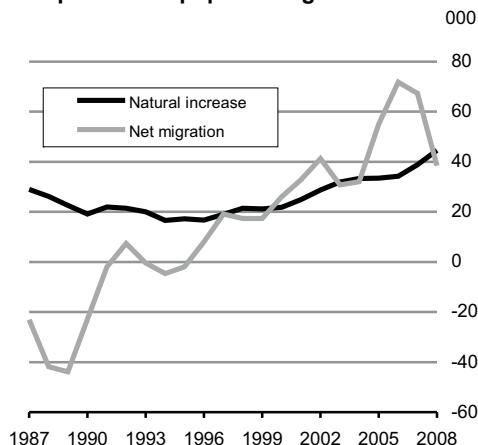




20 August 2008

Components of population growth



Population and Migration Estimates April 2008

	Year ending	
	April 2007	April 2008
Natural increase	38,800	44,600
Net migration	67,300	38,500
Population change	106,100	83,100
Population at	4,339,000	4,422,100

Falling immigration slows population growth

The total number of immigrants into the State in the year to April 2008 fell by 26,000 to 38,500, while the number of emigrants has shown a marginal increase on the previous year to 45,300. As a result net migration is estimated to have fallen from 67,300 in the year ending April 2007 to 38,500 in the most recent period.

The estimated number of births in the year to April 2008, at 72,300, was the highest since 1980, resulting in the natural increase in the population (44,600) being the main contributor to population growth.

The combined effect of the natural increase and migration resulted in a population increase of 83,100 (+1.9%) bringing the population estimate to 4.42 million in April 2008.

The main features of the 2008 figures are:

- ◆ Natural increase outstripped net migration for the first time since 2004 and contributed to just over half (54%) of the population increase in the year to April 2008.
- ◆ The excess of births over deaths has increased almost three fold since its low point of 16,600 in the year ending April 1994 (*see Table 1*).
- ◆ While immigrants of all nationalities (apart from the UK) showed a decline, those from the EU12 countries showed the greatest fall from 53,000 in April 2007 to 34,000 in April 2008, a decline of almost 20,000 (*see Table 2*).
- ◆ Of the 19,800 individuals emigrating to the 'Rest of the world' (*see Table 3*), 11,300 are estimated to have gone to 'Australia and Oceania'.
- ◆ The overall population increase of 1.9 per cent was unevenly distributed across the regions, with the Mid-East showing the strongest growth at 3.6 per cent and Dublin showing the weakest at 0.6 per cent.

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Ireland

Skehard Road
Cork
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414

Tel: +353-1 498 4000 Tel: +353-21 453 5000
Fax: +353-1 498 4229 Fax: +353-21 453 5555

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: www.cso.ie
and go to

Census: Population: Releases and Publications

Director General: Gerard O'Hanlon

Enquiries:

Census Enquiries Census Enquiries Section,
LoCall: 1890 236 787
01 895 1460/1461/1462
census@cso.ie

Queries and Sales Information Section, ext 5021
information@cso.ie

© Central Statistics Office

The contents of this release may be quoted provided the source is given clearly and accurately. Reproduction for own or internal use is permitted.

Table 1 Components of the annual population change 1987 - 2008

Year ending April	Components of Population change						
	Births	Deaths	Natural increase	Immigrants	Emigrants	Net migration	Population change
000							
1987	61.2	32.2	29.0	17.2	40.2	-23.0	5.9
1988	57.8	31.6	26.2	19.2	61.1	-41.9	-15.8
1989	53.6	31.0	22.6	26.7	70.6	-43.9	-21.2
1990	51.9	32.8	19.1	33.3	56.3	-22.9	-3.7
1991	53.1	31.1	22.0	33.3	35.3	-2.0	19.9
1992	52.8	31.4	21.4	40.7	33.4	7.4	28.8
1993	50.4	30.4	20.0	34.7	35.1	-0.4	19.6
1994	49.1	32.6	16.6	30.1	34.8	-4.7	11.8
1995	48.4	31.2	17.2	31.2	33.1	-1.9	15.4
1996	48.8	32.0	16.7	39.2	31.2	8.0	24.8
1997	50.7	31.7	19.0	44.5	25.3	19.2	38.2
1998	52.7	31.2	21.5	46.0	28.6	17.4	38.8
1999	53.7	32.4	21.2	48.9	31.5	17.3	38.5
2000	54.0	32.1	21.8	52.6	26.6	26.0	47.9
2001	55.1	30.2	24.8	59.0	26.2	32.8	57.7
2002	58.1	29.3	28.8	66.9	25.6	41.3	70.0
2003	60.8	28.9	31.9	60.0	29.3	30.7	62.6
2004	62.0	28.6	33.3	58.5	26.5	32.0	65.3
2005	61.4	27.9	33.5	84.6	29.4	55.1	88.6
2006	61.2	27.0	34.2	107.8	36.0	71.8	106.0
2007 ¹	65.8	27.0	38.8	109.5	42.2	67.3	106.1
2008 ¹	72.3	27.7	44.6	83.8	45.3	38.5	83.1

¹ Preliminary

Table 2 Estimated Immigration classified by Sex and Nationality, 2003 - 2008

Sex and Nationality	Immigrants					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 ¹	2008 ¹
	000					
Persons						
Irish	17.6	16.7	18.5	18.9	20.0	16.2
UK	9.1	7.4	8.9	9.9	5.9	7.0
Rest of EU 15 ²	8.8	13.3	9.3	12.7	10.4	8.6
EU 12 ³	-	-	34.1	49.9	52.7	33.7
USA	2.1	2.3	2.1	1.7	2.8	2.0
Rest of world	22.4	18.8	11.6	14.7	17.8	16.3
Total	60.0	58.5	84.6	107.8	109.5	83.8
Males						
Irish	9.7	8.4	9.4	9.5	10.1	7.8
UK	5.0	4.5	5.2	5.7	3.5	4.0
Rest of EU 15 ²	4.1	6.9	3.8	6.4	4.8	3.8
EU 12 ³	-	-	22.9	30.7	28.7	15.5
USA	1.0	0.8	0.4	0.4	1.3	1.1
Rest of world	11.6	9.9	5.7	7.6	9.1	7.7
Total	31.4	30.5	47.5	60.3	57.4	39.9
Females						
Irish	7.9	8.2	9.1	9.4	10.0	8.4
UK	4.0	2.9	3.7	4.2	2.5	3.0
Rest of EU 15 ²	4.7	6.4	5.5	6.2	5.5	4.7
EU 12 ³	-	-	11.2	19.2	24.0	18.2
USA	1.1	1.4	1.7	1.4	1.4	0.8
Rest of world	10.8	9.0	5.9	7.1	8.7	8.6
Total	28.6	28.0	37.1	47.5	52.1	43.9

¹ Preliminary

² Rest of EU 15: countries before enlargement on 1 May 2004, i.e., Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Portugal.

³ EU 12: defined as the 10 accession countries who joined the EU on 1 May 2004 i.e., Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia), and includes the 2 new accession states who joined the EU on 1 January 2007 (i.e., Bulgaria and Romania).

For the years 2003 and 2004 inclusive the data relating to the EU 12 are included with the rest of the world.

Table 3 Estimated Migration classified by Sex and Country of Destination/Origin, 2003- 2008

Sex / Year ending April	Emigrants						Immigrants						Net Migration	
	UK	Rest of EU 15 ²	EU 12 ³	USA	Rest of world	Total	UK	Rest of EU 15 ²	EU 12 ³	USA	Rest of world	Total		
000														
Persons														
2003	8.6	6.5	-	2.8	11.4	29.3	15.8	11.8	-	5.3	27.2	60.0	30.7	
2004	7.1	5.0	-	3.9	10.5	26.5	14.6	15.2	-	5.3	23.3	58.5	32.0	
2005	7.9	4.9	0.8	3.3	12.7	29.4	15.6	11.1	33.7	4.8	19.4	84.6	55.1	
2006	8.8	5.7	2.3	3.3	15.8	36.0	17.7	13.5	49.3	4.0	23.3	107.8	71.8	
2007 ¹	10.1	3.2	7.0	2.9	19.0	42.2	13.4	14.1	52.1	4.2	25.7	109.5	67.3	
2008 ¹	7.0	7.4	9.0	2.2	19.8	45.3	14.1	10.3	33.1	3.9	22.4	83.8	38.5	
Males														
2003	5.2	2.8	-	1.7	7.3	17.0	9.1	6.0	-	2.8	13.6	31.4	14.5	
2004	2.9	2.2	-	2.1	5.3	12.5	7.7	7.6	-	2.9	12.4	30.5	18.0	
2005	3.9	2.1	0.4	1.6	6.8	14.9	8.4	4.9	22.6	1.6	9.9	47.5	32.6	
2006	4.5	2.4	1.0	1.6	9.3	18.7	9.7	6.8	30.5	1.7	11.6	60.3	41.6	
2007 ¹	4.8	1.4	4.3	1.6	11.5	23.6	6.9	6.7	28.3	2.1	13.4	57.4	33.8	
2008 ¹	3.7	3.0	6.0	1.7	13.3	27.6	7.2	4.7	15.2	1.9	10.9	39.9	12.3	
Females														
2003	3.4	3.7	-	1.1	4.0	12.3	6.7	5.8	-	2.5	13.6	28.6	16.3	
2004	4.2	2.8	-	1.8	5.2	14.0	6.9	7.6	-	2.5	10.9	28.0	14.0	
2005	3.9	2.8	0.4	1.6	5.8	14.6	7.2	6.2	11.1	3.1	9.5	37.1	22.5	
2006	4.4	3.3	1.4	1.7	6.6	17.3	8.0	6.7	18.8	2.3	11.8	47.5	30.2	
2007 ¹	5.3	1.9	2.7	1.2	7.5	18.6	6.5	7.4	23.8	2.2	12.3	52.1	33.5	
2008 ¹	3.3	4.4	3.0	0.5	6.5	17.7	6.9	5.6	17.9	2.0	11.5	43.9	26.1	

¹ Preliminary

² Rest of EU 15 : countries before enlargement on 1 May 2004, i.e., Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Portugal.

³ EU 12: defined as the 10 accession countries who joined the EU on 1 May 2004 (i.e., Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia), and includes the 2 new accession states who joined the EU on 1 January 2007 (i.e., Bulgaria and Romania).

For the years 2003 and 2004 inclusive the data relating to the EU 12 are included with the Rest of the world.

Table 4 Estimated Migration classified by Sex and Age Group, 2003 - 2008

Sex / Year ending April	Emigrants						Immigrants						Net Migration
	0 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 and over	Total	0 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 and over	Total	
000													
Persons													
2003	0.9	17.0	8.8	1.3	1.2	29.3	7.3	17.5	28.8	5.1	1.3	60.0	30.7
2004	1.5	14.1	9.2	1.3	0.4	26.5	6.1	18.7	28.8	4.2	0.7	58.5	32.0
2005	2.1	14.3	10.6	1.5	0.9	29.4	8.0	24.4	44.8	6.1	1.2	84.6	55.1
2006	2.2	15.9	14.2	2.0	1.6	36.0	11.5	31.6	57.2	6.1	1.4	107.8	71.8
2007 ¹	1.3	16.6	19.3	2.7	2.3	42.2	11.7	30.3	59.8	6.9	0.9	109.5	67.3
2008 ¹	1.5	18.2	20.3	2.6	2.8	45.3	13.6	23.7	39.2	5.8	1.5	83.8	38.5
Males													
2003	0.7	9.3	5.7	0.6	0.7	17.0	3.6	7.8	16.0	3.4	0.7	31.4	14.5
2004	0.6	6.3	5.3	0.4	0.0	12.5	3.5	8.1	16.3	2.4	0.3	30.5	18.0
2005	1.1	6.7	6.1	0.6	0.4	14.9	4.2	11.6	27.3	3.7	0.6	47.5	32.6
2006	1.1	8.0	7.6	1.2	0.8	18.7	5.5	16.4	34.0	3.7	0.7	60.3	41.6
2007 ¹	0.5	8.2	11.7	1.8	1.4	23.6	5.6	13.4	33.6	4.3	0.6	57.4	33.8
2008 ¹	0.7	10.0	13.0	2.1	1.9	27.6	6.6	10.3	19.0	3.4	0.6	39.9	12.3
Females													
2003	0.2	7.7	3.1	0.7	0.6	12.3	3.7	9.8	12.7	1.7	0.7	28.6	16.3
2004	0.9	7.8	3.9	1.0	0.4	14.0	2.7	10.6	12.5	1.8	0.4	28.0	14.0
2005	1.1	7.6	4.5	0.8	0.5	14.6	3.8	12.7	17.5	2.5	0.6	37.1	22.5
2006	1.1	7.9	6.5	0.9	0.9	17.3	6.0	15.2	23.2	2.4	0.7	47.5	30.2
2007 ¹	0.7	8.4	7.6	0.9	0.9	18.6	6.1	16.9	26.2	2.7	0.3	52.1	33.5
2008 ¹	0.8	8.2	7.3	0.6	0.9	17.7	7.0	13.4	20.2	2.4	0.9	43.9	26.1

¹ Preliminary

Table 5 Estimated Population classified by Sex and Age Group, 2003 - 2008

Sex and Age Group	Persons in April of each year						
	2003	2004	2005	2006 ¹	2006 ²	2007 ³	2008 ³
000							
Persons							
0 - 4 years	284.3	290.7	296.5	302.3	302.3	312.3	327.9
5 - 9 "	268.7	274.9	280.6	288.3	288.5	295.9	303.4
10 - 14 "	281.7	278.2	276.3	273.9	274.2	275.6	281.0
15 - 19 "	304.7	298.4	292.8	290.3	290.9	286.0	283.9
20 - 24 "	334.0	336.1	339.5	342.5	347.5	347.8	334.0
25 - 29 "	317.4	325.4	345.2	373.1	375.2	405.1	416.7
30 - 34 "	316.1	325.1	335.8	349.4	347.9	358.0	366.9
35 - 39 "	296.4	303.5	312.1	322.1	320.4	331.7	342.1
40 - 44 "	279.2	286.0	294.1	301.3	299.8	305.8	310.2
45 - 49 "	253.7	259.2	265.4	274.7	273.8	279.8	286.1
50 - 54 "	235.1	238.1	243.1	247.1	246.4	252.6	257.2
55 - 59 "	206.6	213.9	221.4	225.3	223.9	227.4	232.0
60 - 64 "	160.3	166.0	172.1	181.7	179.8	190.5	199.2
65 - 69 "	135.0	137.5	140.8	143.4	141.2	143.5	148.8
70 - 74 "	113.8	115.7	117.4	119.2	117.5	119.2	120.8
75 - 79 "	89.5	90.0	91.0	92.5	91.4	92.1	93.6
80 - 84 "	61.7	63.1	64.0	64.9	64.4	65.4	65.2
85 years and over	41.9	43.4	45.7	48.0	47.8	50.3	53.2
Total	3,979.9	4,045.2	4,133.8	4,239.8	4,232.9	4,339.0	4,422.1
Males							
0 - 4 years	145.4	148.7	151.7	154.6	154.7	160.5	168.2
5 - 9 "	137.8	141.2	144.3	148.0	148.1	151.3	154.9
10 - 14 "	144.4	142.8	142.0	140.5	140.7	141.3	144.1
15 - 19 "	155.9	152.7	149.8	148.2	148.7	145.4	144.6
20 - 24 "	167.0	168.2	170.0	172.8	175.5	175.0	165.7
25 - 29 "	158.6	162.9	174.1	189.3	190.2	204.7	209.4
30 - 34 "	158.2	161.8	168.7	177.5	176.4	182.6	185.3
35 - 39 "	147.4	152.4	157.8	163.8	162.8	169.1	174.0
40 - 44 "	138.9	142.5	147.1	151.4	150.4	153.6	155.7
45 - 49 "	126.9	129.7	132.9	138.0	137.4	140.6	143.4
50 - 54 "	118.5	120.1	122.9	124.6	124.1	127.1	129.2
55 - 59 "	104.9	108.5	112.0	113.9	113.2	114.9	117.0
60 - 64 "	80.7	83.8	86.7	91.6	90.6	96.0	100.4
65 - 69 "	66.0	67.3	69.1	70.9	69.9	71.3	73.6
70 - 74 "	53.2	54.6	55.7	56.5	55.8	56.6	57.5
75 - 79 "	37.3	37.8	38.8	40.1	39.7	40.6	41.8
80 - 84 "	23.4	23.9	24.3	24.7	24.5	25.0	25.0
85 years and over	12.6	13.2	14.0	14.8	14.8	15.5	16.6
Total	1,976.9	2,011.9	2,061.8	2,121.2	2,117.3	2,171.1	2,206.3
Females							
0 - 4 years	138.9	142.0	144.8	147.7	147.7	151.8	159.7
5 - 9 "	130.9	133.8	136.3	140.3	140.4	144.6	148.5
10 - 14 "	137.3	135.4	134.4	133.4	133.5	134.2	136.9
15 - 19 "	148.8	145.7	143.0	142.0	142.2	140.6	139.3
20 - 24 "	167.0	167.9	169.5	169.7	172.0	172.8	168.3
25 - 29 "	158.8	162.5	171.1	183.8	185.0	200.4	207.3
30 - 34 "	157.9	163.4	167.0	171.9	171.5	175.3	181.6
35 - 39 "	149.0	151.1	154.4	158.3	157.7	162.5	168.1
40 - 44 "	140.3	143.5	147.1	149.9	149.3	152.2	154.5
45 - 49 "	126.8	129.6	132.6	136.8	136.4	139.3	142.8
50 - 54 "	116.6	118.0	120.2	122.5	122.3	125.5	128.0
55 - 59 "	101.6	105.4	109.4	111.4	110.7	112.5	115.0
60 - 64 "	79.6	82.2	85.4	90.2	89.1	94.6	98.8
65 - 69 "	69.0	70.2	71.7	72.5	71.4	72.2	75.2
70 - 74 "	60.6	61.1	61.7	62.6	61.7	62.6	63.3
75 - 79 "	52.3	52.2	52.2	52.3	51.8	51.5	51.8
80 - 84 "	38.3	39.2	39.7	40.2	39.9	40.4	40.1
85 years and over	29.3	30.2	31.7	33.2	33.1	34.8	36.6
Total	2,002.9	2,033.3	2,072.0	2,118.7	2,115.6	2,167.9	2,215.8

¹ De Facto

² Usual Residence

³ Preliminary

Table 6 Estimated Population classified by Sex, Age Group and Regional Authority Area, April 2008¹

Sex and Age Group	State	Border	Dublin	Mid-East	Midland	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	West
000									
Persons									
0 - 4 years	327.9	36.1	86.2	44.7	21.1	27.3	36.6	45.5	30.3
5 - 9 "	303.4	36.1	74.3	40.2	20.4	25.7	34.9	42.9	28.7
10 - 14 "	281.0	34.2	68.2	34.2	18.4	24.4	32.7	41.5	27.3
15 - 19 "	283.9	34.5	71.1	32.0	18.0	25.1	33.4	41.9	27.9
20 - 24 "	334.0	33.8	102.7	35.9	18.3	28.1	34.9	48.9	31.4
25 - 29 "	416.7	38.2	146.8	47.7	21.7	31.0	38.4	56.8	36.1
30 - 34 "	366.9	36.7	113.3	46.5	21.4	28.1	36.8	51.2	33.0
35 - 39 "	342.1	36.7	96.0	44.5	20.6	27.8	36.4	49.1	30.9
40 - 44 "	310.2	35.1	80.8	39.0	19.1	26.5	35.2	45.2	29.3
45 - 49 "	286.1	32.1	75.8	33.6	17.4	24.3	32.7	42.4	27.8
50 - 54 "	257.2	29.3	66.8	28.8	15.7	22.4	29.1	38.3	26.8
55 - 59 "	232.0	27.0	60.0	25.0	13.8	20.8	26.4	35.3	23.7
60 - 64 "	199.2	23.7	50.7	20.7	11.8	18.1	23.1	31.0	20.1
65 - 69 "	148.8	17.6	39.0	14.2	8.8	13.2	17.9	22.8	15.2
70 - 74 "	120.8	14.4	31.8	10.4	7.3	10.5	14.5	18.8	13.0
75 - 79 "	93.6	11.5	24.9	7.3	5.7	8.2	11.1	14.7	10.3
80 - 84 "	65.2	8.4	16.7	5.1	4.1	5.8	7.6	10.0	7.5
85 years and over	53.2	7.2	12.8	4.5	3.1	4.5	6.1	8.3	6.6
Total	4,422.1	492.5	1,217.8	514.5	266.8	371.9	487.8	644.6	426.1
Males									
0 - 4 years	168.2	18.6	43.9	23.6	10.7	14.1	18.7	23.1	15.6
5 - 9 "	154.9	18.1	37.9	21.0	10.4	13.0	17.7	21.9	14.9
10 - 14 "	144.1	17.7	34.9	17.5	9.4	12.6	16.7	21.2	14.1
15 - 19 "	144.6	17.6	36.0	16.4	9.1	12.8	16.9	21.5	14.3
20 - 24 "	165.7	17.6	49.9	18.2	9.0	14.2	17.1	24.4	15.3
25 - 29 "	209.4	18.6	74.1	23.8	10.7	16.0	19.9	28.2	18.2
30 - 34 "	185.3	17.8	57.4	23.4	10.7	14.2	18.7	26.4	16.8
35 - 39 "	174.0	18.6	49.6	22.8	10.2	14.2	18.4	24.7	15.6
40 - 44 "	155.7	17.5	39.8	19.6	9.8	13.4	17.8	22.8	15.0
45 - 49 "	143.4	16.3	37.0	17.2	9.0	12.4	16.2	21.3	13.9
50 - 54 "	129.2	15.0	32.4	14.5	8.0	11.3	14.8	19.6	13.5
55 - 59 "	117.0	13.9	29.1	12.6	7.2	10.7	13.5	17.8	12.2
60 - 64 "	100.4	12.2	24.7	10.6	5.9	9.2	11.6	15.7	10.5
65 - 69 "	73.6	9.1	18.3	7.0	4.5	6.5	9.2	11.2	7.9
70 - 74 "	57.5	7.1	14.1	5.1	3.6	5.1	7.1	9.0	6.5
75 - 79 "	41.8	5.3	10.3	3.3	2.6	3.8	5.0	6.5	4.9
80 - 84 "	25.0	3.4	6.1	1.9	1.7	2.2	3.0	3.8	3.0
85 years and over	16.6	2.3	3.6	1.4	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.6	2.2
Total	2,206.3	246.6	598.8	259.8	133.7	187.2	244.2	321.6	214.3
Females									
0 - 4 years	159.7	17.5	42.3	21.1	10.4	13.3	17.9	22.5	14.7
5 - 9 "	148.5	18.0	36.4	19.2	10.0	12.8	17.3	21.0	13.9
10 - 14 "	136.9	16.5	33.4	16.7	9.0	11.8	16.0	20.3	13.2
15 - 19 "	139.3	16.9	35.1	15.6	8.9	12.3	16.4	20.5	13.7
20 - 24 "	168.3	16.3	52.8	17.7	9.3	13.9	17.8	24.4	16.1
25 - 29 "	207.3	19.6	72.7	23.9	11.0	15.1	18.5	28.6	17.9
30 - 34 "	181.6	18.9	55.9	23.1	10.7	13.8	18.1	24.9	16.2
35 - 39 "	168.1	18.1	46.5	21.8	10.4	13.6	18.0	24.4	15.4
40 - 44 "	154.5	17.6	41.0	19.4	9.4	13.1	17.4	22.3	14.3
45 - 49 "	142.8	15.8	38.8	16.4	8.4	11.9	16.5	21.1	13.9
50 - 54 "	128.0	14.3	34.4	14.3	7.6	11.1	14.3	18.7	13.2
55 - 59 "	115.0	13.1	30.9	12.4	6.6	10.1	12.9	17.4	11.6
60 - 64 "	98.8	11.5	26.0	10.1	5.9	8.9	11.5	15.3	9.6
65 - 69 "	75.2	8.5	20.7	7.2	4.3	6.7	8.8	11.7	7.3
70 - 74 "	63.3	7.3	17.8	5.3	3.7	5.4	7.5	9.9	6.4
75 - 79 "	51.8	6.1	14.6	4.0	3.1	4.4	6.0	8.2	5.4
80 - 84 "	40.1	5.1	10.6	3.2	2.4	3.6	4.6	6.2	4.5
85 years and over	36.6	4.9	9.2	3.1	2.0	3.0	4.1	5.8	4.5
Total	2,215.8	245.9	619.1	254.6	133.1	184.8	243.6	323.0	211.8

¹ Preliminary

Background Notes

Coverage The reference period for the population estimates is mid-April of the years shown while the migration flows are in respect of the twelve months to mid-April of the corresponding years. The population classified by age and sex for 2006 is taken from the Census of Population.

Source of Migration data The principal source of information for the estimation of the gross annual migration flows is the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS - formerly annual Labour Force Survey), which also provides the basis for the classification of the flows by sex, age group, origin/destination and nationality (immigrants only).

The migration estimates are compiled against the backdrop of movements in other migration indicators such as the number of PPS numbers allocated to non-Irish nationals, the number of work permits issued/renewed and the number of asylum applications.

Calculation of annual population estimates Annual population estimates for mid-April are calculated by trending forwards the most recent Census of Population data. For example, the base population data for estimating the April 2007 figure is the numbers of males and females in each region by single year of age as established by the Census of Population for 2006. From this base, each person is aged by one year, births for the 12 months ending in April 2007 are added and deaths for the same time period are subtracted.

The number of immigrants into the country in the 12 months to April 2007 are then added while the number of emigrants are subtracted. Allowance is also made for estimated inter-regional migration in arriving at the final 2007 figures. The end result of this overall process provides the population estimate for April 2007 which in turn provides the base population for calculating the April 2008 population estimate and so on for subsequent years. The population estimates are subject to revision once the definitive results of the next census are available.

Revision of inter-censal population estimates The change in population between successive Censuses of Population reflects the effect of births and deaths and all movements of persons into and out of the State between both dates. As the number of births and deaths is known from the regular vital statistics, the residual provides a measure of the overall net migration (i.e., the difference between inward and outward flows) for the four year inter-censal period., i.e, between 2002 and 2006.

The population estimate for April 2006, which was based on projecting forward the 2002 Census base figure using the existing methodology, was approximately 5,000 less than the Census out-turn. Overall, this reflected a high degree of concordance given the very high levels of migration that had occurred over the inter-censal period. However, a closer comparison of the Census 2006 one-year inflow figures with those of the QNHS suggested that the latter was underestimating the magnitude of both the inward and outward gross flows.

A comparison of the stock data from Census 2006 with the corresponding QNHS data revealed an understatement in the numbers of non-Irish residents in the latter source. To correct this an adjustment factor has been introduced to the grossing procedure for the QNHS to ensure that the QNHS sample for Q2 2006 has the same proportion of Irish and non-Irish nationals as the 2006 Census. A corresponding adjustment factor was also calculated for the surrounding years. The CSO is currently reviewing the methodology used to measure migration, and in particular emigration. Some new questions on persons who have left the household are being introduced into the QNHS and it is hoped that these changes will not only improve the present estimates but will also allow a breakdown of emigrants by nationality to be provided in future releases.

Usual residence and de facto population concepts Up to and including 2006 the annual population estimates have been calculated using the de facto definition of population, i.e, all persons present in the State on census night. From 2007 onwards a new concept of usual residence will be used., i.e, all persons usually resident and present in the State on census night *plus* absent persons who are usually resident in Ireland but are temporarily away from home *and outside the state* on census night. All persons are classified according to their region of usual residence. Table 5 in the release shows 2 columns of data for the year 2006, the first is the population count using the de facto definition and the second shows the population counted using this usually resident definition. As Table 5 shows, the difference between these two definitions is very small.

Asylum seekers While at the overall level the population estimates cover persons resident in private and non-private households (i.e. institutions), the breakdowns provided are based solely on the QNHS which covers private households only. Because there are asylum seekers who are accommodated in institutions such as hotels and hostels, the classification of immigrants by country of origin (*Table 3*) and nationality (*Table 2*) may be affected accordingly. The number of migrants accommodated in institutions is estimated to be in the region of about 4,700 in the year to April 2008.