



Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

Press Statement
Preas Ráiteas

2002 Census of Population – Volume 1 – Population Classified by Area

Navan grows rapidly

Navan was the fastest growing large town in the State between 1996 and 2002, while Galway City was the fastest growing city, a further report from Census 2002, released today by the Central Statistics Office, shows.

Census 2002 - Volume 1 – Population Classified by Area presents the final population figures classified by sex for all the territorial divisions in the country (provinces, counties, cities, towns, urban and rural areas, electoral divisions, etc.).

The CSO publication reveals that Navan in County Meath was the fastest growing town between 1996 and 2002 when its population increased by more than a half (51.6%) from 12,810 in 1996 to 19,417 in 2002, a rise of 6,607 persons. This increase compares with an 8 per cent overall rise in the State's population in the same six-year period.

Galway continues to be the city with the highest growth. It had a population (including its suburbs) of 66,163 in 2002, which is 8,800 higher than the last census in 1996 - an increase of 15.3 per cent.

Other large towns which experienced rapid growth (*see table*) include Ennis where the population went from 17,726 in 1996 to 22,051 in 2002, a 24.4 per cent increase, and Drogheda where the population rose from 25,282 to 31,020, a 22.7 per cent increase.

Dublin city and suburbs exceeds one million

Dublin City and its suburbs exceeded one million for the first time with a population of 1,004,614, up 51,922 from the 1996 Census figure.

Major towns within a twenty-mile radius of Dublin, which showed a significant increase in population since 1996, were Celbridge (+30.3%), Naas (+29.9%), Swords (+21.8%), Leixlip (+11.6%) and Bray (+10.8%).

Within a thirty-mile radius of Dublin, the following towns also showed appreciable population gains: Navan (+51.6%), Droichead Nua (+25.3%) and Drogheda (+22.7%).

Moving further afield, within a fifty-mile radius of Dublin, Mullingar (+25%) and Carlow (+23.4%) experienced high population growth.

Wide variation in make-up of constituencies

In 2002, Dáil Constituencies ranged in size from 20,792 per T.D. in Dublin North-West to 28,491 in Kildare North. At a national level, the average population per T.D. increased from 21,844 in 1996 to 23,598 in 2002.

More /...

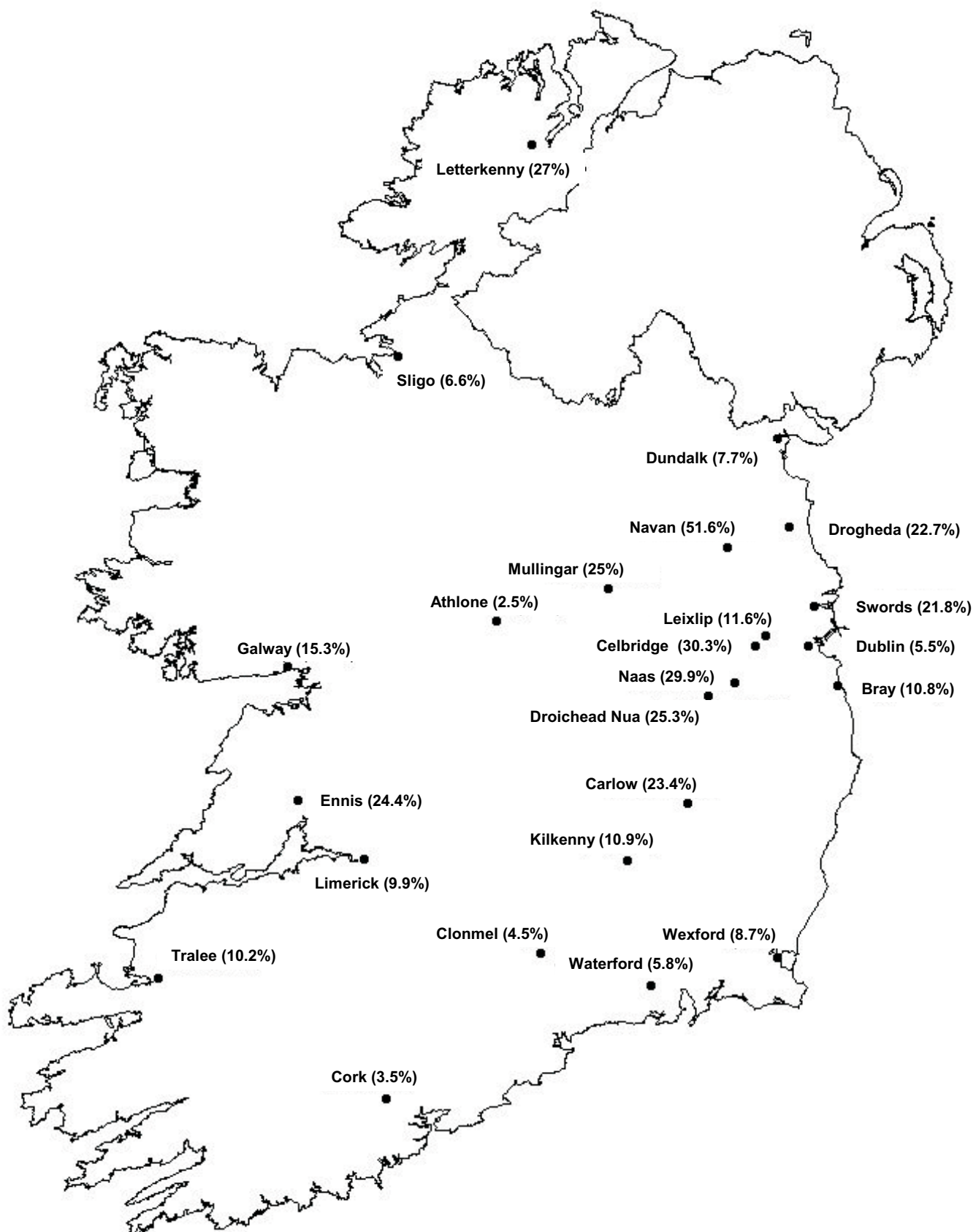
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Population change since 1996 in Ireland's cities and largest towns



Notes:

1. Only towns with a population of 15,000 or more persons in 2002 are included.
2. The population of the suburbs of cities and the environs of towns are also included.

Population of the main cities and towns (including suburbs and environs)

City/town	Population in 1996	Population in 2002	Percentage change
Dublin	952,692	1,004,614	5.5
Cork	179,954	186,239	3.5
Limerick	79,137	86,998	9.9
Galway	57,363	66,163	15.3
Waterford	44,155	46,736	5.8
Dundalk	30,195	32,505	7.7
Drogheda	25,282	31,020	22.7
Bray	27,923	30,951	10.8
Swords	22,314	27,175	21.8
Ennis	17,726	22,051	24.4
Tralee	19,950	21,987	10.2
Kilkenny	18,696	20,735	10.9
Sligo	18,509	19,735	6.6
Navan	12,810	19,417	51.6
Carlow	14,979	18,487	23.4
Naas	14,074	18,288	29.9
Wexford	15,862	17,235	8.7
Clonmel	16,182	16,910	4.5
Droichead Nua	13,363	16,739	25.3
Celbridge	12,289	16,016	30.3
Athlone	15,544	15,936	2.5
Mullingar	12,492	15,621	25.0
Letterkenny	11,996	15,231	27.0
Leixlip	13,451	15,016	11.6

High density in Dublin, low in Leitrim

The overall population density (i.e. the number of persons per square kilometre) for the State was 56. Leitrim had the lowest population density at 16, while there were 21 persons per square kilometre in Roscommon and the same number in Mayo.

Dublin City had the highest population density with 4,215 persons per square kilometre, followed by Cork City with 3,107 and Limerick City with 2,655.

Editor's note:

The publication *Census 2002 - Principal Demographic Results*, released on 19 June 2003, contains a summary at State level of data from volumes 1-4, 8, 11 and 12 of the detailed census reports. The publication released today, Volume 1, gives detailed figures for all the territorial divisions in the country.

For copies of the publication contact:

Central Statistics Office, Information Section, Skehard Road, Cork

or

Government Publications Sale Office, Sun Alliance House, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2.

Price: €15.00

Copies can also be downloaded from the CSO website (see below).

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