



An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh
Central Statistics Office

Profile 9

What We Know

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Profile 9 – What We Know

Foreword

This report is the ninth of ten Profile reports examining in more detail the definitive results of Census 2011. It examines education in Ireland and the Irish language.

The report forms part of a series of census publications providing interpretation and analysis of the 2011 census results. Profile reports 1 to 8 covered population distribution and movements, the age profile of Ireland, industry and occupations of workers, housing in Ireland, households and families, migration and diversity, religion, ethnicity and Irish Travellers, and most recently, health, disability and carers. The final report will look at commuting in Ireland. A complete list of reports and publication dates can be found on page 93 of this report.

Web tables

All the data published in this and other reports are available on the CSO web site (at 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 the 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, are published in our interactive mapping application (SAPMAP) on the CSO website.

Interactive maps

In co-operation with the All Ireland Research Observatory (AIRO) summary census data is now available in thematic maps for Electoral Districts and all Small Areas. Combined with the release of the SAPS data in our new easy to use interactive mapping application, these new developments bring census data alive in a fresh and exciting way making it easier to access for all. Just follow the link from the website.



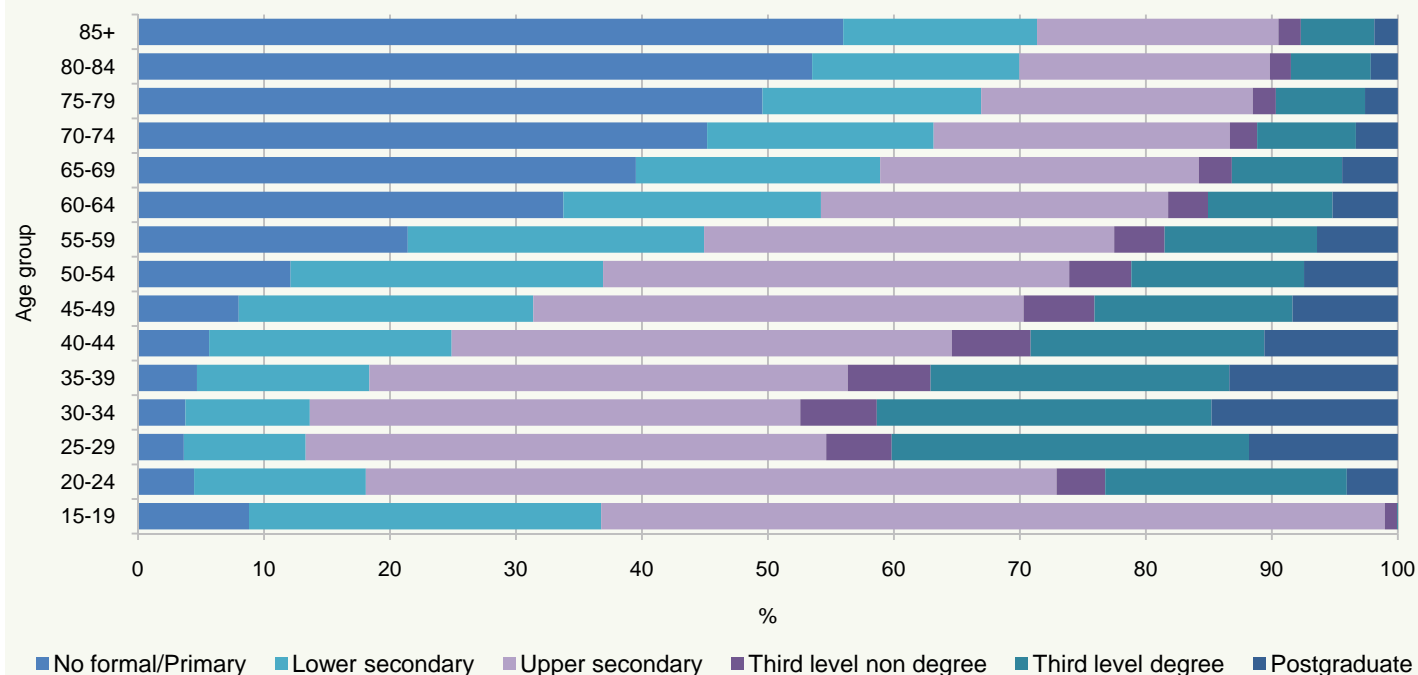
Pádraig Dalton

Director General

22 November 2012

Level of education

Figure 1 Highest level of education by 5 year age group, 2011



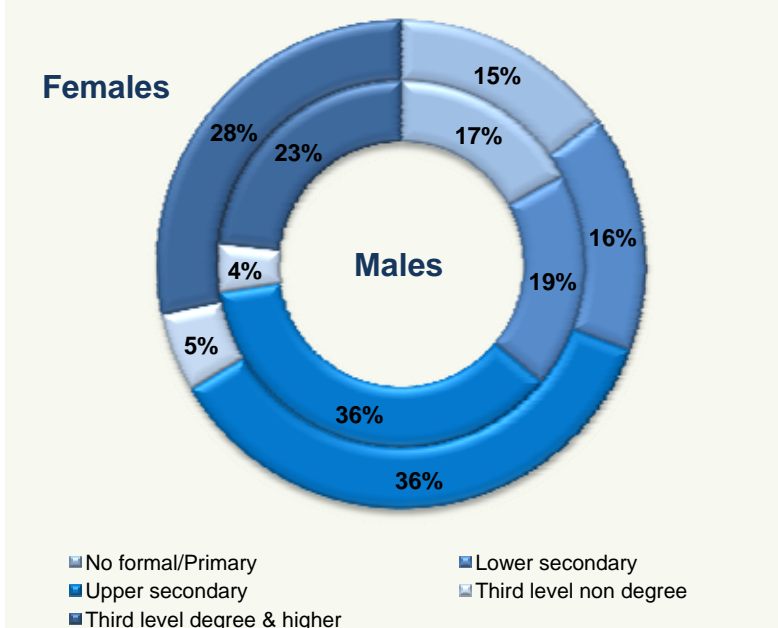
Age and level of education

Among those who had completed their full-time education in April 2011 younger people were significantly better educated than their older counterparts, illustrating the ongoing gains in educational attainment in Ireland. Almost 43 per cent of people aged 20 to 39 possessed a third level qualification, compared with only 13 per cent of those aged 65 and over. As the graph above clearly shows among those aged 60 and over increasing numbers were educated to primary level only with almost half (46.3%) of those aged 65 and over in this category.

Sex differences

In general, females were better educated than males in April 2011. One third of females aged 15 and over had a third level qualification, compared with only 27 per cent of males. Just over 36 per cent of males were not educated to a higher level than lower secondary, whereas only 31 per cent of females had a similar level of education.

Figure 2 Highest level of education, males and females, 2011



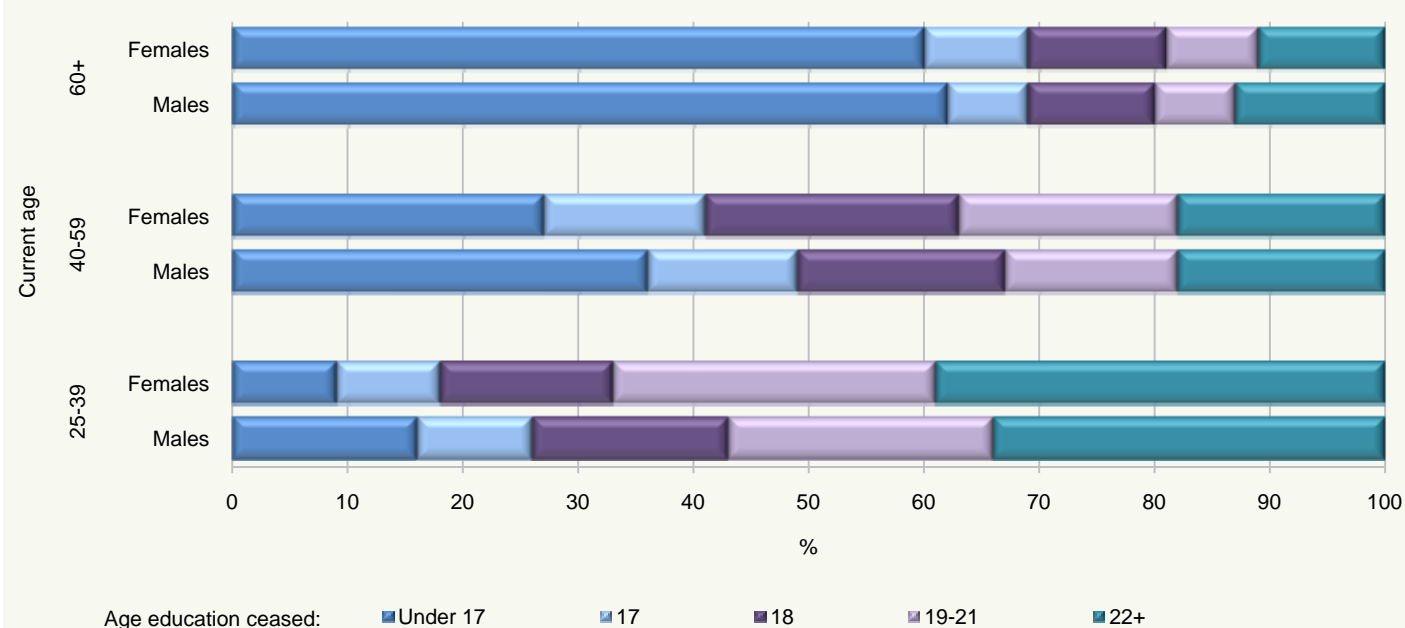
It's a fact!

46% The percentage of women aged 25-49 who had a third level qualification

35% The percentage of men aged 25-49 who had a third level qualification

12% The percentage of persons in their 70s who had a third level qualification

Figure 3 Age full-time education ceased by current age and sex



Sex differences

Census 2011 results show that among those aged 25 to 39, women tended to stay in education longer than their male counterparts. Only 18 per cent of females in this age group completed their full-time education aged 17 or under compared with 26 per cent of males.

The differences for those aged between 40 and 59 were similar. Just over 36 per cent of males and 27 per cent of females in this group had completed their education before they turned 17. Approximately 18 per cent of both males and females in this age group completed their education aged 22 or older.

Older persons

Among persons aged 60 and over, sex differences were not pronounced. Almost 70 per cent of both males and females had ceased their education aged 17 or under, with slightly more males (13%) than females (10%) continuing in education until at least the age of 22.

Adult education

Almost 280,000 persons aged 22 and over indicated that they had not ceased their education, of which 178,710 were not full-time students.

Over 60,000 of these persons who had not ceased their education were in their thirties, over 30,000 in their forties, more than 16,000 in their fifties and almost 8,000 in their sixties. There were over 5,000 persons aged 70 and over who had not ceased their education.

The sex ratio was balanced, with just over half (50.8%) being female.

The majority (60%) were pursuing their ongoing education while at work, with a further 23 per cent indicating that they were unemployed. Economic status varied significantly by age however. Among those aged under 40, almost 90 per cent were at work or unemployed, whereas among the 8,023 persons aged 65 and over, almost 80 per cent were either retired or looking after the home.

Table page 42-47

It's a fact!

4% The percentage of 30 year olds who had completed their full-time education before age 16

34% The percentage of 60 year olds who had completed their full-time education before age 16

Level of education 1991-2011

It's a fact!

14% The percentage of persons aged 15 and over who had a third level qualification in 1991

31% The percentage of persons aged 15 and over who had a third level qualification in 2011

228% The percentage increase in the number of women with third level qualifications between 1991 and 2011

765,204 The number of persons educated to primary level or lower in 1991

456,896 The number of persons educated to primary level or lower in 2011

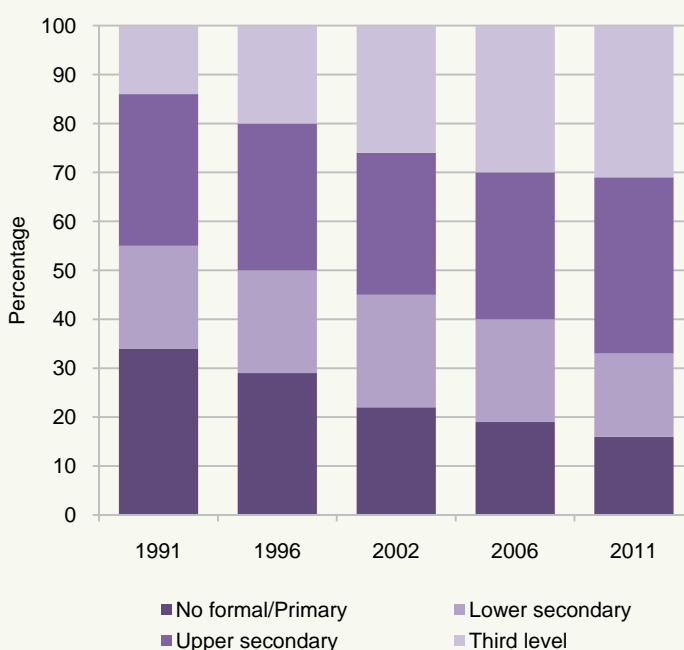
17% The percentage of males in their 60s who had a third level qualification in 2011

Increasing levels of education

As can be seen from figure 4 below, the educational attainment of people aged 15 and over improved significantly over the twenty years from 1991 to 2011 with falling numbers educated to primary level only and increasing numbers in the higher levels.

The greatest gains have been in the numbers of those with a third level qualification rising from just 14 per cent in 1991 to 31 per cent by 2011.

Figure 4 Highest level of education attained, 1991-2011



Women outpace men in third level attainment

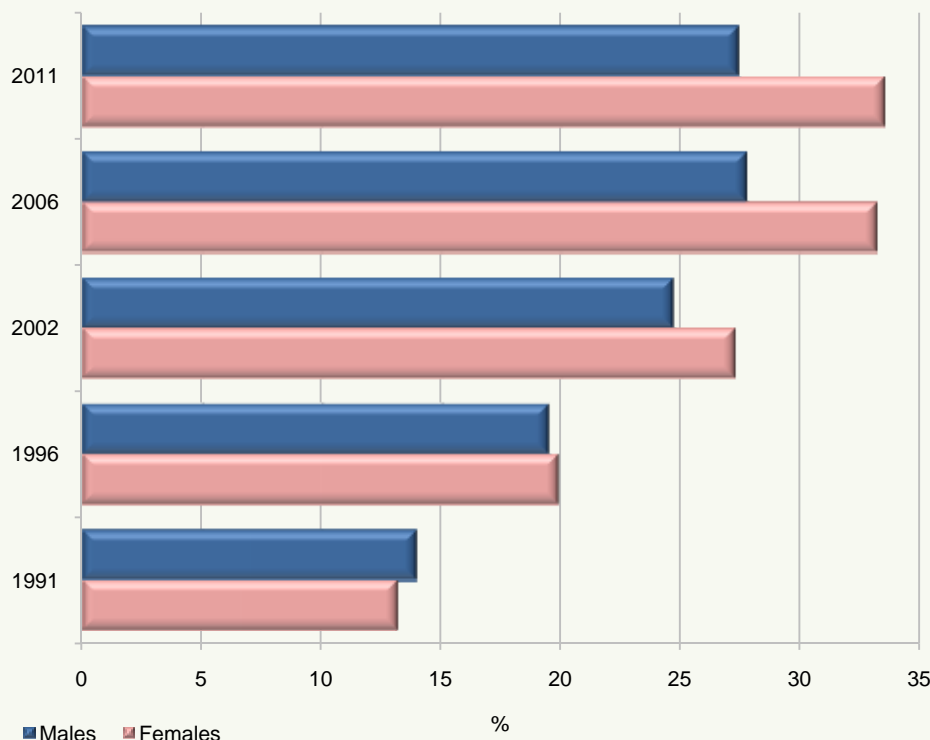
The improvement in educational attainment was more pronounced for women than for men. In 1991, 86 per cent of males and 87 per cent of females were educated to upper secondary level only. In April 2011 this percentage had fallen to 73 per cent for men and 66 per cent for women.

Graduates

In 2011, 28 per cent of women were third level graduates compared with only 23 per cent of men. Of the total number of graduates (739,992) in April 2011, 413,257 (56%) were women while 326,735 (44%) were men.

Table page 48-50

Figure 5 Percentage of persons with third level education by sex, 1991-2011



Age education ceased 1991-2011

Completing education at a later age

With the increasing level of education among the population, the age at which people ceased their full-time education steadily rose between 1991 and 2011. Of those who had completed their education in 1991, almost three in ten, representing 600,000 people, had completed their education before they turned 15. By 2006 this figure had more than halved to 13 per cent and by April 2011 it had decreased further to 11 per cent, representing fewer than 250,000 people.

Simultaneously, the percentage staying in education into their 20s increased. Census 1991 recorded just over 5 per cent of persons had completed their education aged 22 or older. In April 2011, almost half a million people had completed their education after their 22nd birthday, representing close to 1 in 4 persons. The numbers continuing their education beyond age 24 increased by more than 200 per cent in the twenty years between 1991 and 2011, rising from 60,227 to 190,847.

Figure 6 Age at which full-time education ceased, 1991-2011

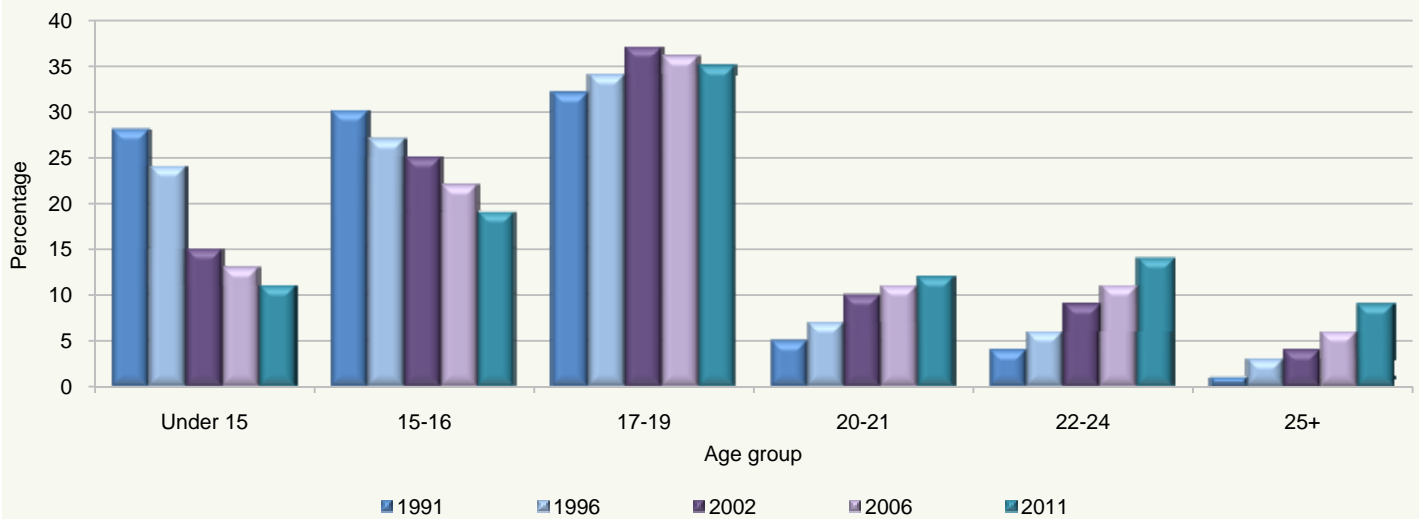


Table A Persons whose education had ceased by age education ceased and county, 2011

County	Number of persons	Average age education ceased
Galway city	46,506	21.0
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	136,577	20.9
Fingal	169,614	19.8
Dublin city	359,219	19.6
Cork county	261,541	19.4
Cork city	80,437	19.4
Longford	25,341	18.4
Cavan	47,476	18.4
Offaly	49,834	18.3
Wexford	97,353	18.2
Donegal	105,743	18.1
Monaghan	39,720	18.0
State	3,003,490	19.1

Average age education ceased

Over 3 million persons aged 15 and over had completed their full time education in April 2011 with an overall average age of completion of 19.1 years. The results vary as evidenced by the selected administrative counties presented in table A.

The county with the oldest average age at which education ceased was Galway city at 21 years. Just behind was Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown where the average age at which education ceased was 20.9. Also recording high average ages were Fingal, Dublin city and Cork county and city.

The county in which persons on average ceased their education at the youngest age was Monaghan at 18.0 years. This represents an average age which was a full three years younger than Galway city. Education also ceased comparatively early in Donegal (18.1), Wexford (18.2) and Offaly (18.3).

Education level by county

Third level

The percentage of persons with a third level qualification varied greatly by county with the highest at 40.1 per cent in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and the lowest, at 17.4 per cent, in Limerick city.

Galway city, with 31.3 per cent had the second highest rate overall, considerably higher than either Cork (22.1%) or Waterford city (19.7%). In Dublin city 28.2 per cent of persons had a third level qualification.

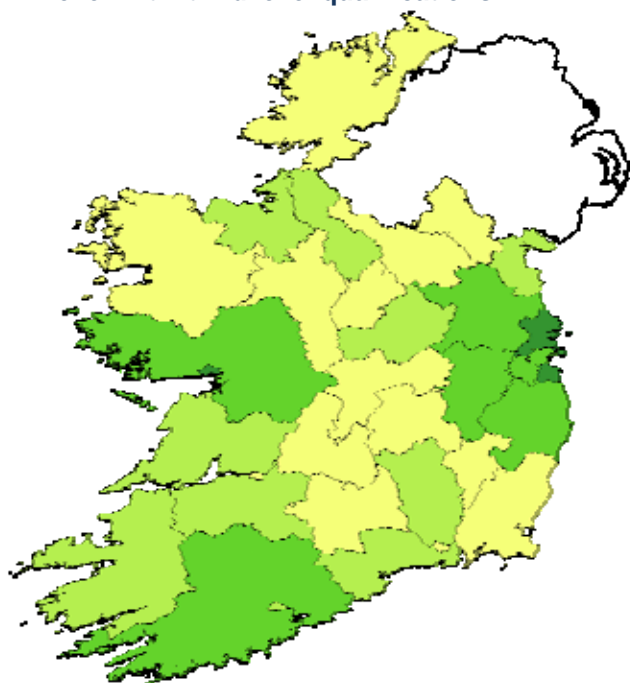
Outside of Dublin and the cities, Kildare had the highest percentage of persons with a third level education (26%) followed by Wicklow (26%) and Cork county (26%).

Primary level

More than one in five persons (21%) in Donegal aged 15 and over had not been educated beyond primary level, the highest for any county on Census Night. The other Ulster counties of Monaghan and Cavan also had high rates (17.6% and 16.5%) as did Mayo, Wexford and Longford - all with more than 16 per cent.

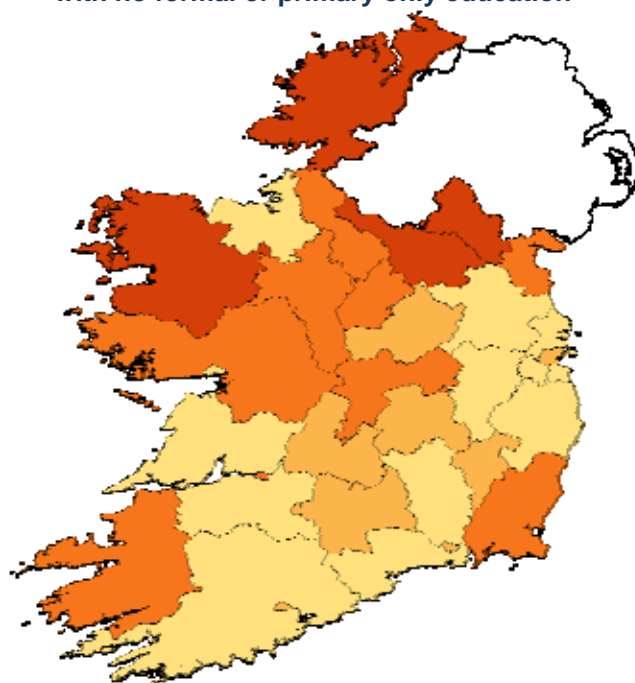
Of the cities, Limerick had the highest percentage of persons educated no further than primary level at 15 per cent followed by Dublin city (14%) and Waterford (13%). Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown had the lowest with 6.5 per cent followed by Galway city (6.9%) and Fingal (7.3%).

Map 1 Percentage of persons aged 15 years and over with third level qualifications



17.4 - 20.4 20.5 - 23.3 23.4 - 29.2 29.4 - 40.1

Map 2 Percentage of persons aged 15 years and over with no formal or primary only education



6.5 - 12.9 13.0 - 14.0 14.1 - 16.3 16.5 - 21.2

It's a fact!

15% The percentage of males aged 15 and over in Monaghan who had a third level qualification

27% The percentage of females aged 15 and over in Monaghan who had a third level qualification

126,134 The number of persons in Dublin city who had a third level qualification

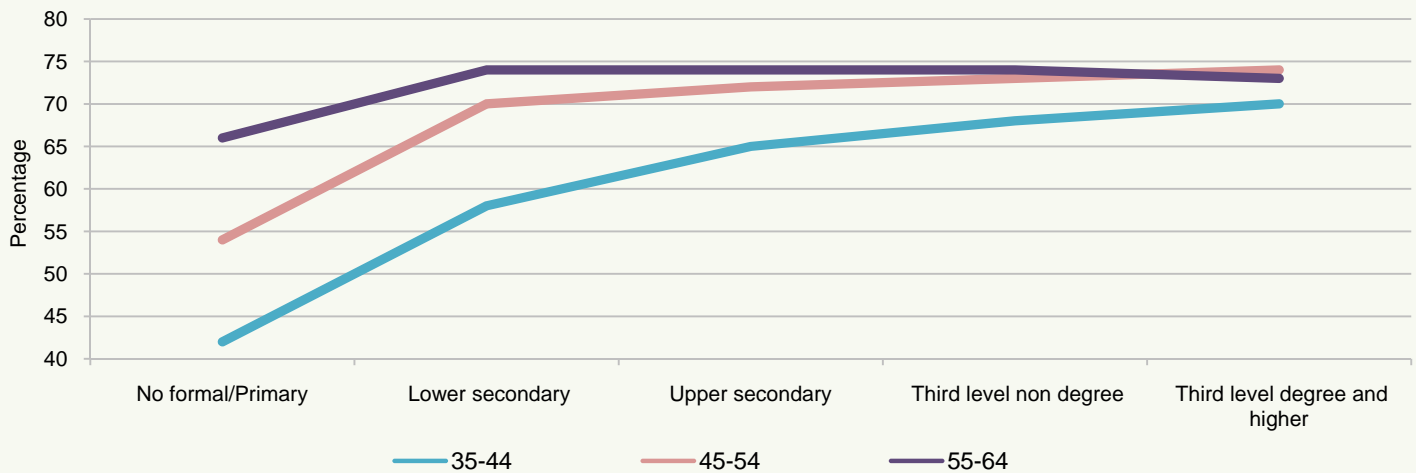
Education and marriage

The likelihood of being married increases with education attainment as illustrated in the graph below.

Among those aged 35 to 44 stark differences can be seen. Just 58 per cent of those with lower secondary education were married compared with 65.3 per cent for those with an upper secondary level qualification and 69.3 per cent for those with a third level qualification.

Less pronounced differences can be seen for those in the older age groups. Among persons aged between 55 and 64, those with either lower secondary or third level qualifications had an equal likelihood of being married.

Figure 7 Percentage of persons married by age group and highest level of education

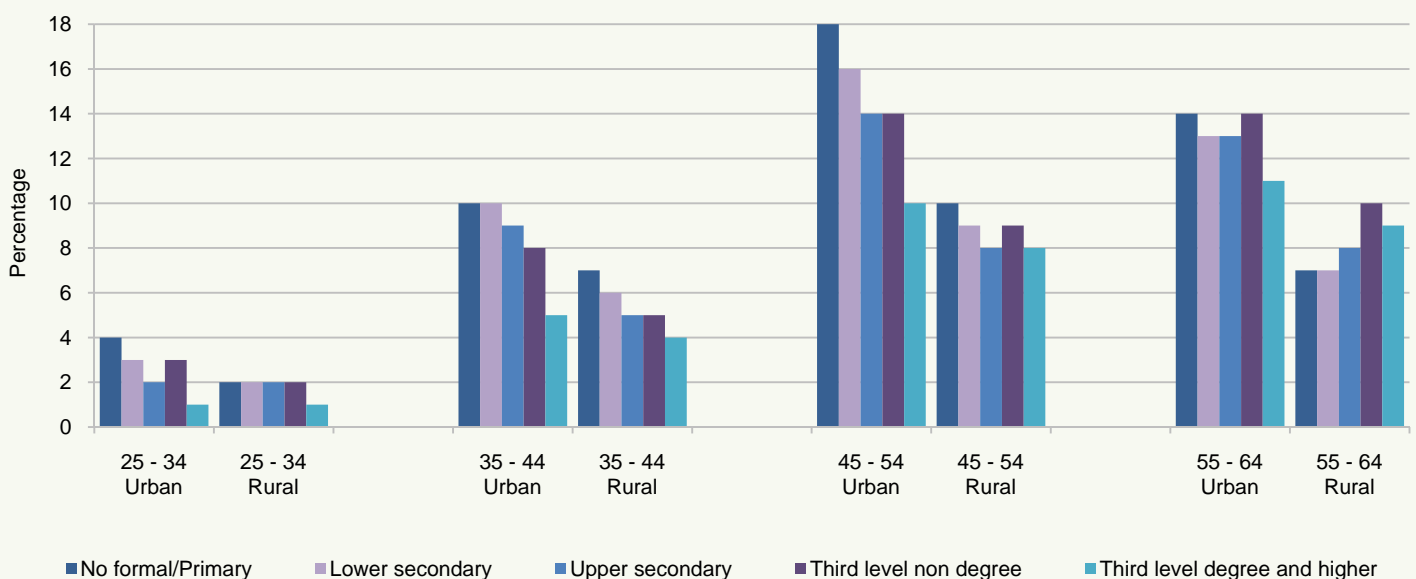


Separation and divorce

A higher percentage of those educated to primary level only were separated or divorced, with the percentage falling with increased educational attainment as illustrated in the graph below. Among older people in rural areas the patterns were reversed however with a higher percentage of those with a third level education divorced or separated compared with the lower educated.

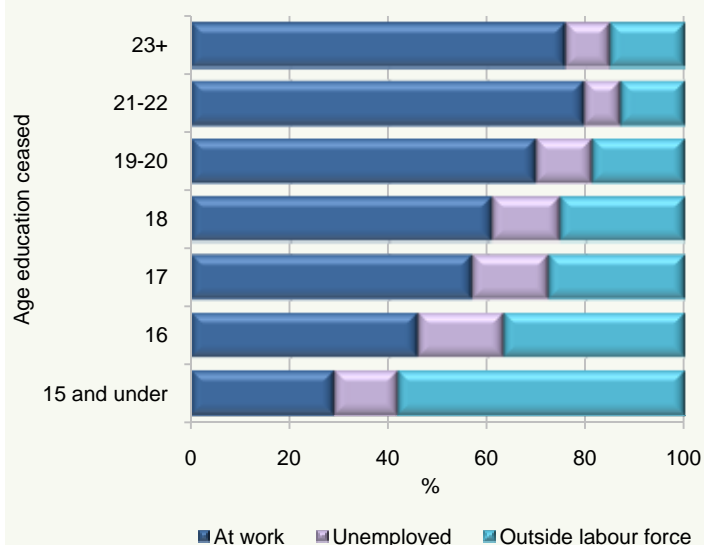
There was a clear urban-rural divide in separation rates, particularly among persons educated no higher than primary level. Among those aged 45-54 in urban areas 18 per cent were separated or divorced compared with 10 per cent of those similarly educated in rural areas.

Figure 8 Percentage of persons separated or divorced by age group, level of education and area type



Education and economic status

Figure 9 Economic status by age education ceased



Job prospects

Census 2011 data shows that persons who were at work finished their education at a later age than those who were unemployed.

There were 377,186 people aged 15 and over who had ceased their education and were unemployed. Just under half of these had completed their full-time education by age 18. Over 13 per cent had completed their education aged 15 or under.

In contrast, among the 1.7 million persons who were at work and had completed their education, only 35 per cent had completed their education before they turned 19. Almost 30 per cent did not complete their education until they were at least 21 years old.

Early school leavers

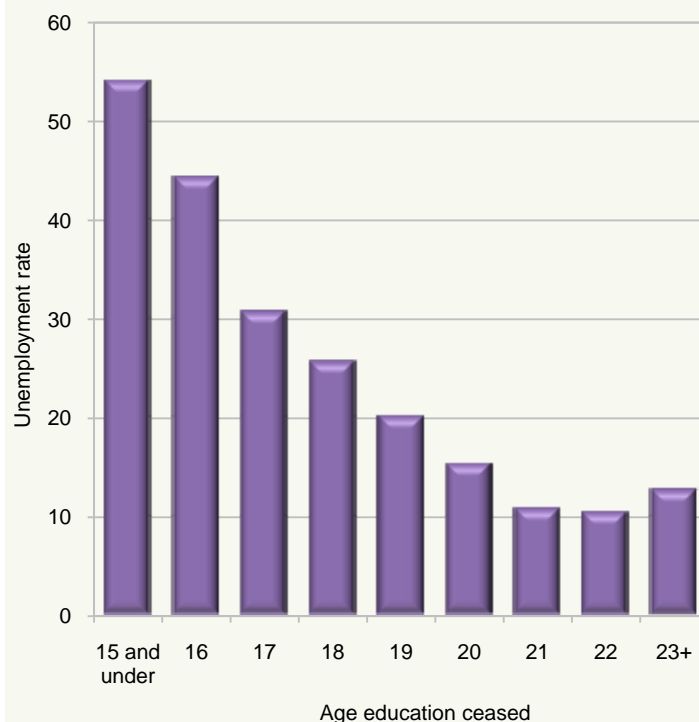
Over 389,000 persons completed their full-time education before the age of 16. Among these people, 213,895 or 55 per cent were aged 60 or over. A further 43,741 were aged under 40.

The labour force participation rate for the early school leavers was 42 per cent compared with 62 per cent for the population generally, reflecting the older age profile of this group. Unemployment among early school leavers was 31 per cent, compared with the overall unemployment rate of 19 per cent.

There were 25,509 persons aged between 20 and 34 who completed their full-time education aged 15 or younger. Among this group, labour force participation was relatively high at 77 per cent but the unemployment rate was almost three times the national figure at 54 per cent. This is illustrated in figure 10.

In the slightly older age group of 40 to 59 year olds early school leavers labour force participation was just under 70 per cent and unemployment was 29 per cent.

Figure 10 Unemployment rates for 20-34 year olds by age education ceased



It's a fact!

7,066 The number of persons under 40 who completed their education aged 12 or 13

58% The unemployment rate among these persons

Most third level qualified workers

Figure 11 presents the industrial groups (as listed in table 5 on pages 54-57) with the highest percentage of workers with a third level qualification.

Almost 80 per cent of 5,301 persons who had a job in professional management consultancy services had a third level qualification, as did more than three quarters of those in scientific research and development.

The sectors with the largest absolute number of persons with third level qualifications were education (113,317), human health activities (68,116), retail trade (38,463), social work activities (34,624) and financial services activities (31,645).

Farmers

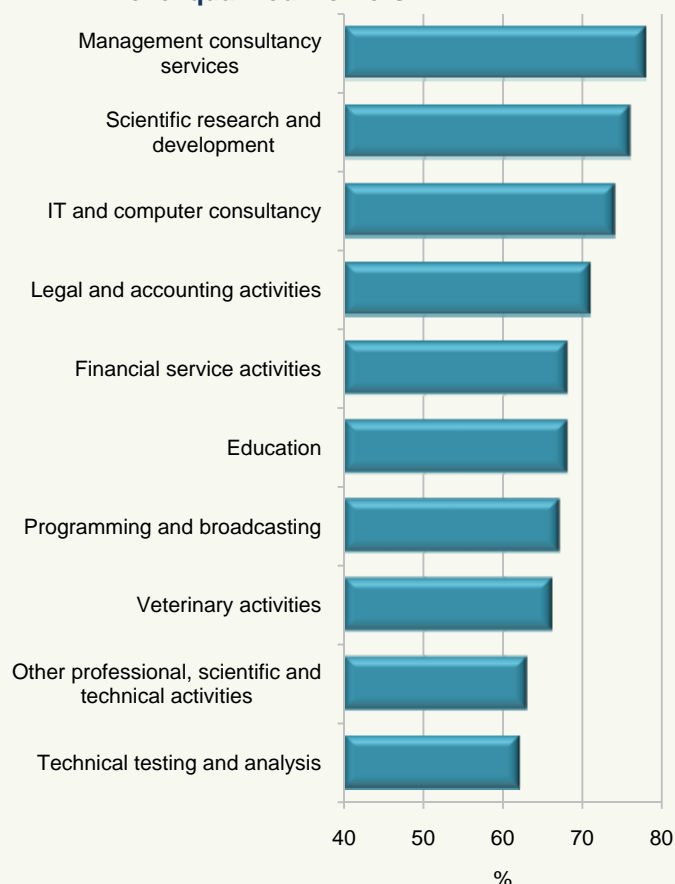
The agriculture sector (crop and animal production) had the largest proportion of persons who were educated to primary or lower. Almost a quarter of the nearly 84,000 persons in this sector were not educated beyond primary level.

IT and communications

Almost two thirds of the over 68,000 persons working in IT and communications had a third level qualification. Only 5 per cent were educated to lower secondary level or below. Within the sector, three quarters of the workers in computer programming, consultancy and information service activities had a third level qualification as did almost 70 per cent of those working in programming and broadcasting, as shown in the table below.

Table page 54-57

Figure 11 Industries with highest percentage of third level qualified workers



It's a fact!

9% The percentage of persons in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector who had a third level qualification

24% The percentage of persons in the retail trade sector who had a third level qualification

19% The percentage of persons in horseracing activities who had a third level qualification

23% The percentage of persons in agriculture, forestry and fishing educated to primary level only

Table B Level of education, IT and communications workers

Sector	Primary & lower secondary	Upper secondary	Third level
Computer programming, consultancy and information services	853	6,035	28,091
Programming and broadcasting	207	1,102	2,992
Publishing	489	1,791	3,996
Motion picture, video and television programme production	269	1,154	2,264
Telecommunications	1,617	5,641	7,269
All IT and communications	3,435	15,723	44,612

Education and occupations

It's a fact!

17% The percentage of persons in caring and personal service occupations who had a third level degree or higher qualification

33% The percentage of persons in protective service occupations who had a third level degree or higher qualification

3,842 The number of teaching and educational professionals who did not have a third level qualification

High flyers

The teaching and educational professionals occupation group contained the highest proportion of third level degree holders of all occupational groups with 88 per cent (86,592 persons) having at least an ordinary Bachelor degree or national Diploma.

Among business, media and public service professionals, 82 per cent (72,655 persons) held a higher degree, while 3 out of 4 in the health professions and those in the area of science, research, engineering and technology also had a third level degree or higher qualification.

Fewer than half (42%) of corporate managers and directors held a third level degree or higher qualification.

Table page 58

Table C Top 9 occupation groups by proportion of persons in the labour force with third level degree

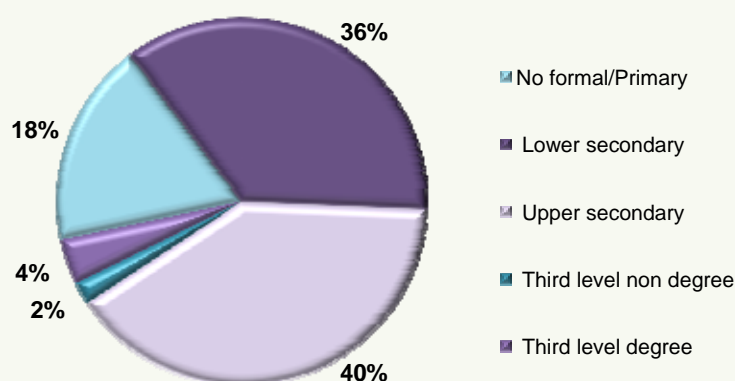
Occupation	Persons in labour force	Persons with third level degree	Percentage with third level degree
Teaching and educational professionals	98,016	86,592	88
Business, media and public service professionals	88,091	72,655	82
Health professionals	88,906	67,767	76
Science, research, engineering and technology professionals	78,768	58,230	74
Business and public service associate professionals	114,421	57,210	50
Health and social care associate professionals	21,709	10,253	47
Culture, media and sports occupations	29,727	13,908	47
Science, engineering and technology associate professionals	38,606	17,994	47
Corporate managers and directors	120,505	50,827	42

Lower secondary

More than one in three of the 79,000 drivers and mobile machine operators who had completed their education were educated to lower secondary level only – the highest percentage of any occupational group.

Almost one in three of those whose profession was in the skilled construction and building trades or in elementary trades also indicated that their highest level of education was lower secondary.

Figure 12 Drivers and mobile machine operators, level of education



Who works where?

In 2011 a new question was asked on the field of study of all post-secondary school qualifications. This facilitates a detailed analysis of the occupations pursued by persons with different qualifications across a range of subjects.

Social sciences, business and law

The social sciences, business and law category was by far the most popular field of study among all those with post-secondary school qualifications in 2011. Just under 300,000 persons in the labour force were qualified in this area. 248,997 people had a third level qualification in social sciences, business and law (accounting for 1 in 3 of all third level qualifications). A further 49,566 people had a second level qualification in this field.

Table D shows the top occupational categories of this group. The most popular occupations for those educated to second level only were those in the administrative field, with a further 10 per cent working in a secretarial-related job. The business and public service associate professional group accounted for 9 per cent and included such jobs as estate agents, insurance underwriters and human resources officers. A further 9 per cent had a sales occupation.

Table D Occupations of persons in the labour force with qualifications in social sciences, business and law

Occupation	Social sciences, business and law	
	Second level	Third level
	Percentage	
Business, media and public service professionals	2	19
Administrative occupations	32	17
Business and public service associate professionals	9	16
Corporate managers and directors	4	13
Sales occupations	9	4
Secretarial and related occupations	10	2
Other occupations	34	29

Third level

Two thirds of those with a third level qualification in this area were working in one of four occupational groups. The largest of these was business, media and public service professionals accounting for 19 per cent and which includes, among others, solicitors, accountants, architects, journalists and clergy. The second largest category was administrative occupations (17%) followed by business and public service associate professionals (16%). Over 13 per cent had an occupation as a corporate manager or director.

The remaining 35 per cent (84,000 persons) were spread across all other occupational groups.

Table page 59

It's a fact!

248,997 The number of persons in the labour force who had a third level qualification in social sciences, business and law

47,950 The number of persons who were business, media or public service professionals

Field of study

Education and teacher training

Of all fields of study coded in the census those with a third level qualification in education and teacher training were most likely to work in their chosen field with 77 per cent working in education at the time of the census.

In contrast occupations among those with second level education-related qualifications were far more varied with the largest group working in the caring and personal service category.

Health and welfare

Those with a qualification in the area of health and welfare were also likely to be working in their chosen field with over 60 per cent in a health-related occupation. A further 8 per cent were in the caring services category with the remainder across a range of occupations.

As with education those with only a second level qualification in this area were more likely to be working in the caring and personal services occupation group.

Table E Persons with qualifications in the education and in the health and welfare occupation group

Education		Occupation	Health and welfare	
Second level	Third level		Second level	Third level
Percentage			Percentage	
12	77	Teaching professionals	2	2
44	5	Caring personal service occupations	50	8
1	1	Health professionals	6	61
1	1	Health and social care associate professionals	6	6
7	3	Administrative occupations	5	2
35	13	Other occupations	31	21

Arts

Third level Arts graduates, of which there were 28,495 in the labour force in April 2011, had a broad range of occupations with culture and media-related occupations the most popular accounting for just over a quarter of the group; this included occupations such as artists, musicians, graphic designers and fitness coaches. A further 14 per cent had an occupation in the teaching and educational professional category.

Over 10,000 persons in the labour force indicated that they had a second level Arts qualification with textile and printing trades and sales occupations featuring strongly in their occupations.

Humanities

Humanities graduates had a wide range of jobs.

For those with a third level qualification, teaching and education was the most common occupational group accounting for one in five of the 37,079 persons.

Just under 14 per cent had an administrative occupation with 11 per cent indicating an occupation as a business, media or public service professional.

Table F Persons with qualifications in the arts and humanities occupation group

Arts		Occupation	Humanities	
Second level	Third level		Second level	Third level
Percentage			Percentage	
14	26	Culture, media and sports occupations	4	5
1	14	Teaching professionals	2	20
7	6	Administrative occupations	15	14
1	4	Business, media and public service professionals	6	11
11	3	Textiles, printing and other skilled trades	3	1
11	6	Sales occupations	8	5
8	4	Elementary administration and service occupations	10	3
47	37	Other occupations	52	41

Science, maths and computing

Administrative occupations such as bank clerks, office managers and administrative roles in the public sector, were the most popular among those with a second level qualification in the area of science, mathematics and computing. Just over 15 per cent worked in science research and technology occupations, with 9 per cent in sales occupations.

The largest job category (41%) among those educated to third level was science, research and technology occupations. Jobs within this category included scientists, engineers, software developers and web designers.

Engineering, manufacturing and construction

More people held second level qualifications (102,181 persons) in the area of engineering, manufacturing and construction than held a third level qualification in this field (89,864 persons).

Amongst those with second level qualifications 1 in 3 were working in the skilled metal, electrical and electronic trades with a further 23 per cent in the skilled construction and building trades.

Those qualified to third level were most likely to be employed in the science, research and technology area, followed by business, media and public service occupations (17%).

Table G Persons with qualifications in the science and engineering related fields occupation group

Science, maths and computing		Occupation	Engineering, manufacturing and construction	
Second level Percentage	Third level		Second level Percentage	Third level
15	41	All science, research & technology occupations	7	34
6	14	All business, media & public service occupations	3	17
4	6	Corporate managers & directors	4	9
20	7	Administrative occupations	1	3
4	3	Skilled metal, electrical and electronic trades	31	8
2	0	Skilled construction and building trades	23	4
9	2	Sales occupations	2	3
40	27	Other occupations	29	22

Personal services

The personal services field of study includes qualifications relating to accommodation, catering, travel, hairdressing and beauty therapy.

Of the 35,000 persons with a second level qualification in one of these fields, 22 per cent were working in the textiles, printing and other skilled trades group, which includes chefs and bar managers, while 20 per cent were in the leisure, travel and related occupations group.

Security services

Security services qualifications include the Garda, Fire service, Prison Officers, and Army and Security Guard training.

More than half of those with a third level qualification were working in the protective services (Gardaí, Prison Officers and Soldiers) with a further 12 per cent in a business and public service associate profession.

Those with second level qualifications were more likely to be working in the elementary administration and service occupations such as security guards, and parking and civil enforcement occupations.

Table H Persons with qualifications in the personal services and security services occupation group

Personal services		Occupation	Security services	
Second level Percentage	Third level		Second level Percentage	Third level
20	13	Leisure, travel and related personal service occupations	1	0
4	11	Other managers and proprietors	2	4
22	11	Textiles, printing and other skilled trades	2	0
1	1	Protective service occupations	18	53
3	7	Business and public service associate professionals	5	12
10	8	Elementary administration and service occupations	24	3
6	9	Administrative occupations	5	3
34	40	Other occupations	43	25

Field of study by county

Significant variations

There was considerable variation in the fields of education studied by persons in each county in April 2011.

Just under half of those in the labour force with a third level qualification in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (24,033 persons) attained their qualification in social sciences, business and law. In contrast, only one quarter of Donegal's labour force with a third level education had a similar qualification (4,890 persons).

Similarly, 13 per cent of the workforce in both North and South Tipperary and Waterford county who had a second level qualification studied in the agriculture and veterinary field. Only 1 per cent of those with the same level qualification in South Dublin and in Dublin and Limerick cities had studied in this field.

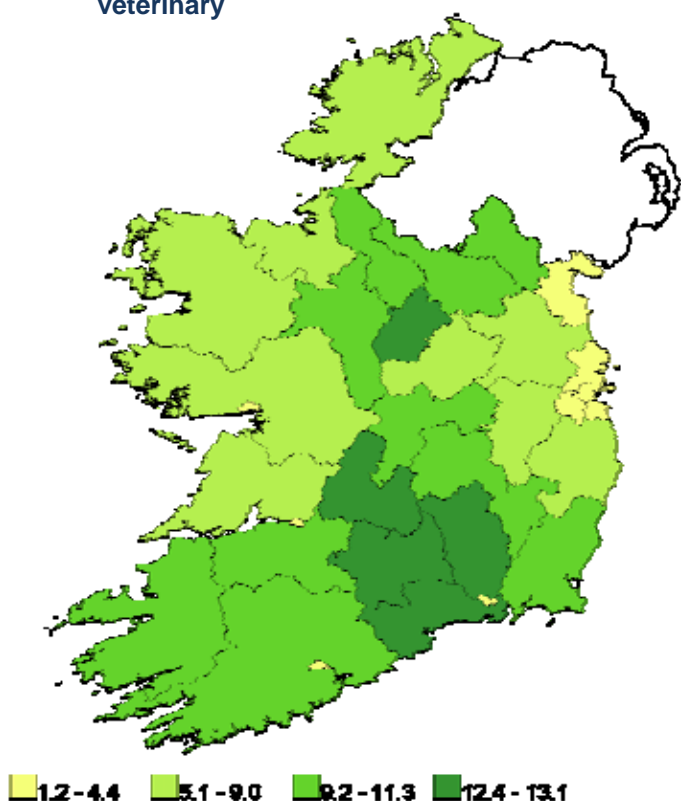
Health and welfare

Across the State, 14 per cent of persons in the labour force with a third level qualification had studied in the health and welfare field. Almost one in five persons with a third level qualification in Kilkenny and Sligo had studied in this field - the highest among all counties, and followed by Laois, Offaly, South Tipperary, Donegal and Monaghan.

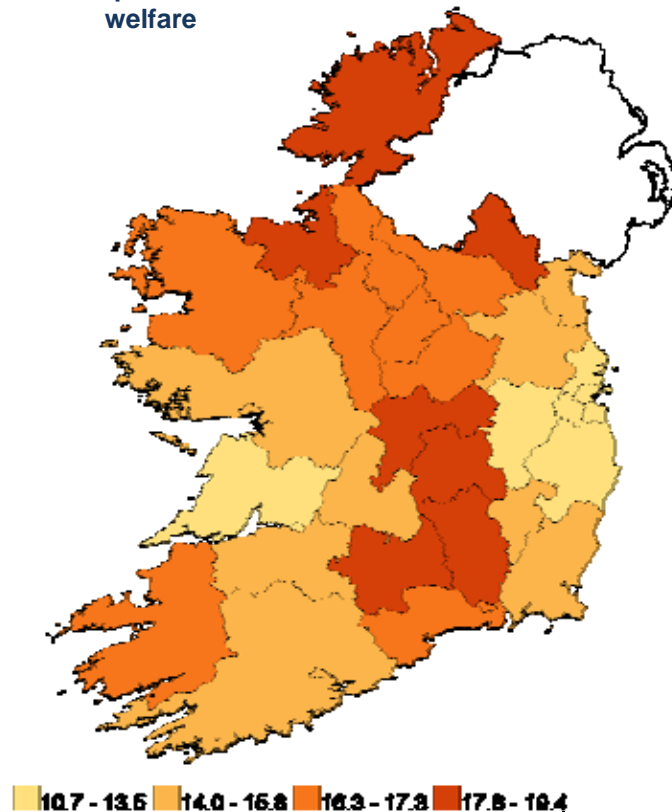
In contrast, only one in ten persons with a third level qualification in the labour force in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and in Limerick city had studied health and welfare, with relatively low numbers also recorded in Dublin city and in Wicklow.

Table page 66-67

Map 3 Percentage of persons with a second level qualification who studied agriculture and veterinary



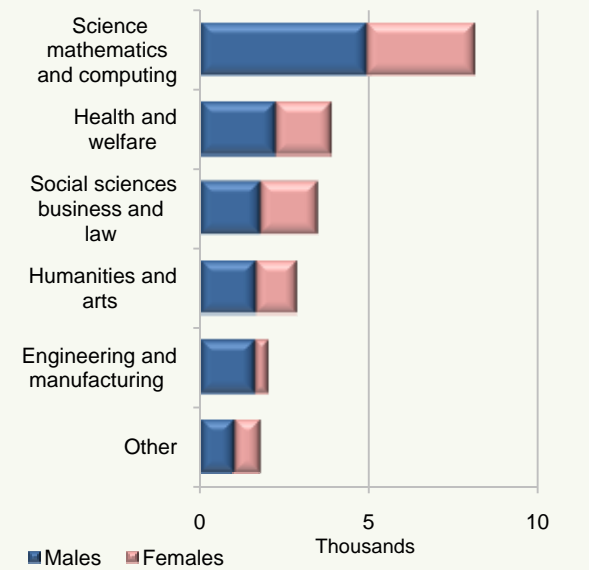
Map 4 Percentage of persons with a third level qualification who studied health and welfare



It's a fact!

16% The percentage of persons with a third level qualification in Limerick county who were qualified in engineering, manufacturing and construction, the highest in the country

Figure 13 Persons educated to Ph.D level classified by field of study



Over 20,000 with doctorates

Almost 22,000 people aged 15 and over who had completed their education held a Doctorate (Ph.D) level qualification in April 2011. This represented a significant increase of over 52 per cent on 2006.

There were more men (13,018) than women (8,952). Science, mathematics and computing was the most common areas of study accounting for 37 per cent of all Ph.Ds, followed by health and welfare, with almost 18 per cent holding a qualification in this area.

There were 826 Ph.D holders who were either unemployed or looking for their first job, giving an unemployment rate for the group of 4 per cent.

Of the 17,772 persons in the group at work, over 60 per cent worked in either the education or human health and social work industries.

It's a fact!

8,140 The number of persons who had a Ph.D qualification in science, mathematics and computing

2,848 The number of persons who had a Ph.D qualification in arts and humanities

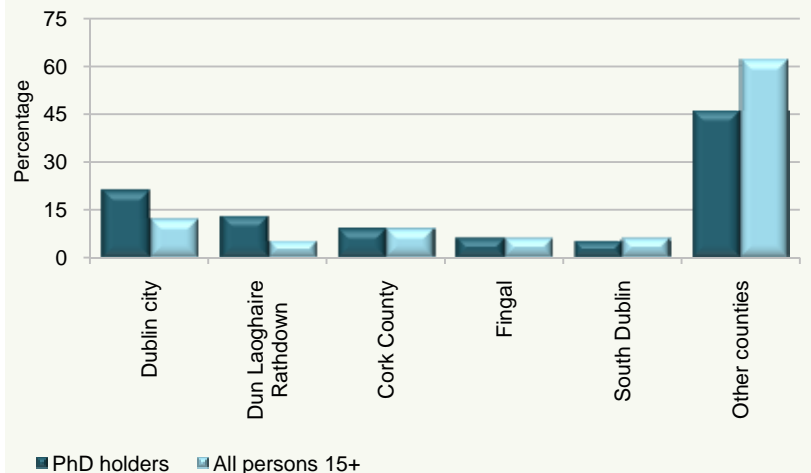
941 The number in Galway city who held a Ph.D

902 The number in Cork city who held a Ph.D

Table 1 Persons aged 15 and over, at work with a doctorate or higher qualification, by industry

Industry group	Number at work	Percentage of total at work
Education	7,785	44
Human health and social work	2,939	17
Manufacturing	1,731	10
Professional, scientific and technical activities	1,691	10
Public administration	962	5
IT and communications	636	4
Wholesale and retail	370	2
Others (including not stated)	1,658	8
Total	17,772	100

Figure 14 Persons educated to Ph.D level by location



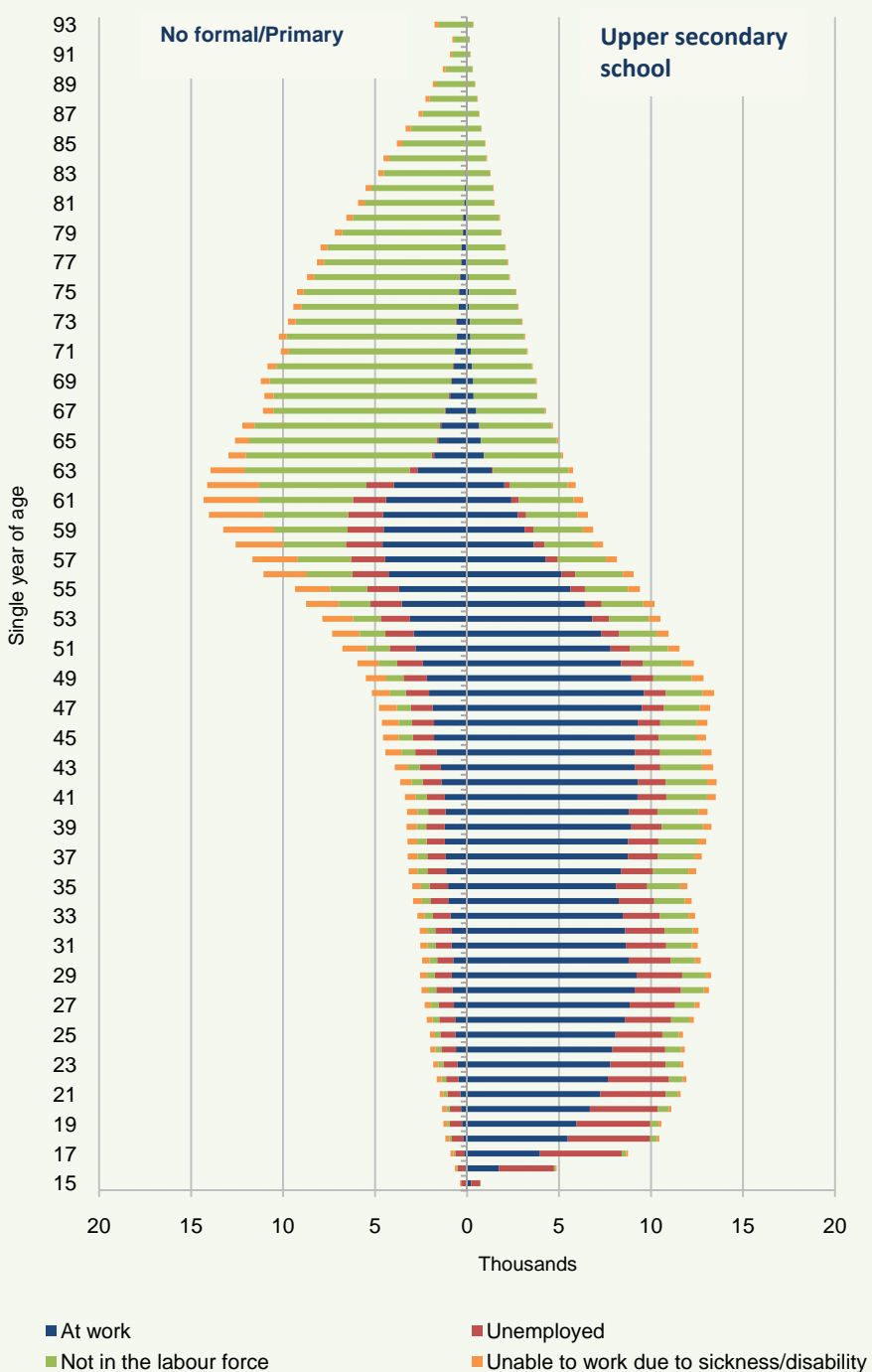
Where they were

Perhaps reflecting the concentration of third level institutions and hospitals in the capital, over 20 per cent of Ph.D holders (4,636 persons) were enumerated in Dublin city.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown had only 5 per cent of all persons who had completed their education yet accounted for 13 per cent of all Ph.D holders.

Ireland's lower educated

Figure 15 Level of education by economic status and age



Almost half a million among lower educated

In April 2011 there were over 450,000 persons in Ireland who had finished their education having completed no higher than primary school. Of these 42,387 indicated that they had no formal education. More than half (55%) of the persons in this group lived in urban areas.

Just under 20,000 of the lower educated were aged between 15 and 29. The slight majority of this younger group (52%) were males. However, among the 86,403 persons under 50, the proportion of males rose to almost 60 per cent.

Economic status

There were 61,663 persons aged between 20 and 44 who were educated to primary level or lower in 2011. Labour force participation among this group was 68 per cent compared with 86 per cent for those of the same age educated to upper secondary school level. A further 16 per cent indicated that they were unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability, while unemployment was 52 per cent.

Unable to work

Almost 10,000 lower educated persons aged between 20 and 44 were unable to work due to illness or disability. The vast majority (89%) of these people had at least one disability. Over 5,500 (57%) had an intellectual disability with a further 5,000 (51%) having a difficulty with learning, remembering or concentrating.

It's a fact!

30,692 The number of persons aged between 15 and 59 who were educated to primary level or lower and who were unable to work due to sickness or disability

33% The unemployment rate among persons in their fifties educated to primary level or lower

20 year old students

Table J Percentage of 20 year olds in family units who were full-time students by parents' level of education

Father's education	Mother's education						
	Not stated / Not applicable	No formal / primary education	Lower secondary	Upper secondary	Higher cert. / Ordinary Bachelor	Honours Bachelor	Postgrad / Doctorate
	<i>Percentage</i>						
Not stated / Not applicable	45.3	27.5	38.6	54.9	69.0	78.2	78.9
No formal / primary education	32.5	33.4	44.6	54.5	71.9	70.0	80.9
Lower secondary	41.7	38.1	44.6	61.4	72.6	77.0	76.2
Upper secondary	52.5	45.0	54.9	67.6	77.2	79.9	85.3
Higher cert. / Ordinary Bachelor	74.4	72.0	68.4	79.3	81.9	87.7	93.7
Honours Bachelor	76.3	75.0	76.1	87.5	87.7	92.2	92.1
Postgrad / Doctorate	76.7	80.0	82.1	84.2	90.8	92.2	94.1

Parents' education

Table J presents the percentage of 20 year olds in family units who were students by the level of education of their parents.

Twenty year olds with both parents educated to third level had an 89 per cent chance of being a student with 4,012 out of a total 4,500 in this group still in full-time education. Among those with two parents with an honours bachelor degree or equivalent 92 per cent were full-time students.

In contrast, just over half of 20 year olds who had parents without third level qualifications were themselves full-time students. Among those for whom both parents were educated no higher than lower secondary only 44.6 per cent were students, while for those with two parents educated to upper secondary level only, 68 per cent were still in full-time education.

Fathers and mothers

Fathers' level of education appears to be a stronger determinant of whether or not a child will remain in education to the age of 20. In families where the mother was educated to upper secondary and the father had an honours degree 87.5 per cent of 20 year old children were students whereas in families where the mother had an honours degree and the father was educated to upper secondary only 79.9 per cent were students.

It's a fact!

89% The percentage of 20 year olds whose parents were both educated to third level who were themselves students

54% The percentage of 20 year olds with neither parent educated to third level who were themselves students

79% The percentage of 20 year olds with one parent educated to third level who were themselves students

94% The percentage of 20 year olds with both parents educated to postgraduate level who were themselves students

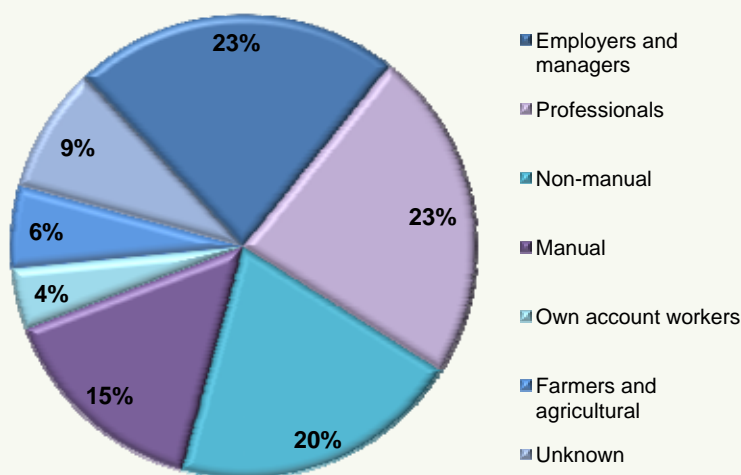
608 The number of 20 year old students with neither parent educated beyond primary school level

20 year old students

Table K Percentage of 20 year olds in family units who were full-time students classified by socio-economic group

Socio-economic Group	Percentage who were students
	%
A. Employers and managers	91.2
B. Higher professional	94.7
C. Lower professional	90.2
D. Non-manual	50.3
E. Manual skilled	46.4
F. Semi-skilled	55.5
G. Unskilled	46.0
H. Own account workers	86.4
I. Farmers	87.5
J. Agricultural workers	27.5
Z. All others gainfully occupied and unknown	26.9
Total	60.5

Figure 16 Students aged 20 years in family units classified by socio-economic group



Socio-economic group

Education participation varied considerably by socio-economic group (SEG). Table K shows the percentage of 20 year olds in family units who were students, classified by SEG; (because no occupation data is collected for students, their SEG is donated from a family member, normally a parent).

High educational participation...

There were 2,387 20 year olds in the higher professional category. Of these 94.7 per cent were students, the highest percentage of any socio-economic group. The children of the employers and managers category (6,476 students) and the lower professionals (4,344) also represented high levels of education participation (91.2% and 90.2% respectively).

The children of farmers and own account workers has participation levels above 85 per cent.

...and lower participation

At 26.9 per cent the children of those in category Z, 'All others gainfully occupied and unknown' had the lowest participation in education. These were families where the parents were not in the labour force, or did not state their occupation. Agricultural workers also had a low rate of education participation among their 20 year old children (27.5%).

Employers and professionals

The children of employers and managers and professional workers combined accounted for 45.9 per cent of all 20 year old students (see figure 16 on the left), while all persons in these two groups accounted for only 33.9 per cent of the overall population.

It's a fact!

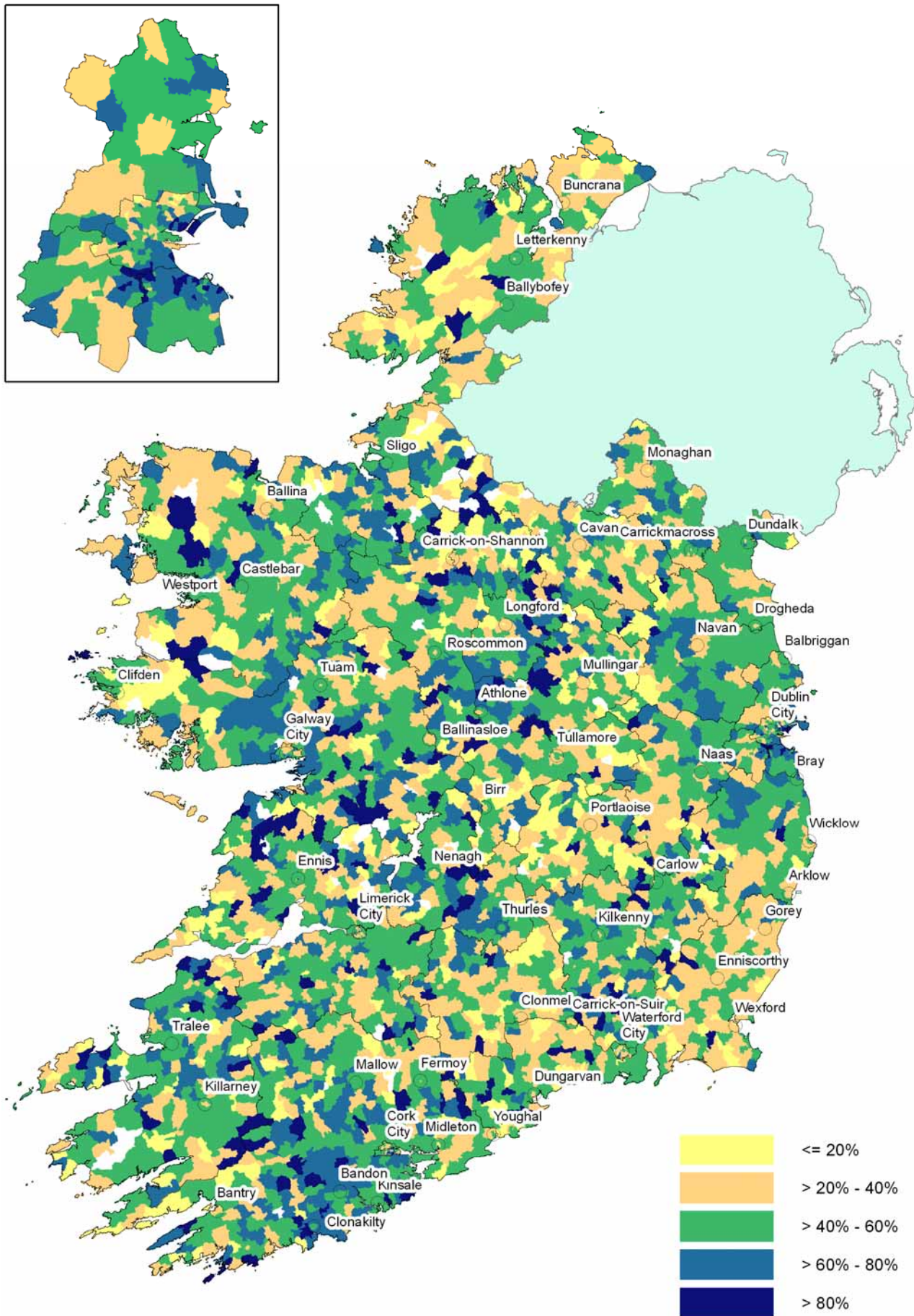
95% The education participation rate among 20 year olds in the higher professional group

88% The education participation rate among 20 year olds in the farmers group

28% The education participation rate among 20 year olds in the agricultural workers group

20 year old students

Map 5 Percentage of 20 year olds who were full-time students by usually resident Electoral District



Irish speakers

Figure 17 Population (aged 3 and over) of Irish speakers by age and frequency of speaking Irish, 2011 (1,759,026 persons)



Can you speak Irish?

The total number of persons (aged 3 and over) who could speak Irish in April 2011 was 1,774,437. This was an increase of 7.1 per cent on the 1,656,790 persons who could speak Irish in April 2006. There were more females (973,587) able to speak Irish than males (800,850).

School-goers and Irish

Figure 17 above shows the age structure of those persons who could speak Irish by the frequency of speaking Irish. The graph clearly illustrates (in the light blue bars) the large numbers of school children who spoke Irish on a daily basis within the education system. Between the ages of 5 and 18 inclusive just under 450,000 children spoke Irish on a daily basis in school representing 87 per cent of all persons who spoke Irish within education in 2011.

Daily speakers

There were 77,185 persons speaking Irish on a daily basis outside of the education system in April 2011 (represented in red in the graph above). Twenty three per cent of these were aged 5 to 18 (17,457 persons), a further 23,359 (30%) were in the age group 25-44. There were more women (42,157) than men (35,028).

Weekly speakers

There were 110,642 persons who said that they spoke Irish on a weekly basis outside of education. Again, there were more females (61,176) than males (49,466) speaking Irish on a weekly basis and relatively larger numbers of females spoke Irish weekly in the 35-44 age group than in the other non-school going ages.

Table page 68

Irish speakers by county

Galway county

Fifty one per cent of the population of Galway county could speak Irish in 2011 - the highest of any county as illustrated in figure 18. Clare (48.1%), North Tipperary (47.1%) and Limerick county (47%) were the next highest administrative counties while Dublin City (32.1%), South Dublin (35.8%) and Louth (36.1%) had the lowest percentages.

Irish speakers in rural areas and cities

Looking at the country in terms of area type, rural areas had the highest percentage of persons who could speak Irish with 46.3 per cent of Irish speakers, well above the State average of 40.6 per cent.

Amongst the cities Galway city and its suburbs had the highest rate of Irish speakers (44.2%) followed by Cork city and suburbs (44%). The lowest rate for a city was recorded for Dublin city and suburbs (35.2%).

Of the towns, the smaller towns of population less than 1,000 persons had the highest rate of Irish speakers at 41.6 per cent of their population.

Figure 18 Percentage of Irish speakers in each county, 2011

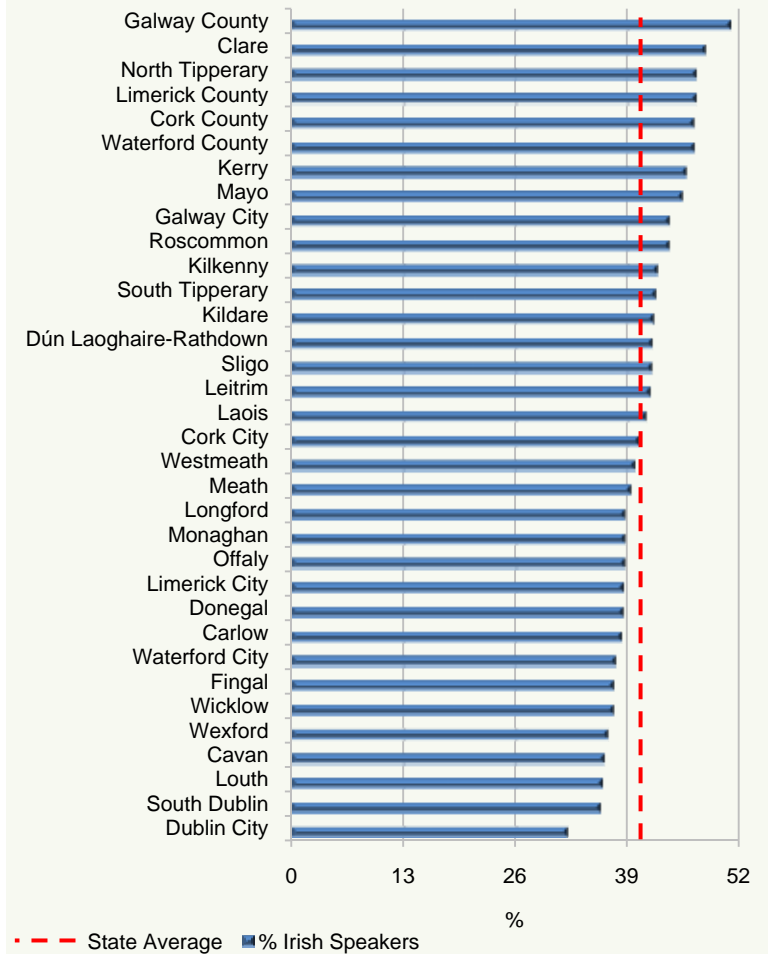
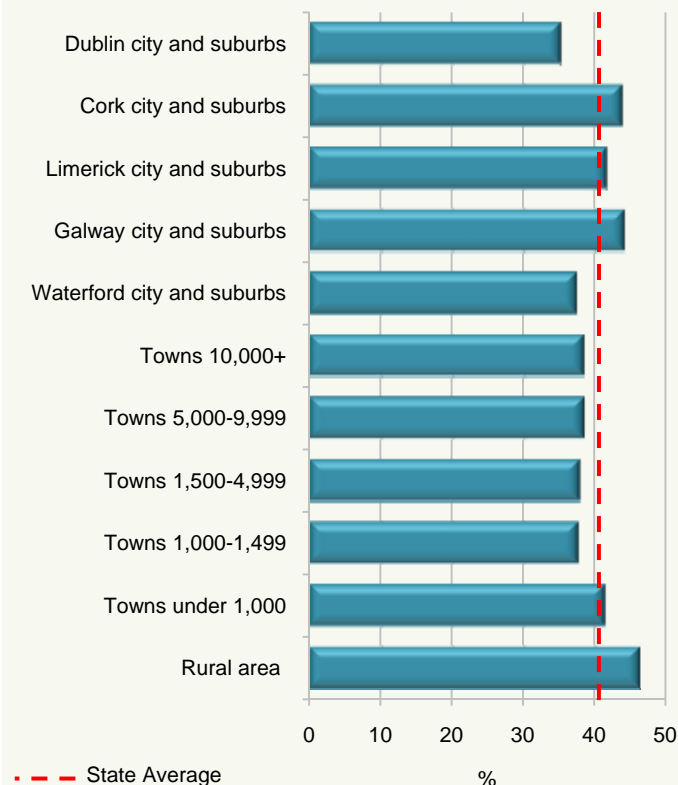


Figure 19 Percentage of Irish speakers in cities, towns and rural areas, 2011



It's a fact!

40.6% The percentage of the population who could speak Irish in 2011 (1,774,437 persons)

35.2% The percentage of all Irish speakers who lived in rural areas in 2011 (624,297 persons)

51% The percentage of the population of Galway county who could speak Irish in 2011 (76,971 persons)

161,868 The number of persons who could speak Irish in Cork county in 2011 – the highest of all the administrative counties

373,706 The number of persons who could speak Irish in Dublin city and its suburbs in 2011

Daily Irish speakers

Daily speakers

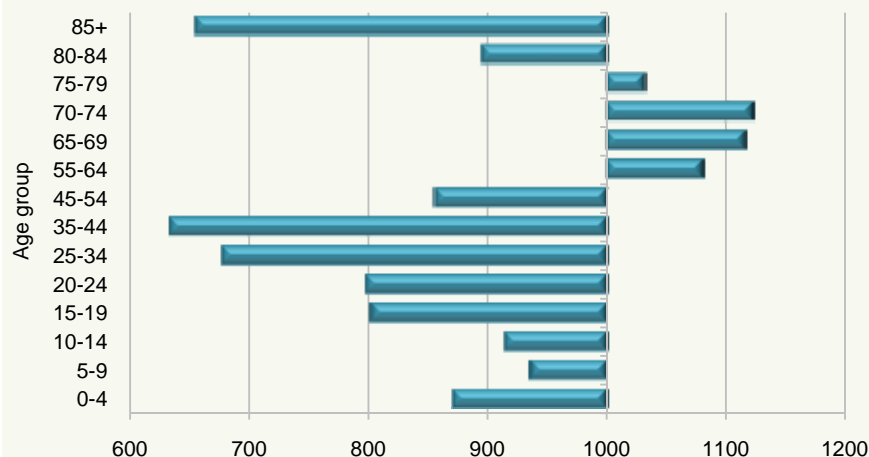
Of the 1.77 million persons (aged 3 and over) who indicated that they could speak Irish in the 2011 census, 77,185 said that they spoke Irish on a daily basis outside of the education system. This represented 1.8 per cent of the population aged 3 and over.

More females

There were 42,157 females speaking Irish on a daily basis in 2011 compared with 35,028 daily Irish male speakers, similar to 2006 when female daily speakers outnumbered male daily speakers. Figure 20 opposite shows the sex ratio by 5 year age group of daily Irish speakers for 2006 and 2011.

Up to age 52 females outnumbered males in each single year of age and, in particular, females in their thirties and early forties were more numerous than their male counterparts. There were just 634 male daily Irish speakers for every 1,000 female daily speakers in the 35-44 age group.

Figure 20 Daily Irish speakers, males per 1000 females, 2011

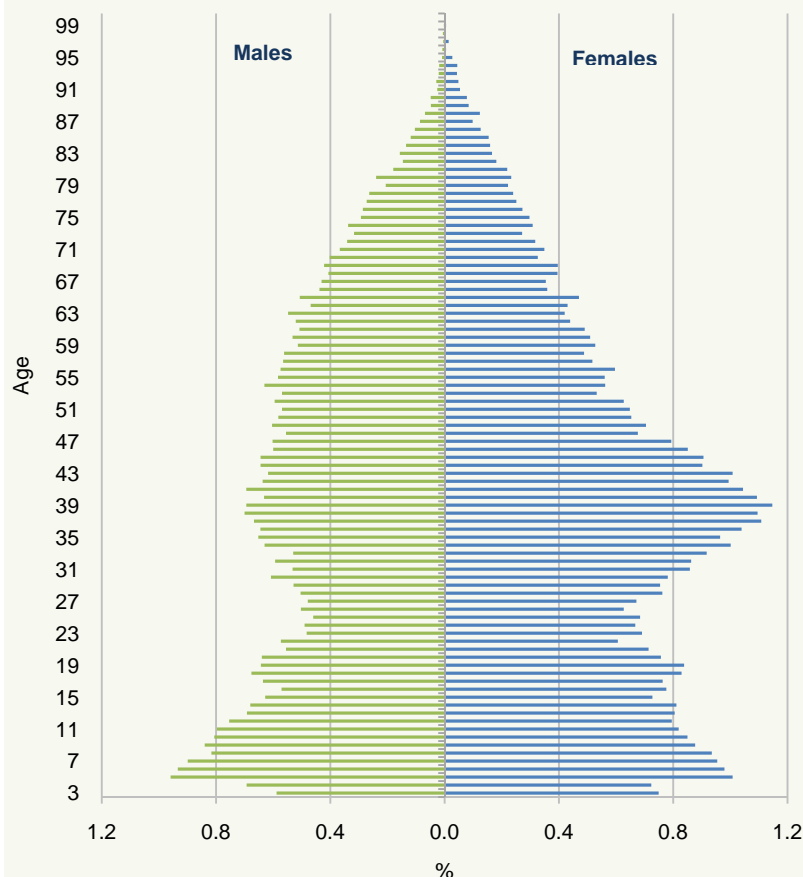


It's a fact!

42,157 The number of females who spoke Irish daily (outside the education system)

35,028 The number of males who spoke Irish daily (outside the education system)

Figure 21 Population of daily Irish speakers, 2011 (77,185 persons)



One in four daily speakers were children

Figure 21 shows the age and sex structure of daily Irish speakers in 2011.

One quarter of all daily Irish speakers (or 25.4%) were in the school-going ages of 3 to 18 years. Of these, females numbered 10,343 and males numbered 9,239.

Over half (53.5%) of daily Irish speakers, or 41,209 persons, were aged between 25 and 64 and most of these were females (23,342).

The peak ages for daily Irish speakers were in the early school-going years of 5 to 10. Another peak was observed in the late 30's and early 40's. In particular, in these ages, females had their peak at age 39 and males at age 38.

There were slightly more males in the 50-70 age group. For example, there were 1,123 male daily Irish speakers for every 1,000 female daily Irish speakers in the 70-74 age group in 2011.

Daily Irish speakers by location

Daily Irish strong in rural areas

Of the 77,185 daily Irish speakers in Ireland in 2011, 33,424 persons or 43.3 per cent were enumerated in a pure rural area, with the remaining 43,761 enumerated in towns.

Table L shows those towns with the highest proportions of daily Irish speakers in April 2011. Six of the top ten towns were in Donegal. County Galway had three towns in this list, one of which, Cill Rónáin, is on the island of Inishmore, off the Galway coast.

Larger towns, of population 1,500 or more, worthy of note were An Daingean (16.4%) in Kerry, Bearnna (8.4%) and Maigh Cuilinn (6.5%) in Galway county, where the proportion of daily Irish speakers was well above the State average of 1.8 per cent.

Of the towns with a population of 10,000 or more, Letterkenny had 3.1 per cent of its population aged 3 or over who spoke Irish daily, the highest of these towns.

Of the cities, Galway city and its suburbs had the highest proportion of its population (aged 3 or over) who spoke Irish on a daily basis (3.3%).

Table L Towns with the highest percentage of daily Irish speakers, 2011

Town	County	Number of persons aged 3 or over	% daily Irish speakers
			%
Mín Lárach	Donegal	424	81
Rann Na Feirste	Donegal	338	70
Bun Na Leaca	Donegal	416	63
An Cheathrú Rua	Galway	783	62
An Bun Beag-Doirí Beaga	Donegal	1,506	60
Gort An Choirce	Donegal	189	46
Cill Rónáin	Galway	291	44
An Spidéal	Galway	237	41
Loch an Iúir	Donegal	322	40
Béal Átha an Ghaorthaidh	Cork	231	38

Table M Towns with the highest number of daily Irish speakers, 2011

Town	Number of persons aged 3+	Number of daily Irish speakers	% daily Irish speakers
			%
Dublin city and suburbs	1,061,832	14,229	1.3
Cork city and suburbs	190,674	2,843	1.5
Galway city and suburbs	73,675	2,419	3.3
Limerick city and suburbs	87,355	1,074	1.2
An Bun Beag-Doirí Beaga	1,506	897	59.6
Letterkenny	18,549	569	3.1
An Cheathrú Rua	783	483	61.7
Swords	34,715	471	1.4
Waterford city and suburbs	49,104	459	0.9
Bray	30,517	431	1.4

Dublin city and suburbs

Due to the sheer size of its population Dublin city and its suburbs had the largest number of daily Irish speakers with 14,229 persons representing 18.4 per cent of all daily speakers. Cork, Galway and Limerick combined had 6,336 daily speakers accounting for 8.2 per cent of the total.

Western seaboard towns

After the cities the largest absolute numbers of daily Irish speakers were in the small towns along the western coasts of Donegal, Galway and Kerry. An Bun Beag-Doirí Beaga in Donegal with 897 daily Irish speakers, Letterkenny with 596 and An Cheathrú Rua in Galway county with 483 daily speakers had the largest numbers of daily Irish speakers.

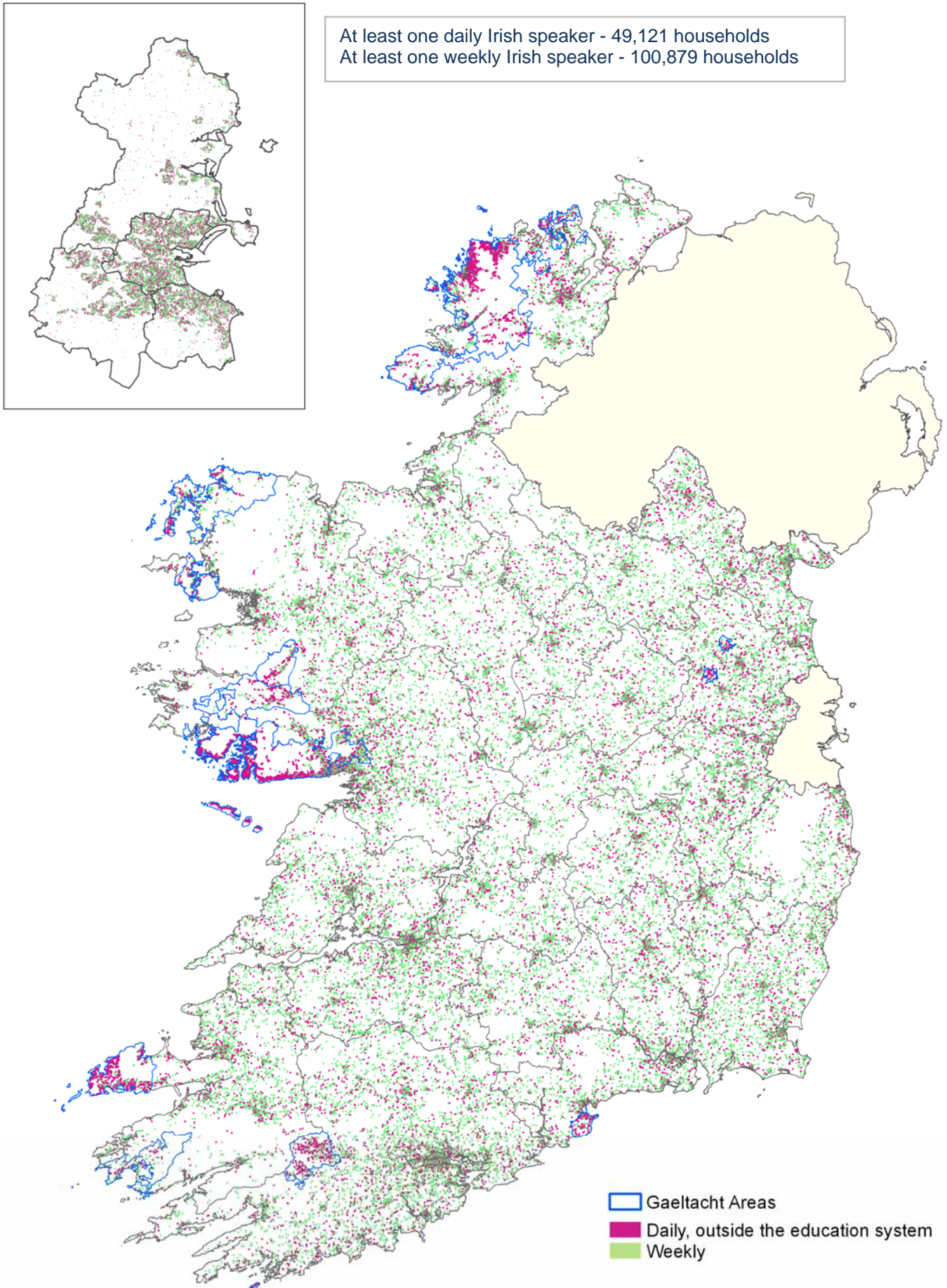
It's a fact!

2.5% The percentage of persons in the purely rural areas who spoke Irish daily in 2011

1.4% The percentage of persons in towns who spoke Irish daily in 2011

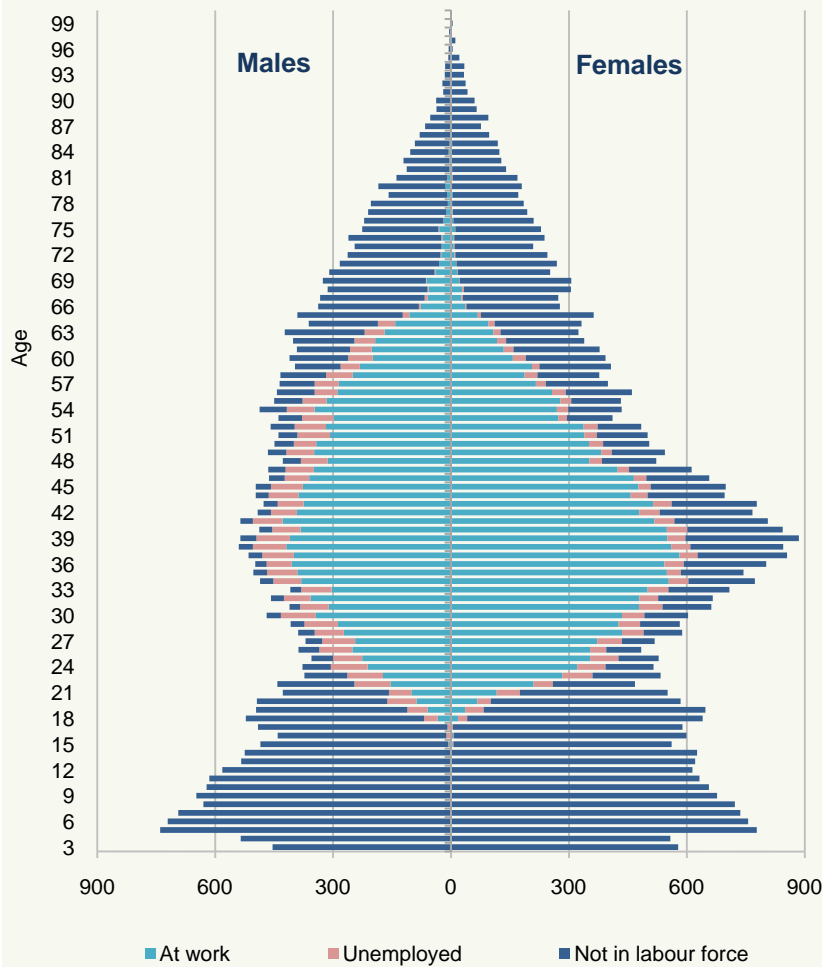
Daily and weekly Irish speakers, 2011

Map 6 Households with daily or weekly Irish speakers, with Gaeltacht regions shown



Daily Irish speakers

Figure 22 Age and economic status profile of daily Irish speakers, 2011 (77,185 persons)



Labour force participation rates

The labour force participation rates for daily Irish speakers aged 15 and over was 62.9 per cent for males and 53.9 per cent for females. These were lower than the corresponding rates for the population as a whole (male rate 69.4%, female rate 54.6%) in 2011.

Lower unemployment

The census based unemployment rates for daily Irish speakers, for males and females respectively, were 19.3 and 10.8 per cent compared with 22.3 and 15 per cent for the population as a whole in 2011.

Socio-economic group

There were proportionately more daily Irish speakers assigned to both the socio-economic groups B - Higher professional (8.1%) and C - Lower professional (24.2%) than were assigned in the overall population aged 3 and over (6.3% and 12% respectively). The reason for this was the relatively high number of primary, secondary and third-level teachers, nurses and midwives who spoke Irish on a daily basis in 2011.

Table page 70

It's a fact!

3,249 The number of primary school teachers who spoke Irish daily outside school in 2011

2,074 The number of secondary school teachers who spoke Irish daily outside school in 2011

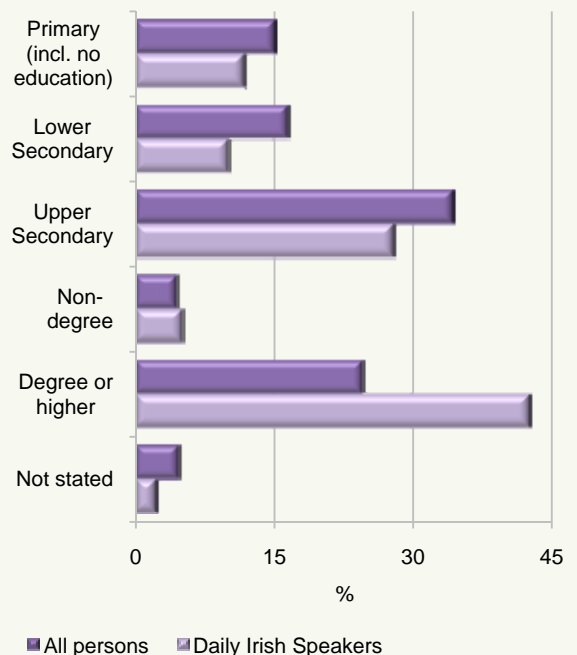
1,033 The number of farmers at work who spoke Irish daily in 2011

Higher educational attainment

Daily Irish speakers were more highly educated than the population generally, as illustrated in figure 23.

Of those daily Irish speakers who completed their education 43.8 per cent had a third level degree or higher. This compared to a rate of 25.8 per cent for the State overall (see figure 23).

Figure 23 Level of education of daily Irish speakers and all persons, 2011



The Gaeltacht areas

The gaeltacht areas are defined by The Gaeltacht Areas Orders, 1956–1982, and cover areas in the seven counties of Cork, Donegal, Galway, Kerry, Meath, Mayo and Waterford.

In 2011, there were a total of 96,628 persons aged 3 or over in the gaeltacht areas, representing an increase of 5.2 per cent over the 91,862 persons in 2006.

A total of 66,238 persons (aged 3 or over) or 68.5 per cent of persons in the gaeltacht areas said that they could speak Irish in 2011. This was an increase of 1,973 persons over 2006. However, the proportion who spoke Irish has dropped from 70 per cent in 2006.

1 in 4 daily Irish speakers

The number of daily speakers outside of the education system in the gaeltacht regions was 23,175 persons or 24 per cent of all persons aged 3 or over in these regions. A further 6,813 spoke Irish on a weekly basis. Some 4,682 persons indicated that they could speak Irish but didn't do so on a regular basis.

Age profile

Figure 24 shows the population pyramid of persons (aged 3 or over) in the Gaeltacht regions by ability and frequency of speaking Irish. The large numbers of school children who spoke Irish daily within the education system can be seen (dark blue bars) in the ages 5 to 18. The daily speakers (light blue bars) were numerous across all ages, however, there were relatively high proportions of persons unable to speak Irish also.

Figure 24 Population (aged 3 or over) in the Gaeltacht areas by frequency of speaking Irish, 2011 (96,628 persons)

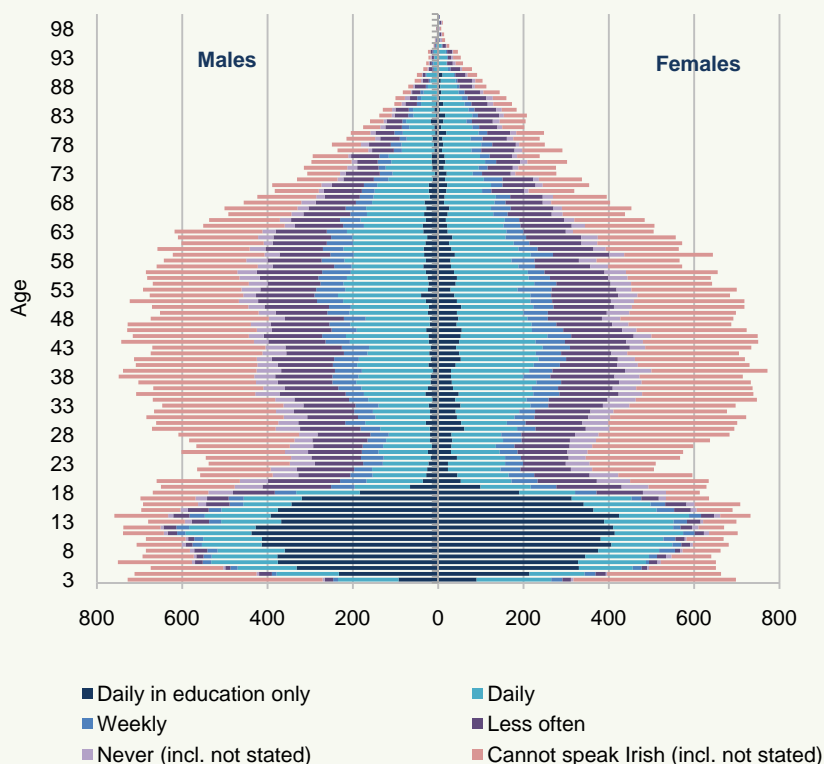


Table N Top occupations at work that spoke Irish daily in the Gaeltacht regions, 2011

Occupation	Persons
Farmers	639
Primary and nursery teachers	594
Secondary teachers	335
Other administrative occupations, nec	304
Sales and retail assistants, cashiers and checkout operators	283
Care workers and home carers	234
Nurses and midwives	228

It's a fact!

10,085 The number of persons who spoke Irish on a daily basis in the Galway county Gaeltacht areas in 2011 (representing 43.5% of all daily Irish speakers in all Gaeltacht areas in 2011)

7,047 The number of persons who spoke Irish on a daily basis in the Donegal Gaeltacht areas in 2011 (representing 30.4% of all daily Irish speakers in all Gaeltacht areas in 2011)