

**Estimated Population of Ireland
in the 19th Century**

by

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The first complete Government Census of Ireland was taken in 1821 and thereafter, at ten-yearly intervals. A census was carried out in Ireland from 1831 through to 1911. No census was taken in 1921, because of the War of Independence and the first census of the population of the Irish Free State was taken in 1926.

Writers quote figures for annual estimates of population based on differing time periods including the calendar year, figures estimated in April and mid-year figures. I am using the sets of figures issued in “*Documenting Ireland: Parliament, People and Migration*”.

From the 1891 annual report of “*Documenting Ireland: Parliament, People and Migration*” we have most of the following figures **estimated** to the middle of each year: More recent reports are used to provide data up to and including 1914 as in Table 1.

Year	Population	Year	Population	Year	Population
1801	5,216,329	1839	8,111,438	1877	5,286,380
1802	5,285,994	1840	8,155,521	1878	5,282,246
1803	5,356,594	1841	8,199,853	1879	5,265,625
1804	5,428,135	1842	8,220,926	1880	5,202,648
1805	5,500,636	1843	8,239,832	1881	5,145,770
1806	5,574,105	1844	8,276,627	1882	5,101,018
1807	5,648,558	1845	8,295,061	1883	5,023,811
1808	5,724,008	1846	8,287,648	1884	4,974,561
1809	5,800,464	1847	8,025,274	1885	4,938,588
1810	5,877,946	1848	7,639,800	1886	4,905,895
1811	5,956,466	1849	7,256,314	1887	4,857,119
1812	6,036,034	1850	6,877,549	1888	4,801,312
1813	6,116,668	1851	6,514,473	1889	4,757,385
1814	6,198,381	1852	6,336,889	1890	4,717,959
1815	6,281,188	1853	6,198,984	1891	4,681,248
1816	6,365,103	1854	6,083,183	1892	4,633,808
1817	6,450,141	1855	6,014,665	1893	4,607,462
1818	6,536,316	1856	5,972,851	1894	4,589,260
1819	6,623,645	1857	5,919,454	1895	4,559,936
1820	6,712,144	1858	5,890,814	1896	4,542,061
1821	6,801,827	1859	5,861,711	1897	4,529,917
1822	6,892,708	1860	5,820,960	1898	4,518,478
1823	6,984,809	1861	5,788,415	1899	4,502,401
1824	7,078,140	1862	5,775,588	1900	4,468,501
1825	7,172,722	1863	5,718,235	1901	4,445,630
1826	7,268,570	1864	5,640,527	1902	4,434,551
1827	7,365,700	1865	5,594,589	1903	4,417,757
1828	7,464,131	1866	5,522,942	1904	4,408,103
1829	7,563,878	1867	5,486,509	1905	4,399,308
1830	7,664,964	1868	5,465,914	1906	4,397,571
1831	7,767,401	1869	5,449,094	1907	4,388,451
1832	7,809,578	1870	5,418,512	1908	4,384,664
1833	7,851,988	1871	5,398,179	1909	4,386,601
1834	7,894,634	1872	5,372,890	1910	4,385,421
1835	7,937,516	1873	5,327,938	1911	4,383,608
1836	7,980,637	1874	5,298,979	1912	4,384,710
1837	8,023,995	1875	5,278,629	1913	4,379,012
1838	8,067,596	1876	5,277,544	1914	4,381,398

Table 1

The above figures are graphically represented in the following chart, Fig. 1

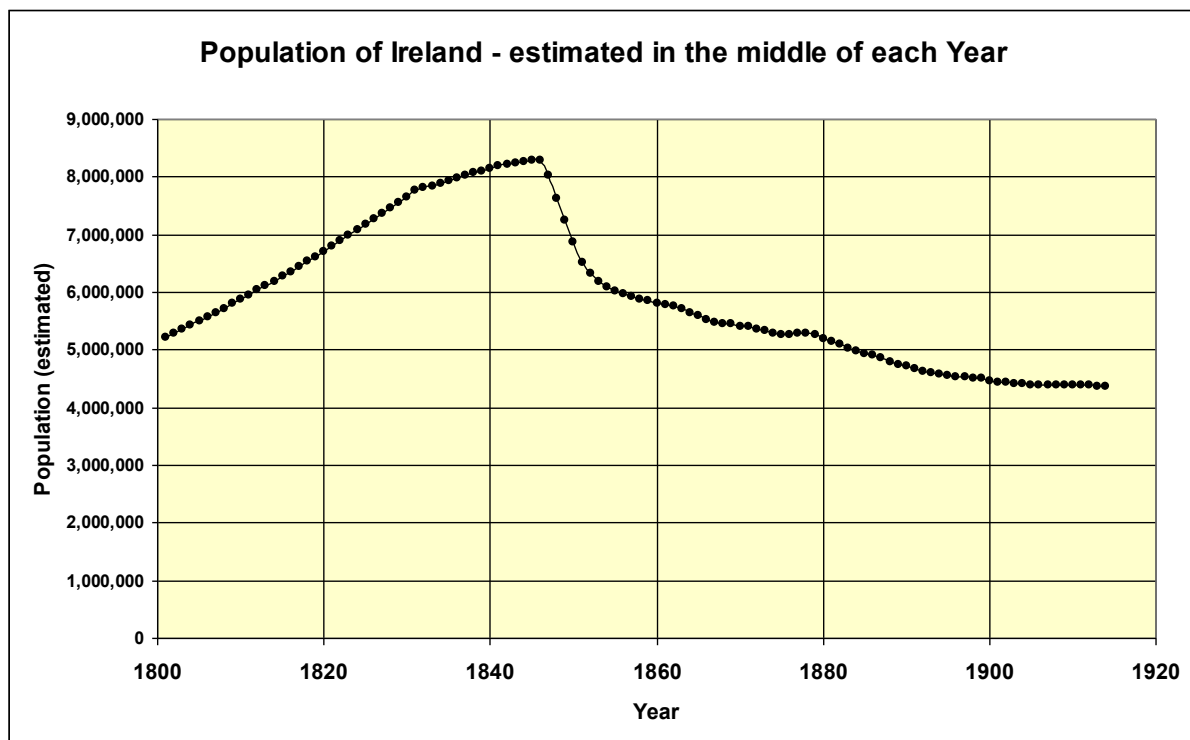


Fig. 1

In the mid 1840's just prior to the famine the estimated population of Ireland was around eight and a quarter million people. Some writers believe it may have been higher and even up to, or above, 9 million. However, whichever figure one adopts we can see from the above chart that there is a near vertical drop in the estimated population of Ireland from 1847 to 1853, which was the period of the Great Famine and a drop in population of 1.8m people. Of course if, as some scholars claim, the population of Ireland was higher then the drop in population would be so much greater.

Rounded figures from some scholars suggest that about one million people died from starvation and a similar number left the country. Such approximations do fit into the population figures provided by the annual reports in *Documenting Ireland: Parliament, People and Migration*.

Population for Census years

The table following shows the population for the census years 1821 to 1926.

Year	Population	Year	Population	Year	Population
1821	6,801,827	1861	5,788,415	1901	4,445,630
1831	7,767,401	1871	5,398,179	1911	4,383,608
1841	8,199,853	1881	5,145,770	1926	4,228,553
1851	6,514,473	1891	4,681,248		

Table 2

Looking at Census figures we note the sharp drop in population between the 1841 and 1851 census returns. The census figures are represented graphically on the following chart, Fig. 2

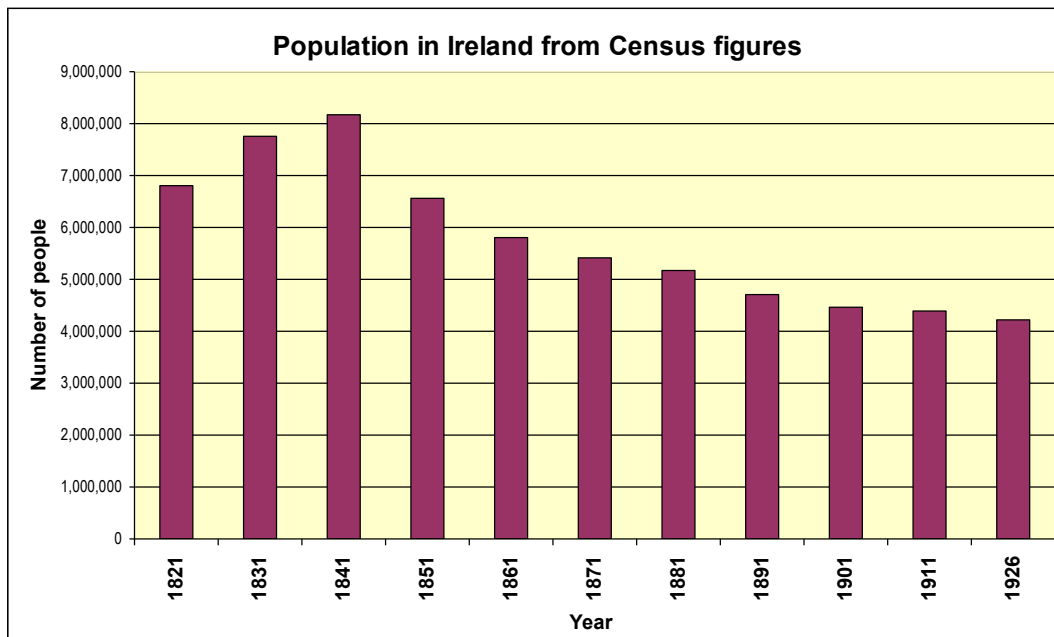


Fig 2

Because of the 10 year intervals in the census figures and 1841 being the last census before the famine the drop in population for the famine era is less pronounced in this chart. However it was a catastrophic event in Ireland.

Population in age brackets

Let us look at population numbers for various age brackets. This data is already summarised on the thirty-ninth detailed annual report of the Registrar-General (Ireland) of the Marriages, Births and Deaths registered in Ireland during 1902.

The data is taken from the various census returns and as we notice there are some small variations in the total population per census in these figures when compared with earlier data. However the percentage error is less than half a percent in most cases.

From the figures on *Documenting Ireland: Parliament, People and Migration* we have:

Age category	1861	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911
Under 1	136,813	133,350	104,965	90,789	86,522	85,577
1 and under 5	556,898	519,966	471,018	379,584	352,570	347,815
5 and under 10	611,244	632,178	621,637	508,772	447,470	436,171
10 and under 15	597,021	629,782	616,370	549,922	456,237	425,446
15 and under 20	672,831	531,627	558,956	549,908	469,299	421,583
20 and under 25	615,110	457,744	477,296	444,502	440,013	375,728
25 and under 35	758,127	732,749	633,782	598,058	649,987	634,485
35 and under 45	595,762	544,015	558,776	488,112	476,710	533,619
45 and under 55	547,528	476,797	443,055	458,623	410,191	392,620
55 and under 65	428,956	424,886	364,120	334,141	348,545	281,571
65 and under 75	184,121	224,791	213,571	191,209	190,150	313,345
75 and under 85	76,457	83,456	93,675	90,208	77,870	109,743
85 and under 95	12,293	14,859	12,508	17,100	14,149	14,692
95 and upwards	1,968	2,408	2,111	2,036	1,889	1,342
N/R	<u>3,838</u>	<u>3,769</u>	<u>2,996</u>	<u>1,786</u>	<u>8,264</u>	<u>10,782</u>
Total	5,798,967	5,412,377	5,174,836	4,704,750	4,429,866	4,384,519

Table 3

And these figures are graphically represented below in Fig. 3.

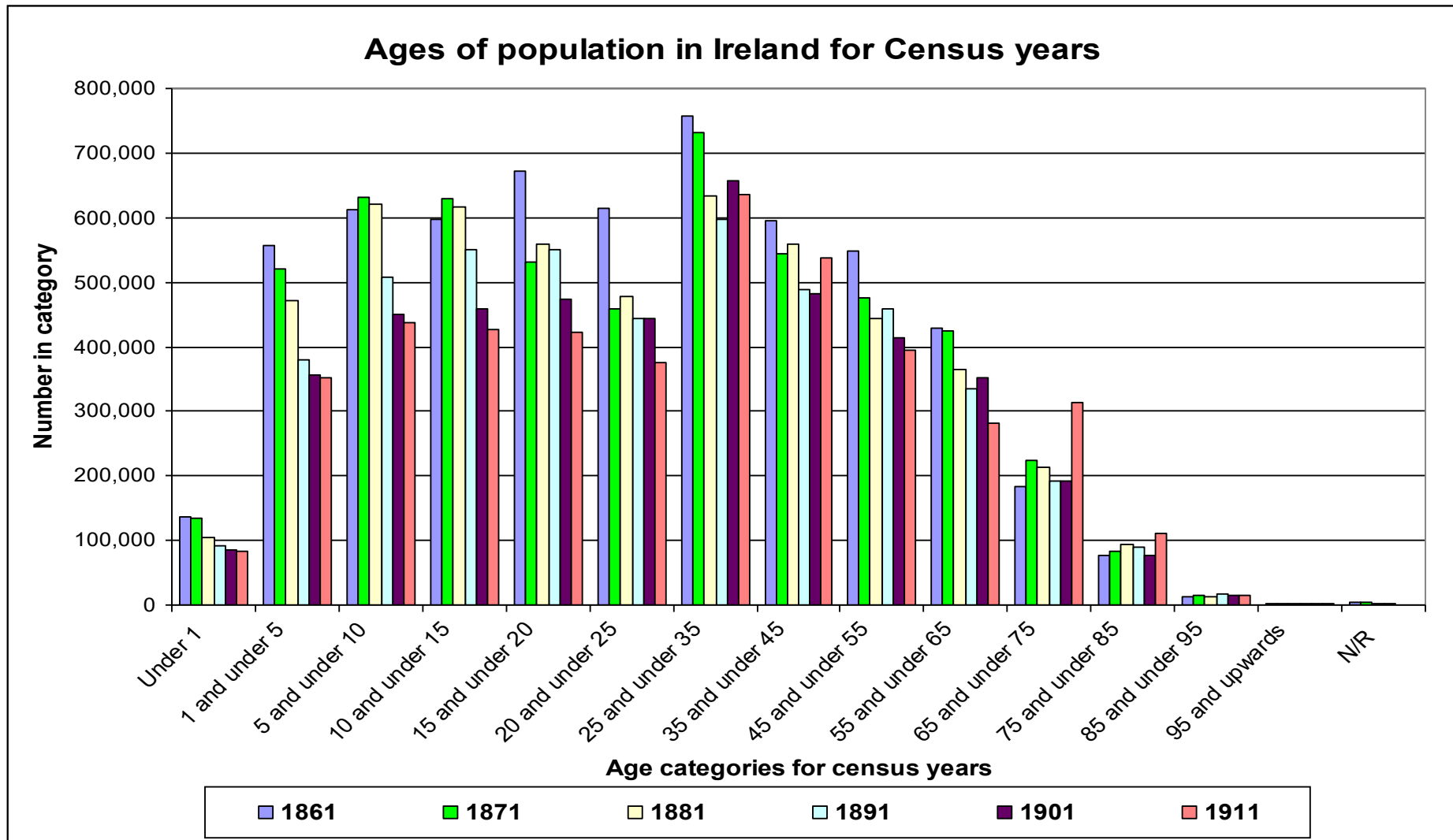


Fig. 3

Observations from the above chart:

For those under 1 year old the average population numbers just over 100,000.

Then for those in the age 1 to 5 years old the higher number is in 1861 with a decreasing number by census year to 1911.

For the 5 to 10 year olds the totals for 1861, 1871 and 1881 are close. We see this again in 1901 and 1911 but on lower numbers and 1891 lies near the average for that category.

Similarly the pattern is repeated for the group in the aged 10 to 15 year olds.

The 1861 figure for the group 15 to 20 year olds is noticeably higher than in latter years and the years 1871, 1881 and 1891 showing numbers close to the group average. We see lower than average numbers for 1901 and 1911.

The average of the years is reasonably steady at around 540,000 for those in the 5 to 20 year old grouping.

Like in the group 15 to 20 year olds we see a rather similar situation is seen for the 20 to 25 year old group with the high in 1861 and 1871 to 1901 being closer to each other and 1911 being lower than average. However the average drops to near 470,000 people. The above is clearly seen in the following chart, Fig 4. Up to now we had 5 year intervals of age (except those under 1).

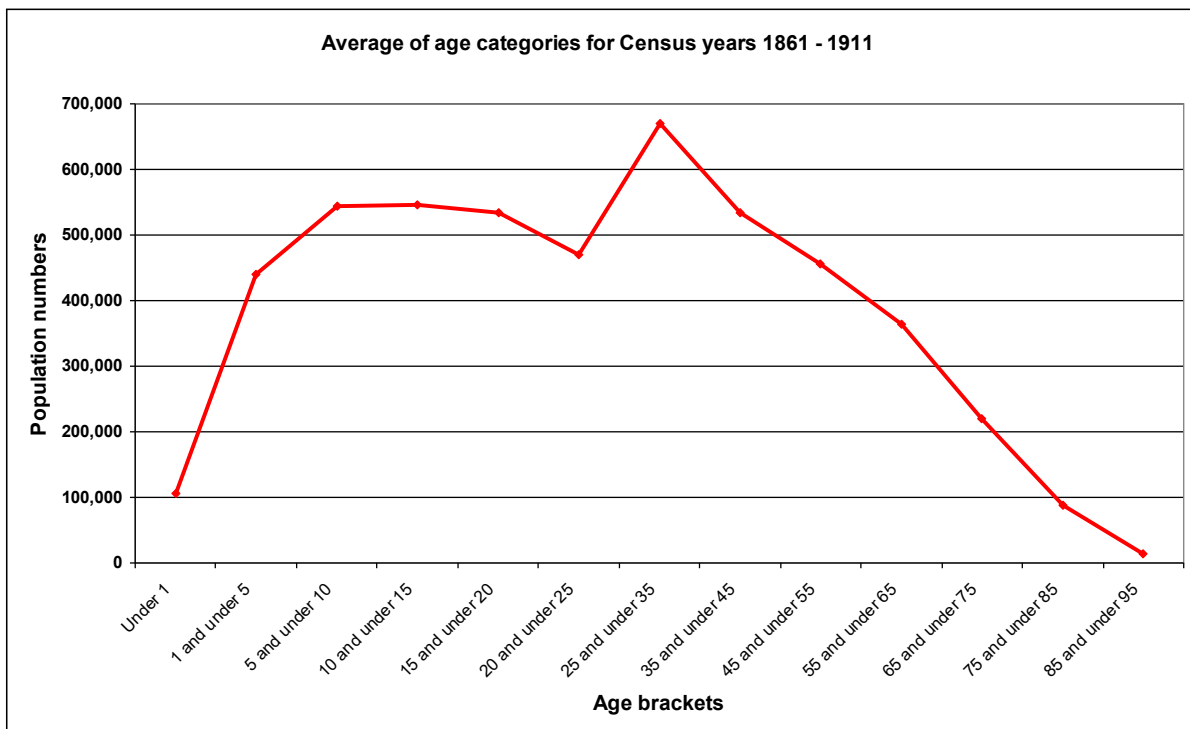


Fig 4

The age groupings are now in 10 year intervals and consequently we see a very significant increase in the numbers in the 25 to 35 age bracket. Then as is clear from the above chart there is an almost straight line drop off in numbers with increasing age brackets.

So let us combine the numbers so we compare numbers at all of 10 year intervals. So working back from the 25 to under 35 bracket we will use 15 to less than 25 and 5 to less

than 15 years as data. Ages less than 5 years are consequently excluded. Thus our data average over the census figures of 1861 to 1911 becomes:

Age Bracket	Population	Age Bracket	Population
0 and under 5	Excluded	45 and under 55	455,607
5 and under 15	1,090,392	55 and under 65	364,299
15 and under 25	1,004,034	65 and under 75	219,806
25 and under 35	669,227	75 and under 85	88,731
35 and under 45	534,370	85 and under 95	14,201

Table 4

This is represented graphically on Fig 5. (Note: symbol “<” signifies “less than”)

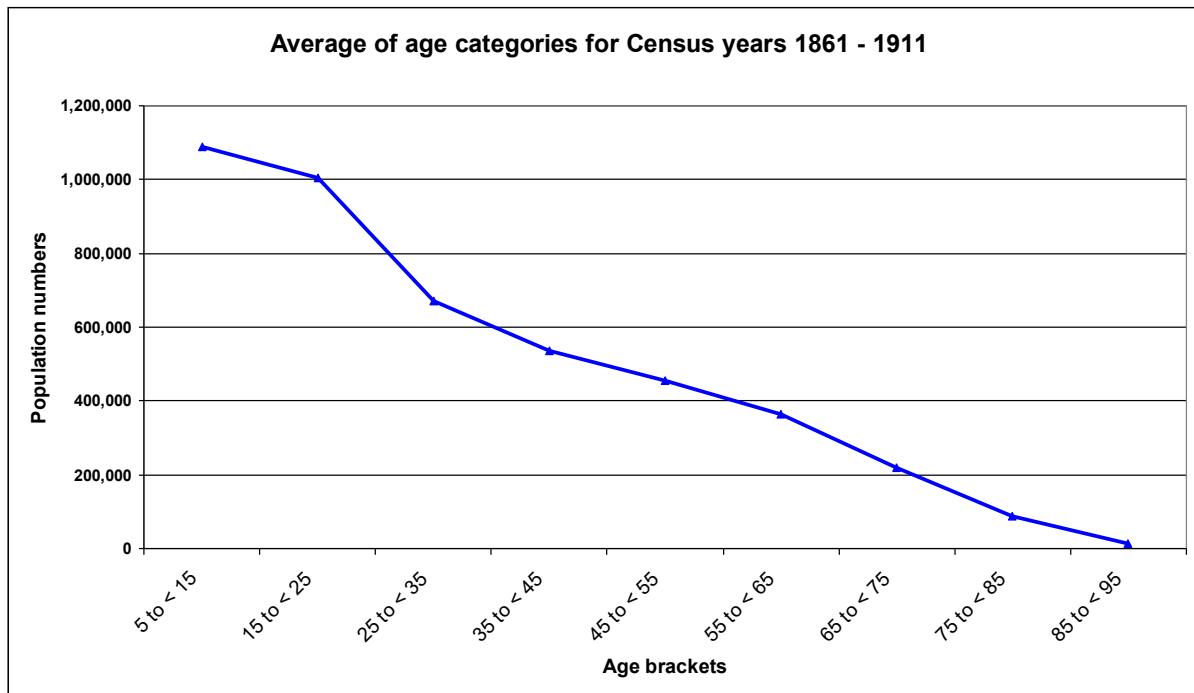


Fig 5

Population and frequency of age

Let us now look at the frequency of occurrence of each age for the Census of 1901 and 1911. These numbers are obtained from an analysis of the Census data available on the National Archives of Ireland website as of March 2017.

I have set out the number of people for each age for the 1901 census and the 1911 census on Table 5.

A striking feature is the very noticeable numbers for the decade years and to a lesser extent for the years ending in 5 as e.g. 35, 45. This is easier viewed on Fig 6.

Age	1901	1911	Age	1901	1911	Age	1901	1911
0	86,522	85,577	42	38,423	45,974	84	4,064	5,161
1	79,083	78,265	43	27,619	35,947	85	3,183	3,395
2	88,896	89,058	44	29,906	37,501	86	2,695	3,247
3	91,027	89,958	45	63,758	57,652	87	1,554	1,796
4	93,564	90,534	46	35,625	40,086	88	1,392	1,630
5	90,761	90,649	47	25,281	32,409	89	831	1,009
6	89,760	87,809	48	41,029	43,559	90	2,795	1,889
7	90,689	88,470	49	21,761	28,611	91	494	502
8	89,013	85,249	50	125,137	78,387	92	542	544
9	87,247	83,994	51	15,936	21,196	93	315	348
10	94,103	85,738	52	31,062	33,436	94	348	332
11	83,373	82,206	53	21,062	26,263	95	443	350
12	94,940	86,084	54	29,540	31,021	96	340	278
13	86,083	81,411	55	48,541	38,554	97	181	141
14	97,738	90,007	56	34,579	35,065	98	259	191
15	90,974	83,538	57	18,432	23,243	99	151	91
16	98,054	87,132	58	29,829	29,920	100	278	115
17	89,328	83,246	59	15,785	20,012	101	46	38
18	102,448	86,751	60	124,964	53,571	102	54	35
19	88,495	80,916	61	13,754	15,306	103	34	29
20	109,262	86,458	62	23,581	22,718	104	25	21
21	77,856	71,544	63	18,445	19,503	105	29	16
22	89,959	75,961	64	20,635	23,679	106	14	4
23	76,865	68,829	65	39,651	33,387	107	9	4
24	86,071	72,936	66	17,586	24,835	108	7	9
25	85,898	71,640	67	14,005	22,909	109	4	7
26	80,983	70,397	68	17,807	32,436	110	4	6
27	63,101	61,051	69	8,302	32,595	111	1	1
28	81,444	73,125	70	58,126	42,515	112	4	4
29	48,220	54,593	71	6,365	24,435	113	0	1
30	118,584	94,374	72	11,589	37,004	114	1	1
31	31,933	42,090	73	7,674	33,778	115	1	
32	53,821	60,752	74	9,045	29,451	116	1	
33	38,791	49,421	75	16,010	25,830	117	0	
34	47,212	57,042	76	9,206	19,219	118	1	
35	68,677	70,167	77	4,667	11,626	119	0	
36	52,656	62,559	78	7,671	13,511	120	0	
37	33,593	46,923	79	3,807	6,661	121	0	
38	52,326	63,625	80	21,607	14,428	122	1	
39	29,943	43,345	81	3,278	3,909	460	1	
40	121,975	97,951	82	4,846	5,601	N/R	8,264	10,782
41	21,592	29,627	83	2,714	3,797			

Table 5

We may safely say that the one person of age 460 years in an error and we may wonder about the accuracy of a few more!

The age was left blank for 8,264 people in 1901 and 10,782 people in 1911 census.

Fig 6 demonstrates the numbers of each age for 1901 and 1911 with the very distinctive peaks for the decade years, and we will discuss again later.

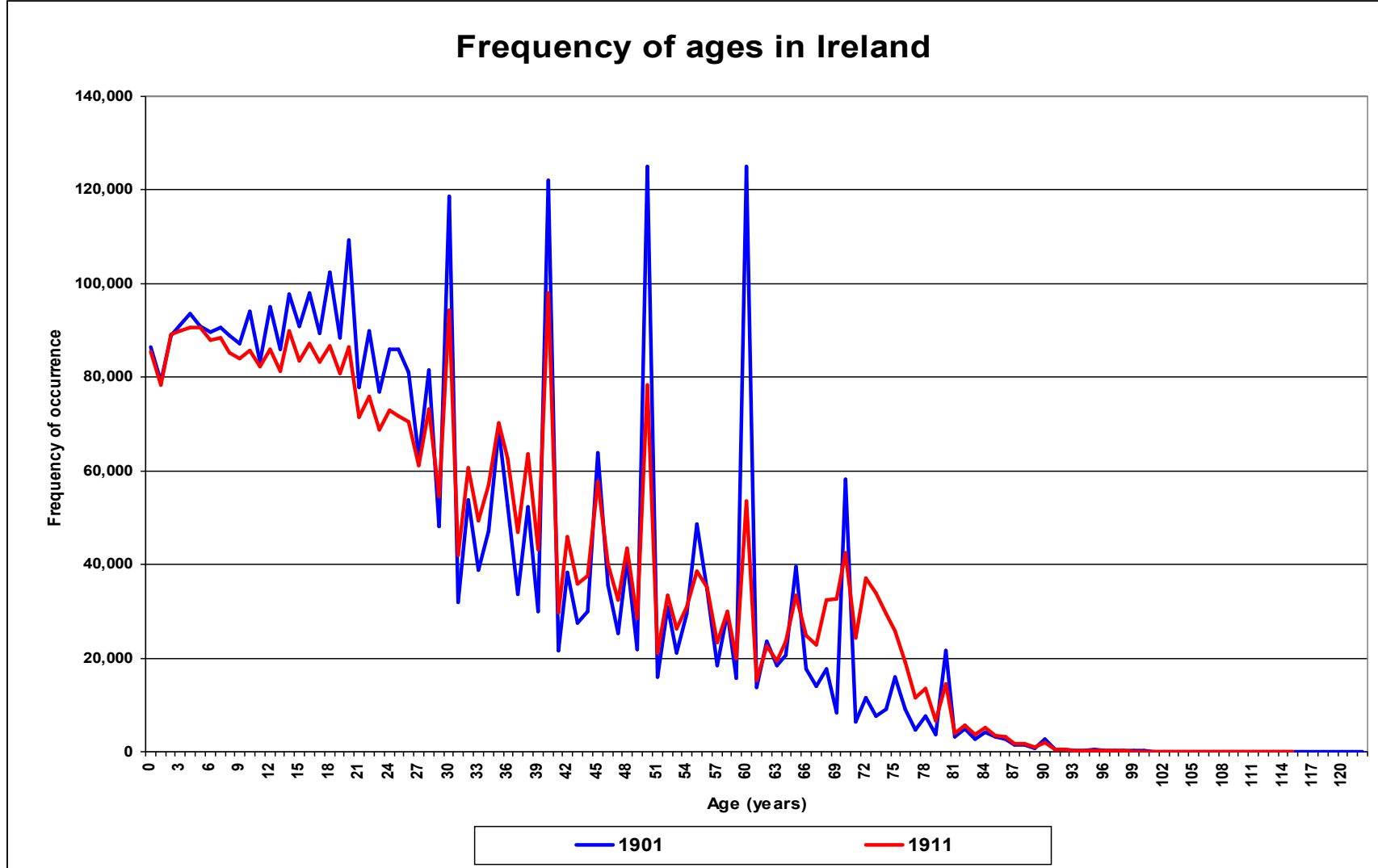


Fig 6

Now to view the chart for 1901 population numbers by age (years old) on Fig 7

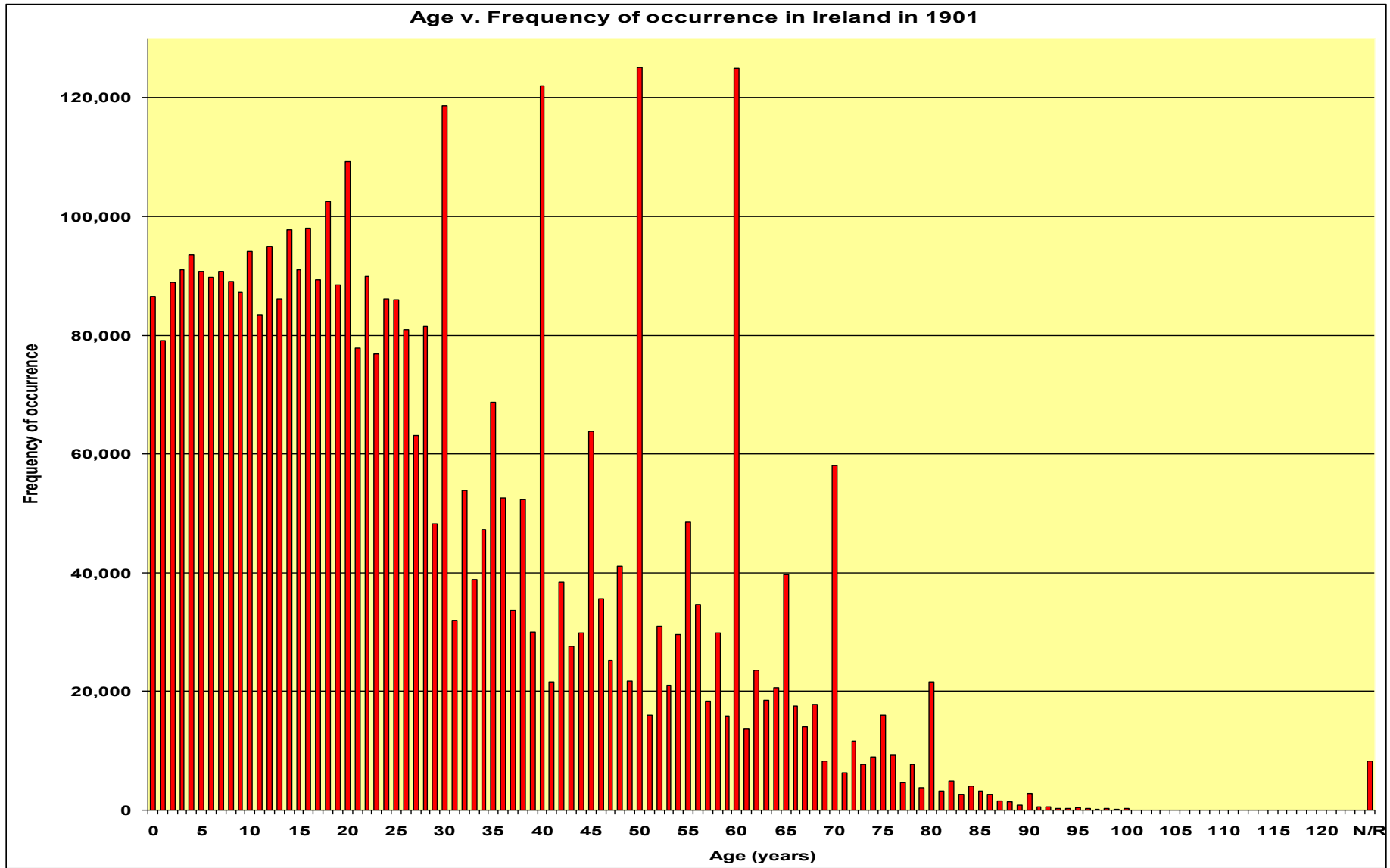


Fig 7

The most striking feature, for me, about the above chart is the columns which stand out from the general trend. These are for the ages of 30, 40, 50, 60, and also 70 years of age. These ages are much more frequent than other nearby ages. Interesting too is the fact that age 31, 41, 51, 61 and 71 are much lower than the general trend. Some of the ages ending in 5 e.g. 45 are also above the average but not as pronounced at all when compared with the decades numbers.

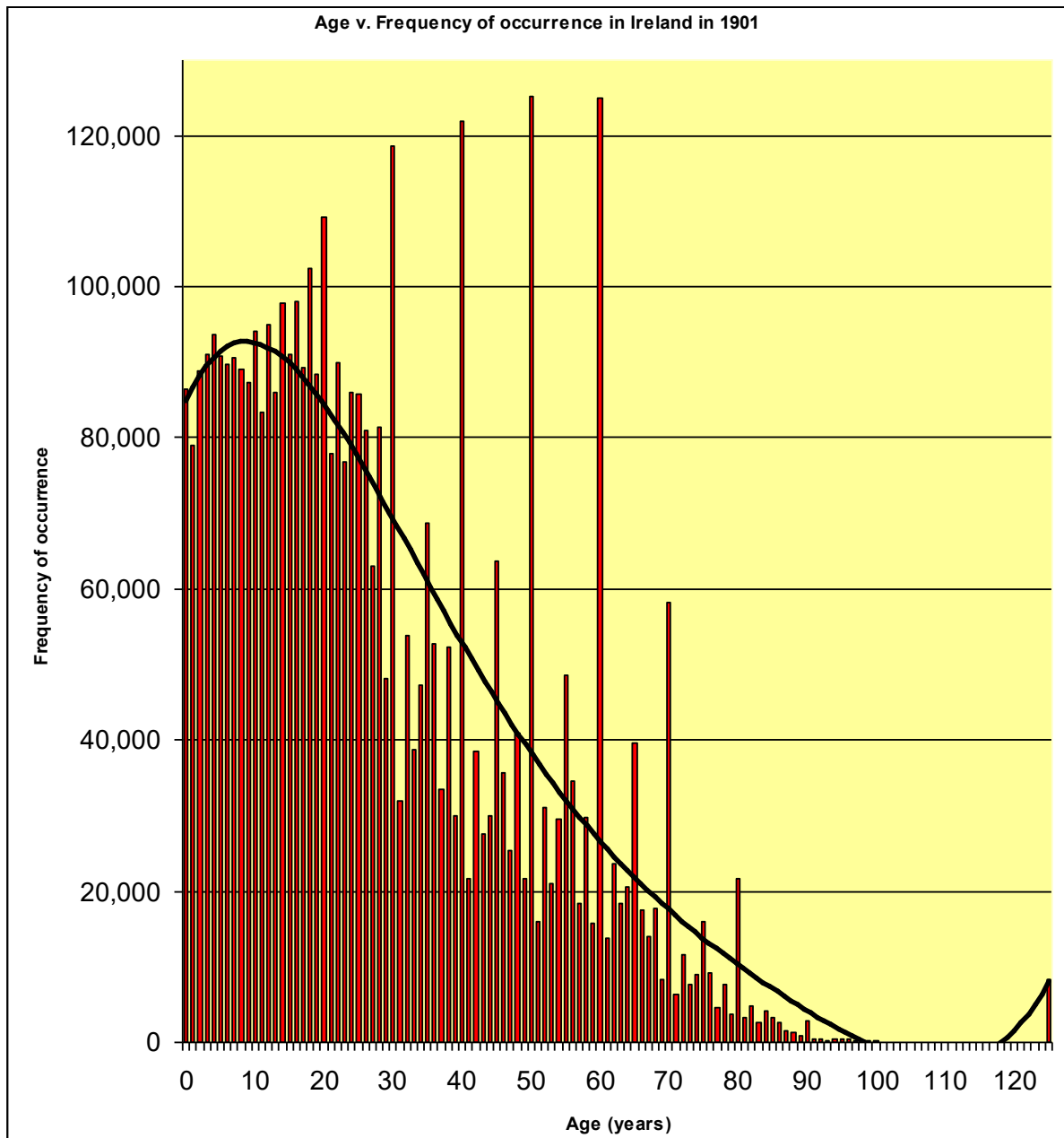


Fig 8

If we somewhat ignore the decade peaks and slightly apportion some to nearby ages then we can draw an approx. graph of **age v. frequency of occurrence** and this is shown in Fig. 8 as a thick black line. This follows an expected pattern with a decrease in frequency with increasing age.

Next to look at the 1911 census numbers for each age.

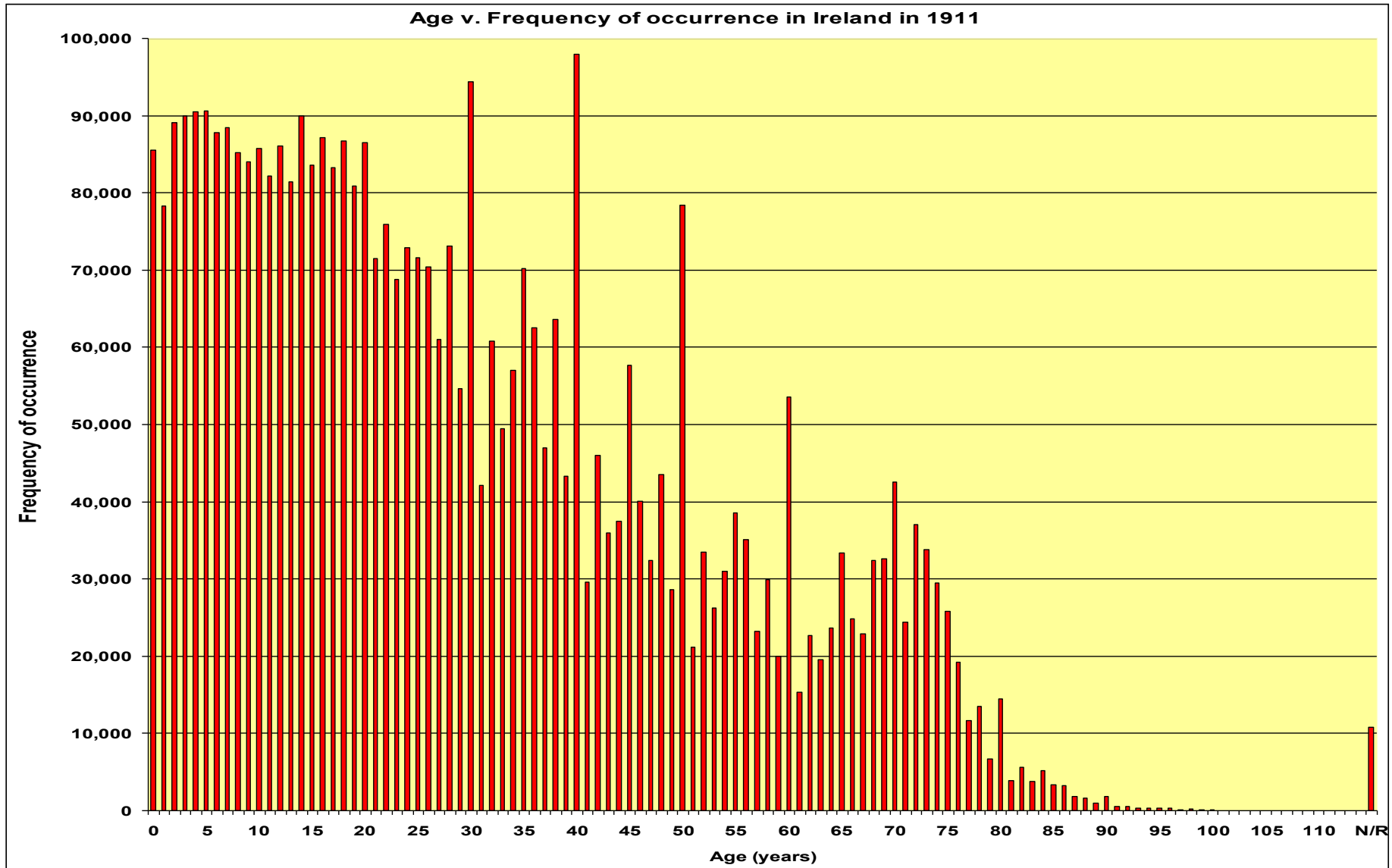


Fig 9

Again we gave the striking highs for the decades and not as pronounced for the 5's and the striking fact from Fig 9 is that the decreasing trend of *numbers living* versus *age* changed to increasing ages from the aged about 60 to aged 72 and decreasing again to aged 80 to meet the earlier decreasing trendline. To highlight the latter point I have added an averaging line in Fig. 10 below and this does clearly show the jump in the numbers of people living at aged 70 plus / minus about 9 years. In this I did ignore the spikes for aged 30, 40, 50 and 60 years.

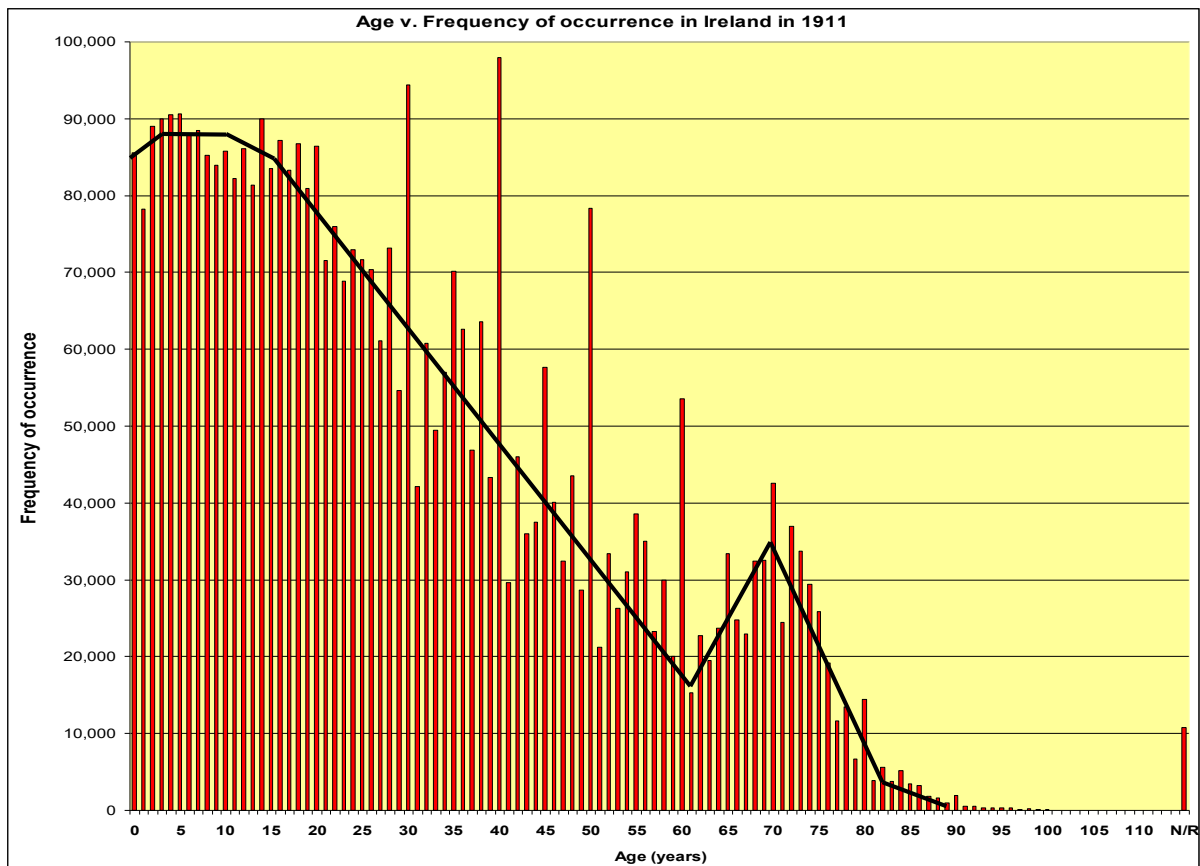


Fig 10

In browsing the Census of 1901 of Ireland and comparing the age of particular people with their age in the 1911 Census we see large variations between the two years. Some people aged just a few years in that 10 year period while others aged anything up to 18 years. This of course makes it very difficult to judge a persons date of birth. Presumably many people were unsure of their age.

If one can locate people on Church baptism records or post 1864 on the State Birth records then it does give a reliable birth date. In such cases where I have been able to check birth / baptism dates I did find that the age indicated in 1911 was generally much more accurate than in 1901; but also there were the exceptions!

One would expect that the baptism date of a child would be on or most likely after the birth date. Not what you will find always in these records in Ireland after State Records began in 1864 and indeed up to the early 1900's.

It was normal in that era that a Catholic child was baptised within a day or two of being born and indeed if the birth was early then the baptism may take place that day. It is not

uncommon to find a significant difference between a birth date on the State Register and the Baptism date in the Church Baptism Register. The baptism date could predate the birth date on the State Record by several weeks. One notes in the State record that the birth was often registered several weeks after the stated birth date. I tend to take the baptism date as being the more reliable. The child, Ellen Daly on <http://bmdnotices.com/remembrance-garden-book/viewremembrance.aspx?remembranceid=1405> has a baptism date of 10 November 1880 and a birth date on the State Register as 20 December 1880, registered on 3 Jan 1881.

And of course we wonder if my claim that the ages quoted in the 1911 Census were more accurate for many of the people than they indicated in the earlier 1901 Census, then why the noticeable spike in ages for a few years either side of age 70 years.

Well, abnormal numbers are most prominent for the ages 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70 and 80 years. Less prominent high numbers can be observed for aged 35, 45, 55, 65 and 75 years.

Clearly many people were not sure of their age and it seems they often picked a nearby round number to a multiple of 10 as their age, as examples 30, 40, 50, etc.

Could it be that with the pension being available in 1909 that people suddenly “became” older in order to qualify?

The Old-Age Pensions Act 1908 was an Act of Parliament passed in 1908 and it provided for an old age pension to be paid to eligible people from 1 January 1909. Those eligible had to apply to a Local Pension Committee starting in October 1908 set up by the county councils. They had to be over 70 years and must have been a British subject for 20 years and have resided in the United Kingdom. It was open to both men and women, both married and single, and their yearly means must not exceed £31. 10s. 0d. Forms for applicants were available from end of September 1908 and had to be returned to the Postmaster of the Post Office that will pay the individual's benefit. The claims were assessed by the Pension Officers and then sent to the Local Pension Committee for approval.

Births, Deaths and Emigration

We have examined records of births and deaths prior to the registration of these being introduced in 1864. Let us look at the data from 1864 to 1914 as on the State database and compare that data with what was provided on *Documenting Ireland: Parliament, People and Migration*, which we used earlier and is on Table 6 below.

This table gives the recorded population for the Census years, the numbers of births, deaths, those who emigrated and the estimated population by year.

Year	Census pop.	Births	Emigration	Deaths	Estimates
1864		136,414	114,169	93,144	5,640,527
1865		144,970	101,497	93,154	5,594,589
1866		146,090	99,467	93,027	5,522,942
1867		144,388	80,624	93,503	5,486,509
1868		146,051	61,018	86,185	5,465,914
1869		145,659	66,568	89,593	5,449,094
1870		149,846	74,855	90,462	5,418,512
1871	5,398,179	151,355	71,240	88,348	5,398,179
1872		149,278	78,102	97,294	5,372,890
1873		144,377	90,149	97,537	5,327,938
1874		141,288	73,184	91,961	5,298,970
1875		138,320	51,462	98,114	5,278,629
1876		140,469	37,587	92,324	5,277,544
1877		139,659	38,503	93,543	5,286,880
1878		134,117	41,124	99,629	5,282,246
1879		135,328	47,065	105,089	5,265,625
1880		128,086	95,517	102,906	5,202,648
1881	5,145,770	125,847	78,417	90,035	5,145,770
1882		122,648	89,136	88,500	5,101,018
1883		118,163	108,724	96,228	5,023,811
1884		118,875	75,863	87,154	4,974,561
1885		115,951	62,034	90,712	4,938,588
1886		113,927	63,135	87,292	4,905,895
1887		112,400	82,923	88,585	4,857,119
1888		109,557	78,684	85,892	4,801,312
1889		107,841	70,477	82,908	4,757,385
1890		105,254	61,313	85,850	4,717,959
1891	4,681,248	108,116	59,623	85,990	4,680,376
1892		104,234	50,867	90,044	4,633,808
1893		106,082	48,147	82,821	4,607,462
1894		105,354	35,895	83,528	4,589,260
1895		106,113	48,703	84,395	4,559,936
1896		107,641	38,995	75,700	4,542,061
1897		106,664	32,535	83,839	4,529,917
1898		105,457	32,241	82,404	4,518,478
1899		103,900	41,232	79,699	4,502,401
1900		101,459	45,288	87,606	4,468,501
1901	4,445,630	100,976	39,613	79,119	4,445,630
1902		101,863	40,190	77,676	4,434,551
1903		101,831	39,789	77,358	4,417,757
1904		103,811	36,902	79,513	4,408,103
1905		102,832	30,676	76,071	4,399,308
1906		103,536	35,344	74,427	4,397,571
1907		101,742	39,082	77,334	4,388,451
1908		102,039	23,295	76,891	4,384,664
1909		102,759	28,676	74,973	4,386,601
1910		101,963	32,457	74,894	4,385,421
1911	4,383,608	101,758	30,573	72,475	4,383,608
1912		101,035	29,344	72,187	4,384,710
1913		100,094	30,967	74,694	4,379,012
1914		98,806	30,912	71,345	4,381,398

Table 6

Now from the State records as available on Irish Genealogy (*irishgenealogy.ie*) Table 7 contains the total recorded births by year (as on March 2017).

Year	Births	Year	Births	Year	Births
1864	141,448	1881	128,129	1898	106,331
1865	148,569	1882	124,671	1899	113,449
1866	149,128	1883	120,525	1900	101,475
1867	147,309	1884	121,592	1901	100,502
1868	149,154	1885	118,511	1902	102,312
1869	148,693	1886	116,132	1903	102,051
1870	154,517	1887	114,126	1904	103,850
1871	154,311	1888	111,787	1905	103,263
1872	151,955	1889	109,827	1906	103,891
1873	147,477	1890	106,189	1907	100,279
1874	144,509	1891	109,764	1908	100,458
1875	141,772	1892	105,665	1909	102,515
1876	144,517	1893	107,489	1910	101,975
1877	143,792	1894	106,964	1911	101,770
1878	137,420	1895	107,622	1912	100,099
1879	138,369	1896	108,833	1913	99,993
1880	130,598	1897	107,745	1914	99,391

Table 7

The above data is shown graphically below on Fig 11

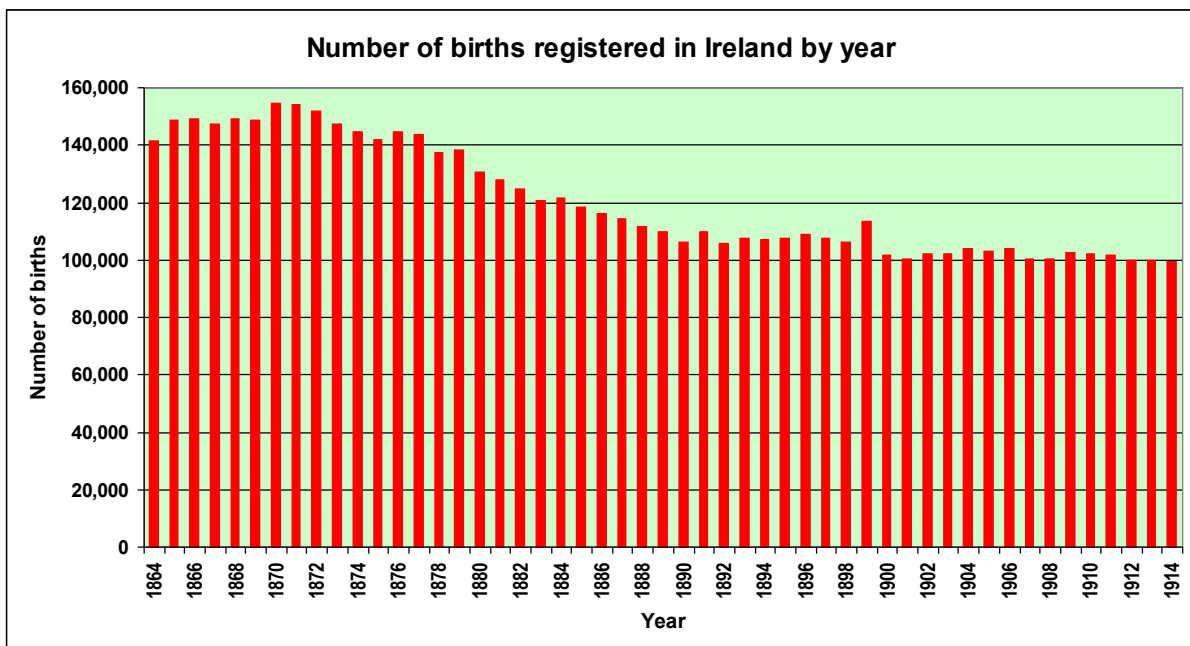


Fig 11

We observe that 1864 was a bit low but this to be expected in any new event being introduced but the next few years were steady rising to a high in 1870 and gradually declining to settle just above 100,000 after 1890 until it dropped below the 100,000 in 1913.

Similarly as we saw for the births we have on Table 8 the recorded death numbers for the selected years (as on March 2017).

Year	Deaths	Year	Deaths	Year	Deaths
1864	99,271	1881	91,742	1898	83,427
1865	99,158	1882	90,248	1899	80,780
1866	96,235	1883	98,022	1900	88,858
1867	95,652	1884	89,584	1901	79,897
1868	87,864	1885	92,985	1902	78,910
1869	91,673	1886	89,389	1903	78,346
1870	92,302	1887	90,226	1904	80,341
1871	89,540	1888	87,572	1905	75,483
1872	98,691	1889	84,855	1906	75,123
1873	99,261	1890	87,412	1907	77,929
1874	94,041	1891	87,555	1908	77,455
1875	100,089	1892	91,213	1909	75,441
1876	94,455	1893	84,301	1910	75,405
1877	96,312	1894	84,939	1911	73,248
1878	102,098	1895	85,768	1912	72,597
1879	107,656	1896	76,953	1913	75,218
1880	105,011	1897	85,056	1914	72,000

Table 8

The above data is shown graphically below on Fig 12

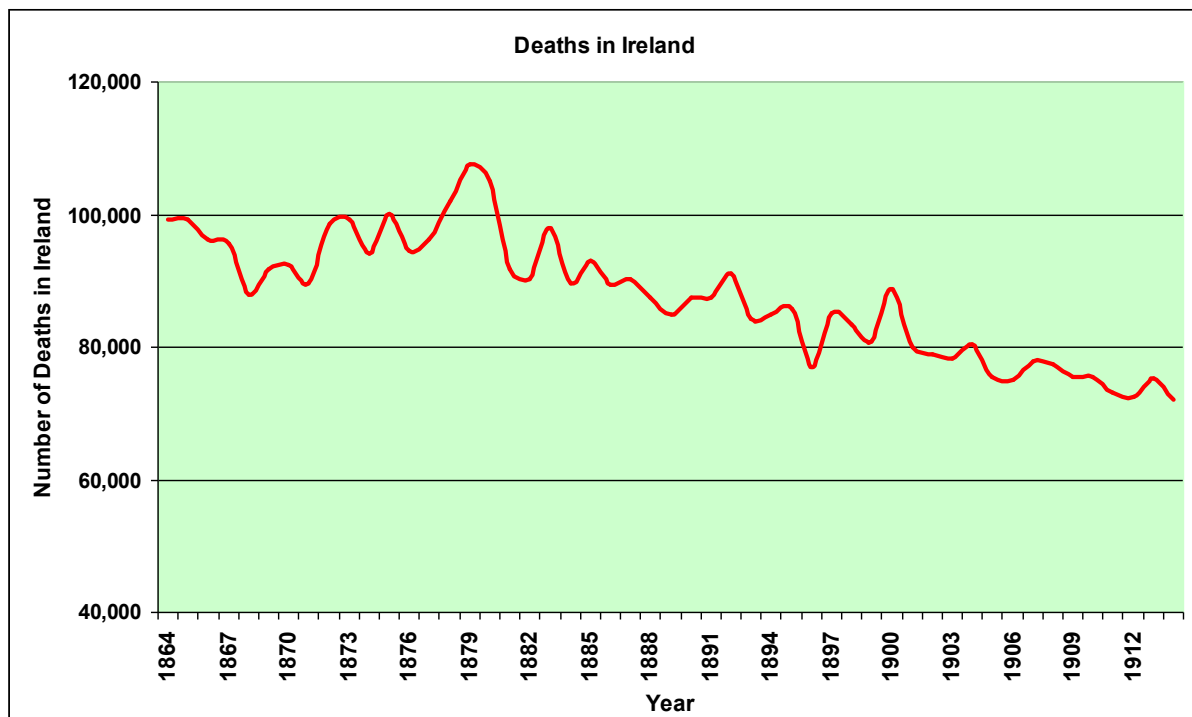


Fig 12

A drop from 1864 to 1868 in death numbers to rise to a peak in 1879 before tailing off to death numbers in 1914 of 72,000.

So now let us compare differences in numbers of stated births and deaths between 1864 and 1914 between those on DIPPAM and Irish Genealogy. These numbers are on Table 9.

Year	DIPPAM Irish Genealogy			DIPPAM Irish Genealogy		
	Births		Difference	Deaths		Difference
1864	136,414	141,449	5,035	93,144	99,280	6,136
1865	144,970	148,568	3,598	93,154	99,164	6,010
1866	146,090	149,128	3,038	93,027	96,244	3,217
1867	144,388	147,309	2,921	93,503	95,656	2,153
1868	146,051	149,154	3,103	86,185	87,870	1,685
1869	145,659	148,693	3,034	89,593	91,675	2,082
1870	149,846	154,518	4,672	90,462	92,318	1,856
1871	151,355	154,311	2,956	88,348	89,551	1,203
1872	149,278	151,957	2,679	97,294	98,701	1,407
1873	144,377	147,476	3,099	97,537	99,269	1,732
1874	141,288	144,509	3,221	91,961	94,047	2,086
1875	138,320	141,772	3,452	98,114	100,097	1,983
1876	140,469	144,517	4,048	92,324	94,460	2,136
1877	139,659	143,792	4,133	93,543	96,318	2,775
1878	134,117	137,419	3,302	99,629	102,102	2,473
1879	135,328	138,368	3,040	105,089	107,664	2,575
1880	128,086	130,599	2,513	102,906	105,018	2,112
1881	125,847	128,128	2,281	90,035	92,096	2,061
1882	122,648	124,671	2,023	88,500	90,259	1,759
1883	118,163	120,523	2,360	96,228	98,037	1,809
1884	118,875	121,593	2,718	87,154	89,594	2,440
1885	115,951	118,511	2,560	90,712	92,989	2,277
1886	113,927	116,132	2,205	87,292	89,404	2,112
1887	112,400	114,126	1,726	88,585	90,243	1,658
1888	109,557	111,786	2,229	85,892	87,589	1,697
1889	107,841	109,826	1,985	82,908	84,881	1,973
1890	105,254	106,191	937	85,850	87,447	1,597
1891	108,116	109,762	1,646	85,990	87,446	1,456
1892	104,234	105,666	1,432	90,044	90,044	0
1893	106,082	107,489	1,407	82,821	84,214	1,393
1894	105,354	106,963	1,609	83,528	84,848	1,320
1895	106,113	107,623	1,510	84,395	85,667	1,272
1896	107,641	108,834	1,193	75,700	76,853	1,153
1897	106,664	107,746	1,082	83,839	84,941	1,102
1898	105,457	106,329	872	82,404	83,334	930
1899	103,900	113,447	9,547	79,699	80,706	1,007
1900	101,459	101,476	17	87,606	88,720	1,114
1901	100,976	100,502	-474	79,119	79,810	691
1902	101,863	102,312	449	77,676	78,802	1,126
1903	101,831	102,052	221	77,358	78,222	864
1904	103,811	103,849	38	79,513	80,179	666
1905	102,832	103,263	431	76,071	75,310	-761
1906	103,536	103,893	357	74,427	75,006	579
1907	101,742	100,319	-1,423	77,334	77,777	443
1908	102,039	100,460	-1,579	76,891	77,336	445
1909	102,759	102,516	-243	74,973	75,280	307
1910	101,963	101,975	12	74,894	75,302	408
1911	101,758	101,770	12	72,475	73,064	589
1912	101,035	100,101	-934	72,187	72,535	348
1913	100,094	99,993	-101	74,694	75,048	354
1914	<u>98,806</u>	<u>99,393</u>	<u>587</u>	<u>71,345</u>	<u>71,851</u>	<u>506</u>
Total:	6,046,223	6,142,759	96,536	4,383,952	4,464,268	80,316

Table 9

We see that differences are not very significant generally and well within tolerable limits for the totals involved in that era. There is this exception in the births with that peak in 1899 which indeed may be an error? From 1900 both sets of figures are very close as we see below on Fig 13.

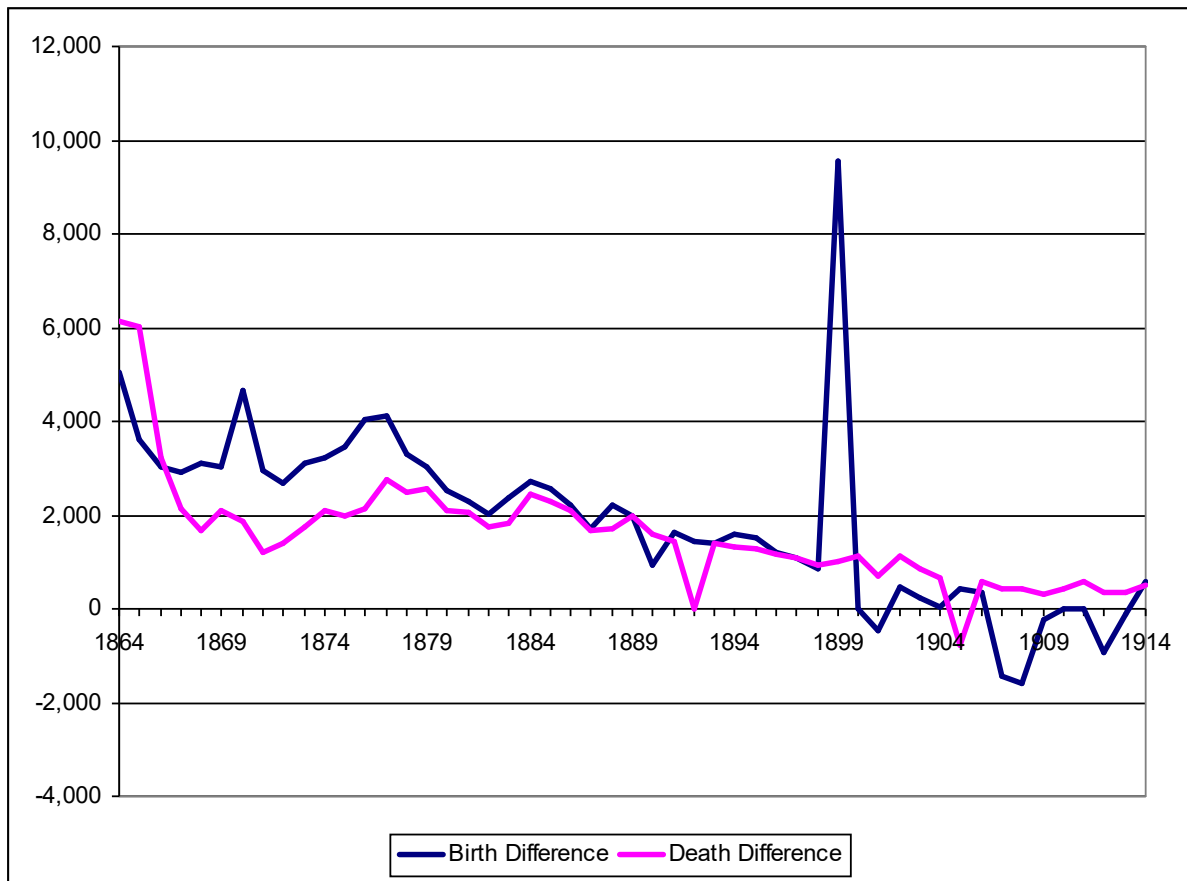


Fig 13

Emigration from Ireland

The Irish diaspora is a phrase growing in recognition and popularity. It refers to Irish people and their descendants who live outside Ireland.

People leaving Ireland is recorded since early Medieval times. However, it is from around 1700 that we have any data and since then it is estimated that up to 10 million people who were born in Ireland have emigrated. This is more than the population of Ireland at its historical peak in 1846 of almost 8.29 million.

After 1846, emigration from Ireland became a very significant feature and by 1890 it is thought that about 40% of people born in Ireland were living outside of Ireland.

The numbers leaving Ireland are from *Documenting Ireland: Parliament, People and Migration* and these are available there from 1840 and these are included on Table 10 for information.

Year	Emigrants	Year	Emigrants	Year	Emigrants
1840	90,743	1865	101,497	1890	61,313
1841	118,592	1866	99,467	1891	59,623
1842	128,344	1867	80,624	1892	50,876
1843	57,512	1868	61,018	1893	48,147
1844	70,686	1869	66,568	1894	35,895
1845	93,501	1870	74,855	1895	48,703
1846	129,851	1871	71,240	1896	38,995
1847	258,270	1872	78,102	1897	32,535
1848	248,089	1873	90,149	1898	32,241
1849	299,498	1874	73,184	1899	41,232
1850	280,896	1875	51,462	1900	45,288
1851	228,000	1876	37,587	1901	39,613
1852	190,322	1877	38,503	1902	40,190
1853	173,148	1878	41,124	1903	39,789
1854	140,555	1879	47,065	1904	36,902
1855	91,914	1880	95,517	1905	30,676
1856	90,781	1881	78,417	1906	35,344
1857	95,081	1882	89,136	1907	39,082
1858	64,337	1883	108,724	1908	23,295
1859	80,599	1884	75,863	1909	28,676
1860	84,621	1885	62,034	1910	32,457
1861	64,292	1886	63,135	1911	30,573
1862	70,117	1887	82,923	1912	29,344
1863	117,229	1888	78,684	1913	30,967
1864	114,169	1889	70,477	1914	30,912

Table 10

The above data is shown graphically below on Fig 14

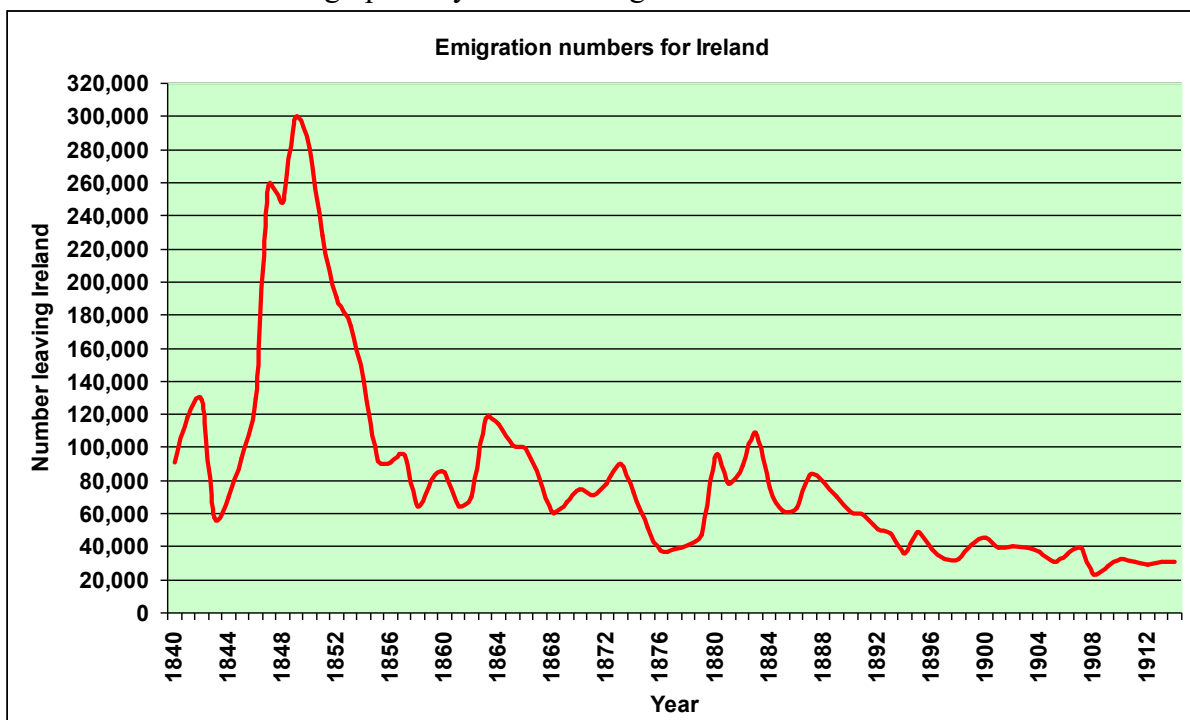


Fig 14

Population, births, deaths and emigration

Genealogists and those doing family tree research are well aware that all births, marriages and deaths were not registered on State records, indeed for genealogists the one you are looking for may be the “missing one” at times. However we will work with what data is available and perhaps the “missing” births will be balanced by the “missing” deaths when we test calculating annual population using the formula:

$$\text{population} = \text{previous year's population} + \text{births} - \text{deaths} - \text{emigration}$$

and we will examine from the year 1871 as this was the first census year after the requirement to register births, deaths and marriages after 1864. The census figure for 1871 is 5,398,179. So taking that figure as our start then using the above formula we obtain the calculated set of figures on Table 11. We began with the same census figure in 1871 and by the 1911 census the difference between Estimated and Calculated is 24,254, and by 1914 the difference is 16,950

While I expressed concern that some births and deaths were not registered on the State Registers perhaps the numbers are not that significant or the unregistered ones somewhat balance out.

Year	Estimated	Calculated	Year	Estimated	Calculated
1871	5,398,179	5,398,179	1893	4,607,462	4,615,552
1872	5,372,890	5,372,061	1894	4,589,260	4,601,483
1873	5,327,938	5,328,752	1895	4,559,936	4,574,498
1874	5,298,970	5,304,895	1896	4,542,061	4,567,444
1875	5,278,629	5,293,639	1897	4,529,917	4,557,734
1876	5,277,544	5,304,197	1898	4,518,478	4,548,546
1877	5,286,380	5,311,810	1899	4,502,401	4,531,515
1878	5,282,246	5,305,174	1900	4,468,501	4,500,080
1879	5,265,625	5,288,348	1901	4,445,630	4,482,324
1880	5,202,648	5,218,011	1902	4,434,551	4,466,321
1881	5,145,770	5,175,406	1903	4,417,757	4,451,005
1882	5,101,018	5,120,418	1904	4,408,103	4,438,401
1883	5,023,811	5,033,629	1905	4,399,308	4,434,486
1884	4,974,561	4,989,487	1906	4,397,571	4,428,251
1885	4,938,588	4,952,692	1907	4,388,451	4,413,577
1886	4,905,895	4,916,192	1908	4,384,664	4,415,430
1887	4,857,119	4,857,084	1909	4,386,601	4,414,540
1888	4,801,312	4,802,065	1910	4,385,421	4,409,152
1889	4,757,385	4,756,521	1911	4,383,608	4,407,862
1890	4,717,959	4,714,612	1912	4,384,710	4,407,366
1891	4,680,376	4,677,115	1913	4,379,012	4,401,799
1892	4,633,808	4,640,438	1914	4,381,398	4,398,348

Table 11

Or as on Fig 15 the above table is graphically represented. Clearly there is a close match between the DIPPAM estimated population and that calculated from the 1871 census figure up to 1914.

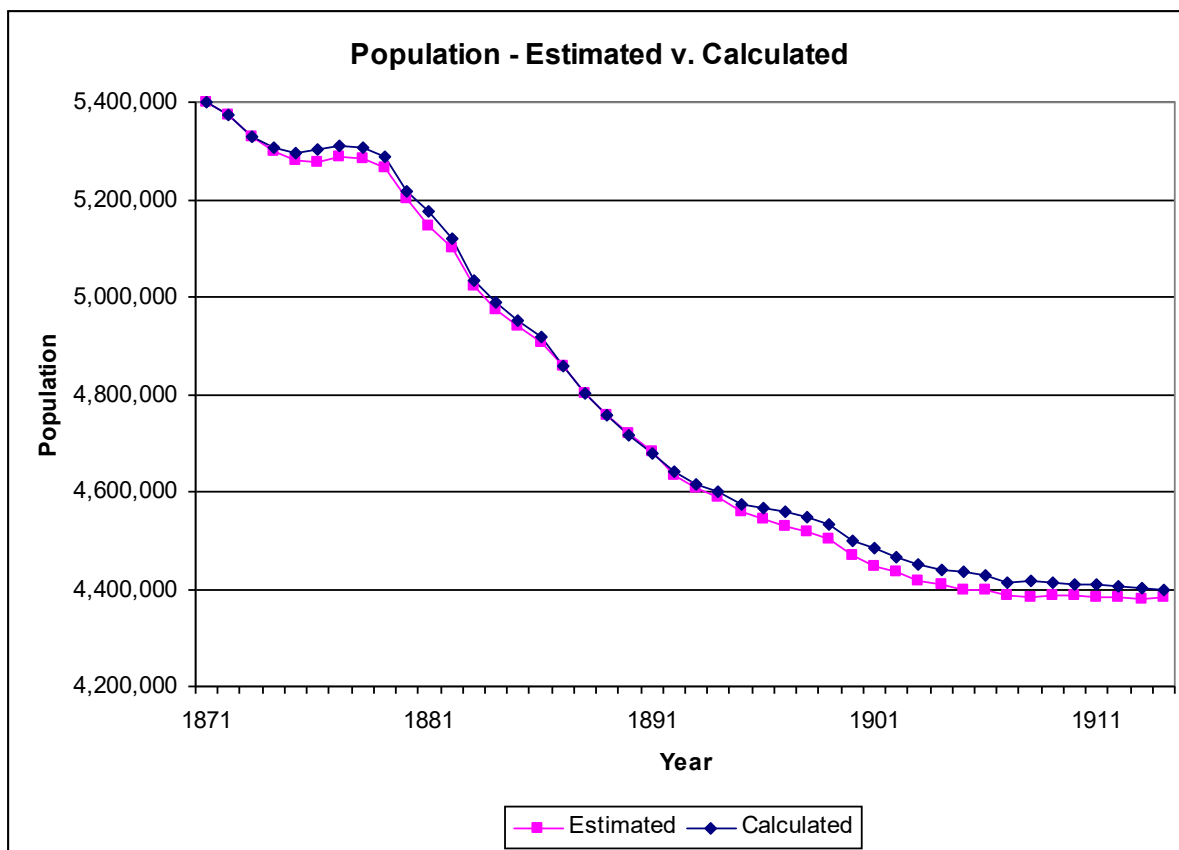


Fig 15

So finally let us use the 1871 census population as our start year and calculate the 1911 population using the formula:

$$1911 \text{ calculated population} = 1871 \text{ population} + \text{total births} - \text{total deaths} - \text{total emigration}$$

Population in 1871	5,398,179
Total of Births from 1871 to 1914	4,804,412
Total of Deaths from 1871 to 1914	3,585,617
Total of Emigration from 1871 to 1914	2,204,771

So that suggests a 1911 population of 4,412,203 which is well within acceptable limits, considering all births and deaths were not registered, as the census population was 4,383,608.

Deaths plus Emigration is virtually 1 million greater than Births for the 40 year period.

References

Annual reports of “Documenting Ireland: Parliament, People and Migration”
 Census of Ireland from National Archives
 Irish Genealogy – births and deaths

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