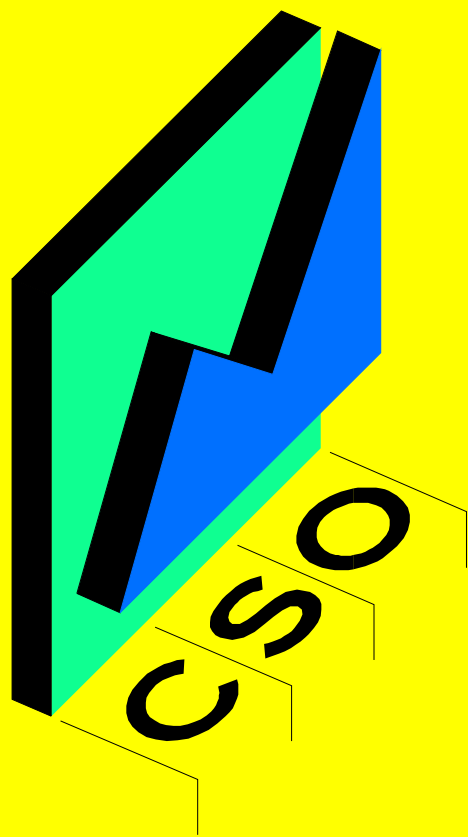


A SYSTEM OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT STATISTICS FOR IRELAND



Central Statistics Office

An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

THE ISSUES

- **Broad rural concerns**
- **Choice of data classification/presentation unit**
- **Definition of rural**
- **Choice of indicators**
- **Getting data**



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Broad Rural Concerns

- **Range of age, occupations; standard of living**
- **Income and employment opportunities**
- **Access to education, training, social services etc.**
- **Decision-making processes**
- **Cultural identity; sense of community**
- **Environment**



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District Electoral Division (DED)

- 3,500
- Level 5 of NUTS
- Average of 1,100 persons per DED
- Average area around 2,000 ha.



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Choice of Indicators



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Range of age, occupation; standard of living

- Population by age band
- Marital status
- Numbers employed by occupation
- Housing stock by age, type, size, facilities
- Car ownership

Income and employment opportunities

- Total household income data
- Unemployment rate
- Farms classified by economic size
- Gainful non-agricultural activity on farms

Access to education, social services etc.

- **Persons in full-time education by level**
- **School class sizes**
- **Expenditure on school transport**

Decision-making processes

- **Participation rates in national, E.P., local elections**
- **Level of Internet access**

Cultural identity, sense of community

- **Proportion of speakers of the Irish language**
- **Membership of sports clubs**

Environment

- **Water quality**
- **Waste collection/recovery**
- **Number of organic farms**

Getting Data