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General Details

Introduction

A Census of Population was taken on the night of Sunday, 21 April 1991, in accordance with the Statistics (Census of Population) Order 1991 (S I No 62 of 1991)¹ A copy of the census questionnaire including the explanatory notes which accompanied it is reproduced in Appendix 1, Volume 1 of the detailed census report

This fourth volume of the detailed report contains detailed results relating to the population aged 15 years and over classified by their principal economic status and by the industry in which working. The territorial divisions of the country distinguished in this report are defined in Appendices 3–8 of Volume 1.

Subsequent census volumes will analyse the population by such characteristics as occupation, education, housing, etc

Coverage

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 Sunday, 21 April 1991, together with all persons who arrived in that area on the morning of Monday, 22 April 1991, 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 those in residence, while usual residents temporarily absent from the area are excluded.

The date of the census was 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 night were serving abroad with the United Nations were excluded from the enumeration.

Conduct of the Census

The census enumeration was carried out by a specially recruited temporary field force consisting of 334 full—time supervisors and some 3,200 part—time enumerators. The census questionnaires were distributed during the three weeks immediately preceding the census night and the collection of the completed questionnaires commenced the following day. The enumerators examined the questionnaires at the time of collection to ensure that they were correctly completed, and, where necessary, they assisted householders in their completion.

Production of Results

Each enumerator first prepared and returned to the Central Statistics Office a summary of the population in his/her enumeration area. These summaries formed the basis for the preliminary 1991 population results issued in three census publications within months of the census date². The completed questionnaires for the individual households were subsequently transmitted to the Central Statistics Office for processing.

The population summanes, dwelling listings and enumeration maps for individual enumeration areas were checked for consistency in county order and used to determine the boundaries of census towns and suburbs/environs of towns with legal boundaries. The first stage clencal scrutiny and computer processing of the entries for date of birth, marital status and relationship to head of household (questions 1–6) on the census questionnaire proceeded concurrently in the same county order. These two operations combined allowed the publication of the first set of final census results in a series of Local Population Reports which were issued on a county—by—county basis immediately results became available (see Appendix 1). A summary report for the State was issued in April 1993.

The derived first phase computer file forms the basis for three volumes of the detailed census report covering Areas, Ages and Marital Status, and Household Composition and Family Units. The computer processing of the remaining information on the census questionnaires enabled the publication of a second series of Local Population Reports covering place of birth, religion, Irish language, usual residence, car usage and household characteristics. Of the remaining volumes of the detailed census report, priority will be given to publishing those relating to Occupation and Education.

A complete list of the reports on the 1991 Census published to date is given in Appendix 1

Census of Population of Ireland 1991 Preliminary Population Figures (PI 8176) June 1991 Preliminary Report — Areas (PI 8248) July 1991

Preliminary Report – Areas (Pl 8248) July 1991 Preliminary Report – Age Groups (Pl 8447) November 1991

Made by the Taoiseach in pursuance of powers conferred on him by sections 11 and 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)

Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS)

Small area population statistics (SAPS) for Urban Districts, Rural Districts, Towns, District Electoral Divisions, etc from the 1991 Census are available on a fee basis

The SAPS contain detailed classifications of

- the population by age, sex and marital status,
- households by type, size and by age, sex and marital status of the head of the household,
- family units by size and age of youngest child,
- the population aged 15 years and over by principal economic status, age and sex,
- persons at work by sex, employment status and broad industrial sector,
- persons at work and unemployed by sex and occupational group,
- the entire population by socio—economic group and social class

Detailed classifications by means of travel and distance travelled to work, education, ability to speak Irish, religion and housing characteristics, etc. are also provided

For further information contact

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Commentary

Principal Economic Status

Table A shows the number of persons aged 15 years and over classified by principal economic status and sex for both 1986 and 1991

Table A Persons aged 15 years and over, classified by principal economic status and sex — 1986 and 1991

Principal Economic	-	1986			1991				
Status	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females			
At work Unemployed Looking for first	1,091,155 195,390	741,318 152,900	349,837 42,490	1,149,080 199,775	743,948 146,688	405,132 53,087			
regular job Students Home duties Others	43,001 245,210 653,843 287,343	26,082 121,373 445 201,926	16,919 123,837 653,398 85,417	34,015 283,064 595,469 323,742	20,564 140,072 2,698 216,610	13,451 142,992 592,771 107,132			
Total	2,515,942	1,244,044	1,271,898	2,585,145	1,270,580	1,314,565			

The total population aged 15 years and over increased by 69,203 persons (2.8 per cent) from 2,515,942 in 1986 to 2,585,145 in 1991. Females contributed more than males to this increase both in absolute and relative terms. The number of persons in the labour force (i.e. those at work, unemployed or looking for a first regular job) increased by 53,324, the male decrease of 9,100 being more than off—set by a female gain of 62,424. The number of persons outside the labour force also increased, albeit at a more modest rate of 15,879. Male gains (+35,636) were partially off—set by female losses (-19,757).

Persons looking for a first regular job and those engaged in home duties were the only categories in Table A to show decreases between 1986 and 1991. The former decreased by nearly 9,000 and the latter by over 58,000. The total number of persons at work increased by nearly 58,000 over the five year period. Most of this increase (+55,295) related to females. There was a slight increase in the number of persons unemployed in the 1986–1991 inter-censal period. This comprised a decline in male unemployment (-6,212) off—set by an increase in female unemployment (+10,597). The rise in the number of females at work and unemployed (+65,892) was counterbalanced by a decline of 60,627 in the number of females engaged in home duties.

Student numbers increased by nearly 38,000 over the five years. This increase was shared fairly evenly between males and females. The residual category "other", which includes retired persons, showed an increase of about 13 per cent between 1986 and 1991 with females accounting for most of the rise.

Table B gives a breakdown of the population aged 15 years and over by broad age group and sex within the main principal economic status categories in 1991. As already stated the labour force consists of those at work, unemployed or looking for a first regular job.

Table B Persons aged 15 years and over, classified by principal economic status, sex and age group —

Principal Economic		<u> </u>		Age group			
Status	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over	15 years and over
Labour force							
Males	166,573	235,122	222,876	160,042	96,754	29,833	011 200
Females	136,759	156,533	88,228	53,658	28,556	7,936	911,200
Total	303,332	391,655	311,104	213,700	125,310		471,670
Students	333,000	331,300	011,104	210,700	120,010	37,769	1,382,870
Males	137,340	2,401	251	63	16	4	440.070
Females	140,612	1,773	399	163	37	ı	140,072
Total	277,952	4,174	650	226		8	142,992
Home duties	_,,,,,	7,177	000	220	53	9	283,064
Males	211	430	601	404	356	ene	0.000
Females	14,242	89,427	137,714	109,057	94,496	696 147,835	2,698
Total	14,453	89,857	138,315	109,461	94,852	148,531	592,771
Others	,	33,001	100,010	100,401	37,032	140,551	595,469
Males	3,763	5,875	8,852	14,795	40,130	143,195	016.010
Females	2,098	3,831	4,651	6,386	16,770	73,396	216,610
Total	5,861	9,706	13,503	21,181	56,900	216,591	107,132
Total	-,	0,, 00	10,000	21,101	30,300	210,591	323,742
Males	307,887	243,828	232,580	175,304	137,256	173,725	1 070 F00
Females	293,711	251,564	230,992	169,264	139,859		1,270,580
Total	601,598	495,392	463,572	344,568	277,115	229,175	1,314,565
		.00,002	700,07E	 ,500	211,113	402,900	2,585,145

The table indicates that for each of the economically active age groups (i.e. 15-64) there were more males in the labour force than in any of the other principal economic status categories. By contrast this relationship only held for females in the 25-34 age group. For the 35-64 age groups the category "home duties" predominated for females. This category was also the most prevalent in the case of females aged 65 and over whereas for males the residual category "Others", which includes retired persons, accounted for most of the 65 and over age group. In 1991, there were just over 283,000 students, of whom 50 5 per cent were females.

The contrast between the positions of males and females can be seen more clearly from Table C which shows the percentage of males and females aged 15 years and over classified by age group and principal economic status

Table C Percentage of persons, aged 15 years and over, in each age group, classified by sex and principal economic status — 1991

Principal Economic				Age group			
Status	15-24	25-34	35-44 45-54		55-64	65 and over	15 years and over
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Labour force							
Males Females Total	54 1 46 6 50 4	96 4 62 2 79 1	95 8 38.2 67 1	91 3 31 7 62 0	70 5 20 4 45 2	17 2 3 5 9 4	71 7 35 9 53 5
Students							
Males Females Total	44 6 47 9 46 2	10 07 08	0 1 0 2 0 1	0 0 0 1 0 1	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	11 0 10.9 10 9
Home duties							
Males Females Total	0 1 4 8 2 4	0 2 35 5 18 1	0 3 59 6 29 8	0 2 64 4 31 8	03 676 342	0 4 64 5 36 9	0 2 45 1 23 0
Others							
Males Females Total	12 07 10	24 15 20	38 20 29	8 4 3 8 6 1	29 2 12 0 20 5	82 4 32 0 53 8	17 0 8 1 12 5
Total							
Males Females Total	100 - 100 - 100 -						

While labour force participation rates (i.e. those in the labour force expressed as a percentage of the relevant population total) were higher across all age groups for males than for females the differential was most marked in the case of the 35–44 and 45–54 age groups. The age group with the highest female labour force participation rate was the 25–34 age group. Thereafter, the rate declined with increasing age reflecting the effects of marriage and childbearing on women's participation in the labour force. Over six in every ten women in the 35–44 and higher age groups were engaged in home duties in 1991.

Labour Force participation rates by Age Group

Table D provides an analysis of labour force participation rates in 1991 by sex and five year age group. It also provides comparative data for 1981 and 1986.

Table D Percentage of males and females aged 15 years and over in the labour force in each age group — 1981, 1986 and 1991

Age Group		Males			Females	_
	1981	1986	1991	1981	1986	1991
	%	%	%	%	%	%
15-19 years	48 7	38 3	31 4	38 4	30 1	23 5
20-24 "	90 0	87 5	82 6	70 9	76 7	75 6
25-29 "	96 8	96 7	95.9	45 4	59 0	71 1
30-34 "	97 2	97 1	96 9	26 8	37 3	53 3
35-39 "	96 7	96 5	96 4	22 9	27 4	41 1
40-44 "	95 4	95 4	95 2	24 1	26 2	35 1
45-49 "	93 9	93 5	93 5	24 4	26 6	33 2
50-54 "	90 5	89 9	88 7	23 7	25 2	29 8
55-59 "	84 8	82 5	79 6	21 5	21 8	24 5
60-64 "	73 1	67 6	60 5	173	165	162
65-69 "	36 5	28 7	26 9	82	6 4	66
70-74 "	22 2	18 2	173	48	35	36
75 years and over	9 6	8 2	78	18	1 6	12
15-19 years	48.7	38 3	31 4	38 4	30 1	23 5
20-64 years	91 9	91 0	89 4	34 1	39 4	46 1
65 years and over	23 8	18 6	17 2	48	37	35
Total 15 years and over	76 4	74 0	71 7	29 7	32 2	35 9

Overall, male labour force participation declined from 76.4 per cent in 1981 to 74.0 per cent in 1986 and then to 71.7 per cent in 1991. This decline was most marked in the 15—19 age group as well as in the over 60 year old age groups. Conversely, there was an increase in overall female labour force participation over the same ten year period despite a decline in the rate for the 15—19 age group. The increasing female labour force participation occurred in all age groups from 20—24 to 55—59 inclusive and was most marked in the case of 30—34 year olds.

In Table E the labour force participation rates for females aged 20-54 years are disaggregated according to marital status

Table E Labour force participation rates for females aged 20-54 years in each marital status category - 1981, 1986 and 1991

Age Group	Single			E	Ever-married*			Widowed		
	1981	1986	1991	1981	1986	1991	1981	1986	1991	
20-24 years 25-29 " 30-34 " 35-39 " 40-44 " 45-54 "	87 9 91 1 84 7 79 0 73 5 65 4	85 3 91 4 86 8 81 0 77 1 68 6	79 1 89 7 86 2 82 2 77 5 70 5	35 2 26 8 16 8 15 6 17 0 15 3	46 8 41 4 27 1 20 5 20 1 19 0	53 2 57 0 45 1 35 0 30 2 26 7	41 3 39 1 34 8 35 1 37 0 35 0	33 3 34 8 33 0 31 8 33 7 32 6	31 3 44 7 42 2 40 1 36 8 36 3	

^{*}Including the "other status" category which was separately identified in 1981

The table illustrates increasing labour force participation rates for ever—married females in the case of all five year age groups and all cohorts between 1981, 1986 and 1991. The single female cohorts other than the 20—24 year cohort showed declines in labour force participation rates over the ten year period. There were gains in the labour force participation rates of widows aged 25 years and over between 1986 and 1991 representing a reversal of the trend observed between 1981 and 1986.

Analysis of persons at work by Industrial Group and Planning Region

Table F analyses the numbers of persons at work by planning region and by broad industrial group and shows the percentage distribution by industrial group within each region

Table F Number and percentage distribution of persons at work in each planning region classified by broad industrial group — 1991

			Other production industries (incl building)		Percentage distribution by region				
Region	Total at work	Agriculture, forestry and fishing		s type industries	Total at work	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Other production industries (incl building)	Service type industries	
					%	%	%	%	
East South West South East North East Midwest Midlands West North West &	463,048 170,697 119,661 60,862 100,661 80,533 92,480	17,877 29,814 24,885 11,968 19,036 19,269 23,016	118,466 48,784 36,053 18,846 29,124 21,912 22,588	326,705 92,099 58,723 30,048 52,501 39,352 46,876	40 3 14 9 10 4 5 3 8 8 7 0 8 0	11 3 18 8 15 7 7 6 12 0 12 2 14 5	37 8 15 6 11 5 6 0 9 3 7 0 7 2	48 2 13 6 8 7 4 4 7 7 5 8 6 9	
Donegal	61,138	12,343	17,540	31,255	53	78	56	40	
Total	1,149,080	158,208	313,313	677,559	100 -	100 -	100 -	100 -	

In overall terms the eastern region accounted for about 40 per cent of total employment in 1991. The dominance of this region in sectors outside of agriculture is particularly evident from Table F. Almost half of all persons at work in the service type industries and almost 38 per cent of those in production industries were enumerated in the eastern region. By way of contrast, the western region, which accounted for 8 per cent of total employment, had a one in seven share of agricultural employment in 1991.

There were 158,208 persons at work in agriculture, forestry and fishing in 1991 compared to 313,313 in production industries and 677,559 in services, the latter representing approximately 59 per cent of total employment. The change over time in the relative share of total employment accounted for by the three broad sectors of economic activity is illustrated in Figure 1. The figure shows the percentage distribution of persons at work by broad economic sector for selected censuses since 1926, and the diminishing importance of agriculture in terms of the numbers at work is clearly evident. The growth of the services sector, particularly since 1961 is also evident.

Figure 1 Sectoral shares of employment

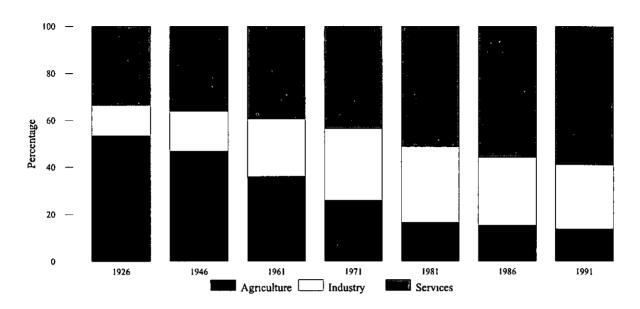


Table G shows the changes which took place between 1986 and 1991 in the number at work in the main industrial groups

Table G Actual and percentage change 1986-1991 in the number at work in the principal industrial groups

Industrial Group	Act	ual chang	Θ	Perce	Percentage change			
industrial di odp	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females		
	(000)	(000)	(000)	%	%	%		
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	-87	-123	36	-52	-80	29.3		
Mining, quarrying and turf production	-24	-25	0.1	-28 1	-306	29 6		
Manufacturing industries	3 4	-04	38	16	-02	61		
Food, beverages and tobacco	-42	-44	0 1	-88	-116	13		
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather	-49	-i ż	-3 2	-158	-137	-17.2		
Wood and wood products	60	Š 0	11	40 2	35 6	102.5		
Paper, paper products, printing and			• •		55.5	.02.0		
publishing	29	13	15	17 4	11.1	33 8		
Chemical, rubber and plastic products	-28	-32	0 4	-13 7	-213	80		
Glass, pottery and cement	1 4	03	10	10 3	28	52 0		
Metals, metal products and machinery Other manufacturing	50	29	2 1	8 1	67	11 5		
(incl_transport equipment)	01	-06	07	11	− 75	33.8		
Electricity, gas and water supply	-28	-28	0 0	-18 9	-213	00		
Building and construction	07	-08	15	09	-11	62 3		
Commerce	93	-0 1	9 4	57	-0 1	162		
Insurance, finance and business services	15 8	76	8 2	34 4	32 1	36 8		
Transport, communication and storage	26	10	16	39	18	13 0		
Public administration and defence	25	08	16	3 4	16	74		
Professional services	18 3	33	15 Q	103	49	13 6		
Personal services	112	45	68	18 7	20 8	17 6		
Other industries or industry not stated	79	4 2	37	37 0	30 1	50 2		
Total all industries	57 9	26	55 3	53	0 4	15 8		

The main contributors to the overall increase of nearly 58,000 in employment between 1986 and 1991 were professional services (+18,300), insurance, finance and business services (+15,800) and personal services (+11,200) Females accounted for two thirds of the gains in these sectors. The largest declines in employment were experienced in agriculture, forestry and fishing (-8,700), textiles, clothing, footwear and leather (-4,900) and food, beverages and tobacco (-4,200). Males contributed most to the declines in two of these sectors, the exception being textiles, clothing, footwear and leather in which females accounted for 65 per cent of the decline.

Table H shows the change in the number at work between 1986 and 1991 in each of the main industrial sectors in each planning region

Table H Actual and percentage change 1986-1991 in the number of persons at work classified by Industrial group and planning region

		Actual	change		Percentage change				
Region	Total at work	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Other production industries (incl building)	Service type industries	Total at work	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Other production industries (incl building)	Service type industries	
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	%	%	%	%	
East South West South East North East Midwest Midiands West North West & Donegal	29 2 10 5 5 9 1 5 3 2 1 2 3 8	10 -11 -05 -05 -15 -17 -26	-17 24 07 -09 -12 -14 07	29 9 9 2 5 7 2 9 6 0 4 3 5 7	67 66 52 25 33 16 43	60 -36 -20 -39 -75 -83 -101	-14 51 19 -47 -40 -59 30	10 1 11 2 10 8 10 8 12 8 12 4 13 9	
Total	57 9	-87	-10	67 6	53	-52	-03	11 1	

Over half of the increase in employment between 1986 and 1991 occurred in the East. Increased employment in services was the predominant influence. The regions which showed the greatest relative declines in agricultural employment were the North West and Donegal (-12.7 per cent) and the West (-10.1 per cent). There were minor changes in industrial employment, positive in some regions and negative in others, between 1986 and 1991.

Employment Status

Table I classifies persons, males and females at work in 1991 by employment status with comparative information for 1986. Derived actual and percentage changes are given in Table J.

Table I Employment status of persons at work classified by sex - 1986 and 1991

Employment Status	1986			1991		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Employer and own account worker	222,875	201,776	21,099	231,911	202,950	28,961
Assisting relative	31,693	21,372	10,321	22,659	13,985	8,674
Employee	836,587	518,170	318,417	894,510	527,013	367,497
Total at work	1,091,155	741,318	349,837	1,149,080	743,948	405,132

Some 894,500 or approximately 78 per cent of persons at work were classified as employees in 1991. Employers and own account workers accounted for approximately 231,900 persons or a further 20 per cent, while assisting relatives numbered less than 22,700 and comprised only 2 0 per cent of persons at work.

The 9,000 increase in the number of employers and own account workers was cancelled out by a decrease of similar proportions in the number of assisting relatives. The increase in the number of employees was therefore responsible for the overall rise of nearly 58,000 in employment in the 1986–1991 inter-censal period. The decline in the number of assisting relatives was more pronounced in the combined non-agricultural sectors both in absolute and relative terms. Declines in the number of employers and own account workers in agriculture, forestry and fishing were more than off-set by gains in this employment status category in other industries.

Table J Actual and percentage change 1986-1991 in the number at work in each employment status category

Employment Status	Actual change			Percentage change		
	All	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Other industries	All	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Other industries
	(000)	(000)	(000)	%	%	%
Employer and own account worker	90	-9 4	18 4	4 1	-76	18 6
Assisting relative	-90	-40	-5 1	-28 5	-17 1	-60 2
Employee	57 9	4 6	53 3	69	23 4	65
Total at work	57 9	-8 7	66 7	53	-52	72