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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 eighth volume of the detailed report is in two parts. Part I contains detailed classifications of the population by usual residence at census date and one year prior to census date while Part II contains tabulations according to birthplace.

With the exception of Table 1 the tables in Part I of this volume relate to the usually resident population in each area as analyses involving migration are obviously more meaningful when presented in this way. The tables in Part II (with the exception of Table 32) relate to the enumerated or *de facto* population as is the case in all the other census volumes for 1991. 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 housing and education.

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 1). 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

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.

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 Appendix 1.

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

Definitions

Usual Residence and Migration

The figures for usual residents in a particular area include persons enumerated in that area who stated that their usual residence was at the place where they were enumerated, together with other persons usually resident in that area who were enumerated elsewhere in the State. Persons whose usual residence was elsewhere in the State (i.e. visitors to the area), are not included in the area of enumeration but are included in the area of their usual residence. Usual residents of an area who were not in the State on census night were not enumerated at all in the census and, therefore, are not included in the figures. Visitors to the State are also excluded.

Thus the analyses given in this report involving "Usual residence one year ago" essentially relate to persons enumerated in the census who changed their usual residence during the twelve month period prior to census date.

The census questions relating to usual residence were as follows:

USUAL RESIDENCE	
NOW	ONE YEAR AGO
<p>If the person usually lives at this address, write "Here".</p> <p>If not, write the usual address in full.</p>	<p>If the person's usual address one year ago was the same as that given at Q. 10, write "Same".</p> <p>If not, write in full the usual address at that time.</p> <p>For children now under one year old, write "Under 1".</p>

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

- (i) *If an address in any part of Ireland (including Northern Ireland) is being given, make sure that the county of residence is stated. In addition, if the address is in a town, the name of the town should be given and if it is in a rural area, the townland name should be given. In every case, the full address should be given.*
- (ii) *If the address is outside Ireland, state the country of usual residence.*
- (iii) *For school children who are away from home during term-time, the home address and not the term-time address should be regarded as the usual residence.*
- (iv) *For students at University, etc., who are away from home during term-time, the term-time address should be regarded as the usual residence.*
- (v) *For persons, temporarily in hospitals and other institutions, give the home address.*
- (vi) *For persons with no settled address, write "None".*

A further two questions were asked in relation to usually resident persons who lived abroad for one year or more. These are as follows:

<p>If the person lived outside Ireland (Republic) for a period of one year or more please indicate :</p>	
<p>(a)</p> <p>The year of taking up residence in Ireland (Republic).</p>	<p>(b)</p> <p>Country of last previous residence.</p>

The following instructions relating to the questions were given in the explanatory notes attached to the census questionnaire:

- (i) *These questions should be answered for all persons who are now usually resident in Ireland (Republic) and who previously lived elsewhere for a continuous period of 12 months or more; or who were brought to live here before their first birthday.*
- (ii) *At question 13 please distinguish Northern Ireland separately.*

Birthplace.

The census question relating to birthplace was as follows:

<p>PLACE OF BIRTH</p> <p>If born in Ireland state the <i>county</i>.</p> <p>If born elsewhere state the <i>country</i>.</p>
--

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

- (i) *Give the usual residence of mother at time of birth, not the location of hospital or nursing home where born.*
- (ii) *If born in any part of Ireland (including Northern Ireland) give the name of the county of birth.*
- (iii) *If born outside Ireland, whether now resident in or visiting Ireland, state the country of birth.*

In the case of persons born in Ireland no attempt was made to distinguish those born in the County Boroughs from those born in the adjoining Counties. Such a distinction would, in any case, have been meaningless in view of the various extensions of County Borough boundaries which, in many cases, may have meant that a person's birthplace was outside a County Borough boundary when he was born, but inside it at the date of the census.

It should be noted that the figures for foreign-born persons shown in the section on birthplace (Part II) (with the exception of Table 32) include visitors to the country as well as persons who are usually resident. Table 32 analyses the usual residents of the State by place of birth.

Classification by Occupation

All persons aged 15 years and over who were at work, unemployed (other than first job seekers) or retired were classified in the census to their usual (or previous) principal occupation.

A person's occupational classification is determined by the kind of work performed 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 the occupation. For example, the occupation "Clerk" covers clerks employed in manufacturing industries, commerce, banking, insurance, public administration, professions and other services, etc..

The intermediate level of occupational groups used in the 1991 Census classification is given in Appendix 2 while the broad level of occupational groups is shown in Appendix 3.

Classification by Socio-Economic Group

The entire population was classified to one of eleven socio-economic groups plus a residual "Unknown" group if sufficient details were not provided. The occupations assigned to each of the eleven groups are generally similar as regards the level of skill or educational attainment required. The socio-economic group of persons aged 15 years and over who were at work was determined by their occupation or in some cases by a combination of occupation and employment status. Unemployed or retired persons were classified by socio-economic group according to their former occupation.

Persons engaged in home duties or at school/college, who were members of a family unit, were classified to the socio-economic group of the person in the family on whom they were deemed to be dependent. Thus, if the head of a family was at work, unemployed or retired, dependent persons were assigned to his/her socio-economic group. If the head was neither at work, unemployed nor retired (e.g. never worked, permanently disabled, etc.) or if his/her occupation was not known, they were assigned to the socio-economic group of the principal earner in the family - if there was no such earner, they were assigned to the "Unknown" socio-economic group. Other persons engaged in home duties or at school/college who were not members of a family unit, such as persons living alone or relatives of a head of household who were not members of the family unit (e.g. widowed grandparents, etc.), were assigned to the "Unknown" group.

The socio-economic groups used in the census, which are identical to those used in the 1986 Census, are as follows :

0	Farmers, farmers' relatives and farm managers
1	Other agricultural occupations and fishermen
2	Higher professional
3	Lower professional
4	Self-employed (with employees) and managers
5	Salaried employees
6	Intermediate non-manual workers
7	Other non-manual workers
8	Skilled manual workers
9	Semi-skilled manual workers
X	Unskilled manual workers
Y	Unknown

A detailed list of the constituent occupations in each socio-economic group is given in Appendix 4.

Classification by Social Class

The entire population was also classified by social class. The social class scale used was first introduced in the 1986 Census. The scale combines the detailed occupation codes into six broad groups (with a seventh residual group, "Unknown") in such a way as to group together, as far as possible, people of similar social class. The entire population was classified by social class following the same procedures as are outlined in the previous section for the allocation of socio-economic group.

The social class groups used in the census, which are identical to those used in the 1986 Census, are as follows:

1	Higher professional, higher managerial, proprietors employing others and farmers farming 200 or more acres
2	Lower professional, lower managerial, proprietors without employees and farmers farming 100-199 acres
3	Other non-manual workers and farmers farming 50-99 acres
4	Skilled manual workers and farmers farming 30-49 acres
5	Semi-skilled manual workers and farmers farming less than 30 acres
6	Unskilled manual workers
7	Unknown

A detailed list of the constituent occupations of each social class group is given in Appendix 5.