



**An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh**  
Central Statistics Office

# **This is Ireland Highlights from Census 2011, Part 1**

Published by the Stationery Office, Dublin, Ireland.

To be purchased from the:

Central Statistics Office, Information Section, Skehard Road, Cork.

Government Publications Sales Office, Sun Alliance House,  
Molesworth Street, Dublin 2,

or through any bookseller.

Price €10.00

March 2012

© Government of Ireland 2012

Material compiled and presented by the  
Central Statistics Office.

Reproduction is authorised, except for commercial  
purposes, provided the source is acknowledged.

ISBN 978-1-4064-2650-2

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Foreword</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Population change and historical perspective</b>	<b>9</b>
We look at factors affecting population change over time.	
<b>Geographical distribution</b>	<b>11</b>
Which counties were growing the fastest? We also examine the changing urban /rural divide.	
<b>Age and sex composition</b>	<b>15</b>
Looking at the age structure of the population, the changing sex ratio, and the elderly living alone.	
<b>Households and families</b>	<b>21</b>
Marital status, living arrangements, and families in Ireland.	
<b>Diversity</b>	<b>29</b>
Examining place of birth, immigration, nationality and foreign languages.	
<b>Ethnicity and Irish Travellers</b>	<b>37</b>
Our ethnic and cultural make-up and Irish Travellers.	
<b>The Irish language</b>	<b>40</b>
The Irish language and Gaeltacht areas in focus.	
<b>Religion</b>	<b>42</b>
Changes in religion since 2006.	
<b>Housing</b>	<b>44</b>
Examining the total housing stock, both occupied and vacant, along with heating, water and sewerage.	
<b>Statistical tables</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Appendices</b>	<b>115</b>



# Foreword

This report is the first of two publications summarising the results of the 2011 census. This first one, *This is Ireland - Part 1*, looks at overall population change by county; it also examines age, marriage, households and families as well as including first results on nationality, foreign languages, the Irish language, religion and housing. The second summary report, *This is Ireland - Part 2*, (coming in June), will look at other social and economic factors such as employment, occupations, education and skills as well as health related topics.

## More analysis

We are adopting a different publishing approach for 2011 with more analysis and insights spread across our entire nine month schedule. Apart from the two summary reports we will be publishing nine thematic reports each one exploring a different topic in more depth (a complete list with planned publication dates can be found on page 121). So for example, Report 1, *Older and Younger - An Age Profile of Ireland*, will include an examination of pre-school children as a particular group looking at their geographic distribution, type of accommodation and household composition among others. Other reports will take a similar approach; by examining the data in a way that seeks to get behind the headline figures.

## Web tables


All the data published in these reports will be available on the CSO web site (at [www.cso.ie/census](http://www.cso.ie/census)) where users will be able to build their own tables by selecting the data they are interested in and downloading them in an easy to use format for their own analysis.

## Small area data

Small area data is an important output from the census and we will be bringing you a complete set of tables for all the standard layers of geography, such as ED and Local Electoral Area, as well as tables for the new geographic unit, called Small Areas, which will provide data for uniform areas of typically 80 to 100 dwellings.

## Interactive maps

In cooperation with the All Ireland Research Observatory (AIRO) summary census data will also be available for the first time in thematic maps for Electoral Districts and all Small Areas at the time of publication of this report. This new development aims to bring census data alive in a fresh and exciting way and will be expanded on throughout our publication schedule to cover all small area data. Just follow the link from the web site.



Gerry O'Hanlon

Director General



**This is Ireland**

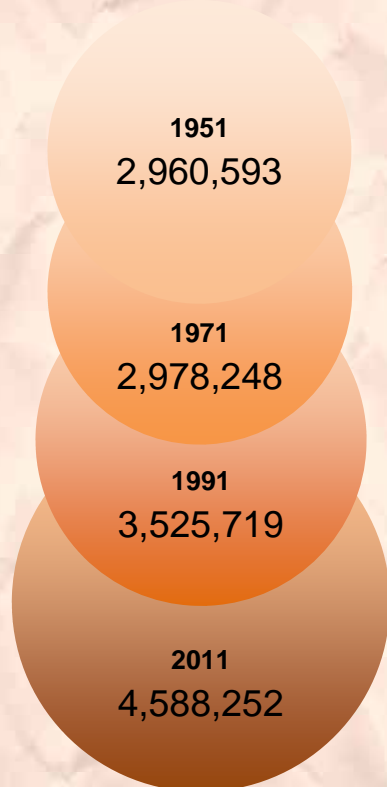




## It's a fact!

**4,588,252** The population of Ireland in April 2011

**348,404** The increase in the population since April 2006



## Strong population growth continues

Census 2011 results show that Ireland's population has continued to grow strongly since Census 2006, increasing by 348,404 persons to 4,588,252 persons.

This represents an increase of 8.2 per cent over the 5 year inter-censal period, an annual average increase of 1.6 per cent.

The previous annual average increase between Census 2002 and Census 2006 was 2.1 per cent, the highest on record.

Looking back over 20 years Ireland's population has increased by over one million persons, or 30.1 per cent.

Over the past 60 years, the population has increased by 1.6 million persons or 55 per cent which is illustrated in the chart opposite.

Tables pages 57 - 59

**Table A Population 1951-2011**

Census Year	Population	Change	%
1951	2,960,593	5,486	0.2
1956	2,898,264	-62,329	-2.1
1961	2,818,341	-79,923	-2.8
1966	2,884,002	65,661	2.3
1971	2,978,248	94,246	3.3
1979	3,368,217	389,969	13.1
1981	3,443,405	75,188	2.2
1986	3,540,643	97,238	2.8
1991	3,525,719	-14,924	-0.4
1996	3,626,087	100,368	2.8
2002	3,917,203	291,116	8.0
2006	4,239,848	322,645	8.2
2011	4,588,252	348,404	8.2

## History lessons

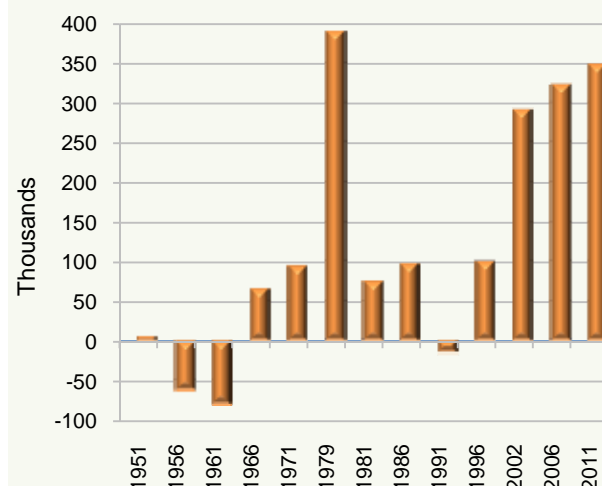
The graph opposite charts the inter-censal population change going back to 1951.

Ireland's population was at its lowest level in 1961 at 2.8 million, having fallen by 142,252 in the preceding decade. Thereafter it has grown in each decade through a combination of natural increase and declining net outward migration.

The very high increase for 1979 reflects both a period of high net inward migration, increasing births and the longer period covered (Census 1976 was cancelled for budgetary reasons).

The period since 1996 shows sustained population growth in the region of 8 per cent in each inter-censal period.

**Figure 1 Inter-censal change 1951-2011**



## It's a fact!

**365,000** Births since Census 2006

**140,000** Deaths since Census 2006

**225,000** Natural increase 2006 - 2011

**73,000** The annual average number of births between 2006 and 2011

**61,000** The annual average number of births between 2002 and 2006

**28,000** The annual average number of deaths since 2002

## Drivers of population growth

Given the economic turnaround in Ireland since Census 2006 along with the strong focus on emigration, the sizeable population growth may be somewhat surprising.

Population change is driven by four elements - births, deaths, immigration and emigration. Births less deaths are known as natural increase.

During the inter-censal period 2006 to 2011, very high births combined with falling deaths has been the main driver of population growth in Ireland. Total births for the 5 years were 365,000 and deaths were 140,000, leading to a combined natural increase in the population of 225,000, the highest ever recorded for an inter-censal period.

**Table B Annual averages, population change 1961-2011**

Period	Births	Deaths	Natural increase	Change in population	Estimated net migration
<i>Thousands</i>					
1961 – 1966	63	33	29	13	-16
1966 – 1971	63	33	30	19	-11
1971 – 1979	69	33	35	49	14
1979 – 1981	73	33	40	38	-3
1981 – 1986	67	33	34	19	-14
1986 – 1991	56	32	24	-3	-27
1991 – 1996	50	31	18	20	2
1996 – 2002	54	31	23	49	26
2002 – 2006	61	28	33	81	48
2006 – 2011	73	28	45	70	25

## Net migration

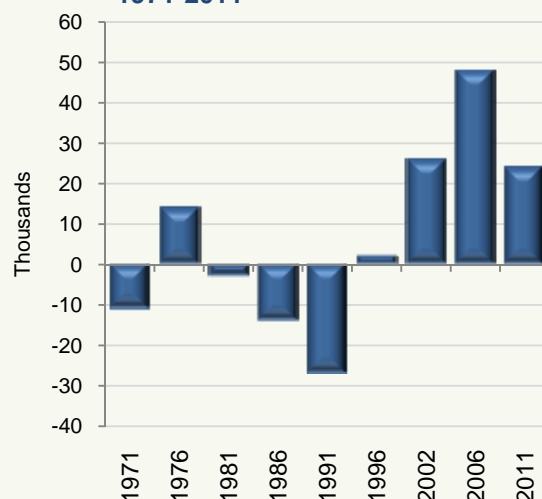
Net migration is derived as a residual of total population change less natural increase.

Over the 5 year inter-censal period the total population change of 348,000 less the natural increase of 225,000 leaves a total net migration figure in the five years to April 2011 of 125,000.

While this is significantly less than the 192,000 in the four year period to April 2006 it is still significant given the recent economic situation in Ireland.

Immigration in the year to April 2011 is dealt with in more detail later in this report on page 31.

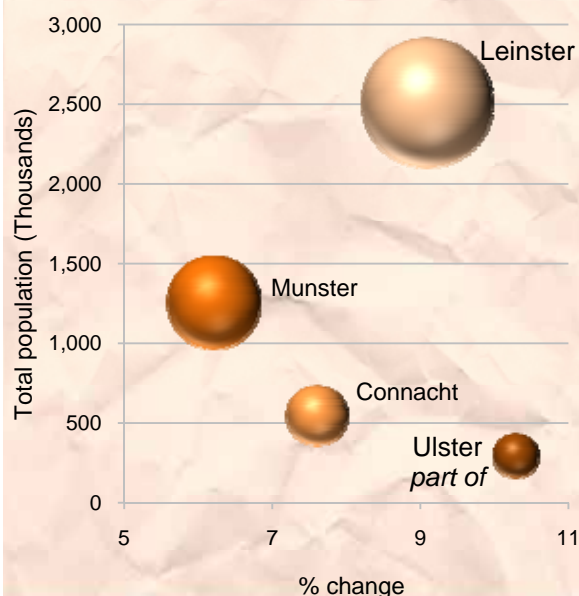
**Figure 2 Annual average net migration 1971-2011**



## It's a fact!

**20%** The percentage increase in the population in Laois

### Percentage change in population by province 2006-2011



## Counties....

The map opposite shows that the commuter belt counties to the north and west of Dublin were the main areas of population growth which, along with Wexford and Cork, all grew by more than 10 per cent.

Since 1996, the population of Leitrim has grown by 27 per cent. Prior to that the county had experienced a century and a half of continuous population decline.

## .....and cities

In the five years to April 2011, the combined administrative areas representing cities (excluding suburbs) have lost population share, having grown by 3 per cent collectively compared with 8.2 per cent growth nationally.

The population of Cork and Limerick fell while Galway, Waterford and Dublin all grew modestly.

Tables page 59

## Laois the leader in population growth

The population of County Laois increased by one fifth between April 2006 and April 2011 and was by far the fastest growing county in the country. This is over twice the growth rate for the country overall which increased by 8.2 per cent.

Other counties that showed rapid growth since 2006 are Cavan which grew by 14.3 per cent and Fingal which increased by 14.2 per cent, both nearly twice the growth rate for the State.

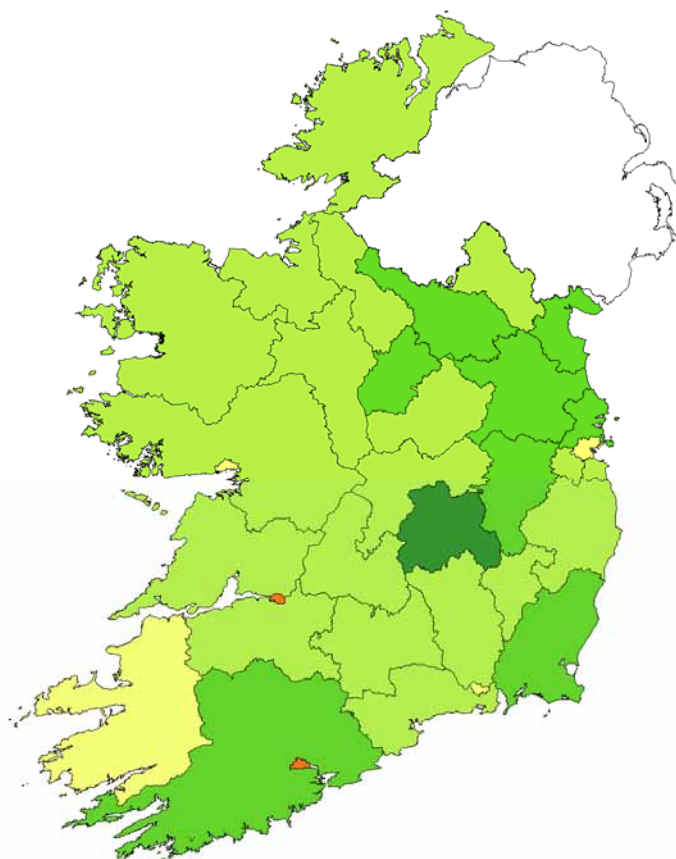
## Leinster's increased share

On a provincial level Leinster grew faster than the State overall, increasing by 9.1 per cent in the year to April 2011. This strong growth has resulted in Leinster increasing its share of the population with over half of all persons, 54.6 per cent, enumerated there in April 2011.

Munster showed the slowest growth of the provinces at 6.2 per cent while its share of the population was 27.1 per cent.

Connacht grew by 7.6 per cent and had 11.8 per cent share, while Ulster (part of) grew strongly at 10.3 per cent and had 6.4 per cent share.

Map 1 Population change by county 2006-2011



### Population Change

Decrease 0-5% 5%-10% 10%-15% >15%



## Population by constituency

The number of TD's per constituency is determined by the population as measured in the most recent census and is limited to one TD for each twenty to thirty thousand of the population.

The population by constituency is an important output from each census as the total membership of the Dail is determined by the population as measured in the census. The constituencies presented in figure 3 are those of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Dail as defined in the Electoral (Amendment) (No.4) Act 2009.

The constituency of Dublin North, which covers the areas of Balbriggan, Donabate, Lusk, Rush and Swords, recorded the highest growth at 16.3 per cent resulting in a total of 28,580 persons per representative.

Only one constituency, Dublin North-Central showed a population decrease (-1.0%) since Census 2006, with 24,834 people per TD in April 2011. This was the lowest population per TD in the country.

The constituency of Laois-Offaly had the highest number of people per representative at 30,565, followed by Kildare South (30,088) and Kildare North (30,012).

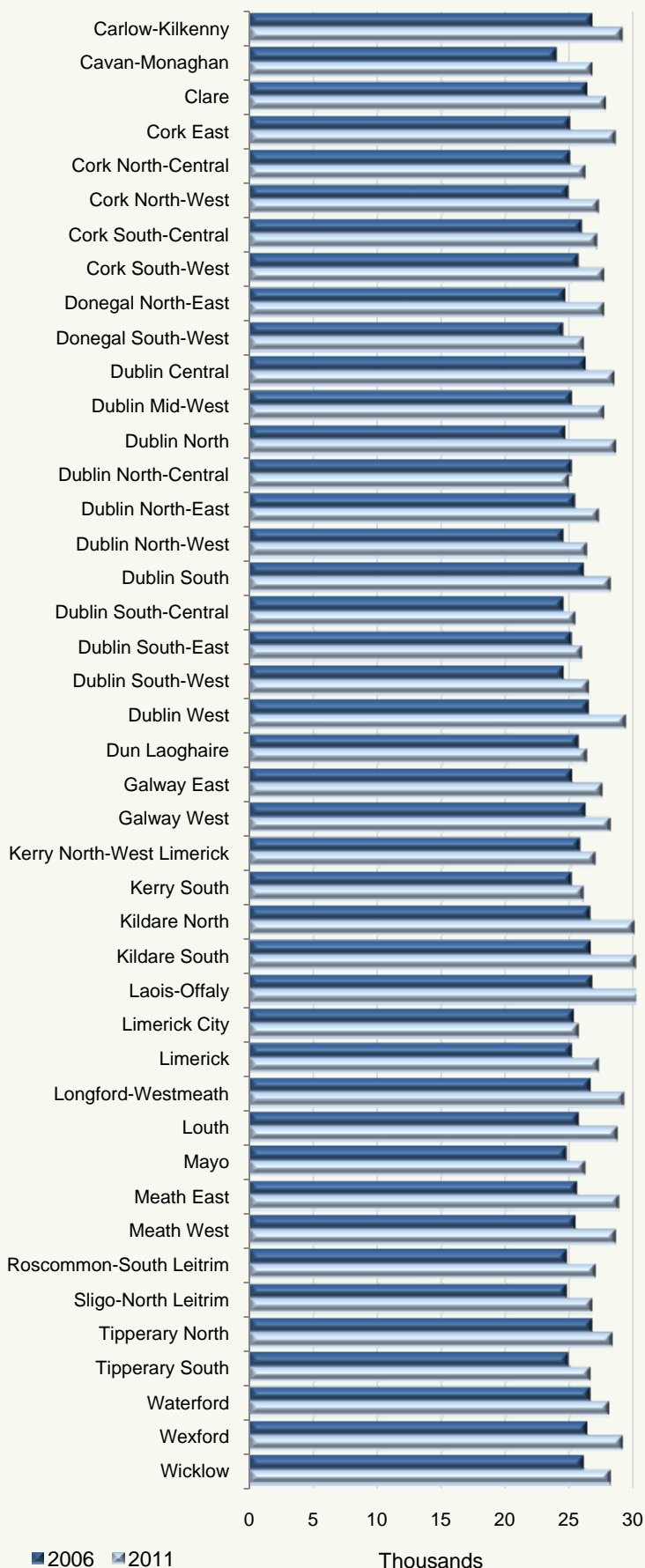
There were four constituencies with between 29,000 and 30,000 people per TD and an additional eleven constituencies where the number of people per TD was in the range 28,000 to 29,000.

Tables page 58

**Table C Persons represented by constituency type**

	Size type of constituency		
	5 members	4 members	3 members
Number of constituencies	11	15	17
Total persons represented	1,535,985	1,662,597	1,389,670
Average persons represented	27,927	27,710	27,248

**Figure 3 Population per member in each constituency 2006-2011**



## Urban population hits all time high

The number of people in urban areas (i.e. towns with a population of 1,500 or more) surpassed 2.8 million for the first time.

Overall, 2,846,889 people lived in urban areas in Ireland in 2011. This represents an increase of 272,576 or 10.6 per cent on 2006. Since 1996, Ireland has shown a rise in its urban population of 738,898.

Rural Ireland experienced a lower rate of growth between 2006 and 2011 growing by 75,828 persons or 4.6 per cent, from 1,665,535 in 2006 to 1,741,363 in 2011.

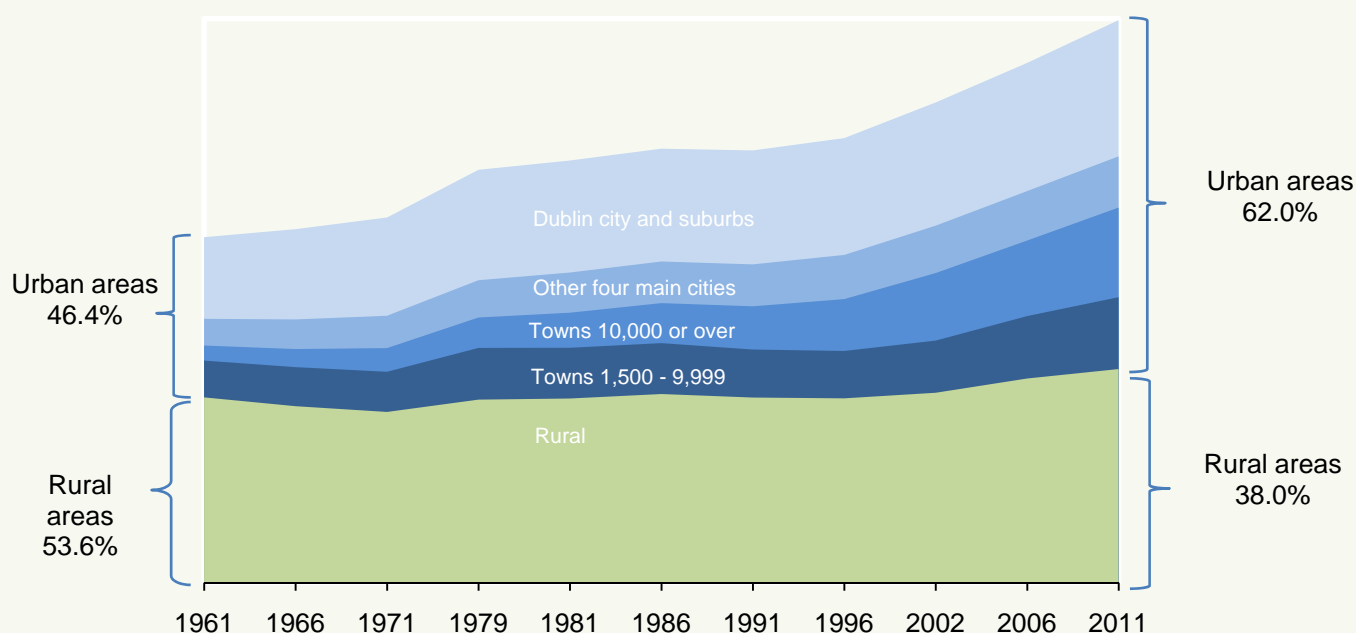
As can be seen in the chart below, 62.0 per cent of the population lived in urban areas in April 2011 compared with 46.4 per cent 50 years ago.

*Tables pages 60 - 62*

**Table D Population of urban areas 2006 and 2011**

Area	Population		Actual change
	2006	2011	
Dublin city and suburbs	1,045,769	1,110,627	64,858
Cork city and suburbs	190,384	198,582	8,198
Limerick city & suburbs	90,757	91,454	697
Galway city & suburbs	72,729	76,778	4,049
Waterford city & suburbs	49,213	51,519	2,306
Towns 10,000 or over	615,925	730,414	114,489
Towns 5,000 – 9,999	272,713	297,182	24,469
Towns 3,000 – 4,999	108,555	119,705	11,150
Towns 1,500 – 2,999	128,268	170,628	42,360
Urban Total	2,574,313	2,846,889	272,576
Rural Total	1,665,535	1,741,363	75,828
Total	4,239,848	4,588,252	348,404

## 50 years of urbanisation



## It's a fact!

**62%** The percentage of the population who lived in urban areas in April 2011

**11%** The percentage increase in the population of urban areas compared with 8.2 per cent overall

## It's a fact!

**197** The total number of urban centres in April 2011

**33%** The percentage increase in the population of small towns (population 3,000 or less) – the fastest growing category

**19%** The percentage increase in the population of large towns - the second fastest growing category

**51%** Dublin's share of the urban population in 1961

**39%** Dublin's share of the urban population 50 years later

**26%** The percentage of the urban population living in large towns

## More and larger urban centres

The table below shows the number of urban centres classified by type along with the increase in the respective populations.

The total number of urban centres increased from 170 in 2006 to 197 in 2011. For definitions, see appendix 3. Small towns (of less than 3,000 population) were the fastest growing category, increasing their population by 33 per cent since 2006 and by 49.7 per cent since 2002.

Five towns joined the category of 10,000 or more (i.e. large towns) since the last census (Ashbourne, Cavan, Bettystown, Tramore and Enniscorthy) bringing the total number to 39. The population of all large towns increased by 18.6 per cent, and by 47.2 per cent since 2002.

**Table E Number of urban population centres**

Area	Population centres		
	2006	2011	Percentage increase in population
Dublin City & suburbs	1	1	6.2
Cork City & suburbs	1	1	4.3
Limerick City & suburbs	1	1	0.8
Galway City & suburbs	1	1	5.6
Waterford City & suburbs	1	1	4.7
Towns 10,000 or over	34	39	18.6
Towns 5,000-9,999	39	41	9.0
Towns 3,000-4,999	29	30	10.3
Towns 1,500-2,999	63	82	33.0
Urban Total	170	197	10.5

## Shifting share.....

The chart opposite clearly shows how Dublin city has lost population share of the total urban population at the expense of other urban areas over the past fifty years.

In 1961 Dublin city accounted for over half the urban population of the country with 50.9 per cent living there. In April 2011 this had fallen to 39.0 per cent.

This fall has been offset by the growth of large towns. In 1961 fewer than 1 in 10 people in urban areas lived in this category of town, compared with more than 1 in 4 at the time of the last census.

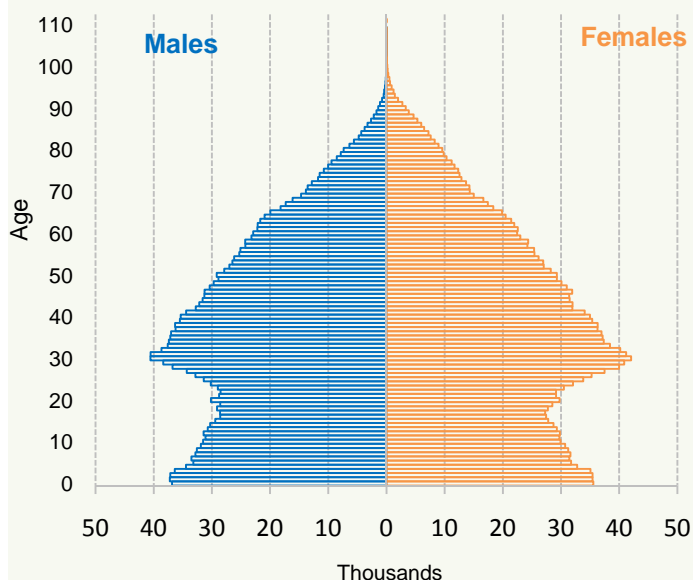
**Figure 4 Share of population in urban areas 1961 and 2011**





# Age and sex composition

Figure 5 Population by age and sex 2011



## Age Structure

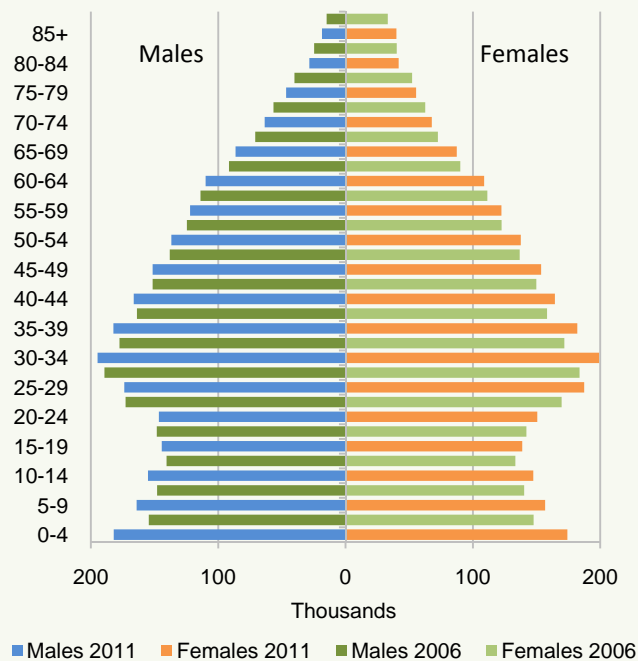
The number of males and females in 2011 by single year of age is represented in the population pyramid in figure 5.

A peak in the number of births in 1980 can be seen in today's 30 year age group, followed by a decline in births in the late eighties and early nineties and the increasing births in more recent years.

The contraction at the top of the pyramid reflects the decrease in the population with increasing age.

Tables pages 60 - 74

Figure 6 Changes in population structure 2006-2011



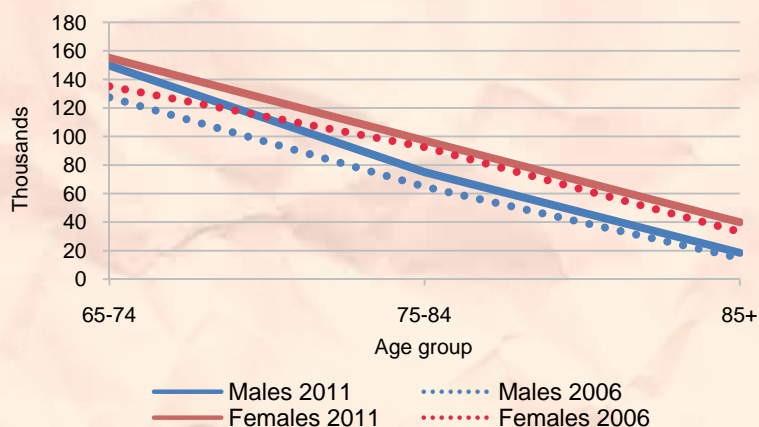
## How the population has changed

Figure 6 compares the population structure in 2011 to 2006 and shows that in 2011 the number of people in Ireland increased across all ages, except in the 15-29 age groups. This decrease was due to the decline in births in the late 1980s and early 1990s combined with the effects of migration, particularly on those in their mid-twenties.

The substantial increase in births in the 0-4 age group is also evident. The increased population in age groups over 30 is due to a combination of cohort effects, inward migration and lower mortality during the period.

People are living longer as can be seen in the changes in the population aged over 65 which increased by 14.4 per cent since 2006. This was especially evident in the male population aged over 65 which rose by 17.5 per cent compared with 12 per cent for women, indicating the narrowing gap in life expectancy between the two sexes, as can be seen in the graph below.

Population aged 65 and over 2006-2011



## It's a fact

- 18%** The increase in the male population aged 65 and over
- 12%** The increase in the female population aged 65 and over
- 22%** The increase in the population aged 85 and over

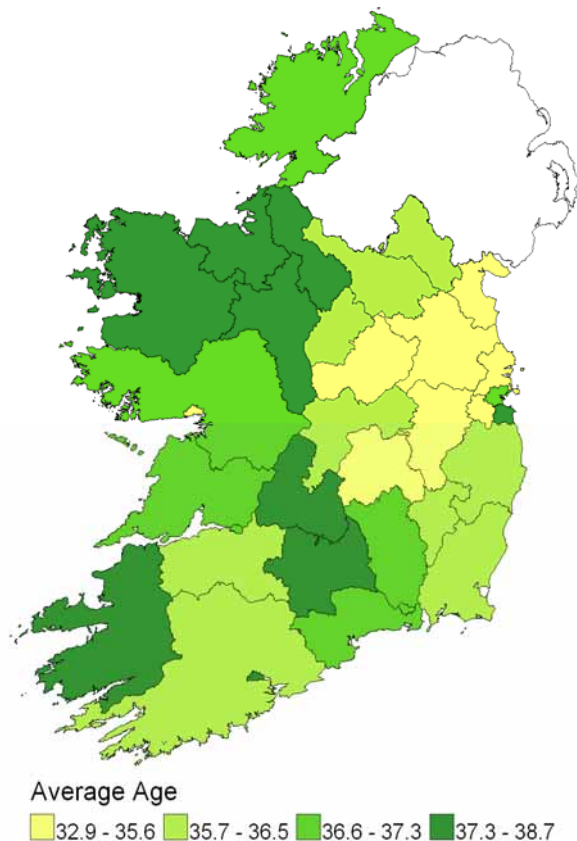
## Average age rises

The average age of the population continued to increase and stood at 36.1 in April 2011 compared with 35.6 five years earlier, a gain of half a year. Since 1996, when it was just 34.1, the average age has increased by 2 full years. This is despite the high inward migration of primarily younger people into Ireland over the past 10 years.

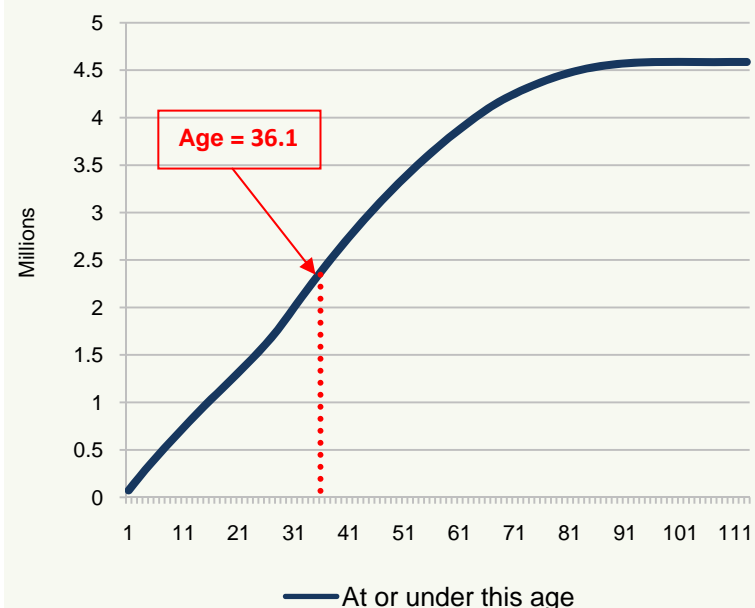
Fingal continues to have the youngest population followed by Kildare. Cork City has the oldest population followed closely by Mayo and Kerry.

*Tables pages 60 - 67*

**Map 2 Average age by county**



**Figure 7 Average age of the population**



**Table F Average age for selected counties 2006-2011**

	2006		2011	
	County	Age	County	Age
<b>State</b>		<b>35.6</b>		<b>36.1</b>
<b>Oldest</b>	Roscommon	38.3	Cork City	38.7
	Leitrim	38.1	Mayo	38.6
	Kerry	38.1	Kerry	38.5
	Mayo	38.0	Leitrim	38.4
	Cork City	37.6	Roscommon	38.4
<b>Youngest</b>	Galway City	33.4	Laois	34.3
	Meath	33.4	South Dublin	34.1
	South Dublin	33.1	Meath	33.8
	Kildare	32.8	Kildare	33.5
	Fingal	32.2	Fingal	32.9

## It's a fact!

**Ageing** The population has aged by half a year since 2006 and by 2 years in the 15 years since 1996

**38.7** The average age for Cork City compared with 36.1 for the State

**32.9** The average age for Fingal



# Age dependency

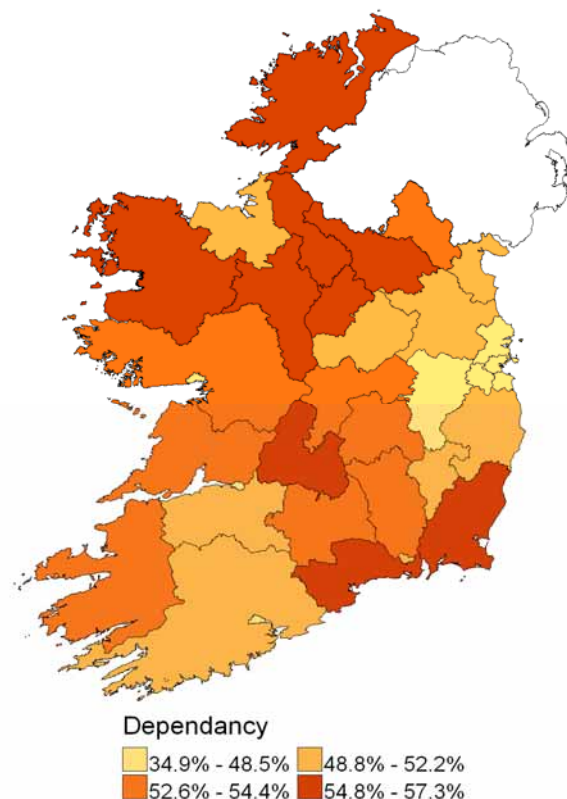
## Age dependency increasing

Dependents are defined for statistical purposes as people outside the normal working age of 15-64. The age range for the young population is 0-14 while older people are classed as those aged 65 and over. Dependency ratios are used to give a useful indication of the age structure of a population with young and old shown as a percentage of the population of working age (i.e. aged 15-64). The total dependency ratio is the sum of the young and old ratios.

The total dependency ratio increased to 49.3 in 2011 from 45.8 in 2006. This indicates approximately one young or old person for every two people of working age in Ireland. This is due to increasing births combined with people generally living longer, and is despite the fact that the number of persons of working age continued to grow, reaching over three million for the first time in 2011.

It is important to bear in mind that dependency ratios are a rather crude measure as variations occur over time due to the number of young people in third level education and people over 65 continuing to work.

Map 3 Age dependency by county

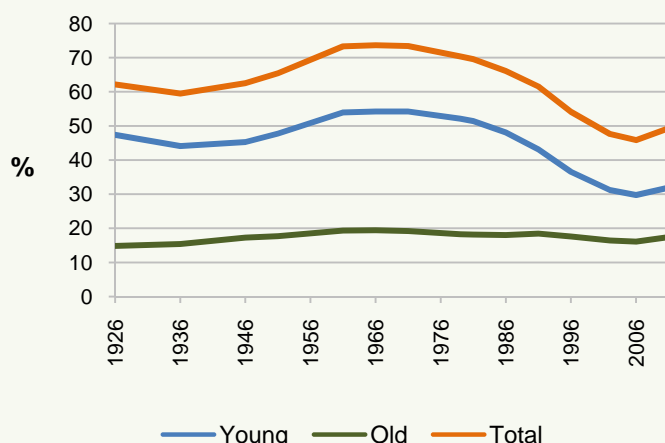


## Dependency highest in Connacht and lowest in cities

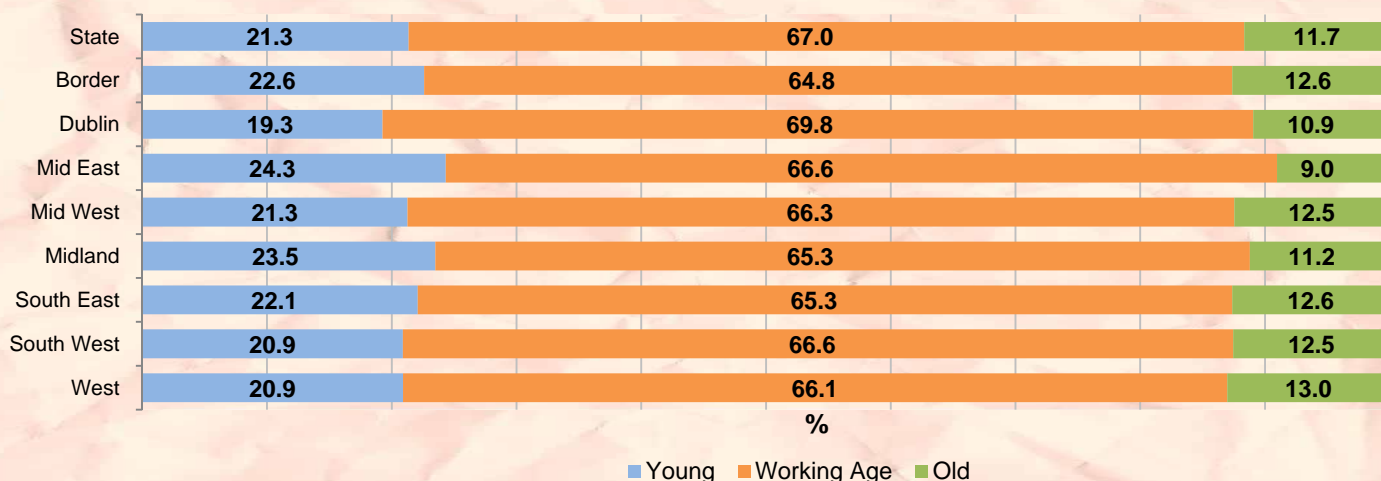
Leitrim had the highest dependency of any county at 57.3 per cent, closely followed by counties Donegal (56.9%), Mayo (55.9%) and Roscommon (55.9%).

The lowest dependency ratios were in urban areas with Galway City at 34.9 per cent, followed by Dublin City (38.4%), Cork City (42.3%) and Limerick City (45.1%).

Figure 8 Age Dependency Ratios 1926-2011



## Regional Authority areas by percentage in each age group



## More women than men

There were 42,854 more females than males in the State in April 2011 resulting in an overall sex ratio of 98.1 males for every 100 females.

This is a reversal of the situation in 2006 when there were slightly more males than females and a sex ratio of 100.1 and can be primarily attributed to changing patterns in migration.

## More males born...

Due to higher male birth rates there were more males than females in the younger age groups. This is particularly evident in the population aged 19 and younger where there is an average of 104.6 males for every 100 females.

## ...but females live longer!

However at the other end of the population the opposite is true. Lower female mortality accounts for the higher proportion of women in the over 65 age groups, and this becomes more pronounced with increasing age.

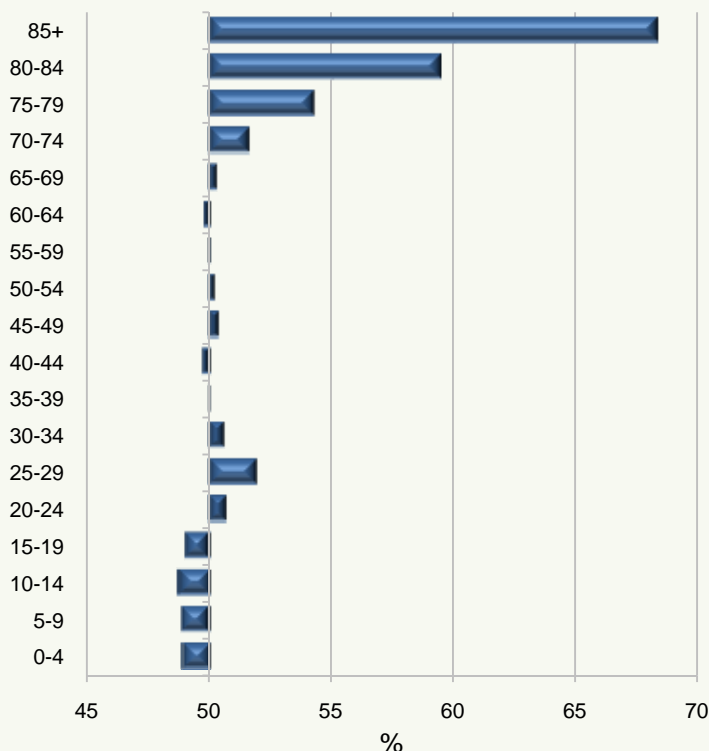
For every 100 females aged 65 and over there were 83 males. Looking at the population aged 75 and over, this ratio decreased to 68 males per 100 females, while an analysis of the population aged 85 and over shows a ratio of 46 with more than two women for every man in that age group.

## The Gap is narrowing!

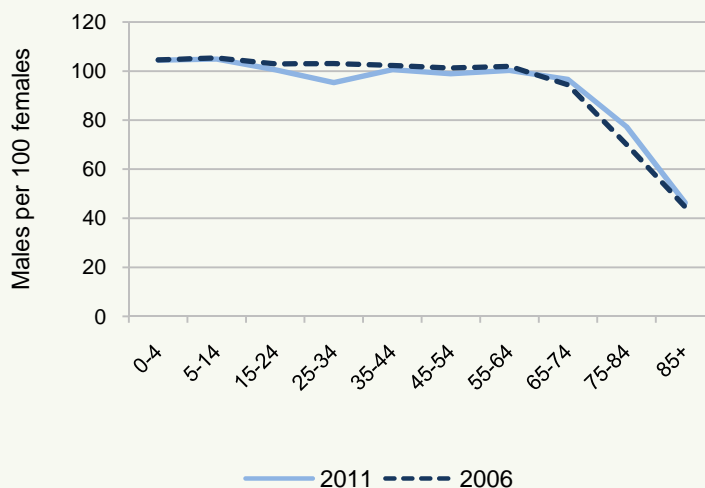
The sex ratios in all age groups over 65 have increased in 2011 compared to 2006 as shown in figure 10, showing that, while there are more women in these age groups, the proportion of men is increasing, reflecting decreasing male mortality rates.

*Tables pages 60 - 67*

**Figure 9 Women as a percentage of total population by age group**



**Figure 10 Sex ratio 2006 - 2011**



## It's a fact!

**50/50**

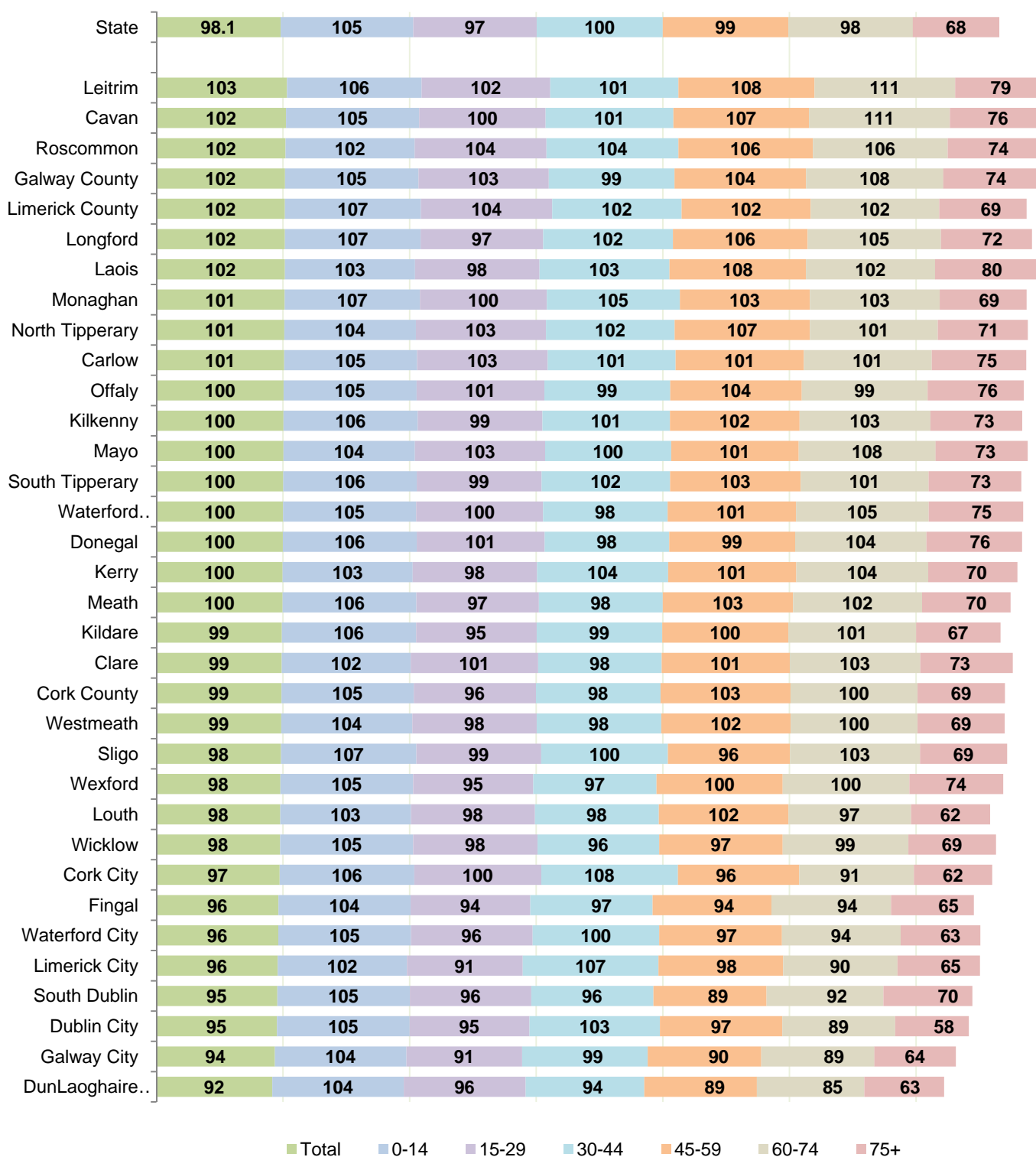
The most gender balanced aged groups are 35-39 and 55-59 where the ratio of men to women is equal

# Age and sex ratio

## County by county

The county breakdown of the sex ratio (i.e. the number of males per 100 females) in the chart below gives an insight into the relative position of men and women at different age groups across the country. For instance in the 75 and over age group County Laois has the highest ratio of men to women with a sex ratio of 80, while in Dublin City the ratio is lowest at 58. The shorter the line overall, the fewer men per women in that area.

### County breakdown of men per 100 women by age group



## Elderly and living alone

Nearly 28 per cent (136,295) of people aged 65 and over who were living in private households lived alone. The percentage increased with age with 36.7 per cent of people aged 75 and over and 44.2 per cent of people aged 85 and over living on their own.

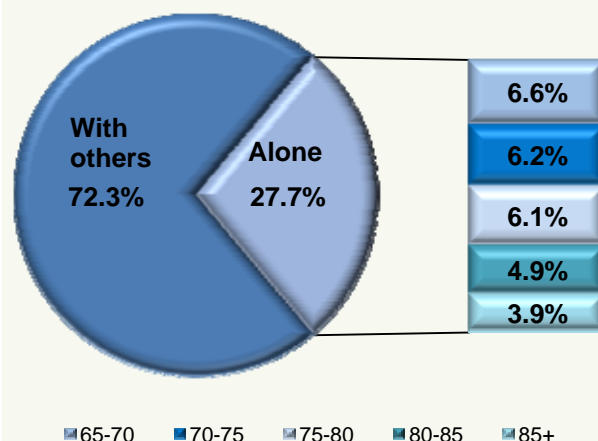
Cities, along with the Border and Western regions, had the highest number of elderly people living alone. It's the opposite in the Eastern region where a lower proportion of elderly people were living alone, particularly in the Dublin commuter counties.

## More elderly women live alone

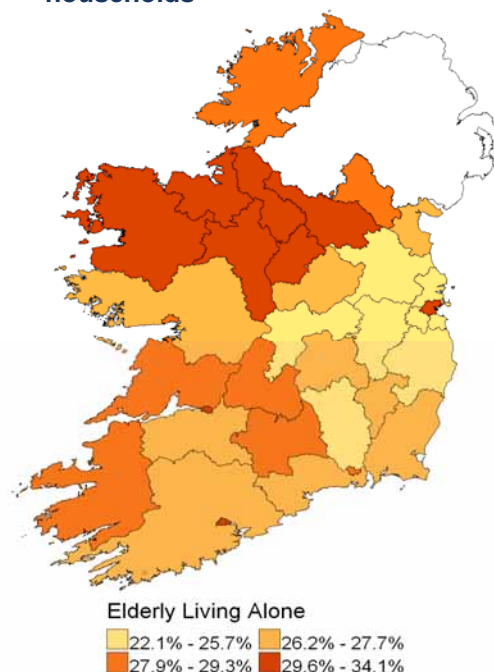
Elderly people living alone are predominantly women as shown below. This is because of the higher number of women in the older population. In fact almost two-thirds of elderly people aged 65 and over who lived alone were women. This increased to almost three in every four for those aged 85 and over.

Tables page 79

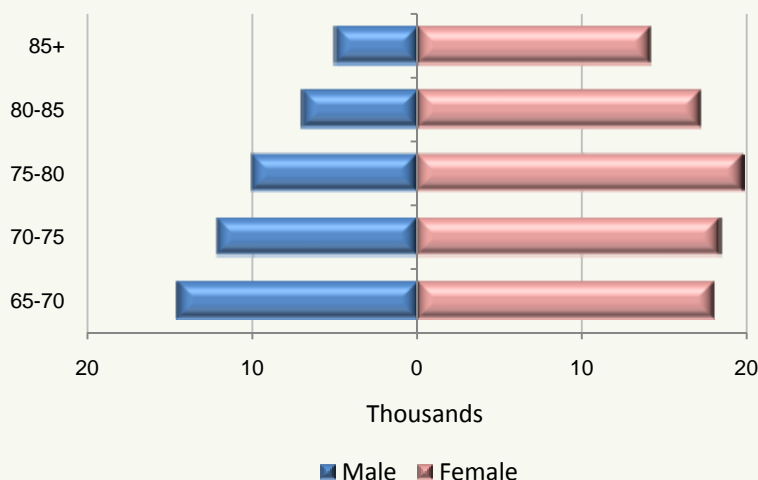
**Figure 11 Persons aged 65 and over living in private households**



**Map 4 Persons aged 65 and over living alone as a percentage of those living in private households**



**Figure 12 Males and females aged 65 and over living alone, by age group**



## Percentage of elderly persons living alone and with others

		Persons Living Alone	Persons Living with Others	Persons in private households
Males	65-69	17.5%	82.5%	83,325
	70-74	20.2%	79.8%	60,465
	75-79	23.0%	77.0%	43,634
	80-84	27.5%	72.5%	25,505
	85+	33.5%	66.5%	14,977
Females	65-69	21.4%	78.6%	83,936
	70-74	28.7%	71.3%	64,206
	75-79	38.9%	61.1%	50,905
	80-84	47.8%	52.2%	35,928
	85+	49.8%	50.2%	28,287



# Marital Status

## More people married

There were 143,588 more married people in Ireland than there were five years ago. The majority of this increase (132,379) was among those married for the first time. An additional 11,165 more were re-married after the breakup of a previous marriage, and the increase in those re-married following widowhood remained largely unchanged.

Despite this growth, the percentage of the population who were married remained stable at around 37 per cent.

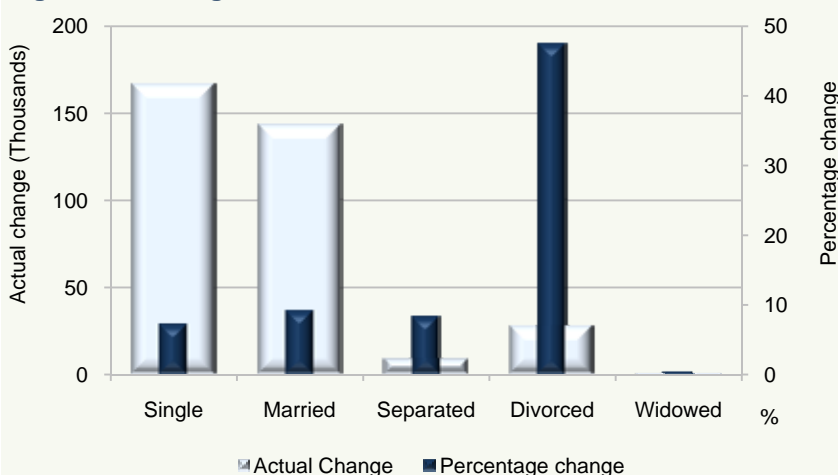
## Proportion of widows drops

Although the number of people aged 70 and over grew by 37,225 since the previous census, the numbers who were widowed grew by only 700.

This reflects a trend where men live longer – in the over 70 age group, the number of men has grown faster than the number of women. In 2006 there were 723 men aged 70 and over for every 1,000 women in the same age band. In 2011 this has narrowed to 767 per 1,000.

*Tables pages 60 - 65*

Figure 13 Change in marital status 2006-2011



## It's a fact!

- 37%** Percentage of population who were married
- 40%** Percentage married in Galway County
- 30%** Percentage married in Dublin City

Table G Population aged 15 and over by marital status 2002-2011

Years	Total	Single	Married				Separated (incl. deserted)	Divorced	Widowed
						Remarried following dissolution of previous marriage			
			Total	First marriage	Remarried following widowhood				
Thousands									
2002	3,089.8	1,314.7	1,454.4	1,423.9	9.1	21.4	98.8	35.1	186.9
2006	3,375.4	1,453.2	1,565.0	1,523.5	9.7	31.8	107.3	59.5	190.4
2011	3,608.7	1,505.0	1,708.6	1,655.9	9.7	43.0	116.2	87.8	191.1
Actual change (Thousands)									
2002/2006	285.6	138.6	110.6	99.6	0.6	10.4	8.5	24.5	3.5
2006/2011	233.3	51.8	143.6	132.4	0.0	11.2	8.9	28.2	0.7
Percentage change									
2002/2006	9.2	10.5	7.6	7.0	6.2	48.6	8.6	69.8	1.9
2006/2011	6.9	3.6	9.2	8.7	0.5	35.1	8.3	47.4	0.4

## Single people

The percentage of people aged 15 and over who were single has fallen from 43.1 per cent in 2006 to 41.7 per cent in 2011. The numbers differed for men and women with 44.3 per cent of men single but only 39.2 per cent of women.

When examined for urban and rural areas separately the data shows that there was a higher proportion of single people in urban (45.2%) than in rural (35.8%) areas.

## Likelihood of never marrying

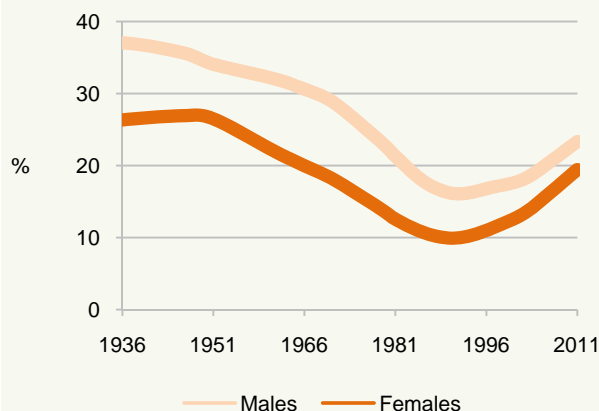
It is interesting to examine the data for those aged 40 to 49 separately. As the majority of marriages in Ireland are between persons aged under 40 (93% of first marriages) the marital status of this particular age group is a good indicator of those who never marry in the long term.

Figure 14 opposite illustrates the trend over time. In April 2011 23.3 per cent of men and 19.4 per cent of women in this age group were single.

The data for urban and rural areas differs sharply. In rural areas only 13.4 per cent of women in this age group were single compared with 23.4 per cent in urban areas, while for men the figures were 20.6 per cent and 25.2 per cent respectively.

Tables pages 60 - 65

**Figure 14 Percentage of people aged 40-49 who are single**



## It's a fact!

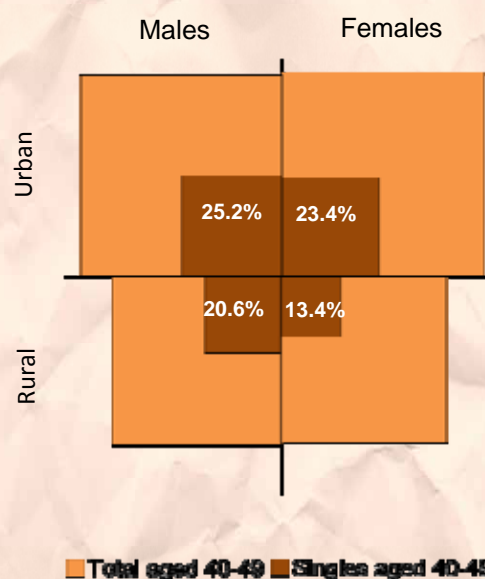
**45%** The percentage of people aged 15 and over in urban areas who were single

**36%** The percentage for rural areas

**74,130** The number of single men aged 40-49

**61,833** The number of single women in the same age group

**40-49 year olds in urban and rural areas by percentage single**



**Table H Percentage of single people in urban and rural areas by sex**

Age group	Total	Urban	Rural
Persons			
30 – 39 years	44.0	47.8	36.0
40 – 49 years	21.4	24.3	17.1
50 – 59 years	14.1	15.2	12.7
Males			
30 – 39 years	47.4	50.2	41.8
40 – 49 years	23.3	25.2	20.6
50 – 59 years	16.1	15.8	16.5
Females			
30 – 39 years	40.6	45.5	30.3
40 – 49 years	19.4	23.4	13.4
50 – 59 years	12.2	14.7	8.6

# Separated and divorced

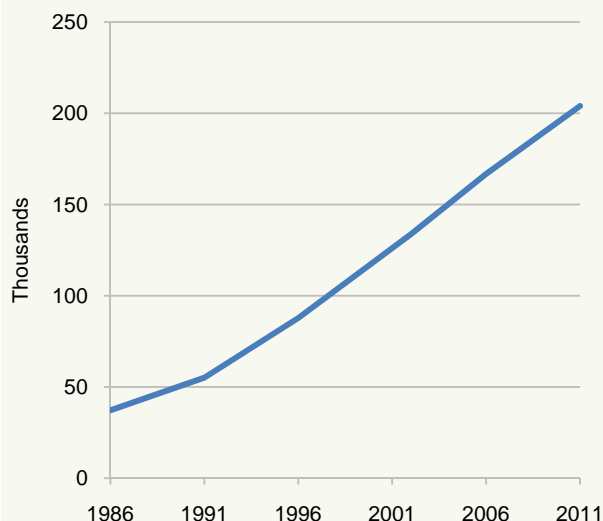
## Continued increase in numbers divorced

The number of divorced people in Ireland has increased by 150.3 per cent since 2002 (the first census following the introduction of divorce in Ireland), up from 35,059 to 87,770 in this census. In contrast the number of people identified as separated has levelled off and stood at 116,194, up marginally from 107,263 five years earlier. As divorce in Ireland generally requires a period of separation in the first instance (up to five years) the data no doubt reflects both a progression for people from separation to divorce, combined with new numbers joining the category of separation.

## More women than men

As has been seen in previous census results the figures for men and women differ, with consistently more women than men recorded in these categories. There were 65,361 separated women compared with 50,833 separated men, and 49,685 divorced women compared with 38,085 divorced men.

**Figure 15 Separated and divorced persons 1986-2011**



**Table 1 Marital breakdown rates for selected counties**

County or City	Rate of marital breakdown
	%
<b>3 Highest</b>	
Limerick City	13.5
Waterford City	12.5
Dublin City	12.4
<b>3 Lowest</b>	
Cavan	8.2
Limerick County	7.9
Galway County	7.5

## Rates of marital breakdown

The increase in the number of divorced people has driven the marital breakdown rate up from 8.7 per cent in 2006 to 9.7 per cent in 2011. This rate is calculated as the number of separated and divorced persons as a proportion of those who were ever married.

When examined on a county basis the highest rates were in the cities, topped by Limerick City with a rate of 13.5 per cent, while Galway County had the lowest rates (7.5%). The data is illustrated in the map overleaf.

## Remarriage following divorce

The data on re-marriage following divorce show that the 2002 figure of 21,400 has more than doubled to 42,960 in April 2011. Here the number of men outstrip women with 24,079 men in the category compared with 18,881 women, partially explaining the lower number of divorced men compared with women.

Tables pages 60 - 65

## It's a fact!

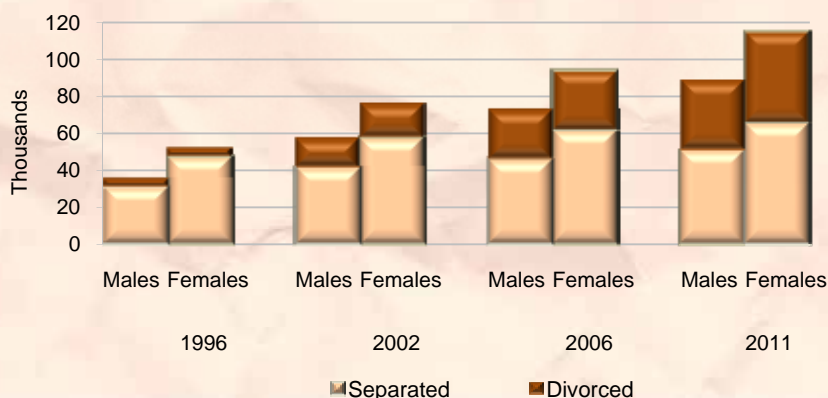
**88,918**

Number of men who are separated or divorced

**115,046**

Number of women who are separated or divorced

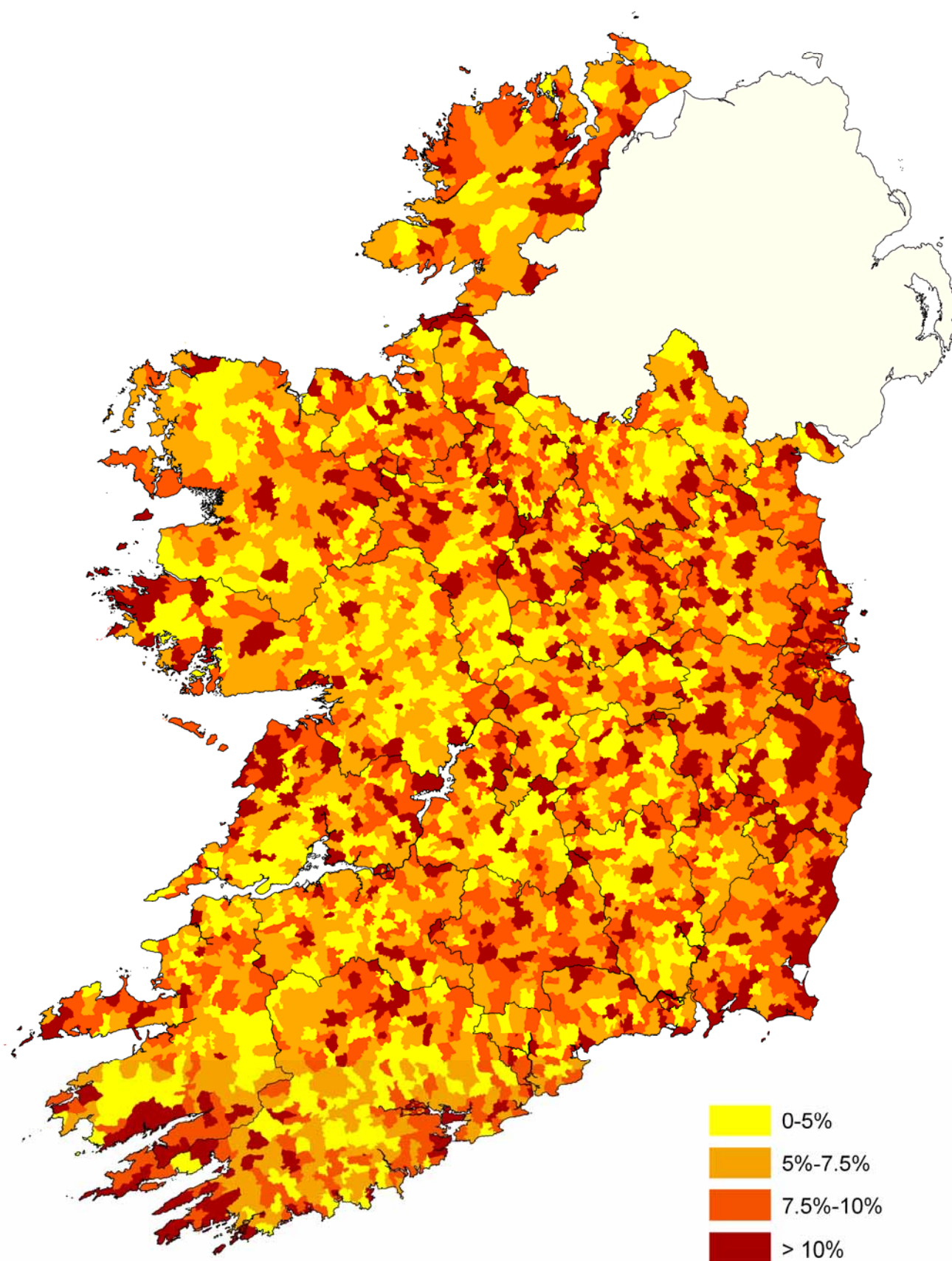
## Separated and divorced by sex





# Separated and divorced

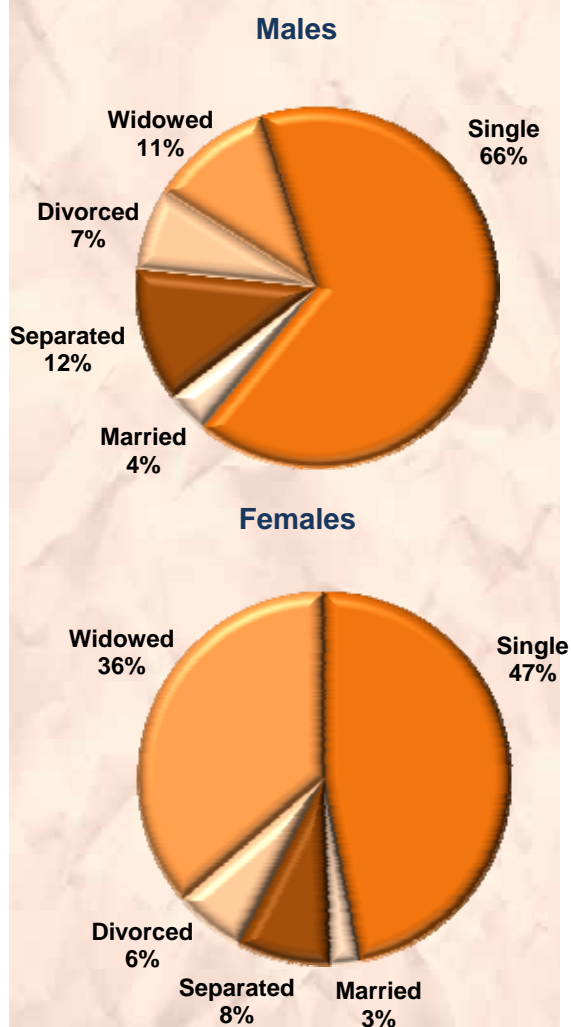
Map 5 Percentage rate of marital breakdown by electoral district





## It's a fact!

### One-person households by marital status



## Household size continues to shrink

Census 2011 saw the number of private households increase by 12.6 per cent over 5 years to stand at 1,654,208. The number of people living in private households grew more slowly, by 9.4 per cent, to 4,510,409.

The reason for the difference was that household size has decreased. There is now an average of 2.73 persons in each household, down from 2.81 in 2006. This continues a long-running trend of households becoming smaller.

Tables pages 75 - 79

**Table J Composition of households 2006-2011**

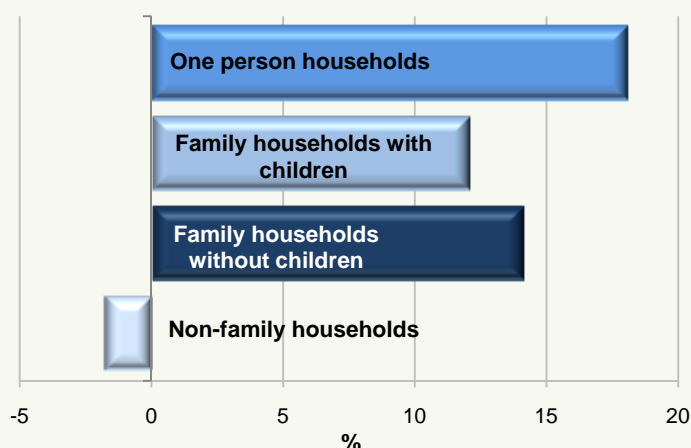
Composition of household	Number of households		Change 2006 - 2011	
	2006	2011	Actual	%
<i>Thousands</i>				
One person	329.5	392.0	62.5	19.0
Couple without children	269.5	313.3	43.7	16.2
Couple with children	517.3	577.9	60.6	11.7
Couple without children but with other persons	23.9	21.7	-2.2	-9.2
Couple with children and other persons	31.7	30.4	-1.3	-4.1
Lone parent with children	152.5	179.8	27.3	17.9
Lone parent with children and other persons	17.2	18.2	0.9	5.4
Two or more family units	20.3	18.6	-1.7	-8.2
Non-family households	107.6	102.2	-5.4	-5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1469.5</b>	<b>1654.2</b>	<b>184.7</b>	<b>12.6</b>

## Couples with children see highest increases

Couples with children have long been the most dominant household type in Ireland, accounting for roughly 35 per cent of all private households. Since 2006 they have also had the largest absolute growth of all household types, increasing by 60,600 during that time.

One-person households and couples without children also grew significantly over the 5 years, increasing by 62,500 and 43,700 respectively.

**Figure 16 Change in household types 2006-2011**



## More families and more children

There were 1,179,210 families in 2011, 12 per cent more than five years earlier. Families are defined as couples with or without children, or lone parents with children.

The biggest increases were among husbands and wives with children, who made up nearly half of all families, especially younger families (where all children were under 15). The number of children in families increased by almost 140,000 (9.4%) partially as a result of the high number of births over the last few years.

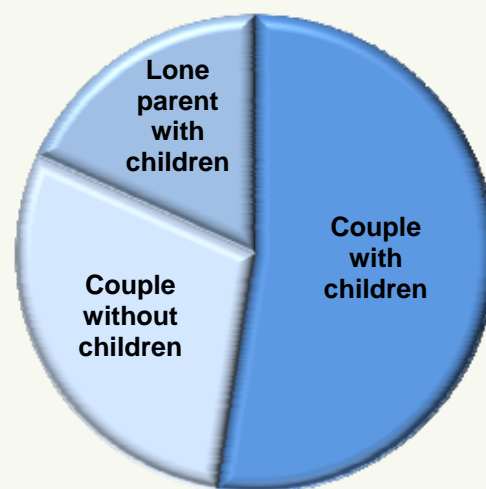
## Decline in family size slows

The long-running trend of families having fewer children has slowed. The average number of children in each family was 1.38, down from 1.41 in 2006. This was a less pronounced drop than those seen in censuses from 1991 to 2006.

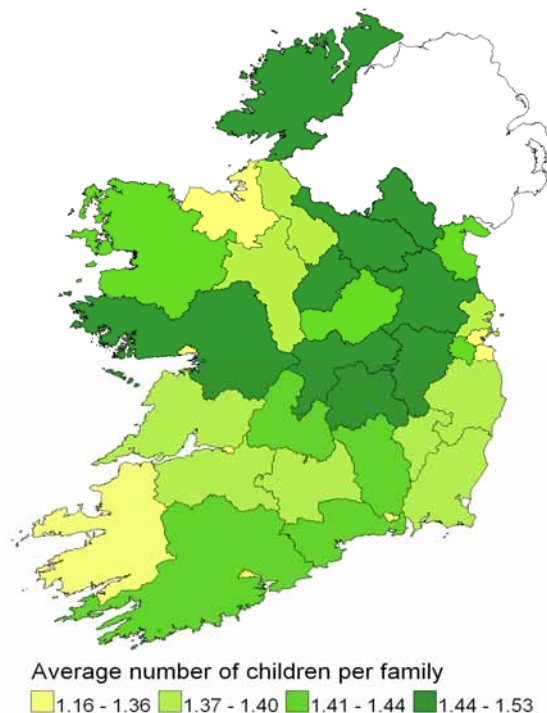
The number of families with four or more children has remained relatively stable over the most recent period.

*Tables pages 80 - 81*

**Figure 17 Types of families**



**Map 6 Average no. of children per family**



**Table K Families by number of children 1991-2011**

Number of children	1991	1996	2002	2006	2011
<i>Thousands</i>					
None	145.4	173.5	232.9	303.6	344.9
One	174.2	195.7	243.1	300.1	339.6
Two	182.5	203.5	234.8	253.1	286.0
Three	130.4	131.9	134.7	131.7	144.5
Four or more	125.3	102.3	78.9	64.7	64.2
Total family units	757.9	806.8	924.5	1,053.2	1,179.2
Total children in family units	1,523.9	1,470.2	1,470.8	1,486.4	1,626.0
Average number of children per family	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.4

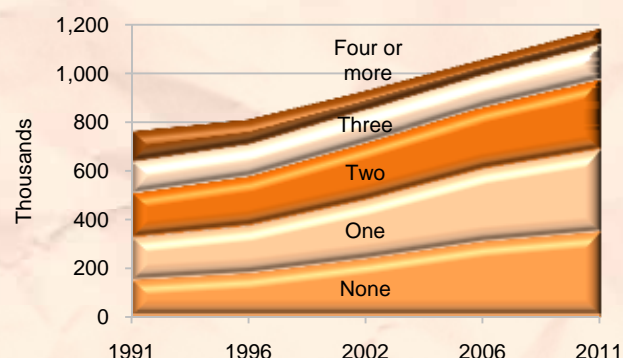
## It's a fact!

**1,592** The number of families containing seven or more children

**13%** Increase in the number of one-child families

**344,900** The number of families without children

**Families by number of children 1991-2011**



## Cohabiting couples

Of the 1.18 million families in Ireland, 143,600 were comprised of cohabiting couples. This was an increase of 21,800 on the 2006 figure, but shows a slower rate of growth than in previous years. (From 2002 to 2006 the numbers grew by an average of 11,000 per year).

While the majority (57.8%) of those couples had no children the average the number of children in this family type was rising. There were 0.7 children per cohabiting couple in 2011, up from 0.6 in 2006.

As cohabitation is often a precursor to marriage in Ireland, these couples tend to be younger on average than married couples (35.1 years as opposed to 50.4 for married).

## Lone parents

There were 215,300 families headed by lone parents with children, 87 per cent of which were lone mothers.

Two fifths of lone parents were single and just under a quarter were widowed. 31.8 per cent were separated or divorced, compared with 29.8 per cent in 2006.

## Same-sex couples

There were 4,042 same-sex couples living together, 2,321 male couples and 1,721 female.

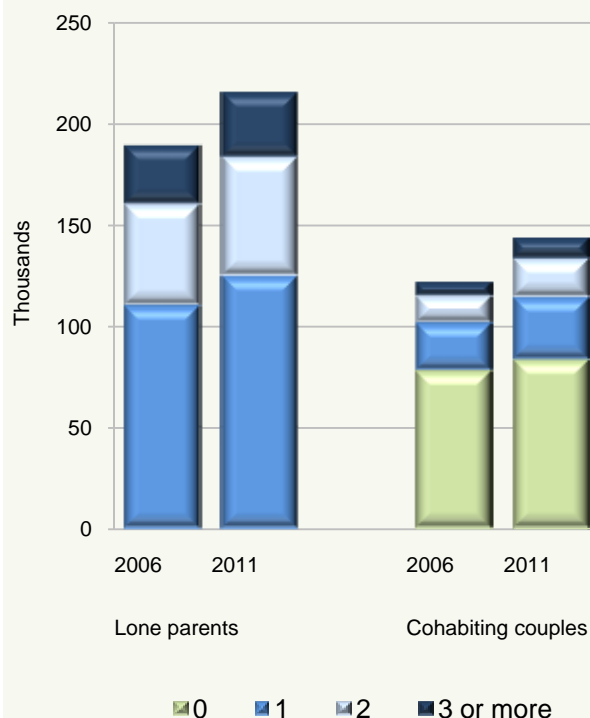
230 were couples with children, with the vast majority of these being female couples.

Most same-sex couples were cohabiting (3,876) but 166 indicated that they were married couples.

Since same-sex civil unions had only recently been introduced in Ireland at the time of the census, it is likely that most of these were married abroad.

Tables pages 80 - 81

Figure 18 Lone parents and cohabiting couples by number of children



## It's a fact!

6%

Increase in number of children of married couples

41%

Increase in number of children of cohabiting couples

14%

Increase in number of children of lone mothers

## Same-sex couples by sex

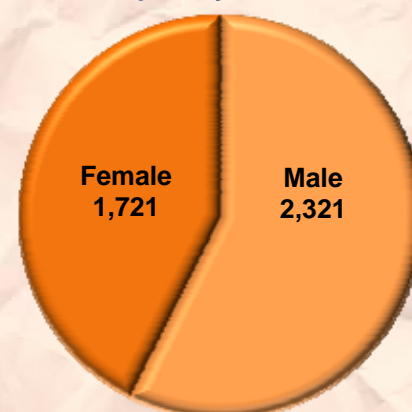
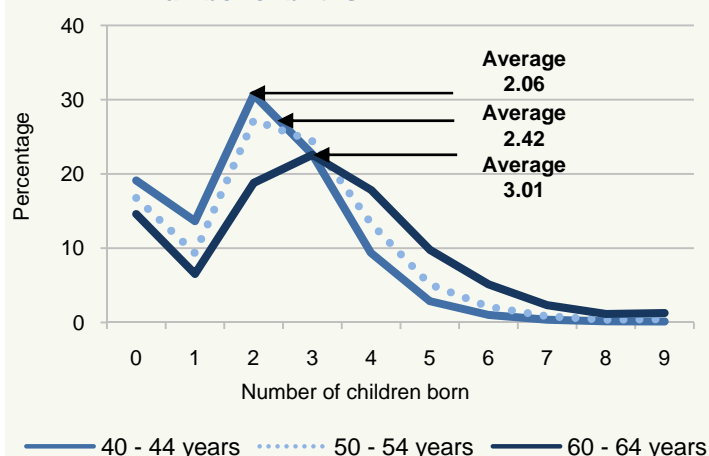


Table L Lone parents by marital status

Marital Status	Persons	Males	Females
Single	86,866	4,744	82,122
Married	9,026	2,253	6,773
Separated	42,863	6,704	36,159
Divorced	23,339	3,521	19,818
Widowed	53,221	11,809	41,412
Total	215,315	29,031	186,284



**Figure 19 Women in selected age groups by number of births**



## Fertility static despite high number of births

The high numbers of births in recent years were due to increased numbers of women of child-bearing age, rather than any change in the underlying fertility rate.

In the child-bearing age groups of 15 - 49 years, every 100 women had given birth to 116 children, the same number as in 2006. However there were 1.16 million women in this age group living here in 2011, an increase of 62,427 on the 2006 figure, resulting in higher overall number of births.

*Tables page 82*

## Women in their thirties

The biggest increases in numbers of children were among women in their thirties. In 2006 women in their thirties had given birth to 460,095 children. By 2011 this had risen 11 per cent to 510,879 (the average age of a mother for births registered in the three months around April 2011 was 31.8 years).

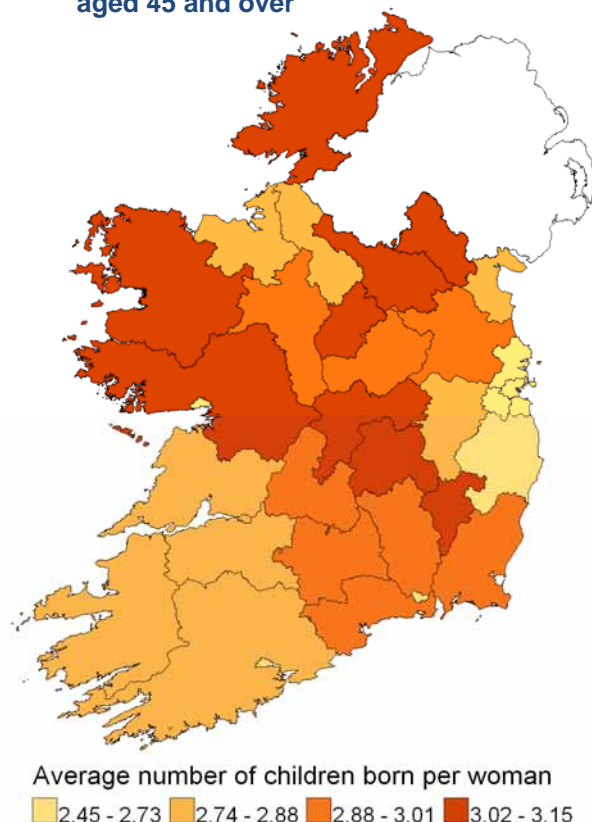
## Declining fertility with age

The overall decline in fertility among women in Ireland is illustrated in the graph above which presents data for three different age groups and plots the number of women by number of children. The average number of children is also presented.

## County by county

The average number of children to women aged 45 and over has been mapped by county opposite. Offaly had the highest rate at 3.15 children per woman, followed by Donegal (3.12) and Monaghan (3.11). Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Dublin City and Galway City had the lowest rates, at 2.44, 2.47 and 2.52 respectively.

**Map 7 Average number of children born to women aged 45 and over**



## It's a fact!

- 54,965** The increase in the number of women aged 25-39, peak child bearing years, resulting in higher overall number of births
- 203** The number of children born to every 100 women aged 40-44
- 323** The number of children born to every 100 women aged 70-74

## It's a fact!

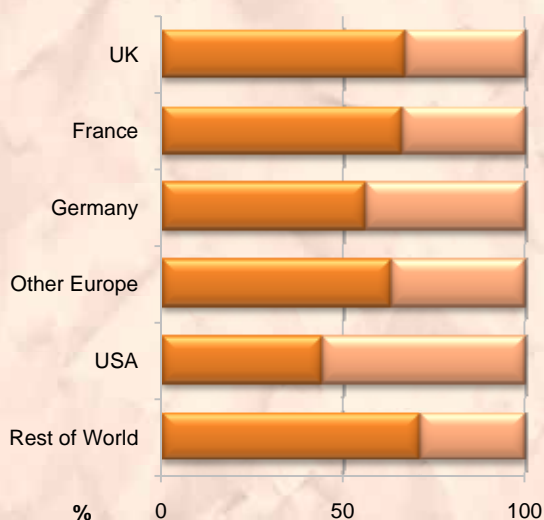
**63%** The percentage of visitors on census night who stayed in private households

**39%** The percentage of visitors from the UK

**16,419** The number of visitors who stayed in hotels on census night

### Who stayed where

■ Private Households ■ Communal Establishments



## Visitors on census night

The Irish census is conducted on a De Facto basis which means that everyone who is in the country on census night is enumerated on a census form. It is interesting to look at the visitors on census night, where they were from, and where they were staying.

Of the 62,971 visitors from outside Ireland on census night almost two thirds (39,734) were staying in private households, presumably visiting family and friends. These visitors came predominantly from the UK (16,623) and the rest of Europe, while 3,553 came from the USA.

The USA is notable for having more people staying in tourist accommodation than private households.

**Table M Visitors from abroad**

Country	Private households	Hotels & Guesthouses	Other	Total
UK	16,623	7,917	332	24,872
France	2,764	1,257	150	4,171
Germany	2,061	1,433	195	3,689
Spain	1,635	771	222	2,628
Italy	814	832	44	1,690
Poland	1,742	122	33	1,897
Rest of Europe	4,405	2,718	291	7,414
USA	3,553	4,331	103	7,987
Australia	1,307	782	19	2,108
Asia	2,343	416	172	2,931
Rest of World	2,487	861	236	3,584
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,734</b>	<b>21,440</b>	<b>1,797</b>	<b>62,971</b>

## Hotels and Guest Houses

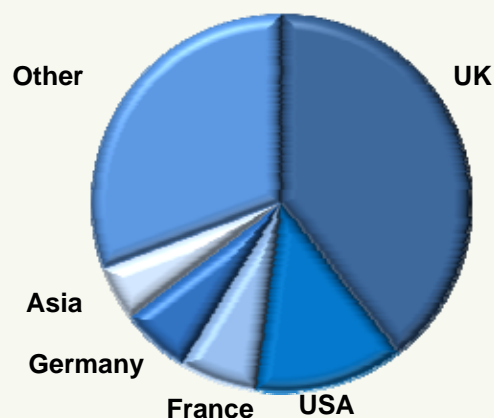
There were 16,419 visitors from outside Ireland staying in hotels on census night with a further 5,021 staying in guest houses and other tourist accommodation.

Persons from the UK, numbering 6,880 made up the largest group in hotels, followed by persons from the USA at 3,482 with Germany being the third largest group with 921.

People from France favoured guest houses over hotels whereas nearly all other groups had more persons staying in hotels over other tourist accommodation.

*Tables pages 76 and 83*

**Figure 20 Where visitors usually live**



## It's a fact!

**154,141** The increase in the number of foreign born persons since 2006

**25%** The percentage increase in all foreign born persons

**31%** The percentage increase in foreign born women

**Percentage increase in persons born abroad from selected groups**



## Born abroad

Place of birth provides a strong indicator of longer term migration.

The number of Irish residents who were born outside Ireland continues to increase and stood at 766,770 in 2011 an increase of 25 per cent on 2006, and accounting for 17 per cent of the population.

The groups which showed the largest increase were those already well established in Ireland. The fastest growing groups were Romanians (up 110%), Indians (up 91%), Polish (up 83%), Lithuanian (up 40%) and Latvians (up 43%).

*Tables pages 84 - 85*

**Table N Place of birth of Irish residents from selected countries**

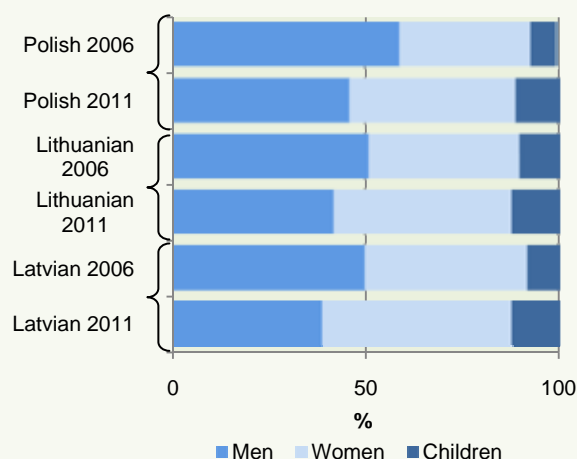
Country	2006	2011	Actual change
Poland	63,090	115,193	52,103
Lithuania	24,808	34,847	10,039
Romania	8,566	17,995	9,429
Northern Ireland	50,172	58,470	8,298
India	9,342	17,856	8,514
England and Wales	204,746	212,286	7,540
Latvia	13,999	19,989	5,990
Brazil	4,720	9,298	4,578
Philippines	9,644	13,833	4,189
Nigeria	16,677	19,780	3,103
Other	206,865	247,223	40,358
<b>Total</b>	<b>612,629</b>	<b>766,770</b>	<b>154,141</b>

## Re-uniting families

In 2011 there were 32,642 more Polish-born women living in Ireland compared with 2006 taking the total number to 55,584. There were 59,609 Polish born men. This is in stark contrast to 2006 when there were almost two men for every woman among this group. This is a strong indicator of re-uniting families among the Polish community in Ireland. This is further emphasised by the number of Polish born children (0-14) which has more than tripled over the period from 4,485 in 2006 to 14,172 in 2011, and by the overall fall in non-family households which can be seen on page 25.

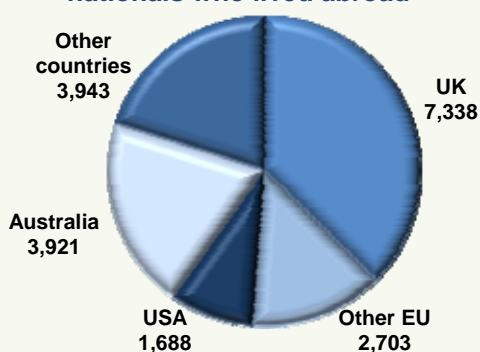
A similar, though not as pronounced, picture can be seen among the Lithuanian and Latvian communities where the increase in the number of women and children outstripped that of men in both groups.

**Figure 21 Polish, Lithuanian and Latvian born persons living in Ireland**





**Figure 22 Usual residence one year ago of Irish nationals who lived abroad**



## A new home

The table on the right shows that inward migration to Ireland by foreign nationals in the year to April 2011 was 33,674. No one country of origin stands out, but rather the data shows immigrants came from a large selection of countries. The largest groups came from Poland, UK, France, Lithuania, Spain and the USA.

While the total number of immigrants is significantly less than that recorded in Census 2006 (93,200) it is perhaps noteworthy given the recent economic difficulties that Ireland has experienced, and confirms Ireland as a destination of choice for people from a wide range of countries. However, while the overall number of non-Irish nationals has increased by 124,624 over the five years since April 2006 (see page 33) the census provides no information on emigration among this group.

## Polish

The results for Polish show that while only 3,825 arrived in the year to April 2011, the overall number of Polish nationals in Ireland has increased considerably since April 2006 (see page 33) leading to the conclusion that most of the increase happened in the earlier part of the inter-censal cycle 2006 to 2011.

Tables pages 84 - 90

## Coming home

A question on usual residence one year ago provides information on inward migration in the year leading up to the census. The data is presented separately in the report for Irish and non-Irish nationals.

Table O below shows that 19,593 Irish returned to Ireland in the year to April 2011, of which 7,338 had previously lived in the UK, followed by Australia as the second most important country of origin (3,921) and the USA in third place with 1,688.

The remainder of returning Irish came from a wide range of countries with only Canada, Spain, and France showing any significant numbers.

**Table O Usual residence one year ago by top 10 countries of origin**

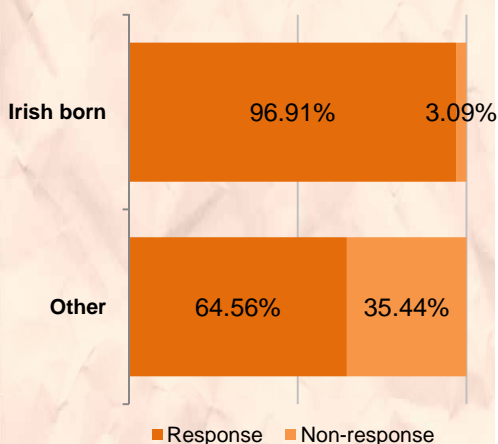
Top 10 countries	Irish	Non-Irish	Total
Poland	95	3,825	3,920
UK	7,338	4,549	11,887
France	529	1,777	2,306
Lithuania	11	1,706	1,717
Spain	662	1,606	2,268
USA	1,688	1,563	3,251
Germany	323	1,340	1,663
Latvia	7	1,172	1,179
Romania	21	1,103	1,124
Australia	3,921	530	4,451
Canada	845	416	1,261
Rest of World	4,153	14,087	18,240
Total	19,593	33,674	53,267

## Country of origin of non-Irish immigrants in the year to April 2011



## It's a fact!

### Response rate to 'ever lived abroad'



**55%** of Irish born persons who previously lived abroad came from the UK

**1991-2000** The peak years for return to Ireland for Irish born persons

## Ever lived abroad

The Census 2011 form included a question on whether a person had ever lived abroad. Responses provide important information on the year of arrival and country of previous residence. Unfortunately a high percentage of residents who were born abroad failed to answer the question – repeating a similar pattern to 2006.

Table P below presents the data by year of taking up residence in Ireland and country of last previous residence. The peak years for arrivals from the UK were in the 1970s and again in the 1990s and 2000s. Over half of those who moved to Ireland from the UK had been born in Ireland and so were returning home, while two thirds of those coming from the USA were Irish born.

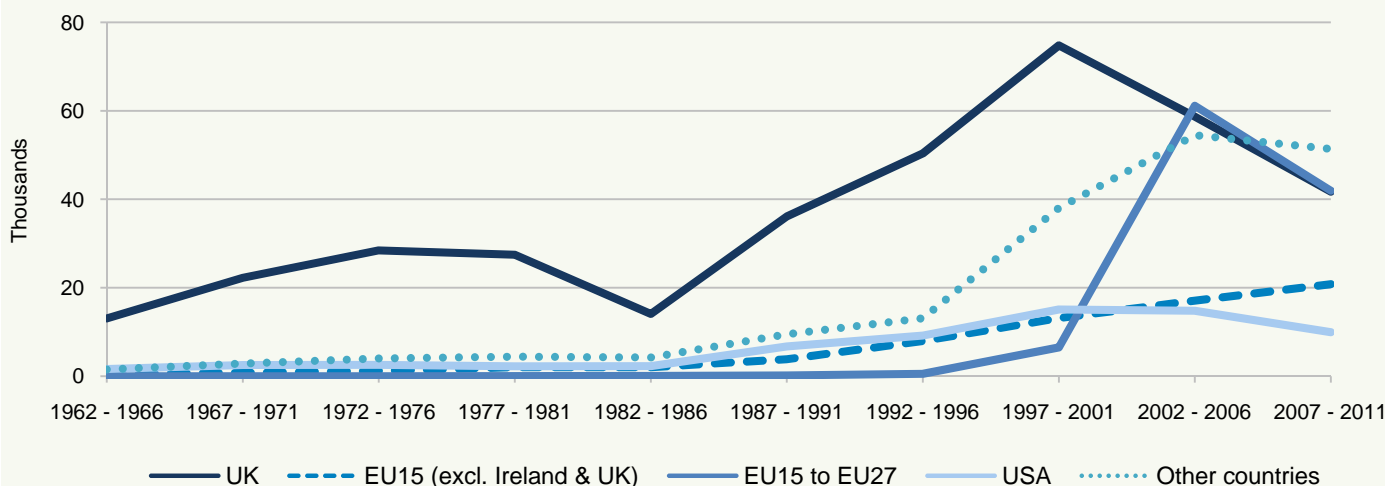
Figure 23 below clearly shows the sharp peak in arrivals from the UK in the 1990's and from the accession states (EU15 to EU27) from 2000 onwards, whereas arrivals from the rest of the world (which included a significant number of Irish born persons) began to increase from the mid-1980's onwards.

Tables pages 84 - 90

**Table P Irish residents by year of arrival and country of previous residence**

Year of taking up residence	Total	UK	EU15 to EU27	Other countries
Before 1971	55,538	43,661	71	11,806
1971 - 1976	42,742	33,539	41	9,162
1977 - 1981	36,220	27,459	66	8,695
1982 - 1986	22,666	14,069	89	8,508
1987 - 1991	56,323	36,089	199	20,035
1992 - 1996	81,158	50,355	562	30,241
1997 - 2001	147,573	74,788	6,521	66,264
2002 - 2006	206,258	58,689	61,165	86,404
2007 - 2011	165,829	41,726	41,953	82,150
Not stated	78,063	12,704	20,504	44,855
<b>Total</b>	<b>892,370</b>	<b>393,079</b>	<b>131,171</b>	<b>368,120</b>

**Figure 23 Persons who lived abroad by country of origin and period of taking up residence**





## Irish, non-Irish

A question on nationality was asked for the first time in an Irish census in 2002 reflecting the emergence of the importance of data in this area. Accordingly data series on nationality only go back this far.

The period between 2002 and 2006 saw very fast growth in the number of non-Irish nationals in Ireland when the number almost doubled from 224,300 to 419,733 in just four years. This most recent inter-censal period has now seen a continuation of that growth, albeit at a slower pace.

Between 2006 and 2011 the number of non-Irish nationals, increased by 124,624 persons, or 29.7 per cent, from 419,733 to 544,357.

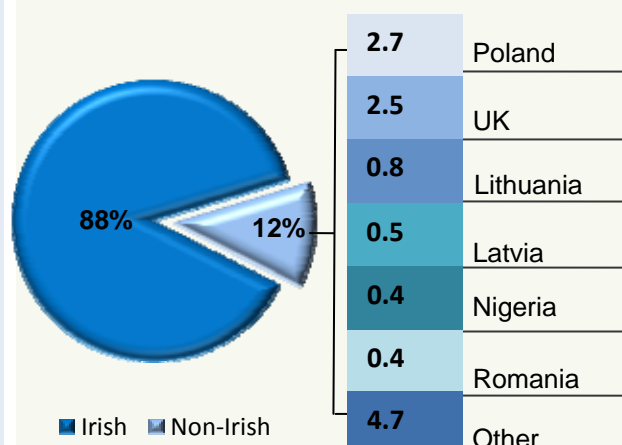
## Polish, the UK and others

A small number of groups accounted for the majority of the increase. Polish nationals increased by 93.7 per cent from 63,276 to 122,585, accounting for almost half of the total increase among this group, and overtaking UK nationals as the largest non-Irish group living in Ireland.

Other groups that showed large increases were Latvians (up 7,274, 54.6%), Lithuanians (up 12,055, 48.9%), Romanians (up 9,608, 124.8%), Brazilians (up 4,316, 98.4%) and Indians (up 8,526, 100.8%).

*Tables pages 89 - 90*

**Figure 24 Population by nationality**



## It's a fact!

**94%** The percentage increase in Polish nationals

**101%** The percentage increase in Indian nationals

**98%** The percentage increase in Brazilian nationals

**125%** The percentage increase in Romanian nationals

**Number of foreign nationals by nationality 2006-2011**



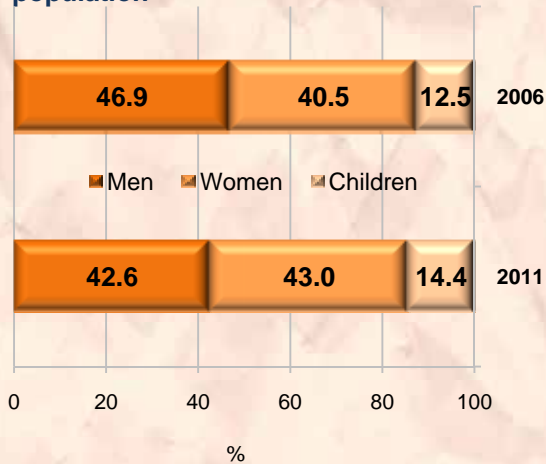
**Table Q Persons usually resident by nationality for selected countries 2006-2011**

Nationality	2006	2011	% change
Irish	3,706,683	3,927,143	5.9
Polish	63,276	122,585	93.7
UK	112,548	112,259	-0.3
Lithuanian	24,628	36,683	48.9
Latvian	13,319	20,593	54.6
Nigerian	16,300	17,642	8.2
Romanian	7,696	17,304	124.8
Indian	8,460	16,986	100.8
Filipino	9,548	12,791	34.0
German	10,289	11,305	9.9
American (US)	12,475	11,015	-11.7
Chinese	11,161	10,896	-2.4
Slovak	8,111	10,801	33.2

# Non-Irish men and women

## It's a fact!

### Composition of non-Irish national population



**27%**

The percentage increase in non-Irish nationals aged 65 years and over

**50%**

The percentage increase in the number non-Irish national children

**70%**

The percentage of non-Irish accounted for by the top 10 nationalities

## More women

Among the total non-Irish community the number of women increased by 39.0 per cent or 76,500 since 2006. This compares with an increase of 48,200 in non-Irish men, representing an increase of 21.5 per cent. This is illustrated in the population pyramid below.

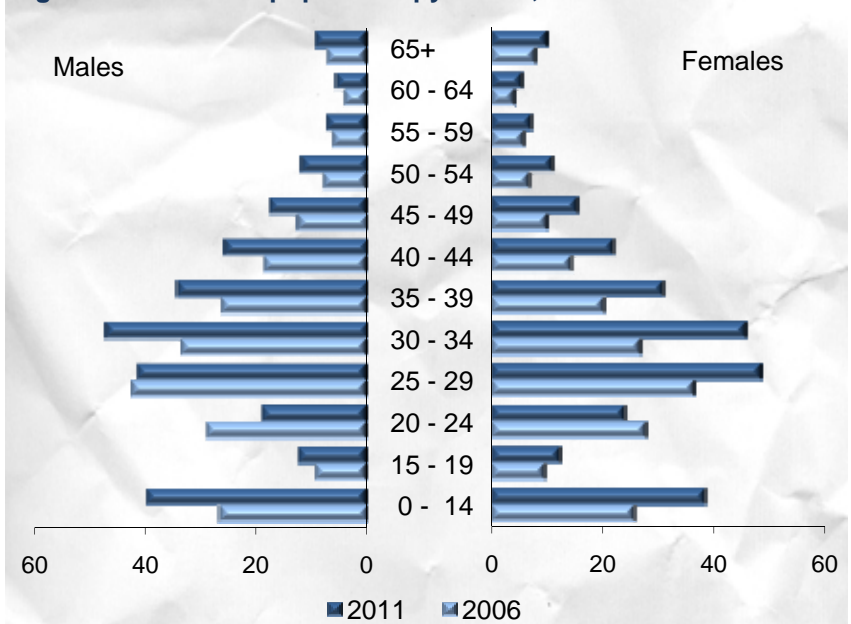
The number of Polish women increased by 36,200 between 2006 and 2011, accounting for nearly half (47.3 per cent) of the total increase in non-Irish women.

## All ages

While migration is traditionally dominated by those of working age, the increase in younger and older age groups is worthy of note.

Persons aged 65 and over increased by 26.9 per cent to 19,200, up from 15,100. Children (aged 14 and under) increased by 49.7 per cent to 78,600, up from 52,500.

**Figure 25 Non-Irish population pyramids, 2006 and 2011**



## From every corner of the world

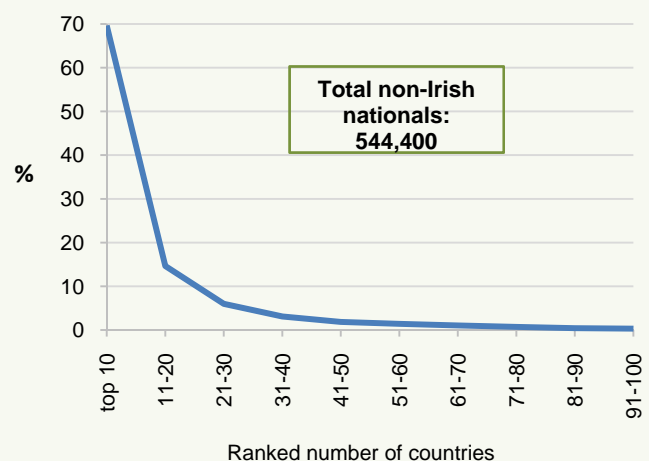
In April 2011, there were 544,400 non-Irish nationals of 196 different nationalities living in Ireland. However, a very small number of these accounted for the majority of persons in this group with the top 10 nationalities accounting for 70 per cent of the total.

The top 11 to 20 nationalities accounted for a further 15 per cent of all non-Irish.

All other nationalities therefore represented the remaining 15 per cent.

Tables pages 89 - 90

**Figure 26 Non-Irish population by top nationality groupings 2011**



## It's a fact!

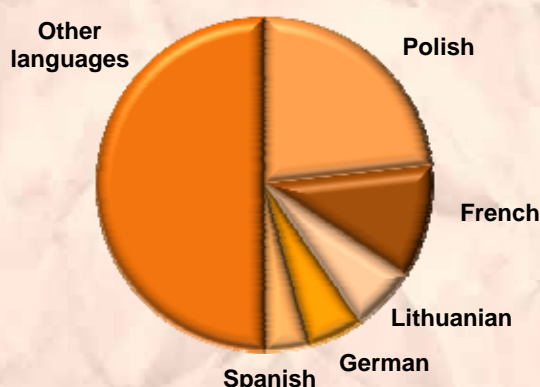
**11%** The percentage of Irish residents who spoke a language other than English or Irish at home

**23%** The percentage of this group who spoke Polish

**French** The second most popular foreign language

**26%** The percentage of foreign language speakers who were born in Ireland

### Languages spoken in Irish homes



## A multi-lingual country

A question on foreign languages was asked for the first time in census 2011 and covered both foreign languages spoken at home, and how well those who spoke other languages at home could speak English.

The results show that over half a million (514,068) Irish residents spoke a foreign language at home and that, unsurprisingly, Polish was by far the most common, followed by French, Lithuanian and German.

## French and Russian

The results for French and Russian are noteworthy. Of those who spoke French at home 73 per cent were Irish nationals, only 14 per cent were French nationals while 8 per cent were from Africa. Of the 21,639 persons who spoke Russian at home only 13 per cent were Russian nationals, while 27 per cent were from Latvia, 14 per cent were from Lithuania, and 20 per cent were Irish.

**Table R Foreign languages spoken at home**

Language	Total	Born in Ireland	Born elsewhere
Polish	119,526	10,573	108,953
French	56,430	37,800	18,630
Lithuanian	31,635	2,819	28,816
German	27,342	14,841	12,501
Spanish	22,446	3,596	18,850
Russian	21,640	11,257	10,383
Romanian	20,625	4,112	16,513
Italian	10,344	3,624	6,720
Chinese	15,166	2,663	12,503
Arabic	11,834	2,876	8,958
Other	177,080	39,026	138,054
<b>Total</b>	<b>514,068</b>	<b>133,187</b>	<b>380,881</b>

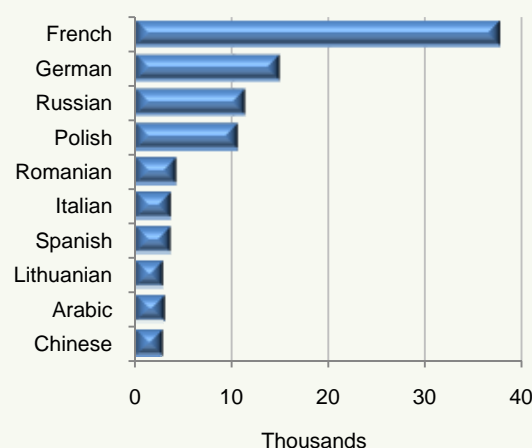
## Irish born and multi-lingual

Over a quarter of those who spoke a foreign language at home were born in Ireland. Of these 13,690 were pre-school children (aged 3-4 years), 26,569 were primary school children and 21,187 were secondary school children. Together, these accounted for 46.1 per cent of all Irish-born speakers of foreign languages

French was by far the most popular language spoken by those born in Ireland, with the majority of those speaking it being adults (i.e. aged 15 years and over). German and Russian were the next most popular languages.

Tables pages 92 - 93

**Figure 27 Irish born speaking a foreign language**





## Ability to speak English

Of interest in a question on foreign languages is in how well those who speak a foreign language can actually speak English. The question on the census form broke ability down into four categories, namely

- Very well
- Well
- Not well
- Not at all

and was only asked of those who answered 'yes' to speaking a foreign language at home. Among this group one in six, or 89,561 persons, ticked the box 'not well' or 'not at all'.

It is interesting to examine the results by nationality. Persons from Lithuania had the highest percentage who spoke English not well or not at all at 30 per cent, followed by persons from Latvia at 29 per cent.

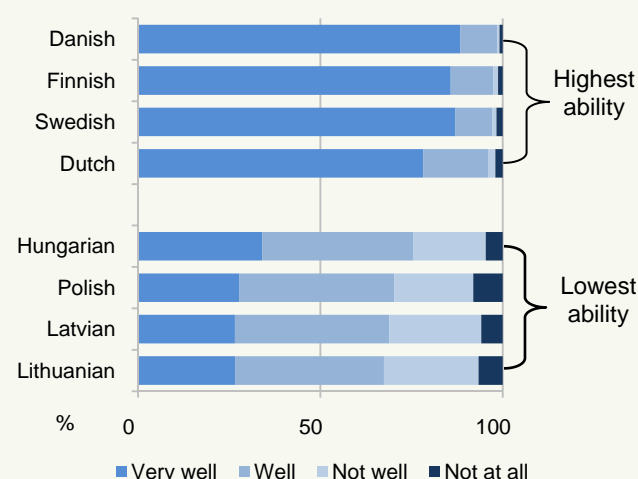
To examine the impact of ability to speak English on service provision, especially in the area of education, the data is presented by age group broken down into pre-school, primary and secondary.

Of the 16,870 pre-school children (aged 3-4 years) who spoke a foreign language at home just under 12 per cent could not speak English at all while a further 27.8 per cent could not speak English well.

Ability improves rapidly once children start school with only 1 per cent saying they could not speak English at all in primary, and less than 1 per cent in secondary.

*Tables page 91*

**Figure 28 Ability to speak English by nationality**



## It's a fact!

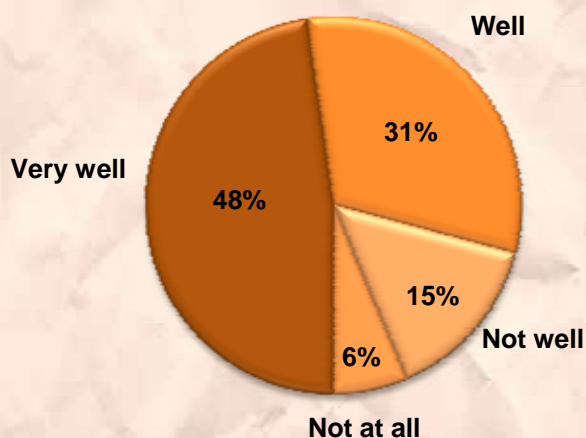
**30%** The percentage of Lithuanians who answered they spoke English not well or not at all

**99%** The percentage of Danes who reported they could speak English well or very well

**4,146** The number of primary school children who spoke English not well or not at all

**2,756** The number of secondary school children who spoke English not well or not at all

**Ability to speak English of those who spoke a foreign language at home**



**Table S Ability to speak English by age group**

Age group	Very well	Well	Not well	Not at all
Pre-school 3-4 years	5,294	4,904	4,682	1,990
Primary 5-12 years	36,500	12,716	3,705	441
Secondary 13-18 years	30,505	8,794	2,622	134
Young adult 19-24 years	22,575	16,928	5,834	476
Working age 25-64 years	142,867	113,823	52,498	5,718
Older people 65 years and over	5,300	1,462	785	483
<b>Total</b>	<b>243,041</b>	<b>158,627</b>	<b>70,126</b>	<b>9,242</b>

## It's a fact!

**85%** The percentage of usually resident population who identified themselves as White Irish

**87%** The percentage increase in the population of people with Asian ethnic backgrounds other than Chinese

**68%** The percentage increase in the population of people with 'Other Black' ethnic background

**72%** The percentage of under 40s among non-Irish white people

**83%** The percentage of under 40s among people with Chinese ethnicity

## A changing ethnic mix

A question on ethnic or cultural background was asked for only the second time in 2011 so the change over time can now be observed.

Significant population growth occurred within most of the non-Irish ethnic groups. Between 2006 and 2011 the category 'Other White' rose by almost 43 per cent. This was largely due to immigration from Eastern European countries.

An 87 per cent rise in the 'Other Asian' ethnic group included people of Indian and Filipino origin while there was 8 per cent more people of Chinese ethnicity.

The number of Irish Travellers enumerated in the census has shown a significant increase of 32 per cent. This is discussed in more detail on page 38.

**Table T Usual residents by ethnic or cultural background**

Category	2006	2011	% Change
White Irish	3,645,199	3,821,995	4.9
Irish Travellers	22,369	29,495	31.9
Other White	289,041	412,975	42.9
Black Irish or Black African	40,525	58,697	44.8
Other Black	3,793	6,381	68.2
Chinese	16,533	17,832	7.9
Other Asian	35,812	66,858	86.7
Other	46,438	40,724	-12.3
Not stated	72,303	70,324	-2.7
Total	4,172,013	4,525,281	8.5

## Ethnic age profiles

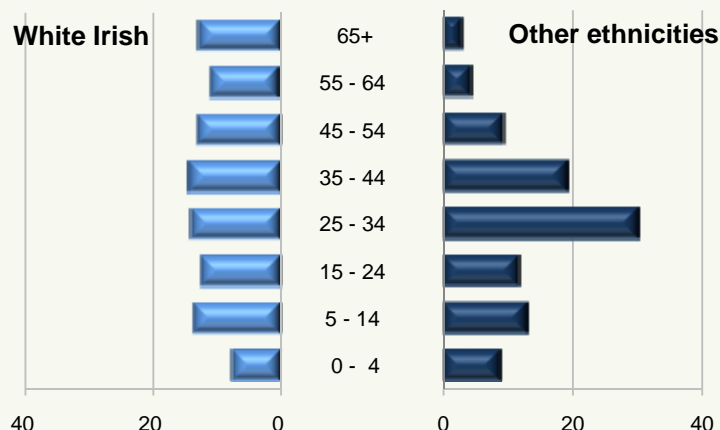
People with a White Irish background were generally older than other ethnic groups.

Almost two-thirds (63.7%) of people in ethnic groups other than White Irish were under 35. Just 3 per cent of people in these ethnic groups were 65 or older confirming the younger age profile of migrants.

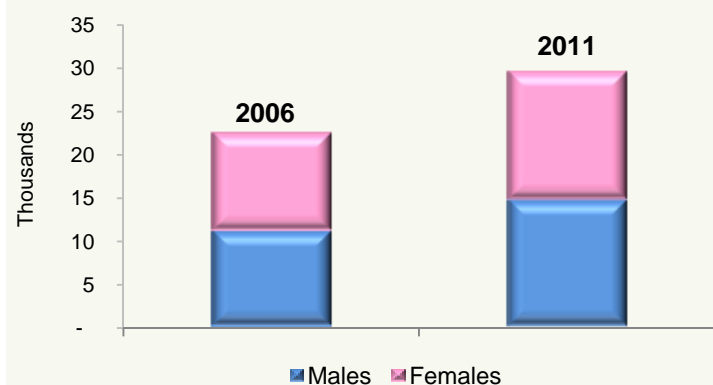
Less than half of those in the White Irish ethnic group were under the age of 35 while 13 per cent were 65 or older.

Tables page 94

**Figure 29 Ethnic population by age group**



**Figure 30 Number of Irish Travellers 2006-2011**

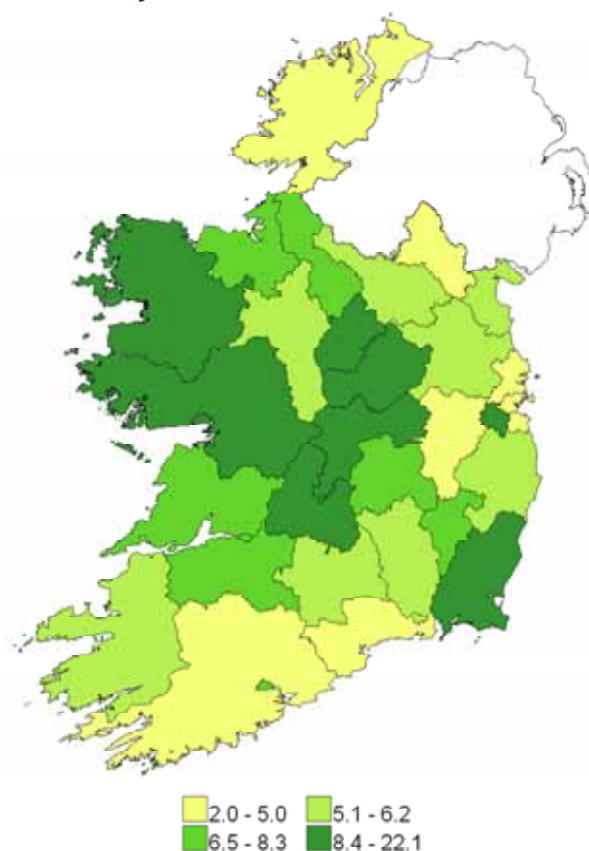


## Increase in Irish Traveller numbers

The number of people enumerated as Irish Travellers in Census 2011 increased by 32 per cent from 22,435 to 29,573, with all counties apart from Limerick and Waterford showing increases greater than the increase in the general population.

There were 97.8 males for every 100 females within the Irish Traveller population. The equivalent sex ratio for the general population was 98.1.

**Map 8 Irish Travellers per 1,000 total population by county**



## Count by County

Irish Traveller numbers increased in every county with the exception of Waterford where the numbers declined by over 7 per cent.

The biggest percentage increases were recorded in Cavan where Traveller numbers rose by 114 per cent and Donegal where numbers climbed by 99 per cent.

There were 1,033 more Travellers in Galway - the highest increase in Traveller numbers in any county. An increase of 478 was recorded in Galway City while 555 more Travellers were counted in Galway County.

Longford was the county with the highest number of Travellers per head of population, with 19.1 Travellers for every thousand people. Waterford had the lowest number per head of population with 3.8 Travellers per thousand.

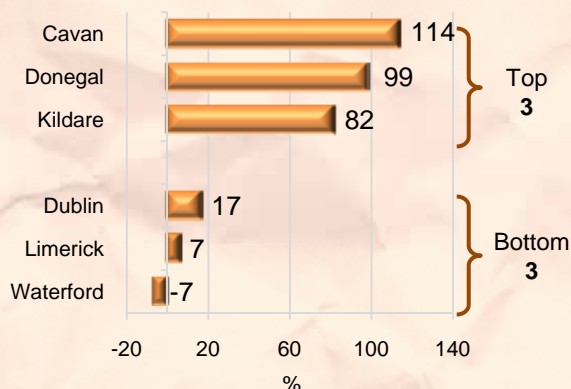
There were 5,935 Travellers in Dublin, the largest number in any county. Thirty seven per cent were in South Dublin. Only 7 per cent were in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

*Tables page 95*

## It's a fact!

- 12%** The percentage of Ireland's population who lived in Connacht
- 22%** The percentage of Irish Travellers who lived in Connacht
- 40%** The percentage increase in the number of Irish Travellers in Galway City

**Growth in Traveller numbers by county. Top 3 and bottom 3.**





## Travellers younger and married earlier

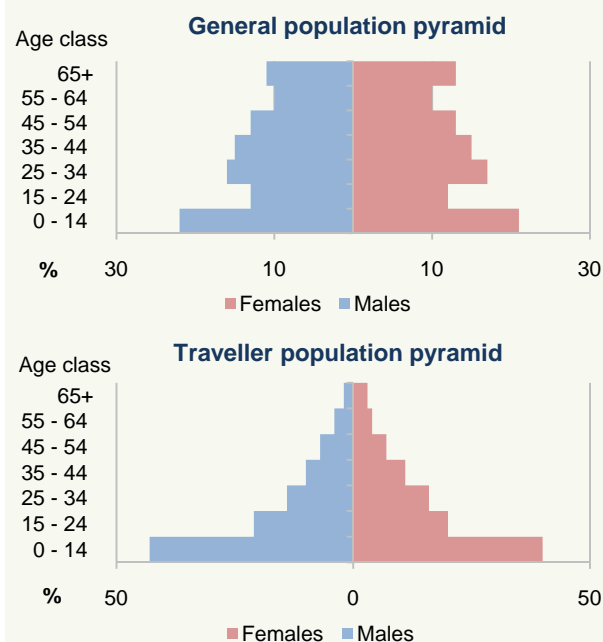
Irish Travellers were much younger than the general population. Three out of four Travellers were aged 34 or younger while less than 1 in 10 were over 54.

The age group where the greatest percentage population growth took place in the Traveller community was between 0 and 4. There were 41 per cent more children in this category than in 2006.

Almost a quarter of Travellers aged between 15 and 24 were married, compared with less than 2 per cent of the general population.

The tendency of Irish Travellers to marry younger is evident in the fact that only 32 per cent of Travellers aged between 25 and 34 were single compared with over two thirds of the general population in the same age range.

**Figure 31 Irish Traveller ages**



**Table U Irish Travellers' marital status**

Age group	Single	Married	Other
15-24	4,475	1,462	129
25-34	1,386	2,590	398
35-44	626	2,078	491
45-54	238	1,301	429
55+	170	1,115	521

## Temporary accommodation numbers fall

Only 12 per cent of Irish Travellers lived in caravans and mobile homes. This was a big fall from 2006 when one in four Irish Travellers lived in temporary accommodation.

Almost 84 per cent of the Traveller population lived in permanent housing.

Cavan, at 97 per cent, had the highest proportion of Travellers living in permanent housing. In contrast, almost one-third of Travellers in Limerick lived in temporary accommodation.

The biggest increase in Travellers living in permanent housing occurred in Kilkenny, where the number trebled since 2006.

In a small number of areas the number of Travellers living in temporary accommodation increased. This included Limerick City where the number almost doubled.

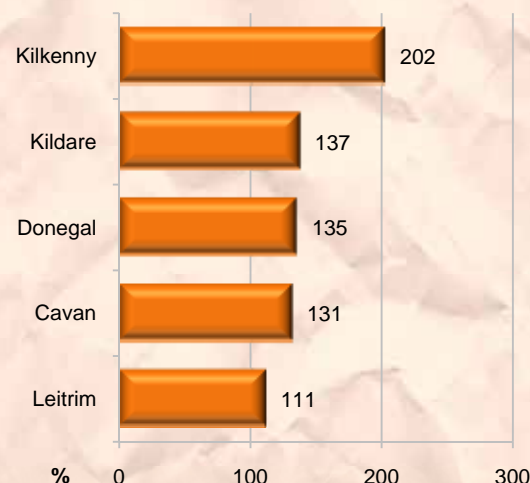
## It's a fact!

**38%** The percentage increase since 2006 in Irish Travellers who were separated

**69%** The percentage of Irish Travellers in Limerick City who lived in caravans or mobile homes

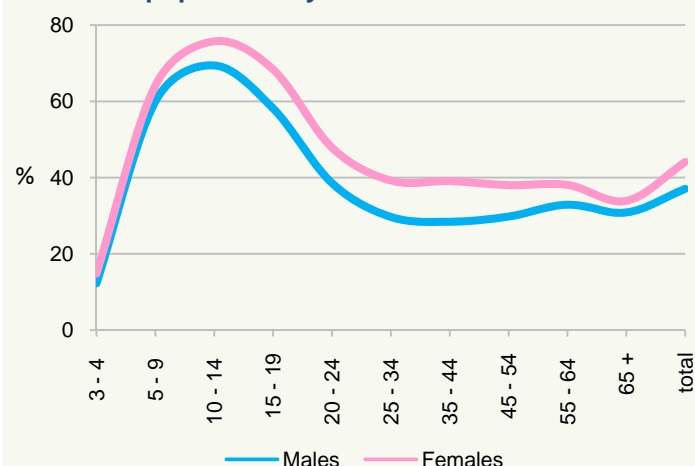
**6%** The percentage of Irish Travellers in Galway City who lived in caravans or mobile homes

**Top 5 counties where there has been an increase in the number of Travellers living in permanent accommodation.**



Tables pages 96 - 97

**Figure 32 Irish speakers as a percentage of total population by sex**



## Can you speak Irish?

The question on Irish language ability is broken into two parts; the first part asks a simple “*Can you speak Irish?*” while the second asks about frequency of speaking the language.

The total number of people who answered ‘yes’ to being able to speak Irish increased by 7.1 per cent between 2006 and 2011 to reach 1.77 million in April 2011. This represents 41.4 per cent of respondents compared with 41.9 in 2006.

Almost 1 in 3, (30.9 per cent) 10 to 19 year olds answered “*no*” to the question “*Can you speak Irish?*”

Tables pages 98 - 103

## Women and men

Results on ability to speak Irish consistently show that more women than men identify themselves as being able to speak Irish; the results from this census bear this out.

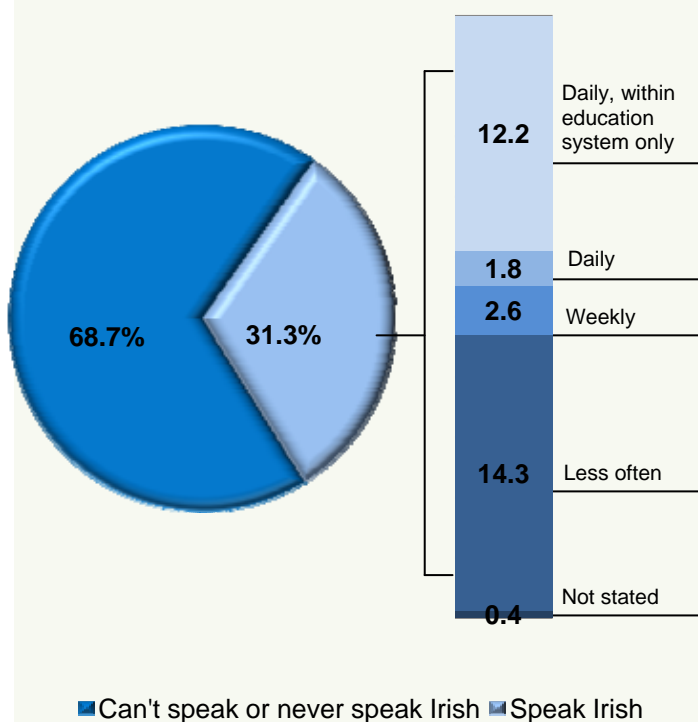
44.9 per cent of women were able to speak Irish compared with just 37.9 per cent of men. These percentages are identical to the results found in 2006. The data is illustrated by age group in the graph above,

## How often

Of the 1.77 million who indicated they could speak Irish, 77,185 said they speak it daily outside the education system. A further 110,642 said they spoke it weekly, while 613,236 said they spoke it less often. One in four said they never spoke Irish.

The numbers speaking Irish on a daily basis outside the education system increased by 5,037 persons since 2006 from 72,148 to 77,185; the numbers speaking weekly showed an increase of 7,781 persons, while those speaking Irish less often showed the largest increase of 27,139.

**Figure 33 Population aged 3 years and over by frequency of speaking Irish**

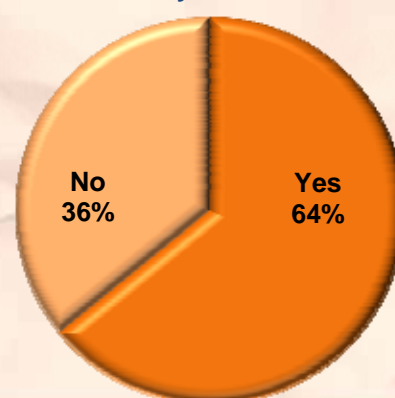


## It's a fact!

**1.8%** The percentage of the population (3 or over) who spoke Irish daily (outside school) in Ireland

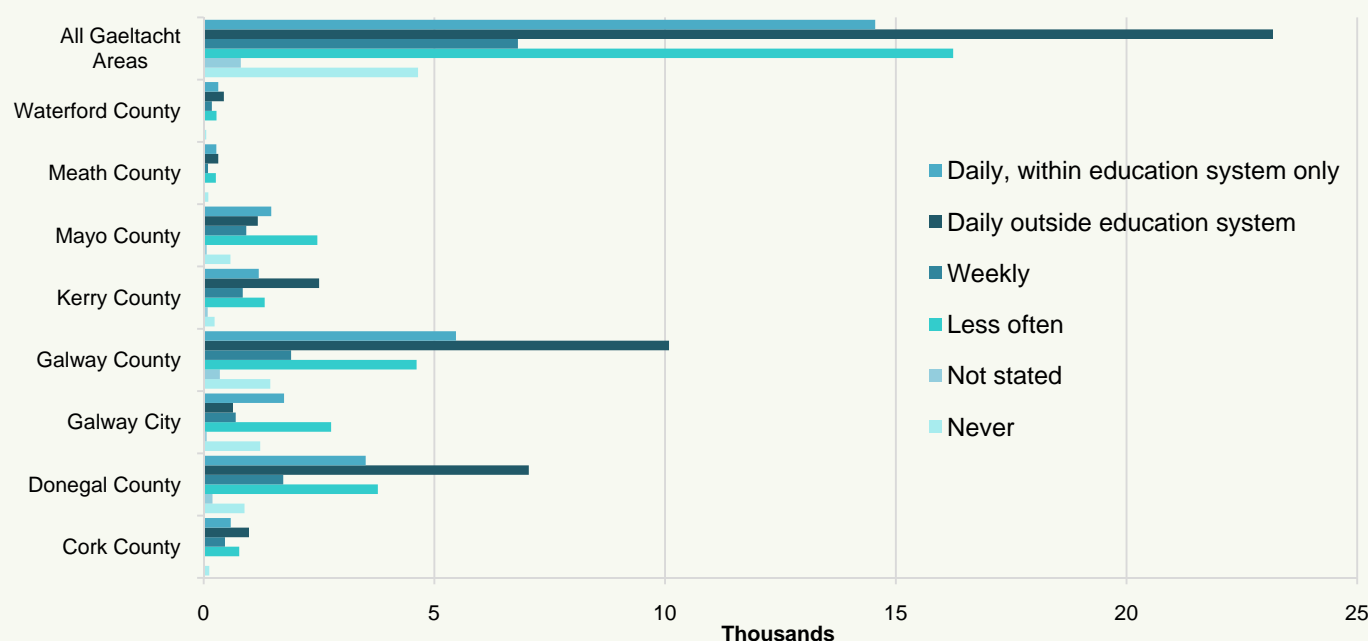
**18.7%** The percentage of the population (3 and over) who spoke Irish daily, weekly or less often

**Ability to speak Irish among 17 and 18 year olds**





**Figure 34 Persons aged 3 years and over in Gaeltacht Areas by frequency of speaking Irish**



**Table V Daily Irish speakers in Gaeltacht Areas, 2006-2011**

Gaeltacht Area	2006	2011	Actual change 2006-2011
Cork County	867	982	115
Donegal County	6,956	7,047	91
Galway City	571	636	65
Galway County	9,654	10,085	431
Kerry County	2,394	2,501	107
Mayo County	1,281	1,172	-109
Meath County	336	314	-22
Waterford County	456	438	-18
All Gaeltacht Areas	22,515	23,175	660

## Gaeltacht areas

The total population of all Gaeltacht areas in April 2011 was 96,628, up from 91,862 in 2006, an increase of 5.2 per cent. Of these 66,238, or 68.5 per cent, indicated they could speak Irish, and 23,175, or 24.0 per cent indicated they spoke Irish daily outside the education system.

This is an increase of 2.9 per cent in the number of daily Irish speakers since 2006. The number of people in Gaeltacht areas who indicated they spoke Irish less often than weekly increased by 6.6 per cent from 15,244 to 16,244.

Of the 77,185 daily Irish speakers (outside the education system) in Ireland just over one in three lived in Gaeltacht areas.

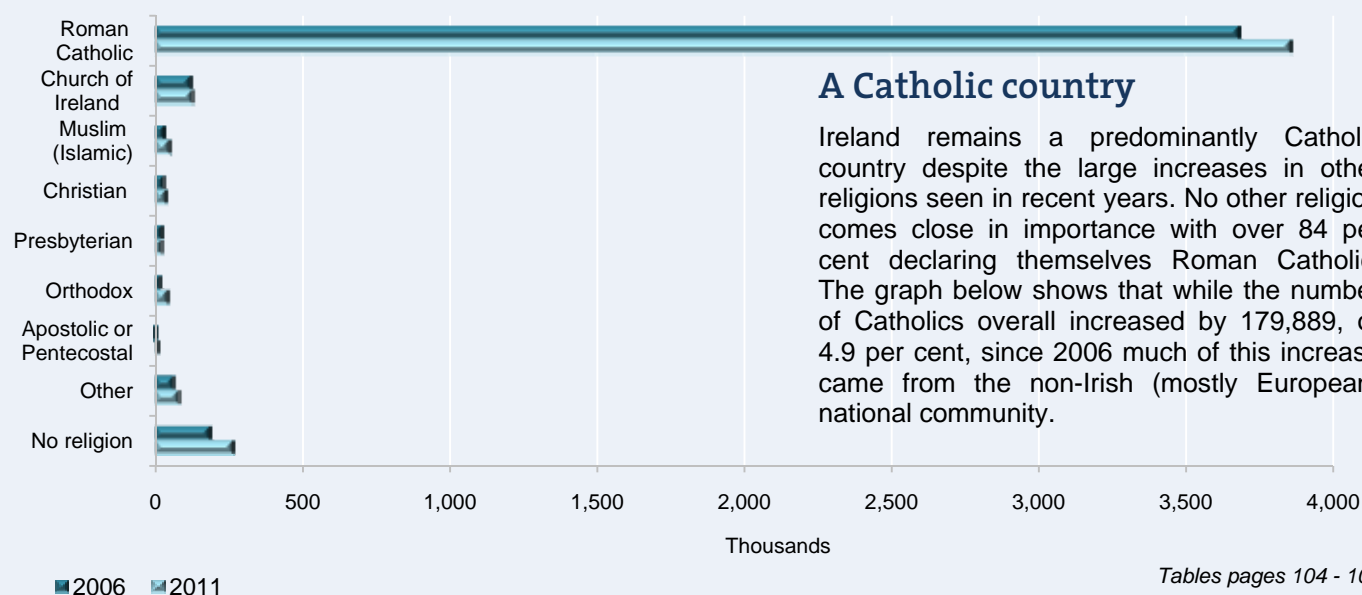
Tables pages 98 - 103

## It's a fact!

**35%** The percentage of Irish speakers in Gaeltacht areas who spoke Irish daily outside the education system

**54,010** The number of daily Irish speakers who spoke Irish outside the education system and lived outside the Gaeltacht areas

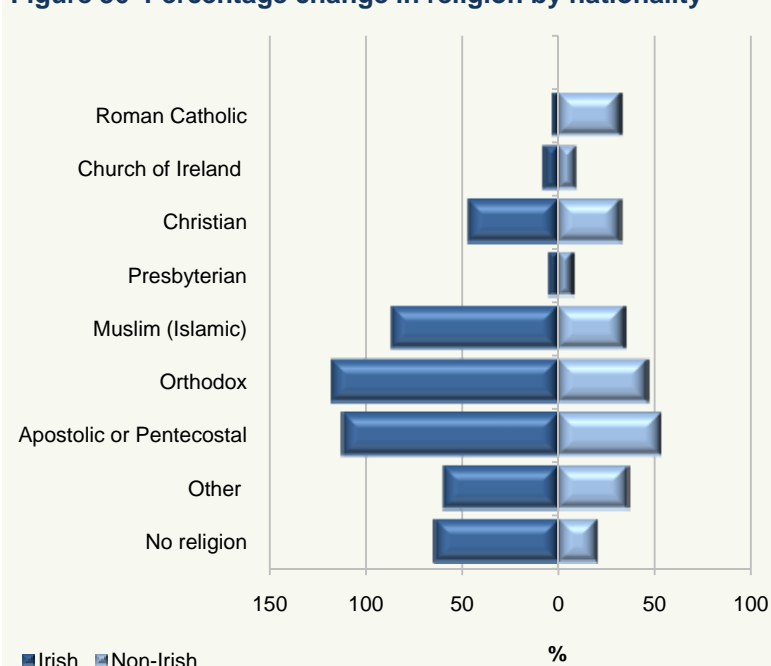
**Figure 35 Population classified by religion 2006 and 2011**



**Table W Population by religious grouping 2006 and 2011**

Religion	2006	2011	Percentage change 2006-2011
	Thousands		%
Roman Catholic	3,681.4	3,861.3	4.9
Church of Ireland	121.2	129.0	6.4
Muslim (Islamic)	32.6	49.2	51.2
Christian	29.2	41.2	40.9
Presbyterian	23.6	24.6	4.5
Orthodox	20.8	45.2	117.4
Apostolic or Pentecostal	8.1	14.0	73.0
Other	66.3	81.0	22.0
No religion	186.3	269.8	44.8
Not stated	70.3	72.9	3.7
Total	4,239.8	4,588.2	8.2

**Figure 36 Percentage change in religion by nationality**



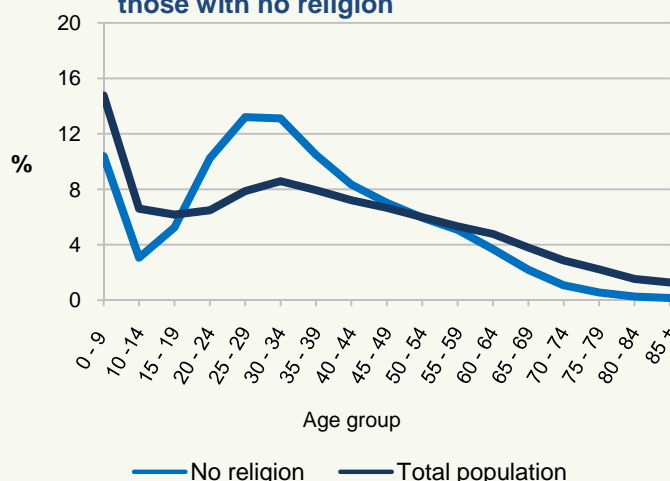
## It's a fact!

**49,204** The number of Muslims living in Ireland, making it the most important non-Christian religion

**45%** The increase in the number of people identifying themselves as having no religion

# Non-Catholics

**Figure 37 Age distribution of total population and those with no religion**



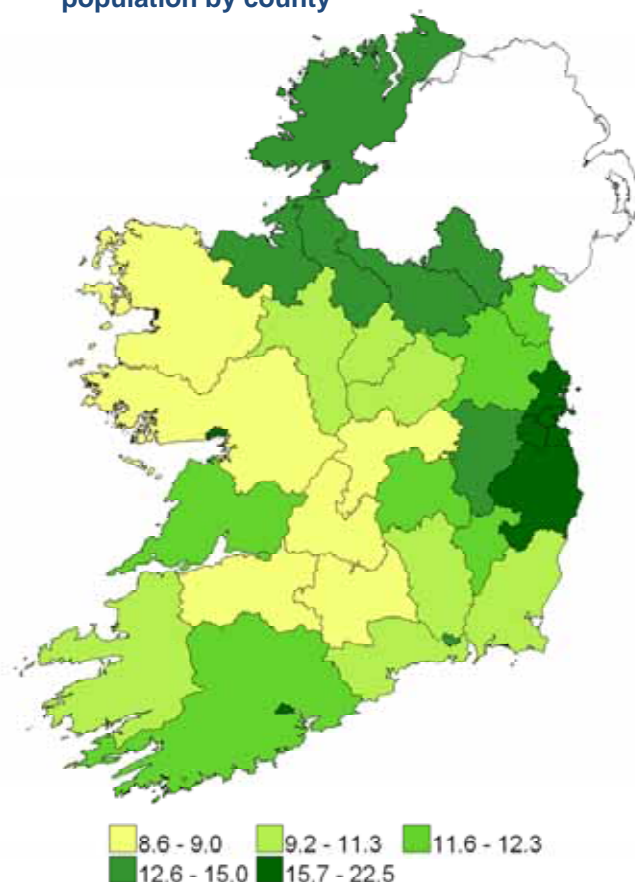
## No religion

Between 2006 and 2011 the number of people with no religion grew by 83,500 to 269,800.

The majority of this group were Irish nationals accounting for 176,180 of the total and increasing by 64.4 per cent since 2006.

The chart opposite examines this category by age group and illustrates how they were under-represented in those aged 19 and under and age 50 and over with the majority concentrated in the age group 20 to 49.

**Map 9 Non-Catholics as a percentage of total population by county**



## Minority religions

As can be seen in the table on the previous page the fastest growing religions between 2006 and 2011 in percentage terms were Orthodox, Apostolic or Pentecostal and Muslim.

Evangelical and Methodist showed the largest decline compared with 2006.

## Non-Catholics

Given the dominance of the Roman Catholic religion it is interesting to examine all other groups together. The map opposite shows the percentage of non-Catholics by county.

The eastern sea board counties around Dublin had the highest percentage of non-Catholics, with the percentage declining as you move west.

Three counties had more than 1 in 5 of the population as non-Catholic, namely Fingal, Dún Laoghaire and Galway City. Offaly has the lowest percentage at 8.6.

Tables pages 104 - 105

## It's a fact!

- 13%** The percentage of 25-29 year olds who had 'no religion' the highest for any age group
- 23%** The percentage of the population who were non-Catholics in Dún Laoghaire/Rathdown, the highest in the country
- 9%** The percentage of the population who were non-Catholics in Offaly, the lowest in the country



## It's a fact!

**32%** The percentage of occupied housing units in Dublin City that were flats or apartments

**35%** The percentage decrease in the number of occupied bedsits since 2006

**116%** The percentage increase in the number of purpose built flats and apartments in Laois since 2006

**10%** The percentage of occupied dwellings that were built since 2006

### Changing home types 2006-2011



## Housing stock grows, apartments boom

There were just under 1.65 million occupied permanent housing units at the time of the census, an increase of 187,100 units, or 13 per cent, since 2006. Of these additions 73,900 were detached houses, 58,300 were semi-detached while 40,055 were purpose built flats or apartments.

While detached houses comprised 42 per cent of the total and remained the most popular dwelling type, flats and apartments have shown the largest increase from 110,000 in 2006 to 150,000 in 2011, an increase of 27 per cent. In contrast semi-detached houses increased by just 14.6 per cent over the period.

The number of bed-sits has fallen and stood at just 5,700 in April 2011, of which 70.3 per cent were in Dublin. Since 2006 this accommodation type has fallen in Dublin city to just 0.9 per cent in 2011.

**Table X Change in number of occupied flats and apartments in purpose built blocks in selected areas**

Area	2006	2011	% change
<b>Top 3</b>			
Laois	451	976	116
South Dublin	5,961	10,583	78
Meath	2,277	3,897	71
<b>Bottom 3</b>			
Limerick County	1,904	1,670	-12
South Tipperary	706	646	-9
Roscommon	367	379	3

## Year built

As can be seen from figure 38, more than one in four occupied dwellings in Ireland were built in the ten years leading up to Census 2011. Of these, two thirds were detached or semi-detached houses, the remainder being terraced houses, apartments or flats.

Over two-thirds of housing was built in the 40 years between 1971 and 2011. This reflects the recent rise in population and the housing boom of the 1970s.

**Figure 38 Dwellings by period built**

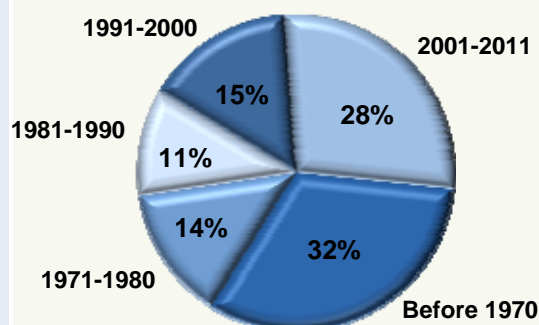


Table pages 108 - 110



## Paying the rent

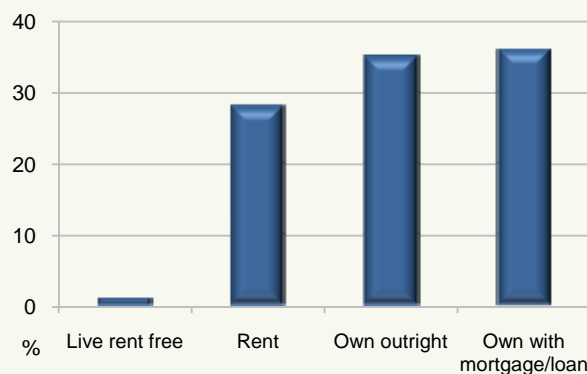
The formulation of the question on nature of occupancy (ownership vs. renting) was simplified (see appendix 2) on the 2011 questionnaire so comparisons with earlier years must be treated with caution.

Almost 475,000 households in Ireland were renting on census night 2011. This is a significant increase since Census 2006 when just over 323,000 households were renting. The biggest increases were in Laois (up 84%) and Fingal (up 78%). The decline in bedsit renting continued. Just over 5,000 households – only 1 per cent of the rental market - were renting bedsits.

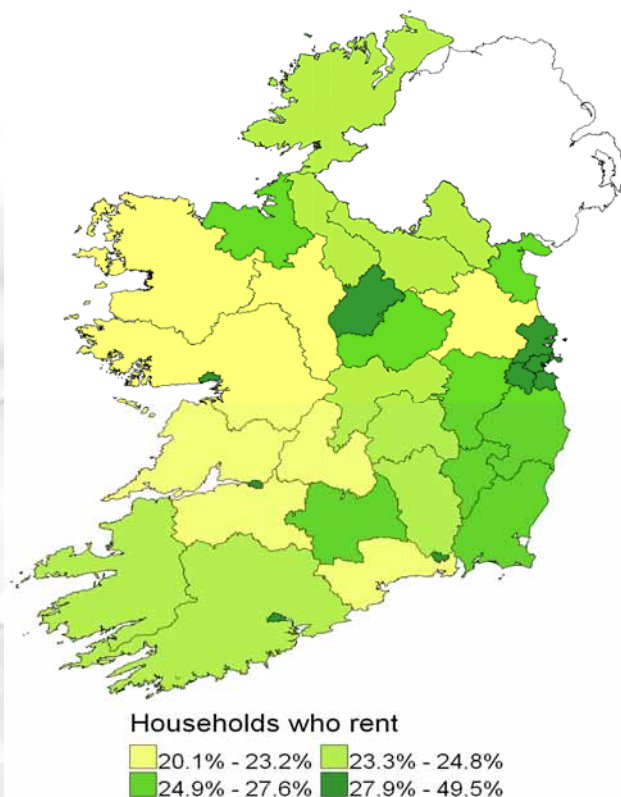
Since 2006 the average weekly rent paid across the country fell by 1 per cent to €136. Households living in private rented flats and apartments paid the highest rent at an average of €187 per week. In contrast, households renting a bedsit from a private landlord paid a much lower average rent at €110 per week.

*Tables pages 108 - 111*

**Figure 39 Types of home ownership 2011**



**Map 10 Percentage of households who rent their home**



**Table Y Average weekly rent**

Accommodation	Private landlord	Local Authority	Voluntary/ Cooperative body
	€		
Detached house	160	61	75
Semi-detached house	171	58	64
Terraced house	176	56	63
Flat/apt in a purpose built block	187	64	82
Flat/apt in a converted building	144	81	71
Bed sit	110	60	69

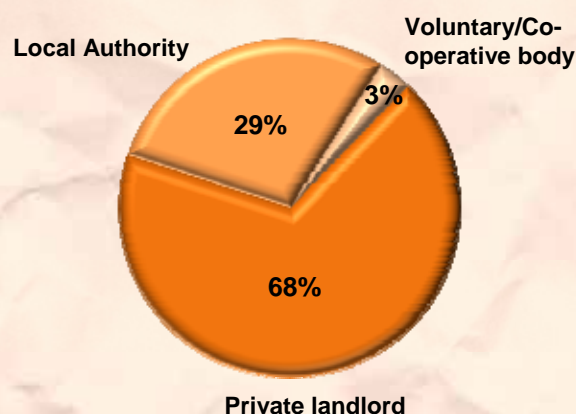
## It's a fact!

**7%** The percentage of rental properties built before 1919

**37%** The percentage of rental properties built between 2001 & 2011

**18,874** The number of households who paid more than €300 rent per week

**Landlord types**



## Central heating

A new question on Census 2011 asked about the type of fuel used in central heating systems. Fossil fuels topped the responses with oil, natural gas and coal being used to heat 4 out of 5 Irish homes.

There was a clear urban/rural split between the two main fossil fuel types. In rural areas, 70 per cent of households used oil to heat their homes while in towns and cities 52 per cent of homes used natural gas.

Among traditional fuel types, coal was used as the primary fuel by 5 per cent of homes while a further 5 per cent used peat.

Less than 1 in 50 homes did not have any central heating.

## Water

Three-quarters of households got their water supply from public mains. This rose to 92 per cent in urban areas.

Getting water from other sources was much more common in rural areas. Twenty six per cent of households outside of towns and cities got their water from private sources other than public mains or group schemes.

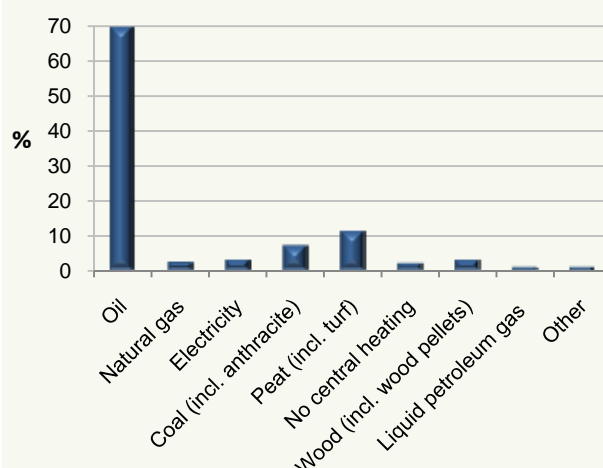
## Sewerage

Two-thirds of homes disposed of their waste water through a public sewerage scheme. Of the remaining homes just over 26 per cent used an individual septic tank.

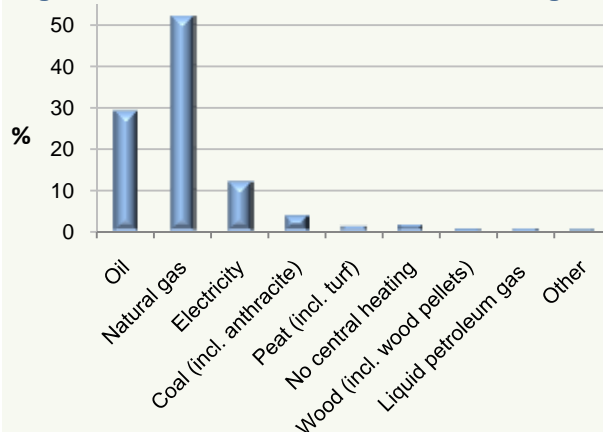
There was an increase of almost 70 per cent in the number of homes using individual sewerage treatments, other than septic tanks, from 29,685 to 50,259.

Tables pages 108 - 110

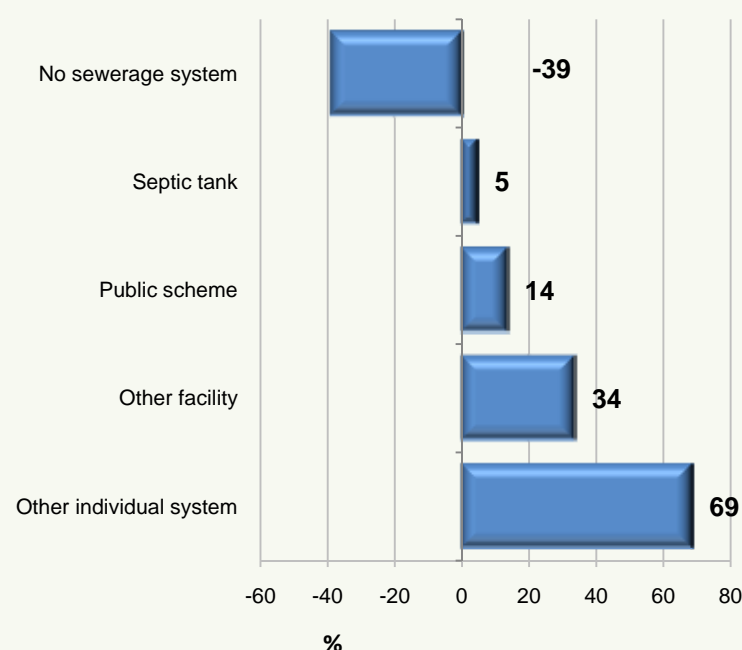
**Figure 40 Sources of rural central heating**



**Figure 41 Sources of urban central heating**



**Figure 42 Percentage change in sewerage system types 2006-2011**



## It's a fact!

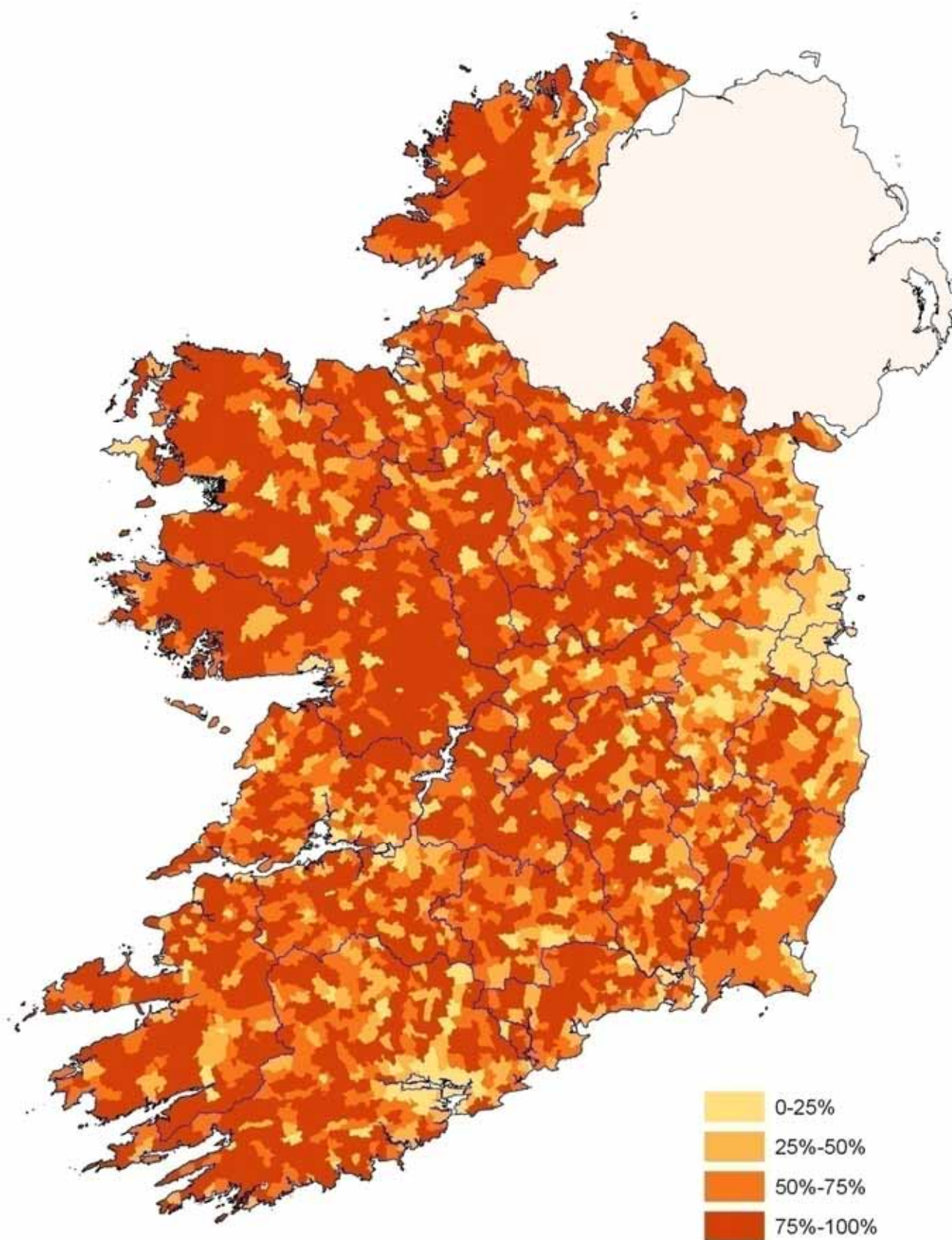
One-off houses are defined as detached houses with individual septic treatment systems. Their distribution is mapped opposite.

**26%** The percentage of all private households which are one-off dwellings (433,564 households)

**60%** The percentage of one-off houses in County Galway, the highest in the country



Map 11 Percentage of one-off houses by electoral division

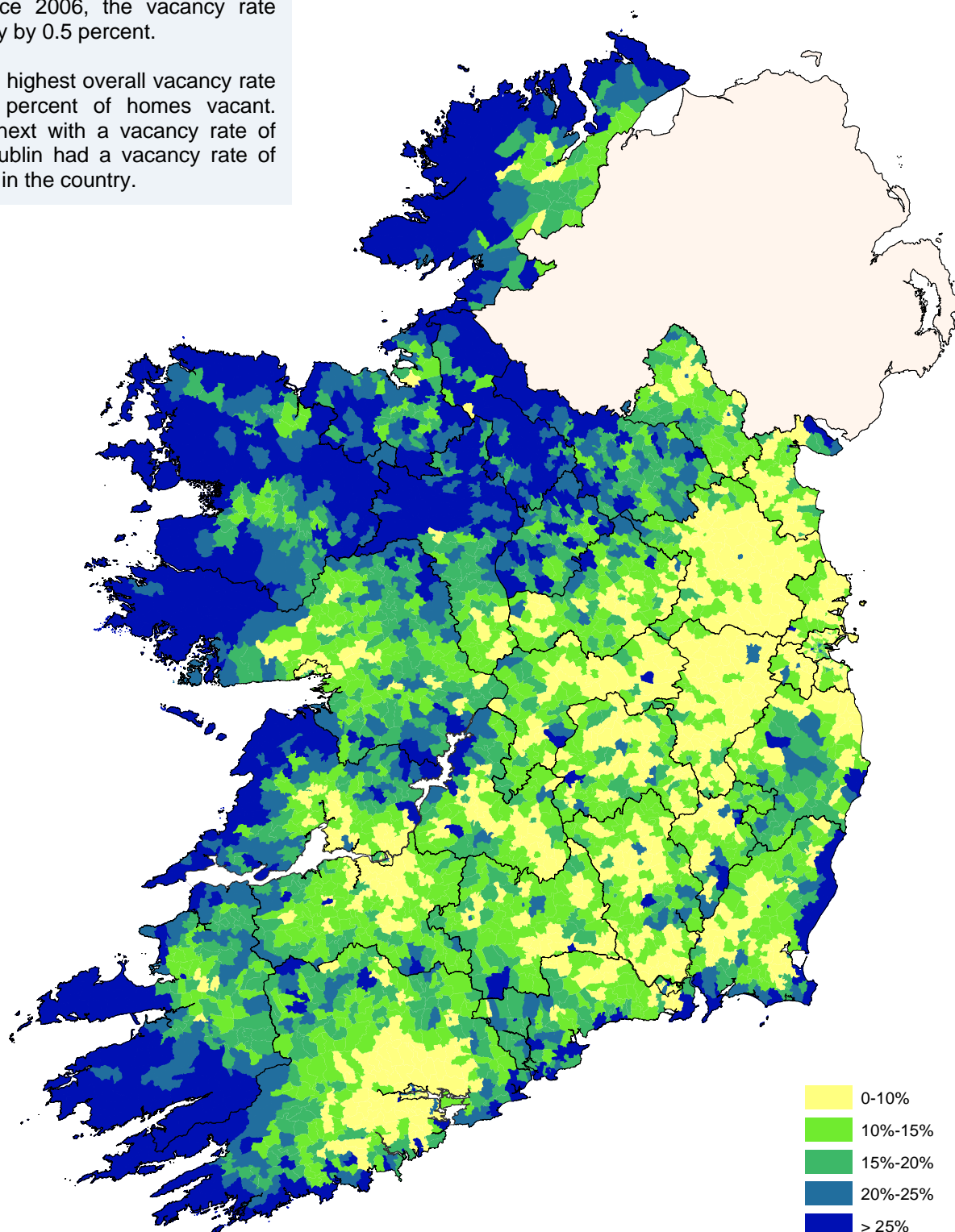


**Map 12 Percentage of vacant dwellings by electoral division**

Almost 290,000 homes were vacant on Census night. As the total housing stock grew to almost 2 million homes, this gives a vacancy rate of 14.5 percent.

Although the number of vacant homes rose by 23,000 since 2006, the vacancy rate declined slightly by 0.5 percent.

Leitrim had the highest overall vacancy rate with over 30 percent of homes vacant. Donegal was next with a vacancy rate of 29%. South Dublin had a vacancy rate of 5%, the lowest in the country.





## Holiday homes

Just over 1 in 5 of all vacant dwellings were holiday homes, accounting for 59,395 dwellings. This compares with 49,789 vacant holiday homes in 2006.

As would be expected, these homes were concentrated in counties on the southern and western seaboard such as Wexford, Cork, Clare, Kerry and Donegal.

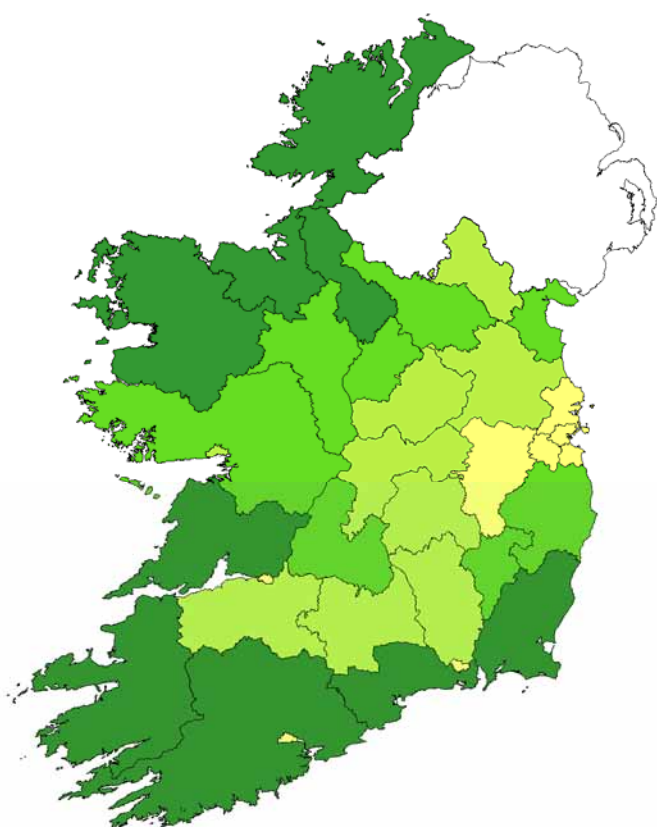
48 percent of all vacant dwellings in Wexford were holiday homes, the highest percentage in the country.

## Houses, flats and apartments

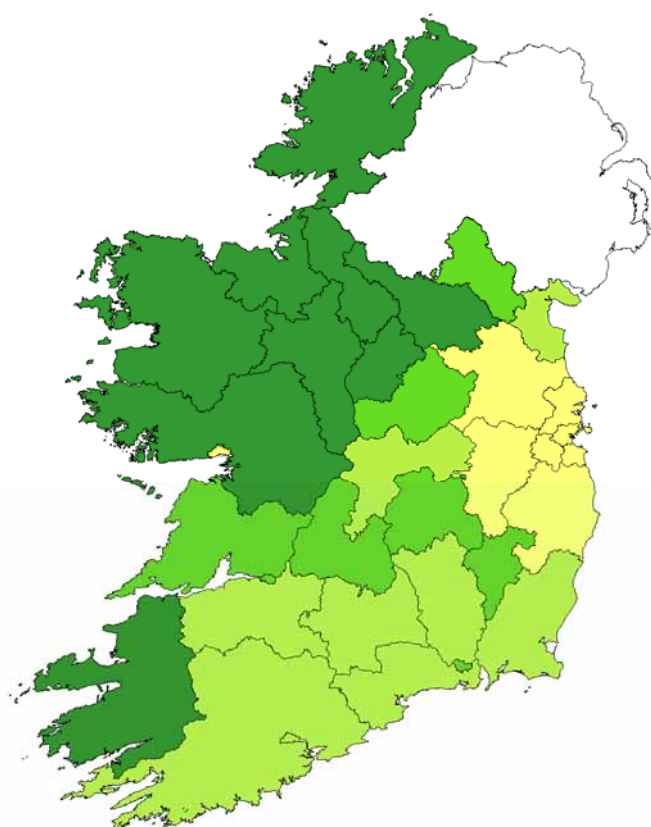
The remaining 230,056 vacant homes that were not holiday homes broke down as 73.2 per cent houses and 26.8 per cent flats or apartments. In Dublin City flats and apartments made up two-thirds of the vacant dwellings, while vacant houses were more prevalent in rural areas.

The maps below illustrate the data for vacant holiday homes and other vacant dwellings separately.

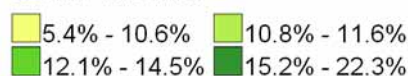
Tables page 112



Holiday homes



Other vacants



## It's a fact!

- 10%** The percentage of dwellings that were vacant in Dublin City
- 15%** The percentage of dwellings that were vacant in Waterford City
- 21%** The percentage of all vacant dwellings that were holiday homes

Dwellings on Census night

