

# CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1961.

## VOLUME VII. - RELIGIONS AND BIRTHPLACES

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### EXPLANATORY NOTES.

This volume contains detailed classifications of the total population and the populations of different areas according to religious denomination and birthplace, based on the information which was collected at the Census of Population taken on the night of 9 April, 1961.

#### PART I - RELIGIONS.

The column on the Census Schedule in which information on this topic was furnished was headed simply "Religion - state particular denomination", and no further notes or instructions were given. The Census Enumerators were instructed not to insist on the completion of this section of the form in cases where householders were reluctant to give the required information and the result has been that no statement of religion was obtained in respect of 5,625 persons (or 0.2 per cent of the total population). Classifications are given in respect of the following religious denominations:- Catholic, Church of Ireland, Presbyterian, Methodist, Jewish and Baptist. The content of the tables differs little from that in the corresponding volume of the 1946 Census, although the arrangement has in some cases been altered to make the tables easier to read. The heading "Protestant Episcopalian", which was used at earlier Censuses, has been replaced by "Church of Ireland", this being the description appearing on the great majority of the Census Schedules concerned. "Anglican" and "Church of England" are included under this heading.

#### PART II - BIRTHPLACES.

The relevant column on the Census Schedule was headed "Place of birth - County if born in Ireland, Country if born elsewhere". The section of the Schedule under this heading for each individual was divided into Parts (a) and (b), and the person completing the form was referred to the following instruction on the back of the form:-

"If born in Ireland, write the name of the county of birth at (a) and leave (b) blank. (If born in hospital, give county of residence of mother, not location of hospital).

If born outside Ireland, write the name of the country of birth at (a) and state the year in which the person took up residence in Ireland at (b) or, if a visitor, write "visitor" at (b)".

In the case of persons born in Ireland no attempt was made to distinguish those born in the county boroughs from those born in the adjoining counties. Such a distinction would, in any case, have been meaningless in view of the various extensions of county borough boundaries which, in many cases, may have meant that a person's birthplace was outside a county borough boundary when he was born, but inside it at the date of the Census. Similarly, some of those persons born abroad were born in areas affected by subsequent changes in national boundaries. Such persons tend to give the name of the country of their birth as it was at the time they were born, rather than to give its present name. Thus the information contained in this volume on foreign-born persons simply represents a summary of the replies received to the above question, and not an accurate assignment of those persons to birthplace by reference to up-to-date national boundaries.

It should be noted that the figures for foreign-born persons shown in the tables throughout this Volume include visitors to the country as well as persons who are normally resident. Visitors are shown separately in Tables 10 and 11.