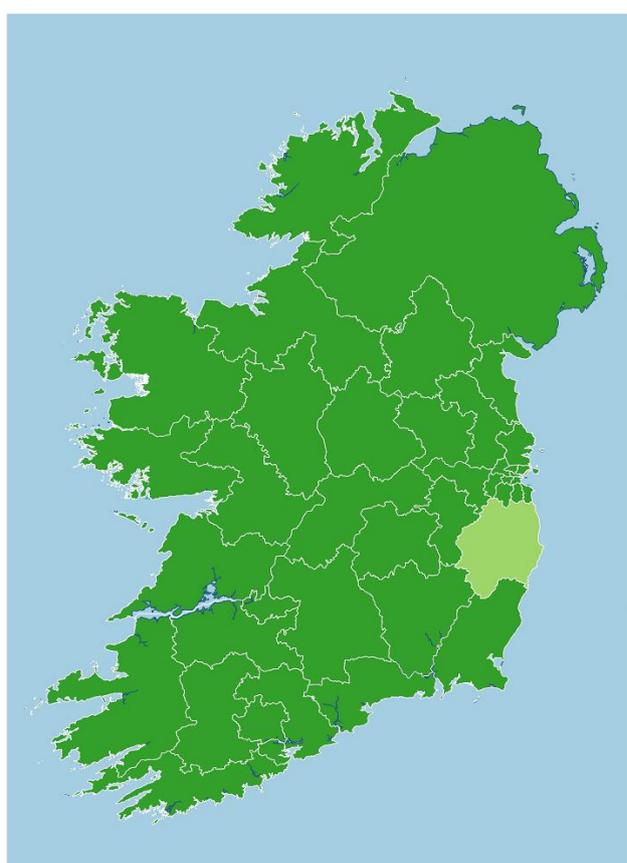


# Dáil Éireann Constituency Profile

## Wicklow



**January 2020**



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

Constituency Dashboards



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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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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](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**:



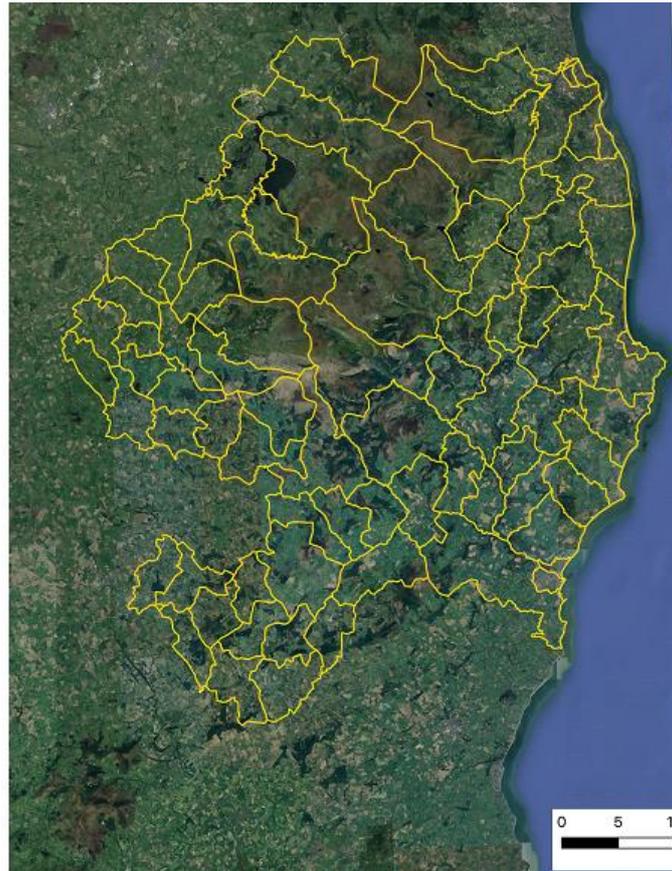
The Themes and Indicators included in this Profile reflect a selection of those used in the interactive Constituency Dashboards. A description of terms used by the CSO in the Census is set out in footnotes where relevant.

## Introduction to Profile

Wicklow is a 5-seat constituency located on the east coast of Ireland. It includes, among others, the following locations: Arklow, Bray, Greystones and Wicklow. Wicklow is comprised of 82 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 Wicklow

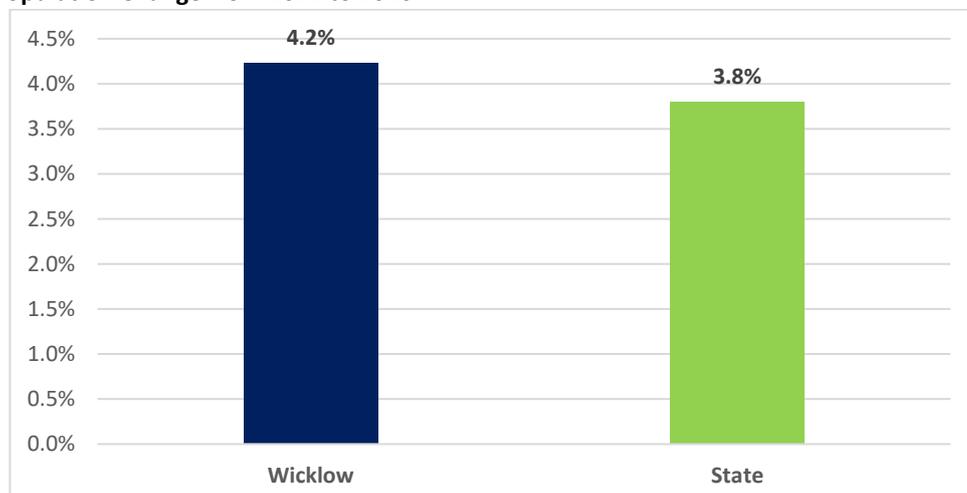


## Demographics

### Population

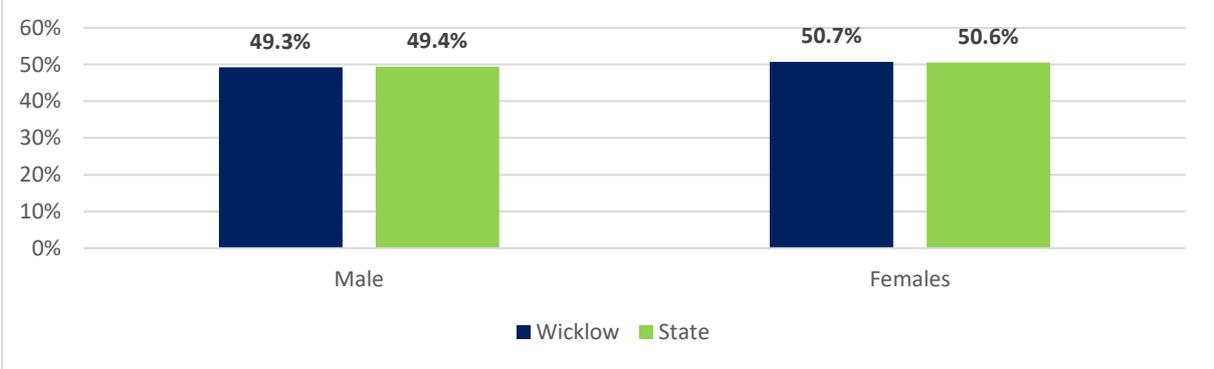
The population of the constituency at the time of the 2016 Census was **142,425**. This represents a 4.2% increase from 2011. As shown in Figure 2, this rate of increase is the same as the corresponding national population increase of 3.8% over the same period.

Figure 2: Population Change from 2011 to 2016



In 2016, 50.7% (72,269) of the constituency’s population was female and 49.3% (70,156) was male. The corresponding proportions in the State for 2016 was 50.6% female and 49.4% male (see Figure 3).

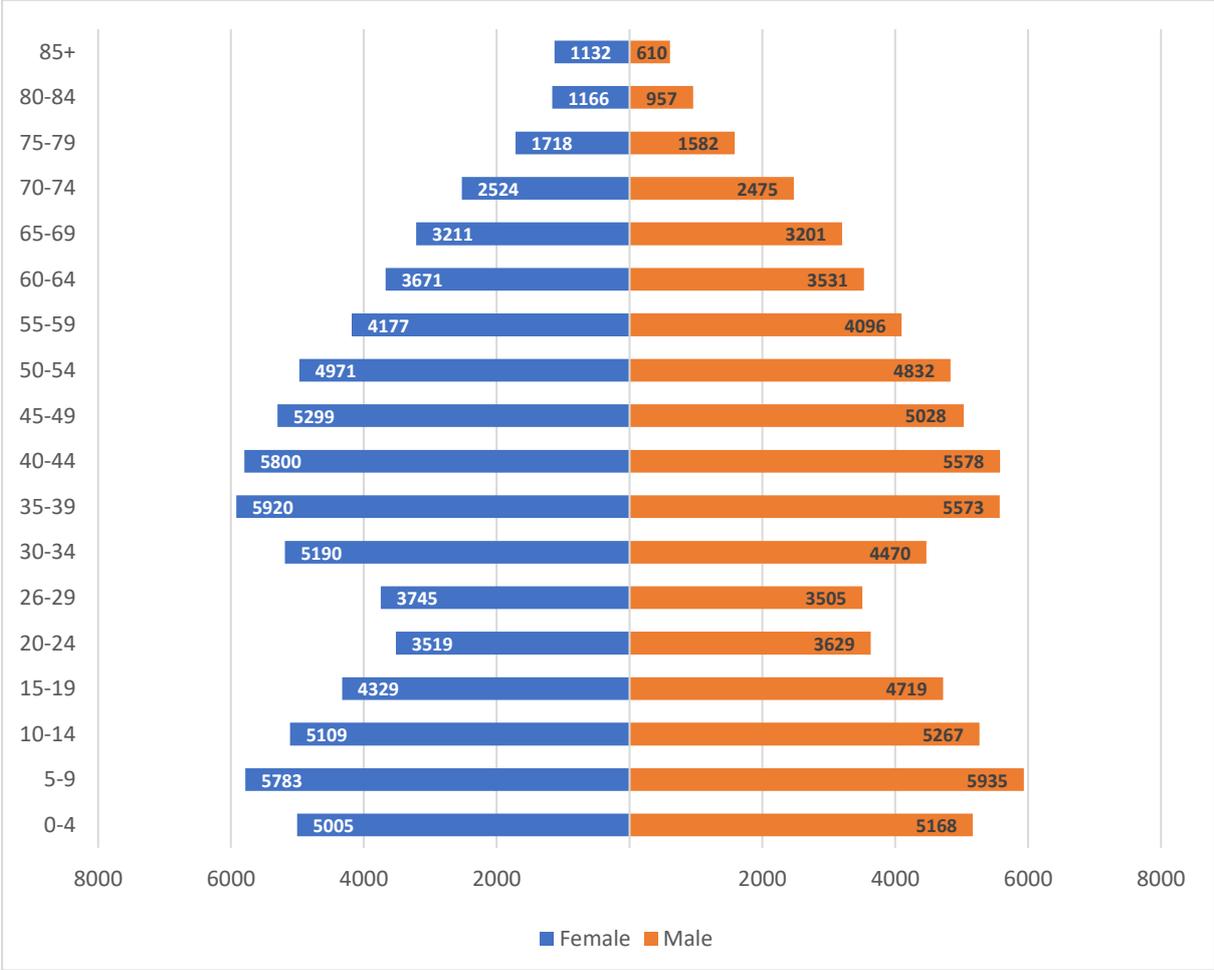
**Figure 3: Male to Female Population**



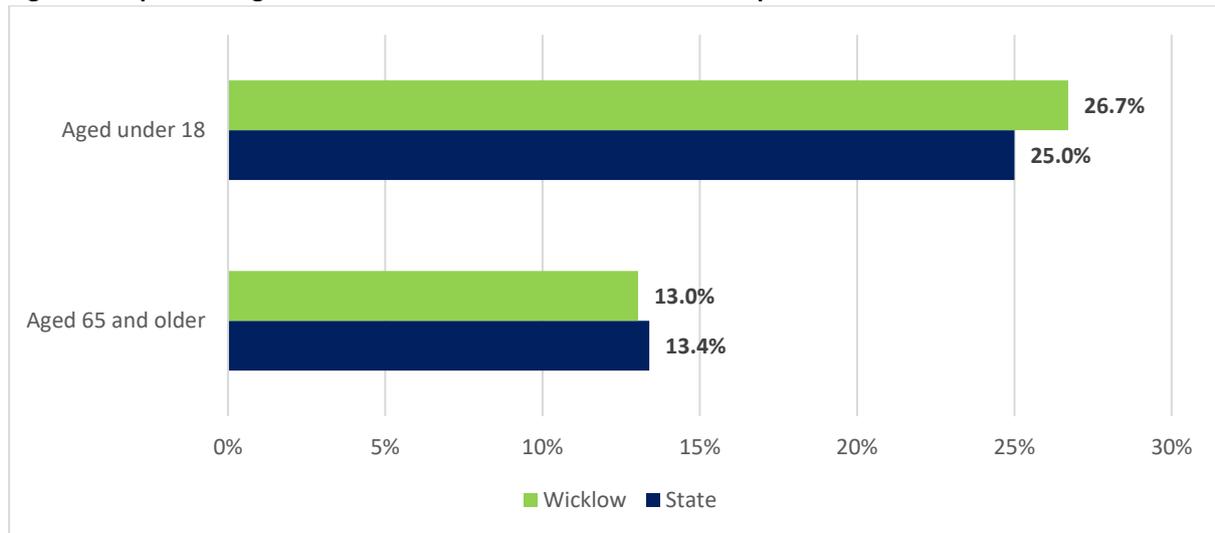
**Age cohorts**

Figure 4 below shows the distribution of the female and male population of the constituency according to five-year age bands. In Wicklow, 26.7% of population was aged under 18 and 13% 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 Wicklow compared to the State**



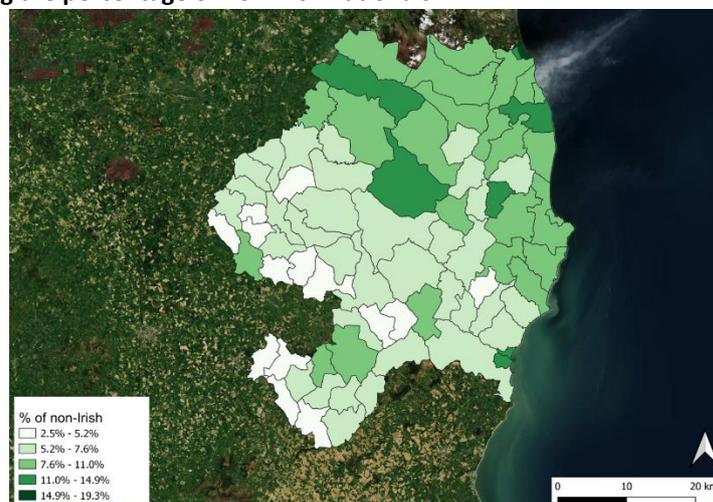
### Nationality

The ratio of Irish to non-Irish nationals residing in Wicklow is higher to that seen nationally in 2016. Of the usually resident population of Wicklow, 89.7% stated their nationality as Irish in the 2016 Census. Nationalities other than Irish comprised 9.2% of the population of the constituency, with 1.1% 'not stated'. Non-Irish nationals usually resident in the constituency included those who stated their nationality as British (2.5%), Polish (2.1%), Lithuanian (0.6%), from another EU country (2.4%) or from the rest of the world (1.8%). Table 1 below shows the comparison in the profile of nationality in the constituency of Wicklow with that seen nationally in 2016.

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

| Nationality              | Wicklow | State |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|
| <b>Irish</b>             | 89.7%   | 87.0% |
| <b>British</b>           | 2.5%    | 2.2%  |
| <b>Polish</b>            | 2.1%    | 2.6%  |
| <b>Lithuanian</b>        | 0.6%    | 0.8%  |
| <b>Other EU</b>          | 2.4%    | 3.1%  |
| <b>Rest of the World</b> | 1.8%    | 2.7%  |
| <b>Not Stated</b>        | 1.1%    | 1.5%  |

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



## Ethnicity

Table 2 shows that 86% of people usually residing in Wicklow identified their ethnicity as White Irish, which is a higher proportion than nationally (82.2%). Other White Ethnicity accounted for 8.6% of people, this compares with a national share of 9.5%. The population in Wicklow who stated their ethnicity as Asian or Asian Irish was lower than for the State as a whole (1.6% compared to 2.1%). The population in the constituency who stated their ethnicity as Black or Black Irish was less than the State measure (0.4% compared to 1.4%).

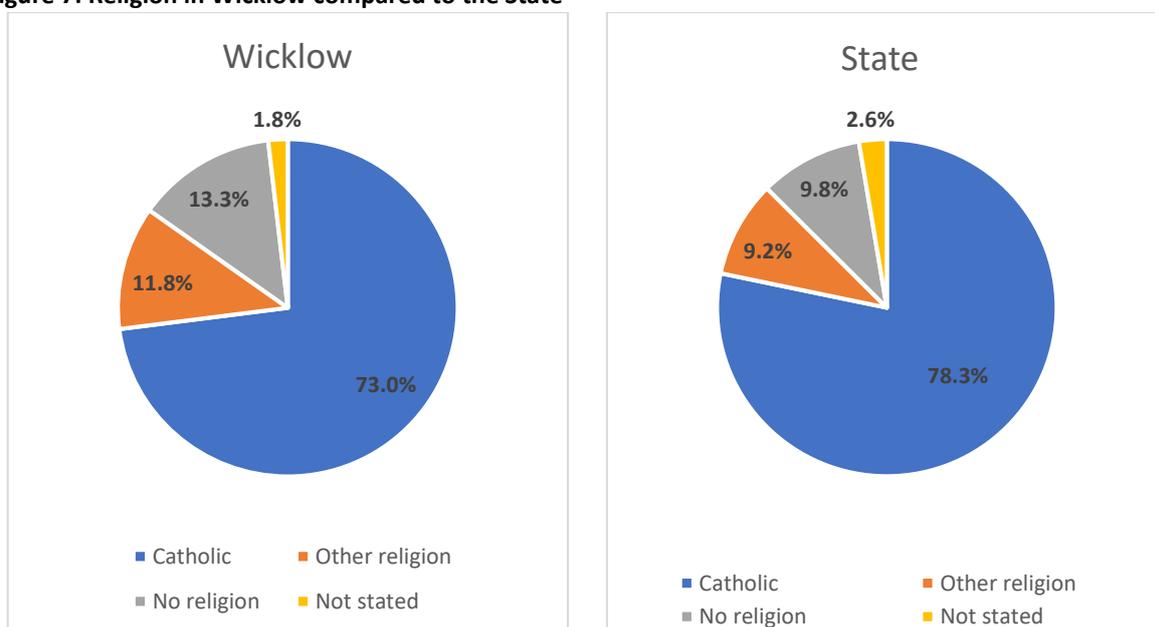
**Table 2: Ethnicity in Wicklow compared to the State**

| Ethnicity             | Wicklow | State |
|-----------------------|---------|-------|
| White Irish           | 86.0%   | 82.2% |
| White Irish Traveller | 0.6%    | 0.7%  |
| Other White Ethnicity | 8.6%    | 9.5%  |
| Black or Black Irish  | 0.4%    | 1.4%  |
| Asian or Asian Irish  | 1.6%    | 2.1%  |
| Other Ethnicity       | 1.2%    | 1.5%  |
| Not Stated            | 1.6%    | 2.7%  |

## Religion

The share of Catholics in Wicklow (73%) is less than the share in the State (78.3%). A higher proportion of the usually resident population in Wicklow have no religion than seen in the State (13.3% compared to 9.8%).

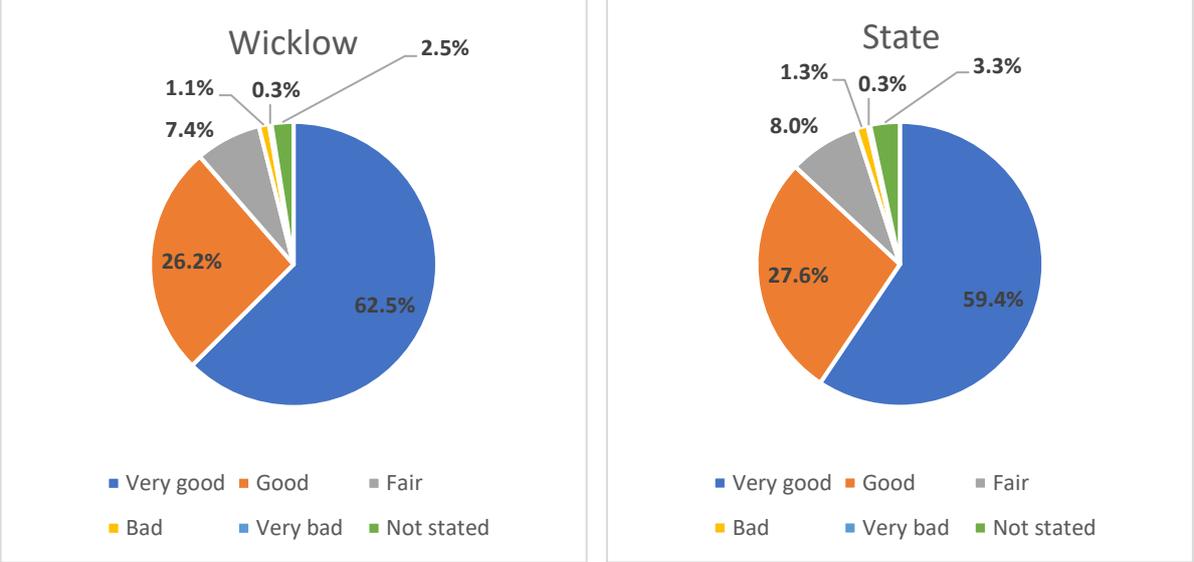
**Figure 7: Religion in Wicklow compared to the State**



## General Health

In Wicklow 62.5% of the population described their health as 'very good' in 2016, which is above the measure of 59.4% seen in the State. The proportion of the population in Wicklow describing their health as 'good' (26.2%) was slightly lower than that seen for the State (27.6%). Finally, a lower proportion of people in Wicklow describe their health as 'fair' (7.4%) when compared to the proportion for the State as a whole (8%).

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



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

Table 3 shows the social class makeup of Wicklow in comparison with the State in 2016. Wicklow has a higher proportion of professional workers (8.6% compared to 8.1%) and managerial and technical workers (31.8% compared to 28.1%) respectively than seen nationally. The proportions of the constituency’s workers classed as non-manual (17.1%), skilled-manual (14.1%) and semi-skilled (10.1%) was broadly similar to those seen nationally.

**Table 3: Social class in Wicklow compared to the State**

| Social Class                               | Wicklow | State |
|--|---------|-------|
| Professional workers                       | 8.6%    | 8.1%  |
| Managerial and technical                   | 31.8%   | 28.1% |
| Non-manual                                 | 17.1%   | 17.6% |
| Skilled-manual                             | 14.1%   | 14.1% |
| Semi-skilled                               | 10.1%   | 10.5% |
| Unskilled                                  | 3.2%    | 3.6%  |
| All other (gainfully employed and unknown) | 15.0%   | 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

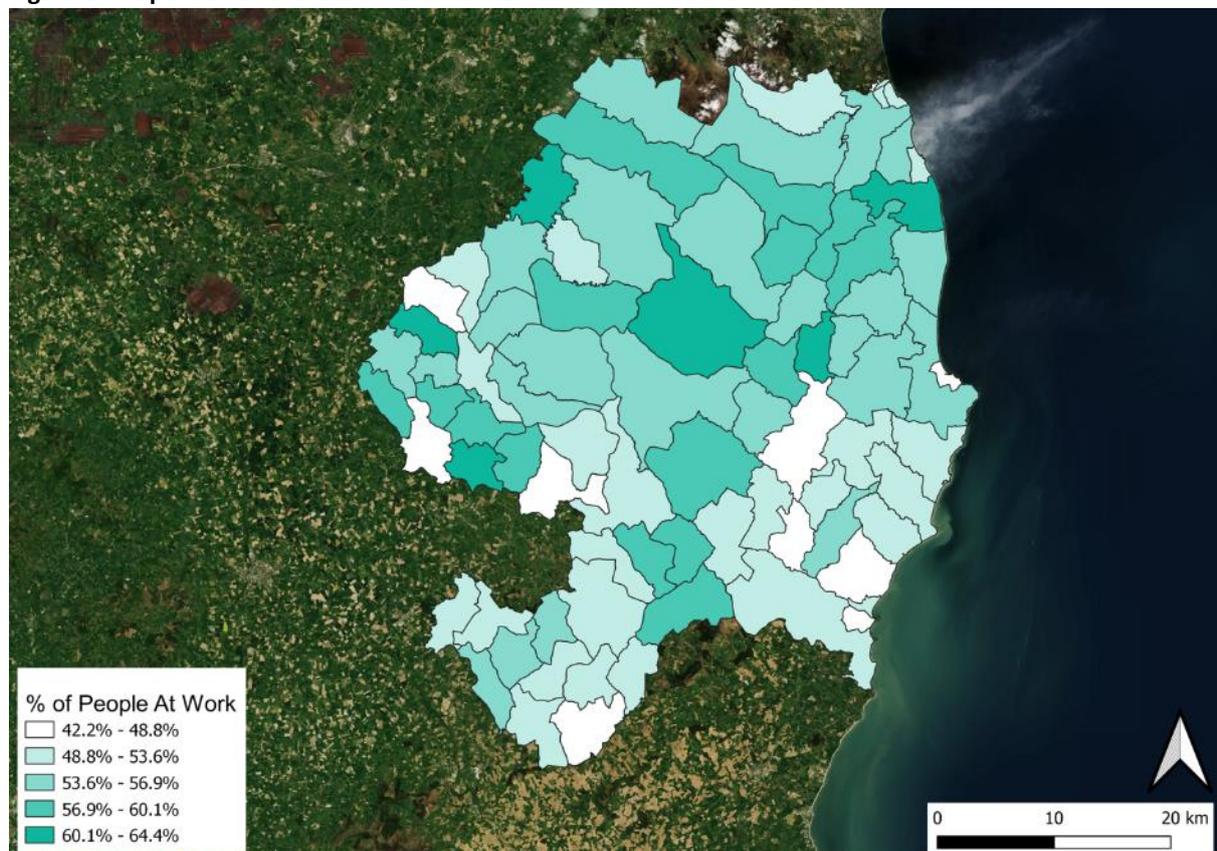
### Principal economic status<sup>3</sup>

Table 4 shows the employment status of Wicklow compared nationally. The constituency has a similar proportion of usual residents at work as seen in the State overall (53.7% compared to 53.5%). Wicklow has a higher proportion of persons looking after home / family (9.2%) compared to the State measure (8.1%). Figure 9 illustrates the percentage of residents at work across the constituency of Wicklow at the ED level.

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

| Principal Economic Status                       | Wicklow | State |
|---|---------|-------|
| At work   | 53.7%   | 53.5% |
| Looking for first job                           | 0.7%    | 0.8%  |
| Unemployed having lost or given up previous job | 7.1%    | 7.1%  |
| Student   | 10.8%   | 11.4% |
| Looking after home/family                       | 9.2%    | 8.1%  |
| Retired   | 14.3%   | 14.5% |
| Unable to work due to sickness or disability    | 3.9%    | 4.2%  |
| Other   | 0.4%    | 0.4%  |

**Figure 9: Proportion of the labour force at work in Wicklow 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 Wicklow and nationally by industry. Wicklow has a higher proportion of residents working in commerce and trade than nationally (26.3% compared to 23.9%).

Professional services account for 23.4% of workers' industry sector in the constituency compared with 23.5% in the State. In the constituency, 9.7% work in manufacturing and industries, the equivalent proportion for the State is 11.4%.

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

| Industry                           | Wicklow | State |
|------------------------------------|---------|-------|
| Agriculture, forestry, and fishing | 3.5%    | 4.4%  |
| Building and construction          | 5.9%    | 5.1%  |
| Manufacturing and industries       | 9.7%    | 11.4% |
| Commerce and trade                 | 26.3%   | 23.9% |
| Transport and communications       | 8.6%    | 8.6%  |
| Public administration              | 4.4%    | 5.3%  |
| Professional services              | 23.4%   | 23.5% |
| Other                              | 18.2%   | 17.8% |

## Occupation types

Table 6 shows the occupation types that Wicklow residents work in. Wicklow has a higher rate of managers, directors and senior officials (9% compared to 7.4%) than the State. Wicklow's proportion of those in associate professional and technical occupations is greater than that seen for the State (12.6% compared to 10.9%). The constituency shows a lower proportion of its residents working in process, plant and machine operatives (6.1%) than nationally (7.2%).

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

| Occupation Types                                 | Wicklow | State |
|--|---------|-------|
| Managers, directors and senior officials         | 9.0%    | 7.4%  |
| Professional occupations                         | 17.0%   | 17.3% |
| Associate professional and technical occupations | 12.6%   | 10.9% |
| Administrative and secretarial occupations       | 10.5%   | 10.0% |
| Skilled trades occupations                       | 13.9%   | 13.9% |
| Caring, leisure and other service occupations    | 7.8%    | 7.3%  |
| Sales and customer service occupations           | 6.1%    | 6.8%  |
| Process, plant and machine operatives            | 6.1%    | 7.2%  |
| Elementary occupations                           | 8.2%    | 8.8%  |
| Not stated                                       | 8.8%    | 10.3% |

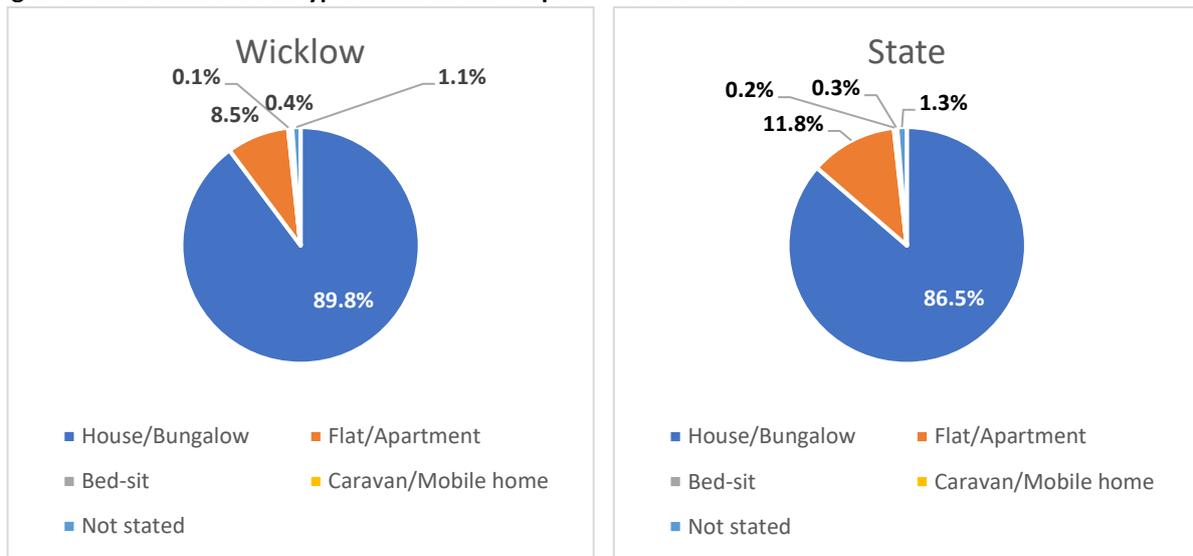


## Households and Housing

### Accommodation type

There were 49,211 private households in Wicklow in 2016. Figure 10 below shows that more people in Wicklow live in houses or bungalows than that seen in Ireland (89.8% compared to 86.5%). Wicklow has a lower proportion of households living in flats/apartments than the State as a whole (8.5% compared to 11.8%).

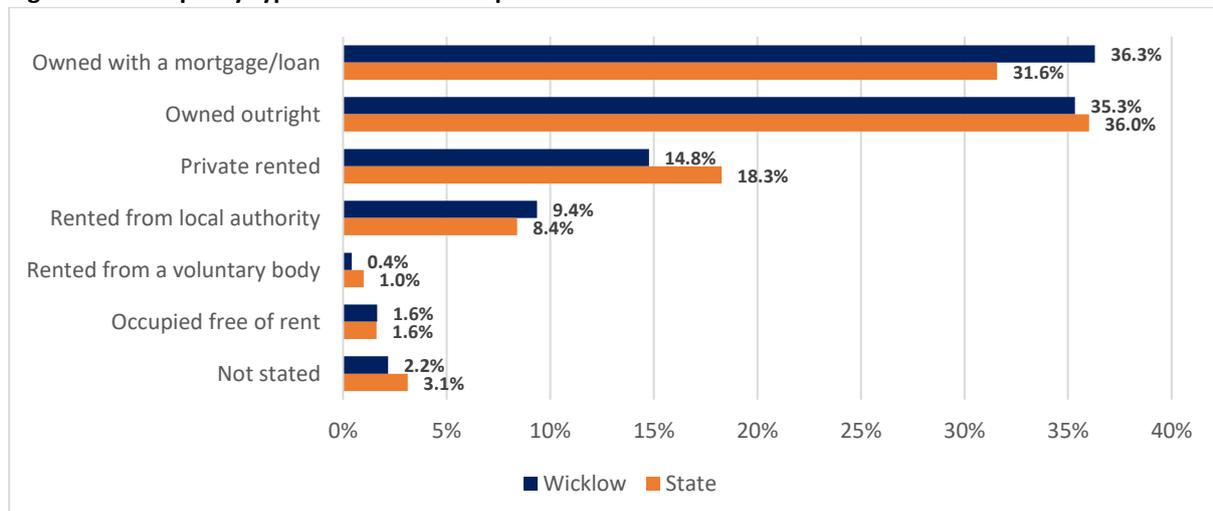
Figure 10: Accommodation types in Wicklow compared to the State



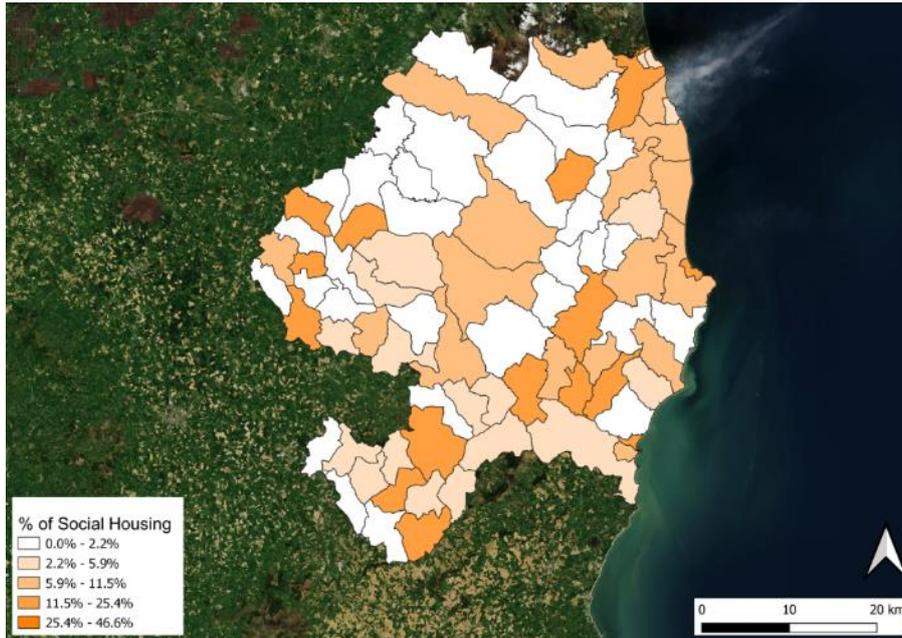
### Occupancy type

Households in Wicklow are marginally less likely to own their houses outright (35.3% compared to 36%) but more likely to own with a mortgage or loan (36.3% compared to 31.6%) than the State overall. In the constituency, 14.8% of households rent from private landlords which is lower than the State total of 18.3%. In the constituency, more households rent from a local authority than the share seen nationally (9.4% compared to 8.4%).

Figure 11: Occupancy types in Wicklow compared to the State

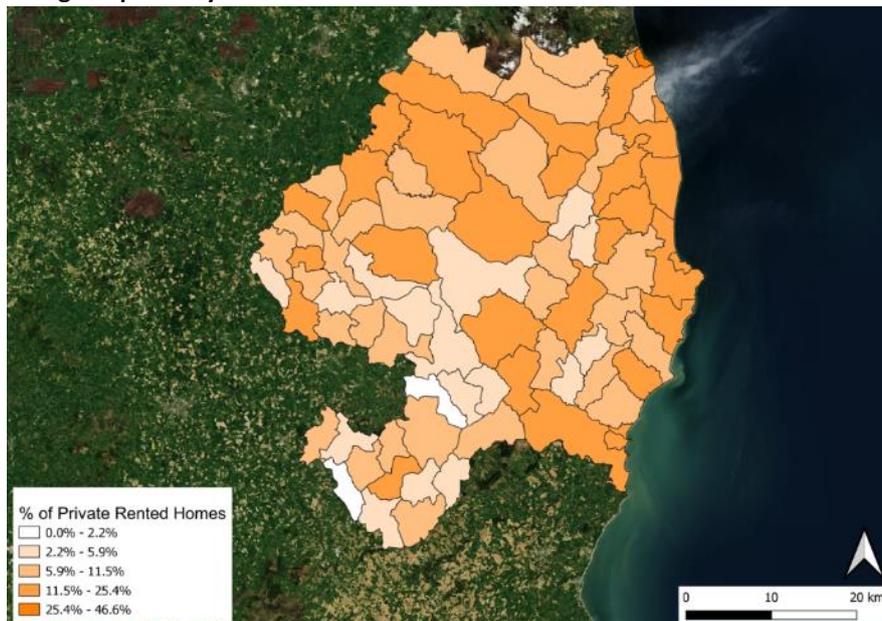


**Figure 12: Percentage of social housing (rented from local authority or voluntary body)**



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

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



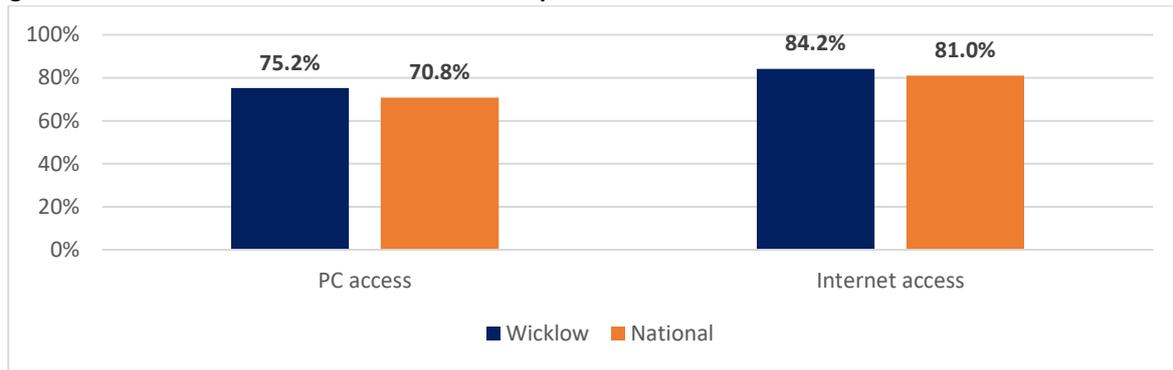
### PC and broadband<sup>4</sup>

Wicklow has a higher rate of PC access than the corresponding national share (75.2% compared to 70.8%). Wicklow households have a higher rate of access to the internet than households in the State overall (84.2% 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 Wicklow compared to the State**



### Central Heating

Table 7 below shows that households in Wicklow are slightly more likely to use natural gas as their central heating source than households nationally (35.2% compared to 33.5%). Households in Wicklow are also more likely to use oil for central heating than the State as a whole (43.9% compared to 40.4%).

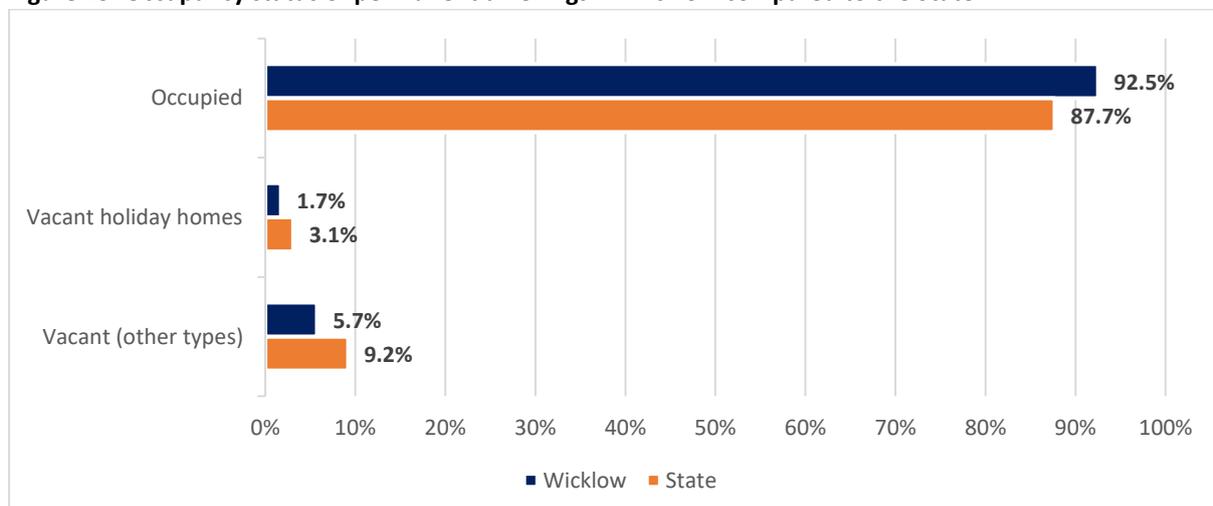
**Table 7: Central heating in Wicklow compared to the State**

| Central heating    | Wicklow | State |
|--------------------|---------|-------|
| Oil                | 43.9%   | 40.4% |
| Natural gas        | 35.2%   | 33.5% |
| Electricity        | 6.4%    | 8.6%  |
| Coal               | 4.7%    | 5.1%  |
| Peat               | 1.0%    | 5.3%  |
| LPG                | 0.6%    | 0.6%  |
| Wood               | 4.1%    | 2%    |
| Other              | 0.9%    | 0.7%  |
| No central heating | 1.7%    | 1.4%  |
| Not stated         | 1.6%    | 2.4%  |

### Vacant dwellings

Figure 15 below shows the vacancy rate of permanent dwellings in Wicklow compared nationally. Compared to the State measure, the constituency has a lower rate of overall vacant dwellings (5.7% compared to 9.2%) but a higher rate of occupied homes (92.5% compared to 87.7%).

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





# Transport

## Mode to work, school, etc.

Figure 16 below shows that people in Wicklow are slightly more likely to travel to work or education by car or van (as a driver or passenger) than the State overall (64.9% compared to 62.2%). Figure 16 also shows that Wicklow residents are more likely to use public transport as their mode of transport than the comparative national figure (14.1% compared to 12.9%).

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

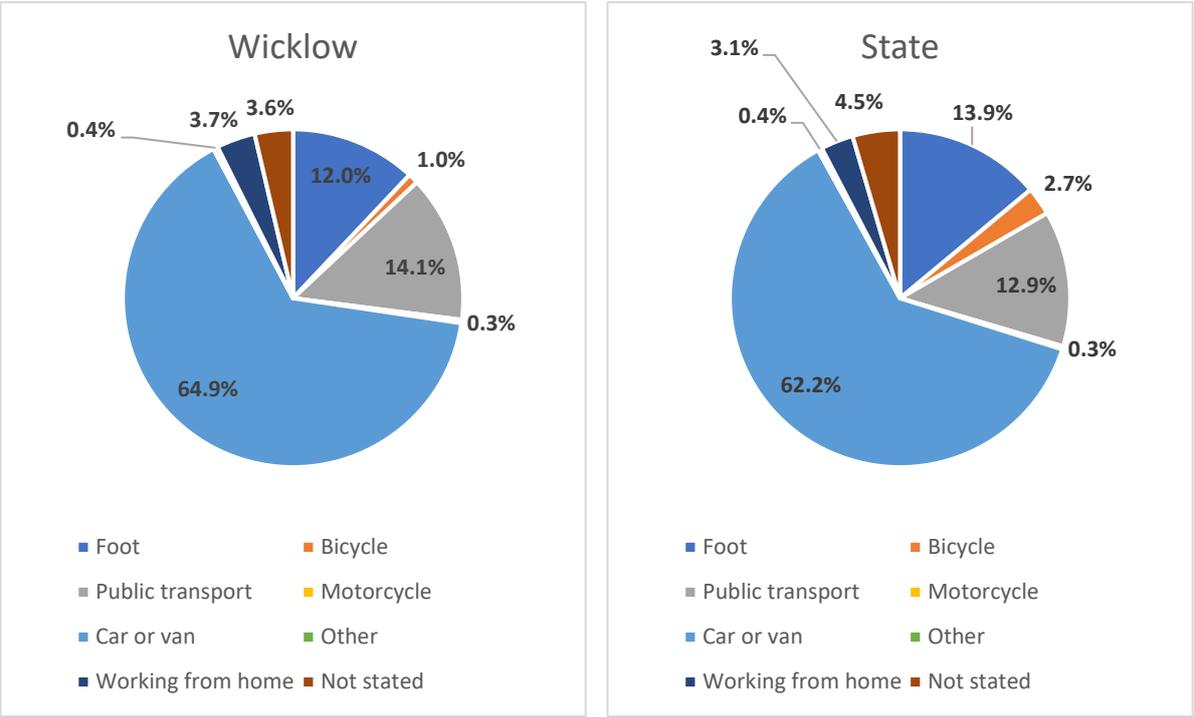


Figure 17: Percentage of public transportation use in Wicklow

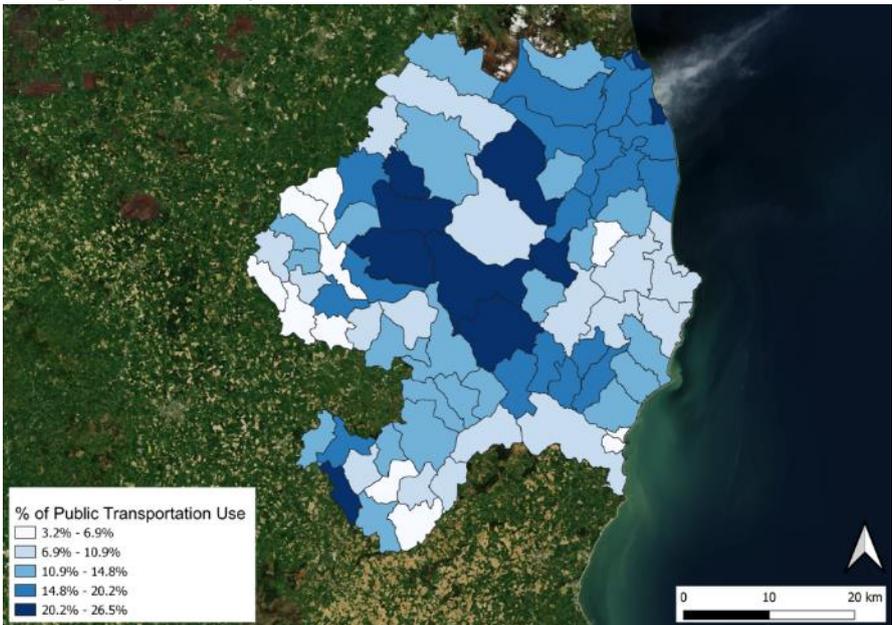
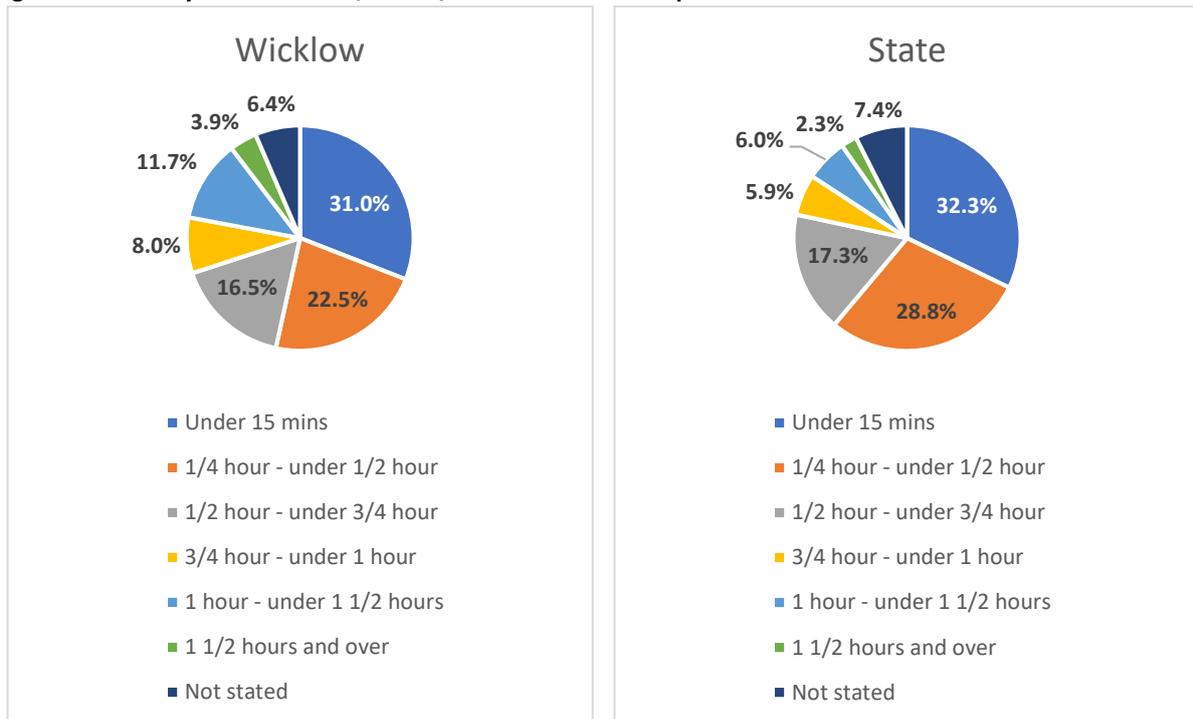


Figure 17 above shows the proportion of people in Wicklow at the ED level who use public transport as their main means of travel to work, school or college.

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

Figure 18 shows the journey times of residents in Wicklow to work or school in comparison to the State. The constituency has a similar proportion of less than 15-minute journeys (31%) as nationally (32.3%). Wicklow has a lower proportion of 15- to 30-minute (22.5%) and 30- to 45-minute journeys (16.5%) than seen for the State as a whole (28.8% and 17.3% respectively).

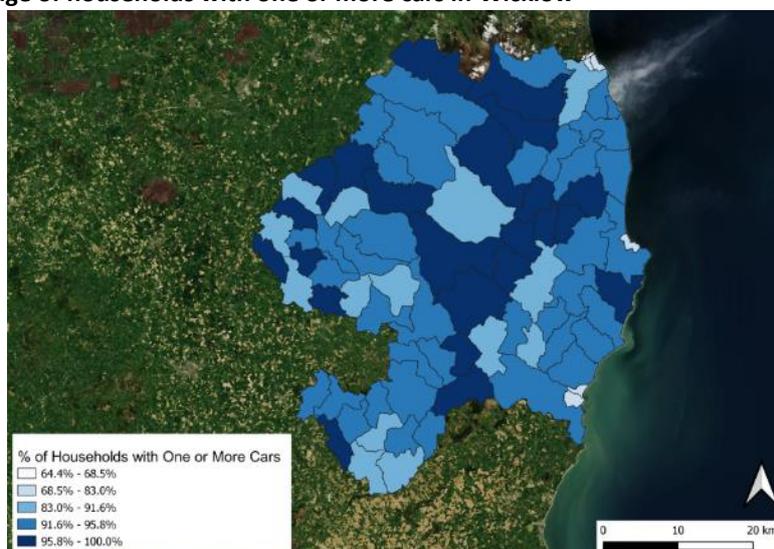
**Figure 18: Journey times to work/school/etc. in Wicklow compared to the State**



### Car access

Figure 19 maps at the electoral division level the proportion of households having one or more cars in Wicklow.

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





## Education

### Highest education level completed/achieved

Figure 20 shows the highest education completed in Wicklow and its comparison with the corresponding national measure. In comparison with the State, the constituency displays a higher proportion who have completed their highest level of education at third level and above (29.4% compared to 28.5%) and intermediate level (21.6% compared to 19.6%). The proportions completing their education at secondary level is similar to that for the State overall (32.6% compared to 33%).

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

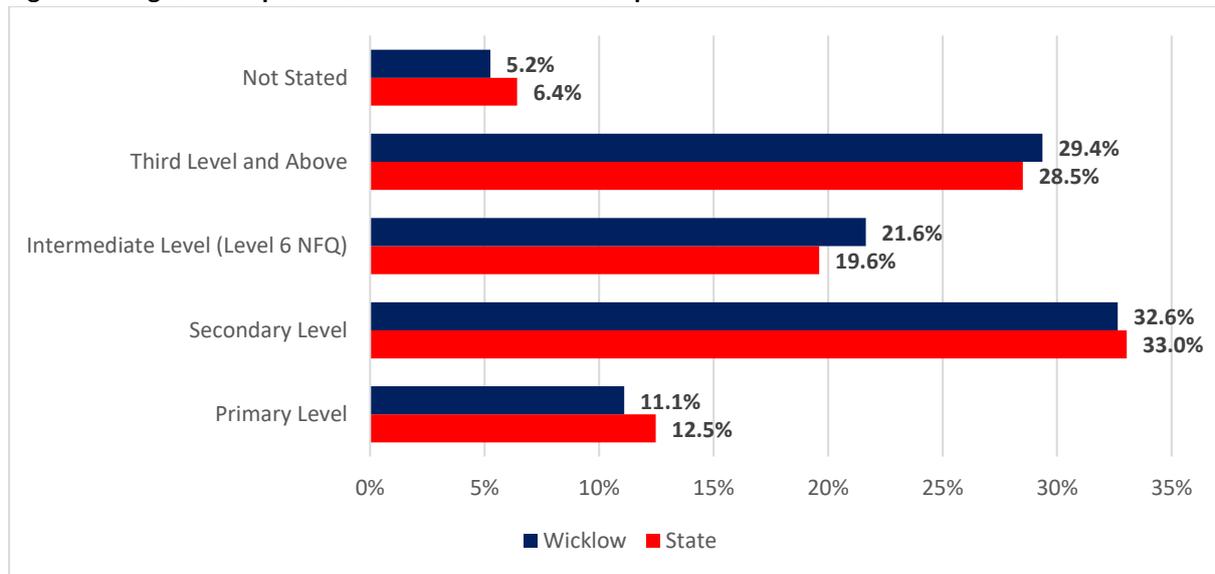
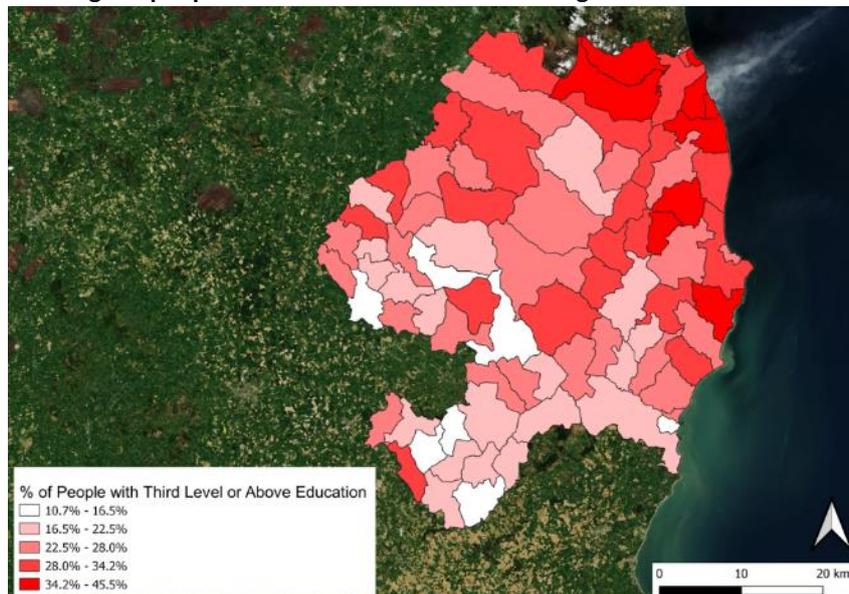
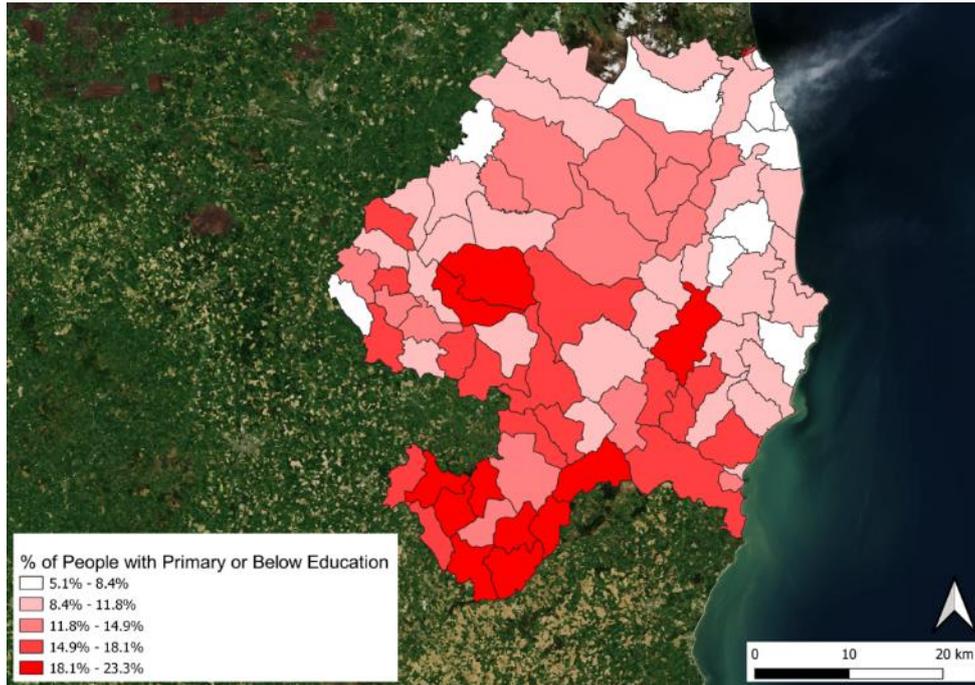


Figure 21 below shows the rates of usual residents with third level education or higher, while the following Figure 22 (overleaf) shows the proportions of Wicklow residents at the ED level with primary education or below.

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



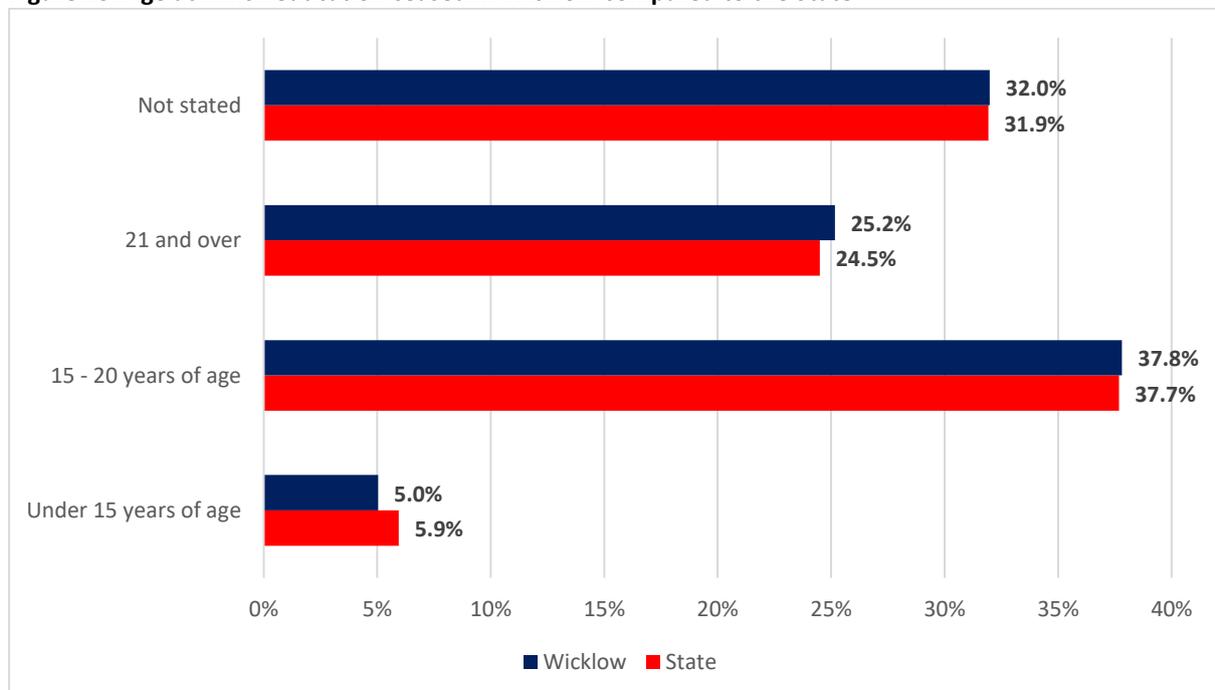
**Figure 22: Percentage of people with primary education or below in Wicklow**



### Age at which education ceased

Figure 23 below shows the highest age at which education ceased in Wicklow compared to the State measure. The constituency shows a marginally higher proportion ceasing their education aged 21 and over than nationally (25.2% compared to 24.5%). In Wicklow, the proportion who completed their education aged 15 to 20 is similar to the national share (37.8% compared to 37.7%).

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



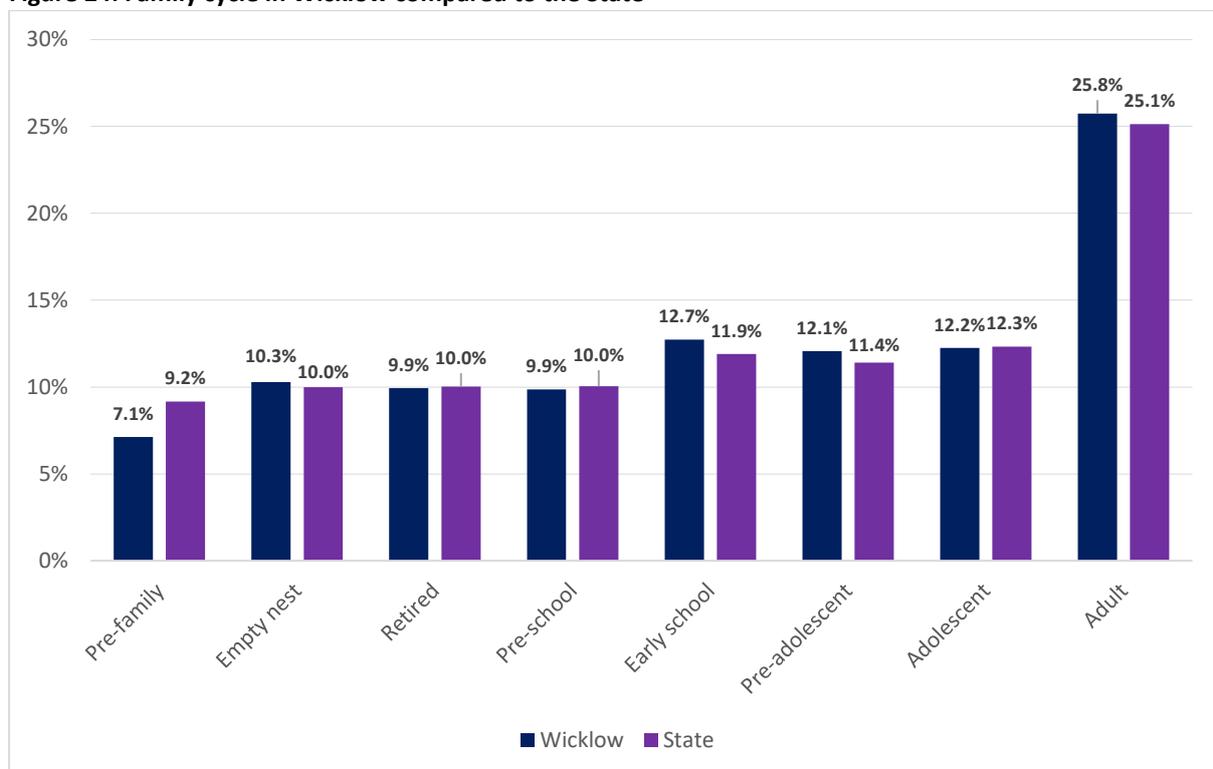


## Families

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

In Wicklow, there are 39,495 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 adult (25.8%) is greater than the State figure (25.1%). The proportion of families categorised by family cycle as early-school (12.7%) and preadolescent (12.1%) is greater than the corresponding national equivalent measures (see Figure 24).

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



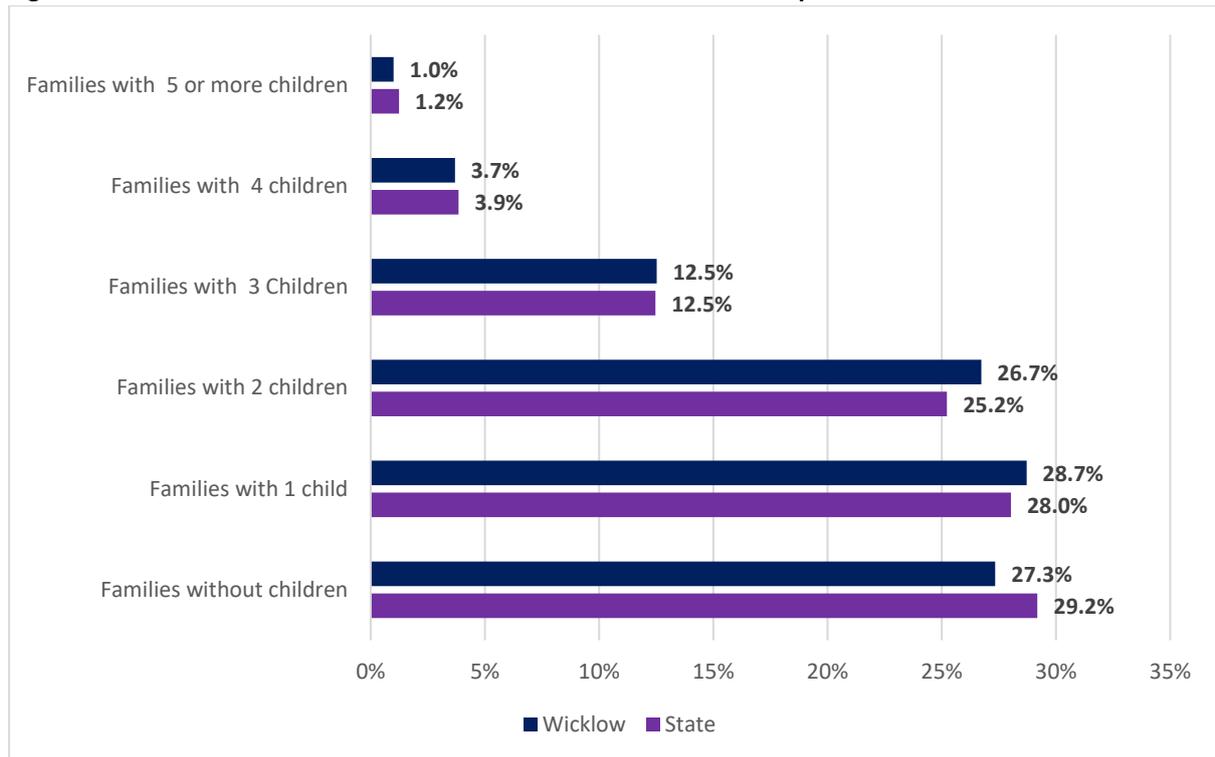
### Families with or without children

Figure 25 (overleaf) compares the proportions of families according to the number of children in Wicklow and the State. Wicklow has a marginally higher proportion of families with 2 children (26.7% compared to 25.2%) with 1 child (28.7% compared to 28%) than nationally.

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



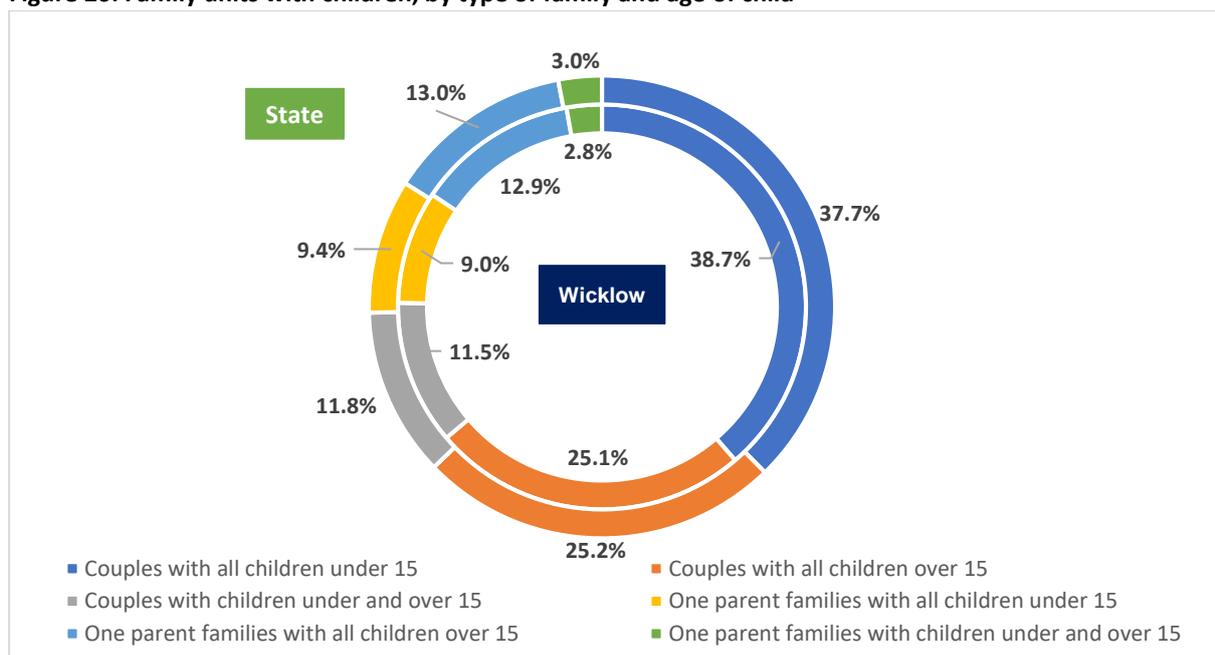
**Figure 25: Number of families with or without children in Wicklow compared to the State**



### Family type

There are 27,970 families with children in Wicklow. 21,069 (75.3%) of these families were couples with children and 6,901 (24.7%) were one parent families. Figure 26 below shows the proportion of family types with children (under and over 15) in 2016 for Wicklow and compared nationally. In Wicklow, the proportion of families with all children under 15 (38.7%), over all children over 15 (25.1%) and with children both under and over 15 (11.5%) is in line with that seen nationally. The constituency shows a lower proportion than the State of one parent families with all children under 15 (9% compared to 9.4%) and with all children both under and over 15 (2.8% compared to 3%).

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





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