Counties

This dataset displays all 32 counties on the island of Ireland, 6 in the North and 26 in the Republic.

City / County councils

In census reports the country is divided into 31 administrative counties/cities. The Local Government Reform Act 2014 Section 9 provided for the amalgamation of the city and county councils in Limerick and Waterford, and North Tipperary and South Tipperary County Councils.

There are now 26 administrative counties including the five administrative counties of Cork County, Galway County, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin. There are 5 city/city and county areas namely Cork City, Limerick City and County, Waterford City and County, Dublin City and Galway City.

Electoral Divisions

There are 3,440 Electoral Divisions (EDs) which are the smallest legally defined administrative areas in the State. One ED, St. Mary's, straddles the Louth-Meath county border, and is presented in two parts in the SAPS tables, with one part in Louth and the other in Meath. There are 32 EDs with low population, which for reasons of confidentiality have been amalgamated into neighbouring EDs giving a total of 3,409 EDs which appear in the dataset.

Small Areas

Small Areas are areas of population generally comprising between 80 and 120 dwellings created by The National Institute of Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA) on behalf of the Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi) in consultation with CSO. Small Areas were designed as the lowest level of geography for the compilation of statistics in line with data protection and generally comprise either complete or part of townlands or neighbourhoods. There is a constraint on Small Areas that they must nest within Electoral Division boundaries.

Townlands

The Townland is the smallest administrative division in the country and varies in size from approximately 1 acre to 7000 acres. All other territorial divisions are collections of townlands. There are circa 51,000 townlands in the Republic of Ireland. Townland Boundary dataset is generated from the OSi National Statutory Boundary dataset.