

Breaking News – Thursday 27 May 2010

Almost half of first births in 2007 outside marriage:



Ireland had the highest fertility rate of the 27 EU member states in 2007, followed by France and the UK.

Slovakia, Romania and Poland recorded the lowest rates.

New data released today by the Central Statistics Office also reveals that 44% of all first births in Ireland in 2007 took place outside marriage.

Up to 28% of second births were outside marriage and 22% of third births.

Limerick has the highest number of births outside wedlock at 54%, followed by Cork city, Waterford and Dublin.