

SEE — GEOGRAPHY · 3RD–6TH CLASS

Cuige agus Contaetha na hÉireann

Provinces & Counties of Ireland — 3rd–6th Class

The four provinces (cúige — 'fifth')

1

Leinster (Laighin)

12 counties including Dublin, Wicklow, Wexford, Kilkenny, Carlow, Kildare, Meath, Louth, Westmeath, Longford, Laois, Offaly. Most populous province.

2

Munster (An Mhumhain)

6 counties: Cork, Kerry, Clare, Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford. Largest province by area. Wild Atlantic Way in Kerry; Shannon Estuary; Burren in Clare.

3

Connacht (Connachta)

5 counties: Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim. Largest Gaeltacht areas in Galway. Connemara, Croagh Patrick, Clew Bay.

4

Ulster (Ulaidh)

9 counties. 3 in Republic: Cavan, Monaghan, Donegal. 6 in Northern Ireland: Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Tyrone, Londonderry/Derry.

5

Why 'cúige' means 'fifth'

Historically there were five provinces — the four current ones plus Meath (An Mhí), which was the High Kingdom. Hence 'province' = 'fifth'.

