



CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES

Laois Offaly

Socio- Demographic Profile



Laois Offaly

Contents

Abbreviations and Acronyms	4
----------------------------------	---

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations	4
--	----------

1 Socio-Demographic Dashboard	5
--	----------

1.1 Demographics	5
------------------------	---

1.2 Family Structure	5
----------------------------	---

1.3 Affluence and Deprivation	5
-------------------------------------	---

1.4 Educational Attainment.....	5
---------------------------------	---

1.5 Population Distribution.....	6
----------------------------------	---

2 Introduction	9
-----------------------------	----------

2.1 Profile Structure	9
-----------------------------	---

2.1.1 Alignment with BOBF Indicator Set.....	9
--	---

2.2 Evidence Base.....	10
------------------------	----

2.2.1 Census Data Resolution	10
------------------------------------	----

3 LO CYPSC Area Overview	11
---------------------------------------	-----------

3.1 LO CYPSC Area by County	12
-----------------------------------	----

3.1.1 County Laois.....	12
-------------------------	----

3.1.2 County Offaly	12
---------------------------	----

3.2 Demography	13
----------------------	----

3.2.1 Population Change	13
-------------------------------	----

3.2.2 Population Density	14
--------------------------------	----

3.1.3 Population by Age Group.....	15
------------------------------------	----

3.1.4 Population Pyramid.....	15
-------------------------------	----

3.1.5 Birth Rate	16
------------------------	----

3.1.6 Young Mothers.....	18
--------------------------	----

3.1.7 Young Dependency Ratio	18
------------------------------------	----

3.1.8 Ethnicity	19
-----------------------	----

3.2 Economy.....	20
------------------	----

3.2.1 Labour Force Participation Rate	21
---	----

3.2.2 Live Register.....	23
--------------------------	----

3.2.3 Live Register: Under 25 Years of Age	24
--	----

3.2.4 Labour Market Activation Programmes.....	25
--	----

3.3 Family Structure	25
----------------------------	----

3.3.1 Families with Children Under 15 Years of Age	26
--	----

3.3.2 Families with Children of 15+ Years of Age.....	27
---	----

3.3.3 Lone Parents.....	27
-------------------------	----

3.4 Affluence and Deprivation	29
-------------------------------------	----

3.4.1 Incidence of Disadvantage.....	30
--------------------------------------	----

3.4.2 LO Disadvantaged EDs 2016	31
---------------------------------------	----

3.4.3 Children at Risk of Poverty	32
---	----

3.4.4 GMS Medical Card Holders	33
--------------------------------------	----

3.5 Housing	33
-------------------	----

3.5.1 Social Housing	34
----------------------------	----

3.5.2 Local Authority Housing	34
-------------------------------------	----

3.5.3 Homelessness	35
--------------------------	----

3.6 Educational Attainment.....	36
---------------------------------	----

3.6.1 Low Educational Attainment	36
--	----

3.6.2 Highest Level of Education Attainment.....	37
--	----

3.6.3 Childcare Services	39
--------------------------------	----

3.6.4 DEIS Primary Schools	39
----------------------------------	----

3.6.5 DEIS Post-Primary Schools	40
---------------------------------------	----

3.6.6 Special Needs Schools.....	40
----------------------------------	----

3.6.7 Primary School Absenteeism Rate	40
---	----

3.6.8 Post-Primary School Absenteeism Rate.....	41
---	----

3.6.9 Leaving Certificate Sits	41
--------------------------------------	----

3.7 Health	42
------------------	----

3.7.1 Overview.....	42
---------------------	----

3.7.1 Persons 0-24 Years of Age with a Disability	43
---	----

3.7.2 Children Registered with an Intellectual Disability ..	44
--	----

3.7.3 Children Registered with Physical/Sensory Disability	45
--	----

3.7.4 Mothers Attending Antenatal Care	46
--	----

3.7.5 Births 2015.....	46
------------------------	----

3.7.6 Self-harm by Age Group and Hospital	46
---	----

3.7.7 Carers 24 Years of Age and Under.....	47
---	----

3.8 Drugs and Alcohol	49
-----------------------------	----

3.8.1 National Drug Treatment Reporting System	49
--	----

3.8.2 National Drug-Related Deaths Index	50
--	----

3.9 Security	51
--------------------	----

3.9.1 Domestic Violence	51
-------------------------------	----

3.9.2 Garda Youth Diversion Scheme.....	51
---	----

4 Indicator Mapping	52
----------------------------------	-----------

4.1 Co. Laois Population by Age Band.....	52
---	----

4.2 Co. Offaly Population by Age Band.....	54
--	----

Appendices	56
-------------------------	-----------

A1 Ethnicity 2016: State	57
--------------------------------	----

A2 Relative Deprivation Index Score	60
---	----

Laois Offaly CYPSC: Socio-Demographic Profile

Maps

Map 1 – Laois-Offaly 0-4 Age Cohort by ED	6
Map 2 - Laois-Offaly 5-9 Age Cohort by ED	7
Map 3 - Laois-Offaly 10-14 Age Cohort by ED	7
Map 4 - Laois-Offaly 15-19 Age Cohort by ED	8
Map 5 - Laois-Offaly 20-24 Age Cohort by ED	8
Map 6 – LO CYPSC Area by County	11
Map 7 – LO Male Unemployment Rate by ED	21
Map 8 – LO Female Unemployment Rate by ED	22
Map 9 – LW Female Unemployment Rate by ED	23
Map 10 – LO Lone Parent Ratio 2016 by ED	28
Map 11 – LO Deprivation Score 2016	30
Map 12 – LO Proportion of Population LA Renting	35
Map 13 – LO Proportion with Primary Education Only 2016	37
Map 14 – LO Proportion with Third Level Education 2016	38
Map 15 – Co. Laois Population Aged 0-4	52
Map 16 - Co. Laois Population Aged 5-9	52
Map 17 - Co. Laois Population Aged 10-14	53
Map 18 - Co. Laois Population Aged 15-19	53
Map 19 – Co. Offaly Population Aged 0-4	54
Map 20 - Co. Offaly Population Aged 5-9	54
Map 21 - Co. Offaly Population Aged 10-14	55
Map 22 - Co. Offaly Population Aged 15-19	55

Figures

Figure 1 – Population Trend 2006-2016	13
Figure 2 – Population Pyramid Co. Laois 2016	15
Figure 3 – Population Pyramid Co. Offaly 2016	16
Figure 4 – Registered Births 2012-2016	18
Figure 5 – CYPSC Area Ethnicity Age 0-24 2016	19
Figure 6 – LO Live Register Trend Under 25 Years of Age	24
Figure 7 – Families by Family Cycle 2016	26
Figure 8 – Families by Age of Youngest Child 2016	26
Figure 9 – Families by Age of Children <15	27
Figure 10 – Families with All Children Aged 15+	27
Figure 11 – Affluence and Deprivation Age 0-24	32
Figure 12 – Housing Tenure (Households) 2016	33
Figure 13 – General Health 2016	43
Figure 14 – Young People with a Physical/Sensory Disability ..	45
Figure 15 – Self-Harm by HSE Hospital Group 2016	46

Tables

Table 1 – BOBF Indicator Set Alignment	9
Table 2 – Population Movement 2016	13
Table 3 – Regional Population Projections 2016-2031	14
Table 4 – Population Projections 2016-2046 by Age Bands	14
Table 5 – Most Densely Populated ED by County	14
Table 6 – Population by Age Group 2016	15
Table 7 – Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	16
Table 8 – LO CYPSC Area Registered Births	17
Table 9 – State: Registered Births	17
Table 10 – Mothers Aged 15 to 24 by Live Births (State 2016) ..	18
Table 11 – Ethnicity by Age Bands 2016	19
Table 12 – Labour Force Participation Rate 2011-2016	21
Table 13 - Live Register Under 25 Years of Age	24
Table 14 – Labour Market Activation Programme Participants ..	25
Table 15 – Families by Family Cycle 2016	25
Table 16 – Families by Age of Youngest Child 2016	26
Table 17 – Families with Children <15 Years of Age	26
Table 18 – Families with All Children Aged 15+	27
Table 19 – Lone Parent Poverty Rate (Children Under 18)	28
Table 20 – LO ED by Lone Parent Ratio >25	29
Table 21 – LO Most Affluent EDs 2016	30
Table 22 – LO Disadvantaged EDs 2016	31
Table 23 – Affluence and Deprivation Age 0-24	31
Table 24 – Population At Risk by Age Group and Gender	32
Table 25 – Population at Risk by Demographic Profile	32
Table 26 – HSE GMS Number of Eligible Persons 2015	33
Table 27 – Housing Tenure (Households) 2016	33
Table 28 – Housing Tenure (Persons) 2016	34
Table 29 – Comparative Housing Tenure 2016	34
Table 30 – Homeless Persons (State) 2016	35
Table 31 – Homeless Persons (State): Age Bands 2016	36
Table 32 – Homeless Persons (State): Family Units 2016	36
Table 33 – LO Proportion >25 with Primary Education Only	36
Table 34 – LO Change in Low Education Attainment	37
Table 35 – Highest Level of Educational Attainment 2016	38
Table 36 – Childcare Capacity for Children Aged 3-5 Years	39
Table 37 – DEIS Primary Schools (Band 1)	39
Table 38 – DEIS Primary Schools (Band 2)	39
Table 39 – DEIS Post-Primary Schools	40
Table 40 – Special Education Schools	40
Table 41 – Primary School Absenteeism Rate 2014-15	40
Table 42 – Post-Primary Absenteeism Rate 2014-15	41
Table 43 - Leaving Certificate Sits 2017	41
Table 44 - Leaving Certificate Applied Sits 2017	41
Table 45 - General Health 2016	42
Table 46 – Persons 0-24 Years of Age with a Disability	44
Table 47 – NIDD Registrations per 1,000 of Population 2016 ..	44
Table 48 – Young People with an Intellectual Disability	44
Table 49 – State: Mother's Antenatal Length of Stay	46
Table 50 – Births 2015: Mothers County of Residence	46
Table 51 – People with Disabilities 2016	47
Table 52 – State: Carers by Age Full-Time Education Ceased ..	48
Table 53 – Unpaid Carers Aged Over 15 By Education 2016 ..	48
Table 54 – Ethnicity 2016: State	57
Table 55 - Labelling of Relative Index Scores	60

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

BOBF	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020 (Department of Children and Youth Affairs).
CFSN	Child and Family Support Network
CSO	Central Statistics Office
CYPSC	Children and Young People's Services Committee
DCYA	Department of Children and Youth Affairs
DEASP	Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection
DEIS	Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
EDs	Electoral Divisions
EMRA	Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly
EU	European Union
GMS	General Medical Services
HP	Haase and Pratschke
HSE	Health Service Executive
LEA	Local Electoral Area
LO	Laois Offaly
NIRSA	National Institute of Regional and Spatial Analysis
NUTS	Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (EU)
OSI	Ordnance Survey Ireland
PCRS	Primary Care Reimbursement Service
SAPS	Small Area Population Statistics
SILC	Survey on Income and Living Conditions

Acknowledgements

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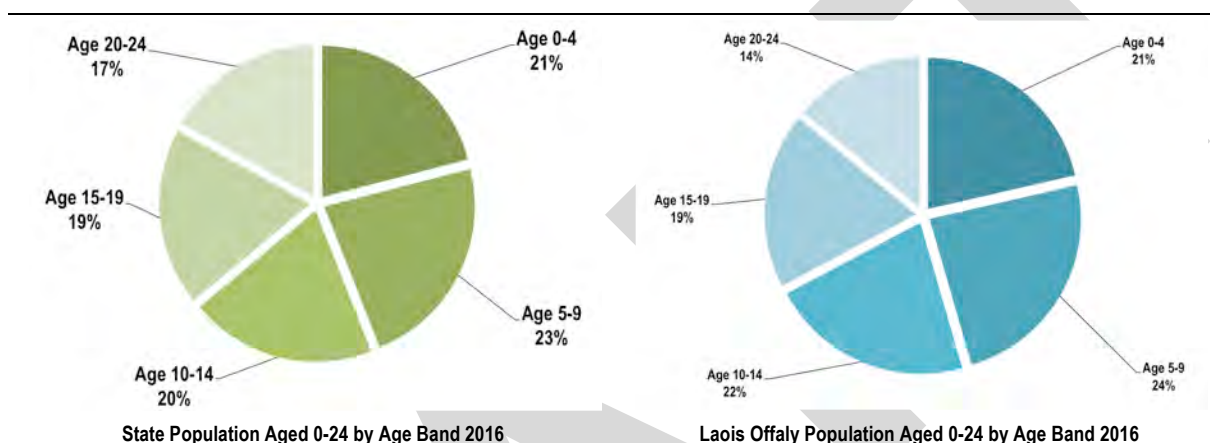
All statistical data is based upon the CSO Census of Population 2016, unless otherwise stated.

Deprivation Index information and mapping is based on Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017) The 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index, accessed at www.trutzhaase.eu

1 Socio-Demographic Dashboard

This overview provides a snapshot of key socio-demographic characteristics of the Laois Offaly CYPSC Area.

1.1 Demographics



The Laois Offaly CYPSC Area had 2 percentage points more of its population aged 0-24 than was the case in the State. Within this cohort, it had a relatively lower proportion of its population aged 20-24.

Population Density

In 2016, the population density for the State was 70 persons per sq. km. Co. Laois had a population density of 49.64 persons per sq. km, whilst Co. Offaly had a population density of 39.53 persons per sq. km.

1.2 Family Structure

In 2016, there were 15,014 families with all children under 15 years of age in the Laois-Offaly CYPSC Area. The majority of families had either one or two children.

1.3 Affluence and Deprivation

Measured at ED level the Laois-Offaly CYPSC Area is predominantly marginally above or below the median relative deprivation index score.

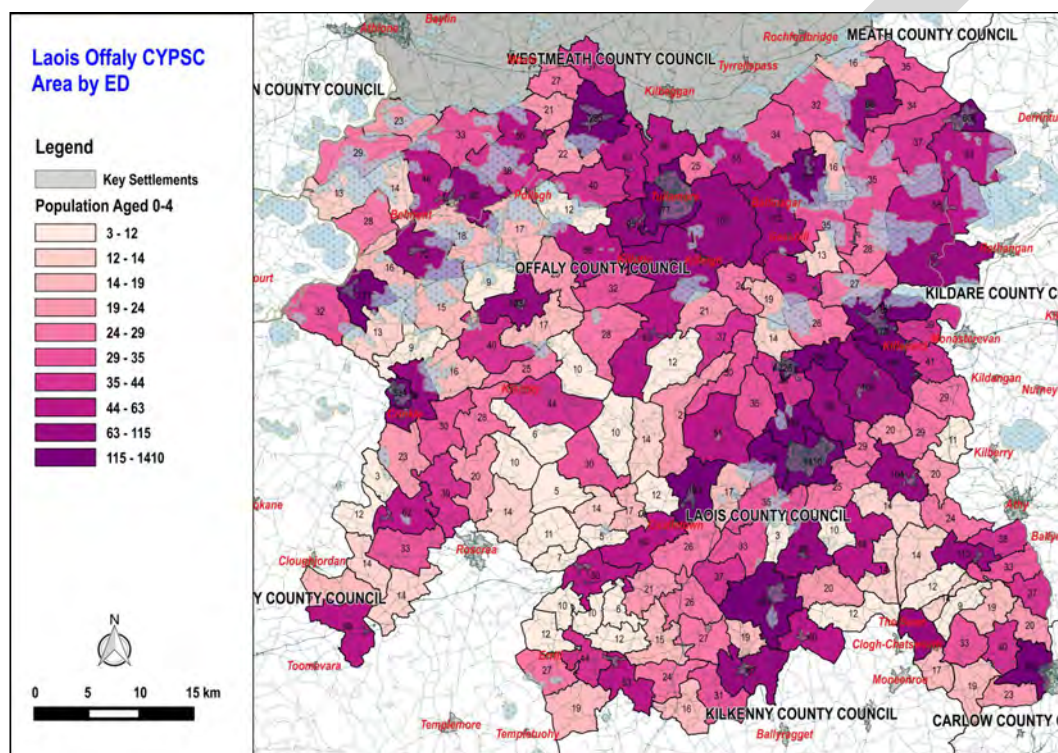
1.4 Educational Attainment

There has been a continuous improvement in the level of education amongst the adult population over the past 25 years throughout Ireland, and this is generally reflected across both the Laois-Offaly CYPSC Area.

1.5 Population Distribution

The following maps indicates the distribution of the 0-24 age cohort by age band across the Laois-Offaly CYPSC Area.

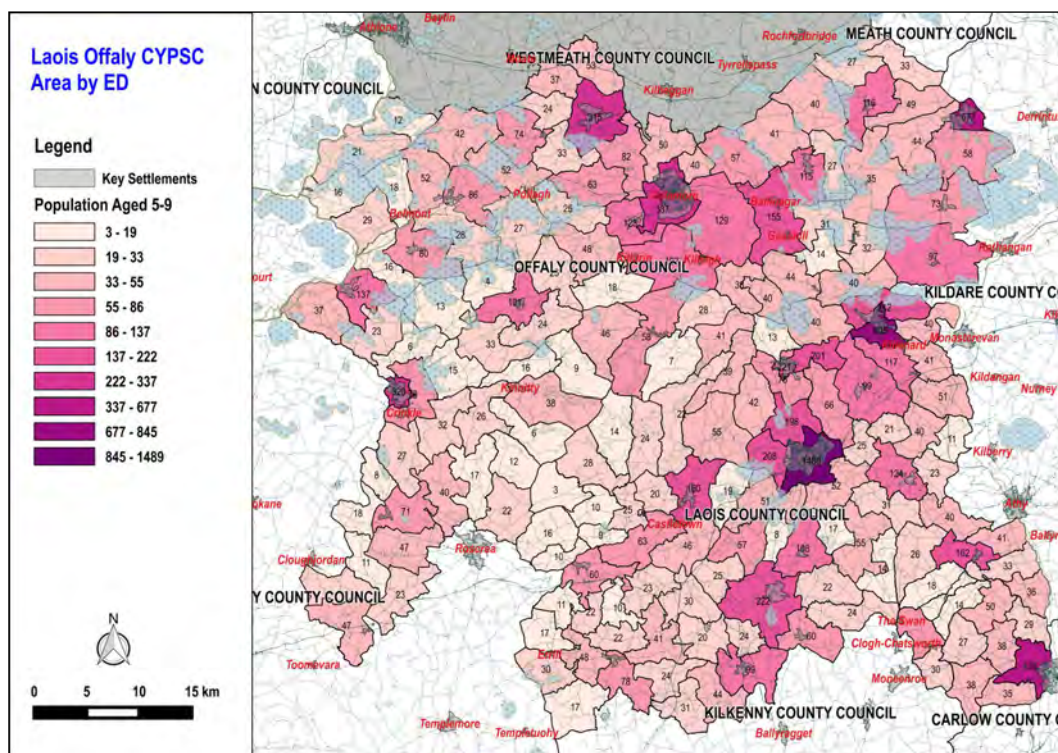
Map 1 – Laois-Offaly 0-4 Age Cohort by ED



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

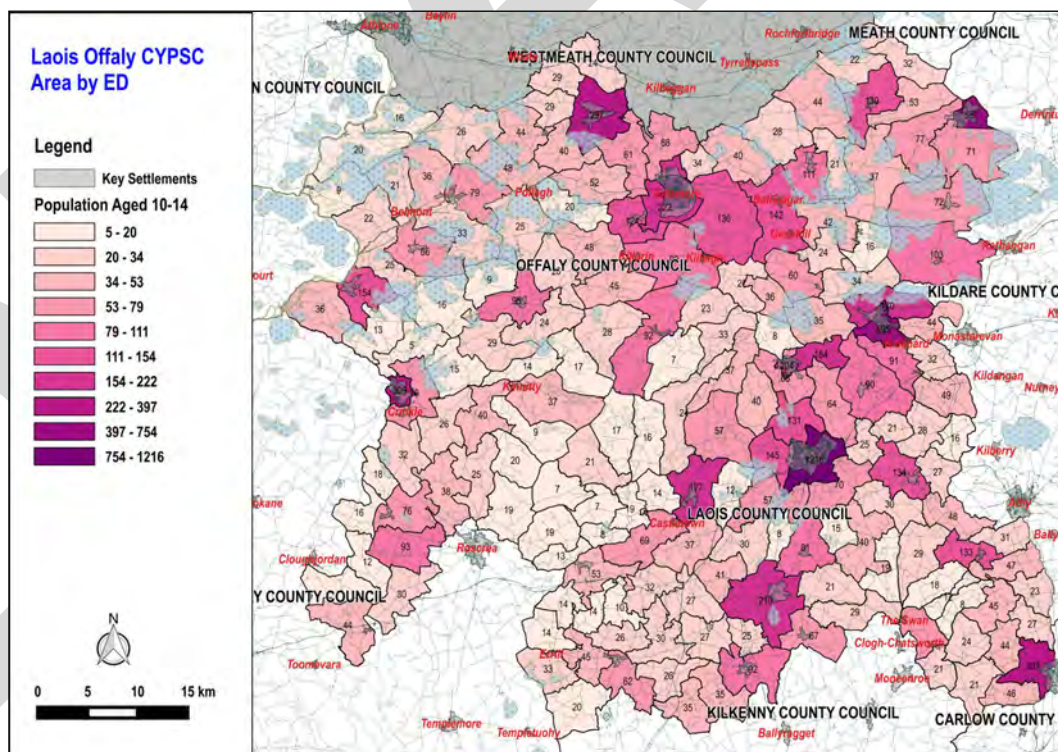
Laois Offaly CYPSC: Socio-Demographic Profile

Map 2 - Laois-Offaly 5-9 Age Cohort by ED



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

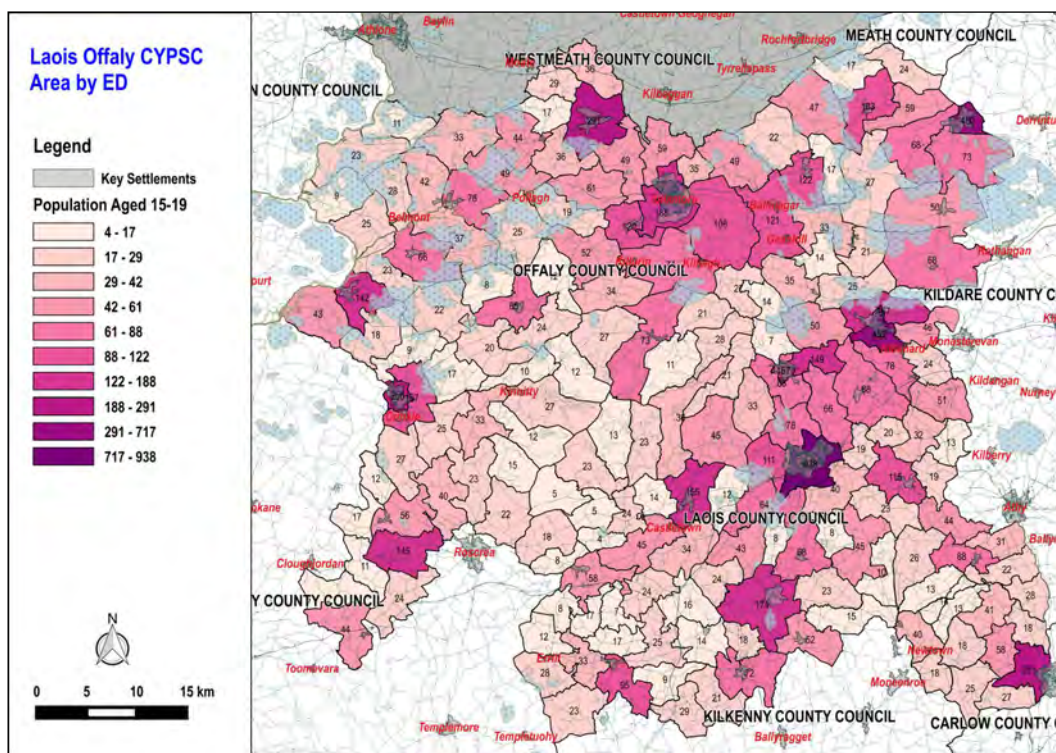
Map 3 - Laois-Offaly 10-14 Age Cohort by ED



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

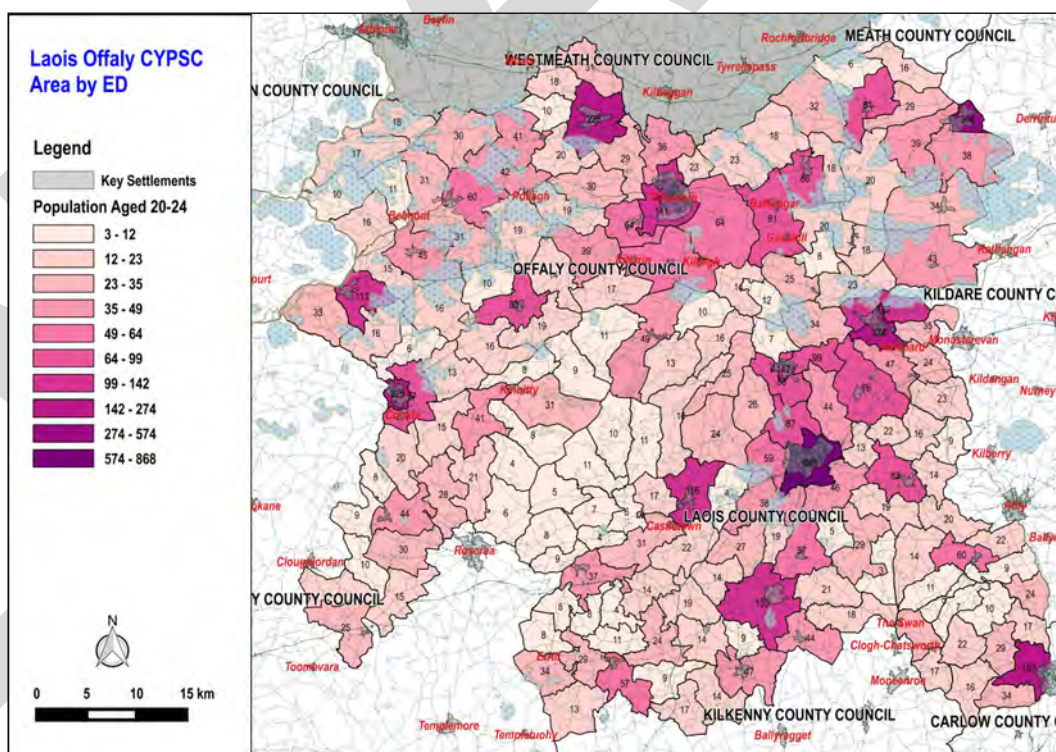
Laois Offaly CYPSC: Socio-Demographic Profile

Map 4 - Laois-Offaly 15-19 Age Cohort by ED



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Map 5 - Laois-Offaly 20-24 Age Cohort by ED



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

2 Introduction

The Laois-Offaly Children and Young People's Services Committee is committed to providing seamless and integrated services for children, young people and families with the common aim of improving the outcomes for children and young people in their respective areas through effective interagency structures, communication and importantly agreed goals reflecting the five national outcomes identified in *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures (BOBF): the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014 – 2020*.

2.1 Profile Structure

The structure of the following Socio-Demographic Profile has been designed to accord with the indicator set that has been developed for BOBF. The stated purpose of the indicator set is to 'to track progress for children and young people aged 0–24 across the five national outcomes outlined in BOBF'. The five national outcomes that are required for all children and young people are designed to ensure that the individual is: -

1. Active and healthy with physical and mental well-being;
2. Capable of achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development;
3. Safe and protected from harm;
4. Provided with economic security and opportunity; *and*
5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world.

The Socio-Demographic Profile is an element of the analysis designed to identify the needs of children, young people and families in the Laois-Offaly CYPSC area, and the extent to which services and resources available in the respective counties are meeting those needs.

2.1.1 Alignment with BOBF Indicator Set

The following table summarises the alignment between the socio-demographic data sets and the BOBF indicator set.

Table 1 – BOBF Indicator Set Alignment

Socio-Demographic Profile	Profile Scope	BOBF Indicator Set
Demography	Population Change	Demographic Baseline Profile
	Population Pyramid	
	Birth Rate	
	Young Mothers	
	Population by Age Band	
	Young Dependency Ratio	
	Ethnicity	
Economy	Labour Force Unemployment	Economic Security and Opportunity
	Live Register	
	Live Register: Under 25 Years of Age	

/continued

Laois Offaly CYPSC: Socio-Demographic Profile

/continued

Socio-Demographic Profile	Profile Scope	BOBF Indicator Set
Families	One Parent Families	Safe and Protected from harm
	Families with Children Under 15 Years of Age	
	Lone Parent Families with Children Under 15 Years of Age	
	Children Under 15 Years of Age by Family Type	
	Children under 15 Years of Age: Lone Parent Families	
	Lone Parent Families by Parent Gender	
	Lone Mother Families: All Children Under 15 Years of Age	
	Lone Mother Families: All Children Over 15 Years of Age	
	Lone Father Families: All Children Under 15 Years of Age	
	Lone Father Families: All Children Over 15 Years of Age	
Deprivation Index	Pobal HP Deprivation Index	Safe and Protected from harm
	Children at Risk of Poverty	
	GMS Medical Card Holders	
Housing	Social Housing	Safe and Protected from harm
	Local Authority Housing	
Educational Attainment	Highest Level of Education Attainment	Achieving Full Potential in Learning and Development
	Highest Level of Education Attainment of Mothers	
	Education Attainment: Third Level Plus	
	Education Attainment: No Formal or Primary Education Only	
	Childcare Services	
	DEIS Primary Schools	
	DEIS Post-Primary Schools	
	Special Needs Schools	
	Primary School Absenteeism Rate	
	Post-Primary School Absenteeism Rate	
	Leaving Certificate Sits	
Health	Persons 0-14 Years of Age with a Disability	Active and Healthy
	Persons 15 -24 Years of Age with a Disability	
	Children Registered with a Physical or Sensory Disability	
	Children Registered with an Intellectual Disability	
	Mothers Attending Antenatal Care	
	Self-harm by Age Group and Hospital	
	Carers 24 Years of Age and Under	
	Persons 0-14 Years of Age with a Disability	
	Persons 15 -24 Years of Age with a Disability	
	Children Registered with a Physical or Sensory Disability	

2.2 Evidence Base

The evidence base upon which this profile has been based is drawn from a variety of sources, principally including the following: -

- ❑ CSO Census of Population 2016, and previous census data;
- ❑ Pobal HP Deprivation Index 2016 (Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. 2017).

Where possible, the indicators have been disaggregated to the most localised area at which reliable data is available.

2.2.1 Census Data Resolution

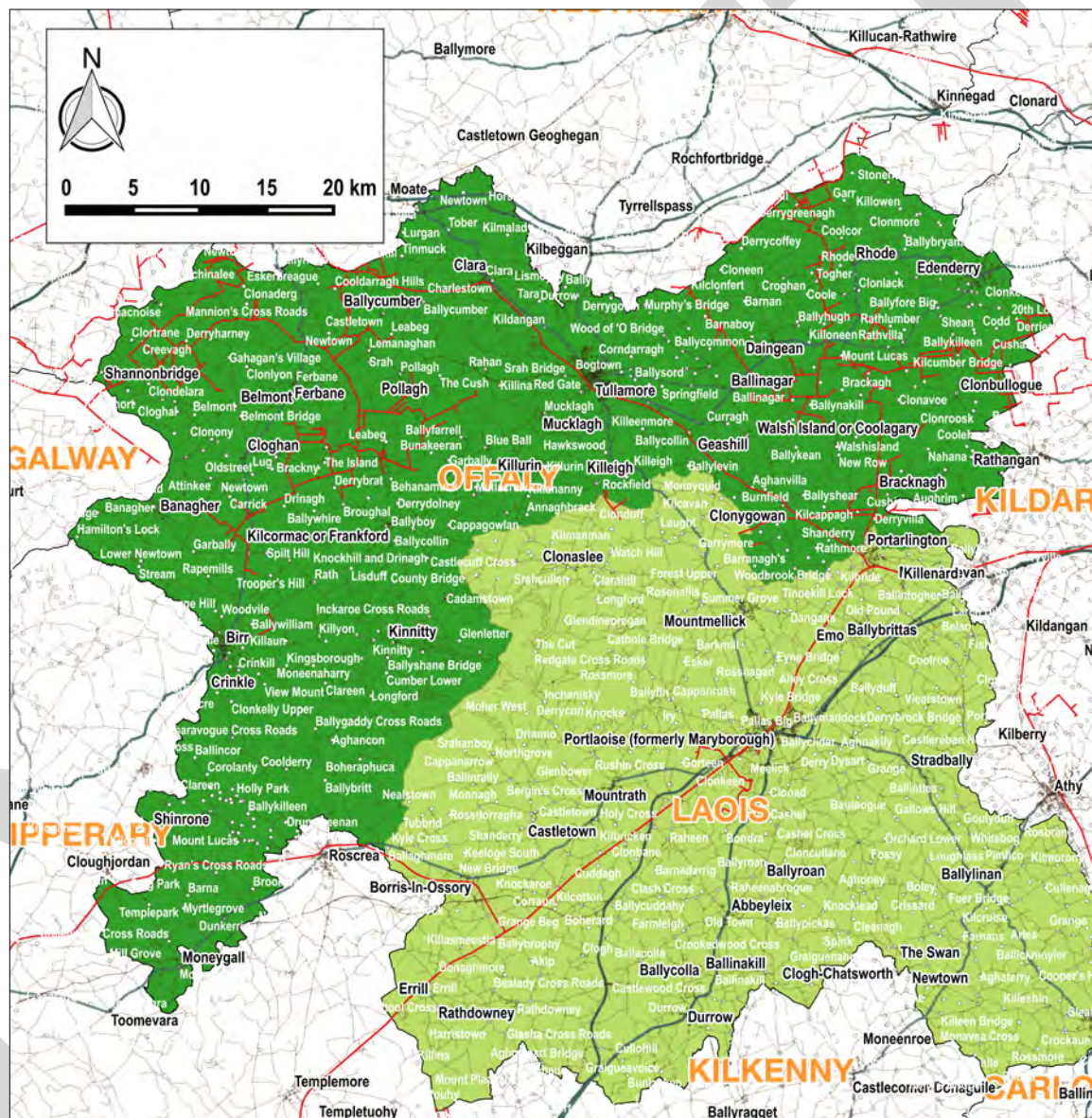
Generally, Section 3: Overview references CSO Census of Population 2016 Electoral Division (ED) data.

3 LO CYPSC Area Overview

The total territory covered by the Laois-Offaly (LO) CYPSC covers an area of 3,7217 sq. km., with a total population of 162,658 (2016). This represented 3.4% of the State population (4,761,865).

It has been identified as an area with instances of both relatively high levels of deprivation and complex needs.

Map 6 – LO CYPSC Area by County



3.1 LO CYPSC Area by County

The following summary descriptions have been extracted from the respective County Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP). All LECPs reference CSO Census of Population 2011.

3.1.1 County Laois

County Laois is located in the South Midlands; it has strong working relationships with other Midland Counties (Offaly, Westmeath and Longford). It also has strong economic and institutional relationships with other nearby counties including Kildare, Dublin, Carlow, Kilkenny and Tipperary. Laois' and in particular Portlaoise' transport connectivity is notable.

Portlaoise is the County's Principal Town, with one in four Co. Laois residents living in Portlaoise.

Laois was the fastest growing county in Ireland between 2006 and 2011. Strong population growth is a longstanding Laois trend; over the last 20 years, its population growth rate has been higher than the wider Midlands or the State.

In 2011, Co. Laois had the highest population of 0-18 year olds, as a proportion of its overall population. Nearly 39% of Laois' population was aged under 25, compared to 36% of the Midlands population and 34% of the State's population.

Co. Laois has a balanced rural/urban population. It is becoming more urbanised but rural life and the rural economy remain important.

In 2011, the unemployment rates in individual EDs reached levels well above those prevailing countywide, and were highest in Dangans (39.6% male, 28.6% female), followed by Doonane (40.6% male, 23.9% female) and Portlaoise (Maryborough) Urban (35.6% male, 25.4% female). Recovery in employment figures has been slower in Co. Laois than the State average. In Co. Laois only 32% of people of working age with a disability were at work, compared to 61% of the same cohort of people without a disability.

Unemployed people with disabilities are not on the live register and so cannot avail of some labour activation programmes.

In 2011, 66% of commuters in Co. Laois were car drivers, compared with 57% in the State. Co. Laois had the highest rate of outbound commuters in the Midlands, with Dublin and Kildare being the most popular destinations.

3.1.2 County Offaly

Objective 5 of the Offaly Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 focusses on improving the well-being and quality of life for children, youth, families and older people. With particular reference to young people, the Plan recognises the need to support children and young people by undertaking the following: -

- ☐ *Establish the Children and Young People Services Committee and prepare a work programme for delivery by the CYPSC.*
- ☐ *Focus on supporting children with disabilities with wraparound support programme put in place for a better customer experience from all agencies.*
- ☐ *Support awareness and interventions where substance misuse is having an impact on child well-being.*
- ☐ *Reducing child poverty – working with Family Support groups and Child and Youth services to assist in supporting families and children improve their circumstances e.g. to provide universal access to family support services and universal and targeted family support preventative intervention measures to include parenting programmes, early intervention initiatives, out of school activities and one to one support and counselling services for children and families.*
- ☐ *Put in place and link up additional pre-intervention social resources to reduce early school leavers and young offenders entering the Justice system/Justice Projects.*
- ☐ *Offer restorative conference or caution as restorative justice (Garda Diversion Programme).*

- ❑ *Roll out new and innovation education diversification programmes as early intervention tools for young people, such as Sport, Enterprise, Skills programmes.*
- ❑ *Provide accessible youth space that can offer young people opportunities to network, for better further education and job prospects.*
- ❑ *Supporting Teenagers - An opportunity for all engaged with Youth to share experience and support for a more empowered young people; County Youth Committee.*
- ❑ *Improve access to youth facilities where there are gaps in accessibility in communities or where there are no spaces to provide designated youth space.*

3.2 Demography

The 2016 Census showed that the rate of population growth across the State since 2011 had slowed significantly, reflecting the impact of the economic downturn of 2007-2008 and the resulting high levels of emigration.

Table 2 – Population Movement 2016

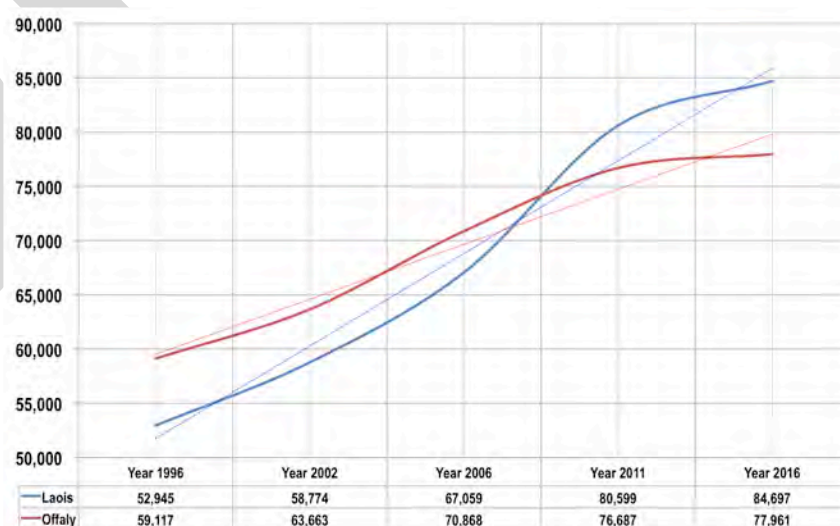
	State	Laois	Offaly
Population 2016	4,761,865	84,697	77,961
Change in Population 2011-2016	173,613	4,138	1,274
Births	345,706	6,123	5,586
Deaths	147,424	2,235	2,346
Natural increase	198,282	3,888	3,240
Estimated net migration	-24,669	250	-1,966
Average annual rates per 1,000 - Births	14.8	14.8	14.4
Average annual rates per 1,000 - Deaths	6.3	5.4	6.1
Average annual rates per 1,000 - Natural increase	8.5	9.4	8.4
Average annual rates per 1,000 - Estimated net migration	-1.1	0.6	-5.1

Source: CSO StatBank / Profile 2 - Population Distribution and Movements / E2007

3.2.1 Population Change

During the intercensal period 2011-2016 the population of the Laois-Offaly CYPSC Area increased by 3.43%, marginally ahead of the State increase of 3.3%.

Figure 1 – Population Trend 2006-2016



Source: CSO Census of Population 1996, 2002, 2006, 2011 and 2016

Projected Population Growth Rate

The CSO (2013) Regional Population Projections 2016-2031 suggest that the Midland Region will see its population increase by 25,000 by 2031 to 309,000 if internal migration patterns return to the traditional pattern last observed in the mid-1990s.

Table 3 - Regional Population Projections 2016-2031

Regional Authority Area	Population 2011	Natural increase	Internal migration	External migration	Total increase	Population 2031	Average annual increase
	Thousands						%
Border	516	49	-22	-9	18	533	0.2
Greater Dublin Area	1,795	298	92	11	401	2,197	1.0
Dublin	1,262	188	47	23	257	1,519	0.9
Remainder of GDA	534	110	45	-11	144	678	1.2
Midland	284	39	-21	7	25	309	0.4
Mid-West	378	43	-10	-1	32	410	0.4
South-East	499	58	-16	9	51	550	0.5
South-West	662	80	-18	8	71	733	0.5
West	441	31	-6	-10	15	456	0.2
State	4,575	598	0	15	613	5,188	0.6

Source: CSO Regional Population Projections 2016-2031 (2013)

Table 4 – Population Projections 2016-2046 by Age Bands

Age Band (State)	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041	2046
0 - 4 years	317.0	279.3	272.6	296.1	321.0	332.7
5 - 9 years	371.0	324.5	286.9	280.2	303.7	328.5
10 - 14 years	365.1	375.9	329.5	291.8	285.2	308.6
15 - 19 years	321.2	364.8	375.7	329.3	291.7	285.1
20 - 24 years	283.7	315.5	359.1	370.0	323.7	286.2

Source: CSO Current Population and Labour Force Projections (2011 Based) / PEC08

3.2.2 Population Density

In 2016, the total population density for the State was 70 persons per sq. km. The most densely populated ED in the State at 23,860.4 persons per sq. km. is Rotunda A, located in the Dublin City North CYPSC Area.

Table 5 – Most Densely Populated ED by County

County	Most Densely Populated EDs	Population - 2016	Population Aged 0-24	Percentage Population Aged 0-24	Actual change 2011-2016	Percentage change 2011-2016	Population density (persons per sq. km)	Area (sq. km)
Co. Laois	Portlaoighise (Maryborough) Urban	3,878	1,156	29.81	239	6.6	1908.3	2.03
	Mountmellick Urban	2,994	960	32.06	-4	-0.1	1333.5	2.25
Co. Offaly	Tullamore Urban	11,437	3,669	32.08	91	0.8	1476.7	7.75
	Edenderry Urban	7,001	2,650	37.85	511	7.9	905.3	7.73

Source: CSO StatBank / Profile 2 - Population Distribution and Movements / E2013

The two most densely populated EDs in Laois and Offaly are noted above.

3.1.3 Population by Age Group

The table below compares the two counties by age band.

Table 6– Population by Age Group 2016

	Age 0-4	Age 5-9	Age 10-14	Age 15-19	Age 20-24	Total 0-24
Co. Laois	6,644	7,583	6,585	5,328	4,107	30,247
Co. Offaly	5,631	6,239	5,857	5,410	3,948	27,085
Total Laois-Offaly	12,275	13,822	12,442	10,738	8,055	57,332

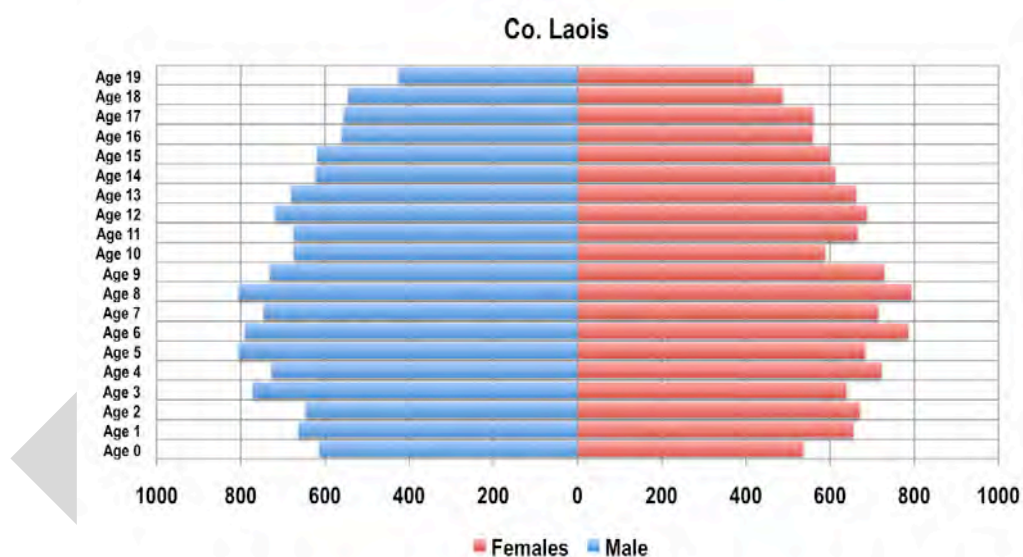
Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

3.1.4 Population Pyramid

In 2016 there was a total population aged 0-19 of 49,277 in the LO CYPSC area.

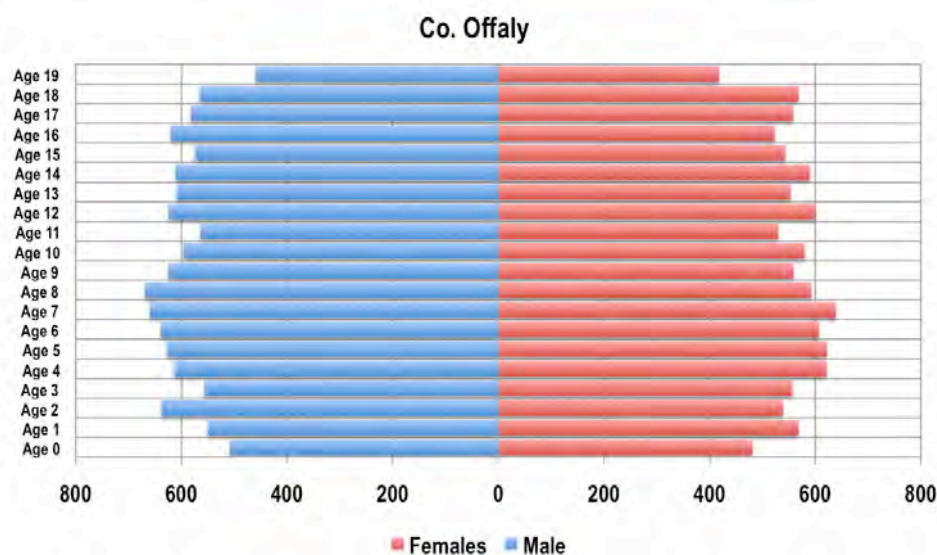
Population Pyramids by Gender Age 0-19

Figure 2 – Population Pyramid Co. Laois 2016



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Figure 3 – Population Pyramid Co. Offaly 2016



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Of the 49,277 aged 0-19 resident in the LO CYPSC area in 2016, 30.47% were aged 0-4, 28.05% were aged 5-9, 25.25% were aged 10-14, and 21.79% were aged 15-19.

3.1.5 Birth Rate

State

Eurostat records that in 2016 a total of 13.5 babies were born per 1,000 residents in the State, surpassing the European average of 10 births. These findings suggest that Ireland had the highest birth rate in the EU.

There were 63,900 live births in Ireland in 2016, which is more than double the number of 30,400 deaths or 6.4 per 1,000 residents recorded. This led to a natural population change of +7.1 per 1,000 inhabitants, which was the largest natural rise in the EU in 2016.

Table 7 – Birth Rate per 1,000 Population

State		2014	2015	2016
Male	Births (Number)	34,681	41,594	32,819
Female	Births (Number)	32,614	23,942	31,078
Total	Births (Number)	67,295	65,536	63,897
	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (Rate)	14.6	14.0	13.7

Source: CSO StatBank / Births Occurrence / VSA18 / Select from table VSA18

The CSO¹ reports that there were 16,487 births in Q1 2017, some 7 more births compared with the same period in 2016. This corresponds to a birth rate of 14.1 per 1,000 of population, representing a decrease of 0.1 from Q1 2016.

There were 40 infant deaths registered giving an infant mortality rate of 2.4 per 1,000 live births

The average age of first time mothers was 31.0, up 0.2 years from the same period in the previous year. The average age of mothers at maternity for births registered in Q1 2017 was 32.8 years, which was 0.1 higher than Q1 2016.

¹ CSO Vital Statistics (August 2017)

Laois Offaly CYPSC: **Socio-Demographic Profile**

The average age of first time mothers outside marriage or civil partnership was 28.8 while the average age of all mothers outside marriage/civil partnership was 30.1 years. In the same quarter in 2016, the average age of mothers having their first baby outside marriage or civil partnership was 28.4 years while it was 29.9 years for all mothers for births registered outside of marriage or civil partnership.

Table 8 – LO CYPSC Area Registered Births

Co. Laois	2016Q4	2017Q1	2017Q2	2017Q3
Births Registered	293	303	298	300
Births Registered per 10,000 Population	35	36	35	35
Births within Marriage	172	192	175	167
Births outside Marriage	121	111	123	133
Average Age of Mother - First Births only (Years)	30	30.5	29.9	29.2
Average Age of Mother – outside Marriage (Years)	29.6	29.2	28.6	29
Co. Offaly				
Births Registered	243	263	256	243
Births Registered per 10,000 Population	31	34	33	31
Births within Marriage	160	176	149	154
Births outside Marriage	83	87	107	89
Average Age of Mother - First Births only (Years)	30.7	30.1	29	30.6
Average Age of Mother – outside Marriage (Years)	30	27.8	28.6	28.8

Source: CSO StatBank / Births Registered / VSQ12

Table 9 – State: Registered Births

State	2016Q4	2017Q1	2017Q2	2017Q3
Births Registered	14,740	16,487	15,222	15,635
Births Registered per 10,000 Population	31	35	32	33
First Births Registered	5,681	6,181	5,734	5,962
Births within Marriage	9,291	10,258	9,547	9,733
Births outside Marriage	5,449	6,229	5,675	5,902
Average Age of Mother - First Births only (Years)	31.1	31.0	31.1	30.9
Average Age of Mother - outside Marriage (Years)	30.4	30.1	30.2	30.1

Source: CSO StatBank / Births Registered / VSQ12

In the State, the average age of first time mothers at 2017Q3 was 30.9 years.

Birth Rate Trend

Figure 4 – Registered Births 2012-2016



Source: CSO StatBank / Births Registered / VSQ12

3.1.6 Young Mothers

The CSO reports that nationally the number of teenage pregnancies has fallen by 64% from 3,087 in 2001 to 1,098 in 2016. This equates to a decrease in the teen birth rate from 20 per 1,000 of women aged 15-19 in population in Ireland in 2001 to 7.8 per 1,000 in 2016.

Table 10 – Mothers Aged 15 to 24 by Live Births (State 2016)

State	Previous Number of Live Born Children						
Age of mother at maternity	Total	0	1	2	3	4	5 or more
15 Years of Age and under	20	20	–	–	–	–	–
16 Years of Age	51	49	2	–	–	–	–
17 Years of Age	140	122	17	1	–	–	–
18 Years of Age	342	305	36	1	–	–	–
19 Years of Age	545	465	68	11	1	–	–
20 Years of Age	678	542	119	14	2	1	–
21 Years of Age	829	560	228	34	4	1	2
22 Years of Age	993	622	285	70	14	2	–
23 Years of Age	1,246	728	375	111	27	4	1
24 Years of Age	1,470	786	477	143	50	10	4

Source: CSO Vital Statistics VSA36

3.1.7 Young Dependency Ratio

The young dependency ratio is the number of young people of 0-14 years of age as a %age of the population of working age. The working age population is defined as those of 15 to 64 years of age.

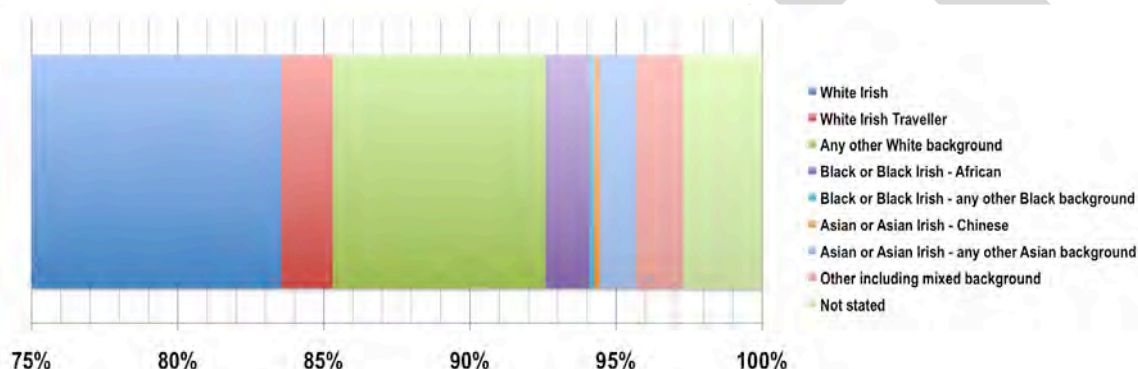
In 2016, the LO CYPSC Area had a total population of 38,539 of 0-14 years of age. In 2016, the total working age population of 15 to 64 years of age in the LO CYPSC Area was 103,920.

In 2016 the young dependency ratio in the LO CYPSC Area was 37.08%. By comparison, Meath had the highest young dependency ratio at 39%, followed by Laois at 38.3%. At other end of the spectrum Cork City (20.4%), Dublin City (20.9%), Galway City (23.4%) and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (27.9%) all had the lowest young dependency ratios.

3.1.8 Ethnicity

The Traveller and Roma communities are known to be particularly vulnerable to poverty and social exclusion, and face barriers in accessing education, training, employment and services.

Figure 5 – CYPSC Area Ethnicity Age 0-24 2016



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Census 2016 reports that there were 1,685 *White Irish Travellers* living in the LO CYPSC Area.

The Census did not include '*Roma*' as an ethnic identifier, although it is estimated that there are some 5,000 Roma people living in Ireland (Nasc - the Irish Immigrant Support Centre: 2015).

Table 11 –Ethnicity by Age Bands 2016

	White Irish	White Irish Traveller	Any other White background	Black or Black Irish - African	Black or Black Irish - any other Black background	Asian or Asian Irish - Chinese	Asian or Asian Irish - any other Asian background	Other including mixed background	Not stated
Age 0-4									
Laois	5,367	119	478	147	22	13	113	146	210
Offaly	4,778	120	373	29	3	12	56	76	187
Laois-Offaly CYPSC	10,145	239	851	176	25	25	169	222	397
State	265,856	4,317	27,093	5,181	708	1,552	7,540	7,926	9,839
Age 5-9									
Laois	6,182	121	602	222	12	16	128	151	150
Offaly	5,260	120	480	44	4	15	81	92	142
Laois-Offaly CYPSC	11,442	241	1,082	266	16	31	209	243	292
State	287,020	4,318	27,804	7,822	778	1,350	8,740	8,045	8,683

/continued

Laois Offaly CYPSC: Socio-Demographic Profile

/continued

	White Irish	White Irish Traveller	Any other White background	Black or Black Irish - African	Black or Black Irish - any other Black background	Asian or Asian Irish - Chinese	Asian or Asian Irish - any other Asian background	Other including mixed background	Not stated
Age 10-14									
Laois	5,427	92	427	283	19	19	98	108	135
Offaly	5,008	101	356	81	10	20	68	68	114
Laois-Offaly CYPSC	10,435	193	783	364	29	39	166	176	249
State	261,616	3,678	21,304	9,975	738	1,274	6,124	6,084	6,971
Age 15-19									
Laois	4,662	78	356	134	8	6	59	74	121
Offaly	4,727	77	359	33	3	8	40	58	90
Laois-Offaly CYPSC	9,389	155	715	167	11	14	99	132	211
State	252,300	3,074	19,367	5,358	479	1,045	4,640	4,799	7,255
Age 20-24									
Laois	3,366	58	350	77	5	2	48	63	198
Offaly	3,476	79	331	7	5	10	20	34	70
Laois-Offaly CYPSC	6,842	137	681	84	10	12	68	97	268
State	210,694	2,631	26,283	3,105	543	2,330	5,335	5,638	7,429

Source: CSO StatBank / Profile 8 - Irish Travellers, Ethnicity and Religion / E8001

3.2 Economy

The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) defines the territory of the LO CYPSC as an element of the Midlands Region. The Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly Socio-Economic Evidence Baseline Report (November 2017) provides an overview of the economy of the entire Regional Assembly area. The region covers nine counties containing twelve local authorities: Longford, Westmeath, Offaly, Laois, Louth, Meath, Kildare, Wicklow, Fingal, South Dublin and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Councils, along with Dublin City Council.

The Socio-Economic Evidence Baseline Report provides a summary of the economic and employment profile of the entire region, including the following key indicators: -

- ❑ According to Census 2016, the total Labour Force in EMRA is 1,161,978 and equates to a Labour Force Participation Rate of 63.3% of the total Labour Force within the region - above the State average (61.4%).
- ❑ The Labour Force in EMRA is approximately 50.5% of the total Labour Force in the State (2,304,037). At the Local Authority level, highest rates are in Fingal (66.9%), Dublin City (64.7%), Kildare (64.1%) and South Dublin (64.0%). Lowest rates are in DLR (58.2%) and Offaly (59.8%).
- ❑ In total, four key settlements across EMRA have a *Labour Force At Work* rate less than 80%: Longford (69.4%), Dundalk / Mullingar (79.1%) and Portlaoise (79.6%). Lowest rates are in Longford (80.4%) and Louth (83.3%).
- ❑ In 2015 there were 125,441 active enterprises in EMRA. Overall, there has been a gradual increase in active enterprise with the total now 7% higher than the total in 2008 (117,227).

Relative to the State total of 248,843, the EMRA area accounts for 50.4% of all active enterprises. As expected, Dublin is the most dominant location for active enterprises with a total of 79,537 in 2015.

- ❑ At the Local Authority level, the highest total Labour Force Unemployment Rates are in Longford (19.6%), Louth (16.7%) and Offaly/Westmeath (15.9%). In total, five key settlements across EMRA have more than a fifth of their labour force recorded as unemployed: Longford (30.6%), Dundalk (20.9%), Portlaoise (20.4%), Mullingar (20.9%) and Tullamore (20.1%).
- ❑ Disposable Income per Person is lower in the Eastern and Midland Strategic Planning Areas, and the Midland area recorded the second lowest level (although marginally higher than the Border area at €16,755), with the lowest in Longford and Offaly.

3.2.1 Labour Force Participation Rate

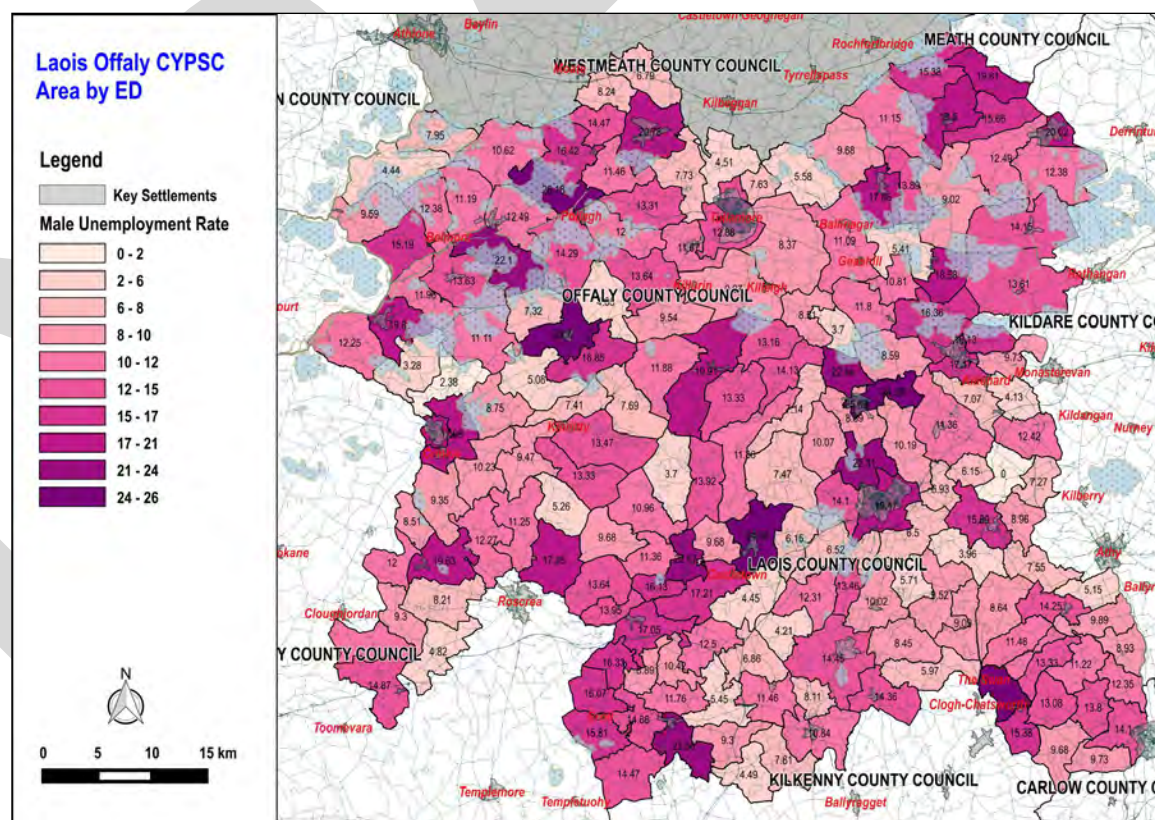
The Labour Force Participation Rate is calculated by expressing the labour force (i.e. those at work, looking for first regular job and unemployed) as a percentage of the total aged 15 years and over.

Table 12 – Labour Force Participation Rate 2011-2016

		Age 15-24		Age 25-34	
County	Indicator	Male	Female	Male	Female
Laois	Labour Force Participation Rate	35.4	31.0	90.4	79.7
	Unemployment Rate	30.5	33.5	16.7	16.1
Offaly	Labour Force Participation Rate	37.8	30.2	91.9	79.6
	Unemployment Rate	32.2	33.8	18.1	16.7
State	Labour Force Participation Rate	34.5	30.4	91.0	82.3
	Unemployment Rate	27.3	23.7	14.0	11.9

Source: StatBank / Select from table EZ005

Map 7 – LO Male Unemployment Rate by ED



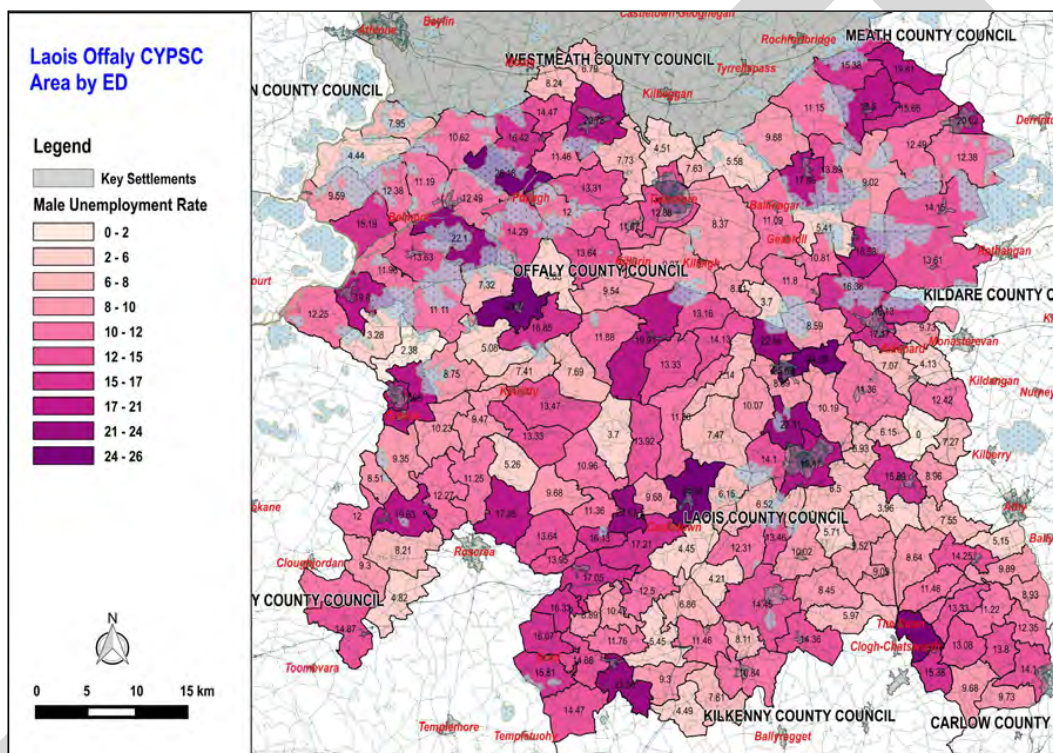
Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

Laois Offaly CYPSC: Socio-Demographic Profile

The State Unemployment Rate for males aged 15-24 in 2016 was 27.3%, and for females it was 23.7%.

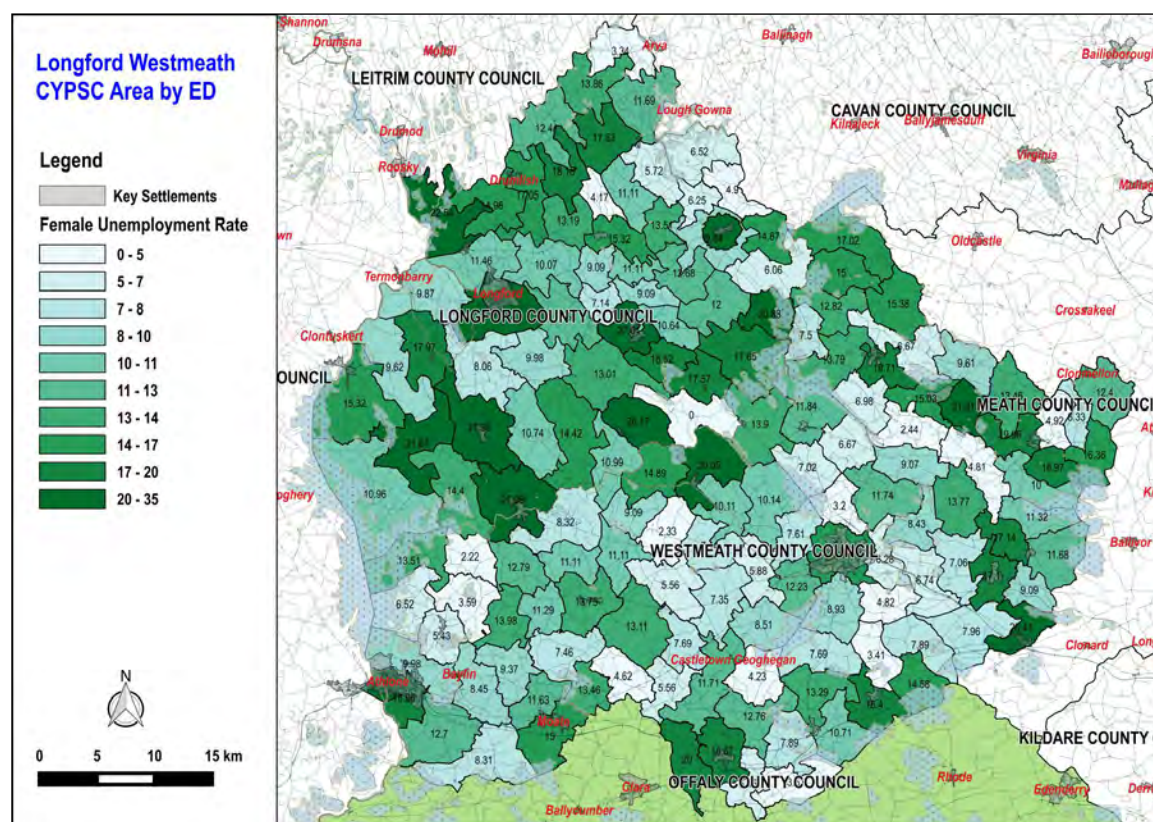
From the above it can be seen that for those aged 15-24 in 2016 there was a higher Labour Force Participation Rate in the LO CYPSC area compared to the State, and also a lower Unemployment Rate (the latter particularly in the case of females). In 2016 the employment rate in Ireland for women was 59.5%, below the EU average of 61.4% and the eleventh lowest in the EU. The employment rate for men in Ireland was 69.9%, below the EU average rate of 71.8% and the twelfth lowest rate in the EU.

Map 8 – LO Female Unemployment Rate by ED



Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

Map 9 – LW Female Unemployment Rate by ED



Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

3.2.2 Live Register

The Live Register is compiled from returns made directly to the CSO by each of the local offices of the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection. It is specifically not designed to measure unemployment; however, it provides an invaluable short-term trend indicator of unemployment.

Included on the Live Register are the following: -

- ❑ All those on Jobseekers Benefit (JB) - excluding systematic short-time workers;
- ❑ All those on Jobseekers Allowance (JA) - excluding smallholders/farm assists and self-employed persons;
- ❑ Part-time workers (those who work up to 3 days per week), seasonal and casual workers entitled to Jobseekers Allowance or Benefit; and
- ❑ Those signing on for 'PRSI credits' but receiving no payment.

Based on 2015 Q4 national indices, the Nevin Economic Research Institute² predict positive, but uncertain, economic growth trends to continue. There is a persistent note of concern at low wage growth and the relative levels of persistently high youth (19%) and long-term unemployment rates (55% of unemployed).

Individuals registered at specific DEASP local offices may not necessarily reside within their immediate environs.

² The Nevin Economic Research Institute. Quarterly Economic Observer. Spring 2016.

3.2.3 Live Register: Under 25 Years of Age

Youth unemployment remains a considerable challenge. It is intended that a new youth employment support scheme will be introduced in 2018. This will aim to provide long-term-unemployed young people with the opportunity to learn basic work and social skills in a supportive environment while on a work placement.

The CSO reports that in the year to November 2017 the number of persons aged 25 and over at State level on the Live Register decreased by 34,090 (-14.1%), and the number of persons aged under 25 decreased by 5,861 (-19.0%).

Annual decreases in persons aged under 25 have occurred in all months since July 2010.

The percentage of persons aged under 25 on the Live Register stands at 10.7% for November 2017, down from 11.3% in November 2016 and 12.4% in November 2015.

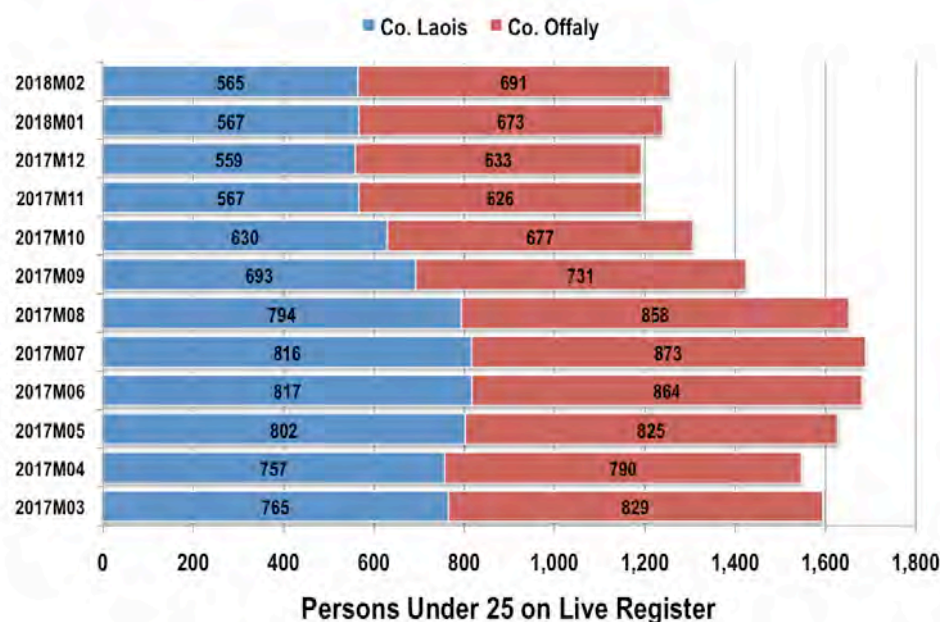
Table 13 - Live Register Under 25 Years of Age

Under 25 years	2017M03	2017M04	2017M05	2017M06	2017M07	2017M08	2017M09	2017M10	2017M11	2017M12	2018M01	2018M02	% Change 2017M03-2018M02
Co. Laois	765	757	802	817	816	794	693	630	567	559	567	565	-26.14
Co. Offaly	829	790	825	864	873	858	731	677	626	633	673	691	-16.65
LO CYPSC Area	1,594	1,547	1,627	1,681	1,689	1,652	1,424	1,307	1,193	1,192	1,240	1,256	-21.20
State	30,849	29,725	30,253	31,732	32,237	31,683	28,471	26,433	24,951	24,675	25,624	25,647	-16.86

Source: StatBank / Live Register / LRM07 / Select from table LRM07

The table above shows that in the State the percentage change of the number of young people aged under 25 signing on the Live Register fell by 16.86% over the period March 2017 to February 2018. Over the same period the LO CYPSC Area saw a fall of 21.20%.

Figure 6 – LO Live Register Trend Under 25 Years of Age



Source: StatBank / Live Register / LRM07 / Select from table LRM07

3.2.4 Labour Market Activation Programmes

The following table records the State Labour Market Activation Programme participants by month. It is noted that the number of participants on activation programmes seasonally increased by 19.3% between June and November 2017, compared to 14.9% in the period June to November 2016.

Table 14 – Labour Market Activation Programme Participants

	Jun 2017	Jul 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2017	Oct 2017	Nov 2017
Back-To-Work Enterprise Allowance Scheme – Self-Employed Strand	10,481	10,457	10,371	10,086	10,017	9,841
Short-Term Enterprise Allowance	448	448	444	448	423	398
Total Back-to-Work Payments	10,929	10,905	10,815	10,534	10,440	10,239
Other Activation Programmes - DEASP Part-Time Job Incentive	426	385	388	414	422	421
Other Activation Programmes – TÚS - Community Work Placement Initiative	6,900	6,820	6,790	6,535	6,359	6,522
Other Activation Programmes - JobBridge	475	322	176	163	0	0
Other Activation Programmes - Gateway	203	187	138	92	67	67
Total Other Activation Programmes	8,004	7,714	7,492	7,204	6,848	7,010
Community Employment Schemes (Excluding Supervisors)	22,053	21,957	21,956	21,670	21,763	21,722
Full Time Training For Unemployed People	5,467	4,876	4,240	5,221	6,085	6,085
Back To Education Courses - Back To Education Allowance (BTEA)	1,826	1,468	1,562	8,004	10,840	13,501
Total Back To Education Courses	6,826	6,468	6,562	13,004	15,840	18,501
Total Activation Programmes	53,279	51,920	51,065	57,633	60,976	63,557

Source: StatBank / Live Register / LRM14 / Select from table LRM14

3.3 Family Structure

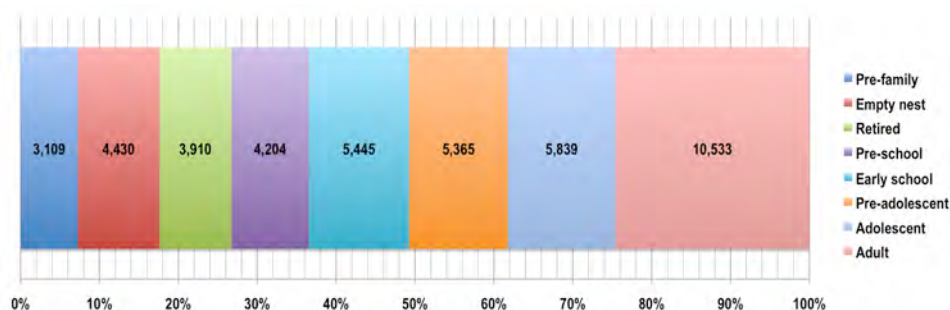
In 2016 there were 42,835 families in the LO CYPSC Area, with 3,109 (7.26%) families at pre-family stage, with 4,204 (9.81%) at pre-school stage, and 5,445 (12.71%) at early school stage.

Table 15 – Families by Family Cycle 2016

	Pre-family	Empty nest	Retired	Pre-school	Early school	Pre-adolescent	Adolescent	Adult	Total
LO CYPSC Area Population	3,109	4,430	3,910	4,204	5,445	5,365	5,839	10,533	42,835
LO CYPSC Area %	7.26	10.34	9.13	9.81	12.71	12.52	13.63	24.59	100.00

Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Figure 7 – Families by Family Cycle 2016



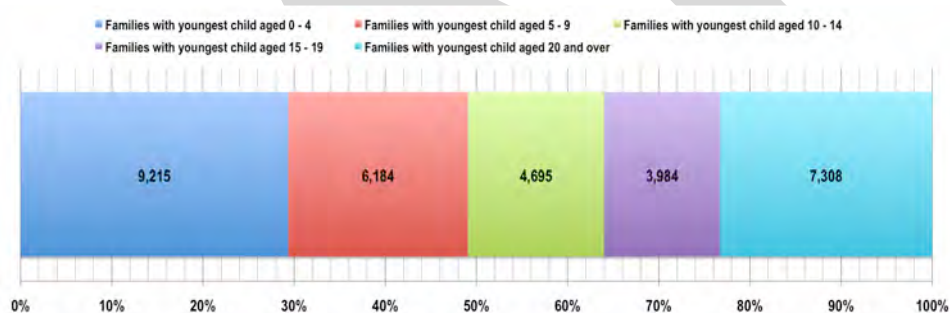
Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Table 16 – Families by Age of Youngest Child 2016

	Families with youngest child aged 0 - 4	Families with youngest child aged 5 - 9	Families with youngest child aged 10 - 14	Families with youngest child aged 15 - 19	Families with youngest child aged 20 and over	Total
LO CYPSC Area Population	9,215	6,184	4,695	3,984	7,308	31,386
LO CYPSC Area %	29.36	19.70	14.96	12.69	23.28	100.00

Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Figure 8 – Families by Age of Youngest Child 2016



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

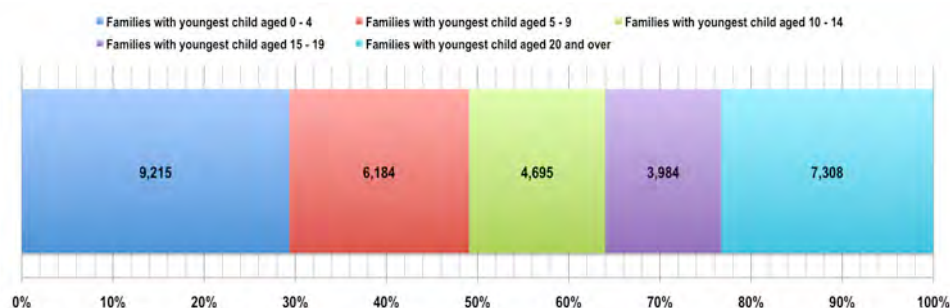
3.3.1 Families with Children Under 15 Years of Age

In 2016 there were 15,014 families with all children of less than 15 years of age in the LO CYPSC Area. In the LO CYPSC Area the ED with the highest number of families with all children of less than 15 years of age was Portlaoighise (Maryborough) Rural (1,659 families).

Table 17 – Families with Children <15 Years of Age

	All children aged under 15					Total families
	Families with 1 child	Families with 2 children	Families with 3 children	Families with 4 children	Families with 5 or more children	
LO CYPSC Area Population	5,210	6,057	2,813	731	203	15,014
Laois-Offaly CYPSC Area %	34.70	40.34	18.74	4.87	1.35	100.00
LO CYPSC Area %	36.64	39.06	17.77	5.30	1.23	100.00

Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Figure 9 – Families by Age of Children <15


Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

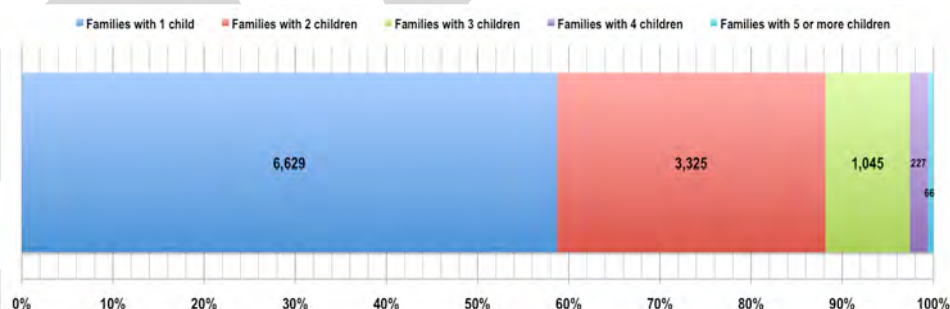
3.3.2 Families with Children of 15+ Years of Age

In 2016 there were 11,292 families with all children of more than 15 years of age in the LO CYPSC Area. 88.2% of families with all children of more than 15 years of age in the LO CYPSC Area had either 1 or 2 children.

Table 18 – Families with All Children Aged 15+

	All children aged 15 and over					Total families
	Families with 1 child	Families with 2 children	Families with 3 children	Families with 4 children	Families with 5 or more children	
LO CYPSC Area Population	6,629	3,325	1,045	227	66	11,292
LO CYPSC Area %	58.71	29.45	9.25	2.01	0.58	100.00

Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Figure 10 – Families with All Children Aged 15+


Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

3.3.3 Lone Parents

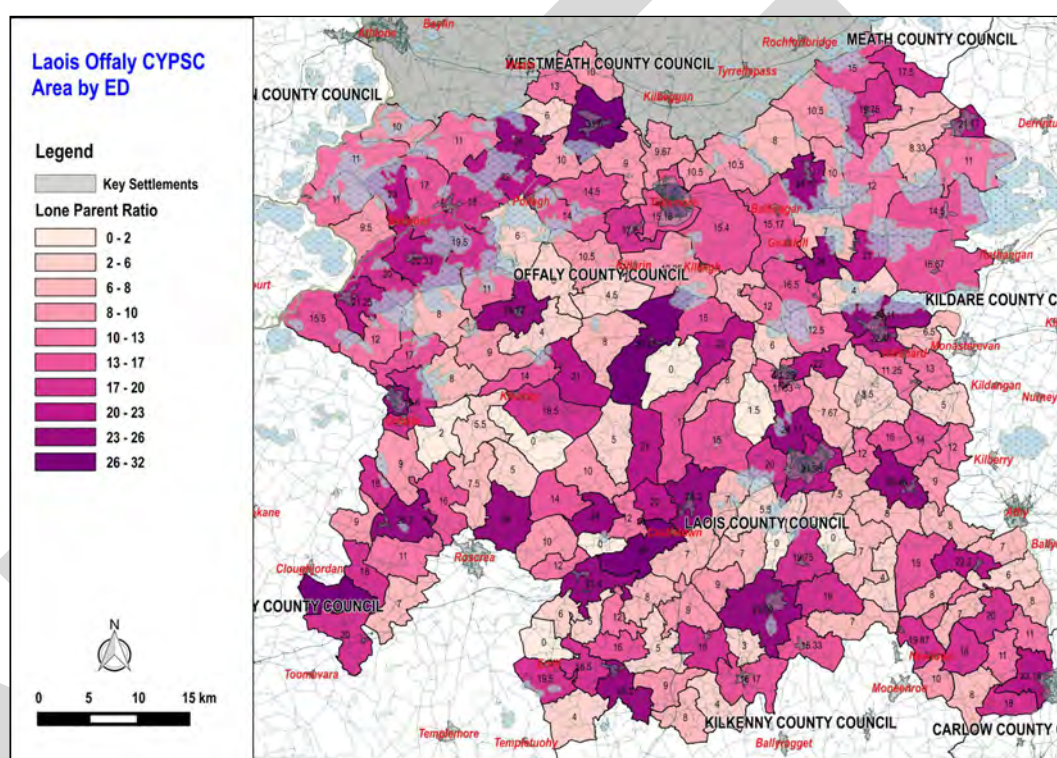
The CSO Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) 2016 confirms that lone parents are more likely than any other social group to be living in poverty.

Table 19 – Lone Parent Poverty Rate (Children Under 18)

Base Year 2012	Indicator 2016
Median Real Household Disposable Income	€22,845
Mean Real Household Disposable Income	€25,353
Median Nominal Household Disposable Income	€23,090
Mean Nominal Household Disposable Income	€25,625
Median Equivalised Real Disposable Income	€13,693
Mean Equivalised Real Disposable Income	€14,648
Median Equivalised Nominal Disposable Income	€13,840
Mean Equivalised Nominal Disposable Income	€14,805
At Risk of Poverty Rate	40.2%
Deprivation Rate ³	50.1%
Consistent Poverty Rate	24.6%

Source: CSO StatBank / Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) / SIA16 / Select from table SIA16

Map 10 – LO Lone Parent Ratio 2016 by ED



Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

The proportion of Lone Parents (as a proportion of all households with dependent children) in Ireland grew from 10.7% in 1991 to 21.6% nationally in 2011.

³ Deprivation Rate: An individual is defined as being deprived if they experience two or more forms of enforced deprivation.

Table 20 – LO ED by Lone Parent Ratio >25

ED Name	County	Total Population 2016	Population Aged 0-24 Total	Lone Parents Ratio 2006	Lone Parents Ratio 2011	Lone Parents Ratio 2016
Clara	Offaly	3,956	1,414	29.02	30.10	31.60
Castletown	Laois	775	268	22.39	29.27	28.00
Clonaslee	Laois	939	335	24.75	21.82	27.67
Tullamore Urban	Offaly	11,437	3,669	30.90	30.20	27.45
Templeharry	Offaly	229	82	15.79	11.11	27.00
Mountrath	Laois	2,378	811	26.83	31.93	26.30
Shinrone	Offaly	965	309	17.58	23.89	26.20
Ballycumber	Offaly	741	259	21.69	15.12	26.00
O'Dempsey	Offaly	166	73	13.33	25.00	26.00
Borris-In-Ossory	Laois	832	258	24.74	34.00	25.40
Stradbally	Laois	1,807	560	23.44	26.63	25.25
Rathdowney	Laois	1,206	355	26.49	32.88	25.20

Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

In 2016, a total of 4,453 children of less than 15 years of age lived in single parent families in the LO CYPSC Area. Of these, 92.8% (4,133) were in lone mother families, and 7.2% (320) were in lone father families.

3.4 Affluence and Deprivation

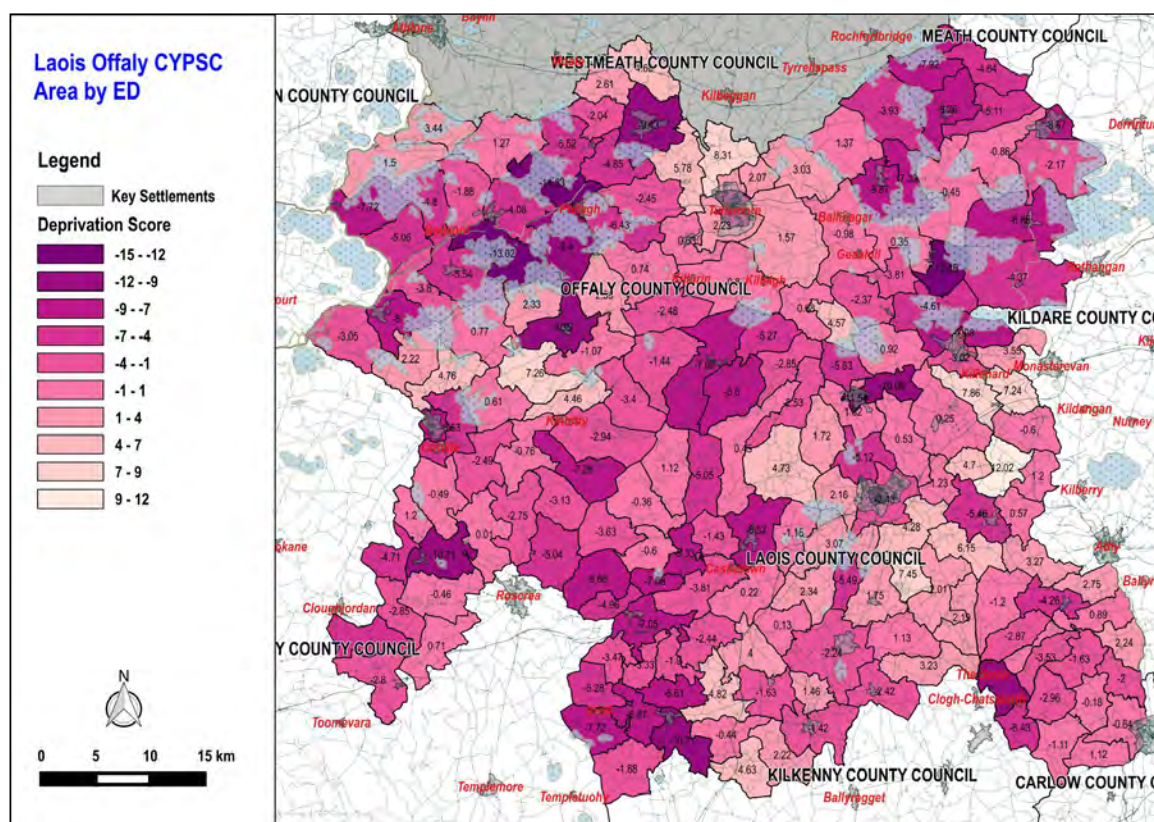
The Pobal HP⁴ Deprivation Index measures the relative affluence or disadvantage of an area using data compiled from various censuses. A scoring is given to the area based on a national average of zero and ranging from approximately -35 (being the most disadvantaged) to +35 (being the most affluent). In addition to this, percentage data for the area is given under the following categories: -

1. Population Change;
2. Age Dependency Ratio;
3. Lone Parent Ratio;
4. Primary Education Only;
5. Third Level Education;
6. Unemployment Rate (male and female); and
7. Proportion living in Local Authority Rented Housing.

In 2016 there were considerable local differences in the relative affluence and deprivation across the CYPSC Areas.

⁴ Pobal HP Deprivation Index (Haase and Pratschke, 2012)

Map 11 – LO Deprivation Score 2016



Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

3.4.1 Incidence of Disadvantage

In 2016, the deprivation score for Co. Laois was -2.53, whilst in 2011 the score was -2.28. In 2016, the deprivation score for Co. Offaly was -4.58 (*Marginally Below Average*), whilst in 2011 the score was -4.61.

Of the total of 183 EDs in the Laois-Offaly CYPSC Area in 2016, one (accounting for 145 young people aged 0-24) was classified as affluent (Moyanna, Co. Laois).

Table 21 – LO Most Affluent EDs 2016

ED Name	County	Total Population 2016	Total Population Aged 0-24	Deprivation Score 2006	Deprivation Score 2011	Deprivation Score 2016	Classification 2016 MAA = Marginally Above Average
Moyanna	Laois	272	145	5.45	2.79	12.02	Affluent
Durrow	Offaly	723	273	6.29	5.97	8.31	MAA
Ballybrittas	Laois	768	449	5.71	8.44	7.86	MAA
Cullenagh	Laois	112	55	8.51	2.25	7.45	MAA
Drumcullen	Offaly	333	138	3.56	3.25	7.26	MAA
Jamestown	Laois	418	162	6.07	2.81	7.24	MAA
Timogue	Laois	343	117	3.67	0.73	6.15	MAA
Silverbrook	Offaly	656	274	2.88	5.88	5.78	MAA
Grantstown	Laois	314	135	4.31	3.14	4.82	MAA
Ealish	Offaly	165	35	2.21	-3.03	4.76	MAA

/continued

Laois Offaly CYPSC: Socio-Demographic Profile

/continued

ED Name	County	Total Population 2016	Total Population Aged 0-24	Deprivation Score 2006	Deprivation Score 2011	Deprivation Score 2016	Classification 2016 MAA = Marginally Above Average
Ballyfin	Laois	583	232	1.13	3.91	4.73	MAA
Kilmurry	Laois	211	104	4.40	1.89	4.70	MAA
Kilcumreraigh	Offaly	497	181	3.18	1.41	4.69	MAA
Cullahill	Laois	341	128	2.37	3.46	4.63	MAA
Garrymore	Laois	180	121	6.09	-1.27	4.57	MAA
Knockbarron	Offaly	154	73	-3.86	-0.21	4.46	MAA
Kilcolmanbane	Laois	560	233	1.98	4.47	4.28	MAA
Cuffsborough	Laois	236	118	4.83	2.96	4.00	MAA

Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

3.4.2 LO Disadvantaged EDs 2016

There were no EDs in the LO CYPSC Area in 2016 that were either 'Extremely Disadvantaged' or 'Very Disadvantaged', according to the Pobal HP classification.

There were eight EDs classified as 'disadvantaged' in the LO CYPSC Area in 2016. These accounted for a total of 3,173 young people aged 0-24. The most disadvantaged ED in the LO CYPSC Area in 2016 was Srah, Co. Offaly with 229 young persons aged 0-24, and a Deprivation Score of -14.53.

Table 22 – LO Disadvantaged EDs 2016

ED Name	County	Total Population 2016	Total Population Aged 0-24	Deprivation Score 2006	Deprivation Score 2011	Deprivation Score 2016	Classification 2016
Srah	Offaly	737	229	-11.30	-14.29	-14.53	Disadvantaged
Gallen	Offaly	597	147	-13.60	-11.38	-13.02	Disadvantaged
Raheenakeeran	Offaly	388	115	-5.72	-9.06	-12.45	Disadvantaged
Mountmellick Urban	Laois	2,691	960	-6.78	-8.83	-11.54	Disadvantaged
Doonane	Laois	550	269	-12.10	-9.04	-11.22	Disadvantaged
Rathdowney	Laois	1,292	355	-7.06	-9.43	-10.71	Disadvantaged
Shinrone	Offaly	921	309	-4.91	-9.21	-10.71	Disadvantaged
Dangans	Laois	1,191	789	-8.43	-9.07	-10.06	Disadvantaged
Total		8,367	3,173				

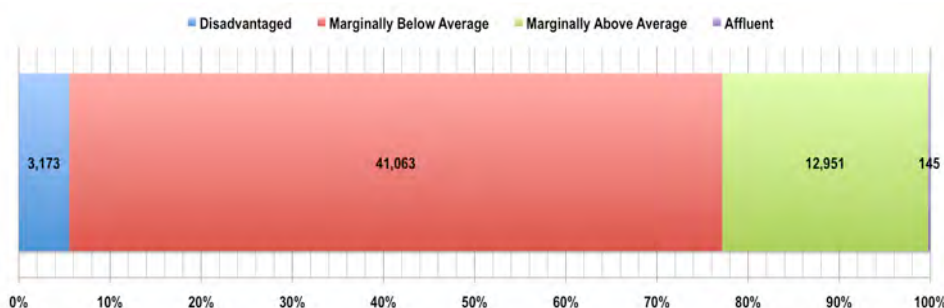
Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

Table 23 - Affluence and Deprivation Age 0-24

Population Aged 0-24	Disadvantaged	Marginally Below Average	Marginally Above Average	Affluent	Total Aged 0-24
LO CYPSC Area Population	3,173	41,063	12,951	145	57,332
LO CYPSC Area %	5.53	71.62	22.59	0.25	100.00

Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

Figure 11 – Affluence and Deprivation Age 0-24



Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

3.4.3 Children at Risk of Poverty

The CSO Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) in Ireland is a household survey covering a broad range of issues in relation to income and living conditions. It is the official source of data on household and individual income and also provides a number of key national poverty indicators, such as the 'at risk of poverty' rate, the rates of enforced deprivation and the consistent poverty rate.

Table 24 – Population At Risk by Age Group and Gender

State	At Risk of Poverty %		Deprivation %		Consistent Poverty %	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	17.2	16.9	29.0	25.5	8.8	8.7
Male	17.0	16.9	27.9	24.4	8.6	8.3
Female	17.4	16.9	30.1	26.7	9.0	9.1
Age group						
0-17	20.3	19.5	36.1	31.4	12.7	11.5
18-64	17.2	17.1	28.9	25.1	8.5	8.7
65+	10.9	10.7	14.3	15.4	2.1	2.7

Source: CSO SILC 2015 Table 2

Table 25 – Population at Risk by Demographic Profile

Midland Region	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Median Real Household Disposable Income	€29,279	€29,015	€30,870	€32,749	€33,987	€35,499
Mean Real Household Disposable Income	€36,921	€37,170	€36,302	€39,381	€39,298	€40,176
Median Nominal Household Disposable Income	€28,638	€29,015	€31,185	€33,174	€34,379	€35,879
Mean Nominal Household Disposable Income	€36,112	€37,170	€36,672	€39,892	€39,751	€40,606
Median Equivalised Real Disposable Income	€16,833	€14,781	€16,857	€18,434	€18,147	€18,402
Mean Equivalised Real Disposable Income	€19,443	€18,867	€18,563	€20,268	€20,435	€20,930
Median Equivalised Nominal Disposable Income	€16,464	€14,781	€17,029	€18,673	€18,356	€18,599
Mean Equivalised Nominal Disposable Income	€19,017	€18,867	€18,752	€20,531	€20,671	€21,154
At Risk of Poverty Rate (%)	22.3	23.9	19.3	17.7	16.8	19.0
Deprivation Rate (%)	26.3	26.0	27.7	27.1	28.7	23.7
Consistent Poverty Rate (%)	10.6	8.2	8.7	9.0	8.4	10.0

Source: CSO StatBank / Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) / SIA20

3.4.4 GMS Medical Card Holders

The HSE's Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS) supports the delivery of a wide range of primary care services to the general public. During 2014 3.5 million people were registered for Community Schemes services provided by General Practitioners, Pharmacists, Dentists and Optometrists or Ophthalmologist.

Table 26 – HSE GMS Number of Eligible Persons 2015

	Under 5 Years			5-11 Years			12-15 Years			16-24 Years		
CYPSC Area	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Laois-Offaly	2,106	2,158	4,264	3,839	4,133	7,972	2,177	2,227	4,404	3,697	3,282	6,979

Source: HSE PCRS Statistical Analysis of Claims and Payments 2015

The table above records the profile of the General Medical Services (GMS) Medical Card holders by gender and age group in the LO CYPSC Area.

3.5 Housing

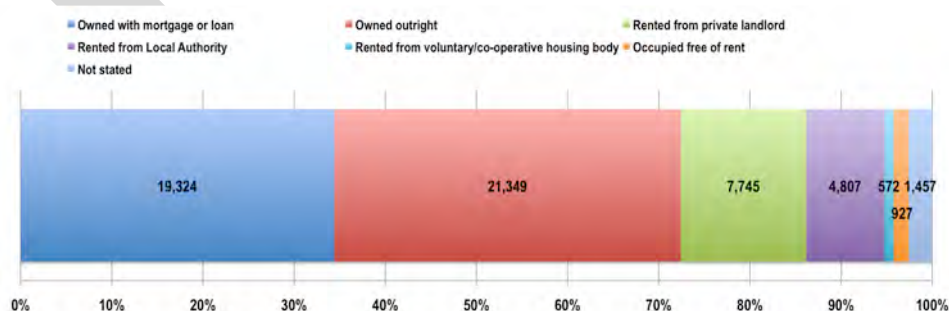
In 2016 41% of the population of the LO CYPSC Area lived in accommodation owned with a mortgage or loan, representing 34% of all households.

Table 27 – Housing Tenure (Households) 2016

	Number of Households							
	Owned with mortgage or loan	Owned outright	Rented from private landlord	Rented from Local Authority	Rented from voluntary co-operative housing body	Occupied free of rent	Not stated	Total
LO CYPSC Area	19,324	21,349	7,745	4,807	572	927	1,457	56,181
	Percentage of Households							
LO CYPSC Area	34.40	38.00	13.79	8.56	1.02	1.65	2.59	100.00

Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Figure 12 – Housing Tenure (Households) 2016

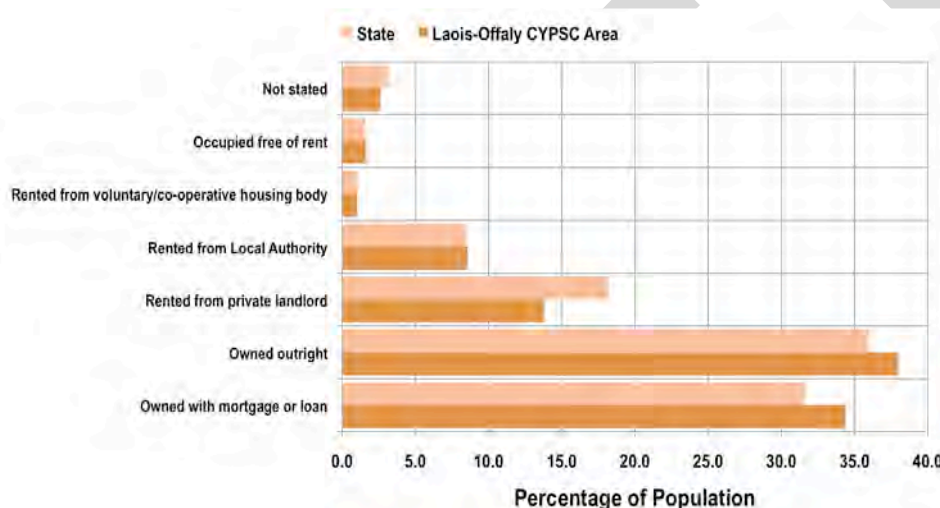


Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Table 28 - Housing Tenure (Persons) 2016

	Number of Persons							Total
	Owned with mortgage or loan	Owned outright	Rented from private landlord	Rented from Local Authority	Rented from voluntary/co-operative housing body	Occupied free of rent	Not stated	
LO CYPSC Area	66,495	51,470	21,624	13,997	1,510	1,819	3,799	160,714
	Percentage of Persons							
LO CYPSC Area	41.37	32.03	13.45	8.71	0.94	1.13	2.36	100.00

Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Table 29 – Comparative Housing Tenure 2016


Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

From the above it can be seen that, in 2016, a higher proportion of households in the LO CYPSC Area was living in accommodation that was mortgaged or owned outright, than was the case in the State generally.

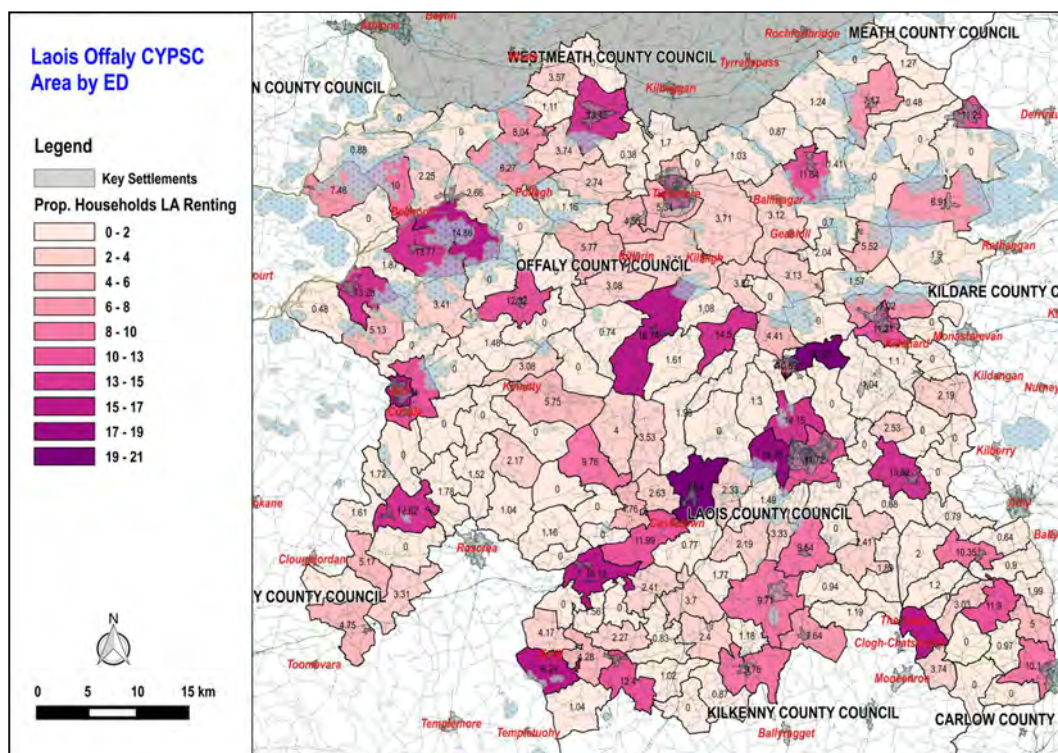
3.5.1 Social Housing

In 2016, a total of 572 households in the Laois-Offaly CYPSC Area were living in accommodation that was rented from a voluntary or co-operative housing body. This represents 1.02% of all households in the area and compares with 0.98% nationally.

3.5.2 Local Authority Housing

Of the 56,181 households in the LO CYPSC Area in 2016, a total of 4,807 were rented from the local authority. This represents 8.56% of all households in the area and compares with 8.4% nationally.

Map 12 – LO Proportion of Population LA Renting



Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

3.5.3 Homelessness

The CSO reports that in 2016 there were 6,906 homeless people in the State. Of these, 94 or 1.4% (50 homeless males and 44 homeless females) were recorded in the Midland Region.

Table 30 – Homeless Persons (State) 2016

	Private Emergency Accommodation	Supported Temporary Accommodation	Temporary Emergency Accommodation	Mixed	Rough sleeper
Male					
Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government	1,343	1,638	474	28	0
Agency	0	178	121	20	0
CSO	0	1	7	0	0
Tusla (in domestic violence refuges)	0	0	0	0	0
Rough sleepers	0	0	0	0	104
Total	1,343	1,817	602	48	104
Female					
Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government	1,548	834	137	7	0
Agency	0	85	33	0	0
CSO	0	1	6	0	0
Tusla (in domestic violence refuges)	0	0	0	0	0
Rough sleepers	0	0	0	0	19
Total	1,548	920	176	7	19

Source: CSO StatBank / Profile 5 - Homeless Persons in Ireland / E5001 / Select from table E5001

Table 31 – Homeless Persons (State): Age Bands 2016

Age	Male	Female	Total
0 - 4 years	379	386	765
5 - 9 years	292	273	565
10 - 14 years	190	174	364
15 - 19 years	165	170	325
20 - 24 years	286	335	621

Source: CSO StatBank / Profile 5 - Homeless Persons in Ireland / E5003

Table 32 – Homeless Persons (State): Family Units 2016

Children Within Family Units	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 or more Children
Couple without children	67	0	0	0	0
Couples with children	0	77	74	53	58
One parent mother	0	232	183	75	53
One parent father	0	17	4	3	0
All family units	67	326	261	131	111
All persons	134	729	857	577	671

Source: CSO StatBank / Profile 5 - Homeless Persons in Ireland / E5005 / Select from table E5005

3.6 Educational Attainment

There has been a continuous improvement in the level of education amongst the adult population over the past 25 years throughout Ireland.

In 1991, 36.7% of the adult population had primary education only. This dropped to half that level (18.9%) in 2006 and even further to 16.0% in 2011. Between 2006 and 2011 the adult population with primary education only decreased by 2.9 percentage points. In 2016, 11% of the national population had primary education only.

Despite the considerable improvement generally, there are some differences with regard to the prevalence of low education between different EDs in the CYPSC Area.

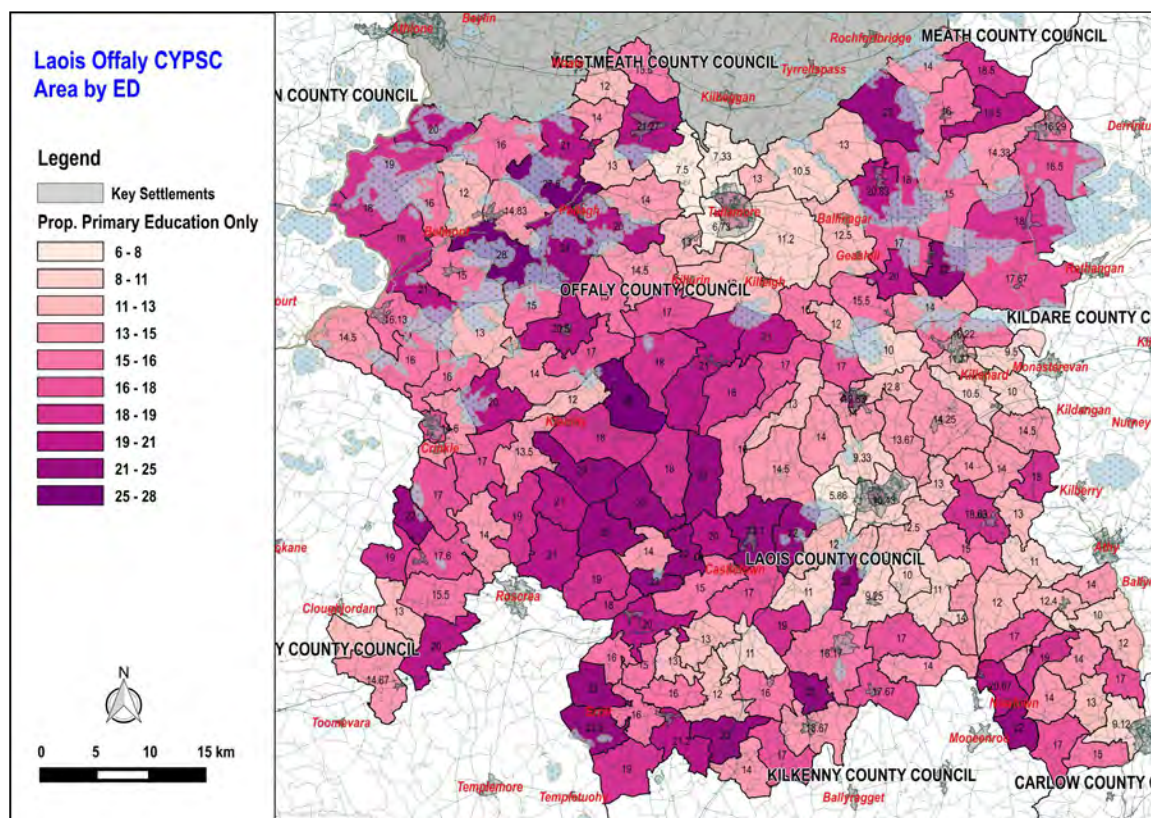
3.6.1 Low Educational Attainment

Table 33 – LO Proportion >25 with Primary Education Only

ED Name	County	Proportion with Primary Education Only 2006	Proportion with Primary Education Only 2011	Proportion with Primary Education Only 2016
Letter	Offaly	31.3	21.2	28.0
Gallen	Offaly	28.1	26.5	28.0
Srah	Offaly	37.9	30.5	27.5
Nealstown	Laois	40.0	25.4	25.0

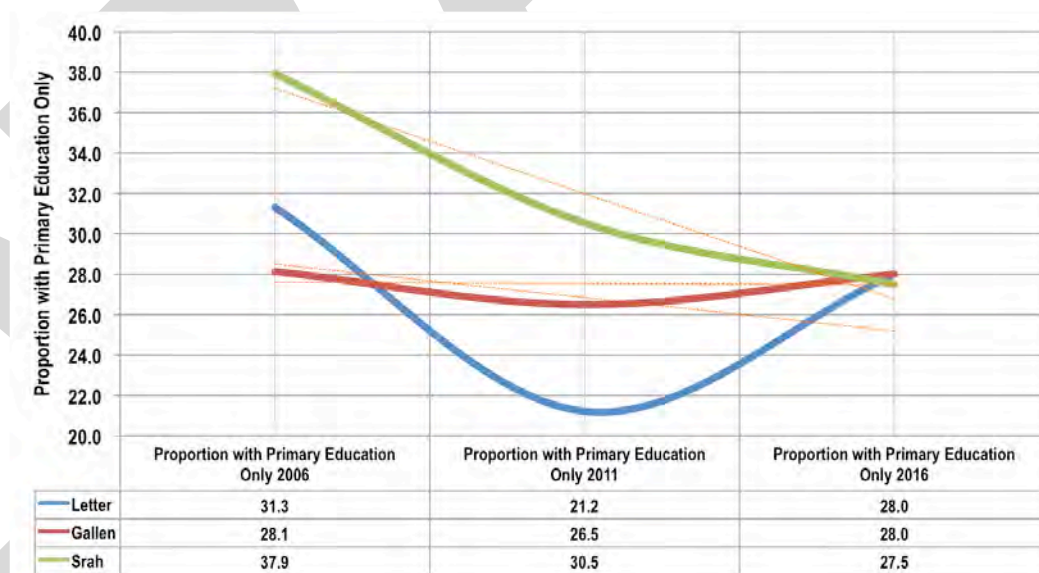
Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

Map 13 – LO Proportion with Primary Education Only 2016



Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

Table 34 – LO Change in Low Education Attainment



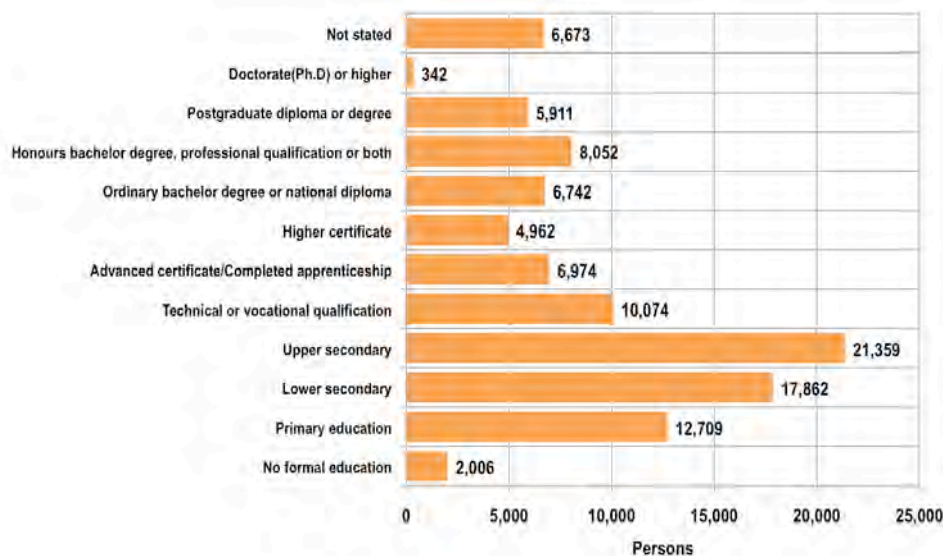
Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

3.6.2 Highest Level of Education Attainment

The figure below records the highest level of education attained by individuals over 15 years of age in 2016.

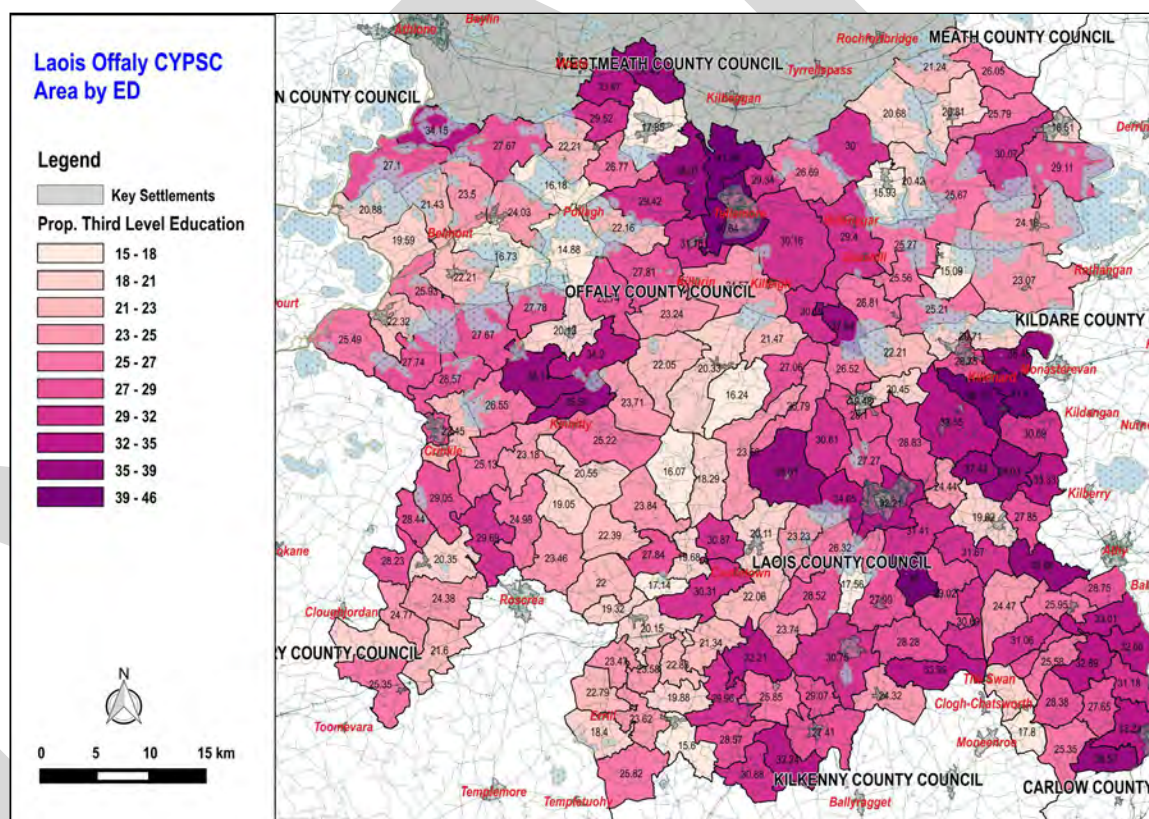
Laois Offaly CYPSC: Socio-Demographic Profile

Table 35 – Highest Level of Educational Attainment 2016



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Map 14 – LO Proportion with Third Level Education 2016



Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)

3.6.3 Childcare Services

The Pobal Early Years Sector Report 2016/2017 (October 2017) records that there were 4,920 Early Childhood Care and Education registrations (*Free Pre-school Year*) in the LO CYPSC Area.

Table 36 – Childcare Capacity for Children Aged 3-5 Years

	Capacity (enrolled + vacancies)	3-5 year olds capacity (extrapolated)	3 - 5 year olds population (CSO)	% Capacity of population of 3-5 year olds
Co. Laois	3,591	2,516	2,859	88%
Co. Offaly	2,341	2,079	2,347	89%

Source: Pobal Early Years Sector Report 2016/2017

3.6.4 DEIS Primary Schools

Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) the *Action Plan for Educational Inclusion* is the Department of Education and Skills policy instrument to address educational disadvantage. The action plan focuses on addressing and prioritising the educational needs of children and young people from disadvantaged communities, from pre-school through second-level education (3 to 18 years).

DEIS provides for a standardised system for identifying levels of disadvantage and an integrated School Support Programme (SSP).

825 schools are included in the programme in the 2016/17 school year. These comprise 640 primary schools (328 urban/town schools and 312 rural primary schools) and 185 second level schools.

Primary and post-primary schools participating in DEIS receive significant additional supports and resources including additional staffing to assist them in achieving the aims of the initiative. The level of additional supports and resources allocated to schools participating in DEIS varies according to the level of disadvantage in the school community.

Where the level of disadvantage is greatest, primary schools are classified as participating in Band 1 of DEIS. The remaining participating primary schools are classified as participating in Band 2 of DEIS.

Table 37 – DEIS Primary Schools (Band 1)

Roll Number	School Name	Address		County
19747M	Scoil Bhride National School	Harpurs Lane	Knockmay	Laois
07183W	St Joseph's Girls National School	Davitt Road,	Mountmellick,	Laois
07636K	St Fintan's National School	New Line Road	Mountrath	Laois
13343E	Scoil Bhride	Still Brook	Mountrath	Laois
16070K	Mountmellick Boys National School	Davitt Road,	Mountmellick,	Laois
19713S	Arden Boys National School	Arden View	Tullamore	Offaly

Source: Department of Education and Skills

Table 38 – DEIS Primary Schools (Band 2)

Roll Number	School Name	Address		County
16928B	S N Naomh Philomena	Tullamore	Co Offaly	Offaly
12370C	St Brendan's Monastery	Birr	Co Offaly	Offaly
18797W	S N Naomh Seosamh	Arden View	Tullamore	Offaly
18524K	S N Naomh Brighde Buach	Tullamore	Co Offaly	Offaly
13118U	Clara Convent NATIONAL SCHOOL	Clara	Co Offaly	Offaly
03220F	Mercy Primary School	Birr	Co Offaly	Offaly
18406E	S N Proinsias Naofa	Clarach	Co Ua Bhfailghe	Offaly

Source: Department of Education and Skills

3.6.5 DEIS Post-Primary Schools

Table 39 – DEIS Post-Primary Schools

Roll Number	School Name	Address 1	County
71510A	Portlaoise College	Mountrath Road, Portlaoise	Laois
91426A	Mountmellick Community School	Mountmellick	Laois
72530L	Ard Scoil Chiarain Naofa	Frederick St., Clara	Offaly
72540O	Oaklands Community College	Sr. Senan Avenue, Edenderry	Offaly
72560U	Tullamore College	Riverside, Tullamore	Offaly

Source: Department of Education and Skills

3.6.6 Special Needs Schools

The Department of Education and Skills (DES) provides for the education of children with special education needs through a number of support mechanisms depending on the child's assessed disability. Educational provision for children with special needs is made:

- ☐ In special schools;
- ☐ In special classes attached to ordinary schools;
- ☐ In integrated settings in mainstream classes.

Table 40 – Special Education Schools

Special Needs	School	Address
	Scoil Naisiunta Naomh Mhuire	Portlaoise
	Ballykilmurry National School	Tullamore
	Cullohill National School	Rathdowney
Deaf or Hearing Impaired	Geashill National School	Geashill, Co. Offaly
Learning Disability	Mercy Primary School	Birr
	St Brendan's Monastery	Birr
	St Francis' Special School	Portlaoise
	Scoil Naisiunta Naomh Brighde Buach	Tullamore
	St Joseph's National School	Tullamore
	The Kolbe Special School	Portlaoise
	Marion Centre School	Tullamore
Speech and Language Disorder	St Joseph's National School	Tullamore
	Scoil Naisiunta An Chroi Ro Naofa	Portlaoise

Source: DES

3.6.7 Primary School Absenteeism Rate

Data on non-attendance in primary schools is collected by Tusla through the Annual Attendance Report.

Table 41 – Primary School Absenteeism Rate 2014-15

	Mean % Student Days Lost	Mean % 20-day Absences	Mean % Expulsions	Mean % Suspensions
Co. Laois	5.7	11.1	0.00	0.13
Co. Offaly	5.9	10.6	0.00	0.12
State	5.5	10.4	0.01	0.38

Source: Tusla - School Attendance Data from Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2014/15

From the above it can be seen that the CYPSC Area lost more percentage student days at primary school level than the State in the academic year 2014-2015.

3.6.8 Post-Primary School Absenteeism Rate

Data on non-attendance in post-primary schools is collected by Tusla through the Annual Attendance Report.

Table 42 – Post-Primary Absenteeism Rate 2014-15

	Mean % Student Days Lost	Mean % 20-day Absences	Mean % Expulsions	Mean % Suspensions
Co. Laois	8.7	22.6	0.02	4.51
Co. Offaly	7.5	16.7	0.02	2.38
State	8.0	17.3	0.05	5.30

Source: Tusla - School Attendance Data from Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2014/15

3.6.9 Leaving Certificate Sits

The State Examinations Commission reported in August 2017 that the national number of students sitting the Leaving Certificate examinations has increased by 0.1% from 58,465 candidates in 2016 to 58,543 in 2017.

Of the candidates who sat Leaving Certificate examinations in 2017, 55,770 candidates followed the Leaving Certificate (Established) programme, of which 14,025 (25%) followed the Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme. A further 2,773 (4.7%) candidates followed the Leaving Certificate Applied Programme.

Table 43 - Leaving Certificate Sits 2017

	Female	Male	Total
Co. Laois	423	438	861
Co. Offaly	439	418	857
State	27,886	27,845	55,731

Source: State Examinations Commission

From the above it can be seen that there were marginally more males than females sitting the Leaving Certificate in the CYPSC Area 2017.

From the table below, it can be seen that in 2017 there were 11% more males than females sitting the Leaving Certificate Applied in the LO CYPSC Area.

Table 44 - Leaving Certificate Applied Sits 2017

	Female	Male	Total
Co. Laois	26	13	39
Co. Offaly	31	51	82
State	1,247	1,526	2,773

Source: State Examinations Commission

3.7 Health

The following key health facts are taken from the HSE Health Profiles 2015.

Co. Laois

- ❑ Had the largest growth in population at a national level since 2006 of 20.1%, and an above average proportion of young dependent population (those aged 0-14 years of age) of 24.8% (national rate 21.4%);
- ❑ Has an above average birth rate to those aged under 20 years of age of 16.4 (national rate 12.3);
- ❑ Cancer incidence rates are either average or below average nationally for all main causes of cancer;
- ❑ Rates of mortality for all deaths and all main causes of deaths are average or below the national rate;
- ❑ Suicide rate is above average at 14.0 (national rate 11.3);
- ❑ Immunisation uptake at 24 months for 3rd 6 in 1 of 98% and MMR1 of 97% are higher than the normal rates.

Co. Offaly

- ❑ *Has a higher than average level of disadvantage with 86% of its population classified as either below average level of affluence or disadvantaged;*
- ❑ *The dependency ratio of 53.9% (i.e. those aged 0-14 and 65 years and over as a percentage of those aged 15-64) is above the national rate of 49.3%, but the percentage of 5-14 year olds at 15.3% is greater than the national average of 13.6%;*
- ❑ *The percentage Traveller population of 1.3% is above the national average of 0.7%;*
- ❑ *Has an average or below national average incidence for all cancers except female breast cancer, which is higher than the national average;*
- ❑ *Has an average or below average national death rate for all ages and for the main causes of death except for respiratory deaths for all ages which is above the national rate;*
- ❑ *Has a higher than average suicide rate of 14.4 (national rate 11.3);*
- ❑ *Immunisation uptake at 24 months for the 3rd 6 in 1 of 98% and MMR1 of 97% is higher than the national rates.*

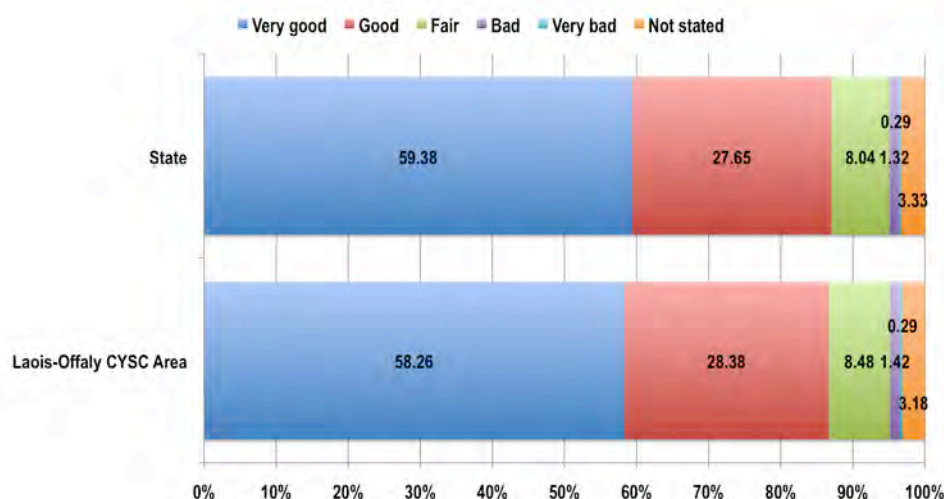
3.7.1 Overview

The CSO Census of Population 2016 provides an assessment of the general health of the population. The figure below provides the health assessment of the CYPSC Area population by comparison with that of the State.

Table 45 - General Health 2016

	Very good - Total	Good - Total	Fair - Total	Bad - Total	Very bad - Total	Not stated - Total	Total
LO CYSC Area Population	94,772	46,156	13,786	2,315	464	5,165	162,658
Laois-Offaly CYSC Area %	58.26	28.38	8.48	1.42	0.29	3.18	100.00
State %	59.38	27.65	8.04	1.32	0.29	3.33	100.00

Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Figure 13 – General Health 2016

Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

The number of people with a disability increased by 47,796 between 2011 and 2016 and stood at 643,131 in April 2016, accounting for 13.5% of the population. There were 331,551 females (51.6%) and 311,580 males (48.4%) with a disability. Among those aged under 20, there was an increase of 11,828 persons (15.6%) with a disability since 2011. This represented a disability rate of 6.7% in this group (up from 6% in 2011).

The CSO reports that up to one in ten persons below 45 years of age had a disability in 2016, rising to 20% by age 60. Rates increased sharply above age 70; 27.7% of females aged 70-74 had a disability while the rate had increased to 73.3% for females aged 84 and over.

Disability was more common amongst males in all age categories up to age 24, peaking in the 5-9 age groups where there were almost twice as many disabled boys (14,964) as girls (7,887).

By administrative counties, Cork City had the highest rate of disabled persons at 18.1% while the lowest rates of disability were in Fingal (10.8%), Meath (11.6%) and Monaghan (11.8%).

Educational attainment amongst disabled persons was much lower than that of the general population at all levels. Amongst those aged 15 to 50 (inclusive), 13.7% had completed no higher than primary level education, compared with 4.2% of the general population; 37.0% had completed third level education compared with 53.4% of all those aged 15-50.

There were 176,445 persons with a disability in the labour force, giving a labour force participation rate of 30.2% compared with 61.4% for the population overall. Of those with a disability aged 15 and over in April 2016 (584,045 people), just 22.3% (130,067) were at work, compared with 53.4% of the overall population in that age group. Overall in April 2016, 6.5% of those at work had a disability.

In 2016, the unemployment rate amongst persons with a disability was 26.3%, more than double the 12.9% rate for the population as a whole.

3.7.1 Persons 0-24 Years of Age with a Disability

From the table below, it can be seen that there is generally a greater incidence of disability in the 15-19 years of age cohorts. It is noted that many of the State services providing support for young people with disabilities are located in Dublin City.

Table 46 – Persons 0-24 Years of Age with a Disability

	Population	Population with a Disability	Population with a Disability %
Laois			
0-4 Years	6,644	245	3.7
5-9 Years	7,583	512	6.8
10-14 Years	6,585	568	8.6
15-19 Years	5,328	486	9.1
20-24 Years	4,107	395	9.6
Offaly			
0-4 Years	5,631	203	3.6
5-9 Years	6,239	464	7.4
10-14 Years	5,857	522	8.9
15-19 Years	5,410	496	9.2
20-24 Years	3,948	348	8.8
State			
0 - 4 years	331,515	9,878	3
5 - 9 years	355,561	22,851	6.4
10 - 14 years	319,476	26,357	8.3
15 - 19 years	302,816	28,512	9.4
20 - 24 years	273,636	24,953	9.1

Source: CSO StatBank / EZ042 / Select from table EZ042

3.7.2 Children Registered with an Intellectual Disability

The 2016 Annual Report of the Health Research Board - National Intellectual Disability Database (NIDD) Committee – provides a national record of the number of people registered on the NIDD with an intellectual disability. The registrations are recorded by Community Health Organisation Areas. Community Health Organisation Area 8 covers Laois/Offaly, Longford/West Meath, and Louth/Meath.

Table 47 – NIDD Registrations per 1,000 of Population 2016

	Total population	NIDD Registration 2016	% of NIDD (28,275)
Community Health Organisation Area 8	616,229	3,792	13.4

Source: National Intellectual Disability Database

Table 48 – Young People with an Intellectual Disability

State	Age group	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19
Not verified	Female	268	348	88	34
	Male	469	845	263	106
	Total	737	1,193	351	140
Mild	Female	41	209	409	489
	Male	43	424	797	936
	Total	84	633	1,206	1,425
Moderate	Female	20	233	353	457
	Male	39	557	782	802
	Total	59	790	1,135	1,259

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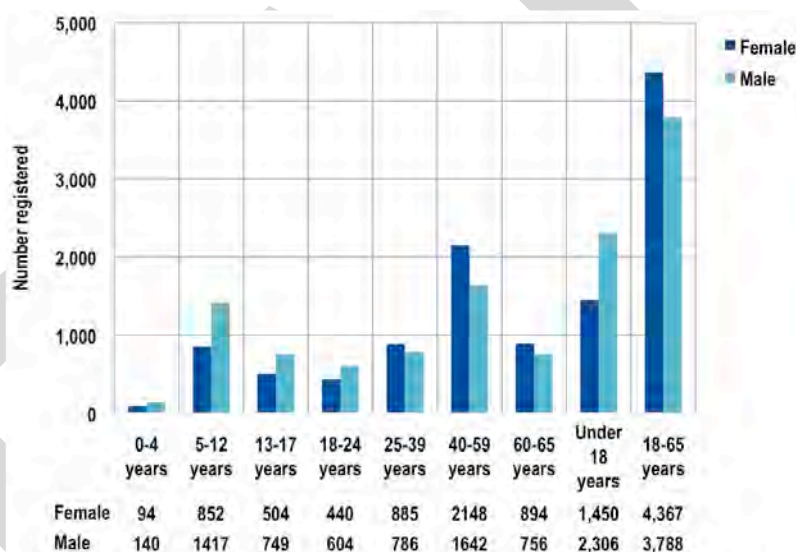
State	Age group	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19
Severe	Female	9	117	121	134
	Male	13	147	218	213
	Total	22	264	339	347
Profound	Female	5	18	23	22
	Male	4	21	36	29
	Total	9	39	59	51
All levels	Female	343	925	994	1,136
	Male	568	1,994	2,096	2,086
	Total	911	2,919	3,090	3,222

Source: National Intellectual Disability Database

3.7.3 Children Registered with Physical/Sensory Disability

In 2016, the Health Research Board (HRB) reported that there were 3,107 individuals registered in the Community Health Organisation Area 8 with a physical or sensory disability.

Figure 14 – Young People with a Physical/Sensory Disability



Source: HRB - Annual Report of the National Physical and Sensory Disability Database Committee 2016

3.7.4 Mothers Attending Antenatal Care

At national level 64,624 maternities were reported to the National Perinatal Reporting System (NPRS) in 2015, representing a 2.6% decrease between 2014 and 2015.

Table 49 – State: Mother's Antenatal Length of Stay

Total Births	Total Births	Total Births %	Live Births	Stillbirth Rate	Early Neonatal Mortality Rate	Perinatal Mortality Rate	Adjusted PMR	Maternities
0-1 Days	58,292	88.8	58,079	3.7	2.2	5.8	3.8	57,350
2 Days	4,120	6.3	4,096	5.8	2.7	8.5	6.3	4,038
3-5 Days	1,922	2.9	1,908	7.3	2.6	9.9	7.8	1,838
6-8 Days	484	0.7	481	6.2	8.3	14.5	12.4	451
9-11 Days	231	0.4	229	8.7	30.6	39.0	30.6	197
12-14 Days	135	0.2	133	14.8	-	14.8	14.8	122
More than 2 Weeks	422	0.6	418	9.5	23.9	33.2	28.6	365
Not Stated	57	0.1	57	-	-	-	-	57
Total	65,663	100	65,401	4.0	2.5	6.5	4.4	64,418

Source: NPRS: Perinatal Statistics Report 2015

3.7.5 Births 2015

The following has been extracted from the NPRS.

Table 50 – Births 2015: Mothers County of Residence

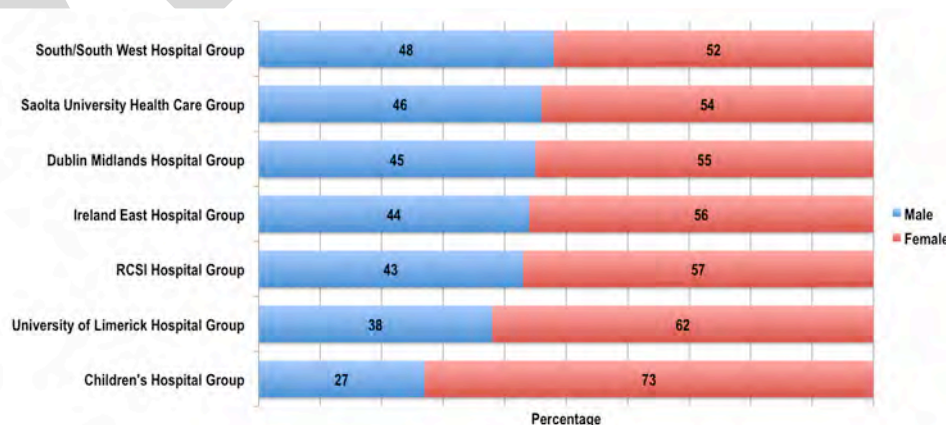
Mothers County of Residence	Number	National %
Laois	1,159	1.8
Offaly	993	1.5

Source: NPRS: Perinatal Statistics Report 2015

3.7.6 Self-harm by Age Group and Hospital

The National Suicide Research Foundation (NSRF) reports that there was variation in the rate of self-harm by region in 2016. The male rate varied from 104 per 100,000 for Roscommon to 402 per 100,000 for Cork City. The lowest female rate was recorded for Monaghan (152 per 100,000) with the highest rate recorded for Limerick City residents at 493 per 100,000.

Figure 15 – Self-Harm by HSE Hospital Group 2016



Source: NSRF National Self-Harm Registry Ireland

In 2016, high rates for both men and women were seen in Cork City, where the male rate was 2.2 times higher than the national average and the female rate was 56% higher. In Limerick City the female rate was approximately twice as high as the national average while the male rate was 68% higher.

3.7.7 Carers 24 Years of Age and Under

In 2016 carers provided 6,608,515 hours of care per week, an average of 38.7 hours per carer. This was an increase of 321,005 hours (5.1%) on 2011. There were 83,754 carers (42.9%) who provided up to two hours of unpaid care a day, which made up 8.3% of the total care hours provided. There were also 16,926 carers (8.7%) who provided full-time 24 hours per seven-day week unpaid care, which represented 43% of total care hours provided.

Table 51 – People with Disabilities 2016

	Laois	Offaly	LO CYPSC Area
Total persons	84,697	77,961	162,658
Total persons with a disability	11,393	11,154	22,547
Blindness or a serious vision impairment	954	1,032	1,986
Deafness or a serious hearing impairment	1,738	1,779	3,517
A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities	4,558	4,749	9,307
An intellectual disability	1,293	1,201	2,494
Difficulty in learning, remembering or concentrating	2,873	2,762	5,635
Psychological or emotional condition	2,269	2,067	4,336
Other disability, including chronic illness	5,397	5,182	10,579
Difficulty in dressing, bathing or getting around inside the home	2,438	2,561	4,999
Difficulty in going outside home alone	3,154	3,372	6,526
Difficulty in working or attending school/college	3,815	3,936	7,751
Difficulty in participating in other activities	4,077	4,132	8,209
Total disabilities	32,566	32,773	65,339

Source: CSO StatBank / Health, Disability and Carers / E9003 / Select from table E9003

The CSO reports that in April 2016, females comprised 118,151 (60.5%) of the country's 195,263 carers, while there were 77,112 male carers.

There were 3,800 children of less than 15 years of age providing care, accounting for 1.9% of all carers in 2016.

The table below records the number of carers aged 15 years and over (2011 to 2016) that were providing regular unpaid help, and the age at which their full-time education ceased.

Table 52 – State: Carers by Age Full-Time Education Ceased

	1-14 hours unpaid help per week		15-28 hours unpaid help per week		29-42 hours unpaid help per week		43 or more hours unpaid help per week		Not stated	
Male	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
Under 15 years	1,799	1,447	869	737	520	368	1,947	1,517	876	746
15 years	1,686	1,438	714	692	380	313	1,128	1,008	523	512
16 years	2,945	2,598	1,270	1,100	613	596	1,686	1,553	776	737
17 years	2,529	2,370	900	809	490	430	1,061	1,026	516	461
18 years	3,938	3,738	1,307	1,412	666	705	1,454	1,572	839	763
19 years	1,260	1,246	408	393	139	202	375	399	251	235
20 years	1,287	1,423	355	439	166	196	351	353	211	223
21 years	1,679	2,023	381	479	177	257	382	460	224	233
22 years	1,529	1,781	359	462	153	205	312	405	180	190
23 years	1,024	1,190	202	287	119	113	207	248	110	105
24 years	755	847	196	214	76	103	163	224	106	126
Female										
Under 15 years	1,789	1,216	1,190	814	666	443	2,693	1,925	963	742
15 years	1,601	1,190	836	735	452	385	1,632	1,217	526	504
16 years	3,055	2,552	1,660	1,427	819	716	2,736	2,309	885	829
17 years	4,069	3,496	1,694	1,601	831	773	2,599	2,310	832	788
18 years	6,312	6,052	2,652	2,553	1,312	1,206	3,689	3,684	1,133	1,228
19 years	2,344	2,406	888	909	379	378	1,154	1,340	408	406
20 years	1,851	2,138	643	728	301	317	765	957	279	316
21 years	2,749	3,131	722	906	296	361	906	1,230	300	406
22 years	2,171	2,583	573	710	227	311	710	962	267	297
23 years	1,331	1,630	352	425	151	185	404	596	171	183
24 years	936	1,123	247	297	118	130	288	421	112	145

Source: CSO StatBank /Health, Disability and Carers / E9059

The table below records the number of carers in the State aged 15 Years and over (2011 to 2016) providing regular unpaid help, and their highest level of educational attainment.

Table 53 – Unpaid Carers Aged Over 15 By Education 2016

	1-14 hours unpaid help per week		15-28 hours unpaid help per week		29-42 hours unpaid help per week		43 or more hours unpaid help per week		Not Stated		All Carers	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
No formal education	361	453	284	350	172	196	536	679	486	619	1,839	2,297
Primary	5,384	3,905	3,315	2,585	1,923	1,385	7,320	5,315	3,467	3,021	21,409	16,211
Lower secondary	10,824	8,887	5,322	4,777	2,769	2,490	8,235	7,153	3,842	3,757	30,992	27,064
Upper secondary	14,207	13,075	5,858	5,816	2,950	2,956	8,162	8,018	3,631	3,784	34,808	33,649
Technical/vocational	6,696	7,253	2,615	2,942	1,197	1,387	3,424	3,928	1,798	2,113	15,730	17,623
Advanced certificate/completed apprenticeship	4,772	5,294	1,592	1,884	755	853	1,779	2,167	1,016	1,115	9,914	11,313
Higher certificate	4,758	5,553	1,503	1,944	661	854	1,709	2,222	802	994	9,433	11,567

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	1-14 hours unpaid help per week		15-28 hours unpaid help per week		29-42 hours unpaid help per week		43 or more hours unpaid help per week		Not Stated		All Carers	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
Ordinary bachelor degree/professional qualification or both	7,087	7,931	2,053	2,390	883	1,092	2,468	2,975	1,012	1,259	13,503	15,647
Honours bachelor degree/professional qualification or both	7,262	9,135	1,768	2,465	743	1,034	1,781	2,698	880	1,071	12,434	16,403
Postgraduate diploma or degree	7,205	9,663	1,667	2,181	700	987	1,584	2,373	878	1,003	12,034	16,207
Doctorate (Ph.D.)	670	1,022	150	210	52	87	139	193	75	99	1,086	1,611
Not stated	1,098	1,202	589	604	238	339	859	947	1,214	1,542	3,998	4,634
Economic status - total at school, university, etc.	4,677	4,498	980	1,043	333	316	500	538	951	908	7,441	7,303
Economic status - other	3,468	3,808	1,299	1,682	655	804	1,324	1,769	1,517	1,871	8,263	9,934

Source: CSO StatBank / Profile 9 - Health, Disability and Carers / E9060 / Select from table E9060

3.8 Drugs and Alcohol

3.8.1 National Drug Treatment Reporting System

Treatment for problem alcohol and drug use in Ireland is provided by statutory and non-statutory services, including residential centres, community-based addiction services, general practices and prison services.

For the purpose of the National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS), treatment is broadly defined as *'any activity that aims to ameliorate the psychological, medical or social state of individuals who seek help for their substance misuse problems'*. Clients who attend needle-exchange services are not included in this reporting system. From 2004 onwards, clients who report alcohol as their main problem drug have been recorded by the system. Drug treatment options include one or more of the following: medication (detoxification, methadone reduction, substitution programmes and psychiatric treatment), brief intervention, counselling, group therapy, family therapy, psychotherapy, complementary therapy, and/or life-skills training.

Compliance with the NDTRS requires that one form be completed for each new client coming for first treatment and for each previously treated client returning to treatment for problem drug use. Service providers at treatment centres throughout Ireland collect data on each individual who attends for first treatment or returns to treatment in a calendar year.

National Perspective

The NDTRS records cases of treated problem drug and alcohol use in Ireland between 2009 and 2015, and notes that in this seven-year period 61,439 cases were treated for problem drug use (excluding alcohol). The number of cases rose from 7,479 in 2009 to 9,892 in 2015.

- ☐ Proportion of new cases decreased from 45.9% in 2009 to 37.8% in 2015.
- ☐ Majority of cases were treated in outpatient facilities (64.4%) over the period, similar to previous years.
- ☐ Proportion of cases treated in prison decreased from 10.8% to 8.4% over the reporting period.
- ☐ In 2015 the proportion of cases treated in residential facilities increased for the first time in the period, to 18%.

The main problem drug (excluding alcohol) was recorded as follows: -

- ❑ **Opiates (mainly heroin):** most commonly reported drug. While the number of cases treated for problem opiate use remained stable over the period, the proportion of cases treated decreased from 60.6% in 2009 to 47.8% in 2015.
- ❑ **Cannabis:** 2nd most common drug among those treated. The number of cases increased by 72%, from 1,616 in 2009, to 2,786 in 2015. Cannabis is the most common drug reported by new cases.
- ❑ **Cocaine:** remained 3rd most common drug reported. In 2015, 10.4% of cases reported problem cocaine use, the highest proportion since 2010.
- ❑ Proportion of cases reporting benzodiazepines as a main problem drug increased by 185% from 306 cases (4.1%) in 2009 to 873 cases (8.8%) in 2015.
- ❑ Number of cases treated for Z-drugs has increased from 9 in 2009, to 154 in 2015.
- ❑ Reported problem use of novel psychoactive substances (NPS) peaked in 2010, at 2.5% of all cases treated, and dropped to 0.4% of all cases treated in 2012. Since then it has increased slightly to represent 0.9% of all cases treated in 2015.

Polydrug Use

- ❑ Majority of cases reported problem polydrug use (63.5%) over the period.
- ❑ Proportion reporting polydrug use has decreased from 68.4% in 2009 to 60.9% in 2015.
- ❑ Up to 2013, alcohol was the most common additional drug reported. Since 2014 benzodiazepines have become the most common additional drugs reported.

Socio-Demographics

- ❑ Median age of cases has increased from 28 years in 2009, to 30 years in 2015.
- ❑ Majority of cases, seven in every ten, reporting were male.
- ❑ Proportion who were homeless increased from 5.6% in 2009, to 9.2% in 2015.
- ❑ Proportion of Travellers treated increased marginally from 1.9% in 2009 to 2.9% in 2015.

Injecting Behaviour

- ❑ Proportion of all cases treated who reported ever injecting remained relatively stable over the reporting period at around one third of all cases.
- ❑ Proportion of new cases reporting ever injecting has decreased from 19.7% in 2009 to 14.5% in 2015.

3.8.2 National Drug-Related Deaths Index

The Irish National Drug-Related Deaths Index (NDRDI) is an epidemiological database that records cases of death by drug and alcohol poisoning, and deaths among drug users and those who are alcohol dependent. The Health Research Board (HRB) maintains the NDRDI. It is jointly funded by the Department of Health and the Department of Justice and Equality.

The NDRDI records data from four sources from the Central Statistics Office in order to ensure that the database is complete and accurate: -

- ❑ The Coroner Service;
- ❑ The Hospital In-Patient Enquiry scheme (HIPE);
- ❑ The Central Treatment List (CTL); and
- ❑ The General Mortality Register (GMR).

Cases from the different data sources are cross-matched on a selection of variables, including name, gender, county of residence, date of birth and date of death. This allows the NDRDI to eliminate duplicates and to maximise the amount of information available on each case recorded on the database. More detailed information on the methodology can be found in the previously published HRB Trends Series papers.

The NDRDI was established in September 2005 to comply with Action 67 of the 2001–2008 National Drugs Strategy. That action called for the development of a system for recording drug-related deaths and deaths among people who use drugs to enable the State and its agencies to respond in a timely manner, with accurate data.

The objectives of the NDRDI also include identifying and prioritising areas for intervention and prevention and measuring the effects of such interventions. The remit of the NDRDI was further expanded in January 2006 to include alcohol-related deaths and deaths of people who were alcohol dependent.

The following section incorporates unpublished data from the NDRDI.

Types of Cases Included in the NDRDI

- ❑ **Poisonings:** Deaths directly due to the toxic effect of the presence in the body of a drug or drugs and/or other substance(s). Other terms used to describe such deaths include overdose, directly drug-related death and acute drug death. Deaths arising from adverse reactions to prescribed medication are not included in the NDRDI.

Non-poisonings: Deaths in individuals with a history of drug dependency or non-dependent abuse of drugs (ascertained from toxicology results and from CTL, medical or coronial records), irrespective of whether the use of the drug was directly implicated in the death. This category also includes deaths among persons known to be alcohol dependent.

3.9 Security

The LO CYPSC area comprise of part of the following Eastern Region Garda Region (Laois, Offaly and Westmeath).

3.9.1 Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is defined as the use of physical or emotional force or threat of physical force in a close adult relationship.

A barring order is a court order which requires the violent person to leave the family home and can last up to three years. In order to obtain a barring order, the person must attend a District Court hearing of the area of their own residence.

Between 2011 and 2012, a steep increase was recorded at State level in the number of applications granted for domestic violence barring orders.

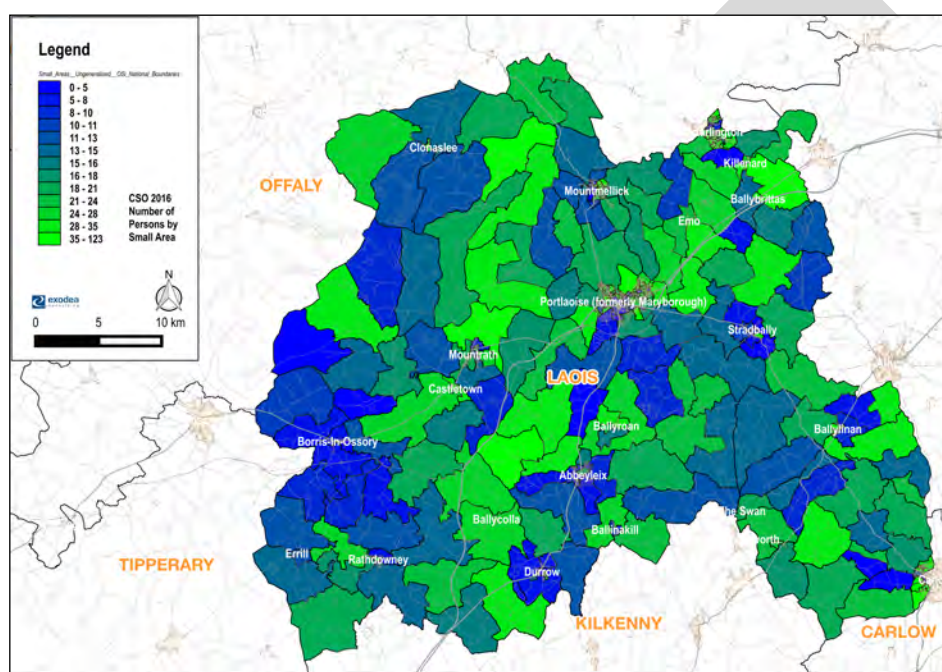
3.9.2 Garda Youth Diversion Scheme

The Garda Youth Diversion scheme, operated by the Garda Youth Diversion Office, provides that in certain situations a young person (aged less than 18 years) who accepts accountability for a crime can be cautioned and supervised as an alternative to prosecution. The number of youths referred to the scheme is recorded by the An Garda Síochána Pulse Database and is published on an annual basis by the Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS) by Garda Division.

4 Indicator Mapping

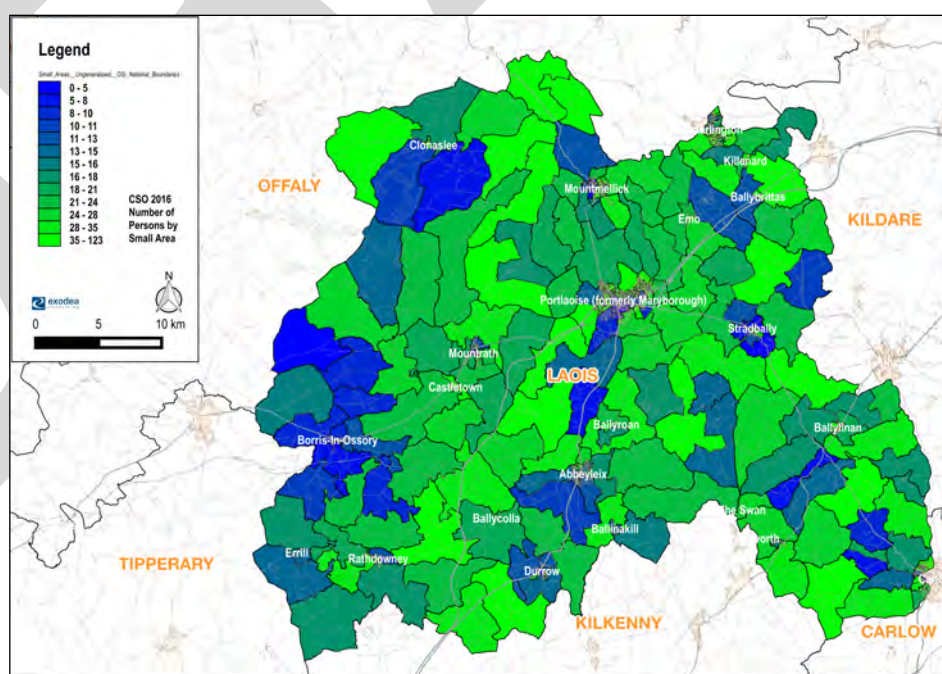
4.1 Co. Laois Population by Age Band

Map 15 – Co. Laois Population Aged 0-4



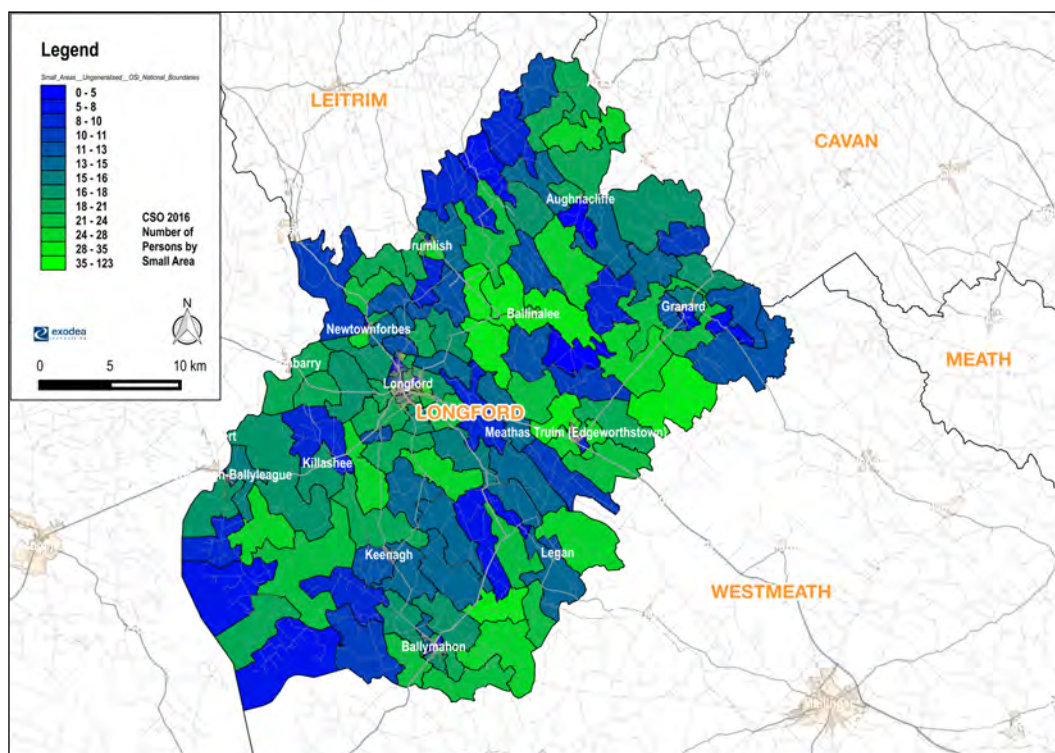
Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Map 16 - Co. Laois Population Aged 5-9



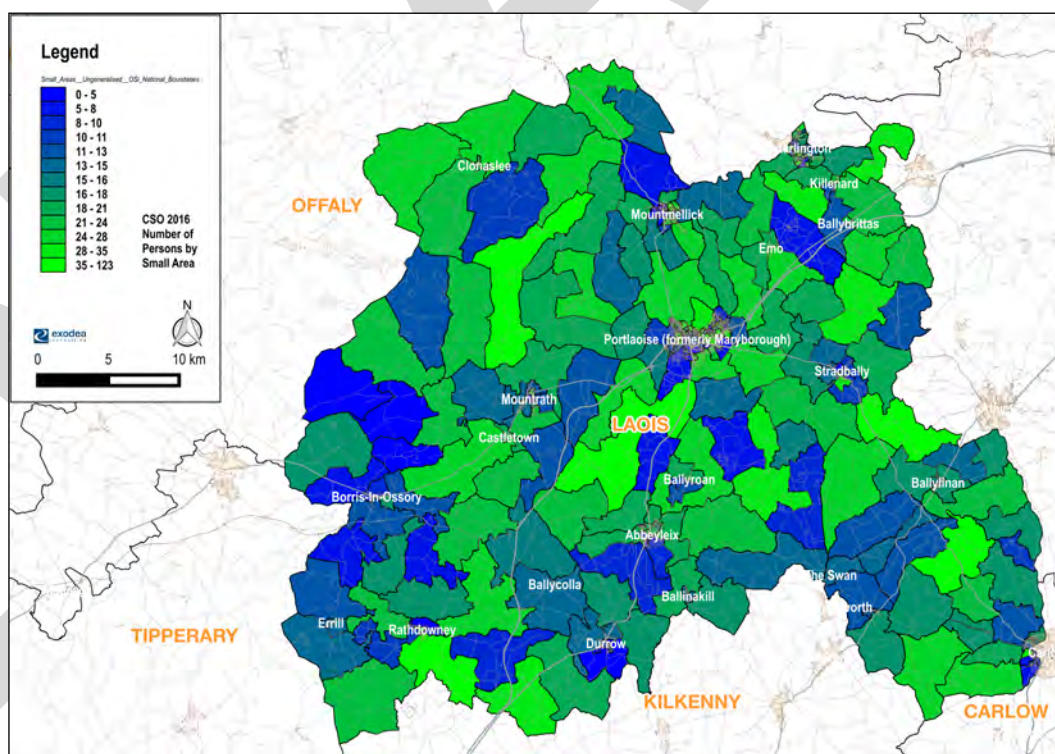
Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Map 17 - Co. Laois Population Aged 10-14



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

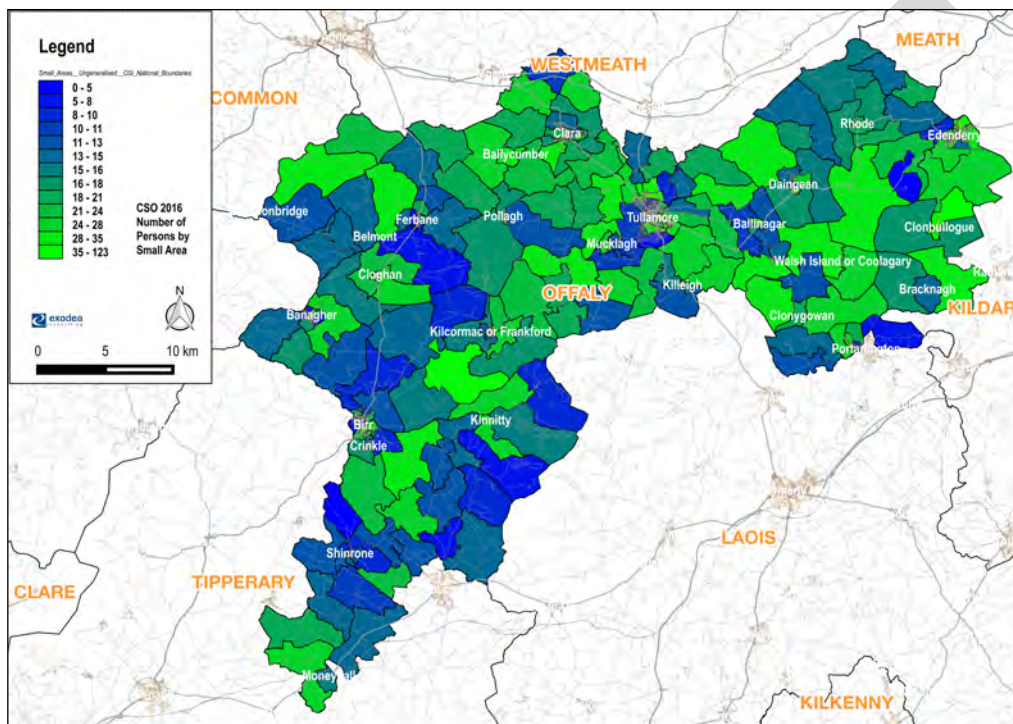
Map 18 - Co. Laois Population Aged 15-19



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

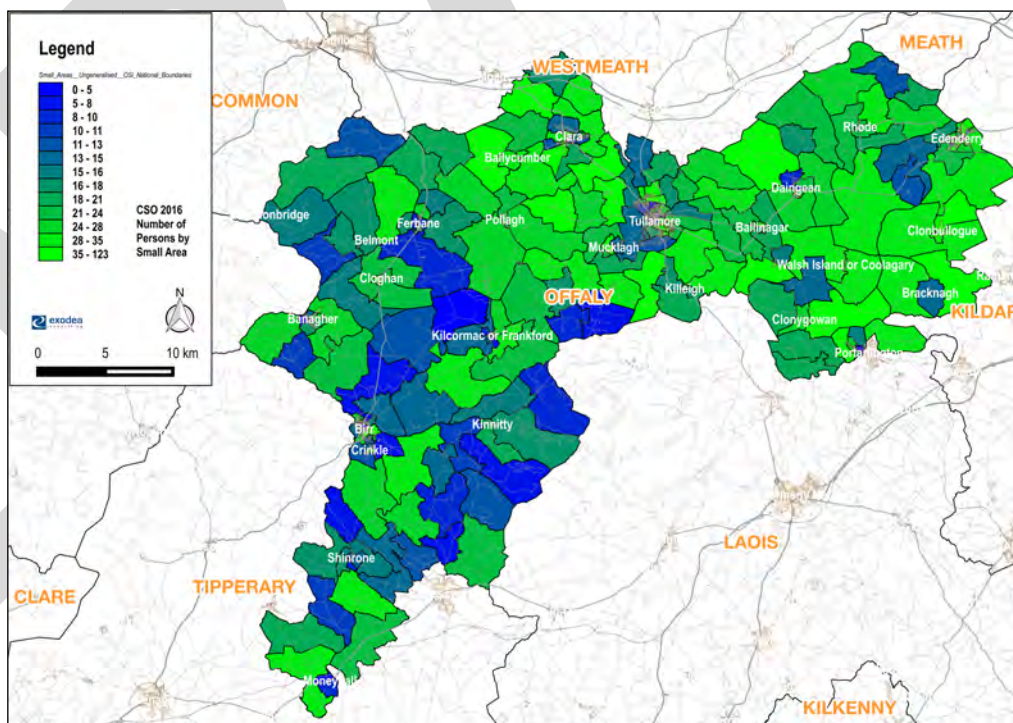
4.2 Co. Offaly Population by Age Band

Map 19 – Co. Offaly Population Aged 0-4



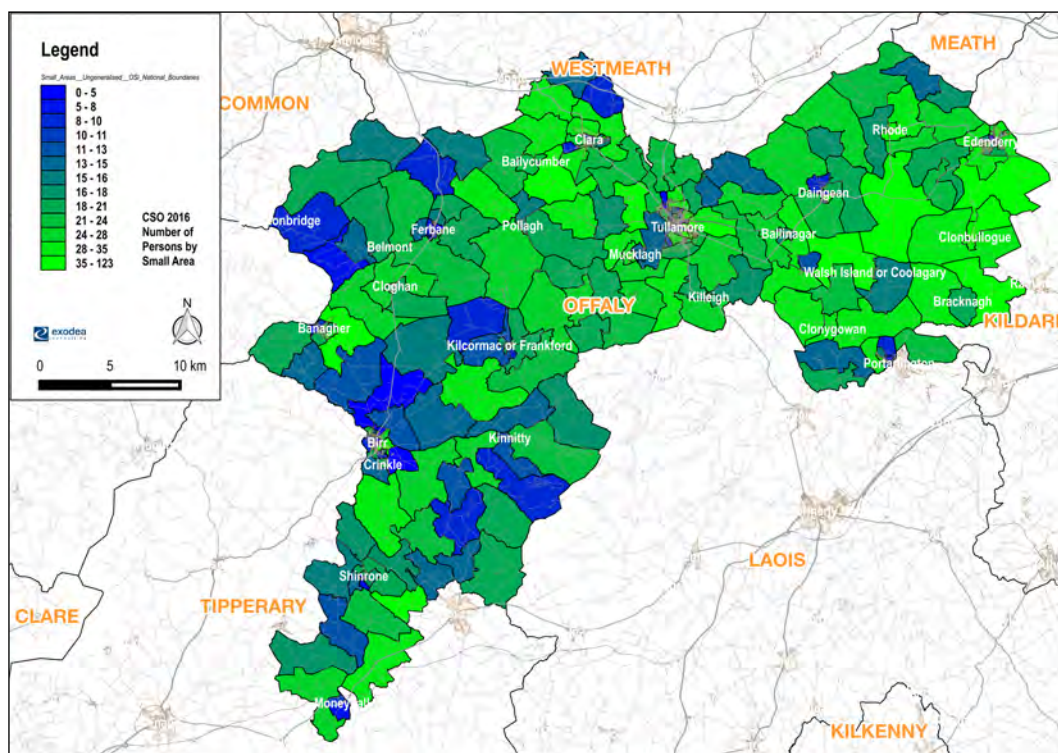
Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Map 20 - Co. Offaly Population Aged 5-9



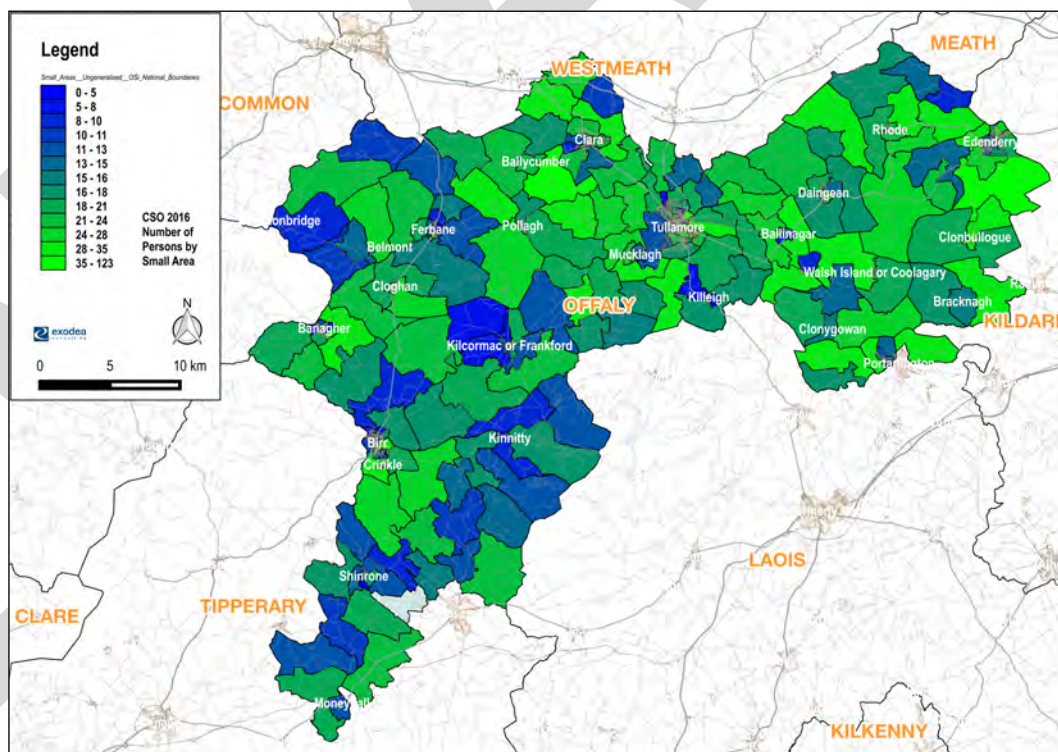
Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Map 21 - Co. Offaly Population Aged 10-14



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Map 22 - Co. Offaly Population Aged 15-19



Source: CSO Census of Population 2016

Appendices

A1 Ethnicity 2016: State**Table 54 – Ethnicity 2016: State**

2016	Total Population Number	% Total State Population
Ireland - county of usual residence	2,891,726	60.727
Ireland - county other than county of usual residence	987,789	20.744
England and Wales	203,173	4.267
Poland	115,161	2.418
Northern Ireland	57,389	1.205
Lithuania	33,344	0.700
Romania	28,702	0.603
United States	28,650	0.602
India	20,969	0.440
Latvia	18,991	0.399
Scotland	16,644	0.350
Nigeria	16,569	0.348
Brazil	15,796	0.332
Philippines	14,725	0.309
Germany	12,964	0.272
Pakistan	12,891	0.271
France	11,906	0.250
Spain	11,809	0.248
China	11,262	0.237
Italy	10,913	0.229
Slovakia	9,443	0.198
Hungary	8,648	0.182
South Africa	8,085	0.170
Australia	6,748	0.142
Moldova, Republic of	6,472	0.136
Russian Federation	6,414	0.135
Canada	5,314	0.112
Croatia	5,202	0.109
Czech Republic	4,936	0.104
Netherlands	4,729	0.099
Ukraine	4,624	0.097
Malaysia	4,016	0.084
Portugal	3,866	0.081
Bangladesh	3,410	0.072
Bulgaria	2,911	0.061
Zimbabwe	2,811	0.059
Saudi Arabia	2,785	0.058
Congo	2,722	0.057
Thailand	2,272	0.048
Estonia	2,147	0.045
Mauritius	2,096	0.044
New Zealand	2,057	0.043
Vietnam	1,932	0.041

/continued

Laois Offaly CYPSC: Socio-Demographic Profile

/continued

2016	Total Population Number	% Total State Population
Other Africa	1,885	0.040
Egypt	1,866	0.039
Iraq	1,863	0.039
Afghanistan	1,729	0.036
Venezuela	1,729	0.036
Belgium	1,677	0.035
Hong Kong	1,660	0.035
Other America	1,643	0.035
Turkey	1,607	0.034
Sudan	1,576	0.033
Sweden	1,559	0.033
Somalia	1,500	0.032
Mexico	1,476	0.031
Algeria	1,412	0.030
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,407	0.030
Belarus	1,359	0.029
Switzerland	1,233	0.026
Japan	1,228	0.026
Argentina	1,193	0.025
Korea, Republic of	1,148	0.024
Iran, Islamic Republic of	1,098	0.023
Ghana	1,097	0.023
Greece	1,092	0.023
Other Asia	1,082	0.023
Albania	1,081	0.023
Kenya	1,061	0.022
Libya	965	0.020
Cameroon	959	0.020
Syrian Arab Republic	920	0.019
Finland	919	0.019
Angola	910	0.019
Morocco	884	0.019
Denmark	882	0.019
Austria	845	0.018
Malawi	843	0.018
Israel	811	0.017
Nepal	803	0.017
Kosovo	785	0.016
Serbia	748	0.016
Georgia	746	0.016
Kuwait	722	0.015
Ethiopia	716	0.015
Sri Lanka	706	0.015
United Arab Emirates	692	0.015
Zambia	673	0.014

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Laois Offaly CYPSC: **Socio-Demographic Profile**

/continued

2016	Total Population Number	% Total State Population
Kazakhstan	625	0.013
Singapore	597	0.013
Other Countries	559	0.012
Colombia	532	0.011
Other Europe	510	0.011
Norway	503	0.011
Uganda	482	0.010
Oman	446	0.009
Chile	412	0.009
Peru	385	0.008
Mongolia	383	0.008
Taiwan, Province of China	373	0.008
Malta	357	0.007
Lebanon	353	0.007
Sierra Leone	350	0.007
Jordan	343	0.007
Indonesia	338	0.007
Cyprus	326	0.007
Togo	316	0.007
Tunisia	316	0.007
Tanzania, United Republic of	311	0.007
Cote d'Ivoire	307	0.006
Lao People's Democratic Republic	305	0.006
Guatemala	295	0.006
Trinidad and Tobago	290	0.006
Slovenia	284	0.006
Botswana	278	0.006
Uzbekistan	242	0.005
Myanmar	236	0.005
Bahrain	228	0.005
Jamaica	228	0.005
Liberia	225	0.005
Cuba	209	0.004
Luxembourg	174	0.004

A2 Relative Deprivation Index Score**Table 55 - Labelling of Relative Index Scores**

Relative Index Score	Label
Over 30	Extremely Affluent
20 to 30	Very Affluent
10 to 20	Affluent
0 to 10	Marginally Above Average
0 to -10	Marginally Below Average
-10 to -20	Disadvantaged
-20 to -30	Very Disadvantaged
Below -30	Extremely Disadvantaged

Source: 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017)