

## COMMENTARY

## CHANGES IN AGE DISTRIBUTION

In Table 1A of this Report, the total population of the State at each Census 1926 to 1966 is shown, classified by five-year age group and conjugal condition, while in Tables 1B and 1C similar classifications are given for males and females. The figures for broad age groups are summarised in the following table:-

TABLE I:- POPULATION IN CERTAIN AGE GROUPS - 1926 TO 1966.  
(Thousands)

Age group	Population						Percentage change	
	1926	1936	1946	1951	1961	1966	1926-1966 (40 years)	1961-1966 (5 years)
Persons								
0 - 14 years	867.9	820.4	823.0	854.8	877.3	900.4	+ 3.7	+ 2.6
15 - 29 "	741.8	739.6	691.0	641.8	537.2	594.0	- 19.9	+ 10.6
30 - 44 "	528.1	538.6	562.2	572.8	489.9	464.3	- 12.1	- 5.2
45 - 64 "	562.5	583.1	564.6	574.8	598.9	602.4	+ 7.1	+ 0.6
65 and over	271.7	286.7	314.3	316.4	315.1	323.0	+ 18.9	+ 2.5
Total persons	2,972.0	2,968.4	2,955.1	2,960.6	2,818.3	2,884.0	- 3.0	+ 2.3
Males								
0 - 14 years	441.8	416.4	419.0	436.4	448.7	459.4	+ 4.0	+ 2.4
15 - 29 "	377.2	386.1	350.0	330.7	273.0	303.1	- 19.7	+ 11.0
30 - 44 "	265.9	274.6	285.7	292.7	241.7	231.2	- 13.0	- 4.3
45 - 64 "	293.5	302.4	284.7	291.7	303.8	305.4	+ 4.1	+ 0.5
65 and over	128.6	140.9	155.6	155.0	149.3	149.9	+ 16.6	+ 0.4
Total persons	1,506.9	1,520.5	1,494.9	1,506.6	1,416.5	1,449.0	- 3.8	+ 2.3
Females								
0 - 14 years	426.1	404.0	404.0	418.4	428.5	441.0	+ 3.5	+ 2.9
15 - 29 "	364.6	353.5	341.0	311.1	264.2	290.9	- 20.2	+ 10.1
30 - 44 "	262.2	264.0	276.5	280.1	248.2	233.0	- 11.1	- 6.1
45 - 64 "	269.0	280.7	280.0	283.1	295.2	297.0	+ 10.4	+ 0.6
65 and over	143.1	145.8	158.7	161.4	165.8	173.1	+ 20.9	+ 4.4
Total persons	1,465.1	1,448.0	1,460.2	1,454.0	1,401.8	1,435.0	- 2.1	+ 2.4

Between 1961 and 1966, when the total population increased by 66,000 or 2.3 percent the number of children under 15 years rose by 23,000 or 2.6 percent and the number of persons in the 15 to 29 year age group showed a very substantial increase of 57,000 or 10.6 percent. A fall of 26,000 or 5.2 percent occurred in the numbers in the 30 to 44 year age group, while slight increases occurred in both the 45 to 64 year and 65 year and over groups. The pattern of increases and decreases between 1961 and 1966 was broadly similar for males and females except that, at ages 65 years and over, the number of females showed a considerably greater increase than that of males. The distributions of the population by age groups in 1961 and 1966 are illustrated in the form of "population pyramids" in DIAGRAMS 1 AND 2.

Over the forty-year period, 1926 to 1966, when the total population declined by 3.0 percent very substantial falls occurred in the numbers of young adults, amounting to 19.9 percent in the 15 to 29 year age group and 12.1 percent in the 30 to 44 year age group. On the other hand considerable increases occurred in the older age groups, namely 7.1 percent in the 45 to 64 year group and 18.9 percent in the 65 year and over group. The number of children under 14 years was slightly higher (3.7 percent) in 1966 than 1926, having fallen sharply between 1926 and 1936 and risen steadily subsequent to 1936. The percentage changes for each five-year age group for each intercensal period from 1946 are given in Table 3 while Table 4 gives the corresponding average annual rates of change.

The effect of the changing numbers in the different age groups on the overall percentage distribution by age is shown in TABLE II.

TABLE II:- PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION IN CERTAIN AGE GROUPS - 1926 TO 1966.

Year	0 - 14 years	15 - 44 years	45 - 64 years	65 years and over	"Dependent" Groups, 0 - 14 years and 65 years and over
1926	29.2	42.8	18.9	9.1	38.3
1936	27.6	43.1	19.6	9.7	37.3
1946	27.9	42.4	19.1	10.6	38.5
1951	28.9	41.0	19.4	10.7	39.6
1961	31.1	36.4	21.3	11.2	42.3
1966	31.2	36.7	20.9	11.2	42.4

DIAGRAM 1. DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGES, 1961.

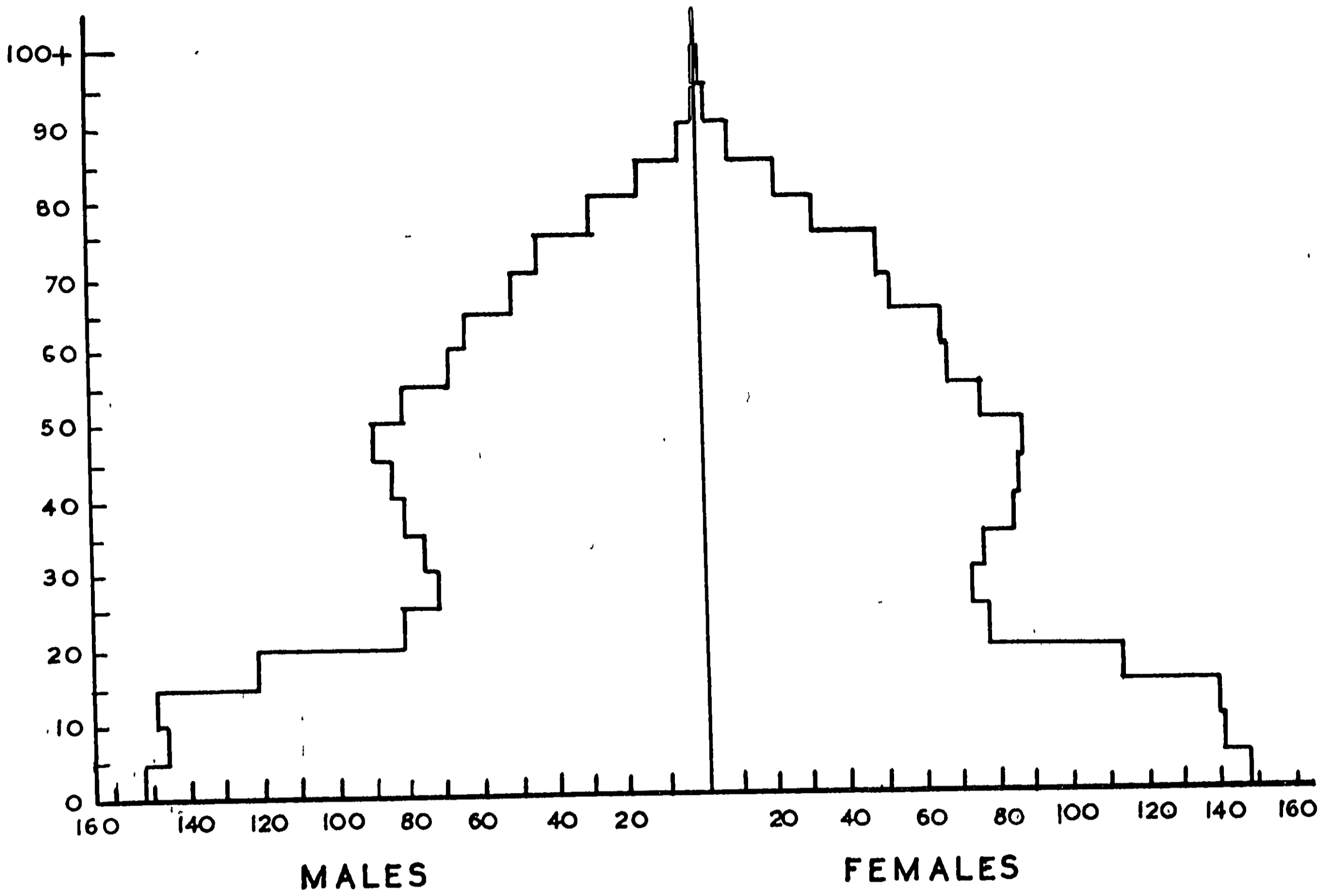
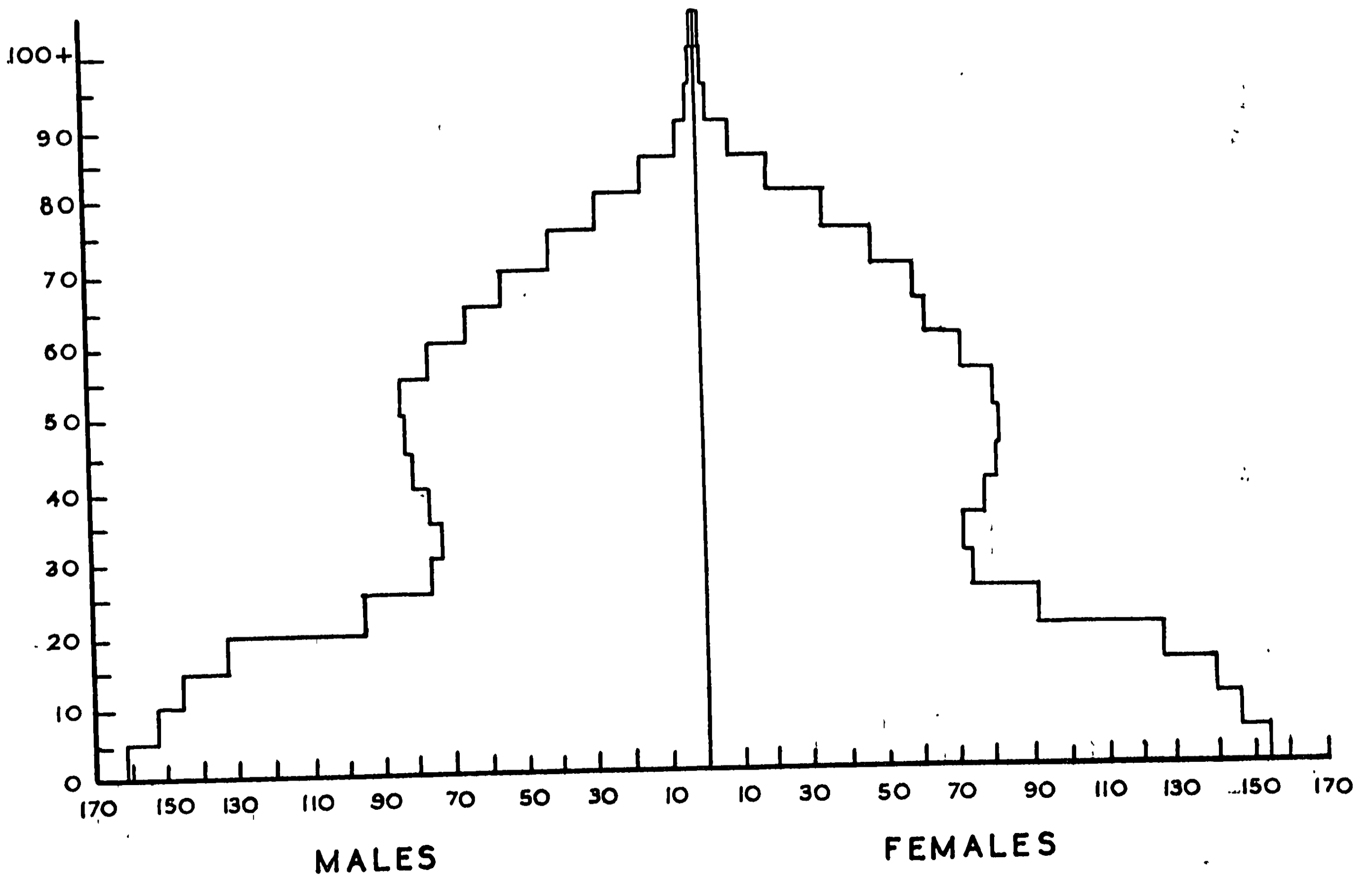


DIAGRAM 2. DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGES, 1966.



Between 1926 and 1961 young adults (i.e. those in the 15 to 44 year group) represented a decreasing proportion of the total population while the proportions in the 45 to 64 and 65 year and over groups increased. The proportion in the 15 to 44 year group rose very slightly between 1961 and 1966 due, as will be seen from a later section of this Commentary, to a reduced rate of emigration of young adults in this period. Children under 15 years represented an increasing proportion of the total population at each Census since that of 1936. The final column of TABLE II shows the dependency ratio, i.e. the numbers in the "dependent" age groups 0 to 14 years and 65 years and over as a proportion of the total population. The proportion in the dependent groups has risen fairly substantially over the forty-year period, from 38.3 percent in 1926 to 42.4 percent in 1966.

#### AGE DISTRIBUTION BY AREA

Considerable differences exist in the distribution of the population by age within different areas of the country. TABLE III, which follows (derived from Table 16), compares the age distributions in Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas, while the distributions of the population by age groups in Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas are illustrated in DIAGRAMS 3 AND 4.

TABLE III:- PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION IN AGE GROUPS FOR AGGREGATE TOWN AND AGGREGATE RURAL AREAS, 1966.

Age group	Persons		Males		Females	
	Aggregate Town Areas	Aggregate Rural Areas	Aggregate Town Areas	Aggregate Rural Areas	Aggregate Town Areas	Aggregate Rural Areas
0 - 14 years	32.2	30.2	34.5	29.3	30.2	31.3
15 - 44 "	39.8	33.6	39.7	34.4	40.0	32.8
45 - 64 "	18.9	22.9	18.3	23.5	19.4	22.1
65 and over	9.1	13.3	7.6	12.8	10.4	13.8
Total	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-

It will be seen that the rural population contains much the higher proportion of persons in the upper age groups. Thus 36.2 percent of persons in the rural areas were aged 45 years or over compared with 28.0 percent in town areas. The age distribution in each County and County Borough (derived from Table 12) is shown in TABLE IV.

TABLE IV:- PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION IN AGE GROUPS, FOR EACH PROVINCE, COUNTY AND COUNTY BOROUGH, 1966.

Province, County or County Borough	Age group				"Dependent" Groups, 0-14 years and 65 years and over
	0-14 years	15-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over	
<b>Leinster:</b>					
Carlow	33.4	35.6	19.9	11.1	44.5
Dublin County Borough	31.2	41.3	18.8	8.6	39.9
Dun Laoghaire Borough	27.9	38.8	21.7	11.7	39.5
Dublin*	36.3	41.4	16.3	6.1	42.4
Kildare	34.1	38.5	19.1	8.4	42.5
Kilkenny	31.6	34.8	21.6	12.0	43.6
Laoighis	31.8	35.0	21.4	11.8	43.6
Longford	30.3	33.5	23.0	13.2	43.5
Louth	32.1	38.7	19.6	9.6	41.7
Meath	33.1	35.9	20.5	10.4	43.6
Offaly	33.7	35.7	19.8	10.8	44.5
Westmeath	32.9	35.0	20.1	12.0	44.9
Wexford	32.0	34.8	21.4	11.9	43.8
Wicklow	31.9	36.9	20.6	10.5	42.5
<b>Munster:</b>					
Clare	28.3	34.2	23.0	14.5	42.8
Cork County Borough	32.1	39.3	19.3	9.4	41.4
Cork	29.4	35.0	22.8	12.8	42.2
Kerry	29.3	33.1	24.2	13.5	42.8
Limerick County Borough	34.6	39.1	18.0	8.2	42.9
Limerick	30.8	34.6	22.6	12.0	42.8
Tipperary, N.R.	31.2	35.4	21.4	12.1	43.3
Tipperary, S.R.	32.4	34.4	21.6	11.6	44.0
Waterford County Borough	31.9	39.9	18.4	9.8	41.7
Waterford	30.0	34.5	22.3	13.2	43.2
<b>Connacht:</b>					
Galway	30.9	34.5	21.7	12.9	43.8
Leitrim	26.9	30.7	25.6	16.8	43.7
Mayo	29.8	31.6	23.4	15.3	45.0
Roscommon	28.8	31.5	23.8	15.8	44.7
Sligo	29.2	32.9	23.6	14.4	43.6
<b>Ulster (part of):</b>					
Cavan	29.5	33.0	23.4	14.1	43.6
Donegal	29.1	33.4	23.4	14.1	43.3
Monaghan	29.7	34.3	23.2	12.8	42.6

\* Excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough.

DIAGRAM 3:- DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGE GROUP IN THE AGGREGATE TOWN AREA, 1966.

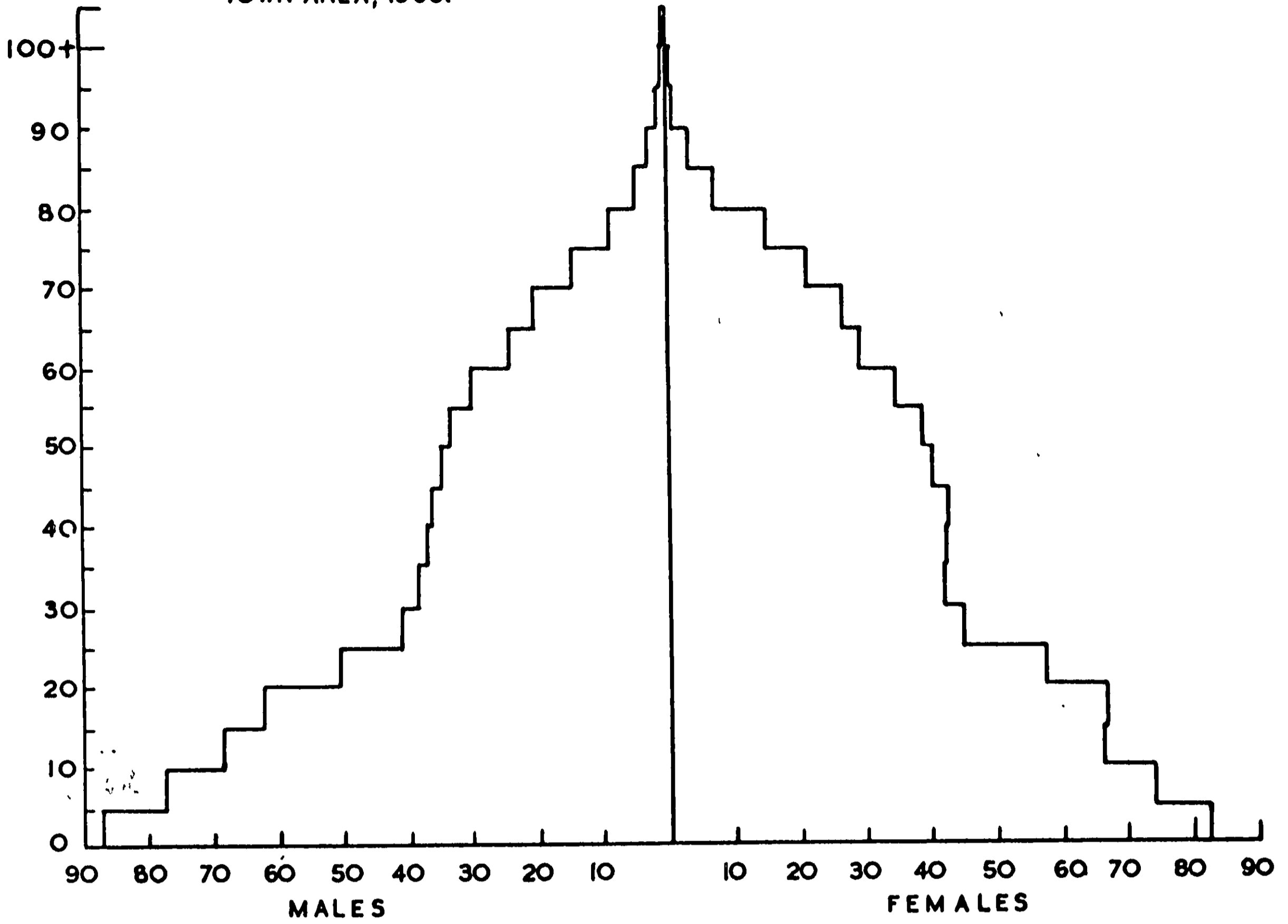
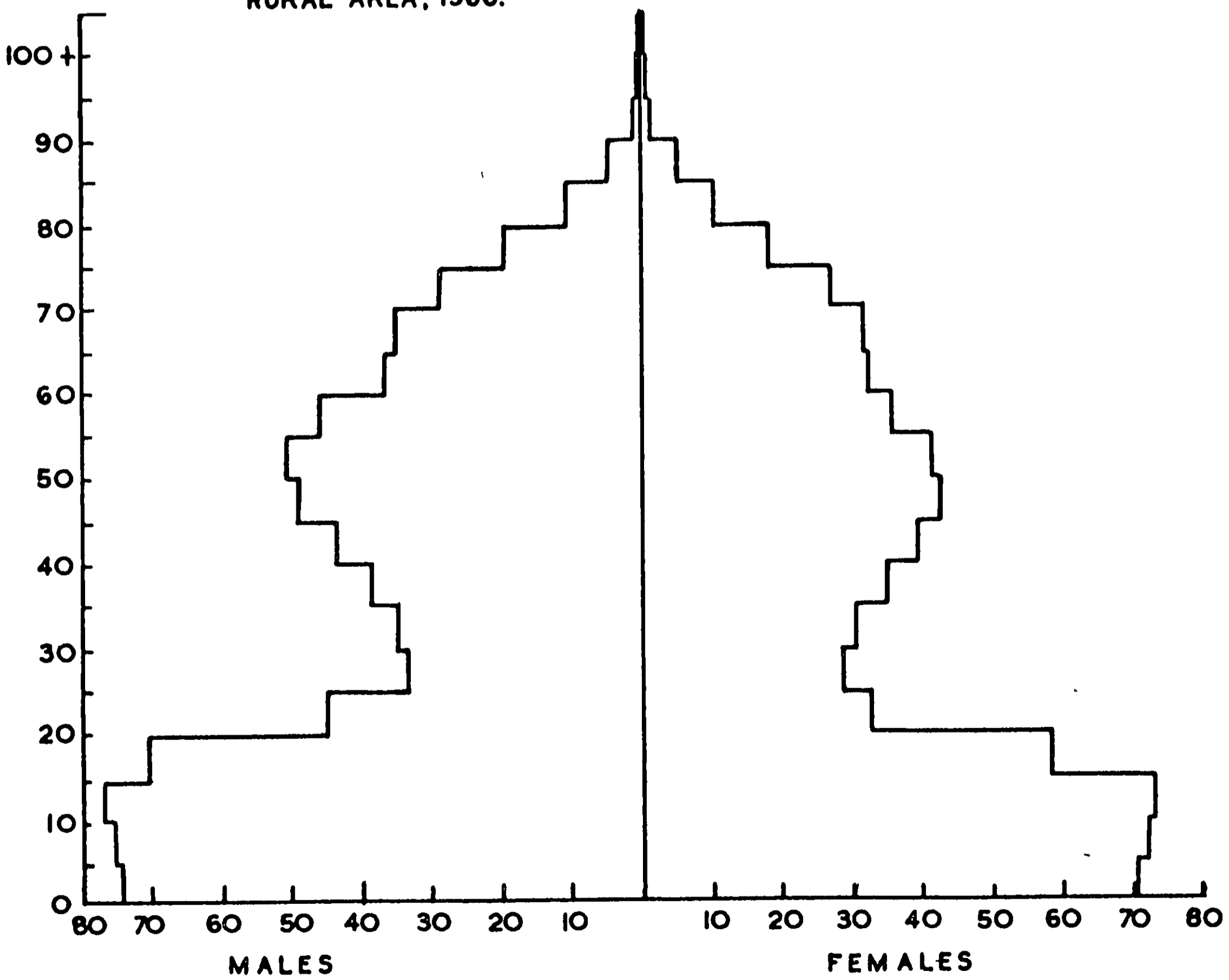


DIAGRAM 4:- DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGE GROUP IN THE AGGREGATE RURAL AREA, 1966.



The highest proportion of children under 14 years occurred in Dublin County (excluding Dun Laoghaire Borough), followed by Limerick County Borough, Kildare, Offaly and Carlow. The lowest proportion of children occurred in Dun Laoghaire Borough, followed by Leitrim, Clare, Roscommon and Donegal. In the case of persons 65 years and over the proportions were highest in Leitrim, Roscommon, Mayo, Clare and Sligo and lowest in Dublin County (excluding Dun Laoghaire), Limerick County Borough, Kildare, Dublin County Borough and Cork County Borough.

TABLE IV also shows the numbers in the "dependent" age groups, i.e. under 14 years and 65 years and over, as a percentage of the total. The highest proportion in the dependent groups occurred in Mayo, Westmeath, Roscommon, Carlow and Offaly. The areas having the lowest percentage in the dependent age groups were the Borough of Dun Laoghaire and Dublin County Borough, followed by Cork County Borough, Waterford County Borough and Louth.

### THE SEX RATIO

At each Census there has been an excess of males in the population as a whole. However the number of females per 1,000 males varies between the different age groups. The ratios are compared in TABLE V for each Census since 1926 and for Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas. It should be noted that the Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas referred to here are as defined at the dates of the respective Censuses. It is not possible, owing to changes in town boundaries, to ensure that the figures for the different years relate to identical areas (see Volume I, page xlii).

TABLE V:- FEMALES PER 1,000 MALES - 1926 TO 1966.

Year	All ages	0-14 years	15-29 years	30-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
	Total					
1926	972	965	967	986	917	1,113
1936	952	970	916	961	928	1,034
1946	977	964	974	968	984	1,020
1951	965	959	941	957	971	1,041
1961	990	955	967	1,027	972	1,110
1966	990	960	960	1,008	972	1,154
	Aggregate Town Areas					
1926	1,103	994	1,135	1,136	1,097	1,461
1936	1,110	994	1,188	1,104	1,105	1,395
1946	1,169	987	1,279	1,218	1,210	1,373
1951	1,119	975	1,153	1,171	1,163	1,385
1961	1,124	966	1,150	1,186	1,180	1,476
1966	1,103	966	1,106	1,118	1,173	1,522
	Aggregate Rural Areas					
1926	916	952	884	913	850	1,031
1936	874	956	777	881	852	934
1946	875	950	807	836	876	906
1951	868	947	782	825	863	910
1961	887	945	801	901	840	939
1966	892	954	809	902	837	964

The number of females per 1,000 males in the State in 1966 was 990, the same figure as in 1961. Decreases in the female/male ratio at ages 15-29 years and 15-44 years were offset by increases at ages 0-14 years and 65 years and over. Between 1961 and 1966 the female/male ratio decreased slightly in the Aggregate Town Areas and increased slightly in the Aggregate Rural Areas. In Aggregate Town Areas there was some reduction in the female/male ratio at ages from 15 to 64 years but at ages 65 years and over the number of females per 1,000 males rose substantially, attaining the very high value of 1,522 in 1966.

In the case of the Aggregate Town Areas, the total number of females per 1,000 males in 1966 was 1,103-the same as it was in 1926. A fall in the female/male ratio over the forty-year period at ages 0-14 years was balanced by an increase in this ratio at ages above 45 years, little change occurring at ages between 15 and 44 years. The female/male ratio for all ages showed a decline between 1926 and 1966 in the Aggregate Rural Areas, this fall being mainly concentrated in the age groups 15-29 years and 65 years and over.

### CONJUGAL CONDITIONS

The numbers of persons, males and females classified by age group and conjugal condition at Censuses from 1926 to 1966 are shown in Tables 1A, 1B and 1C. The totals from these tables for males and females aged 15 and over are summarised in TABLE VI which follows:-

**TABLE VI:- NUMBER OF MALES AND FEMALES DISTINGUISHING SINGLE, MARRIED AND WIDOWED - 1926 TO 1966.**

Conjugal condition	Population (thousands)						Percentage change (+ = inc: - = dec.)	
	1926	1936	1946	1951	1961	1966	1926 - 1966 (40 years)	1961 - 1966 (5 years)
	Males							
Single	598.6	627.3	592.4	565.9	468.4	471.6	- 21.2	+ 0.7
Married	407.5	418.1	424.9	448.8	453.6	477.4	+ 17.2	+ 5.2
Widowed	59.1	58.7	58.5	55.5	45.8	40.7	- 31.2	- 11.2
Total aged 15 years and over	1,065.1	1,104.0	1,075.9	1,070.2	967.8	989.6	- 7.1	+ 2.3
	Females							
Single	487.7	492.6	474.0	443.1	378.6	379.4	- 22.2	+ 0.2
Married	416.6	424.6	451.3	464.1	468.2	488.7	+ 17.3	+ 4.4
Widowed	134.7	126.8	130.8	128.5	126.4	125.9	- 6.6	- 0.4
Total aged 15 years and over	1,039.0	1,044.0	1,056.2	1,035.6	973.3	994.0	- 4.3	+ 2.1

It will be seen that a steady increase occurred over the forty-year period in the number of married males and females, there being 17.2 percent more married males and 17.3 percent more married females in the State in 1966 than in 1926 despite the fall of 3.0 percent in the total population in that period. At each Census the number of married females slightly exceeded that of married males, the excess being greatest in 1946. The number of widowed males showed a considerable decline since 1926, most of this decline occurring in the years after 1951 and amounting to 31.2 percent over the forty-year period. A fall also occurred in the number of widowed females, amounting to 6.6 percent between 1926 and 1966. The numbers single tended to decline throughout the period, reaching their lowest level in 1961, but showing a very slight increase from 1961 to 1966.

The percentages single within certain age groups in 1966 and at earlier Censuses are compared in TABLE VII. In this case comparisons over an extended period are of interest and the figures insofar as they are available are shown back to the year 1841.

**TABLE VII:- PERCENTAGE SINGLE IN CERTAIN AGE GROUPS - 1841 TO 1966.**

Year	Age group						
	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 and over
<b>MALES:</b>							
1841	/	/	43.3*	15.4*	10.0*	/	/
1851	/	/	60.7	20.9	11.6	/	/
1861	99.8	91.9	56.8	23.9	14.3	11.1	11.7
1871	99.8	92.6	57.3	25.5	16.4	12.7	12.2
1881	99.9	94.1	62.0	27.1	16.4	13.4	12.0
1891	99.9	95.8	67.3	33.0	19.7	15.6	13.8
1901	99.9	96.3	71.8	38.3	23.8	18.2	15.5
1911	99.9	96.6	74.5	44.5	28.6	22.7	17.7
1926	99.9	96.0	71.7	45.0	31.4	26.2	20.5
1936	99.9	96.2	73.8	44.2	33.5	28.2	23.6
1946	99.8	95.0	70.4	43.0	32.1	30.0	25.4
1951	99.9	94.9	67.4	40.5	31.0	28.8	26.6
1961	99.8	92.5	58.0	36.2	29.7	28.1	26.7
1966	99.7	89.6	49.8	33.4	29.1	27.7	26.8
<b>FEMALES:</b>							
1841	/	/	28.0*	14.7*	11.7*	/	/
1851	/	/	39.1	15.2	11.4	/	/
1861	97.8	76.2	39.1	18.5	13.5	13.3	13.5
1871	98.1	77.7	38.2	19.8	15.2	13.4	14.3
1881	98.8	82.5	41.2	19.2	15.5	13.7	13.7
1891	99.2	86.0	48.1	23.1	16.6	15.8	15.3
1901	99.4	88.0	52.9	27.8	20.0	17.3	17.4
1911	99.5	88.4	55.5	31.0	24.0	20.8	18.5
1926	99.3	87.0	52.6	29.5	23.9	23.6	19.8
1936	99.1	86.4	54.8	30.2	25.1	23.7	22.7
1946	98.4	82.5	48.3	30.0	25.6	24.4	23.3
1951	98.9	82.3	45.6	27.6	25.7	24.7	23.7
1961	98.9	78.2	37.1	22.7	23.1	25.0	24.3
1966	98.4	74.8	31.0	20.4	20.8	24.4	24.8

\* Age groupings for 1841 were 26-35, 36-45, 46-55 and 56 and over.

/ Particulars not available.



In recent years very considerable reductions have occurred in the percentages single in the younger age groups. Thus for males aged 25 to 34 years the percentage single fell from 73.8 in 1936 to 49.8 in 1966 while for females in this age group the corresponding percentage fell from 54.8 to 31.0. In the 45 to 54 year age group the percentage of males who were single dropped from 33.5 in 1936 to 29.1 in 1966, while for females the corresponding figures were 25.1 and 20.8 percent. In the 55 to 64 year group, however, there was little change in the percentages single between 1936 and 1966, while in the 65 year and over group the percentages single showed a rise from 1936 to 1966. It will be noted that, in the case of females, the percentage single in the 65 year and over group was somewhat greater in 1966 than the figures for the age groups 35 to 64 years.

Comparable figures are not available for all age groups over the entire period 1841 to 1966. It may be seen, however, that in the case of males in the 25 to 34 year group the proportion single showed a sharp increase between 1841 and 1851, rising, in 1911, to a peak of 74.5 percent and subsequently tending to decline, the 1966 figure of 49.8 percent being the lowest observed since 1841. Similar remarks apply in the case of the 25 to 34 year group for females. In the later age groups, despite the reductions in percentages single in recent years, these percentages, in 1966, remained considerably above their level a century earlier.

The percentages single for males and females in the age groups 25 to 34 years and 55 to 64 years are illustrated in DIAGRAM 5.

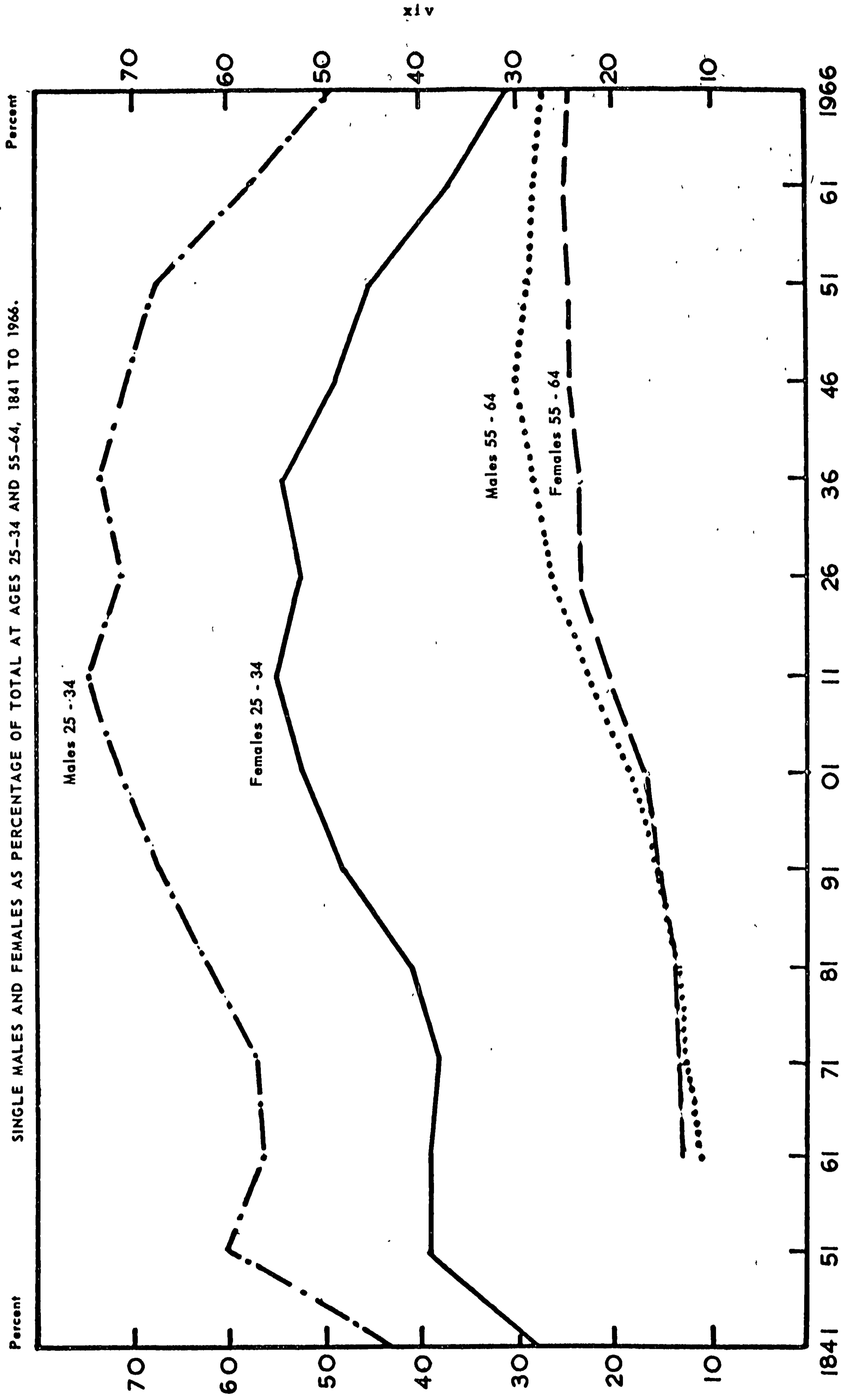
The trends between 1926 and 1966, in the percentages single in the various age groups in the Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas are shown in TABLE VIII.

TABLE VIII:- PERCENTAGE SINGLE IN EACH AGE GROUP IN AGGREGATE TOWN AND AGGREGATE RURAL AREAS - 1926 TO 1966.

	Age group									
	Total 15 years and over	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 and over
<b>MALES:</b>										
<b>Aggregate Town Areas</b>										
1926	52.8	99.9	92.8	67.6	46.4	35.3	30.7	25.4	22.7	21.0
1936	51.6	99.9	93.0	71.0	47.9	33.5	27.8	25.4	23.9	22.8
1946	49.3	99.7	91.8	68.3	45.4	32.2	25.7	22.9	23.5	23.7
1951	48.0	99.8	92.5	66.4	42.2	30.0	23.9	21.4	21.5	24.2
1961	42.6	99.7	89.1	53.9	33.2	24.4	20.9	19.6	20.4	23.7
1966	42.2	99.5	85.8	46.5	27.4	22.4	19.8	18.7	19.3	23.2
<b>Aggregate Rural Areas</b>										
1926	57.6	100.0	97.6	86.5	70.6	56.7	44.6	33.8	27.3	20.5
1936	59.2	99.9	97.7	88.6	72.8	56.8	45.4	37.3	29.9	23.8
1946	57.9	99.8	96.8	85.5	68.8	55.2	44.9	36.8	32.8	26.0
1951	55.8	99.9	96.7	84.2	68.0	53.3	43.2	36.8	32.5	27.4
1961	52.5	99.9	96.0	80.5	63.7	50.7	42.3	36.1	33.0	28.2
1966	52.1	99.8	94.0	73.1	55.7	48.2	41.3	36.3	33.2	28.7
<b>FEMALES:</b>										
<b>Aggregate Town Areas</b>										
1926	50.0	99.1	84.1	57.5	39.8	33.4	28.7	27.0	27.6	27.0
1936	50.7	98.9	84.6	60.9	42.8	33.9	29.6	28.0	27.8	28.7
1946	48.7	98.4	82.5	57.0	39.0	33.4	30.0	28.9	27.8	28.7
1951	47.2	99.0	83.2	54.4	37.0	30.8	28.9	28.7	28.1	28.7
1961	42.5	98.8	77.9	43.6	29.9	25.5	24.7	26.3	28.2	29.0
1966	41.2	98.2	74.3	36.7	24.1	22.6	21.9	23.8	27.1	29.2
<b>Aggregate Rural Areas</b>										
1926	45.3	99.4	89.1	64.7	42.7	31.9	25.0	22.4	21.7	17.4
1936	45.0	99.2	87.9	66.8	45.2	32.0	25.3	23.3	21.6	20.2
1946	42.1	98.4	82.6	57.9	38.6	31.0	25.8	23.5	22.3	20.7
1951	39.0	98.8	81.1	54.4	35.9	26.5	24.7	23.2	22.3	20.8
1961	35.4	99.0	78.7	47.1	29.3	21.5	19.4	20.1	22.3	20.9
1966	34.9	98.6	75.5	39.5	24.1	19.6	16.9	17.9	21.9	21.2

DIAGRAM 5.

SINGLE MALES AND FEMALES AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL AT AGES 25-34 AND 55-64, 1841 TO 1966.





In the case of males in the younger age groups, the percentages single, both in Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas showed pronounced downward trends between 1926 and 1966. In the Aggregate Town Areas the percentages single in the various age groups were very much lower at each Census than in the Aggregate Rural Areas. In addition, the rate of decrease in the percentage single was much greater in the town than in the rural areas.

The differences between the Aggregate Town and Aggregate Rural Areas as regards percentages single were not so marked in the case of females at the younger ages, the figures for the town areas being little different from those for the rural areas. In the higher age groups the percentages of single females were considerably greater at all the Census dates shown, in the Aggregate Town than in the Aggregate Rural Areas.

Finally, in this section, the percentages of males and females in the age group 25 to 34 years who were single are compared in respect of different sizes of town in TABLE IX which relates to the 1966 Census only.

TABLE IX:- PERCENTAGE SINGLE AT AGES 25 - 34 IN CERTAIN TYPES OF TOWN AREAS AND IN RURAL AREAS, 1966.

	Dublin and Dun Laoghaire and Suburbs	Other Co. Boroughs and Suburbs	Other Towns with over 10,000 inhabitants	Towns with 5,000-10,000 inhabitants	Towns with 1,500-5,000 inhabitants	Rural Areas
Males	35.2	36.3	40.2	42.3	42.0	64.3
Females	30.9	28.3	31.8	32.1	30.5	31.6

It will be seen that, for males, the percentage single tended to rise with decreasing town size whereas, for females, there was little difference between the different areas.

#### MIGRATION

No information is available on the total numbers of emigrants from or immigrants to the State. However, estimates of net emigration, that is the excess of the number of emigrants over that of immigrants, can be made for the periods between Censuses by using statistics of births and deaths registered in conjunction with the Census results. These estimates, for a number of intercensal periods, are published in Volume I of the 1966 Census of Population (Table 1).

The effect of migration on the age structure may be examined by comparing the numbers of persons within the various age groups at each Census with the expected numbers of survivors out of the groups five years younger at the preceding Census. This has been done for the intercensal periods 1946-51, 1951-56, 1956-61 and 1961-66 in TABLES X to XIII. It will be appreciated that the assumptions made in regard to mortality influence to a considerable degree the results presented in these tables. TABLES X TO XIII cannot, in consequence, be regarded as having the same degree of accuracy as the remaining tables in this Volume.

In estimating the numbers of survivors, the appropriate factors based on the 1946, 1951 and 1961 Life Tables were first calculated and from these, values for the mid-points of the five-year intervals 1946-51, 1951-56 and 1956-61 obtained by interpolation or projections. For the period 1961-66 the 1961 Life Table values were used. In the case of the under 5 years age group the survivors are calculated from the numbers of births which were registered in the State in the preceding five years.

It should be noted that the classification of the population by age group for 1956 was based, not on a complete population count, but on a ten percent sample of the 1956 Census of Population returns. Although a question on date of birth was asked at the 1956 Census it was decided, at that time, for reasons of economy, not to process the results. In view of the need for information on ages for the compilation of death rates and analytical purposes generally, it was subsequently decided to extract the figures on a sample basis.

TABLE XI:- HYPOTHETICAL AND ACTUAL POPULATION BY AGE, 1951.  
(Thousands)\*

Age group	Males			Females		
	Without migration during 1946-1951	Actual	Effect of migration between 1946 and 1951 †	Without migration during 1946-1951	Actual	Effect of migration between 1946 and 1951 †
0- 4 years	155.2	160.2	+ 5.0	147.7	152.6	+ 4.9
5- 9 "	148.8	143.5	- 5.3	142.7	137.6	- 5.1
10-14 "	134.5	132.7	- 1.8	130.3	128.2	- 2.1
15-19 "	132.5	125.7	- 6.8	128.2	115.4	- 12.8
20-24 "	126.5	105.4	- 21.1	122.4	96.8	- 25.6
25-29 "	116.6	99.6	- 17.0	111.8	98.8	- 12.9
30-34 "	102.7	96.4	- 6.3	102.6	95.1	- 7.4
35-39 "	102.1	102.3	+ 0.1	99.2	98.6	- 0.6
40-44 "	95.5	94.0	- 1.5	92.4	86.3	- 6.1
45-49 "	81.8	82.4	+ 0.6	79.2	78.5	- 0.6
50-54 "	83.1	82.9	- 0.2	82.8	80.1	- 2.7
55-59 "	65.3	65.0	- 0.2	63.9	63.8	- 0.0
60-64 "	61.0	61.3	+ 0.4	61.7	60.7	- 1.0
65-69 "	50.8	54.1	+ 3.4	51.9	53.4	+ 1.5
70-74 "	45.1	49.1	+ 4.0	45.3	51.0	+ 5.7
75-79 "	32.6	31.6	- 1.0	34.8	32.9	- 1.9
80-84 "	15.1	14.6	- 0.4	17.2	16.2	- 1.0
85 and over	5.7	5.5	- 0.2	8.3	7.8	- 0.5
All ages	1,554.9	1,506.6	- 48.3	1,522.3	1,454.0	- 68.3

\* Apparent small discrepancies in this table are due to the effect of rounding-off, the basic calculations having carried out to the nearest unit.

† These represent the estimated number of emigrants surviving at the end of each of the five-year periods.

TABLE XI:- HYPOTHETICAL AND ACTUAL POPULATION BY AGE, 1956.  
(Thousands)\*

Age group	Males			Females		
	Without migration during 1951-1956	Actual	Effect of migration between 1951 and 1956	Without migration during 1951-1956	Actual	Effect of migration between 1951 and 1956
0- 4 years	152.7	151.3	- 1.4	146.4	146.8	+ 0.3
5- 9 "	159.1	151.6	- 7.5	151.6	144.5	- 7.1
10-14 "	143.1	140.3	- 2.8	137.2	136.3	- 0.9
15-19 "	132.2	120.8	- 11.4	127.8	111.3	- 16.5
20-24 "	124.9	91.6	- 33.3	114.9	87.5	- 27.4
25-29 "	104.5	84.0	- 20.5	96.1	85.8	- 10.3
30-34 "	98.6	86.3	- 12.3	97.9	88.9	- 9.0
35-39 "	95.2	89.1	- 6.1	94.0	92.8	- 1.2
40-44 "	100.3	94.0	- 6.3	97.1	90.7	- 6.4
45-49 "	91.6	88.7	- 2.9	84.5	83.7	- 0.8
50-54 "	79.0	75.8	- 3.2	76.0	71.4	- 4.6
55-59 "	77.6	76.7	- 0.9	76.2	75.1	- 1.1
60-64 "	58.7	57.8	- 1.0	59.2	59.1	- 0.1
65-69 "	52.3	55.2	+ 2.9	53.9	53.7	- 0.2
70-74 "	42.2	45.2	+ 3.0	43.8	47.8	+ 4.1
75-79 "	32.5	32.3	- 0.2	36.0	33.6	- 2.4
80-84 "	16.1	15.2	- 0.9	18.6	17.4	- 1.2
85 and over	6.3	7.2	+ 0.9	8.8	9.0	+ 0.3
All ages	1,566.9	1,462.9	- 103.9	1,520.0	1,435.3	- 84.6

\* See footnotes to Table X.

TABLE XII:- HYPOTHETICAL AND ACTUAL POPULATION BY AGE, 1961.  
(Thousands)\*

Age group	Males			Females		
	Without migration during 1956-1961	Actual	Effect of migration between 1956 and 1961	Without migration during 1956-1961	Actual	Effect of migration between 1956 and 1961
0- 4 years	149.2	153.4	+ 4.2	143.3	147.4	+ 4.1
5- 9 "	150.5	147.0	- 3.5	146.1	140.7	- 5.4
10-14 "	151.3	148.3	- 2.9	144.2	140.5	- 3.7
15-19 "	139.8	120.3	- 19.5	136.1	113.5	- 22.6
20-24 "	120.2	80.4	- 39.8	111.0	77.6	- 33.4
25-29 "	91.0	72.3	- 18.7	87.1	73.1	- 14.0
30-34 "	83.3	75.2	- 8.1	85.3	77.5	- 7.7
35-39 "	85.4	81.6	- 3.8	88.1	85.2	- 2.9
40-44 "	87.8	84.8	- 3.0	91.7	85.5	- 6.2
45-49 "	91.9	89.0	- 2.9	89.1	85.6	- 3.5
50-54 "	85.4	81.7	- 3.7	81.2	75.4	- 5.8
55-59 "	71.2	68.6	- 2.6	68.3	67.5	- 0.8
60-64 "	69.5	64.4	- 5.1	70.3	66.6	- 3.7
65-69 "	49.4	51.1	+ 1.8	53.1	52.3	- 0.8
70-74 "	43.4	44.1	+ 0.7	44.8	48.7	+ 3.9
75-79 "	30.4	29.7	- 0.7	34.7	33.5	- 1.2
80-84 "	16.7	16.7	- 0.1	19.5	20.4	+ 0.9
85 and over	6.9	7.7	+ 0.8	9.8	10.8	+ 1.0
All ages	1,523.4	1,416.5	- 106.9	1,503.8	1,401.8	- 101.9

\* See footnotes to Table X.

TABLE XIII:- HYPOTHETICAL AND ACTUAL POPULATION BY AGE, 1966.  
(Thousands)\*

Age group	Males			Females		
	Without migration during 1961-1966	Actual	Effect of migration between 1961 and 1966	Without migration during 1961-1966	Actual	Effect of migration between 1961 and 1966
0- 4 years	154.9	161.3	+ 6.4	148.6	154.6	+ 6.1
5- 9 "	152.7	152.4	- 0.3	146.8	146.5	- 0.2
10-14 "	146.7	145.6	- 1.0	140.4	139.8	- 0.6
15-19 "	147.9	133.3	- 14.6	140.3	126.0	- 14.2
20-24 "	119.8	94.7	- 25.1	113.2	90.6	- 22.6
25-29 "	80.0	75.0	- 5.0	77.3	74.3	- 3.0
30-34 "	71.8	73.8	+ 2.0	72.7	72.8	+ 0.1
35-39 "	74.5	76.5	+ 1.9	76.9	77.8	+ 0.9
40-44 "	80.5	81.0	+ 0.4	84.2	82.4	- 1.9
45-49 "	83.1	83.6	+ 0.6	84.1	82.9	- 1.3
50-54 "	85.9	84.3	- 1.6	83.2	80.6	- 2.6
55-59 "	76.9	75.8	- 1.1	72.4	71.2	- 1.1
60-64 "	62.3	61.6	- 0.6	63.5	62.2	- 1.3
65-69 "	55.1	55.0	- 0.1	60.2	59.2	- 1.0
70-74 "	40.3	42.2	+ 1.9	44.1	47.9	+ 3.8
75-79 "	30.3	28.7	- 1.6	36.0	34.1	- 2.0
80-84 "	15.9	15.8	- 0.0	20.0	19.8	- 0.2
85 and over	7.4	8.1	+ 0.7	11.5	12.2	+ 0.8
All ages	1,486.0	1,449.0	- 37.0	1,475.3	1,435.0	- 40.4

\* See footnotes to Table X.

Net migration reduced the population by 116,600 persons in the period 1946-51, by 188,500 in the period 1951-56, by 208,800 in the period 1956-61 and by 77,400 in the period 1961-66. It will be noted that these figures are slightly below those for the estimated net emigration in the respective periods which are as follows:-

Period	Net emigration
1946-51	119,568
1951-56	196,763
1956-61	212,003
1961-66	80,605

This is accounted for by the fact that the figures shown in the fourth and seventh columns of TABLES X to XIII represent, not the total of emigrants in each period, but the numbers of persons emigrating in each five-year period who were alive at the end of that period.

In each of the periods the loss of population through emigration was mainly concentrated in the young adult age groups. Thus, emigration between 1956 and 1961 accounted for the loss of 33 percent of the males and 30 percent of the females in the age group 20 to 24 years. In the periods 1946-51, 1951-56 and 1956-61 the number of female emigrants in the 15 to 19 year group was greater than that of males. In the most recent period, however, the loss by emigration of boys in this age group was very slightly above that of girls.

The extent of migration at the later age groups is difficult to determine precisely, as mis-statements of age at the Census enumeration are more common in the case of elderly persons. Such mis-statements, as well as giving rise to errors in the numbers in the later age groups, also affect the Life Table mortality rates, thereby introducing inaccuracies into the calculation of proportions surviving. Although some of the difference between the actual and expected numbers at the later ages may be accounted for in this way, it appears from TABLES X to XIII that a fairly substantial immigration of elderly persons has taken place in each of the four intercensal periods, particularly at ages 70 to 74 years.