

Section Eight Resources & Amenities

8.1 Access to Personal Transport

According to the CSO, the private car continues to be the main means of transport for Irish workers and just over 55% of primary schoolchildren were driven to school by car in 2006¹⁵. Having access to a car, particularly in a predominantly rural county like Leitrim, is an important way of facilitating work, education, economic and social activities. Access to two cars in a household with two or more adults can be necessary, especially in areas where public transport services are poor. The marginalisation experienced by people without transport in rural areas, especially women, the elderly, the mobility impaired, the unemployed and young people, is acknowledged by the National Action Plan against Poverty and Social Exclusion (p. 29).

Table 8.1 Private Households in Permanent Housing Units in the Rural Areas, Leitrim and the State, by Motor Car Availability, 2002 & 2006

Car Ownership	Total permanent private households	No car		One car		Two cars		Three or more	
		N	%*	N	%*	N	%*	N	%*
2002									
Ballinamore Rural									
Area	1,090	194	17.8%	502	46.1%	339	31.1%	55	5.0%
Carrick-on-Shannon									
Rural Area	2,350	428	18.2%	1,044	44.4%	708	30.1%	170	7.2%
Kinlough Rural Area									
Manorhamilton Rural	689	110	16.0%	314	45.6%	221	32.1%	44	6.4%
Manorhamilton Rural									
Area	2,360	496	21.0%	1,022	43.3%	671	28.4%	171	7.2%
Mohill Rural Area									
Area	2,511	457	18.2%	1,101	43.8%	773	30.8%	180	7.2%
Leitrim									
Area	9,000	1,685	18.7%	3,983	44.3%	2,712	30.1%	620	6.9%
State									
Area	1,279,617	277,130	21.7%	523,827	40.9%	387,034	30.2%	91,626	7.2%

¹⁵ Central Statistics Office Census 2006 Principal Socio-Economic Results 2007, p. 23

2006

Car Ownership	Total permanent private households										
	No car		One car		Two cars		Three or more				
	N	%*	N	%*	N	%*	N	%*	N	%*	
Ballinamore Rural Area	1,166	185	15.9%	467	40.1%	395	33.9%	119	10.2%		
Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area	2,960	514	17.4%	1,216	41.1%	959	32.4%	271	9.2%		
Kinlough Rural Area	915	125	13.7%	406	44.4%	325	35.5%	59	6.4%		
Manorhamilton Rural Area	2,746	449	16.4%	1,130	41.2%	922	33.6%	245	8.9%		
Mohill Rural Area	2,754	436	15.8%	1,059	38.5%	966	35.1%	293	10.6%		
Leitrim	10,541	1,709	16.2%	4,278	40.6%	3,567	33.8%	987	9.4%		
State	1,462,296	288,777	19.7%	564,249	38.6%	481,732	32.9%	127,538	8.7%		

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

* % of all private households in permanent housing units

There is a lower percentage of households with no car in Leitrim (16.2%) than nationally (19.7%) and a higher percentage of households with one car (40.6%) in Leitrim than in the State (38.6%). The rate of two car ownership and the ownership of three cars or more is slightly higher in Leitrim than in the State.

At rural area level, Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area has the highest rate of households with no car (17.4%), followed by Manorhamilton Rural Area. Mohill Rural Area has the highest rate of households with access to three cars or more.

At ED level 12 of the 78 EDs have a higher than the State average of households with no car. Over a fifth of the households in Garadice in Ballinamore Rural Area, Cloonclare in Manorhamilton Rural Area and Mohill in Mohill Rural Area have no car.

A total of 30 of the 78 DEDs in Leitrim have a lower than the national average of households with one car at ED level. Garadice in Ballinamore Rural Area, Cattan and Lisgillock in Mohill Rural Area and Kiltubbrid in Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area have the lowest levels of households with one car. Oughteragh in Ballinamore Rural Area and Annaduff in Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area have the highest rates of households with one car.

A total of 34 of the 78 DEDs in Leitrim have a lower than national average of households with two cars at ED level. Killarga and Kiltyclogher in Manorhamilton Rural Area and Yugan in Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area have the lowest levels of households with two cars. Glenboy in Manorhamilton Rural Area and Castlefore in Mohill Rural Area have the highest levels of households with access to two cars.

8.2 PC Ownership and Access to the Internet

Ownership of a personal computer and access to the internet are becoming more and more necessary in society as an aid to communication and education. It should be noted that the information on PC ownership and access to the internet presented here refer to personal computer ownership and not to business ownership or access. Information on broadband access in specific areas of Leitrim is available on <http://www.broadband.gov.ie> or on www.leitrimcoco.ie

Table 8.2 Number of Private Households in Permanent Housing Units in the Rural Areas, Leitrim and the State by Personal Computer Ownership, 2002 & 2006

Area	Private households in permanent housing units						2006					
	Own a Personal Computer		Do not own a Personal Computer		Own a Personal Computer		Do not own a Personal Computer		Own a Personal Computer		Do not own a Personal Computer	
	N	%*	N	%*	N	%*	N	%*	N	%*	N	%*
Ballinamore Rural Area	1,090	358	32.8%	706	64.8%	1,166	547	46.9%	594	50.9%		
Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area	2,350	864	36.8%	1,450	61.7%	2,960	1,502	50.7%	1,394	47.1%		
Kinlough Rural Area	689	207	30.0%	470	68.2%	988	480	48.6%	488	49.4%		
Manorhamilton Rural Area	2,360	810	34.3%	1,523	64.5%	2,673	1,348	50.4%	1,277	47.8%		
Mohill Rural Area	2,511	783	31.2%	1,699	67.7%	2,754	1,290	46.8%	1,417	51.5%		
Leitrim	9,000	3,022	33.6%	5,848	65.0%	10,541	5,167	49.0%	5,170	49.0%		
State	1,279,617	556,445	43.5%	698,020	54.5%	1,462,296	828,356	56.6%	599,417	41.0%		

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

* % of all private households in permanent housing units

According to the 2006 census, almost half of households (49%) in Leitrim own a computer. This is a significant increase on the figure for 2002 which was 33.6%, though still below the State average of 56.6%.

At rural area level, the rate of computer ownership increased in all rural areas between 2002 and 2006. Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area and Manorhamilton Rural Area had the highest level of computer ownership. Mohill Rural Area and Ballinamore Rural Area had the lowest levels.

At ED level there was a lower than the State average of households with a PC in 69 of the 78 DEDs in Leitrim. Oughteragh and Drumreilly South in Ballinamore Rural Area and Glenfarn and Glenaniff in Manorhamilton Rural Area had the lowest levels. Glenboiy in Manorhamilton Rural Area has the highest rate.

Table 8.3 Number of Private Households in Permanent Housing Units in the Rural Areas, Leitrim and the State by Access to the Internet

	2002				2006									
	Private households in permanent housing units	Access to the Internet		No access to the Internet		Private households in permanent housing units	Broadband		Other connection		Total Connection		No internet access	
		N	%*	N	%*		N	%*	N	%*	N	%*	N	%*
Ballinamore Rural Area	1,090	293	26.9%	770	70.6%	1,166	46	3.9%	404	34.6%	450	38.6%	682	58.5%
Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area	2,350	659	28.0%	1,646	70.0%	2,960	342	11.6%	858	29.0%	1,200	40.5%	1,676	56.6%
Kinlough Rural Area	689	148	21.5%	524	76.1%	915	51	5.6%	278	30.4%	329	36.0%	564	61.6%
Manorhamilton Rural Area	2,360	591	25.0%	1,737	73.6%	2,746	227	8.3%	830	30.2%	1,057	38.5%	1,621	59.0%
Mohill Rural Area	2,511	591	23.5%	1,872	74.6%	2,754	151	5.5%	882	32.0%	1,033	37.5%	1,647	59.8%
Leitrim	9,000	2,282	25.4%	6,549	72.8%	10,541	817	7.8%	3,252	30.9%	4,069	38.6%	6,190	58.7%
State	1,279,617	435,762	34.1%	814,743	63.7%	1,462,296	292,110	20.0%	390,535	26.7%	682,645	46.7%	703,907	48.1%

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

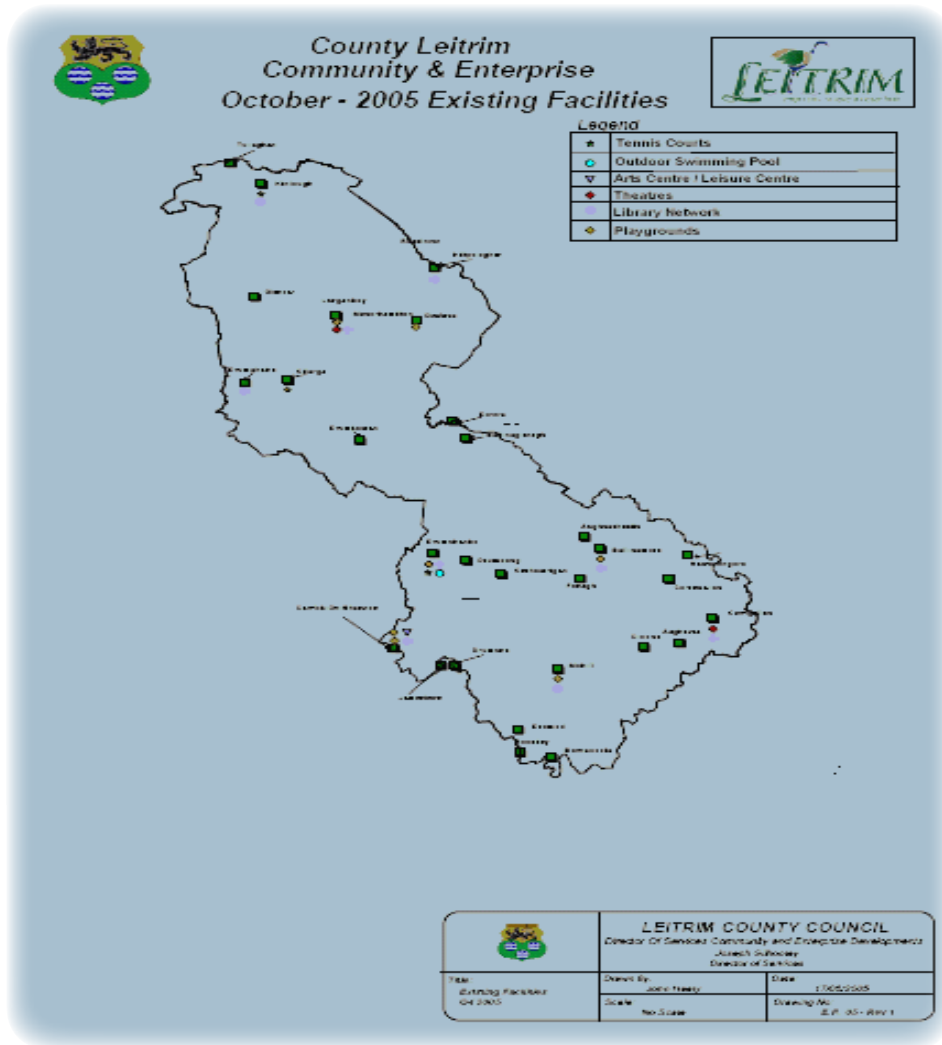
* % of all private households in permanent housing units

In total, 38.6% of households in Leitrim have access to the Internet, 7.8% of these are connected via broadband. Whilst this is still substantially lower than the State average, it is significantly higher than the figure in 2002 of 25.4%. Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area has the highest rate of access to the Internet and Kinlough Rural Area has the lowest rate of access.

With regard to internet access at ED level there is a lower than the State average of households with access to the internet in 71 of the 78 DEDs in Leitrim. Glenfarn in Manorhamilton Rural Area and Melvin/Aghavoghill in Kinlough Rural Area have the lowest rates of internet access. Gortnagullion and Annaduff in Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area have the highest rates.

8.3 Amenities

Map 8.4 Amenities in Leitrim



Amenities

Map 8.4 shows amenities in Leitrim including libraries, tennis courts, swimming pools, and playgrounds.

8.4 Conclusion and Commentary

The rate of car ownership in Leitrim is higher than the State. However, over 16% of households have no car in Leitrim, the largest proportion of which are in Carrick-on-Shannon Rural Area.

Almost half of households in Leitrim now have a computer, a significant increase on the figure of a third in 2002, and the rate of computer ownership increased in all the rural areas. At ED level, at least a quarter of households in all EDs have a computer. Access to the Internet also improved significantly with almost 40% of households in Leitrim having access to the Internet, though the 7.8% who have access via broadband is significantly lower than the national average of 20%. At ED level at least a quarter of households in all EDs now have access to the Internet.