

## Co. Meath

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I did my project on Co. Meath. In the following paragraph I will talk about its Age/Sex, Marital status, Migration, Languages spoken, Labour Force, Education and Historical background.



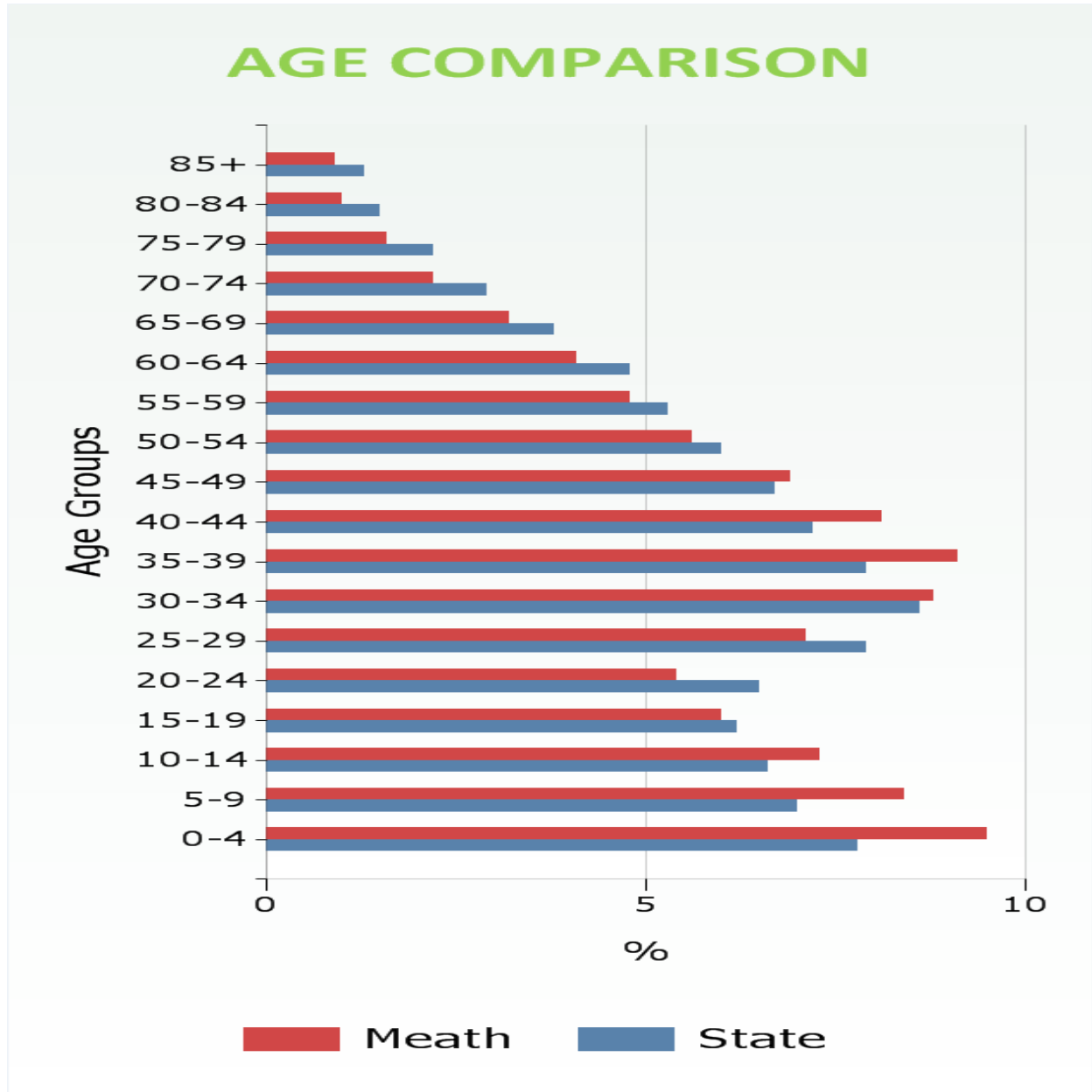
### Historical Background

Many of the major tourist attractions in Ireland can be found in Co. Meath. These include The Hill of Tara, Trim castle, Slane castle, Brú na Bóinne and many more. This is a very important sector to the younger generations as 18% of children under twenty one are employed in this sector. This is also what the county prides themselves on.

# Co. Meath

## Age/Sex

In April 2011, Meath had a population of 184,135 consisting of 91,910 males and 92,225 females. 17,502 were aged 0-4. 23,774 were in first level education while 14,774 were in second level education. Of an overall review there was 16,322 aged sixty five or over while there was 130,735 aged eighteen or over. From this data we can see that there is a lot of children in primary education. This means new universities and infrastructure for the youth must improve in the coming years. There is also a very large amount of people aged sixty five or over. Infrastructure for them must also improve. This includes things such as hospitals, clinics and bingo halls.

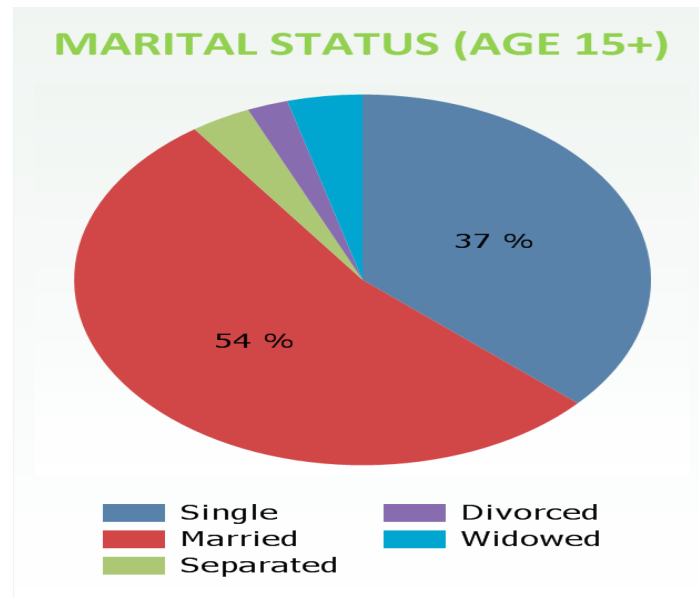


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### Marital status

The ratio of males to females is quite even in Co. Meath. Of the 137,669 aged fifteen or over, 50,412 were single, 73,601 were married, 4653 were separated, 3,173 were divorced and 5830 were widowed. The widowed rate is quite high considering the death rate in Meath is so low.



### Migration and Nationalities

10.8% of the population consisted of non-Irish compared with a national average figure of 12%. Polish (3,867) were the largest group followed by British (3,638). Foreigners would be attracted to other counties with the prospect of a better job and a better life. This is why many young people are forced to leave the country and relocate to nearby cities such as Dublin, Leixlip and Maynooth.

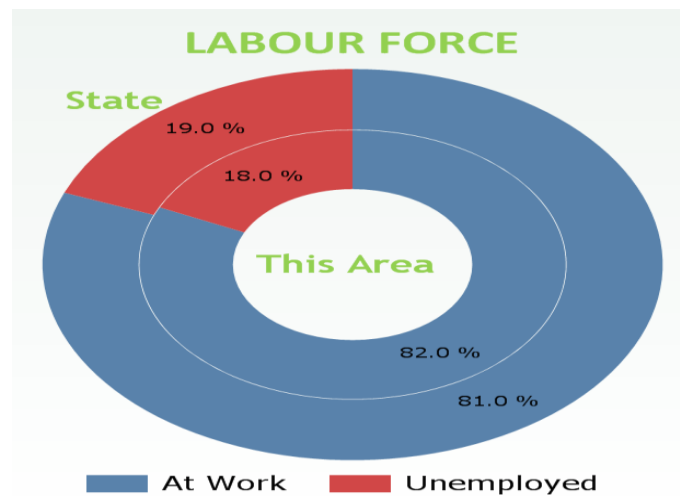
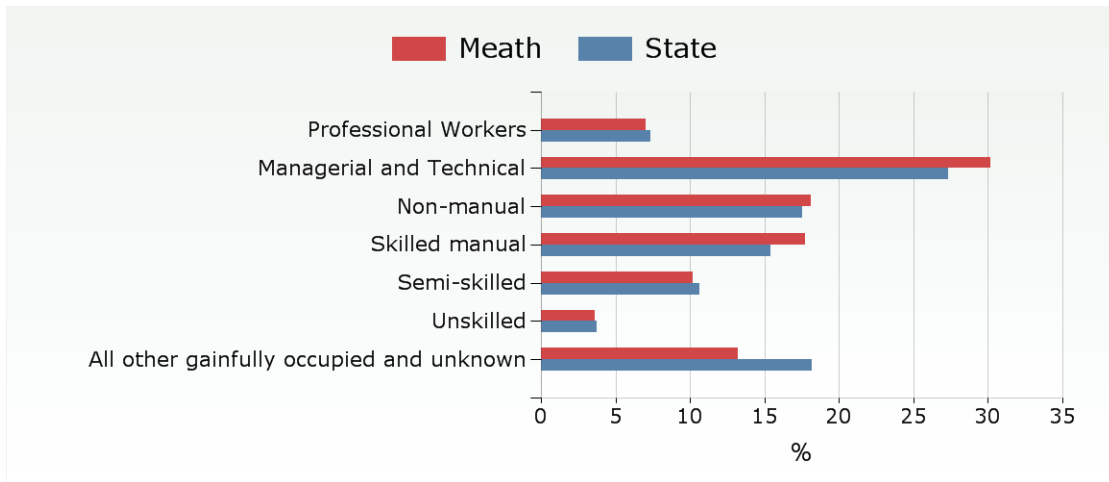
### Languages

Meath has gaeltacht areas and is considered a rural county however the county has seen a rapid decline in the Irish language over the last number of years. The 2011 census said that only 68,259 could speak the Irish language. That is a little less than a third of the population. It also said that 3,915 could not speak English well or not at all.

# Co. Meath

## Labour Force

There were 90,634 people aged 15 years and over in the labour force and of these, 82% (74,342) were at work. This is a positive trend for a county with such little jobs and services available for the people. According to the 2011 census the unemployment rate was 18% compared to the national average of 19%. This is a positive trend and shows not a lot of work is needed for improvement.



## Education

In a country where education is free, the number of people going on to third level is alarmingly low. 13.5% were educated to at most primary level only. 57.6% attained second level education while only 28.9% were educated to a third level. This is a sector in which money must be put in to. Solutions include constructing nearby schools and universities.

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### Fun Facts

Meath is known as the Royal County because it was once the seat of the High Kings of Ireland where they ruled from the [Hill of Tara](#).

[Trim Castle](#) is Ireland's Largest Anglo-Norman Castle, It is also the place where the film Braveheart was shot.

[Newgrange](#) is the oldest known deliberately orientated structure in the world (3000BC). It is aligned to dawn at the Winter Solstice, December 21st.

Meath was once the fifth province of Ireland called Mide which incorporated what is now Westmeath and large parts of Cavan and Longford.