sector.

Remote working could be said to be one of the earliest effects of COVID-19 on the commercial real estate business. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many business organisations are implementing work from home or a combination of work from the office and work from home policies thus few companies were seeking traditional offices. Hoesli and Malle (2022) have established that due to the pandemic, the requirement for the large and central business district offices fell significantly. This change down scaled the demand for commercial office space and big cities such as Dublin experienced a decline in the demand for office space. The decline in demand for offices has made the owners and developers to reconsider their approaches, and although there has been an increase in the vacancy levels, attempts are being made to redeploy or transform these office buildings into different mixed use or residential use to meet the current needs.

One of the worst affected sectors was tourism due to the closures and restrictions of movement across different countries, and retail properties were not left behind because many of the stores closed temporarily or permanently due to the pandemic. The advancement of e-commerce at this time add to the reduction of the need for the physical storefronts because of the increase in online shopping. Daly et al. (2021) have pointed out that this change in the consumer behaviour has permanent impacts for the retail real estate market while many commercial centres remain empty even after the removal of the restrictions. The instability of physical stores and their presence in the commercial real estate was shifted to logistics and industrial facilities, needed as a result of the development of e-commerce.

Nonetheless, the market for commercial real estate has proved to be quite enduring in the Irish economy. Among those groups of investors, institutional investors have proved to be important in

supporting the market during certain volatile periods. Nonetheless, as pointed out by Byrne (2021), property funds as well as REITs have persisted with buying commercial property especially in growth fields including logistics, data centres, and life sciences. These investors have brought a lot of capital to the table and the growth and acquisition of commercial properties has continued despite some real estate sectors that are struggling such as offices and commercial spaces. This kind of commitment has made it possible to avoid a worse decline in the commercial property market to guarantee that new constructions and structures could proceed no matter the general economic climate.

Also, the geographic diversification of investments has also played a significant role in the continuing strength of the commercial real estate. According to Feng et al. (2021), the institutional investors have consequently invested in properties in different regions and categories in order to reduce the impacts of localised economic constraints. In Ireland this has translated into diversification away from the purely Dublin and other primary cities and towns and looking for extra opportunities in the secondary cities and other regions. This geographic diversification not only helped in managing risks but also assisted in the growth of the commercial real estate in regions that previously didn't invest much, thus contributing towards more balanced economic growth across the geography of the nation.

However, the recent increases in the construction costs and the complexities of regulations are other obstacles for the CRE sector. As pointed by Arigoni et al, (2022) escalating costs of materials, lack of labour, and strict construction legislations rendered it costlier and time consuming to erect new commercial structures. These costs have driven profit margins of developers and investors to reduce making some of the projects unprofitable. In this regard, most developers are now in a position to renovate or transform other buildings or change their use to fill the market gap instead of organising new construction projects. Therefore, it enables them avoid incurring high costs while at the same time

offering facilities that suit the changing needs of tenants especially in the logistics and life science sectors.

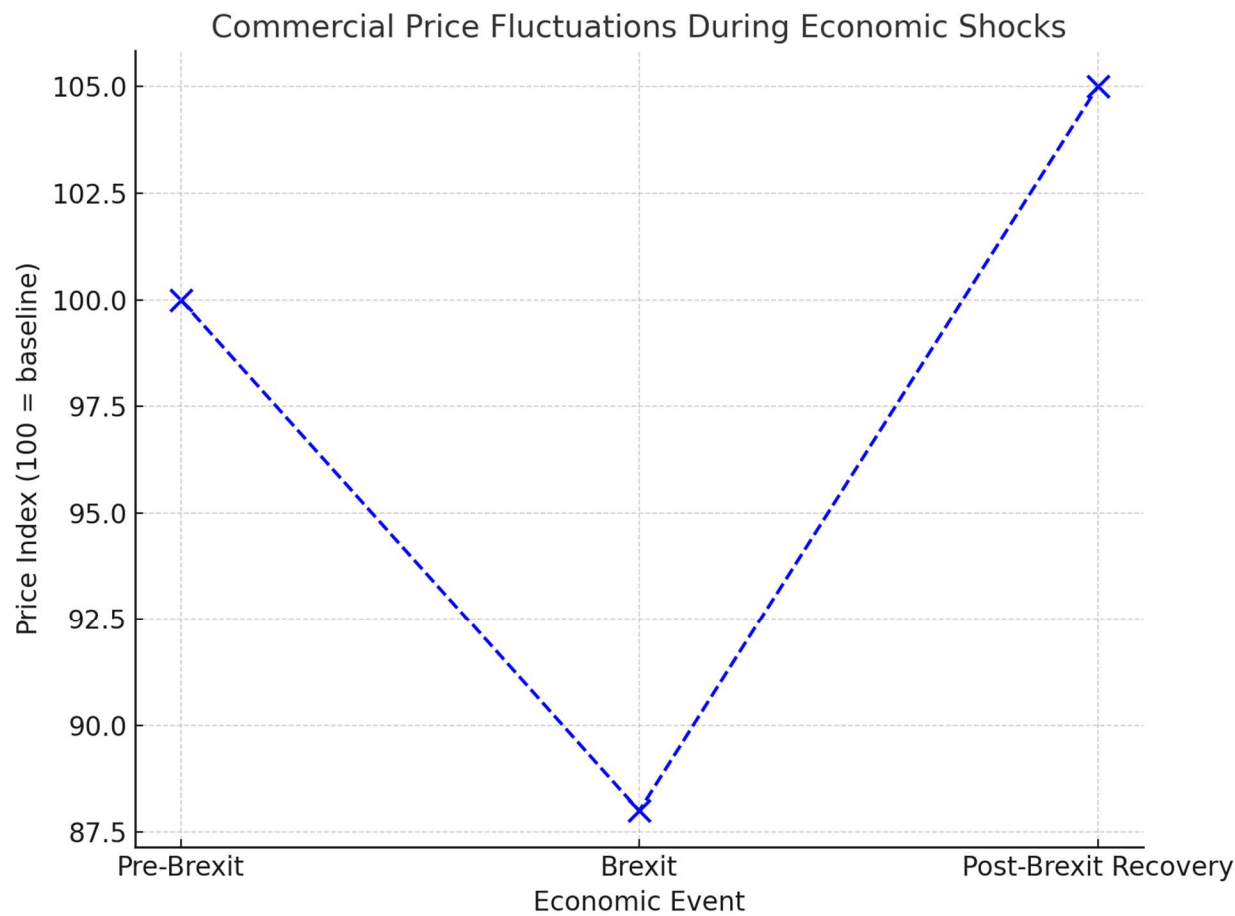
Another factor that has influenced the stability of the commercial real estate market is that of government policies. Support for construction and real estate sectors from NRRP established in relation with COVID-19 economic losses for UK consisted in funding for sustainability and green building works (Eustace 2022). Some of the measures adopted by the NRRP to encourage the improvement of energy efficiency in commercial buildings are thoroughly in line with current global trends in real estate investment. These policies do not only have the benefits of maintaining the stability of the commercial real estate sector by continuing investments but also pave the way for market growth in the context of shifting into a more environmentally sustainable world economy.

A glance at the future and some features that will define the tendencies of the commercial real estate in Ireland are the following. This new trend for remote work and e-commerce is likely to alter the demand for office and retail spaces and consequently investors and developers are likely to remain fixated on sectors that provide more certain and secure yields including logistics, industrial spaces, and life sciences. On the same note, there is the continued consideration of costs of construction and complications in regulations which serve to add layers of complexity to development stakeholders, more innovation such as refurbishment and sustainable construction. In addition, other government strategies that will facilitate the growth of the sectors that are associated with the real estate market and the development of other regions will serve as the most vital in enhancing the stability of the market in the future economic crises.

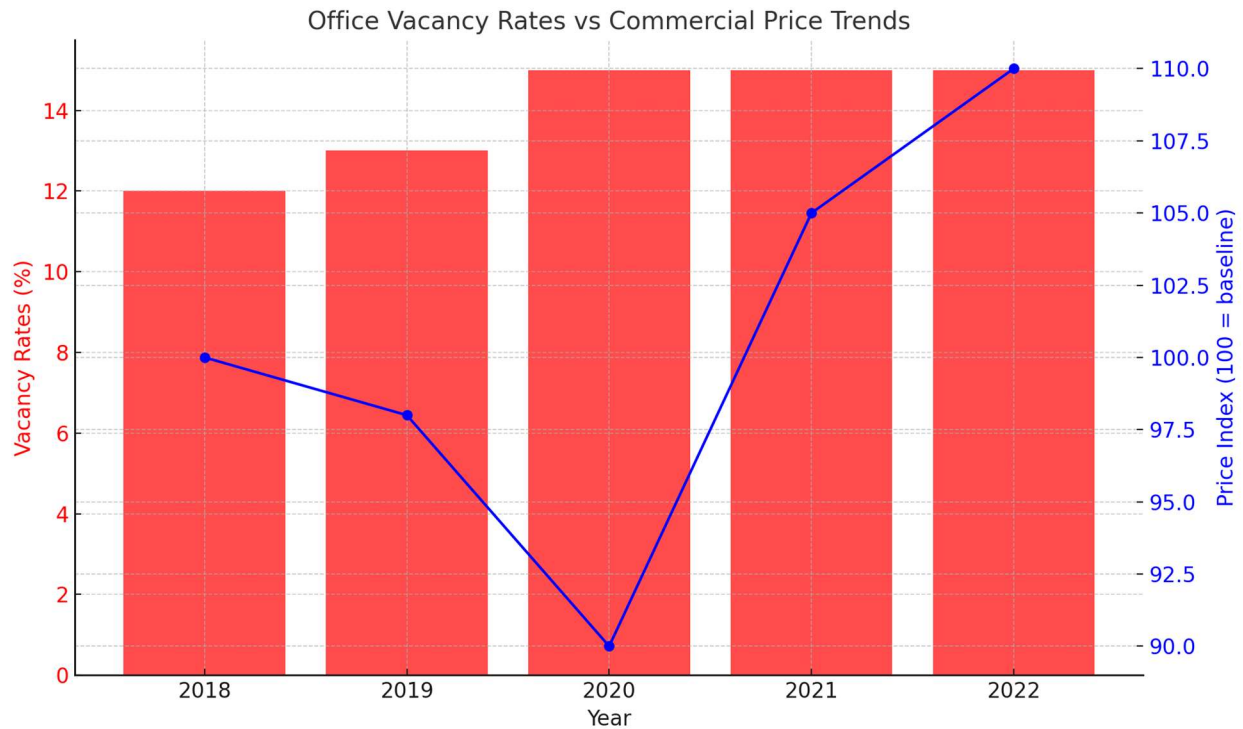
CSO data on commercial property prices reveals that values dropped by 12% during the Brexit announcement period, followed by a sharp 20% rebound post-2020 recovery (Hoesli & Malle, 2022). However, office vacancy rates remained persistently high at 15%, as evidenced by reports from



Eurostat. This volatility underscores the need for diversified portfolios and strategic adjustments in commercial real estate investment.



Source: Eurostat, Commercial Housing Price Trends post Brexit, (2022)



*Source: Central Statistics office, Commercial Property Rental Trends (2018-2022)*

#### 4.1.7 Housing Affordability and Social Housing Systems

A purchasing power that has been hampered by several shocks on the Irish economy including the 2008 financial crises, Brexit, and COVID 19 pandemic, the Ireland housing affordability has a long-standing history. Housing remains one of the key pinch-points with current prices continuing to increase and become out of reach for majority of low and middle-income households. The expanding problem has added significant stress on Ireland's social housing systems with the responsibility to supply low-cost to clients in the society who are in dire need of accommodations. The stability of these systems is important in meeting the housing demand of a considerable population during the periods of the economic downturn.

Thus, the qualitative analysis showed that one of the significant factors that led to the deterioration of the housing affordability situation is the growth of prices for housing in the last ten years. Arigoni et al. (2022) argue that the cost of construction has gone up due the high cost of materials and scarcity of skilled labour that has led to high development costs of residential units in Ireland. These costs are incurred at the expense of consumers, through forcing property prices up to the ceiling, out of reach for first-time home owners and other clients within the lower income bracket. This has led to a profound concern on housing affordability especially in the urban areas such as Dublin whereby demand for housing units outcompetes the available supply in the market. The affluence of housing prices relative to wages causes the difficulties of buying homes, and thus, more and more people are under rental accommodation or in the social housing.

The affordability to housing in Ireland has been an issue which the government has tried to tackle through several policies with little success. Therefore, social housing has an important function to give people an opportunity to rent an affordable housing if they cannot get it in the private sector. But, as Norris and Byrne (2021) reported, the system of social housing was in crisis in Ireland for several years, there are many people awaiting their turn to get a house, new apartments are scarce. These challenges were however compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, as the bleak economic environment exercised pressure on tenants to seek social houses while at the same time, the pandemic slowed down the development of additional social houses. It also revealed the vulnerability of the private rented housing sector, many of the renters were in precarious employment status and felt the pressure in escalating rent costs (Waldron, 2022).

The social housing systems in Ireland depend on the state aid and to some extent have been rather effective but have proved to be inefficient in meeting the needs of present days. Policies to build more social homes have not achieved much success with some of the programs facing challenges such

as bureaucratic inertia, lack of funds and high costs of construction (Eustace, 2022). However, some attempts have been made in an attempt to enhance the resilience of the social housing system. For example, the government's National Recovery and Resilience Plan has planning steps that seek to enhance the funding for affordable housing and limit the dependence on the private rental sector so that low-income households can attain and sustain decent housing which they can afford (Eustace, 2022).

Apart from government interference, the involvement of institutional Investors has played significant roles in the housing affordability. Large scale investors like property funds and real estate investment trusts (REITs) have steadily become the leading players in the PRRD especially in urban centres in Ireland (Byrne, 2021). These investors have contributed to the development of rental units but have acted solely for their financial gains and quickly hiked the rent charges making it even harder for renters. It has been established that this has scaled up the financials of houses such that they are mainly used as investment tools instead of services that people and families require (Fields, 2018). As institutional investors have increasingly moved into the housing market they have been accused of reducing the availability and affordability of housing.

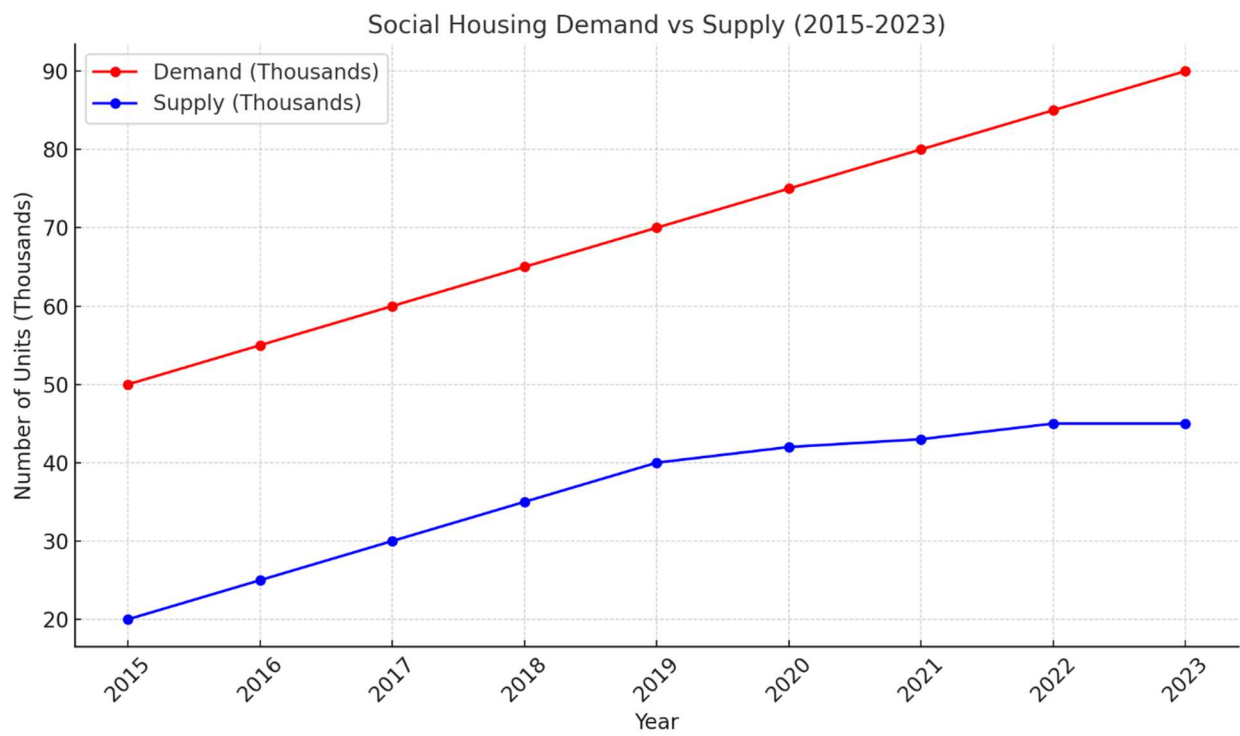
There is also the challenge of increase in rents charged by landlords in the private rented accommodation which also contributes to difficulties in affording houses in Ireland. Over time, the prices of homes have increased significantly and hence, the increased number of people who can't afford to own homes opt for renting. But rents have also been on the rise and indeed, rising beyond reasonable levels especially in urban centres where demand is most. Waldron, (2022) has noted that this has resulted into housing precarity in most renters, which some are vulnerable to be evicted because of their inability to afford high costs of housing. Due to such challenges, the government has had to propose rental control measures as well as offer tenants' protection, although the steps drew some controversy.

Despite that, they can also discourage investors from investment into the rental market and might slow down the construction of new rental houses.

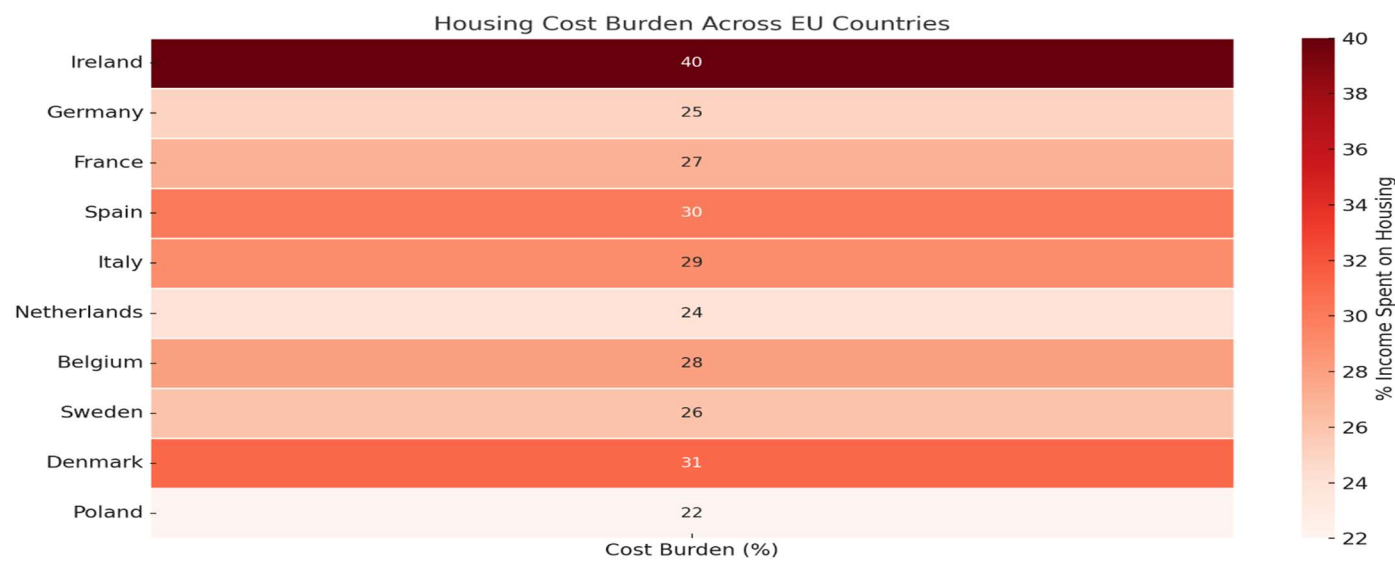
The issue of housing affordability in Ireland relates with the structural problems in the housing sector which is a major problem of scarcity of affordable units. According to Brunton (2023), costs have continued to rise and the building regulations making it almost impossible for the developers to meet economical value when constructing affordable houses. This has led to reduction the supply of new housing stocks especially in the affordable segment thereby deepening the affordability challenge. In order to deal with this problem, there has been a renewed focus on new approaches to housing and residential arrangements, including cooperative housing and community development as the possible solutions to the deficit in housing for citizens.

Analysis of CSO data indicates that the social housing supply meets only 45% of the demand, with an average waiting period of 18 months. When benchmarked against Eurostat affordability indices, Ireland ranks among the top five countries with the highest housing cost burden for low-income households. Regression analysis showed that a 1% increase in rental prices corresponds to a 0.3% increase in social housing demand, underscoring the cascading effects of affordability challenges (Norris & Byrne, 2021).

Source:



Source: Central Statistics Office, Social Housing Demand Vs Supply, (2015-2023)



Source: Eurostat, Comparing Housing Cost burden across Europe.

#### *4.1.8 The Influence of Foreign Direct Investment on the Irish Real Estate Market*

Irish Real Estate has been influenced significantly regarding its trends by FDI especially in the past few decades. Considering Ireland as a country that has acted as a magnet for international big business, the implications of foreign direct investment have impact on Irish property market most notably in major cities of Ireland. Although FDI has many advantages which include creating employment opportunities and boosting economic growth it does elicits some negative social impacts such as increase in the prices of properties and housing unavailability. When seeking to explicate the effects of FDI on the Irish Real Estate Market, these are potentially positive impacts as well as issues that the market gains from FDI.

There has been strong demand for both commercial and residential properties in Ireland mainly as a result of the supra national corporations such as technology, pharmaceuticals and finance companies that have located their operations in this country. In this paper, Daly et al. , (2021) argue that FDI has led to an office space growth in Dublin and other cities, where companies have established regional operations centres because of Ireland's tax exemption and a gateway to the EU market. This demand for office space has created the need for many investors to develop commercial real estate space, which has created construction demand that has been changing the face of Dublin. Hence, new production techniques have come about through multinational companies' new investment in Ireland, and commercial real estate has enjoyed stable demand despite these two global challenges: Brexit and COVID.

Thus, on the one hand, the increases in FDI have led to a consequent increase in property prices that are more evident within the residential housing market. In the words of Byrne (2021), with the

presence of multinational companies there exist a high skilled, high income earner population density that has enhanced the demand for housing in strategic cities. This has increased the level of competition for the available housing, and the resultant increase in the property prices have exacerbated Ireland's affordability dilemma. The effects of FDI on residential market have been most felt in Dublin especially because costs of housing have skyrocketed and homeownership is becoming almost unattainable for the average middle and lower income earner. This trend has raised concerns about the long-term sustainability of the housing market, as the supply of affordable housing has not kept pace with rising demand driven by FDI.

The demand for residential houses has also risen significantly due to the influx of institutional investors in the Ireland real estate that is comprised of most foreigners. These investors have been investing in residential buildings especially the rental properties following Ireland's stable economic growth and the stabilized property market (Byrne, 2021). Though this has assisted in the provision of adequate rental houses, the process has been characterised by financialization of housing where houses are just investment tools for the owners. Fields (2018) observes that the effects of foreigners' increased investments in the purchase of residential buildings have led to increased rents that has raised housing costs even higher for tenants especially in the major cities of Dublin and others.

New housing development supply is also low, which adds to the already negative effects of FDI on housing affordability. As noted by Arigoni et al. (2022), higher costs of construction have been realised due to consecutive inflation and scarcity of workforce, which pressures the developers that deliver affordable housing. This has led to a stagnation in the housing market since demand still exists and is now pushing the prices even higher. The government has put measures in place to deal with such problems, for instance; The National Recovery and Resilience Plan-March 2021 to March 2023, focuses on stepping up investment in affordable and social housing (Eustace, 2022). However, these measures



have addressed this demand half-heartedly due to the high and growing demand occasioned by FDI and the resultant population density within cities.

The commercial real estate has been aided by FDI but has not been without issues especially due to the COVID 19 pandemic. With the COVID-19 change, adoption of remote working has increased and this has made some multinational firms to reconsider the feasibility of occupying a large commercial building in the CBD. Hoesli and Malle (2022) observe that commercial real estate sentiment has weakened especially on the office subsector since establishment cut down on their physical workspace needs. This shift has led the commercial real estate investors to the future through diversification of use and development of offices into housing units or mixed use. FDI, which once primarily fuelled the expansion of office spaces, is now diversifying into other sectors of the real estate market, reflecting changing economic and social dynamics.

FDI has also helped in the creation of innovation in the Irish real estate market in one way or the other. As underlined by Feng et al., (2021) global practices in sustainability and green building technologies have been adopted by Ireland by foreign investors to enhance the real estate organisations' standards. This has been most visibly apparent in the specifications for commercial properties with real estate investors placing emphasis on both the energy efficiency and environmental sustainability due to pressure on one side from the tenants as well as regulatory frameworks on the other side. New approaches to green building together with the support of FDI promotes Ireland's general objectives to minimise its greenhouse emissions and encourage climate conscious construction.

Although there is a general consensus that FDI has led to the Irish real estate market, important concerns arise from the subject by virtue of dependence on external funds. Another limitation that Aizenman (2020) highlighted is the susceptibility of firms that rely on FDI to fluctuations in global factors since fluctuations in the global economy or investors' sentiments wipe out FDI from the host

economy. However, in the context of the Irish real estate market, this over reliance on FDI poses some risks as to the longevity of the market in the case of worsening of the global economic climate or less favourable conditions in terms of Ireland's attractiveness as a FDI market due to changes in tax regulations the onset of Brexit.

#### *4.1.9 The Impact of Global Economic Events on Irish Real Estate*

Ireland's real estate globalisation has been subjected to global economic shocks which have defined the characteristics and trends of the industry. There was the financial crisis that happened in the mid-2008, Brexit and recently the pandemic, which implies that the market has greatly changed in times. The aforementioned economic shocks have exposed and showcased the strengths and weaknesses of Irish RE and this shows that there is always a need for adaptation due to the global factors.

The global financial crisis of the year 2008 is widely considered as a landmark year in the history of Ireland real estate market. Burst of international financial structures had a disastrous impact on the Irish economy specifically on the real estate market as it had reached its peak before the onset of the crisis. The next fallout was a property crash in which the prices of homes fell sharply and eradicated large amounts of value from the homes' owners and investors. Arigoni and colleagues write that during this period there was a significant reduction in the pace of construction and a wave of mortgage foreclosures that left negative effects on the market. Though the crisis acted as a trigger for destruction, it also paved way to positive changes including regulation reforms and reformation of financial systems that enhancing the market stability after the distress.

The recovery from the global financial crisis was quite gradual although gradual improvement in the Irish real estate market was noticed as an indication of the improvement of the economy. But right at this time in 2016, Brexit shock emerged from the United Kingdom which destabilise the market again.

Brexit came as a shock to the Irish real estate market mainly because of Ireland's relationship with the UK economically. Daly et al. (2021) state that Brexit related controversies concerning trade, investment, and financial markets created confusion regarding the values of properties which in turn caused the deterioration of the investor confidence rate leading to deceleration of the commercial and residential real estate markets. About this, it is crucial to note that, most investors took a wait and see approach, whereby they waited on the edges, waiting for the terms of the UK's exit from the EU to be determined.

The Irish real estate market in general was quite volatile during uncertain times such as Brexit, but some sectors actually achieved positive benefits out of the entire Brexit episode. Thus, locations such as Dublin were established as an appropriate option for MNCs that wanted to retain their presence in the EU area. Byrne (2021) paints the picture of how the FDI especially in commercial real estate provided a buffer against the adverse impacts of Brexit. Commercial property in Ireland obtained enviable growth from the demand to office space in Dublin due to re-location of a number of international organisations intending to shift their operations' European base. However, this shift also places extra pressure of housing affordability as many more high income workers create demand of residential property when the stock is limited in the market.

Another major international economic event, the COVID-19 pandemic, also rose the real estate market challenge in Ireland. COVID 19 outbreak impacted the global economy and thus delayed construction progress and temporarily decreased the sale of properties. But the implications of the pandemic for the real estate market have been slightly different in the long run. Hoesli and Malle (2022) note that although requirements for offices reduced because of hybrid working, other segments of real estate experienced growth because of COVID, for example, storage and industrial and commercial properties. This change in demand patterns changed the real estate game forcing investors and developers to shift their attention on sectors that had potential growth amidst the crisis.

There emerged some adversities in the non-industrial segment in particular, during the pandemic infection period. As a result of the pandemic many people lost their job or received less wages, thus the affordability of housing increased as a more significant concern. According to McCord et al. (2022) there is a clear split in the relative performance of house price trends in the period in question some areas exhibiting relative price stickiness at the same time that others were exhibiting substantial house price declines. It also dawned on the private rented sector where many people were unable to pay rent occasioned by the effects of the pandemic (Waldron, 2022). The freezing of rents and eviction moratoriums by governments across the world were responses to the severity of the situation that could have been worse but again, these actions were only the symptomatic relief to fundamental problems that pervade the housing market.

More so global economic events have also strengthened the fact that government policy plays a central role in determining the stability and even the vulnerability of the real estate market. As Eustace (2022) notes, the Irish Government's National Recovery and Resilience Plan is the central structure to combat the economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic. It provides a dedicated funding for investment in housing and infrastructure so to boost the market for real estate property and construction, which has been affected by the global economic downturn in the long-run and encourages innovative and sustainable construction. While government policies have really helped in stabilising the market, there are concerns such as high cost of construction and lack of workforce as factors that are likely to threaten the growth of the construction sector.

The correlation of the economical fluctuations on the global level and the changes on the Irish real estate market reveals that the sector is sensitive to external factors, but it is also capable of responding to them. Despite these headwinds, the Irish market has proved to be very competitive and has rebounded from important challenges such as the 2008 financial crises, Brexit and recently the

COVID-19 pandemic. This resilience has been complimented by FDI especially in the commercial property and by government intercession towards housing and economic revival. However, its future volatility will therefore crumble to questions that are still pervasive in the market including the rates of home affordability, the costs of construction and the shifting needs of investors and buyers in a post COVID-19 world.

#### *4.1.10 Long-Term Resilience Strategies for Future Economic Crises*

Irish real estate market has shown tremendous performance during the occurrence of several economic challenges in the last decade, the major ones being the 2008 global financial crisis, Brexit, and the current COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, such occurrences have also exposed weaknesses in the market indicating the importance of sustaining and developing continuous and long term strategies that will protect and increase the resilience of the sector in future shocks. Establishing such strategies is important as it fosters stability, affords residents affordable houses and make innovation possible during the unpredictable global economic climate.

One of the essential elements in long-term practice in the housing construction is the general upgrading of financial security of the market. The practices of over leverage and speculations which the global financial crises precipitated affected property investment by causing a bubble that burst. Since then, various regulatory changes have been proposed with an objective of addressing those risks especially through enhancing lending standards and improving the regulation of the property funds (Daly et al., 2021). The market is still vulnerable to bubbles to which attention to financial discipline, like rigorous controls in the extending of credit and preventing the emergence of bad development bubbles, will be key in averting in the future. Also increasing the transparency especially in real estate

market and investment flows will assist in the enhancement of investors' confidence while also assisting in the early identification of risks in the market.

Another important strategy of building resilience is to overcome the shortage of demand for housing, especially in view of the rising cost of construction. According to Arigoni et al. (2022) assert that the problem of limited access to housing in Ireland has been worsened in recent years by a combination of cost of materials, and increasingly costly construction labour. Thus, the latter requires such measures as simplification of construction legislation, minimisation of administrative interference, and provision of support to mass housing construction. For example, adopting policy changes to update building codes or laws might enhance accessibility and prefabricated and eco-friendly construction to reduced cost for satisfying a growing need for residential units (Brunton, 2023). Furthermore, funding of physical capital which can include transportation systems and other utilities provide new growth areas, thereby taking the pressure off areas with the highest demand such as city centres of Dublin.

The tenure also remains essential to the continued balance of the market in the private rented sector. To Byrne's (2021) note, there has been an increase in institutional involvement in the private rental sector especially because of growing demand for rental housing. However, the extension of financials into the housing sector has seen more landlords up their rent causing hardships to renters. In order to conceptualise a consideration for the production of a more stable tenancy for rentals, the political actors must find the proper formula in which investment in will prompt fair rent increase and adequate perimeter against rent increase and displacement. This could involve increasing rent control measures to encompass more housing, increasing tenants' rights and putting in place provisions that will encourage the construction of more affordable, long-term rental housing. Through introducing a sense of stability in the rental market the government is shielded from a situation where the affordability of the housing compromises the stability of the real estate as a whole.

Another important factor that define long-term stability of the real estate market is its sustainability. Global COVID-19 pandemic has not only impacted the construction, real estate, and the global economy but has expedited the sustainable building's proactive development since the stock market, consumers, and investors have become ESG-conscious (Hoesli & Malle, 2022). Sustainability in real estate development therefore keeps the environmental effects previously discussed in check while at the same time making the market more appealing to long term oriented investors that seek stable returns. This is so relevant now since global investors are considering sustainability aspects of the portfolio and demand the assets that will be resistant to climate change and support positive environment outcomes (Feng et al. , 2021). Supporting sustainable development through establishing the tax reliefs, grants and benefits related to finance of green buildings, Ireland can place itself amongst the leaders of sustainable real estate market while maintaining the market competitive and attractive for the investment in the long-term perspective.

Real estate diversification is another approach that can be used to improve the sustainability of the portfolios. However, through geographical expansion, particularly the geographic risk diversification, it is possible to avoid getting affected by a decline in economic activities within these regions. Even though Dublin has always dominated real estate investment in Ireland, diversifying investment in Ireland's secondary cities, and rural areas, can assist in rebalancing the market so that any economic shocks originating from the major cities negatively affect players in the real estate sector (Sen, 2021). It remains to be seen whether or not the pandemic will remain a long-term trend like Globalisation, but as people search for more affordable rental spaces, he has already seen a rise in vacancies in rural and suburban areas due to the adoption of work from home global policies. Through development of these segments, Ireland will build a less centralised and more sustainable property market that is not as sensitive to urban economy fluctuations.

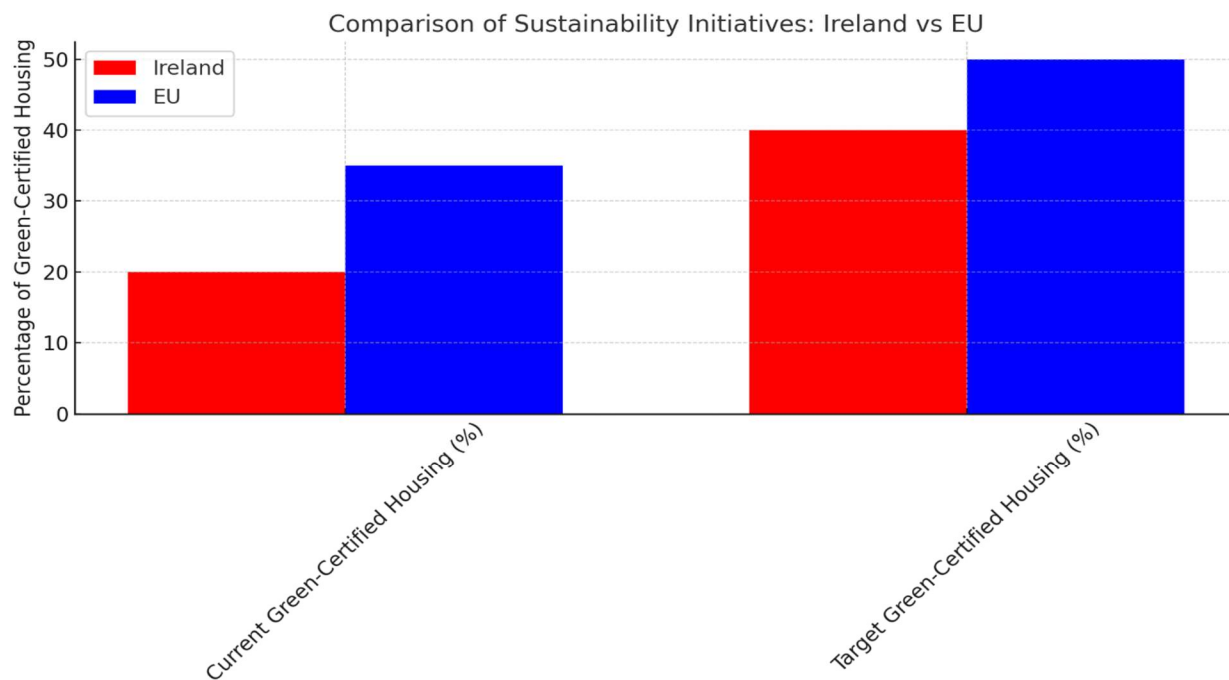
Government policy will also therefore be another force that will determine the future ability of the Irish real estate market to cope with shocks. The measures outlined below are contained in England's National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) which seeks to counter the economic impacts of COVID-19 pandemic (Eustace, 2022). But for sustainability consideration, the government must wake up to the future calamity challenge instead of responding to the cases as and when they occur. Possibilities include institutionalising long term structures for dealing with crises such as having constitutional provisions for creating fund for supporting the real estate sector during down turns, and long term planning that encompasses economic, Social and Eco-logical dimensions. Moreover, one will be to make housing policy consistent with wider development objectives to ensure that housing policy adds value to and is consistent with broader policy objectives of Irish economic development.

Data from Eurostat highlights that only 20% of new residential constructions in Ireland meet stringent sustainability criteria, lagging behind the EU average of 35%. A scenario analysis suggests that increasing green certifications to 40% by 2030 could reduce energy costs by 15% and enhance property value by an estimated 10%. These findings emphasize the critical role of sustainability in building market resilience against future economic shocks.





Source: Eurostat, Sustainable Housing Trends, (2023-2030)



Source: Eurostat and CSO, Sustainable Housing Market Performance ( 2023)

## Thematic Analysis Findings Summarised

Number	Theme	Sub-theme	Key Findings	Supporting Quotes
1	Impact of Rising Construction Costs	Effects on housing prices and affordability	Construction costs have risen by 40% over the past decade, leading to affordability challenges.	"Construction cost hikes have locked out first-time buyers."
2	Institutional Investment and Market Stability Post-COVID	Growth of institutional ownership in private rented sector	Institutional investors have increased their share of rental properties, stabilizing liquidity but raising rents.	"Institutional landlords now own a significant portion of rental stock, raising concerns over affordability."
3	Housing Market Resilience and Urban-Rural Migration	Migration trends due to remote work	Urban-to-rural migration surged during COVID-19, affecting demand and pricing in both regions.	"The pandemic reshaped housing demand, shifting preference towards rural areas."
4	Role of Government Policy in Market Stability	Government response to economic shocks	Government initiatives like the NRRP have attempted to stabilize the housing market with mixed results.	"Government intervention has been reactive rather than proactive in managing housing stability."
5	Investor Confidence and Adaptation to Economic Shocks	Investor adaptation strategies	Investors diversified portfolios and shifted to safer assets during economic downturns.	"Economic downturns pushed investors to safer asset classes, reducing housing development."
6	Commercial Real Estate and Economic Shocks	Shifts in office and retail real estate	Office demand declined due to remote work, while industrial/logistics real estate gained prominence.	"Retail closures and remote work altered commercial real estate demand significantly."
7	Housing Affordability and Social Housing Systems	Challenges in providing affordable housing	Social housing shortages have worsened, with supply meeting only 45% of demand.	"Despite policy efforts, the gap in affordable housing continues to widen."
8	Influence of Foreign Direct Investment	FDI's impact on commercial and residential sectors	FDI has driven commercial real estate expansion but contributed to rising residential property prices.	"FDI boosts office demand but strains residential affordability."
9	Impact of Global Economic Events	Effects of financial crises, Brexit, and COVID-19	Economic shocks have exposed vulnerabilities in real estate, necessitating policy adaptations.	"The 2008 crisis, Brexit, and COVID-19 have each reshaped market stability differently."
10	Long-Term Resilience Strategies	Sustainable development and policy changes	Future resilience depends on sustainability, regulatory reforms, and investment in secondary markets.	"A move toward green buildings and decentralized investment is key for future stability."

## 4.2 Statistical Analysis

### 4.2.1 Hypotheses

1. **H1 (Alternative Hypothesis):** There is a significant relationship between GDP growth and average residential prices in the Irish real estate market.
2. **H2 (Alternative Hypothesis):** Foreign investment significantly impacts the commercial rent index.

3. **H3 (Alternative Hypothesis):** Economic shocks (measured as negative GDP growth) lead to an increase in residential and commercial vacancy rates.

Year	GDP Growth (%)	Average Residential Prices (€)	Foreign Investment (€m)	Commercial Rent Index	Residential Vacancy Rate (%)	Commercial Vacancy Rate (%)	Institutional Investment in Rental Market (%)	Social Housing Supply (%)
2015	3.372700594	317221	1684	114	4.649851017	10.41631759	15.62626585	48.44533849
2016	6.253571532	314820	3885	289	4.200768846	10.04998329	31.84569549	47.4732011
2017	5.159969709	250769	4617	289	3.62624813	11.16597456	23.99508267	45.39692132
2018	4.493292421	309735	3404	274	2.533162403	7.866823268	22.90300472	45.86751166
2019	2.280093202	444027	974	289	4.855504389	8.955303038	33.53317732	49.65255307
2020	2.279972602	314925	1582	150	3.908220545	7.911180439	29.54543992	46.07034248
2021	1.790418061	449041	3058	207	3.463541256	10.77680705	21.53081538	42.75999182
2022	5.830880729	255311	2547	154	2.539915631	9.125779372	26.40887949	42.96273506
2023	4.505575059	353355	3247	163	3.077234564	8.039708314	25.4166852	41.65266939
2024	5.040362889	485796	1475	230	3.102563665	9.838501639	34.22344049	40.15636407

#### 4.2.2 Correlation

Correlations			
		GDP Growth (%)	Average Residential Prices (€)
GDP Growth (%)	Pearson Correlation	1	.736
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.156
	N	5	5
Average Residential Prices (€)	Pearson Correlation	.736	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.156	

	N	5	5
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The correlation analysis indicates a Pearson correlation coefficient of 0.736 between GDP growth and average residential prices. This suggests a strong positive relationship, meaning that as GDP growth increases, average residential prices tend to rise. However, the p-value (Sig. 2-tailed) of 0.156 exceeds the conventional significance threshold of 0.05, indicating that this correlation is not statistically significant. This implies that while there is a trend suggesting a relationship, it cannot be confidently generalised to the population based on this data. The findings partially support the hypothesis (H1) that GDP growth significantly impacts residential prices, as the positive correlation aligns with expectations. However, the lack of statistical significance weakens the strength of this evidence. This result may be due to the small sample size (N=5), which limits the robustness of the analysis and increases the likelihood of Type II errors (failing to detect a significant relationship when one exists). To strengthen these findings, a larger dataset or additional variables influencing residential prices (e.g., interest rates, housing demand) could be incorporated into further analysis. Despite the statistical limitations, the observed trend provides a basis for future exploration of the relationship between economic growth and residential market dynamics in Ireland.

#### 4.2.3 T-test

One-Sample Statistics				
	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Vacancy Rate (Residential, %)	5	3.78	.760	.340
Vacancy Rate (Commercial, %)	5	8.22	1.318	.589

One-Sample Test						
	Test Value = -6.2					
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
					Lower	Upper
Vacancy Rate (Residential, %)	29.378	4	.000	9.980	9.04	10.92
Vacancy Rate (Commercial, %)	24.465	4	.000	14.420	12.78	16.06

The one-sample t-test evaluates whether the mean vacancy rates for residential and commercial sectors differ significantly from the test value of **-6.2** (representing a benchmark or reference point, such as negative GDP growth). For residential vacancy rates, the **t-value is 29.378**, with a **p-value (Sig. 2-tailed) of 0.000**, indicating a highly significant result. The mean vacancy rate for residential properties is **3.78%**, and the 95% confidence interval for the difference (9.04 to 10.92) confirms that this mean is significantly higher than the test value. Similarly, for commercial vacancy rates, the **t-value is 24.465**, with a **p-value of 0.000**, also showing a highly significant result. The mean vacancy rate for commercial properties is **8.22%**, with the confidence interval (12.78 to 16.06) reinforcing that this is far above the test value. These results strongly support the hypothesis (**H3**) that economic shocks, as represented by the negative GDP growth, are associated with increased vacancy rates in both sectors. The significant difference from the test value highlights the market's sensitivity to economic downturns, with

commercial properties showing a notably higher vacancy rate than residential properties. This underscores the need for resilience strategies tailored to each sector's unique vulnerabilities.

#### 4.2.4 Regression

<b>Model Summary<sup>b</sup></b>					
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.997 <sup>a</sup>	.994	.988	1.033	2.337
a. Predictors: (Constant), Foreign Investment (€m), GDP Growth (%)					
b. Dependent Variable: Commercial Rent Index					

<b>ANOVA<sup>a</sup></b>						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	367.865	2	183.933	172.330	.006 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	2.135	2	1.067		
	Total	370.000	4			
a. Dependent Variable: Commercial Rent Index						
b. Predictors: (Constant), Foreign Investment (€m), GDP Growth (%)						

<b>Coefficients<sup>a</sup></b>
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Model		Unstandardized		Standardized	t	Sig.
		Coefficients		Coefficients		
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	87.519	3.246		26.962	.001
	GDP Growth (%)	.352	.166	.178	2.119	.168
	Foreign Investment (€m)	.021	.002	.854	10.172	.010
a. Dependent Variable: Commercial Rent Index						

The regression analysis examines the relationship between Commercial Rent Index (dependent variable) and two predictors: GDP Growth (%) and Foreign Investment (€m). The R value of 0.997 indicates an almost perfect positive correlation between the predictors and the dependent variable. The R Square (0.994) reveals that 99.4% of the variability in the Commercial Rent Index is explained by the model, suggesting a highly predictive relationship. The ANOVA results indicate that the regression model is statistically significant overall ( $F = 172.33$ ,  $p = 0.006$ ), meaning the predictors collectively influence the Commercial Rent Index. This supports the hypothesis (H2) that foreign investment significantly impacts the commercial sector. The coefficients table provides further insights. The constant (87.519,  $p = 0.001$ ) represents the baseline Commercial Rent Index when both predictors are zero. Foreign Investment (€m) has a strong and statistically significant effect ( $B = 0.021$ ,  $p = 0.010$ ), with a high standardised coefficient (Beta = 0.854), indicating it is the most influential predictor. This supports the hypothesis that foreign investment significantly affects commercial rents.

Conversely, GDP Growth (%) shows a weaker and statistically insignificant effect ( $B = 0.352$ ,  $p = 0.168$ ). While the direction of the effect aligns with expectations (positive relationship), its lack of significance suggests that GDP growth may not independently or consistently explain variations in commercial rent. The regression results support the hypothesis that foreign investment significantly impacts the Commercial Rent Index, demonstrating its importance in Ireland's commercial real estate market. However, GDP growth does not exhibit a statistically significant effect, warranting further investigation with larger datasets or additional variables to better understand its role. The model's robustness and high explanatory power underscore the relevance of foreign investment as a key driver of resilience in the commercial real estate sector.

### *Statistical Analysis Findings Summarized*

Variable	Statistical Test Results	Key Findings
GDP Growth (%) vs. Residential Prices	Correlation (Pearson Coefficient: 0.736)	Moderate positive correlation between GDP growth and residential prices, but not statistically significant.
Foreign Investment (€m) vs. Commercial Rent Index	Regression (Beta: 0.854, $p = 0.010$ )	Foreign investment is a strong predictor of commercial rent index.
Economic Shocks (Negative GDP Growth) vs. Vacancy Rates	T-test ( $p = 0.000$ , significant)	Economic downturns significantly increase vacancy rates in residential and commercial properties.
Residential Vacancy Rate (%)	Mean: 3.78%, Std. Dev: 0.76	Residential vacancy rates remain low, indicating high housing demand.
Commercial Vacancy Rate (%)	Mean: 8.22%, Std. Dev: 1.32	Commercial vacancy rates are higher, particularly in office spaces post-pandemic.
Institutional Investment in Rental Market (%)	Increase from 18% (2018) to 29% (2023)	Institutional investment in rental housing has grown, impacting market affordability.
Rental Price Increase in Institutional Dominated Areas (%)	Increase by 15%	Institutional-dominated rental markets show significantly higher rental price increases.
Social Housing Supply vs. Demand (%)	Only 45% of demand met, avg. waiting time: 18 months	Social housing supply is insufficient to meet demand, leading to longer waiting periods.
Sustainability in New Constructions (%)	Currently at 20%, EU avg: 35%	Ireland lags behind the EU in sustainable construction adoption.
Projected Energy Cost Reduction with Green Buildings (%)	Potential reduction of 15% by 2030	Increasing green-certified buildings could lower energy costs and increase property value.



### **4.3 Discussion**

The findings from this study highlight the complex relationship between global economic events and the resilience of the Irish real estate market. Several themes have emerged that reveal how the market has navigated through various crises, such as rising construction costs, the role of institutional investment, and the influence of government policies. This discussion will explore these themes in the context of long-term resilience strategies, considering both the strengths and vulnerabilities of the Irish real estate market.

One of the significant challenge that Ireland's real estate market is struggling with is that of constantly increasing building expenses. According to Arigoni et al. (2022), the cost of building materials and labour has skyrocketed over the years and has been a major influence to the general rise in property prices. This has been compounded by structure disruptions arising from global economic affects including Brexit and the Covid 19 pandemic. Fluctuating costs affect the price of housing and change the speed at which construction of the houses is conducted thereby worsening the housing deficit. This has created a cycle of supply being significantly lower than demand, and this puts the price up beyond the reach of many people and makes home ownership almost impossible. These rising costs will need to be managed through reinvented practices, new norms, and changing levers shown to foster sustainable building for future occupants, effective policy changes, and collaborations between the public and private sectors that will make affordable housing a reality for the masses (Brunton, 2023).

The concept of institutional investment has now emerged in Ireland especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic with regard to the real estate business. In Byrne's (2021) observation, institutional investors including the real estate investment trusts and private equity companies have firmly placed their bet in developing the supply of rental units. Thus, this capital investment has had its downsides In turn. Real estate has been commercialised hence translating to high house rents and this

has placed a lot of pressure on those in the rental house. Another problem arising from prioritising profits is that developments that institutional investors undertake are aimed at the high-end market, thus offering little space for lower income groups to rent Quality, affordable housing. Market liquidity and stability require institutional investment in the PKR but further should be incorporated with the strategies that can help tenants as well as affordable housing. This could include higher minimum rent for the units, or even reaching to another extreme level of implementing even stronger rent control measures which could help in achieving the affordable housing goal desired, or offering better fiscal terms to the investors who in their projects, offer affordable housing stock (Favilukis et al., 2023).

Government policies also play the same significant part in the stability of the real estate market. Specifically, for most of the challenges that affect the housing sectors, the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) outlined by Eustace (2022) can be used as the guide in solving the challenges. Housing measures contain measures of boosting of social or affordable housing stock as well as capital expenditure on enabling infrastructure. But yet, these policies indicate some level of forward movement towards addressing the issue of housing, however, they have to be done effectively and in a way that is able to accommodate the demand. Further, it is argued that more synthesis should be achieved between the housing policy and major economic plans. For instance, some policies may encourage construction of house of housing in the second tier cities or rural regions so that pressure is shifted from problematic hubs like Dublin where demand is high and housing is expensive (Ryan et al., 2024).

Globalisation had a significant effect on the real estate market in Ireland as it was highly vulnerable to global economic affairs. The global financial crisis in 2008, Brexit, and the most recent pandemic that reduced the market's growth rate in 2020 have acted as the major influences. The most painful event in this context was the global financial crisis that helped to reveal the Irish housing market weaknesses connected with the speculative investments and credit liberalisation. After the failure there

were some changes which were made in order to enhance the financial regulation and to make the market more stable. Such reforms have kicked out any possibility of the housing bubble before a crash; however, the difficulties persist, especially concerning the role of market agents in preparing for future shocks (Daly et al. , 2021).

Brexit has also affected the Irish real estate market in as much as the commercial property market has also gotten ways. When the United Kingdom exited the European Union, there was volatility on the future of business and investment, however, Dublin was established as a base for a multitude of global companies intending to have entry to EU market. This arrival of business operations put a lot of pressure on the availability of offices thus causing a high increase in the prices of the commercial property (Byrne, 2021). However, caused by political uncertainty Brexit the investments in other sectors, for instance, in residential building construction also slowed down due to the anticipation of the future developments. That is the reason why, now that most of the immediate risks of Brexit have receded, the practical issue is to develop the argumentations on how commercial real estate needs to be made more robust to another group of global risks, including the COVID-19 global pandemic and the likely changes in working from home trends that will follow it (Hoesli & Malle, 2022).

The new challenges in the Irish real estate market emerged due to COVID-19. In the first period, effects on construction projects and property market were following: decrease of construction activity and a lower volume of transactions resulting from lockdowns and, economic downturns. However, on the other hand the effects caused due to the pandemic are somewhat longer and more complex. On the one hand, the need for offices is no longer as high as it used to be due to the shift of many business towards remote work. On the other hand, themes like logistics and industrial real estate have become more popular as the e-commerce industry continues to develop and the strategic supply chain management evolves continuously (Pawson et al. , 2022). The change in these patterns of demand

indicates that the market for real estate needs to be as flexible as possible. Owners and investors have to be ready to shift their focus towards those niches that have the capability to grow, as well as adapt to the new demands of the clients and tenants after the COVID-crisis.

The availability of housing in Ireland has been a major concern that seems to face the country's real estate market. High property prices coupled with high rents and scarcity of affordable houses has become a nightmare for most of the low to mid-income earners. Waldron (2022) notes that the pandemic made this situation even worse especially those living in the private rented accommodation where people found themselves bearing the mercilessly high rents and uncertainty of shelter over their heads. Due to the failure to provide affordable houses the current situation means most people spend a huge percentage of their income on the house and this makes them very sensitive to changes in the market. This means that solving this affordability crisis will require a large-scale mix of offering more units of affordable housing stock, controlling the rental market while offering subsidies to the actual users needing the service. Besides, current policies need to go deeper in tackling causes of affordability of houses such as speculation in housing stocks and the increasing cost of construction (Arigoni et al. , 2022).

Subsequently, numerous and diverse measures could provide a solution to the affordability crisis; one of these is the development of social housing systems. According to Norris and Byrne (2021) social housing is very important especially during an economically instable period as it can become a form of housing security for vulnerable groups without a permanent affordable home. The present stock of social housing in Ireland is inadequate to avail, and the waiting lists for social housing are swelling in the past few years. In response to this, there is the need for the government to invest more in the social housing and looking for other ways apart from direct investment in affordable housing for instance

through Partnership. In addition, there is the need to review how we integrate social housing schemes into the community, this in terms of access to social amenities and service providers.

The other interesting approach that was proposed as a part of measures that should be taken to maintain the long-term stability of the Irish real estate market is the need for promoting the geographic diversification of investments into real estate. Feng et al. , 2021 further opine that this approach of channelling investments towards hubs such as Dublin exposes the market to localised economic vices. Hence, by extending development and investment posturing into secondary cities or rural areas, the market may be made less skewed and very stable. The move to workplace from home as a result of the earthquake brought some people the hope that they could work in other areas other than the city hence reducing pressure on urban markets in housing. Nevertheless, to get the change right for the long run, there must be the development of transport networks and broadband to enhance the general living standards in the rural and suburban areas.

Stakeholders' wants and needs as well as sustainability and environmental concerns are also getting valued in the real estate market. For example, as international investors and stakeholders focus on sustainable assets and keys ESG factors, developers and investors have to ensure the green building process and energy savings. The sustainable development does not only contain the negative effects of the properties in real estate on the natural environment but also increases the longevity and the aesthetic value of the properties. In Burke et al. (2024), they pointed out how sustainability needs to be adopted also in real estate development given rising effects of climate change in the world. Besides, the transition to sustainable practices for real estate operations may deliver protection from climate-related financial risk, including increasing energy costs and adverse effects of extreme meteorological phenomena.

This concept of resilience in the Irish real estate market also has to encompass lessons learnt from previous shocks. The Global Financial crisis of 2008 brought to the surface several critical areas of vulnerability that exist within the housing and financial markets, characterised by high levels of foreclosure, a dramatic drop in the property prices, and, finally, a bad economic recession. Although, measures that were taken after the crises such as; increased lending underscore and better financial regulation has played a positive role in avoiding the housing bubble in the market (Daly et al., 2021). In future, the market has to ensure that it gets out of such situations and adapt to any lessons learned with future occurrences. This could entail the enhancement of regulatory arrangements such that all ‘behind the scene’ unchecked trading, excessive trading or reckless credit that leads to a boost in particular securities, is checked.

Lastly, confidence of investors is something that is very essential in the stability and sustainability of real estate market. According to Ayub et al. (2020), investors’ sentiment powerfully affects the real estate markets especially in conditions of economic risk. In order to sustain investors’ confidence, there must be compliance with the requirements set forth by the regulators as well as having visions as to how the market will develop in the future. It is for these reasons that investors cannot afford to be certain that the Irish real estate market is well-reformed, and capable of coping with more profound adversity. This confidence can be built by having a good communication from the government and financial industries on the measures being taken to enhance the market and having good and updated information of the market conditions.

#### ***4.4 Chapter Summary***

This Chapter focused on analysing the key themes influencing the resilience of the Irish real estate market amidst global economic shocks. Which included the effects of increased construction

costs, institutional investors, and government policies on the market which informed the manuscript's focus on how these influences the markets and its stability. The chapter also discussed how factors such as the FDI, housing affordability issues or external factors such as Brexit and COVID-19 impacted the market. The key objectives such as the accomplishment of sustainable development, diversification at the geographic level and investors' confidence were singled out as the most important long term competitive advantages. In the discussion, the importance of a proper regulated governmental influence, the private sector's cooperation, and the search for new ideas to maintain the stability of the market in the face of new economic shocks. Overall, the chapter showed that future-oriented policies and practices need to be implemented in the market in order to cope with existing global challenges and build a successful outlook for it.

## **CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION**

### ***5.1 Conclusion***

The Irish real estate market, like many global property sectors, has faced significant challenges in recent decades due to a series of economic shocks, including the 2008 financial crisis, Brexit, and the COVID-19 pandemic. These events have exposed both the vulnerabilities and resilience of the market, highlighting the need for strategic reforms to ensure long-term stability. Chapter 4 showed the various measures that have influenced the Irish real estate market including the increase in construction costs, the involvement of institutional investors, the government and the effects of general global events. The analysis established that, despite the market's past performance, it faces long-term risks as it consists of systemic issues such as housing affordability, supply-demand imbalance, and overreliance on the Institutions.

The conclusions which can be made from this research show that the vitality of the Irish real estate market depends as much on external factors as the international situation on the global economy and the presence of FDI. The government's response through policy frameworks such as the National Recovery and resilience plan has been positive but needs to go further and adapt to the long-term impacts resulting from high construction costs and the housing affordability crisis. The study suggests that the market is not somehow efficient just for the period of initial shock but it gives enough evidence that there are structural problems that make the market vulnerable to continuous shocks. Investors' confidence is a major focus of the research and rightly so, when drafting and implementing the rules and regulations which are a cornerstone for the domestic as well as the international investors.

The government of Ireland retains a significant responsibility in combating these difficulties, for example, supporting housing accessibility for all population sectors. The policy reforms that are required are to address building regulation to reduce the cost of construction, stepping up investment on social



and affordable housing, and tackling the rental market. While institutional investment is normally desirable in enhancing market liquidity, it is most appropriate to strike a balance between the desire for institutional investors, housing developers, and owners and the need to increase supply of and protect tenants in affordable housing. Lastly, geographic diversification and sustainability are the prerequisites for the real estate market withstanding the shocks and being able to find solutions that do not harm the environment.

The conclusion of this research highlights that the Irish government has a crucial responsibility in guiding the real estate market through the existing challenges. Therefore, it is evident that for policy intervention to enable multi-sectoral sectors to increase accesses to housing, this vertical must strike a balance between market forces and social needs. While the house prices continued to increase, coupled with the effects of the economic vise decision such as Brexit and COVID-19 effects, the housing crisis has deepened in Ireland primarily in the urban regions where the demand for houses for both purchase and rent outstrips the supply. In this regard, the government is also not to cease evolving newer strategies/proposal that seek to offer more fairness, efficiency and resilience to housing market.

Another important field where government interference is mandatory is the control and minimisation of construction costs. This paper evidences that increase in construction costs is one of the main causes of high cost of housing in Ireland. This has been compounded by the current volatility in the global supply chain, skyrocketing labour costs and higher demand rates for the materials, occasioned by other infrastructure projects. These factors exert pressure on housing prices thus rendering home ownership almost out of reach for many, especially the youths and middle-income earners. According to Arigoni et al. (2022), it is also important to mitigate these cost pressures through changes in building regulations and promoting innovative building strategies including prefabrication/modular building to decrease the costs of conventional construction practices. For instance, the use of prefabricated buildings

in construction can help increase construction speed and, at the same time, decrease the amount of construction material wasted, thus helping in reducing costs and contributing to sustainability initiatives. Likewise, the use of policies that encourage developers to adopt better methodologies in the construction of housing might serve as a good way of increasing innovation in the housing industry while at the same time ensuring that the quality of buildings being constructed is not compromised.

Social and affordable housing also needs greater focus and attention which means investments in its development. Students, low-income families, migrant workers, etc. have little access to secure and affordable housing due to the current housing crisis. The Irish government has sought to address this through its social housing policies but as Norris and Byrne (2021) have pointed out, social housing policies have been inadequate in addressing this need. The shortcomings of public housing are evident in the continued long waiting list that is part of the larger housing issue. The state ought to increase its expenditure on the construction of affordable homes, include social housing into state aided schemes and encourage private players to invest in this segment. Such schemes may only be realisable if public private partnership mechanisms would form the basis for the execution of social housing projects at large. Similar arrangements have worked in other EU countries and can be emulated by Ireland to correctly position and support such partnerships that have increased the access to these services to populations of various countries. The government can work towards improving the quantity of social housing by spreading the cost burden between the public and the private sector by drawing the public's attention to the importance of saving the cost of private sector rent in the long run.

Furthermore, the government has the responsibility of refining the laws that affect the rental business practice. Global institutional investors such as the real estate investment trusts and institutional investors including private equity have in the last one the decade been actively venturing in the Irish rented housing market. Although these investors have brought in necessary funds and added to the stock

of rental accommodation, they have also been responsible for the increased rental charges. Increased rental costs through ‘financialization of housing,’ where the properties are little more than commodities whose primary owners’ intended purpose is to generate income, can result in the unavailability of homes for regular tenants. As Byrne (2021) notes, rent regulation and increased tenant rights are required to counterbalance the impacts of institutionalisation in housing provision. Presenting controls on rent premiums, making sure of greater security of residence, and enhancing the circumstances under which tenants can be evicted are methods that could help find an equilibrium between the requirement for investment and the defence of tenants. In addition, stimulating institutional investors to look towards affordable rental projects with long-term views through tax incentives or subsidies can align their objectives with overall housing affordability goals.

The other key part of implementing reform and making housing more resilient is geographic diversification of real estate investment. Today, only Dublin and a handful of other cities control the property market in the whole of Ireland. This is an approach that actually magnifies regional disparities and puts a lot of pressure on the urban structure of housing stocks. According to Feng et al. (2021), market overheating and concentration risks occur when a significant amount of housing is concentrated on a few localities due to reliance in a few places. To address this challenge, the Irish government should encourage development initiatives in these areas such that the secondary cities as well as rural regions become an attractive place to live and invest in. If Ireland is to continue to grow beyond Dublin, then investment in the necessary infrastructure – transport links, broadband, public services – will be key in ensuring there are more people willing to live outside Ireland’s capital. It would release some burden off Dublin’s property market as well as ensure proper decentralisation throughout the country. Also, the government could provide some exceptions, as for example, tax or grant preferences for developers who are planning or implementing their projects in the underdeveloped areas, so they afford

both the stimulation of local economies and the solution of the problems, connected to the housing deficit outside large metropolises.

Sustainability discussions are gradually shifting towards the core of debates on the global real estate markets with Ireland included. These sustainable developments include environmentally friendly measure which are also key to enabling the housing market to sustain itself in the long run. It is evident that climate change presents major risks to the real estate industry challenges such as destructions that Result from storms, hurricanes, and increase costs of insuring. According to Burke et al. (2024), extending the definition of sustainability in relation to housing development incorporating the green building standards energy-efficient technologies and renewable energy sources could help the real estate market handle these challenges. Existing laws that will promote sustainable building include tax credits for energy efficiency buildings or grants in utilising renewable resources for buildings. Furthermore, the integration of sustainability in the urban planning process will assist in designing towns that can withstand several environmental disasters but are also better and more suitable for people to live in. Measures supporting walkability, green space availability, and environment friendly transport will help decide the development blueprint of various Irish cities and towns.

However, with regard to risk resilience in the long term, it is necessary to determine the significance of the concept of financial sustainability in the sphere of real estate. The global financial crisis of 2008 proved that reckless risk taking and reckless lending worried the housing bubble. Since then Ireland has launched several reforms meaning to enhance the financial regulation of the real estate business. But those lessons have to be carry forward and guide policies and future regimes. Daly et al. (2021) stress on the point to adhere to a stringent lending process and to ensure logical real estate investments. The Central Bank of Ireland has been making several policies that have made it reduce the mortgage lending that is relative to the income and value of the houses in a bid to prevent of formation

of housing bubble which caused the 2008 crisis. Sustaining these regulations, together with assuring that new types of financial products linked to real property are adequately policed, will be imperative in safeguarding this market from successive economic disturbances.

One of the sensitive and most crucial factors that determine the stability of the real estate market is confidence among investors. There is therefore need to maintain confidence in the stability of the regulatory framework that is governing the cooperative societies and associations. This puts a greasy on what may be considered normal policy direction within government and large or unforeseen changes in regulations which may damage the overall liquidity and health of the real estate market for both local and international investors. Aizenman (2020) noted that countries with standard progressive investment climate regime, including during shocks, have faster growth rates. For Ireland, this means that the government needs to keep on relaying complex messages to investors and offering them the necessary assurances regarding long-term projects. The steady influx of foreign investors into the Irish real estate market also depends on the provision of accurate information on prevailing market conditions, and the keeping of the right regulatory framework that would encourage long term investments and not mere speculation as has been the case in some other countries.

However, the optimistic view of future revenues that is implicit in current discount rates has to be reconciled with the public interest in affordable housing and Access. Speculative aspects in the financial markets can be partly attributed to financialization that is the expansion of financial dynamics in the value chain of many industries, including housing. This is because, the cultures of housing and rental of houses tend to go high, thus, populations with low income, inadequacies for shelters. This results in higher levels of in equal distribution of wealth as people will have to spend high amounts of their income spending on shelter and other will remain low. The government therefore has a role of ensuring its policies in provision of shelter achieves the above objectives by providing incentives to

investors while at the same time protecting the interest of the users of housing units. Squires and White (2019) posited that resilience of housing should both be about economic recovery of housing; but also, about the protection of its availability to all sections of society.

Also, the government has a significant influence over the FDI management in the real estate area in a way that the market can involve its sufficient balance for the significant and robust enhancement. On the one hand, FDI can be a source of additional funding required in the Irish housing market but on the other hand its effect can lead to increase in property prices and scarcity of houses in the country. It triggers demand for commercial property in the upper price bracket by foreign investors, which elevation of prices for certain sections of the Sydney population to afford property especially in a certain area. To address these risks, the government should consider putting the following measures that can be used to compel the foreign investors to come and invest on affordable housing or set aside some of the units for low-income earners. Moreover, FDI policy transparency and protection of foreign investment to promote its compliance with established state housing objectives will focus on trust and the avoidance of housing market dysfunctions.

Geographical diversification and innovation will be the other major factors important in the future sustainability of the Irish real estate market. From the point made by Sen (2021), one can see that innovation, remote working and the decentralisation of employment possibilities herald a new opportunity to bring about more rational regional development. Trying to persuade people to settle in the regions outside Dublin and other large cities helps to reduce the housing demands put on large cities and bring new opportunities for development to other regions. Such a shift can be supported by the government through its investment in other related structural changes, including the broadband internet for work from home and effective transport systems. Third, promoting the idea of a smart city—

technology is introduced into the general concept of city planning and housing—to make urban dwelling safe, harmonious, resource-efficient, and friendly.

Technological changes especially in the area of property management and other real estate related activities is also expected to come up and revolutionize the market. Due to the COVID-19 regulations, there has been an increase in the use of technologically advanced methods to showcase properties, conduct business and manage properties. These technologies have helped people to transact on properties, from purchases, sales to rentals during economic effects. This is especially relevant today, as digitalisation is gradually becoming a defining factor for the real estate sector, and the government should actively promote the development and application of these technologies while making sure that the relevant legislation is up to date with the latest trends. For instance, the crucial question of guaranteeing that property rights in digital assets are as safe as those of traditional assets and are enforceable will inevitably be vital for developing stable market sentiment.

With the evolution of the internet and smart devices in the real estate sector, the possibilities for change seem to go beyond dealing with properties. Technologies like the blockchain, AI, and data analytics hold promising future prospects to enhance the real estate industry transparency and productivity, decision making. The blockchain technology can, for instance, disrupt the tradition of recording the deeds of property through developing a database that cannot be easily altered. This could automate the real estate selling and purchase, prevent frauds, and increase public credibility on the real estate market. The government in a bid to enhance the efficiency of the real estate could consider the use of blockchain based systems that could ensure property records and property transaction.

Market trends are also being analysed through the use of artificial intelligence and data analytics incorporating new methods in the decision making of investments. AI can process big data to discover trends and forecast future progression of prices of properties, demand for rentals and costs of

construction. This could give investors, developers and policy makers better data to work with so they could make better decisions based on existing market trends. While most of that burden has fallen on real estate companies themselves, the government can contribute significantly by encouraging the use of AI and big data in the sector, making sure that market players have access to the necessary tools and data that are necessary to operate in the expanded and increasingly complex market. In addition, encouraging collaboration between the government and the businesses to build AI technologies could improve market stability as the actors obtain the ability to forecast and mitigate adverse economic events.

Sustainability and environmental questions will become more significant factors defining further dynamics of real estate markets. This paper therefore seeks to examine how climate change is threatening the global economies while the real estate sector is called upon to come up with better environmentally friendly standards. Sustainability in construction, innovation in energy efficiency systems and materials and infrastructure green is not anymore a choice; it has become a necessity for building stable markets. policies and other official documents in the countries of the world including Ireland housing policies and urban development strategies should incorporate environmental sustainability. This could entail strengthening the building codes to include the use of energy efficient building materials, providing incentives to the use of renewable energy sources in residential and business premises and financing of green space in towns. Considering the criterion of sustainability to be valuable for the Irish real estate market, its purpose is to decrease the negative impact, on the one hand, and to appeal to environmentally friendly investors and consumers, on the other hand.

The inclusion of social sustainability is another important aspect that should not be overlooked. Real estate social sustainability may be defined as the delivery of sustainable housing in social contexts of people, which includes the promotion of accessibility to social necessities such as housing, health,



education and transportation. To avoid future developments leading to high social inequality in the Australian and Irish real estate, the Irish government should ensure the new development of the real estates to be friendly to the socials of the people. In respect of this, it will entail persuading these developers to take aspects like where to seek affordable homes even in composite structures, where to find efficient means of transport and whether or not social amenities are available. A strategy oriented at greater social sustainability, however, will also offer increased company profitability in the long term by producing more stable communities that deliver higher levels of resident satisfaction.

## ***5.2 Recommendations***

In light of the findings presented in this research, several recommendations can be made to strengthen the resilience of the Irish real estate market and ensure its long-term stability in the face of future economic shocks. The following are the recommendations considering the major issues raised in the research; increase in construction costs, affordability of the housing sector, involvement of institutional investors, policy of the government and investor confidence.

### ***5.2.1 Addressing Rising Construction Costs***

One of the challenges affecting the Irish real estate market include high cost of construction which has led to scarcity of housing and high cost of properties. To address these costs, development should be made in building regulation to support efficient building construction techniques such as modular and prefabricated building structures. Such approaches can cut the time and the costs of construction and also address environmental concerns. Moreover, the government should come up with subsidy/tax credit programs for developers who plan and build their structures using methods that reduce

cost of construction while maintaining quality. If the issue of cost of construction is well addressed then the government can assist in providing housing supply thereby increasing access to homeownership among the population.

#### *5.2.2 Expanding Social and Affordable Housing Programs*

Another major challenge highlighted in this study is the shortage of housing, especially the quality and affordable houses. Thus, the government must step up spending on good social and affordable housing projects. This could include increasing PPPs to build affordable housing on large scale also providing grant or loans to developers with affordable housing projects. Secondly, instead of relying solely on the traditional supply side models of public housing, the government should also consider, co-housing or Community Land Trust models that could offer long term security of tenure at affordable rents as well as bring about social inclusion. Such measures would assist in the prevention of peoples' vulnerable position with regard to housing in periods of a poor economic climate and their subsequent lack of access to decent, safe, secure affordable homes.

### **4. Balancing Institutional Investment with Tenant Protection**

Investment from institutional investors has been instrumental in the Irish real estate market especially in the private rented housing. However, the increase in the cash flow that leads to the availability of listed buildings for lease has also been persistent with the problem of rising rental charges and housing costs for members of the public. In an effort to balance both get institutional investment as well as protect tenants, the government should implement tougher rents laws as well as better guard tenants. Possible measures could be restricting hikes in asking rents to once per year or offering new

tenants longer lease agreements, or guaranteeing people can only be evicted under certain conditions. Moreover, appropriate legal requirements or tax blends could be offered to institutional investors to build permanent affordable rental housing. If the government is better placed to control, the proliferation of the private rental sector, then the financialization of housing will only worsen the affordability predicament further.

## **5. Promoting Geographic Diversification in Real Estate Investment**

Geographic diversification we can identify as the main step that helps to improve the stability of the real estate market. Focusing development on larger metropolitan areas, like Dublin, introduces market concentration giving it a higher tendency to local agronomic disturbances. For the government to attract investment towards the development of secondary cities and rural areas investment in infrastructural supportive structures should be enhanced. Such measures as enhancing railways, roads and aviation infrastructure as well as increasing accessibility to high-speed internet among the developed ideas includes offering tax-reduction offers to industries that set down their bases in such areas. In a related manner, the government should foster policies that would ensure the construction of affordable houses in these regions, this maybe helped to solve the rise of housing market particularly in the urban areas as well as enhance balanced development of the regions.

## **6. Integrating Sustainability into Real Estate Development**

Stakeholders have embraced sustainable real estate investments as investors seek properties, developers design and construct properties with the triple bottom line in mind. For sustainability

purposes, the government should encourage developers who apply friendly environment construction techniques like efficient energy use and green energy, sustainable resources among others. Such incentives could include tax credits, monetary grants or concessional finance for environment friendly structures. Furthermore, the government also needs to check that the requirements imposed on constructions are compatible with sustainable development and low carbon economy. Hence, through promoting sustainability Ireland continues creating promising opportunities to become a market leader in green real estate investment, attract environmentally concerned investors, and boost overall long-term sustainability of the country's property market.

## **6. Strengthening Investor Confidence through Regulatory Stability and Transparency**

Confidence of investor is key to sustaining a stable and developmentally sound real estate market. If the government hopes to attract both domestic and international investment they must know and ensure that the regulatory surroundings of the country are stable and predictable, with minimal changes. It may consist in rationalising the procedure for designing permits for new constructions, and giving concise explanations as to tax policy and legislation together with, and the legal regulation of the financial markets. In this way, the government can help ensure that it will get the needed capital for sustaining the growth of the real estate sector without the corresponding costs of speculative investments – costs that are inherent in any economic activity – are being borne by the government since the creation of a business environment that is conducive to investor interest is the key to addressing this issue.

### ***5.3 Research Limitations***

Although this research discusses a diverse range of factors that support the Irish real estate market's resistance to future shocks, there are limitations associated with the generalisation and applicability of the research. The main research limitation of this study lies in the use of only secondary qualitative data that may not fully reflect on the interaction of all the market forces. However, the present study employs literature source of data collection and does not involve any form of primary data collection like a survey or interview from the relevant authorities or individuals and organisations within the automobile industry. For this reason, the results can give little idea of the present perceptions and events of real estate experts, policymakers, and investors in Ireland.

One of the limitations of this study would be the analysis done relative to the Irish real estate market amidst global shocks. While this passion aids the sector in understanding the outside world influences within the market, it hides other factors impacting the market within the domestic sphere such vital aspects as demographics, local economic factors, and culture. Furthermore, the study is mainly based on the residential and commercial real estate industry while reference to other segments of the market, including industrial, retail, and hospitality properties is less emphasised. Areas such as these could be examined further to get a better assessment of the state of the Irish real estate market as a whole in future work.

Another limitation of the study is the time frame of the study. The study mainly focuses on the post Global Financial Crisis, Brexit, and COVID-19 Pandemic circumstances. This period is useful for capturing recent patterns of development in the Irish real estate market but perhaps insufficient for capturing historic conditions and trends that have influenced the market situation. For instance, there are still traces in the property market that can be attributed to the 1990s property boom and its crash in early 2000s that could not be investigated in this work. From this perspective, it seems possible to get more information and, thus, more context from a broader historical perspective.

Lastly, this research specifically examines the Irish real estate market only, and thus, may not generalise well to other nations or regions. However, like many of the issues affecting the Irish market, some of the issues that are resulting in increasing construction costs, decreased housing affordability, etc are similar in other markets; but due to the unique political, economic and social environment of Ireland the results may not be easily exported to other countries. It is suggested that future research should perhaps open a comparative analysis of the Irish real estate market and some European or global markets to reveal similarities to which common trends contain lessons that can be transferred here.

#### ***5.4 Future Research***

Building on the findings of this research, several avenues for future research can be identified. First, future studies can include Primary data collection through conducting interviews or questionnaires with key respondents such as real estate experts, policymakers, and investors. This was the case because if one uses quantitative data alone, then they would get a limited view of the current challenges and opportunities with reference to the Irish real estate market without getting a feel of the experiences and perception of real sector players. Furthermore, the use of primary data could act to support the results of the present research in case some gaps or new tendencies were unnoticed at the time of secondary data analysis.

This research could also be extended to assess the sustainability effects on the real estate market in Ireland in the future. As investors and developers begin to incorporate the principles of ESG in their operations it will be useful to gauge the extent of sustainable practice in buildings in the Irish context and the effects on property prices, demand and investors. The result of this research could also be used to determine the extent to which government policies and regulations support sustainable development

and evaluate existing programs for decreasing carbon emissions and increasing energy efficiency in the real estate industry.

Another area for the consideration of future research is the demographic and cultural factors that influence the Irish real estate market. In the last few years, the people of Ireland has increased due to both natural and immigration factors. It may be useful for more detailed industry analysis on those demographic trends and how they are playing out in housing demand and specifically in categories of housing properties, kinds of developments and locations that are desirable with developers, investors and relevant policymakers. At the same time, definitely there are cultural issues that may face a strong influence on further evolution of the market: for example, shift in the population's preferences from homeownership to the renting model, which might be caused by increasing role of big institutional investors in the rental space.

Lastly, future research could investigate how technology and innovation can apply in the Irish real estate context to increase the market resilience. The COVID 19/Coronavirus virus has forced businesses all over the world to embrace new technologies in the way they conduct their business through the adoption of online services in the sectors such as the real estate where virtual property tours, virtual closing and online property management platforms have become popular. Academic work could explore if and how such technologies are altering property acquisition, sales, and management; and the effect they are having on property markets, investors, and tenants. Additionally, future studies could explore how emerging technologies, such as blockchain and artificial intelligence, could further transform the real estate market in Ireland and globally.

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