



**Central Statistics Office**  
**An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh**

**Press Statement**  
**Preas Ráiteas**

**2006 Census – Volume 5 – Ethnic or Cultural Background**  
**(including the Irish Traveller Community)**

**Six out of ten of Irish Asian community living in Dublin**

A new question asked in the 2006 census revealed that of the 52,345 persons with Asian or Asian Irish ethnicity living in the State, 30,624 (or 58.5%) lived in Dublin in April 2006. Dublin also had the largest number of persons with Black or Black Irish ethnicity (21,132 persons) representing 47.7% of the relevant group at State level. This information is contained in *Census 2006 Volume 5 – Ethnic or Cultural Background (including the Irish Traveller Community)*, which gives further detailed results of the census conducted on 23 April 2006.

This report contains results relating to the ethnic or cultural background of persons usually resident in the State, including the Irish Traveller Community, and covers the main demographic and socio-economic topics distinguished in the census (see Editor's note).

**Louth has highest proportion of persons with Black or Black Irish ethnicity**

Louth had the highest proportion of persons with Black or Black Irish ethnicity with 2.2 per cent of its usually resident population in this category compared with a national average figure of 1.1 per cent.

**More than one in four persons with Black or Black Irish ethnicity born in Ireland**

28 per cent of persons with Black or Black Irish ethnicity living in the State at the time of the 2006 census were born in this country. The resultant age profile is therefore quite young with 34.9 per cent of persons with Black or Black Irish ethnicity aged less than 10 years compared with a national average figure of 14.1 per cent.

**Various ethnic populations mainly Catholic**

One in three persons with Black or Black Irish ethnicity was Catholic according to the results of the 2006 census with a further one in six Muslim. The predominant religion among the Asian or Asian Irish community was also Catholic (26%) followed by Muslim (22%).

**Younger age profile among Traveller Community**

Two out of every five Travellers were aged less than 15 years in 2006 compared with one in five for the population as a whole. Older Travellers (i.e. those aged 65 years and over) accounted for just 2.6 per cent of the total Traveller population compared with 11 per cent for the general population. The distinctive age structure of the Traveller Community resulted in a median age of 18 compared with a national figure of 33.

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## **Tuam has highest proportion of Travellers**

Of the towns with a population of 5,000 or more persons in April 2006, Tuam (7.7%) had the highest proportion of Irish Travellers. This was followed by Longford (4.6%), Birr (4.0%) and Ballinasloe (3.0%). Overall, the Irish Traveller population (22,435) represented 0.5 per cent of the Irish population at the time of the 2006 census.

## **Most Travellers live in permanent accommodation**

15,195 of the 22,002 Travellers residing in private households in 2006 lived in permanent accommodation. A further 5,489 lived in temporary accommodation while 1,318 did not indicate the type of accommodation they occupied. Four out of ten Travellers who responded to the question therefore lived in temporary accommodation.

## **Editor's note**

The publication *Census 2006 - Principal Demographic Results*, released on 29 March 2007, contains a summary at State level of data from Volumes 1 - 6, 9 and 13 of the detailed census reports. The publication released today, Volume 5, gives corresponding figures at a more detailed geographical level.

All published tables from Census 2006 are being made available on the CSO website ([www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)). Tables at Electoral Division, Local Electoral Area and small town level are being made available exclusively on the CSO web site.

## **For copies of the publication contact:**

Central Statistics Office, Information Section, Skehard Road, Cork 021 453 5011

or

Government Publications Sales Office, Sun Alliance House, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2.

Price: €15.00

Copies can also be downloaded from the CSO website (see address below).

## **For further information contact:**

Central Statistics Office, Swords Business Campus,  
Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin.  
Census Enquiries: (01) 895 1460/61/63/66  
Fax: (01) 895 1399  
E-mail: [census@cso.ie](mailto:census@cso.ie)  
Internet: [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)

*Central Statistics Office*

*26 July 2007*

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