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Tuarascálacha daonáirimh 1991 a foilsíodh go dtí seo

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Sonraí Ginearálta

Réamhrá

Glacadh Daonáireamh oíche Dé Domhnaigh, 21 Aibreán 1991 de réir an Ordú Staidrimh (Daonáireamh) 1991 (I.R. Uimh. 62 de 1991)¹. Tá cóipeanna den cheistneoir Daonáirimh agus de na teoracha a ghabh leis le fáil i bhFoscríbhinn 1 d'Imleabhar 1 de thuarascáil mhionsonraithe an Daonáirimh.

Sa seachtú himleabhar seo den tuarascáil mhionsonraithe, déantar aicmiú ar an daonra atá trí bliana d'aois agus os a chionn sin de réir eolas ar an nGaeilge. Déantar sainmhíniú ar na críocha tíre a aithnítear sa tuarascáil seo i bhFoscríbhinní 3-8 d'Imleabhar 1.

In imleabhair Dhaonáirimh eile, déanfar an daonra a anailísiú de réir tréithe eile, mar atá - oideachas, tithíocht agus gnátháit chónaithe.

Tuairiscábhar an Daonáirimh

Baineann figiúirí an Daonáirimh leis an líon daoine *de facto*, i.e. is é an daonra atá ar taifead i ndáil le gach limistéar an líon iomlán daoine a bhí laistigh dá theorainneacha oíche Dé Domhnaigh, an 21 Aibreán, 1991 mar aon leis na daoine go léir a tháinig isteach sa limistéar sin maidin Dé Luain, an 22 Aibreán, 1991 agus nár ríomhadh in aon áit eile. Déantar daoine a bhí ar bord loinge i gcalafort a áireamh i dteannta na ndaoine 'sna limistéir in aice an chalafoirt. Tá, dá bhrí sin, cuairteoirí a bhí i láthair oíche an Daonáirimh curtha san áireamh i dteannta leis na daoine a raibh cónaí orthu san áit, agus tá gnáth-áititheoirí, a bhí go sealadach as an limistéar, as an áireamh.

Dáta i dtréimhse nuair ba lú a bheadh an ghluaiseacht paisinéirí a roghnaíodh le haghaidh an Daonáirimh agus, dá bhrí sin, tá na figiúirí i ngar don líon daoine ar a mbíonn gnáthchónaí 'sna limistéir ar leith. Fágadh as an áireamh na comhaltaí sin d'Oglaigh na hÉireann a bhí, ar dháta an Daonáirimh, ar fiannas leis na Náisiúin Aontaithe.

Stiúradh an Daonáirimh

Meitheal páirce shealadach a earcaíodh go speisialta - 334 maoirseoir lánaimseartha agus 3,200 áiritheoir páirtaimseartha - a dhein an Daonáireamh. Scaipeadh na ceistneoirí Daonáirimh le linn na trí seachtaine go díreach roimh oíche an Daonáirimh agus cromadh ar na cinn chomhlánaithe a bhailiú an lá dár gcionn. Scrúdaigh na háiritheoirí na ceistneoirí ar iad a bhailiú d'fhonn a áiritiú gur comhlánaíodh i gceart iad agus, nuair ba ghá, chuidigh siad le daoine iad a chomhlánú.

Cur ar fáil na dTorthaí

D'ullmhaigh gach áiritheoir, i dtosach báire, achoimre ar an daonra ina Limistéar Áirimh. Ba iad na hachoirí sin ba bhun leis na torthaí sealadacha daonra do 1991 a eisíodh i dhá fhoilseachán Daonáirimh² roinnt míonna tar éis dáta an Daonáirimh. Cuireadh na ceistneoirí comhlánaithe a bhain leis na teaghlaigh ar leithligh ar aghaidh ina dhiaidh sin chuig Oifig an Daonáirimh le haghaidh próiseála.

Seiceáladh na hachoirí daonra, na liostaí teaghaiseanna agus na léarscáileanna do Limistéir Áirimh ar leithligh ar mhaithe le leanúnachas in ord na gContaetha agus úsáideadh iad chun teorainneacha na mBailte Daonáirimh agus fobhailte/purláin bhailte ag a bhfuil teorainneacha dlíthiúla a chinneadh. Chuathas ar aghaidh go comhuaineach leis an iniúchadh cléireachais chéad chéime agus le próiseáil ríomhaireachta na dtaifead i ndáil le dáta breithe, stádas pósta agus gaol le ceann an teaghlaigh ar an gceistneoir Daonáirimh san ord Contaetha ceanna. Leis an dá ghníomh sin le chéile, bhíodhas ábalta an chéad fhoireann de thorthaí críochnaitheacha Daonáirimh a fhoilsiú i sraith speisialta Tuarascálacha Daonra Áitiúil de réir mar a críochnaíodh leis na Contaetha ar leithligh. Foilsíodh tuarascáil achoimre don Stát, Aibreán 1993.

Ba iad na gníomhartha sin ba bhun leis na chéad trí imleabhar den tuarascáil mhionsonraithe Daonáirimh. Le próiseáil ríomhaireachta na faisnéise nár próiseáladh go dtí sin ar na ceistneoirí Daonáirimh, bhí bonn ar fáil le haghaidh an dara foireann de Thuarascálacha Daonra Áitiúil i ndáil le ionad breithe, reiligiún, an ghaeilge, gnátháit cónaithe, usáid ghluaisteán agus cúrsaí tithíochta.

Tugtar liosta iomlán de na tuarascálacha faoi Dhaonáireamh 1991 a foilsíodh go nuige seo san Fhoscríbhinn.

¹ Arna dhéanamh ag an Taoiseach de bhun na gcumhachtaí a tugadh dó le altanna 11 agus 16 den Acht Staitistíochta, 1926, agus leis an Ordu um na hAhta Staidrimh 1926 agus (Feidhmeanna Aire a Aistriú), 1949 (I.R. Uimh. 142 de 1949).

² Daonáireamh na hÉireann, 1991
Réamhfhigiúirí Daonra (PI: 8176), Meitheamh 1991
Réamhthuarascail - Limistéirí (PI: 8248), Iúil 1991.
Réamhthuarascail - Aoisaicmí (PI: 8447), Samhain 1991.

Staidreamh Daonra Limistéar Beag (SDLB)

Tá staidreamh daonra limistéar beag i ndáil le Ceantair Uirbeacha, Ceantair Thuaithe, Bailte, Toghranna Ceantair, srl. as Daonáireamh 1991 ar fáil ar bhonn tráchtála.

Tá aicmiú mionsonraithe le fáil ó SDLB :

- **don daonra** de réir aoise, gnéis agus stádais pósta;
- **do theaghlaigh** de réir aicme, líon daoine, agus de réir aoise, gnéis agus stádais pósta cheann an teaghlaigh;
- **do clanna** de réir líon daoine agus aois an pháiste is óige;
- **don daonra** aois 15 bliain agus os a cionn de réir príomhstádais eacnamaigh, aoise agus gnéis;
- **do dhaoine** ag obair de réir gnéis, stádais fostaíochta agus teascóg leithre tionsclaíochta;
- **do dhaoine** ag obair agus dífhostaithe de réir gnéis agus aicme slí bheatha;
- **don daonra** iomlán de réir aicme shoch - eacnamaigh agus aicme sóisialta.

Cuirtear ar fáil freisin aicmiú mionsonraithe de réir cáracha taistil agus fad an aistir chun na hoibre, oideachais, cumas ar ghaeilge a labhairt, reiligiún agus cúrsaí tithíochta.

Chun tuilleadh eolais d'fháil déan teagmháil leis:

An Phríomh Oifig Staidrimh
Rannán an Daonáirimh
Bóthar Átha Fhirdhia
Ráth Maoinis
Baile Átha Cliath 6

Guthán (01) 4977144 Follínte 4129, 4132, 4133 agus 4134
Facs (01) 4972360

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 seventh volume of the detailed report contains classifications of the population aged 3 years and over by knowledge of the Irish language. 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 education, housing and usual residence.

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 summaries, 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 clerical 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). A summary report for the State was issued in April 1993.

The derived first phase computer file formed 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 speakers, usual residence, car usage and household characteristics.

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

¹ 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. 142 of 1949).

² Census of Population of Ireland, 1991:
Preliminary Population Figures (Pl. 8176), June 1991
Preliminary Report - Areas (Pl. 8248), July 1991
Preliminary Report - Age Groups (Pl. 8447), November 1991.

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 households;
- **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:

Census Inquiries Section
Central Statistics Office
Ardee Road
Rathmines
Dublin 6

Phone (01) 4977144 Ext. 4129, 4132, 4133 and 4134
Fax (01) 4972360

Sainmhíniúcháin

An Ghaeilge

Ba mar seo a leanas a dréachtadh an cheist sa Daonáireamh maidir le cumas ar an Ghaeilge a labhairt:

CUMAS AR GHAEILGE A LABHAIRT

Scríobh “Gaeilge amháin”, “Gaeilge agus Béarla”,
“Léamh na Gaeilge gan bheith in ann í a labhairt”
nó fág bán de réir mar is iomchuí

'Sna nótaí míniúcháin a ghabhann leis an gceistneoir Daonáirimh, tugadh treoracha níos sonraithe i dtaobh conas an cheist a fheagairt:

Is ceart an cheist seo a fheagairt i dtaobh daoine atá trí bliana d'aois nó os a chionn. Fág bán i gcás leanai faoi bhun trí bliana d'aois.

- (i) *Scríobh “Gaeilge amháin” i gcás daoine bach bhfuil in ann ach Gaeilge a labhairt.*
- (ii) *Scríobh “Gaeilge agus Béarla” i gcás daoine atá in ann Gaeilge agus Béarla a labhairt.*
- (iii) *I gcás daoine atá in ann Gaeilge a léamh gan bheith in ann í a labhairt, scríobh “Léamh na Gaeilge gan bheith in ann í a labhairt”.*
- (iv) *Ná scríobh dada os coinne ainmneacha daoine nach bhfuil léamh ná labhairt na Gaeilge acu.*

Ba ionann an cheist agus na treoracha agus na cinn a úsáideach i nDaonáirimh 1961, 1971, 1981 agus 1986.

San aicmiú a dheantar san Imleabhar seo, cuirtear le chéile na daoine sa chéad dá chatagóir a shonraítear sa cheist agus taispeántar iad mar “Ghaeilgeoirí”, agus taispeántar na daoine sa chatagóir eile mar “Dhaoine nach Gaeilgeoirí”. Is ionann an cleachtas seo agus ar deineadh i dTuarascálacha Dhaonáirimh 1961, 1971, 1981 agus 1986.

Cé gur féidir na ceisteanna i sceideal an Daonáirimh a bhaineann le gnéas, dáta breithe, stádas pósta, slí bheatha, srl. a fheagairt go cruinn, braitheann an freagra a thugtar ar an gceist faoi “Chumas ar Ghaeilge a labhairt” cuid mhaith ar bhreithiúnas suibichtúil an duine atá ag comhlánú na foirme. Níor thángthas ar mhodh fós, a bheadh simplí go leor chun críocha Daonáirimh, lena bhféadfaí daoine a aicmiú de réir caighdeáin neamhathraithigh idir “Gaeilgeoirí” agus “Daoine nach Gaeilgeoirí”. Mar sin, ní féidir glacadh leis go bhfuil an staidreamh atá san Imleabhar seo chomh cruinn is atá an staidreamh in Imleabhair eile de chuid an Daonáirimh. Fós féin, is ábhar spéise é an staidreamh faoin nGaeilge, ó thaobh comparáid idir limistéir éagsúla sa tír de agus idir an Daonáireamh seo agus na cinn a deineadh go n-uige seo. In aon úsáid a bhainfí as na sonraí seo, níor mhór an easpa cruinnis oibichtúil dár tagraíodh thuas a chur san áireamh.

Limistéir Ghaeltachta

Leis na hOrduithe Limistéar Gaeltachta, 1956, 1967, 1974 agus 1982, míníodh an Ghaeltacht mar chúig Bharda agus 150 Toghroinn Cheantair nó codanna de Bhardaí agus de Thoghranna Ceantair I gContaetha Chiarraí, Chorcaí, Dhún na nGall, na Gaillimhe, Maigh Eo, na Mí agus Phort Láirge.

Ábhar na dTáblaí

Tá dhá chineál tábla san imleabhar seo. Baineann Táblaí 1 go 7, 11A, 11B, 13A, 14A agus 14B leis an Stát agus baineann na táblaí eile leis na limistéir Ghaeltachta, mar a míníodh iad leis na hOrduithe Limistéar Gaeltachta, 1956 go 1982.

Definitions

Irish Language

The census question relating to ability to speak the Irish language was formulated as follows:

**ABILITY TO SPEAK
THE IRISH LANGUAGE**

Write "Irish Only"
"Irish and English"
"Read but cannot speak Irish"
or leave blank as appropriate.

The following more specific instructions as to how the question should be answered were given in the explanatory notes attached to the census questionnaire:

This question should be answered for persons aged three years and over. Leave blank for children under 3 years of age.

- (i) *Write "Irish only" for persons who can speak only Irish.*
- (ii) *Write "Irish and English" for those who can speak Irish and English.*
- (iii) *For persons who can read but cannot speak Irish, write "Read but cannot speak Irish".*
- (iv) *Do not write anything opposite names of persons who can neither read nor speak Irish.*

The question and instructions were the same as those used in the 1961, 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses.

In the classifications in this volume, persons in the first two of the categories specified in the question are combined and shown as "Irish speakers", while those in the remaining category are shown as "Non-Irish speakers". This procedure is the same as that adopted in preparing the Reports of the 1961, 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses.

Whereas the questions on the census schedule relating to sex, date of birth, marital status, occupation, etc. can all be answered precisely, the replies given to the question on "Ability to speak the Irish language" depend to a large extent on the subjective judgement of the person completing the form(s). It has not been found possible to devise a method, simple enough for census purposes, to provide an invariable standard for classifying persons into those who "Can speak Irish" and those who cannot. Consequently, the statistics contained in this volume may not have the same level of precision as those in other volumes of the census. The statistics of the Irish language are, nevertheless, of interest for comparisons between different areas of the country and between this and previous censuses. The lack of objective precision referred to above must be borne in mind when using the data contained in the volume.

Gaeltacht Areas

The Gaeltacht Areas Orders, 1956, 1967, 1974 and 1982 defined the Gaeltacht as comprising 5 Wards and 150 District Electoral Divisions or parts of Wards and District Electoral Divisions in the counties of Cork, Donegal, Galway, Kerry, Mayo, Meath and Waterford.

Content of the Tables

The tables contained in this volume are of two types. Tables 1-7, 10A, 10B, 12A, 13A and 13B relate to the State and the remaining tables relate to the Gaeltacht areas, as defined by the Gaeltacht Areas Orders, 1956 to 1982.

Tráchttaireacht

Gaeilgeoirí 1926-1991

Léirítear an scéal ar fad maidir le heolas ar an nGaeilge i dTábla A i ndáil le gach bliain ó 1926 i leith ar cuireadh ceist faoin ábhar sin sa Daonáireamh.

Tábla A An líon agus an céatadán Gaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn, 1926-1991

Catagóir	1926	1936	1946	1961	1971	1981	1986	1991
Gaeilgeoirí	540,802	666,601	588,725	716,420	789,429	1,018,413	1,042,701	1,095,830
Daoine nach Gaeilgeoirí	2,261,650	2,140,324	2,182,932	1,919,398	1,998,019	2,208,054	2,310,931	2,271,176
Daonra iomlán 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn	2,802,452	2,806,925	2,771,657	2,635,818	2,787,448	3,226,467	3,353,632	3,367,006
Gaeilgeoirí mar chéatadán den daonra 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn	19.3	23.7	21.2	27.2	28.3	31.6	31.1	32.5

Le linn na tréimhse 1926-1991, tháinig méadú ar líon na ndaoine ar tuairiscíodh sa Daonáireamh labhairt na Gaeilge a bheith acu ó 540,802 nó 19.3 faoin gcéad den daonra trí bliana d'aois nó os a chionn go dtí 1,095,830 nó 32.5 faoin gcéad. Idir 1986 agus 1991, tháinig méadú ar líon i na nGaeilgeoirí le 53,129 nó 5.1 faoin gcéad fad a tháinig laghdú le 39,755 nó 1.7 faoin gcéad ar líon na ndaoine nach Gaeilgeoirí.

Tá sé tábhachtach a chur san áireamh go mbíonn dlúthbhaint ag an líon daoine a dtuairiscítear labhairt na Gaeilge a bheith acu i Daonáireamh ar bith ní hamháin le daonra iomlán na tíre an tráth sin ach le struchtúr aoise daonra freisin (féach Tábla C). Braitheann sé go háirithe ar an líon daoine atá ar scoil agus ar an líon daoine 'sna haoisaicmí iarscoile is óige.

Na Cúigí 1981-1991

Tugtar achoimre ar an staid ó thaobh Gaeilgeoirí de i ngach cúige 'sna blianta 1981, 1986 agus 1991 i dTábla B.

Tábla B An líon agus an céatadán Gaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn, i ngach cúige i 1981, 1986 agus 1991

Cúige	An líon Gaeilgeoirí			Gaeilgeoirí mar chéatadán den daonra 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn		
	1981	1986	1991	1981	1986	1991
Laighin	473,225	480,227	511,639	28.2	27.4	28.8
Mumhain	323,704	337,043	352,177	34.6	34.8	36.5
Connachta	155,134	158,386	162,680	38.8	38.7	40.2
Ulaidh (cuid de)	66,350	67,045	69,334	30.8	30.1	31.3
An tIomlán	1,018,413	1,042,701	1,095,830	31.6	31.1	32.5

Tháinig méadú ar an líon Gaeilgeoirí mar dhearbhlíon le linn na dtréimhsí idir Daonáirimh 1981 agus 1986, agus idir Daonáirimh 1986 agus 1991 'sna ceithre chúige go léir. Ba i gcúige Mumhan amháin, áfach, a tuairiscíodh méadú ar an gcéatadán sin idir 1986 agus 1991. Mar mhalairt, tháinig méadú ar an líon Gaeilgeoirí mar chéatadán den daonra trí bliana d'aois agus os a chionn 'sna ceithre chúige go léir idir 1986 agus 1991. Ba i gcúige Chonnachta, áit a raibh an limistéar Gaeltachta ba mhó i 1981, 1986 agus 1991, a bhí an céatadán ba mhó de Ghaeilgeoirí (40.2 faoin gcéad) 'sna ceithre chúige i 1991. Ba mar sin an scéal i 1981 agus 1986 freisin. Ba i gcúige Laighin, ar an taobh eile, de ba lú Gaeilgeoirí sa daonra leis na trí Dhaonáirimh sin anuas.

Aoisaicmí

Déantar comparáid i dTábla C idir an líon Gaeilgeoirí i ngach aoisaicme i 1986 agus 1991.

Tábla C An líon agus an céatadán Gaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn, arna n-aicmiú de réir aoisaicme - 1986 agus 1991

Aoisaicme	An líon Gaeilgeoirí		Gaeilgeoirí mar chéatadán den líon iomlán san aoisaicme	
	1986	1991	1986	1991
3 - 4 bliana	5,763	5,324	4.2	4.6
5 - 9 "	91,334	87,007	26.0	27.3
10 - 14 "	174,588	177,240	49.9	50.9
15 - 19 "	167,760	183,489	50.7	54.8
20 - 24 "	104,127	102,770	36.4	38.6
25 - 34 "	157,687	144,886	31.5	29.2
35 - 44 "	127,696	147,651	30.3	31.9
45 - 54 "	87,049	101,807	28.1	29.5
55 - 64 "	68,173	71,298	24.2	25.7
65 bliana agus os a chionn	58,524	74,358	15.2	18.5
An tIomlán	1,042,701	1,095,830	31.1	32.5

Ba 'sna haoisaicmí 10-14 agus 15-19 a bhí an céatadán is airde Gaeilgeoirí i 1986 agus i 1991. Is ionann na haoisaicmí sin i dteannta leis an aoisaicme 5-9 agus na haoisaicmí freastail scoile. Tháinig méadú ar an gcéatadán Gaeilgeoirí 'sna haoisaicmí go léir, seachas 25-34 bliana, idir 1986 agus 1991. Ba bheag nár mhéadaigh an líon Gaeilgeoirí san cóhort 5-9 faoi dhó i 1991 de bharr cúiseanna oideachais go príomhga. Bhí an méadú (+5.1 faoin gcéad) níos laige don cóhort 10-14 fad is a tháinig laghdú bhun 39 faoin gcéad ar an gcéatadán Gaeilgeoirí san cóhort 15-19 toisc éifeachtaí fágáil scoile.

Léiríonn na figiúirí do 1986 agus 1991 go dtagann meath le haois go ginearálta ar an gcumas labhartha Gaeilge, tar éis na haoisaicme 15-19 bráth is airde é.

Limistéir Gaeltachta

Mar a léirítear i dTábla D tháinig meadú ar daonra na limistéirí Gaeltachta 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn le 576 nó 0.7 faoin gcéad idir 1986 agus 1991. Bhí claonadh difriúil, áfach, idir Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe agus na limistéirí Gaeltachta eile. Tháinig méadú ar daonra 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn an chéad ceann le 3,058 nó 11 faoin gcéad fad is a tháinig laghdú ar daonra gach ceann de na Gaeltachtaí eile idir 1986 agus 1991. Ar an iomlán bhí laghdú le 2,482 nó 4.9 faoin gcéad ar na limistéirí sin.

Tháinig laghdú ar líon na Gaeilgeoirí i limistéirí Gaeltachta le 1,982 nó 3.4 faoin gcéad idir an dhá Daonáirimh. Ba i gContae Maigh Eo (-12.1 faoin gcéad) a bhí an laghdú comhréireach ba mhó agus i gContae Dhún na nGall (-1,249) an laghdú iarbhair ba mhó i líon na nGaeilgeoirí.

Tháinig laghdú ó 74.0 faoin gcéad i 1986 go 71.0 faoin gcéad i 1991 ar Ghaeilgeoirí mar chéatadán den daonra i limistéirí Gaeltachta. Seachas Gaeltacht na Mí, áit a raibh méadú beag, do laghdaigh ceatadán na Gaeilgeoirí i ngach limistéir Gaeltachta. Cé gur mhéadaigh líon na Gaeilgeoirí le 660 i nGaeltacht na Gaillimhe, tháinig laghdú ar chéatadán na Gaeilgeoirí ó 75.0 faoin gcéad i 1986 go 69.7 faoin gcéad i 1991.

Tábla D An daonra iomlán agus an líon Gaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn, 'sna limistéirí Ghaeltachta - 1986 agus 1991

Limistéirí Ghaeltachta	An tIomlán		Gaeilgeoirí		Daoine nach Gaeilgeoirí		Gaeilgeoirí mar chéatadán den iomlán	
	1986	1991	1986	1991	1986	1991	1986	1991
Corcaigh	3,609	3,442	2,846	2,686	763	756	78.9	78.0
Dún na nGall	24,784	23,529	18,823	17,574	5,961	5,955	75.9	74.7
Gaillimh	27,836	30,894	20,873	21,533	6,963	9,361	75.0	69.7
Ciarraí	7,807	7,787	6,142	5,945	1,665	1,842	78.7	76.3
Maigh Eo	12,387	11,411	8,071	7,096	4,316	4,315	65.2	62.2
An Mhí	1,202	1,191	602	600	600	591	50.1	50.4
Port Láirge	1,362	1,309	1,094	1,035	268	274	80.3	79.1
An tIomlán	78,987	79,563	58,451	56,469	20,536	23,094	74.0	71.0

Daoine ag a bhfuil léamh na Gaeilge ach nach féidir leo í a labhairt

Áirtear i measc “Daoine nach Gaeilgeoirí” san Imleabhar seo iadsan ag a bhfuil léamh na Gaeilge ach nach féidir leo í a labhairt. Bíonn eolas áirithe ag na daoine sin ar an teanga, más teoranta féin an t-eolas é. Tugtar achoimre i dTábla E ar líon na ndaoine sin, arna n-aicmiú de réir gnéis, i 1981, 1986 agus 1991.

Tábla E Daoine, fireannaigh agus baineannaigh, ag a bhfuil léamh na Gaeilge ach nach féidir leo í a labhairt, 1981, 1986 agus 1991

Gnéas	1981	1986	1991
Fireannaigh	133,242	161,574	180,837
Baineannaigh	135,715	168,698	190,931
Daoine	268,957	330,272	371,768

Tháinig méadú le 41,500 ar líon na ndaoine ag a bhfuil léamh na Gaeilge ach nach féidir leo í a labhairt idir 1986 agus 1991 i gcomparáid le méadú comhfhreagrach le 61,000 idir 1981 agus 1986. Bhí cumas léamh na Gaeilge gan bheith ábalta í a labhairt níos airde i measc baineannaigh ná fireannaigh, 'sna trí Daonairimh agus chuaig sé i dtreiseacht thar h-am.

Gaeilgeoirí i dTeaghlaigh Phríobháideacha

As na 1,029,084 teaghlach príobháideach sa Stát, bhí 433,135 nó 42 faoin gcéad ina raibh Gaeilgeoir amháin nó níos mó. Ba i gCabhán agus i gContae Bhaile Átha Cliath a bhí na céatadán ba lú (33.3 agus 33.7 faoin gcéad faoi seach) agus i gContae Bhaile Éireann agus i gContae na Gaillimhe na céatadán ba mhó (56.7 faoin gcéad agus 54.2 faoin gcéad faoi seach) (féach Tábla 11A).

De na 433,135 teaghlach príobháideach ina raibh Gaeilgeoir amháin nó níos mó, bhí díreach Gaeilgeoir amháin i 152,262 díobh; ba theaghlaigh dhuine amháin iad 47,973 díobh sin. Sa tsli chéanna, bhí 114,919 teaghlach ina raibh beirt Ghaeilgeoirí agus ba theaghlaigh bheirte iad 45,006 díobh sin (féach Tábla 13A). I gcoitinne, bhí Gaeilgeoirí le fáil go forleathan i dteaghlaigh, a raibh daoine eile sa chuid is mó nár Ghaeilgeoirí iad.

Tábla F An líon agus an céatadán (a) Teaghlach príobháideach ina bhfuil Gaeilgeoir amháin nó níos mó agus (b) Gaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn i dteaghlaigh phríobháideacha i limistéir Ghaeltachta gach contae

Limistéir Ghaeltachta	Teaghlaigh phríobháideacha			Daoine i dteaghlaigh phríobháideacha		
	An tlomlán	Le Gaeilgeoir amháin nó níos mó		Iomlán 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn	Gaeilgeoirí	
		An líon	An céatadán		An líon	An céatadán
Corcaigh	1,021	854	83.6	3,427	2,682	78.3
Dún na nGall	7,707	6,415	83.2	23,251	17,466	75.1
Gaillimh	9,263	7,452	80.4	30,426	21,390	70.3
Ciarraí	2,563	2,117	82.6	7,330	5,712	77.9
Maigh Eo	3,478	2,490	71.6	11,293	7,042	62.4
An Mhí	365	234	64.1	1,191	600	50.4
Port Láirge	361	295	81.7	1,138	864	75.9
An tIomlán	24,758	19,857	80.2	78,056	55,756	71.4

Mar a léirítear i dTábla F, bhí Gaeilgeoir amháin, ar a laghad, i 4 theaghlach as gach 5 theaghlach phríobháideacha 'sna limistéir Ghaeltachta cé go raibh na céatadáin i nGaeltacht Mhaigh Eo (7 as 10) agus go háirithe i nGaeltacht na Mí (2 as 3) i bhfad níos ísle. Ba i nGaeltacht Chorcaí (78.3 faoin gcéad) a bhí an céatadán ba mhó Gaeilgeoirí i dteaghlaigh phríobháideacha agus i nGaeltacht na Mí (50.4 faoin gcéad) an céatadán ba lú.

'Sna limistéirí Ghaeltachta le chéile, Gaeilgeoirí ab ea 90.3 faoin gcéad de na cinn teaghlaigh (i dteaghlaigh a raibh Gaeilgeoir amháin nó níos mó ná sin iontu). Bhí 746,114 Gaeilgeoir ar fad sa 276,887 teachlach ina raibh Gaeilgeoir ina cheann teaghlaigh, 2.7 an teaghlach ar an méan (féach Táblaí 14A agus 14B). 'Sna limistéirí Ghaeltachta, bhí 51,598 Gaeilgeoir 'sna 17,932 teaghlach ar a raibh Gaeilgeoir ina cheann, 2.9 an teaghlach ar an méan; bhí 4,158 Gaeilgeoir 'sna 1,925 teaghlach ar a raibh duine nár Gaeilgeoir ina cheann, 2.2 an teaghlach ar an méan (féach Táblaí 15A agus 15B).

Commentary

Irish Speakers 1926-1991

Table A provides a synopsis of the number and percentage of Irish speakers aged 3 years and over for each of the years since 1926 in which a question on this topic was asked in the Census of Population.

Table A Number and percentage of Irish speakers, 3 years of age and over, 1926-1991

Category	1926	1936	1946	1961	1971	1981	1986	1991
Irish speakers	540,802	666,601	588,725	716,420	789,429	1,018,413	1,042,701	1,095,830
Non-Irish speakers	2,261,650	2,140,324	2,182,932	1,919,398	1,998,019	2,208,054	2,310,931	2,271,176
Total population 3 years of age and over	2,802,452	2,806,925	2,771,657	2,635,818	2,787,448	3,226,467	3,353,632	3,367,006
Irish speakers as a percentage of population 3 years of age and over	19.3	23.7	21.2	27.2	28.3	31.6	31.1	32.5

Over the period 1926-1991 the number of persons who were returned in the Census of Population as being able to speak Irish increased from 540,802, or 19.3 per cent of the population aged 3 years and over, to 1,095,830 or 32.5 per cent. Between 1986 and 1991 the number of Irish speakers increased by 53,129 or 5.1 per cent while there was a decline of 39,755 or 1.7 per cent in the number of non-Irish speakers.

It is important to bear in mind that the number of persons returned as being able to speak Irish at any census is closely related not only to the total population in the country at that time, but also to the age structure of the population (see Table C). It is particularly dependent on the number of persons who are attending school and on the number of persons in the younger post-schoolgoing age groups.

Provinces 1981-1991

Table B summarises the number of Irish speakers in each province in the years 1981, 1986 and 1991.

Table B Number and percentage of Irish speakers, 3 years of age and over, in each province in 1981, 1986 and 1991

Province	Number of Irish speakers			Irish speakers as a percentage of population 3 years of age and over		
	1981	1986	1991	1981	1986	1991
Leinster	473,225	480,227	511,639	28.2	27.4	28.8
Munster	323,704	337,043	352,177	34.6	34.8	36.5
Connacht	155,134	158,386	162,680	38.8	38.7	40.2
Ulster (part of)	66,350	67,045	69,334	30.8	30.1	31.3
Total	1,018,413	1,042,701	1,095,830	31.6	31.1	32.5

The number of Irish speakers increased in absolute terms during the 1981/86 and 1986/91 intercensal periods in all four provinces. Munster was, however, the only province to register an increase in the share of Irish speakers expressed as a percentage of the relevant population aged 3 years and over between 1981 and 1986. In contrast, the percentage share of Irish speakers increased in all provinces between 1986 and 1991. The province of Connacht, which contained the largest Gaeltacht area in 1981, 1986 and 1991, had the greatest proportion of Irish speakers (40.2 per cent) among the four provinces in 1991. This was also the case in 1981 and 1986. Leinster, on the other hand, has consistently over the last three censuses had the smallest proportion of Irish speakers among its population.

Age Groups

Table C compares the number of Irish speakers in each age group in 1986 and 1991.

Table C Number and percentage of Irish speakers, 3 years of age and over, classified by age group - 1986 and 1991

Age Group	Number of Irish speakers		Irish speakers as a percentage of the total in the age group	
	1986	1991	1986	1991
3 - 4 years	5,763	5,324	4.2	4.6
5 - 9 "	91,334	87,007	26.0	27.3
10 - 14 "	174,588	177,240	49.9	50.9
15 - 19 "	167,760	183,489	50.7	54.8
20 - 24 "	104,127	102,770	36.4	38.6
25 - 34 "	157,687	144,886	31.5	29.2
35 - 44 "	127,696	147,651	30.3	31.9
45 - 54 "	87,049	101,807	28.1	29.5
55 - 64 "	68,173	71,298	24.2	25.7
65 years and over	58,524	74,358	15.2	18.5
Total	1,042,701	1,095,830	31.1	32.5

The 10-14 and 15-19 age groups had the highest reported percentage of Irish speakers in both 1986 and 1991. These age groups together with the 5-9 age group broadly correspond to the schoolgoing population. The percentage of Irish speakers increased in all age groups, apart from the 25-34 year age group, between 1986 and 1991. The number of Irish speakers in the 5-9 years cohort had almost doubled by 1991 due mainly to educational factors. The increase was less pronounced (+5.1 per cent) for the 10-14 years cohort while the impact of leaving the educational system for many of the 15-19 years cohort resulted in the number of Irish speakers in that group falling to just below 39 per cent.

The figures for 1986 and 1991 show that ability to speak the Irish language generally declines with age beyond the 15-19 year age group when it is at its highest.

Gaeltacht Areas

As shown in Table D the population aged 3 years of age and over in Gaeltacht areas rose by 576 or 0.7 per cent between 1986 and 1991. However, different trends were observed in the Galway Gaeltacht and the remaining areas. The population aged 3 years and over increased by 3,058 or 11 per cent in the former while each of the other Gaeltacht areas experienced a decline in population between 1986 and 1991. The combined decrease for these areas was 2,482 or 4.9 per cent.

The number of Irish speakers in Gaeltacht areas fell by 1,982 or 3.4 per cent between both censuses. Mayo (-12.1 per cent) experienced the greatest percentage decline, and Donegal (-1,249) the greatest absolute decline, in Irish speakers.

The percentage of the total population in Gaeltacht areas returned as Irish speakers fell from 74.0 per cent in 1986 to 71.0 per cent in 1991. With the exception of the Meath Gaeltacht, where there was a marginal increase, all areas recorded a decline in the proportion of Irish speakers. While there was an increase of 660 in the

number of Irish speakers in the Galway Gaeltacht, their share of the total population nevertheless fell from 75.0 per cent to 69.7 per cent.

Table D Total population and number of Irish speakers, 3 years of age and over, in Gaeltacht areas - 1986 and 1991

Gaeltacht Areas	Total		Irish speakers		Non-Irish speakers		Irish speakers as percentage of total	
	1986	1991	1986	1991	1986	1991	1986	1991
Cork	3,609	3,442	2,846	2,686	763	756	78.9	78.0
Donegal	24,784	23,529	18,823	17,574	5,961	5,955	75.9	74.7
Galway	27,836	30,894	20,873	21,533	6,963	9,361	75.0	69.7
Kerry	7,807	7,787	6,142	5,945	1,665	1,842	78.7	76.3
Mayo	12,387	11,411	8,071	7,096	4,316	4,315	65.2	62.2
Meath	1,202	1,191	602	600	600	591	50.1	50.4
Waterford	1,362	1,309	1,094	1,035	268	274	80.3	79.1
Total	78,987	79,563	58,451	56,469	20,536	23,094	74.0	71.0

Persons able to read but not speak Irish

Persons who can read but cannot speak Irish are treated in this volume as "Non-Irish speakers". These persons, however, have a certain knowledge of the language, even if it is somewhat limited. Table E summarises the number of such persons classified by sex for 1981, 1986 and 1991.

Table E Persons, males and females, who can read but cannot speak Irish, 1981, 1986 and 1991

Sex	1981	1986	1991
Males	133,242	161,574	180,837
Females	135,715	168,698	190,931
Persons	268,957	330,272	371,768

The number of persons who can read but cannot speak Irish increased by about 41,500 between 1986 and 1991 compared to a corresponding increase of over 61,000 between 1981 and 1986. Ability to read but not speak Irish was more prevalent among females than males in all three censuses and increased in intensity over time.

Irish Speakers in Private Households

Of the total of 1,029,084 private households in the State 433,135 or 42 per cent had one or more Irish speakers in 1991. The proportions were lowest for Cavan and Dublin County Borough (33.3 and 33.7 per cent, respectively) while Galway County Borough and Galway County (56.7 and 54.2 per cent, respectively) recorded the highest proportions (see Table 11A).

Of the 433,135 private households with one or more Irish speakers, 152,262 had precisely one Irish speaker; 47,973 of these were one-person households. Similarly, there were 114,919 households with two Irish speakers and 45,006 of these were two-person households (see Table 13A). In general, Irish speakers were widely dispersed in households, the majority of which contained other persons who were non-Irish speakers.

Table F Number and percentage of (a) private households with one or more Irish speakers and (b) Irish speakers, 3 years of age and over in private households, in the Gaeltacht areas of each county

Gaeltacht Areas	Private households			Persons in private households		
	Total	With one or more Irish speakers		Total 3 years of age and over	Irish speakers	
		Number	Percentage		Number	Percentage
Cork	1,021	854	83.6	3,427	2,682	78.3
Donegal	7,707	6,415	83.2	23,251	17,466	75.1
Galway	9,263	7,452	80.4	30,426	21,390	70.3
Kerry	2,563	2,117	82.6	7,330	5,712	77.9
Mayo	3,478	2,490	71.6	11,293	7,042	62.4
Meath	365	234	64.1	1,191	600	50.4
Waterford	361	295	81.7	1,138	864	75.9
Total	24,758	19,857	80.2	78,056	55,756	71.4

As shown in Table F about 4 out of every 5 private households in Gaeltacht areas contained at least one Irish speaker although the proportions for the Mayo Gaeltacht (7 out of 10) and particularly for the Meath Gaeltacht (less than 2 out of 3) were somewhat lower. The Cork Gaeltacht (78.3 per cent) had the greatest percentage of Irish speakers living in private households while the Meath Gaeltacht (50.4 per cent) had the lowest percentage.

For Gaeltacht areas as a whole, 90.3 per cent of heads of households (with one or more Irish speakers), were Irish speakers. The 276,887 households where the head of the household was an Irish speaker contained a total of 746,114 Irish speakers, an average of 2.7 per household (see Tables 14A and 14B). For Gaeltacht areas, the 17,932 households where the head of the household was an Irish speaker contained 51,598 Irish speakers, an average of 2.9 per household; while the 1,925 households where the head of the household was not an Irish speaker contained 4,158 Irish speakers, an average of 2.2 per household (see Tables 15A and 15B).