



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

Regional Projections of full-time enrolments

Primary and Second Level, 2021 - 2036



November 2021

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Introduction

This report provides projections of full-time enrolment in first and second level schools for the eight NUTS 3 Regional Authority areas. The data in this report builds on the state projections of enrolments published in November 2021 [\[1\]](#) and has been modelled on the Central Statistics Office (CSO) Regional Projections published in June 2019 [\[2\]](#).

The results in this report represent a top-down disaggregation of the national enrolment projections. The assumptions used in the national model on fertility, mortality and international migration, are regionalised based on the CSO regional projections outputs which also incorporate the additional component of internal migration. Data by single year of age is summarised up to reflect age cohorts for the primary and post-primary sectors (taking a percentage of 4 years olds and a percentage of 12 year olds for the primary sector for example). The resulting distribution of projected population by region is constrained by the state projected pupil enrolments.

As with the state projections, the outcome of the projections model is a set of regional projections of enrolments based on what would be likely to happen if recent trends in fertility, mortality, international and internal migration were to continue, subject to the overall constraint of the national enrolment projections.

In line with CSO regional projections NUTS 3 is the lowest level of geography for which these regional projections of enrolments have been prepared. However, it is important to recognise that the rises and falls in demand for enrolment at a local level are highly correlated with the location of new housing. As outlined in the National Development Plan, the need to provide in excess of half-a-million more homes by 2040 corresponds to an expected 25,000 new homes every year, with major increases envisaged within existing built-up areas of cities and other urban areas. Accordingly, it can be expected that within certain regions local demand will run contrary to general trends. The aim of the report is to provide data for long-term planning at a broad regional level only.

Fertility and migration

The following assumptions were used in national projections; F1 has been set at the average of the past three years giving a rate of 1.7 while F2 has been set at 1.6 and held steady for lifetime of the model (Tab A.3).

The state projections describe three migration scenarios and the department has recommended M1, high, as the most likely, namely 1,500 pupils a year in primary, and an annual intake of 6,840 a year in post-primary.

Accordingly, the starting point for this iteration of regional projections is the outputs of the M1F2 state projections.

Internal migration

An important component of any regional projections model is the assumptions around internal migration. The census provides patterns of inter-regional migration using the one-year flows (comparing a person's usual residence at the time of a census and one year previously). Historically, and prior to 2002, the Dublin and Mid-East regions had a steady pattern of net inward migration while flows for all other regions showed a net outflow. The 2002 and 2006 Censuses, however, revealed a substantially different pattern with net outward flows from Dublin and gains for other regions, in particular for the Mid-East. While the 2011 Census showed a slight reversal back to net inflows to Dublin, the 2016 Census showed Dublin once again experienced net outflows with the Mid-East region the primary beneficiary.

The CSO report contains two assumptions on internal migration. The first is the 'Dublin Outflow' scenario which sees outflows from Dublin increasing from the 2016 level of -4,400 persons per year, back to 2006 levels of -10,200 persons per annum by 2021 (Tab 1). The 'Dublin Inflow' assumption, on the other hand, assumes flows from Dublin decreasing from -4,400 in 2016 and reverting to the historic (1996 census) trend of annual inflows of 2,100 persons from other regions to Dublin by 2021 and remaining steady thereafter.

For the purposes of this report, the Department has chosen to focus on the 'Dublin Outflow' scenario. Under the 'Dublin Inflow' scenario Dublin is projected to grow at the expense of the other regions, but as this growth is more likely to be among young singles rather than families, it is thought that the more likely pattern among young families is a continuing move out of Dublin to more affordable housing in the other regions.

Table 1 Pattern of internal migration, 1996-2016

	1996	2002	2006	2011	2016
Net internal migration to / from Dublin	2,055	-12,600	-10,230	689	-4,400

In summary, the assumptions used in this report focus on the Dublin Outflow paradigm along with continuing strong inward migration and falling fertility as represented by M1F2.

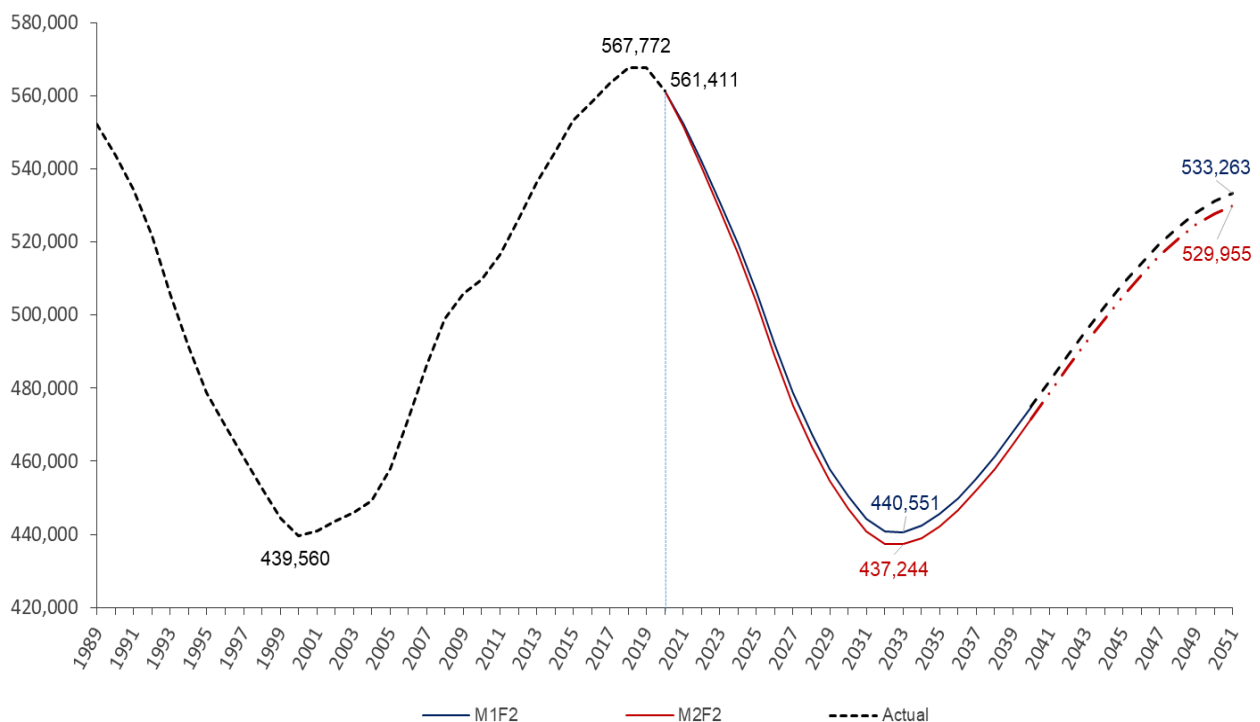
Enrolments over time

For the country as a whole, primary enrolments, which have risen substantially in recent years, peaked in 2018, when total enrolments stood at 567,772. This high point came at the end of a sustained period of growth in primary school enrolments, rising from 439,560 back in 2000 and increasing every year since. The enrolments in 2019 stood at 567,716 and 561,411 in 2020 [3].

Enrolments are projected to fall by 120,860 pupils over the coming years (under the M1F2 scenario), reaching a low point of 440,551 by 2033 (Fig 1; Tab A.1). The sharpest falls will be in the early period and will average 12,000 pupils per year between 2022 and 2028. Following the low point in 2033 enrolments will rise more slowly in 2034-2036 before accelerating in 2040 (+6,967).

Looking out further to 2051 the enrolments are projected to increase once again and reach, 533,263 by 2051 under the lower fertility assumption of M1F2.

Figure 1 Enrolments in DoE aided primary schools, actual and projected (M1F2 and M2F2), 1989-2051



Primary schools

The three NUTS 2 and eight NUTS 3 regions are comprised of the following counties [\[4\]](#)

NUTS 2	Eastern and Midlands			Southern			Northern and Western	
NUTS 3	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West
County	Dublin	Wicklow Kildare Meath Louth	Longford Westmeath Offaly Laois	Clare Tipperary Limerick	Waterford Kilkenny Carlow Wexford	Cork Kerry	Donegal Sligo Leitrim Cavan Monaghan	Galway Mayo Roscommon

The number of primary schools and enrolments in 2020 by NUTS 3 region is presented in Table 2.

Just over a quarter of all pupils attend schools in the Dublin region with 143,672 pupils attending 506 schools. Between them Dublin, the Mid-East and the Midlands account for almost half of all enrolments with 273,981 pupils (48.8 %), but just 35.0 per cent of schools.

Table 2 Number of primary schools (Mainstream and Special) and enrolments by region, 2020

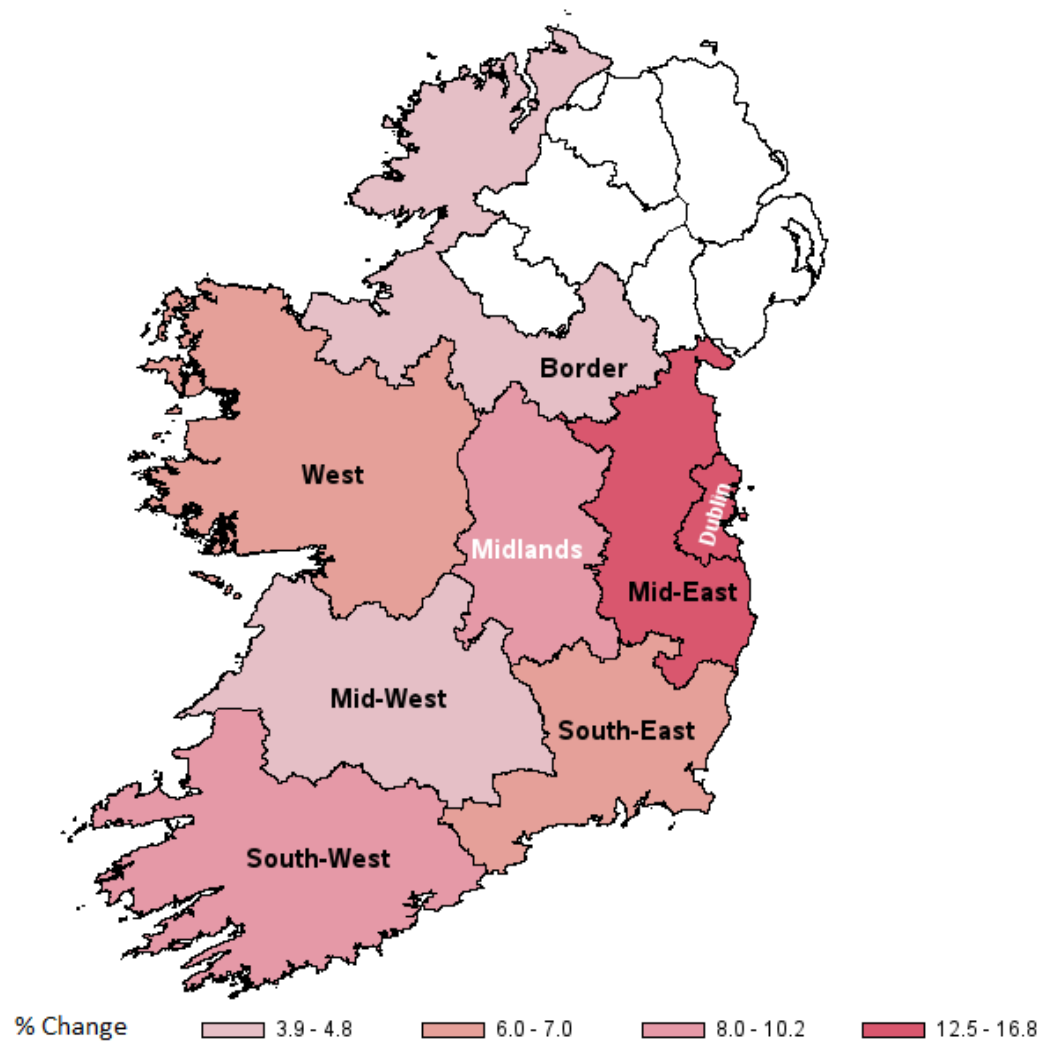
NUTS 3	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West	Total
Schools	506	382	248	411	300	493	419	482	3,244
Share	15.6%	11.8%	7.6%	12.7%	9.2%	15.2%	12.9%	15.0%	100.0%
Enrolments	143,672	92,529	37,780	55,229	52,048	79,733	47,700	52,720	561,411
Share Enrolments	25.6%	16.5%	6.7%	9.8%	9.3%	14.2%	8.5%	9.4%	100.0%

Map 1 presents the change in enrolments by NUTS 3 regions over the past ten years.

The largest increases occurred in Dublin and Mid-East regions where enrolments increased by 16.8 and 12.5 per cent, respectively.

The smallest increase occurred in Border (4.8%) and Mid-West (3.9%).

Map 1 Percentage change in enrolments in primary schools, 2010 – 2020



Results

Projected enrolments by region are presented in Table 3.

Table 3 Projected enrolments in primary schools, by region, 2020-2036 ([Excel file](#))

Year	NUTS3 Regions								Total	
	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West		
2020/21	143,672	92,529	37,780	55,229	52,048	79,733	47,700	52,720	561,411	<i>actual enrolments</i>
2021/22	144,384	90,262	37,794	53,818	49,489	78,460	46,834	51,451	552,491	
2022/23	142,936	88,291	37,154	52,710	48,389	76,620	45,620	50,473	542,192	
2023/24	141,329	86,051	36,479	51,567	47,051	74,520	44,368	49,318	530,683	
2024/25	139,424	84,204	35,897	50,350	45,779	72,521	43,207	48,142	519,526	
2025/26	136,942	82,150	35,192	49,076	44,362	70,117	41,847	46,641	506,325	
2026/27	133,803	80,126	34,400	47,768	42,823	67,754	40,477	45,028	492,180	
2027/28	130,605	78,279	33,619	46,407	41,355	65,392	39,315	43,576	478,548	
2028/29	127,654	77,089	33,218	45,218	40,237	63,354	38,310	42,294	467,373	
2029/30	124,294	76,376	32,991	44,275	39,416	61,739	37,703	41,177	457,970	
2030/31	121,028	76,113	32,913	43,533	38,806	60,403	37,312	40,237	450,345	
2031/32	117,847	76,233	32,960	42,981	38,372	59,303	37,079	39,449	444,224	
2032/33	115,146	76,912	33,215	42,714	38,198	58,600	37,092	38,904	440,781	
2033/34	113,160	78,216	33,703	42,779	38,314	58,346	37,387	38,647	440,551	
2034/35	111,554	79,931	34,339	43,054	38,626	58,394	37,877	38,593	442,368	
2035/36	110,223	81,916	35,066	43,468	39,062	58,636	38,497	38,677	445,545	
2036/37	109,180	84,107	35,864	44,000	39,591	59,046	39,219	38,875	449,881	

Table 4 below presents an analysis of the results. As can be seen, while total enrolments are expected to fall by 19.9 per cent between 2020 and 2036 this will not be evenly distributed across the country. Enrolments in Dublin will fall by 24.0 per cent while those in the Mid-East will fall by just 9.1 per cent, and the Midlands by just 5.1 per cent.

Table 4 Change in primary enrolments by region, 2020 and 2036

NUTS 3	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West	Total
2020	143,672	92,529	37,780	55,229	52,048	79,733	47,700	52,720	561,411
2036	109,180	84,107	35,864	44,000	39,591	59,046	39,219	38,875	449,881
Change	-34,492	-8,422	-1,916	-11,229	-12,457	-20,687	-8,481	-13,845	-111,530
% Change	-24.0%	-9.1%	-5.1%	-20.3%	-23.9%	-25.9%	-17.8%	-26.3%	-19.9%
Share 2020	25.6%	16.5%	6.7%	9.8%	9.3%	14.2%	8.5%	9.4%	100.0%
Share 2036	24.3%	18.7%	8.0%	9.8%	8.8%	13.1%	8.7%	8.6%	100.0%

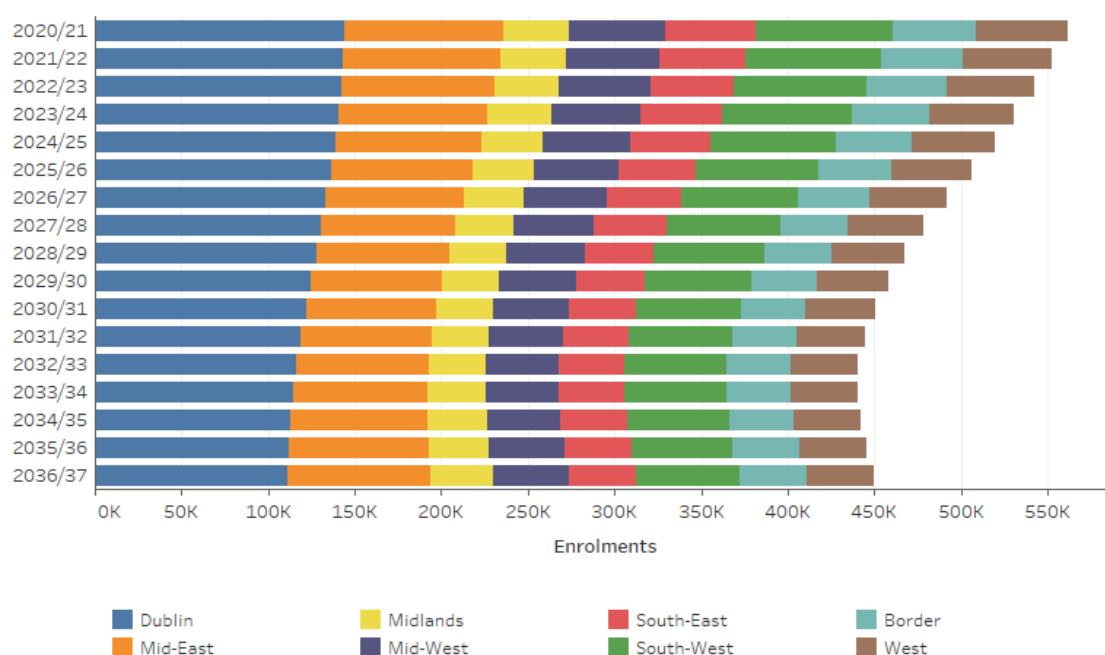
When looked at by share, the Dublin region in 2020 contained 25.6 per cent of all enrolments and this will fall to 24.3 per cent by 2036; the share of enrolments in the Mid-East will rise from 16.5 per cent in 2020 to almost 18.7 per cent by 2036.

The Dublin region will see enrolments fall by almost 34,500 pupils (24.0%), while in the Mid-East numbers will fall by just under 8,500 (9.1%).

The South-West and the West regions will see the biggest falls percentage wise with number declining by 26 per cent in these regions.

The graphical representation of the regional enrolment projections at primary level for year 2020-2036 can be viewed in Figure 2.

Figure 2 Projected regional enrolment at primary level, 2020 – 2036



Projected Annual Change

Table 5 presents the absolute annual change in enrolments by year and region in thematic format. The figure illustrates the impact of the 'Dublin Outflow' assumption on the projected change in enrolments over the coming fifteen years.

Annual falls will peak in 2026 with an expected loss of 14,145 pupils, distributed across all regions; losses will remain above 10,000 per annum for the following two years.

Between 2030 and 2032 annual falls will revert to gains in the Mid-east and Midlands. Pupil numbers will begin to increase in all areas from 2034 onwards apart from Dublin where enrolments are projected to continue falling. The impact of the 'Dublin Outflow' assumption is particularly vivid from 2032 onwards.

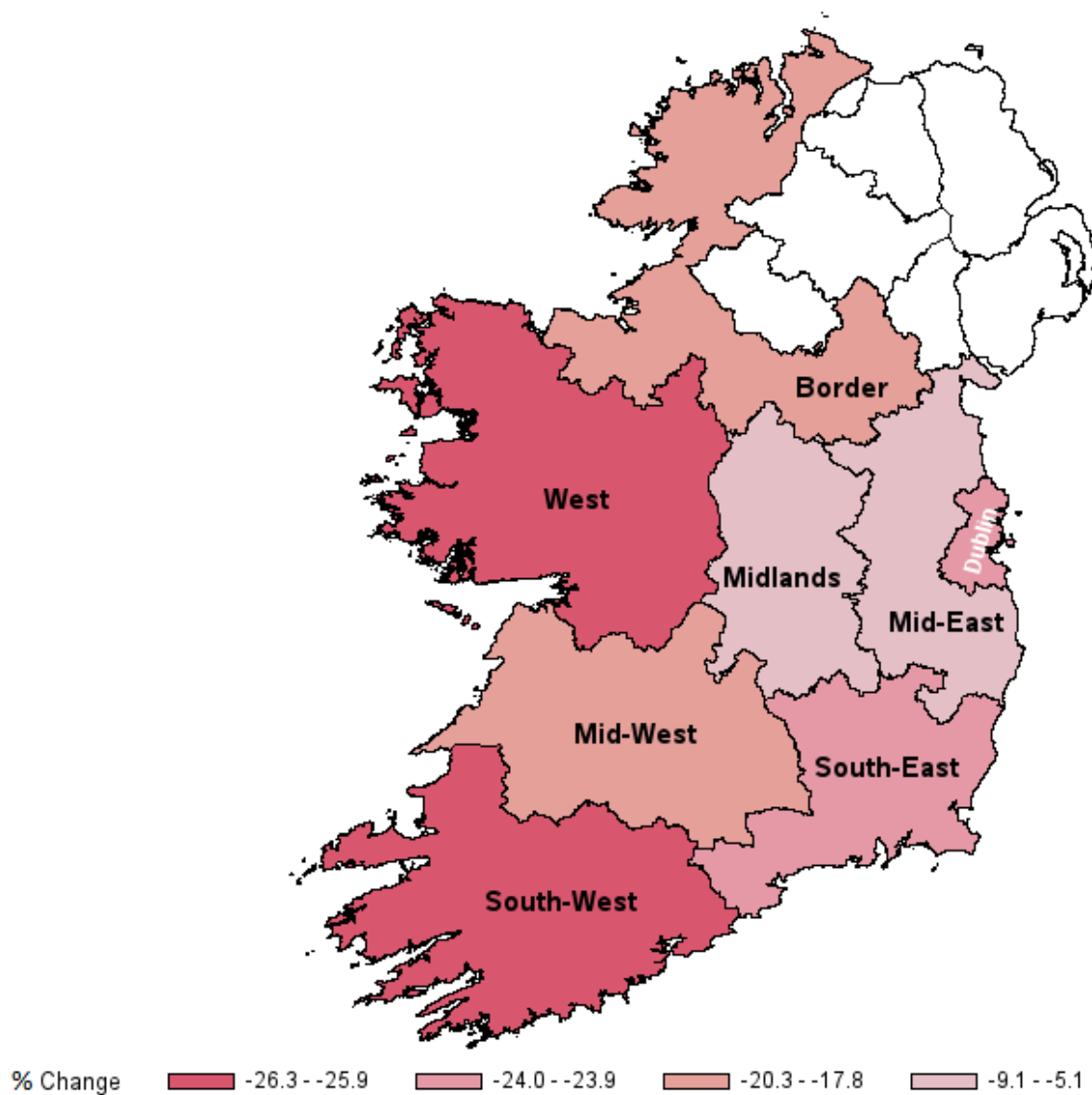
Table 5 Absolute annual change in primary enrolments by region, 2021-2036

Year	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West	Total
2021/22	712	-2,267	14	-1,411	-2,559	-1,273	-866	-1,269	-8,920
2022/23	-1,448	-1,970	-640	-1,108	-1,100	-1,840	-1,214	-978	-10,299
2023/24	-1,606	-2,241	-676	-1,143	-1,338	-2,100	-1,252	-1,155	-11,510
2024/25	-1,905	-1,847	-581	-1,217	-1,271	-1,998	-1,162	-1,176	-11,157
2025/26	-2,483	-2,054	-705	-1,275	-1,418	-2,404	-1,360	-1,502	-13,201
2026/27	-3,139	-2,024	-792	-1,307	-1,539	-2,363	-1,369	-1,612	-14,145
2027/28	-3,198	-1,847	-781	-1,361	-1,468	-2,362	-1,163	-1,452	-13,632
2028/29	-2,951	-1,191	-401	-1,190	-1,118	-2,038	-1,005	-1,283	-11,175
2029/30	-3,360	-712	-227	-943	-822	-1,615	-607	-1,117	-9,403
2030/31	-3,266	-263	-78	-741	-609	-1,337	-391	-940	-7,625
2031/32	-3,181	120	47	-552	-434	-1,099	-234	-787	-6,120
2032/33	-2,701	679	255	-267	-174	-704	13	-546	-3,444
2033/34	-1,986	1,304	488	65	116	-254	295	-257	-229
2034/35	-1,606	1,715	637	276	312	48	490	-54	1,817
2035/36	-1,330	1,985	727	414	436	242	620	84	3,177
2036/37	-1,044	2,191	798	531	529	410	722	198	4,336

Projected percentage change by region for the period 2020 to 2036 is presented in Map 2.

From year 2020 to 2036 West and South-West regions show the largest decrease in enrolment numbers, i.e., by 26.3 and 25.9 per cent, respectively, followed by Dublin (24.0 %) and South-East (23.9 %) regions.

Map 2 Per cent changes in Regional enrolments at primary level from 2020 to 2036



Post-primary Level Regional Projections

The number of post-primary schools and pupil enrolments in 2020 by NUTS 3 regions is presented in Table 6.

As can be seen, Dublin accounted for a quarter of both total enrolments, with 95,018 pupils (25.1%), and total schools (25.9%).

Table 6 Post-primary schools and total enrolments by region, 2020

NUTS 3	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West	Total
Schools	189	93	45	74	66	111	70	82	730
Schools Share	25.9%	12.7%	6.2%	10.1%	9.0%	15.2%	9.6%	11.2%	100.0%
Enrolments	95,018	60,574	25,750	38,226	36,936	54,746	32,683	35,251	37,9184
Enrolments Share	25.1%	16.0%	6.8%	10.1%	9.7%	14.4%	8.6%	9.3%	100.0%

Results

Table 7 Projected enrolments in post-primary schools, by region, 2020-2036 ([Excel file](#))

	NUTS 3 Regions									
Year	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West	Total	
2020/21	95,018	60,574	25,750	38,226	36,936	54,746	32,683	35,251	379,184	<i>actual enrolments</i>
2021/22	98,025	62,868	26,464	39,275	37,372	56,446	33,688	36,178	390,317	
2022/23	100,924	64,200	27,047	39,789	37,604	57,616	34,144	36,514	397,837	
2023/24	103,664	65,557	27,664	40,088	38,032	58,731	34,526	36,895	405,156	
2024/25	105,712	66,055	27,932	40,167	38,065	59,271	34,577	37,014	408,794	<i>enrolments' peak</i>
2025/26	106,321	65,780	27,873	39,801	37,779	59,292	34,348	37,014	408,208	
2026/27	106,291	65,071	27,757	39,272	37,378	58,786	34,010	36,731	405,297	
2027/28	105,612	64,209	27,680	38,741	36,851	58,146	33,496	36,267	401,003	
2028/29	104,196	62,864	27,256	38,111	36,220	57,110	32,876	35,696	394,329	
2029/30	103,205	61,349	26,781	37,348	35,292	55,671	31,997	34,977	386,621	
2030/31	102,219	60,070	26,361	36,582	34,385	54,256	31,129	34,191	379,192	
2031/32	101,215	58,763	25,884	35,854	33,411	52,689	30,203	33,269	371,287	
2032/33	99,619	57,289	25,271	34,960	32,247	50,990	29,246	32,235	361,856	
2033/34	97,536	55,772	24,654	33,877	31,045	49,102	28,287	31,165	351,438	
2034/35	95,249	54,618	24,246	32,879	30,076	47,430	27,464	30,146	342,109	
2035/36	92,616	53,827	23,977	32,064	29,336	46,067	26,914	29,242	334,043	
2036/37	89,998	53,370	23,821	31,400	28,765	44,908	26,511	28,467	327,240	

The projected change in enrolments over the coming 15 years are best studied as two distinct periods.

The first four years: 2020-2024

Between 2020 and 2024 enrolments in Dublin schools will increase by 10,694 overall, representing a rise of 11.3 per cent, while in the Mid-East they will rise by 5,481 pupils, or 9.0 per cent. In contrast, the South-East can expect to see enrolments rise by just 1,129 pupils, i.e., a rise of 3.1 per cent, while the Mid-West will see numbers rise by 1,941, or 5.1 per cent (Tab 8).

Table 8 Change in post-primary enrolments by region, 2020 and 2024

	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West	Total
2020	95,018	60,574	25,750	38,226	36,936	54,746	32,683	35,251	379,184
2024	105,712	66,055	27,932	40,167	38,065	59,271	34,577	37,014	408,794
Change	10,694	5,481	2,182	1,941	1,129	4,525	1,894	1,763	29,610
% Change	11.3%	9.0%	8.5%	5.1%	3.1%	8.3%	5.8%	5.0%	7.8%
Share 2020	25.1%	16.0%	6.8%	10.1%	9.7%	14.4%	8.6%	9.3%	100.0%
Share 2024	25.9%	16.2%	6.8%	9.8%	9.3%	14.5%	8.5%	9.1%	100.0%

The following twelve years: 2025-2036

Looking at the period 2025-2036 enrolments in Dublin are projected to drop by 16,323 over the 12 years, a fall of 15.4 per cent. All other regions, apart from Mid-East and Midlands, are projected to show falls of more than 20 per cent over the same period, with the South-West showing a fall of 24.3 per cent, a drop of 14,384.

Table 9 Change in post-primary enrolments by region, 2025 and 2036

	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West	Total
2025	106,321	65,780	27,873	39,801	37,779	59,292	34,348	37,014	408,208
2036	89,998	53,370	23,821	31,400	28,765	44,908	26,511	28,467	327,240
Change	-16,323	-12,410	-4,052	-8,402	-9,014	-14,384	-7,837	-8,546	-80,968
% Change	-15.4%	-18.9%	-14.5%	-21.1%	-23.9%	-24.3%	-22.8%	-23.1%	-19.8%
Share 2025	26.0%	16.1%	6.8%	9.8%	9.3%	14.5%	8.4%	9.1%	100.0%
Share 2036	27.5%	16.3%	7.3%	9.6%	8.8%	13.7%	8.1%	8.7%	100.0%

When the two sub-periods are combined, the results tell us that as a result of sharp gains followed by sharp losses, the Dublin region will see enrolments fall by just 5,020 over the full sixteen years, or 5.3 per cent. The Midlands region will see even lower overall change with enrolments rising by 2,182 (2024) before falling by 4,111 (2036), a net change of just -1,929 pupils over the sixteen years period, or -7.5 per cent (Tab 10).

In sharp contrast, two regions can expect to see total falls in enrolments of 8,171 (South-East) and 9,838 (South-West), representing falls of 22.1 and 18.0 per cent, respectively. In the Mid-East, the numbers will fall by 7,204, or 11.9 per cent.

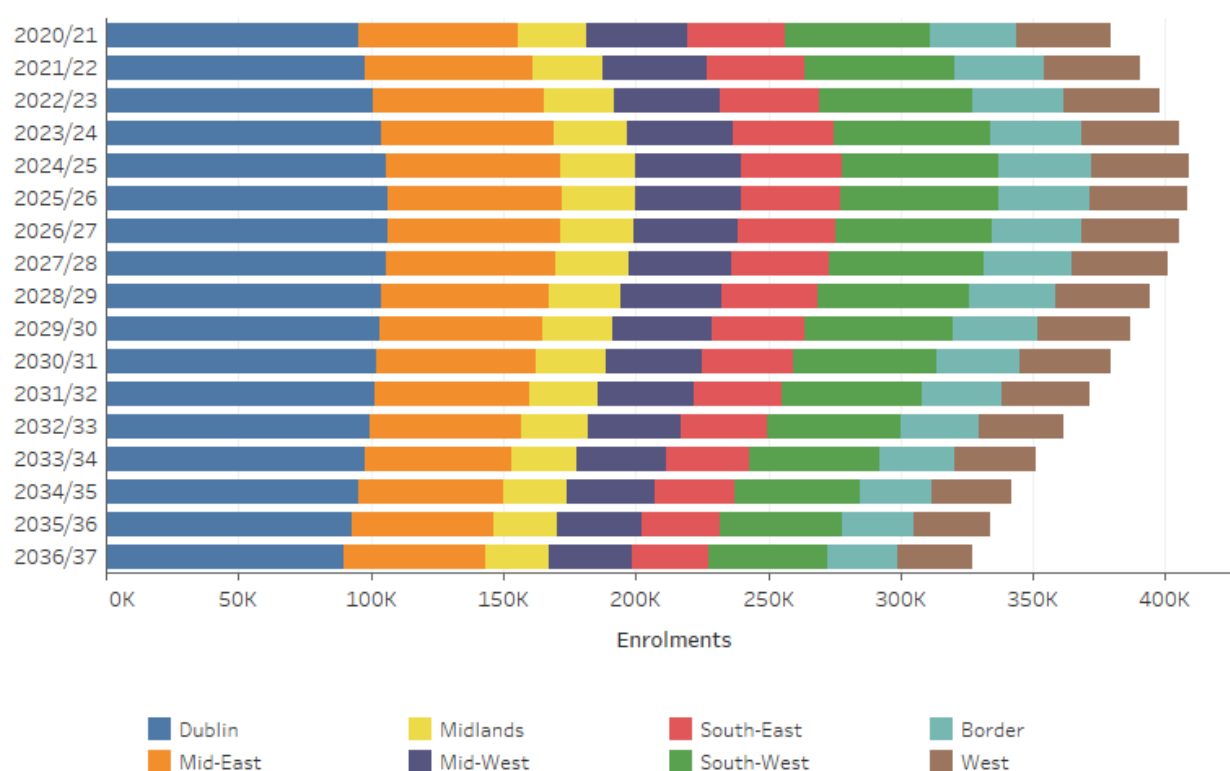
When looked at by share, the Dublin region in 2020 contained 25.1 per cent of all enrolments. This will rise to 27.5 per cent by 2036, while the share of enrolments in the West will fall from 9.3 per cent in 2020 to 8.7 per cent by 2036.

Table 10 Change in post-primary enrolments by region, 2020 and 2036

	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West	Total
2020	95,018	60,574	25,750	38,226	36,936	54,746	32,683	35,251	379,184
2036	89,998	53,370	23,821	31,400	28,765	44,908	26,511	28,467	327,240
Change	-5,020	-7,204	-1,929	-6,826	-8,171	-9,838	-6,172	-6,784	-51,944
% Change	-5.3%	-11.9%	-7.5%	-17.9%	-22.1%	-18.0%	-18.9%	-19.2%	-13.7%
Share 2020	25.1%	16.0%	6.8%	10.1%	9.7%	14.4%	8.6%	9.3%	100.0%
Share 2036	27.5%	16.3%	7.3%	9.6%	8.8%	13.7%	8.1%	8.7%	100.0%

The graphical representation of the regional enrolment projections at post-primary level for year 2020-2036 can be viewed in Figure 3.

Figure 3 Projected regional enrolment at second level, 2020 – 2036



Projected Annual Change

Table 11 presents the absolute change by region in thematic format and illustrates how enrolments can be expected to evolve over the coming fifteen years.

This illustrates how enrolments will follow a pattern of distinct increases out to 2024 followed by one of decreases.

More specifically, total enrolments will peak in 2024, with marginal falls in 2025 before more dramatic falls from 2026 onwards (Tab A.2).

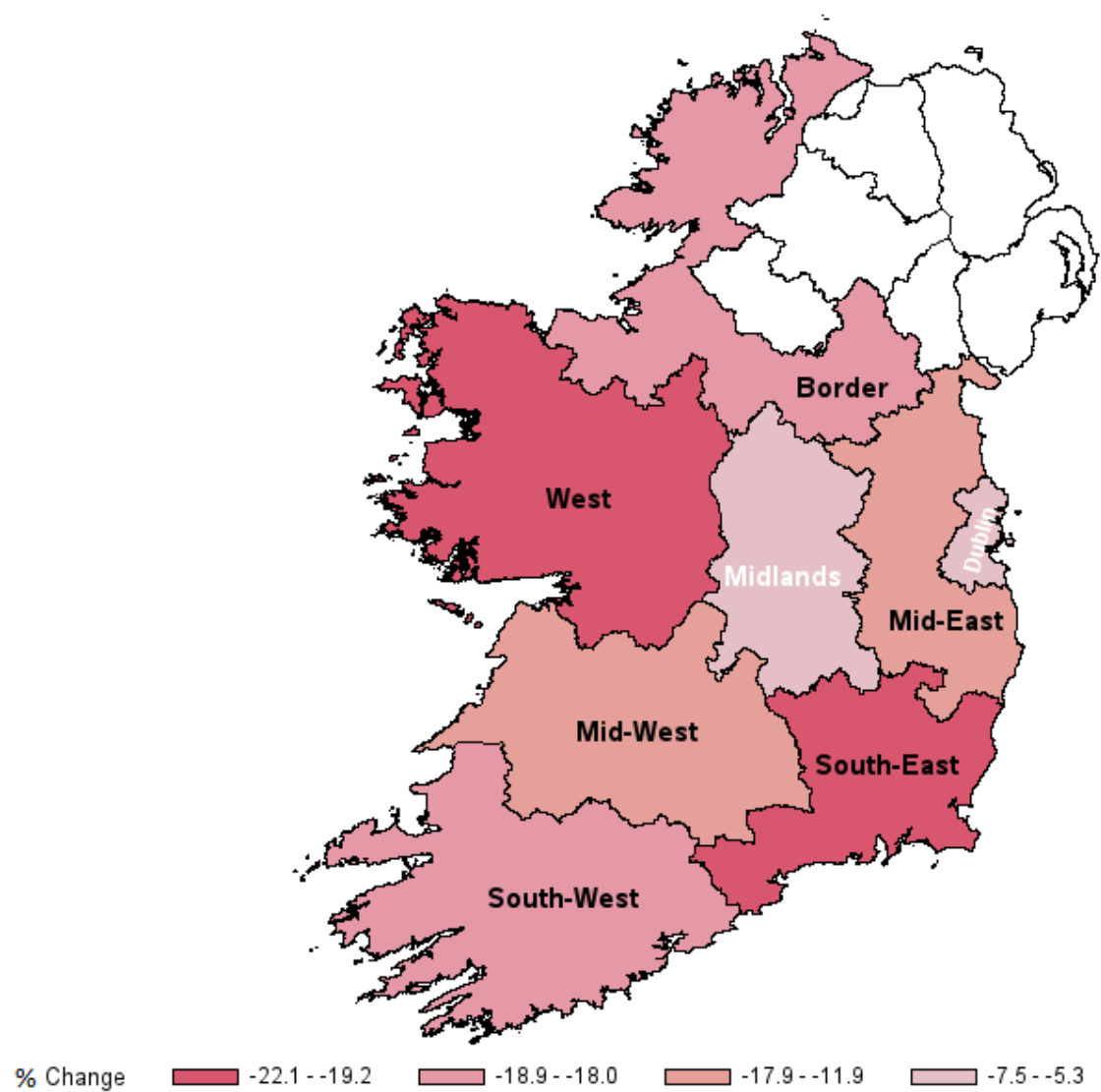
Table 11 Absolute annual change in post-primary enrolments by region, 2021-2036

Year	Dublin	Mid-East	Midlands	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	Border	West	Total
2021/22	3,007	2,294	714	1,049	436	1,700	1,005	927	11,133
2022/23	2,899	1,331	583	514	232	1,169	457	337	7,520
2023/24	2,740	1,357	617	299	428	1,116	382	381	7,319
2024/25	2,049	498	268	79	33	540	51	119	3,638
2025/26	609	-275	-59	-366	-286	21	-229	-1	-586
2026/27	-30	-709	-117	-529	-401	-506	-338	-282	-2,912
2027/28	-679	-862	-76	-531	-526	-640	-514	-465	-4,294
2028/29	-1,417	-1,345	-424	-630	-631	-1,036	-620	-570	-6,673
2029/30	-990	-1,515	-474	-763	-928	-1,438	-879	-719	-7,708
2030/31	-986	-1,279	-420	-766	-908	-1,416	-868	-786	-7,429
2031/32	-1,004	-1,307	-478	-728	-974	-1,567	-925	-922	-7,905
2032/33	-1,596	-1,474	-612	-894	-1,165	-1,699	-957	-1,034	-9,432
2033/34	-2,083	-1,517	-617	-1,083	-1,201	-1,887	-959	-1,070	-10,418
2034/35	-2,287	-1,154	-408	-998	-969	-1,672	-823	-1,018	-9,329
2035/36	-2,633	-791	-269	-815	-741	-1,363	-550	-904	-8,066
2036/37	-2,617	-457	-156	-664	-571	-1,159	-403	-775	-6,803

The change in enrolments by regions is presented in Map 3.

As illustrated the South-East and West will experience the largest falls in enrolments down by 22.1 and 19.2 per cent, respectively, between 2020 and 2036.

Map 3 Change in post-primary enrolments by region, 2020 to 2036



Appendix

Table A.1 Projections of enrolment at primary level, 2020-2040

Year	M1F1	M1F2	M2F1	M2F2	M3F1	M3F2	
2020/21	561,411	561,411	561,411	561,411	561,411	561,411	<i>actual enrolments</i>
2021/22	552,491	552,491	551,668	551,668	550,947	550,947	
2022/23	542,192	542,192	540,662	540,662	539,322	539,322	
2023/24	530,683	530,683	528,562	528,562	526,706	526,706	
2024/25	519,526	519,526	516,932	516,932	514,663	514,663	
2025/26	507,276	506,325	504,328	503,377	501,748	500,797	
2026/27	495,717	492,180	492,532	488,994	489,744	486,207	
2027/28	485,109	478,548	481,804	475,243	478,912	472,351	
2028/29	476,950	467,373	473,642	464,065	470,748	461,171	
2029/30	470,561	457,970	467,253	454,662	464,359	451,768	
2030/31	465,957	450,345	462,650	447,037	459,756	444,143	
2031/32	462,879	444,224	459,571	440,917	456,677	438,022	
2032/33	462,506	440,781	459,199	437,473	456,304	434,579	
2033/34	464,465	440,551	461,157	437,244	458,263	434,350	
2034/35	466,900	442,368	463,592	439,061	460,698	436,166	
2035/36	470,273	445,545	466,965	442,237	464,071	439,343	
2036/37	474,850	449,881	471,543	446,574	468,648	443,679	
2037/38	480,457	455,193	477,150	451,885	474,255	448,991	
2038/39	486,883	461,280	483,575	457,972	480,681	455,078	
2039/40	493,894	467,922	490,586	464,614	487,692	461,720	
2040/41	501,248	474,888	497,941	471,581	495,046	468,687	

Table A.2 Projections of enrolment at post-primary level, 2020-2040

Year	M1F1	M1F2	M2F1	M2F2	M3F1	M3F2	
2020/21	379,184	379,184	379,184	379,184	379,184	379,184	<i>actual enrolments</i>
2021/22	390,317	390,317	388,037	388,037	385,757	385,757	
2022/23	397,837	397,837	393,286	393,286	388,749	388,749	
2023/24	405,156	405,156	398,973	398,973	392,833	392,833	
2024/25	408,794	408,794	401,584	401,584	394,459	394,459	<i>enrolments' peak</i>
2025/26	408,208	408,208	400,035	400,035	392,002	392,002	
2026/27	405,297	405,297	396,324	396,324	387,561	387,561	
2027/28	401,003	401,003	391,404	391,404	382,094	382,094	
2028/29	394,329	394,329	384,104	384,104	374,246	374,246	
2029/30	386,621	386,621	375,881	375,881	365,573	365,573	
2030/31	379,192	379,192	368,051	368,051	357,392	357,392	
2031/32	371,287	371,287	359,858	359,858	348,946	348,946	
2032/33	361,856	361,856	350,246	350,246	339,176	339,176	
2033/34	352,372	351,438	340,687	339,753	329,553	328,618	
2034/35	345,504	342,109	333,818	330,423	322,682	319,287	
2035/36	340,338	334,043	328,652	322,357	317,516	311,221	
2036/37	336,392	327,240	324,706	315,554	313,571	304,419	
2037/38	333,743	321,817	322,058	310,131	310,922	298,995	
2038/39	333,028	318,625	321,342	306,939	310,207	295,803	
2039/40	333,555	317,696	321,869	306,010	310,733	294,874	
2040/41	334,374	318,169	322,689	306,484	311,553	295,348	

Figure A.1 Projected enrolment at primary level, 2021 – 2040

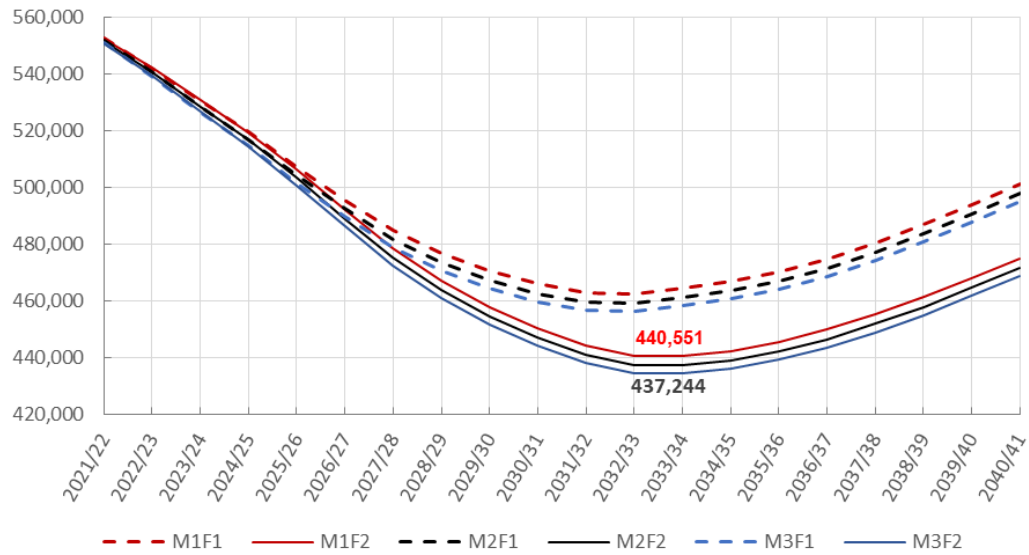


Figure A.2 Projected enrolment at post-primary level, 2021 – 2040

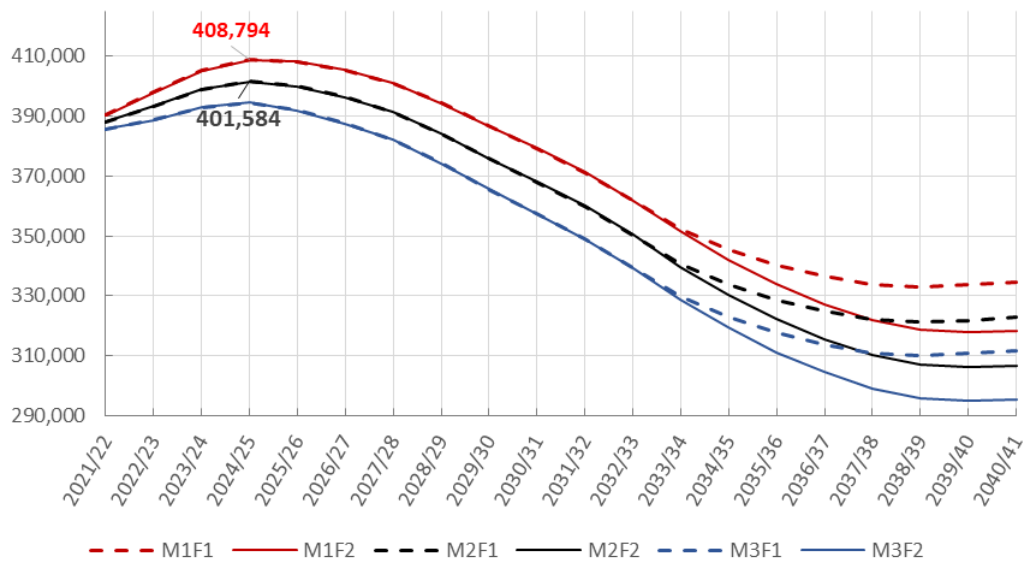


Table A.3 Projected births under each fertility assumption, 2021-2040

	F1	F2
2021	58,081	55,029
2022	57,673	54,642
2023	57,400	54,384
2024	57,333	54,321
2025	57,460	54,441
2026	57,795	54,758
2027	58,335	55,270
2028	59,051	55,948
2029	59,901	56,753
2030	60,863	57,665
2031	61,862	58,611
2032	62,852	59,550
2033	63,839	60,485
2034	64,794	61,389
2035	65,711	62,258
2036	66,560	63,063
2037	67,364	63,824
2038	68,115	64,536
2039	68,822	65,206
2040	69,466	65,816

Note: indicates the low point in the series

References

- [1] <https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/projections/>
- [2] <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-rpp/regionalpopulationprojections2017-2036/>
- [3] <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/055810-education-statistics/>
- [4] <https://www.cso.ie/en/methods/revnuts23/>