


READING

The latest figures released by the Central Statistics Office show that the number of young people in the Gaeltacht—those areas in Ireland where the Irish language is, or was until the recent past, the main spoken language of a substantial number of the local population—who speak Irish on a daily basis outside the education system has decreased since the previous census. This tallies with the figures issued last April which show that the total number of daily speakers in the Gaeltacht has decreased by 11%. Last April's figures show that 73,803 people, or 1.7% of the entire population of Ireland, speak Irish daily.


1. What is the « Gaeltacht »
2. What can you say about the number of people who speak Irish today ?
3. Can you explain why ?
4. What could you tell an Irish friend to encourage him/her to speak Irish ?

 **Census shows decrease in young Irish speakers in Gaeltacht**, RTÉ (2017)

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