

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1971

VOLUME II

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CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1971

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The present volume of the 1971 Census reports contains detailed classification of the whole population and of the population of different areas according to age and conjugal condition. The Census of Population was taken on the night of 18 April, 1971 in accordance with the Statistics (Census of Population) Order, 1971 (S.I. No. 93 of 1971) 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).

The following particulars were collected in respect of each individual:— (i) Name, (ii) sex, (iii) relationship to head of household, (iv) usual residence, (v) usual residence one year prior to Census date, (vi) place of birth, (vii) date of birth, (viii) marital condition, (ix) date of marriage and number of children (for married women only), (x) religion, (xi) knowledge of Irish, (xii) method of transport and distance travelled to work or school and for persons aged 14 years or over, (xiii) principal occupation, (xiv) employment status (i.e. whether employer, employee, etc.), (xv) name of employer and nature of employers' business, (xvi) age at which full-time education ended and number of years' attendance at school or college, etc. (for persons who had ceased their full-time education), (xvii) scientific or technological qualifications held and fields of science concerned. In addition the following information was collected in respect of each private household:— (i) total area and rateable valuation of agricultural land held by members of the household, (ii) nature of occupancy of dwelling (rented, owner-occupied, etc.), (iii) rent of dwelling, (iv) year dwelling was built, (v) rooms occupied, (vi) type of water supply, (vii) availability of bath or shower, (viii) type of sanitary facilities, (ix) electricity supply and (x) motor vehicles used by household.

PUBLICATION PROGRAMME.

The publication programme of the final results of the 1971 Census will comprise the following volumes:—

- *Volume I — Population of District Electoral Divisions, towns and larger units of area.
- Volume II — Ages and conjugal condition classified by areas.
- Volume III — Industries.
- Volume IV — Occupations.
- Volume V — Occupations and industries classified by ages and conjugal conditions.
- Volume VI — Housing.
- Volume VII — Household composition.
- Volume VIII — Fertility of marriage.
- Volume IX — Irish Language.
- Volume X — Usual residence and migration.
- Volume XI — Religion and birthplace.
- Volume XII — Transport and journey to work.
- Volume XIII — Education.
- Volume XIV — Scientific and technological qualifications.

A series of County Bulletins has already been published giving the preliminary results for the State and for each Province, County and County Borough of classifications by age, conjugal condition, occupational group, economic activity, size and type of dwelling, water supply and sanitary facilities. The Bulletin for the State contains greater detail than the other Bulletins and also includes classifications of the population by religion and of private households by the number of motor cars available to household members. A list of these Bulletins is included in Appendix B. There will at most be only marginal differences between the preliminary figures given in these Bulletins and the final figures which will be published in the relevant Census Volumes.

Tabulations containing similar information for 1971 to that in the County Bulletins have been prepared for each District Electoral Division and Ward and for each town of 1,000 population and over. These tabulations are in the form of computer printed sheets and can be supplied to interested persons by the Central Statistics Office at a charge sufficient to cover the cost of photo-copying.

*Already issued.

COVERAGE OF THE CENSUS.

The Census figures relate to the *de facto* population, that is to say the population recorded for each area represents the total of all persons present within its boundaries on the night of Sunday, 18 April, 1971, together with all persons who arrived in that area on the morning of Monday, 19 April, 1971, not having been enumerated elsewhere. Persons on board ships in port are included with the population of adjacent areas. The figures, therefore, include visitors present on Census night as well as residents while Irish persons temporarily absent from the State 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 abroad with the United Nations were, of course, excluded from the enumeration.

CONTENT OF THE TABLES.

The arrangement and content of the tables of the present volume are, for the most part, very similar to those of the corresponding volume of the 1966 Census. Tables 1A to 8C are concerned with comparisons with earlier censuses and derived figures such as percentages single in the various age groups, distributions by age groups and females per 1,000 males.

Table 9 shows the total population classified by year of age, sex and conjugal condition, while Table 10 shows the numbers of persons, males and females at or over each year of age. This table is particularly useful in deriving the numbers of persons within any required age range. For example, to ascertain the number of persons aged between seventeen and sixty-five years, it is necessary simply to subtract the figure for persons aged sixty-five years or over from the number aged seventeen years or over.

The remaining tables of the volume are concerned with classifications for particular units of area. Table 11 shows individual years of age up to sixty-nine years for Provinces, Counties and County Boroughs while Table 12 shows five-year age groups by conjugal conditions for these areas. As well as showing county totals, Table 12 has been extended to show the figures for the Aggregate Town Areas and Aggregate Rural Areas of each county.

Table 13 shows five-year age groups and conjugal conditions for individual Urban and Rural Districts, the environs of Urban Districts, towns under the Towns Improvement Act and their environs (if any) and other towns of 1,500 population. It should be noted that Rural Districts, have been abolished as administrative areas for some considerable time. They have, however, been retained for Census purposes outside Dublin County since they afford a convenient sub-division of Counties for the presentation of the various classifications. A map showing County and Rural District boundaries is given on page ii. Extensive changes were made in the boundaries of the District Electoral Divisions in Dublin County in the period 1966–71 with the result that these units, which form the basis for the census enumeration, can no longer be grouped to correspond to Rural Districts. Extensive alterations were also made between 1966 and 1971 in the Wards in the County Boroughs, the effect, in the case of Dublin County Borough, being to increase the number of Wards from 42 to 141. The Table showing the population of Dublin Wards classified by age and conjugal condition contained in the 1966 Volume has been excluded from the 1971 Volume because of its greater length. As indicated above, however, tabulations for individual Wards have been prepared for 1971 and can be supplied to interested persons at a charge sufficient to cover the cost of photo-copying the records. The definition of the Aggregate Town Area is the same as that used in Volume I of the 1971 Census and covers all population clusters of 1,500 persons or over. More precisely, the Aggregate Town Area of the State comprises the following:—

The four County Boroughs and their suburbs:

The Borough of Dun Laoghaire and its suburbs.

The six Municipal Boroughs and their environs.

Forty-eight Urban Districts and their environs.

Twenty-two towns under the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act, 1854 and their environs, having populations, when their environs are included, of 1,500 or more persons.

Thirty-three towns without legally defined boundaries having populations of 1,500 persons or over.

The Aggregate Rural Area comprises all other areas, including towns of under 1,500 total population. In particular, one Urban District and seven Towns under the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act, 1854 which, even when the populations of their environs are added, do not reach 1,500 persons, fall within the Aggregate Rural Area.

The Irish Life Tables, Nos. 7 and 7A, 1965–1967, relating respectively to the State and to Urban Districts are included in Appendix A.

COMMENTARY

CHANGES IN AGE DISTRIBUTION.

In Table 1A of this Report, the total population of the State at each Census 1926 to 1971 is shown, classified by five-year age group and conjugal condition, while in Tables 1B and 1C similar classifications are given for males and females. The figures for broad age groups are summarised in the following table:—

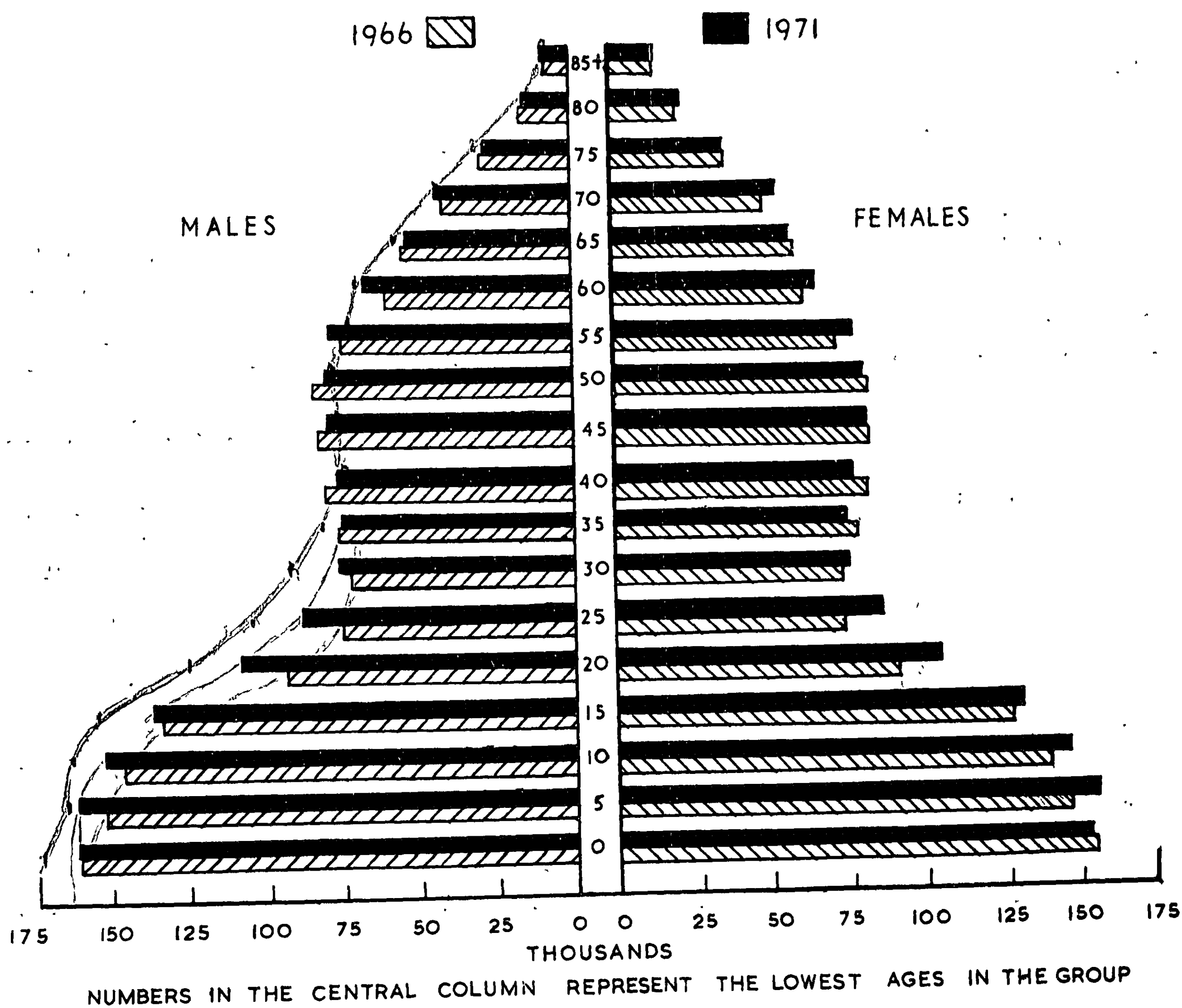
TABLE 1: - POPULATION IN CERTAIN AGE GROUPS - 1926 TO 1971.
(Thousands)

Age group	Population							Percentage change	
	1926	1936	1946	1951	1961	1966	1971	1926-1971 (45 years)	1966-1971 (5 years)
Persons									
0 - 14 years	867.9	820.4	823.0	854.8	877.3	900.4	931.2	+ 7.3	+ 3.4
15 - 29 "	741.8	739.6	691.0	641.8	537.2	594.0	656.0	- 11.6	+ 10.4
30 - 44 "	528.1	538.6	562.2	572.8	489.9	464.3	453.2	- 14.2	- 2.4
45 - 64 "	562.5	583.1	564.6	574.8	598.9	602.4	608.1	+ 8.1	+ 1.0
65 and over	271.7	286.7	314.3	316.4	315.1	323.0	329.8	+ 21.4	+ 2.1
Total persons	2,972.0	2,968.4	2,955.1	2,960.6	2,818.3	2,884.0	2,978.2	+ 0.2	+ 3.3
Males									
0 - 14 years	441.8	416.4	419.0	436.4	448.7	459.4	475.8	+ 7.7	+ 3.6
15 - 29 "	377.2	386.1	350.0	330.7	273.0	303.1	334.5	- 11.3	+ 10.4
30 - 44 "	265.9	274.6	285.7	292.7	241.7	231.2	228.7	- 14.0	- 1.1
45 - 64 "	293.5	302.4	284.7	291.7	303.8	305.4	306.1	+ 4.3	+ 0.2
65 and over	128.6	140.9	155.6	155.0	149.3	149.9	150.6	+ 17.2	+ 0.5
Total persons	1,506.9	1,520.5	1,494.9	1,506.6	1,416.5	1,449.0	1,495.8	- 0.7	+ 3.2
Females									
0 - 14 years	426.1	404.0	404.0	418.4	428.5	441.0	455.4	+ 6.9	+ 3.3
15 - 29 "	364.6	353.5	341.0	311.1	264.2	290.9	321.5	- 11.8	+ 10.5
30 - 44 "	262.2	264.0	276.5	280.1	248.2	233.0	224.5	- 14.4	- 3.7
45 - 64 "	269.0	280.7	280.0	283.1	295.2	297.0	302.0	+ 12.3	+ 1.7
65 and over	143.1	145.8	158.7	161.4	165.8	173.1	179.2	+ 25.2	+ 3.5
Total persons	1,465.1	1,448.0	1,460.2	1,454.0	1,401.8	1,435.0	1,482.5	+ 1.2	+ 3.3

The most notable feature of the changes in the age composition of the population between 1966 and 1971 is the very considerable increase in the number of young adults. The numbers in the age group 15–29 years rose by 62,000 or 10.4 percent, constituting the greater part of the entire increase of the State between 1966 and 1971. The more detailed figures in Table 3 show a very high rate of increase of about 16 percent in both the 20–24 and 25–29 age groups. The increase in the 15–29 year group was equally divided between males and females. A substantial increase also occurred in the numbers in the 0–14 year age group, the figure rising by 30,800 or 3.4 percent since 1966. Age groups over 45 years also showed an increase, but the number of persons in the 30–44 year age group declined substantially, by 11,100 or 2.4 percent, this decline being more marked for females than for males. Trends between 1966 and 1971 were generally similar to those between 1961 and 1966. In that period also the 30–44 year age group showed a sizable fall in population, with rises in the other age groups, these rises being fairly substantial for the younger ages. The distribution of the population by age groups in 1966 and 1971 are illustrated in the form of population pyramids in Diagram 1. Over the forty-five year period, 1926 to

Diagram 1

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION 1966 AND 1971



1971, the total population altered very little, from 2,972,000 to 2,978,000 but very considerable changes occurred within age groups. The number of children under 14 years was substantially higher in 1971 as were the numbers of persons aged 45 years and over. In the case of the age group 65 years and over the increase between 1926 and 1971 amounted to 21.4 percent. The 1971 levels for persons in the 15–44 year range were, however, well below those for 1926. Despite the substantial rise in the 1961–1971 period, there were 11.6 percent fewer in the 15–29 year age group in 1971 than in 1926 while the corresponding drop in the 30–44 age group was 14.2 percent. At ages under 45 years, the population changes were fairly equally divided between males and females while above 45 years the increases in numbers of females were substantially greater than those of males.

The effect of the changing numbers in the different age groups on the overall percentage distribution by age is shown in TABLE II.

TABLE II: - PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION IN CERTAIN AGE GROUPS - 1926 TO 1971.

Year	0-14 years	15-29 years	30-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over	"Dependent" Groups, 0-14 years and 65 years and over
1926	29.2	25.0	17.8	18.9	9.1	38.3
1936	27.6	24.9	18.1	19.6	9.7	37.3
1946	27.9	23.4	19.0	19.1	10.6	38.5
1951	28.9	21.7	19.3	19.4	10.7	39.6
1961	31.1	19.1	17.4	21.3	11.2	42.3
1966	31.2	20.6	16.1	20.9	11.2	42.4
1971	31.3	22.0	15.2	20.4	11.1	42.3

Between 1926 and 1961 young adults (i.e. those in the 15 to 29 year age group) represented a decreasing proportion of the total population while the proportions in the older age groups increased. The proportion in the 15 to 29 year age group rose between 1961 and 1966 and again between 1966 and 1971 due, as will be seen from a later section of this Commentary, to a reduced rate of emigration of young adults in this period. Children under 15 years represented an increasing proportion of the total population at each Census from 1936 to 1961 and the percentage in the 65 years and over age group also increased regularly up to 1961. The final column of TABLE II shows the dependency ratio, i.e. the numbers in the "dependent" age groups 0 to 14 years and 65 years and over as a proportion of the total population. The proportion in the "dependent" age groups had risen fairly substantially over a thirty-five year period, from 38.3 percent in 1926 to 42.3 percent in 1961. In the ten years 1961-1971 however, the proportion has remained steady.

AGE DISTRIBUTION BY AREA.

Considerable differences exist in the distribution of the population by age within different areas of the country. TABLE III, which follows (derived from Table 12), compares the age distributions in Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas, while the distributions of the population by age groups in Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas are illustrated in DIAGRAM 2.

DIAGRAM 2: DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGE GROUP IN THE AGGREGATE TOWN AREAS AND AGGREGATE RURAL AREAS

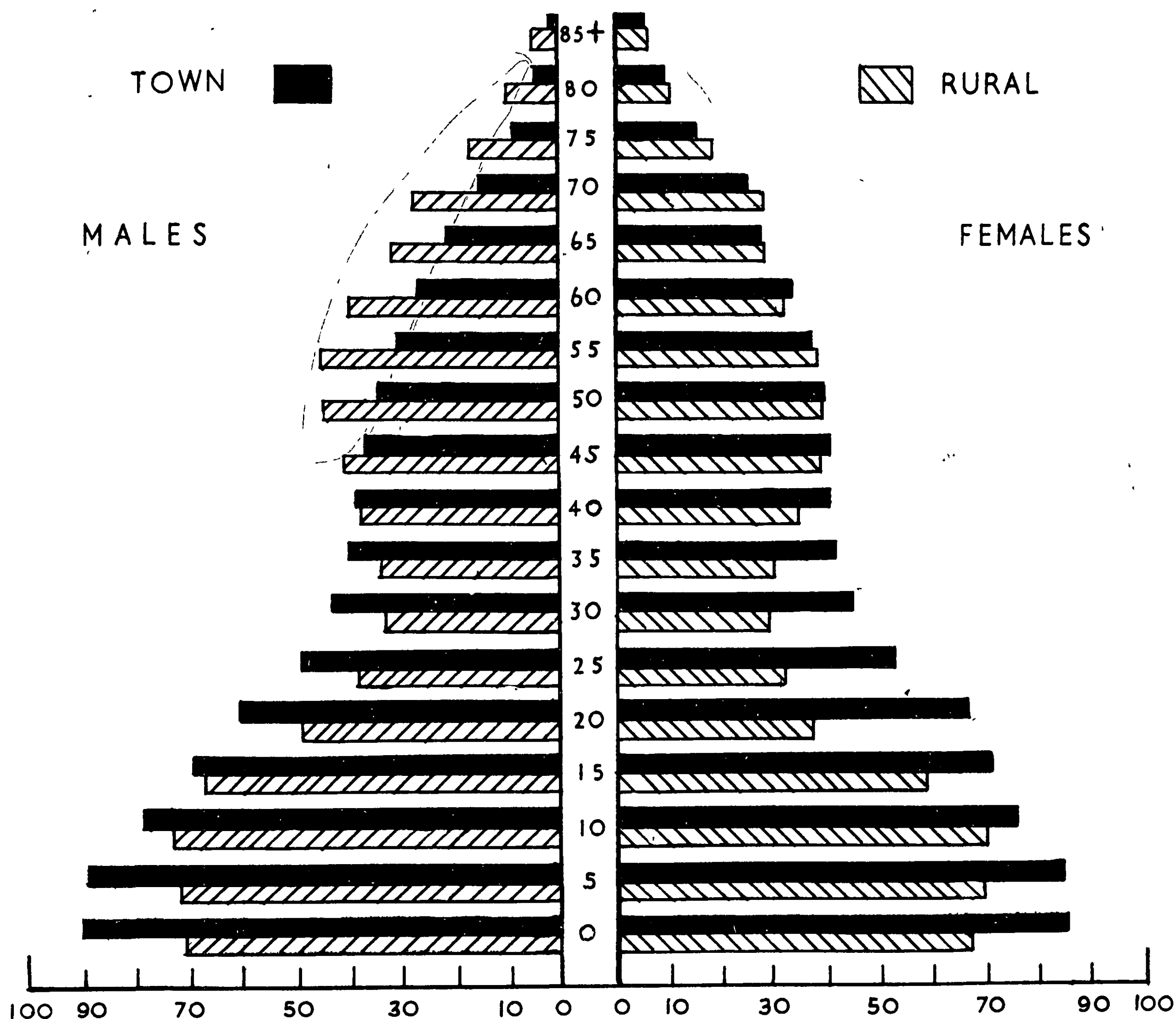


TABLE III: - PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION IN AGE GROUPS FOR AGGREGATE TOWN AND AGGREGATE RURAL AREAS, 1971.

Age group	Persons		Males		Females	
	Aggregate Town Areas	Aggregate Rural Areas	Aggregate Town Areas	Aggregate Rural Areas	Aggregate Town Areas	Aggregate Rural Areas
0 - 14 years	32.5	29.9	34.6	29.0	30.6	30.8
15 - 44 "	40.2	34.1	40.4	34.9	39.9	33.1
45 - 64 "	18.2	22.8	17.5	23.4	18.8	22.2
65 and over	9.1	13.2	7.4	12.7	10.6	13.8
TOTAL	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-

It will be seen that the rural population contains a much higher proportion of persons in the upper age groups. Thus 36.0 percent of persons in the rural areas were aged 45 years or over compared with 27.3 percent in the town areas. The age distribution in each County and County Borough (derived from Table 12) is shown in TABLE IV.

TABLE IV: - PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION IN AGE GROUPS, FOR EACH COUNTY AND COUNTY BOROUGH, 1971.

County or County Borough	Age group				
	0-14 years	15-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over	"Dependent" Groups, 0-14 years and 65 years and over
LEINSTER:					
Carlow	33.5	35.8	19.8	10.9	44.4
Dublin County Borough	30.3	41.6	18.9	9.2	39.5
Dun Laoghaire Borough	28.4	38.1	21.2	12.3	40.7
Dublin*	37.6	41.9	14.9	5.7	43.3
Kildare	34.3	39.0	18.5	8.2	42.4
Kilkenny	31.4	35.6	21.3	11.7	43.1
Laoighis	32.2	34.9	21.4	11.5	43.7
Longford	30.1	33.4	23.3	13.2	43.3
Louth	32.8	38.6	19.3	9.2	42.0
Meath	33.1	36.9	19.8	10.2	43.3
Offaly	33.4	35.4	20.4	10.8	44.2
Westmeath	32.5	35.2	20.4	12.0	44.4
Wexford	32.3	35.5	20.3	11.9	44.2
Wicklow	32.1	38.1	19.5	10.3	42.4
MUNSTER:					
Clare	29.1	34.9	22.3	13.7	42.8
Cork County Borough	33.0	39.3	18.5	9.3	42.3
Cork	29.8	35.7	22.1	12.4	42.2
Kerry	28.7	34.2	23.7	13.4	42.0
Limerick County Borough	34.4	39.1	17.9	8.6	43.0
Limerick	30.5	35.7	22.2	11.6	42.1
Tipperary, N.R.	31.1	35.4	21.5	12.1	43.2
Tipperary, S.R.	31.9	34.7	21.6	11.7	43.6
Waterford County Borough	32.8	40.2	17.7	9.2	42.0
Waterford	30.6	35.2	21.5	12.7	43.3
CONNACHT:					
Galway	30.3	35.4	21.5	12.8	43.1
Leitrim	26.5	30.7	25.4	17.3	43.8
Mayo	28.9	32.0	23.8	15.4	44.3
Roscommon	28.3	31.8	24.2	15.8	44.1
Sligo	28.6	33.5	23.4	14.4	43.1
ULSTER (part of)					
Cavan	29.2	33.1	23.5	14.1	43.4
Donegal	29.2	33.7	22.6	14.4	43.7
Monaghan	29.6	35.1	22.4	12.9	42.5

*Excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough.

The highest proportion of children under 15 years (37.6 percent) occurred in the case of Dublin County (excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough) followed by Limerick County Borough (34.4 percent), Kildare (34.3 percent), Carlow (33.5 percent) and Offaly (33.4 percent). The lowest proportions of children occurred in Leitrim (26.5 percent), Roscommon (28.3 percent), Dun Laoghaire Borough (28.4 percent) and Sligo (28.6 percent). In the case of persons 65 years and over the proportions were highest in Leitrim (17.3 percent), Roscommon (15.8 percent) and Mayo (15.4 percent) and lowest in Dublin County (excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough) (5.7 percent), Kildare (8.2 percent) and Limerick County Borough (8.6 percent).

TABLE IV also shows the numbers in the "dependent" age groups, i.e. under 15 years and 65 years and over, as a percentage of the total. In all areas with the exception of Dublin County Borough and Dun Laoghaire Borough the proportion of the population in the "dependent" age groups was in the narrow range 42.0–44.4 percent.

THE SEX RATIO.

At each Census there has been an excess of males in the population as a whole. However the number of females per 1,000 males varies between the different age groups. The ratios are compared in TABLE V for each Census since 1926 and for Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas. It should be noted that the Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas referred to here are as defined at the dates of the respective Censuses. It is not possible, owing to changes in town boundaries, to ensure that the figures for the different years relate to identical areas.

TABLE V: - FEMALES PER 1,000 MALES - 1926 TO 1971.

Year	All ages	0-14 years	15-29 years	30-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Total						
1926	972	965	967	986	917	1,113
1936	952	970	916	961	928	1,034
1946	977	964	974	968	984	1,020
1951	965	959	941	957	971	1,041
1961	990	955	967	1,027	972	1,110
1966	990	960	960	1,008	972	1,154
1971	991	957	961	981	986	1,189
Aggregate Town Areas						
1926	1,103	994	1,135	1,136	1,097	1,461
1936	1,110	994	1,188	1,104	1,105	1,395
1946	1,169	987	1,279	1,218	1,210	1,373
1951	1,119	975	1,153	1,171	1,163	1,385
1961	1,124	966	1,150	1,186	1,180	1,476
1966	1,103	966	1,106	1,118	1,173	1,522
1971	1,086	960	1,077	1,067	1,168	1,557
Aggregate Rural Areas						
1926	916	952	884	913	850	1,031
1936	874	956	777	881	852	934
1946	875	950	807	836	876	906
1951	868	947	782	825	863	910
1961	887	945	801	901	840	939
1966	892	954	809	902	837	964
1971	896	953	828	883	852	976

There were 991 females per 1,000 males in the State in 1971, this figure showing almost no change since 1961. In the age groups under 30 years the ratio of females to males did not change greatly compared with the preceding censuses but in the 30-44 year age group this ratio declined sharply, from 1,027 females per 1,000 males in 1961 to 1,008 in 1966 and 981 in 1971. At ages over 45 years the ratio of females to males rose since 1961, this rise being fairly pronounced in the population over 65 years of age. Between 1961 and 1966 and again between 1966 and 1971 the female/male ratio decreased slightly in the Aggregate Towns Areas and increased slightly in the Aggregate Rural Areas. In Aggregate Town Areas there was some reduction in the female/male ratio at ages under 65 years but at ages 65 years and over the number of females per 1,000 males rose substantially, attaining the very high figure of 1,557 in 1971.

CONJUGAL CONDITIONS.

The numbers of persons, males and females classified by age group and conjugal condition at Censuses from 1926 to 1971 are shown in Tables 1A, 1B and 1C. The totals from these tables for males and females aged 15 and over are summarised in TABLE VI which follows:—

TABLE VI: - NUMBER OF MALES AND FEMALES DISTINGUISHING SINGLE, MARRIED AND WIDOWED - 1926 TO 1971.

Conjugal condition	Population (thousands)							Percentage change (+ = inc. - = dec.)	
	1926	1936	1946	1951	1961	1966	1971	1926-1971 (45 years)	1966-1971 (5 years)
Males									
Single	598.6	627.3	592.4	565.9	468.4	471.6	465.9	- 22.2	- 1.2
Married	407.5	418.1	424.9	448.8	453.6	477.4	514.9	+ 26.4	+ 7.9
Widowed	59.1	58.7	58.5	55.5	45.8	40.7	39.1	- 33.8	- 3.8
Total aged 15 years and over	1,065.1	1,104.0	1,075.9	1,070.2	967.8	989.6	1,020.0	- 4.2	+ 3.1
Females									
Single	487.7	492.6	474.0	443.1	378.6	379.4	374.3	- 23.3	- 1.4
Married	416.6	424.6	451.3	464.1	468.2	488.7	523.1	+ 25.6	+ 7.0
Widowed	134.7	126.8	130.8	128.5	126.4	125.9	129.8	- 3.7	+ 3.1
Total aged 15 years and over	1,039.0	1,044.0	1,056.2	1,035.6	973.3	994.0	1,027.1	- 1.1	+ 3.3

It will be seen that a steady increase occurred over the forty-five year period in the numbers of married males and females, there being 26.4 percent more married males and 25.6 percent more married females in the State in 1971 than in 1926 despite the fall of 2.7 percent in the total number of persons aged 15 years or over during the period. The increase in numbers married was considerably greater between 1966 and 1971 than in any of the preceding intercensal periods. In the case of males the annual average percentage increase in numbers married amounted to 1.6 between 1966 and 1971, compared to 0.4 between 1926 and 1966. In the case of numbers of females married, the corresponding annual average percentage increases were 1.4 between 1966 and 1971 and 0.4 between 1926 and 1966. At each census the number of married females slightly exceeded the number of married males, the excess being greatest in 1946 and falling steadily to 8,200 in 1971. The number of widowed males showed a considerable decline since 1926, most of this decline occurring in the years after 1951 and amounting to 33.8 percent between 1926 and 1971. In contrast, the number of widowed females showed a decline of only 3.7 percent in this forty-five year period. The numbers single aged 15 years or over tended to decline throughout the period, the 1971 figures, both for males and females being the lowest recorded at any census.

The percentage single within certain age groups in 1971 and at earlier censuses are compared in TABLE VII. In this case comparisons over an extended period are of interest and the figures, insofar as they are available, are shown back to the year 1841.

TABLE VII: - PERCENTAGE SINGLE IN CERTAIN AGE GROUPS - 1841 TO 1971.

Year	Age group						
	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 and over
MALES							
1841	†	†	43.3*	15.4*	10.0*	†	†
1851	†	†	60.7	20.9	11.6	†	†
1861	99.8	91.9	56.8	23.9	14.3	11.1	11.7
1871	99.8	92.6	57.3	25.5	16.4	12.7	12.2
1881	99.9	94.1	62.0	27.1	16.4	13.4	12.0
1891	99.9	95.8	67.3	33.0	19.7	15.6	13.8
1901	99.9	96.3	71.8	38.3	23.8	18.2	15.5
1911	99.9	96.6	74.5	44.5	28.6	22.7	17.7
1926	99.9	96.0	71.7	45.0	31.4	26.2	20.5
1936	99.9	96.2	73.8	44.2	33.5	28.2	23.6
1946	99.8	95.0	70.4	43.0	32.1	30.0	25.4
1951	99.9	94.9	67.4	40.5	31.0	28.8	26.6
1961	99.8	92.5	58.0	36.2	29.7	28.1	26.7
1966	99.7	89.6	49.8	33.4	29.1	27.7	26.8
1971	99.5	84.6	41.3	28.9	28.1	27.1	26.8
FEMALES							
1841	†	†	28.0*	14.7*	11.7*	†	†
1851	†	†	39.1	15.2	11.4	†	†
1861	97.8	76.2	39.1	18.5	13.5	13.3	13.5
1871	98.1	77.7	38.2	19.8	15.2	13.4	14.3
1881	98.8	82.5	41.2	19.2	15.5	13.7	13.7
1891	99.2	86.0	48.1	23.1	16.6	15.8	15.3
1901	99.4	88.0	52.9	27.8	20.0	17.3	17.4
1911	99.5	88.4	55.5	31.0	24.0	20.8	18.5
1926	99.3	87.0	52.6	29.5	23.9	23.6	19.8
1936	99.1	86.4	54.8	30.2	25.1	23.7	22.7
1946	98.4	82.5	48.3	30.0	25.6	24.4	23.3
1951	98.9	82.3	45.6	27.6	25.7	24.7	23.7
1961	98.9	78.2	37.1	22.7	23.1	25.0	24.3
1966	98.4	74.8	31.0	20.4	20.8	24.4	24.8
1971	97.9	68.9	25.7	17.5	18.8	22.0	25.1

*Age groupings for 1841 were 26-35, 36-45, 46-55 and 56 and over.

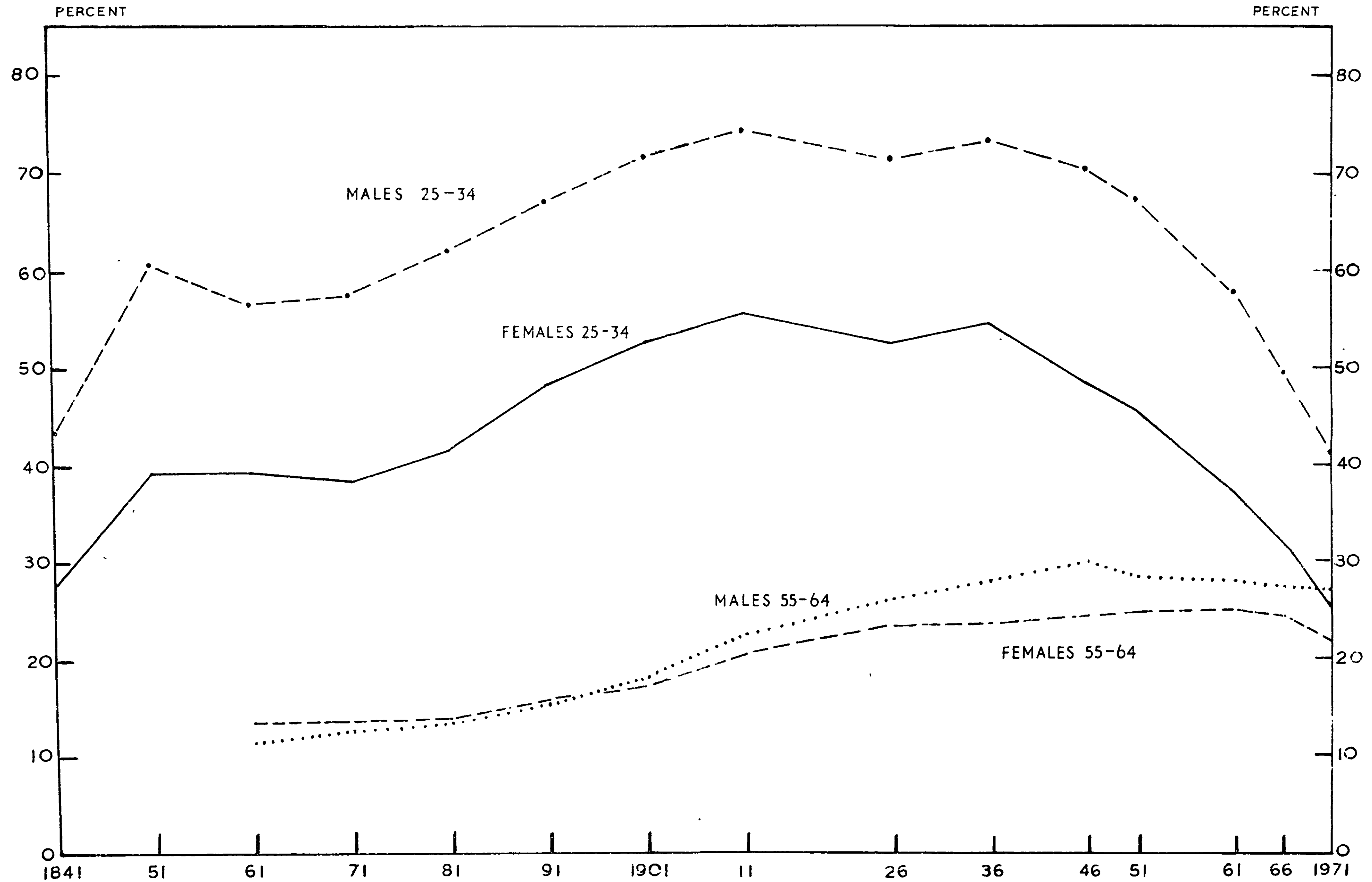
† Particulars not available.

In recent years very considerable reductions have occurred in the percentages single in the younger age groups - reflecting the effects of both the substantial rise in the overall marriage rate and the reduction in the average age at marriage as recorded in the regular reports on vital statistics. For males aged 25 to 34 years the percentage single fell from 73.8 in 1936 to 41.3 in 1971 while for females in this age group the corresponding percentage fell from 54.8 to 25.7. In the 45 to 54 year age group the percentage of males who were single dropped from 33.5 in 1936 to 28.1 in 1971, while for females the corresponding figures were 25.1 and 18.8 percent. In the 55 to 64 year age group, however, there was less change in the percentages single between 1936 and 1971, while in the 65 year and over age group the percentages single showed a rise from 1936 to 1971. It will be noted that, in the case of females, the percentage single in the 65 year and over age group was substantially greater in 1971 than the figures for the age groups 35 to 64 years.

Comparable figures are not available for all age groups over the entire period 1841 to 1971. It may be seen, however, that in the case of males in the 25 to 34 year age group the proportion single showed a sharp increase between 1841 and 1851, rising, in 1911, to a peak of 74.5 percent and subsequently tending to decline. The substantial reduction in recent years has brought the 1971 figure to 41.3 percent, the first time it has been lower than the 1841 level. Similar remarks apply in the case of 25 to 34 year age group for females.

The percentages single for males and females in the age groups 25 to 34 years and 55 to 64 years are illustrated in DIAGRAM 3.

DIAGRAM 3: SINGLE MALES AND FEMALES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL AT AGES 25-34 AND 55-64, 1841 TO 1971



The trends between 1926 and 1971, in the percentages single in the various age groups in the Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas are shown in TABLE VIII.

TABLE VIII: - PERCENTAGE SINGLE IN EACH AGE GROUP IN AGGREGATE TOWN AND AGGREGATE RURAL AREAS - 1926 TO 1971.

	Age group									
	Total 15 years and over	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 and over
MALES:										
Aggregate Town Areas										
1926	52.8	99.9	92.8	67.6	46.4	35.3	30.7	25.4	22.7	21.0
1936	51.6	99.9	93.0	71.0	47.9	33.5	27.8	25.4	23.9	22.8
1946	49.3	99.7	91.8	68.3	45.4	32.2	25.7	22.9	23.5	23.7
1951	48.0	99.8	92.5	66.4	42.2	30.0	23.9	21.4	21.5	24.2
1961	42.6	99.7	89.1	53.9	33.2	24.4	20.9	19.6	20.4	23.7
1966	42.2	99.5	85.8	46.5	27.4	22.4	19.8	18.7	19.3	23.2
1971	40.3	99.3	79.8	39.0	21.8	18.7	18.4	18.0	18.3	22.0
Aggregate Rural Areas										
1926	57.6	100.0	97.6	86.5	70.6	56.7	44.6	33.8	27.3	20.5
1936	59.2	99.9	97.7	88.6	72.8	56.8	45.4	37.3	29.9	23.8
1946	57.9	99.8	96.8	85.5	68.8	55.2	44.9	36.8	32.8	26.0
1951	55.8	99.9	96.7	84.2	68.0	53.3	43.2	36.8	32.5	27.4
1961	52.5	99.9	96.0	80.5	63.7	50.7	42.3	36.1	33.0	28.2
1966	52.1	99.8	94.0	73.1	55.7	48.2	41.3	36.3	33.2	28.7
1971	50.6	99.7	90.4	62.3	45.7	40.9	39.6	36.4	33.1	29.5
FEMALES:										
Aggregate Town Areas										
1926	50.0	99.1	84.1	57.5	39.8	33.4	28.7	27.0	27.6	27.0
1936	50.7	98.9	84.6	60.9	42.8	33.9	29.6	28.0	27.8	28.7
1946	48.7	98.4	82.5	57.0	39.0	33.4	30.0	28.9	27.8	28.7
1951	47.2	99.0	83.2	54.4	37.0	30.8	28.9	28.7	28.1	28.7
1961	42.5	98.8	77.9	43.6	29.9	25.5	24.7	26.3	28.2	29.0
1966	41.2	98.2	74.3	36.7	24.1	22.6	21.9	23.8	27.1	29.2
1971	38.7	97.7	68.5	30.6	19.7	17.9	19.5	21.4	25.0	28.9
Aggregate Rural Areas										
1926	45.3	99.4	89.1	64.7	42.7	31.9	25.0	22.4	21.7	17.4
1936	45.0	99.2	87.9	66.8	45.2	32.0	25.3	23.3	21.6	20.2
1946	42.1	98.4	82.6	57.9	38.6	31.0	25.8	23.5	22.3	20.7
1951	39.0	98.8	81.1	54.4	35.9	26.5	24.7	23.2	22.3	20.8
1961	35.4	99.0	78.7	47.1	29.3	21.5	19.4	20.1	22.3	20.9
1966	34.9	98.6	75.5	39.5	24.1	19.6	16.9	17.9	21.9	21.2
1971	33.7	98.2	69.6	32.1	18.9	16.0	15.7	16.2	19.1	21.5

The substantial reduction in the most recent figures, in the percentages single in the younger age groups, is reflected both in the Aggregate Town Areas and in the Aggregate Rural Areas. In the case of males in the Aggregate Town Areas the percentages single in the various age groups were very much lower at each Census than in the Aggregate Rural Areas. The differences between the Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas were not very marked in the case of females at the younger ages. In the higher age groups, however, the percentages of single females were considerably greater at all the Census dates shown, in the Aggregate Town than in the Aggregate Rural Areas.

Finally, in this section, the percentages of males and females in the age group 25 to 34 years who were single are compared in respect of different sizes of town in TABLE IX which relates to the 1971 Census only.

TABLE IX: - PERCENTAGE SINGLE AT AGES 25-34 IN CERTAIN TYPES OF TOWN AREAS AND IN RURAL AREAS, 1971.

	Dublin and Dun Laoghaire and Suburbs	Other County Boroughs and Suburbs	Other Towns with over 10,000 inhabitants	Towns with 5,000-10,000 inhabitants	Towns with 1,500-5,000 inhabitants	Rural Areas
Males	31.3	29.5	31.8	31.9	29.7	54.6
Females	27.6	23.6	24.9	24.0	21.8	25.9

It will be seen that for males there was little difference between the various sizes of towns as regards the percentage single, the principal contrast shown by the table being between town areas and rural areas. In the case of females in the 25-34 year age group, however, the percentage single recorded in the Dublin Region exceeded that for the rural areas, while the lowest percentage single occurred in towns of 1,500 to 5,000 inhabitants.

MIGRATION.

While no information is available on the total numbers of emigrants from or immigrants to the State, estimates of net emigration, that is the excess of the number of emigrants over that of immigrants, can be made for the periods between Censuses by using the Census results in conjunction with statistics of births and deaths registered in intercensal periods. These estimates, for a number of intercensal periods, are published in Volume I of the 1971 Census of Population (Table 1).

The effect of migration on the age structure may be examined by comparing the numbers of persons within the various age groups at each Census with the expected numbers of survivors out of the groups five years younger at the preceding Census. The results of this calculation for the period 1966-71 are shown in TABLE X. In estimating the survivors, the appropriate factors based on the Life Table corresponding to the mid-point of the period 1966 to 1971 were used.

TABLE X: - HYPOTHETICAL AND ACTUAL POPULATION BY AGE, 1971.
(Thousands)

Age Group	Males			Females		
	Population without Migration during 1966-1971	Actual 1971 Population	Effect of Migration between 1966 and 1971	Population without Migration during 1966-1971	Actual 1971 Population	Effect of Migration between 1966 and 1971
0- 4	157.3	161.8	+ 4.6	148.7	153.8	+ 5.1
5- 9	160.8	161.8	+ 1.0	154.2	155.1	+ 0.9
10-14	152.2	152.1	- 0.0	146.4	146.4	+ 0.1
15-19	145.3	136.8	- 8.5	139.6	131.0	- 8.7
20-24	132.7	110.0	-22.7	125.8	105.3	-20.5
25-29	94.2	87.7	- 6.5	90.3	85.3	- 5.1
30-34	74.6	76.8	+ 2.2	74.0	74.5	+ 0.5
35-39	73.3	75.5	+ 2.2	72.5	73.6	+ 1.1
40-44	75.5	76.4	+ 0.9	77.2	76.3	- 0.9
45-49	79.4	79.5	+ 0.1	81.2	80.6	- 0.6
50-54	80.8	80.0	- 0.7	80.8	79.0	- 1.8
55-59	79.5	78.4	- 1.1	77.8	76.4	- 1.3
60-64	68.4	68.1	- 0.3	67.0	65.9	- 1.1
65-69	52.2	54.5	+ 2.3	56.7	57.3	+ 0.5
70-74	42.3	44.6	+ 2.3	50.1	54.4	+ 4.3
75+	52.1	51.6	- 0.6	69.0	67.5	- 1.5
All Ages	1,520.5	1,495.8	- 24.8	1,511.3	1,482.5	- 28.9

TABLE X reveals a net immigration of infants, amounting to about 1,000 boys and 1,000 girls per year during the period 1966-71. There was also a slight gain of population by immigration in the 5-9 year group, while in the 10-14 year group no net emigration or immigration occurred. The 15-19 year age group lost 8,500 males and 8,700 females by emigration. It was in the 20-24 year age group that losses by emigration reached their peak, amounting to 22,700 males and 20,500 females in the five-year period, representing 17 and 16 percent respectively of the total numbers of males and females in these groups. The only other group to show a significant loss of population is the 25-29 year group where net emigration amounted to 6,500 males and 5,100 females.

Some net immigration occurred, greater for males than for females, in the age group 30-34 years and 35-39 years while most of the later age groups showed only small gains or losses through migration. The extent of migration in the later age groups is difficult to determine precisely, as misstatements of age at the Census enumeration are more common in the case of elderly persons. Such misstatements, as well as giving rise to errors in the numbers in the later age groups, also affect the Life Table mortality rates, thereby introducing inaccuracies into the calculation of proportions surviving. Although some of the difference between the actual and expected numbers at the later ages may be accounted for in this way, it appears that a fairly substantial net immigration occurred at ages 65-74 years.

Calculations similar to those performed in deriving TABLE X were carried out for each of the intercensal periods 1946-51 to 1961-66. The results are summarised in TABLE XI which gives an indication of the changing pattern of net emigration as it affects the different age groups.

TABLE XI: - LOSS OR GAIN OF POPULATION IN EACH AGE-GROUP AT EACH CENSUS DUE TO
MIGRATION IN PRECEDING FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.
(Thousands)

Age Group	1951	1956	1961	1966	1971
Males					
0- 4 years	+ 5.0	- 1.4	+ 4.2	+ 6.1	+ 4.6
5- 9 "	- 5.3	- 7.5	- 3.5	- 0.3	+ 1.0
10-14 "	- 1.8	- 2.8	- 2.9	- 1.0	- 0.0
15-19 "	- 6.8	- 11.4	- 19.5	- 14.6	- 8.5
20-24 "	- 21.1	- 33.3	- 39.8	- 25.1	- 22.7
25-29 "	- 17.0	- 20.5	- 18.7	- 5.0	- 6.5
30-34 "	- 6.3	- 12.3	- 8.1	+ 2.0	+ 2.2
35-39 "	+ 0.1	- 6.1	- 3.8	+ 1.9	+ 2.2
40-44 "	- 1.5	- 6.3	- 3.0	+ 0.4	+ 0.9
45-49 "	+ 0.6	- 2.9	- 2.9	+ 0.5	+ 0.1
50-54 "	- 0.2	- 3.2	- 3.7	- 1.6	- 0.7
55-59 "	- 0.2	- 0.9	- 2.6	- 1.1	- 1.1
60-64 "	+ 0.4	- 1.0	- 5.1	- 0.5	- 0.3
65-69 "	+ 3.4	+ 2.9	+ 1.8	+ 0.1	+ 2.3
70-74 "	+ 4.0	+ 3.0	+ 0.7	+ 2.3	+ 2.3
75 years and over	- 1.6	- 0.2	0.0	- 1.1	- 0.6
Total Males	- 48.3	- 103.9	- 106.9	- 37.2	- 24.8
Females					
0- 4 years	+ 4.9	+ 0.3	+ 4.1	+ 5.9	+ 5.1
5- 9 "	- 5.1	- 7.1	- 5.4	- 0.3	+ 0.9
10-14 "	- 2.1	- 0.9	- 3.7	- 0.6	+ 0.1
15-19 "	- 12.8	- 16.5	- 22.6	- 14.2	- 8.7
20-24 "	- 25.6	- 27.4	- 33.4	- 22.7	- 20.5
25-29 "	- 12.9	- 10.3	- 14.0	- 3.0	- 5.1
30-34 "	- 7.4	- 9.0	- 7.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
35-39 "	- 0.6	- 1.2	- 2.9	+ 0.8	+ 1.1
40-44 "	- 6.1	- 6.4	- 6.2	- 1.9	- 0.9
45-49 "	- 0.6	- 0.8	- 3.5	- 1.3	- 0.6
50-54 "	- 2.7	- 4.6	- 5.8	- 2.7	- 1.8
55-59 "	- 0.0	- 1.1	- 0.8	- 1.3	- 1.3
60-64 "	- 1.0	- 0.1	- 3.7	- 1.3	- 1.1
65-69 "	+ 1.5	- 0.2	- 0.8	- 1.2	+ 0.5
70-74 "	+ 5.7	+ 4.1	+ 3.9	+ 3.7	+ 4.3
75 years and over	- 3.4	- 3.3	+ 0.7	- 2.0	- 1.5
Total Females	- 68.3	- 84.6	- 101.9	- 41.9	- 28.9

Despite very considerable fluctuation in the level of emigration in the successive periods, the overall pattern as it affects the different age groups was fairly consistent. In the 0-4 year age group a fairly steady net immigration occurred, the only slight departure from this pattern being in the 1951-56 period, when the overall level of emigration was extremely high. Losses through emigration became substantial in 15-19 year age group and reached a peak at ages 20-24 years, continuing, although at a lower level, at ages 25-29 years. At ages over 30 years there was some loss of population through emigration in the periods up to 1961 but, subsequent to 1961, the loss at these ages had become negligible, or had changed to a net gain. In all periods, including those with very high levels of total emigration, there was a net immigration of population in the 65-74 year age range. A notable feature of the 1966-71 emigration pattern is the substantial reduction in emigration in 15-19 year age group compared to preceding period, whereas emigration at ages 20-29 years showed hardly any change.