



**An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh**  
Central Statistics Office

# Bringing the Census to schools

6<sup>th</sup> Year Course



In preparation  
for:

**census**  
**2016** **APRIL**  
**24**  
**www.census.ie**

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## Introduction to Population Studies

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Ireland has the second smallest population in Western Europe and has the lowest population density, with 67 people per square kilometre. However, Ireland's pattern of population change over the past two hundred years has been quite dramatic.

Over the next three classes we will examine why Ireland's population has changed so dramatically. We will examine the factors that influenced the change, both on a national level and local level, paying close attention to the effects that population change can have on a country and we will then use the information gathered by the Central Statistics Office to create and generate a useful study graph representing the fluctuations.

Population studies ties in very closely with much of the information provided to us by the Central Statistics Office. The C.S.O. takes a census of the population of Ireland every five years, taking a count of the country's population, in the hope of improving Ireland, both economically and socially.

The vast amount of information gathered is now available online and throughout this learning process we aim to improve awareness of the C.S.O. website.

## Lesson 1

---

### You will need

- Internet access
- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft Word
- Data Projector
- Whiteboard markers
- Calculator

### Objectives

You should be able to:

- Calculate population density
- Identify what push and pull factors affect population

The census tells everything we need to know about the population of Ireland. It informs us of the male to female ratio and what areas of employment the population work in, but, perhaps the most important piece of information we gain from the census is the population density of specific towns, villages and cities.

The census allows the country to be governed correctly. Knowing how many children live in a village or how many pensioners live in a town allows the government to implement the best strategies needed for each particular place.

**Towns with many children = build new schools**

**Villages with many elderly = build new care homes**

An area's population density can tell you a huge amount about the region. Ireland's population density varies greatly depending on where in the country you are. The West of Ireland has a far lower population density than the East of Ireland. According to the 2011 C.S.O. census, Dublin city and its suburbs have a population density of nearly 3,500 people per square kilometre and are Ireland's most densely populated regions. Co. Galway on the other hand has a population density of just 30 people per square kilometre and is one of Ireland's least densely populated regions.

### Calculating Population Density

Galway County - 2011 Census	
Population	175,124
Males	88,244
Females	86,880
Area (sq. km)	5,796

Divide the population number by area (sq. km) number

$$\frac{\text{Population}}{\text{Area}} = \frac{175,124}{5,796}$$

= **30.21** people per sq. km

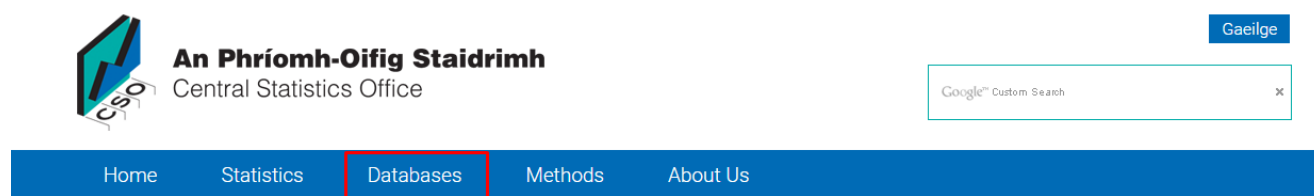
## Using C.S.O. Databases

The C.S.O. allows us access to a vast amount of interesting and informative figures that can tell us a lot about Ireland and its population. Today you will explore these figures. You can begin by filling in the chart below, testing yourself to find the population densities of the regions listed.

To access the statistics you will need to go [the C.S.O. website](#) and follow these instructions to locate them.

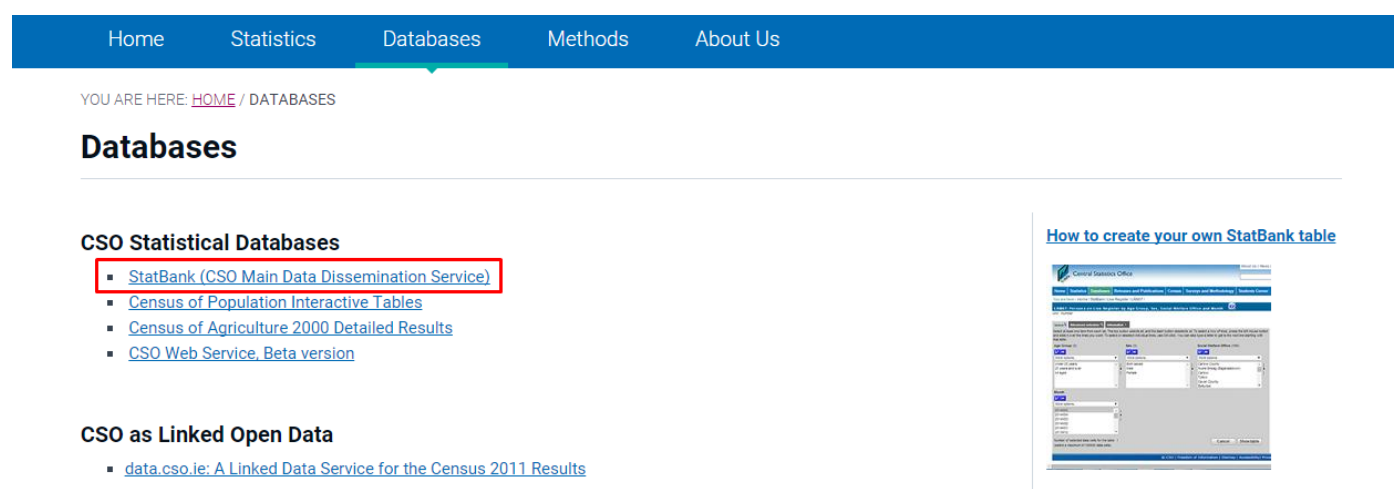
### Step 1

Click Databases on the menu



### Step 2

Select StatBank



### Step 3

Select People and Society > Census of Population >  
2011 Census Results > Profile 1 – Geography

The screenshot shows the StatBank Ireland website interface. At the top is a blue navigation bar with links: Home, Statistics, Databases, Methods, and About Us. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads: You are here > Home / StatBank / . The main content area is divided into two sections. On the left, under the heading 'Theme', is a tree view of the data structure. The path 'People and Society' > 'Census of Population' > '2011 Census Results' > 'Profile 1 - Geography' is highlighted with red boxes and numbered 1 through 4. On the right, under the heading 'Selected Tables', a list of tables is displayed, including LRM07, QNQ33, RSM03, TMA06, and VSQ04.

Home Statistics **Databases** Methods About Us

You are here > Home / StatBank /

**Theme**

- People and Society 1
  - Census of Population 2
    - 2011 Census Results 3
      - This is Ireland Part 1
      - This is Ireland Part 2
      - Profile 1 - Geography 4
      - Profile 2 - Ages
      - Profile 3 - At Work
      - Profile 4 - The Roof Over Our Heads - Housing in Ireland
      - Profile 5 - Households and Families - Living

**Selected Tables**

- LRM07: Persons on Live Register by Age Group, Sex, Social Welfare Office and Month
- QNQ33: Person aged 15 years and over by Principal Economic Status, Sex and Quarter
- RSM03: Retail Sales Index (NACE Rev 2) (Base 2005=100) by NACE Group, Month and Statistic
- TMA06: Overseas Visits to Ireland by Area of Residence, Year and Statistic
- VSQ04: Total Births, Deaths and Marriages Registered by State, Quarter and Statistic

### Step 4

Select CD116 – Population Density and Area Size by Census Year

The screenshot shows the StatBank Ireland website interface. At the top is a blue navigation bar with links: Home, Statistics, Databases, Methods, and About Us. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads: You are here > Home / StatBank Ireland / Profile 1 - Geography. The main content area is divided into two sections. On the left, under the heading 'Theme', is a tree view of the data structure. The path 'People and Society' > 'Census of Population' > '2011 Census Results' > 'Profile 1 - Geography' is highlighted with red boxes. On the right, under the heading 'Statistical Product - Profile 1 - Geography', is a list of tables. The table 'CD116 Population Density and Area Size by CensusYear, Towns by Size and Statistic' is highlighted with a red box.

Home Statistics **Databases** Methods About Us

You are here > Home / StatBank Ireland / Profile 1 - Geography

**Theme**

- People and Society
  - Census of Population
    - 2011 Census Results
      - This is Ireland Part 1
      - This is Ireland Part 2
      - Profile 1 - Geography
      - Profile 2 - Ages
      - Profile 3 - At Work
      - Profile 4 - The Roof Over Our Heads - Housing in Ireland
      - Profile 5 - Households and Families - Living Arrangements in Ireland
      - Profile 6 - Migration and Diversity in Ireland - A profile of diversity in Ireland
      - Profile 7 - Religion, Ethnicity and

**Statistical Product - Profile 1 - Geography**

**Current Tables**

- CD101 Actual and Percentage Change in Population by Aggregate Town or Rural Area, Province County or City, CensusYear, Statistic and Sex (2006-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:29  
Download .px file (Size: 18.6 kb)
- CD102 Actual and Percentage Change in Population by CensusYear, Province or County and Statistic (1926-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:30  
Download .px file (Size: 13.8 kb)
- CD103 Components of Population Change by Regional Authority, CensusYear, Statistic and Sex (2006-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:30  
Download .px file (Size: 5.1 kb)
- CD104 Components of Population Change by CensusYear, Province County or City, Statistic and Sex (2011-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:31  
Download .px file (Size: 11.9 kb)
- CD105 Annual Estimated Net Migration by Province or County, CensusYear and Intercensal Period (2011-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:31  
Download .px file (Size: 3.6 kb)
- CD107 Population at Each Census by Sex, Age Group and CensusYear (1926-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:31  
Download .px file (Size: 3.0 kb)
- CD108 Population by Province County or City, Age Group, CensusYear and Sex (2011-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:32  
Download .px file (Size: 17.0 kb)
- CD110 Population by Usual Residence, CensusYear, Sex and Type of Communal Establishment (2011-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:32  
Download .px file (Size: 4.0 kb)
- CD111 Population at Each Census by Sex, Province or County and CensusYear (1841-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:33  
Download .px file (Size: 16.4 kb)
- CD112 Population in the Aggregate Town Areas and Aggregate Rural Areas by Province County or City, CensusYear, Statistic and Sex (2011-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:33  
Download .px file (Size: 5.5 kb)
- CD113 Population by Regional Authority, CensusYear, Sex and Statistic (2006-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:33  
Download .px file (Size: 6.4 kb)
- CD114 Population and Percentage Change 2006 and 2011 by CensusYear, Towns by Electoral Division, Statistic and Sex (2006-2011) - Modified on 15/05/14 at 10:04  
Download .px file (Size: 319.3 kb)
- CD115 Population Density and Area Size by Electoral Division, CensusYear and Statistic (2006-2011) - Modified on 02/09/14 at 10:16  
Download .px file (Size: 448.7 kb)
- CD116 Population Density and Area Size by CensusYear, Towns by Size and Statistic (2011-2011) - Modified on 27/02/15 at 11:12  
Download .px file (Size: 22.5 kb)
- CD117 Population per Member of Dáil Éireann by CensusYear, Constituency and Statistic (2006-2011) - Modified on 31/10/13 at 11:35  
Download .px file (Size: 7.3 kb)

## Step 5

Select:


Area, total population and population density

Which town's data you want e.g. Swords




Then click the “Show table” button to see the data

[Home](#) [Statistics](#) [Databases](#) [Methods](#) [About Us](#)

You are here > [Home](#) / StatBank / Profile 1 - Geography / CD116 /

**CD116: Population Density and Area Size by Towns by Size, CensusYear and Statistic** 

Unit : Number

Select  **Advanced selection**  **Information** 

Statistical Indicator

2011 - Area (sq km) (Number)

2011 - Total population (including suburbs or environs) (Number)

2011 - Population density (persons per sq km) (Number)

2011 - Population within legally defined boundary (Number)

Select at least one item from each list. The tick button selects all, and the dash button deselects all. To select a row of lines, press the left mouse button and slide it over the lines you want. To select or deselect individual lines, use Ctrl-click. You can also type a letter to get to the next line starting with that letter.

Towns by Size (209)

Sort

State

Dublin City and suburbs

Other Cities (1)

Cork City and suburbs

Limerick City and suburbs

Galway City and suburbs

Waterford City and suburbs

Towns 10,000 population and over

Drogheda

Dundalk

Swords

Bray

Navan (An Uaimh)

Ennis

CensusYear

More options...

2011

Number of selected data cells for the table: 3  
(select a maximum of 100000 data cells)

Cancel

Show table

Area	Population	Area in sq. km	Density in people per sq. km
Swords	36,924	10.2	3,616.5
Kilkenny			
Kanturk			
Clifden			

8



## **Push and Pull factors**

The population density of Ireland and areas within Ireland is influenced by many factors. These factors can be both physical and human.

### Physical Factors

**Terrain** - areas with mountainous terrain are likely to have low population density.

**Climate** - areas can be too wet, dry, hot or cold for humans to live a comfortable life.

**Natural resources** - people locate near rivers and mineral deposits.

### Human Factors

**Employment** - employment opportunities heavily impact on people locating in certain areas.

**Social life** -it is appealing for many people to live in an area with a variety of opportunities to socialise such as sports clubs, restaurants and pubs.

**Education**- schools and colleges attract people to various towns and cities.

The area of Connemara in Co. Galway has a low population density because it has mountainous terrain and few educational opportunities as it is home to no third level colleges.

Dublin City, on the other hand, has a high population density because it has many third level colleges such as Trinity College. These colleges, in turn attract companies and create employment opportunities.

## Lesson 2

### You will need

- Internet access
- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft Word
- Data Projector
- Whiteboard markers
- Calculator

### Objectives

You should know:

- Ireland's population change between the years 1840-1960
- The effects of Irish Independence
- The Lemass Years

The population of Ireland and the regions within the country are subject to constant change. For 100 years after The Great Famine, Ireland experienced huge death tolls and mass outward migration, as a result the population declined sharply.

Sexes.	1821.	1831.	1841.	Increase per 100 between 1821 and 1831.	Increase per 100 between 1831 and 1841.
Males . . .	3,341,926	3,794,880	4,019,576	13.55	5.92
Females . . .	3,459,901	3,972,521	4,155,548	14.81	4.61
Total, . . .	6,801,827	7,767,401	8,175,124	14.19	5.25
Proportion of Females to 100 Males, }	103 $\frac{7}{10}$	104 $\frac{7}{10}$	103 $\frac{4}{10}$	.	.

*A census collected  
in 1841 saw  
Ireland's  
population at over  
8 million*

It is thought that over a million people died as a result of the famine, whilst a further one million emigrated during the famine years of 1845-1849. The population of the island dropped from over 8 million in 1845 to about 6 million in 1850. By 1900, over 4 million had left Ireland and emigration continued well into the 1950s, averaging 6,000 a year.

### **Irish Independence 1922**

In 1922 Ireland gained its independence from Britain; more problems arose. Ireland had a massive unemployment issue and lacked industrial activity, which meant surviving as a country in its own right got off to a tough start. Poverty and limited opportunities pushed people onto the emigration boats. These boats were bound for the USA, Britain and even as far as Australia. Work existed in these places and according the census the population of Ireland continued to fall until it reached just under 3 million people. The severe depression in the late 1950's was forcing 60,000 people to emigrate annually.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Persons</b>
<b>1901</b>	<b>3,221,823</b>
<b>1911</b>	<b>3,139,688</b>
<b>1926</b>	<b>2,971,992</b>
<b>1936</b>	<b>2,968,420</b>
<b>1946</b>	<b>2,955,107</b>
<b>1951</b>	<b>2,960,593</b>
<b>1956</b>	<b>2,898,264</b>
<b>1961</b>	<b>2,818,341</b>

## The Lemass Years

It wasn't until the Lemass years that a change in outward migration patterns arose. Seán Lemass became Taoiseach of Ireland in 1959 and brought about major shifts in government policy. He is seen as the “Father of Modern Ireland”, due to his efforts in encouraging industrial growth and bringing [foreign direct investment](#) into the country. Lemass saw that Ireland had been suffering from a “brain drain” over the previous years and knew he had to do something to keep Ireland's young and prosperous from emigrating. What he did would have profound effects on the nation that are still widely evident today.

Lemass began a policy of encouraging multinational companies from abroad to locate in Ireland. He knew that an influx of companies seeking a skilled workforce would in turn encourage students to go to third level education and benefit Ireland greatly. Companies from Europe and the U.S. were offered tax incentives and they came in large numbers. Irish net outward migration declined sharply.

Can you name some of the multinational companies that are in Ireland?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## **1980's Recession**

In the decade proceeding the 1980's recession, Ireland had become a member of the E.E.C. (now the European Union) and the census recorded that inward migration exceeded outward migration by 104,000 people.

However, a severe economic recession in the 1980's, caused by an increase in oil prices, again saw the young and educated leave Ireland and seek employment in Britain and the US. While the population of Ireland continued to increase, due to high fertility rates, outward migration was once again a problem.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Both sexes</b>
<b>1841</b>	3,222,485	3,306,314	6,528,799
<b>1851</b>	2,494,478	2,617,079	5,111,557
<b>1861</b>	2,169,042	2,233,069	4,402,111
<b>1871</b>	1,992,468	2,060,719	4,053,187
<b>1881</b>	1,912,438	1,957,582	3,870,020
<b>1891</b>	1,728,601	1,740,093	3,468,694
<b>1901</b>	1,610,085	1,611,738	3,221,823
<b>1911</b>	1,589,509	1,550,179	3,139,688
<b>1926</b>	1,506,889	1,465,103	2,971,992
<b>1936</b>	1,520,454	1,447,966	2,968,420
<b>1946</b>	1,494,877	1,460,230	2,955,107
<b>1951</b>	1,506,597	1,453,996	2,960,593
<b>1956</b>	1,462,928	1,435,336	2,898,264
<b>1961</b>	1,416,549	1,401,792	2,818,341
<b>1966</b>	1,449,032	1,434,970	2,884,002
<b>1971</b>	1,495,760	1,482,488	2,978,248
<b>1979</b>	1,693,272	1,674,945	3,368,217
<b>1981</b>	1,729,354	1,714,051	3,443,405
<b>1986</b>	1,769,690	1,770,953	3,540,643
<b>1991</b>	1,753,418	1,772,301	3,525,719
<b>1996</b>	1,800,232	1,825,855	3,626,087
<b>2002</b>	1,946,164	1,971,039	3,917,203
<b>2006</b>	2,121,171	2,118,677	4,239,848
<b>2011</b>	2,272,699	2,315,553	4,588,252

### Task (10 mins)

Using Microsoft Excel, create a bar chart visual, representing the fluctuations in Ireland's population over the past 160 years. Use the census table above to source your figures and years.

## Lesson 3

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### You will need

- Internet access
- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft Word
- Data Projector
- Whiteboard markers
- Calculator

### Objectives

- Know what the Celtic Tiger was
- Understand what burst Ireland's bubble
- Construct a study timeline

### The Celtic Tiger

The Celtic Tiger years saw the Irish economy experience growth greater than any other country in the world. The Irish economy was booming and jobs were in plentiful supply. Ireland began to attract workers from all over Europe to allow the growth to continue. Under E.U. law, all E.U. citizens and their family members must be allowed to move between Member States in much the same way as they would move around in their home country. European citizens can enter, live and stay in any E.U. country simply by presenting their passport at the border.

With this freedom of movement and the opportunities Ireland now offered, the country's inward migration began to increase. According to the census, Ireland's population increased by 671,049 people between the years 2002-2011.

## *Origin of Mirgants*



*Source: BBC.com*

### **Recession once again**

In common with the rest of the world, the Irish economy was hit by a major crash in the mid to late 2000's, leading to, inter alia, a major increase in unemployment and significant levels of emigration. Indeed, the scale and depth of the crash was such that the Irish Government had to request financial assistance from the EU and the IMF in 2010. In return for a financial package of €67.5 billion, the Irish Government agreed a programme of economic reform and bank restructuring. Ireland completed its programme in 2013, but remains subject to post-programme surveillance until at least 75% of the financial



assistance received has been repaid. More recently, the Irish economy is showing signs of recovery, with unemployment falling to 8.8% by the end of 2015, the lowest rate in seven years.

### **Task (20 mins)**

The question surrounding Ireland's population change is a very common one on the Leaving Certificate. You now have all the information you need to create a timeline of the change. On its completion, the timeline will be a very useful study tool.

Include important statistics and pieces of information in the boxes provided at each stage of Ireland's population change.

See the sample timeline below

1841-1900

1961 Census

1980's

The Property Crash



1922

The Lemass Years

The Celtic Tiger