

Kilkenny Children and Young People's Services Committee Sociodemographic Statement

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CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

As chairperson of Kilkenny Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC), I welcome the Kilkenny CYPSC Evidence Baseline Report, 2017, as a resource to inform evidence-based planning for the CYPSC, and indeed, for other agencies over the next period.

The report, drawing on the findings of the 2016 Census and other databases, provides an up-to-date socio-demographic profile of the population of Kilkenny, with particular focus on the 0-24 years' age cohort. It highlights key indicators across the five areas of Demography; Economy; Education; Health and Security, which are aligned to *National Outcomes of Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures*¹ - the National Policy Framework. The data for the county are presented within a comparative context at inter-county, regional and national levels, as well as being mapped within the county boundaries, to highlight the county's distinctive features, patterns and trends.

I would like to thank all who have contributed to the wealth of information contained in this report, especially the HSE, Garda, Dept. of Social Protection, Educational Welfare and Tusla staff who provided data and the to the Central Statistics Office who provided some particularly detailed information in relation to County Kilkenny

I would like to acknowledge the expertise, commitment and professionalism of Dr Brendan O'Keeffe and Dr Noreen O'Mahony of The Institute for Action Research in undertaking this research, and their dedication and patience in bringing this report to its conclusion.

Marie Kennedy

Chairperson, Kilkenny Children and Young People's Services Committee

May 2018

¹ Department of Children and Youth Affairs (2014). BETTER OUTCOMES BRIGHTER FUTURES - *The national policy framework for children & young people 2014 – 2020*. Dublin: The Stationery Office.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This socio-economic statement represents one strand of a multi-pronged approach on the part of The County Kilkenny Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) to informing its strategic plan 2018-2020. It is largely quantitative, and draws mainly on data recorded by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) and public bodies. These data provide signposts and indicators, and they offer baselines against which progress can be measured over the coming years. In addition, the socio-economic statement contains a series of maps. These allow for a detailed spatial analysis of the lives of children and young people. This examination of the meso- and micro-level geographies within County Kilkenny proved to be integral to informing the CYPSC strategy, as it identified specific areas of need and potential.

The socio-economic statement reveals that children and young people represent a very sizeable population cohort in County Kilkenny. Relative to the State and the South-East Region, the county has **an above average proportion of persons aged up to 18 years**. Over one-quarter of the population (26.1%) is aged under 18 years. There are relatively fewer persons aged 18 to 24 years, as most young people attending Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) are obliged to leave the county.

County Kilkenny's current demographic composition is such that one can anticipate further and **sustained growth in the number of children across the county** over the next decade; the demographic vitality ratio is stronger than the regional average. The current and anticipated spatial distribution of children and young people across the county is such that agencies ought to be active in urban, rural and intermediate zones. The needs analysis, based on the socio-economic data, points to the importance of **accessible services and enhanced public transport in rural areas** in particular. Indeed, the data reveal a myriad of issues with **strong local features and determinants**, such that there is, in many communities, a need for local level and bespoke interventions. Thus, while County Kilkenny, as a unit, may record better outcomes than the South-East Region, the more fine-grained geographical analysis shows that **considerable needs exist, and increased investments are required in many areas**.

While County Kilkenny and the South-East Region are not as diverse as other parts of Ireland in respect of nationality and ethnicity, there are significant clusters of **non-Irish nationals in several locations**. These are mainly in the more urbanised parts of the county. Children are proportionately over-represented among the migrant populations, and **over one-in-four (323 children) of these, does not declare his/her nationality** – thus indicating, in many cases, the challenging backgrounds and circumstances from which they have come. Non-Irish nationals can face considerable barriers in integrating into Irish society, and **language barriers** frequently prevent them from accessing services. In County Kilkenny, the most widely-spoken minority languages are Polish and French.

There has been a significant increase in the population of **Irish Travellers** in County Kilkenny, and an age-level analysis of this population reveals that over **half are under twenty years of age**.

Health-related variables are integral to understanding the lives of children and young people. Data on ability / disability reveal that just over five percent of children (aged up to 14) have a defined disability. This figure increases to just under ten percent

(9.6%) for persons aged 15 to 19 years. **The most common forms of disability are intellectual ones and difficulties in learning, remembering and concentrating.** Of those children and young people who have disabilities, several have more than one, thus emphasising the importance of holistic, child-centred and family-centred approaches.

Since the advent of the most recent recession (in 2010), the birth rate – nationally and in County Kilkenny – has been steadily declining, after several years of growth. Meanwhile, the **average age** of mothers has been increasing consistently over recent decades. It now stands at **31 years for first-time mothers**. Rates of breastfeeding are broadly in line with the national average, but are below international norms. The proportion of domiciliary births is low, relative to other European countries. Meanwhile, the **percentage of mothers visited by Public Health Nurses (PHNs) is above the national average**, as is the proportion of babies screened. The data on immunisation reveal the **successes achieved by the HSE in promoting uptake**, particularly in respect of the MMR and 4-in-1 vaccines. However, they reveal a drop (since 2015) in the numbers presenting for the HPV vaccine.

Educational attainment is a significant determinant of a child's life trajectory. The data in this regard reveal **below average levels of educational attainment** in County Kilkenny and in the South-East Region, relative to the rest of Ireland. This is particularly the case in respect of the proportion of the population with a third-level qualification. The areas with the highest levels of educational disadvantage are the rural north-east, north-west and south-west of the county. **Inter-generational underperformance** in education appears to be a feature here, thus indicating a need for interventions to break the cycle of disadvantage in tandem with promoting social inclusion and community development. **Access to high-quality and affordable childcare is important** in promoting educational attainment – for early child socialisation and in enabling parents to access education, training and employment. The community and voluntary sector locally has been to the fore in providing childcare services. However, the data on affordability reveal a year-on-year increase in the cost of sessional childcare. **The county's DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in School) schools and those offering the SCP (School Completion Programme) do very valuable work in enabling young people to remain in education and to secure a qualification.** However, the education landscape has changed very considerably since DEIS allocations were decided, such that it is time to revisit the criteria and associated coverage, so that these are more reflective of contemporary realities.

Housing tenure and security affect student well-being and progression. While the overall proportion of children and young people **living in rented accommodation** is below the regional average, there are several villages and urban neighbourhoods which have considerable concentrations of families, who are renting from the local authority or private landlords. These are among the neighbourhoods with the highest levels of **deprivation and social exclusion** in the county.

Agencies such as An Garda Síochána, Tusla, the HSE and Probation Services engage with youth-at-risk, and the data from these bodies show that referral rates are similar over time which, in the context of declining agency budgets over the past decade, imply **pressures on service providers**. It is noteworthy that over

one-quarter of children referred to Tusla were referred more than once, with the most common reason for referrals being 'child welfare.' Referrals to Tusla are also associated with children engaging in substance abuse.

Kilkenny's economy, as measured by labour force participation rates, performs stronger than that of the South-East Region. However, there are **several areas with persistent unemployment**, many of them rural. The data suggest that the rural economy is stronger in South Kilkenny than in the north of the county and that changes in the nature and structure of the farming sector have had a negative impact on rural villages and small towns. As these villages come under economic pressure, their ability to be attractive to families and young people declines.

Family composition also determines the well-being and quality of life of children and young people. **Just over one-in-five families is headed by a lone parent** – the vast majority by a lone mother.

The Haase-Pratschke Index of Affluence and Deprivation provides a composite measure of socio-economic status in respect of particular geographies, and can be computed at Electoral Division (ED) and Small Area (SA) levels, using data from the Census of Population. The Index presents data at points in time, and is widely used to inform decision-making in respect of public policy and local development strategies. It incorporates multiple variables including employment / unemployment, housing tenure, age dependency, population change, lone parent ratios and accessibility. It reveals that **County Kilkenny is slightly more deprived than the State as a whole**, which may run counter to the popular perception of the county. That said, Kilkenny's overall score indicates that **the county is more affluent than other counties in the South-East Region**. The Haase-Pratschke computation shows that within the county, the most affluent areas are in the commuter belt immediately surrounding Kilkenny City. On the other hand, **the areas with the highest levels of deprivation are the villages in the north-east and north-west of the county, the east of the county along the Carlow – Wexford border and the south-west of the county**. When the Haase-Pratschke data are mapped for Kilkenny and the surrounding counties, there is evidence of a 'border effect,' with areas of deprivation straddling county boundaries, particularly with Tipperary and Wexford. This spatial pattern points to the need for increased inter-county collaboration in addressing social exclusion and in enabling places to fully realise their development potential.

This comprehensive socio-economic statement reveals that the phenomena and variables that affect and shape the lives of children and young people are multi-varied and inter-related. Improving their lives and promoting better outcomes and brighter futures require inter-agency collaboration and partnership. Enhancing children's lives also behoves agencies to work in partnership with local stakeholders including schools, community bodies, youth services, the private sector and other social partners. Above all, it requires systematic engagement and consultation with children and young people – both directly and through intermediate structures. As the CYPSC strategy is rolled-out over the next three years, and as partners use the data presented here, they will be better able to monitor the outputs and impacts of their actions, and continue to be responsive to the needs of children and young people.



Introduction



1. INTRODUCTION

This profile of children and young people in County Kilkenny forms an integral component of the Kilkenny Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) Strategic Plan, 2018 – 2020. It seeks to:

- Identify particular cohorts of children and young people² and the issues they face;
- Inform needs' analysis;
- Unearth opportunities for collaboration and development;
- Provide baseline indicators against which progress on implementation can be measured;
- Understand the dynamics of particular geographies;
- Consider the potential for bespoke interventions; and
- Situate issues in Kilkenny in the regional and wider context.

The CYPSC has undertaken parallel scoping research and consultations, including a consultation with agencies, which was based on the data presented in this profile. Those complementary exercises bring a qualitative dimension to bear on the strategic plan, and they help to engender collaboration and joint working. This profile adds value to those efforts by bringing quantitative data and spatial analysis to the planning process.

The data presented in this profile are drawn from three sources in the main:

- The Census of Population;
- *State of the Nation's Children* Report (2016); and
- Data provided by agencies that are represented on the CYPSC.

Other data were provided by state agencies and community organisations, while some come from European databases.

This profile is organised under five headings, in alignment with the themes set out in *Better Outcomes – Brighter Futures: The national policy framework for children and young people, 2014 – 2020*. These are:

- 3 Health;
- 4 Education;
- 5 Safety;
- 6 Financial security; and
- 7 Support and Participation.

In advance of the thematic presentation of data, this report begins with a demographic overview of the County, with a particular focus on children and young people. Given the centrality of spatial analysis to this profile, it refers throughout to several maps. These are all listed and presented in an annex (Annex 1)

² In line with the national policy framework, Child: A 'child' is defined as any person under the age of 18 years, in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Young Person: A 'young person' is defined as any person under 25 years of age in line with the upper age threshold of the Youth Work Act 2001 and in line with the definition used by the United Nations.



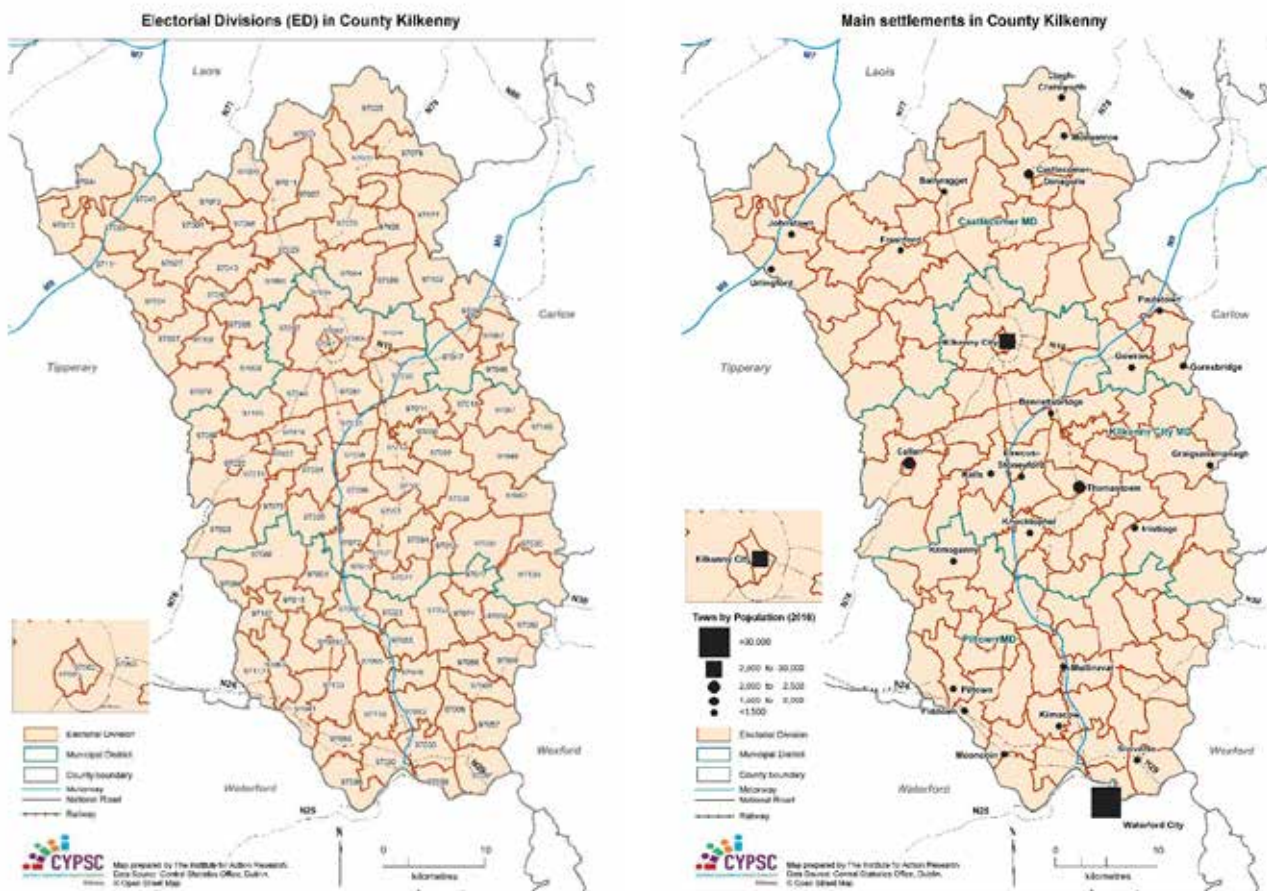
Methodology



2. METHODOLOGY

This profile is based largely on quantitative data extracted from the Census of Population, as published by the Central Statistics Office. The CSO conducts the census every five years. The most recent was in April 2016. Most census data are published (as absolute numbers) at several spatial scales (including region, county, municipal district), the smallest of which are Electoral Divisions (EDs), although data on some demographic variables are also available at Small Area (SA) level, since 2006. The following figure shows the delineation of EDs, of which there are 113 in County Kilkenny³. The figure also shows the main settlements in County Kilkenny, as these are referred to throughout the document.

Fig. 1: Sub-County Geographies at which Census of Population data are recorded



Due to reasons of confidentiality, some census data, particularly in respect of defined cohorts, are not published at sub-county level. In such cases, where data are relevant to the lives of young people, they are presented here at county and regional levels, and this report situates the Kilkenny data in the context of the South-East Region. This socio-economic and demographic profile also draws on data kindly provided by several agencies, many of them members of the CYPSC. These personnel have brought their expertise and insights to bear on the analysis presented in this report. In addition to its own internal working through the data, the CYPSC convened a dedicated consultation workshop on March 22nd. Over fifty people attended, representing statutory agencies, community organisations, NGOs and young people. The workshop discussions and deliberations fed directly into the CYPSC's review and planning processes, while also enabling a further interrogation of the data presented here.

³ The names of all EDs are presented in the annex (Annex 2).



Presentation of Profile



3. PRESENTATION OF PROFILE

This section begins by profiling children and young people in respect of relevant demographic variables. It enumerates persons by age cohort, examines inter-censal change, identifies the nationalities and ethnic groups in the population and lists the languages spoken in homes across County Kilkenny. These demographic data provide several insights into the lives of children and young people, and they reveal the growing diversity of the population. The elaboration of the key demographic variables is followed by a presentation of data in respect of the following themes: health, education, safety, financial security and support & participation. The data under these headings enable a more in-depth analysis, and they show how social and economic variables are interrelated, thus underscoring the importance of inter-agency and collaborative approaches to ensuring better outcomes and brighter futures for children and young people in County Kilkenny.

3.1 Demographics

This section looks at the composition of Kilkenny's population. It focuses specifically on age composition, inter-censal change, nationality, ethnicity and language, given the relevance of these demographic variables to the delivery of services for children and young people.

Age Composition

According to the most recent Census of Population, County Kilkenny has a total population of 99,232. Children and young people represent one-third of the population. The following table presents the total number of persons in age cohorts, and expresses these as a percentage of the total population. It does so for County Kilkenny and for the South-East Region⁴.

Table 1: Number of Children and Young People, by Age Cohort in County Kilkenny and the South-East Region, 2016.

	Aged 0 to 4	Aged 5 to 12	Aged 13 to 17	Aged 18 to 24	Aged 0 to <18	Aged 0 to 24
County Kilkenny (absolute numbers)	7,112	11,773	7,059	7,033	25,944	32,977
County Kilkenny (as a % of the population)	7.17%	11.86%	7.11%	7.09%	26.14%	33.23%
South-East Region (absolute numbers)	29,109	50,683	29,517	31,532	109,309	140,841
South-East Region (as a % of the population)	6.90%	12.01%	6.99%	7.47%	25.90%	33.37%

As the table shows, County Kilkenny has proportionately more infants (children aged <4) than the region as a whole. The proportion of school-aged children is similar to the regional level, while the proportion of young adults (persons aged 18 to 24) is slightly below the regional average. This is associated with third-level institutes in Waterford and Carlow.

Across the four Municipal Districts⁵ that constitute County Kilkenny, the proportion of children and young people (0 to 18 years) in the population ranges from twenty-four percent in Kilkenny City West to twenty-eight percent in Piltown. Piltown also has the highest proportion of persons aged 0 to 24 years, at thirty-five percent, compared with thirty-one percent in Kilkenny City West. Maps 1 to 6 (inclusive) present the spatial distribution of children and young people in selected age cohorts. These dot density maps show the particular clusters in each age cohort. They highlight the significance of the urban centres (Kilkenny City

⁴ The South-East Region comprises the Counties of Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford and Wexford. For statistical purposes, it also includes the former local authority division of South Tipperary. The Regional Authority was abolished under the Local Government (Reform) Act, 2014.

⁵ The four local authority divisions in the County are: Castletown, Kilkenny City East, Kilkenny City West and Piltown. The delineation of these was determined by the Local Area Boundary Committee Report (2013). This can be accessed on: <http://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/migrated-files/en/Publications/LocalGovernment/Administration/FileDownload%2C33299%2Cen.pdf>. The County Kilkenny map is on page 73.

and Ferrybank) and the many smaller towns and villages across the county. These maps, as well as many of the maps presented throughout this profile, demonstrate the dispersed nature of settlements throughout Kilkenny. Unlike in other counties in which settlement is more concentrated in particular locations and / or there are peripheral areas, Kilkenny is more spatially balanced and has a better demographic and social mix. Thus, agencies need to continue to have a presence, and services need to be provided across urban, peri-urban and rural areas.

The dot density maps present the absolute numbers of children and young people across the county. These are followed by six choropleth maps that show each age cohort as a percentage of the total population at Electoral Division (ED) level (Maps 7 to 12). Taken together, the maps (1 to 12) provide useful pointers with regard to providing services and meeting the needs of children and young people. The first choropleth map (Map 7) shows above average proportions of infants and toddlers (children aged up to 4 years) in the environs of Kilkenny City, Ferrybank and Mooncoin. The map also shows (as indicated by the dark brown shading) that the areas with the highest proportions of children aged under four are rural communities, rather than any of the towns or larger villages, and that, these are scattered across the county. This implies a need for rurally-based services such as parent and toddler groups and pre-school facilities. Furthermore, the choropleth map (Map 8) presenting data on primary school-aged children shows the significance of rural areas. The spatial pattern in respect of children / young people (12 to 17 year olds) in the second-level school aged cohort exhibits a patchwork effect – in that there are no notable above or below average geographical clusters. The spatial patterns in these three maps underscore the importance of transport service provision (e.g., public transport connectivity and school transport), outreach work and rural-proofing in ensuring the effective delivery of services to children and young people across County Kilkenny.

Map 10, which shows the proportion of persons aged 18 to 24 in each ED, illustrates how, as indicated by the lighter shading that the county has a slightly lower proportion of persons in this age cohort than is the case regionally and nationally. However, there are two notable clusters with above average proportions of persons in this cohort. These are in the northeast and southeast of the county. The former, which includes Castlecomer and the surrounding areas, emerges (as later maps in this profile show) as having higher levels of socio-economic deprivation, which is, *inter alia*, associated with lower levels of transition from second-level to third-level education. The pattern that the map presents in respect of South-East Kilkenny is more similar to that of Wexford (the adjoining county), rather than to Kilkenny as a whole. This feature may be associated with Wexford having among the lowest levels of progression to third-level education of any county, and fewer job opportunities in the knowledge economy and the service sector, relative to other parts of Ireland. The data presented in this map, and the patterns displayed in the aggregate maps in respect of persons aged 0 to 18 years and 0 to 24 years (Maps 11, 12 and 13) show a healthy presence of children throughout the county, including in many rural areas. The maps suggest however, a need to make the county more attractive to young adults.

The following table shows that pre-family Households and those with pre-school children represent 17.3% of families in County Kilkenny.

Table 2: Percentage of Families in each of the Standard Sequential Family Phases, in County Kilkenny, 2016.

	Pre-family	Pre-school	Early school	Pre-adolescent	Adolescent	Adult	Empty Nest	Retired
% of families	7.6%	9.7%	12.0%	11.6%	13.1%	25.0%	10.8%	10.2%

The accompanying map (Map 14) shows that the areas with the highest proportions of households classified as pre-family and pre-school are in and around Kilkenny City, especially its immediate environs, and in dispersed locations across the county, including Urlingford, Callan, Knocktopher, Thomastown and Paulstown. These data suggest an ongoing need for family-related services in these communities, including schools and childcare.

The patchwork pattern that tends to characterise demographic spatial patterns in County Kilkenny is further evident in the maps that present data on dependency ratios. The first of these (Map 15) deals with Youth Dependency Ratio. Youth Dependency Ratio refers to the number of young people (aged 0 to 14 years) in relation to the number of persons in the 'working age cohort' (aged 15 to 64 years). In statistical terms, County Kilkenny records Youth Dependency Ratio of 34.3%. This compares with the national value of 32.3%. Map 16 again underscores the need for rural services and the rural-proofing of strategies and actions, as it shows several rural areas with values in excess of 38%. The following map (Map 17), which presents the Elderly Dependency Ratio illustrates that some parts of the county have above average proportions of both young (aged 0 to 14) and older (aged 65+ years) people. These include rural areas between Freshford and Johnstown, the area between Mooncoin and Waterford City and areas east of Thomastown and Bennetsbridge. Thus, there may be a basis for inter-generational projects in these communities.

The Census of Population also reveals further data on the age composition of the population. It shows that in 2016, the average age of persons in Ireland was 37.4 years, an increase of 1.4 years since the previous census in 2011. In terms of county⁶ rankings, Kilkenny stands fourteenth in terms of the oldest population (or eighteenth in respect of the youngest population). In 2016, the average of the population in County Kilkenny was 37.7 years, up from 36.6 years, five years earlier. The following table identifies the ten EDs with the youngest populations in the county. These EDs are distributed across the county.

Table 3: Electoral Divisions with the Youngest Average Ages in County Kilkenny, 2016.

Electoral Division	Average Age
Kiltorcan	32.3
Kilculliheen (part)	32.5
Jerpoint West	32.9
Bramblestown	33
Tiscoffin	33.7
Paulstown	33.8
Coolaghmore	34.4
Kilkieran	34.8
Rathealy	35
Urlingford	35.3

Inter-Censal Change

Between 2002 and 2016, the population of the State increased by over one-fifth (20.8%), from 3.94 million to 4.76 million. This gives Ireland one of the fastest rates of population growth in the EU, and it is associated with an above average birth rate and with in-migration. The growth rate during the most recent inter-censal period (2011 – 2016) was 3.78%. As the following table shows, Kilkenny's level of population increase exceeded the national and regional levels.

⁶ Data for Fingal, South Dublin, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Dublin City, Cork City & County and Galway City & County are disaggregated separately.

Table 4: Population Levels and Percentage Change in Kilkenny the Southeast Region and The State, 2002 – 2016.

	Population 2002	Population 2006	Population 2011	Population 2016	% Change 2002 to 2016	% Change 2011 to 2016
County Kilkenny	80,339	87,558	95,419	99,232	23.5%	4.0%
Carlow	46,014	50,349	54,612	56,932	23.7%	4.2%
Waterford City and County	101,546	107,961	113,795	116,176	14.4%	2.1%
Wexford	116,596	131,749	145,320	149,722	28.4%	3.0%
South-East	344,495	377,617	409,146	422,062	22.5%	3.2%
Ireland	3,942,078	4,239,848	4,588,252	4,761,865	20.8%	3.8%

Maps 18 and 19 provide geographical detail on inter-censal population change. These show percentage population change at ED level since 2002. The first provides the longitudinal perspective (2002 to 2016), and it reveals that the areas with the highest levels of population growth are Ferrybank, the environs of Callan, and Goran and surrounding areas. All have witnessed population increases in excess of fifty percent. Such increases inevitably bring opportunities in terms of vitality, but they can also put pressures on existing infrastructure and services. Therefore, investment in public service provision in line with demographic trends or more importantly, in guiding sustainable and balanced demographic growth, is essential.

Above average population increases are also very notable within a 5km radius of Kilkenny City, with growth levels in the City itself being much more moderate. While Kilkenny County Council and local stakeholders have worked to ensure that Kilkenny City does not suffer the same fate as other towns in respect of a hollowing out of the City Core (the so-called donut effect), the population change data suggest a need to keep suburbanisation in check. Suburbanisation can have a negative effect on the ability of children and young people to access services, as it increases car dependency. This can have particular negative consequences for lower-income families.

The inter-censal data also show that some parts of the county have actually bucked the broader trend, and have lost population since 2002. The following table lists the EDs that have recorded the largest gains and largest losses (10 of each) between 2002 and 2016.

Seven of the ten EDs listed above as having the highest levels of population increase are also listed in Table 2, as having the youngest average age in the county⁷.

Table 5: Electoral Divisions recording the Greatest Increases (10) and Greatest Losses (10) in County Kilkenny, 2002 – 2016.

EDs	% Increase	EDs	% Decrease
Kilculliheen (part)	144.57%	Baunmore	-13.55%
Jerpoint West	120.49%	Tullaroan	-10.51%
Paulstown	105.00%	Ballyconra	-9.81%
Tiscoffin	87.69%	Rathpatrick	-9.05%
Bramblestown	68.32%	Johnstown	-7.60%
Callan Rural	58.09%	Outrath	-6.77%
Gowran	53.33%	Killahy	-6.47%
Coolaghmore	52.62%	Mallardstown	-5.97%
Burnchurch	48.39%	Goresbridge	-5.51%
Fiddown	43.42%	Freshford	-5.39%

⁷ Those seven EDs are Kilculliheen (part), Jerpoint West, Paulstown, Tiscoffin, Bramblestown, Callan Rural and Coolaghmore.

The data presented over the preceding pages show that children and young people are a sizeable population cohort throughout County Kilkenny – across all geographies. Strong youth demographics are associated with demographic vitality, thus indicating an ongoing need for investment in family-oriented supports and services. The demographics also indicate a need for discussions at county-level on the implications of Kilkenny not having a third-level institute. While it can be to Kilkenny's benefit that young people go elsewhere to gain knowledge, skills and experiences, which they can subsequently bring back to their native county, the obligation to travel can represent a barrier to education, among those from low-income families. In addition, as third-level institutes are associated with preferred locations for knowledge-economy activities, Kilkenny's economic competitiveness would likely benefit from a stronger third-level presence in the county.

The following pages provide further insights into the changing composition of the 0 to 24 year old age cohort. They present data in respect of nationality, ethnicity and language, all of which are relevant to enabling more equitable access to services. The principle of equality is at the core of *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures*. The policy framework commits to ensuring that:

"Inequalities are addressed across all sectors, including health, education and justice. Children and their parents do not face discrimination of any kind, irrespective of membership of the Traveller community, race, colour, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, civil status, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status. All children in need have equality of access to, and participation in, a range of quality public services" (2014: 20).

Nationality, Ethnicity and Language

Irish society has become more ethnically diverse over the past two decades. Non-Irish and non-UK nationals now account for over nine percent of the State's population. The corresponding figures for the South-East Region and for County Kilkenny are lower, at 6.67% and 6.37% respectively. While in-migration is manifest across Ireland, it is more pronounced in urban, rather than in rural areas, as migration is associated with the expansion of the urban labour force. This phenomenon is evident in County Kilkenny, as indicated in Map 19. This reveals that areas with the highest proportions of non-Irish and non-UK nationals are Ferrybank (16%) and Kilkenny City (15%). Among rural areas, the highest value is recorded in Mallardstown (16.5%) – the highest of any ED in the county. Urlingford also records a relatively high level (10.2%), associated with employment in transport and haulage. Rosbercon, which adjoins the town of New Ross, records a value of nine percent. Apart from these locations, the proportion of non-Irish and non-UK nationals is generally below the national average, with the lowest values tending to be in rural communities in South Kilkenny.

The Central Statistics Offices records and publishes a breakdown of the data on ethnicity at ED level in respect of selected ethnicities. The following table presents these data in respect of County Kilkenny, the SE Region and the State.

Table 6: Membership of Ethnic Minorities in Absolute Numbers and as a Percentage⁸ of the Population in County Kilkenny, Regionally and Nationally, 2016.

		White Irish Traveller	Other White	Black or Black Irish	Asian or Asian Irish	Other
County Kilkenny	No.	554	7271	730	979	935
	%	0.6%	7.5%	0.8%	1.0%	1.0%
Carlow	No.	511	5192	590	721	690
	%	0.9%	9.4%	1.1%	1.3%	1.2%
Waterford City and County	No.	517	9250	1531	1877	1324
	%	0.5%	8.3%	1.4%	1.7%	1.2%
Wexford	No.	1508	12214	414	1046	1454
	%	1.0%	8.4%	0.3%	0.7%	1.0%
South-East	No.	3093	33927	3265	4623	4403
	%	0.8%	8.3%	0.8%	1.1%	1.1%
Ireland	No.	30987	446727	64639	98720	70603
	%	0.7%	9.8%	1.4%	2.2%	1.5%
<i>LA Divisions within Kilkenny</i>						
Castlecomer	No.	67	880	38	115	139
	%	0.3%	3.9%	0.2%	0.5%	0.6%
Kilkenny City East	No.	200	2428	211	275	314
	%	0.8%	9.4%	0.8%	1.1%	1.2%
Kilkenny City West	No.	190	2287	262	466	334
	%	0.8%	9.2%	1.1%	1.9%	1.3%
Piltown	No.	100	1676	219	123	148
	%	0.4%	7.1%	0.9%	0.5%	0.6%

As the table shows, there are 10,469 persons resident in County Kilkenny, who consider themselves as belonging to one or other of the minorities listed above. These people represent ten percent of the population. Maps 20 to 24 (inclusive) present the spatial distribution of the above ethnicities at ED-level.

According to the Census of Population, there are 554 Irish Travellers in County Kilkenny. This figure has increased by 63 since 2011. As Map 21 shows, Travellers live in several communities throughout the county, but there are particular concentrations, most notably in the EDs of Kilkenny Rural, Kilkenny No. 1 Urban, Rosbercon Rural, Callan Rural, Urlingford, Thomastown, Castlecomer, Jerpoint West, Callan Urban, Coolcraheen and Pollrone. As the following table shows, Irish Travellers have a much younger age profile than the sedentary population. Almost two-thirds of Travellers resident in County Kilkenny are aged under 24 years.

Table 7: Travellers in County Kilkenny by Age Cohort, 2016

Age Cohort	0 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 64	65+
Number	92	85	59	60	60	37	149	12
Percentage	17%	15%	11%	11%	11%	7%	27%	2%

The data presented in the table (above) illustrate the lower life expectancy experienced by Irish Travellers, relative to the rest of the Irish population. Indeed, extensive research undertaken by the Health Research Board and among academics consistently demonstrates that Irish Travellers continue to face widespread prejudice in Irish society and have difficulties accessing essential public services. Information supplied by schools also reveals lower levels of educational attainment among Travellers, with the transition from primary to post-primary level often associated with dropping out from education, especially among males.

⁸ Persons whose ethnicity was 'not stated' were excluded in the calculation of the percentage values.

Thus, given the multiplicity of their needs, Irish Travellers ought to be among the specific beneficiaries of the CYPSC strategy and those of other agencies.

The category entitled 'other white persons,' as presented in Map 22, includes many of the so-called 'new Irish,' and non-Irish nationals, who have migrated to this country. These represent 7.52% of County Kilkenny's population. This figure is below the regional and national levels of 8.28% and 9.78% respectively. As Map 21 shows, their distribution across the county is not uniform, with the highest concentrations being around Kilkenny City and in the West and South-West of the County, where economic activity is more buoyant. Across the four local authority divisions, 'other white persons' are represented in the population as follows: Castlecomer, 3.91%; Kilkenny City East, 9.45%; Kilkenny City West, 9.22% and Piltown, 7.10%. The CSO uses the following classifications in respect of other ethnicities: 'Black' or 'Black Irish,' 'Asian or Asian Irish' and 'Other.' In County Kilkenny, 2,644 people classify themselves as belonging to one of these. This equates to 2.74% of the county's population. As Map 23 clearly shows, Black and Black Irish persons are predominantly concentrated in and around the main urban centres – Kilkenny City and Ferrybank. Asian and Asian Irish persons are also more likely to reside in urban and peri-urban areas, although as Map 24 shows, they are more widely dispersed across the county than are Black and Black Irish persons. Areas such as Urlingford, Johnstown, Thomastown, Callan and Kilmogany also have notable numbers of Asian and Asian Irish persons. The CSO category in respect of 'Other Ethnicities' encompasses, among others, those from The Americas and Oceania. As Map 25 shows, these are more likely to reside in the urban areas and adjoining communities, and they are more prevalent generally in the north, rather than in the south of the county.

The data presented here in respect of ethnicity and the spatial distribution of ethnic minorities across County Kilkenny are important in enabling agencies to make decisions regarding the direction of interventions. As non-Irish nationals may face barriers in accessing services, and as prejudices and intolerance are, unfortunately, features of our society, interventions need to focus on working with host communities, as well as with newcomers. One of the most constructive ways in which agencies and communities can better engage with newcomers and support them is through acknowledging Ireland's current and growing linguistic diversity and through taking concrete steps to promote multi-lingualism; through staff training, the translation of information material and the provision of adequate interpretation services. As the following table shows, there are over 9,000 people, in County Kilkenny, who speak a language other than Irish or English at home:

Table 8: Languages other than Irish or English, spoken in County Kilkenny, by Local Authority Area, 2016⁹.

LA Area	Polish	French	Lithuanian	Other (incl. not stated)	Total
Castlecomer	179	193	18	540	930
Kilkenny City East	982	274	141	1,574	2,971
Kilkenny City West	749	284	142	1,985	3,160
Piltown	648	209	124	1,090	2,071
Total	2,558	960	425	5,189	9,132

Polish-speakers represent the single largest foreign-language community in County Kilkenny, with French-speakers being the second largest cohort. French-speakers are predominantly of North and West-African origin, and come to Ireland from counties such as Morocco, Niger and The Congo. The CSO database shows that there are over two-hundred persons from Africa living in County Kilkenny.

⁹ The figures presented here are derived from the responses to Question 15 on the Census of Population: Do you speak a language other than English or Irish at home? Those who respond 'yes' to this question are asked to specify the language(s) spoken. Use of the Irish language is dealt with separately (Question 14). This asks: Can you speak Irish. Those who respond 'yes' to this question are then asked how frequently they use Irish. The data for County Kilkenny reveal that 39% of the population can speak Irish. However, the majority only use the language occasionally.

The following table provides further elucidation of Kilkenny's population in respect of nationality. It shows that among the non-Irish, Poles represent the single largest nationality, followed by UK nationals and persons from elsewhere in the EU, most notably Lithuania, Romania and Latvia. The table also reveals that over one-in-ten cases, foreign nationals have no nationality assigned to them. In many cases, this is associated with a person being stateless or having been born in a State that has failed to recognise his / her nationality e.g., Kurds (born in Turkey, Syria or Iraq) or Kosovars (born in Yugoslavia or Serbia). Of the non-Irish nationals resident in County Kilkenny, 1,429 are children, while a further 942 are aged 15 to 24 years. These represent a sizeable population cohort and one that needs to be represented in all aspects of Irish life, including community development and local decision-making.

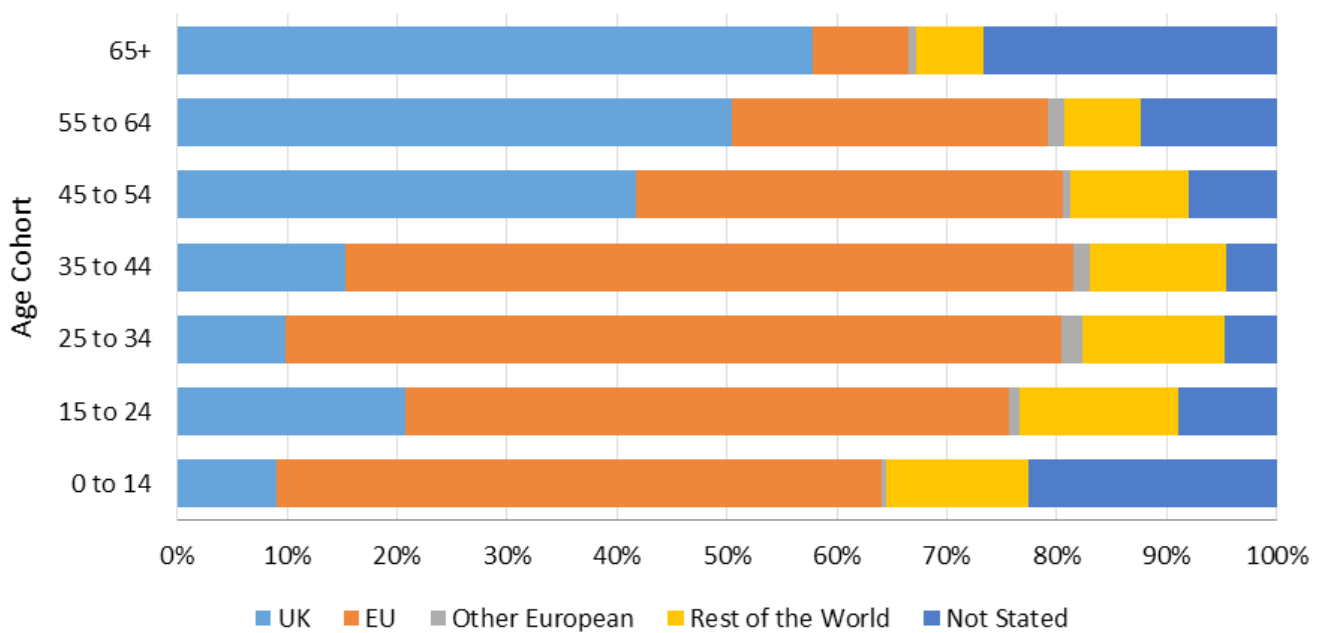
The data presented in the table also suggest that the migration trajectory and experience of children differs from that of adults. The table shows that children are three times more likely not to have an assigned nationality. While this may be associated with having parents with two different nationalities, it is also associated with children coming from societies that are affected by conflict, political instability and scant regard for the rights of children and minorities.

Table 9: Number of Persons by Nationality and Age Cohort in County Kilkenny¹⁰, 2016.

	All Ages	0 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65+
French	82	9	12	16	27	14	4	0
German	130	8	28	13	24	28	17	12
Italian	136	23	18	28	32	21	9	5
Latvian	323	67	32	90	79	41	10	4
Lithuanian	402	63	35	145	111	34	11	3
Polish	2,310	416	226	693	694	181	81	19
Romanian	377	48	40	133	107	39	9	1
Spanish	100	15	16	34	26	7	2	0
UK	2,122	128	195	196	337	522	336	408
Other EU28	1,051	139	111	256	359	120	48	18
Other European	106	6	8	36	33	9	10	4
African	232	45	38	55	67	19	3	5
Indian	74	15	0	19	27	11	1	1
Other Asian	389	58	52	120	88	46	19	6
American (US)	130	17	16	20	19	24	16	18
Brazilian	54	6	8	17	15	6	1	1
Other American	45	4	4	9	11	8	2	7
Other nationalities	156	39	19	19	47	21	5	6
Not stated	972	323	84	94	101	100	82	188
TOTAL	9,191	1,429	942	1,993	2,204	1,251	666	706

The following bar graph illustrates the significance of European nationalities among younger age cohorts.

¹⁰ Due to confidentiality reasons, the CSO does not provide any breakdown of these data below county level.

Fig. 2: Nationality Groupings by Age Cohort in County Kilkenny, 2016

The following pages present demographic and socio-economic data in respect of the five themes set out in the national policy framework – *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures*.

Thematic Analysis

In line with the five themes set out in national policy, this Socio-Economic and Demographic Statement presents data and analysis under the following headings: Health; Education; Safety; Financial Security; and Support and Participation.

3.2 Health

This section draws on data from multiple sources, including The Census of Population, other CSO databases, the Health Service Executive (HSE), Tusla – the Child and Family Agency and the Department of Social Protection.

The Census of Population includes three questions on health-specific variables. These include self-assessment of health status, disability and care giving. On the first of these, respondents indicate how they perceive their health on a Likert scale, ranging from 'Very Good' to 'Very Bad.' The vast majority of people regard their health as being either 'Very Good' or 'Good,' with younger people and those living in rural areas most likely to do so. Persons in County Kilkenny are more likely to make a positive assessment of their health than are those in the rest of the South-East Region. The percentage of persons who regard their health as 'Very Good' or 'Good' is as follows: Kilkenny, 90.36%; Carlow, 89.25%; Waterford, 89.79% and Wexford 89.01%. Just under one-in-ten persons in County Kilkenny (9.64%) regards their health to be 'Fair,' 'Bad' or 'Very Bad.' This compares with the rest of the region as follows: Carlow, 10.75%; Waterford, 10.21% and Wexford, 10.99%. Map 26 shows the spatial distribution of persons with relatively poor health. Such persons are more prevalent in the north, rather than in the south of the county, with the largest concentration being in the Castlecomer area. The following table lists the ten EDs with the highest levels of self-declared poor health status:

Table 10: Percentage of Persons whose Self-Declared Health Status is 'Fair,' 'Bad' or 'Very Bad' in selected ED in County Kilkenny, 2016.

ED	%	ED	%
Boolyglass	15.67%	Castlecomer	13.16%
Goresbridge	14.88%	Moneenroe	13.15%
Scotsborough	14.20%	Kilkenny No. 1 Urban	13.13%
Freshford	13.62%	Pollrone	13.06%
Kilkenny No. 2 Urban	13.24%	Clogh	12.54%

As later sections of this profile demonstrate, poor health in these locations is likely to be associated with economic deprivation, as much as with having an older population.

The Census of Population data also reveal that there are 13,332 persons with a self-declared disability in County Kilkenny. The majority are aged over 65 years, and their disabilities are generally due to reduced mobility. Maps 27 and 28 present the spatial distribution of persons with a disability. Map 27 shows the absolute distribution, with a clustering effect in and around the main population centres. Map 28 deals with proportionality, and reveals that the areas with the highest proportions of persons with disabilities are in the northeast of the county, and specifically in Castlecomer, Clough and Moneenroe. In addition, the following areas emerge as having proportions of persons with disabilities that are notably above the county and regional average: Kilkenny City, Callan, Johnstown, Freshford, Thomastown and Goresbridge. As the map shows, the proportion of persons with a disability is higher in the north than in the south of the county, with Mooncoin and Kilmacow the only areas in the south with above average levels.

The following table presents specific data on children and young people with disabilities. It shows that there are 1,137 children with a disability. The proportion of teenagers and young adults with a disability is considerably higher than among children.

Table 11: Types of Disabilities among Children and Young People in County Kilkenny, 2016.

	0 - 14 years	15 to 19	20 to 24
Total persons	21,766	6,548	4,663
Total persons with a disability	1,137	627	418
% with a Disability	5.2%	9.6%	9.0%
Blindness or a serious vision impairment	68	33	29
Deafness or a serious hearing impairment	81	31	24
A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities	206	77	60
An intellectual disability	354	173	119
Difficulty in learning, remembering or concentrating	572	320	167
Psychological or emotional condition	244	158	127
Other disability, including chronic illness	362	170	124
Difficulty in dressing, bathing or getting around inside the home	304	72	51
Difficulty in going outside home alone	333	147	87
Difficulty in working or attending school/college	293	212	145
Difficulty in participating in other activities	367	186	112
Total disabilities	3,184	1,579	1,045

Among children and young people, the most prevalent form of disability is 'difficulty in learning, remembering or concentrating.' In responding to this, agencies with a brief in mental health and psychological services have a particularly important role to play. Support groups and community-level interventions may also be beneficial, particularly for parents / guardians. As the data in the table show, the number of disabilities is almost three times that of children, thus revealing that several children have multiple forms of disability. Therefore, they may need access to multiple and varied types of support, and in such scenarios, inter-agency collaboration, including information sharing and the application of a holistic and family-centred approach, are essential.

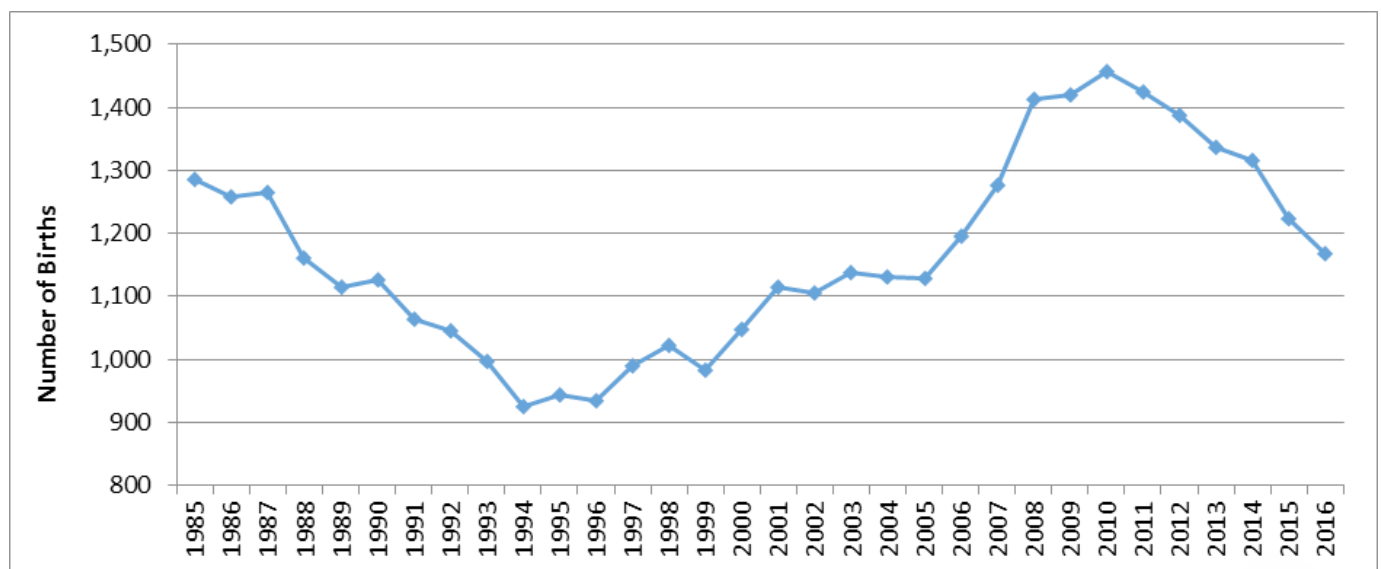
Map 29 shows the spatial distribution (in absolute numbers) of carers across County Kilkenny. The pattern here is very similar to that shown in respect of persons with disabilities, with the clustering focusing on the main population centres. There are 4,321 carers in the county, of whom thirty-nine percent are male and sixty-one percent are female. The proportion of males devoting themselves to caring duties has been increasing steadily over recent decades.

Tusla, The HSE and medical practitioners provided specific data in respect of general health and the health of children and young people, all of which have informed the CYPSC strategy, and many of which are presented in this profile. These include data on giving birth, breastfeeding, immunisation and children's use of, and access to medical services and health-related supports. These reveal a high, but declining birth rate, the rising age of mothers, challenges associated with promoting immunisation and persistent structural issues in respect of access to some services. There are also gaps in respect of health service data, not least mental health services. This may be associated with, among other factors, recording systems and the sensitivities associated with data protection.

Childbirth, Babies and Infants

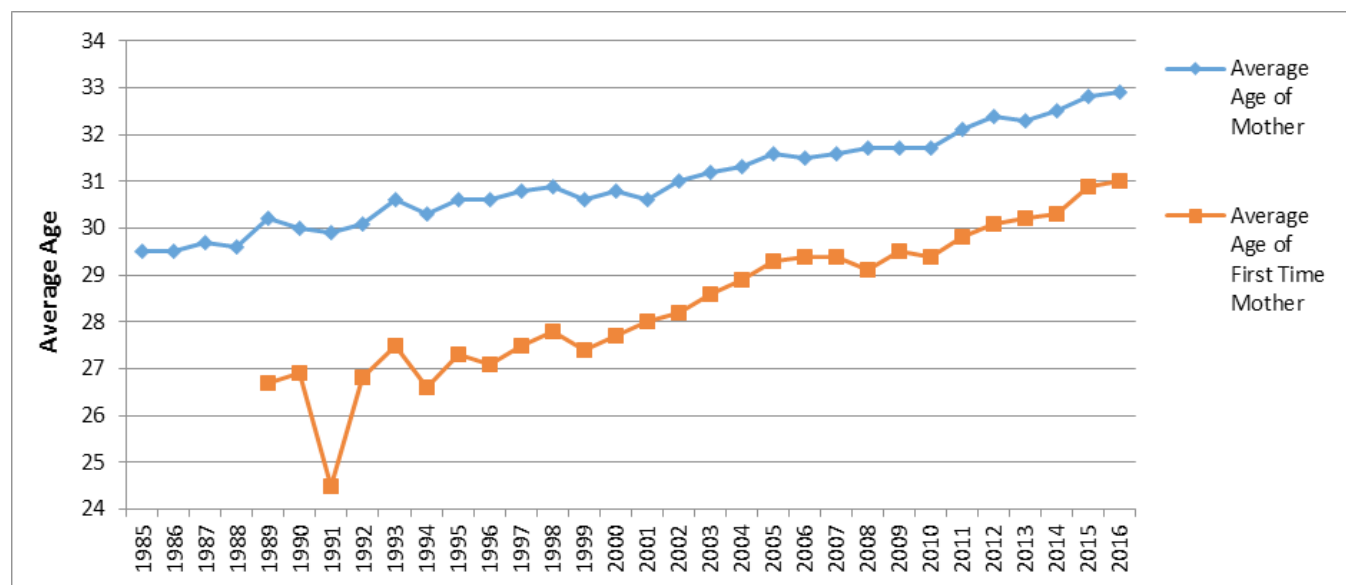
As the following graph shows, the number of persons born in Kilkenny (as defined by mothers being domiciliary in the county) increased considerably from the mid-1990s to 2010, but has fallen every year since then. This is reflective of the national trend.

Fig. 3: Number of Babies Born to Mothers resident in County Kilkenny, 1985 – 2016.



County Kilkenny also reflects the national trend in respect of the increased age of mothers. The following graph shows the rise year-on-year since the mid-1980s. Over a thirty-year period, the mean age for mothers giving birth has increased from 29.5 years to 32.9 years. During the same timeframe, the mean age of first-time mothers increased from 26.7 years to 31 years.

Fig. 4: Average Age of All Mothers and First-Time Mothers in County Kilkenny, 1985 – 2016.



While the average age of mothers is rising, teenage births remain a reality. Last year (2017), there were nine births to mothers aged 17 or younger. This represents a rate of 7.4 per 1,000, and is well in excess of the national rate of 4.6 per 1,000.

In Ireland, most babies (64.1%) have a birthweight of between 3.5 and 4kg. Unfortunately, due to a range of factors, some of which are linked to the mother's health and wellbeing, a number of babies have particularly low birth weights. The percentage of babies born weighing less than 2.5kg (live and still births), in 2015 in County Kilkenny was 5.1%. This is below the national average of 5.9%.

Ireland has a poorly developed domiciliary homebirth service, and as a result, the proportion of babies born at home is well below that in other European countries. In The Netherlands, for example, one-third of babies are born at home. Yet in County Kilkenny there were just eight home births in 2017, the same as in 2016, but up from just two home births in 2015.

Systematic efforts by the HSE and Department of Health have resulted in Ireland having high levels of baby / infant screening. On average, ninety-five percent of babies in Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO5¹¹), which includes County Kilkenny, are screened by the time they reach ten months. Kilkenny has a slightly above average success rate in respect of Public Health Nurse visits to mothers; the percentage new-born babies visited by a PHN within 72 hours of hospital discharge is 99.7% in Carlow/ Kilkenny, compared with 97.5% nationally.

The following table shows that the majority of babies are being breastfed when they and their mothers are discharged from hospital. While this has, thanks to positive promotion by health professionals and mothers themselves (e.g., via La Leche League), the levels remain well below the norms in other OECD countries.

Table 12: Percentage of Infants who were Breastfed (either exclusively or combined) on Discharge from Hospital, 2015.

	Exclusive	Combined	Total
Ireland	47.7%	10.3%	58.0%
Kilkenny	57.6%	0.7%	58.3%

¹¹ Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) 5 includes Counties Waterford, Wexford, Carlow, Kilkenny, and South Tipperary.

Children's Engagement with Healthcare Providers

Levels of immunisation among school-aged children in County Kilkenny are similar to those for Ireland as a whole, and while they are high relative to many other countries, they remain somewhat below the World Health Organisation (WHO) target of 95% per cohort. As the following table shows, rates are highest in respect of the MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) and 4-in-1 vaccines, with rates approximating universal

coverage. Rates also exceed ninety percent in respect of the TDAP (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) and Men C (Meningococcal C) vaccines, although as the following table shows, there has been a slight decline in uptake year-on-year between 2015/16 and 2016/17. However, as the table clearly shows, the lowest uptake rates and the greatest levels of decline are manifest in respect of the HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) vaccine. These are associated with parental concerns regarding side effects and adverse publicity surrounding the vaccine. The table shows a fall-off in uptake from the first to the second HPV dose, as well as the decline over time. This is not just a Kilkenny phenomenon. It is prevalent across Ireland and beyond¹².

Table 13: Levels of Immunisation among Primary and Second-Level School Pupils in County Kilkenny, 2015 – 2017.

2015 /2016			2016/2017	
Primary School				
HPV Dose 1	88.1%		HPV Dose 1	61%
HPV Dose 2	80.6%		HPV Dose 2	54%
Tdap	93.3%		Tdap	92%
Men C	92.4%		Men C	90%
Secondary School				
MMR	97.4%		MMR	96.1%
4-in-1	97.3%		4-in-1	96.5%

Children are more frequent users of hospitals than are adults aged up to 60 years. The following table presents the data for County Kilkenny in respect of children's discharges from hospital.

Table 14: Children's and Infants' Interactions with Hospital and Other Health Services¹³ in County Kilkenny, 2015.

Type of Service Interaction	Number of Children
Hospital Discharges	3,211 or 128.4 per 1,000 children
Hospital Discharges with a Diagnosis of 'External Causes'	293 or 11.7 per 1,000 children
Admissions to Psychiatric Hospital	6
Self-harm Admissions	341 or 2.8 per 1,000

The following are the 2015 levels of particular service registrations in comparative context:

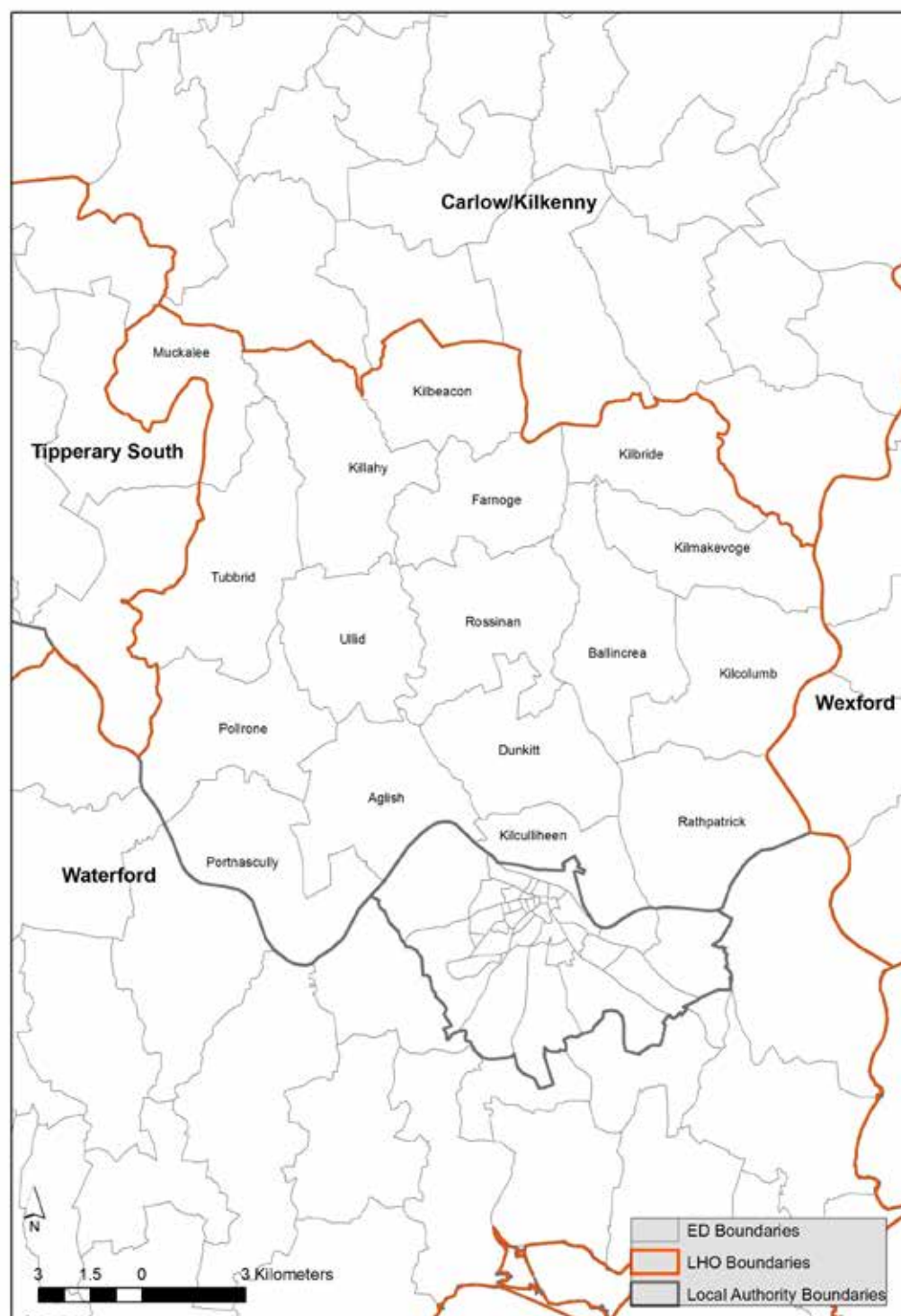
Registrations	County Kilkenny	Ireland
Children Registered with a Physical or Sensory Disability	189 or 7.6/ 1,000 ¹	6,230 or 5.4 /1,000
Children Registered with an Intellectual Disability	179 or 7.2 / 1,000	9,066 or 7.9 / 1,000

¹² Reports from HSE staff indicate that there is a slight increase (to about 60%) this year – locally and nationally.

¹³ The numbers presented in the table refer to number of interactions (e.g., discharges), rather than number of children. Discharges refer to in-patient and day cases.

Access to primary care, such as General Practitioner (GP) services, is an integral element of healthcare provision, including preventive measures. Therefore, this profile encompasses data on frontline services, including health centres, pharmacies and access to medical cards. The HSE generally records and groups such data at the level of its Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) Areas, of which there are nine in Ireland. Some data can then be further disaggregated at Local Health Office (LHO) Areas; there are twenty-eight of these. The LHO that covers most of County Kilkenny also includes County Carlow, and it has a total population of 140,094, of whom fifty-nine percent live in Kilkenny. A further 16,070 persons in South County Kilkenny come under the Waterford LHO (see Fig. 5). As the data presented here are not available below the LHO level, this profile takes those for the Carlow/Kilkenny LHO, in the main.

Fig. 5: Electoral Divisions in South County Kilkenny that pertain to the Waterford LHO¹⁴.



¹⁴ Map supplied by Dr Ronan Foley, Maynooth University.

The following tables present data on the uptake levels of medical cards and other health-related schemes.

Table 15: Number of Persons with a Medical Card by Card Type and as Proportion of the Population in CHO Area 5 by LHO Area, 2016.

CHO Area	LHO Area	Number of Family Units	Population (2016)	Number of Eligible Persons on Medical Cards ²	Rate / population	Number of Eligible Persons on GP Visit Cards ¹³	Rate / population
CHO Area 5	Carlow/Kilkenny	45,104	140,094	54,096	2.59	15,326	9.14
	South Tipperary	31,068	89,071	37,798	2.36	8,828	10.09
	Waterford	41,876	132,246	50,661	2.61	12,639	10.46
	Wexford	49,628	149,722	62,896	2.38	15,334	9.76
Total		167,676	511,133	205,451	2.49	52,127	9.81

Table 16: PCRS - GMS Medical Cards: Number of Eligible Persons in the Carlow/Kilkenny LHO, Gender and Age Group, 2016.

	Age Cohorts											
	← 5	05-11	12-15	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-69	70-74	75 +	Total
Female	1,417	2,656	1,589	2,679	2,880	3,481	3,310	3,001	1,705	1,871	4,076	28,665
Male	1,524	2,878	1,581	2,465	1,946	2,874	2,911	2,979	1,470	1,742	3,061	25,431
Carlow/Kilkenny Total	2,941	5,534	3,170	5,144	4,826	6,355	6,221	5,980	3,175	3,613	7,137	54,096
Total Population	9,970	14,637	7,944	14,483	17,686	21,503	18,770	15,800	6,421	4,981	7,899	140,094
Rate per Cohort	29%	38%	40%	36%	27%	30%	33%	38%	49%	73%	90%	39%

As the above table shows, the level of medical-card coverage among children and young people is below that of adults.

Table 17: Number of Eligible Persons per Scheme in CHO Area 5 by LHO, 2016.

CHO	Area	GMS	GPVC	DPS	LTI
CHO Area 5	Carlow/Kilkenny	54,960	15,187	34,557	4,876
	South Tipperary	38,367	8,720	21,855	3,114
	Waterford	51,709	12,490	31,892	4,097
	Wexford	64,110	15,115	37,014	5,702
Total		209,146	51,512	125,318	17,789

3.3 Education

Educational attainment in Ireland is strongly associated with social class, while the provision of educational opportunities correlates with the progression and development of young people. In this context, and in light of the national policy framework's emphasis on improving educational opportunities and progression trajectories for children and young people, this section presents data on educational attainment levels, education provision and the supports that are available in County Kilkenny.

Educational Attainment levels in County Kilkenny, and in the South-East Region as a whole, are below the national average. This is particularly notable in respect of the proportion of persons with a third level qualification, as the following table shows:

Table 18: Educational Attainment Levels by Gender, as measured by the Proportion of Persons¹⁵ with Primary Education Only and Persons with a Third Level Qualification.

Geography	Primary Education Only or No Formal Education				Third Level Qualification		
	Males	Females	All Persons		Males	Females	All Persons
Kilkenny	14.7%	11.3%	13.0%		21.5%	31.2%	26.4%
Carlow	16.5%	13.0%	14.7%		18.8%	26.3%	22.6%
Waterford	15.0%	12.8%	13.9%		23.1%	28.7%	25.9%
Wexford	18.3%	14.9%	16.6%		16.9%	24.3%	20.7%
S.E. Region	16.3%	13.2%	14.7%		19.9%	27.4%	23.7%
State	14.4%	12.3%	13.3%		27.6%	33.1%	30.4%

The table shows that in all counties of the South-East Region, the proportion of males whose highest level of educational attainment is 'primary education' exceeds the national average. Conversely, in all counties in the region, the proportion of persons with a third-level qualification lags considerably below the national average. In Kilkenny's case, there is a gap of four percentage points between the county and the State. This table also shows the significance of gender as a determinant of educational attainment levels and how females outperform males. While the data presented in the table relate to the adult population, they are directly relevant to interventions with children and young people, as educational attainment levels tend to have an inter-generational dimension (a child's educational attainment level being related to that of his / her parents). In addition, the presence of role models within the home and having access to persons who can assist with schoolwork can influence a child's educational progression. Maps 30 and 31 show the spatial distribution of persons with primary education only and those who have a third-level qualification.

As Map 30 illustrates, educational disadvantage, as manifest by persons with a low level of educational attainment, is more prevalent in the northwest (Freshford, Urlingford and Johnstown), the northeast (Clough, Castlecomer and Moneenroe) and in the east of the county (Goresbridge and adjoining rural areas) than elsewhere. The following table lists the ten EDs that have the highest proportions of persons with primary education only (or no formal education). This further confirms the relative disadvantage of the north of the county.

¹⁵ Calculations are based on the proportion of the population aged 15+ that has completed formal full-time education.

Table 19: The Ten Electoral Divisions with the Highest Levels of Persons (aged 15+) whose highest level of educational attainment is Primary Education.

ED	Percentage with Primary Education Only	ED	Percentage with Primary Education Only
Goresbridge	24.0%	Clogh	20.7%
Freshford	22.0%	Castlegannon	20.5%
Moneenroe	21.1%	Graiguenamagh	20.0%
Boolyglass	20.9%	Urlingford	19.9%
Castlecomer	20.8%	Johnstown	18.8%

While lower levels of educational attainment correlate with belonging to an older age cohort, this profile has already shown that the EDs listed here (table above) are not those with the oldest populations in County Kilkenny. In fact, Urlingford has the tenth youngest population (of the 114 EDs) in the county. Therefore, educational disadvantage is also likely to be associated with multi-dimensional socio-economic deprivation. This implies that investment in education needs to be accompanied by a wider set of social inclusion interventions. Of the areas in the other parts of the county, namely the west and south, those that emerge as having the highest proportions of persons with primary education only are Mooncoin (village and rural) and the villages of Callan and Mullinavat.

Map 31 presents the reverse spatial pattern, as it illustrates the proportion of the population with a third level qualification. The highest levels are in the centre of the county – particularly within a 10km radius of the City, rather than within the City itself. This pattern is associated with the City's administrative functions and public sector employment (e.g., hospital, local authority and large schools). In contrast, the north east, and the more rural parts of the county have the lowest proportions of persons with a third-level qualification. This map also shows the contrasting abilities of Waterford City and Kilkenny City to generate graduate-level employment and / or attract graduates to live locally, with Waterford City having much less of an impact on South Kilkenny than Kilkenny City has on its peri-urban zone of influence. The following table lists the EDs with the highest proportions of graduates.

Table 20: The Ten Electoral Divisions with the Highest Levels of Persons (aged 15+) with a Third Level Qualification.

ED	Percentage with a Third-Level Qualification	ED	Percentage with a Third-Level Qualification
Farnoge	43.7%	The Rower	34.8%
Moneenroe	39.8%	Ballyhale	34.7%
Rossinan	39.7%	Rathbeagh	33.5%
Dunbell	37.5%	Tullahought	33.4%
Dunamaggan	37.5%	Freaghana	33.2%

Given the correlation between a child's educational trajectory and that of his / her parents, the CSO has published data on the educational attainment of mothers. These are available at county level for Census 2011 (but not 2016), and as the following table shows, Kilkenny (as a unit) performs better than the State as whole:

Table 21: Number and Percentage of Children by County and Educational Attainment of Mother, 2011.

Location	Primary	Lower Secondary	Upper Secondary	Third-Level	Not Stated / N/A	Total
State	48,040	141,329	416,407	364,299	23,590	993,665
	4.8%	14.2%	41.9%	36.7%	2.4%	
Kilkenny	758	2,841	9,411	8,461	407	21,878
	3.5%	13.0%	43.0%	38.7%	1.9%	

Accessible, affordable and high-quality childcare provision is integral to the well-being of families and the holistic development of children. Data provided by Kilkenny County Childcare Committee (CCC) indicate that there are ninety-seven childcare facilities in the county. The CCC also reports that, since 2015, there has been a notable increase in the cost of part-time sessions – an increase of ten percent. Meanwhile, the rise in the cost of full-time childcare is more in line with the national rate of inflation – in the order of three percent. It should be noted that childcare costs in Ireland remain among the highest in the EU, and that the service here is not as universal as in Northern Europe. The CCC data record 1,885 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) registrations in 2017. They also report that in 2016, in County Kilkenny, there were eighty-six Training and Employment (TEC)¹⁶ registrations and 1,441 Community Childcare (CC) subventions provided.

Interventions within the primary and post-primary education systems are also important in promoting child development, and schools have generally been innovative, creative and progressive in adopting and promoting initiatives such as circle-time and paired reading and in enabling increased parental involvement in children's education. Breakfast clubs and homework clubs, as well as the School Completion Programme (SCP), play an important role in enabling children to realise their full potential. The designation of schools as 'Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools' (DEIS) represents part of the public-policy response to alleviating educational disadvantage¹⁷. In County Kilkenny, there are ten DEIS schools, as follows:

Table 22: DEIS Schools in County Kilkenny, 2018.

Level	School	Location	Boys	Girls	Total Enrolment ³
Primary	S N Muire Gan Smal	Graiguenamangh	41	126	167
	SN na Buachaillí	Graiguenamangh	80	0	80
	St John's Infants N S	Kilkenny City	94	127	221
	St John's Senior NS	Kilkenny City	84	107	191
	S N An Moinin Tua	Moneenroe	52	57	109
Post-Primary	Duiske College	Graiguenamangh	64	71	135
	Coláiste Mhuire	Johnstown	224	285	509
	City Vocational School	Kilkenny City	62	97	159
	Coláiste Cois Siúire	Mooncoin	54	91	145
	Grennan College	Thomastown	158	174	332

As noted during the CYPSC consultation process in preparing its forthcoming strategic plan, the geographical coverage of DEIS schools is not fully aligned with the geography of greatest educational need. This is in part due to the historical nature of the designations, the exogenous nature of the criteria and misgivings at the time (in the early 2000s) among some school managers and staff about the consequences a DEIS designation could have for their schools.

¹⁶ The objective of the TEC Programmes is to support parents on eligible training courses and eligible categories of parents returning to work, by providing subsidised childcare places. Details are available from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs: <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?fn=%2Fdocuments%2Fchildcare%2FCETSMainPage.htm>

¹⁷ Information is available from the Department of Education and Skills on: <https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Services/DEIS-Delivering-Equality-of-Opportunity-in-Schools-/>

It is also important in respect of educational services, among other dimensions of society that are relevant to children and young people, to factor into any baseline indicators and the formulation of any plan, the significance of services that are based outside the county, but which are accessed by residents of County Kilkenny. Crossing county boundaries to access services is more prevalent in South Kilkenny, than in the north of the county, given the proximity of urban centres – mainly Waterford City, but also New Ross (County Wexford) and, to a lesser extent, Carrick-on-Suir (County Tipperary). The following second-level schools all have DEIS status and recruit pupils / students from County Kilkenny:

- C.B.S. Mount Sion, Waterford;
- Presentation Secondary School, Waterford;
- Kennedy College, New Ross; and
- Comeragh College, Carrick-On-Suir.

County Kilkenny also has a number of special schools, as follows:

- The High Support Special School
- Saplings' Special School
- The Jonah Special School
- The High Support Special School
- Mother of Fair Love Special School
- St Patrick's Special School
- Holy Spirit, Special School.

With the exception of the Sapling's Special School, which is in Graiguenamangh, all are located in Kilkenny City.

The following data have been recorded (at county level) in respect of suspensions and expulsions from schools:

Table 23: Percentage of Pupils / Students either suspended or expelled from school during the Academic Year 2016 / '17.

Level	% Students Expelled	% Students Suspended
Second Level	.07%	3.93%
Primary Level	NIL	.3%

As the table shows, levels of suspension and expulsion are higher at second level, than at primary level. This is also the case across Ireland and internationally. Students at second level are also more likely to be absent from school, as the following table shows:

Table 24: Percentage of School Children / Students who were absent from school for 20 days or more year in the school year 2013 – 2014.

	Primary Level	Second Level
Kilkenny	6.0%	15.3%
Ireland	8.9%	16.7%

While absenteeism from school remains a significant challenge, an longitudinal analysis of the data shows a downward trend over the past decade; in 2009 the absentee level (as measured by the proportion of children missing twenty or more days) in Irish second-level schools was 17.6%. While we do not have access to data for individual schools or specific geographies within County Kilkenny, national level research undertaken for Tusla¹⁸ indicates that absentee levels are higher in urban areas, rather than in the countryside and are higher in DEIS schools, relative to others. Addressing absenteeism requires investment in educational

18 Millar, D (2016) *School Attendance Data from Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2015/16, [under Section 21(6) of the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000] - Analysis and Report to the Child and Family Agency.*

supports, not just at school level, but also at the levels of the family and community.

The following table provides data on the responses to pupils' / students' absenteeism, via the statutory instruments available:

Table 25: Statutory Measures taken (by number) to address School Absenteeism in County Kilkenny, 2015 – 2017.

Measures Taken	Year		
	2015	2016	2017
School Attendance Notices (SANs) issued	2	14	15
Number of Summons issued	0	7	4

The baseline data on educational attainment and education services reveal that while Kilkenny, when taken as a county unit, performs better than the region. However, the regional performance lags notably below that of Ireland as a whole. On several indicators, Kilkenny's performance is not as good as the national average. Furthermore, there is very considerable variation within the county itself, and there is evidence of an urban-rural divide, particularly in respect of the population's education levels. Drilling down into the micro-geographies and into some of the issues unearths evidence of considerable levels of educational disadvantage, and of a need to invest further in preventive education, as part of the holistic set of interventions merited by children, young people and their families.

3.4 Security

This section presents baseline and process data in respect of the safety and security of children and young people. It deals with housing, interactions with An Garda Síochána and referrals to Tusla.

Housing tenure is an indicator of economic wellbeing and social status. It is also a determinant of a child's development, in that children who grow up in private, rather than rented households, have better life chance in respect of educational attainment and economic security. When housing data are analysed with respect of social inclusion / exclusion, correlations are observed between living in local authority housing and being socially excluded. The following table presents data on housing tenure in County Kilkenny and the South-East Region.

Table 26: Percentage of Households living in Rented Accommodation by Type, in The South-East Region, at County Level, 2016.

	Renting from Local Authority	Renting from Voluntary Body	In Private Rented Accommodation
Kilkenny	8.6%	1.2%	9.9%
Carlow	10.7%	1.5%	12.2%
Waterford	12.1%	1.6%	13.7%
Wexford	9.4%	0.7%	10.1%
S.E. Region	10.1%	1.2%	11.3%

While Kilkenny has a lower proportion of households living in rented accommodation, there is considerable variation within the county, as is shown in maps 32 to 34 inclusive. The first of these maps presents the spatial distribution of households renting from Kilkenny County Council. The highest percentages are in Kilkenny City, Urlingford, Callan, Ballyragget, Graiguenamagh and Goresbridge; with →14% of all households in these areas living in local authority rented accommodation. Levels in excess of ten percent

pertain in the villages / towns of Johnstown, Thomastown, Freshford, Castlecomer, Callan and Piltown, as well as in Ferrybank. While acknowledging that local authority housing correlates with social exclusion, it is also important to note that the absence of local authority housing and under-investment in social housing are associated with homelessness, long housing waiting lists and inter-generational cohabitation, all of which are manifestations of deprivation.

Map 33 presents the distribution of households renting from a voluntary body or housing association. Clough, Mallardstown, Goresbridge, Kilkenny City and Ferrybank emerge as the locations with the highest values on this indicator. In most cases, such developments are for older people, rather than for young people with families. This distinguishes Ireland from many other European countries in which voluntary associations are a more significant provider of housing, particularly for young people. The data suggest considerable scope for expansion in this respect in Kilkenny and regionally.

Map 34 illustrates the spatial distribution of households living in private rented accommodation, and clearly shows that this is more of an urban, rather than a rural phenomenon. The highest values are in Kilkenny City and in Ferrybank, but values are also in excess of twelve percent in the following locations: Callan, Urlingford, Goresbridge, Graiguenamagh, Ballyragget, Thomastown, Johnstown, Castlecomer, Killamery, Jerpoint Church, Freshford and Piltown. The above-average levels in these communities may be attributed, in part, to the presence of foreign nationals.

An Garda Síochána has a very specific set of roles to play in safeguarding the security and promoting the wellbeing of all members of society, and the force pursues specific approaches in its interactions and engagements with children and young people. The Garda's role includes crime prevention and diversion, and it also encompasses aspects of child protection. Gardaí are therefore obliged to work with other agencies (e.g., Tusla and the HSE) and with schools and community groups. In 2016, there were 238 referrals to the Garda Youth Diversion Programme in the Kilkenny / Thomastown District. There were sixty-five referrals to the Probation Service in the same year.

Data on criminality and illegal offences provide insights into the issues affecting young people. In County Kilkenny, the number of drug and alcohol related offences committed by young people under 18 years, in 2016, stood at forty-eight. This decreased in 2017. The corresponding figure for offences committed by 18 – 24 year olds in 2016 was 285. The following tables provide further details in respect of the scale of criminal offences committed over a three-year period:

Table 27: Selected Offences Committed by Children and Young People in the Kilkenny Division, 2015 – 2017¹⁹.

Offences		Years		
Type of Offence	Committed by	2015	2016	2017
Drug and Alcohol Offences	Persons aged <18	27	48	29
	Persons aged 18 to 24 years	271	285	210
All Criminal Offences	Persons aged <18	243	295	285
	Persons aged 18 to 24 years	621	598	470

¹⁹ Data for 2017 are up to the end of November.

Table 28: Numbers²⁰ of Children and Young People accessing Treatment for Substance Misuse in County Kilkenny in 2015/16 and Substance treated.

Substance	Age Cohort		All Persons Aged ←24
	Under 18	18 to 24	
Alcohol		16	16
Cannabis - unspecified	→10	→10	→10
Cocaine hydrochloride (coke)		→10	→10
Diazepam		→10	→10
Heroin - ILLICIT		15	15
Marihuana	22	36	58
MDMA		→10	→10
Petrol	→10		→10
Stimulant - unspecified excluding cocaine or amphetamine		→10	→10
Total		87	112

Across both age cohorts, marihuana is the most commonly-abused drug. Among those aged 18 to 24 years, this is followed by alcohol and heroin.

Inter-agency collaboration is integral to promoting the wellbeing and welfare of children and young people. An example of such collaboration, as governed by the strengthening of children's rights in *Bunreacht na hÉireann* (The Constitution of Ireland), is that between An Garda Síochána, Tusla and the HSE. Collaboration manifests itself in information sharing and through the pursuit of child-centred and family-centred approaches to intervention. It is also reflected in the numbers of inter-agency referrals and the numbers of children taken into care. Tusla has supplied the following data in respect of referrals: In 2016, there were 1,551 referrals in Carlow and Kilkenny. This represents an increase of fifteen percent on 2015. The county-level breakdown was: Carlow, 536 and Kilkenny 1,015. As the following table shows, over one-quarter (26%) of children were referred to Tusla more than once.

Table 29: Number of Children by Frequency of Referrals to Tusla in Carlow and Kilkenny, 2016.

No. Referrals	No. Children	No. Referrals	No. Children
1	918	6	6
2	154	7	3
3	42	9	1
4	16	11	1
5	9	13	1
		Total	1,151

²⁰ It is not possible to provide specific numbers when values are less than ten.

Child welfare concerns represent the main reason for referrals (75% of cases), as the following table shows:

Table 30: Reasons for Child Referrals to Tusla in Carlow and Kilkenny, 2016.

Reason	Number of Referrals	Percentage of Referrals
Child Welfare Issues	1,166	75.2%
Neglect	124	8.0%
Other	78	5.0%
Emotional Abuse	66	4.3%
Sexual Abuse	60	3.9%
Physical Abuse	57	3.7%
Total	1,551	

As the following table shows, almost one-third of referrals to Tusla originate from An Garda Síochána, with private individuals and persons in the health sector also playing a prominent role.

Table 31: Sources of Child Referrals to Tusla in Carlow and Kilkenny, 2016.

Agency	Number of Referrals	Percentage of Referrals
An Garda Síochána	448	28.9%
Individuals	272	17.5%
Health Professionals	187	12.1%
Education	139	9.0%
Hospitals	110	7.1%
Social Work	104	6.7%
Voluntary Agencies	95	6.1%
Local Authorities	42	2.7%
HSE - Local Health Offices	39	2.5%
Courts	37	2.4%
Residential Care	28	1.8%
Private Service Providers	26	1.7%
Other Government Departments	20	1.3%
Child and Family Agency national office	3	0.2%
UK Social Services	1	0.1%
Total	1,551	

As of December 2017, there 102 children in County Kilkenny in the care of Tusla.

A quality-assurance review of the referral service (Boyd, 2017)²¹ in Carlow, Kilkenny and South Tipperary for 2016 noted:

- There was an average of eighty-three children active per month, with the area having the third highest referral rate in the State;
- Neglect remains the most prevalent grounds for referral;
- Non-Irish nationals are disproportionately over-represented;
- Substance misuse is the most recorded reason placing children at risk.
- Public Health Nurses (PHNs) and schools are prevalent in engaging with services;
- Feedback from parents and professionals increased on 2015, and was largely positive; and
- Interventions, both reactive and preventive, require working with parents / households, as the issues and challenges faced by children are generally associated with other family members – generally their parents.

The account of security-related issues and the presentation of data in respect of security and safety reveal a complex set of interactions of social and economic issues, and point to the significance of contextual factors, including neighbourhood characteristics, school-based services, non-formal educational opportunities, parental attitudes and behaviour and the levels of inter-agency communication and collaboration. Thus, security is not a standalone issue, and enhancing the safety and security of children and young people is associated with promoting their general health and well-being, enhancing access to services (including specialist personnel) and promoting economic development and social inclusion in all communities. The data reveal specific challenges in respect of preventing substance abuse and caring for children who are in vulnerable situations.

3.5 Economic / Financial Security

The elaboration of data and indicators in respect of Kilkenny's demographics and its position *vis-à-vis* the thematic framework set out in national policy have already elucidated much in respect of the economic realities of growing up in County Kilkenny. This section of the Socio-Economic Statement adds further value to the data already presented. It deals specifically with employment and unemployment, and the particular experiences of lone parent households. The section concludes by presenting data on affluence and deprivation.

In County Kilkenny, there are 41,363 persons at work; 578 looking for their first job and 5,466 unemployed persons. Levels of participation in the labour force are broadly similar to the national average. Among males, the participation rate is 58.34%. Among females it stands at 48.57%; this gives a Kilkenny average of 53.4%. The regional and national rates are 50.48% and 53.43% respectively. While the global county-level picture is one of being stronger than the region and broadly similar to the national situation, there is, as is the case with almost all socio-economic variables, considerable variation within County Kilkenny. Map 35 shows the level of labour force participation at ED level across the county. The map does not reveal any clear spatial pattern, but rather a patchwork effect, suggesting that labour force participation is associated with several highly-localised variables including the strength of the local economy, age profile, skill levels and connectivity, among other factors.

21 *Carlow, Kilkenny and South Tipperary – Data Analysis for 2016 -Referral activity compared to child population. QA activity throughout the year.* Report by R. Boyd, presented in March 2017.

There are two EDs, in which the labour force participation rate exceeds sixty-five percent, namely Kilbeacon and Lisdowney, and a further nine in which it exceeds sixty percent: Clogharinka; Kilkeasy; Rathealy; Tullaherin; Ballinamara; Kilkieran; Shankill; Muckalee and Rathcoole. These are predominantly rural locations. At the other end of the spectrum, the EDs with the lowest levels of labour force participation are (starting with the lowest): Johnstown; Urlingford; Freshford; Graiguenamangh; Freaghana; Castlecomer; Clogh and Goresbridge. These are also predominantly rural, but have a larger village population than the EDs with the highest levels of labour force participation. While it is beyond the scope of this report to analyse this aspect of the Kilkenny economy, the data suggest that there may be an association between labour force participation and so-called rural restructuring, whereby changes in the rural economy have led to a contraction of the economic base of villages and small towns to a greater extent than is the case in areas of open countryside. Villages are higher proportions of persons living in local authority housing estates, particularly since county councils ceased building one-off social houses.

Map 36 presents ED-level data in respect of unemployment. It shows that there are definitive geographical clusters with rates that are in excess of the county level (7.1%) and regional level (8.3%). These include: Johnstown, Urlingford, Castlecomer, Goran, Piltown, Mooncoin, Callan, Ferrybank and the Western half of Kilkenny City. Freshford, Ballyragget, Thomastown, Clough and Moneenroe also record levels that exceed the county average. As the analysis presented already in this profile shows, these areas also record higher levels of educational disadvantage, which is one of the factors closely associated with unemployment. The following table shows a welcome downward trend in respect of the numbers of people in receipt of unemployment benefit in County Kilkenny over the past five years:

Table 32: Persons in Receipt of Unemployment Benefit in County Kilkenny, by DSP Office, November 2012 to November 2017.

Age Cohort	Geography	2012 M11	2013 M11	2014 M11	2015 M11	2016 M11	2017 M11
Under 25 years	Kilkenny County	1,103	917	774	640	434	391
	Kilkenny	904	738	609	518	362	328
	Thomastown	199	179	165	122	72	63
25 years and over	Kilkenny County	6,065	5,733	5,287	4,776	3,898	3,339
	Kilkenny	4,916	4,636	4,278	3,895	3,179	2,748
	Thomastown	1,149	1,097	1,009	881	719	591
All ages	State	417,626	391,128	352,372	316,331	273,160	233,209
	Kilkenny County	7,168	6,650	6,061	5,416	4,332	3,730
	Kilkenny	5,820	5,374	4,887	4,413	3,541	3,076
	Thomastown	1,348	1,276	1,174	1,003	791	654

The table records the downward trend in unemployment nationally and at county level since 2011. It also shows a specific decline in the level of youth unemployment; in 2010, persons aged under 25 years represented fifteen percent of unemployed persons in County Kilkenny. By November 2017, this proportion had declined to just over ten percent (10.5%). While the downward trends are welcome, they should not give grounds for complacency, as the decline in youth unemployment is driven, in part at least, by higher levels of out-migration among young people relative to other age cohorts.

The following table lists the most relevant state-supports for low-income families with children. It shows that in proportional terms, the uptake levels in County Kilkenny are below the national average.

Table 33: Uptake Levels in respect of Family-related State supports for Low-Income Households, 2016.

Type of Support	No. in Kilkenny	as a Percentage of the County's Population Aged ←18	No. at National Level	as a Percentage of the State's population Aged ←18
Back to school footwear & clothing allowance payments	2739	10.6%	153,285	13%
Family Income Supplement	980	3.8%	55,913	5%
One-Parent Family Payments	507	2.0%	40,317	3%
		<i>as a percentage of the County's Total Population</i>		<i>as a Percentage of the State's Total Population</i>
GMS Medical Card Holders	38,313	38.6%	1,734,853	36%

Extensive research (e.g., EU Income Survey²²) shows that lone parent households are at a greater risk of poverty and social exclusion than are other types of families. In County Kilkenny, there are 18,616 families with children. Of these, 22.9% (n=4,262) are headed by a lone parent; 19.4% by a lone mother, and 3.5% by a lone father. The following are some of the vital statistics in respect of families in County Kilkenny

- Total couples with children: 29,773
- Total one parent family (mother) with children: 5,813
- Total one parent family (father) with children: 977
- No. of Children in Families headed by a Lone Parent: 6,790
- Total Number of Children: 36,563
- Children in Lone Parent Families as a Percentage of all children: 18.6%

Maps 37, 38 and 39 show the spatial distribution of lone parent families across County Kilkenny. Map 37, which deals with all one-parent families shows that the highest rates are in Johnstown, Urlingford, Freshford, Castlecomer, Goresbridge, Piltown and Ferrybank. Lone-parent families headed by mothers are also more prevalent in these areas, and in and around Kilkenny City, as shown in Map 38. Other areas that emerge as having high proportions of families headed by lone mothers are Thomastown and Knocktopher. The spatial concentrations in respect of lone fathers are less significant, given the smaller proportion of lone-parent families headed by a man, but as Map 39 shows, there are notable clusters in the northwest (Johnstown and Freshford) and northeast (Clough and Moneenroe) of the county, and in Kilmogany and Inistioge in South Kilkenny. The following table lists the numbers of children aged under 15 years in all families – including one-parent families.

Table 34: Number of Children aged under 15 years in Lone Parent Families and All Families in County Kilkenny, 2016.

	One parent family (mother) with all children aged under 15 (No. of families)	One parent family (father) with all children aged under 15 (No. of families)	One Parent Families with All Children under 15	All Families with Children Under 15
Number of Families	1,465	128	1,593	8,675
As a Percentage of all families	16.9%	1.5%	18.4%	

²² <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/single-parent-families-suffer-worst-rate-of-poverty-1.2445225>

Maps 40 to 43 (inclusive), which show the spatial patterns in respect of lone parent families with children aged under 15 years confirm the above-average concentrations in the northwest and northeast of the county, as well as in and around Kilkenny City, and parts of South Kilkenny, including Kilmogany, Piltown and Ferrybank. Lone parenthood is among the variables used to construct the Haase-Pratschke Index of Affluence and Deprivation, which is extensively used by public bodies (e.g., Pobal and the HSE) to identify areas of need and to direct investments and interventions accordingly. The following pages apply this index to County Kilkenny in order to gain further insights into the lives of children and young people.

Affluence and Deprivation

The most widely-used measure of affluence and deprivation in Ireland is the Haase-Pratschke Index (HP Index). Variants of this index have been applied to successive censuses since 1991 in order to profile locations and to score and rank them in terms of affluence and deprivation. The scores on the index range from -30 to +30, where negative scores indicate disadvantage/deprivation and positive scores indicate affluence. Thus, the more negative the score (i.e. the closer to -30), the more deprived the location, and the more positive the score (i.e., the closer to +30), the more affluent the location. Scores on the Index can be expressed as Absolute Values. They can also be expressed as Relative Values i.e. with respect to the State average. Relative scores are calculated by assigning a value of zero to the State as a whole, and calculating values for locations with reference to it. Public agencies including Pobal have been using the HP Index since the mid-1990s.

The ability to monitor change over time and to compare and contrast the fortunes of locations is due to the fact that the index provides a composite score i.e. each location is assigned a single value based on an aggregated weighting of its profile using the following variables:

- Population Change (decline is associated with deprivation and increase with affluence)
- Unemployment Rates
- Educational Attainment Levels
- Lone Parent Ratios
- Number of Households without a Car
- Persons with a Disability
- Age Composition of the Population (Dependency Ratios)

The following table presents the overall scores (absolute and relative) for County Kilkenny and other comparable geographies over time. It shows that County Kilkenny, as a whole, is slightly more deprived / disadvantaged than the State.

Table 35: Absolute and Relative Scores on the Haase-Pratschke Index for County Kilkenny, in comparative context, 2006, 2011 and 2016.

NUTS Tier	Geography	Absolute Scores			Relative Scores		
		2006	2011	2016	2006	2011	2016
NUTS 4 (County)	Kilkenny	-.6	-7.5	-4.4	-.6	-1.0	-.3
	Carlow	-2.9	-9.8	-7.9	-2.9	-3.4	-3.7
	Wexford	-4.0	-11.4	-8.9	-4.0	-5.1	-4.8
	Tipperary SR	-3.8	-9.9	-8.5	-3.8	-3.4	-4.4
	Waterford City	-5.8	-10.7	-9.2	-5.8	-4.4	-4.8
	County Waterford	-1.3	-7.6	-4.6	-1.3	-1.1	-.6
NUTS 3 (Region)	South East	-3.0	-9.6	-7.3	-3.0	-3.2	-3.2
NUTS 2 (Reg. Ass)	Southern & Eastern	.4	-5.4	-2.5	.4	1.2	1.7
	Border, Midlands & Western	-2.6	-9.0	-6.7	-2.6	-2.5	-2.6
NUTS 1	Ireland	-.4	-6.4	-3.6	-.4	.2	.6

The table (above) also shows that over the ten years following 2006, the gap between County Kilkenny and the State widened. In 2006, Kilkenny was (in absolute terms) 0.2 units more disadvantaged than the

national average; by 2016, this gap had increased to 0.8. Kilkenny is however, the strongest- performing county in the South-East Region.

As the following table shows, there is a considerable gap between the most affluent and most deprived parts of County Kilkenny. Within the county, scores on the Haase-Pratschke Index, at ED level, range from -12.4 to +12.9.

Table 36: Most Affluent and Most Deprived EDs (ten of each) in County Kilkenny, based on Relative Scores on the Haase-Pratschke Index, 2016.

Most Affluent EDs	Relative Score		Most Deprived EDs	Relative Score	
	2016	2006		2016	2006
Dunmore	12.9	11.3	Urlingford	-12.4	-10.5
Bramblestown	12.6	10.8	Johnstown	-12.0	-6.8
Kiltorcan	12.5	9.7	Graiguenamangh	-9.3	-9.4
Castlebanny	8.0	9.5	Goresbridge	-8.6	-6.3
Grange	7.3	8.2	Clogh	-8.3	-8.9
Clara	7.2	7.4	Freshford	-7.9	-8.6
Danesfort	6.9	6.8	Pollrone	-6.8	-3.9
Mallardstown	6.7	5.7	Castlecomer	-6.1	-5.8
St. Canice's	6.5	5.6	Callan Urban	-5.9	-7.5
Ennisnag	6.5	0.5	Rosbercon Rural / Moneenroe ⁴	-5.5	-8.7

As the table shows, there has been little change in respect of the spatial distribution of affluence and deprivation over the ten years to 2016. The most disadvantaged EDs in 2016 all recorded negative scores in 2006. In fact, half were relatively more disadvantaged than they were ten years earlier. This suggests that deprivation is associated with embedded and inter-generational issues, and addressing social exclusion will require sustained and multi-pronged approaches.

Annex 3 lists all EDs in County Kilkenny. It presents their scores on the Haase-Pratschke Index for 2006 and 2016, together with the inter-censal change. The table reveals that in 2016, there were 18,280 persons in County Kilkenny living in EDs with a score of -5.0 or below. Thus, a considerable number of people live in areas of deprivation.

Map 44a presents the spatial distribution of affluence and deprivation at ED level within the county. It shows a very mixed pattern - with many relatively affluent areas beside areas that register below average deprivation scores. The most prominent cluster in respect of relative affluence is around Kilkenny City - within a band approximately →5km and ←10km from the city. There is a smaller cluster of (three) relatively affluent rural EDs north of Freshford, although the ED in which the village is located registers as among the most deprived in the county. The map highlights three clusters of deprived / disadvantaged EDs. This particular pattern is associated with several others mentioned throughout this report in respect of social exclusion, structural weaknesses and demographic challenges. There are four parts of the county with manifestations of disadvantage that are clearly captured on the Haase-Pratschke Index. These are, in order of the most deprived:

- NE Kilkenny: Castlecomer, Clough and Moneenroe;
- NW Kilkenny: Urlingford, Johnstown and Freshford;
- East Kilkenny: Goresbridge and Graiguenamangh; and
- SW Kilkenny: Callan, Mooncoin, Fiddown and Piltown.

It is noteworthy that these areas have some shared characteristics in that they are predominantly rural and are generally located along the county boundary. Indeed, many of the manifestations of deprivation noted in this profile are also reflected in the geographies of the neighbouring counties of Laois, Wexford and

Tipperary. This pattern points to the need for collaborative and cross-county approaches to enabling areas along county boundaries to overcome peripherality and to fully realise their potential. Across Europe, there are several examples of local authorities and other public bodies engaging in joint planning and service delivery for communities that are located along or close to administrative boundaries.

During the consultation workshop that was held on March 22nd 2018, some participants suggested that more micro-level maps i.e., at a more refined scale than EDs would be helpful in understanding and tackling issues of deprivation at the local / neighbourhood level. In response, maps have been provided that present affluence and deprivation at Small Area (Level) for the following locations:

- Kilkenny City
- Kilkenny City West
- Kilkenny City East
- North-East County Kilkenny
- Castlecomer
- North County Kilkenny
- Graiguenamangh
- Callan

These allow for a geographical drilling-down into the data, and as the following table shows, we can identify neighbourhoods that have particular needs in terms of investments to promote economic development and social inclusion. It shows that there are 982 children and young people in County Kilkenny who live in neighbourhoods with deprivation scores of -20 or worse i.e., neighbourhoods with high levels of deprivation.

Table 37: Small Area Analysis in respect of Deprivation in County Kilkenny, as Measured by the Haase Index of Affluence and Deprivation, 2016.

		Small Areas		Within ED		Deprivation Score 2016																	Persons Aged 0 to 24																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
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3.6 Support and Participation

The following table presents data on attitudes, behaviours and experiences of children and young people that are relevant to promoting their participation in society and to enabling them to develop as healthy and well-rounded citizens. The data are drawn from multiple surveys undertaken in Ireland and across several European countries. The lowest geographical tier for which they can be provided is the region (South-East). These data complement other research and consultations undertaken by the Kilkenny CYPSC.

Indicators/ Reported Behaviours*	South-East					
	National			Region		
	2010	2014	2010	2014	2010	2014
Positive Relationship with Fathers	67%	70%	67%	70%	63%	70%
Positive Relationship with Mothers	82%	83%	83%	82%	81%	84%
Percentage of Children who reported having three or more friends of the same gender	90%	87%	91%	86%	81%	75%
Pet ownership	76%	75%	84%	85%	N/A	N/A
Bullying i.e. the percentage of children who reported being bullied at school	24%	26%	24%	27%	29%	28%
Percentage of Children aged 10 to 17 who reported that students at their school participate in making the school rules	33%	36%	33%	37%	42%	N/A
Smoking Cigarettes (every week)	8%	5%	8%	5%	8%	5%
Not Smoking Cigarettes (Never have smoked)	74%	84%	72%	83%	72%	82%
Not Taking Alcoholic Drink	54%	58%	50%	54%	25%	36%
Taking Alcoholic Drink (had alcoholic in the last 30 days)***	22%	20%				
Drunkennes (Drunk at least once in the last 30 days)	18%	10%	16%	11%	24%	15%
Cannabis Use	11%	9%	11%	9%	18%	15%
Sexual Activity	27%	27%	25%	31%	26%	21%
Self-Esteem (as measured by 'feeling happy')	57%	57%	57%	56%	N/A	N/A
Physical Activity (as measured by being active for at least 60 minutes per day at least 4 days per week)	51%	68%	53%	67%	41%	60%
Eating breakfast	77%	78%	78%	76%	69%	73%
Drinking soft drinks	21%	13%	23%	15%	21%	18%

* Children refers to 10-17 year olds, in all statistics. **International stats source: *State of the Nation's Children*, 2014. These relate to ages 11, 13 and 15.

*** Source: HBSC (Household Budget Continuous Survey), 2014. No regional or International comparison.



Conclusion

4. CONCLUSION

This profile of children and young people in County Kilkenny has contributed to the formulation of a multi-annual strategic plan on the part of Kilkenny Children's Services Committee. Moreover, the material presented here and the consultations organised by the CYPSC, through which demographic and socio-economic data were disseminated and interrogated, have made professionals and community leaders more aware of the realities experienced by children and young people in County Kilkenny. Agency personnel, teachers, youth leaders, parents / guardians and all those with responsibility for children and young people and those who interface with them, ought, on reading this report, to become more conscious of children's needs and be more responsive and constructive in their dealings with children and young people. In line with the objectives set out in *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures – the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People* (2014 – 2020), this profile contributes to an increased evidence-base, through which policies and practices are informed and enhanced.

The data presented here underscore the need for collaborative and bespoke interventions and initiatives. Community-led local development ought to underpin approaches to dealing with the specific issues and patterns that have been identified at local level. It is clear that a 'one size fits all approach' would be inappropriate in County Kilkenny, as there are considerable geographical variations across the county. The analysis presented here also shows the importance of access to services and supports, particularly in rural communities.

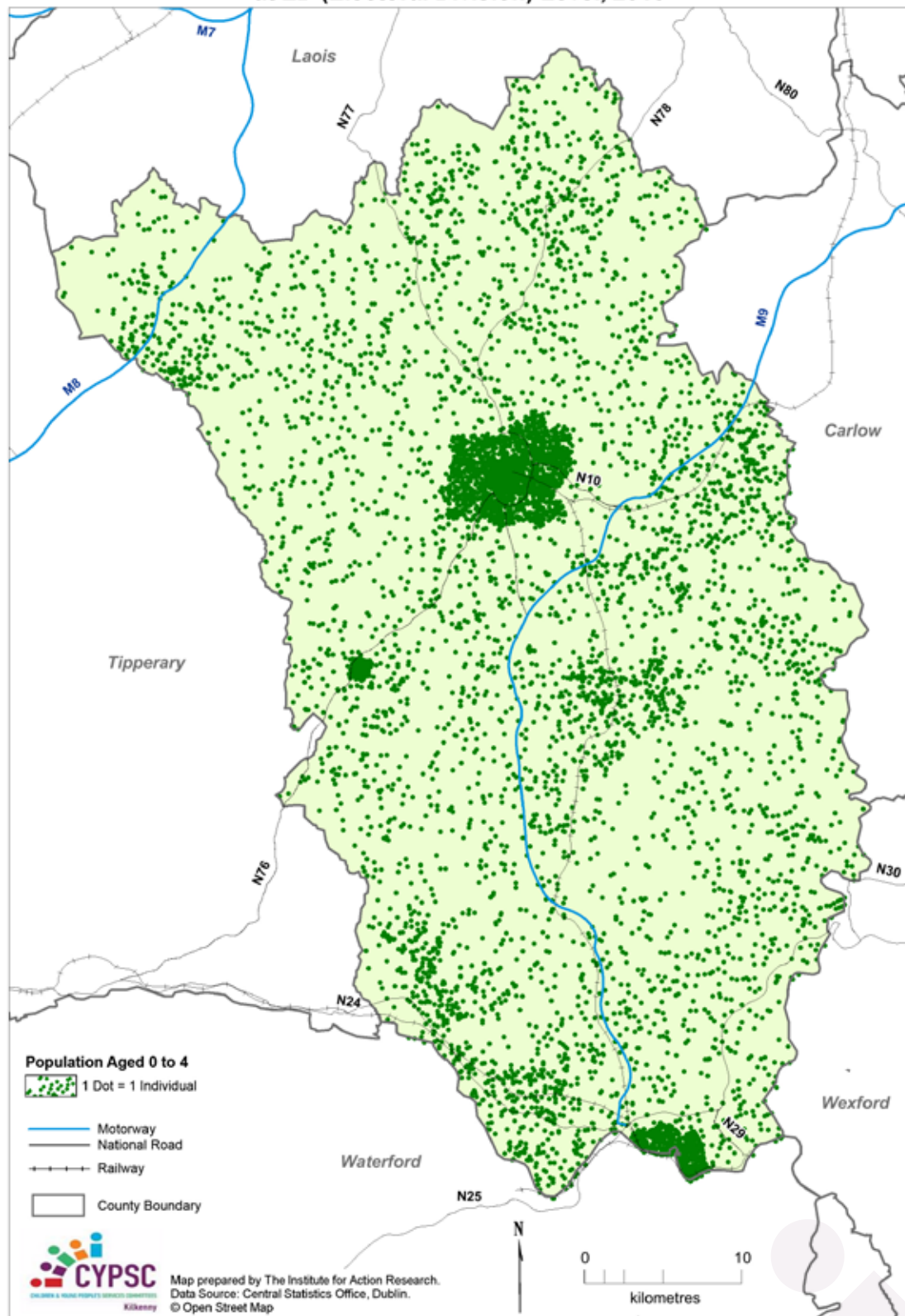
Many of the spatial patterns presented in this profile, and in particular those dealing with educational attainment and economic variables, reveal that communities along Kilkenny's borders exhibit similar characteristics to those in the adjoining counties. This is particularly the case along the borders with Counties Wexford and Tipperary. Thus, the spatial analysis undertaken in compiling this profile points to the merits of inter-county, in addition to inter-agency and inter-community approaches to addressing the issues that affect children and young people. Such collaborative approaches will require increased imagination, flexibility and innovation in respect of policy and practice. The partnership approach that characterises the CYPSC offers a template for the further development of such collaborations.

Annex 1: Maps

Themes	Sub-Themes	Number	Map Title* (all maps are at ED – Electoral Division Level, unless otherwise stated)
Demography	Numbers of Children and Young People	1	Number of Persons Aged 0 to 4
		2	Number of Persons Aged 5 to 12
		3	Number of Persons Aged 13 to 17
		4	Number of Persons Aged 18 to 24
		5	Number of Persons Aged 0 to 18
		6	Number of Persons Aged 0 to 24
	Proportions of Children and Young People	7	Percentage of the Population Aged 0 to 4
		8	Percentage of the Population Aged 5 to 12
		9	Percentage of the Population Aged 13 to 17
		10	Percentage of the Population Aged 18 to 24
		11	Percentage of the Population Aged 0 to <18
		12	Percentage of the Population Aged 0 to 24
		13	Total Number of Children (Aged 0 to 15)
	Family Cycle	14	Pre-Family and Pre-School Families, as a Percentage of All Families
	Dependency Ratios	15	Youth Dependency Ratio
		16	Elderly Dependency Ratio
		17	Demographic Vitality Ratio
	Population Change	18	Percentage Population Change 2002 to 2016
		19	Percentage Population Change 2011 to 2016
	Nationality	20	Non-Irish and Non-UK Nationals as a Percentage of the Population
	Ethnicity	21	White Irish Travellers as a Percentage of the Population
		22	Other' White Persons as a Percentage of the Population
		23	Black and Black Irish Persons as a Percentage of the Population
		24	Asian and Asian Irish Persons as a Percentage of the Population
		25	Persons of 'Other' Ethnicities as a Percentage of the Population
Health	Health Status	26	Percentage Persons whose Self-Declared Health Status is Fair, Bad or Very Bad
		27	Number of Persons with a Disability
	Disability	28	Persons with a Disability as a Percentage of All Persons
	Carers	29	Number of Carers
Education	Educational Attainment	30	Percentage Persons with No Formal or Primary Education Only
		31	Percentage Persons with a Third-Level Degree or Higher qualification
Housing	Housing Tenure	32	Percentage of Households renting from the Local Authority
		33	Percentage of Households renting from a Voluntary Body, Cooperative or Housing Association
		34	Percentage of Households in Rented Accommodation
Economy	Employment	35	Persons at Work as a Percentage of the Labour Force
		36	Unemployed Persons as a Percentage of the Labour Force
	Lone Parents	37	One-Parent Families as a Percentage of All Families with Children
		38	Families with Children, headed by a Lone Mother, as a Percentage of All Families with Children
		39	Families with Children, headed by a Lone Father, as a Percentage of All Families with Children
		40	Percentage of Families with Children Under 15, headed by a Lone Mother
		41	Percentage of Families with Children Under 15, headed by a Lone Father
		42	Percentage of Families with Children Under 15, headed by a Lone Parent (mother or father)
		43	Percentage of Children in Families headed by a Lone Parent (father or mother)
	Affluence and Deprivation	44	Affluence and Deprivation, as Measured on the Haase-Pratschke Index

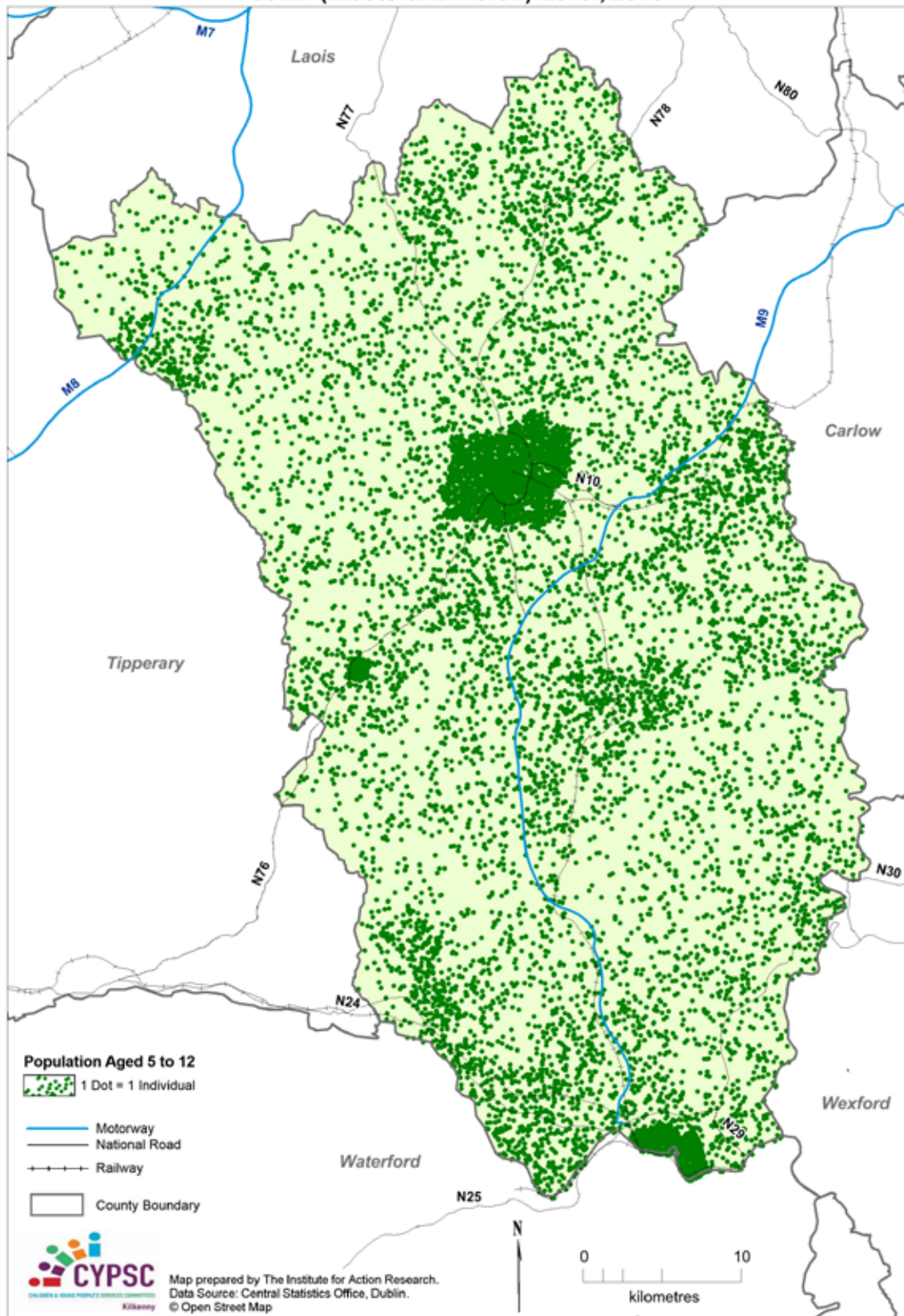
MAP 1

**Number of Persons Aged 0 to 4 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



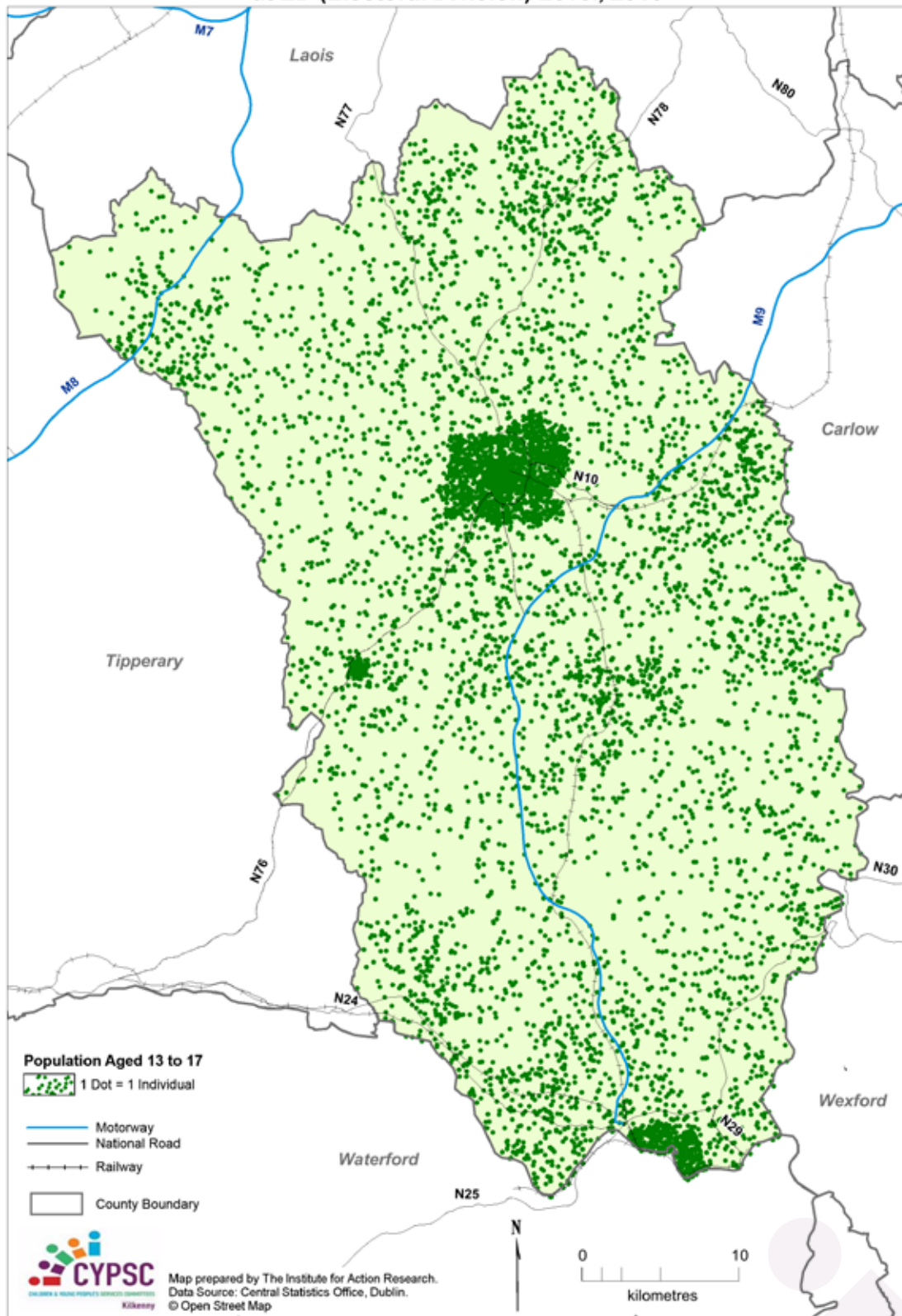
MAP 2

**Number of Persons Aged 5 to 12 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



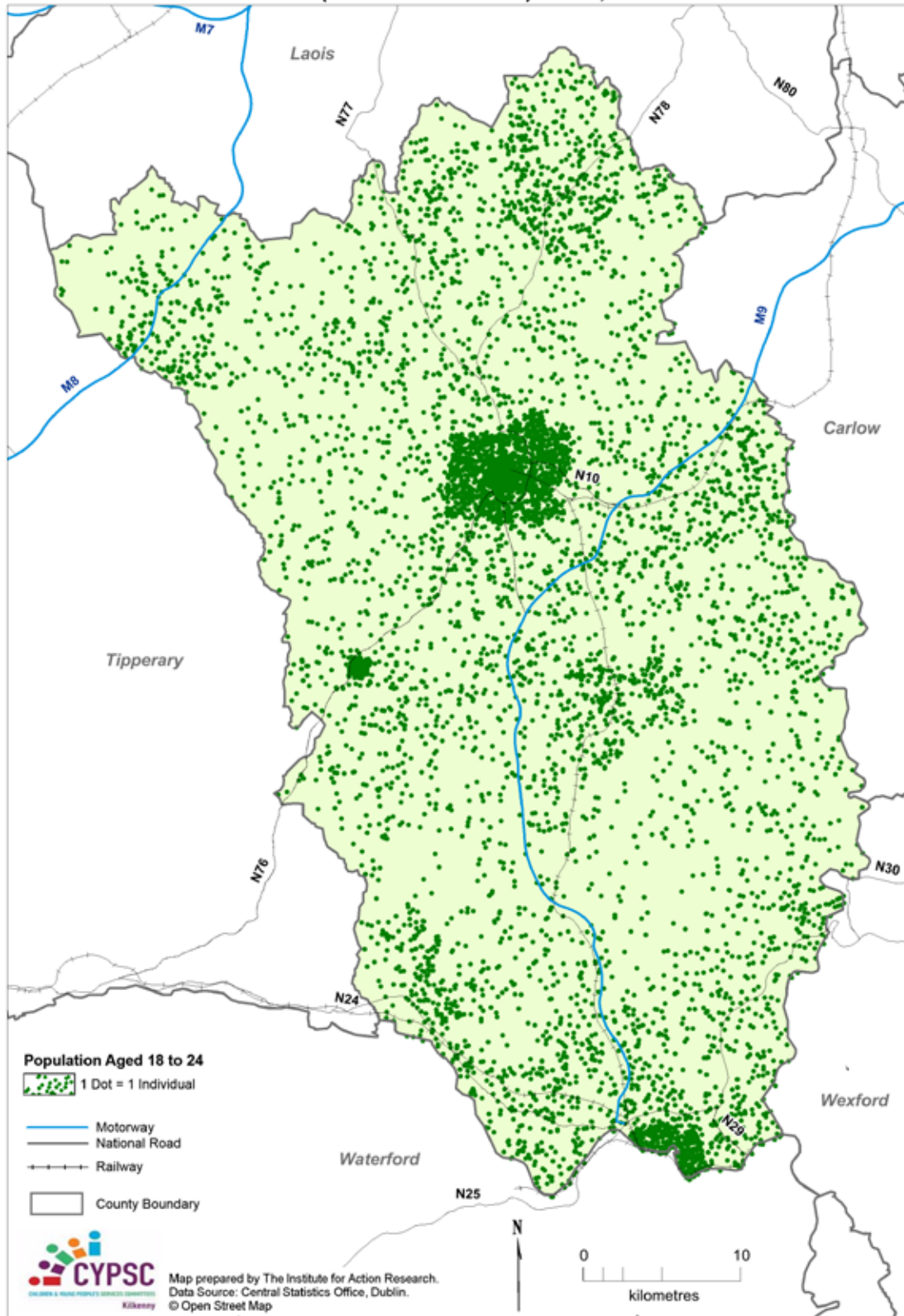
MAP 3

**Number of Persons Aged 13 to 17 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



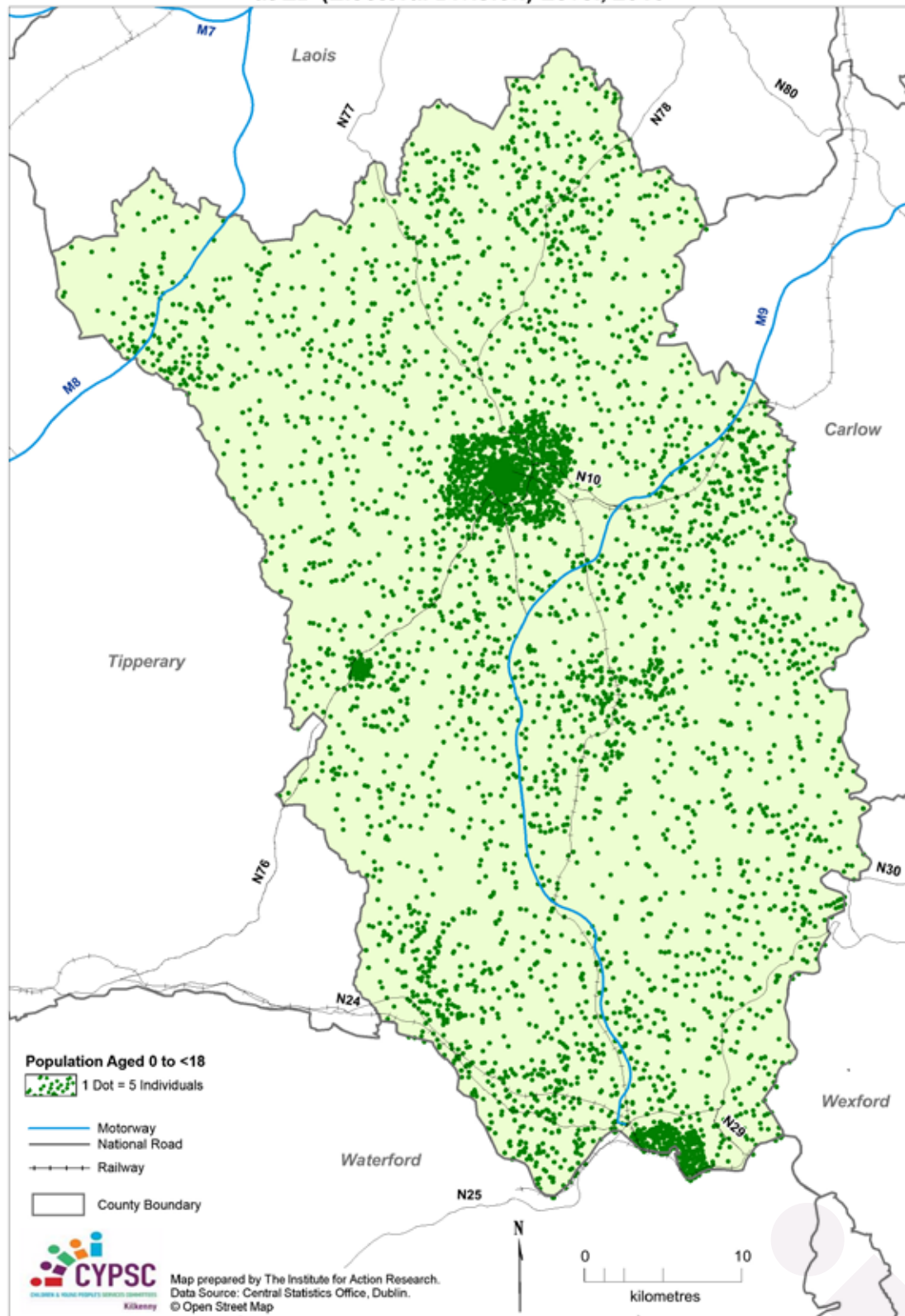
MAP 4

**Number of Persons Aged 18 to 24 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



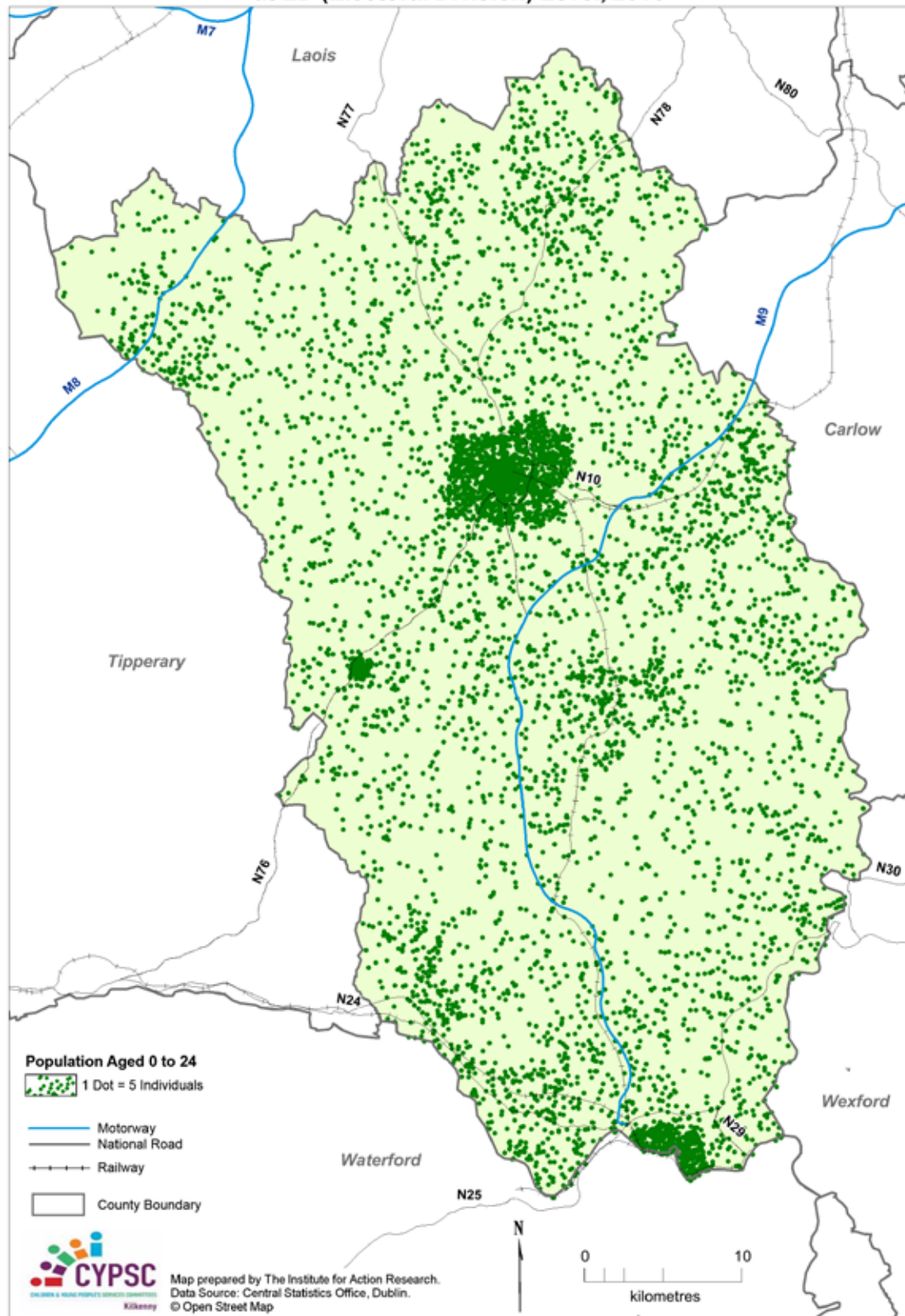
MAP 5

**Number of Persons Aged 0 to <18 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



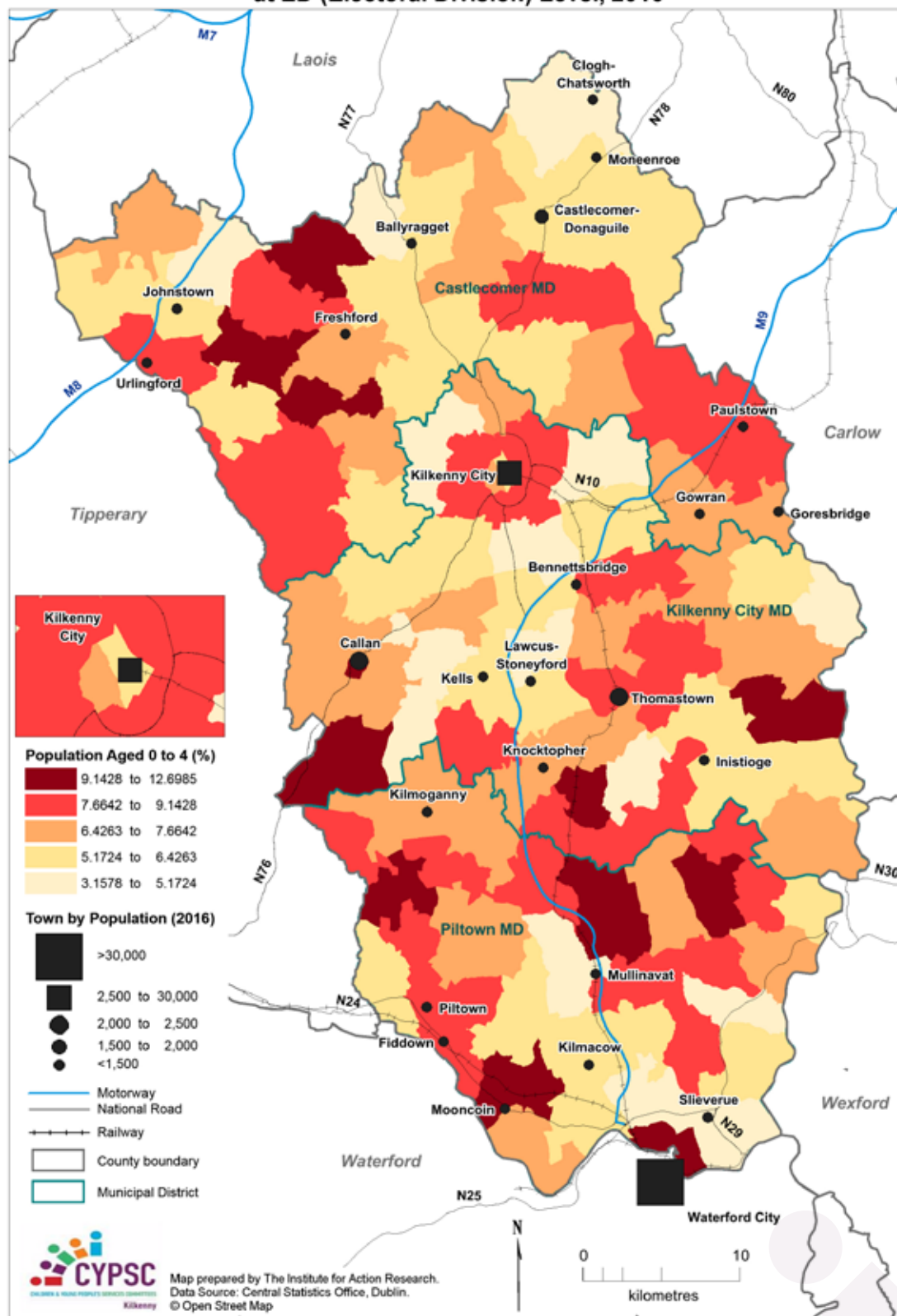
MAP 6

**Number of Persons Aged 0 to 24 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



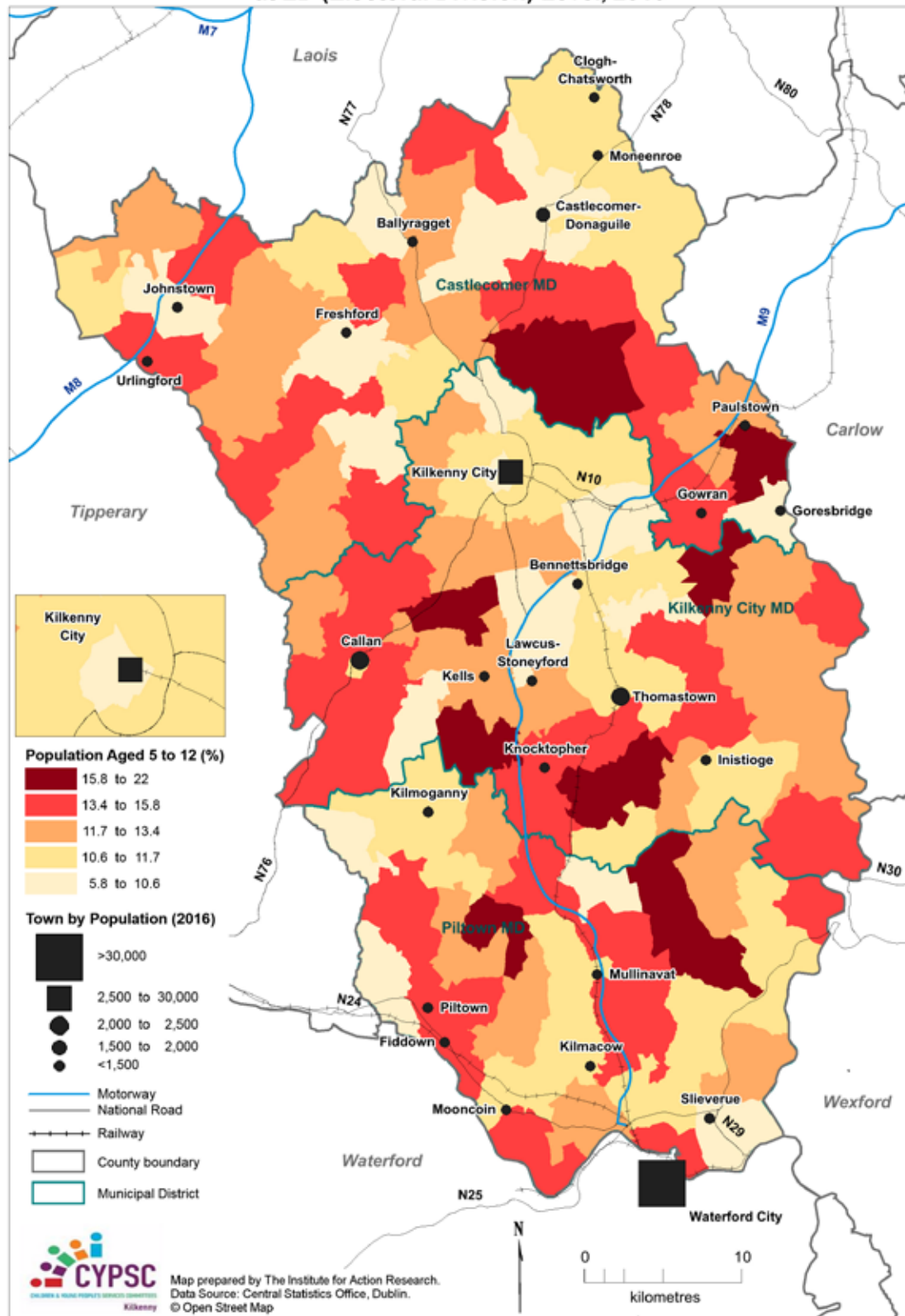
MAP 7

Percentage of the Population Aged 0 to 4 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



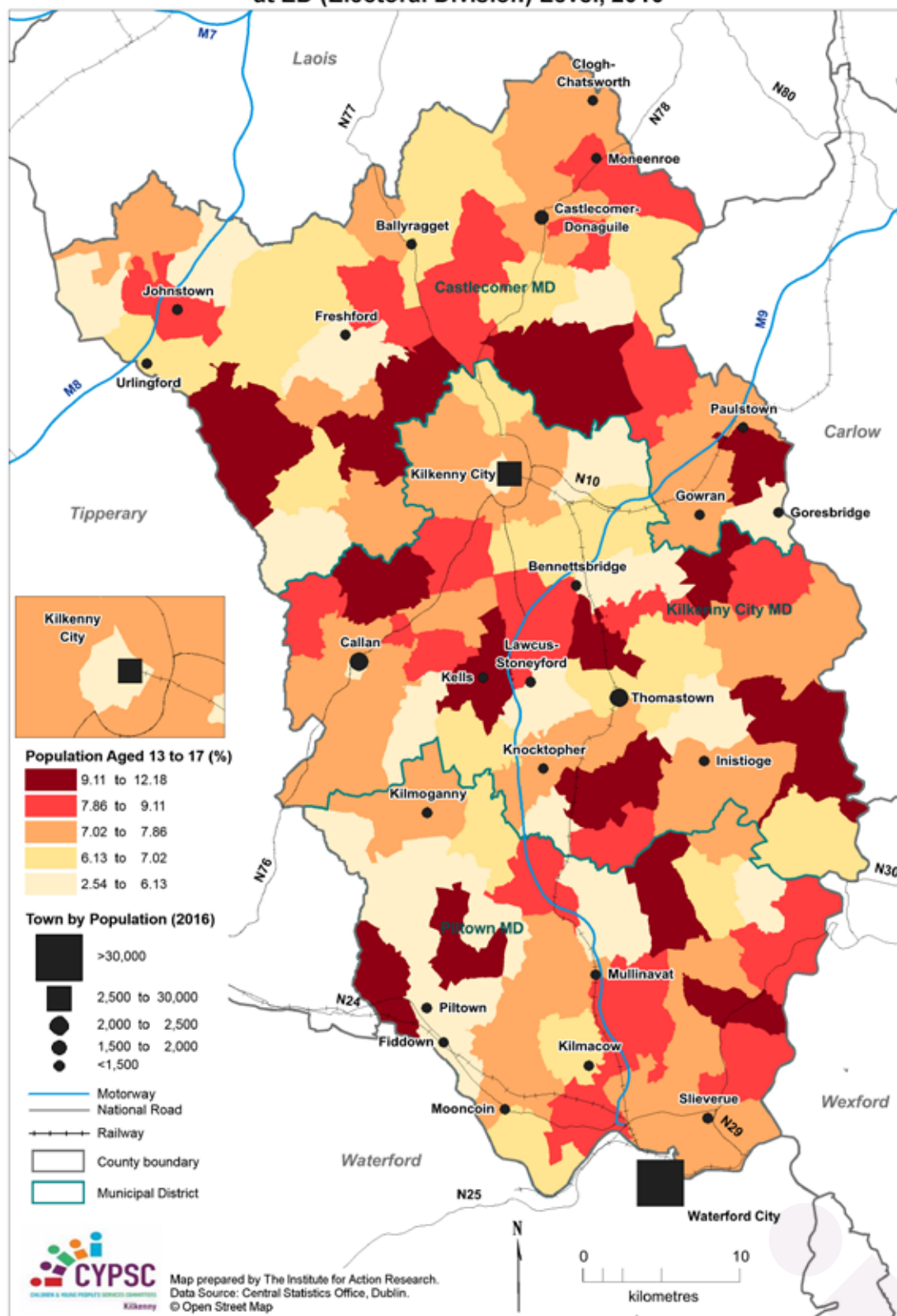
MAP 8

**Percentage of the Population Aged 5 to 12 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



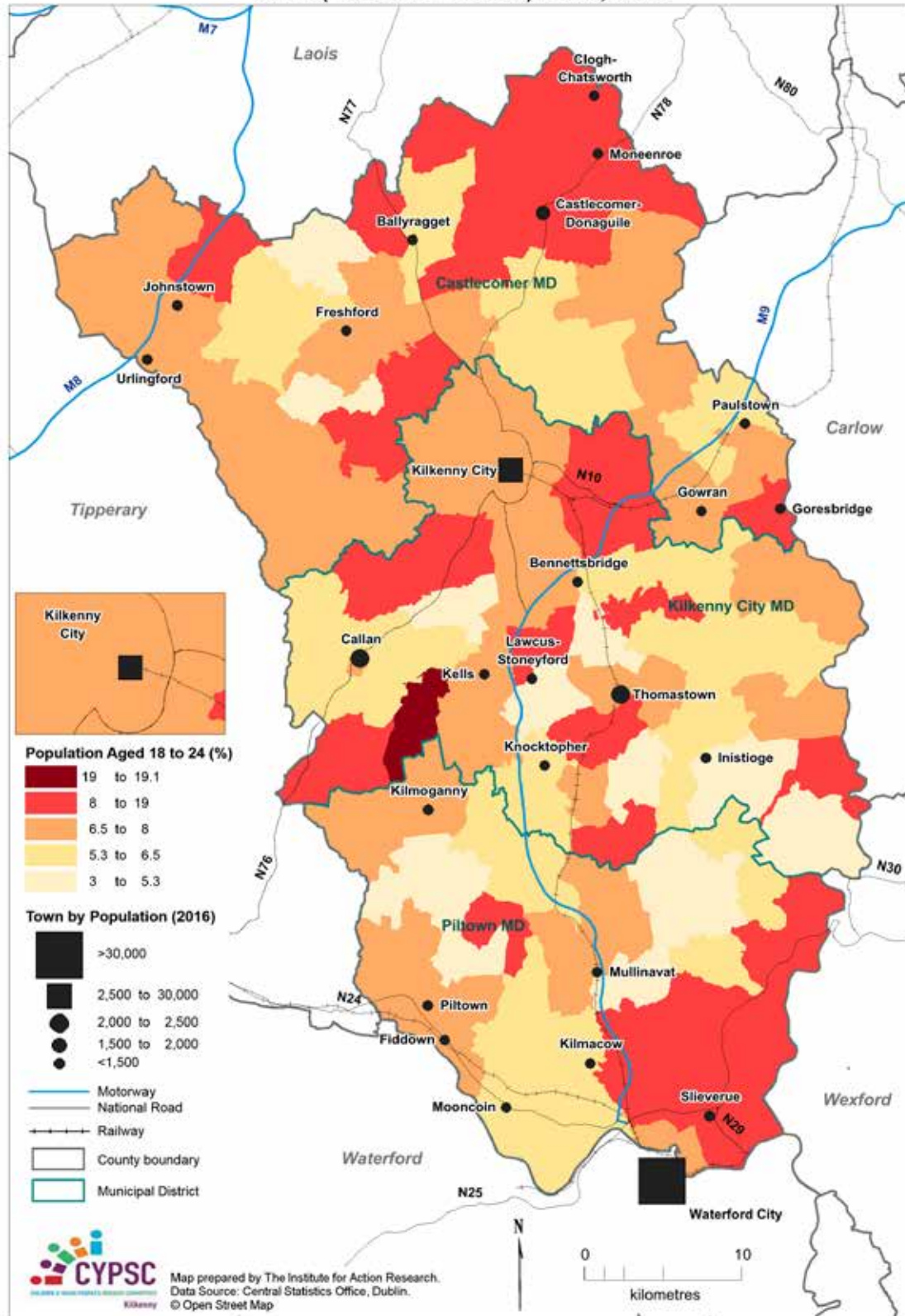
MAP 9

Percentage of the Population Aged 13 to 17 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



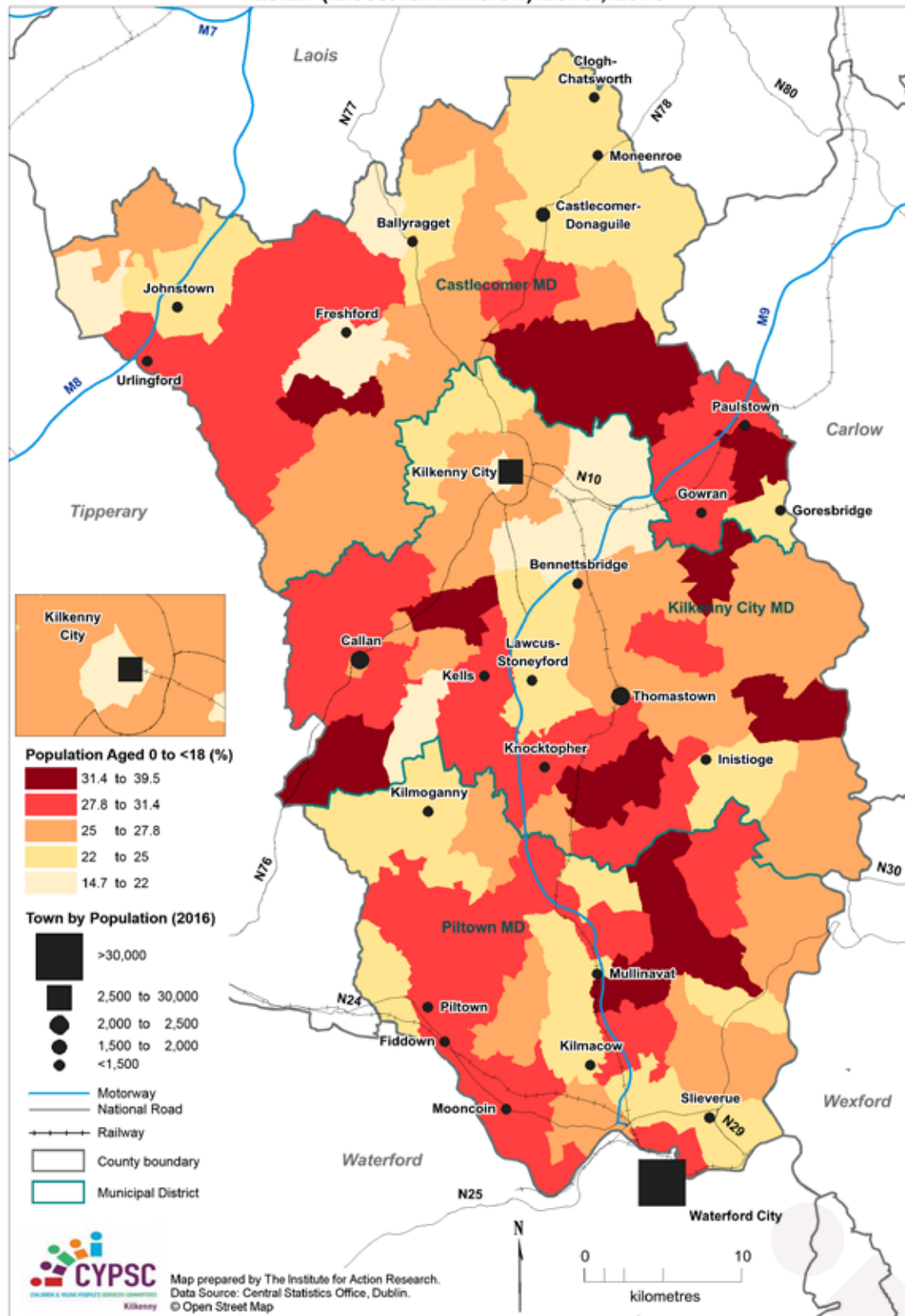
MAP 10

Percentage of the Population Aged 18 to 24 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



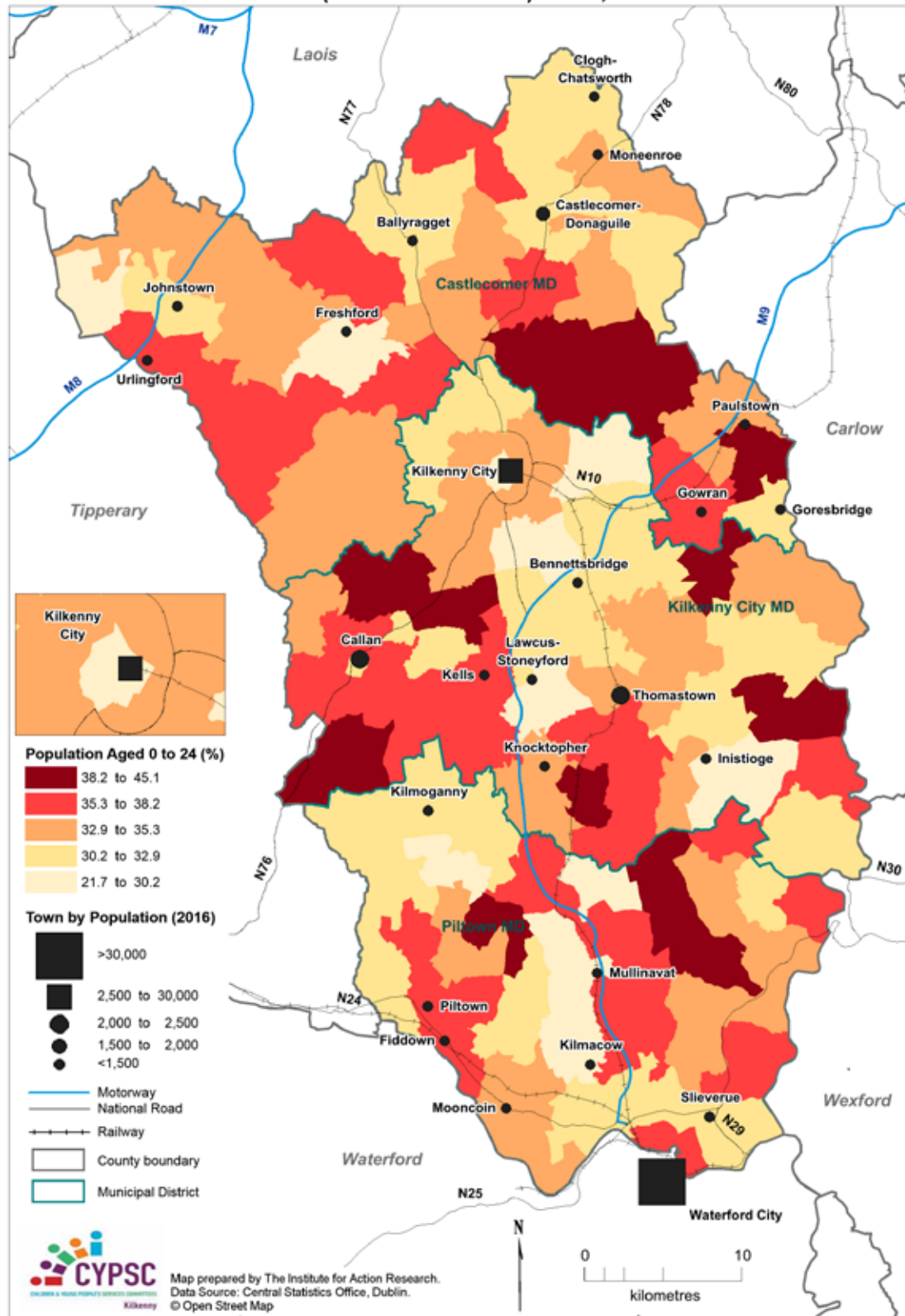
MAP 11

Percentage of the Population Aged 0 to <18 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



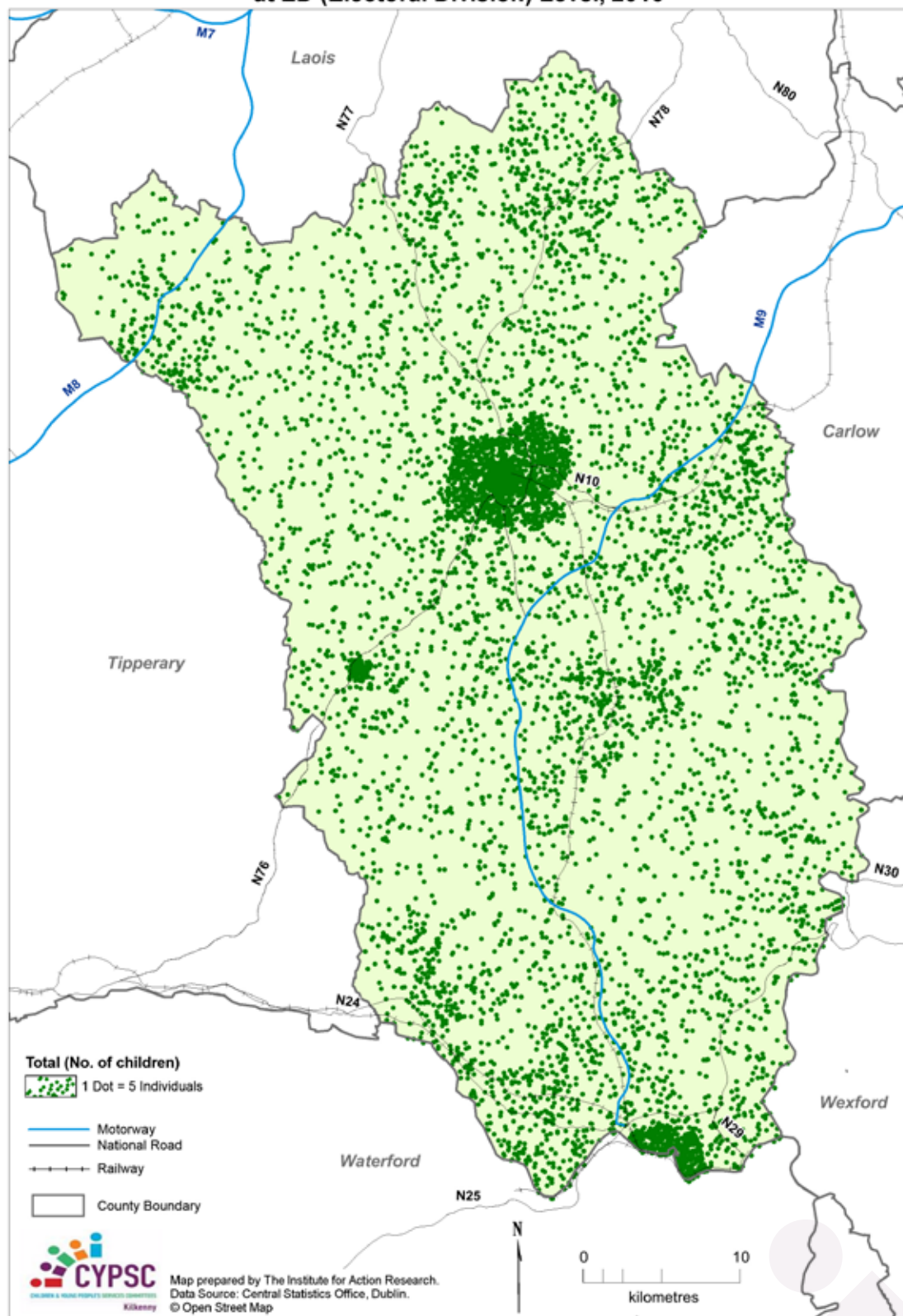
MAP 12

**Percentage of the Population Aged 0 to 24 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



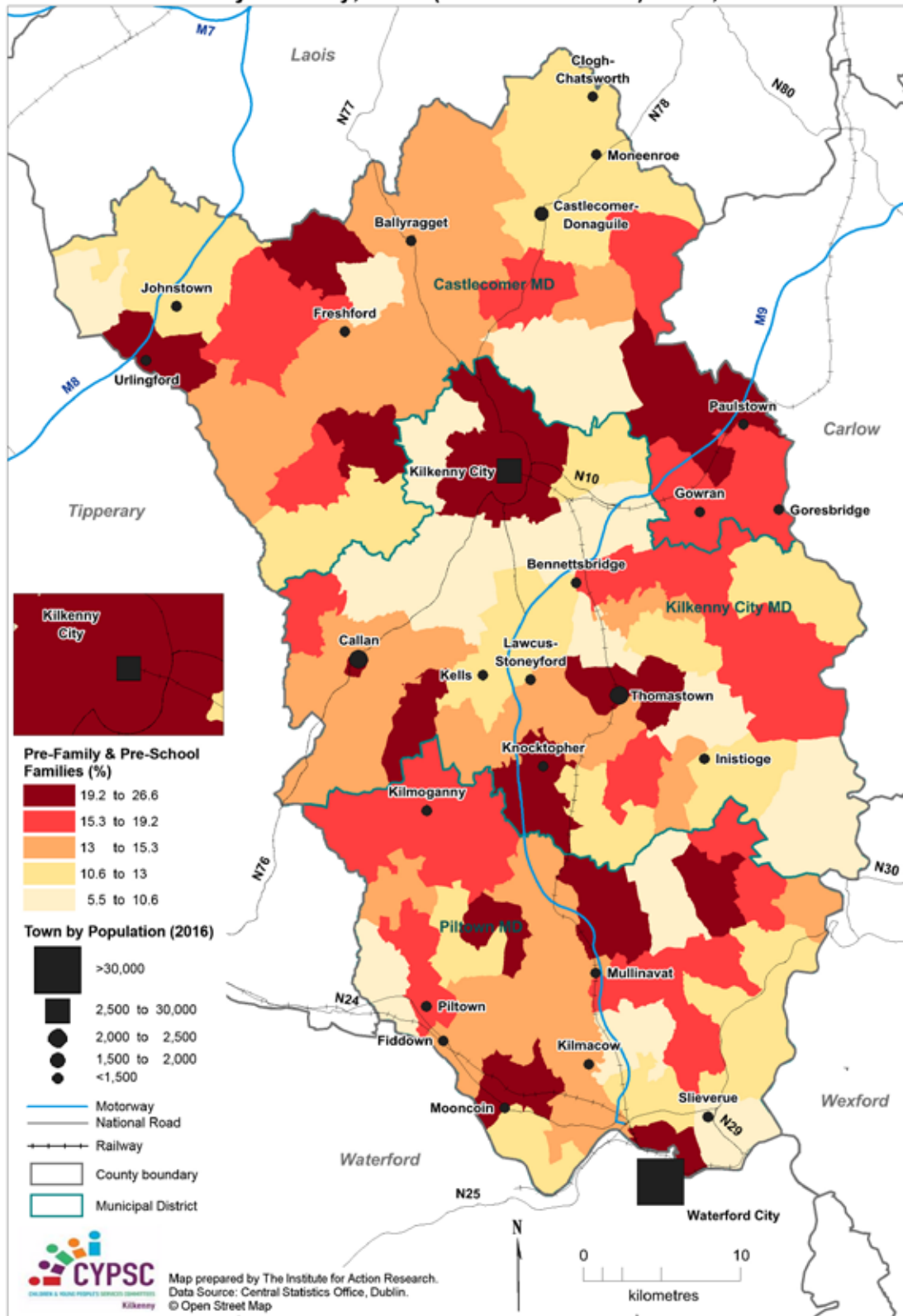
MAP 13

**Total Number of Children (Aged 0 to 15) in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



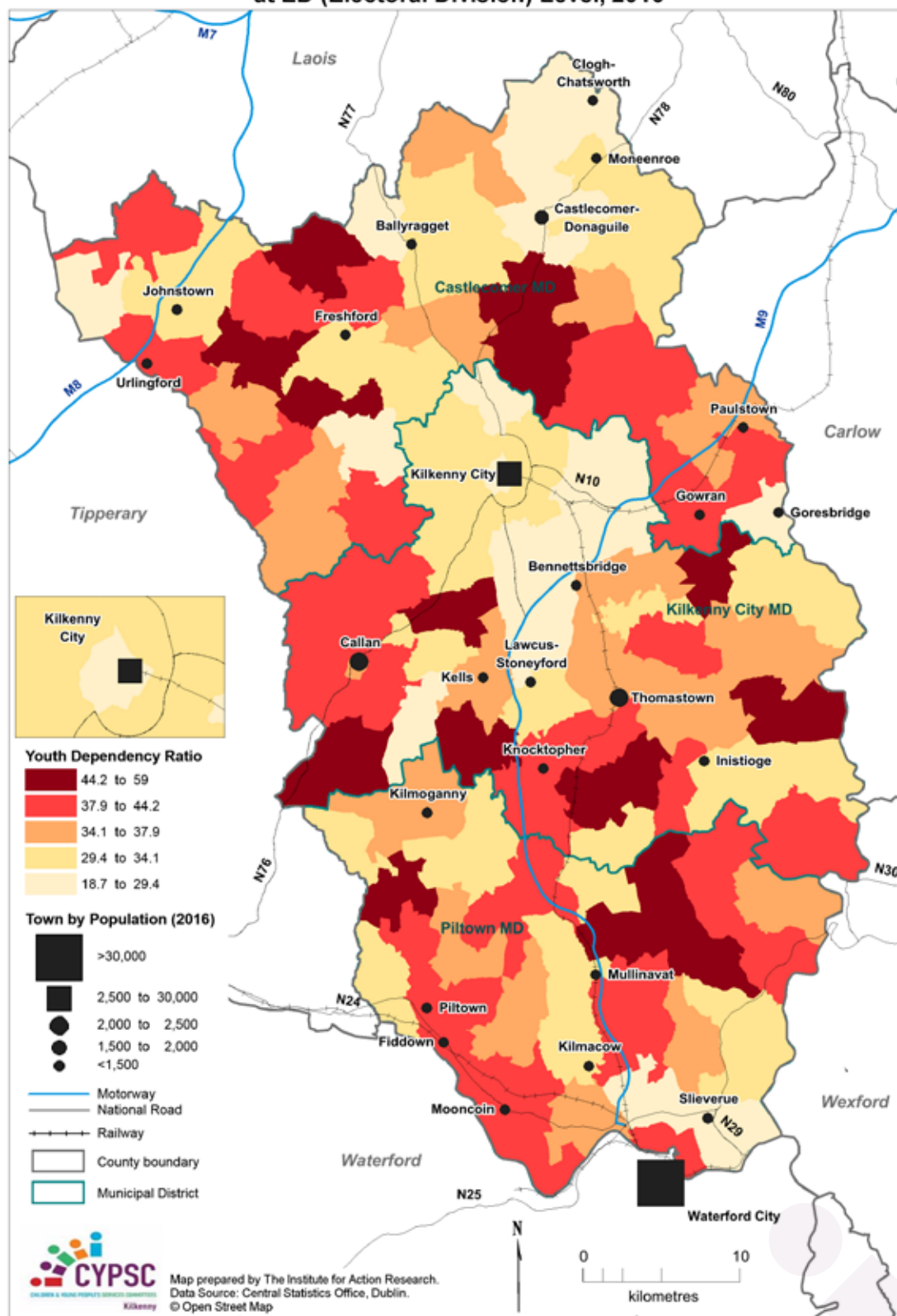
MAP 14

**Pre-Family and Pre-School Families, as a Percentage of All Families
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



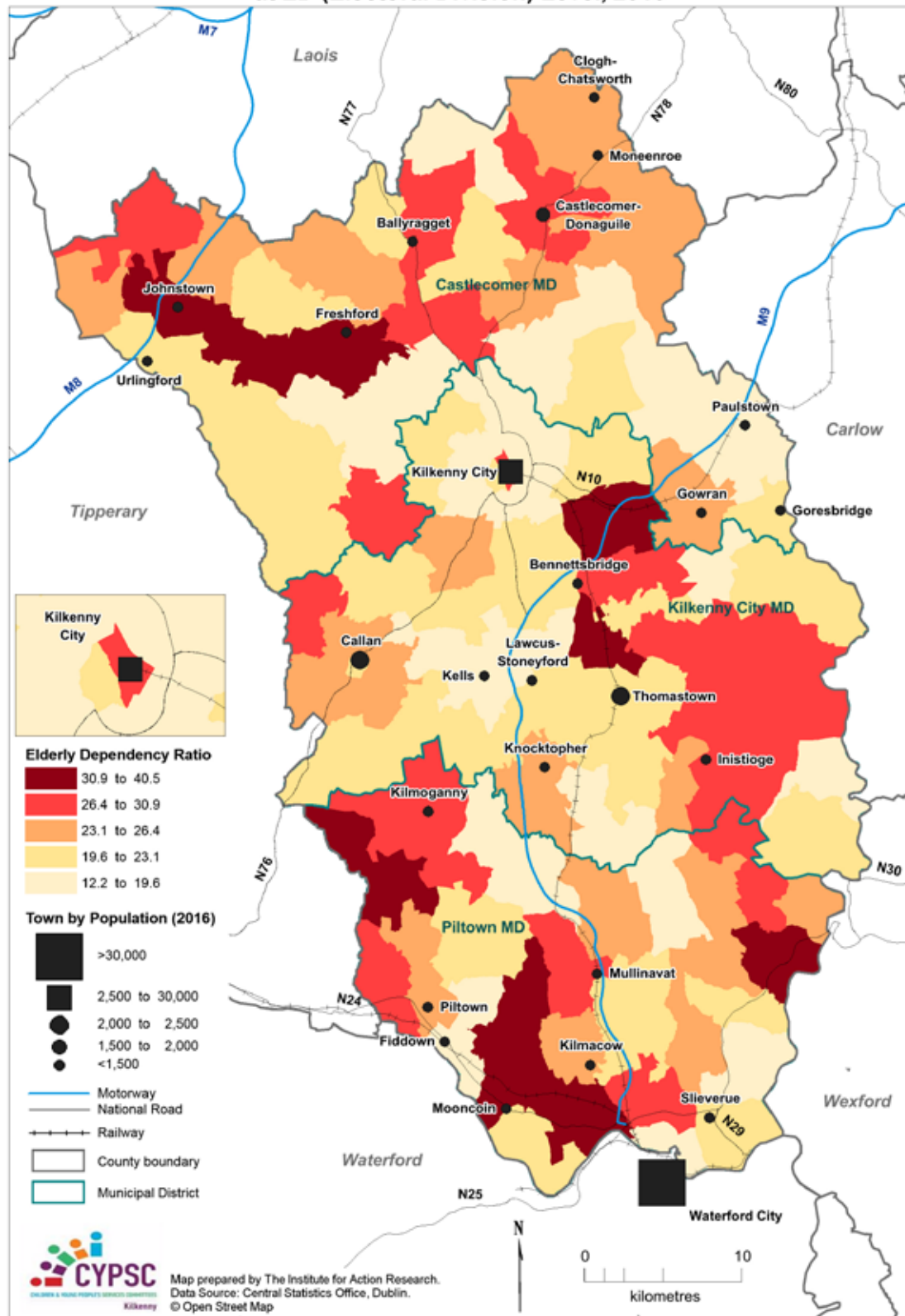
MAP 15

**Youth Dependency Ratio in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



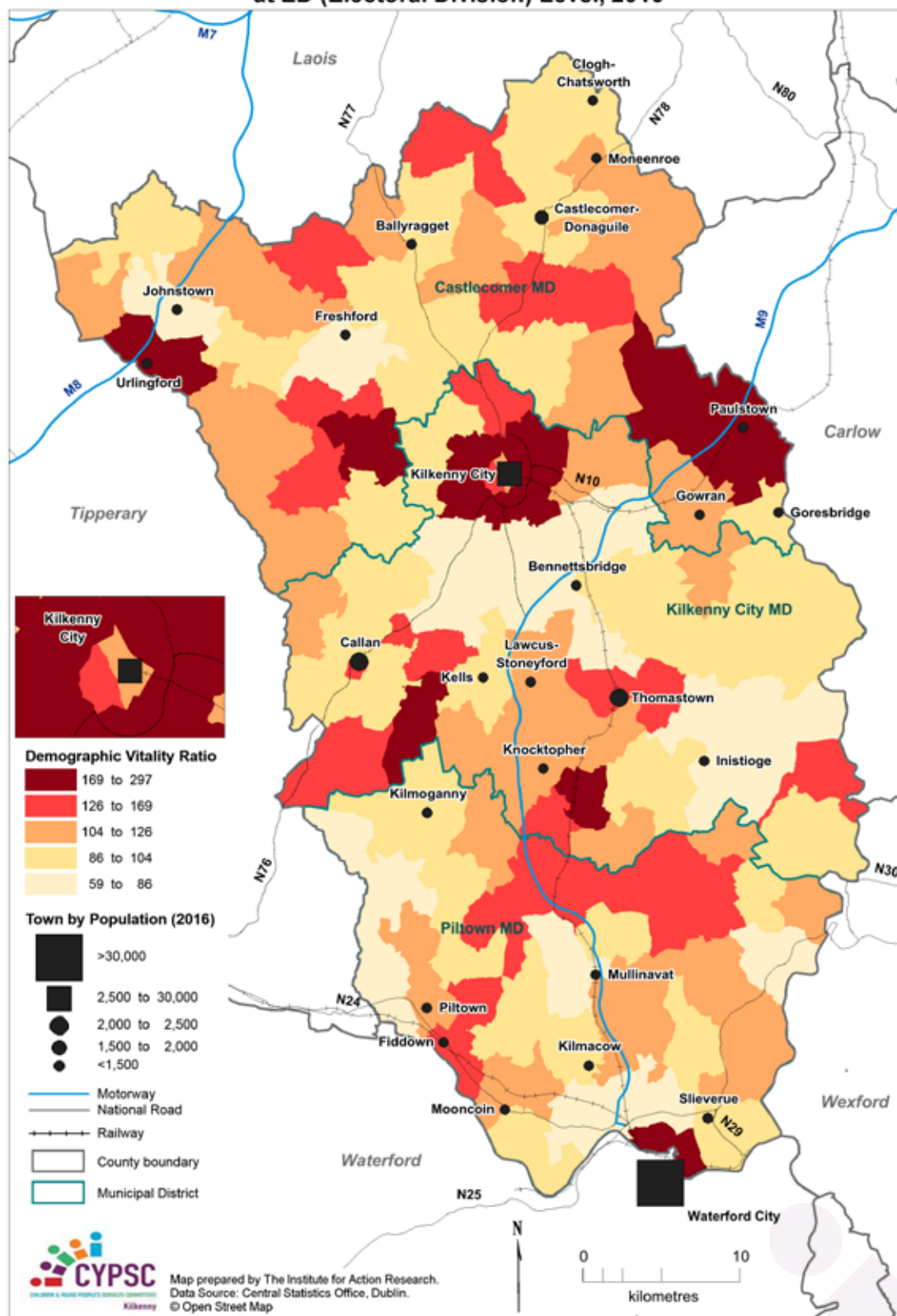
MAP 16

**Elderly Dependency Ratio in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



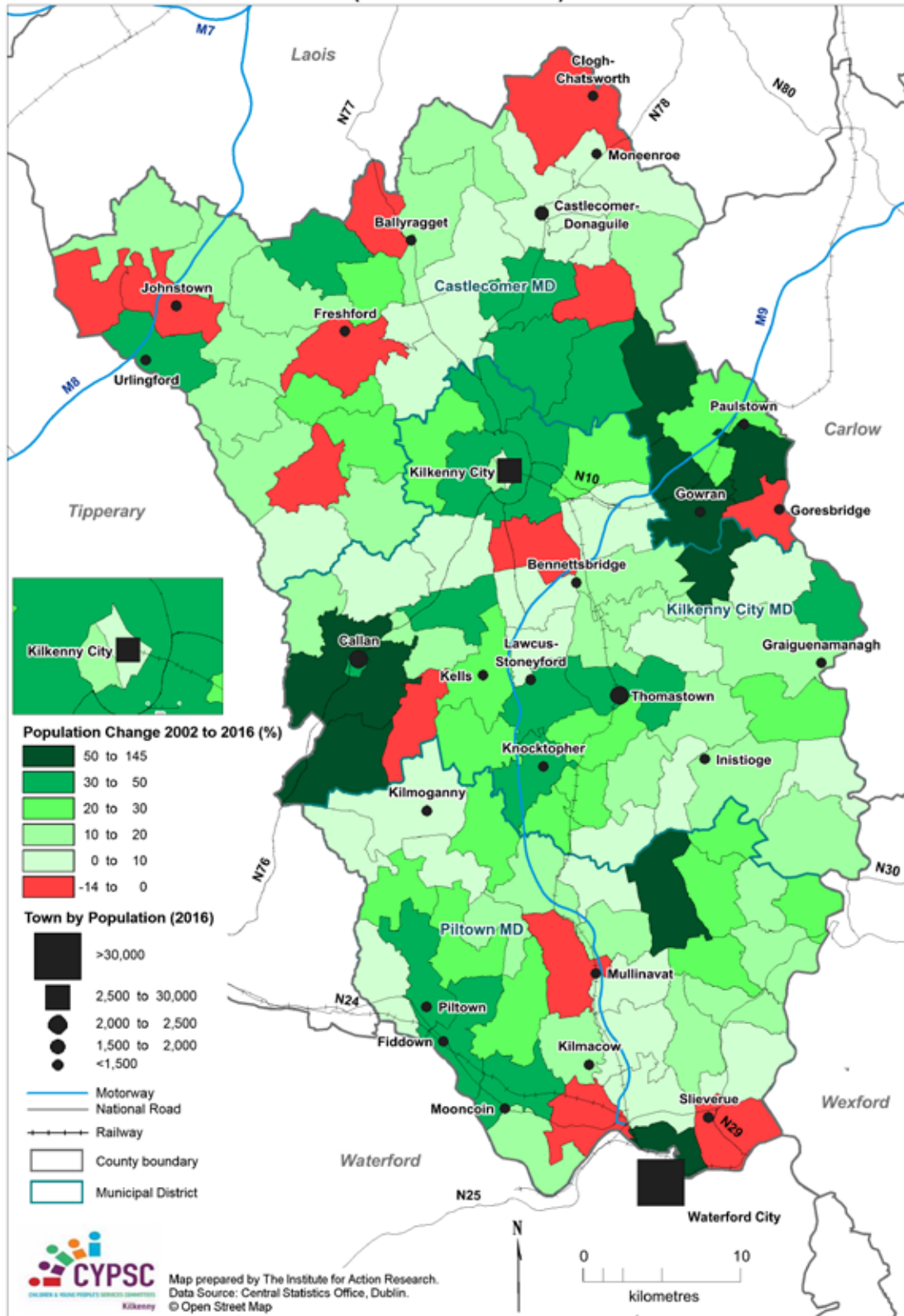
MAP 17

**Demographic Vitality Ratio in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



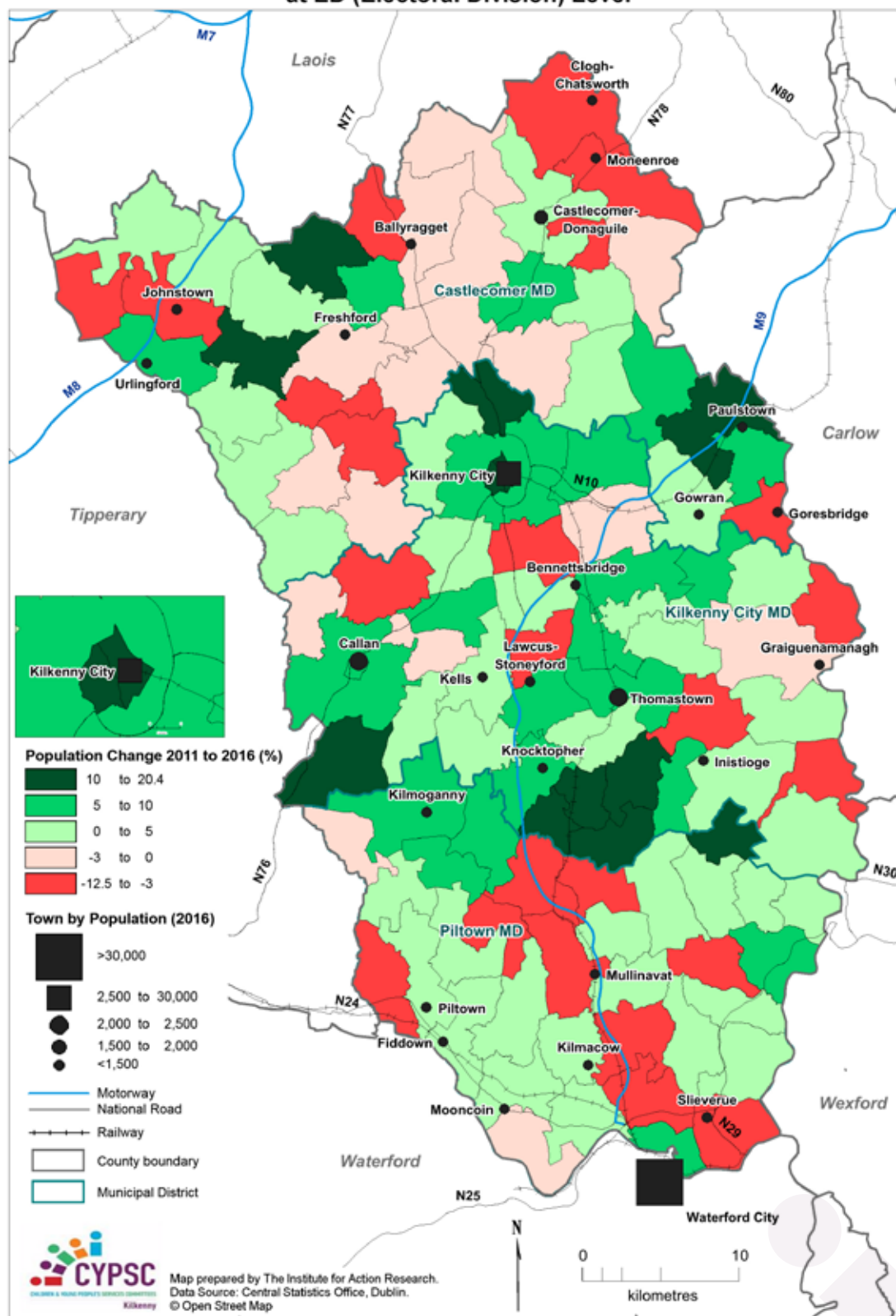
MAP 18

Percentage Population Change 2002 to 2016 in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level



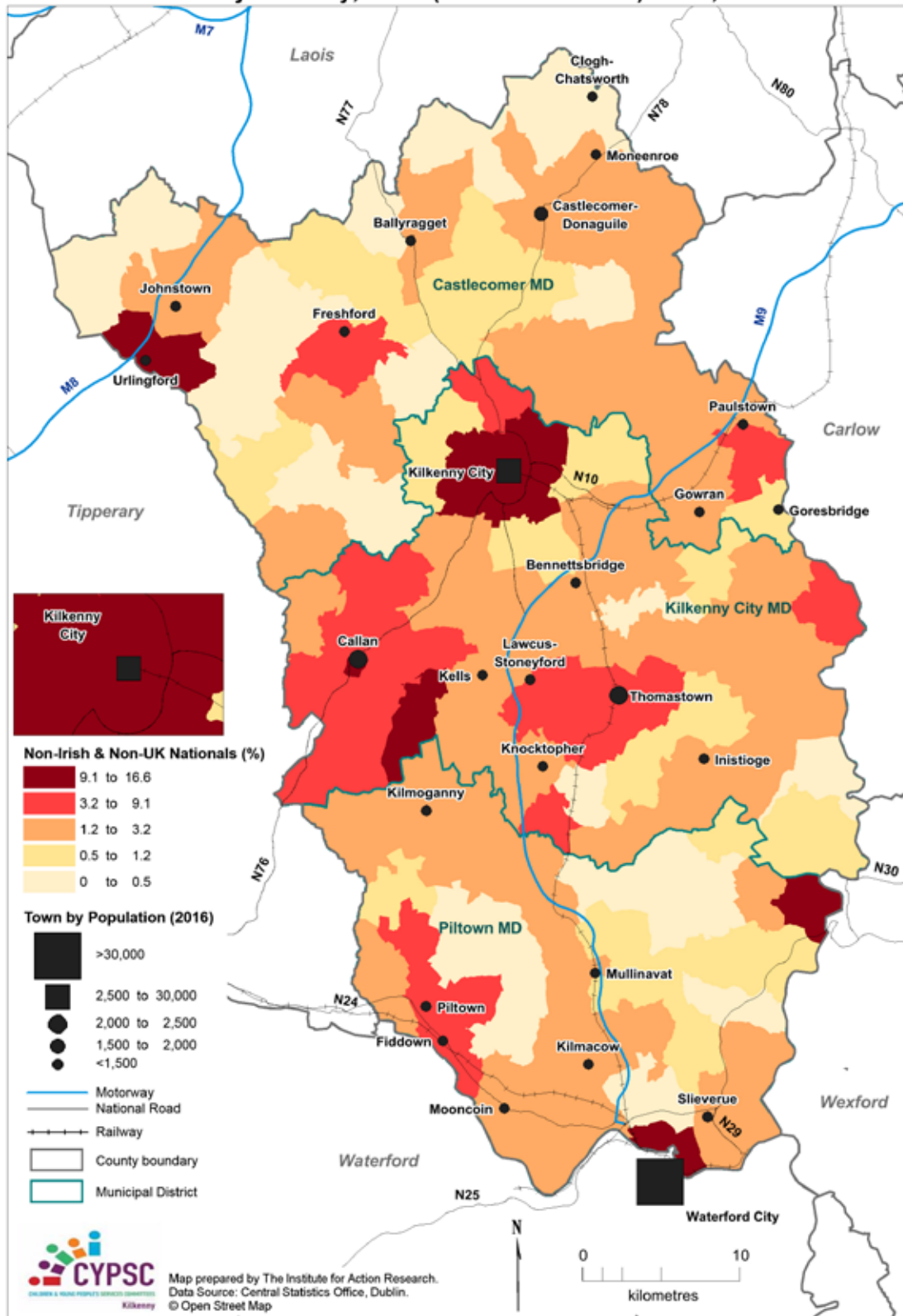
MAP 19

Percentage Population Change 2011 to 2016 in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level



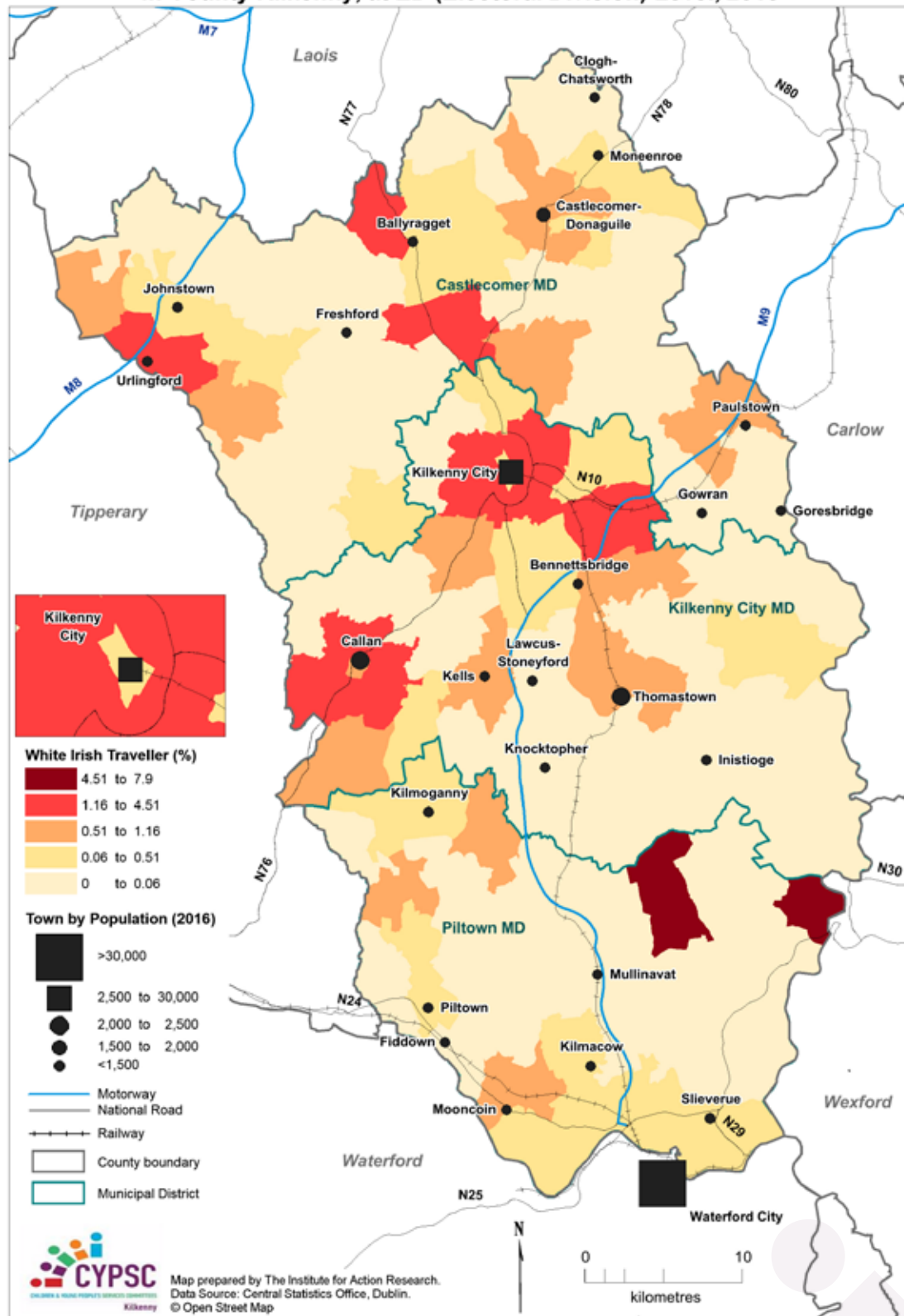
MAP 20

**Non-Irish and Non-UK Nationals as a Percentage of the Population
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



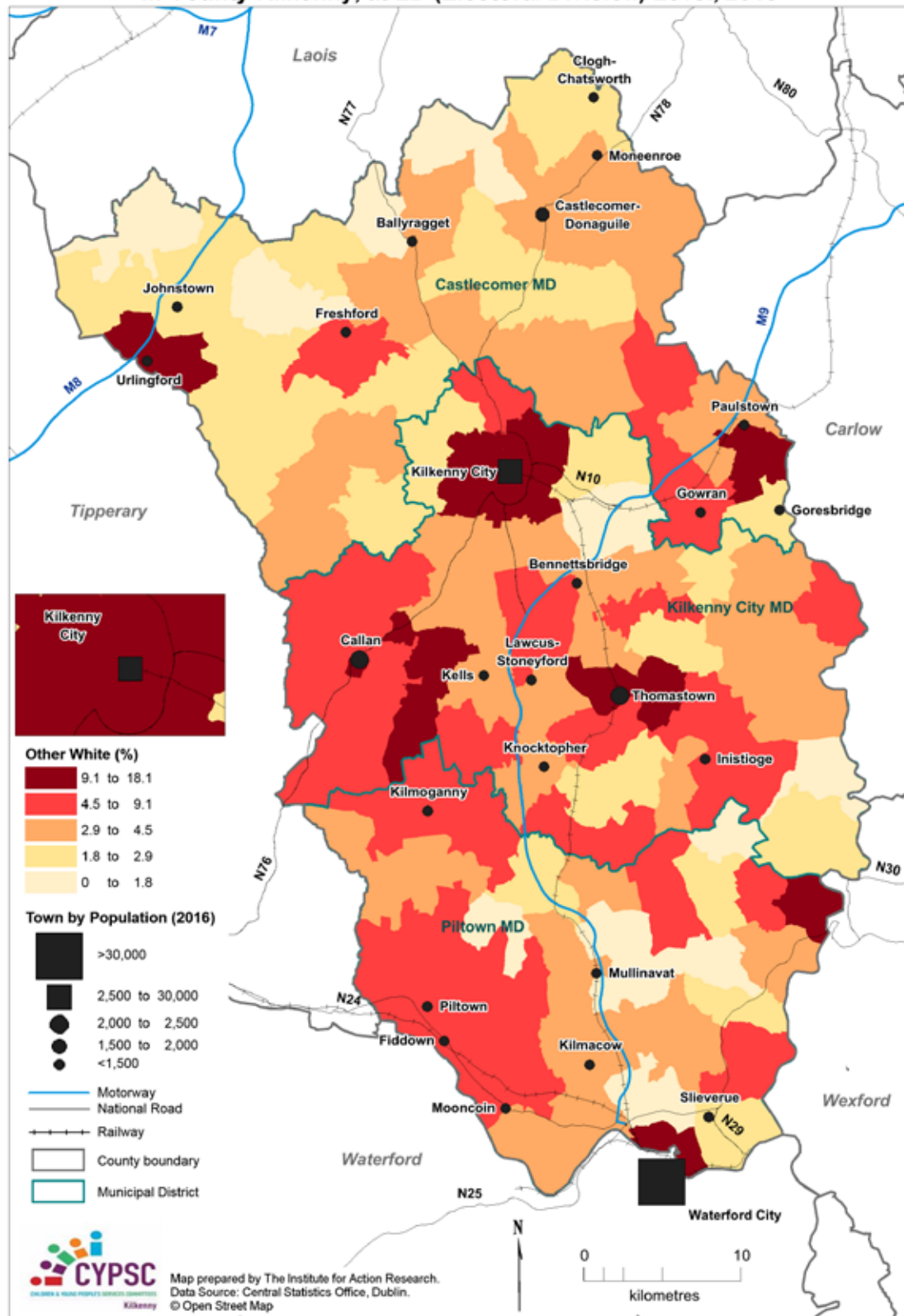
MAP 21

**White Irish Travellers as a Percentage of the Population
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



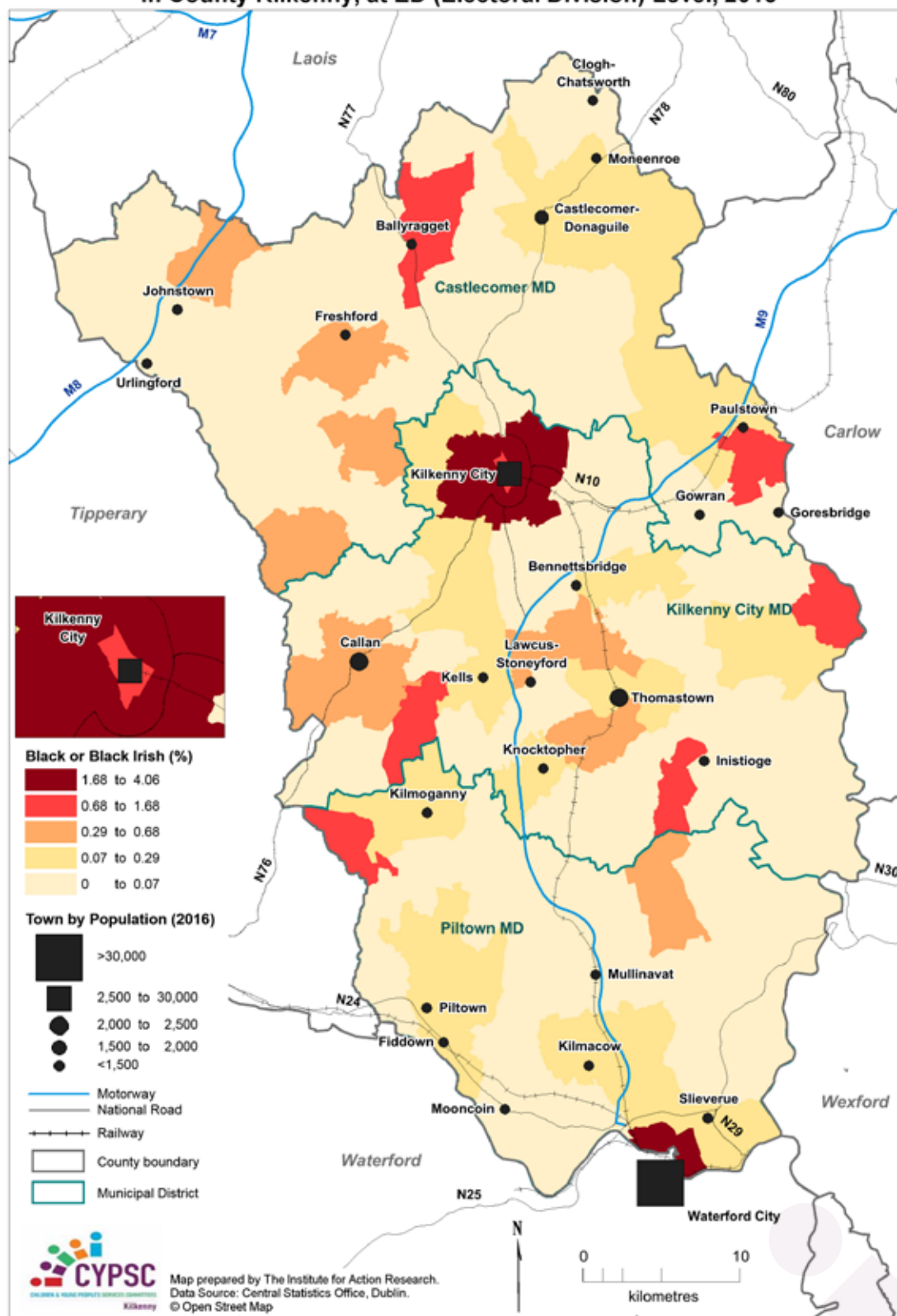
MAP 22

'Other' White Persons as a Percentage of the Population
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



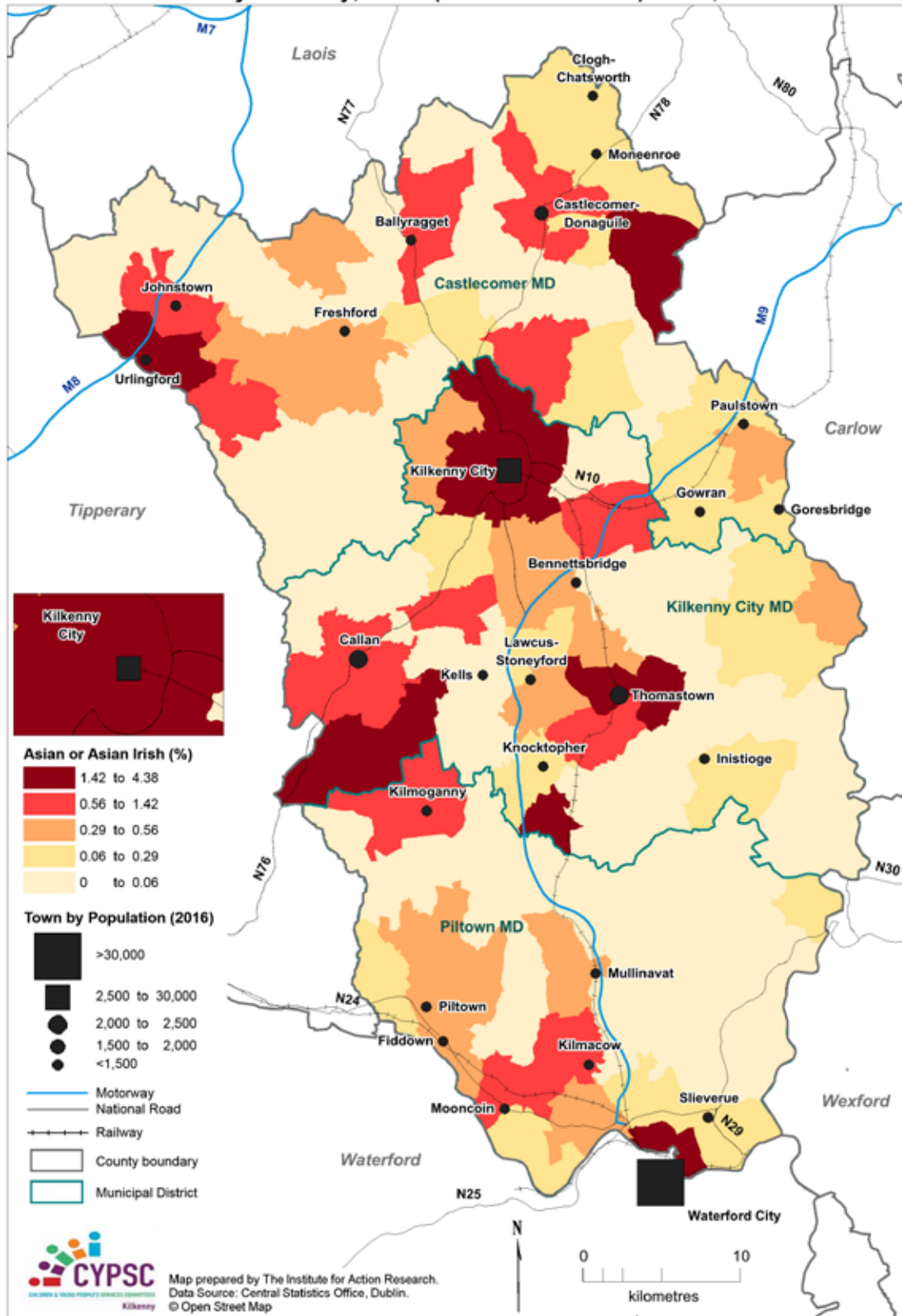
MAP 23

**Black and Black Irish Persons as a Percentage of the Population
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



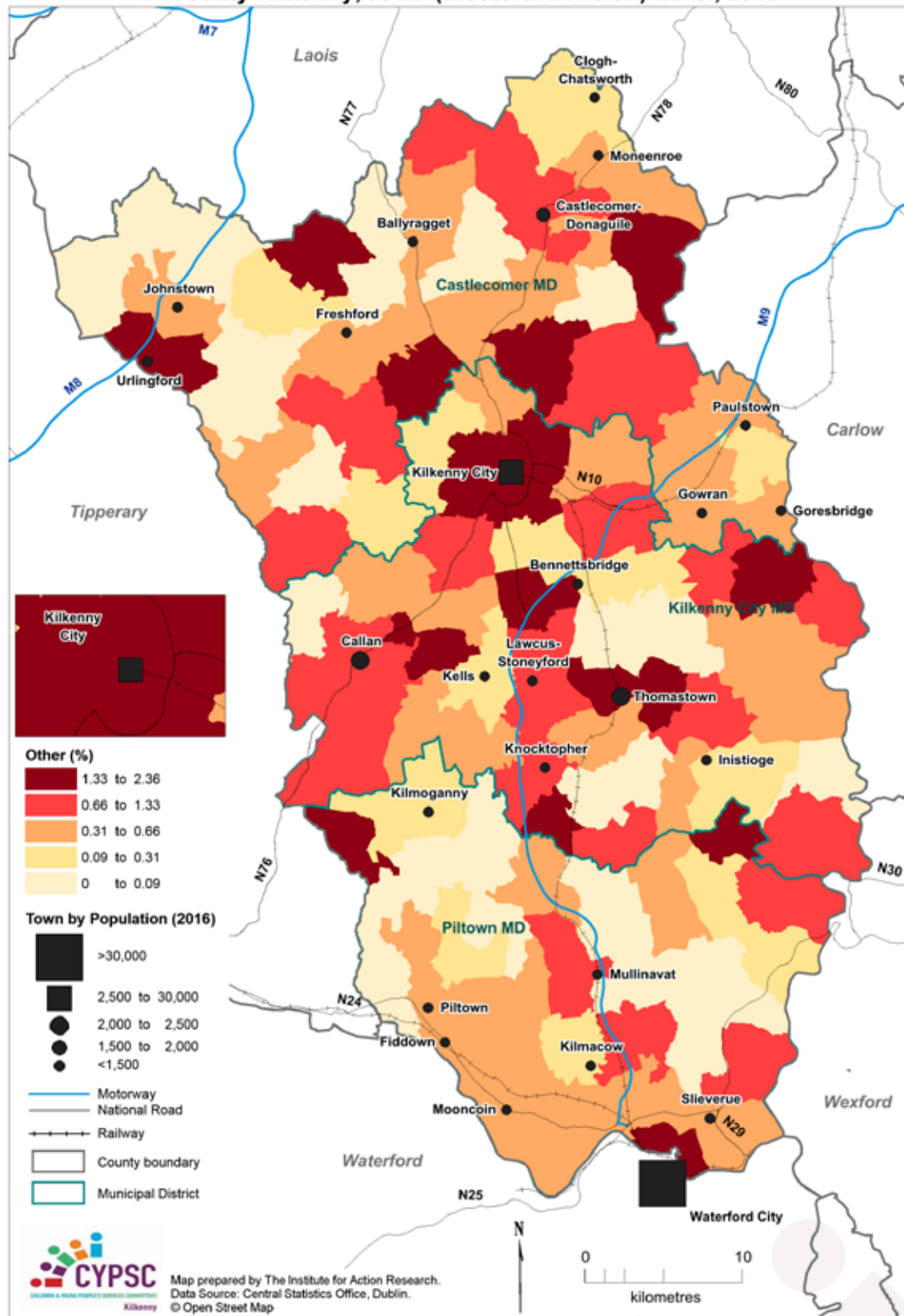
MAP 24

Asian and Asian Irish Persons as a Percentage of the Population in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



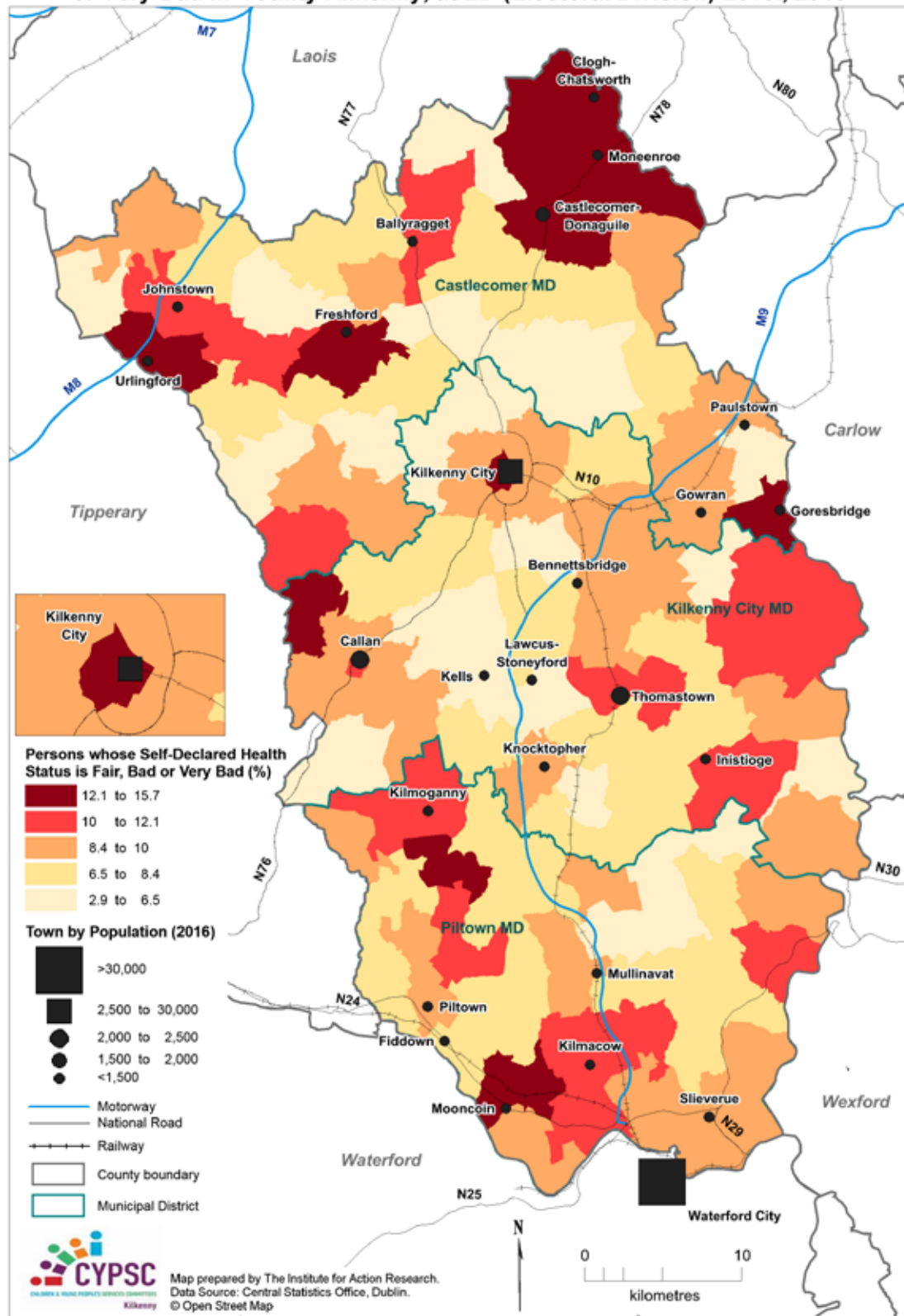
MAP 25

**Persons of 'Other' Ethnicities as a Percentage of the Population
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



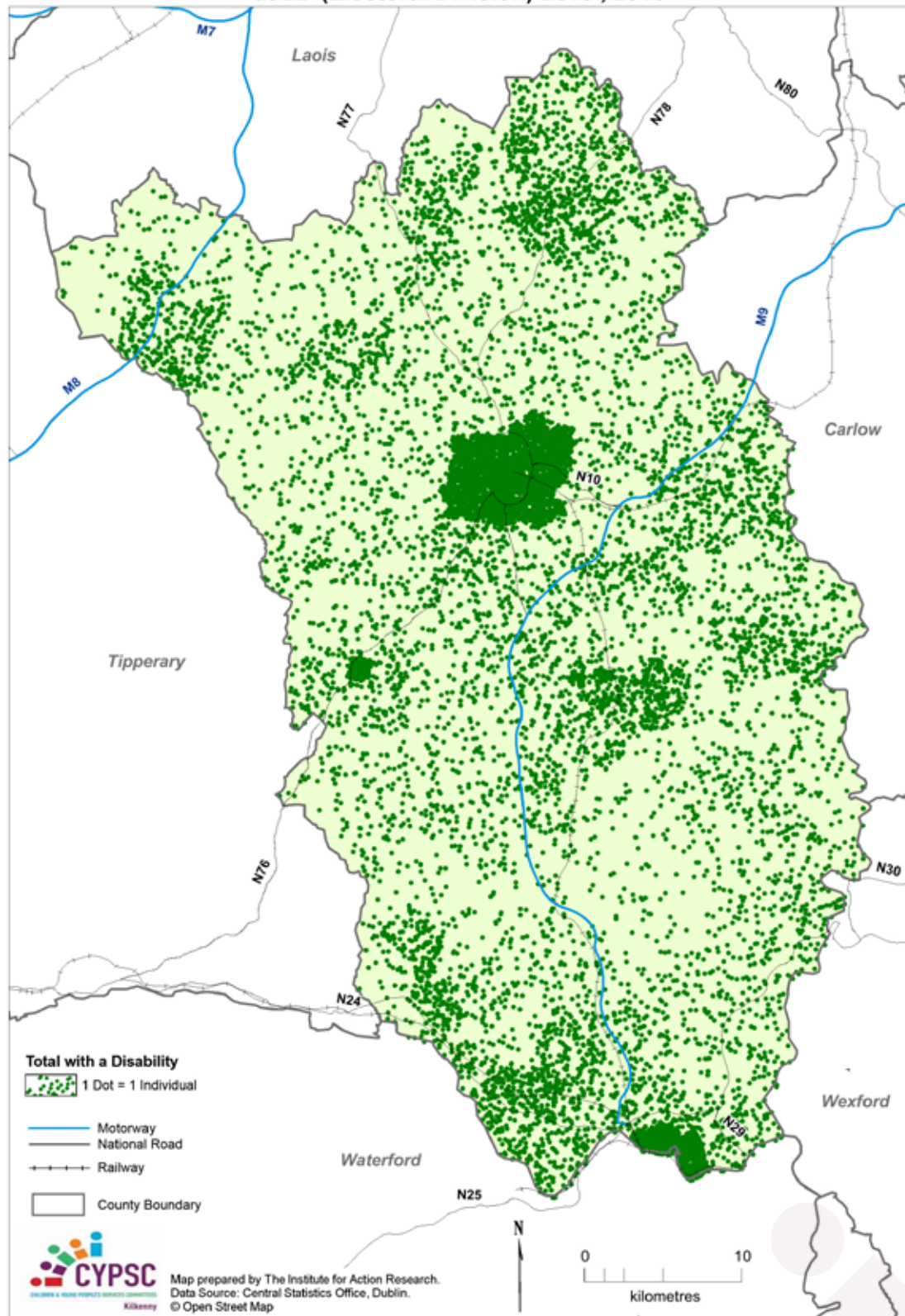
MAP 26

Percentage Persons whose Self-Declared Health Status is Fair, Bad or Very Bad in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



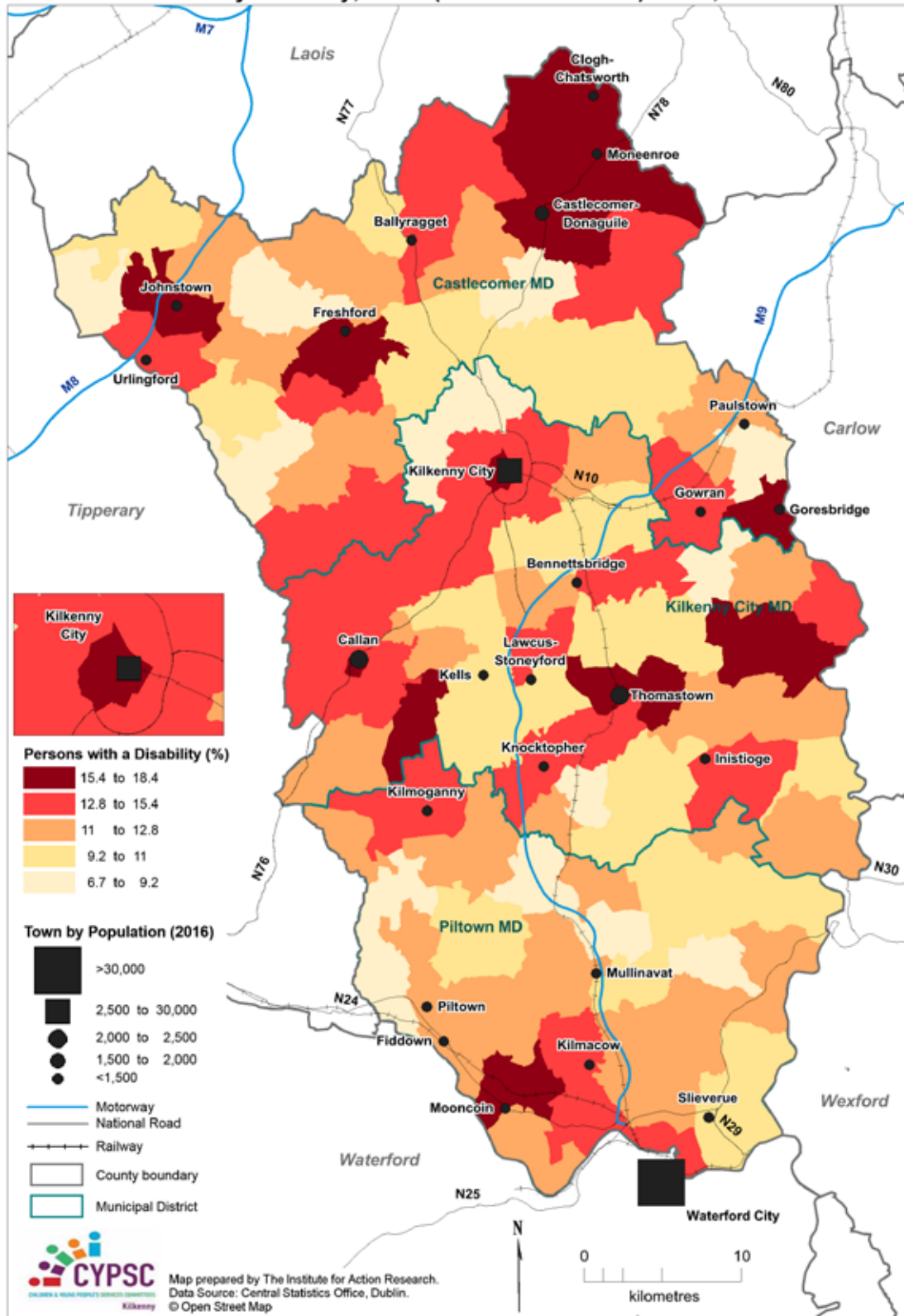
MAP 27

**Number of Persons with a Disability in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



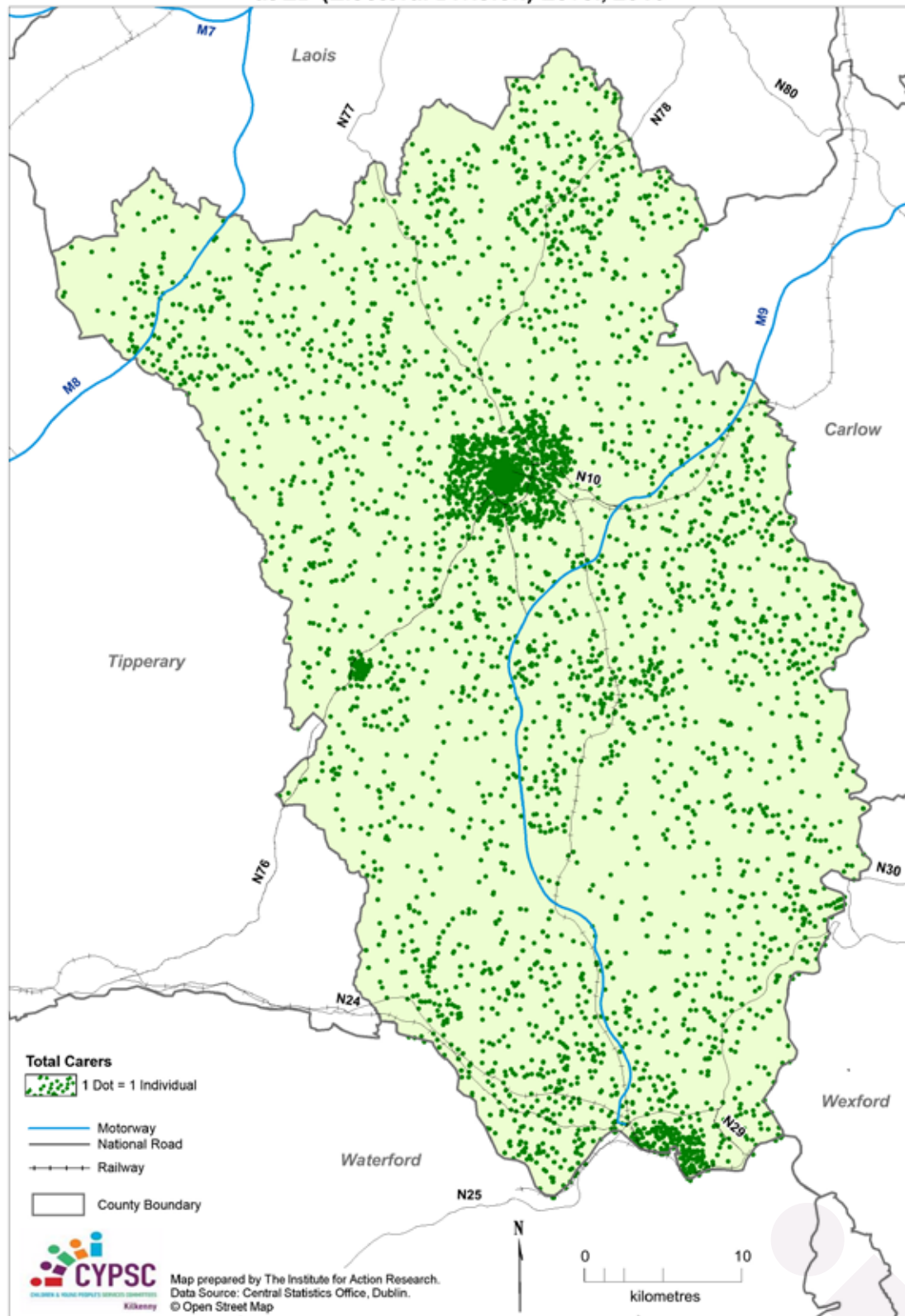
MAP 28

Persons with a Disability as a Percentage of All Persons in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



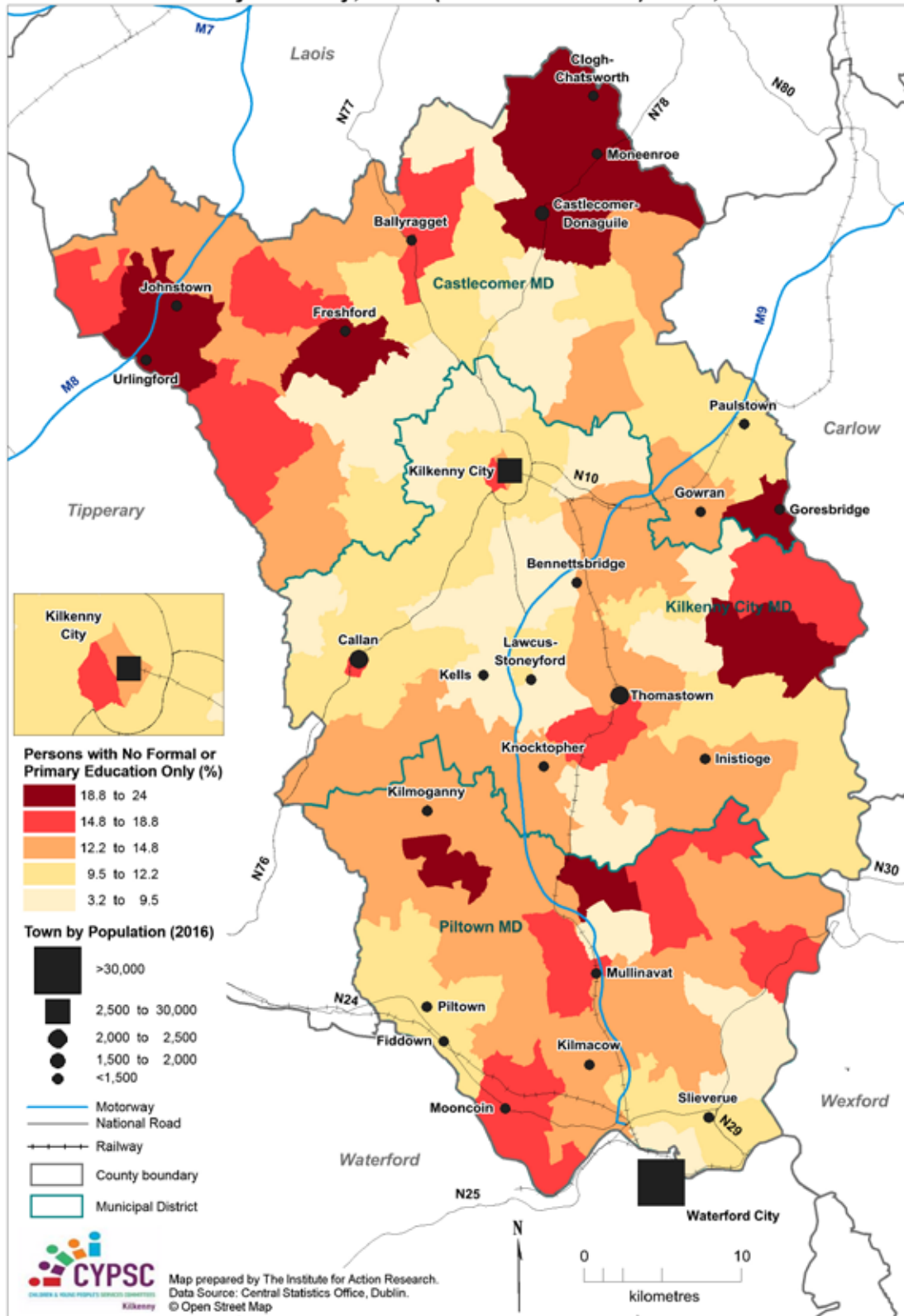
MAP 29

**Number of Carers in County Kilkenny,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



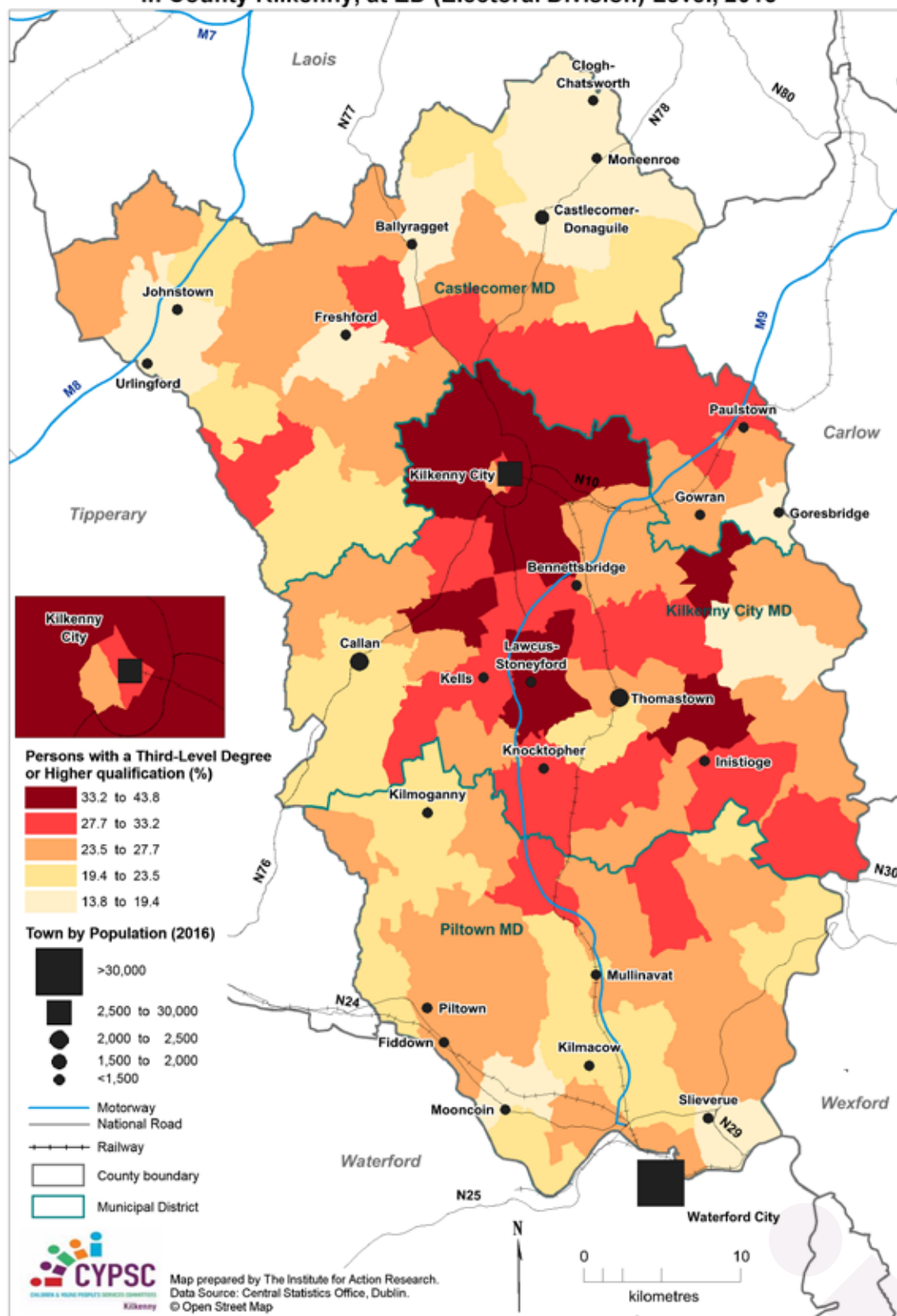
MAP 30

**Percentage Persons with No Formal or Primary Education Only
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



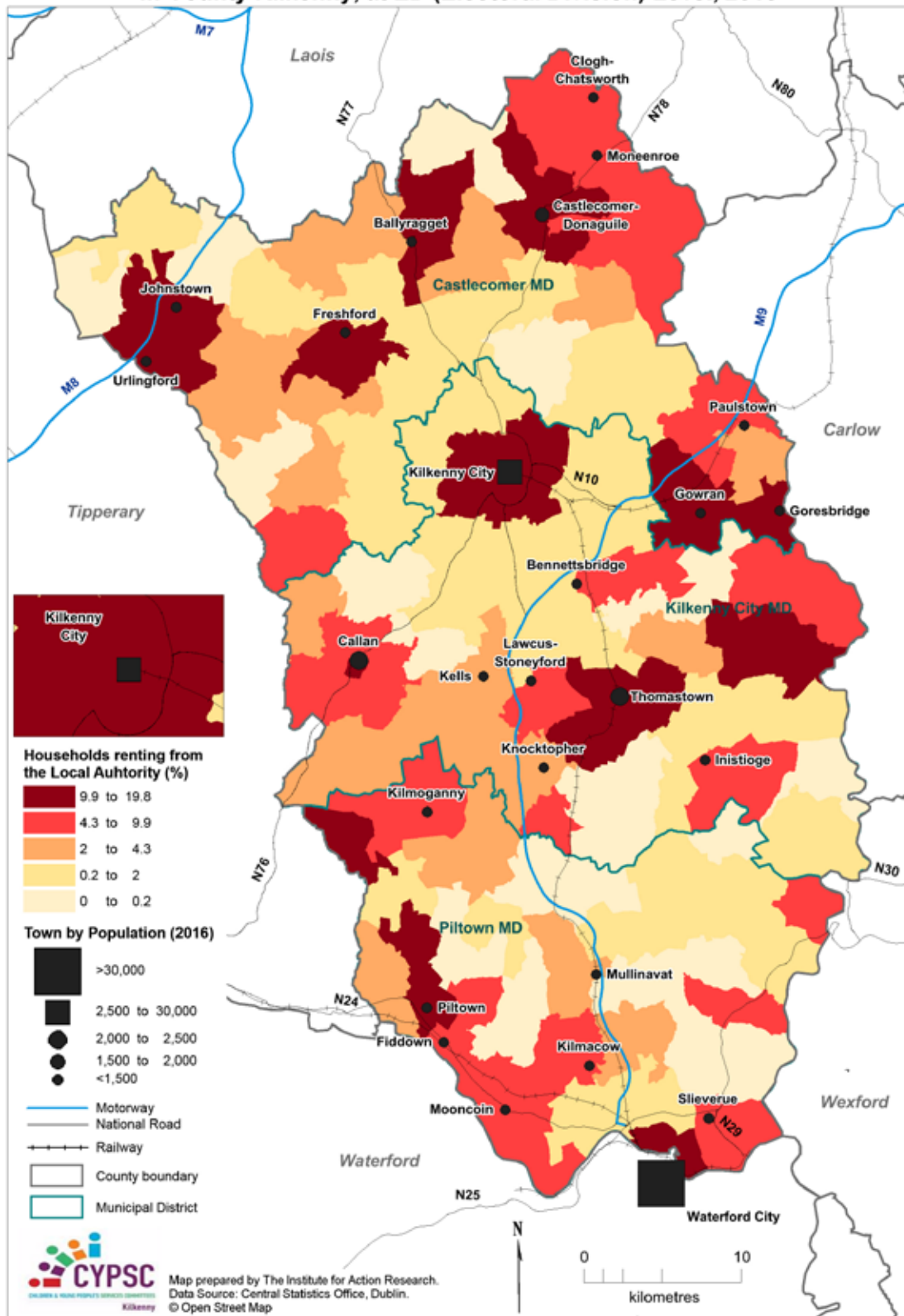
MAP 31

**Percentage Persons with a Third-Level Degree or Higher qualification
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



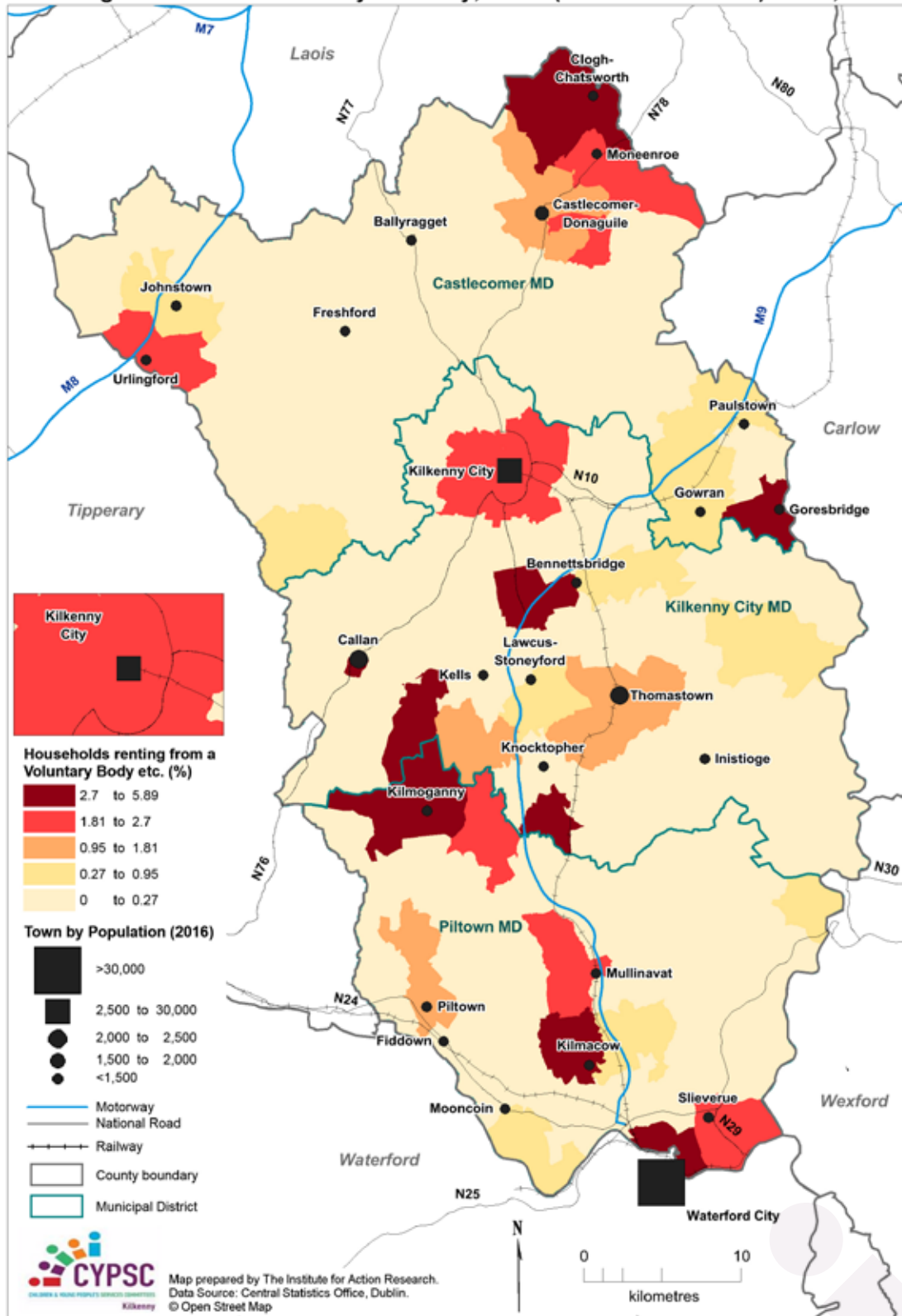
MAP 32

Percentage of Households renting from the Local Authority
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



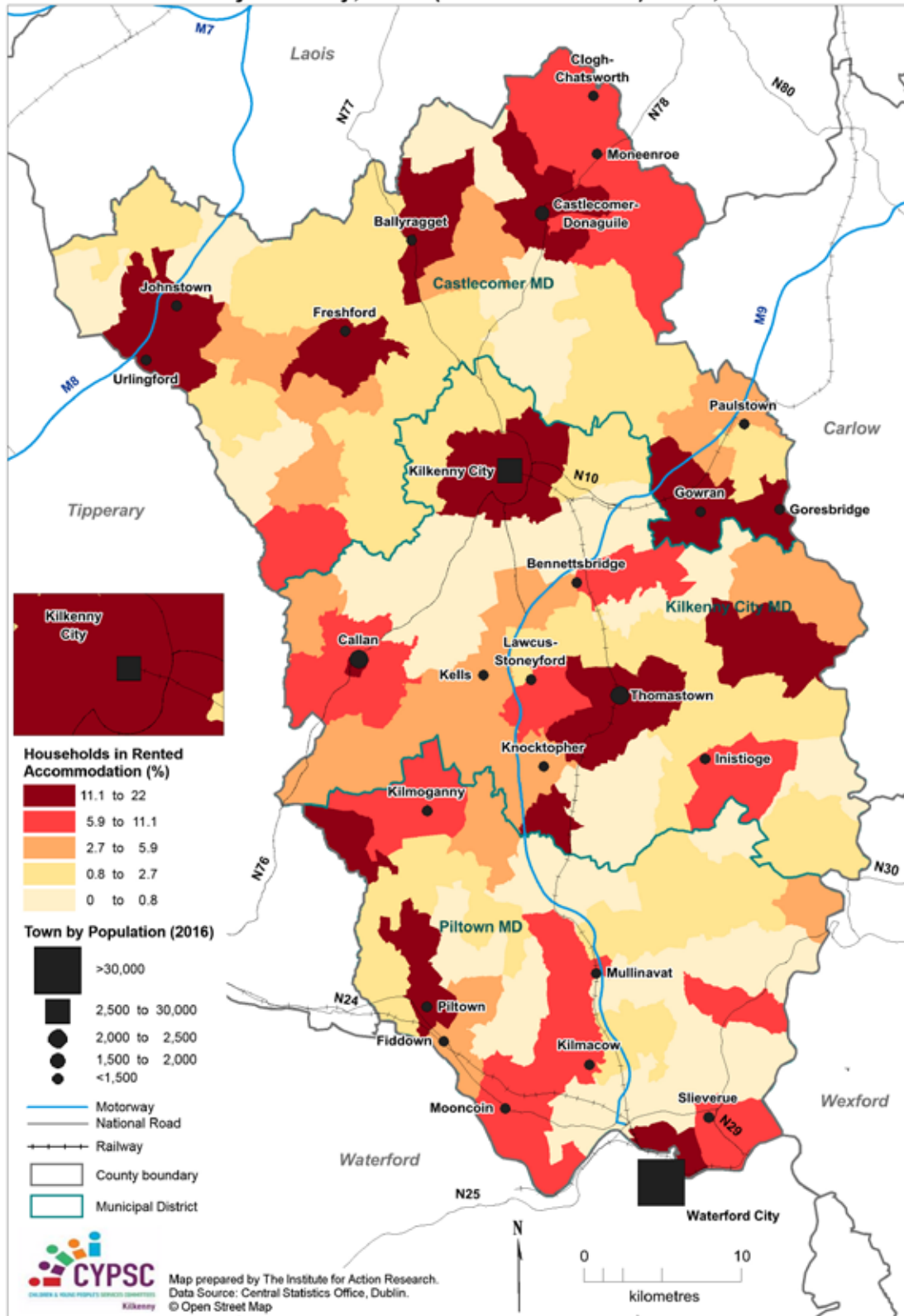
MAP 33

Percentage of Households renting from a Voluntary Body, Cooperative or Housing Association in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



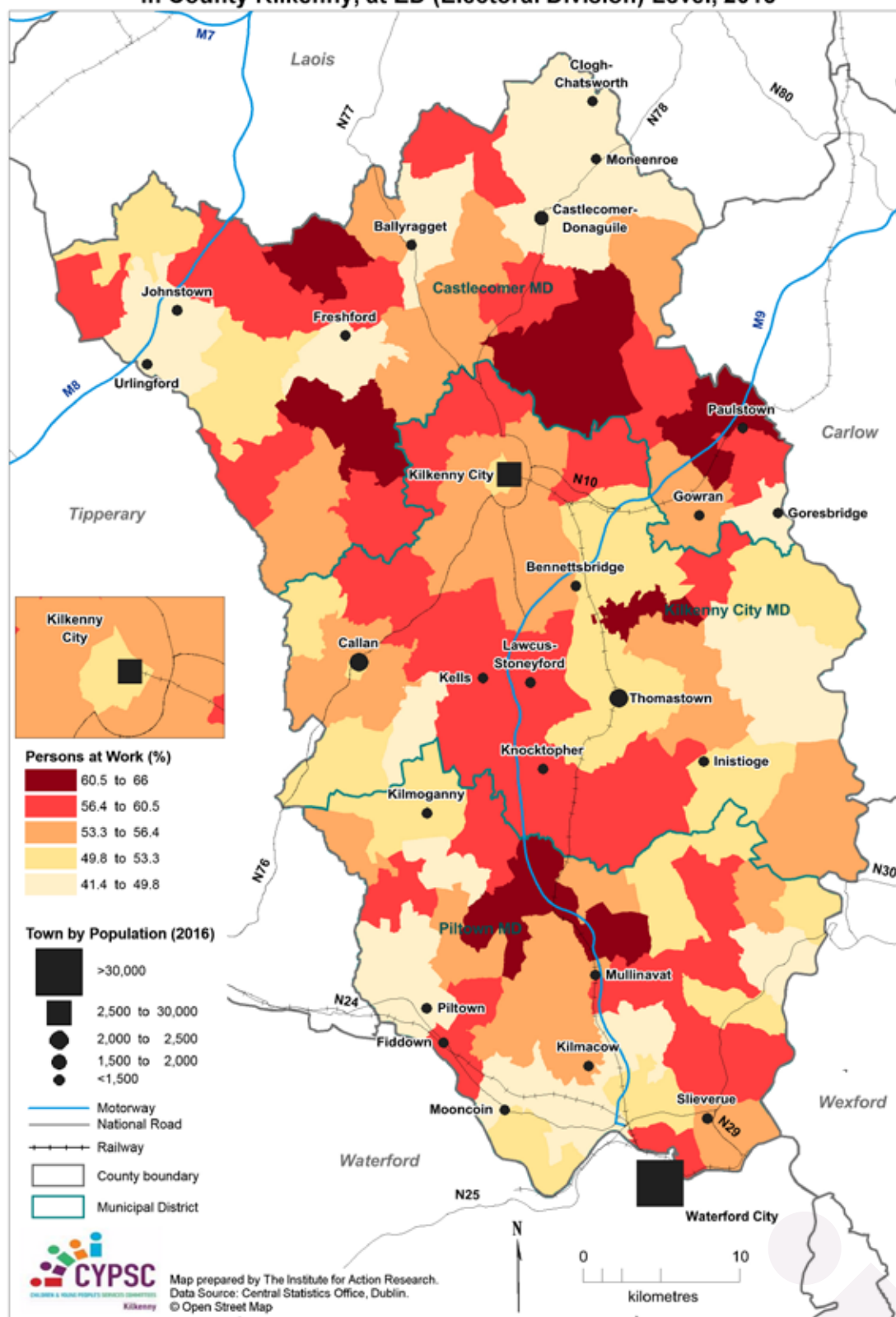
MAP 34

**Percentage of Households in Rented Accommodation
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



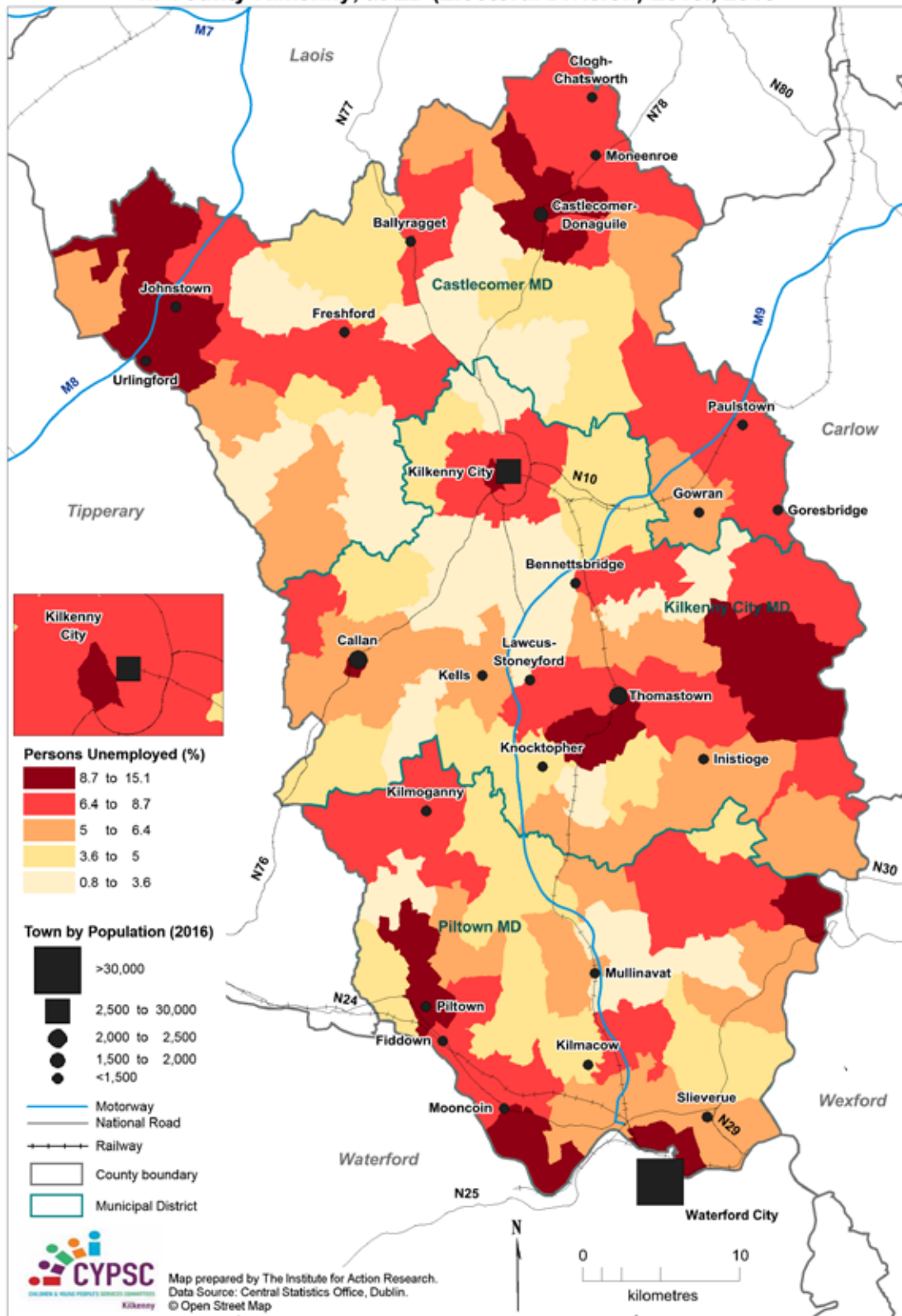
MAP 35

**Persons at Work as a Percentage of the Labour Force
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



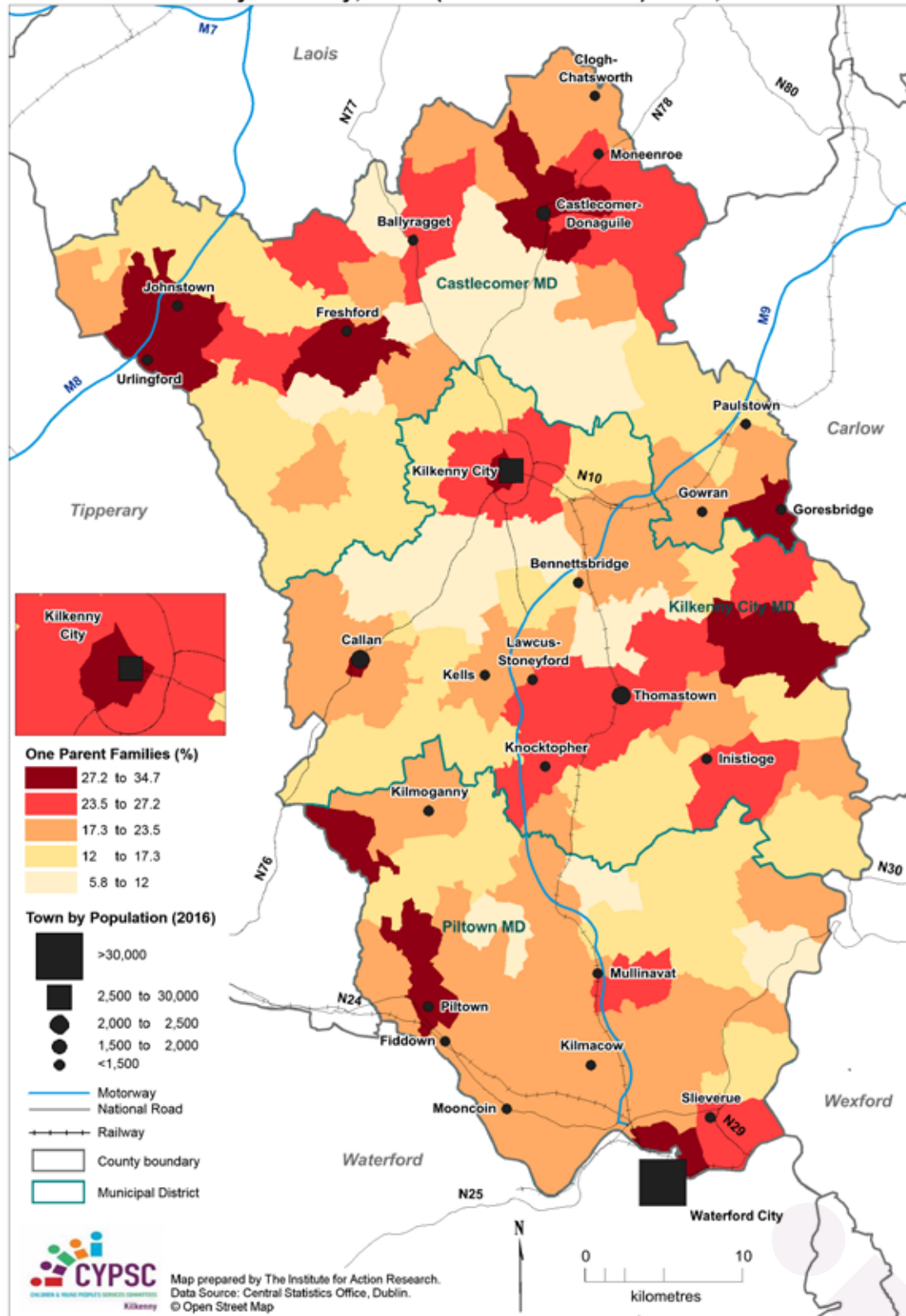
MAP 36

Unemployed Persons as a Percentage of the Labour Force in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



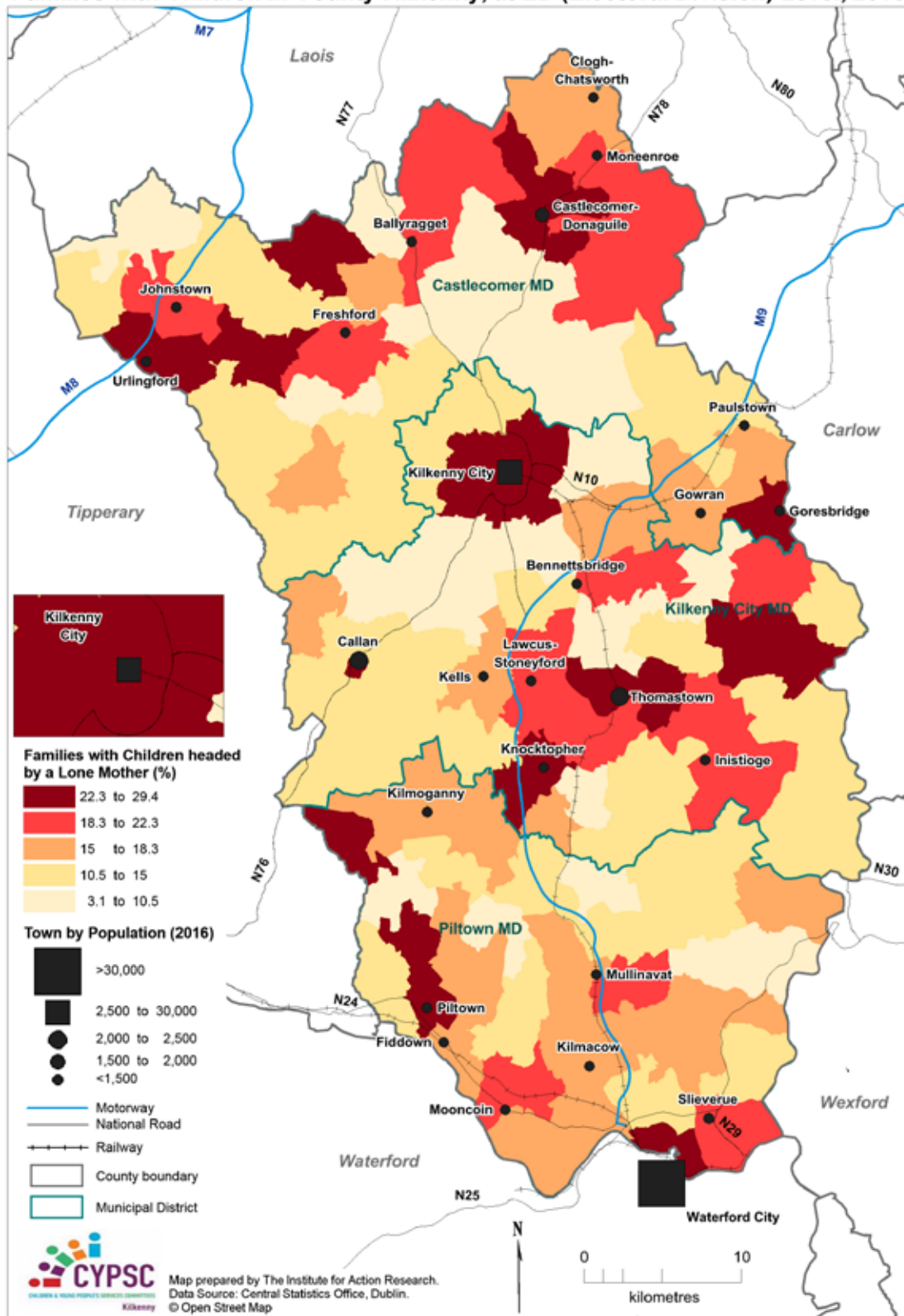
MAP 37

**One-Parent Families as a Percentage of All Families with Children
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



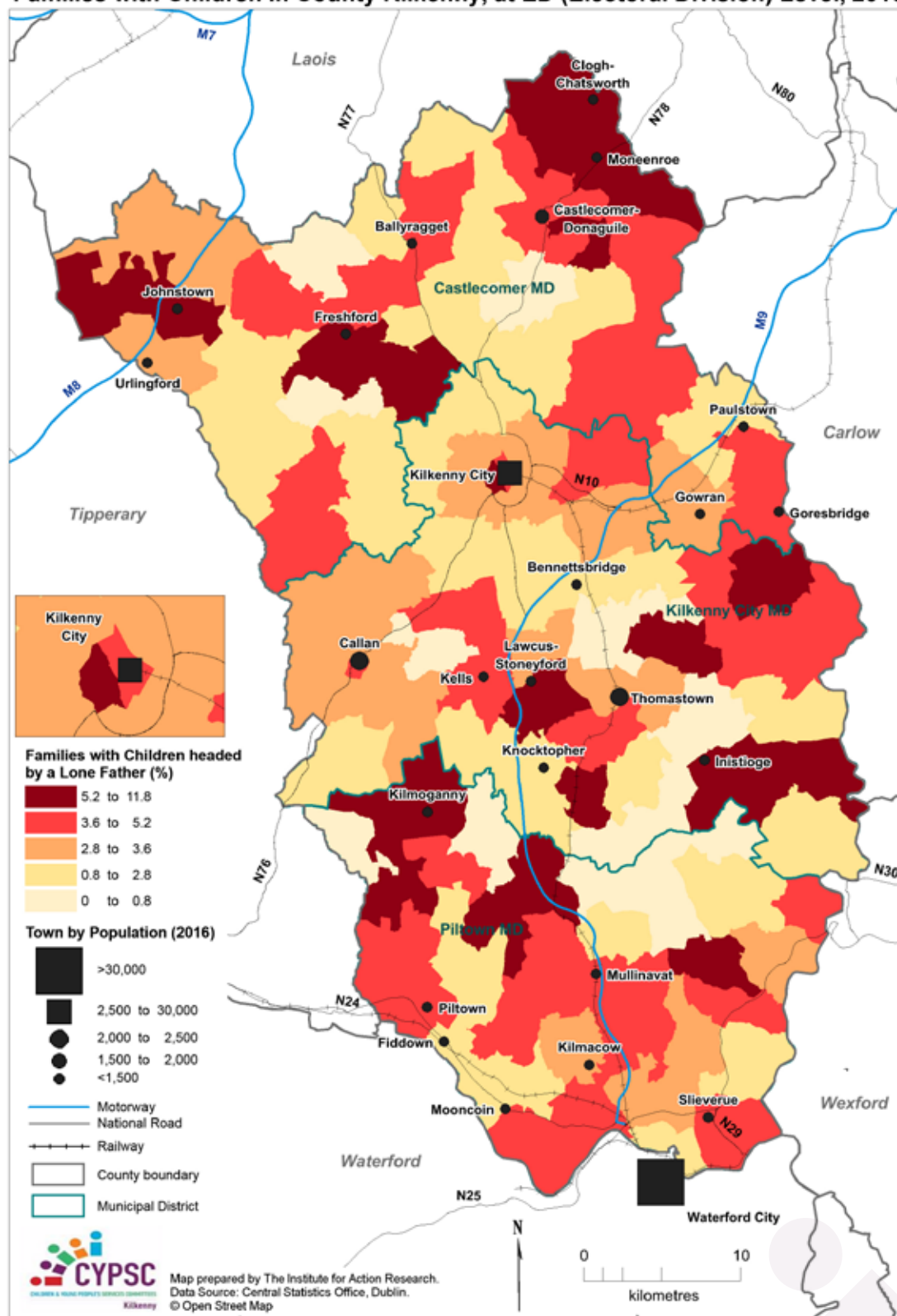
MAP 38

Families with Children, headed by a Lone Mother, as a Percentage of All Families with Children in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



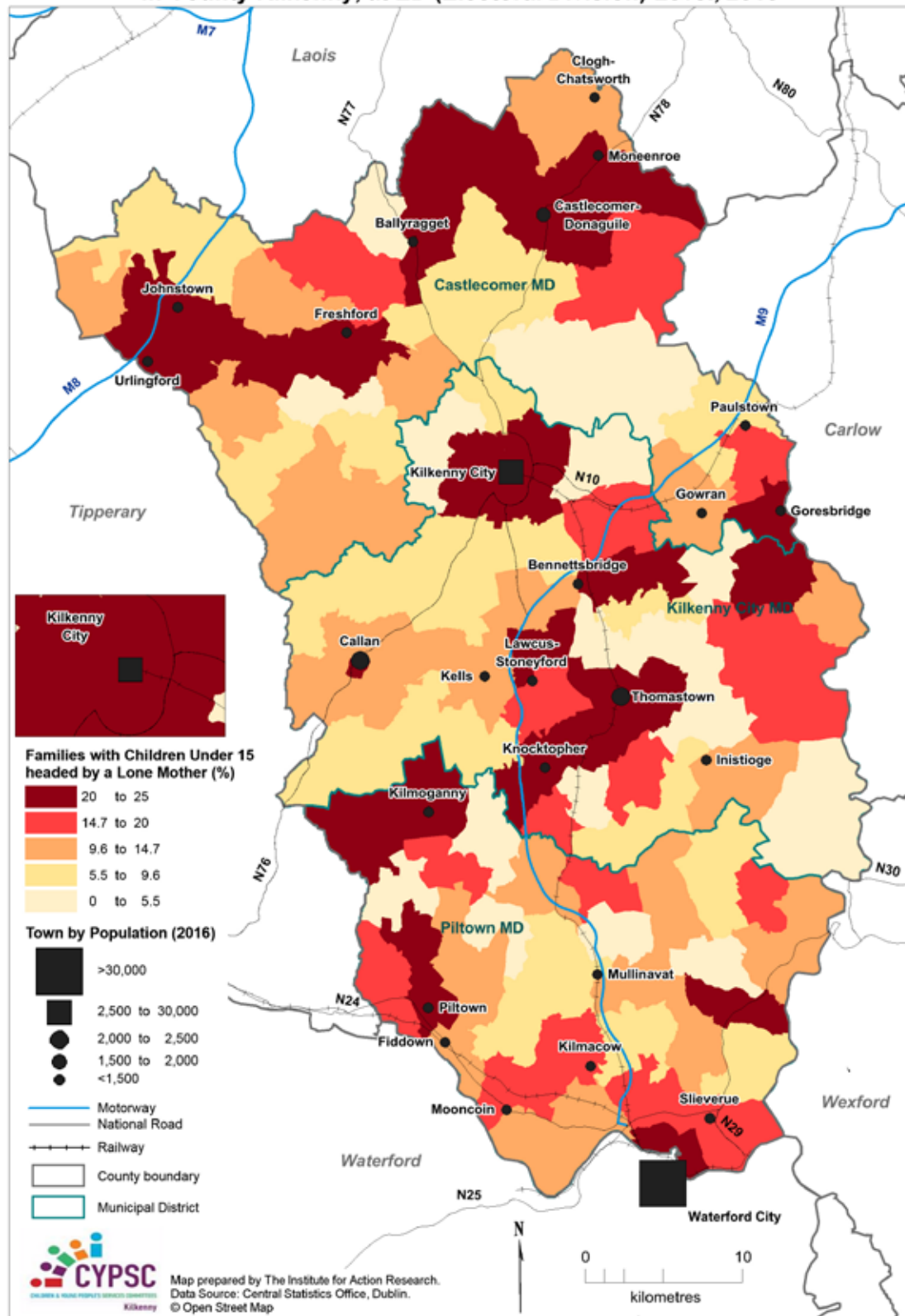
MAP 39

Families with Children, headed by a Lone Father, as a Percentage of All Families with Children in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



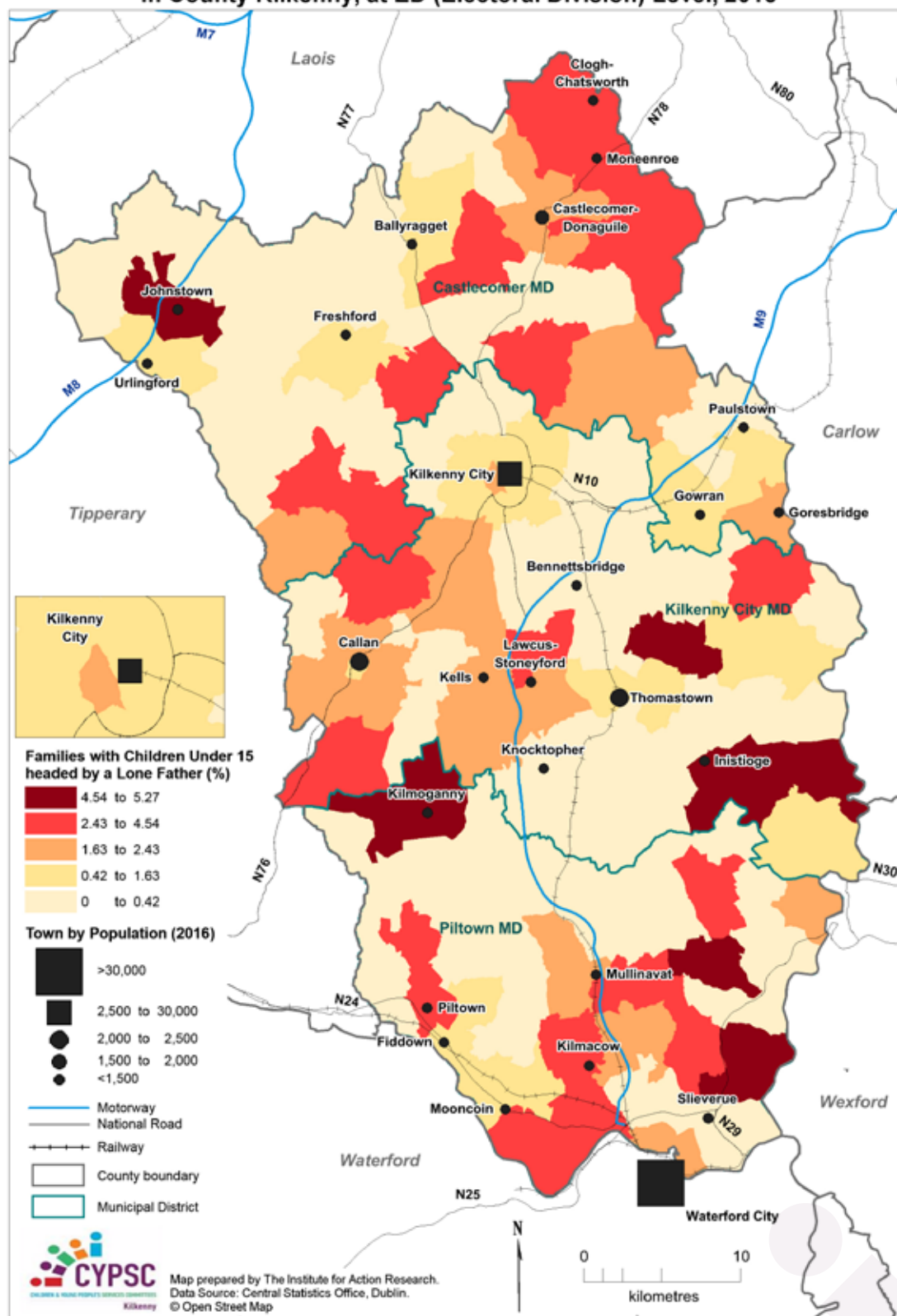
MAP 40

Percentage of Families with Children Under 15, headed by a Lone Mother in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



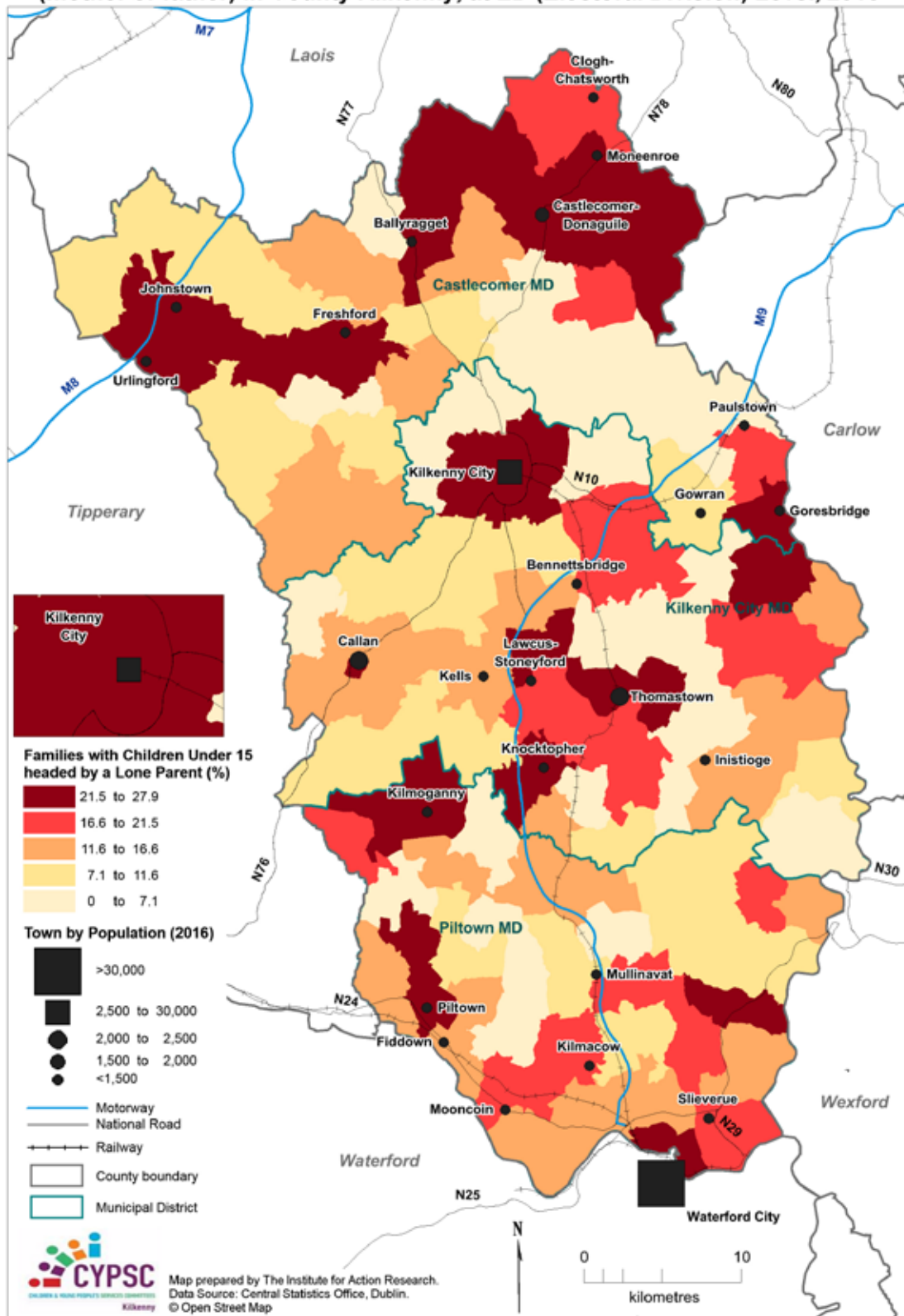
MAP 41

Percentage of Families with Children Under 15, headed by a Lone Father in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



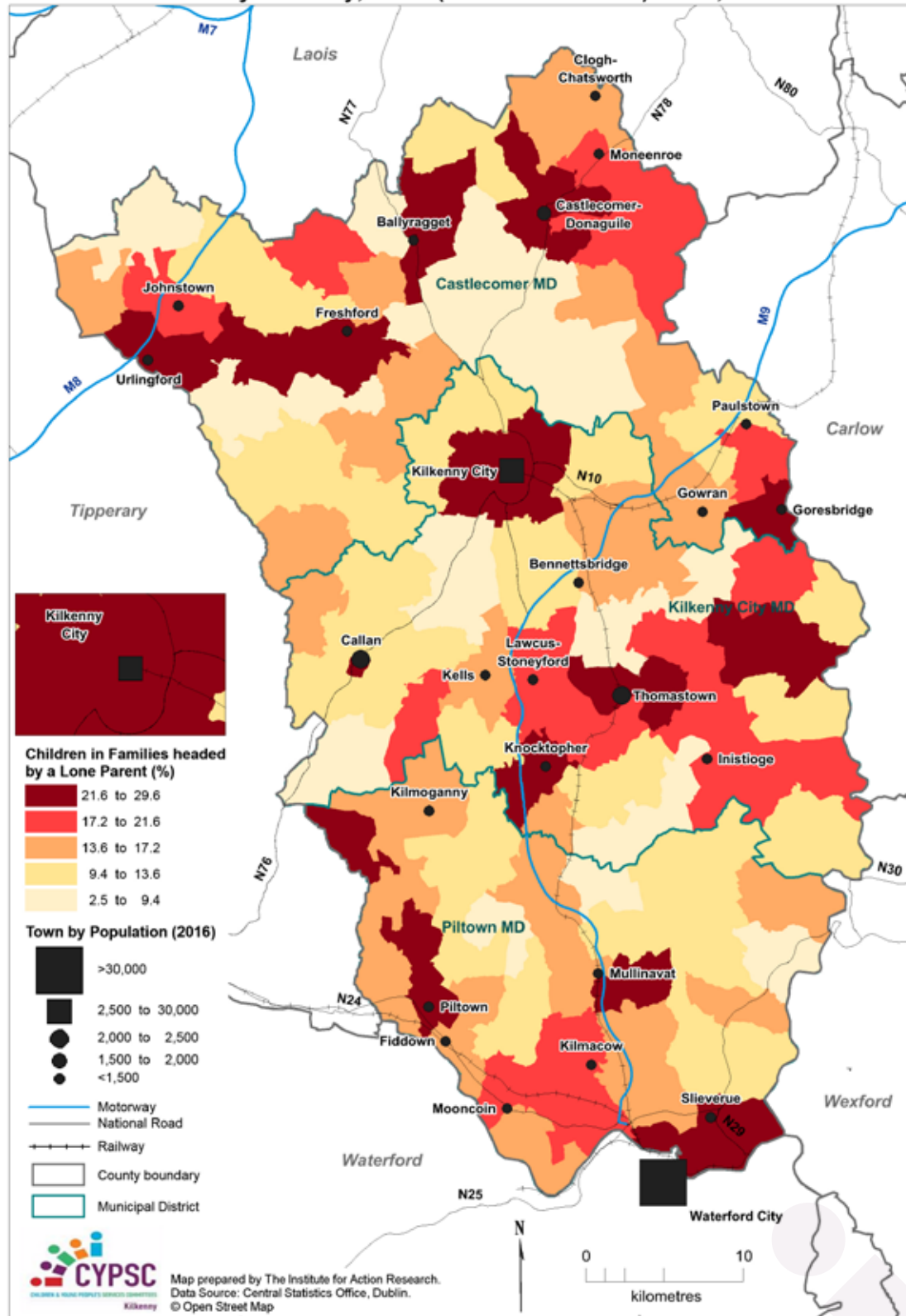
MAP 42

Percentage of Families with Children Under 15, headed by a Lone Parent (mother or father) in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016



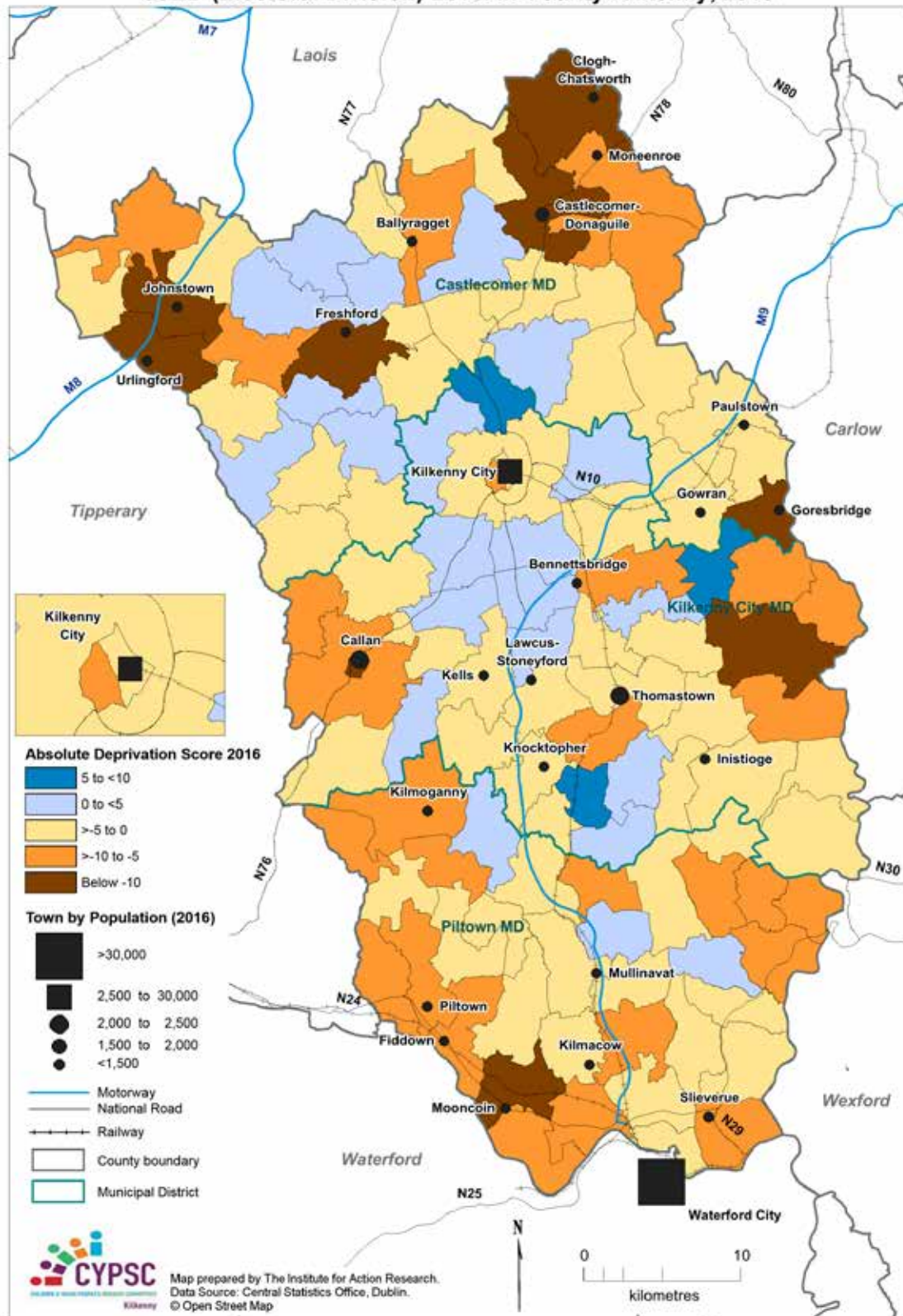
MAP 43

**Percentage of Children in Families headed by a Lone Parent (mother or father)
in County Kilkenny, at ED (Electoral Division) Level, 2016**



MAP 44

**Absolute Deprivation Score, as Measured on the Haase Index,
at ED (Electoral Division) Level in County Kilkenny, 2016**



Annex 2: Electoral Divisions in County Kilkenny

Osi ED	ED Name
97028	Coolaghmore
97013	Baunmore
97106	Tullaheerin
97007	Ballybeagh
97096	Shankill
97009	Ballyconra
97077	Mothell
97057	Kilcolumb
97044	Galmoy
97050	Inistioge
97001	Aghaviller
97043	Freshford
97094	Scotsborough
97064	Kilkieran
97033	Dunkitt
97059	Kilfane
97111	Urlingford
97046	Goresbridge
97089	Rathcoole
97067	Kilmacar
97017	Brownsford
97004	Balleen
97027	Clomantagh
97074	Listerlin
97025	Clogh
97073	Lisdowney
97071	Kiltorcan
97026	Clogharinka
97042	Freaghana
97024	Clara
97068	Kilmaganny
97086	Portnascully
97112	Whitechurch
97061	Kilkenny No. 1 Urban
97063	Kilkenny Rural
97006	Ballincrea
97018	Burnchurch
97031	Danesfort

Osi ED	ED Name
97097	St. Canice
97035	Dunamaggan
97045	Glashare
97005	Ballinamara
97051	Jerpoint Church
97103	Tubbrid
97039	Famma
97030	Coolhill
97081	Outrath
97109	Ullard
97095	Shanbogh
97062	Kilkenny No. 2 Urban
97020	Callan Urban
97084	Pleberstown
97053	Johnstown
97108	Tullaroan
97105	Tullaghanbrogue
97058	Kilculliheen (part)
97023	Castlegannon
97065	Killahy
97107	Tullahought
97054	Kells
97056	Kilbride
97087	Powerstown
97069	Kilmakevoge
97012	Ballyvool
97091	Rathpatrick
97002	Aglish
97100	The Rower
97022	Castlecomer
97079	Muckalee
97010	Ballyhale
97072	Knocktopher
97078	Muckalee
97092	Rosbercon Rural
97055	Kilbeacon
97041	Fiddown
97048	Graiguenamanagh

Osi ED	ED Name
97093	Rossinac
97066	Killamery
97080	Odagh
97047	Gowran
97099	Templeorum
97019	Callan Rural
97101	Thomastown
97082	Paulstown
97060	Kilkeasy
97036	Dysartmoon
97075	Mallardstown
97021	Castlebanny
97034	Dunmore
97102	Tiscoffin
97098	Stonyford
97104	Tubbridbrittain
97011	Ballyragget
97016	Bramblestown
97113	Woolengrange
97088	Rathbeagh
97008	Ballycallan
97110	Ullid
97014	Bennettsbridge
97037	Earlstown
97085	Pollrone
97032	Dunbell
97003	Attanagh
97029	Coolcraheen
97038	Ennisnag
97090	Rathealy
97083	Pilltown
97076	Moneenroe
97040	Farnoge
97052	Jerpoint West
97015	Boolyglass
97049	Grange
97070	Kilmanagh

Annex 3: Affluence and Deprivation Scores at ED Level, 2006 and 2016

ED Name	Population 2016	Deprivation Score 2006	Deprivation Score 2016	Change 2006 to 2016
Urlingford	1288	-10.5	-12.4	-1.83
Johnstown	851	-6.8	-12.0	-5.18
Graiguenamanagh	1817	-9.4	-9.3	0.09
Goresbridge	566	-6.3	-8.6	-2.35
Clogh	1221	-8.9	-8.3	0.66
Freshford	1001	-8.6	-7.9	0.65
Rosbercon Urban	643	-3.9	-7.3	-3.43
Pollrone	1461	-5.8	-6.8	-0.99
Castlecomer	2318	-7.5	-6.1	1.35
Callan Urban	1784	-8.7	-5.9	2.87
Rosbercon Rural	684	-5.7	-5.5	0.14
Moneenroe	1270	-5.4	-5.5	-0.07
Rossinan	744	-0.8	-5.4	-4.62
Ballyragget	1513	-3.2	-5.3	-2.07
Portnascully	1119	-5.3	-5.0	0.30
Freaghana	245	2.6	-4.8	-7.39
Killamery	210	-5.82	-4.54	1.28
Shanbogh	486	-2.68	-4.13	-1.45
Pilltown	1835	-1.08	-3.81	-2.73
Jerpoint Church	923	-1.33	-3.71	-2.38
Aglish	883	0.78	-3.16	-3.94
Whitechurch	417	3.17	-2.93	-6.10
Scotsborough	165	-0.82	-2.93	-2.11
Kilkenny No. 1 Urban	5782	-5.48	-2.90	2.58
Kilmaganny	716	-4.35	-2.77	1.58
Boolyglass	135	0.91	-2.61	-3.52
Galmoy	312	0.77	-2.54	-3.31
Clomantagh	327	-1.54	-2.44	-0.90
Rathpatrick	1095	0.09	-2.29	-2.38
Listerlin	373	0.25	-2.11	-2.36
Castlegannon	118	3.34	-1.90	-5.24
Powerstown	481	-4.57	-1.86	2.71
Baunmore	134	-3.86	-1.74	2.12
Dysartmoon	279	1.22	-1.66	-2.88
Mothell	450	-2.52	-1.64	0.88
Ullard	285	0.35	-1.42	-1.77
Fiddown	981	-2.57	-1.39	1.18
Bennettsbridge	1098	-2.05	-1.38	0.67
Callan Rural	1641	1.66	-1.32	-2.98
Killahy	651	-2.40	-1.17	1.23
Tubbridbrittain	319	0.70	-1.01	-1.71
Dunkitt	1015	-1.11	-0.88	0.23
Glashare	332	-2.35	-0.56	1.79
Tullahought	195	0.12	-0.55	-0.67
Thomastown	2347	-0.67	-0.49	0.18
Tullaroan	298	-1.93	-0.29	1.64
Kilculliheen (Pt.)	5246	0.60	-0.17	-0.77
Coolhill	270	-0.66	-0.08	0.58

Paulstown	1025	4.80	-0.04	-4.84
Jerpoint West	269	3.40	0.00	-3.40
Kilmanagh	508	4.94	0.07	-4.87
Ballycallan	440	1.62	0.07	-1.55
Gowran	1518	0.88	0.27	-0.61
Brownsford	150	3.86	0.55	-3.31
Inistioge	816	-3.67	0.62	4.29
Ullid	1018	-2.44	0.62	3.06
Templeorum	448	1.98	0.75	-1.23
Attanagh	385	-1.95	0.80	2.75
Woolengrange	322	7.70	0.86	-6.84
Odagh	456	1.03	1.10	0.07
Famma	299	6.68	1.10	-5.58
Dunbell	522	3.00	1.12	-1.88
Earlstown	218	-1.78	1.22	3.00
Coolaghmore	496	-2.31	1.24	3.55
Kilkenny No. 2 Urban	4060	-3.73	1.25	4.98
Tubbrid	433	-0.31	1.48	1.79
Ballyvool	189	2.45	1.55	-0.90
Kilmakevoge	433	2.60	1.72	-0.88
Muckalee	170	-8.36	1.74	10.10
Kilfane	274	-0.42	1.81	2.23
Knocktopher	551	1.78	2.19	0.41
Tiscoffin	488	3.99	2.19	-1.80
Ballinorea	313	1.93	2.25	0.32
Coolcraheen	520	7.44	2.31	-5.13
Kells	646	6.02	2.41	-3.61
Ballyconra	239	3.20	2.53	-0.67
Kilkenny Rural	17876	2.51	2.62	0.11
Ballyhale	424	2.65	2.63	-0.02
Dunamaggan	400	4.24	2.81	-1.43
Rathcoole	521	3.24	2.86	-0.38
Shankill	866	0.54	2.88	2.34
Farnoge	304	0.96	2.93	1.97
The Rower	810	4.09	2.97	-1.12
Kilkeasy	346	6.06	3.13	-2.93
Kilcolumb	585	2.90	3.14	0.24
Muckalee	559	6.06	3.32	-2.74
Tullaghanbrogue	466	4.65	3.57	-1.08
Rathealy	206	4.86	3.78	-1.08
Stonyford	660	1.42	3.78	2.36
Clogharinka	246	5.81	3.81	-2.00
Lisdowney	252	1.40	3.99	2.59
Kilbride	400	2.71	4.04	1.33
Ballybeagh	291	2.53	4.19	1.66
Kilkieran	670	6.97	4.33	-2.64
Aghaviller	424	0.21	4.36	4.15
Kilmacar	449	3.37	4.89	1.52
Ballinamara	343	1.13	5.06	3.93
Rathbeagh	283	5.71	5.18	-0.53
Pleberstown	200	4.05	5.60	1.55
Tullaherin	224	2.48	5.74	3.26

Outrath	689	5.65	5.85	0.20
Burnchurch	598	6.16	5.86	-0.30
Kilbeacon	200	4.52	6.08	1.56
Balleen	459	0.64	6.28	5.64
Ennisnag	518	8.15	6.46	-1.69
St. Canice	595	9.73	6.55	-3.18
Mallardstown	252	0.50	6.74	6.24
Danesfort	470	6.80	6.85	0.05
Clara	657	5.60	7.25	1.65
Grange	868	7.44	7.30	-0.14
Castlebanny	150	11.28	8.04	-3.24
Kiltorcan	175	5.67	12.47	6.80
Bramblestown	271	9.48	12.59	3.11
Dunmore	638	10.77	12.90	2.13
County Kilkenny	99875	-0.51	-0.37	0.14

(Footnotes)

- 1 Rates per 1,000 of the child population are based on Census 2011, as it was the immediately preceding Census of Population.
- 2 Inclusive of Medical Card eligibility granted on a discretionary basis
- 3 School Year 2016-2017
- 4 Both EDs record a score of -5.5.

Notes

[illegible]

Notes



CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES

Kilkenny