



An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh  
Central Statistics Office

census  
2011  
RESULTS  
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## Preas Ráiteas Press Statement Census 2011 Results

### Profile 2 Older and Younger – An Age Profile of Ireland

The Central Statistics Office today released the latest publication in its series of Census 2011 results, showing that the population of pre-school children aged 0-4 increased by 17.9 per cent in the past five years taking it to 356,329 in April 2011, while the number of young adults aged 19-24 has decreased by 12 per cent, the only age group to show a fall in numbers.

Today's publication, "*Profile 2 Older and Younger*" examines the age of Ireland's population and the characteristics of different age groups by geographic area, accommodation, household composition and marital status.

Deirdre Cullen, Senior Statistician at the CSO: "This profile report is the second of ten profile reports examining the definitive results of Census 2011 in more detail. This continues our publishing approach of presenting more interpretation and analysis of the data accompanied by illustrative presentations, thematic maps and easy to read commentary".

The full reports are available on the CSO website at [www.cso.ie/census](http://www.cso.ie/census) along with all the data which is available in a range of interactive web tables, allowing users to build their own tables by selecting the data they are interested in and downloading them in an easy to use format for their own analysis.

In co-operation with the All Ireland Research Observatory (AIRO) at NUI Maynooth, summary census data is available in thematic maps for Electoral Districts and all Small Areas on the AIRO website. Just follow the link from the CSO website.

Other topics will be covered in future profile reports to be released throughout the remainder of 2012 covering such topics as work, housing and disability. These more in-depth profile reports are accompanied by two summary publications of census results; the first, *This is Ireland – Highlights from Census 2011, Part 1* was published in March 2012 and dealt with demographic factors and is available for download on the CSO web site, while the second publication *This is Ireland – Highlights from Census 2011, Part 2* is due for publication at the end of June 2012 and will cover socio-economic themes. A complete list of planned publications can be found in the appendices of the report.

More/...



An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh  
Bóthar na Sceiche Airde  
Corcaigh  
Éire

Oifig i mBaile Átha Cliath  
+353 1 498 4000

Central Statistics Office  
Skehard Road  
Cork  
Ireland

Dublin Office  
+353 1 498 4000



LoCall 1890 313 414 (ROI)  
0808 234 7581 (UK/NI)



+353 21 453 5000  
+353 21 453 5555  
information@csso.ie  
www.cso.ie

## Highlights of the report

### Population getting older

The average age of the population of the state as a whole increased by half a year to 36.1 years since 2006. In 2011 the population of almost all counties showed an increase, topped by Limerick city where the average age increased by 1.5 years. However a few counties had a younger population than in 2006 with the average age in Laois falling by half a year, and Cavan and Longford both showing slight decreases.

The rural population of the state was older than in urban areas by almost 2 years. All counties had older rural populations with the exception of County Monaghan, where the urban population was more than half a year older than in rural areas.

### Pre-school children

The number of pre-school children (aged 0-4) in the State increased by 17.9 per cent compared to overall population growth of 8.2 per cent. In County Laois this age group increased by 37.1 per cent, the largest increase for any county, followed by Cavan with an increase of 30.2 per cent.

The number of pre-school children living in flats and apartments stood at 25,317 an increase of 50.3 per cent since 2006, while the number living in rented properties has also increased significantly from 77,909 in 2006 to 122,782 in 2011, accounting for 34.7 per cent of all pre-school children in 2011.

### Primary School Children

There were just over half a million children in the 5-12 year age group, an increase of 12 per cent since 2006. County Laois experienced the highest growth in this age group with an increase of 28.9 per cent followed by Fingal (28.3%). There was a decrease in this age group in Limerick city of 9.4 per cent and in Cork city (7.9%).

### Secondary School Children

The population of secondary school children (aged 13-18) remained almost static over the past five years increasing by less than 1 per cent to stand at 344,931 in April 2011. The highest growth rate was in counties Laois and Kildare with 10.3 per cent, while almost half of all counties experienced a decrease in numbers in this age group.

### Young Adults

While the majority of young adults, categorized as those aged 19-24, still lived at home with one or both parents, the percentage in this category increased from 59 per cent to 66 per cent.

### Adults

There was an increasing trend for people in the age group 25-64 to live in rented accommodation over the past decade with over 675,000 people in this age group renting their accommodation in 2011, an increase of 51.4 per cent since 2006 when just under 450,000 of this age group were renting.

### Elderly

The population of elderly people, aged 65 or over, increased by 14.4 per cent while the number of persons aged 100 or over was recorded as 389 - an increase of 100 persons on 2006.

The number of elderly persons usually resident in nursing homes was 20,802 while the number of elderly recorded as being usually resident in hospitals across the country was 4,873.

[More/...](#)

**For copies of the publication:**

To view and download the publication, visit the CSO website at [www.cso.ie/census](http://www.cso.ie/census).

**For further information contact:**

Shaun McLaughlin on 01 895 1474

Central Statistics Office, Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin.

Census Enquiries: (01) 895 1460

Fax: 01 895 1399

E-mail: [census@cso.ie](mailto:census@cso.ie)

Internet: [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)

Further information about Census 2011 is available on [www.census.ie](http://www.census.ie)

*Central Statistics Office*

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