

Draft 26/6/08

South Tipperary Social Inclusion Audit

Report 3: Tipperary Town



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.

1.3 Tipperary Town Area

1.3.1 Geographic Description

Tipperary Town is a market town located in the western part of County Tipperary. It is located mid way between Limerick City and Clonmel, approximately 25 miles from both. It has a population of 4,395 (CSO 2006) reflecting a population decrease of 151 persons since the 2002 census. It is the only urban centre in the county to have experienced a decline in population.

1.3.2 Tipperary Town and District Key Data

	Number	% 2006	% 2002
Age Dependency	4,779	35%	35.8%
Elderly 65+ years	1969	14%	14%
Elderly 65+ years living alone	540	11%	11.4%
Foreign Nationals ²	513	3.8%	2.2%
Temporary Households ³	15	0.3%	0.5%

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 Tipperary and District rose from 12,963 in 1996 to 13,607 between 1996 and 2006. During this ten-year period, the rate of population growth was greatest in Thomastown (10.7%) while in some EDs, the population declined at rates as fast as – 8.7% (Emly). Among the main population centres, Tipperary East (-4%) and West Urban (1.4%) saw slow growth or decline, while Tipperary rural saw a rate of population increase of 9%, close to the national average of 8%.

ED	Population			Males			Females		
	2006	2002	1996	2006	2002	1996	2006	2002	1996
Tipperary East Urban	2,674	2,830	2,947	1,339	1,390	1,455	1,335	1,440	1,492
Tipperary West Urban	1,741	1,716	1,693	878	834	841	863	882	852
Ballykisteen	668	577	598	354	301	299	314	276	299
Bansha	819	858	799	417	435	414	402	423	385
Bruis	312	255	249	158	141	134	154	114	115
Clonbeg	647	651	602	334	333	309	313	318	293
Cullen	284	254	272	154	139	154	130	115	118
Emly	602	612	670	314	318	347	288	294	323
Kilfeakle	471	448	439	261	236	240	210	212	199
Killadriffe	521	532	496	261	280	250	260	252	246
Kilmucklin	510	502	463	268	252	246	242	250	217
Lattin	488	451	420	248	223	212	240	228	208
Rathlynin	318	278	275	172	154	153	146	124	122
Rodus	243	258	272	128	135	135	115	123	137
Shronell	389	390	354	206	200	172	183	190	182
Solloghodbeg	218	195	197	119	105	107	99	90	90
Templeneiry	406	389	368	208	201	195	198	188	173
Thomastown	391	373	337	203	190	167	188	183	170
Tipperary Rural	1,905	1,648	1,512	976	867	790	929	781	722
Total Tipperary	13,607	13,217	12,963	6,998	6,734	6,620	6,609	6,483	6,343

Tipperary and District		Population			Males			Females		
ID	ED	1996-2002	2002-2006	1996-2006	1996-2002	2002-2006	1996-2006	1996-2002	2002-2006	1996
23,087	Tipperary East Urban	-4.0%	-5.5%	-9.3%	-4.5%	-3.7%	-8.0%	-3.5%	-7.3%	-10.5%
23,088	Tipperary West Urban	1.4%	1.5%	2.8%	-0.8%	5.3%	4.4%	3.5%	-2.2%	1.3%
23,155	Ballykisteen	-3.5%	15.8%	11.7%	0.7%	17.6%	18.4%	-7.7%	13.8%	5.0%
23,156	Bansha	7.4%	-4.5%	2.5%	5.1%	-4.1%	0.7%	9.9%	-5.0%	4.4%
23,157	Bruis	2.4%	22.4%	25.3%	5.2%	12.1%	17.9%	-0.9%	35.1%	33.9%
23,159	Clonbeg	8.1%	-0.6%	7.5%	7.8%	0.3%	8.1%	8.5%	-1.6%	6.8%
23,160	Cullen	-6.6%	11.8%	4.4%	-9.7%	10.8%	0.0%	-2.5%	13.0%	10.2%
23,164	Emly	-8.7%	-1.6%	-10.1%	-8.4%	-1.3%	-9.5%	-9.0%	-2.0%	-10.8%
23,167	Kilfeakle	2.1%	5.1%	7.3%	-1.7%	10.6%	8.8%	6.5%	-0.9%	5.5%
23,168	Killadriffe	7.3%	-2.1%	5.0%	12.0%	-6.8%	4.4%	2.4%	3.2%	5.7%
23,169	Kilmucklin	8.4%	1.6%	10.2%	2.4%	6.3%	8.9%	15.2%	-3.2%	11.5%
23,170	Lattin	7.4%	8.2%	16.2%	5.2%	11.2%	17.0%	9.6%	5.3%	15.4%
23,171	Rathlynin	1.1%	14.4%	15.6%	0.7%	11.7%	12.4%	1.6%	17.7%	19.7%
23,172	Rodus	-5.1%	-5.8%	-10.7%	0.0%	-5.2%	-5.2%	-10.2%	-6.5%	-16.1%
23,173	Shronell	10.2%	-0.3%	9.9%	16.3%	3.0%	19.8%	4.4%	-3.7%	0.5%
23,174	Solloghobeg	-1.0%	11.8%	10.7%	-1.9%	13.3%	11.2%	0.0%	10.0%	10.0%
23,175	Templeneiry	5.7%	4.4%	10.3%	3.1%	3.5%	6.7%	8.7%	5.3%	14.5%
23,176	Thomastown	10.7%	4.8%	16.0%	13.8%	6.8%	21.6%	7.6%	2.7%	10.6%
23,177	Tipperary Rural	9.0%	15.6%	26.0%	9.7%	12.6%	23.5%	8.2%	19.0%	28.7%

Deprivation Indices

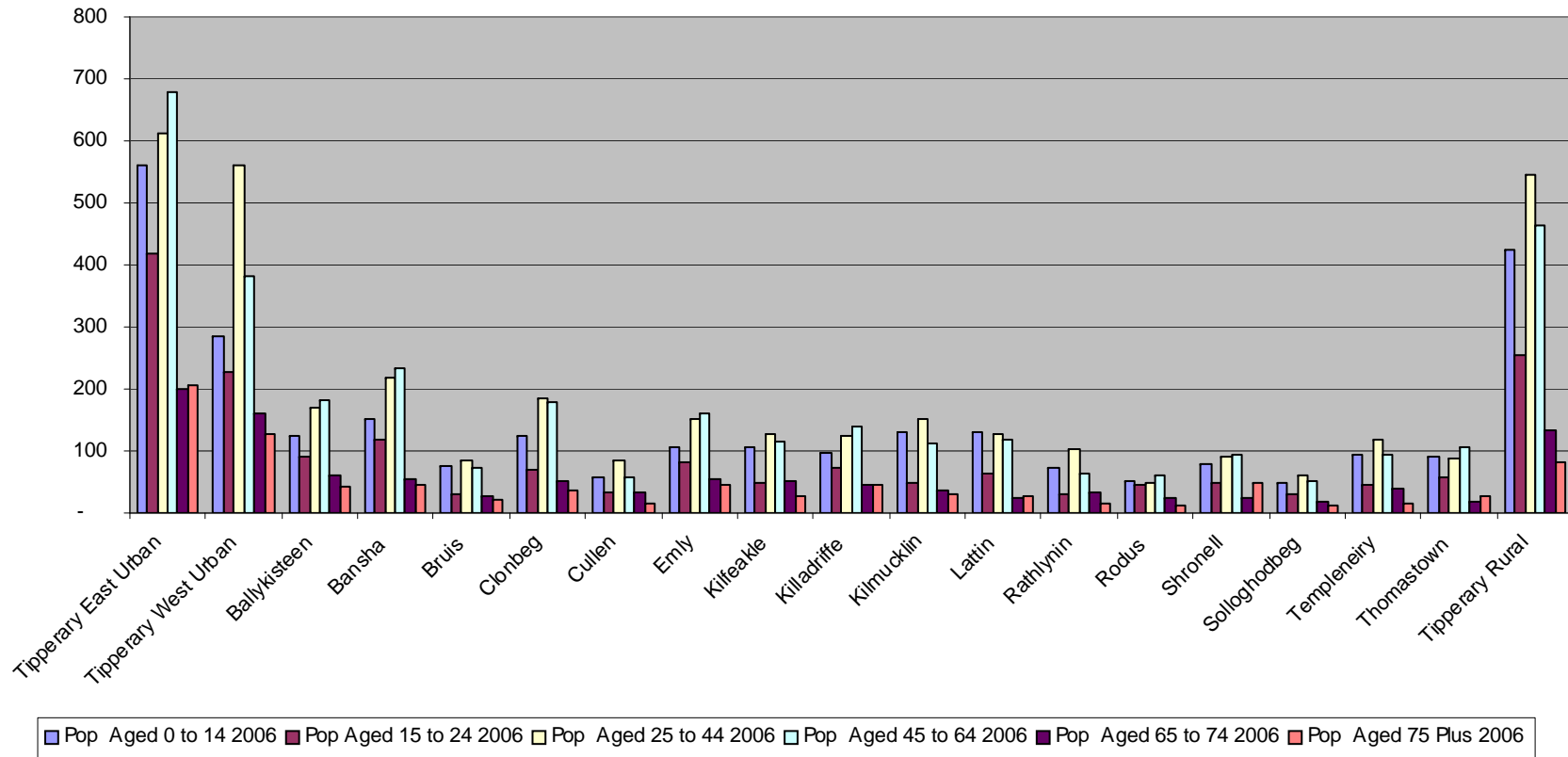
The 2006 Relative Deprivation Score for the County is 0.7, the score for the South East is 3.5, while the National score is 2.1.

Tipperary East Urban, with a score of -19.0 is one of the five most disadvantaged EDs in the County, while Tipperary West Urban, at -5.5, is rated as marginally disadvantaged, along with Ballykisteen (-2.9), Bansha (-2.1), Templeneiry (-0.9), Cullen (-0.8), Killadriffe (-0.8), and Emly (-0.6). With scores above 10, Kilmucklin (10.5), Thomastown (10.5) and Tipperary Rural (10.4), can be said to be affluent. The area overall therefore is marginally disadvantaged, with obvious pockets of deprivation in the urban centres.

Tipperary 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
23,087	Tipperary East Urban	-4.8	-0.2	-5.3	-8.2	3.4	-19.0	-10.4	-8.0	-8.2
23,088	Tipperary West Urban	4.9	4.6	2.2	-0.8	5.8	-5.5	-4.5	-0.2	-0.8
23,155	Ballykisteen	6.7	8.1	0.0	-2.9	9.7	-2.9	-0.1	-2.5	-2.9
23,156	Bansha	7.3	6.6	0.7	-1.5	8.9	-2.1	-2.0	-1.7	-1.5
23,157	Bruis	12.9	14.1	10.1	8.1	4.7	5.6	7.5	8.1	8.1
23,159	Clonbeg	9.7	8.8	5.0	-2.5	12.1	1.1	0.9	2.7	-2.5
23,160	Cullen	8.3	10.2	2.0	-4.1	12.4	-0.8	2.5	-0.4	-4.1
23,164	Emly	8.4	6.6	0.1	-0.1	8.6	-0.6	-2.0	-2.4	-0.1
23,167	Kilfeakle	14.8	14.8	9.6	8.0	6.8	8.3	8.3	7.5	8.0
23,168	Killadriffe	8.3	9.8	5.9	6.3	2.0	-0.8	2.0	3.6	6.3
23,169	Kilmucklin	16.4	17.6	8.9	8.7	7.6	10.5	11.8	6.8	8.7
23,170	Lattin	11.7	13.3	7.8	5.7	6.0	3.9	6.4	5.6	5.7
23,171	Rathlynin	14.3	15.3	10.3	9.7	4.6	7.6	8.9	8.2	9.7
23,172	Rodus	11.2	7.9	1.5	0.3	10.9	3.3	-0.3	-0.9	0.3
23,173	Shronell	11.5	12.3	4.3	2.8	8.7	3.7	5.1	2.0	2.8
23,174	Solloghobeg	15.0	11.2	10.5	8.9	6.1	8.5	3.8	8.5	8.9
23,175	Templeneiry	8.2	7.7	2.5	-1.1	9.4	-0.9	-0.6	0.1	-1.1
23,176	Thomastown	16.4	18.3	13.8	8.7	7.7	10.5	12.7	11.8	8.7
23,177	Tipperary Rural	16.3	18.0	16.1	7.7	8.7	10.4	12.3	14.3	7.7

Age Profile

Age Profile Tipperary & District 2006



Tipperary Town shows high numbers of children and young people, particularly in Tipperary Urban and Rural areas, as shown in the table above.

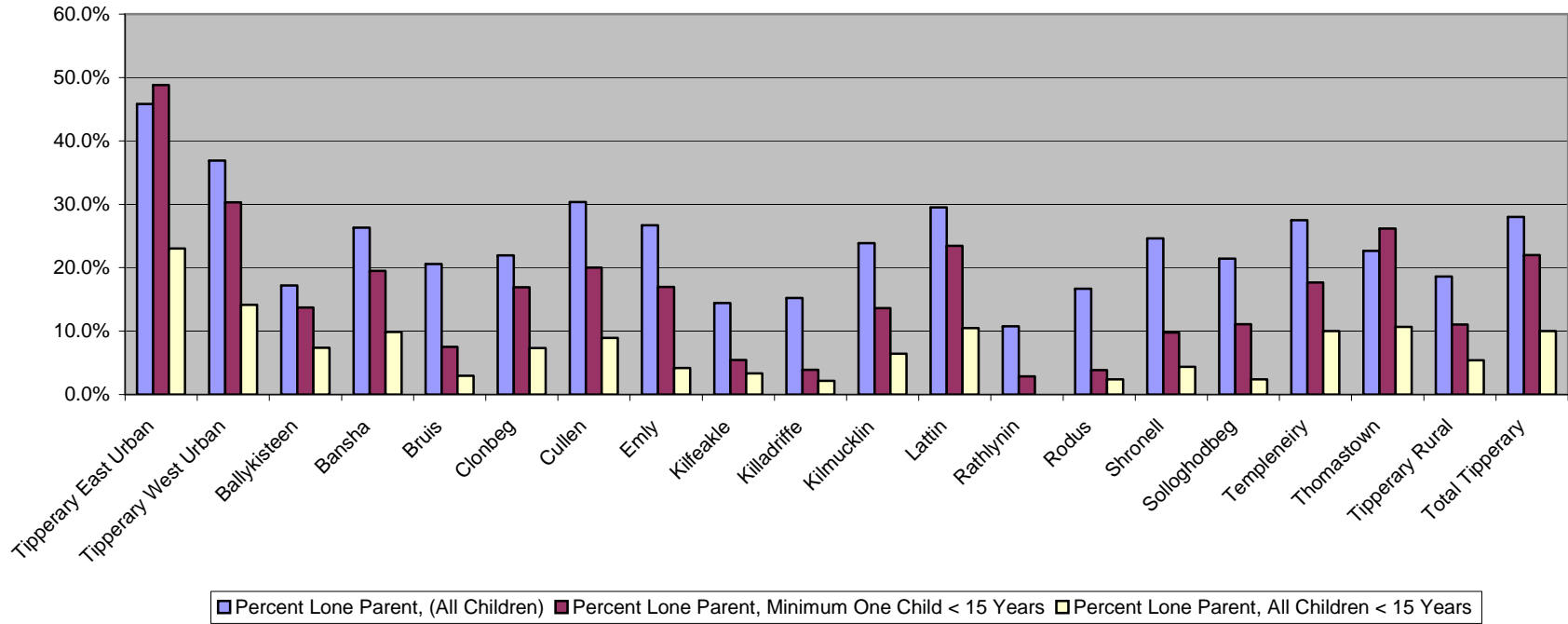
Age Profile Tipperary and District

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 (%)
Tipperary East Urban	2,674	561	418	611	679	200	205	21.0%	15.6%	22.8%	25.4%	7.5%	7.7%
Tipperary West Urban	1,741	286	226	560	382	160	127	16.4%	13.0%	32.2%	21.9%	9.2%	7.3%
Ballykisteen	668	123	90	169	182	62	42	18.4%	13.5%	25.3%	27.2%	9.3%	6.3%
Bansha	819	152	117	217	232	55	46	18.6%	14.3%	26.5%	28.3%	6.7%	5.6%
Bruis	312	77	30	86	73	26	20	24.7%	9.6%	27.6%	23.4%	8.3%	6.4%
Clonbeg	647	123	71	186	178	53	36	19.0%	11.0%	28.7%	27.5%	8.2%	5.6%
Cullen	284	59	34	85	58	32	16	20.8%	12.0%	29.9%	20.4%	11.3%	5.6%
Emly	602	105	82	153	161	56	45	17.4%	13.6%	25.4%	26.7%	9.3%	7.5%
Kilfeakle	471	106	47	126	114	51	27	22.5%	10.0%	26.8%	24.2%	10.8%	5.7%
Killadriffe	521	96	73	124	140	44	44	18.4%	14.0%	23.8%	26.9%	8.4%	8.4%
Kilmucklin	510	129	49	153	112	37	30	25.3%	9.6%	30.0%	22.0%	7.3%	5.9%
Lattin	488	130	63	126	119	23	27	26.6%	12.9%	25.8%	24.4%	4.7%	5.5%
Rathlynin	318	73	29	103	64	33	16	23.0%	9.1%	32.4%	20.1%	10.4%	5.0%
Rodus	243	52	44	50	60	25	12	21.4%	18.1%	20.6%	24.7%	10.3%	4.9%
Shronell	389	80	50	91	94	25	49	20.6%	12.9%	23.4%	24.2%	6.4%	12.6%
Solloghobeg	218	49	29	60	52	17	11	22.5%	13.3%	27.5%	23.9%	7.8%	5.0%
Templeneiry	406	94	46	117	94	39	16	23.2%	11.3%	28.8%	23.2%	9.6%	3.9%
Thomastown	391	91	59	89	106	19	27	23.3%	15.1%	22.8%	27.1%	4.9%	6.9%
Tipperary Rural	1,905	424	255	545	465	134	82	22.3%	13.4%	28.6%	24.4%	7.0%	4.3%
Total Tipperary	13,607	2,810	1,812	3,651	3,365	1,091	878	21.0%	13.0%	27.0%	25.0%	8.0%	6.0%

Lone Parents

High age dependency rates are also notable in these areas, and Tipperary East Urban (45.8%), West Urban (36.9%), Cullen (30.4%) and Lattin (29.5%) all display lone parent rates significantly higher than the County (26.3%) or the national average (25.2%).

Lone Parents Tipperary & District 2006



Household Structure Tipperary 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
Tipperary East Urban	491	291	225	142	113	45.8%	48.8%	23.0%
Tipperary West Urban	290	175	107	53	41	36.9%	30.3%	14.1%
Ballykisteen	122	73	21	10	9	17.2%	13.7%	7.4%
Bansha	152	82	40	16	15	26.3%	19.5%	9.9%
Bruis	68	40	14	3	2	20.6%	7.5%	2.9%
Clonbeg	123	65	27	11	9	22.0%	16.9%	7.3%
Cullen	56	35	17	7	5	30.4%	20.0%	8.9%
Emly	120	59	32	10	5	26.7%	16.9%	4.2%
Kilfeakle	90	55	13	3	3	14.4%	5.5%	3.3%
Killadriffe	92	51	14	2	2	15.2%	3.9%	2.2%
Kilmucklin	109	66	26	9	7	23.9%	13.6%	6.4%
Lattin	105	64	31	15	11	29.5%	23.4%	10.5%
Rathlynin	65	35	7	1	-	10.8%	2.9%	0.0%
Rodus	42	26	7	1	1	16.7%	3.8%	2.4%
Shronell	69	41	17	4	3	24.6%	9.8%	4.3%
Solloghobeg	42	27	9	3	1	21.4%	11.1%	2.4%
Templeneiry	80	51	22	9	8	27.5%	17.6%	10.0%
Thomastown	75	42	17	11	8	22.7%	26.2%	10.7%
Tipperary Rural	371	226	69	25	20	18.6%	11.1%	5.4%
Total Tipperary	2,562	1,504	715	335	263	28.0%	22.0%	10.0%

Housing – Nature of Occupancy Tipperary and District 2006

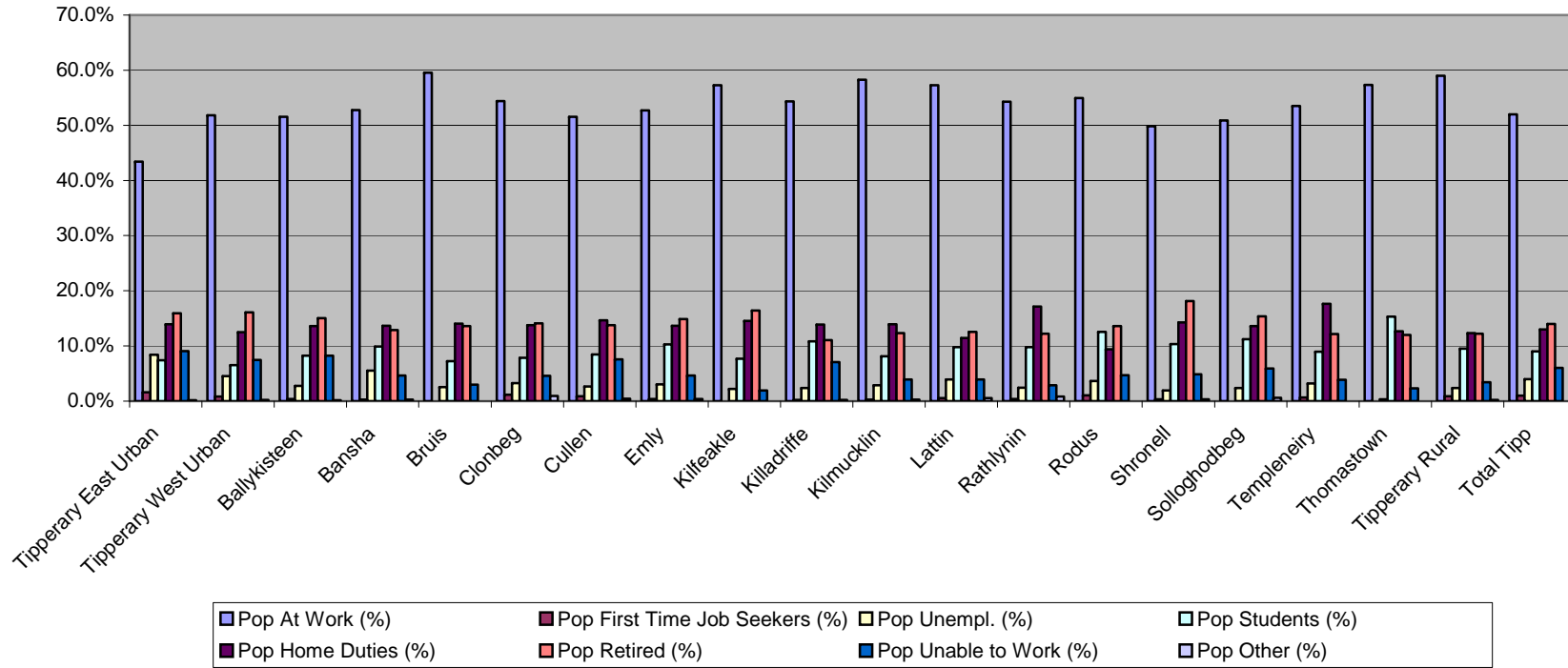
ED	Total Permanent Private Households	Owner Occupied - with Mortgage	Owner Occupied - No Mortgage	Buying from Local Authority	Rented from Local Authority	Rented from Voluntary Body	Rented Unfurnished from Other	Rented Furnished from Other	Occupied Free of Rent	Not Stated
Tipperary East Urban	996	233	295	44	253	57	11	75	19	9
Tipperary West Urban	734	215	315	16	53	32	4	85	13	1
Ballykisteen	225	78	106	1	6	3	2	7	6	16
Bansha	289	93	123	6	17	6	1	13	14	16
Bruis	105	35	58	1	-	1	1	3	3	3
Clonbeg	220	70	116	3	11	3	3	2	4	8
Cullen	107	30	56	3	5	-	2	5	-	6
Emly	215	55	113	7	19	1	-	2	6	12
Kilfeakle	171	58	89	1	-	2	4	11	6	-
Killadriffe	169	64	92	2	-	4	-	-	1	6
Kilmucklin	166	67	78	1	4	-	1	4	5	6
Lattin	166	54	77	5	11	-	1	4	6	8
Rathlynin	107	41	51	1	2	2	-	3	4	3
Rodus	80	20	45	2	1	-	-	1	7	4
Shronell	121	44	66	-	3	3	-	1	2	2
Solloghobeg	71	23	37	1	-	3	1	-	4	2
Templeneiry	139	54	74	-	-	-	1	1	5	4
Thomastown	133	55	58	-	8	1	3	3	5	-
Tipperary Rural	615	250	290	5	4	15	1	35	9	6
Total Tipperary	4,829	1,539	2,139	99	397	133	36	255	119	112

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.

Tipperary and District has a labour force of 6,200 (3,746 males, 2,454 females) and an 8.6% unemployment rate (2006). 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 Tipperary & District 2006

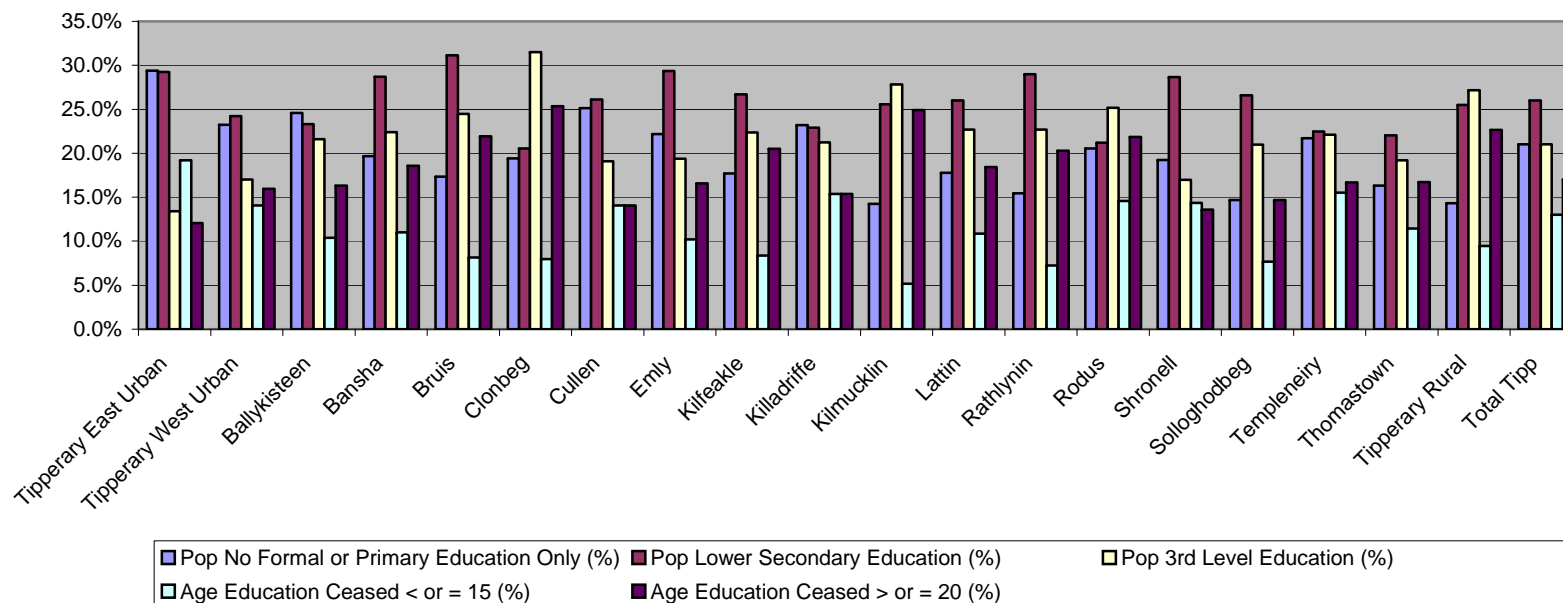


Education

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).

Education levels in Tipperary and District are low, with 21% having no formal or primary education only, and just a further 21% having third level education. Tipperary East Urban is particularly educationally disadvantaged, with just 13.4% having third level education, and 29.4% having no formal or primary education only.

% Educational Attainment Tipperary & District 2006



Tipperary & District Educational Attainment 2006

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 (%)
Tipperary East Urban	1,901	1,874	551	548	394	130	251	360	226	29.4%	29.2%	21.0%	6.9%	13.4%	19.2%	12.1%
Tipperary West Urban	1,325	1,317	306	319	313	155	224	185	210	23.2%	24.2%	23.8%	11.8%	17.0%	14.0%	15.9%
Ballykisteen	482	472	116	110	111	33	102	49	77	24.6%	23.3%	23.5%	7.0%	21.6%	10.4%	16.3%
Bansha	582	554	109	159	118	44	124	61	103	19.7%	28.7%	21.3%	7.9%	22.4%	11.0%	18.6%
Bruis	208	196	34	61	44	9	48	16	43	17.3%	31.1%	22.4%	4.6%	24.5%	8.2%	21.9%
Clonbeg	462	438	85	90	100	25	138	35	111	19.4%	20.5%	22.8%	5.7%	31.5%	8.0%	25.3%
Cullen	202	199	50	52	45	14	38	28	28	25.1%	26.1%	22.6%	7.0%	19.1%	14.1%	14.1%
Emly	424	392	87	115	84	30	76	40	65	22.2%	29.3%	21.4%	7.7%	19.4%	10.2%	16.6%
Kilfeakle	323	322	57	86	77	30	72	27	66	17.7%	26.7%	23.9%	9.3%	22.4%	8.4%	20.5%
Killadriffe	371	358	83	82	83	34	76	55	55	23.2%	22.9%	23.2%	9.5%	21.2%	15.4%	15.4%
Kilmucklin	331	309	44	79	74	26	86	16	77	14.2%	25.6%	23.9%	8.4%	27.8%	5.2%	24.9%
Lattin	312	304	54	79	69	33	69	33	56	17.8%	26.0%	22.7%	10.9%	22.7%	10.9%	18.4%
Rathlynin	211	207	32	60	46	22	47	15	42	15.5%	29.0%	22.2%	10.6%	22.7%	7.2%	20.3%
Rodus	161	151	31	32	30	20	38	22	33	20.5%	21.2%	19.9%	13.2%	25.2%	14.6%	21.9%
Shronell	275	265	51	76	70	23	45	38	36	19.2%	28.7%	26.4%	8.7%	17.0%	14.3%	13.6%
Solloghobeg	150	143	21	38	42	12	30	11	21	14.7%	26.6%	29.4%	8.4%	21.0%	7.7%	14.7%
Templeneiry	269	258	56	58	65	22	57	40	43	21.7%	22.5%	25.2%	8.5%	22.1%	15.5%	16.7%
Thomastown	247	245	40	54	74	30	47	28	41	16.3%	22.0%	30.2%	12.2%	19.2%	11.4%	16.7%
Tipperary Rural	1,282	1,259	180	321	297	119	342	119	285	14.3%	25.5%	23.6%	9.5%	27.2%	9.5%	22.6%
Total Tipperary	9,518	9,263	1,987	2,419	2,136	811	1,910	1,178	1,618	21.0%	26.0%	23.0%	9.0%	21.0%	13.0%	17.0%

I.3.3 Local Consultation

The information that follows in tables contains the views expressed by a representative group of local people at the public consultation meeting on social inclusion.

What does Social Inclusion mean to you?

- Greater inclusion of all people and groups in society
- No barriers to inclusion
- Everyone treated equally
- Non-judgemental approaches
- Enabling people who are disadvantaged to participate fully.

Tipperary Town experiences high levels of unemployment and associated disadvantage, a fact that has been recognised through the awarding of the RAPID programme to the town. In the 1990's Tipperary Town witnessed the closure of 5 major employers resulting in job losses for 510 people and the town has failed to recover from these closures. The continued decline of agriculture is another loss to the economic welfare of the town because of the resulting decline in agricultural disposable income. The knock on effect of these losses has been the closure of retailing businesses in the town.

Tipperary Town – Key Needs at Local Geographic Level

Themes	Key Needs
Services	<p>The area has recently (last 5 years) seen an increase in community services in the town and RAPID is seen as being a positive catalyst in this respect.</p> <p>Tipperary Town has a Rural Traveller CDP, a CDP and a Family Resource Centre. However, local people feel that the town is under-resourced still in terms of basic services (health, education, employment, etc.) and is viewed somewhat as a satellite town in comparison to Clonmel and Limerick, between which two towns/cities it lies.</p> <p>Local services are viewed as inadequate to local needs and often operate on an outreach basis with the main centres for these services being situated in Clonmel.</p>

Young People	<p>Tipperary Regional Youth Services are currently constructing/refurbishing their premises to include a Drop-In Youth Café and a Youth Diversion project has recently come to the town. Facilities for young people are generally good but accessibility less so – as identified in other areas there is debate as to whether the young people identified under the LDSIP are being reached by these facilities/services.</p> <p>In particular there is a lack of leisure and social activities for young people after 4 pm when they leave school and often before they go home (parents working etc). There is a need to build on existing resources and services to maximise the potential of these supports.</p>
Transport	<p>Public transport links are poor in the main. Ring-a-Link now operates in Tipperary town and greater transport links with the outlying villages are necessary. Transport links to Clonmel are adequate but restrictive and difficult for some target groups to access, i.e. elderly people attempting to access health clinics, etc.</p>
Employment	<p>Local employment opportunities are limited – most people access work in Clonmel or Limerick. There is a perceived lack of inward economic investment into Tipperary Town in terms of job-creation and enterprise. The Advance factory remains unoccupied. Decentralisation will see the establishment of the DJELR section dealing with the processing of asylum seeker and refugee claims, bringing with it some 300 jobs – however, these will largely be people already employed within the Department</p>

Tipperary Town – Key Needs by Target Group

Target Group	Themes and Issues Arising	Identified Needs
Long Term Unemployed	<p>(See also Low Income Families)</p> <p>FÁS operate an outreach office 1.5 days per week in a community building. There are 4/5 Community Employment Schemes, a Jobs Initiative programme (20 workers) and a Local Training Initiative based in Knockanrawley CDP (skills based training and personal development). The VEC operate a BTEI programme in Michael Street as well as a range of PLC courses and there is PIE scheme in Knockanrawley CDP.</p> <p>There is no Local Employment Service, Employment Agency or Jobs Club in the town.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Local socio-economic strategies to attract investment and job opportunities into the town b) Up-Skilling of working population to facilitate additional employment opportunities from Live Register c) Feasibility studies regarding outreach services and

		level/depth of need for unemployed people
Low Income Individuals and Families	<p>Economic deprivation arising from a number of factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generational unemployment • Barriers to returning to work or increasing employment opportunities (stuck in low paid jobs) • Literacy and numeracy skills • Low self-esteem • Need for appropriate training programmes to fit realistic employment opportunities • Childcare needs – access to affordable childcare provision in order to take up training, education and employment opportunities • Need for more supports i.e. MABS, Credit Union, directly targeting low income families 	<p>a) Appropriate and flexible personal development and skills-based training programmes</p> <p>b) Development of local socio-economic strategies</p> <p>c) Financial management skills for low income families and information regarding financial assistance e.g. FIS</p> <p>d) Access to affordable childcare services</p>
Women who are Socially and Economically Disadvantaged	<p>Childcare issues and supports feature predominantly for this target group. 3 pre-schools have recently closed in the area</p> <p>There is limited access to flexible and affordable training courses and FÁS schemes coupled with a lack of clear employment progression routes which accommodate family and work/life balance issues i.e. flexible working arrangements, job sharing etc.</p> <p>The Local Training Initiative run in Knockanrawley CDP is primarily focussed at women and hugely oversubscribed. More initiatives such as the recent T.I.M.E. project (CCP) are required.</p> <p>Women are often the principal carers in the home and as such can be isolated regardless of economic circumstances.</p> <p>Cuan Saor (Women’s Refuge) operates one day per week in Knockanrawley CDP.</p>	<p>a) Affordable childcare services, play facilities, after school childcare provision</p> <p>b) Opportunities for part time/job share employment opportunities which work around family commitments and school hours</p>

Tipperary Town – Key Needs by Target Group

Target Group	Themes and Issues Arising	Identified Needs
Lone Parents who are	Issues raised mirror the above target group – women who are socially and economically disadvantaged.	As noted in above target group – women who are socially and

Socially and Economically Disadvantaged	In addition there is a need for allowances to pay for childcare in order to take up education/ training/employment opportunities. Family support services i.e. parenting skills, counselling etc are also lacking for this target group.	economically disadvantaged. In addition; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for flexible training courses linked to part time, flexible employment opportunities • Drop-in services which accommodate a range of family support interventions
Travellers	There is 1 official halting site in the town and 1/2 unofficial sites. There is a long-standing settled travelling community in the town – 6/7 families. The relatively recent School Completion Programme is indicating high numbers of traveller children being supported by the SCP – after-school homework clubs feature as a clear need for young travellers and Literacy and Numeracy difficulties remain significant amongst this community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More research required for community in identifying and planning effective responses
Disabled People	4 key themes emerged from discussions around this target group: 1) Infra-structural facilities are poor e.g. wheelchair access to buildings such as post offices etc. 2) Need to pro-actively encourage participation and integration of people with disabilities into mainstream activities 3) Need to focus on mental health issues – upgrade mental health services 4) Awareness raising of the needs of people with physical disabilities and mental health difficulties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awaiting findings of research currently being undertaken • Development of local strategies to meet issues identified above.
Disadvantaged Youth, Including Unemployed and Early School Leaving	(See also notes taken under Needs, Geographical and Social) Key issues identified included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased drug use – particularly cocaine use • Generational unemployment in families – low expectations and risk of early school leaving (Youth Reach operate in Tipperary Town and the area has a School Completion Programme) • Increase in under-age drinking • Gaps in provision of supports for the 15-18 year old age group who have left school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drugs Initiatives • Training and employment supports focussed on 15-18 year olds

	and are unable to sign on or avail of apprenticeships – at risk of exploitation in labour market	
--	--	--

Tipperary Town – Key Needs by Target Group

Target Group	Themes and Issues Arising	Identified Needs
Older People who are Socially and Economically Disadvantaged	<p>Main issues identified for this target group centre around isolation and fear of anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>The Active Retirement group in Tipperary Town is strong but more research is needed for this target group (currently commissioned) to ascertain range and depth of needs in the town</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Further detailed information regarding current level of services and needs of older people – as linked to current research being undertaken as part of this piece of work. b) Development of Elderly Forum locally c) Specific anti-isolation strategies which are locally focussed d) Countywide strategies which include dedicated personnel e.g. Elderly Coordinator at County level
Homeless People	<p>The group identified that there was insufficient information regarding homelessness in the immediate area – research would therefore be required to ascertain levels of homelessness and inform planning of potential responses if required.</p>	<p>No responses identified – consensus that further exploration and consultation with representatives from this community was needed.</p>
Drug Mis-users	<p>The lack of locally based services for this issue emerges as the main issue along with the lack of strategies, resources and political will to tackle the problems of supply of drugs and alcohol. The drinking culture supports the use of alcohol and recreational drugs and parents are increasingly powerless to combat drug use in their children.</p> <p>HSE provides Drug Addiction counselling services for 2 days per week</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental advisory and information supports/programmes • Increase in accessible drug addiction counselling services • Increase in detox and rehabilitation

		<p>programmes/beds – accessible and affordable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness-raising programmes to counter drinking and drugs culture • Strategies to combat supply of drugs in Tipperary Town – political will and resources • More local drugs initiatives
--	--	--

Tipperary Town – Key Needs by Target Group

Target Group	Themes and Issues Arising	Identified Needs
Refugees, Asylum Seekers and immigrants	No information available from group. Move of the DJELR section which processes asylum seeker and refugee status claims due to take place in 2008 – impact to be assessed.	(See also Migrant Workers)
Ex-Prisoners	As identified elsewhere across the county it was viewed as difficult to ascertain numbers of ex-prisoners/offenders in Tipperary Town. Key themes emerging for this target group centre on a lack of access to supports and education/training/employment opportunities due to stigma as well as the lack of transitional supports on leaving prison and the need to provide employment based training programmes prior to release.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Integrated supports for transition from prison to the community – options etc b) Realistic employment strategies and opportunities linked to training programmes whilst in prison c) More research in to needs of this target group locally – exploration of existing programmes locally, regionally and nationally.
Lesbian and Gay People who are	Main issues for this group centre on stigma and a lack of supports and information services, particularly for young people in terms of coming out to family and friends and the wider community.	No responses identified – consensus that further exploration and consultation with

<p>Socially and Economically Disadvantaged</p>	<p>Issues identified included bullying in schools and among young people and the need for educational programmes and awareness raising initiatives such as the Walk Tall programme in primary schools. The local LGBT group is slowly becoming established (TRYS) but there is an absence of a positive gay culture in Tipperary town.</p>	<p>representatives from this community was needed.</p>
<p>Migrant Workers who are Socially and Economically Disadvantaged</p>	<p>Tipperary Town has a mainly Eastern European population, situated in clusters throughout the town. Points of contact with the community are limited and it is difficult to reach them – there is a lack of support/community groups within the non-national community in Tipperary Town. The needs for this target group are mirrored in all the focus sessions across the county. There is a lack of English Language classes and supports. Problems with communication have a direct impact on access to employment opportunities and other services including health etc – this target group is heavily vulnerable to exploitation in low paid jobs i.e. lack of employment supports and poor working conditions and there is a perception of the danger of isolation. Information translated into native languages would assist in preventing exploitation. School Completion programmes are reporting increasing numbers of children using their services from these communities and there is anecdotal evidence of alcohol misuse amongst the community and an increase in mental health issues</p>	<p>a) English Language classes and supports b) Information leaflets c) Awareness raising initiatives regarding the diverse range of traditions and customs facilitating contact and integration.</p>