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Sonraí Ginearálta

Réamhrá

Glacadh Daonáireamh oíche Dé Domhnaigh, 13 Aibreán 1986 de réir an Ordu Staidrimh (Daonáireamh) 1986 (I R Uimh 61 de 1986)¹ Tá cóipeanna den cheistneoir Daonáirimh agus de na teoracha a ghabh leis le fáil i bhFoscáilbhinn 1 d'Imleabhar 1 de thuarascáil mhionsonraithe an Daonáirimh

Sa chúigiú imleabhar seo den tuarascáil mhionsonraithe déantar aicmiú ar an daonra atá trí bliana d'aois agus os a chionn sin de réir eolas ar an nGaeilge. Déantar sainmhíniú ar na críocha tíre a aithnítear sa tuarascáil seo i bhFoscáilbhinní 2-4 d'Imleabhar 1

In imleabhair Dhaonáirimh eile déantar an daonra a anailísiú de réir tréithe eile, mar atá – tionsclaíocht, slí bheatha agus gnátháit chónaithe. Foilsíodh príomhghnéithe Dhaonáireamh 1986 in dhá shraith de Thuarascálacha Daonra Áitiúil go díreach tar éis dóibh a bheith ar fáil

Tuairiscábhar an Daonáirimh

Baineann figiúirí an Daonáirimh leis an líon daoine *de facto*, i.e. is é an daonra atá ar taifead i ndáil le gach limistéar an líon iomlán daoine a bhí laistigh dá theorainneacha oíche Dé Domhnaigh, an 13 Aibreán, 1986 mar aon leis na daoine go léir a tháinig isteach sa limistéar sin maidin Dé Luain an 14 Aibreán 1986 agus nár ríomhadh in aon áit eile. Déantar daoine a bhí ar bord loinge i gcalafort a áireamh i dteannta na ndaoine 'sna limistéir in aice an chalafoirt. Tá dá bhrí sin cuarteoirí a bhí i láthair oíche an Daonáirimh curtha san áireamh i dteannta leis na daoine a raibh cónaí orthu san áit agus tá gnáth-áititheoirí a bhí go sealadach as an limistéar as an áireamh

Dáta i dtréimhse nuair ba lú a bheadh an ghluaiseacht paisinéirí a roghnaíodh le haghaidh an Daonáirimh agus, dá bhrí sin, tá na figiúirí i ngar don líon daoine ar a mbíonn gnáthchónaí 'sna limistéir ar leith. Fágadh as an áireamh na comhaltaí sin d'Oglaigh na hÉireann a bhí ar dháta an Daonáirimh ar fiannas leis na Náisiúin Aontaithe

Stiúradh an Daonáirimh

Meitheal páirce shealadach a earcaíodh go speisialta – 327 maoirseoir lánaimseartha agus 3 221 áiritheoir páirtaimseartha – a dheimhnaigh an Daonáireamh. Scaipeadh na ceistneoirí Daonáirimh le linn na trí seachtaine go díreach roimh oíche an Daonáirimh agus cromadh ar na cinn chomhlánaithe a bhailiú an lá dár gcionn. Scrúdaigh na háiritheoirí na ceistneoirí ar iad a bhailiú d'fhonn a áirithiú gur comhlánaíodh i gceart iad agus nuair ba ghá chuidigh siad le daoine iad a chomhlánú

Cur ar fáil na dTorthaí

D'ullmhaigh gach áiritheoir i dtosach báire, a choimre ar an daonra ina Limistéar Áirimh. Ba iad na hachoirí sin ba bhun leis na torthaí sealadacha daonra do 1986 a eisíodh in dhá fhoilseachán Daonáirimh² roinnt míonna tar éis dáta an Daonáirimh. Cuireadh na ceistneoirí comhlánaithe a bhain leis na teaghlaigh ar leithligh ar aghaidh ina dhiaidh sin chuig Oríon an Daonáirimh le haghaidh próiseála

Seiceáladh na hachoirí daonra, na liostaí teaghaiseanna agus na léarscáileanna do Limistéir Áirimh ar leithligh ar mhaithe le leanúnachas in ord na gContaetha agus usáideadh iad chun teorainneacha na mBaile Daonáirimh agus fobhailte/purláin bhailte ag a bhfuil teorainneacha dlíthiúla a chinneadh. Chuathas ar aghaidh go comhuaineach leis an iniúchadh cléireachais chéad chéime agus le próiseáil ríomhaireachta na dtarfead i ndáil le dáta breithe, stádas pósta agus gaol le ceann an teaghlaigh ar an gceistneoir Daonáirimh san ord Contaetha ceanna. Leis an dá ghníomh sin le chéile bhíodhas ábalta an chéad fhoireann de thorthaí críochnaitheacha Daonáirimh a fhoilsiú i sraith speisialta Thuarascálacha Daonra Áitiúil de réir mar a críochnaíodh leis na Contaetha ar leithligh. Eisíodh iad sin i rith tréimhse seacht mí a thosaigh mí Iúil 1987. Foilsíodh tuarascáil a choimre don Stát, Samhain 1987

¹ Arna dhéanamh ag an Aire Stáit i Roinn an Taoisigh de bhun na gcumhachtaí a tugadh do le Fo-Alt 1 d'Alt 16 den Acht Statistíochta 1926 agus leis an Ordu um na hAicta Staidrimh 1926 agus 1946 (Feidhmeanna Aire a Aistriú) 1949 (I R Uimh 142 de 1949) agus leis an Ordu Staidrimh (Feidhmeanna Aire a Tharmligean) 1983 (I R Uimh 13 de 1983)

² Daonra na hÉireann 1986
Réamhthiúirín Daonra (PI 4224) Iúil 1986
Réamhthuarascáil (PI 4375) Meán Fomhair 1986

Ba iad na gníomhartha sin ba bhun leis na chéad trí imleabhar den tuarascáil mhionsonraithe Daonáirimh. Le próiseáil ríomhaireachta na faisnéise nár próiseáladh go dtí sin ar na ceistneoirí Daonáirimh, bhí bonn ar fáil le haghaidh an dara foireann de Thuarascálacha Daonra Aitiúil a foilsíodh idir Samhain 1988 agus Meitheamh 1989 agus le haghaidh an dara Tuarascáil Achoimre Stáit a eisíodh, Samhain 1989. Chinntigh an cur chuige sin gur foilsíodh príomhthorthaí an Daonáirimh go luath.

Tugtar liosta iomlán de na tuarascálacha faoi Dhaonáireamh 1986 a foilsíodh go nuige seo san Fhoscríbhinn.

Staidreamh Daonra Limistéar Beag (SDLB)

Tá staidreamh daonra limistéar beag i ndáil le Ceantair Uirbeacha, Ceantair Thuaithe, Bailte, Toghranna, Ceantair srl. as Daonáireamh 1986 ar fáil ar bhonn tráchtála in dhá leagan amach. Le leagan amach amháin tá aicmiú mionsonraithe le fáil ar an daonra de réir aoise gnéis agus stádais pósta agus ar theaghlaigh de réir lín agus de réir aoise gnéis agus stádais pósta cheann an teaghlaigh. Cuirtear sonraí ar fáil freisin faoi aonaid teaghlaigh arna n-aicmiú de réir lin aoise an linbh is óige srl.

Is leagan amach níos sonraithe é an ceann eile agus i dteannta na faisnéise atá luaithe déantar aicmiú ansin ar an daonra de réir príomhstádais eacnamaígh, aoise agus gnéis aicmiú ar dhaoine ag obair de réir gnéis stádais fostaíochta agus earnála leithne tionsclaíochta aicmiú ar dhaoine ag obair dífhostaithe agus scortha de réir gnéis agus aicme síl bheatha, aicmiú mionsonraithe de réir aicme shoch-eacnamaígh aicme sóisialta aois scoir ón oideachas cumas ar Ghaeilge a labhairt cōracha taistil agus fad an aistir chun na hoibre srl.

Tá an staidreamh daonra limistéar beag seo ar fáil i bhfoirm asphrionta ríomhaire agus téipe maighnéid. Chun na sonraí go léir a fháil faoina bhfuil ann agus faoi na táillí atá i gceist téir i dteagmháil leis an seoladh seo a leanas.

**An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh,
Rannán an Daonáirimh,
Bóthar Áth Fhirdhia,
Ráth Maoinis,
Baile Átha Cliath 6**

Guthán (01) 977144 Folínte 304, 310 agus 347

General Details

Introduction

A Census of Population was taken on the night of Sunday, 13 April 1986 in accordance with the Statistics (Census of Population) Order 1986 (S I No 61 of 1986)¹ Copies of the Census questionnaire and of accompanying instructions are reproduced in Appendix 1 of Volume 1 of the detailed Census report

This fifth volume of the detailed report provides classifications of the population aged three years and over by knowledge of the Irish language The territorial divisions of the country distinguished in this report are defined in Appendices 2-4 of Volume 1

Subsequent Census volumes will analyse the population by such other characteristics as industry, occupation, and usual residence The principal features of the 1986 Census results were published immediately they became available in two series of Local Population Reports

Coverage

The Census figures relate to the *de facto* population - i.e. the population recorded for each area represents the total of all persons present within its boundaries on the night of Sunday, 13 April 1986, together with all persons who arrived in that area on the morning of Monday, 14 April 1986 not having been enumerated elsewhere Persons on board ships in port are included with the population of adjacent areas The figures, therefore, include visitors present on Census night as well as those in residence, while usual residents temporarily absent from the area are excluded

The date of the Census was chosen to coincide with a period when passenger movements were at a minimum and, consequently, the figures closely approximate to those for the normally resident population Members of the Defence Forces who on Census night were serving abroad with the United Nations were excluded from the enumeration

Conduct of the Census

The Census enumeration was carried out by a specially recruited temporary field force consisting of 327 fulltime supervisors and 3 221 part-time enumerators The Census questionnaires were distributed during the three weeks immediately preceding the Census night and the collection of the completed questionnaires commenced the following day The enumerators examined the questionnaires at the time of collection to ensure that they were correctly completed and where necessary, they assisted householders in their completion

Production of Results

Each enumerator prepared in the first instance a summary of the population in his/her Enumeration Area These summaries formed the basis for the provisional 1986 population results issued in two Census publications² within months of the Census date The completed questionnaires for the individual households were subsequently sent to the Census Office for processing

The population summaries dwelling listings and maps for individual Enumeration Areas were checked for consistency in County order and used to determine the boundaries of Census Towns and suburbs/environs of towns with legal boundaries The first stage clerical scrutiny and computer processing of the entries for date of birth, marital status and relationship to head of household on the Census questionnaire proceeded concurrently in the same County order These two operations combined allowed the publication of the first set of final Census results in a special series of Local Population Reports as individual counties were completed These were issued over a seven month period commencing in July 1987 A summary report for the State was published in November 1987

¹ Made by the Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach in pursuance of powers conferred on him by Sub-Section 1 of Section 16 of the Statistics Act 1926 and the Statistics Acts 1926 and 1946 (Transfer of Ministerial Functions) Order 1949 (S I No 142 of 1949) and the Statistics (Delegations of Ministerial Functions) Order 1983 (S I No 13 of 1983)

² Census of Population of Ireland 1986 - Preliminary Population Figures (PI 4224) July 1986
- Preliminary Report (PI 4375) September 1986

These operations also formed the basis of the first three volumes of the detailed Census report. The computer processing of the remaining information on the Census questionnaires provided the basis for a second set of Local Population Reports published between November 1988 and June 1989 and for the second Summary State Report issued in November 1989. This approach ensured that the principal Census results were published in a timely manner.

A complete list of the reports on the 1986 Census published to date is given in the Appendix.

Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS)

Small area population statistics for Urban Districts, Rural Districts, Towns, District Electoral Divisions, etc. from the 1986 Census are available on a commercial basis in two formats. One format contains detailed classifications of the population by age, sex and marital status and of households by size and by age, sex and marital status of the head of the household. Details of family units classified by size, age of youngest child, etc. are also provided.

The second format is more detailed and contains in addition classifications of the population by principal economic status, age and sex, classifications of persons at work by sex, employment status and broad industrial sector, classifications of persons at work, unemployed and retired by sex and occupational group, detailed classifications by socio-economic group, social class, age, education, ability to speak Irish, means of travel and distance travelled to work, etc.

These small area population statistics are available in the form of computer printout and magnetic tape. For full details of the contents and charges contact

**Central Statistics Office,
Census of Population Division,
Ardee Road,
Rathmines,
Dublin 6**

Phone (01) 977144 Extensions 304, 310 and 347

Sainmhíniúcháin

An Ghaeilge

Ba mar seo a leanas a dréachtadh an cheist sa Daonáireamh maidir le cumas ar an Ghaeilge a labhairt

CUMAS AR GHAELIGE A LABHAIRT

Scríobh “Gaeilge amháin”, “Gaeilge agus Béarla”,
“Léamh na Gaeilge gan bheith in ann í a labhairt”
nó fág bán de réir mar is iomchuí

Sna nótaí míniúcháin a ghabhann leis an gceistneoir Daonáirimh tugadh treoracha níos sonraíthe i dtaobh conas an cheist a fhreagairt

Is ceart an cheist seo a fhreagairt i dtaobh daoine atá trí bliana d aois nó os a chionn Fág bán i gcás leanáí faoi bhun trí bliana d aois

- (i) *Scríobh Gaeilge amháin i gcás daoine nach bhfuil in ann ach Gaeilge a labhairt*
- (ii) *Scríobh Gaeilge agus Béarla i gcás daoine atá in ann Gaeilge agus Béarla a labhairt*
- (iii) *I gcás daoine atá in ann Gaeilge a léamh gan bheith in ann í a labhairt scríobh “Léamh na Gaeilge gan bheith in ann í a labhairt”*
- (iv) *Ná scríobh dada os coinne ainmneacha daoine nach bhfuil léamh ná labhairt na Gaeilge acu*

Ba ionann an cheist agus na treoracha agus na cinn a úsáideadh i nDaonáirimh 1961 1971 agus 1981

San aicmiú a dheantar san Imleabhar seo cuirtear le chéile na daoine sa chéad dá chatagóir a shonraítear sa cheist agus taispeántar iad mar ‘Ghaeilgeoirí’ agus taispeántar na daoine sa chatagóir eile mar dhaoine nach Gaeilgeoirí Is ionann an cleachtas seo agus ar deineadh i dTuarascálacha Dhaonáirimh 1961, 1971 agus 1981

Cé gur féidir na ceisteanna i sceideal an Daonáirimh a bhaineann le gnéas dáta breithe, stádas pósta, slí bheatha, srl a fhreagairt go cruinn braitheann an freagra a thugtar ar an gceist faoi ‘Chumas ar Ghaeilge a labhairt’ cuid mhaith ar bhreithiúnas subíachtúil an duine atá ag comhlánú na foirme Níor thángthas ar mhodh fós, a bheadh simplí go leor chun críocha Daonáirimh lena bhféadfaí daoine a aicmiú de réir caighdeán neamhathraithe idir ‘Gaeilgeoirí’ agus daoine nach Gaeilgeoirí Mar sin ní féidir glacadh leis go bhfuil an staidreamh atá san Imleabhar seo chomh cruinn is atá an staidreamh in Imleabhair eile de chuid an Daonáirimh Fós féin, is ábhar spéise é an staidreamh faoin nGaeilge ó thaobh comparáid idir limistéir éagsúla sa tír de agus idir an Daonáireamh seo agus na cinn a deineadh go n-uige seo In aon úsáid a bhainfí as na sonraí seo, níor mhór an easpa cruinnis oibiachtúil dár tagraíodh thuas a chur san áireamh

Limistéir Ghaeltachta

Leis na hOrduithe Limistéir Gaeltachta 1956 1967 1974 agus 1982, míníodh an Ghaeltacht mar chúig Bharda agus 150 Toghroinn Cheantair nó codanna de Bhardaí agus de Thoghranna Ceantair i gContaetha Chiarraí, Chorcaí Dhúin na nGall na Gaillimhe Maigh Eo na Mí agus Phort Láirge

Aicmiú de réir Slí Bheatha

Déantar gach duine 15 bliana d aois agus os a chionn daoine dífhostaithe agus daoine atá san ospidéal go sealadach a aicmiú faoina a ngnáthshlí bheatha de réir na bhfreagraí ar Cheist 16 sa cheistneoir Daonáirimh

Cinntear an tslí bheatha leis an sórt oibre a dheantar chun beatha a thuilleamh gan aird ar an áit ina ndéantar sin ná ar na cúiseanna a ndéantar é Leis an aicmiú seo de réir slí bheatha mar sin, tugtar le chéile an líon daoine a bhíonn ag gabháil don sórt céanna oibre gan aird ar an tionscal, ar an ngnó ná ar an tseirbhís lena mbíonn siad ag obair

Ábhar na dTáblaí

Ta dhá chineál tábla san imleabhar seo Baineann Táblaí 1 go 7 10A, 10B, 12A 13A agus 13B leis an Stát agus baineann na táblaí eile leis na limistéir Ghaeltachta, mar a míníodh iad leis na hOrduithe Limistéir Gaeltachta, 1956 go 1982

Definitions

Irish Language

The Census question relating to ability to speak the Irish language was formulated as follows

<p>ABILITY TO SPEAK THE IRISH LANGUAGE</p> <p>Write "Irish Only" "Irish and English" "Read but cannot speak Irish" or leave blank as appropriate</p>

The following more specific instructions as to how the question should be answered were given in the explanatory notes attached to the Census questionnaire

This question should be answered for persons aged three years or over. Leave blank for children under three years of age

- (i) *Write 'Irish only' for persons who can speak only Irish*
- (ii) *Write 'Irish and English' for those who can speak Irish and English*
- (iii) *For persons who can read but cannot speak Irish, write 'Read but cannot speak Irish'*
- (iv) *Do not write anything opposite names of persons who can neither read nor speak Irish*

The question and instructions were the same as those used in the 1961, 1971 and 1981 Censuses

In the classifications in this Volume persons in the first two of the categories specified in the question are combined and shown as 'Irish speakers' while those in the remaining category are shown as 'non-Irish speakers'. This procedure is the same as that adopted in preparing the Reports of the 1961, 1971 and 1981 Censuses

Whereas the questions on the Census schedule relating to sex, date of birth, marital status, occupation, etc. can all be answered precisely, the replies given to the question on 'Ability to speak the Irish language' depend to a large extent on the subjective judgement of the person completing the form(s). It has not been found possible to devise a method, simple enough for Census purposes, to provide an invariable standard for classifying persons into those who can speak Irish and those who cannot. Consequently the statistics contained in this Volume cannot be regarded as being precise in the same degree as those in other Volumes of the Census. The statistics of the Irish language are, nevertheless, of interest for purposes of comparison between different areas of the country and between this and previous Censuses. In any use of these data the lack of objective precision referred to above must be borne in mind.

Gaeltacht Areas

The Gaeltacht Areas Orders, 1956, 1967, 1974 and 1982 defined the Gaeltacht as comprising 5 Wards and 150 District Electoral Divisions or parts of Wards and District Electoral Divisions in the Counties of Cork, Donegal, Galway, Kerry, Mayo, Meath and Waterford.

Classification by Occupation

All persons aged 15 years and over, including those out of work and those who are temporarily confined to hospitals, are classified to their usual principal occupation on the basis of the responses to Question 16 of the Census questionnaire.

The occupation is determined by the kind of work performed in earning a living, irrespective of the place in which and the purpose for which it is performed. Classification of the population by occupation thus brings together the number of persons engaged in the same type of work regardless of the industry, business or service in which they work.

Content of the Tables

The tables contained in this Volume are of two types. Tables 1 to 7, 10A, 10B, 12A, 13A and 13B relate to the State and the remaining tables relate to the Gaeltacht areas, as defined by the Gaeltacht Areas Orders, 1956 to 1982.

Tráchtairéacht

Gaeilgeoirí 1926–1986

Léirítear an scéal ar fad maidir le heolas ar an nGaeilge i dTábla A i ndáil le gach bliain ó 1926 i leith ar cuireadh ceist faoin ábhar sin sa Daonáireamh

Tábla A An líon agus an céatadan Gaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn, 1926–1986

Catagóir	1926	1936	1946	1961	1971	1981	1986
Gaeilgeoirí	540 802	666 601	588 725	716 420	789 429	1 018 413	1 042 701
Daoine nach Gaeilgeoirí	2 261 650	2 140 324	2 182 932	1 919 398	1 998 019	2 208 054	2 310 931
Daonra iomlán 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn	2 802 452	2 806 925	2 771 657	2 635 818	2 787 448	3 226 467	3 353 632
Gaeilgeoirí mar cheatadan den daonra 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
	19.3	23.7	21.2	27.2	28.3	31.6	31.1

Le linn na treimhse 1926–1986, tháinig méadú ar líon na ndaoine ar tuairiscíodh sa Daonáireamh labhairt na Gaeilge a bheith acu ó 540 802 nó 19.3 faoin gcéad den daonra trí bliana d'aois nó os a chionn go dtí 1,042,701 nó 31.1 faoin gcéad idir 1981 agus 1986 tháinig méadú ar líon iarbhair na nGaeilgeoirí le 24 288 nó 2.4 faoin gcéad. Tháinig laghdú beag, áfach, ar an gcéatadan den daonra iomlán trí bliana d'aois agus os a chionn ar Ghaeilgeoirí iad ó 31.6 faoin gcéad go dtí 31.1 faoin gcéad. Tá se tábhachtach a chur san áireamh go mbíonn dlúthbhaint ag an líon daoine a dtuairiscítear labhairt na Gaeilge a bheith acu in Daonáireamh ar bith ní hamháin le daonra iomlán na tíre an tráth sin ach le struchtúr aoise daonra freisin (feach Tábla C). Braitheann se go háirithe ar an líon daoine atá ar scoil agus ar an líon daoine sna haosaicmí iarscoile is óige.

Na Cúige 1971–1986

Tugtar achoimre ar an staid ó thaobh Gaeilgeoirí de i ngach Cúige sna blianta 1971, 1981 agus 1986 i dTábla B

Tábla B An líon agus an céatadán Gaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn, i ngach cúige i 1971, 1981 agus 1986

Cúige	Gaeilgeoirí			Gaeilgeoirí mar chéatadán den daonra 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn		
	1971	1981	1986	1971	1981	1986
	Uimh	Uimh	Uimh	%	%	%
Laighin	341 702	473 225	480 227	24.5	28.2	27.4
Mumhain	252 805	323 704	337 043	30.6	34.6	34.8
Connachta	137 372	155 134	158 386	37.2	38.8	38.7
Ulaidh (cuid de)	57,550	66,350	67 045	29.5	30.8	30.1
An tIomlán	789,429	1,018 413	1 042 701	28.3	31.6	31.1

Tháinig méadú ar an líon Gaeilgeoirí mar dhearbhlíon le linn na dtreimhsí idir Daonáirimh 1971 agus 1981 agus idir Daonáirimh 1981 agus 1986 sna ceithre chúige go léir. Cé gur tháinig méadú ar an líon Gaeilgeoirí mar chéatadán den daonra trí bliana d'aois agus os a chionn sna ceithre chúige go léir sa tréimhse 1971–1981 ba i gcúige Mumhan amháin a tuairiscíodh méadú ar an gcéatadán sin idir 1981 agus 1986. Ba i gcúige Chonnacht áit a raibh an íomláir Gaeltachta ba mhó i 1986 a bhí an céatadán ba mhó de Ghaeilgeoirí (38.7 faoin gcéad) sna ceithre chúige. Ba mar sin an scéal i nDaonáirimh 1971, 1981 agus 1986. Ba i gcúige Laighean, ar an taobh eile de, a bhí an céatadán ba lú Gaeilgeoirí sa daonra leis na trí Dhaonáireamh sin anuas.

Aoisicmí

Déantar comparáid i dTábla C idir an líon Gaeilgeoirí i ngach aoisicme i 1981 agus 1986

Tábla C An líon agus an céatadán Gaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn, arna n-aiscú de réir aoisicme – 1981 agus 1986

Aoisicme	Gaeilgeoirí		Gaeilgeoirí mar chéatadán den líon iomlán san aoisicme	
	1981	1986	1981	1986
	Líon	Líon	%	%
3 – 4 bliana	6 700	5 763	4.9	4.2
5 – 9	97 058	91 334	27.8	26.0
10 – 14	173 516	174 588	50.8	49.9
15 – 19	166 549	167 760	51.0	50.7
20 – 24	110 561	104 127	40.0	36.4
25 – 34	156 760	157 687	32.8	31.5
35 – 44	108 091	127 696	30.0	30.3
45 – 54	85 184	87 049	28.3	28.1
55 – 64	66 209	68 173	22.9	24.2
65 bliana agus os a chionn	47 785	58 524	13.0	15.2
An tIomlán	1 018 413	1 042 701	31.6	31.1

Ba 'sna haoisicmí 10–14 agus 15–19 a bhí an céatadán is airde Gaeilgeoirí i 1981 agus i 1986. Is ionann na haoisicmí sin i dtéannta leis an aoisicme 5–9 agus na haoisicmí freastail scoile. Thit an céatadán Gaeilgeoirí sna trí aoisicme sin idir 1981 agus 1986. Thit an céatadán freisin sna haoisicmí iarscoile 20–24 agus 25–34. Chuaigh an céatadán Gaeilgeoirí i méid sna haoisicmí is sine go léir ach amháin gur tharla titim bheag san aoisicme 45–54.

Léiríonn na figiúirí do 1981 agus 1986 go dtagann meath le haois ar an gcumas labhartha Gaeilge, tar éis na haoisicme 15–19 tráth is airde é.

Limistéir Ghaeltachta

Tábla D An líon agus an céatadán Gaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn, 'sna limistéir Ghaeltachta (mar a mníódh ag an am³) – 1981 agus 1986

Na Limistéir	Gaeilgeoirí		Daoine nach Gaeilgeoirí		Gaeilgeoirí mar chéatadán den iomlán		Athrú i gcéatadán 1981–86 ar an daonra 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn
	1981	1986	1981	1986	1981	1986	
	Líon	Líon	Líon	Líon	%	%	%
Corcaigh ³	2 681	2 846	560	763	82.7	78.9	*
Dun na nGall	19 209	18 823	5 113	5 961	79.0	75.9	+ 1.9
Gaillimh	19 819	20 873	4 945	6 963	80.0	75.0	+12.4
Ciarraí	6 264	6 142	1 584	1 665	79.8	78.7	- 0.5
Maigh Eo	8 457	8 071	4 162	4 316	67.0	65.2	- 1.8
An Mhí ³	493	602	407	600	54.8	50.1	*
Port Láirge	1 103	1 094	203	268	84.5	80.3	+ 4.3
Na Limistéir Ghaeltachta ar fad	58 026	58 451	16 974	20 536	77.4	74.0	*

*Nil na limistéir i 1981 agus i 1986 inchoimparáide

³ Cuirtear le limistéir Ghaeltachta Chorcaí agus na Mí faoi Ordú na Limistéir Ghaeltachta 1982. I dTábla D baineann na figiúirí de chuid 1981 maidir le Gaeilgeoirí agus daoine nach Gaeilgeoirí i gCorcaigh agus sa Mhí leis na limistéir roimh 1982 ach baineann figiúirí 1986 leis na limistéir (méadaithe) nua. I 1981 ba iad daonraí iomlána na limistéir a cuireadh leis an nGaeltacht ná – Corcaigh 484 duine, An Mhí 261 duine. Ní léidir na figiúirí sin a scagadh de réir aoise ná cumas ar Ghaeilge a labhairt.

De na limistéir Ghaeltachta nar athraíodh a dteorainneacha idir 1981 agus 1986, ba i nGaillimh amháin a taifeadadh méadú ar líon na nGaeilgeoirí. Toisc gur mhó an méadú a tháinig ar líon na ndaoine nach Gaeilgeoirí na an meadú a tháinig ar líon na nGaeilgeoirí i nGaeltacht na Gaillimhe de réir a dó in aghaidh a haon is laghdú ó 80 faoin gcéad go 75 faoin gcéad a tháinig ar chéatadán na nGaeilgeoirí sa daonra iomlán ansin trí bliana d'aois agus os a chionn idir 1981 agus 1986. Tháinig laghdú ar an gcéatadán Gaeilgeoirí i ngach limistéar Gaeltachta í rith na tréimhse céanna.

Daoine ag a bhfuil léamh na Gaeilge ach nach féidir leo í a labhairt

Áirítear i measc daoine nach Gaeilgeoirí san Imleabhar seo iadsan ag a bhfuil léamh na Gaeilge ach nach féidir leo í a labhairt. Bíonn eolas áirithe ag na daoine sin ar an teanga más teoranta féin an t-eolas é. Tugtar achoimre i dTábla E ar líon na ndaoine sin arna n-aicmiú de réir gnéis i 1971, 1981 agus 1986.

Tábla E Daoine, fireannaigh agus bainearnaigh, ag a bhfuil léamh na Gaeilge ach nach féidir leo í a labhairt, 1971, 1981 agus 1986

Gnéas	1971	1981	1986
Fireannaigh	68 394	133 242	161 574
Bainearnaigh	66 774	135 715	168 698
An tIomlán	135 168	268 957	330,272

Leiríonn an tábla seo gur tháinig dubailt ar líon na ndaoine sin idir 1971–1981 don dá ghnéas ba lú an méadú don tréimhse cúig bliana 1981–1986 (+21.3 faoin gcéad i gcás fireannach agus +24.3 faoin gcéad i gcás bainearnach). I rith na tréimhse sin ina hiomláine ba mhó an t-ardú i gcás bainearnach ná i gcás fireannach.

Gaeilgeoirí i dTeaghlach Phríobháideacha

As na 976 304 teaghlach príobháideach sa Stát bhí 400 638 nó 41 faoin gcéad ina raibh Gaeilgeoirí amháin nó níos mó. Ba i gCabhán agus i gContae Bhaile Átha Cliath a bhí na céatadán ba lú (31.3 agus 33.0 faoin gcéad faoi seach) agus bhí an céatadán i bhfad níos mó i gContae Bhaile Átha Cliath na Gaillimhe (56.4 faoin gcéad ná in aon áit eile). Ba i gContae na Gaillimhe 53.5 faoin gcéad a bhí an dara céatadán is mó (féach Tábla 10A).

De na 400 638 teaghlach príobháideach ina raibh Gaeilgeoirí amháin nó níos mó bhí díreach Gaeilgeoirí amháin i 137 669 díobh ba theaghlach dhuine amháin iad 38 869 díobh sin. Sa tsliú cheanna, bhí 107 767 teaghlach ina raibh beirt Gaeilgeoirí agus ba theaghlach bheirte iad 40 425 díobh sin (féach Tábla 12A). I gcoitinne bhí Gaeilgeoirí le fáil go forleathan i dteaghlach a raibh daoine eile sa chuid is mó nár Ghaeilgeoirí iad.

Ba Ghaeilgeoirí iad 29.4 faoin gcéad de na daoine go léir trí bliana d'aois agus os a chionn i dteaghlach príobháideach. Ba Ghaeilgeoirí iad níos lú ná 25 faoin gcéad de na daoine go léir trí bliana d'aois agus os a chionn i dteaghlach príobháideach i gCabhán, Cill Mhantáin, Contae Bhaile Átha Cliath, Loch Garman agus Lú. Ba Ghaeilgeoirí iad níos mó ná 40 faoin gcéad i gContae agus i gContae Bhaile Átha Cliath na Gaillimhe le chéile (féach Tábla 10B).

Tábla F An líon agus an céatadán (a) Teaghlach príobháideach ina bhfuil Gaeilgeoirí amháin nó níos mó agus (b) Gaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn i dteaghlach príobháideach i limistéir Ghaeltachta gach contae

Limistéir Ghaeltachta	Teaghlach príobháideach			Daoine i dteaghlach príobháideach		
	An tIomlán	Le Gaeilgeoirí amháin nó níos mó		Iomlán 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn	Gaeilgeoirí	
		An Líon	An Céatadán		An Líon	An Céatadán
	Líon	Líon	%	Líon	Líon	%
Corcaigh	1 003	819	81.7	3 673	2 720	74.1
Dun na nGall	7 731	6 456	83.5	25 809	18 742	72.6
Gaillimh	8 081	6 762	83.7	29 363	20 711	70.5
Ciarraí	2 456	2 038	83.0	7 794	5 835	74.9
Maigh Eo	3 545	2 677	75.5	12 916	7 938	61.5
An Mhí	346	216	62.4	1 265	602	47.6
Port Láirge	351	299	85.2	1 252	907	72.4
Iomlán na Limistéir Gaeltachta	23 513	19 267	81.9	82 072	57 455	70.0

Bhí Gaeilgeoir amháin, ar a laghad i 4 theaghlach as gach 5 theaghlach príobháideacha 'sna limistéir Ghaeltachta cé go raibh na céatadán i nGaeltacht Mhaigh Eo (3 as 4) agus i nGaeltacht na Mí (2 as 3) i bhfad níos ísle. Léirítear ar Thábla G nach bhfuil an scaipeadh Gaeilgeoirí i dteaghlaigh de líonta éagsúla chomh leathan i limistéir Ghaeltachta is atá i limistéir nach limistéir Ghaeltachta, ní nach ionadh le riar níos mó teaghlach 'sna limistéir Ghaeltachta ina dTeaghlaigh Ghaeilgeoirí amháin.

Tábla G Teaghlaigh príobháideacha arna n-aicmiú de réir líon na nGaeilgeoirí, 3 bliana d'aois agus os a chionn, sa teaghlach, sa Stát agus 'sna limistéir Ghaeltachta

Limistéar	An Líon Gaeilgeoirí sa teaghlach							Líon iomlán na dteaghlach príobháideach ina bhfuil Gaeilgeoirí
	1	2	3	4	5	6 nó os a chionn		
An Stát								
Teaghlaigh príobháideacha	Líon	137 669	107 767	58 523	43,719	27 070	25 890	400,638
	%	34.4	26.9	14.6	10.9	6.8	6.5	100 -
Gaeilgeoirí	Líon	137 669	215 534	175 569	174 876	135,350	173,883	1,012,881
	%	13.6	21.3	17.3	17.3	13.4	17.2	100 -
Na limistéir Ghaeltachta								
Teaghlaigh príobháideacha	Líon	5 152	5 058	2 892	2 212	1 557	2 396	19 267
	%	26.7	26.3	15.0	11.5	8.1	12.4	100 -
Gaeilgeoirí	Líon	5 152	10 116	8,676	8 848	7 785	16 878	57 455
	%	9.0	17.6	15.1	15.4	13.5	29.4	100 -

De na 400,638 teaghlach príobháideach ina raibh Gaeilgeoirí amháin nó níos mó ba Ghaeilgeoirí an ceann teaghlaigh i 251,853 cás (62.9 faoin gcéad), ba lú an riar i gcás Loch Garman le 51.4 faoin gcéad agus ba i nGaillimh le 73.8 faoin gcéad a bhí an riar ba mhó. Sna limistéir Ghaeltachta le chéile Gaeilgeoirí ab ea 91.6 faoin gcéad de na cinn teaghlaigh (i dteaghlaigh a raibh Gaeilgeoirí amháin nó níos mó ná sin iontu). Bhí 695 446 Gaeilgeoirí ar fad sa 251,853 teaghlach inar Ghaeilgeoirí an ceann teaghlaigh, 2.8 an teaghlach ar an meán, bhí 317,435 Gaeilgeoirí sa 148,785 teaghlach ina raibh duine nár Ghaeilgeoirí ina cheann teaghlaigh, 2.1 an teaghlach ar an meán (féach Táblaí 13A and 13B). Sna limistéir Ghaeltachta bhí 53 869 Gaeilgeoirí 'sna 17,655 teaghlach ar a raibh Gaeilgeoirí ina cheann, 3.1 an teaghlach ar an meán, bhí 3 586 Gaeilgeoirí 'sna 1,612 teaghlach ar a raibh duine nár Ghaeilgeoirí ina cheann, 2.2 an teaghlach ar an meán (féach Táblaí 14A agus 14B).

Commentary

Irish Speakers 1926–1986

The overall situation in respect of knowledge of the Irish language is outlined in Table A for each of the years since 1926 in which a question on this topic was asked in the Census of Population

Table A. Number and percentage of Irish speakers, 3 years of age and over, 1926–1986.

Category	1926	1936	1946	1961	1971	1981	1986
Irish speakers	540 802	666 601	588 725	716 420	789 429	1 018 413	1 042 701
Non-Irish speakers	2 261 650	2 140 324	2 182 932	1 919 398	1 998 019	2 208 054	2 310 931
Total population 3 years of age and over	2 802 452	2 806 925	2 771 657	2 635 818	2 787 448	3 226 467	3 353 632
Irish speakers as a percentage of population 3 years of age and over	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
	19.3	23.7	21.2	27.2	28.3	31.6	31.1

Over the period 1926–1986 the number of persons who were returned in the Census of Population as being able to speak Irish increased from 540,802 or 19.3 per cent of the population aged three years and over to 1,042,701 or 31.1 per cent. Between 1981 and 1986 the actual number of Irish speakers increased by 24,288 or 2.4 per cent. However, the percentage of the total population aged three years and over who were Irish speakers marginally declined from 31.6 per cent to 31.1 per cent. It is important to bear in mind that the number of persons returned as being able to speak Irish at any Census is closely related not only to the total population in the country at that time, but also to the age structure of the population (see Table C). It is particularly dependent on the number of persons who are attending school and on the number of persons in the younger post-schoolgoing age groups.

Provinces 1971–1986

Table B summarises the incidence of Irish speakers in each province in the years 1971, 1981 and 1986

Table B. Number and percentage of Irish speakers, 3 years of age and over in each province in 1971, 1981 and 1986

Province	Irish speakers			Irish speakers as a percentage of population 3 years of age and over		
	1971	1981	1986	1971	1981	1986
	No	No	No	%	%	%
Leinster	341,702	473 225	480,227	24.5	28.2	27.4
Munster	252,805	323 704	337,043	30.6	34.6	34.8
Connacht	137,372	155,134	158,386	37.2	38.8	38.7
Ulster (part of)	57,550	66,350	67,045	29.5	30.8	30.1
Total	789,429	1,018 413	1,042,701	28.3	31.6	31.1

The number of Irish speakers increased in absolute terms during the 1971/81 and 1981/86 intercensal periods in all four provinces. While the number of Irish speakers as a percentage of the population aged 3 years and over also increased in all four provinces in the 1971/81 period, Munster was the only province to register an increase in this percentage between 1981 and 1986. The province of Connacht, which contained the largest Gaeltacht area in 1986, had the greatest proportion of Irish speakers (38.7 per cent) among the four provinces. This has been the case at each of the Censuses of 1971, 1981 and 1986. Leinster, on the other hand, has consistently over the last three Censuses shown the smallest proportion of Irish speakers among its population.

Age Groups

Table C compares the number of Irish speakers in each age group in 1981 and 1986

Table C Number and percentage of Irish speakers, 3 years of age and over, classified by age group – 1981 and 1986

Age group	Irish speakers		Irish speakers as a percentage of the total in the age group	
	1981	1986	1981	1986
	No	No	%	%
3 – 4 years	6 700	5 763	4.9	4.2
5 – 9 years	97 058	91 334	27.8	26.0
10 – 14 years	173 516	174 588	50.8	49.9
15 – 19 years	166 549	167 760	51.0	50.7
20 – 24 years	110 561	104 127	40.0	36.4
25 – 34 years	156 760	157 687	32.8	31.5
35 – 44 years	108 091	127 696	30.0	30.3
45 – 54 years	85 184	87 049	28.3	28.1
55 – 64 years	66 209	68 173	22.9	24.2
65 years and over	47 785	58 524	13.0	15.2
Total	1 018 413	1 042 701	31.6	31.1

The 10–14 and 15–19 age groups had the highest percentage of Irish speakers in both 1981 and 1986. These age groups together with the 5–9 age group correspond to the schoolgoing age groups. The percentage of Irish speakers declined in these three age groups between 1981 and 1986. This was also the case in the post-schoolgoing age groups 20–24 and 25–34. All older age groups registered increases in the percentage of Irish speakers apart from a slight decline in the 45–54 age group.

The figures for 1981 and 1986 show that ability to speak the Irish language declines with age beyond the 15–19 year age group when it is at its highest.

Gaeltacht Areas

Table D Number and percentage of Irish speakers 3 years of age and over, in the Gaeltacht areas (as then defined³) – 1981 and 1986

Gaeltacht areas	Irish speakers		Non-Irish speakers		Irish speakers as percentage of total		Percentage change 1981–86 in population 3+
	1981	1986	1981	1986	1981	1986	
	No	No	No	No	%	%	%
Cork ³	2 681	2 846	560	763	82.7	78.9	*
Donegal	19 209	18 823	5 113	5 961	79.0	75.9	+1.9
Galway	19 819	20 873	4 945	6 963	80.0	75.0	+12.4
Kerry	6 264	6 142	1 584	1 665	79.8	78.7	–0.5
Mayo	8 457	8 071	4 162	4 316	67.0	65.2	–1.8
Meath ³	493	602	407	600	54.8	50.1	*
Waterford	1 103	1 094	203	268	84.5	80.3	+4.3
Total Gaeltacht areas	58 026	58 451	16 974	20 536	77.4	74.0	*

*1981 and 1986 areas not comparable

³ The Gaeltacht areas of Cork and Meath were extended under the Gaeltacht Areas Order 1982. In Table D the 1981 figures for Irish speakers and non-Irish speakers for Cork and Meath relate to the pre-1982 areas whereas the 1986 figures relate to the new (extended) areas. The total population in 1981 of the areas added were as follows – Cork 484 persons, Meath 261 persons. It is not possible to disaggregate these figures by age group or ability to speak the Irish language.

Of the Gaeltacht areas whose boundaries did not change between 1981 and 1986 Galway was the only one to register an increase in the number of Irish speakers. However as the increase in the number of non-Irish speakers outweighed the increase in the number of Irish speakers in the Galway Gaeltacht by a factor of two to one, the percentage of Irish speakers in its total population aged 3 years and over declined from 80 per cent to 75 per cent between 1981 and 1986. The percentage of Irish speakers declined in all Gaeltacht areas over the same period.

Persons able to read but not speak Irish

Persons who can read but cannot speak Irish are treated in this Volume as non-Irish speakers. Such persons, however, have a certain knowledge of the language even if it is somewhat limited. Table E summarises the number of such persons classified by sex for 1971, 1981 and 1986.

Table E Persons, males and females, who can read but cannot speak Irish 1971, 1981 and 1986

Sex	1971	1981	1986
Males	68 394	133 242	161 574
Females	66 774	135 715	168 698
Total	135 168	268,957	330,272

The table shows that while there was a doubling of the numbers of such persons between 1971–1981 for both sexes the increase was more modest for the five year period 1981–1986 (+21.3 per cent for males and +24.3 per cent for females). Over the period as a whole the increase was more pronounced for females than for males.

Irish speakers in Private Households

Of the total of 976 304 private households in the State there were 400 638 or 41 per cent having one or more Irish speakers. The proportions were lowest for Cavan and Dublin County Borough (31.3 and 33.0 per cent respectively) while Galway County Borough at 56.4 per cent easily had the highest proportion with Galway County at 53.5 per cent having the next highest (see Table 10A).

Of the 400 638 private households with one or more Irish speakers 137 669 had precisely one Irish speaker, 38 869 of these were one-person households. Similarly, there were 107 767 households with two Irish speakers and 40 425 of these were two-person households (see Table 12A). In general Irish speakers were widely dispersed in households the majority of which contained other persons who were non-Irish speakers.

Irish speakers in private households comprised some 29.4 per cent of all persons aged 3 years and over in private households. Irish speakers comprised less than 25 per cent of all persons aged 3 years and over in private households in Louth, Wicklow, Wexford, Cavan and Dublin County Borough. They were in excess of 40 per cent in Galway County and County Borough combined (see Table 10B).

Table F Number and percentage of (a) private households with one or more Irish speakers and (b) Irish speakers, 3 years of age and over in private households, in the Gaeltacht areas of each county

Gaeltacht areas	Private households			Persons in private households		
	Total	With one or more Irish speakers		Total 3 years of age and over	Irish speakers	
		Number	Percentage		Number	Percentage
	No	No	%	No	No	%
Cork	1 003	819	81.7	3 673	2 720	74.1
Donegal	7 731	6 456	83.5	25 809	18,742	72.6
Galway	8 081	6 762	83.7	29 363	20 711	70.5
Kerry	2 456	2 038	83.0	7 794	5 835	74.9
Mayo	3 545	2 677	75.5	12 916	7 938	61.5
Meath	346	216	62.4	1 265	602	47.6
Waterford	351	299	85.2	1 252	907	72.4
Total Gaeltacht areas	23 513	19 267	81.9	82 072	57 455	70.0

About 4 out of every 5 private households in Gaeltacht areas contained at least one Irish speaker although the proportions for the Mayo Gaeltacht (3 out of 4) and particularly for the Meath Gaeltacht (2 out of 3) were considerably lower. Table G shows that for Gaeltacht areas as would be expected the degree of dispersion of Irish speakers in households of different sizes is not as great as in non-Gaeltacht areas a greater proportion of entire households in the former being Irish speakers.

Table G Private households classified by number of Irish speakers, 3 years of age and over, in the household, for the State and Gaeltacht areas

Area	Number of Irish speakers in the household							Total private households with Irish speakers
	1	2	3	4	5	6 or more		
State								
Private households	No	137 669	107 767	58 523	43 719	27 070	25 890	400 638
	%	34.4	26.9	14.6	10.9	6.8	6.5	100 -
Irish speakers	No	137 669	215 534	175 569	174 876	135 350	173 883	1 012 881
	%	13.6	21.3	17.3	17.3	13.4	17.2	100 -
Gaeltacht areas								
Private households	No	5 152	5 058	2 892	2 212	1 557	2 396	19 267
	%	26.7	26.3	15.0	11.5	8.1	12.4	100 -
Irish speakers	No	5 152	10 116	8 676	8 848	7 785	16 878	57 455
	%	9.0	17.6	15.1	15.4	13.5	29.4	100 -

Of the 400,638 private households with one or more Irish speakers the head of the household was an Irish speaker in 251,853 cases (62.9 per cent) the proportion was lowest for Wexford at 51.4 per cent and highest for Galway at 73.8 per cent. For Gaeltacht areas as a whole 91.6 per cent of heads of households (with one or more Irish speakers) were Irish speakers. The 251,853 households where the head of the household was an Irish speaker contained a total of 695,446 Irish speakers an average of 2.8 per household while the 148,785 households where the head of the household was not an Irish speaker contained a total of 317,435 Irish speakers, an average of 2.1 per household (see Tables 13A and 13B). For Gaeltacht areas the 17,655 households where the head of the household was an Irish speaker contained 53,869 Irish speakers an average of 3.1 per household while the 1,612 households where the head of the household was not an Irish speaker contained 3,586 Irish speakers an average of 2.2 per household (see Tables 14A and 14B).