

Putting Us All on an Equal Footing

A Profile of Disadvantage in County Cavan

August 2008

Cavan County Development Board



Cavan Community Forum



Cavan County Council



Although every care has been taken in the preparation of this report, neither Cavan Community Forum nor Cavan County Council assumes legal or other liability for any inaccuracy, mistake or error in the contents.

Acknowledgements: Thanks to Dr Emer Coveney, Social Inclusion Unit, Cavan County Council for the research carried out; to the Cavan Community Forum Research Working Group for overseeing the research (Kate Ennals, Madeleine Uí Mhéaloíid, John Eniola, Jerry Fitzpatrick, Marie O'Reilly, Philomena Finnegan); and to Aoife Reilly for the design of the front cover.

Printed and published by Cavan Community Forum and Cavan County Council, 2008.

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Foreword

One of the most significant roles of the Cavan Community and Voluntary Forum is to ensure that the experience of people is shared and developed to mould regional policy so that social inclusion policies are effective.

Working with local community organisations in the county, the Community Forum addresses social exclusion issues in a number of different ways: newsletters, website, email, promotional material, local activity and supporting active citizenship. But to make sure the Community Forum can be effective, we need statistics about poverty and disadvantage in Cavan so that we can focus our energies and make sure our work programme can be more targeted.

Therefore the Community Forum approached the Social Inclusion Unit of Cavan County Council to prepare this report. The Social Inclusion Unit was established in 2007. The unit provides research support to different sections of the Council and to other agencies through the County Development Board and the interagency Social Inclusion Measures Group. It aims to support each section of the local authority to make sure that everyone can access its services and give their views on different issues. This means looking at where services to customers could be improved, and promoting awareness of social exclusion issues across the whole organisation. The present document provides an analysis of Census and other statistical information relating to poverty and social exclusion in the county. It will support the Forum's work programme and policy direction. It will also contribute to the ongoing work of the Social Inclusion Unit and support the preparation of a local anti poverty strategy for County Cavan.

It is hoped that the Forum itself, and also individual Cavan community and voluntary organisations will be able to use this research as the basis for further policy development and as a tool for leveraging further funding and grant aid to tackle social exclusion and poverty.

Underlying the document is the Community Forum's commitment to a human rights based approach. The rights-based approach gives a framework for promoting and

protecting human rights. It seeks to analyse inequalities in society and address discrimination and the unequal distribution of power. The rights approach aims to empower people themselves, especially the most marginalised, to participate in policy formulation. It strengthens the accountability of those who have a duty to act in the interests of others.

It is intended that the Community Forum will use the research to help develop a work programme for 2009. The Community Forum will also promote the research so that it can be used by community organisations as a tool to lever further funding. Where there remain gaps in statistical data, it is recommended that the Cavan Social Inclusion Unit works with the relevant agencies and bodies to gather the information.

Cavan Community Forum

Executive Summary

Definitions

The research was carried out by the Cavan County Council Social Inclusion Unit using 2006 census statistics and other data. It begins by providing useful definitions that distinguish between social exclusion, social inclusion, poverty, and deprivation as well as explaining how poverty is measured. It then briefly describes the geographical and social composition of the county, providing regional and national comparisons where possible. The research shows that, according to national deprivation data, Cavan is a largely rural county with deep pockets of deprivation and social exclusion – particularly in the north west and east of the county, and in certain urban areas.

Target Groups

It identifies the issues and statistics relating to ‘foreign national’ immigrants and ethnic minority groups. There are 5,684 foreign nationals living in Cavan, making up 8.98% of the community. It also shows the areas where the highest number of foreign nationals are resident (for example Cavan town and environs, Ballyjamesduff, Kingscourt and Virginia).

It provides a breakdown of the different religious communities, people with disabilities (8.5% of the county population), carers (2,553 people), one parent families (2,421 family units), older people (12.51%), and addresses the issues of displaced people and prisoners, gender and lesbian and gay people. It also identifies briefly the issues faced by these people.

Poverty and Disadvantage

The research provides interesting data on health issues (medical card holders/dependency ratio/welfare recipients), employment supports, educational disadvantage, housing tenures, access to information technology and broadband, health and lifestyle data, and provides statistics on the different employment sectors in Cavan county.

It also addresses the gaps in services in Cavan, the gaps in statistical data and makes recommendations as to how those gaps in information might be addressed.

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Introduction

This report is presented as a scoping exercise of social exclusion issues in County Cavan. In drawing together up-to-date information from a range of sources, it aims to support the social inclusion work of Cavan Community Forum.

Definitions

In order to set the context for the data, the report firstly outlines definitions of different terms that are used in the field of social inclusion.

Social Exclusion

People experience social exclusion when they are prevented from participating in the type of activities that most people enjoy. These activities can include, for example, education, work, community participation and cultural events.

The European Anti Poverty Network describes social exclusion as “...the processes which push people to the edge of society, which limit their access to resources and opportunities, curtail their participation in normal social and cultural life leaving them feeling marginalised, powerless and discriminated against”.^a

One way of thinking about social exclusion is to think about different groups of people who are similarly disadvantaged. This is known as the ‘target group’ approach. Target groups of people who are at risk of social exclusion might include lone parents, migrants, older people, unemployed people and people with disability. Traditionally, government policy in Ireland used the target group approach, and this is still evident in many areas with specific strategies or policies, for example, for supporting lone parents into work.^b

However, not everyone within each of these categories experiences social exclusion. Recent research reports and government documents have started to use what is

known as the 'lifecycle approach'. Instead of categorising people into different target groups, this new approach recognises that social exclusion can occur at different stages of people's lives. People can move into and out of disadvantaged circumstances at different times. Therefore it may be more accurate to think about disadvantage that happens to younger people, people of working age, older people and people with disabilities.

The lifecycle approach was first set out by the National Economic and Social Council [NESC] in its report, *The Developmental Welfare State*. The report drew attention to the fact that existing state social policies were not effective, which was apparent from the long durations of dependency some people had on social welfare, even at a time when the economy was buoyant and drawing migrant workers from other countries. The report set out to examine the basic architecture of the welfare state and proposed a remodelling of social policy in a way that integrates welfare supports, services, education and training. Within the lifecycle approach, the individual is at the centre of policy development – the individual is assessed based on risks, supports available and key life stages. The key life stages identified are children, people of working age, older people and people with disability. The explanation for why these stages were selected is as follows:

Children receive priority because of the greater awareness of the later problems that result from a poor start in life for individuals and from birth rates maintained at a low level for society. It is accepted that parental circumstances should not be the cause of any child being denied access to key developmental opportunities; while all children are supported, some are supported more than others (progressive universalism).

Older people receive priority because of their growing numbers and the realisation that, in old age, there is effectively nothing individuals can any longer do if their income from all sources is insufficient to keep them from poverty. It is accepted that the basic state pension has to be the major bulwark for keeping retired people from being at-risk-of poverty and that access to it, or its equivalent, has effectively to be open to every person in retirement.

For people of working age, the generalised improvements in education, health and other social supports lead to the expectation of a labour market that is steadily more inclusive, while the attainment of higher employment rates, in turn, helps to place the whole edifice of social protection on a firmer foundation. Tailored progression pathways become the rule rather than the exception for welfare recipients; payment *rates* raise all people to a minimum

threshold of income adequacy while payment *arrangements* facilitate as many people's eventual participation as possible in employment or other social activities. Disincentive effects, where they arise, are addressed by intensifying recipients' engagement with selected service providers rather than by depressing payment levels. ^c

The lifecycle approach was subsequently adopted by the national partnership agreement, *Towards 2016*, which states that: "The lifecycle approach places the individual at the centre of policy development and delivery, by assessing the risks facing him/her, and the supports available to him/her to address those risks, at key stages in his/her life".

The most recent Government anti poverty strategy, called NAP/Inclusion also uses the lifecycle framework. Published in 2007, *NAP/Inclusion* asserts that the lifecycle approach will support the development of a more joined-up approach to policy making.

Social Inclusion

People can confuse the terms social inclusion and social exclusion but they are two separate, indeed opposite, concepts. Social exclusion happens when people feel left out, unable to participate, marginalised, and unvalued. In contrast, social inclusion is what happens when people feel they are included and able to participate in different aspects of life and the community.

Social inclusion is a process whereby inequalities and barriers to participation are removed, so that people who are at risk of being marginalised are able to contribute fully to society and participate in all aspects of social, economic and cultural life.

Galway County Council defines social inclusion as "...a series of positive actions to achieve equality of access to goods and services, to assist all individuals participate in their community and society, to encourage the contribution of all persons to social and cultural life and to be aware of, and to challenge all forms of discrimination. In addition social inclusion is about ensuring the marginalised and those living in poverty have greater participation in decision making which affects their lives as well as allowing them to improve their living standards and their overall well-being."^d

When services are delivered in a socially inclusive way, they take account of barriers that people might experience, and modify the service to meet the needs of different people. This might mean making sure that buildings are fully accessible, that services are delivered in a gender sensitive way, or that the language needs of ethnic minority groups are considered as part of the service delivery.

Examples of Social Inclusion Practice through Good Communication

It's All Routine...

There are different ways to share information – using the internet, newsletters, email, meetings, seminars, drama, exhibitions...it is all communication and a way of sharing information. However, whatever the method, make sure that method becomes part of the routine so that it is regularly produced. One production is of limited value.

The Community Forum set up a monthly email list which circulates information about events, activities, and legislation at the end of every month. People expect it and now use it to distribute information themselves as well as access what else is happening.

The Community Forum set up a website which is updated nearly every day. More and more people use it because it changes on a regular basis.

Build Alliances and Nurture Networking

Forge alliances with other organisations and agencies. The Cavan Community Forum works closely with other border county community forums and at national level. As a result, we are a strong Forum as we gain confidence from our neighbours when we network and share experiences. What works well for them is likely to work well for us. There's power in numbers!

Dare to Share!

Be Creative When Consulting and Compromise!

Engage with people in creative ways so that they are better able to give their thoughts in ways they find more natural. Ask people to respond in ways they feel comfortable with, such as talking, drawing, through theatre, or poetry.

If you have to consult through public meetings, break people into small groups and ask them to consider issues they are interested in and provide possible solutions.

When you write up the consultation process, circulate a draft of what you heard to the people who participated. Ask for their comments.

Make sure you incorporate what people have said into your policy document and that they are happy to sign their name to the policy making process.

Ownership and Social Inclusion

We all care about ownership – whether it's our homes or our ideas. People will only get involved if they feel some interest and ownership of the project and that they will benefit.

Cavan Community Forum published a book of walks chosen by local people – the first walks brochure in Cavan. Everyone was interested...and we got many walks when we asked.

Cavan Community Forum held a show to mark national volunteer day. Over 30 groups were happy to come and 'make a show' of themselves, displaying their work, showing off their activities. Everyone benefited from the networking and if we work together than maybe we can even attract new volunteers!

Poverty

There are many different understandings of poverty. The Government's definition of poverty states that: "People are living in poverty if their income and resources (material, cultural and social) are so inadequate as to preclude them from having a standard of living which is regarded as acceptable by Irish society generally. As a result of inadequate income and resources people may be excluded and marginalised from participating in activities which are considered the norm for other people in society." ^e

The Office for Social Inclusion, based in the Department of Social and Family Affairs, gives definitions of some of the different terms associated with poverty and social inclusion. These are:

- Poverty is deprivation due to a lack of resources, both material and non-material, e.g. income, housing, health, education, knowledge and culture. It requires a threshold to measure it;
- Social exclusion is being unable to participate in society because of a lack of resources that are customarily available to the general population. It can refer to both individuals, and communities in a broader framework, with linked problems such as low incomes, poor housing, high crime environments and family problems;
- Inequality is a comparative or relative concept. It does not measure deprivation or poverty and does not require a threshold. It is possible for inequality to exist with or without poverty. Similarly, poverty can exist with or without inequality;
- Resources can be personal, within the family, or within the society.

Measuring Poverty

Being able to quantify poverty helps us to understand it. There are various ways of measuring poverty that try to define it in an objective, empirical way. One way to measure poverty is to look at people's income level, and compare it with earnings for the population as a whole. In Ireland, the Central Statistics Office collects data on two different measures of poverty. These are known as the 'at risk of poverty' measure and the 'consistent poverty' measure.^f

Relative or 'At Risk' of Poverty

The 'at risk of poverty' measure is also known as relative poverty. A person is described as being at risk of poverty if their income is below 60% of median income (the mid point on the scale of incomes in Ireland). In 2006, that was an income of below €202.49 a week for an adult.

"Relative poverty is where some people's way of life and income is so much worse than the general standard of living in the country or region in which they live that they struggle to live a normal life and to participate in ordinary economic, social and cultural activities."^g

Consistent Poverty

The consistent poverty measure takes account of people 'at risk' of poverty who are also deprived of two or more good goods or services considered essential for a basic standard of living. People are in consistent poverty when they are below the 60% median income line and also cannot afford two or more items from the following list:

1. Two pairs of strong shoes
2. A warm waterproof overcoat
3. Buy new not second-hand clothes
4. Eat meals with meat, chicken, fish (or vegetarian equivalent) every second day
5. Have a roast joint or its equivalent once a week
6. Had to go without heating during the last year through lack of money
7. Keep the home adequately warm
8. Buy presents for family or friends at least once a year
9. Replace any worn out furniture
10. Have family or friends for a drink or meal once a month
11. Have a morning, afternoon or evening out in the last fortnight, for entertainment

Who is at risk of poverty?

The EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions is an annual voluntary survey of households across the EU. The first survey was carried out in 2003. The 2006 survey identified the following high risk groups for poverty in Ireland:^h

- Households headed by an unemployed person (60.8%), a student (51.6%), or an ill or disabled person (44.4%)
- Unemployed individuals (44.0%)
- Ill or disabled individuals (40.8%)
- Members of lone parent households (39.6%)

People living in lone parent households had the highest levels of consistent poverty (32.5%).

The survey noted a large drop in the 'at risk' of poverty rate for older people, which decreased from 20.1% in 2005 to 13.6% in 2006.ⁱ

In 2006, 8.8% of the state's population had debt problems that arose from ordinary living expenses.

People who are working can also be living in poverty. This is known as 'in work' poverty. People working in low paid or insecure jobs can experience this type of poverty, where they have difficulty in making ends meet even though they are earning a weekly wage.

Deprivation

Deprivation is defined by the Office for Social Inclusion as unmet basic human needs. Different systems have been developed for measuring deprivation or disadvantage in particular geographic areas. One example is the Haase Pratschke Index of Deprivation, developed Trutz Haase and Jonathan Pratschke for the 2002 Census data. The Haase Pratschke Index measures socio-economic disadvantage by a combination of social class disadvantage, demographic decline and labour market deprivation.^j

One advantage of using such indices is that they can be updated at each census to measure how an area has changed in terms of disadvantage or affluence.

Government decisions on funding are sometimes based on such deprivation scores. For example, boundaries for area-based partnership companies were selected with reference to the Haase Index.

Another example is the SAHRU Index, developed by the Small Area Health Research Unit in Trinity College Dublin. SAHRU developed the first national deprivation index for health and health services research in 1997. Deprivation is different to poverty, in that it also refers to physical and social conditions rather than just income level. The SAHRU index was originally based on 1991 Census data and it has been updated for subsequent Census years.

The index is constructed using weighted indicators from the Census Small Area Population Statistics. The Small Area Statistics give data on electoral divisions [EDs], which are the smallest geographic areas for which Census data are available.

The current index is based on four indicators: unemployment, social class, type of housing tenure, and car ownership. A score is calculated for each electoral division, and the EDs are ranked from low (least deprived) to high (most deprived) and divided into ten categories (deciles). (More details on these indices are provided on page 19.)

Description of County Cavan

Cavan is an inland county in the Province of Ulster, covering an area of 189,060 hectares (467,167 acres). The county is characterised by drumlin countryside dotted with many lakes and small hills. The county has several areas of highly scenic landscape, and overall has a pleasing pastoral environment.

In recent years County Cavan has experienced significant changes with major increases in the amount of residential and other types of developments and considerable increases in population.

Cavan remains a predominately rural county. Nationally, 61% of the population live in towns, and 39% live in rural areas. In County Cavan however, 26% live in towns and the majority (74%) live in rural areas. Although it has a strong rural tradition, Cavan has been experiencing increasing levels of urbanisation. The proportion of people living in towns increased by 10% between 2002 and 2006. This is a significant change given that the level of urbanisation in the Border Region has only increased by 1.5% and in the state as a whole by 1.1%. Ongoing development of towns indicates that this trend towards increased urbanisation is likely to continue.

Cavan Town is the administrative centre for the county and the largest town. It provides an extensive range of services to the county and has been identified as a Hub town in the National Spatial Strategy and Border Regional Planning Guidelines.

The county as a whole has experienced an increasing ethnic mix, with significant numbers of migrant workers arriving from Eastern European countries in particular. The 2006 Census showed that among the usually resident population in Co. Cavan, there were 1,884 people from the UK, 810 Polish nationals, 776 Lithuanians, 858 from other EU 25 countries, and 1,356 foreign nationals from non-EU countries.

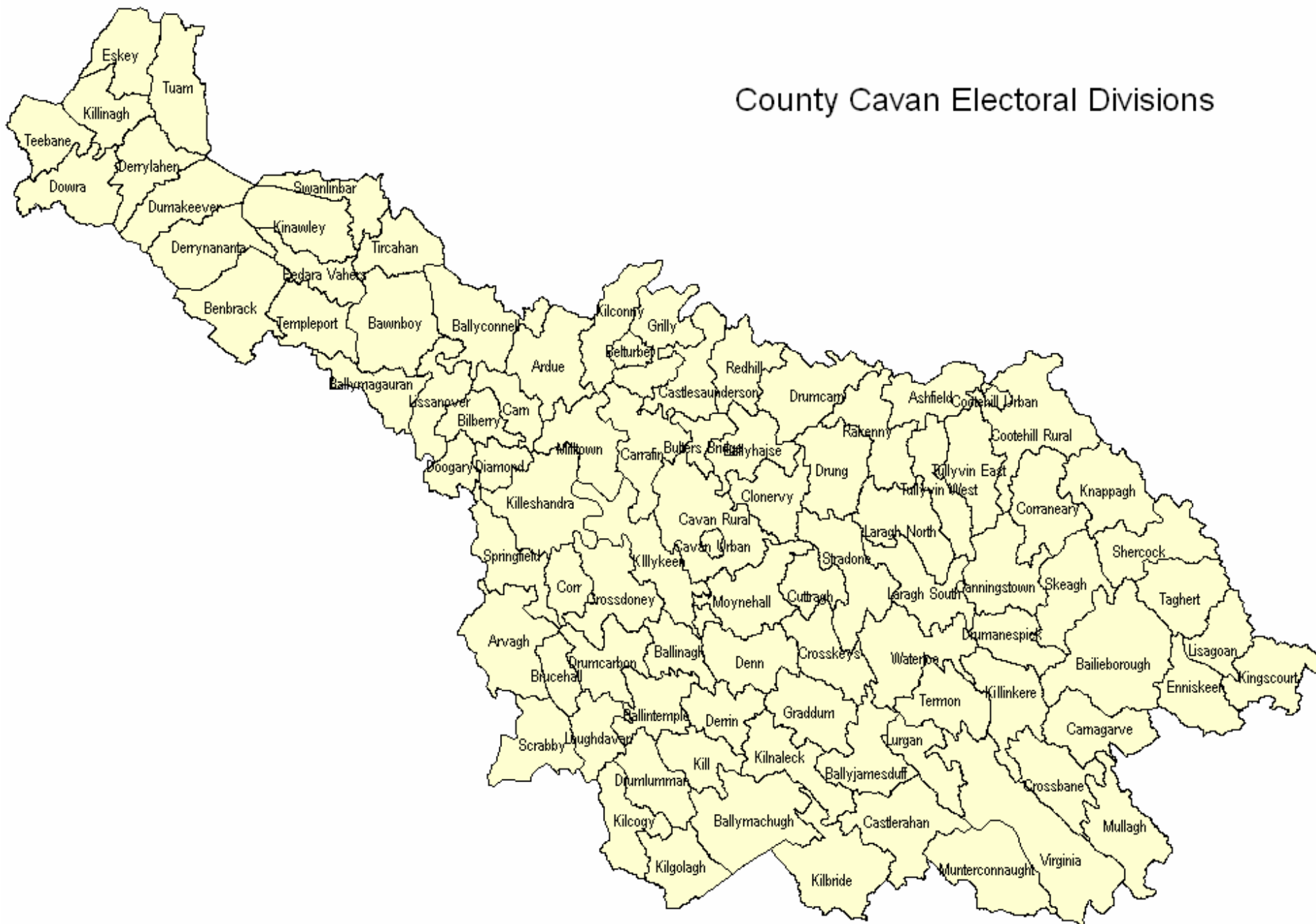
According to the 2006 Census, 22% of the population of Cavan was aged 14 years or under. This was slightly higher than the proportion of the national population in that age group (20.39%). County Cavan also had a higher proportion of its population aged 65 and over (12.51%) than the State (11.03%). This means that Cavan has a higher dependency ratio compared to the national average.

The county's labour market has also undergone radical transformation, with a massive decline in farming and increasing proportions working in services, sales, clerical, management and government. In 2006, there were 30,840 people in Cavan's labour force, of whom 8.9% were in farming, fishing and forestry; 15.6% were in manufacturing; and 11.24% in building and construction. The proportion of people working in building and construction increased from 7.37% to 11.24% in the ten year period 1996 in 2006. The proportion of people working in farming, fishing and forestry in the county declined from 22.83% to 8.94% over the same ten year period. The manufacturing sector also experienced a decline.

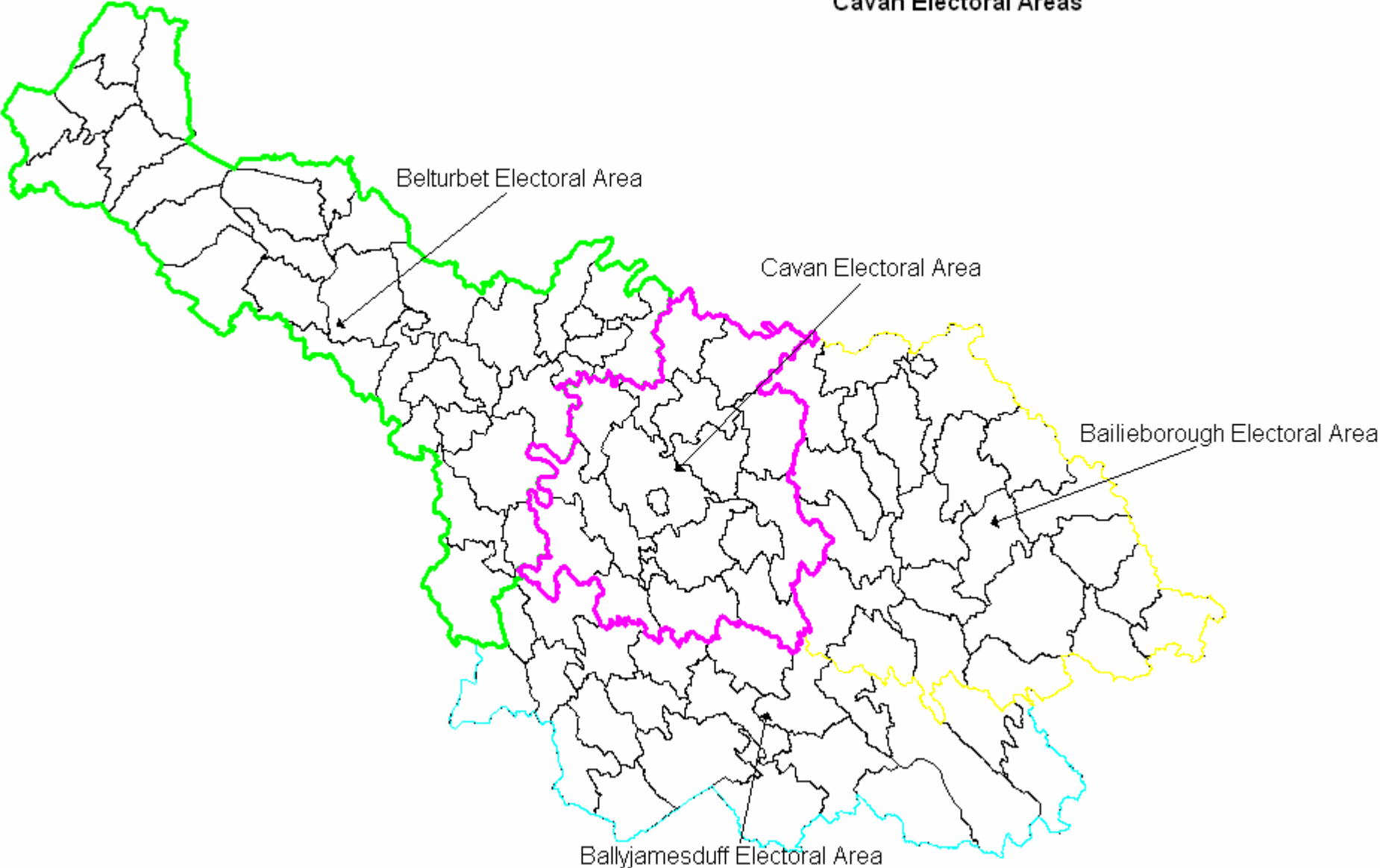
County Cavan offers a strong tourism product. The county boasts verdant scenery, a proliferation of lakes and waterway, several four star hotels and quality three star hotels. New golf courses, spas and high class restaurants are catering for the short-break market which has much potential for further growth. Historically, angling was the county's main tourism market, and although this area was weakened, significant investment in the market will continue over the next two years in an attempt to recover the brand name. The county tourism strategy aims to grow other aspects of the tourism product such as food, heritage, golf, conferencing, adventure, festivals, genealogy and equestrian. In 2006, 89,000 overseas visitors came to County Cavan. There is no national breakdown of exactly how many domestic tourists came to Cavan. However, 620,000 domestic visitors came to the north west (Cavan, Monaghan, Leitrim, Donegal and Sligo) in the year 2006.^k

Cavan is made up of 93 electoral divisions, which fall into one of four local electoral areas. The electoral divisions and electoral areas are illustrated on the maps on the following pages.

County Cavan Electoral Divisions



Cavan Electoral Areas



Population Size, Density and Dispersal

For decades, County Cavan experienced a declining population, but in recent years this trend has been reversed. The most recent census (2006) recorded the county's population as 64,003. Indeed the population of the county is projected to increase to 80,000 by the year 2020.¹

The map on the following page illustrates population change in the county between the 2002 and 2006 Census periods. Areas in red experienced a decline in population. Areas shaded light green experienced a small or moderate increase, while areas shaded dark green experienced a large increase (mainly town and environs areas). Areas shaded white recorded no change in population size.

In 2006, the overall population density (i.e. the number of persons per square kilometre) for the State was 60. Leitrim (18) had the lowest population density followed by Mayo (22). Dublin city had the highest population density with 4,304 persons per square kilometre, followed by Cork city (3,015) and Limerick city (2,582). County Cavan had a population density of 32.6 persons per square kilometre in 2006, a higher density than it had in 2002 (28.8).

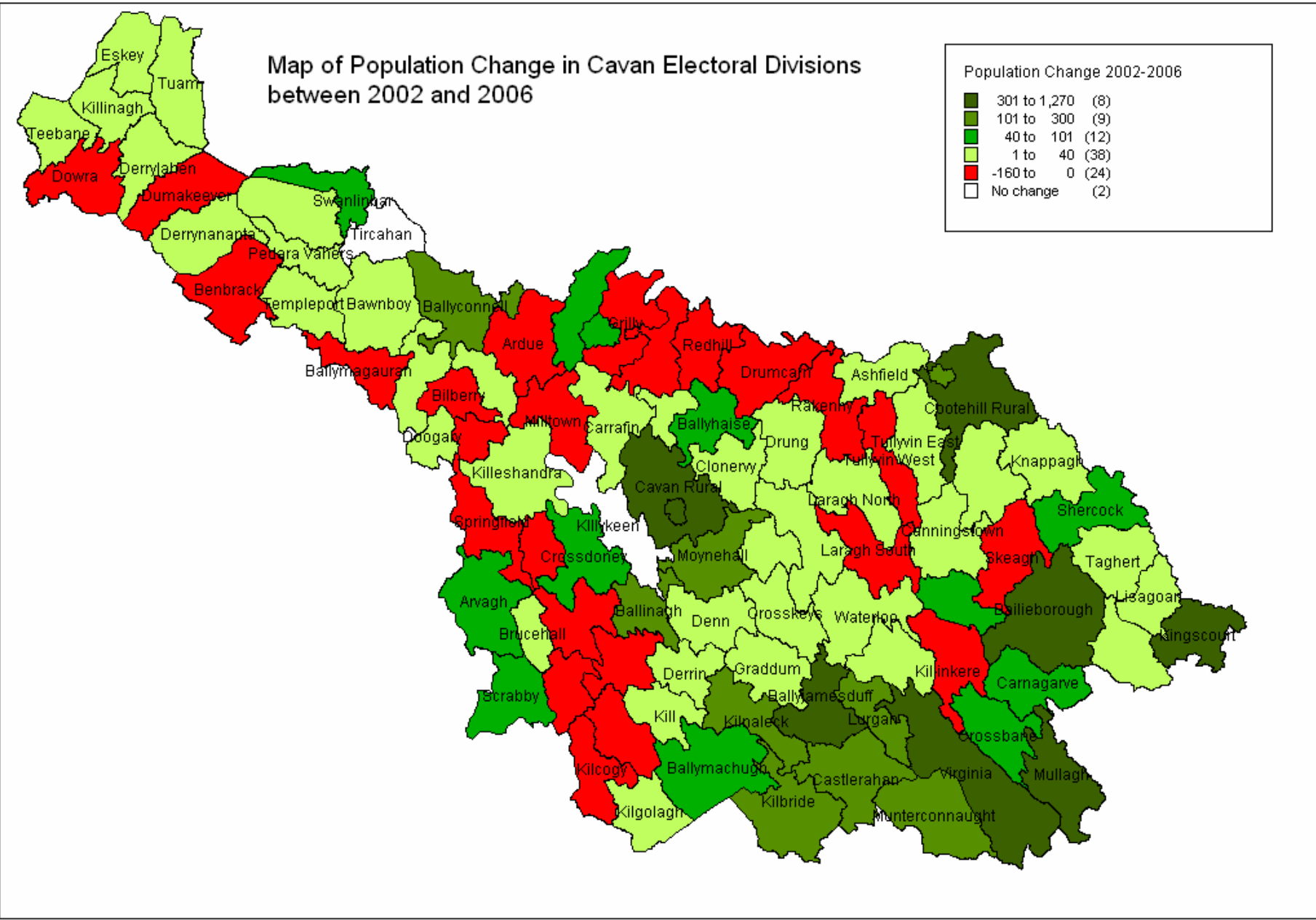
Cavan Population Density, 2006 and 2002		
Census year	2006	2002
Square km	1,963	1,963
Population	64,003	56,546
Persons per sq km	32.6	28.8

The map on page 16 shows that areas to the north west of the county have a sparse population, with denser populations to be found in the towns, particularly Cavan town and environs, Belturbet, Cootehill Urban, Kingscourt and Ballyjamesduff.

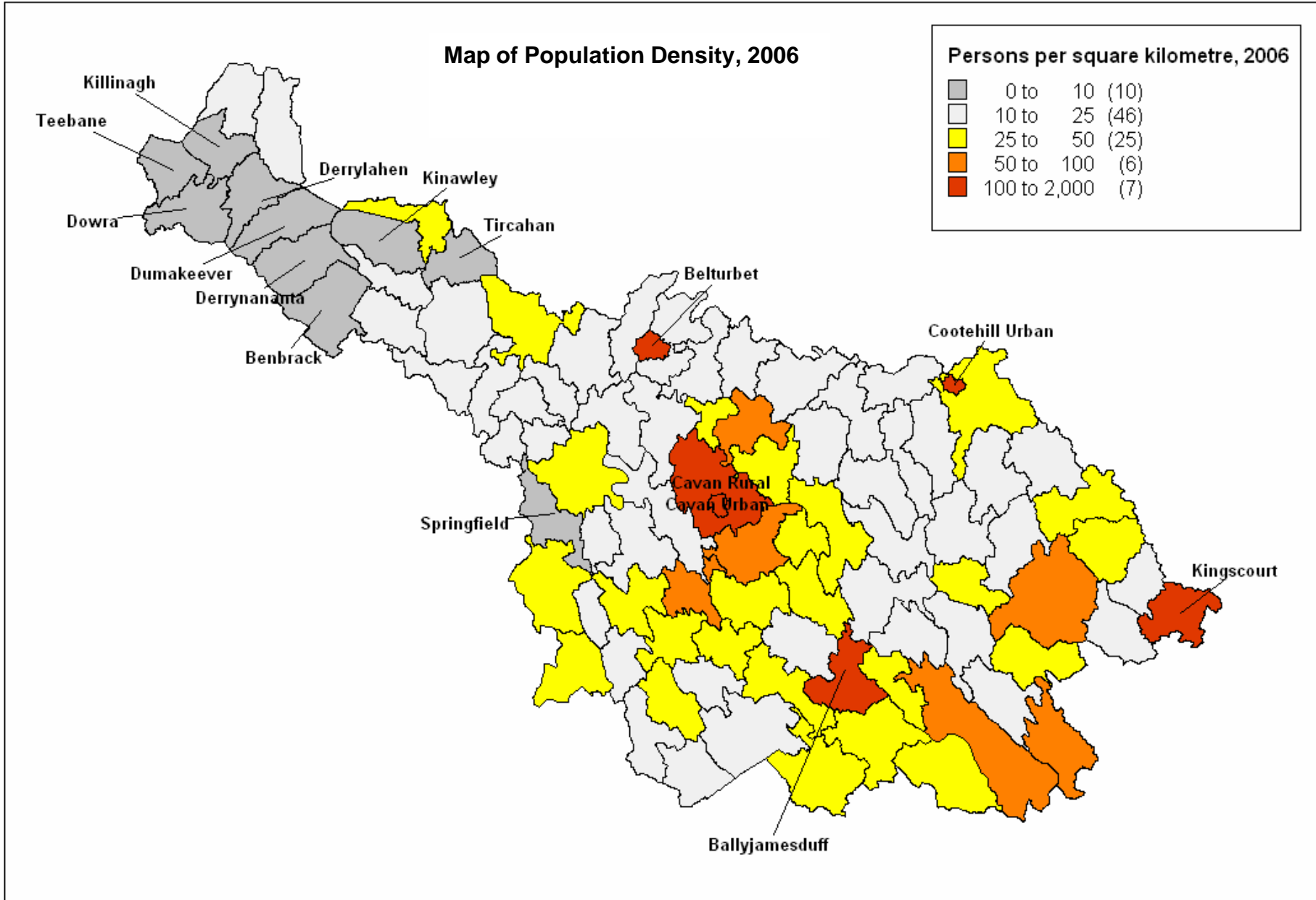
Electoral Divisions that had less than 10 persons per square kilometre included Benbrack; Kinawley, Tircahan, Springfield, Derrylahan, Derrynananta, Dowra, Dunmakeever, Killinagh, and Teebane.

Map of Population Change in Cavan Electoral Divisions between 2002 and 2006

Population Change 2002-2006	
301 to 1,270	(8)
101 to 300	(9)
40 to 101	(12)
1 to 40	(38)
-160 to 0	(24)
No change	(2)



Map of Population Density, 2006



Regional Context

National Spatial Strategy

The National Spatial Strategy [NSS] is a vision for the spatial development of Ireland up to the year 2020. Its main aim is to achieve balanced regional growth and, as Government policy, it will inform future investment in order to achieve this balance.

Cavan is in the Border Region along with Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Monaghan and Louth. The NSS established Cavan and Monaghan as hub towns. Hub towns are strategic urban centres that support and are supported by Gateways, and reach out to wider rural areas of the region. According to the strategy, Cavan is allocated Hub status because of "...its central location in the border area, its position on the N3 corridor, its strategic position vis-a-vis a large surrounding mainly rural hinterland and the development dynamic it has sustained in recent years. Cavan's role as a hub will build on its performance as a strategically placed county town as well as its energising role for its wider rural hinterland" (2002: 48). Cavan's Hub status links it with the Gateway of Dundalk, the Monaghan Hub and the Primary Development Centre of Drogheda.

Hub status should bring opportunities to Cavan town and the surrounding areas, particularly in the areas of:

- Population growth
- Housing development
- Transport improvements
- Communication (especially broadband)
- Strengthening of energy networks
- Strategic infrastructure priorities (e.g. commercial, Public Private Partnerships)

Hub towns are required to have certain characteristics including the option of third level or outreach facilities, a mix of local, medium sized and larger businesses, effective broadband access, effective local transport with facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, a local or regional hospital, a wide range of amenity, sporting and

cultural facilities, effective water services and waste management, phased zoning and servicing of land banks, industrial and local business parks.

Border Context

County Cavan shares 45 miles of border with Northern Ireland. The border region of Ireland is understood to be disadvantaged by the legacy of the Northern Ireland Troubles. Years of conflict impacted on areas such as community spirit, underdeveloped business, industry and tourism sectors; poorer transport especially cross border; higher levels of out migration, and weak infrastructural development. The border region of Ireland experiences higher than average levels of poverty compared to other regions of Ireland, measured at the 50% poverty line.^m Groups experiencing particular disadvantage in the border area may include northern Catholics displaced from Northern Ireland and southern Protestants who are a minority community in the south.ⁿ

Issues affecting the border region reported in the publication *The Emerald Curtain* were: ^a

- Lack of identity, profile, and image
- Deficient transport, economic and social infrastructure
- Poor transport links, especially public transport
- Above average levels of social deprivation
- High levels of general and youth unemployment
- By contrast, skills shortages in some areas
- Low value added indigenous industry
- Dependence on agriculture
- Low levels of public services in key area e.g. hospitals
- Over-reliance on European funds, rather than national and private sector ones

Ireland also has a peripheral location in an EU context. It is therefore affected by factors associated with all border areas which include: isolation due to natural barriers, disparities between regions, remoteness from administrative centres, and increased transport costs.^o

^a Stutt, 1999, cited in Harvey et al., *The Emerald Curtain*, page 21.

A Picture of Disadvantage in County Cavan

Deprivation in County Cavan

SAHRU Index

The thematic map on the following page illustrates the level of disadvantage in County Cavan according to the SAHRU Index, with areas shaded dark red being the most disadvantaged.

The three most deprived areas in County Cavan in 2006 were the urban areas of Cavan Urban, Cootehill Urban and Belturbet Urban. These three EDs had a combined population of 6,572 people in 2006, representing approximately ten per cent of the county's population. (Nationally, 19% of the population live in the 341 most deprived EDs). However, that is not to say that everyone living in a deprived area is personally deprived.

Nine EDs in Cavan scored in the ninth decile, making them the next most disadvantaged.

It is clear from this map that disadvantage is clustered around certain urban areas, and also to the north and west of the county, and certain EDs in the south and east of the county.

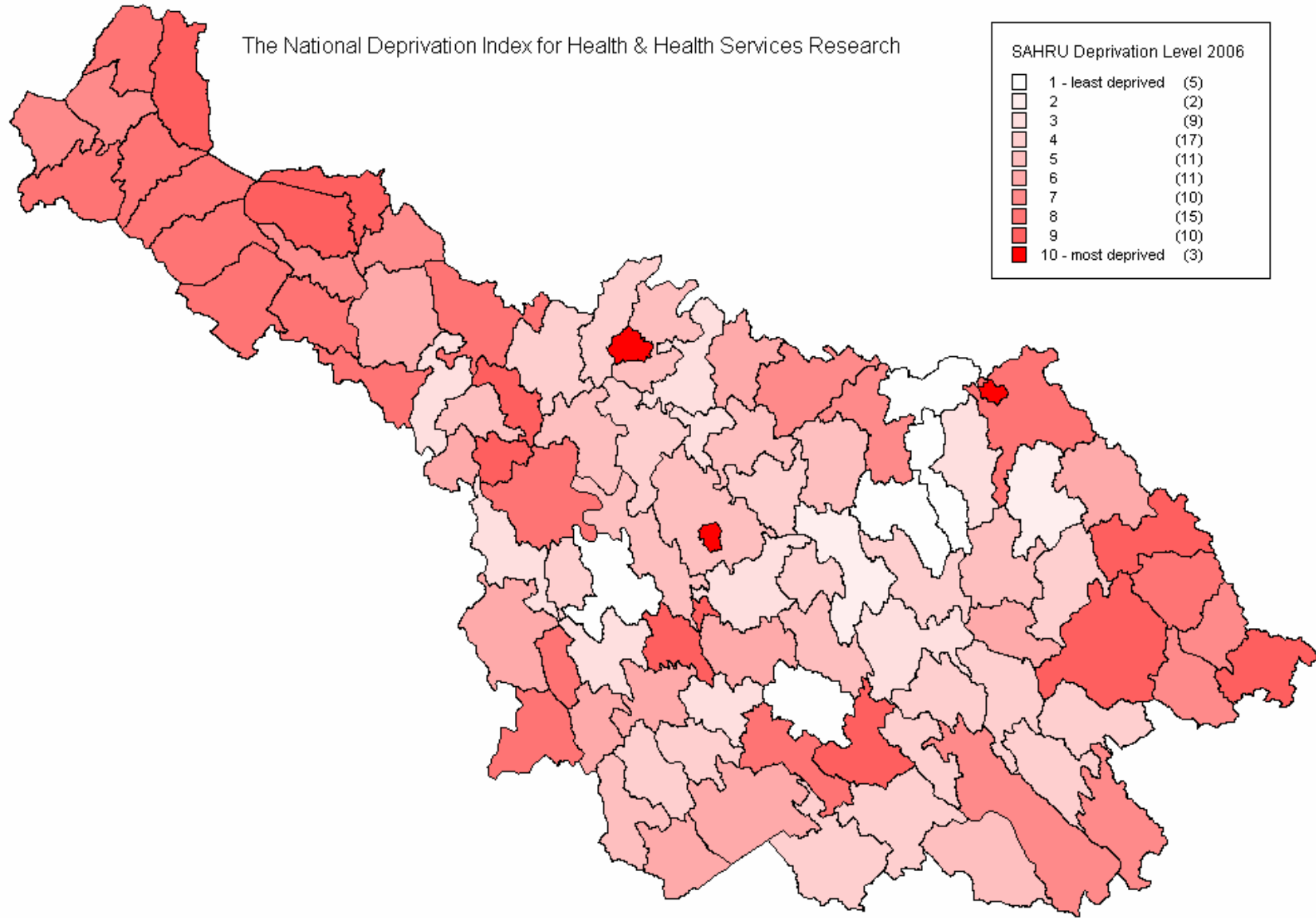
The five EDs registered as least disadvantage on this scale were: Ashfield, Crossdoney, Graddum, Larah North, and Tullyvin West. Other areas with low scores (equating with low levels of disadvantage) were Corraneary and Stradone.

In the second map, the three areas that experienced the greatest increase in deprivation between 2002 and 2006 were the EDs of Cavan Rural, Cootehill Rural and Scrabby.

Crossbane experienced the greatest decrease in deprivation, while 11 other EDs experienced a moderate decrease (Kelly and Teljeur, 2007, SAHRU report).

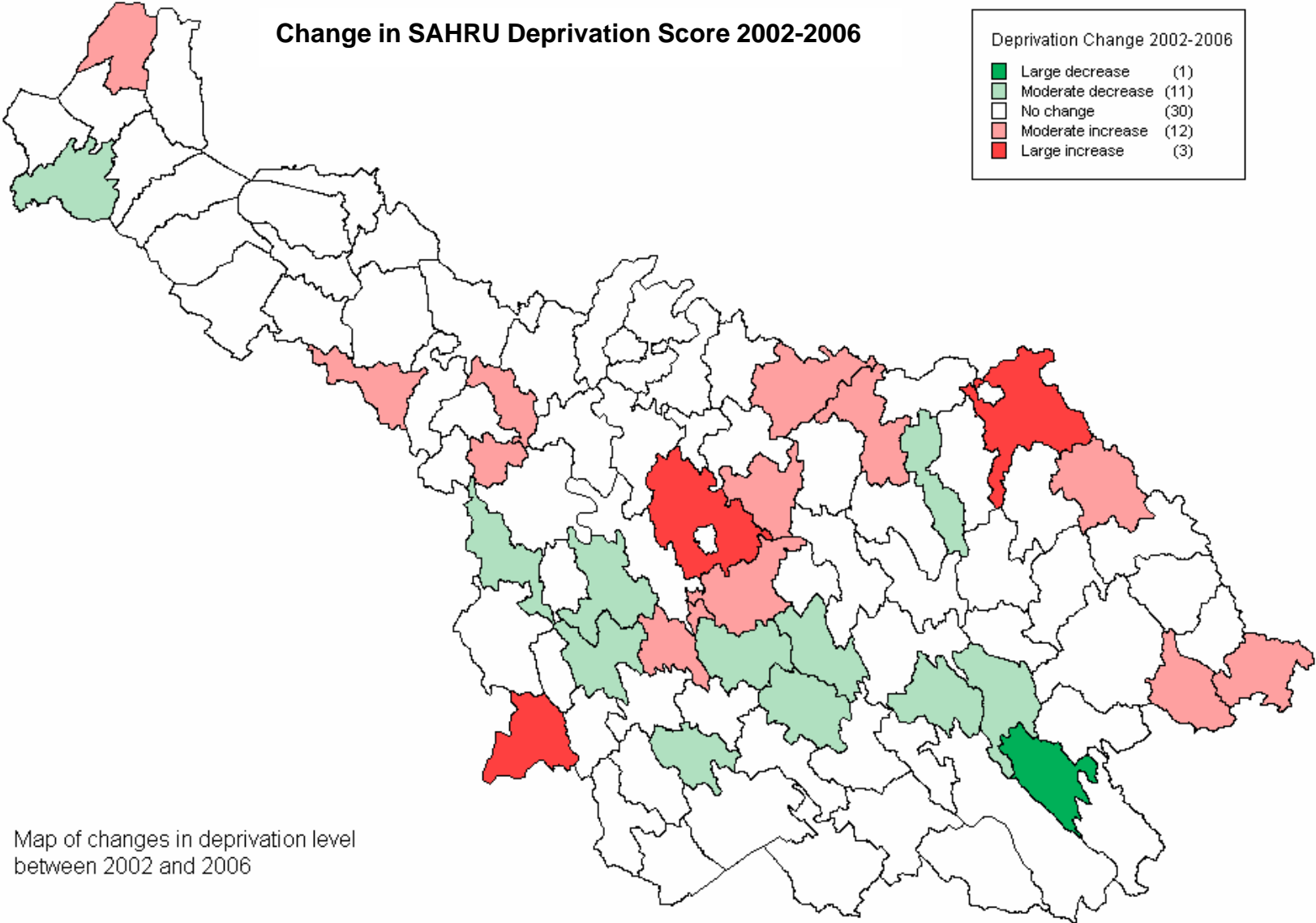
The National Deprivation Index for Health & Health Services Research

SAHRU Deprivation Level 2006		
1 - least deprived	(5)	
2	(2)	
3	(9)	
4	(17)	
5	(11)	
6	(11)	
7	(10)	
8	(15)	
9	(10)	
10 - most deprived	(3)	



Change in SAHRU Deprivation Score 2002-2006

Deprivation Change 2002-2006	
Large decrease	(1)
Moderate decrease	(11)
No change	(30)
Moderate increase	(12)
Large increase	(3)



Map of changes in deprivation level between 2002 and 2006

Haase Pratschke Index

A different index of deprivation has been developed by Haase and Pratschke. This can be used to measure relative levels of disadvantage/affluence in Cavan since 1991. This index shows that the position of Cavan has fallen relative to other areas over the past 15 years (See Table Below).

1991	1996	2002	2006
-1.7	-2.4	-3.2	-3.2

Source: Haase 2008

Using the Haase Pratschke index, the following Electoral Divisions appeared as the most disadvantaged in 2006:

	Relative Index Score (2006)
Diamond	-22.4
Drumakeever/Derrynananta	-19.0
Derrylahan	-18.7
Cootehill Urban	-16.9
Templeport/Benbrack	-14.5
Pedara Vohers/Tircahan	-14.1
Dowra	-12.7
Cavan Urban	-12.7
Canningstown	-10.5
Carn	-10.3

Source: Trutz Haase & Jonathan Pratschke (2008) New Measures of Deprivation: An Inter-temporal and Spatial Analysis of Data from the Census of Population, 1991, 1996, 2002 and 2006.

Haase and Pratschke note the following points which are relevant to County Cavan and the border region:

- The Border region is the most disadvantaged region of Ireland.
- Cavan is the second most disadvantaged local authority area within the region.
- Rural parts of the county tend to be slightly more disadvantaged.
- Over the past 20 years, the population of Cavan grew by 21.2%, compared to a national growth rate of 20.3% in the same period.
- County Cavan experienced a decline in its age dependency rate (42.7% to 34.8%) between 1991 and 2006. The age dependency rate refers to the proportion of the population under 15 years of age over 64 years of age as part of the total population).

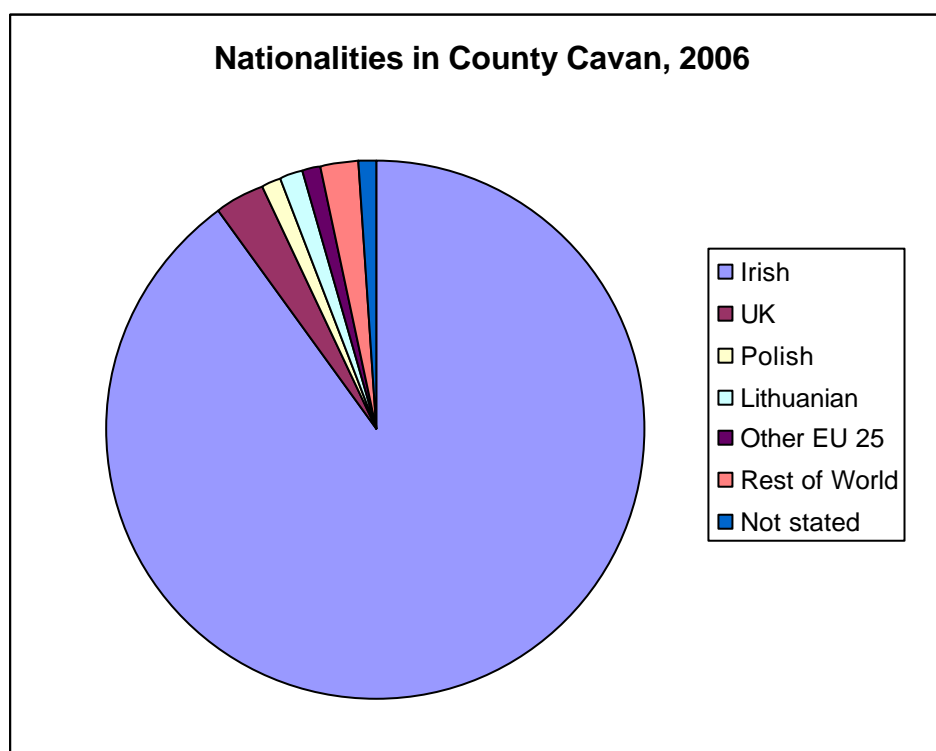
Foreign Nationals

In 2006, there were 810 Polish nationals living in County Cavan; 776 Lithuanians; 858 from other EU 25 countries, and 1,356 from the rest of the world (Census 2006).

There were also 1,884 people from the UK living in the county.

Theme 2 - 2 : Usually resident population by nationality, 2006								
Nationality	Irish	UK	Polish	Lithuanian	Other EU 25	Rest of World	Not stated	Total
Cavan County	56,906	1,884	810	776	858	1356	674	63,264

The diagram below represents the proportions of Irish and foreign nationals in Cavan's population in 2006. Foreign nationals make up less than ten per cent of the county's population.



Areas with large numbers of foreign nationals included Cavan Urban (699), Cavan Rural (574), Ballyjamesduff (391), Kingscourt (251), Virginia (204), Ballyconnell (183), Kilnaleck (127), Belturbet Urban (105) and Cootehill Rural (102).

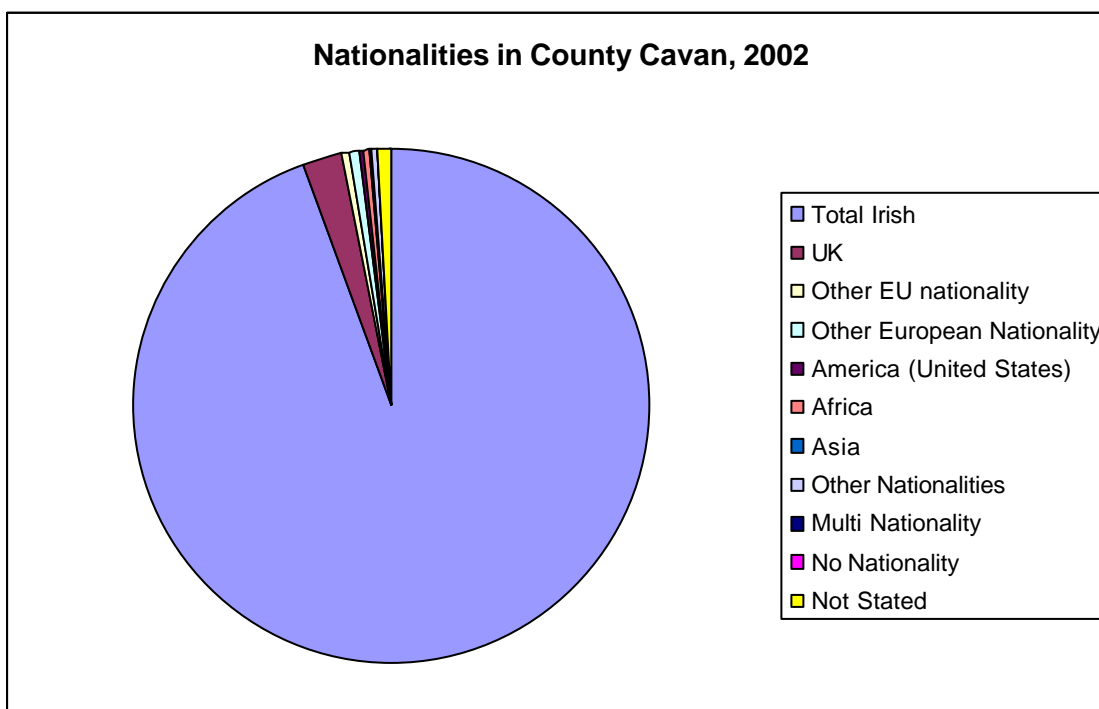
A large proportion of foreign nationals in the county are from Poland or Lithuania. Polish or Lithuanian people made 69% of the foreign nationals living in Kingscourt; 64% of those in Cootehill Rural; and 58% of those in Ballyconnell. Almost half (45%) of the foreign nationals living in Cavan Urban area were Polish or Lithuanian.

Theme 2 - 2 : Usually resident population by nationality, 2006								
Nationality	Irish	UK	Polish	Lithuanian	Other EU 25	Rest of World	Not stated	Total
Local Electoral Area								
Bailieborough, Cavan	15,639	397	203	208	95	195	196	16,933
Ballyjamesduff, Cavan	14,839	582	203	129	212	431	211	16,607
Belturbet, Cavan	9,876	492	116	113	182	131	61	10,971
Cavan, Cavan	16,552	413	288	326	369	599	206	18,753

Theme 2 - 2 : Usually resident population by nationality, 2006 - percentages								
Nationality	Irish	UK	Polish	Lithuanian	Other EU 25	Rest of World	Not stated	Total
Local Electoral Area								
Bailieborough, Cavan	92.36%	2.34%	1.20%	1.23%	0.56%	1.15%	1.16%	100%
Ballyjamesduff, Cavan	89.35%	3.50%	1.22%	0.78%	1.28%	2.60%	1.27%	100%
Belturbet, Cavan	90.02%	4.48%	1.06%	1.03%	1.66%	1.19%	0.56%	100%
Cavan, Cavan	88.26%	2.20%	1.54%	1.74%	1.97%	3.19%	1.10%	100%

In 2002, 94% of the county's population was Irish, and about 1% were EU or European nationalities.

Nationalities in County Cavan 2002										
Total Irish	UK	Other EU nationality	Other European Nationality	America (United States)	Africa	Asia	Other Nationalities	Multi Nationality	No Nationality	Not Stated
52,618	1492	194	345	198	146	107	107	18	19	499
94.39%	2.68%	0.35%	0.62%	0.36%	0.26%	0.19%	0.19%	0.03%	0.03%	0.90%



Foreign nationals living in the county may be disadvantaged by poor English language skills, lack of knowledge of local supports or state systems (education, health etc.), racial discrimination, and different rights and entitlements depending on their legal and residency status in the county. Many migrant workers experience exploitation in their place of employment, and there are particular gender issues (for example, migrant women are more vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation).^p

Some of the issues for migrants identified in a consultation with service providers in Cavan in early 2008 were: communication issues, assessment of qualifications, lack of cultural awareness among the indigenous population, and the need for staff training and referral systems in service provider organisations.^q

A briefing paper from the Migrant Rights Centre Ireland highlighted specific issues for migrant women in rural parts of Ireland. It states that migrant women in agri-food, services, catering and care work and spouse dependents are highly vulnerable. They are frequently not in receipt of their full rights and entitlements and often have difficulty accessing essential services. They experience high levels of isolation and multiple forms of discrimination.

Travellers and Other Ethnic Minorities

Travellers

The 2006 Census showed that there were 212 White Irish Travellers living in County Cavan. Of these, 113 were living in the Cavan Urban area (Cavan town), 26 were in Bailieborough, 18 were in the Cootehill Rural area and 22 were in Eskey, with small numbers enumerated in other electoral divisions.

It should be noted however that the Census data may not accurately reflect the present number of Travellers in the county. This is related to issues such as their nomadic lifestyle, lower levels of literacy among the Traveller community which might impact on their participation in the Census. Also some Travellers may choose not to identify themselves as Travellers.

There are over 22,369 Irish Travellers living throughout the state.

Ethnic or Cultural Background	White Irish Traveller
Cavan County	212
State	22,369

The Census report, Principal Demographic Results, highlights the stark contrast between the age structure of the Traveller community and that of the overall population. While the young population aged 0-14 years accounted for 20.4% of the general population, the corresponding proportion was 41.4% for Travellers. Older Travellers (i.e. those aged 65 years and over) accounted for just 2.6% of the total Traveller population compared with 11% for the general population. The distinctive age structure of the Traveller Community resulted in a median age of 18 compared with a national figure of 33.[†]

In her presentation to a Pobal conference in 2007, Professor Kathleen Lynch from University College Dublin highlighted the following issues for the Traveller community:

- Irish Travellers have a significantly lower life expectancy (10 years) than settled people
- Sudden Infant Death rates are 12 times the national average
- 71% of Traveller women experienced verbal abuse for being Travellers

- Housing 1998 (Traveller Accommodation) Act has no sanctions on local authorities who do not provide accommodation.
- 63% of Travellers over 15 years of age have left school (Source: Survey of Traveller Women and 2002 Census)

Other Ethnic Groups

Data on other ethnic groups showed that there were 4,296 other White minorities usually resident in Co. Cavan. In addition, there were 402 Asian (or Asian Irish), 316 Black (or Black Irish), 506 other and 973 not stated.

The total population of White Irish usually resident people was 56,559.

Ethnic or Cultural Background	White Irish	Other White	Black or Black Irish	Asian or Asian Irish	Other*	Not stated	Total
Cavan County	56,559	4,296	316	402	506	973	63,264

Table Usually Resident Population by Ethnic or Cultural Background – 2006

*The category 'other' includes people of mixed ethnic background

Ethnic minorities in County Cavan face similar issues to foreign nationals in that they may be subject to racism, isolation, workplace exploitation, underemployment, more limited opportunities for cultural expression, and language difficulties, among other issues.

Religious Minorities

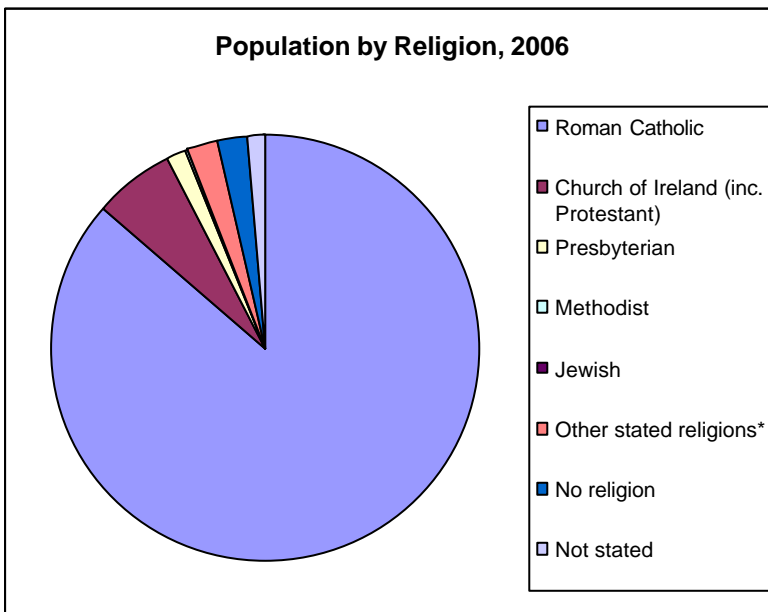
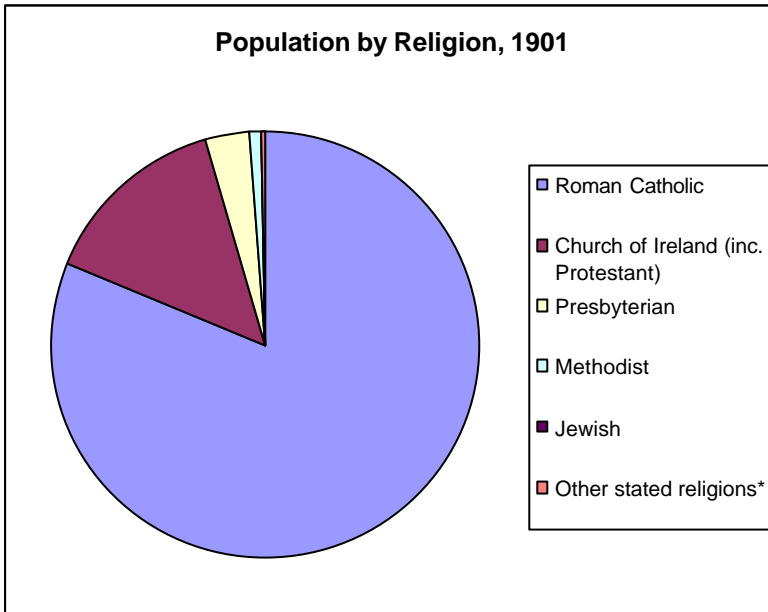
The following table shows historical data on the changing size of religious communities in County Cavan since the late 19th Century.

Year	Total	Roman Catholic	Church of Ireland (inc. Protestant)	Presbyterian	Methodist	Jewish	Other stated religions*	No religion	Not stated
1891	111,917	90,508	16,361	3,809	1,046	2	191		
1901	97,541	79,026	14,112	3,220	987	1	195		
1911	91,173	74,271	12,952	2,843	781	9	317		
1926	82,452	69,383	10,102	2,196	468	6	297		
1936	76,670	65,520	8,644	1,892	387	-	227		
1946	70,355	61,136	7,160	1,498	317	-	244		
1961	56,594	49,969	5,146	1,114	219	1	65	2	78
1971	52,618	46,556	4,513	905	169	1	55	23	396
1981	53,855	48,019	4,233	695	158	-	67	170	513
1991	52,796	46,703	3,782	710	94	1	240	291	975
2002	56,546	49,323	3,767	768	143	11	880	847	807
2006	64,003	55,253	3,978	828	185	6	1,360	1,458	935

In 2006, 86% of Cavan's population described themselves as Roman Catholic, while 7.8% belonged to the Protestant Community (Church of Ireland, Presbyterian or Methodist). Over 2% had another stated religion, and over 2% indicated no religion.

Year	Roman Catholic	Church of Ireland (inc. Protestant)	Presbyterian	Methodist	Jewish	Other stated religions*	No religion	Not stated
2006	86.33	6.22	1.29	0.29	0.01	2.12	2.28	1.46

The following diagrams show that the proportion of Protestants in Cavan's population has decreased over the last one hundred years, while the proportion with other stated religions has increased.



In border counties such as Cavan, people who belong to a religious minority, especially members of the Protestant community, may experience discrimination and social exclusion due to the history of conflict in Northern Ireland. Consultation for the Peace III plan in Cavan in 2008 indicated that there are isolated sectarian incidents in the county such as damage to Protestant halls, bullying of school children, and verbal harassment. Protestant bands do not always feel that it is safe to perform locally and may have to travel to Northern Ireland for cultural events.

Displaced People

Displacement is defined as forced migration as a result of conflict by groups of people across or near contested borders. Displacement is involuntary, where people move out of an area because they feel they have no choice. It is not possible to obtain figures for displaced people living in County Cavan. However, it is estimated that 22,000 people born in Northern Ireland are living in one of the six southern Border counties. Of these, 11,000 are displaced people (Ralaheen, 2005: 4-5).

Displaced people interviewed for the report *The Emerald Curtain* had different experiences. Some had been forced out of their homes or had to leave the north due to a culmination of issues. They did not always feel part of the community in the south and many experienced isolation and exclusion. Republicans in particular felt they were shunned, both in the workplace and socially. Family break-up was also an issue, as northern women became isolated if their partner moved to the south. Displacement also affected children who left behind familiar settings and experienced the same identity and labelling problems as their parents.⁵

Issues around displaced people in County Cavan identified in the public consultation process for the Peace III plan included: how to engage with them, tolerance / acceptance in their own community, and educational disadvantage.

People with Disability

In 2006, 5,435 people with disability living in County Cavan were recorded in the Census (disability in the Census is a self defined). These make up 8.5% of the county's population. The national rate of people with disability in the State's population is 9.3%.

The incidence of disability in the population increases with the age of the population.

There are five times more people with disability in the 65+ age group than in the 0-14 age group.

Theme 12 - 1 : Persons with a disability by age group, 2006						
Age Group	0-14 years	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over	Total
Cavan County	445	363	878	1489	2,260	5,435

Electoral divisions with in excess of 150 people with disability were Cavan Rural (541), Cavan Urban (402), Virginia (285), Bailieborough (268), Ballyjamesduff (168), Kingscourt (156), Cootehill Urban (154).

There were almost 1,000 people with disabilities living in the Cavan town and environs area (i.e. the combined total for Cavan Urban and Cavan Rural was 943 people with disabilities).

Areas with the highest concentrations of people aged 65+ with a disability were Cavan Rural (289), Cavan Urban (135) and Virginia (127).

In terms of type of disability, the Census offers the following breakdown for County Cavan:

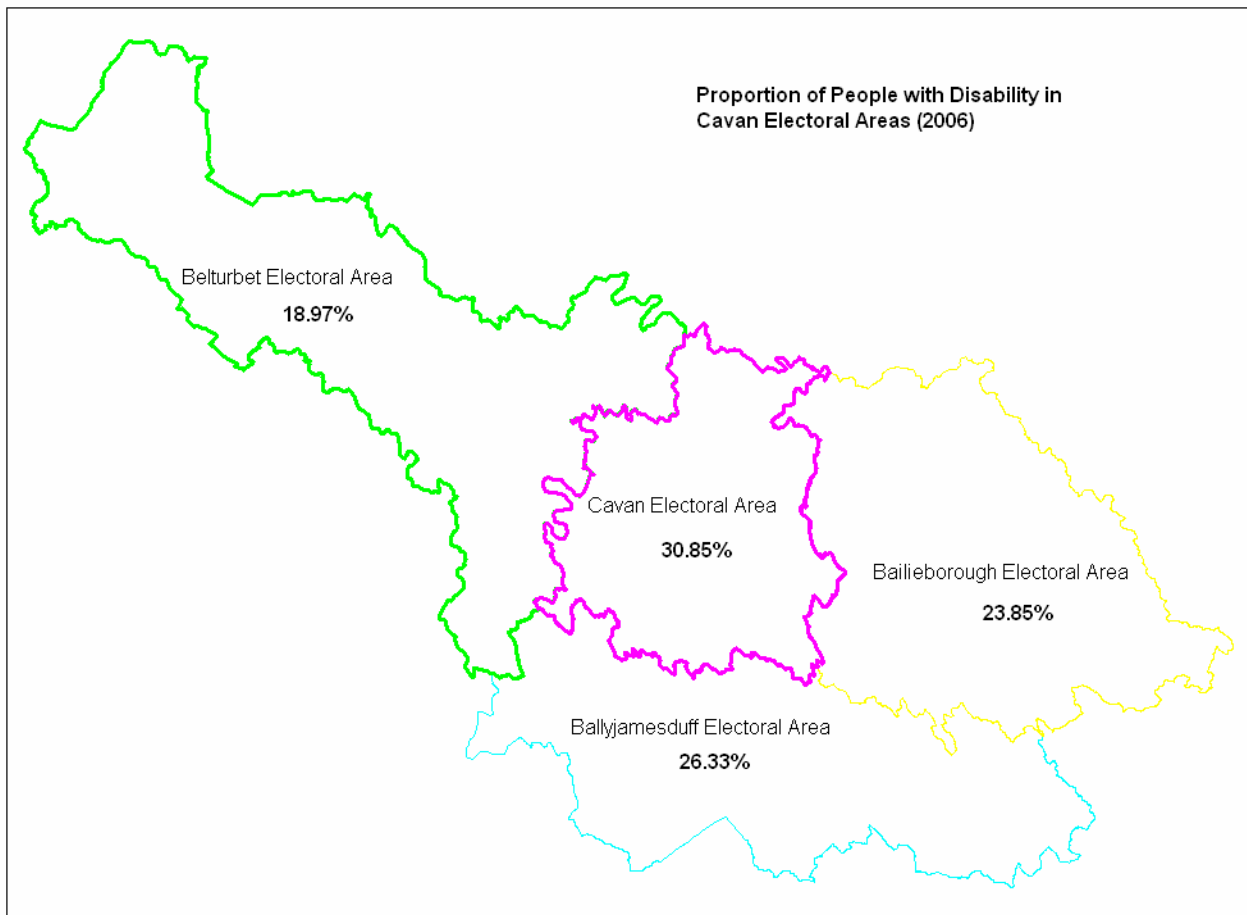
02. Persons, males and females in County Cavan, classified by type of disability, 2006							
Disability	Total persons	Total persons with a disability	Blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment	A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities	Difficulty in learning, remembering or concentrating	Difficulty in dressing, bathing or getting around inside the home	Difficulty in going outside the home alone
Cavan	64,003	5,435	1,068	2,691	1,608	1,549	1,948

02. Persons, males and females in County Cavan, classified by type of disability, 2006							
Disability	Difficulty in working or attending school/college	Learning or intellectual disability	Psychological or emotional condition	Difficulty in participating in other activities	Other, including chronic illness	Total disabilities	Persons with a disability as % of total persons
Cavan	2,024	911	733	1,952	1,743	16,227	8.5

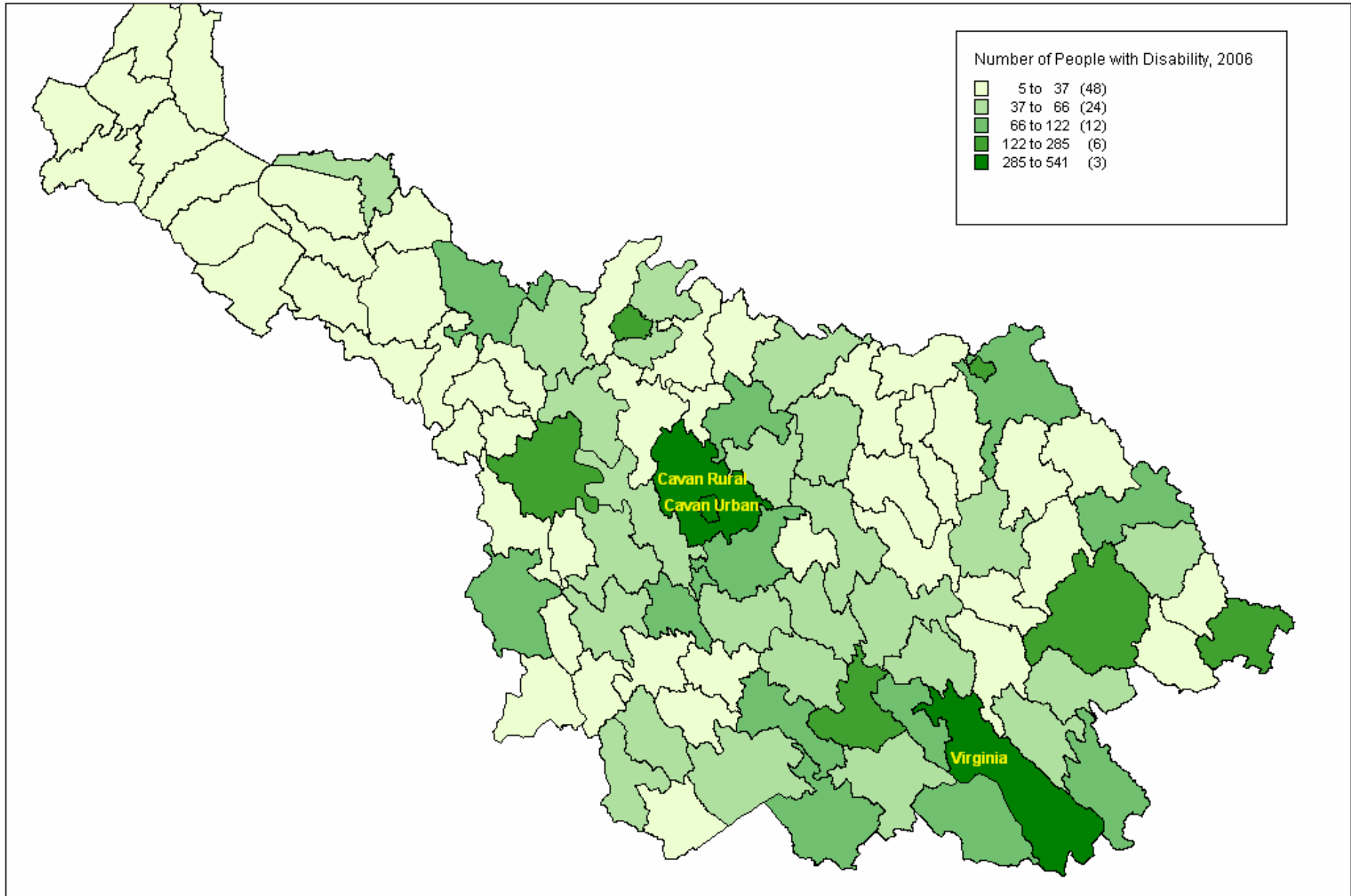
When examined by the four local electoral areas, the Cavan Electoral Area had the highest number of people with disability, followed by Ballyjamesduff.

Theme 12 - 1 : Persons with a disability by age group, 2006						
Age Group	0-14 years	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over	Total
Bailieborough	117	97	199	390	493	1,296
Ballyjamesduff	126	91	269	385	560	1,431
Belturbet	67	65	122	294	483	1,031
Cavan	135	110	288	420	724	1,677

Among disabled people living in County Cavan, 31% lived in the Cavan Electoral Area, 26.33% lived in the Ballyjamesduff Electoral Area, 23.85% were in the Bailieborough Electoral Area and 18.97% were in the Belturbet Electoral Area.



The thematic map on the following page shows the distribution of people with disabilities throughout the county, with the highest numbers concentrated in the Cavan Town and Environs and Virginia Electoral Division.



Social exclusion issues faced by people with disability may include:

- Inaccessible environments that limit choice in services
- Negative attitudes and lack of understanding
- More limited socialising opportunities
- Insufficient or unclear signage
- Unavailability of information in a variety of formats
- Segregation and isolation
- Insufficient supports for independent living

According to the EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions, disabled people are at greater risk of poverty and are less likely to be employed.

Carers

The Census defines a ‘carer’ as someone who provides regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family member with a long-term illness, health problem or disability.

In the year 2006, there was a total of 2,553 carers in County Cavan. About 40% of carers were male and 60% were female.

Theme 12 - 2 : Carers by sex and number of hours per week of unpaid personal help, 2006				
	Sex	Male	Female	Total
Cavan County	Total	1,003	1,550	2,553

One third of carers in Co Cavan in 2006 were providing in excess of 29 hours a week of unpaid personal help.

Theme 12 - 2 : Carers by sex and number of hours per week of unpaid personal help, 2006				
	Sex	Male	Female	Total
Geographic Area	Unpaid Help			
Cavan County	1-14 hours a week	552	864	1,416
	15-28 hours a week	104	173	277
	29-42 hours a week	78	74	152
	43 or more hours a week	269	439	708
	Total	1,003	1,550	2,553

Carers are a group of people who are vulnerable to social exclusion. Their opportunities for paid work are curtailed because they are involved in unpaid caring work for a friend or relative. Their opportunities for socialising, community participation and recreation may also be limited due to their caring responsibilities. The availability of respite care and other supports also impacts on the social inclusion of carers. Carers often have additional costs associated with their caring work such as diet, transport, and heating which can place an extra financial strain on the household.^t

Local issues for carers in County Cavan include the following:^u

- The lack of emergency and acute respite care in the home.
- The absence of residential respite care for children and young adults with disabilities.
- Where respite support is available, buildings are not always fully accessible, which limits the level of care that can be provided.
- Insufficient bed numbers that results in alternating male and female weeks in respite.
- Training and insurance cover are issues for carers.
- There is a need for a full-time information and support officer for family carers. This person could act as a liaison to co-ordinate the provision of information to carers.
- Transport for people with disabilities is an issue as well because a lot of vehicles are not accessible. Older people have a free travel pass but people with disabilities do not get any subsidy for travel.
- There is a need for a panel of carers to provide back-up support to carers in the home; members of this panel would require appropriate training and payment at normal respite rates.

One Parent Families

There were 2,421 family units in County Cavan in 2006 that were headed by a lone parent.

There were 2,059 family units comprising mothers with children (lone mother families) and 362 family units headed by a lone father. In other words, almost 18% of one parent family units were headed by a lone father.

The electoral divisions with the largest numbers of one parent family units were Cavan urban (202), Cavan Rural (149), Bailieborough (132), Virginia (118) and Kingscourt (99).

Thirty-four of the county's electoral divisions had less than ten one parent family units.

Theme 4 - 3(f) : Family units comprising mothers with children by age group of children, 2006				
Family Units	All children are aged under 15 years	All children are aged 15 years or over	Other	Total number of family units
Cavan County	835	1,050	174	2,059

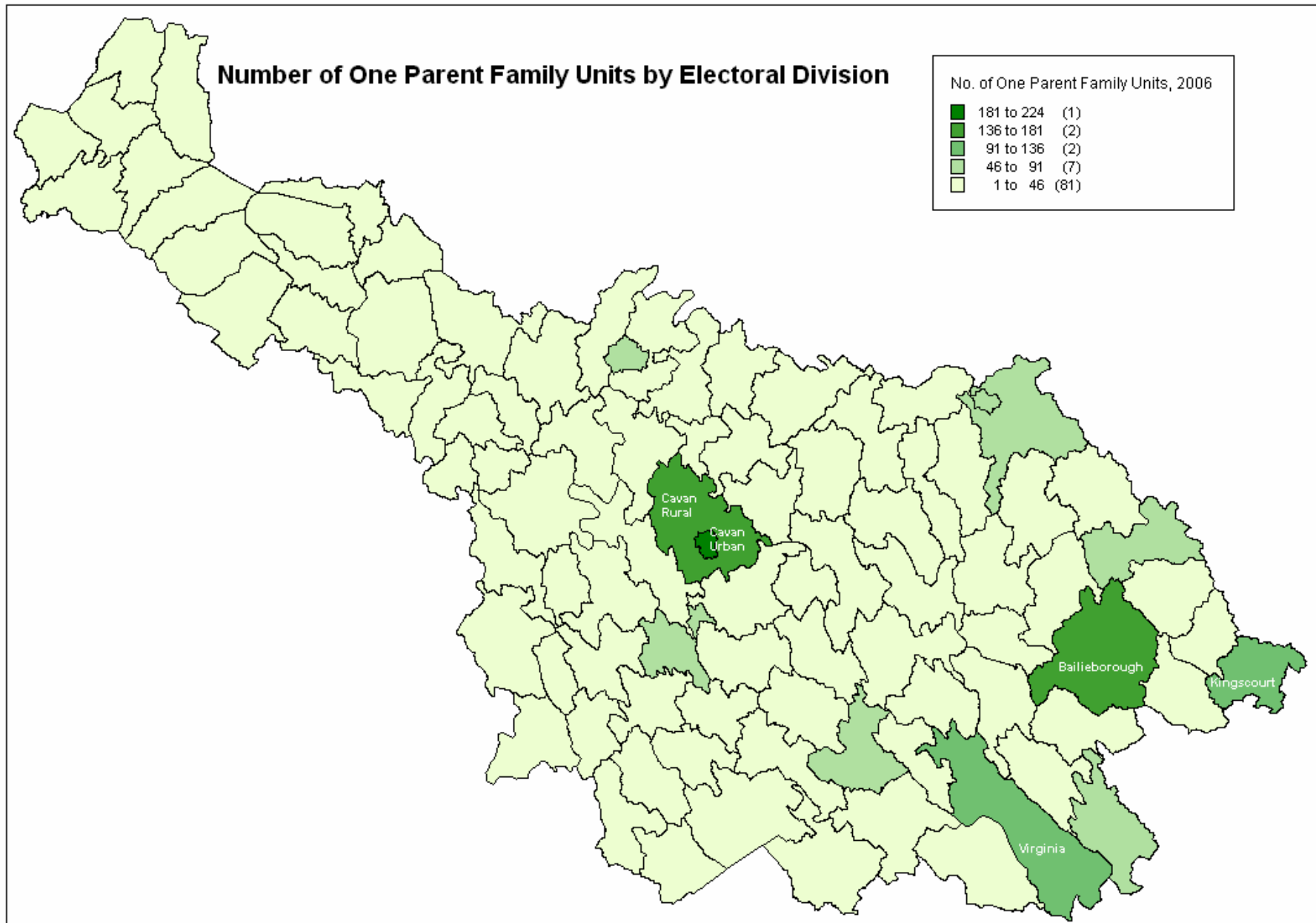
Theme 4 - 3(d) : Family units comprising fathers with children by age group of children, 2006				
Family Units	All children are aged under 15 years	All children are aged 15 years or over	Other	Total number of family units
Cavan County	70	260	32	362

The 'One Parent Family Unit' indicator is not the same as the 'Lone Parent Household' indicator. The former is considered more sensitive because it accounts for one parent families that are living in households with other people (for example, a lone parent who is still living in his or her family home).

It is important to note that, as with other named target groups, not all lone parents experience socio-economic exclusion. However, as a group they are at risk of poverty.

The EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions identifies lone parent households as being a high risk group for poverty (39.6%). Members of lone parent households had the highest levels of consistent poverty (32.5%). The consistent poverty rate for lone parent

households increased from 27.2% in 2005 to 32.5% in 2006. Almost 65% of lone parent households experienced some form of deprivation, based on the eight basic deprivation indicators. Debt problems were particularly evident amongst lone parent households (41% of households reported this); while 28.2% of lone parent households went without heating at some stage in the past year due to lack of money. Over 80% of persons living in lone-parent households were covered by a medical card, while just 8.4% had private medical insurance.^v



Medical Card Holders

In County Cavan in 2004, about one third of the population had a medical card, a slightly higher proportion than in the North Eastern Region or the State as a whole.

Percentage of Population Covered by Medical Cards on 31 December*					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Cavan	37.00	37.26	33.90	33.44	33.25
North Eastern Region	34.51	34.52	30.28	30.02	29.40
State	30.32	31.24	29.84	29.57	29.44

Percentages are based on the Census of Population, 2002.

The number of medical card holders in the county decreased between the years 2000 and 2004.

Number of Persons (including dependents) Covered by Medical Cards on 31 December					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Cavan	19,117	19,252	19,124	18,907	18,404

Source: General Medical Services (Payments) Board cited in the Health Statistics 2005 report.

As of 22 May 2008, there were 23,042 Medical Card holders in County Cavan (personal communication with the HSE).

GP Visit Cards were introduced in November 2005. This card is similar to a medical card except that only the GP Visit is free, and any prescription drugs, medicines or other health services must be paid for by the holder. The income guidelines for the GP Visit card are higher than for the Medical Card. Income is assessed after tax and PRSI contributions, and allowances are made for rent, mortgage and childcare costs.^w

As of 22 May 2008, there were 1,624 GP Card holders in County Cavan (personal communication with the HSE).

Older People

There are different definitions of what it means to be older. Some organisations consider anyone over the age of 50 as an older person. The Census describes people aged 65 and over as 'age dependent'. The National Council on Ageing and Older People refers to people age 65 and over as older. For the purposes of this document, the data provided below concentrate on people aged 65 and over (all statistics are from the 2006 Census).

In County Cavan in 2006, there were 8,007 people aged 65 and over, comprising 12.51% of the county's population.

	65-69 years	70-74 years	75-79 years	80-84 years	85 years and over
Cavan	2,131	2,018	1,663	1,214	981

	65-69 years	70-74 years	75-79 years	80-84 years	85 years and over
Cavan	3.33%	3.15%	2.60%	1.90%	1.53%

Nationally, persons aged 65 and over made up 11% of the population in 2006. Compared to other EU countries, Ireland had a low proportion of older people in its population in 2006. The EU 27 average was 16.8% (Ageing in Ireland).

Older people may experience social exclusion in different ways, some of which are:

- Age discrimination and negative stereotyping
- The majority of older people are not in paid work, and may be vulnerable to poverty as a result of a reduced income.
- Older women are less likely to have their partners in later years
- Older people in Ireland are more likely to live in rural areas than younger people, which impacts on their access to different services.
- Older people are likely to be in good health, but the incidence of disability and certain health conditions increases with age. (Evason page 3)
- Older people are more likely to have no formal or primary education only, when compared with younger generations (Ageing in Ireland)

Nationally the population is ageing, with an average age of 35.6 years in 2006 compared to 35.1 years in 2002. The population of older people in the State is growing: "The old

population has increased at every census since 1961 from 315,000 in that year to just under 468,000 in 2006.”^x

According to the EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions, there was a marked decrease in the ‘at risk of poverty’ rate for older people, which fell from 20.1% in 2005 to 13.6% in 2006.

Prisoners

Data from the Irish Prison Service collated by Cavan Partnership shows that there were 111 individuals with a Cavan address committed to Irish prisons in 2006. This equates with just over 1% of all persons committed that year who had Republic of Ireland addresses. Over half (52%) of the committed people with Cavan addresses had left school before the age of 16, and 66% had left school with no qualifications. Almost two thirds of the committed Cavan prisoners (64%) were unemployed. These figures show that prisoners from Cavan are likely to experience educational disadvantage and labour market exclusion.

Research was carried out by Cavan Partnership on the integration of prisoners and ex-offenders in the county. Although the sample was small (5 prisoners and 5 ex-offenders), the study gives important insight into the types of social exclusion issues that prisoners and ex-prisoners experience. All of the interview respondents had left school at 16 years of age or younger. Only 20% had contact with friends while they were in prison. Forty per cent lost housing due to imprisonment and 40% did not know where they would live on release. This meant that a number were at risk of homelessness. Other prevalent issues were alcohol problems, drug use problems and mental health issues . The report states that:

“Interviewees described problems in the family home, drug and alcohol abuse as causative factors in first becoming in trouble with the authorities. Typical offences varied from public order offences, criminal damage and assault. A high percentage noted that they had either a drug or alcohol dependency and that their offending behaviour was linked to their substance dependency.”

Educational Disadvantage

In 2006, County Cavan had a higher proportion of people with no formal or primary education only (24.31%) compared with the state as a whole (18.04%). In Cavan, 22.2% of the population had a third level qualification (degree or non-degree), a lower proportion than the State (29.09%) (Census 2006).

Educational levels are linked to employment rates. People with higher education levels are more likely to be employed. Nationally in 2006, 87% of people with third level qualification were in the labour force, compared to 35% of people with primary education only or no formal education.

According to the 2006 Census, nationally 29% of farming, fishing and forestry workers and 26% of textile, clothing and leather workers were educated to primary level only. By way of contrast, 91% of teachers were educated to third level compared with 89% for those in religious occupations and 79% of persons in scientific and technical occupations.^y

05. Persons, males and females aged 15 years and over in each Province, County and City, classified by highest level of education completed, 2006							
Education Level	Total whose full-time education has ceased	Primary (incl. no formal education)	Lower secondary	Upper secondary	Third level, non-degree	Third level, degree or higher	Not stated
Cavan	100%	24.31%	22.24%	26.35%	10.51%	11.69	4.90%
State	100%	18.04%	20.12%	28.19%	10.57%	18.52%	4.57%

The Department of Education & Science seeks to address social exclusion in education by including schools in the School Support Programme [SSP] under the DEIS Action Plan for Educational Inclusion.

DEIS stands for 'Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools'. The programme provides a standardised system for identifying and reviewing levels of disadvantage in schools.

The SSP brings together a number of schemes that were set up to address disadvantage in schools. The following programmes will be integrated into the SSP under DEIS on a phased basis up to 2010.

- Home School Community Liaison Scheme
- School Completion Programme
- Support Teachers Project
- Early Start Pre-School Scheme
- Giving Children an Even Break
- Breaking the Cycle
- Disadvantaged Area Scheme

In County Cavan, the following schools are included:

Primary - Urban Band 1							
RollNo	Urban	School Name	Address1	Address2	Address3	Address4	County
08490N	Urban	St Clares Primary School	Cavan	Co Cavan	.	.	Cavan
17326B	Urban	S N Naomh Feidhlim	Cavan	Co Cavan	.	.	Cavan
Primary - Rural							
01356U	Rural	Kilnaleck Mixed N S	Kilnaleck	Co Cavan	.	.	Cavan
06998Q	Rural	S N Tulach A Mhile	Corlough	Belturbet	Co Cavan	.	Cavan
08143P	Rural	S N Mhuire	Muileann Iarainn	Swanlinbar	Co Cavan	.	Cavan
14339S	Rural	Achad An Measa	S N Achadh Easa	Achadh Easa	An Chorr Dubh	Co Cabhan	Cavan
17479D	Rural	Scoil Mhuire	Lacken	Ballinagh	Co Cavan	.	Cavan
19363R	Rural	Mullahoran Central N S	Kilcogy	Via Longford	Co Cavan	.	Cavan
Post Primary							
70360C	St. Mogue's College	Bawnboy		Co Cavan	Cavan		
70380I	Cavan Vocational School	Cootehill Rd		Cavan	Cavan		

The DEIS Programme will be introduced on a phased basis until 2010, but there will be no ongoing assessment of schools in the intervening period.

Social Class

The social class of all persons aged 15 years and over is determined in a similar way to socio-economic group. Social class is based on an ordinal scale with 1 being the highest social class. The social class of family dependants is derived from the social class of the parent having the highest social class. The codes are as follows:

- 1 = Professional workers
- 2 = Managerial and technical
- 3 = Non-manual
- 4 = Skilled manual
- 5 = Semi-skilled
- 6 = Unskilled
- 7 = All others gainfully occupied

17. Persons, males and females in County Cavan and the State classified by social class, 2006									
	Social Class	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Population	Geographic Area								
Persons	Cavan	100%	4.07%	24.19%	17.66%	20.94%	12.19%	4.98%	15.96%
	State	100%	6.53%	26.37%	17.02%	17.12%	11.07%	4.25%	17.63%
Males	Cavan	100%	4.44%	22.84%	13.53%	27.15%	12.23%	6.09%	13.72%
	State	100%	7.24%	25.17%	12.70%	22.50%	11.71%	5.04%	15.64%
Females	Cavan	100%	3.68%	25.61%	22.03%	14.38%	12.15%	3.81%	18.34%
	State	100%	5.82%	27.57%	21.35%	11.74%	10.43%	3.46%	19.62%

In County Cavan, a lower proportion of people are in the higher social classes than nationally. Social classes 1 and 2 comprise professional, managerial and technical workers. In the State as a whole, 32.9% of the population were in social classes 1 and 2, compared with only 28.26% of Cavan's population.

Social classes 5 and 6 are semi skilled and unskilled workers. Cavan had a higher proportion of people in classes 5 and 6 compared to the national population (17.17% in Cavan compared to 15.32% in the State), although the percentage difference was not great.

There was a higher percentage of men than women in Social Class 1 in both County Cavan and the State. However the proportion of women in Social Class 2 was marginally

higher than the proportion of men in both Cavan and the State. Among unskilled workers, there were proportionally more men than women.

Certain areas of the county had a very high proportion in the lower social classes. These included Kinawley ED where 12.4% were unskilled workers and there were no people in Social Class 1. In Pedara Vohers and Tirchanan (combined) 10.42% were unskilled workers (compared to 4.98% in the county).

Cavan Urban and Enniskeen Electoral Divisions had the lowest proportions of people in social classes 1 and 2, at 16.95% and 17.65% respectively. By comparison, the proportion of people in Social Class 1 and 2 was 46.24% in Ashfield and 40% in Springfield.

A person's social class background has an influence on different aspects of their lives, such as educational attainment, health and economic status. According to a GAMMA report: "Areas with a weak social class profile tend to have higher unemployment rates, are more vulnerable to the effects of economic restructuring and are more likely to experience low pay, poor working conditions as well as poor housing and social environments".²

Regionally, Ulster (part of) had the lowest proportion of people in Social Class 1, but the differences in the distribution of social class across the four provinces were not large.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Leinster	7.10%	27.05%	17.34%	16.26%	10.27%	4.07%	17.91%
Munster	6.33%	25.62%	16.61%	17.65%	11.92%	4.36%	17.50%
Connacht	5.85%	26.23%	16.68%	17.95%	11.58%	4.17%	17.54%
Ulster	3.90%	24.05%	16.73%	20.60%	13.21%	5.57%	15.93%
Cavan	4.07%	24.19%	17.66%	20.94%	12.19%	4.98%	15.96%
State	6.53%	26.37	17.02%	17.12%	11.07%	4.25%	17.63%

Housing

In County Cavan in 2006, 6% of households were rented from a local authority. Over 78% were owner occupied (either with or without mortgage). In the State as a whole, 7.22% were rented from a local authority and over 73% were owner occupied.

Certain areas of Cavan had a much higher percentage of households rented from the local authority than either the county or State averages. For example, in the Cavan Urban area, 21.70% of households were rented from the local authority; followed by Swanlinbar (17.68%); Belturbet Urban (17.09%); Tuam (15.67%); Cootehill Urban (14.63%); Ballinagh (14.22%) and Kingscourt (11.06%).

Number of permanent private households by type of occupancy, 2006			
Occupancy Type	No. of Households Rented from Local Authority	% of Households Rented from Local Authority	Total Households
001 Cavan Urban	329	21.70	1,516
042 Belturbet Urban	100	17.09	585
048 Cavan Rural	93	5.64	1,650
008 Kingscourt	92	11.06	832
051 Cootehill Urban	73	14.63	499
041 Bellanagh	62	14.22	436
034 Virginia	60	5.31	1,131
029 Ballyjamesduff	56	7.54	743
002 Bailieborough	54	4.86	1,111
066 Killashandra	31	7.83	396
011 Shercock	30	8.80	341
026 Swanlinbar	29	17.68	164
015 Ballyconnell	28	6.54	428
088 Tuam	21	15.67	134
010 Mullagh	19	4.11	462
039 Ballyhaise	17	4.87	349
036 Arvagh	16	4.94	324
050 Cootehill Rural	14	3.61	388
068 Kilnaleck	14	4.26	329
027/018 Templeport/Benbrack	13	9.22	141

Occupancy Type	Owner occupied with mortgage	Owner occupied no mortgage	Buying from Local Authority	Rented from Local Authority	Rented from Voluntary Body	Other rented – unfurnished	Other rented – furnished	Occupied free of rent	Not stated	Total
Cavan County	7,987	9,059	187	1,313	648	190	1,333	402	662	21,781
	36.67%	41.59%	0.86%	6.03%	2.98%	0.87%	6.12%	1.85%	3.04%	
State	569,966	498,432	23,547	105,509	50,480	16,621	128,696	21,701	47,344	1,462,296
	38.98%	34.09%	1.61%	7.22%	3.45%	1.14%	8.80%	1.48%	3.24%	

The greatest number of local authority rented households, and the greatest number of privately rented households, were both in the Cavan Local Electoral Area.

Theme 6 - 3(a) : Number of permanent private households by type of occupancy, 2006										
Occupancy	Owner occupied with mortgage	Owner occupied no mortgage	Buying from Local Authority	Rented from Local Authority	Rented from Voluntary Body	Other rented - unfurnished	Other rented - furnished	Occupied free of rent	Not stated	Total
Bailieborough, Cavan	2,075	2,561	64	294	143	31	229	123	223	5,743
Ballyjamesduff, Cavan	2,207	2,372	36	197	166	50	273	102	171	5,574
Belturbet, Cavan	1,209	1,894	23	272	106	51	259	89	83	3,986
Cavan, Cavan	2,496	2,232	64	550	233	58	572	88	185	6,478

Nationally the proportion of local authority dwellings in the overall housing stock has been in decline. The following table shows how the proportion of owner occupied households has increased, and the proportion of local authority rented accommodation has decreased since the 1960s.

Occupancy status by year - percentages						
Occupancy Status	1961	1971	1981	1991	2002	2006
LA rented	18.4	15.9	12.7	9.7	6.9	7.2
Other rented	17.2	10.9	8.1	7.0	11.1	13.4
Owner occupied	53.6	60.7	67.9	80.2	77.4	74.7
Other	10.8	12.5	11.2	3.0	4.6	4.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: CSO Census of Population 2006

Local authority households are allocated on the basis of need; in order to access public housing, potential tenants must meet certain criteria. Local authority tenants are generally a low income group, with high proportions of one parent families.

Home ownership is generally taken as an indicator of affluence in an area. One of the indicators used to construct the SAHRU deprivation index is 'type of housing tenure'. Areas of County Cavan with the highest numbers of households rented from the local authority were Cavan Urban, Belturbet Urban, Cavan Rural and Kingscourt.

PC Ownership and Internet Access

The 'digital divide' refers to the social exclusion that occurs when people are unable to access services or supports because either they do not have computer, or because they do not have access to computer and internet equipment.

Services and supports are increasingly available online, and in some cases traditional methods of communication are being reduced (such as telephone answering in person, hard copies of reports). People are disadvantaged if they are unable to access information or services online.

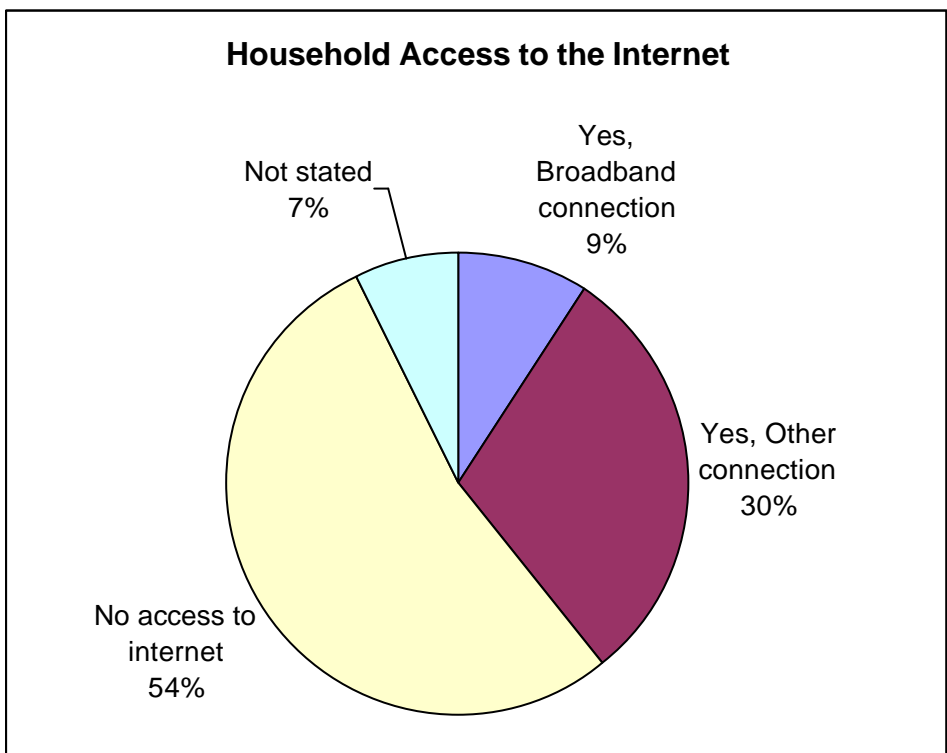
Households in County Cavan have a relatively low rate of internet access. In 2006, approximately half of Cavan's private households had access to a personal computer, but over 10,000 households had no computer.

		Personal Computer Ownership		
	Total Private Households	Yes	No	Not stated
Cavan	21,781	10,796	10,531	454
		49.57%	48.35%	2.08%

The Government's broadband strategy has concentrated on increasing broadband infrastructure in larger urban areas, and consequently rural areas have not been given the same priority. As Cavan is a mainly rural county, large sections of the county do not have broadband access.

The 2006 Census showed that only 9% of households had a broadband connection, and 30% had a different connection. Over half of the households in the county had no access to the internet.

	Total Private Households	Access to the Internet			
		Yes, Broadband connection	Yes, Other connection	No access to internet	Not stated
Cavan	21,781	1,980	6,526	11,708	1567
		9.09%	29.96%	53.75%	7.19%



Dependency Ratio

Cavan has a high dependency ratio compared to the national average. This means that there is a higher proportion of people who are 'age dependent' (either aged 14 or under or aged 65 and over), compared to the proportion of the population who are aged 15-64.

2006 Data	Population Aged 0-14	Population Aged 15-64	Population Aged 65+
Cavan	22.27%	65.22%	12.51%
State	20.39%	68.57%	11.04%

2006 Data	Population Aged 0-14	Population Aged 15-64	Population Aged 65+	Population Age Dependent (%)
Cavan	14,252	41,744	8,007	53.32%
State	864,449	2,907,473	467,926	45.83%

The Gamma baseline data report for Cavan produced following the 2002 Census explains that: "The percentage age dependent in a population is a useful comparative indicator of the proportion of the population that those employed or potentially economically active have to support".

Definitions:

The young dependency ratio refers to the number of persons aged 0-14 years as a percentage of those aged 15-64 years.

The old dependency ratio refers to the number of persons aged 65 years and over as a percentage of those aged 15-64 years.

The total dependency ratio is the sum of the young and old ratios.

The Central Statistics Offices notes, however, that the age dependent indicator is not entirely accurate because some young people remain in school for longer, and some people aged over 65 remain in the workforce.

Car Ownership

In 2006, 84% of private households in County Cavan had access to a car. Sixteen per cent (3,482 households) had no car.

Four out of every five households in the State had at least one car. Meath (89.8%) had the highest proportion of households with at least one car while Dublin City (59.5%) had the lowest. Car ownership was higher in rural areas of the State (88.6%) than in urban areas (75.2%).

Welfare Recipients

The Department of Social & Family Affairs publishes annual statistics on the number of welfare recipients in each county. These figures are particularly interesting from a social inclusion point of view, as they show the different categories of people who are dependent on the State for financial support.

The 2006 Statistical Report provided the following information for County Cavan.

Number of Recipients of State Pensions by Type of Pension, 2006				
	State Pension (Contributory)	State Pension (Transition)	State Pension (Non- Contributory)	Pre-Retirement Allowance
Cavan	1,506	993	2,899	162

There were 5,560 people in the county in receipt of a State pension, including those on pre-retirement allowance.

There were 832 people in receipt of One Parent Family Payment, and 1,488 in receipt of Widow/er's Pension.

Number of recipients of Widow's, Widower's and One-Parent Family Payments by Payment Type, 2006 (Estimated)						
	Widow/er's (Con) Pension	Widow/er's (Non-Con) Pension	One- Parent Family Payment	Deserted Wife's Benefit	Deserted Wife's Allowance	Prisoner's Wife's Allowance
Cavan	1442	46	832	73	7	-

Child benefit was paid to 8,517 families, and the number of children who benefited was 17,553.

Number of Recipients of Guardian's Payment, Child Benefit, Maternity Benefit and Health & Safety Benefit, 2006.						
	Guardian's Payment (Contributory)	Guardian's Payment (Non- Contributory)	Child Benefit Recipients	Child Benefit Children	Maternity Benefit	Health & Safety Benefit
Cavan	3	4	8,517	17,553	227	-

Number of Recipients of Illness, Disability and Caring Payments by Payment Type, December 2006 (Estimated)											
	Illness Benefit	Invalidity Benefit	Carer's Benefit	Disablement Benefit	Incapacity Supplement*	Injury Benefit	Interim Illness Benefit	Death Benefit Pension	Disability Allowance	Blind Pension	Carer's Allowance
Cavan	987	594	21	183	15	9	4	11	1042	16	557

*Incapacity Supplement is paid as a supplement to Disablement Pension

The number of people on the live register in County Cavan decreased by 12.9% between 1997 and 2006. In 2006, there were 2,287 people on the live register.

Number on the Live Register, 1997 to 2006											
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Change
Cavan	2,627	2,350	2,019	1,736	1,834	2,002	2,128	2,072	2,211	2,287	-12.9%

There were 279 people on Farm Assist/Smallholders Allowance, 360 on Family Income Supplement and 46 on the Back to Education Allowance.

Number of Recipients of Employment Supports, December 2006.						
	Family Income Supplement	Back to Work Allowance Employee	Back to Education Allowance Scheme	Back to Work Allowance Self-employed	Farm Assist/ Smallholders	Part-time Job Incentive Scheme*
Cavan	360	54	46	65	279	5

*Based on the number of recipients at each Social Welfare Local Office.

In terms of rent allowance, there were 523 in total receiving rent supplement in Cavan in 2006, of whom 291 were short term cases and 232 were long term cases.

Short Term and Long Term recipients of Rent Supplement, December 2006.					
	All Cases	Short Term Cases	Short Term as % All Cases	Long Term Cases	Long Term as % All Cases
	Recipients	Recipients	%	Recipients	%
Cavan	523	291	55.6%	232	44.4%

Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance was paid to 267 people in Cavan in 2006.

Number of Recipients of Basic SWA, Rent Supplement, Mortgage Interest Supplement and Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement and Other Supplements, December 2006					
	Basic SWA*	Rent Supplement	Mortgage Interest Supplement	Local Authority Mortgage Interest Supplement	Other Supplements**
Cavan	267	523	70	6	253

* Includes Diet, Other, Travel, etc.

** Includes DPA (Direct Provision Allowance)

Employment

The following tables present a breakdown of Cavan's population by broad occupational group. The tables show that the number of people working in farming has decreased significantly between 1996 and 2006. In 1996, 22.83% of Cavan's population were involved in farming, fishing or forestry. This proportion had declined to only 8.94% in 2006.

This information is relevant to social inclusion because people who formerly worked in traditional sectors such as agriculture may find it difficult to adapt their skills to new areas of employment. Such people face social exclusion if they are unable to access job opportunities due to changes in labour market demand.

Growth sectors for employment were building and construction; clerical, management and government workers, sales and commerce; professional, technical and health workers, and services workers. The number in Cavan's labour force as a whole has increased by nearly ten thousand people in the ten year period 1996-2006.

Occupational Group	Total in labour force	Looking for first regular job	All occupations	Farming, fishing and forestry workers	Manufacturing workers	Building and construction workers	Clerical, managing and government workers	Communication and transport workers	Sales and commerce workers	Professional, technical and health workers	Services workers	Other workers (incl. not stated)
2006	30,840	448	30,392	2,756	4,816	3,466	4,326	1,605	3,495	3,682	3,160	3,086
2002	24,348	276	24,072	3,307	3,935	2,293	3,374	1,253	2,543	2,921	2,237	2,209
1996	21,016	301	20,715	4,797	3,654	1,549	2,355	1,025	2,119	2,251	1,784	1,181

Occupational Group	Looking for first regular job	All occupations	Farming, fishing and forestry workers	Manufacturing workers	Building and construction workers	Clerical, managing and government workers	Communication and transport workers	Sales and commerce workers	Professional, technical and health workers	Services workers	Other workers (incl. not stated)
2006	1.45%	98.55%	8.94%	15.62%	11.24%	14.03%	5.20%	11.33%	11.94%	10.25%	10.01%
2002	1.13%	98.87%	13.58%	16.16%	9.42%	13.86%	5.15%	10.44%	12.00%	9.19%	9.07%
1996	1.43%	98.57%	22.83%	17.39%	7.37%	11.21%	4.88%	10.08%	10.71%	8.49%	5.62%

Health and Lifestyle Data

A National Health & Lifestyle Survey report was published in 2003, based on data gathered in 2002. Although the information is somewhat out of date, it gives a picture of the general health of the population living in the North Eastern Health Board [NEHB] area. Cavan was situated in the former NEHB area.

The survey found that among people living in the NEHB area:

- 74% of all adults regularly drank alcohol.
- 83.8% of people aged 18-34 regularly drank alcohol.
- 7% of people had used cannabis in the previous twelve months. Cannabis use was higher among males than females.
- 6.7% of young adults (aged 18-34) had used ecstasy in the previous twelve months
- 13% of adults in the North East were obese (calculated using their Body Mass Index). More males than females were obese.
- 71% of adults in the NEHB area consumed the recommended 4+ servings of fruit and vegetables every day. This was a high proportion compared to other health board regions. Women were more likely than men to have the recommended amounts of fruit and vegetables.
- 15% of girls and 6% of boys reported not eating breakfast during the week.
- 22% of girls aged 12-14 (and 5% of boys) were on a weight reducing diet.
- 19% of adults in the area engaged in mild physical exercise for 20 minutes at least four times per week. However, 30% did little or no exercise during the week, giving the NEHB a high sedentary rate.
- 82% of adults always wore a seatbelt in the front seat of a car. However, males were significantly less likely than females to always wear a seatbelt.

Other Social Exclusion Issues

While Census data on social exclusion target groups in County Cavan are presented in the previous section, this section highlights other issues for which local data are not so readily available. Where local data is not easily available, national information is used below to illustrate inequality along further themes.

Gender Issues

In many areas of society, inequality between women and men remains very evident. Women are less likely to be represented at political level, at senior management levels in both public and private sectors, and continue to experience a pay gap in terms of their income levels. The 2007 *Women and Men in Ireland* report, published by the Central Statistics Office, identifies gender inequality in a number of key areas:

- After the 2007 General Election, women comprised only 13% of TDs in Dáil Éireann.
- Women's income in 2005 was 66.3% of men's.
- The employment rate for women in Ireland in 2007 was 60.31%, compared to 77.2% for men.
- In 2007, only 1% of homemakers were men.
- In 2007, 96% of Leaving Certificate students taking higher level Engineering were male; 94% taking Construction Studies and 91% taking Technical Drawing were male.
- In 2006, women had a higher 'at risk' of poverty rate (19.5% compared to 17.5% for men), after pensions and social transfers.

Women are also less likely to drive a car or be car owners. In 2006, 56.9% of full driving licences were held by men. There were more men than women with a full driving licence in all age groups.^{aa}

Men are also disadvantaged in certain ways. Due to the way people are socialised, men are less likely to take care of their health, tend to delay attending the doctor for a particular health issue, and are reported to be less likely to take part in community supports such as day care activities, meals on wheels, etc. In rural areas, older men who live on their own

may have poor social skills, weak links in their communities, out of date skills, and some are neglectful of nutrition and general health.^{bb}

Men are also more likely to be early school leavers than women. In 2006, the proportion of male early school leavers in the 18-24 age group in Ireland was 14.9%, higher than the proportion of female early school leavers (8.7%).^{cc}

Men are more likely to die at a younger age than women, with the difference in risk particularly high in the 15-24 years age group. This reflects a greater tendency for young men to commit suicide and to be victims of motor vehicle accidents. Men have a lower life expectancy than women (77.3 years for men and 81.7 years for women in 2005).^{dd}

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Communities

A 1995 research study indicated that 21% of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual [LGB] members who responded were living in poverty and half were struggling to make ends meet.

McDonnell's 2006 report explained the various factors that can cause social exclusion for members of the LGB community, which include:^{ee}

- Estrangement from family and community
- Bullying and fear of discrimination
- Discrimination at work
- Violent assault and verbal harassment
- Discrimination in service provision (e.g. private rented accommodation)

The report notes that members of the LGB community experience higher levels of psychological distress than the general population. LGB representative organisations also have more difficulty in accessing mainstream community development supports, including funding.

Local data on the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Community [LGB] is weak. The census does not ask a question about sexual orientation. However, it enumerates the number of same sex cohabiting couples as 2,090 in the year 2006 compared with 1,300 in 2002. Two thirds of these were male couples. (Principal Demographic Results, page 21)

Domestic Violence

'Domestic Violence refers to the use of physical or emotional force or threat of physical force, including sexual violence in close adult relationships'. This includes violence perpetrated by a spouse, partner, son or daughter or any other person who has a close or blood relationship with the victim. The term 'domestic violence' goes beyond actual physical violence. It can also involve emotional abuse; the destruction of property; isolation from friends, family and other potential sources of support; threats to others including children; stalking; and control over access to money, personal items, food, transportation and the telephone'^{ff}

Domestic violence occurs in all social classes and is equally prevalent in both rural and urban Ireland. In the vast majority of cases where violence occurs among persons who are known to one another, research has shown that women are injured and men perpetrate the assault'.

At the time of writing, there is no women's refuge or sheltered housing programme in County Cavan for people experiencing violence in the home.⁹⁹ A number of agencies and community groups provide support for people experiencing domestic violence (for example, the Gardai, HSE, and telephone support from groups like Women's Aid). The Monaghan-based Tearmann Domestic Violence Service has recently started an outreach service in Cavan that operates twice a week.

Gaps in Services

In County Cavan, a number of gaps in services and facilities have been identified by previous research studies.

A report on youth services in Co Cavan carried out by the Cavan RAPID Youth Project drew attention to the lack of co-ordination of youth services and facilities in the county.

Research carried out by Cavan Community Forum in 2006 showed a gap in services for domestic violence, and specific services for the gay and lesbian community. Since that research was published, an organisation called Dundalk Outcomers have commenced an outreach service for the gay/lesbian/bi community in Co Cavan, with meetings taking place in Cavan town.

The Community Forum has also identified a need for more emphasis on mental health supports.

Data on areas with a high incidence of crime and anti social behaviour...

Transport is another issue that is consistently identified as problematic in rural areas of the county. Without adequate transport, people are unable to access services, take up jobs outside of their local communities or take part in opportunities for education and training. Lack of transport can also lead to isolation, if people are unable to travel to social events. Even urban centres such as Bailieboro have very limited public transport. At the time of writing, some rural transport routes are being mapped by Cavan County Council in collaboration with Rural Lift. This exercise will help to identify areas of the county that are not covered by public or rural transport.

Conclusion

The research shows that County Cavan faces particular issues: 74% of us live in rural areas but we also have an increasing level of urbanisation putting pressure on our small towns. Related to rural living are the key issues of transport and broadband access. We have a higher than national average of older and younger people dependent on the work force which is undergoing a radical transformation. The proportion of people working in farming, fishing and forestry declined from 22.8% to 8.9% between 1996 and 2006. Although numbers employed in the building and construction industry had increased from 7.3% to 11% between 2002 and 2006, it is apparent that pressure is now facing people working in this sector. This declining labour market could further impact on the levels of disadvantage and deprivation in the county.

Further Research Needs

There are further research needs. It would be useful to:

- Explore the links between poverty and ill health.
- Carry out research on child poverty in Cavan.
- Look at what the barriers are in terms of access to third level education in Cavan.
- Explore how to improve information exchange between local communities and the Gardai regarding crime and anti social behaviour.
- Examine how to provide the best supports to the local communities in Cavan – whether they be foreign national immigrants, lone parents, ex-prisoners, lesbian or gay, older people, people dependent on public transport. This will involve partnership and consultation.
- Carry out further research on drug use and anti-social behaviour.
- Explore mental health issues in Cavan.

Opportunities

Some relevant work is already taking place. The Cavan Community Forum itself is carrying out research on the support needs of community groups, and Cavan Partnership has been active in providing supports for both foreign nationals and ex

prisoners as a result of research. There is already a Travellers Strategy for Cavan and further initiatives around broadband are being considered. We have two rural transport initiatives in Cavan and both of these are attempting to put in place transport services that work for people. The Peace III Programme will provide further integration and mediation supports and the new Rural Development Programme will provide opportunities in rural areas and within the increasing tourism interest in the county. There are also positive networks in place for older people, while the VEC and the community are working on providing supports and activities for younger people. The County Council has established a new Social Inclusion Unit to embed social inclusion across the range of services it provides.

Social Infrastructure

Fortunately, Cavan does have the social infrastructure in place to ensure that research is carried out and key solutions developed. The County Development Board is in a prime position to co-ordinate the work needed and ensure that services are developed and extended to people throughout the county. The recommendations in a recent Indecon review of the County Development Boards are welcome. Working together, the different agencies and community organisations can ensure that the gaps in services can be met. It will be important too in the future that different agencies (such as HSE, VEC, FÁS and the Gardai) provide county-specific data that is accessible on an annual basis.

Finally, it is hoped that this research report will:

- Contribute to the local debate on social exclusion.
- Enable groups to access local statistics that support funding applications to address disadvantage and poverty in the county.
- Be used to develop the roll out of the Social Inclusion and Rural Development Programmes.
- Justify the need to carry out further research – particularly in the areas where gaps in knowledge have been identified.

The research report presents a snap-shot of social exclusion issues at the time of writing. Ongoing analysis of data will be necessary to ensure that the Community Forum keeps up to date with changing trends in the county.

^a European Anti Poverty Network, Poverty Explainer, page 2.

^b Department of Social and Family Affairs (2006) Government Discussion Paper: Proposals for Supporting Lone Parents.

^c National Economic and Social Council (2005) The Developmental Welfare State, NESC Report No. 113, executive summary.

^d www.galway.ie

^e National Action Plan for Social Inclusion, 2007-2016.

^f Combat Poverty Agency website (www.cpa.ie/povertyinireland/whatispoverty.htm)

^g European Anti Poverty Network, Poverty Explainer, page 3

^h EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions 2006

ⁱ EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions, 2006, page 5.

^j Haase and Pratschke (2005) executive summary.

^k County Tourism Office, *Tourist Numbers to Cavan and the Northwest*.

^l Border Regional Authority, 2007, page 5.

^m Watson et al Mapping Poverty page 61

ⁿ Harvey et al page 20

^o Harvey et al., page 111

^p Migrant Rights Centre Ireland, Policy Paper on Migrant Women, 2008.

^q Cavan County Council and Migrant Rights Centre Ireland (2008) Exploring Equality in Service Provision for Migrant Workers: Consultation Session with Service Providers, Report.

^r Census of Population 2006, Principal Demographic Results, 2006: pp. 27-28.

^s Harvey et al., 2005: 95-96

^t Carers Association, page 17.

^u Personal communication, Killeshandra Carers' Association, April 2008.

^v EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions, 2006. Central Statistics Office, 2007.

^w www.hse.ie

^x Census of Population 2006, Principal Demographic Results, pp. 15-16.

^y CSO Press Release, 2006 Census of Population – Volume 10 – Education and Qualifications

^z GAMMA Baseline Data report for County Cavan – 2002.

^{aa} Central Statistics Office, Women and Men in Ireland 2007, page 53.

^{bb} ICBAN (2008) Men and Cross Border Social Exclusion.

^{cc} Central Statistics Office, Women and Men in Ireland 2007, page 10.

^{dd} Ibid.

^{ee} McDonnell, Orla (2006) The Impact of Social Exclusion on the Health of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual People: Promoting a Community Development Approach: *National Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual (LGB) Community Development Network*.

^{ff} **Report of the Task Force on Violence Against Women**

^{gg} National Network of Women's Refuges and Support Services (www.nnrss.ie/current_members.htm)