

COMMENTARY

TOTAL POPULATION AND POPULATIONS OF PROVINCES.

The population enumerated on Census Night, 1966 was 2,884,002 persons, compared with 2,818,341 in 1961, representing an increase of 65,661 or 2.3 per cent. This increase is in sharp contrast with the falls in population which occurred in the two preceding intercensal periods, and which amounted to 79,923 between 1956 and 1961 and 62,329 between 1951 and 1956. The results of the Censuses since 1926 giving totals and numbers of males and females for provinces are shown in TABLE 1.

TABLE 1:- POPULATION OF EACH PROVINCE, 1926 - 1966.

Year	Total	Leinster	Munster	Connacht	Ulster (part of)
	Persons				
1926	2,971,992	1,149,092	969,902	552,907	300,091
1936	2,968,420	1,220,411	942,272	525,468	280,269
1946	2,955,107	1,281,117	917,306	492,797	263,887
1951	2,960,593	1,336,576	898,870	471,895	253,252
1956	2,898,264	1,338,942	877,238	446,221	235,863
1961	2,818,341	1,332,149	849,203	419,465	217,524
1966	2,884,002	1,414,415	859,334	401,950	208,303
	Males				
1926	1,506,889	573,900	493,628	284,453	154,908
1936	1,520,454	611,279	485,412	276,399	147,364
1946	1,494,877	630,982	467,698	257,794	138,403
1951	1,506,597	664,008	460,365	248,955	133,269
1956	1,462,928	658,453	446,782	234,558	123,135
1961	1,416,549	651,908	431,292	219,983	113,366
1966	1,449,032	694,248	436,368	210,097	108,319
	Females				
1926	1,465,103	575,192	476,274	268,454	145,183
1936	1,447,966	609,132	456,860	249,069	132,905
1946	1,460,230	650,135	449,608	235,003	125,484
1951	1,453,996	672,568	438,505	222,940	119,983
1956	1,435,336	680,489	430,456	211,663	112,728
1961	1,401,792	680,241	417,911	199,482	104,158
1966	1,434,970	720,167	422,966	191,853	99,984

During the forty years 1926 to 1966 an increase in population was recorded at only one other Census, namely that of 1951, and on that occasion the increase amounted to only 5,486 persons. Prior to that of 1951, each Census taken since 1841 had shown a decrease in population for the area of the State, and it is necessary to return to the period 1831 to 1841 to find a greater increase between Censuses than that in the most recent intercensal period.

As will be seen from TABLE 1, the increase in population between 1961 and 1966 was confined to the Provinces of Leinster and Munster. The population of Leinster rose by 82,266 persons or 6.2 per cent, while the population of Munster rose by 10,131 persons or 1.2 per cent. On the other hand, the population of Connacht declined by 17,515 persons or 4.2 per cent, while that of Ulster (part of) declined by 9,221 persons or 4.2 per cent. The falls in population in Connacht and Ulster (part of) between 1961 and 1966 were, however, considerably less than those in the preceding intercensal period, which had amounted to 6.0 and 7.8 per cent, respectively. The substantial increases in population in Leinster and Munster contrasted with falls of 0.5 and 3.2 per cent, respectively, between 1956 and 1961.

The number of males in the State increased by 32,483 or 2.3 per cent between 1961 and 1966, while the number of females increased by 33,178 or 2.4 per cent. This similarity in the changes in the numbers of males and females contrasts with the trend between 1956 and 1961 when the number of males decreased by 46,379 or 3.2 per cent, while the number of females decreased by 33,544 or 2.3 per cent. Between 1961 and 1966, Leinster gained 42,340 males and 39,926 females, Munster

gained 5,076 males and 5,055 females, Connacht lost 9,886 males and 7,629 females and Ulster (part of) lost 5,047 males and 4,174 females.

SEX RATIO.

The number of females per thousand males in the State and in each Province is shown in TABLE II for each Census since 1926.

TABLE II:- FEMALES PER THOUSAND MALES IN EACH PROVINCE, 1926 - 1966.

Year	Total	Leinster	Munster	Connacht	Ulster (part of)
1926	972	1,002	965	944	937
1936	952	996	941	901	902
1946	977	1,030	961	912	907
1951	965	1,013	953	896	900
1956	981	1,033	963	902	915
1961	990	1,043	969	907	919
1966	990	1,037	969	913	923

At each Census there has been an excess of males in the population, the 1936 figure of 952 females per 1,000 males being the lowest recorded. The proportion of 990 females per 1,000 males recorded at the 1966 Census is the same as that recorded in 1961. The high figure for Leinster is due mainly to the high proportion of females in Dublin City and County, i.e. 1,116 females per 1,000 males.

POPULATIONS OF COUNTIES AND COUNTY BOROUGHS.

The populations of each County at the Censuses of 1961 and 1966 together with the actual and percentage changes, are shown in TABLE III. Also included in the latter table, for purposes of comparison, are the percentage changes in the two preceding intercensal periods, 1951-56 and 1956-61. By contrast with the two preceding intercensal periods, when there were far more losses than gains of population in County and County Borough areas, the 1961-66 period shows roughly equal numbers of gains and losses of population in these areas. In Leinster, increases in population occurred in all except three Counties, namely Kilkenny, Laoighis and Longford. The population of Dublin County Borough, which declined between 1951 and 1961, showed a substantial increase, amounting to 31,324 persons or 5.8 per cent, between 1961 and 1966. The population of Dun Laoghaire Borough, which had shown almost no change from 1951 to 1961, rose by 3,980 or 8.3 per cent. In the portion of Dublin County, excluding Dun Laoghaire, there was a very substantial population increase, amounting to 41,411 persons or 31.1 per cent. Dublin County, excluding Dun Laoghaire, was the area of greatest population growth in the two preceding intercensal periods as well as in the period 1961-66.

As mentioned in the explanatory notes the boundary of Cork County Borough was extended in 1965. The population within the newly defined boundary of the Borough increased by 8.8 per cent between 1961 and 1966. Waterford County Borough was also extended, with effect from 1 April, 1966; the population within the new boundary increased by 5.4 per cent between 1961 and 1966. Limerick County Borough also increased substantially, namely by 10.1 per cent, in 1961-66. Except for County Kerry, which decreased in population by 3.2 per cent, the Counties of Munster showed little change in population between 1961 and 1966. The small reduction in population in County Clare, amounting to only 105 persons or 0.1 per cent, is particularly noteworthy in view of the fact that the two preceding intercensal periods showed decreases of 5.1 and 4.5 per cent, respectively. Fairly substantial declines in population occurred between 1961 and 1966 in all the Counties of Connacht and Ulster (part of), although these were generally well below the declines observed in the two preceding intercensal periods. The biggest reductions in rates of decline occurred in County Galway and County Monaghan. In County Galway, the fall in population was 1.0 per cent in 1961-66 compared with 3.6 per cent in 1956-61. In County Monaghan, the fall in 1961-66 was 2.9 per cent compared with 9.6 per cent in 1956-61. County Leitrim, on the other hand, showed very little reduction in the rate of fall of population; the decline in population in 1961-66 was 8.7 per cent compared with 9.7 per cent in 1956-61. The position in County Mayo was slightly better, the decline in population in 1961-66 being 6.3 per cent, compared with 7.3 per cent in 1956-61. In the remaining Counties of Connacht and Ulster (part of) the declines in population between 1961 and

1966, although substantial, were well below the level of those which occurred between 1956 and 1961.

TABLE III:- POPULATION OF EACH PROVINCE, COUNTY AND COUNTY BOROUGH.

Province, County or County Borough	Population		Actual change	Percentage change †		
	1961	1966		1951-56	1956-61	1961-66
TOTAL	2,818,941	2,884,002	+ 65,661	- 2.1	- 2.8	+ 2.9
LEINSTER	1,992,149	1,414,415	+ 82,266	+ 0.2	- 0.5	+ 6.2
Carlow	33,342	33,593	+ 251	- 0.8	- 1.6	+ 0.8
Dublin County Borough	537,448	568,772	+ 31,324	- 2.2	- 0.4	+ 5.8
Dun Laoghaire Borough	47,792	51,772	+ 3,980	- 0.0	+ 0.5	+ 8.3
Dublin*	133,092	174,503	+ 41,411	+ 26.5	+ 12.8	+ 31.1
Kildare	64,420	66,404	+ 1,984	- 0.8	- 2.3	+ 3.1
Kilkenny	61,668	60,463	- 1,205	- 1.6	- 3.8	- 2.0
Leighlin	45,069	44,595	- 474	- 2.8	- 4.3	- 1.1
Longford	30,643	28,989	- 1,654	- 4.6	- 7.1	- 5.4
Louth	67,378	69,519	+ 2,141	+ 0.6	- 2.6	+ 3.2
Meath	65,122	67,323	+ 2,201	+ 0.6	- 2.5	+ 3.4
Offaly	51,533	51,717	+ 184	- 1.1	- 0.8	+ 0.4
Westmeath	52,861	52,900	+ 39	- 0.6	- 2.3	+ 0.1
Wexford	83,308	83,437	+ 129	- 3.1	- 4.5	+ 0.2
Wicklow	58,473	60,428	+ 1,955	- 4.3	- 3.6	+ 3.3
MUNSTER	849,209	859,334	+ 10,124	- 2.4	- 9.2	+ 1.2
Clare	73,702	73,597	- 105	- 5.1	- 4.5	- 0.1
Cork County Borough	112,317	122,146	+ 9,829	- 3.5	- 2.5	+ 8.8
Cork	218,126	217,557	- 569	- 0.7	- 1.6	- 0.3
Kerry	116,458	112,785	- 3,673	- 3.6	- 4.6	- 3.2
Limerick County Borough	50,786	55,912	+ 5,126	+ 0.1	- 0.2	+ 10.1
Limerick	82,553	81,445	- 1,108	- 3.8	- 5.1	- 1.3
Tipperary, N.R.	53,696	53,843	+ 147	- 2.3	- 3.6	+ 0.3
Tipperary, S.R.	70,126	68,969	- 1,157	- 3.4	- 4.9	- 1.6
Waterford County Borough	28,303	29,842	+ 1,539	+ 0.1	- 2.3	+ 5.4
Waterford	43,136	43,238	+ 102	- 2.5	- 4.3	+ 0.2
CONNACHT	419,468	401,950	- 17,518	- 5.8	- 6.0	- 4.2
Galway	149,887	148,340	- 1,547	- 2.9	- 3.6	- 1.0
Leitrim	33,470	30,572	- 2,898	- 10.1	- 9.7	- 8.7
Mayo	123,330	115,547	- 7,783	- 6.2	- 7.3	- 6.3
Roscommon	59,217	56,228	- 2,989	- 6.4	- 7.1	- 5.0
Sligo	53,561	51,263	- 2,298	- 6.1	- 5.8	- 4.3
ULSTER (part of)	217,524	208,909	- 8,615	- 6.9	- 7.8	- 4.2
Cavan	56,594	54,022	- 2,572	- 7.0	- 8.3	- 4.5
Donegal	113,842	108,549	- 5,293	- 7.2	- 6.7	- 4.6
Monaghan	47,088	45,732	- 1,356	- 5.9	- 9.6	- 2.9

* Excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough

† The figures relate to the areas as defined at the date of the later Census in each intercensal period.

AGGREGATE TOWN AND AGGREGATE RURAL POPULATION.

The method of classifying the population into "aggregate town" and "aggregate rural" is described in the explanatory notes. A town size of 1,500 population has been taken as the dividing line in applying this classification at a number of Censuses. However, the many changes in legally defined boundaries of towns, as well as the practice at recent Censuses of including the suburbs or environs in determining the town size makes it impossible to give comparable population figures extending back over a number of years for the areas defined at the 1966 Census as "aggregate town" or "aggregate rural". In TABLE IV roughly comparable figures are given covering the period 1901 to 1936 for the population within the area defined as "aggregate town" at the 1936 Census. Comparable figures are

shown for the 1936, 1946 and 1951 Censuses by reference to the 1951 aggregate town areas. For each later Census, however, it is possible to give comparable figures only for the immediately preceding enumeration.

TABLE IV: - "AGGREGATE TOWN" AND "AGGREGATE RURAL" POPULATION, 1901 TO 1966.
(In thousands)

YEAR	TOTAL		LEINSTER		MUNSTER		CONNACHT		ULSTER (part of)	
	Aggregate Town Area	Aggregate Rural Area	Aggregate Town Area	Aggregate Rural Area	Aggregate Town Area	Aggregate Rural Area	Aggregate Town Area	Aggregate Rural Area	Aggregate Town Area	Aggregate Rural Area
1901	911	2,311	547	606	290	787	53	594	22	324
1911	942	2,197	574	588	295	740	52	559	21	310
1926	959	2,013	595	554	288	682	54	499	22	278
1936	1,055	1,914	672	549	298	644	62	464	23	257
.....
1936	1,099	1,869	701	519	313	629	62	464	23	257
1946	1,161	1,794	756	525	317	600	64	429	25	239
1951	1,227	1,733	814	523	323	576	66	406	25	228
.....
1951	1,272	1,688	841	495	332	567	72	400	28	225
1956	1,285	1,613	855	484	333	545	70	376	27	209
.....
1956	1,287	1,611	858	481	332	545	71	375	26	210
1961	1,299	1,519	871	461	331	518	72	347	25	193
.....
1961	1,307	1,512	876	457	333	516	72	347	26	191
1966	1,419	1,465	960	455	357	503	76	326	27	182

Despite the lack of strictly comparable figures the pattern of increasing town and decreasing rural population over the whole period 1901 to 1966 is very clear. In 1901 only 28.3 per cent of the population was in aggregate town areas, whereas by 1936, this proportion had risen to 35.5 per cent. At the 1966 Census 49.2 per cent of the population was in the aggregate town areas as defined in that year. The rate of increase in the population of aggregate town areas was highest in the most recent intercensal period. Thus, between 1961 and 1966 the population of aggregate town areas increased by 112,000 compared with increases of 12,000 between 1956 and 1961 and 13,000 between 1951 and 1956. Increases in the populations of aggregate town areas were mainly confined to the province of Leinster in the earlier intercensal periods whereas, in 1961-66, each province showed an increase in its population in the aggregate town areas.

In TABLE VA and VB the changes in aggregate town and aggregate rural population are shown for Counties for the intercensal periods 1956-61 and 1961-66 respectively. The 1961 figures in the two tables differ due to the fact that TABLE VA relates to boundaries as defined in 1961, whereas TABLE VB relates to boundaries as defined in 1966.

In most Counties there are striking contrasts between the percentage changes in 1956-61 and in 1961-66, both in the aggregate town and the aggregate rural areas. Between 1956 and 1961, the number of Counties which showed an increase and the number which showed a decrease in their aggregate town populations were almost equal. Between 1961 and 1966, all Counties except one showed increases in their aggregate town populations, the exception being County Kilkenny where only a very slight decrease occurred. Particular reference might be made to Dublin County (excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough) and the Counties of Limerick and Clare where very substantial rises in the populations of aggregate town areas occurred. Whereas, between 1956 and 1961, every County showed a fall in aggregate rural population, between 1961 and 1966 a number of increases were recorded, namely in Counties of Dublin, Kildare, Louth and Meath. In those Counties which showed falls in their aggregate rural populations, the percentage decreases were, in all cases, lower between 1961 and 1966 than between 1956 and 1961, the reduction in some cases being very substantial. In the Counties of Connacht and Ulster (with the exception of Co. Monaghan) the improvement in the more recent period was, however, less than elsewhere.

TABLE V A: - "AGGREGATE TOWN" AND "AGGREGATE RURAL" POPULATION OF EACH COUNTY, 1956 AND 1961 AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE INTERCENSAL PERIOD.
(Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas as defined in 1961.)

Province, County or County Borough	Aggregate Town Areas			Aggregate Rural Areas		
	Population in 1956	Population in 1961	Percentage change	Population in 1956	Population in 1961	Percentage change
TOTAL	1,286,861	1,299,147	+ 1.0	1,611,403	1,519,194	- 5.7
LEINSTER	857,709	870,845	+ 1.5	481,233	461,304	- 4.2
Carlow	12,173	12,716	+ 4.5	21,715	20,626	- 5.0
Dublin County Borough	539,454	537,448	- 0.4	-	-	-
Dun Laoghaire Borough	47,553	47,792	+ 0.5	-	-	-
Dublin*	80,001	95,643	+19.6	37,999	37,449	- 1.5
Kildare	16,551	16,588	+ 0.2	49,364	47,832	- 3.1
Kilkenny	12,328	12,081	- 0.2	51,761	49,587	- 4.2
Laoighis	10,146	10,243	+ 1.0	36,941	34,826	- 5.7
Longford	4,167	4,073	- 2.3	28,802	26,570	- 7.8
Louth	41,414	41,023	- 1.0	27,780	26,355	- 5.1
Meath	9,233	9,193	- 0.4	57,529	55,929	- 2.8
Offaly	16,124	16,038	- 0.5	35,846	35,495	- 1.0
Westmeath	17,675	17,934	+ 1.5	36,447	34,927	- 4.2
Wexford	26,672	25,663	- 3.8	60,587	57,645	- 4.9
Wicklow	24,218	24,410	+ 0.8	36,462	34,063	- 6.6
MUNSTER	332,030	331,243	- 0.2	545,208	517,960	- 5.0
Clare	11,297	11,271	- 0.2	65,879	62,431	- 5.2
Cork County Borough	80,011	77,980	- 2.5	-	-	-
Cork	82,876	85,926	+ 3.7	173,776	166,537	- 4.2
Kerry	24,696	24,484	- 0.9	97,376	91,974	- 5.6
Limerick County Borough	50,886	50,786	- 0.2	-	-	-
Limerick	3,420	3,473	+ 1.5	83,575	79,080	- 5.4
Tipperary, N.R.	16,405	16,253	- 0.9	39,292	37,443	- 4.7
Tipperary, S.R.	24,933	24,504	- 1.7	48,785	45,622	- 6.5
Waterford County Borough	28,878	28,216	- 2.3	-	-	-
Waterford	8,628	8,350	- 3.2	36,525	34,873	- 4.5
CONNACHT	71,312	72,191	+ 1.2	374,909	347,274	- 7.4
Galway	36,040	36,927	+ 2.5	119,513	112,960	- 5.5
Leitrim	-	-	-	37,056	33,470	- 9.7
Mayo	15,871	15,910	+ 0.2	117,181	107,420	- 8.3
Roscommon	6,454	6,209	- 3.8	57,256	53,008	- 7.4
Sligo	12,947	13,145	+ 1.5	43,903	40,416	- 8.0
ULSTER (part of)	25,810	24,868	- 3.7	210,053	192,656	- 8.3
Cavan	4,277	3,958	- 7.5	57,463	52,636	- 8.4
Donegal	9,710	9,816	+ 1.1	112,349	104,026	- 7.4
Monaghan	11,823	11,094	- 6.2	40,241	35,994	- 10.6

* Excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough

TABLE V D: - "AGGREGATE TOWN" AND "AGGREGATE RURAL" POPULATION OF EACH COUNTY, 1961 AND 1966 AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE INTERCENSAL PERIOD.
(Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas as defined in 1966.)

Province, County or County Borough	Aggregate Town Areas			Aggregate Rural Areas		
	Population in 1961	Population in 1966	Percentage change	Population in 1961	Population in 1966	Percentage change
TOTAL	1,306,780	1,419,064	+ 8.6	1,511,561	1,464,938	- 3.1
LEINSTER	875,544	959,716	+ 9.6	456,605	454,699	- 0.4
Carlow	12,802	13,694	+ 7.0	20,540	19,899	- 3.1
Dublin County Borough	537,448	568,772	+ 5.8	-	-	-
Dun Laoghaire Borough	47,792	51,772	+ 8.3	-	-	-
Dublin*	100,540	139,639	+38.9	32,552	34,864	+ 7.1
Kildare	16,140	18,004	+11.5	48,280	48,400	+ 0.2
Kilkenny	12,081	12,030	- 0.4	49,587	48,433	- 2.3
Laoighis	10,229	10,501	+ 2.7	34,840	34,094	- 2.1
Longford	4,073	4,129	+ 1.4	26,570	24,860	- 6.4
Louth	41,023	42,505	+ 3.6	26,355	27,014	+ 2.5
Meath	9,182	10,037	+ 9.3	55,940	57,286	+ 2.4
Offaly	16,228	16,745	+ 3.2	35,305	34,972	- 0.9
Westmeath	17,928	18,687	+ 4.2	34,933	34,213	- 2.1
Wexford	25,668	26,449	+ 3.0	57,640	56,988	- 1.1
Wicklow	24,410	26,752	+ 9.6	34,063	33,676	- 1.1
MUNSTER	332,757	356,711	+ 7.2	516,446	502,623	- 2.7
Clare	11,505	13,573	+18.0	62,197	60,024	- 3.5
Cork County Borough	112,317	122,146	+ 8.8	-	-	-
Cork	51,030	52,900	+ 3.7	167,096	164,657	- 1.5
Kerry	24,478	24,997	+ 2.1	91,980	87,788	- 4.6
Limerick County Borough	50,786	55,912	+10.1	-	-	-
Limerick	5,167	6,195	+19.9	77,386	75,250	- 2.8
Tipperary, N.R.	16,317	17,235	+ 5.6	37,379	36,608	- 2.1
Tipperary, S.R.	24,504	24,989	+ 2.0	45,622	43,980	- 3.6
Waterford County Borough	28,303	29,842	+ 5.4	-	-	-
Waterford	8,350	8,922	+ 6.9	34,786	34,316	- 1.4
CONNACHT	72,169	75,940	+ 5.2	347,296	326,010	- 6.1
Galway	36,927	39,866	+ 8.0	112,960	108,474	- 4.0
Leitrim	1,269	1,394	+ 9.9	32,201	29,178	- 9.4
Mayo	14,391	14,640	+ 1.7	108,939	100,907	- 7.4
Roscommon	6,437	6,616	+ 2.8	52,780	49,612	- 6.0
Sligo	13,145	13,424	+ 2.1	40,416	37,839	- 6.4
ULSTER (part of)	26,310	26,697	+ 1.5	191,214	181,606	- 5.0
Cavan	3,958	4,205	+ 6.2	52,636	49,817	- 5.4
Donegal	11,274	11,382	+ 1.0	102,568	97,167	- 5.3
Monaghan	11,078	11,110	+ 0.3	36,010	34,622	- 3.9

* Excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough

TYPE OF DISTRICT.

In TABLE VI a classification of the population by "type of district", or community size, is shown.

TABLE VI:- DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION IN 1966, ACCORDING TO TYPE OF DISTRICT; FEMALES PER 1,000 MALES IN EACH TYPE OF DISTRICT.

Type of District	Number of towns	Population			Percentage distribution of population	Females per 1,000 Males
		Persons	Males	Females		
Dublin County Borough and Suburbs	1	650,153	306,611	343,542	22.5	1,120
Dun Laoghaire Borough and Suburbs	1	84,814	39,239	45,575	2.9	1,161
Cork County Borough and Suburbs	1	125,283	59,751	65,532	4.8	1,097
Limerick County Borough and Suburbs	1	58,082	27,740	30,342	2.0	1,094
Waterford County Borough	1	29,842	14,140	15,702	1.0	1,110
Other towns:-						
10,000 population and over and environs	10	152,167	72,921	79,246	5.3	1,087
5,000 to 10,000 population and environs	19	122,684	59,751	62,933	4.8	1,053
3,000 to 5,000 population and environs	22	88,743	42,504	46,239	3.1	1,088
1,500 to 3,000 population and environs	48	107,296	52,031	55,265	3.7	1,062
500 to 1,500 population and environs	157	131,432	63,832	67,600	4.6	1,059
200 to 500 population	256	78,296	38,889	39,407	2.7	1,013
Less than 200 population	389	50,078	25,169	24,909	1.7	990
Country districts	-	1,205,132	646,454	558,678	41.8	864
Total	906	2,884,002	1,449,032	1,434,970	100.-	990

In 1966 the population in towns of all sizes numbered 1,678,870, representing 58.2 per cent of the total population of the country. Dublin County Borough, Dun Laoghaire Borough and their suburbs contained 25.5 per cent of the total population while the thirteen other towns of over 10,000 population contained 12.7 per cent. The 89 towns between 1,500 and 10,000 inhabitants contained 11.0 per cent of the total population, while the remaining 802 smaller towns contained 9.0 per cent.

In country districts, i.e. districts outside the smallest towns and villages, the number of females was very much less than that of males, the average number of females per 1,000 males being 864. In towns under 200 population also there was a slight excess of males, the average number of females per 1,000 males being 990, the same figure as that for the State as a whole. In all other types of district the number of females exceeded that of males, the female per 1,000 males ratio tending to increase with town size. In Dublin County Borough and suburbs there was 1,120 females to every 1,000 males.

The population changes in the various types of district between 1961 and 1966 are shown in TABLE VII. The figures shown for 1961 and 1966 relate to identical areas, namely the towns, suburbs and environs defined in 1966. On account of the fact that certain towns fell into different size groups at the two Censuses, somewhat different results are obtained according as to whether the type of district classification is based on the population in 1961 or in 1966. For this reason a third classification, based on average population (taking the simple average of the populations of each town in the two Census years) is the most useful.

TABLE VII:- CHANGES IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY TYPE OF DISTRICT IN THE PERIOD 1961 TO 1966.

(The groupings are based on average populations in the period)

Type of District	Number of towns	Population in 1961	Population in 1966	Change in Population 1961-1966	Percentage change 1961-1966
Dublin County Borough and Suburbs	1	597,464	650,153	+ 52,689	+ 8.8
Dun Laoghaire Borough and Suburbs	1	68,092	84,814	+ 16,722	+ 24.6
Cork County Borough and Suburbs	1	115,102	125,283	+ 10,181	+ 8.8
Limerick County Borough and Suburbs	1	51,967	58,082	+ 6,115	+ 11.8
Waterford County Borough	1	28,303	29,842	+ 1,539	+ 5.4
Other towns					
10,000 population and over and environs	10	145,352	152,167	+ 6,815	+ 4.7
5,000 to 10,000 population and environs	17	106,501	112,444	+ 5,943	+ 5.6
3,000 to 5,000 population and environs	23	90,028	95,982	+ 5,954	+ 6.6
1,500 to 3,000 population and environs	47	102,727	106,872	+ 4,145	+ 4.0
500 to 1,500 population and environs	158	129,857	134,329	+ 4,472	+ 3.4
200 to 500 population	254	76,431	78,127	+ 1,696	+ 2.2
Less than 200 population	392	50,389	50,775	+ 386	+ 0.8
Country districts	-	1,256,128	1,205,132	- 50,996	- 4.1
Total	906	2,818,341	2,884,002	+ 65,661	+ 2.3

While the population of each type of district showed an increase between 1961 and 1966, these were generally greater in the case of the larger towns. The highest percentage increases occurred in the case of Dun Laoghaire (24.6 per cent) and Limerick (11.8 per cent). The cities of Dublin and Cork each showed an increase in population of 8.8 per cent. Of the other groups the largest population increase occurred in towns of 3,000 to 5,000 inhabitants (6.6 per cent). Country districts showed a fall in population of 4.1 per cent over the period 1961 to 1966.

POPULATION OF TOWNS.

In TABLE 12 on pages 144, 145 the populations of all towns with 1,500 inhabitants or over are shown, with comparative 1961 figures, the towns being arranged in descending order of size. TABLE VIII shows the percentage change in population between 1961 and 1966 of the larger towns. These percentages refer to the entire built-up area of the town in each case, the population of suburbs or environs being added to that within the legally defined boundary.

TABLE VIII:- PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN POPULATION OF TOWNS (INCLUDING SUBURBS OR ENVIRONS, IF ANY) WHICH HAD IN 1966, A POPULATION OF 3,000 OR MORE.

Town	Percentage change 1961-1966	Town	Percentage change 1961-1966
An Uaimh	+ 12.4	Kilkenny	- 0.4
Arklow (b)	+ 12.9	Killarney (b)	+ 0.8
Athlone	+ 2.5	Letterkenny (b)	+ 4.6
Athy (b)	+ 5.9	Limerick	+ 11.8
Balbriggan (b)	+ 10.4	Longford	+ 1.4
Ballina (b)	+ 0.9	Loughrea (b)	+ 7.8
Ballinasloe (b)	+ 2.0	Mallow	+ 3.5
Bandon	+ 2.4	Middleton	+ 6.6
Birr	+ 1.3	Monaghan	+ 3.0
Bray	+ 8.3	Mullingar	+ 6.7
Buncrana	- 1.6	Naas (b)	+ 12.6
Carlow	+ 9.5	Nenagh	+ 5.2
Carrick-on-Suir (b)	+ 4.3	New Ross (b)	+ 1.6
Castlebar (b)	+ 2.7	Portlaoighise	+ 4.9
Cavan	+ 6.2	Roscrea (a)	+ 4.1
Clondalkin (a)	+ 47.9	Sligo (b)	+ 2.1
Clonmel	+ 3.3	Thurles	+ 4.6
Cobh	+ 9.5	Tipperary (b)	- 3.8
Cork	+ 8.8	Tralee	+ 4.9
Drogheda (b)	+ 4.8	Tramore (b)	+ 13.5
Droichead Nua	+ 16.8	Tuam	+ 0.2
Dublin	+ 8.8	Tullamore	+ 6.9
Dundalk	+ 2.1	Waterford (b)	+ 5.4
Dungarvan (b)	+ 3.7	Wexford	+ 3.8
Dun Laoghaire	+ 24.6	Wicklow (b)	+ 6.9
Ennis	+ 9.2	Youghal	+ 1.7
Enniscorthy	+ 0.4		
Fermoy	+ 1.5		
Galway	+ 10.9		
Greystones-Delgany (a)	+ 11.3		

(a) denotes a town without a legally defined boundary.

(b) denotes a town with a legally defined boundary not having suburbs or environs.

MIGRATION.

The number of births registered in the intercensal period 1961 to 1966 exceeded the number of deaths registered in the same period by 146,266, whereas the increase in the total population amounted to 65,661 persons. The difference between these two figures, namely 80,605, equals the net emigration (i.e. the excess in the number of emigrants over that of immigrants) during the period.

TABLE IX:- BIRTHS, DEATHS AND ESTIMATED NET EMIGRATION IN THE INTERCENSAL PERIOD 1961-1966.

	Persons	Males	Females
Births (1/4/61 - 31/3/66)	312,709	160,189	152,520
Deaths (1/4/61 - 31/3/66)	166,443	90,092	76,351
Natural increase (excess of births over deaths)	146,266	70,097	76,169
Increase in population	65,661	32,483	33,178
Estimated net emigration (emigrants less immigrants)	80,605	37,614	42,991

It will be seen from TABLE IX that the figure of net emigration was made up of 37,614 males and 42,991 females. This compares with a net emigration of 212,003 persons, comprising 109,572 males and 102,431 females in the period 1956 to 1961. In the intercensal period 1951 to 1956 net emigration amounted to 196,763 persons, comprising 108,282 males and 88,481 females.

The average annual change in population, natural increase and net emigration for each intercensal period since 1926 is shown in TABLE X.

TABLE X: - AVERAGE ANNUAL CHANGE IN POPULATION, NATURAL INCREASE AND NET EMIGRATION, 1926-1936 TO 1961-1966.

Intercensal Period	Average Annual Change			Average Annual Natural Increase			Average Annual Net Emigration		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1926-1936	- 357	+1,357	- 1,714	16,318	8,612	7,706	16,675	7,255	9,420
1936-1946	- 1,332	-2,558	+ 1,226	17,380	8,700	8,680	18,712	11,258	7,454
1946-1951	+ 1,119	+2,390	- 1,271	25,503	12,699	12,804	24,384	10,309	14,075
1951-1956	-12,466	-8,734	- 3,732	26,887	12,923	13,964	39,353	21,657	17,696
1956-1961	-15,985	-9,276	- 6,709	26,416	12,639	13,777	42,400	21,914	20,486
1961-1966	+13,182	+6,496	+ 6,686	29,253	14,019	15,234	16,121	7,523	8,598

The average annual natural increase between 1961 and 1966 was 29,253, a figure considerably higher than in any other intercensal period since 1926. As was the case in each intercensal period since 1946, the natural increase for females exceeded that for males. The average annual net emigration in 1961-66 was almost the same as that in 1926-36, and considerably lower than that in any of the other intercensal periods shown. In particular, the average annual net emigration in the most recent intercensal period was much less than half that in the period 1951-56 or in the period 1956-61. The rates of change of population, natural increase and net emigration, are shown in TABLE XI.

TABLE XI: - AVERAGE ANNUAL RATES OF CHANGE IN POPULATION, NATURAL INCREASE AND NET EMIGRATION PER 1,000 OF AVERAGE POPULATION AND NUMBER OF FEMALES EMIGRATING PER 1,000 MALES, 1926-1936 TO 1961-1966.

Intercensal Period	Change in Population	Natural Increase	Net Emigration	Females Emigrating per 1,000 males
1926-1936	- 0.1	5.5	5.6	1,298
1936-1946	- 0.4	5.9	6.3	662
1946-1951	+ 0.4	8.6	8.2	1,365
1951-1956	- 4.3	9.2	13.4	817
1956-1961	- 5.6	9.2	14.8	935
1961-1966	+ 4.6	10.3	5.7	1,143

The various rates contained in TABLE XI for the intercensal period 1961-66 differ substantially from those in respect of the earlier periods. The average annual rate of change in 1961-66 was +4.6 per 1,000 population, compared with -5.6 in 1956-61, while the rate of net emigration in 1961-66 was 5.7 per 1,000 population compared with 14.8 in 1956-61. The average annual rate of natural increase rose substantially, from 9.2 per 1,000 population in 1956-61 to 10.3 in 1961-66.

The number of females emigrating per 1,000 males in the period 1961-66 was 1,143 compared with 935 between 1956 and 1961 and 817 between 1951 and 1956. Despite considerable fluctuations in this proportion from one intercensal period to the next, the difference in the total number of males and females emigrating over a long period is not very great. Thus, in the period between the 1926 and 1966 Censuses, the net emigration of males amounted to 491,000, approximately, while that of females amounted to 472,000, approximately.

The average annual rates of net emigration from each County in the period 1961-66 are compared with those for the three preceding intercensal periods in TABLE XII. In the case of this Table, it is necessary to combine Counties and County Boroughs, because extensions in County Borough boundaries over the period make it impossible to compile net emigration rates for County Boroughs separately. It should be understood that the figures for net emigration take into account all the movement into and out of each County, whether to or from Britain, the Six Counties or some other country, or whether due to transfer within the State from one area to another.

Dublin County and County Borough, which was an area of net immigration in 1946-51, had rates of net emigration of 9.7 and 10.1 per 1,000 population in 1951-56 and 1956-61, respectively but again became an area of net immigration in 1961-66. All other Counties were areas of net emigration in each intercensal period. The majority however, showed considerable reductions in their annual rates of net emigration in the period 1961-66 although in a few cases there was little improvement. The counties having the lowest rates of net emigration in 1961-66 were Cork (3.9), Meath (4.1), Wicklow (4.2), Limerick (5.0), Waterford (5.0) and Clare (6.3).

TABLE XII:- AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF NET EMIGRATION PER 1,000 OF AVERAGE POPULATION IN THE INTERCENSAL PERIODS 1946-1951; 1951-1956; 1956-1961 AND 1961-1966.

(+ = Net immigration)

Province or County	1946-1951	1951-1956	1956-1961	1961-1966
TOTAL	8.2	13.4	14.8	8.7
LEINSTER	2.1	11.4	13.1	1.8
MUNSTER	11.7	12.8	14.2	6.4
CONNACHT	15.1	17.4	18.3	13.6
ULSTER (part of)	14.6	19.6	20.7	14.2
LEINSTER				
Carlow	9.3	12.9	16.1	12.2
Dublin*	+ 5.5	9.7	10.1	+ 4.8
Kildare	8.8	15.5	18.4	8.4
Kilkenny	13.1	11.1	15.6	10.9
Laoighis	12.2	13.6	17.2	12.6
Longford	16.8	16.6	20.8	16.8
Louth	3.3	10.2	17.1	6.8
Meath	8.6	8.2	14.7	4.1
Offaly	13.3	12.3	13.2	11.7
Westmeath	11.9	13.3	15.9	12.3
Wexford	12.3	14.3	17.4	9.5
Wicklow	2.1	18.8	17.2	4.2
MUNSTER				
Clare	15.9	15.9	14.9	6.3
Cork*	7.9	10.0	11.2	3.9
Kerry	17.7	14.0	15.2	11.2
Limerick*	12.7	15.8	17.0	5.0
Tipperary, N.R.	12.6	14.0	16.1	8.3
Tipperary, S.R.	13.5	15.5	18.6	13.0
Waterford*	9.6	10.6	14.8	5.0
CONNACHT				
Galway	15.3	15.2	16.2	10.6
Leitrim	18.7	23.1	22.7	19.1
Mayo	15.3	19.1	20.3	17.1
Roscommon	15.9	16.1	17.9	11.7
Sligo	10.8	17.1	16.6	12.7
ULSTER (part of)				
Cavan	15.8	18.2	21.3	13.8
Donegal	14.6	20.2	17.9	15.0
Monaghan	13.2	19.7	26.5	12.9

* County and County Borough.