

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1981

VOLUME 10

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CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1981

INTRODUCTION

A Census of Population was taken on the night of the 5th April, 1981 in accordance with the Statistics (Census of Population) Order 1981 (S.I. No. 60 of 1981) made by the Minister of State at the Department of 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), and the Statistics (Delegation of Powers and Duties) Order 1980 (S.I. No. 36 of 1980).

The following particulars were collected in respect of each individual:- (i) name, (ii) sex, (iii) relationship to head of household, (iv) date of birth, (v) marital status, (vi) place of birth, (vii) religion, (viii) ability to speak Irish, (ix) date of marriage and number of children (for married women only), (x) usual residence, (xi) usual residence one year prior to Census date, (xii) means of travel and distance travelled to work or school; and for persons aged 15 years or over, (xiii) present economic status, (xiv) principal occupation, (xv) employment status, (xvi) name of employer and nature of employer's business, (xvii) address of place of work or school, (xviii) area and rateable valuation of agricultural holdings, (xix) age at which full-time education ended and number of years' attendance at school or college (for persons who had ceased their full-time education), (xx) scientific or technological qualifications held and fields of science concerned. In addition the following information was collected in respect of each private household:- (i) nature of occupancy of the dwelling (rented, owner occupied, etc.), (ii) rent of dwelling, (iii) rooms occupied, (iv) year dwelling was built, (v) type of water supply, (vi) availability of bath or shower, (vii) type of sanitary facilities and (viii) principal fuel used to heat the dwelling and availability of central heating.

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, 5 April, 1981, together with all persons who arrived in that area on the morning of Monday, 6 April, 1981, 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 those in residence, while usual residents 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 night, were serving abroad with the United Nations were excluded from the enumeration.

PUBLICATION AND AVAILABILITY OF RESULTS

Volume 1 - Population of District Electoral Divisions, Towns and larger units of Area (Pl. 985); Volume 2 - Ages and Marital Status classified by Areas (Pl. 2561); Volume 3 - Household Composition and Family Units (Pl. 3084); Volume 4 - Principal Economic Status and Industries (Pl. 3274); Volume 5 - Religion (Pl. 3407); Volume 6 - Irish Language (Pl. 3581); Volume 7 - Occupations (Pl. 3828); Volume 8 - Housing (Pl. 4043) and Volume 9 - Usual Residence, Migration and Birthplaces (Pl. 4430) have already been published. Two reports based on the processing of a five per cent sample of the Census returns have also been published; the first in March, 1983 (Pl. 1446) related to Age, Marital Status and Labour Force; the second in December, 1983 (Pl. 1933) related to characteristics of Housing and Households. A series of Bulletins has been published giving provisional results for the State and for each Planning Region, County and County Borough of classifications by Age, Marital Status, Principal Economic Status, Labour Force, Travel to Work, Religion, Size and Type of Dwelling, Nature of Occupancy, Water Supply, Sanitary Facilities and Fuel used to heat the dwelling. A final State Bulletin published in July, 1984 (Pl. 2526) contains classifications by Place of Birth, Usual Residence, Irish Language, Travel to Work and School, Education and Household Facilities separately distinguishing between Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas.

Tabulations containing frequency counts of the population in each Urban and Rural District, each District Electoral Division or Ward, each town of 1,000 population and over and each Gaeltacht Area classified by the main variables collected in the Census (e.g. Occupation, Industry, Economic Status, Socio-Economic Group, Education, Age, Marital Status) as well as counts of Private Households classified by Housing characteristics (Number of Rooms, Age of Building, Availability of Bath, etc.) are available on computer print-out sheets and on tape. These data will be supplied, at a charge, by the Central Statistics Office.

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Volume of the Report of the 1981 Census of Population, contains in Part 1 detailed classifications by age at which full-time education ceased and by highest type of educational establishment attended full-time for persons aged 15 years and over. Classifications are also provided in Part 2 for persons with scientific or technological qualifications.

CLASSIFICATION BY EDUCATION

The question on the Census Form was as follows:-

FULL-TIME EDUCATION RECEIVED				
(to be completed for each person whose full-time education has ceased)				
State age at which full-time education ceased.	If the person attended any of the following types of school, etc., full-time, state the number of years in each case.			
	If the person did not attend write "None"			
	Primary	Second Level		University or other Third Level
Secondary, Community or Comprehensive		Vocational, Technical or Commercial		
(See Notes)				

The accompanying notes stated that the question on full-time education received should be completed for each person aged 15 years or over no longer receiving full-time education. No entry was to be made in respect of part-time education. Other points made in these instructions were:-

- (i) Secondary school includes the secondary top of a primary school.
- (ii) Vocational, technical or commercial includes schools of commerce, secretarial colleges, schools of domestic science, agricultural schools.
- (iii) University or other third level includes the constituent colleges of the National University of Ireland, Dublin University, Maynooth College, College of Surgeons, National College of Art, Regional Technical Colleges, Colleges of Advanced Technology, Teachers Training College, Military Training College, Major Religious Seminaries, Agricultural College, Veterinary Colleges.

While persons were asked to make an entry in respect of each type of educational establishment attended they were classified only on the basis of the highest level attended.

A total of 111,007 persons did not state the age at which their full-time education ceased. These persons have not been included in any tables in the Commentary or in detailed tables giving percentage distribution of age at which education ended.

CLASSIFICATION BY SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL QUALIFICATIONS

Part II of this Volume contains details on the subject of scientific and technological qualifications. This was the second occasion on which a question on this topic was asked at an Irish Census. A similar question was asked in the 1971 Census but, in the case of diplomas, was restricted to those which had been awarded, following at least two years full-time study (or equivalent part-time study) after the Leaving Certificate or its equivalent. In 1981 diplomas received following one years full-time study (or equivalent part-time study) were also deemed relevant. In addition the Social Sciences (incl. Economics) were included as "Scientific subjects" in 1981 they had been excluded in 1971. The question on the Census Form was as follows:-

SCIENTIFIC OR TECHNOLOGICAL QUALIFICATIONS

If the person has such qualifications state at (a) the qualifications held and at (b) the main subject(s) in which held.

The accompanying notes indicated that this question should be answered for persons who held one or more qualifications of the type listed below in a branch of science or technology including natural sciences, engineering, medical sciences, agricultural sciences and social sciences but excluding commerce, geography, domestic science and nursing.

Examples of the qualifications were given as follows:-

Qualifications	Examples of entry at (a)
Certificate, Diploma, Associateship or Degree awarded by an educational institution (e.g. University, National Council for Educational Awards, City and Guilds, Department of Education, etc.) following at least one year's full-time study (or equivalent part-time study) after the Leaving Certificate or its equivalent.	National Certificate (NCEA); City and Guilds Technician Certificate; National Diploma (NCEA); College Technician Diploma; A.R.C.Sc.I.; A.I.M.L.S.; Grad.I.E.E.; Grad.I.Mech.E.; B.Sc.; B.E.; M.E.; Ph.D.; B.A. (Mathematics); B.Soc.Sc.; M.B.; B.Ch.; B.A.O.; M.Econ.Sc.;
Graduate or Corporate Membership of a Professional Institution.	M.I.E.I.; M.I.C.I.; M.R.I.C.; M.I.Mech.E.; A.Inst.P.; F.I.M.L.S.; M.I.Biol.

The main branch of science or technology in which the qualification(s) was held was asked for at (b) e.g. Agriculture; Horticulture; Veterinary Science; Physics; Medicine; Dentistry; Pharmacy; Biochemistry; Mathematical Physics; Architecture; Mechanical Engineering; Applied Biology; Applied Chemistry; Electronics; Sociology; Economics etc.

Valuable assistance and advice concerning the qualifications in respect of which data were required was provided by the National Board for Science and Technology who also commissioned the preparation of a coding manual which was carried out by the Department of Industrial Engineering, University College Galway. The qualifications were coded on a subject matter basis according to the categories listed in Appendix A.

CLASSIFICATION BY OCCUPATION

All persons aged 15 years and over who were at work, unemployed or retired were classified in the Census to their usual (or previous) principal occupation.

A person's occupational classification is determined by the kind of work he/she performs in earning a living, irrespective of the place in which or the purpose for which it is performed. The nature of Industry, Business or Service in which the person is working has no bearing upon the classification of occupation. For example, the occupation "clerk" covers clerks employed in manufacturing industries, commerce, banking, insurance, public administration, professions and other services etc.

The most detailed occupational classification used in the 1981 Census of Population is that shown in Appendix E. This classification is used, in Table 16A of the present Volume.

CLASSIFICATION BY SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROUP

The entire population was classified to one of eleven socio-economic groups plus a residual "unknown" group if insufficient details were provided. The occupations assigned to each of the eleven groups are generally similar as regards the level of skill or educational attainment required. The socio-economic group of persons aged 15 years or over who were at work was decided by their occupation or in some cases by a combination of occupation and employment status.

Unemployed or retired persons were classified by socio-economic group according to their former occupation.

Other persons such as those engaged in home duties or at school/college who were members of a family unit, were classified to the socio-economic group of the person on whom they were deemed to be dependent. Other persons who were not members of a family unit were assigned to the "Unknown" group.

The actual socio-economic groups used in the Census were as follows:-

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | Farmers, farmers' relatives and farm managers |
| 1 | Other agricultural occupations and fishermen |
| 2 | Higher professional |
| 3 | Lower professional |
| 4 | Employers and Managers |
| 5 | Salaried employees |
| 6 | Intermediate non-manual workers |
| 7 | Other non-manual workers |
| 8 | Skilled manual workers |
| 9 | Semi-skilled manual workers |
| X | Unskilled manual workers |
| R | Unknown |

A detailed listing of the occupations to each socio-economic group is given in Appendix B.

CLASSIFICATION BY INDUSTRY

The industry in which a person is engaged is determined (whatever may be his/her occupation) by the main activity carried out at the local unit at which he works. If, however, the local unit is involved in some activity ancillary to another major unit (e.g. administration, storage etc.) then the persons in the ancillary unit are classified to the industry of the major unit. Thus, while the occupational classification is concerned only with the particular work performed by the individual regardless of the main activity carried on at the local unit, the industrial classification is concerned only with the ultimate purpose or end product regardless of the precise nature of the work performed by each individual. A single manufacturing concern or commercial undertaking may employ persons of many different occupations for the purpose of making a particular product or giving a particular service. Conversely, there are many cases in which particular occupations are largely confined to a single industry. For example, the majority of persons having agricultural occupations are in the Industry of Agriculture and most miners are in the Mining Industry.

It will be noted that the term "industry" as used for Census of Population purposes is not confined to Manufacturing Industry, but is regarded as being synonymous with the term "Branch of economic activity". The basis of the industrial classification is, in the case of an employee, the business or profession of his employer and in the case of a self-employed person is the nature of his own business or profession. The industrial groups used in Tables 17-19 Part I are outlined in Appendix D.

LABOUR FORCE

The Labour Force comprises persons aged 15 years and over who are "at work", "seeking regular work for the first time" or "unemployed". This is an extension of the Labour Force definition used in previous Censuses which did not include first job seekers.

The Labour Force (and its constituent) figures shown in this Volume are directly based on the Census and differ slightly therefore from the official mid-April 1981 Labour Force estimates. The latter were derived by modifying the Census figures to take account of the differences in methodology between the Census and sample Labour Force Surveys on which the official mid-April Labour Force series is now based; for details of the modifications to the Census figures and the official mid-April estimates see pages 8 and 9 of "Labour Force Survey 1983 - First Results" (Pl. 2660).

COMMENTARY

PART 1 - EDUCATION

The total population aged 15 years of age and over in 1981 was 2,399,676 of whom 1,193,945 were males and 1,205,731 were females. Of these some 200,316 comprising 97,306 males and 103,010 females were attending school, university etc. on a full-time basis. The remaining 2,199,360 had ceased full-time education.

CHANGES BETWEEN 1971 AND 1981

In TABLE A below the 1971 and 1981 populations are compared showing persons still at school, university etc. and those whose full-time education had ceased.

TABLE A:- POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, SHOWING PERSONS STILL AT SCHOOL, UNIVERSITY, ETC., AND PERSONS WHO HAD CEASED FULL-TIME EDUCATION - 1971 AND 1981.

	Persons		Males		Females	
	1971	1981	1971	1981	1971	1981
	(Thousands)					
Persons who have ceased full-time education	1,910	2,199	950	1,097	960	1,103
Persons still at school, University etc. full-time	137	200	70	97	67	103
TOTAL PERSONS (aged 15 years and over)	2,047	2,400	1,020	1,194	1,027	1,206

While the total population aged 15 years and over increased by 17 per cent between 1971 and 1981 the percentage of persons still at school, university etc. rose by 46 per cent; 39 per cent in the case of males and 54 per cent in the case of females. In 1981 the proportion of males aged 15 years and over who were still in full-time education was 8.2 per cent compared with 6.9 per cent in 1971. The corresponding proportions for females were 8.5 per cent in 1981 compared with 6.5 per cent in 1971.

TABLE B provides a comparison between 1971 and 1981 of the proportion of persons at each of the ages 15 to 24 who were receiving full-time education.

**TABLE B:- PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS AGED 15 TO 24 YEARS RECEIVING FULL-TIME EDUCATION
1971 AND 1981.**

Age	Persons		Males		Females	
	1971	1981	1971	1981	1971	1981
	%	%	%	%	%	%
15 years	74.9	88.5	74.1	86.7	75.8	90.4
16 "	59.3	73.1	55.7	67.0	63.0	79.4
17 "	44.5	55.1	40.1	46.9	49.0	63.6
18 "	26.4	31.5	25.2	27.9	27.7	35.3
19 "	15.3	17.8	16.0	17.8	14.6	17.8
Total 15-19 "	45.2	54.3	43.3	50.2	47.2	58.6
20 "	10.8	13.0	12.2	13.8	9.2	12.2
21 "	8.1	9.7	10.2	10.9	5.8	8.5
22 "	6.1	6.2	8.4	7.7	3.6	4.7
23 "	3.8	3.7	6.1	4.8	1.5	2.6
24 "	2.5	2.3	3.9	3.2	1.1	1.4
Total 20-24 "	6.4	7.2	8.3	8.3	4.4	6.1
TOTAL 15-24 "	27.9	32.7	27.7	31.0	28.2	34.5

Substantial increases occurred between the years 1971 and 1981 in the numbers of persons aged 15 to 24 receiving full-time education. These increases were particularly marked in the 15-17 year age group. In 1981, almost 90 per cent of all persons aged 15 years were in full-time education; almost three quarters of all persons aged 16 years were still students and more than half of all persons aged 17 years were full-time students. The percentage of persons still at school, college etc. was somewhat higher for females than for males.

Increases also took place in the older age groups to the point where almost 10 per cent of all persons aged 21 years were engaged in full-time study in 1981.

AGE AT WHICH EDUCATION CEASED

The continuing improvement in the educational level of the general population resulting from the tendency of younger people to remain in education longer is illustrated in TABLE C.

TABLE C:- DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS, MALES AND FEMALES WHO CEASED FULL-TIME EDUCATION ACCORDING TO AGE AT WHICH FULL-TIME EDUCATION CEASED - 1966, 1971 AND 1981.

Sex and year		Total whose full-time education has ceased (excl. age not stated)	Percentage who left school, university etc. aged					
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19 and over
Males	1966	100.-	60.0	10.9	12.2	5.3	5.7	5.9
	1971	100.-	55.1	11.3	13.3	6.7	6.7	7.0
	1981	100.-	39.5	13.3	16.8	9.7	9.9	10.8
Females	1966	100.-	49.5	11.9	15.1	9.1	9.2	5.2
	1971	100.-	47.0	11.6	14.9	10.4	10.0	6.2
	1981	100.-	34.1	12.4	16.1	13.6	14.2	9.5
TOTAL	1966	100.-	54.8	11.4	13.7	7.2	7.5	5.6
	1971	100.-	51.0	11.4	14.1	8.5	8.4	6.6
	1981	100.-	36.8	12.8	16.5	11.7	12.1	10.1

The proportion of the total population who ceased full-time education while under 15 years of age had fallen from 55 per cent in 1966 to 51 per cent in 1971 with a further decline to 37 per cent in 1981. Over 50 per cent of the population in 1981 had been full-time students up to age 16 or over and more than 10 per cent of the total population had been at school or college up to age 19 or over. These figures represent a substantial improvement on the 1971 situation when the percentages of the total population who had been in full-time education up to ages 16 and 19 were 38 per cent and 7 per cent respectively.

LEVEL OF EDUCATION

The improvements in the educational level of the general population outlined in Table C are also reflected in the details of the highest level of educational establishment attended, summarised in TABLE D.

TABLE D:- DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS, MALES AND FEMALES WITH FULL-TIME EDUCATION COMPLETED CLASSIFIED BY HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT ATTENDED - 1966, 1971 AND 1981.

Sex and year		Total whose full-time education has ceased	Percentage who attended				
			Secondary, Community or Comprehensive	Vocational	Secondary and Vocational	University or other Third Level	Primary (incl. not stated)
Males	1966	100.-	13.8	8.1	3.5	4.6	70.0
	1971	100.-	15.4	10.1	3.5	5.2	65.8
	1981	100.-	24.3	15.8	4.0	8.9	47.1
Females	1966	100.-	19.3	8.1	5.9	3.1	63.6
	1971	100.-	20.5	8.5	6.0	3.5	61.6
	1981	100.-	30.5	10.8	8.2	6.5	44.0
TOTAL	1966	100.-	16.5	8.1	4.7	3.9	66.8
	1971	100.-	18.0	9.3	4.8	4.3	63.7
	1981	100.-	27.4	13.3	6.1	7.7	45.5

A substantial increase occurred between 1971 and 1981 in the proportion of the population who had received second or third level education. The percentage of persons who had left school after primary education decreased from 64 per cent in 1971 to 46 per cent in 1981. The decrease was of a similar order of magnitude for both males and females.

The category of educational establishment which showed the largest increase in its participation rate was "secondary" (including community or Comprehensive). The number of males who had attended secondary school increased by 9 percentage points from 15 per cent to 24 per cent while the numbers of females increased by 10 percentage points from 21 per cent to 31 per cent. There was also a substantial rate of increase in the numbers of males and females who had attended university or third level institutes. The percentages of males who had received third level education increased from 5.2 per cent to 8.9 per cent an increase of 71 per cent in the ten years 1971 to 1981, while the corresponding percentage of females increased from 3.5 per cent to 6.5 per cent an increase of 86 per cent over the same 10 year period.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT CLASSIFIED BY PRESENT AGE

The gradual improvement over time in the educational level of the population is illustrated in TABLE E which crossclassifies persons present ages against the ages at which they ceased full-time education.

TABLE E:- PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION AGED 20 YEARS AND OVER WHO LEFT SCHOOL, UNIVERSITY, ETC. AT VARIOUS AGES.

Present Age	Total	Percentage who left school, university etc.			
		Under 15	15-16	17-18	19 and over (including those still in education)
Males					
20-24 years	100.-	11.4	33.7	34.0	21.0
25-29 "	100.-	21.0	31.7	28.3	19.0
30-34 "	100.-	33.1	30.3	20.6	16.0
35-44 "	100.-	41.3	28.2	17.6	12.9
45-54 "	100.-	51.8	25.0	13.9	9.3
55-64 "	100.-	56.8	24.0	11.5	7.7
65-74 "	100.-	63.0	21.8	8.6	6.6
75 years and over	100.-	69.1	19.3	6.7	4.9
Females					
20-24 years	100.-	10.8	25.2	44.0	19.9
25-29 "	100.-	19.5	26.8	37.4	16.3
30-34 "	100.-	28.1	29.4	29.6	12.9
35-44 "	100.-	33.3	29.6	26.7	10.4
45-54 "	100.-	41.0	28.3	22.8	8.0
55-64 "	100.-	46.8	27.2	19.6	6.4
65-74 "	100.-	52.9	25.8	15.5	5.8
75 years and over	100.-	59.4	22.3	12.7	5.6

In this table persons still receiving full-time education are included in the calculations as the table deals only with persons aged 20 years and over and therefore such persons will fall into the category of ceasing full-time education aged 19 years and over. The improvement over time can be readily seen by examining the declining percentages in the younger age groups leaving school under 15 years of age. Almost 70 per cent of males aged 75 years and over had left school under 15 years of age whereas only 11 per cent of males in the 20-24 year age group had left school at this age. A similar improvement can be seen in the case of females where the proportion leaving school under 15 had declined from approximately 60 per cent for those aged 75 and over to 11 per cent for those aged 20-24.

A corresponding increase has taken place in the younger age groups of persons remaining at school, college etc. until the late teens or older. In the case of males 55 per cent of those aged 20-24 years remained in full-time education until 17 years or more whereas only 12 per cent of those aged 75 years or more had done so. Similarly, for females the corresponding percentages were 64 per cent for those aged 20-24 and 18 per cent for those aged 75 years or more.

REGIONS

Regional differences in educational levels are summarised in TABLE F which shows the distribution of persons in each of the planning regions classified by the highest level of educational establishment attended. The composition of the Planning Regions is outlined in Appendix J. Some of the differences between regions are of course due to the differing age and socio-economic structures within these regions; a large industrial and commercial centre like Dublin, for example, attracts to it a sizeable number of persons who attained higher educational levels elsewhere. The improvement in the educational level in line with age was illustrated in the preceding section so that a region with a younger age structure would by virtue of that fact alone present a better picture in terms of educational level than would a region with an older age structure.

TABLE F:- PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION IN EACH PLANNING REGION, OF PERSONS WHO HAVE CEASED FULL-TIME EDUCATION CLASSIFIED BY HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT ATTENDED.

Planning Region	Total whose full-time education has ceased	Highest level of educational establishment attended full-time				
		Secondary, Community or Comprehensive	Vocational	Secondary and Vocational	University or Third Level	Primary (incl. not stated)
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Males						
East	100.-	28.4	16.3	4.4	11.9	39.0
South West	100.-	25.4	15.8	4.6	8.5	45.6
South East	100.-	25.1	16.7	4.9	6.7	46.5
North East	100.-	20.3	16.0	3.0	6.0	54.7
Mid West	100.-	25.5	15.3	5.0	7.8	46.4
Donegal	100.-	14.1	11.1	1.6	5.3	67.9
Midlands	100.-	18.7	17.6	2.8	5.9	55.0
West	100.-	17.6	13.0	2.1	7.6	59.7
North West	100.-	15.6	18.1	2.0	6.6	57.7
STATE	100.-	24.3	15.8	4.0	8.9	47.1
Females						
East	100.-	32.2	10.3	9.2	7.5	40.8
South West	100.-	33.0	9.1	9.3	6.4	42.1
South East	100.-	32.5	11.7	8.6	5.6	41.7
North East	100.-	24.5	14.0	5.2	5.1	51.2
Mid West	100.-	32.9	10.6	9.5	5.9	41.1
Donegal	100.-	17.3	10.5	3.0	5.1	64.0
Midlands	100.-	27.4	13.4	6.1	5.3	47.8
West	100.-	26.6	9.7	6.4	6.9	50.3
North West	100.-	23.8	13.4	5.8	6.6	50.5
STATE	100.-	30.5	10.8	8.2	6.5	44.0

The East region contained the lowest percentage (approximately 40 per cent) of persons whose highest level of educational establishment attended was "primary" while Donegal (with 68 per cent of males and 64 per cent of females) and the 'West' region (with 60 per cent of males and 50 per cent of females) contained the highest proportion of such persons.

Correspondingly the East region contained the highest percentages of persons who had attended second level or third level educational establishments. The proportions of males who had attended university or third level institutes were considerably higher than in any other region. In fact the proportion of such males in the East region (11.9 per cent) was 40 per cent higher than the next highest, the South West region (i.e. Cork and Kerry).

LABOUR FORCE

Changes in the educational level of males and females in the Labour Force and not in the Labour Force are summarised in TABLE G.

TABLE G:- PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS IN THE LABOUR FORCE AND NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE WHO HAVE CEASED FULL-TIME EDUCATION CLASSIFIED BY HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT ATTENDED, 1971 AND 1981.

	Highest level of educational establishment attended full-time					
	Total	Secondary	Vocational	Secondary and Vocational	University or Third Level	Primary (incl. not stated)
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Males						
Labour Force*						
1971	100.-	16.5	11.2	3.9	5.6	62.8
1981	100.-	27.0	18.3	4.5	10.0	40.2
Non-Labour Force						
1971	100.-	7.5	1.6	0.9	2.1	87.9
1981	100.-	10.6	3.7	1.2	3.3	81.2
Total who have ceased full-time education						
1971	100.-	15.4	10.1	3.5	5.2	65.8
1981	100.-	24.3	15.8	4.0	8.9	47.1
Females						
Labour Force*						
1971	100.-	27.5	12.3	9.6	7.4	43.2
1981	100.-	40.4	12.3	13.6	13.6	20.1
Non-Labour Force						
1971	100.-	17.4	6.8	4.4	1.8	69.6
1981	100.-	25.7	10.0	5.6	3.1	55.5
Total who have ceased full-time education						
1971	100.-	20.5	8.5	6.0	3.5	61.6
1981	100.-	30.5	10.8	8.2	6.5	44.0

*The figures for the 1971 labour force are based on persons aged 14 years of age and over who were either "gainfully occupied" or "not yet at work"; while the latter category are excluded from the non-labour force.

The significant improvement which took place in the educational level of the Labour Force in the ten year period 1971 to 1981 can be observed from the Table. The percentage of persons in the Labour Force who had only primary school level of education declined dramatically. In the case of males the proportion of such persons decreased from 63 per cent to 40 per cent while the corresponding figures for females were 43 per cent and 20 per cent in 1971 and 1981 respectively. Correspondingly, the proportion of persons who had attended each of the second level and third level type institutions increased. The greatest percentage increase took place in the proportion of persons who had attended university or third level institutes. The proportion of males in this category increased from 5.6 per cent to 10 per cent - an increase of 79 per cent while the proportion of females increased from 7.4 per cent to 13.6 per cent - an increase of 84 per cent.

The educational level of the female Labour Force was significantly higher than that of the male Labour Force. In fact 80 per cent of the female labour force had attended a second level school or college, at least. This reflects the younger age structure of the female labour force arising, inter alia, from the greater tendency on the part of the older female cohorts to have left the labour force on marriage or following the birth of children.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROUP OF PARENT

TABLE H classifies persons who were enumerated with their parents and who had ceased their education according to the socio-economic groups of their parents. There is a striking relationship between educational attainment and socio-economic group of parent. Only a negligible percentage of the children of manual workers had attended third level colleges, ranging from 1.2 per cent of "Unskilled Manual Workers" children to 3.9 per cent of "Skilled Manual Workers" children. This is in sharp contrast with the professional classes where 38 per cent of the children of "Higher Professional Workers" and 28 per cent of children of "Lower Professional Workers" attended a third level college. There are also significant differences in the participation rate in second level education between children of parents from the different socio-economic groups. Only 60 per cent of children of "Unskilled Manual Workers" or persons in "Other Agricultural Occupations and Fishermen" had attended second level schools, compared with approximately 94 per cent of children of parents in the "Higher and Lower Professional" categories.

A detailed analysis by socio-economic group of parent and age education ceased is provided in Table 24 of the main tables in Part 1 of the report.

TABLE H:- PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS WHOSE EDUCATION HAS CEASED, LIVING WITH THEIR PARENT(S) CLASSIFIED BY HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT ATTENDED FULL-TIME AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROUP OF PARENT.

Socio-Economic Group of Parent	Total whose full-time education has ceased	Highest level of educational establishment attended full-time				
		Secondary	Vocational	Secondary and Vocational	University	Primary (incl. not stated)
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Farmers, farmers' relatives and farm managers	100.-	34.1	25.9	7.3	6.0	26.7
Other agricultural occupations and fishermen	100.-	24.5	29.4	3.7	2.3	40.0
Higher professional	100.-	40.6	3.0	14.3	38.1	4.1
Lower professional	100.-	45.9	8.3	11.3	28.0	6.5
Employers and managers	100.-	57.4	6.5	13.9	16.3	5.9
Salaried employees	100.-	58.9	8.6	13.4	12.9	6.2
Intermediate non-manual workers	100.-	50.0	16.0	13.4	8.1	12.5
Other non-manual workers	100.-	43.9	24.3	7.2	3.3	21.2
Skilled manual workers	100.-	43.8	26.1	8.2	3.9	18.0
Semi-skilled manual workers	100.-	34.9	27.9	5.0	1.7	30.6
Unskilled manual workers	100.-	27.0	29.0	3.5	1.2	39.3
Unknown	100.-	21.1	13.6	3.2	2.5	59.6
TOTAL	100.-	39.7	22.6	8.0	6.2	23.5

PART II – SCIENTIFIC OR TECHNOLOGICAL QUALIFICATIONS

A total number of 56,752 persons held scientific or technological qualifications as defined for Census purposes (see page x). Of these, the great majority, some 44,155 persons or 78 per cent, were males. TABLE I summarises the number of persons by main subject or branch in which qualification is held, classified by sex and by whether in the Labour Force or not.

TABLE I:– PERSONS, MALES AND FEMALES WITH A SCIENTIFIC OR TECHNOLOGICAL QUALIFICATION, IN THE LABOUR FORCE AND NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE, CLASSIFIED BY MAIN BRANCH OF SCIENCE IN WHICH QUALIFICATION HELD.

Branch of Science	Total			In the Labour Force			Not in the Labour Force		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Agricultural Science (incl. veterinary)	6,875	6,399	476	6,341	6,062	279	534	337	197
Engineering, Architecture and Surveying	20,341	19,801	540	19,273	18,855	418	1,068	946	122
Medical and Related Sciences	11,051	6,314	4,737	8,971	5,719	3,252	2,080	595	1,485
Social Sciences (incl. Economics)	6,629	3,774	2,855	5,363	3,515	1,848	1,266	259	1,007
Natural and other Sciences incl. Computer Science	11,856	7,867	3,989	9,960	7,187	2,773	1,896	680	1,216
ALL SCIENCES BRANCHES	56,752	44,155	12,597	49,908	41,338	8,570	6,844	2,817	4,027

Males predominated among qualification holders in Agricultural Science (incl. Veterinary) and in Engineering, Architecture and Surveying. In the case of Agricultural Science 6,399 out of a total of 6,875 persons or 93 per cent of all degree and diploma holders were males while in the fields of Engineering, Architecture and Surveying 97 per cent of all graduates, were male. However females were much more strongly represented in the case of the Medical Sciences and Social Sciences (incl. Economics). A total of 4,737 persons or 43 per cent of all persons with qualifications in the medical sciences were female while the same percentage (i.e. 43 per cent) of degree and diploma holders in the Social Sciences (incl. Economics) were females.

There was a substantial variation in the participation rate in the Labour Force between males and females with qualifications in science and technology. For males, 94 per cent of those with degrees or diplomas were in the Labour Force whereas the corresponding percentage in the case of females was 68 per cent.

TABLE M:-- PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY REGION OF PERSONS IN THE LABOUR FORCE WITH SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL QUALIFICATIONS OF SUB-DEGREE LEVEL OR EQUIVALENT BY MAIN BRANCH OF SCIENCE.

Planning Region	Branch of Science in which sub-degree qualification is held					
	Agricultural sciences	Engineering and Technology	Medical and related sciences (incl. Pharmacy)	Social sciences (incl. Economics)	Natural sciences	Total
East	24.1	53.7	54.0	44.1	45.7	47.5
South West	22.5	13.9	12.9	19.8	17.6	16.0
South East	15.5	6.9	7.1	9.8	8.9	8.7
North East	6.2	4.0	3.4	4.0	4.4	4.3
Mid-West	10.4	9.3	6.2	7.6	6.3	8.6
Donegal	2.5	1.8	1.8	1.2	2.1	1.9
Midlands	8.8	3.5	4.6	3.6	4.2	4.5
West	6.9	5.3	7.3	7.8	8.1	6.3
North West	3.0	1.7	2.7	2.0	2.7	2.2
STATE	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-

The regional distributions of graduates and sub-degree level diploma holders in the various disciplines of science and technology are summarised in tables L and M respectively. There is a strong similarity in the regional pattern of employment of both graduates and diploma holders. The "East" region predominates, containing 39 per cent of the Labour Force but yet absorbing 53 per cent of the graduates and 48 per cent of the diploma holders in science and technology. Holders of qualifications in engineering were particularly strongly represented in the "East" region which accounted for 60 per cent of all graduates in engineering and 54 per cent of diploma holders in this discipline. The "East" region also contained a much greater proportion of the graduates in the "Social Sciences" (66 per cent) than its corresponding share of the General Labour Force (39 per cent). However this region did not dominate to the same extent in the case of graduates in "Medical and related sciences" while it contained proportionately less than its share of the total labour force in the case of "Agricultural Science Graduates".