

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1946.

VOLUME II.

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CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1946.

VOLUME II—OCCUPATIONS

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The statistics in this volume relate to the classification according to occupation of persons aged 14 years and over as described on the Census schedules collected in respect of the Census of Population taken on the night of 12th/13th May, 1946.

The term "Occupation" is defined as the kind of work performed in earning a living irrespective of the place in which and the purpose for which it is performed. A person follows his occupation within a certain industry or service. Some occupations are peculiar to particular industries or services, e.g., grain miller, jam boiler, book binder. Others are found in many industries and services, e.g., clerk, motor driver, packer. Classification of the population by occupation thus brings together the numbers of persons engaged in the same type of work regardless of the purpose for which such work is undertaken. In compiling the statistics of occupation for this volume the occupations peculiar to or habitually associated with the more important industries and services are grouped together and this fact should be borne in mind, as there is a risk that the occupational group totals in this volume may be misread as the totals for all engaged in the rather similarly described industries and services, whereas they represent only occupations peculiar to such industries and services.

The questions on the Census Schedule from which particulars of occupation and industry were ascertained were as follows:

K. Personal Occupation of each person 14 years of age and over:

- (a) State here precisely the craft or calling which each person is following, *even if at present unemployed*. If following more than one occupation, only principal occupation should be stated. For persons working in connection with agriculture such descriptions as "assisting on father's farm," "farm labourer," "farmer," "land steward," etc., will be sufficient.

If at present out of work write also in the space opposite "out of work for _____" stating period of unemployment.

- (b) If studying or preparing for any particular occupation or profession, write in the space opposite "student" (indicating branch, e.g., "medical student," "law student," "wireless student" etc.), "apprentice," "learner," etc., as the case may be. Apprentices, etc., *actually following* the occupation for which they are being trained should state occupation at (a).
- (c) If *retired* from an occupation or service and not following any other regular occupation state at (a) the former occupation or service and insert "retired" in the space opposite.
- (d) If mainly occupied in unpaid domestic duties at home (housewives, etc.) write "home duties", other persons mainly dependent on others' earnings or upon their own or others' private means write "none."

L. Employer and Employer's Business: If working for an employer state name and business of employer (person, public body, etc.). If employed in connection with employer's farm state also the area of farm in statute acres. If at present *out of work* give these particulars for last employer.

If *employing paid persons* for purposes of the principal business write "employer."

If *working on own account* and not employing paid persons for purposes of business write "own account."

NOTE—For domestic servants and others in private personal service, write "private."

It is necessary to include Question L "Employer and Employer's business" in the above statement in order to understand the basis on which the classification according to occupations is made.

At the stage of compilation preparatory to publication when the figures for the whole country were put together, it became obviously desirable to sub-divide a number of the occupations on an industrial basis. For example, "shopkeepers" are shown under their principal trading groups, "clerks" are sub-divided in a similar manner. Where the description "labourer" was the only information given in the answer to Question K, regard was had to the particulars shown in reply to Question L regarding "Employer's Business" in order to identify the exact nature of the occupation concerned. Details of the numbers following the principal occupations within each industry are published in Volume VII—Industries.

It should be noted that only the principal occupation was recorded in respect of each individual on the Census Schedule. As a result the numbers of farmers returned at the Census was smaller than the actual number of persons owning and farming land in the country. Large numbers of persons holding small farms work, for instance, as labourers on larger farms or for local authorities, etc. In describing themselves on the Census schedule such persons would properly return their occupation as "agricultural labourer" in the first case and as "local authority labourer" in the second if such was their principal occupation. Other persons holding land but following as their principal occupation pursuits other than farming described themselves not as farmers but as "shopkeepers," "publicans," "medical doctors," "auctioneers" etc. Accordingly the numbers ascertained at the Census for any particular occupation would be smaller than the number actually following that occupation whether as a principal or subsidiary occupation.

As the figures for each occupation include all persons described on the Census Schedules as following that occupation, the figures under each occupational heading include persons who at the date of the Census were unemployed as well as those employed. Similarly persons temporarily confined to hospitals and other institutions and persons temporarily resident in this country are included. Where a person was described as "Retired" from an occupation, such person was not included under the occupation stated. The "retired" persons for all occupations were grouped together and shown under one general heading "Retired from gainful occupations" at the end of the lists of occupations in Tables 2, 5, 7 and 8 with the other categories of persons regarded as "not gainfully occupied."

As in the case of previous Censuses, special attention was paid to the occupational inquiry and the instructions issued to each householder contained detailed directions together with examples as an aid to the correct completion of this part of the Schedule. There was a change in the minimum age of persons classified by occupation from 12 years in 1926 to 14 years in 1936 and the latter has been continued in the 1946 Census.

The number of persons shown as following a particular occupation in any district represents the number living in that district at Census night and not the persons engaged in that occupation in that district.

Particulars of population in each occupation classified by ages, conjugal condition, Irish language and the Gaeltacht, industries, industrial status, etc., will be found in the volumes issued under these subjects.

A new feature introduced in this volume is the classification of occupation by the Rateable Valuation (R.V.) of Agricultural Holding. On each schedule was stated the Rateable Valuation (R.V.) of all agricultural holdings (if any) situated

in the State, of which persons resident in the household to which the schedule referred were rated occupiers. Tables 14A and 14B in this volume show, for gainfully occupied males and females the principal occupations and occupational groups classified by Rateable Valuation (R.V.). It will of course be understood that the valuation entered on each schedule was the total valuation of all agricultural holdings owned by normal residents in the household and that a large proportion of urban dwellers were in the category "No statement, nil and under 1 acre."

Tables (12A, 12 (a), 12B, 13A, 13B) relating to occupations classified by birth-places and religions, have been included in the present Volume II, instead of Volume III as at previous Censuses.

Since 1936 changes in boundaries have been recorded in respect of Dublin City, to which has been added the former Urban District of Howth and a small section of Dublin County in the Crumlin area. Extensions of boundaries have also been made in the case of Waterford County Borough and Dundalk Urban District. The occupational statistics for 1946 shown in this volume for the foregoing areas relate to the areas as existing on 12th May, 1946.