

About Census 2022

The census is a key source of information for everyone in our country. It provides information in relation to who we are, what we do and how we live our daily lives. This in turn provides the knowledge that we all need to make decisions and plan for the future. The Census is used by people all over the country including the government, local authorities, businesses, local communities and students who use it for a wide variety of purposes.

What is the Census?

The census is a count, and account, of everybody in Ireland on Census Night. Everyone in the country on Census Night must be included on a census form.

When is the next Census?

Ireland's next census will take place on Sunday 3 April 2022. It was postponed from April 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Usually a census takes place every five years in Ireland. The most recent one was in 2016.

Who carries out the Census?

The census is organised by the Central Statistics Office (CSO). A temporary field staff of 5,600 people are hired to carry out the census.

Why do we have a Census?

The information that all of us provide create the census results. The census data is very important in planning where services such as healthcare, education, transport, housing, childcare, services for older people and other services are needed in our communities. The census data is free and available to everyone on the website www.cso.ie.

Is information that people provide secure?

Yes. CSO values and protects the information provided to us on census forms. The information is secure and protected by law. All staff involved in the Census are Officers of Statistics and are legally bound by the Statistics Act 1993 to protect the confidentiality of people's data. We are also GDPR compliant.

The CSO only publishes grouped anonymous data in the form of statistics. Your completed census form will be securely stored for 100 years, after which it will become publicly available.

What questions are asked on the Census 2022 form?

The census form will have 11 questions on the household and up to 33 questions on each person in the household. Some of the household questions are on when the building was built, how many rooms, car ownership, broadband etc.

The person questions include name, where we live, age, marital status, whether we are in school/college/work/other, how we travel there, citizenship, ethnic group, speaking Irish and so on.

Are there any new questions on the Census 2022 form?

There will be eight new questions on the Census 2022 form (PDF). These are questions on renewable energy heating sources, internet access and devices, smoke alarms, smoking, working from home, volunteering, childcare, travelling home from work, school or college. There will also be a brand-new feature called a 'Time Capsule'.

What is the 'Time Capsule'?

For the first time ever, Census 2022 will include a "Time Capsule" section. This is a new space on the census form which will allow people to write a message. This can be anything that they choose and will remain stored securely for 100 years after which it will be made publicly available.

How do people take part in Census 2022?

A census enumerator will visit your home between late February and 3 April 2022 to deliver a census form. They will return to collect the completed form between 4 April and early May 2022. They will be able to answer any questions about the form and the census. All census enumerators will carry CSO/Census 2022 ID cards.

Is the Census compulsory?

Yes. Everybody present in the country on Census Night must be included.

How can I find out more?

More information will be available on the census next year on the census.ie website. There will also be resources for schools so that students can learn about the census.

There are census results available to see on the CSO website

<https://www.cso.ie/en/census/>

Infographics can be seen here

<https://www.cso.ie/en/interactivezone/visualisationtools/infographics/census/>

Census 2022 Time Capsule

The Census 2022 household form has a new feature – the Time Capsule. The Time Capsule is a new space at the end of the census form which will give people the chance to leave a message – if they wish – for descendants / future generations / historians. The message can be about anything they want, to anyone they want. Like the rest of the census form, the message will remain confidential until all of the Census 2022 forms are released to the public in 2122. The Time Capsule is **completely voluntary**, and it is entirely up to people to decide if wish to write a message or not.

It also helps us to understand our past. The availability of old census returns from 1901 and 1911 on the National Archives website has been hugely popular with Irish people all over the world, who want to find out about their ancestors and about how we as a nation lived at the start of the last century. The availability of these returns provides us with endless opportunities to study and analyse our past, to view the development of our society at a national or local level over time, to view trends and to gain an appreciation of our past.

A message to the future

Can you picture historians, descendants and future generations, in one hundred years' time, reading the messages that we will put on our census forms? What insights will they get about our lives in 2022? Will they feel a strong connection with us, as we do now when we look up the individual census records from 1901 and 1911?

Census and history

The census, while helping us to plan for the future, is also a strong record of our past. The [results](#) may just seem like numbers on a page, yet these numbers paint pictures of what life was like in Ireland in the 1920's, 30's, 40's, 50's up to the present day. Comparing the censuses shows us how peoples' lives and society has changed over time. The census form that we complete in 2022 will become a historical document, with the added personal dimension of a time capsule to record our messages for future generations to see. It is interesting to realise that these census forms, which help us to plan for the future, will also become a historical record of our past.

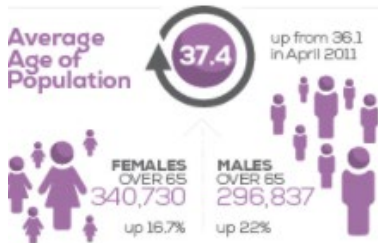
So why not start the conversation with your friends, your family, your colleagues with, "What will you put in the census time capsule?". What do the children want to say? Will there be discussions around the dinner table and at school? Whatever you decide to write (or not write as this is a voluntary part of census form, the only part!) imagine a person reading it in 2122 and connecting with you and/or your family and wondering what life was like for you.

[The Census forms from 1901 and 1911 are freely available here](#). They provide a glimpse into the lives of the people then. Your form will be equally important and interesting to your descendants when it is made publicly available in 100 years.

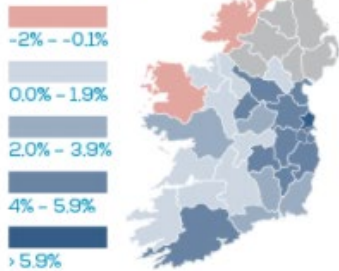
Some Results from 2016



CENSUS 2016 SUMMARY RESULTS - PART 1



Population Change by County 2011-2016



Non Irish Nationals are 11.6% of the population

or 535,475 persons, down from 12% in 2011 (544,357)

Dual Irish Nationality is 104,784

up from 55,905 in 2011 an increase of 87.4%

Broadband 71% (1.2 million) of households have broadband from 64% in 2011

76.2% urban households have broadband
61.1% rural households have broadband

No Internet Connection 18% of households (312,982 households)

People with no Religion 468,400

up from 269,800 in 2011 an increase of 73.6%

Overseas Visitors on Census Night 71,944 persons

UK	30%
USA	16%
France	7.7%
Germany	6.4%

Average Household Size 2.75 persons

up from 2.73 in 2011



CENSUS 2016 Commuting in Ireland



COMMUTING TO WORK

28.2 minutes
Average travel time of commuting workers
(26.6 minutes in 2011)

1,875,773
Workers commuting
↑ up 11%

1,229,966
commuted by car
↑ up 8%

175,080
walking commuters
↑ up 3%

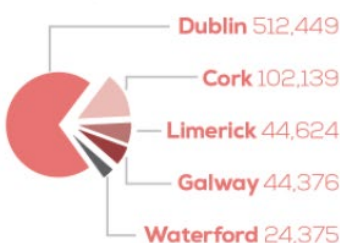
174,569
public transport users
↑ up 21%

56,837
cycling commuters
↑ up 43%

Cross Border Commuters



Working in the City



STUDENT COMMUTING

Primary Students	60%	10%	24%
Secondary Students	43%	28%	21%
Third-level Students	34%	24%	26%

Modes of Transport Used



IRISH LANGUAGE



1,761,420 people
(aged 3+ years)
could speak Irish
(39.8% of the
population)

↓ down 13,017
since April 2011

♀ Females
968,777

♂ Males
792,643

Speaking Irish (frequency)

111,473
weekly speakers
of which
5.6% lived in
Gaeltacht areas

↑ up
831
since
2011

↑ up
8,612
since
2006

558,608
daily speakers
(within education)
of which
2.7% lived in
Gaeltacht areas

↑ up
35,864
since
2011

↑ up
102,768
since
2006

73,803
daily speakers
(outside education)
of which
27.9% lived in
Gaeltacht areas

↓ down
3,382
since
2011

↑ up
1,655
since
2006

Daily Irish Speakers (outside education)

Top 3 towns over 10,000

Letterkenny	2.9%
Maynooth	2.3%
Leixlip	2.0%

Top 3 Gaeltacht towns

Mín Lárach	73.3%
Rann na Feirste	66.6%
An Cheathrú Rua	61.6%

OCCUPATIONS

**Top 5 occupations
of daily Irish speakers
in Gaeltacht regions**

A B C Primary and
nursery teachers

Tractor Farmers

Books Secondary
teachers

People Other
administrative

Keyboard Retail and
cashiers

EDUCATION

42.0%
of people
had a
third level education
compared with 13.6% in 1991

Third level was the
**highest level
of education**
attained by



aged 15 to 39
56.2%
of persons
had a
**third level
qualification**
compared to
aged 65+ with 18.9%

♀ Females
43.2%

♂ Males
40.7%



Ph.D.

28,759 (1.0%)
persons
had a Ph.D.
compared with
14,412 in 2006
↑ Up
99.5%
since
April 2006

Third level by county

Highest
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown
61.1%

Lowest
Longford
& Wexford
32.5%

IRISH LANGUAGE



96,090 persons
living in
Gaeltacht areas
of these
63,664 or 66.3%
could speak Irish

	Number	% of the population
Persons able to speak Irish	1,761,420	39.8
of which:		
Spoke Irish within the education system	558,608	31.7
Spoke Irish Daily*	73,803	4.2
Spoke Irish Weekly*	111,473	6.3
Spoke Irish less often*	586,535	33.3
Never Spoke Irish	418,420	23.8
Not Stated	12,581	0.7

*Outside the education system

Census 2022 Ten Things to know about the Census



History of the Census

The next census will be the 26th census since 1841. Take a look at how the population has changed over the years.

Year	Total Population
1841	6,528,799
1851	5,111,557
1861	4,402,111
1871	4,053,187
1881	3,870,020
1891	3,468,694
1901	3,221,823
1911	3,139,688
1926	2,971,992
1936	2,968,420

1946	2,955,107
1951	2,960,593
1956	2,898,264
1961	2,818,341
1966	2,884,002
1971	2,978,248
1979	3,368,217
1981	3,443,405
1986	3,540,643
1991	3,525,719
1996	3,626,087
2002	3,917,203
2006	4,239,848
2011	4,588,252
2016	4,761,865