

Preliminary Results of Census 2016- the Western Region

*Western Development Commission
25 October 2016*

Dr. Helen McHenry, Policy Analyst

Follow our Blog
wdcinsights.wordpress.com/

@WDCInsights



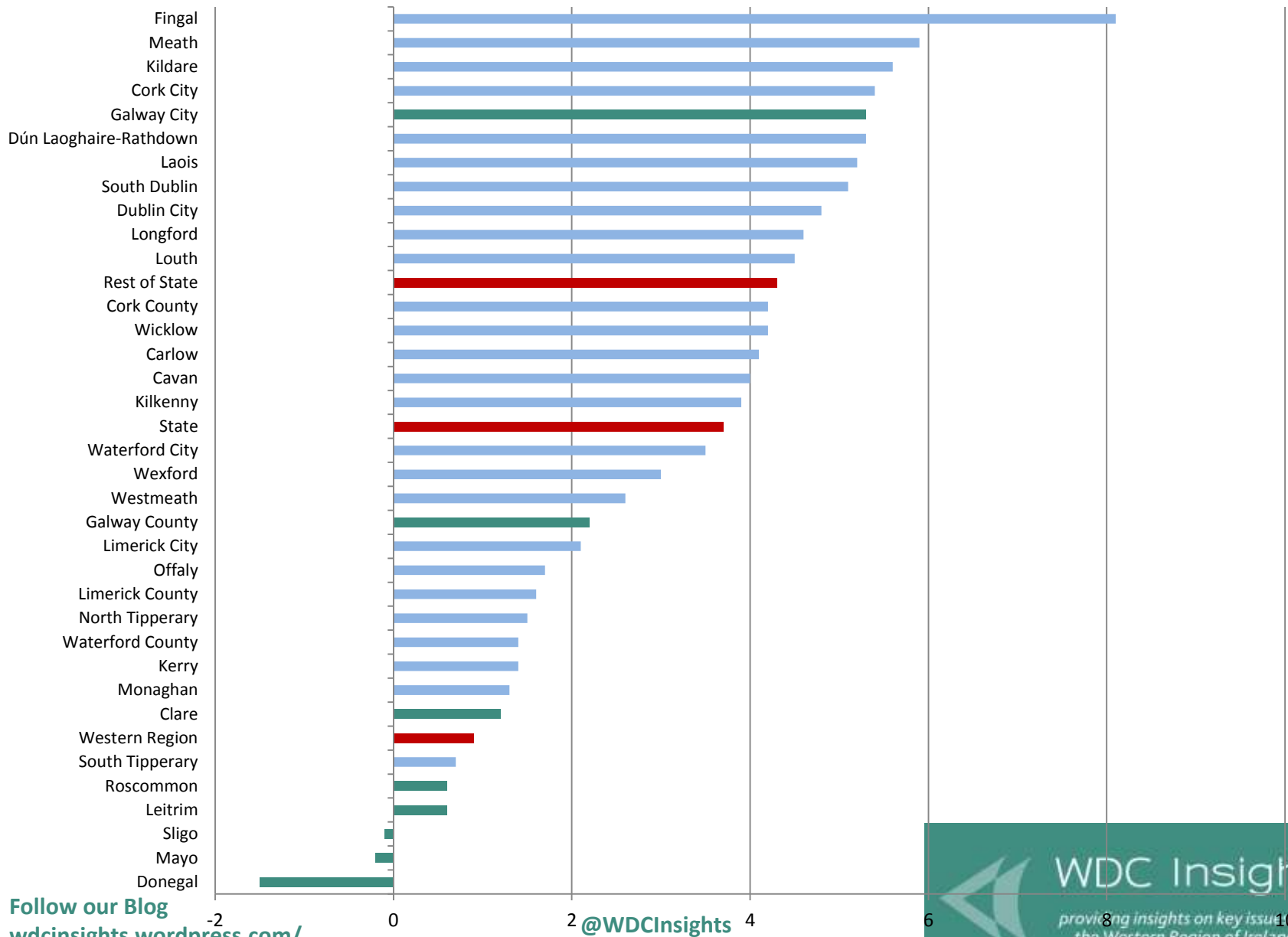
Preliminary census results

- Initial results- based on enumerators forms
- Subject to revision
- Only cover a small number of indicators (population by ED, migration and housing vacancies)
- 2011-2016 was a period of fluctuation and uncertainty in population trends. Helpful to have some detail now
- Trends for Western Region worrying

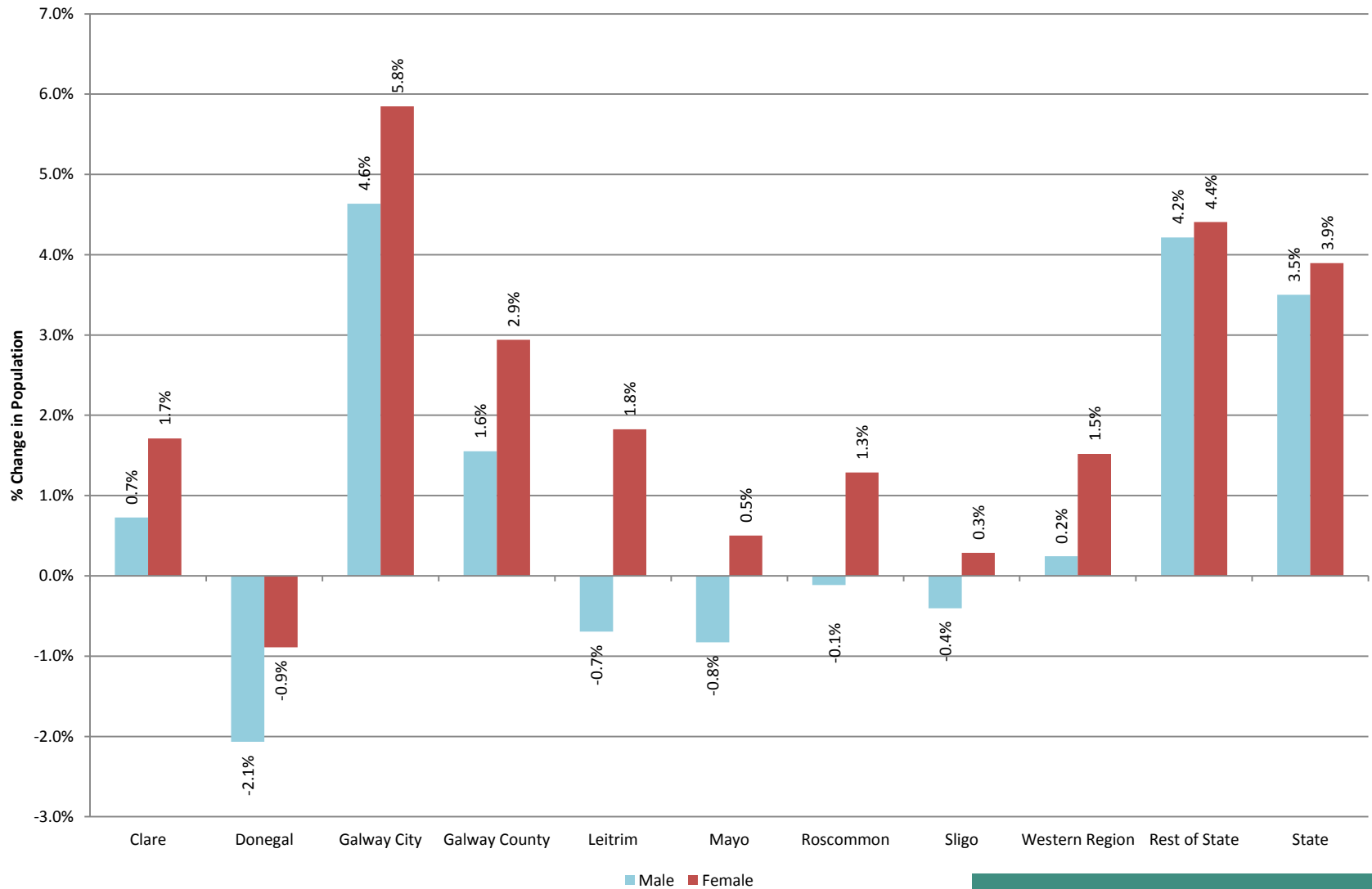
Population change

- The Western Region population was 828,124 people in April 2016. it increased by 7,244 people since 2011 (0.9%). The state population was 4,757,976. It increased by 3.7% between 2011 and 2016.
- Three counties in the Western region showed population decline (Donegal, (-1.5%) , Mayo (-0.2%) and Sligo (-0.1%)
- In all counties there was higher growth in the female population than the male population. In the Western Region there was a 1.5% increase in the female population and 0.2% in the male population. For the rest of the state the difference was less (males 4.2%; females 4.4%).
- More EDs in the Western Region experienced population decline (533) than showed population growth (433). 262 EDs had a population decrease of more than 5%. 16 had population decreases of more than 15%

Percentage change in population 2011-2016



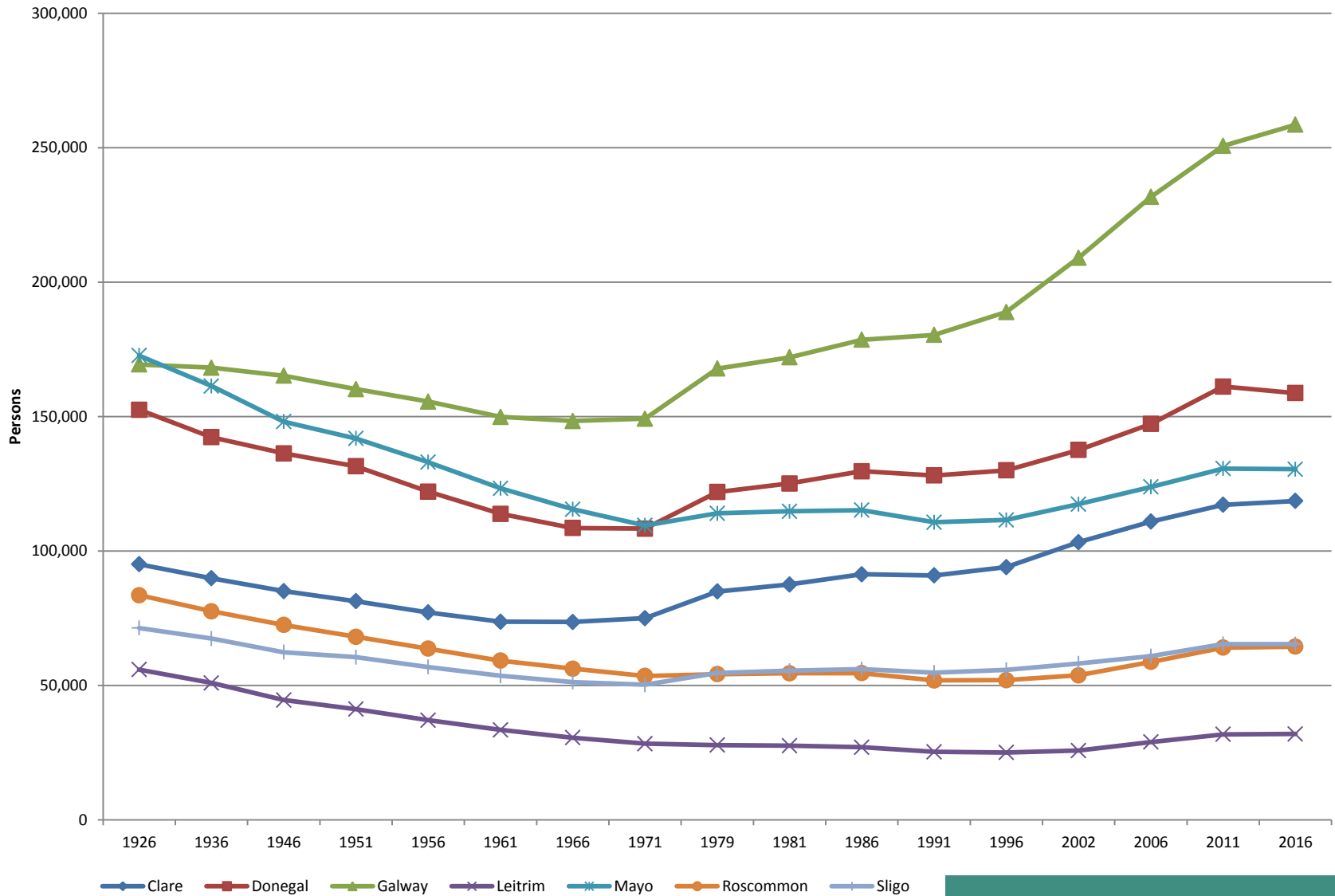
Percentage change in male and female population 2011-2016



Follow our Blog
wdcinsights.wordpress.com/

@WDCInsights

Population of the Western Region counties, 1926-2016

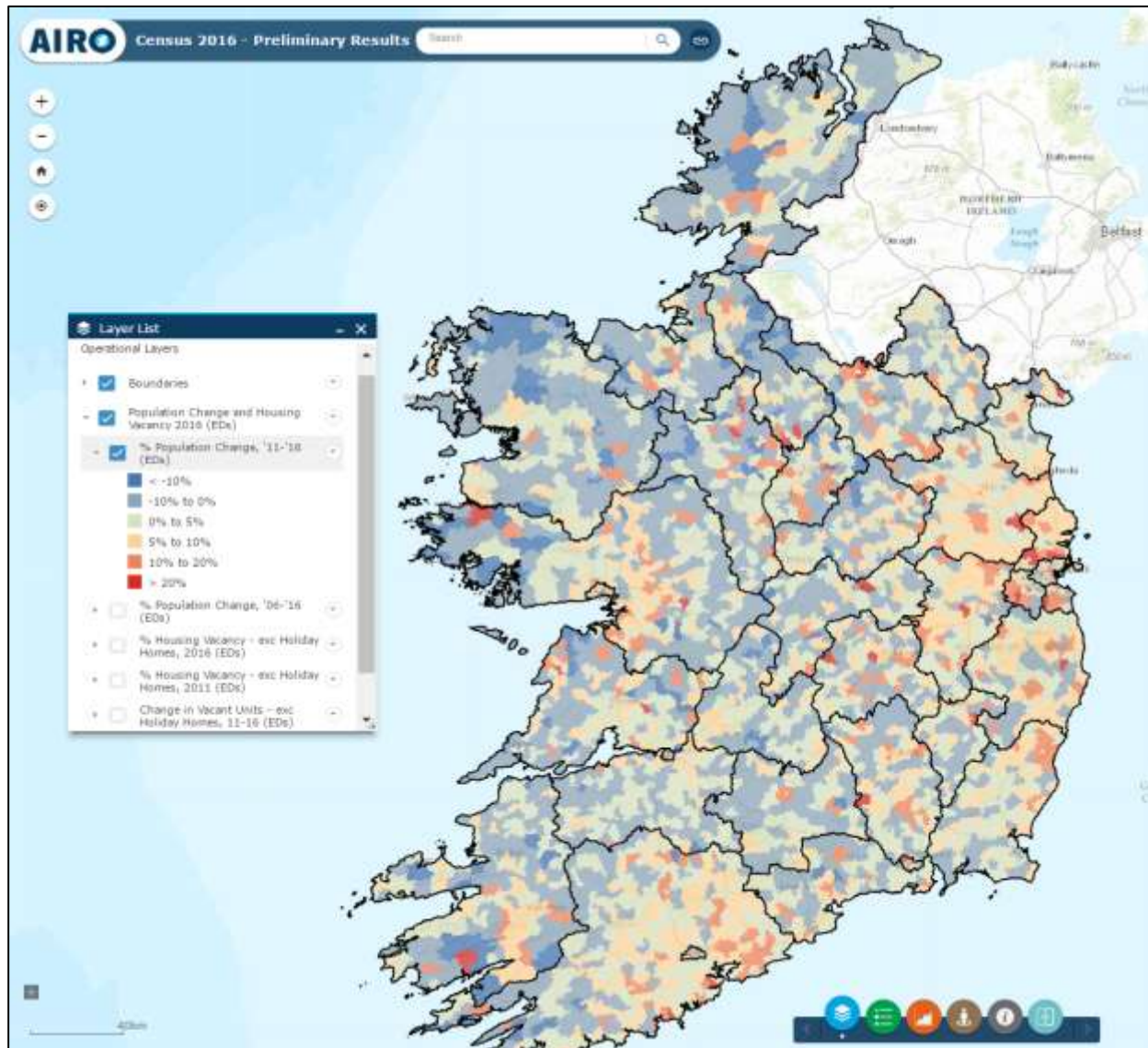


Follow our Blog
wdcinsights.wordpress.com/

@WDCInsights



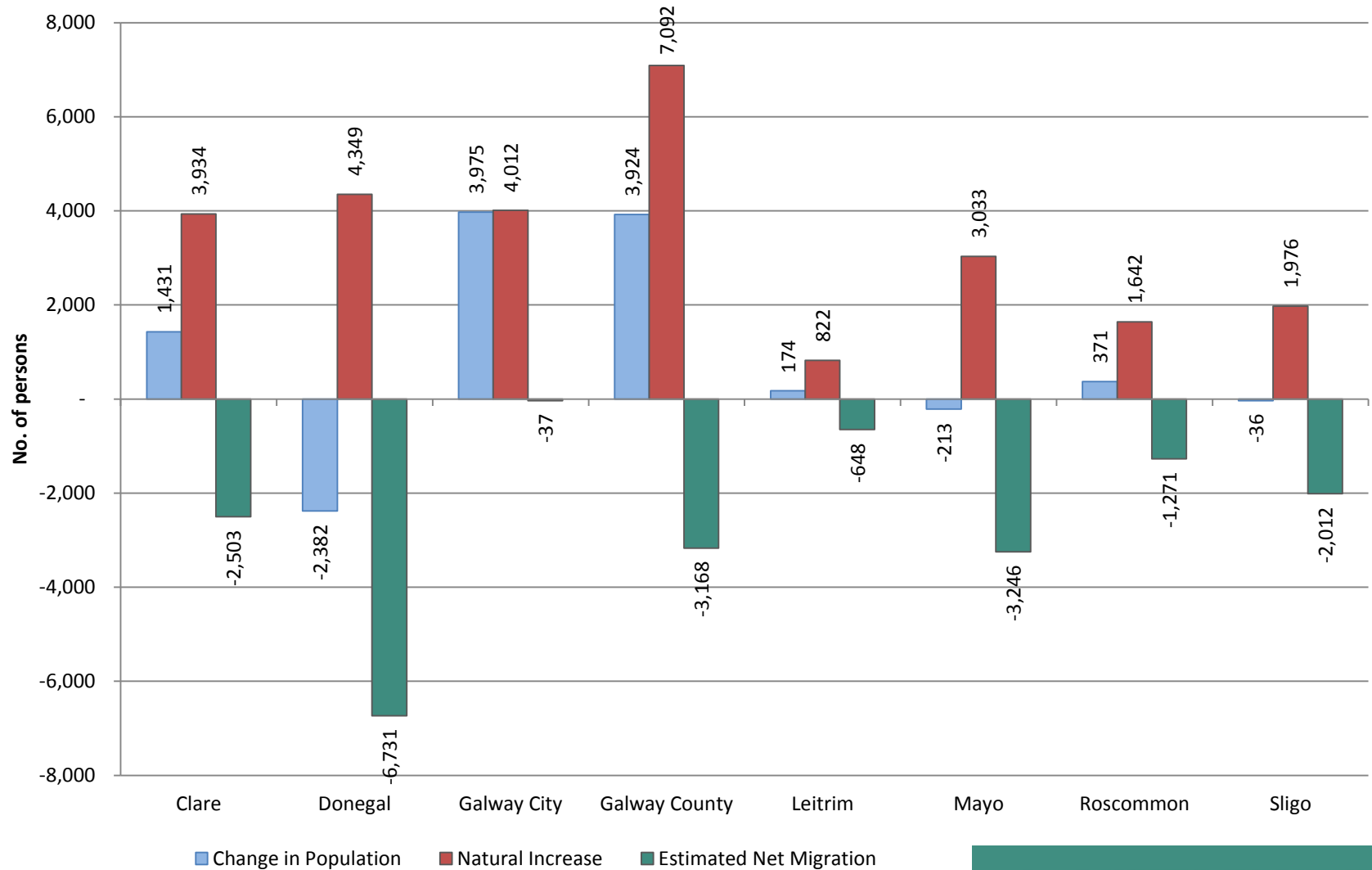
Percentage change in the population of Electoral Divisions, 2006-2011



Components of Population Change

- Every administrative area in Ireland had a positive natural increase (more births than deaths) during 2011-2016. Donegal, Sligo and Mayo had enough negative net migration to lead to population decline.
- All western counties, and all but six areas nationally, had negative net migration between 2011 and 2016. Donegal and Sligo had the two highest rates of negative net migration nationally.
- The areas showing the strongest pattern of decline and low growth are concentrated in the Western Region and down the western seaboard while the areas of highest growth are concentrated in the east of the country.

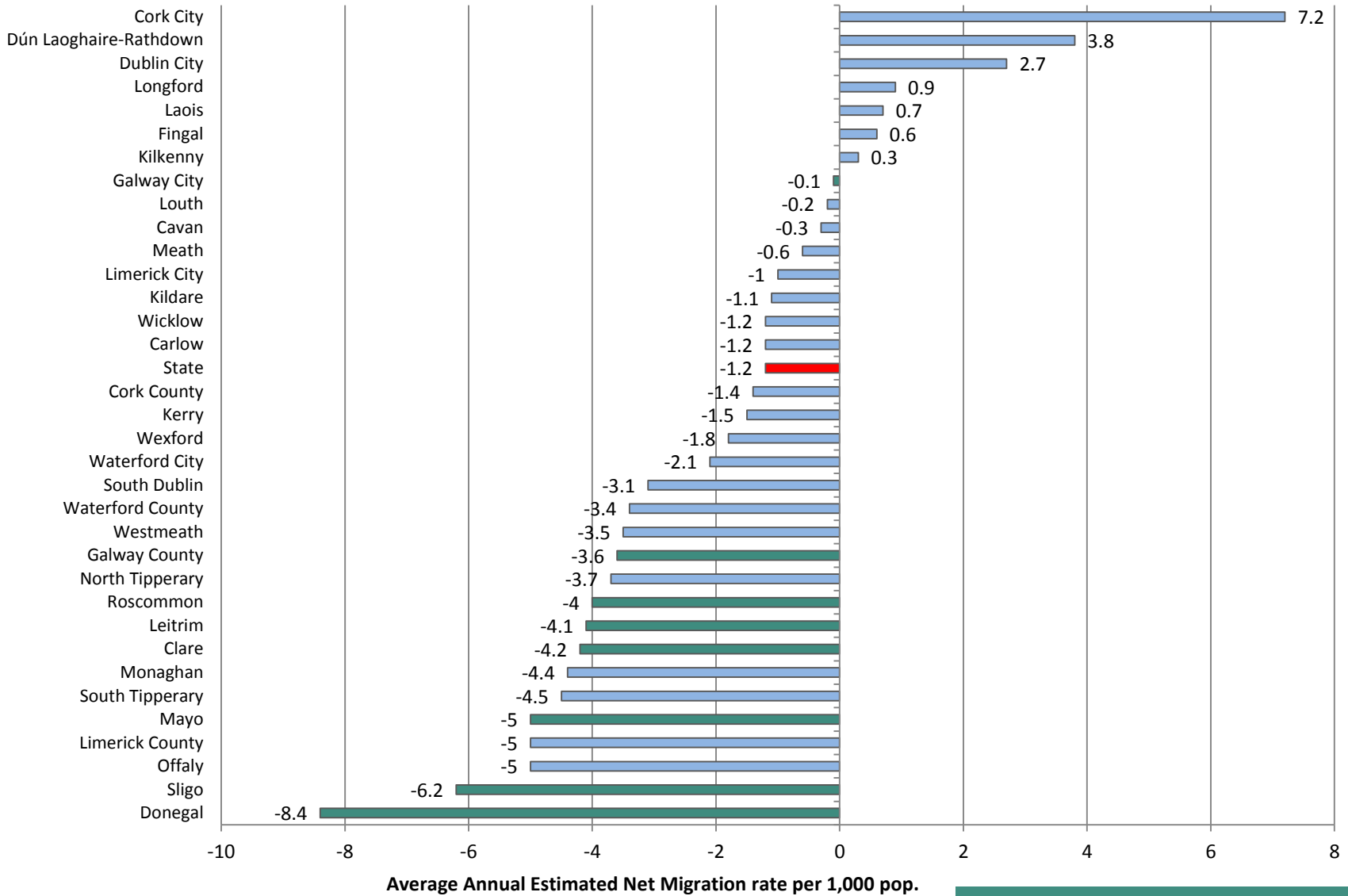
Components of population change in western counties, 2011-2016



Estimated net migration by gender in western counties, 2011-2016



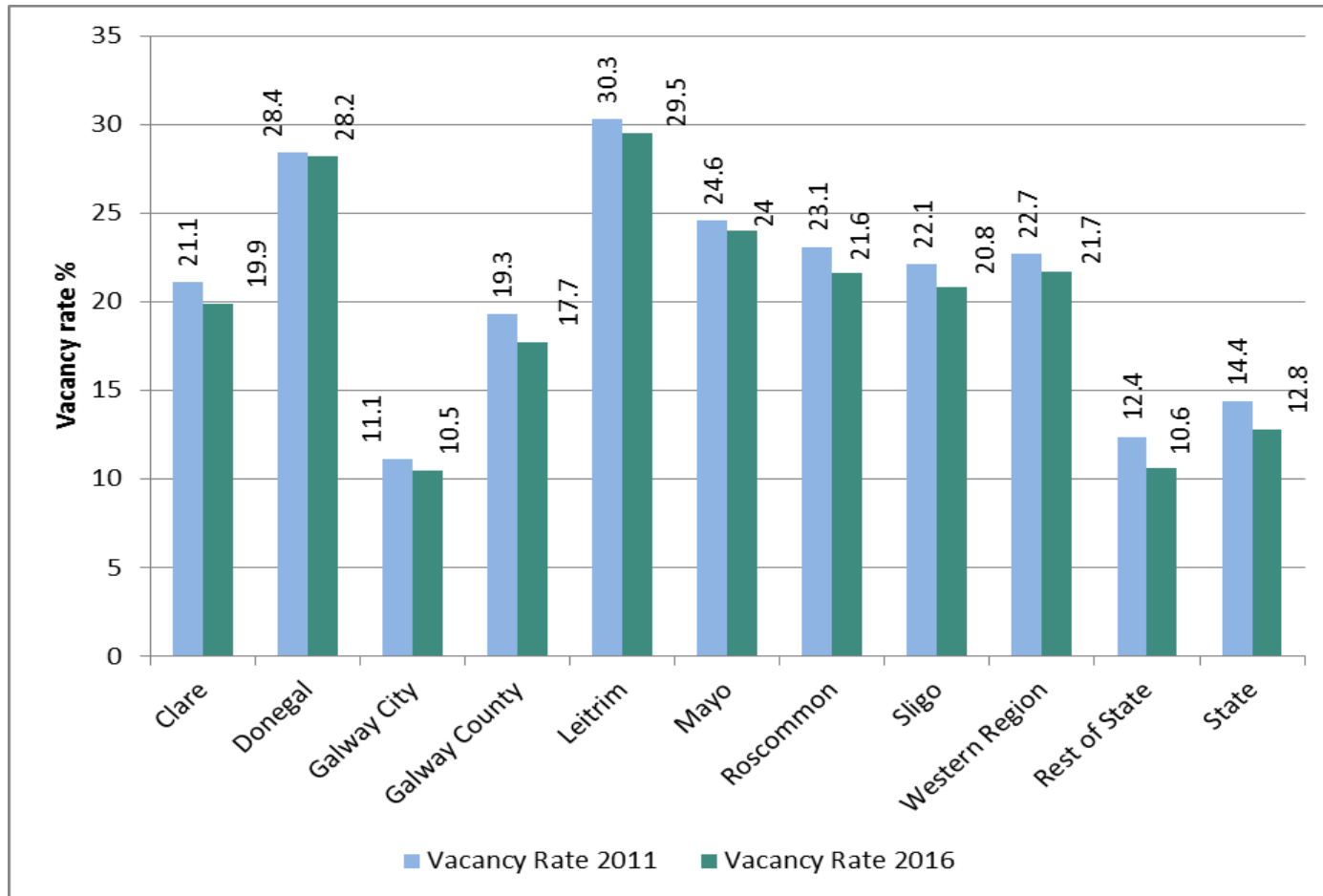
Average annual estimated net migration rate 2011-2016



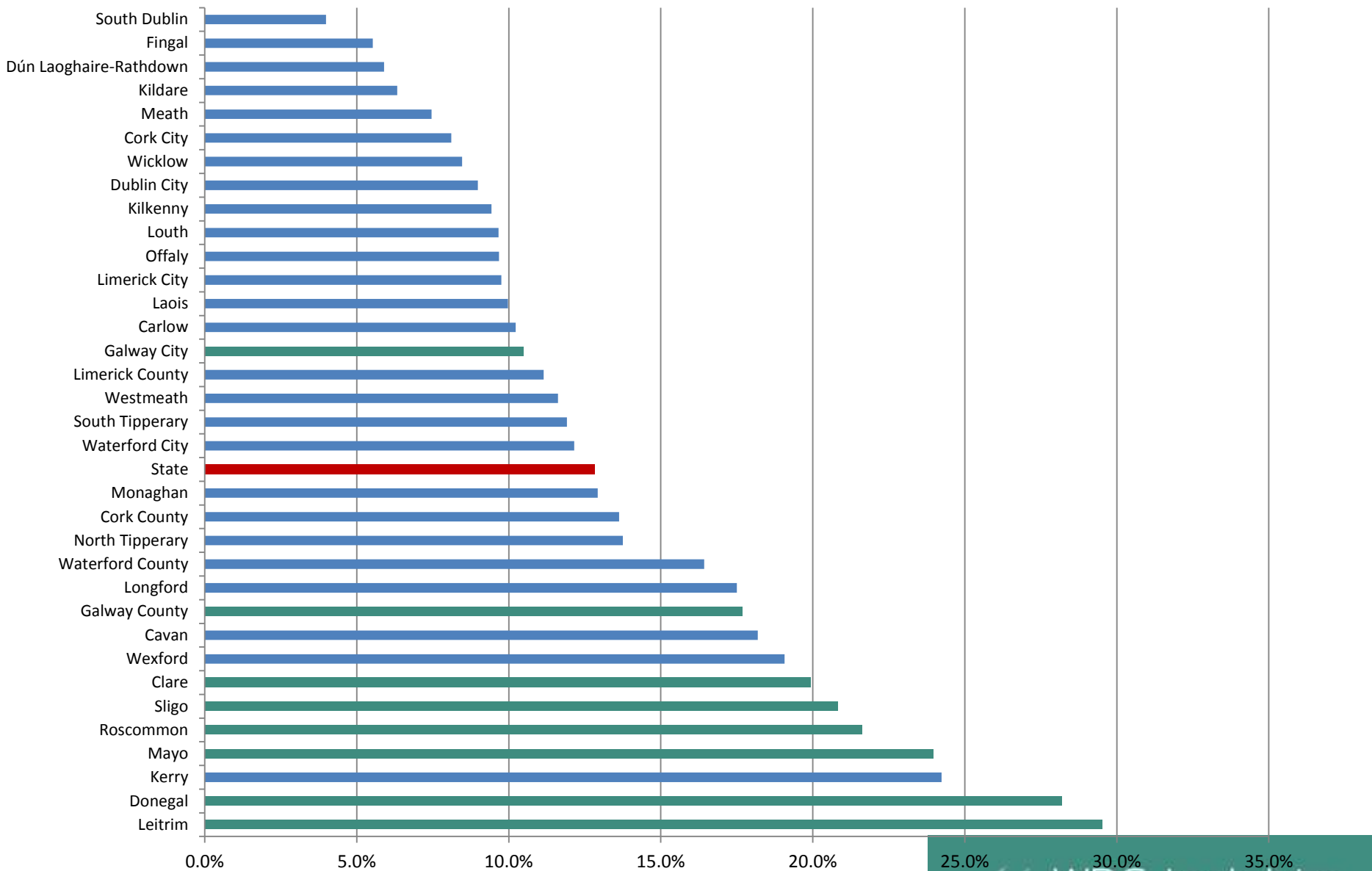
Housing

- In 2016 the Western Region had a housing stock of 404,494, an increase of 0.8% or 3,183 on 2011. Nationally the increase was 0.9% over this period.
- There was a decline in housing stock in three of the western counties – Roscommon -0.5% (-173), Sligo -0.2% (-51) and Leitrim -0.2% (-36), indicating some houses being taken out of the housing stock.
- Even with the limited growth in housing stock between 2011 and 2016 (0.8%), the growth in the housing stock in the Western Region during the decade 2006 to 2016 of 16.4% is still nearly double the population growth in the region over the same period (8.6%).
- The average vacancy rate in the Western Region in 2016 was 21.7%, marginally lower than that in 2006 (22.8%). Nationally, the average vacancy rate in 2016 was 19.9%.

Vacancy rates 2011 and 2016



Vacant dwellings as percentage of total housing stock, 2016



Conclusion

- Worrying decline in population in 3 counties
- More than half of the EDs in the WR had population decline
- Out migration a significant issue (esp. male migration)
- More detailed information in the report circulated.
- Policy Team will analyse comprehensive census results as they become available. (Different themes will be released April-December 2017).

The headline figures

	Population 2011	Population 2016	Actual Change (2011-2016) (No.)	Percentage Change (2011-2016) (%)
Clare	117,196	118,627	1,431	1.2%
Donegal	161,137	158,755	-2,382	-1.5%
Galway City	75,529	79,504	3,975	5.3%
Galway County	175,124	179,048	3,924	2.2%
Leitrim	31,798	31,972	174	0.6%
Mayo	130,638	130,425	-213	-0.2%
Roscommon	64,065	64,436	371	0.6%
Sligo	65,393	65,357	-36	-0.1%
Western Region	820,880	828,124	7,244	0.9%
State	4,588,252	4,757,976	169,724	3.7%
Rest of State	3,767,372	3,929,852	162,480	4.3%

Follow our Blog
wdcinsights.wordpress.com/

@WDCInsights