

Standard Report on Methods and Quality (v1) for Irish Babies' Names

This documentation applies to the reporting period:
<2007 onwards>

Last edited: 16/05/2017

CENTRAL STATISTICS OFFICE
Skehard Road, Cork
021 4535000
www.cso.ie

Table of Contents

1 Overview

2 General Information

- 2.1 Statistical Category
- 2.2 Area of Activity
- 2.3 Organisational Unit Responsible, Persons to Contact
- 2.4 Objectives and Purpose; History
- 2.5 Periodicity
- 2.6 Client
- 2.7 Users
- 2.8 Legal basis

3 Statistical Concepts, Methods

- 3.1 Subject of the Statistics
- 3.2 Units of Observation/Collection Units/Units of Presentation
- 3.3 Data Sources
- 3.4 Reporting Unit/Respondents
- 3.5 Type of Survey/Process
- 3.6 Characteristics of the Sample/Process
 - 3.6.1 Population and Sampling Frame
 - 3.6.2 Sampling Design
- 3.7 Survey Technique/Data Transfer
- 3.8 Questionnaire (including explanations)
- 3.9 Participation in the Survey
- 3.10 Characteristics of the Survey/Process and its Results
- 3.11 Classifications used
- 3.12 Regional Breakdown of Results

4 Production of the Statistics, Data Processing, Quality Assurance

- 4.1 Data Capture
- 4.2 Coding
- 4.3 Data Editing
- 4.4 Imputation (for Non-Response or Incomplete Data Sets)
- 4.5 Grossing and Weighting
- 4.6 Computation of Outputs, Estimation Methods Used
- 4.7 Other Quality Assurance Techniques Used

5 Quality

- 5.1 Relevance
- 5.2 Accuracy and Reliability
 - 5.2.1. Sampling Effects, Representativity
 - 5.2.2. Non-Sampling Effects
 - 5.2.2.1 Quality of the Data Sources used
 - 5.2.2.2 Register Coverage
 - 5.2.2.3 Non-response (Unit and Item)
 - 5.2.2.4 Measurement Errors
 - 5.2.2.5 Processing Errors
 - 5.2.2.6 Model-related Effects
- 5.3 Timeliness and Punctuality
 - 5.3.1 Provisional Results
 - 5.3.2 Final Results
- 5.4 Coherence
- 5.5 Comparability
- 5.6 Accessibility and Clarity
 - 5.6.1 Assistance to Users, Special Analyses
 - 5.6.2 Revisions
 - 5.6.3 Publications
 - 5.6.3.1 Releases, Regular Publications
 - 5.6.3.2 Statistical Reports
 - 5.6.3.3 Internet
 - 5.6.4 Confidentiality

6 Additional documentation and publications

1 Overview

Every birth occurring in Ireland must be registered with the General Register Office. The details of these birth registrations are compiled into statistical reports by the Central Statistics Office, acting on behalf of the Minister for Social Protection.

Statistics on babies' names registered in Ireland have been collected and published since 1998.

2 General Information

2.1 Statistical Category

Compilation based on administrative data

2.2 Area of Activity

Social Statistics

2.3 Organisational Unit Responsible, Persons to Contact

Vital Statistics

Carol Anne Hennessy Tel. +353 (21) 4535307, email: carolanne.hennessy@cso.ie
VitalStats@cso.ie

2.4 Objectives and Purpose; History

Statistics on babies' names registered in Ireland have been collected and published since 1998. They are based on an analysis of the first names recorded on birth returns for registration and vital statistics.

An analysis of the top ten most popular surnames of babies' registered is also included in this babies' names publication for the year's 2014 et seq. The number of unique surnames in the data is presented for the relevant year. These unique surnames include some double-barreled surnames e.g. O'Brien-Murphy.

2.5 Periodicity

There is an annual publication of babies' names registered in the year.

2.6 Client

Vital Statistics releases and publications are prepared on behalf of the Minister for Social Protection, under Section 73(6) of the Civil Registration Act 2004. Prior to the 2004 Act, the statistics were compiled by the CSO on behalf of the Minister for Health and Children, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of the Vital Statistics and Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1952.

2.7 Users

Government

Other CSO sections e.g. Census, Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS)

Demographic Researchers, Health Researchers

The general public

Professional Bodies

European Union/Eurostat

World Health Organisation

2.8 Legal basis

Vital Statistics releases and publications are prepared by the CSO on behalf of the Minister for Social Protection, under Section 73(6) of the Civil Registration Act 2004. Prior to the 2004 Act, the statistics were compiled by the CSO on behalf of the Minister for Health and Children, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of the Vital Statistics and Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1952.

3 Statistical Concepts, Methods

3.1 Subject of the Statistics

Information on births occurring in Ireland.

3.2 Units of Observation/Collection Units/Units of Presentation

Births as recorded on birth notification forms. These are presented in tables aggregated by babies' names, the number and their rankings.

3.3 Data Sources

General Registration Office.

3.4 Reporting Unit/Respondents

Every birth occurring in Ireland must be registered with the General Register Office.

3.5 Type of Survey/Process

Aggregation of administrative data concerning registered babies' names.

3.6 Characteristics of the Sample/Process

Not applicable

3.6.1 Population and Sampling Frame

Not applicable

3.6.2 Sampling/Census Design

Not applicable

3.7 Survey Technique/Data Transfer

Weekly files of births registered in the previous week are sent electronically from the General Register Office to the Central Statistics Office in encrypted xml format. File is downloaded, decrypted and uploaded on to our Data Capture System (DMS).

Reconciliation sheets containing the reference number of each birth is sent by the GRO to the CSO weekly. The number of births per the Reconciliation sheets is checked against the number of births on the DMS to ensure that numbers are the same.

3.8 Questionnaire (including explanations)

Not applicable

3.9 Participation in the Survey

Not applicable

3.10 Characteristics of the Survey/Process and its Results

Tables include listings of the top 100 babies' names, the number of occurrences and their rankings

3.11 Classifications used

Not Applicable

3.12 Regional Breakdown of Results

The classification is at the level of region and county.

.

4 Production of the Statistics, Data Processing, Quality Assurance

4.1 Data Capture

Details of the birth are captured on a birth notification form at the hospital and forwarded to the General Register Office, (copy of birth notification form at hospital attached to the end of this document). The birth notifications of the previous week from all registry offices are sent in a weekly xml encrypted file from the General Register Office to the Central Statistics Office.

4.2 Coding

Each Birth is geographically coded and given a socio-economic group code for each parent, breakdown of these classifications is below:

Nuts2 and Nuts3 regions

The regional classifications in this release are based on the NUTS (nomenclature of Territorial Units) classification used by Eurostat. The NUTS3 regions correspond to the eight Regional Authorities established under the Local Government Act, 1991 (Regional Authorities) (Establishment) Order, 1993, which came into operation on 1 January 1994. The NUTS2 regions, which were proposed by Government and agreed by Eurostat in 1999, are groupings of the NUTS3 regions. The composition of the regions is set out below.

Border, Midland and Western NUTS2 Region		Southern and Eastern NUTS2 Region	
Border	Cavan	Dublin	Dublin City
	Donegal		Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown
	Leitrim		Fingal
	Louth		South Dublin
	Monaghan		
	Sligo	Mid-East	Kildare
Midland			Meath
	Laois		Wicklow
	Longford		
	Offaly	Mid-West	Clare
	Westmeath		Limerick City
West			Limerick County
	Galway City		North Tipperary
	Galway County		
	Mayo	South-East	Carlow
	Roscommon		Kilkenny
			South Tipperary
			Waterford City
			Waterford County
			Wexford
		SouthWest	Cork City
			Cork County
			Kerry

Socio-Economic Group Classifications

'0' = 'Farmers, relatives assisting, farm managers'
'1' = 'Farm labourers, fishermen'
'2' = 'Higher professional'
'3' = 'Lower professional'
'4' = 'Employers and managers'
'5' = 'Salaried employees'
'6' = 'Non-manual wage earners (white collar)'
'7' = 'Non-manual wage earners (other)'
'8' = 'Skilled manual workers'
'9' = 'Semi-skilled manual workers'
'X' = 'Unskilled manual workers'
'Y' = 'Unknown' ;

4.3 Data Editing

The data is edited in Data Management System to ensure that the ages of parents, number of previous children, weight and gestation periods are plausible.

4.4 Imputation (for Non-Response or Incomplete Data Sets)

No imputation.

4.5 Grossing and Weighting

No grossing or weighting.

4.6 Computation of Outputs, Estimation Methods Used

Results are aggregated – no estimation used.

4.7 Other Quality Assurance Techniques Used

Not applicable.

5 Quality

5.1 Relevance

Statistics on births are crucial for demographic research, and are also used in health research and social research.

5.2 Accuracy and Reliability

5.2.1. Sampling Effect & Representivity

Not applicable

5.2.2 Non-Sampling Effects

5.2.2.1 Quality of the Data Sources used

The source of the data is the information gathered on the birth notification form at the hospital where the birth occurred. Approximately 99% of births are in hospitals. The remaining 1% domiciliary births are registered by parents or on behalf of the parents.

5.2.2.2 Register Coverage

All births occurring in Ireland are legally obliged to be registered. Non-registration is extremely rare because of the necessity of a Birth certificate for many legal and social purposes.

5.2.2.3 Non-response (Unit and Item)

Not applicable

5.2.2.4 Measurement Errors

Not applicable

5.2.2.5 Processing Errors

Not applicable

5.2.2.6 Model-related Effects

Not applicable

5.3 Timeliness & Punctuality

5.3.1 Provisional Results

Not Applicable

5.3.2 Final Results

The annual report on Irish Babies' Names is generally published within 6 months of the end of the reference period.

5.4 Coherence

Not Applicable.

5.5 Comparability

Not Applicable.

5.6 Accessibility and Clarity

5.6.1 Assistance to Users, Special Analyses

Specific user requests are acceded to where possible, and where confidentiality issues do not arise. Please contact vitalstats@csso.ie

5.6.2 Revisions

Generally there are no revisions.

5.6.3 Publications

5.6.3.1 Releases, Regular Publications

Report on Irish Babies' Names (annual)

The most recent versions of these reports can be accessed at:

<http://www.csso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/er/ibn/irishbabiesnames2015>

5.6.3.2 Statistical Reports

Statistical Yearbook

5.6.3.3 Internet

More publications are in our archive at:

<http://www.csso.ie/en/statistics/birthsdeathsandmarriages/archive>

Users can create their own tables from the Database Direct Facility:

<http://www.csso.ie/en/databases/>

5.6.4 Confidentiality

All data are treated as strictly confidential in accordance with Section 73 of the Civil Registration Act, 2004.

6 Additional documentation and publications

The entries for this statistic under StatCentral (the portal to Ireland's official statistics) is at <http://www.statcentral.ie/viewStat.asp?id=166>

Notification of Birth - Hospital Copy

TYPE OF BIRTH (Live = 1, Still = 2) 1 ☐
SENSITIVE CASE (YES = 1, NO = 2) 3 ☐

PLACE OF BIRTH (Hospital = 1, BBA = 2, Domiciliary = 3) 2 ☐

NAME AND

HOSPITAL NO. 4

CASE NO. 7

ADDRESS OF

HOSPITAL

INFANT'S DETAILS

DATE OF BIRTH (DD/MM/YYYY) 15

TIME OF BIRTH

IF MULTIPLE BIRTH

ORDER OF BIRTH

No. 23 of 24

FORENAME(S)

SURNAME

SEX (Male = 1, Female = 2, Indeterminate = 3) 25 ☐

BIRTHWEIGHT 26 GRAMMES

PERIOD OF GESTATION 30 WEEKS

FATHER'S DETAILS

FORENAME(S)

SURNAME

BIRTH SURNAME

FORMER SURNAME(S)

BIRTH SURNAME OF FATHER'S MOTHER

ADDRESS

COUNTY 32

COUNTRY 35

NATIONALITY 39

OCCUPATION 43

DATE OF BIRTH (DDMMYYYY) 45

MOTHER'S DETAILS

FORENAME(S)

SURNAME

BIRTH SURNAME

FORMER SURNAME(S)

BIRTH SURNAME OF MOTHER'S MOTHER

ADDRESS

COUNTY 53

COUNTRY 56

NATIONALITY 60

OCCUPATION 64

DATE OF BIRTH (DDMMYYYY) 66

MARITAL STATUS (Married = 1, Never Married = 2, Widowed = 3, Married but Separated = 4, Divorced = 5) 74 ☐

DATE OF PRESENT MARRIAGE (DDMMYYYY) 75

DATE OF LAST BIRTH (live or still) (DDMMYYYY) 83

NO. OF PREVIOUS LIVE BIRTHS 91

CHILDREN STILL LIVING 93

STILLBIRTHS 95

SPONTANEOUS ABORTIONS 97

PERINATAL DEATH

TYPE OF DEATH (Early Neonatal = 1, Stillbirth = 2) 99 ☐

WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED (Yes = 1, No = 2) 100 ☐

AGE AT DEATH 101 DAYS 102 HOURS

PLACE OF DEATH 104

IF STILLBIRTH, DID DEATH OCCUR BEFORE LABOUR (1) 107 ☐

DURING LABOUR (2) NOT KNOWN (3)

CAUSE OF DEATH

MAIN DISEASE OR CONDITION IN FOETUS OR INFANT 108

OTHER DISEASES OR CONDITIONS IN FOETUS OR INFANT 113

MOTHER'S HEALTH

ANTENATAL CARE THIS PREGNANCY (Hospital / Obstetrician = 1, G.P. Only = 2, Combined = 3, None = 4, Midwife Only = 5) 118 ☐

DATE OF FIRST VISIT TO DOCTOR DURING PREGNANCY (DDMMYYYY) 119

DATE OF FIRST VISIT TO HOSPITAL DURING PREGNANCY (DDMMYYYY) 127

WAS MOTHER IMMUNE TO RUBELLA (Yes = 1, No = 2, Not Known = 3) 135 ☐

METHOD OF DELIVERY (Spontaneous = 1, Breech ± Forceps = 2, Forceps = 3, Vac. Extraction = 4, Caesarean Sec. = 5, Other = 6) 136 ☐

MAIN MATERNAL DISEASE OR CONDITION AFFECTING FOETUS OR INFANT 137

OTHER MATERNAL DISEASES OR CONDITIONS AFFECTING FOETUS OR INFANT 142

INFANT'S HEALTH

TYPE OF FEEDING (Artificial = 1, Breast = 2, Combined = 3) 147 ☐

WAS BCG ADMINISTERED (Yes = 1, No = 2) 148 ☐

MAIN DISEASE OR CONGENITAL MALFORMATION AFFECTING INFANT 149

OTHER DISEASES OR CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS AFFECTING INFANT 154

HOSPITAL

WAS ADMISSION BOOKED (Yes = 1, No = 2) 159 ☐

DATE OF MOTHER'S ADMISSION (DDMMYYYY) 160

DATE OF MOTHER'S DISCHARGE (DDMMYYYY) 168

DATE OF INFANT'S DISCHARGE (DDMMYYYY) 176

WAS INFANT TRANSFERRED TO OTHER HOSPITAL FOR MEDICAL REASONS (Yes = 1, No = 2) 184 ☐

IF 'YES', NAME OF HOSPITAL 185

GENERAL PRACTITIONER ATTENDED BY MOTHER

G.P.'s NAME AND ADDRESS

GENERAL PRACTITIONER TO ATTEND INFANT FOR IMMUNISATIONS

G.P.'s NAME AND ADDRESS

Signature

Date

BNF01/2003