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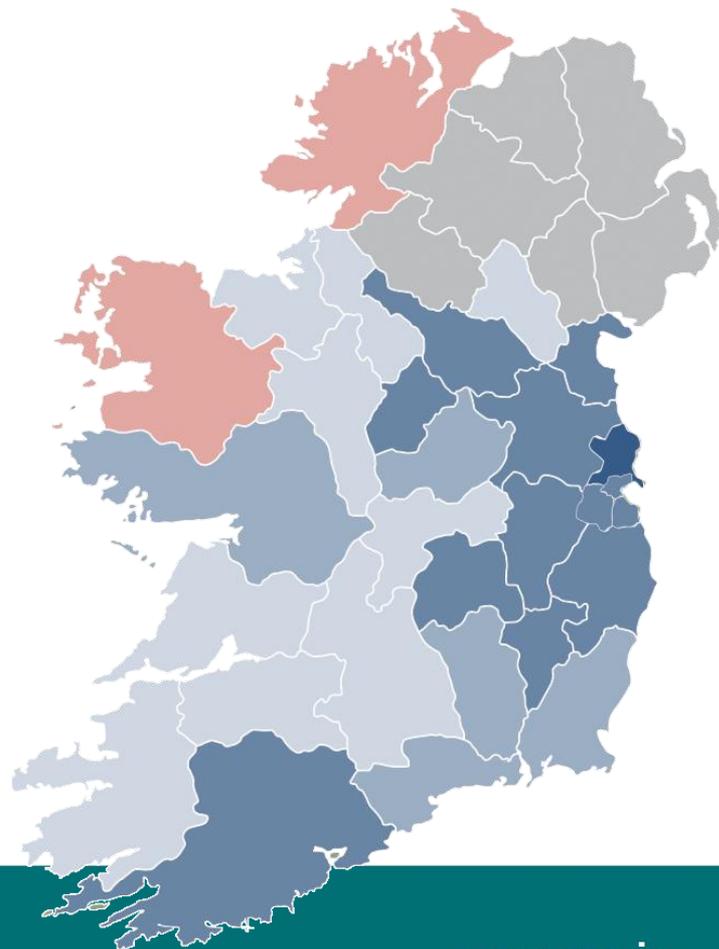
Ireland's Demography: Presentation to the Pension Commission

**James Hegarty
Statistician**

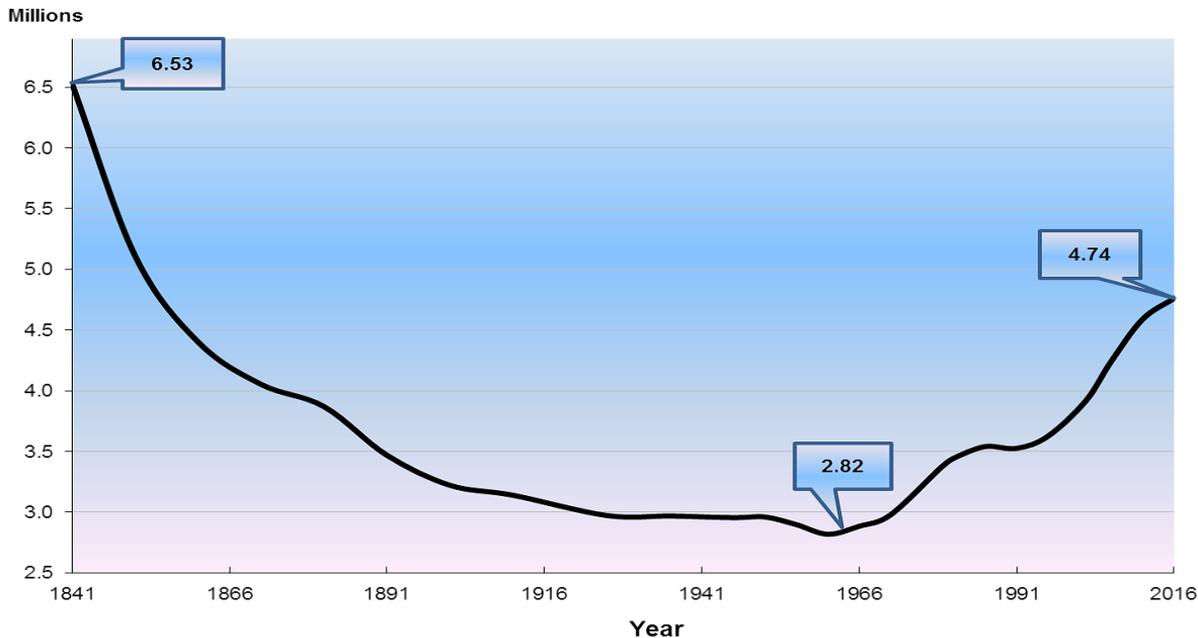
December 2nd 2020

Overview

- Historic perspective, 1841 - 2016
- Snapshot of current demographic trends
- Projections to 2051
- Focus on the older age groups



Ireland's Population 1841 - 2020



Estimated Population April
2020 = **4,977,400**

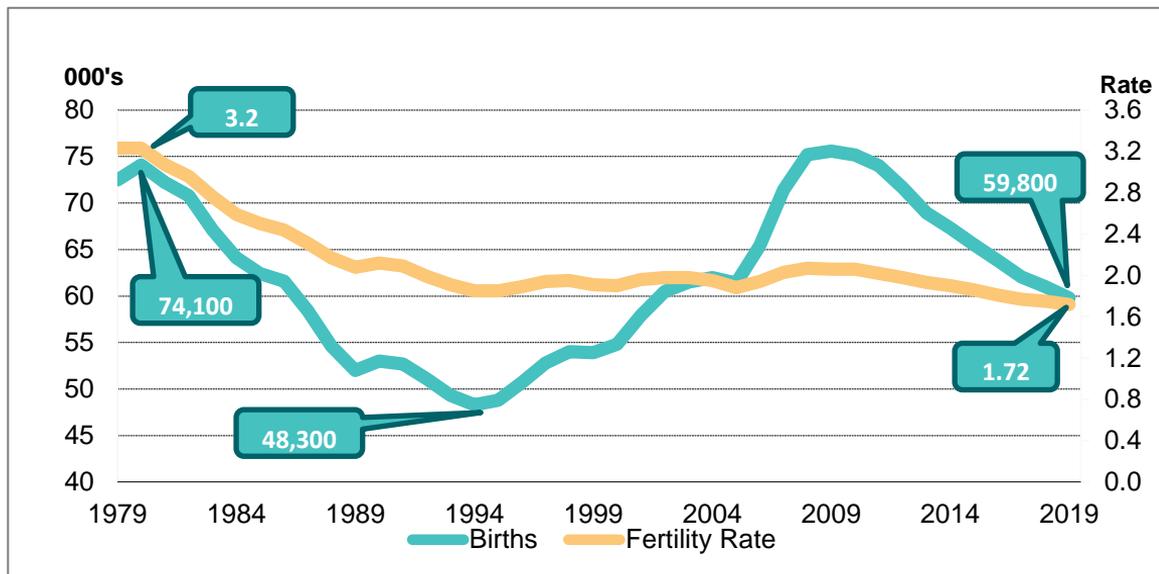
Estimated Population growth of
238,000 since 2016

Births **minus** deaths = **+121,500**

Inward migrants minus outward
migrants = **+116,500**



Births and Fertility 1979 – 2019



**Average age of First
time Mothers
increasing *each year*
since 1975**

1979 - 24.9 Years

2019 - 31.3 Years

EU-27 Fertility rate 2018 – 1.55



Fertility rate and births

Table 1 Estimated number of women ('000) for selected ages 2020

20 years	30.4	30 years	30.2
21 years	29.3	31 years	32.7
22 years	28.3	32 years	32.5
23 years	28.3	33 years	34.3
24 years	28.4	34 years	36.7
25 years	28.5	35 years	36.7
26 years	29.3	36 years	38.7
27 years	31.1	37 years	40.7
28 years	31.0	38 years	41.4
29 years	31.3	39 years	42.6
Total	295.9	Total	366.5

Total fertility rate for selected years

1979 – 3.2

1999 – 1.9

2019 – 1.72

Number of women in the key age group 30-39 likely to decline over the next decade

Average age of first time Mothers

1979 - 24.9 Years

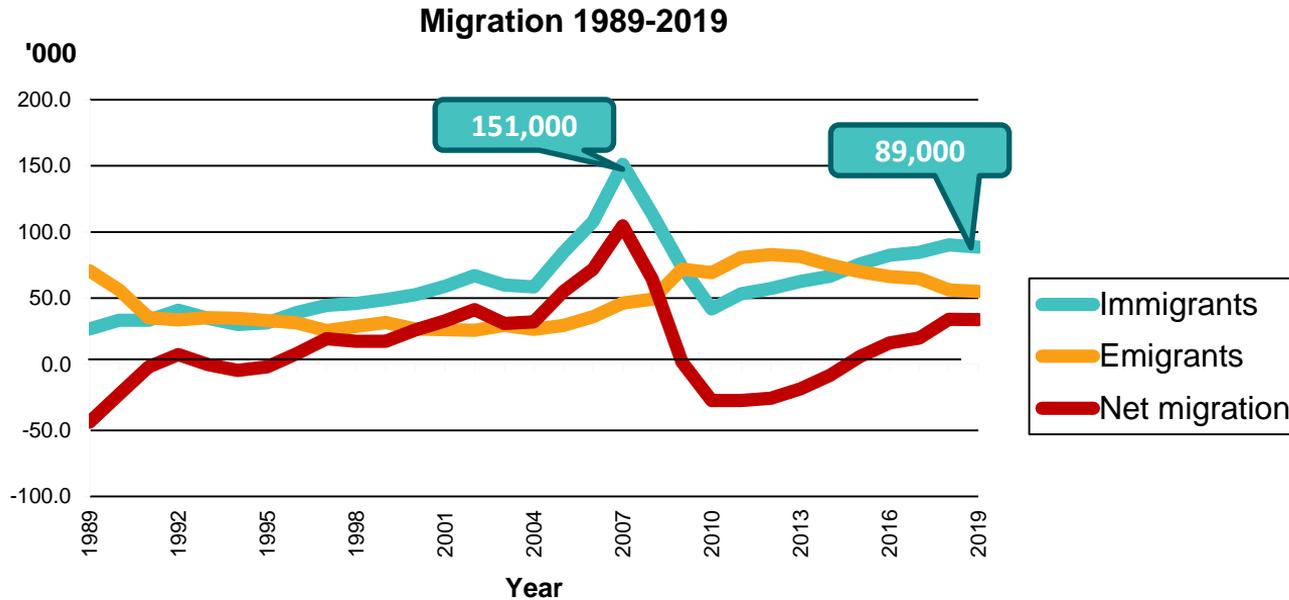
1999 – 27.2 Years

2019 - 31.3 Years

EU Average 2018 - 29.3 years



Recent Migration trends 1989 - 2019



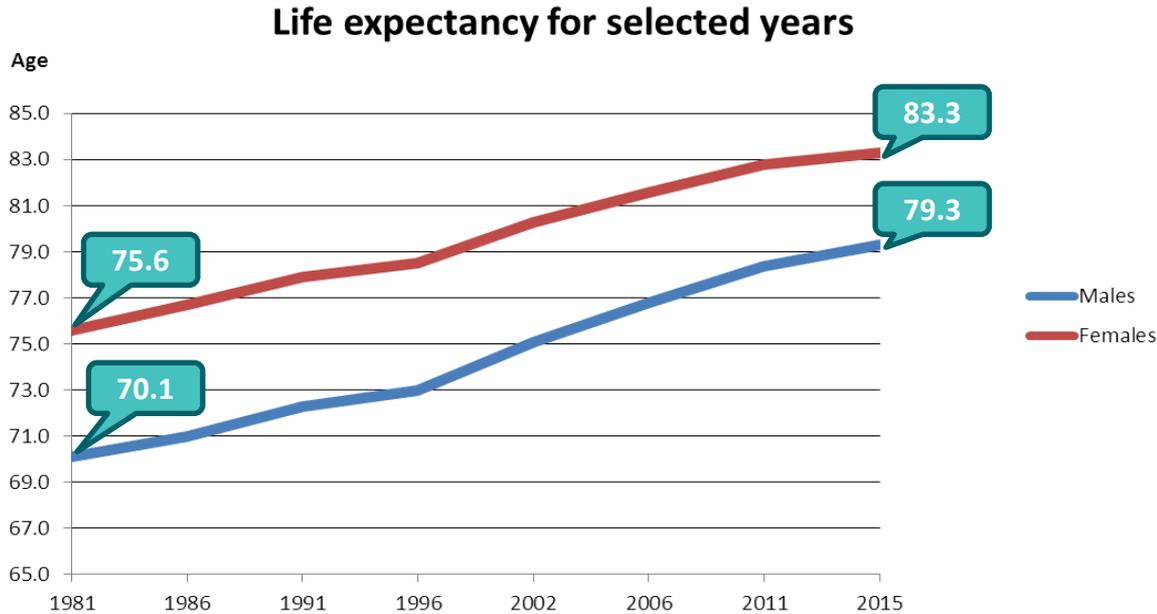
Average annual net in Migration

1997-2016 +21,000

2017-2019 +29,000



Life Expectancy 1981 – 2015



Since 1981 Life expectancy gains

Females +7.7 Years

Males +9.2 Years

In line with EU averages

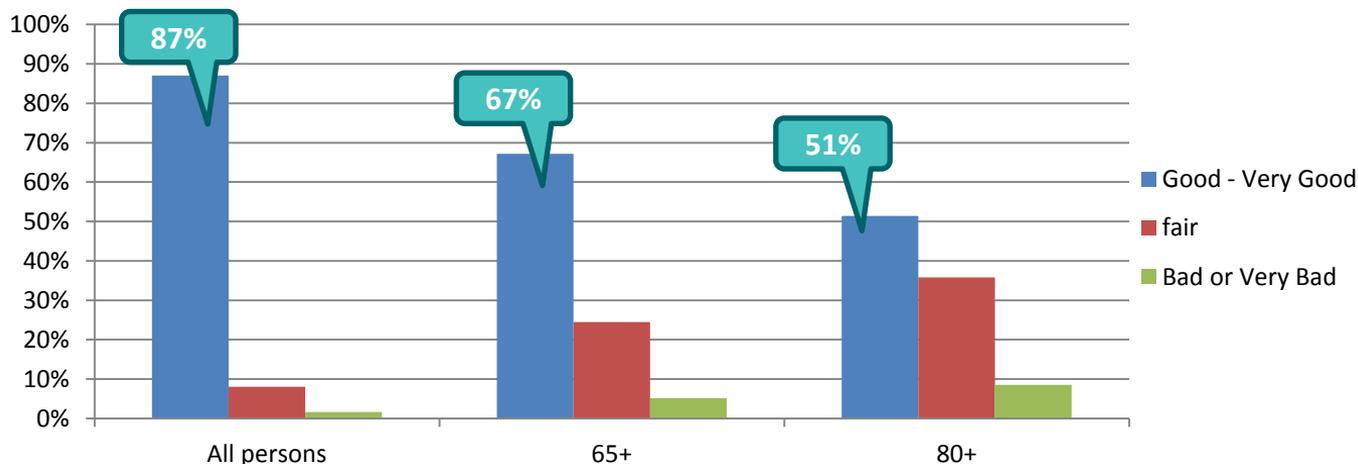
**CSO Life tables 2015-2017
reflect 2016**

Slight increase

Male 79.6 Female 83.4



General health by age group, Census 2016



Eurostat Healthy Life expectancy Ireland 2018

All from Birth - 69.4 years

Male

68.4 Years

Female

70.4 Years

All from Age 65 -12.9 years

Male

12.0 Years

Female

13.8 Years

CSO Life Tables 2015-2017 – Total Life Expectancy From Age 65

Male – 18.3 Years

Female – 21.0 years



Projection Assumptions agreed by Expert Group to 2051

3 Migration assumptions

- **M1** - High net inward migration +30,000 per annum
- **M2 - Net inward migration +20,000 per annum (20 year average)**
- **M3** - Low net inward migration of +10,000 per annum

2 Fertility Assumptions

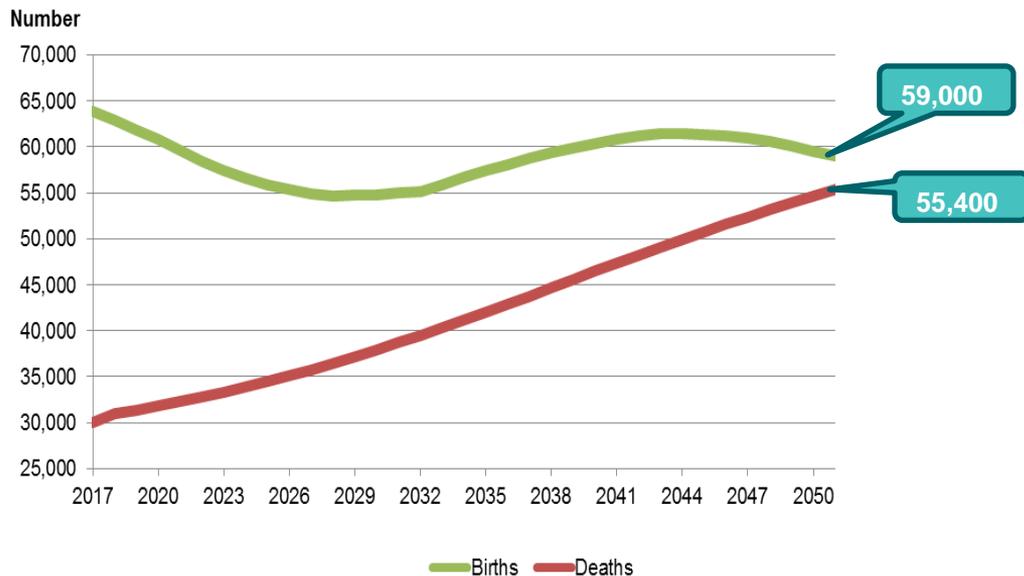
- **F1** - Fertility rate to remain at the 2016 level of 1.8 until 2051
- **F2 - Decline to continue to 1.6 by 2031 and level off thereafter**

Gains in Life expectancy to continue at a slower rate

- **79.3** years in 2015 to **85.6** years in 2051 for males – **6.3 years**
- **83.3** years in 2015 to **88.3** years in 2051 for females – **5.0 years**



Births, Deaths and Natural Increase (M2F2)



Natural Increase = births
minus deaths

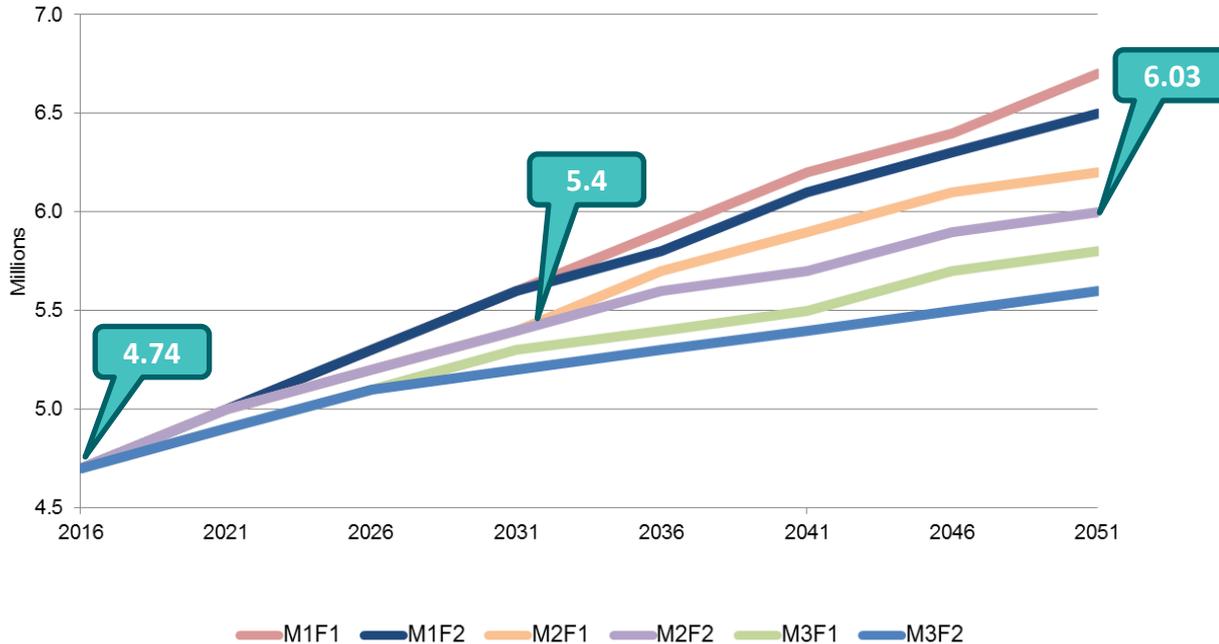
Total natural increase of
590,000 2017 - 2051

Currently natural increase is
around **30,000** annually

Around **+4,000** by 2051



Population Projections results 2016 – 2051



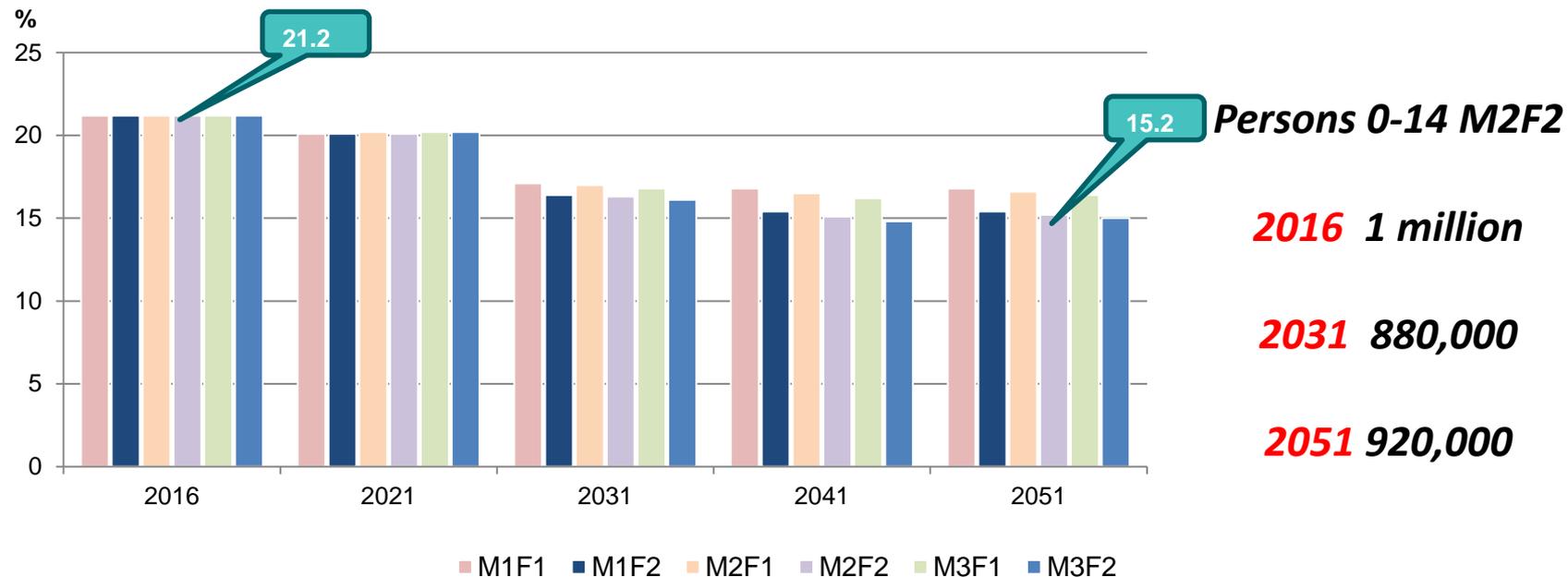
Total Population change
1,290,000

Total Net Migration =
immigrants *minus* emigrants
700,000

Total Natural Increase
590,000



Persons 0-14 as a percentage of Total Population



Population aged 15-64, 2016 - 2051

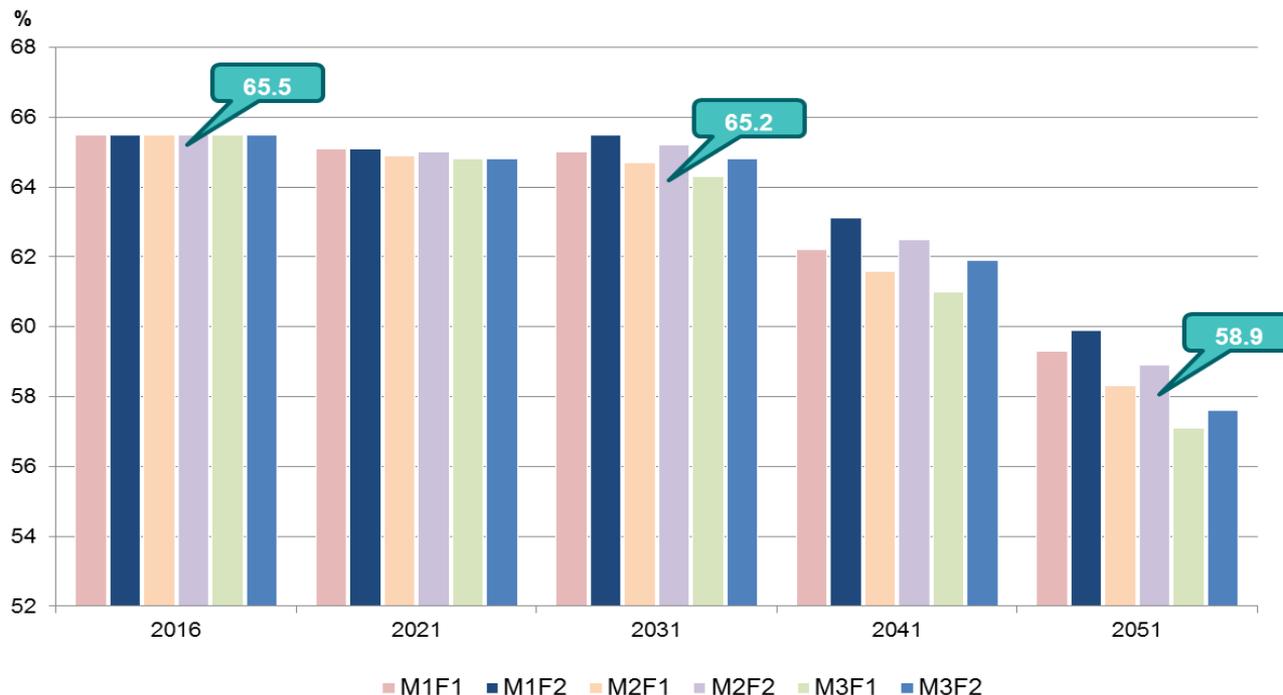
2011 - 2016
+40k (1.2%)

Persons 15-64 M2F2

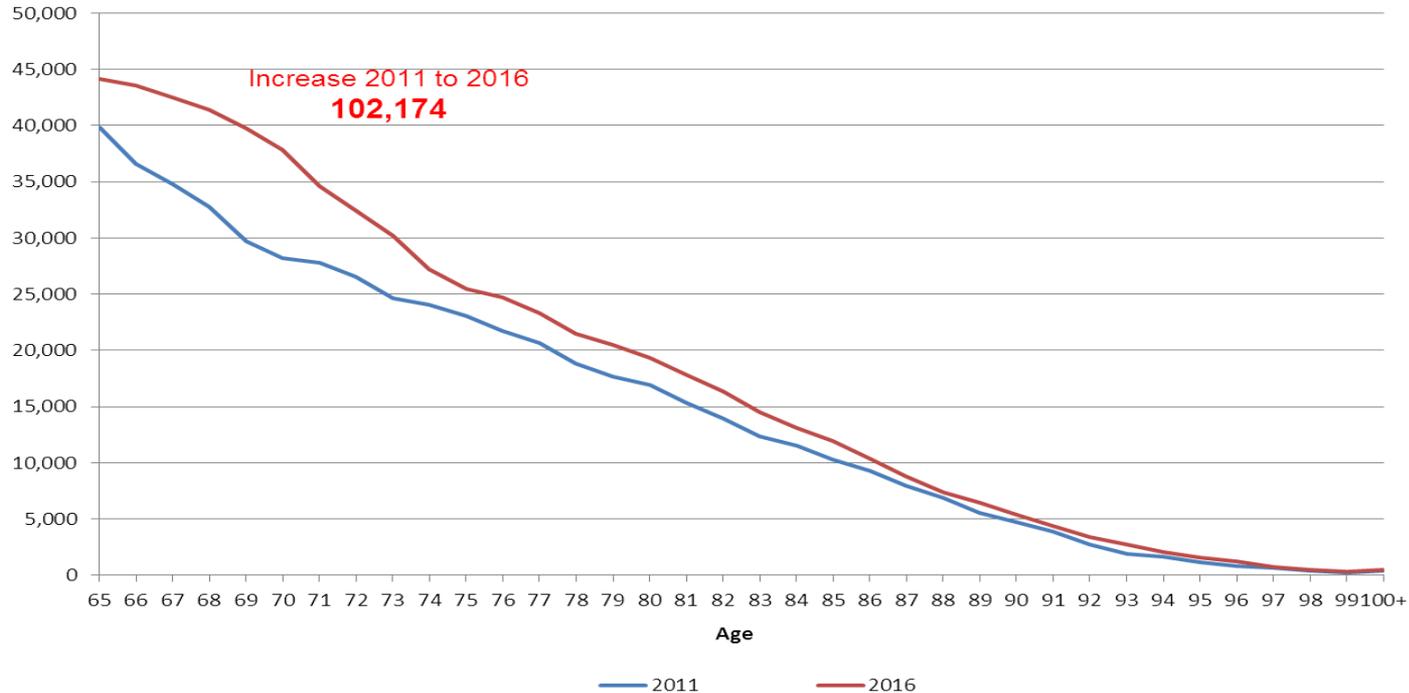
2016 3.1 million

2031 3.52 million

2051 3.55 million



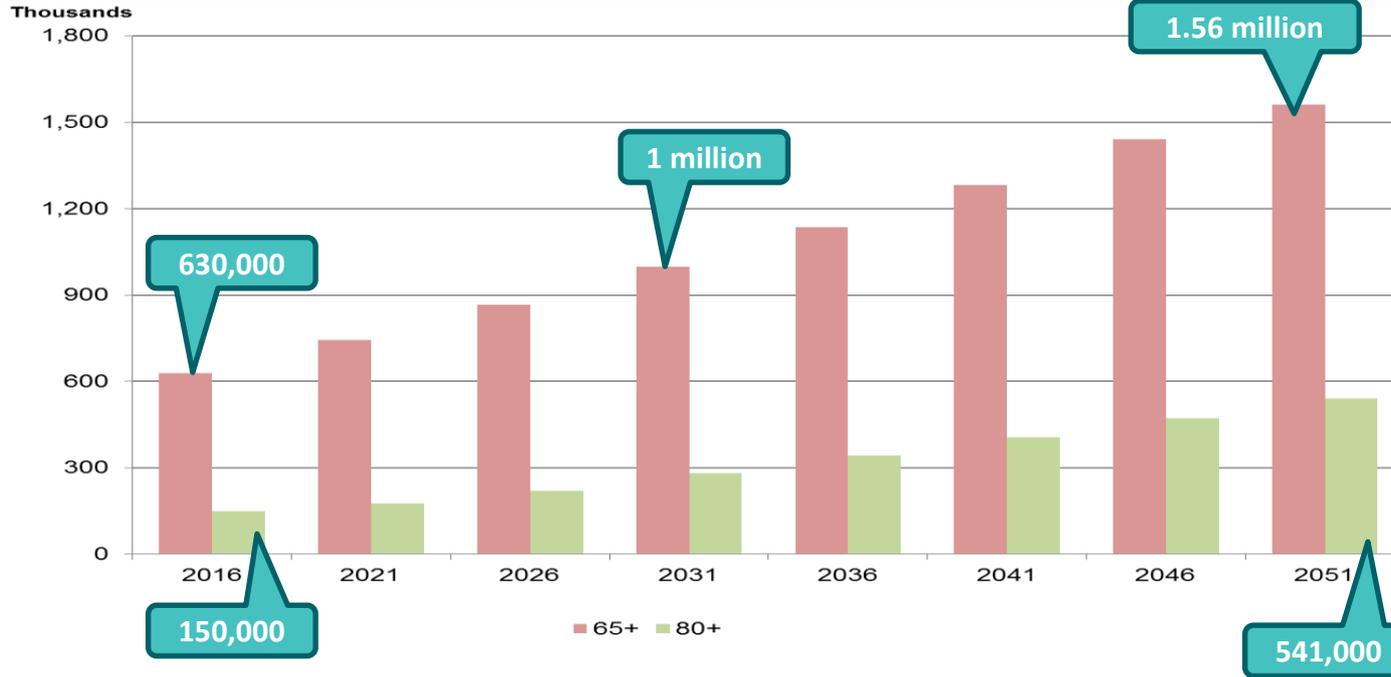
Increase in persons aged 65+, 2011- 2016



2011 - 2016
+19%



Actual and Projected Population aged 65+ and 80+ (M2F2)



Percentage of population 65+

2016 13.3%

2031 18.5%

2051 25.9%

Persons 80+

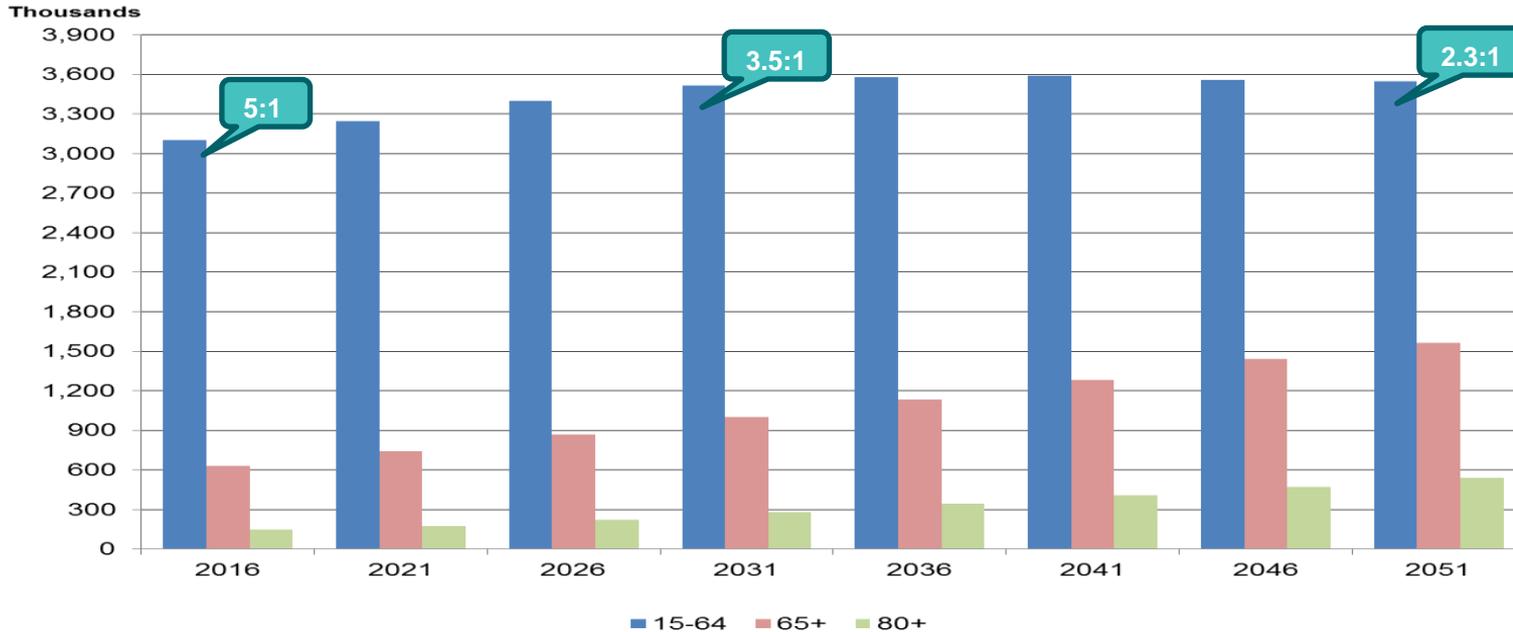
increase by around

270%

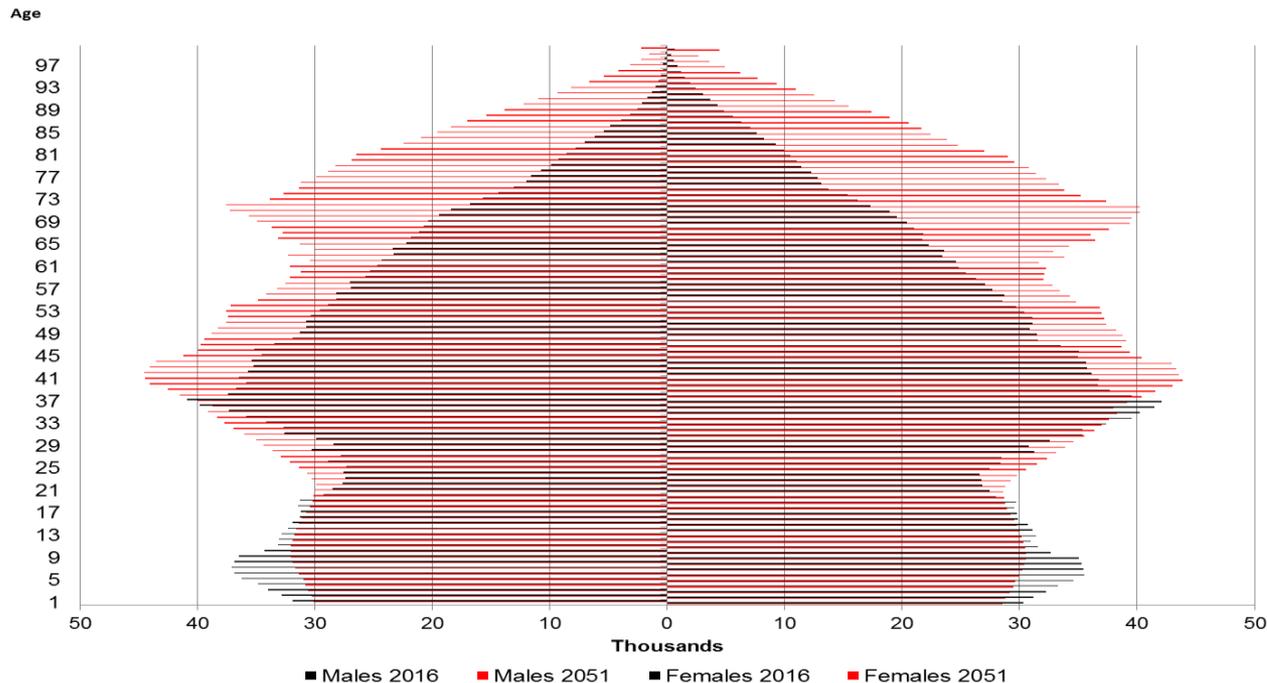
CSO Pension Cover 2019: 40% aged 15-69 have no pension cover



Ratio of the working age population (15-64) to those aged 65+ (M2F2)



Population Structure 2016 and 2051(M2F2)



In 2016 **13.3%**
aged 65+

In 2051 **25.9%**
aged 65+

- *Less very young*
- *Increases across all older age groups*



Actual and projected population classified by age group with 'old' dependency ratio of 65+ , 2016 - 2051

Scenario	Population				Total	Dependency ratios		
	0-14	15-64	65+	65+		Young	Old	Total
	'000		% of Total Pop			'000	%	
Actual								
2016	1,005.5	3,104.3	629.8	13.3	4,739.6	32.4	20.3	52.7
M1F2								
2021	1,013.2	3,286.1	745.0	14.8	5,044.4	30.8	22.7	53.5
2031	914.4	3,647.2	1,006.6	18.1	5,568.3	25.1	27.6	52.7
2041	934.2	3,821.2	1,297.3	21.4	6,052.7	24.4	34.0	58.4
2051	1,000.3	3,884.4	1,597.2	24.6	6,481.9	25.8	41.1	66.9
M2F2								
2021	1,005.6	3,243.5	743.1	14.9	4,992.2	31.0	22.9	53.9
2031	878.1	3,516.8	999.6	18.5	5,394.6	25.0	28.4	53.4
2041	868.7	3,592.0	1,282.3	22.3	5,743.0	24.2	35.7	59.9
2051	918.2	3,549.7	1,562.5	25.9	6,030.5	25.9	44.0	69.9

M1F2: Fertility declining from 1.8 to 1.6 and net inward migration of 30,000 per annum

M2F2: Fertility declining from 1.8 to 1.6 and net inward migration of 20,000 per annum

M1F2 Comparison with M2F2:

M1F2 Births: increase by 100,000

Migration: Increases by 350,000

Ageing still happens –
Dependency ratios broadly similar



Eurostat Baseline Projections similar to M2F2 - Old age dependency – persons 65+ as a percent of those aged 15-64

	TIME	2021	2031	2041	2051
Portugal		35.1	44.2	55.5	62.9
Greece		35.7	42.7	53.9	62.8
Italy		36.7	45.1	57.6	61.5
Spain		30.2	38.2	50.8	59.7
Bulgaria		34.5	39.3	46.7	55.9
European Union - 27 countries		32.6	39.9	47.5	52.3
France		33.9	40.7	47	49.6
Germany		34.2	43.2	47.6	48.4
Finland		36.7	42.7	44.9	48.4
Austria		29	37.6	44.3	47.5
Belgium		30.5	37.1	42.2	45
Netherlands		30.7	39.2	44.9	44.9
Denmark		31.8	38.2	43.1	43.5
Ireland		22.5	27.6	34.5	42.5
Luxembourg		21.3	27.7	35.3	42.4
Malta		28.2	32.1	34.2	41.2
Sweden		32.4	34.8	37.4	39.3

- Portugal
- Italy
- Greece
- Germany
- Finland

Projected 'old' dependency ratio in 2031 similar to Ireland in 2051

Ireland can learn from policies and practices of these countries



Eurostat Baseline Projections - Combined dependency – persons 0-14 and 65+ as a percent of those aged 15-64

TIME	2021	2031	2041	2051
Portugal	56.1	65.5	78.4	86.6
Greece	58.1	62.8	74.9	85.6
Italy	56.8	63.5	77.9	82.6
Spain	51.9	57.2	71.6	82.3
Bulgaria	57.3	60.9	68.8	80.4
France	62.8	68.1	75.2	78.1
European Union - 27 countries	56.1	62.6	70.6	76.5
Germany	55.7	67	71	72.6
Belgium	56.7	61.6	67	70.5
Ireland	53.1	53.8	61.5	70.5
Austria	50.8	60.4	66.8	70.4
Finland	61.9	64.1	66.3	70.4
Denmark	57.6	65.1	70.3	69.8
Netherlands	54.8	63.9	70.7	69.7
European Free Trade Association	52.4	58.1	63.6	67
Sweden	61	61.8	63.9	66.5
Luxembourg	44.1	49.5	56.7	64.3
Malta	48.5	52.1	52.3	59.8

- Portugal
- Italy
- Greece
- Spain
- France
- Germany

Projected 'total' dependency ratio in **2041** similar to Ireland in **2051**

Ireland can learn from the policies and practices of these countries



Future Demography of Ireland - Summary

Significant increase in population to 2051 – 1.3 million

Children will account for a lower percentage of the total

- Increased population of older age groups
 - Now: 5 working age for each person aged 65+
 - 2051: 2.3 working age for each person aged 65+

Reduced share of working age population as percentage of total population

- Now : 2 working age for each dependent (0-14 and 65+)
- 2051 : Less than 1.5 working age for each dependent

Ireland 'younger' than most European countries – learn from experience of others

