

The Map

A set of population data as a variable is being mapped in the map. It shows a population distribution age between 20 to 24 across the country Ireland according to the 2016 census data. The density of the population is shown in circle symbols colored in purple. The bigger the size of the circle the bigger the value they hold.

Datasets

The map consists of 137 geographic attributes and a set of population data. The geographic attributes are Local Electoral Areas (LEAs) each containing its specific geographic coding. The quantitative population data consists of people only aged between 20 and 24, which is extracted from a bigger population dataset. The information is taken from the Central Statistics Office (CSO) Ireland.

Cartographic decision-making

All the values are divided into five categories classified by equal intervals. The equal interval classification takes the range of minimum and maximum values of the dataset and divides it up by the given number of classifications then adds the equal value to each item and puts each item into its class. The data classifications are presented in the graduated symbols, which are in circles. The size of the circles varies according to the values inside them. The smallest circle contains the value between 397 and 1,855 and the largest between 6,271 and 7,738. The values represent the number of people aged between 20 to 24 within the given geographic boundary.

Information on the map

The map shows that there are significant clusters of data in the major cities such as the Dublin area, Cork, Limerick, and Galway and around their suburbs. The circles are overlapped in these urban areas where the local authority areas are small. Even though the area boundaries are smaller in the urban areas the circles representing the age group of 20 to 24 are significantly bigger in comparison to the rural areas such as in the mid-lands, and north and south to the west. However, this is not a surprising result as more people tend to live in urban areas. The data is also significant in towns such as Sligo, Letterkenny, Waterford, Kilkenny, Athlone, Kinsale, Tralee. Another important implication of this pattern of the data could be also that practically majority of this age group tends to be undergraduate or postgraduate students and most colleges and universities are in those locations where the size of the circles are bigger.

data source

https://www.cso.ie/en/census/census2016reports/census2016smallareapopulationstatistics