

Draft 26/6/08

South Tipperary Social Inclusion Audit

Report 3: Clonmel



Carried out by **Community Consultants Ltd.**
June 2008

I. Area Profiles

Introduction

This is the third report making up the South Tipperary Social Inclusion Audit. The first report concentrates on providing a summary of the full Audit work and findings. The second report gives the national context for social inclusion work and provides information and statistics on a countywide basis. This third and final report focuses on the local consultation processes, a review of all research reports available in relation to eight identified areas for Social Inclusion in South Tipperary and data and analysis of information in relation to the target groups named under the Local Development Social Inclusion Programme guidelines. Information about the key¹ community groups operating in the County is contained in appendix V.

Local Focus Sessions were held in 7 key locations across the County, namely Cashel, Cahir, Tipperary Town, Killenaule, Hollyford and Clogheen, comprising 4 urban areas and 3 rural. These locations were selected on the grounds of demographic information and also in terms of natural gravitation centres of population and services. The urban areas included their rural hinterlands and the rural areas included surrounding villages and hamlets.

In all cases the consultants worked with local community groupings, identified in the rural areas by the Community and Voluntary Forum, to host the focus sessions. The focus sessions had two clear objectives within the context of the Audit:

1. Inform local communities regarding the process and objectives of the Audit, the framework of the Cohesion process and the principles and structure of the Local Development Social Inclusion Programme – via discussion and handouts.
2. Gather local information regarding social inclusion needs and barriers in their local areas, both in terms of a) geographic/area needs and in terms of b) each Target Group identified under the LDSIP.

Sessions were held in the evenings to facilitate maximum participation and lasted for approximately 2–2.5 hours. Attendance was high in most of the areas and participation was strong – representatives of local interest and community groups indicated a clear understanding of the issues and needs in their area. Whilst levels of understanding regarding the LDSIP were varied, and indeed in some cases the understanding of social inclusion and community development work was erratic, those participating brought a wealth of experience and knowledge to the sessions. Community Consultants would like to thank the local community and voluntary groups who hosted the sessions for their work in organising these meetings.

¹ Key Community Projects for the purposes of this audit was defined as core funded projects.

I.1 Clonmel Area

I.1.1 Geographic Description

Clonmel is the key administrative town in South Tipperary. It is an attractive town with a population size of 10,046 (Clonmel East & West Urban combined) and with a relatively a large number of facilities, amenities and programmes. Clonmel is the largest economic centre accounting for almost 29% of employment in South Tipperary. Clonmel has good infrastructure in terms of roads and public bus services to all other larger urban centres in the South and South East.

I.1.2 Clonmel and District Key Data

	Number	% 2006	% 2002
Age Dependency	7,642	33%	33.7%
Elderly 65+ years	2,742	12%	9.6%
Elderly 65+ years living alone	767	9%	8.1%
Foreign Nationals ²	1,106	4.75%	3.5%
Temporary Households ³	19	0.2%	0.6%

Statistics relating specifically to the number of Travellers for each ED was not available so area totals could not be provided. However, the 2006 Census of population records 22,425 Travellers in Ireland but it is generally accepted this may be less than the real figure. The 2006 Census recorded 6 Travellers per 1,000 population in the State and in County Tipperary this was 5.1 per 1,000 population.

² Non-Irish, non-UK nationality

³ Including caravans, mobile homes and persons sleeping rough on census night.

In County Tipperary the Traveller population was recorded at 421 persons at the time of the 2006 census. The annual count of Travellers undertaken by South Tipperary County Council in November, 2006 estimates there were 134 families in the County. County Tipperary has 51% of Travellers aged 0 to 14 years, 47 % aged 15 to 64 years and 2 % aged 65 years and over.

Population

The population of the district of Clonmel rose from 3,515 to 3,920 in 2006, and while some EDs experienced significant growth during that ten-year period, for example Colman, whose population increased by 26.6%, larger, urban areas saw slower growth (Clonmel East Urban at 17.2%), or even declining population (Clonmel West Urban at –10.9%).

ED	Population			Males			Females		
	2006	2002	1996	2006	2002	1996	2006	2002	1996
Clonmel East Urban	3,920	4,121	3,515	1,922	1,994	1,705	1,998	2,127	1,810
Clonmel West Urban	6,126	6,530	7,328	3,019	3,199	3,576	3,107	3,331	3,752
Cloneen	410	336	312	200	173	169	210	163	143
Colman	395	362	286	206	188	150	189	174	136
Fethard	788	843	900	382	424	442	406	419	458
Graigue	144	154	136	74	81	70	70	73	66
Peppardstown	1,327	1,285	1,144	678	650	588	649	635	556
Clonmel Rural	4,653	4,122	3,700	2,289	1,999	1,825	2,364	2,123	1,875
Inishlounaght	3,091	2,971	2,611	1,531	1,483	1,301	1,560	1,488	1,310
Kilsheelan/Killaloan	1,197	1,190	1,166	635	612	596	562	578	570
Kiltinan	300	310	299	153	158	151	147	152	148
Lisronagh	793	580	475	373	286	241	420	294	234
Anner	366	337	317	188	179	164	178	158	153
Totals	23,510	23,141	22,189	11,650	11,426	10,978	11,860	11,715	11,211

Clonmel and District		Population			Males			Females		
ID	ED	1996-2002	2002-2006	1996-2006	1996-2002	2002-2006	1996-2006	1996-2002	2002-2006	1996-2006
23,085	Clonmel East Urban	17.2%	-4.9%	11.5%	17.0%	-3.6%	12.7%	17.5%	-6.1%	10.4%
23,086	Clonmel West Urban	-10.9%	-6.2%	-16.4%	-10.5%	-5.6%	-15.6%	-11.2%	-6.7%	-17.2%
23,098	Cloneen	7.7%	22.0%	31.4%	2.4%	15.6%	18.3%	14.0%	28.8%	46.9%
23,101	Colman	26.6%	9.1%	38.1%	25.3%	9.6%	37.3%	27.9%	8.6%	39.0%
23,104	Fethard	-6.3%	-6.5%	-12.4%	-4.1%	-9.9%	-13.6%	-8.5%	-3.1%	-11.4%
23,106	Graigue	13.2%	-6.5%	5.9%	15.7%	-8.6%	5.7%	10.6%	-4.1%	6.1%
23,115	Peppardstown	12.3%	3.3%	16.0%	10.5%	4.3%	15.3%	14.2%	2.2%	16.7%
23,133	Clonmel Rural	11.4%	12.9%	25.8%	9.5%	14.5%	25.4%	13.2%	11.4%	26.1%
23,134	Inishlounaght	13.8%	4.0%	18.4%	14.0%	3.2%	17.7%	13.6%	4.8%	19.1%
23,701	Kilsheelan/Killaloan	2.1%	0.6%	2.7%	2.7%	3.8%	6.5%	1.4%	-2.8%	-1.4%
23,138	Kiltinan	3.7%	-3.2%	0.3%	4.6%	-3.2%	1.3%	2.7%	-3.3%	-0.7%
23,139	Lisronagh	22.1%	36.7%	66.9%	18.7%	30.4%	54.8%	25.6%	42.9%	79.5%
23,140	Anner	6.3%	8.6%	15.5%	9.1%	5.0%	14.6%	3.3%	12.7%	16.3%

Deprivation Indices

Clonmel is perceived as relatively affluent but like most towns of its size has specific areas and groupings that are marginalised and disadvantaged.

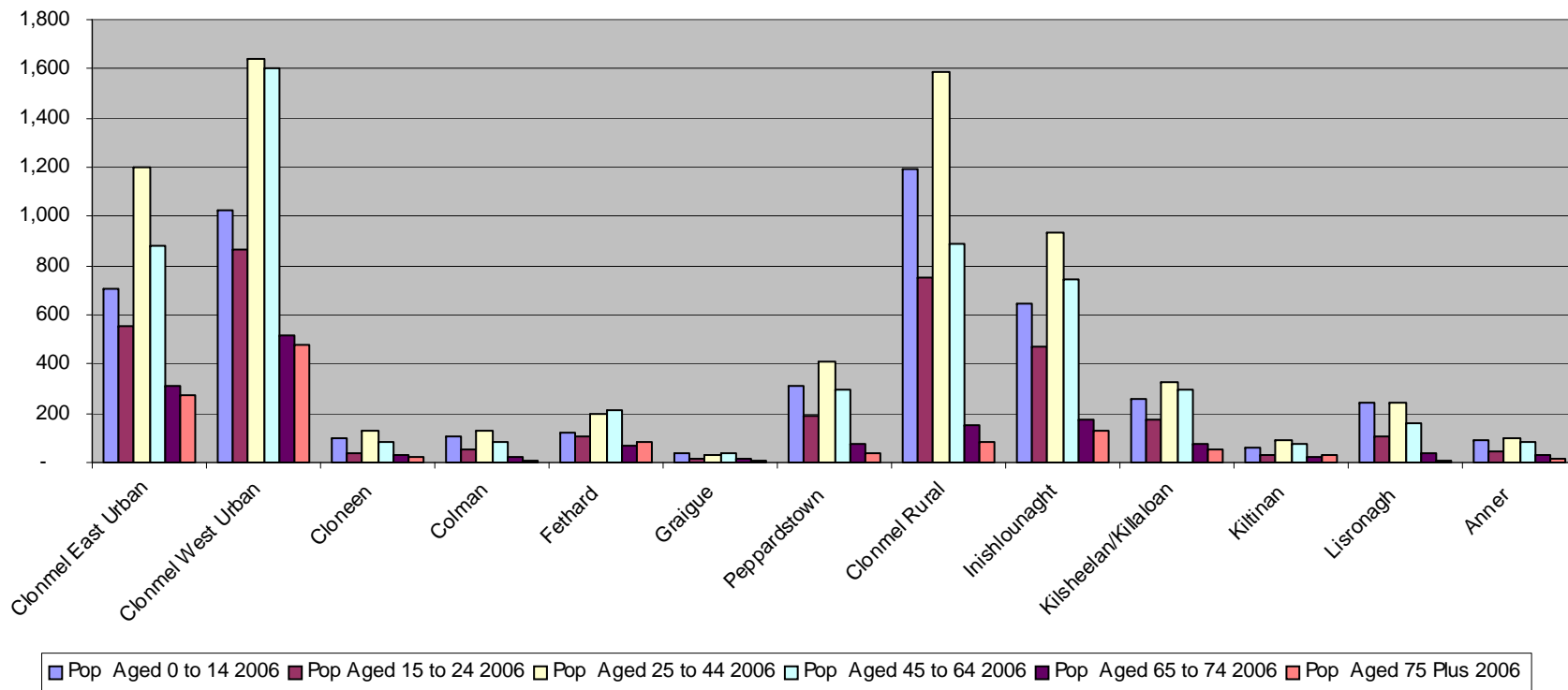
In 2006 the Absolute Deprivation score for the Clonmel East Urban area was 9.4, for Clonmel West Urban it was -2.0. The Relative Deprivation Scores were 0.7 and -15.2 respectively. This compares with Relative scores for the County of -0.7, for the South East Region of -0.4 and nationally, 2.1. Although most areas experienced an improvement in Absolute scores during the period 1991-2006, those for Clonmel were significantly lower than other areas in the County and nationally. Most notable is the relative deprivation figure for Clonmel West Urban which, at -15.2, is significantly behind all other areas in Clonmel, the County, the Region and the Country as a whole. This area comprises 3 of the 4 RAPID Estates.

Clonmel and District		Absolute Index Scores				Change in Absolute Index Score 1991 - 2006	Relative Index Scores			
ID	ED	2006	2002	1996	1991		2006	2002	1996	1991
23,085	Clonmel East Urban	9.4	13.2	10.8	4.5	4.9	0.7	6.2	8.8	4.5
23,086	Clonmel West Urban	-2.0	0.1	-1.1	-5.9	3.9	-15.2	-10.1	-3.6	-5.9
23,098	Cloneen	13.4	8.9	7.0	1.1	12.3	6.3	0.9	4.9	1.1
23,101	Colman	17.7	19.7	17.2	16.9	0.8	12.3	14.5	15.4	16.9
23,104	Fethard	7.2	5.1	0.2	-1.3	8.5	-2.3	-3.9	-2.3	-1.3
23,106	Graigue	9.5	15.0	5.2	8.6	0.9	0.8	8.6	2.9	8.6
23,115	Peppardstown	10.2	8.5	3.5	3.8	6.4	1.9	0.5	1.2	3.8
23,133	Clonmel Rural	14.5	15.7	14.0	13.2	1.3	7.8	9.4	12.1	13.2
23,134	Inishlounaght	15.9	18.2	16.8	15.8	0.2	9.9	12.5	15.0	15.8
23,701	Kilsheelan/Killalooan	13.6	13.2	11.4	9.8	3.8	6.6	6.3	9.4	9.8
23,138	Kiltinan	10.6	13.6	7.0	4.0	6.6	2.4	6.8	4.8	4.0
23,139	Lisronagh	13.5	9.6	-0.7	-2.7	16.3	6.5	1.8	-3.2	-2.7
23,140	Anner	12.9	8.8	2.8	-3.1	15.9	5.6	0.8	0.4	-3.1

Age Profile

High concentrations of children and young people cluster in the main urban centre of Clonmel and the surrounding rural district as shown in the table below.

Age Profile Clonmel and District 2006



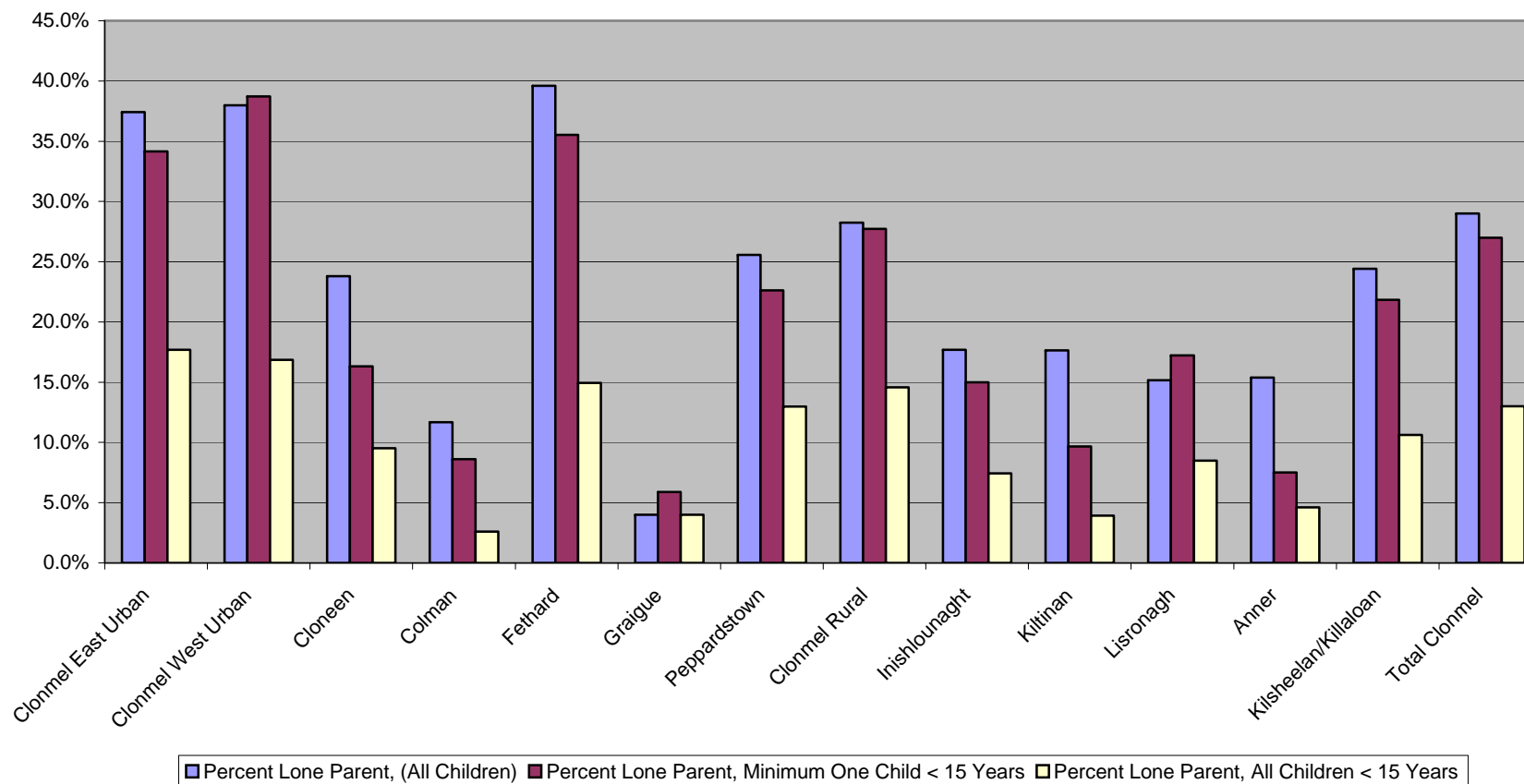
Age Profile Clonmel and District 2006

ID	ED	Total Pop 2006	Pop Aged 0 to 14 2006	Pop Aged 15 to 24 2006	Pop Aged 25 to 44 2006	Pop Aged 45 to 64 2006	Pop Aged 65 to 74 2006	Pop Aged 75 Plus 2006	Pop Aged 0 to 14 2006 (%)	Pop Aged 15 to 24 2006 (%)	Pop Aged 25 to 44 2006 (%)	Pop Aged 45 to 64 2006 (%)	Pop Aged 65 to 74 2006 (%)	Pop Aged 75 Plus 2006 (%)
23,085	Clonmel East Urban	3,920	703	556	1,203	879	308	271	17.9%	14.2%	30.7%	22.4%	7.9%	6.9%
23,086	Clonmel West Urban	6,126	1,023	867	1,641	1,599	518	478	16.7%	14.2%	26.8%	26.1%	8.5%	7.8%
23,098	Cloneen	410	102	40	132	83	28	25	24.9%	9.8%	32.2%	20.2%	6.8%	6.1%
23,101	Colman	395	106	50	126	80	25	8	26.8%	12.7%	31.9%	20.3%	6.3%	2.0%
23,104	Fethard	788	119	105	200	213	70	81	15.1%	13.3%	25.4%	27.0%	8.9%	10.3%
23,106	Graigie	144	37	16	33	36	12	10	25.7%	11.1%	22.9%	25.0%	8.3%	6.9%
23,115	Peppardstown	1,327	314	192	407	298	77	39	23.7%	14.5%	30.7%	22.5%	5.8%	2.9%
23,133	Clonmel Rural	4,653	1,192	751	1,589	891	150	80	25.6%	16.1%	34.2%	19.1%	3.2%	1.7%
23,134	Inishlounaght	3,091	645	468	931	748	171	128	20.9%	15.1%	30.1%	24.2%	5.5%	4.1%
23,701	Kilsheelan/Killaloan	1,197	261	175	330	300	78	53	21.8%	14.6%	27.6%	25.1%	6.5%	4.4%
23,138	Kiltinan	300	60	27	91	74	19	29	20.0%	9.0%	30.3%	24.7%	6.3%	9.7%
23,139	Lisronagh	793	243	103	246	159	35	7	30.6%	13.0%	31.0%	20.1%	4.4%	0.9%
23,140	Anner	366	94	47	95	87	28	15	25.7%	12.8%	26.0%	23.8%	7.7%	4.1%
	Total Clonmel	23,510	4,899	3,397	7,024	5,447	1,519	1,224	21.0%	14.0%	30.0%	23.0%	6.0%	5.0%

Lone Parents

Clonmel area experiences high rates of lone parent-headed families (29%), in particular in the urban centres of Clonmel East (37.4%) and West (38%) and in Fethard (39.6%), as shown in the table below. These compare with a national lone parent rate of 25.2%.

Lone Parents Clonmel & District 2006



Household Structure Clonmel and District 2006

ED	Total Family Units With Children, All Children	Total Family Units Minimum One Child < 15 Years	Lone Parent, All Children	Lone Parent, Minimum One Child < 15 Years	Lone Parent, All Children < 15 Years	Percent Lone Parent, (All Children)	Percent Lone Parent, Minimum One Child < 15 Years	Percent Lone Parent, All Children < 15 Years
Clonmel East Urban	644	401	241	137	114	37.4%	34.2%	17.7%
Clonmel West Urban	1,085	589	412	228	183	38.0%	38.7%	16.9%
Cloneen	84	49	20	8	8	23.8%	16.3%	9.5%
Colman	77	58	9	5	2	11.7%	8.6%	2.6%
Fethard	154	76	61	27	23	39.6%	35.5%	14.9%
Graigue	25	17	1	1	1	4.0%	5.9%	4.0%
Peppardstown	262	168	67	38	34	25.6%	22.6%	13.0%
Clonmel Rural	899	635	254	176	131	28.3%	27.7%	14.6%
Inishlounaght	605	367	107	55	45	17.7%	15.0%	7.4%
Kiltinan	51	31	9	3	2	17.6%	9.7%	3.9%
Lisronagh	165	122	25	21	14	15.2%	17.2%	8.5%
Anner	65	40	10	3	3	15.4%	7.5%	4.6%
Kilsheelan/Killaloan	254	142	62	31	27	24.4%	21.8%	10.6%
Total Clonmel	4,370	2,695	1,278	733	587	29.0%	27.0%	13.0%

Housing – Nature of Occupancy Clonmel and District 2006

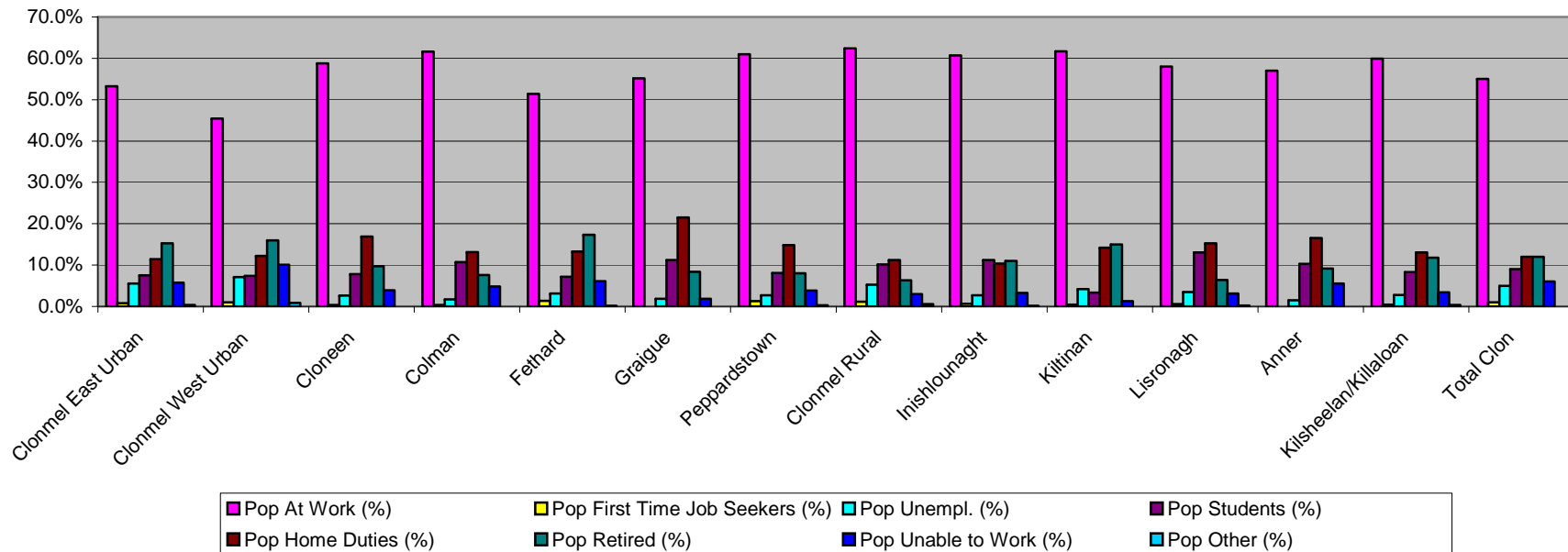
ED	Total Permanent Private Households	Owner Occupied - with Mortgage	Owner Occupied - No Mortgage	Buying from Local Authority	Rented from Local Authority	Rented from Voluntary Body	Rented Unfurnished from Other	Rented Furnished from Other	Occupied Free of Rent	Not Stated
Clonmel East Urban	1,657	459	570	29	124	134	21	247	13	60
Clonmel West Urban	2,296	654	801	91	354	101	40	166	34	55
Cloneen	131	59	51	2	12	1	2	-	3	1
Colman	126	71	47	1	1	-	3	-	2	1
Fethard	334	80	137	10	51	8	4	21	11	12
Graigue	45	16	19	1	-	-	1	1	5	2
Peppardstown	464	160	158	12	43	18	5	30	33	5
Clonmel Rural	1,569	807	326	32	118	93	16	125	12	40
Inishlounaght	1,032	527	348	8	15	31	8	59	9	27
Kiltinan	104	45	39	1	2	5	-	2	7	3
Lisronagh	239	128	63	3	25	2	5	6	-	7
Anner	123	39	67	2	1	2	1	5	3	3
Kilsheelan/Killaloan	415	165	164	13	20	10	5	13	12	13
Total Clonmel	8,535	3,210	2,790	205	766	405	111	675	144	229

Unemployment

Unemployment rates have roughly halved in Ireland over the past fifteen years, with female unemployment rates slightly lower than those for males, but not falling at the same rate due to increasing labour force participation by females (with more women as a result registering their unemployment). Unemployment rates for South Tipperary have fallen at a slightly faster rate than nationally (-10.6% male/ -7.1% female compared to -9.6% male/ -6.0% female nationally), and are almost identical to the national rates in 2006 at 8.8% male unemployment and 8.2% female unemployment.

Clonmel West Urban shows high levels of unemployment ((15.5% males/ 14.5% females) and the area as a whole has an unemployment rate of 9.5%. The labour force for the area is 11,309 (6,469 males, 4,840 females). The graph below shows percentages of total population by economic status. Unemployment rates are at all other times given as numbers of unemployed plus first time job seekers as a percentage of the labour force.

Economic Status Clonmel & District 2006

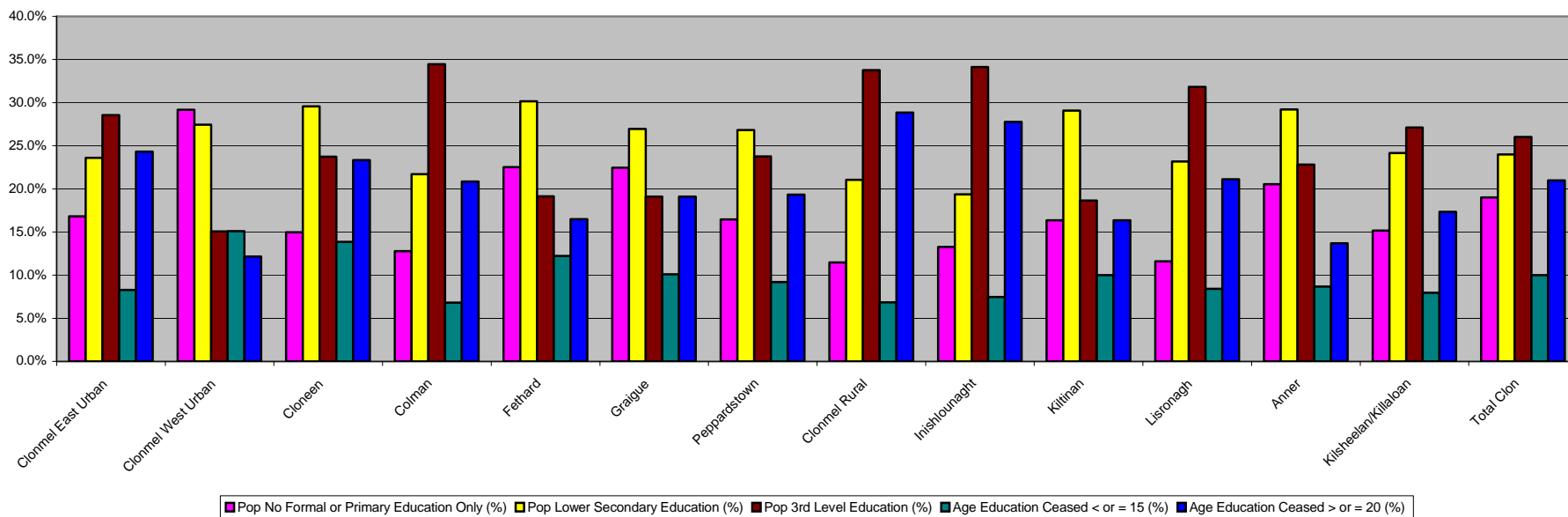


Education

There has been continuous improvement in educational levels among adults over the past 15 years in Ireland, with the rates of those with primary education only dropping from 36.7% of the adult population in 1991 to half that level (18.9%) in 2006. The rate for South Tipperary has dropped from 37% in 1991 to 20.2% in 2006. The reverse applies to third level education which has risen dramatically, from a figure of 13% in 1991 to 30.5% in 2006. South Tipperary has not experienced the same level of growth, increasing from a level of 10.4% in 1991 to just 21.8% in 2006, leaving it way behind national average rates (11.4% compared with 17.4% nationally).

Although total rates for Clonmel and District are only marginally below national educational attainment figures, Clonmel West Urban stands out as particularly disadvantaged in this respect, with just 15.1% of its population having third level education, and more than 29% having no formal or primary education only. Inishlounaght (34.1%), Clonmel Rural (33.8%) and Lisronagh (31.8%) have higher than average rates of third level education, while Fethard (22.5%), Graigue (22.5%) and Anner (20.5%) all have rates of no formal or primary education which are above the national average.

% Educational Attainment Clonmel & District 2006



Clonmel & District

ED	Pop Education Ceased	Pop Education Ceased (Excl Not Stated)	Pop No Formal or Primary Education Only	Pop Lower Secondary Education	Pop Upper Secondary Education	Pop Technical or Vocational Education	Pop 3rd Level Education	Age Education Ceased < or = 15	Age Education Ceased > or = 20	Pop No Formal or Primary Education Only (%)	Pop Lower Secondary Education (%)	Pop Upper Secondary Education (%)	Pop Technical or Vocational Education (%)	Pop 3rd Level Education (%)	Age Education Ceased < or = 15 (%)	Age Education Ceased > or = 20 (%)
Clonmel East Urban	2,753	2,596	437	613	534	271	741	215	631	16.8%	23.6%	20.6%	10.4%	28.5%	8.3%	24.3%
Clonmel West Urban	4,485	4,190	1,222	1,150	868	319	631	632	509	29.2%	27.4%	20.7%	7.6%	15.1%	15.1%	12.1%
Cloneen	281	274	41	81	51	36	65	38	64	15.0%	29.6%	18.6%	13.1%	23.7%	13.9%	23.4%
Colman	242	235	30	51	54	19	81	16	49	12.8%	21.7%	23.0%	8.1%	34.5%	6.8%	20.9%
Fethard	598	564	127	170	115	44	108	69	93	22.5%	30.1%	20.4%	7.8%	19.1%	12.2%	16.5%
Graigue	91	89	20	24	23	5	17	9	17	22.5%	27.0%	25.8%	5.6%	19.1%	10.1%	19.1%
Peppardstown	895	880	145	236	212	78	209	81	170	16.5%	26.8%	24.1%	8.9%	23.8%	9.2%	19.3%
Clonmel Rural	2,888	2,803	322	590	666	278	947	192	809	11.5%	21.0%	23.8%	9.9%	33.8%	6.8%	28.9%
Inishlounaght	2,065	1,999	265	387	478	187	682	149	555	13.3%	19.4%	23.9%	9.4%	34.1%	7.5%	27.8%
Kiltinan	227	220	36	64	55	24	41	22	36	16.4%	29.1%	25.0%	10.9%	18.6%	10.0%	16.4%
Lisronagh	459	440	51	102	99	48	140	37	93	11.6%	23.2%	22.5%	10.9%	31.8%	8.4%	21.1%
Anner	230	219	45	64	39	21	50	19	30	20.5%	29.2%	17.8%	9.6%	22.8%	8.7%	13.7%
Kilsheelan/ Killaloan	821	778	118	188	185	76	211	62	135	15.2%	24.2%	23.8%	9.8%	27.1%	8.0%	17.4%
Total Clonmel	16, 035	15,287	2,859	3,720	3,379	1,406	3,923	1,541	3,191	19.0%	24.0%	22.0%	9.0%	26.0%	10.0%	21.0%

I.1.3 Social Inclusion Programmes

Clonmel Community Partnership

Clonmel Community Partnership (CCP) currently has responsibility for co-ordinating the Local Development Social Inclusion Programme in the Clonmel area. CCP have been in operation since 2001 and have been co-ordinating programmes under three key measures i.e.

- Community Development
- Services to the Unemployed
- Work with Disadvantaged Youth.

The work is specifically targeted at four geographic areas: Clonmel East Urban, Clonmel West Urban, Clonmel Rural and Inishlounaght and five key target groups: Older People, Travellers, Lone Parents, New Communities and People with a Disability. This programme is part of the national LDSIP administered by Pobal. New areas are included within the Clonmel Integrated Community Development Plan from 2008. These include: apartments at Suir Island, Bridgewater House and the Quays and the Glenconor, Brook Crescent, Boherduff and Fairfields estates. It was agreed in May 2008 that all Local Authority housing estates should be included in the community development plan for Clonmel but that this should be phased in through the development of groups and networks.

All of the above measures have their own programme of activities. All measures have been reviewed in the past year and new plans are in place for the current programme up to 2012. These are available from CCP.

- The Integrated Community Development Plan is detailed and focuses on key target areas including pre-development work in new areas of Clonmel, strengthening the work across communities and with specific target groups.
- A review of Services to the Unemployed, suggest a change in approach towards bridging the gap between service providers and those who need services most. It also recommends being part of a larger social inclusion strategy for the county as a whole around employment services.
- Work with Disadvantaged Youth recommends the need for an improvement in co-ordination of youth services (including data and information), the development of a youth workers network to aid better co-ordination and the piloting of new and innovative actions like the star programme to attract and reach those youth most at risk.

In light of new Local Development Structures now in place in South Tipperary, Clonmel Community Partnership needs to re-define its legal structure, role and objectives. This is currently underway.

Clonmel RAPID

The RAPID programme was allocated to Clonmel in September 2002. Clonmel is composed of four District Electoral Divisions (ED). The Wilderness is located in the ED of Clonmel Rural while the remaining RAPID areas are in Clonmel West Urban, which is the most populous and disadvantaged of the EDs.

Clonmel West Urban is significantly disadvantaged and similar to Clonmel West Urban, there is a high level of lone parents (as a percentage of households) in Clonmel Rural – both areas of which make up the designated RAPID areas.

Clonmel RAPID operates in four areas in the town:

Elm Park is a large estate of 306 houses built by Clonmel Borough Council between 1974 and 1982. Relative to its size it has few amenities: there is a Community Centre known as 'The Complex', which is owned by St. Oliver's Parish. The building is in need of refurbishment and is constrained in its accessibility to the local community by insurance and staffing issues. A community house at 276 Elm Park has been made available by the Borough Council to Waterford Regional Youth Services. Local Community groups also use it for activities. Until quite recently, it also housed the Community Development Group TACCTIC who have purchased a premises in close proximity to the services area of the estate, to open as a Resource Centre.

A Resident's Group was established in September 2002 and the group, working in conjunction with RAPID, have made improvements. A children's Playground was installed in 2005, and EPACC (Elm Park Area Childcare Committee) are hoping to begin building the much-needed childcare facility this year. This will provide full day care and sessional service. There is one small shop and a take-away serving the area. Speed ramps are in operation in the estate. A commercial bus service to the town centre runs hourly each day from 9.00am to 6.00pm. St. Oliver's National School is adjacent to the estate and the children from the area make up the bulk of its attendees.

Heywood Close and Cooleens Close consists of 90 houses and is located close to Elm Park estate. It was built in 1930 and refurbished in the 1980s, when 11 new houses were added and the estate divided into two estates. Community facilities in the estate are improving. Kitty's Community house was opened in 2004 and has proved a great success. Outreach work is being carried out from there, such as Baby Clinics, Councillors Clinics, community meetings, as well as children's art from time to time. Community Development work has been ongoing in the area since March 2002.

Bianconi Drive, close to Elm Park estate consists of 128 houses built in the early 1970s by Clonmel Borough Council. There are no community facilities or services in the estate. A residents' group was established in 2002 and community development commenced with this.

Wilderness Grove and Carrigeen estates are back to back with each other, built in response to high housing needs of the 1980s and early 1990s. Wilderness Grove consists of 75 houses built in 1984, and Carrigeen consists of 69, built between 1988 and 1997. This estate is located away

from the other RAPID estates, on the North Eastern side of Clonmel. The estate was built in blocks and squares with interconnecting access between each block. This access has been the subject of concern to residents. Several of these access routes have been blocked off and this has helped alleviate some of the anti social aspects of the area. Residents groups were set up in 2002, and have been very successful. The Arts Days, Spring Cleans and Sports Days are very popular.

The area has a Youth Centre –Wilderness Youth Centre with a youth diversion programme in place along with a Drugs Worker under an Anti-Drugs Initiative. Clonmel Youth Training Enterprise (a FÁS initiative which works with early school leavers on training and education programmes) has its centre located in proximity to the estate. The estate adjoins Oakland Drive, a Respond Housing Scheme of 38 houses and a child-care facility serving the Oakland Drive and the surrounding area. A community hall also exists beside the Church of The Resurrection where a community run playgroup is located. A playing field is located to the rear of the estate and a ‘hard-surface’ floodlit outdoor sports area was developed on the estate but is not well maintained. There is one grocery shop at the entrance to the estate and a vacant fast-food premises. A commercial bus service to the town centre runs hourly each day from 9.00am to 6.00pm. A recent area Development Plan has been submitted to government and Clonmel Borough Council is awaiting approval.