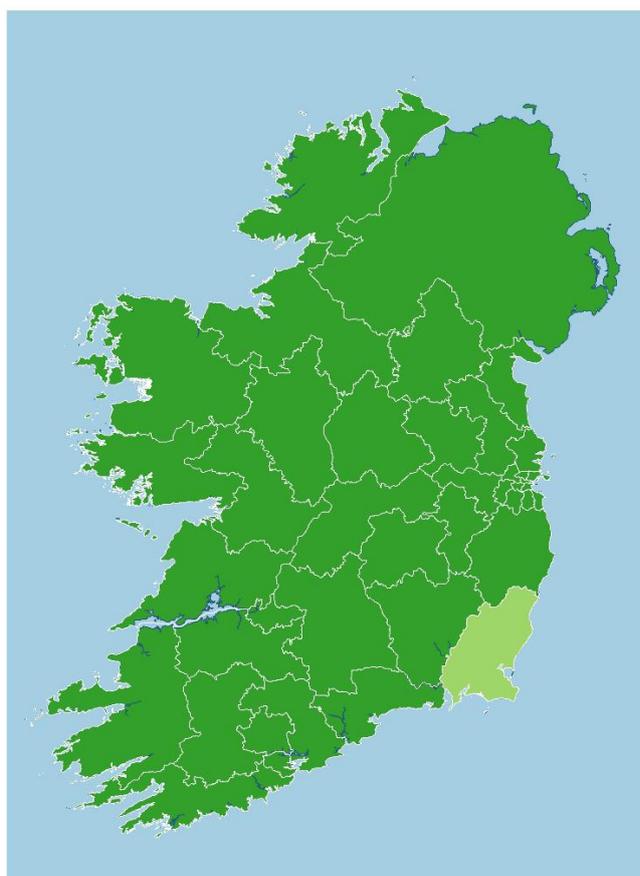


# Dáil Éireann Constituency Profile

## Wexford



**January 2020**

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For more detail and interactive tables see the L&RS Constituency Dashboards at [dashboards.oireachtas.ie](https://dashboards.oireachtas.ie):



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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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For more detail and interactive tables see the L&RS Constituency Dashboards at [dashboards.oireachtas.ie](https://dashboards.oireachtas.ie):

Constituency Dashboards



## 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](http://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

Wexford is a 5-seat constituency located on the east coast of Ireland. It includes, among others, the following locations: Enniscorthy, Gorey, New Ross and Wexford. Wexford is comprised of 124 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 Wexford

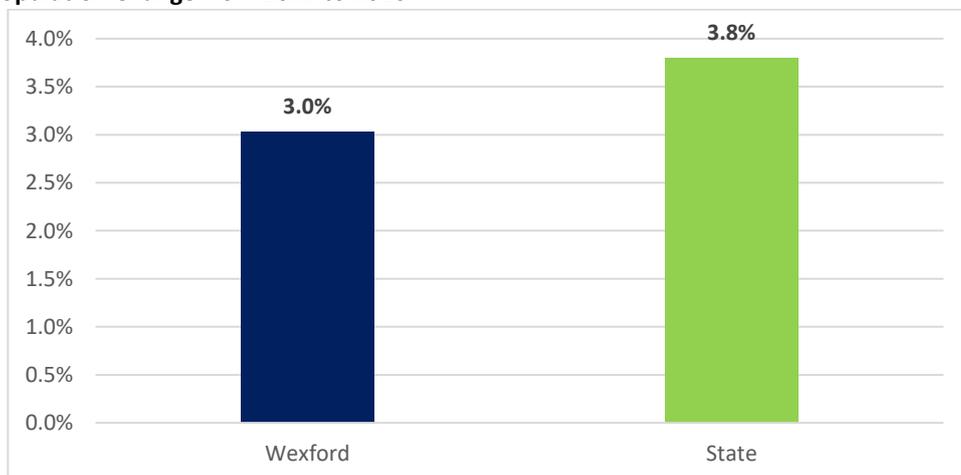


## Demographics

### Population

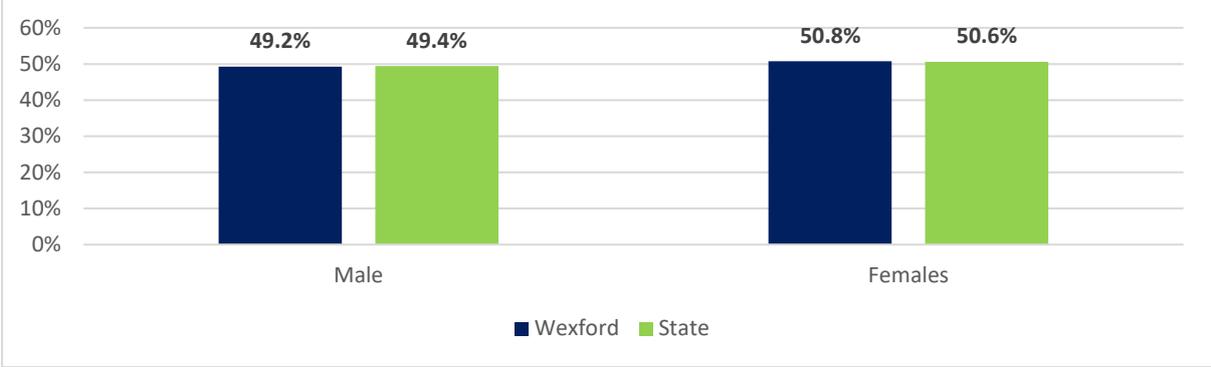
The population of the constituency at the time of the 2016 Census was **149,722**. This represents a 3% increase from 2011. As shown in Figure 2, this rate of increase is less than the corresponding national population increase of 3.8% over the same period.

Figure 2: Population Change from 2011 to 2016



In 2016, 50.8% (76,000) of the constituency’s population was female and 49.2% (73,722) was male. The corresponding proportions in the State for 2016 was 50.6% female and 49.4% male (see Figure 3).

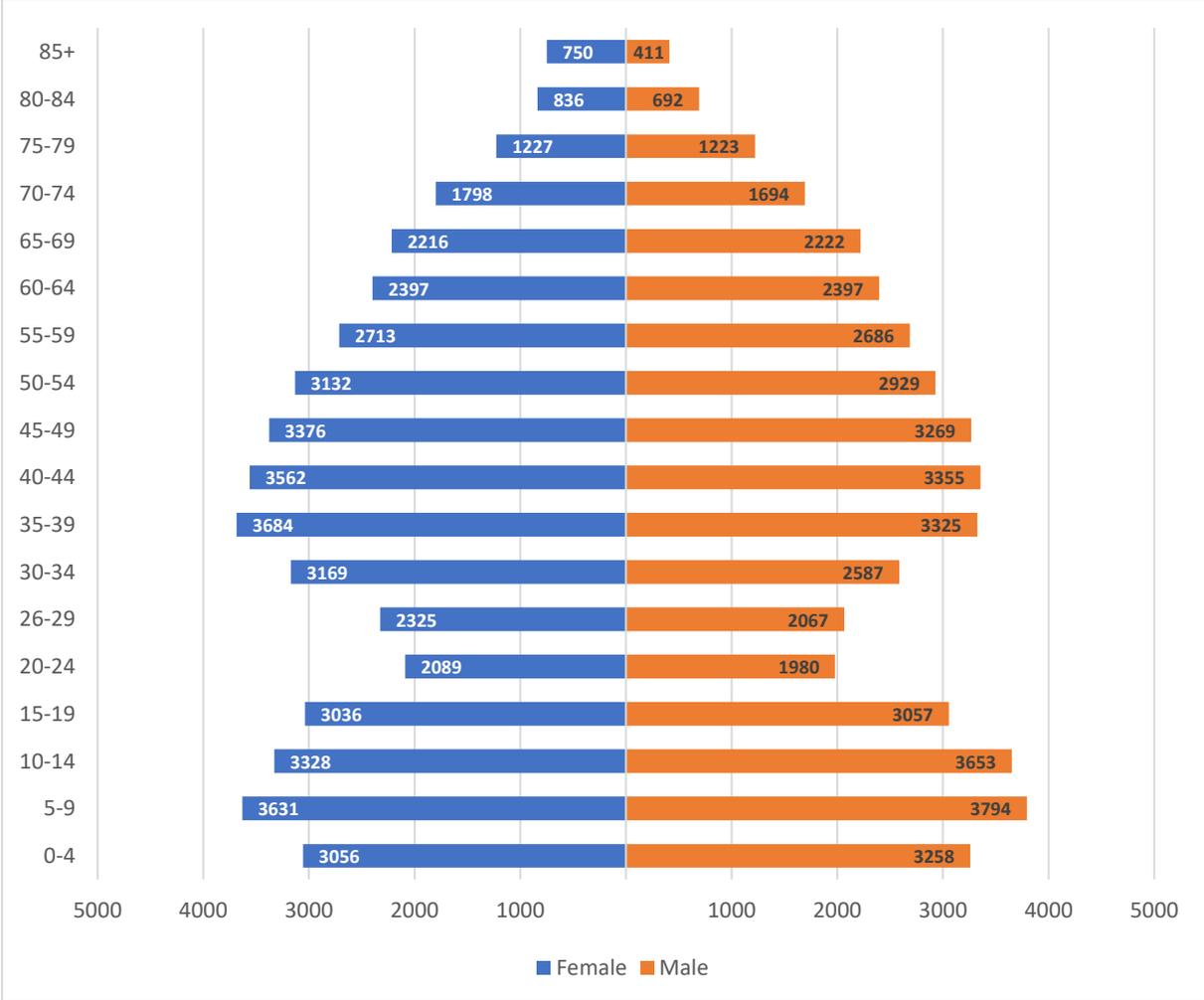
**Figure 3: Male to Female Population**



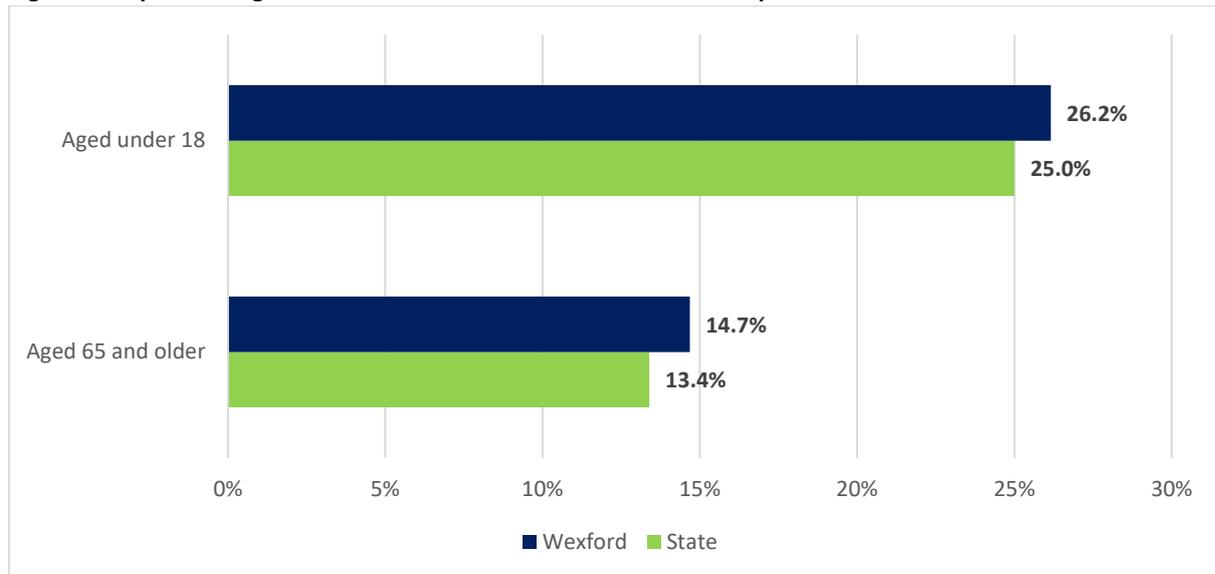
**Age cohorts**

Figure 4 below shows the distribution of the female and male population of the constituency according to five-year age bands. In Wexford, 26.2% of population was aged under 18 and 14.7% 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 Wexford compared to the State**



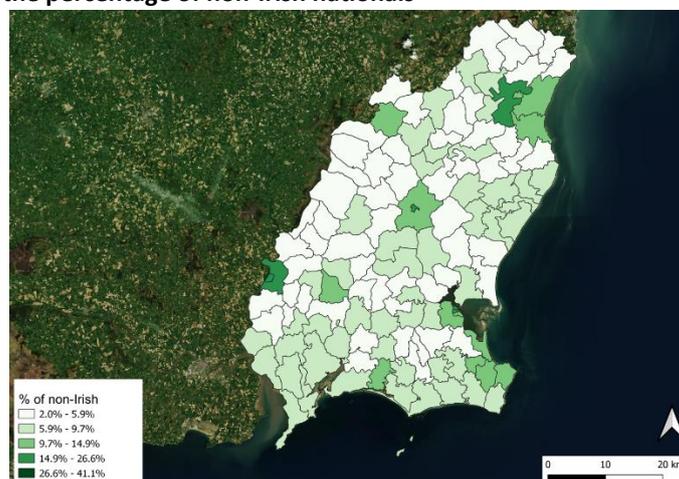
### Nationality

The ratio of Irish to non-Irish nationals residing in Wexford is higher to that seen nationally in 2016. Of the usually resident population of Wexford, 90.1% stated their nationality as Irish in the 2016 Census. Nationalities other than Irish comprised 8.9% of the population of the constituency, with 1% 'not stated'. Non-Irish nationals usually resident in the constituency included those who stated their nationality as British (3%), Polish (2.7%), Lithuanian (0.6%), from another EU country (1.8%) or from the rest of the world (0.9%). Table 1 below shows the comparison in the profile of nationality in the constituency of Wexford with that seen nationally in 2016.

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

Nationality	Wexford	State
<b>Irish</b>	90.1%	87.0%
<b>British</b>	3.0%	2.2%
<b>Polish</b>	2.7%	2.6%
<b>Lithuanian</b>	0.6%	0.8%
<b>Other EU</b>	1.8%	3.1%
<b>Rest of the World</b>	0.9%	2.7%
<b>Not Stated</b>	1.0%	1.5%

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



## Ethnicity

Table 2 shows that 87.2% of people usually residing in Wexford identified their ethnicity as White Irish, which is a higher proportion than nationally (82.2%). Other White Ethnicity accounted for 8.2% of people, this compares with a national measure of 9.5%. The population in Wexford who stated their ethnicity as Asian or Asian Irish was lower than the State figure (0.7% compared to 2.1%). The population in the constituency who stated their ethnicity as Black or Black Irish was less than the share seen nationally (0.3% compared to 1.4%). The Traveller population of Wexford was above that seen nationally (1% compared to 0.7%)

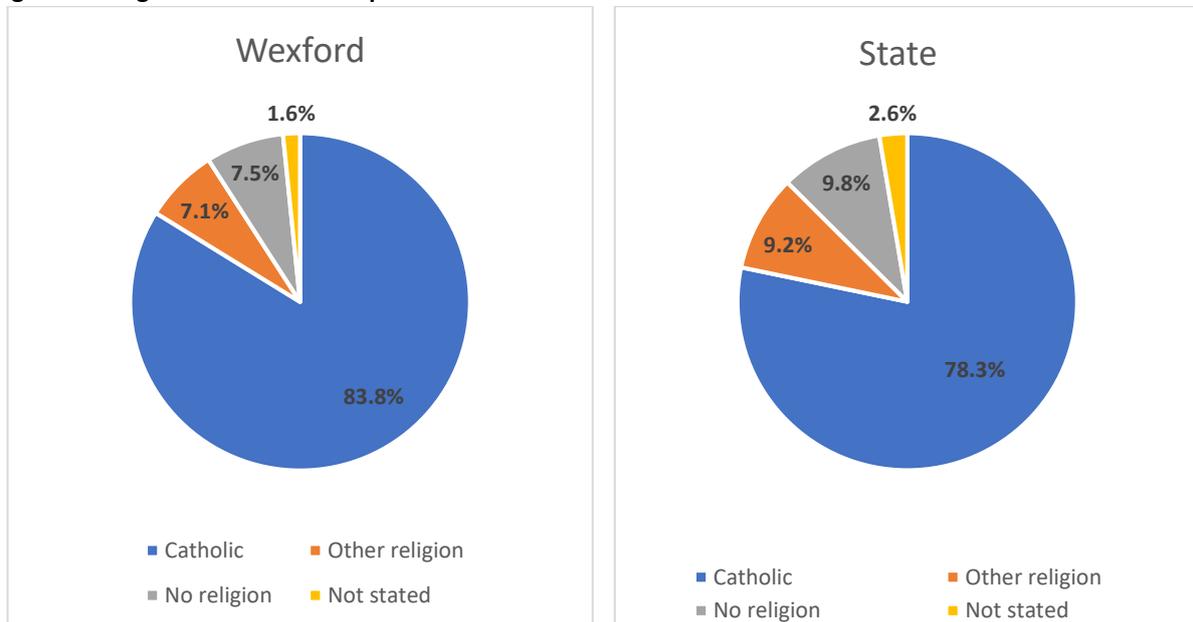
**Table 2: Ethnicity in Wexford compared to the State**

Ethnicity	Wexford	State
White Irish	87.2%	82.2%
White Irish Traveller	1.0%	0.7%
Other White Ethnicity	8.2%	9.5%
Black or Black Irish	0.3%	1.4%
Asian or Asian Irish	0.7%	2.1%
Other Ethnicity	1.0%	1.5%
Not Stated	1.6%	2.7%

## Religion

The share of Catholics in Wexford (83.8%) is higher than the share for the State overall (78.3%). A lower proportion of the usually resident population in Wexford have no religion than seen in the State (7.5% compared to 9.8%).

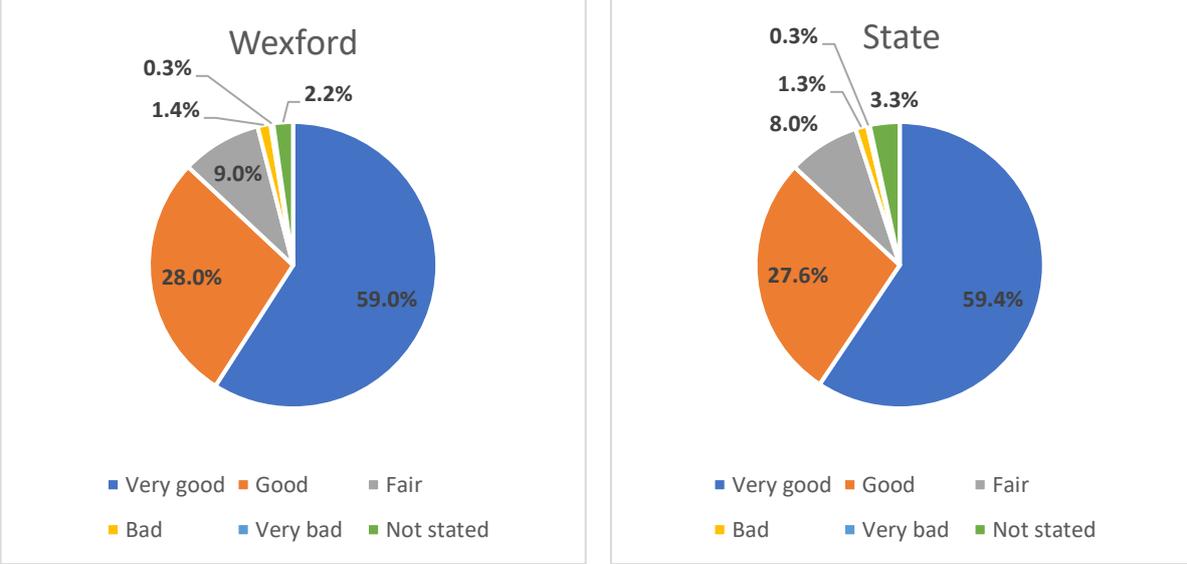
**Figure 7: Religion in Wexford compared to the State**



## General Health

In Wexford, 59% of the population described their health as 'very good' in 2016, which is less than 59.4% seen in the State overall – see Figure 8 overleaf.

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



**Social class<sup>2</sup>**

Table 3 shows the social class makeup of Wexford in comparison with the State in 2016. Wexford has a lower proportion of professional workers (5.5% compared to 8.1%) and managerial and technical workers (25.4% compared to 28.1%) respectively than seen nationally. The proportions of the constituency’s workers classed as non-manual (18.2%), skilled-manual (16.6%) and semi-skilled (12.7%) was higher than those seen nationally.

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

Social Class	Wexford	State
Professional workers	5.5%	8.1%
Managerial and technical	25.4%	28.1%
Non-manual	18.2%	17.6%
Skilled-manual	16.6%	14.1%
Semi-skilled	12.7%	10.5%
Unskilled	4.8%	3.6%
All other (gainfully employed and unknown)	16.8%	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

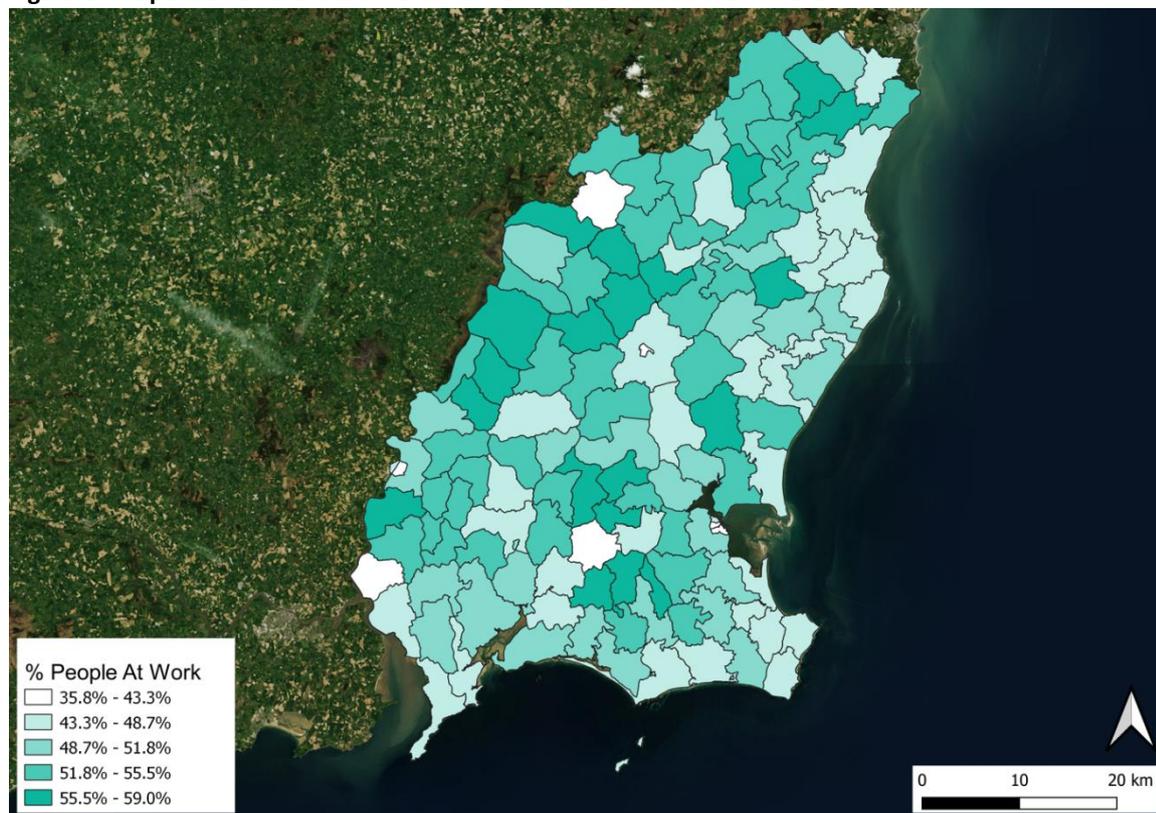
### Principal economic status<sup>3</sup>

Table 4 shows the employment status of Wexford compared to the State. The constituency has a lower proportion of usual residents at work as seen in the State overall (49.5% compared to 53.5%). Wexford has a higher proportion of persons looking after home / family (10%) compared to the national measure (8.1%). Figure 9 illustrates the percentage of residents at work across the constituency of Wexford at the ED level.

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

Principal Economic Status	Wexford	State
At work	49.5%	53.5%
Looking for first job	1.0%	0.8%
Unemployed having lost or given up previous job	8.9%	7.1%
Student	9.5%	11.4%
Looking after home/family	10.0%	8.1%
Retired	15.9%	14.5%
Unable to work due to sickness or disability	5.0%	4.2%
Other	0.3%	0.4%

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



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



## Industry

Table 5 shows those working in Wexford and nationally by industry. Wexford also has a lower proportion of residents working in commerce and trade than nationally (22.7% compared to 23.9%). Professional services account for 22.2% of workers' industry sector in the constituency compared with 23.5% in the State. In the constituency, 12% work in manufacturing and industries, the equivalent proportion for the State is 11.4%.

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

Industry	Wexford	State
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	7.5%	4.4%
Building and construction	6.9%	5.1%
Manufacturing and industries	12.0%	11.4%
Commerce and trade	22.7%	23.9%
Transport and communications	6.0%	8.6%
Public administration	5.0%	5.3%
Professional services	22.2%	23.5%
Other	17.7%	17.8%

## Occupation types

Table 6 shows the occupation types that Wexford residents work in. Wexford has a lower rate of professional occupations (12.5% compared to 17.3%) than the State. Wexford's proportion of those in skilled trades occupations is greater than corresponding proportion for the State overall (18.8% compared to 13.9%). The constituency shows a higher proportion of its residents working as process, plant and machine operatives (9.4%) than nationally (7.2%).

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

Occupation Types	Wexford	State
Managers, directors and senior officials	7.1%	7.4%
Professional occupations	12.5%	17.3%
Associate professional and technical occupations	8.7%	10.9%
Administrative and secretarial occupations	9.1%	10.0%
Skilled trades occupations	18.8%	13.9%
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	7.8%	7.3%
Sales and customer service occupations	7.8%	6.8%
Process, plant and machine operatives	9.4%	7.2%
Elementary occupations	9.9%	8.8%
Not stated	9.0%	10.3%

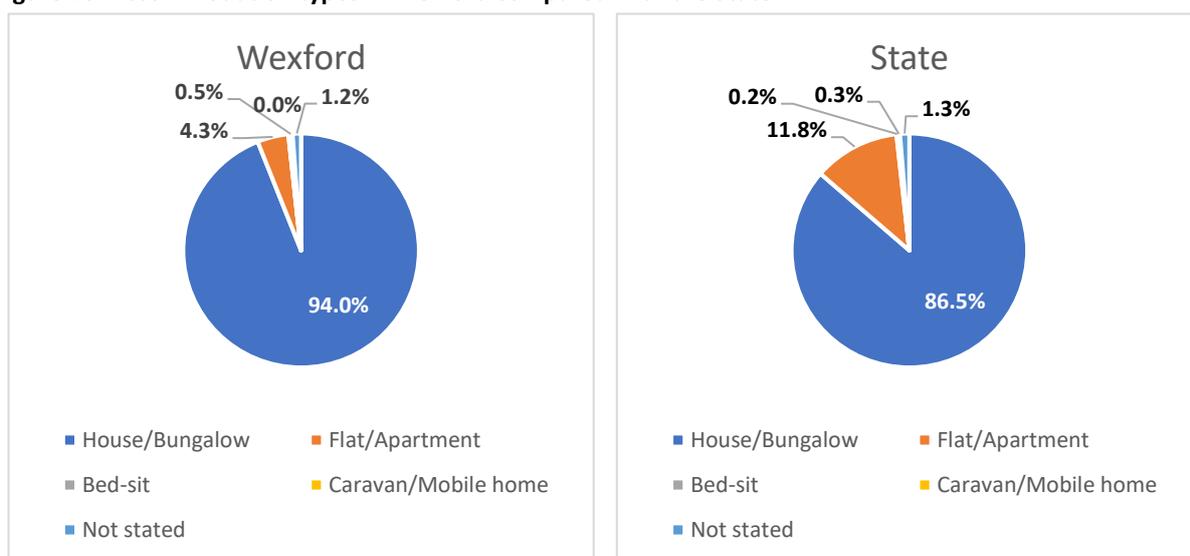


## Households and Housing

### Accommodation type

There were 54,289 private households in Wexford in 2016. Figure 10 below shows that a higher share of people in Wexford live in houses or bungalows than seen in Ireland (94% compared to 86.5%). Wexford has a lower proportion of households living in flats/apartments than the State as a whole (4.3 % compared to 11.8%).

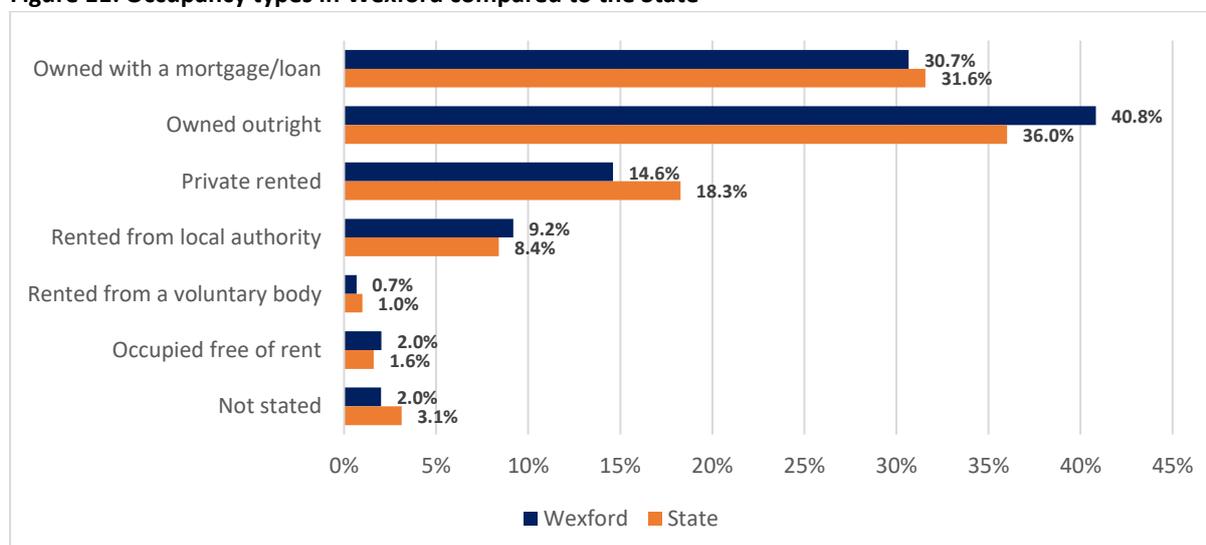
Figure 10: Accommodation types in Wexford compared with the State



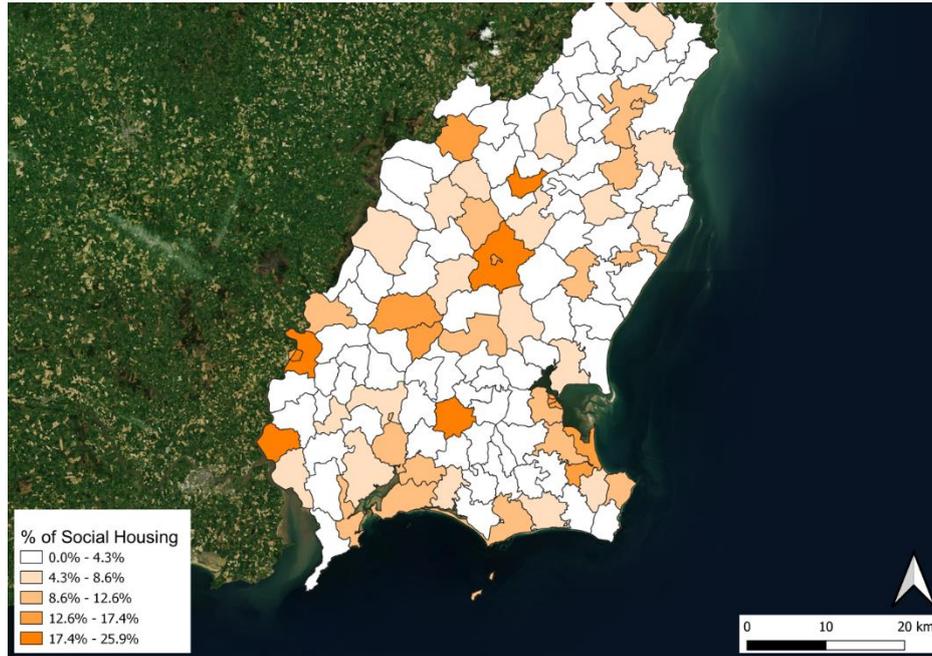
### Occupancy type

Households in Wexford are more likely to own their houses outright (40.8% compared to 36%) but less likely to own with a mortgage or loan (30.7% compared to 31.6%) than the corresponding share for the State. In the constituency, 14.6% households rent from private landlords which is lower than the national measure of 18.3%. In the constituency, more households rent from a local authority than the average for the State (9.2% compared to 8.4%).

Figure 11: Occupancy types in Wexford compared to the State

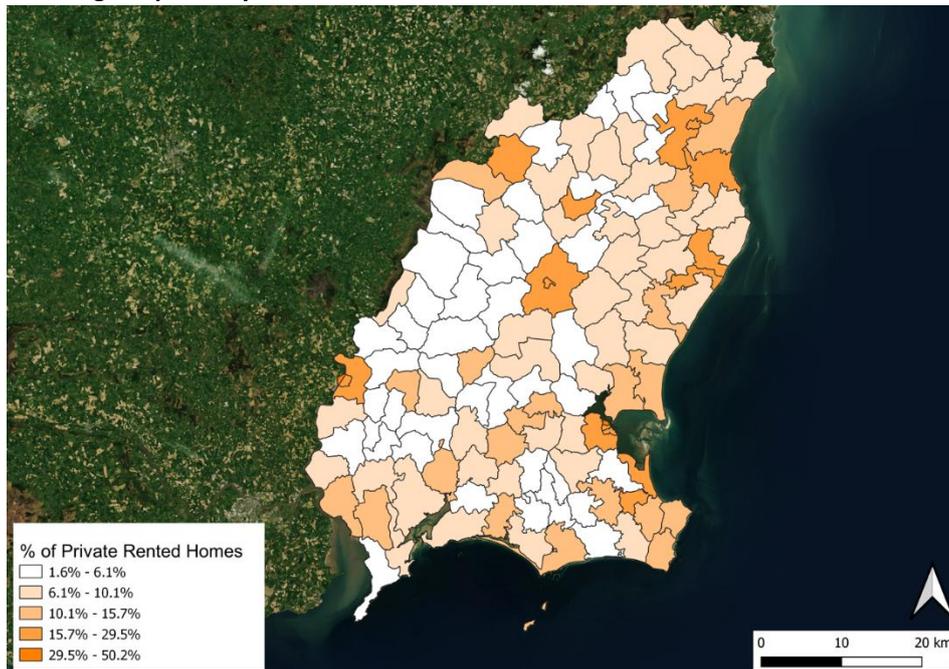


**Figure 12: Percentage of social housing (rented from local authority or voluntary body)**



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

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



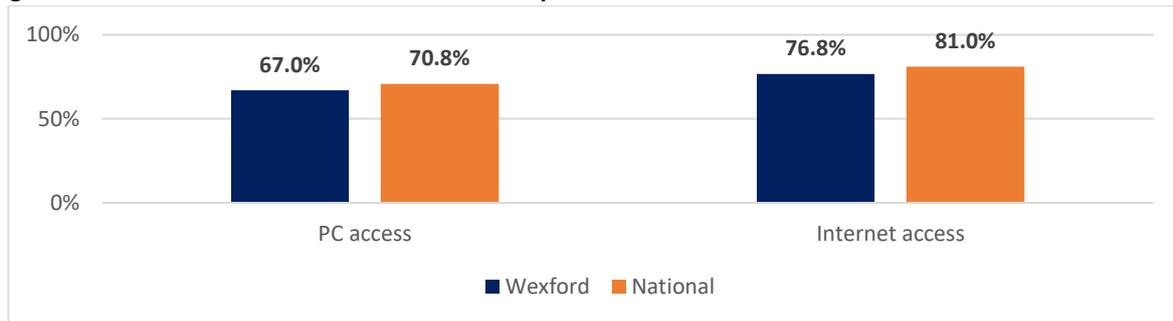
### PC and broadband<sup>4</sup>

Wexford has a lower rate of PC access than the national average (67% compared to 70.8%). Wexford households also have a lower rate of access to the internet than households in the State overall (76.8% compared to 81%).<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> In keeping with the Constituency Dashboards, the totals in this section exclude the “Not stated” category.

<sup>5</sup> Internet access includes “Broadband” and “Other”.

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



### Central heating

Table 5 below shows that households in Wexford are considerably less likely to use natural gas as their central heating source than households nationally (1% compared to 33.5%). Households in Wexford are in contrast considerably more likely to use oil for central heating than the State as a whole (66.8% compared to 40.4%). In the constituency, 16.3% of household use coal as their main source of heating, this compares with 5.1% of households across the State.

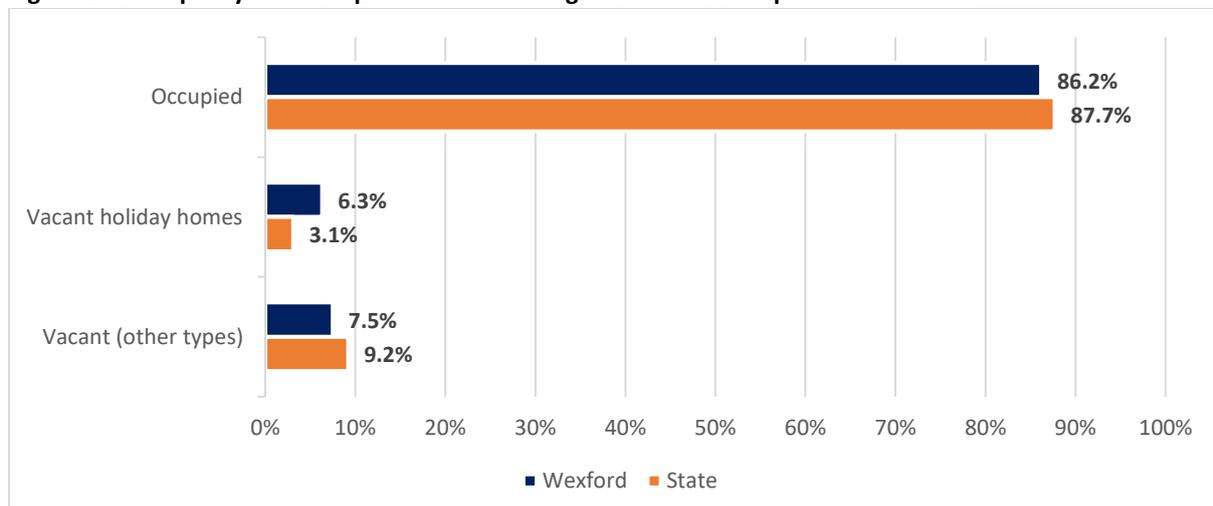
**Table 7: Central heating in Wexford compared with the State**

Central heating	Wexford	State
Oil	66.8%	40.4%
Natural gas	1.0%	33.5%
Electricity	6.1%	8.6%
Coal	16.3%	5.1%
Peat	0.4%	5.3%
LPG	0.8%	0.6%
Wood	4.2%	2%
Other	0.8%	0.7%
No central heating	2.0%	1.4%
Not stated	1.5%	2.4%

### Vacant dwellings

Figure 15 below shows the vacancy rate of permanent dwellings in Wexford compared nationally. Compared to the State, the constituency has a slightly lower rate of overall vacant dwellings (7.5% compared to 9.2%) and a lower rate of occupied homes (86.2% compared to 87.7%).

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





## Transport

### Mode to work, school, etc.

Figure 16 below shows that people in Wexford are more likely to travel to work or education by car or van (as a driver or passenger) than the corresponding measure for the State overall (71% compared to 62.2%). Figure 16 also shows that Wexford residents are less likely to use public transport as their mode of transport than the comparative national measure (8.6% compared to 12.9%).

Figure 16: Mode of transportation in Wexford compared to the State

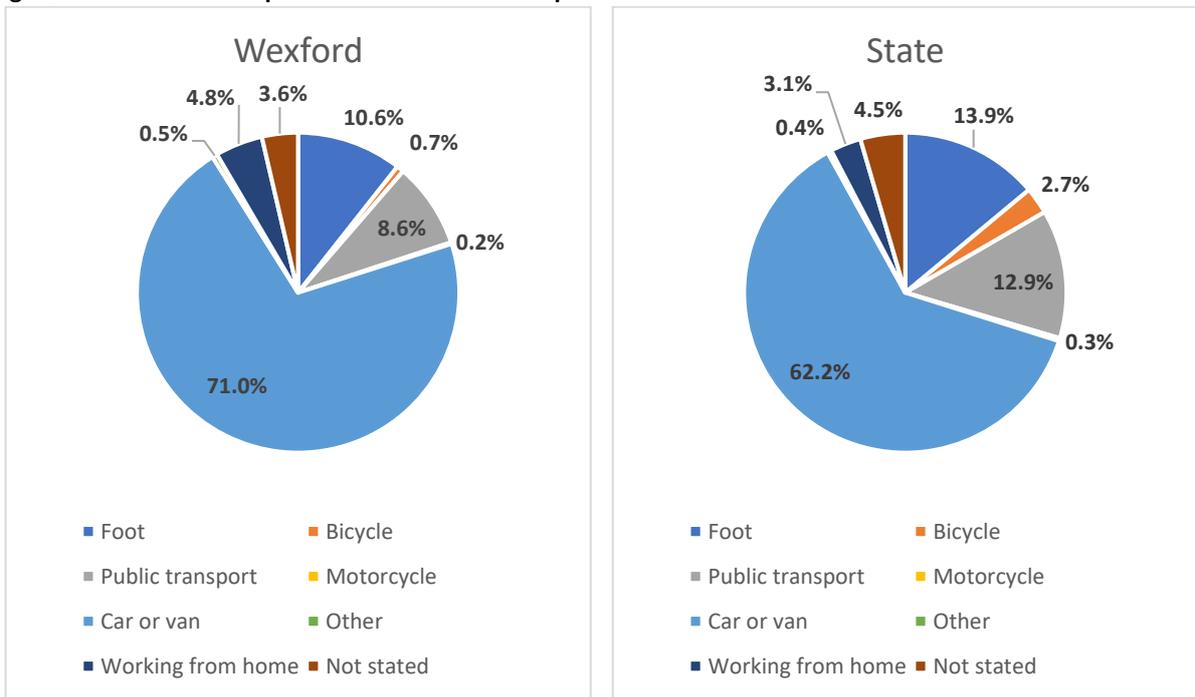


Figure 17: Percentage of public transportation use in Wexford

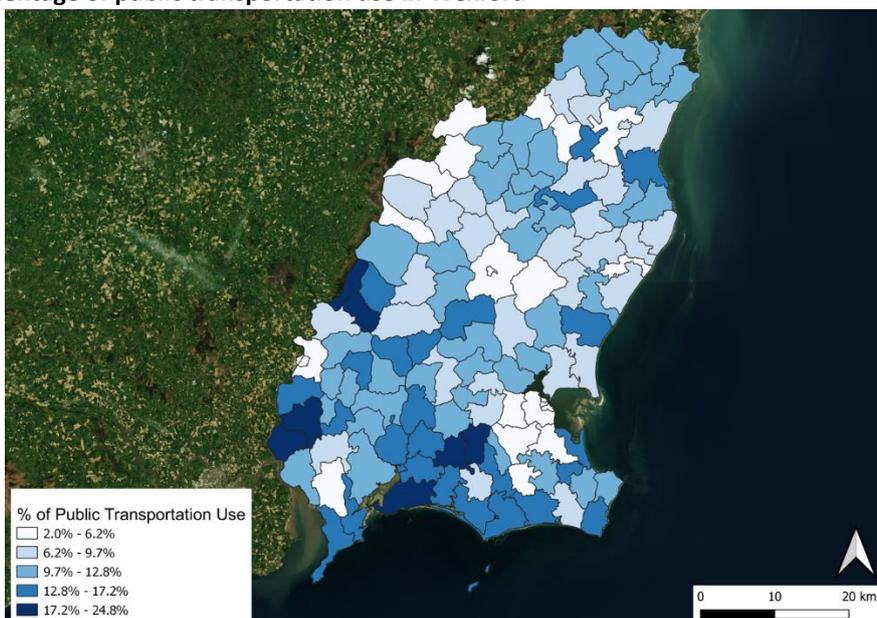
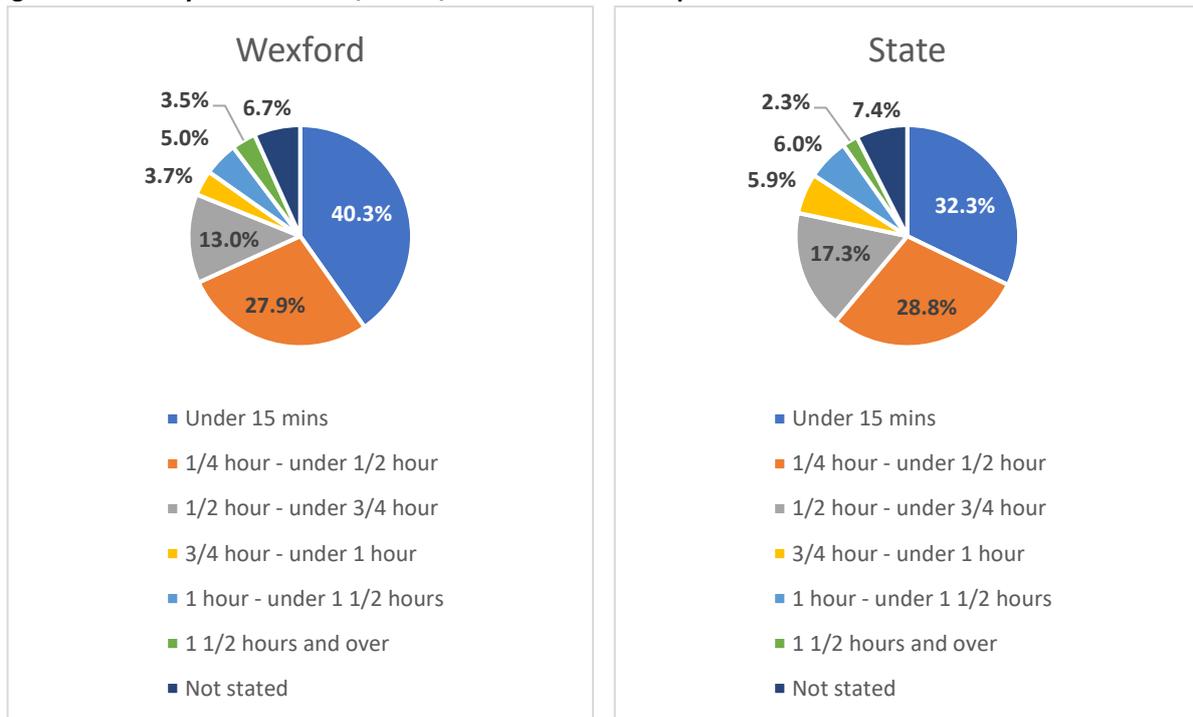


Figure 17 above shows the proportion of people in Wexford at the ED level who use public transport as their main means of travel to work, school or college.

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

Figure 18 shows the journey times of residents in Wexford to work or school in comparison to the State. The constituency has a higher proportion of less than 15-minute journeys (40.3%) than nationally (32.3%). Wexford has a lower proportion of 15- to 30-minute journeys (27.9%) and 30- to 45-minute journeys (13%) than the overall State figure (28.8% and 17.3% respectively).

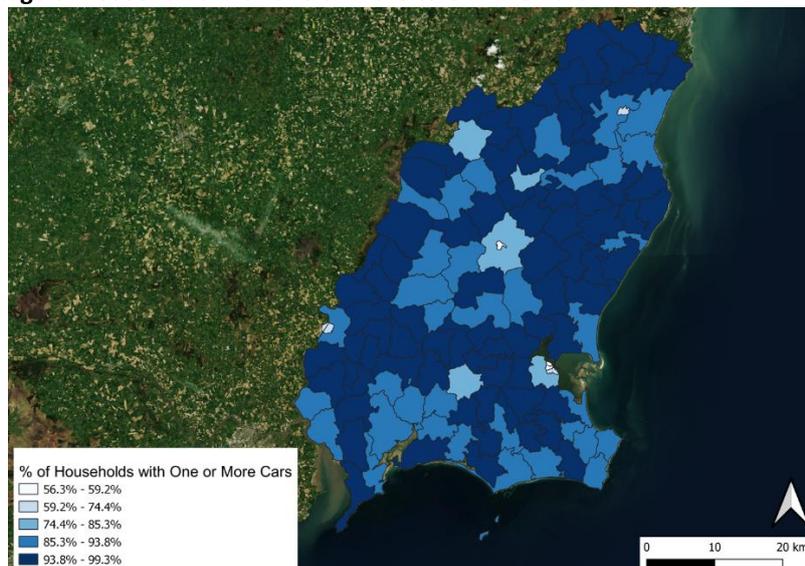
**Figure 18: Journey times to work/school/etc. in Wexford compared to the State**



### Car access

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

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



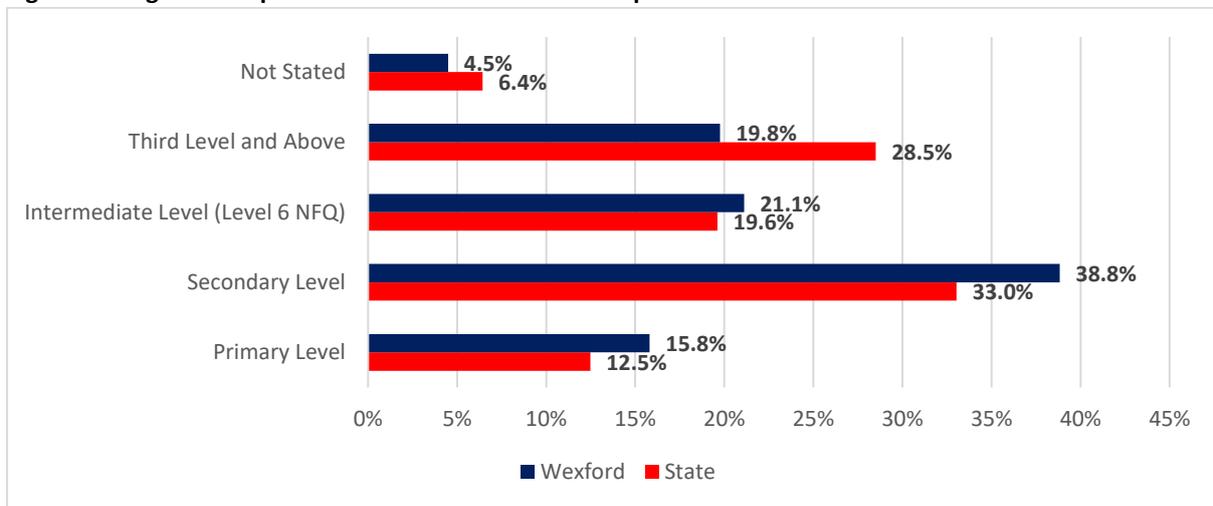


## Education

### Highest education level completed/achieved

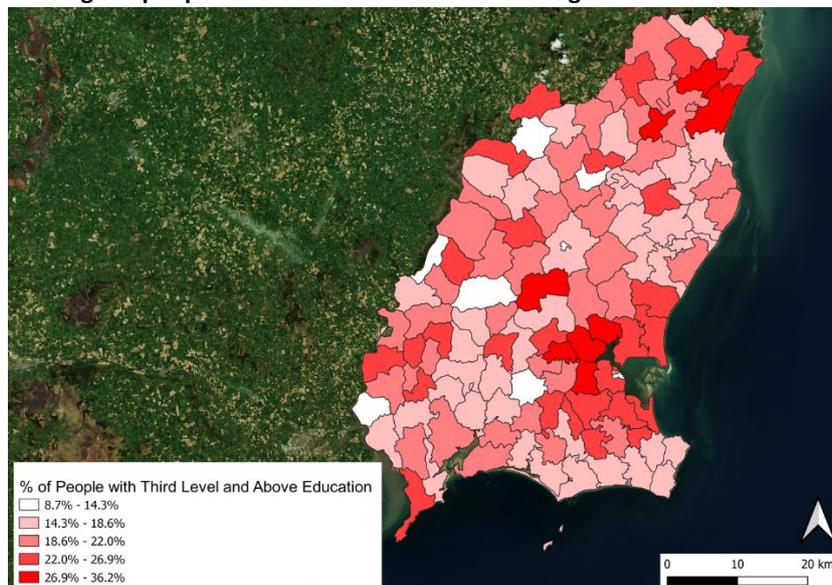
Figure 20 shows the highest education completed in Wexford and its comparison with the corresponding national measure. In comparison with the State, the constituency displays a lower proportion who have completed their highest level of education at third level and above (19.8% compared to 28.5%) but a higher proportion completing their education at intermediate level (21.1% compared to 19.6%). The proportion completing their education at secondary level is greater than that seen nationally (38.8% compared to 33.0%). In the constituency, 15.8% of those who have completed their education did so at primary level, the corresponding national measure is 12.5%.

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

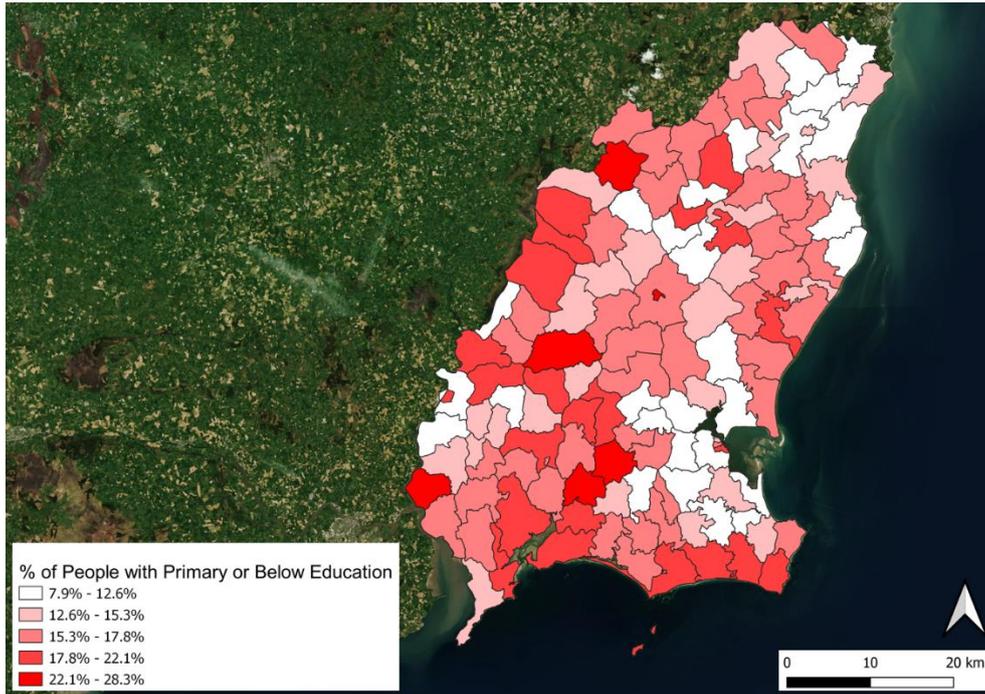


Figures 21 below shows the rates of usual residents with third level education or higher, while the following Figure 22 (overleaf) shows the proportions of Wexford residents at the ED level with primary education or below.

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



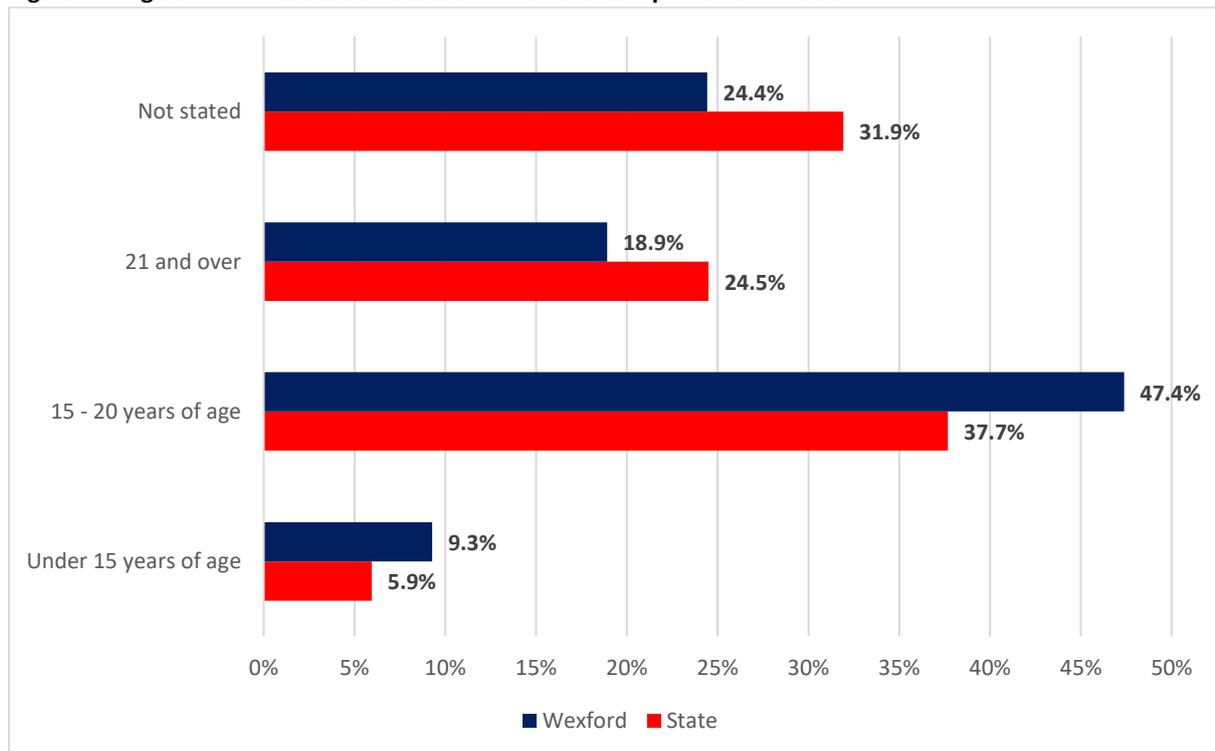
**Figure 22: Percentage of people with primary education or below in Wexford**



### Age at which education ceased

Figure 23 below shows the highest age at which education ceased in Wexford compared to the State. In the constituency, a lower proportion ceased their education aged 21 and over than nationally (18.9% compared to 24.5%). The proportions who completed their education aged 15 to 20 is higher than the national figure (47.4% compared to 37.7%). In Wexford, 9.3% completed their education under age 15, the measure for the State as a whole is 5.9%.

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



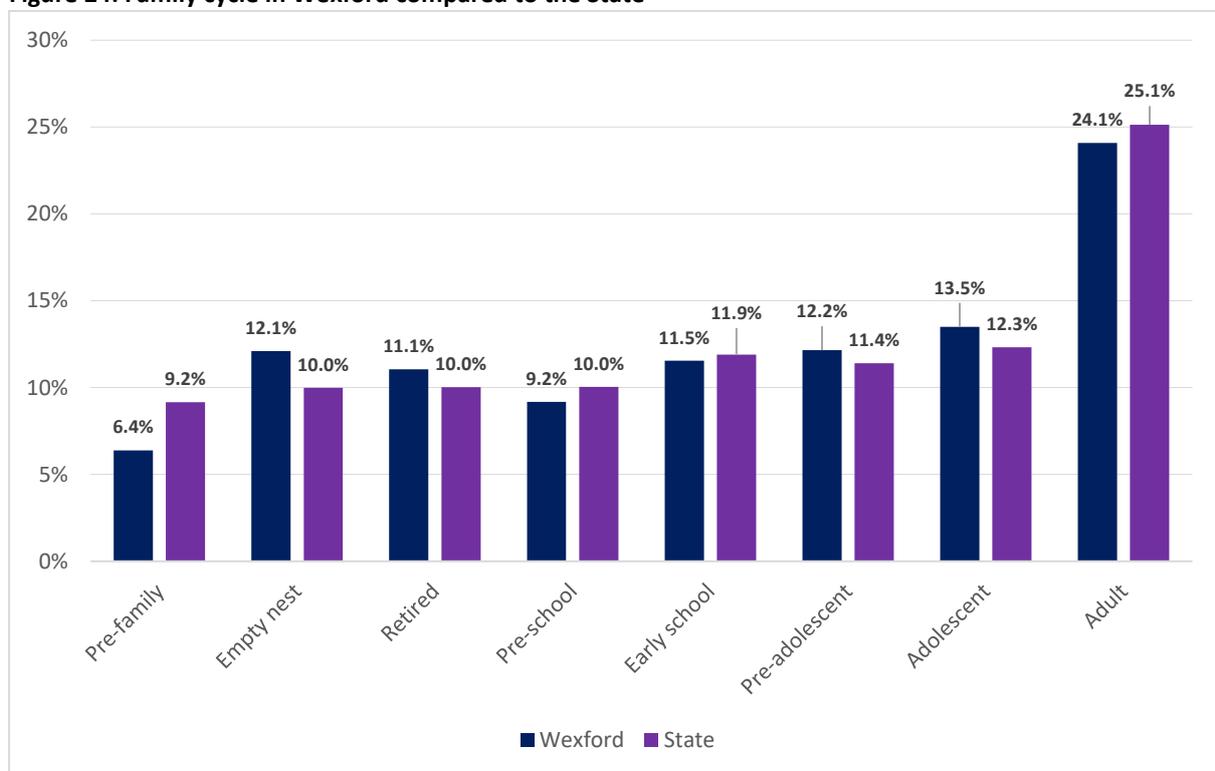


## Families

### Family cycle<sup>6</sup>

In Wexford, there are 40,406 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 the constituency, the proportion of family units that are described as empty nest (12.1%) is greater than the that seen for the State (10%). The proportion of families in the constituency described as pre-school (9.2%) is marginally less than the State total (10%). The proportion of families categorised by family cycle as pre-adolescent (12.2%) and adolescent (13.5%) is greater than the corresponding national equivalent measures.

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



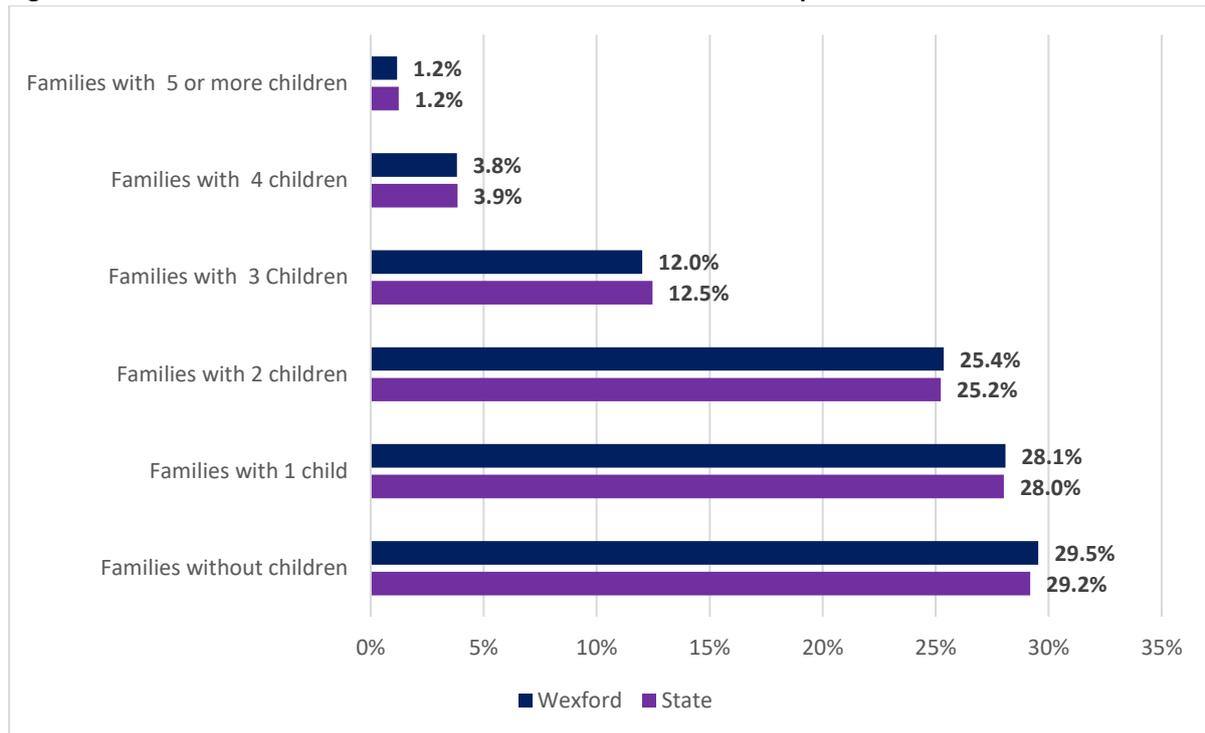
### Families with or without children

Figure 25 (overleaf) compares the proportions of families according to the number of children in Wexford and the State. Wexford has a similar proportion of families with children and without children as that seen nationally. The constituency display marginally higher shares of families with 2 children (25.4% compared to 25.2%) and with 1 child (28.1% compared to 28%) than seen in the State overall.

<sup>6</sup> For the CSO's definition of family cycle as used in the Census, see [here](#).



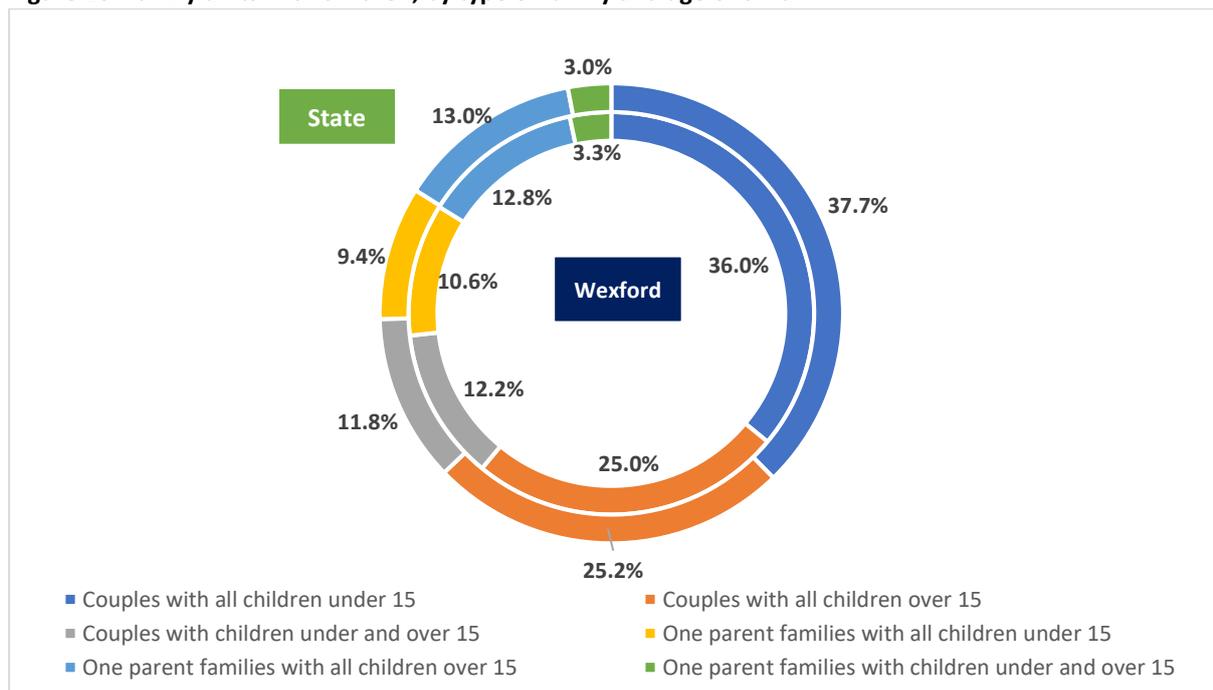
**Figure 25: Number of families with or without children in Wexford compared to the State**



### Family type

There are 28,468 families with children in Wexford. 20,847 (73.2%) of these families were couples with children and 7,621 (26.8%) were one parent families. Figure 26 below shows the proportion of family types with children (under and over 15) in 2016 for Wexford and compared nationally. In Wexford, there are slightly more couples with all children both under and over 15 (12.2%) than in the State overall (11.8%). The constituency shows a higher proportion than the State of one parent families with all children under 15 (10.6% compared to 9.4%) and with children under and over 15 (3.3% compared to 3%).

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





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