

Census of Population 2002
Sample of Anonymised Records (COPSAR)
User Guide

1	INTRODUCTION.....	3
1.1	COVERAGE OF THE CENSUS.....	3
1.2	CONDUCT OF THE CENSUS.....	3
1.3	PRODUCTION OF RESULTS.....	3
1.4	PUBLICATION OF RESULTS	3
1.5	FURTHER INFORMATION	4
2	SAMPLE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT.....	5
2.1	ANONYMISATION AND RECODING.....	6
2.2	SAMPLE SELECTION.....	6
	APPENDIX 1 – 2002 CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE.....	16

1 Introduction

A Census of Population was taken on the night of Sunday, 28 April 2002¹, in accordance with the Statistics (Census of Population) Order 2001 (S.I. No. 491 of 2001)². A copy of the census questionnaire, including the explanatory notes which accompanied it, is reproduced in Appendix 1.

1.1 Coverage of the Census

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, 28 April 2002, together with all persons who arrived in that area on the morning of Monday, 29 April 2002, 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 from the census count.

A limited number of questions, relating mainly to demographic characteristics, were asked in respect of usual residents who were temporarily absent from their households on census night. The responses to these questions enables a more precise picture to be built up on families and households by excluding visitors present on census night and including residents who were temporarily absent.

1.2 Conduct of the Census

A temporary field force consisting of 5 Census Liaison Officers, 35 Regional Supervisors, 350 Field Supervisors and some 4,000 part-time enumerators carried out the census enumeration. Blank census questionnaires were distributed to every household and communal establishment in the State during the four weeks immediately preceding census night. Collection of completed questionnaires commenced on Monday, 29 April. 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.

1.3 Production of Results

Each enumerator first prepared and returned to the Central Statistics Office (CSO) a summary of the population in his/her enumeration area. These summaries formed the basis for the preliminary 2002 population results³. The completed questionnaires for the individual households were subsequently transmitted to the CSO for processing.

The population summaries, dwelling listings and enumeration maps for individual enumeration areas were checked for consistency and used to determine the boundaries of census towns and suburbs/environs of towns with legal boundaries. The capture and processing of the responses to questions on the census questionnaire proceeded concurrently.

1.4 Publication of Results

The publication schedule consisted of the Principal Demographic Results and Principal Socio-economic Results, which provide the main census results, primarily at national level. More detailed data is provided in 13 subject matter reports. All of the tables published in these reports are available on the Central Statistics Office web site (www.cso.ie) using Beyond 20/20 interactive software. This software gives Internet users the ability to select and view data online and then download the same data to their computers.

¹ The census originally planned for 29 April 2001 was postponed because of the Foot and Mouth disease situation pertaining at the time.

² The Statistics (Census of Population) Order, 2001 was made by the Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach in pursuance of powers conferred on him by section 25 (1) of the Statistics Act, 1993 (No. 21 of 1993) and the Statistics (Delegation of Ministerial Functions) Order, 1997 (S.I. No. 327 of 1997).

³ Census of Population of Ireland, 2002: Preliminary Report (Pn. 11897), July 2002.

1.5 Further Information

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2 Sample structure and content

The file contains data relating to the *de facto* population. Table 1 below gives details of the variables in the sample and how they are classified. For further details on definitions of the variables, please refer to the published reports from Census 2002 (these are available on the census pages of the Central Statistics Office web site (www.cso.ie/census.html)).

The following variables were excluded:

- Membership of the "Irish Traveller Community", as the relevant sub-population is quite small (i.e. 24,000)
- Travel to work variables. A separate sample relating to place of work and travel to work will be made available at a later stage.

There is no information on the file which relates persons to households⁴. Separate samples of microdata relating to households are available from the Quarterly National Household Survey.

Table 1 List of variables in the Anonymised Persons Microdata File and the classifications used

Data Set Name:	COP02MD	Observations:	195,877
Sorted by:	County	Variables:	29
Label:	Census of Population 2002 - 5% Sample of persons anonymised		

-----Variables Ordered by Position-----

#	Variable	Type	Length	Classification	Label
1	planrg	Char	1	PLANRG	Regional Authority - Enumerated
2	county	Char	2	COUNTY	County (administrative) - Enumerated
3	sex	Char	1	SEX	Sex
4	age5grp	Char	5	AGE5GRP	5 Year Age Group
5	mstatus	Char	1	MSTATUS	Marital Status
6	plcbirth	Char	2	SARGEO	Place of Birth
7	pobflag	Char	1	POBFLAG	Place of Birth Flag
8	usres	Char	1	USRES	Usual Residence Now
9	usresyr	Char	1	USRESYR	Usual Residence 1 year ago
10	yearres	Char	1	YEARRES	Year taking up residency in Ireland
11	cntryres	Char	2	SARGEO	Country of Previous Residence
12	spkir	Char	1	SPKIR	Ability to speak Irish
13	irishfq	Char	1	IRISHFQ	Frequency of Speaking Irish
14	leveled	Char	1	LEVELED	Highest Level of Education Completed
15	qual	Char	1	QUAL	Third Level Qualification
16	edcease	Char	1	EDCEASE	Age Education Ceased
17	pstatus	Char	1	PSTATUS	Present Status
18	empstat	Char	1	EMPSTAT	Employment Status
19	ind_cl	Char	1	IND_CL	Industry Class
20	areatype	Char	1	AREATYPE	Area Type
21	occgrp	Char	1	OCCGRP	Occupation Group

⁴ Social Class and Socio-Economic Group are given for all persons in the sample. For Persons on home duties or at school/college, who are members of a family unit, the Social Class and Socio-Economic Group are assigned on the basis of the person in the family on whom they were deemed to be dependent.

22	seg	Char	1	SEG	Socio-Economic Group (SEG)
23	soc_cl	Char	1	SOC_CL	Social Class
24	ilostat	Char	1	ILOSTAT	ILO Economic Status
25	ilohrs	Char	1	ILOHRS	ILO Hours Worked
26	nation	Char	1	NATION	Nationality
27	relig	Char	1	RELIG	Religion
28	disab	Char	1	DISAB	Disability
29	carer	Char	1	CARER	Unpaid Carer

2.1 Anonymisation and recoding

The records relating to persons within households were anonymised by stripping off all identifiable information such as household number, person number within household and by recoding variables where the number of categories could lead to the identification of an individual when combined with other information on the record. In particular the lowest level of geography given is County. Table 2 on the following page gives a list of classifications used in the sample and the level of recoding (if applied).

2.2 Sample selection

A 5 per cent random sample of the recoded person records from each county was selected. The records within each county were sorted randomly before output to the sample file.

Table 2 Classifications used in the sample and level of recoding

Classification	Code	Associated label	Applies to Variables/ Notes
AREATYPE	R	Rural	Area type Rural includes towns with a population of less than 1,500 persons. Urban includes towns and cities with a population of 1,500 persons or more.
	U	Urban	
AGE5GRP	00-04	00-04	5 Year Age Group
	05-09	05-09	
	10-14	10-14	
	15-19	15-19	
	20-24	20-24	
	25-29	25-29	
	30-34	30-34	
	35-39	35-39	
	40-44	40-44	
	45-49	45-49	
	50-54	50-54	
	55-59	55-59	
	60-64	60-64	
	65-69	65-69	
	70-74	70-74	
75+	75+		
CARER		Not applicable	Unpaid Carers Persons aged 15 years and over were asked whether they provided regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family member with a long-term illness, health problem or disability (including problems due to old age). Personal help includes help with basic tasks such as feeding or dressing. Receipt of "Carers Allowance" was not considered payment for the purposes of this question. "Meals on Wheels" staff were not considered carers for the purpose of this question. The "Not a carer" category includes not stated.
	1	Unpaid carer	
	2	Not a carer (including not stated)	
COUNTY	01	01 Carlow	County This is the county (administrative) where the person was enumerated. Data is collected at the level of street/townland within Electoral Division but most detailed level of geography made available in this sample is administrative county.
	02	02 Dublin City	
	03	03 South Dublin	
	04	04 Fingal	
	05	05 Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	
	06	06 Kildare	
	07	07 Kilkenny	
	08	08 Laoighis	
	09	09 Longford	

Classification	Code	Associated label	Applies to Variables/ Notes
	10	10 Louth	
	11	11 Meath	
	12	12 Offaly	
	13	13 Westmeath	
	14	14 Wexford	
	15	15 Wicklow	
	16	16 Clare	
	17	17 Cork City	
	18	18 Cork County	
	19	19 Kerry	
	20	20 Limerick City	
	21	21 Limerick County	
	22	22 Tipperary North	
	23	23 Tipperary South	
	24	24 Waterford City	
	25	25 Waterford County	
	26	26 Galway City	
	27	27 Galway County	
	28	28 Leitrim	
	29	29 Mayo	
	30	30 Roscommon	
	31	31 Sligo	
	32	32 Cavan	
	33	33 Donegal	
	34	34 Monaghan	

Classification	Code	Associated label	Applies to Variables/ Notes
DISAB	1	Has a disability	<p>Disability</p> <p>Data on disability was derived from answers to questions 14 and 15 of the census questionnaire.</p> <p>Question 14 was a two-part question, which asked persons of all ages about the existence of the following long lasting conditions:</p> <p>(a) blindness, deafness or a severe vision or hearing impairment</p> <p>(b) a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying.</p> <p>Question 15 was a four-part question that asked whether an individual had a physical, mental or emotional condition lasting six months or more that made it difficult to perform certain activities. The four activity categories were:</p> <p>- for persons aged 5 years and over:</p> <p>(a) learning, remembering or concentrating</p> <p>(b) dressing, bathing or getting around inside the home</p> <p>- for persons aged 15 years and over:</p> <p>(c) going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office</p> <p>(d) working at a job or business.</p> <p>Individuals were classified as having a disability if they ticked "yes" in response to any of the categories in questions 14 and 15.</p>
	2	No disability (including not stated)	
EDCEASE		Not applicable	<p>Age full time education ceased</p> <p>Collected by single year of age but grouped into 8 categories for the purposes of this sample.</p> <p>Not applicable applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> persons under 15 years of age on 28 April 2002; persons who answered "No" to question 20 ("Have you ceased your full-time education?"). <p>Not stated applies to persons who answered "Yes" to question 20, but did not write in the age at which their education ceased.</p>
	*	Not stated	
	1	Under 15 years	
	2	15 years	
	3	16 years	
	4	17 years	
	5	18 years	
	6	19 years	
	7	20-21 years	
	8	22 years and over	
X	Full-time education not ceased		
EMPSTAT		Not applicable	<p>Employment Status</p> <p>Not applicable applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> persons under 15 years of age on 28 April 2002; persons who indicated <i>not at work</i>, <i>unemployed</i> or <i>retired</i> for present status.
	*	Not stated	
	1	1 Employee	
	2	2 Self-employed, with paid employees	
	3	3 Self-employed, without paid employees	
4	4 Assisting relative		

Classification	Code	Associated label	Applies to Variables/ Notes
ILOHRS		Not applicable	ILO Hours Worked Applies to persons aged 15 years and over and in employment (ILO). Not applicable applies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> persons not in employment (ILO) persons who in the week before the census were away from work ill, on holiday, on maternity leave or temporarily laid off.
	*	Not stated	
	1	1 – 19 hours	
	2	20 – 34 hours	
	3	35 – 39 hours	
	4	40 – 44 hours	
	5	45 hours and over	
ILOSTAT		Not applicable	ILO Economic Status Applies to persons aged 15 years and over.
	1	In employment	
	2	Unemployed	
	3	Not in the labour force	
IND_CL		Not applicable	Industry Class Industry is coded to over 200 detailed industry codes on the basis of the name and address of the business/employer and/or the free text description of the nature of business carried on. The details industry codes have been grouped into the eight broad groups for the purposes of this sample. Not applicable applies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> persons under 15 years of age on 28 April 2002; persons who indicated <i>not at work</i>, for present status.
	*	Not stated	
	1	1 Agriculture, forestry and fishing	
	2	2 Manufacturing, mining, quarrying, electricity, gas and water	
	3	3 Construction	
	4	4 Commerce	
	5	5 Transport, storage and communications	
	6	6 Public administration and defence	
	7	7 Professional services	
8	8 Other industries		
IRISHFQ		Not applicable	Frequency of Speaking Irish Not applicable applies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> persons under 3 years of age on 28 April 2002; persons who indicated they could not speak Irish.
	*	Not stated	
	1	1 Daily	
	2	2 Weekly	
	3	3 Less often	
	4	4 Never	
LEVELED		Not applicable	Highest Level of Education Completed to date 13 categories collected and grouped to 5 categories for the purposes of the sample. Not applicable applies to persons under 15 years of age on 28 April 2002.
	*	Not stated	
	1	Primary (including no formal education)	
	2	Lower secondary	
	3	Upper secondary	
	4	Third level – non-degree	
	5	Third level – degree or higher	

Classification	Code	Associated label	Applies to Variables/ Notes
MSTATUS		Not applicable	<p>Marital Status</p> <p>Married comprises of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Married (first marriage) • Re-married (following widowhood) • Re-married (following divorce/annulment). <p>Separated comprises of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separated (including deserted) • Divorced. <p>Not applicable applies to persons under 15 years of age on 28 April 2002.</p>
	1	1 Never married	
	2	2 Married	
	3	3 Separated (including divorced)	
	4	4 Widowed	
NATION	*	Not stated	<p>Nationality</p> <p>The Irish category includes Irish-English, Irish-American, Irish-European and Irish-Other.</p> <p>The not stated category includes those with no nationality.</p>
	1	1 Irish	
	2	2 Non-Irish	
OCCGRP		Not applicable	<p>Occupation Group</p> <p>Persons aged 15 years and over at work, unemployed or retired were asked to give a full description of their current or previously held principal occupation. Occupation descriptions were coded to 374 headings of Standard Occupational Classifications. The coded data was grouped to 9 groups.</p> <p>Not applicable applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • persons under 15 years of age on 28 April 2002 • persons over 15 and over not at work, unemployed or retired.
	*	Not stated	
	1	1 Farming, fishing and forestry workers	
	2	2 Manufacturing workers	
	3	3 Building and construction workers	
	4	4 Clerical, managing and government workers	
	5	5 Communication and transport workers	
	6	6 Sales and commerce workers	
	7	7 Professional, technical and health workers, religious occupations	
	8	8 Services workers, Gardai and Army	
9	9 Other workers		
PLANRG	1	1 Border	<p>Regional Authority</p> <p>Regional Authority in which the person was enumerated.</p>
	2	2 Dublin	
	3	3 Mid-East	
	4	4 Midland	
	5	5 Mid-West	
	6	6 South-East	
	7	7 South-West	
	8	8 West	

Classification	Code	Associated label	Applies to Variables/ Notes
POBFLAG	*	Not stated	Place of Birth Flag Derived by comparing county/country of birth and place of usual residence.
	1	1 County of Usual Residence	
	2	2 Other county	
	3	3 Elsewhere abroad	
PSTATUS		Not applicable	Present Status Persons were asked to indicate by ticking the appropriate box, the person's present principal status. Not applicable applies to persons under 15 years of age on 28 April 2002.
	1	1 Working for payment or profit	
	2	2 Looking for first regular job	
	3	3 Unemployed	
	4	4 Student or pupil	
	5	5 Looking after home/family	
	6	6 Retired from employment	
	7	7 Unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability	
QUAL		Not applicable	Third Level Qualifications Persons were asked to indicate if they held any third level qualification(s) which they attained after completing 2 or more years of study and to indicate the main subject area(s) in which the qualification was held. Not applicable applies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> persons under 15 years of age on 28 April 2002; persons who answered "No" to question 22 ("Do you hold any third level qualification which was attained after completing 2 or more years of study?"). Not stated applies to persons who answered "Yes" to question 22, but did not indicate the main subject area(s).
	*	Not stated	
	1	1 Education	
	2	2 Art	
	3	3 Humanities	
	4	4 Social Sciences/Business/Law	
	5	5 Life Sciences/Medical Laboratory Science	
	6	6 Physical Sciences/Chemistry	
	7	7 Mathematics/Statistics	
	8	8 Computing/Information Technology	
	9	9 Engineering/Architecture	
	A	10 Agriculture/Forestry/Fishery/Veterinary	
	B	11 Medical and related	
	C	12 Tourism and other	
	D	13 Other third level qualification	
E	14 Multiple subjects		
RELIG	*	Not stated	Religion
	1	Roman Catholic	
	2	Church of Ireland (incl. Protestant)	
	3	Other stated religions	
	4	No religion	

Classification	Code	Associated label	Applies to Variables/ Notes
SARGEO		Not applicable	Place of Birth (plcbirth) Persons are asked to give the usual residence of the person's mother at the time of birth, not the location of the hospital where the person was born. If the person was born in any part of Ireland (incl. Northern Ireland) they state county of birth. If the person was born outside Ireland, whether now resident in or visiting Ireland they state country of birth. For the purposes of the sample place of birth for those born outside the Republic of Ireland are grouped into 5 headings.
	**	Not stated	
	01	01 Carlow	
	02	02 Dublin	
	06	06 Kildare	
	07	07 Kilkenny	
	08	08 Laoighis	
	09	09 Longford	
	10	10 Louth	
	11	11 Meath	
	12	12 Offaly	
	13	13 Westmeath	
	14	14 Wexford	
	15	15 Wicklow	
	16	16 Clare	
	17	17 Cork	
	19	19 Kerry	
	20	20 Limerick	
	22	22 Tipperary	
	24	24 Waterford	
	26	26 Galway	
	28	28 Leitrim	
	29	29 Mayo	
	30	30 Roscommon	
	31	31 Sligo	
	32	32 Cavan	
	33	33 Donegal	
	34	34 Monaghan	
	35	35 Rep Ireland (county not stated)	
	36	36 Northern Ireland	
	44	44 England,Scotland,Wales	
	50	50 EU Other	
	75	75 USA	
	99	99 Other countries	

Classification	Code	Associated label	Applies to Variables/ Notes
SEG	A	A Employers and managers	<p>Socio-Economic Group (SEG)</p> <p>The socio-economic group of persons aged 15 years or over who are at work is determined by their occupation and employment status. Unemployed or retired persons aged 15 years or over are classified according to their former occupation and employment status.</p> <p>Persons on home duties or at school/college, who are 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.</p>
	B	B Higher professional	
	C	C Lower professional	
	D	D Non-manual	
	E	E Manual skilled	
	F	F Semi-skilled	
	G	G Unskilled	
	H	H Own account workers	
	I	I Farmers	
	J	J Agricultural workers	
	Z	Z All others gainfully occupied and unknown	
SEX	1	Males	Sex
	2	Females	
SOC_CL	1	1 Professional workers	<p>Social Class</p> <p>The occupations included in each social class have been selected so as to bring together, as far as possible, people with similar levels of occupational skill. In determining social class no account is taken of the differences between individuals on the basis of other characteristics such as education. Accordingly social class ranks occupations by the level of skill required on a social class scale ranging from 1 (highest) to 7 (lowest). This scale combines occupations into six groups by occupation and employment status following procedures similar to those outlined for the allocation of SEG. A residual category "All others gainfully occupied and unknown" is used where no precise allocation is possible.</p>
	2	2 Managerial and technical	
	3	3 Non-manual	
	4	4 Skilled manual	
	5	5 Semi-skilled	
	6	6 Unskilled	
	7	7 All others gainfully occupied and unknown	
SPKIR		Not applicable	<p>Ability to speak Irish</p> <p>Not applicable applies to persons under 3 years of age on 28 April 2002</p>
	*	Not stated	
	1	Yes	
	2	No	
USRES	*	Not stated	<p>Usual Residence Now</p> <p>Derived by comparing address of usual residence with address enumerated.</p>
	1	1 Address enumerated	
	2	2 Elsewhere in Rep of Ireland	
	3	3 Elsewhere in Northern Ireland	
	4	4 Elsewhere abroad	

Classification	Code	Associated label	Applies to Variables/ Notes
USRESYR		Not applicable	Usual Residence 1 year ago Derived by comparing address where person was usually resident one year ago with present address of usual residence. Not applicable applies to persons under 1 year of age on 28 April 2002.
	*	Not stated	
	1	1 Same as now	
	2	2 Elsewhere in Rep of Ireland	
	3	3 Elsewhere in Northern Ireland	
	4	4 Elsewhere abroad	
YEARRES		Not applicable	Year of taking up residence in Ireland Persons who lived outside the republic for a period of one year or more were asked to indicate the year of taking up residence in the Republic of Ireland and the Country of last previous residence. The year stated was grouped into 7 separate categories for the purposes of this sample.
	*	Not stated	
	1	1 Before 1951	
	2	2 1951-1960	
	3	3 1961-1970	
	4	4 1971-1980	
	5	5 1981-1990	
	6	6 1991-1995	
7	7 1996-2002		