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An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

# **Children and Young People in Ireland**

## **2008**

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**The CSO wishes to extend its appreciation to Chevron (Ireland) Limited for permission to use a selection of winning art from the 55th Texaco Children's Art Competition**

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**Category A (16-18 years)** Mantas Poderys, *You Talkin' to Me?* Create-A-Link Art Studio, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. Age: 18

**Category B (14-15 years)** Zoe Cornelissen, *My Best Friend*, Rathfriland High School, Rathfriland, Co. Down. Age: 14

**Category C (12-13 years)** Rebecca Hyland, *Daisy Chain*, Christ King Girl's Secondary School, South Douglas Road, Cork. Age: 13

**Category D (9-11 years)** Cormac Dockry, *The Red Dragon*, Barna, Co. Galway. Age: 9

**Category E (7-8 years)** Gemma Henry, *Making a Splash*, St. Joseph's Primary School, Athlone, Co. Roscommon. Age: 8

**Category F (6 years & younger)** Conor McKenna, *My Family*, Randalstown, Co. Antrim. Age: 4

**Category G (Special needs)** Katie Cronin, *In the City*, Catherine McAuley School, South Circular Rd, Limerick. Age: 14

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**Chapter**

**1**

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**Introduction**

## 1.1 Introduction

This chapter briefly reviews the background leading to the preparation by the CSO of this first report on *Children and young people in Ireland* and the framework around which the indicators were constructed.

## 1.2 Background to report

The social partnership agreement 2003-2005<sup>1</sup> requested the CSO to support a move towards more evidence-based policy making. The National Statistics Board further requested that the CSO provide a comprehensive set of social indicators with emphasis on disaggregation by key characteristics such as the nine equality grounds. The first set of social indicators published by the CSO focussed on the theme of gender. Other social indicator reports have focused on ageing, equality and regional quality of life. This report complements the earlier report on ageing.

## 1.3 Structure of report and brief technical notes

The list of indicators is presented in summary format in Table A. A total of 39 indicators covering four domain themes have been selected.

The report has focussed on the 0-19 years age group or pre-teen and teenage years. This age span covers the pre-school and school years as well as a small group of persons who may have completed their full-time education or be at post-secondary school level. In many tables we have included separate five-year age groups (0-4, 5-9, 10-14 and 15-19) to show trends.

Most indicators are presented in either a national or an international context. The national context is generally in a time series format while the international context compares Ireland principally with other EU countries.

Chapter 2 presents the selected indicators. In cases where tables are not sorted by year, the ranking variable is highlighted with a darker background. The appendices describe the indicator definitions and data sources in greater detail.

As far as possible international tables include an aggregate figure for the 27 EU Member States (post 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007), the 25 EU Member States (post 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004) or the 15 EU Member States (pre 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004). These figures are labelled EU 27, EU 25 or EU 15 as appropriate.

The national and international data sources are given for each indicator. While many of the national data are compiled by the CSO, we have also used survey and administrative data holdings held by Government Departments and Agencies.

The figures in the tables and graphs reflect the data availability position as of early 2009.

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<sup>1</sup> Department of the Taoiseach (2003): *Sustaining Progress, Social Partnership Agreement 2003-2005*.

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**Chapter**

**2**

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**Indicators**



## 2.1 Commentary

This section examines the main findings of the *Children and young people in Ireland* report. More detailed commentary on the individual indicators can be found in Section 2.2.

Key findings of the report include:

- The number of persons aged 19 years or younger decreased from 1.36 million in 1986 to less than 1.2 million in 2008 (see Table 1.2). Persons aged 19 years or younger accounted for 38.3% of the population in 1986 but for only 27% of the population in 2008 (see Table 1.1).
- Ireland had the highest proportions of its population aged 0-4 years (7.4%) and 5-9 years (6.9%) in the EU in 2008, and the second highest proportion aged 10-14 years (6.4%). However Ireland had the eleventh highest proportion aged 15-19 years (6.5%) (see Table 1.5 and graph).
- People with Irish ethnicity accounted for 85.1% of the population aged 0-4 years and 92.3% of the 15-19 years age group in 2006. In contrast people with black ethnicity accounted for 3.4% of persons aged 0-4 years but only 0.7% of persons aged 15-19 years (see Table 1.8).
- The numbers of students at primary level increased by 7.5% between 1998/1999 and 2007/2008 but decreased by 7.4% at second level over the same period (see Table 2.1).
- Ireland had a student to teacher ratio of 19.4 at primary education level in 2005/2006. This was the joint second highest pupil teacher ratio in the EU (see Table 2.3).
- In 2008, the percentage of Leaving Certificate candidates in higher level Mathematics achieving an A grade was 14.3% compared with 13.1% of higher level candidates in Irish and 10.1% of candidates taking higher level English. Almost one-quarter of candidates taking higher level Chemistry (23.5%) were awarded an A grade (see Table 2.8).
- Boys accounted for 95.6% of higher level candidates in Engineering, 93.4% of higher level candidates in Construction studies and 90.2% of higher level candidates in Technical drawing in 2008 (see Table 2.9).
- The overall infant mortality rate in Ireland fell from 7.9 per 1,000 live births in 1987 to 3.1 in 2007. At EU 25 level, the corresponding decrease was from 10.7 in 1987 to 4.2 in 2007 (see Table 3.3).
- Almost 45% of mothers breastfed their babies in 2006 compared with just over 35% in 1999 (see Graph 3.6).
- In 2006, 84% of children aged between three and the compulsory school age attended formal childcare in the EU 25 compared with 93% in Ireland. On average children in Ireland in this age group attended formal childcare for 22 hours per week compared with 27 hours in the EU 25 (see Table 3.9).
- The consistent poverty rate fell from 10.3% of persons aged 0-17 in 2006 to 7.4% in 2007 (see Table 3.10)
- Males accounted for 64% of persons aged 0-19 with a disability in 2006. Nearly three out of four persons aged 0-19 with a disability had intellectual and learning difficulties (see Table 3.12)
- There has been a marked decrease in the percentage of children aged 5-12 travelling to school on foot between 1986 (45.2%) and 2006 (24.3%). There was a commensurate increase in the percentage travelling as a passenger in a car, from 24% in 1986 to 55% in 2006 (see Table 4.1).
- There were 353 victims of rape in 2007. Of these, 37.1% were aged 19 or under (see Table 4.8).
- In 2006, the overall activity rate in sport and physical exercise was 82% for 15-19 year old males. This was considerably higher than the rate for 15-19 year old females (68.3%) (see Table 4.10).

## 2.2 Indicators

### 1.1 Ireland: Population by age group, 1986-2008<sup>2</sup>

Age group	1986	1991	1996	2002	2006	2008
	<i>% of total</i>					
0-19	38.3	36.2	33.1	29.1	27.2	27.0
20-44	34.1	34.8	36.1	38.5	39.8	40.0
45-64	16.7	17.6	19.4	21.2	21.9	22.0
65-84	10.1	10.6	10.5	10.1	9.9	9.7
85 and over	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Persons (000)</b>	<b>3,540.6</b>	<b>3,525.7</b>	<b>3,626.1</b>	<b>3,917.2</b>	<b>4,239.8</b>	<b>4,422.1</b>

Source: CSO, Census of Population & Annual Population estimates

### 1.2 Ireland: Age group of young persons, 1986-2008<sup>2</sup>

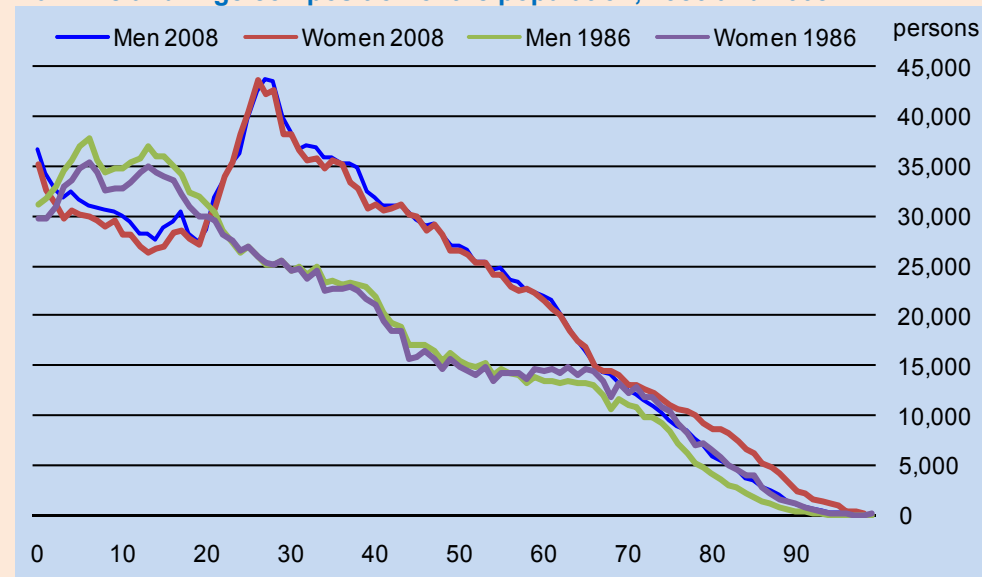
Age group	1986	1991	1996	2002	2006	2008
	<i>% of population</i>					
0-4	9.2	7.8	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.4
5-9	9.9	9.0	7.8	6.7	6.8	6.9
10-14	9.9	9.9	9.0	7.3	6.5	6.4
15-19	9.4	9.5	9.4	8.0	6.8	6.4
<b>Total 0-19</b>	<b>38.3</b>	<b>36.2</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>27.0</b>
<b>Persons 0-19 (000)</b>	<b>1,355.8</b>	<b>1,275.6</b>	<b>1,199.0</b>	<b>1,140.6</b>	<b>1,154.7</b>	<b>1,196.1</b>

Source: CSO, Census of Population & Annual Population estimates

- ◆ The proportion of the population aged under 20 decreased from 38.3% in 1986 to 27.2% in 2006 and 27.0% in 2008 (see Table 1.1).
- ◆ Despite the population increasing from over 3.5 million in 1986 to over 4.4 million in 2008, the number of persons aged under 20 decreased from 1.36 million to less than 1.2 million over the same period. The reduction occurred in all age groups, but was most evident in the 10-14 age group (see Table 1.2).
- ◆ There was a small increase in the proportion of the population represented by 0-4 year olds from 7.1% in 2006 to 7.4% in 2008 (see Table 1.2).

<sup>2</sup> Census of Population data for 1986-2006, Annual Population estimates data for 2008. Figures for 1986-2006 were calculated on the basis of the de facto population, figures for 2008 were calculated using the usual resident concept. The difference between these two definitions is very small. 2008 figures are provisional. Figures relate to April of each year.

### 1.3 Ireland: Age composition of the population, 1986 and 2008<sup>2</sup>



Source: CSO, Census of Population & Annual Population estimates

### 1.4 Ireland: Regional population by age group, 2006

Region	age group as % of regional population			
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19
Border	7.4	7.4	7.0	7.2
Dublin	6.6	6.0	5.7	6.5
Mid-East	8.4	7.6	6.8	6.7
Midland	7.8	7.5	7.1	7.0
Mid-West	7.0	6.9	6.6	7.1
South-East	7.3	7.1	6.9	7.0
South-West	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.8
West	6.9	6.7	6.6	7.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.8</b>
<b>Persons (000)</b>	<b>302.3</b>	<b>288.3</b>	<b>273.9</b>	<b>290.3</b>

Source: CSO, Census of Population

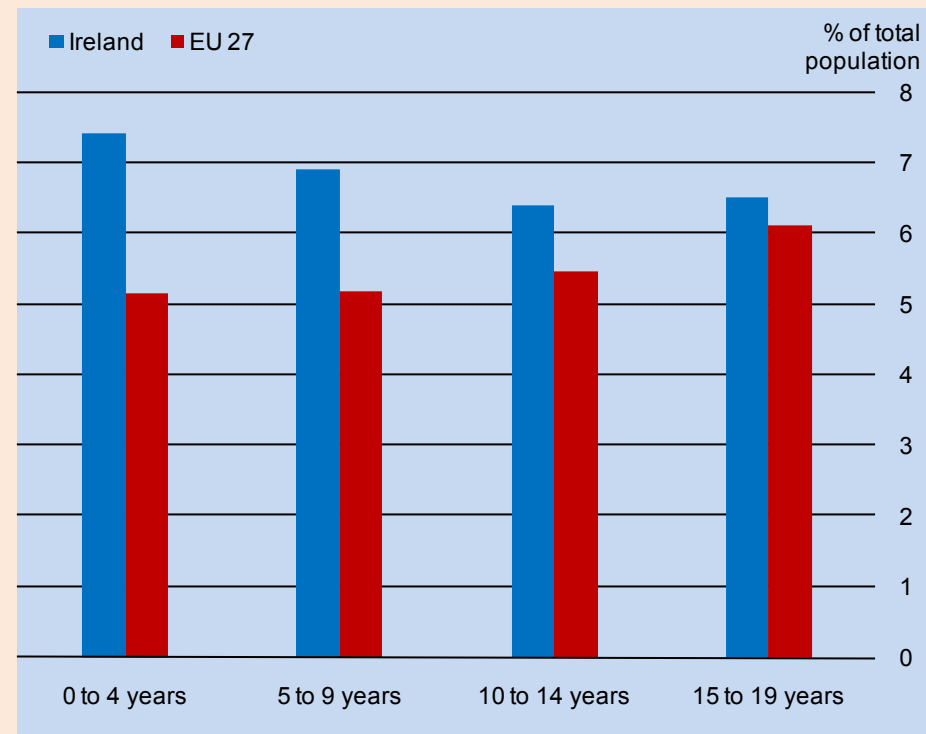
- ◆ The Mid-East region had the highest proportion of its population in the 0-4 and 5-9 year olds age categories of any region in 2006. The Midland region had the highest proportion of 10-14 year olds while the Border region had the highest proportion of 15-19 year olds (see Table 1.4).

## 1.5 EU: Population by age group, 2008<sup>3</sup>

Country	% of population				Persons 0-19 years 000
	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years	
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>1,189.5</b>
France	6.3	6.2	6.0	6.3	15,852.6
Denmark	5.9	6.1	6.4	6.1	1,344.2
Luxembourg	5.8	6.1	6.3	5.9	116.4
Netherlands	5.8	6.2	6.0	6.1	3,940.5
United Kingdom	5.8	5.7	6.1	6.6	14,736.9
Sweden	5.7	5.2	5.9	6.9	2,178.8
Belgium	5.6	5.5	5.7	6.1	2,452.8
Finland	5.5	5.4	6.0	6.3	1,226.5
Cyprus	5.4	5.5	6.6	7.2	194.4
Estonia	5.3	4.6	4.9	7.3	296.0
<b>EU 27</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>108,461.3</b>
Spain	5.2	4.8	4.6	5.0	8,904.8
Portugal	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.5	2,211.5
Czech Republic	5.0	4.4	4.9	6.2	2,123.4
Romania	5.0	5.0	5.2	6.9	4,765.0
Slovakia	4.9	4.9	5.9	7.2	1,242.2
Greece	4.8	4.6	4.8	5.2	2,185.5
Malta	4.8	5.2	6.2	7.0	95.3
Latvia	4.8	4.2	4.7	7.4	479.8
Hungary	4.8	4.8	5.4	6.2	2,128.7
Poland	4.8	4.9	5.8	7.1	8,609.2
Austria	4.8	4.9	5.6	6.0	1,777.8
Italy	4.7	4.7	4.7	5.0	11,362.1
Bulgaria	4.6	4.3	4.5	6.2	1,494.4
Slovenia	4.6	4.5	4.8	5.7	395.6
Lithuania	4.6	4.9	5.9	7.8	778.5
Germany	4.2	4.6	4.9	5.6	15,924.7
Iceland	7.0	6.8	7.2	7.5	89.4
Norway	6.2	6.3	6.6	6.7	1,222.9
Macedonia, TFYR	5.5	6.0	6.9	7.8	537.1
Switzerland	4.9	5.1	5.6	6.0	1,631.4
Croatia	4.6	5.0	5.7	6.0	948.2

Source: Eurostat

## Ireland and EU: Percentage of the total population in age group, 2008



- ◆ Ireland, at 7.4%, had the highest proportion of persons aged 0-4 years in the EU 27 in 2008. The EU 27 average in this age group in 2007 was 5.2% (see Table 1.5 and graph).
- ◆ Ireland also had a higher proportion of its population in the age groups 5-9, 10-14 and 15-19 years in comparison with the EU 27 average (see graph).

<sup>3</sup> Eurostat estimated values as of 1<sup>st</sup> January. UK and EU 27 figures refer to 2007.

EU: Ranking by proportion of age group to the total population, 2008<sup>4</sup>

Country	rank			
	0- 4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years
Lithuania	26	17	10	1
Latvia	19	27	24	2
Estonia	11	21	21	3
Slovakia	16	14	12	4
Cyprus	10	8	1	5
Poland	21	16	13	6
Malta	18	11	5	7
Sweden	7	12	11	8
Romania	15	13	17	9
United Kingdom	5	6	6	10
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>
France	2	2	9	12
Finland	9	9	7	13
Czech Republic	14	25	20	14
Hungary	20	18	16	15
Bulgaria	24	26	27	16
Netherlands	6	3	8	17
Belgium	8	7	14	18
Denmark	3	5	2	19
Austria	22	15	15	20
Luxembourg	4	4	4	21
Slovenia	25	24	23	22
Germany	27	22	19	23
Portugal	13	10	18	24
Greece	17	23	22	25
Spain	12	19	26	26
Italy	23	20	25	27

Source: Eurostat

- ◆ While Ireland had the highest proportion of persons aged 0-4 years and aged 5-9 years, and the second highest aged 10-14 years in the EU 27 in 2008, Ireland only had the eleventh highest proportion of persons aged 15-19 years in the EU 27 (see reformatted version of Table 1.5 above).

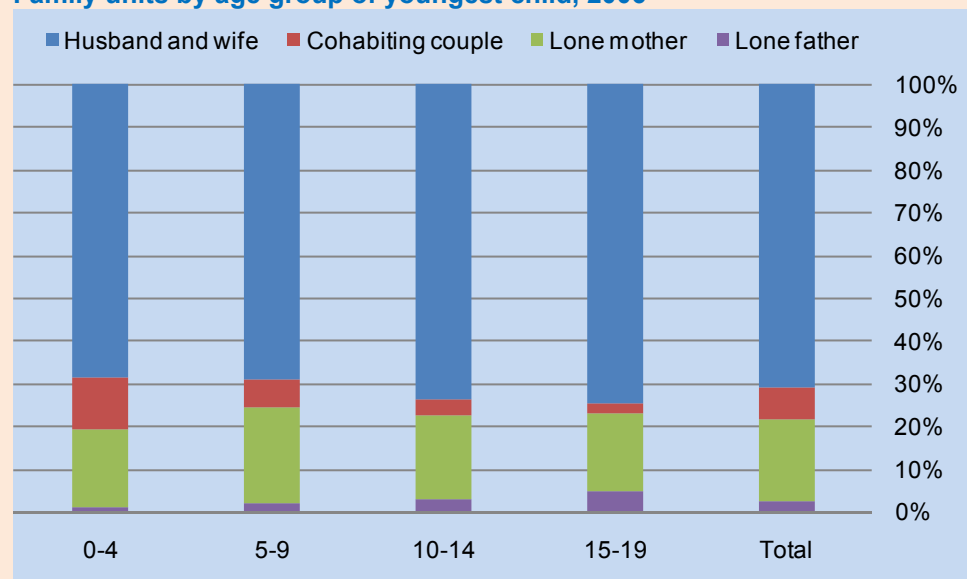
<sup>4</sup> Eurostat estimated values as of 1<sup>st</sup> January. UK and EU 27 figures refer to 2007.

## 1.6 Ireland: Family<sup>5</sup> units by age group of youngest child<sup>6</sup>, 2006

Family unit	% of age group					Total 000
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	Total	
Husband and wife	68.8	69.0	74.0	74.9	70.9	399.6
Cohabiting couple	12.1	6.7	3.8	2.3	7.5	42.4
Lone mother	18.3	22.4	19.4	18.1	19.4	109.3
Lone father	0.9	1.9	2.9	4.6	2.2	12.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>563.6</b>
<b>Family units (000)</b>	<b>224.8</b>	<b>130.0</b>	<b>106.7</b>	<b>102.2</b>	<b>563.6</b>	

Source: CSO, Census of Population

### Family units by age group of youngest child, 2006



- ◆ In 2006, 70.9% of family units with at least one person aged 19 or under were composed of a husband and wife. A further 19.4% were headed by a lone mother and 7.5% headed by a cohabiting couple. Only 2.2% of family units with a person aged 0-19 were headed by a lone father (see Table 1.6 and graph).
- ◆ Around 36.1% of family units headed by a lone father had a youngest child aged under 10 compared with 64.2% of family units headed by a lone mother (see Table 1.6).
- ◆ Cohabiting couples represented 12.1% of family units with a child aged 0-4. In contrast they only represented 2.3% of family units where the youngest person was aged 15-19 (see Table 1.6).

<sup>5</sup> Reference period for all 2006 Census of Population data are April 2006. These data describe those husband and wife or cohabiting couple family units where there was a child or young person present. See Appendix 1 for further details.

<sup>6</sup> Present and absent adult members of a family unit usually resident in the State in private accommodation containing at least one child/young persons aged 19 or under by age of youngest child/young person.

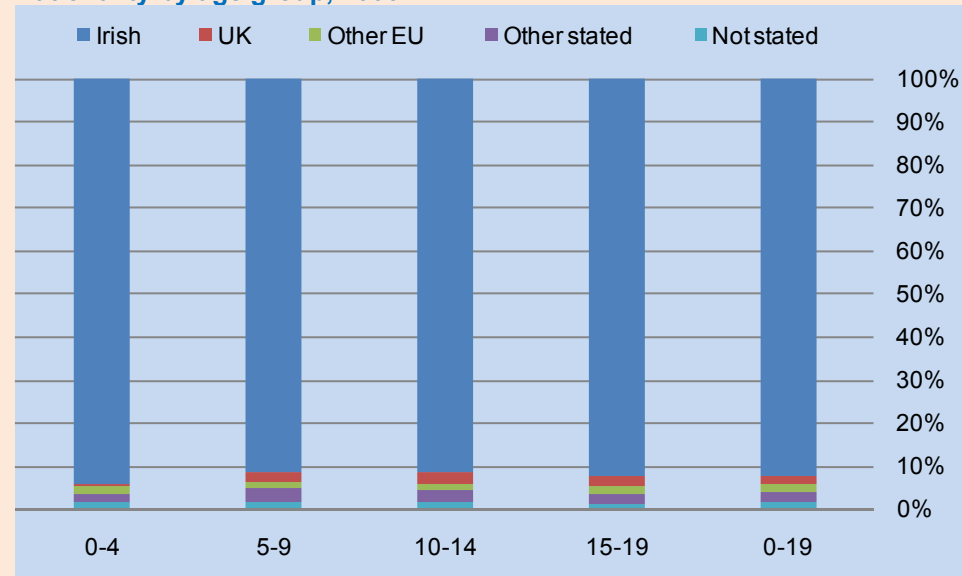
1.7 Ireland: Nationality by age group, 2006<sup>7</sup>

Age group	% of age group					Total
	Irish	UK	Other EU <sup>8</sup>	Non EU	Not stated <sup>9</sup>	
0-4	94.3	0.8	1.7	1.9	1.3	100.0
5-9	91.8	2.0	1.5	3.5	1.2	100.0
10-14	91.8	2.7	1.3	3.0	1.2	100.0
15-19	92.5	2.3	1.8	2.5	0.9	100.0
<b>Total 0-19</b>	<b>92.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Total (all ages)</b>	<b>88.8</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: CSO, Census of Population

- ◆ The proportion of persons with Irish nationality among persons aged 0-19 was 92.6%. This proportion varied from 94.3% in the 0-4 age group to 91.8% in the 5-9 and the 10-14 age groups. The proportion of all persons with Irish nationality was 88.8% (see Table 1.7).
- ◆ In 2006, 0.8% of persons aged 0-4 had UK nationality. There was a higher proportion among persons aged 10-14 where 2.7% of persons in this age group had UK nationality (see Table 1.7).
- ◆ Other EU nationals comprised 1.6% of the 0-19 age group compared with 3.9% in the total population (see Table 1.7).

Nationality by age group, 2006



<sup>7</sup> Persons usually resident and present in the State on Census night. Irish nationality figures also include those with dual Irish and other nationality.

<sup>8</sup> EU member countries other than Ireland and the UK as of April 2006. Excludes Bulgaria and Romania.

<sup>9</sup> Includes 'no nationality'.

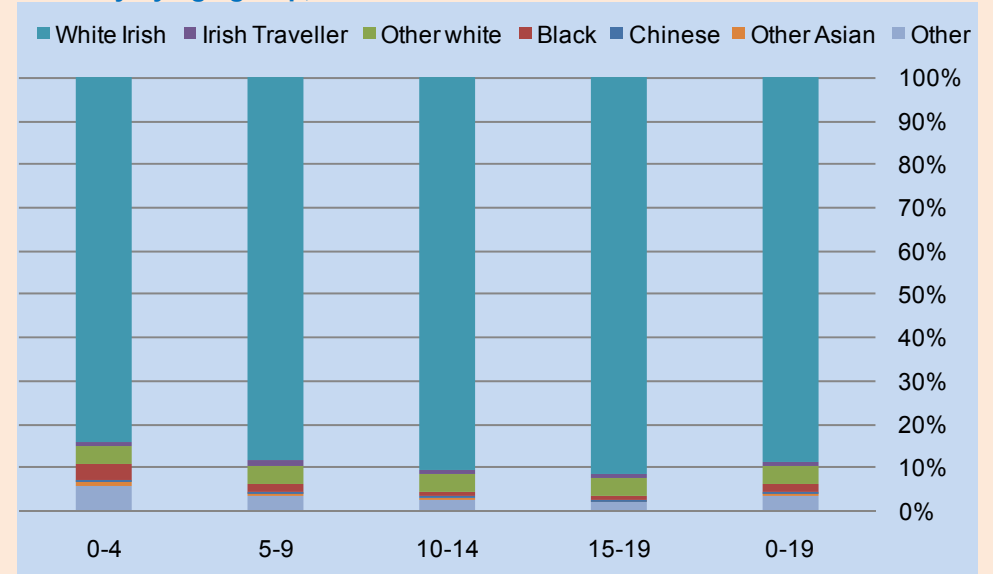
## 1.8 Ireland: Ethnicity by age group, 2006<sup>10</sup>

Age group	% of age group						
	White Irish	Irish Traveller	Other white	Black	Chinese	Other Asian	Other <sup>11</sup>
0-4	84.0	1.1	4.0	3.4	0.3	1.2	6.0
5-9	88.2	1.1	4.2	1.8	0.2	0.8	3.7
10-14	90.2	1.1	4.1	1.0	0.2	0.6	2.8
15-19	91.4	0.9	4.1	0.7	0.3	0.4	2.2
<b>Total 0-19</b>	<b>88.4</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>3.7</b>
<b>Total (all ages)</b>	<b>87.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>

Source: CSO, Census of Population

- ◆ A higher proportion of persons aged 0-19 were Irish Travellers (1%) than the Irish Travellers proportion of the overall population (0.5%). Young people of Other white backgrounds (mainly British, Polish, etc.) comprised 4.1% of the 0-19 age group (see Table 1.8).
- ◆ People with Black ethnic backgrounds comprised 3.4% of the 0-4 age group, which was a greater proportion than the 1.1% Black persons comprised of the overall population (see Table 1.8).
- ◆ There was a higher proportion of young people aged 0-19 with an Other Asian ethnic background (0.8%) than with a Chinese background (0.2%) (see Table 1.8).

## Ethnicity by age group, 2006



<sup>10</sup> Persons usually resident and present in the State on Census night.

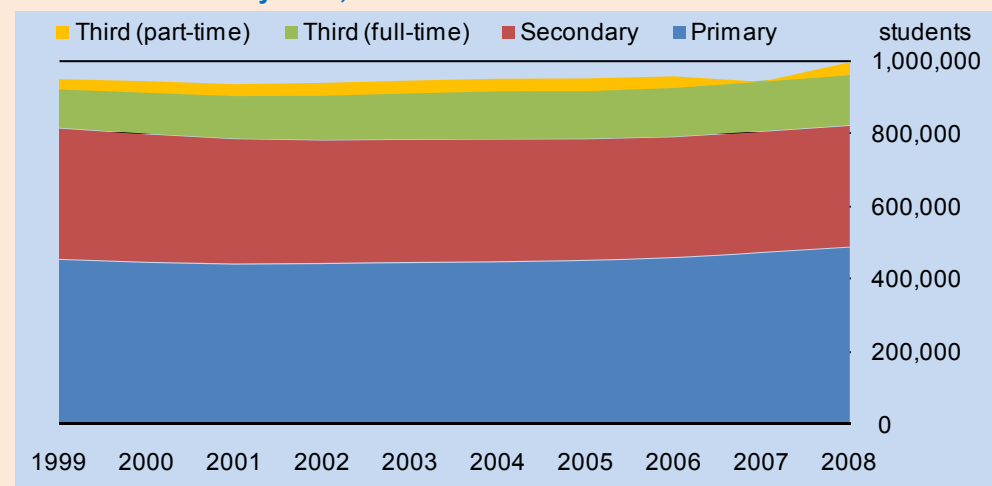
<sup>11</sup> Includes 'not stated' and 'other including mixed background'.

## 2.1 Ireland: Student numbers<sup>12</sup> by level, 1998–2008

Year	Level			
	Primary	Secondary <sup>13</sup>	Third (full-time)	Third (part-time)
1998/1999	452,533	362,051	108,509	27,764
1999/2000	444,310	353,860	115,696	31,469
2000/2001	439,560	345,384	119,991	32,265
2001/2002	441,065	340,078	124,589	34,965
2002/2003	443,720	339,231	129,283	34,680
2003/2004	446,029	337,851	133,887	34,000
2004/2005	449,298	335,162	133,691	34,509
2005/2006	457,889	332,407	136,719	31,354
2006/2007	471,519	333,718	138,362	. <sup>14</sup>
2007/2008	486,444	335,123	139,732	35,336

Source: Department of Education and Science

### Student numbers by level, 1998-2008



<sup>12</sup> Only students in institutions which are aided by the Department of Education and Science are included in this table.

<sup>13</sup> Secondary level includes further education (e.g. post-leaving certificate programmes).

<sup>14</sup> Part-time figures for the DIT/IOTs were not collected in 2006/2007.

## 2.2 Ireland: Pupil teacher ratio at primary and secondary level, 1986-2007<sup>15</sup>

Year	ratio	
	Primary level Pupils per teacher	Secondary level Pupils per full-time equivalent teacher
1986	26.8	..
1996	22.7	16.0
2001	19.2	14.0
2006	16.6	13.1
2007	16.0	12.7

Source: Department of Education and Science

- ◆ The numbers of students increased by 7.5% at primary level and decreased by 7.4% at secondary level between 1998/1999 and 2007/2008. Over the same period, full-time third level student numbers increased by 28% (see Table 2.1 and graph).
- ◆ The number of pupils per teacher at primary level decreased from 26.8 in 1986 to 16.0 in 2007 (see Table 2.2).

<sup>15</sup> Year refers to school year end. Primary level includes special schools. See Appendix 1 for further details on calculation of ratios. It should be noted that these national data in Table 2.2 are not directly comparable to the international data presented in Tables 2.3 and 2.4.



### 2.3 EU: Pupil teacher ratio, 2005/2006<sup>16</sup>

Country	ratio			
	ISCED 1-3	ISCED 1	ISCED 2	ISCED 3
Hungary	10.9	10.4	10.2	12.3
Greece	9.2	10.6	8.0	8.3
Portugal	9.1	10.6	8.3	7.5
Italy	10.7	10.7	10.3	11.0
Lithuania	9.0	10.7	8.5	:
Poland	12.1	11.4	12.6	12.7
Latvia	11.2	11.8	10.5	11.7
Sweden	12.4	12.1	11.4	13.8
Belgium	10.9	12.6	9.4	10.2
Malta	11.5	13.7	9.3	14.3
Austria	11.7	13.9	10.4	11.3
Estonia	13.3	14.1	12.3	13.3
Spain	12.0	14.2	12.5	7.8
Slovenia	12.9	14.9	10.2	14.0
Finland	13.7	15.0	9.7	15.8
Netherlands	15.5	15.3	:	15.8
Bulgaria	12.9	15.8	12.3	11.7
Cyprus	14.0	16.8	11.6	12.7
Romania	14.7	17.1	12.2	15.7
Czech Republic	13.4	17.3	12.3	11.9
Slovakia	14.9	18.6	13.7	14.2
Germany	17.2	18.7	15.5	19.5
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14.6</b>
France	14.3	19.4	14.2	10.3
United Kingdom	15.6	19.8	16.7	11.4
Denmark	11.4	:	11.4	:
Norway	10.4	10.9	10.2	9.7
Croatia	13.7	17.7	12.8	11.8
Turkey	23.2	26.7	-	15.8
Macedonia, TFYR	16.5	:	:	17.3
Iceland	10.7	:	10.6	10.8

Source: Eurostat

- ◆ Ireland had a student to teacher ratio of 19.4 at primary education level (ISCED 1) in 2005/2006. This was the joint second highest reported ratio in the EU 27. The overall student teacher ratio for primary and secondary level education for Ireland in 2005/2006 was 16.9 (see Table 2.3).

<sup>16</sup> ISCED 3 data for Ireland includes ISCED 2 and ISCED 4. Data for France refers to 2004/2005. See Appendix 1 for further details. It should be noted that these international data in Table 2.3 and 2.4 are not directly comparable with the national data presented in Table 2.2.

### 2.4 EU: Pupil teacher ratio for ISCED 1-3, 1998-2006<sup>16,17</sup>

Country	ratio		
	1998	2002	2006
Lithuania	13.1	9.4	9.0
Portugal	:	9.5	9.1
Greece	12.3	10.6	9.2
Luxembourg	11.1	10.2	9.8
Italy	10.5	10.3	10.7
Belgium	:	10.7	10.9
Hungary	10.9	11.4	10.9
Latvia	13.6	14.1	11.2
Denmark	10.9	11.7	11.4
Malta	13.3	12.7	11.5
Austria	10.5	11.3	11.7
Spain	14.3	12.6	12.0
Poland	:	13.4	12.1
Sweden	14.3	12.8	12.4
Bulgaria	13.0	13.5	12.9
Slovenia	13.7	13.1	12.9
Estonia	13.4	12.4	13.3
Czech Republic	16.8	15.1	13.4
Finland	15.2	14.4	13.7
Cyprus	15.3	15.1	14.0
France	14.9	14.3	14.3
Romania	14.6	14.8	14.7
Slovakia	15.1	15.1	14.9
Netherlands	17.1	16.5	15.5
United Kingdom	18.8	20.1	15.6
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>16.9</b>
Germany	17.2	16.1	17.2
Norway	:	10.4	10.4
Iceland	14.3	11.2	10.7
Croatia	:	:	13.7
Macedonia, TFYR	12.5	18.6	16.5
Turkey	:	24.7	23.2

Source: Eurostat

- ◆ The overall student to teacher ratio for primary and secondary level education for Ireland decreased from 19.7 in 1997/1998 to 16.9 in 2005/2006 (see Table 2.4).

<sup>17</sup> 2006 data for France and Luxembourg refers to 2005 and 2004 respectively. 2002 data for Estonia refers to 2001. 1998 data for Lithuania, Luxembourg, Latvia, Malta, Slovenia, Slovakia, Estonia, Cyprus, France, Netherlands and Macedonia, TFYR refers to 1999. 1998, 2002 and 2006 refer to the 1997/1998, 2001/2002 and 2005/2006 school year respectively.

## 2.5 Ireland: Student performance on the combined reading, mathematical and scientific literacy scales by sex, 2006

Mean score of 15 year old students

Literacy type	Ireland		All OECD countries	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Combined reading	500	534	473	511
Mathematical	507	496	503	492
Scientific	508	509	501	499

Source: OECD, Educational Research Centre

- ◆ Girls in Ireland performed much better than boys in reading literacy tests in 2006 with an average score of 534 for females compared with 500 for males (see Table 2.5). These scores combined to give Ireland the second highest reading literacy for 15 year old students among participating EU countries in 2006 (see Tables 2.5 and 2.6).
- ◆ Boys in Ireland performed better than girls in mathematical literacy, reflecting a similar trend across OECD countries (see Table 2.5 and Appendix 1).
- ◆ There was no significant difference in the overall science measure with an average score for males of 508 and 509 for females. Ireland was above the OECD average for scientific literacy with an average score of 508 compared with the OECD average which was set at 500 (see Tables 2.5 and 2.6).

## 2.6 EU: Student performance on the combined reading, mathematical and scientific literacy scales, 2006

Mean score of 15 year old students

Country	Reading literacy	Mathematical literacy	Scientific literacy
Finland	547	548	563
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>508</b>
Poland	508	495	498
Sweden	507	502	503
Netherlands	507	531	525
Belgium	501	520	510
Estonia	501	515	531
United Kingdom	495	495	515
Germany	495	504	516
Denmark	494	513	496
Slovenia	494	504	519
<b>OECD average</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>500</b>
Austria	490	505	511
France	488	496	495
Czech Republic	483	510	513
Hungary	482	491	504
Latvia	479	486	490
Luxembourg	479	490	486
Portugal	472	466	474
Lithuania	470	486	488
Italy	469	462	475
Slovak Republic	466	492	488
Spain	461	480	488
Greece	460	459	473
Bulgaria	402	413	434
Romania	396	415	418
Switzerland	499	530	512
Iceland	484	506	491
Norway	484	490	487
Croatia	477	467	493
Turkey	447	424	424

Source: OECD, Educational Research Centre

## 2.7 Ireland: Junior Certificate candidates<sup>18</sup> awarded an A grade by subject and level, 2008

Subject and Level	% of cohort			Higher level candidates
	Higher	Foundation	Ordinary	
Irish	10.9	15.2	5.2	22,210
English	10.7	10.5	7.7	36,938
Mathematics	16.6	18.3	12.3	23,634
History	15.8	n/a	10.7	32,804
Geography	8.4	n/a	9.0	40,108
French	10.4	n/a	3.4	23,585
German	10.0	n/a	5.6	6,705
Science (revised)	8.0	n/a	3.4	33,565
Religious education	13.8	n/a	10.8	18,901
Art, craft, design	20.0	n/a	10.4	14,702
C.S.P.E. <sup>19</sup>	24.1	n/a	n/a	54,492
Technology	10.0	n/a	2.9	1,927
Material technology	10.7	n/a	4.3	11,731
Technical graphics	15.4	n/a	12.0	7,341
Metalwork	11.9	n/a	10.8	5,388
Business studies	9.2	n/a	6.7	22,317
Music	8.4	n/a	1.5	7,498
Home economics	11.8	n/a	1.2	14,629

Source: State Examinations Commission

- ◆ In 2008, 16.6% of Junior Certificate candidates in higher level Mathematics achieved an A grade. This was higher than the 10.9% of higher level candidates in Irish and 10.7% of candidates in higher level English who achieved an A grade (see Table 2.7).
- ◆ The five subjects with the highest rates of A grades at higher level in the 2008 Junior Certificate were Civic, Social and Political Education (24.1%), Art, craft and design (20.0%), Mathematics (16.6%), History (15.8%) and Technical graphics (15.4%) (see Table 2.7).

<sup>18</sup> School candidates only. Irish, English and Mathematics are the only subjects at Foundation level at Junior Certificate level.

<sup>19</sup> Civic, Social and Political Education.

## 2.8 Ireland: Leaving Certificate candidates<sup>20</sup> awarded an A grade by subject and level, 2008

Subject and Level	% of cohort			Higher level candidates
	Higher	Foundation	Ordinary	
Irish	13.1	5.2	4.9	13,994
English	10.1	n/a	8.0	31,792
Mathematics	14.3	9.8	12.5	8,510
History	11.9	n/a	20.0	7,601
Geography	8.0	n/a	3.4	18,269
French	13.4	n/a	1.6	14,226
German	15.1	n/a	3.5	4,440
Art	4.9	n/a	1.4	7,859
Physics	19.9	n/a	15.5	4,929
Chemistry	23.5	n/a	11.7	5,904
Biology	16.6	n/a	4.8	18,323
Technical drawing	13.7	n/a	12.4	3,051
Engineering	10.6	n/a	1.9	3,637
Construction studies	6.7	n/a	0.7	6,849
Accounting	20.4	n/a	21.7	4,811
Business	11.2	n/a	10.8	12,154
Economics	11.9	n/a	11.7	3,426
Music	14.5	n/a	6.9	4,770
Home economic S&S	8.5	n/a	1.6	8,753

Source: State Examinations Commission

- ◆ In 2008, 14.3% of Leaving Certificate higher level Mathematics candidates achieved an A grade (either A1 or A2). This was higher than the 13.1% of higher level candidates in Irish and 10.1% of candidates in higher level English who achieved an A grade (see Table 2.8).
- ◆ The five subjects with the highest occurrences of A grades at higher level in the 2008 Leaving Certificate were Chemistry (23.5%), Accounting (20.4%), Physics (19.9%), Biology (16.6%) and German (15.1%) (see Table 2.8).

<sup>20</sup> Combined school and external candidates. Irish and Mathematics are the only subjects at Foundation level at Leaving Certificate level.

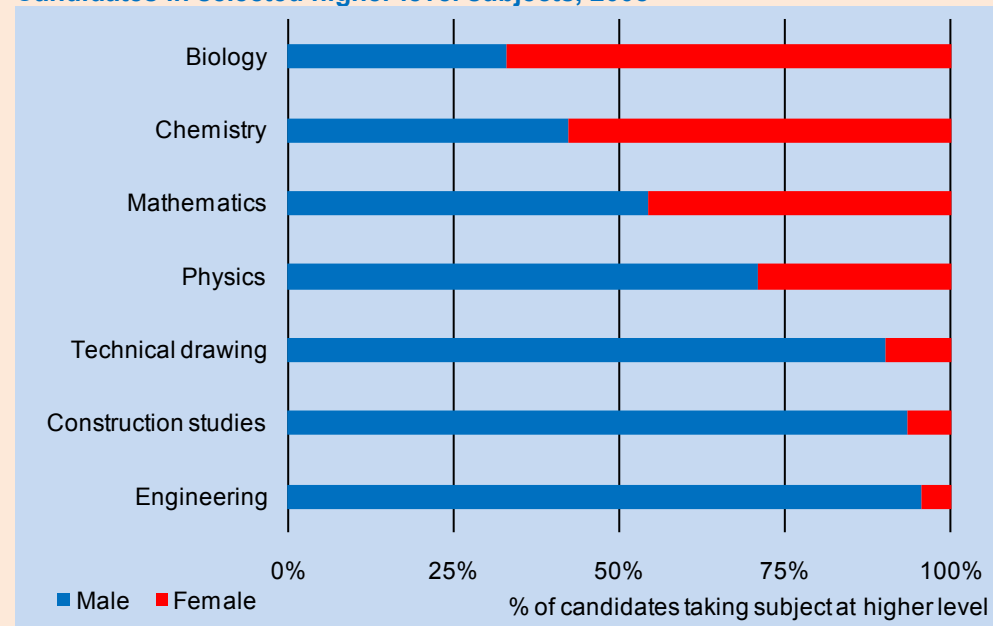
## 2.9 Ireland: Leaving Certificate candidates, 2002-2008

*higher level candidates as % of total candidates*

Subject (higher level)	2002		2005		2008	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Irish	19.4	33.7	18.1	34.1	19.1	34.1
English	50.3	63.0	53.5	65.5	55.4	66.2
Mathematics	19.5	14.8	19.7	16.9	18.3	14.4
French	20.9	33.4	20.5	32.8	21.5	32.7
Chemistry	9.2	10.8	10.0	12.2	9.9	12.6
Physics	16.0	6.1	14.9	5.9	13.8	5.3
Biology	14.9	33.9	20.0	43.4	23.9	45.7
Home Economics - S&S	6.1	39.9	3.0	31.4	2.7	30.0
Art	8.8	14.5	9.9	17.9	10.7	19.2
Music	2.4	8.3	4.3	11.0	5.7	12.4
Construction studies	22.2	1.2	24.7	1.5	25.4	1.7
Technical drawing	11.0	0.7	11.0	0.9	10.9	1.1
Engineering	11.6	0.4	12.8	0.5	13.8	0.6
<b>Leaving Certificate candidates<sup>21</sup></b>	<b>26,352</b>	<b>29,022</b>	<b>25,543</b>	<b>28,530</b>	<b>25,238</b>	<b>26,906</b>

*Source: State Examinations Commission*

## Candidates in selected higher level subjects, 2008



- ◆ 51.6% of all students sitting the Leaving Certificate (higher, foundation and ordinary level) in 2008 were female. Two-thirds (66.2%) of all girls sitting the Leaving Certificate took English at higher level compared with 55.4% of all boys sitting the Leaving Certificate. There were higher proportions of girls than boys taking Biology, Chemistry, Home Economics, Art, Music, Irish and French at higher level also (see Table 2.9).
- ◆ 0.6% of girls took Engineering as a higher level Leaving Certificate exam subject compared with 13.8% of boys. Boys accounted for 95.6% of candidates in Engineering, 93.4% of candidates in Construction studies and 90.2% of candidates in Technical drawing at higher level (see Table 2.9 and graph).

<sup>21</sup> The above data excludes candidates in the Leaving Certificate Applied Programme. School candidates, repeat candidates, external candidates, VTOS and PLC candidates are included in the table.



### 3.1 Ireland: Deaths of children by age group and main causes, 2007<sup>22</sup>

Main cause						number
	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	Total 0-19
Malignant neoplasm	2	5	7	10	12	36
Certain conditions in the perinatal period	64	1	1	0	0	66
Congenital malformations	101	10	5	5	8	129
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	24	3	0	0	0	27
Injury and poisoning	1	14	4	15	89	123
Other	29	23	7	14	29	102
<b>Total</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>483</b>

Source: CSO, Vital Statistics

### 3.2 Ireland: Age-sex specific death rate by suicide, 2007<sup>22</sup>

Age group	death rate by suicide per 100,000 population		overall death rate per 100,000 population	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0-4	0.0	0.0	95.3	81.7
5-14	1.0	0.4	12.6	11.1
15-19	16.5	2.8	65.3	30.6
<b>Total 0-19</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>47.6</b>	<b>34.7</b>
<b>Total all ages</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>658.6</b>	<b>634.3</b>

Source: CSO, Vital Statistics

- ◆ In 2007, there were a total of 483 deaths of persons aged 19 and under. Of these, 221 (45.8%) were of children less than 1 year old (see Table 3.1).
- ◆ In 2007, an average of 16.5 males aged 15-19 per 100,000 population committed suicide. The comparable female figure was 2.8 per 100,000 population (see Table 3.2).
- ◆ The infant mortality rate in 2007 was 3.1 in Ireland compared with 4.7 in the EU 27 (see Table 3.3).
- ◆ The overall infant mortality rate in Ireland has fallen from 7.9 per 1,000 live births in 1987 to 3.1 in 2007. At EU 25 level, the corresponding decrease has been from 10.7 in 1987 to 4.2 in 2007 (see Table 3.3).

<sup>22</sup> Figures relate to those deaths which were registered during 2007 rather than those which occurred during 2007. Figures are preliminary and are subject to revision.

### 3.3 EU: Infant mortality rate<sup>23</sup>, 1987-2007

Country	per 1,000 live births		
	Infant mortality rate		
	1987	1997	2007
Luxembourg	9.4	4.2	1.8
Sweden	6.1	3.6	2.5
Finland	6.2	3.9	2.7
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Belgium	9.7	5.4	3.1
Czech Republic	12.0	5.9	3.1
Slovenia	11.1	5.2	3.1
Portugal	14.2	6.4	3.4
Spain	8.9	5.0	3.7
Austria	9.8	4.7	3.7
Germany	8.4	4.9	3.8
Greece	11.7	6.4	3.8
Italy	9.8	5.6	3.8
France	:	4.9	3.8
Denmark	8.3	5.2	4.0
Netherlands	7.6	5.0	4.1
<b>EU 25</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>
United Kingdom	9.1	5.9	4.5
<b>EU 27</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Estonia	16.0	10.0	5.0
Lithuania	12.3	10.3	5.9
Hungary	17.3	9.9	5.9
Poland	21.2	10.2	6.0
Slovakia	14.2	8.7	6.1
Cyprus	13.2	9.1	6.2
Malta	7.3	6.4	6.5
Latvia	11.3	15.3	8.7
Bulgaria	14.7	17.5	9.2
Romania	28.9	22.0	12.0
Iceland	7.2	5.5	1.4
Norway	8.4	4.1	3.1
Switzerland	6.8	4.8	3.9
Croatia	14.0	8.2	5.2
Macedonia, TFYR	41.9	15.7	10.3
Turkey	:	38.8	21.7

Source: Eurostat

<sup>23</sup> Infant mortality rate: The ratio of the number of deaths of children under one year of age during the year to the number of live births in that year. The value is expressed per 1,000 live births. Values for France, UK, EU 27, EU 25, Croatia and Iceland refer to 2006.

### 3.4 Ireland: Immunisation uptake rates at 12 months, 2003-2007

	%				
Vaccine	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
P <sub>3</sub> <sup>24</sup>	80	83	85	86	87
D <sub>3</sub> <sup>25</sup>	81	83	85	86	87
T <sub>3</sub> <sup>26</sup>	81	83	85	86	87
Hib <sub>3</sub> <sup>27</sup>	81	83	85	86	87
Polio <sub>3</sub> <sup>28</sup>	81	83	85	86	87
BCG <sup>29</sup>	89	91	93	93	93
MenC <sub>3</sub> <sup>30</sup>	80	83	85	85	87

Source: Health Protection Surveillance Centre

### 3.5 Ireland: Immunisation uptake rates at 24 months, 2003-2007

	%				
Vaccine	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
P <sub>3</sub>	85	89	90	91	92
D <sub>3</sub>	86	89	90	91	92
T <sub>3</sub>	86	89	90	91	92
Hib <sub>3</sub>	86	89	90	91	92
Polio <sub>3</sub>	86	89	90	91	92
MenC <sub>3</sub>	84	88	89	90	91
MMR <sub>1</sub> <sup>31</sup>	78	81	84 <sup>32</sup>	86 <sup>33</sup>	87

Source: Health Protection Surveillance Centre

- ◆ In 2007, there was a 93% uptake rate for the BCG vaccine and 87% for infants aged 12 months for the other vaccines. Immunisation rates at 24 months were slightly higher, ranging from 87% to 92% (see Tables 3.4 and 3.5).

<sup>24</sup> Pertussis (P<sub>3</sub>). See Appendix 1 for further details on all vaccines and immunisation schedules included above.

<sup>25</sup> Diphtheria (D<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>26</sup> Tetanus (T<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>27</sup> *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>28</sup> Poliomyelitis (Polio<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>29</sup> Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG), uptake at 12 months only. Data are available for only five of the eight HSE areas (this includes data from the HSE-Southern area which relates to Kerry only).

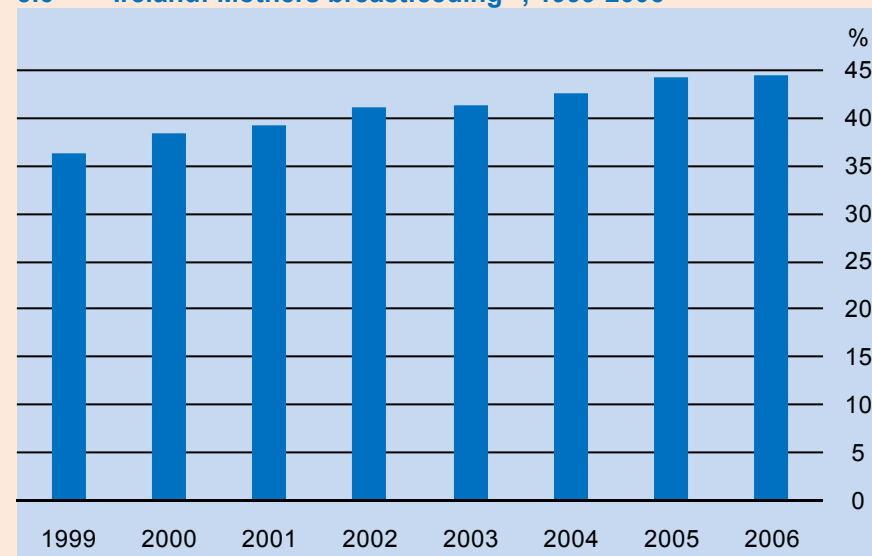
<sup>30</sup> Meningococcal group C (MenC<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>31</sup> Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR<sub>1</sub> uptake at 24 months only).

<sup>32</sup> The national figure for MMR<sub>1</sub> is incomplete, as Q4 2005 MMR<sub>1</sub> data was not available for the HSE-Eastern area. HSE-Eastern MMR<sub>1</sub> figure is based on data from Q1- 2005 to Q3 2005.

<sup>33</sup> Includes the HSE-Eastern MMR<sub>1</sub> Q1-2006 uptake figure that is an estimate only (due to technical problems with extracting MMR<sub>1</sub> data from the HSE-Eastern Area Database).

### 3.6 Ireland: Mothers breastfeeding<sup>34</sup>, 1999-2006



Source: ESRI & Department of Health & Children, Report on Perinatal Statistics

- ◆ Almost 45% of mothers breastfed their babies in 2006 compared with just over 35% in 1999 (see Graph 3.6).

<sup>34</sup> Based on maternities with live births. Unknown values are excluded in the calculation of percentages. Excludes early neonatal deaths.

3.7 Ireland: Children in care<sup>35</sup>, 1996-2006

Category	%			
	1996	2000	2004	2006
Male	49.3	51.5	51.6	51.1
Female	50.7	48.5	48.4	48.9
Foster Care <sup>36</sup>	76.2	76.5	83.9	87.6
Other care <sup>37</sup>	23.8	23.5	16.1	12.4
Under 1 year	21.3	22.9	18.7	21.7
1-5 years	38.2	44.1	45.5	40.0
5 or more years	40.5	33.1	35.8	38.3
<b>Number of children</b>	<b>3,668</b>	<b>4,424</b>	<b>5,060</b>	<b>5,247</b>

Source: HSE, Census of Children in the Care of the Health Boards, Interim Minimum Dataset

- ◆ In 2006, the number of children aged under 18 in the care of the Health Service Executive (HSE) was 5,247. This was a 43% increase on the 3,668 children in care in 1996 (see Table 3.7).
- ◆ 87.6% of all the children who were in the care of the HSE lived in foster family homes in 2006. 21.7% of children who were in the care of the HSE were in care for less than one year; 40% were in care for between 1 and 5 years; and the remaining 38.3% were in care for 5 years or more in 2006 (see Table 3.7).

## 3.8 Ireland: Households with children in need of social housing, 1996-2005

Number of children	% of total			
	1996	1999	2002	2005
1	60.9	58.5	59.4	61.4
2	23.1	24.3	24.6	24.1
3	8.8	9.5	9.1	8.9
4	3.9	4.1	3.8	3.5
5 or more	3.4	3.6	3.1	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of households	17,773	25,185	29,484	22,335

Source: Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government, Triennial Assessment of Housing Needs<sup>38</sup>

- ◆ 22,335 households with children were identified as being in need of social housing in the 2005 assessment of housing needs. This represents a 24.2% decrease compared with the 2002 assessment, when 29,484 households with children were identified as being in need of social housing (see Table 3.8).
- ◆ In 2005, 61.4% of households with children in need of social housing were households with one child; 24.1% were households with 2 children; 8.9% were households with 3 children; and 5.7% of households included 4 or more children. This distribution has remained broadly similar over the period 1996-2005 (see Table 3.8).

<sup>35</sup> The number of children under 18 who are in the care of the Health Service Executive (HSE).

<sup>36</sup> Foster care consists of: general, special and relative foster care

<sup>37</sup> Other care consists of: pre-adoptive placement, residential (general, special and high support), at home under care order and other care.

<sup>38</sup> Triennial assessment was repeated in 2008. Detailed data should become available during 2009. See Appendix 1 for further details.



### 3.9 EU: Childcare by age group and duration, 2006<sup>39</sup>

Country	% of the population in each age group		hours		years
	Children attending formal childcare		Average number of weekly hours of formal childcare <sup>40</sup>		
	Less than 3 years old	Between 3 years and compulsory school age	Less than 3 years old	Between 3 years and compulsory school age	
Belgium	40	99	30.3	30.4	6
Denmark	73	96	34.1	33.5	7
France	31	94	28.4	27.9	6
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>6</b>
Germany	17	92	22.0	22.9	6
Sweden	44	92	29.0	30.7	7
Spain	39	91	27.0	29.2	6
<b>EU 15</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>26.6</b>	-
Italy	25	90	30.9	32.3	6
Netherlands	45	89	15.8	18.6	5
United Kingdom	33	89	14.4	18.4	5
Cyprus	25	86	32.9	29.8	6
Estonia	19	85	34.0	38.4	7
<b>EU 25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>27.3</b>	-
Slovenia	28	81	36.1	33.8	6
Hungary	8	79	31.3	33.4	5
Finland	26	77	34.8	33.5	7
Portugal	33	75	37.8	36.8	6
Slovakia	5	73	:	35.2	6
Austria	4	71	:	23.1	6
Czech Republic	2	67	:	29.4	6
Greece	10	61	33.8	25.8	6
Latvia	16	60	40.2	39.7	5
Luxembourg	31	57	29.9	21.7	4
Malta	8	57	:	25.2	5
Lithuania	5	56	39.9	38.9	7
Poland	3	28	37.7	33.8	6

Source: Eurostat, EU SILC

<sup>39</sup> Data for EU 25, Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Greece, France, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and the United Kingdom are provisional. Data are estimated and, particularly in smaller countries, may be unreliable. See Appendix 1 for further details. Data describes childcare in a 'usual week'.

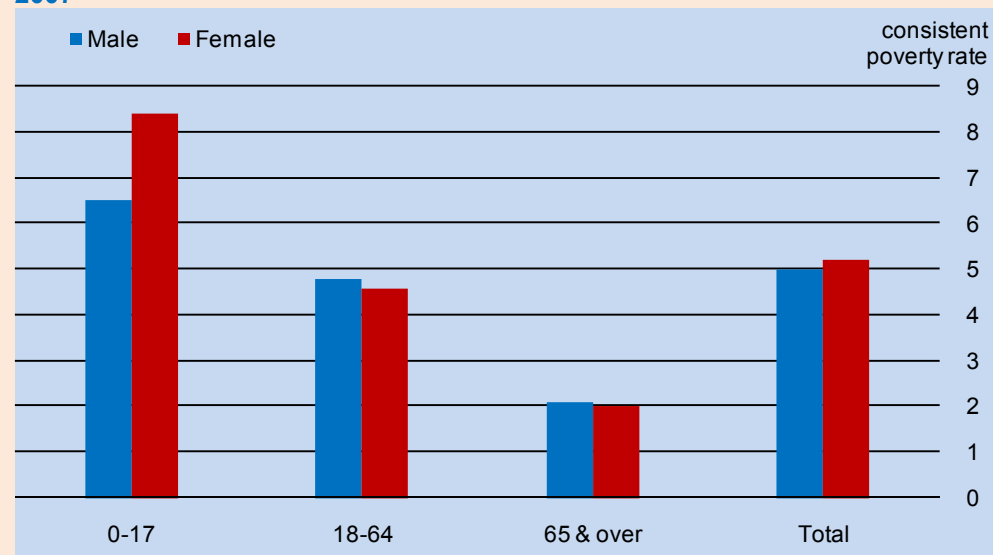
<sup>40</sup> Data describes only those children with at least 1 hour of formal care.

### 3.10 Ireland: Persons in consistent poverty<sup>41</sup> by age group and sex, 2006 and 2007

Age group	2006			2007		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
0-17	10.3	10.8	9.8	7.4	6.5	8.4
18-64	5.6	5.1	6.2	4.7	4.8	4.6
65 & over	2.2	2.3	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.2</b>

Source: CSO, EU SILC

#### 2007



- ◆ In 2006, 84% of children in the EU 25 and 93% of children in Ireland who were aged between three and the compulsory school age attended formal childcare. In Ireland children in this age group who attended formal childcare did so for an average of over 22 hours a week (see Table 3.9).
- ◆ In 2007, 5.0% of males and 5.2% of females were in consistent poverty in Ireland. However the rates for boys and girls aged 0-17 were higher than the overall rate, standing at 6.5% and 8.4% respectively (see Table 3.10 and graph).

<sup>41</sup> Equivalised total disposable income including all social transfers (60% threshold). Persons in consistent poverty at 60% level using 11 basic life-style deprivation indicators (new national consistent poverty measure). See Appendix 1 for further details.

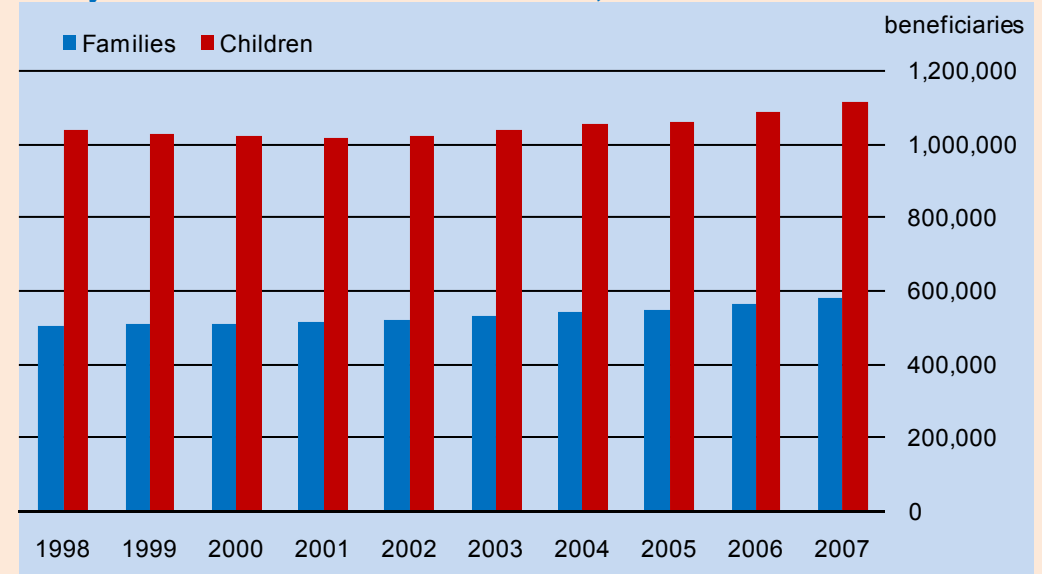
### 3.11 Ireland: Number of families, child beneficiaries and expenditure on Child Benefit, 1998-2007

Year	000		€m		€
	Families	Children	Expenditure	€ per child at 2006 prices	
1998	504.8	1,039.7	531.7	820	
1999	508.5	1,028.9	565.0	833	
2000	510.8	1,018.2	637.5	893	
2001	514.9	1,014.3	964.8	1,267	
2002	522.4	1,019.6	1,462.8	1,786	
2003	534.0	1,034.9	1,666.5	1,886	
2004	540.9	1,051.0	1,765.1	1,843	
2005	547.5	1,060.7	1,899.9	1,864	
2006	562.9	1,084.0	2,056.3	1,897	
2007 <sup>42</sup>	579.6	1,110.7	2,233.0	1,935	

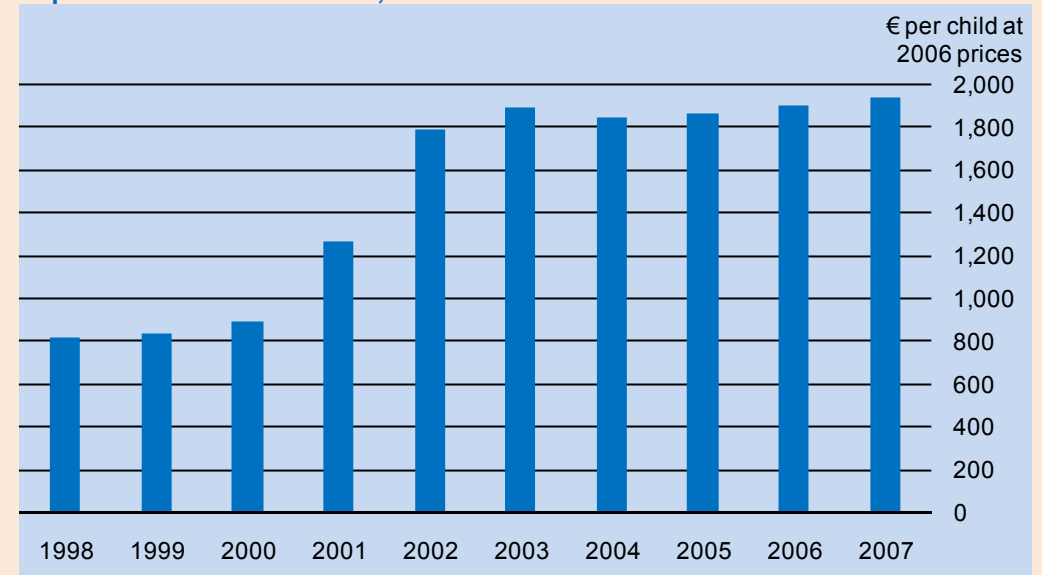
Source: Department of Social and Family Affairs

- ◆ In 2007 579,600 families received a monthly Child Benefit payment, which was paid in respect of 1,110,700 children. These were higher than the corresponding figures for 1998, when 504,800 families received a monthly Child Benefit payment, which was paid in respect of 1,039,700 children. Expenditure per child at constant 2006 prices more than doubled over the period, increasing from €820 in 1998 to €1,935 in 2007 (see Table 3.11 and graph).

#### Family and child beneficiaries of child benefit, 1998-2007



#### Expenditure on child benefit, 1998-2007



<sup>42</sup> Provisional.

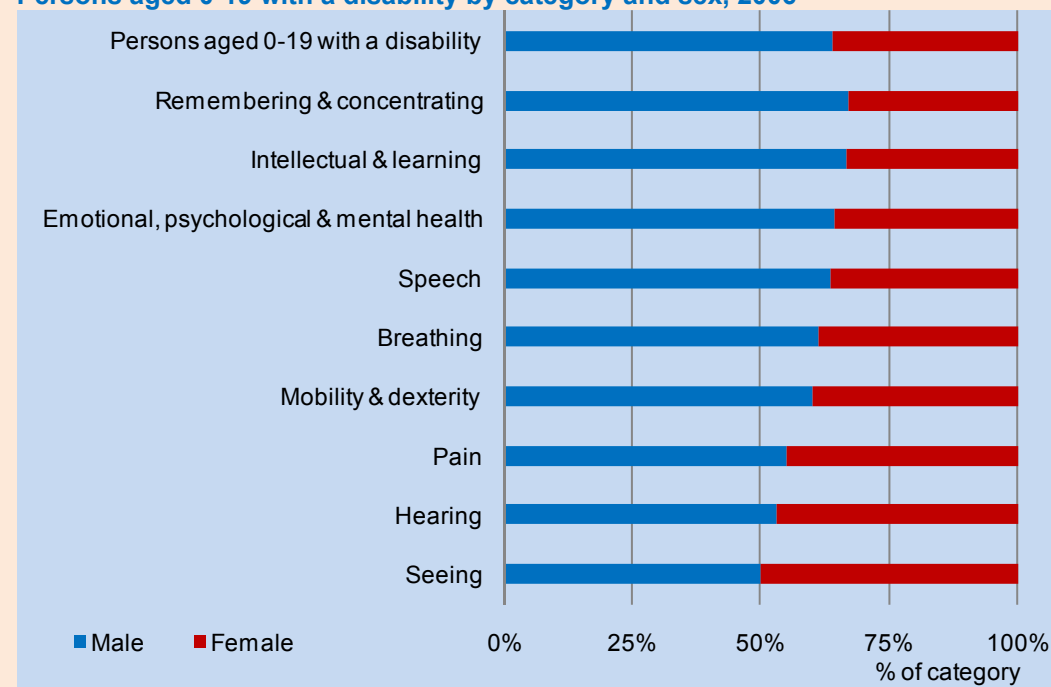
### 3.12 Ireland: Persons aged 0-19<sup>43</sup> with a disability by category and sex, 2006

Category	% of category		% of column
	Male	Female	Total
Seeing	49.9	50.1	7.2
Hearing	53.1	46.9	8.7
Speech	63.3	36.7	27.0
Mobility and dexterity	59.8	40.2	22.3
Remembering and concentrating	66.9	33.1	49.2
Intellectual and learning difficulties	66.7	33.3	74.5
Emotional, psychological and mental health	64.0	36.0	27.9
Pain	54.9	45.1	11.5
Breathing	61.0	39.0	14.8
<b>Persons aged 0-19 with a disability</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>40,420</b>

Source: CSO, National Disability Survey

- ◆ Among persons aged 0-19 with a disability the most frequently occurring disability categories was Intellectual and learning difficulties which affected almost three-quarters (74.5%) of persons aged 0-19 with a disability. The next most frequently occurring disabilities were, Remembering and concentrating (49.2%), Emotional, psychological and mental health (27.9%) and Speech disabilities (27%) (see Table 3.12).
- ◆ Almost two-thirds (64%) of persons aged 0-19 with a disability were males. Males constituted a clear majority in 6 of the 9 disability types listed above, with a gender balance only being approached in disability types seeing, hearing and pain (see Table 3.12 and graph).

### Persons aged 0-19 with a disability by category and sex, 2006



<sup>43</sup> The individual disability totals sum to more than 100% (40,420 persons) due to persons reporting multiple disabilities being counted in each disability type reported. As a 0-17 weighting frame was used, there may be some small deviance inherent in these data by scaling to a 0-19 age group. See Appendix 1 and the National Disability Survey (NDS) website for details of the survey and results: <http://www.cso.ie/nds/>

#### 4.1 Ireland: Children aged 5-12 years by usual means of travel to school, 1986-2006

% of children aged 5-12

Year	On foot	Bicycle	Bus	Motor car passenger	Other <sup>44</sup>
1986	45.2	4.2	18.9	24.0	7.7
1991	39.4	4.2	20.7	27.7	8.0
1996	33.0	2.5	21.4	35.8	7.4
2002	26.0	1.1	17.6	50.3	5.0
2006	24.3	0.9	15.0	55.0	4.7

Source: CSO, Census of Population

#### 4.2 Ireland: Students aged 13-18 years by usual means of travel to school or college, 1986-2006

% of students aged 13-18

Year	On foot	Bicycle	Bus	Motor car passenger	Other <sup>45</sup>
1986	31.1	15.0	34.0	10.8	9.1
1991	28.6	13.1	35.6	14.1	8.7
1996	27.6	7.6	38.5	19.3	7.0
2002	25.7	3.5	37.5	27.8	5.5
2006	24.4	2.4	35.6	31.5	6.1

Source: CSO, Census of Population

- ◆ There has been a marked decrease in the percentage of children aged 5-12 travelling to school on foot between 1986 (45.2%) and 2006 (24.3%). There has been a commensurate increase in the percentage travelling as a passenger in a car, from 24% in 1986 to 55% in 2006 (see Table 4.1).
- ◆ Amongst students aged 13-18, the decrease in those travelling by foot was less (from 31.1% in 1986 to 24.4% in 2006), while there was a greater proportional increase in those travelling as a car passenger, from 10.8% in 1986 to 31.5% in 2006. The percentage cycling to school or college decreased from 15% in 1986 to 2.4% in 2006, while the percentage using a bus remained more stable at just over a third (see Table 4.2).

<sup>44</sup> Includes, "train, DART or LUAS", "motor cycle or scooter", "lorry or van", "not stated" and "mainly at home" categories. Data describes those who were usually resident in the State.

<sup>45</sup> Includes, "train, DART or LUAS", "motor cycle or scooter", "lorry or van", "motor car driver", "not stated" and "mainly at home" categories. Data describes those who were usually resident in the State.

#### 4.3 Ireland: Children aged 5-12 years by usual means of travel to school by regional authority, 2006

% of children aged 5-12

Region	On foot	Bicycle	Bus	Motor car passenger	Other <sup>44</sup>
Border	15.7	0.4	27.1	52.9	3.8
Dublin	41.9	1.8	7.3	43.0	5.9
Mid-East	25.4	1.0	14.6	54.8	4.3
Midland	16.2	0.8	19.8	57.7	5.5
Mid-West	21.1	0.6	12.0	62.2	4.1
South-East	18.3	0.6	16.5	60.5	4.0
South-West	18.6	0.4	14.4	62.3	4.2
West	12.6	0.7	19.0	63.4	4.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>

Source: CSO, Census of Population

#### 4.4 Ireland: Students aged 13-18 years by usual means of travel to school or college by regional authority, 2006

% of students aged 13-18

Region	On foot	Bicycle	Bus	Motor car passenger	Other <sup>45</sup>
Border	15.2	0.5	49.8	30.6	3.8
Dublin	38.9	5.8	25.2	21.3	8.8
Mid-East	26.5	1.9	34.8	29.7	7.1
Midland	18.4	1.3	41.3	34.5	4.5
Mid-West	21.1	1.6	34.3	38.9	4.2
South-East	18.3	1.4	37.0	38.3	5.0
South-West	19.6	1.3	34.1	39.9	5.2
West	12.8	1.1	47.0	35.4	3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>23.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>5.8</b>

Source: CSO, Census of Population

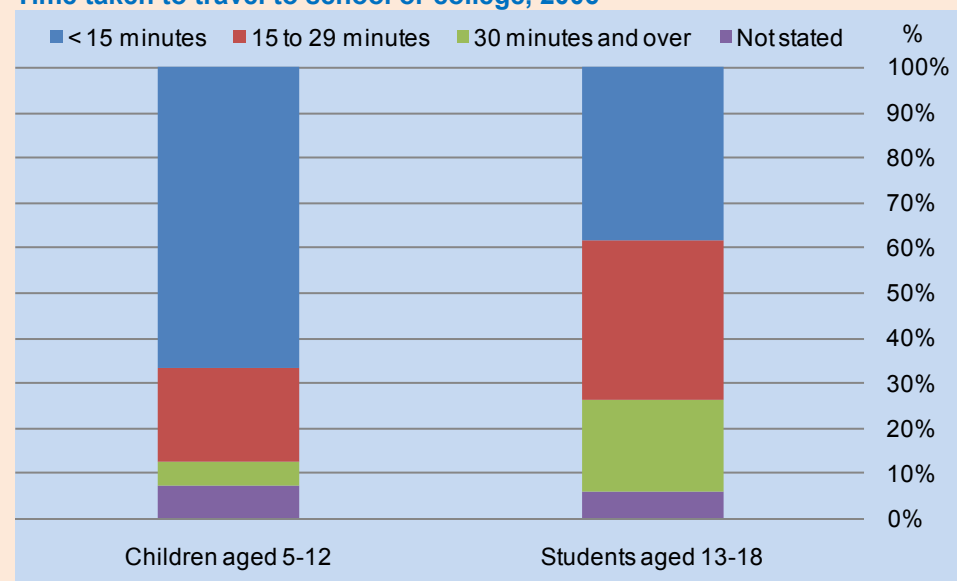
- ◆ In 2006, 41.9% of children aged 5-12 years in Dublin usually travelled to school by foot compared with 12.6% in the West. Conversely, 63.4% travelled to school as a car passenger in the West, compared with 43% in Dublin. Nationally less than 1% travelled by bicycle (see Table 4.3).
- ◆ Among students aged 13-18 years, 49.8% in the Border region travelled to school or college by bus compared with 25.2% in Dublin. 12.8% of students in the West travelled to school or college by foot, compared with 38.9% in Dublin (see Table 4.4).

#### 4.5 Ireland: Children and students classified by time taken to travel to school or college<sup>46</sup>, 2006

Category	% of category				000	
	< 15 minutes	15 to 29 minutes	30 minutes and over	Not stated	Total	Total
<b>Children aged 5-12</b>	<b>66.3</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>440.1</b>
Boys	66.2	20.7	5.7	7.4	100.0	225.9
Girls	66.5	21.0	5.4	7.2	100.0	214.3
<b>Students aged 13-18</b>	<b>38.4</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>301.0</b>
Males	39.1	34.9	19.6	6.5	100.0	149.6
Females	37.8	35.7	20.3	6.1	100.0	151.4

Source: CSO, Census of Population

Time taken to travel to school or college, 2006



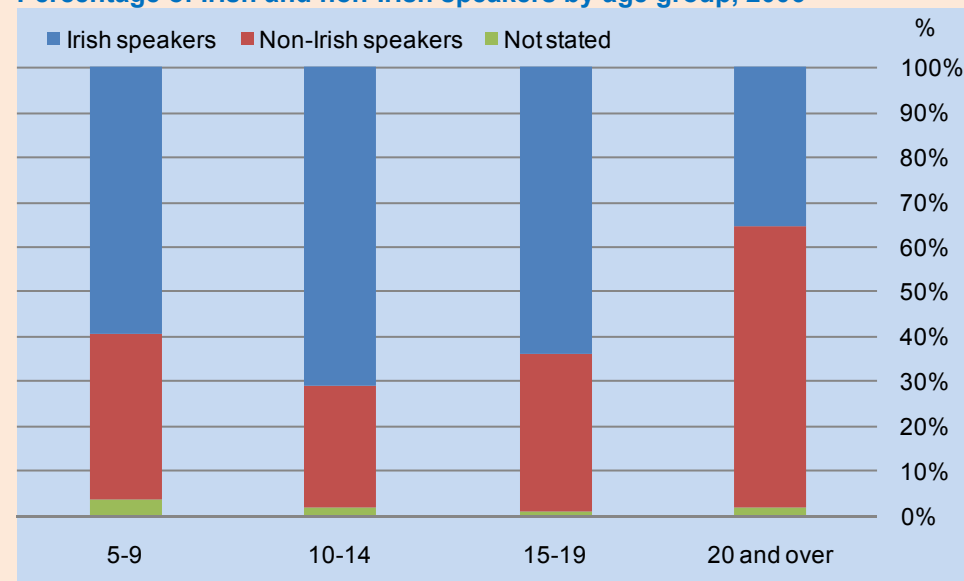
- ◆ 66.3% of children aged 5-12 took less than 15 minutes to travel to school in 2006 compared with 38.4% of students aged 13-18 (see Table 4.5).

#### 4.6 Ireland: Irish speakers by age group, 2006

Age group	% of age group		
	Irish speakers	Non-Irish speakers	Not stated
5-9	59.4	36.7	3.9
10-14	71.0	27.0	2.1
15-19	63.7	34.8	1.5
<b>Total 5-19</b>	<b>64.6</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>
20 and over	35.4	62.4	2.2

Source: CSO, Census of Population

Percentage of Irish and non-Irish speakers by age group, 2006



- ◆ The proportion of children and young people who could speak Irish varied from 59.4% of 5-9 year olds to 71% of 10-14 year olds (see Table 4.6).

<sup>46</sup> Excludes those for whom this is not applicable (i.e. excludes children and students working mainly at or from home).

#### 4.7 Ireland: Victims of murder/manslaughter by age group, 2003-2007

Age	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	%				
0-19	5.8	8.9	6.2	5.8	10.6
20-44	69.2	77.8	67.7	78.3	68.2
45 and over	25.0	13.3	26.2	15.9	21.2
<b>Total all ages</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of victims	52	45	65	69	85

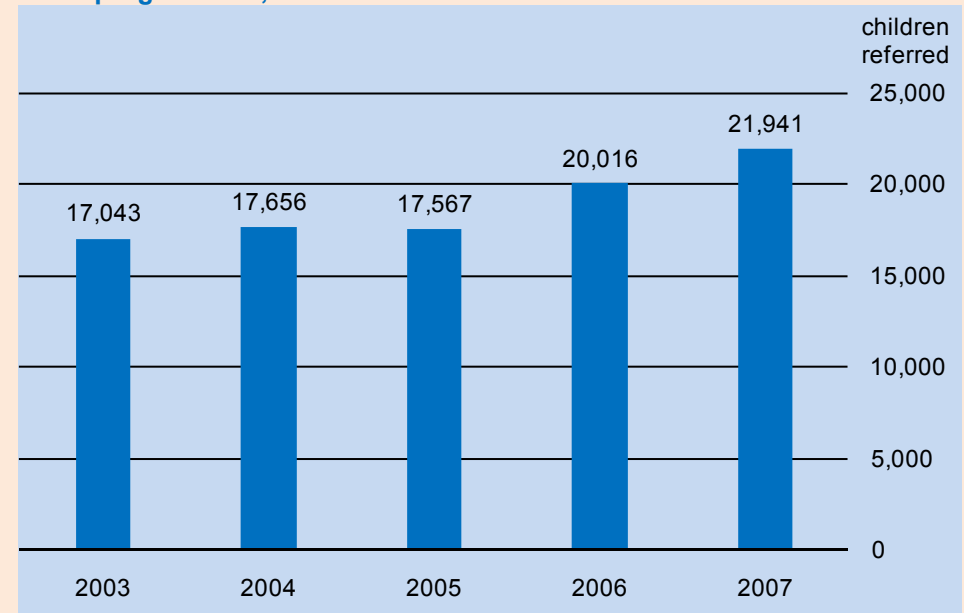
Source: CSO, Garda Recorded Crime Statistics

#### 4.8 Ireland: Victims of rape of a male or female by age group, 2003-2007

Age	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	%				
0-19	38.4	44.1	33.8	37.9	37.1
20-44	45.4	45.1	53.2	50.4	45.6
45 and over	4.6	4.1	5.4	5.7	7.1
Not available	11.6	6.6	7.6	6.0	10.2
<b>Total all ages</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Number of victims	328	410	447	367	353

Source: CSO, Garda Recorded Crime Statistics

#### 4.9 Ireland: Children and young people referred to the Diversion programme<sup>47</sup>, 2003-2007



Source: CSO, Garda Recorded Crime Statistics

- ◆ In 2007, 85 persons were the victims of murder or manslaughter. 9 of these victims (10.6%) were aged 19 or under (see Table 4.7).
- ◆ 353 persons were the reported victims of rape in 2007. 131 of these victims (37.1%) were aged 19 or under (see Table 4.8).

- ◆ 21,941 children and young people were referred to the Diversion programme in 2007 compared with 17,043 in 2003 (see Graph 4.9).

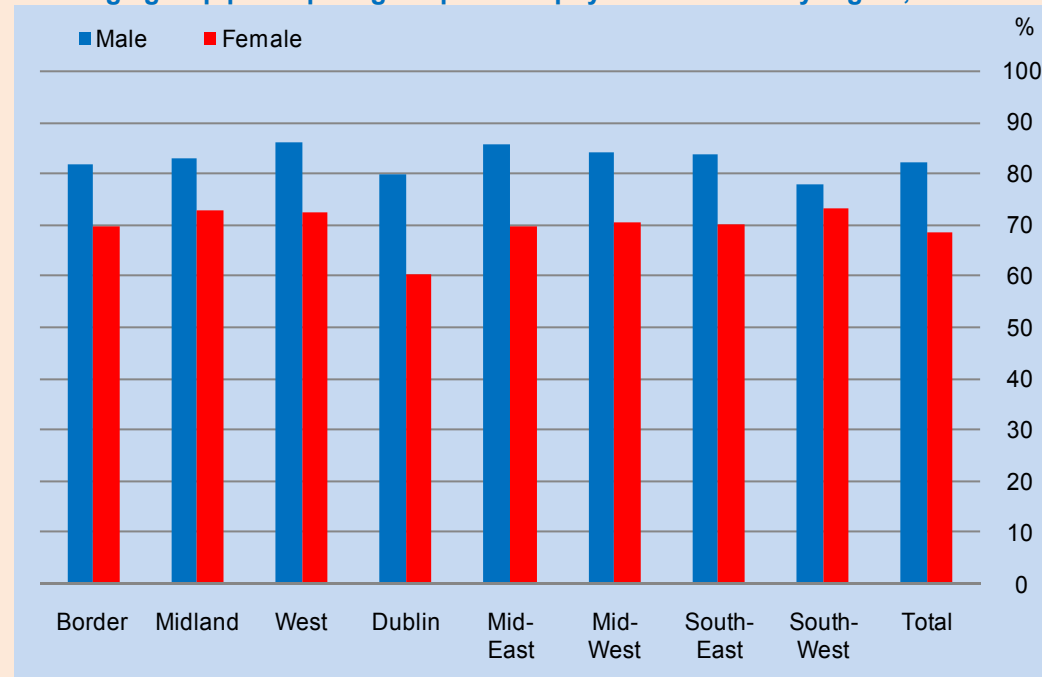
<sup>47</sup> Following the introduction of Part 4 of the Children Act 2001 the Juvenile Liaison Officer Scheme came to an end and was replaced by the Diversion Programme. This can be described as a package of measures for dealing with children under the age of 18 who commit an offence or offences. See Appendix 1 for further details.

#### 4.10 Ireland: Participation in sport and physical exercise by region, 2006<sup>48</sup>

Region	% of cohort		
	Males aged 15-19	Females aged 15-19	Persons aged 15-19
Border	81.9	69.5	75.9
Midland	82.7	72.8	78.1
West	86.0	72.2	79.2
Dublin	79.8	60.2	70.0
Mid-East	85.5	69.7	77.8
Mid-West	83.9	70.5	77.4
South-East	83.8	70.2	77.2
South-West	77.9	73.3	75.6
Urban	81.1	64.5	72.7
Rural	83.3	73.7	78.8
<b>Total 15-19</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>68.3</b>	<b>75.3</b>
<b>Persons aged 15-19 (000)</b>	<b>150.3</b>	<b>143.7</b>	<b>294.0</b>

Source: CSO, QNHS Sport & Physical exercise module

#### 15-19 age group participating in sport and physical exercise by region, 2006



- ◆ In 2006, the overall activity rate in sport and physical exercise for 15-19 year old males (82.0%) was considerably higher than the rate for 15-19 year old females (68.3%) (see Table 4.10 and graph).
- ◆ 15-19 year old males were more physically active than females across each of the regions. Females were least likely to have participated in physical exercise and sports activities in the Dublin region (60.2%) and most likely to have participated in the South-West region (73.3%). Conversely, the male participation rate in the South-West region (77.9%) was the lowest of all the regions (see Table and graph 4.10).

<sup>48</sup> Persons aged 15-19 years participating in sport or physical exercise in the past 12 months. Survey period June-August (Quarter 3) 2006. See Appendix 1 for further details.





# Appendices

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## Appendix 1 Definitions

### 1 Population

#### 1.1 - 1.4 Age of the population

The reference period for the 2008 population estimates is mid-April. The Usual residence concept is used for Annual Population estimates. The total population of the country may comprise either all of the usual residents of the country (*de jure*) or all persons present in the country on a particular date (*de facto*). Published census figures for Ireland are on a *de facto* basis. The figures therefore include visitors present on census night as well as those in residence, while usual residents temporarily absent from the area are excluded from the census count. The difference between these two definitions is very small. Ireland last conducted a Census of Population in April 2006.

#### 1.4 Regional authorities

NUTS is an acronym for the EU Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics. This classification was legally established by EU regulation No 1059/2003 on 29 May 2003. In Ireland it is classified hierarchically as:

Level 1 - Ireland;

Level 2 - Regions (Border, Midland and West and Southern and Eastern);

Level 3 - 8 Regional Authorities:

**Border** – Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan, Sligo.

**Midland** – Laoighis, Longford, Offaly, Westmeath.

**West** – Galway, Mayo, Roscommon.

**Dublin** – Dublin City, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, South Dublin.

**Mid-East** – Kildare, Meath, Wicklow.

**Mid-West** – Clare, Limerick, North Tipperary.

**South-East** – Carlow, Kilkenny, South Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford.

**South-West** – Cork, Kerry.

#### 1.6 Private household

A private household comprises either one person living alone or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address with common housekeeping arrangements – that is, sharing at least one meal a day or sharing a living room or sitting room. In order to be included in the household, a person must be a usual resident at the time of the Census. Therefore, visitors to the household on Census night are excluded, while usual residents temporarily absent (for less than 3 months) are included.

The 2006 Census of Population defined a family unit or nucleus as: 1) a husband and wife or a cohabiting couple; or 2) a husband and wife or a cohabiting couple together with one or more usually resident never-married children (of any age); or 3) one parent together with one or more usually resident never-married children (of any age). Family members had to be usual residents of the relevant household.

#### 1.7 & 1.8 Usual residence

Data on usual residence was derived from answers to question 7 of the 2006 Census of Population questionnaire. This asked persons where they usually live. The figures for usual residents in a particular area include persons enumerated in that area who stated that their usual residence was at the place where they were enumerated, together with other persons usually resident in that area who were enumerated elsewhere in the State. Usual residents of an area who were not in the State on Census night are not included in the figures.

## 2 Education

### 2.2-2.4 Pupil-teacher ratio

In Ireland, the national pupil-teacher ratio at first level is calculated by dividing total enrolment in all national schools as of 30th September in a given year by the number of teaching posts in June of the following year. The ratio at second level is calculated by dividing total full time enrolment in all second level schools as of 30th September in a given academic year by the number of full time equivalent teachers in the same year.

For international data, in the EU pupil-teacher ratios across different EU member states are calculated by dividing the number of full-time equivalent pupils at a given level of education by the number of full-time equivalent teachers teaching at that level. Data are collected through the joint UNESCO-OECD-EUROSTAT data collection questionnaires on educational personnel. The following qualifications regarding the data should be borne in mind:

<b>Belgium</b>	Data exclude the German Community and all independent private institutions. Teachers in social advancement education (ISCED 3) in the French Community are not included. ISCED 4 included in ISCED 3.
<b>Denmark</b>	ISCED 2 is included in ISCED 1.
<b>Finland</b>	ISCED 3 includes ISCED 4 and 5 vocational and technical programmes.
<b>Iceland</b>	ISCED 4 is partly included in ISCED 3. ISCED 2 is included in ISCED 1.
<b>Ireland</b>	ISCED 2 includes ISCED 3 and 4.
<b>Lithuania</b>	ISCED 3 includes vocational programmes only; general programmes are included in ISCED 2. The methodology to calculate full-time equivalent teachers improved in 2002; therefore data is not comparable with previous years.
<b>Luxembourg</b>	Public sector only. ISCED 2 includes ISCED 3.
<b>Netherlands</b>	ISCED 1 includes ISCED 0. ISCED 3 includes ISCED 2. The methodology for statistics on personnel in secondary education changed in 2002. The decrease in the pupil/teacher ratio is mainly a result of the changed methodology.
<b>Norway</b>	ISCED 2 includes ISCED 1. ISCED 3 includes ISCED 4.
<b>Spain</b>	ISCED 3 includes ISCED 4.
<b>United Kingdom</b>	ISCED 3 includes ISCED 4.

### ISCED

The International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 97) is the basis for international education statistics. It incorporates 6 levels of education, of which four are relevant to this report:

**ISCED 0** Pre-primary level of education: Initial stage of organised instruction, designed primarily to introduce very young children to a school-type environment. This level of education should be centre or school based, be designed to meet the educational and developmental needs of children at least 3 years of age and have staff that are adequately trained and qualified to provide an educational programme for these children.

**ISCED 1** Primary level of education: Programmes normally designed to give students a sound basic education in reading, writing and mathematics. This level represents the beginning to systematic studies characteristic of primary education, e.g. reading, writing and mathematics. It is marked by entry into the nationally designated primary institutions or programmes. The commencement of reading activities alone is not a sufficient criterion for classification of an educational programme to ISCED 1.

**ISCED 2** Lower secondary level of education: The lower secondary level of education generally continues the basic programmes of the primary level, although teaching is typically more subject-focused. Programmes at the start of level 2 should correspond to the point where programmes begin to be organised in a more subject-oriented pattern, using more specialised teachers conducting classes in their field of specialisation.

**ISCED 3** Upper secondary level of education: The final stage of secondary education in most countries. Instruction is often more organised along subject-matter lines than at ISCED level 2 and teachers need to have a higher level, or more subject-specific, qualification than at ISCED 2. Admission into ISCED 3 usually

requires the completion of ISCED 2 or a combination of basic education and life experience that demonstrates the ability to engage with ISCED 3 subject matter. There are substantial differences in the typical duration of ISCED 3 programmes both across and between countries, typically ranging from 2 to 5 years of schooling.

## **2.5 & 2.6 Literacy**

The OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) assesses young people's capacity to use their knowledge and skills in order to meet real-life challenges, rather than merely examining how well the students had mastered their school curriculum. PISA assesses literacy in reading, mathematics and science. The PISA survey was first conducted in 2000 in 32 countries. Two-thirds of the assessment in 2000 focussed on reading literacy. The second study, conducted in 2003 in 41 countries focussed primarily on mathematical literacy. In 2006, the primary focus was on science and the study will return to focussing on reading in 2009.

Students aged between 15 years and 3 months and 16 years and 2 months at the beginning of the assessment period and who were enrolled in an educational institution were eligible to be included in the study. No distinction was made on the basis of whether they were attending full-time or part-time.

The PISA scale for each literacy area was devised so that across OECD countries, the average score is 500 points, and around two-thirds of students achieve between 400 and 600 points.

The OECD average is the mean of the data values for all OECD countries for which data are available or can be estimated. The OECD average can be used to see how one country compares on a given indicator with another country. Each country contributes equally to the OECD average. Hence it does not take into account the absolute size of the student population in each country.

The OECD total takes the OECD countries as a single entity, to which each country contributes in proportion to the number of 15 year-olds enrolled in its schools. It illustrates how a country compares with the OECD area as a whole.

## **2.8 & 2.9 Leaving Certificate levels**

Higher Level (Árd Leibhéal)  
Ordinary Level (Gnáthleibhéal)  
Foundation Level (Bonn Leibhéal)  
Common Level (Leibhéal Comonta)

Higher and Ordinary level applies to all subjects at Leaving Certificate. Foundation level applies to Mathematics and Irish at Leaving Certificate. Common Level applies to LCVP - Link modules in the Leaving Certificate.

### **Leaving Certificate grades**

Results of the Leaving Certificate are shown in the form of grades, each grade representing a percentage range of marks as follows:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Percentage Range</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Percentage Range</b>
A1	90+	C3	55<60
A2	85<90	D1	50<55
B1	80<85	D2	45<50
B2	75<80	D3	40<45
B3	70<75	E	25<40
C1	65<70	F	10<25
C2	60<65	No grade	0<10

## 3 Health and care

### 3.1 Cause of death

The underlying cause of death is the disease or injury which the doctor (or coroner) reported on the death certificate as being the cause that initiated the train of events leading directly to death, or the circumstances of the accident, or violence which produced the fatal injury. Cause of death is coded using the International Classification of Diseases version 9 (ICD 9).

### 3.2 Age specific death rate by suicide

Age-specific death rates are the number of deaths that occurred or were registered during the calendar year at a specified age per 100,000 of the estimated resident population of the same age and sex.

### 3.4 & 3.5 Immunisations

Irish statistics on immunisation are compiled by the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) using data from the former health board areas.

The immunisation uptake data presented relate to children who reached their first or second birthday (uptake at 12 and 24 months, respectively) during the year in question and who have received three doses of vaccines against diphtheria (D<sub>3</sub>), pertussis (P<sub>3</sub>), tetanus (T<sub>3</sub>), *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib<sub>3</sub>), polio (Polio<sub>3</sub>) and meningococcal group C (MenC<sub>3</sub>), one dose of vaccine against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR<sub>1</sub>; uptake at 24 months only) and one dose of BCG vaccine (BCG: uptake at 12 months only).

Each former health board area is responsible for maintaining an immunisation register. A listing of all birth notifications in the area is received from the General Registers Office (GRO). Public health nurses follow-up on all new births, visit the mother and register the child's details and details of the GP nominated by the mother to perform the required immunisations. This information is returned to the local immunisation office and recorded on the childhood immunisation register used by that area. The office monitors the child's immunisation record and issues reminders when immunisations fall due. Following each vaccination, the GP makes a return to the local immunisation office, indicating details of the vaccine and date of administration. This information is maintained on the local immunisation register and is provided to the HPSC for the compilation of immunisation uptake statistics.

The following are the definitions of the vaccines referred to in these indicators:

<b>D<sub>3</sub></b>	Refers to a combined diphtheria and tetanus vaccine, administered in 3 doses at 2, 4 and 6 months of age.
<b>P<sub>3</sub></b>	Refers to a pertussis vaccine, administered in 3 doses at 2, 4 and 6 months of age.
<b>T<sub>3</sub></b>	Refers to a tetanus vaccine administered in 3 doses at 2, 4 and six months of age
<b>HIB<sub>3</sub></b>	Refers to the vaccine for <i>Haemophilus Influenzae</i> type B, administered in 3 doses at 2, 4 and 6 months of age.
<b>POLIO<sub>3</sub></b>	Refers to the vaccine for poliomyelitis, administered in 3 doses at 2, 4 and 6 months of age.
<b>MenC<sub>3</sub></b>	Refers to the vaccine for Meningococcal type C disease, administered in 3 doses at 2, 4 and 6 months of age.
<b>MMR<sub>1</sub></b>	Refers to the first dose of the combined vaccine for measles, mumps and rubella, administered between the ages of 12 and 15 months.
<b>BCG</b>	Refers to the Bacillus Calmette-Guerin which is a vaccine that helps protect against Tuberculosis.

### 3.8 Housing needs

The data for this indicator represent net need for social housing, meaning households who have been assessed as being in need of either local authority or voluntary housing. The terminology used to describe a local authority's housing needs varies. These figures are net of duplicate applications (i.e. applicants who have applied to more than one local authority). A local authority's waiting list may contain duplicate applications.

### **3.9 Childcare**

Irish data were collected through EU SILC (EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions). Data refers to a 'usual weeks' activity.

See the CSO website for further details on the EU SILC Irish methodology, questionnaire and detailed results: [http://www.cso.ie/eusilc/methods\\_eusilc.htm](http://www.cso.ie/eusilc/methods_eusilc.htm)

**Formal childcare** for the age groups up to compulsory school age includes childcare at day-care centres and education at pre-school. Care provided by parents themselves, child minders having direct arrangements with parents as well as childcare by grand-parents, other relatives, friends and neighbours are excluded from the definition formal childcare. In some Member States, these statistics underestimate child care support and use by not taking into account private care arrangements that are partly subsidised by the government through tax reductions, etc.

In 2002, during the Barcelona Summit, the following targets were adopted: Member States should remove disincentives to female labour force participation and strive to provide childcare by 2010 to:

- at least 33% of children under three years of age and
- at least 90% of children between three years old and the mandatory school age.

### **3.10 Consistent poverty**

Persons are regarded as being in consistent poverty if:

- (i) Their income is below 60% of median income, and
- (ii) They experience deprivation in relation to the list of deprivation items.

Persons lacking two or more items from this index are regarded as being in consistent poverty:

1. Two pairs of strong shoes
2. A warm waterproof overcoat
3. Buy new not second-hand clothes
4. Eat meals with meat, chicken, fish (or vegetarian equivalent) every second day
5. Have a roast joint or its equivalent once a week
6. Had to go without heating during the last year through lack of money
7. Keep the home adequately warm
8. Buy presents for family or friends at least once a year
9. Replace any worn out furniture
10. Have family or friends for a drink or meal once a month
11. Have a morning, afternoon or evening out in the last fortnight, for entertainment.

Tables in this report are based on these new deprivation indicators and the new consistent poverty measure.

### **3.11 Child benefit**

Child Benefit is funded entirely by the Exchequer. It is payable in respect of all children regardless of family means.

### **3.12 National Disability Survey**

More detailed results and a full methodology note from the National Disability Survey (NDS) can be obtained at: <http://www.cso.ie/releasespublications/nationaldisabilitysurvey06first.htm>.

## 4 Transport, society and lifestyle

### 4.5 – 4.8 Crime offences

The CSO publication, Garda Annual Crime Statistics 2003-2006, replaced the Crime Statistics section of Garda Annual Reports. An Garda Síochána ceased including this section in their annual reports from 2006, in recognition that the CSO was to assume this responsibility. The crime offences are classified using the new Irish Crime Classification System condensed version (ICCS). The ICCS replaces the Headline/Non-Headline classification. Full details of the ICCS are available on the CSO website at:

[http://www.cso.ie/releasespublications/pr\\_crimejust.htm](http://www.cso.ie/releasespublications/pr_crimejust.htm)

The data originates in the Garda PULSE (Police Using Leading Systems Effectively) and the FCPS (Fixed Charge Penalty System) systems. The data refer only to crime incidents known to An Garda Síochána and recorded as such. The crime counting rules dictate that the most serious incident only counts for statistical purposes (Seriousness here is determined by reference to the primary offence, which is the one with the severest potential penalty.) This is achieved by flagging, within PULSE, one offence which should “count” for that event.

#### 4.5 Murder

Murder (along with manslaughter) is the most important offence in the group of headline offences described as Homicide by An Garda Síochána. Murder refers to intentional killing, death deliberately inflicted on a person by another person. Intentional homicide refers to death deliberately inflicted on a person by another person, including infanticide. Non-intentional homicide refers to death not deliberately inflicted on a person by another person. This includes the crime of manslaughter, but excludes traffic accidents that result in the death of persons.

#### 4.5 Rape

In these data, age group refers to the age of the victim on the date the rape was reported.

#### 4.7 Garda Diversion programme

Following the introduction of Part 4 of the Children Act 2001 the Juvenile Liaison Officer Scheme came to an end and was replaced by the Diversion Programme. This can be described as a package of measures for dealing with children under the age of 18 who commit an offence or offences. The Diversion Programme retained many of the tried and tested methods for dealing with children who commit offences, as well as introducing a number of new options.

In order to be admitted to the programme a child must:

- be over the age of criminal responsibility and under 18 years of age
- accept responsibility for the offence(s) committed
- consent to being cautioned and supervised.

If the child is deemed suitable for admission to the programme then s/he is given either a formal or an informal caution. In certain circumstances, the victim of the offence may be invited to attend the caution or the Juvenile Liaison Officer may recommend that a family conference be held in relation to the child. A child given a formal caution is placed under Garda supervision for a period of 12 months. This period of supervision may be varied in certain circumstances. The caution is administered either by a Garda (not below the rank of Inspector) or a Juvenile Liaison Officer who has received mediation training. A less formal caution can be administered by a Juvenile Liaison Officer. In practice, both cautions are formal processes - one is accompanied by a period of supervision and the other is not.



## 4.9 Sport participation

The questions on sport and physical exercise were included in the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) in the three months from June to August 2006. Persons aged 15 & over were asked about their activity/non-activity in the previous 12 months:

*In the last twelve months did you participate in any physical activities for exercise, recreation or sport (e.g. walking, swimming, playing basketball or golf)? Yes/No*

### Regional authorities

NUTS is an acronym for the EU Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics. This classification was legally established by EU regulation No 1059/2003 on 29 May 2003. In Ireland it is classified hierarchically as:

Level 1 - Ireland

Level 2 - Regions (Border, Midland and West and Southern and Eastern)

Level 3 - 8 Regional Authorities.

**Border** – Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan, Sligo

**Midland** – Laoighis, Longford, Offaly, Westmeath

**West** – Galway, Mayo, Roscommon

**Dublin** – Dublin City, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, South Dublin

**Mid-East** – Kildare, Meath, Wicklow

**Mid-West** – Clare, Limerick, North Tipperary

**South-East** – Carlow, Kilkenny, South Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford

**South-West** – Cork, Kerry

### Urban or rural location

The country is divided up into 8 strata based on population density. These areas are further classified into urban and rural areas as follows:

#### Urban

- Cities
- Suburbs of cities
- Mixed urban or rural areas bordering on the suburbs of cities
- Towns and their environs with populations of 5,000 or over (large urban)
- Mixed urban or rural areas bordering on the environs of larger towns
- Towns and their environs with a population of 1,000 to 5,000 (other urban)

#### Rural

- Mixed urban or rural areas
- Rural areas



## Appendix 2 Data sources

Domain	Indicator	Data source
<b>Population</b>		
1.1	Ireland: Population by age group, 1986-2008	CSO, Census of Population and Annual Population estimates
1.2	Ireland: Age group of young persons, 1986-2008	CSO, Census of Population and Annual Population estimates
1.3	Ireland: Age composition of the population, 1986 and 2008	CSO, Census of Population and Annual Population estimates
1.4	Ireland: Regional population by age group, 2006	CSO, Census of Population
1.5	EU: Population by age group, 2008	Eurostat data explorer <sup>49</sup>
1.6	Ireland: Family units by age group of youngest child, 2006	CSO, Census of Population
1.7	Ireland: Nationality by age group, 2006	CSO, Census of Population
1.8	Ireland: Ethnicity by age group, 2006	CSO, Census of Population
<b>Education</b>		
2.1	Ireland: Student numbers by level, 1998-2008	Department of Education and Science
2.2	Ireland: Pupil teacher ratio at primary and secondary level, 1986-2007	Department of Education and Science
2.3	EU: Pupil teacher ratio, 2005/2006	Eurostat data explorer
2.4	EU: Pupil teacher ratio for ISCED 1-3, 1998-2006	Eurostat data explorer
2.5	Ireland: Student performance on the combined reading, mathematical and scientific literacy scales by sex, 2006	OECD
2.6	EU: Student performance on the combined reading, mathematical and scientific literacy scales, 2006	OECD
2.7	Ireland: Junior Certificate candidates awarded an A grade by subject and level, 2008	State Examinations Commission
2.8	Ireland: Leaving Certificate candidates awarded an A grade by subject and level, 2008	State Examinations Commission
2.9	Ireland: Leaving Certificate candidates, 2002-2008	State Examinations Commission

<sup>49</sup> <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/eurostat/home>

Domain	Indicator	Data source
<b>Health and care</b>		
3.1	Ireland: Deaths of children by age group and main causes, 2007	CSO, Vital Statistics
3.2	Ireland: Age-sex specific death rate by suicide, 2007	CSO, Vital Statistics
3.3	EU: Infant mortality rate, 1987-2007	Eurostat data explorer
3.4	Ireland: Immunisation uptake rates at 12 months, 2003-2007	Health Protection Surveillance centre
3.5	Ireland: Immunisation uptake rates at 24 months, 2003-2007	Health Protection Surveillance centre
3.6	Ireland: Mothers breastfeeding, 1999-2006	ESRI & Department of Health and Children, Report on Perinatal Statistics
3.7	Ireland: Children in care, 1996-2006	HSE, Census of Children in the Care of the Health Boards (from the Interim Minimum Dataset)
3.8	Ireland: Households with children in need of social housing, 1996-2005	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Triennial assessment of Housing Needs
3.9	EU: Childcare by age group and duration, 2006	Eurostat data explorer
3.10	Ireland: Persons in consistent poverty by age group and sex, 2006 and 2007	CSO, EU-SILC
3.11	Ireland: Number of families, child beneficiaries and expenditure on Child Benefit, 1998-2007	Department of Social and Family Affairs
3.12	Ireland: Persons aged 0-19 with a disability by category and sex, 2006	CSO, National Disability Survey
<b>Transport, society and lifestyle</b>		
4.1	Ireland: Children aged 5-12 years by usual means of travel to school, 1986-2006	CSO, Census of Population
4.2	Ireland: Students aged 13-18 years by usual means of travel to school, 1986-2006	CSO, Census of Population
4.3	Ireland: Children aged 5-12 years by usual means of travel to school by regional authority, 2006	CSO, Census of Population
4.4	Ireland: Students aged 13-18 years by usual means of travel to school or college by regional authority, 2006	CSO, Census of Population
4.5	Ireland: Children and students classified by time taken to travel to school or college, 2006	CSO, Census of Population
4.6	Ireland: Irish speakers by age group, 2006	CSO, Census of Population
4.7	Ireland: Victims of murder/manslaughter by age group, 2003-2007	CSO, Garda Recorded Crime statistics
4.8	Ireland: Victims of rape of a male or a female by age group, 2003-2007	CSO, Garda Recorded Crime statistics
4.9	Ireland: Children and young people referred to the diversion programme, 2003-2007	CSO, Garda Recorded Crime statistics
4.10	Ireland: Participation in sport and physical exercise by region, 2006	CSO, QNHS special module