

## Chapter 8:

### Findings of Statistical Analysis

**Summary:**

*This Chapter sets out the results, in anonymised form, of the statistical analysis carried out of all available data on the girls and women who were admitted to and worked in the Magdalen Laundries, under headings such as:*

- *Routes of entry;*
- *Duration of stay;*
- *Family background;*
- *Place of origin;*
- *Age on entry; and*
- *Routes of exit.*

**A. Introduction**

1. The sources and methodology used in preparing the following statistical analysis are set out in Chapter 7. This Chapter sets out the findings of the comprehensive statistical analysis carried out of all available information on the women who lived and worked in the Magdalen Laundries.
2. The Central Statistics Office (CSO) provided invaluable expertise and assistance in carrying out this task, for which the Committee is grateful.
3. The results of the analysis are presented in the following sections:
  - i. Overall entries and routes of entry and exit
    - Overall entries (including breakdown by decade)
    - Routes of entry
    - Routes of exit

- ii. Duration of stay
  
- iii. Profile of the women
  - Age on entry
  - Family background
  - Geographical origin
  
- iv. Combinations of these are also presented
  - Total State referrals by decade and by year
  - Routes of entry by duration of stay
  - Routes of entry by age of women
  - Routes of entry by institution
  - Routes of entry by Congregation
  - Routes of exit by decade
  - Routes of exit by duration of stay
  - Routes of exit by age of women
  - Routes of exit by family background
  - Routes of exit by institution
  - Routes of exit by Congregation
  
- v. Legacy cases (entry pre-1922, exit post-1922)
  - Routes of entry
  - Routes of exit
  - Duration of stay
  - Geographic origin
  - Family background
  
- vi. Magdalen Laundry Galway

This Chapter finally includes a separate statistical analysis on the limited surviving records relating to the Magdalen Laundry operated in Galway by the Sisters of Mercy.

4. Additional analysis under the above headings for each of the Magdalen Laundries is included in the Appendices. Statistics relating to deaths in the Magdalen Laundry are dealt with in Chapter 16.

### **B. Capacity of the Magdalen Laundries**

5. Chapter 3 identified the capacity of each of the ten Magdalen Laundries within the scope of the Report. Although the capacity of each Laundry fluctuated over time, the maximum capacity for each institution at any point in its lifetime was as follows:

- High Park: 250
- Sean McDermott Street: 150
- Donnybrook: 120
- Peacock Lane, Cork: 110
- Limerick: 120
- Waterford: 120
- New Ross: 50
- Sunday's Well, Cork: 120
- Galway: 110
- Dun Laoghaire: 50

This amounts to a total maximum capacity of all ten Magdalen Laundries of 1,200.

### **C. Findings of Statistical Analysis**

6. As set out in full in Chapter 7, the merged database from which the following statistical findings are drawn consisted of 14,607 known admissions to the Magdalen Laundries from 1922 until closure of the last Magdalen Laundry in the State in 1996.
7. The gaps in available information were also set out in full in Chapter 7, but in summary, the merged database does not include details of entries to the Magdalen Laundries prior to 1922, or entries to the Magdalen Laundries in

Dun Laoghaire (for which no Register survives) or Galway (where only partial records survive).

8. Instead, a separate analysis was carried out on the so-called legacy cases, that is women who entered a Magdalen Laundry prior to the establishment of the State and who remained there for at least some time following the establishment of the State; and also on the surviving (partial) records of the Magdalen Laundry in Galway.
9. The data was analysed to identify cases of repeat entries and also in particular those repeat entries which provided no usable data. These included certain repeat entries for which no usable data was recorded, for example where no date of re-entry or departure or route of entry was included in the relevant Register. A typical case of this kind would be a re-entry recorded only as e.g. "Returned, left again". These cases were excluded on the basis that they did not provide any usable data for analysis of the routes of entry, durations of stay and so on of the women in question.
10. With this adjustment, for the majority of types of analysis carried out, the total available field of information consisted of 11,198 cases. The Central Statistics Office has confirmed that the findings from this number of cases can be reliably extrapolated to cover all known admissions.
11. The following tables and charts set out the findings of the analysis conducted in this way. In all cases, any possible unknown factors are recorded.

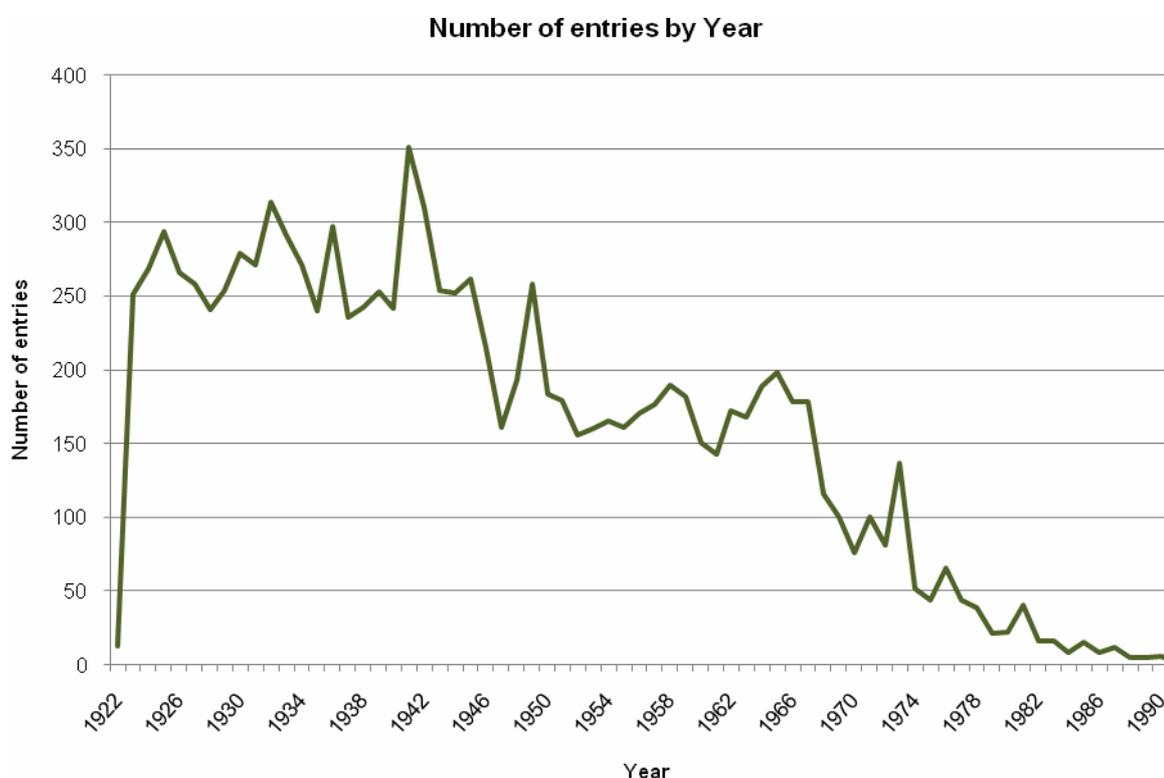
**i. Overall known entries to the Magdalen Laundries**

12. The first analysis carried out was the total number of known entries to the Magdalen Laundries from 1922 until closure of the last Magdalen Laundry in 1996.
13. The total number of known entries were categorised by decade, to provide a picture of the overall upwards or downwards trend in entries to the Magdalen

Laundries across the reference period. The following table provides both the actual numbers of known entries, as well as the percentage which they represent, for each decade from the 1920s onwards.

Decade	Number of entries	Percent
1920s	1,846	16.5%
1930s	2,695	24.1%
1940s	2,498	22.3%
1950s	1,725	15.4%
1960s	1,593	14.2%
1970s	660	5.9%
1980s	147	1.3%
1990s	8	0.1%
Unknown	26	0.2%
Total	11,198	100.0%

14. The overall trend of known entries to the Magdalen Laundries can be more clearly demonstrated by presenting the total number of entries (analysed by year rather than by decade) in the form of a graph, as follows.



15. A more detailed analysis was also carried out on the number and trend of entries over time. The Appendices include separate tables identifying the number of entries to each of the individual Magdalen Laundries by year from 1922 onwards.

## ii. Overall routes of entry

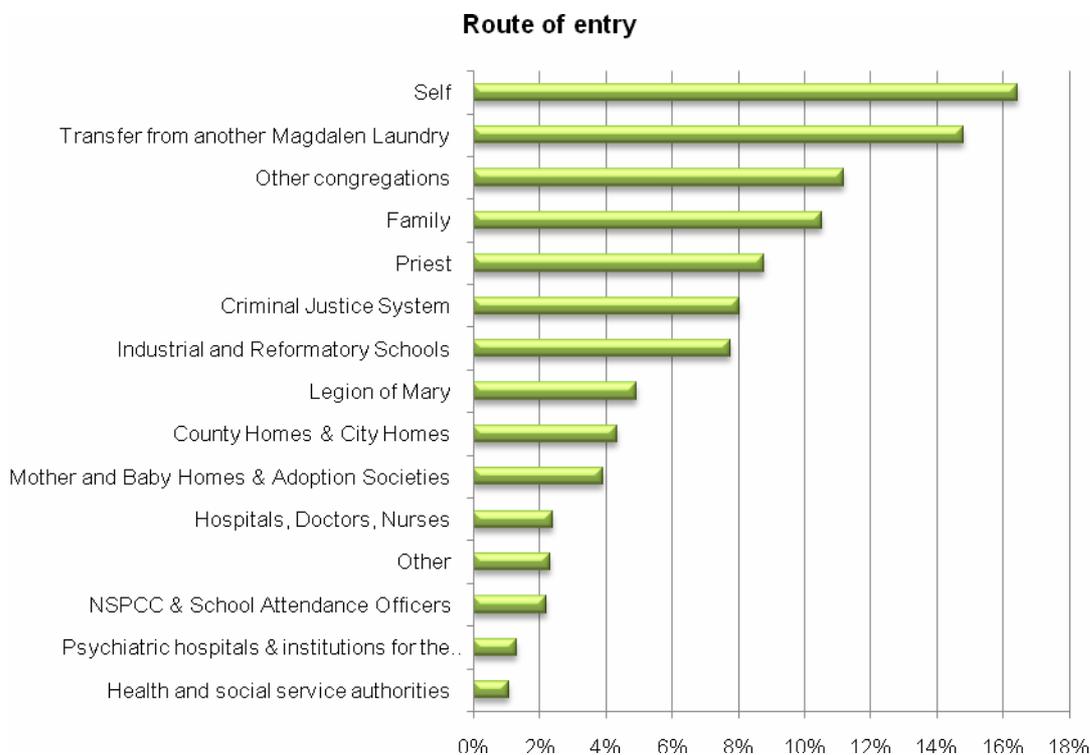
16. The routes by which these women entered the Magdalen Laundries was a key question for the Committee to address and analyse. The routes of entry of all cases following 1922 were analysed, using the methodology set out in Chapter 7, with findings as follows.

17. The routes of entry for 3,173 cases were not known (28.3% of the relevant dataset). The following table provides an analysis of those routes of entry, excluding the cases for which routes of entry are not known. In all cases, the actual number of entries, as well as the percentage of total known entries which they represent, are included.

Routes of entry to the Magdalen Laundries (cases for which routes of entry are known)	Number of women	Percent <sup>1</sup>
Self	1,319	16.4%
Transfer from another Magdalen Laundry	1,186	14.8%
Other congregations	898	11.2%
Family	845	10.5%
Priest	705	8.8%
Criminal Justice System	646	8.1%
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	622	7.8%
Legion of Mary	394	4.9%
County Homes & City Homes	349	4.4%
Mother and Baby Homes & Adoption Societies	313	3.9%
Hospitals, Doctors, Nurses	193	2.4%
Other	185	2.3%
NSPCC	176	2.2%
Psychiatric hospitals & institutions for the intellectually disabled	107	1.3%
Health and social service authorities	87	1.1%

<sup>1</sup> Percentages rounded

18. The relative proportions of each of these categories can also be demonstrated by bar-chart format, as follows.



19. The relative proportion of these categories which represent State and non-State routes of referral in their entirety to the Magdalen Laundries was also assessed. The methodology and rationale for this is detailed in Chapter 7. As set out more fully therein, the categories of the “Legion of Mary” and “NSPCC” are presented separately (as neither State nor non-State) due to the fact that these categories include both State and non-State referrals in unknown proportions.

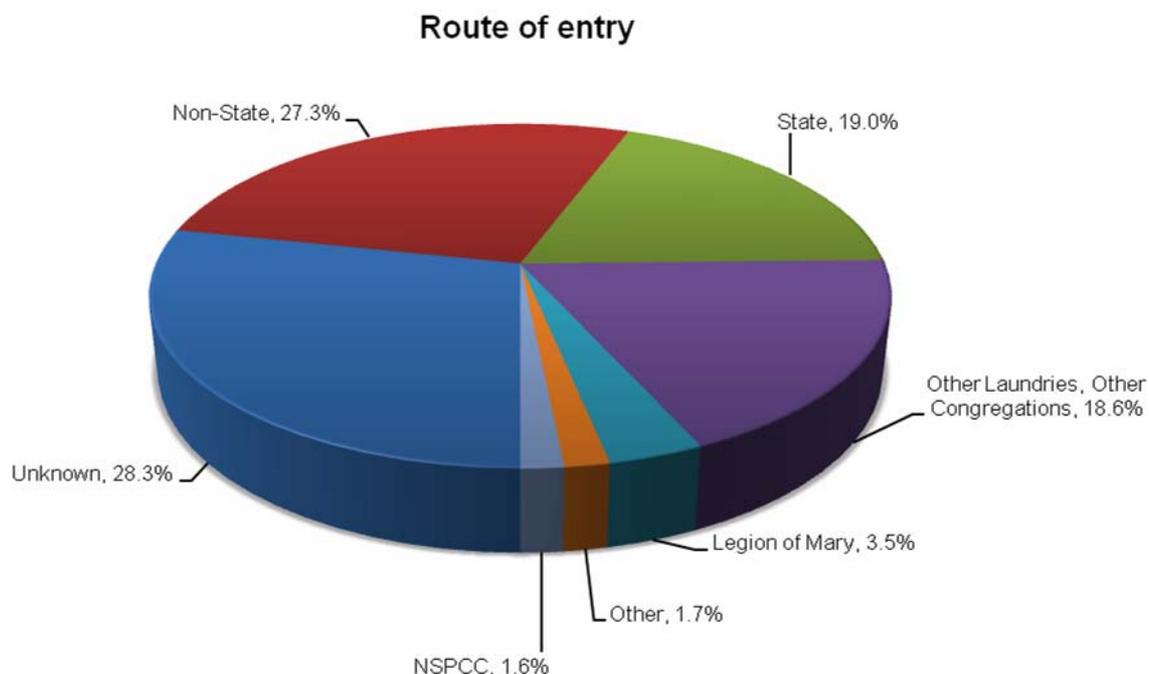
Routes of entry State v. Non-State (excluding cases for which routes of entry are unknown)	Number of women	Percent <sup>2</sup>
	Non-State	3,062
State	2,124	26.5%
Other Laundries, Other Congregations	2,084	26.0%
Legion of Mary	394	4.9%
Other	185	2.3%
NSPCC	176	2.2%

<sup>2</sup> Percentages rounded

20. The following table shows the impact of including in the analysis the cases for which routes of entry are unknown. As set out more fully in Chapter 7, the Legion of Mary and NSPCC are presented separately (as neither State nor non-State) due to the fact that these categories include both State and non-State referrals, in unknown proportions.

Routes of entry State v. Non-State (including cases for which routes of entry are unknown)	Number of women	Percent <sup>3</sup>
Unknown	3173	28.3%
Non-State	3062	27.3%
State	2124	19.0%
Other Laundries, Other Congregations	2084	18.6%
Legion of Mary	394	3.5%
Other	185	1.7%
NSPCC	176	1.6%

21. The relative proportions of each of these categories can also be demonstrated by presenting the same information in pie-chart format, as follows.



<sup>3</sup> Percentages rounded

22. In the tables above, the category “criminal justice system” includes cases identified as referral on remand, on probation, by the Courts, from prison, or by An Garda Síochána. As set out in Chapter 7, it is possible, for example, that an entry recorded as ‘Court’ is in fact a referral on remand; or for example that a referral recorded as being made by An Garda Síochána represents a case of probation. Nonetheless and bearing this in mind, the following is the relative breakdown between these categories, using all available information.

Route of entry: Relative proportions of sub-categories within 'Criminal Justice System'	Number of women	Percent <sup>4</sup>
Probation	203	31.4%
Gardaí	185	28.6%
Court	160	24.8%
Remand	52	8.1%
Prison	46	7.1%
<b>Total Criminal Justice System</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>100%</b>

23. The overall pattern of State referrals – including all categories of State referrals – was also analysed. The following table sets out the actual number of State referrals and percentages by decade. This may assist in identifying the upwards and downwards trend of State referrals over the reference period.

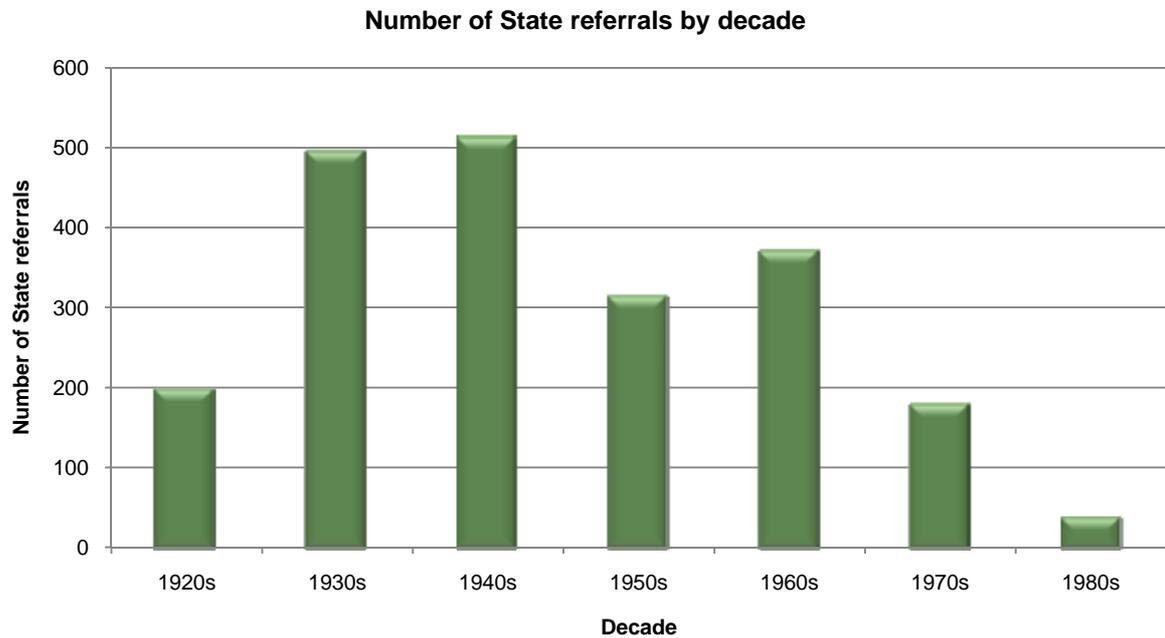
Decade	Number of State referrals	Percent <sup>5</sup>
1920s	200	9.4%
1930s	496	23.4%
1940s	516	24.3%
1950s	316	14.9%
1960s	372	17.5%
1970s	181	8.5%
1980s	40	1.9%
Unknown	3	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2124</b>	<b>100%</b>

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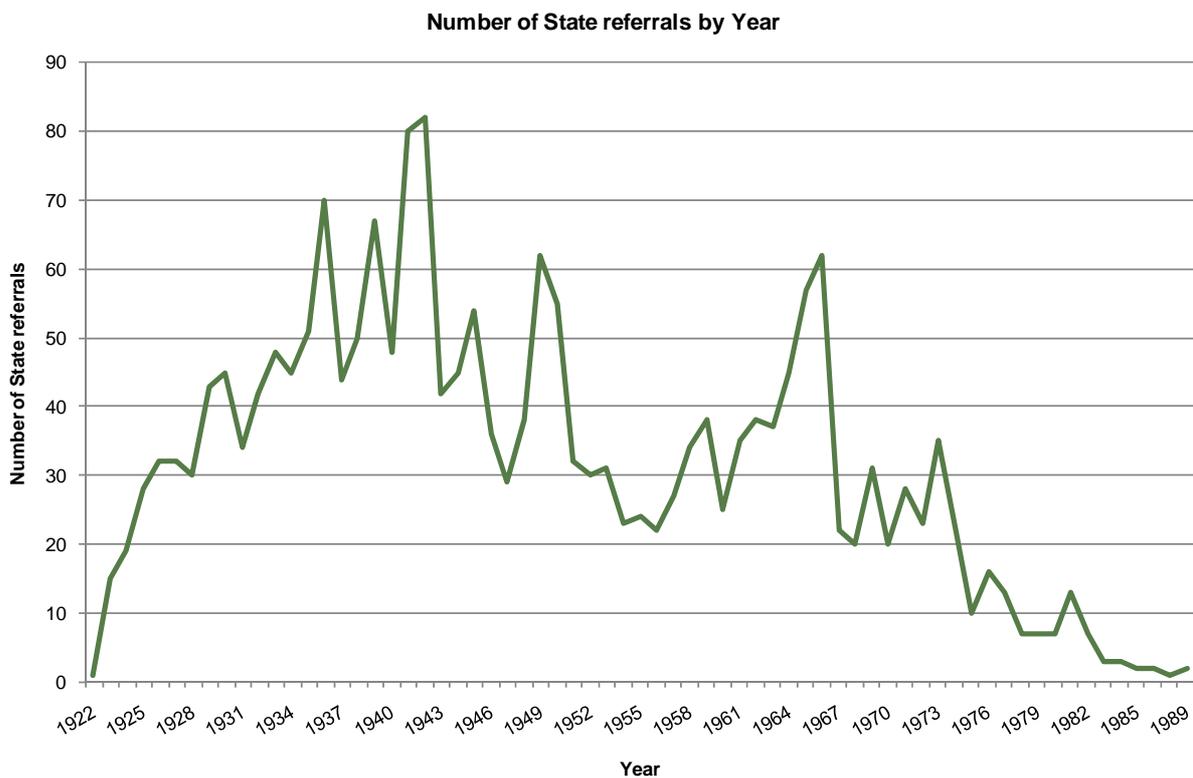
<sup>4</sup> Percentages rounded

<sup>5</sup> Percentages rounded

24. The pattern and trends which these figures represent may be clearly seen by presenting the same information in bar-chart format, as follows.



23. A more detailed breakdown of the timing of State referrals, calculated by year rather than by decade, was also carried out. The results of this analysis are presented in the following graph.



25. Additional breakdowns of these figures are included in the Appendices.
26. The manner in which the various categories for routes of entry increased or decreased over time was also analysed and is included in the Appendices (i.e. a separate table for each decade, setting out the relative frequency of each route of entry).
27. The following table sets out the actual numbers, and the percentages which they represent for all categories when entries for which the referral route is unknown are added.

Overall routes of entry (Including cases in which routes of entry are unknown)	Number of women	Percent <sup>6</sup>
Unknown	3,173	28.3%
Self	1,319	11.8%
Transfer from another Magdalen Laundry	1,186	10.6%
Other congregations	898	8.0%
Family	845	7.6%
Priest	705	6.3%
Criminal Justice System	646	5.8%
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	622	5.6%
Legion of Mary	394	3.5%
County Homes & City Homes	349	3.1%
Mother and Baby Homes & Adoption Societies	313	2.8%
Hospitals, Doctors, Nurses	193	1.7%
Other	185	1.7%
NSPCC	176	1.6%
Psychiatric hospitals & institutions for the intellectually disabled	107	1.0%
Health and social service authorities	87	0.8%

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<sup>6</sup> Percentages rounded

### iii. Duration of stay

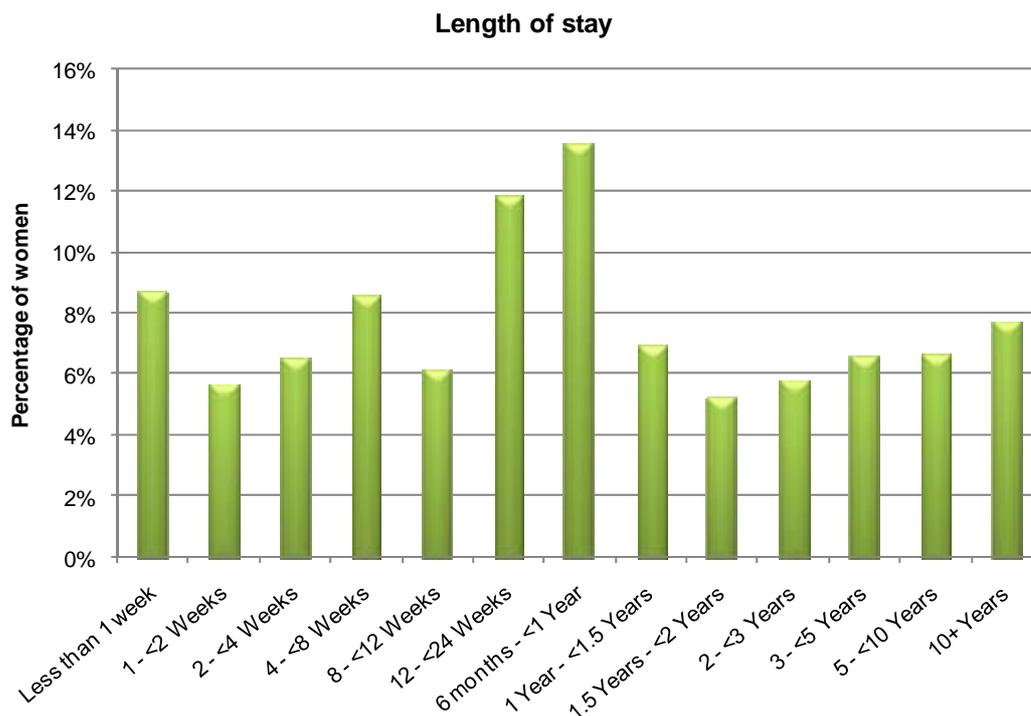
28. The amount of time which individual girls and women stayed in the Magdalen Laundries has never previously been calculated. An analysis was conducted of all known entries to the Magdalen Laundries to determine figures for duration of stay.

29. The duration of stay was unknown for 5,047 women (45%). The following table sets out the duration of stay in the Magdalen Laundries for the remaining 6,151 women for whom the duration of stay is known. The actual numbers of women concerned are included, as well as the percentage represented by that number and the cumulative percentages over the relevant time-periods.

Duration of stay	Number of women	Percent <sup>7</sup>	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
Less than 1 week	535	8.7%	535	8.7%
1 - <2 Weeks	348	5.7%	883	14.4%
2 - <4 Weeks	401	6.5%	1,284	20.9%
4 - <8 Weeks	526	8.6%	1,810	29.4%
8 - <12 Weeks	378	6.2%	2,188	35.6%
12 - <24 Weeks	728	11.8%	2,916	47.4%
6 months - <1 Year	836	13.6%	3,752	61.0%
1 Year - <1.5 Years	429	7.0%	4,181	68.0%
1.5 Years - <2 Years	322	5.2%	4,503	73.2%
2 - <3 Years	357	5.8%	4,860	79.0%
3 - <5 Years	405	6.6%	5,265	85.6%
5 - <10 Years	410	6.7%	5,675	92.3%
10+ Years	476	7.7%	6,151	100.0%

30. The following bar-chart (based on the table above) provides a clear view of the relative frequency of these periods of stay.

<sup>7</sup> Percentages rounded



31. The average and the median duration of stay were also calculated based on these figures. In this case, because the distribution of length of stay is skewed by the small number of women who remained in the Magdalen Laundries for life, the average length of stay is a biased estimate of central tendency. In this case, the median duration of stay is a more informative figure.
32. The median stay is the point in the distribution of length of stay that splits the population into two halves. This means that 50% of women stayed less than the median; and 50% stayed longer than the median.
33. The following table sets out both the average and the median duration of stay for each of the institutions analysed, as well as an overall average and median duration of stay for all institutions together. The minimum and maximum stays are also included.

Institution	Median stay (weeks)	Average stay (weeks)	Minimum stay (weeks)	Maximum stay (weeks)
Waterford	56.6	216.0	0.14	3420.6
New Ross	54.4	206.5	0.14	2628.1
Limerick	29.3	141.4	0.14	2291.7
Sunday's Well, Cork	28.6	158.7	0.14	2721.3
Donnybrook	20.3	61.8	0.14	2890.0
Peacock Lane, Cork	14.4	51.0	0.14	888.9
High Park	8.3	256.8	0.14	907.7
Sean McDermott St	3.6	25.2	0.14	652.0
<b>All</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>167.5</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>3420.6</b>

#### iv. Routes of exit

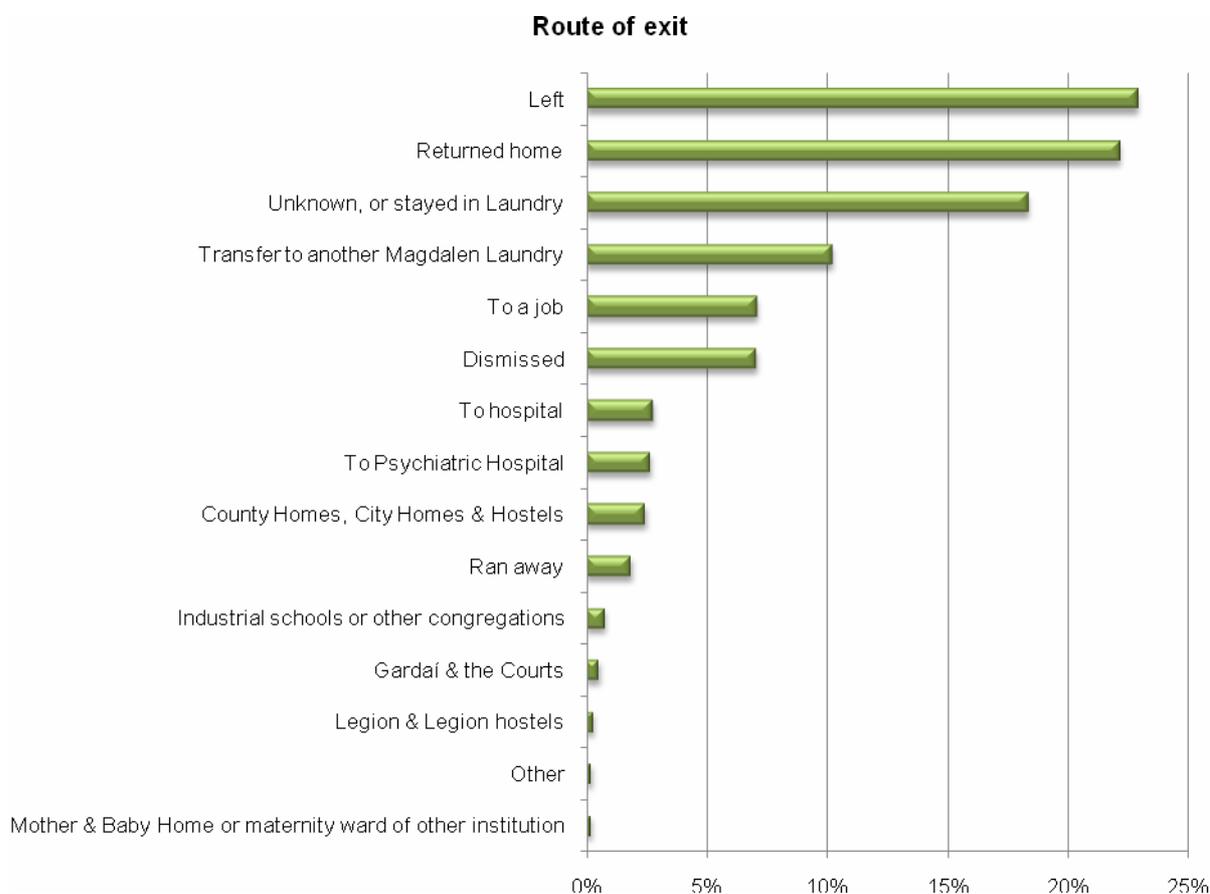
34. The routes by which girls and women left the Magdalen Laundries were also closely examined by the Committee. The methodology by which these routes of exit was analysed is set out in Chapter 7.

35. In many cases, the routes of exit from the Laundries were not known – these cases are included in the following table. This table provides an analysis of all routes of exit, including both the actual number of exits as well as the percentage of the total which they represent.

Routes of exit	Number of women	Percent <sup>8</sup>
Left	2570	23.0%
Returned home	2487	22.2%
Unknown, or stayed in Laundry	2060	18.4%
Transfer to another Magdalen Laundry	1148	10.3%
To a job	797	7.1%
Dismissed	795	7.1%
To hospital	314	2.8%
To Psychiatric Hospital	300	2.7%
County Homes, City Homes & Hostels	279	2.5%
Ran away	213	1.9%
Industrial schools or other congregations	87	0.8%
Gardaí & the Courts	63	0.6%
Legion & Legion hostels	34	0.3%
Other	26	0.2%
Mother & Baby Home or maternity ward of other institution	25	0.2%

<sup>8</sup> Percentages rounded

36. The relative proportions of these categories may be more clearly demonstrated by presentation in bar-chart format, as follows.

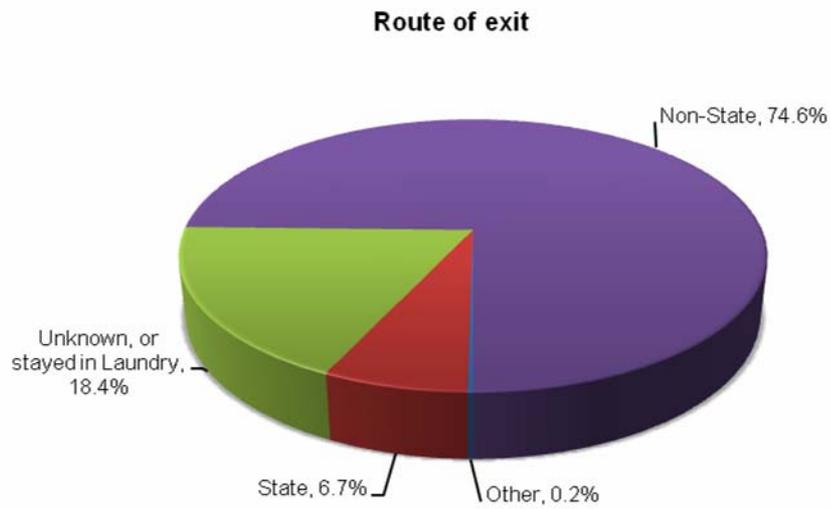


37. Some of these routes of exit involve exit of a girl or woman from a Magdalen Laundry to a State institution or in the company of a State official. The applicable categories and explanations of same are set out in Chapter 7. The following table sets out the cumulative numbers and percentages for routes of exit categorised either as being State or non-State.

Route of exit State v. Non-State	Number of women	Percent <sup>9</sup>
Non-State	8,358	74.6%
Unknown (majority), or stayed in Laundry	2,060	18.4%
State	754	6.7%
Other	26	0.2%

<sup>9</sup> Percentages rounded

38. This data has also been prepared in pie-chart format as follows:



### v. Profiles of the women: Age on Entry

39. The age on entry of the girls and women who were admitted to the Magdalen Laundries was also analysed on the basis of all available records. Age on entry was unknown for 2,346 women (21% of the relevant dataset)

40. Based on the remaining 8,852 girls and women for whom age on entry was available, the following table sets out the average and the median age on entry, as well as the youngest and oldest women known to have entered a Magdalen Laundry.

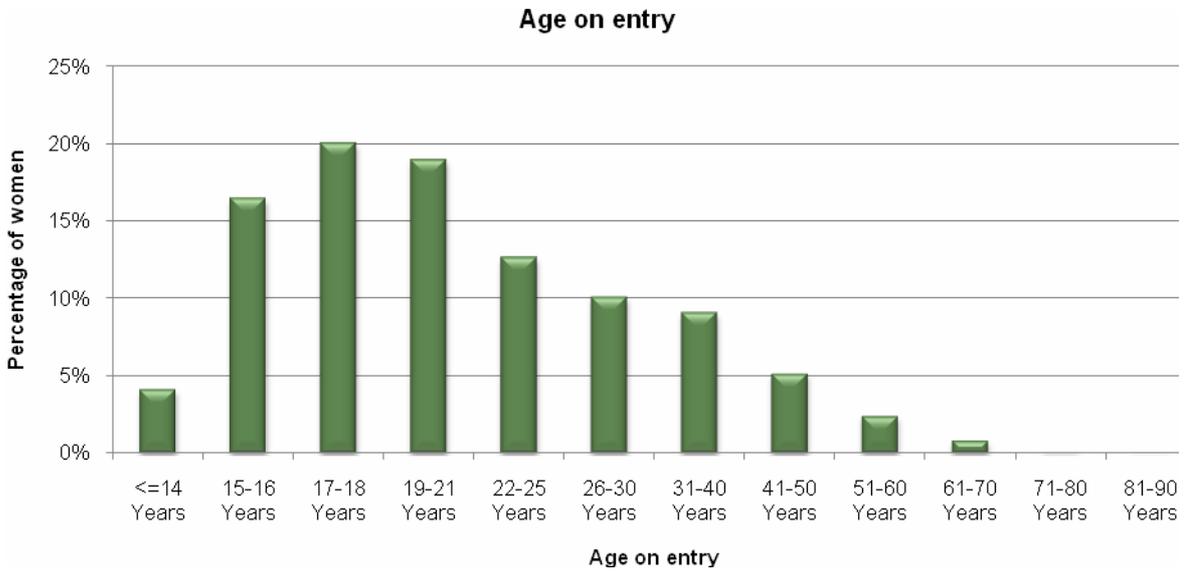
	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Age on entry	23.8	20	9	89

41. The following table provides more detailed information on the breakdown of age on entry, again based on the total number of 8,852 girls and women for whom this data is available. This table includes the actual numbers involved, as well as the percentage represented by each age-group, and the cumulative percentage of each group.

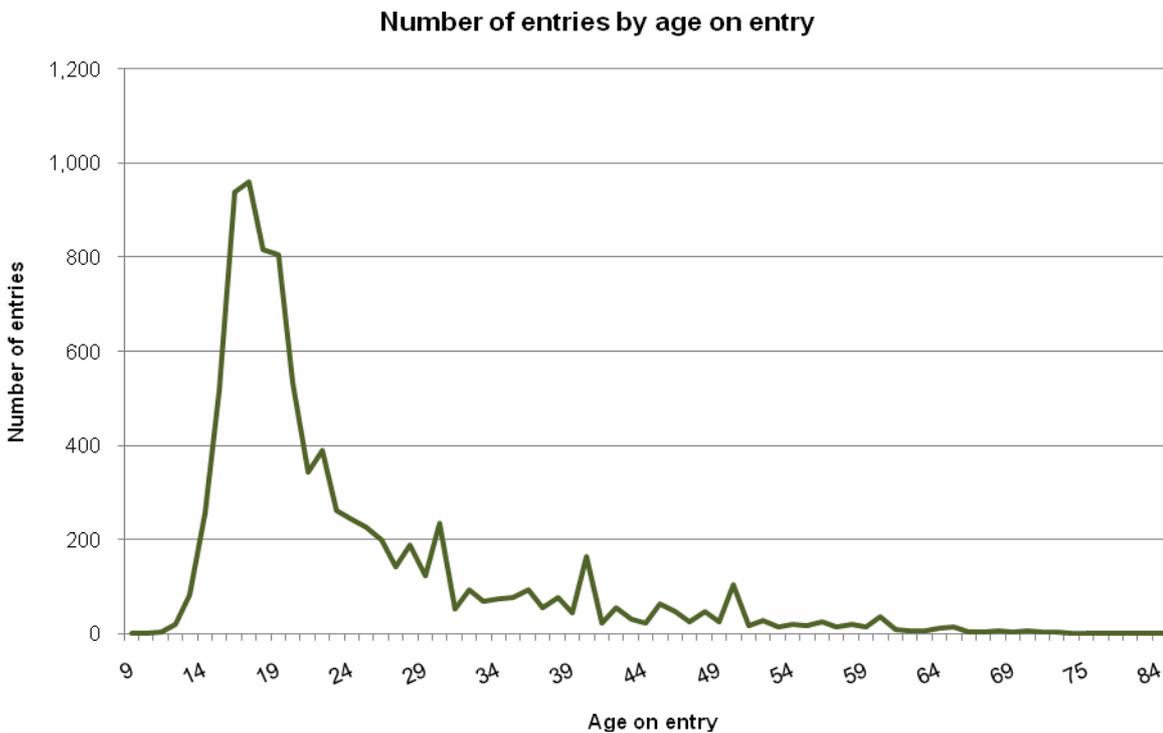
Age on entry	Number of women	Percent <sup>10</sup>	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
<=14 Years	365	4.1%	365	4.1%
15-16 Years	1,457	16.5%	1,822	20.6%
17-18 Years	1,776	20.1%	3,598	40.7%
19-21 Years	1,680	19.0%	5,278	59.6%
22-25 Years	1,120	12.7%	6,398	72.3%
26-30 Years	892	10.1%	7,290	82.4%
31-40 Years	803	9.1%	8,093	91.4%
41-50 Years	456	5.2%	8,549	96.6%
51-60 Years	213	2.4%	8,762	99.0%
61-70 Years	72	0.8%	8,834	99.8%
71-80 Years	15	0.2%	8,849	100.0%
81-90 Years	3	0.0%	8,852	100.0%

<sup>10</sup> Percentages rounded

42. The relative size of the age-groups in question can be more clearly demonstrated when the available data is presented in bar-chart format, as follows.



43. The overall pattern of age on entry is detailed by each year of age (rather than clustered in the age-groups above) in the following graph.



44. To determine whether or not the average or median age on entry varied over the reference time-period, analysis was also carried out on the average and median age on entry by decade. The following table sets out the findings in this regard, including also the youngest and oldest known entrant for each decade.

Decade	Average age	Median age	Minimum age	Maximum age
1920s	27.4	23	13	84
1930s	23.5	20	9	70
1940s	22.5	19	12	78
1950s	24.6	19	12	82
1960s	21.8	18	10	89
1970s	20.8	16	11	77
1980s	37.6	38.5	15	72
1990s	40.0	40	40	40

## vi. Profile of the women: Family background

45. In many cases, the available information includes information on whether the parents of the girls or women admitted to the Magdalen Laundries were living or dead, as well as, in some cases, references to other family members who are (in the absence of any mention of parents) taken by the Committee to have been next of kin.
46. On these assumptions, the following analysis was carried out of the family background of the girls and women who entered the Magdalen Laundries from 1922 onwards. In 5,490 cases (49% of the relevant dataset), no information was included on family background. The following table includes these unknown cases.

Next of kin status	Number of women	Percent <sup>11</sup>
Unknown	5490	49.0%
Both parents dead	1513	13.5%
Both parents alive	1399	12.5%
Father dead, Mother alive	1301	11.6%
Mother dead, Father alive	954	8.5%
Brother/Sister	290	2.6%
Aunt/Uncle	104	0.9%
Husband	69	0.6%
Grandparent(s)	26	0.2%
Fosterparent(s)	17	0.2%
Friends	15	0.1%
Daughter	11	0.1%
Cousin	9	0.1%

## vii. Profiles of the women: Geographical origin

47. The geographic origin of the girls and women who entered the Magdalen Laundries was analysed. A number of categories were chosen for this analysis: each county within the State (all 26 of which are represented in the table), as well as Northern Ireland, Great Britain, USA, Continental Europe

<sup>11</sup> Percentages rounded

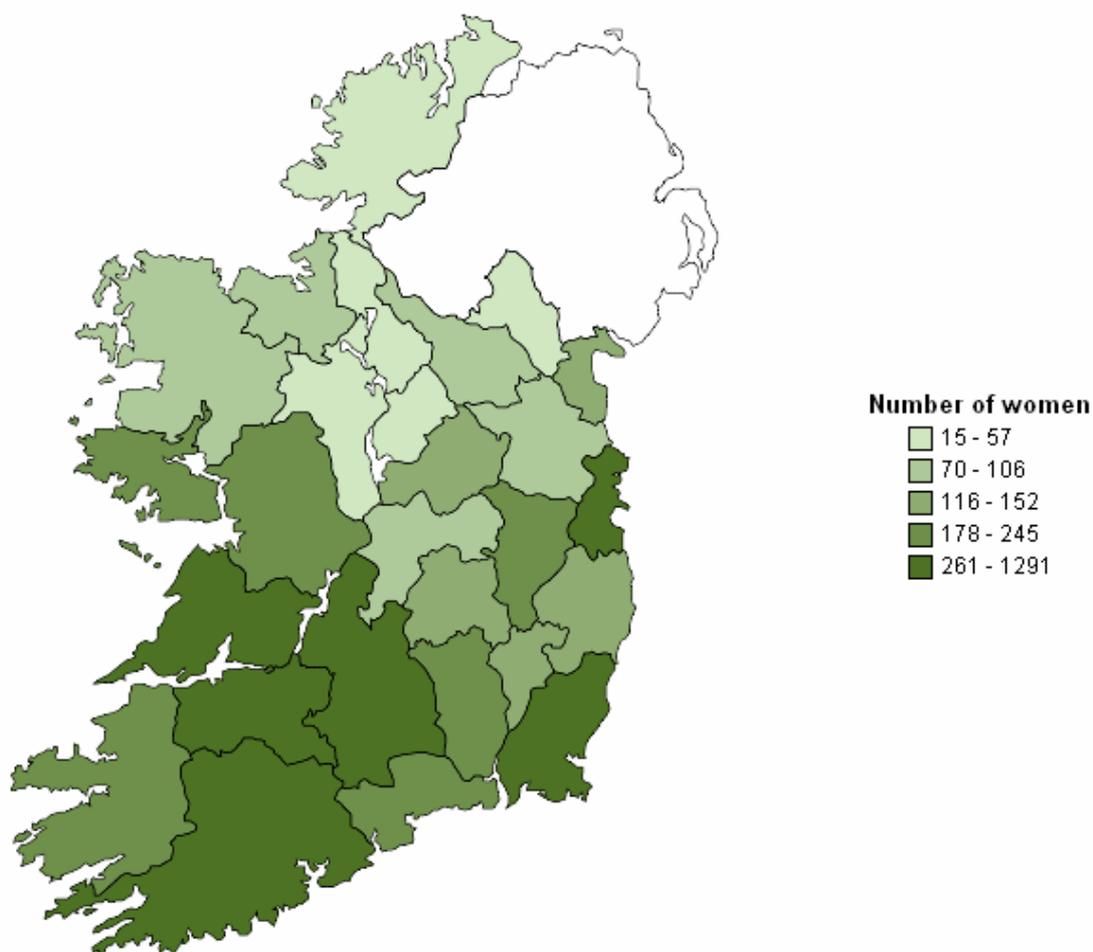
and a remaining category for “Rest of World”. The following table sets out both the actual numbers of girls and women involved, as well as the percentages represented by each category.

Place of origin	Number of women	Percent <sup>12</sup>
Carlow	152	1.4%
Cavan	91	0.8%
Clare	261	2.3%
Cork	1,200	10.7%
Donegal	15	0.1%
Dublin	1,291	11.5%
Galway	221	2.0%
Kerry	215	1.9%
Kildare	178	1.6%
Kilkenny	232	2.1%
Laois	120	1.1%
Leitrim	28	0.3%
Limerick	773	6.9%
Longford	52	0.5%
Louth	116	1.0%
Mayo	87	0.8%
Meath	75	0.7%
Monaghan	57	0.5%
Offaly	106	1.0%
Roscommon	40	0.4%
Sligo	70	0.6%
Tipperary	399	3.6%
Waterford	245	2.2%
Westmeath	128	1.1%
Wexford	334	3.0%
Wicklow	139	1.2%
Northern Ireland	134	1.2%
Great Britain	118	1.1%
Continental Europe	6	0.1%
USA	1	0.0%
Rest of World	3	0.0%
Unknown	4,311	38.5%

<sup>12</sup> Percentages rounded

48. The geographic background of the girls and women who entered the Magdalen Laundries from the 26 counties within the State is demonstrated in the following heat-map.

### Place of origin of the women who entered the Magdalen Laundries

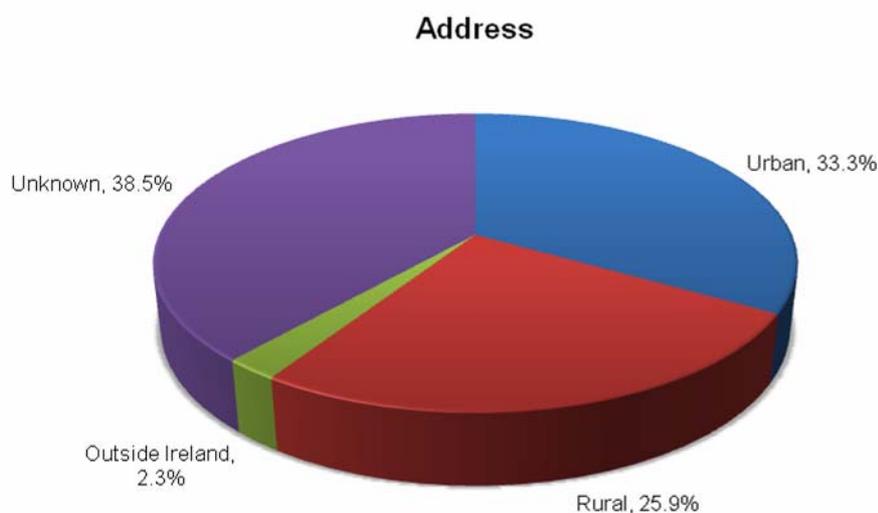


49. In order to determine the number of admissions to the Magdalen Laundries by women from urban and rural backgrounds, some additional analysis of these figures was necessary. Some assumptions were also necessary in carrying out this analysis – for the purposes of the following table, cities in the State with one or more Magdalen Laundry and their respective counties were defined as urban, that is Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick and Waterford.

50. No assumptions were made regarding the urban or rural background of girls and women entering the Magdalen Laundries from outside the State. These are instead presented separately in the following table.

Place of origin	Number of women	Percent <sup>13</sup>
Urban	3730	33.3%
Rural	2896	25.9%
Outside the State	261	2.3%
Unknown	4311	38.5%

51. The relative proportions of these categories are demonstrated in the following pie-chart, based on the data provided in the table above.



<sup>13</sup> Percentages rounded

### viii. Profiles of the women: previously institutionalised

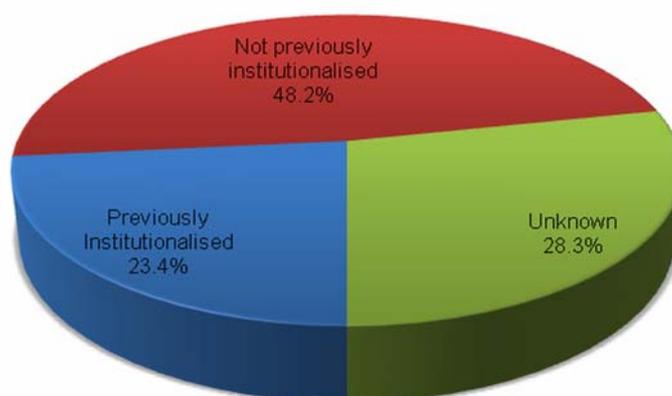
52. An analysis of whether the girls and women who entered the Magdalen Laundries had been previously institutionalised was also carried out. The information available in this regard was not complete.

53. Cases in which a girl or woman was recorded as having been previously in any of the following institutions are, for the purposes of the following table, categorised as having been previously institutionalised: Another Magdalen Laundry, Industrial and Reformatory Schools, County Homes and City Homes, Prison, Mother and Baby Homes, Psychiatric hospitals and institutions for the intellectually disabled.

Route of entry	Number of women	Percent <sup>14</sup>
Previously institutionalised	2,623	23.4%
Not previously institutionalised	5,402	48.2%
Unknown	3,173	28.3%

54. The relative proportions of these categories is demonstrated in the following pie-chart (based on the data set out in the table above).

**Previously institutionalised**

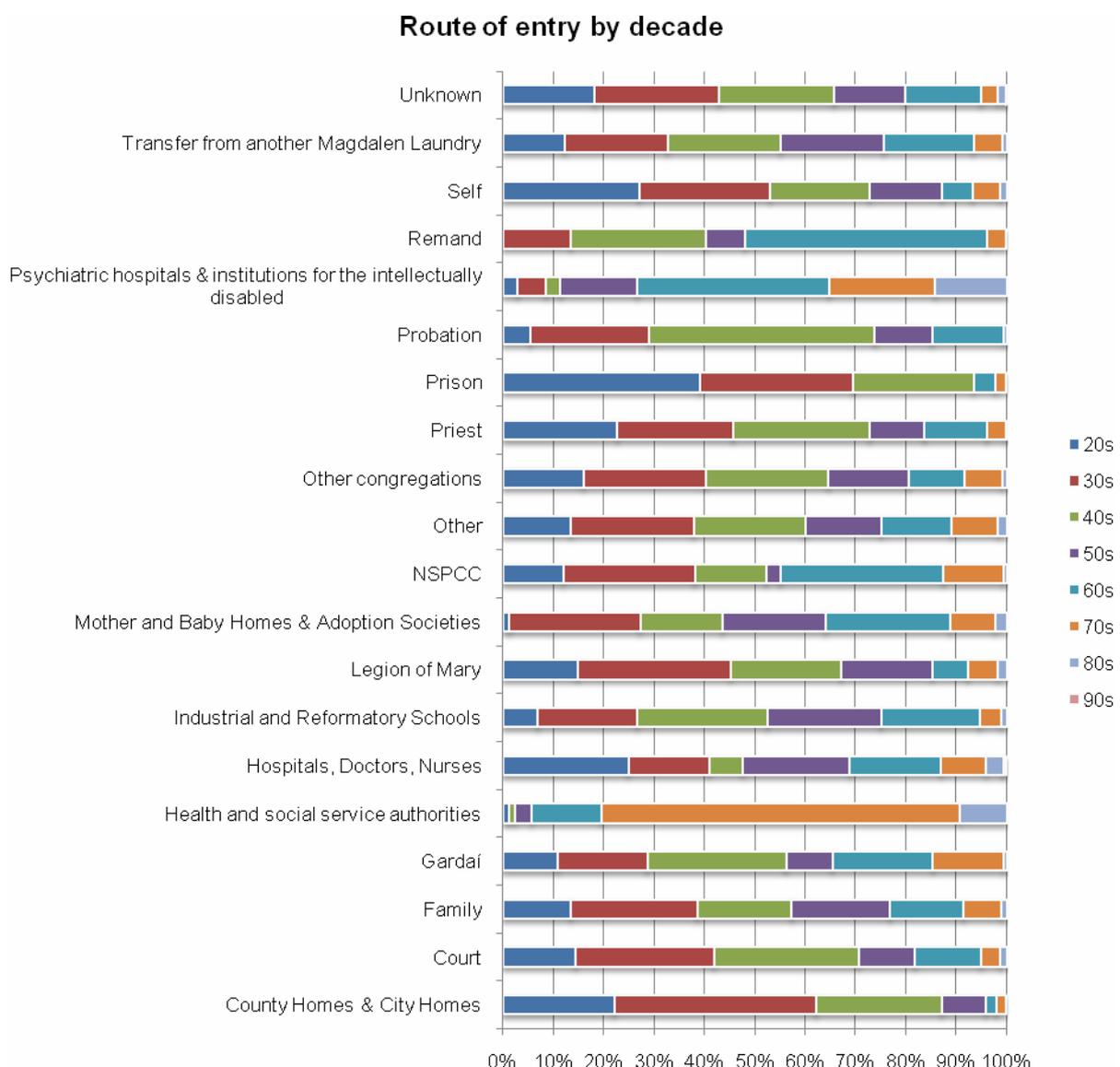


<sup>14</sup> Percentages rounded

**ix. Combinations of available data**

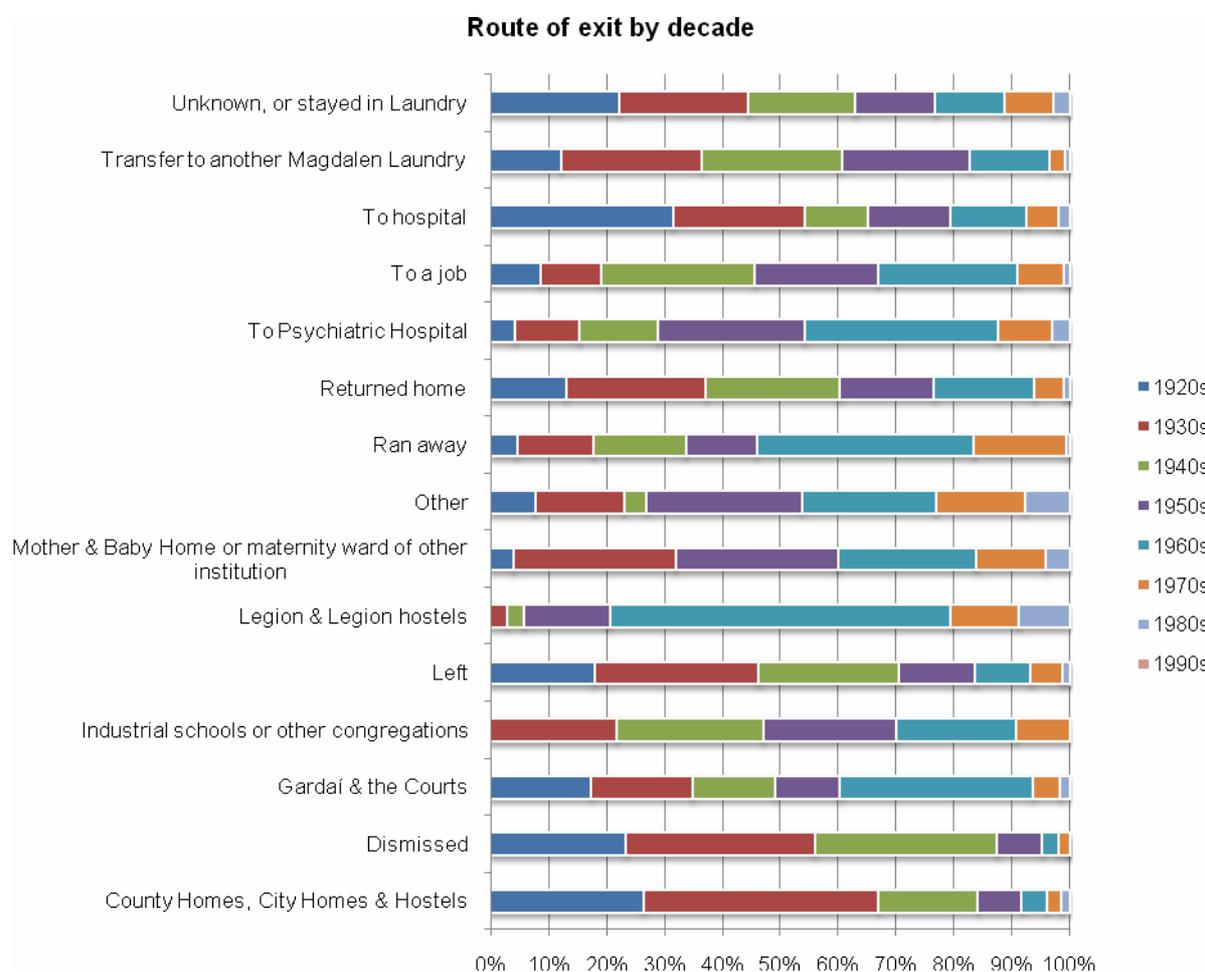
55. Various analyses were also conducted of combinations of the available data, to give a more detailed breakdown of all available information.

56. The first such combination analysis was of the routes of entry to the Magdalen Laundry by time. The following table provides an overview of this analysis, by including detail of how routes of entry varied by decade across the reference time-period.



57. A more detailed analysis on this point is included in the Appendices, with separate graphs recording the routes of entry on a decade by decade basis (i.e. a separate chart for routes of entry in the 1920s, 1930s and so on).

58. A similar exercise was carried out on the routes of exit by time. The following table provides an overview of this analysis, by including detail of how routes of exit varied by decade across the reference time-period. This gives an overview of the manner in which particular routes of exit increased or decreased over time.

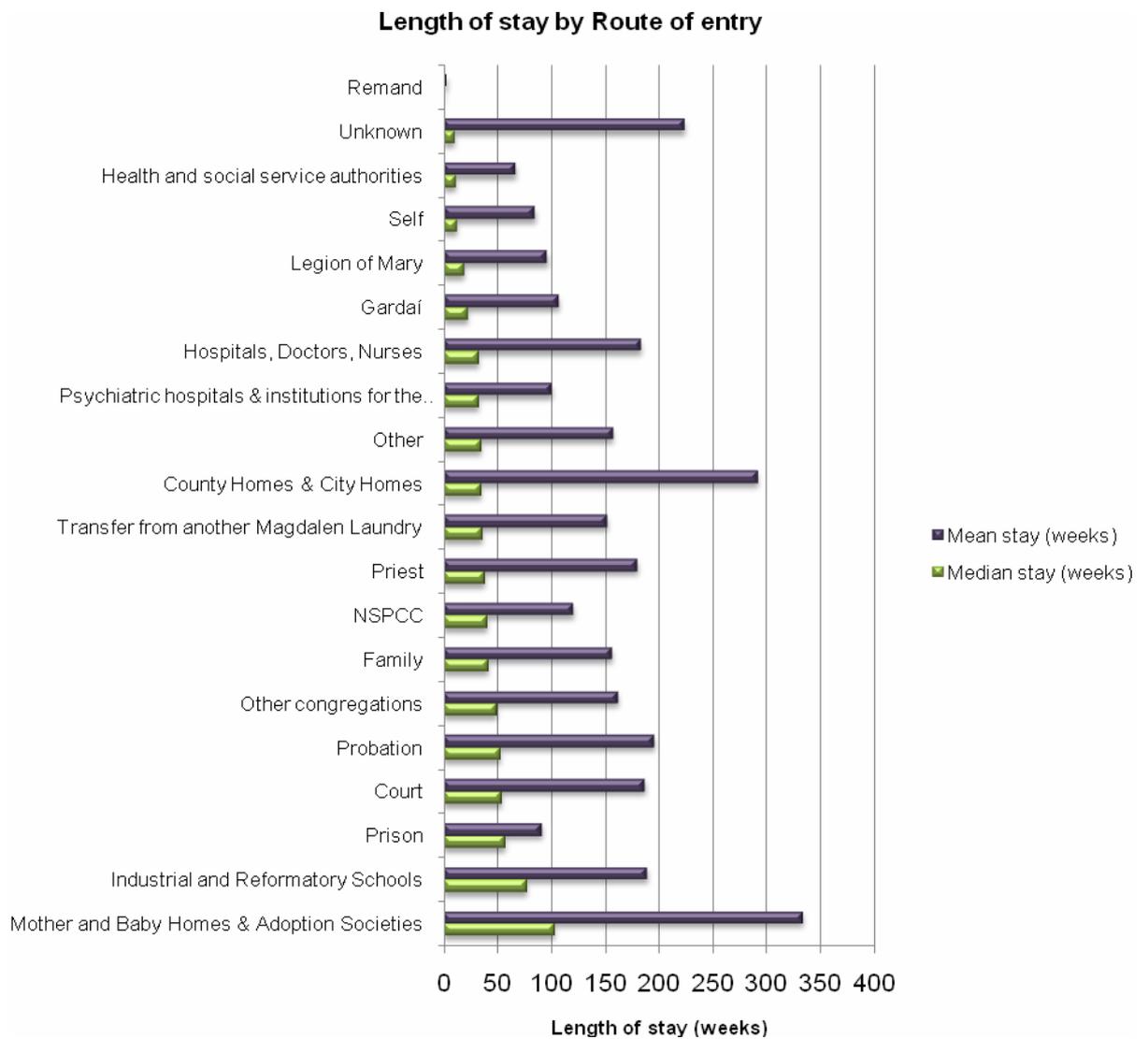


59. Again, more detailed analysis on this combination of routes of exit across time is included in the Appendices, with separate graphs recording routes of exit for every decade in the reference time period (i.e. routes of exit in the 1920s, 1930s, and so on).

60. The duration of stay in the Magdalen Laundries was also analysed on the basis of each individual route of entry. The following table provides a picture of the relative median and mean duration of stay for all routes of entry to the Magdalen Laundries, as well as recording the shortest and longest duration of stay for each category. (The median stay is the point in the distribution of length of stay that splits the population into two halves, which means that 50% of women stayed less than the median; and 50% stayed longer than the median).

Route of entry	Median stay (weeks)	Mean stay (weeks)	Minimum stay (weeks)	Maximum stay (weeks)
Mother and Baby Homes & Adoption Societies	102.4	334.3	0.43	2,895.4
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	76.7	189.8	0.14	2,584.3
Prison	56.7	91.6	1.14	703.4
Court	53.7	187.8	0.14	2,122.0
Probation	52.3	196.1	0.29	2,914.3
Other congregations	48.6	162.4	0.14	2,447.9
Family	41.1	157.0	0.14	2,799.0
NSPCC	40.3	120.9	0.14	1,745.1
Priest	38.4	180.6	0.14	2,686.4
Transfer from another Magdalen Laundry	35.6	152.5	0.14	2,504.3
County Homes & City Homes	35.0	292.2	0.14	2,669.6
Other	34.9	157.6	0.14	2,084.3
Psychiatric hospitals & institutions for the intellectually disabled	32.2	100.9	0.57	433.3
Hospitals, Doctors, Nurses	31.7	183.7	0.14	2,517.7
Gardaí	21.6	107.5	0.14	2,110.7
Legion of Mary	18.3	96.9	0.14	2,721.3
Self	12.3	85.5	0.14	2,890.0
Health and social service authorities	11.2	67.3	0.14	1,620.3
Unknown	10.1	224.4	0.14	3,420.6
Remand	1.0	3.6	0.29	10.6

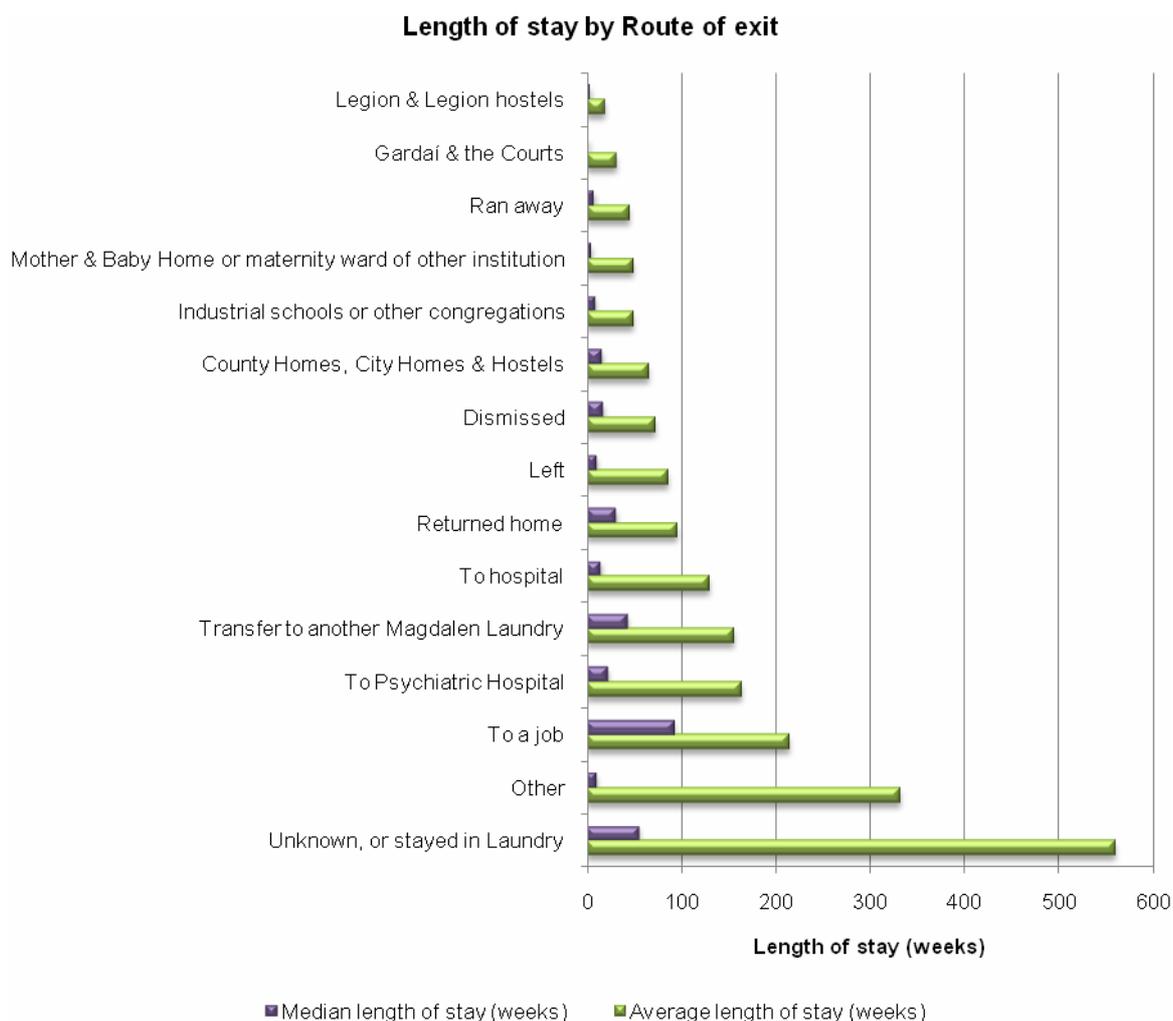
61. This data is presented in the form of the following bar-chart, to clearly demonstrate the median and mean lengths of stay for the various routes of entry and the variations which were found between these categories.



62. The same analysis was carried out on the duration of stay in the Magdalen Laundries on the basis of each individual route of exit. The following table provides a picture of the relative median and mean durations of stay for all routes of exit from the Magdalen Laundries, as well as recording the shortest and longest duration of stay for each category.

Route of exit	Average stay (weeks)	Minimum stay (weeks)	Maximum stay (weeks)	Median stay (weeks)
Unknown, or stayed in Laundry	560.8	0.14	3,420.6	55.9
Other	332.4	0.14	2,750.0	10.6
To a job	214.7	0.14	2,561.7	92.7
To Psychiatric Hospital	163.3	0.29	2,633.6	22.6
Transfer to another Magdalen Laundry	156.0	0.14	2,914.3	43.4
To hospital	128.8	0.14	2,465.4	15.7
Returned home	95.8	0.14	2,290.0	31.7
Left	85.1	0.14	2,855.6	10.9
Dismissed	72.5	0.14	2,528.3	17.9
County Homes, City Homes & Hostels	64.6	0.14	1,119.6	16.5
Industrial schools or other congregations	49.3	0.43	446.1	9.1
Mother & Baby Home or maternity ward	48.3	0.14	478.3	5.4
Ran away	44.2	0.14	897.6	8.7
Gardaí & the Courts	30.3	0.14	380.0	3.0
Legion & Legion hostels	18.4	0.57	81.6	4.3

63. This data is also presented in the form of the following bar-chart.

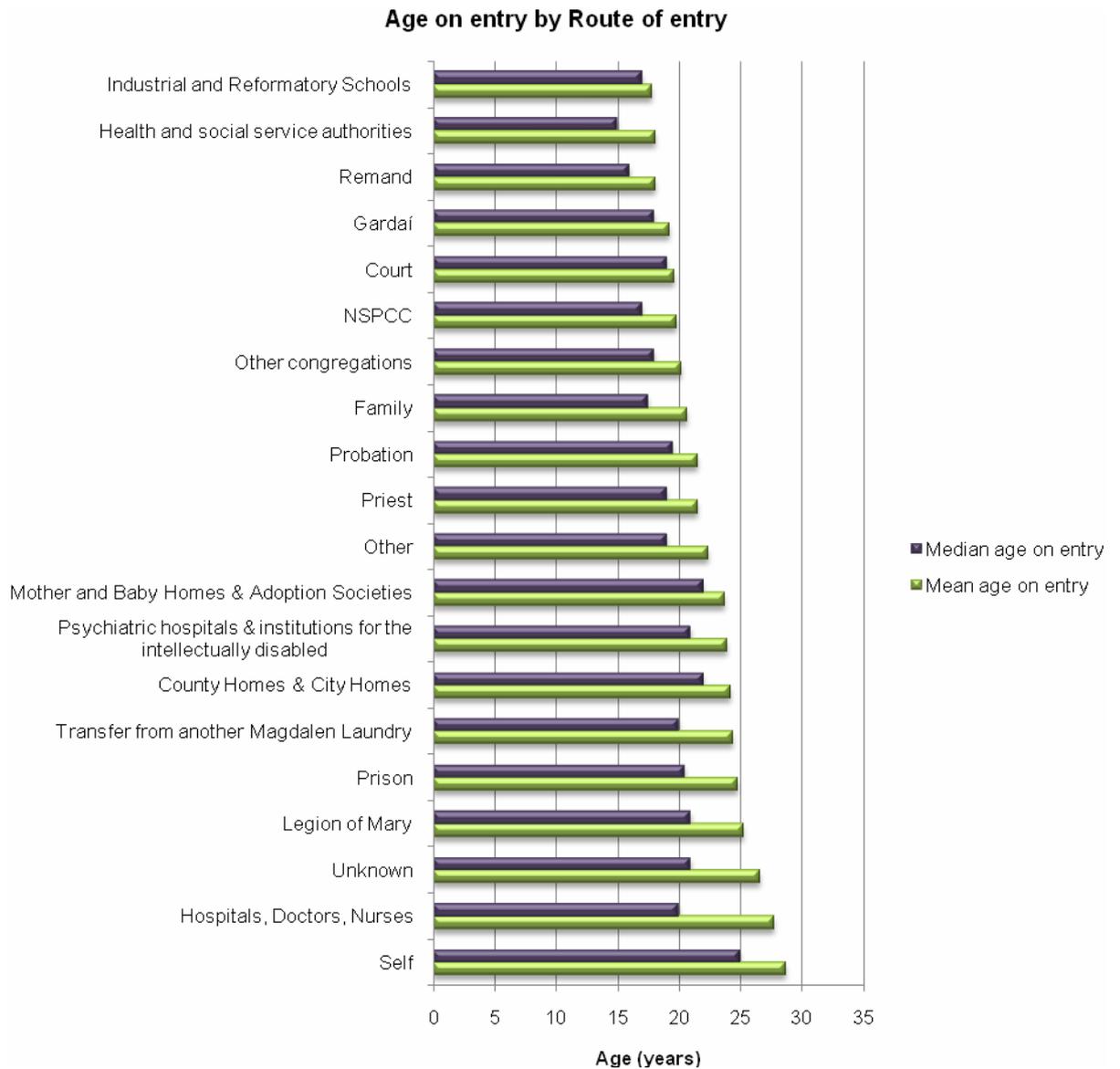


64. The mean and median ages at which girls and women entered the Magdalen Laundries was analysed against the basis of the recorded routes of entry.

65. This analysis demonstrates the differing age profiles of these girls and women, depending on the manner which they entered the Laundries. In all cases, the youngest known and oldest known entrant for each route of entry is also included.

Route of entry	Mean age on entry	Median age on entry	Minimum age on entry	Maximum age on entry
Self	28.7	25	13	84
Hospitals, Doctors, Nurses	27.8	20	13	71
Unknown	26.6	21	9	82
Legion of Mary	25.2	21	14	65
Prison	24.8	20.5	14	55
Transfer from another Magdalen Laundry	24.4	20	14	89
County Homes & City Homes	24.2	22	13	61
Psychiatric hospitals & institutions for the intellectually disabled	23.9	21	14	50
Mother and Baby Homes & Adoption Societies	23.7	22	14	71
Other	22.4	19	13	58
Priest	21.5	19	13	63
Probation	21.5	19.5	14	51
Family	20.6	17.5	12	72
Other congregations	20.2	18	10	70
NSPCC	19.8	17	12	77
Court	19.6	19	12	60
Gardaí	19.2	18	11	60
Remand	18.1	16	13	51
Health and social service authorities	18.1	15	11	61
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	17.8	17	9	61

66. The data contained in the above table is also presented in the following bar-chart format, to allow a clear view of the relative ages at which girls and women entered the Magdalen Laundries when separated into the various routes by which they entered the Magdalen Laundries.



67. An analysis was conducted of routes of exit against the ages at which the girls and women in question had originally entered the Magdalen Laundries.

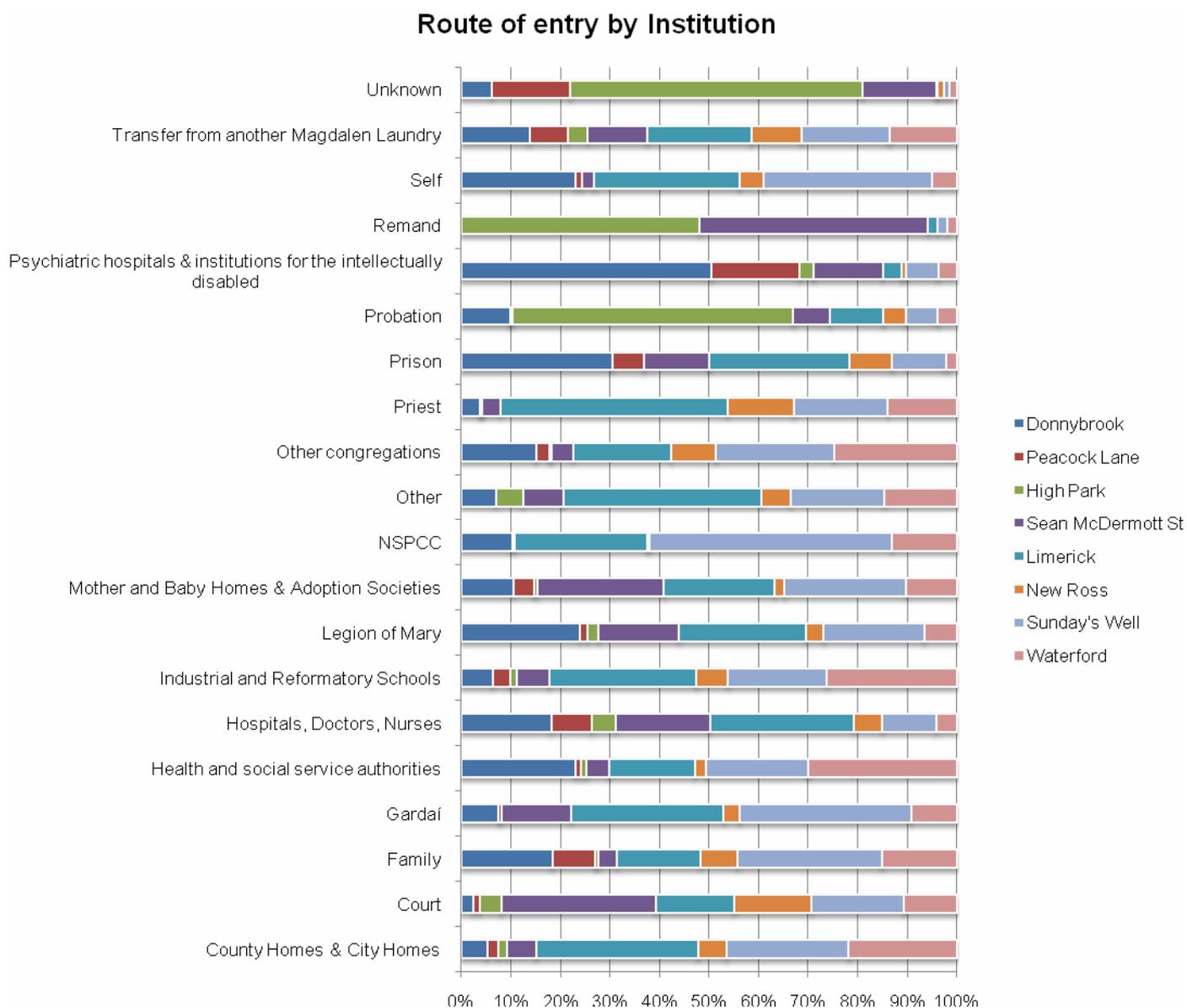
68. The following table accordingly differentiates between the routes of exit in relation to the average and median ages of girls and women at the time of their entry and exit.

Route of exit	Average age on entry	Median age on entry	Average age on exit	Median age on exit
County Homes, City Homes & Hostels	25.0	22	26.0	23
Dismissed	22.9	20	25.1	22
Gardaí & the Courts	18.8	17	20.7	18
Industrial schools or other congregations	17.0	16	19.0	18
Left	27.2	22	28.6	24
Legion & Legion hostels	18.3	17	19.5	19
Mother & Baby Home or maternity ward of other institution	20.6	20	22.6	22
Other	22.2	20	27.9	21
Ran away	19.3	17	19.7	18
Returned home	20.1	18	21.8	19
To Psychiatric Hospital	26.5	23	30.5	25
To a job	21.2	19	25.5	23
To hospital	28.5	23	30.9	25
Transfer to another Magdalen Laundry	22.2	19	25.3	22
Unknown, or stayed in Laundry	26.7	22	41.2	35

69. The routes of exit of girls and women from the Magdalen Laundries were also analysed according to their family background (whether their parents were living or dead). The following table sets out the findings of this analysis.

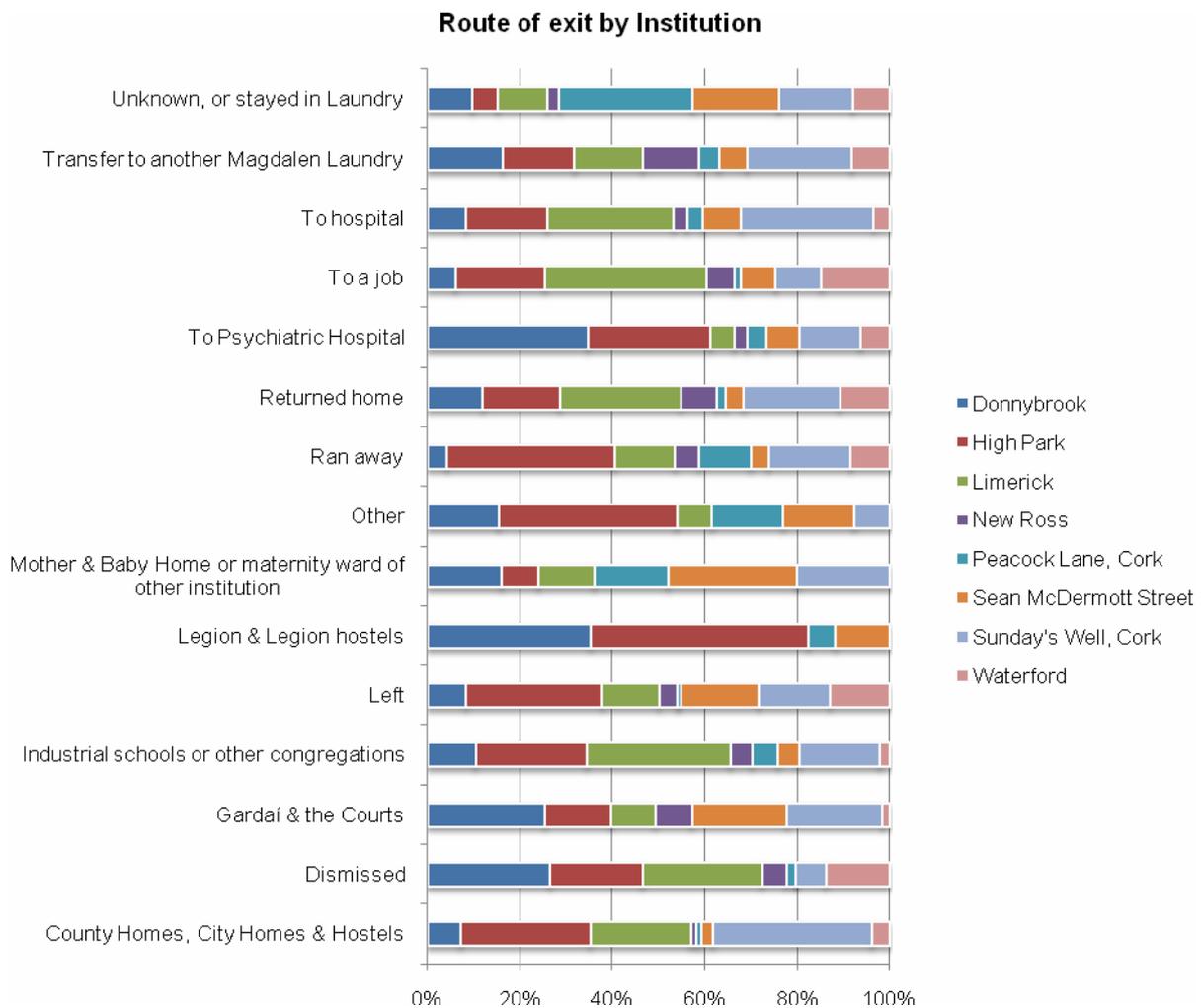
Route of exit	Both parents alive	Both parents dead	Father dead, Mother alive	Mother dead, Father alive	Unknown
County Homes, City Homes & Hostels	2.3%	3.3%	3.4%	3.7%	2.0%
Dismissed	5.2%	7.7%	6.7%	7.5%	7.4%
Gardaí & the Courts	0.7%	0.3%	0.7%	0.2%	0.6%
Industrial schools or other congregations	1.4%	0.5%	0.8%	0.6%	0.8%
Left	19.8%	37.8%	20.4%	18.3%	21.3%
Legion & Legion hostels	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%
Mother & Baby Home or maternity ward of other institution	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%
Other	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%
Ran away	3.6%	1.1%	2.3%	2.3%	1.6%
Returned home	39.9%	10.9%	31.6%	30.2%	17.6%
To Psychiatric Hospital	1.8%	2.4%	1.8%	2.1%	3.3%
To a job	7.2%	8.8%	10.3%	8.1%	5.9%
To hospital	2.1%	3.3%	2.7%	4.5%	2.6%
Transfer to another Magdalen Laundry	8.0%	10.5%	9.5%	10.0%	10.9%
Unknown, or stayed in Laundry	7.2%	12.9%	9.2%	12.3%	25.3%

70. A full breakdown is included in the Appendices of the routes of entry for each of the relevant Magdalen Laundries (i.e. a separate graph on routes of entry for each Magdalen Laundry). As an overview of this data, the following table includes detail of the routes of entry for each institution, identified by colour-blocks only. The Appendices should be consulted for a more accurate picture of the numbers concerned.

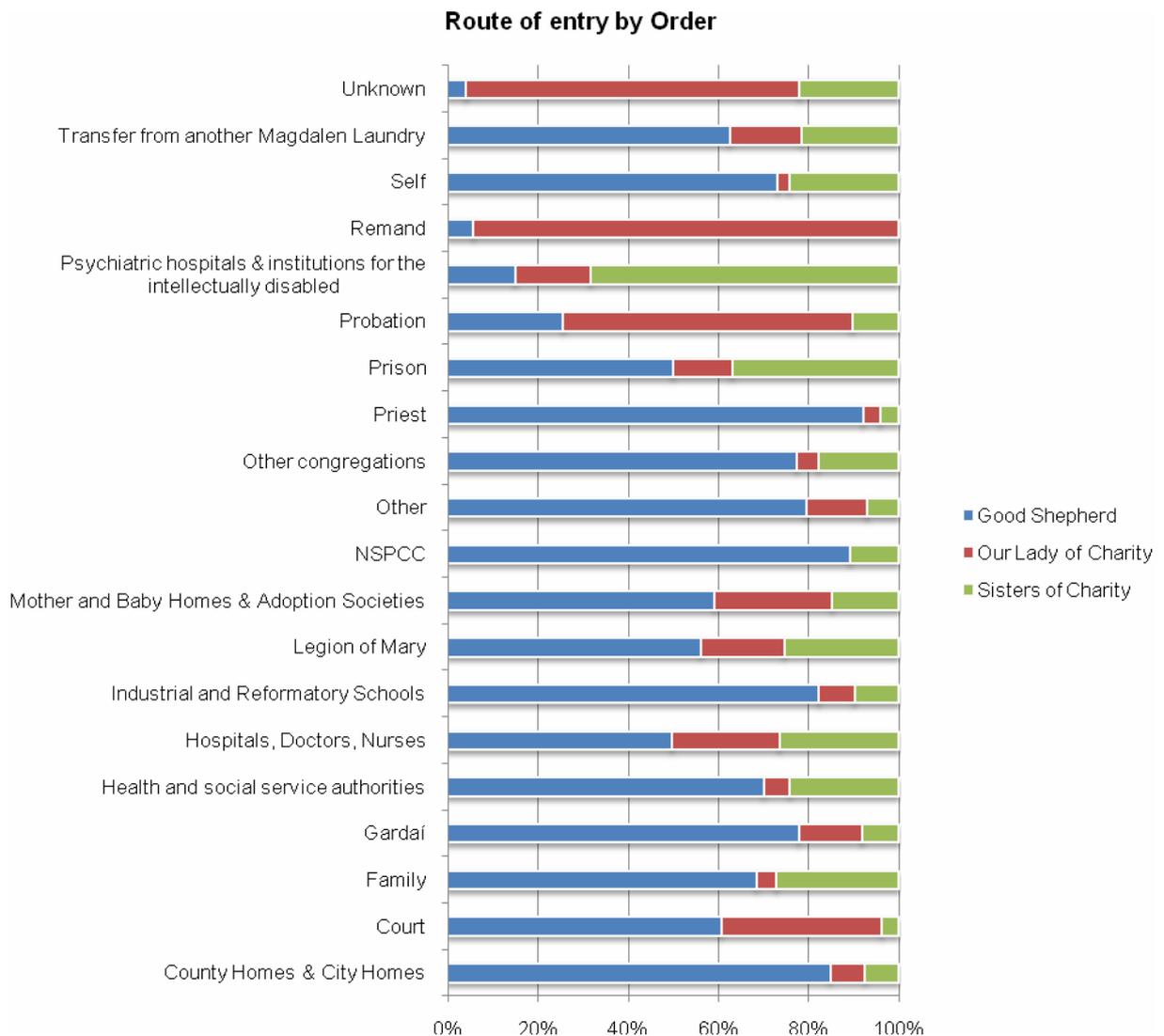


71. A similar exercise was conducted on the routes of exit for each Magdalen Laundry. Again, a detailed breakdown on this is included in the Appendices, comprising an individual graph for each institution detailing the relative frequency of routes of exit.

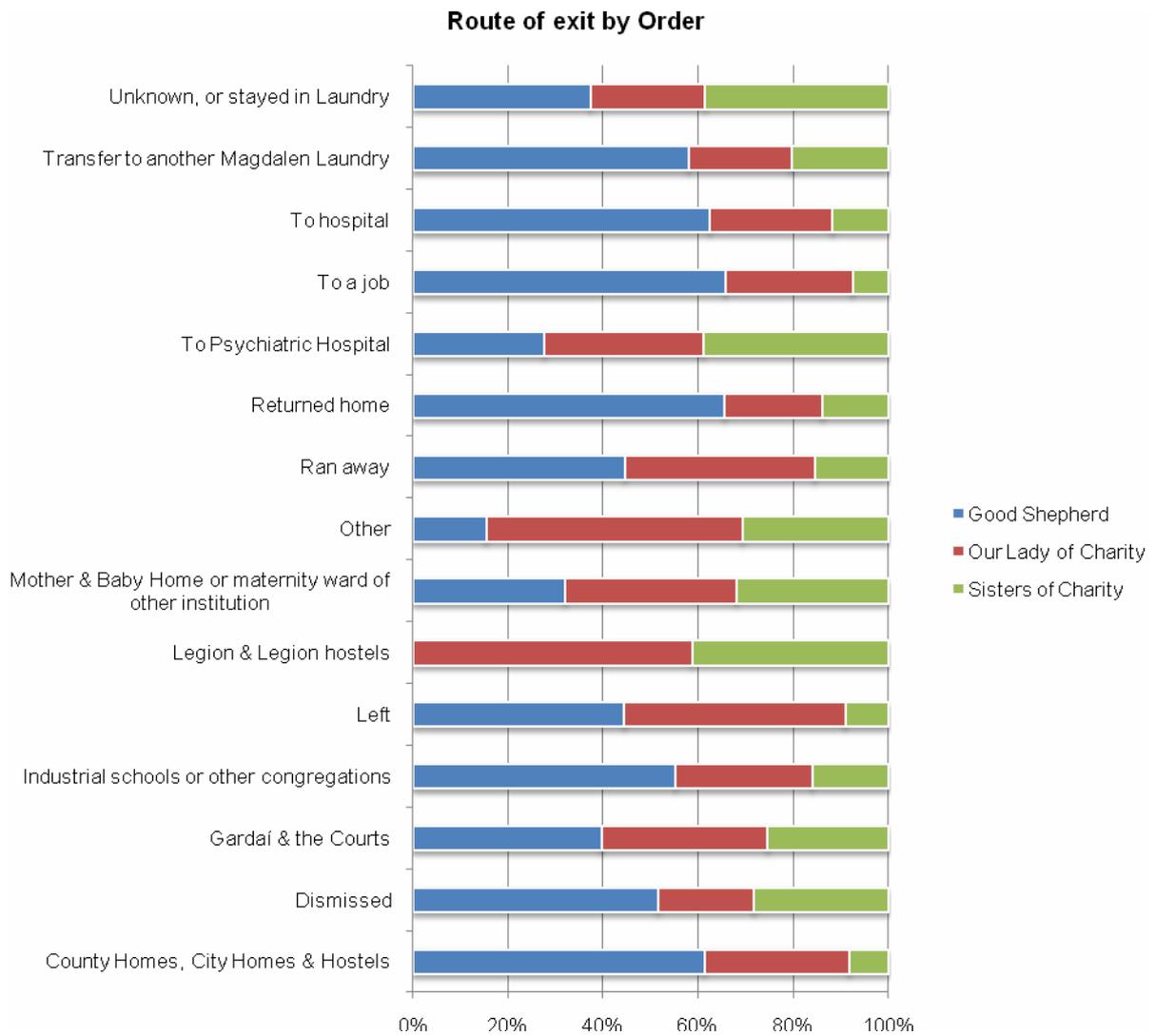
72. The following table provides an overview of that data, by combining all into one table, indicating the relative proportions for each institution by colour-block.



73. As noted above, individual graphs are included in the Appendices for routes of entry to each Magdalen Laundry. Nonetheless, to assess whether there were variations in routes of entry between the Congregations which operated the Magdalen Laundries and to provide an overview of these findings, an analysis was also conducted of the known routes of entry against the basis of which Congregation operated the laundries in question.



74. A similar exercise was carried out on the known routes of exit based on the Congregations which operated the Magdalen Laundries.



**x. Legacy cases (entry pre-1922, exit post-1922)**

75. Chapter 7 details that 762 women are known to have entered a Magdalen Laundry prior to the establishment of the State on 6 December 1922 and continued to live and work there after that date, referred to as “legacy cases”.

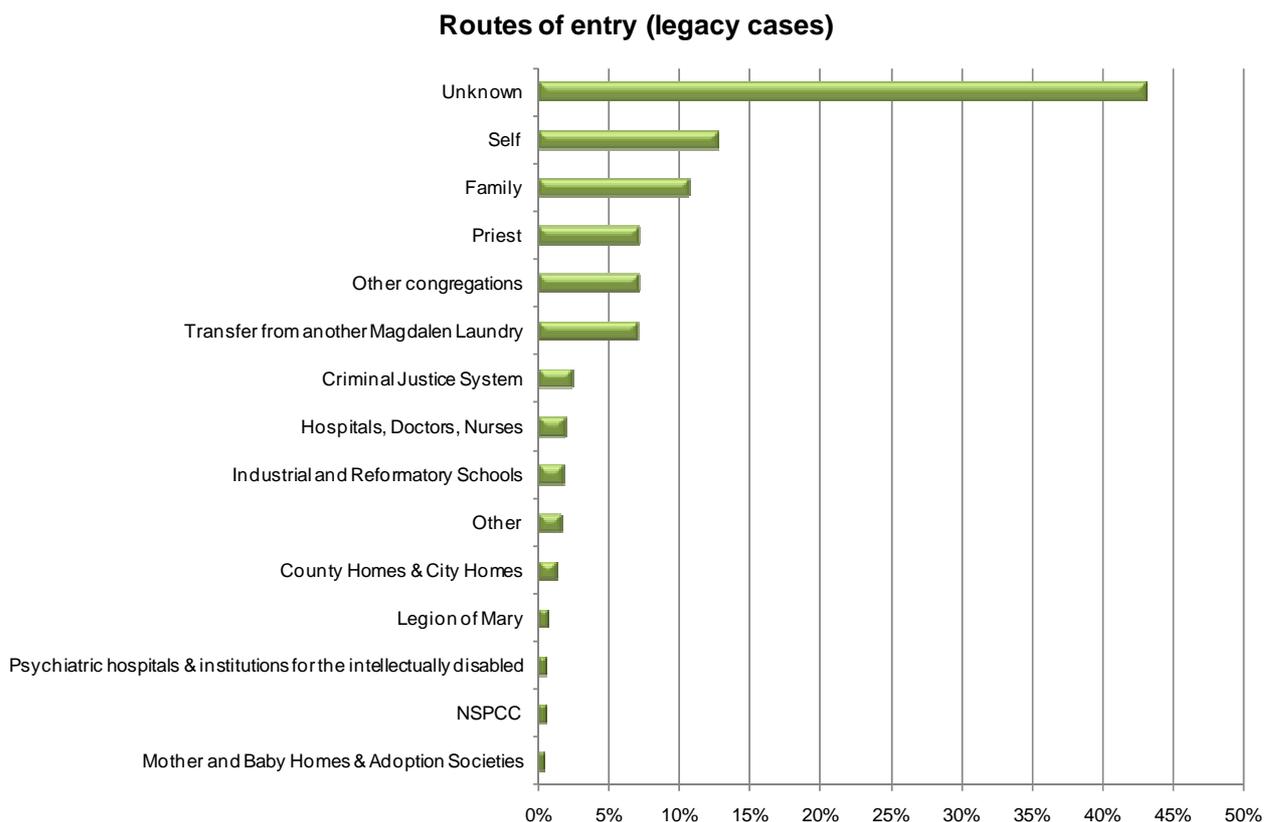
76. That Chapter also sets out the types of cases involved and the reasons why these cases were not included in the overall statistical analysis contained in this Chapter. These 762 cases are instead analysed separately in this section, under many of the same headings.

77. The routes of entry which applied in these cases are detailed in the following table. All these entries took place before the foundation of the State in 1922.

Legacy cases: Routes of entry	Number of women	Percent <sup>15</sup>
Unknown	328	43.0%
Self	97	12.7%
Family	82	10.8%
Other congregations	55	7.2%
Priest	55	7.2%
Transfer from another Magdalen Laundry	54	7.1%
Criminal Justice System	19	2.5%
Hospitals, Doctors, Nurses	15	2.0%
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	14	1.8%
Other	13	1.7%
County Homes & City Homes	10	1.3%
Legion of Mary	6	0.8%
NSPCC	5	0.7%
Psychiatric hospitals & institutions for the intellectually disabled	5	0.7%
Mother and Baby Homes & Adoption Societies	4	0.5%

78. This data was also produced in the form of a bar-chart, to clearly demonstrate the relative frequency of these (pre-1922) routes of entry for the legacy cases.

<sup>15</sup> Percentages rounded



79. Duration of stay for the legacy cases (i.e. women who entered prior to 6 December 1922 and left after that date) was also analysed on the basis of all available information. Of the total number of 762 legacy cases, the duration of stay was unknown for 411 women (54%). The duration of stay of the remaining 351 women, for whom this information is available, is recorded in the following table. The actual number of women and the cumulative percentages involved are included in the table.

Legacy cases: Length of stay (weeks)	Number of women	Percent <sup>16</sup>	Cumulative frequency	Cumulative percent
Less than 1 week	1	0.3%	1	0.3%
1 - <8 Weeks	3	0.9%	4	1.1%
8 - <24 Weeks	6	1.7%	10	2.9%
6 months - <1 Year	14	4.0%	24	6.8%
1 Year - <1.5 Years	10	2.9%	34	9.7%
1.5 Years - <2 Years	14	4.0%	48	13.7%
2 - <3 Years	26	7.4%	74	21.1%
3 - <5 Years	30	8.6%	104	29.6%
5 - <10 Years	27	7.7%	131	37.3%
10+ Years	220	62.7%	351	100.0%

<sup>16</sup> Percentages rounded

80. The family background of the legacy cases – limited to whether or not the parents of the girl or woman in question were living or dead at the time of her entry to the Magdalen Laundry – is set out in the following table.

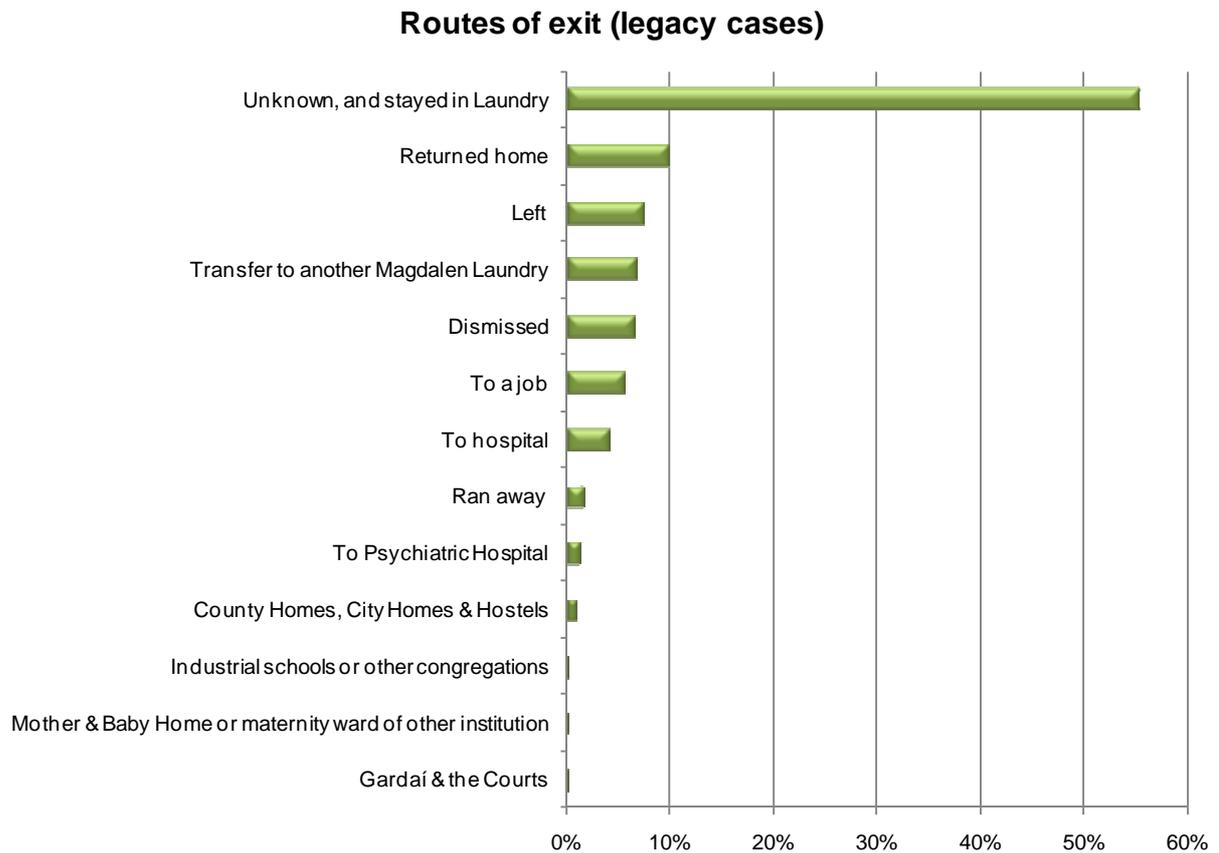
Legacy cases: Family status	Number of women	Percent <sup>17</sup>
Unknown	513	67.3%
Both parents dead	111	14.6%
Both parents alive	50	6.6%
Father dead, Mother alive	48	6.3%
Mother dead, Father alive	40	5.3%

81. The routes of exit for legacy cases (i.e. girls and women who entered the Magdalen Laundries prior to 6 December 1922 and left after that time) were also analysed using the same categories which applied to the main body of statistical analysis above. The following table sets out the numbers of women and percentages involved for each of these routes of exit.

Routes of exit (legacy cases)	Number of women	Percent
Unknown, and stayed in Laundry	420	55.1%
Returned home	76	10.0%
Left	57	7.5%
Transfer to another Magdalen Laundry	51	6.7%
Dismissed	50	6.6%
To a job	43	5.6%
To hospital	32	4.2%
Ran away	12	1.6%
To Psychiatric Hospital	10	1.3%
County Homes, City Homes & Hostels	7	0.9%
Industrial schools or other congregations	2	0.3%
Gardaí & the Courts	1	0.1%
Mother & Baby Home or maternity ward of other institution	1	0.1%

<sup>17</sup> Percentages rounded

82. For the same reason of clarity in the relative frequency of these routes of exit for the legacy cases, these routes of exit are also presented in the form of a bar-chart (based on the data contained in the above table).



83. The place of origin, or geographic background, of the legacy cases was categorised by county within the State (all 26 of which counties are represented among these cases), Northern Ireland and Great Britain.

Legacy cases: Place of origin	Number of women	Percent <sup>18</sup>
Carlow	4	0.5%
Cavan	1	0.1%
Clare	10	1.3%
Cork	55	7.2%
Donegal	0	0.0%
Dublin	81	10.6%
Galway	5	0.7%
Kerry	13	1.7%
Kildare	5	0.7%
Kilkenny	10	1.3%
Laois	2	0.3%
Leitrim	0	0.0%
Limerick	35	4.6%
Longford	1	0.1%
Louth	2	0.3%
Mayo	1	0.1%
Meath	5	0.7%
Monaghan	0	0.0%
Offaly	2	0.3%
Roscommon	2	0.3%
Sligo	1	0.1%
Tipperary	21	2.8%
Waterford	13	1.7%
Westmeath	4	0.5%
Wexford	27	3.5%
Wicklow	5	0.7%
Northern Ireland	7	0.9%
Great Britain	9	1.2%
Unknown	441	57.9%

<sup>18</sup> Percentages rounded

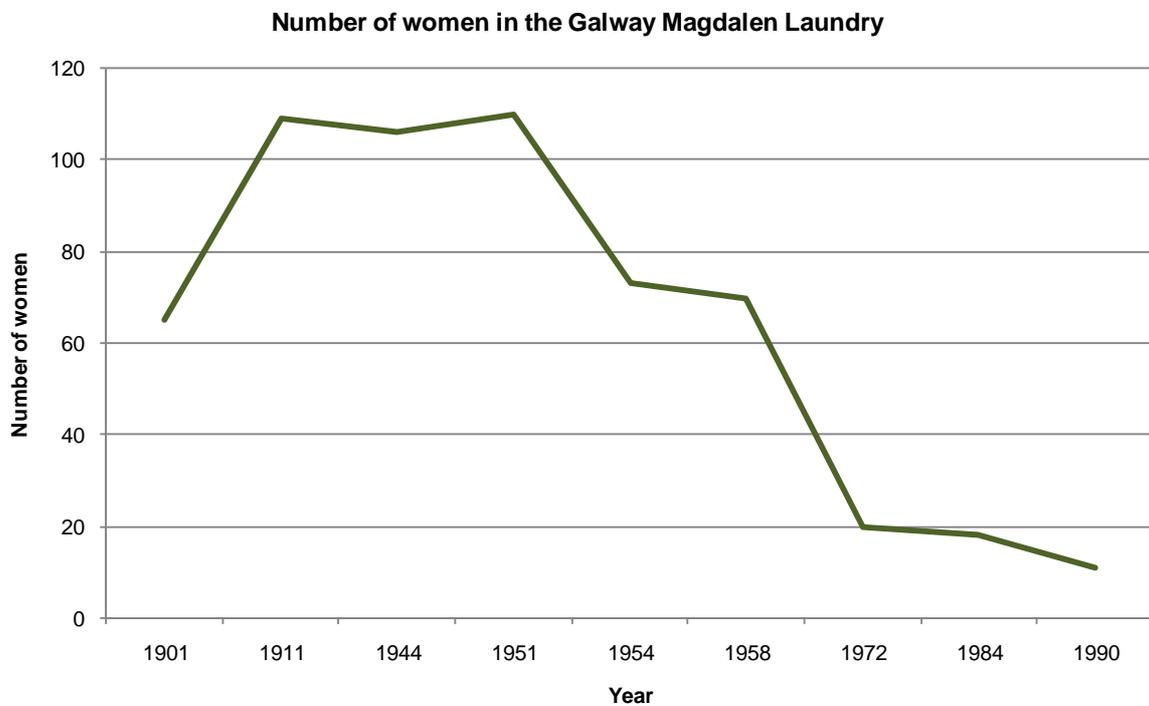
## xi. Magdalen Laundry Galway

### *Overall numbers of entries, Galway Magdalen Laundry*

84. As set out in detail in Chapter 7, full records of entries to the Magdalen Laundry operated in Galway by the Sisters of Mercy do not survive and it is not possible to determine the overall number of entries to this institution from 1922 until its closure in 1984. To supplement the small numbers of cases for which Register entries exist (analysed separately below), the following indicative table of occupancy was compiled.

Year	Numbers in the Home	Source of Information
1901	65	National Census
1911	109	National Census
1944	106	Galway Diocesan Financial Accounts
1951	110	Galway Diocesan Financial Accounts
1954	73	Irish Journey, Halliday Sutherland <sup>11</sup>
1958	70	From photo
1972	17-20	From local memory
1984	18	Year laundry closed
1990	11	From local memory

85. Taking this information into account, the following is a graph indicating the overall trend of occupancy at the Galway Magdalen Laundry, on the basis of available information.



*Routes of entry, Galway Magdalen Laundry*

86. The routes of entry are known for 120 women who were admitted to the Magdalen Laundry in Galway after 1922. The following table provides an analysis of these routes of entry.

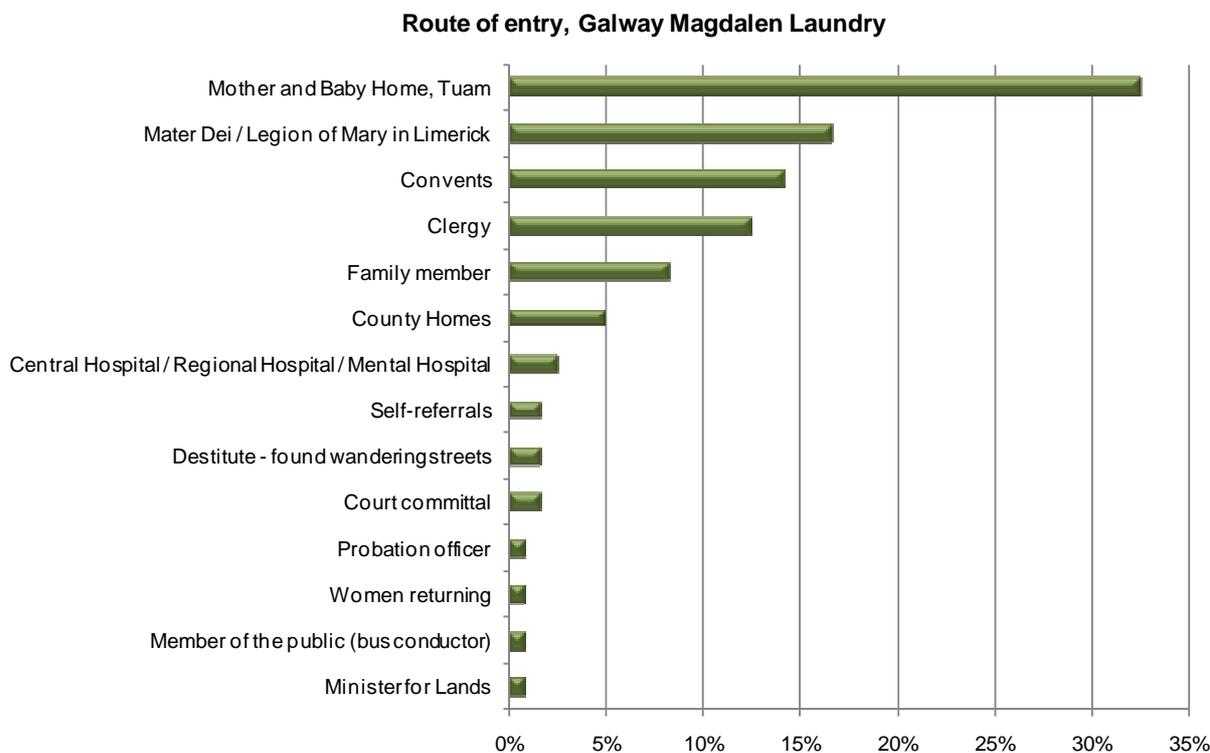
87. This analysis cannot be said to be representative of the overall routes of entry to the Magdalen Laundry in Galway, for a number of reasons. First, the sample is too small to allow for extrapolation of findings based on it to the remainder of the entries to the Laundry. Second, the sample was not randomly chosen (rather, these are the only entries for which the information is available). As a result, the findings may be biased towards certain routes of entry. Nonetheless, the available information is presented with these caveats.

Sources of referral, Magdalen Laundry Galway	Numbers referred	Percent <sup>19</sup>
Mother and Baby Home, Tuam	39	32.5%
Mater Dei / Legion of Mary in Limerick	20	16.7%
Convents	17	14.2%
Clergy	15	12.5%
Family member	10	8.3%
County Homes	6	5.0%
Central Hospital / Regional Hospital / Mental Hospital	3	2.5%
Court committal	2	1.7%
Destitute - found wandering streets	2	1.7%
Self-referrals	2	1.7%
Minister for Lands	1	0.8%
Member of the public (bus conductor)	1	0.8%
Women returning	1	0.8%
Probation officer	1	0.8%

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<sup>19</sup> Percentages rounded

88. The same information may be viewed more clearly as a bar-chart. The same points apply to this presentation as the last chart – namely that this cannot be considered representative of the overall routes of entry to the Magdalen Laundry in Galway, due to the small and non-random nature of the sample available.

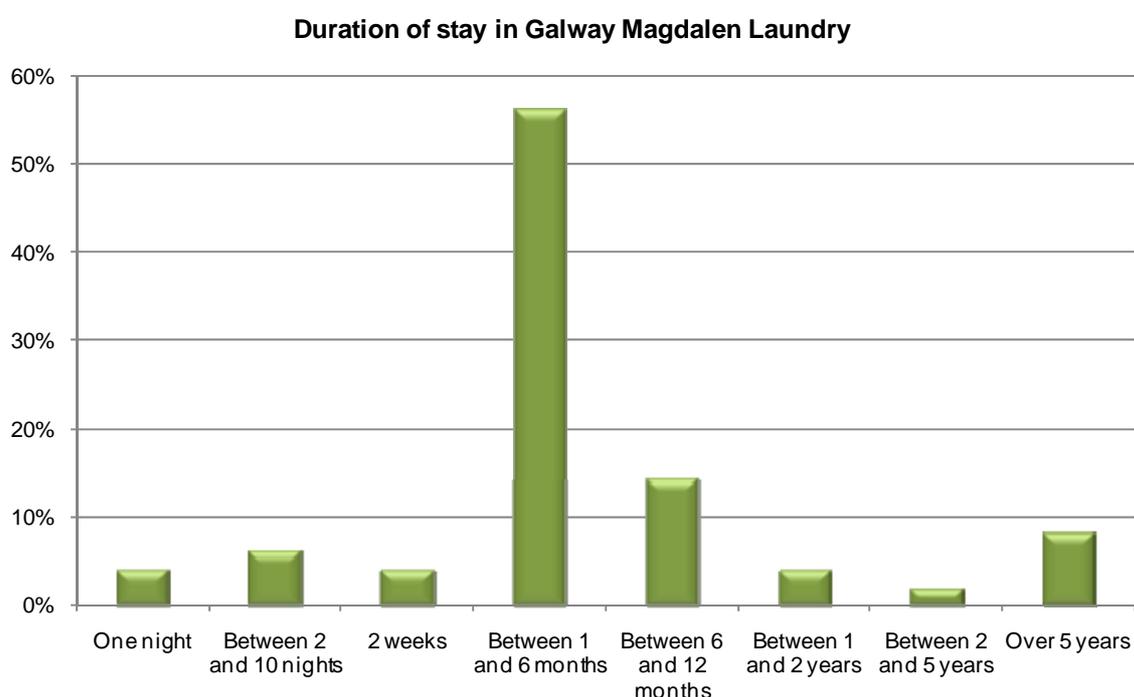


#### *Duration of stay, Galway Magdalen Laundry*

89. The duration of stay is known for 48 women who entered the Magdalen Laundry in Galway after 1922. The following table provides a breakdown of this information. In relation to routes of entry to the Magdalen Laundry in Galway, this analysis cannot be considered representative of the duration of stay of all women who entered this institution. This is the case for the same reasons- the small sample of cases in which duration of stay is known; and the non-random nature of that sample. Nonetheless, an analysis of all available information on duration of stay in this Magdalen Laundry follows.

Duration of stay, Galway Magdalen Laundry	Number of women	Percent <sup>20</sup>
One night	2	4.2%
Between 2 and 10 nights	3	6.3%
2 weeks	2	4.2%
Between 1 and 6 months	27	56.3%
Between 6 and 12 months	7	14.6%
Between 1 and 2 years	2	4.2%
Between 2 and 5 years	1	2.1%
Over 5 years	4	8.3%

90. The same information on duration of stay in the Magalen Laundry, Galway, can also be viewed as a bar-chart. Again this bar-chart cannot be considered representative of the duration of stay of all women at the Magdalen Laundry in Galway, due to the small size of the sample for which information is available and the non-random selection of this sample.



<sup>20</sup> Percentages rounded