



An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh
Central Statistics Office

census
2011 APRIL
10
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Preas Ráiteas **Press Statement**

Census 2011 Preliminary Results

The first results of the census, held just 12 weeks ago, were released today and show that Ireland's population is growing strongly, primarily due to a high number of births.

The results published today show population changes for geographical areas including counties, constituencies and right down to Electoral Divisions. "The information is available for 3,440 areas. People can go on to the CSO website at www.cso.ie/census and see the results for their own area", according to Shaun McLaughlin, Statistician at the CSO.

For now only headcount totals for males and females are available. Scanning and processing of the two million census forms has begun and the first definitive results are due to be published next March, within a year of census day.

Mr. McLaughlin explained that "These early results are based on the summary counts for each enumeration area which were compiled by the 4,854 enumerators. These clerical summaries have been returned to the CSO in advance of the census forms and the results published today are based on this information. The enumerators did a great job getting their summaries back to us, which allows us to prepare these early results of the census. We'd like to thank the entire census field staff for all their hard work and perseverance over the course of the census field campaign".

"It is very important to us that we produce early results so that the Irish public can make the connection between the census form they filled out only a couple of months ago and the important statistics that are available as a result" he said.

Strong Population Growth

The total population enumerated on census night 10th April was 4,581,269, an increase of 341,421 on the 2006 census. This represents an increase of 8.1 per cent over the past five years, or an annual average of 1.6 per cent, compared to 2.0 per cent per annum in the period 2002-2006.

Population of Laois increased by 20%

The population change varied widely across the country with the highest percentage increase in County Laois (20.0%), more than twice the rate for the State as a whole. Other counties showing strong population growth were Cavan (13.9%), Fingal (13.8%), Longford (13.3%), Meath (13.0%) and Kildare (12.7%).

As in 2002-2006, Cork City and Limerick City were the only two of the thirty-four administrative counties in the State to register a fall in population during the 2006-2011 period.

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Natural increase positive in all counties

All counties experienced positive natural increase (births minus deaths) in the intercensal period 2006-2011, with the rates highest in Fingal, South Dublin, Kildare and Meath. The counties with the lowest rates were Cork City, Roscommon and Mayo.

Migration

There continued to be net inward migration, measured at 118,650 over the period 2006-2011 or an average of 23,730 p.a. However, while Ireland continued to experience strong net inward migration for the early years of the period, this was followed by a switch to net outward migration in the latter years, resulting in an average annual inward migration rate of less than half that experienced in the period 2002-2006.

All counties apart from South Dublin and the four provincial cities of Cork, Galway, Limerick and Waterford experienced some level of net inward migration in the period, varying from a high of 23.8 per thousand in Laois to the greatest net outflow of 17.2 per thousand in Limerick City.

Balbriggan Rural the fastest growing Electoral Division

At Electoral Division (ED) level, Balbriggan Rural in Fingal recorded the highest increase in intercensal population – up 5,531 to 15,146 in April 2011, followed by Lucan-Esker (+3,998) in South Dublin and Glencullen (+3,939) in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown.

The constituency of Dublin North, which covers the areas of Balbriggan, Donabate, Lusk, Rush, Skerries, Malahide and part of Swords showed the largest population increase at 16.1%.

More females than males

In a reversal of the situation in 2006, when there were slightly more males than females, there are now more females than males in the country with 981 males for every 1,000 females. On a regional basis, Dublin showed the lowest ratio with only 949 males for every 1000 females, while the Midland region was the only region to show more males than females with 1,002 for every 1000.

Vacant Dwellings

The number of vacant dwellings has increased by 10.5%, although vacancy rates have dropped slightly, from 15.0% to 14.7% due to a 13.3% increase in the total number of dwellings.

For copies of the publication:

To view and download the publication, visit the CSO website at www.cso.ie/census

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Further information about Census 2011 is available on www.census.ie