

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1971

EXPLANATORY NOTES

A Census of Population was taken on the night of 18 April, 1971 in accordance with the Statistics (Census of Population) Order, 1971 (S.I. No. 93 of 1971) made by the Taoiseach in pursuance of powers conferred on him by Sub-section (1) of Section 16 of the Statistics Act, 1926 and the Statistics Acts, 1926 and 1946 (Transfer of Ministerial Functions) Order, 1949 (S.I. No. 142 of 1949).

The following particulars were collected in respect of each individual:— (i) Name, (ii) sex, (iii) relationship to head of household, (iv) usual residence, (v) usual residence one year prior to Census date, (vi) place of birth, (vii) date of birth, (viii) marital condition, (ix) date of marriage and number of children (for married women only), (x) religion, (xi) knowledge of Irish, (xii) method of transport and distance travelled to work or school and for persons aged 14 years or over, (xiii) principal occupation, (xiv) employment status (i.e. whether employer, employee, etc.), (xv) name of employer and nature of employers' business, (xvi) age at which full-time education ended and number of years' attendance at school or college, etc. (for persons who had ceased their full-time education), (xvii) scientific or technological qualifications held and fields of science concerned. In addition the following information was collected in respect of each private household:— (i) total area and rateable valuation of agricultural land held by members of the household, (ii) nature of occupancy of dwelling (rented, owner-occupied, etc.), (iii) rent of dwelling, (iv) year dwelling was built, (v) rooms occupied, (vi) type of water supply, (vii) availability of bath or shower, (viii) type of sanitary facilities, (ix) electricity supply and (x) motor vehicles used by household.

The present volume of the Census reports contains the final figures of the population enumerated in each area, classified by sex. The entire publication programme of the 1971 Census of Population will comprise the following volumes:—

- Volume I — Population of District Electoral Divisions, towns and larger units of area.
- Volume II — Ages and conjugal condition classified by Areas only.
- Volume III — Industries.
- Volume IV — Occupations.
- Volume V — Occupations and industries classified by ages and conjugal conditions.
- Volume VI — Housing.
- Volume VII — Household composition.
- Volume VIII — Fertility of marriage.
- Volume IX — Irish Language.
- Volume X — Usual residence and migration.
- Volume XI — Religion and birthplace.
- Volume XII — Transport and journey to work.
- Volume XIII — Education.
- Volume XIV — Scientific and technological qualifications.

COVERAGE OF THE CENSUS.

The Census figures relate to the *de facto* population, that is to say the population recorded for each area represents the total of all persons present within its boundaries on the night of Sunday, 18 April, 1971, together with all persons who arrived in that area on the morning of Monday, 19 April, 1971, not having been enumerated elsewhere. Persons on board ships in port are included with the population of adjacent areas. The figures, therefore, include visitors present on Census night as well as residents while Irish persons temporarily absent from the State 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 abroad with the United Nations were, of course, excluded from the enumeration.

CONDUCT OF THE CENSUS.

The Garda Síochána, assisted in many areas by specially appointed Temporary Civilian Enumerators, acted as official enumerators for all parts of the country outside the Dublin region. Within the Dublin region the duties of enumeration were carried out by Postal Officials. The Census schedules for completion by the head of each family or institution were distributed within the three weeks immediately prior to Census date while collection of the completed forms commenced on the day after Census date. The enumerators scrutinised the returns at the time of collection to ensure that they were correctly completed and, where necessary, they assisted the householders to fill up the forms. Each enumerator prepared a summary, by sex, of the population of his area and from these summaries the Preliminary Report*, which was published in September, 1971, was compiled. The completed schedules for the individual households were then transmitted to the Census Office for the preparation of the remaining Reports of the Census.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND CENSUS AREAS.

There are many different territorial divisions of the country of which the most important, from the point of view of the Census of Population, are listed below. It should be particularly noted that the areas concerned are as defined at the date of the 1971 Census of Population, and that any subsequent revisions have not been taken into account. A large number of changes in legally defined boundaries were made by Government Orders in the period 1966 to 1971. Details of these changes are contained in the Appendix.

TOWNLANDS

The enumeration of the Census is carried out, in the first instance, by Townlands in rural areas and by streets in town areas. The Townland is the smallest territorial division used for administrative purposes. Population figures in respect of Townlands, of which there are about 51,000, have not been published since the Census of 1911. However, populations of individual Townlands outside the boundaries of legally defined towns are available in Census records and will be furnished to inquirers on payment for the work of extraction involved, subject to the following qualifications:- where a town without legally defined boundaries stands on more than one townland it is not always possible to give separate figures for the individual Townlands or parts of Townlands within the town, as the records for the town may show populations for complete streets only; likewise, where suburbs or environs have been defined, for Census purposes for a town having legally defined boundaries, and where these suburbs or environs stand on more than one Townland it is not always possible to give separate figures for the individual Townlands or parts of Townlands; in the case of part of the suburban area of the Dublin County Borough, where new building has completely obliterated the physical features by which Townland boundaries were defined on the Ordnance Survey maps, it has not been possible to compile Townland populations, the enumeration in these areas being carried out by reference to streets.

DISTRICT ELECTORAL DIVISIONS

The smallest administrative area for which population statistics are published is the District Electoral Division (or, in the County Boroughs, the Ward). In the case of rural areas, the figures for Townlands are aggregated to give those for District Electoral Divisions, while the figures for streets in town areas are similarly aggregated. There are 3,308 District Electoral Divisions and Wards in the State and population figures for these are contained in Table II of this Volume. As may be seen from the Appendix, extensive alterations were made in the boundaries of Wards in the County Boroughs and in the District Electoral Divisions in Dublin County in the period 1966-71.

URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS

District Electoral Divisions are aggregated to give Urban Districts (or Boroughs where appropriate) and (former) Rural Districts which, in turn, build up to Counties. The Rural Districts, which numbered 160, were abolished as administrative areas in 1925 (or in the case of the Rural Districts in Co. Dublin, in 1930), but have been retained for Census purposes as convenient units of area, intermediate in size between District Electoral Divisions and Counties. In the case of Dublin County, however, it was not possible to compile Rural District figures for 1971 because of the recent revision of the boundaries of District Electoral Divisions within the County (see Appendix). Figures are, therefore, shown only for Dublin North County, comprising the former Rural Districts of Balrothery and Dublin North and Clonsilla District Electoral Division and for Dublin South County comprising the remainder of the County excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough. A map showing County and Rural District boundaries appears on page x and a map showing the density of Population per square mile, based on the Rural District boundaries, appears on page xi. Population figures for Urban and Rural Districts are contained in Tables 9 and 11 of this Volume.

*Census of Population of Ireland 1971 - Preliminary Report (PrI. 2019).

COUNTILS AND COUNTY BOROUGHS

The country is divided into twenty-six Counties and four County Boroughs, these being the principal units of area for local government purposes. One County, Tipperary, is divided into a North Riding and a South Riding, each of which ranks as a separate County for many purposes. All the principal classifications from the Census are carried out in considerable detail for Counties and County Boroughs in the respective volumes. The County Boroughs of Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Waterford comprise the greater part of the built-up areas of these cities and their boundaries are subject to periodic extensions to keep pace with the spread of building. Counties, on the other hand, have been only to a very minor extent affected by boundary changes so that it is possible to compare County populations (or where appropriate County and County Borough populations combined), for an extended period. This is done in Table 5 for the years 1841 to 1971. Table 3 shows County and County Borough totals in convenient form, together with changes 1966 to 1971, while County and County Borough totals appear, where appropriate, throughout the various tables of the volume.

REGISTRARS' DISTRICTS

The system for the registration of births and deaths is based upon the Registrar's District and the Superintendent Registrar's District. The Registrars' Districts, which number 651, aggregate to the Superintendent Registrars' Districts, which number 126. In many cases Superintendent Registrars' Districts coincide with Rural Districts plus any adjoining Urban Districts. Superintendent Registrars' Districts combine into Counties (including the County Boroughs). It has not been possible to compile population figures for all Registrars' Districts in the country because, in many cases, the boundaries defining the districts can no longer be distinguished in the Census records. The difficulty is greatest in urban areas, where Registrars' District boundaries, which were defined many years ago, bear no relation to recent housing development. Figures in respect of Registrars' Districts and Superintendent Registrars' Districts, insofar as they are available, are given in Table 10. It will be noted that it has not proved possible to sub-divide Dublin County and County Borough nor the other County Boroughs, into Registrars' Districts. Neither has it been possible to distinguish the Registrars' Districts within the following Urban Districts: Kilkenny, Drogheda, Dundalk, Ceanannus Mór, Enniscorthy, Wexford, Cobh, Midleton, Killarney, Sligo.

CONSTITUENCIES

For the purpose of elections to Dáil Éireann the country is divided into Constituencies which, under Article 16.4^o of the Constitution of Ireland, have to be revised at least once every twelve years with due regard to changes in the distribution of the population. The boundaries were last revised in March, 1969 and the Schedule to the Electoral (Amendment) Act, 1969, contains the details of their composition. Population figures for these areas are contained in Table 14.

COUNTY AND BOROUGH ELECTORAL AREAS

For elections to County Councils, each County is divided into Electoral Areas which have been constituted by Orders made under the Local Government Act, 1941. These areas, which number 148 are, in general, formed by the aggregation of District Electoral Divisions. In a small number of cases, however, District Electoral Divisions are divided between County Electoral Areas to facilitate electors. In the case of the County Boroughs, the Corporation elections are based on Borough Electoral Areas. Population figures for County and Borough Electoral Areas are contained in Table 15. Changes affecting Electoral Areas in Dublin, Limerick and Waterford County Boroughs and in Waterford County were made between 1966 and 1971. Details of these changes are shown in the Appendix.

CIVIL PARISHES

Originally an ecclesiastical division and later used for civil purposes, the Civil Parish has been for many years obsolete as an administrative unit of area and statistics relating to Civil Parishes for the country as a whole have not been published since the 1911 Census. Numerous requests are still received for population figures for Civil Parishes, particularly those in the County Boroughs. In Table 16A the populations of the Civil Parishes in Dublin County and County Borough are given while Table 16B contains the population figures for the Civil Parishes in or adjacent to the County Boroughs of Cork, Limerick and Waterford.

TOWNS

For Census purposes towns fall into two types, those with and those without legally defined boundaries. The first type comprises (a) the four County Boroughs and the Borough of Dun Laoghaire (b) the six Municipal Boroughs (c) the forty-nine Urban Districts and (d) the twenty-nine Towns under the Towns Improvement (Ireland) Act, 1854. The second class comprises the "Census Towns", the boundaries of which are determined, for Census purposes only, by the Census authorities.

TOWNS WITH LEGALLY DEFINED BOUNDARIES

In the case of towns with legally defined boundaries it is necessary, for administrative purposes, to compile population figures for the areas within these boundaries and these figures are given in the various tables throughout this volume. However, in the case of many such towns extensive building has taken place outside but in close proximity to the legally defined boundaries. The result is that large numbers of persons who should be regarded as belonging to the communities of which these towns are the nuclei are, nevertheless, excluded from their populations if attention is confined strictly to legally defined boundaries. This problem tends to become more pronounced from one Census to the next as the building activity extends further and further into the countryside surrounding these towns, while revisions of the legally defined boundaries, being dependent on other factors besides the necessity of definition for Census purposes tend to lag behind. Much of the work of Census analysis is concerned with the overall size of population clusters and not simply the areas within legally defined boundaries. Consequently, wherever building has extended beyond the legally defined town boundary, the Census Authorities must draw-up new limits, defining the suburban area or environs of the town. In defining suburban areas and environs, the Census Authorities follow a fixed set of rules to ensure that, as far as possible, similar standards apply in all cases. Suburban areas for Dublin County Borough, Cork County Borough and the Borough of Dun Laoghaire were defined, for the first time at the 1951 Census while, at the 1956 Census all towns with legally defined boundaries were examined in co-operation with the Local Authorities concerned and, where necessary, suburban areas or environs were defined for them for Census purposes. The position was reviewed at each subsequent Census. A very comprehensive review was required in preparation for the 1971 Census, following the greatly accelerated pace of new building development in practically all towns in recent years.

CENSUS TOWNS

In the case of towns without legally defined boundaries, a thorough review of the boundaries to be defined for Census purposes was also considered necessary in preparation for the 1971 Census. For the Censuses of 1926 to 1951 a Census Town had been defined simply as a cluster of twenty or more houses, the precise delimitation of the towns being left to the discretion of the individual enumerators concerned. As part of the general review of towns at the 1956 Census, boundaries for the Census towns were drawn up in consultation with the various Local Authorities, applying as uniform principles as possible in all areas of the country. The definition of a Census Town was changed at the 1956 Census, from twenty houses to twenty occupied houses, this definition being applied also at the 1961 and 1966 Censuses. Because of the large number of people concerned in the reviews of the boundaries of the Census Towns in 1956 to 1966, the degree of standardisation achieved throughout the country was not as high as had been hoped. Thus some towns had very compact boundaries drawn, while others had boundaries taking in wide areas of the surrounding countryside. In preparation for the 1971 Census, therefore, it was decided to employ a small number of Census Office staff, working to a uniform set of standards as to the degree of spacing acceptable for houses to be considered to form a cluster (or to form suburban areas or environs). Their task was much facilitated by the availability of up-to-date aerial photographs of the towns concerned and these photographs with the necessary boundaries superimposed, were subsequently used by the Census enumerators as the basis for their work in enumerating town areas. It was decided that clusters of twenty occupied houses, in general, were too small to be considered as Census towns, while the small percentage of the total population living in such clusters did not justify the large volume of extra work to the Census enumerators involved in separately distinguishing them. **At the 1971 Census, therefore, a Census Town was defined as a cluster of fifty or more occupied houses, not having a legally defined boundary.** As a result of this change in definition a considerable number of population clusters classified as towns at the 1966 Census have not been separately distinguished at the 1971 Census. In 1966, there were 389 towns of under 200 population recorded whereas in 1971 only 23 towns of under 200 population were distinguished, these having fifty or more occupied houses. Of the remainder of the population clusters recorded as small towns in 1966 a small number have been amalgamated with larger towns but the great majority of them have been counted as country areas in 1971. The number of persons affected by this re-allocation was not very great. In 1966, the population of the clusters concerned was 55,817, or less than 2 percent of the total population.

For planning purposes under the provisions of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 1963, Local Authorities were empowered to draw up development boundaries for certain towns within their areas. In particular it empowered the relevant County Councils to declare, for the purposes of the Act, the areas comprising certain towns without legally defined boundaries listed in Part II of the First Schedule of the Act. In the work of defining Census boundaries for suburbs, environs and Census Towns regard was had by the staff of the Census Office to the various development boundaries drawn up by the Local Authorities. Initially it had been thought that the development boundaries might in many cases obviate the need for distinct Census boundaries. However it became clear in the course of the survey work that the development boundaries were, in general, drawn up by reference to future plans rather than the existing housing situation. The latter, of course, is what the Census boundaries seek to represent on a uniform basis throughout the Country.

Population figures for towns are contained in Tables 8, 12, 13 and 19. Table 8 contains the total populations of all towns and of their suburbs or environs where applicable, arranged in order of size within Counties. An alphabetical list of all towns in the country, with their populations, is given in Table 19. In Tables 12 and 13 towns of 1,000 population and over are arranged in size groups depending on total population. By "total population" in this context is meant the population of the towns, inclusive of suburbs or environs, if any.

The areas taken as comprising the suburban areas of Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Waterford County Boroughs and the Borough of Dun Laoghaire are described in the Appendix.

AGGREGATE TOWN AND AGGREGATE RURAL AREAS

In continuation of the definition used in reports of earlier Censuses the population in the Aggregate Town Area, as shown in Table 7 of the volume and in the remaining volumes of the Census, is defined as those persons living in population clusters of 1,500 or more inhabitants. If a town with a legally defined boundary has a suburban area or environs outside this boundary and if the total population made up of the population inside the legally defined boundary plus that in the suburbs or environs amounts to 1,500 persons or over this town (including its suburbs or environs) is classified as belonging to the Aggregate Town Area. Similarly a Census Town with 1,500 inhabitants or over is classified as belonging to the Aggregate Town Area. The population residing in all areas outside clusters of 1,500 or more inhabitants is classified as belonging to the Aggregate Rural Area. It should be particularly noted that the term "Aggregate Rural Area" is not connected with that of Rural District as described earlier. Whereas the Aggregate Rural Area is a statistical concept, the Rural District is a (former) administrative unit of area. From Table 13 may be seen the compositions of the entire Aggregate Town Area population of 1,555,614 persons in 1971. Of this figure 1,246,193 resided within legally defined boundaries of towns while 309,421 resided in the suburbs or environs of these towns or in Census Towns, without legally defined boundaries. It may be seen also from Table 13 that there were eight towns with legally defined boundaries which were not large enough, even with the population of their environs, to be included in the Aggregate Town Area.

It will also be seen from Table 17 that the total population in towns of all sizes, down to the lower limit of fifty occupied houses, was 1,753,171 persons. In Table 9, the population in towns of all sizes in each Rural District is shown.

GAELTACHT AREAS

The Gaeltacht Areas Order, 1956 and 1967 defined the Gaeltacht as comprising 146 District Electoral Divisions or parts of District Electoral Divisions in the counties of Cork, Donegal, Galway, Kerry, Mayo, Meath and Waterford. The population of these District Electoral Divisions or parts of District Electoral Divisions in 1961, 1966 and 1971 are given in Table 17.

ISLANDS OFF THE COAST

The population in 1966 and 1971 of inhabited islands off the coast are shown in Table 18. In some cases the areas of land concerned may not, strictly speaking, be considered as islands since they are connected to the mainland by a causeway or bridge, or may be reached by land at low tide.

AREAS TO WHICH COMPARABLE FIGURES RELATE.

Throughout this volume every effort has been made to give comparable populations at the 1966 Census of those areas to which the 1971 figures relate. Consequently, if comparison is made with the corresponding volume of the 1966 Census it will be found, in the case of administrative districts and Census Towns where alterations in boundaries were made between 1966 and 1971, that the 1966 populations there published differ from those contained in the present volume.

AREA AND VALUATION.



The particulars of rateable valuation given in Tables 9 and 11 are derived from the records of the Valuation Office. The areas shown are also derived from the Valuation Office records except in the cases of Cork, Limerick and Waterford County Boroughs and Dun Laoghaire Borough. The area shown is exclusive of the areas of certain lakes, rivers and tideways. In the case of a number of districts shown in Tables 9 and 11 it has not been possible, for a variety of reasons, to give area or valuation figures. Thus the boundaries of Census Towns and those defined for the suburbs or environs of incorporated towns have no statutory function, so that they are not distinguished in the records of the Valuation Office. Extensive changes in Ward and District Electoral Division boundaries in the County Boroughs and in the Borough of Dun Laoghaire came into effect shortly before Census date and the relevant revisions in the Valuation Office records are not yet completed in all cases. It has been possible to estimate the areas of the new Wards in Cork, Limerick and Waterford County Boroughs and of the new District Electoral Divisions in Dun Laoghaire Borough but area figures are not yet available for the individual Wards in Dublin County Borough.

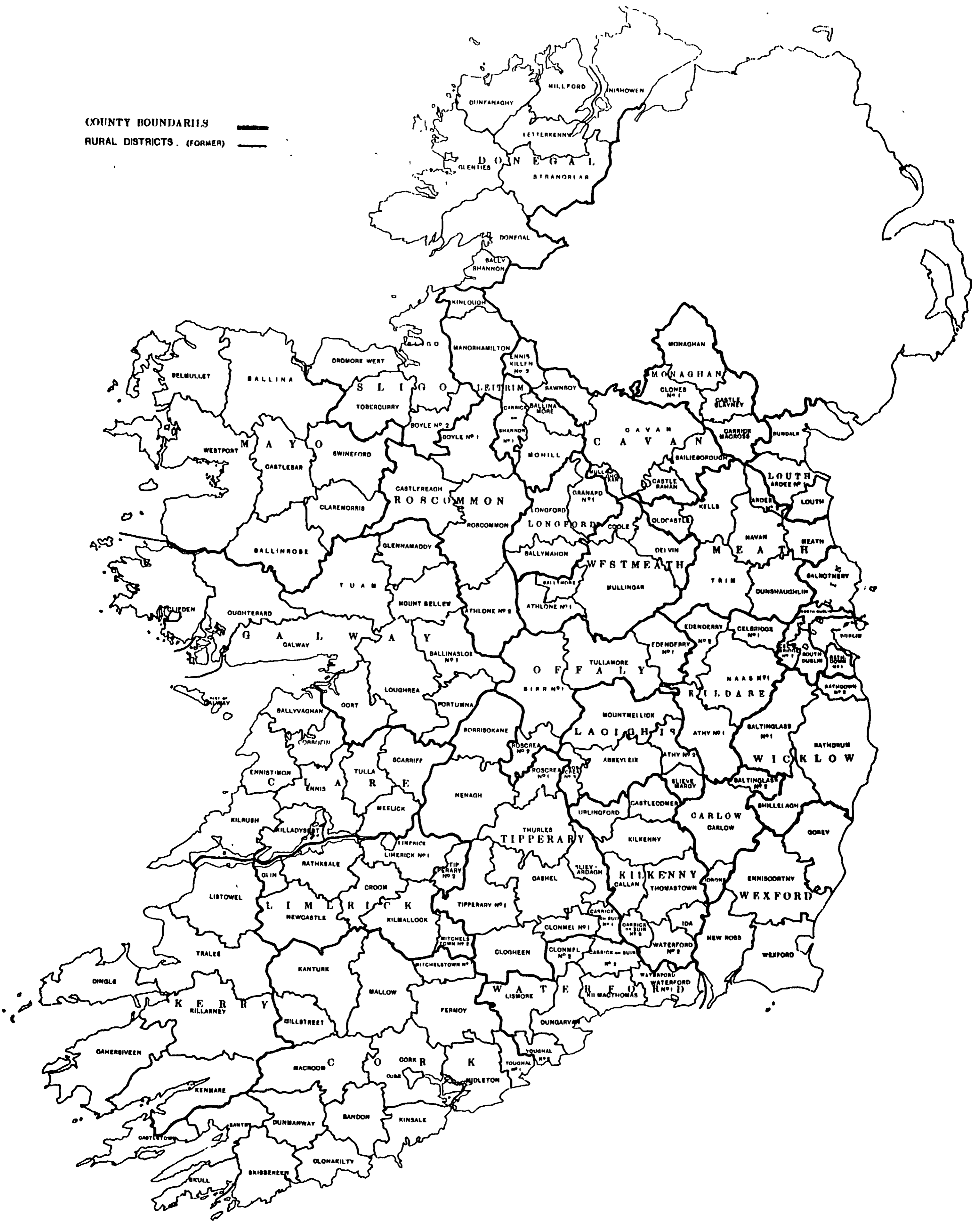
It will be noted that the valuation figures for the Wards of Dublin, Limerick and Waterford County Borough do not add to the total valuation shown for these cities. The reason is that the total valuation shown in each case includes the valuation of gas, water and electricity mains which cannot be apportioned between the Wards.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

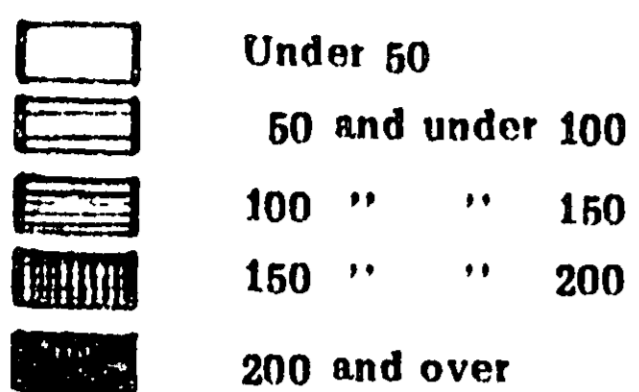
The statistics of marriages, births and deaths contained in Table 1 and 4 are not collected as part of the Census of Population, they are derived from registrations by the Office of the Registrar General. Many births and deaths take place in institutions at a distance from the normal place of residence and are registered in the districts in which the institutions are situated. However, for the purpose of Table 4, births have been assigned according to home address of mother and deaths have been assigned according to home address of deceased. This applies also to figures of births and deaths for provinces shown in Table 1 for years subsequent to 1922. In the case of marriages, however, the figures shown in Table 1 are the numbers actually registered in each of the four provinces.



COUNTIES AND RURAL DISTRICTS

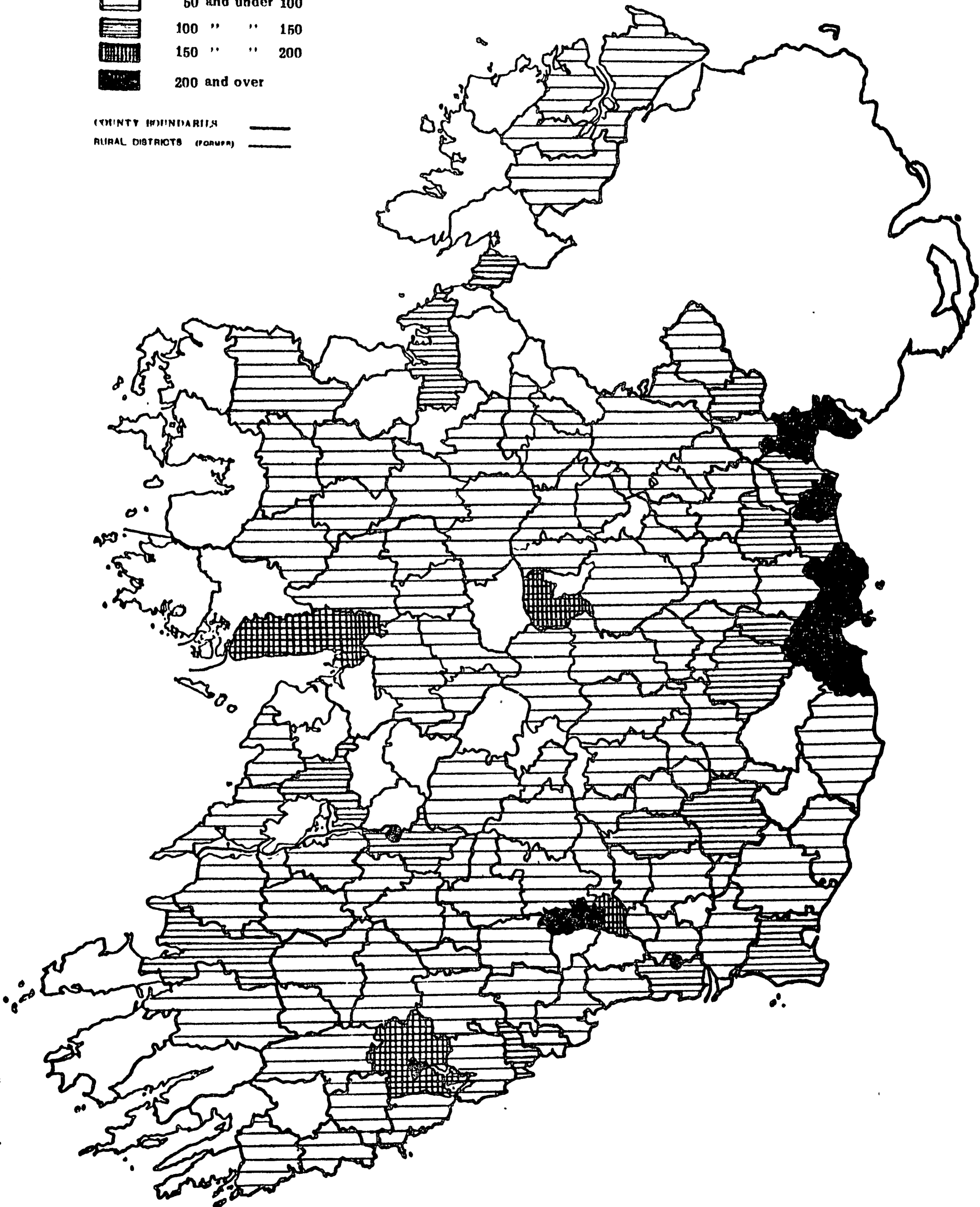
COUNTY BOUNDARIES 
RURAL DISTRICTS (FORMER) 



POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE.



COUNTY BOUNDARIES 
RURAL DISTRICTS (BOROUGH) 



COMMENTARY

TOTAL POPULATION AND POPULATIONS OF PROVINCES.

The population enumerated on Census Night, 1971 was 2,978,248 persons, compared with 2,884,002 in 1966, representing an increase over the five years of 94,246 or 3.3 percent. This expansion was a continuation, at a somewhat higher rate, of the rise of 2.3 percent recorded in the preceding five years 1961-66. The increase in population in the decade 1961-71, amounting to 159,907 persons or 5.7 percent contrasts sharply with the fall in population in the decade 1951-61 of 142,252 persons or 4.8 percent. The steady rise in population in recent years has raised the total figure to 6,000 above its level at the time of the 1926 Census. The results of the Censuses since 1926, giving totals and numbers of males and females for Provinces are shown in TABLE I.

TABLE I: - POPULATION OF EACH PROVINCE, 1926-1971

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
1971	2,978,248	1,498,140	882,002	390,902	207,204
	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
1971	1,495,760	737,460	447,271	203,694	107,335
	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
1971	1,482,488	760,680	434,731	187,208	99,869

Between 1966 and 1971 the population of Leinster continued to show the highest rate of growth although the increase of 5.9 percent was slightly lower than the 1961–66 rise of 6.2 percent. An overall rise of 2.6 percent occurred in the population of Munster – this was more than twice the 1961–66 rate of increase. In Connacht, although the decrease in population continued, the drop of 2.7 percent was considerably lower than in earlier intercensal periods. In Ulster (part of) the decline in population was almost halted in the period 1966–71, the overall drop being 0.5 percent. The number of males in the State increased by 46,728 and the number of females by 47,518 in the period 1966–71, and in each Province the overall changes in population were fairly evenly divided between males and females. Thus in Leinster there were 43,212 more males and 40,513 more females, in Munster there were 10,903 more males and 11,765 more females, in Connacht 6,403 less males and 4,645 less females and in Ulster (part of) 984 less males and 115 less females. The pattern in 1966–71 was similar to that observed in the 1961–66 period, when the overall increase in population of 65,661 comprised 32,483 males and 33,178 females. The 1961–71 experience contrasted fairly sharply with that in 1956–61, when the number of males fell by 46,379 or 3.2 percent compared with a fall of 33,544 or 2.3 percent in the case of females.

RATIO OF NUMBER OF FEMALES TO MALES.

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, 1926-1971

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
1971	991	1,031	972	919	930

At each Census there has been an excess of males in the population, the 1936 figures of 952 females per 1,000 males being the lowest recorded. The trend at the more recent Censuses has been for this male excess to decrease and the 1971 figure of 991 females per 1,000 is the highest observed since the Census of 1901. The high figure for Leinster is due mainly to the high ratio for Dublin County and County Borough in which there were 1,099 females per thousand males.

POPULATION OF COUNTIES AND COUNTY BOROUGHES.

The populations of each County at the Censuses of 1966 and 1971 are shown in TABLE III, together with the actual and percentage changes in the period. Also included, for purposes of comparison, are the percentage changes in the two preceding intercensal periods, 1956–61 and 1961–66. By contrast with the 1956–61 intercensal period, when almost all the Counties showed falls in population, and the 1961–66 period in which population gains and losses were fairly equally divided, the 1966–71 intercensal period showed increases in population in the great majority of the Counties.

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

Province, County or County Borough	Population		Actual change	Percentage change		
	1966	1971		1956-1961	1961-1966	1966-1971
TOTAL	2,884,002	2,978,248	+ 94,246	- 2.8	+ 2.3	+ 3.3
LEINSTER	1,414,415	1,498,196	+ 83,781	- 0.5	+ 6.2	+ 5.9
Carlow	33,593	34,237	+ 664	- 1.6	+ 0.8	+ 1.9
Dublin County Borough	567,802	567,866	+ 64	- 0.4	+ 5.8	+ 0.0
Dun Laoghaire Borough	51,811	53,171	+ 1,360	+ 0.5	+ 8.3	+ 2.6
Dublin*	175,434	231,182	+ 55,748	+ 12.8	+ 31.1	+ 31.8
Kildare	66,404	71,977	+ 5,573	- 2.3	+ 3.1	+ 8.4
Kilkenny	60,463	61,473	+ 1,010	- 3.8	- 2.0	+ 1.7
Laoighis	44,595	45,259	+ 664	- 4.3	- 1.1	+ 1.5
Longford	28,989	28,250	- 739	- 7.1	- 5.4	- 2.5
Louth	69,519	74,951	+ 5,432	- 2.6	+ 3.2	+ 7.8
Meath	67,323	71,729	+ 4,406	- 2.5	+ 3.4	+ 6.5
Offaly	51,717	51,829	+ 112	- 0.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.2
Westmeath	52,900	53,570	+ 670	- 2.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.3
Wexford	83,437	86,351	+ 2,914	- 4.5	+ 0.2	+ 3.5
Wicklow	60,428	66,295	+ 5,867	- 3.6	+ 3.3	+ 9.7
MUNSTER	859,334	882,002	+ 22,668	- 3.2	+ 1.2	+ 2.6
Clare	73,597	75,008	+ 1,411	- 4.5	- 0.1	+ 1.9
Cork County Borough	122,146	128,645	+ 6,499	- 2.5	+ 8.8	+ 5.3
Cork	217,557	224,238	+ 6,681	- 1.6	- 0.3	+ 3.1
Kerry	112,785	112,772	- 13	- 4.6	- 3.2	- 0.0
Limerick County Borough	55,912	57,161	+ 1,249	- 0.2	+ 10.1	+ 2.2
Limerick	81,445	83,298	+ 1,853	- 5.1	- 1.3	+ 2.3
Tipperary, N.R.	53,843	54,337	+ 494	- 3.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
Tipperary, S.R.	68,969	69,228	+ 259	- 4.9	- 1.6	+ 0.4
Waterford County Borough	29,842	31,968	+ 2,126	- 2.3	+ 5.4	+ 7.1
Waterford	43,238	45,347	+ 2,109	- 4.3	+ 0.2	+ 4.9
CONNACHT	401,950	390,902	- 11,048	- 6.0	- 4.2	- 2.7
Galway	148,340	149,223	+ 883	- 3.6	- 1.0	+ 0.6
Leitrim	30,572	28,360	- 2,212	- 9.7	- 8.7	- 7.2
Mayo	115,547	109,525	- 6,022	- 7.3	- 6.3	- 5.2
Roscommon	56,228	53,519	- 2,709	- 7.1	- 5.0	- 4.8
Sligo	51,263	50,275	- 988	- 5.8	- 4.3	- 1.9
ULSTER (part of)	208,303	207,204	- 1,099	- 7.8	- 4.2	- 0.5
Cavan	54,022	52,618	- 1,404	- 8.3	- 4.5	- 2.6
Donegal	108,549	108,344	- 205	- 6.7	- 4.6	- 0.2
Monaghan	45,732	46,242	+ 510	- 9.6	- 2.9	+ 1.1

*Excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough.

For the first time since 1841 increases were shown in the populations of six Counties — Kilkenny, Laoighis, Clare, Tipperary, Galway and Monaghan. With the exception of Longford each of the Counties of Leinster showed increases in population between 1966 and 1971 which were substantial in the cases of Wicklow (9.7 percent), Kildare (8.4 percent), Louth (7.8 percent), and Meath (6.5 percent). The fall in population in Longford (2.5 percent) was considerably lower than that recorded for earlier intercensal periods. The population of Dublin County Borough remained virtually unchanged between 1966 and 1971, but a very substantial increase occurred in the suburban area, as shown by a growth of 55,748 persons or 31.8 percent in the population of Dublin County (excluding Dun Laoghaire). For Dublin County and County Borough combined, the growth was 7.2 percent compared with 10.7 percent in the preceding five years. Of the Counties and County Boroughs in Munster all showed an increase in population except County Kerry where the decrease recorded was negligible, amounting to only 13 persons on a total population of 112,785. The largest increases in Munster were in Waterford County Borough (7.1 percent), Cork County Borough (5.3 percent), Waterford County (4.9 percent) and Cork County (3.1 percent). Of the Counties of Connacht, Galway showed a slight increase in population (0.6 percent) while in each of the other Counties the decrease was less than in the preceding intercensal periods. Of the three Ulster Counties Monaghan showed a slight increase in population, Donegal decreased only marginally in contrast with substantial falls in preceding intercensal periods while Cavan had a much reduced rate of population decrease compared with previous Censuses.

AGGREGATE TOWN AND AGGREGATE RURAL POPULATION.

As at a number of previous Censuses a town size of 1,500 has been taken as the dividing line in applying the classification "aggregate town" and "aggregate rural" as described in the Explanatory Notes. In 1971 the "aggregate town" population, comprising 114 centres of population, was 1,555,614 or 52.2 percent of the total. The population of these towns increased by 7.7 percent between 1966 and 1971. In the same period the "aggregate rural" population declined by 1.2 percent.

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, make it impossible to give comparable population figures extending back over a long period of years for the areas defined at the 1971 Census as "aggregate town" or "aggregate rural". In TABLE IV roughly comparable figures are given covering the period 1901 to 1936 for 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 1971.
(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
1966	1,445	1,439	973	441	362	497	79	323	31	178
1971	1,556	1,423	1,050	449	389	493	84	307	33	174

Despite the lack of strictly comparable figures the pattern of increasing town and decreasing rural population over the whole period 1901 to 1971 is very clear. In 1901 only 28.3 percent of the total population was in aggregate town areas whereas, by 1936 this proportion had risen to 35.5 percent. At the 1971 Census, 52.2 percent of the population was in aggregate town areas. The rate of increase in the aggregate town area population has risen sharply since 1961. From 1951 to 1956, the aggregate town area population rose by 13,000, and from 1956 to 1961 by 12,000. From 1961 to 1966, however, the increase amounted to 112,000 persons and from 1966 to 1971 the aggregate town area population rose by a further 111,000 persons. As in the 1961-66 period, each Province showed an increase, between 1966 and 1971 in its aggregate town area population; in the earlier periods such increases were largely confined to Leinster.

In TABLE VA and VB the changes in aggregate town and aggregate rural area populations are shown for Counties for the intercensal periods 1961-66 and 1966-1971, respectively. The 1966 figures in the two tables differ due to the fact that TABLE VA relates to boundaries as defined in 1966 and the levels of population in that year whereas TABLE VB relates to 1971 boundaries and levels of population.

TABLE VA: - "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

TABLE VB: - "AGGREGATE TOWN" AND "AGGREGATE RURAL" POPULATION OF EACH COUNTY, 1966 AND 1971 AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE INTERCENSAL PERIOD.

(Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas as defined in 1971.)

Province, County or County Borough	Aggregate Town Areas			Aggregate Rural Areas		
	Population in 1966	Population in 1971	Percentage change	Population in 1966	Population in 1971	Percentage change
TOTAL	1,444,736	1,555,614	+ 7.7	1,439,266	1,422,634	- 1.2
LEINSTER	973,527	1,049,597	+ 7.8	440,888	448,543	+ 1.7
Carlow	13,803	14,406	+ 4.4	19,790	19,831	+ 0.2
Dublin County Borough	567,802	567,866	+ 0.0	-	-	-
Dun Laoghaire Borough	51,811	53,171	+ 2.6	-	-	-
Dublin*	146,574	201,493	+ 37.5	28,860	29,689	+ 2.9
Kildare	21,310	24,902	+ 16.9	45,094	47,075	+ 4.4
Kilkenny	12,583	13,570	+ 7.8	47,880	47,903	+ 0.0
Laoighis	10,933	11,896	+ 8.8	33,662	33,363	- 0.9
Longford	4,252	4,791	+ 12.7	24,737	23,459	- 5.2
Louth	42,873	46,888	+ 9.4	26,646	28,063	+ 5.3
Meath	11,984	13,661	+ 14.0	55,339	58,068	+ 4.9
Offaly	16,619	17,373	+ 4.5	35,098	34,456	- 1.8
Westmeath	19,284	20,587	+ 6.8	33,616	32,983	- 1.9
Wexford	26,739	28,112	+ 5.1	56,698	58,239	+ 2.7
Wicklow	26,960	30,881	+ 14.5	33,468	35,414	+ 5.8
MUNSTER	361,973	389,020	+ 7.5	497,361	492,982	- 0.9
Clare	14,334	17,512	+ 22.2	59,263	57,496	- 3.0
Cork County Borough	122,146	128,645	+ 5.3	-	-	-
Cork	55,339	61,083	+ 10.4	162,218	163,155	+ 0.6
Kerry	25,512	27,301	+ 7.0	87,273	85,471	- 2.1
Limerick County Borough	55,912	57,161	+ 2.2	-	-	-
Limerick	6,955	9,720	+ 39.8	74,490	73,578	- 1.2
Tipperary, N.R.	17,252	18,358	+ 6.4	36,591	35,979	- 1.7
Tipperary, S.R.	25,182	26,326	+ 4.5	43,787	42,902	- 2.0
Waterford County Borough	29,842	31,968	+ 7.1	-	-	-
Waterford	9,499	10,946	+ 15.2	33,739	34,401	+ 2.0
CONNACHT	78,661	84,048	+ 6.8	323,289	306,854	- 5.1
Galway	39,537	43,371	+ 9.7	108,803	105,852	- 2.7
Leitrim	1,394	1,495	+ 7.2	29,178	26,865	- 7.9
Mayo	16,941	17,586	+ 3.8	98,606	91,939	- 6.8
Roscommon	7,091	7,140	+ 0.7	49,137	46,379	- 5.6
Sligo	13,698	14,456	+ 5.5	37,565	35,819	- 4.6
ULSTER (part of)	30,575	32,949	+ 7.8	177,728	174,255	- 2.0
Cavan	5,528	5,854	+ 5.9	48,494	46,764	- 3.6
Donegal	13,616	14,805	+ 8.7	94,933	93,539	- 1.5
Monaghan	11,431	12,290	+ 7.5	34,301	33,952	- 1.0

*Excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough

The pattern of growth in town population throughout the country which had become apparent in the 1961-66 period continued between 1966 and 1971, each County showing a rise in its aggregate town population. While the increase in population in Dublin, Cork and Limerick County Boroughs and in Dun Laoghaire Borough was not as great as in 1961-66, the populations of their suburban areas in the adjoining counties continued to rise sharply. The increases in aggregate town area population were also more evenly spread throughout the country in the more recent period, that for Leinster being 7.8 percent, Munster 7.5 percent, Connacht 6.8 percent and Ulster (part of) 7.8 percent. Whereas, between 1961 and 1966 only four Counties, Dublin, Kildare, Louth and Meath showed increases in their aggregate rural area population, in 1966-71 increases were recorded in six additional Counties - Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford, Wicklow, Cork and Waterford while in those Counties where decreases continued, they were generally at a much lower level in the more recent period.

TYPE OF DISTRICT.

In TABLE VI a classification of the population by "type of district" or community size is shown. In addition to towns of 1,500 population or over comprising the aggregate town area population referred to above the Table covers all smaller towns down to a minimum size cluster of 50 inhabited houses.

**TABLE VI: - DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION IN 1971, 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	679,748	322,542	357,206	22.8	1,107
Dun Laoghaire Borough and Suburbs	1	98,379	46,265	52,114	3.3	1,126
Cork County Borough and Suburbs	1	134,430	64,621	69,809	4.5	1,080
Limerick County Borough and Suburbs	1	63,002	30,488	32,514	2.1	1,066
Waterford County Borough and Suburbs	1	33,676	16,200	17,476	1.1	1,079
Other towns:-						
10,000 population and over and environs	12	188,586	90,971	97,615	6.3	1,073
5,000 to 10,000 population and environs	24	152,243	74,233	78,010	5.1	1,051
3,000 to 5,000 population and environs	29	110,119	53,943	56,176	3.7	1,041
1,500 to 3,000 population and environs	44	95,431	46,354	49,077	3.2	1,059
1,000 to 1,500 population and environs	45	52,749	25,686	27,063	1.8	1,054
500 to 1,000 population	107	76,599	37,258	39,341	2.6	1,056
Under 500 population but with at least 50 inhabited houses*	222	68,209	33,879	34,330	2.3	1,013
Country Districts	-	1,225,077	653,320	571,757	41.1	875
Total		2,978,248	1,495,760	1,482,488	100.0	991

*All except 23 of these towns had a population of 200 or more.

In 1971 the population in towns of all sizes was 1,753,171 persons, representing 58.9 percent of the total population of the country. Dublin County Borough and Dun Laoghaire Borough and their suburbs contained 26.1 percent of the total, while the fifteen other towns of over 10,000 population contained 14.0 percent. The 97 towns of between 1,500 and 10,000 inhabitants contained 12.0 percent of the total population while the remaining 374 smaller towns contained 6.6 percent. It may be observed by comparison with the corresponding volume of the 1966 Census (Table 12), that two towns, namely Ennis and Carlow passed above the 10,000 population level by 1971, raising the number of towns in the group "Other towns 10,000 population and over" from ten in 1966 to twelve in 1971. To the 17 towns which remained in the 5,000 to 10,000 population range were added:- Tallaght, Monaghan, Letterkenny, Nenagh, New Ross, Naas and Carrick-on-Suir, bringing the total to 24.

In all town districts the numbers of females exceeded those of males, the female excess being greatest in the Dublin and Dun Laoghaire area. In country districts the number of males exceeded that of females very considerably, there being only 875 females per 1,000 males compared with the figure for all town areas of 1,081 females per 1,000 males.

The population changes in the various types of district between 1966 and 1971 are shown in TABLE VII. The figures shown for 1966 and 1971 relate to identical areas, namely the towns, suburbs and environs defined in 1971. Because some towns fall into different size groups at the two Censuses, somewhat different results are obtained depending on whether the type of district classification is based on the population in 1966 or in 1971. For this reason a third classification, based on average population (taking the simple averages 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 1966 TO 1971.**

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

Type of District	Number of towns	Population in 1966	Population in 1971	Change in population 1966-1971	Percentage change 1966-1971	Percentage change 1961-1966
Dublin County Borough and Suburbs	1	652,606	679,748	+ 27,142	+ 4.2	+ 8.8
Dun Laoghaire Borough and Suburbs	1	84,075	98,379	+ 14,304	+ 17.0	+ 24.6
Cork County Borough and Suburbs	1	125,824	134,430	+ 8,606	+ 6.8	+ 8.8
Limerick County Borough and Suburbs	1	58,821	63,002	+ 4,181	+ 7.1	+ 11.8
Waterford County Borough and Suburbs	1	30,818	33,676	+ 2,858	+ 9.3	+ 5.4
Other towns:-						
10,000 population and over and environs	12	173,539	188,586	+ 15,047	+ 8.7	+ 4.7
5,000 to 10,000 population and environs	18	111,377	120,451	+ 9,074	+ 8.1	+ 5.6
3,000 to 5,000 population and environs	28	103,246	119,726	+ 16,480	+ 16.0	+ 6.6
1,500 to 3,000 population and environs	48	101,716	112,608	+ 10,892	+ 10.7	+ 4.0
1,000 to 1,500 population and environs	46	51,615	55,687	+ 4,072	+ 7.9	+ 1.1
500 to 1,000 population	105	71,088	76,495	+ 5,407	+ 7.6	+ 5.0
Under 500 population but with at least 50 inhabited houses*	226	66,511	70,383	+ 3,872	+ 5.8	+ 1.6
Country Districts	-	1,252,766	1,225,077	- 27,689	- 2.2	- 4.1
Total		2,884,002	2,978,248	+ 94,246	+ 3.3	+ 2.3

*All except 26 of these towns had an average population of 200 or more.

The last two columns of this table compare the percentage changes in the various size-of-town ranges between 1966-71 and 1961-66. Although the percentages shown do not relate to identical areas, in view of the changes in size classification of a number of towns, they are sufficient to show how the pattern of town growth has altered between the two periods. With the exception of Waterford County Borough and Suburbs, there was a slowing down in the rate of growth of population of the largest towns, and in the case of Dublin County Borough and Suburbs the 1966-71 increase was less than half that of 1961-66. In the other size-of-town ranges, however, increases were in all cases considerably higher in the most recent period than in 1961-66. The rise was particularly striking in the case of towns in the 3,000 to 5,000 inhabitants range, amounting to 16.0 percent in 1966-71, compared with 6.6 percent in 1961-66.

POPULATIONS OF TOWNS.

In Table 12 on pages 136 to 138 the populations of each of the 159 towns with 1,000 or more inhabitants in 1971 are shown with comparable 1966 figures, the towns being arranged in descending order of size. TABLE VIII shows the percentage change in population between 1966 and 1971 of the larger towns. These percentages refer to the entire built-up area of the town in each case, the population of the 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 1971 A POPULATION OF 3,000 OR MORE.

Town	Percentage change 1966-1971	Town	Percentage change 1966-1971
Ardee	+ 5.9	Letterkenny	+ 10.8
Arklow	+ 14.2	Limerick	+ 7.1
Athlone	+ 4.3	Listowel	+ 7.1
Athy	+ 5.3	Longford	+ 12.7
		Loughrea	+ 2.5
		Lucan	+ 94.7
Balbriggan	+ 15.2		
Ballina	- 0.1	Malahide	+ 27.7
Ballinasloe	+ 2.4	Mallow	+ 8.7
Bandon	+ 4.5	Midleton	+ 10.0
Birr	+ 1.0	Monaghan	+ 4.7
Blanchardstown	+ 84.0	Mullingar	+ 9.2
Bray	+ 13.9		
Buncrana	+ 5.5	Naas	+ 12.1
		Navan (An Uaimh)	+ 11.1
Carlow	+ 3.7	Nenagh	+ 11.6
Carrick-on-Suir	+ 2.7	New Ross	+ 10.1
Castlebar	+ 8.1		
Cavan	+ 5.0	Portarlinton	+ 7.3
Clondalkin	+ 33.6	Portlaoighise	+ 9.2
Clonmel	+ 7.1		
Cobh	+ 5.5	Roscrea	+ 9.4
Cork	+ 6.8		
		Shannon Airport	+154.1
Drogheda	+ 10.5	Skerries	+ 5.2
Droichead Nua	+ 21.9	Sligo	+ 5.5
Dublin	+ 4.2	Swords	+117.5
Dundalk	+ 8.9		
Dungarvan	+ 3.8	Tallaght	+146.5
Dun Laoghaire	+ 17.0	Thurles	+ 1.2
		Tipperary	+ 3.1
Edenderry	+ 6.7	Tralee	+ 9.0
Ennis	+ 7.4	Tramore	+ 15.9
Enniscorthy	+ 2.2	Tuam	+ 5.1
		Tullamore	+ 4.6
Fermoy	+ 4.3		
		Waterford	+ 9.3
Galway	+ 13.0	Westport	+ 3.3
Gorey	+ 3.2	Wexford	+ 5.3
Greystones-Delgany	+ 16.6	Wicklow	+ 14.4
Kildare	+ 9.9	Youghal	+ 7.8
Kilkenny	+ 7.7		
Killarney	+ 5.5		

It will be seen that the largest percentage increases in population occurred in the case of Shannon Airport (154.1 percent) and in certain Census towns on the perimeter of Dublin, namely Tallaght (146.5 percent), Swords (117.5 percent), Lucan (94.7 percent), Blanchardstown (84.0 percent), Clondalkin (33.6 percent) and Malahide (27.7 percent).

MIGRATION.

The results of successive Censuses of Population may be used in conjunction with statistics of births and deaths to derive net emigration in intercensal periods. The number of births registered in the intercensal period 1966 to 1971 exceeded the number of deaths registered in the same period by 148,152, whereas the increase in the total population amounted to 94,246 persons. The difference between these two figures, namely 53,906 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 1966-1971.

	Persons	Males	Females
Births (1/4/66 - 31/3/71)	312,796	161,090	151,706
Deaths (1/4/66 - 31/3/71)	164,644	89,612	75,032
Natural increase (excess of births over deaths)	148,152	71,478	76,674
Increase in population	94,246	46,728	47,518
Estimated net emigration (emigrants less immigrants)	53,906	24,750	29,156

It will be seen from TABLE IX that the figure of net emigration was made up of 24,750 males and 29,156 females. This compares with a net emigration of 80,605 persons, comprising 37,614 males and 42,991 females in the period 1961 to 1966. In the intercensal period 1956 to 1961 net emigration amounted to 212,003 persons, comprising 109,572 males and 102,431 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 1966-1971.

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	+ 13,132	+ 6,496	+ 6,636	29,253	14,019	15,234	16,121	7,523	8,598
1966-1971	+ 18,849	+ 9,345	+ 9,504	29,630	14,295	15,335	10,781	4,950	5,831

The average annual natural increase between 1966 and 1971 was 29,630, a figure slightly higher than for the 1961-66 period and considerably above that in any of the other intercensal periods since 1926. As in the case of each intercensal period since 1946, the natural increase for females exceeded that for males. The average annual net emigration, 1966-71 was considerably lower than in any intercensal period since 1926. In particular the average annual net emigration in the most recent period was little more than one quarter of that in the periods 1951-56 and 1956-61. Both in the periods 1961-66 and 1966-71 the slight excess in the numbers of females emigrating was sufficient to counterbalance the larger female natural increase, with the result that the rise in total population was almost equally divided between males and females. The rates of change of population, natural increase and net emigration derived from TABLE X 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 1966-1971.

Intercensal Period	Change in Population	Natural Increase	Net Emigration	Females Emigrating per 1,000 males
	Per thousand average population per annum			
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
1966-1971	+ 6.4	10.1	3.7	1,178

The various rates contained in TABLE XI for the intercensal period 1966-71 are somewhat similar to those for the period 1961-66 and in sharp contrast to those for earlier periods. The number of females emigrating per 1,000 males in the 1966-71 period was also similar to the figure for 1961-66. Although this figure has shown considerable fluctuation in the different intercensal periods, the difference in the total numbers of males and females emigrating over a long period is not very great. Thus in the period of 45 years between the 1926 and 1971 Censuses, the overall ratio emerges at 973 females emigrating per 1,000 males.

As for the State as a whole, net emigration figures may be derived for Counties and County Boroughs by subtracting the figure for the rise in population of each area from the natural increase (i.e. the excess of births over deaths) in that area. These results in respect of the intercensal period 1966-71 are set out in Table 4. The average annual rates of net emigration from each County in 1966-71 are compared with those for the four preceding intercensal periods in TABLE XII. 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.

TABLE XII:- AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF NET EMIGRATION PER 1,000 OF AVERAGE POPULATION
IN THE INTERCENSAL PERIODS 1946-1951, 1951-1956, 1956-1961, 1961-1966 AND 1966-1971.
(+ = Net immigration)

Province or County	1946-1951	1951-1956	1956-1961	1961-1966	1966-1971
TOTAL	8.2	13.4	14.8	5.7	3.7
LEINSTER	2.1	11.4	13.1	1.5	1.7
MUNSTER	11.7	12.8	14.2	6.4	3.5
CONNACHT	15.1	17.4	18.3	13.6	10.0
ULSTER (part of)	14.6	19.6	20.7	14.2	6.6
LEINSTER					
Carlow	9.3	12.9	16.1	12.2	8.9
Dublin*	+ 5.5	9.7	10.1	+ 4.8	0.7
Kildare	8.8	15.5	18.4	8.4	+ 0.9
Kilkenny	13.1	11.1	15.6	10.9	4.2
Laoighis	12.2	13.6	17.2	12.6	6.4
Longford	16.8	16.6	20.8	16.8	11.3
Louth	3.3	10.2	17.1	6.8	+ 0.9
Meath	8.6	8.2	14.7	4.1	+ 1.3
Offaly	13.3	12.3	13.2	11.7	11.6
Westmeath	11.9	13.3	15.9	12.3	9.1
Wexford	12.3	14.3	17.4	9.5	4.0
Wicklow	2.1	18.8	17.2	4.2	+ 7.5
MUNSTER					
Clare	15.9	15.9	14.9	6.3	1.9
Cork*	7.9	10.0	11.2	3.9	1.9
Kerry	17.7	14.0	15.2	11.2	4.7
Limerick*	12.7	15.8	17.0	5.0	6.5
Tipperary, N.R.	12.6	14.0	16.1	8.3	6.5
Tipperary, S.R.	13.5	15.5	18.6	13.0	8.2
Waterford*	9.6	10.6	14.8	5.0	+ 1.6
CONNACHT					
Galway	15.3	15.2	16.2	10.6	6.7
Leitrim	18.7	23.1	22.7	19.1	14.7
Mayo	15.3	19.1	20.3	17.1	14.0
Roscommon	15.9	16.1	17.9	11.7	10.9
Sligo	10.8	17.1	16.6	12.7	6.8
ULSTER (part of)					
Cavan	15.8	18.2	21.3	13.8	9.1
Donegal	14.6	20.2	17.9	15.0	6.3
Monaghan	13.2	19.7	26.5	12.9	4.4

*County and County Borough.

As in previous intercensal periods, most Counties were areas of net emigration although the rates of net emigration in 1966-71 were generally much lower than in the earlier periods. In the cases of Kildare, Louth, Meath and Waterford (County and County Borough combined), slight net immigration occurred while in Wicklow a high rate of net immigration (7.5 per 1,000) was recorded. Dublin (County and County Borough) which had been an area of substantial net immigration in 1961-66, showed a slight loss of population through emigration in 1966-71. Kilkenny, Laoighis and Wexford showed big reductions in their rates of net emigration in 1966-71. Of the Munster Counties, Clare and Kerry experienced very much reduced rates of net emigration while Cork (County and County Borough) had a low rate of net emigration both in 1961-66 and 1966-71. The rates of net emigration from Tipperary, N.R. and Tipperary, S.R. remained fairly high in 1966-71 although below their 1961-66 level while in Limerick (County and County Borough) there was a slight increase in the rate of net emigration in the most recent intercensal period. The Counties of Connacht and Ulster all showed reductions in the rate of net emigration in the 1966-71 period, these reductions being particularly marked in the cases of Sligo, Donegal and Monaghan.

THE PLANNING REGIONS.

In TABLE XIII are shown some of the principal population and derived statistics for the nine regions being used for planning and development puposes. The regions are:—

Region	Composition
East	Counties of Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Wicklow, Dublin County Borough.
South West	Counties of Cork and Kerry, Cork County Borough.
South East	Counties of Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary South Riding, Waterford and Wexford, Waterford County Borough.
North East	Counties of Cavan, Louth and Monaghan.
Mid West	Counties of Clare, Limerick and Tipperary North Riding, Limerick County Borough.
Donegal	County Donegal.
Midlands	Counties of Laoighis, Longford, Offaly, Roscommon and Westmeath.
West	Counties of Galway and Mayo.
North West	Counties of Leitrim and Sligo.

In TABLE XIII the regions are listed in order of percentage change in population in the period 1966—71. The East Region which contained over one-third of the total population of the country showed the highest percentage increase in population between 1966 and 1971. This increase was due entirely to the excess of births over deaths in the region, the net immigration in the period being negligible. Of the total population of the East Region, 84 percent lived in aggregate town areas. By contrast, in the West, North West, Midlands and Donegal Regions, one-quarter of the population or less were in aggregate town areas and each of these regions showed a decline in population (although very slight in the case of Donegal). In each of these regions the number of births exceeded the number of deaths in the period (although in the case of the North West region this excess was not very great). The decline in population is thus attributable to a fairly substantial level of net emigration in the case of each of these four regions. It will be noted that, even in these regions which showed decreases in population, the aggregate town area populations increased substantially and that the pattern of population increase in the aggregate town areas was fairly similar in all regions.

TABLE XIII:-- TOTAL POPULATION AND POPULATION CHANGES IN THE NINE PLANNING REGIONS.

Region	Total Population	Aggregate Town Area Population	Aggregate Rural Area Population	Females per 1,000 Males	Percentage of total population in:--					Percentage change 1966-1971				Average annual rates per 1,000 of average population 1966-1971			
					Towns 100,000 and over	Towns 10,000 to 100,000	Towns 1,500 to 10,000	Towns under 1,500*	Country Districts	Total Population	Aggregate Town Area Population	Aggregate Rural Area Population	Births	Deaths	Natural Increase	Net Emigration	
East	1,062,220	891,974	170,246	1,068	64.0	10.8	9.2	2.5	13.5	+ 7.4	+ 7.9	+ 4.6	23.4	9.3	14.2	+ 0.1	
South West	465,655	217,029	248,626	980	28.9	2.8	14.9	7.5	45.8	+ 2.9	+ 7.0	- 0.4	20.7	12.4	8.3	2.6	
South East	328,604	125,328	203,276	965	-	25.2	13.0	8.1	53.7	+ 2.8	+ 6.5	+ 0.7	21.7	12.0	9.7	4.1	
North East	173,811	65,032	108,779	944	-	25.1	12.3	8.1	54.5	+ 2.7	+ 8.7	- 0.6	21.0	12.0	9.0	3.7	
Mid West	269,804	102,751	167,053	955	-	27.4	10.7	9.5	52.4	+ 1.9	+ 8.8	- 1.9	21.0	12.1	9.0	5.2	
Donegal	108,344	14,805	93,539	955	-	-	13.7	16.6	69.7	- 0.2	+ 8.7	- 1.5	18.3	12.4	5.9	6.3	
Midlands	232,427	61,787	170,640	912	-	5.1	21.5	9.7	63.8	- 0.9	+ 6.2	- 3.2	20.2	12.1	8.1	9.8	
West	258,748	60,957	197,791	927	-	11.4	12.2	7.9	68.6	- 1.9	+ 7.9	- 4.6	18.4	12.5	5.9	9.8	
North West	78,635	15,951	62,684	911	-	18.4	1.9	11.2	68.5	- 3.9	+ 5.7	- 6.1	16.2	14.5	1.8	9.7	
TOTAL	2,978,248	1,555,614	1,422,634	991	27.3	12.9	12.0	6.6	41.1	+ 3.3	+ 7.7	- 1.2	21.3	11.2	10.1	3.7	

* But with at least 50 inhabited houses.