

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1961.

EXPLANATORY NOTES.

A Census of Population was taken on the night of 9 April, 1961, in accordance with the Statistics (Census of Population) Order, 1961 (S.I. No. 64 of 1961) made by the Taoiseach in pursuance of powers conferred on him by sub-section (1) of Section 16 of the Statistics Act, 1926 and the Statistics Acts 1926 and 1946 (Transfer of Ministerial Functions) Order, 1949 (S.I. No. 142 of 1949).

COVERAGE OF THE CENSUS.

The Census figures relate to the *de facto* population, i.e. the population recorded for each area represents the total of all persons present within its boundaries on the night of 9 April, 1961, together with all persons who arrived in that area on the morning of Monday, 10 April, 1961, not having been enumerated elsewhere; persons aboard ships or boats in port are included in the population of adjacent areas. The figures, therefore, include visitors present on Census night in addition to residents, but Irish persons temporarily absent from the State on Census night are excluded. The date of the Census was, however, chosen to coincide with a period when passenger movements were at a minimum and consequently the figures closely approximate to those for the normally resident population.

Members of the Defence Forces who, on Census date, were serving with the United Nations Force in the Congo were, of course, excluded from the enumeration. The total number of officers and men concerned was 652.

CONDUCT OF THE CENSUS.

The Garda Síochána, assisted in certain areas by specially appointed Temporary Civilian Enumerators, acted as official enumerators for all parts of the country outside the Dublin Metropolitan Garda area, while, within this area, the duties of enumeration were carried out by Postal Officials. The Census schedules for completion by the head of each family or institution were distributed within the three weeks immediately prior to Census date while collection of the completed forms was commenced on the day after Census date and was completed as quickly as possible. The enumerators scrutinised the returns at the time of collection to ensure that they were correctly completed and, where necessary, they assisted householders to fill up the forms. Each enumerator was required to prepare a summary, by sex, of the population in his area. These summaries were prepared in duplicate and from one copy the Preliminary Report, which was published in August, 1961, was compiled. The enumerators performed their difficult and onerous duties most efficiently.

Unlike the Censuses of 1951 and 1956, which – especially in the case of the latter – were very limited in scope, the 1961 Census was a very comprehensive one. The following particulars were required in respect of each individual:– (i) Name, (ii) relationship to head of household, (iii) sex, (iv) date of birth, (v) marital condition, (vi) date of marriage and number of children (for each married woman only), (vii) place of birth, (viii) religion, (ix) whether able to speak the Irish language, and for persons aged 14 years or over (x) principal occupation, (xi) employment status (i.e. whether employer, employee, etc.), (xii) name of employer and employer's business, and (xiii) subsidiary occupation (for persons whose principal occupation is agricultural) or land held (for other persons). In addition, the head of each private household was required to furnish certain data on (i) total agricultural land held by members of the household, (ii) nature of occupancy of dwelling (whether rented, owner occupied, etc.), (iii) rent paid, (iv) rooms occupied, (v) water supply, (vi) sanitary facilities, (vii) year in which dwelling was built and (viii) electricity supply. The information collected was coded and transferred to punched cards in order to prepare the many classifications to appear in the various subject volumes of the Census.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND CENSUS AREAS.

The enumeration of the Census is carried out, in the first instance, by Townlands in rural areas and by streets in town areas. The Townland is the smallest territorial division used for administrative purposes. Population figures in respect of Townlands, of which there are about 51,000, have not been published since the Census of 1911. However, populations of individual Townlands (excluding portions in towns) will be furnished to inquirers on request.

The smallest territorial division for which population statistics are published is the District Electoral Division (or, in the County Boroughs, the Ward). In the case of rural areas, the figures for Townlands are aggregated to give those for the District Electoral Divisions, while the figures for streets in town areas are similarly aggregated. There are 3,065 District Electoral Divisions (or Wards) in the State and population figures for these areas are contained in TABLE 11 of this Volume. Where a District Electoral Division contains a town or a portion of a town, the population figures for the town are shown separately in italics in TABLE 11. The different kinds of towns which are dealt with in the Census enumeration are discussed in a later section. District Electoral Divisions are aggregated to give Urban and (former) Rural Districts which, in turn, build up to Counties. The Rural Districts, which numbered 160, were abolished as administrative areas in 1925 (or, in the case of the Rural Districts in Co. Dublin, in 1930) but have been retained for Census purposes as convenient units of area, intermediate in size between the District Electoral Division and the County. Figures for Urban and Rural Districts are contained in TABLES 9 and 11 of this Volume.

The organisation of the Public Health services is based on the Registrar's District and the Dispensary District. In the great majority of cases the Registrar's District and the Dispensary District are co-terminous but, in certain cases, principally in urban areas, a Dispensary District will contain two or more Registrars' Districts. In the Reports of previous Censuses figures were published in respect of both Dispensary Districts and Registrars' Districts but it has been decided, in this Volume, to publish figures for Registrars' Districts only. Registrars' Districts, of which there are 655, aggregate to Superintendent Registrars' Districts, which number 126. In many cases, though by no means invariably, Superintendent Registrars' Districts coincide with Rural Districts plus any adjoining Urban Districts. Superintendent Registrars' Districts combine into Counties (including the County Boroughs). Figures in respect of Registrars' Districts and Superintendent Registrars' Districts are given in TABLE 10.

For the purpose of Parliamentary Elections, the country is divided into Constituencies which, under Article 16.4^o of the Constitution of Ireland, have to be revised at least once in every twelve years with due regard to changes in the distribution of population. The boundaries were last revised in July 1961 and the Schedule to the Electoral (Amendment) Act, 1961, contains the details of their composition. Population figures for these areas are contained in TABLE 5.

For elections to County Councils, each County is divided into Electoral Areas which have been constituted by Orders made under the Local Government Act, 1941. These areas, which number 123, are, in general, formed by the aggregation of District Electoral Divisions. In a small number of cases, however, District Electoral Divisions are divided between County Electoral Areas to facilitate electors. In the case of Dublin County Borough the Corporation elections are based on nine Borough Electoral Areas, being aggregate of complete Wards, while each of the County Boroughs of Cork, Limerick and Waterford constitutes a single Borough Electoral Area. Population figures for County and Borough Electoral Areas are contained in TABLE 6 of this Volume.

Originally an ecclesiastical division and later used for civil purposes, the Civil Parish has been for many years obsolete as an administrative unit of area and statistics relating to Civil Parishes have not been published since the 1911 Census. As numerous requests for population figures in respect of Civil Parishes - particularly those in Dublin County and County Borough and in the other large cities - have been received in recent years, it has been decided, on the occasion of this Census, to publish total population figures in respect of the Civil Parishes in Dublin County and County Borough and also of certain Civil Parishes in or adjacent to the County Boroughs of Cork, Limerick and Waterford. These figures are contained in TABLES 14A and 14B, respectively, which also show the corresponding 1901 population in each case together with the percentage change in population since 1901.

TOWNS.

For purposes of statistical analysis one of the most important divisions of the population according to area is that between town and rural districts, while classifications of population by size of town are also of considerable interest. In this context, the precise definitions of "town" and "rural" areas present a number of difficulties. Towns fall into two classes, namely those with and those without legally defined boundaries. The first class comprises (a) the four County Boroughs and the Borough of Dun Laoghaire, (b) the six Municipal Boroughs, (c) the 49 Urban Districts and (d) the 29 Towns under the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act, 1854. The areas to be enumerated as towns not having legally defined boundaries must be determined by the Census authorities and are herein referred to as Census Towns.

In the case of towns with legally defined boundaries it is necessary, for administrative purposes, to compile population figures for the areas within these boundaries, and these figures are given in various tables throughout this volume. However, in the case of many such towns it happens that extensive building has taken place outside of but in close proximity to the legally defined boundaries. The result is that large numbers of persons who should be regarded as belonging to the communities of which these towns are the nuclei are, nevertheless, excluded from their populations when attention is confined strictly to legally defined boundaries. This problem is one which, by its nature, tends to become more acute from one Census to the next, as building activity extends further and further into the countryside surrounding these towns, while revisions of legally defined boundaries, being dependent on other factors besides the necessity of definition for Census purposes, tend to lag behind.

In 1926 and 1936 the definition of a Census Town without legally defined boundaries was simply "a cluster of twenty or more houses". With the increased building activity in recent years, involving in many cases the transfer of town dwellers to blocks of new houses adjacent to the old clusters but not necessarily contiguous to them, it became necessary to modify the original definition to include the newly built clusters with the original Census Town, provided that the residents were still considered to take part in the community life of that town. This principle was followed at the 1946 and 1951 Censuses. Apart from the application of the amended definition, the delimitation of a Census Town was rather imprecise since no directions could be given as to the maximum distance between houses to be regarded as forming a cluster. The new definition placed still more reliance upon the judgement of individual enumerators with the result that the application of the principle varied from district to district.

For the reasons set out in the foregoing paragraphs a special investigation was held in conjunction with the 1956 Census, with the objects of (a) determining the extent of the suburban areas or environs of towns with legally defined boundaries and (b) establishing, on a uniform basis, boundaries for Census Towns. Whereas up to and including the 1951 Census the Census Town was defined as "cluster of 20 houses or more", in 1956 this definition was varied to the extent of including only *occupied* houses in determining the lower limit of size. The various boundaries were drawn on Ordnance Survey maps after consultation with Local Authority Officials whose considerable local knowledge was of greatest value in the work. In cases where doubt arose as to whether a cluster of houses outside a town should be included with it or not it was frequently found that such factors as whether or not these houses had a common electricity or water supply with the town were a valuable guide.

For the purpose of the 1961 Census the boundaries drawn in 1956 were reviewed, again in consultation with the Local Authority Officials, and where necessary, they were revised to take account of new building in the five years since the 1956 Census. In the majority of cases, however, no revisions were found to be necessary in the boundaries which had been drawn in 1956. The areas taken as comprising the suburbs of Dublin, Cork and Limerick County Boroughs and of Dun Laoghaire Borough are set out later in these Explanatory Notes. It was found unnecessary to define any suburban areas for Waterford County Borough.

It should be clearly understood that the definitions of suburban areas, environs and Census Towns applied throughout this volume have been made for purposes of statistical analysis only. They do not affect in any way the existing legally defined boundaries of County Boroughs, Boroughs, Urban Districts or Towns under the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act, 1854, as used for general administrative or local government purposes.

Population figures for towns are contained in TABLES 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, and 15. TABLE 7 shows the population of each legally defined town excluding the four County Boroughs. TABLE 8 contains the total populations of all towns, and of their suburbs or environs where applicable, arranged in order of size within Counties. In TABLE 9 population figures are given in greater detail for all legally defined towns and for their suburbs or environs where applicable, as well as for all other towns with populations of 1,500 or over. TABLE 11 contains population figures for towns and for portions of towns (including suburbs or environs of legally defined towns) within District Electoral Divisions. In every case where a town is divided between two or more District Electoral Divisions the total population of the town is shown in a footnote in TABLE 11. The aggregate populations of legally defined towns and their environs are also shown in footnotes in this Table. In TABLE 13 towns of 1,500 population or over are arranged in size groups depending on total population. By "total population" in this context is meant the total population including that of suburbs or environs, if any. The total numbers of persons living in towns of various size ranges and in country districts are, also, shown in this Table. An alphabetical list of all towns in the country, with their populations, is given in TABLE 15. The spellings of the names of a considerable number of towns without legal boundaries have been revised for the purpose of this Census to bring them into line with modern usage. For convenience of reference to previous Census reports the old spellings of the towns in question are shown in italics in TABLE 15. Elsewhere in the volume only the revised spellings are shown.

AREAS TO WHICH COMPARABLE FIGURES RELATE.

Throughout this volume every effort has been made to give comparable populations at the 1956 Census of those areas to which the 1961 figures relate. Consequently, if comparison is made with the Report of the 1956 Census it will be found in the case of administrative districts and Census Towns where alterations in boundaries were made between 1956 and 1961, that the 1956 populations there published differ from those contained in the present volume.

In the enumeration of this Census some small inaccuracies affecting figures published at earlier Censuses came to light. Errors in the 1956 Report on this account have been corrected in the present volume.

AREA AND VALUATION.

The particulars of area and valuation published in TABLES 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11 were extracted from the records of the Valuation Office. The areas shown are exclusive of the areas under certain lakes, rivers and tideways. The valuation is the rateable valuation on 1 March, 1961. Valuations of Census Towns (i.e. those without legally defined boundaries), or of the suburbs or environs of towns with legally defined boundaries are not available, as these areas cannot be separately identified in the Valuation Office Records. This applies also in the case of certain Registrars' Districts.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The statistics of marriages, births and deaths contained in TABLE 1 and in TABLE 12 are derived from registrations by the Office of the Registrar General. Many births and deaths take place in institutions at a distance from the normal place of residence and are registered in the areas in which the institutions are situated. However, for the purpose of TABLE 12, births have been assigned according to home address of mother and deaths have been assigned according to home address of deceased. This applies also to figures of births and deaths for provinces shown in TABLE 1 for years subsequent to 1922. In the case of marriages, however, the figures shown in TABLE 1 are the numbers actually registered in the four provinces. Statistics of marriages classified according to area of residence of bride and groom before marriage are available only since 1957 (See Report on Vital Statistics, 1957, and corresponding reports for later years).

CITY SUBURBS.

Dublin North City Suburbs.

Dublin North City Suburbs comprise the townlands of Ashtown (pt.), Cabragh and Pelletstown in the D.E.D. of Castleknock; the townland of Newtown (pt.) in the D.E.D. of Coolock and the townlands of Santry, Santry Demesne and Turnapin Little in the D.E.D. of Drumcondra Rural. The entire North City Suburbs contain 3,287 persons, an increase of 26.9 per cent since 1956.

Dublin South City Suburbs.

Dublin South City Suburbs comprise the entire D.E.D. of Milltown; the townlands of Bluebell, Drimnagh, Fox and Geese (pt.), Fox and Geese Common and Redcow (pt.) in the D.E.D. of Clondalkin; the townlands of Brooklawn (pt.), Gallanstown (pt.), Johnstown (pt.), Palmerston Lower (pt.), Palmerston Upper (pt.), Redcowfarm and Woodfarm (pt.) in the D.E.D. of Palmerston; the townlands of Butterfield, Oldorchard, Rathfarnham, Whitehall and Willbrook in the D.E.D. of Rathfarnham; the townland of Templeogue (pt.) in the D.E.D. of Tallaght; the townlands of Commons, Crumlin, Greenhills (pt.), Kimmage, Perrystown, Roebuck, Whitehall and Wilkinstown in the D.E.D. of Terenure; the townlands of Ballyboden (pt.) and Edmondstown (pt.) in the D.E.D. of Whitechurch; the townlands of Balally (pt.), Ballinteer, Drummartin, Dundrum, Mount Anville, Mount Merrion or Callary, Roebuck and Trimleston in the D.E.D. of Dundrum and the townlands of Murphystown (pt.) and Woodside (pt.) in the D.E.D. in Glencullen. The entire South City Suburbs contain 54,553 persons, an increase of 25.6 per cent since 1956.

Dun Laoghaire Suburbs.

Dun Laoghaire Suburbs comprise the townlands of Brennanstown (pt.), Bullock, Carrickmines Great (pt.), Carrickmines Little (pt.), Cherrywood (pt.), Kerrymount, Kilbogget, Laughanstown (pt.), Loughlinstown, Rochestown, Rochestown Domain and Thomastown in the D.E.D. of Ballybrack; the townland of Mount Merrion South in the D.E.D. of Dundrum; the townlands of Glebe (pt.), Old Connaught (pt.), Shanganagh (pt.) and Shankill (pt.) in the D.E.D. of Rathmichael and the townlands of Cabinteely, Cornelscourt, Deansgrange, Foxrock (pt.), Galloping Green North, Galloping Green South (pt.), Glebe, Johnstown, Kill-of-the-Grange, Kilmacud East, Kilmacud West, Mountashton, Mulchanstown, Newpark, Newtown Castlebyrn, Newtownpark, Stradbroke,

Stillorgan Grove, Stillorgan North, Stillorgan Park, Stillorgan South, Tipperstown (pt.), Waltersland, Woodland and Woodpark in the D.E.D. of Stillorgan. The entire suburbs contain 20,309 persons, an increase of 17.0 per cent since 1956.

Cork North City Suburbs.

Cork North City Suburbs comprise the townlands of Ballinamought East and Lotabeg in the D.E.D. of Rathcooney and the townlands of Ballysheehy, Ballyvolane, Cahergal, Clogheen, Commons (pt.), Garranebraher (pt.), Kilbarry, Kilnap, Knocknacullen East, Knocknacullen West, Knocknaheeny (pt.), Mount Desert and Shanakiel in the D.E.D. of St. Mary's. The entire North City Suburbs contains 5,468 persons, a decrease of 4.0 per cent since 1956.

Cork South City Suburbs.

Cork South City Suburbs comprise the entire D.E.Ds. of Bishopstown and Blackrock; the townlands of Ardarrig, Ballybrack, Castletreasure, Douglas, Grange, Hop Island, Maryborough, Monfieldstown, Mounthovel and Rochestown (pt.) in the D.E.D. of Douglas and the townlands of Grange and Inchisarsfield in the D.E.D. of Lehenagh. The entire South City Suburbs contain 32,241 persons an increase of 12.3 per cent since 1956.

Limerick City Suburbs.

Limerick City Suburbs comprise the townlands of Ballykeefe (pt.), Dooradoyle (pt.) and Gouldavoher (pt.) in the D.E.D. of Ballycummin and the townlands of Caherdavin (pt.) and Shanabooly (pt.) in the D.E.D. of Limerick North Rural. The entire suburbs contain 946 persons, an increase of 21.3 per cent since 1956.

CHANGES IN BOUNDARIES OF COUNTIES.

Under the Wicklow County (Extension of Boundary) Order, 1957, which came into operation on 1 November, 1957, part of the D.E.D. of Rathmichael in Dublin County was detached from that county and added to Wicklow County. The comparative 1956 population figures shown in this volume for the two counties in question relate to the areas of those counties as constituted after the coming into operation of the abovementioned Order.

CHANGES IN LEGALLY DEFINED BOUNDARIES OF TOWNS.

Since 1956 the following changes in boundaries have been made in respect of the towns specified below. In each case, the comparative population figures for 1956 shown in this volume relate to the area of the town as constituted after the coming into operation of the Order in question.

An Uaimh (Navan).

Under the Urban District of An Uaimh (Alteration of Boundary) Order, 1960 (S.I. No. 34 of 1960), part of the D.E.D. of An Uaimh (Navan) Rural was transferred to the Urban District of An Uaimh.

Bray.

Under the Urban District of Bray (Alteration of Boundary) Order, 1958 (S.I. No. 48 of 1958), the D.E.D. of Rathmichael (Bray), which consists of the area transferred to Wicklow County from Dublin County on 1 November, 1957 (see above), was added to the Urban District of Bray.

Ceanannus Mór (Kells).

Under the Urban District of Ceanannus Mór (Alteration of Boundary) Order, 1957 (S.I. No. 35 of 1957), part of the D.E.D. of Ceanannus Mór (Kells) Rural was transferred to the Urban District of Ceanannus Mór.

Enniscorthy.

Under the Urban District of Enniscorthy (Alteration of Boundary) Order, 1957 (S.I. No. 36 of 1957), part of the D.E.D. of Enniscorthy Rural was transferred to the Urban District of Enniscorthy.

Wexford.

Under the Borough of Wexford (Alteration of Boundary) Order, 1959, part of the D.E.D. of Wexford Rural was transferred to the Municipal Borough of Wexford.

CHANGES IN BOUNDARIES OF ELECTORAL AREAS.

The following changes in Electoral Areas have taken place since 1956:-

Dublin County.

Under the Dublin County Council (Amendment) Order, 1960 (S.I. No. 101 of 1960), the Electoral Areas in Dublin County were revised as shown in Table 6.

CHANGES IN BOUNDARIES OF REGISTRARS' DISTRICTS.

Since 1956 the following changes in boundaries have been made in respect of the Registrars' Districts specified below. In each case the comparative population figure for 1956 shown in this volume relates to the area of the Registrar's District as constituted after the coming into operation of the Order in question.

Area	Statutory Instrument	District Electoral Division or Ward	Registrar's District in 1956	Registrar's District in 1961
Dublin County Borough	No. 214 of 1959 with effect from 21/12/'59	Ballyfermot Ward	Clondalkin Crumlin	Ballyfermot Clondalkin Dublin South City No. 7
		Kilmainham Ward	Clondalkin Dublin South City No. 5	Ballyfermot Dublin South City No. 5
		Phoenix Park Ward	Blanchardstown and Castleknock Dublin North City No. 3 Dublin South City No. 5	Ballyfermot Blanchardstown and Castleknock Dublin North City No. 3 Dublin South City No. 5
	No. 246 of 1960 with effect from 5/12/'60	Ballyfermot Ward	Clondalkin Crumlin	Ballyfermot Clondalkin Dublin South City No. 7
Dublin County	No. 214 of 1959 with effect from 21/12/'59	Palmerston	Clondalkin	Ballyfermot Clondalkin
	No. 246 of 1960 with effect from 5/12/'60	Terenure	Crumlin Terenure	Crumlin Dublin South City No. 7 Terenure
	No. 276 of 1960 with effect from 2/1/'61	Clonsilla	Lucan	Blanchardstown and Castleknock Lucan