**Abstract**

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**1. Introduction**

The aim of this study is to highlight the population changes for the Republic of Ireland. Fifteen datasets are available to complete this study and here it goes some detail about how they are formed:

* Population changes we have seven datasets organized in: four types of datasets, first one we have age group by sex, second age group by sex and region, third one year by component as in *“Annual births”, “Annual deaths” ….* Last type goes year by sex and nationality. This data will be used to understand how the population grew and is distributed in Ireland.
* Migratory flows, there are four datasets each one of them has a distinct attribute, first type age group by sex, second one country by sex, third education level and fourth one economic status. These datasets are key to identify which type of immigrants or emigrants get in and out of the country.
* Three datasets explain emigration, attributes across the datasets are almost the same, year by sex and nationality, the only difference between them is year length, 1996-2022, 2006-2022 and 2006-2023. I will be using one of the datasets to see if during *“The Celtic Tiger”* people living in Ireland decided to stay.
* One dataset is exclusively for immigration having year by sex and citizenship, I will be also using this data to get more clarity on *“The Celtic Tiger”* study.

We will not go beyond 1923, however we do have until 2023. In my opinion this is enough time to get a picture of the current demographics. We will get into detail in each of the sections.

**2. Data preparation and visualization**

2.1. EDA

2.2. Method justification

2.3. Visualizations

2.3.1 *Population growth*

It is interesting to study population growth in the Republic Ireland by looking at this figure:

A graph with a line graph and numbers

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Figure 1: Population Growth

A graph of a number of people

Description automatically generated

Figure 2: Histogram Population Growth

A series of factors are behind the population growth, starting in 1926, population was less than 3 million, and it remained the same until mid-70’s, from there until now population has consistently grow year by year, let me enumerate relevant dates that have shaped these trends:

* Anglo Irish Treaty 1921, Ireland splits from Great Britain, they have shared currency, legal system, and other institutions (O’Rourke, 2017). Economically that had a negative impact on the Irish economy and consequently also affected the population.
* Irish Civil war 1922-1923 (John\_Dorney, 2012), we know that when a country is in conflict, birth rates decrease, and death rates go the opposite way.
* Anglo-Irish economic war (1932-1938), Ireland had introduced protectionist policies that generated an economic war with Britain (cain.ulster.ac.uk, n.d.).
* Mass emigration 1945-1960 (www.encyclopedia.com, n.d.), we can also see a drop during that time in Figure 1.
* 1973 Ireland joins the EU (European Commission, n.d.), this will have beneficial effects on the population from the graph is visible that from that year onwards the population constantly has been growing.
* *“The Celtic Tiger”*, years 1995 to 2007 period of huge economic grow, implementation of low corporate taxes (Investopedia., n.d.).

In a nutshell these are the factors that explain Figure 1, I know I am referring very often to economic factors also, but I firmly believe that economy and population go hand in hand.

2.3.2 *Population pyramids*

Population pyramid charts are an essential tool when analyzing demographics, we can visualize the age and gender distribution of a population. To plot this, we use horizontal bars by gender and age group (coderzcolumn.com, n.d.).

Here I wanted to see pyramid shape for 1926 being the first year with data, 1996 being at the beginning of the *“The Celtic Tiger”*, years 1995 to 2007 (Investopedia., n.d.) and 2023 being the current year.

Here are the results:

A chart with a pyramid shape

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Figure 3: 1926 Pyramid Chart

A chart of a pyramid

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Figure 4: 1996 Pyramid Chart

A chart with a pyramid shape

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Figure 5: 2023 Pyramid Chart

The first figure depicts a wide base, showing a big number of young people in the country however it shrinks quickly when climbing up into the older age groups, and it is very thin at the top, this pyramid shape relates to developing countries, making totally sense as the Republic of Ireland had experienced a civil war from 1922-1923 (John\_Dorney, 2012) and was still far from economic growth.

The second pyramid from 1996, has more population in the middle, age groups from 10-14 to 50-54, pyramid shape is starting to look like developed country where we can see wide concentration in the middle (Geography from KS3 to IB, 2019). However, the final pyramid is the one that gives a sense of how the Republic of Ireland is doing in 2023, there is a huge concentration in the middle that means people aged (15-19 to 60-64) to be in the workforce or ready to start. This tells us that the job market demand is being covered by these age groups. And that is a good indicator for this country. As final observation from my graphs gender distribution looks balanced. Please note that I have got inspired on how to produce the pyramids thanks to an online vlog (coderzcolumn.com., n.d.)

2.3.3 *Population density maps*

In this section we are going to study datasets *“PEA04”* and *“PEA07”* composition is nearly the same, however *“Year”* attributes are different (2011-2023) and (1996-2017). The population is distributed according *“NUTS3”* that means *“Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics”* and it was created by Eurostat, to define territorial units across Europe (www.cso.ie, n.d.). To compare how population has changed across regions I will be looking at population per squared kilometer for year 1996 and 2023:

A map of ireland with blue shades

Description automatically generated

Figure 6: 1996 Population density map

Dublin and Mid-East are the most densely populated areas, followed by the Midlands and South-East, the rest of the regions are close to the last two. We already have mentioned that the *“The Celtic Tiger”* started in 1995 and that would encourage to people to move where industries and big corporations are, leaving primary sector areas for more developed ones:

A map of ireland with blue and white colors

Description automatically generated

Figure 7: 2023 Population density map

There is a clear shift of people heading to well-invested areas looking for more opportunities. We must also consider that the high density for Dublin, Mid-East, South-East and South-West is also a consequence of immigration, not only nationals moving to those areas. Important to note that Dublin most of the time will prevail in terms of population density due to its small size compared to the rest.

2.3.3 *Migration analysis*

Examining migration datasets, I have got interesting visuals, as a starter I have migration from 1987 to 2023:

A graph of migration from ireland to ireland

Description automatically generated

Figure 8: Migration area plot

Immigration flows are predominant except in three periods 1987-1991, 1993-1995 and 2010-2014. I have clear that last period was triggered by the Irish economic crisis (Piola, 2015).

2.4. Tuft Principles

**4. ML**

4.1. Project management framework CRISP-DM, KDD and SEMMA.

As a project management framework, we are going to discuss each of them in detail. We have CRISP-DM (Cross Industry Standard Process project), KDD (Knowledge Discovery in Databases) and SEMMA (Sample, Explore, Modify, Model, Assess) models.

CRISP-DM has six phases, business/research understanding, data understanding, data preparation, modeling phase, evaluation, and deployment. A real-world example for this framework would be a hospital predicting the length of stay for its patients, based on a series of indicators. This method was conducted using Average Prediction, Multiple Regression, Decision Tree, Artificial Neural Network ensemble, Support Vector Machine and Random Forest. The implementation of this model lead to building successful predictions for the hospitals (Caetano et al., 2015).

A diagram of a data flow

Description automatically generated

Figure : CRISP-DM Flow

KDD in this framework we retrieve and analise the data stored in databases, the entire process consists of seven steps, data cleaning, data integration, data selection, data transformation, data mining, pattern evaluation and knowledge representation. A good example of this method is the use of machine learning in the prediction of sports results. A recent study has been conducted to predict football matches (Głowania et al., 2023).

**A diagram of data processing

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Figure : KDD Flow

SEMMA entails five steps, sample, explore, modify, model and assess. This method has been used for Crime Prediction and conducted using article neural networks machine learning concept (Forradellas et al., 2020).

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Figure: SEMMA flow

In PEA20.20231004T131025.csv we have labelled data that is why I have selected supervised machine learning techniques, we can train the model in regard to migration flows depending on people economic status, sex and inward or outward flow.

4.2. ML models

1. Programming
   1. Programming paradigms used