

Laois Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2028

Appendix 2 Socio Economic Profile



Laois County Council

Áras an Chontae, Portlaoise, Co. Laois





Laois Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2028

Appendix B

Socio Economic Profile

This appendix contains graphical representations of certain baseline data for the County.

Much of the data is based on the 2016 Census.

The detailed information from the 2022 Census is expected to be released in Q3 2023.

When the 2023 data comes available, it is intended to carry out a similar mapping exercise to that contained in this appendix.

This current document is based largely on the 2016 Census as the finer details from the 2022 Census have not yet been released.



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1 LAOIS COUNTY

1.1 POPULATION

Over the past quarter of a century, County Laois has experienced a significant population growth.

The population of the county in 2022 was 73% higher than it was in 1996. In the period 2016 to 2022 the population increased by over 8.2%.

year	Laois Population
1991	52314
1996	52945
2002	58774
2006	67012
2011	80559
2016	84697
2022	91657

Figure 1: Population Change County Laois 1991-2022
Source: CSO Census Data

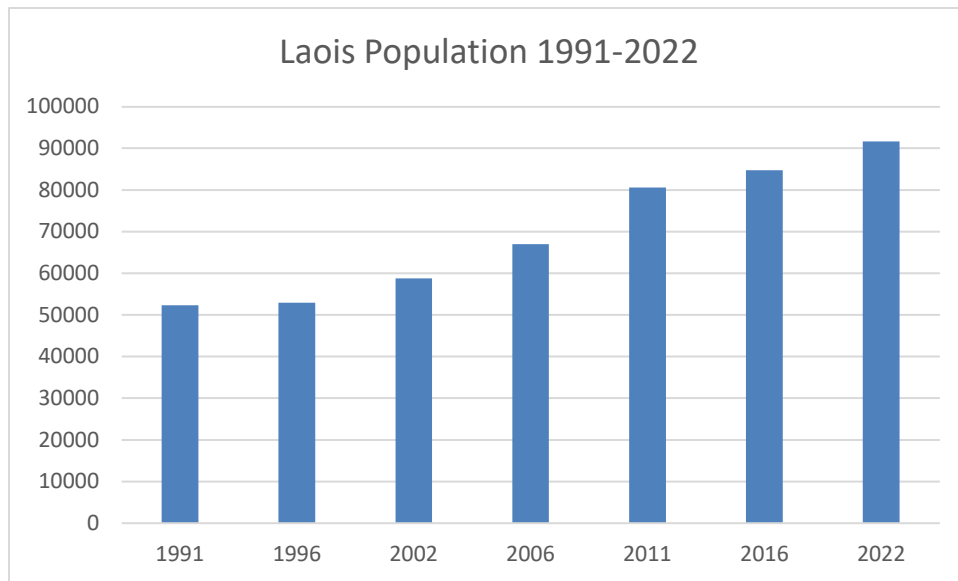


Figure 2: Laois population 1991-2022
Source:, Census, CSO

POPULATION PYRAMID

Figure 3 provides a breakdown of the total population for Laois county by age group (2016 census data).

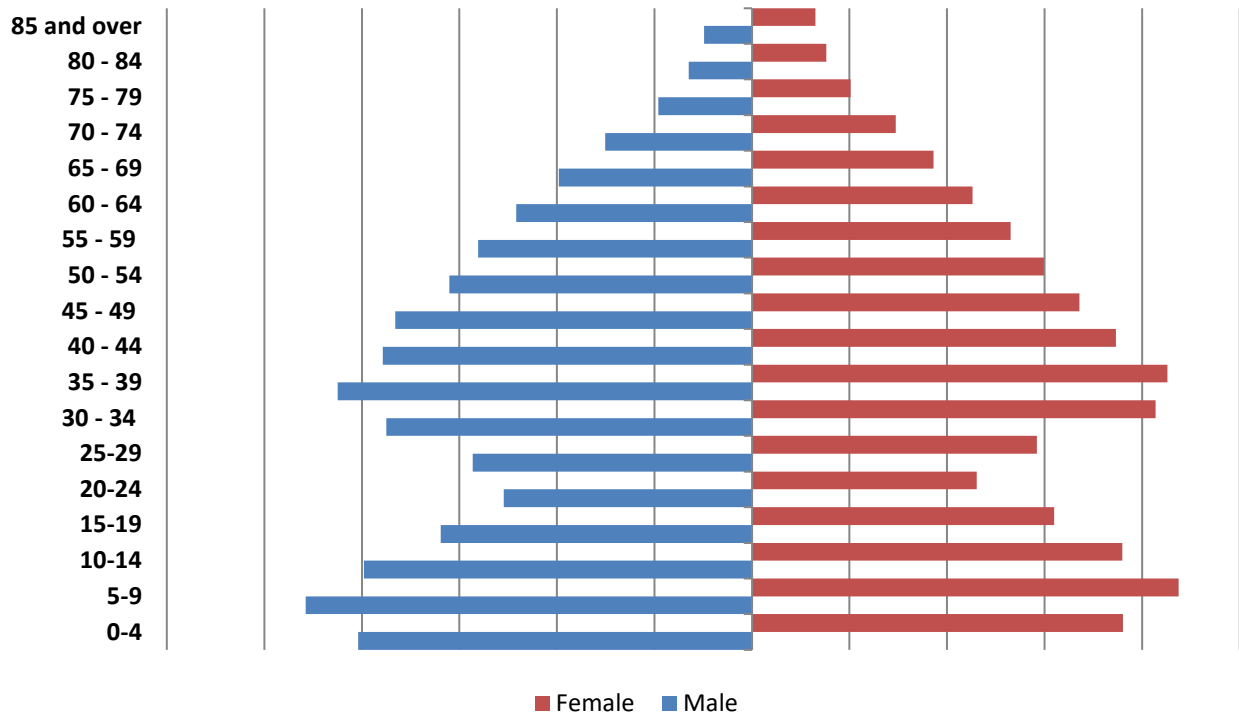


Figure 3: Population Pyramid for Laois County
 Source: Theme 1, Census 2016, CSO

It is evident from the population pyramid a large proportion of the young population aged 5-9, 9% (7,583 persons) whilst those aged 35-39 also account for 9% (7,205 persons) of the total population.

- Population by age and sex for Laois, 2020



Source: CSO Ireland

Figure 3a : Population Pyramid for Laois County -2020
Source: CSO

The distribution of 0-4 year old population by ED for Laois county is presented in Figures 4.

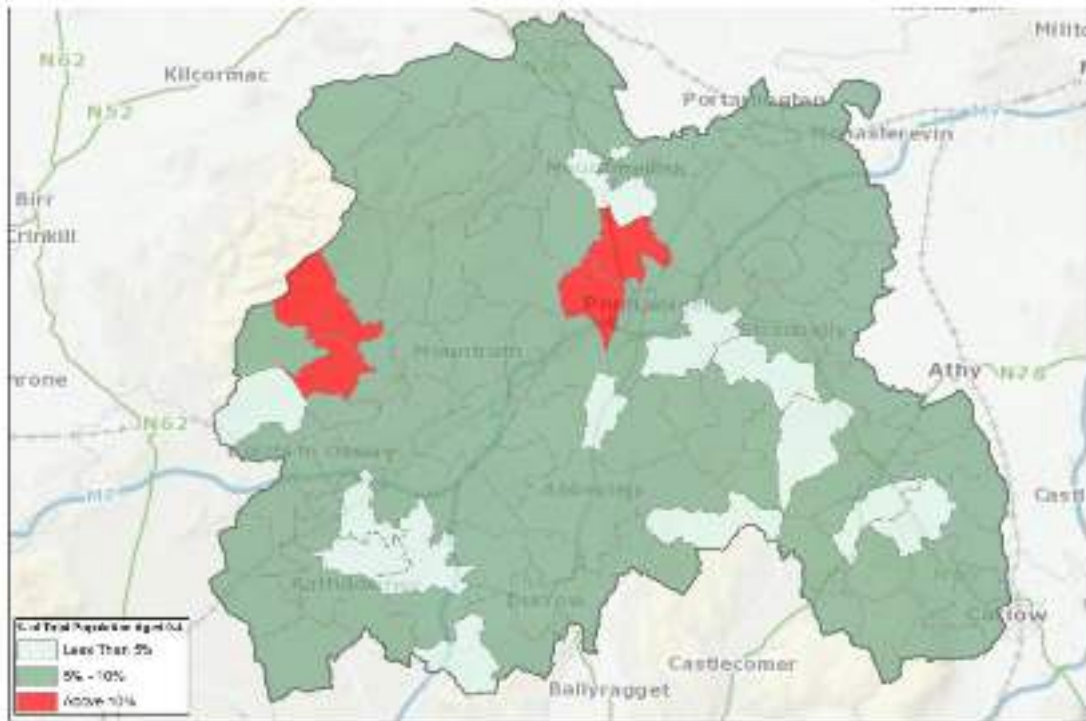


Figure 4: Percentage of population aged 0-4 in an ED **Source** Theme 1, Census 2016, CSO

The 0-4 age group is considered the population of pre-school going children. According to the 2016 Census the total population aged 0-4 years within Laois is 6,644 representative of 8% of the total population living in Laois county. It is evident from Figure 4a,b that the EDs with the highest concentration are in areas of high population and located within or nearby urban settlements.

The distribution of the 5-12 year old population by ED for Laois county is presented in Figures 5

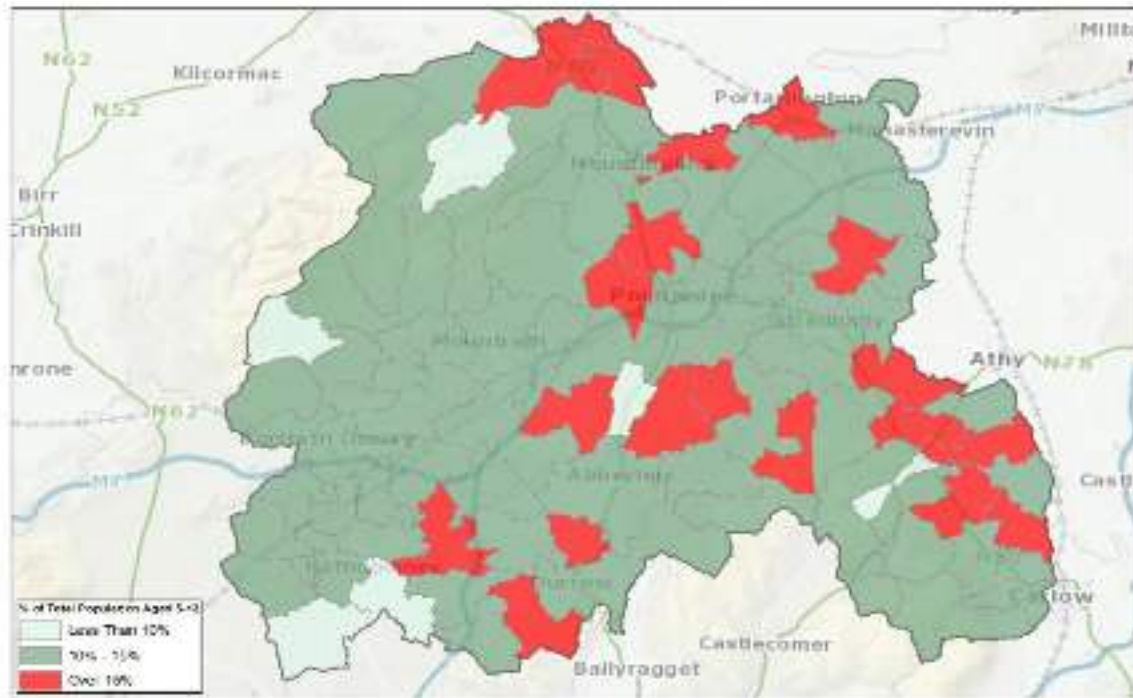


Figure 5: Percentage of population aged 5-12 in an ED; **Source:** Theme 1, Census 2016, CSO

The 5-12 year old population is considered the age group of primary school going children. According to the 2016 Census the total population aged 5-12 years within Laois is 11,591 representative of 14% of the total population living in Laois county. The highest concentration of 5-12 year olds outside of Portlaoise and Portarlington is located in the ED areas shown in red in Figures 5a,b. It is not surprising these areas are associated with areas of new build and close to main urban centres.

Figure 6 presents the distribution of 13-17 year olds by ED for Laois county.

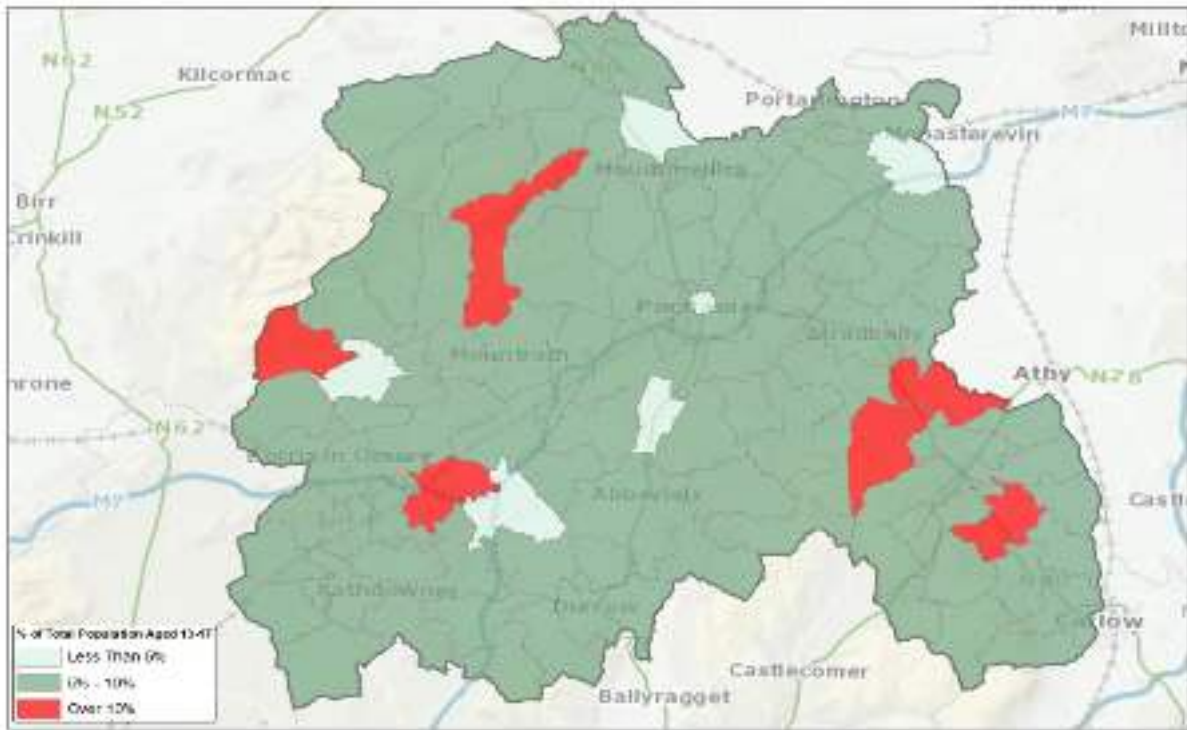


Figure 6: Percentage of population aged 13-17 in an ED; **Source:** Theme 1, Census 2016, CSO

The 13-17 year old population is considered to be the secondary school going age group. According to the 2016 Census the total population aged 13-17 years within Laois is 6,029 representative of 7% of the total population living in Laois county. The highest concentration of 13-17 year olds outside of Portlaoise and Portarlington is located in the ED areas shown in red in Figure 6b.

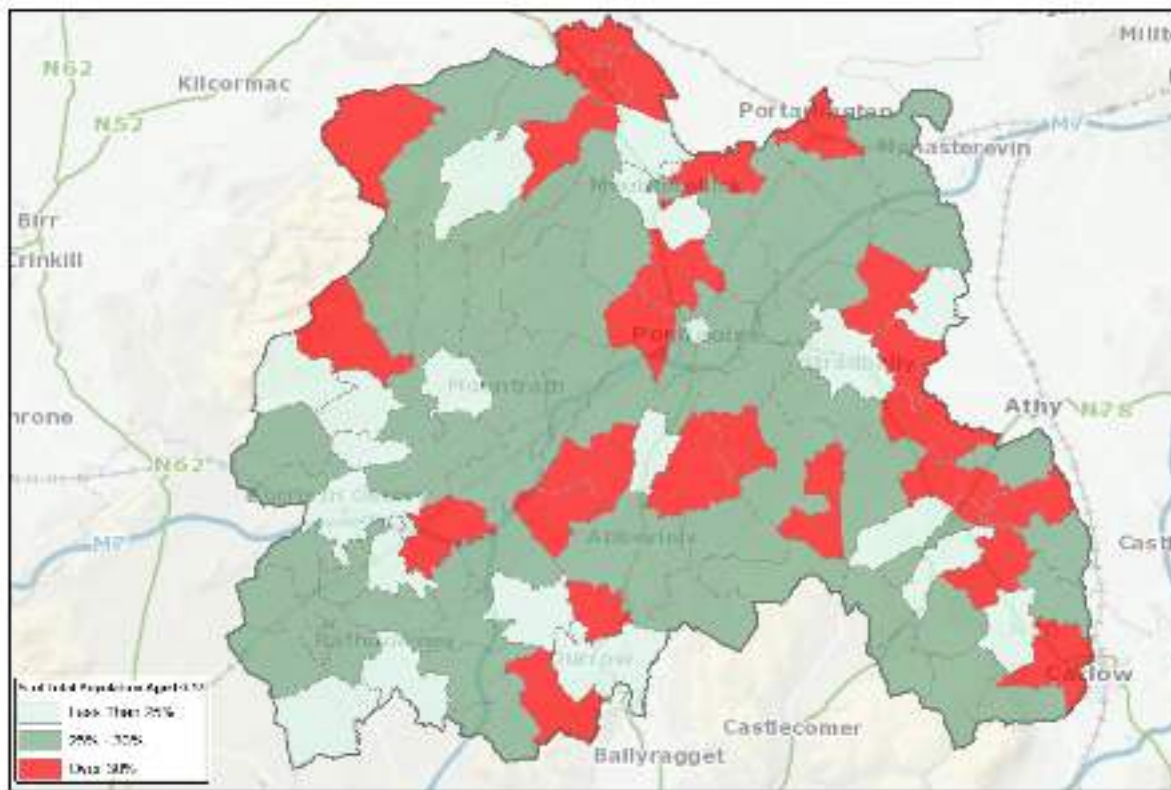


Figure 7 : Percentage of population aged 0-17 by total population in an ED
Source: Theme 1, Census 2016, CSO

Figure 7 gives an indication of the relative distribution, by place of residence, of the population aged under 18- which is the population likely to be availing of pre-school, primary school and second level education.

Figure 8 shows the distribution of 18-24 year olds by ED for Laois county.

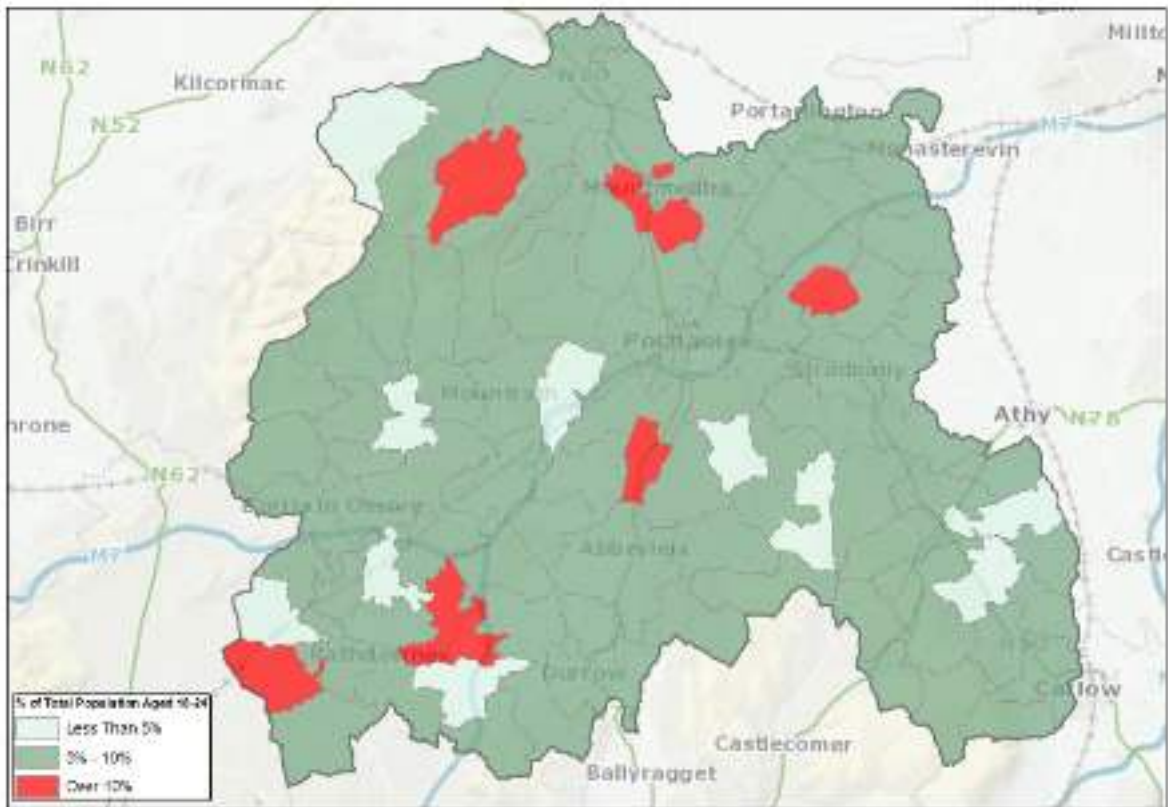


Figure 8: Percentage of population aged 18-24 in an ED; Source: **Theme 1, Census 2016, CSO**



Figure 9: Percentage of population aged 25-44 in an ED **Source:** Theme 1, Census 2016, CSO

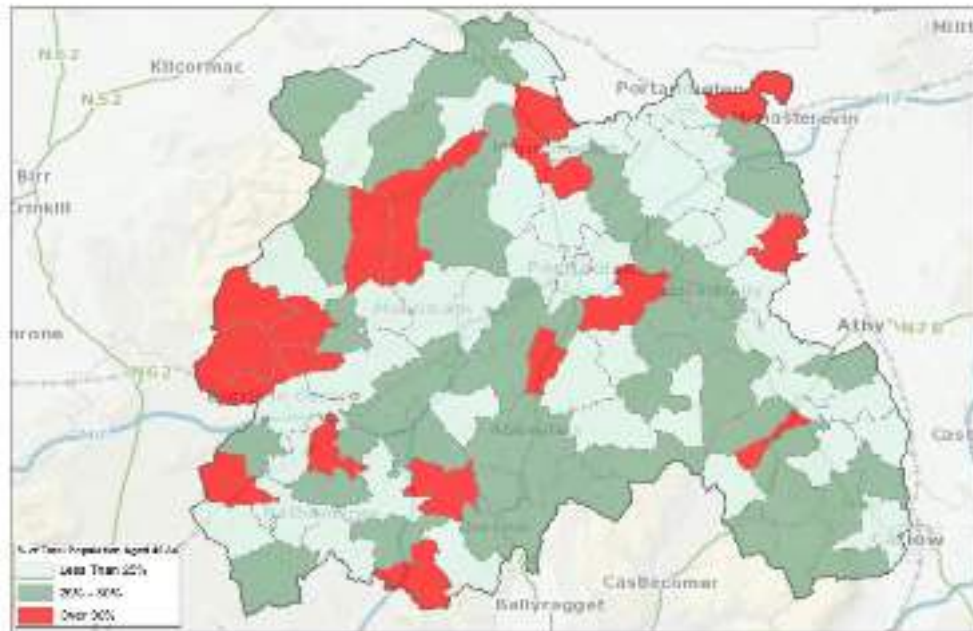


Figure 10: Percentage of population aged 45-64 in an ED; **Source:** Theme 1, Census 2016, CSO

OLD AGE DEPENDENCY RATE

Figure 11 presents the distribution of 65+ year olds by ED for Laois county.

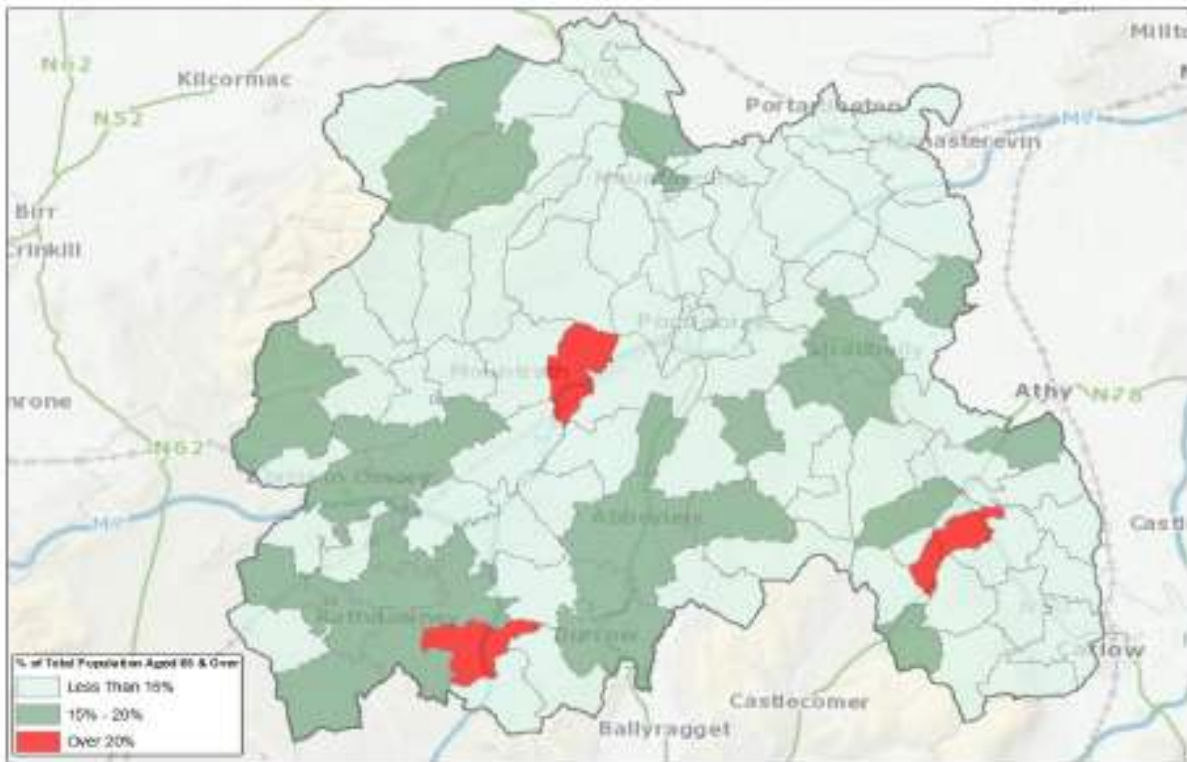


Figure 11: Percentage of population aged 65 & over in an ED; **Source:** Theme 1, Census 2016, CSO

Of the total population of the Abbeyleix ED 17% (482 persons) is aged 65+ whilst 18% (328 persons) of the total population of Stradbally ED is aged 65+. By contrast only 7% (349 persons) of the total population of Graigue Rural is aged 65+.

The Old Dependency Rate (65+) is calculated by taking the population aged 65+ and calculating it as a proportion of the population aged 15 to 64. According to Census 2016, the Old Dependency Rate in Laois was 16% below the state average of 20.4%.

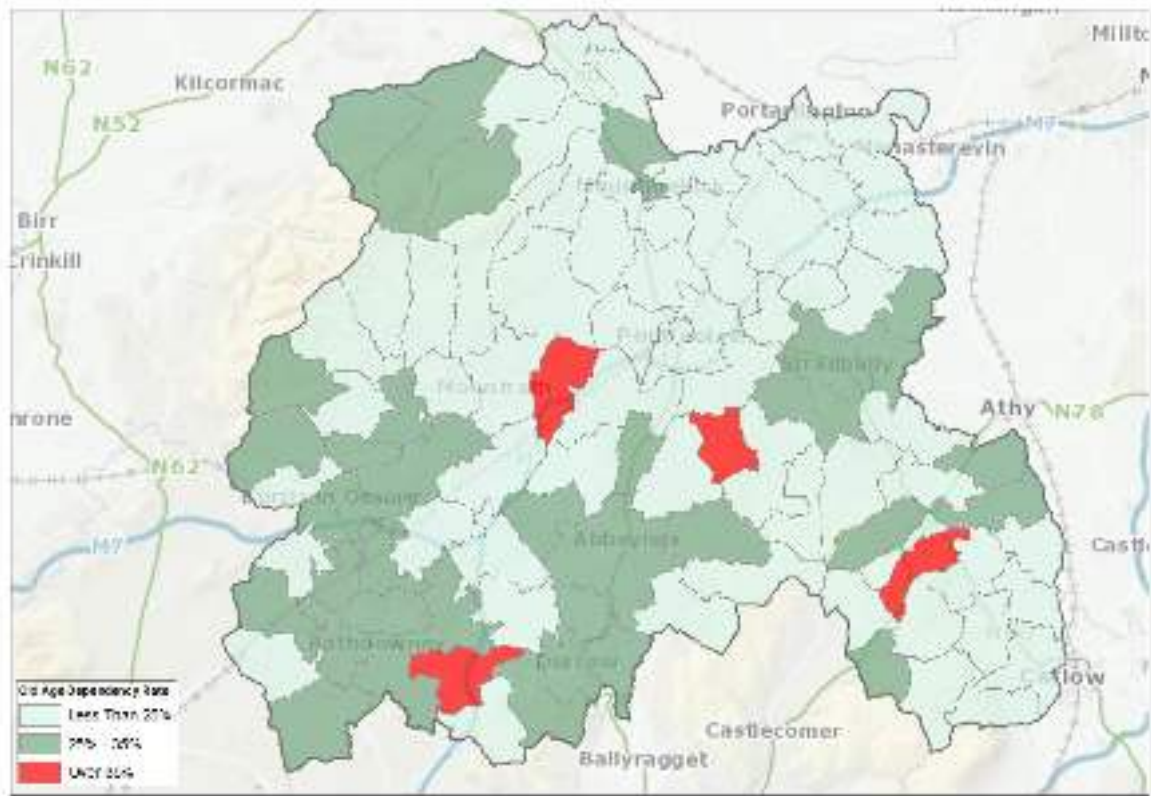


Figure 12: Old Age Dependency Rate for Laois by ED

YOUTH DEPENDENCY RATE

The Young Dependency Rate is calculated as the ratio of the number of 0-14 year olds in a population divided by the numbers of 15-64 year olds in that population.

County Laois has the highest ratio of young dependency nationally

County and City	Young Dependency Ratio
Laois	35.3
Meath	34.4
Cavan	33.5
Longford	33.1
Fingal	32.9
Galway County	32.4
Cork County	32.3
Roscommon	32.3
Kildare	32.2
Monaghan	31.9
Leitrim	31.7
Offaly	31.6
Donegal	31.5
South Dublin	31.4
Kilkenny	31.3
Wicklow	31.3
Louth	31
Westmeath	30.8
Wexford	30.4
Carlow	30.3
Clare	30.3
Tipperary	30.3
Mayo	29.7
Sligo	29.7
Limerick City and County	29.5
State	29.4
Waterford City and County	29.1
Kerry	28
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	26.9
Galway City	23.4
Cork City	20.2
Dublin City	20.2

Figure 13: Tabulation of “Young Dependency Rate” per county 2020

Source: CSO, Census 2020

POPULATION CHANGE

The three main factors in population change consist of births, deaths and net migration.

Figure 14 below shows the numbers of births (by county of residence of the mother) and the number deaths (by county of residence of the deceased) over the period 2016-2021.

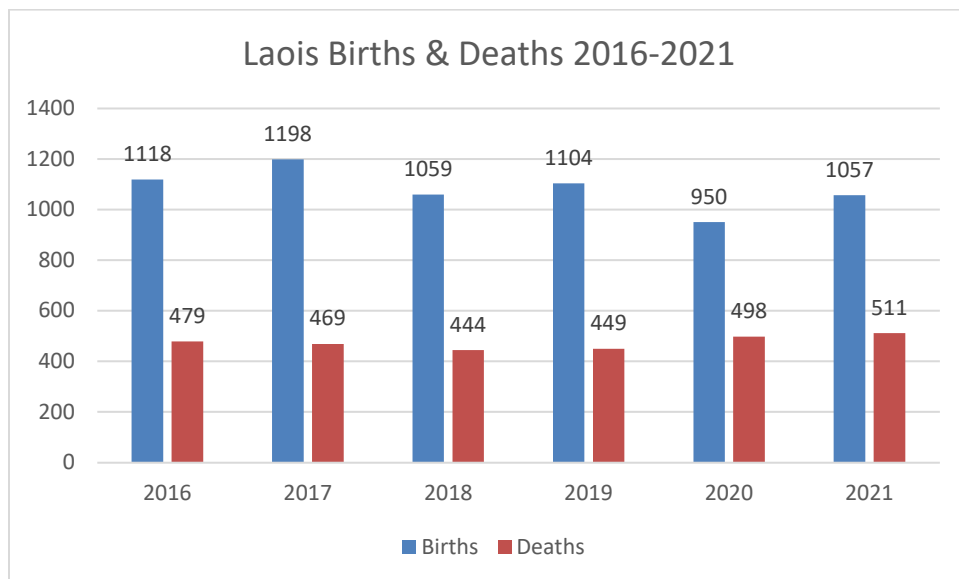


Figure 14 Source: CSO Vital Statistics publications

The data shows an excess of 3636 births over deaths over the six year period 2016 to 2021.

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

	Census 2016	2026 NPF / RSES Target	2031 NPF / RSES Target
EMRA Region	2,329,000	2,566,500- 2,619,000	2,668,000- 2,740,500
Midlands	292, 500	318,500-324,500	329,500-337,000
Laois	84,647	92,000-94,500	95,500-97,500

Figure 15: Population Projections for County Laois

Source: County Development Plan, quoting NPF / RSES Population Targets to 2026 and 2031

FAMILIES BY FAMILY CYCLE

Family Cycle: The CSO use the following classification for the description of family units:

- Pre-family: Family nucleus of married or cohabiting couple without children where female is under 45 years;
- Empty-nest: Family nucleus of married or cohabiting couple without children where female is aged between 45 and 64 years;
- Retired: Family nucleus of married or cohabiting couple without children where female is aged 65 years and over;
- Pre-school: Family nucleus where oldest child is aged 0-4 years;
- Early-school: Family nucleus where oldest child is aged 5-9 years;
- Pre-adolescent: Family nucleus where oldest child is aged 10-14 years;
- Adolescent: Family nucleus where oldest child is aged 15-19 years;
- Adult: Family nucleus where oldest child is aged 20 years and over

Figure 16 presents the breakdown of the total number of families by family cycle for Laois county.

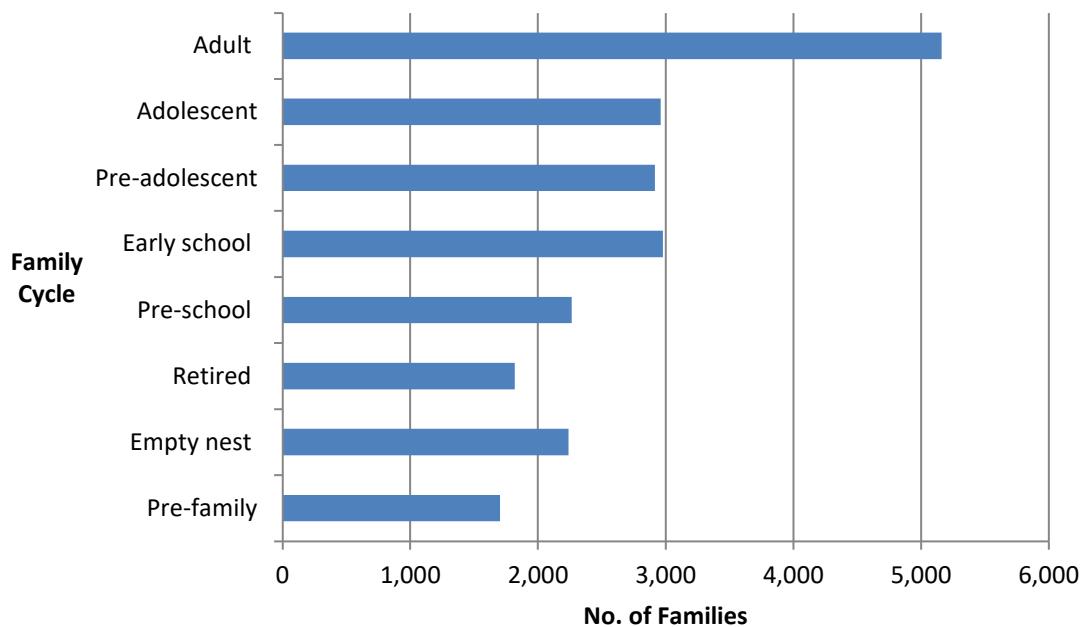


Figure 16: Families by Family Cycle

Source: Theme 4, Census 2016, CSO

Figure 17 presents the distribution of “adult family units” by ED for Laois county.

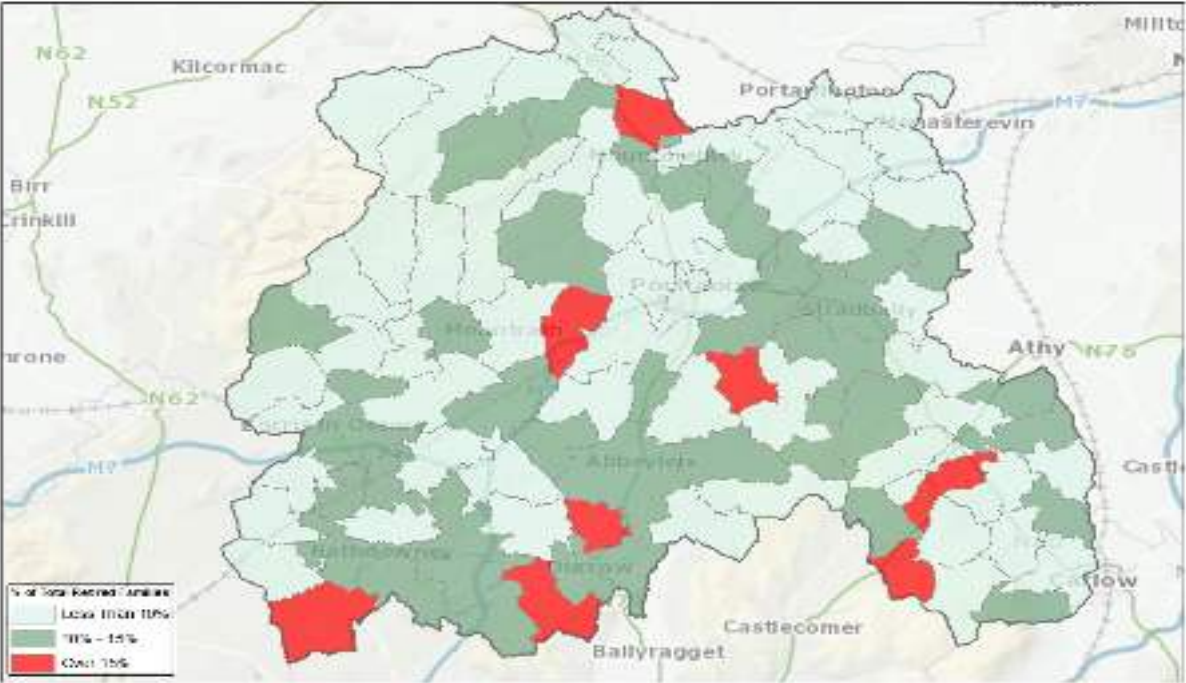


Figure 17: Distribution of “Adult Families in Laois County
Source: Theme 4, Census 2016, CSO

Figure 18 illustrates the distribution of these families by ED for Laois county.

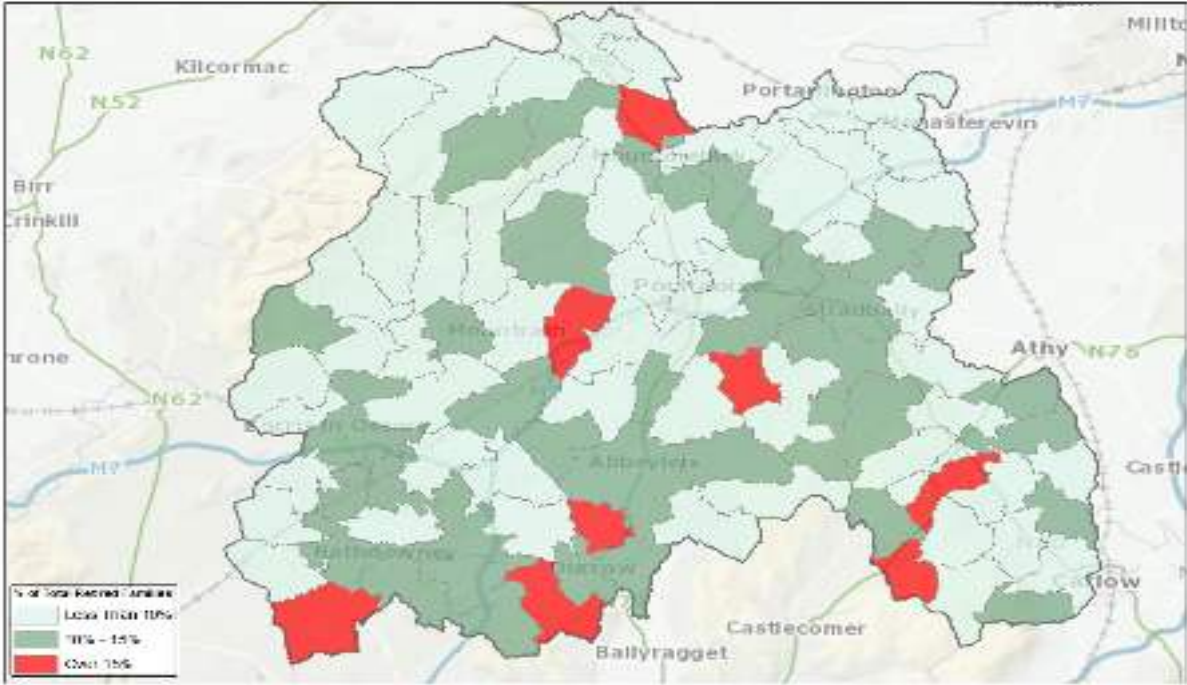


Figure 18 Distribution of Retired Families in Laois County as a % of ED
Source: Theme 4, Census 2016, CSO

LONE PARENTS

According to the 2016 Census, the total number of 'Lone Parent' families living in Laois was 3,807, based on 3,268 (86%) lone mother and 539 (14%) lone father families of a total 22,041 families with children.

Figure 19 illustrates the distribution of lone parent families by ED for Laois county.

Figure 19 Percentage of retired families by total families in an ED

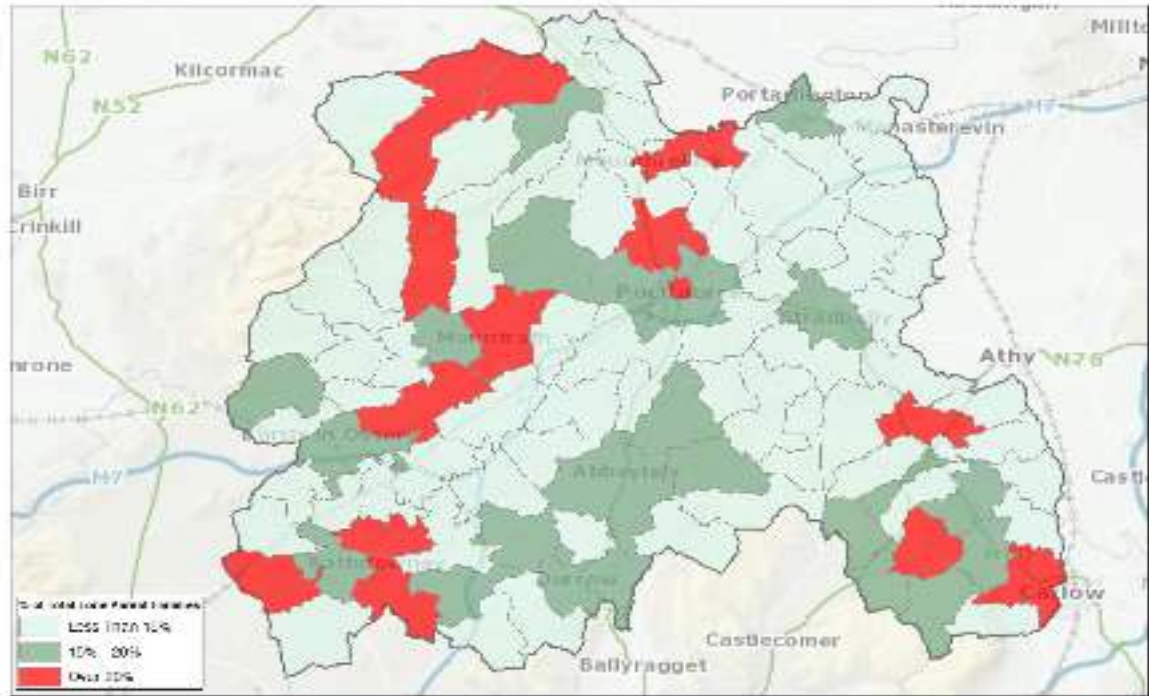


Figure 19: Percentage of lone parent families as a % of total total families in an ED

Source: Theme 4, Census 2016, CSO

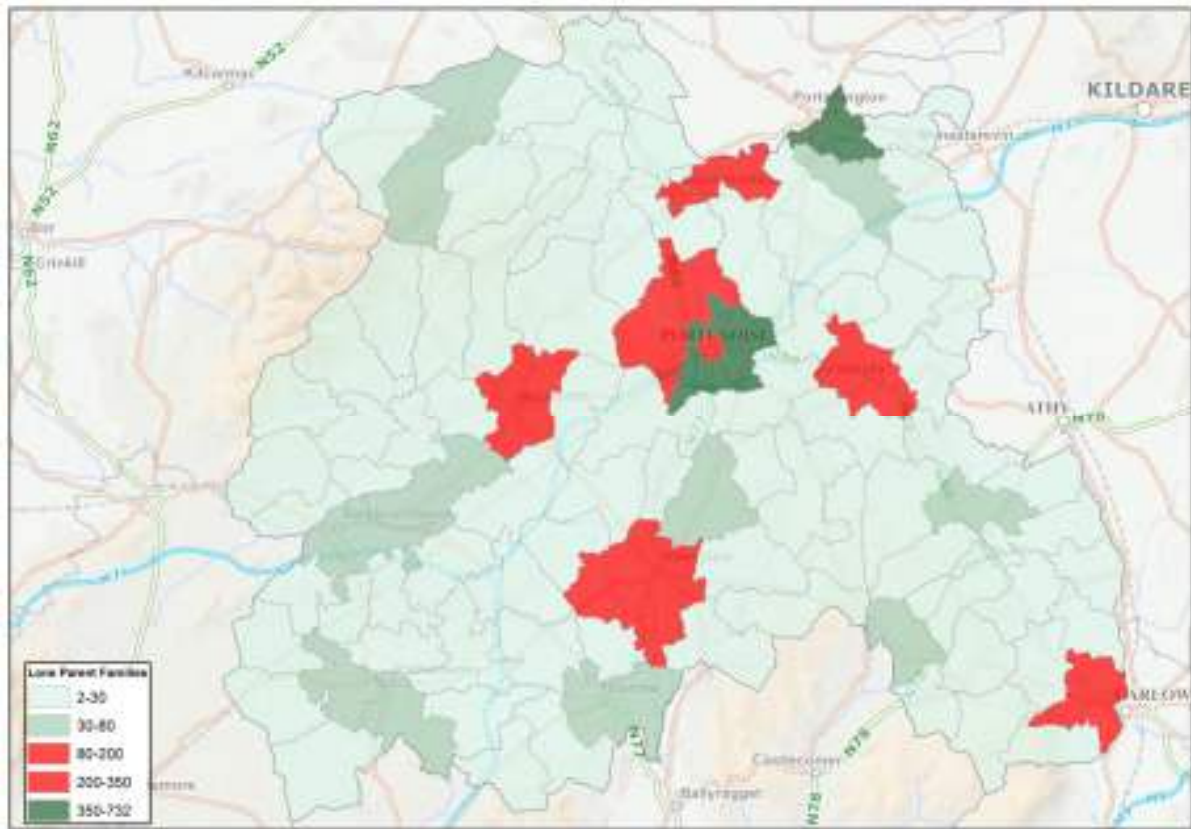


Figure 19b: Distribution of Lone Parent Families in Laois County
Source: Theme 4, Census 2016, CSO

It is evident from Map 13 lone parent families are distributed throughout the entire county with a higher concentration within and/or nearby urban settlements. The ED areas shown in red represent the EDs with high concentrations outside of Portlaoise and Portllington. These ED areas represent 29% (1,105 families) of the total lone parent families with the highest concentration located in the ED of Graigue Rural 7% (283 families). High concentrations were also recorded in the ED of Mountrath (151 families), Dangans (92 families), Mountmellick Urban (156 families), Clondarrig (91 families), Abbeyleix (148 families) and Stradbally (93 families).

NATIONALITY

Figure 20 presents the breakdown of the total population by nationality type for Laois county.

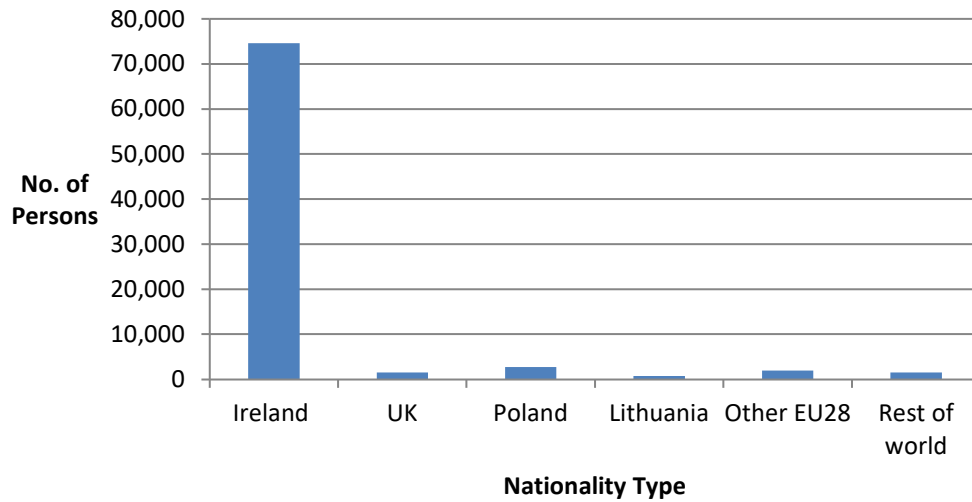


Figure 20: Nationality Type of Total Population of Laois county
Source: Theme 2, Census 2016, CSO

According to the 2016 Census, the population identifying as non-Irish nationals residing in Laois was 8,490 and represents 10% of the total population, slightly below the state average of 11.4%. The total non-Irish national population of Laois is slightly below that of neighbouring counties Kildare (10.6%), Offaly (8.52%) and Carlow (10.5%). Map 14 presents the distribution of non-Irish nationals by ED for Laois county.

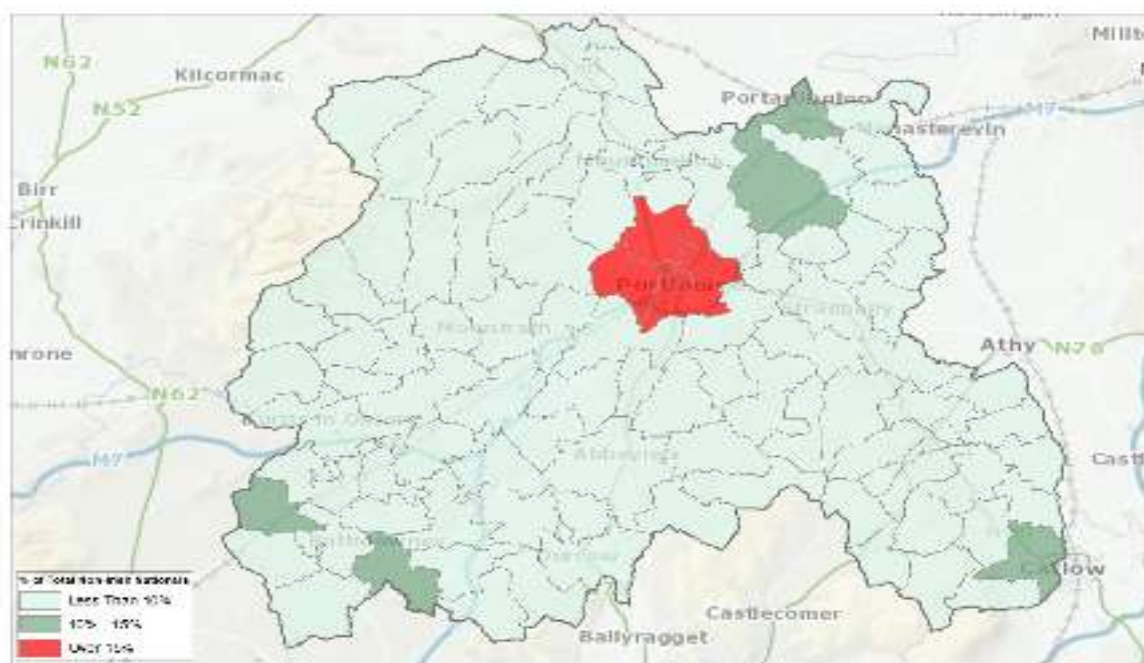


Figure 21: Percentage of non-Irish nationals by total nationalities in an ED
Source: Theme 2, Census 2016, CSO

It is evident from Figure 21 that the population not having Irish nationality is concentrated within certain urban areas throughout the county. Aside from Portlaoise and Portarlinton the highest concentration is residing in the ED of Graigue Rural (606 persons – being 13% of total population of the ED and 7% of total non-Irish population of the county). The ED of Clondarrig and Borris, located on the outskirts of Portlaoise had 950 persons counted as not having Irish nationality. A high concentration of non-Irish population reside in the following EDs Mountrath (232 persons), Mountmellick Urban (201 persons), Emo (183 persons), Abbeyleix (169 persons), Durrow (113 persons) and Rathdowney (128 persons, 11% of the total population of that ED).

As presented in Figure 20 the Polish nationality forms the highest non-Irish national group accounting for 3.23% (2,721 persons) of the total population of the county, higher than the state average of 2.6% and equal to the Kildare rate of 3.3%.

USUALLY RESIDENT POPULATION

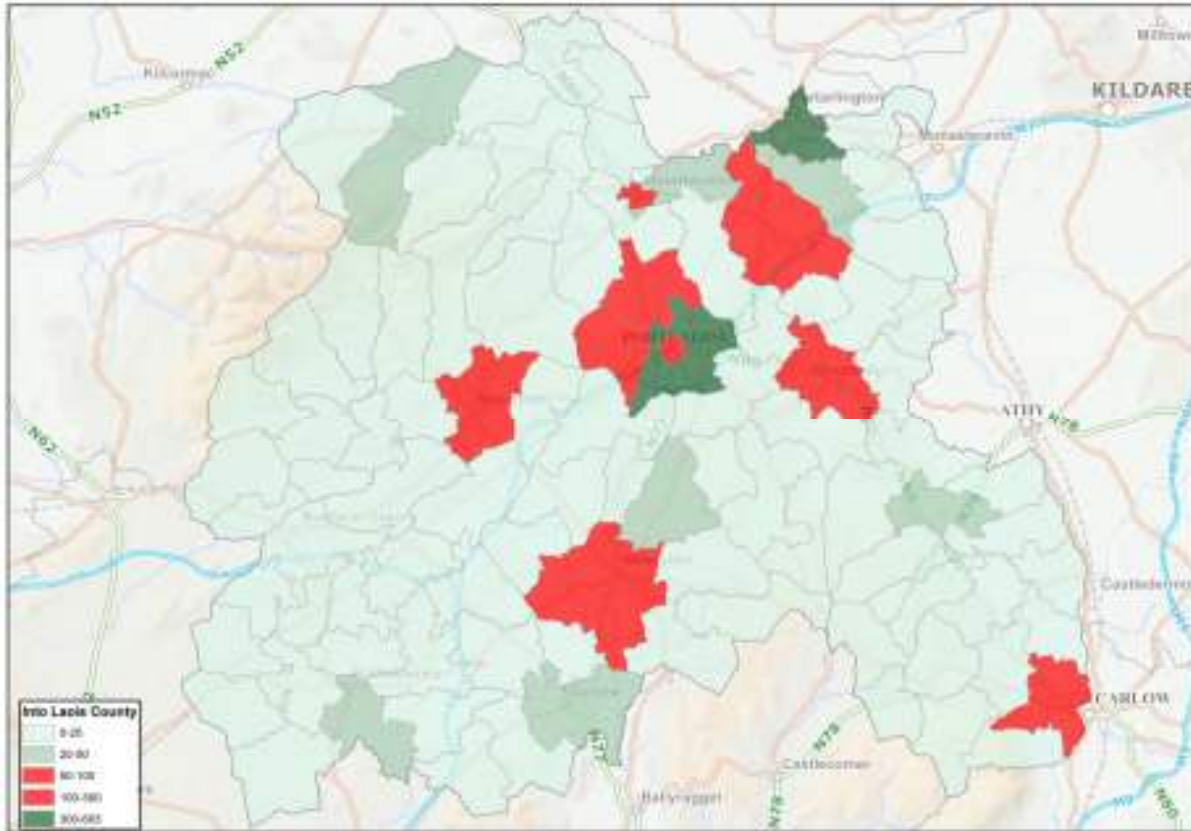


Figure 22: Population Distribution of those who migrated into Laois County in year prior to 2016

Source: Theme 2, Census 2016, CSO

ED areas shown in red represent those which recorded the highest rate of inward migration outside of Portlaoise and Portarlington. The EDs as shown in red account for 27% (676 persons) of the total inward migration population. Of the total population of Graigue Rural ED 5% (235 persons) migrated into the area 1 year before the 2016 Census. High concentrations were also recorded in the ED of Mountrath (56 persons, 2% TP), Mountmellick Urban (73 persons, 2% TP), Emo (52 persons, 4% TP), Clondarrig (76 persons, 4% TP), Abbeyleix (69 persons, 3% TP), Stradbally (55 persons, 3% TP) and Borris (60 persons, 4% TP).

POBAL HP DEPRIVATION INDEX

The HP deprivation index is published in accordance with the Census. The index provides a method of measuring the relative affluence or disadvantage of a particular geographical area using data compiled from various Censuses. Percentage data for the area is provided under a range of categories such as unemployment, educational attainment and population change.

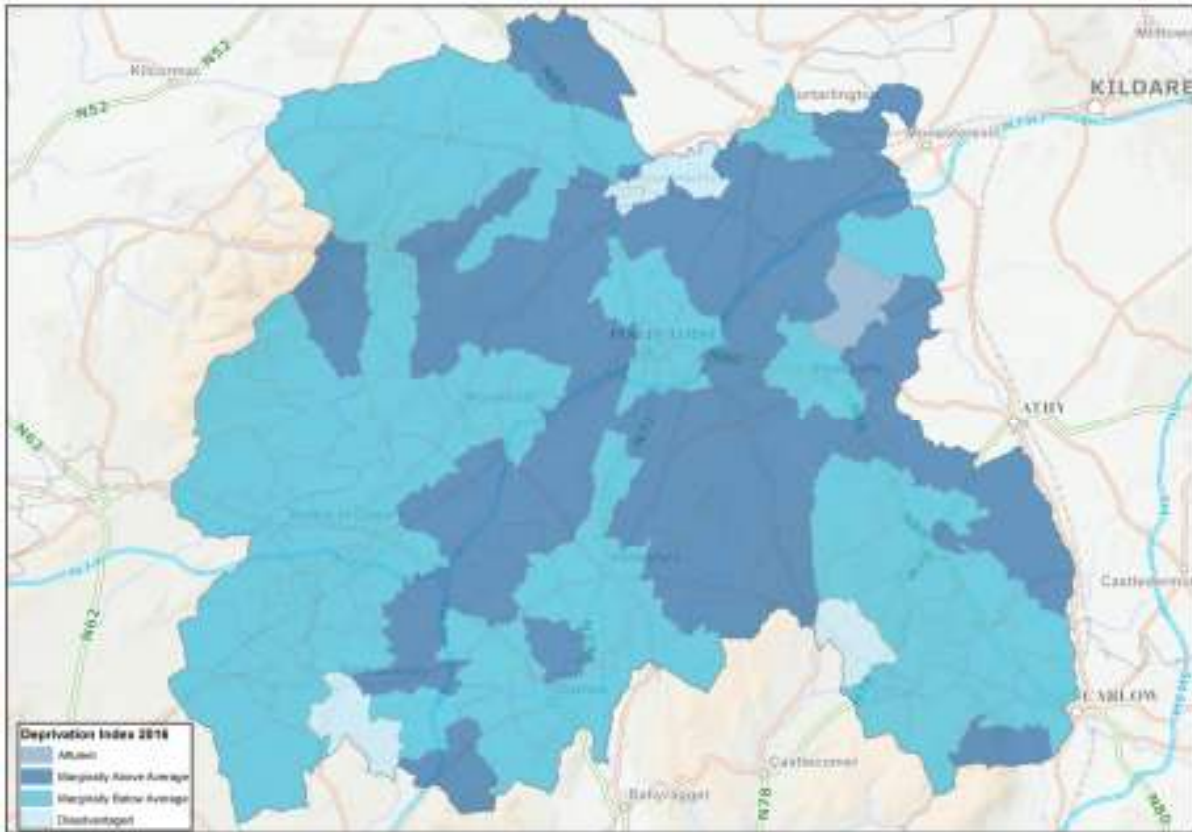


Figure 23: Deprivation Index by ED for Laois County
Source: <https://maps.pobal.ie/WebApps/DeprivationIndices/index.html>

As of 2016 there was one ED Moyanna in Laois county that was determined as 'Affluent' in both 2011 and 2006 this ED was recorded as 'Marginally Above Average'. In 2016 there were four EDs recorded as 'Disadvantaged' namely Doonane, Dangans, Rathdowney and Mountmellick Urban. Interestingly the ED of Doonane, located in the Mountmellick area was the only ED to be recorded as disadvantaged prior to 2016.

The rates of disadvantage vary across Laois but in general do not have many areas in the extremes of either disadvantage or affluence. The vast majority of EDs are in the categories just above or below the average with 54% (52 EDs) classed as 'Marginally Below Average', 41% (40 EDs) classed as 'Marginally Above Average', no ED areas were recorded as extremely disadvantaged or very affluent.

1.2 ECONOMY

PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC STATUS

Figure 8 presents the breakdown of the total population aged 15 years and over by principle economic status as recorded by the 2016 Census of Population for Laois County.

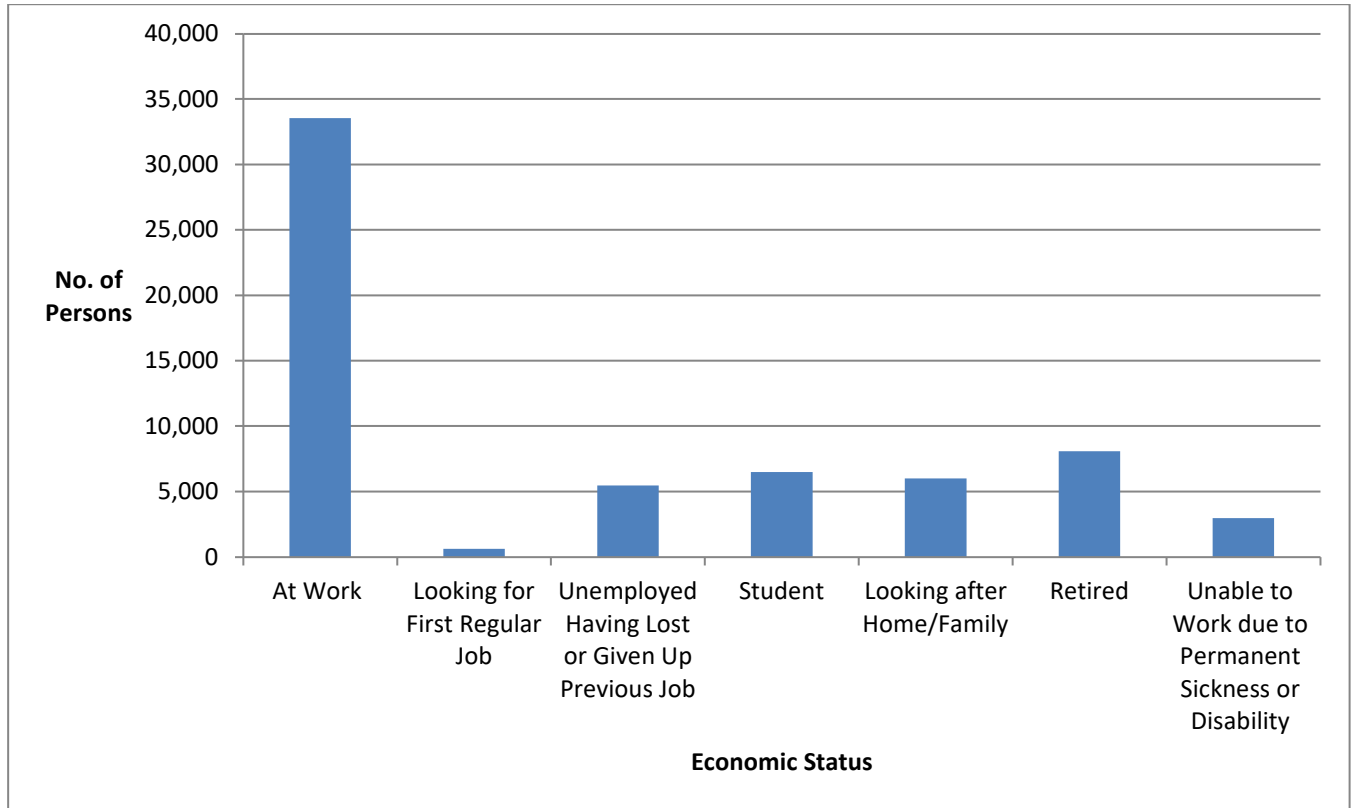


Figure 24: Principle Economic Status of Population Aged 15 and Over for Laois County

Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

LABOUR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

The labour force is comprised of all persons at work, looking for their first job or unemployed, while students, homemakers, retired persons and those unable to work are categorized as being not in the labour force. This section will focus on the labour force – overall labour force participation rate, those ‘At Work and those ‘Unemployed’ (including those looking for their first job).

The percentage of people aged 15 and over who participate in the labour force – as opposed to having another status such as student, retired or homemaker is known as the labour force participation rate. It is measured as the number in the labour force (at work or unemployed) expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15 and over.

As of 2016 Laois County had an ‘At Work’ rate of 53% (33,541 persons) and an ‘Unemployment Rate’ of 9% (5,452 persons). The graphics and maps on the following pages provide more detail on each of these variables and highlights the different trends in place within and across Laois county.

According to Census 2016, the total labour force residing in Laois was 39,609 which is equivalent to 62% (Labour Force Participation Rate). This rate is above the state (61.4%) and neighboring county Carlow (59.7%) averages. Between 2011 and 2016 the labour force in Laois increased by an additional 5.34% (+3,239).

Figure 25 presents the distribution of the labour force participation rate by ED for Laois county.

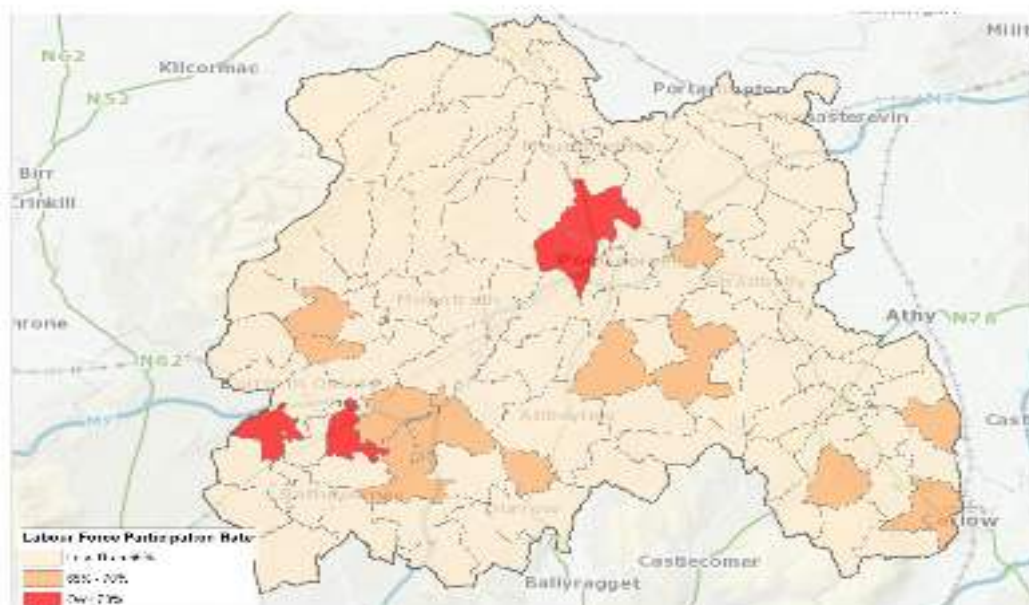


Figure 25: Labour Force Participation Rate (%) in Laois County by ED

Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

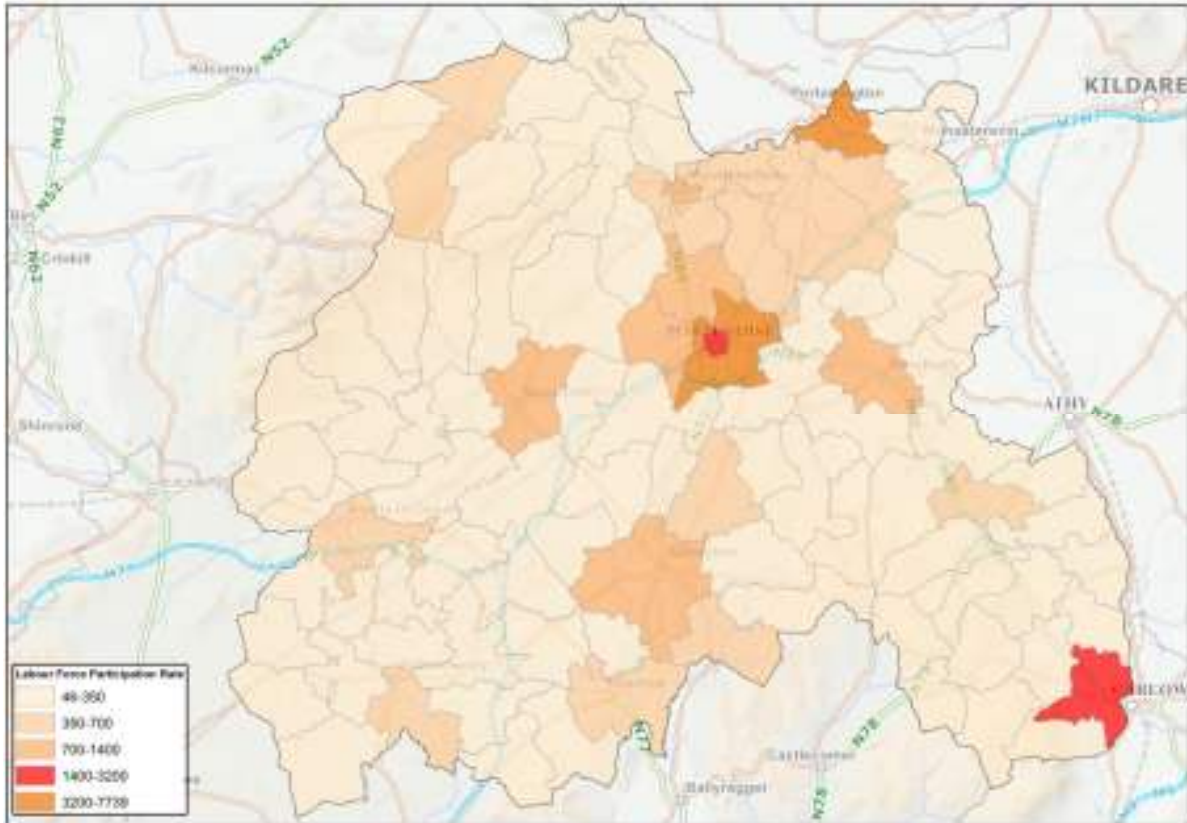


Figure 25b: Labour Force Participation Numbers Laois County by ED
Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

The distribution of the labour force in Laois county is varied with the highest rates tending to be in close proximity to urban settlements across the county. As presented in Map 19 the highest rates were recorded in Portlaoise and Portarlinton which is discussed in Chapters 2.2 and 3.2. Aside from these areas the highest rate was recorded in the ED of Graigue Rural; 67% (2,304 persons) of the total population within the ED aged 15 and over is part of the labour force.

The following EDs also recorded a high labour force participation rate of the total population of the ED Mountmellick Urban 58% (1,367 persons), Borris 71% (822 persons), Clondarrig 71% (921 persons), Stradbally 56% (807 persons), Mountrath 60% (1,099 persons) and Abbeyleix 56% (1,232 persons).

LABOUR FORCE UNEMPLOYED

Figure 26 presents the distribution of those 'Unemployed' of the total population aged 15 years and over by ED for Laois county.

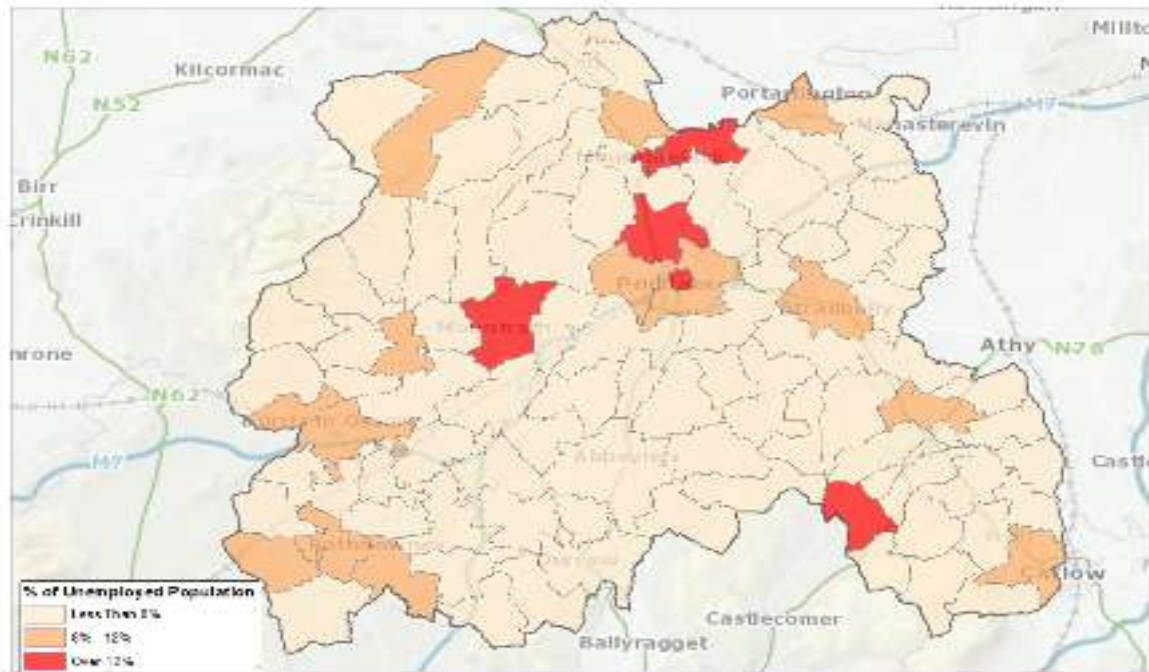


Figure 26: Percentage of Unemployed Population by Total Population in an ED 2016

Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

According to the 2016 Census, the total labor force 'Unemployed' residing in Laois was 5,452 persons and equates to 13.8% of the total labour force within the county. The rate recorded for Laois was higher than the state (12.9%). Highest rates tend to be strong in and around urban settlements, particularly to the north east of the county.

(94 persons), Stradbally 8% (119 persons), Clondarrig 9% (123 persons), Borris 16% (188 persons) and Dangans 15% (166 persons).

LIVE REGISTER

An alternative method of analyzing the spatial patterns of unemployment is to use the adjusted Live Register figures. The Live Register is not specifically designed to measure unemployment as it includes part-time, seasonal and casual workers. However it does allow for analysis at county and social welfare office level (Portlaoise, Portarlington and Rathdowney).

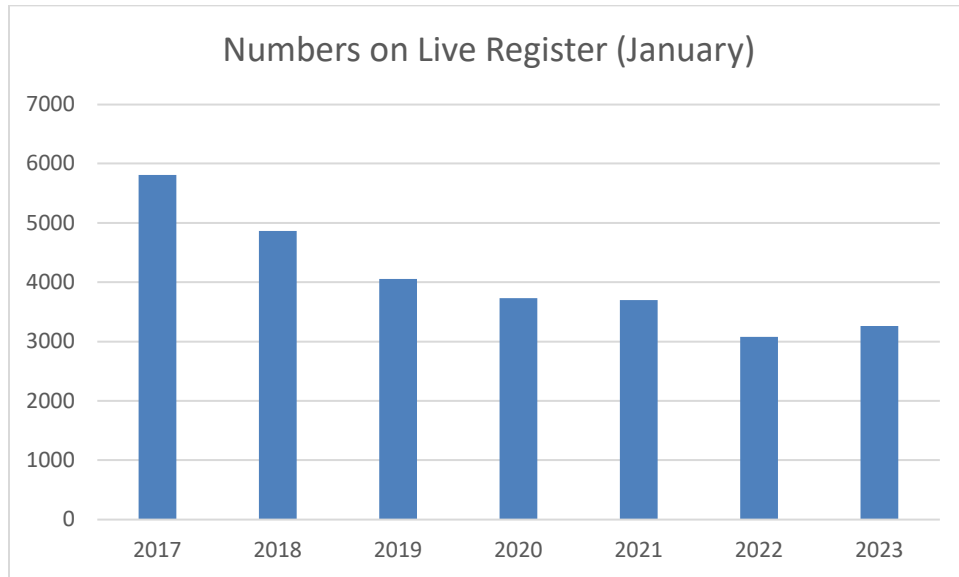


Figure 27: Persons on Live Register by Social Welfare Office for Laois County
Source: CSO Statbank February 2023

The numbers on the Live register decreased by over 2500 persons between January 2019 and January 2023.

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYMENT

The term 'industry' used for Census of Population' purposes is not confined to the manufacturing industry. It is comparable with the term 'sector of economic activity'. The basis of the industrial classification is, in the case of employees, the business or profession of their employer and in the case of self-employed persons, the nature of their own business or profession.

It is important to **note** that this data relates to the industry of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. Therefore this is not an analysis of the industry of jobs that are located within Laois county.

Figure 10 presents the industrial sector that workers of Laois county are employed in.

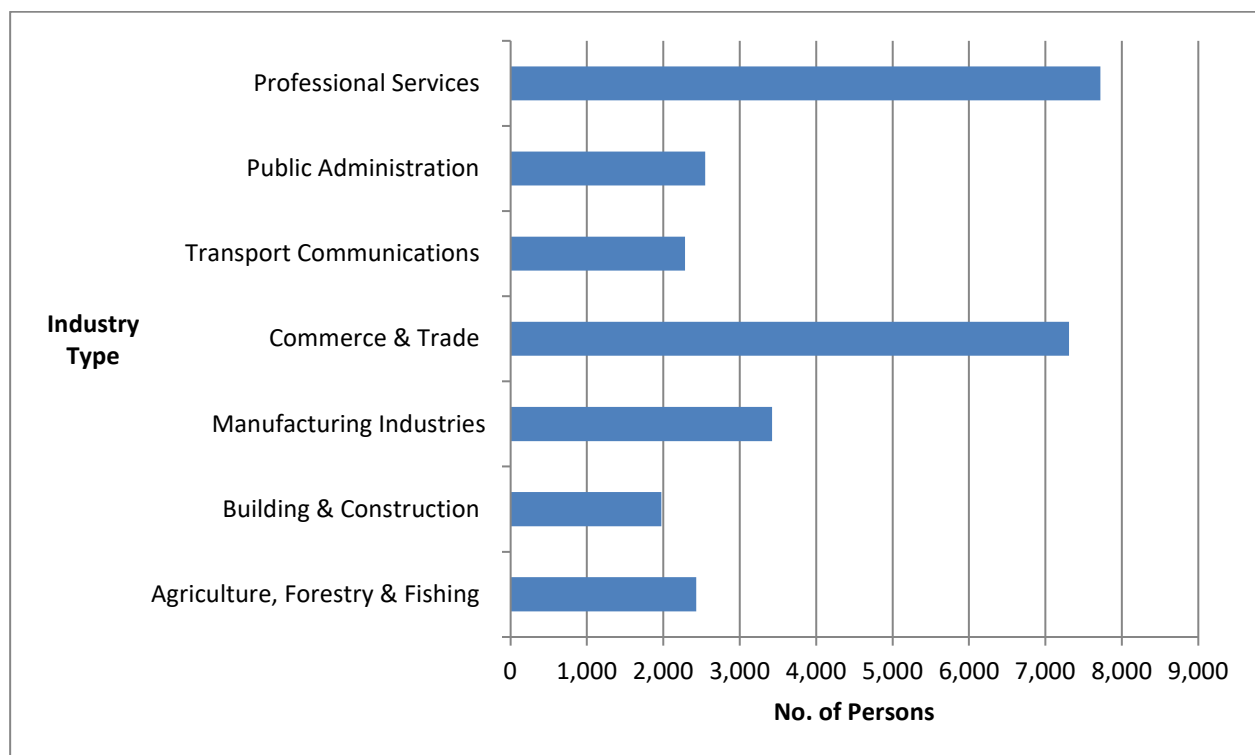


Figure 28: Persons at Work of Laois Residents by Industry for Laois County

Source: Theme 14, Census 2016, CSO

In a similar fashion to the state profile, the most dominant industries of Laois workers is within the 'Professional Services' 23% (7,717 persons) and 'Commerce and Trade' 22% (7,307 persons). Industrial sectors such as Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing 7% (2,431 persons), Building and Construction 6% (1,976 persons) and Public Administration 8% (2,548 persons) are all higher than the equivalent state averages.

According to the 2016 Census the number of Laois workers employed in Manufacturing Industries 10% (3,423 persons) and Transport Communications 7% (2,286 persons) is below the state averages.

Figures 29 to 37 show the distribution of persons employed by different sectors.

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYMENT – AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHING

Figure 29 presents the distribution of those employed in the industry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing by ED for Laois county.

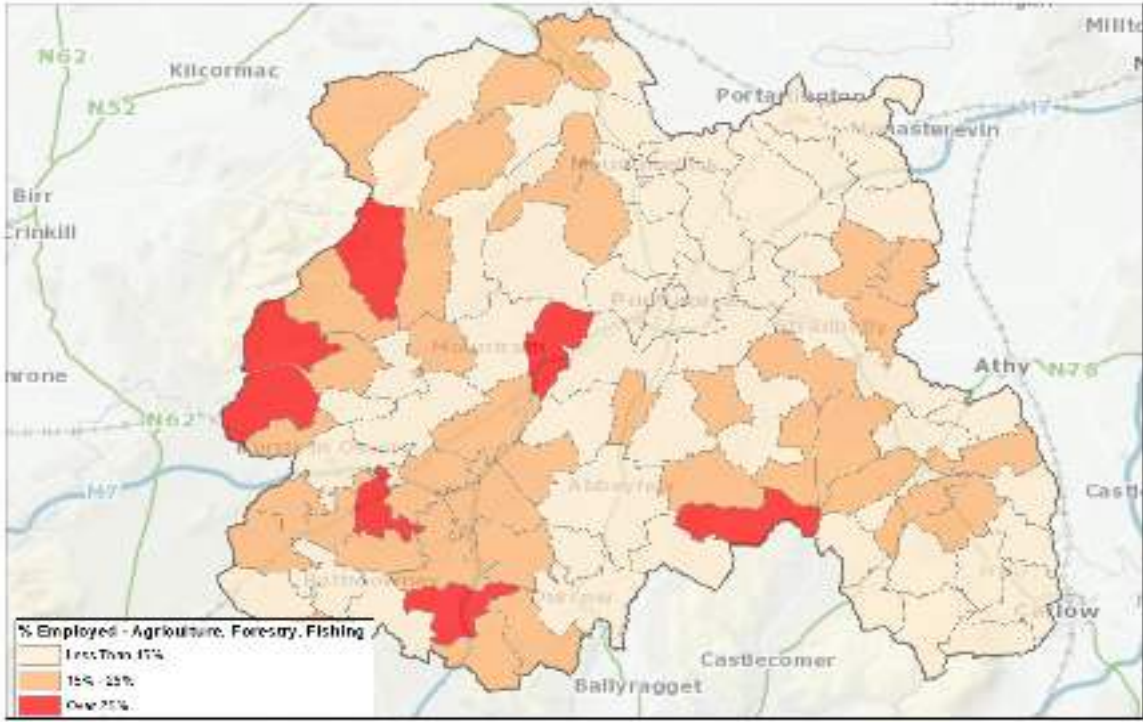


Figure 29: Percentage of Population employed in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing by ED in Laois
Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

*It is important to **note** that this data relates to the industry of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. Therefore this is not an analysis of the industry of jobs that are located within Laois county.*

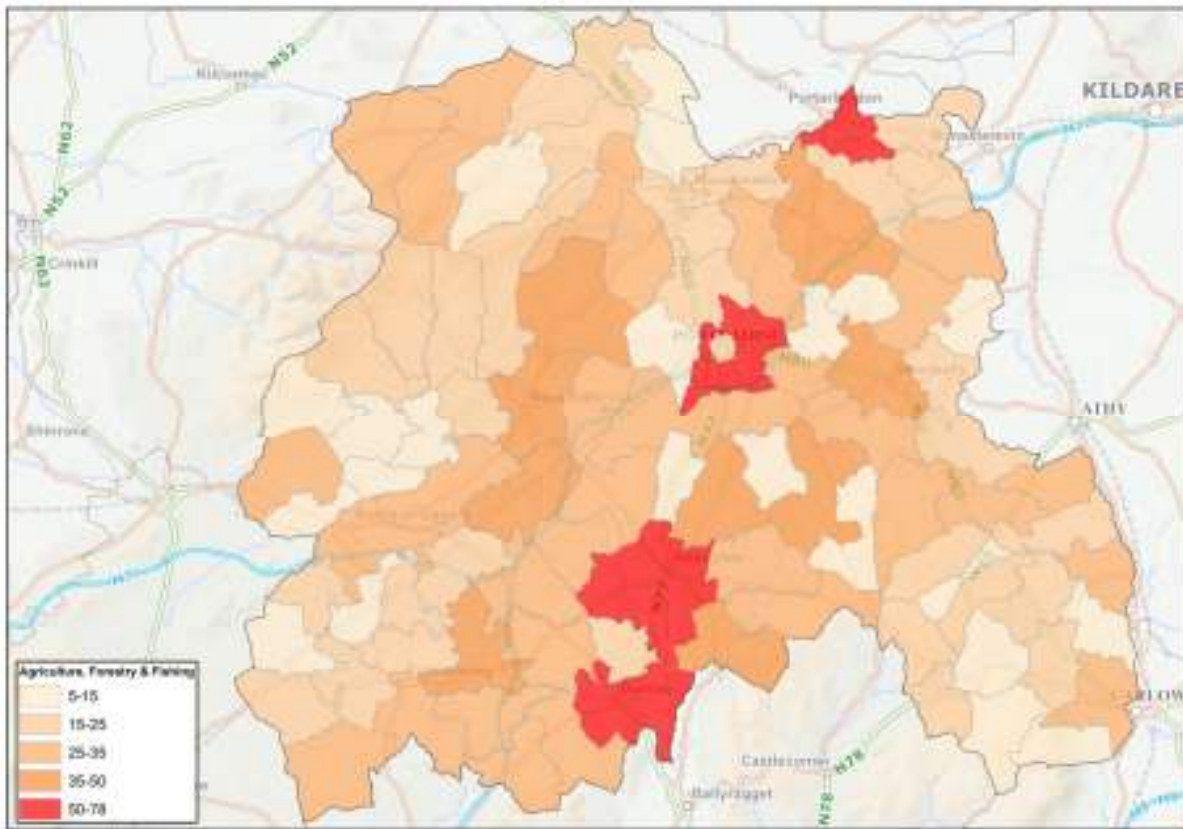


Figure 29a: Population Employed in Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing (numbers per ED)

Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

According to the Census 2016, the total persons employed in the 'Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing' sector in Laois is 2,431 persons, representative of 7.2% of the total working population within the county, significantly above the state average of 4.4% and neighboring counties Kildare 3.3% and similar to Carlow 7.3%.

Given the nature of this sector it is not surprising the more rural areas of the county; in particular to the west attain a higher density when compared to other industry sectors.

*It is important to **note** that this data relates to the industry of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. Therefore this is not an analysis of the industry of jobs that are located within Laois county.*

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYMENT – BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION

Figure 30 presents the distribution of those employed in the industry of Building & Construction by ED for Laois county.

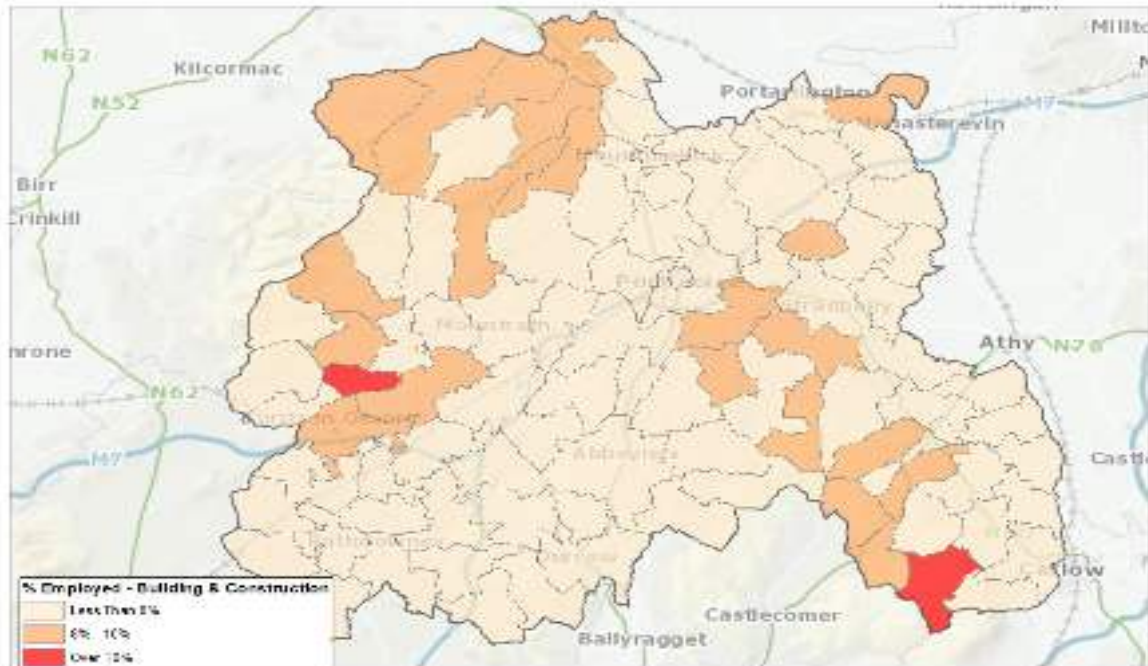


Figure 30 Map 3: Percentage of population employed in Building and Construction by ED in LaoisSource: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

*It is important to **note** that this data relates to the industry of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. Therefore this is not an analysis of the industry of jobs that are located within Laois county.*

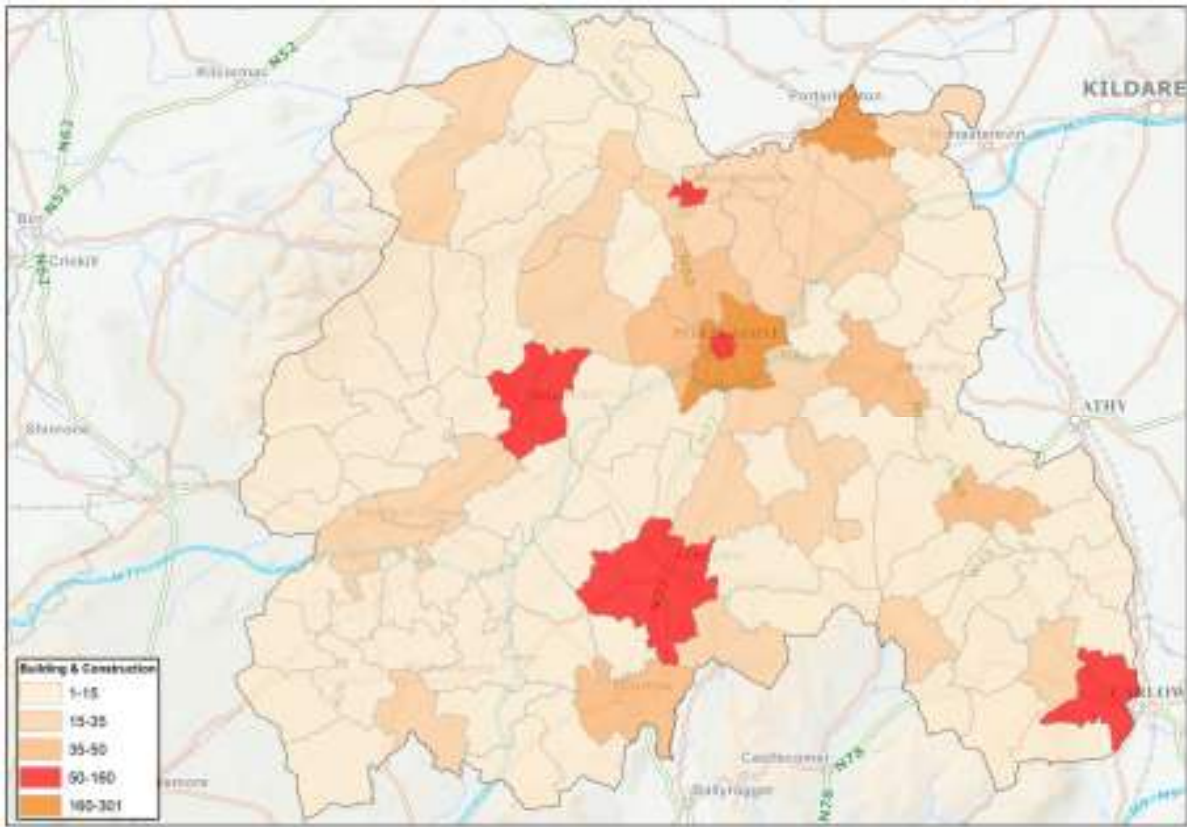


Figure 30b: Population Employed in Building & Construction
Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

According to 2016 Census, the total person employed in the ‘Building and Construction’ sector in Laois is 1,976 persons representative of 6% of the total working population within the county. This rate is higher than the state average of 5% and similar to the rate recorded for Offaly county; 6%.

*It is important to **note** that this data relates to the industry of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. Therefore this is not an analysis of the industry of jobs that are located within Laois county.*

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYMENT – MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Figure 31 presents the distribution of those employed in the industry of Manufacturing Industries by ED for Laois county.

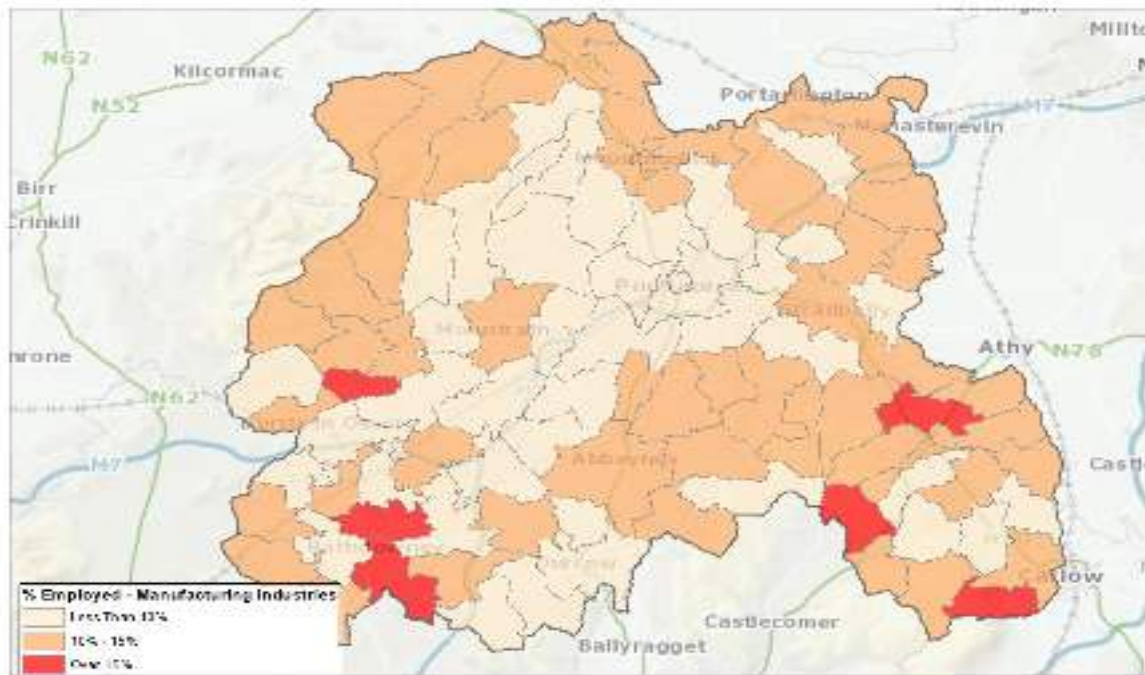


Figure 31 Map 4: Percentage of population employed in Manufacturing Industries by ED in Laois
Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

*It is important to **note** that this data relates to the industry of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. Therefore this is not an analysis of the industry of jobs that are located within Laois county.*

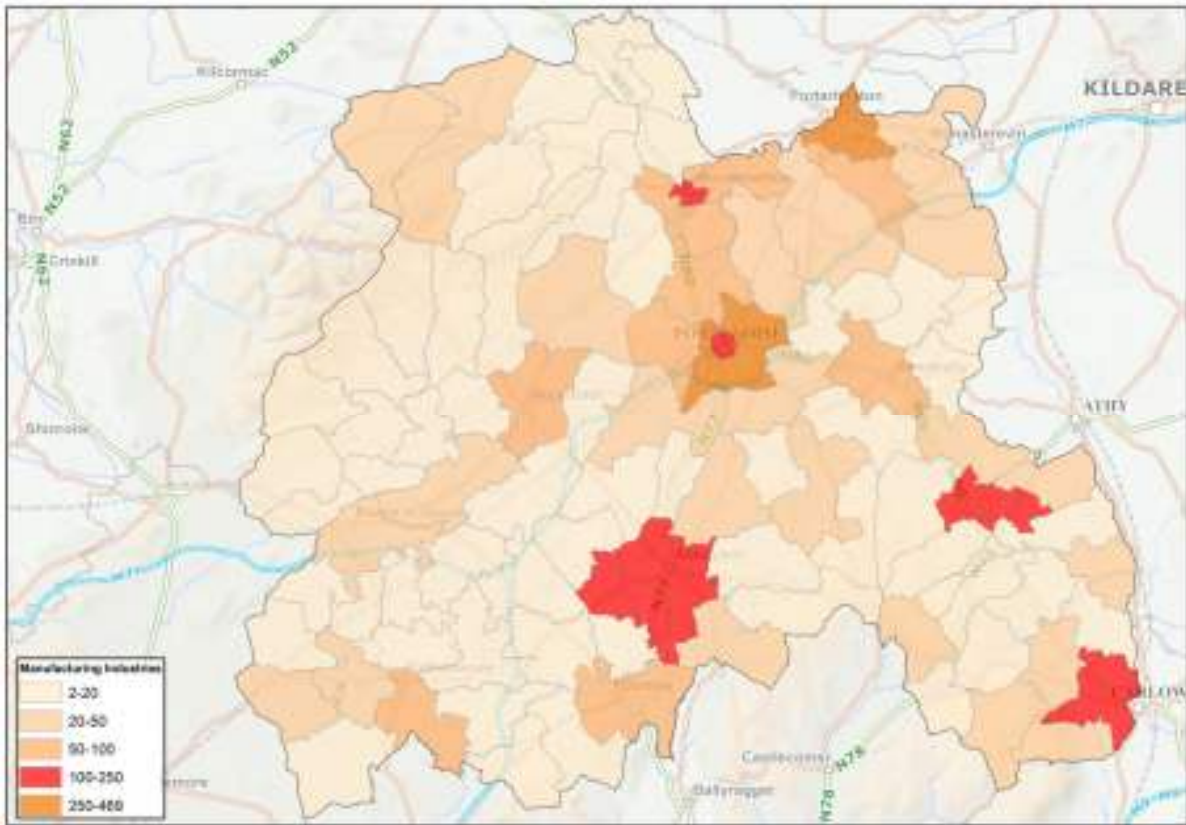


Figure 31 a: Population Employed in Manufacturing Industries

Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

According to the 2016 Census, the total persons employed in 'Manufacturing Industries' in Laois is 3,423 persons representative of 10.2% of the total working population within the county. This rate is below the state average of 11.4% and surrounding counties Kildare (11.8%) and Carlow (13.4%).

*It is important to **note** that this data relates to the industry of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. Therefore this is not an analysis of the industry of jobs that are located within Laois county.*

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYMENT – COMMERCE AND TRADE

Figure 32 presents the distribution of those employed in Commerce and Trade by ED for Laois county.

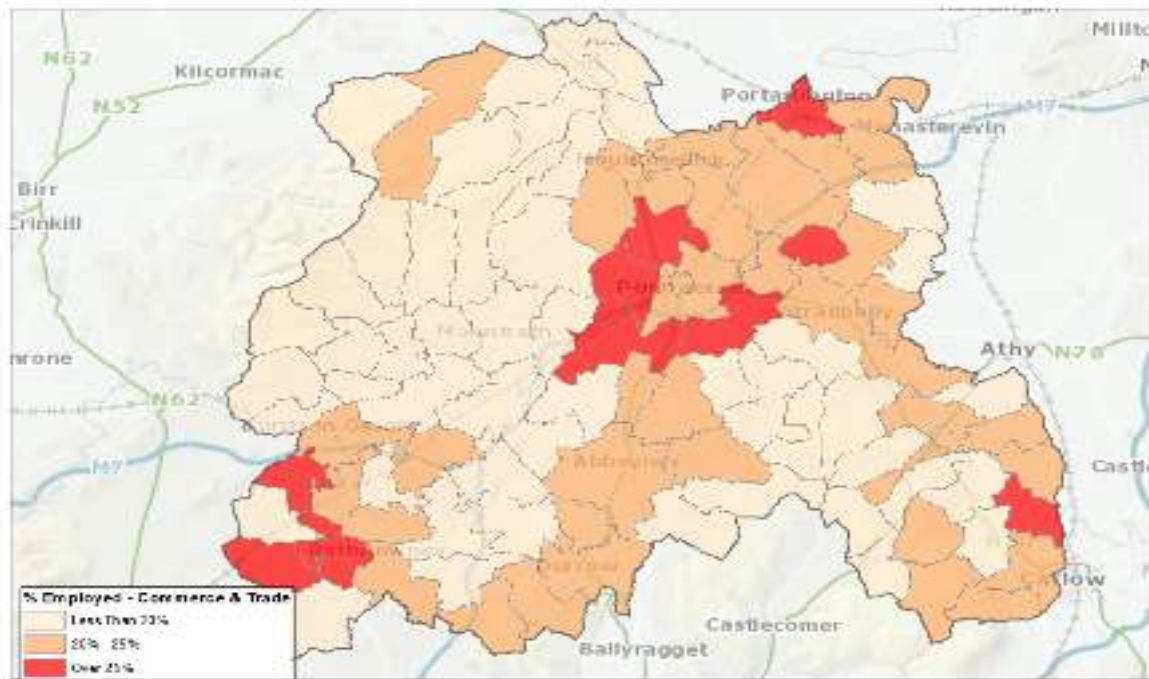


Figure 32: Percentage of population employed in Commerce and Trade by ED in Laois

*It is important to **note** that this data relates to the industry of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. Therefore this is not an analysis of the industry of jobs that are located within Laois county.*

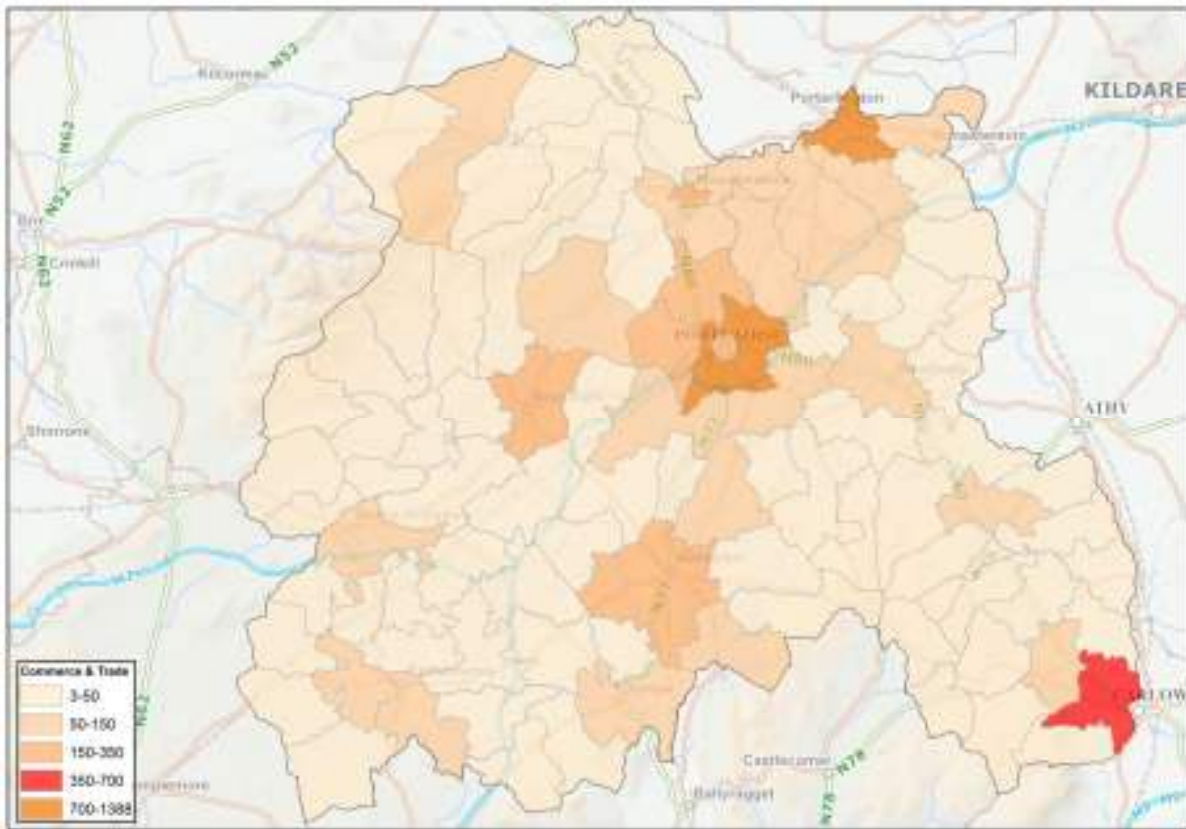


Figure 32a: Population Employed in Commerce and Trade
Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

According to the 2016 Census, the total persons employed in 'Commerce and Trade' in Laois is 7,307 persons representative of 21.7% of the total working population within the county. This rate is below the state average of 23.9% and surrounding counties Kildare (26.6%) and Carlow (23%).

It is apparent from Map 25 the EDs with the highest rates are located to the north east of the county. Outside of Portlaoise and Portarlington the ED of Graigue Rural as shown in red in Map 25 attains the highest proportion; 7% (486 persons) of the total working population in Commerce and Trade and 24% of total working population of the ED.

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYMENT – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Figure 33 presents the distribution of those employed in Professional Services by ED for Laois county.

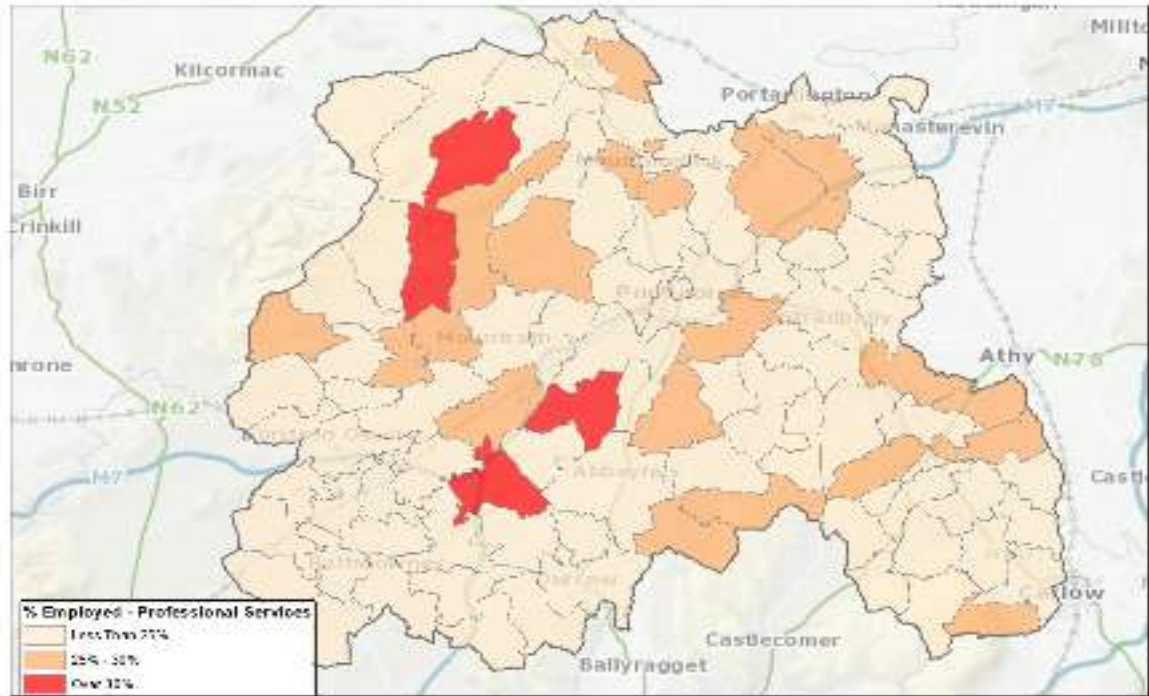


Figure 33: Percentage of population by ED employed in Professional Services in Laois

*It is important to **note** that this data relates to the industry of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. Therefore this is not an analysis of the industry of jobs that are located within Laois county.*

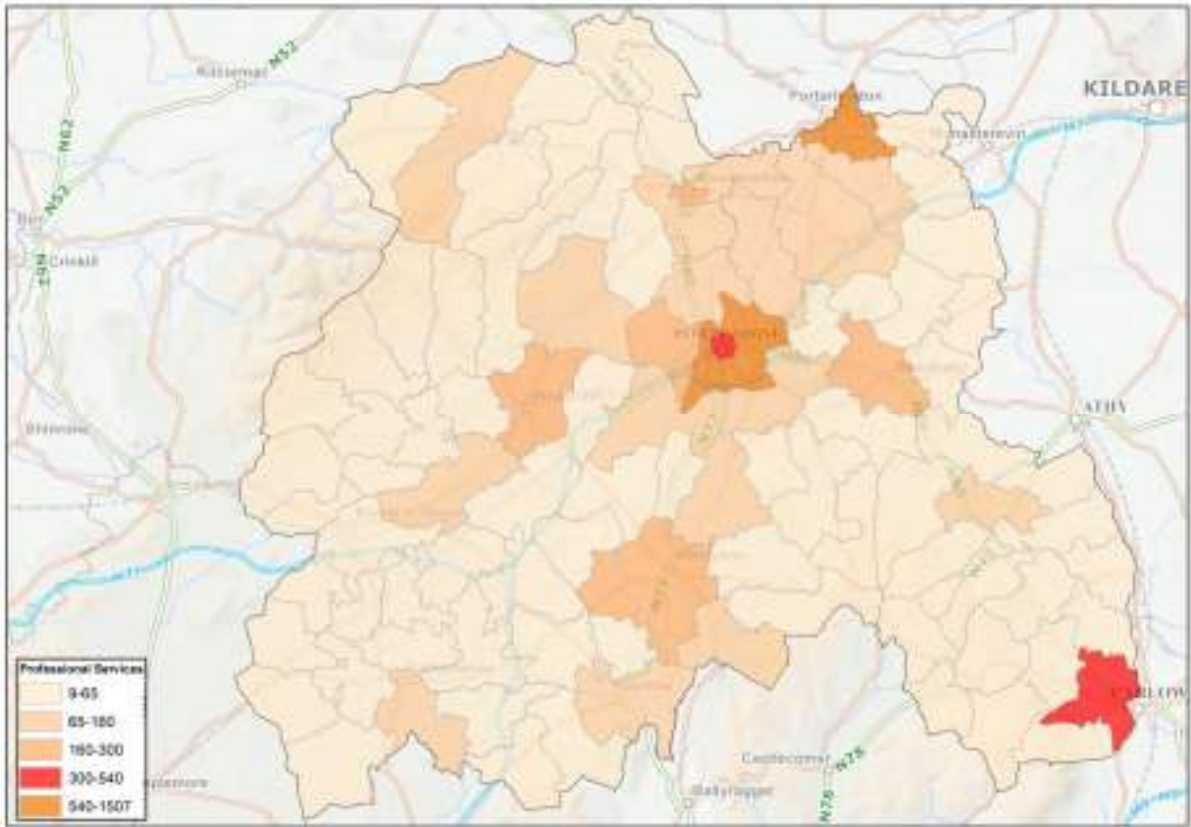


Figure 33a: Population Employed in Professional Services
Source: Theme 8, Census 2016, CSO

According to the 2016 Census, the total persons employed in ‘Professional Services’ in Laois is 7,717 persons representative of 23% of the total working population within the county. This rate is similar to the state average of 23.5% and of neighboring counties Carlow (22.1%), Kildare (22.8%) and Offaly (22.5%).

*It is important to **note** that this data relates to the industry of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. Therefore this is not an analysis of the industry of jobs that are located within Laois county.*

OCCUPATION

A person's occupation is determined by the kind of work he or she performs in earning a living, irrespective of the place in which, or the purpose for which, it is performed. The nature of the industry, business or service in which the person is working has no bearing upon the classification of the occupation.

It is important to note that this data relates to the occupation of workers who reside within Laois and may in fact commute to other counties for employment opportunities. As such, this is not an analysis of the occupation of workers employed in jobs exclusively located in Laois county.

Figure 34 presents those at work or unemployed in Laois by occupation.

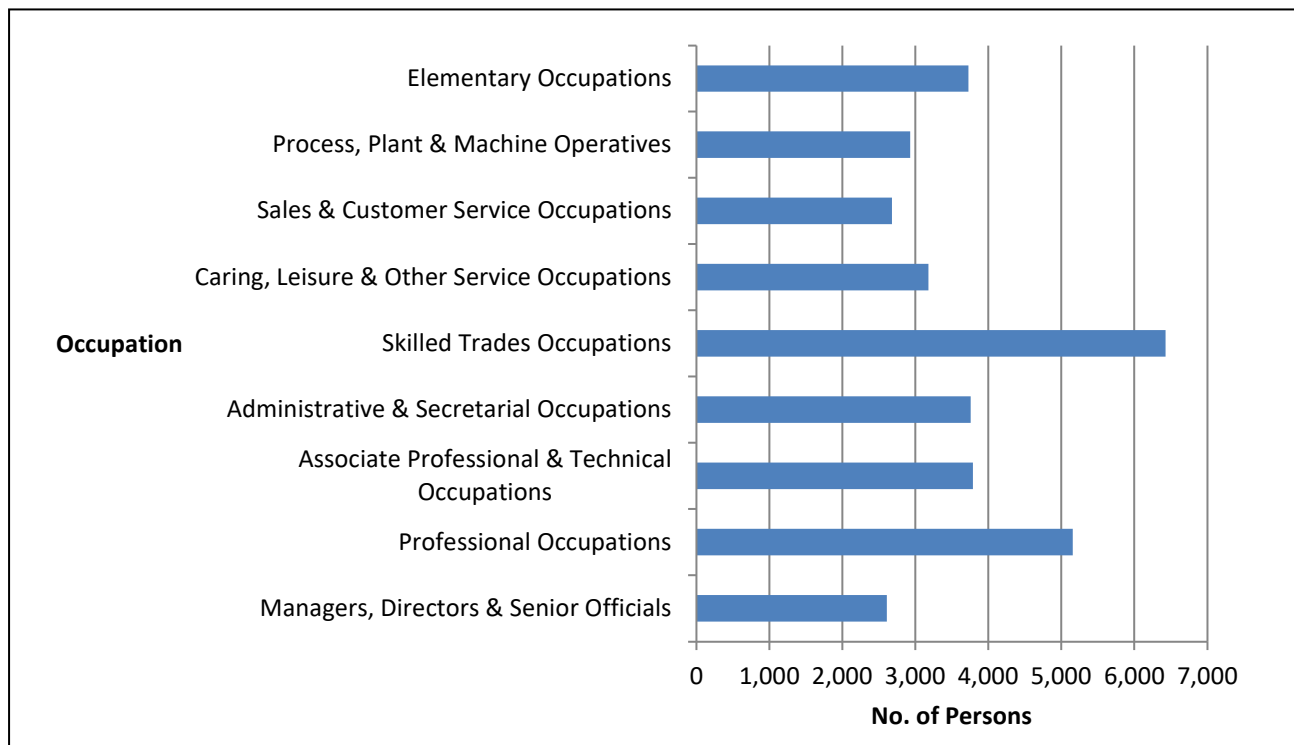


Figure 1: Persons at Work or Unemployed by Occupation

Source: Theme 13, Census 2016, CSO

The 2016 Census recorded the occupation type of 38,993 persons, of those at work and unemployed representative of 61% of the total population aged 15 years and over. It is apparent from Figure 11 'Skilled Trades Occupation' is the most common occupation type accounting for 16.5% whilst 'Managers, Directors and Senior Officials' is the least common; 6.7%.

OCCUPATION – MANAGERS, DIRECTORS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS

Figure 35 presents the distribution of those in the occupation of Managers, Directors and Senior Officials by ED for Laois County.

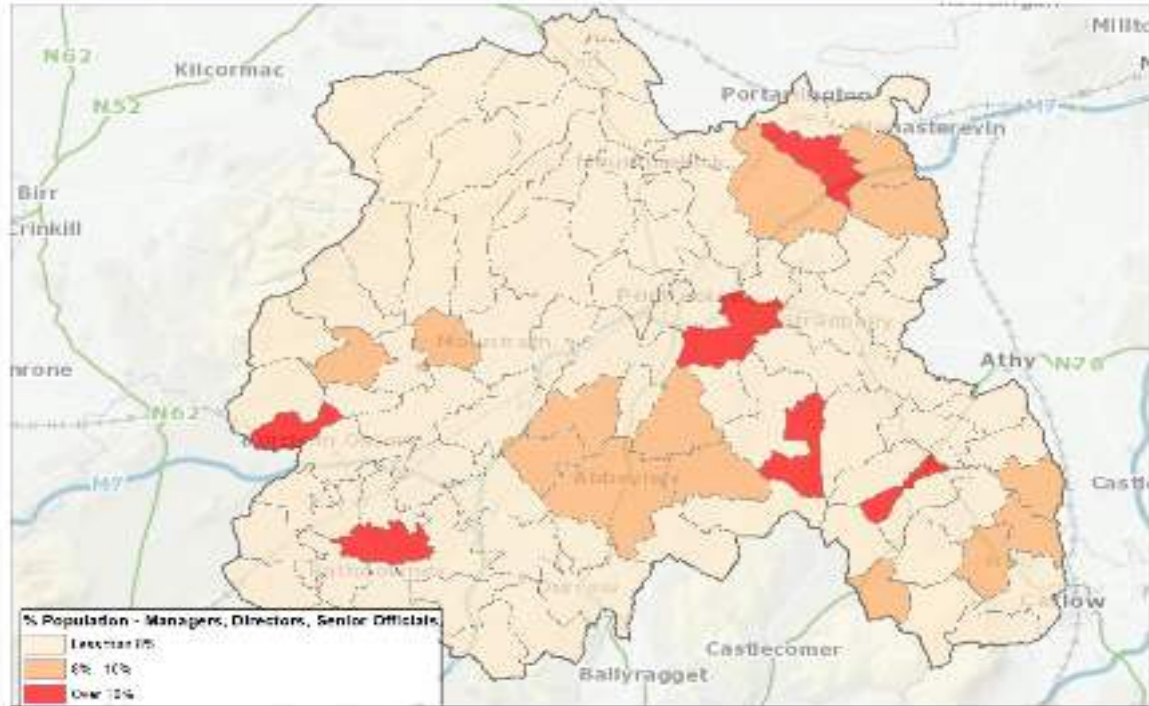


Figure 35: Percentage of population by ED in the occupation of Managers, Directors & Senior Officials in Laois
Source: Theme 13, Census 2016, CSO

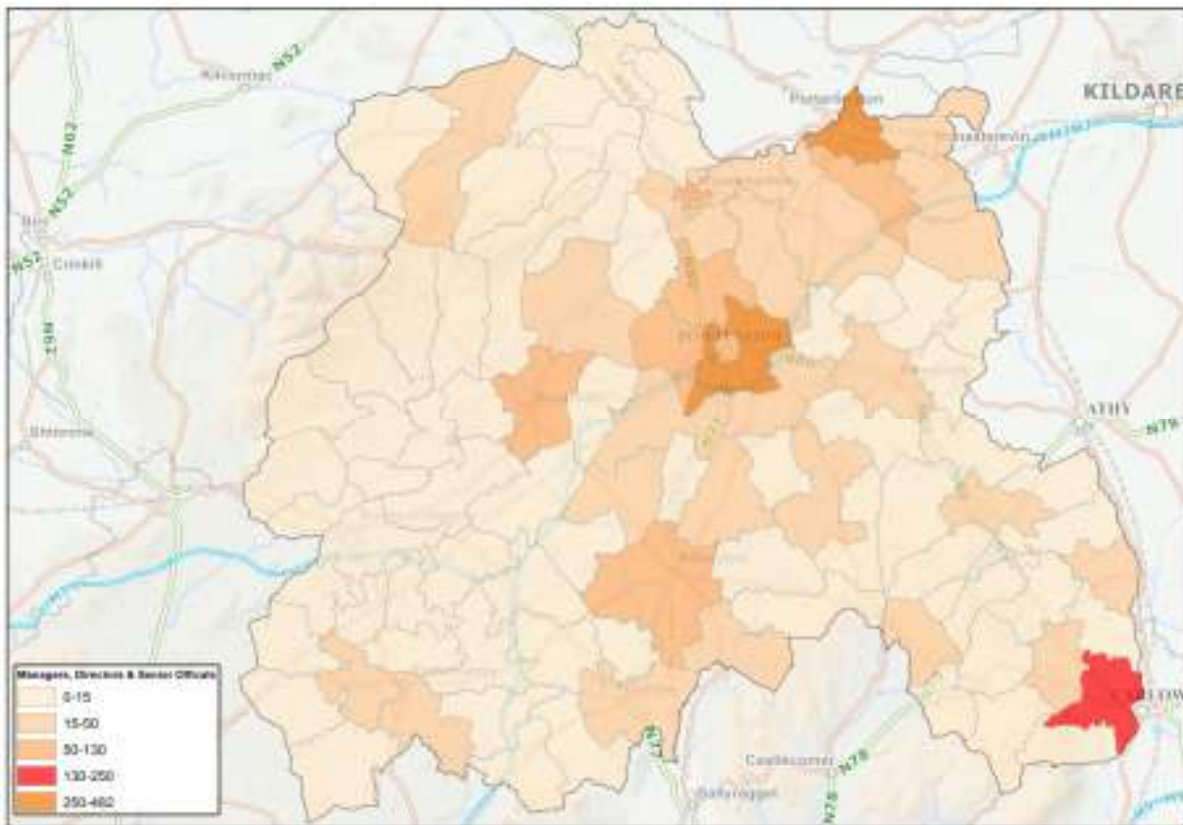


Figure 35a: Population in the Occupation of Managers, Directors & Senior Officials

Source: Theme 13, Census 2016, CSO

According to the 2016 Census, a total of 2,610 persons or 6.7% of persons (at work or unemployed) residing in Laois county are within the occupation group of 'Managers, Directors and Senior Officials'. This rate is lower than the state average of 7.4%, yet similar to Carlow (6.7%).

OCCUPATION – SKILLED TRADES OCCUPATIONS

Figure 36 presents the distribution of those in skilled trades occupations by ED for Laois County.

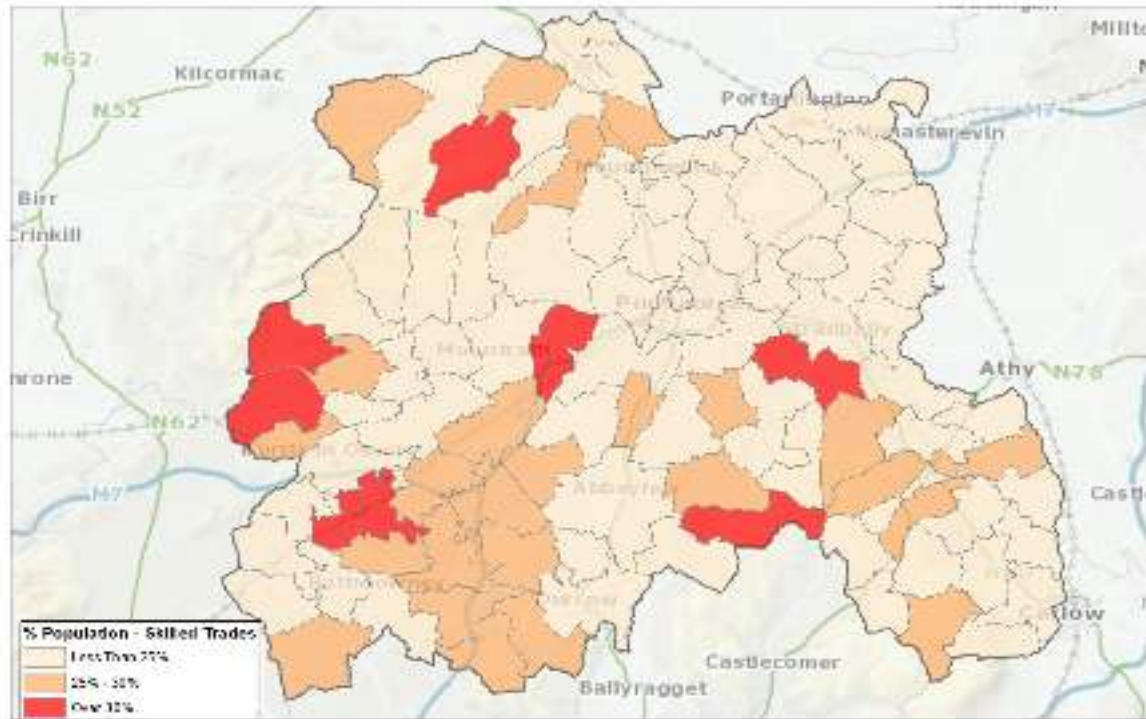


Figure 36: Percentage of population in the occupation of Skilled Trades Occupations by ED in Laois

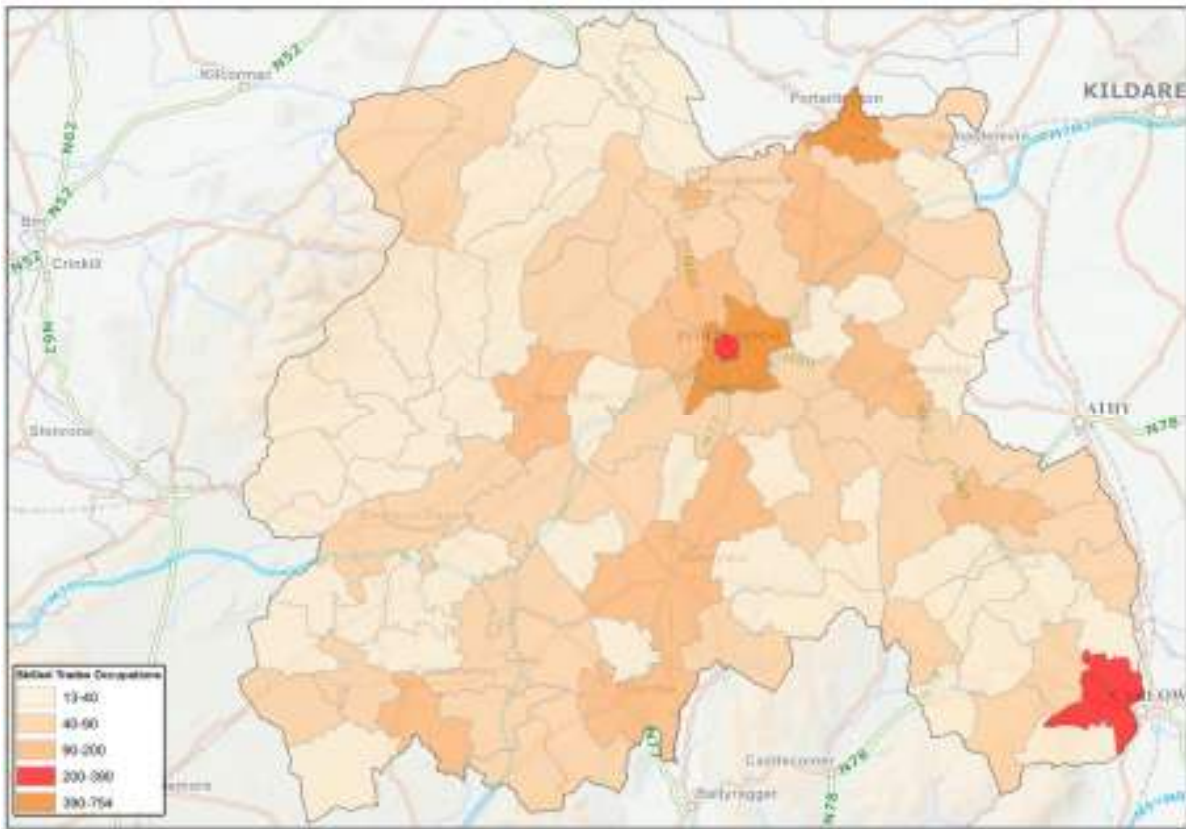


Figure 36 a: Population in the Occupation of Skilled Trades
Source: Theme 13, Census 2016, CSO

As previously stated the 2016 Census confirmed skilled trades occupations accounts for the highest occupation type of those at work or unemployed in Laois County. According to the 2016 Census, a total of 6,429 persons or 16.5% of persons (at work or unemployed) residing in Laois are within the occupational group of 'Skilled Trades Occupations'. This rate is higher than the state (13.9%) and neighboring county Kildare (12.6%).

OCCUPATION – PROFESSIONAL OCCUPATIONS

Figure 37 presents the distribution of those in professional occupations by ED for Laois County.

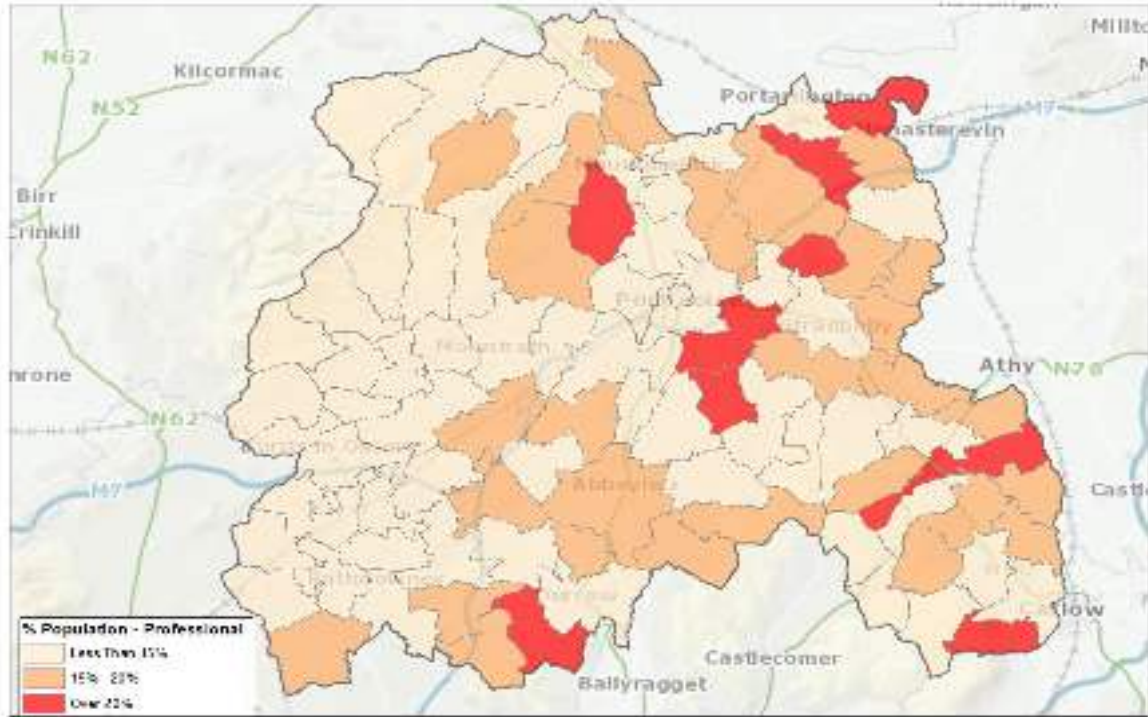


Figure 37: Percentage of population in the occupation of Professional Occupations by ED in Laois
Source: Theme 13, Census 2016, CSO

According to Census 2016, a total of 5,157 or 13% of persons at work or unemployed residing in Laois county are within the occupational group of 'Professionals'. This rate is significantly lower than the state average (17.3%) and Kildare (17.7%).

ENTERPRISE HUBS

Figure 38 presents the location of the existing enterprise hubs in Laois county as of 2018.

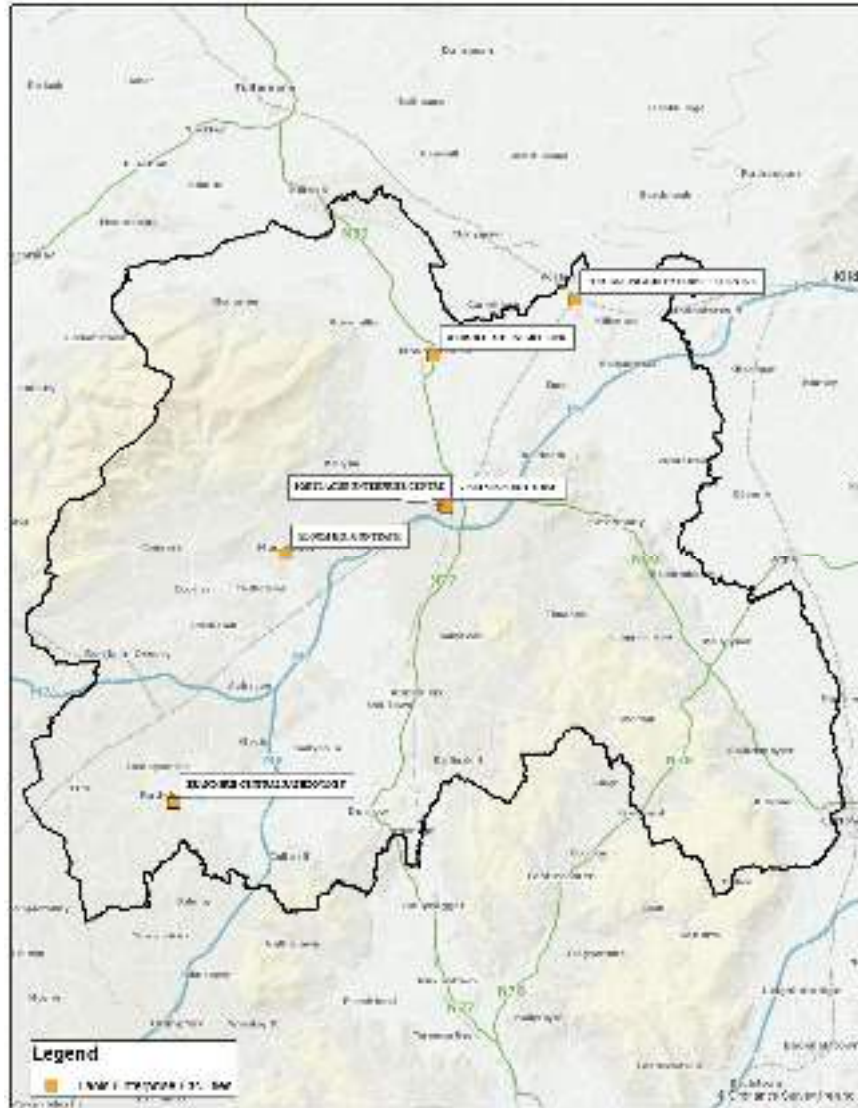


Figure 38: Laois Enterprise Facilities

ZONED ENTERPRISE AND EMPLOYMENT LANDS

To ensure the enterprise sector of Laois County continues to increase and to meet the continued demand Laois County Council must continue to zone land for enterprise and employment purposes appropriately. The urban areas of Graiguecullen, Mountmellick, Portarlinton and Portlaoise each have a Local Area Plan (LAP) whilst the remaining towns and villages are integrated into Laois County Development Plan 2021-2027

Zone Type	Total Hectares
Enterprise and Employment	212.28
General Business	50.52
Industrial	107.33
Retail Warehousing	0.85
Total	370.98

Figure 38b

Source: County Development Plan Table 6.2: Enterprise and Employment, General Business and Industrial Vacant Sites

CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Given the rural nature of Laois County and the rate of those working in the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector it is apt to further analyze the agriculture sector in Laois.

The Census of Agriculture is a detailed snapshot of agriculture activity in the Republic of Ireland. A Census questionnaire will be sent to every agricultural holding in the state where the area used for farming is at least one hectare. In addition, farms with less than one hectare will also be included in the Census if they are engaged in intensive production e.g. of pigs or poultry.

A Census of Agriculture is conducted every ten years by the CSO. The most recent fully publish Census of Agriculture was conducted in 2010. This data is gathered at county and ED level but not SAP level to avoid disclosure of ones identity. The detailed results of the 2020 census are awaited.

OVERVIEW

Figure 39 presents the number of farms by hectares in Laois county as recorded by the Census of Agriculture from 1991 to 2010. The 2010 Census of Agriculture confirmed there are 3,312 farms in Laois County however the county experienced a decline in the total number of farms of -2.5% (83 farms) during the intercensal period 2000-2010. Farms of less than 10 hectares (ha) experienced the largest decline, a loss of 108 farms in this period.

Farm size (Hectares)	Census Year			% Change 2000-2010
	1991	2000	2010	
Farms less than 10	872	636	528	-20.50%
Farms between 10 and less than 20	856	601	605	0.66%
Farms between 20 and less than 30	689	543	557	2.51%
Farms between 30 less than 50	813	832	783	-6.25%
Farms between 50 less than 100	580	651	698	6.73%
Farms greater than 100	120	132	141	6.38%
Total Farms	3,930	3,395	3,312	-10.47%

Figure 39: Number of Farms by Farm Size (AAU) for Laois County

Source: CSO Census of Agriculture

LABOUR INPUT

The CSO Census of Agriculture measures the labour input of each person who worked on the farm in terms of AWUs (Annual Working Units), with one AWU being identified as 1,800 hours or more of labour per person per annum.

Persons / AWU	Census Year			% Change 2000-2010
	1991	2000	2010	
Holder: Persons				-2.60%
	3,918	3,392	3,306	
Holder: AWU				-3.06%
	3,319	2,619	2,541	
Spouse: Persons				-0.74%
	1,907	1,080	1,072	
Spouse: AWU				-26.36%
	1,348	580	459	
Other Family: Persons				14.50%
	1,656	1,591	1,861	
Other Family: AWU				15.04%
	1,152	706	831	
Non Family Labour: Persons				20.41%
	329	343	431	
Non Family Labour: AWU				31.07%
	273	173	251	
Total Persons				3.95%
	7,810	6,406	6,670	
Total Farm AWU				0.09%
	6,091	4,078	4,082	

Figure 40: Farm Labour Input by Number of Persons and Annual Work Units (AWU)

Source: CSO Census of Agriculture

Figure 40a presents the change in the type and number of persons labour input on farms in Laois County for each Census of Agriculture.

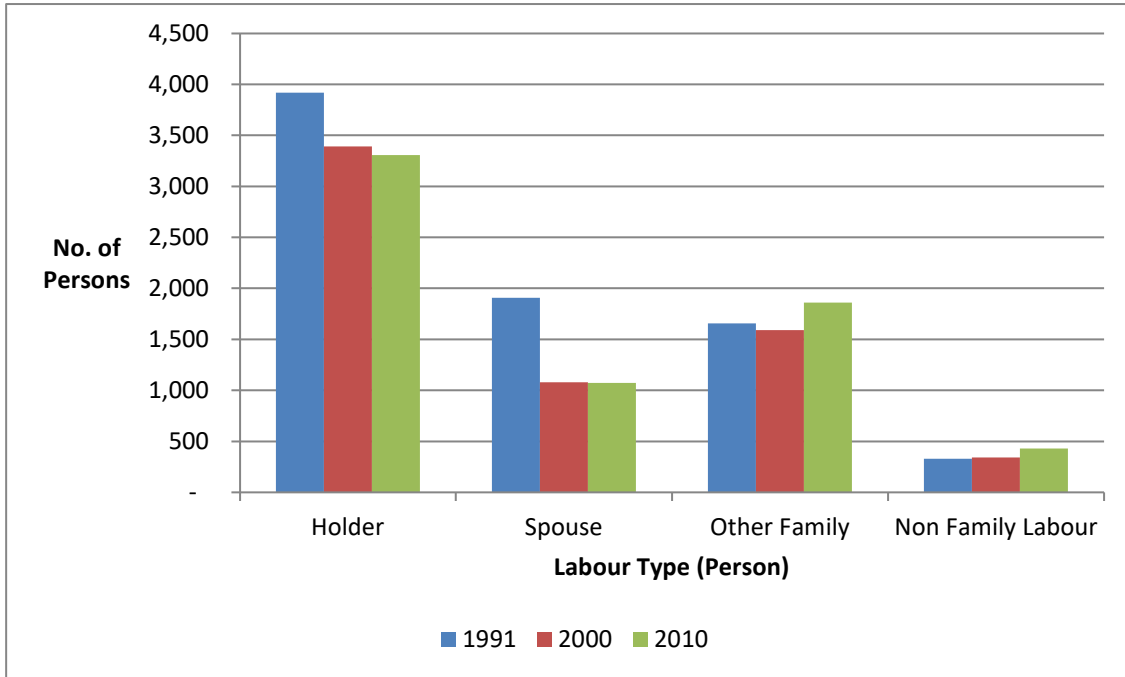


Figure 40a Change in Farm Labour Input by Number of Persons
Source: CSO Census of Agriculture

AGE OF HOLDER

Demographic aging within the farming community across the intercensal period 1991-2010 is recorded in Figure 41 below.

Age of holder	Census Year			% Change 2000-2010
	1991	2000	2010	
Under 35	614	487	221	-120.36%
35 to 44	763	789	636	-24.05%
45 to 54	907	806	853	5.50%
55 to 64	863	646	745	13.28%
65 and over	771	664	851	21.97%
All Ages	3,918	3,392	3,306	-2.60%

Figure 41: Number of Family Farms by Age of Holder
Source: CSO Census of Agriculture 2010

It is evident from Table 4 the number of farm holders aged 35 and under and 35 to 44 are the only age groups to have experienced a decline whilst the remaining age groups experienced a significant increase in particular those aged 65 and over. Of the total farms in Laois County 26% (853 farms) is owned by holders aged 45 to 54.

1.3 EDUCATION

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

Figure 42 presents the education attainment levels of those who have completed their education as recorded by the 2016 Census in Laois County.

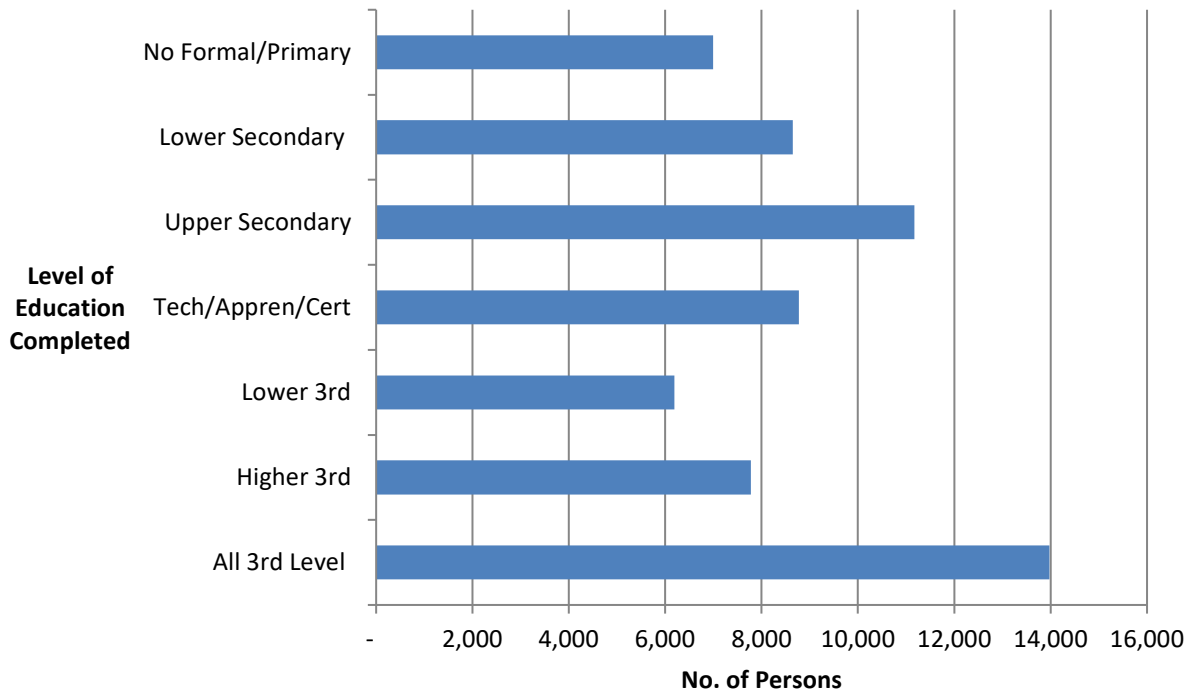


Figure 42: Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Highest Level of Education Completed

Source: Theme 10, Census 2016, CSO

In contrast to national results from Census 2016, Laois has a higher than average level of attainment in the lowest category of No Formal/Primary Education (13.1%, 6,995 persons). Laois County also scores higher than the national average for other lower tiers of education attainment; Lower Secondary (16.2%, 8,651 persons), Upper Secondary (21%, 11,173 persons) and Technical/Apprenticeship/Certificate (16.5%, 8,774 persons). Laois County attains a relatively young population; possible justification for the higher than average education attainment in the lower tiers.

It evident from Figure42 the resident population of Laois County attains a low rate of third level education with rates of 11.6% (6,195 persons) attaining Lower Third Level education (higher certificate or ordinary bachelor degree) and 14.6% (7,778 persons) attaining Higher Third Level education (honours degree, postgraduate or PhD). Of the total population in Laois County aged 15 years and over 26.2% (13,973 persons) attains third level education, significantly lower than the state average of 33.4%, the 8th lowest in the state.

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION ATTAINMENT – LOWER THIRD LEVEL

Figure 43 presents the distribution of those whose highest level of education attained is lower third level (Higher Certificate and Ordinary Bachelor Degree or National Diploma) by ED for Laois County.

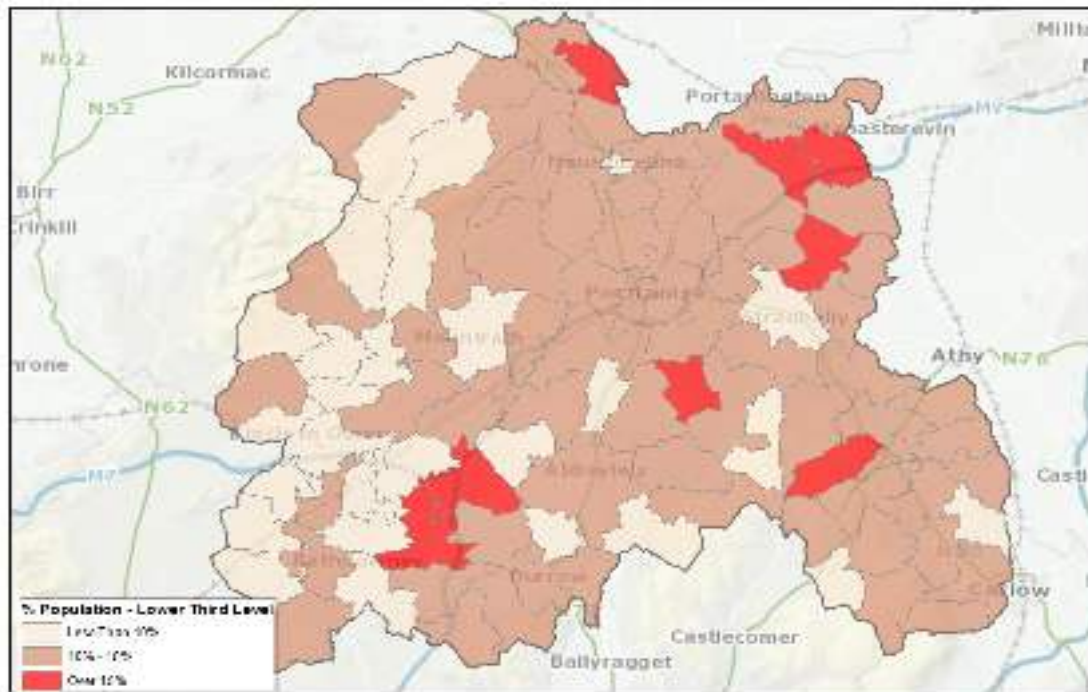


Figure 43: Percentage of population aged 15 years and over with Lower Third Level as the highest education level attained

Source: Theme 10, Census 2016, CSO

As presented in Figure 43 a small proportion of the population aged 15 years and over completed education at lower third level. According to the 2016 Census, the population (completed education) with lower third level education residing in Laois County was 6,195 persons and represents 11.6% of the total population aged 15 years and over. This rate is lower than the rate recorded for the state (12.6%) and for neighboring counties Kildare (14.0%) and Carlow (11.9%).

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION ATTAINMENT – NO FORMAL/PRIMARY EDUCATION

Figure 44 presents the distribution of those who attained no formal education or whose highest level of education attained is primary education by ED for Laois County.

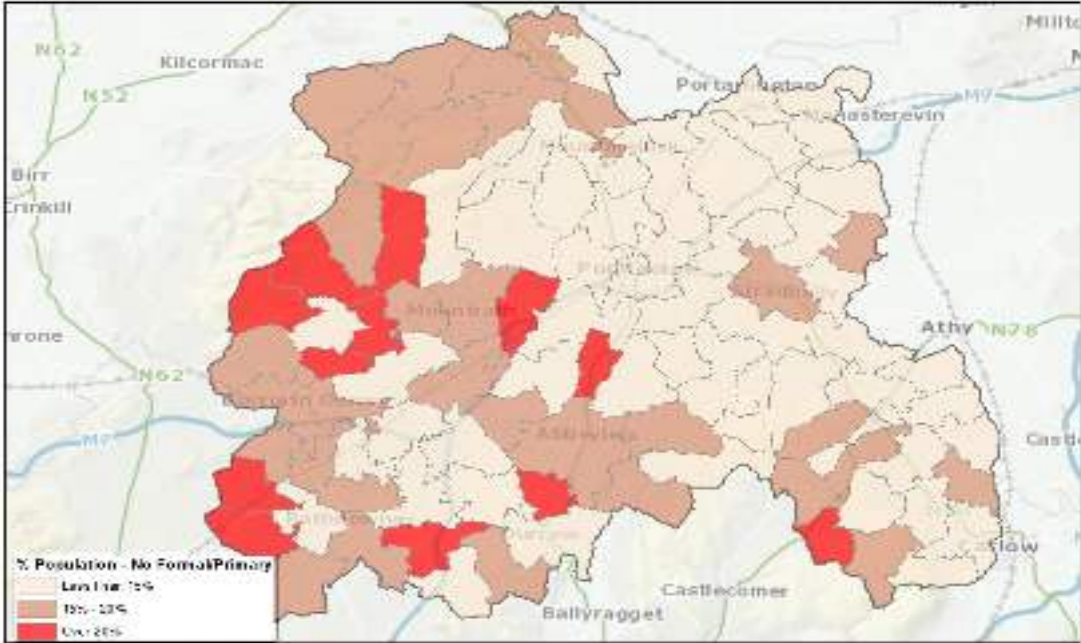


Figure 44: % of population aged 15+ with no Formal Education or Primary Education as the highest education level attained- as percentage of relevant ED population
Source: Theme 10, Census 2016, CSO

According to the 2016 Census, the total population (who have completed their education) with no formal education or has only attained primary education is 6,995 persons representative of 13.1% of the total population aged 15 and over. This rate is higher than the state average of 12.5% and lower than neighboring counties Offaly (15.3%) and Carlow (13.7%).

As presented in Figure 44 the west of the county attains high concentrations under this heading.

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION ATTAINMENT – ALL THIRD LEVEL EDUCATION

Figure 45 presents the distribution of those who has attained third level education (lower and higher) by ED for Laois County.

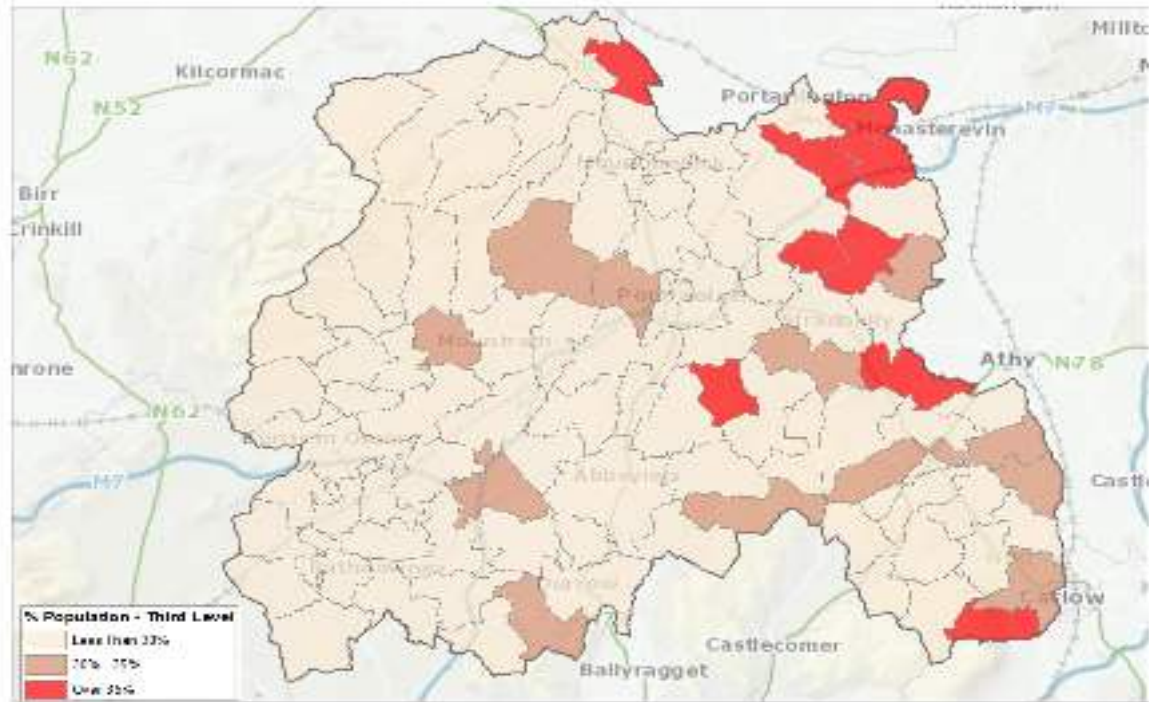


Figure 45: Percentage of population aged 15 years and over within an ED with Third Level as the highest education attainment

Source: Theme 10, Census 2016, CSO

According to the 2016 Census, the population (completed education) with third level education (lower plus higher) residing in Laois was 13,973 persons and represents 26.2% of the total population aged 15 years and over. This rate is significantly below the rate recorded for the state (33.4%) and for neighboring counties Carlow (26.5%) and Kildare (36.3%) yet higher than Offaly (23.9%).

It is evident from the rate recorded the attainment of third level education in Laois County is rather low. There are several ED areas throughout the county, in particular to the west with low concentrations.

FIELD OF STUDY

Figure 46 presents the field of study of those aged 15 years and over for Laois County as recorded by the 2016 Census.

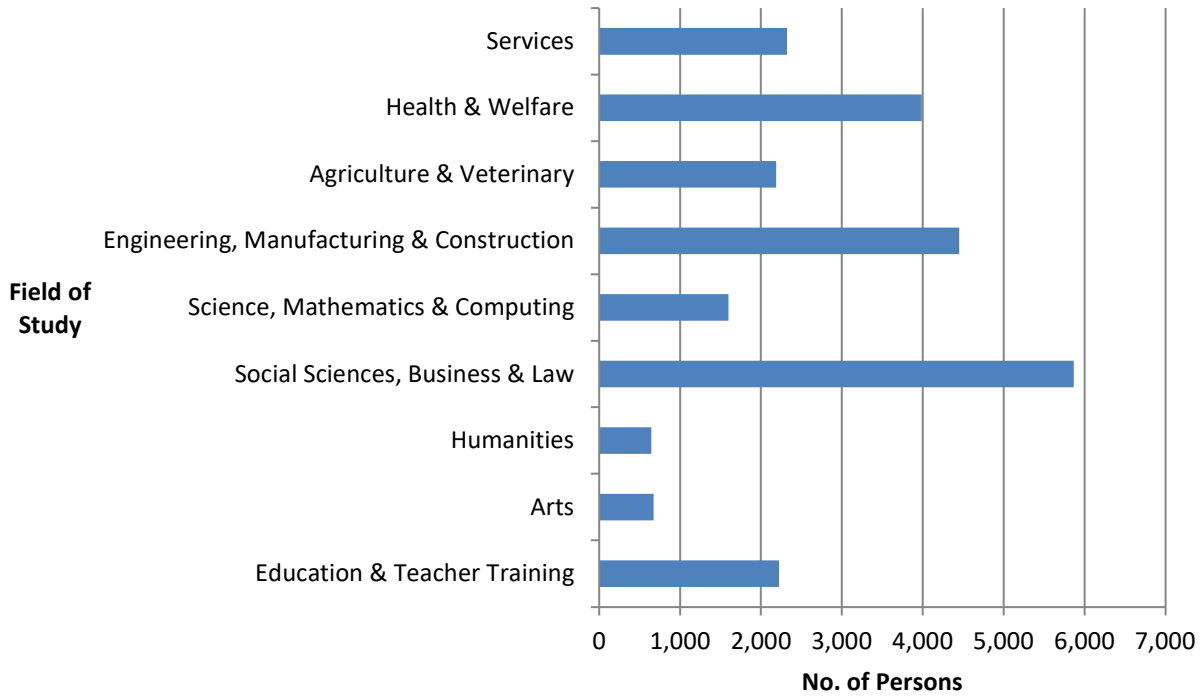


Figure46: Population Aged 15 Years and Over by Field of Study

Source: Theme 10, Census 2016, CSO

Of the total population aged 15 years and over who had completed their education, a total of 23,965 persons or 45% indicated they had a qualification in a specific field of study.

The most popular field of study is Social Sciences, Business and Law with 24.5% (5,868 persons) of all respondents this is followed by Engineering, Manufacturing & Construction 18.6% (4,452 persons) of all respondents. The study of humanities was the least popular 2.7% (647 persons) of total respondents.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS – ENROLMENT

Figure 48 below shows the national picture in terms of increased enrolments in primary schools for the period 2011-2021.

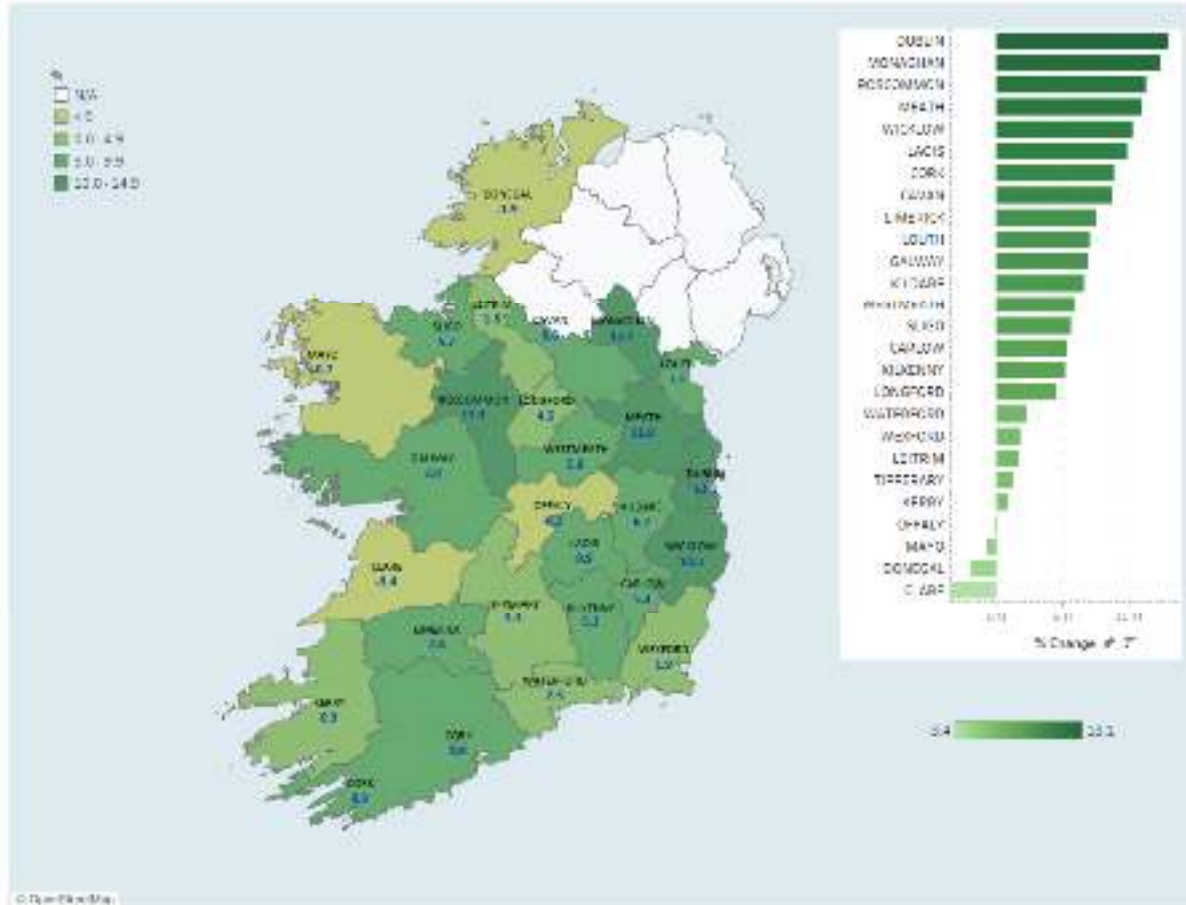


Figure48: Percentage change in enrolments in Primary schools, by county, 2011-2021

Source: Copied from Department of Education Statistical Bulletin – July 2022

Over this period Laois had the sixth highest percentage increase in enrolments at 9.9%

POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS

There is a total 10 post primary schools in Laois County. The location of each of these schools is illustrated in Figure 49.



Figure 49: Location of Post Primary Schools in Laois County

Source: Department of Education

Of the ten post-primary schools in Laois County there is two DEIS schools situated in Portlaoise and Mountmellick namely Portlaoise College and Mountmellick Community School.

POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS – ENROLMENT

Figure 50 shows the increases in post-primary enrolments over the period 2011-2021

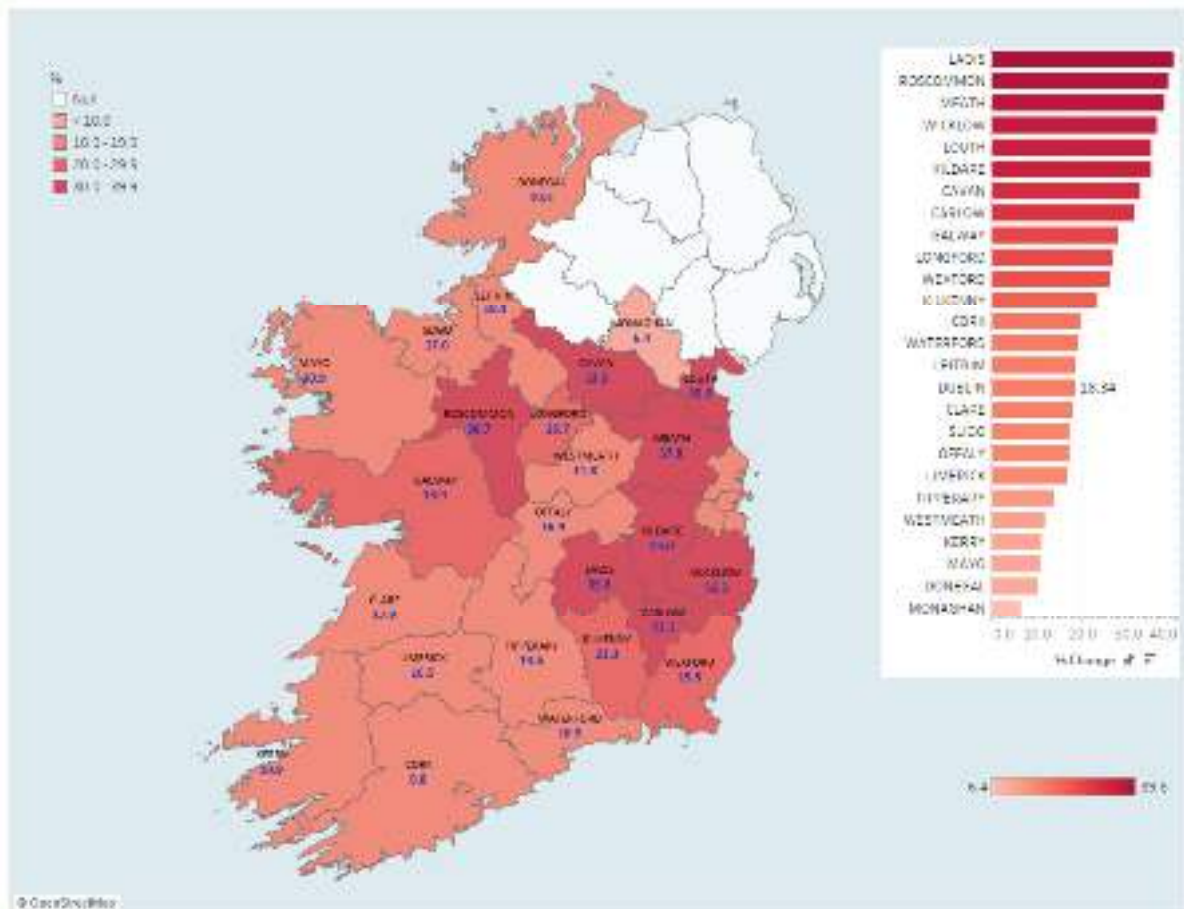


Figure 2: Percentage change in post-primary enrolments by county, 2011-2021

Source: Copied from Department of Education Statistical Bulletin – July 2022

The increase in students in post primary schools in Laois over this period has 39.8%, which is the highest rate nationally for that period.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Figure 51 presents the number of new entrants from Laois County to higher education for the academic years 2015-2018

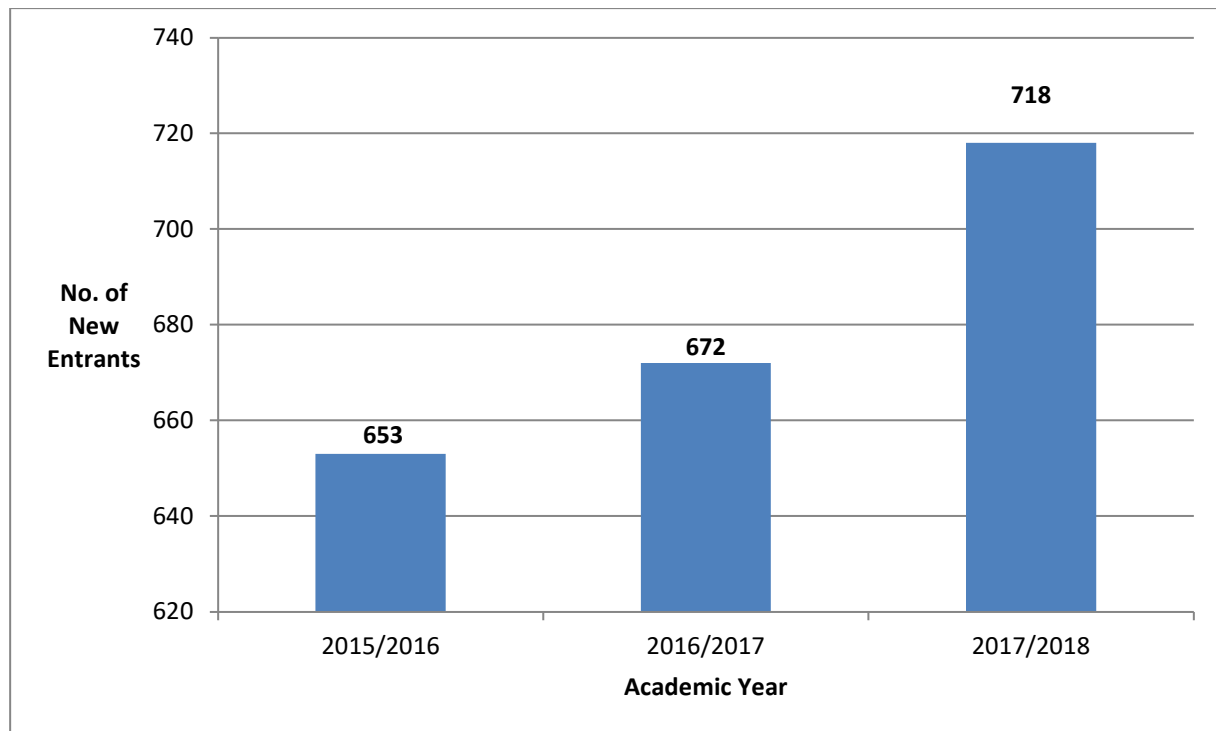


Figure51: New Entrants to Higher Education
Source: Higher Education Authority February 2019

Individuals tend to proceed from second level education directly into third level education however this is not always possible.

It is evident from Figure 19 the number of new entrants to higher education increased significantly in 2017/2018 when compared to previous years. However in this year a total of 920 students completed both the leaving cert and leaving cert applied from Laois yet 718 new entrants were enrolled into higher education (full and part time) from the county. Therefore 202 persons did not proceed into higher education from Laois.

Similar trends existed in the previous academic years. Of those who completed second level education in 2016/2017 a total of 228 persons did not proceed into higher education.

1.4 HOUSING

TOTAL HOUSING STOCK

The 2016 Census confirmed the total housing stock for the county was 32,794. Figure 52 categorizes the occupancy of these units on Census night.

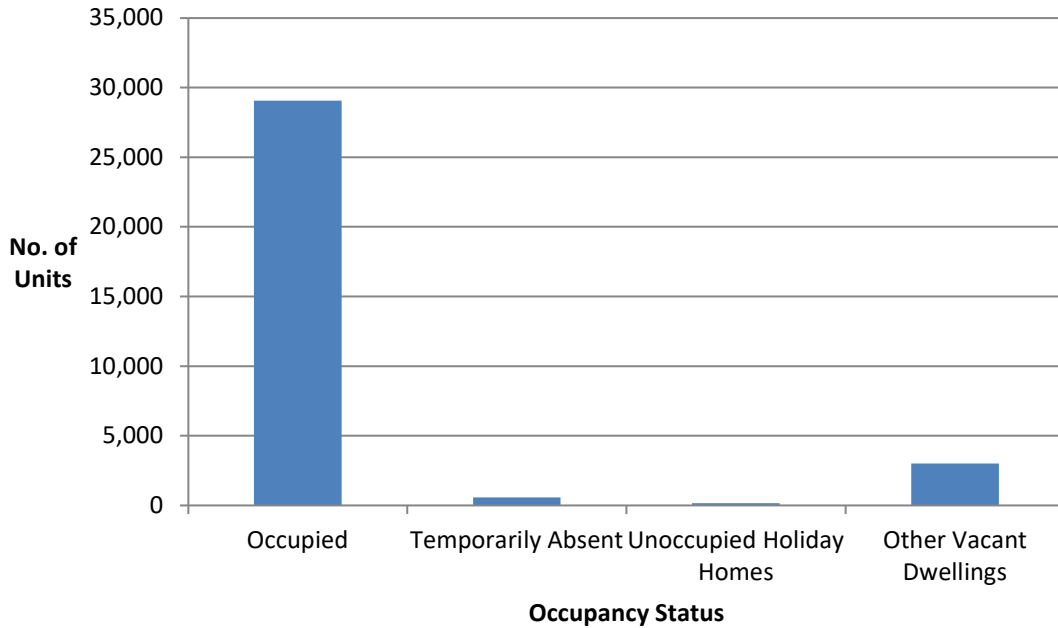


Figure 52: Occupancy Status of Permanent Dwellings on Census Night
Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

The 2016 Census recorded 28,997 permanent households.

VACANT UNITS

. The location of vacant dwellings units by ED is illustrated in Figure 53.

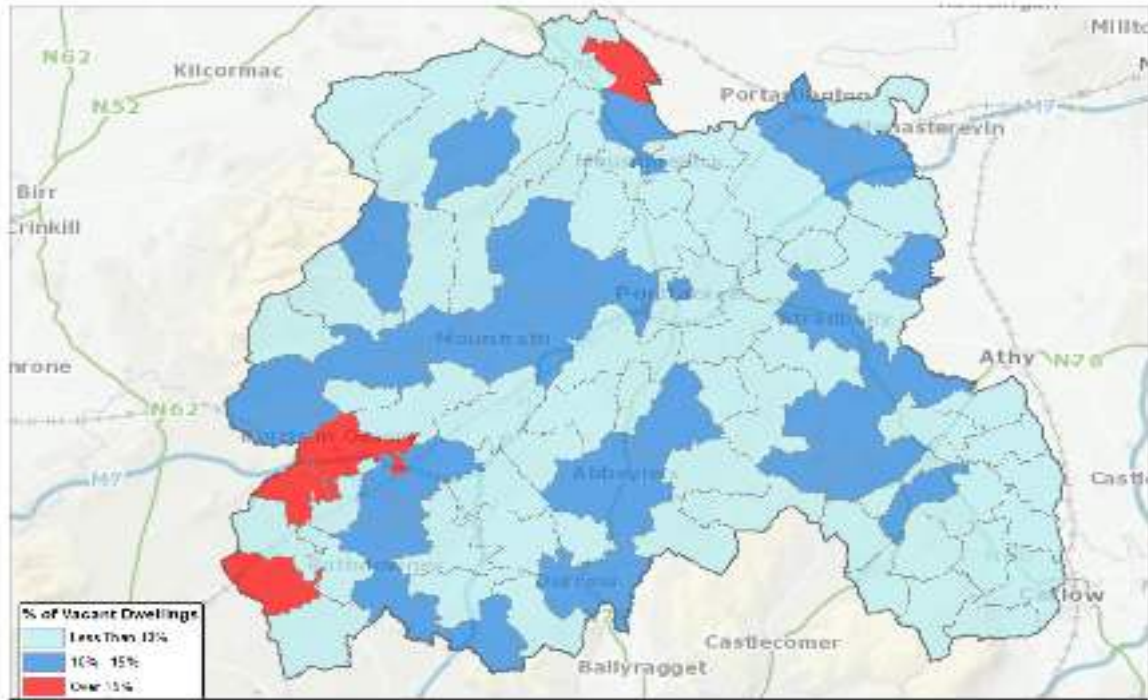


Figure 53 Percentage of vacant dwellings by total households in an ED
Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

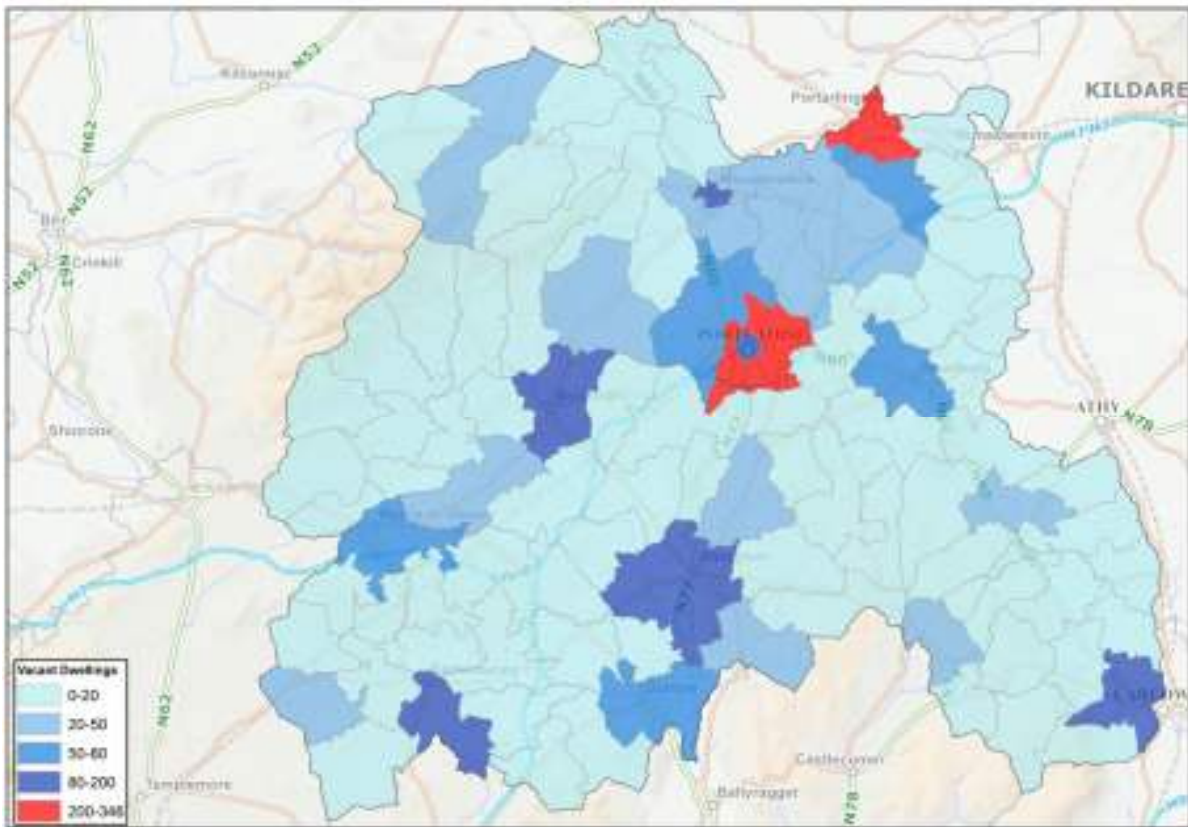


Figure 53a: Location of Vacant Dwellings by ED for Laois County
 Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

A total of 3,007 residential units were recorded as vacant in the 2016 Census. According to the Census there was only one ED, Caher that did not record any vacant dwellings. Aside from the ED's of Portlaoise Rural and Portarlinton South the highest number of vacant units was recorded in the ED's of Graigue Rural, Mountrath, Mountmellick Urban, Abbeyleix and Rathdowney.

YEAR BUILT

Figure 54 represents the number of residential units built in the County for each period up until 2016. Similarly to the remainder of Ireland, Laois experienced an evident increase in the number of residential units constructed in the years of 2001-2010. The economic downturn provides justification for the evident decrease of units constructed in the years of 2011-2016.

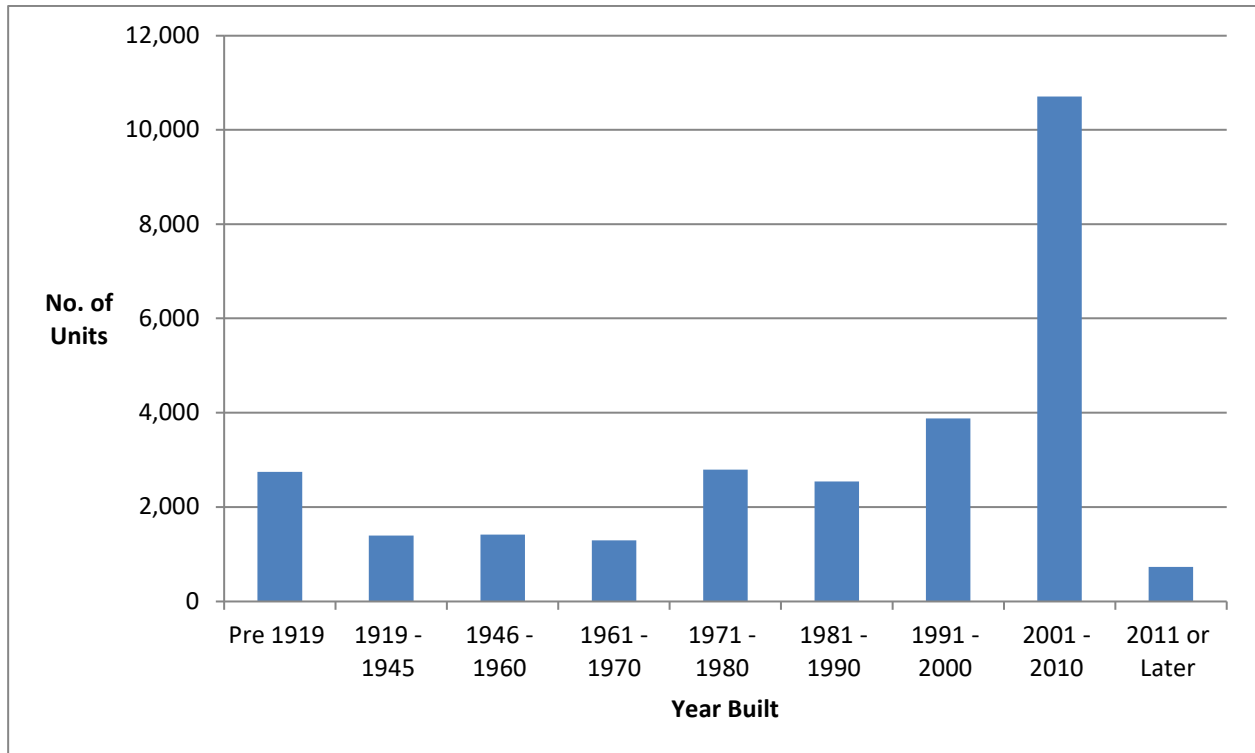


Figure54: Permanent Households by Year Built

Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

Figure 54a illustrates the location of the residential units built for 2001-2010 period by ED for the County.

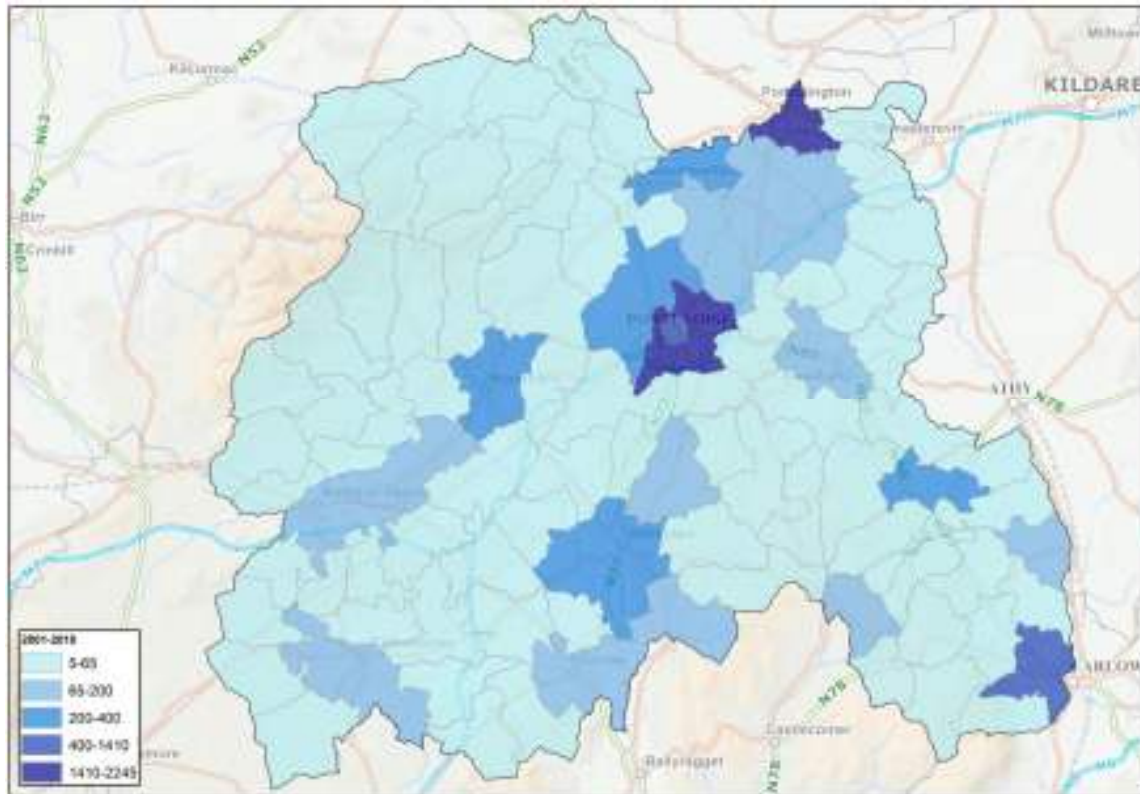


Figure 54a: Location of Permanent Households built 2001-2010

Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

Of the total housing stock for the county, 37% (10,702) of the residential units were constructed between the years of 2001-2010.

The ED's of Portlaoise Rural and Portarlington South account for 34% (3,657) of the total units constructed for the 2001-2010 period. To the east of the County the ED's of Graigue Rural and Ballylinan accommodated 12% (1,237) whilst to the west the ED of Mountrath accounts for 3% (308) of the new builds for this period.

TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION

Figure 55 represents the accommodation type of households for Laois County.

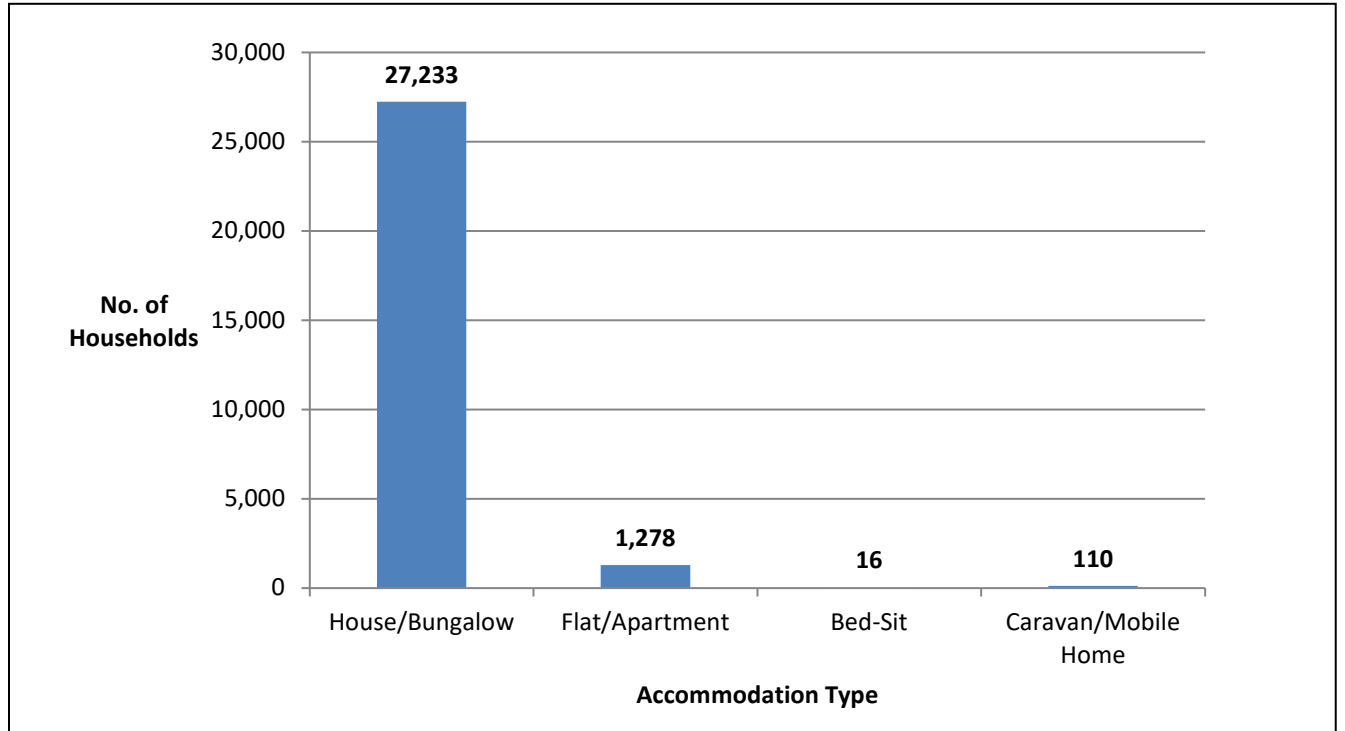


Figure 55: Accommodation Types of Households
Source: Theme 6, Census 2016, CSO

The most dominant accommodation type is house/bungalow for the County accounting for 94% of the total housing stock. Flat/apartment is the next most common accommodation type. The location of such flat/apartment units is illustrated in Figure 56.

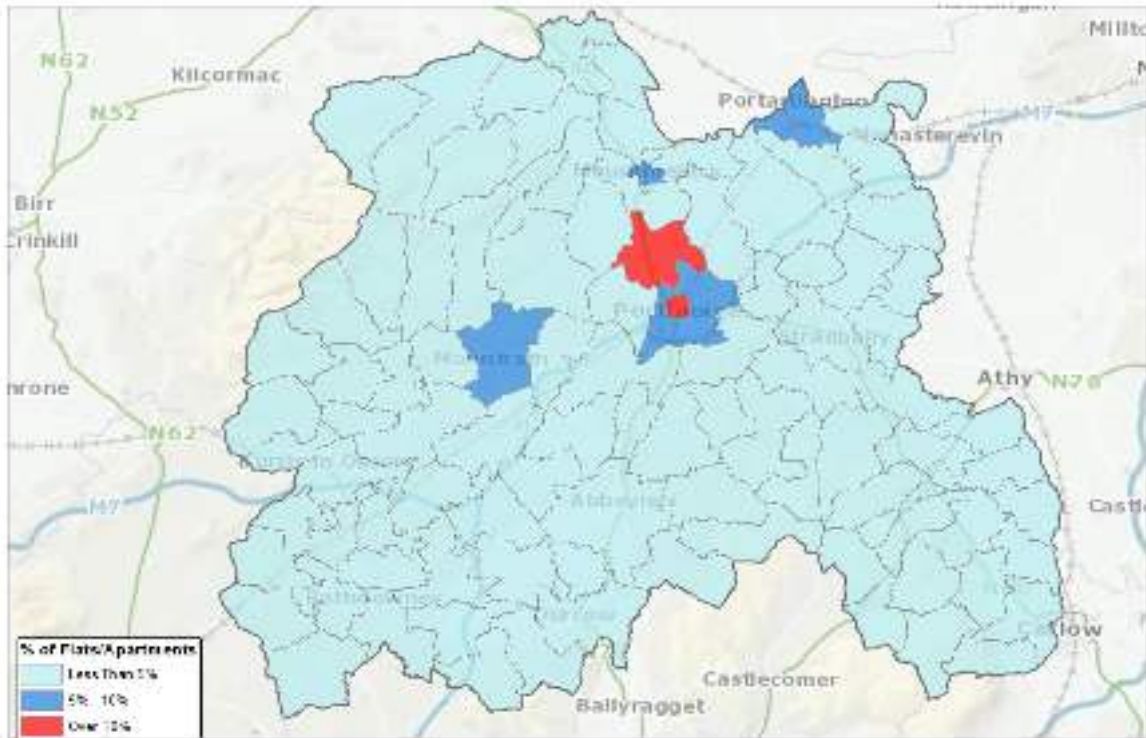


Figure 56: Percentage of Flats/Apartments by total households in an ED
Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

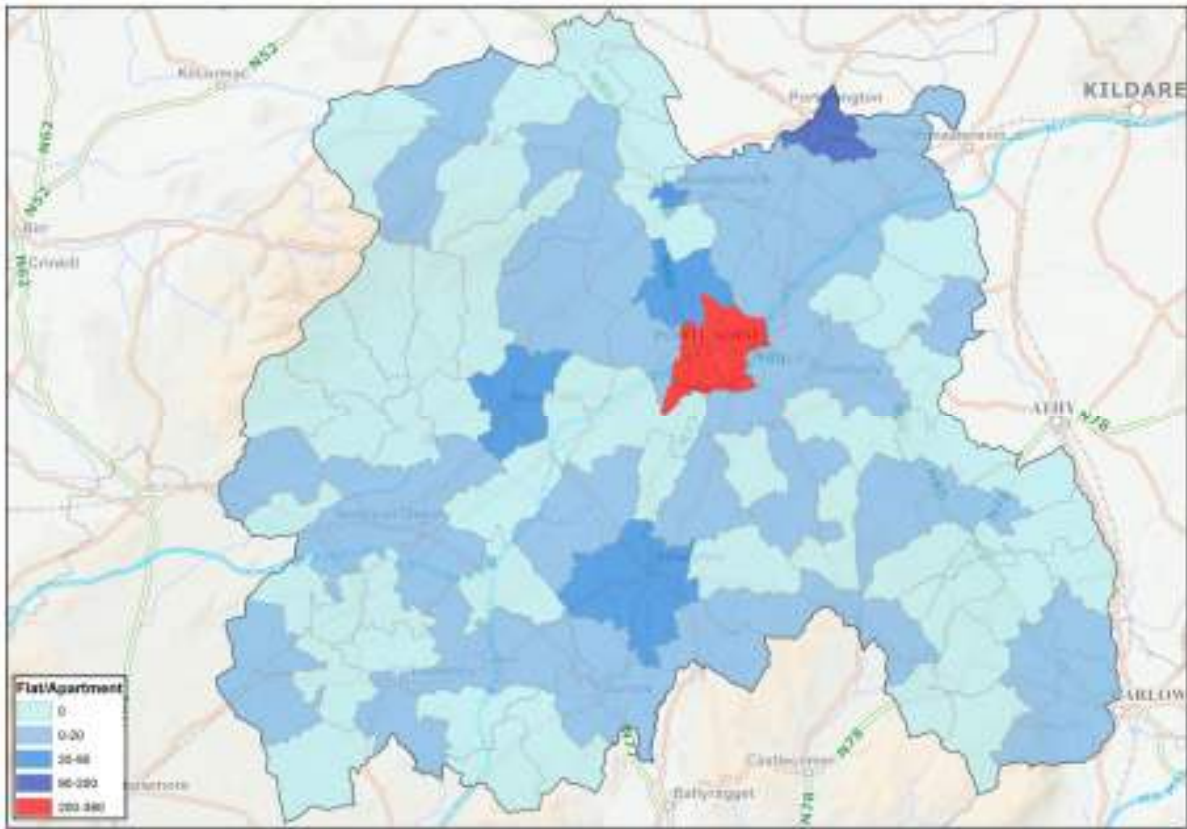


Figure 56a: Location of Flat/Apartment Households
 Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

Figure 56 confirms flat/apartments are more common in urban areas when compared to rural areas of the County.

HOUSING TENURE TYPE

The breakdown of the housing tenure for Laois County of the 28,997 households recorded in 2016 Census is presented in Figure 33 below.

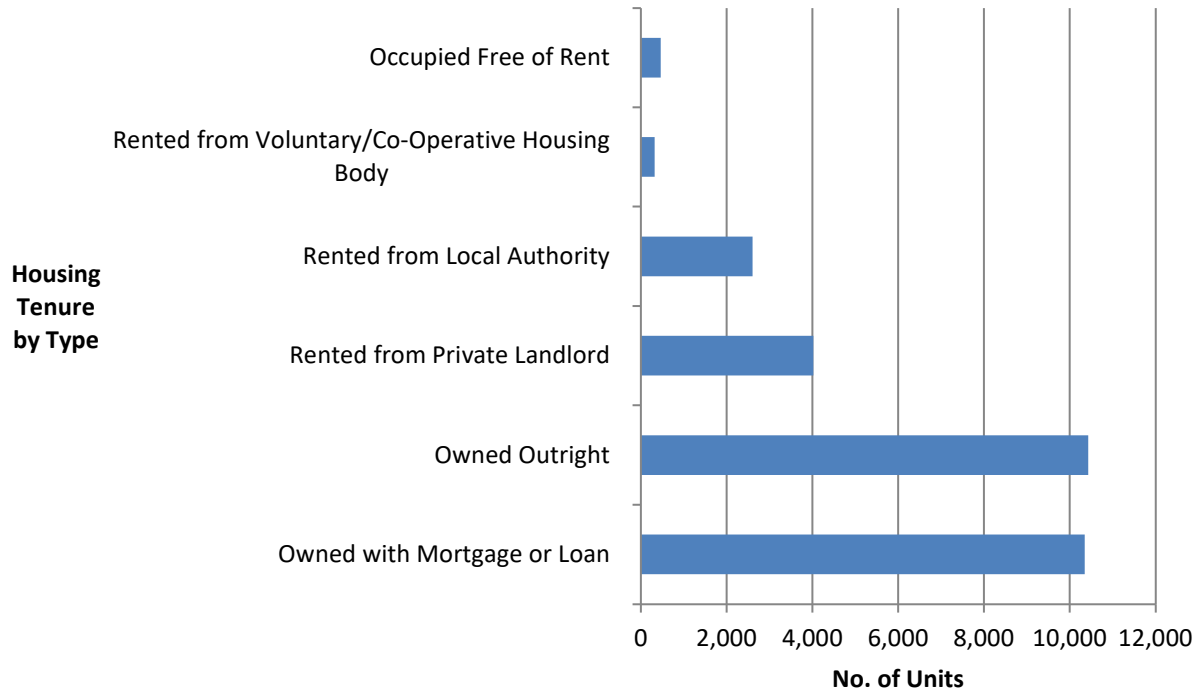


Figure 57: Tenure Types of Households in Laois County
Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

Of the 28,997 households recorded in the 2016 Census, 36% (10,429) is 'Owned Outright' whilst 36% is also 'Owned with mortgage or a loan'. The least amount of households, 1% (321) is 'Rented from Voluntary/Co-Operative Housing Body'.

Figure 58 details the distribution of Owned Outright households by ED for Laois County.

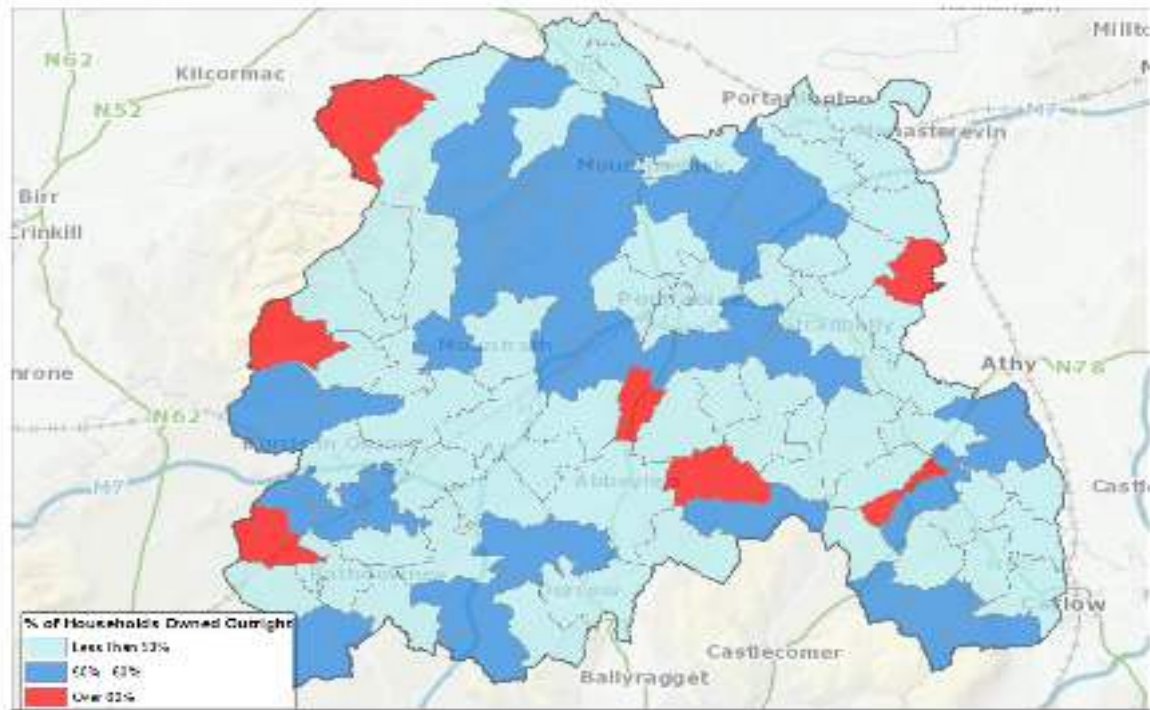


Figure 58: Percentage of households owned outright by total households in an ED

Figure 59 illustrates the distribution of households by ED that is 'Owned with Mortgage or Loan'.

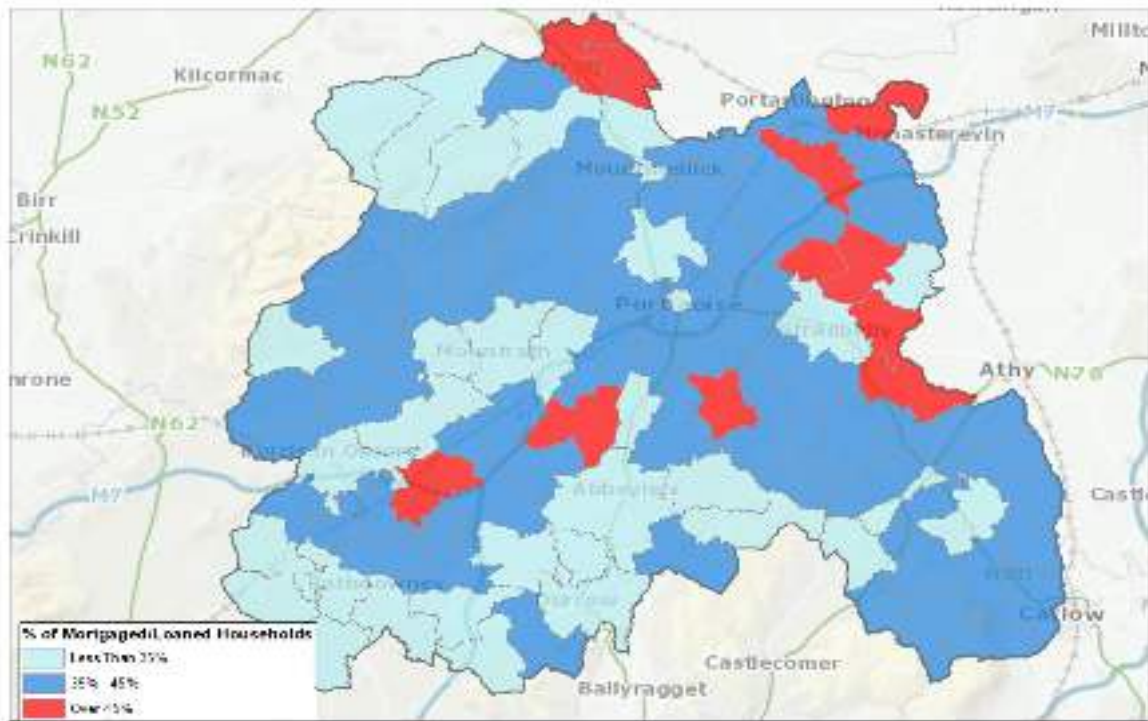


Figure 59: Percentage of households owned with Mortgage or Loan by total households in an ED
Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

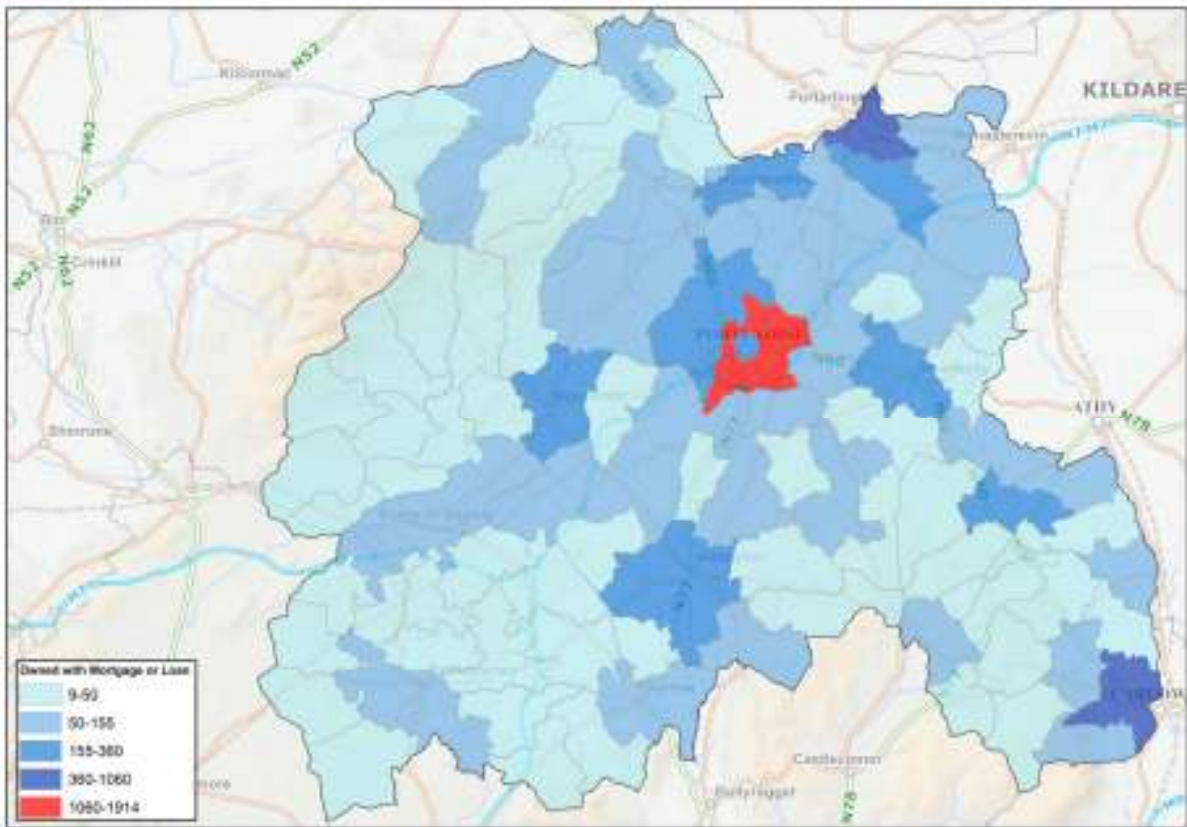


Figure 59a: Distribution of Permanent Households Owned with Mortgage or Loan
 Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

PRIVATE RENTAL MARKET

Figure 60 provides an illustration of 'Private Rented' households within and across the ED's of Laois County.

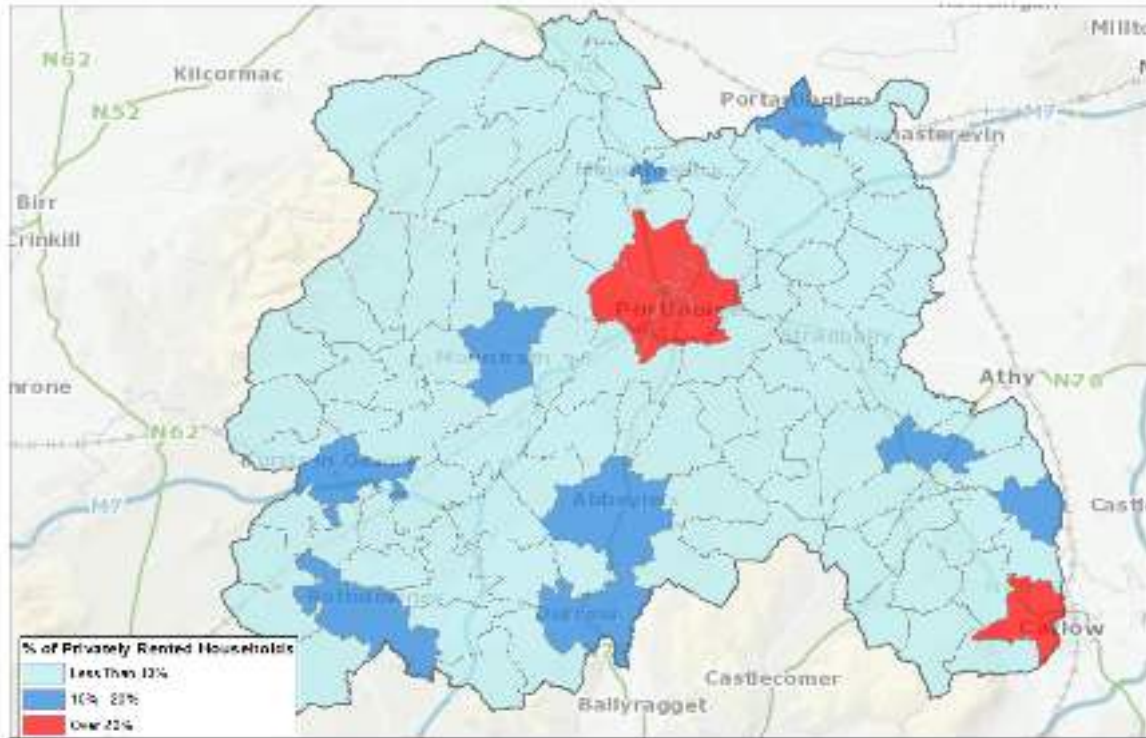


Figure 60: Percentage of Households Rented from Private Landlords by total households in an ED
Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

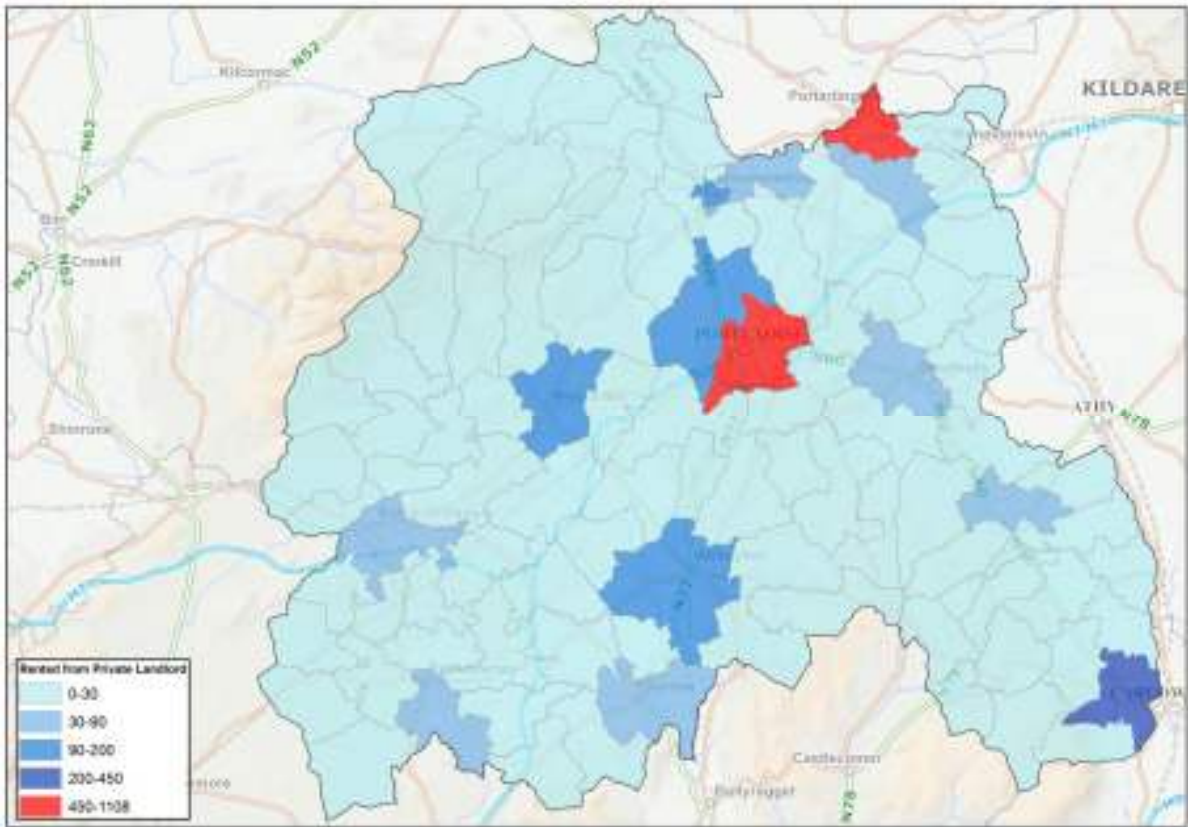


Figure 60a: Distribution of Households Rented from Private Landlords

Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

'Private Rented' households accounts for 14% (4,024) of the total housing stock of the County. Highest concentrations of this tenure type are limited primarily to and around the urban settlements with the ED's of Portlaoise Urban, Portlaoise Rural and Portarlinton South recording the highest rate, as shown in red. Aside from the above mentioned ED's 'Private Rented' households is dominant in the ED's of Graigue Rural, Abbeyleix, Mountrath, Clondarrig, Borris and Mountmellick Urban when combined these ED's account for 30% (1,085) of the total of 'Private Rented' households.

1.5 HEALTH

GENERAL HEALTH – LAOIS COUNTY

Figure 61 presents the health status of the total population of Laois County according to the 2016 Census.

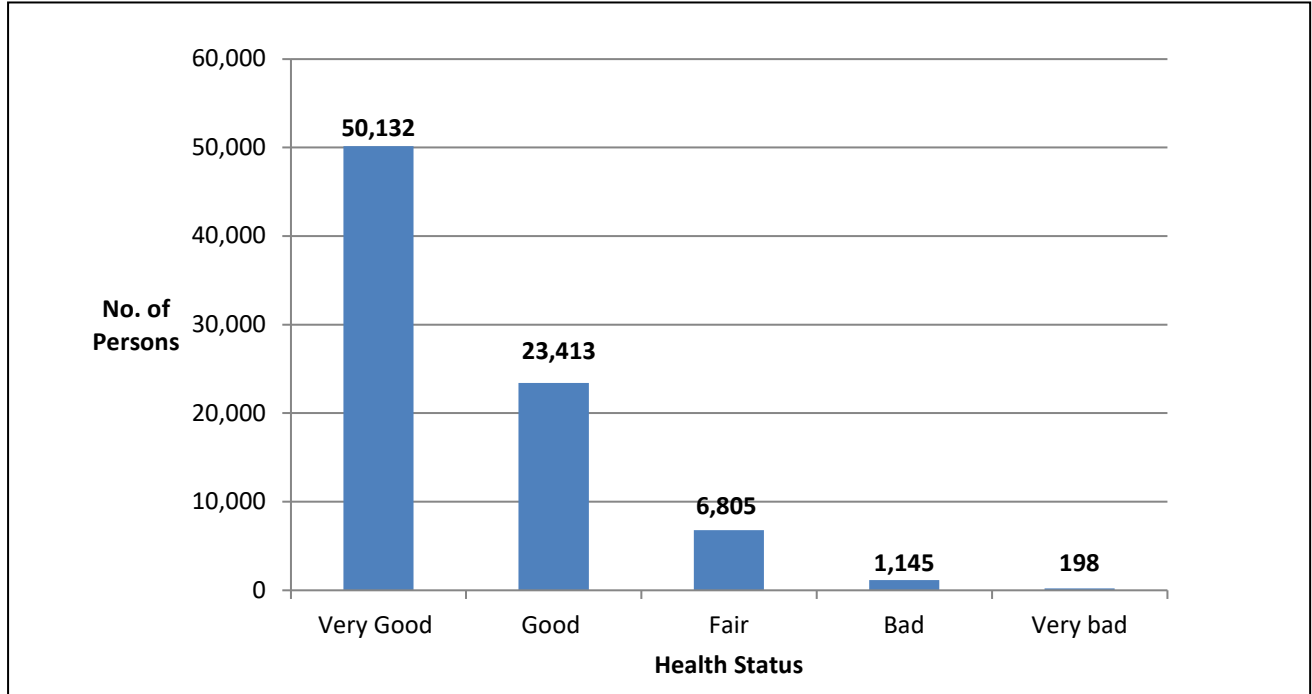


Figure 3: Health Status of Laois County
Source: Theme 12, 2016 Census, CSO

According to the 2016 Census 59.2% (50,132 persons) of the total population of Laois County is of very good health whilst 27.6% (23,413 persons) considered their health to be good. Of the total population of the county 1,343 persons or 1.6% considered their health to be bad or very bad.

GENERAL HEALTH – LAOIS COUNTY

Figure 62 presents the distribution of the total population of Laois County by ED who considered their health to be 'Very Good'.

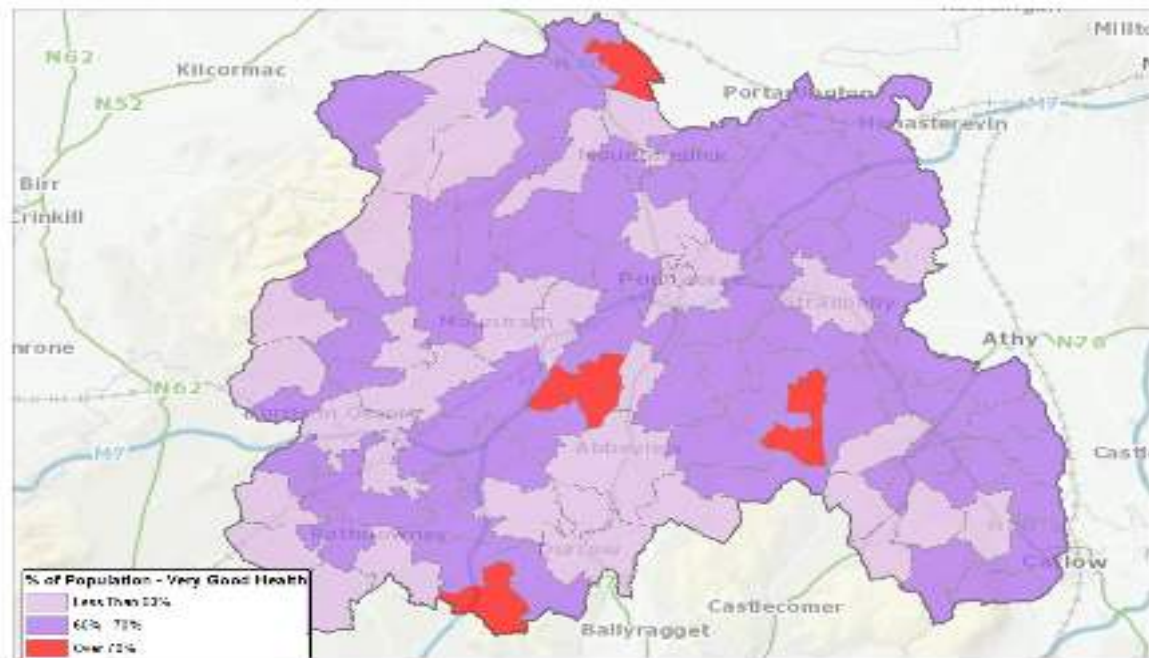


Figure 62: Percentage of population with Very Good Health by total population in an ED

Source: Theme 12, 2016 Census, CSO

According to the 2016 Census the total population experiencing 'Very Good Health' residing in Laois County is 50,132 and accounts for 59.2% of the total population. The rate recorded for Laois County is similar to the rate recorded for the state (59.4%) yet significantly lower than the rate recorded for Kildare (63.1%) and slightly higher than the rate recorded for Carlow (58.1%).

TP).

GENERAL HEALTH –LAOIS COUNTY

Figure 63 presents the distribution of the total population of Laois County by ED who considered their health to be 'Good'.

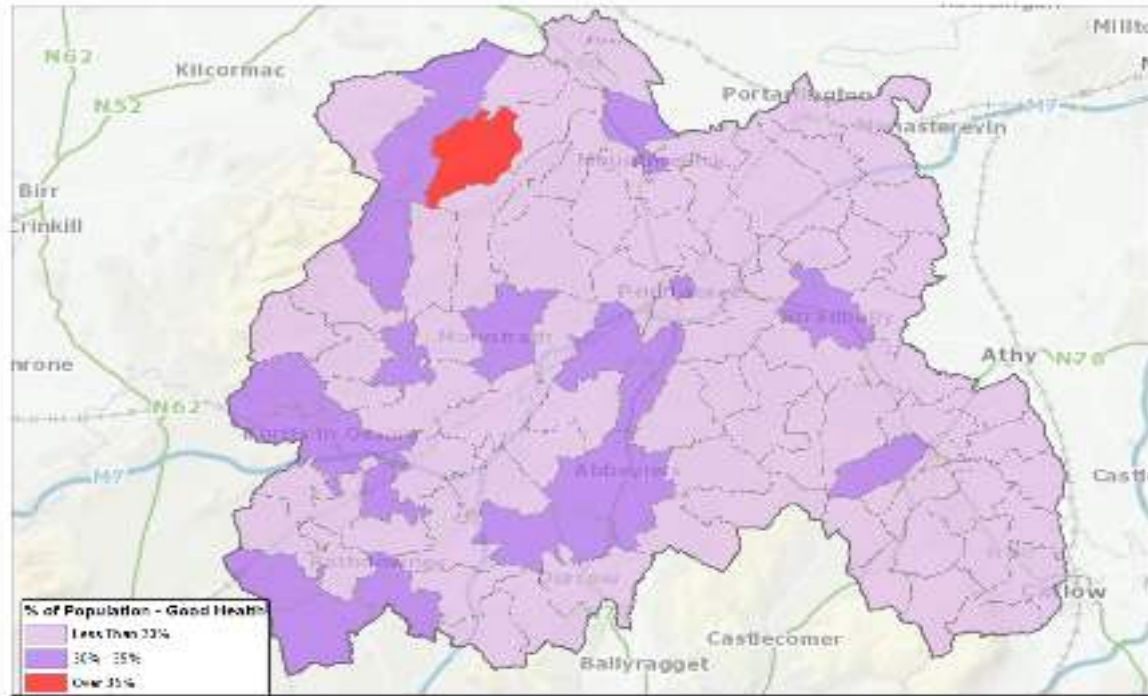


Figure 63: Percentage of population with Good Health by total population in an ED

Source: Theme 12, 2016 Census, CSO

According to the 2016 Census, the total population experiencing 'Good' health residing in Laois is 23,413 persons and accounts for 27.6% of the total population. This rate is similar to the State average of 27.6% yet higher than the rate recorded for Kildare (26.4%) and for lower than the rate recorded for Carlow (28.3%).

GENERAL HEALTH – LAOIS COUNTY

Figure 64 presents the distribution of the total population of Laois County by ED who considered their health to be 'Bad'.

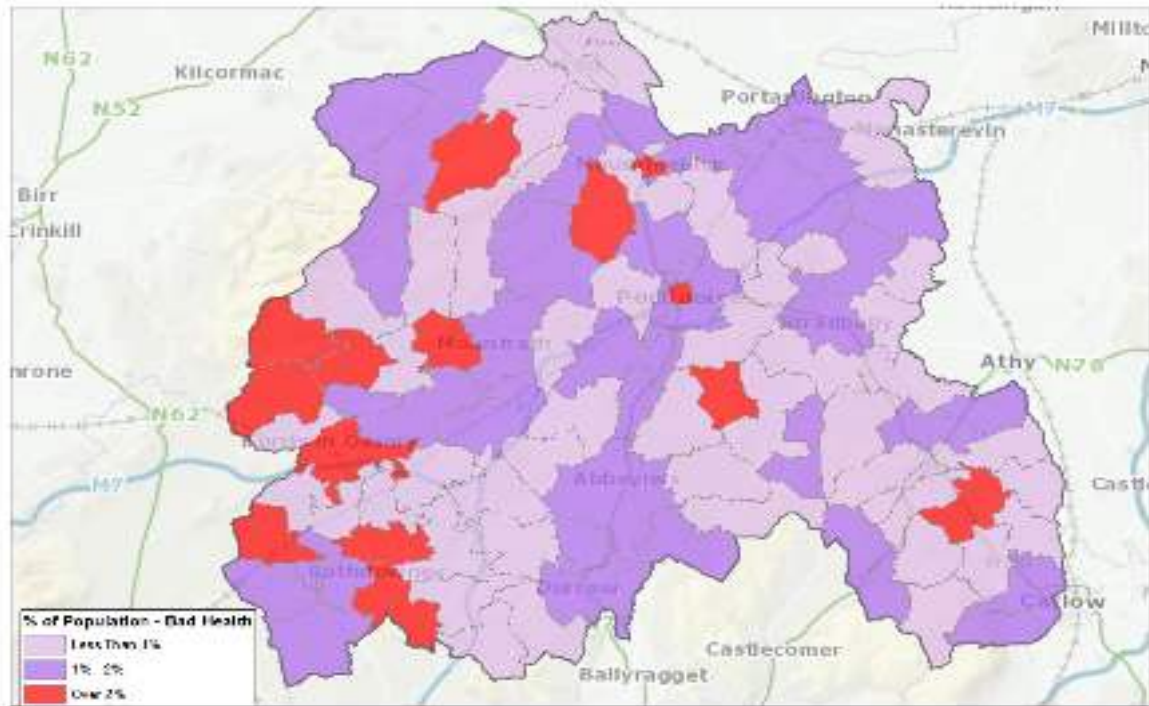


Figure 64: Percentage of population with Bad Health by total population in an ED

Source: Theme 12, 2016 Census, CSO

According to the 2016 Census, the total population experiencing 'Bad' health residing in Laois is 1,145 persons and accounts for 1.4% of the total population. This rate is slightly higher than the State average of 1.3% and similar to that of neighboring county Carlow (1.4%) and significantly higher than that of Kildare (1.1%).

DISABILITY – LAOIS COUNTY

Figure 65 presents the % of the total population of Laois County and the State who were recorded as having a disability in the 2016 Census.

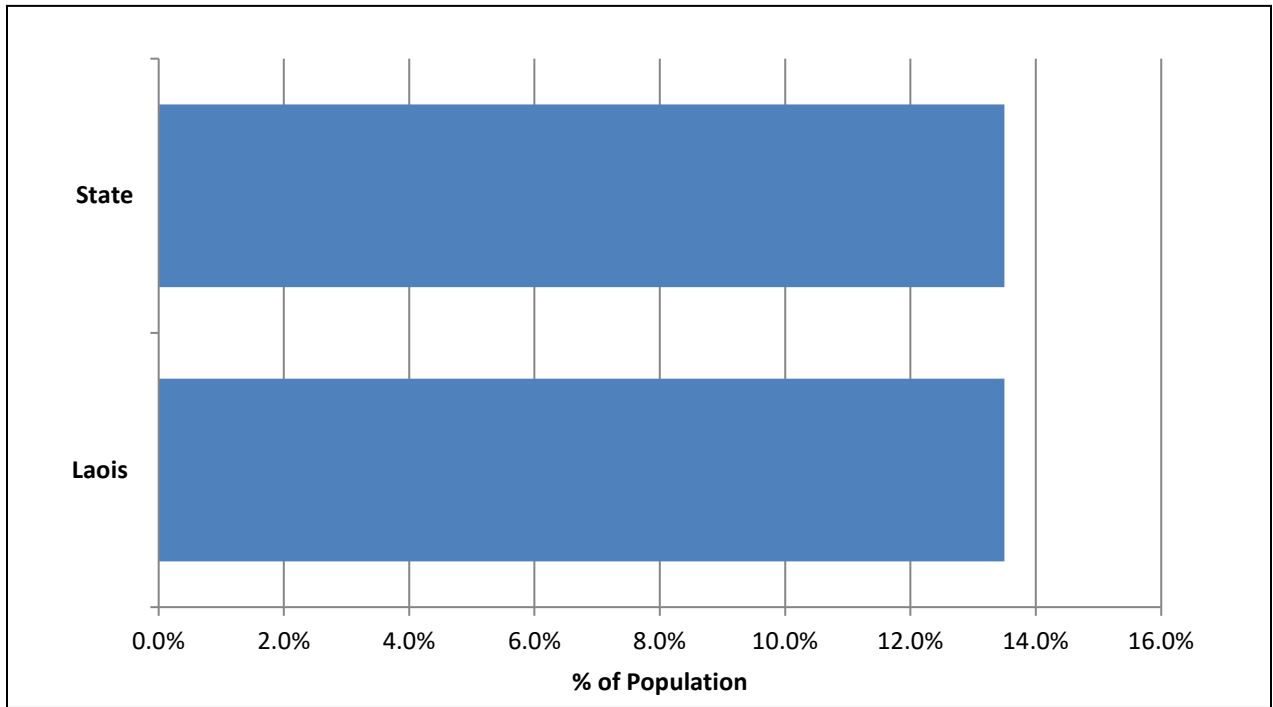


Figure65: Total % of Population with a Disability
Source: Theme 12, 2016 Census, CSO

According to the 2016 Census a total of 11,393 persons stated they had a disability, accounting for 13.5% of the total population. As presented in Figure 52 the rate recorded for Laois County is similar to that of the state (13.5%) and below the rate recorded for neighboring county Carlow (14.5%) yet higher than the rate recorded for Kildare (12.5%).

Figure 66 presents the distribution of those with a disability by ED for Laois County.

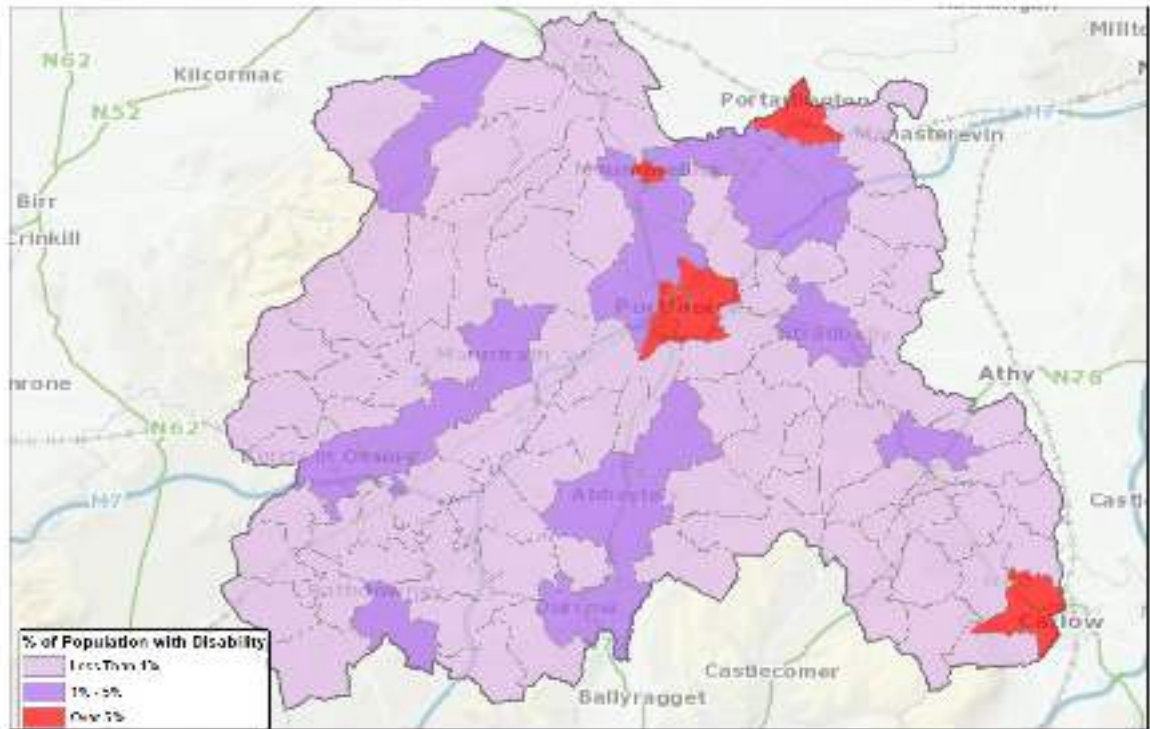


Figure 66: Percentage of population with disability by total population with disability in Laois County

Source: Theme 12, 2016 Census, CSO

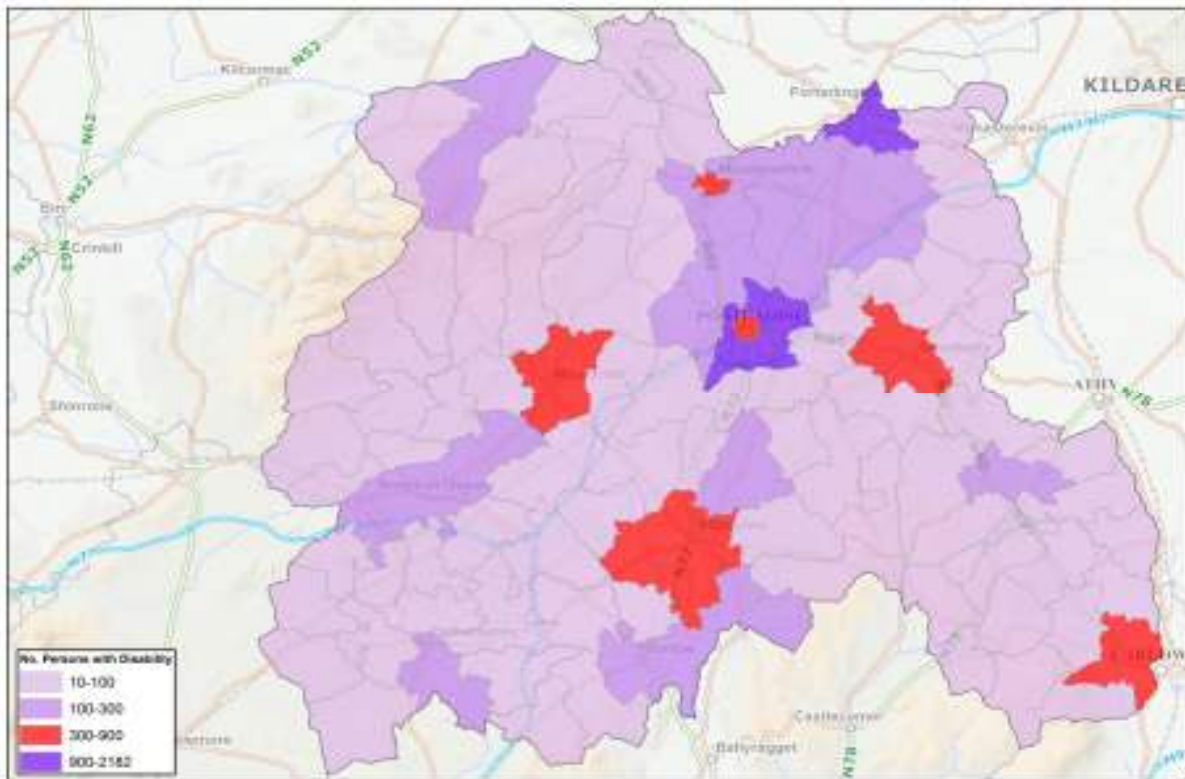


Figure 66a: Population with Disability
Source: Theme 12, 2016 Census, CSO

It is apparent from Map 65 the distribution of those with a disability is concentrated to the urban areas of the county with an evident higher concentration to the north of the county between Portlaoise and Portarlington.

The ED areas which recorded the highest concentration outside of Portlaoise and Portarlington is shown in red on Map 65 when combined these areas account for 20.5% (2,339 persons) of the total population with a disability. The ED of Mountmellick Urban recorded the highest concentration 5.3% (607 persons) of the total population of the county with a disability which accounts for 20.2% of the total population of the ED.

High concentrations were also recorded in the ED areas of Stradbally (331 persons, 24.9% TP), Mountrath (400 persons, 16.8% TP), Abbeyleix (411 persons, 14.8% TP) and Graigue Rural (590 persons, 12.3% TP).

DISABILITY – IN PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS

Figure 67 presents the number of persons with a disability in Laois County living in private accommodation either alone or with others.

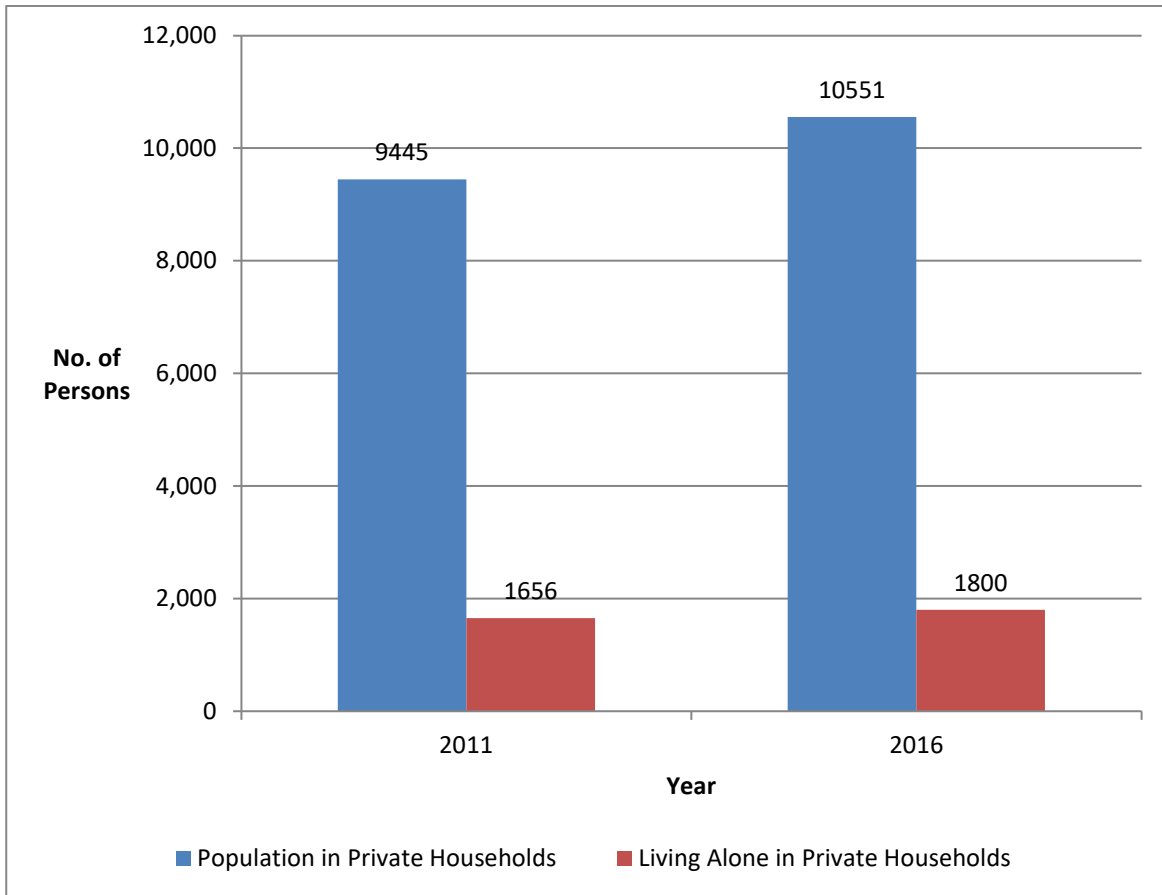


Figure67: Total Population with Disability living in Private Households

Source: Table CD825 CSO Statbank, February 2019

According to the data presented in Figure 53 1,800 persons with a disability were living alone in private households in 2016 an increase of 8.7% (144 persons) when compared to the findings of 2011. It is evident from Figure 53 the majority of those with a disability are living in private households with others an increase of 11.7% (1,106 persons) when compared to the 2011 findings.

Figure 68 presents the disability type of those living alone in private households in Laois County for 2011 and 2016.

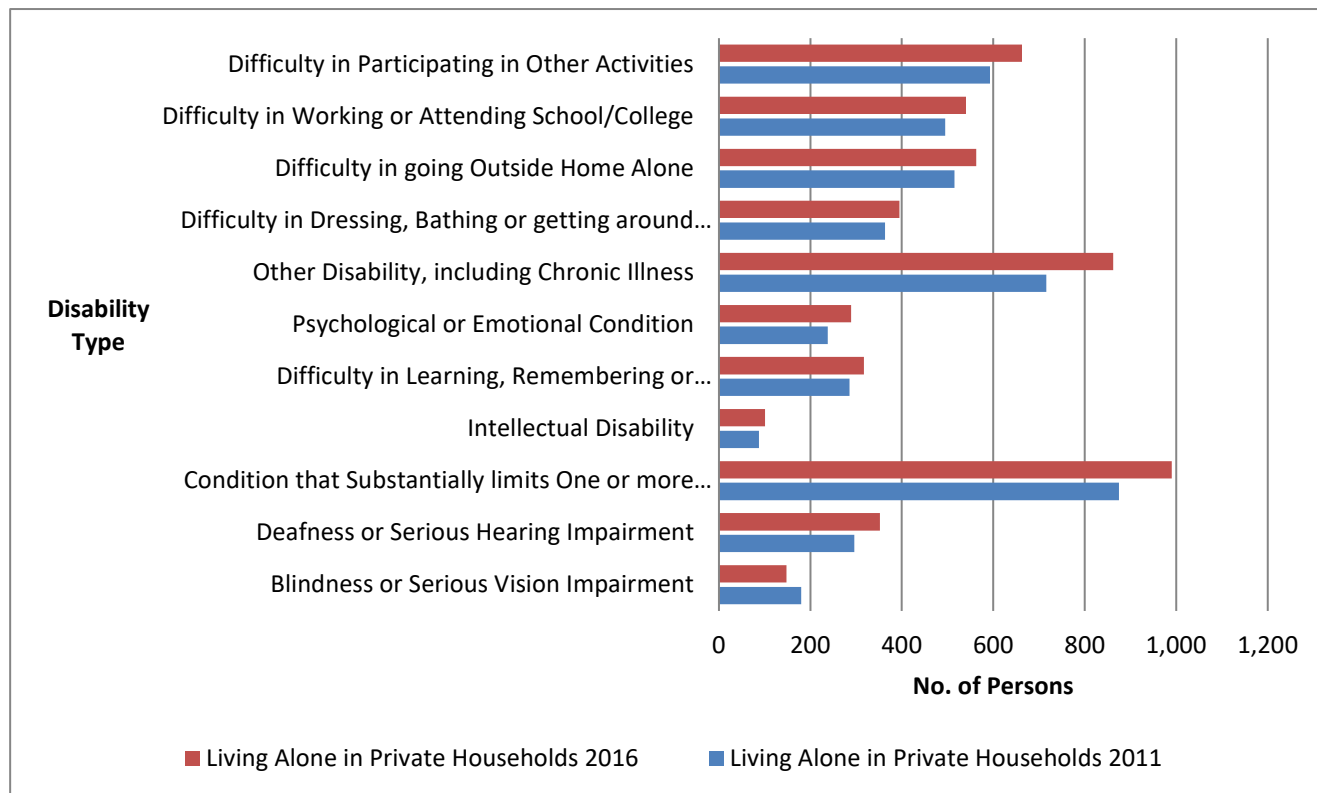


Figure 68: Disability Type of Those living Alone in Private Households

Source: Table CD825 CSO Statbank, February 2019

It is evident from Figure 68 the number of those living alone in private households with a disability including chronic illness has increased significantly by 146 persons in 2016 when compared to 2011. The number of those with a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities increased by 115 persons in 2016 when compared to the data recorded for 2011.

CARERS – LAOIS COUNTY

Figure 69 presents the distribution of those who were recorded as carers by ED for Laois County in the 2016 Census.

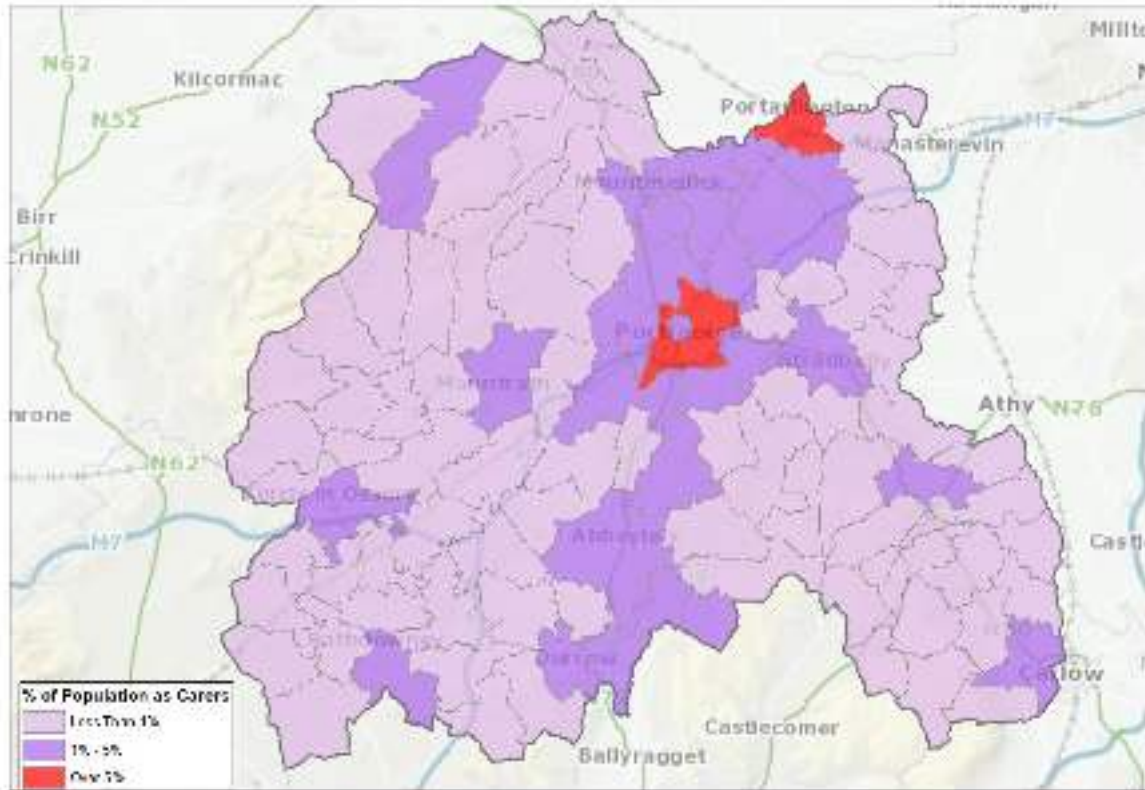


Figure 69: Percentage of population as carers by total carer population in Laois County
Source: Theme 12, 2016 Census, CSO

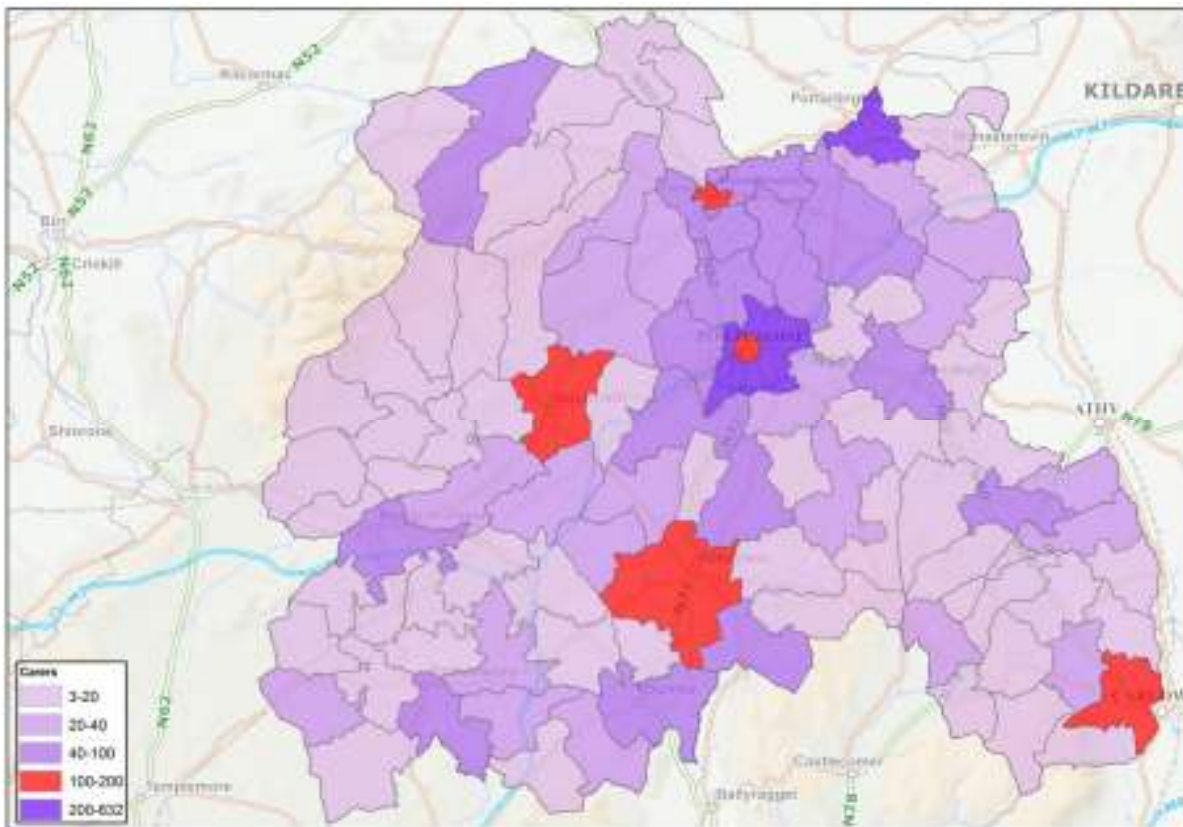


Figure 69a Total Population as Carers
 Source: Theme 12, 2016 Census, CSO

According to the 2016 Census 3,581 persons were recorded as carers in Laois County equivalent to 4.2% of the total population of the county. The rate recorded for Laois is slightly higher than the rate recorded for the state (4.1%).

MEDICAL CARDS – LAOIS/OFFALY

For the purpose of an earlier version of this report numerous data requests were sent to data sources for health. The response rate to these request were poor it also emerged the HSE do not report at county level and therefore it is difficult to provide an accurate representation of the health of the population of Laois County. The study area relevant to Laois based on the HSE is Laois/Offaly and therefore any data analyzed from the HSE will be reported at Laois/Offaly county level.

To ensure each individual has access to health services those eligible can apply for medical cards, GP cards to the HSE. Figure 71 presents the number of medical cards issued by age group for Laois/Offaly in 2017.

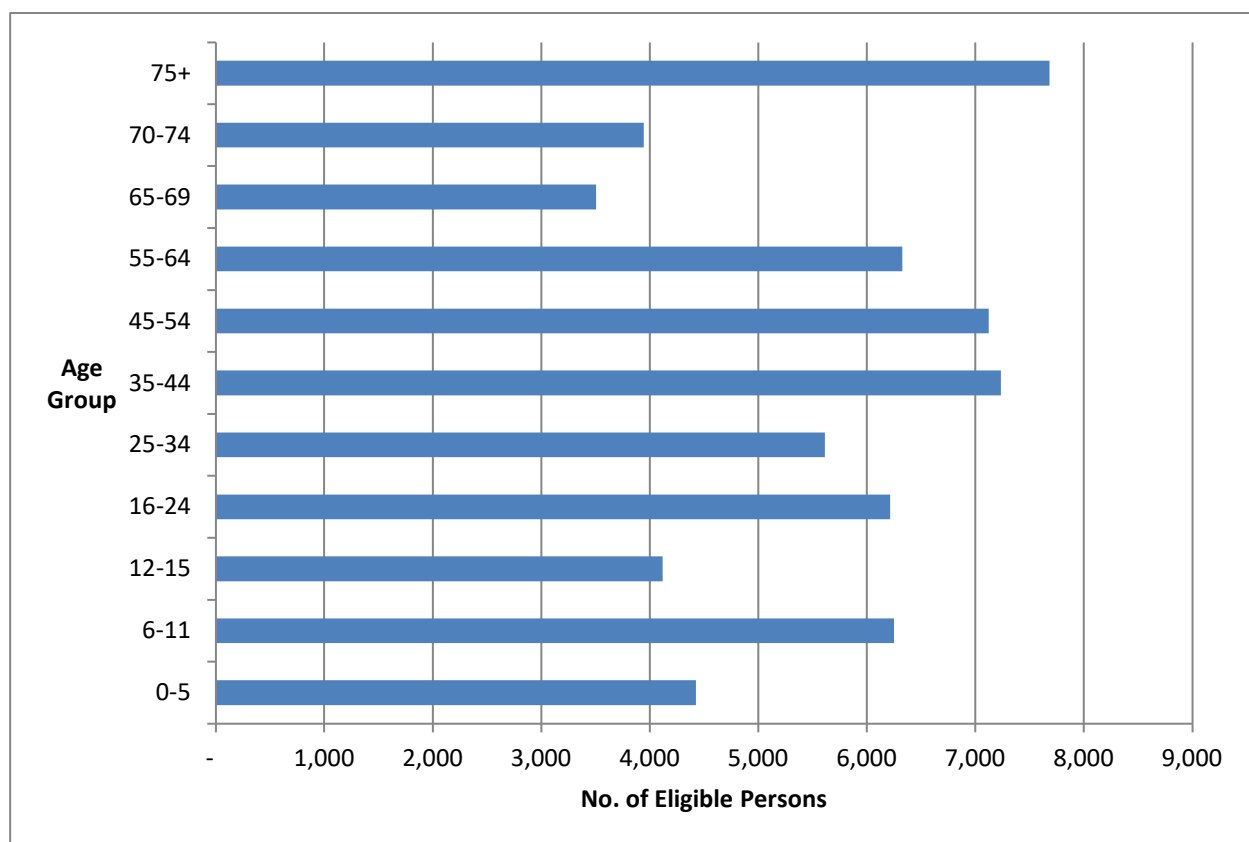


Figure 71: Medical Cards issued for Laois/Offaly
Source: 2017 HSE Annual Report

According to the 2017 HSE Annual Report a total of 62,444 cards were issued to those eligible in Laois/Offaly. Of this figure 12.3% (7,683 cards) of those cards were issued to persons aged 75+ whilst the least amount 5.6% (3,504 cards) were issued to persons aged 65-69 year olds.

GP VISIT CARDS – LAOIS/OFFALY

Figure 72 presents the number of GP visit cards issued by age group for Laois/Offaly in 2017.

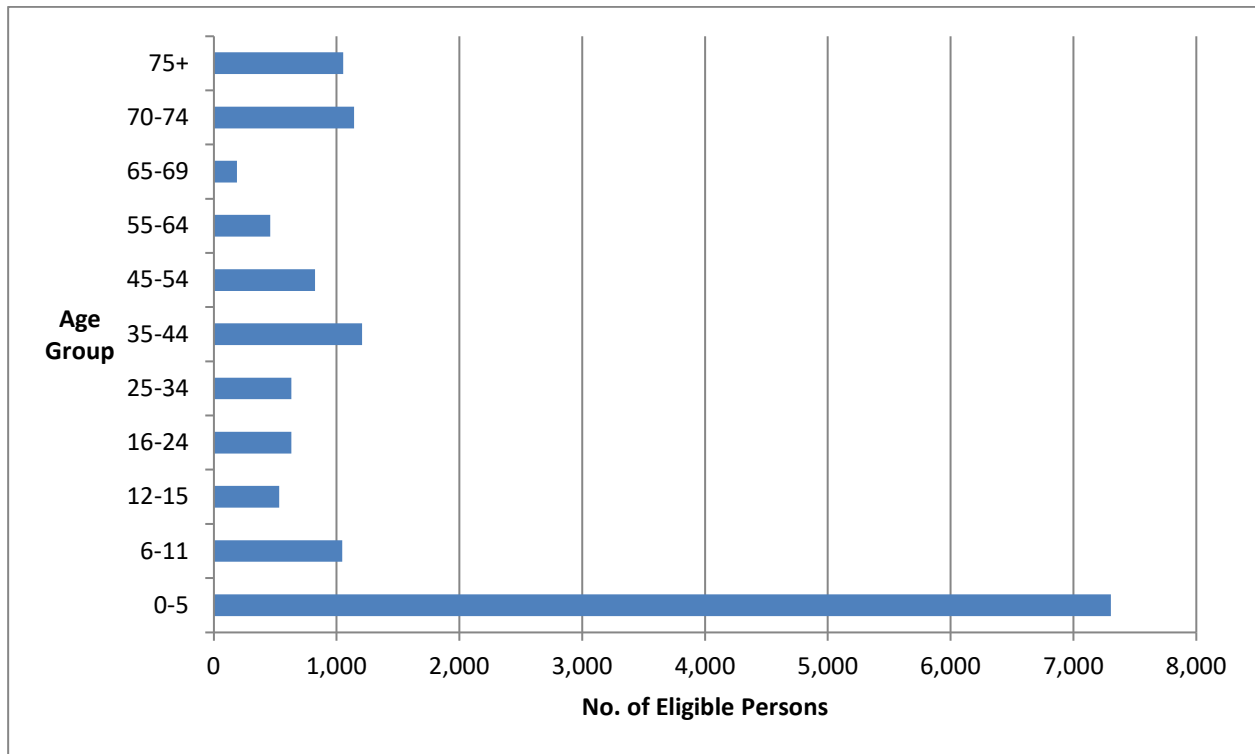


Figure 72: GP Visit Cards issued for Laois/Offaly
Source: 2017 HSE Annual Report

According to the 2017 HSE Annual Report a total of 15,028 GP visit cards were issued to those eligible in Laois/Offaly. It is apparent from Figure 56 those aged 0-5, 70-74 and 75+ years old attain the majority of the GP visit cards in Laois/Offaly. Of the total number of cards issued 48.6% (7,305 cards) were issued to 0-5 year olds whilst the least amount 1.3% (188 cards) of those cards were issued to persons aged 65-69 year olds.

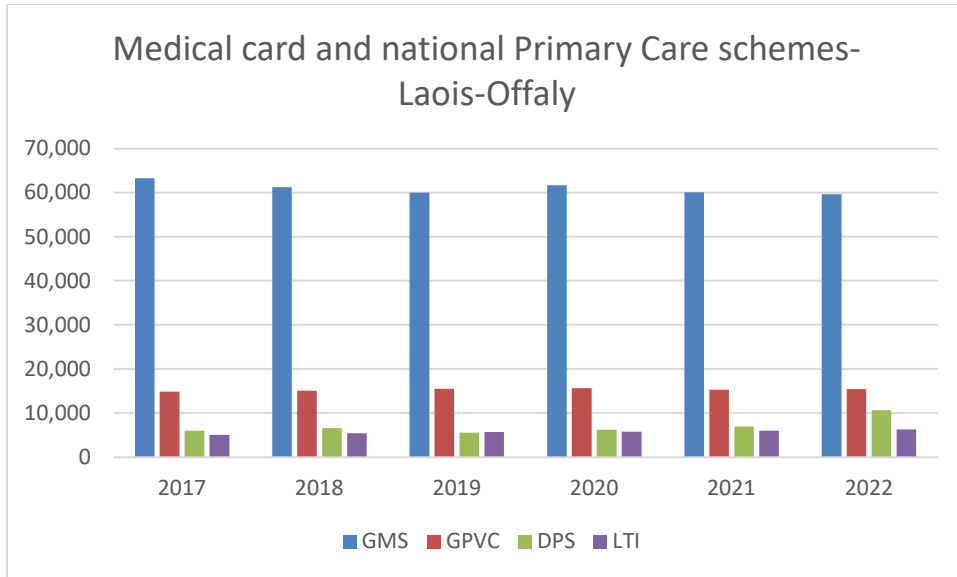


Figure 72 a: Medical card and national Primary Care schemes Laois Offaly

Source: <https://www.sspcrs.ie/portal/annual-reporting/>

Figure 72a shows the numbers under Medical Cards, GP Visit Cards, Drug Payment Schemes and Long Term Illness Schemes across Laois Offaly for 2017-2022

1.6 ENERGY

MOTOR CARS – LAOIS COUNTY

Figure 73 presents the number of motor cars per household for Laois County as recorded by the 2016 Census.

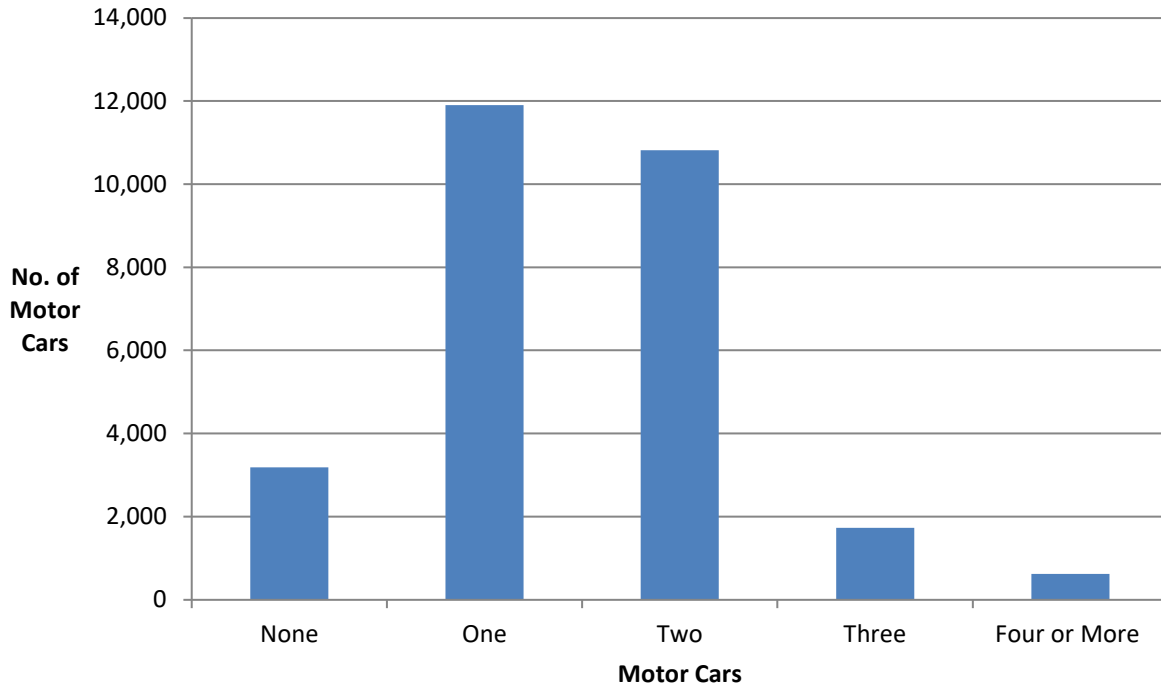


Figure73: Number of Motor Cars per Household Laois County
Source: Theme 15, 2016 Census, CSO

It is evident from data presented in Figure 60 the majority of households within Laois County attains either one or two cars. Of the total households in the county 41% (11,905 households) attain one car whilst a further 37.3% (10,814 households) households attain two cars. Interestingly a total of 3,186 households or 10.9% of the total households has no car.

Figure 74 presents the distribution of households with one car by ED for Laois County.

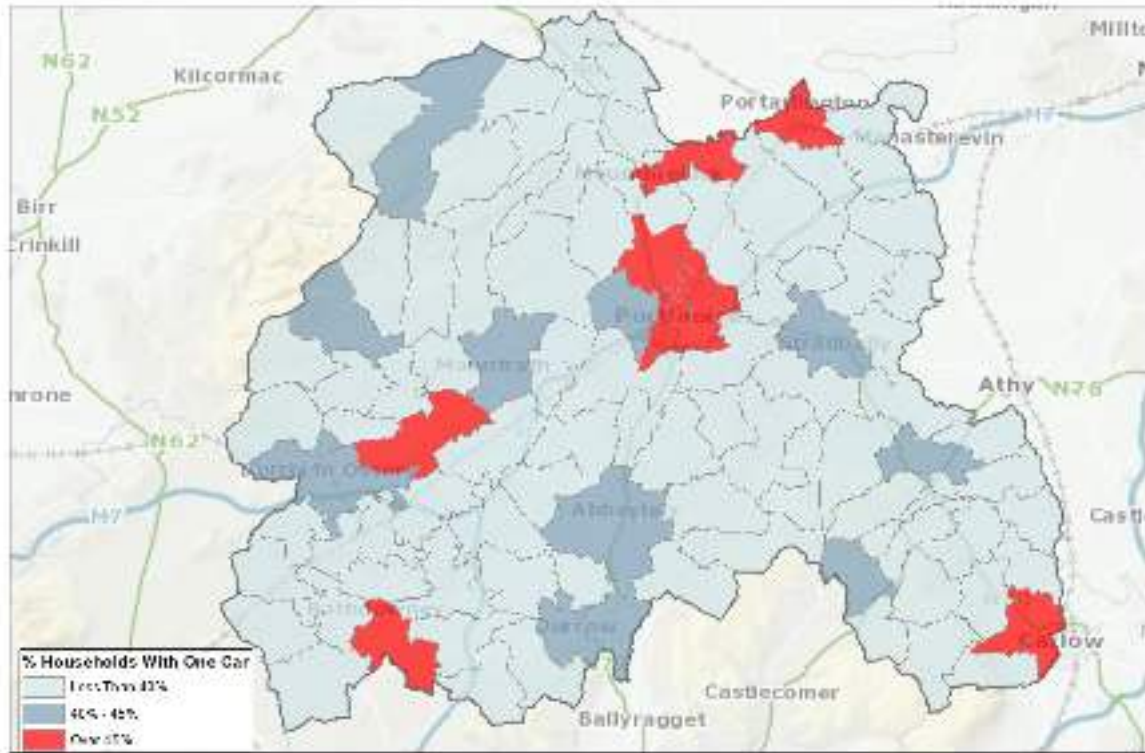


Figure 74: Percentage of Households with One Motor Car by ED in Laois County

Source: Theme 15, 2016 Census, CSO

It is evident from Figure 74 that the households which own one car are located predominantly in the urban areas of the county

Figure 75 presents the distribution of households with two cars by ED for Laois County.

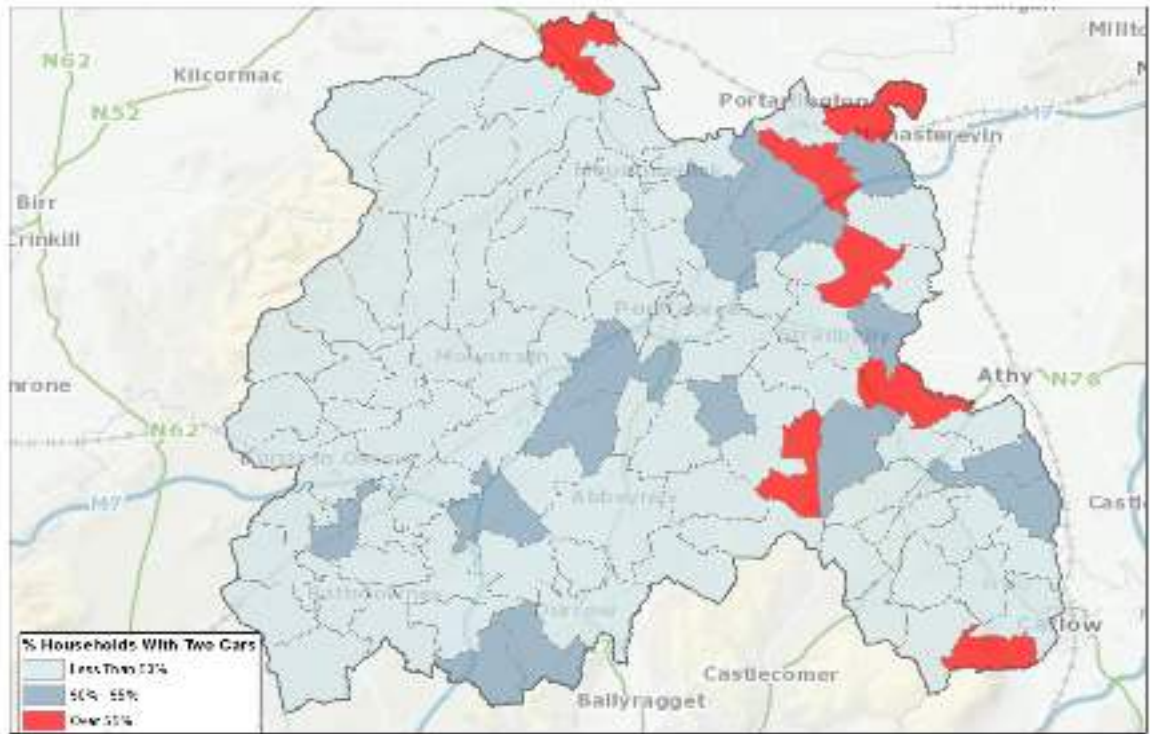


Figure 75: Percentage of Households with Two Motor Cars by ED in Laois County

Source: Theme 15, 2016 Census, CSO

It is evident from Figure 75 that households with two cars are much more common within the rural areas of the county.

Figure 76 presents the distribution of households with no cars by ED for Laois County.

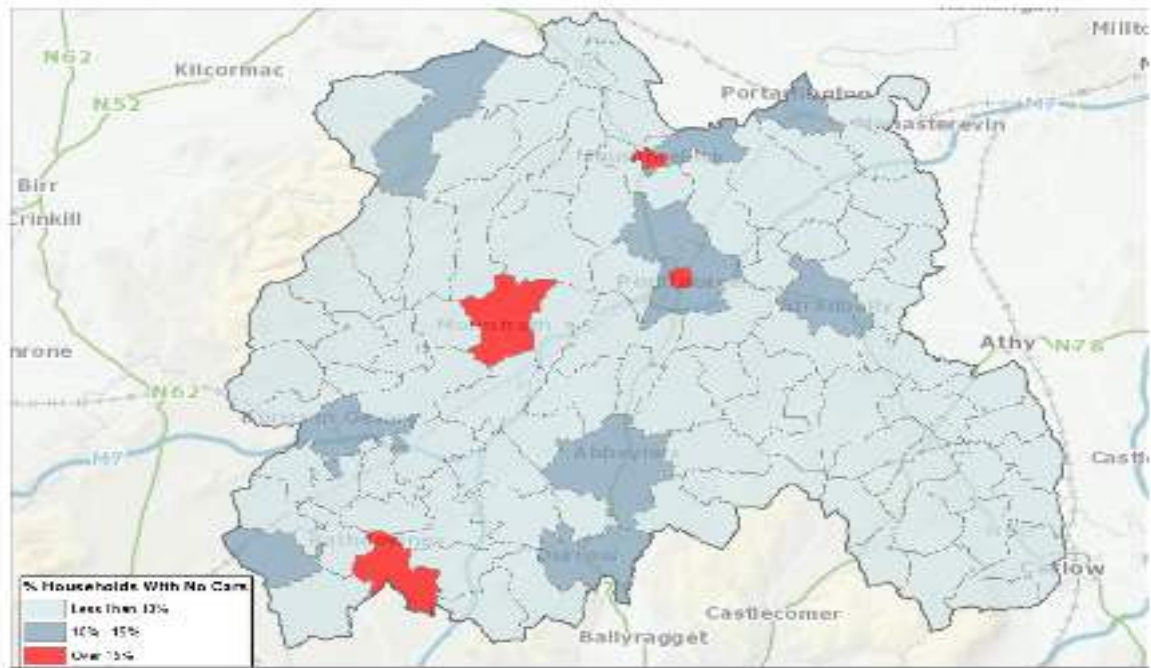


Figure 76: Percentage of Households with No Motor Cars by ED in Laois County

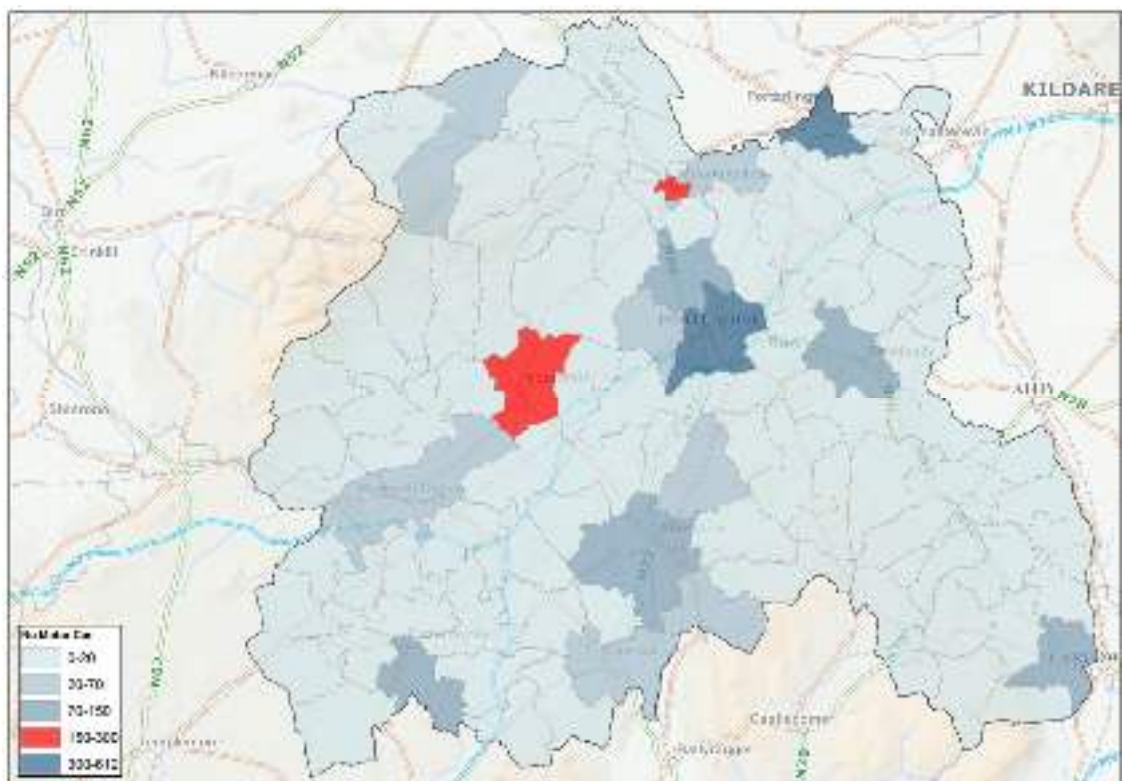


Figure 76a: Households with No Cars Laois County
Source: Theme 15, 2016 Census, CSO

It is apparent from Figure 76 that the highest concentration of households with no motor cars is predominantly located in the urban areas of the county, areas within walking distances of essential services.

CAR REGISTRATIONS – LAOIS COUNTY

Figure 77 presents the total number of car registrations for Laois County 2016-2018

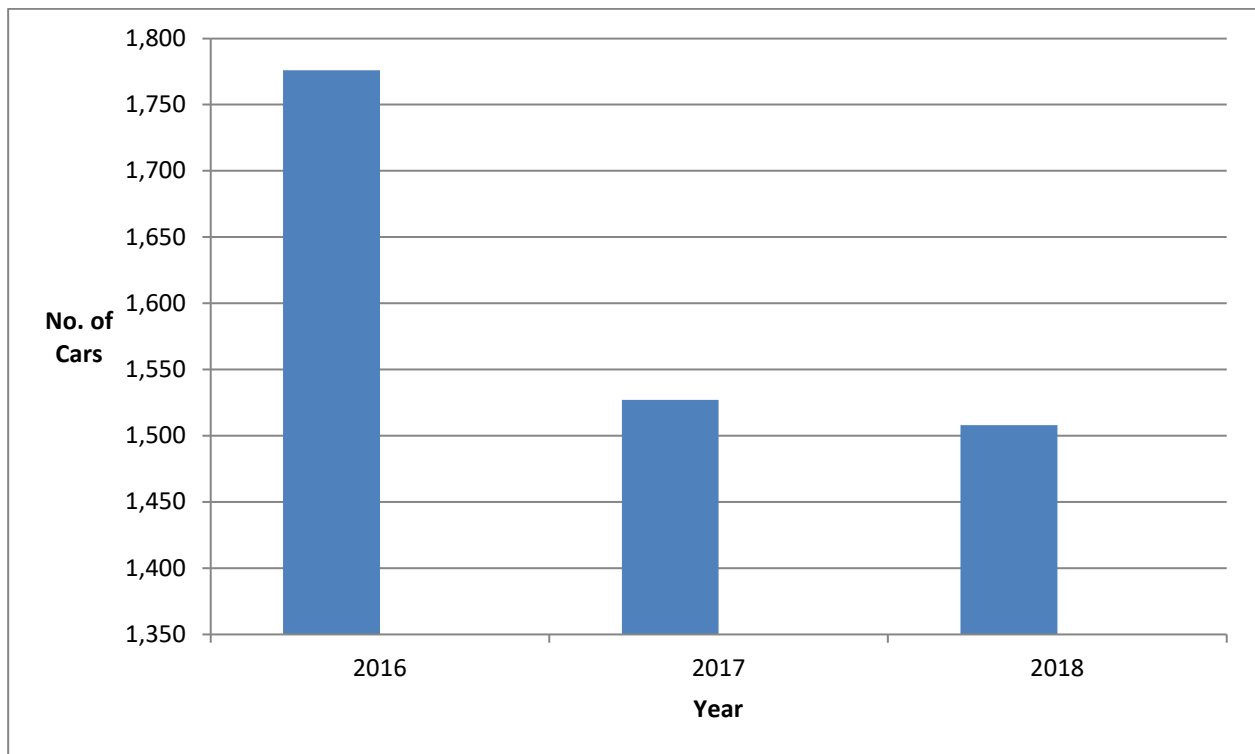


Figure77: Number of Motor Cars Registered Laois County 2016-2018

Source: <https://stats.beebEEP.ie/motorstats> February 2019

As presented in Figure 61 1,776 cars were registered in Laois County in 2016 however this figure reduced to 1,527 in 2017 a decrease of 14%. In 2018 a total of 1,508 cars were registered a decrease of 19 cars when compared to 2017.

CAR REGISTRATIONS BY ENGINE TYPE – LAOIS COUNTY

Figure 77 presents the number of car registrations in Laois County by engine type for 2016-2018.

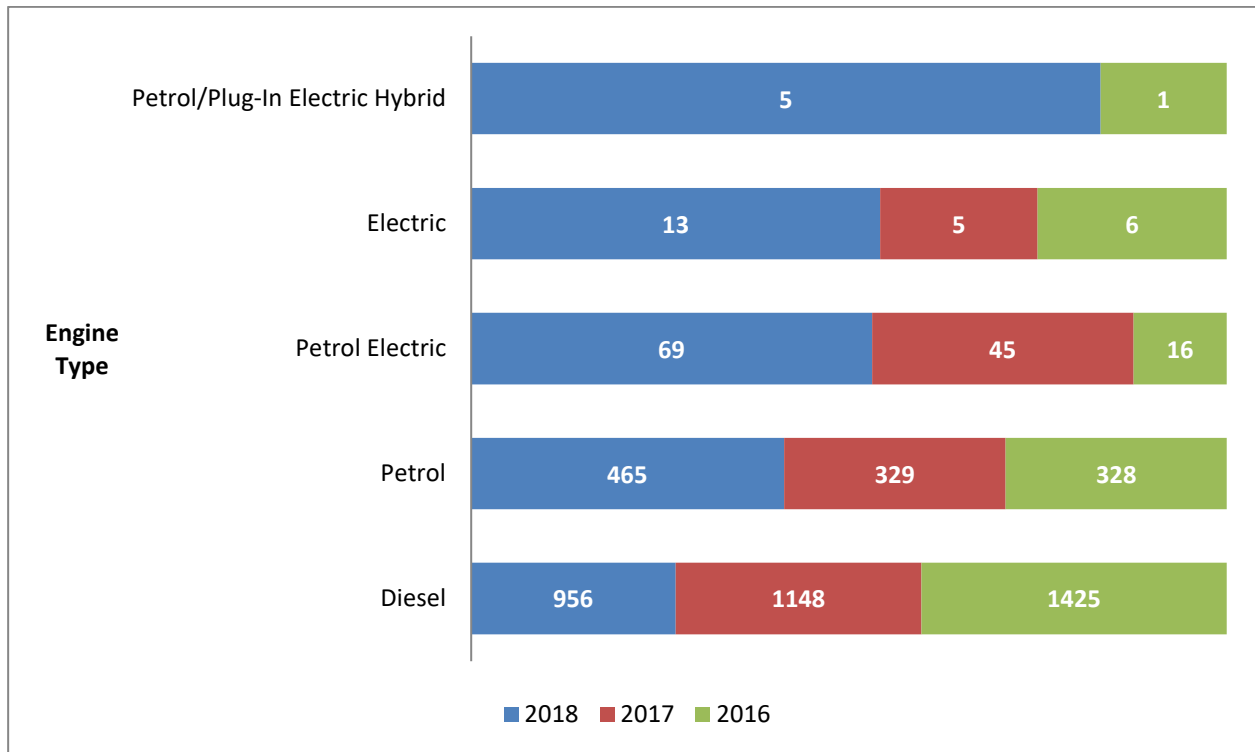


Figure77: Number of Motor Cars Registered by Engine Type Laois County 2016-2018

Source: <https://stats.beepbeep.ie/motorstats> February 2019

Since 2016 a total of 4,811 cars have been registered in Laois County. It is evident from Figure 62 petrol and diesel cars remain most common accounting for 96.7% (4,651 cars) of the total cars registered within the 2016-2018 period. However it is also evident from the data presented alternative engine types are increasing.

In 2018 five petrol/plug-in electric hybrid cars were purchased, the highest figure recorded for Laois County whilst none were purchased in 2017 and only one in 2016. Of the total (130 cars) petrol electric cars purchased since 2016 in Laois County 53% (69 cars) were purchased in 2018 an increase of 24 cars when compared to 2017 and increase of 53 cars when compared to 2016.

CENTRAL HEATING – LAOIS

Figure 78 presents the central heating type of households in Laois County as recorded by the 2016 Census

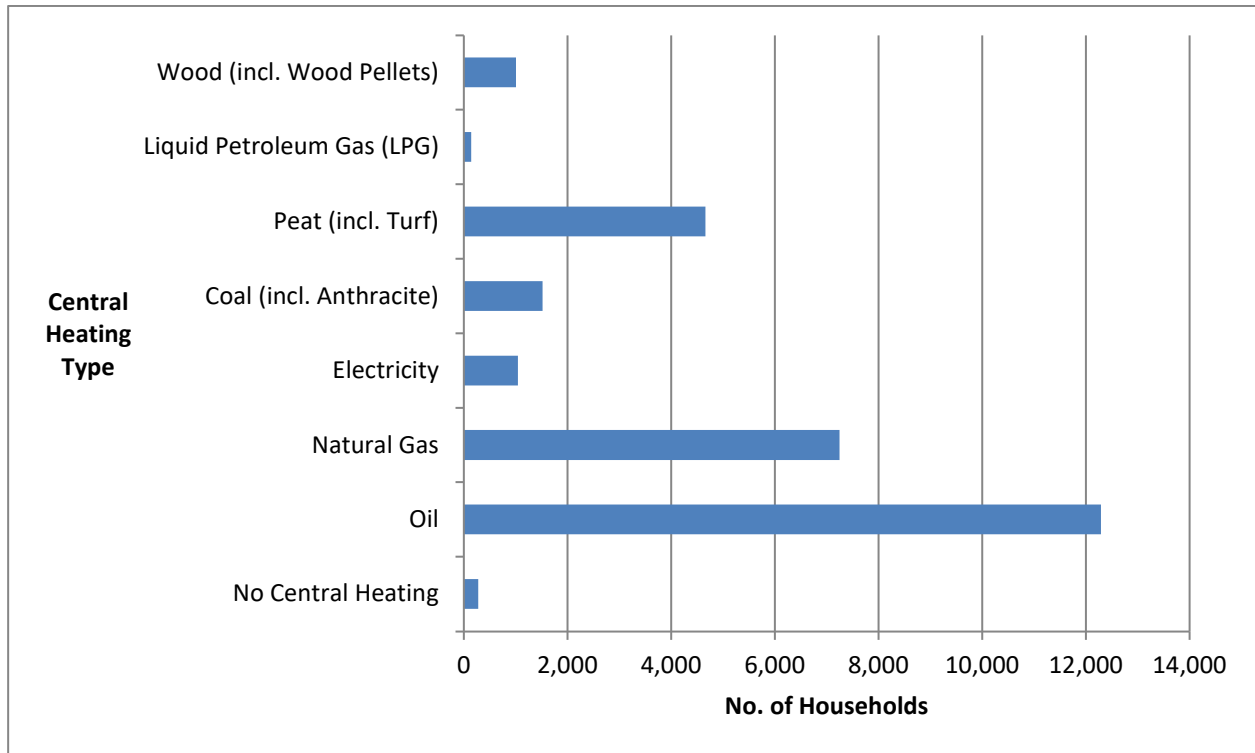


Figure78: Heating Type of Households Laois County

Source: Theme 6, 2016 Census, CSO

1.7 COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

There is numerous vital community facilities located throughout Laois County. These facilities provide fundamental services to the population of the county in particular those located in the rural areas that may experience difficulty in visiting the more urban areas of the county on a regular basis.

POST OFFICES

Figure 79 presents the location of each of the Post Offices located in Laois County.

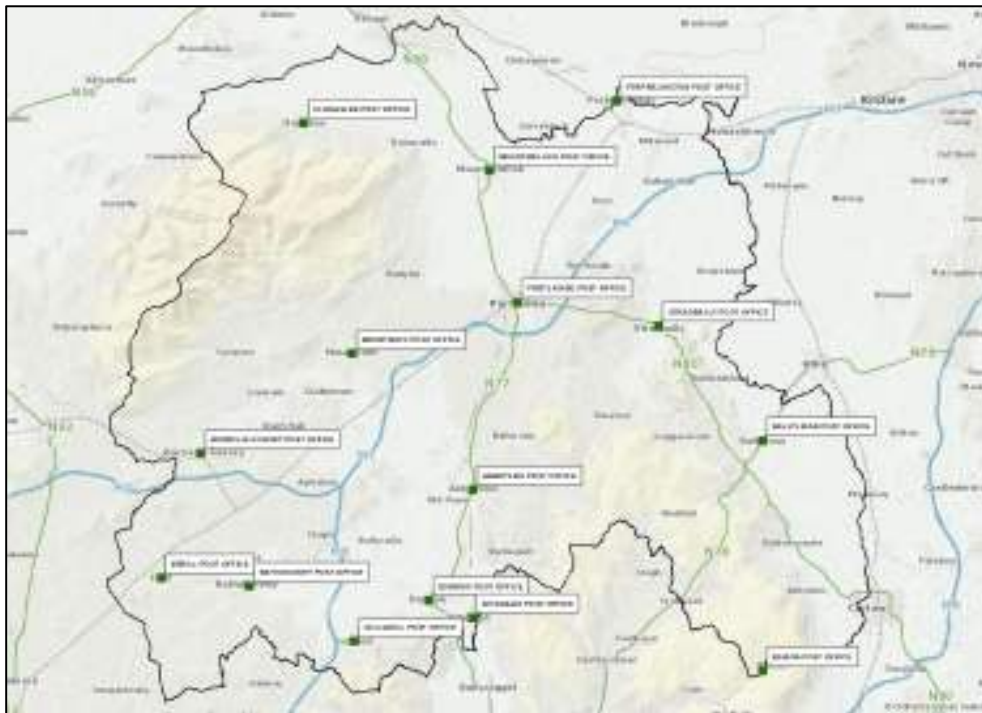


Figure 79: Location of Post Offices in Laois County
Source: An Post

There are a total of 16 post offices located in Laois County. There is an evident absence of post offices to the south east and west of the county. It is apparent from Map 70 the south of the county attains a significant number of post offices. A post office provides numerous services to members of the public of all age groups however over the past number of years there have been a number of closures and threatened closures. In August 2018 Laois County experienced the closure of two post offices; Ballinakill and Ballybrittas.

LIBRARIES

Figure 80 presents the location of each of the libraries located in Laois County.

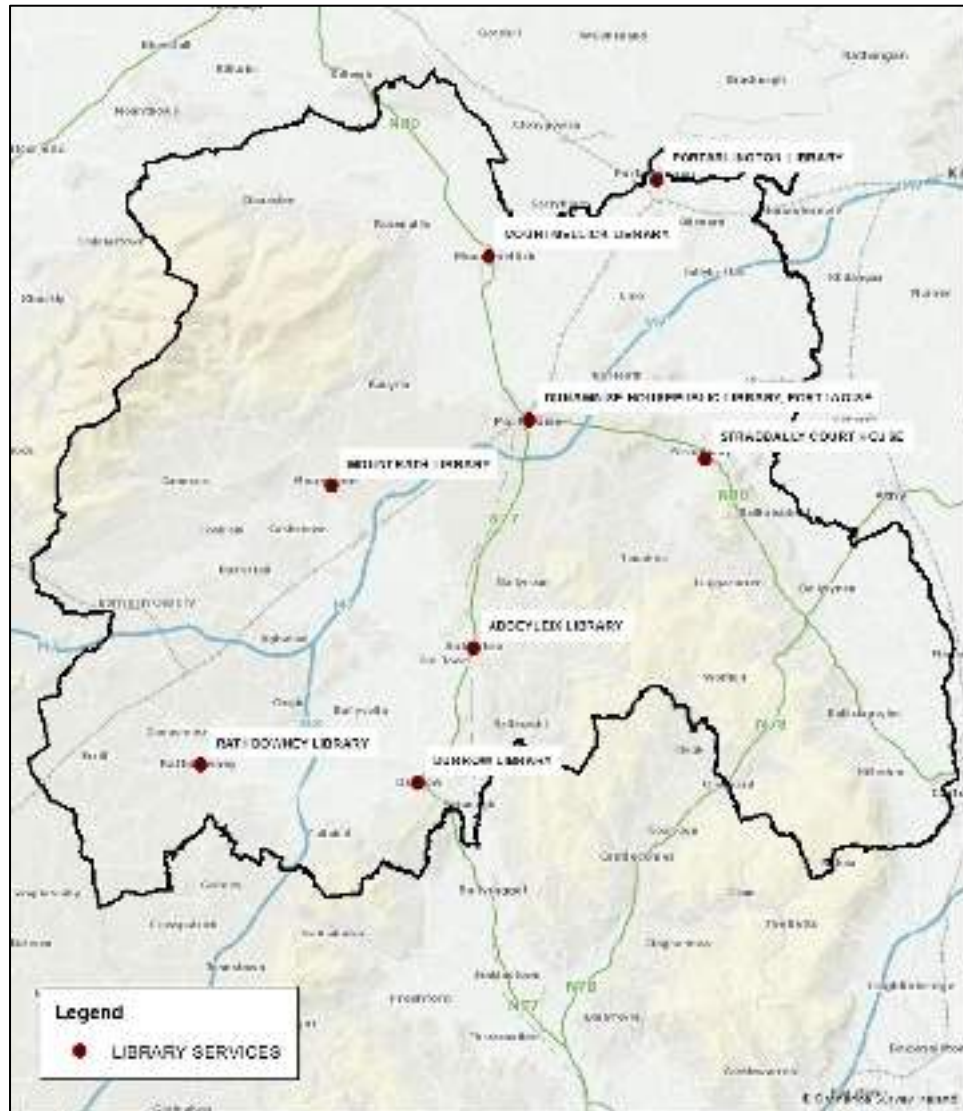


Figure 80 : Location of Libraries in Laois County

There are a total of eight libraries located in Laois County. The services provided in each of these libraries vary as does the opening hours.

In total the Libraries open for 210 hours per week.

COMMUNITY CENTRES

Figure 81 presents the location of each community centre in Laois County.

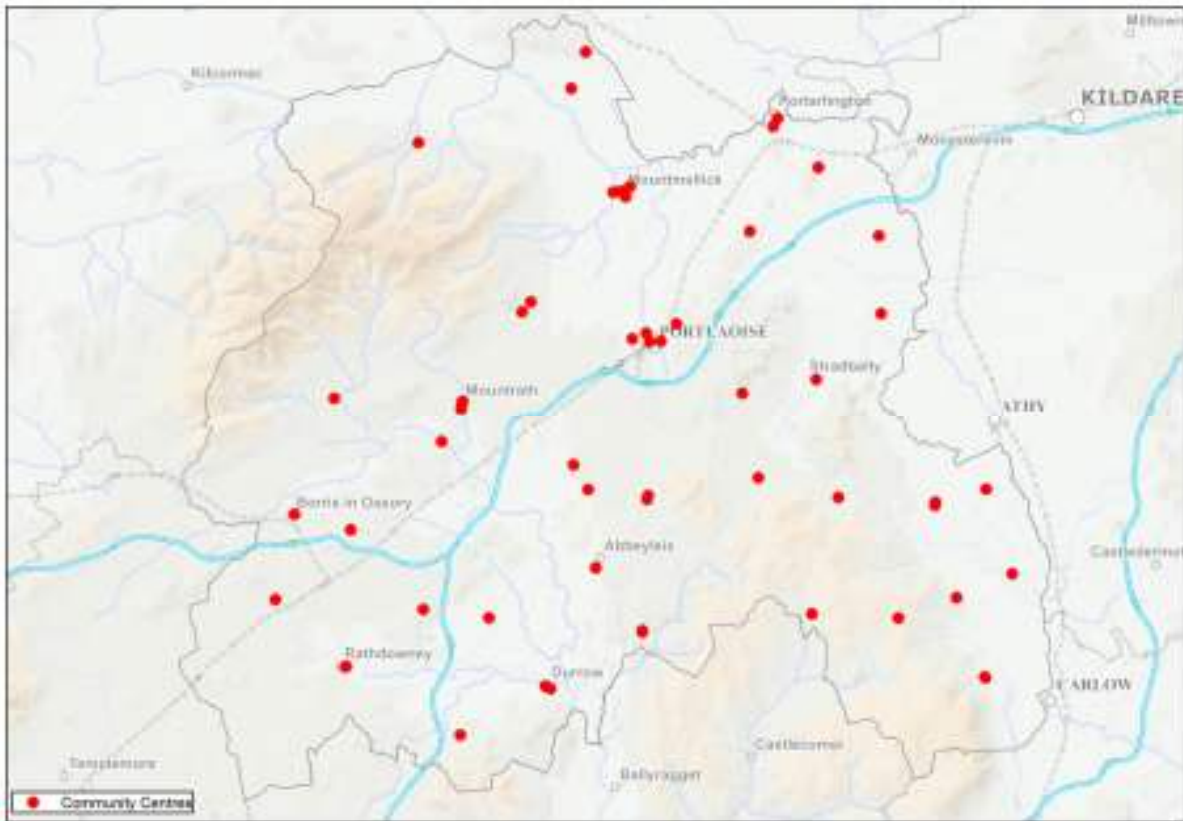


Figure 81: Location of Community Centres in Laois County
Source: IT Department September 2018

There is a total 59 community centres located throughout the County. A community centre is an important component of any community. Given the rural nature of the Laois County it is not surprising there are a large number of community centres located throughout the County. A community centre provides a meeting place for members of the community.

RURAL TRANSPORT - LOCAL LINK

Figure 82 presents the towns and villages serviced by the local link route. The distribution of the 65+ year old population by ED as recorded by the 2016 Census is also presented.

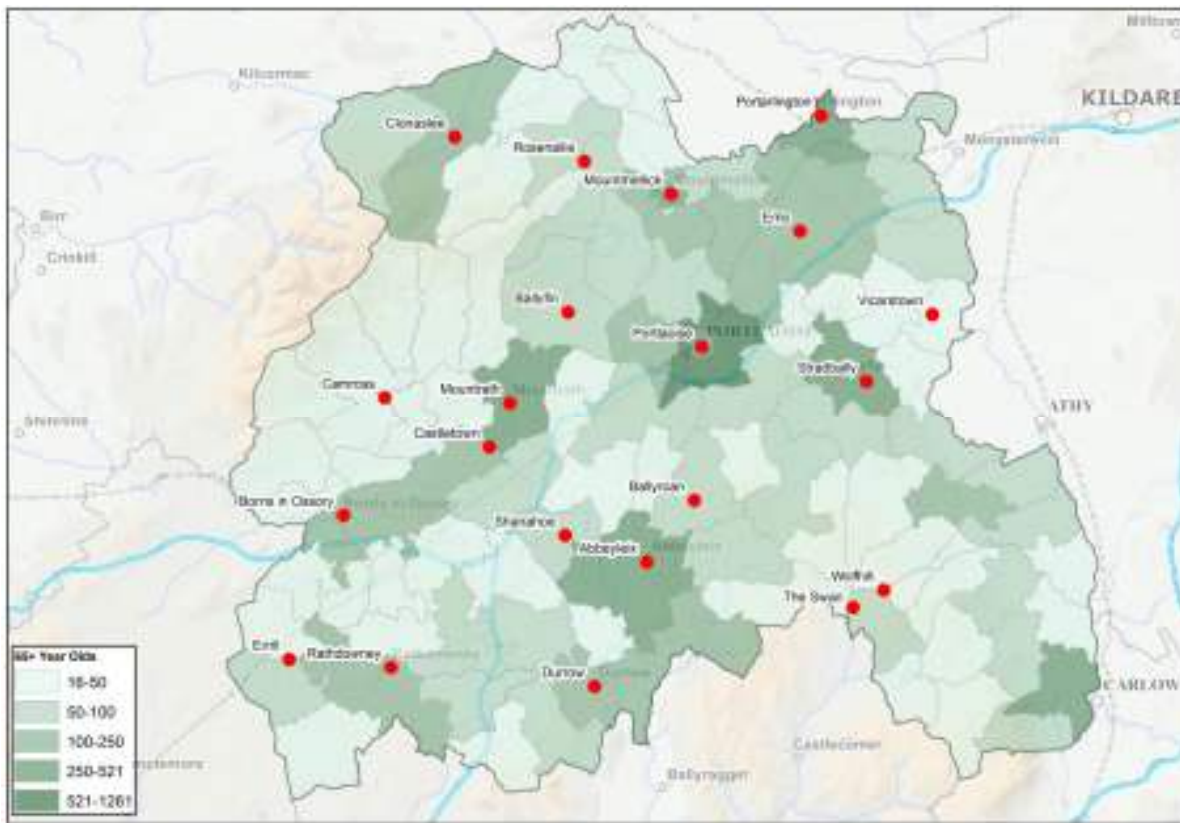


Figure 82: Towns and Villages of Laois County Serviced by Local Link

Source: <https://locallinklaoisoffaly.ie/> February 2019

The services and facilities available within Laois County as presented above provide social inclusion for members of the community. However for those who are unable to gain access to these facilities due to living in a rural location a rural transport service known as Local Link has now place. Local Link is a rural transport services within Laois County with 47 weekly scheduled services and 200 plus trips a week currently in operation. The service provides access and connects towns for social, education and employment opportunities.

FIRE STATIONS

Figure 83 presents the location of each fire station in Laois County.



Figure 83: Location of Fire Stations in Laois County
Source: IT Department September 2018

There are a total of eight fire stations in Laois County each manned by a specified number of fire fighters each day and night. The service provided by a fire station is crucial to both the local community and county as they are one of the first responders to an emergency.

GARDA STATIONS

Figure 84 presents the location of each of the Garda Stations in Laois County.

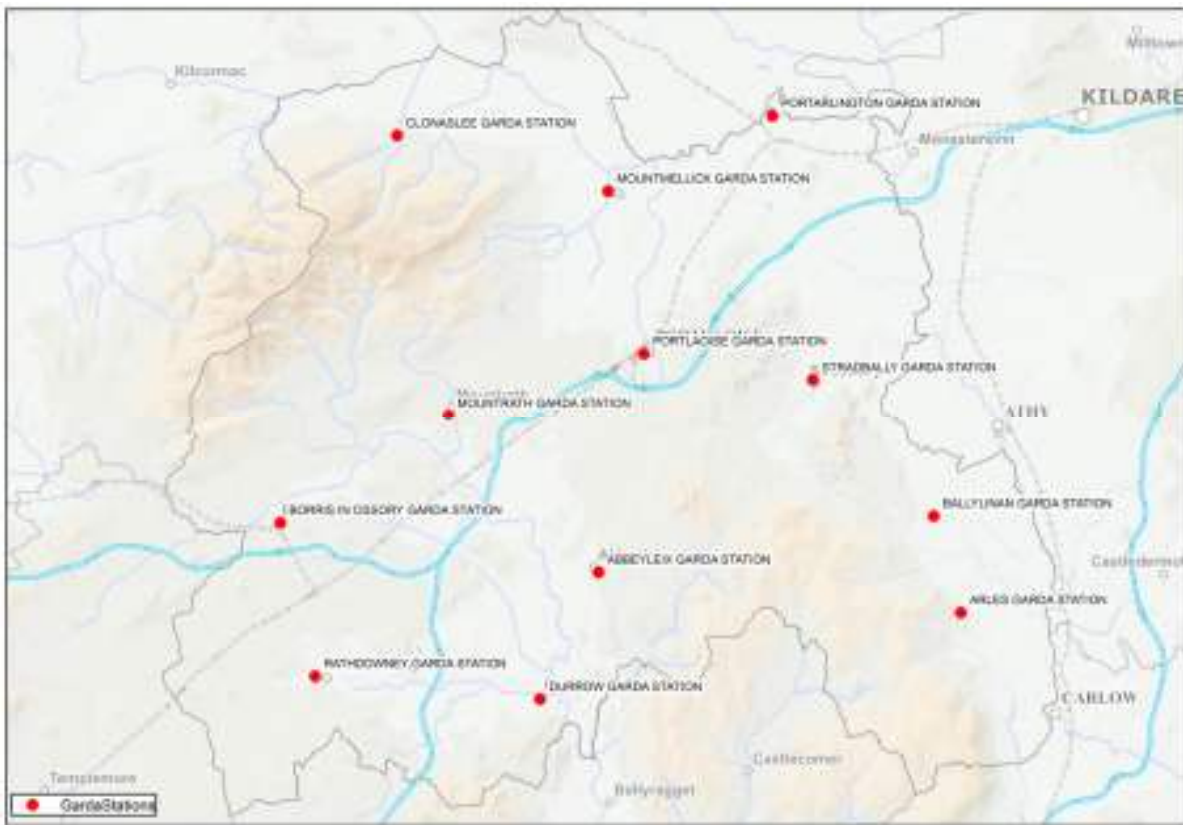


Figure 84: Location of Garda Stations in Laois County
Source: IT Department September 2018

There is a total twelve Garda Stations located in Laois County.

PLAYGROUNDS

Figure 85 presents the location of the twenty playgrounds in Laois County as of September 2018.

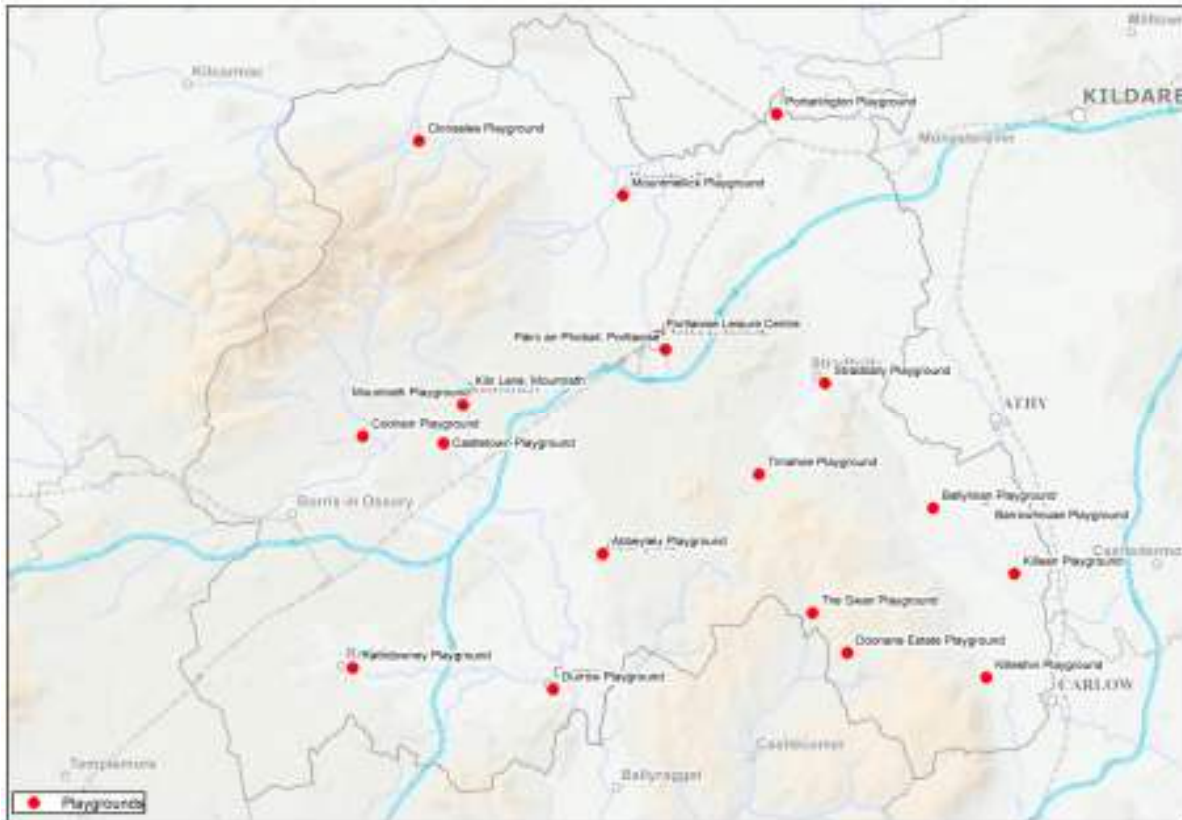


Figure 85: Location of Playgrounds in Laois County

Source: Sports & Leisure Department September 2019

It is also useful to note there is one skate park available in the county at Portlaoise Leisure Centre. Table 6 presents the facilities available at each of the playgrounds throughout the county inclusive of its suitability by age group.

Park Name	Location	Age Range	Facilities
Solas na Gréine	Páirc an Phobail, Timahoe Road, Portlaoise,	1-8 yrs	Junior Playground, Outdoor Gym & Natural Play Area
Páirc Spraioi na hAbhann	People's Park, Link Road, Portarlinton.	1-14 yrs	Playground & Basketball Court
Sult na Mara	Heritage House, Abbeyleix	1-12 yrs	Playground
Sli na bPáistí	Amenity Park, Link Road, Mountrath	1-12 yrs	Playground, Outdoor Gym & Amenity Area
Full Steam Ahead	The Green, Stradbally	1-12 yrs	Playground & Outdoor Gym
Tír na Spraioi	Bellair, Clonaslee	1-12 yrs	Playground
The Swan	The Swan Community Centre	5-18 yrs	MUGA
Tír Shúgartha	Killeen Community Centre	1-12 yrs	Playground & MUGA
Darú na nÓg	Kilkenny Rd, Durrow	1-12 yrs	Playground
Oisín Park	Oisín Park, Killeslin	1-12 yrs	Playground
Croí na nÓg	Kiln Lane, Mountrath	1-12 yrs	Playground & MUGA
Ríocht na nÓg	Old Boys School, Castletown	1-12 yrs	Playground
Dún Spraioi	Portlaoise Leisure Centre	1-12 yrs	Playground & Outdoor Gym
Mountmellick Amenity Area	Irishtown, Mountmellick	All Ages	Playground, Outdoor Gym & Amenity Area
Gort na nÓg	St Fergal's College, Rathdowney	1-12 yrs 5-18 yrs	Playground & MUGA
Gort na Ghreasáí	Wynne Park, Ballylinan	1-12 yrs	Playground
Clós Cloigthí	The Village, Timahoe	1-12 yrs	Playground
Spraioi ag an Seanmhuileann	The Village, Coolrain	1-12 yrs	Playground
Pairc na Bearbhu	Whitebog, Barrowhouse	1-12 yrs	Playground
Doonane Playground	Doonane Estate	All Ages	Mini Pitch, Playground

Figure 85a Facilities of Playgrounds

Source: Sports & Leisure Department September 2019

PUBLIC PARKS

Figure 86 presents the location of the 6 public parks operating in Laois County as of September 2018.

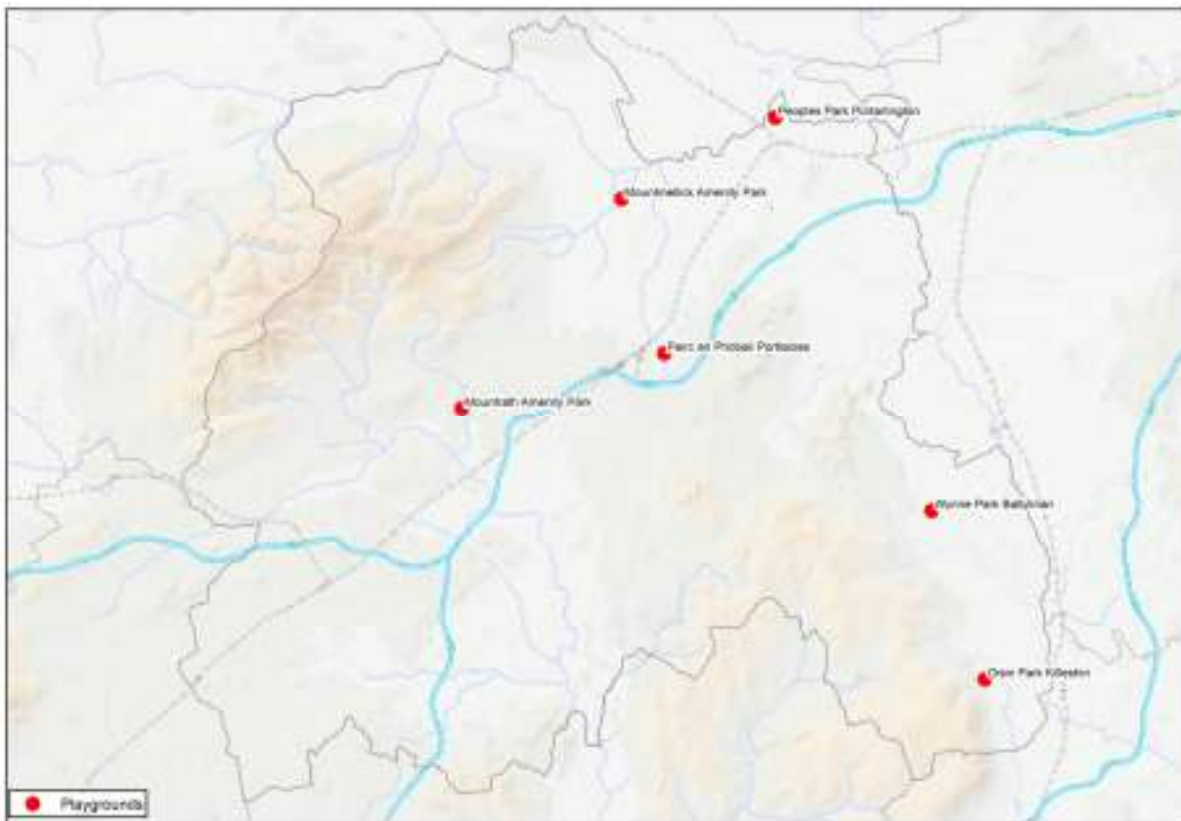


Figure 86: Location of Public Parks in Laois County
Source: Sports & Leisure Department September 2019

CHILDCARE FACILITIES – LAOIS COUNTY

Figure 87 presents the location of childcare facilities in Laois County as of September 2018 with the distribution of the total 0-4 year olds by ED for the county.

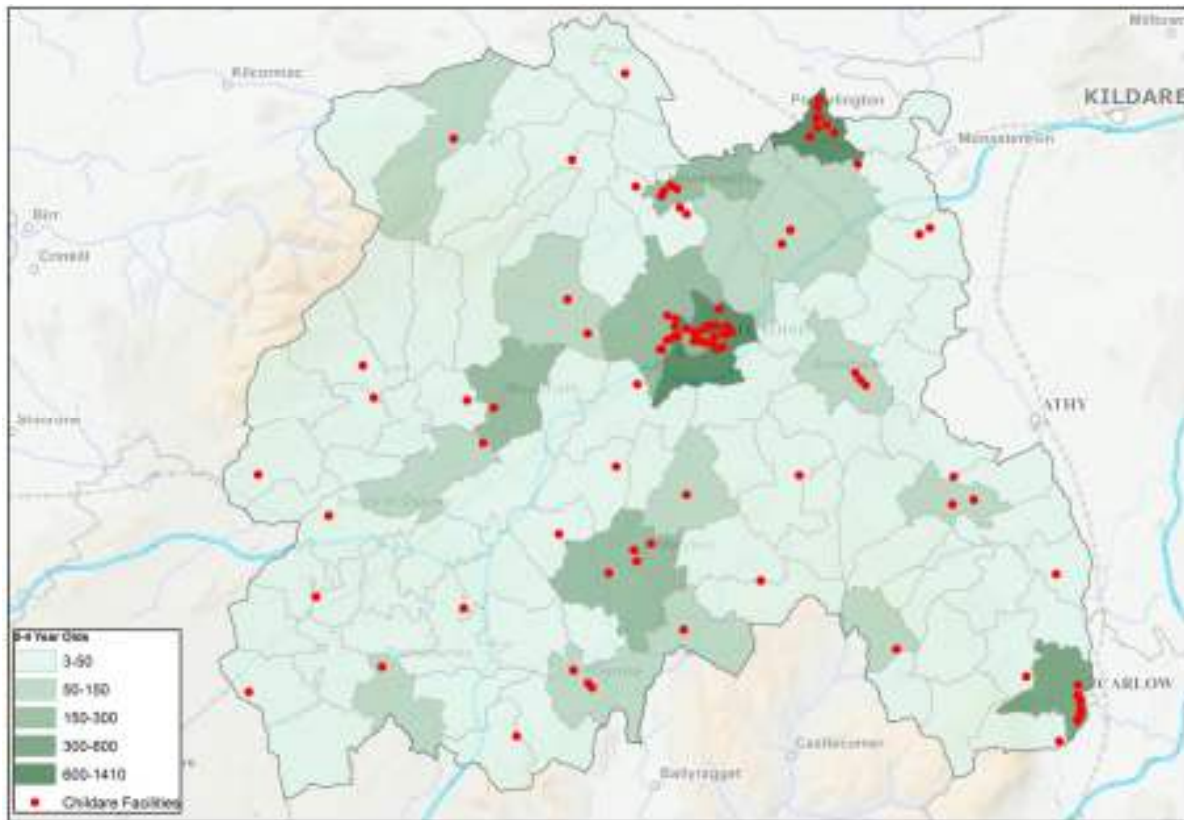


Figure 87: Location of Childcare Facilities in Laois County

Source: Laois Childcare Committee September 2018

As of September 2018 there were a total of 104 childcare facilities located throughout the county of which eighteen is a community/voluntary facility. The distribution of the 0-4 year old population by ED for the county presents the catchment areas for each of these facilities and the potential demand for these facilities in the future.

YOUTH CENTRES

Figure 88 presents the location of each of the youth centres in Laois County with the distribution of total 10-17 year olds by ED for Laois County.

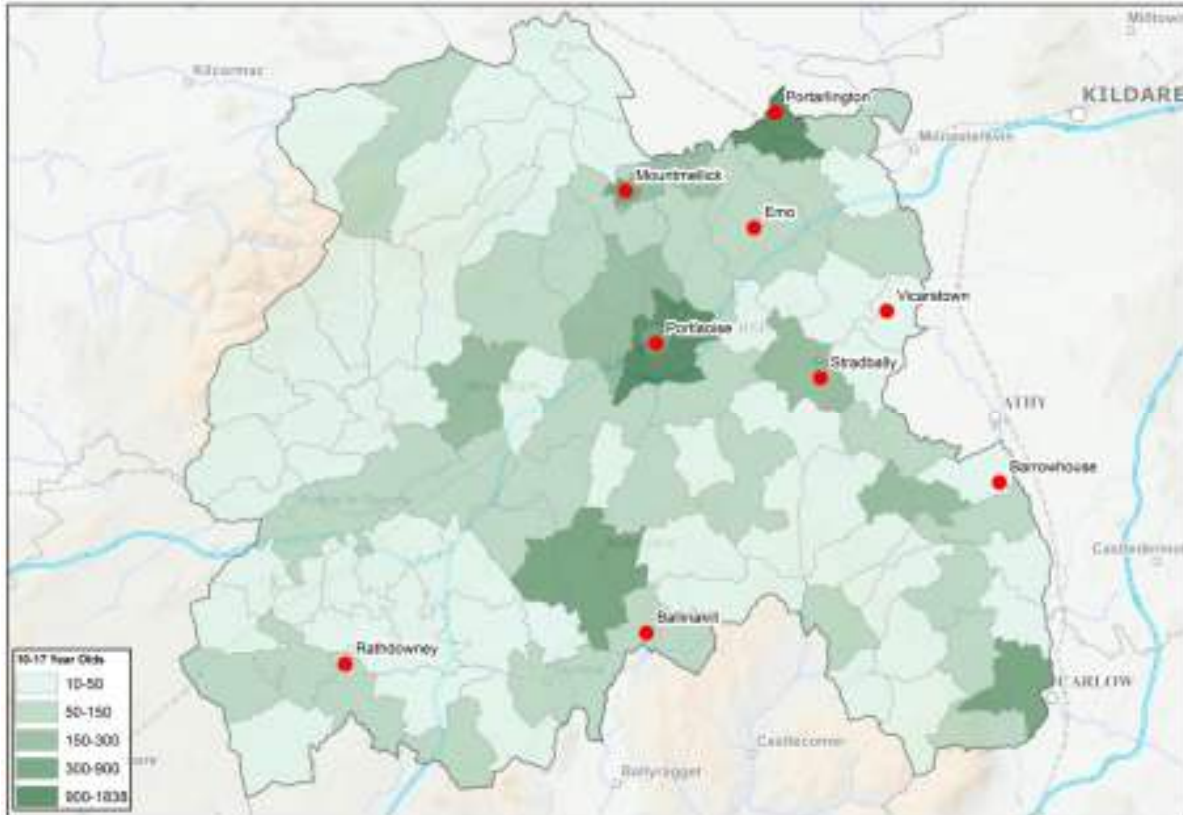


Figure 88: Location of Youth Centres in Laois County

Source: Sports and Leisure Department September 2018

As of September 2018 there were nine active youth centres in Laois County which provides a service to the young people of the surrounding areas.

1.8 IDA supported Industries

Figures 89 and 89a below illustrate the very low level of IDA supported jobs within County Laois

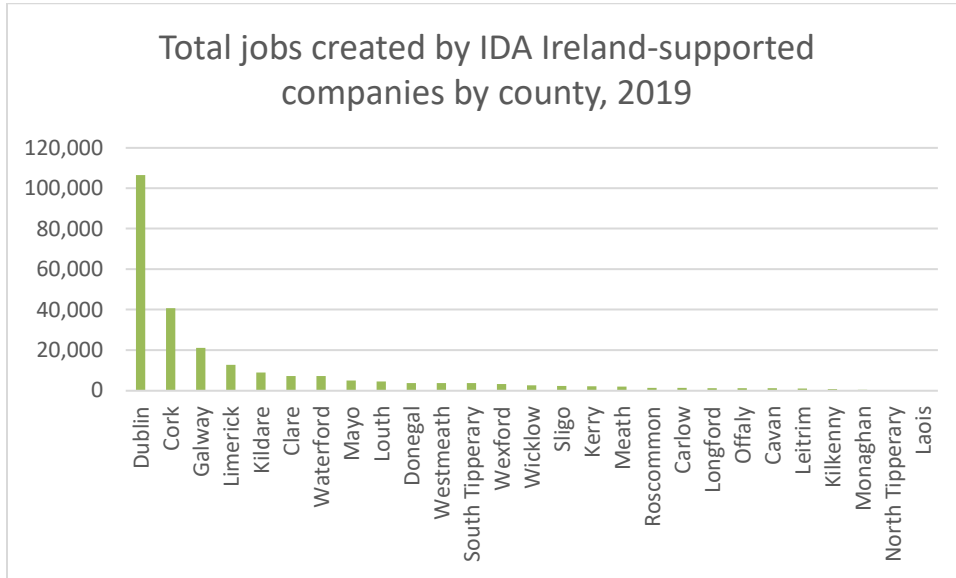


Figure 89 IDA Supported jobs per County 2019
Source: Data from Dail Debates 2020-03-05

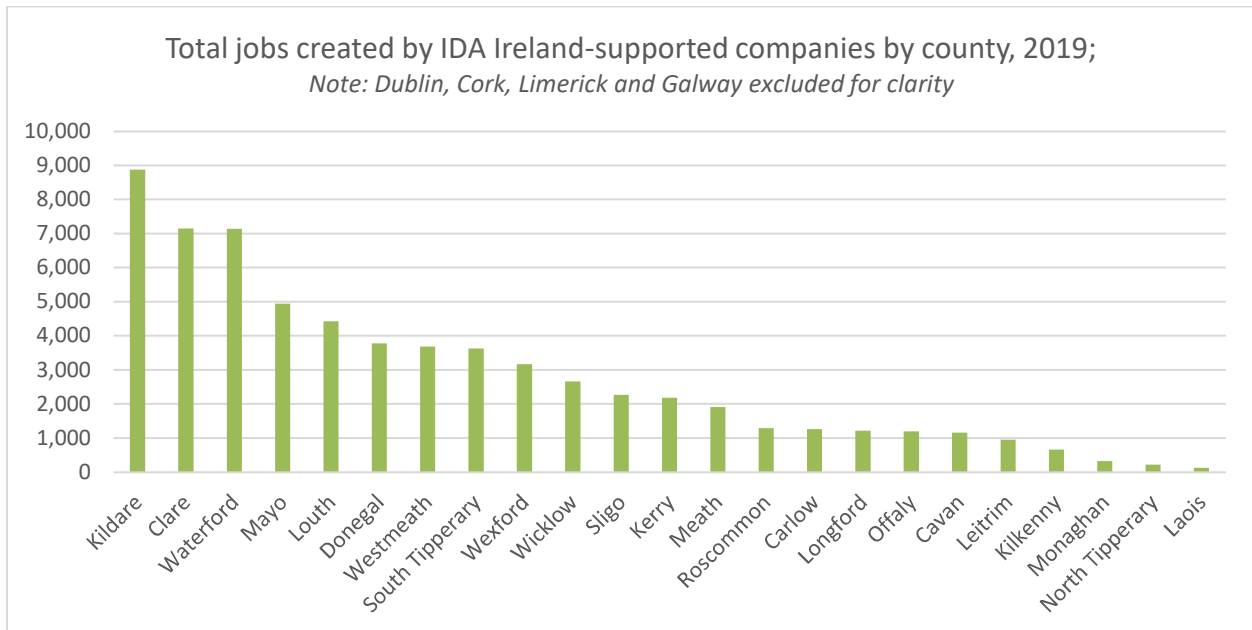


Figure 89a IDA Supported jobs per County 2019
Source: Data from Dail Debates 2020-03-05

Disposable Income per Head

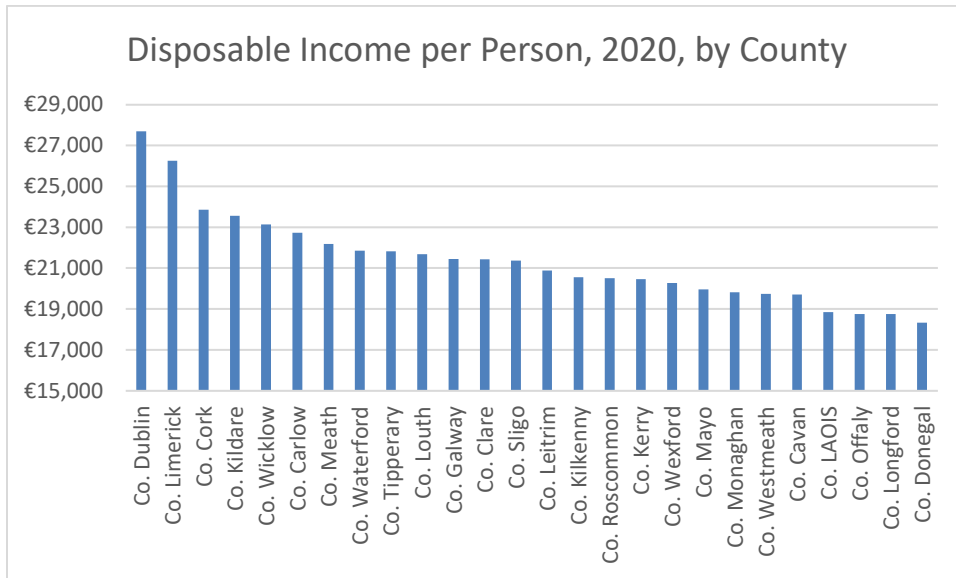


Figure 90 Average Disposable Income per Person in 2020

Source CSO Estimates of Household Income February 2023

County Laois is estimated to have the fourth lowest average disposable income per head across the country. The level for Laois is over 11% below the national average disposable income.

1.9 LAOIS COMMUTER PROFILE

COMMUTER PROFILE LAOIS

Main Points

The 2016 Census reported 35,795 County Laois residents commute to either work (33,245) or third-level study (2550) on a daily basis. Excluding mobile workers, those who work from or at home and those whose place of work, school or college could not be coded, a total of 25,959 County Laois residents regularly commute either to work (91%) or to third-level study (9%). Of those commuting to work, 52% commute to a location within County Laois and 48% leave the County.

Dublin (13%) is the most popular destination outside of County Laois, with nearly half of those travelling to Dublin City. Commuters to Kildare (13%) and Carlow (7%) are the next popular destinations.

The Commute

The majority of County Laois commuters drive, accounting for 73% of those who commute to work and 30% of those commuting to third-level study. The next most popular modes of travel for workers is walking (6%) , and for third level students on foot (23%) and bus (17%) were the next most popular.

For primary and secondary level students the most popular mode of travel was as passengers by car (60%), with bus (18%) and walking (15%) the next most popular.

The Commuter

The highest proportion of commuters (25%) work in the Wholesale or Retail sector with Education, Human Health and social work activities the next highest at 20%. Nearly 8% work in Public administration, defence and compulsory social services activities. Just over 44% of commuters are highly educated holding a third-level or higher qualification.

Note: Counts of < 10 are not shown. This is particularly relevant for Portlaoise and Portarlington where counts of < 10 arise.

Table 1: Commuters Resident in Laois by Purpose and Destination

52% of Commuters resident in Laois commute to work within the County each day with 48% leaving the County

Note: This includes people resident in Laois and excludes those who work or study at home or in varied locations

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Destination	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Third Level Education	%
Portlaoise (formerly Maryborough)	6419	27%	197	9%
Laois Rural	2339	10%	18	<1%
Mountmellick	733	3%	14	<1 %
Portarlinton	599	3%	36	< 2%
Abbeyleix	410	2%	52	2%
Rathdowney	319	1%	-	
Mountrath	308	1%	20	<1%
Stradbally	247	1%	-	
Durrow	181	1%	-	
Killenard	131	1%	-	
Other towns within the County	527	2%	12	< 1%
Total Commuters to County Laois	12213	52%	349	15 %
Dublin City	1680	7%	385	17%
South Dublin	990	4%		
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	323	1%	157	7%
Fingal	286	1%		
Total Commuters to County Dublin	3279	13%		
Kildare	3189	13%	149	7%
Carlow	1594	7%	490	22%
Offaly	1119	5%		
Kilkenny	892	4%		
Tipperary	501	2%		
Wicklow	118	<1%		
Limerick City & County	111	<1%	212	9%
Galway City & County	-	-	138	6%
All Other Counties (incl. Overseas)	674	3%	389	17%
Total Commuting outside Laois	11477	48%	1920	85%
Total Commuters Resident in Laois	23690	100%	2269	100%

Table 2 : Laois Residents commuting to Work and Study by Means of Travel

Means of Travel	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Primary & Secondary Level Education	%	Commuters to Third Level Education	%
On foot	1883	6%	2819	15%	584	23%
Bicycle	246	1%	143	1%	61	2%
Bus, minibus or coach	456	1%	3393	18%	436	17%
Train, DART or LUAS	877	3%	53	< 1%	232	9%
Motor cycle or scooter	59	< 1%	< 10	< 1%	< 10	< 1%
Driving a car/Van	24,299	73%	107	<1%	755	30%
Passenger in a car	1403	4%	11103	60%	357	14%
Other, including lorry	296	< 1%	< 10	< 1%	< 10	< 1%
Not stated or Work from home	3726	11%	663	4%	74	3%
Not at work, school or college	-	-	134	1%	17	1%
Total Commuters	33245	100%	18421	100%	2550	100%

Note: This table includes people resident in Laois and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 3: Laois Residents commuting to Work by Means of Travel

Compared with the State, Laois commuters to work are more likely to drive a car or van and less likely to walk or cycle

Note: This table includes people resident in Laois and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Means of Travel	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
On foot	1883	6%	172,068	9%
Bicycle	246	1%	56,566	3%
Bus, minibus or coach	456	1%	111,052	6%
Train, DART or LUAS	877	3%	62,915	3%
Motor cycle or scooter	59	< 1%	7,945	< 1%
Driving a car or Van	24,299	73%	1,269,739	64%
Passenger in a car	1403	4%	77,116	4%
Other, including lorry	296	1%	11,323	< 1%
Not stated or work mainly from home	3726	11 %	204,750	10%
Total Commuters to Work	33245	100%	1,973,474	100%

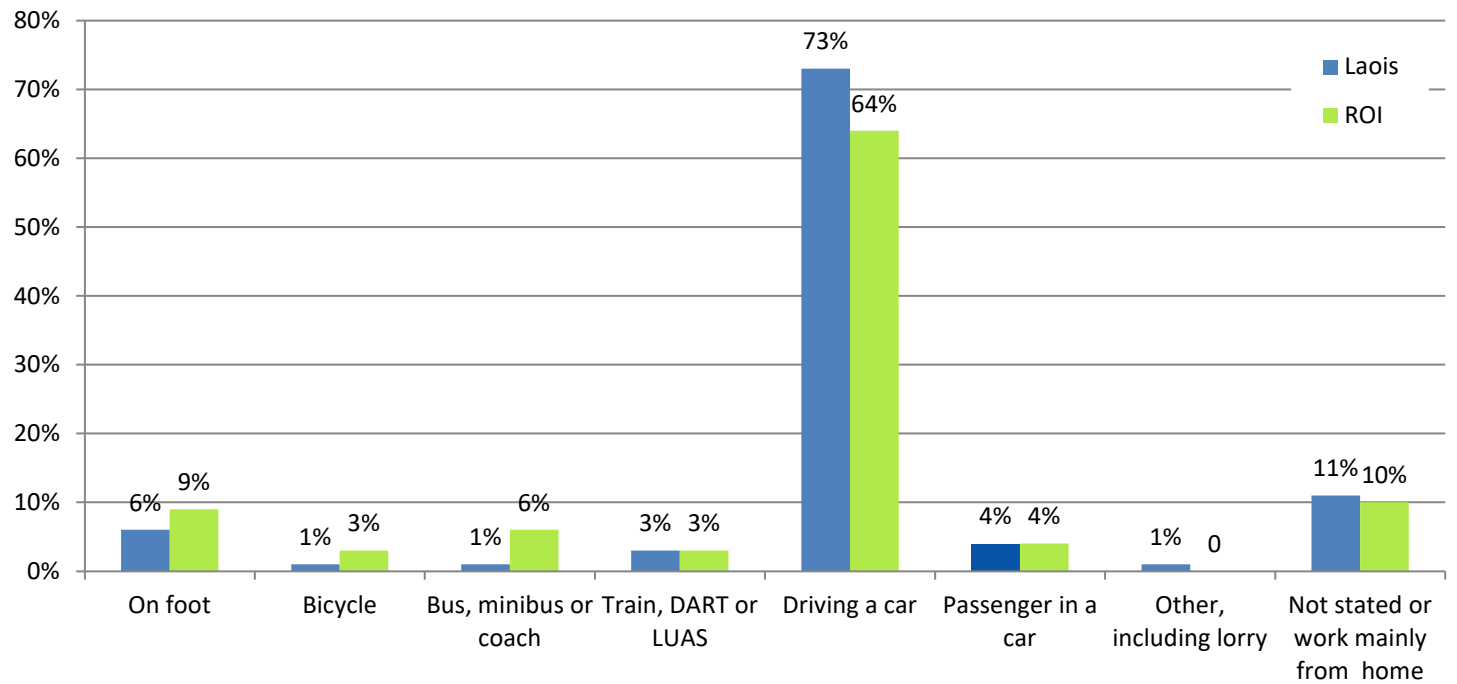


Table 4: Laois Residents commuting to Work by Time Leaving Home

Time Leaving Home	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Before 06:30	3903	12%	170,155	9%
06:30-07:00	3637	11%	205,390	10%
07:01-07:30	3550	11%	240,171	12%
07:31-08:00	5088	15%	323,326	16%
08:01-08:30	5150	15%	323,527	16%
08:31-09:00	4409	13%	256,585	13%
09:01-09:30	1700	5%	107,588	5%
After 09:30	3028	9%	196,547	10%
Not stated or Work from Home	2780	8%	170,155	9%
All Commuters to Work	33,245	100	1,993,444	100%

Note: This includes people resident in Laois and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

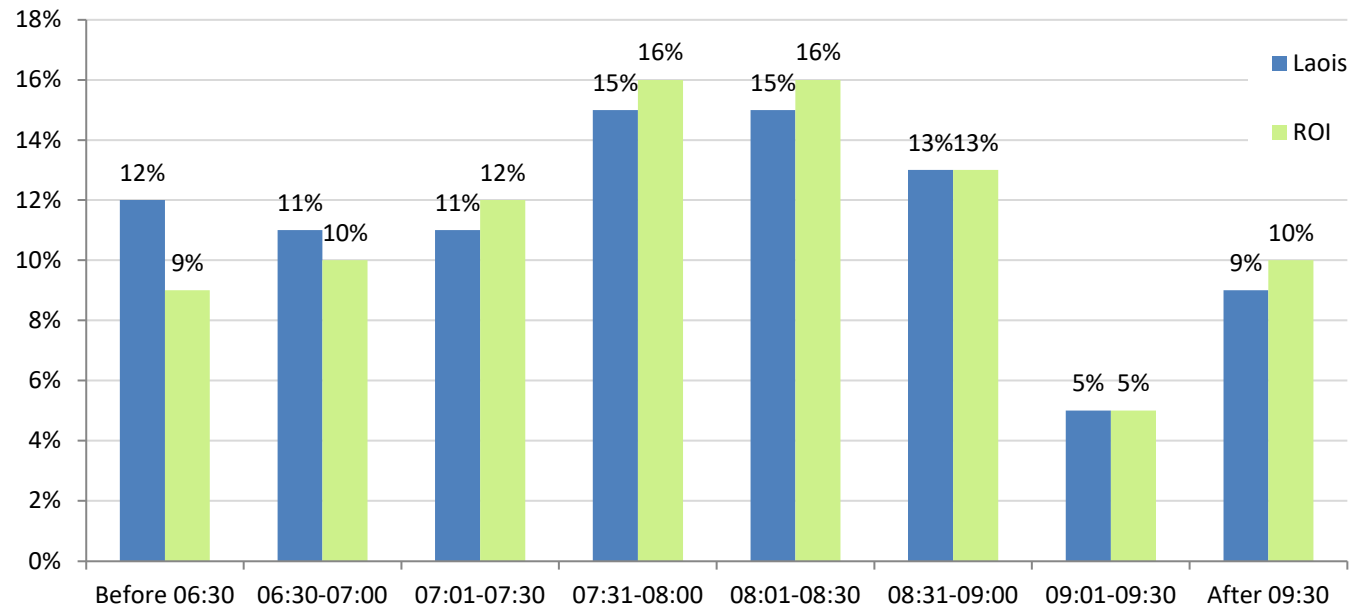


Table 5 : Laois Residents commuting to Work by Length of Journey

Over half of the commuters in Laois travel for less than half an hour. Compared with the State, commuters are more likely to travel for over an hour.

Note: This includes people resident in Laois and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Length of Journey	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Under 15 minutes	8845	27%	594,182	30%
15 to 30 minutes	11012	33%	531,095	27%
30 to 45 minutes	2992	9%	213,075	11%
45 to 60 minutes	3180	10%	141,338	7%
60 to 90 minutes	2324	7%	55,173	3%
Over 90 Minutes	986	3%	19,605	1%
Not stated, Mobile worker or Work at home	3906	12%	419,006	21%
All Commuters to Work	33245	100%	1,973,474	100%

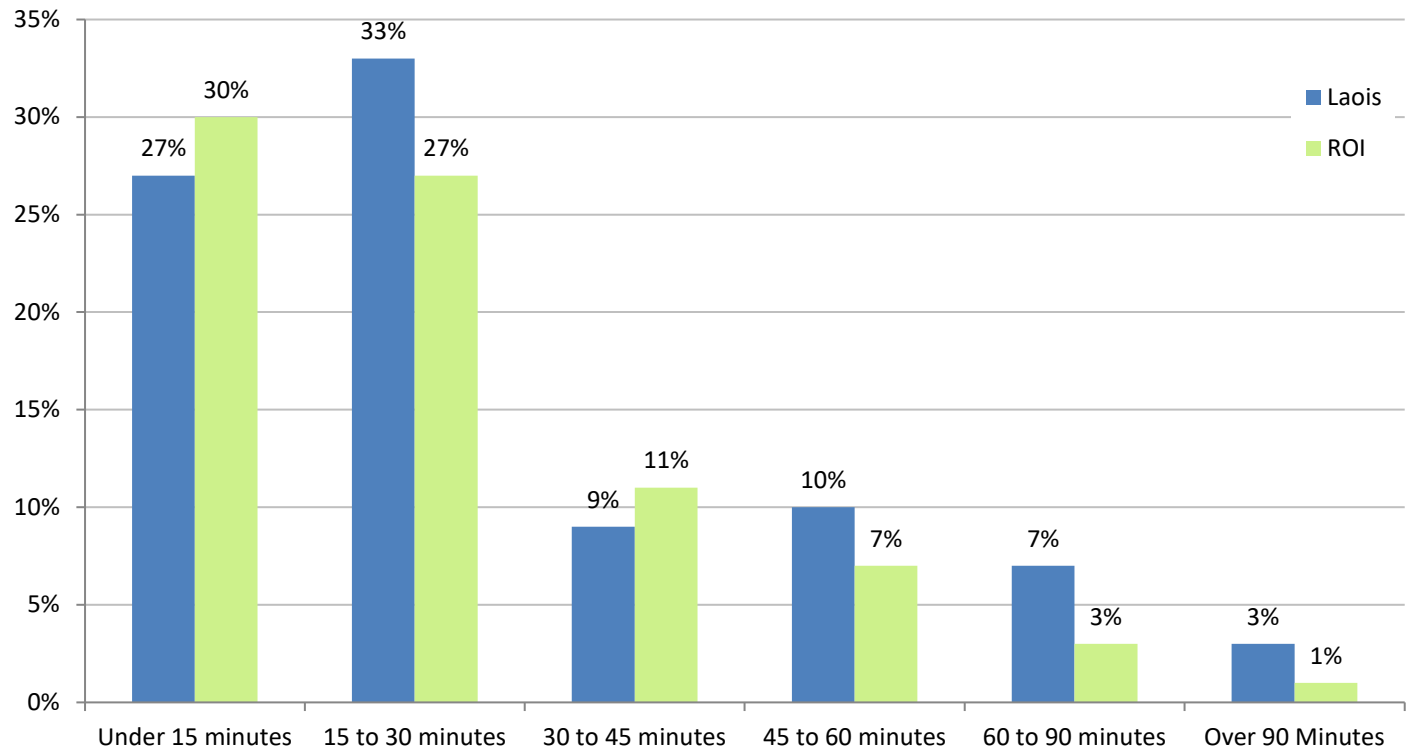
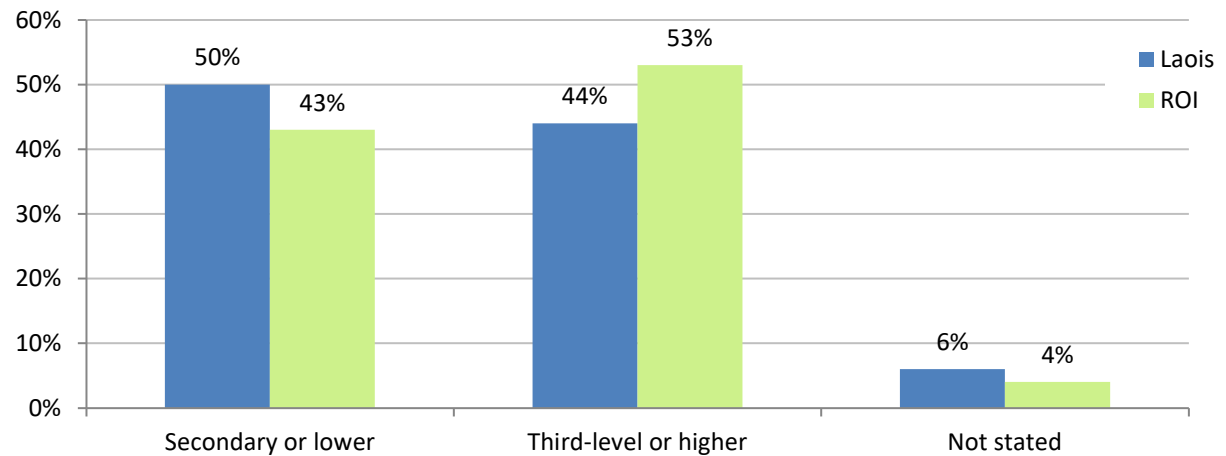


Table 6: Laois Residents commuting to Work by Education Level

Highest Level of Education Attained	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Completed secondary or lower (NFQ 1-6)	16705	50%	857,175	43%
Completed third level or higher (NFQ 7-10)	14745	44%	1,016,773	53%
Not stated	1795	6%	99,526	4%
All Commuters to Work	33,245	100%	1,973,474	100%



Note: This includes people resident in Laois and includes those who work from or at home, mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 7: Laois Residents commuting to Work by Industry

Industry	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2427	7%	88,832	5%
Manufacturing, Mining & Quarrying	3411	10%	226,784	11%
Construction	1976	6%	100,139	5%
Wholesale/ Retail	8228	25%	460,699	23%
Information, Communications, Finance	3904	12%	367,370	19%
Public Administration and Defence;	2519	8%	104,353	5%
Education, Human Health and Social Work Activities	6731	20%	395,184	20%
Other Service Activities	1106	3%	78,764	4%
Not Stated	2643	9%	151,349	8%
All Commuters to Work	33,245	100%	1,973,474	100%

Note: This includes people resident in Laois and includes those who work from or at home, mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

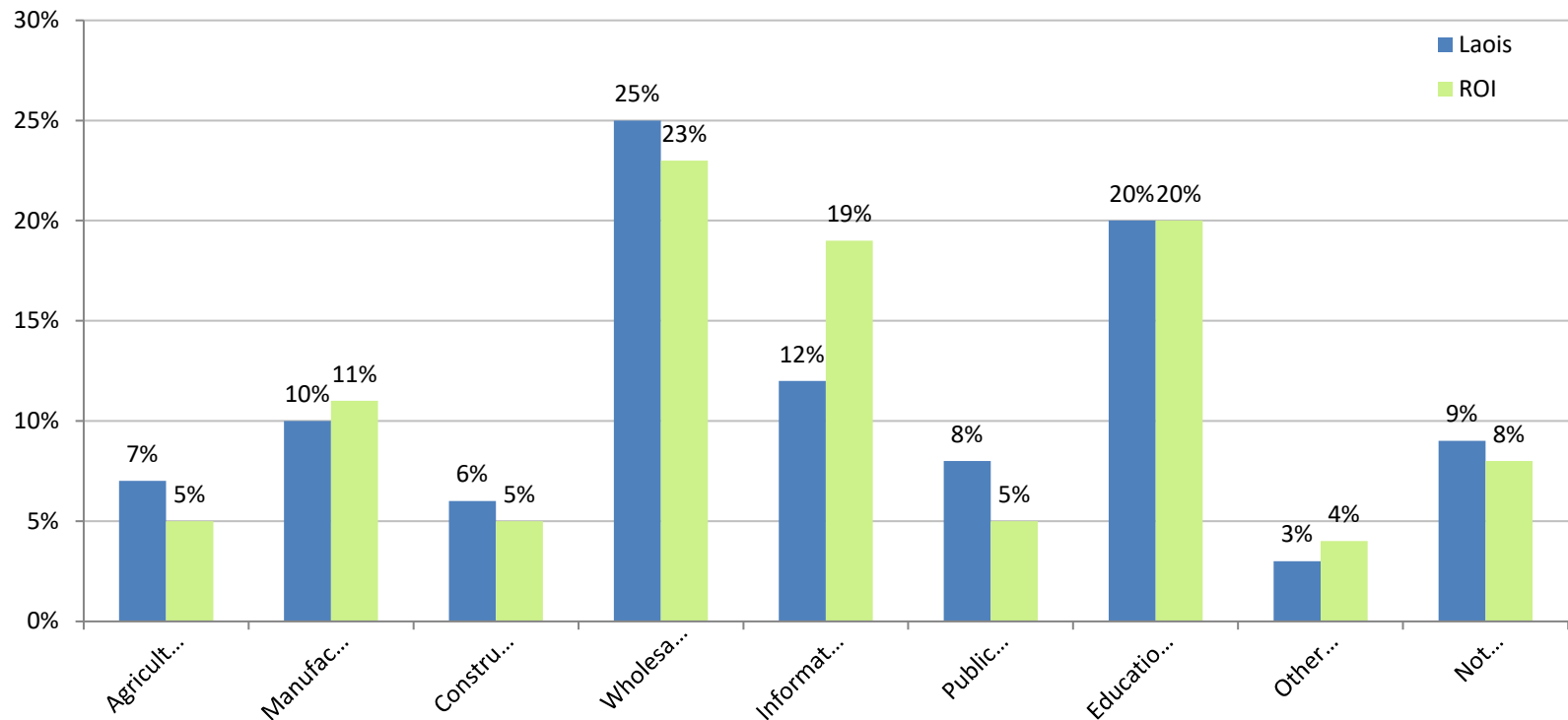


Table 8: Laois Residents Working from home by Industry

Industry	Number of Individuals	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1263	55%
Manufacturing, Mining & Quarrying	136	6%
Construction	61	3%
Wholesale/ Retail	258	11%
Information, Communications, Finance	250	11%
Public Administration and Defence;	20	1%
Education, Human Health and Social Work Activities	93	4%
Other Service Activities	102	4%
Not Stated	93	4%
All commuters working at or from home	2276	100%

Note: This includes people resident in Laois

Source: POWSCAR 2016

**Table 9: Commuters to Laois
by Origin and Industrial
Group**

Origin County	No. of Commuters to Laois	%
Laois	12213	75%
Offaly	1162	7%
Kildare	750	5%
Carlow	635	4%
Kilkenny	462	3%
Tipperary	409	3%
Westmeath	98	<1%
South Dublin	58	<1%
Wexford	58	<1%
Other	384	2%
Total	16229	100%

Note: This includes people who noted Laois as their place of work

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Industrial Group	Number of Commuters	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	481	3%
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying, Electricity, Gas, Water supply and Waste Management	1486	9%
Construction	501	3%
Wholesale, Retail Trade, Transportation and Storage, Accommodation and Food Service Activities	5350	33%
Information and Communication, Financial, Real Estate, Professional, administration and support service activities	1323	8%
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	1859	11%
Education, Human Health and Social Work Activities	4418	27%

Other Service Activities	638	4%
Not Stated	173	1%
Total	16229	100%

COMMUTER SUMMARY PORTLAOISE

Main Points

The 2016 Census reported 8,958 Portlaoise residents commute to either work (8,381) or third-level study (577) on a daily basis. Excluding mobile workers, those who work from or at home and those whose place of work, school or college could not be coded, a total of 6,623 Portlaoise residents regularly commute either to work (92%) or to third-level study (8%). Of those who commute to work, 63% commute to a location within County Laois and 37% leave the County.

The Commute

The majority of Portlaoise commuters drive, accounting for 67% of those who commute to work and 28% of those commuting to third-level study. The next most popular modes of travel for workers is walking (9%) , and for third level students walking (21%) and bus (21%) were the next most popular.

Primary and secondary level students most popular mode of travel was passengers by car (57%), with walking (22%) and bus (13%) the next most popular.

The Commuter

A large proportion of Portlaoise commuters to work are highly educated with nearly 44% holding a third-level or higher qualification. This compares to 53% for the state. The highest proportion of 29% work in the Wholesale or Retail sector with Education, Human Health and social work activities the next highest at 19%.

Table 10: Commuters Resident in Portlaoise by Purpose and Destination

63% of Commuters resident in Portlaoise work within the County, with the remaining 37% commuting outside of Laois.

25% of third-level students commute with the County with 75% commuting outside

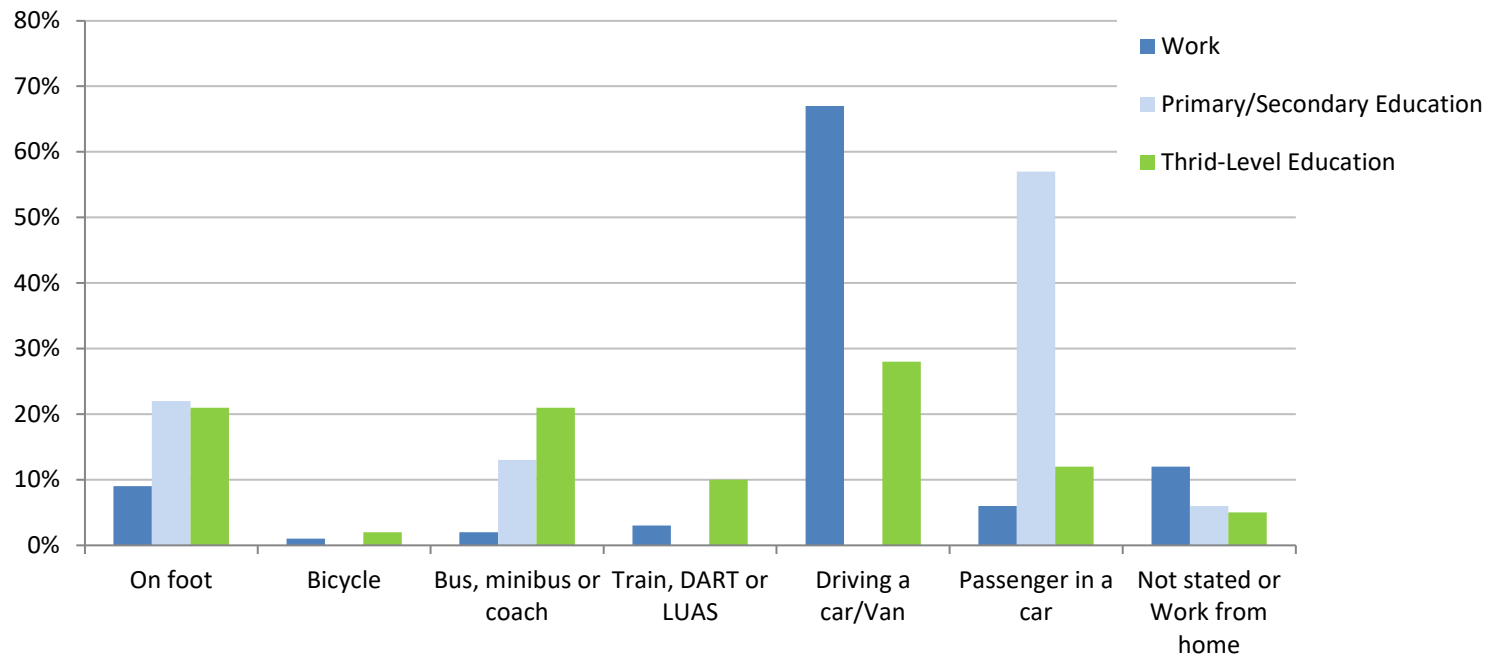
Note: This includes people resident in Portlaoise and excludes those who work or study at home or in varied locations.

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Destination	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Third Level Education	%
Portlaoise (formerly Maryborough)	2962	48%	97	19%
Laois Rural	478	8%	< 10	< 1%
Mountmellick	100	2%	<10	< 1%
Portarlinton	68	1%	< 10	< 1%
Abbeyleix	51	< 1%	15	3%
Stradbally	44	< 1%	-	-
Mountrath	39	< 1%	<10	< 1%
Killenard	31	< 1%	-	-
Laois Other Towns	82	1%	< 10	< 1%
Total Commuters to County Laois	3855	63%	123	25%
Dublin City	466	8%	98	20%
South Dublin	270	4%	<10	< 1%
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	103	2%	20	4%
Fingal	82	1%	<10	< 1%
Total Commuters to County Dublin	921	15%	126	25%
Kildare	761	12%	23	5%
Offaly	186	3%	-	-
Kilkenny	84	1%	-	-
Carlow	68	1%	93	19%
Westmeath	32	1%	22	4%
Tipperary	55	1%	-	-
Limerick	28	0%	40	8%
All Other Destinations	135	2%	71	14%
Total Commuting Outside Portlaoise	2270	37%	375	75%
Total Commuters Resident in Portlaoise	6125	100%	498	100%

Table 11: Portlaoise Residents commuting to Work and Study by Means of Travel

Means of Travel	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Primary & Secondary Level Education	%	Commuters to Third Level Education	%
On foot	722	9%	1013	22%	121	21%
Bicycle	101	1%	64	1%	10	2%
Bus, minibus or coach	188	2%	577	13%	122	21%
Train, DART or LUAS	243	3%	12	< 1%	57	10%
Motor cycle or scooter	17	<1	0	0%	< 10	< 1%
Driving a car/Van	5611	67%	27	< 1%	161	28%
Passenger in a car	481	6%	2629	57%	70	12%
Other, including lorry	24	< 1%	0	0%	< 10	< 1%
Not stated or Work from home	994	12%	269	6%	27	5%
Total Commuters	8381	100	4591	100	577	100%



Note: This table includes people resident in Portlaoise and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 12: Portlaoise Residents commuting to Work by Means of Travel

Compared with the State, Portlaoise commuters are as likely to walk to work and more likely to drive to work.

Note: This table includes people resident in Portlaoise and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Means of Travel	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
On foot	722	9%	172,068	9%
Bicycle	101	1%	56,566	3%
Bus, minibus or coach	188	2%	111,052	6%
Train, DART or LUAS	243	3%	62,915	3%
Motor cycle or scooter	17	<1	7,945	< 1%
Driving a car/Van	5611	67%	1,269,739	64%
Passenger in a car	481	6%	77,116	4%
Other, including lorry	24	< 1%	11,323	< 1%
Not stated or work mainly from home	994	12%	204,750	10%
Total Commuters to Work	8381	100	1,973,474	100%

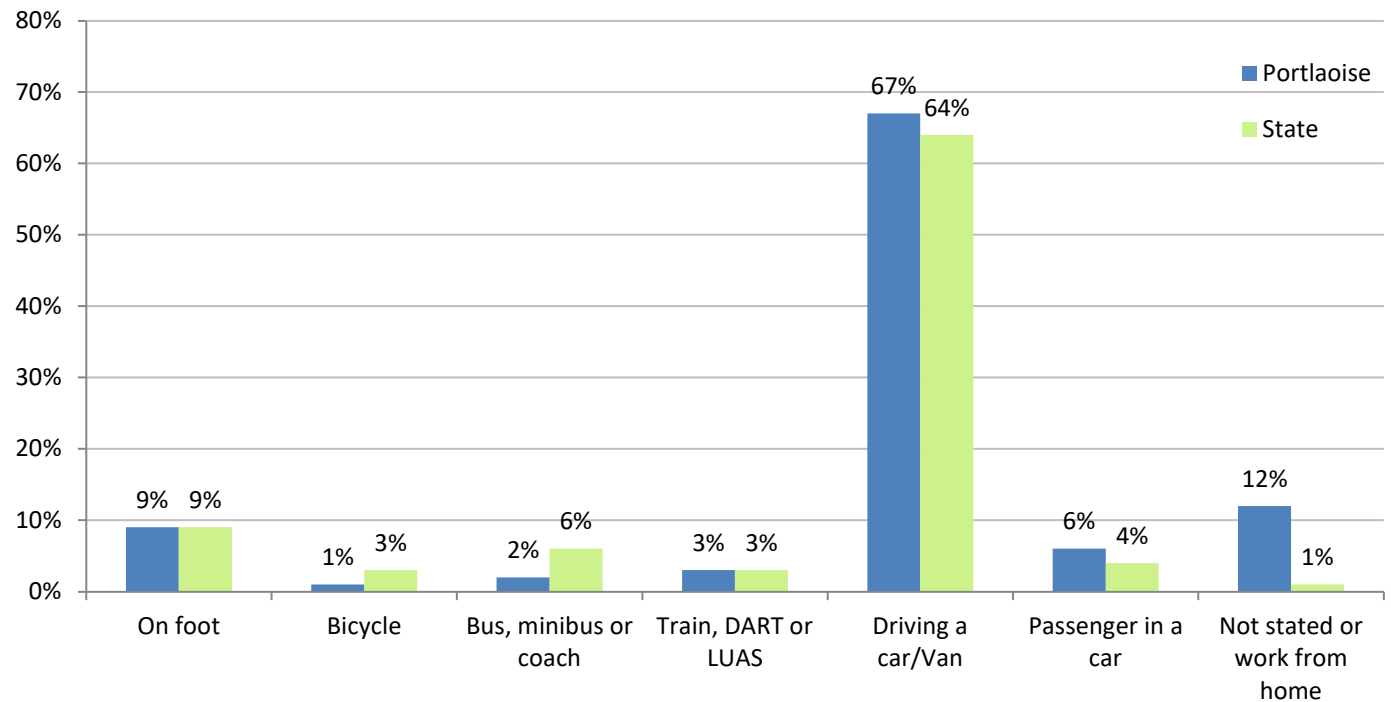


Table 13: Portlaoise Residents commuting to Work by Time Leaving Home

Portlaoise commuters have a similar pattern to State averages with 31% leaving before 7.30am.

Time Leaving Home	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Before 06:30	976	13%	170,155	9%
06:30-07:00	813	10%	205,390	10%
07:01-07:30	693	8%	240,171	12%
07:31-08:00	1124	13%	323,326	16%
08:01-08:30	1292	15%	323,527	16%
08:31-09:00	1110	13%	256,585	13%
09:01-09:30	394	5%	107,588	5%
After 09:30	1017	12%	196,547	10%
Not stated/Work from Home	962	11%	170,155	9%
All Commuters to Work	8381	100%	1,993,444	100%

Note: This relates to people resident in Portlaoise and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

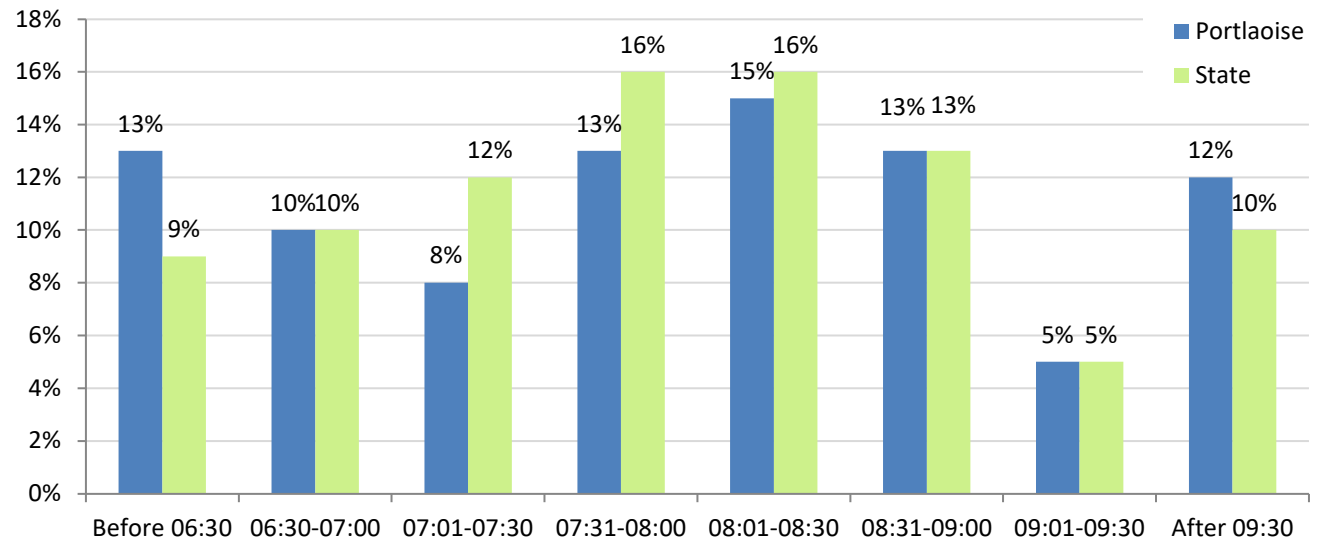
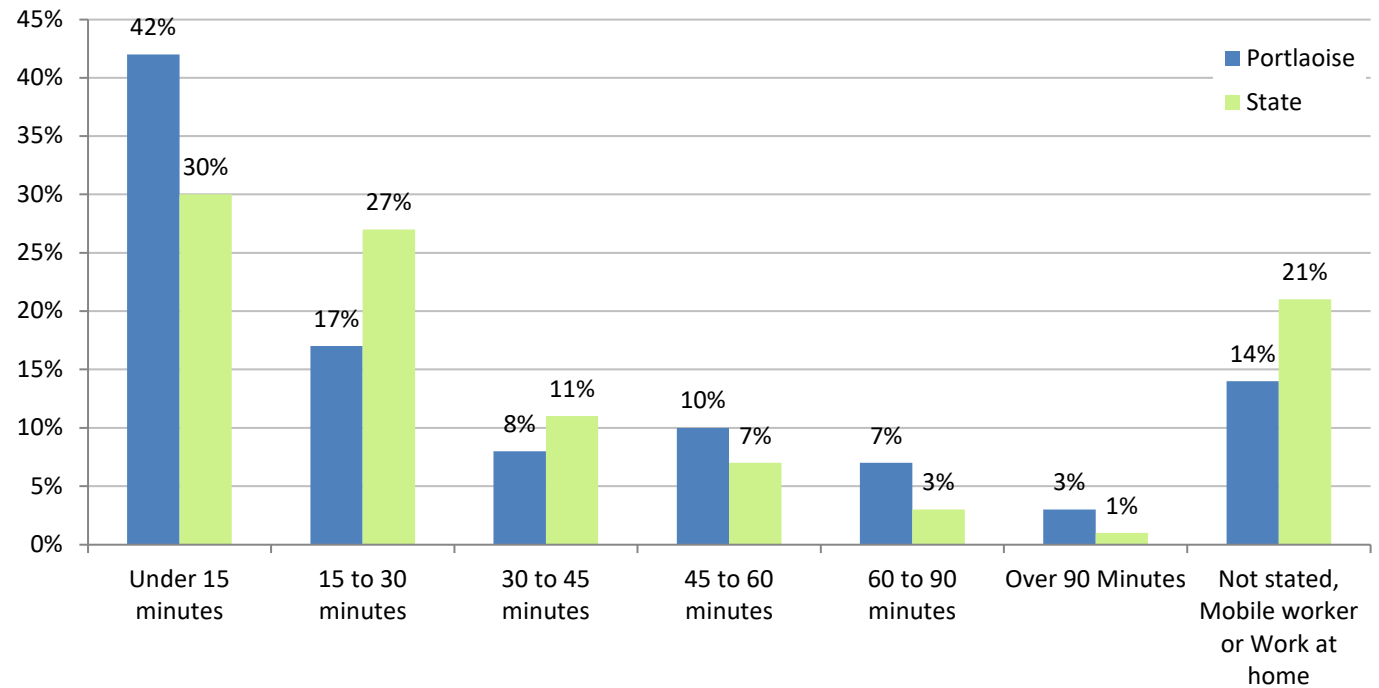


Table 14: Portlaoise Residents commuting to Work by Length of Journey

The majority (59%) of Portlaoise residents commute to work for less than 30 minutes.

Length of Journey	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Under 15 minutes	3495	42%	594,182	30%
15 to 30 minutes	1405	17%	531,095	27%
30 to 45 minutes	703	8%	213,075,	11%
45 to 60 minutes	799	10%	141,338	7%
60 to 90 minutes	604	7%	55,173	3%
Over 90 Minutes	231	3%	19,605	1%
Not stated, Mobile worker or Work at home	1144	14%	419,006	21%
All Commuters to Work	8381	100%	1,973,474	100%

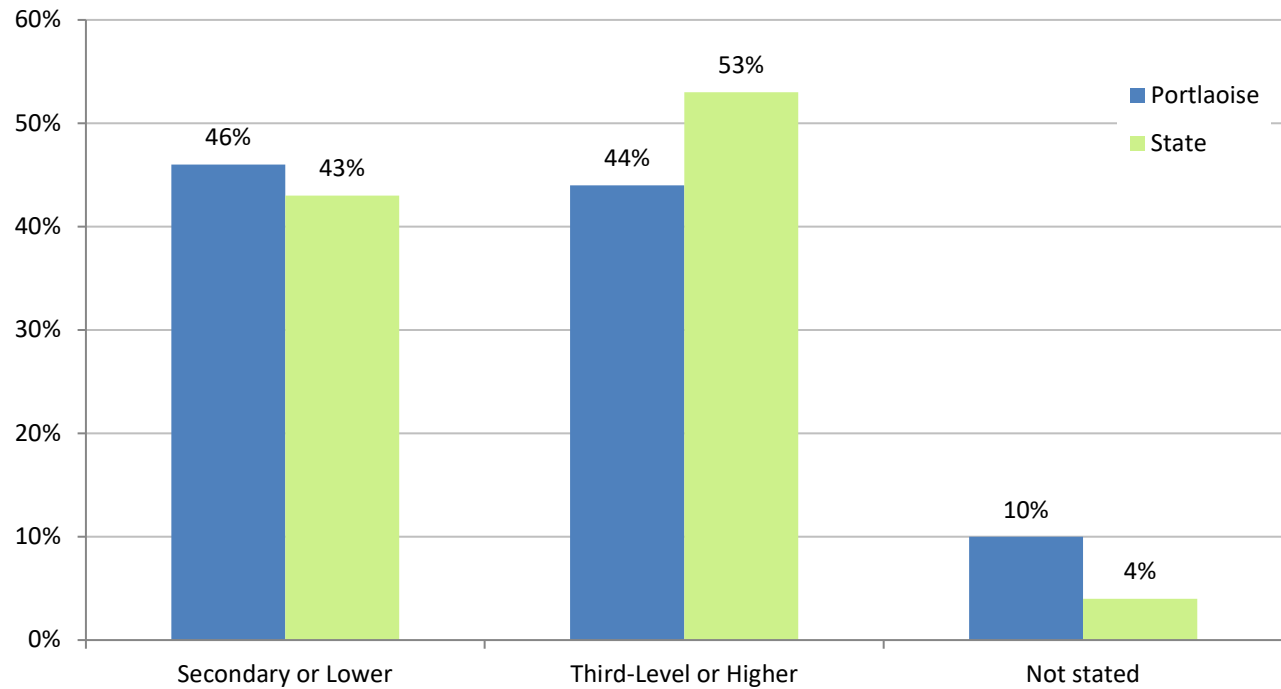


Note: This relates to people resident in Portlaoise and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 15: Portlaoise Residents commuting to Work by Education Level

Highest Level of Education Attained	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Completed secondary or lower (NFQ 1-6)	3889	46%	857,175	43%
Completed third level or higher (NFQ 7-10)	3662	44%	1,016,773	53%
Not stated	830	10%	99,526	4%
All Commuters to Work	8381	100%	1,973,474	100%



Note: This relates to people resident in Portlaoise and includes those who work from or at home, mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: DOWCAP 2016

Table 16: Portlaoise Residents commuting to Work by Industry

Industry	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	89	1	88,832	5%
Manufacturing, Mining & Quarrying	660	8	226,784	11%
Construction	406	5	100,139	5%
Wholesale/ Retail	2442	29	460,699	23%
Information, Communications, Finance	1086	13	367,370	19%
Public Administration and Defence;	717	9	104,353	5%
Education, Human Health and Social Work Activities	1620	19	395,184	20%
Other Service Activities	290	3	78,764	4%
Not Stated	1071	13	151,349	8%
All Commuters to Work	8381	100	1,973,474	100%

Note: This includes people resident in Portlaoise and includes those who work from or at home, mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

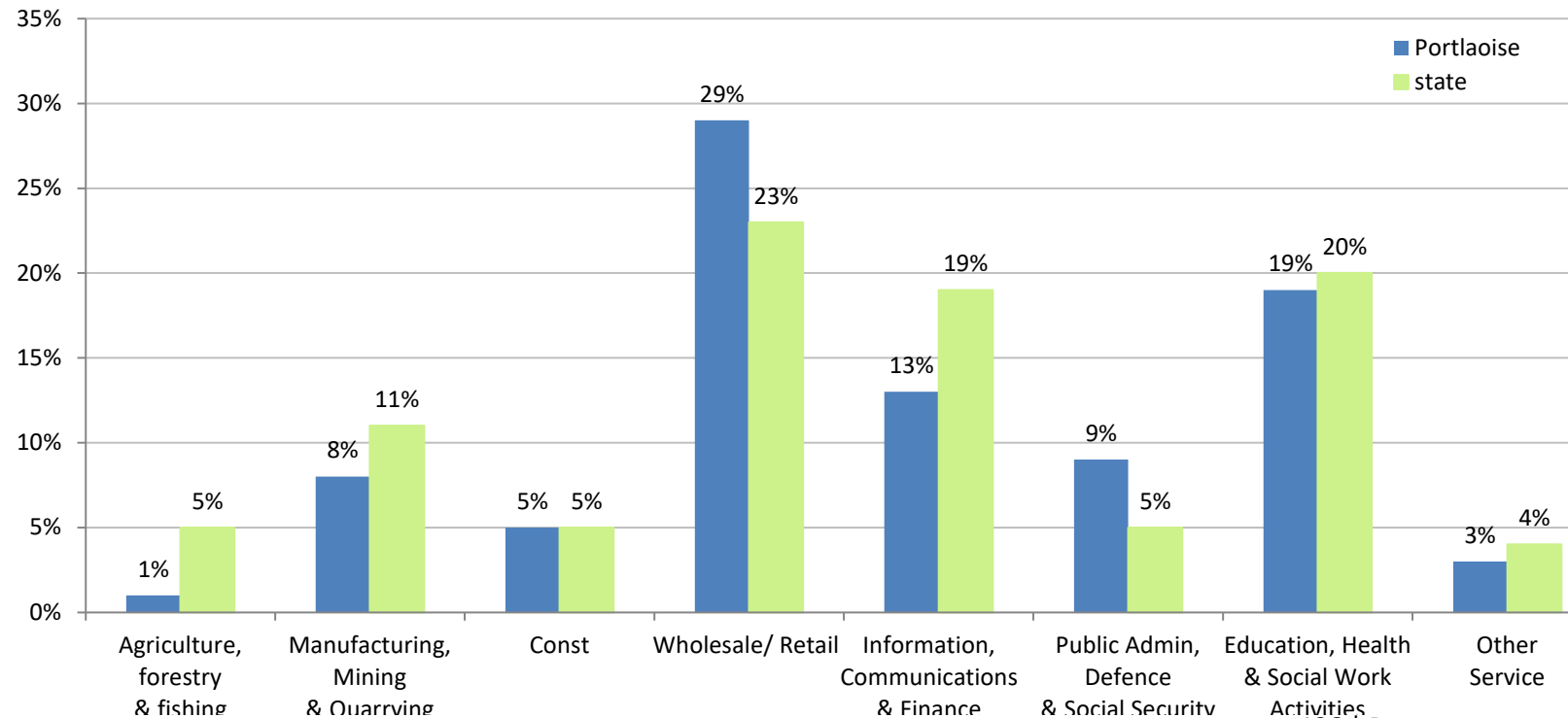
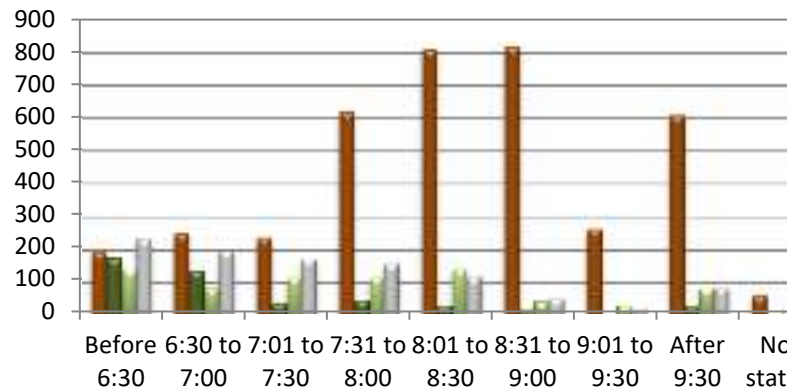


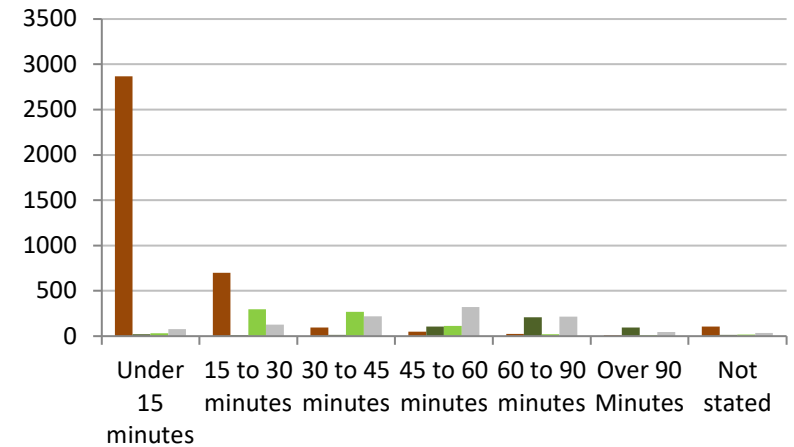
Table 17: Major Commuter flows from Portlaoise



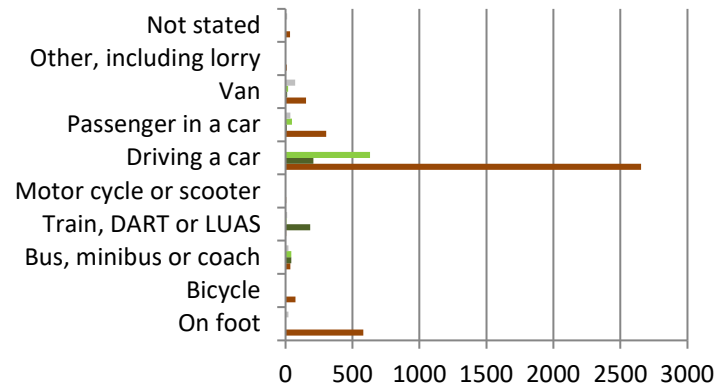
Time Leaving Home



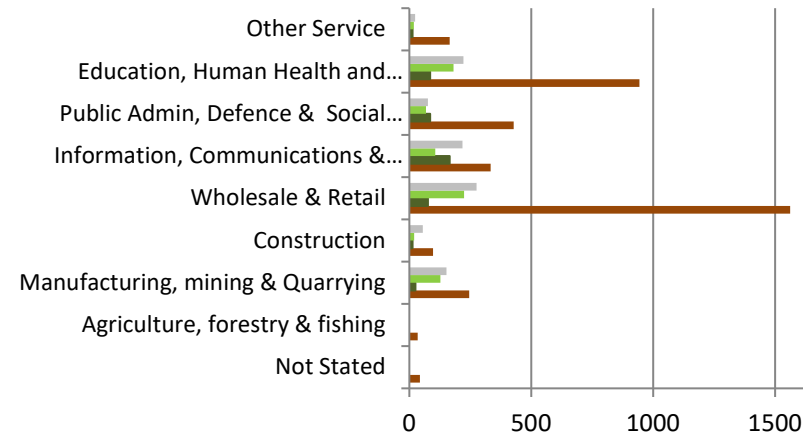
Journey Length



Mode of Transport



Industry



Note: This includes people resident in Portlaoise and excludes those who work from or at home, mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 18: Commuters to Portlaoise by Origin and Industrial Group

Origin	Commuters to work	%
Laois	6486	78%
Offaly	520	6%
Kildare	407	5%
Tipperary	211	3%
Kilkenny	192	2%
Carlow	127	2%
Westmeath	67	1%
Dublin City	41	<1%
South Dublin	29	<1%
Other Counties	203	2%
Total	8283	100%

Industrial Group	Number of Commuters	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	57	1%
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying, Electricity, Gas, Water supply and Waste Management	357	4%
Construction	126	2%
Wholesale, Retail Trade, Transportation and Storage, Accommodation and Food Service Activities	2728	33%
Information and Communication, Financial, Real Estate, Professional, administration and support service activities	784	9%
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	1573	19%
Education, Human Health and Social Work Activities	2282	28%
Other Service Activities	309	4%
Not stated	67	1%
Total	8283	100%

Note: This includes people who noted Portlaoise as their place of work

Source: POWSCAR 2016

COMMUTER SUMMARY PORTARLINGTON

Main Points

The 2016 Census reported 3,296 Portarlington residents commute to either work (3,085) or third-level study (211) on a daily basis. Excluding mobile workers, those who work from or at home and those whose place of work, school or college could not be coded, a total of 2,532 Portarlington residents regularly commute either to work (93%) or to third-level study (7%). Of those commuting to work, 34% commute to a location within County Laois and 66% leave the County.

Dublin (26%) is the most popular destination outside of County Laois, with just over half of those travelling to Dublin City. Commuters to Kildare (24%) and Offaly (11%) are the next popular destinations.

The Commute

The majority of Portarlington commuters drive, accounting for 62% of those who commute to work and 27% of those commuting to third-level study. The next most popular modes of travel for workers is by train (6%), and bus (23%) were the next most popular.

The Commuter

A large proportion of Portarlington commuters to work are highly educated with nearly 41% holding a third-level or higher qualification, only slightly lower than Portlaoise and Laois County. Similar to Portlaoise, the highest proportion of 30% work in the Wholesale or Retail sector with Education, Human Health and social work activities the next highest at 18%.

Table 19: Commuters Resident in Portarlinton by Purpose and Destination

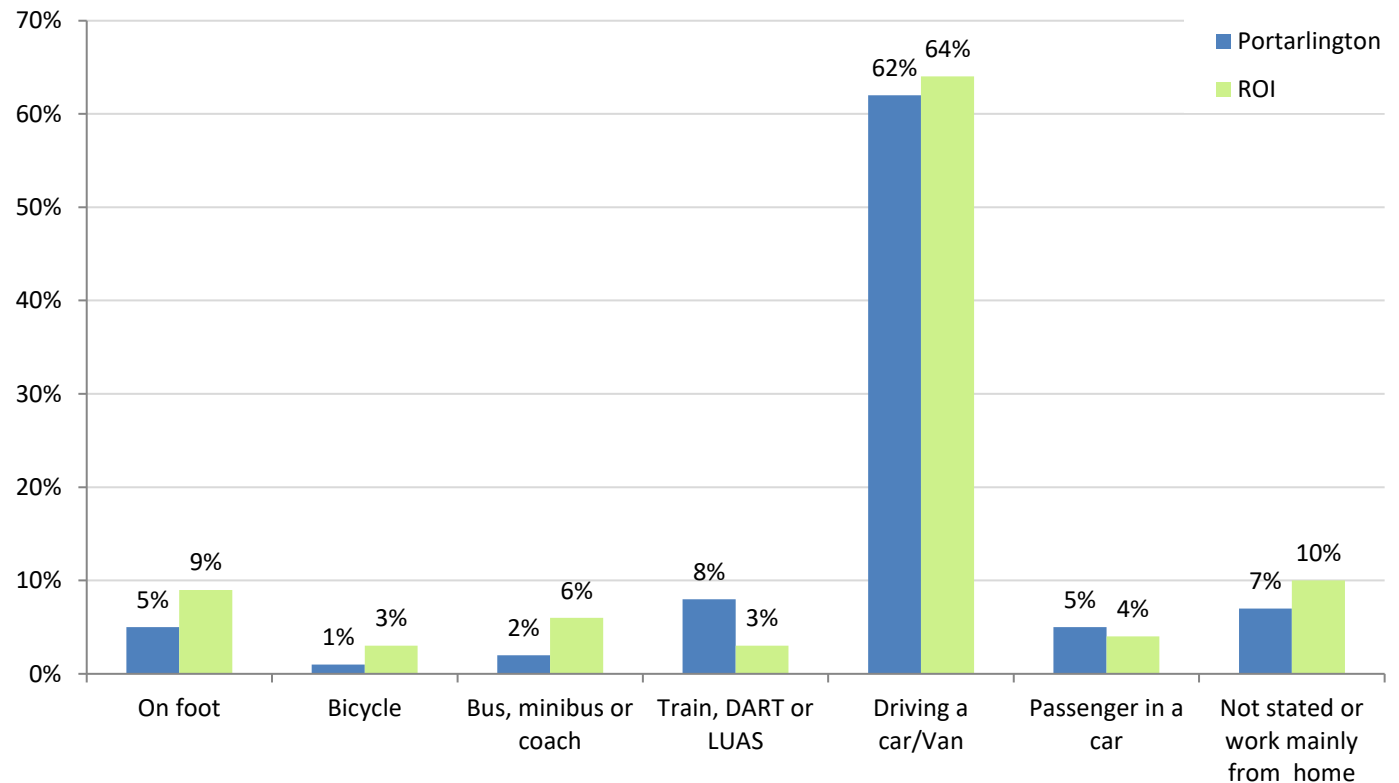
Destination	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Third Level Education	%
Portarlinton	383	16%	22	12%
Portlaoise (formerly Maryborough)	226	10%	12	5%
Laois Rural	91	4%	< 5	< 1%
Killenard	51	2%	< 5	< 1%
Mountmellick	30	1%	< 5	< 1%
Laois Other Towns	14	<1%	< 5	< 1%
Total to County Laois	795	34%	37	20%
Dublin City	317	14%	35	19%
South Dublin, Dun	198	8%	< 5	< 1%
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown	48	2%	< 5	< 1%
Fingal	46	<2%	< 5	< 1%
Total to County Dublin	609	26%	44	24%
Kildare	574	24%	22	12%
Offaly	267	11%	-	-
Carlow	17	<1%	41	22%
Westmeath	15	<1%	-	-
All other Destinations	69	3%	42	23%
Total Commuting Outside Laois	1551	66%	149	80%
Total Commuters Resident in Laois	2346	100%	186	100%

Note: This includes people resident in Portarlinton and excludes those who work or study at home or in varied locations

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 20: Portarlinton Residents commuting to Work by Means of Travel

Means of Travel	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
On foot	158	5%	172,068	9%
Bicycle	24	1%	56,566	3%
Bus, minibus or coach	69	2%	111,052	6%
Train, DART or LUAS	257	8%	62,915	3%
Motor cycle or scooter	<10	< 1%	7,945	< 1%
Driving a car/Van	2195	62%	1,269,739	64%
Passenger in a car	164	5%	77,116	4%
Other, including lorry	< 10	< 1%	11,323	< 1%
Not stated or work mainly from home	204	7%	204,750	10%
Total Commuters to Work	3085	100%	1,973,474	100%



Note: This table includes people resident in Portarlinton and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 21: Portarlinton Residents commuting to Work and Study by Means of Travel

Means of Travel	Commuters to Work		Commuters to Primary & Secondary Level Education		Commuters to Third Level Education	
		%		%		%
On foot	158	5%	408	21%	39	18%
Bicycle	24	1%	32	2%	< 10	<5%
Bus, minibus or coach	69	2%	333	17%	48	23%
Train, DART or LUAS	257	8%	17	< 1%	38	18%
Motor cycle or scooter	<10	< 1%	< 10	< 1%	0	0%
Driving a car/Van	2195	62%	< 10	< 1%	58	27%
Passenger in a car	164	5%	1045	54%	18	9%
Other, including lorry	< 10	< 1%	< 10	< 1%	0	0%
Not stated or Work from home	204	7%	85	4%	< 10	<5%
Total Commuters	3085	100%	1930	100%	211	100%

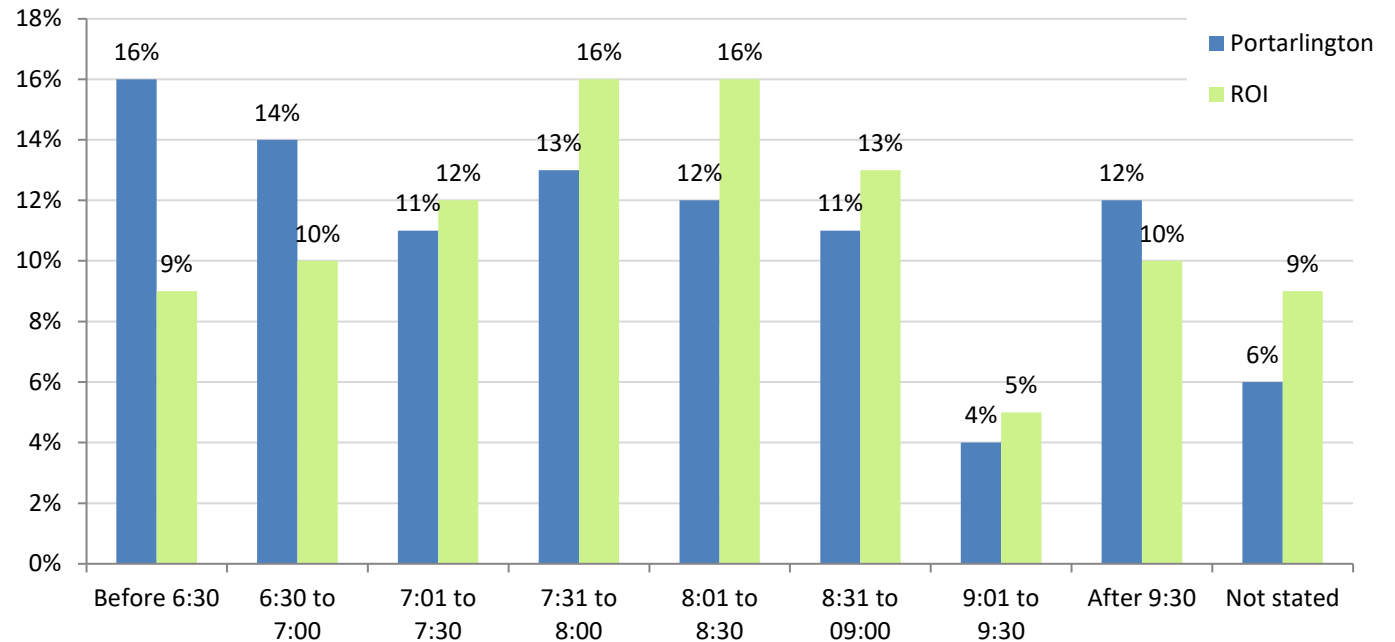
Note: This includes people resident in Portarlinton and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 22: Portarlington Residents commuting to Work by Time Leaving Home

Commuters to work from Portarlington are more likely than average to leave before 7am.

Time Leaving Home	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Before 06:30	498	16%	170,155	9%
06:30-07:00	431	14%	205,390	10%
07:01-07:30	345	11%	240,171	12%
07:31-08:00	399	13%	323,326	16%
08:01-08:30	379	12%	323,527	16%
08:31-09:00	330	11%	256,585	13%
09:01-09:30	132	4%	107,588	5%
After 09:30	378	12%	196,547	10%
Not stated/Work from Home	193	6%	170,155	9%
All Commuters to Work	3085	100%	1,993,444	100%



Note: This includes people resident in Portarlington and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 23: Commuters to Work by Length of Journey

The majority of Portarlington residents (53%) commute to work for less than 30 minutes.

14% of residents spend over an hour travelling to work, well above the State average of 4%

Note: This includes people resident in Portarlington and includes mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Length of Journey	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Under 15 minutes	834	27%	594,182	30%
15 to 30 minutes	793	26%	531,095	27%
30 to 45 minutes	305	10%	213,075,	11%
45 to 60 minutes	446	14%	141,338	7%
60 to 90 minutes	314	10%	55,173	3%
Over 90 Minutes	137	4%	19,605	1%
Not stated, Mobile worker or Work at home	256	8%	419,006	21%
All Commuters to Work	3085	100%	1,973,474	100%

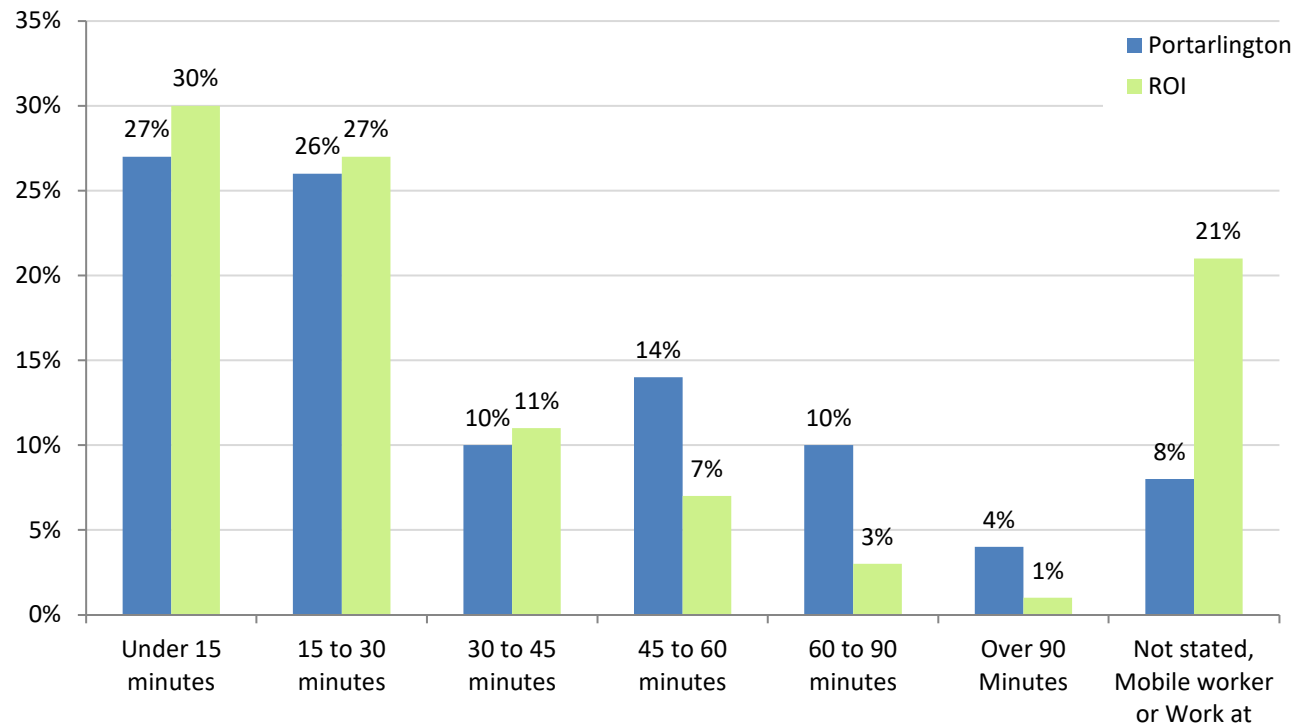
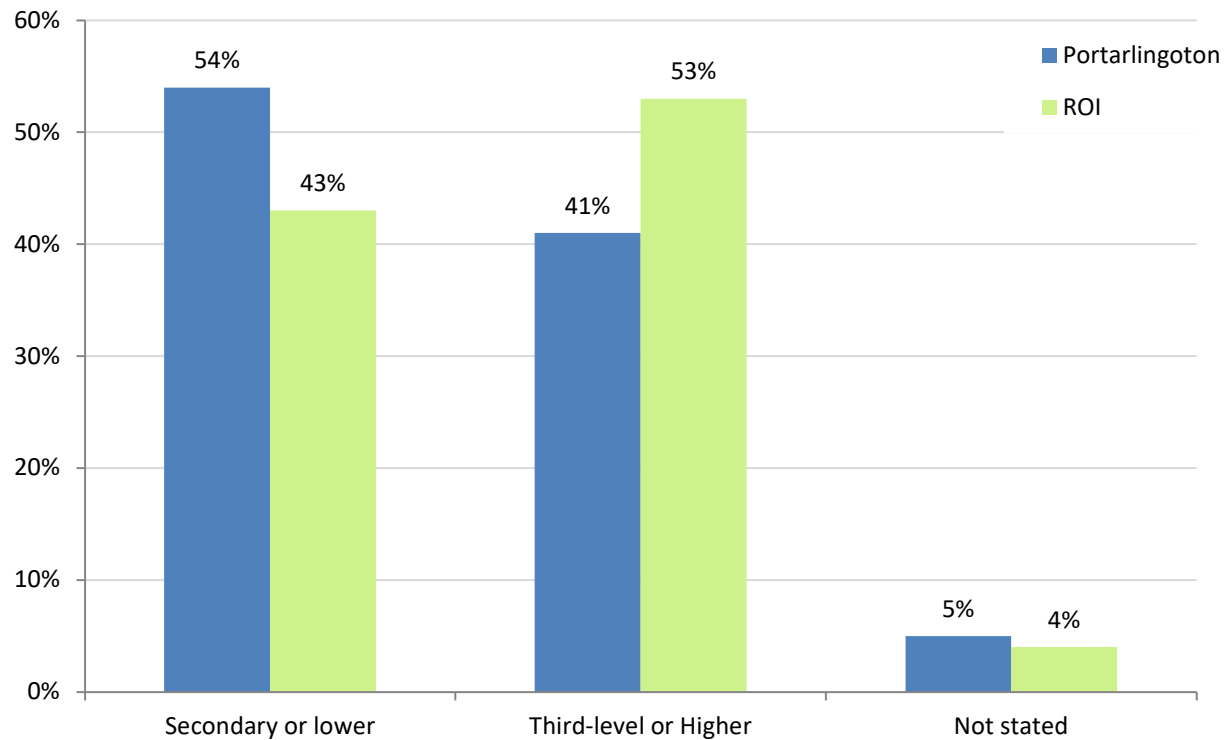


Table 24: Portarlington Residents commuting to Work by Education Level

Highest Level of Education Attained	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Completed secondary or lower (NFQ 1-6)	1659	54%	857,175	43%
Completed third level or higher (NFQ 7-10)	1272	41%	1,016,773	53%
Not stated	154	5%	99,526	4%
All Commuters to Work	3085	100%	1,973,474	100%



Note: This relates to people resident in Portarlington and includes those who work from or at home, mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 25: Portarlington Residents commuting to Work by Industry

Industry	Commuters to Work	%	Commuters to Work (ROI)	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	55	2%	88,832	5%
Manufacturing, Mining & Quarrying	332	11%	226,784	11%
Construction	197	6%	100,139	5%
Wholesale/ Retail	911	30%	460,699	23%
Information, Communications, Finance	414	13%	367,370	19%
Public Administration and Defence;	231	7%	104,353	5%
Education, Human Health and Social Work Activities	541	18%	395,184	20%
Other Service Activities	153	5%	78,764	4%
Not Stated	251	8%	151,349	8%
All Commuters to Work	3,085	100%	1,973,474	100%

Note: This includes people resident in Portarlington and includes those who work from or at home, mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

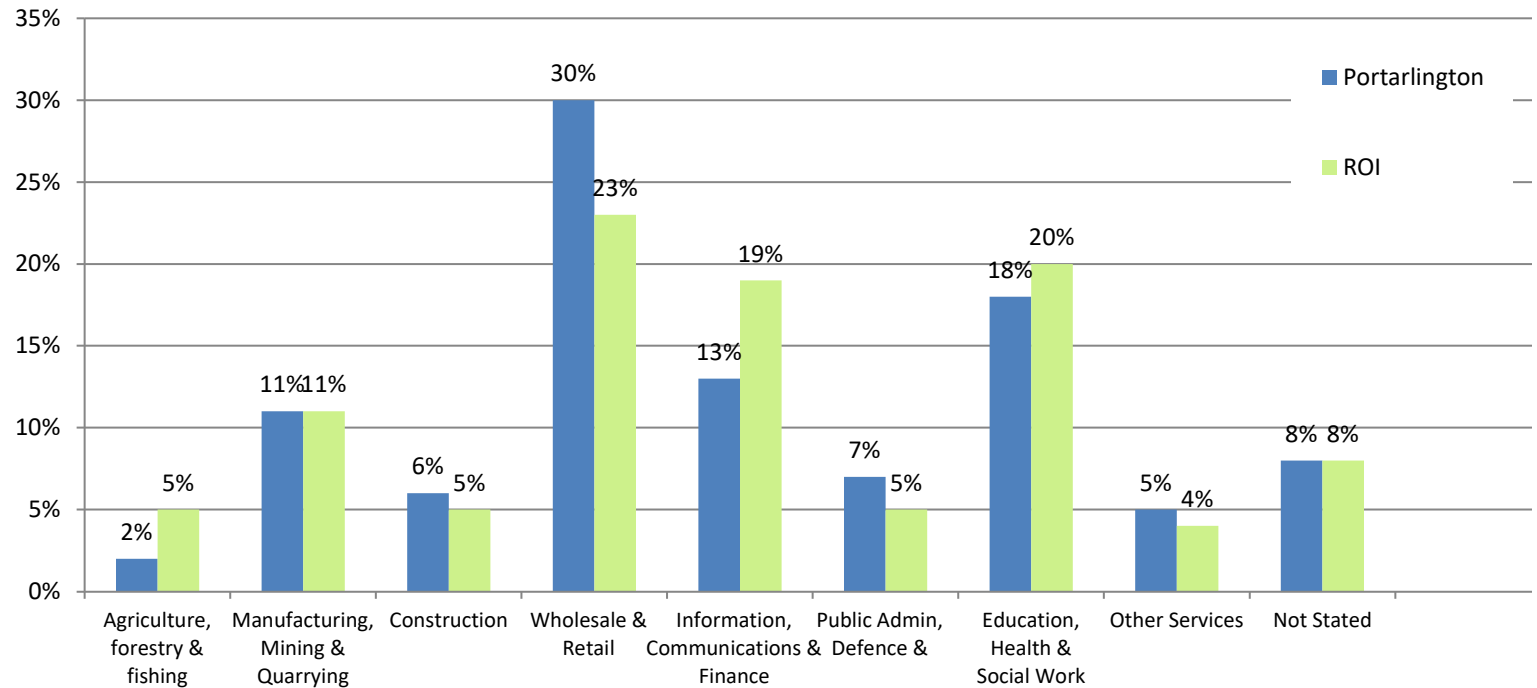
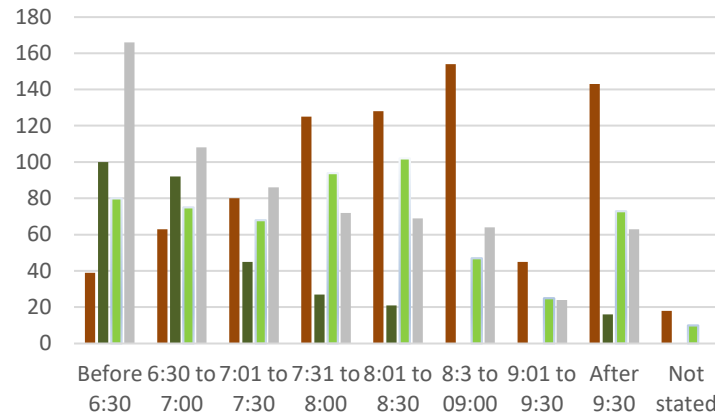


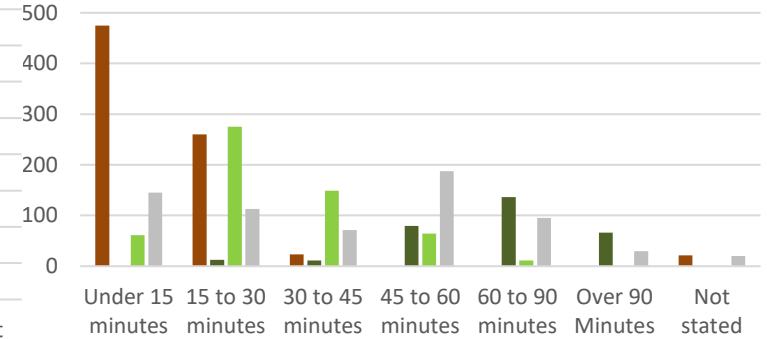
Table 26: Major Commuter flows from Portarlington



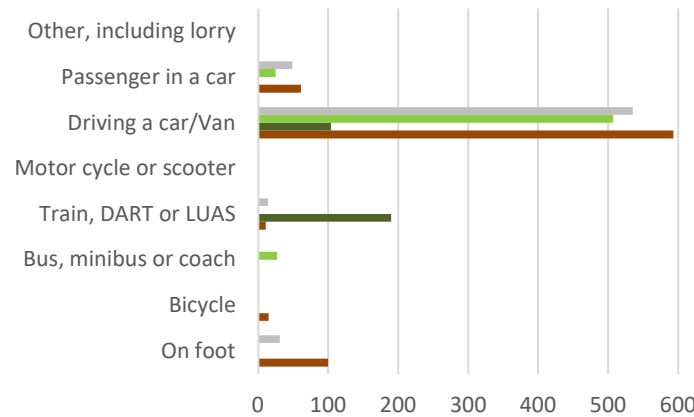
Time Leaving Home



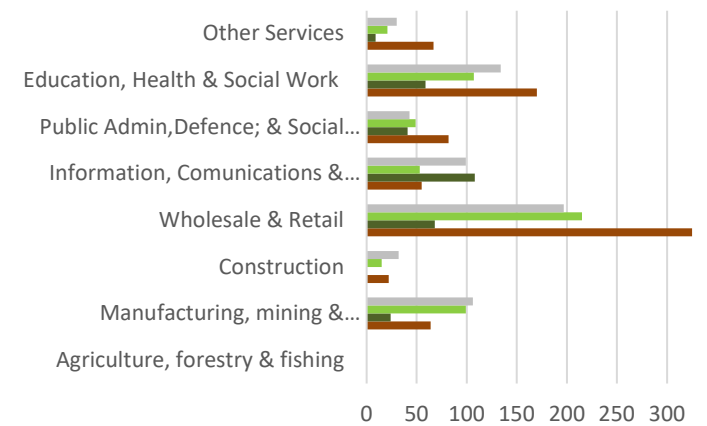
Journey Length



Mode of Travel



Industry



Note: This includes people resident in Portarlington and excludes those who work from or at home, mobile workers and those whose place of work was blank or could not be coded

Source: POWSCAR 2016

Table 27: Commuters to Portarlington by Origin and Industrial Group

Origin	Commuters to work	%
Laois	782	60%
Offaly	369	28%
Kildare	86	7%
Tipperary	12	1%
South Dublin	< 10	<1%
Westmeath	< 10	<1%
Dublin City	< 10	<1%
Kilkenny	< 10	<1%
Other Counties	24	2%
Total	1305	100%

Industrial Group	Number of Commuters	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	< 20	<2%
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying, Electricity, Gas, Water supply and Waste Management	106	8%
Construction	55	4%
Wholesale, Retail Trade, Transportation and Storage, Accommodation and Food Service Activities	462	35%
Information and Communication, Financial, Real Estate, Professional, administration and support service activities	105	8%
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	45	3%
Education, Human Health and Social Work Activities	432	33%
Other Service Activities	85	7%
Not stated	< 20	<2%
Total	1305	100%

Note: This includes people who noted Portarlington as their place of work

Source: POWSCAR 2016

