

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

Volume IV of the Census Report shows the housing conditions of all persons in private families and covers 94% of the whole population. The persons excluded were those resident in Institutions and Hotels or in Boarding Houses with three or more boarders. In housing statistics a private "family" includes all persons resident in the family dwelling on 18th April, 1926; resident servants, etc., are included. By a "dwelling" is meant the rooms occupied by the family, whether or not these rooms are structurally separated from the rooms of other families. The one house may contain many "dwellings." The one room tenement is referred to as a one room "dwelling." Amongst the "rooms" in the "dwelling" are included bedrooms, sittingrooms, and kitchens; but bathrooms, sculleries, etc., are not included.

PERSONS IN PRIVATE FAMILIES CLASSIFIED BY SIZE OF FAMILY AND NUMBER OF ROOMS OCCUPIED.

Living in families of	Living in dwellings of :—							Total
	1 room	2 rooms	3 rooms	4 rooms	5 rooms	6 rooms	7 or more rooms	
	In thousands							
1 person ...	13.3	15.1	11.0	7.2	2.1	1.2	1.6	51.5
2 persons ...	21.4	45.6	56.2	37.0	14.4	9.8	12.5	196.9
3 " ...	22.7	56.1	91.5	63.7	27.3	18.6	28.1	308.0
4 " ...	22.2	62.5	111.5	83.3	39.3	26.2	40.0	385.0
5 " ...	19.7	63.6	118.1	92.0	43.7	29.2	45.3	411.6
6 " ...	16.4	59.1	112.1	88.8	42.0	28.5	45.0	391.9
7 " ...	11.3	49.9	95.2	79.9	37.4	25.3	39.9	338.9
8 " ...	6.7	37.8	76.2	64.2	30.0	20.1	31.4	266.4
9 " ...	3.8	24.8	54.7	46.2	22.0	14.5	23.8	189.8
10 " ...	1.9	15.6	37.1	32.3	15.8	10.4	18.8	131.9
11 " ...	0.5	6.0	16.2	14.8	7.8	5.6	9.5	60.4
12 or more	0.2	4.0	13.3	13.6	7.4	5.8	14.0	58.3
Total ...	140.1	440.1	793.1	623.0	289.2	195.2	309.9	2790.6

Reading the table horizontally, it will be seen that most of the population live in three-room dwellings. This is true for each size of family, from those with only two persons to those with 11 persons. The size of the dwelling is, of course, mainly determined by social status, and not by the numbers in the family. More than a quarter of the population live in three-room dwellings, two-thirds live in two, three or four-room dwellings.

Reading the table downwards, column by column, it will be seen that the family of five is the most usual size of family in each size of dwelling from two to nine rooms.

In the housing statistics of other countries families having *more than* two persons per room are considered to be "overcrowded." That is, 2 rooms with 5 or more persons, 3 with 7 or more, 4 with 9 or more, 5 with 11 or more, etc., are said to be overcrowded. Accepting this definition, all persons in the ruled off portion of the left-hand lower corner of the above table were in "overcrowded" housing in 1926. These included 75.2% of the persons in one room dwellings, 59.3% of those in two rooms, 36.9% of those in three rooms and 17.2% of those in four room dwellings. The percentage "overcrowded" in five rooms was very small—only 5.3%—and the percentages in larger dwellings were negligible. The foregoing table (or to be strictly accurate the more extended form given on p. 60 of Vol. IV) shows that 24,849 persons in the Saorstát, living in 2,761 families with 9 persons in each, resided in 2-room dwellings. Each of these 2,761 families should have had a 5-room dwelling to escape "overcrowding." By selecting in this way only the "overcrowded" families from the above

table the following table was obtained showing more clearly the housing problem in the Saorstát. It shows the changes that were necessary in 1926 to ensure that not a single family in the Saorstát should suffer from "overcrowding" as defined above.

SAORSTAT EIREANN, 1926.

		Number of dwellings of each size which the "overcrowded" families should have had						
		Total	1 room	2 rooms	3 rooms	4 rooms	5 rooms	6 rooms
Number of dwellings of each size which the overcrowded families had in 1926.	1 room	22,915	—	13,121	6,665	2,455	613	<u>61</u>
	2 rooms	39,615	—	—	22,576	8,365 <u>3,479</u>	691 <u>3,634</u>	<u>870</u>
	3 rooms	35,484	—	—	—	<u>23,135</u>	<u>9,791</u>	<u>2,558</u>
	4 rooms	10,820	—	—	—	—	<u>8,366</u>	<u>2,454</u>
	5 rooms	1,304	—	—	—	—	—	<u>1,304</u>
Total ...		110,138	—	13,121	29,241	37,434	23,095	7,247

In some of the squares the total is divided into two figures for purposes outlined in the next paragraph.

The above table is read thus:—In 1926 there were 22,915 families living in "overcrowded" conditions in one-room dwellings. 13,121 should have had two rooms, 6,665 should have had three rooms, etc., in order not to be "overcrowded." There were 39,615 families living in two rooms; 22,576 should each have had three rooms; 11,844 four rooms (the sum of the two figures), 4,325 five rooms, etc. There were 10,820 families each with four rooms; 8,366 of these should each have had five rooms, and the remaining 2,454 should have had six rooms.

Tables corresponding to the second last are given on pp. 60 to 142 of Volume IV for very many areas down to towns of 1,500 inhabitants, and are available for towns down to those with 500 inhabitants, and the corresponding tables to that above can be derived from them by the method explained. It might be helpful to give the figures for Drogheda, a city of convenient size with comparatively bad housing, having 32·7% of its population in "overcrowded" dwellings and for Dublin City.

DROGHEDA, 1926.

		Number of dwellings of each size which the "overcrowded" families should have had.						
		Total	1 room	2 rooms	3 rooms	4 rooms	5 rooms	6 rooms
Number of dwellings of each size which the overcrowded families had in 1926	1 room	102	—	66	27	9	—	—
	2 rooms	270	—	—	101 <u>45</u>	56 <u>29</u>	7 <u>28</u>	<u>4</u>
	3 rooms	128	—	—	—	<u>99</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>6</u>
	4 rooms	65	—	—	—	—	<u>53</u>	<u>12</u>
	5 rooms	7	—	—	—	—	—	<u>7</u>
Total ...		572	—	66	173	193	111	29

If the required 29 six-room dwellings (referred to in the last line of figures) were built, then 7 five-room houses, 12 four-room houses, etc., would be left vacant. Accordingly, as 111 five-room houses were required, 104 would have to be built. These would free 53 four-room houses, etc. Proceeding in such an automatic manner, no family in Drogheda would be "overcrowded" if 45 three-room houses, 128 four-room houses, 104 five-room houses, and 29 six-room houses were built. Such arrangements would, however, leave idle 102 single-room tenements and 204 two-room dwellings.

More economical and equally efficient arrangements could no doubt be devised. The above crude method of dealing with the problem is introduced merely to suggest that tables of this type will give considerable assistance in forming local housing policies. It is not, of course, suggested that the foregoing definition for overcrowding should be adopted for any particular locality or that the accommodation necessary should in every case be provided by new dwellings.

DUBLIN CITY, 1926.

		Number of dwellings of each size which the overcrowded families should have had.						
		Total	1 room	2 rooms	3 rooms	4 rooms	5 rooms	6 rooms
Number of dwellings of each size which the overcrowded families had in 1923.	1 room	13,618	—	6,169 1,347	1,997 <u>2,123</u>	717 <u>853</u>	148 <u>236</u>	<u>28</u>
	2 rooms	6,169	—	—	<u>3,346</u>	<u>1,955</u>	<u>741</u>	<u>127</u>
	3 rooms	1,997	—	—	—	<u>1,277</u>	<u>587</u>	<u>133</u>
	4 rooms	717	—	—	—	—	<u>558</u>	<u>159</u>
	5 rooms	148	—	—	—	—	—	<u>148</u>
Total ...		22,649	—	7,516	7,466	4,802	2,270	595

The above assumes that 2 rooms with 5 persons or more, 3 with 7 or more, 4 with 9 or more, etc. (including youngest children), are "overcrowded." The underlined figures suggest that a minimum of about 13,000 in the form of new houses, sets of flats, etc., were required in 1926. Corresponding tables can be worked out for each of the Wards and for any other standard of "overcrowding" from the published tables.

The following table shows that housing conditions were very much better in the Saorstát (1926) than in Scotland (1921), but worse than in Northern Ireland (1926), and much worse than in Wales (1921) or England (1921).

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION IN PRIVATE FAMILIES LIVING IN DWELLINGS WITH MORE THAN TWO PERSONS PER ROOM.

COUNTRY	Whole Country	Urban Districts and Co. Boroughs	Rural Districts
Wales (1921)	7.2	} 10.4	6.5
England (1921)	9.8		
Northern Ireland (1926)	18.1		21.6
Saorstát Éireann (1926)	27.2		25.5
Scotland (1921)	43.3	*	*

* Not readily available.

The following is a more detailed comparison, with figures for Scotland.

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION LIVING IN HOUSING DENSITIES OF MORE THAN TWO PERSONS PER ROOM.

	More than 2 but less than 3 per room	3 but less than 4 per room	4 or more per room	Total more than 2 per room
	%	%	%	%
Saorstát	12.0	8.6	6.6	27.2
Scotland	13.0	15.8	14.5	43.3
Dublin City	9.1	12.8	23.4	45.3
Glasgow City	14.1	20.4	19.6	54.1

It will be seen that by any standard the Saorstát has much better housing than Scotland.

The following are the numbers of persons in each Ward in Dublin City living in dwellings with 4 or more persons per room :—

Ward	Persons living four or more per room	Percentage of total in private families	Ward	Persons living four or more per room	Percentage of total in private families
North City	2,355	38.2	Merchant's Quay	6,127	23.8
Trinity	3,211	37.0	South City	623	21.5
Mansion House	3,408	36.5	Usher's Quay	4,271	20.2
Rotunda	5,893	36.4	Fitzwilliam	2,153	18.9
Mountjoy	8,999	34.6	Arran Quay	3,996	14.3
Royal Exchange	1,623	34.6	New Kilmanham	969	9.0
South Dock	4,403	30.3	Clontarf East	112	2.8
North Dock	7,233	27.9	Glasnevin	215	2.2
Inns' Quay	5,410	27.1	Drumcondra	160	1.6
Wood Quay	5,197	25.9	Clontarf West	96	1.1
			Total	66,454	23.4

The next table gives in some detail a comparison of town and rural areas, and shows that the housing in the towns other than the County Boroughs is better than in the rural areas.

Area				Percentage of population living in dwellings with			
				More than 2 but less than 3 per room	3 but less than 4 per room	4 or more per room	Total with over 2 per room
				%	%	%	%
Dublin City	...	...	...	9.1	12.8	23.4	45.3
Cork City	...	...	...	12.1	9.9	7.2	29.2
Limerick City	...	...	...	11.8	11.9	13.1	36.8
Waterford City	...	...	...	12.7	9.7	6.3	28.7
Total Co. Boroughs				10.0	12.0	18.8	40.8
Other Town Areas				9.4	7.0	5.5	21.9
Rural Areas				13.0	8.2	4.3	25.5
Saorstát Éireann				12.0	8.6	6.6	27.2

Overcrowding in Rural Areas.

The following are the percentages of persons living in dwellings with more than two persons per room in the *rural* areas of each county :—

Mayo	% 43.0	Dublin	% 29.6	Offaly	% 23.8	Cavan	% 19.8	Kilkenny	% 17.3
Donegal	40.8	Kildare	26.2	Longford	23.2	Monaghan	19.7	Carlow	17.1
Kerry	38.9	Roscommon	26.0	Louth	23.0	Westmoath	19.1	Cork	16.3
Galway	31.4	Loitrim	25.4	Laoighise	20.9	Limerick	18.2	Tipperary	15.9
Sligo	30.0	Claro	24.8	Wicklow	19.8	Moath	17.8	Waterford	15.8
								Wexford	11.5

All along the western seaboard and in counties Dublin and Kildare the rural population are most overcrowded. In the Munster counties (except Kerry) and in the adjoining counties Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford, and in County Meath, the rural population are best housed. In Mayo, Donegal and Kerry their housing is much worse than in any other county ; Wexford stands out with the best housing. There are striking contrasts between neighbouring counties, for instance, between Mayo and Sligo, Kerry and Cork, Meath and Dublin.

Overcrowding in Towns.

From causes not connected with housing conditions death rates in rural areas are much smaller than in town areas. Thus in Mayo, with 41.7% in overcrowded housing, the general standardised death rate is only 11.8 deaths per 1,000 as compared with 15.2 in the 24 best housed Urban Districts having only 15.2% overcrowded. From the point of view of health the housing problems in rural areas are accordingly much less urgent than in town areas.

The following are the percentages of population overcrowded in the towns of the four provinces, *i.e.*, living more than 2 per room in towns of 1,500 or over and in the rural areas.

Province	Town Areas		Rural Areas	Whole Province
	Including Co. Boroughs	Excluding Co. Boroughs		
Leinster	34·7	22·3	20·4	27·5
Munster	26·5	21·5	21·6	22·9
Connacht	25·2	25·2	33·4	32·8
Ulster (3 Counties)	14·6	14·6	30·8	29·6
SAORSTAT EIREANN	31·3	22·0	25·5	27·2

It will be seen that the towns of Connacht as well as the rural districts had worse housing than those in any other province. The towns of Ulster (3 Counties) had the best housing. Even in Co. Donegal, where in rural areas the overcrowded population amounted to 40·8%, the housing in the towns was comparatively good. Of the 13 towns in Co. Donegal with a population of over 500, Moville and Rathmullen had less than 10% overcrowded, four others less than 15%, five others less than 20%, the remaining two 20% and 25%.

The towns most "overcrowded" and the percentages of their inhabitants in overcrowded dwellings were :—

Town areas with over 1,500 inhabitants :

Dublin City, 45% ; Edenderry, 38% ; Limerick City, 37% ; Kildare, 36% ; Newbridge and Newcastle West, 34% ; Tullamore, Drogheda and Clara, 33% ; Tipperary, 32% ; Ballinasloe, 31% ; Carlow, Athy, Tullow, Kilrush, Listowel, Tuam and Tralee, 30% ; Cork City, Sligo City, and Waterford City, 29% ; etc.

Towns with 500 to 1,500 inhabitants :

Rathnew, 54% ; Finglas, 51% ; Deansgrange, 45% ; Newtown Park, 42% ; Swords, 41% ; Windy Arbour, 37% ; Miltownmalbay, 36% ; Shankill, 35% ; Cappamore, 35% ; Granard, 34% ; Baldoyle, 32% ; Belmullet, 31% ; Tobercurry, 31% ; Lucan, 30%.

It will be noticed that eight of the fourteen small towns mentioned above are in the neighbourhood of Dublin City.

The towns of over 1,500 inhabitants with least overcrowding were Tramore 6%, Knockree, Greystones and Castleblayney with 8%, Killester 9%, Bandon 10%, Skerries, Howth, Clones, Monaghan and Skibbereen with 11%, etc.

A full table of these percentages for all towns with over 500 inhabitants will be found on pages 23-25 of Volume IV.

Size of Dwelling.

The following table shows that the size of dwelling which houses the largest proportion of the population is 2 rooms in Scotland, 3 rooms in Saorstát Eireann, 4 rooms in Northern Ireland, Wales and England.

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION LIVING IN EACH SIZE OF DWELLING.

Size of Dwelling	Scotland, 1921	Saorstát Éireann, 1926	Northern Ireland, 1926	England, 1921	Wales, 1921
	%	%	%	%	%
1 room	8.4	5.0	1.5	1.8	0.5
2 rooms	40.8	15.8	12.2	7.8	8.2
3 „	22.1	28.4	18.0	15.1	9.3
4 „	10.5	22.3	31.5	25.3	21.2
5 „	5.8	10.4	12.8	23.0	19.3
6 or more	12.4	18.1	24.0	27.0	41.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The housing in Wales is particularly good with 41.5% of its population in dwellings of 6 or more rooms and only 0.5% in one-room dwellings.

The town and rural population of the Saorstát are very differently housed.

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION LIVING IN EACH SIZE OF DWELLING IN 1926.

Size of Dwelling	Dublin City	Cork City	Limerick City	Waterford City	Other* Towns	Rural Areas	Glasgow (1921)
1 room	27.8	7.8	12.9	4.8	4.8	1.5	13.2
2 rooms	22.3	20.7	26.5	16.8	16.4	14.3	51.5
3 „	14.4	19.8	15.7	25.6	16.5	33.6	20.8
4 „	12.9	20.6	19.5	24.4	21.8	23.9	6.3
5 „	9.4	12.2	10.5	8.8	10.8	10.4	3.0
6 or more	13.2	18.9	14.9	19.6	29.7	16.3	5.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Towns with over 1,500 inhabitants.

The above table shows that a much larger proportion of the population live in one-room tenements in Dublin than in Glasgow, but taking the one and two-room dwellings together, a much larger proportion live in these small dwellings in Glasgow than in Dublin.

In Dublin the size of the dwelling in which the largest proportion of the population live is the *one* room tenement, in Cork and Limerick *two* rooms, in Waterford *three* rooms, in other towns *four* rooms, in the rural districts *three* rooms.

The towns, other than County Boroughs, have a large percentage (29.7%) in dwellings with *six* or more rooms.

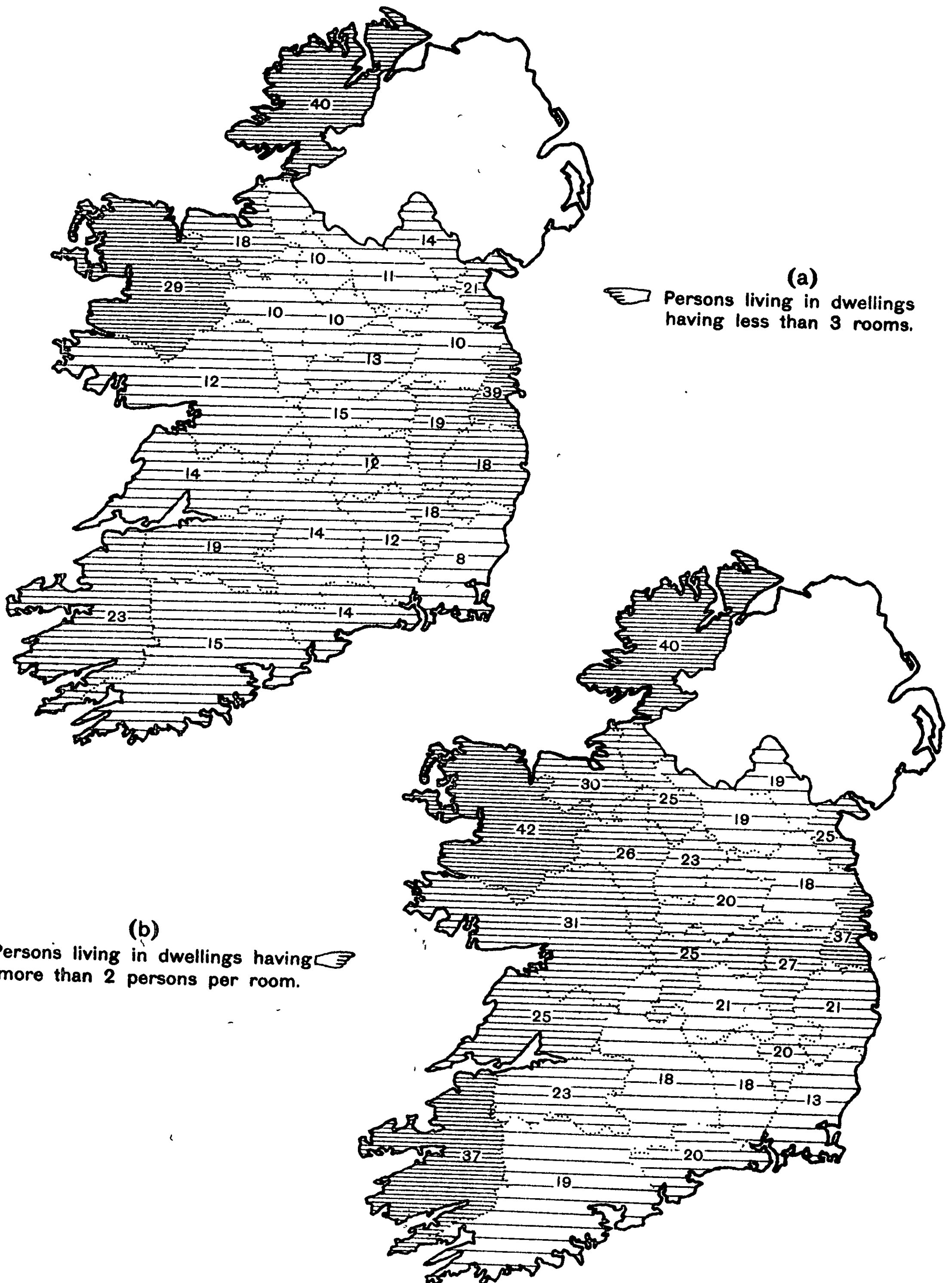
In Leinster and Munster the *four*-room dwelling housed the largest proportion of the population, in Connacht and Ulster the *three*-room dwelling.

Donegal was the only county with a very high percentage of the people in *two*-room dwellings (36.4%). The next highest was Co. Mayo, with 25.8%. The following towns had 30% or over in *two*-room dwellings:—Rathnew 64.7%, Newtownpark 56.2%, Miltownmalbair 43.8%, Finglas 40.6%, Athy 40.2%, Templemore 35.5%, Cappamore 35.0%, Swords 34.8%, Tullow 33.7%, Deansgrange 32.5%, Cloghreen 31.5%, Shankill 30.6%, Wicklow 30.0%.

The towns with 10% or more of their inhabitants in *one*-room tenements were:—Dublin City 27.8%, Newbridge 15.2%, Tobercurry 13.8%, Limerick City 12.9%, Belmullet 12.5%, Cashel 12.3%, Ballymote 11.5%, Listowel 11.4%, Edenderry 11.2%, Askeaton 11.1%, Dun Laoghaire 10.1%, Tipperary 10.0%.

HOUSING.

Numbers of persons in private families living in dwellings having
(a) less than 3 rooms, (b) more than 2 persons per room as
percentage of such population in each County (including Co. Borough).



Size of Family.

Although Volume IV enables much of interest on the size of "family" (as defined for housing statistics) to be shown—contrasts between town and country, between county and county, between this and other countries, etc., etc.—the subject will not be pursued here, as the number of children dependent on married couples is treated extensively in Volume IX and is analysed in Chapter X of this Volume.

Changes from 1911 to 1926.

From 1911 to 1926 there was a remarkable increase in the County Boroughs in the population of persons living in dwellings of less than 5 rooms and a still more striking decrease in the remainder of the inhabitants.

INCREASE (+) AND DECREASE (—) FROM 1911 TO 1926 .

	Changes in Numbers of Persons				Percentage Changes			
	Dublin City	Cork City	Limerick City	Waterford City	Dublin City	Cork City	Limerick City	Waterford City
In 1 to 4 rooms ...	+25,041	+4,353	+2,244	+1,867	+12·9	+9·7	+9·5	+13·0
Others	—13,150	—2,536	—1,314	—2,684	—12·0	—7·9	—8·8	—20·5
Total Population	+11,891	+1,817	+930	—817	+3·9	+2·4	+2·4	—3·0
Catholics	+31,663	+6,233	+2,775	+135	+12·5	+9·2	+8·0	+0·5
Others	—19,772	—4,416	—1,845	—952	—38·4	—49·8	—50·5	—44·6

The decrease in the population living in five rooms or more was, it is suggested, principally due to the decrease in Protestants, etc., and in the case of Dublin partly to the removal of more prosperous families to the suburbs. The large increase of 13·0% in the population in 1 to 4 rooms in Waterford is difficult to understand in view of the very small increase in the Catholic population (0·5%).

Notwithstanding the large increase of 12·9% in the persons in 1 to 4 room tenements in Dublin, and the generally unfavourable conditions for building, the overcrowding in 1926 was somewhat less than in 1911, as the last line of the following table shows. The overcrowding in Cork and Limerick increased to some extent; there was considerable increase in Waterford, but it still has better housing than the other County Boroughs.

PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS LIVING MORE THAN TWO PER ROOM.

Size of tenement	Dublin City		Cork City		Limerick City		Waterford City	
	1911	1926	1911	1926	1911	1926	1911	1926
1 room	% 79·6	% 80·6	% 61·6	% 71·0	% 76·0	% 77·1	% 57·6	% 76·4
2 rooms	66·8	64·9	56·6	57·6	61·5	61·6	60·0	62·0
3 „	42·4	40·4	40·5	41·2	44·7	42·8	34·1	40·6
4 „	19·8	19·4	18·5	18·0	23·3	21·2	17·9	19·2
1 to 4 rooms	59·3	58·4	40·0	42·6	48·0	49·8	34·6	40·7

Previous Censuses showed the numbers of families of each size in tenements of one, two, three and four rooms only, and in the County Boroughs and Galway Urban District only. In addition they showed the number of dwellings of one, two, three and four rooms in the Urban and Rural Districts, and went into great detail as regards one-room tenements. The number of persons living in one-room tenements or dwellings decreased much faster than the general population since 1901, when these statistics were first compiled. The following were the percentage decreases in the inter-censal periods between 1901 and 1911 and 1911 and 1926 in the number of persons living in one-room tenements.

					1901 to 1911	1911 to 1926
					%	%
Persons in one-room tenements	...	...	...	...	— 26.3	— 8.8
Total population	...	...	...	...	— 2.5	— 5.3

The next table shows that the percentage of persons living three or more in one-room tenements or dwellings in Saorstát Eireann and in Dublin City changed comparatively little :—

					1901	1911	1926
					%	%	%
Saorstát Eireann	...	...	...	...	75.4	74.2	75.2
Dublin City	...	...	...	...	80.0	79.6	80.6

The numbers of persons living in one-room tenements in 1926 were :—Dublin City 78,920, other County Boroughs 11,097, rest of Saorstát 50,044—total 140,061. Over half these persons were in Dublin City.

Taking only the one to four-room dwellings into account, the following shows the changes in the average size of these dwellings in the Urban and Rural Districts :—

AVERAGE NUMBER OF ROOMS IN DWELLINGS OF 1 TO 4 ROOMS.

					1911	1926	Percentage Change
					Rooms	Rooms	%
County Boroughs	...	...	...	...	2.17	2.16	— 0.5
Other Towns	...	...	...	...	2.64	2.75	+ 4.2
Rural Areas	...	...	...	...	2.78	3.00	+ 8.0
Saorstát Eireann	...	...	...	...	2.69	2.84	+ 5.6

It will thus be seen that while the average size of the one to four room dwellings decreased very slightly in the County Boroughs, it increased by 4.2% in other towns possessing Local Government, it increased in the rural districts by 8.0%, and increased by 5.6% in the Saorstát as a whole. The improvements in the size of the dwellings is probably brought out better by the following table.

PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN NUMBERS OF DWELLINGS FROM 1911 TO 1926.

	1 room	2 rooms	3 rooms	4 rooms
County Boroughs	% +14.5	% +12.1	% +13.5	% +10.5
Other Towns	+15.6	— 3.5	+15.3	+23.4
Rural Districts	—42.0	—33.9	— 5.8	+34.1
Saorstát Eireann	— 8.8	—24.9	— 3.2	+30.1

The large increase in the four-room dwellings and the decrease in the smaller dwellings will be observed. The following were the actual numbers of 1 to 4 room dwellings in the Saorstát.

					Number of dwellings with			
					1 room	2 rooms	3 rooms	4 rooms
1911					51,451	148,887	181,123	100,887
1926					46,902	111,814	175,242	131,207
Change			No. ...		— 4,549	—37,073	— 5,881	+ 30,320
			% ...		— 8.8	— 24.9	— 3.2	+ 30.1

Information is not available for comparing overcrowding in 1911 and 1926, but the above suggests that there was a considerable improvement in housing conditions in the country towns and in the rural districts.

Housing improves as age increases ; death rates.

The accompanying diagrams show how housing conditions change as age increases. Attention is mainly confined to rural areas, as they include most of the population.

DIAGRAM 3.

Percentage of FEMALES at Ages 0-15 years living in Dwellings with (A) Three or more Persons per Room and (B) less than One Person per Room in Rural Areas.

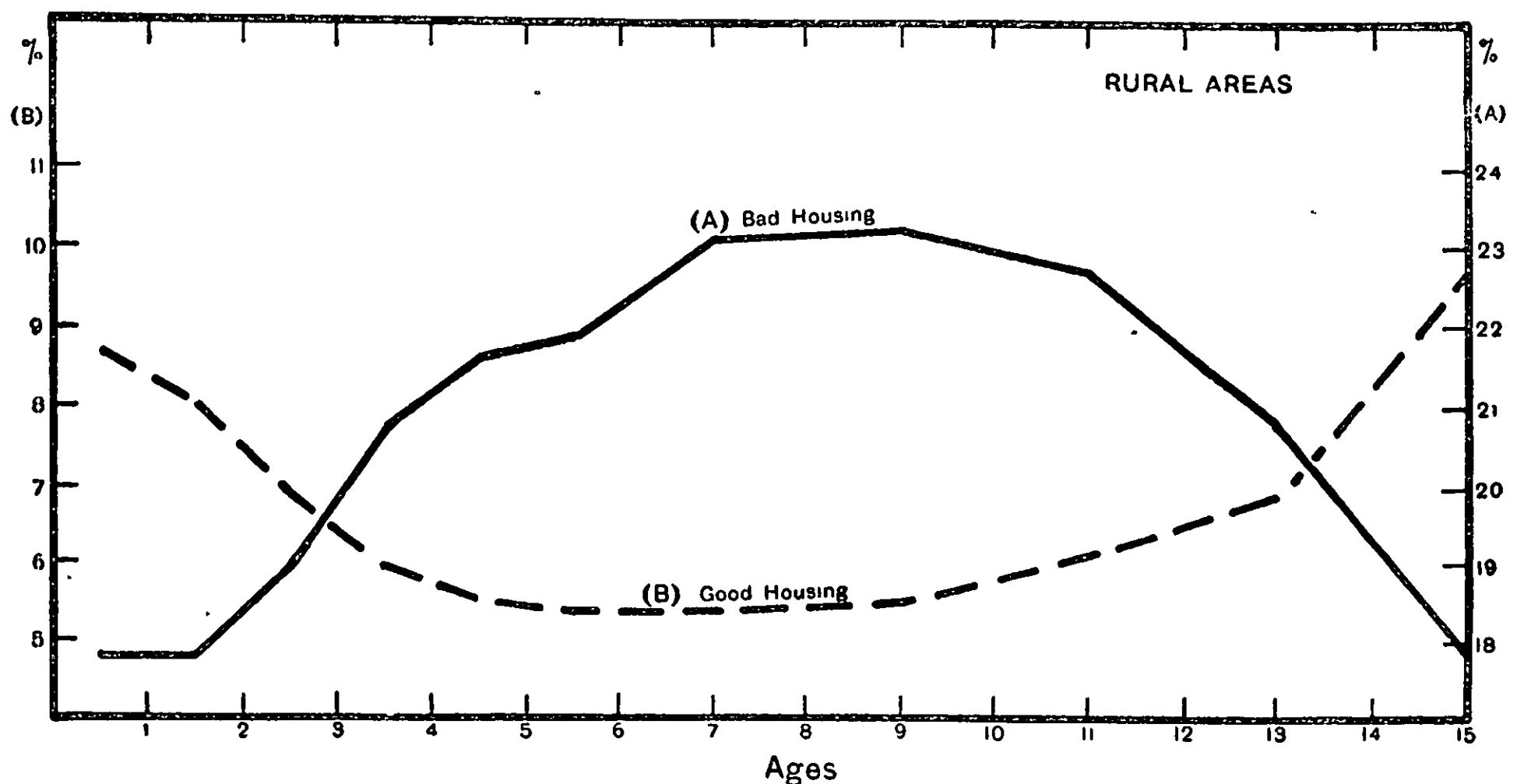
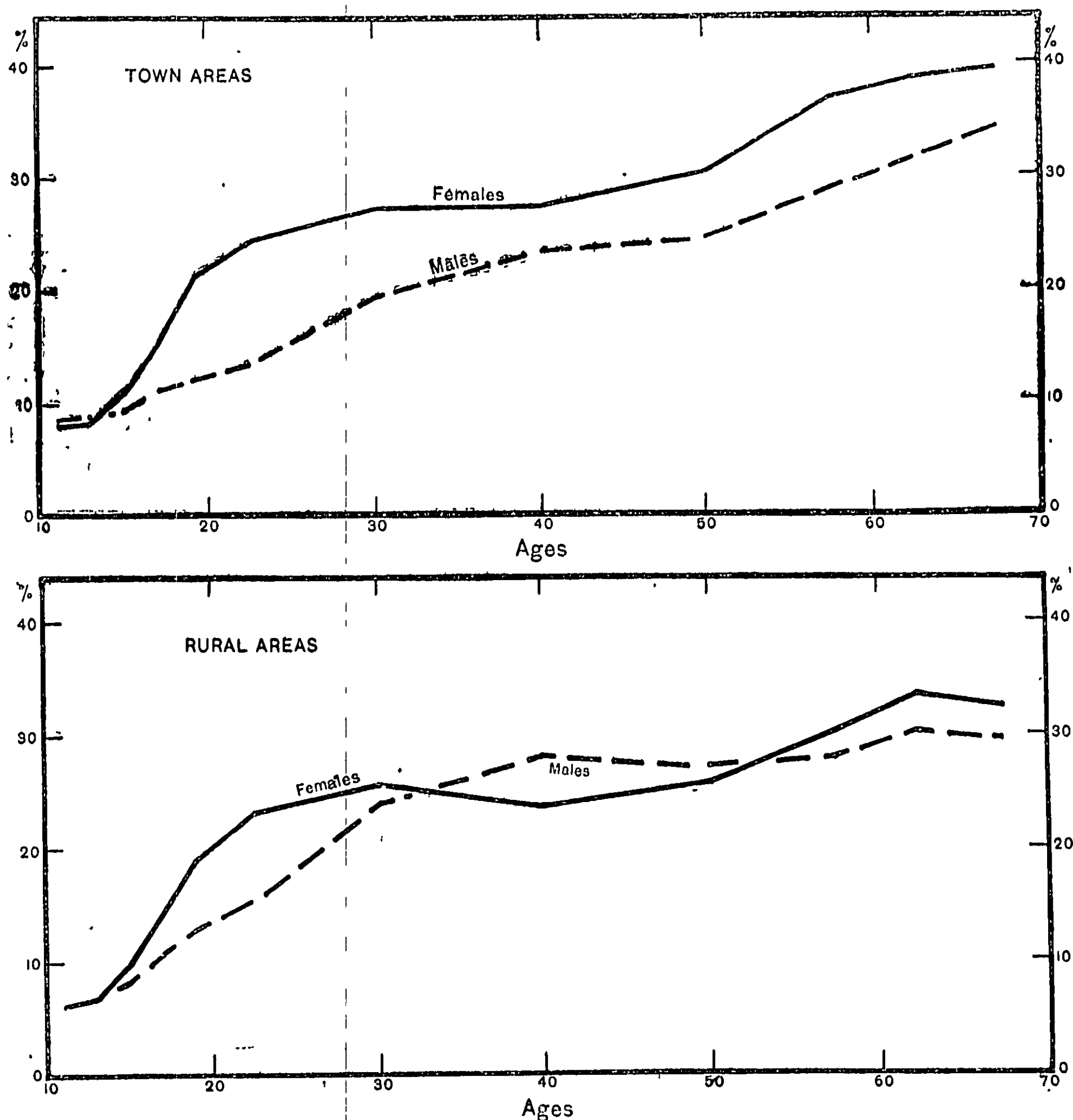


Diagram 3 shows that in rural areas housing gets worse from birth to the age of 7 and

then improves to 13. Diagram 4 shows that from ages 13 to 17 housing improves rapidly, and more rapidly to 22 (improving at a quicker rate for females than for males). Housing of females becomes steady at about 22, but improves for males up to the age of about 40. (At this particular period the housing of males is better

DIAGRAM 4.
Percentages of Males and Females at Ages 10 Years and over living in Dwellings with less than One Person per Room (Good Housing) in Town and Rural Areas.



than that of females in the country as a whole, and in the rural areas of each Province, although generally the housing of males is worse than that for females). The standard of housing of females in rural districts remains constant from 22 to 45 or 50 (the end of the child-bearing age), that for males continues to improve from 22 to 40 and then remains constant.

As children under one year of age have no brothers or sisters younger than themselves, it is obvious that on an average they must belong to smaller families than children of 7 years of age and are accordingly better housed than the latter; children of 7 are worse housed than children of 13, as the latter have brothers and sisters of an age to emigrate, to enter domestic service, to marry, etc., thus leaving the home less crowded; moreover, there is not the same necessity for segregating the sexes up to 7 as from 7 to 13. The earlier ages at which the poorest (and worst housed) sections of the population leave home for domestic service, to emigrate, to get married, etc., and the greater death rates at each age of persons badly housed, are suggested as the

principal causes for the changes from the age of 13 onwards. The better housing of males than females at 40 would to some extent be accounted for by the much larger proportion of males unmarried at that age (45% of males as against 30% of females in 1926 in the Saorstát) who were still in their fathers' homes which had become less overcrowded by emigration, deaths, etc.

It is obvious from the diagrams that the worst housed families are the young growing families.

On account of the movements already referred to in this section there is an extraordinary difference between the average ages of persons living in good housing and bad housing, as the following table shows :—

AVERAGE AGE OF MALES IN 1926.

	Saorstát Eireann	Rural Areas	Town Areas	Dublin City
Average age of Males in dwellings with :—	years	years	years	years
Less than 1 person per room ...	40·9	42·0	38·2	38·2
3 or more persons per room ...	22·0	22·6	21·1	21·5
Difference	18·9	19·4	17·1	16·7

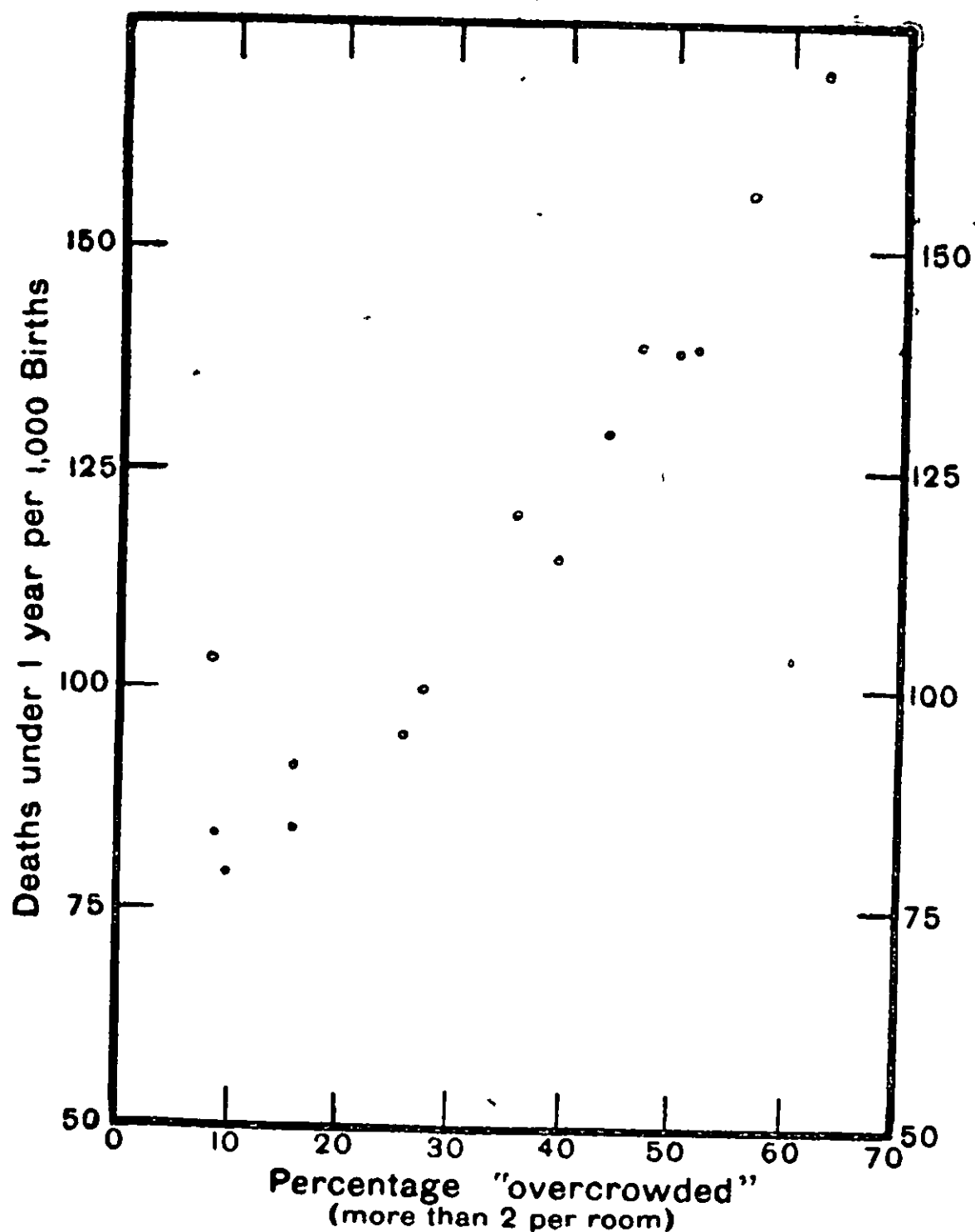
As the average age of persons in bad housing is so much less than in good housing, the number of deaths per 1,000 living in bad housing should, other things being equal, be much less than the number per 1,000 living in good housing. Accordingly, it may be difficult to show statistically the full influence of housing on death rates as deaths, though recorded by ages and localities, are not recorded according to housing conditions, which vary so greatly with ages. Comparing, however, the 16 districts in Dublin City and adjoining Urban Districts for which separate particulars are available, the effects of bad housing in increasing death rates is very obvious.

Diagram 5 shows how the infantile mortality increases rapidly as overcrowding increases :—

Each dot represents one of the 16 Registrars' Districts in the Dublin Registration Area ; the height represents infantile mortality, the distance to the right represents the percentage of persons living in overcrowded dwellings. The lowest dot represents Clontarf and Howth, the highest represents North City No. 2 ; the percentage over-crowded in the first is 9·6% and in the second 63·4% ; the deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births is 79 in the first and 170 in the second.

DIAGRAM 5.

Relation between Infantile Mortality and Bad Housing in the Registrars' Districts in Dublin City and the adjoining Urban Districts.



The following are the figures for the 16 Dispensary Districts from which the Diagram on page 69. was constructed :—

Registrars' Districts	Percentage of persons 2 or more per room	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births	Registrars' Districts	Percentage of persons 2 or more per room	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births
	%			%	
North City No. 2 ...	63.4	170	North City No. 3 ...	35.9	120
South City No. 2 ...	60.2	137	Dun Laoghaire ...	27.6	100
North City No. 1W ...	57.4	156	Pembroke ...	25.9	95
South City No. 3 ...	52.1	139	Rathmines and Rathgar ...	16.0	92
South City No. 4 ...	50.8	138	Blackrock ...	16.0	84
North City No. 1E ...	46.5	139	Clontarf and Howth ...	9.6	79
South City No. 1 ...	43.9	129	Finglas and Glasnevin ...	8.5	83
New Kilmainham ...	39.4	115	Coolock and Drumcondra	8.3	103

The following table shows the average annual number of deaths at each age per 1,000 persons of that age for the most overcrowded (B) and least overcrowded (A) of the 16 Registrars' Districts in the previous table :—

AVERAGE* ANNUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS AT EACH AGE PER 1,000 ALIVE OF THAT AGE.†

Age	Coolock and Drumcondra District (A)	North City No. 2 District (B)	Difference (C)	(C) as % of (A)
0 to 1 ...	92.6	178.9	86.3	93
1 „ 5 ...	7.7	25.6	17.9	232
5 „ 15 ...	1.9	3.8	1.9	100
15 „ 25 ...	3.3	6.4	3.1	94
25 „ 45 ...	4.4	8.6	4.2	95
45 „ 65 ...	16.8	27.2	10.4	62
65 or over ...	64.7	85.2	20.5	32
Percentage of persons living in dwellings with more than 2 persons per room ...	8.3%	63.4%	—	—

* Average for 5 years 1923 to 1927.

† Alive at Census night, 18th April, 1926.

It will be seen from the above that at each age the death rate is very much greater in North City No. 2 District, where the housing is exceedingly bad, than in Coolock and Drumcondra, where the housing is good.

The numbers of deaths and births in institutions, etc., were attributed to their correct areas in the foregoing tables and diagram, which have been compiled from material contained in the reports of the Registrar-General.

Housing Conditions of persons in different occupations.

The following table contrasts the housing conditions of gainfully occupied persons 12 years or over by sex and conjugal condition. The figures for females do not include domestic servants living with their employers, as their housing conditions are above that of their social grade and would complicate comparisons.

PERCENTAGE OF GAINFULLY OCCUPIED,* 12 YEARS OR OVER, LIVING IN CERTAIN CLASSES OF DWELLINGS.

	1 or 2 rooms		5 or more rooms		3 or more persons per room		Less than 1 person per room	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Married	% 21·9	% 21·2	% 24·6	% 29·2	% 13·7	% 9·9	% 20·5	% 25·4
Widowed	22·0	19·5	22·2	26·9	6·0	4·6	32·6	34·0
Single	15·3	16·7	26·4	29·0	8·2	9·6	24·5	23·4

* Excluding female domestic servants living in.

It will be seen from the table that gainfully occupied married and widowed females are better housed than occupied males. The housing of occupied single females (other than domestic servants) is much the same as that of occupied males.

The next table shows that gainfully occupied females, married, widowed and single, are better housed than the unoccupied (who largely consist of females engaged in home duties).

PERCENTAGE OF GAINFULLY OCCUPIED* AND OTHER FEMALES, 12 YEARS OR OVER, LIVING IN DWELLINGS WITH—

	1 or 2 rooms		5 or more rooms		3 or more persons per room		Less than 1 person per room	
	Gainfully occupied	Others	Gainfully occupied	Others	Gainfully occupied	Others	Gainfully occupied	Others
Married	% 21·2	% 22·5	% 29·2	% 24·4	% 9·9	% 14·1	% 25·4	% 20·5
Widowed	19·5	26·3	26·9	22·7	4·6	8·5	34·0	30·9
Single	16·7	16·4	29·0	27·2	9·6	12·0	23·4	21·7

* Excluding female domestic servants living in.

From the second last table it will be noticed that taking, for instance, persons per room as the test of housing, occupied widowers are much better housed than occupied single males, and the latter are better housed than occupied married males. The difference between the proportions of married, widowed and single in different occupations may be very great. For instance, only 22% of farmers, but 56% of agricultural labourers (not living in), are unmarried, only 38% of builders' labourers, but 60% of motor drivers, are unmarried, etc. Accordingly, it is desirable to take conjugal conditions into account when comparing the housing conditions of persons in different occupations. The following table gives another reason; it will be seen that in the two occupations there is little difference in the housing of the widowed or single, but a great difference in the housing of the married.

PERCENTAGE OF MALES IN DWELLINGS WITH THREE PERSONS OR MORE PER ROOM.

	Married	Widowed	Single
	%	%	%
Builders' Labourers	42.0	16.2	20.6
Drivers of Carts, etc.	31.9	16.4	20.3

In the next two tables the married males in many of the principal occupations are compared for the country as a whole.

HOUSING OF MARRIED MALES IN DIFFERENT OCCUPATIONS.

Occupation	Percentage in dwellings with		Occupation	Percentage in dwellings with	
	1 or 2 rooms	3 or more persons per room		1 or 2 rooms	3 or more persons per room
	%	%		%	%
Builders' Labourers	62.9	42.0	Coopers	31.8	17.7
Porters (not Railway)	59.7	39.7	Plumbers	31.2	17.5
Dock Labourers	58.0	38.6	Navvies (Local Authority) ...	30.4	18.6
General Labourers	54.7	35.0			
Drivers of Carts, etc.	49.1	31.9	Tailors	29.2	15.7
Farmers 1 to 5 acres	48.9	24.1	Plasterers	29.1	19.6
Navvies (not Railway or Local Authority)	48.5	30.7	Railway Navvies	29.1	19.2
			Fitters	28.8	16.9
Painters	40.8	24.5	Smiths	28.2	17.1
Tinsmiths	40.6	31.3	Ticket Collectors (Railway) ...	26.9	14.2
Railway Firemen	38.2	18.4	Agricultural Labourers (Living out)	26.4	13.7
Cabinet Makers	38.1	23.1	Bakers	26.2	15.0
Ex-Soldiers	37.3	22.8	Soldiers on active list	26.2	12.9
Waiters	36.9	18.7			
Bricklayers	36.3	23.4	Electric Wiremen	25.0	13.9
Bootmakers	36.3	20.4	Motor Mechanics	24.8	10.7
Fishermen	36.2	22.2	Cartwrights	24.7	14.3
Farmers 5 to 10 acres	36.2	20.2	Masons	23.1	14.8
			Farmers 10-15 acres	22.8	14.7
Storekeepers	34.2	21.1	Platelayers	22.7	14.3
Motor Drivers	33.2	17.4	Compositors	22.1	11.1
Hairdressers	32.7	19.4	Civic Guards	22.1	4.3
Railway Porters	32.0	17.6	Carpenters	21.0	12.1
			Saddlers	20.2	10.3

In the foregoing table the percentages in *bad* housing were given ; in the next table, which compares the better housed occupations, the percentages in good housing are shown.

Occupation	Percentage in dwellings with		Occupation	Percentage in dwellings with	
	5 or more rooms	Less than 1 person per room		5 or more rooms	Less than 1 person per room
Protestant, etc., Clergymen ...	% 94.2	% 91.1	Teachers (not Music) ...	% 72.2	% 44.6
Bank Officials (not Clerks) ...	90.5	82.1	Insurance Officials (not Clerks) ...	66.6	55.7
Solicitors ...	89.0	82.6	Shopkeepers ...	60.5	46.4
Medical Doctors ...	87.6	76.8	Commercial Travellers ...	59.2	45.3
Publicans ...	79.1	57.1	Railway Clerks ...	56.3	45.8
Auctioneers and Valuers ...	78.4	63.4	Station Masters and Railway Officials ...	53.2	40.3
Bank Clerks ...	77.9	82.5	Other Clerks ...	52.7	41.6
Civil Engineers ...	76.4	64.3	Farmers 50-100 acres ...	52.0	26.1
Dentists ...	72.5	64.2	Cattle Dealers ...	44.8	33.4
Farmers over 200 acres ...	72.3	48.9	Pig Dealers ...	41.8	30.5
			Insurance Canvassers ...	36.3	27.9
			Shop Assistants ...	35.5	29.3

The occupations in the foregoing tables are ranged according to size of dwelling. The first break in the order of figures in the second column is at Farmers 1 to 5 acres. From some cause or causes (emigration, lateness of marriage, etc.), their families are smaller than others in much the same size of dwelling. Painters are the worst housed of the skilled occupations. The families of tinsmiths appear to be unusually large. Railway firemen, waiters, motor mechanics and Civic Guards have families less overcrowded than the size of dwelling would suggest—probably they are comparatively young and their families small. In the better housed occupations publicans, farmers with over 200 acres, teachers and farmers with 50 to 100 acres appear to have larger families than others in about the same size of dwelling. Farmers with 50 to 100 acres have slightly smaller dwellings than clerks, but much larger families. Farmers with over 200 acres have dwellings of much the same size as dentists, civil engineers, etc., but much larger families. Teachers have much the same housing as farmers with over 200 acres.

The married agricultural labourer (not living in) is comparatively well housed. His position in relation to the small farmer is of particular interest and is brought out in the following table. He is better housed than the farmer with 5 to 10 acres.

PERCENTAGE OF MARRIED MALES.

	Farmers		Agricultural Labourers (not living in)	Farmers	
	1 to 5 acres	5 to 10 acres		10 to 15 acres	15 to 30 acres
Living in dwellings with :—					
1 or 2 rooms ...	48.9	36.2	26.4	22.8	12.3
3 persons or more per room ...	24.1	20.2	13.7	14.7	10.9

The figures for the country as a whole, while placing the occupations roughly in accordance with their social grading, may rank below their proper grade occupations which are largely confined to the County Boroughs, as the housing in the latter is worse than in the rest of the country.

There is a very great difference between the housing of persons in the same occupation in different areas. Take, for instance, the following contrasts in certain non-agricultural occupations.

PERCENTAGE OF MALES (MARRIED, WIDOWED AND SINGLE).

Occupation	Living in dwellings with			
	1 to 2 rooms		3 or more persons per room	
	Dublin City	County Wexford	Dublin City	County Wexford
	%	%	%	%
Builders' Labourers	75.1	21.9	51.7	10.6
General Labourers	62.3	20.0	43.7	8.4
Drivers of Carts, etc.	65.8	8.7	44.3	5.1
Carpenters	33.1	4.9	20.5	1.5
In 5 or more rooms				
Loss than 1 person per room				
Professional Occupations*	48.8	66.2	42.3	56.6
Shopkeepers	46.0	63.0	37.2	59.0
Shop Assistants	33.3	53.1	19.3	39.8

* Excluding Catholic Clergymen, Professional Students, etc. (i.e., the professional occupations with few or none married).

Builders' Labourers (i.e., the persons in the worst housed occupations) are much better housed in County Wexford than Carpenters in Dublin City; Shop Assistants in Wexford are much better housed than Shopkeepers in Dublin City.

The following table shows the housing of males in agricultural occupations in the best and worst housed counties :—

PERCENTAGE OF MALES (MARRIED, WIDOWED AND SINGLE).

Occupation	Living in dwellings with							
	1 or 2 rooms		5 rooms or more		3 or more persons per room		Less than 1 person per room	
	Mayo	Wexford	Mayo	Wexford	Mayo	Wexford	Mayo	Wexford
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Agricultural Labourers ...	43.7	13.5	4.4	11.9	27.2	5.1	10.4	23.4
Farmers :								
1-5 acres	63.8	12.0	2.3	29.1	28.3	—	0.6	63.2
5-10 „	50.3	7.8	1.5	39.5	24.3	1.7	9.9	53.6
10-15 „	34.3	5.2	2.4	42.1	17.7	—	11.8	57.9
15-30 „	20.2	3.7	3.8	50.7	13.8	1.3	13.1	58.9
30-50 „	14.2	1.9	3.6	69.7	12.9	0.4	14.9	62.4
50-100 „	12.6	0.6	20.8	84.2	13.1	0.2	22.7	60.8
100-200 „	15.2	0.7	38.5	90.2	12.7	0.1	32.4	66.3

The smallest farmers in Wexford live in larger dwellings than farmers with 50 to 100 acres in Mayo; practically none of the former but many of the latter live in overcrowded dwellings (1.1% compared with 11.7%); more than half of the small farmers in County Wexford (59.5%) live in houses with 5 or more rooms, but less than a third (32.8%) of the largest farmers in Mayo live in dwellings of this size.

The next table compares for the country as whole the housing of males in agricultural occupations with the housing of males in other occupations.

PERCENTAGE OF MALES.

Percentage of Males living in dwellings with :—	Married		Widowed		Single	
	Agric. Occupa- tions	Other Occupa- tions	Agric. Occupa- tions	Other Occupa- tions	Agric. Occupa- tions	Other Occupa- tions
	%	%	%	%	%	%
(a) 1 or 2 rooms ...	16·1	28·3	18·7	27·6	14·6	16·5
(b) 5 or more rooms ...	22·3	27·2	20·7	24·7	26·7	26·0
(c) 3 or more persons per room	11·0	16·8	4·6	8·3	7·5	9·4
(d) Less than 1 person per room	18·3	22·9	32·5	32·8	26·2	22·0

It will be seen from the above that the proportion of agriculturists in *bad* housing—lines (a) and (c)—is smaller than the corresponding proportion for persons in other occupations. This is true for married, for widowed and for single. But it will be also noticed that the proportion of married and widowed agriculturists in *good* housing is also less than the corresponding proportion of married and widowed in other occupations. In rural areas there are not such extremes of poverty and wealth or of bad and good housing as in the towns.