

7.4 Nationality⁵

Table 7.6 People in the Rural Areas, Leitrim and the State by Nationality, 2002 & 2006

Nationality	Total	Nationality - Irish		Nationality - UK		Nationality - other		Total non-Irish	
		N	%*	N	%*	N	%*	N	%*
2002									
Ballinamore Rural Area	3,043	2,857	93.9%	86	2.8%	100	3.30%	186	6.1%
Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area	6,571	5,981	91.0%	306	4.7%	284	4.30%	590	9.0%
Kinlough Rural Area	1,886	1,719	91.1%	108	5.7%	59	3.10%	167	8.8%
Manorhamilton Rural Area	6,730	6,222	92.5%	338	5.0%	170	2.50%	508	7.5%
Mohill Rural Area	7,352	6,856	93.3%	310	4.2%	186	2.50%	496	6.7%
Leitrim	25,582	23,635	92.4%	1,148	4.5%	799	3.10%	1,947	7.6%
State	3,858,495	3,584,975	92.9%	103,476	2.7%	170,044	4.40%	273,520	7.1%
2006									
Ballinamore Rural Area	3,134	2,852	91.0%	125	4.0%	125	4.0%	250	8.0%
Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area	8,046	6,742	83.8%	456	5.7%	795	9.9%	1,251	15.5%
Kinlough Rural Area	2,393	2,129	89.0%	156	6.5%	87	3.6%	243	10.2%
Manorhamilton Rural Area	7,445	6,710	90.1%	387	5.2%	288	3.9%	675	9.1%
Mohill Rural Area	7,541	6,957	92.3%	350	4.6%	205	2.7%	555	7.4%
Leitrim	28,559	25,390	88.9%	1,474	5.2%	1,500	5.3%	2,974	10.4%
State	4,172,013	3,706,683	88.8%	112,548	2.7%	307,185	7.4%	419,733	10.1%

Source: CSO, National Census of Population, 2002 & 2006

* % of usually resident population

⁵ Please note that Nationality and Ethnicity in the 2006 SAPS is based on usual residents (visitors are excluded), whereas statistics published in volumes are based on 'usual residence'.



Table 7.6 shows the nationality of people in Leitrim and the State. Similar to the State figure, almost 89% of the populations in Leitrim stated that their nationality was Irish, slightly lower than the 92.4% in 2002. At 10.4%, a slightly higher proportion of people stated that their nationality was not Irish in Leitrim than in the State. This represents an increase on the 2002 figure of 7.6%.

At rural area level, 15.5% of the population in Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area stated that their nationality was nationality was other than Irish, a significant increase on the 2002 figure of 9.0%, followed by Kinlough Rural Area at 10.2%, up from 8.8% in 2002. Mohill Rural Area had the lowest percentage at 7.4%.

At ED level Carrick-on-Shannon, Keshcarrigan and Drumreilly West/Drumreilly East all in Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area have the highest percentages of people whose nationality is other than Irish. Areas that may not have a high percentage rate of people whose nationality is non-Irish but have the highest absolute numbers include Manorhamilton (185 or 11.3%), Mohill (118 or 8.6%), Drumshanbo (112 or 10.8%) Ballinamore (110 or 10.3%) and Drumahaire (108 or 8.8%).

Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Migrant Workers

An Asylum Seeker is a person who seeks to be recognised as a refugee in accordance with the terms of the 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. In Ireland a person seeking asylum is entitled to accommodation on a full-board basis and a personal allowance (currently the rate is €19.10 per adult and €9.60 per child). This is known as Direct Provision. There are 40 members of the asylum seeking community in a direct provision hostel in Ballinamore.

Programme refugees are people who are invited to Ireland by the Government usually in response to a humanitarian crisis and at the request of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In general, Programme Refugees have the same rights as Convention Refugees.

Table 7.7 Programme Refugees in Leitrim⁶ by Gender and Age, 2006

	0 – 14 Years	15 – 24 Years	25 – 44 Years	45 – 64 Years	65 Years +	Total
Male	16	13	8	4	2	43
Female	14	24	6	8	1	53
Total	30	37	14	12	3	96

Source: Community Welfare Office, 2006

There are 96 Kurdish Programme Refugees residing in private rented accommodation in Carrick-on-Shannon whose ages range from 1 to 74 years. The majority are between the ages of 0 and 24 years.

With regard to migrant workers, information from County Leitrim Partnership, based on statistics from the Department of Social and Family Affairs on Personal Public Service allocation in Leitrim and other agencies working with migrant workers, indicate that the majority of migrant workers in the county are Polish, with 83 PPS numbers allocated to people whose nationality was Polish in 2005, Iranian (28 PPS numbers), Lithuanian (15 PPS numbers), Latvian (7 PPS numbers) and a small number granted to people from Brazil, India, Hungary and Algeria.

7.5 Ethnicity and Members of the Irish Traveller Community

A question was asked about membership of the Irish Traveller community for the first time in 2002. In 2006 this question was expanded to ask about the ethnic status of all those in the State.

The Irish Traveller community is recognised⁷ as being one of the groups at greatest risk of poverty and disadvantage. Research⁸ has shown that Travellers have a lower life expectancy than their settled counterparts. (Traveller women live on average 12 years less than women in the general population. Traveller men live on average 10 years less than men in the general population). The Traveller infant mortality rate is more than twice that of the overall population. The stillbirth rate is over double that of the general population. In 1999, the occurrence of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (cot death) among Traveller families was twelve times the national figure⁹.

7 National Action Plan Against Poverty and Social Exclusion 2003-2005

8 Barry et al 1987

9 Sudden Infant Death Association Report, 1999

Table 7.8 Rural Areas, Leitrim and the State, by Ethnicity, 2002 & 2006

Ethnicity	Total population	Total usually resident population	White Irish			White Irish Traveller			Other White			Black or Black Irish			Asian or Asian Irish		
			N	%*	%**	N	%*	%**	N	%*	%**	N	%*	%**	N	%*	%**
2002																	
Ballinamore Rural Area	3,059	-	-	-	-	2	0.1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area	6,669	-	-	-	-	69	1.0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kinlough Rural Area	1,912	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Manorhamilton Rural Area	6,769	-	-	-	-	4	0.1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mohill Rural Area	7,390	-	-	-	-	59	0.8%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leitrim	25,799	-	-	-	-	134	0.5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State	3,917,203	-	-	-	-	23,681	0.6%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2006																	
Ballinamore Rural Area	3,161	3,134	2,857	90.4%	91.2%	0	0.0%	0.0%	189	6.0%	6.0%	21	0.7%	0.7%	5	0.2%	0.2%
Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area	8,210	8,046	6,668	81.2%	82.9%	126	1.5%	1.6%	893	10.9%	11.1%	20	0.2%	0.2%	116	1.4%	1.4%
Kinlough Rural Area	2,423	2,393	2,144	88.5%	89.6%	1	0.0%	0.0%	195	8.0%	8.1%	1	0.0%	0.0%	6	0.2%	0.3%
Manorhamilton Rural Area	7,535	7,445	6,708	89.0%	90.1%	3	0.0%	0.0%	595	7.9%	8.0%	4	0.1%	0.1%	26	0.3%	0.3%
Mohill Rural Area	7,621	7,541	6,902	90.6%	91.5%	60	0.8%	0.8%	431	5.7%	5.7%	7	0.1%	0.1%	14	0.2%	0.2%
Leitrim	28,950	28,559	25,279	87.3%	88.5%	190	0.7%	0.7%	2,303	8.0%	8.1%	53	0.2%	0.2%	167	0.6%	0.6%
State	4,239,848	4,172,013	3,645,199	86.0%	87.4%	22,369	0.5%	0.5%	289,041	6.8%	6.9%	44,318	1.0%	1.1%	52,345	1.2%	1.3%

Source: CSO, National Census of Population 2002 & 2006

* % of total population

** % of usually resident population

According to the Census of Population 2006, there were 190 members of the Irish Traveller community in Leitrim, accounting for 0.7% of the population, an increase of 56 since 2002. There were 44 private Traveller households in Leitrim in 2006 representing 181 people¹⁰. Of these, 95 people live in permanent housing units and 83 live in temporary accommodation (3 did not state the type of accommodation). At rural area level, the majority of Travellers in Leitrim live in Carrick-on-Shannon and Mohill Rural Areas. AT ED level the highest numbers of Travellers live in Carrick-on-Shannon and Drumshanbo in Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area and Mohill in Mohill Rural Area. A total of 220 people described their ethnic status as Black, Black Irish, Asian or Asian Irish in Leitrim.

Table 7.9 Numbers and Accommodation Type of Travellers in Leitrim, 2006

Type of accommodation	Carrick-on-Shannon				Mohill			
	Families	People	Adults	Children	Families	People	Adults	Children
Traveller specific Halting Sites	22	77	No breakdown available	No breakdown available	8	38	12	26
Traveller specific Group Housing	3	12	4	8	2	15	4	11
Standard housing	3	20	6	14				
Private Rented	16	53	27	26				
Total	44	162	37	48	10	53	16	37

Source: Leitrim County Council, June 2006

According to information from Leitrim County Council, there are 215 members of the Traveller community in Leitrim in local authority accommodation. The majority of Travellers are living in Traveller specific accommodation in Carrick-on-Shannon and Mohill. A number are living in standard local authority accommodation and private rented accommodation in Carrick-on-Shannon.

Traveller All-Ireland Health Status Study

As part of the Traveller All-Ireland Health Status Study, County Leitrim Partnership commissioned a study on the Traveller community in Leitrim in 2006. The study showed that there are 47 Traveller families living in Leitrim with a total population of 212 people. Table 7.11 gives a breakdown of the number of Travellers by type of accommodation and gender in Leitrim.

Table 7.10 Numbers of Travellers by Type of Accommodation and Gender in Leitrim, 2006

Area	Accommodation					Total	Total	Gender	
	Group Housing	Halting Site	Private Rented	Local Authority	Own House	Families	Population	Male	Female
Rosebank, Carrick-on-Shannon		17				17	68	38	30
Other	1		16	3	1	21	91	48	43
Mohill		7		2		9	53	29	24
Total	1	24	16	5	1	47	212	115	97

Source: County Leitrim Partnership, July 2006

Table 7.12 gives a breakdown on the number of Travellers by type of accommodation and gender in Leitrim.

Table 7.11 Ages of Travellers in Leitrim, 2006

Age Band	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74
Rosebank	11	11	8	7	4	8	4	6	2	0	4	1	0	0	2
Other	19	13	10	9	18	2	6	6	4	0	2	0	0	0	2
Mohill	10	12	6	3	5	11	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Total	40	36	24	19	27	21	12	12	6	0	10	1	0	0	4

Source: County Leitrim Partnership (July 2006)

The majority of Travellers (56%) are under the age of nineteen years with fewer than 2% of people over the age of 65 years.

7.6 People with a Disability

Table 7.12 Rural Areas, Leitrim and the State by Numbers of People with a Disability, 2002 & 2006

	2002			2006		
	Persons	Total persons with a disability		Persons	Total persons with a disability	
		N	%*		N	%*
Ballinamore Rural Area	3,059	244	8.0%	3,161	270	8.5%
Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area	6,669	687	10.3%	8,210	809	9.9%
Kinlough Rural Area	1,912	180	9.4%	2,423	234	9.7%
Manorhamilton Rural Area	6,769	743	11.0%	7,535	817	10.8%
Mohill Rural Area	7,390	797	10.8%	7,621	786	10.3%
Leitrim	25,799	2,651	10.3%	28,950	2,916	10.1%
State	3,917,203	323,707	8.3%	4,239,848	393,785	9.3%

Source: CSO, National Census of Population, 2002 & 2006

* % of total population

Table 7.12 shows the number of people that have a disability. In Leitrim, 2,916 people or 10.1% of the population have a disability, an increase of 265 on the 2002 figure and a slightly higher percentage than the State figure of 9.3%.

At rural area level, Manorhamilton Rural Area had the highest population of people with a disability at 10.8%, followed by Mohill Rural Area at 10.3% and Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area at 9.9%.

Table 7.13 Persons with a Disability in Leitrim and the State by Type of Disability, 2006

Disability	Leitrim		State	
	N	%*	N	%*
Total persons	28,950		4,239,848	
Total persons with a disability	2,916		393,785	
Type of disability*	N	%*	N	%*
Blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment	577	19.8%	76,832	19.5%
A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities	1,506	51.6%	177,085	45.0%
Difficulty in learning, remembering or concentrating	824	28.3%	113,133	28.7%
Difficulty in dressing, bathing or getting around inside the home	820	28.1%	88,318	22.4%
Difficulty in going outside the home alone	1,018	34.9%	117,171	29.8%
Difficulty in working or attending school/college	1,219	41.8%	140,910	35.8%
Learning or intellectual disability	447	15.3%	70,869	18.0%
Psychological or emotional condition	491	16.8%	64,955	16.5%
Difficulty in participating in other activities	1,176	40.3%	135,988	34.5%
Other, including chronic illness	996	34.2%	134,517	34.2%
Total disabilities	9,074		1,119,778	

Source: CSO, National Census of Population, 2006

* % of disabilities

Note: More than one disability may have been reported

Table 7.14 shows the types of disability reported by people in the 2006 census. 51.6% of people with a disability reported having a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities and 41.8% of people with a disability reported difficulty in working or attending school or college.

Table 7.14 Rural Areas, Leitrim and the State by Numbers of People with a Disability and Age Group, 2002 & 2006

	0-14 years			15-24 years			25-44 years			45-64 years			65 years and over		
	Total	People with a disability	%*	Total	People with a disability	%*	Total	People with a disability	%*	Total	People with a disability	%*	Total	People with a disability	%*
2002															
Ballinamore Rural Area	673	14	2.1%	389	8	2.1%	769	45	5.9%	746	59	7.9%	482	118	24.5%
Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area	1,306	20	1.5%	929	36	3.9%	1,870	80	4.3%	1,575	179	11.4%	989	372	37.6%
Kinlough Rural Area	413	10	2.4%	212	6	2.8%	544	17	3.1%	462	65	14.1%	281	82	29.2%
Manorhamilton Rural Area	1,451	26	1.8%	876	28	3.2%	1,630	74	4.5%	1,678	199	11.9%	1,134	416	36.7%
Mohill Rural Area	1,579	40	2.5%	1,029	29	2.8%	1,760	81	4.6%	1,762	215	12.2%	1,260	432	34.3%
Leitrim	5,422	110	2.0%	3,435	107	3.1%	6,573	297	4.5%	6,223	717	11.5%	4,146	1,420	34.2%
State	827,428	17,311	2.1%	641,522	19,725	3.1%	1,180,259	58,210	4.9%	831,993	92,765	11.1%	436,001	135,696	31.1%
2006															
Ballinamore Rural Area	642	25	3.9%	435	1	0.2%	758	31	4.1%	859	88	10.2%	467	111	23.8%
Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area	1,591	43	2.7%	1,102	47	4.3%	2,516	140	5.6%	1,930	218	11.3%	1,071	361	33.7%
Kinlough Rural Area	555	22	4.0%	261	11	4.2%	748	45	6.0%	577	84	14.6%	282	72	25.5%
Manorhamilton Rural Area	1,589	45	2.8%	905	43	4.8%	2,016	118	5.9%	1,867	216	11.6%	1,158	395	34.1%
Mohill Rural Area	1,521	53	3.5%	977	37	3.8%	1,913	114	6.0%	1,981	242	12.2%	1,229	340	27.7%
Leitrim	5,898	188	3.2%	3,680	153	4.2%	7,951	448	5.6%	7,214	848	11.8%	4,207	1,279	30.4%
State	864,449	33,256	3.8%	632,732	29,047	4.6%	1,345,873	78,326	5.8%	928,868	114,899	12.4%	467,926	138,257	29.5%

Source: CSO, National Census of Population, 2002 & 2006

* % of overall population for that age group

Table 7.14 shows the numbers of people in different age categories with a disability. The incidence of disability increases with age. For example, in Leitrim 3.2% of children between the ages of 0 and 14 years have a disability compared to 30.4% of people aged 65 years and over. Those over 65 years are almost two and a half times as likely to have a disability as those between the ages of 45 and 64 years.

At ED level, 44 of the 78 DEDs in Leitrim have a higher percentage of people with a disability than the State average. Over 14% of the populations in Kiltyclogher, Garvagh/Arigna and Mahanagh in Manorhamilton Rural Area and Corriga and Mohill in Mohill Rural Area have a disability. Rowan in Mohill Rural Area has the lowest percentage of its population with a disability at 3.5%.

7.7 Small Farmers

The National Anti-Poverty Strategy recognises farmers and specifically, small farmers as a vulnerable group. In 2001, 23% of farmers were identified as living below 60% of median income, i.e. living in relative poverty¹¹. Agriculture underemployment refers to the maintenance of small holdings even though they do not provide a full income. Leitrim is a predominantly rural county with a higher than average proportion of people engaged in farming less than 30 acres. The figures presented below are based on the 2002 National Census of Population. Figures for the 2006 National Census of Population were unavailable.

Table 7.15 Rural districts, Leitrim and the State by Farmers on Less than 30 Acres, 2002

Area	Total 15+ at work	Total at work farmers < 30 acres	
		N	%*
Ballinamore rural area	1,148	29	2.5%
Carrick-on-Shannon rural area	2,783	29	1.0%
Kinlough rural area	728	18	2.5%
Manorhamilton rural area	2,583	45	1.7%
Mohill rural area	2,748	64	2.3%
Leitrim	9,990	185	1.9%
State	1,641,587	11,122	0.7%

Source: CSO, National Census of Population 2002

* % of total number of those aged 15 years and over at work

Of all the people aged 15 years and over at work in the State, 0.7% of them are engaged in farming less than 30 acres. Proportionally, the numbers engaged in small farming in Leitrim is almost three times the national average at 1.9%. At rural district level, all the rural districts have higher than average proportions of people at work engaged in small farming and up to 2.5% of people at work are farming less than 30 acres in Ballinamore and Kinlough Rural Districts.

Table 7.16 Number of People in Receipt of Farm Assist Payments, 2006

Leitrim			
	Short-Term*	Long-Term**	Total
Farm Assist Payment	19	176	195

Source: Department of Social and Family Affairs, July 2006

Figures from the Department of Social and Family Affairs indicate that there are 195 people in receipt of Farm Assist Payments in Leitrim (July 2006). This is a significant indicator of high levels of underemployment in some areas of Leitrim. An analysis of farming carried out the Combat Poverty Agency and the Institute of Public Administration¹² indicated that a significant proportion of farmers are farming less than 30 acres in Leitrim. A total of 16.8% of farmers are farming less than 30 acres, 23.2% are farming between 30 and 49 acres and 60% are farming 50 acres or more. A review of the 2005CMMS Statistics published by the Department of Agriculture and Food shows, for example, that Leitrim has the smallest average herd size in the State at 24.9 in comparison to a State average of 55.2. The statistics also suggest that farmers in Leitrim have the highest dependency on cattle production in the State with only 6.9% of calves registered in 2005 being dairy calves and 93.1% being beef calves. There are five marts in operation in Leitrim. Information from one of the co-operatives, Lakeland Dairies, indicates that the average milk quota of the Leitrim suppliers is significantly lower at 35,000 gallons compared to an average of approximately 50,000 gallons. In Leitrim, there is a high level of participation in the Rural Environmental Protection Scheme by farmers, with 2,850 or 84.7% of all herd owners, participating at the end of August 2006¹³. According to information from Arigna LEADER Company, there are ninety-nine people from Leitrim on the Rural Social Scheme.

At ED level 59 of the 78 DEDs in Leitrim had a higher number of people farming less than 30 acres than the national average in 2002. Ballaghameehan in Manorhamilton Rural District and Oughteragh in Ballinamore Rural District had the highest levels of people engaged in farming 30 acres or less at 11.1% and 8.3% respectively.

¹² Mapping Poverty: National, Regional and County Patterns Combat Poverty Agency & Institute of Public Administration, Dublin 2005, pp. 24-26)

¹³ Information supplied by County Leitrim Partnership

7.8 People Experiencing Homelessness

Leitrim County Council Housing Department records all applications for Housing on the Home system. Currently, there are no applicants on the housing waiting list regarded as being in a Homeless situation. Individuals do present occasionally as homeless and they are provided with emergency temporary Bed & Breakfast accommodation as a short-term measure until they source alternative accommodation. A voluntary housing scheme due to be developed by Respond Housing Association in Carrick-on-Shannon will provide four units of accommodation for Homeless Persons.

7.9 Conclusion and Commentary

Households headed by a lone parent are at a high risk of poverty. Most lone parent households are headed by females. In 2002, there were 913 family units headed by a lone parent in Leitrim, proportionately a lower number than the State average. This increased to 1,098 family units in 2006, still significantly lower than the State average. The largest proportion of lone parents continues to live in Carrick-on-Shannon, Manorhamilton and Mohill Rural Areas. Nearly 17% of all children in Leitrim live in lone parent households and it can be assumed that these children have a higher risk of poverty than children of other households.

Research 14 has shown people aged over the age of 65 years are at a much higher risk of poverty than people in younger age groups. In addition, as people age they are more likely to have an illness or disability and to have increased dependency on social services. Isolation and lack of access to transport services can make it difficult for many older people living in rural areas to access necessary services. These factors are exacerbated for those who live alone. Older people generally, and particularly older women, who live alone are extremely vulnerable, especially in rural areas and the vast majority of older people in County Leitrim live in aggregate rural areas. With an average age of 38.1 years, Leitrim has the second oldest population in the State, 2.5 years older than the State average of 35.6 years, though it should be noted that the gap between the average ages in Leitrim and the State narrowed considerably between 2002 and 2006, from 3.4 years in 2002 to 2.5 years in 2006. However there are higher percentages of all the older age categories and a higher level of older people living alone in Leitrim than the State. At sub-county level, the largest proportion of older people live in Mohill Rural Area and Manorhamilton has the highest proportion of older older people (75 years and over).

Similar to the situation in 2002, there is a slightly higher proportion of people whose nationality is not Irish in Leitrim than in the State. The largest proportion of people whose nationality is not Irish have UK nationality, followed by Polish nationality. There are significant numbers of immigrants living in Leitrim. Between 2002 and 2006, for example, almost 3,000 people moved to Leitrim. While the origin of these immigrants is not known it can be assumed that a significant proportion are members of the migrant worker and refugee communities.

14 EU Survey on Income and Living Conditions 2004 (CSO 2005)

According to the 2006 National Census of Population there were 190 members of the Traveller community living in Leitrim, an increase of 56 since 2002. According to information from Leitrim County Council and County Leitrim Partnership, there are between 212 and 215 members of the Traveller community in Leitrim. The majority of Travellers live in Carrick-on-Shannon and Mohill. A total of 220 people described their ethnic status as Black, Black Irish, Asian or Asian Irish in Leitrim.

People with a disability are more likely to have need of health and other social services, including accessible transport service. Proportionately there are more people with a disability in Leitrim than the State. At sub-county level, Manorhamilton Rural Area has the highest population of people with a disability followed by Mohill Rural Area.