

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1971

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Volume gives detailed classifications of the working population of the State and of the principal units of area according to the industry or branch of economic activity in which engaged, derived from the 1971 Census of Population. 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) conjugal 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, (xv) name of employer and nature of employer's 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 house 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 39 special Census Bulletins has already been published. Each of the first 37 of these publications gives preliminary results for a particular County, County Borough or Province, involving classifications by age, conjugal condition, occupational group, economic activity, size and type of dwelling, water supply and sanitary facilities; the two further bulletins produced to date (Nos. 38 and 39) contain similar though more detailed information for the State as a whole together with classifications involving religion, socio-economic groups, knowledge of Irish, elderly persons living alone, type and size of households and age of housing units and the number of motor cars available to household members. While the figures in the Bulletins are described as preliminary there will be, at most, only marginal differences between them and the final figures which are being published in the relevant Census Volume.

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 print-outs and will be supplied to interested persons at a charge sufficient to cover the cost of photo-copying.

*Already issued.

BASIS OF CLASSIFICATION.

Persons in their working capacity are classified, for Census purposes, according to three distinct factors, namely Occupation, Industry and Employment Status. A person's occupational classification is determined by the kind of work he performs in earning a living, irrespective of the place in which, or the purpose for which, it is performed. The nature of the Industry, Business or Service in which the person is working has no bearing upon the classification of his occupation. For example, the occupation "clerk" covers clerks employed in Manufacturing Industries, Commerce, Insurance, Banking, Public administration, Professions and other Services, etc.

The industry in which a person is engaged is determined (whatever may be his occupation) by reference to the business or economic activity in which, or for the purpose of which, his occupation is followed. Thus, while the occupational classification is concerned only with work performed by the individual, regardless of its ultimate purpose or end product, the industrial classification is concerned only with the ultimate purpose or end product, regardless of the precise nature of the work performed. A single manufacturing concern or commercial undertaking may employ persons of many different occupations for the purpose of making a particular product or giving a particular service. Conversely, there are many cases in which particular occupations are largely confined to a single industry. For example, the majority of persons having agricultural occupations are in the industry of Agriculture, all fishermen are in the Fishing industry, most miners are in the Mining industry and most shop assistants are in Wholesale or Retail Trading.

It will be noted that the term "industry" as used for Census of Population purposes is not confined to Manufacturing industry, but is regarded as being synonymous with the term "branch of economic activity". The basis of the industrial classification is, in the case of an employee, the business or profession of his employer and in the case of a person who describes himself as "employer or own account worker" the nature of his own business or profession.

Each gainfully occupied person was classified by "Employment Status" to one of the following groups:—

Employer or own account worker
Assisting relative
Employee
Out of work

The questions on the Census schedule from which the statistics contained in the present Volume were derived are as follows:—

To be completed for each person aged 14 years or over

PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION

If usually working for payment or profit (even if at present out of work), state here the usual **principal occupation**, giving a full description.

For other persons, write, as appropriate, "Home Duties", "At School" (primary, secondary or vocational), "Student" (Medical, Law, etc.), "Not yet at work", etc.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

If usually working for payment or profit, state whether "Employee", "Assisting relative", "Self employed, employs others" or "Self employed, without employees".

If at present out of work, write "Out of work".

EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYER'S BUSINESS

If an employee, state **name of employer** (person, firm, company or public body), **address of place of work** and **nature of business** carried on by employer.

If self employed, state **nature of business** in which engaged.

If a farmer, state the **area** and **total rateable valuation** of the farm on which working.

If a farm worker, state the **area of the farm** on which working.

If out of work, state **name, address and nature of business** of last employer.

It will be noted that persons were asked to state the name, address and nature of business of their employer, although the nature of business only was used in determining the person's industrial classification. It frequently happened, however, that the information on nature of employer's business as entered on the Census schedule was not sufficiently precise for the purpose of accurate classification. In such cases the name and address of the employer frequently enabled the Census coders to identify the nature of business precisely with the aid of trade directories, etc. It will be seen also that persons who were out of work at the date of the Census were asked to furnish particulars of their last employer. In certain tables in this Volume, namely those showing cross-classifications by industry and employment status, persons who were out of work at Census date are included. In the remaining tables, however, the classifications are in respect of persons at work only.

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.

Little change has been made in the content or layout of the present Volume as compared with the corresponding Volume of the 1966 Census. An extra table (Table 5) has been added which shows males and females at work in Rural Districts and Towns, etc., classified by industrial groups.

The list of detailed headings under which industries are classified in the present Volume is somewhat shorter than that used in 1966 (152 headings in 1971 compared with 198 in 1966). This reduction was made in view of the difficulty experienced in 1966 in allocating persons between certain closely related groups in cases where insufficient information was provided on the Census returns.* It will be noted, also, that the numbering of the industry headings does not run in sequence (i.e. from 1 to 152) as would be the case had the practice of previous Censuses been adhered to. Instead, as most of the tables were printed by computer, the actual computer codes were used, thus simplifying the programming involved.

Table 1 shows persons, males and females at work classified by industrial group while in Table 2 the 1966 and 1971 Census results are compared for detailed industrial headings. In Tables 3A, 3B and 3C figures for industrial groups for persons, males and females at work are given for Provinces, Counties and County Boroughs while Table 4 has figures for males and females in the same areas for detailed industrial headings. Table 5 contains classifications by industrial group for males and females at work in Rural Districts and Towns, etc. while Table 6 contains certain industrial classifications for towns of 1,500 and over. An alphabetical index to the cities and towns appearing in this table is contained in Appendix B.

A comparison between the number of males and females in major occupational groups within each industrial group in 1966 and 1971 is given in Table 7 while Table 8 contains a detailed classification of males and females at work in each industry according to occupation and occupational group. In this table each occupation or occupational group having twenty or more males or females within an industry is distinguished separately.

The remaining tables are concerned with employment status, Table 9 giving comparable figures for 1966 and 1971 for the numbers in each status. Table 10A, 10B and 10C classify persons, males and females at work by industrial group and by employment status while Table II classifies males and females by individual industry and status. Tables 12A and 12B show the employment status of males and females in each Province, County and County Borough. On this occasion employers and own account workers have been included as one group as there was insufficient information given in many cases to enable a distinction to be made between self employed persons with employees and those without employees.

*For example, in 1966, separate headings were shown for Readymade outer clothing and Handicraft tailoring and dressmaking. It proved impossible in many cases to assign persons between these two headings except on the basis of arbitrary assumptions; thus it was decided to combine the two into a single heading (Manufacture of outer clothing) for the 1971 Census.