

Professional Body Supervision

Profile of the Profession

2025



IAASA

Irish Auditing & Accounting
Supervisory Authority



Vision

Public trust and confidence in quality auditing and accounting



Mission

Upholding quality corporate reporting and an accountable profession

Our Values



Excellence

Striving to be the best we can be



Independence

Regulating impartially and objectively



Integrity

Being trustworthy and respectful

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DISCLAIMER

The Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority accepts no liability for any loss or consequences arising from reliance on this document. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, no responsibility is accepted for errors, inaccuracies or omissions howsoever arising.

Profile of the Profession in numbers



17,414
Students in Ireland

1,781
Statutory auditors approved
to audit in Ireland



1,012
Statutory audit firms
approved to audit in Ireland



141
Quality assurance reviews
of statutory audit firms
concluded



39
Complaints received relating
to statutory auditor/audit firm



94
Complaints received that were Irish
relevant

11 audit firms and **46**
statutory auditors approved to carry out
assurance of sustainability reporting





Chief Executive's introduction

I am pleased to present the Profile of the Profession 2025. This document provides a statistical profile of the five Prescribed Accountancy Bodies (PABs). It includes information on members and students, approved statutory auditors and statutory audit firms, and the regulation and monitoring of members, statutory auditors and statutory audit firms.

Part of the Irish Auditing and Accountancy Supervisory Authority's (IAASA's) role is to supervise how the PABs regulate their members. It also includes oversight of the Recognised Accountancy Bodies' (RABs') performance of their regulatory functions in relation to statutory audit. These functions include approval and registration of statutory auditors and audit firms, monitoring of continuing education, quality assurance review, and investigation and discipline. Further information regarding our supervision of the RABs and oversight of statutory audit can be found in our Annual Report and Annual Audit Programme and Activity Report, both of which are available on our [website](#).

Commentary on 2025

There is continued growth in the number of members in Ireland, with a 2% increase in 2025. There were 46,993 members in Ireland at the end of the year and 17,414 students. Further information is contained in Part A and Part B. In the three-year period, from year ended 2023 to year ended 2025, there has been a 13% reduction in the number of statutory audit firms approved and a decrease of 8% in statutory auditors. At the end of the year there were 1,012 statutory audit firms and 1,781 statutory auditors approved to audit in Ireland.

The number of new complaints made to PABs increased by 19% and the number of complaints to RABs relating to statutory auditors/audit firms decreased by 26% during the three-year period 2023 to 2025. Further information is contained in Part D. Information relating to practice monitoring is included in Part C and information about quality assurance reviews is contained in Part F. Information on monitoring of continuing education for members and statutory auditors is included in Part G.

Acknowledgement

I would like to thank the PABs for providing the statistical information contained in this document and for their cooperation in responding to IAASA's queries.

Kevin Prendergast

Chief Executive
May 2026





Prescribed Accountancy Bodies

A PAB is an accountancy body that comes within IAASA's supervisory remit. At 31 December 2025, there were five PABs:

ACCA	Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
AIA	Association of International Accountants
CAI	Chartered Accountants Ireland
CIMA	Chartered Institute of Management Accountants
CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy



Source of information

Information in this document is compiled from annual returns provided by the PABs to IAASA. IAASA does not verify this data when preparing the publication.



Comparability of data

It is important to note that there are differences in the structure and operations of the five PABs and therefore there may be differences in the PABs' interpretation of information requested in the annual return. These facts may cause some difficulties in making comparisons. IAASA has tried to minimise such differences through the design and regular updating of the annual return templates required for completion by the PABs.

A glossary is included at the end of this document. It includes definitions of some of the terms used in the document.

**Part
A**

PAB Membership



Admission to PAB membership

To become a member of a PAB, a person must:

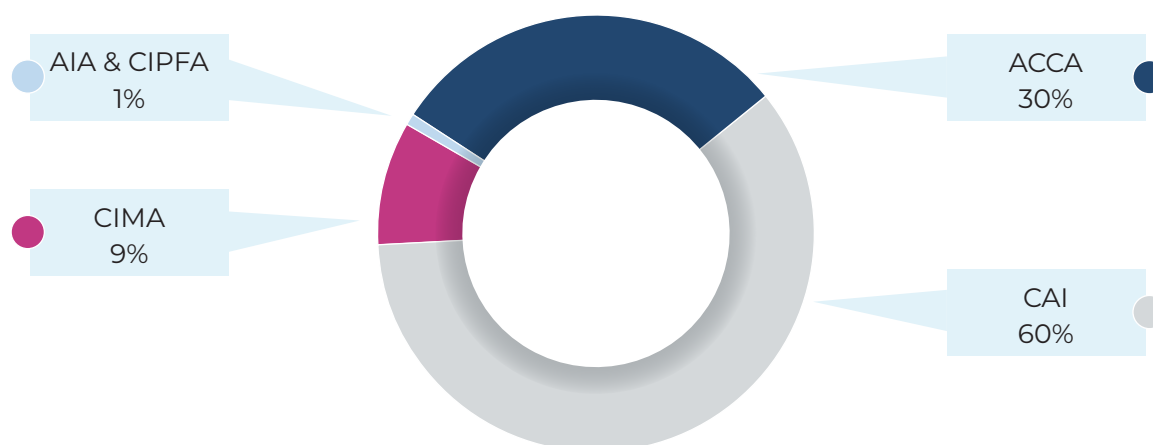
- › pass the PAB's professional examinations; and
- › undertake a minimum period of relevant supervised work experience.

Members' obligations

PAB members are required to undertake appropriate continuing education / continuing professional development (CPD) annually to maintain their professional competence. Members are also required to comply with the PAB's standards. PAB members who do not comply with the PAB's standards may be subject to regulatory or disciplinary action. Part D of this document provides additional information regarding the PABs' investigation and disciplinary activities.

Membership at 31 December 2025 – tables and charts

Chart A.1: PAB members in Ireland



As can be seen in chart A.1 above, three PABs accounted for 99% of PAB members in Ireland. Table A.1 and chart A.2 show the location of PABs' membership throughout the world and table A.2 analyses Irish based members by gender, age, and employment status. Table A.2 shows a 28% increase in public sector members in 2025. Chart A.3 shows employment categories of members and table A.3 shows the movement in Irish membership during the year. Chart A.4 shows Irish membership, by PAB, since year ended 31 December 2015. Over this 10-year period there were an additional 4 PABs namely CPA Ireland, ICAEW, ICAS and IIPA who are no longer PABs in Ireland. In that 10-year period, PAB members located in Ireland have increased by 10,732 members, representing a 30% increase in growth overall. Both CAI and ACCA have seen increases of 66% and 35% respectively, with CAI's increase predominantly attributed to its amalgamation with CPA on 1 September 2024. The largest percentage growth in membership is in AIA which has experienced a 245% growth in membership located in Ireland over the past 10 years.

Table A.1: Location of members

As at 31 December	2024		2025		Recognised Accountancy Bodies				
	Total	%	Total	%	ACCA	CAI	AIA	CIMA	CIPFA
Ireland	45,896	11%	46,993	11%	14,040	28,154	297	4,456	46
UK	201,596	47%	205,895	47%	104,691	7,459	1,118	81,333	11,294
Other EU member states	22,021	5%	23,373	5%	19,797	474	145	2,865	92
Other locations	160,995	37%	165,396	37%	123,420	3,870	9,843	27,591	672
Total members worldwide	430,508	100%	441,657	100%	261,948	39,957	11,403	116,245	12,104

Chart A.2: Location of Members

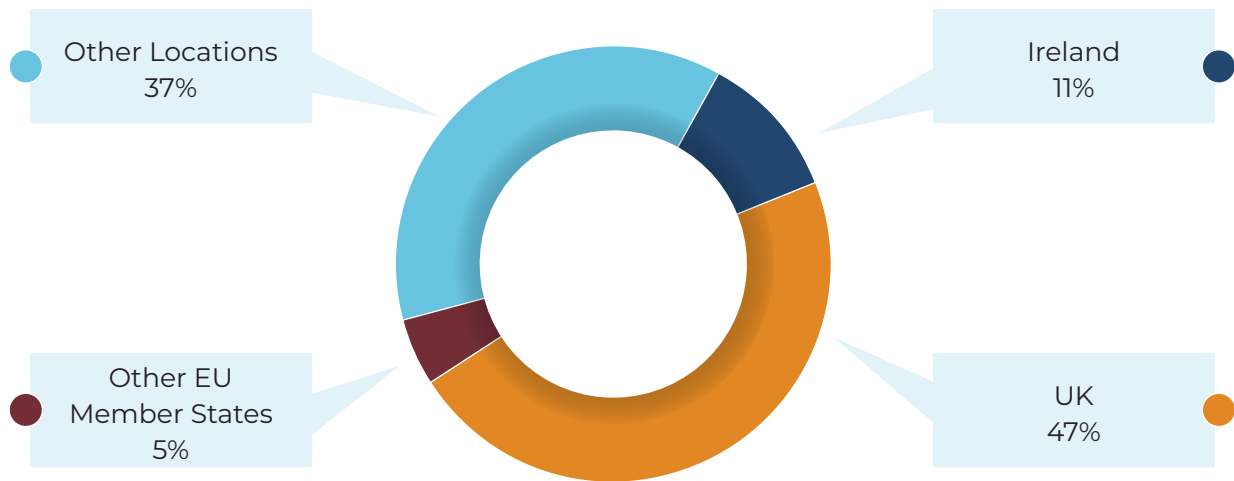


Table A.2: Members in Ireland

As at 31 December	2024		2025		Recognised Accountancy Bodies				
	Total	%	Total	%	ACCA	CAI	AIA	CIMA	CIPFA
Members in Ireland	45,896	100%	46,993	100%	14,040	28,154	297	4,456	46
Analysis by gender									
Male	25,027	55%	25,473	54%	7,234	15,536	167	2,507	29
Female	20,314	44%	20,879	45%	6,805	12,581	130	1,346	17
Not specified	555	1%	641	1%	1	37	-	603	-
	45,896	100%	46,993	100%	14,040	28,154	297	4,456	46
Analysis by age									
<= 34	8,802	19%	8,553	18%	1,845	6,312	80	316	-
35 - 44	14,239	31%	14,043	30%	4,715	8,544	92	688	4
45 - 54	12,487	27%	13,161	28%	4,619	6,733	34	1,762	13
55 - 64	6,479	14%	7,040	15%	2,079	3,828	26	1,088	19
65+	3,877	9%	4,193	9%	782	2,737	64	602	8
Age not specified	12	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	2
	45,896	100%	46,993	100%	14,040	28,154	297	4,456	46
Analysis by employment status									
Business	27,930	61%	28,313	60%	9,073	15,550	213	3,476	1
Practice	11,062	24%	11,304	24%	2,715	8,484	45	59	1
Retired	2,593	6%	2,620	6%	543	1,543	32	490	12
Public sector	2,776	6%	3,549	8%	1,323	1,984	6	218	18
On a career break/ unemployed	1,171	3%	934	2%	274	578	-	80	2
Other	364	-	273	-	112	15	1	133	12
	45,896	100%	46,993	100%	14,040	28,154	297	4,456	46

Chart A.3: Members by employment

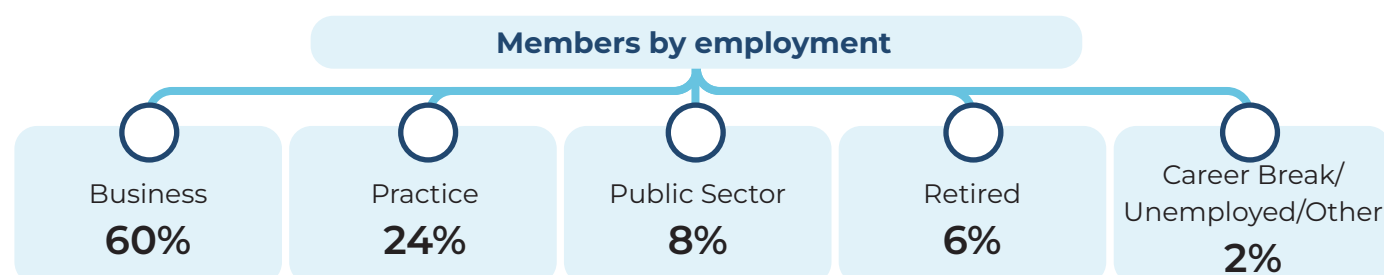
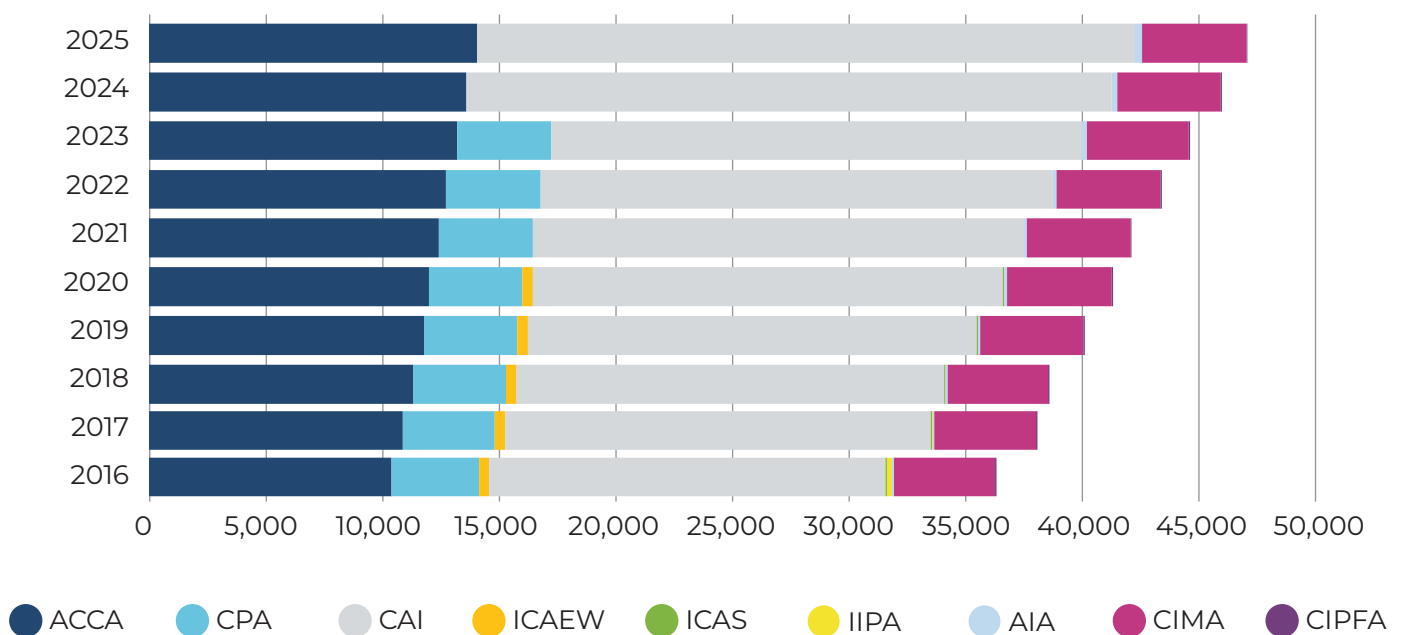


Table A.3: Movement of members in Ireland during the year

	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies				
	Total	Total	ACCA	CAI	AIA	CIMA	CIPFA
Members in Ireland at 1 January	44,547	45,896	13,590	27,581	268	4,412	45
Opening Balance Adjustment	-	22	-	12	10	-	-
Students admitted	1,762	1,877	547	1,164	-	166	-
Members of other PABs admitted	32	7	-	-	7	-	-
Members of other accountancy bodies admitted	89	50	2	17	24	-	7
Former members re-admitted on payment of outstanding fees	243	330	229	5	2	94	-
Former members re-admitted for other reasons	40	39	38	1	-	-	-
Less							
Members excluded for non-payment of fees	(501)	(988)	(368)	(390)	-	(226)	(4)
Members excluded for other reasons	(51)	(47)	(44)	(3)	-	-	-
Resigned members	(141)	(205)	(15)	(172)	(14)	(2)	(2)
Deceased members	(28)	(70)	(2)	(67)	-	(1)	-
Net movement of members between jurisdictions	(96)	82	63	6	-	13	-
Members in Ireland at 31 December	45,896	46,993	14,040	28,154	297	4,456	46

Chart A.4: Members in Ireland 10-year review

**Part
B**

PAB Student Population

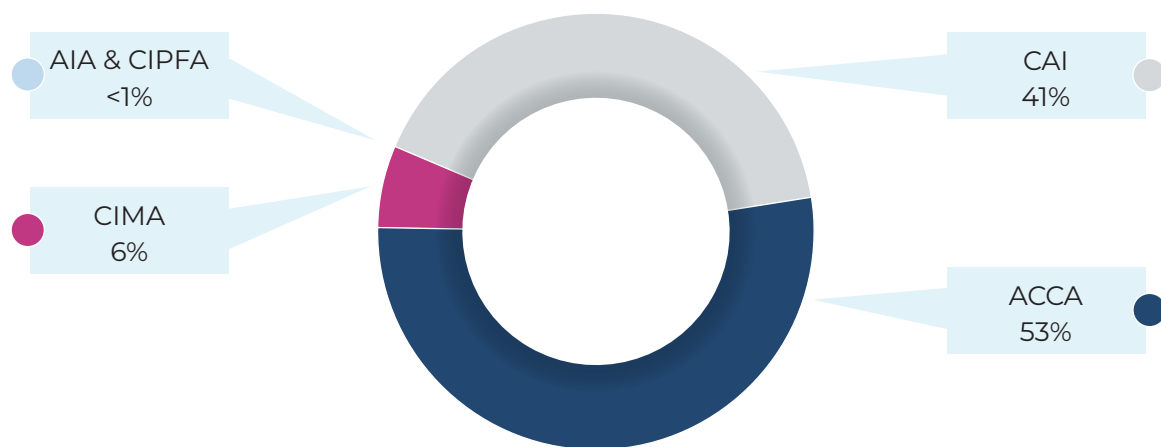


Student membership

The education and training of students is an important part of PABs' activities. Students are required to comply with the relevant PAB's applicable standards. Once a student becomes a member, they are entitled to use the designatory letters reserved for members of that PAB.

Student population at 31 December 2025 – tables and charts

Chart B.1: PAB Students in Ireland



Two PABs account for the majority of students in Ireland as shown above in chart B.1. Table B.1 and chart B.2 show the location of PABs' student numbers throughout the world and table B.2 analyses students in Ireland by gender, age and employment status. Table B.3 shows that the overall student membership has increased marginally in Ireland during 2025 by 59 students. 1,877 PAB students were admitted to membership of a PAB, an increase of 7% from 2024 (2024:1,762) and 3,490 new students were registered. Chart B.5 shows the number of students, by PAB, since year ended 31 December 2015. Over this 10-year period there were an additional 4 PABs namely CPA Ireland, ICAEW, ICAS and IIPA who are no longer PABs in Ireland. In that 10-year period, PAB students located in Ireland has increased by over 900 students, representing a 6% increase in student growth overall.

Table B.3 shows the movement of Irish based students during the year and chart B.5 shows student numbers in Ireland, by PAB, over the past 10 years. In that latter period:

- › PAB students located in Ireland increased by 6%;
- › CIPFA, AIA and CAI experienced the largest percentage growth in student numbers; and
- › CIMA experienced a decline in student numbers.

Chart B.3 shows the employment categories of students where known and chart B.4 is a 3-year review of student admitted as members across the PABs.

Table B.1: Location of students

As at 31 December	2024		2025		Recognised Accountancy Bodies				
	Total	%	Total	%	ACCA	CAI	AIA	CIMA	CIPFA
Ireland	17,355	3%	17,414	3%	9,139	7,129	7	1,101	38
UK	104,196	19%	105,105	19%	65,871	1,353	146	35,845	1,890
Other EU member states	27,439	5%	29,301	6%	23,501	6	186	4,940	668
Other locations	393,297	73%	390,269	72%	356,874	47	4,935	24,879	3,534
Total students worldwide	542,287	100%	542,089	100%	455,385	8,535	5,274	66,765	6,130

Chart B.2: Location of Students

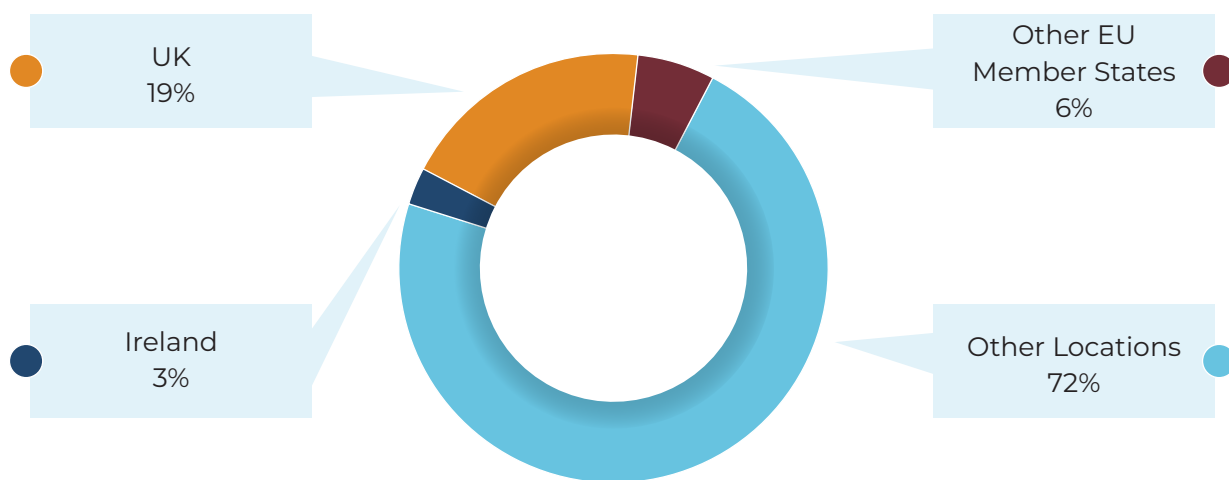


Table B.2: Students in Ireland

As at 31 December	2024		2025		Recognised Accountancy Bodies				
	Total	%	Total	%	ACCA	CAI	AIA	CIMA	CIPFA
Students in Ireland	17,355	100%	17,414	100%	9,139	7,129	7	1,101	38
Analysis by gender									
Male	8,166	47%	8,184	47%	3,954	3,672	4	543	11
Female	9,057	52%	9,104	52%	5,185	3,457	3	433	26
Not specified	132	1%	126	1%	-	-	-	125	1
	17,355	100%	17,414	100%	9,139	7,129	7	1,101	38
Analysis by age									
<=24	N/A	N/A	3,941	23%	1,006	2,831	1	103	-
25-34	N/A	N/A	7,703	44%	3,868	3,415	5	414	1
35-44	N/A	N/A	3,646	21%	2,821	561	1	255	8
45+	N/A	N/A	2,124	12%	1,444	322	-	329	29
	N/A	N/A	17,414	100%	9,139	7,129	7	1,101	38
Analysis by employment status									
Practice	6,009	35%	5,859	34%	512	5,347	-	-	-
Business	4,730	27%	4,424	25%	3,522	120	7	771	4
Other	6,061	35%	6,587	38%	4,661	1,637	-	264	25
Public sector	344	2%	328	2%	239	25	-	55	9
In full time education	211	1%	216	1%	205	-	-	11	-
	17,355	100%	17,414	100%	9,139	7,129	7	1,101	38

Chart B.3: Students by employment

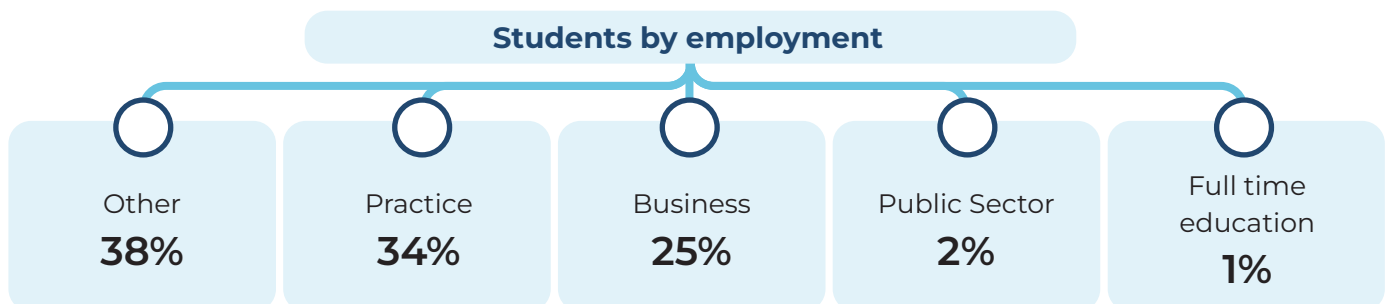
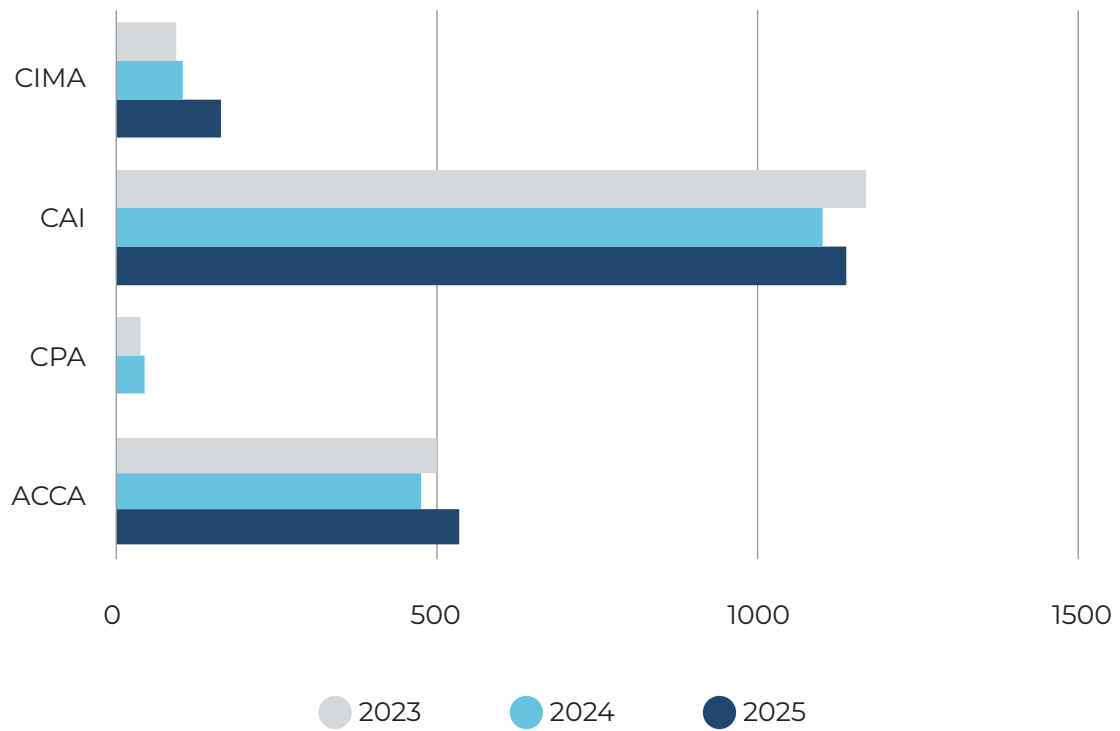


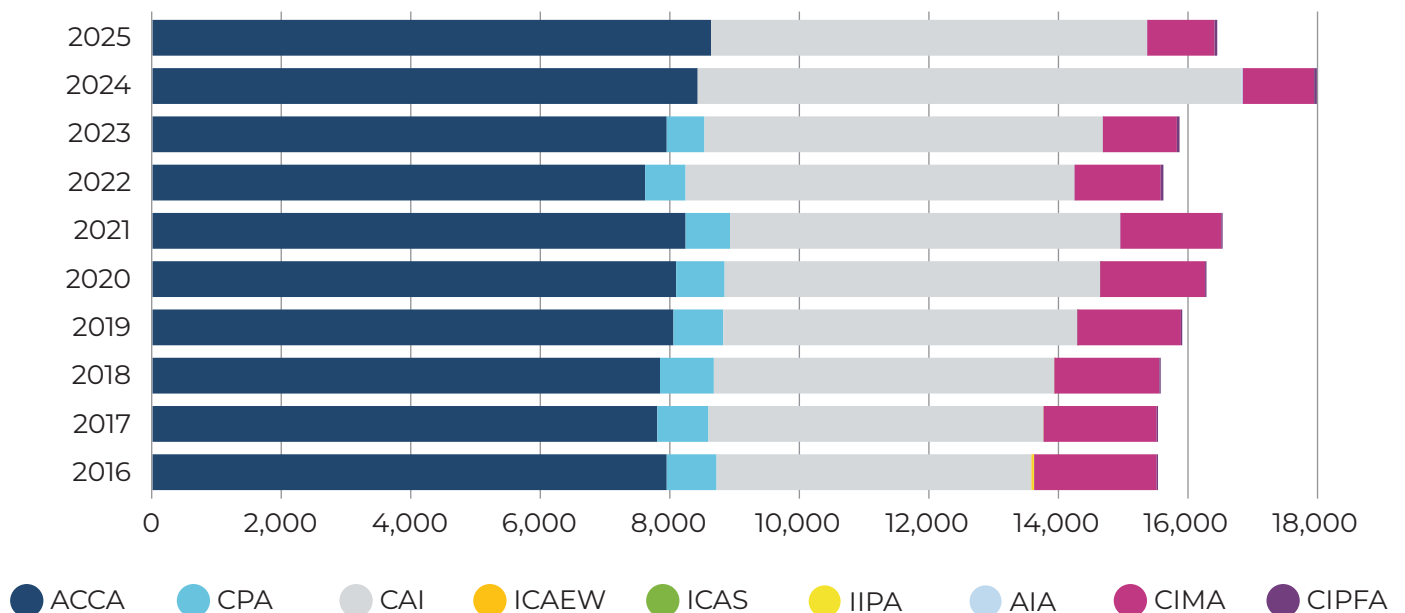
Chart B.4: Students admitted as members* in Ireland



*AIA admitted 1 student as a member in 2023. CIPFA did not admit any students as members in this period.

Table B.3: Movement of students in Ireland during the year

	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies				
	Total	Total	ACCA	CAI	AIA	CIMA	CIPFA
Students in Ireland at 1 January	16,801	17,355	8,911	7,227	6	1,175	36
Opening balance adjustment	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add							
New students registered	3,763	3,490	1,643	1,571	1	273	2
Former students re-admitted on payment of outstanding fees	335	318	214	-	-	104	-
Former students re-admitted on payment for other reason	17	19	10	9	-	-	-
Less							
Students admitted as full members	(1,762)	(1,877)	(547)	(1,164)	-	(166)	-
Lapsed student registrations	(595)	(445)	(3)	(185)	-	(257)	-
Student registrations cancelled	(1,204)	(1,414)	(1,195)	(213)	-	(6)	-
Net movement of students between jurisdictions	5	(29)	106	(116)	-	(19)	-
Students transferred from CPA to CAI	(4)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	(2)	(3)	-	-	-	(3)	-
Students in Ireland at 31 December	17,355	17,414	9,139	7,129	7	1,101	38

Chart B.5: Students in Ireland 10-year review


Part
C

PABs' Practising Certificates



Practising certificates

PABs grant practising certificates to members who offer accounting related services to the public. Additional authorisation is required for statutory audit and may be required for other areas, such as investment business. Members in practice are required to comply with additional PAB standards.

PABs have additional requirements for awarding practising certificates, which generally include:

- › obtaining a minimum level of post membership experience;
- › holding professional indemnity insurance cover; and
- › putting in place practice continuity arrangements, in the event of incapacity or death.

Practice monitoring reviews

Practice monitoring reviews are reviews of the work of members in practice other than statutory audit work. In some cases, PABs include reviews of entire firms within their monitoring statistics, whereas others report either the reviews performed on individual members in practice or a mix of firm and individuals reviewed. This leads to variations in how practice monitoring activity is represented across bodies. Practice monitoring reviews are generally carried out on a cyclical or risk basis. Often practice monitoring reviews include a review of: services provided by the practice; anti-money laundering (AML) compliance; data security processes; and professional indemnity insurance. Practice monitoring reviews may cover whole firm procedures or may focus on a specific area or theme within an area such as AML. Quality assurance reviews of statutory audit work are reported in Part F of this report.

Practising certificates at 31 December 2025 – table and charts

Table C.1 shows a three-year review of the number of members that are authorised to practice in Ireland and of these how many are located in Ireland. Charts C.1 and C.2 graphically illustrate the breakdown by PAB for 2025.

- › the majority of those worldwide are members of CAI (47%) and CIMA (29%); and
- › the majority of those located in Ireland are members of CAI (73%).

Table C.2 shows a three-year review of practice monitoring reviews carried out by the PABs.

Table C.1: 3-year review of members authorised to practice

	Year	Total	Recognised Accountancy Bodies			AIA	CIMA	CIPFA**
			ACCA	CPA*	CAI			
Members [located worldwide] authorised to practice in Ireland at 31 December	2025	7,001	1,143	-	3,307	504	2,047	N/A
	2024	7,009	1,245	-	3,293	499	1,972	N/A
	2023	7,061	1,299	615	2,662	498	1,987	N/A
Members [located in Ireland] authorised to practice in Ireland at 31 December	2025	3,555	866	-	2,585	45	59	N/A
	2024	3,528	862	-	2,570	39	57	N/A
	2023	3,514	859	613	1,947	35	60	N/A

* CPA amalgamated with CAI on 1 September 2024

** CIPFA do not issue practising certificates.

Chart C.1: Members worldwide authorised to practice 2025

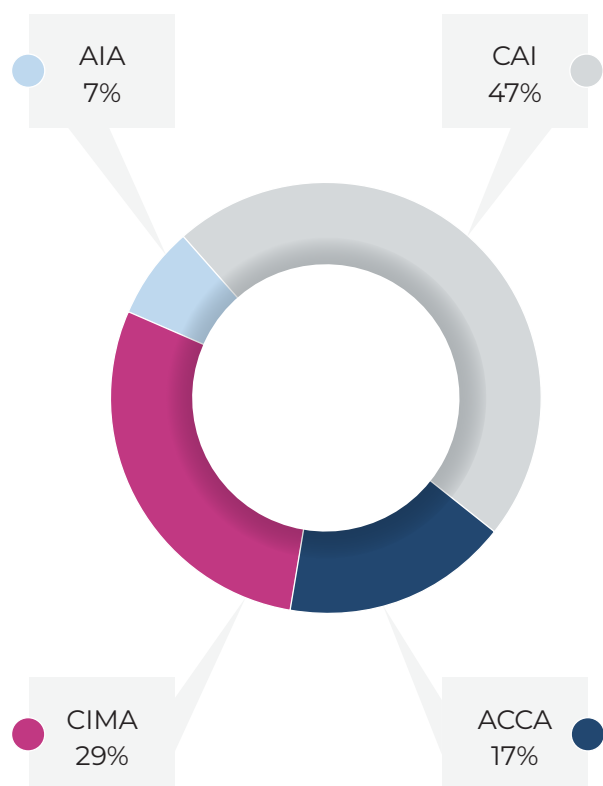


Chart C.2: Members in Ireland authorised to practice 2025

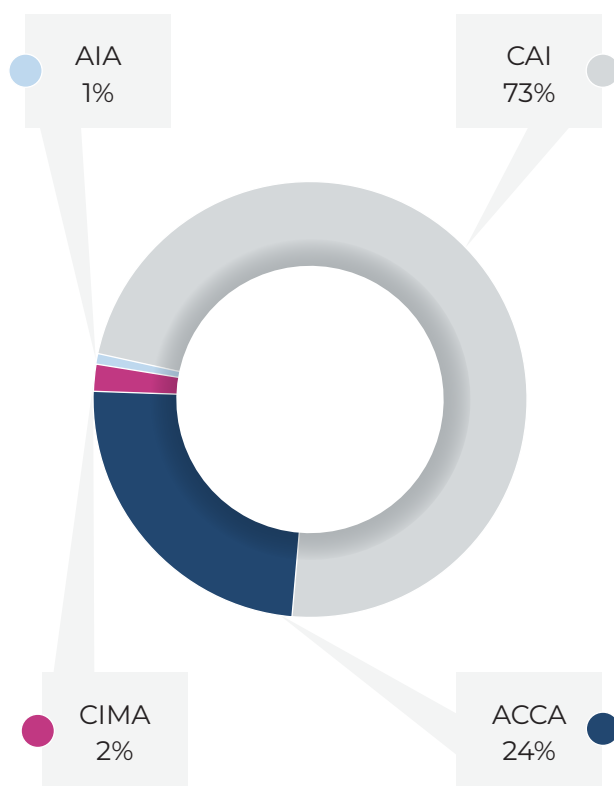


Table C.2: 3-year review of practice monitoring reviews

	Year	Total	Recognised Accountancy Bodies					
			ACCA	CPA*	CAI	AIA	CIMA	CIPFA**
Practice monitoring reviews [located worldwide] concluded in the year	2025	1,668	545	-	196	36	891	-
	2024	949	425	31	139	49	305	-
	2023	601	220	31	52	94	204	-
Practice monitoring reviews [located in Ireland] concluded in the year	2025	197	77	-	106	6	8	-
	2024	198	79	31	72	6	10	-
	2023	189	96	31	50	3	9	-

* CPA amalgamated with CAI on 1 September 2024

** CIPFA do not issue practising certificates.

Chart C.3: 3-year review of practice monitoring reviews concluded worldwide

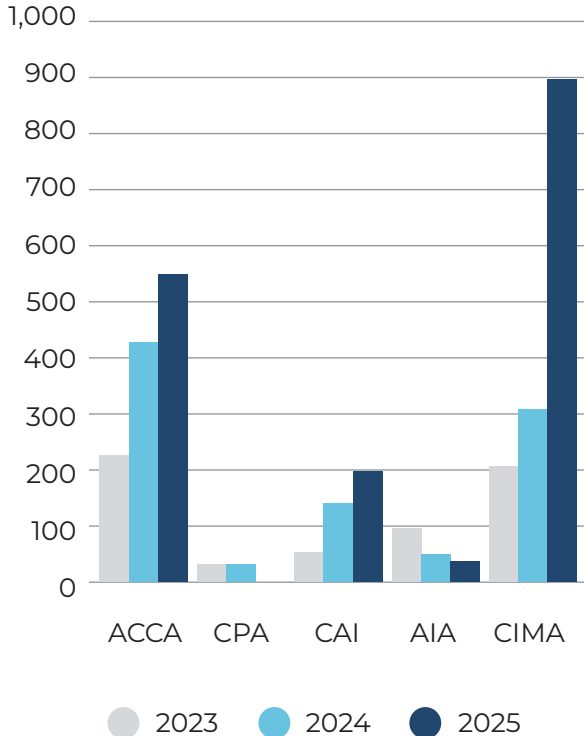
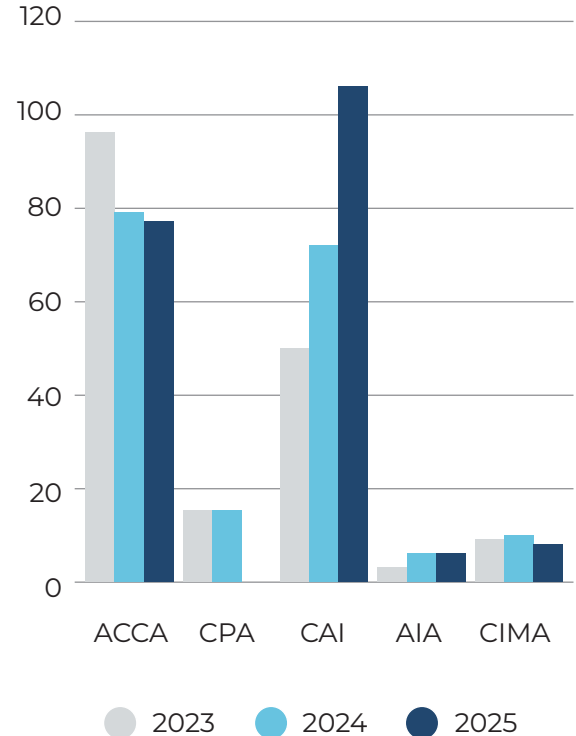


Chart C.4: 3-year review of practice monitoring reviews concluded in Ireland



**Part
D**

PABs' Investigation and Disciplinary Activities



PABs' Investigation and Disciplinary processes

PABs receive complaints about their members/member firms and are required to process them in accordance with their investigation and disciplinary procedures, which are approved by IAASA. When a member of the public makes a complaint to a PAB, or information comes to a PAB's attention concerning the conduct or competence of a member/member firm, the PAB will assess the complaint and may investigate further. IAASA oversees how RABs perform the regulatory function of Investigation and Discipline for statutory auditors and audit firms. In this context, IAASA has issued Guidelines for RABs when performing Investigation and Disciplinary functions, setting out IAASA's expectations.

In cases where the initial investigation concludes that there appears to be a case to answer against a member/member firm, or statutory auditor/audit firm the complaint will be processed through the disciplinary process. As each PAB's investigation and disciplinary procedures are tailored to its specific requirements, the way complaints are processed and the calculation of the average time taken to close complaints varies. Further details on investigation and disciplinary processes are available on the PABs' individual websites.

Investigation and disciplinary activities 2025 – tables and charts

Table D.1 provides a summary, by PAB, of the movement in Irish relevant complaints from 2023 to 2025. CIPFA did not receive any Irish relevant complaints in this period. Overall, there has been an increase of 19% in the number of new complaints received in the period 2023 to 2025. The average time to close a complaint is dependent on the complexity of the case. Average times for closing complaints can also be impacted by the number of aged complaints closed in the year. In 2025, 27% of complaints closed had adverse findings. Chart D.1 shows the number of closed complaints with adverse findings by PAB.

Table D.4 provides a summary, by RAB, of the movement in statutory auditor/audit firm complaints from 2023 to 2025. Overall, there has been a decrease of 26% in the number of new complaints received in the period 2023 to 2025 concerning statutory auditors/audit firms. In 2025, 31% of complaints closed had an adverse finding. Chart D.3 shows the number of closed complaints with adverse findings by RAB over a three-year period.

Tables D.2 and D.5 and charts D.2 and D.4 show the nature of complaints that were closed in 2025. Complaints can relate to one or more matters. The majority of complaints closed related to poor work or unsatisfactory professional service or conduct breaches of the bodies' codes of ethics, or other breaches of bodies' rules or regulations. Tables D.3 and D.6 show the sanctions that were imposed on complaints that were closed in 2025 with adverse findings. The most common sanctions are monetary sanctions, publication and admonishments/cautions, reprimands and/or severe reprimands. Complaints can result in one or more sanctions being imposed.

Table D.1: 3-year review of Irish relevant complaints

	Year	Total	Recognised Accountancy Bodies					
			ACCA	CPA*	CAI	AIA	CIMA	CIPFA
New complaints received	2025	94	23	-	67	3	1	-
	2024	77	30	14	31	2	-	-
	2023	79	26	10	40	1	2	-
Complaints closed	2025	73	29	8	34	1	1	-
	2024	87	33	11	43	-	-	-
	2023	116	26	15	73	1	1	-
Complaints closed with adverse findings	2025	20	6	8	6	-	-	-
	2024	19	3	6	10	-	-	-
	2023	24	7	8	9	-	-	-
Average time taken to close a complaint (in months)	2025		15	25	9	10	8	-
	2024		10	12	19	-	-	-
	2023		8	15	17	-	3	-

*CPA amalgamated with CAI on 1 September 2024, figures relate to complaints open at that date.

Chart D.1: 3-year comparison of PABs' complaints closed & complaints closed with adverse findings

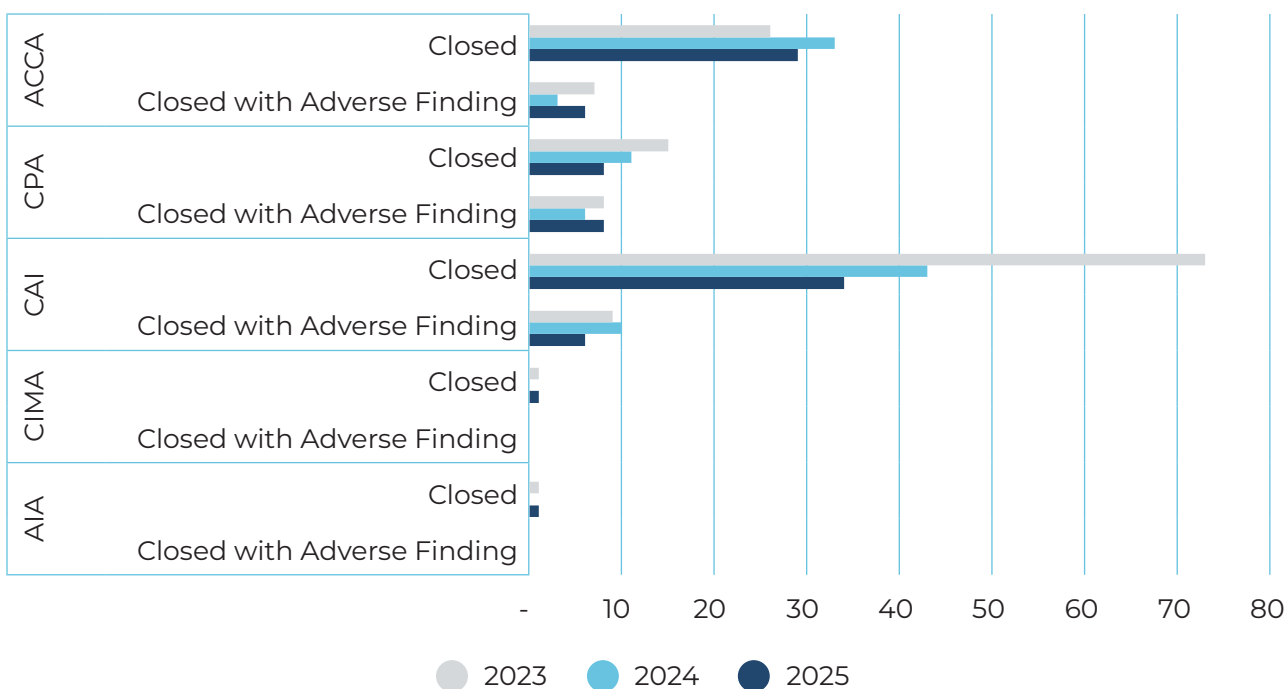
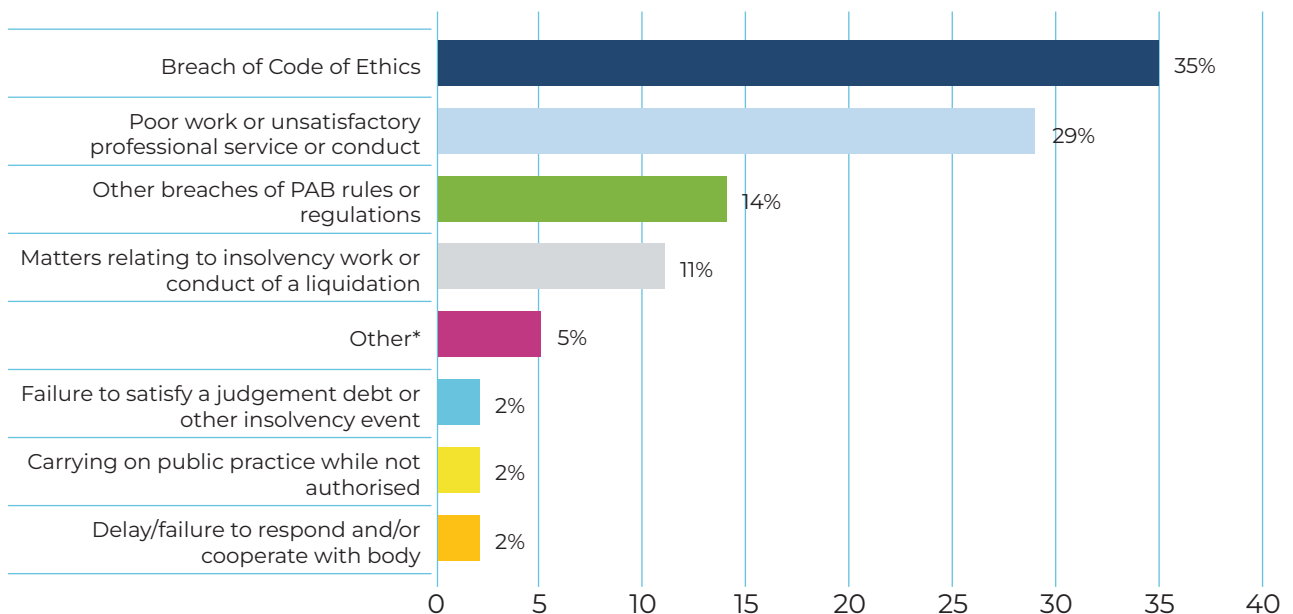


Table D.2: Nature of Irish relevant complaints received in 2025

	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies			
	Total	Total	ACCA	CAI	AIA	CIMA
Complaints received related to						
Breach of code of ethics	21	33	-	32	1	-
Poor work or unsatisfactory professional service or conduct	26	27	13	13	-	1
Other breaches of PAB rules or regulations	14	13	7	4	2	-
Matters relating to insolvency work or conduct of a liquidation	5	10	-	10	-	-
Carrying on public practice while not authorised	2	2	2	-	-	-
Other	1	-	-	-	-	-
Delay/failure to respond and/or cooperate with body	2	2	-	2	-	-
Criminal conviction	3	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying out audit work while not authorised	4	1	-	1	-	-
Failure to satisfy a judgement debt or other insolvency event	3	2	-	2	-	-
Other audit related matters	2	4	1	3	-	-

Chart D.2: Nature of Irish relevant complaints received in 2025

* Other includes other audit related matters plus carrying out audit work when not authorised

Table D.3: Sanctions imposed on complaints that were closed - Irish relevant

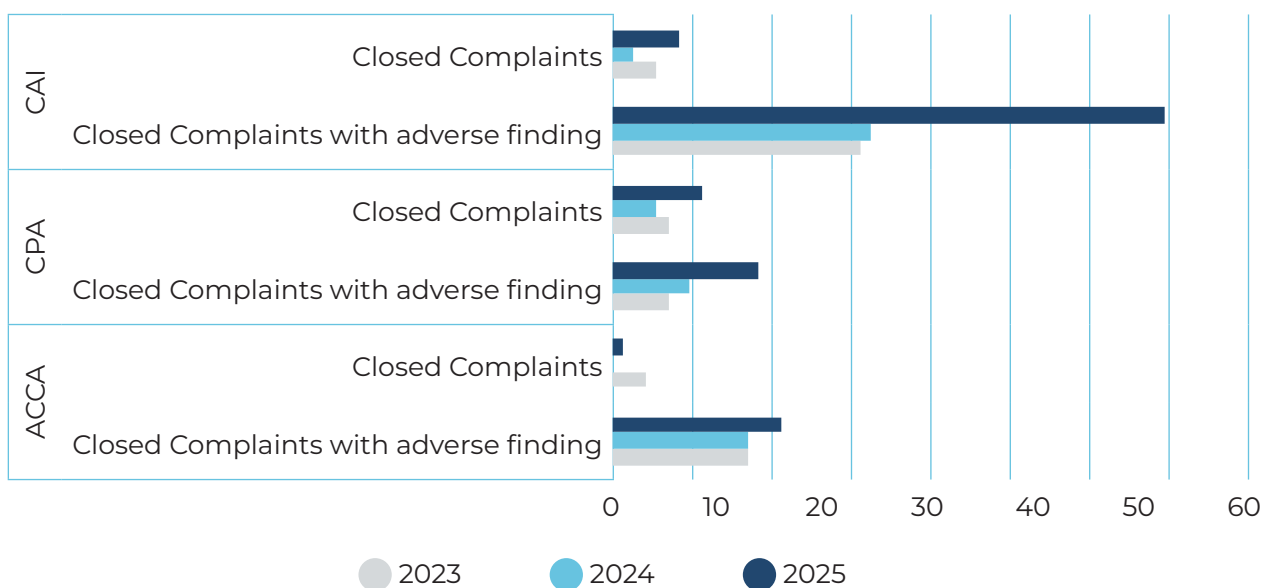
	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies		
	Total	Total	ACCA	CPA*	CAI
Sanctions imposed					
Publication	10	19	6	7	6
Admonishments/cautions, reprimands and/or severe reprimands	10	15	4	5	6
Monetary sanction (including fine or costs)	11	21	6	6	9
Member expelled	1	1	-	1	-
Other	2	9	-	9	-
Statutory auditor/audit firm temporarily suspended	1	-	-	-	-
Member temporarily suspended	-	2	-	2	-
Statutory auditor/audit firm expelled/registration revoked	1	1	-	1	-
Registration, other than audit, temporarily suspended	-	-	-	-	-
Registration, other than audit, revoked	1	-	-	-	-

*CPA amalgamated with CAI on 1 September 2024, figures relate to complaints open at that date.

Table D.4: 3-year review of statutory auditor/audit firm complaints

	Year	Total	Recognised Accountancy Bodies		
			ACCA	CPA*	CAI
New complaints received	2025	39	7	-	32
	2024	37	9	7	21
	2023	53	14	10	29
Complaints closed	2025	39	12	5	22
	2024	42	12	7	23
	2023	77	15	13	49
Complaints closed with adverse findings	2025	12	3	5	4
	2024	6	-	4	2
	2023	15	1	8	6
Average time taken to close a complaint (in months)	2025		18	21	12
	2024		8	12	13
	2023		6	14	16

*CPA amalgamated with CAI on 1 September 2024, figures relate to complaints open at that date.

Chart D. 3: 3-year comparison of statutory auditor/audit firm complaints closed and complaints closed with adverse findings**Table D.5:** Nature of Statutory auditor/audit firm complaints received in 2025

	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies	
	Total	Total	ACCA	CAI
Complaints received related to				
Poor work or unsatisfactory professional service or conduct	15	10	5	5
Breach of code of ethics	12	17	-	17
Other breaches of PAB rules or regulations	10	3	1	2
Delay/failure to respond and/or cooperate with body	-	-	-	-
Other audit related matters	2	6	1	5
Other	-	-	-	-
Matters relating to insolvency work or conduct of a liquidation	1	3	-	3
Carrying out audit work while not authorised	3	-	-	-
Criminal Conviction	-	-	-	-
Other breaches of company law/ restriction or disqualification as a director	-	-	-	-
Failure to satisfy a judgement debt or other insolvency event	1	-	-	-

Chart D.4: Nature of Statutory auditor/audit firm complaints received in 2025

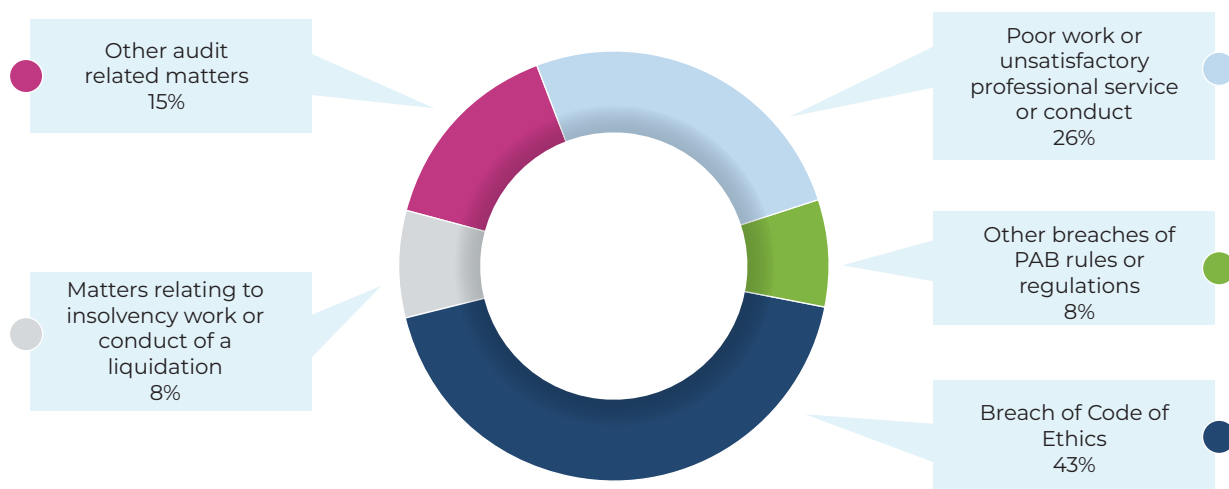


Table D.6: Sanctions imposed on statutory auditor/audit firm complaints that were closed

	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies	
	Total	Total	ACCA	CAI
Sanctions imposed				
Monetary sanction (including fine or costs)	4	7	3	4
Publication	4	6	3	3
Admonishments/cautions, reprimands and/or severe reprimands	4	7	3	4
Other	2	-	-	-
Statutory auditor/audit firm temporarily suspended	1	-	-	-
Member expelled	-	-	-	-
Member temporarily suspended	-	-	-	-
Statutory auditor/audit firm expelled/registration revoked	1	-	-	-

Part E

RABs' Approval of Statutory Audit Firms and Statutory Auditors



Criteria for audit approval

RABs can approve firms and individuals to carry out statutory audits if those firms and individuals meet the criteria set out in the Companies Act 2014 (as amended). The legal requirements for a firm to be approved include:

- › the firm is to be of good repute
- › the individuals who carry out statutory audits in the State on behalf of the firm are approved as statutory auditors
- › the majority of the voting rights in the firm are held by —
 - individuals who are eligible for approval in the State or in any other Member State as statutory auditors
 - audit firms approved as statutory audit firms in the State or in any other Member State or
 - a combination of such individuals and audit firms and
- › the majority of the members of the administrative or management body of the firm are —
 - individuals who are eligible for approval in the State or in any other Member State as statutory auditors
 - audit firms approved as statutory audit firms in the State or in any other Member State or
 - a combination of such individuals and audit firms.

The legal requirements for an individual to obtain statutory auditor approval typically include:

- › to be of good repute
- › to hold an appropriate qualification
- › to have sufficient and appropriate audit experience.

The RABs also require firms and individuals to hold professional indemnity insurance and have practice continuity arrangements in place. IAASA has issued Guidelines for RABs when performing the approval and registration function in respect of statutory auditors and audit firms.

S.I. 336 of 2025 updated the Companies Act 2014 to provide for RABs to approve statutory auditors and audit firms to carry out the assurance of sustainability reporting if they meet relevant criteria. Transitional provisions included in the Companies Act 2014 provided that statutory auditors and audit firms who stood approved prior to 1 January 2026 could be approved by RABs if they attained the knowledge of sustainability reporting and the assurance of sustainability reporting including the subjects included in schedule 23, through continuing education. At 31 December 2025, CAI had approved 10 audit firms and 45 statutory auditors to carry out the assurance of sustainability reporting. ACCA had approved one audit firm and one statutory auditor to carry out the assurance of sustainability reporting.

RABs’ approval of statutory audit firms and statutory auditors at 31 December 2025 – tables and charts

Tables E.1 and E.2 present the statutory audit firms and statutory auditors approved by the RABs to perform statutory audits in Ireland over the past three years. Charts E.1 to E.4 illustrate, by RAB, the trends in statutory audit firms and statutory auditors located both worldwide and within Ireland since 2023. Over this period, the number of statutory audit firms worldwide has decreased by 13% and the number of statutory auditors approved to audit in Ireland has decreased by 8%.

Table E.1: 3-year review of statutory audit firms

	Year	Total	Recognised Accountancy Bodies		
			ACCA	CPA*	CAI
Statutory audit firms [located worldwide] approved to audit in Ireland at 31 December	2025	1,012	262	-	750
	2024	1,083	278	-	805
	2023	1,169	300	263	606
Statutory audit firms [with offices in Ireland] approved to audit in Ireland at 31 December	2025	867	242	-	625
	2024	924	255	-	669
	2023	997	267	263	467

* CPA amalgamated with CAI on 1 September 2024

Chart E.1: 3-year review of total statutory audit firms located worldwide

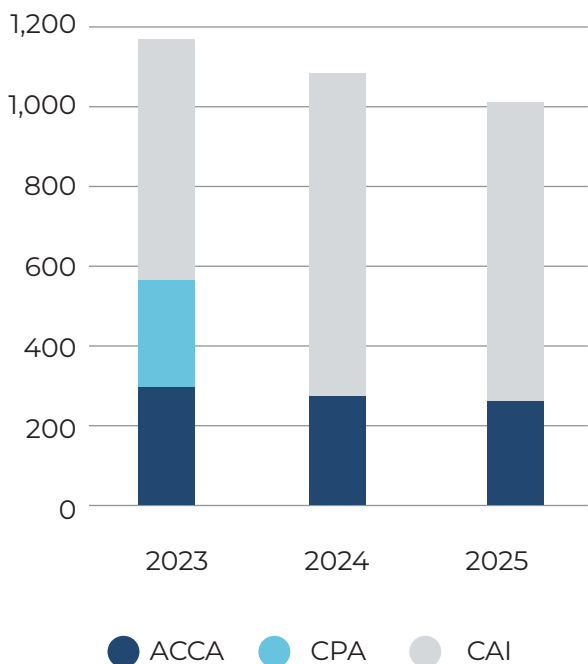


Chart E.2: 3-year review of total statutory audit firms located in Ireland

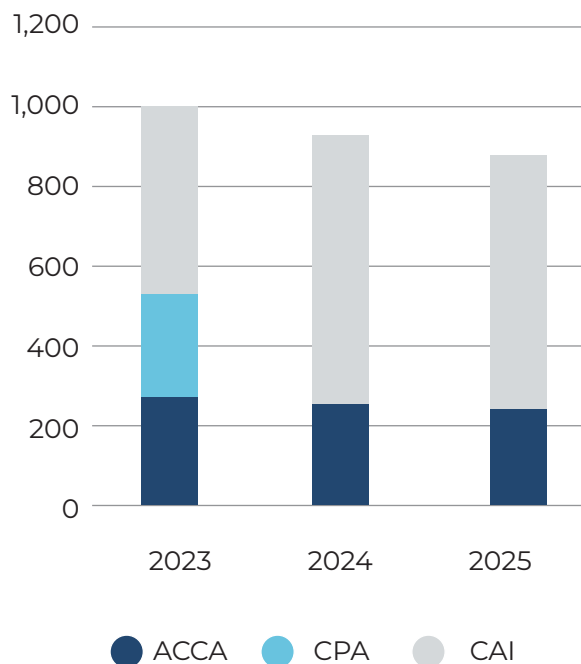


Table E.2: 3-year review of statutory auditors

	Year	Total	Recognised Accountancy Bodies		
			ACCA	CPA*	CAI
Statutory auditors [located worldwide] approved to audit in Ireland at 31 December	2025	1,781	314	-	1,467
	2024	1,839	336	-	1,503
	2023	1,942	361	343	1,238
Statutory auditors [located in Ireland] approved to audit in Ireland at 31 December	2025	1,549	290	-	1,259
	2024	1,578	303	-	1,275
	2023	1,662	314	343	1,005

* CPA amalgamated with CAI on 1 September 2024

Chart E.3: 3-year review of total statutory auditors Worldwide

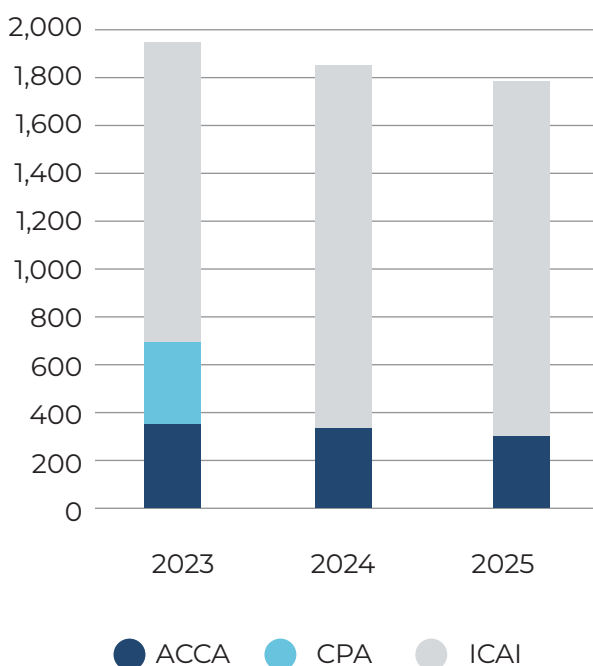


Chart E.4: 3-year review of total statutory auditors in Ireland

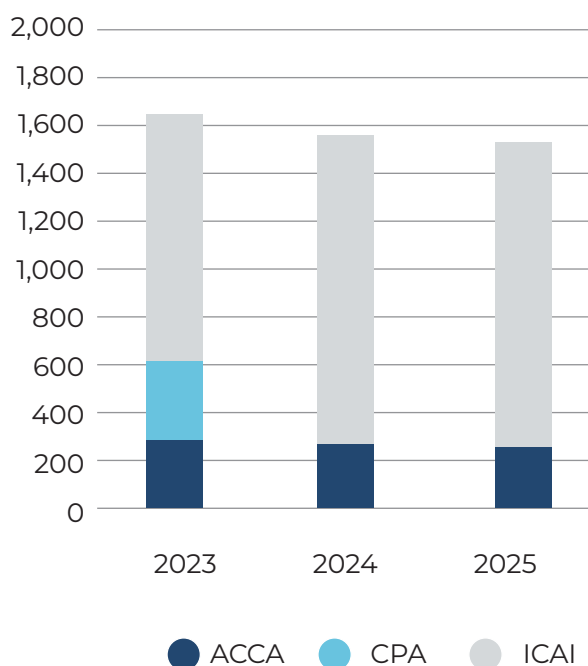


Table E.3 analyses statutory audit firms located in Ireland by the number of principals employed in the firm and details the number of public interest entity (PIE) firms. 96% of statutory audit firms located in Ireland have five principals or less. Less than 1% of statutory audit firms are PIE firms.

Table E.3: Statutory audit firms with offices in Ireland

As at 31 December	2024		2025		Recognised Accountancy Bodies	
	Total	%	Total	%	ACCA	CAI
Statutory audit firms with offices in Ireland	924	100%	867	100%	242	625
Analysis by number of principals						
1 principal	533	58%	500	58%	159	341
2 - 5 principals	356	39%	332	38%	79	253
6 - 10 principals	21	2%	20	3%	4	16
11 - 49 principals	10	1%	12	1%	-	12
50+ principals	4	-	3	-	-	3
	924	100%	867	100%	242	625
Analysis by number of PIE clients						
No PIE clients	916	99%	859	99%	241	618
1 - 5 PIE clients	1	-	2	-	1	1
6 - 10 PIE clients	-	-	-	-	-	-
11 - 49 PIE clients	1	-	-	-	-	-
50+ PIE clients	6	1%	6	1%	-	6
	924	100%	867	100%	242	625

**Part
F**

**RABs' Quality
Assurance of
Statutory Audit**



RABs' responsibility for quality assurance of statutory audit

RABs are required under the Act to maintain quality assurance systems to monitor the work of statutory auditors and statutory audit firms. RABs are responsible for reviewing statutory audits, except in the case of Public Interest Entities (PIEs). IAASA conducts quality assurance reviews for PIE audits and, from January 2025, also review the assurance of sustainability reporting. Further details on PIE quality assurance reviews are available on IAASA's website and in the Annual Audit Programme and Activity (AAPA) report. IAASA has issued Guidelines for RABs on performing quality assurance for statutory auditors and audit firms. Where quality assurance reviews identify unsatisfactory outcomes, RABs may take regulatory action. Ultimately, IAASA has overall responsibility for the RABs' quality assurance systems.

Legislative requirements

The Act requires the RABs to undertake a quality assurance review of each statutory audit firm based on an analysis of risk, and at least once every six years. IAASA reviews the quality assurance of PIE audit firms annually.

RABs' quality assurance of statutory audit firms 2025 – tables

Table F.1 summarises the quality assurance reviews concluded in 2025, detailing both the reason for each review and its outcome. The outcomes for reviews completed during 2025 were as follows:

- › 13% were graded 'Good' (2024: 15%)
- › 60% were graded 'Limited Improvements Required' (2024: 62%)
- › 13% were graded 'Improvements Required' (2024: 9%)
- › 14% were graded 'Significant Improvements Required' (2024: 14%)

Table F.2 outlines the regulatory actions taken by the RABs following quality assurance reviews. In total, 39% of concluded reviews resulted in regulatory action (2024: 30%). Table F.3 summarises the quality assurance reviews carried out by the RABs to meet legislative requirements.

During the year 109 quality assurance reviews were required to be concluded (2024: 138); and 68% of these reviews met legislative requirements (2024: 75%).

Consequently, 32% of the reviews required to meet the legislative cycle were non-compliant with cycle requirements. The number of visits not meeting legislative requirements is similar to previous years' levels of non-compliance. Additional causes of non-compliance included delays in concluding visits and challenges in scheduling. IAASA continues to engage with RABs to ensure that these reviews are completed as soon as practicable or that appropriate action is taken.

Table F.4 sets out the target number of quality assurance reviews required to meet legislative requirements over a three year period, along with the number that met those targets and the number that did not.

Table F.1: Analysis of quality assurance reviews of statutory audit firms

	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies	
	Total	Total	ACCA	CAI
Statutory audit firms worldwide approved to audit in Ireland at 1 January	1,169	1,083	278	805
Quality assurance reviews thereof concluded in the year	165	141	68	73
Analysis by reason for review				
Review to meet legislative requirements	98	73	34	39
Conclusion of a review open at 1 January	26	35	11	24
Accelerated/re-review for heightened risk	27	15	13	2
Other	-	-	-	-
Accelerated due to 1st time registration	8	8	7	1
Accelerated/early review on foot of a recommendation/referral, or order, from a Regulatory Committee	6	10	3	7
	165	141	68	73
Analysis by outcome of the review				
Good	25	18	3	15
Limited Improvements required	102	85	43	42
Improvements required	15	18	16	2
Significant improvements required	23	20	6	14
	165	141	68	73

Table F.2: Regulatory action resulting from quality assurance reviews

	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies	
	Total	Total	ACCA	CAI
Quality assurance reviews concluded in the year	165	141	68	73
Quality assurance reviews concluded in the year that resulted in regulatory action	49	55	29	26
Regulatory action taken				
Required to submit further documentation/information or clarification	15	15	-	15
Required not to undertake file review for other firms	15	22	-	22
Other conditions/restrictions imposed	-	2	-	2
Cold file review of client files imposed	17	18	-	18
Directed to address CPD/training matters	17	17	-	17
Monetary penalties imposed	9	10	-	10
Hot file review restriction	7	12	-	12
External compliance review	10	16	-	16
Requirement for a follow-up review or accelerated review	43	46	26	20
Referred to the investigation and disciplinary process	3	1	-	1
Directed not to accept further audit appointments	6	8	-	8
Voluntary surrendered audit registration as a result of findings	1	4	3	1
Audit registration suspended as a result of findings	1	-	-	-

Table F.3: Overview of legislative requirements

	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies	
	Total	Total	ACCA	CAI
Statutory audit firms approved to audit in Ireland at 1 January	1,169	1,083	278	805
Of those, number of quality assurance reviews required to be concluded in the year	138	109	38	71
Quality assurance reviews concluded that met legislative requirements	104	74	26	48
Quality assurance reviews which did not meet legislative requirements	34	35	12	23
Reason for not meeting legislative requirements				
Review concluded late	11	9	8	1
Review not concluded	10	10	-	10
Other	13	16	4	12
	34	35	12	23

Table F.4: Legislative requirements – 3-year review

			Recognised Accountancy Bodies		
	Year	Total	ACCA	CPA*	CAI
Quality assurance reviews required to meet legislative requirements	2025	109	38	-	71
	2024	138	33	34	71
	2023	127	27	36	64
Quality assurance reviews that met legislative requirements	2025	74	26	-	48
	2024	104	18	34	52
	2023	77	15	35	27
Quality assurance reviews that did not meet legislative requirements	2025	35	12	-	23
	2024	34	15	-	19
	2023	50	12	1	37

* CPA amalgamated with CAI on 1 September 2024

Part G

PABs' Activities in Continuing Education of Members and Statutory Auditors



Requirement for continuing education/continuing professional development

PABs require their members to comply with their CPD standards and request annual confirmation of compliance with CPD requirements from their members. PABs carry out checks on a sample of members' CPD each year. This review can be based on risk or a random selection. CPD of statutory auditors is often reviewed as part of conducting the quality assurance review or at the same time.

The Act sets out CPD requirements for statutory auditors; it is a condition of approval to keep knowledge and skills updated, particularly in relation to audit. This requirement is also a legislative condition attached to the approval of statutory auditors who are approved to carry out the assurance of sustainability reporting. These individuals are also required to take part in appropriate programmes of continuing education to maintain their theoretical knowledge, professional skills, and values at a sufficiently high level. IAASA has issued Guidelines for RABs on the regulation, monitoring, and enforcement of continuing education for statutory auditors.

Where a member or statutory auditor is found to be non compliant with CPD requirements, they may be subject to regulatory and/or disciplinary action. Figures relating to the monitoring of CPD across the PABs are not easily comparable as the PABs all have different reporting periods for members to confirm their compliance with annual CPD requirements.

CPD monitoring activities 2025 – tables

Table G.1 provides details on the PABs' monitoring of compliance with CPD requirements, by their members located in Ireland. Table G.2 provides details on RABs' monitoring of compliance with CPD requirements, by all statutory auditors approved to audit in Ireland.

Table G.1: Monitoring of CPD of members located in Ireland

	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies				
	Total	Total	ACCA	CAI	AIA	CIMA	CIPFA
CPD records reviewed in the year	1,083	410	211	112	56	28	3
Analysed by							
Desktop review (risk based)	119	156	55	56	42	-	3
Desktop review (random)	260	130	32	56	14	28	-
Onsite review	46	2	2	-	-	-	-
Other monitoring activities	658	122	122	-	-	-	-
	1,083	410	211	112	56	28	3
CPD records found to be non-compliant with CPD requirements after follow up action was taken	58	64	63	1	-	-	-
Of those, members that were							
- Subject to regulatory action	58	63	63	-	-	-	-
- Subject to disciplinary action	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table G.2: Monitoring of CPD of all statutory auditors approved to audit in Ireland

	2024	2025	Recognised Accountancy Bodies	
	Total	Total	ACCA	CAI
CPD records reviewed in the year	562	350	151	199
Analysed by				
Desktop review (risk based)	43	41	8	33
Desktop review (random)	-	-	-	-
Onsite review	206	178	12	166
Other monitoring activities	313	131	131	-
	562	350	151	199
CPD records found to be non-compliant with CPD requirements after follow up action was taken	39	115	77	38
Of those, statutory auditors that were				
- Subject to regulatory action	26	77	77	-
- Subject to disciplinary action	3	-	-	-



Appendix



PAB contact details

Further information regarding each of the PABs is available on their respective websites, as set out below.

PAB	Website
ACCA	www.accaglobal.com
AIA	www.aiaworldwide.com
CAI	www.charteredaccountants.ie
CIMA	www.cimaglobal.com
CIPFA	www.cipfa.org

Glossary and definitions

The following provides a definition and explanation of the acronyms and terms used throughout this document:

Acronym/term	Definition/explanation
ACCA	Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Act, the	Companies Act 2014 (as amended)
AIA	Association of International Accountants
Average time to close a complaint	The manner in which the PABs determine the average time taken to close a complaint varies
Body	A PAB or a RAB
CAI	Chartered Accountants Ireland
CIMA	Chartered Institute of Management Accountants
CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy
Complaint	Any expression of dissatisfaction with audit or accounting related services, the conduct or performance of a member, member firm, statutory auditor, student, or affiliate (non-member partner, principal, or director), howsoever coming to the attention of the Body
Complaint (Irish relevant)	A complaint relating to a member, member firm, student or affiliate located or employed in Ireland or relating to clients based in Ireland
CPA	Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland. On 1 September 2024, CPA Ireland's recognition was revoked and it is no longer a PAB. CPA amalgamated with CAI on 1 September 2024.
CPD	Continuing professional development
EU	European Union

Glossary and definitions (Continued)

Acronym/term	Definition/explanation
IAASA	The Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority
ICAEW	Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. On 21 July 2021, ICAEW's recognition was revoked and it is no longer a PAB
ICAS	Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland. On 22 December 2021, ICAS's recognition was revoked and it is no longer a PAB
IIPA	Institute of Incorporated Public Accountants. On 16 March 2018, IIPA's recognition was revoked and it is no longer a PAB
Ireland	The Republic of Ireland (ROI)
IAASA Quality Assurance Grades	A 1 grade is a good audit with no concerns regarding the sufficiency and quality of audit evidence or the appropriateness of significant audit judgements in the areas reviewed. Any concerns are very limited in their implications (both individually and collectively).
	A 2 grade is an audit that requires limited improvements. There are only limited concerns regarding the sufficiency or quality of audit evidence or the appropriateness of significant audit judgements in the areas reviewed. Although there may be some concerns, their implications (both individually and collectively) are limited.
	A 3 grade is an audit that requires improvements. There are some concerns, assessed as less than significant, regarding the sufficiency or quality of audit evidence or the appropriateness of significant audit judgements in the areas reviewed. Although there may be concerns, their implications (both individually and collectively) are less than significant
	A 4 grade is an audit that requires significant improvements. There are significant concerns regarding the sufficiency or quality of audit evidence or the appropriateness of significant audit judgements in the areas reviewed. There may be concerns in other areas, with implications that are individually or collectively significant
Location	The primary address used for correspondence by the student, member, or member firm
Member	An individual who has applied for, and been admitted to, full membership of the body
PAB	A Prescribed Accountancy Body that comes within IAASA's supervisory remit, as defined in the Companies Act 2014

Glossary and definitions (Continued)

Acronym/term	Definition/explanation
PAB standards	PAB's applicable byelaws, rules and regulations
PIE	A Public Interest Entity is defined in the Companies Act 2014 and includes entities listed on an EU regulated exchange, credit institutions and insurance undertakings
Practice monitoring review	A review of the non-audit work of a member in practice
Principal	A partner in a member firm including a sole practitioner/director
RAB	A Recognised Accountancy Body permitted to approve its members/ member firms as statutory auditors/audit firms, as defined by the Companies Act 2014 (as amended). RABs are also permitted to approve other qualified individuals
Relevant legislative requirements	Requirements set out in the Companies Act 2014 (as amended)
Statutory auditor/ audit firm	An individual/audit firm that is approved in accordance with relevant legislation to carry out statutory audits in Ireland
Worldwide	Throughout this document worldwide includes Ireland



Irish Auditing & Accounting Supervisory Authority
Willow House, Millennium Park, Naas, W91 C6KT, Co Kildare, Ireland

Phone: +353 (0) 45 983 600 **Email:** info@iaasa.ie