

# Geo News

*Newsletter of GSI*

Issue No. 64 March 2018

▪ <http://www.geographicalsocietyireland.ie> ▪ Geographical Society of Ireland

## Note from the Editor

Fellow Geographers,

It is with pleasure I introduce issue 64 of GeoNews, the first issue for 2018. We have some great content and news to share with you in the run up to the 50<sup>th</sup> Conference of Irish Geographers in Maynooth this May.

Richard Scriven (UCC) provides some reflects on the 49<sup>th</sup> Conference of Irish Geographers which was held in May, this piece provides a really nice overview of the topics covered and will be useful for flagging commonalities and departures for CIG-50.

Ronan Foley (MU) has kindly provided an update on the Health Geography research group within Maynooth University, specifically the groups presentation of research at the 18<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Medical/Health Geography held at the University of Angers in France, this piece highlights the diverse range of Health geography topics ongoing in MU, including therapeutic landscapes, Green and Blue Infrastructures and their connection to health outcomes and healthy activity and enabling spaces, the list goes on!

Jonathan Turner (UCD) has provided details on the GSI sponsored event - The Irish Geomorphology Group (IGGy) Workshop which was held in November 2017. The event sounds like it was a great success and showcases what support from the wider Irish Geographical Community can enable.

Frank Houghton (LIT) has provided a great piece summarising the annual Radical Statistics Conference (Rad Stats) which was held in London. Frank highlights very well in the piece that there is often a strong spatial dimension across statistics

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focusing on inequalities e.g. poverty and ill health, and this would appeal to many members of our community.

The featured Article in this issue comes from Dermot Corcoran (CSO) who has been working in the area of Census Geography for almost a decade within the Central Statistics Office. Many Irish Geographers will be aware of the POWSCAR (Place of Work, School or College Census of Anonymised Records) however, access to POWSCAR is tightly controlled and only a few experienced users use this great resource on a regular basis. In response to this, Dermot has created a new level of geography in which the CSO can publish statistics which provides estimations of daytime working population. This will be extremely useful for a number of Geographies and I would encourage you to engage with this further at the upcoming CIG.

We have other updates from the Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG) and The GSI Postgraduate and Early Career Network (PECN) - both are excellent initiatives that are supported by GSI so I encourage all our readers to engage with these groups!

As always if you have news / updates / articles you would like included in GeoNews, please feel free to send them in, my thanks to all the contributors for this issue and for now, happy reading!

Paul Alexander

[paul.alexander@cs.ie](mailto:paul.alexander@cs.ie)



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## Reflections on 49<sup>th</sup> Conference of Irish Geographers May 2017, Cork

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By Richard Scriven



*Department of Geography, University College Cork*

The theme of the 49<sup>th</sup> CIG, 'Disruptions and Transgressions', aimed to provoke a rich and varied discussion of the world and our discipline's response to the ever-shifting social and physical landscapes. Through the efforts of session organisers, this aim was not only met but exceeded with a broad range of papers and sessions address topics from across the discipline and beyond. Several prominent strands ran through the conference illustrating how Irish geographers and others are meeting contemporary social, political, and economic challenges and opportunities.

Urban policies and the impact of the austerity of recent years were examined across several sessions highlighting the on-going contestations of housing, urban governance, and the spatial manifestations of neoliberal agendas. Physical geography sessions incorporated discussions of climate change, upland environments, and coastal geomorphology, as well as developments in Earth Observation. Also, the energy and food systems sessions provided deep insights into the meeting of the social and natural,

and how we are to address challenges into the future. Art and geography made another distinct contribution to the conference with practitioners, artists, and researchers sharing their work and providing a creative insight into social issues, including Ireland's asylum process, the treatment of AIDS patients, and climate change. In addition, a range of other single sessions encapsulated a significant breath of research from legal geographies to rewilding, and rural revitalisation to health and nature.

The first keynote lecture, from Dr Bradley Garrett, University of Sydney, on the 'Countering Geographies of Dread' was a resonant contribution provoking critical engagements with issues of the privatised 'public' space, persistent surveillance systems, and spatial inequalities. Situating his paper with a concern for neoliberal practices, he outlined his theme of the 'Geographies of Dread' as a response to and engagement with a range of interconnect threads which simultaneously erode privacy and the public. Professor Jenny Pickerill, Sheffield University, gave the second keynote focusing on eco-communities and the reconfiguration of place. Her

participative approach to these self-build, self-organised and collective enterprises illustrated how they involve new forms of nature-culture relations and new social relations. These grassroots, ecologically and ideologically-driven projects transform farmland to permaculture gardens, off-grid homes and learning spaces, which present different forms of environmental futures.

The conference programme incorporated other events including a drone workshop and meetings for the Postgraduate Network and Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG). In addition, SWIG held an insightful panel discussion which raised

numerous issues of relevance to all working in research and university settings. The GSI Doctoral Research Award session involved five recent PhD graduates presenting on their work in a ten minute slot, with Dr Paul Alexander being presented as the winner at the conference dinner.

The 49<sup>th</sup> Conference of Irish Geographers was a very successful event, building on the strengths of previous conferences and working closely with the GSI. Special thanks goes to Dr Colin Sage, Conference Chair, and the academic and support staff in the Department of Geography UCC for their role in the conference.

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## Maynooth Health Geographers on the Global Stage July 2017, Angers

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**By Ronan Foley**



*Department of Geography, Maynooth University*

From the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2017 the XVIIIth version of the International Symposium in Medical/Health Geography was held at the University of Angers in France, along the banks of the River Loire (Figure 1).



*Figure 1. Angers and the River Loire*

This bi-annual conference brings together around 200 of the world's leading medical/health geographers and in keeping with the tradition of the conference there was a strong Maynooth University presence, nine in total, consisting of both current and former researchers.

There were six current staff/students and an additional three former colleagues,

along with a number of other Irish presenters from Edinburgh and Canterbury Universities. From the current staff, Jan Rigby, Martina Roche and Ronan Foley attended and presented, while postdoctoral researcher, Dunsin Arodudu and PhD students Hannah Grove and Darren O'Rourke also attended and/or presented. In addition it was really good to see former Maynooth University colleagues that included; Melanie Tomintz (Canterbury, former NCG), Andy Power (Southampton, former Geography/NIRSA) and Niamh Donnellan (Canterbury, former Geography MA).

The subjects the Maynooth presenters covered were wide-ranging, reflecting the breadth of work currently taking place in the department. These included two appearances by Ronan Foley, the first of which was an organised session co-organised by Ronan and Sarah Bell (Exeter) on the current state-of-the-art in therapeutic landscapes. This included a co-presentation with colleagues from Exeter and McMaster and a response from key researchers in the area, incorporating a remote contribution from the concept's original founder, Wil Gesler (Figure 2). A second paper was co-presented with Dunsin Arodudu on their current EPA funded-project on Green and Blue Infrastructures and health outcomes. Hannah Grove, a SPHERE-funded scholar (supervised by Jan Rigby) presented a very well received poster on her research on healthy activity and enabling spaces for older adults in County Kildare (Figure 3).

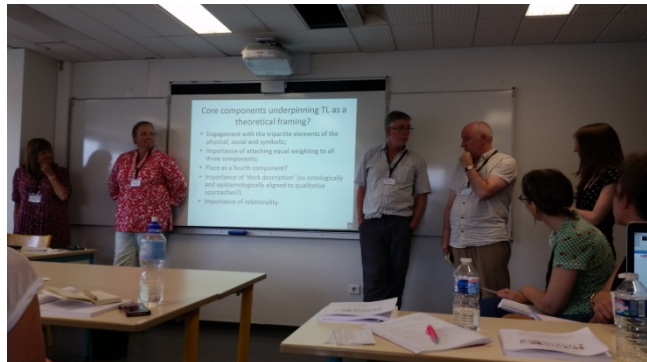


Figure 2. *Therapeutic Landscapes*

Our former colleagues are engaged in a wide range of work related to Smoking, GIS and Active Transport, Health Services and Geographies of Care. In addition, a new key textbook on Critical Health Geographies, of whom Andy Power was one of six co-authors, was launched at the conference to considerable acclaim.

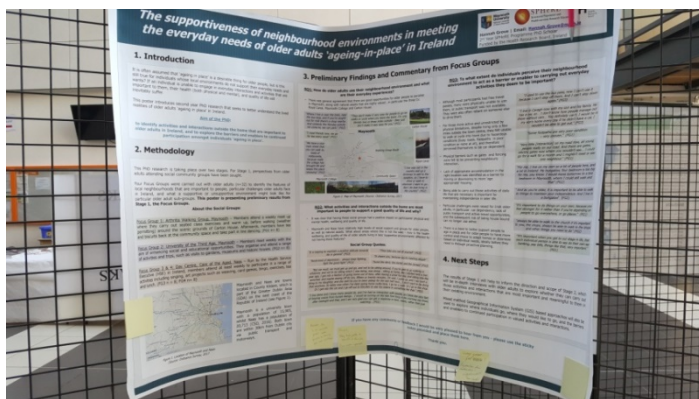


Figure 3. *Hannah Grove Poster Paper (SPHERE/Maynooth University).*

From a social and networking perspective the conference was, as always, a joyful event and the conference was very well-organised by a team of French colleagues led by Sebastian Fleuret, who in addition to the formal meetings, also organised field-trips to local vineyards, troglodyte caves and a typical Chateau, home of the current Duke of Anjou. There were also receptions at the start and a conference dinner in a local church and many old friends were re-met and new friends made during the event and as to be expected the French cuisine was appreciated by all, including the Maynooth visitors (Figure 4).





*Figure 4. Maynooth University delegates at the Conference Dinner.*

The content of the conference was incredibly rich, with the six or so parallel sessions making the choice of session always difficult. Equally the strength of the subject was evident across a wide range of important topics of public concern and covered everything from the health effects of climate change and a huge range of papers on the value of the natural environment to health and wellbeing, while other especially interesting work covered themes and methodologies like geonarratives, health across the life-course, emergent diseases and the ongoing duty of health geographers to draw attention to disparities and inequalities in health outcomes across a range of urban/rural and global north/south settings.

The XIXth Symposium is planned for Queenstown in New Zealand in July 2019 and there is every reason for us to hope for a similar and possibly expanded Irish attendance.

From Maynooth, there are new projects being developed on elder orphans and geographies of care, farmer's health and wellbeing and spatial decision-making in Irish health care politics alongside ongoing work on green/blue space and health and mortality as well as some newly developing relationships with British and European colleagues. We have also begun discussions with the Medical Geography Commission of the IGU around organising an event in Ireland in the lead up to the 2024 IGU Congress in Dublin. The subject remains a strong one not just in Maynooth, but also through some excellent individual researchers in Galway, Limerick and Dublin and we see this as a real growth area in Irish geography more broadly.

## Report on GSI Sponsored Event: The Irish Geomorphology Group (IGGy) Workshop November 2017, Dublin

By Jonathan Turner



*School of Geography, University College Dublin*

The Irish Geomorphology Group (IGGy) was established in 2013 to build community and provide a platform and forum for networking and knowledge exchange among geomorphologists in Ireland. As part of this goal, each year the geomorphology community come together in a workshop that is run over two days. This year, the 5<sup>th</sup> Irish Geomorphology Scientific Workshop took place on 22-23 of November in Dublin, where it was hosted by UCD.

In keeping with the previous meetings, the first day of this year's event was a Postgraduate Careers Training Workshop. One of the

founding goals of the Irish Geomorphology Group is to provide guidance to students and early career researchers, and this year we held talks on *Presentations Skills* (Barry Brophy, UCD), *Career Guidance* (Sophie Carey, UCD) and *Funding Opportunities for Postgraduates* (Daithí Maguire, NUIG). We were also privileged to hear talks by Dr Siobhan Power (GSI), who presented her stimulating take on a *Life in Geoscience* and Mr David Ball who treated the group to an inspirational and personal account of his longstanding experience of working as a hydrogeologist around the world.





These talks are an invaluable part of the Irish Geomorphology Group annual meeting and we are grateful to all the speakers who gave up their time to present this year.

The second full-day symposium was held at the Geological Survey in Beggar's Bush and comprised a total of twelve talks, and a number of posters, many of which were given by students (PhD and MSc) and recent graduates.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr Marco Van de Wiel of the Centre of Agroecology, Water and Resilience, Coventry University on *Computational Geomorphology Where were we? Where are we going?*



This captivating talk took the audience on an exploration of the

different epistemologies in computational geomorphology and how these may support established geomorphological methodologies, and well as a thoughtful consideration of their limitations.

Presentations from the Irish geomorphological community this year spanned research in fluvial, coastal and marine process environments that captured the breadth of research activities being undertaken across the country. Note that some of this work will be showcased in the forthcoming special publication of papers on Geomorphology in Irish Geography, which attests to the scope and health of the discipline in Ireland. This year's prize for best presentation at the workshop was awarded to Niamh Cullen, who is undertaking a PhD in TCD under the supervision of Dr Mary Bourke. Her excellent presentation on *a new approach for measuring microscale platform erosion: A comparison of the Transverse Micro Erosion Meter and Structure from Motion Photogrammetry* was a



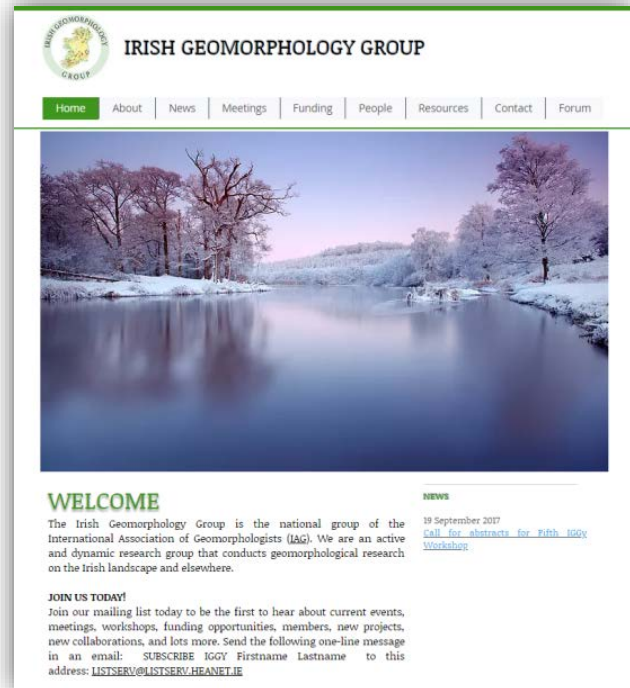
testament to patience, fortitude and rigour in research.

Finally we finish this piece by thanking the sponsors for this event. The Irish Geomorphology Group Scientific Workshop would not take place without the kind generosity of its sponsors and this year the organisers would like to acknowledge and thank the Marine Institute, Geological Survey, Geographical Society of Ireland and UCD School of Geography for their financial support in putting this event on. We would also like to thank the Press Cafe for their catering.

Further details of the event presentations, including titles and abstracts, together with news on

forthcoming events, are available at the Irish Geomorphology Group website

<http://irishgeomorphology.wixsite.com/home>



## Radical Statistics Annual Conference February 2018, London

By Frank Houghton



*Department of Applied Social Science, Limerick Institute of Technology*

This year's annual conference of Radical Statistics ('Rad Stats') met on Saturday 23rd February 2018 in St. Luke's Community Centre in the East End of London. This year's conference had the theme '21st Century Inequality in the UK'. Given the broadly left-wing philosophy of this group, the setting was entirely appropriate. This local not-for-profit community centre encapsulated what I have always considered the true spirit of Rad Stats. It featured a not-for-profit cafe with a kitchen that was also a training site for those embarking on training or retraining to



work in the catering industry, as well as showers with towels available for those in need of such facilities. The building contained multiple meeting rooms that routinely offer evening and day classes to local groups.

The Rad Stats conference itself was, as usual, informal and engaging. The numbers attending were perhaps smaller than in other years, at approximately 40 people, although this was probably a reflection of the organisation's aging demographic, rather than any other factor. The quality of the presentations was very good and included some highly charismatic speakers.

The most engaging speaker of the day was Dr Mike Page who examined the topic of both 'tiny houses' and green/ sustainable towns. Giving an overview of various housing designs incorporating green approaches and technologies, he outlined the difficulties in trying to move projects beyond the pilot stage. One interesting descriptor of size/scale used by Dr Page, which may be of particular interest to Geographers, was that of 'Ikeas'. In discussing the volume of batteries necessary to store power from a green town to assist through periods of poor winter sun he used the term 'Ikeas' to measure size, based on the 100m by 100m Ikea store in Wembley. Dr Page's provocative final question to the audience was "Why are we not building more green towns?" (For more on his work visit the website [www.cubeproject.org.uk](http://www.cubeproject.org.uk)).

Economist and journalist Stewart Lansley, who discussed the potential benefits of creating Citizens Wealth Funds, gave a notable and interesting presentation. Citing, among others, the Norwegian and Alaskan examples, he outlined the potential long-term benefits of such schemes. His argument was balanced, based on various timelines and returns, and offered considerable potential towards funding innovations such as the universal basic income scheme currently being piloted in Scotland. His discussion of the "Inequality denial industry" was particularly engaging.

Prof. Alison MacFarlane delivered an excellent examination of attempts to explore the links between inequality and stillbirth rates across Europe. It was particularly disappointing to learn from her presentation that in Ireland elective and emergency caesarean section rate data was not collected, and therefore could not be analysed. Lack of Irish data also meant that analysis across Europe examining the link between stillbirth risk ratios and mother's level of education excluded Ireland (see [www.europeristat.com](http://www.europeristat.com) for more information). On the issue of data availability, it was interesting to note that the UK, like Ireland, has also experienced a decline in the availability of census data on health inequalities since 1991.

Prof MacFarlane also noted the intense difficulties encountered in attempting to explore ethnicity throughout Europe, given the lack of uniformity over time and across national boundaries. Her presentation outlined how, with the exception of France (where it is illegal to classify people by ethnicity or to ask census questions

on race or country of origin), most European countries tended to have quite intricate racial/ethnic categorisation based on their former colonies. However, these are by their nature particular to each former European colonial power, with other minority groups routinely simply categorised as 'other'.

It was interesting to learn from Prof. MacFarlane that the intractably linguistically divided country of Belgium has not just one, but three birth/ still-birth registers. One for Wallonia, another for Flanders and the last covering the bilingual Brussels zone. On hearing this, I could not help but think of a quote that I read recently about linguistic tensions and divisions in Belgium: "If you think you understand the Belgian linguistic conflict, then obviously no one explained it properly to you".

In her presentation, Prof. MacFarlane grappled with the difficult issue of trying to use differing stillbirth rates to foster a focus on health inequalities. She noted that such data is routinely used to focus attention on health interventions instead of inequality, and trying to develop and broaden this debate was particularly difficult.

Another notable speaker at the Rad Stats conference was Jude Towers who explored domestic violence statistics. After exploring various definitions of domestic violence, Dr Towers examined the flawed methodology used in a WHO study on crime conducted in the UK from which she has approached this issue. Dr Towers outlined how, unlike other sections of the survey, the questions concerning domestic violence have to be answered on a computer by respondents without any help. Not surprisingly, this meant this section of the questionnaire was significantly less likely to be completed by the elderly and members of minority groups, as well as by women. Dr Towers also outlined how the introduction of new crimes can actually lead to an apparent 'drop' in crime statistics. She outlined how in the past two or more incidents of grievous bodily harm (GBH) would have been recorded as separate crimes/ incidents. However, these are now bundled together under the new crime of 'controlling and coercive behaviour', which is specifically designed to deal with two or more incidents of such crimes.

Based on Dr Towers presentation, Geographers with an interest in spatial aspects of crime should consider contacting police forces such as the Lancashire Police. She outlined how the professionalization of the force was positively influencing its focus on research. Deadlines are already in place by which all police officers will be required to have an undergraduate degree, with a similar timeline already in place by which senior officers will be required to have a Masters degree. Dr Towers outlined how one force already had 100 volunteers doing literature reviews for them, as well as 12 embedded researchers working on PhDs.

Demographers in particular may be interested in hearing some of the reasoning behind this focus on research. Dr Towers described how Lancashire Police were facing the fastest increasing ageing population in the country. They anticipate having scarce resources into the future, while trying to deal with the increased

impact of rising numbers of people living with dementia and their carers. This would include increasing numbers of missing people (lost/ disorientated), as well as rising levels of elder abuse resulting from compassion fatigue given the dearth of respite services for carers.

Geographers may be particularly interested in Dr Towers' observations around the use of maps within the professionalising police force. Dr Towers outlined how, having noticed the use of maps in multiple reports, she queried their use in an attempt to understand the spatial link. The officers involved reported that they were mapping spatially referenced data without any particular reason. They stated, "If we don't stick a map on it, our chief officer won't accept it". Dr Towers outlined how this led to a major focus on "Shiny maps with big dots".

In discussing police policy Dr Towers outlined the negative impact of what is termed 'Killing the cubs'. This phenomenon is the result of career driven individuals within the police force culling existing projects so that they can own and win recognition for initiatives that they lead. She outlined how the continuing management of someone else's initiative, no matter how successful, brought very little kudos. Therefore, one of the first things a new senior police officer often does is to quietly close existing projects and redevelop new initiatives that bear their personal stamp. This short-term orientation obviously means that little is sustainable in practice and the focus is always on the next 'shiny new' proposal.

One aspect of the conference that may appeal to Geographers in particular was a walking tour starting in London's East End on the Sunday after the conference. Field trips are a routine and yet notable feature of the discipline of Geography, and Rad Stats echoes this focus on place and space. Given the spatial dimension of poverty and ill health, this overlap between Geography and Rad Stats is hardly surprising. For those seeking a more social orientation at conferences, please note that this conference started the night before with welcome drinks in a local pub, and was followed by the AGM and then a conference meal.



## Featured Article

### Workplace Zones for Ireland and estimating Daytime population

By Dermot Corcoran



*Statistician, Central Statistics Office*  
[dermot.corcoran@cso.ie](mailto:dermot.corcoran@cso.ie)

The use of the GeoDirectory has made significant improvements to the fieldwork operations and the outputs of the most recent censuses in Ireland. Each dwelling enumerated in the census years of 2011 and 2016 have been linked to spatial coordinates by using the GeoDirectory to underpin the fieldwork. In addition the residential address of persons enumerated elsewhere in Ireland on census night as well as the name and address of where residents attended their place of work or study have been geocoded using the GeoDirectory. Furthermore this database of addresses played an important role in the creation of the Small Area boundaries where the number of residential address points formed the basis for setting the minimum and maximum threshold values of dwellings within each Small Area.

As 92% of the boundaries have a range of 75 to 150 dwellings, Small Areas have proved to be successful in providing detailed SAPS (Small Area Population Statistics) from the 2011 and 2016 censuses at a homogeneous level of geography. However as industrial estates or commercial address points were not taken into account during their creation, the Small Area boundaries are only useful for providing census data based on where people live as opposed to where they work.

To meet the needs of users for workplace based data from the census the Central Statistics Office (CSO) have been releasing a Research Microdata File known as POWSCAR (Place of Work, School or College Census of Anonymised Records). This provides certain demographic and commuting characteristics as well as the origin and destination geographies of around 3 million workers and students. Given that this information is provided at unit record level, access to the POWSCAR is heavily restricted to bona fide researchers with specific policy requirements.

As a result the POWSCAR dataset caters mainly to experienced users who work in academia or the public sector. In efforts to accommodate commercial companies who use GIS and census data as well as the casual users, CSO decided to introduce a new level of geography (called Workplace Zones) to publish tables relating to the demographic, socio-economic and commuting characteristics of workers and the daytime population from Census 2016.

### Workplace Zones in the UK

The UK and Northern Ireland had already provided a framework for the creation of workplace based geography. Workplace data from the 2011 UK census were coded using the postcode of where a person attended their place of work. Certain conditions were then adopted stating that Workplace Zones had to include a minimum of three postcode locations and a range of 200 to 625 workers.

Using an algorithm fine-tuned by Southampton University, Output Areas with less than three postcodes or 200 workers were amalgamated together. In cases where there were more than 625 workers and three postcode areas the Output Area was subdivided where possible (special cases were made for areas with large enterprises). As a result approximately 53,000 work zones were created from 180,000 Output Areas, and Workplace Zone data from the 2011 UK census were released in 2014. Data from the Northern Ireland census at Workplace Zone level became available in 2016.

### Rules for creating Workplace Zones

The template followed by the UK was the starting point for the creation of Irish Workplace Zones. However there were certain differences in methodology which enabled changes to the UK criteria. Firstly as all places of work and education recorded by the respondents were geocoded to address point level using the GeoDirectory, it was decided that a Workplace Zone would have a minimum of three specific workplace locations. A workplace location was defined as either a specific business address point or, in the case of home workers, the address point location of where they reside.

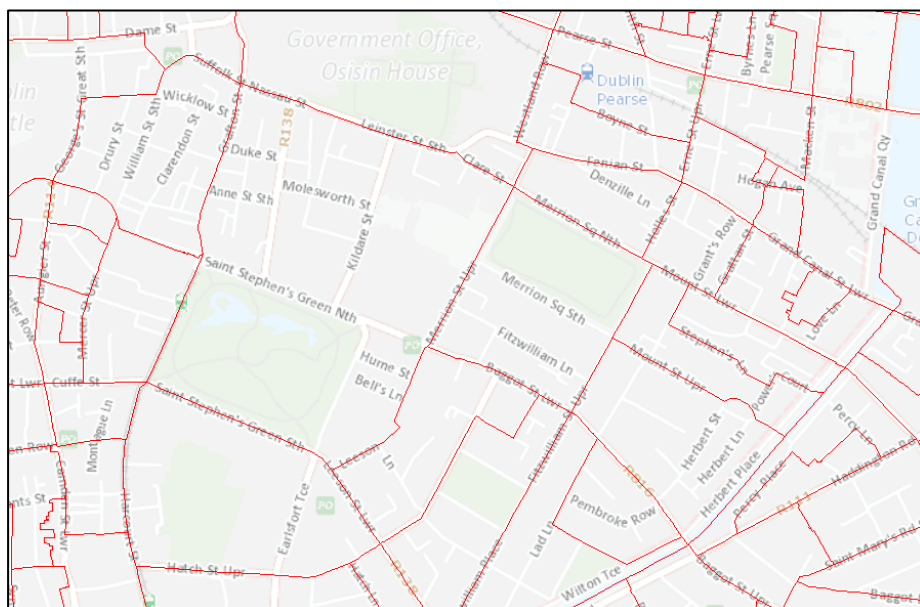
The second change concerned the minimum and maximum worker ranges. In deciding these values the population ranges of the Small Areas were examined and it was found that 95% of Small Areas contained between 100-400 persons. On the basis that detailed census data had already been published at Small Area level the 100-400 range was deemed an acceptable worker threshold for the Workplace Zones.

The final deviation from the UK criteria related to the added disclosure safeguard of preventing the creation of Workplace Zones where more than 90% of all employees in the zone worked in the same business. Mobile workers and workers who didn't state their place of work were coded to their place of residence, in line with the UK template. People who stated they worked outside the Republic of Ireland were not included in any Workplace Zones and therefore excluded from the total workplace population counts. The final criteria stated that all Workplace Zones nest into the county boundaries.

### Production of Workplace Zones

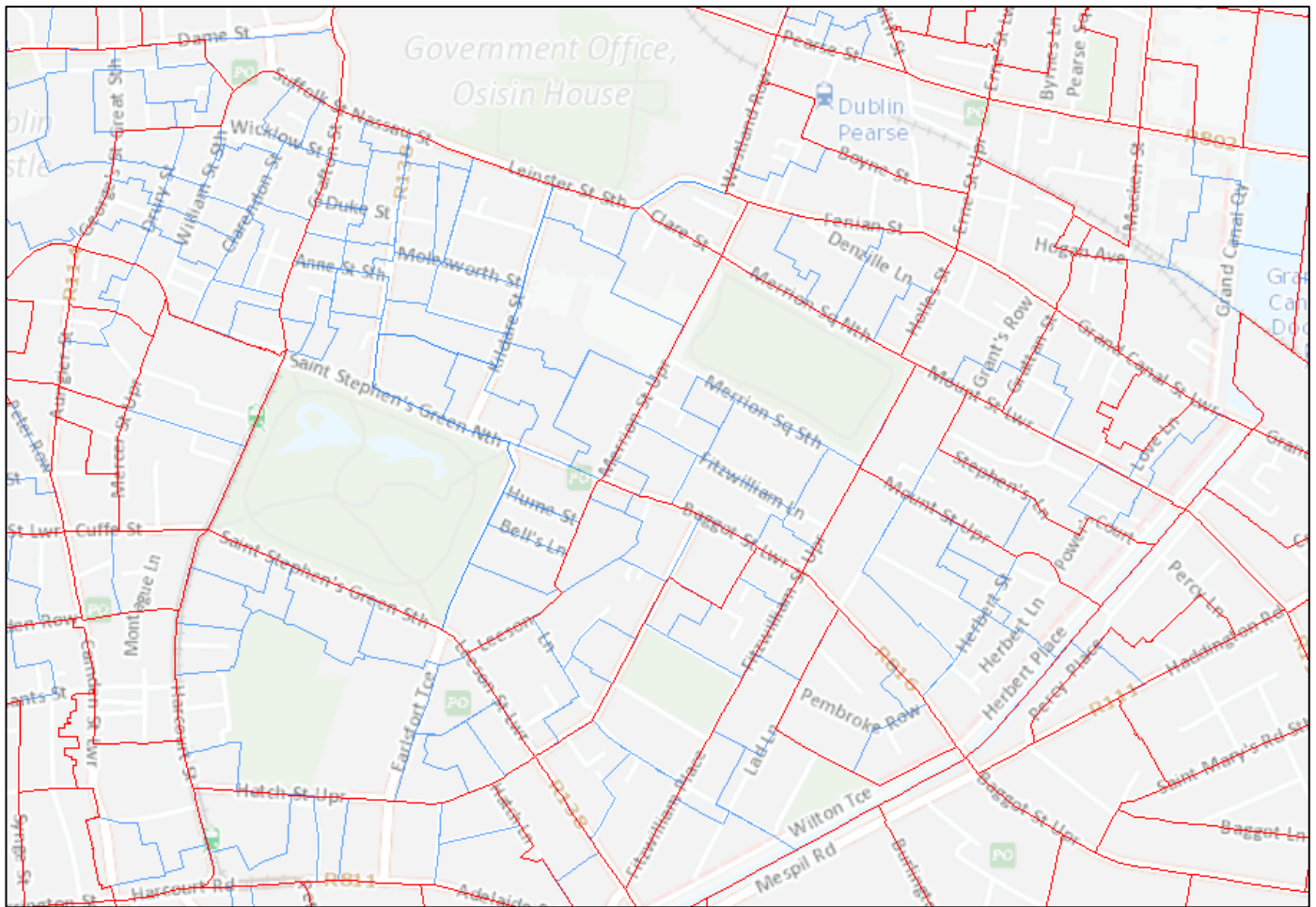
During an initial examination it was found that over 15,500 Small Areas had less than 100 workers or less than three workplace locations, while 1,500 were identified for possible subdivision. The remaining Small Areas fell within the acceptable size range and therefore no changes were needed.

Work began on creating the Workplace Zones in July 2017, following the finalisation of the Census 2016 POWSCAR dataset. The first process involved identifying Small Areas with more than 400 workers and three workplace locations and importing these into a GIS. In addition the coordinates outlining the number of workers and workplaces at that specific location from the 2016 POWSCAR were also imported. Instructions were given to census geography staff to examine the number of workers and workplaces throughout the Small Area and to draw new boundaries if the Small Area could be split. Figures 1 and 2 outline the resulting work of subdividing Small Areas with high worker concentration in the centre of Dublin City.



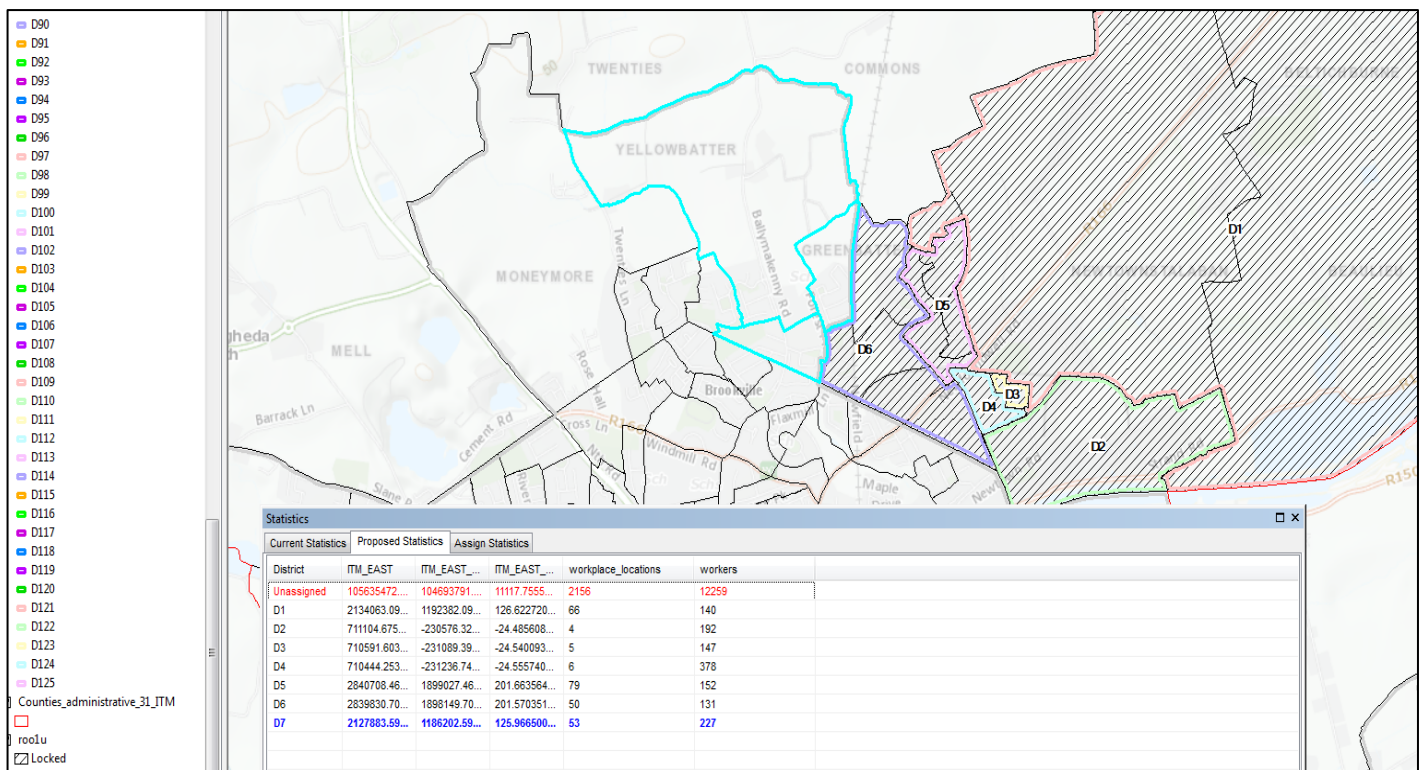
**Figure 1:** Small Areas (red) in Dublin City centre





**Figure 2:** Workplace Zones (blue) following sub-division of Small Areas in Dublin City centre

The next stage involved importing the Small Areas which were either acceptably sized or required merging into a GIS. Work packages were broken down by county and an ERSI add-in file called Districting was introduced which allows the user to do a multiple select of boundaries before creating the new boundary once the criteria have been met. To help with the decision making the number of workers and workplace locations were added to the attribute tables of each Small Area.



**Figure 3:** Amalgamation of Small Areas into Workplace Zones using the Districting tool in ArcGIS

The final stage involved applying the statistical disclosure checks and amending the Workplace Zone boundaries to ensure that the workplace characteristics of a specific business or enterprise were kept confidential. This involved a number of iterations as generally there were cases where the criteria for creating the Workplace Zones conflicted with each other.

The Workplace Zone boundaries were finalised in November 2017, with 7,219 boundaries created with the results outlined below:

- There are 925 Small Areas that are identical to a Workplace Zone.
- 17,025 Small Areas were combined to create 3,820 Workplace Zones, each with at least two whole Small Areas.
- 673 Small Areas were split to create 2,459 Workplace Zones, each made up of part of one Small Area.
- 18 Small Areas had part of their area placed into another Workplace Zone. 15 Workplace Zones were affected by this decision

The number of persons at work in each zone varied from 105 to 5,579 with a mean of 271 workers per zone. There were 622 Workplace Zones which could not be subdivided further and therefore had in excess of 400 workers. Of these, 120 had more than 1,000 workers with one Workplace Zone exceeding the 5,000 worker threshold.

### Concept of Daytime population and publication of tables

Once the boundaries were finalised thoughts turned towards the data to be published for this new level of geography. In other countries statistical offices have been publishing alternative population counts such as the 'daytime' population based on where people are likely to be located during the working day. Given that all Workplace Zones include at least three workplace locations they are more ideally placed to publish daytime population estimates at sub-county level compared to other statistical geographies such as Small Areas and Electoral Divisions.

In the context of Irish census data, the daytime population was defined to include everybody who indicated they worked or studied in the area, along with the usual residents of that area who do not work or study (and so are there during the day). The latter cohort included persons who stated on the census form that they were retired, unemployed, looking for their first job, looking after the home or unable to work due to illness or disability. As the name and address of childcare facilities was not asked in the census for pre-school children they were left at their home residence during the day.

Along with the daytime population it was agreed to publish the following tables:

- Working population
- 10 year age group (Daytime population)
- Means of travel (Workers and students)
- Duration of Travel (Workers and students)
- Social Class (Daytime population)
- Socio-Economic Group (Daytime population)
- Occupation (Workers)
- Industry (Workers)
- Education Attainment (Workers)
- Average travel time to work

Data for the Workplace Zones were released in December 2017 and both the dataset and the boundaries can be accessed at this [link](#).



## GSI Postgraduate and Early Career Network

The GSI Postgraduate and Early Career Network (PECN) was founded in 2017 to represent the interests of postgraduates and early career geographers within the Geographical Society of Ireland.

The GSI Postgraduate and Early Career Network aims to:

- foster communications, both formal and informal, among postgraduates and early career researchers in Ireland in the discipline of Geography or an aligned discipline;
- represent postgraduate students and early career researchers at GSI board and related meetings, as well as more widely within academia;
- circulate information about events, grants and funding opportunities, job vacancies, career training, or any other information that may be relevant to postgraduate students and early career researchers;
- facilitate and organise networking events and training workshops for the postgraduate and early career research community;
- provide career-development opportunities to postgraduates and early career researchers who want to organise academic events and workshops, or through participating in the committee of the group.

During 2017 PCEN hosted and supported a number of events, including among others support for IRC postgraduate scholarship applications and career development seminars. The 'IRC tips and tricks' event, held in October 2017, provided a peer-to-peer learning platform in which IRC postgraduate scholarship holders shared their tips on writing a successful application. Later that month, PCEN collaborating with the Supporting Women in Geography Ireland (SWIG) group, hosted a discussion with Gillian Rose at Maynooth University on the theme of navigating your career as an academic.

PCEN has lots of plans in store for 2018, including a number of activities and events at the upcoming Conference of Irish Geographers taking place in Maynooth University from the 10th to 12th May. If you'd like to find out more about PCEN to suggest ideas or get involved please email



[PCEN@geographicalsocietyireland.ie](mailto:PCEN@geographicalsocietyireland.ie)



@GSI\_PCEN

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## Membership information - Supporting Women in Geography (SWIG)

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SWIG Ireland is launching its formal membership and we invite you to join. Membership in S.W.I.G. is welcome to anyone who identifies as part of the geography family, which we define as associated with the range of fields and practices within geography. S.W.I.G. welcomes members in all stages of their respective careers and members not currently employed by or directly affiliated with \_\_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_\_ academy. Membership of S.W.I.G. is open to and will not discriminate for any reason.

Only members are eligible to stand for election to the S.W.I.G. committee. SWIG members are invited to make an annual contribution to the group. There are three options for this fee, and members are invited to choose the contribution amount which is most feasible for them.

The three options are €2, €5 and €10. These fee amounts will be fixed for the period \_\_\_\_\_ 2017-2021.

Members who face difficulties in making a contribution may choose not to do so. Such members will not be excluded from the group or penalized in any way. Members who may wish to make a larger contribution than those named above are also invited to do so.

We invite those interested in joining to fill out the following form: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSclunwLGlcIIIK\\_MymzNGgF04Kz92SnWEvHDtOWY9XW6ktC\\_g/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSclunwLGlcIIIK_MymzNGgF04Kz92SnWEvHDtOWY9XW6ktC_g/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Membership fees can be paid in person or by bank transfer

Please contact [aoife.a.kavanagh@mu.ie](mailto:aoife.a.kavanagh@mu.ie) if you encounter any difficulties

## Other News and Updates

### Registration Open For CIG-2018

CIG2018 Registration Fees		
	Early Bird Fee until 23 March	Late Fee after 23 March
Member GSI/AGTI	€120	€150
Member GSI/AGTI with Dinner	€160	€190
Non-Member	€160	€190
Non-Member with Dinner	€200	€230
Student/retired/unwaged member GSI	€80	€95
Student/retired/unwaged member GSI with Dinner	€120	€135
Student/retired/unwaged non-member GSI	€100	€115
Student/retired/unwaged non-member GSI with Dinner	€140	€155

### Conferences

#### June 14-15 2018

20<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geography and Geosciences (ICGG) Vienna, Austria

<https://waset.org/conference/2018/06/vienna/ICGG>

#### 28 November – 02 December 2018

2nd International Conference on Sustainability, Human Geography and Environment 2018 (ICSHGE18) Krakow, Poland

<https://www.icshge.org/>

### Call for Content!

If you would like anything featured in the next newsletter please submit through our new online submission form:

<http://www.geographicalsocietyireland.ie/geonews-submission.html>

We would also encourage members to send in discussion pieces / articles / research highlights / Pictures for inclusion in GeoNews.

### Current Committee, 2017-2018

#### President:

Assoc. Prof. Niamh Moore-Cherry, University College Dublin

#### Vice-President:

Dr. Adrian Kavanagh, Maynooth University

#### Secretary:

Dr. Karen Keaveney, University College Dublin

#### Treasurer:

Dr. Shane O Sullivan, Limerick Institute of Technology

#### GSI Liaison Officer:

Dr Eimear Heaslip, NUI Galway

#### Editor, Irish Geography:

Dr Ronan Foley, Maynooth University

#### Editor, Geonews:

Dr. Paul Alexander, Central Statistics Office, Dept. of An Toiseach

#### PRO (Communications and Information Officers):

Dr Irene Morris-Cadogan, Dept. of Communications, Climate Action and Environment

#### Business Manager, Irish Geography:

Prof. Mary Gilmartin, Maynooth University

#### Postgrad Representative:

Mary Greene, NUI Galway

#### Committee Members (without portfolio):

Dr. Eoin O'Mahony

Dr. Richard Scriven

Dr. Kathy Reilly, NUI Galway

Dr. Patrick Bresnihan, Trinity College Dublin