

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1961.

VOLUME IV - INDUSTRIES

EXPLANATORY NOTES.

This volume contains detailed classifications by industry and by employment status of the working population aged 14 years and over, derived from the Census of Population taken on the night of 9 April, 1961.

BASIS OF CLASSIFICATION.

Persons in their working capacity are classified for census purposes according to three distinct classifications, namely Occupation, Industry and Employment Status. The principles involved in the occupational classification are described in the Explanatory Notes to Volume III of the Census of Population, 1961 - Occupations. As explained in that Volume, occupations are divided into two broad categories, gainful and non-gainful, a gainful occupation being one in which a person is normally actively engaged and from which the livelihood is usually obtained. Persons in certain occupations who do not receive a fixed wage or salary are, however, also classified as gainfully occupied, the principal group of persons in this category being those assisting relatives in farm work. Persons having a gainful occupation who were out of work on Census date are included in the occupational classification.

The *occupation* of a gainfully occupied person, is determined by the kind of work he performs in earning a living, irrespective of the place in which, or the purpose for which, it is performed. The nature of the factory, business or service in which the person is working has no bearing upon the classification of his occupation. For example, the occupation "Clerk" covers clerks employed in manufacturing industries, commerce, insurance, banking, public administration, professions and other services.

The *industry* in which a person is engaged is determined (whatever may be his occupation) by reference to the business or economic activity in, or for the purpose of which, his occupation is followed. Thus, while the occupational classification is concerned only with work performed by the individual regardless of its ultimate purpose or end product, the industrial classification is concerned only with ultimate purpose or end product, regardless of the precise nature of the work performed. A single manufacturing concern or commercial undertaking may employ persons of many different occupations for the purpose of making a particular product or giving a particular service. Conversely, there are many cases in which particular occupations are largely confined to a single industry. For example, the majority of persons having agricultural occupations are in the industry of Agriculture, most fishermen are in the Fishing industry, most miners are in the Mining industry and most shop assistants are in Wholesale or Retail Trading. In this connection, attention is directed to Table 6 which shows the principal occupations or groups of occupations to be found in each industry.

It will be noted that the term "industry" as used for Census of Population purposes is not confined to manufacturing industry, but is regarded as being synonymous with the term "branch of economic activity". The basis of the industrial classification is, in the case of an employee, the business or profession of his employer and in the case of a person who describes himself as "employer" or "working on own account" the nature of his own business or profession.

It is important to note that the industrial classifications contained in Tables 1 to 6 relate to gainfully occupied persons actually at work or in employment, including those who were temporarily confined to hospitals, on Census date. Persons described as "unemployed" or "out of work" are, therefore, excluded.

Each gainfully occupied person was classified by "employment status" to one of the following groups:-

Employer
Own-account worker
Assisting relative
Employee (other than apprentice or learner in a skilled trade)
Apprentice or learner in a skilled trade
Out of work

It will be noted that the total of the first five groups represents the total number of persons at work or in employment on Census date, i.e. those covered by the industrial classifications.

The only important change in the employment status classification as compared with 1951 is that whereas, in 1951, gainfully occupied persons temporarily confined to hospitals were all classified to a single group "in hospital", on this occasion such persons were not separately identified but were classified as appropriate to one of the six employment status groups. This procedure brings the Irish classification more closely into line with international recommendations.

The questions on the Census schedule from which the statistics contained in the present volume were derived are set out hereunder.

For all persons aged 14 years or over - Leave blank for children

PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION

If usually working for payment or profit (even if at present out of work), state here the usual principal occupation or calling.

If wholly retired, state the former principal occupation.

For other persons write, as appropriate, "Home duties", "Private means", "At school" (primary, secondary or vocational); "Student" (Medical, Law, etc.), "Not yet at work", etc.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

If working for payment or profit, state whether "Employee", "Employs others", "On own account", "Assisting relative", or "Apprentice".

If out of work, write "Out of work".

If wholly retired, write "Retired".

EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYER'S BUSINESS

If working for payment or profit, state name and address of employer (person, firm, company or public body) and nature of business carried on by employer.

If self employed, state the nature of the business carried on.

If out of work, state name, address and nature of business of last employer.

If farmer, state the area, in statute acres, and the total rateable valuation of the farm on which working.

If farm worker, state the area, in statute acres, of the farm on which working.

More specific directions as to how these questions should be answered were given on the back of the form which also contained examples of properly completed schedules. In addition, the enumerators were requested to examine the completed forms carefully so that vague and inadequate replies could be detected and corrected before the forms left the centres of enumeration.

1951-1961 COMPARISONS.

The list of industries used for the 1961 industrial classification shows few changes from that used in 1951. The principal changes are that Motor Garages are now shown under Commerce instead of Manufacture of Transport Equipment and that Clerical and Administrative Staff in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, who were formerly classified to Public Administration and Defence, are now included under Transport, Communication and Storage.

The term "at work" as used in 1951 differed from the present concept in that gainfully occupied persons who were temporarily confined to hospitals were excluded from those classified as "at work" in 1951 but are included in that group in this publication. Another change which affects the comparability of the 1951 and 1961 figures is that certain classes of professional students who were regarded as gainfully occupied in 1951 are now classified as not gainfully occupied.

A comparison between the 1951 figures - adjusted to take account of the foregoing changes in classification - and the 1961 figures is given in Table 3.

COVERAGE OF 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 9 April, 1961, together with all persons who arrived in that area on the morning of Monday, 10 April, 1961, not having been enumerated elsewhere; persons aboard ships or boats in port are included in the population of adjacent areas. The figures, therefore, include visitors present on Census night in addition to residents, but Irish persons temporarily absent from the state on Census night are excluded. The date of the Census was, however, chosen to coincide with a period when passenger movements were at a minimum and, consequently, the figures closely approximate to those for the normally resident population.

Members of the Defence Forces who, on Census date, were serving with the United Nations Force in the Congo were, of course, excluded from the enumeration. The total number of commissioned officers (including 2 Chaplains) was 69 and the total number of other ranks was 583.