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Profile 2 – Older and Younger

Foreword

This report is the second of ten Profile reports examining in more detail the definitive results of Census 2011. This report looks at the age profile of Ireland in 2011 and examines topics such as the urban / rural divide, the age structure by county, young and old age dependencies and the sex ratio.

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; a complete list of planned publications and dates can be found on page 64 of this report. 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, 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.

Web tables

All the data published in this and other reports are available on the CSO web site (at www.cso.ie/census).

Small area data

Small area data is an important output from the census and we will be bringing you a complete set of tables for all the standard layers of geography, such as Electoral Division and Local Electoral Area, as well as tables for the new geographic unit, called Small Areas, which will provide data for uniform areas of typically 80 to 100 dwellings.

Interactive maps

In co-operation with the All Ireland Research Observatory (AIRO) summary census data is now available in thematic maps for Electoral Divisions and all Small Areas on the AIRO web site. This development will be expanded on later in the year when the full range of Small Area data will be made available in thematic maps on the AIRO site. Just follow the link from the web site www.cso.ie/census.

Gerry O'Hanlon

Director General

24 May 2012

Our population over the past 85 years

The factors which affect population change over time are births, deaths, immigration and emigration. Figure 1 shows total population at each age compared with the number of births recorded in the year they were born. The comparison is, as might be expected, particularly striking.

The births line clearly illustrates the high and low points in births over the past fifty years while the effect of deaths on the population after age 50 is noteworthy.

The effects of recent net inward migration can also be clearly seen in the gap between the total population and total births for the younger age groups.

Figure 1 Births at projected age in 2011 and total population, 2011
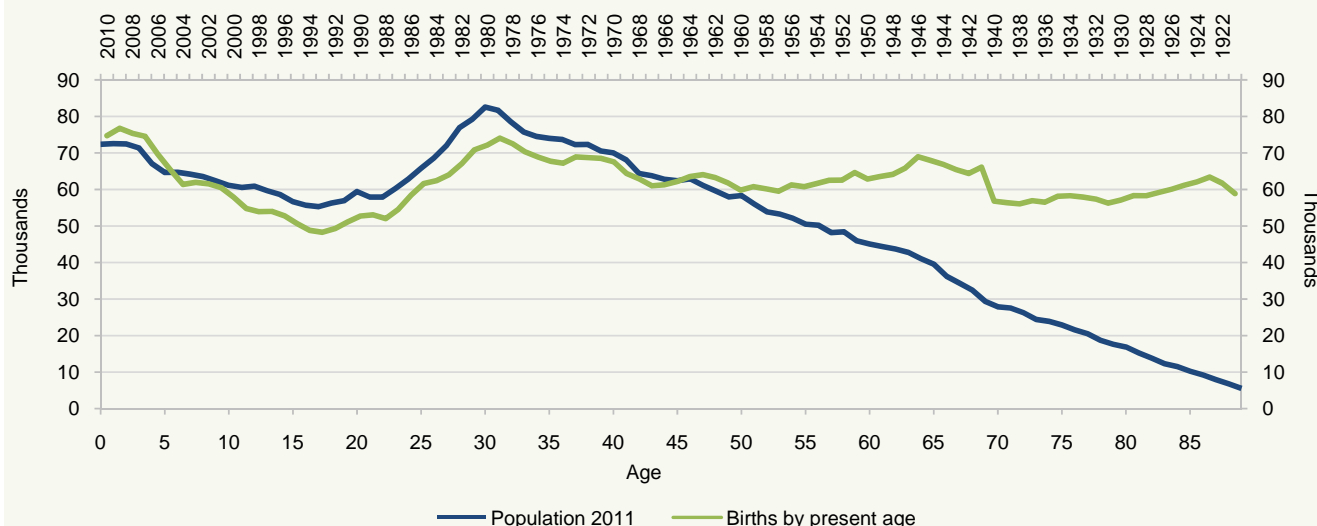
The graph below (Figure 2) shows the age structure of the total population from 1926 to 2011. The population increased by 54 per cent overall during the period with the most significant increases in the groups aged over 25, all of which showed increases in excess of 85 per cent.

Figure 2 Change in population structure by age group, 1926-2011
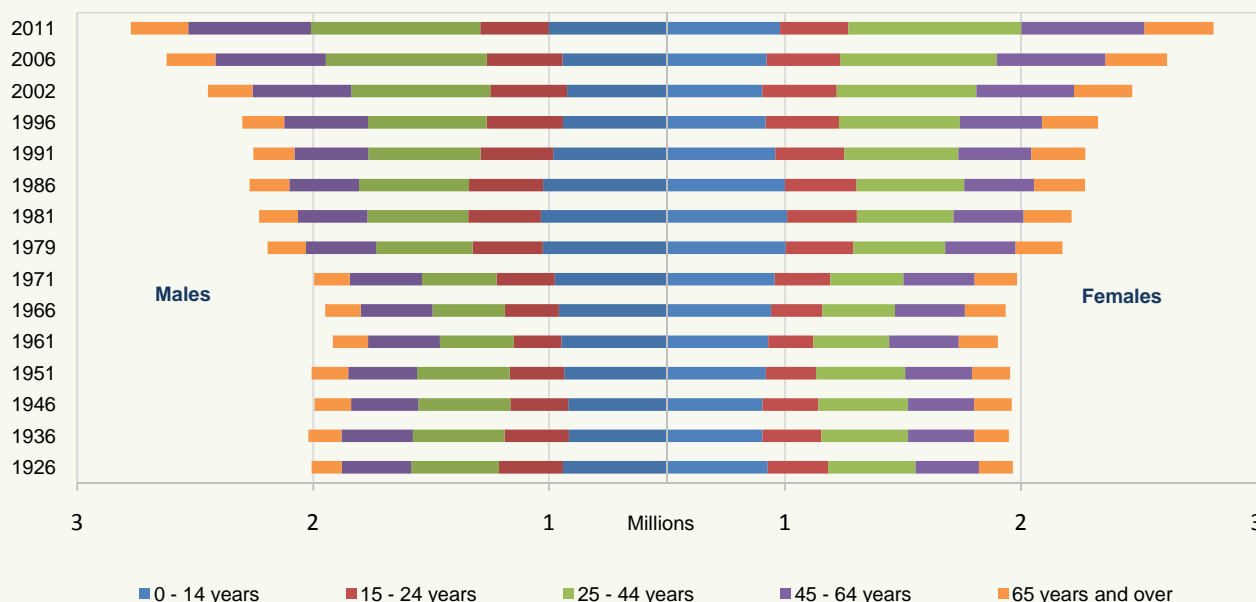
The Provinces

Population structure by age group for each province since 1926

Leinster is the only province with uninterrupted population growth over the entire period 1926 to 2011 with its population more than doubling. Munster's population, although experiencing periods of decline up to the early 1960s experienced more modest growth overall.

In contrast, however, the populations of Connacht and Ulster (part) experienced more severe population decline continuing until the 1970s. In fact, the populations of both provinces are still slightly lower than in 1926 having experienced slower and more erratic recovery with most notable growth in the 30-54 year age groups.

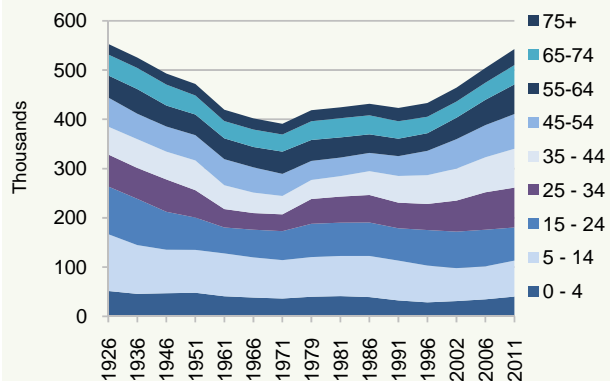### Population by age group by Province 1926-2011

Leinster, population 2,504,814
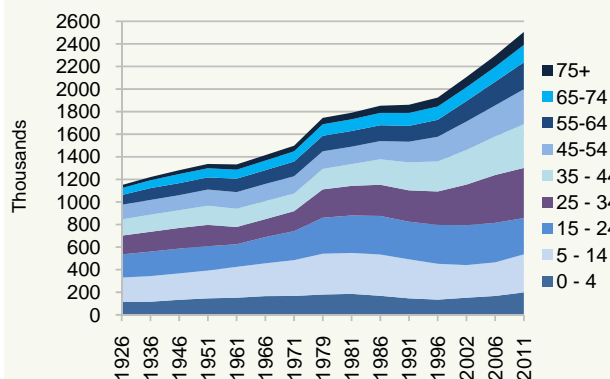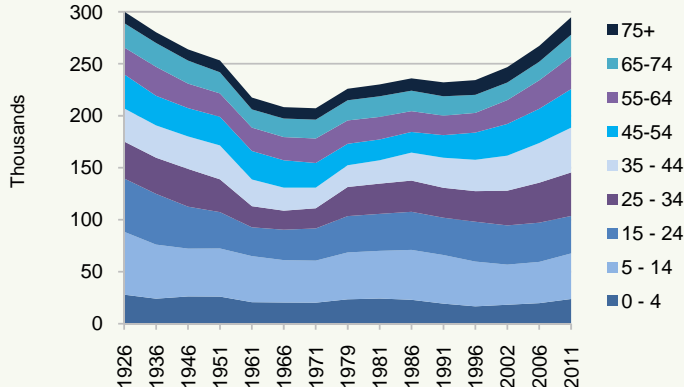
Munster, population 1,246,088
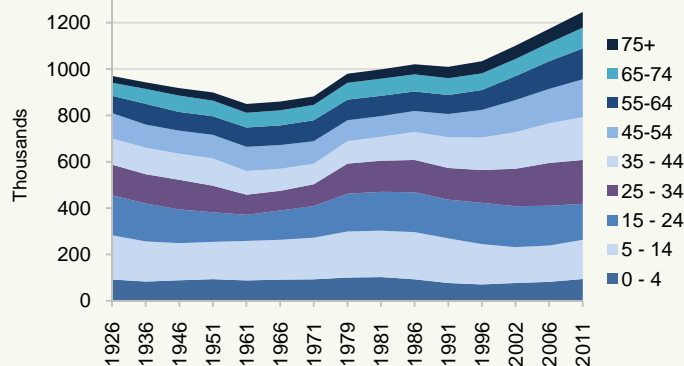
Connacht, population 542,547

Ulster, population 294,803

It's a fact!

118% The increase in Leinster's population since 1926

1.9% The decrease in Connacht's population since 1926

Sex ratio

More women or men?

Up to the mid-1980's the trend was for more men than women in the State, though the ratio varied greatly by province with Leinster having consistently fewer males. Since the mid-1980s the overall trend has reversed with a tendency for there to be slightly more females.

Census 2011 showed the lowest ever sex ratio for the State with 981 males per 1000 females.

The graph below shows the ratios by age. The dominance of boys over girls as a consequence of higher births is evident in the line for 0-14 year olds. The fall in the ratio for those of working age can be seen in the late 1940s and again in the 1960s – a period of high emigration from Ireland. The pattern of consistently more women than men in the over 65s is starkly evident though gains in more recent years are also well illustrated.

The overall ratio, in black, shows a gradual fall from 1979 onwards with the exception of 2006 when very high first-wave inward migration led to more males; this has now reverted as a result of second-wave migration of more females in the last inter-censal period.

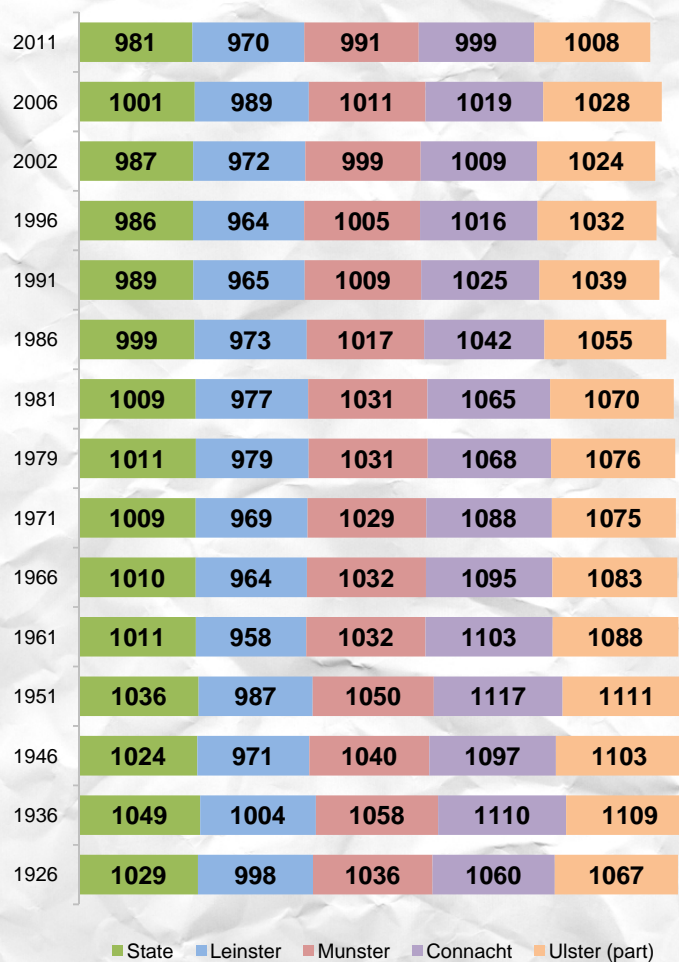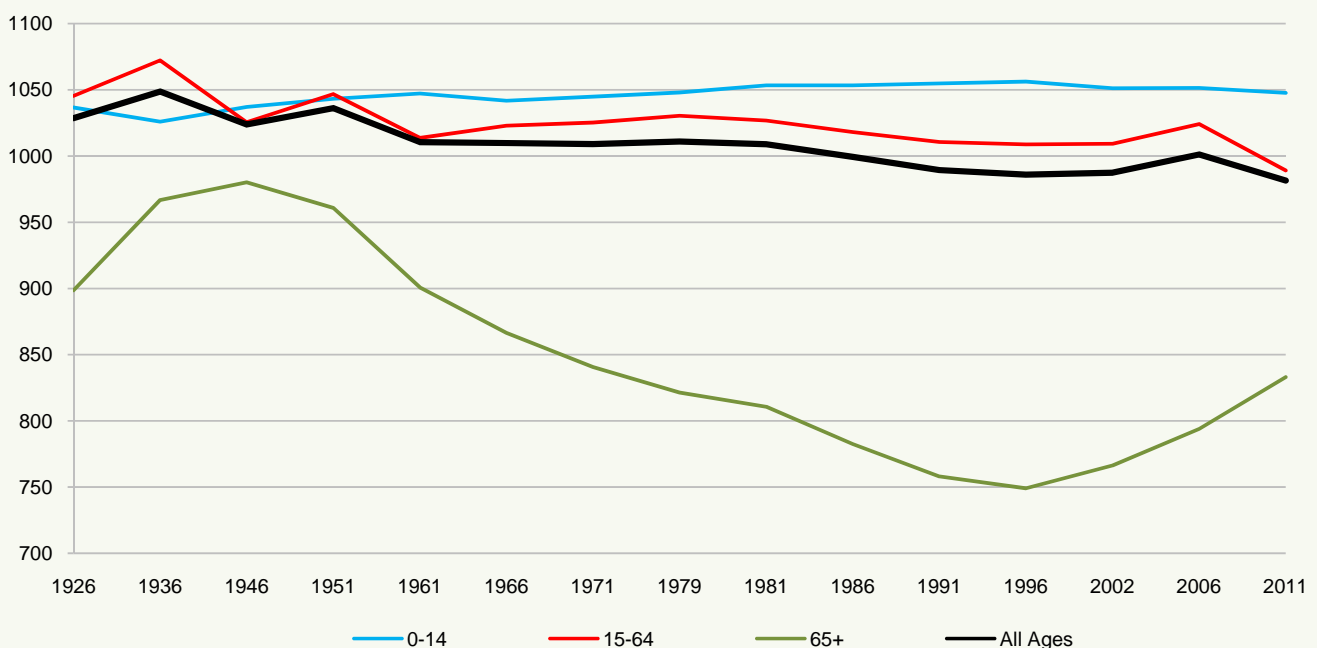**Figure 3 Ratio of males per 1,000 females by Province, 1926-2011**

Year	State	Leinster	Munster	Connacht	Ulster (part)
2011	981	970	991	999	1008
2006	1001	989	1011	1019	1028
2002	987	972	999	1009	1024
1996	986	964	1005	1016	1032
1991	989	965	1009	1025	1039
1986	999	973	1017	1042	1055
1981	1009	977	1031	1065	1070
1979	1011	979	1031	1068	1076
1971	1009	969	1029	1088	1075
1966	1010	964	1032	1095	1083
1961	1011	958	1032	1103	1088
1951	1036	987	1050	1117	1111
1946	1024	971	1040	1097	1103
1936	1049	1004	1058	1110	1109
1926	1029	998	1036	1060	1067

■ State ■ Leinster ■ Munster ■ Connacht ■ Ulster (part)

Figure 4 Sex ratio by age group 1926-2011

— 0-14   — 15-64   — 65+   — All Ages

Men stay in the country..

Figure 5 shows the ratio of males to females in urban and rural areas. The excess of males over females in rural compared with urban areas is apparent for almost all age groups as illustrated by the green lines on the right of the graph.

...while women flock to towns

The urban rural split is most apparent in the 20-30 age groups when, despite a swing in the sex ratio to slightly favour women overall, it becomes clear that the number of women far exceeded the number of men in urban areas while the opposite is true of rural areas. This split is less apparent in the 30-45 year olds, the 'nesting' years, but becomes pronounced again in the groups aged 45 and over.

Upsetting the balance

When examining the sex ratio by age the trend is for more males than females in the age groups 0 – 19 and more females than males aged 65 and over, due primarily to the demographic affects of births and deaths. The intervening age groups are more prone to the effects of migration which can lead to strongly fluctuating sex ratios as illustrated in Figure 6.

The graph shows the effect of migration on the balance between males and females; the excess of males in each of the age groups from 20-34 in 2006 completely reversed by 2011 as a consequence of higher inward migration of women over men (as discussed in *This is Ireland Part 1*). The switch is most stark in the 25-29 age group where a sex ratio of 1030 in 2006 fell by 10% to 927 in 2011. In effect there were more than a hundred fewer men per 1000 women in this age group than 5 years previously. There has been a similar, though less dramatic, effect in the groups aged between 45 and 60.

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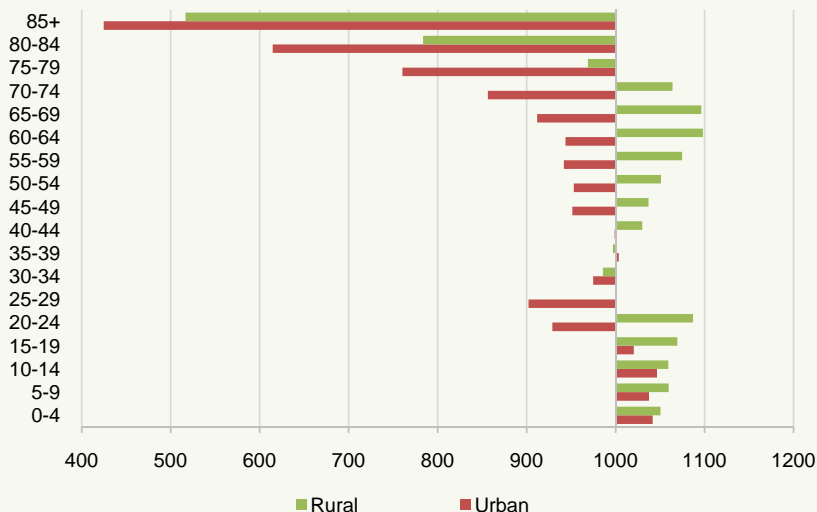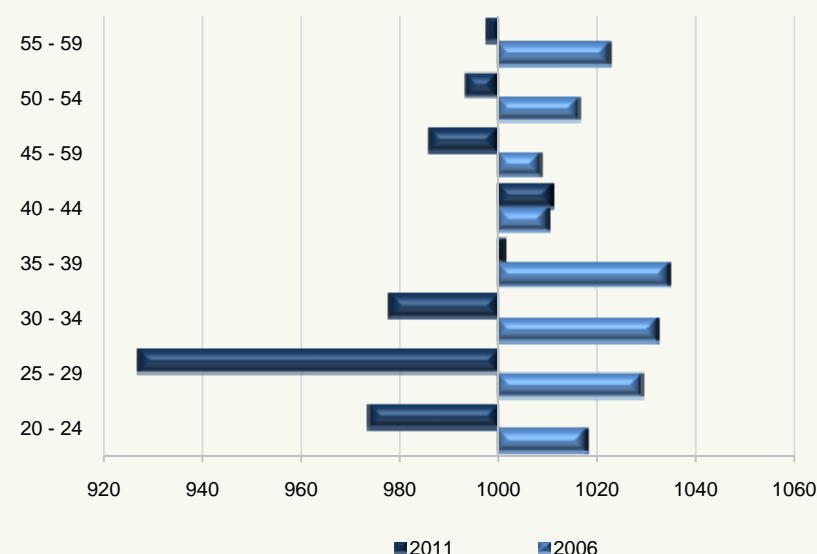**Figure 5 Males per 1000 females by age group in urban and rural areas**

Figure 6 Sex ratio for 20-59 age groups, 2006-2011

It's a fact!

10% The fall in the sex ratio in the 25-29 year age group since 2006

6 The age at which the largest sex ratio was recorded

7 The difference in the sex ratio between urban and rural areas for the 35-39 age group – the only age group where there are more men than women in urban areas

Age structure

Population 2011

The population pyramid in Figure 7 shows the age structure of the Irish population male and female as recorded on Census Night 2011.

The very high births in the late 1970s and early 1980s, which reached a peak in 1980 with 74,000 births (today's 31 and 32 year olds) is a strong distinguishing feature of the graph, as is the sharp fall in births over the subsequent 15 year period reaching a low point in 1994 (today's 17 and 18 year olds).

The recent recovery in births, particularly in the last four years, is also clearly evident.

The pyramid shape from age 30 and over reflects the effects of mortality as the population grows older.

Figure 7 Population 2011

What is a population pyramid?

A population pyramid is a type of graph which shows the male and female population at each age. For example, Figure 7 shows the percentage of males at each age to the left and the corresponding percentage of females to the right at each year of age at Census 2011.

This graph is useful because it shows at a glance how the population is structured in terms of males and females and the proportions of younger and older people and at each age in between.

Comparison of the population pyramids compiled in different years (e.g. from Census 2006 and Census 2011) indicate how the population has changed over time and comparisons between the pyramids for different geographical areas can demonstrate the different characteristics of the population of those areas.

The population pyramid gets its name from the typical pyramid shape of these graphs which generally start from a broad base, showing the number of babies born and shows declining numbers as age increases due to falling life expectancy. However, the pyramid can also be affected by historical factors such as high or low birth rates at different historical periods which result in a bulge or narrowing in the pyramid as this group ages. Also, significant migration patterns can affect the shape of the pyramid when comparing the position in different years.

It's a fact!

76,762 The number of births in 2010 – the highest ever recorded number of births

48,255 The number of births in 1994 – the lowest ever recorded number of births

74,064 The number of births in 1980 – the previous high point prior to recent years

census 2011 RESULTS

Different populations - different pyramids

The structure of the Irish population is not distributed evenly throughout the whole country. An examination of the population of the 34 administrative counties in the State illustrates the different characteristics of the population of each geographical area. While the population of each county is unique and often shows a combination of different attributes, the population pyramids for each county can be divided into some broad groupings which demonstrate similar patterns.

Figures 8 to 13 show population pyramids for a sample of counties to demonstrate these different characteristics.

Carlow

The age structure for Carlow is similar to that of the State overall with a clear pyramid shape from age 30 up, a decline in the population from age 30 down to age 15, followed by a recovery in the younger age groups, reflecting the increasing birth rates in more recent years.

Other counties with a broadly similar structure are Laois, Louth, Kilkenny, Wexford, Wicklow, Longford, Cork, Galway, Meath, Cavan and Kildare, although each show different characteristics due to slightly different populations of males and females at each age group.
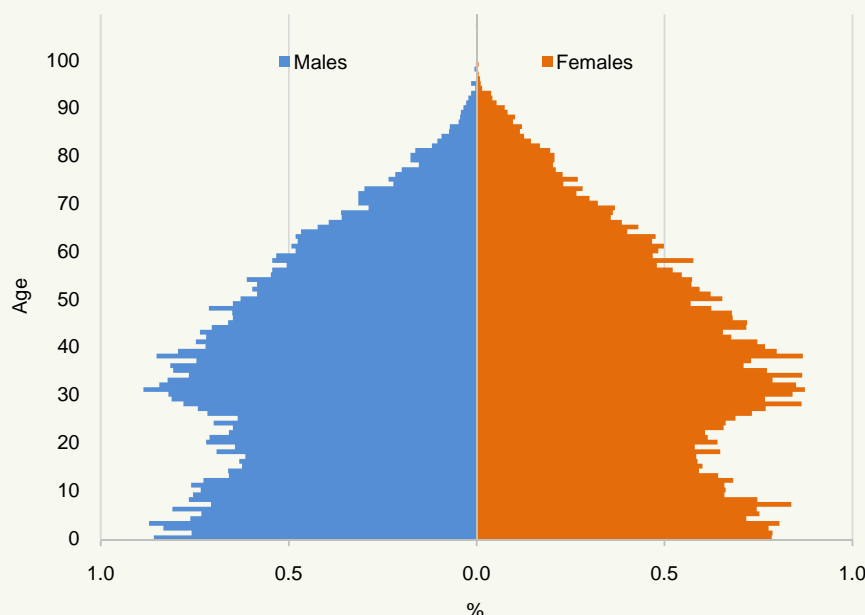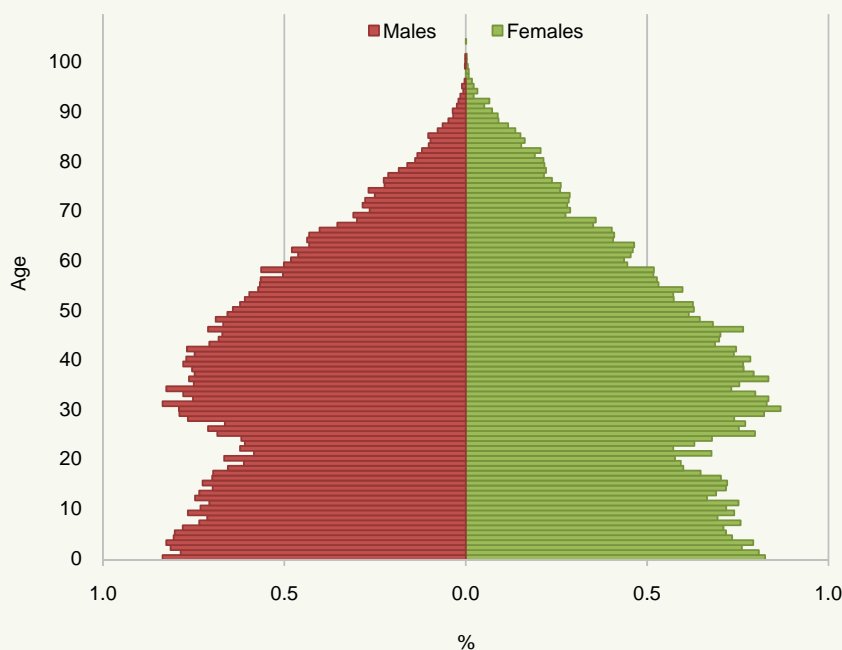
Figure 8 Carlow, population 54,612

**Figure 9 Westmeath, population 86,164**

Westmeath

Westmeath's graph, though similar to Carlow, has a more rounded shape from age 30 up with a higher population in the 30-70 age groups. While also showing the typical decline in population from age 30 to 15 we can see a faster recovery in the 15 to 20 year olds.

Other counties with a broadly similar structure are Clare, Tipperary, Limerick, Offaly, Monaghan and Dun Laoghaire- Rathdown.

Age structure by county

Figure 10 Mayo, population 130,638
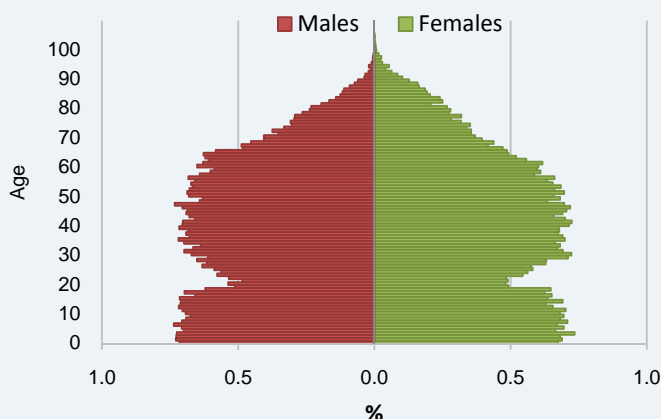
Mayo

Mayo's graph shows an older population with no significant decrease in the population between the ages of 30 and 65 after which there is a steep decline up to age 75.

Unlike the State overall, where the low point in the total population is mirrored by births 17 years previously, for Mayo the low point is age 21 reflecting the rural nature of the county as young people move away to work and study.

Other counties to show a broadly similar structure are the predominantly rural counties of Donegal and Kerry.

Sligo

With a total population of less than half that of Mayo the graph for Sligo shows very little fluctuation across all age groups up to the elderly ages.

The typical bend in the graph seen for the State overall and centered around those aged 17 is compensated for by the presence of a higher number of young people in the student years, no doubt due to the presence of third level institutions.
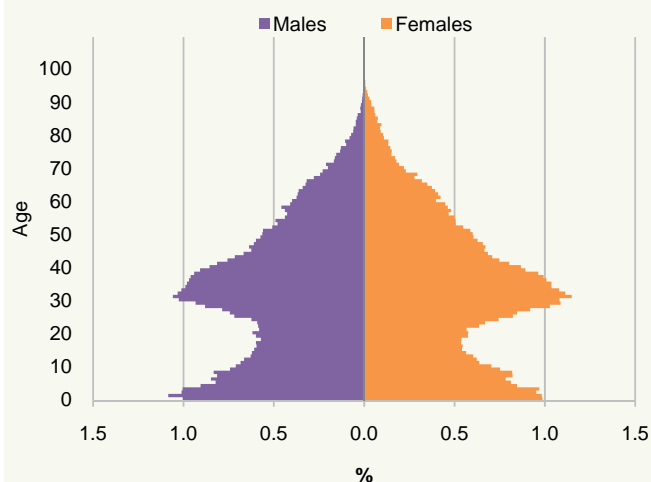
Figure 11 Sligo population 65,393
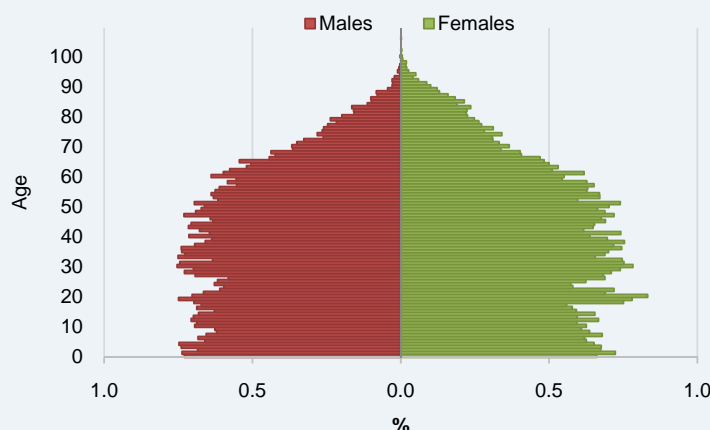
Fingal

Fingal is the youngest county in the country. The very high number of people in their 30's - the peak childbearing years for women – is starkly illustrated as is the high number of children that can be associated with this age cohort.
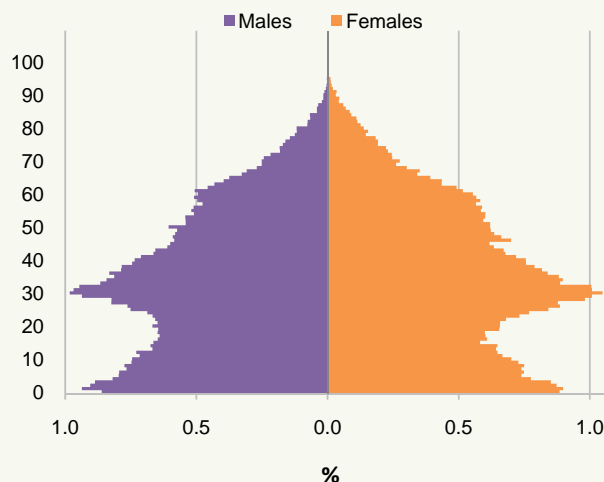
Figure 12 Fingal, population 273,991

South Dublin

South Dublin's graph is noteworthy for a disparity between males and females in some age groups with more females in their twenties and early thirties and in their fifties, contributing to one of the lowest sex ratios of all counties.

Figure 13 South Dublin, population 265,205

# Age structure of cities

Four cities

The structure of population in each of the cities is shown in the population pyramids below.

The main characteristic of the city populations is the large increase in population in the 20 – 40 age groups associated with the migration of people in their twenties and thirties to cities. City populations are also characterised by smaller young and elderly populations as people tend to move away from cities to raise their families and retire.

Cork

The graph for Cork city shows the sudden increase in the population at age 18 as people move to the city to work and study. The numbers start to fall as people move out to the suburbs to raise families. This is further borne out by the low number of young children in the city. The higher than average number of older people can also be seen at the top end of the pyramid.

Figure 14 Cork city, population 119,230
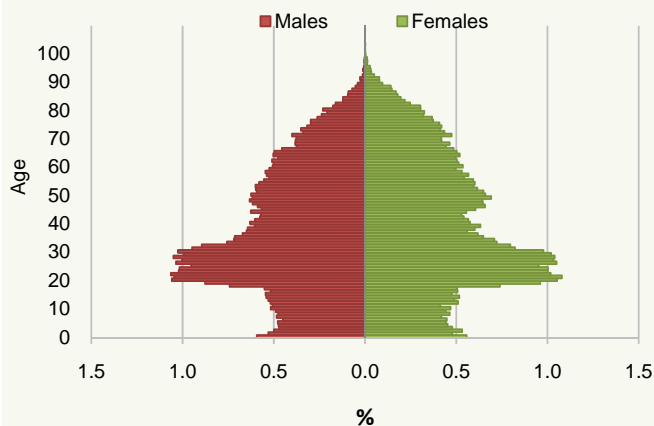
Galway

Galway city has a much younger population and shows the greatest proportional increase in the 20-30 population of all the cities.
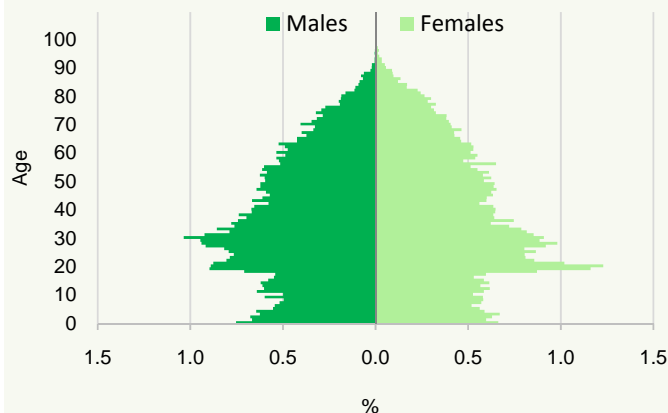
Figure 15 Galway city, population 75,529

Limerick

The graph for Limerick city shows the typical bulge associated with the university years of late teens and early twenties while the low number of births associated with cities is also evident.
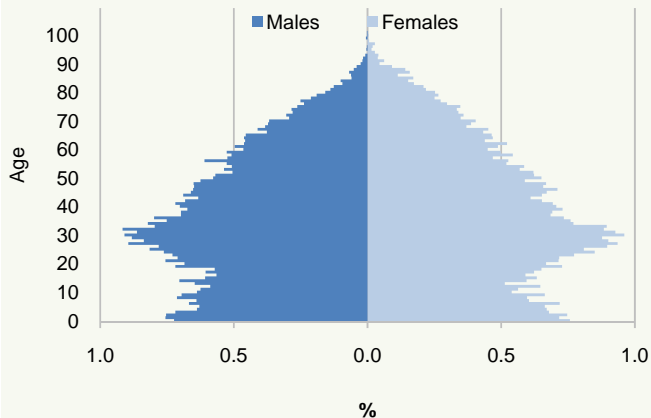
Figure 16 Limerick city, population 57,106

Waterford

The graph for Waterford city is very similar to the State overall and shows few of the characteristics of the other city populations in general.

**Figure 17 Waterford city, population 46,732**

Dublin city

Dublin

As a capital city Dublin is strongly influenced by both internal and external migration, particularly for those in their twenties and thirties, and its population pyramid reflects this.

While the recent increase in births for the State overall is evident, it is far less pronounced in Dublin; indeed the number of school children is fairly stable at about 5,000 for every year of age. From age 20 onwards the graph shows the effect of migration with numbers increasing steadily up to age 30 - the high point of the population. A sharp fall in population follows for those in their 30's and early 40's – the childbearing years; thereafter the graph shows the more typical gradual decline.

Figure 18 Dublin city, population 527,612
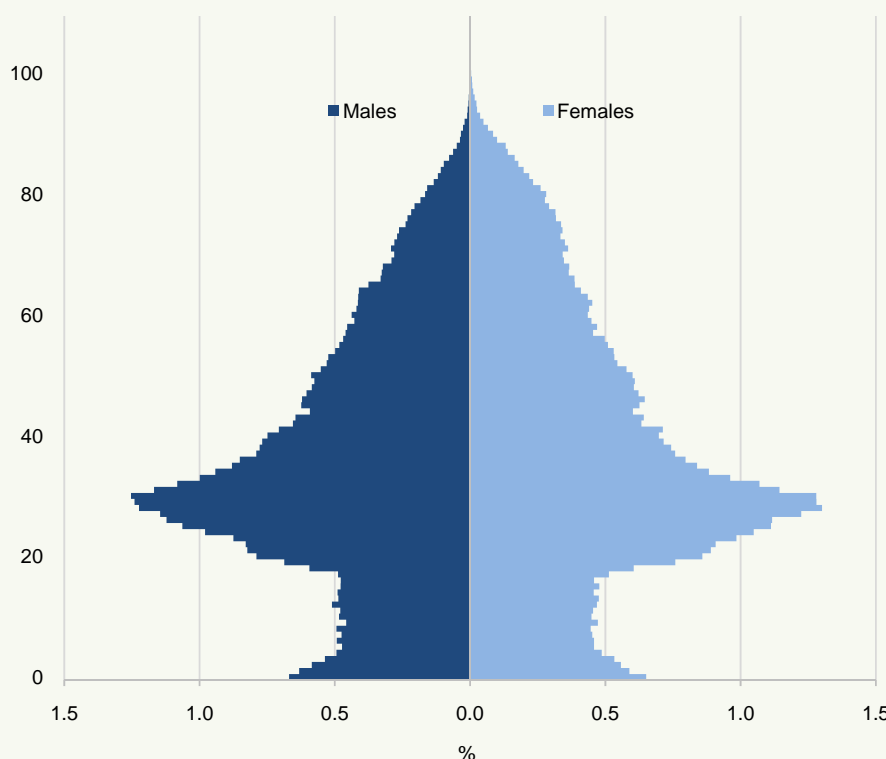
Urban

Finally, Figures 19 and 20 compare the population in the aggregate urban and rural areas in the State to illustrate how urban and rural populations differ.

The urban population peaks at age 30 reflecting young adults moving to work and study in towns and cities.

Rural

Rural areas show a mirror image, with a sharp decline in population in the twenties as young people leave home for urban areas.

However, this trend is reversed in the thirties and forties with the high point in the population at age 40.
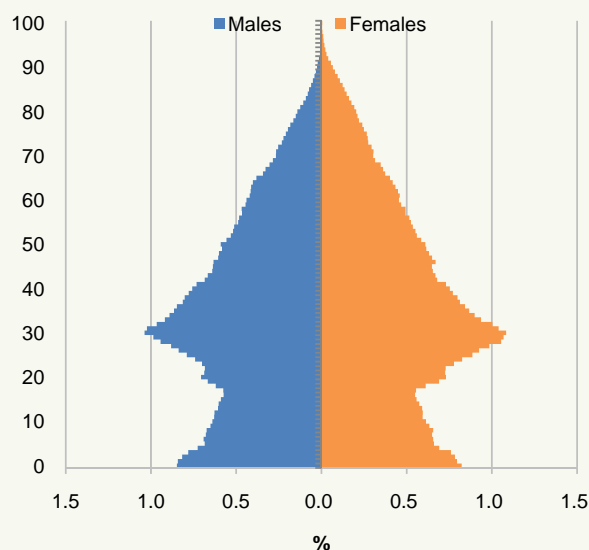
Figure 19 Urban areas, population 2,846,882

Figure 20 Rural areas, population 1,741,370

Growing older

Figure 21 shows the average age of the population for each county and city administrative area, showing that in 2011 Cork city had the highest average age at 38.7 compared to 36.1 for the State as a whole. Fingal had the lowest average age of any county at 32.9.

It is interesting to examine the change in the average ages of the population in each county. Figure 22 shows that the fastest ageing areas were the cities, with Limerick city increasing by 1.5 years and Galway and Cork cities both showing an increase of over one year since 2006. Three counties are getting younger with Laois, Cavan and Longford showing a lower average age than in 2006.

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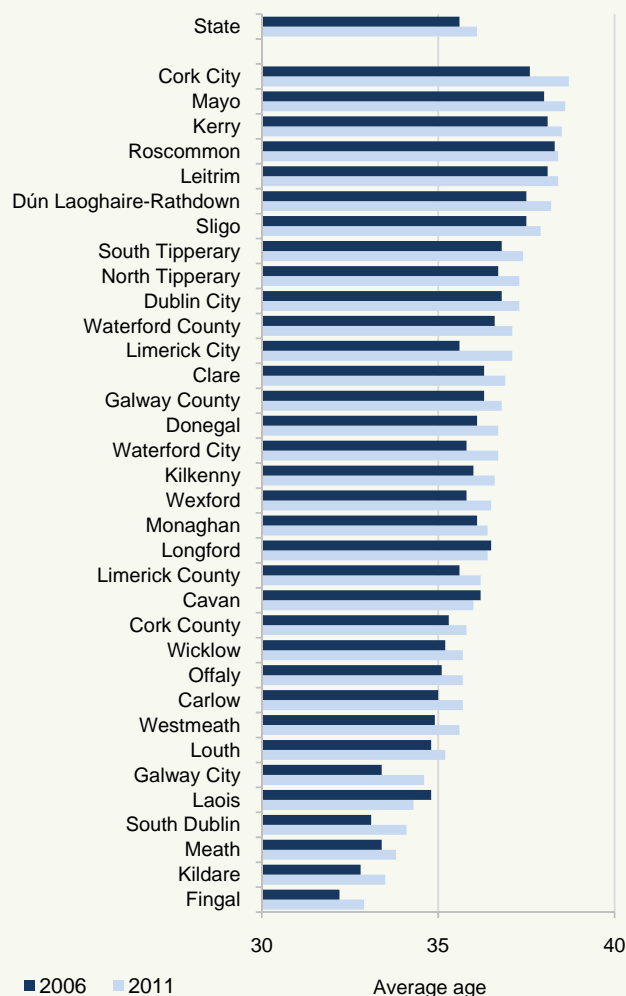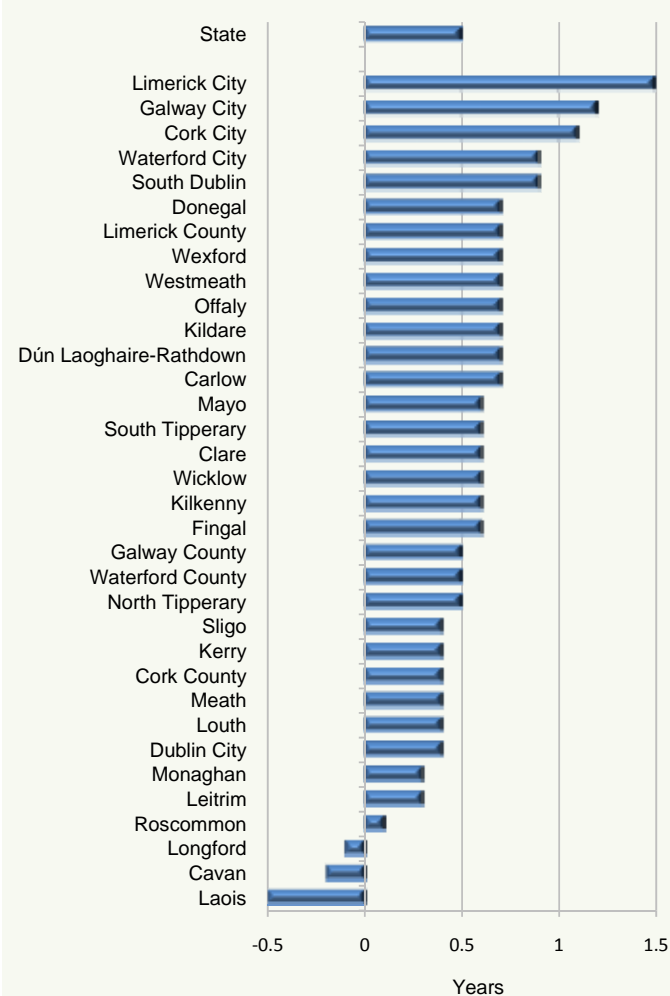
Figure 21 Average age by County 2006-2011

2006   2011   Average age

Figure 22 Change in average age by County, 2006-2011

Years

It's a fact!

5.8 The difference in years in the average age of the oldest and youngest counties, Cork city (38.7 years) and Fingal (32.9 years).

Older female population

Figure 23 shows the difference in average age between the male and female population for each county. It shows that the female population was older than the male population by about 1.3 years for the State overall. This is to be expected given the higher male birthrate combined with higher female life expectancy.

Looking at the difference at county level shows that the females in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown were substantially older on average than males, with an age difference of 2.5 years, followed closely by Cork city with an age difference of 2.3 years.

Laois showed the smallest difference of only 0.3 years between the average age of women and men.

It is also notable that the age difference was, in general, greater in cities, with Cork, Dublin and Waterford ranked in the top four.

Regional Authority Areas

Figure 24 shows the breakdown of average ages by Regional Authority Area. The West had the oldest population at an average age of 37.2 years, with females aged half a year older and males half a year younger.

The Mid-East region had the youngest population of all areas with an average age of 34.2 years, almost two years younger than the average for the State overall.

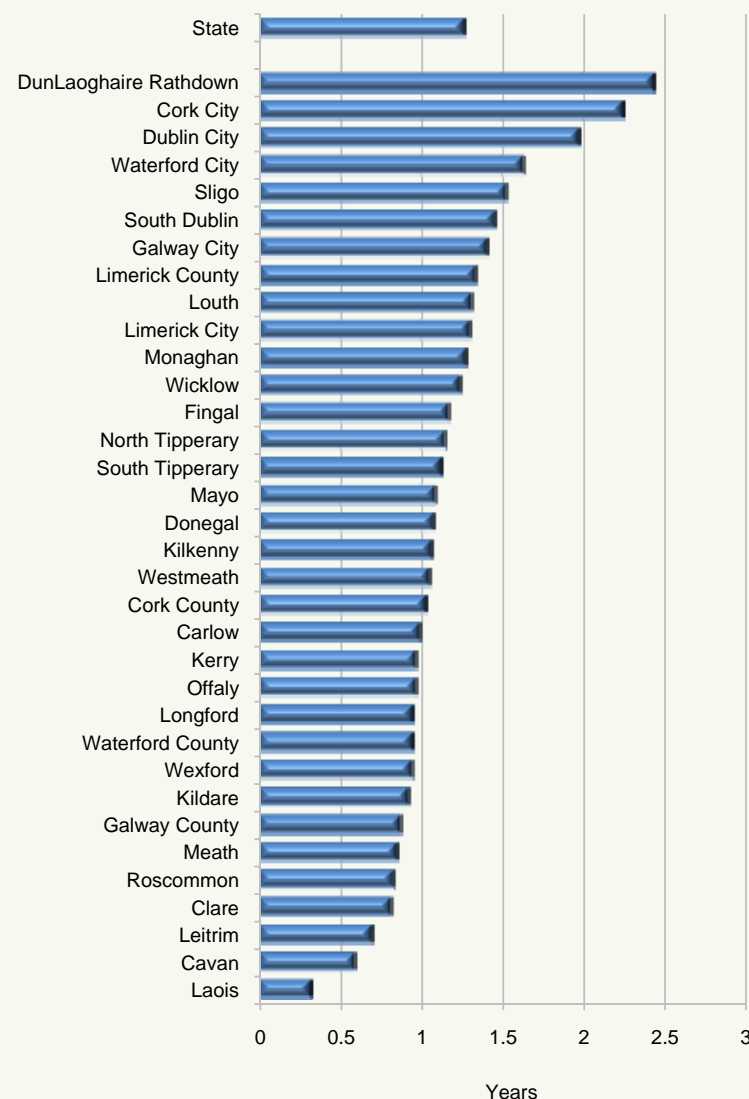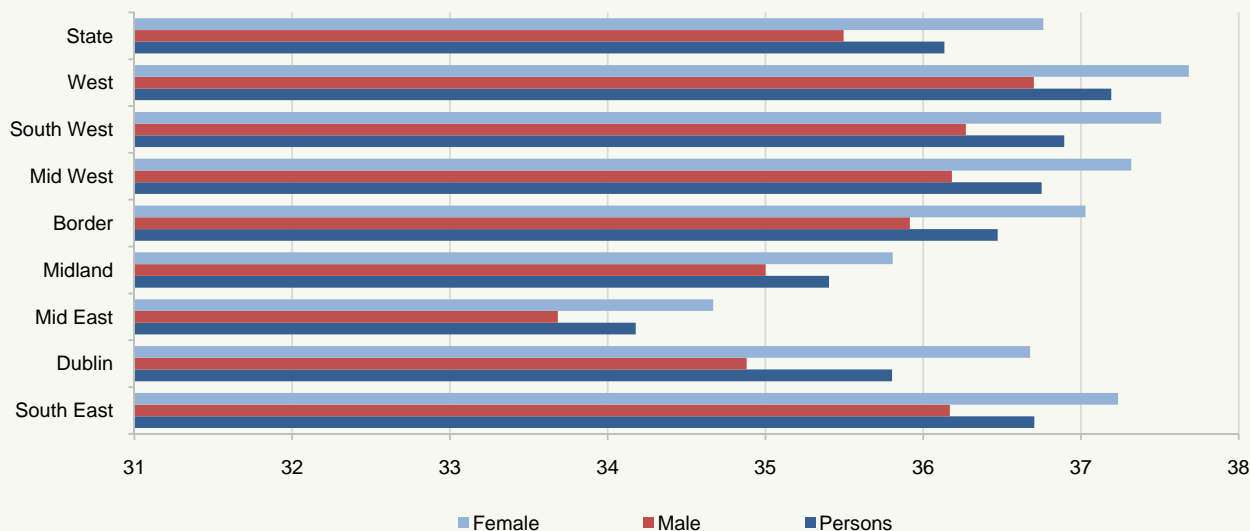**Figure 23 Years by which female exceeds male average age by county 2011**

Figure 24 Average age male and female by Regional Authority Area

Older rural population

Figure 25 shows the difference between the average age in urban and rural areas in each county, excluding the cities which contain no rural areas and showing that the rural population was on average almost two years older than in urban areas.

South Dublin, albeit with a very small rural population (only 6,328 persons compared with 240,067 persons in urban areas) had an age gap of 7.3 years between the rural and urban parts of the county. The counties of Meath, Limerick, Fingal and Laois had rural populations which were more than 4 years older than their urban counterparts.

At the other end of the scale, the counties of Wexford, South Tipperary and Louth were more homogenous in age with a gap of less than half a year.

Only Monaghan had a younger rural population, with its urban inhabitants on average 0.6 years older than rural dwellers.

Table 1 shows the administrative counties with the oldest and youngest urban and rural populations. Kildare had the youngest rural population with an average rural age of 35.3 while also ranking in the top five youngest urban populations aged 32.6 years. Meanwhile Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown had the oldest rural population at 41.8 years and the second oldest urban population at 38.2 years on average. (It should be noted that Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown's rural population is very small – 1,907 out of a total population of 206,261.)

Meath had the youngest urban population with an average age of 31.4 and Cork city the oldest at 38.7 years on average.

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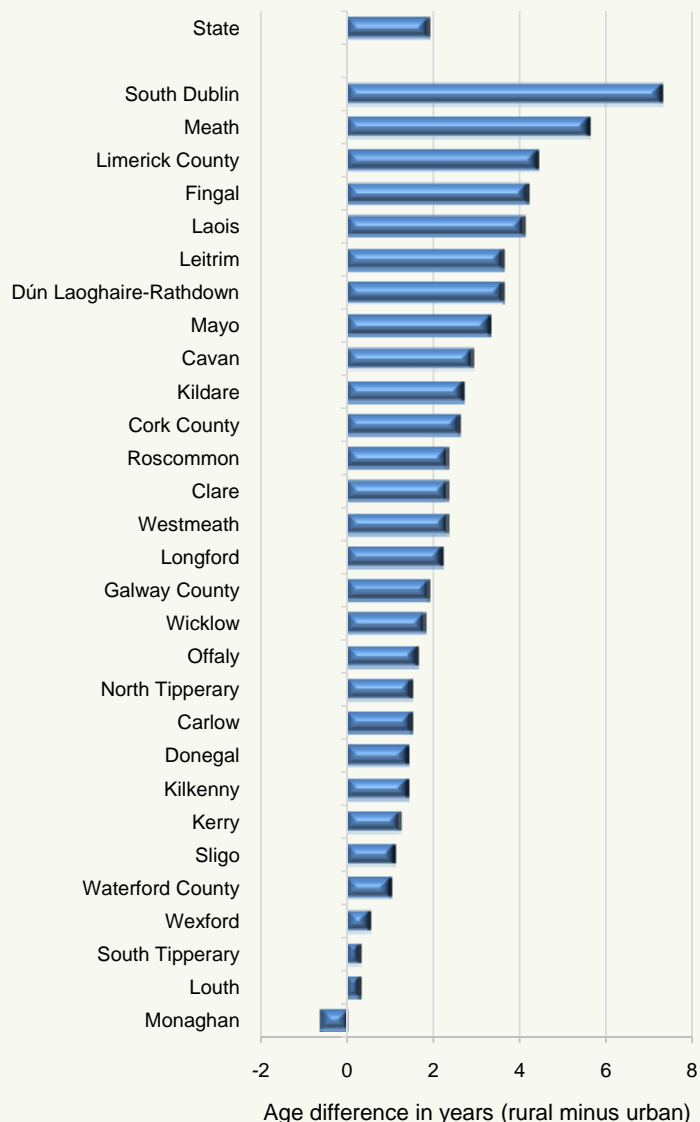**Figure 25 Average age difference between rural and urban areas of each county**

Age difference in years (rural minus urban)

Table 1 Administrative counties with the oldest and youngest urban and rural populations

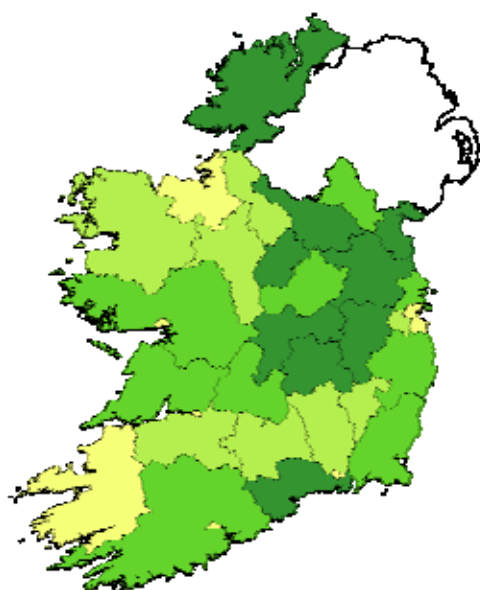| Urban Area				Rural Area			
Youngest		**Oldest**		**Youngest**		**Oldest**	
Meath	31.4	Cork City	38.7	Kildare	35.3	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	41.8
Laois	32.2	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	38.2	Louth	35.4	South Dublin	41.2
Fingal	32.5	Kerry	37.8	Monaghan	36.2	Mayo	39.6
Kildare	32.6	Dublin City	37.3	Laois	36.3	Roscommon	39
Limerick County	33.3	Sligo	37.2	Offaly	36.4	Kerry	39

Age dependency

Young and old

Age dependency shows the ratio of the old and young population to the population of working age. The report *This is Ireland - Highlights from Census 2011, Part 1* showed that the total dependency ratio for the State increased from 45.8 per cent in 2006 to 49.3 per cent in 2011, an increase of 3.5 per cent.

The young dependency ratio is the number of young people aged 0 -14 as a percentage of the population of working age as shown in Map 1. In April 2011 this rate stood at 31.9 per cent for the State overall but was significantly lower in the cities with a rate of 20.9 per cent in Cork and 21 per cent in Dublin. The rates were highest in Meath (38.3%), Laois (37.9%) and Cavan (36.6%) all of which had young and fast growing populations.

Old dependency, shown in Map 2 stood at 17.4 per cent for the State, with significant differences at county level. Counties Mayo and Leitrim had the highest old dependency ratios at 23.3 per cent, while Fingal (10.6%) and Kildare (11.7%) had the lowest.
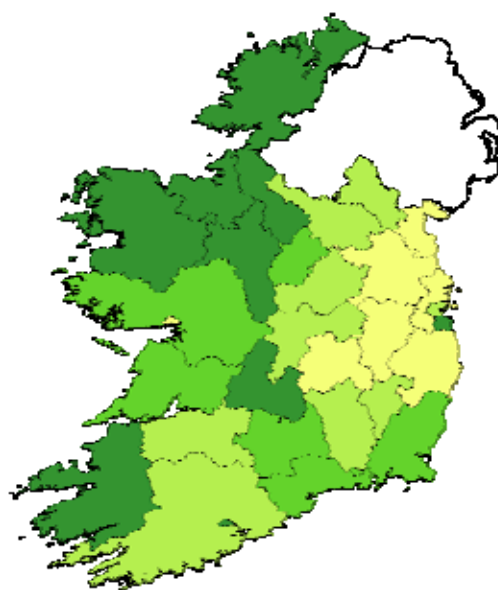
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Map 1 Young dependency by county (%)

Map 2 Old dependency by county (%)

Legend Map 1:
- 20.9 – 30.8
- 32.0 – 34.0
- 34.1 – 35.4
- 35.5 – 38.3

Legend Map 2:
- 10.6 – 16.7
- 16.9 – 18.9
- 19.0 – 20.4
- 20.6 – 23.3

Urban and Rural

Figure 26 shows the proportion of dependents in urban and rural areas as a percentage of the total population. As expected there was a greater proportion of the working age population in urban areas, resulting in lower dependents.

Overall young and old people in rural areas accounted for 35.7 per cent of the population resulting in a dependency ratio of 55.5 per cent, compared with urban areas where the dependent population was smaller at 31.4 per cent of the total with an overall dependency ratio of 45.8 per cent.

Figure 26 Dependents as a percentage of total population, 2011

Area	Dependents	Working Age
Aggregate Rural Area	35.7	64.3
Aggregate Urban Area	31.4	68.6
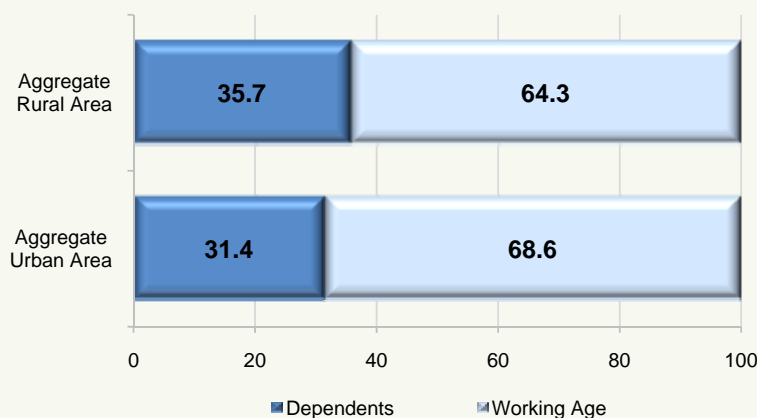
Pre-schoolers on the increase

Census 2011 shows a population of pre-school children aged 0-4 of 356,329, an increase of 17.9 per cent since 2006 compared to the 8.2 per cent in the population of the State as a whole, bringing the numbers back to just above the levels in the early 1980s as shown in Figure 27.

Leinster was the only province to have exceeded the 1981 population level. The population of each of the other provinces, though on the increase, was still lower than the 1981 level.

Map 3 shows the change in the pre-school population by county since 2006. The greatest increase in pre-school children was in Laois at 37.1 per cent, followed by Cavan (30.2%) and Monaghan (26.8%), while the slowest growth was recorded in Waterford city (5.3%).

Where they live

Figure 28 shows the percentage share of the usually resident pre-school children analysed by the type of area they lived in compared with the total population.

While almost 30 per cent (104,796) were living in one of the 5 cities, the graph shows how they were under-represented in the cities and rural areas compared with the population overall; against this, pre-school children were over-represented in towns of all sizes.

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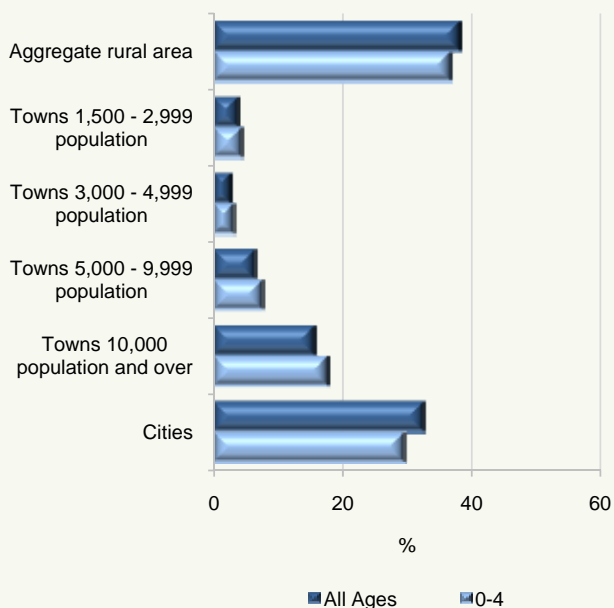**Figure 27 Population of age 0-4 by province 1981-2011**
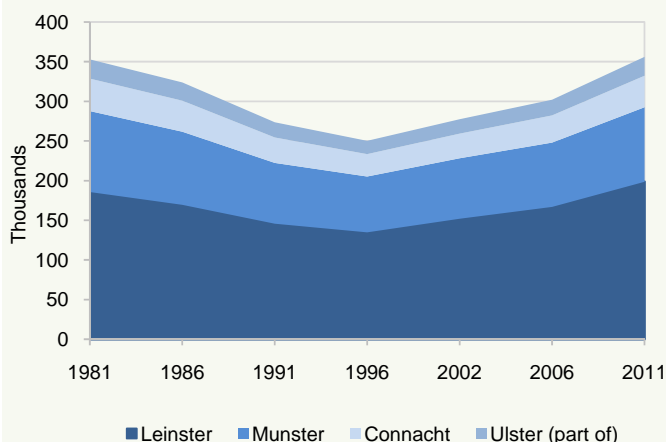
Map 3 Change in pre-school population since 2006 by county
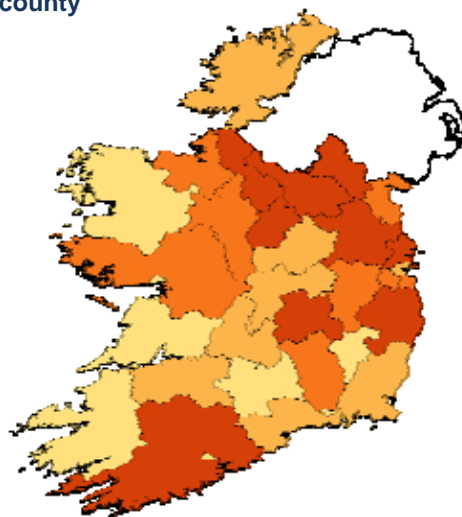
5.3% - 13.8%   14.0% - 16.2%
16.7% - 18.3%   19.8% - 37.1%

Figure 28 Proportion of 0-4 age group in private households by area type compared to total population

It's a fact!

72.2% The increase in the pre-school population in Fingal since 2002

23% The growth in the pre-school age groups in urban areas

10.9% The decrease in the pre-school age group in Cork city since 2002

Pre-school (0-4)

Accommodation

The change in accommodation type for pre-school children in private households between 2006 and 2011 is shown in Figure 29 in actual and percentage terms. While detached houses accounted for the majority of residences at 42.6 per cent of the total, the largest actual change has been in semi-detached accommodation.

While those living in flats and apartments accounted for only 7 per cent of all pre-school children there has been a 50.3 per cent increase in those living in this type of accommodation since 2006, compared with more modest increases of 24 per cent in semi - detached houses, 24.5 per cent in terraced and 9.9 per cent in detached houses.

The majority of pre-school children lived in non-rental properties. However, the proportion living in rented properties has also increased significantly in the past decade rising from 22.3 per cent in 2002 to 25.9 per cent in 2006 to 34.7 per cent in 2011 as illustrated in the graph at the bottom of the page.

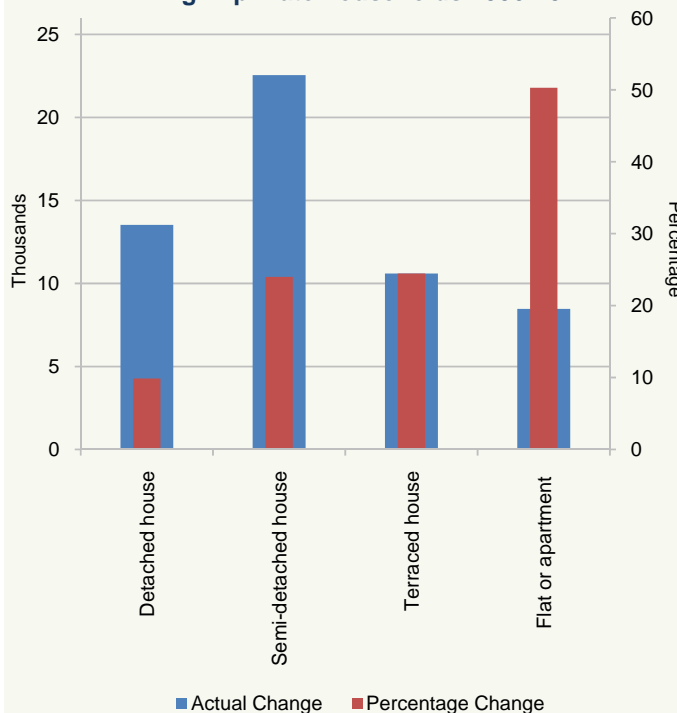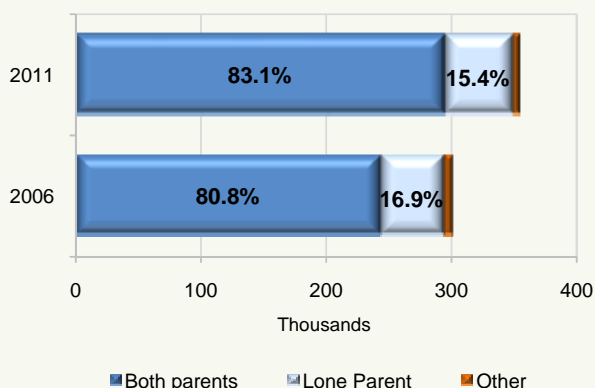**Figure 29 Change in accommodation for 0-4 age group, living in private households 2006-2011**

■ Actual Change   ■ Percentage Change

Figure 30 Composition of households where pre-school children lived, 2006-2011

■ Both parents   ■ Lone Parent   ■ Other

Who they live with

Figure 30 shows the categories of household in which pre-school children lived, showing that 83.1 per cent of this age group lived in family units with both parents, with 15.4 per cent in lone parent families.

While there was an increase of pre-school children living with a lone parent of 7.5 per cent since 2006, this type of family unit has decreased as a proportion of all household types from 16.9 to 15.4 per cent in 2011.
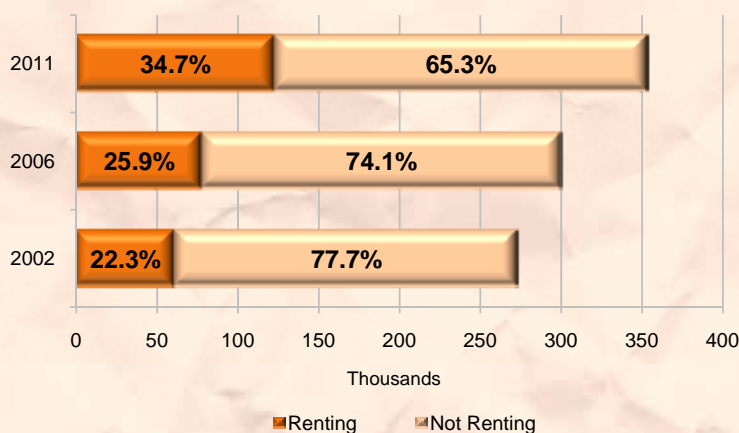
Tables page 41

It's a fact!

.

34.7% The percentage of all pre-school children who lived in rented accommodation in 2011

Accommodation by renting and not renting, 2002-2011

■ Renting   ■ Not Renting

Where they live

Census 2011 shows the population of the primary school age group (5-12) at 504,267, an increase of 12 per cent since 2006 compared to an 8.2 per cent increase in the population of the State as a whole.

County by County

Map 4 shows the change in the primary school population by county since 2006. The greatest increase in primary school aged children was in Laois at 28.9 per cent, followed by Fingal (28.3%) and Longford (23.5%), while the slowest growth was recorded in Dublin city (0.5%).

The primary school aged population decreased in two of the cities with Limerick showing a 9.4 per cent fall and Cork city a 7.9 per cent fall in numbers.

Accommodation

While the majority of primary aged children living in private households lived in detached houses (50.3%), as in the pre-school age group there is an increasing trend for primary school children to live in flats and apartments with a 27 per cent increase in those living in this accommodation type since 2006. Flats and apartments were rented in more than 84 per cent of cases.

Twenty-nine per cent of accommodation was in rental properties, particularly in terraced houses where more than half the accommodation was rented.

Household composition

There was an increase of 18.1 per cent in primary school children living in a lone parent household since 2006, representing 19.1 per cent of households up from 18 per cent in 2006.
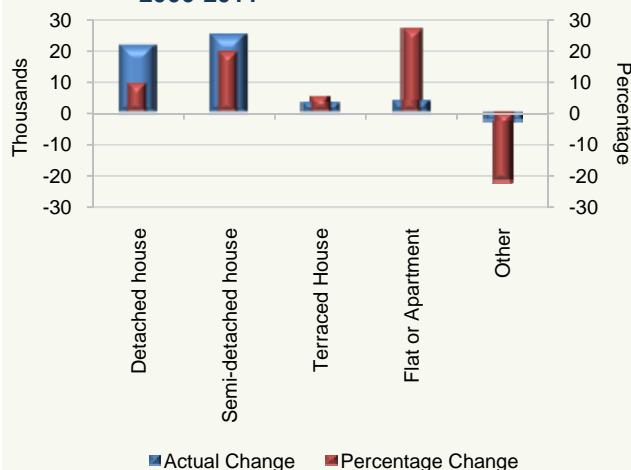
Tables page 42

Map 4 Change in primary school population by county since 2006
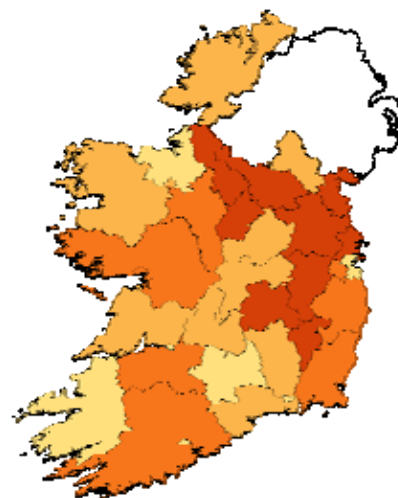
■ -0.4% – 7.3% ■ 7.6% – 11.1%
■ 11.3% – 14.5% ■ 15.3% – 28.9%

Figure 31 Change in accommodation type of 0-4 age group in private households 2006-2011
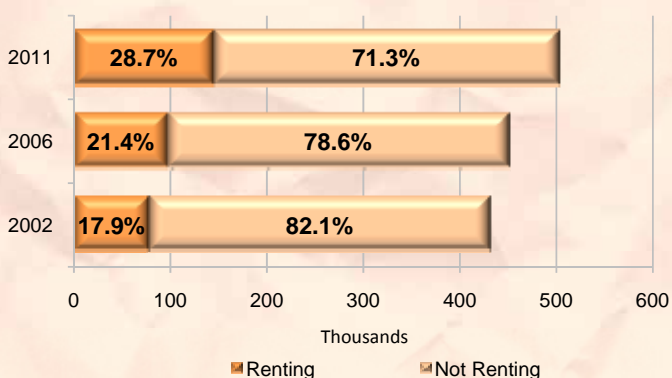

■ Actual Change ■ Percentage Change

It's a fact!

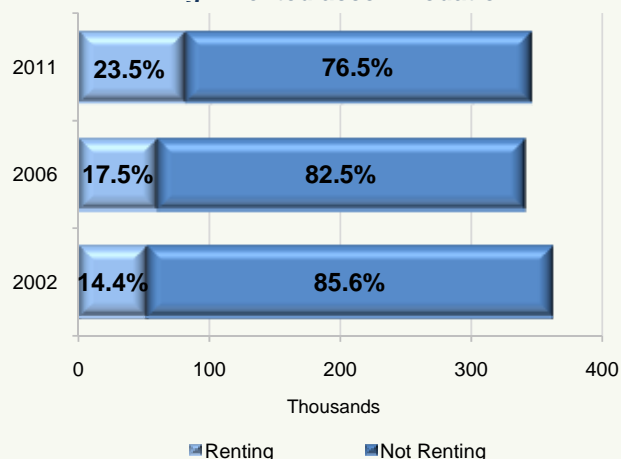**49.6%** The increase since 2006 of primary school aged children living in rented accommodation

18.1% The increase since 2006 of primary school aged children living with one parent

Accommodation by renting and not renting, 2002-2011

■ Renting ■ Not Renting

Secondary (13-18)

Figure 32 Age group 13-18 in private households living in rented accommodation

2011	23.5% 76.5%
2006	17.5% 82.5%
2002	14.4% 85.6%

Thousands

■ Renting   ■ Not Renting

County by County

Map 5 shows the change in the secondary school population by county since 2006. The greatest increase in this age group was in counties Laois and Kildare at 10.3 per cent, followed by Meath (9.5%) and Cavan (8.8%).

The secondary school age group decreased in almost half of all administrative counties. This was most pronounced in city areas with the cities of Limerick (-16.3%), Cork (-11.7%), Waterford (-6.4%) and Galway (-5.4%) experiencing the greatest declines. Other declines in general were concentrated in the West and in South Dublin and Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown.

Household composition

Just over one-fifth of young people in the secondary school age group lived in lone parent families, up from 18.1 per cent in 2006.
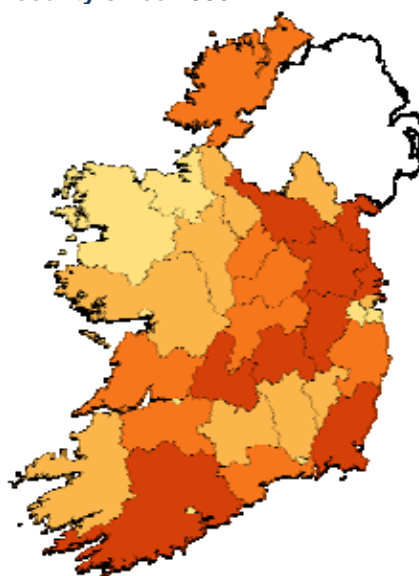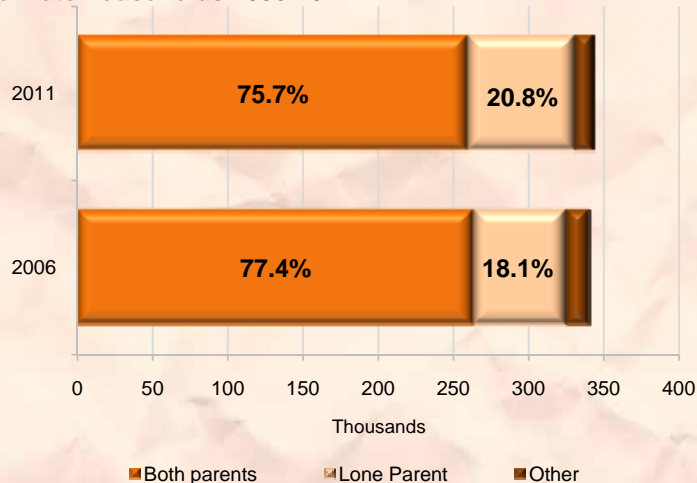
Tables page 42

Where they live

Census 2011 shows the population of the secondary school age group (13-18) of 344,931, an increase of only 2,897 persons, or 0.8 per cent, since 2006, a consequence of low births in the mid-1990s feeding into today's numbers.

Figure 32 shows the proportion of teenagers in this age group who lived in rented accommodation in 2002, 2006 and 2011 and shows an increasing trend towards renting. Twenty-three and a half per cent of teenagers in this age group were living in rented accommodation in 2011, up from 17.5 per cent in 2006.

Map 5 Change in secondary school population by county since 2006

■ -16.3% - -3.4%   ■ -2.5% - 0.0%
■ 0.6% - 3.6%   ■ 3.8% - 10.3%

It's a fact!

23.5% The percentage of the secondary school aged population living in rented accommodation
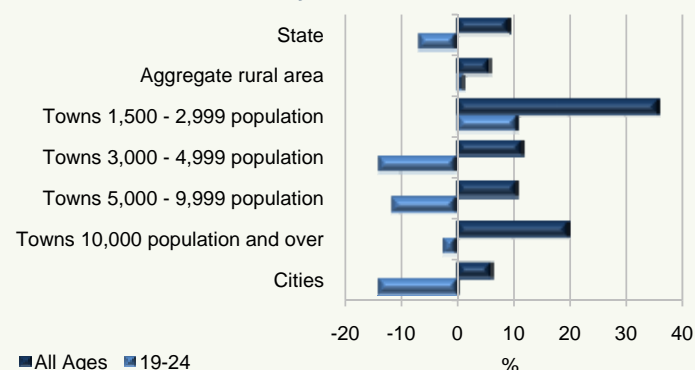
16.3% The decrease in the secondary school age population in Limerick city since 2006

Composition of households for the 13-18 age group living in private households 2006-2011

2011	75.7% 20.8%
2006	77.4% 18.1%

Thousands

■ Both parents   ■ Lone Parent   ■ Other

Figure 33 Change in age group 19-24 in private households by area since 2006

Where they live

Census 2011 shows a population of the young adults aged 19-24 of 354,313, a decrease of 12 per cent since 2006; this is primarily a cohort effect of lower births in the late 1980s compared with earlier years, combined with the effects of migration among this mobile group.

Map 6 illustrates the change in the population of young adults by county since 2006, showing a falling population in every county with Galway city having the largest decrease at 25.5 per cent.

Two thirds in urban areas

As shown in Figure 33 two-thirds of this age group who lived in private households lived in urban areas in 2011. This is higher than the figure of 61.6 per cent for the State as a whole as young adults move to urban areas to seek work and attend college.

Still living at home

While the majority of young adults still live at home with one or both parents, the percentage in this category has increased from 59 per cent in 2006 to 66 per cent in 2011.

The corollary of this is fewer young adults in non-family households (flat-shares and such like) with the numbers falling by 21,463 from 22 to 18 per cent.

Just over 13,000 in this age group were enumerated as lone parents, a slight fall on 2006 while there were 9,770 fewer persons enumerated as husbands and wives or couples in this age group in 2011.

Tables page 43

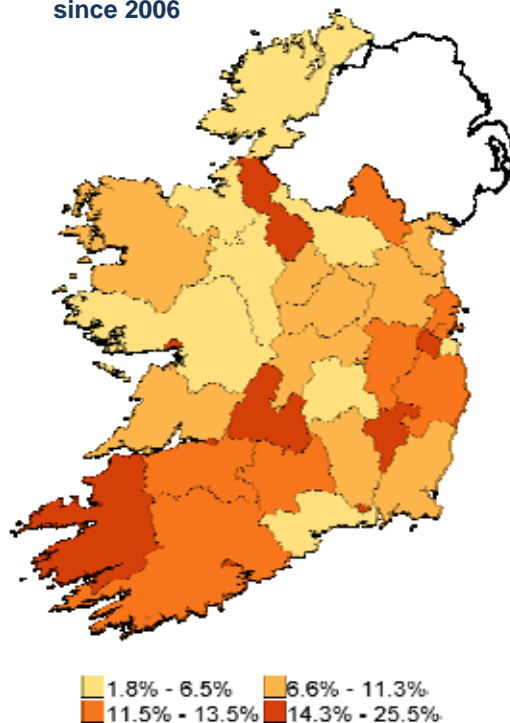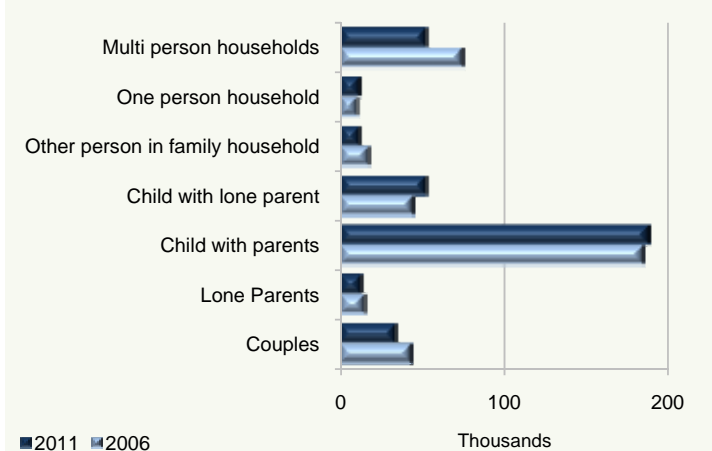**Map 6 Fall in young adult population by county since 2006**

Figure 34 Position in household of young adults, 2006-2011

It's a fact!

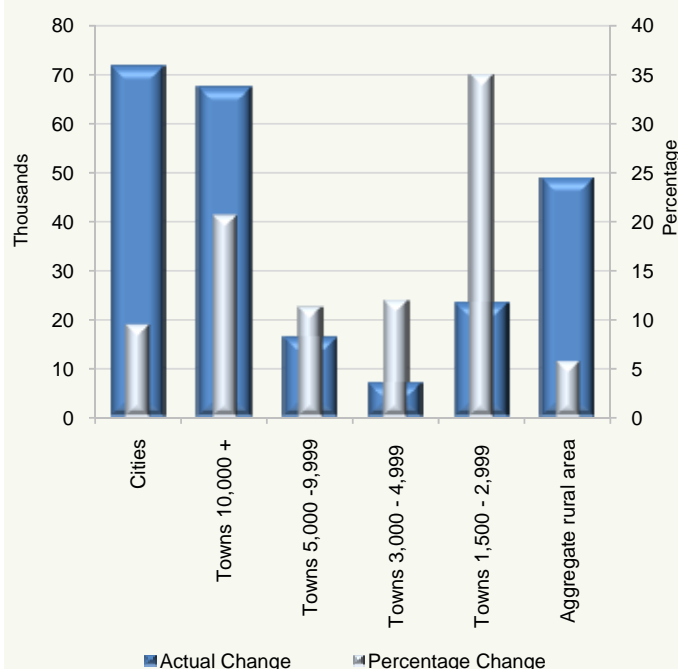**12%**   The decrease in the population of young adults since 2006

37.5%   The percentage of young adults living in rented accommodation

Adults (25-64)

Figure 35 Change in working age population by area since 2006

Actual Change   Percentage Change

Where they live

The population of the 25-64 age group recorded in Census 2011 was 2,493,019, an increase of 9.6 per cent on the Census 2006 figure of 2,274,741.

Figure 35 illustrates the actual and percentage change in the population of adults living in private households by area type since 2006, showing that the population of this age group increased by the greatest numbers in cities with almost 72,000 more adults than in 2006. However, this was closely followed by large towns with an increase of over 67,000, showing a faster growth rate at 20.7 per cent than cities (9.5%).

There were proportionally more in this age group in the cities (34%) than for the population as a whole (32.9%).

There was an increasing trend for renting accommodation in this age group over the past decade with over 675,000 persons (27.6%) living in rented accommodation in 2011. This is an increase of 51.4 per cent over those renting in this age group in 2006 when just under 450,000 were renting.

Marital status

Figure 36 shows the marital status by five year bands for this age group and neatly illustrates the progression from single to married, with separation and divorce featuring from age 40 on, and widowed becoming significant from age 60 on.
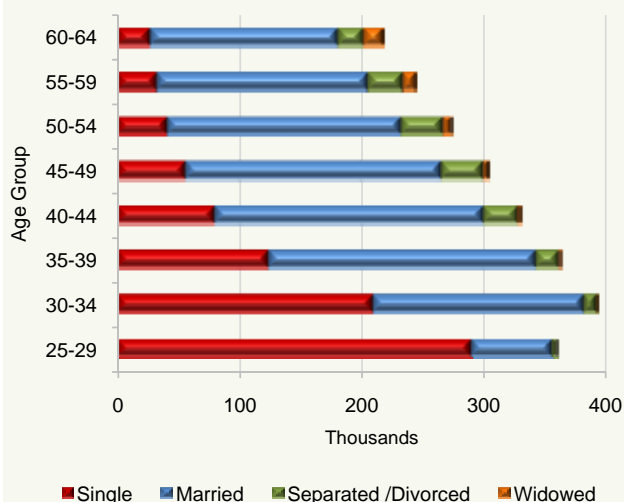
Household composition

The majority of people in this age group overall were enumerated as husbands and wives or couples with 66 per cent in this category, though 8.6 per cent were enumerated as children with one or both parents.

Almost one in ten in this age group lived alone.

Tables pages 43-45

Figure 36 Marital status of age groups 25-64

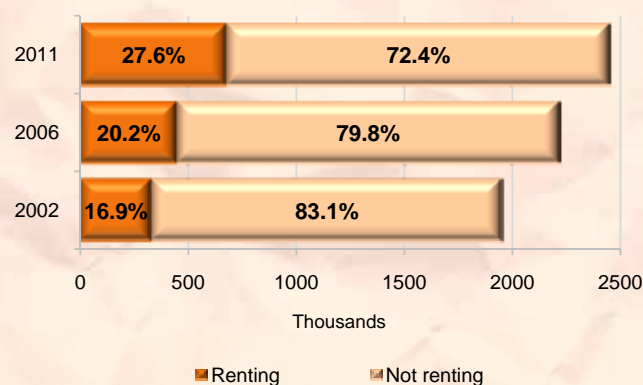

Single   Married   Separated /Divorced   Widowed

It's a fact!

105.5% The increase in the 25-64 age group living in rented accommodation since 2002

91.2% The increase in the 25-64 age group living in flats and apartments since 2002

Age 25-64 in rented accommodation

Renting   Not renting

Where they live

The population of the 65 and over age group recorded in Census 2011 was 535,393, an increase of 14.4 per cent from 467,926 in 2006. Compared to population growth of 8.2 per cent in the State as a whole this is one of the age groups which experienced greatest growth over the period.

Map 7 shows the change in the population of elderly people by county since 2006, showing a growing population in each county, topped by Fingal with a 38 per cent increase followed by Kildare (30.3%) and South Dublin (29.1%). The lowest growth in the age group over the period was in the large cities with growth of 3.5 per cent in Dublin city and 6.5 per cent in Cork city.

Position in household

Figure 37 shows the position in the household of the elderly living in private accommodation, showing that 56.5 per cent were couples and 27.7 per cent lived alone.

In a total of 10.8 per cent of cases an elderly person lived with other family members. In over two-thirds of these cases there was one elderly parent living with one of more of their children.

Marital status

Fifty four per cent of the population in the 65 and over age group were married, with 28 per cent widowed, 14 per cent single and 4 per cent separated or divorced.

Tables pages 45-46

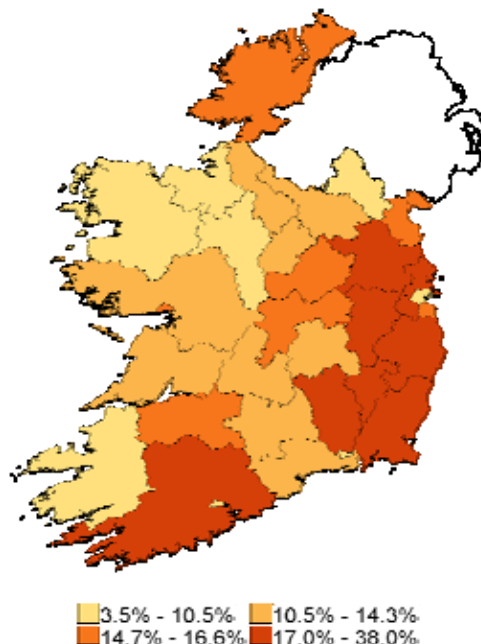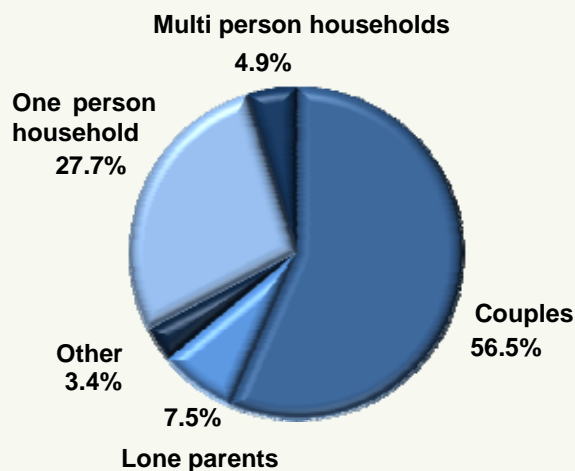**Map 7 Change in elderly population by county since 2006**

3.5% - 10.5%   10.5% - 14.3%
14.7% - 16.6%   17.0% - 38.0%

Figure 37 Position in household of elderly population living in private households

Multi person households 4.9%
One person household 27.7%
Other 3.4%
Lone parents 7.5%
Couples 56.5%

It's a fact!

389 The number of people in the State aged 100 and over

100 The increase in the number of centenarians since 2006

Centenarians 2006-2011

Age

— 2006   — 2011

Elderly (65+)

Nursing homes and hospitals

Ninety-four per cent of the usually resident elderly population were in private households at the time of the census with the remainder, 31,054 persons, in communal establishments.

Figure 38 shows this group by sex, single year of age and type of establishment, and clearly illustrates the sex divide among this group with over twice as many females as males living in nursing homes and accounting for the majority of the increases in nursing homes residents in the group aged 80 and over.

The numbers increase with increasing age, particularly from age 70 onwards, rising to a peak of over 1,132 living in nursing homes at age 88, before decreasing in line with the decreasing population at older ages.

While two-thirds of this group were living in nursing homes the numbers of elderly usually resident in hospitals is noteworthy with a total of 4,873 persons aged 65 and over accounting for over 15 per cent of those living in communal establishments. The majority of the 5,379 persons enumerated in other establishments were in religious communities.

Figure 39 shows the percentage of all people aged 80 and over who were living in communal establishments. This starts out at just over 7 per cent of eighty year olds but gradually increases to a peak of 55 per cent of all persons aged 100.

Females are more likely to live in nursing homes with 14.3 per cent of all females aged 80 and over living in nursing homes compared with 8.6 per cent of males.

Tables page 47-49

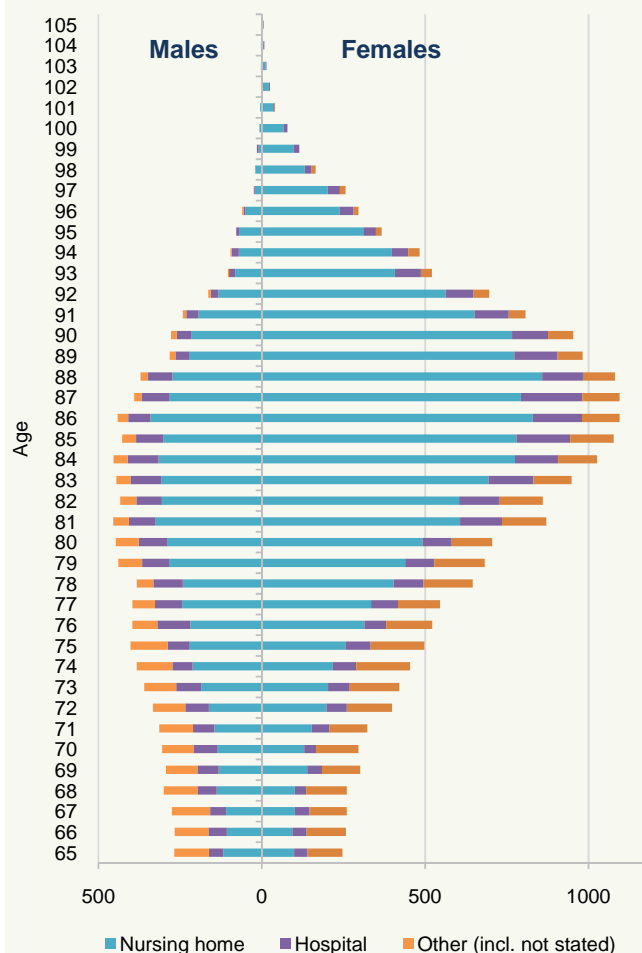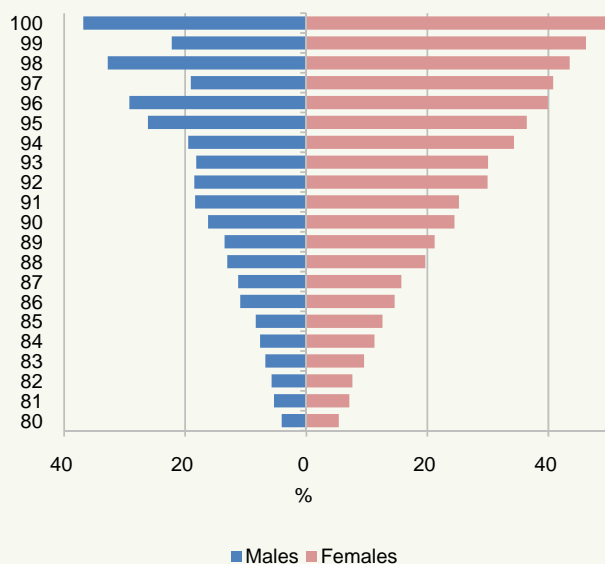### Figure 38 Males and females aged 65 and over living in communal establishments

Legend: ■ Nursing home ■ Hospital ■ Other (incl. not stated)

Figure 39 Males and females aged 80-100 usually resident in communal establishments as a percentage of total at each age

Legend: ■ Males ■ Females

Elderly living alone

Elderly people living alone were predominantly women as shown in Figure 40 with a total of over 87,000 females living alone compared with almost 49,000 males.

The proportion of females living alone increased with age, with females accounting for almost three quarters of all persons aged 85 and over living alone.

Figure 40 Elderly living alone in private households by age group 2011

Legend: ■ Male ■ Female