



An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh Central Statistics Office

Preasráiteas Press Statement

Report on Vital Statistics 2014

The CSO today (27th October 2016) released the Report on Vital Statistics 2014.

The number of births continues to fall with a decrease of 10.5% on 2010 figures

**Average age of mothers continues to rise;
in 2014 the average age of mothers was 32.4 years**

Over a third (36.2%) of all births were outside marriage/civil partnership in 2014

Cancer and heart disease are the biggest causes of death in Ireland

Commenting on the report Carol Anne Hennessy statistician said: "The number of births has fallen by 10.5% since 2010 and 2.4% since 2013. There were 67,295 live births in Ireland in 2014 with 34,681 males and 32,614 females. However, the 2014 total is 8.6% higher than 10 years previously (2004) when there were 61,972 live births.

The average age of mothers for births that occurred in 2014 was 32.4 years. Mothers under 30 accounted for almost a third (30.2%) of births in 2014 compared with ten years previously (2004) when mothers under 30 accounted for 45.6% of births.

Over 1 in three (36.2%) of all births were outside of marriage/civil partnership in 2014. The comparable figure, 30 years earlier, in 1984 was 8%.

The number of maternities in 2014 which resulted in multiple live births was 1,257 consisting of 1,231 sets of twins, 24 sets of triplets and 2 set of quadruplets. Over the past 20 years, the twinning rate has increased significantly – from 11.7 in 1991 to a high of 18.7 in 2013 and down slightly to 18.6 in 2014.

There were 29,252 deaths in Ireland in 2014, a decrease of 252 on the 2013 figure. There were 9,022 or 30.8% of deaths attributed to malignant neoplasms, 8,852 or 30.3% of deaths were attributed to diseases of the circulatory system while deaths from diseases of the respiratory system in 2014 numbered 3,492 or 11.9% of all deaths.

1.7% (486) of all deaths were due to suicide in 2014, 82.1% (399) of which were male.

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There were 224 deaths of infants aged less than one year in 2014 giving an infant mortality rate of 3.3 deaths per 1,000 live births compared with 3.6 in 2013. Neonatal deaths are deaths of infants at ages under 4 weeks. There were 158 neonatal deaths registered in 2014, a neonatal mortality rate of 2.3 deaths per 1,000 live births. Around a third (33.0%) of all infant deaths occurred within the first day of birth while 53.6% occurred within the first week. Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities accounted for 42.9% of infant deaths in 2014.

The natural increase (births minus deaths) in 2014 was 38,043, a decrease of almost 3.6% on the 2013 figure. The natural increase 10 years previously in 2004 was 33,307, almost 12.5% less than the 2014 figure.”

Link to electronic version of the [Report on Vital Statistics 2014](#)

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