

IRELAND



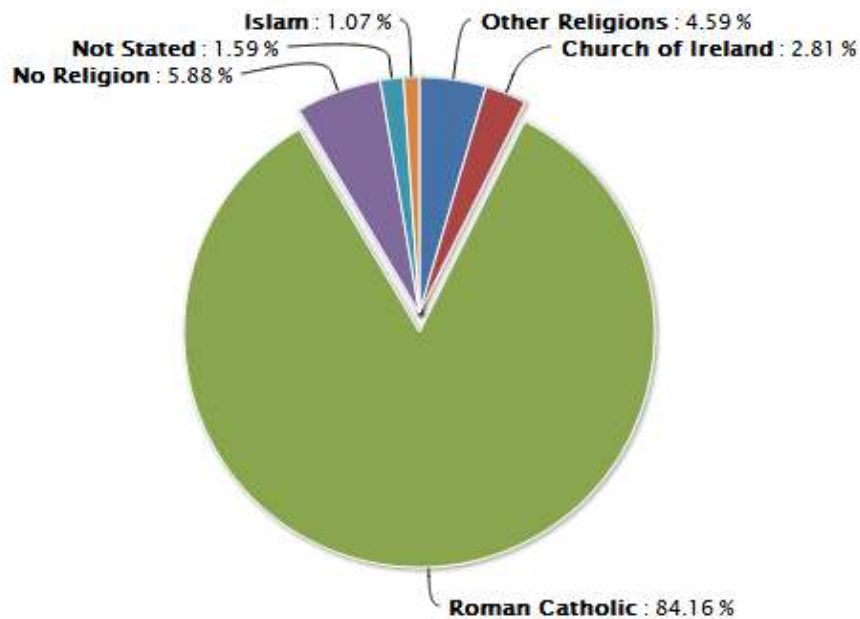
- **Full name** : Éire (Republic of Ireland)
- **Population** : over 4, 000 000
- **Capital city** : Dublin
- **People** : Irish, small imigrant population
- **Languages** : English, Gaelic
- **Religion** : Roman Catholic, Protestant
- **Government** : Republic, Democracy
- **Head of State** : President Michael D. Higgins (since 2011)
- **Head of government** : Prime Minister Enda Kenny
- **Major industries** : Computer software, information technology, food products, brewing (Guinness + whisky), textile, tourism
- **Money** : Euro
- **National Day & Public Holiday** : 17 March, Saint Patrick's Day

Northern Ireland / Ulster

National Day & Bank Holiday	17 March St Patrick's Day
Population:	1, 685,000 (Census 2001)
Capital / Major City:	Belfast / Londonderry or Derry
Official Language:	English, Irish
Nationality :	British and Irish
Anthem (song) :	God Save the Queen
Currency:	Pound Sterling (£)
Head of State :	Queen Elisabeth II
Head of government :	First Minister and Deputy First Minister

Religious adherence in Ireland, April 2011

Source: Irish Census



A tiny bit of History

In 1801 the whole of Ireland became part of the United Kingdom, with the adoption of the name: "the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland".

After years of civil war, Ireland became a republic in 1921.

At this time, Britain negotiated with Ireland to keep the six counties in the north-east of Ireland. These six counties now make up what is known as Northern Ireland. The southern part of the island is the Republic of Ireland, or Éire.

1927 - The name, "the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland", was adopted.

1937 - The Irish Free State becomes the Republic of Ireland

