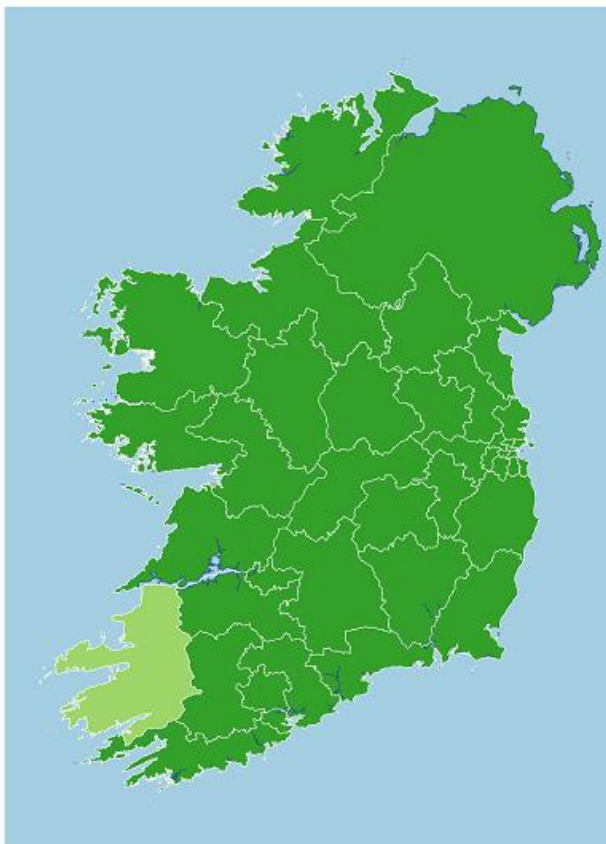


# Dáil Éireann Constituency Profile

## Kerry



**Demographics**



**Economic status  
and work**



**Households and  
housing**



**Transport**



**Education**



**Families**

**January 2020**

**Oireachtas Library  
& Research Service**

Seirbhís Leabharlainne & Taighde an Oireachtais



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## Legal Disclaimer

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## Notes

1. The L&RS Constituency Profiles are based on the dataset derived, and adapted, from the CSO's Small Area Population Statistics for Census 2016. The dataset used for the Oireachtas Library & Research Service (L&RS) Constituency Profiles is also used as the basis for the L&RS Constituency Dashboards, available at [dashboards.oireachtas.ie](https://dashboards.oireachtas.ie). The Constituency Profiles, as well as the sum of the Electoral Divisions (ED) that comprise each constituency, is based on the Schedule of the [Electoral \(Amendment\) \(Dáil Constituencies\) Act 2017](#).
2. Based on the Act's provisions, it should be noted that some constituencies include EDs from neighbouring counties.
3. In some instances - in line with the protocols used for the L&RS Constituency Dashboards - where EDs are split across two constituencies (e.g. EDs bisected by the M50 in Dublin), the data for the full ED is allocated to just one constituency, typically the constituency in which the majority of a specific ED's population and/or geographic area is located.
4. Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the separate figures.

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## Introduction to the Constituency Profile series

The Constituency Profiles are based on the [Small Area Population Statistics \(SAPS\)](#) from the Central Statistics Office (CSO) [Census 2016](#) releases.<sup>1</sup> The Oireachtas Library and Research Service (L&RS) Constituency Profiles series is a complementary publication to, and shares a similar structure of, the online interactive Constituency Dashboards (available at [dashboards.oireachtas.ie](https://dashboards.oireachtas.ie)). Each Constituency Profile reflects the Dáil constituencies as set out in the [Electoral \(Amendment\) \(Dáil Constituencies\) Act 2017](#).

In keeping with the L&RS Constituency Dashboards, each Constituency Profile is structured under the following **6 themes**:

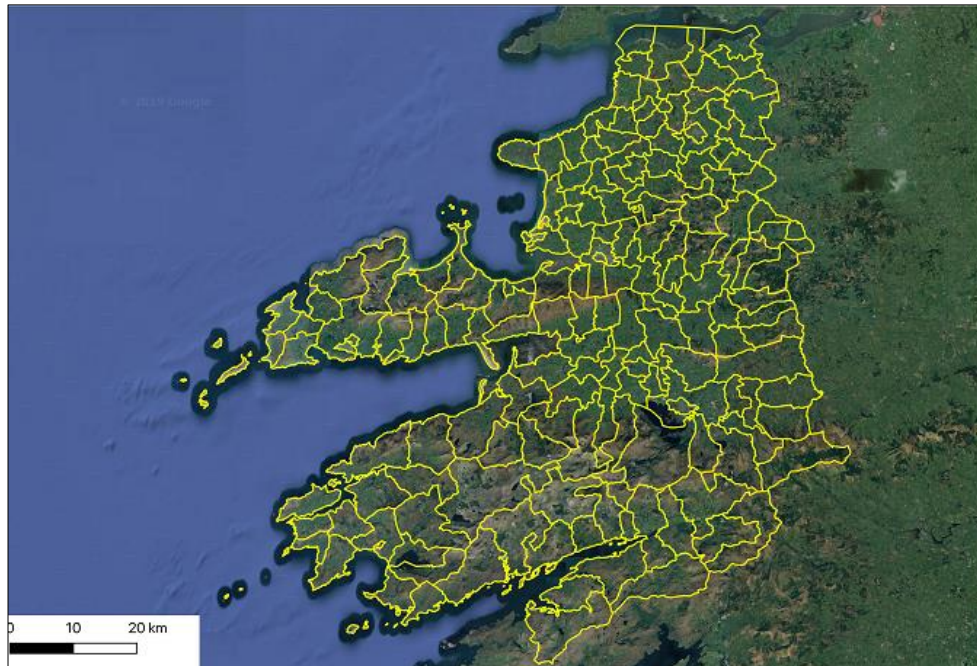


The Themes and Indicators included in this Profile reflect a selection of those used in the interactive Constituency Dashboards. A description of terms used by the CSO in the Census is set out in footnotes where relevant.

## Introduction to Profile

Kerry is a 5-seat constituency located in the south western part of Ireland. It includes, among others, the following locations: Tralee, Killarney, Kenmare, Killorglin, Listowel and Castleisland. Kerry is comprised of 164 Electoral Divisions (EDs).

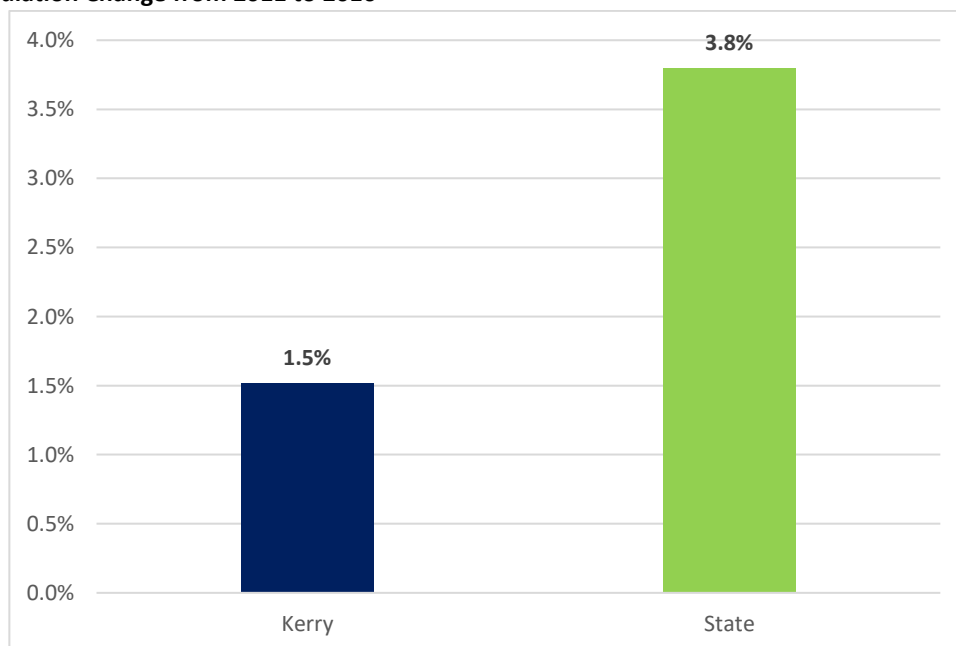
<sup>1</sup> The maps in this publication were produced in cooperation with the School of Geography, University College Dublin.

**Figure 1: Location of Kerry**

## Demographics

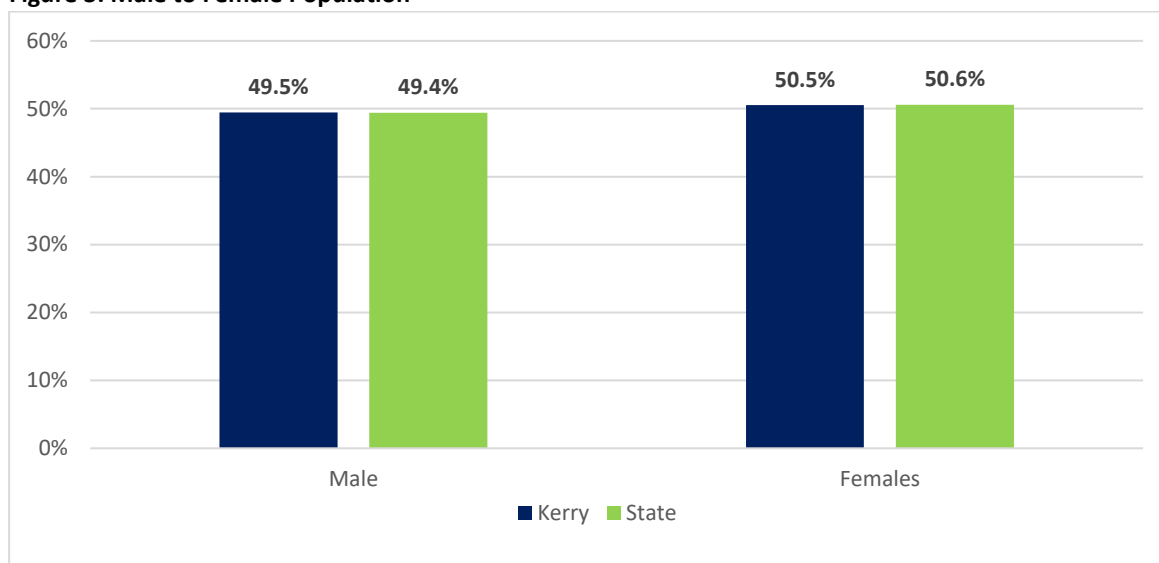
### Population

The population of the constituency at the time of the 2016 Census was **147,707**. This represents a - 1.5% increase from 2011. As shown in Figure 2, this rate is lower than the corresponding national population increase of 3.8% over the same period.

**Figure 2: Population Change from 2011 to 2016**

In 2016, 50.5% (74,652) of the constituency's population was female and 49.5% (73,055) was male. The corresponding proportions in the State for 2016 were 50.6% female and 49.4% male (see Figure 3).

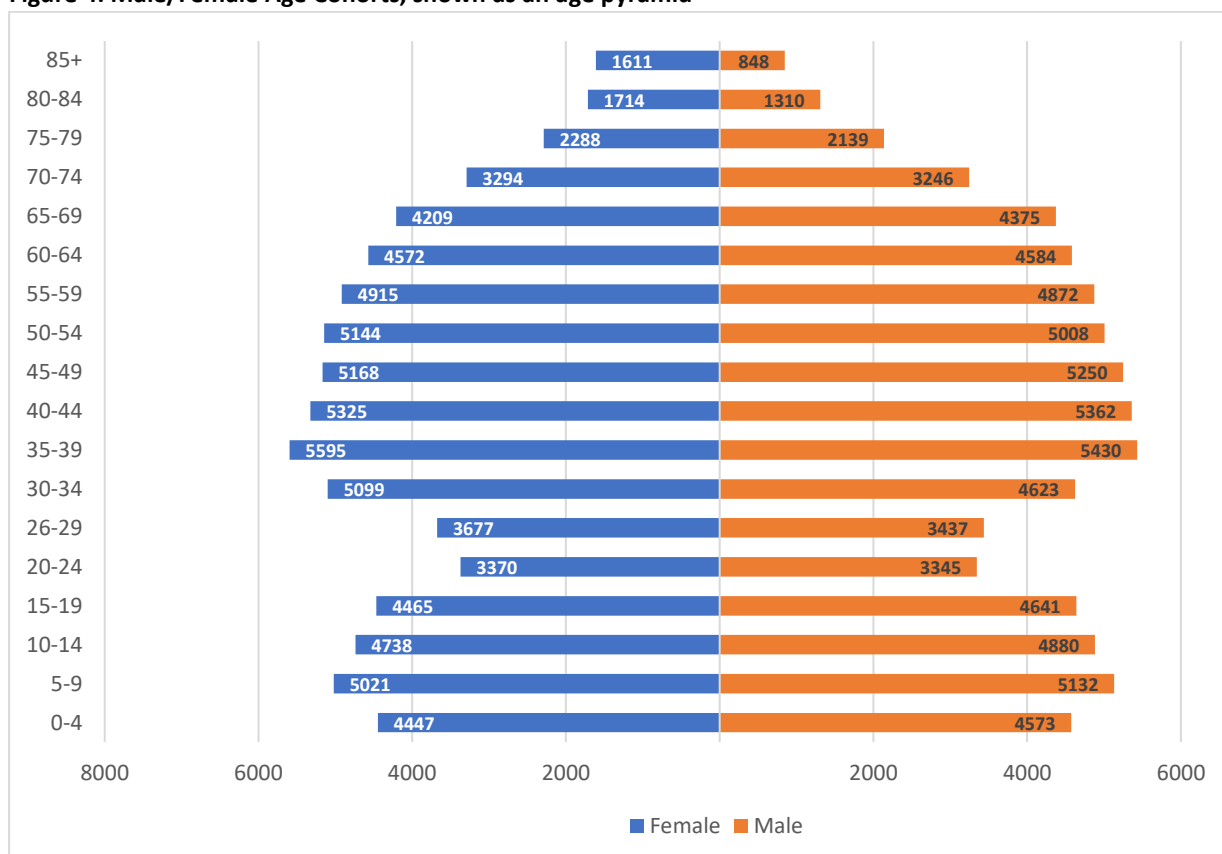
**Figure 3: Male to Female Population**

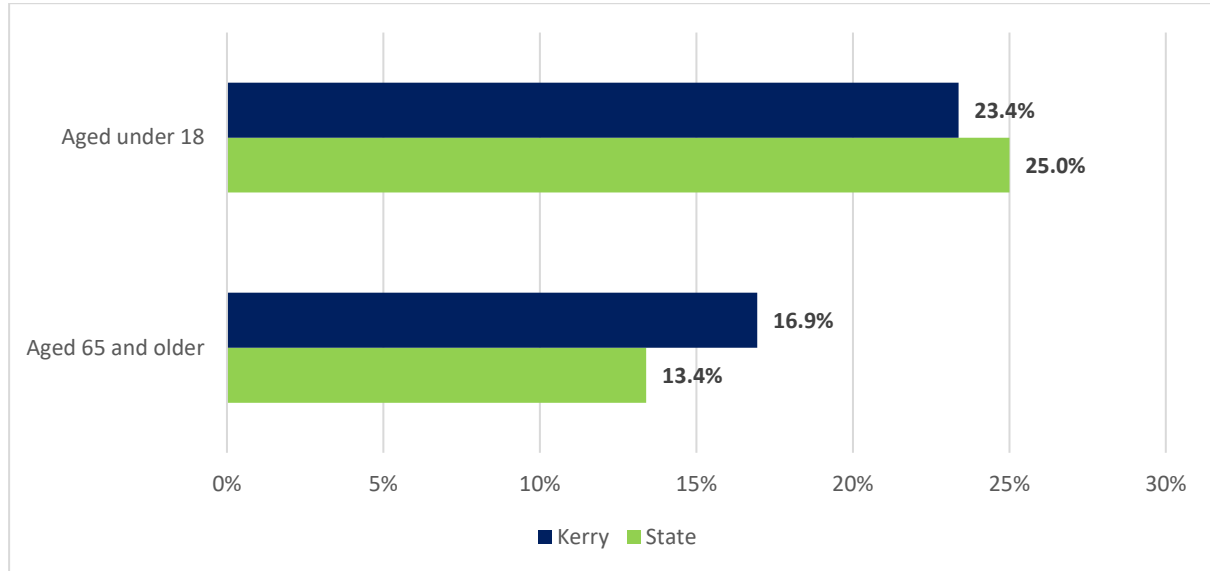


### Age cohorts

Figure 4 below shows the distribution of the female and male population of Kerry according to five-year age bands. In Kerry, 23.4% of population was aged under 18 and 16.9% were aged 65 or over in 2016. As shown in Figure 5 overleaf, the corresponding national measures were 25% aged under 18 and 13.4% aged 65 or older.

**Figure 4: Male/Female Age Cohorts, shown as an age pyramid**



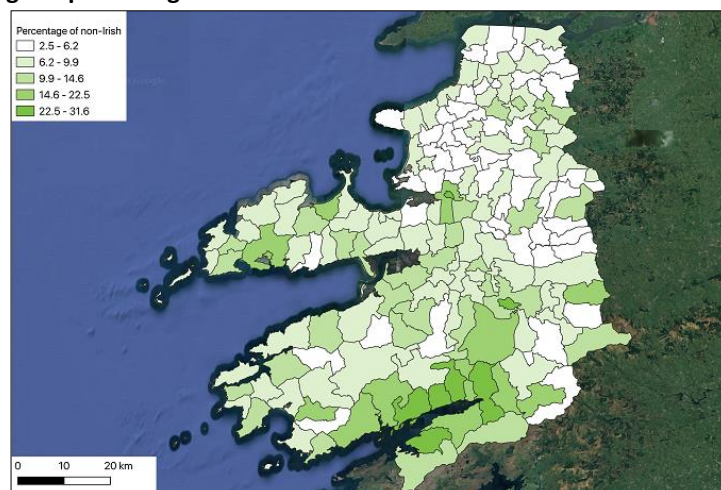
**Figure 5: Population aged under 18 and 65 or older in Kerry compared to the State**

## Nationality

Table 1 below shows that the proportion of Irish nationals residing in Kerry was similar to the national picture in 2016 (87.5% compared to 87%). Nationalities other than Irish comprised 10.7% of the population of the constituency, with 1.7% 'not stated'. Non-Irish nationals usually resident in the constituency included those who stated their nationality as British (3.4%), Polish (3.0%), Lithuanian (0.6%), from another EU country (2.1%) or from the rest of the world (1.6%). Table 1 below shows the comparison in the profile of nationality in the constituency of Kerry with that seen nationally in 2016.

**Table 1: Nationality in Kerry compared to the State**

| Nationality              | Kerry | State |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| <b>Irish</b>             | 87.5% | 87.0% |
| <b>British</b>           | 3.4%  | 2.2%  |
| <b>Polish</b>            | 3.0%  | 2.6%  |
| <b>Lithuanian</b>        | 0.6%  | 0.8%  |
| <b>Other EU</b>          | 2.1%  | 3.1%  |
| <b>Rest of the World</b> | 1.6%  | 2.7%  |
| <b>Not Stated</b>        | 1.7%  | 1.5%  |

**Figure 6: Map showing the percentage of non-Irish nationals**



## Ethnicity

Table 2 shows that 84.3% of people usually residing in Kerry identified their ethnicity as White Irish, which is higher than the national rate (82.2%). The population in Kerry who stated their ethnicity as Asian or Asian Irish was lower than the national share (1.2% compared to 2.1%) and the proportion who stated their ethnicity as Black or Black Irish was lower than the national share (0.6% compared to 1.4%).

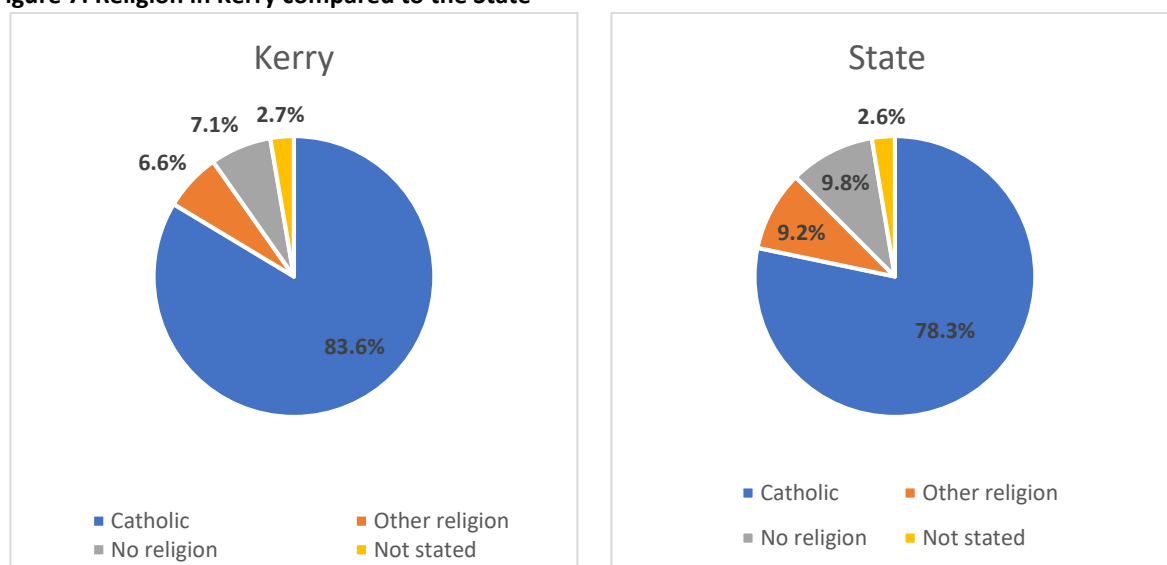
**Table 2: Ethnicity in Kerry compared to the State**

| Ethnicity             | Kerry | State |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| White Irish           | 84.3% | 82.2% |
| White Irish Traveller | 0.7%  | 0.7%  |
| Other White Ethnicity | 9.3%  | 9.5%  |
| Black or Black Irish  | 0.6%  | 1.4%  |
| Asian or Asian Irish  | 1.2%  | 2.1%  |
| Other Ethnicity       | 1.2%  | 1.5%  |
| Not Stated            | 2.7%  | 2.6%  |

## Religion

The share of Catholics in Kerry (83.6%) is higher than the national rate (78.3%). Compared to the State, a lower proportion of the usually resident population in Kerry reported having 'Other religion' (6.6% compared to 9.2%) and 'No religion' (7.1% compared to 9.8%).

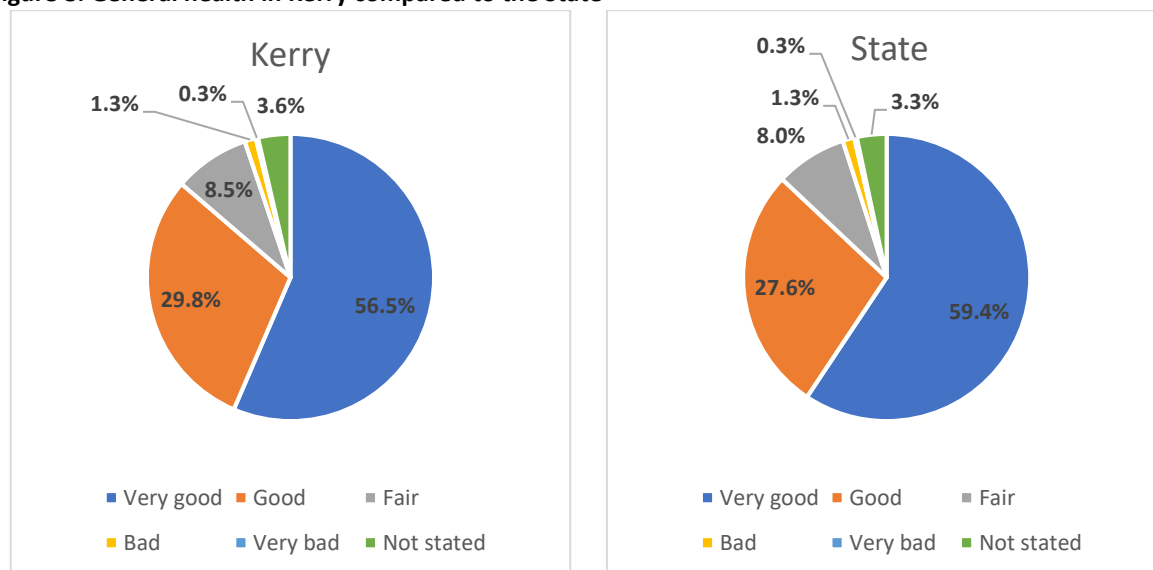
**Figure 7: Religion in Kerry compared to the State**



## General Health

In Kerry, 56.5% of the population described their health as 'very good' in 2016, which is lower than the national rate of 59.4% – see Figure 8 below.



**Figure 8: General health in Kerry compared to the State**

### Social class<sup>2</sup>

Table 3 shows the social class makeup of Kerry in comparison with the State in 2016. Kerry has a lower proportion of professional workers (6.3% compared to 8.1%) and managerial and technical workers (25.3% compared to 28.1%) respectively than seen nationally. As shown in Table 3, the constituency has a slightly higher proportion those categorised as non-manual (18.2%), skilled-manual 15.7% and semi-skilled workers (11.3%) than in the State overall.

**Table 3: Social class in Kerry compared with the State**

| Social Class                               | Kerry | State |
|--|-------|-------|
| Professional workers                       | 6.3%  | 8.1%  |
| Managerial and technical                   | 25.3% | 28.1% |
| Non-manual                                 | 18.2% | 17.6% |
| Skilled-manual                             | 15.7% | 14.1% |
| Semi-skilled                               | 11.3% | 10.5% |
| Unskilled                                  | 3.7%  | 3.6%  |
| All other (gainfully employed and unknown) | 19.6% | 18.0% |

<sup>2</sup> For a definition of social class as used by the CSO in the Census, see [here](#).



## Economic Status and Work

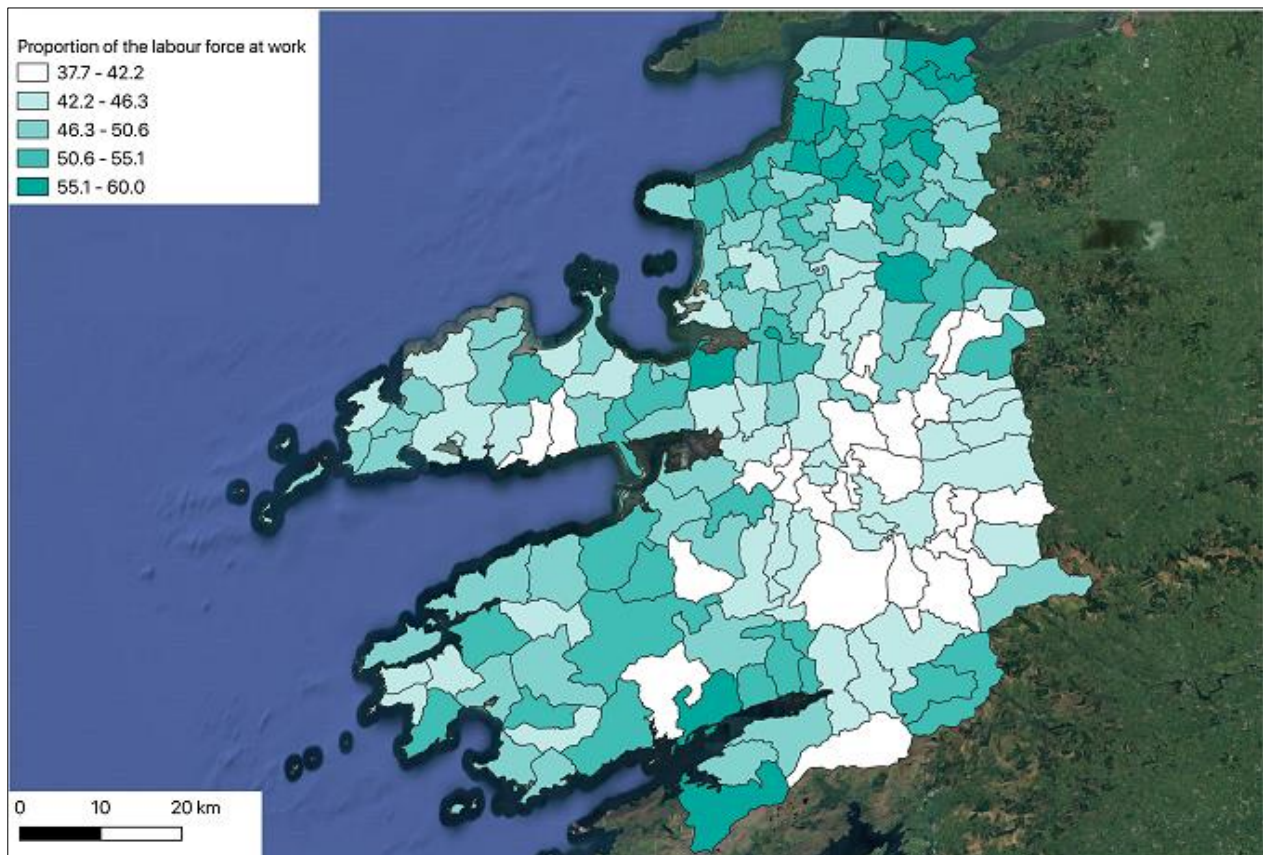
### Principal economic status<sup>3</sup>

Table 4 shows the employment status of Kerry compared nationally. The constituency has a similar proportion of usual residents at work than the State overall (51.5% compared to 53.5%). Kerry has a higher proportion of retired persons (18.4%) compared to the national rate (14.5%) and a lower proportion of students than seen at the State level (10% compared to 11.4%). Figure 9 presents the percentage of residents at work across the constituency of Kerry at the ED level.

**Table 4: Principal economic status of Kerry compared to the State**

| Principal Economic Status                              | Kerry | State |
|--|-------|-------|
| <b>At work</b>   | 51.5% | 53.5% |
| <b>Looking for first job</b>                           | 0.7%  | 0.8%  |
| <b>Unemployed having lost or given up previous job</b> | 6.6%  | 7.1%  |
| <b>Student</b>   | 10.0% | 11.4% |
| <b>Looking after home/family</b>                       | 8.1%  | 8.1%  |
| <b>Retired</b>   | 18.4% | 14.5% |
| <b>Unable to work due to sickness or disability</b>    | 4.4%  | 4.2%  |
| <b>Other</b>   | 0.4%  | 0.4%  |

**Figure 9: Proportion of the labour force at work in Kerry at the ED level**



<sup>3</sup> For explanation of terms and definitions used in Census data, see the CSO website [here](https://www.cso.ie/).

## Industry

Table 5 shows those working in Kerry and nationally by industry. Compared to the national share, Kerry has a higher proportion of residents working in agriculture, forestry and fishing (8% compared to 4.4%) and a lower proportion working in manufacturing and industries (10.9% compared to 11.4%). The commerce and trade sector accounts for 20.5% of workers compared with 23.9% in the State. In the constituency, 4.5% work in transport and communications, the equivalent proportion for the State is 8.6%.

**Table 5: Breakdown of workers by industry in Kerry compared to the State**

| Industry                           | Kerry | State |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Agriculture, forestry, and fishing | 8.0%  | 4.4%  |
| Building and construction          | 5.6%  | 5.1%  |
| Manufacturing and industries       | 10.9% | 11.4% |
| Commerce and trade                 | 20.5% | 23.9% |
| Transport and communications       | 4.5%  | 8.6%  |
| Public administration              | 4.8%  | 5.3%  |
| Professional services              | 22.6% | 23.5% |
| Other                              | 23.1% | 17.8% |

## Occupation types<sup>4</sup>

Table 6 shows the occupation types that residents in Kerry work in. The constituency has a lower rate of workers in professional occupations (14.2% compared to 17.3%) than the State. Kerry's proportion of those in associate professional and technical occupations is also lower than the national rate (7.7% compared to 10.9%). Compared to nationally, the constituency has a higher proportion of residents working in skilled trade occupations (20.3% compared to 13.9%) and in elementary occupations (9.7% compared to 8.8%).

**Table 6: Occupation types in Kerry compared to the State**

| Occupation Types                                 | Kerry | State |
|--|-------|-------|
| Managers, directors and senior officials         | 7.3%  | 7.4%  |
| Professional occupations                         | 14.2% | 17.3% |
| Associate professional and technical occupations | 7.7%  | 10.9% |
| Administrative and secretarial occupations       | 8.7%  | 10.0% |
| Skilled trades occupations                       | 20.3% | 13.9% |
| Caring, leisure and other service occupations    | 7.8%  | 7.3%  |
| Sales and customer service occupations           | 7.4%  | 6.8%  |
| Process, plant and machine operatives            | 6.4%  | 7.2%  |
| Elementary occupations                           | 9.7%  | 8.8%  |
| Not stated                                       | 10.6% | 10.3% |

<sup>4</sup> For details of the CSO definition of occupation, see [here](#).

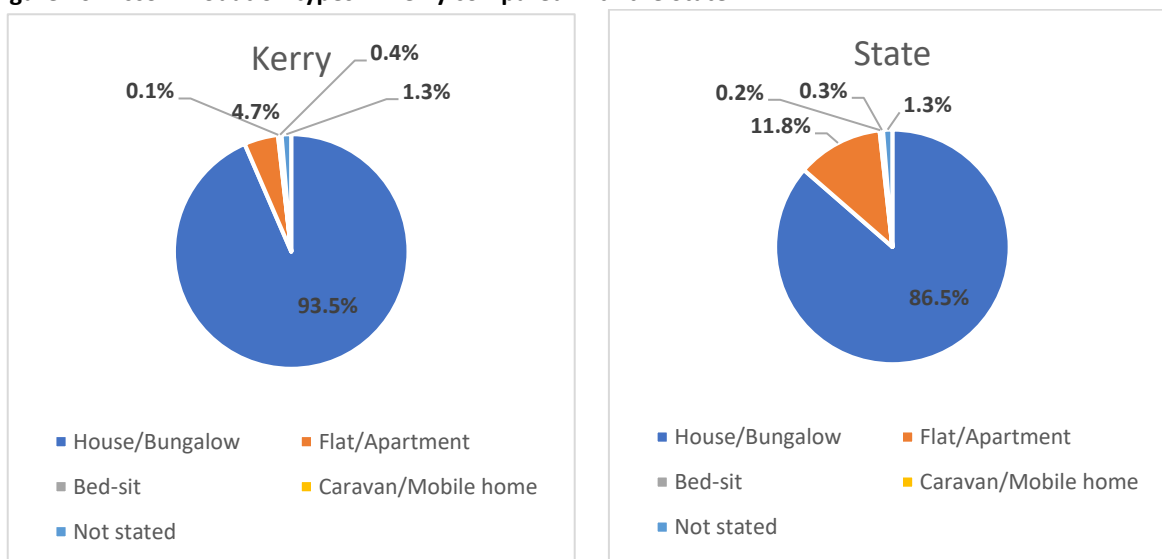


## Households and Housing

### Accommodation type

There were 54,493 private households in Kerry in 2016. Figure 10 below shows that people in Kerry are more likely to live in houses or bungalows compared to the State overall (93.5% compared to 86.5%). Kerry has a lower proportion of households living in flats/apartments nationally (4.7% compared to 11.8%).

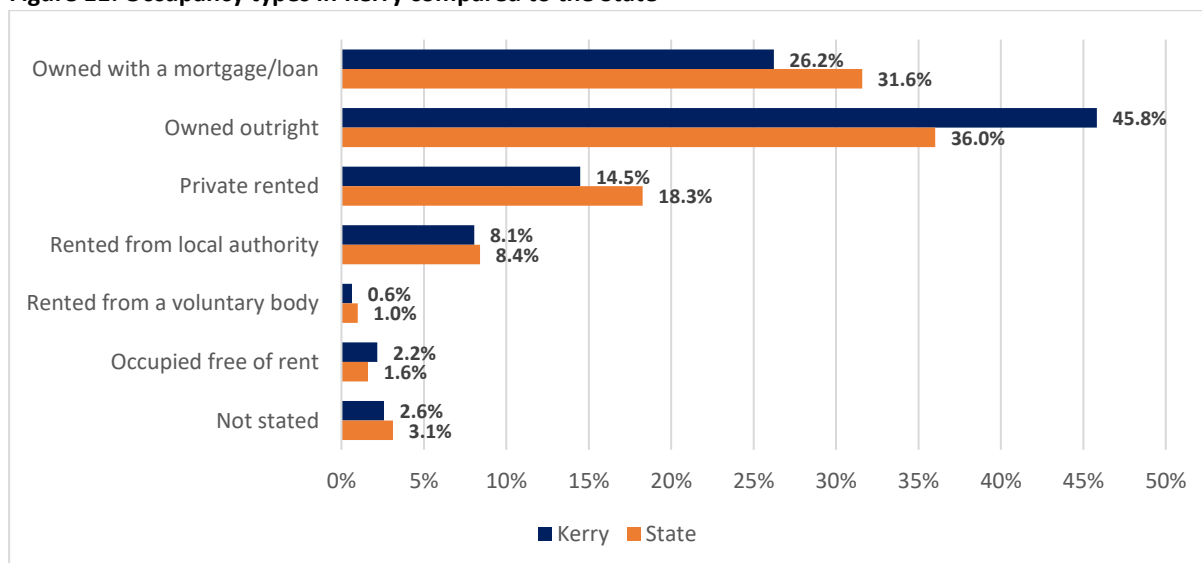
**Figure 10: Accommodation types in Kerry compared with the State**



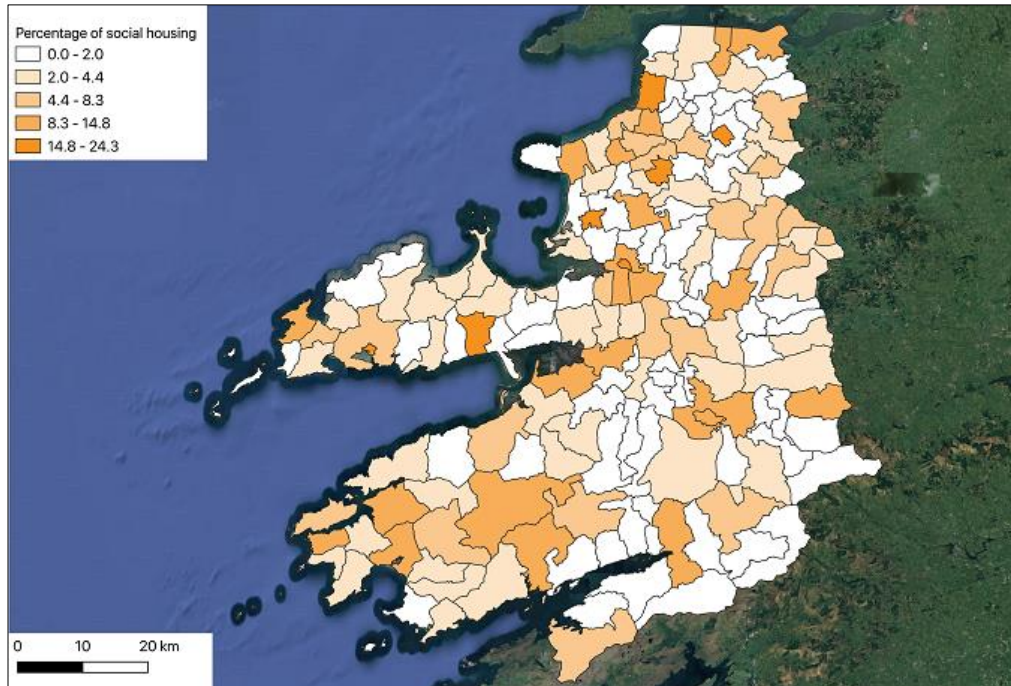
### Occupancy type

Households in Kerry are less likely to own their home with a mortgage/loan (26.2% compared to 31.6%) than nationally. Households in Kerry are more likely to own their home outright (45.8% compared to 36.0%) than nationally. Kerry also has a lower proportion of households renting from a private landlord than nationally (14.5% compared to 18.3%).

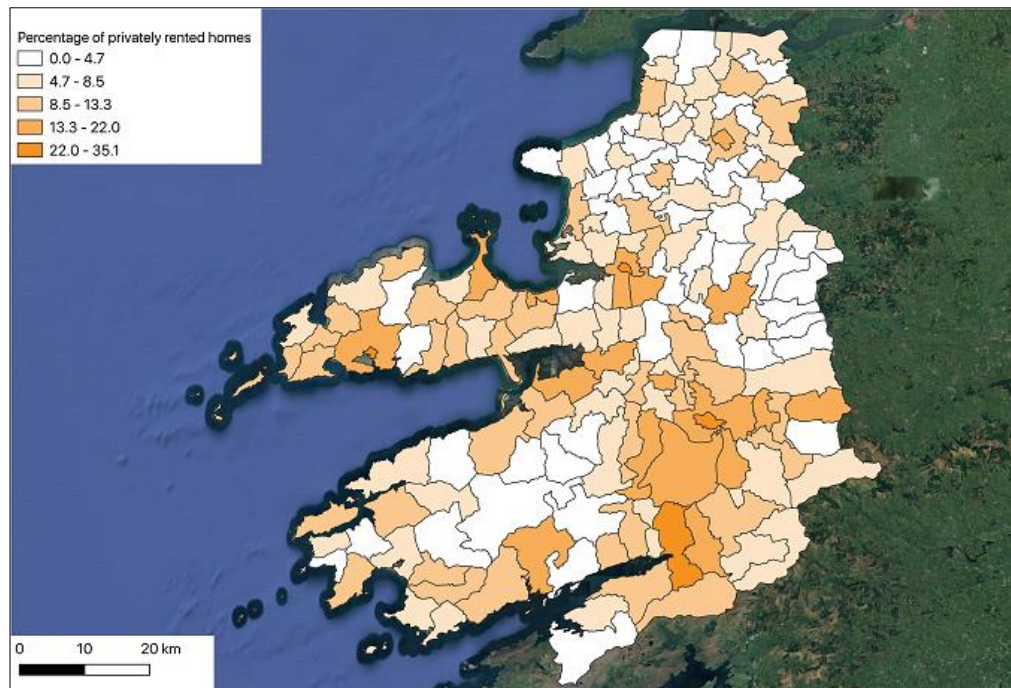
**Figure 11: Occupancy types in Kerry compared to the State**





**Figure 12: Percentage of social housing (rented from local authority or voluntary body)**

Figures 12 (above) and 13 (below) show respectively the proportions of social and private rented housing across the electoral divisions of Kerry at the time of Census 2016.

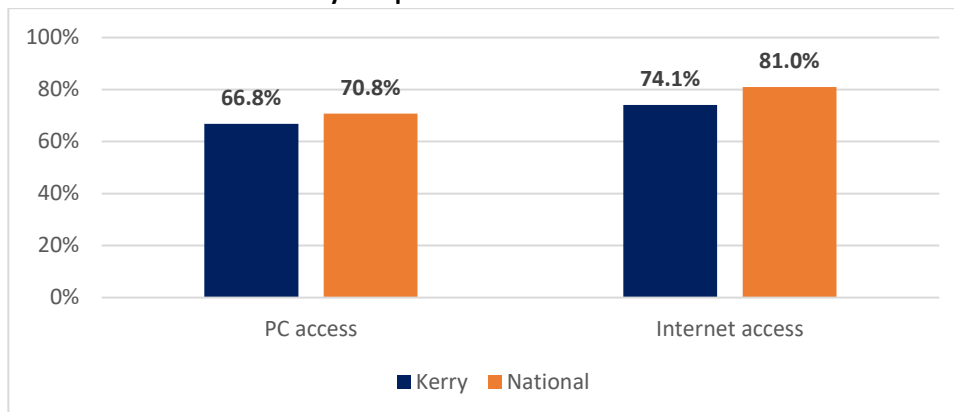
**Figure 13: Percentage of privately rented homes**

### PC and broadband<sup>5</sup>

As shown in Figure 14 overleaf, Kerry has a lower rate of PC access than the national rate (66.8% compared to 70.8%). Kerry households also have a lower rate of access to the internet than households in the State overall (74.1% compared to 81%).<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> In keeping with the Constituency Dashboards, the totals in this section exclude the “Not stated” category.

<sup>6</sup> Internet access includes “Broadband” and “Other”.

**Figure 14: PC and internet access in Kerry compared with the State**

### Central heating

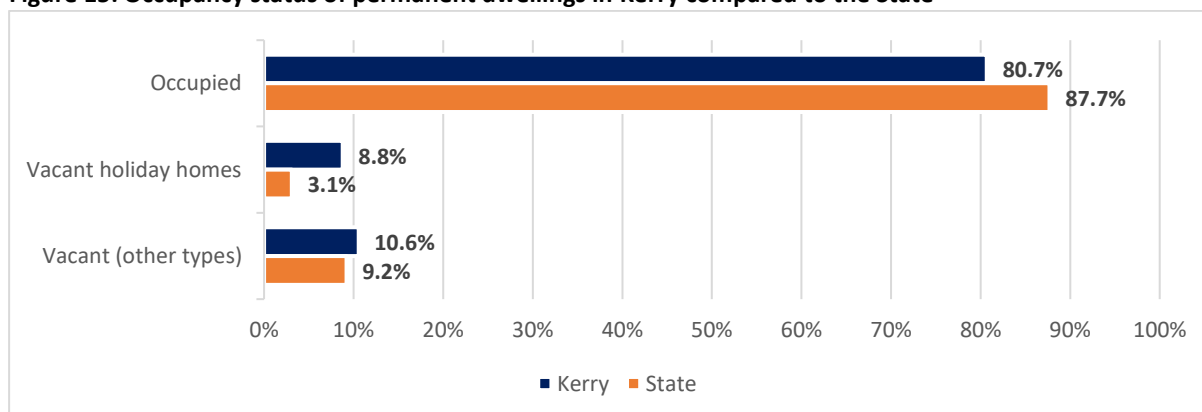
Table 7 below shows that households in Kerry are more likely to use oil as their central heating source than households nationally (62.4% compared to 40.4%). Households in Kerry are in contrast less likely to use gas for central heating than the State as a whole (2.0% compared to 33.5%). In Kerry, more households than nationally use peat (11.3% compared to 5.3%) and coal (7.2% compared to 5.1%) for their central heating.

**Table 7: Central heating in Kerry compared with the State**

| Central heating    | Kerry | State |
|--------------------|-------|-------|
| Oil                | 62.4% | 40.4% |
| Natural gas        | 2.0%  | 33.5% |
| Electricity        | 8.1%  | 8.6%  |
| Coal               | 7.2%  | 5.1%  |
| Peat               | 11.3% | 5.3%  |
| LPG                | 1.2%  | 0.6%  |
| Wood               | 3.2%  | 2%    |
| Other              | 1.1%  | 0.7%  |
| No central heating | 1.8%  | 1.4%  |
| Not stated         | 1.7%  | 2.4%  |

### Vacant dwellings

Figure 15 below shows the vacancy rate of permanent dwellings in Kerry compared nationally. Compared to the national rate, the constituency has a higher rate of vacant holiday homes (8.8% compared to 3.1%), other vacant dwellings (10.6% compared to 9.2%), and a lower rate of occupied homes (80.7% compared to 87.7%).

**Figure 15: Occupancy status of permanent dwellings in Kerry compared to the State**

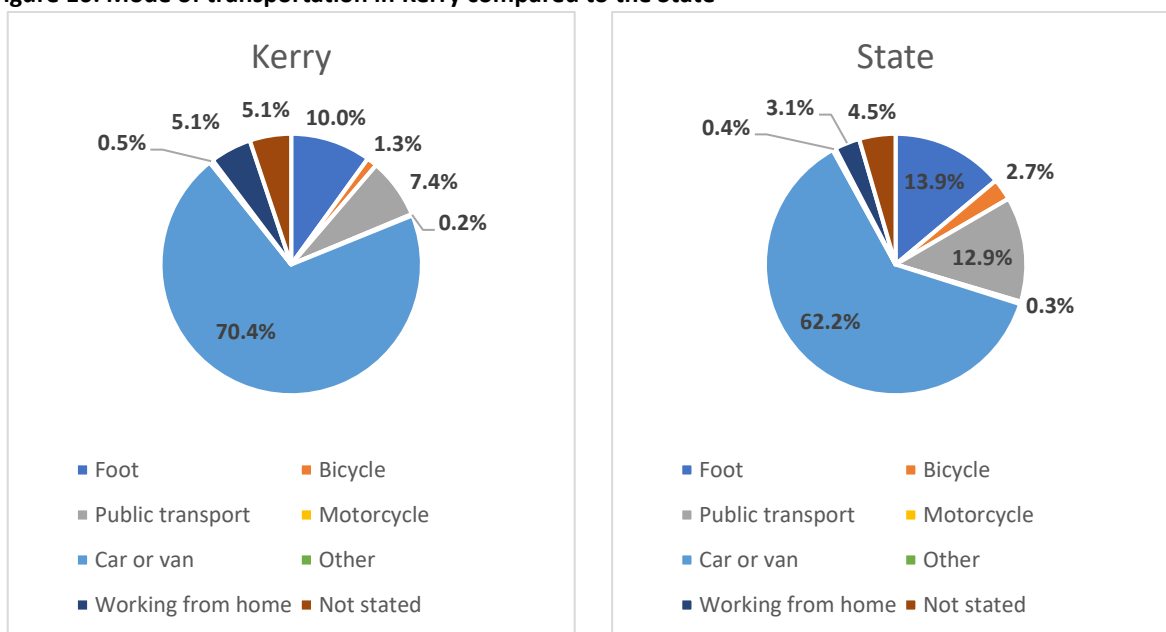


## Transport

### Mode to work, school, etc.

Figure 16 below shows that people in Kerry are more likely to travel to work or education by car or van (as a driver or passenger) than the national rate (70.4% compared to 62.2%). Figure 16 also shows that Kerry residents are less likely to use public transport as their mode of transport than the comparative national rate (7.4% compared to 12.9%).

**Figure 16: Mode of transportation in Kerry compared to the State**



**Figure 17: Percentage of public transportation use in Kerry**

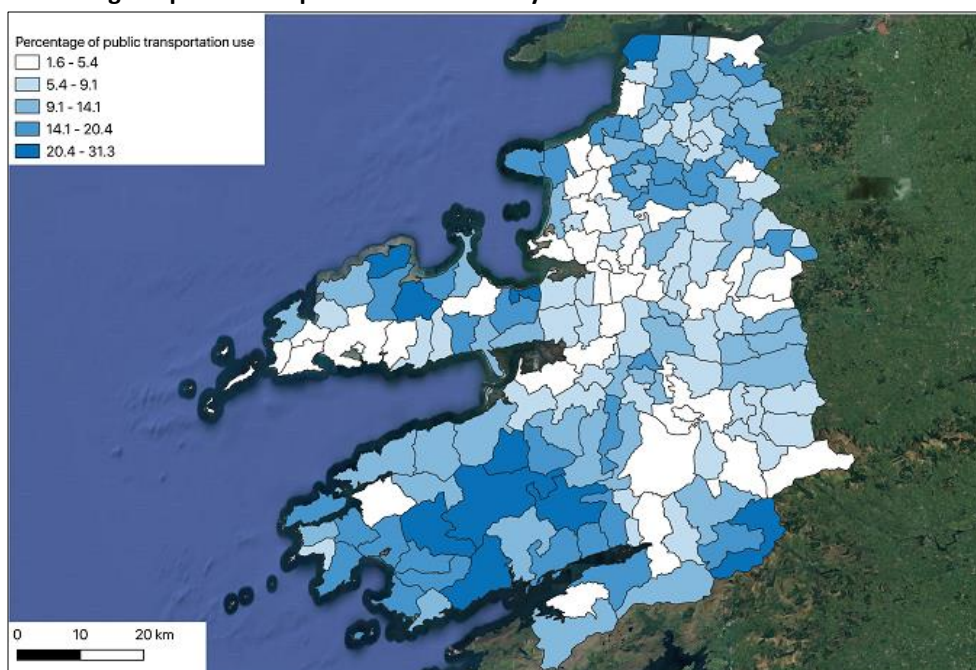


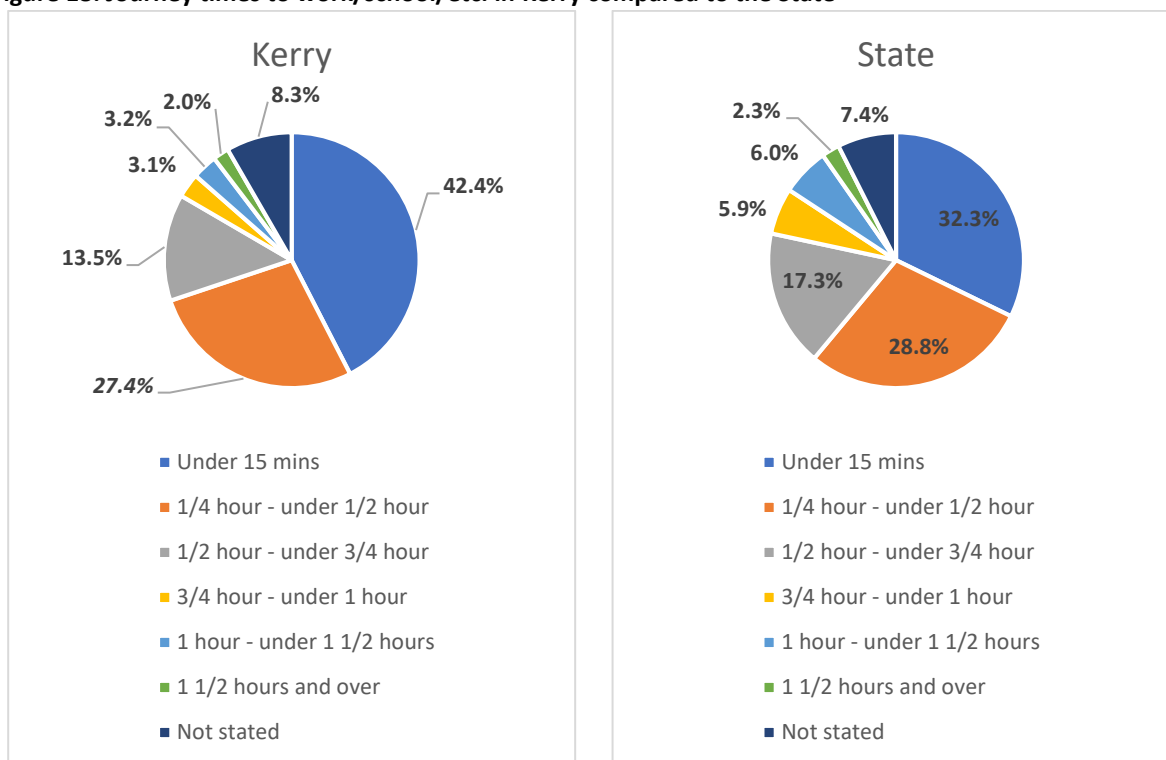


Figure 17 (previous page) shows the proportion of people in Kerry at the ED level who use public transport as their main means of travel to work, school or college.

### Journey time to work, school, etc.

Figure 18 shows the journey times of residents in Kerry to work or school in comparison to the national rate. The constituency has a higher proportion of less than 15-minute journeys (42.4%) than nationally (32.3%). The constituency also has a lower proportion of 30- to 45-minute journeys (13.5%) and 60-minute to 90-minute journeys (3.2%) than nationally (17.3% and 6% respectively).

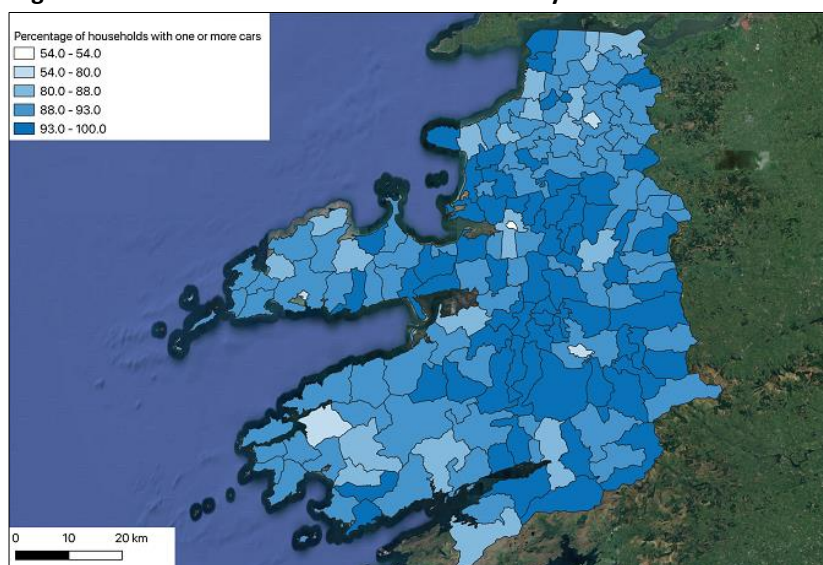
**Figure 18: Journey times to work/school/etc. in Kerry compared to the State**



### Car access

Figure 19 maps at the ED level the proportion of households having one or more cars in Kerry.

**Figure 19: Percentage of households with one or more cars in Kerry**





## Education

### Highest education level completed/achieved

Figure 20 shows the highest level of education completed in Kerry and its comparison with the corresponding national measure. In comparison with the State, the constituency displays a lower proportion who have completed third level education (23.4% compared to 28.5%). In Kerry, a higher proportion than seen in the State overall completed their highest education at primary level (13.4% compared to 12.5%).

**Figure 20: Highest completed education in Kerry compared to the State**

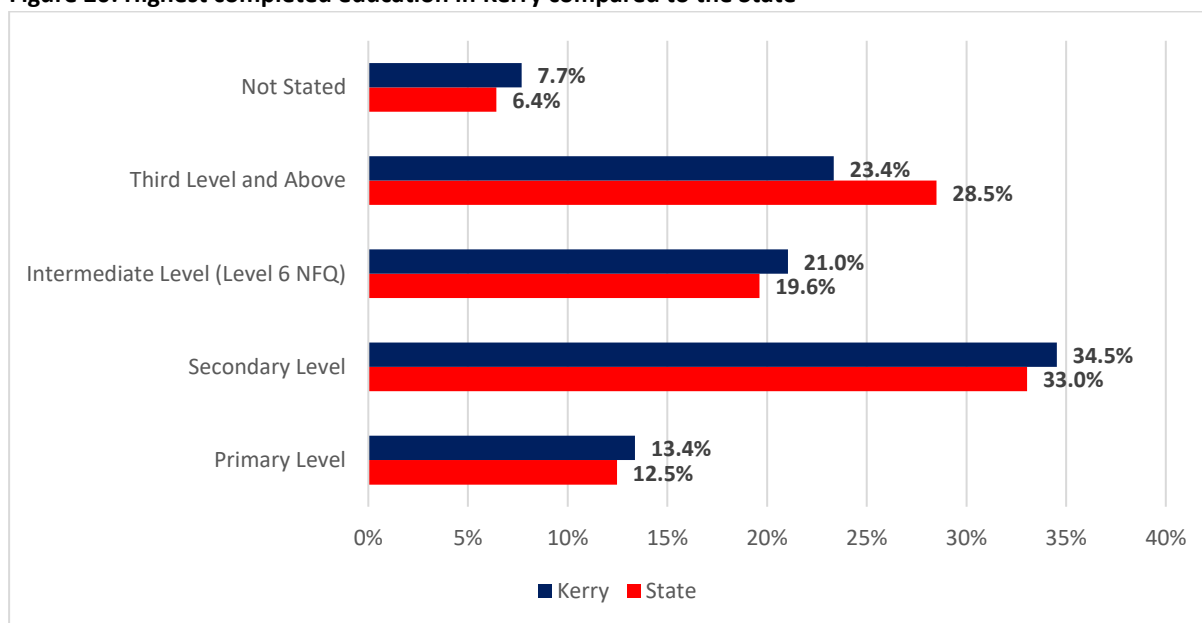
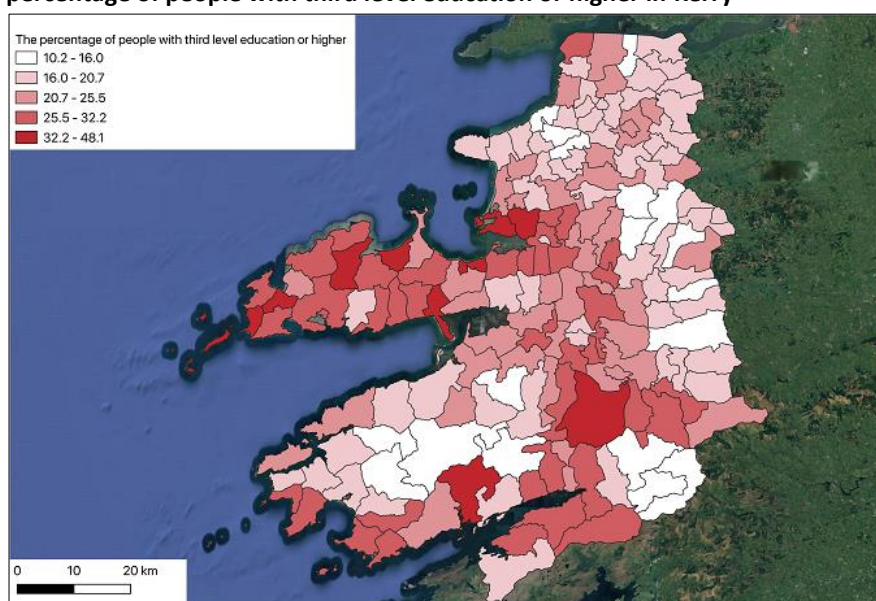
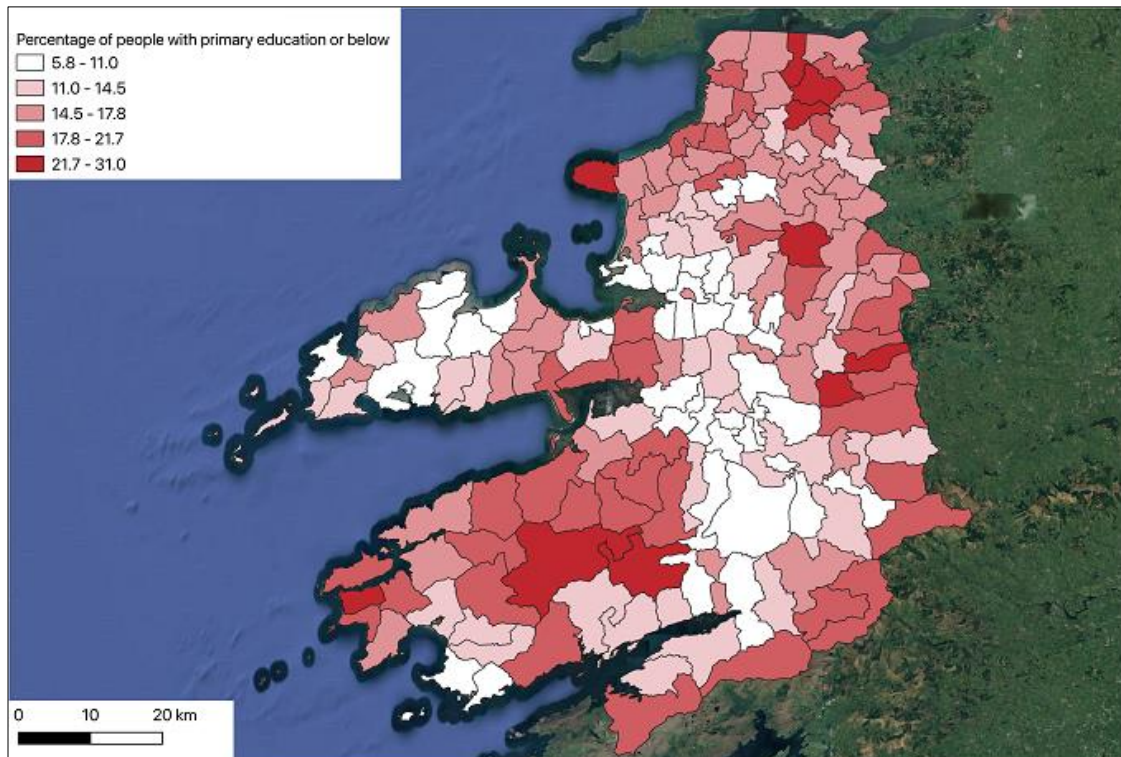


Figure 21 below shows the rates of usual residents with third level education or higher, while the following Figure 22 (overleaf) shows the proportions of Kerry residents at the ED level with primary education or below.

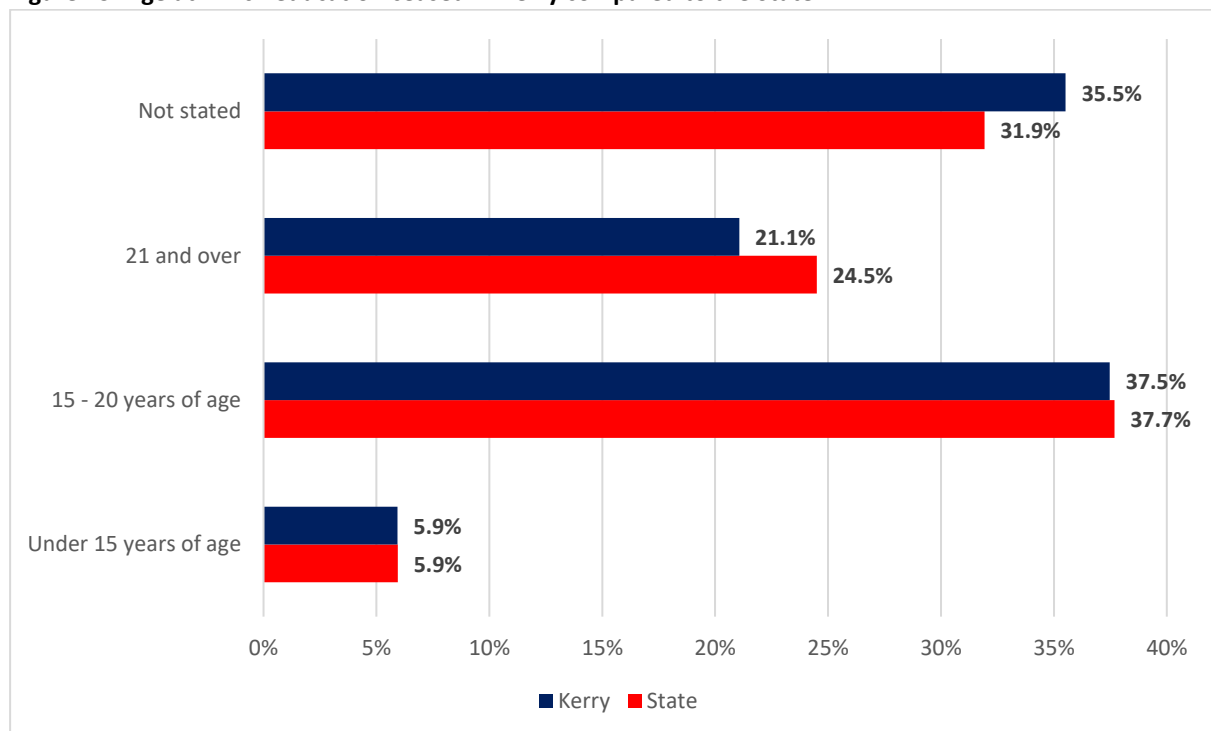
**Figure 21: The percentage of people with third level education or higher in Kerry**



**Figure 22: Percentage of people with primary education or below in Kerry**

### Age at which education ceased

Figure 23 below shows the highest age at which education ceased in Kerry compared to the national rate. The constituency has a lower proportion of usual residents who completed their education aged 21 and over (21.1%) than the corresponding national rate (24.5%).

**Figure 23: Age at which education ceased in Kerry compared to the State**

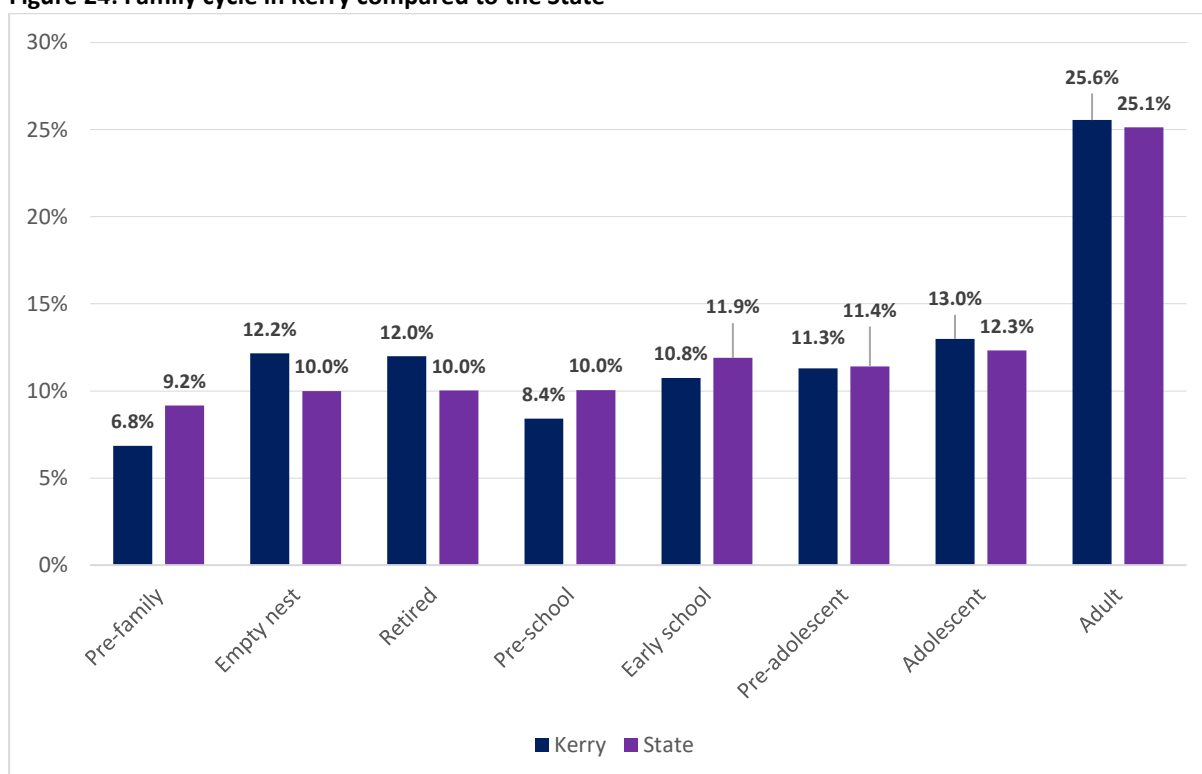


## Families

### Family cycle<sup>7</sup>

In Kerry, there are 37,655 family units. Figure 24 shows the breakdown of the number of families in the constituency according to their stage of the family cycle and its comparison to the State. In Kerry the proportion of families described as pre-family is lower than the State (6.8% compared to 9.2%). As shown in Figure 24, Kerry has a higher proportion families categorised by family cycles as empty nest (12.2%), retired (12.0%), adolescent (13%) and adult (25.6%) than the comparative national measures.

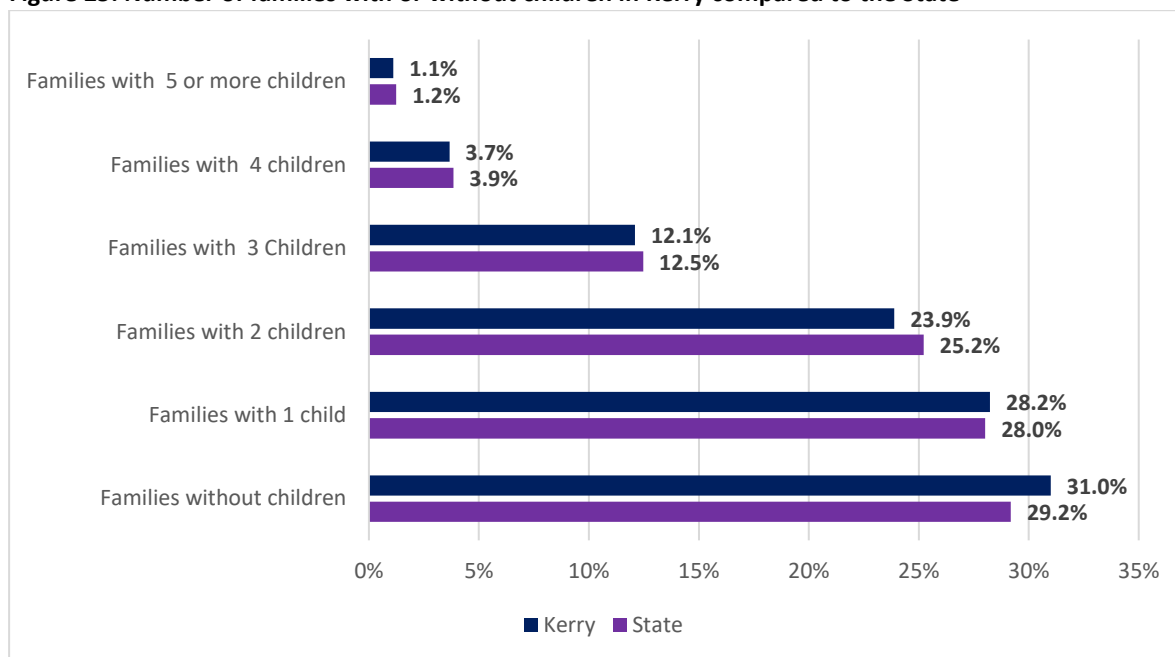
**Figure 24: Family cycle in Kerry compared to the State**



### Families with or without children

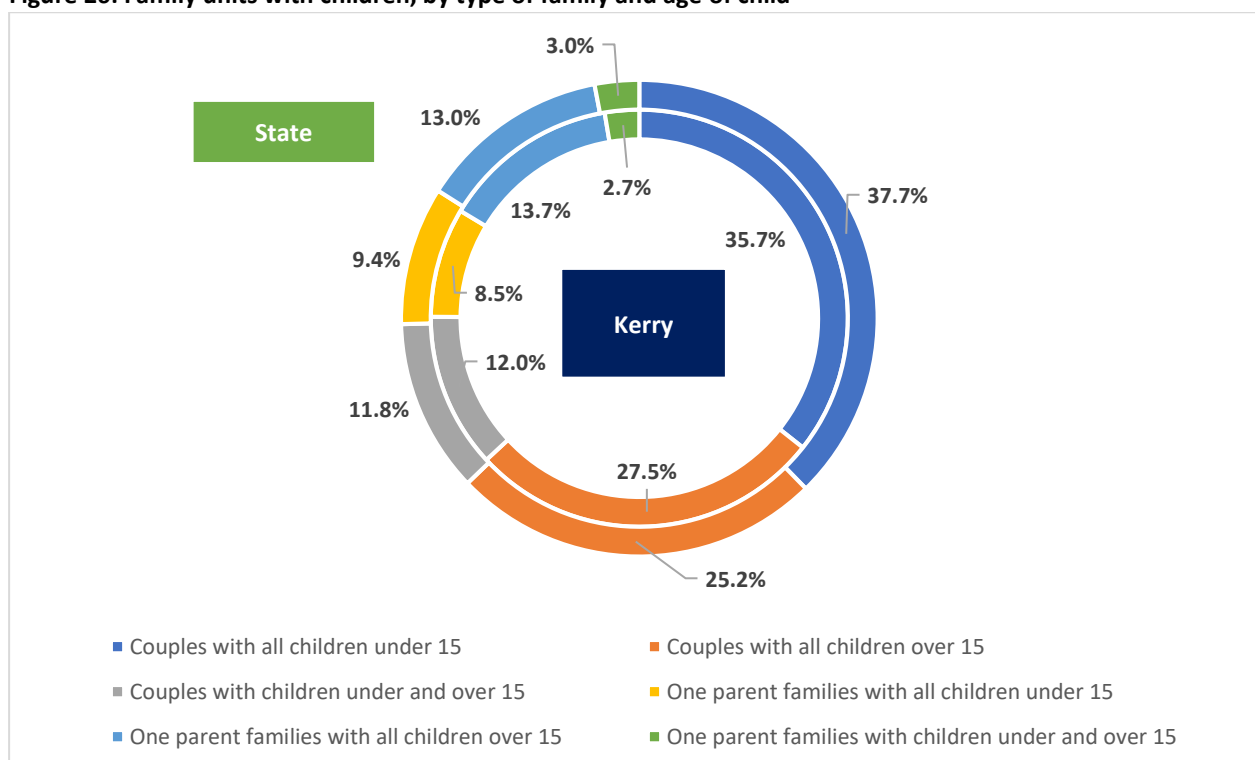
Figure 25 (overleaf) compares Kerry and the State regarding the proportions of families according to the number of children. It shows that the proportion of families without children is broadly similar to the State as a whole (31% compared to 29.2%). The constituency has a marginally lower proportion of families with 2 children than seen nationally (23.9% compared to 25.2%).

<sup>7</sup> For the CSO's definition of family cycle as used in the Census, see [here](#).

**Figure 25: Number of families with or without children in Kerry compared to the State**

### Family type

There are 25,983 families with children in Kerry. 19,515 (75.1%) of these families were couples with children and 6,468 (24.9%) were one parent families. Figure 26 below shows the proportion of family types with children (under and over 15) in 2016 for Kerry and compared nationally. In Kerry, there are proportionally less couples with all children under 15 (35.7% compared to 37.7%) than nationally. In contrast, there are proportionally more couples in Kerry with all children over 15 than nationally. In the constituency there is a marginally higher proportion of one parent families with all children aged over 15 than seen nationally (13.7% compared to 13%),

**Figure 26: Family units with children, by type of family and age of child**





## Contact:

Houses of the Oireachtas  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2  
D02 XR20

[www.oireachtas.ie](http://www.oireachtas.ie)  
Tel: +353 (0)1 6183000 or 076 1001700  
Twitter: @OireachtasNews

Library & Research Service  
Tel: +353 (0)1 6184701  
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